

# Szemelvények a reumatológiai kutatás és gyógyszerfejlesztés aktualitásaiból

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# **Clinical Reasoning and Knowledge Assessment of Rheumatology Residents Compared to AI Models: A Pilot Study**

## History

AI is showing potential in clinical decision-making.

Alan Turing's 1950 research established the foundational concept of electronic decision-making systems [1]. Over time, Turing's model advanced into diverse subfields including machine learning, deep learning, natural language processing, and computer vision.

In medicine, AI is utilized across multiple domains, such as data collection and management, imaging methods, and treatment recommendations.

# **Clinical Reasoning and Knowledge Assessment of Rheumatology Residents Compared to AI Models: A Pilot Study**

## History

One of the earliest AI applications in healthcare was MYCIN, a backward chaining artificial intelligence system developed in the early 1970s. MYCIN was able to provide a list of potential bacterial pathogens according to patient information and recommend an appropriate treatment

A consultation system for glaucoma was developed using the CASNET model and was officially demonstrated at the meeting of the Academy of Ophthalmology in 1976. This model was able to apply knowledge about a particular disease to individual patients and advise physicians on management.

A landmark moment in the use of AI in medicine occurred in 2017, with the Food and Drug Administration's approval of Artery, the first deep learning based application. Artery's initial deployment, CardioAI, focused on analyzing cardiac magnetic resonance imaging, followed by extensions into liver, lung, and musculoskeletal imaging

## **Clinical Reasoning and Knowledge Assessment of Rheumatology Residents Compared to AI Models: A Pilot Study**

AI is showing potential in clinical decision-making.

This study aimed to compare clinical decision making approaches of junior rheumatology residents with both trained and untrained AI models in clinical reasoning, pre-diagnosis, first-line, and second-line management stages.

Ten junior rheumatology residents and two GPT-4 models (trained and untrained) responded to 10 clinical cases, encompassing diagnostic and treatment challenges in inflammatory arthritis.

The cases were evaluated using the Revised-IDEA (R-IDEA) scoring system and additional case management metrics.

Strongly, Disagree, Disagree, Neutral, Agree, Strongly Agree

## Clinical Reasoning and Knowledge Assessment of Rheumatology Residents Compared to AI Models: A Pilot Study

Trained GPT-4 outperformed residents across all stages, achieving significantly higher median R-IDEA scores and superior performance in prediagnosis, first-line, and second-line management phases.

Table 1. Summary of R-IDEA, R-IDEA binary, pre-diagnosis, first-line, and second-line treatment scores.

Variable	Human (N = 100)	Trained GPT-4 (N = 10)	GPT-4 (N = 10)	Total (N = 120)	<i>p</i> -Value
<b>R-IDEA</b>					<0.001
Median (25–75th)	7.0 (6.5–7.5)	8.5 (8.1–9.4)	7.5 (7.5–7.5)	7.0 (6.5–7.5)	
Range	3.5–9.0	8.0–10.0	6.5–8.0	3.5–10.0	
<b>R-IDEA * (cut of 7)</b>					0.047
Low	36 (36.0%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (20.0%)	38 (31.7%)	
High	64 (64.0%)	10 (100.0%)	8 (80.0%)	82 (68.3%)	
<b>Pre-diagnosis</b>					<0.001
Median (25–75th)	3.8 (3.3–4.1)	5(4.8–5.0)	4.5 (4.5–4.7)	4.0 (3.5–4.3)	
Range	2.8–4.8	4.5–5.0	4.0–5.0	2.8–5.0	
<b>First-line</b>					<0.001
Median (25–75th)	4.0 (3.6–4.0)	4.8 (4.5–4.9)	4.1 (3.8–4.5)	4.0 (3.7–4.3)	
Range	1.5–4.8	4.3–5.0	3.4–5.0	1.5–5.0	
<b>Second-line</b>					<0.001
Median (25–75th)	4.0 (3.5–4.3)	4.9 (4.5–5.0)	4.5 (4.4–4.7)	4.0 (3.5–4.5)	
Range	1.0–5.0	4.1–5.0	4.0–4.7	1.0–5.0	

R-IDEA: Revised IDEA. \* “high” ( $\geq 7$ ) or “low” ( $< 7$ ).

## **Clinical Reasoning and Knowledge Assessment of Rheumatology Residents Compared to AI Models: A Pilot Study**

Psychological benefits of AI integration for junior residents, including perceived reductions in fatigue and burnout, as well as improvements in confidence and learning.

These findings position AI tools as valuable adjuncts for medical education and clinical practice, particularly in early-stage training.

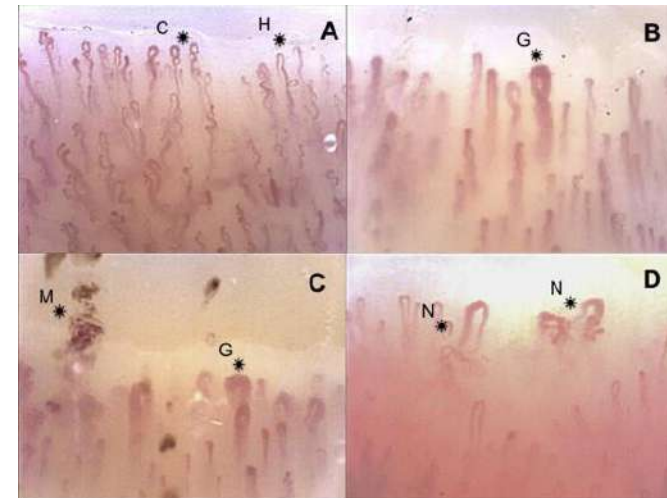


## Automatic assessment of nailfold capillaroscopy software: a pilot study

The study was based on the assessment of 200 capillaroscopic images obtained from patients suffering from systemic sclerosis or scleroderma spectrum diseases and healthy people.

Each image was analysed manually and described using working software. The neural network was trained using the fast ai library (based on PyTorch).

The ResNet-34 deep residual neural network was chosen; 10-fold cross-validation with the validation and test set was performed, using the Darknet-YoloV3 state of the art neural network in a GPU-optimized (P5000 GPU) environment.



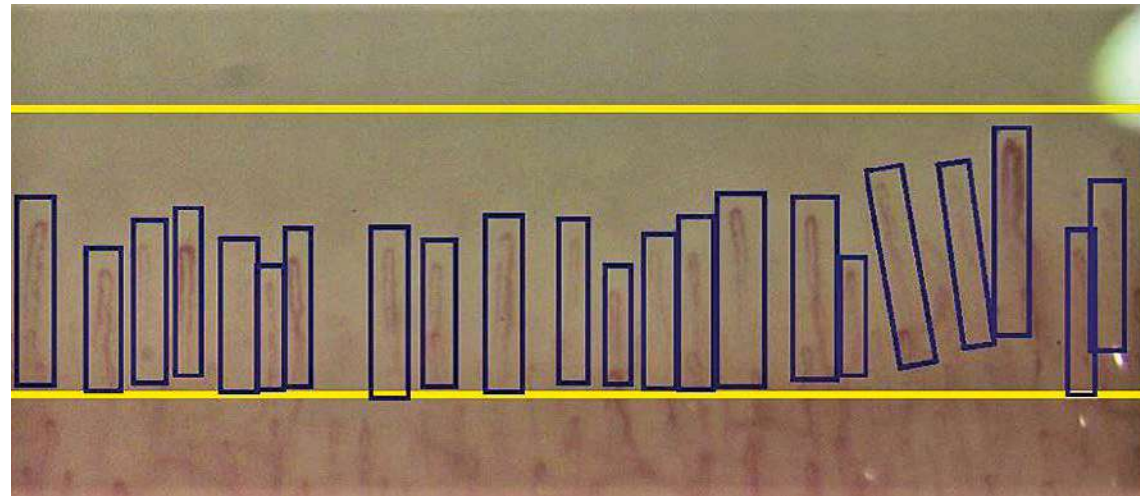


## Automatic assessment of nailfold capillaroscopy software: a pilot study

The results obtained under neural network training were compared to the results obtained in manual analysis.

The sensitivity of the automatic tool relative to manual assessment in classification of correct vs. pathological images was 89.0%, specificity 89.4% for the training group, in validation 89.0% and 86.9% respectively

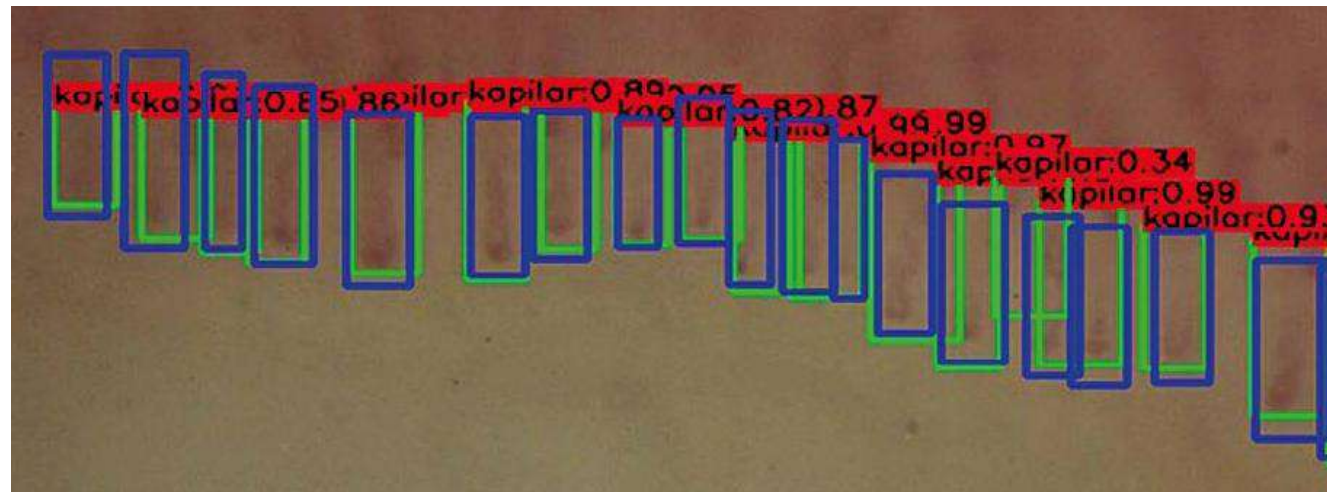
For the average number of capillaries in 1 mm the precision of real images detected within the region of interest was 96.48%.

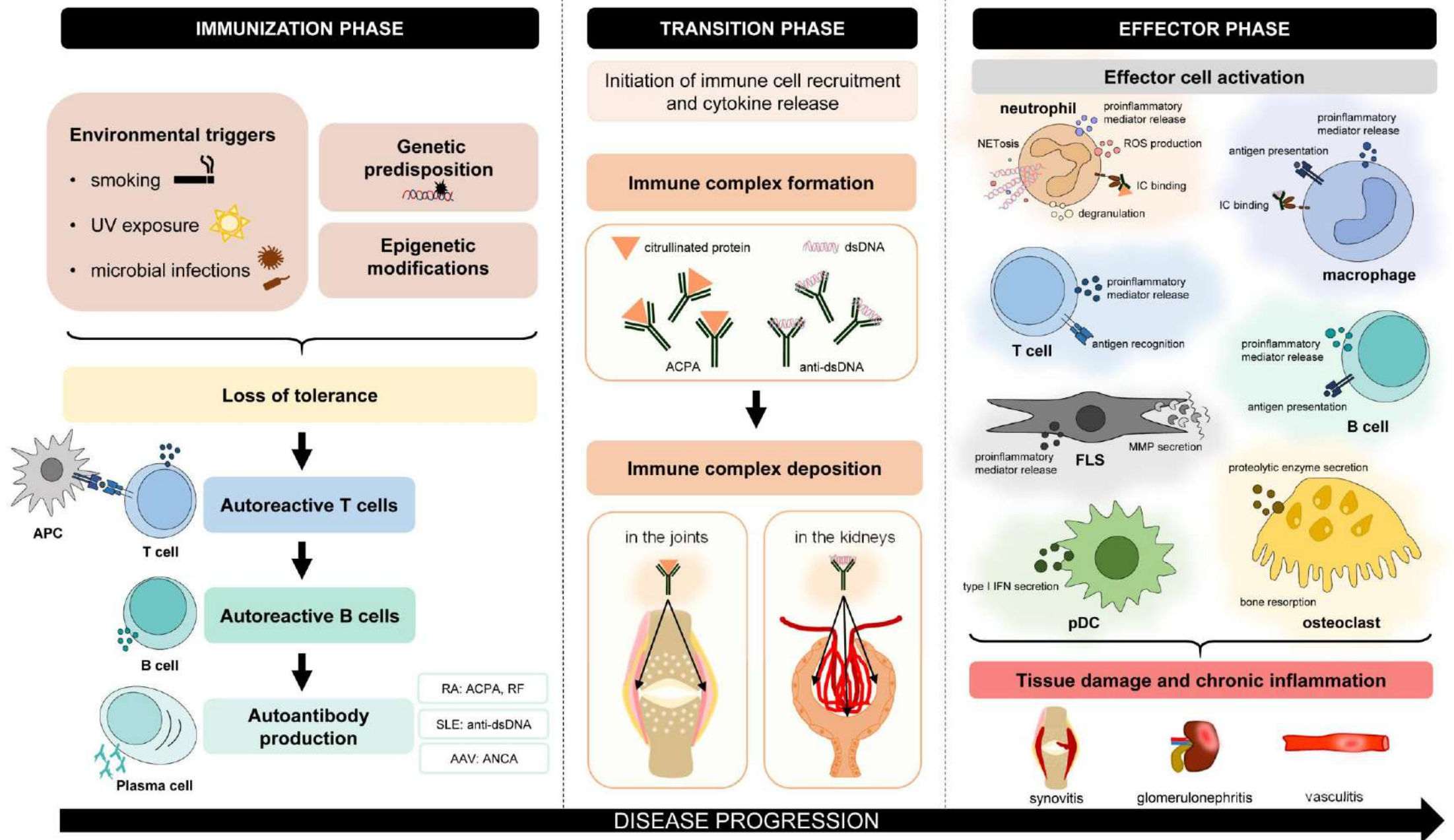


## Automatic assessment of nailfold capillaroscopy software: a pilot study

The pilot software for fully automatic capillaroscopic image assessment can be a useful tool for the rapid classification of a normal and altered capillaroscopy pattern. In addition, it allows one to quickly calculate the number of capillaries.

SSc like RA, pSS, and also DM, APS or AH.





Newly approved drugs and some selected promising candidates from phase 2 or 3 trials.

Drug	Target	Status (approved or clinical study phase)	Disease	Refs.
Anifrolumab	Type I interferon receptor subunit 1	Approved (FDA, EMA) Phase 2 Phase 3	SLE Sjögren's syndrome SSc	(5) NCT05383677 NCT05925803
Voclosporin	Calcineurin	Approved (FDA, EMA)	SLE	(6)
Belimumab	BAFF/BLyS	Approved (FDA, EMA) Phase 2 Phase 2	SLE SSc Sjögren's syndrome	(7, 8) NCT01670565, NCT03844061 (9, 10)
Sifalimumab	Interferon- $\alpha$	Phase 2	SLE	(11, 12)
Obinutuzumab	CD20	Phase 3	SLE	NCT04963296
Telitacicept	BAFF/BLyS and APRIL	Phase 3	SLE	(13, 14)
Atacicept		Phase 2	SLE	(15)
Ianalumab	BAFF receptor	Phase 3	SLE Sjögren's syndrome	(16), NCT05639114, NCT05349214
Daratumumab	CD38	Phase 2	SLE	(17, 18) NCT04810754
Litifilimab	BDCA-2	Phase 3	SLE, CLE	(19, 20)
Low-dose IL-2	regulatory T cells	Phase 2	SLE	(21, 22)
Filgotinib	JAK1	Approved (EMA)	RA	(23–25)
Upadacitinib		Phase 2 Phase 3	SLE Takayasu's arteritis, GCA	NCT03978520 NCT04161898, NCT03725202
Peficitinib	All JAKs	Approved (South Korea, Japan)	RA	(26, 27)

Newly approved drugs and some selected promising candidates from phase 2 or 3 trials.

