



Diamond-Blackfan anemia pathophysiology in 2024

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France



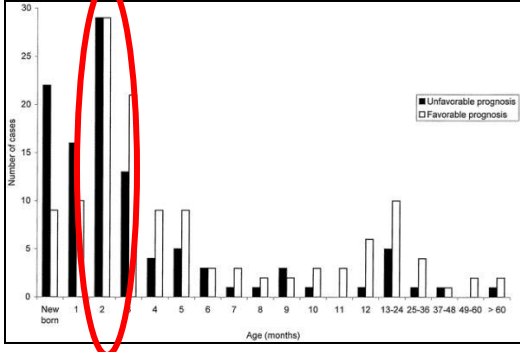
Diamond-Blackfan anemia (DBA) :

Rare disease – 7 to 12 cases/million life birth

One of the inherited bone marrow failure

Intrinsic defect in erythropoiesis

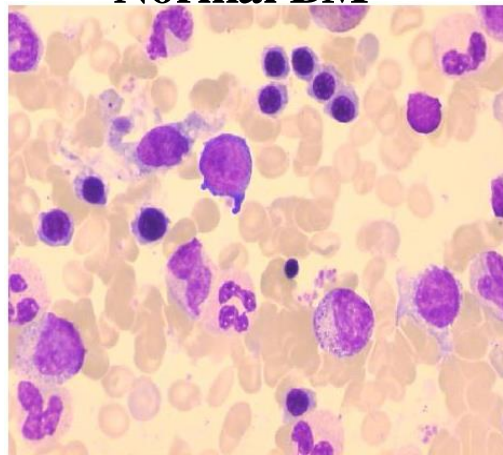
First ribosomopathy described – 24 genes



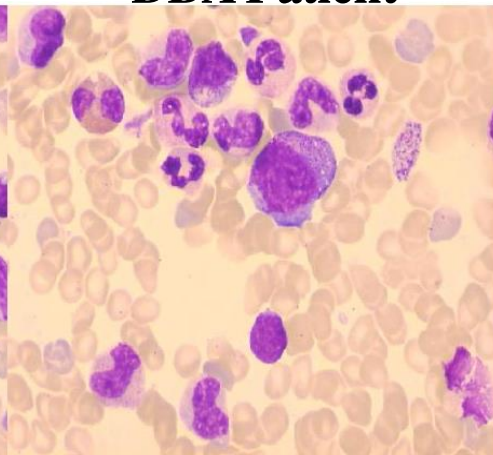
Various malformations (50% of cases)

Erythroblastopenia/pure hypoplastic anemia

Normal BM



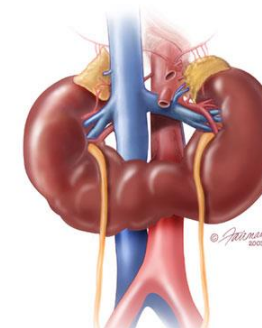
DBA Patient



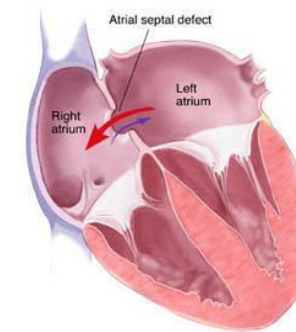
Extremities (thumbs+++)



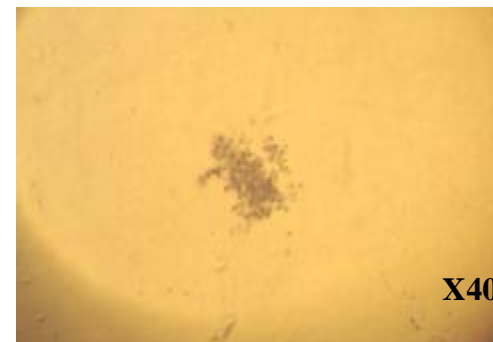
Kidney & tractus



Heart & vessels



Cephalic area



The DBA guidelines, just been published



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REVIEW | VOLUME 11, ISSUE 5, E368-E382, MAY 2024

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Diagnosis, treatment, and surveillance of Diamond-Blackfan anaemia syndrome: international consensus statement

[Marcin W Wlodarski, MD PhD](#)  *  • [Prof Adrianna Vlachos, MD](#) * • [Jason E Farrar, MD](#) * •

[Prof Lydie M Da Costa, MD PhD](#) • [Prof Antonis Kattamis, MD](#) • [Irma Dianzani, MD PhD](#) • et al. [Show all authors](#) •

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Published: May, 2024 • DOI: [https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-3026\(24\)00063-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/S2352-3026(24)00063-2) • [Check for updates](#)

Diagnostic criteria

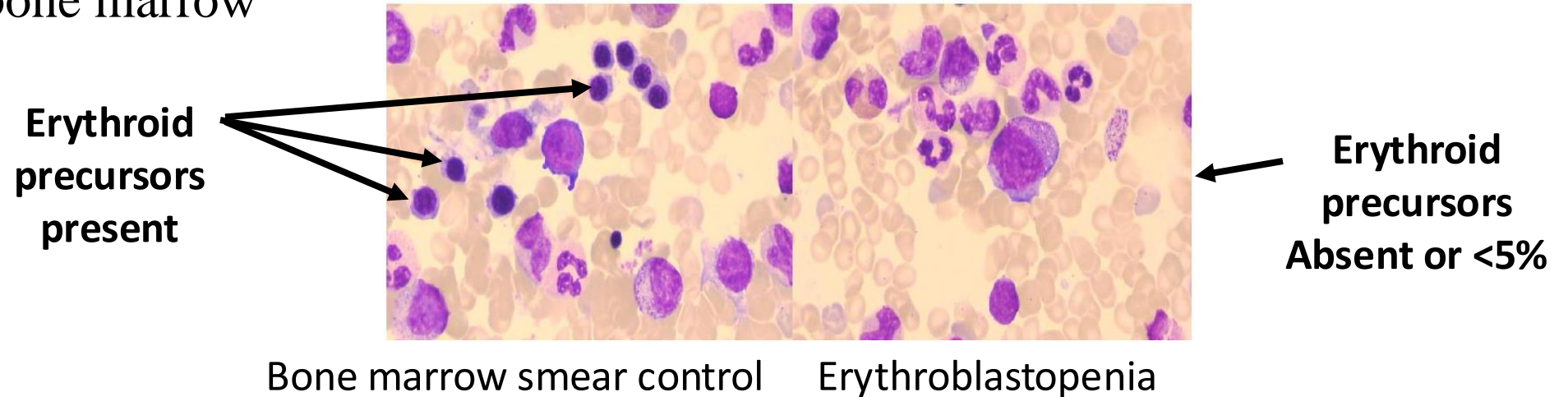
- Pathogenic or likely pathogenic mutation in a Diamond-Blackfan anaemia (DBA) syndrome gene (appendix p 4); or
- Haematological features consistent with DBA syndrome: macrocytic anaemia* with reticulocytopenia and bone marrow erythroblastopenia; absence of dysplasia, dyserythropoiesis†, and sideroblasts; and exclusion of known differential diagnoses (see below)

Typical findings (not mandatory for diagnosis)‡

- Patients are younger than 1 year at onset of disease
- Elevated eADA activity (before first transfusion, in patients who have not received a transfusion, or in parents of patients)
- Elevated HbF (reliably assessed in patients older than 6 months)
- Positive family history or unexplained history of anaemia during infancy or childhood
- Congenital abnormalities (appendix p 5)
- Abnormal rRNA processing in patient cells§

