

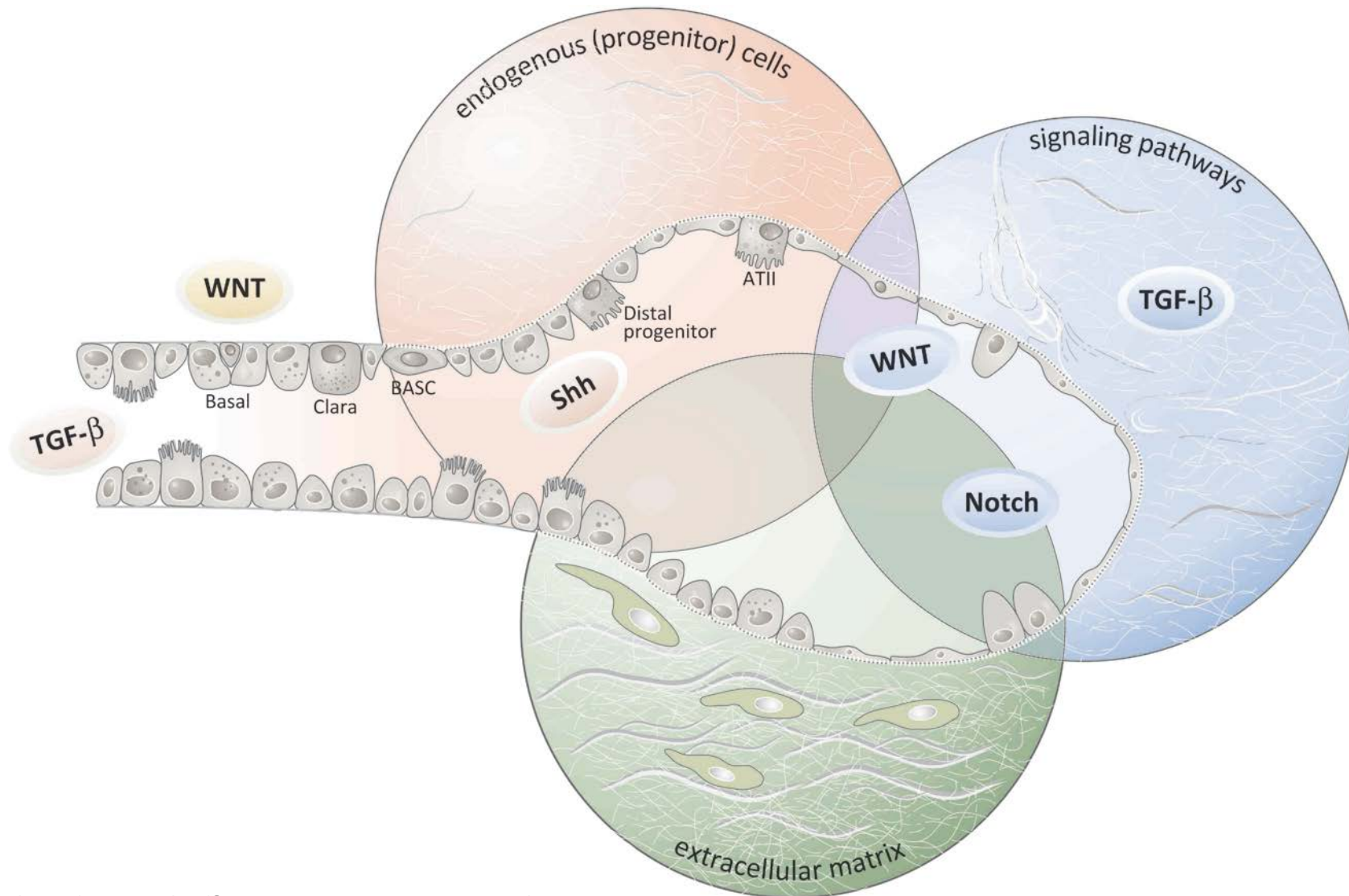
**Pulmonary Fibrosis:**  
**from pathways & cytokines to molecular therapeutic targets**

**Melanie Königshoff, MD, PhD**  
**Comprehensive Pneumology Center**  
**Helmholtz Zentrum and University Hospital LMU, Munich, Germany**

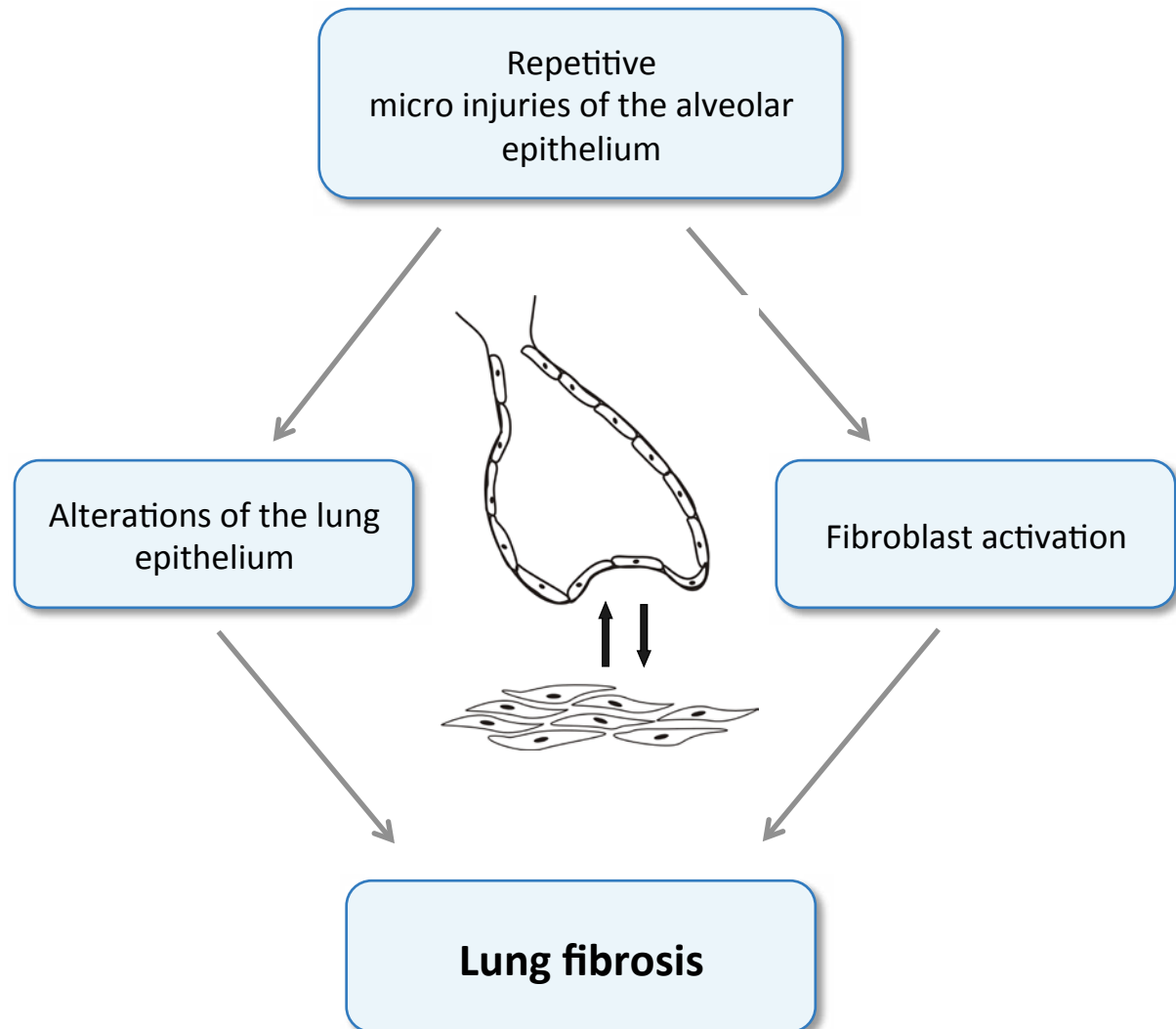
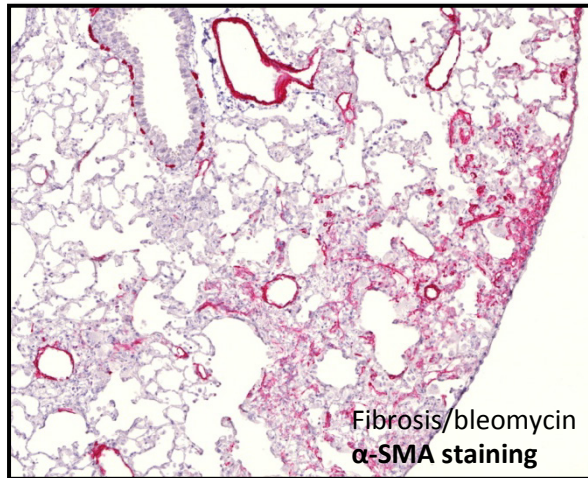
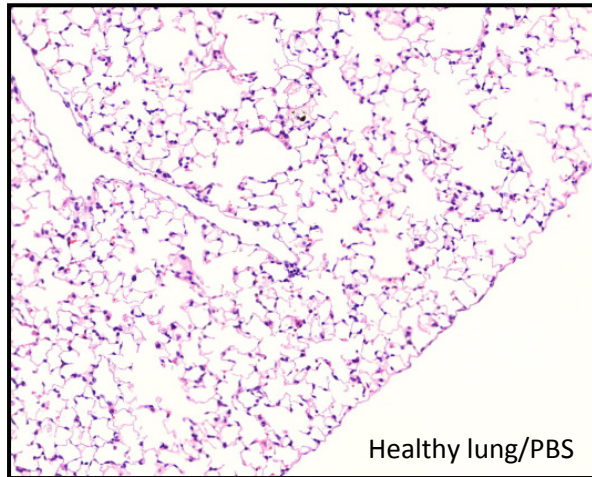
*ILD Conference and Course*  
*Prague, Czech Republic*  
*June 21, 2014*

# Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)

## Compartments



# Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)