Mavrilimumab	GM-CSFR	Phase 2	RA, GCA	(28, 29)
Dazodalibep	CD40L	Phase 2 Phase 3	RA Sjögren's syndrome	(30–32), NCT06104124
Olokizumab	IL-6	Phase 3	RA	(33–35)
Baricitinib	JAK1 and JAK2	Phase 2 Phase 4	Sjögren's syndrome SSc	NCT05016297 NCT05300932
Nintedanib	VEGFR, PDGFR, FGFR	Approved (FDA, EMA)	SSc	(36)
Tocilizumab	IL-6R	Phase 3	SSc	(37)
Brodalumab	IL-17A receptor	Phase 3	SSc	(38)
Tofacitinib	JAK1 and JAK3	Phase 2	Sjögren's syndrome SSc	NCT04496960 (39)
Inebilizumab	CD19	Phase 3	SSc	NCT05198557
Secukinumab	IL-17A	Phase 2	GCA	(40)
Avacopan	C5a receptor	Approved (FDA, EMA)	GPA, MPA	(41, 42)
Mepolizumab	IL-5	Approved (FDA, EMA)	EGPA	(43–45)
Reslizumab		Phase 2	EGPA	(46)
Benralizumab	IL-5R	Phase 3	EGPA	(47) NCT04157348
IVIg	?	Phase 3	DM	(48)
Apremilast	PDE-4	Phase 2	DM	(49)

# Mechanism of action of some selected newly approved therapies and promising drug candidates.

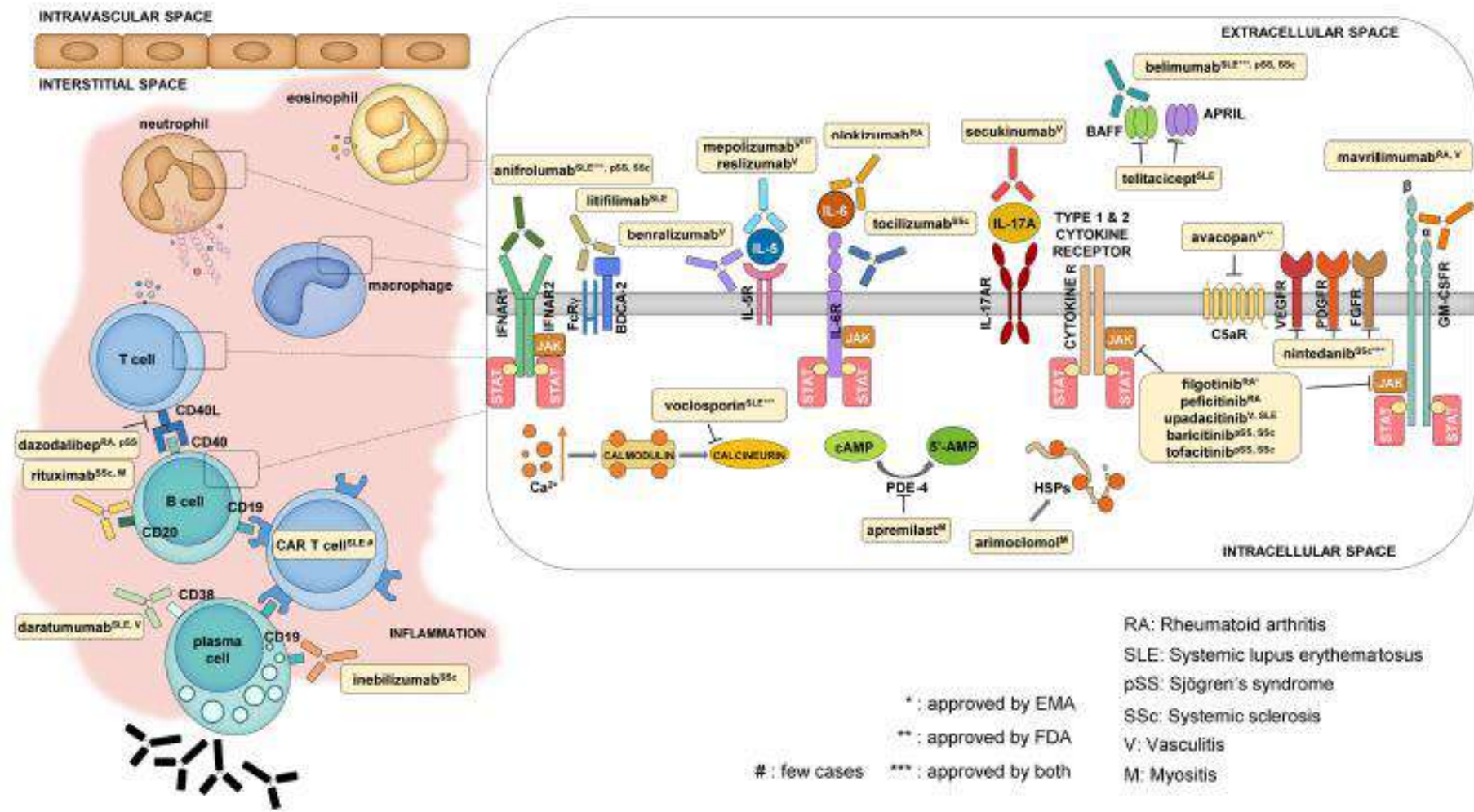
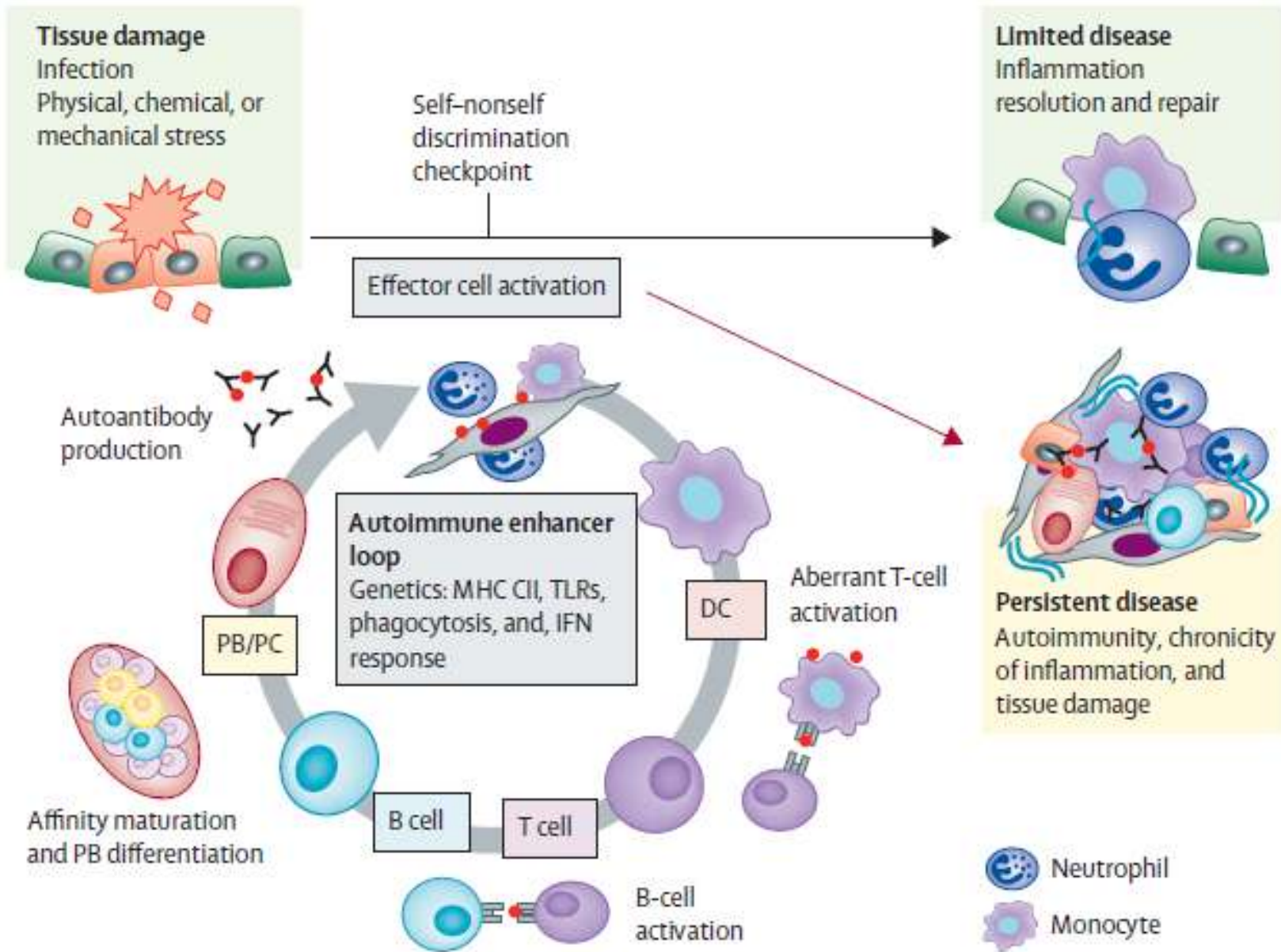


TABLE 2 Common drug targets and similarities.

Target	SLE	RA	pSS	SSc	LW	AAV	IIM
Type I IFN/IFNR	✓		✓	✓			
IL-17/IL-17R				✓	✓		
GM-CSFR		✓			✓		
BAFF/BAFF receptor	✓		✓	✓			
CD40/40L	✓	✓	✓				
JAK/STAT	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
IL-6/IL-6R		✓		✓			
CD20	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CD19	✓			✓			✓
CD38	✓					✓	

AAV, ANCA-associated vasculitis; GM-CSFR, GM-CSF receptor; IFNR, interferon receptor; IL-6R, IL-6 receptor; IL17R, IL-17 receptor; IIM, idiopathic inflammatory myopathy; LW, large-vessel vasculitis; pSS, primary Sjögren's syndrome; RA, rheumatoid arthritis; SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus; SSc, systemic sclerosis.

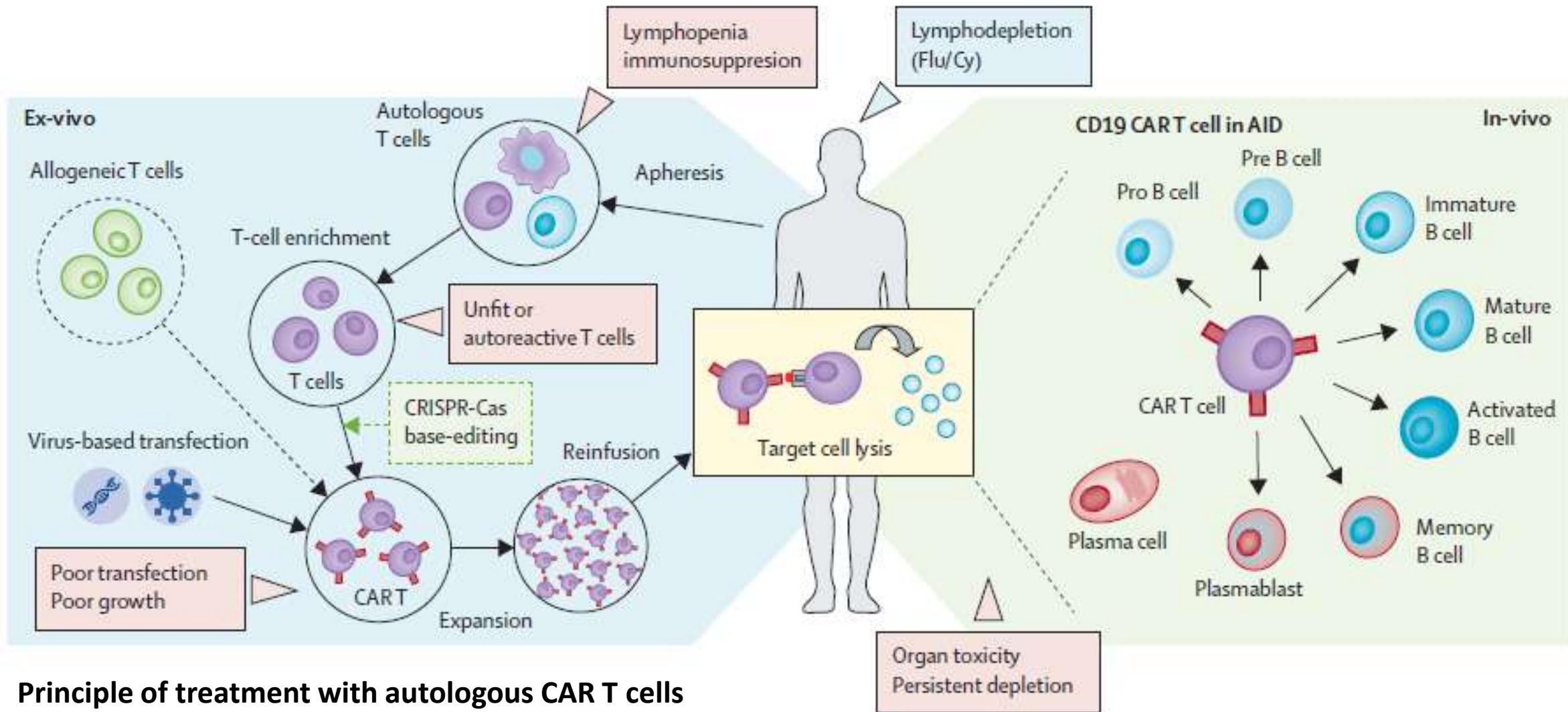


## CAR T cell therapy

Autoimmune loop of triggering chronic inflammation and tissue damage

In case of sensitisation to self, an autoimmune loop starts that is characterised by auto-antigen presentation by dendritic cells, auto-reactive T-cell activation, affinity maturation of B cells, and plasmablast-mediated autoantibody production.

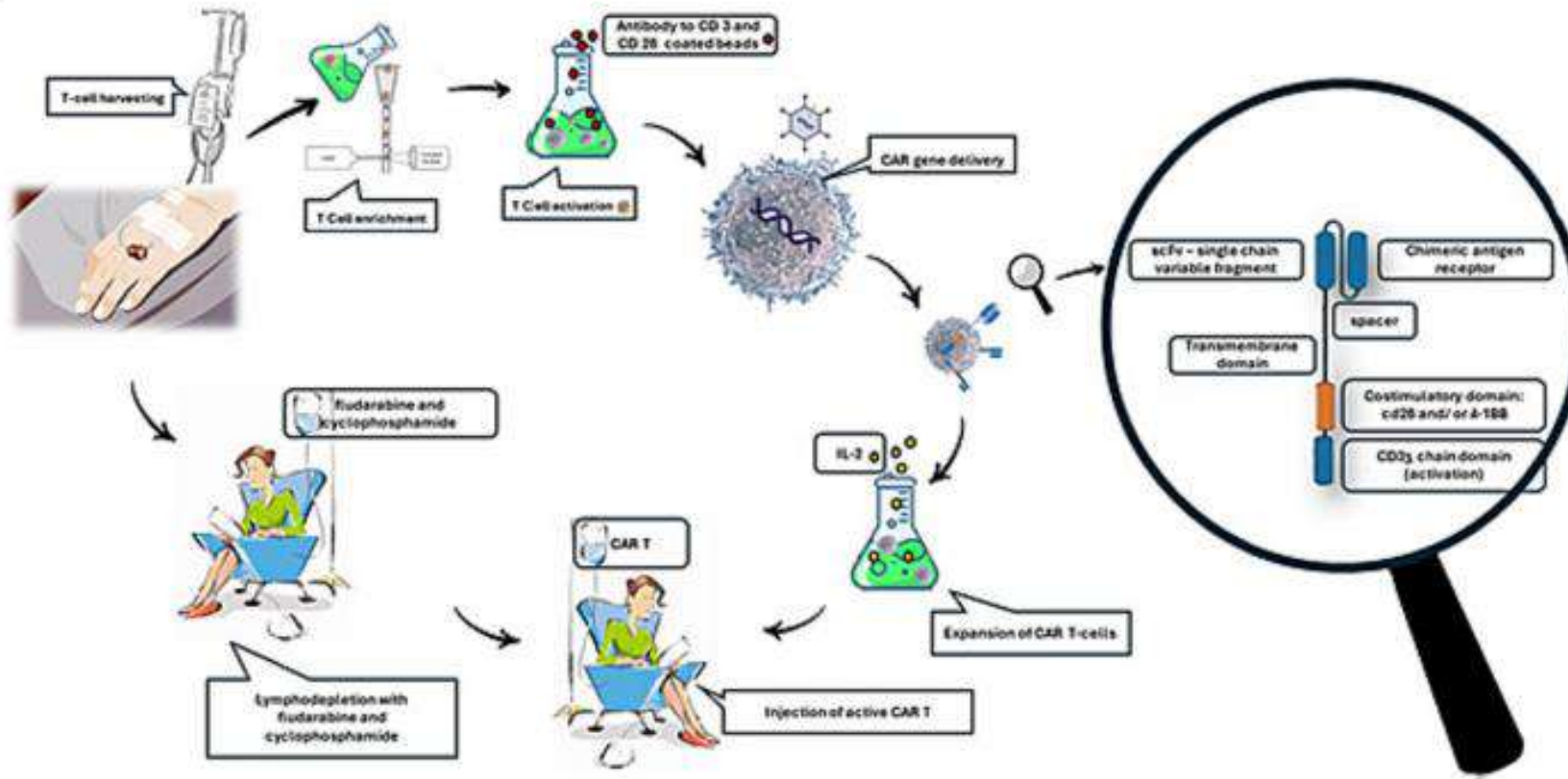




## Principle of treatment with autologous CAR T cells

Avoid possible dysfunctions of the donor T cells (eg, chemotherapy-induced toxicity, or autoreactive clones), allogeneic off-the-shelf concepts are currently being developed


B



### Principle of treatment with autologous CAR T cells

Lymphocytes are isolated from the peripheral blood (PB) through leukapheresis. Cell enrichment is done by density gradient separation. T-cells are activated using CD3 and CD28 coated beads. Clinically applied CD19-specific CARs are generated by the fusion of a scFv, derived from an anti-CD19 monoclonal antibody. CAR gene is then delivered to T-cells using lentiviral vector. Expansion of CAR T cells is induced by interleukin 2 (IL-2). Finally, the patient is treated with cyclophosphamide and fludarabine to achieve lymphodepletion before the activated CAR T cells are injected back to the patient.