“Classical” DBA diagnosis

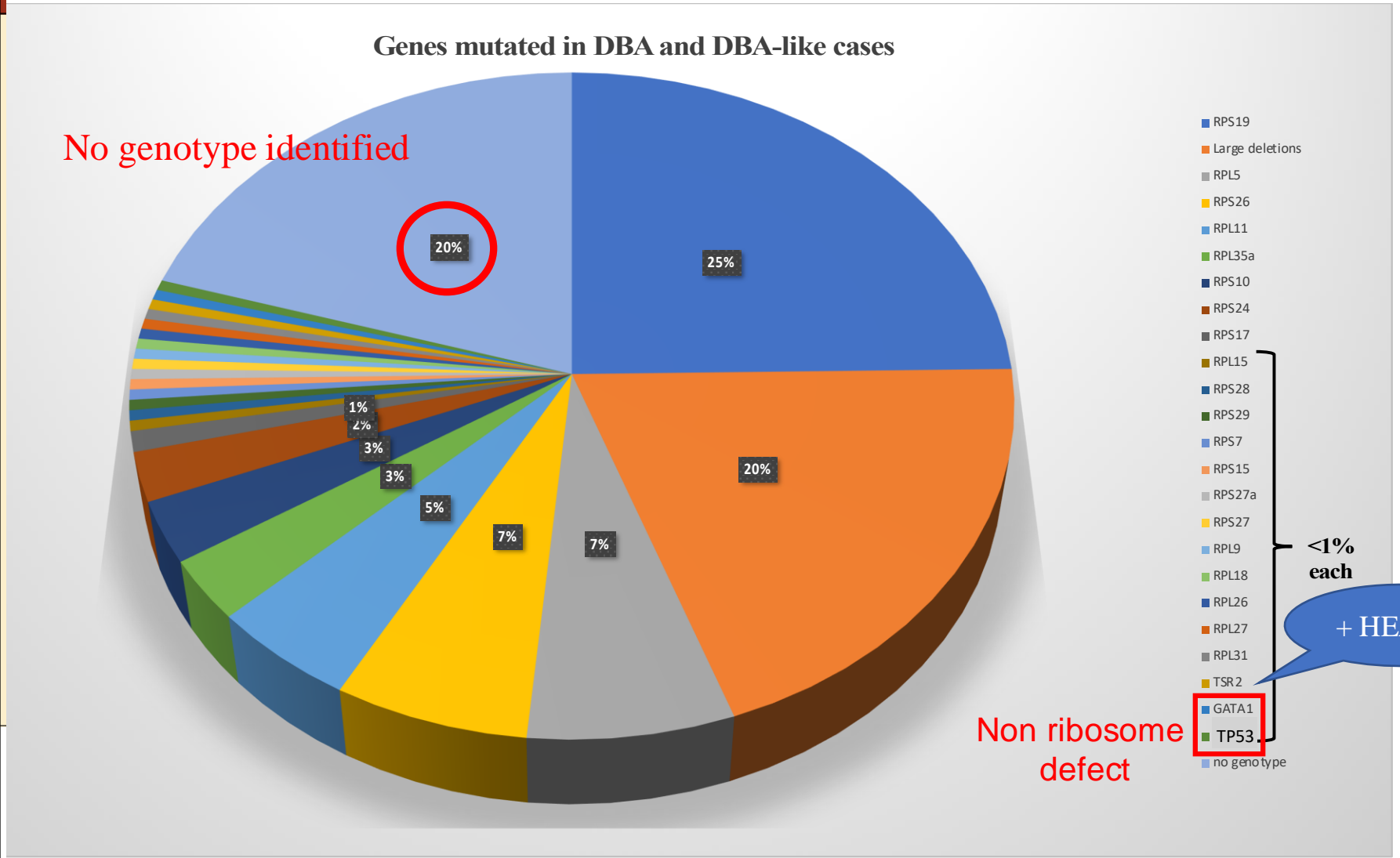
- Moderate to severe, **often macrocytic aregenerative anemia**
- The other cell lineages are usually normal
- **Bone Marrow smear = Erythroblastopenia with <5% erythroid precursors** in an otherwise normocellular bone marrow



- **Elevated erythrocyte adenosine deaminase activity**
- **Fetal erythropoiesis features** (elevated HbF)
- **Very High EPO level**
- Identification of one **mutation in a gene involved in DBA**
- **No evidence for another cause of bone marrow failure**

DBAS genotype

Mutated gene	RP	Incidence in DBA population
Genes involved in DBA*		
RPS19	eS19	25%-30%
Large deletions		10%-20%
RPL5	uL18	7%-12%
RPS26	eS26	6.6%-9%
RPL11	uL5	5%-7%
RPL35a	eL33	2%-3%
RPS10	eS10	1%-3%
RPS24	eS24	2.4%-3%
RPS17	eS17	1%-3%
RPL15	eL15	1 case
		6 cases
RPS28	eS28	2 families
RPS29	uS14	2 families
RPS7	eS7	1 case
RPS15	uS19	1 case
RPS27a	eS31	1 case
RPS27	eS27	1 case
RPL9	uL6	1 case
RPL18	eL18	1 family
RPL26	uL24	1 case
RPL27	eL27	1 case
RPL31	eL31	1 case
TSR2 (X linked)†		1 family
Genes involved in DBA-like diseases		
GATA1 (X linked)‡		5 families
EPO		1 case
ADA2§		9 individuals



Identification of a new candidate gene,
which is a chaperone of RPL5: **HEATR3**

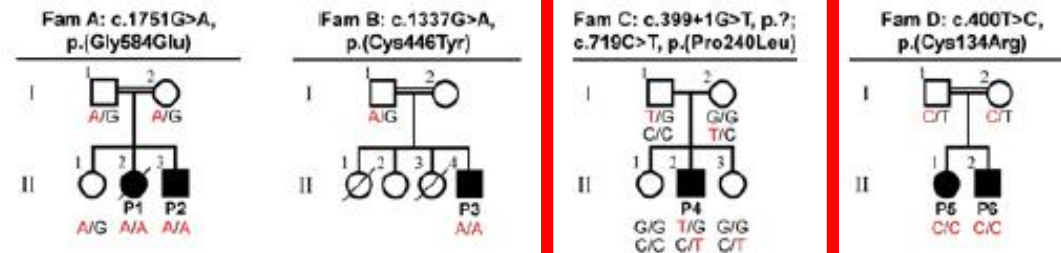
A

homozygous	homozygous	compound heterozygous	homozygous
anemia	anemia	Anemia	anemia, transient thrombocytopenia (P6)
brachydactyly	brachydactyly		preaxial polydactyly, brachydactyly,
short stature	short stature	short stature	
mild intellectual disability	intellectual disability	no intellectual disability	mild intellectual disability (P5)
P1 died of osteosarcoma			