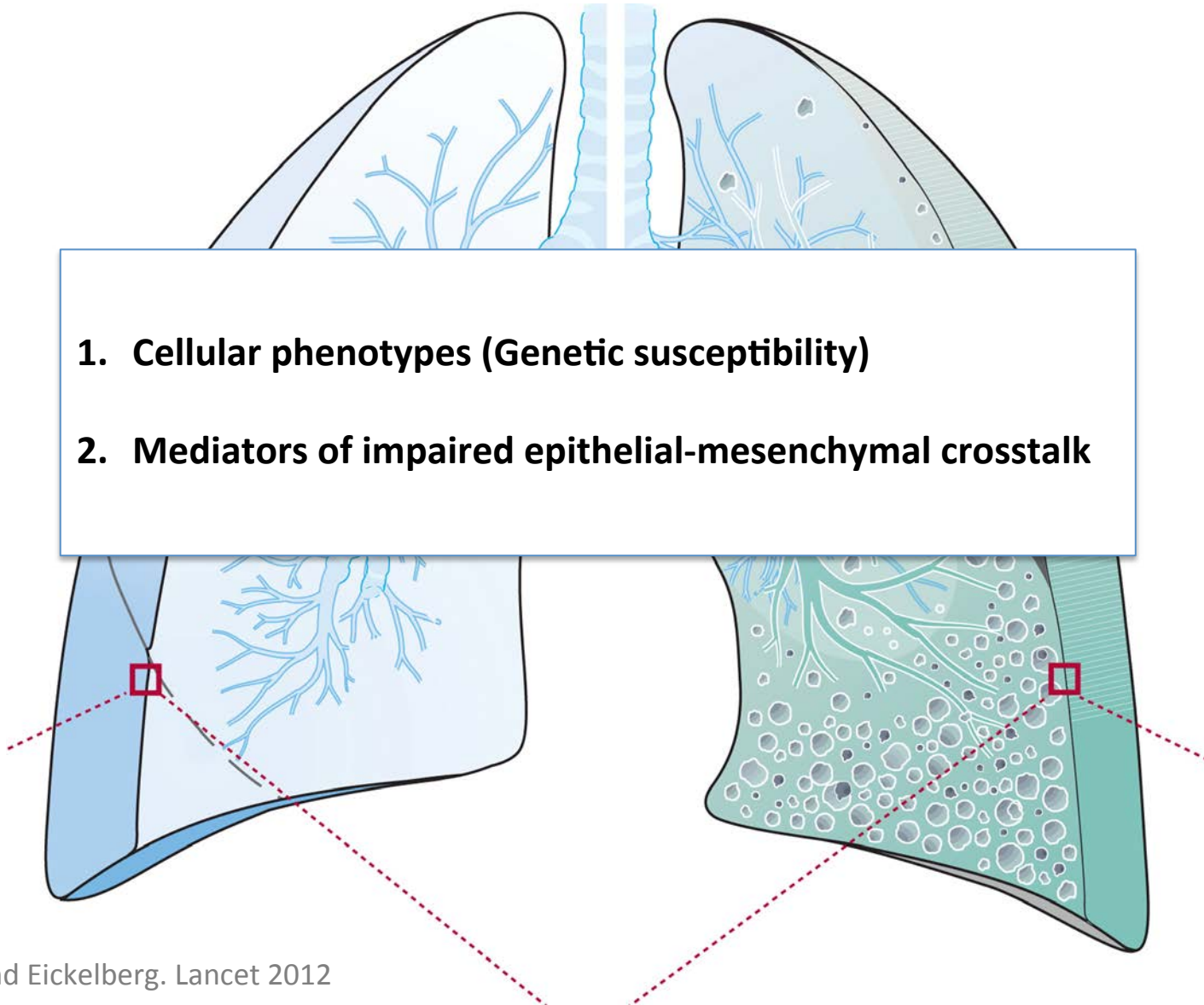


King et al., Lancet 2011  
Fernandez et al., Lancet 2012  
Selman et al., PLOS Med 2008

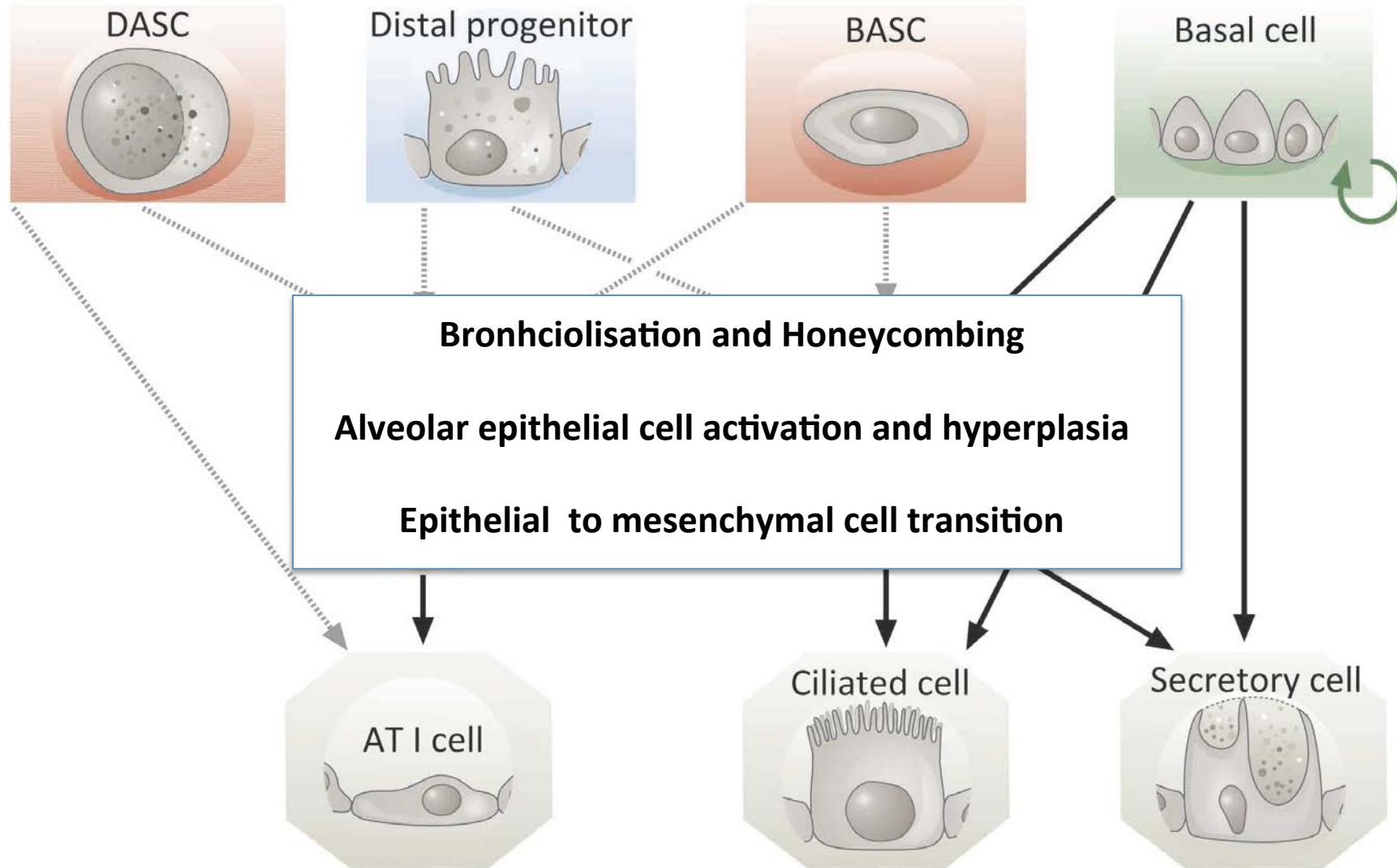
# Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)

## Challenges and questions

1. Cellular phenotypes (Genetic susceptibility)
2. Mediators of impaired epithelial-mesenchymal crosstalk



# The Lung Epithelial Cell Connection





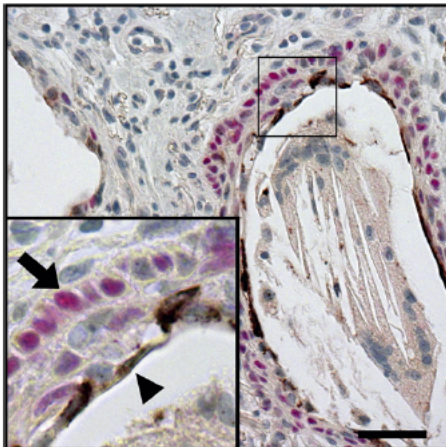
# Airway/Bronchial Cell Phenotypes in IPF

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## *MUC5B* Promoter Polymorphism and Interstitial Lung Abnormalities

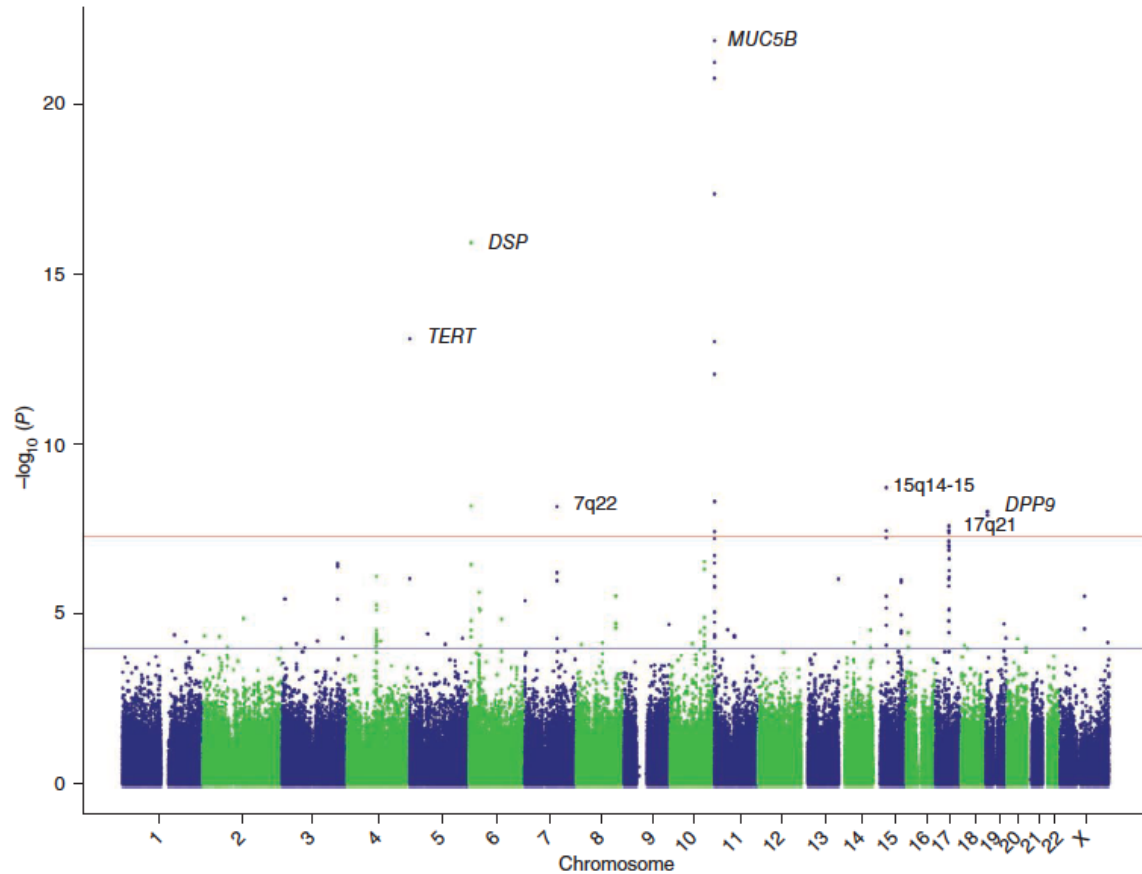
Gary M. Hunninghake, M.D., M.P.H., Hiroto Hatabu, M.D., Ph.D., Yuka Okajima, M.D., Wei Gao, M.S., Josée Dupuis, Ph.D., Jeanne C. Latourelle, D.Sc., Mizuki Nishino, M.D., Tetsuro Araki, M.D., Oscar E. Zazueta, M.D., Sila Kurugol, Ph.D., James C. Ross, M.S., Raúl San José Estépar, Ph.D., Elissa Murphy, M.S., Mark P. Steele, M.D., James E. Loyd, M.D., Marvin I. Schwarz, M.D., Tasha E. Fingerlin, Ph.D., Ivan O. Rosas, M.D., George R. Washko, M.D., George T. O'Connor, M.D., and David A. Schwartz, M.D.