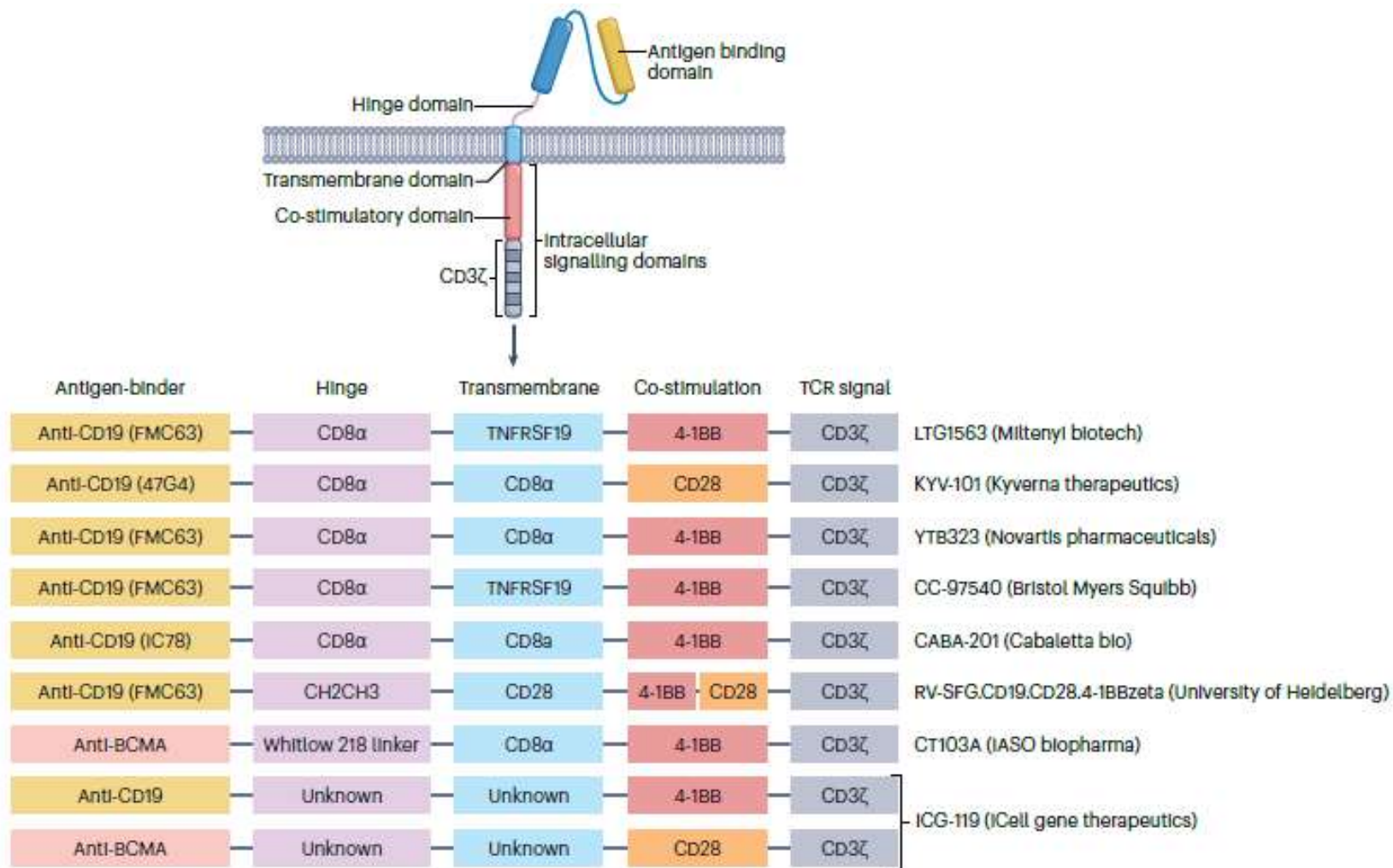
B-cell lineage differentiation



Tumour cells antigen	Pro B cell	Prä B cell	Imm B B cell	Mature B cell	Memory B cell	Plasma blast	Plasma cell	Target
CD19								B cell
CD20								B cell
CD22								B cell
BCMA								PC
CD38								PC
CD138								PC

### Surface antigen expression of the B-cell lineage

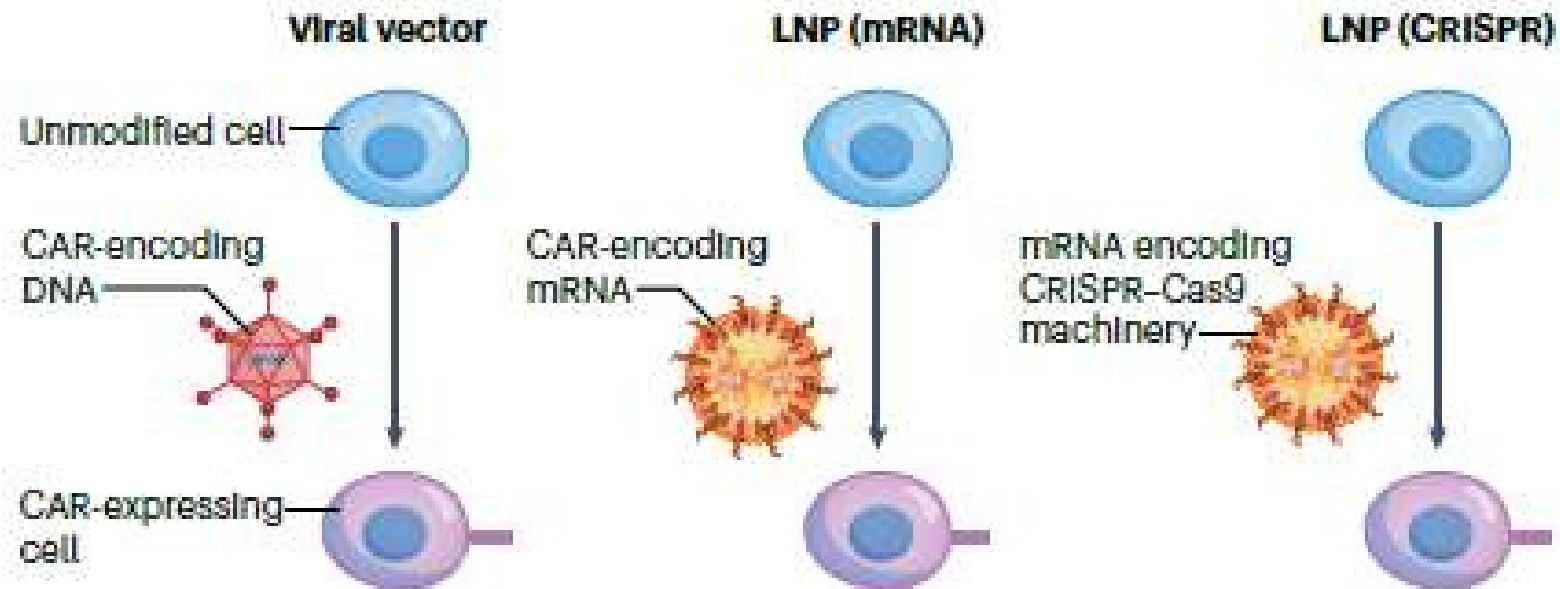
B-cell lineage differentiation from early-stage (left) to late-stage cells (right). Expression of respective markers is indicated by the coloured rectangle. BCMA=B-cell maturation antigen. Imm=immature. PC=plasma cell



**Fig. 1 | Vector constructs used for CAR T cell generation in autoimmune disease.** Overview of the current lentiviral-based vector constructs used for the generation of CD19-targeted or B cell maturation antigen (BCMA)-targeted

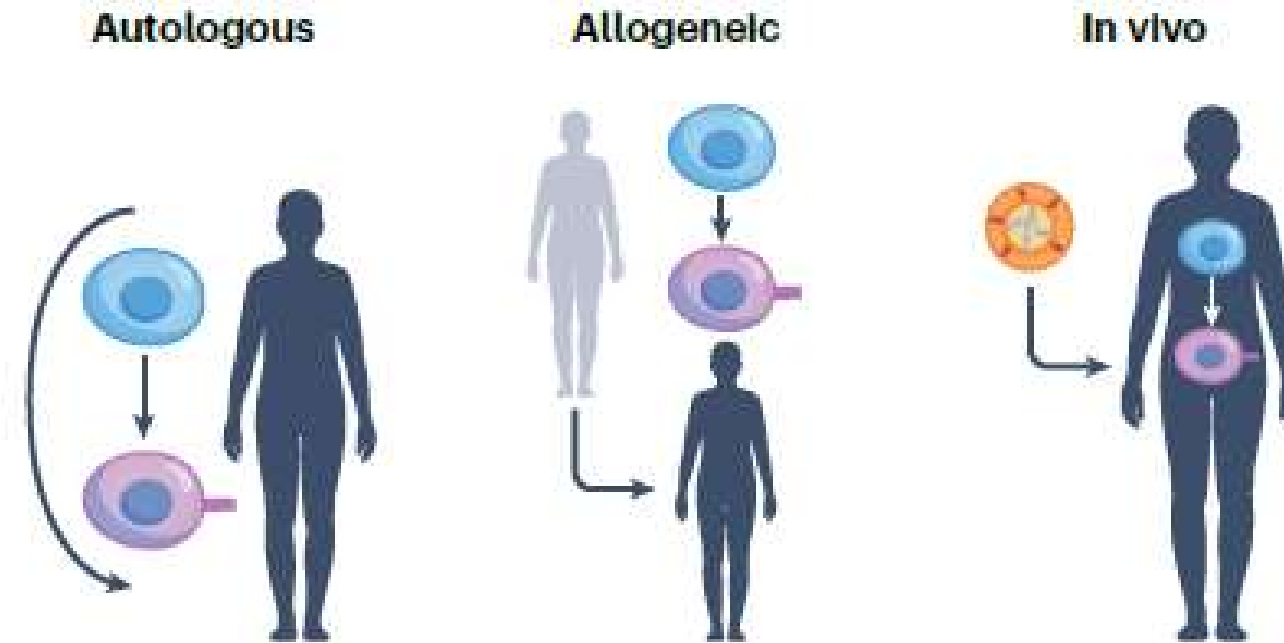
chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T cells. CH2CH3, domain of the heavy chain of immunoglobulin G1; TCR, T cell receptor.

## a Transduction method



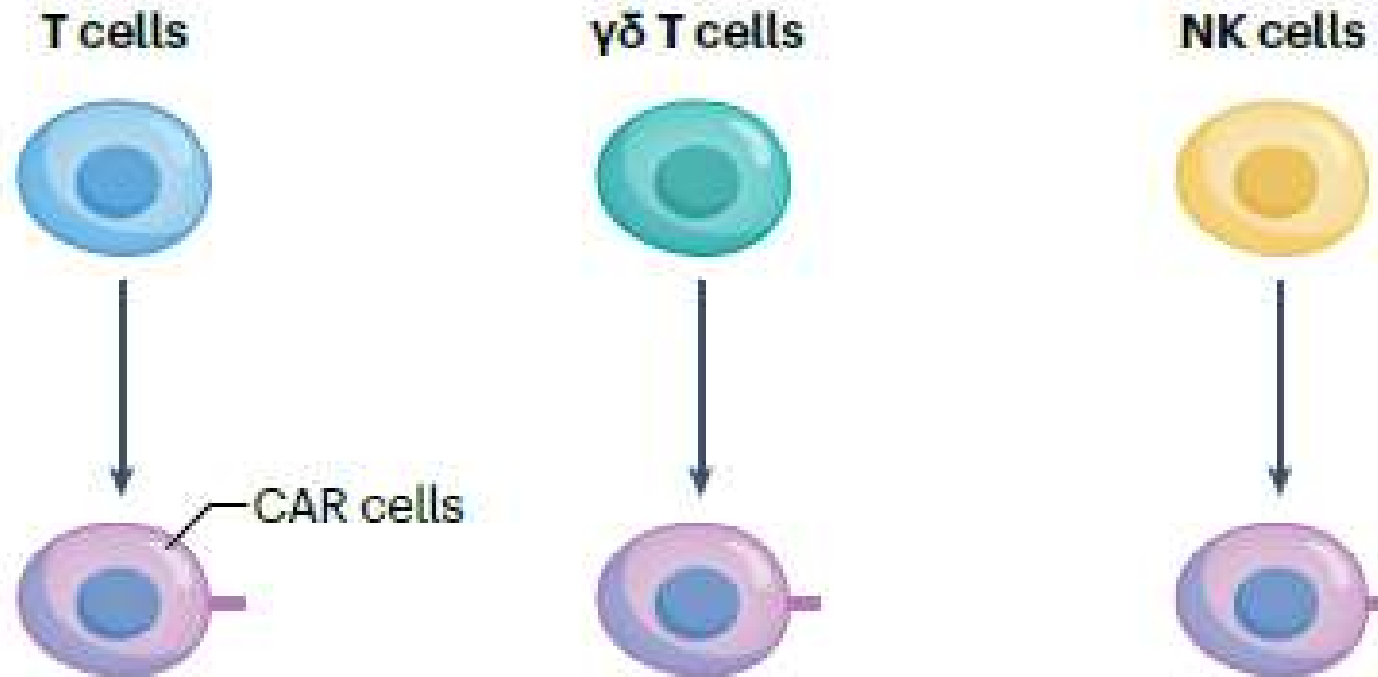
Various transduction methods are used to introduce genetic information of the CAR into activated cells, including viral vectors, lipid nanoparticles (LNPs) and gene editing by CRISPR–Cas9 (which usually also requires LNPs for cell delivery).

## **b** Type of procedure



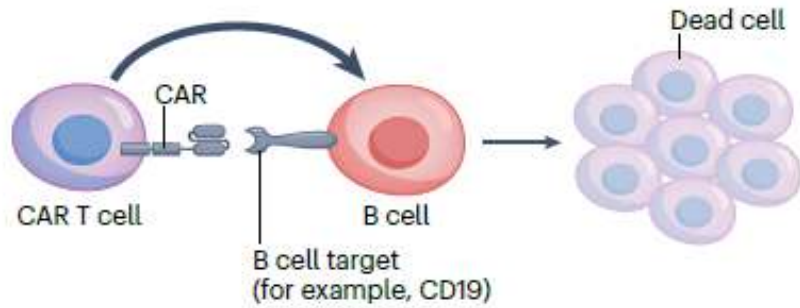
The type of procedure can also vary. Autologous and allogeneic CAR T cell therapy require ex vivo transduction of cells, whereas in vivo CAR T cell therapy involves in vivo transduction of cells.

### C Cellular source

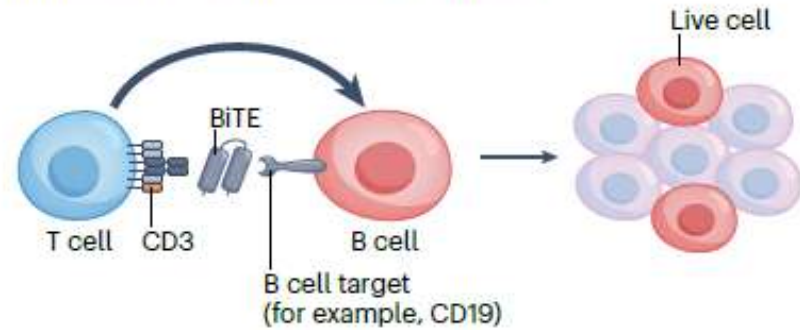


Although CAR T cells are most commonly used in CAR-based strategies, other cellular sources are also under investigation, including  $\gamma\delta$  T cells and natural killer (NK) cells.

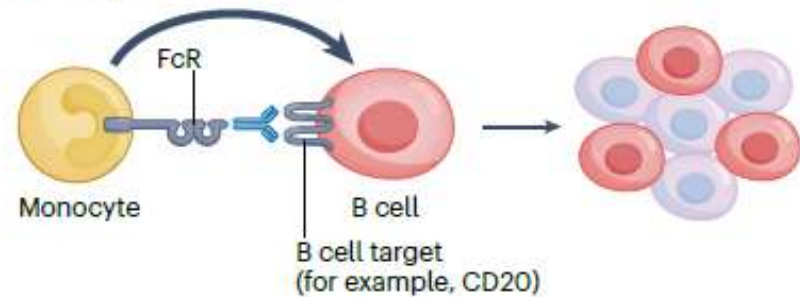
### CAR T cell-mediated killing



### Bi-specific T cell engager mediated killing



### Antibody-mediated killing



Residual B cells

## Methods of therapeutic B cell depletion and functional consequences.

B cells can be depleted using different therapeutic methods that yield a variable depth of B cell depletion in the body. Therapeutic B cell depletion inhibits several key immune functions that contribute to autoimmune diseases.

