



# DYNAMO

Diabetes studY in Nephropathy And  
other Microvascular cOmplications

## **Addressing the Challenge of Diabetic Kidney Disease in Singapore**

**Thomas Coffman, MD**

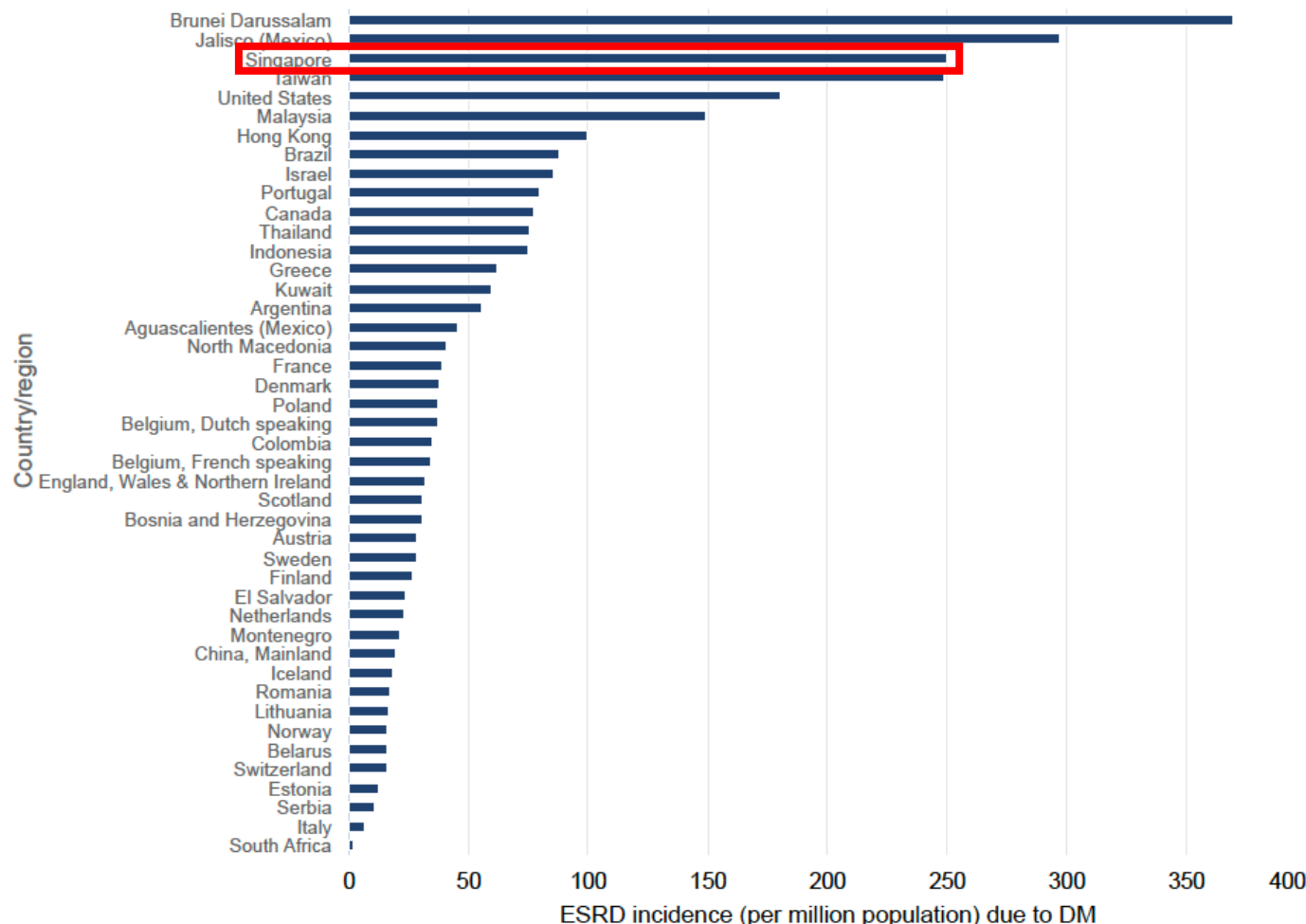
**Dean, Duke-NUS Medical School, Singapore**

**James R Clapp Professor of Medicine**

**Duke University School of Medicine**

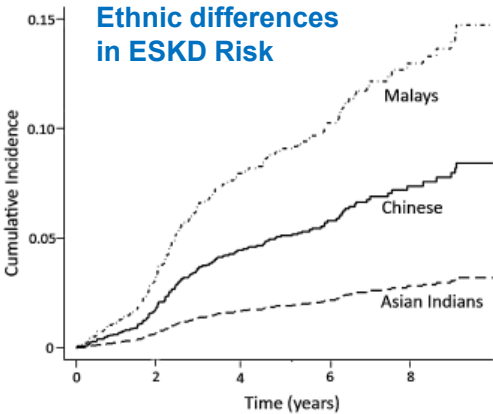
# Diabetic Kidney Disease in Singapore

Incidence of diabetes  
as a cause of ESKD in  
2021 (*USRDS 2023  
Annual Data Report*)



Singapore #5 in the world in  
adjusted global prevalence of ESKD  
(*Am J Nephrol* 2021;52:98–107)

~66% of new cases of ESKD in  
Singapore are due to diabetes  
(*Singapore Renal Registry  
Annual Report 2021*)



Liu JJ et al *Diabet Med* 33:332-339 (2016)

# DYNAMO: Objectives

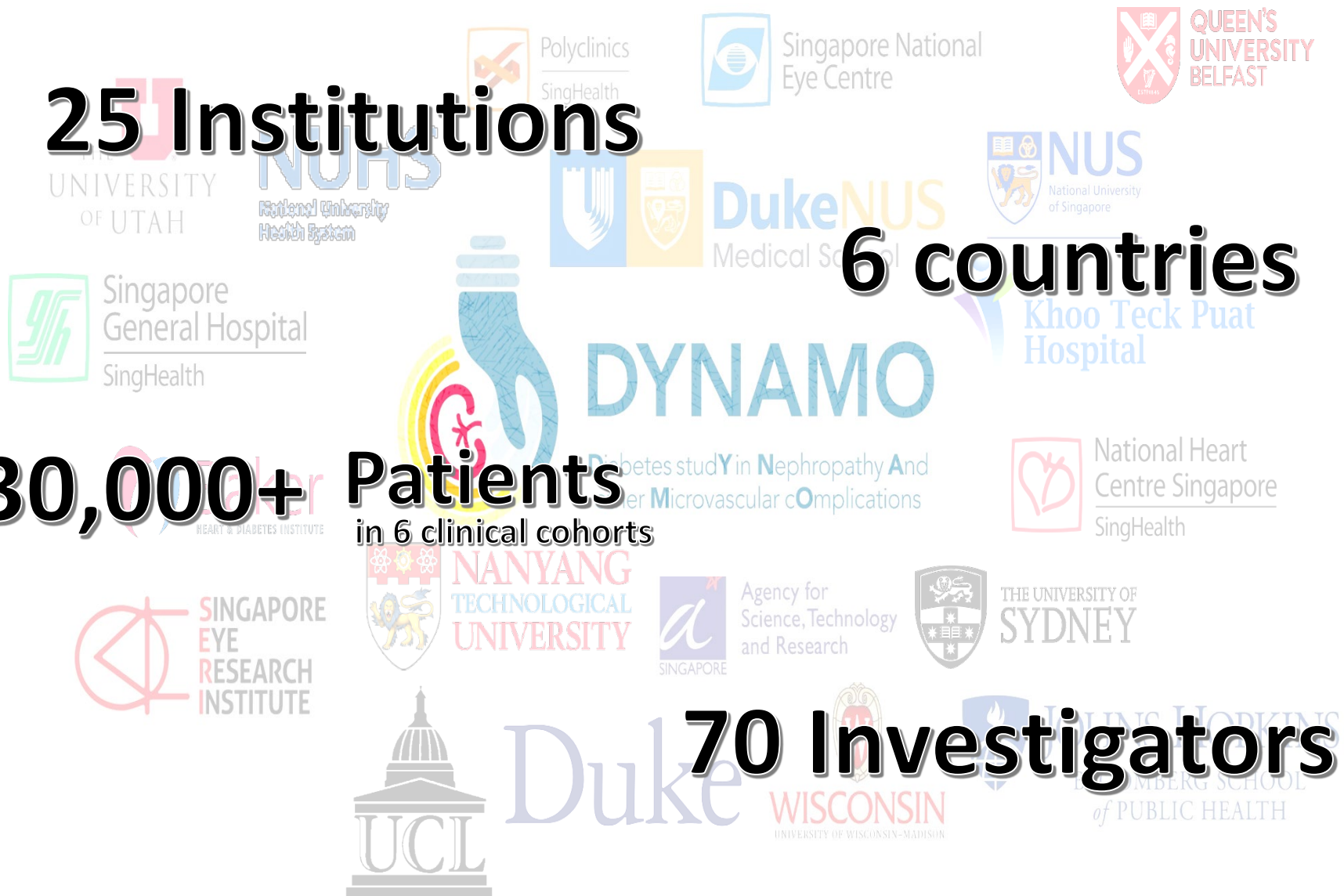
- Address major unmet needs by identifying new mechanistic pathways in Diabetic Nephropathy
- Discovering and validating potential new targets for treatment
- Defining novel biomarkers and strategies allowing early stratification of risk for DN within the larger population of people with type 2 diabetes

**25 Institutions**

**6 countries**

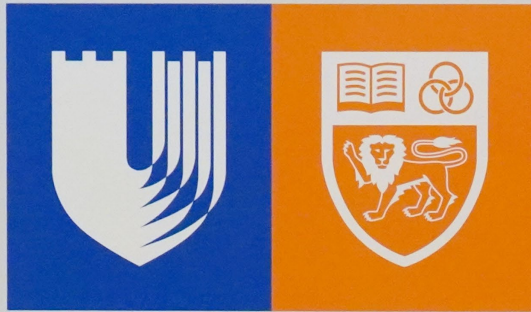
**30,000+ Patients**  
in 6 clinical cohorts

**70 Investigators**





<b>Table 1</b>	<b>SEED</b>	<b>KTPH Diabetic Nephropathy</b>	<b>SMART 2D</b>	<b>The Diabetes Cohort</b>	<b>NUH DKD Cohort</b>	<b>SIDRP</b>	<b>SGH DKD Cohort*</b>
Subjects w/ blood and/or urine samples	1,564	6,840	2,067	14,068	200	*	62
Whole Genome Sequences	69	724	498	655	-	-	-
GWAS Array w/ imputation	2,214	4,875	2,264	5,845	-	-	-
Retinal Photographs	2,877	1,166	-	-	-	22,463	-
Metabolomics	2,785	1,032	2,030	4,998	-	-	-
Lipidomics		1,031	2,029	4,989			
Targeted Proteomics	-	-	300	-	-	-	-
Non-targeted Proteomics	-	-	300	-	-	-	-
Kidney Biopsy w/ Transcriptomics	-	-	-	-	40	-	62