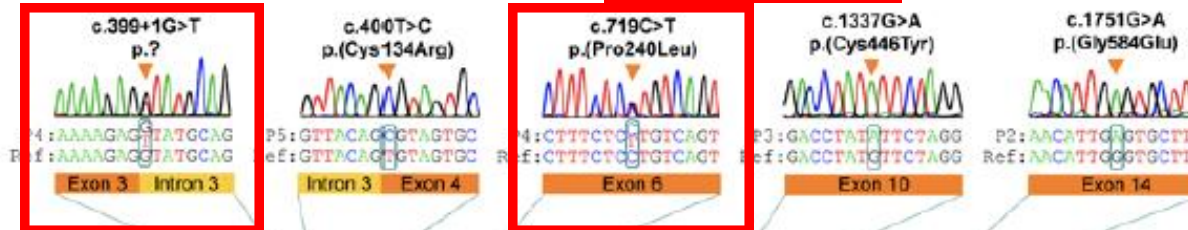


With parents' authorization

B



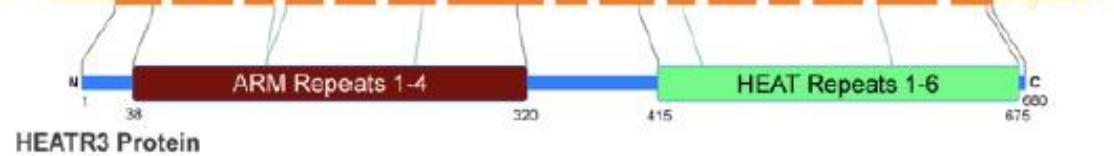
C



D



E



MF O'Donohue, L Da Costa*,
 Marco Lezzerini*, Sule Unal*, ...
 PE Gleizes, DLJ Lafontaine, AW
 MacInnes, Blood, 2022*

DBA – like and borderline DBA cases

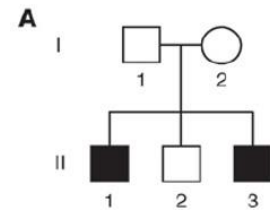
➤ *GATA-1* gene mutation: X-linked

Sankaran et al., J Clin Invest, 2012

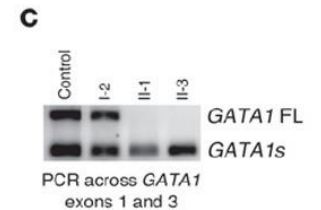
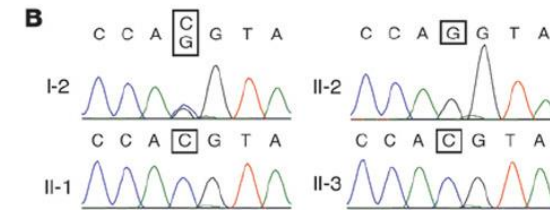
Weiss et al., J Clin Invest, 2012

Parella et al., Pediatr Blood cancer, 2014

Klar et al., Br J Hematol, 2014



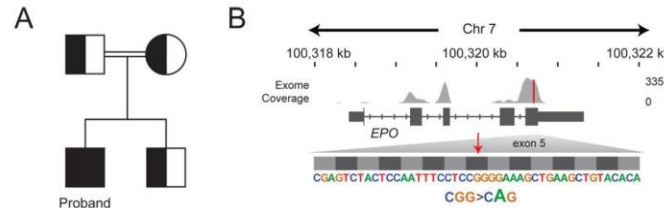
Mutation in exon 2:
c.220G>C ; p.(Leu74Val)



Loss of the 83 first aa
Loss of the long form of GATA1 (GATA1 FL)

➤ *EPO* gene mutation

KIM et al., Cell 2017



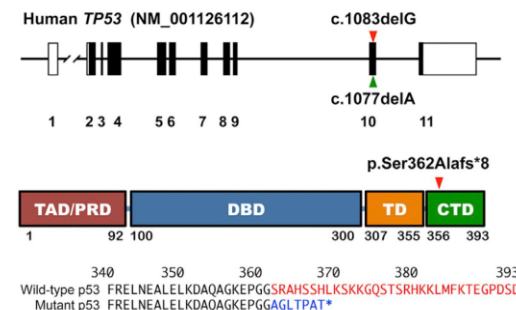
Mutation - exon 5 :

g.100,320,704G>A
p.(Arg150Gln)

➤ *TP53* gene mutation:

Toki et al., Am J Hum Genet, 2018

Borderline DBA/DKC?



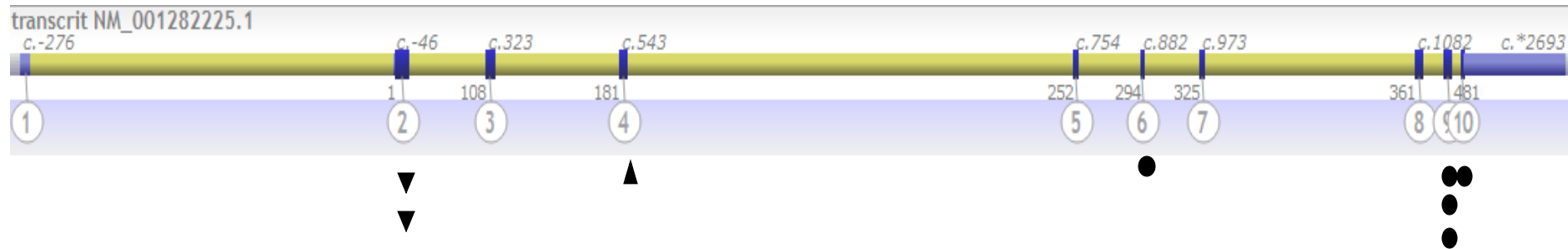
Mutation in exon 10:
c.1083delG or c.1077delA
p.(Ser362Alafs*8)

! Gain of function


Apart DBA: Mutation in *CECR1* (*ADA2*) gene (*ADA2* deficiency)



- 7 patients mutated in *CECR1* in the French registry



- **Features of the *ADA2* deficiency French registry DBA patients :**

- Middle east and north Africa Origins
- Autosomal recessive inheritance
- Severe Aregenerative Anemia from birth, normal MCV
- Isolated erythroblastopenia
- No IUGR, no growth retardation, no malformations
- Normal eADA
- **Hypogammaglobulinemia (IgA)**
- Response to Steroid ; need to  **HSCT**

Recurring mutations in *RPL15* are linked to hydrops fetalis and treatment independence in Diamond-Blackfan anemia

Marcin W. Wlodarski^{1,2} Lydie Da Costa^{3,4,5,6} Marie-Françoise O'Donohue⁷ Marc Gastou^{3,4,8} Narjesse Karboul^{3,5} Nathalie Montel-Lehry⁷ Ina Hainmann¹ Dominika Danda^{1,9} Amina Szvetnik¹ Victor Pastor^{1,10} Nahuel Paolini¹¹ Franca M. di Summa¹¹ Hannah Tamary^{12,13} Abed Abu Quider¹⁴ Anna Aspesi¹⁵ Riekelt H. Houtkooper¹⁶ Thierry Leblanc¹⁷ Charlotte Niemeyer^{1,2} Pierre-Emmanuel Gleizes⁷ and Alyson W. Maclnnes¹⁶

New DBA genes identified in DBAS :

Ribosomal protein gene *RPL9* variants can differentially impair ribosome function and cellular metabolism

Marco Lezzerini^{1,†}, Marianna Penzo^{2,†}, Marie-Françoise O'Donohue^{3,†}, Carolina Marques dos Santos Vieira^{4,†}, Manon Saby^{5,†}, Hyung L. Elfrink^{1,6}, Ilja J. Diets⁷, Anne-Marie Hesse⁸, Yohann Couté⁸, Marc Gastou^{9,10,11}, Alexandra Nin-Velez¹², Peter G.J. Nikkels¹³, Alexandra N. Olson⁴, Evelien Zonneveld-Huijssoon^{14,15}, Marjolijn C.J. Jongmans^{14,16}, GuangJun Zhang¹², Michel van Weeghel⁶, Riekelt H. Houtkooper¹, Marcin W. Wlodarski^{17,18}, Roland P. Kuiper¹⁴, Marc B. Bierings¹⁶, Jutte van der Werff ten Bosch¹⁹, Thierry Leblanc²⁰, Lorenzo Montanaro², Jonathan D. Dinman⁴, Lydie Da Costa^{5,9,10,21}, Pierre-Emmanuel Gleizes³ and Alyson W. Maclnnes^{1,†}