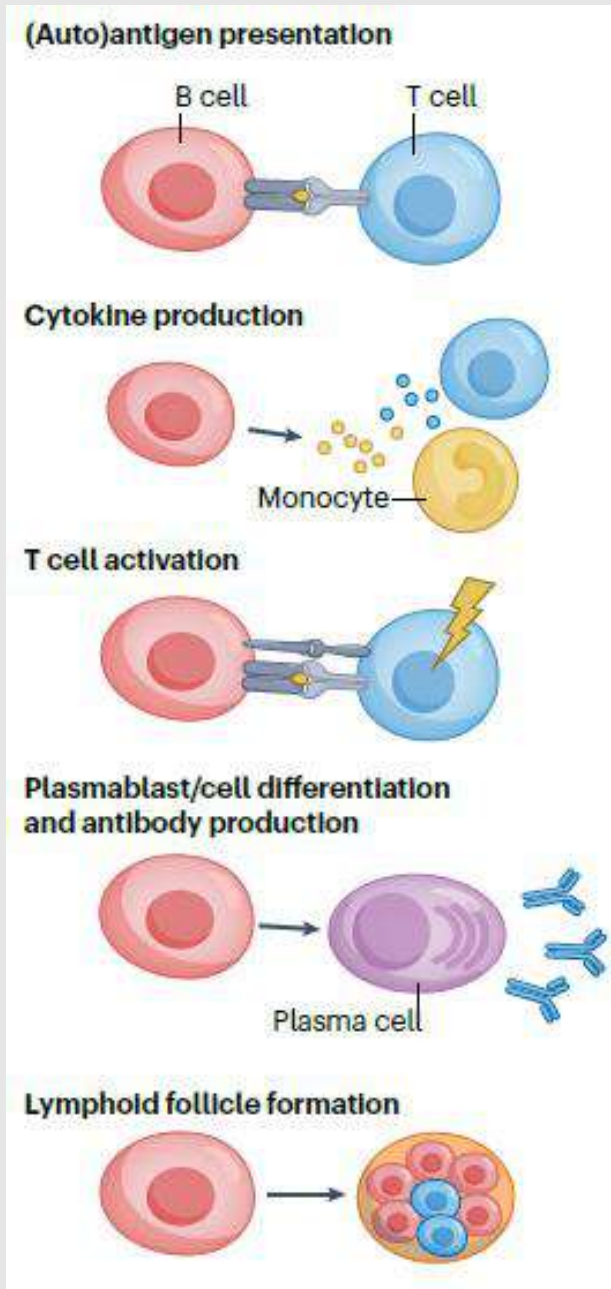
**a**, Chimeric antigen receptor (CAR)-expressing T cells designed to target surface molecules on B cells (for example, CD19, as shown here) are capable of effectively depleting B cells.

Bi-specific T cell engagers (BiTEs, a class of bi-specific antibodies) that target CD19 on B cells and CD3 on T cells bring both cells together and enable T cell-directed cytotoxic killing of the B cells.

Finally, antibodies against molecules expressed on B cells (such as CD20, as shown here) induce antibodydependent cellular cytotoxicity via activation of the Fc receptor.

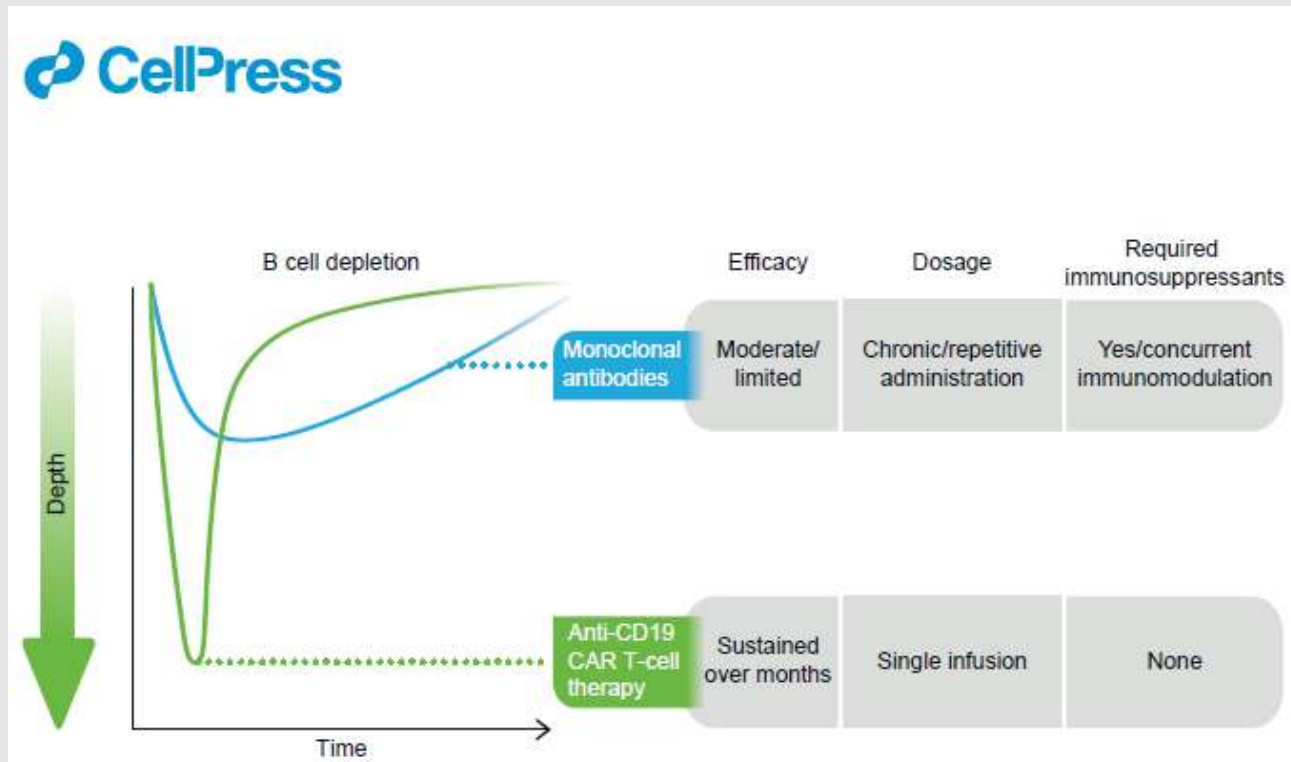
The depth of B cell depletion can vary by method, with CAR T cells achieving the most complete depletion.



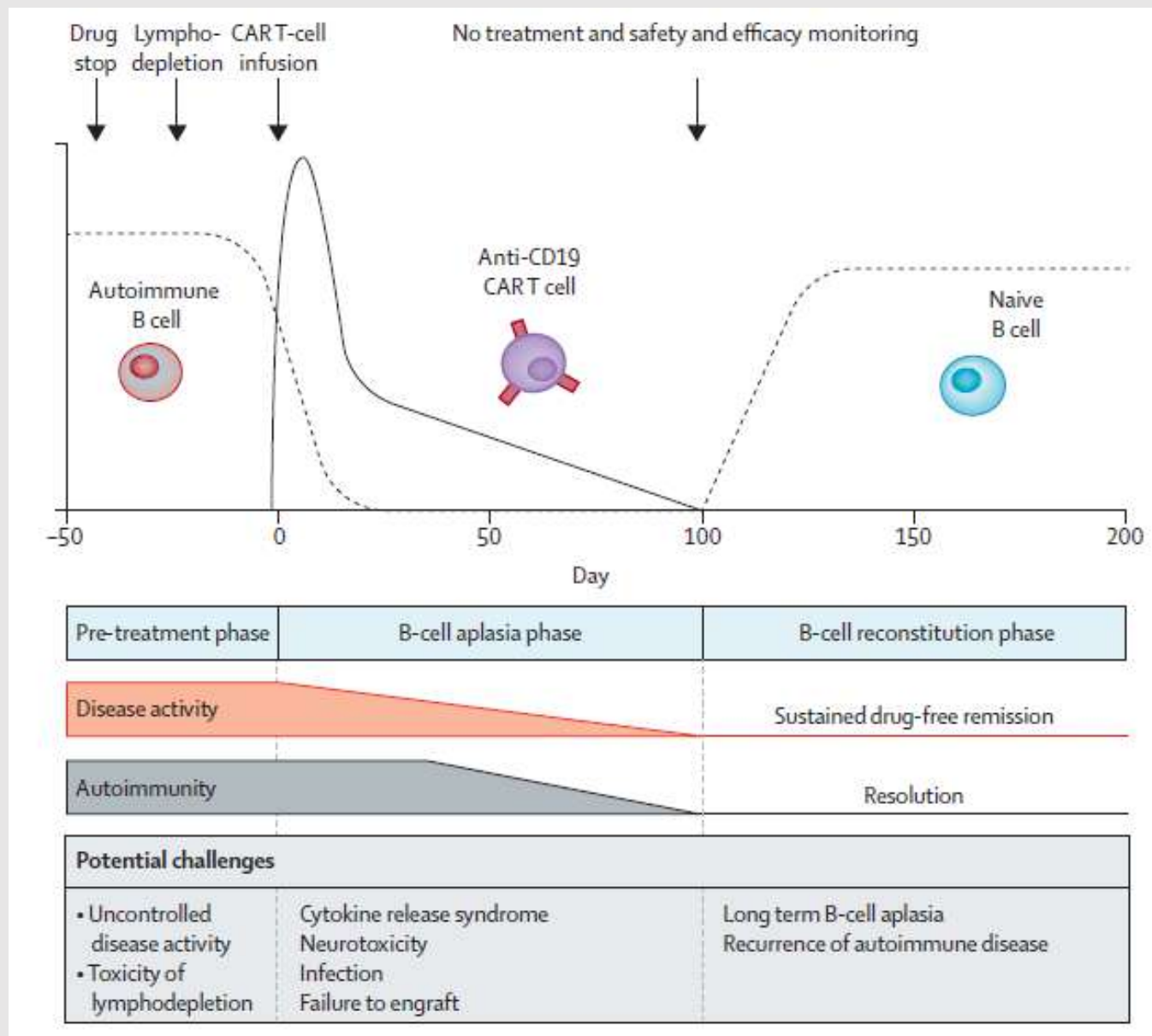


B cell depletion can affect various B cell functions, including antigen presentation, cytokine production, T cell activation, plasmablast or plasma cell differentiation, antibody production and lymphoid follicle formation by B cells.

# CAR T sejtes terápia autoimmun kórképekben



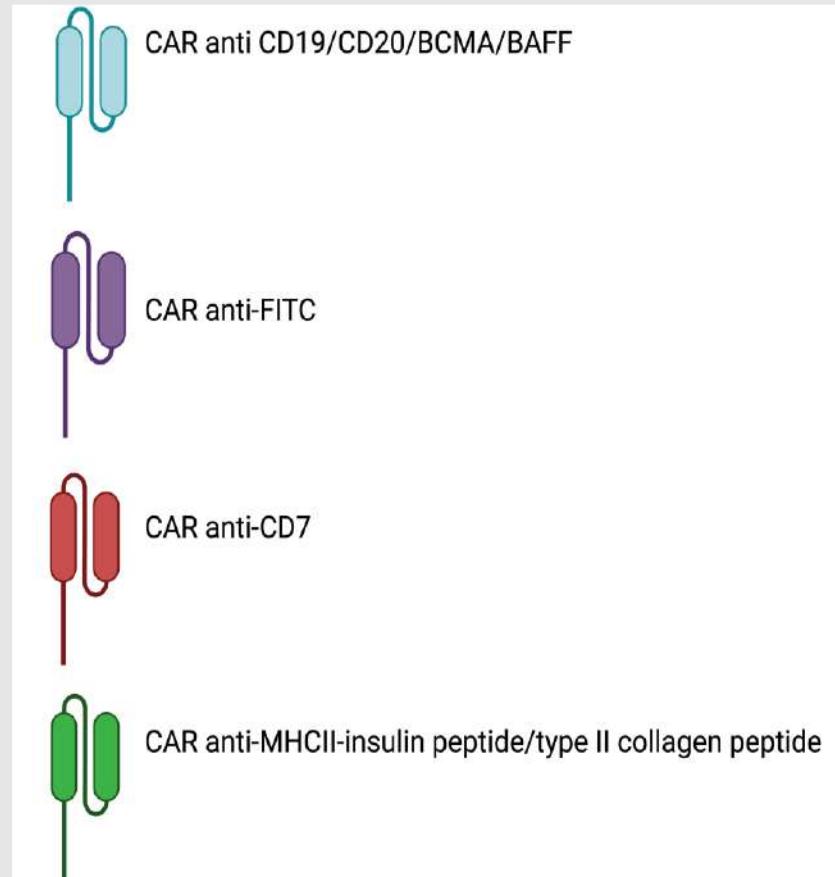
**Figure 1. Compared to chronic administration of monoclonal antibodies, a single infusion of anti-CD19 CAR T cells allows for deeper and transient depletion of B cells**



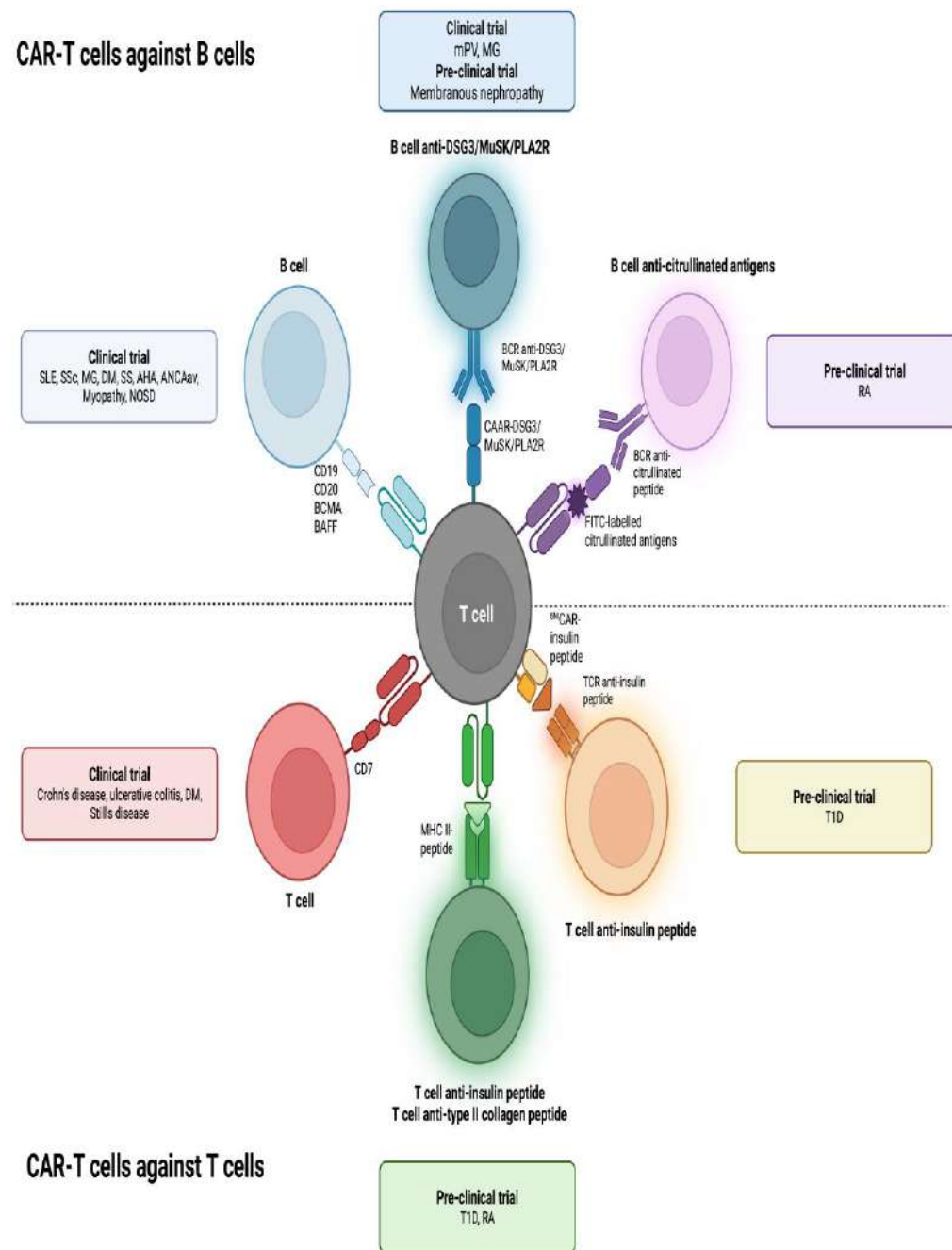
## Phases and challenges of treatment with autologous CAR T cells in autoimmune diseases

Schett G CAR T-cell therapy in autoimmune diseases *Lancet* [https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736\(23\)01126-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/S0140-6736(23)01126-1)

# CAR T cells against B cells



## CAR-T cells against B cells



## CAR-T cells against T cells

TABLE 2 | Published clinical results for CAR T cell therapies in autoimmunity.