Abnormal respiratory epithelial differentiation programs contribute to the expression of *MUC5B* and bronchiolisation

Differential expression of cilium genes associated with honeycombing and *MUC5B*

# Genetic predisposition – MUC5B



**Risk allele in 3-4 % of the population**

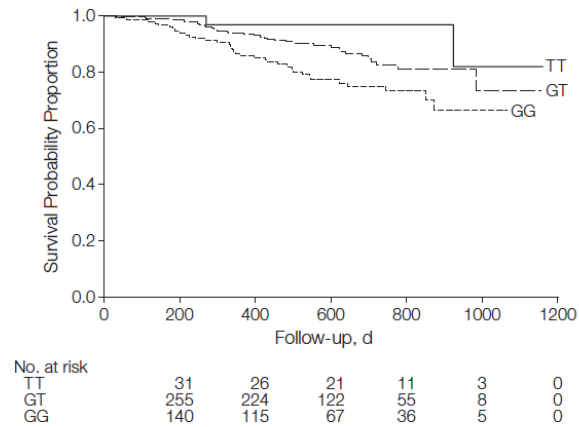
**38% of sporadic IPFs  
9% controls**

**Increased MUC5B protein expression**

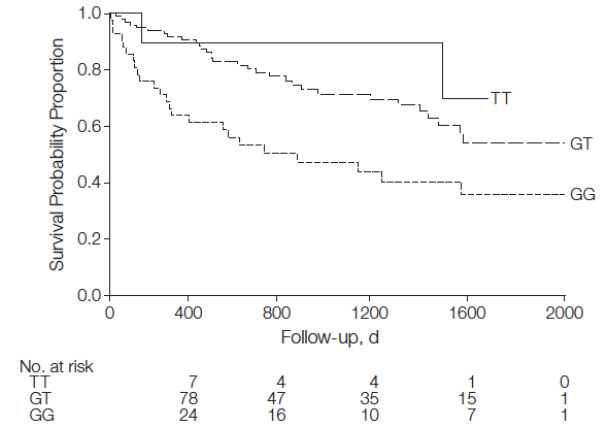
**SNP in the MUC5B region – increased risk of pulmonary fibrosis**

# Genetic predisposition – MUC5B

**Figure 1.** Kaplan-Meier Survival Curves by *MUC5B* Genotypes, INSPIRE Cohort



**Figure 2.** Kaplan-Meier Survival Curves by *MUC5B* Genotypes, Chicago Cohort

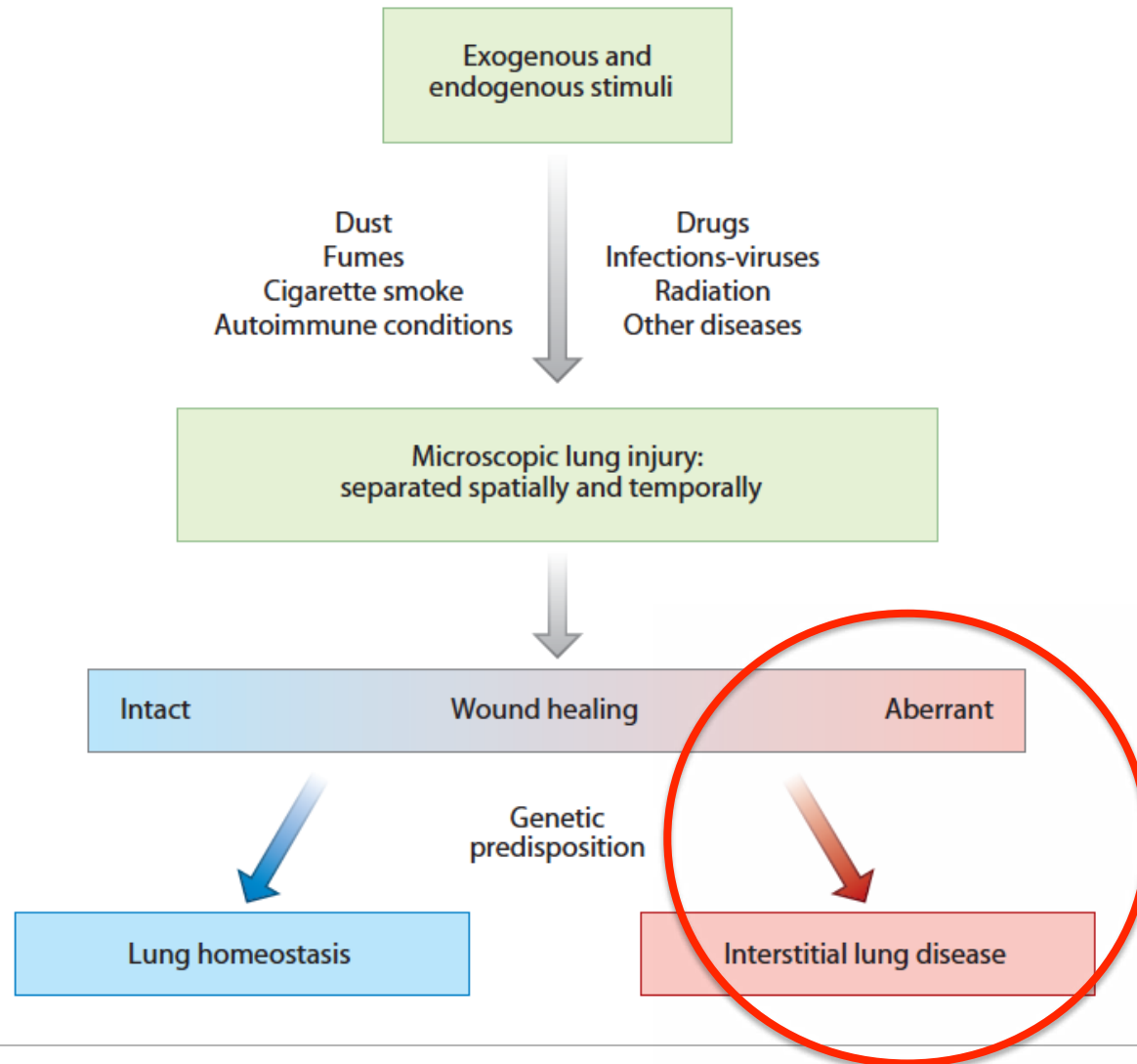


**SNP in the MUC5B region – first genetic variant associated with improved survival**

→ enhanced mucosal host defense, reduction in infectious complications?



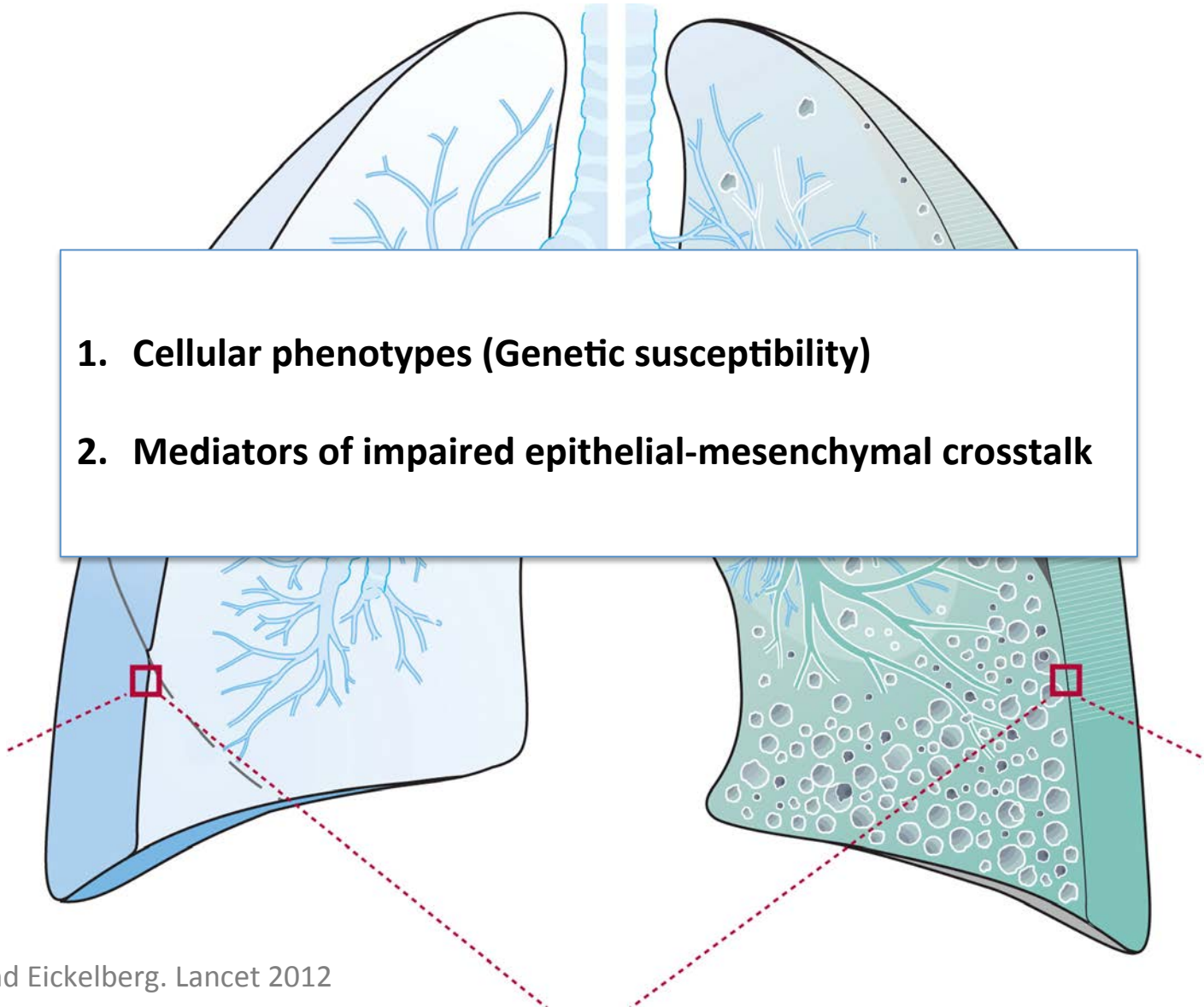
# Gene X Environment Interaction



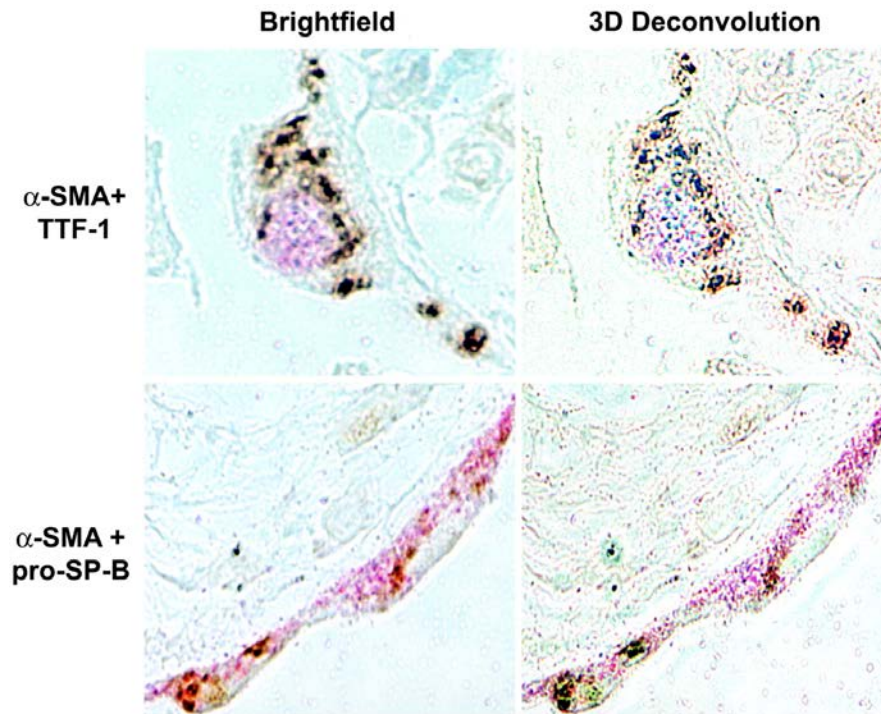
# Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)