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ARTICLE | VOLUME 103, ISSUE 6, P930-947, DECEMBER 06, 2018

The Genetic Landscape of Diamond-Blackfan Anemia

Jacob C. Ullirsch • Jeffrey M. Verboon • Shideh Kazerounian • ... Ron Do • Vijay G. Sankaran □ 18 □ • Hanna T. Gazda □ 18 □ • Show all authors • Show less • Show footnotes

Open Archive • Published: November 29, 2018 • DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ajhg.2018.10.027> •

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REPORT | VOLUME 105, ISSUE 5, P1040-1047, NOVEMBER 07, 2019

RPL13 Variants Cause Spondyloepimetaphyseal Dysplasia with Severe Short Stature

Cedric Le Caignec ²¹ • Benjamin Ory ²¹ • François Lamoureux ²¹ • ... Pierre-Emmanuel Gleizes ²² • Marc Baud'huin □ ²² □ • Bertrand Isidor □ ²² □ • Show all authors • Show less • Show footnotes

GATA-1 Defects in Diamond-Blackfan Anemia: Phenotypic Characterization Points to a Specific Subset of Disease

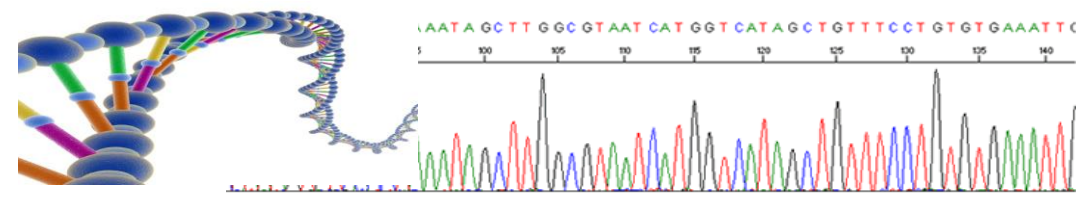
Birgit van Dooijeweert^{1,2}, Sima Kheradmand Kia^{3,4}, Niklas Dahl⁵, Odile Fenneteau⁶, Roos Leguit⁷, Edward Nieuwenhuis⁸, Wouter van Solinge¹, Richard van Wijk¹, Lydie Da Costa⁶ and Marije Bartels^{2,8,*}

JCI insight 2024

An atypical form of 60S ribosomal subunit in Diamond-Blackfan anemia linked to *RPL17* variants

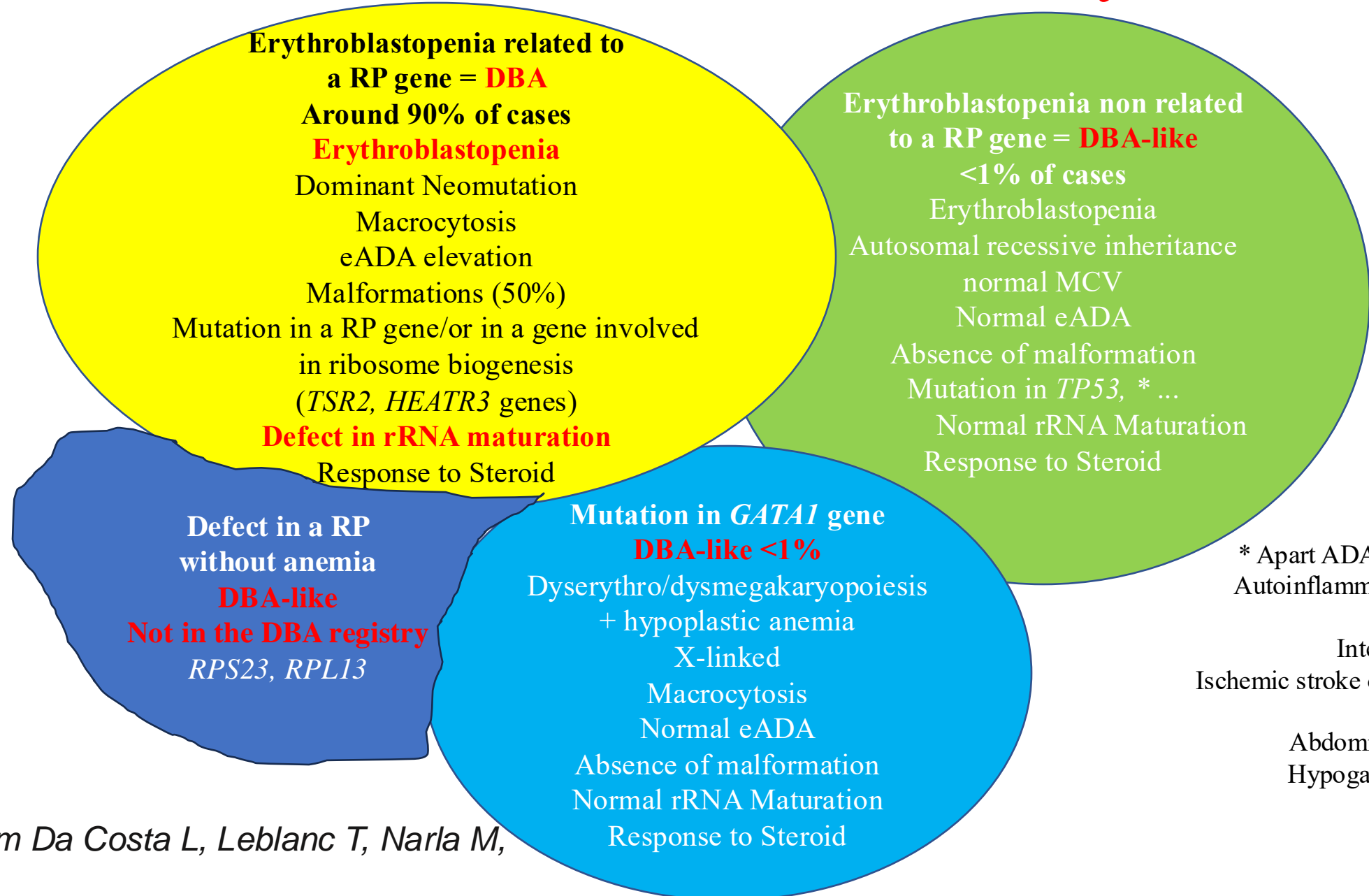
Florence Fellmann, ... , Erica E. Davis, Pierre-Emmanuel Gleizes

Vanlerberghe C, ...Da Costa L, Petit F. RPL26 variants: a rare cause of Diamond-Blackfan Anemia Syndrome with multiple congenital anomalies at the forefront. Genet Med. 2024