# DukeNUS

## Medical School



**Theme 4:** Human genetics of kidney and metabolic dysfunction in DN  
(*Tai, Sim, Wenk, Sobota, Teo*)

**Theme 3:** Retinal microvasculature as a “window” to study mechanisms and pathways in DN  
(*Tan, Wang, Sabanayagam*)

**Theme 5:** Systems genetics approaches to DN pathogenesis  
(*Petretto, Tolwinski, Behmoaras, Xia*)

**Theme 1:** Role of Altered Lactate Metabolism in DN  
(*Coffman, Kovalik, Widajaja, Chin*)

**Theme 2:** Sub-phenotyping of Asians with T2DM to stratify risk in DN  
(*Lim, Liu, Gurung*)



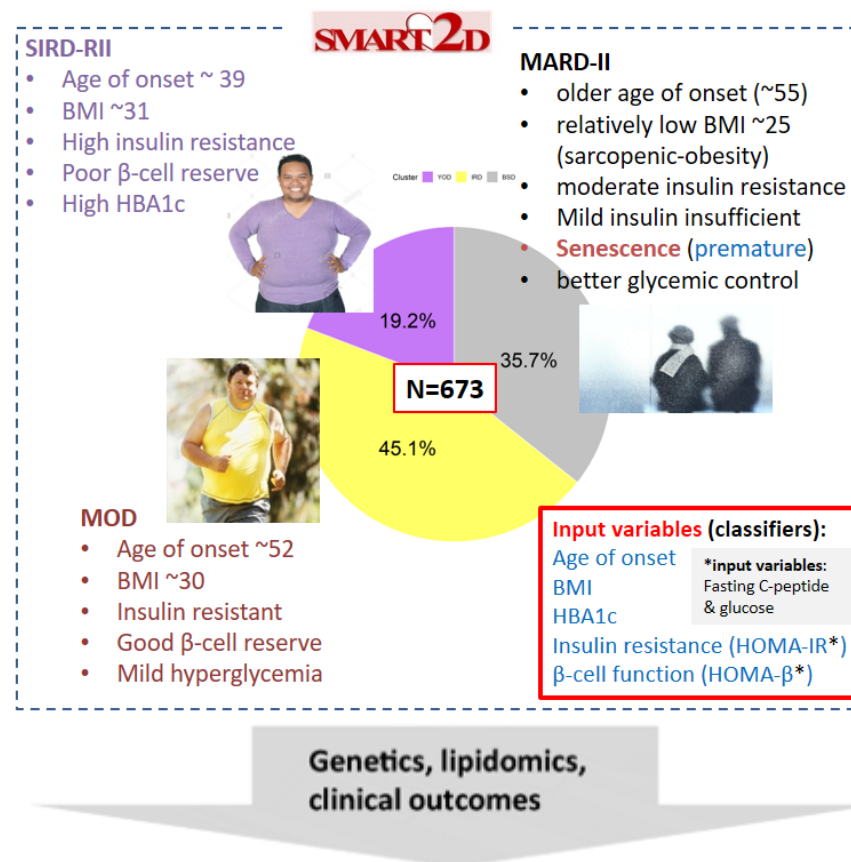
# Theme 2

## Clinical variable-based cluster analysis identifies novel subgroups with a distinct genetic signature, lipidomic pattern and cardio-renal risks

*Diabetologia* (2022) 65:2146–2156

[Jiexun Wang, Yan-Jun Liu, Resham J. Gurusu, Sylvia Liu, Janus Lee, Yamunaa M, Kevin Ang, Yi-Ming Shao, Justin I-Shing Tang, Peter I. Benke, Federico Torta, Markus R. Wenk, Subramaniam Tavintharan, Wern Ee Tang, Chee Fang Sum, Su Chi Lim](#)

### onset type 2 diabetes



**SIRD-RII:** Severe insulin resistant diabetes, relative insulin insufficient;

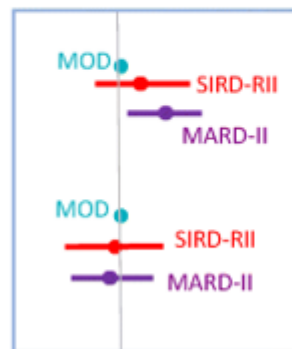
**MARD-II:** Mild age-related diabetes – insulin insufficient;

**MOD:** Mild obese diabetes

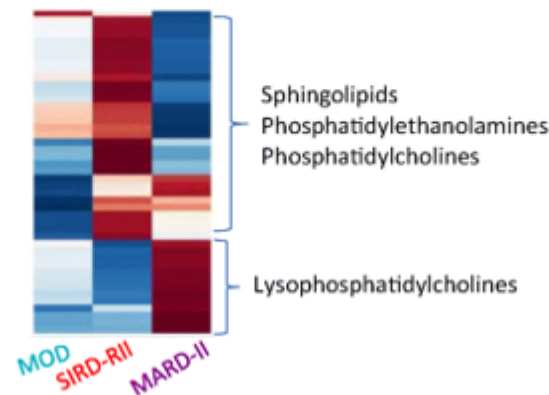
### (35 SNPs) Beta cell dysfunction

### Polygenic risk scores (PRS)

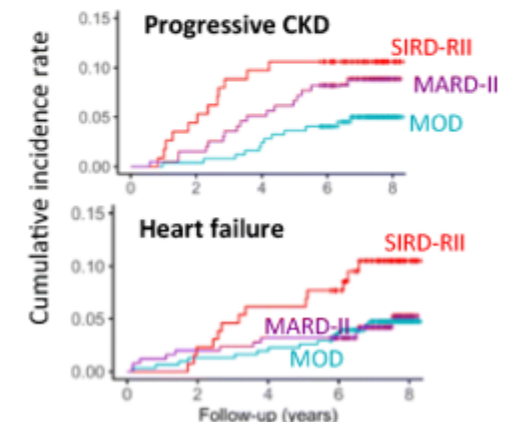
### (20 SNPs) Insulin resistance



### Lipidomic profiles



### Risks of cardio-renal outcomes



# Theme 3

## Predicting CKD with AI and Retinal Optical Coherence Tomography

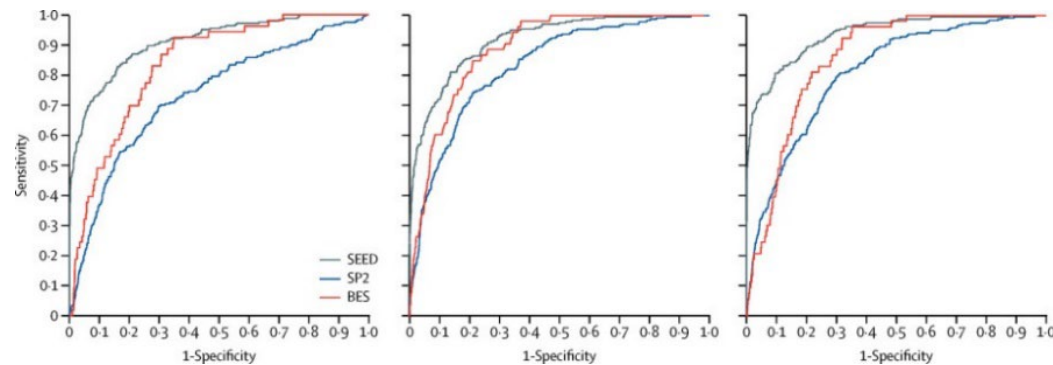
### A deep learning algorithm to detect chronic kidney disease from retinal photographs in community-based populations

Charumathi Sabanayagam, Dejia Xu, Daniel SW Ting, Simon Nusinovič, Riswana Banu, Haslina Hamzah, Cynthia Lim, Yih-Chung Tham, Carol Y Cheung, E Shyang Tai, Ya Xing Wang, Jost B Jonas, Ching-Yu Cheng, Mong Li Lee, Wynne Hsu, Tien Y Wong



**Summary**  
Background Screening for chronic kidney disease is a challenge in community and primary care settings, even in high-income countries. We developed an artificial intelligence deep learning algorithm (DLA) to detect chronic kidney disease from retinal images, which could add to existing chronic kidney disease screening strategies.