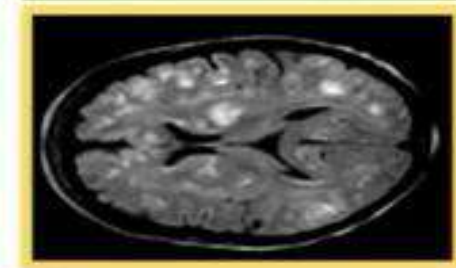
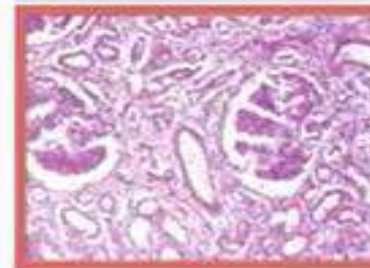
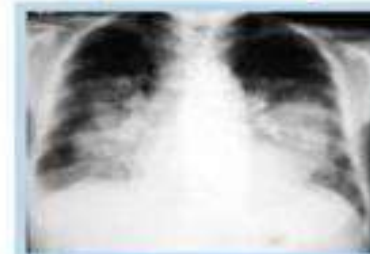
Institution	Target Antigen	Indication(s)	Pts #	Key Clinical Results	Reference
Ruhr-University Bochum	CD19	Myasthenia Gravis, Lambert Eaton Myasthenic Syndrome	2	Full mobility restored at 4- and 6 months post-CAR T	(57)
Otto-von-Guericke-University	CD19	Myasthenia Gravis	1	Restoration of mobility at 62 days post-CAR T	(58)
Friedrich-Alexander-University	CD19	Antisynthetase syndrome	1	Drug-free remission at 150 days follow up post-infusion	(59)
University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf	CD19	Multiple Sclerosis	2	EDSS score decreased from 4.5 to 4 at 100 days follow up (n=1) or remained stable at day 28 follow up (n=1)	(60)
Friedrich-Alexander-University	CD19	SLE	5	Drug-free remission maintained to median 12 month follow up in all patients	(61)
	CD19	SLE	8 (follow-up study)	100% of patients reached complete remission, with disease activity absent up to 29 months post-CAR T	(62)
	CD19	Idiopathic inflammatory myositis	3	Normalized muscular function	(62)
	CD19	Systemic Sclerosis	4	EUSTAR activity index decreased at 6 months post CAR T	(62)
	CD19	Systemic Sclerosis	1	Reduced disease activity (indicated by EUSTAR activity index maintained through 6 month follow up)	(63)
University Hospital Tübingen	CD19	Anti-synthetase Syndrome	1	Significant decrease in physician's global assessment of disease activity at 150 days follow up.	(64)
Shanghai Jiao Tong University	CD19	Sjogren's Syndrome with concurrent diffuse large B-cell lymphoma	1	Normal levels of ANA, anti-Ro-52, and cytokines and the improvement of dry mouth symptoms, without the use of glucocorticoids or tocilizumab	(65)
Shanghai Changzheng Hospital	CD19 (allogeneic)	Myositis and systemic sclerosis	3	Complete remission at 6 months follow-up in 3/3 pts	(66)
Huazhong University of Science and Technology	BCMA	Anti-SRP necrotizing myopathy	1	Disease improvement maintained at 18 months	(67)
	BCMA	Neuromyelitis optica spectrum disorder	12	92% drug-free remission with 11/12 patients relapse-free at median follow-up of 5.5 months	(68)
Zhongshan City People's Hospital	BCMA-CD19	SLE + lupus nephritis	13	Symptom and medication-free remission maintained at 46 months for 10/10 evaluable patients	(69)

EDSS, expanded disability status scale; EUSTAR, European scleroderma trials and research group. Pts #, number of patients reported.

# Rationale for using CD19 CAR T cells for the treatment of autoimmune diseases – 1 –

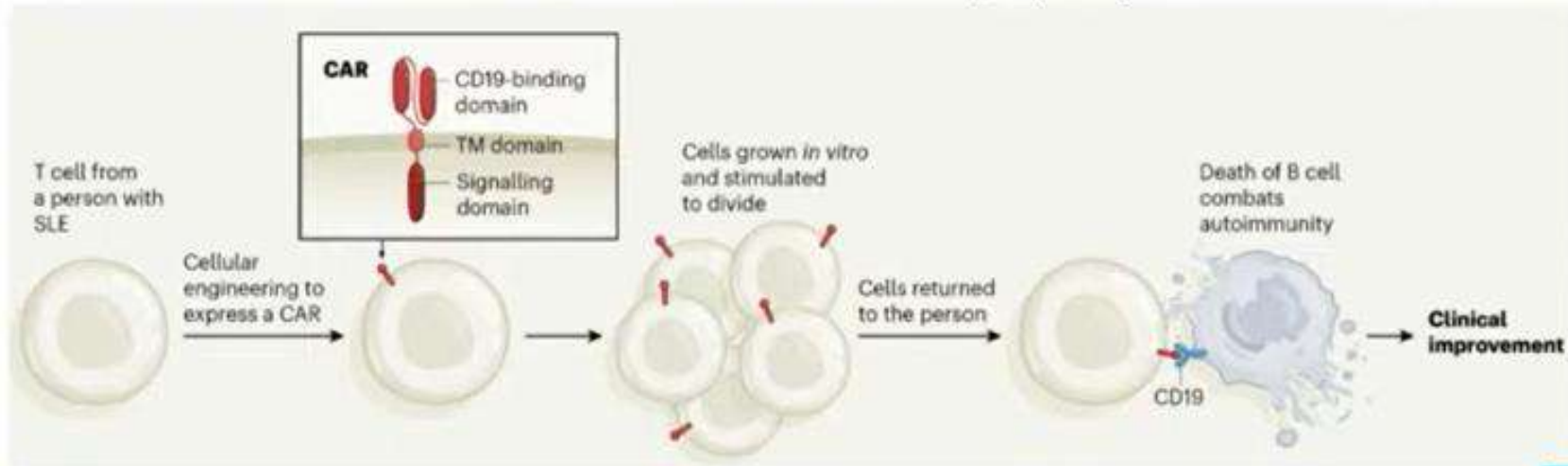
## Disease model: SLE

- severe autoimmune disease characterized by formation of autoantibodies & immune complex-mediated inflammation & organ damage
- auto-reactive B-cells play a key role in the pathogenesis of SLE
- limited efficacy of B-cell depleting mAbs due to persistence of autoreactive B cells in lymphatic organs & inflamed tissues



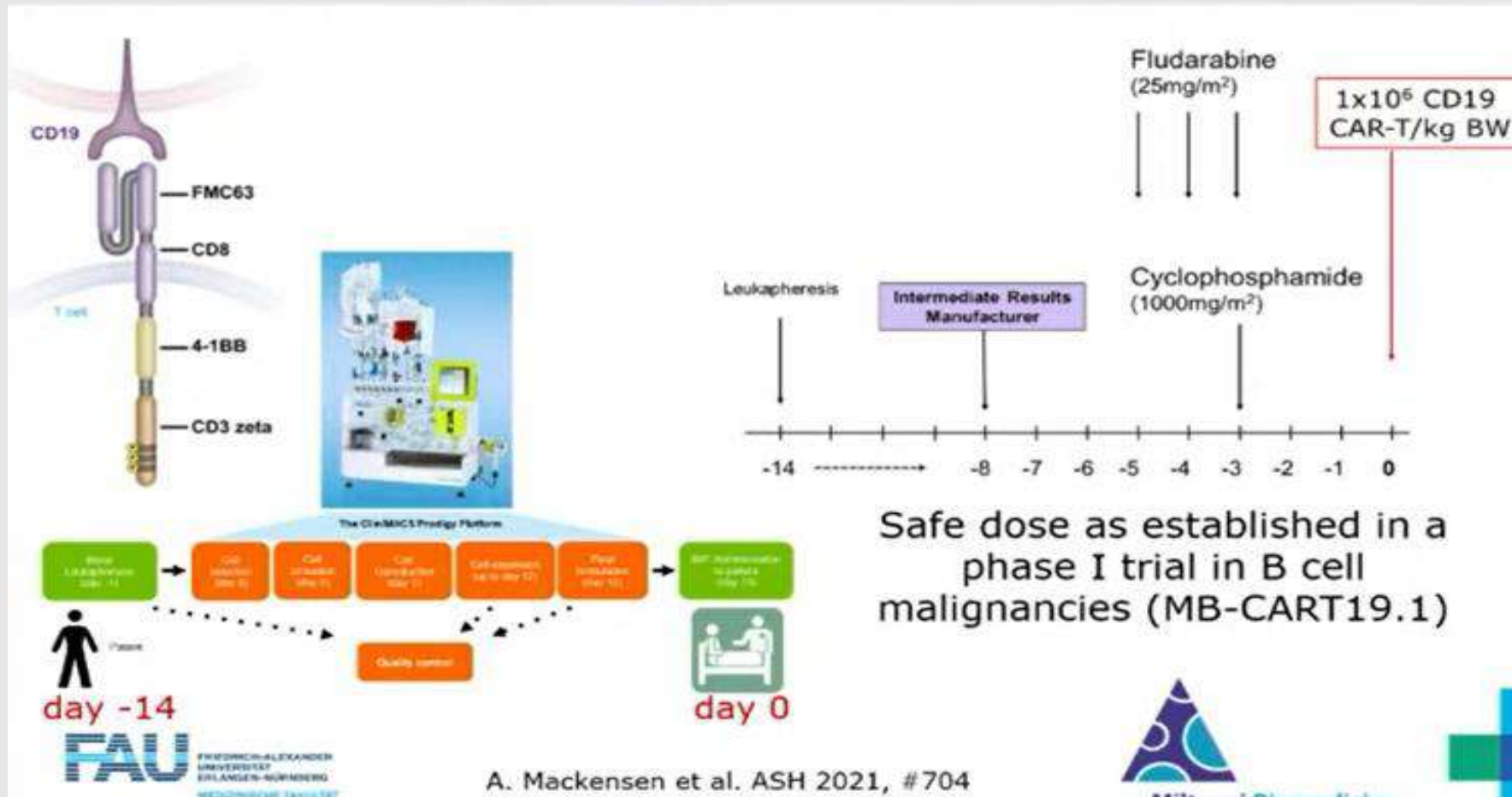
# Rationale for using CD19 CAR T cells for the treatment of autoimmune diseases – 2 –

- CAR T cells may be more potently depleting target cells than monoclonal antibodies due to better tissue penetration
- Preclinical data showed that CD19 CAR T-cells were capable of reversing SLE manifestations in two murine SLE models (*R. Kansal et al. Sci Transl Med. 2019;11(482)*)





# CD19-Targeted CAR T Cells in Refractory Autoimmune Disease - *Intervention schedule*



# B-cell mediated autoimmune diseases treated with CD19 CAR-T cells

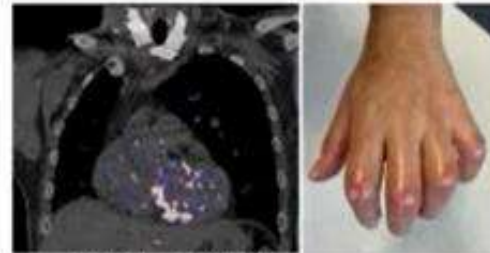
## Systemic Lupus Erythematosus (SLE)



Kidney, Skin, Lung, Heart, Brain

*Mougiakakos et al. NEJM, 2021*  
*Mackensen et al. Nat Med. 2022*

## Systemic Sclerosis (SSc)

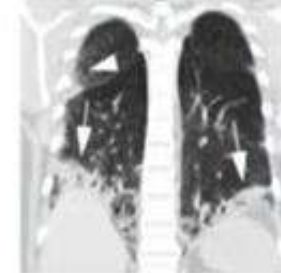


SUVmax septobasal: 8.6

Skin, Lung, Heart, Kidney

*Bergmann et al. Annals Rheum. Dis. 2023*

## Idiopathic Inflammatory myositis (IIM)



Skeletal Muscle, Lung, Heart

*Müller et al. Lancet 2023*

## **We report on:**

- ✓ the first 15 patients with longer follow-up
- ✓ growing understanding of B-cell biology post CD19 CAR-T

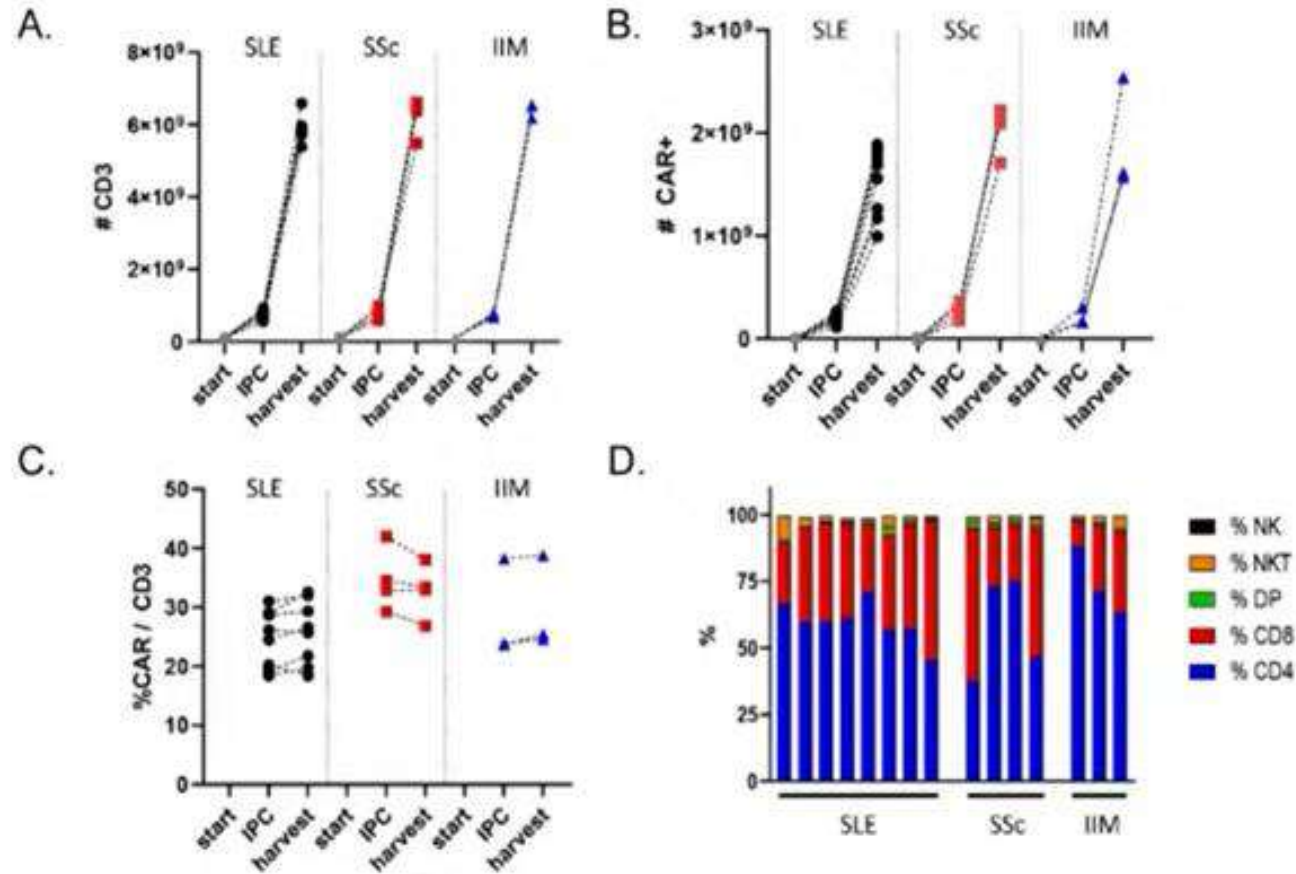


## Patient characteristics at baseline

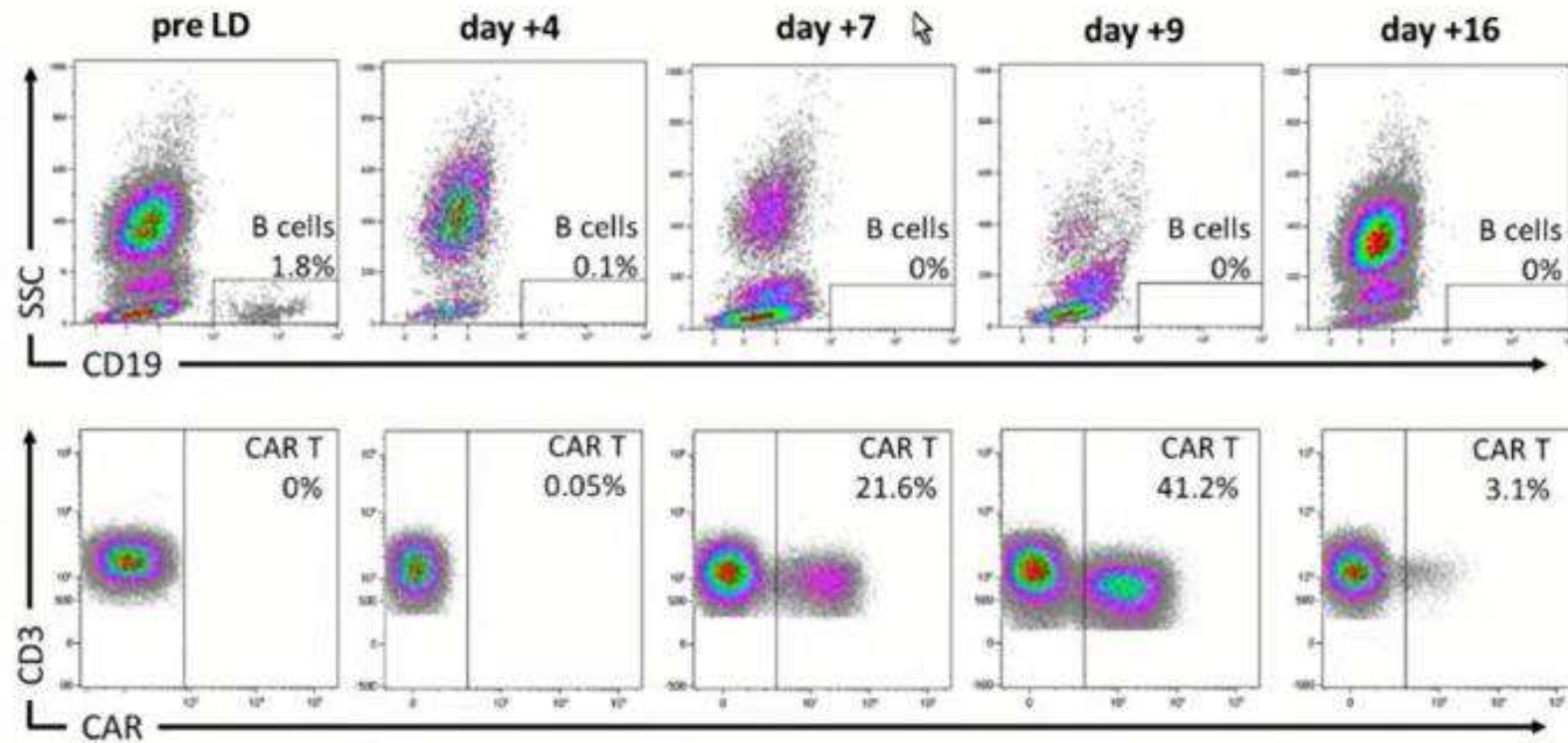
- n= 15 patients
- Disease type: 8x SLE, 3x IIM, 4x SSc
- Median age (y): 36 (18-60)
- Median disease duration: 4 years (1-20)
- Median previous treatments: 5 (2-14)
- Median follow-up (mo): 15 months (4-29)
- Auto-antibodies present: 15/15
- Organ involvement:  
(at least 2) 13 skin, 11 lung, 9 kidney,  
9 joints, 4 heart, 3 muscle