New definition

DBA+DBA-like = DBA syndrome

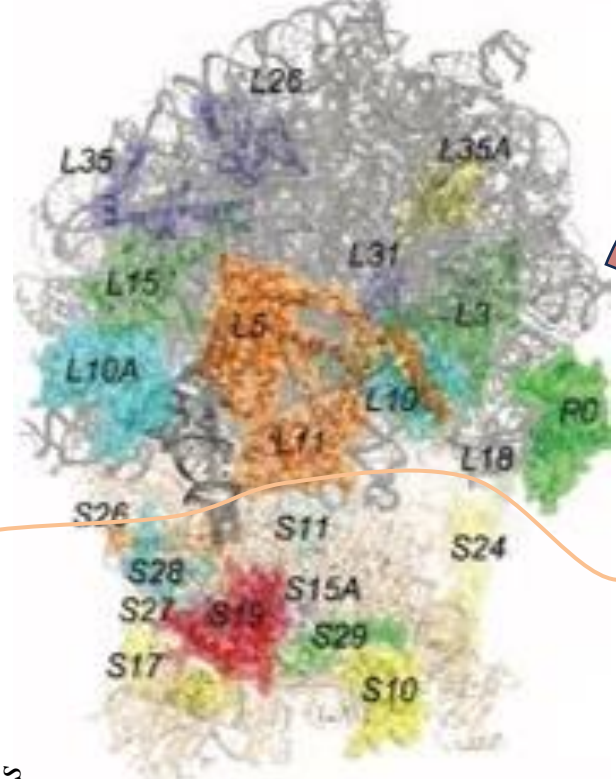
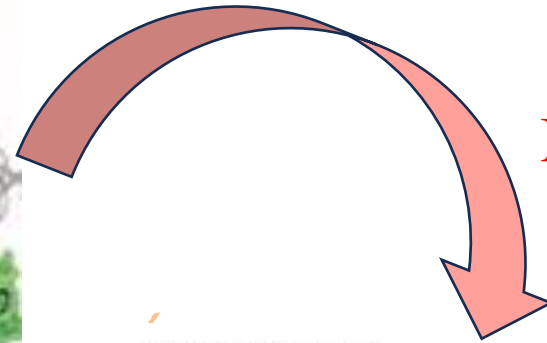


Modified from Da Costa L, Leblanc T, Narla M, Blood, 2020

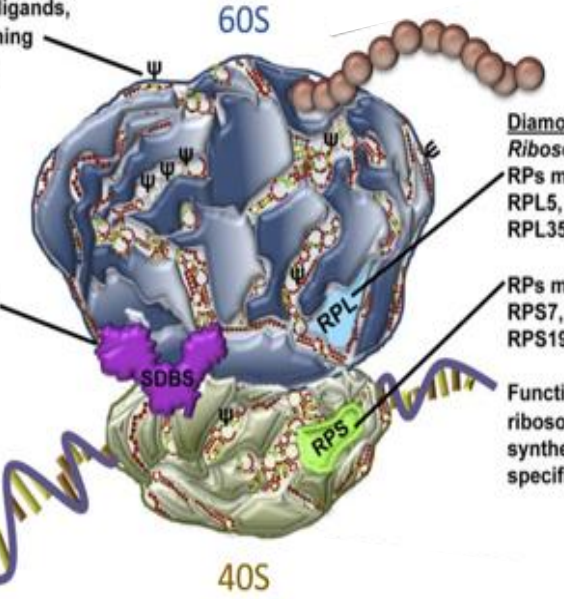
DBA, the first ribosomopathy described

Ribosome assembly

Mutations



Dyskeratosis Congenita
 Dyskerin protein: Converts Uridine → Pseudouridine (ψ)
 Function: Binding of RNA ligands, translation of IRES-containing mRNA, translation fidelity



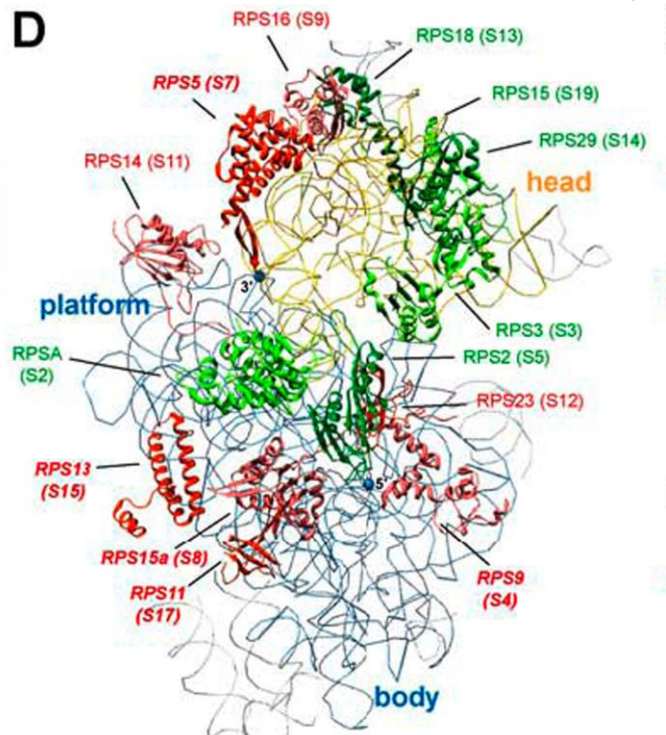
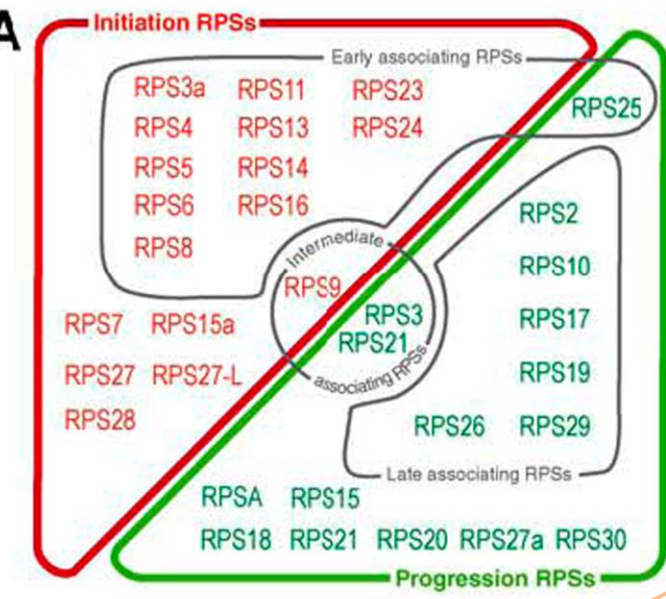
Diamond Blackfan Anemia
 Ribosomal proteins RPs mutated in 60S: RPL5, RPL11, RPL15, RPL26, RPL35A

Shwachman Diamond Syndrome
 SDBS protein
 Function: Joins ribosomal subunits

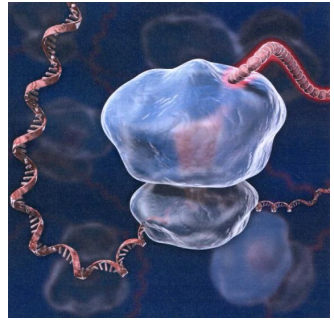
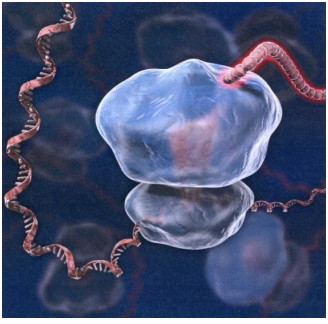
RPs mutated in 40S: RPS7, RPS10, RPS17, RPS19, RPS24, RPS26
 Function: Involved in ribosome biogenesis, protein synthesis, and translation of specific mRNAs