Lancet Digital Health 2020;  
2: e295-302  
Published Online  
May 12, 2020

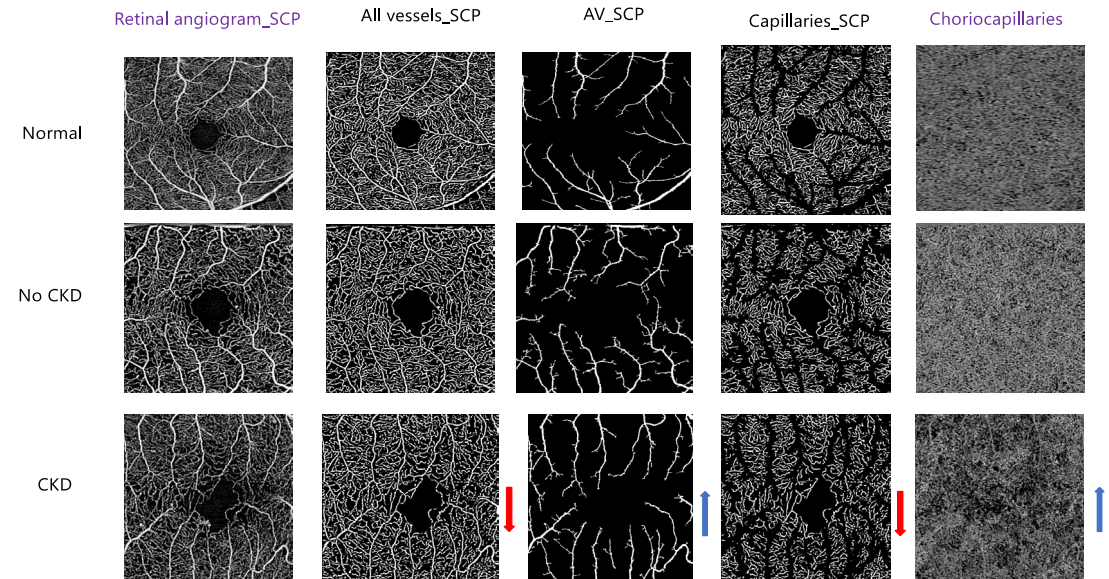


Clinical science



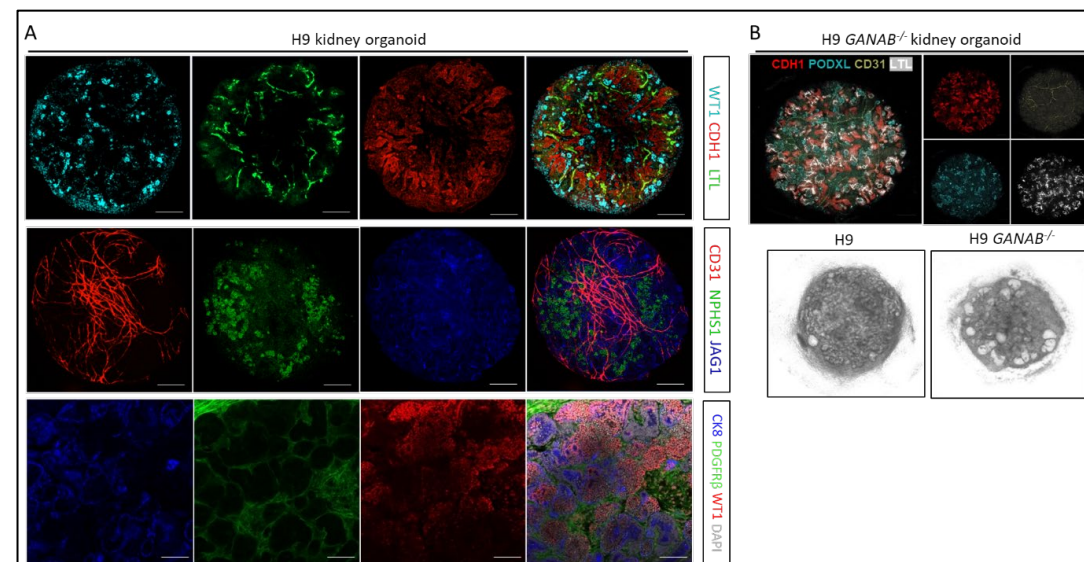
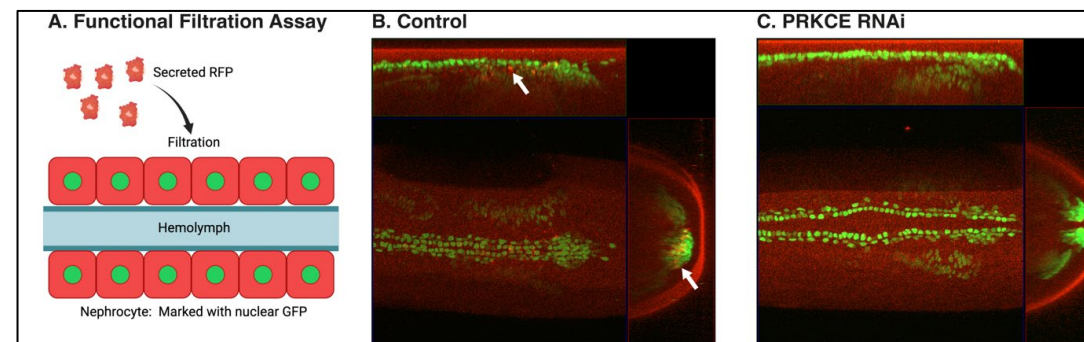
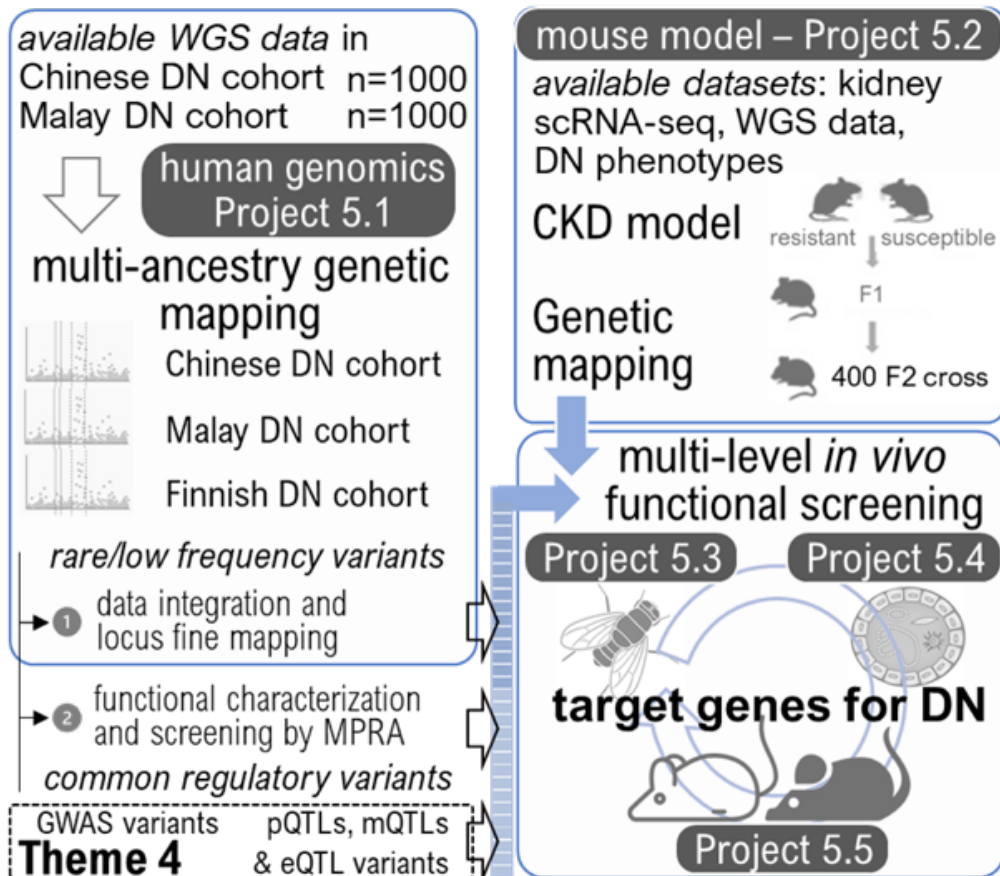
### Combining retinal and choroidal microvascular metrics improves discriminative power for diabetic retinopathy

Bingyao Tan<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Nicole-Ann Lim<sup>1,4</sup>, Rose Tan<sup>1,5</sup>, Alfred Tau Liang Gan<sup>1</sup>,  
Jacqueline Chua<sup>1,2,5,6</sup>, Simon Nusinovič<sup>1,6</sup>, Chui Ming Gemmy Cheung<sup>1,5,6</sup>,  
Usha Chakravarthy<sup>7</sup>, Tien Yin Wong<sup>1,5,6</sup>, Leopold Schmetterer<sup>1,2,3,4,6,8</sup>,  
Gavin Tan<sup>1,5,6</sup>



# Themes 4 & 5

## Genetic Mechanisms in DN Pathogenesis





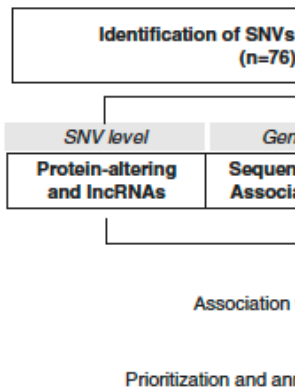
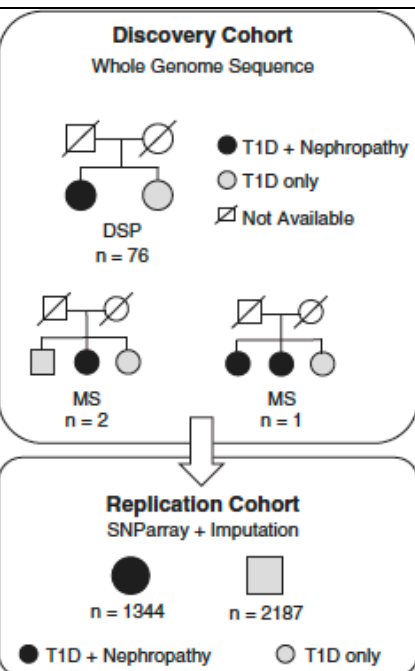
# Theme 5

## Systems genetics approaches to DN pathogenesis

BASIC RESEARCH www.jasn.org

### Whole-Genome Sequencing of Finnish Type 1 Diabetic Siblings Discordant for Kidney Disease Reveals DNA Variants associated with Diabetic Nephropathy

Jing Guo<sup>1,2</sup>, Owen J. L. Rackham<sup>2</sup>, Niina Sandholm<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Bing He<sup>1</sup>, Anne-May Österholm<sup>1,2</sup>, Erkka Valo<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Valma Harjutsalo<sup>3,4,5,6</sup>, Carol Forsblom<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Iiro Toppila<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Maija Parkkonen<sup>3,4,5</sup>, Qibin Li<sup>7</sup>, Wenjuan Zhu<sup>7</sup>, Nathan Harmston<sup>2,8</sup>, Sonia Chothani<sup>2</sup>, Miina K. Öhman<sup>2</sup>, Eudora Eng<sup>2</sup>, Yang Sun<sup>2</sup>, Enrico Petretto<sup>2,9</sup>, Per-Henrik Groop<sup>3,4,5,10</sup> and Karl Tryggvason<sup>1,2,11</sup>



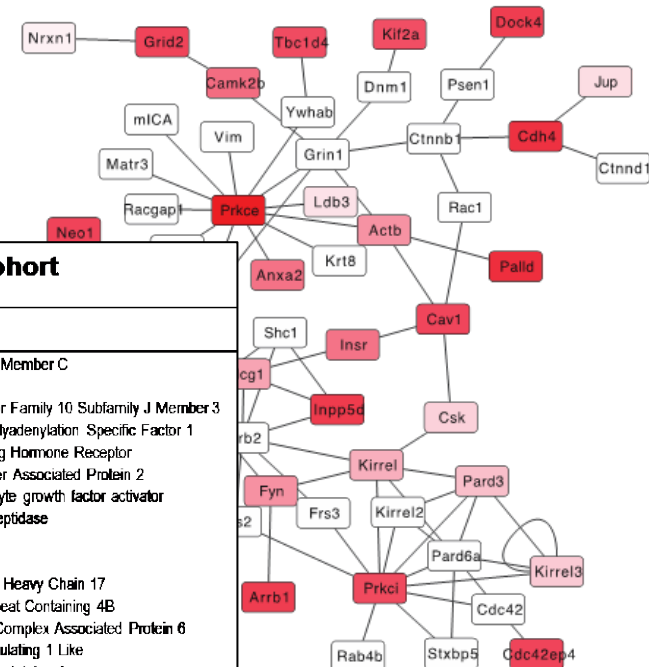
### Pathogenic mutations carried only by DN cases in the Chinese cohort

Variant Function		DN cases								
SNV ID	Prediction <sup>1</sup>	N (%)	1000G <sup>2</sup>	ExAC <sup>3</sup>	Chinese	Malay	Indian	Cene		
rs567408718	C>T	S P M L	11 (2.2%)	0.12%	0.05%	0.28%	0.22%	0.00%	GOLGA6C	Golgin A6 Family Member C
rs199959926	G>C	F R L R	9 (1.9%)	0.14%	0.04%	1.14%	1.32%	0.06%	FLNB	Filamin B
rs202163099	A>T	S P M	10 (2.2%)		0.40%	0.28%	0.22%	0.00%	OR10J3	Olfactory Receptor Family 10 Subfamily J Member 3
rs138223635	G>C	P M L	11 (2.2%)	0.20%	0.60%	0.63%	0.00%	0.00%	CPSF1	Cleavage And Polyadenylation Specific Factor 1
rs190096402	C>A	M F L R	10 (2.0%)	0.20%	0.10%	0.12%	0.00%	0.00%	FSHR	Follicle Stimulating Hormone Receptor
rs183373873	T>C	M F	16 (3.3%)	1.10%	1.10%	1.34%	0.11%	0.00%	CLASP2	Cytoplasmic Linker Associated Protein 2
rs143571255	A>T	S F	18 (3.6%)	1.70%	0.40%	0.83%	5.29%	0.12%	HGFAC	Activates hepatocyte growth factor activator
rs144697393	G>A	M J	9 (1.8%)		0.30%	0.16%	0.22%	0.00%	ENPEP	Glutamyl Aminopeptidase
rs187335528	G>A	S P	13 (2.6%)	1.40%	2.00%	2.29%	0.22%	0.12%	EPPK1	Epiplakin 1
rs17683306	C>G	S P	11 (1.1%)	0.00%	0.03%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	FSTL4	Follistatin Like 4
rs139825063	T>A	S J M	12 (2.4%)	0.20%	0.40%	0.47%	0.00%	0.00%	DNAH17	Dynein Axonemal Heavy Chain 17
rs529928778	G>A	S J M	13 (2.8%)	0.30%	2.10%	0.36%	0.22%	0.00%	LRR4B	Leucine Rich Repeat Containing 4B
rs201721812	G>A	P M J	11 (2.3%)	0.80%	0.60%	0.67%	1.32%	0.00%	TUBGCP8	Tubulin Gamma Complex Associated Protein 6
rs202123117	C>T	P	20 (4.4%)	1.60%	3.60%				MST1L	Macrophage Stimulating 1 Like
rs145561033	C>A	M	17 (3.5%)	0.70%	1.00%	1.46%	5.18%	0.37%	RCSO1	RCSO Domain Containing 1
rs72863093	A>G	D	13 (2.7%)	1.10%	0.70%	0.83%	1.76%	7.13%	RASSF6	Ras Association Domain Family Member 6
rs184655109	G>A	M	14 (2.9%)	0.60%	1.00%	0.79%	0.66%	0.00%	NMT2	N-Myristoyltransferase 2
rs182542888	G>T	M	12 (2.6%)	0.60%	1.00%	0.51%	0.00%	0.00%	REC114	REC114 Meiotic Recombination Protein
rs184291609	C>T	P	6 (1.2%)	0.00%	0.01%	0.56%	0.11%	0.00%	SH2D4A	SH2 Domain Containing 4A
rs76045500	C>T	P	9 (1.8%)	5.2%	5.00%				FAM205A	Family With Sequence Similarity 205 Member A
rs192043112	G>A	S	11 (2.4%)	0.40%	1.70%	1.74%	0.55%	0.00%	MUC16	Mucin 16