## Challenges and questions

- 1. Cellular phenotypes (Genetic susceptibility)**
- 2. Mediators of impaired epithelial-mesenchymal crosstalk**



# Cellular plasticity – EMT ?

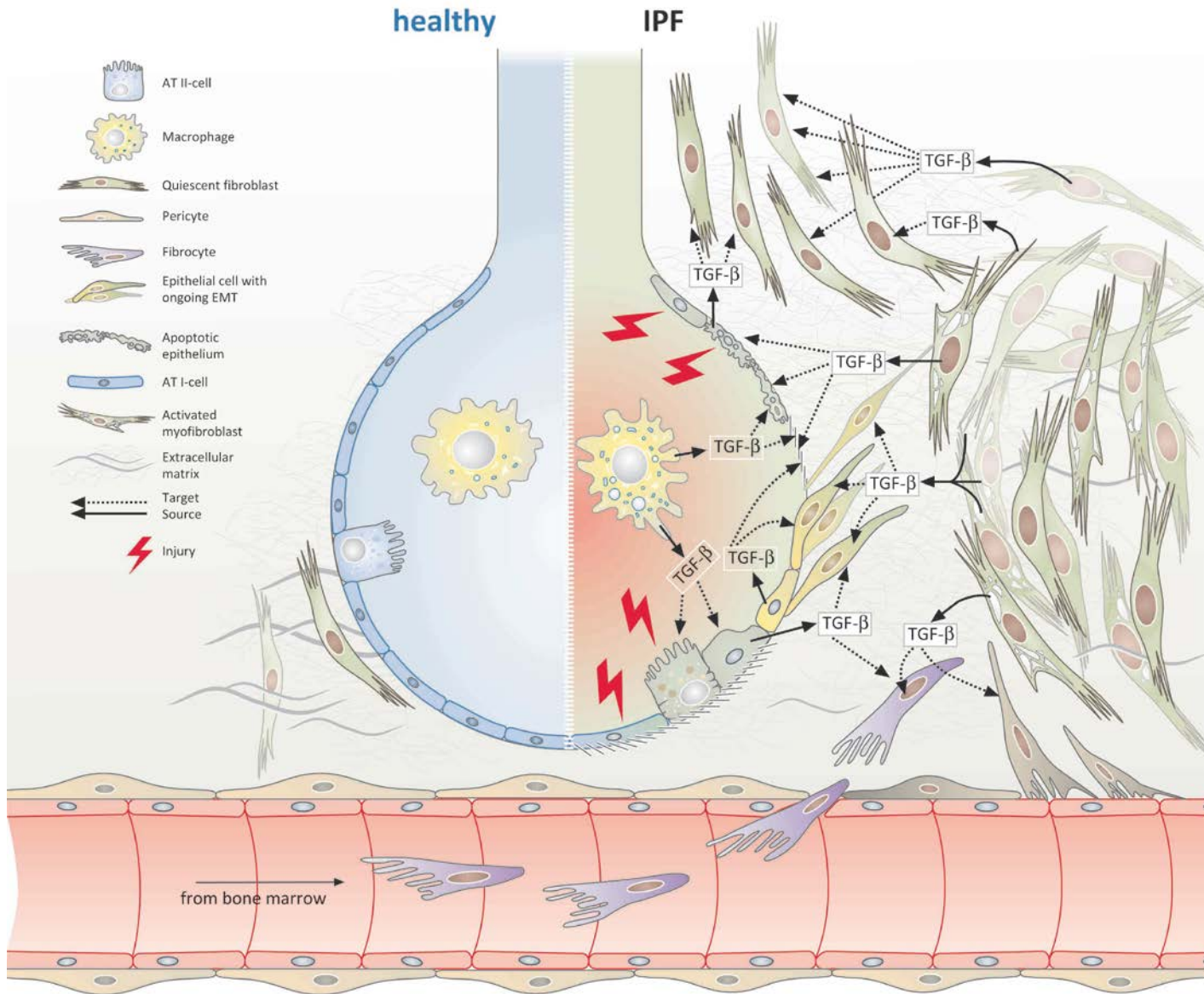


## Alveolar epithelial cells

- gain mesenchymal properties
- produce ECM molecules, such as col1
- co-express epithelial cell lineage marker, such as ATI and ATII cell marker

## Lung epithelial cell reprogramming

Willis et al. Am J Pathol 2005, Kim et al. PNAS 2006,  
Wheeler et al. Am J Path 2014, Zhou ATS 2014



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PLOS MEDICINE

Research in Translation

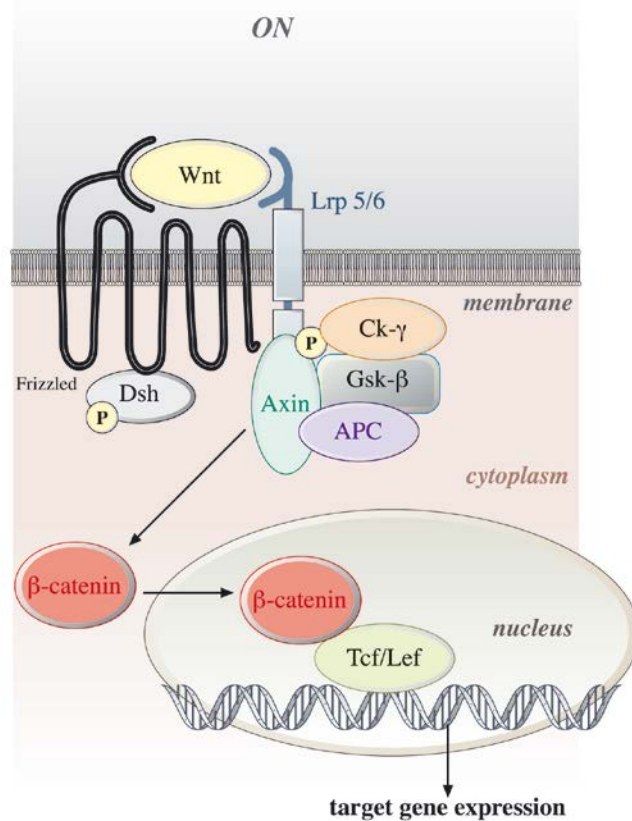
# Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis: Aberrant Recapitulation of Developmental Programs?

Moisés Selman\*, Annie Pardo, Naftali Kaminski

Pardo et al. PLoS Med. 2008, Selman et al. AJRCCM 2006,  
Yang et al. AJRCCM 2007



# Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin signaling in the lung



## Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin signaling is involved in lung development

*Goss et al. Dev Cell. 2009, Harris-Johnson et al. PNAS 2009, Cardoso WV. Development 2006, Shu W. et al. Developmental Biology 2005*

## Wnt signaling regulates stem cell function in the lung

*Kim et al. Cell 2005, Stripp et al. AJRCMB 2006,, Mou et al. Cell Stem Cell 2012, Paxson et al. Stem Cells Dev. 2013, Carraro et al. Development. 2014, Huang et al. Nat Biotechnol. 2014*

## Wnt signaling is altered during aging

*Liu et al. Science 2007, Castilho et al. Cell Stem Cell 2012, Hoffmayer et al. Science 2012, Lezzerini et al. Biogerontology 2013*

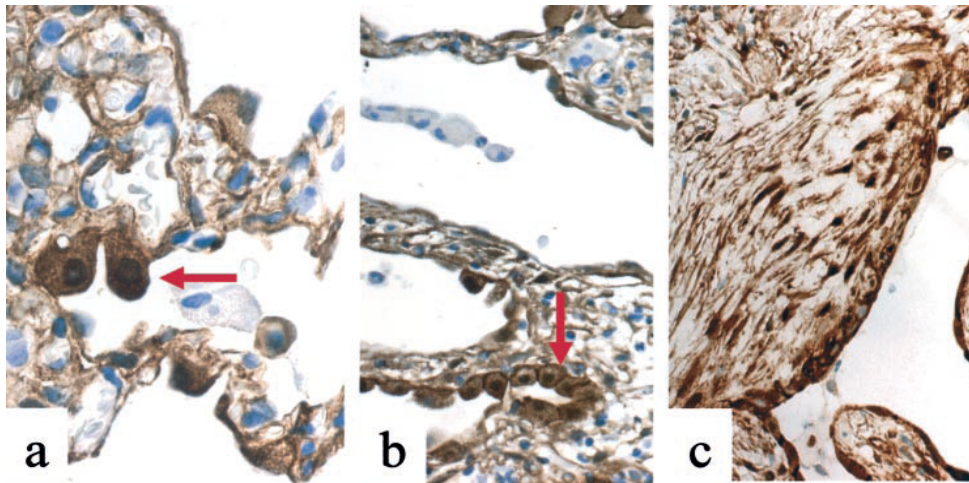


# Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin signaling in IPF

American Journal of Pathology, Vol. 162, No. 5, May 2003  
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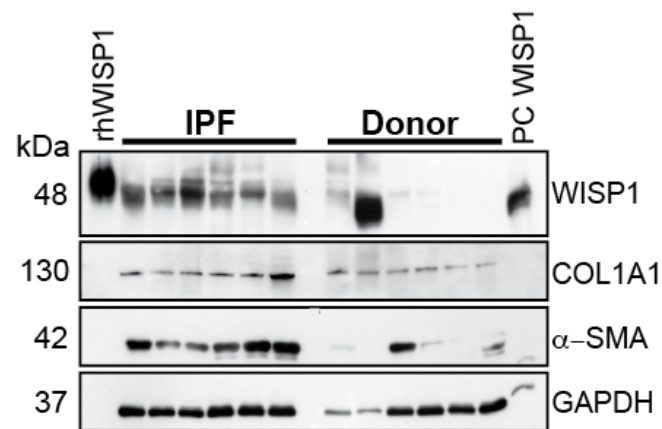
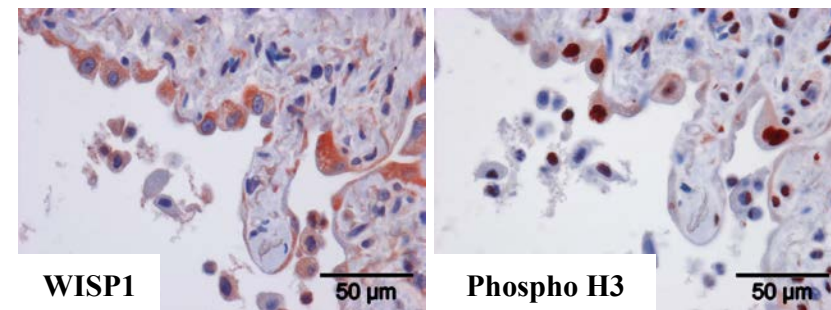
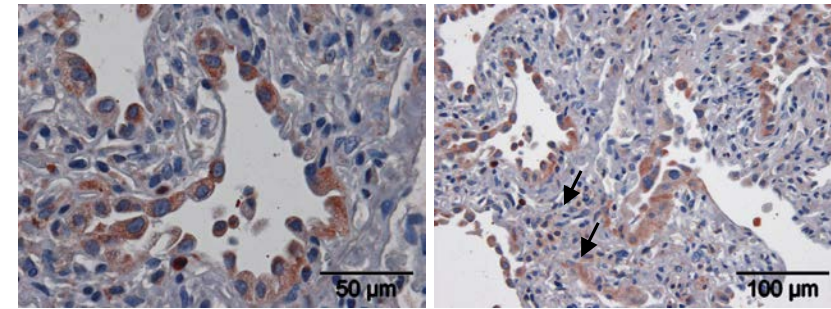
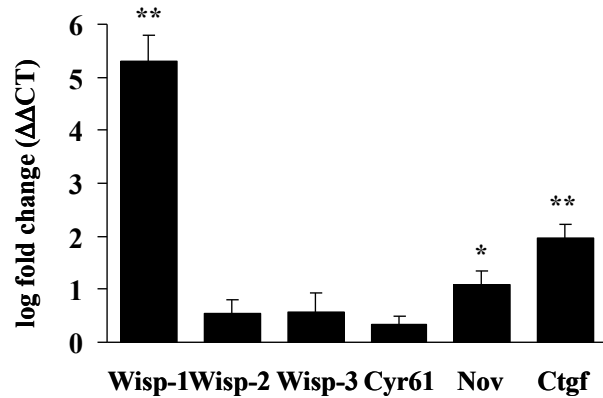
## Aberrant Wnt/ $\beta$ -Catenin Pathway Activation in Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis

Marco Chilosi, Venerino Poletti, Alberto Zamò, Maurizio Lestani, Licia Montagna, Paola Piccoli, Serena Pedron, Manuela Bertaso, Aldo Scarpa, Bruno Murer, Alessandra Cancellieri, Roberta Maestro, Gianpietro Semenzato and Claudio Doglioni



*„... Chilosi and colleagues report that the Wnt signal transduction pathway is aberrantly activated in IPF.“*

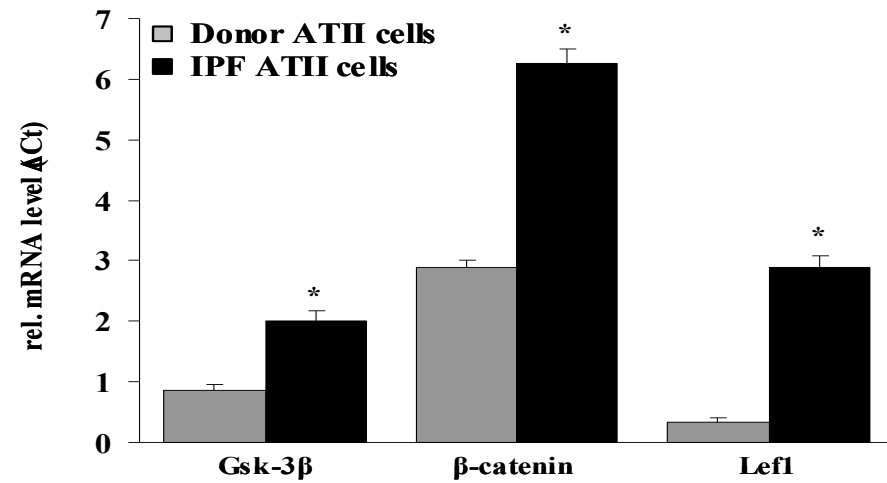
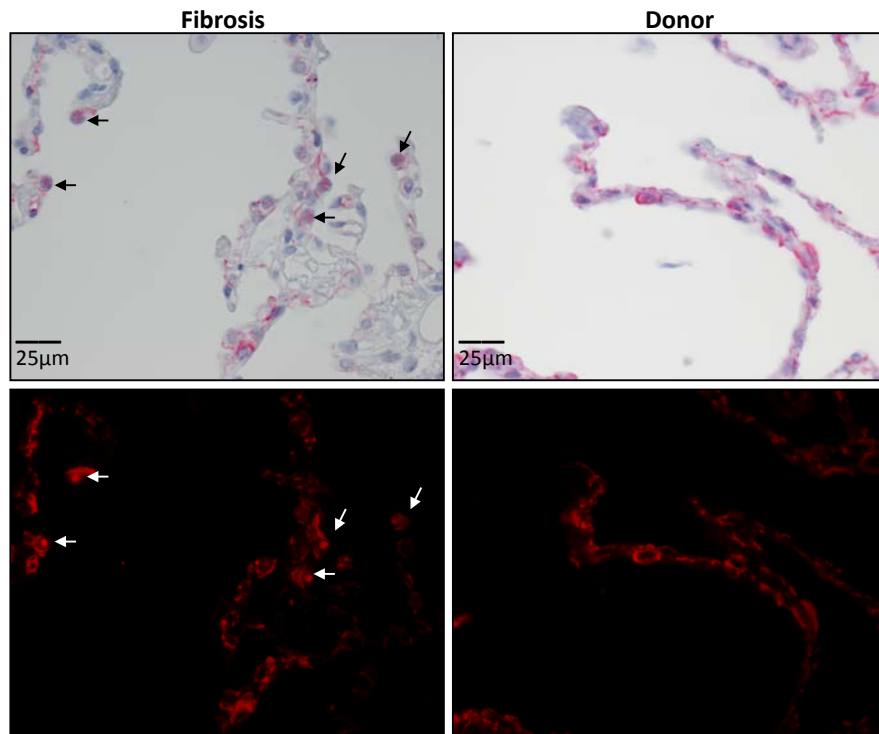
# Altered expression of the Wnt target gene WISP1



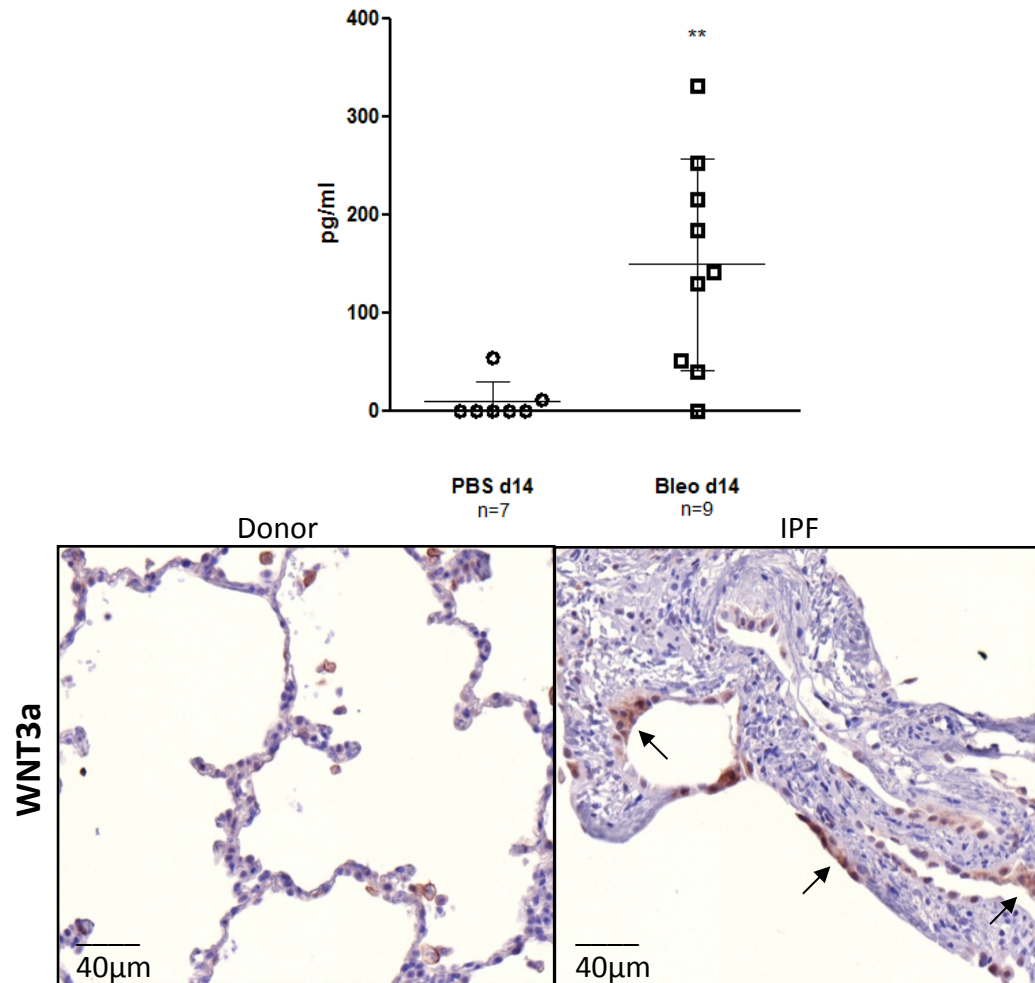
**Wnt-induced signalling protein (WISP1) 1 is a Wnt target gene and CCN family member**

Königshoff et al., J Clin Invest. 2009, Xu et al. Genes Dev. 2000, Berschneider et al. 2014 *in press*

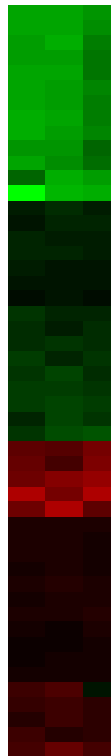
# Activation of Wnt/ $\beta$ -catenin signaling alveolar epithelial cells



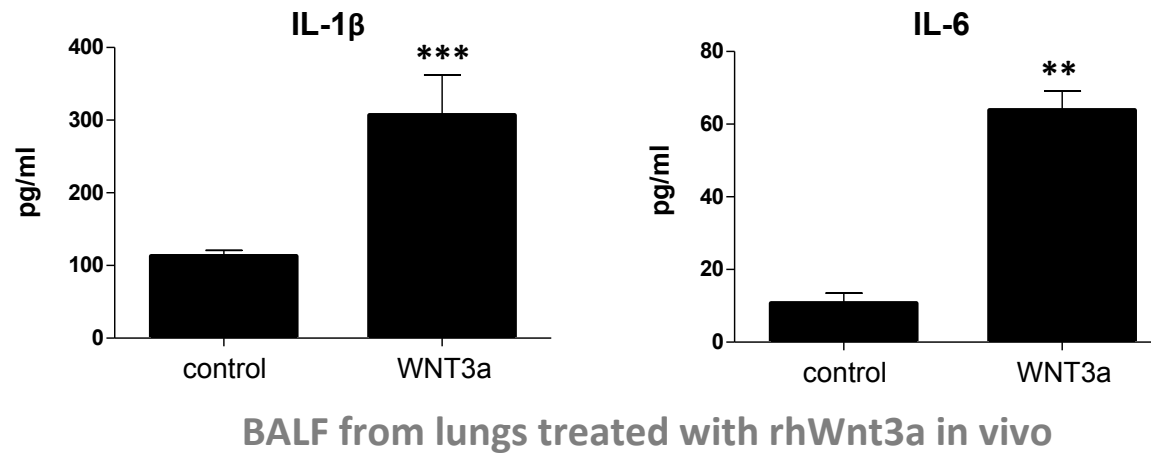
# Specific Wnt ligands are increased in pulmonary fibrosis