*Heavily pretreated, active & progressive disease at time of indication*

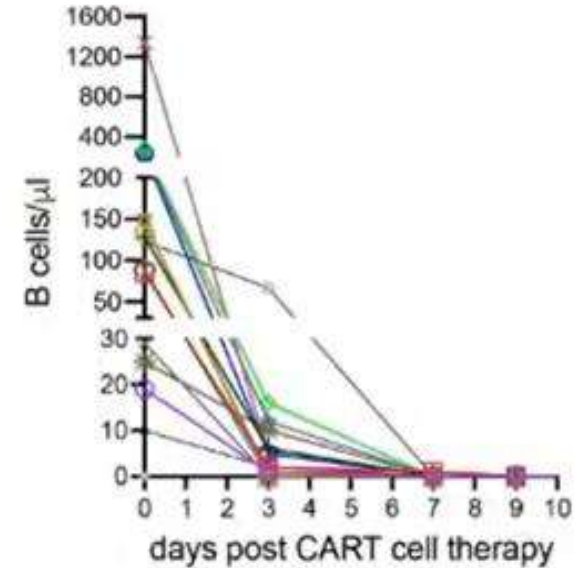
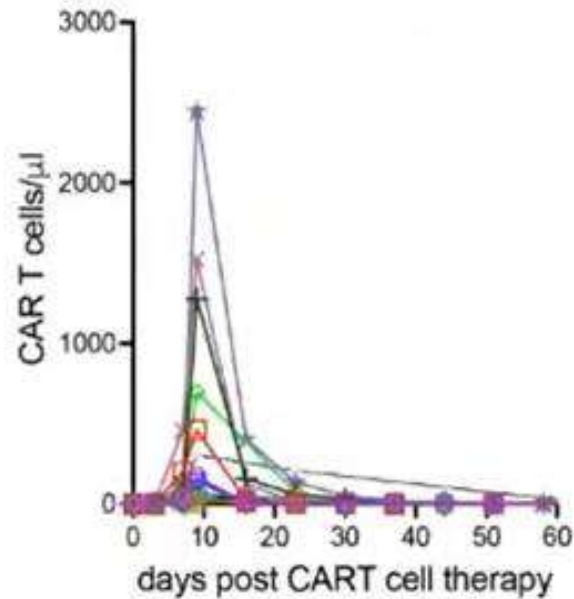
# Successful generation of CD19 CAR T Cells from patients with advanced autoimmune disease



# Circulating CD19 CAR T cell expansion and B-Cell depletion after CAR T-cell infusion (*Pat. 02*)



# Expansion of CAR T cells preceded complete depletion of circulating B cells

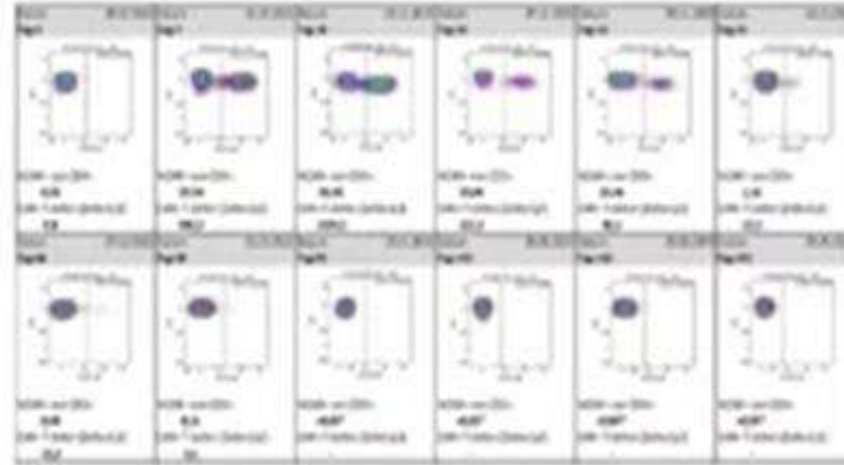


- CAR-T cells expand as expected reaching their peak at day 9
- Height of the peak is comparable to those in malignant disease
- Complete and sustained depletion of circulating B cells

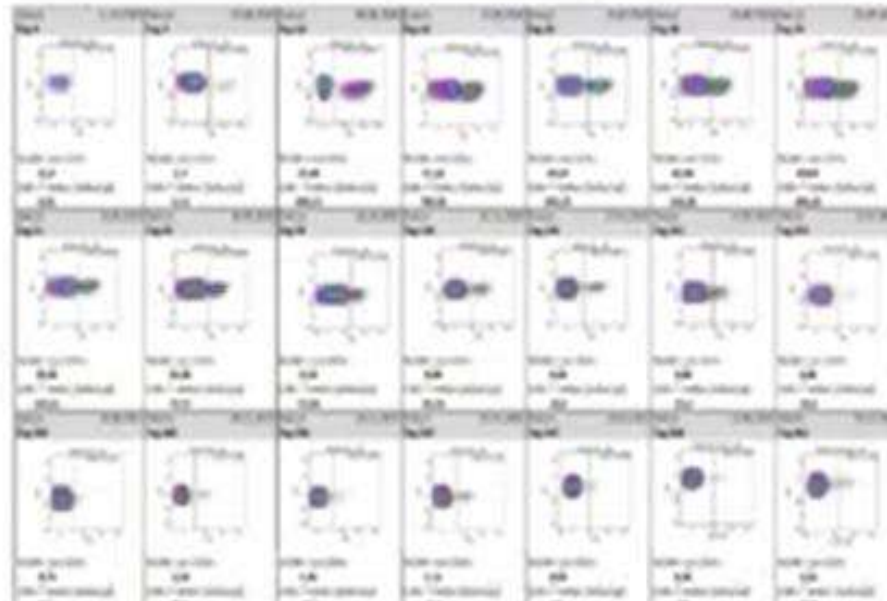


# CAR-T cell expansion/persistence (AID vs. Lymphoma)

Autoimmune disease  
(SLE)



Lymphoma (DLBCL)



56. napra a CAR-T eltűnik

860. Napon (>2év) érdemi CAR-T jelenlét

# The start in 2021

Nephritis, Pleurisy,  
Endocarditis, Arthritis,  
Fatigue, Rash

Hydroxychloroquin, myco-  
phenolate, tacrolimus,  
cyclophosphamid, beli-  
mumab, rituximab

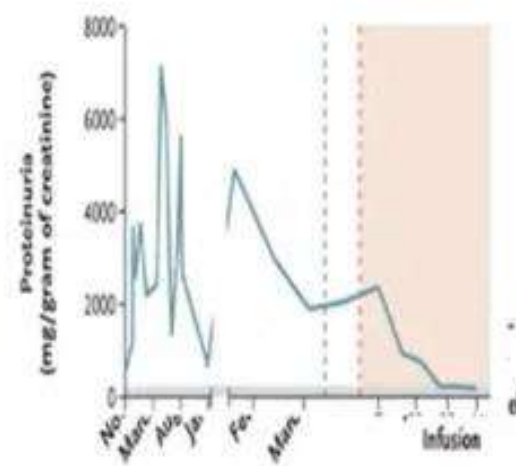
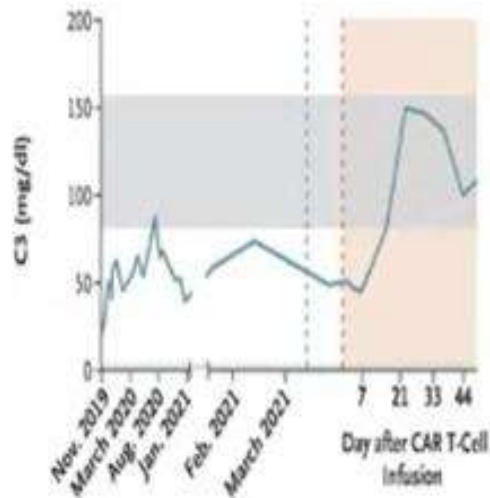
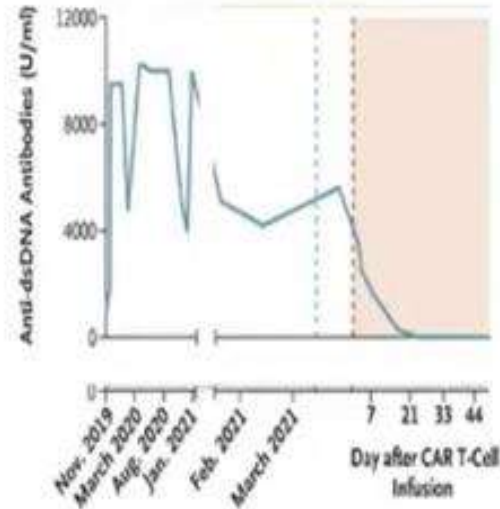
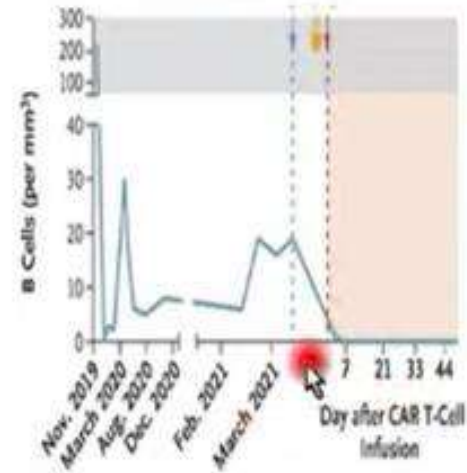


Anti-dsDNA antibodies: 8000-12000 units/ml  
(normal < 4U/mL); Proteinuria 4-6 g/day (normal  
<0.15 g/day)

Mougiakakos D et al., N Engl J Med 2021, Mackensen A et al., Nat Med 2022



# SLE resolved...



Rapid loss of circulating B cells after CAR T cell exposure

Fast decrease of anti-dsDNA antibodies and seroconversion later on

Normalization of complement factor C3 and C4 levels

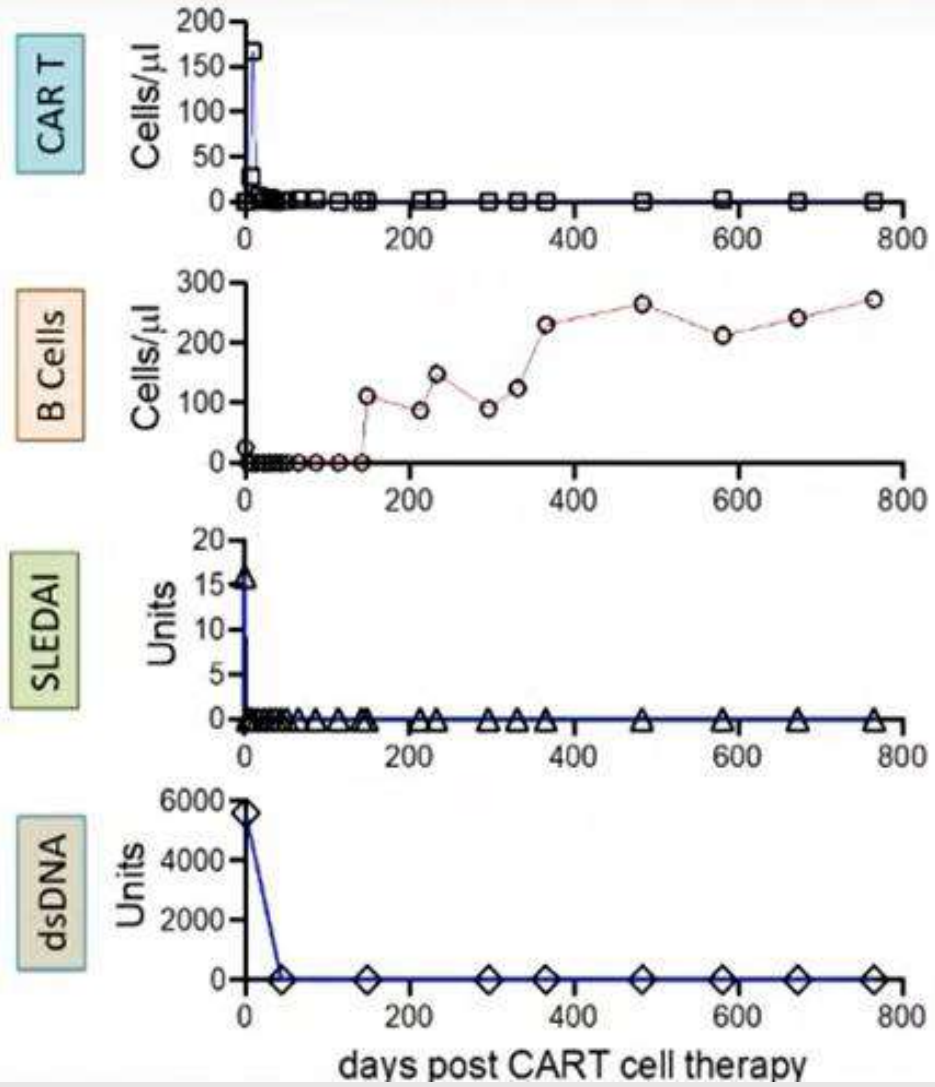
Regression of proteinuria and complete resolution after 30 days