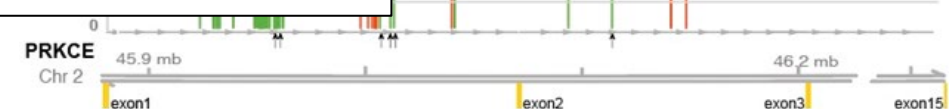
- Variant is predicted to be **deleterious** by algorithms: S (SIFT), P (PolyPhen2), L (LRD), M (MutationTaster), F (FADHMM), LR (MetaLR),
- Allele Frequency in East Asia population reported by 1000 Genome Project Phase III
- Allele Frequency in East Asia population reported by Exome Aggregation Consortium (ExAC)
- Allele Frequency in Singaporean Chinese, Malay and Indian populations reported by

Replication in FinnDiane (3,531 unrelated T1D patients)

in vivo functional studies (zebrafish)

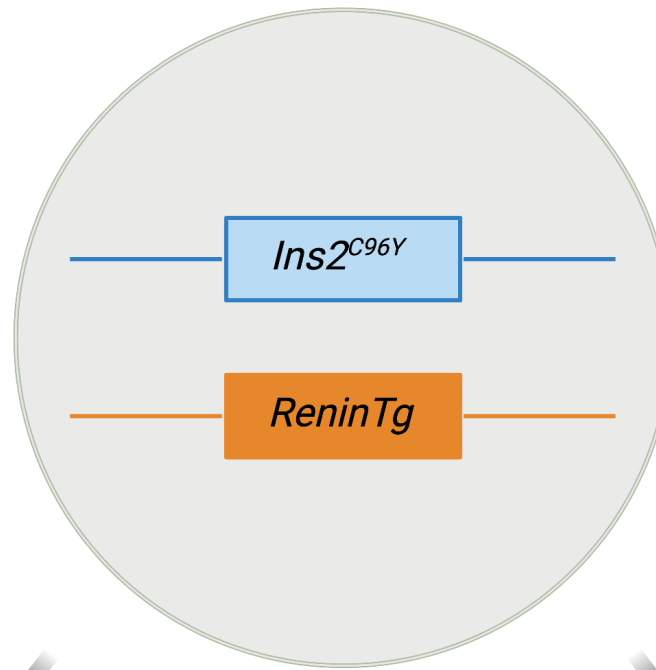


se-enriched Control-enriched



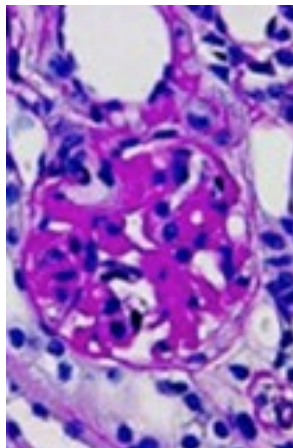
**Theme 1: Role of Altered Lactate Metabolism in  
Diabetic Nephropathy**

# Mouse Model of Diabetic Nephropathy

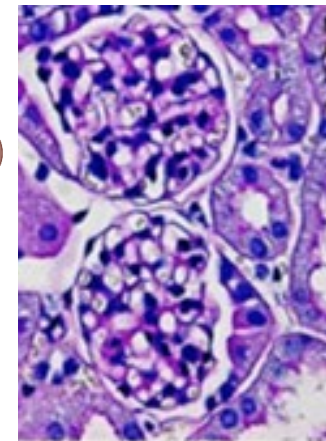


Backcross  
>20 generations

Gurley et al.  
*Diabetes* 2018; (10):2096-2106



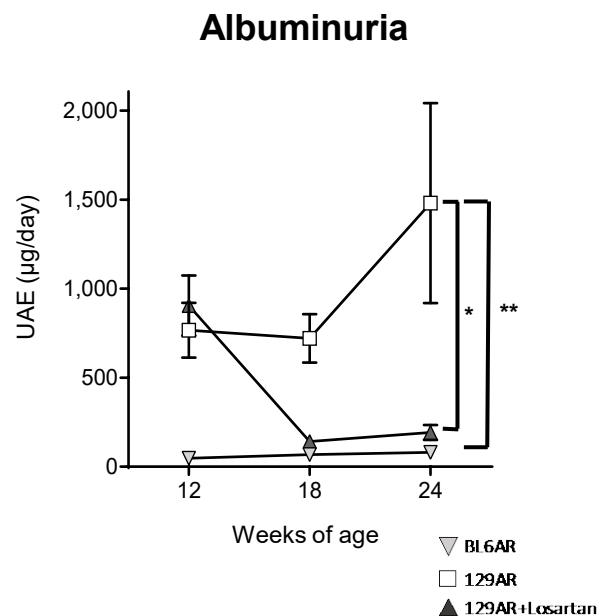
**129 Akita-Renin TG**  
**Susceptible Phenotype**  
- Macro-albuminuria  
- Glomerulosclerosis