# Wnt ligands induce IL-1 and IL-6 in pulmonary fibrosis

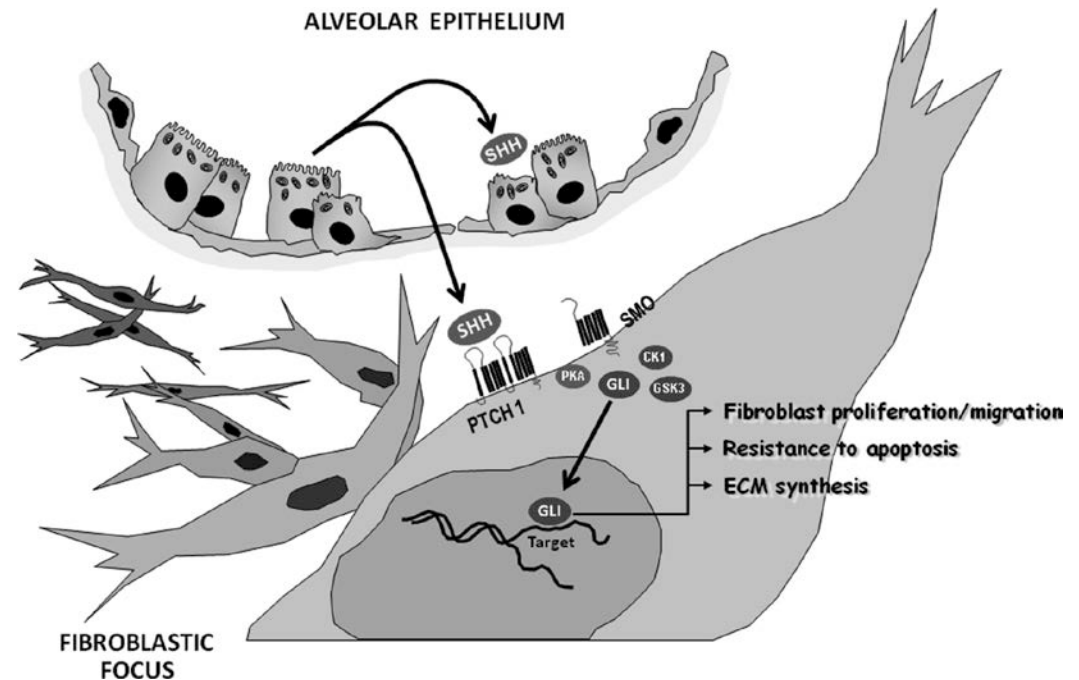
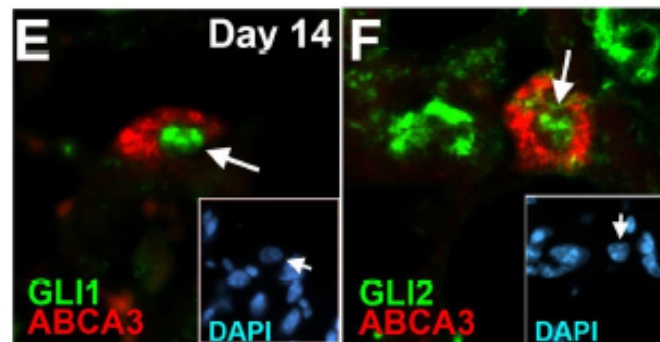


fold induction  
+3.0 0.0 -3.0



**Link between developmental pathway reactivation and profibrotic cytokine production in IPF**

# Sonic Hedgehog Signaling in Pulmonary Fibrosis

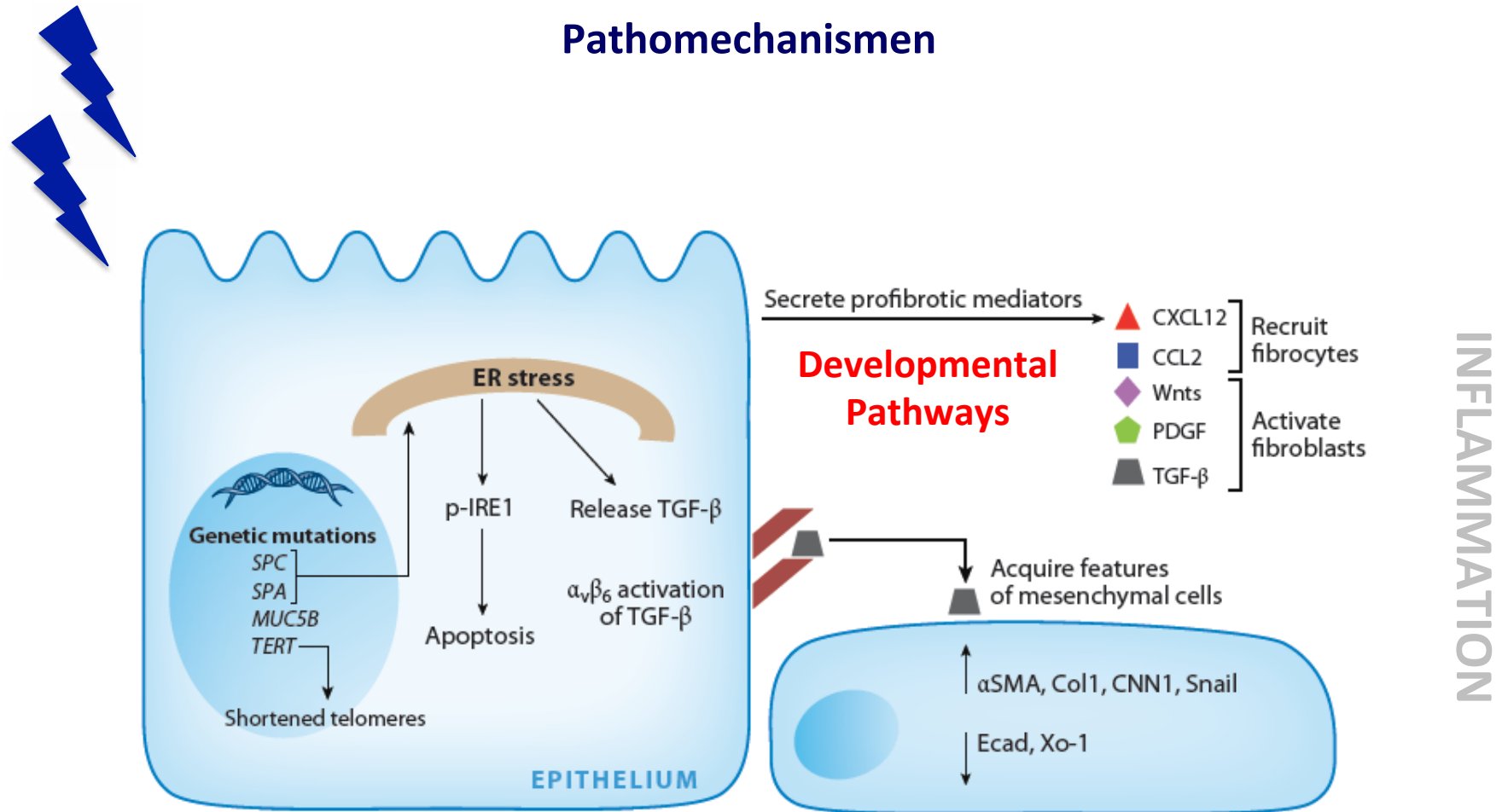


**Increased lung expression of the ligand Sonic Hedgehog  
Enhanced mRNA expression and nuclear localization of GLI1 and GLI2**



# Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF)

## Pathomechanismen



# How do we assess the therapeutic suitability of a pathway /cytokine?

1) experimental animal models in vivo

2) human lung tissue ex vivo



## NIH Public Access Author Manuscript

*Int J Biochem Cell Biol.* Author manuscript; available in PMC 2009 January 1.

Published in final edited form as:

*Int J Biochem Cell Biol.* 2008 ; 40(3): 362–382.

### **The bleomycin animal model: a useful tool to investigate treatment options for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis?**

**Antje Moeller<sup>§,\*</sup>, Kjetil Ask<sup>#</sup>, David Warburton<sup>¶</sup>, Jack Gauldie<sup>#</sup>, and Martin Kolb<sup>§,#</sup>**

*§Department of Medicine, Firestone Institute for Respiratory Health, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.*

*\*Medizinische Klinik, Julius-Maximilians-Universität Würzburg, Germany*

*#Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine, Centre for Gene Therapeutics, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.*

*¶Developmental Biology Program, Saban Research Institute, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, University of Southern California*

CPC



Comprehensive  
Pneumology Center

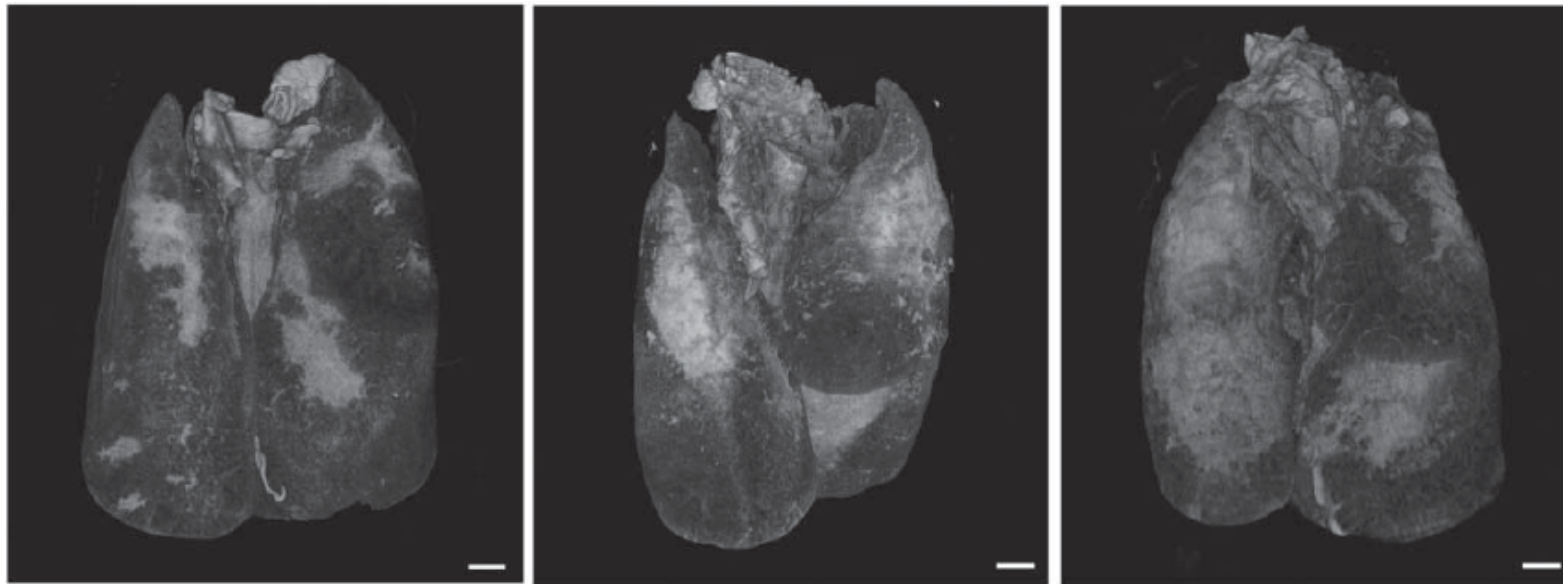
# The bleomycin model of lung fibrosis



ORIGINAL ARTICLE  
INTERSTITIAL LUNG DISEASES

## ***Ex vivo* micro-computed tomography analysis of bleomycin-induced lung fibrosis for preclinical drug evaluation**

Chris J. Scotton<sup>1</sup>, Brian Hayes<sup>2</sup>, Robert Alexander<sup>1</sup>, Arnab Datta<sup>1</sup>, Ellen J. Forty<sup>1</sup>, Paul F. Mercer<sup>1</sup>, Andy Blanchard<sup>2</sup> and Rachel C. Chambers<sup>1</sup>