# ...and did not come back



1000 Days Healthy

3 years healthy  
No Treatment, No Signs  
of Autoimmunity  
Normal Life



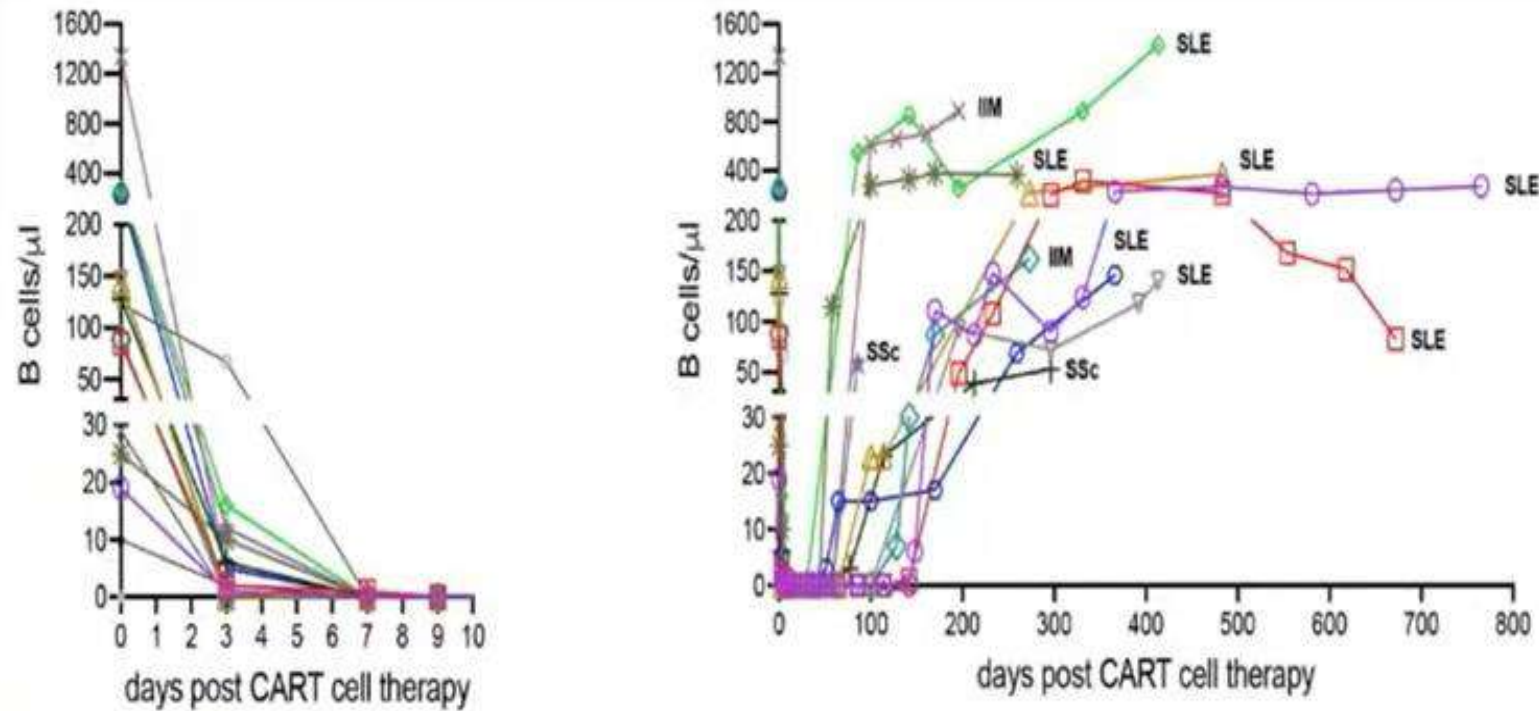
## Short-Term Efficacy of CD19 CAR T cell therapy in autoimmune disease

Patient #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Disease	SLE	SLE	SLE	SLE	SLE	SLE	SLE	SLE	IIM	IIM	IIM	SSc	SSc	SSc	SSc
DORIS Remission	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
LLDAS	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
SLEDAI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
ACR/EULAR Major improvement	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	+	+	+	n/a	n/a	n/a
CK Normalization	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	+	+	+	n/a	n/a	n/a
EUSTAR AI Improvement	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-3,6	-4,3	-4,3
mRSS Improvement	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	-7	-9	-11
Glucocorticoid-free state	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
No immunosuppressive Drugs	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

SSc: bõr, ILD

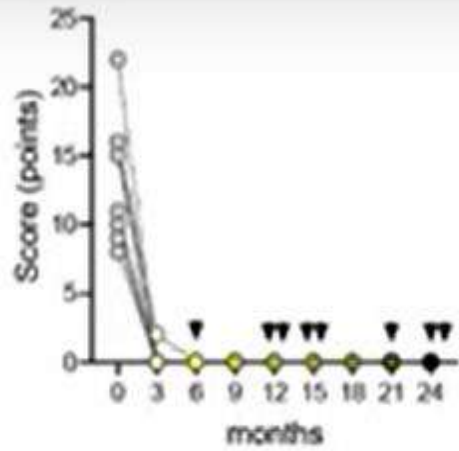
DORIS, Definition Of Remission In SLE; EUSTAR-AI, European Scleroderma Trials and Research Group Activity Index; IIM, Idiopathic inflammatory myopathy; LLDAS, Lupus Low Disease Activity State ; mRSS, modified Rodnan skin score; SLE, systemic lupus erythematosus; SLEDAI, SLE Disease Activity Index; SSc, systemic sclerosis; \* based on 3 months data\*\*based on 2 months data; # short observation <3 months;

# B cell recovery after CAR T cell therapy

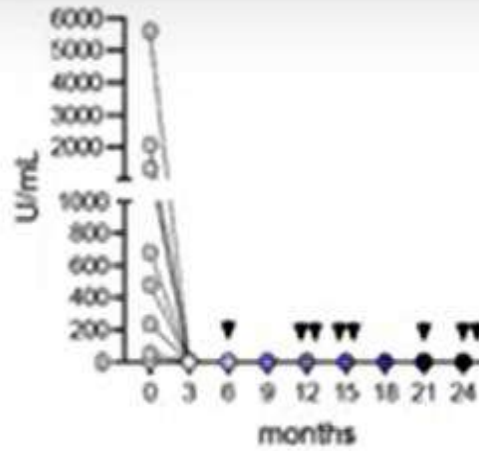


Data of 15 patients with autoimmune disease (8 SLE, 3 IIM, 4 SSc) treated with CD19 CAR T cells. B cell counts are shown in Y axis. X axis shows the days after CAR T cell therapy (0-800). Left graph shows the short time effects in the first 10 days with fast depletion of B cells. B cell recur between 50 and 150 days after the CAR T cell infusion.

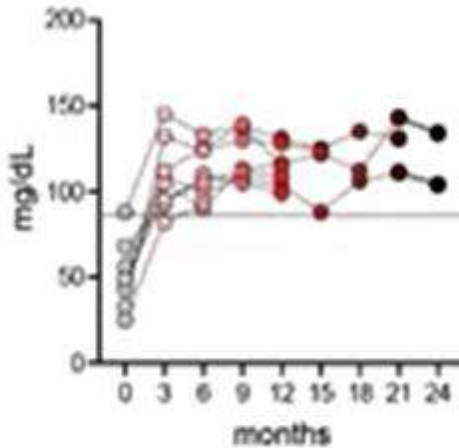
SLEDAI-2K



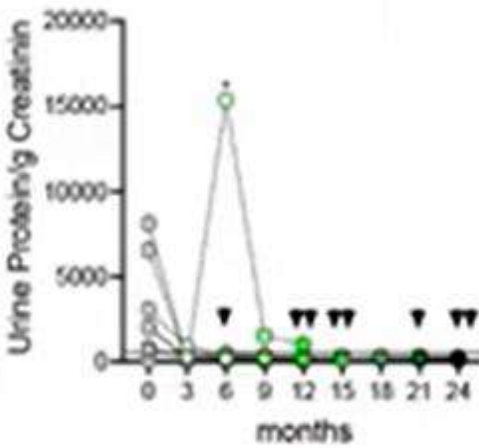
Anti-dsDNA



C3



Proteinuria

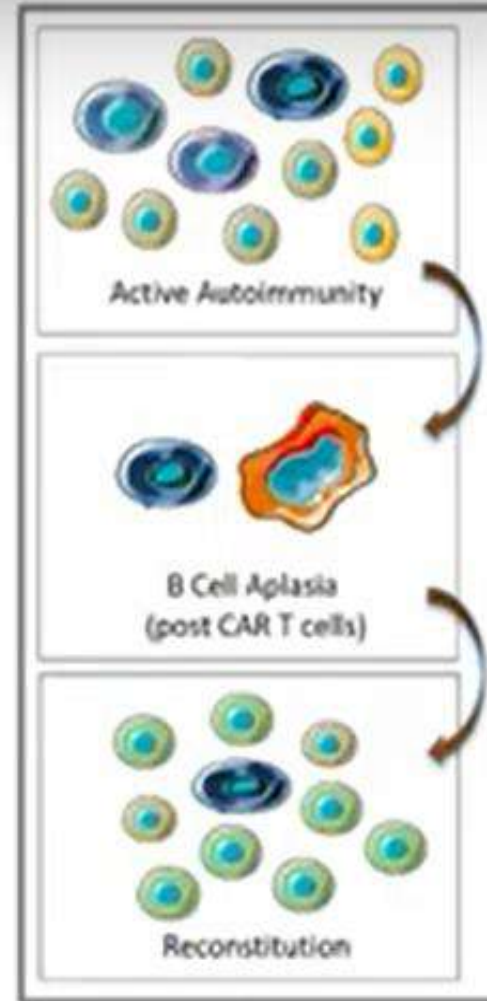
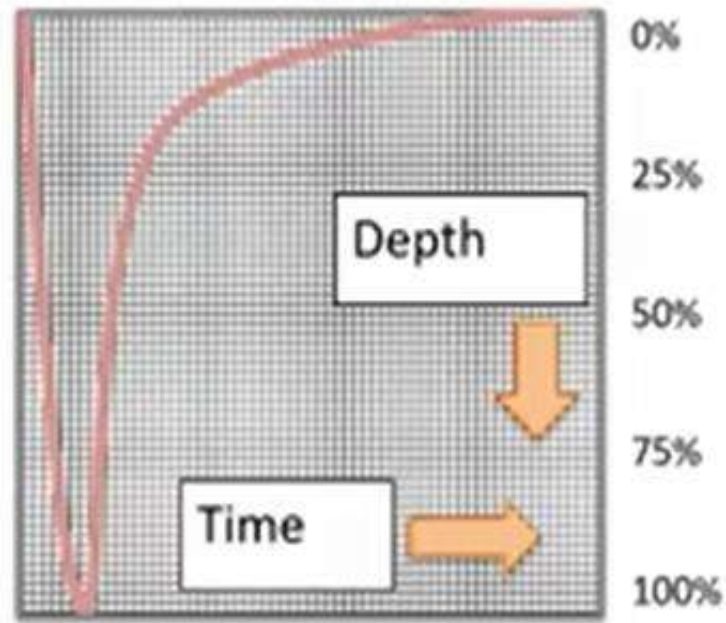


## Long-term Effects of CAR-T cells in SLE

Sustained effects on SLE disease activity and SLE associated autoimmunity after CD19 CAR T cell therapy in a drug-free state

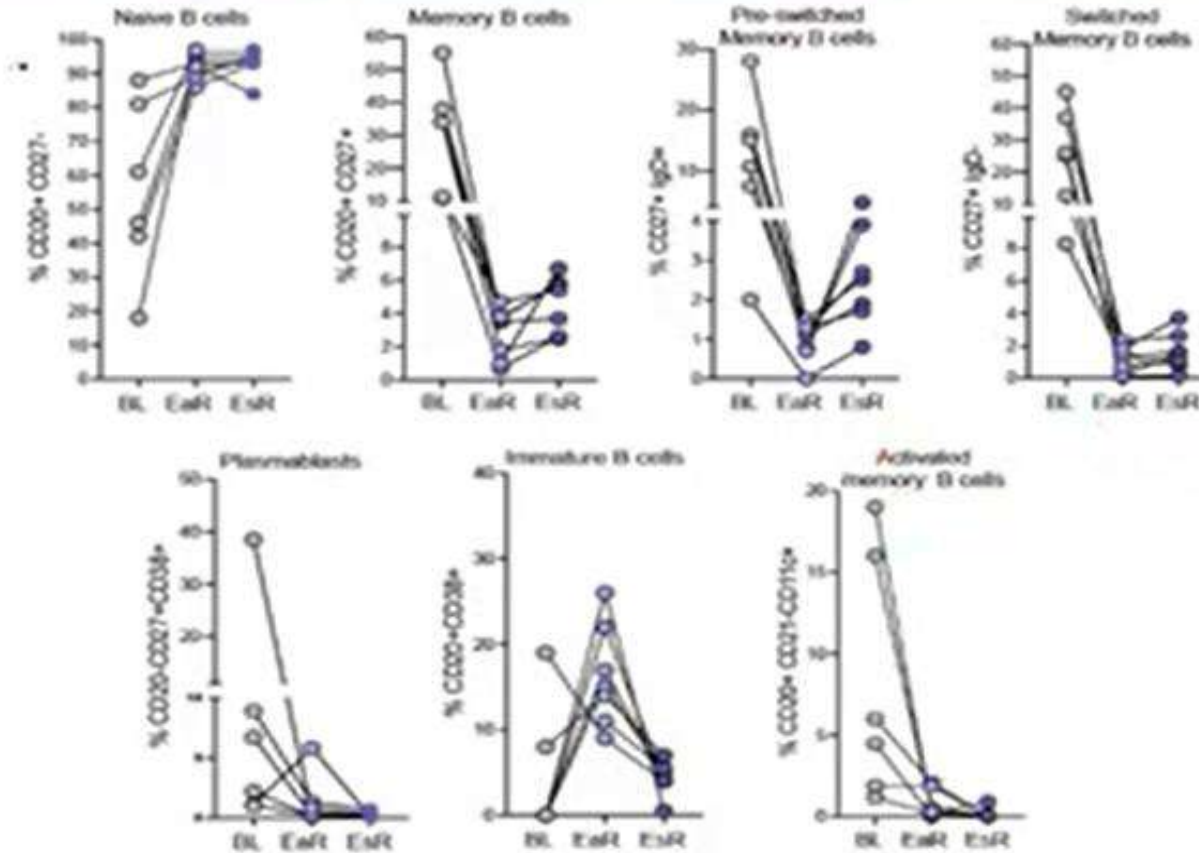
Muller F, Taubmann J et al. *N Engl J Med* 2024 Feb 22;390(8):687-700.

# Deep B cell depletion by CAR T cells



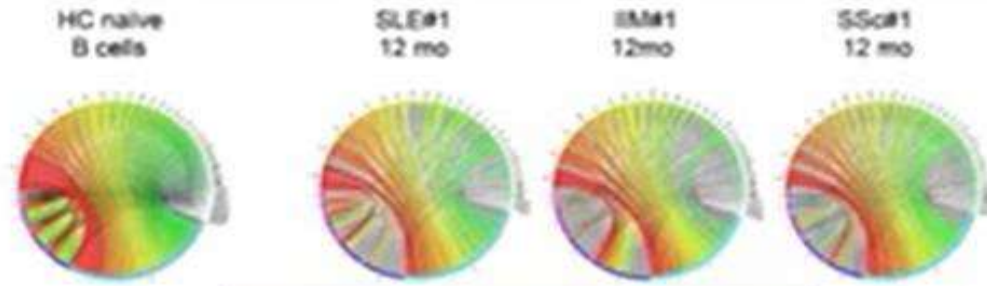
Autoreactive B cell   B cells   Naive B cells   Plasmablasts   Plasma Cells   CAR T Cells

# Analysis of memory B cells and plasmablasts in early and established reconstitution of B cells



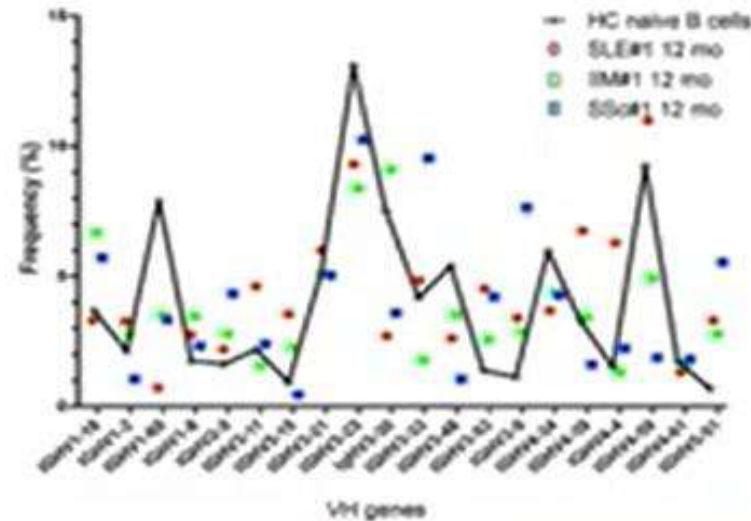
Müller F, Taubmann J et al. *N Engl J Med* 2024 Feb 22;390(8):687-700.