**C57BL/6 Akita-Renin TG**  
**Resistant Phenotype**  
- Minimal albuminuria or  
kidney pathology

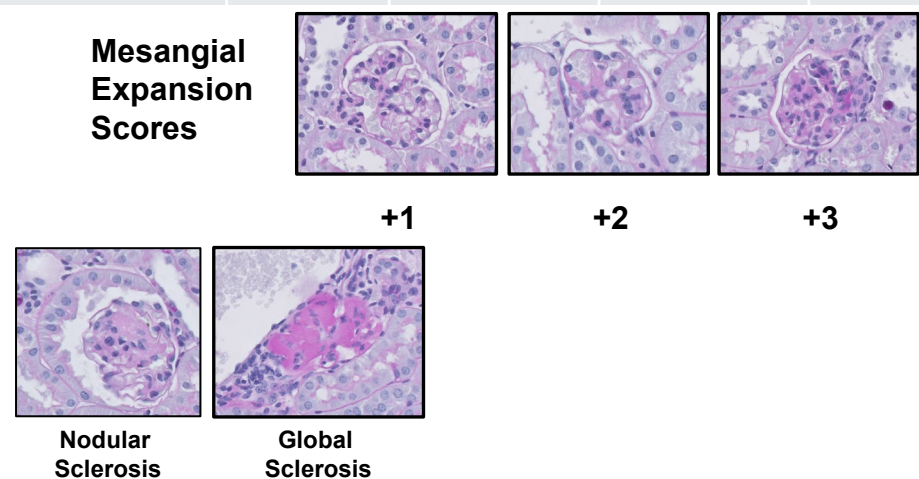


# ARB Treatment Abolishes Albuminuria and Improves Kidney Pathology in a Mouse Model of Diabetic Nephropathy

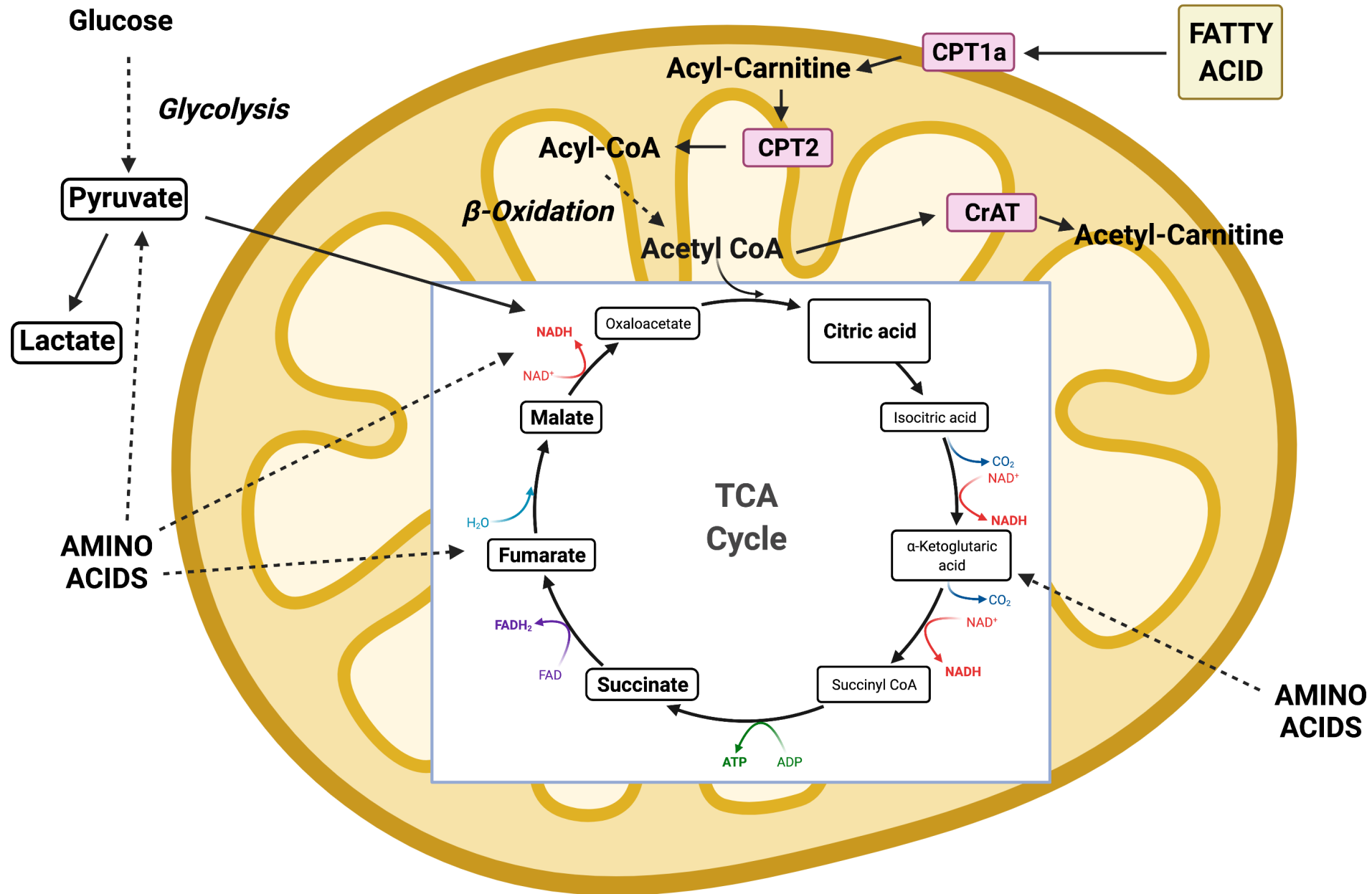


**Kidney Pathology**

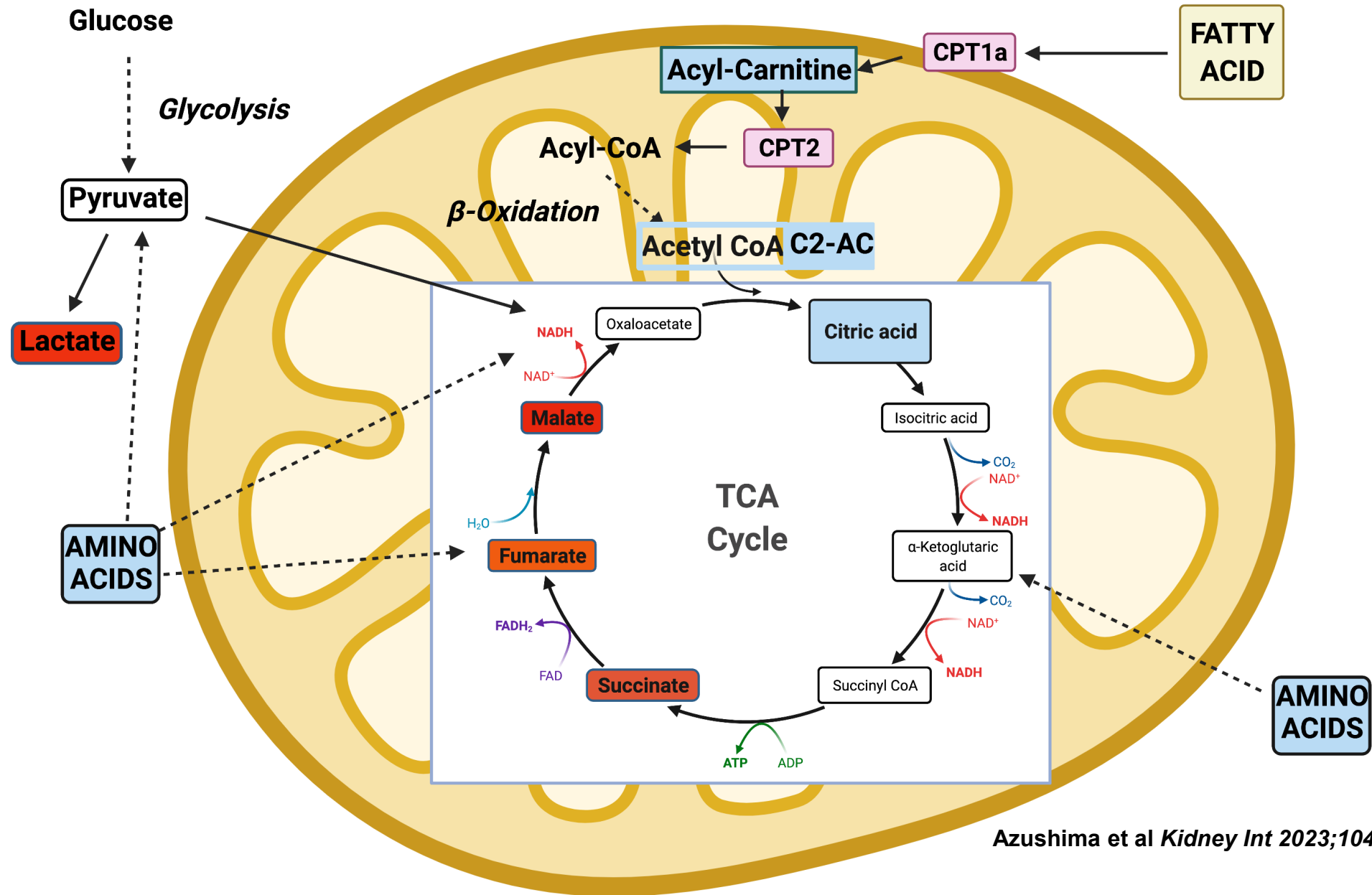
Experimental Groups	Total Score	Mesangial Expansion	Nodular Sclerosis	Global Sclerosis
129 AR (Veh)	3.7±2.4	2.9±0.8	33%	50%
C57BL/6 AR	1.6±0.3*	1.6±0.3*	0	0



# Kidney Metabolism in Diabetic Kidney Disease



# Metabolic Alterations in Kidneys of 129AR Mice



# Lactate and TCA Cycle Metabolites in DKD

## Mouse Kidney

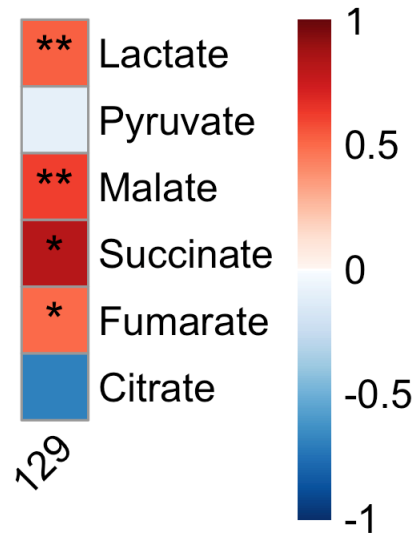


Table 2. Baseline Urine TCA Cycle Metabolite Levels (nM in 4 mM Creatinine) in Discovery and Validation Studies

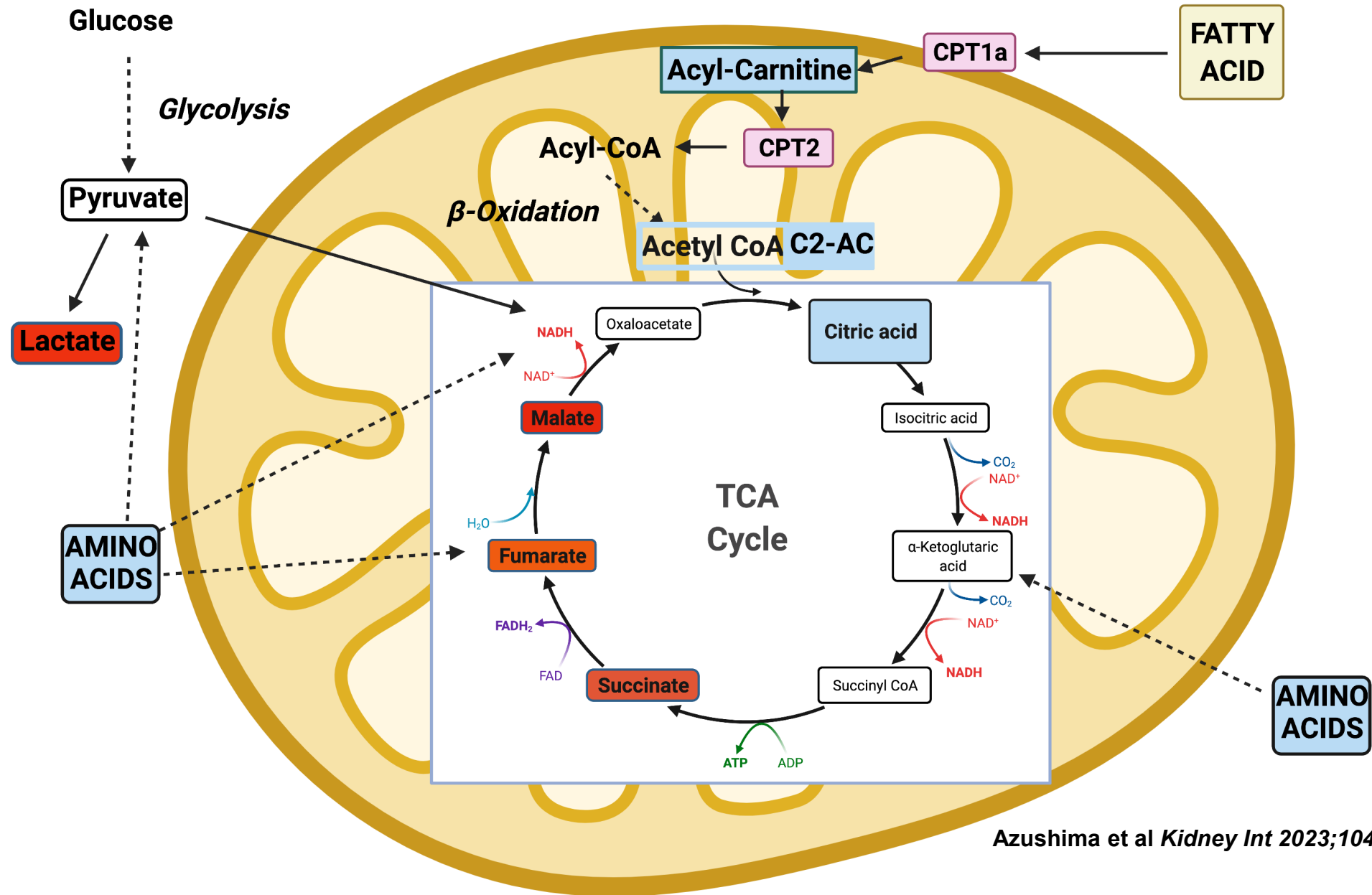
	Discovery Study			Validation Study		
	Nonprogressors (Controls, n = 271)	CKD Progressors (Cases, n = 116)	P Value <sup>a</sup>	Nonprogressors (Controls, n = 402)	CKD Progressors (Cases, n = 96)	P Value <sup>a</sup>
→ Lactate	<b>158 (96–295)</b>	<b>212 (141–498)</b>	<b><math>2.6 \times 10^{-4}</math></b>	<b>215 (142–348)</b>	<b>239 (165–412)</b>	<b>0.02</b>
Pyruvate	140 (91–230)	161 (97–237)	0.12	117 (83–154)	126 (101–158)	0.01
→ Citrate	<b>1060 (602–1713)</b>	<b>754 (329–1491)</b>	<b>0.001</b>	<b>1266 (810–1685)</b>	<b>936 (505–1644)</b>	<b><math>3.1 \times 10^{-5}</math></b>
α-Ketoglutaric acid	94 (52–172)	132 (64–242)	0.02	119 (75–206)	129 (94–203)	0.15
Succinate	51 (29–90)	53 (34–99)	0.77	33 (21–54)	29 (20–52)	0.51
→ Fumarate	<b>12 (7.1–22)</b>	<b>17 (10–29)</b>	<b><math>3.4 \times 10^{-5}</math></b>	<b>9.3 (5.7–18)</b>	<b>13 (8.6–22)</b>	<b><math>1.2 \times 10^{-4}</math></b>
→ Malate	<b>17 (10–36)</b>	<b>30 (16–44)</b>	<b><math>2.9 \times 10^{-5}</math></b>	<b>15 (9.0–31)</b>	<b>19 (12–39)</b>	<b><math>4.6 \times 10^{-4}</math></b>

Variables reaching statistical significance in the discovery and validation substudies are shown in boldface.