Composition of both ribosome subunits

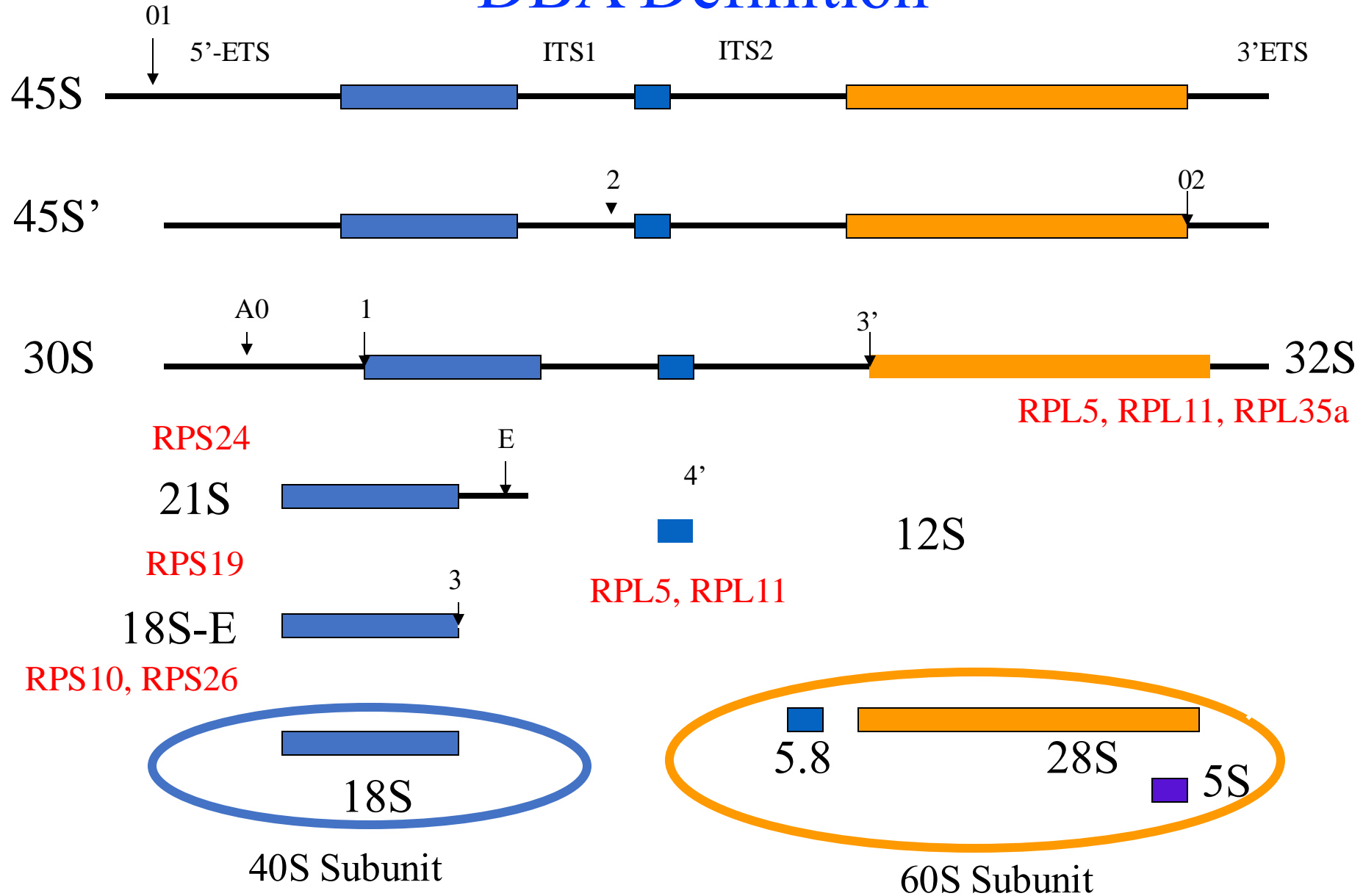
	Eukaryotes
Large subunit	
Sedimentation	60S
Number of proteins	42
rRNA	5S 5.8S 28S
Small subunit	
Sedimentation	40S
Number of proteins	32
rRNA	18S