# Next-generation sequencing (NGS) of the $V_H$ gene repertoire



VJ recombination in naïve B cells

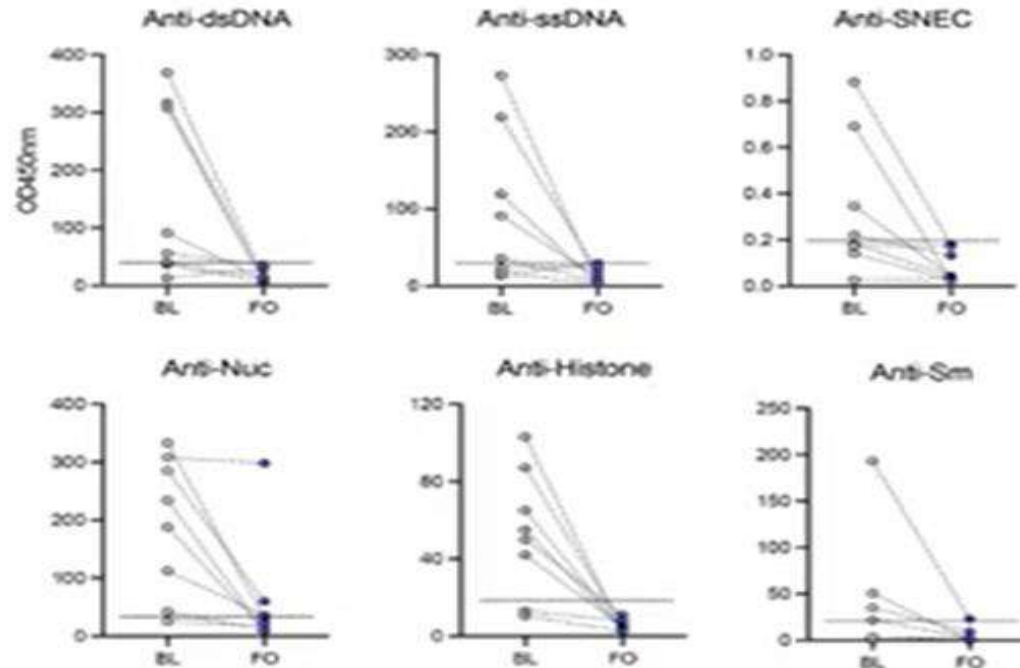
Broad and balanced  $V_H - J_H$  usage and a normal naïve  $V_H$  repertoire in SLE, IIM and SSc patients treated with CAR-T cells very similar to a normal B cell repertoire of naïve B cells from healthy control donors



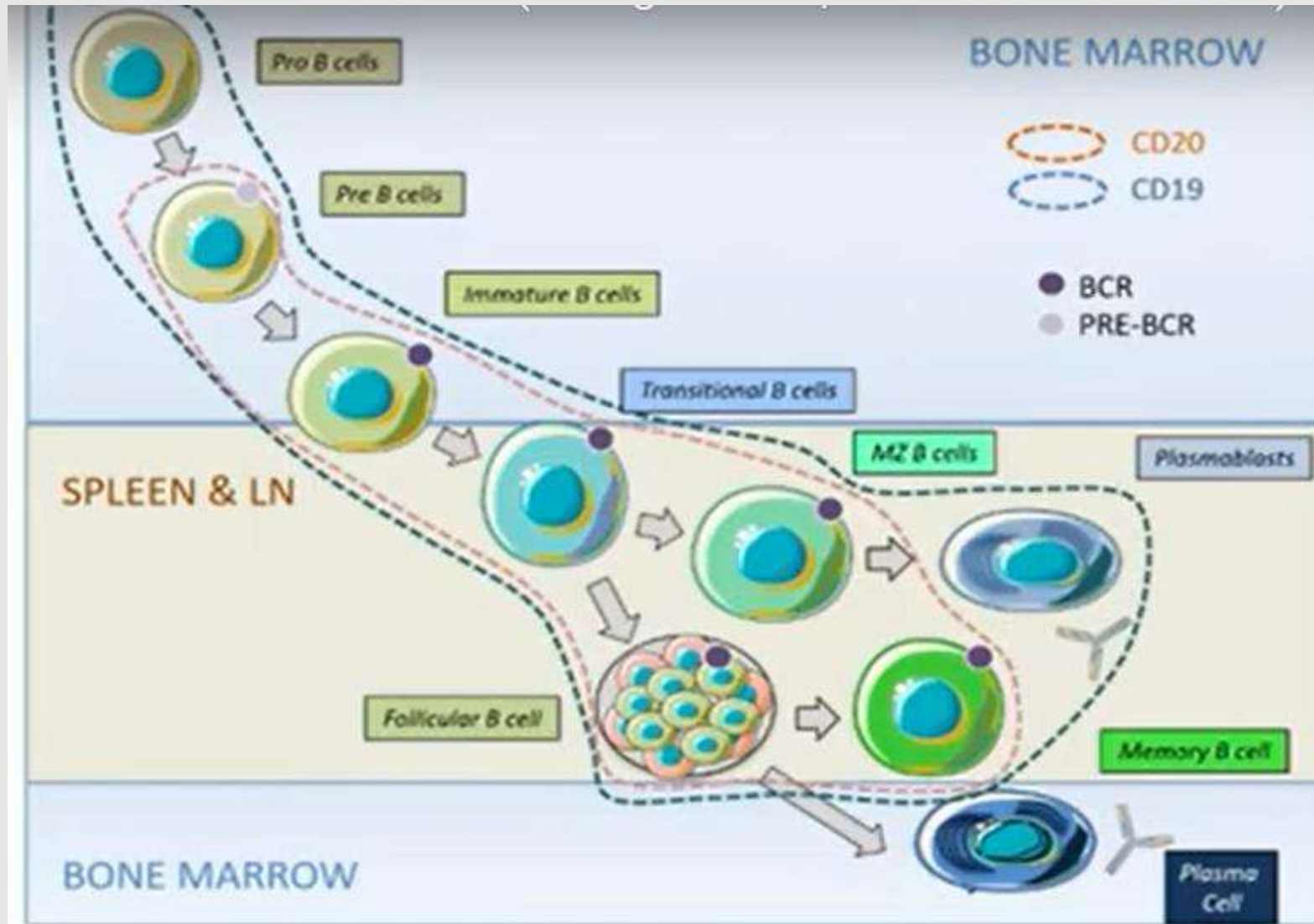
$V_H$  gene usage of top 20 most frequent  $V_H$  genes in the human repertoire.



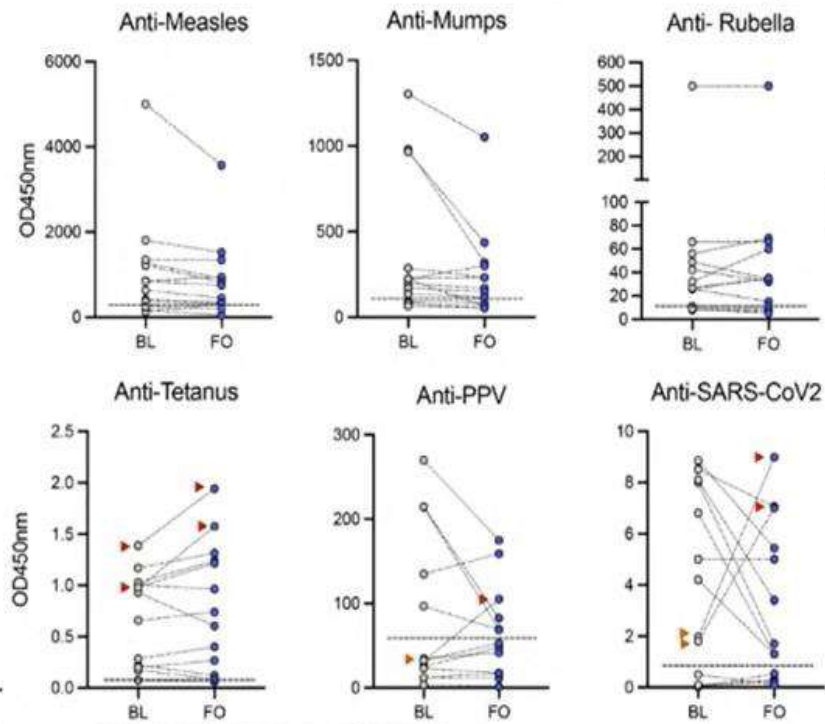
# Seroconversion of SLE-associated autoantibodies



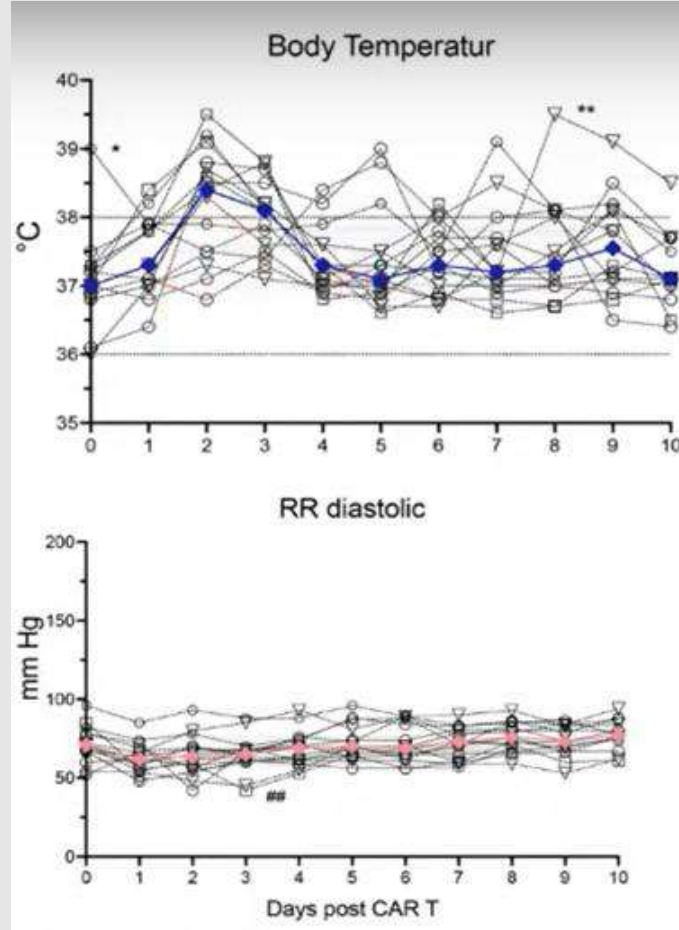
Müller F, Taubmann J et al. *N Engl J Med* 2024 Feb 22;390(8):687-700.



# Vaccination-related antibodies



Muller F, Taubmann J et al. N Engl J Med 2024 Feb 22;390(8):687-700.



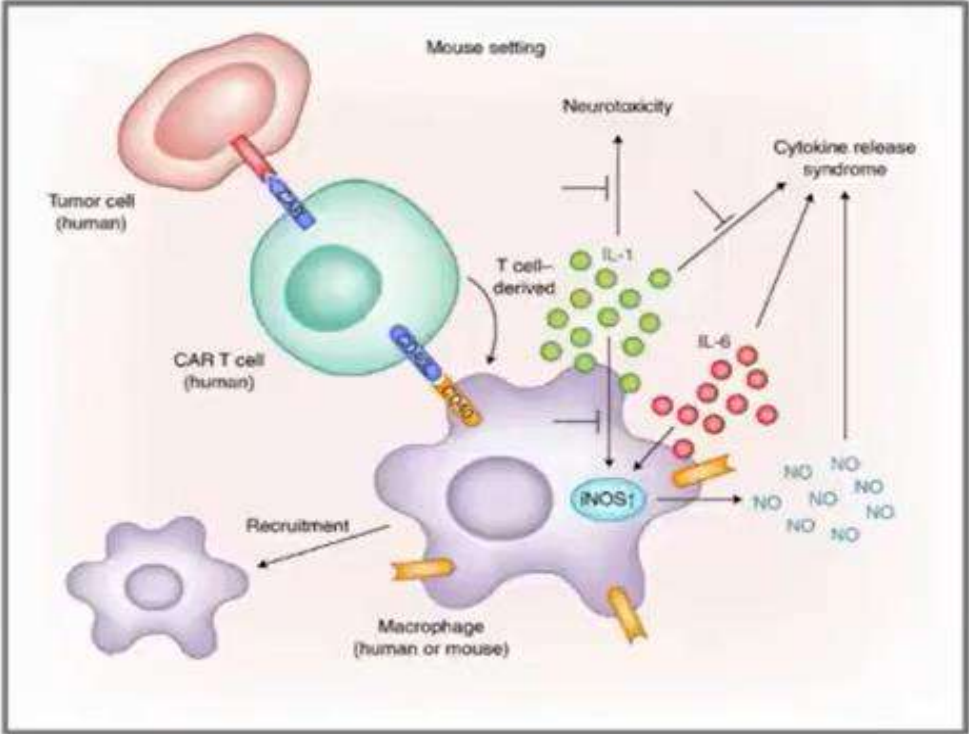
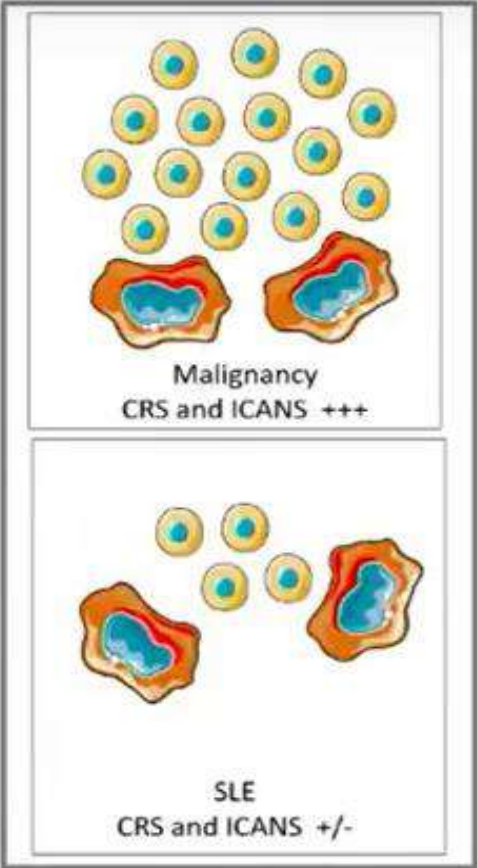
## Tolerability

Excellent tolerability of CAR T cell therapy

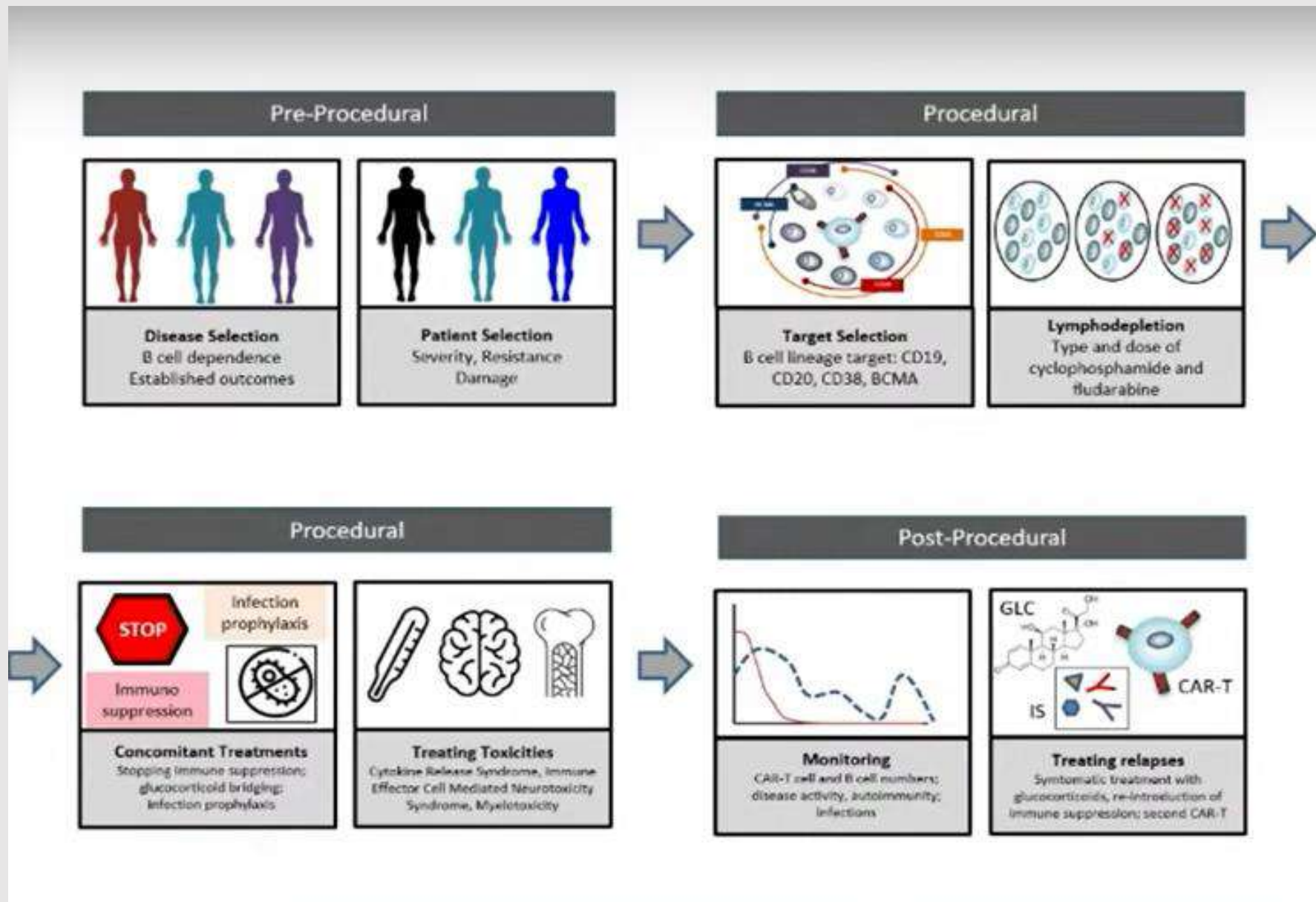
No evidence of higher grade Cytokine-Release Syndrome (CRS) and no case of Immune Effector Cell-Associated Neurotoxic Syndrome (ICANS)

Body temperature, blood pressure and serum levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) during the first 10 days after CAR T cells administration (all N=5);

# Tolerability (Cytokine Release Syndrome)



-  Autoreactive B cell
-  B cells
-  Naive B cells
-  Plasmablasts
-  Plasma Cells
-  CAR T Cells



Köszönöm a figyelmet!