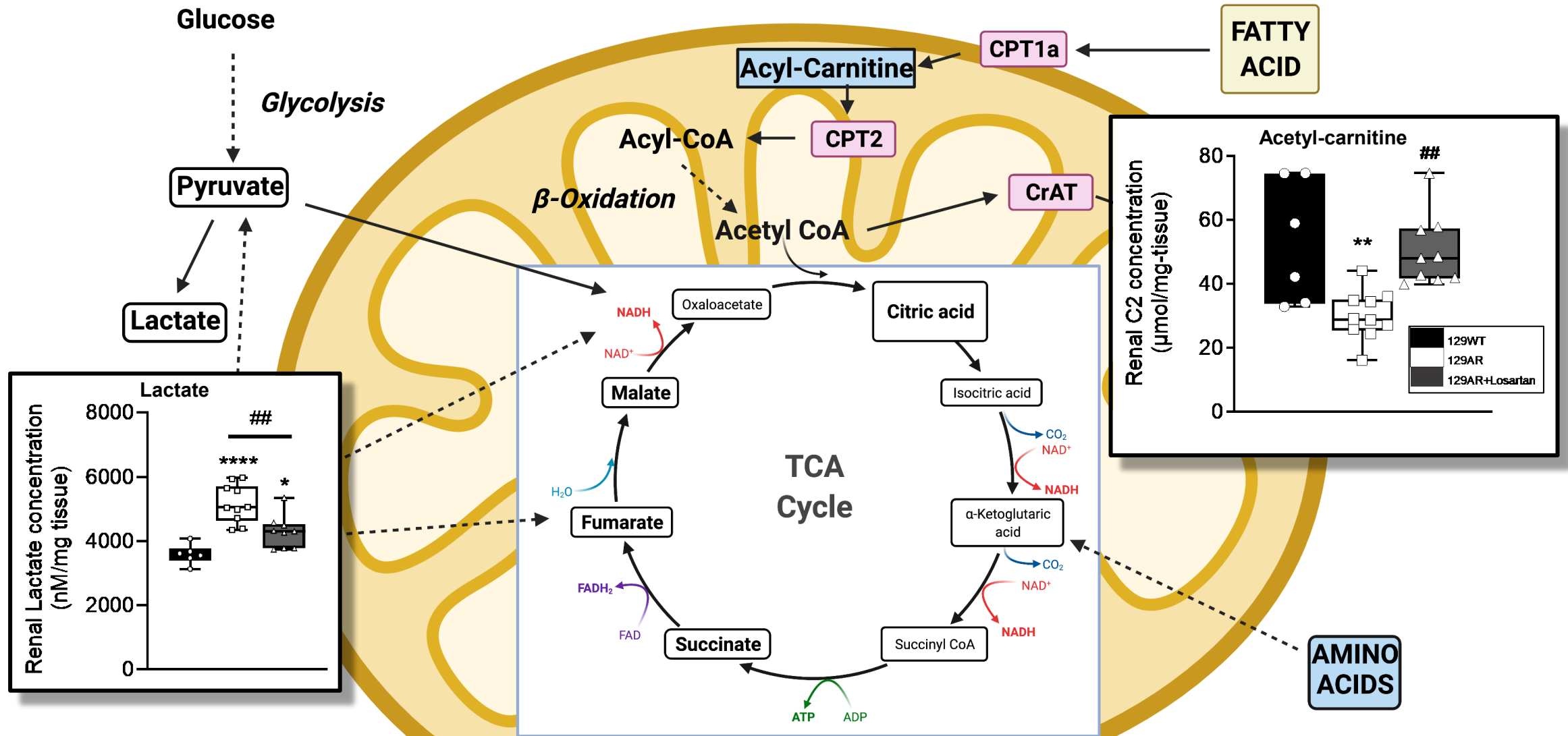
<sup>a</sup>Student t tests.

*J Clin Endocrinol Metab* 103: 4357–4364, 2018

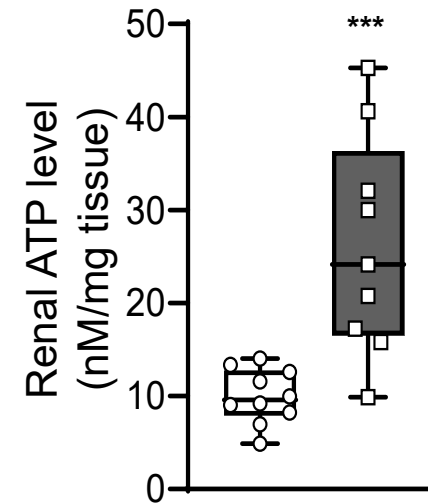
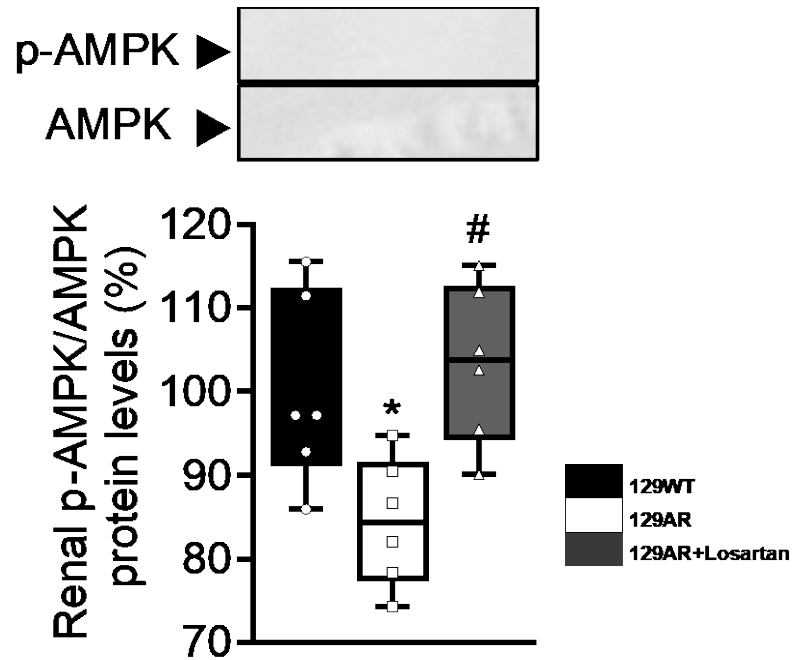
# Metabolic Alterations in Kidneys of 129AR Mice

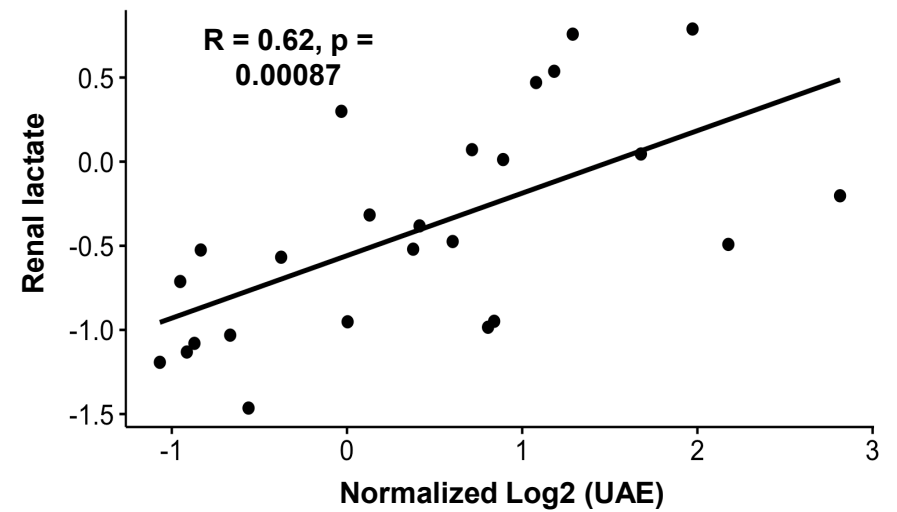
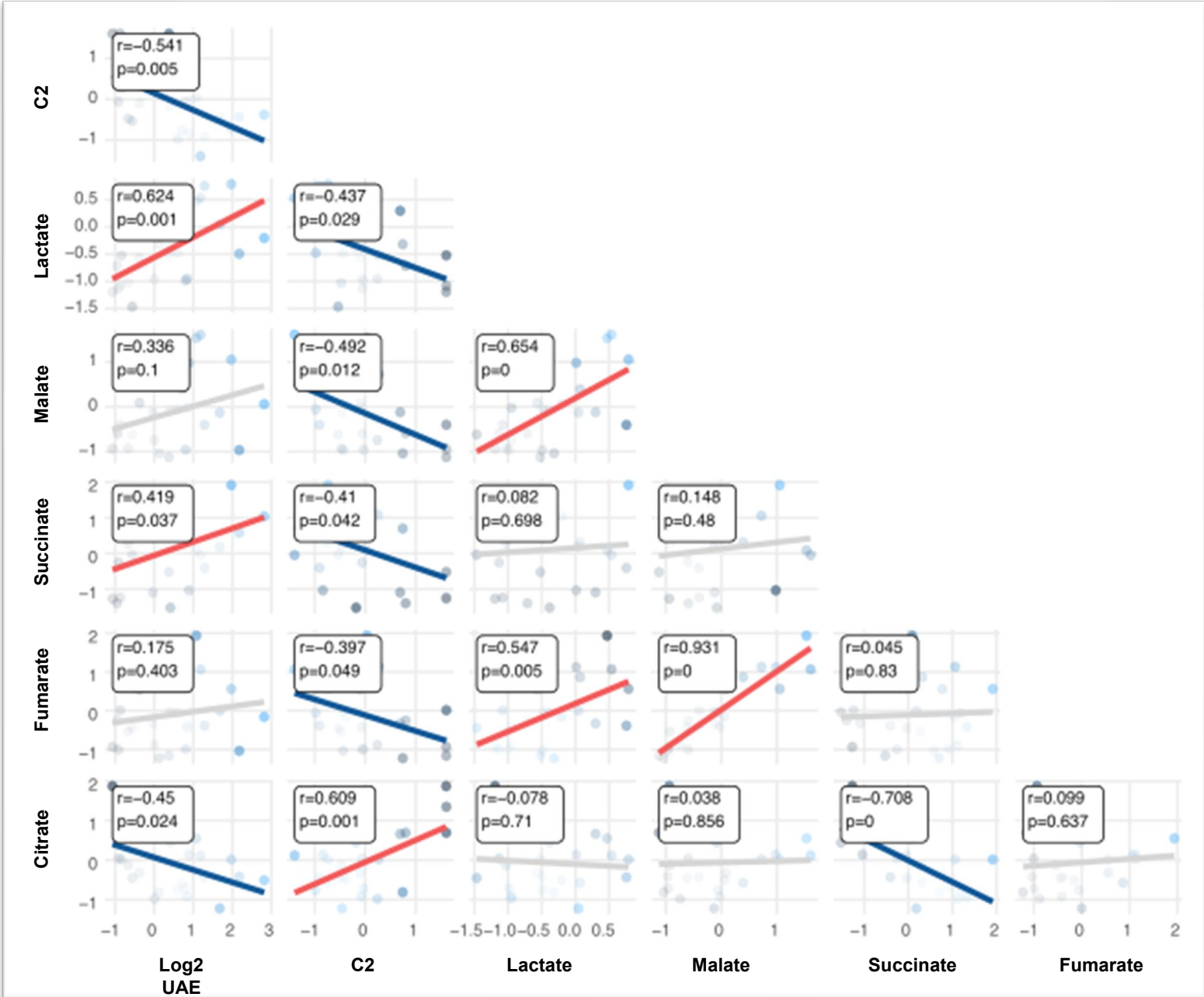