DBA, a defect in rRNA maturation = DBA Definition



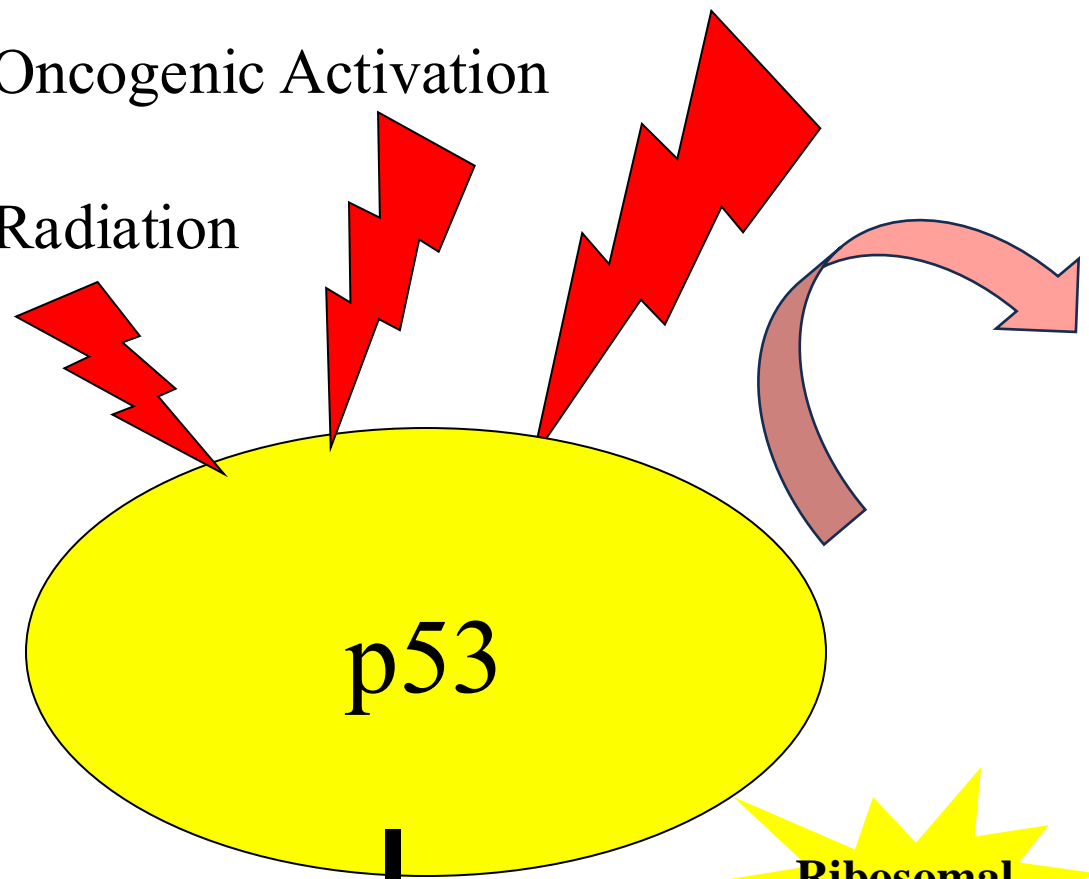
McCann and al.,
Science, 2013



Ribosome Dysfunction

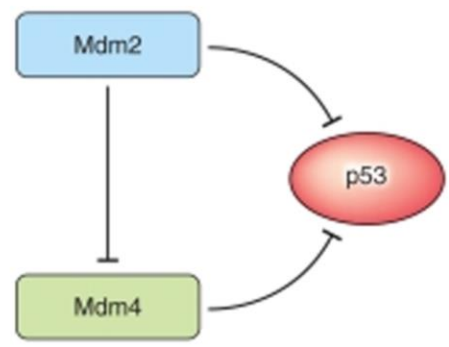
Oncogenic Activation

Radiation

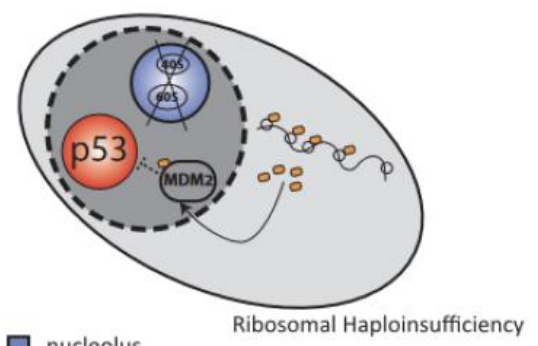
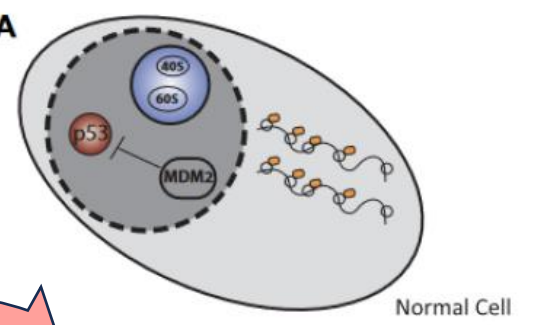
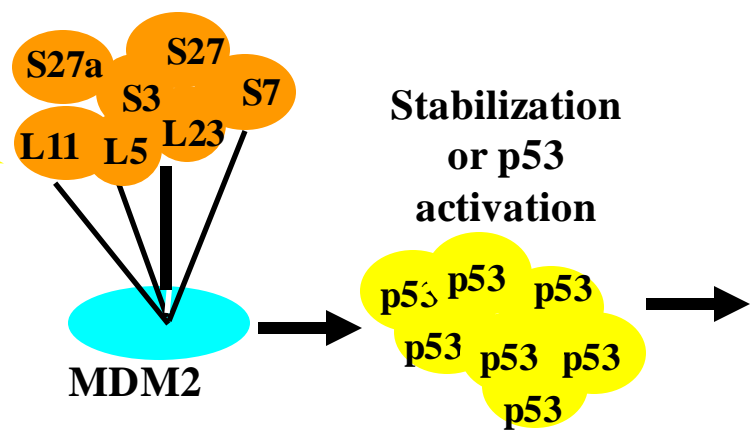


Apoptosis
Cell cycle arrest
Senescence

➤ Homeostasis



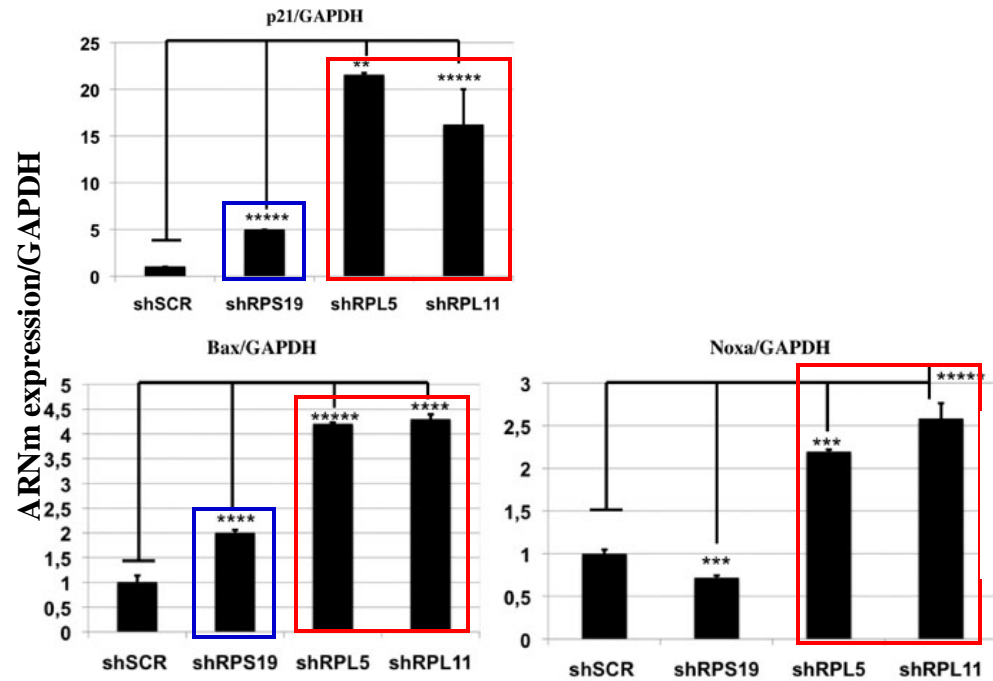
➤ Ribosomal or nucleolar Stress



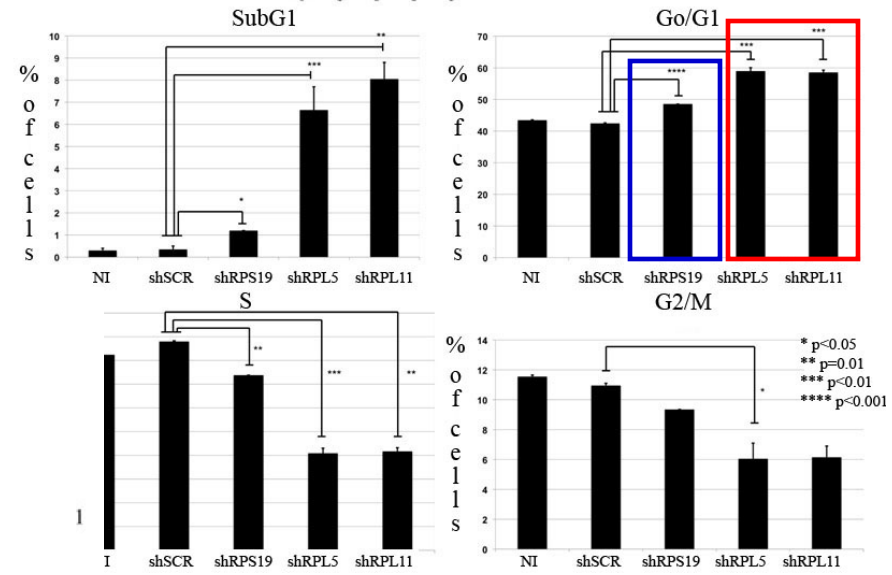
- nucleolus
- nucleus
- cytoplasm
- RPL11