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# The bleomycin model of lung fibrosis

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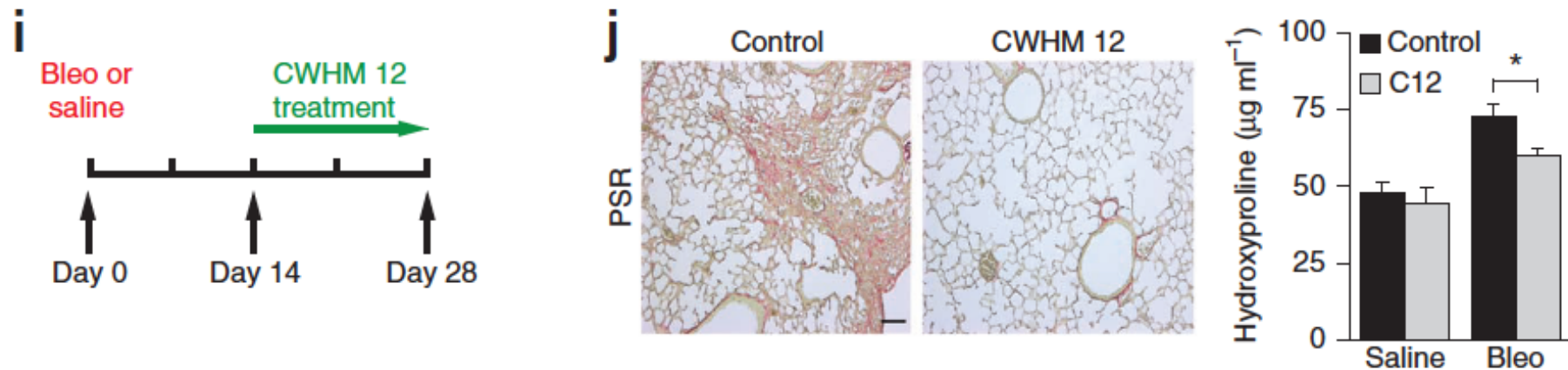
 PLOS ONE

## Bleomycin Induces Molecular Changes Directly Relevant to Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis: A Model for “Active” Disease

Ruoqi Peng<sup>1</sup><sup>✉</sup>, Sriram Sridhar<sup>2</sup><sup>✉</sup>, Gaurav Tyagi<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan E. Phillips<sup>1</sup>, Rosario Garrido<sup>3</sup>, Paul Harris<sup>1</sup>, Lisa Burns<sup>1</sup>, Lorena Renteria<sup>1</sup>, John Woods<sup>1</sup>, Leena Chen<sup>1</sup>, John Allard<sup>2</sup>, Palanikumar Ravindran<sup>2</sup>, Hans Bitter<sup>2</sup>, Zhenmin Liang<sup>3</sup>, Cory M. Hogaboam<sup>4</sup>, Chris Kitson<sup>1</sup>, David C. Budd<sup>1</sup>, Jay S. Fine<sup>1</sup><sup>✉</sup>, Carla M.T. Bauer<sup>1</sup>, Christopher S. Stevenson<sup>1,5</sup><sup>\*</sup>

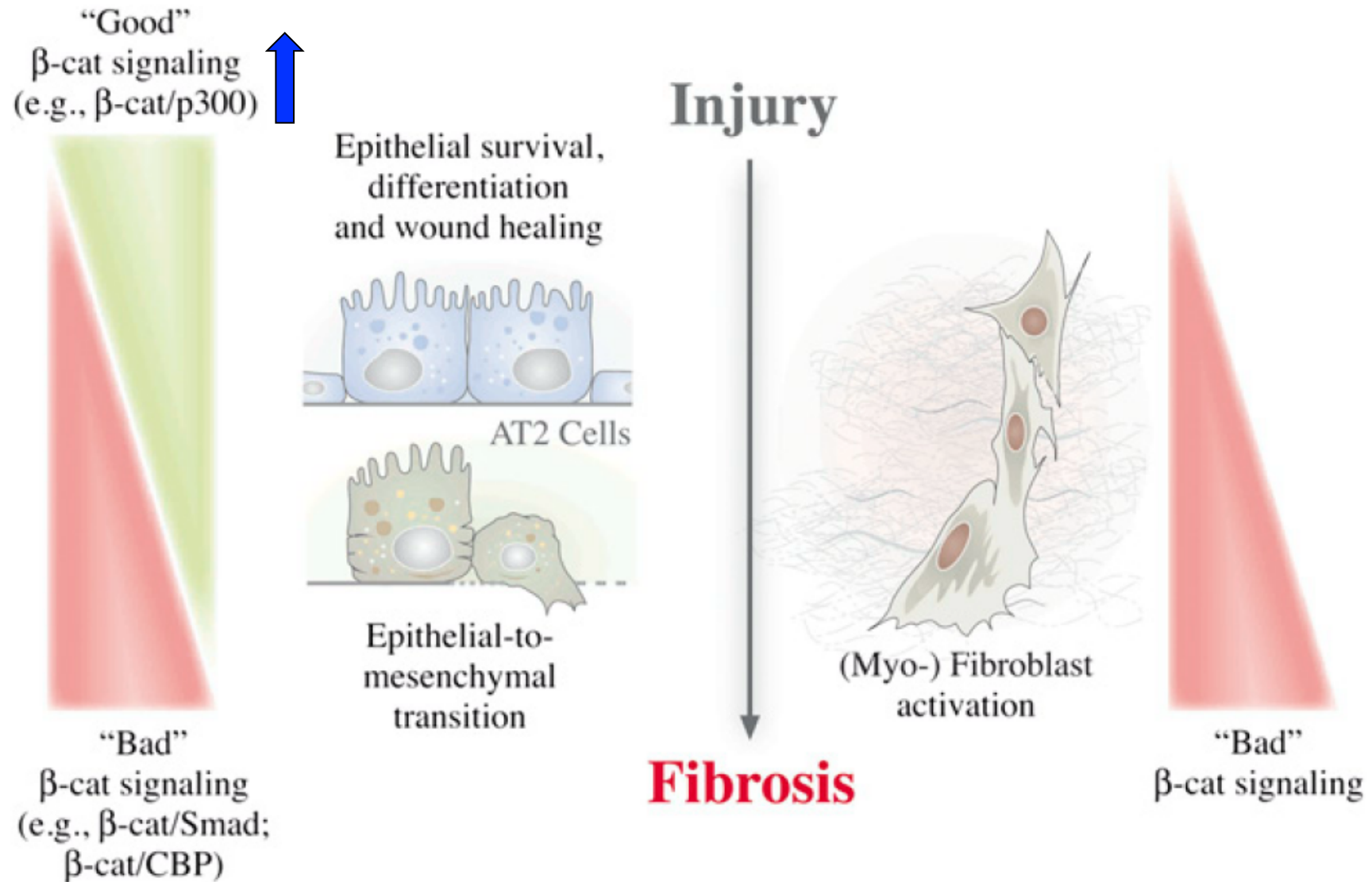
Targeting of  $\alpha_v$  integrin identifies a core molecular pathway that regulates fibrosis in several organs

Neil C Henderson<sup>1,2</sup>, Thomas D Arnold<sup>3</sup>, Yoshio Katamura<sup>1</sup>, Marilyn M Giacomini<sup>1</sup>, Juan D Rodriguez<sup>1</sup>, Joseph H McCarty<sup>4</sup>, Antonella Pellicoro<sup>2</sup>, Elisabeth Raschperger<sup>5,6</sup>, Christer Betsholtz<sup>5,6</sup>, Peter G Ruminski<sup>7</sup>, David W Griggs<sup>7</sup>, Michael J Prinsen<sup>7</sup>, Jacquelyn J Maher<sup>8</sup>, John P Iredale<sup>2</sup>, Adam Lacy-Hulbert<sup>9</sup>, Ralf H Adams<sup>10</sup> & Dean Sheppard<sup>1</sup>

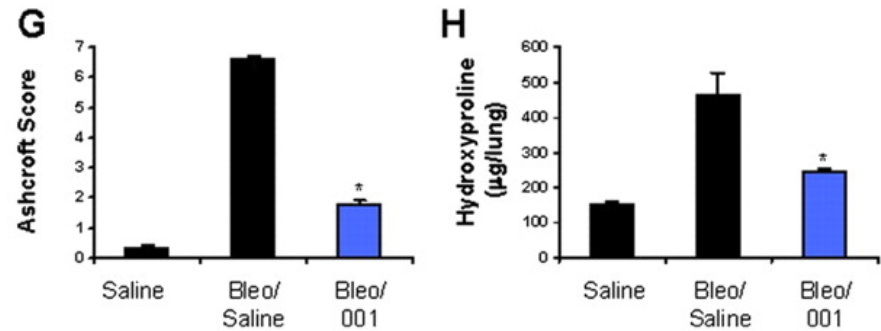
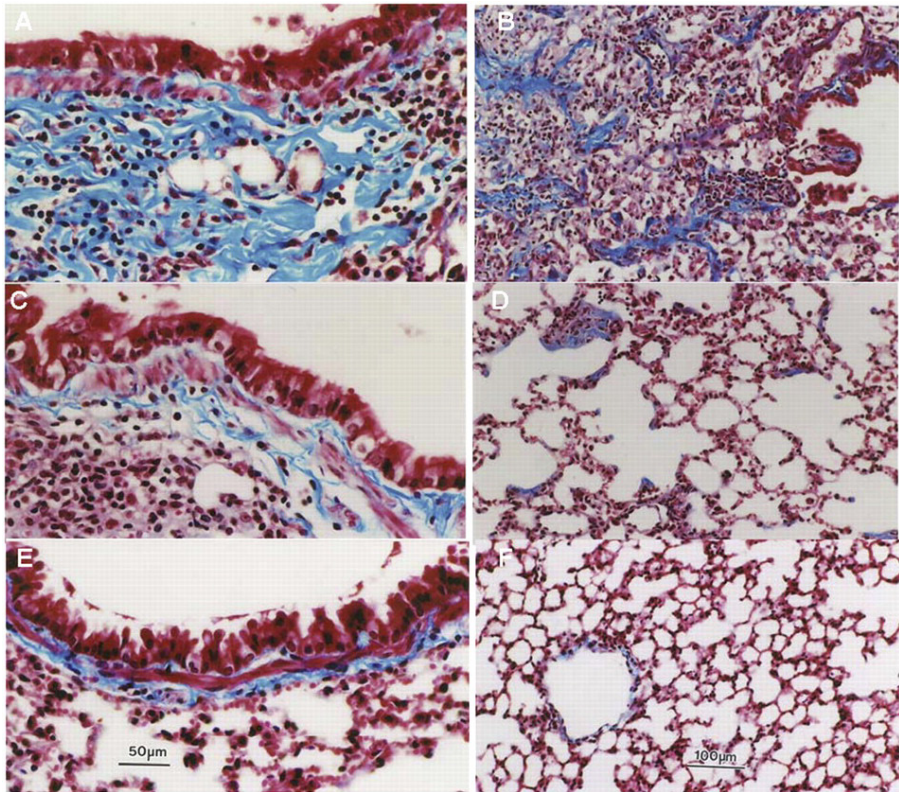