# ARB Treatment Corrects Metabolic Abnormalities in Kidneys of 129A



# ARB Treatment Corrects Metabolic Abnormalities in Kidneys of 129

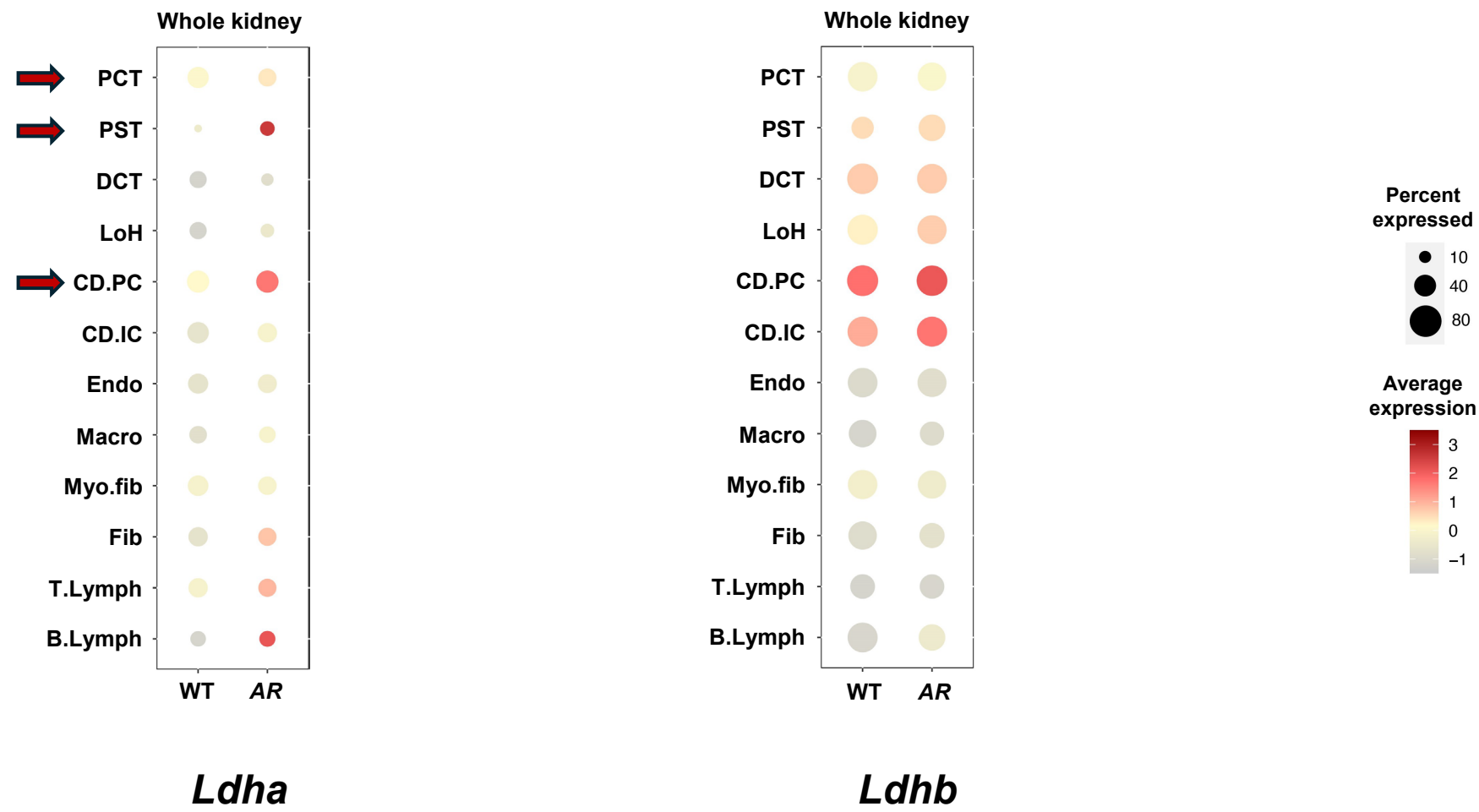




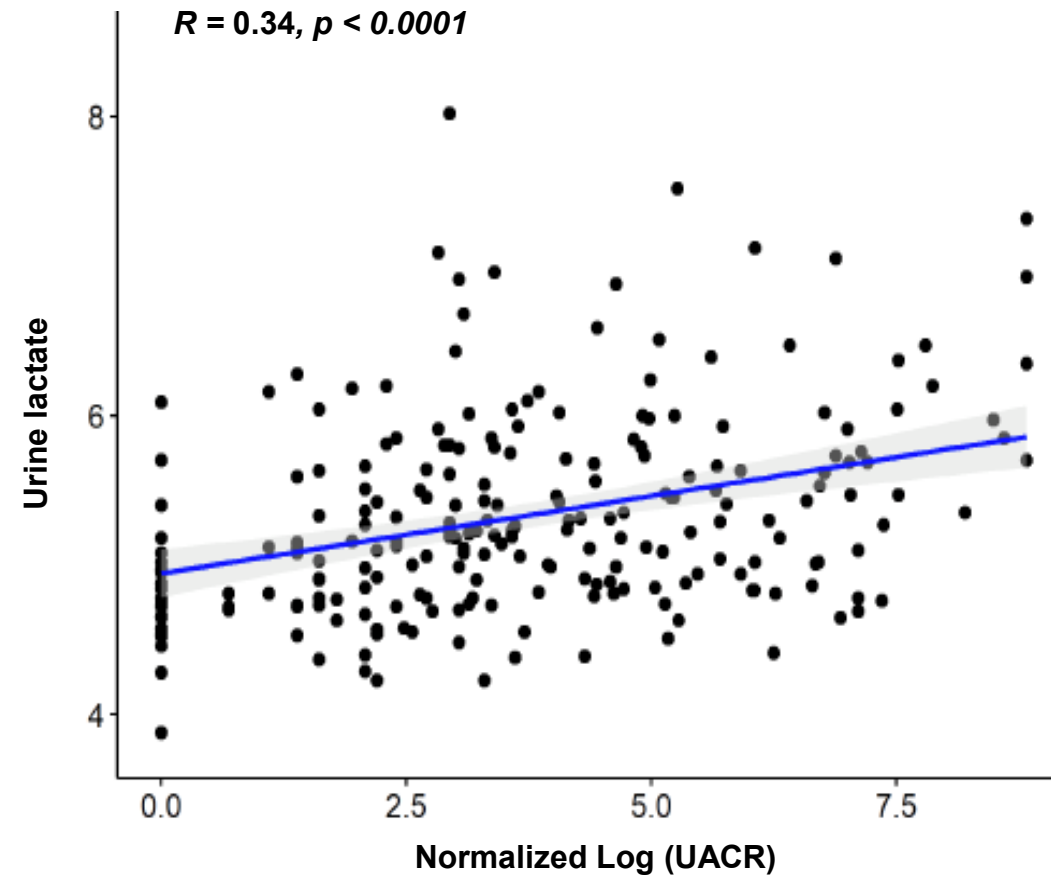
# Metabolite Correlations



# Mapping Expression of Lactate Dehydrogenase Isoforms in Diabetic Kidney D

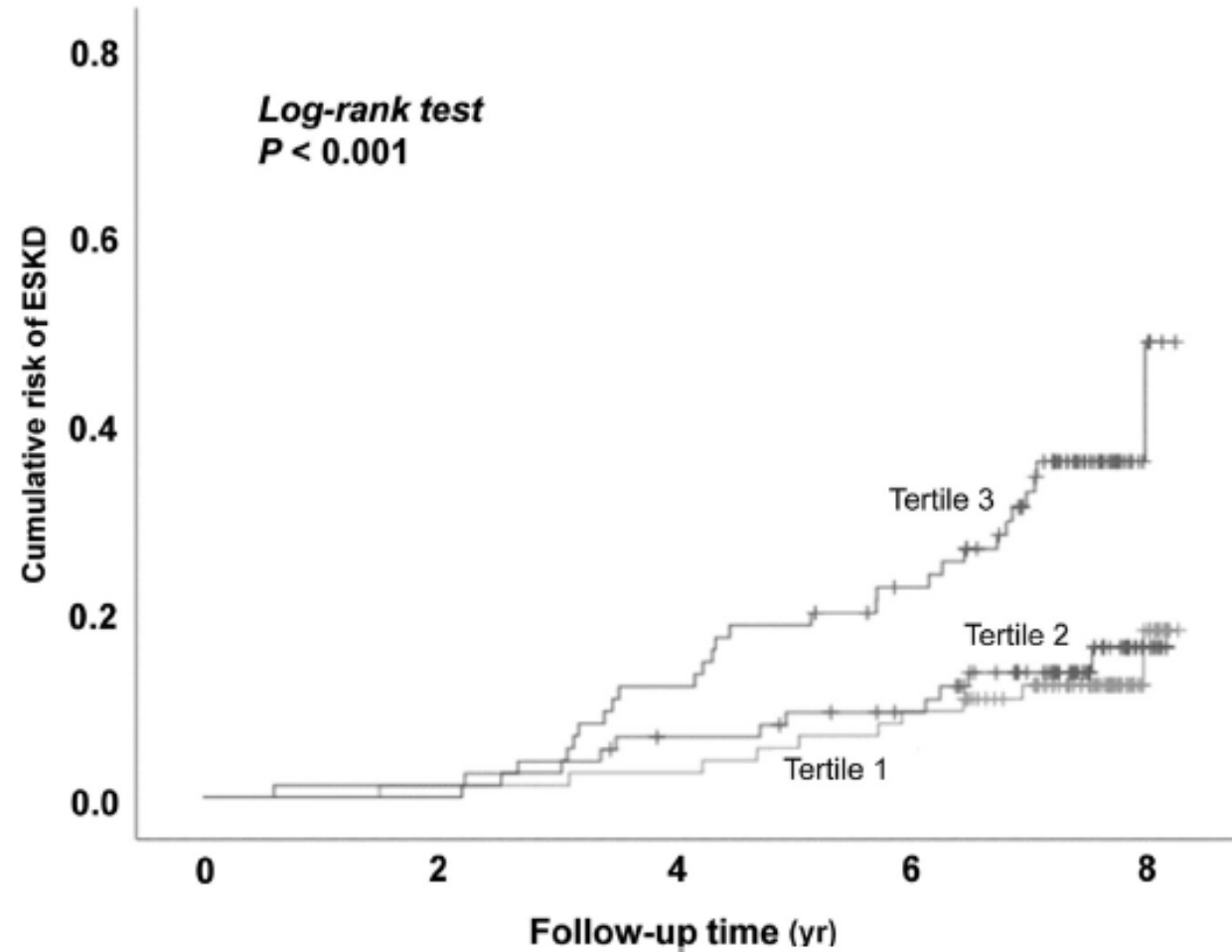


# Association Between Urinary Lactate Levels with Albuminuria

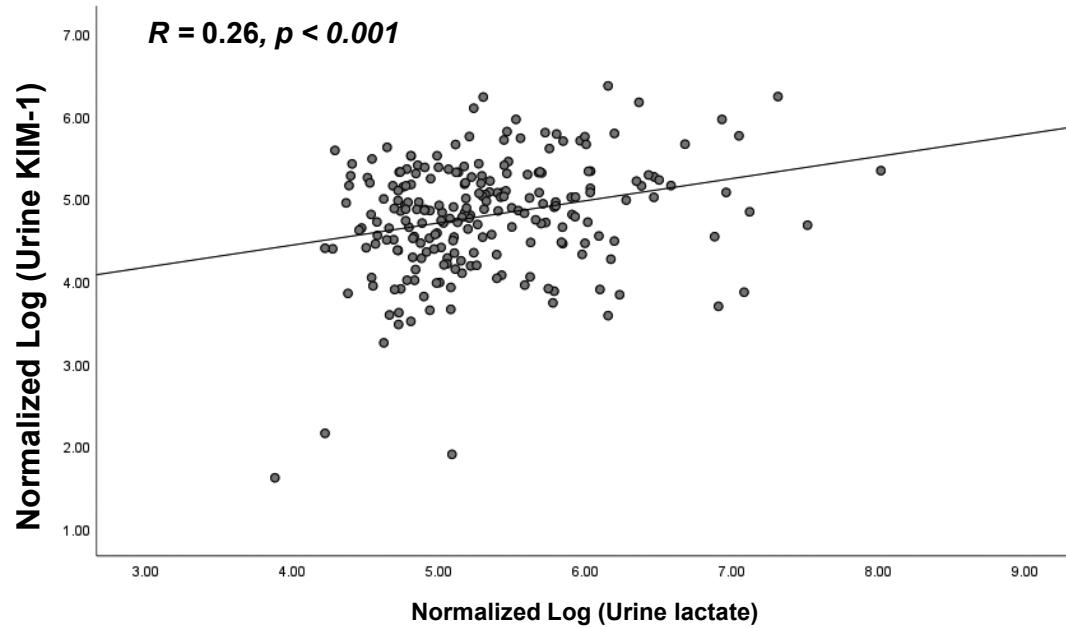


**$R=0.31$ ;  $[0.16-0.45]$ ;  $P < 0.001$  with RAS blockers;  
 $R=0.49$ ;  $[0.29-0.67]$ ;  $P < 0.001$  without RAS blockers**

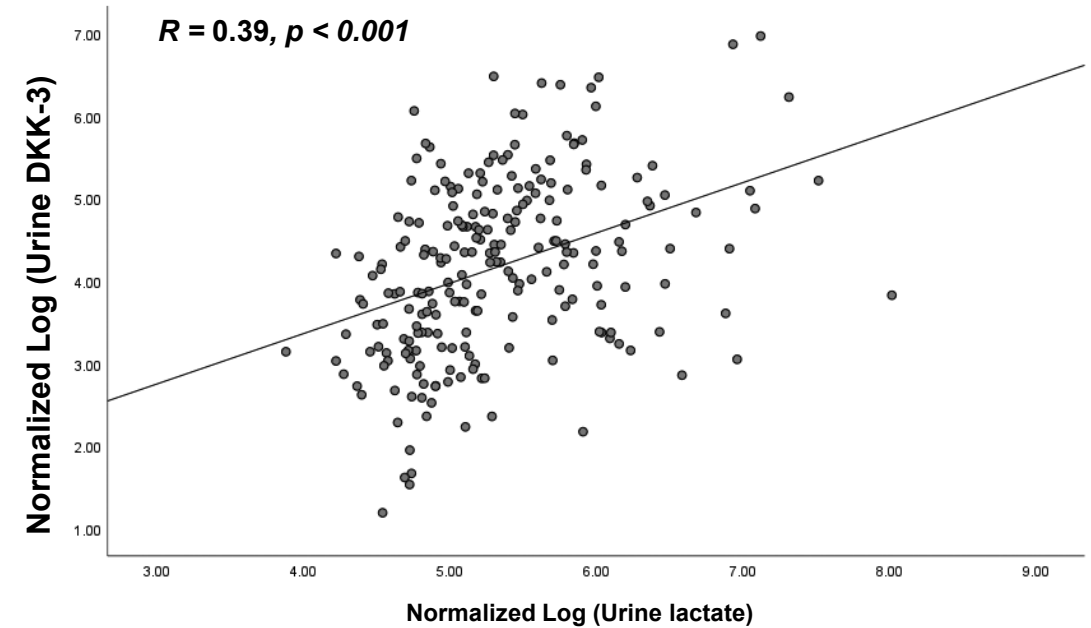
# Increased Urinary Lactate Levels are Associated with Risk for ESKD in T2DM



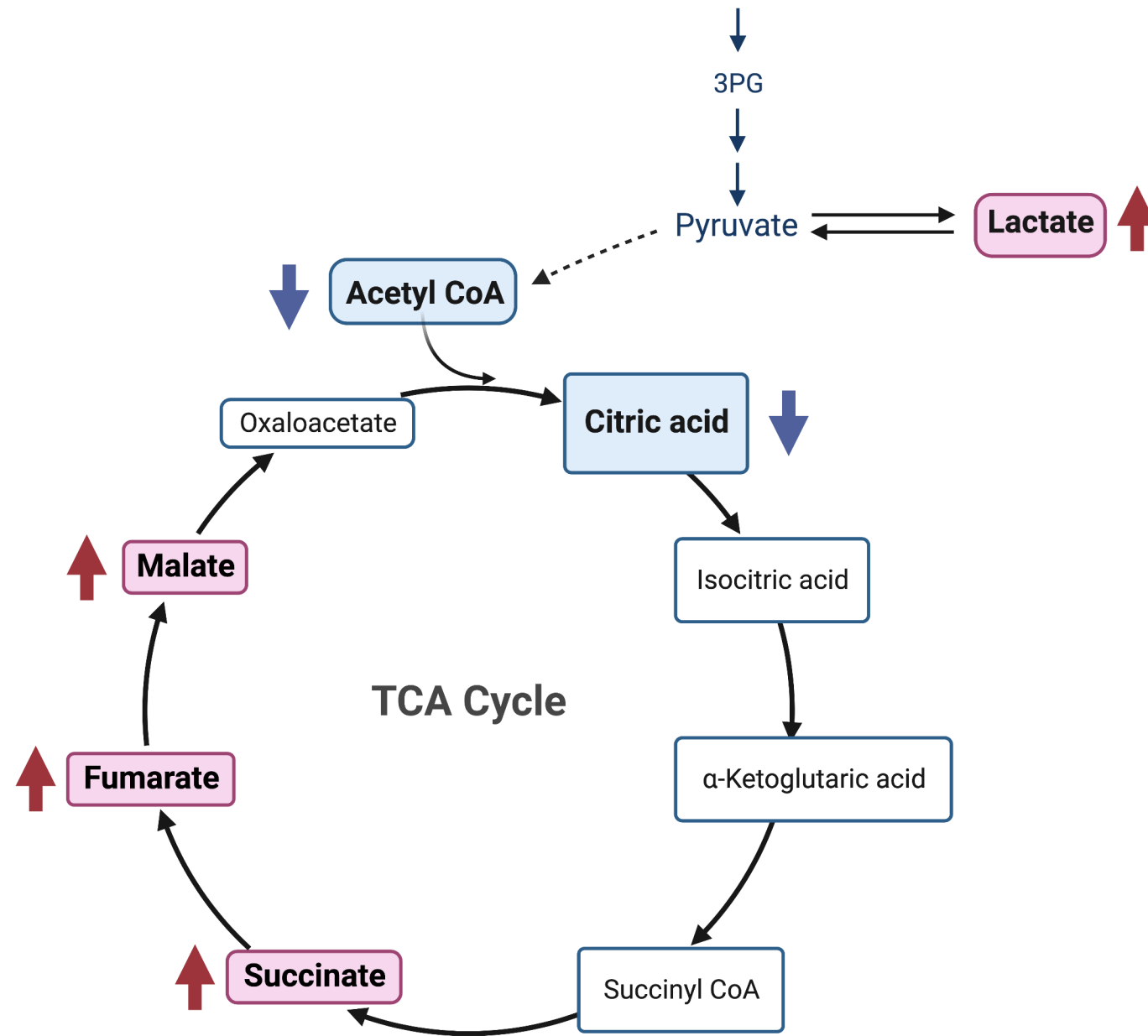
# Urinary Lactate Levels Correlate with Markers of Tubular Stress and



**KIM-1**



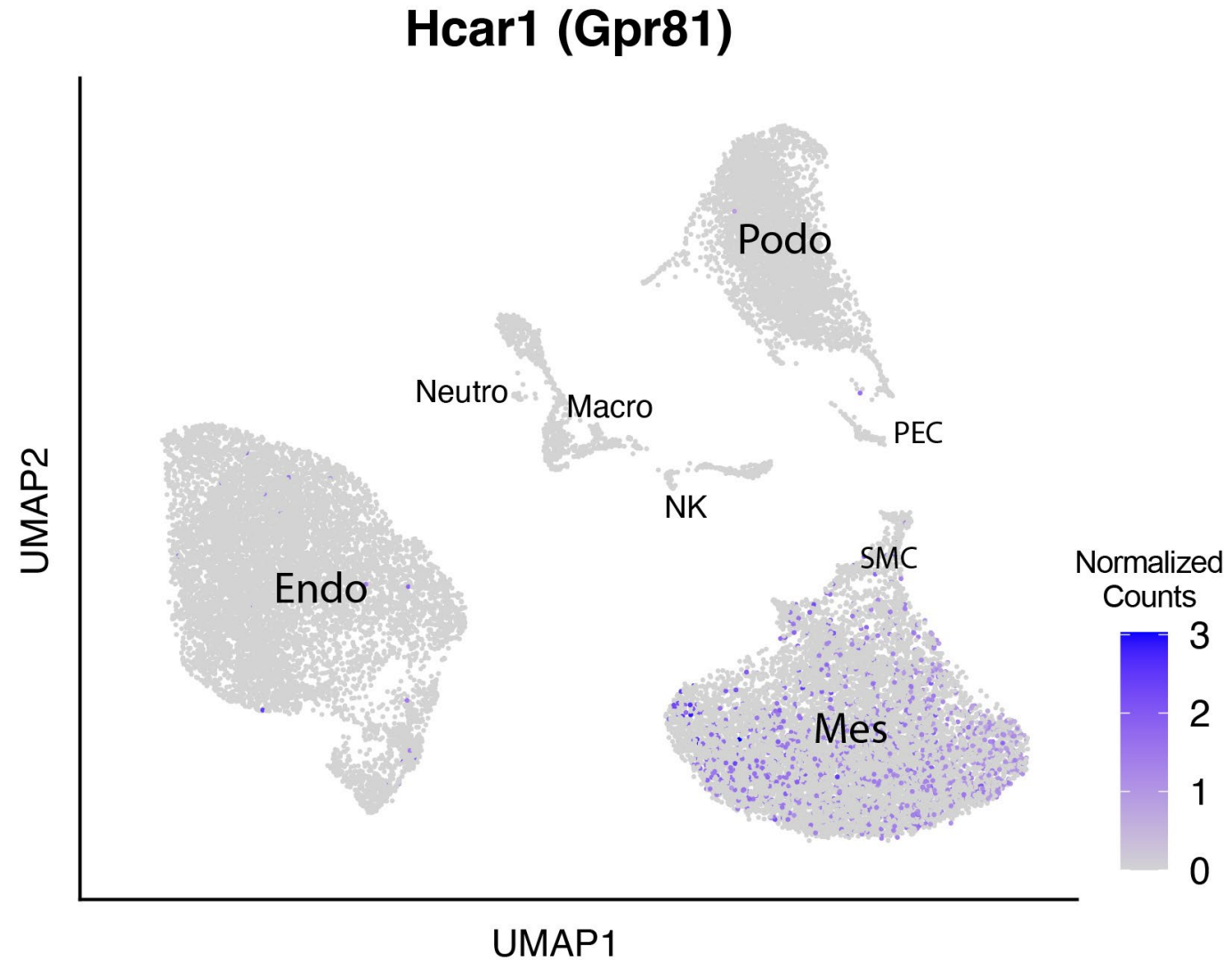
**DKK-3**



# Summary

- Distinct kidney metabolic defects associated with elevated lactate levels are associated with susceptibility to diabetic kidney disease
- In a human cohort with T2DM, elevated urinary lactate is associated with progression to ESKD
- Increased urinary lactate levels may be a useful biomarker for risk of progressive kidney injury
- The association between abnormal lactate metabolism and albuminuria suggests that lactate may be an indicator of epithelial distress caused by high-grade proteinuria in DN

# Expression of GPR81 in Glomerular Mesangial Cells



## Acknowledgements

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Susan Gurley

### Khoo Teck Phuat Hospital

LIM Su Chi  
WANG Jiexun  
LIU Jian-Jun

### Yokohama City University

Kengo Azushima\*



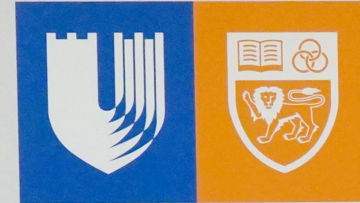


DukeNUS

Transforming  
Medicine  
Lives

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Transforming  
Medicine  
Lives



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Medicine  
Lives

**DYNAMO II**



thank you