# Good versus bad $\beta$ -catenin signaling



# Inhibition of Wnt and/or $\beta$ -catenin signaling attenuated experimental lung fibrosis



ICG001: p300 interaction

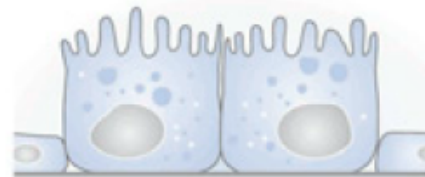


# Good versus bad $\beta$ -catenin signaling

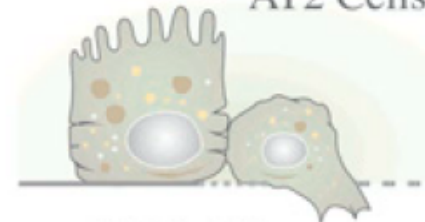
“Good”  
 $\beta$ -cat signaling  
(e.g.,  $\beta$ -cat/p300)



Epithelial survival,  
differentiation  
and wound healing



AT2 Cells



Epithelial-to-  
mesenchymal  
transition

Injury



(Myo-) Fibroblast  
activation



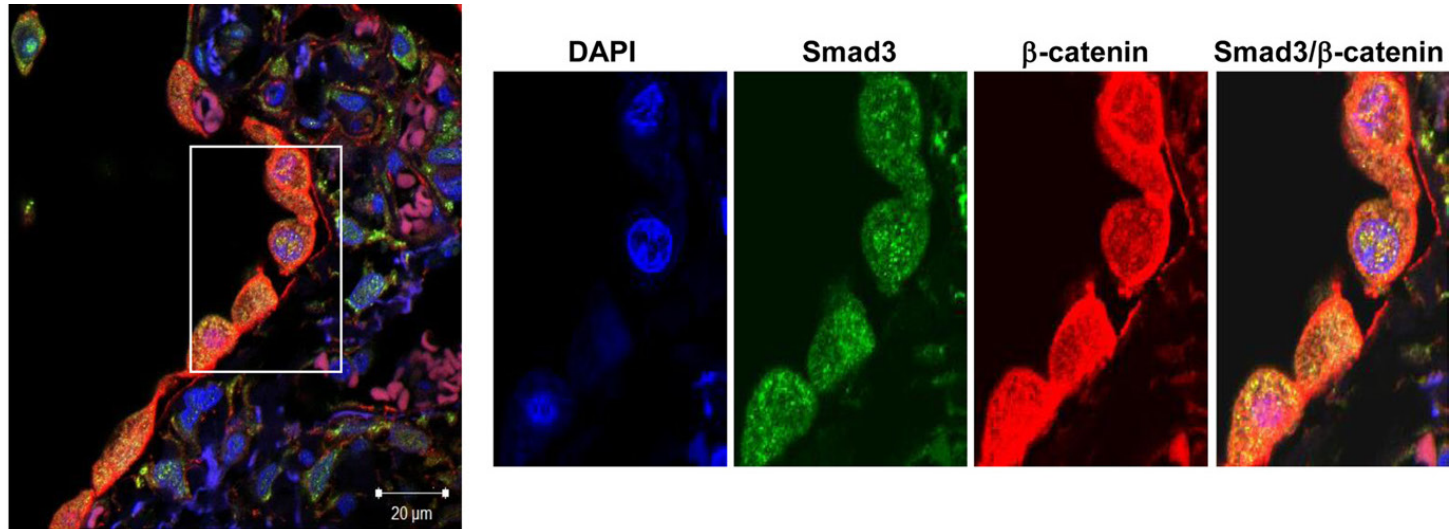
“Bad”  
 $\beta$ -cat signaling

“Bad”  
 $\beta$ -cat signaling  
(e.g.,  $\beta$ -cat/Smad;  
 $\beta$ -cat/CBP)



**Fibrosis**

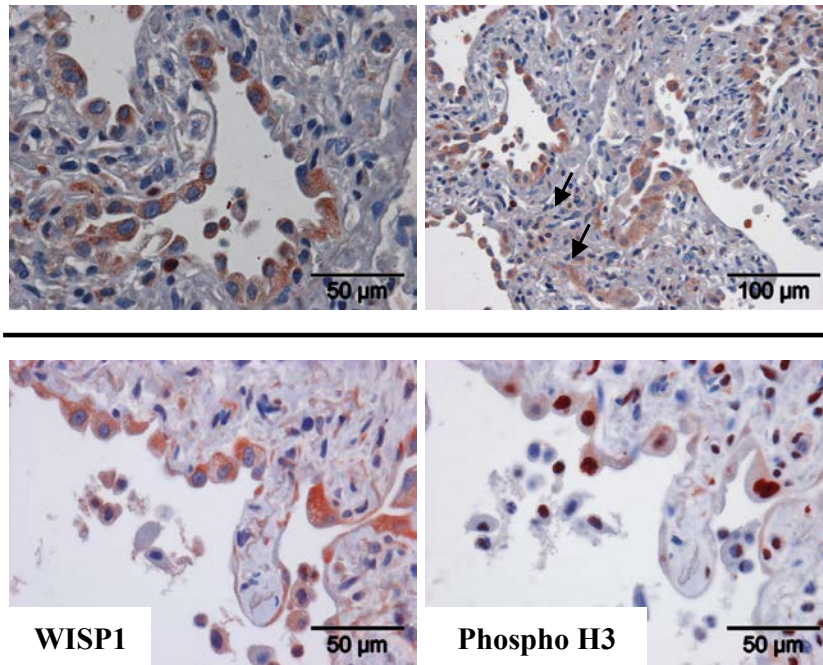
# Crosstalk of TGF- $\beta$ and $\beta$ -catenin signaling



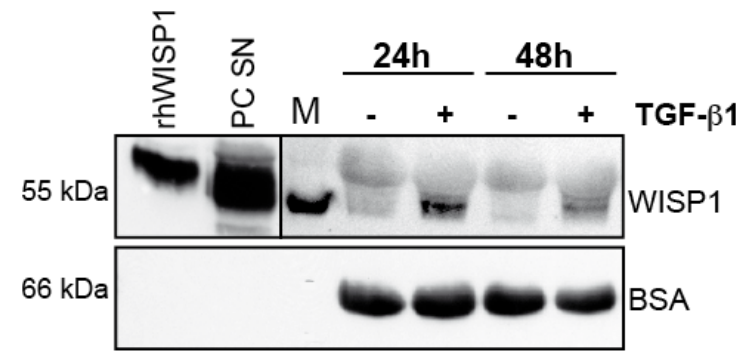
**Smad3 and b-catenin co-localization in hyperplastic epithelial cells**



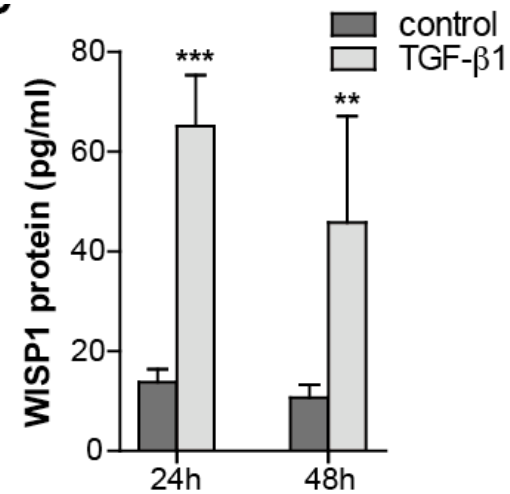
# WISP1 as a common downstream target of TGF- $\beta$ and $\beta$ -catenin signaling



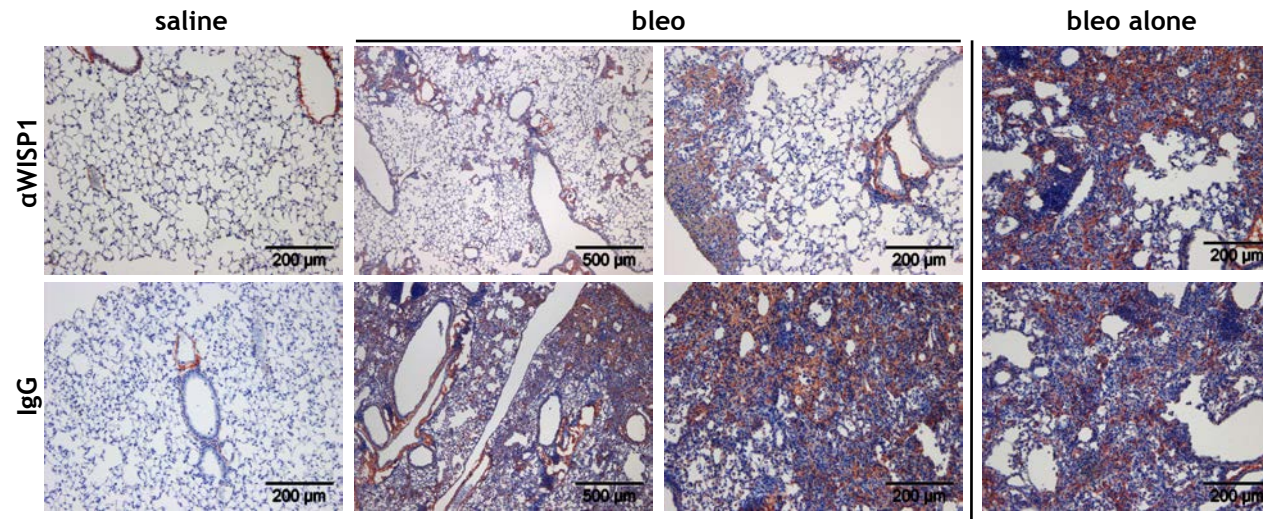
**C**



**D**



# Inhibition of WISP1 signaling attenuated experimental lung fibrosis



- Active Wnt and TGF signaling in IPF and during development of experimental lung fibrosis
- WISP1 represents a common downstream target



Thank you for your attention



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German Research Center for Environmental Health



## General Information & Application

This years Munich International Autumn School (MIAS) will offer a limited number of training positions to clinicians or scientists with a MD or PhD background. Please send your application, including a CV and a list of publications as well as a motivation letter (1/2 page), to [info@atemweg-stiftung.de](mailto:info@atemweg-stiftung.de) until June 30, 2014. The applications will be reviewed by the MIAS organizing committee. Successful applicants will be notified in due time prior to the conference via email. All costs for the MIAS (including travel and accommodation) are covered by AtemWeg - The Lung Disease Research Foundation. As an additional benefit, AtemWeg also covers the registration fee for the ERS International Congress 2014, which will take place in Munich from September 6 - 10, 2014.

## Venue

**Comprehensive Pneumology Center (CPC)**  
Max-Lebsche-Platz 31  
81377 München



## Contact

**AtemWeg - The Lung Disease Research Foundation**  
Susanne Berki / [info@atemweg-stiftung.de](mailto:info@atemweg-stiftung.de)  
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# Munich International Autumn School 2014 for Respiratory Medicine

From bench to  
bedside and back

September 1 - 5, 2014  
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