Cell cycle
arrest
Apoptosis

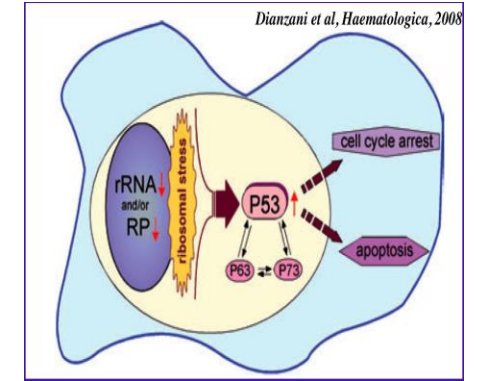
Increased p53 target mRNA



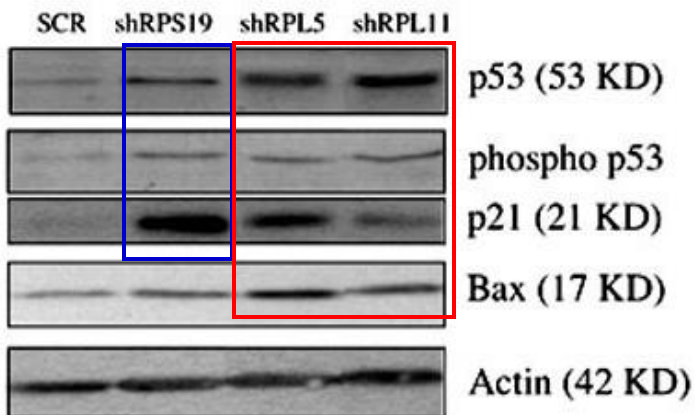
Cell cycle arrest in G₀/G₁



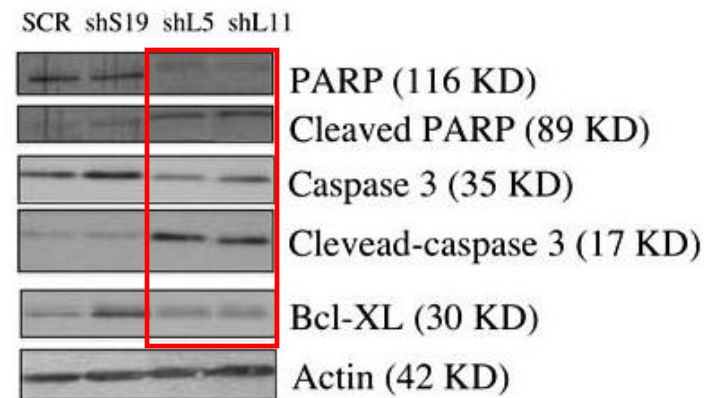
p53 is activated in DBA



Increased p53/P-p53 and targets

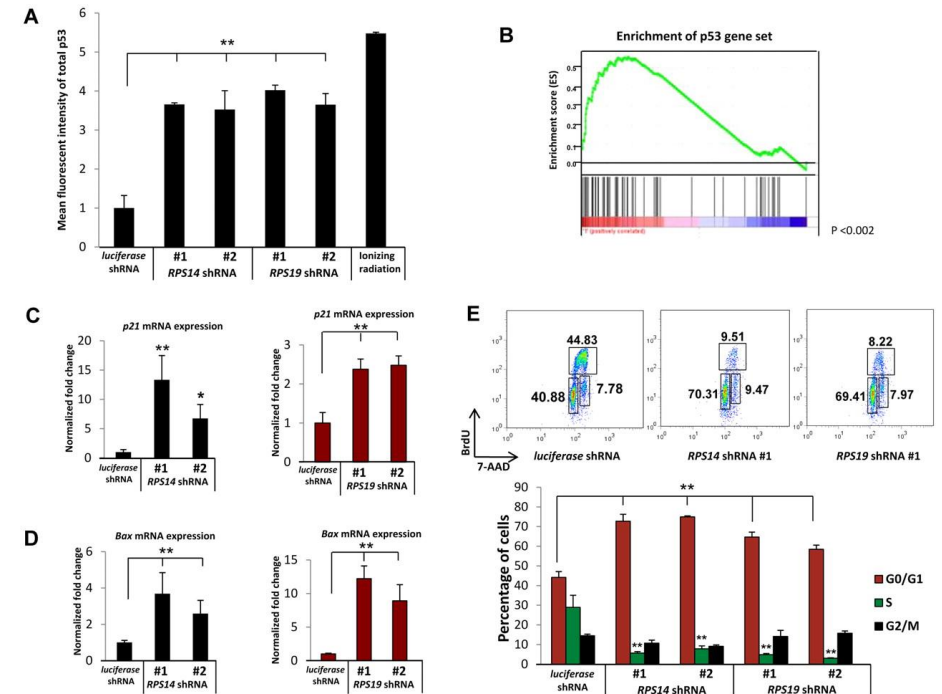


Increased apoptosis

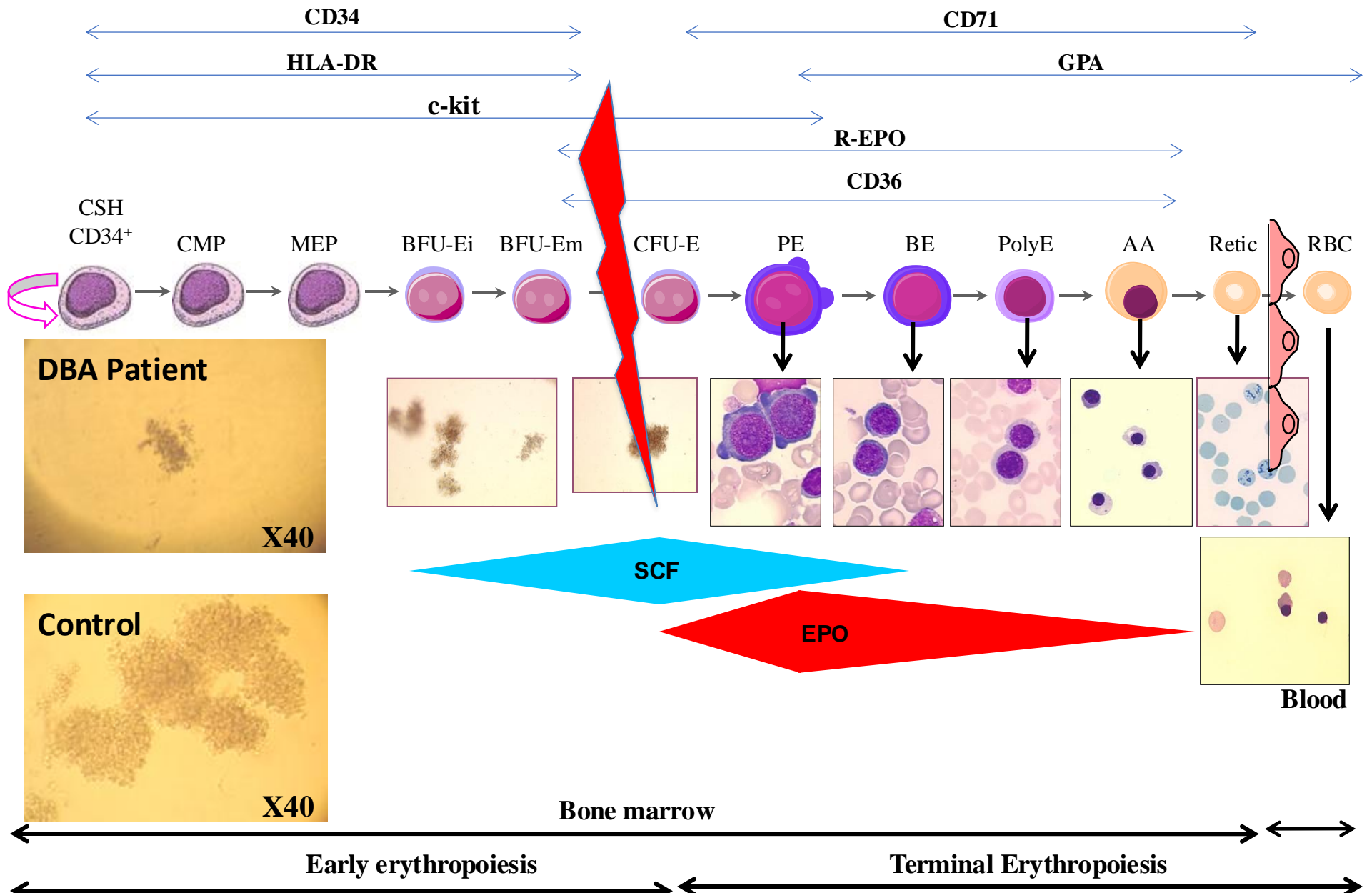


H. Moniz et al, Cell Death and disease, 2012

Dutt S et al. Blood 2011

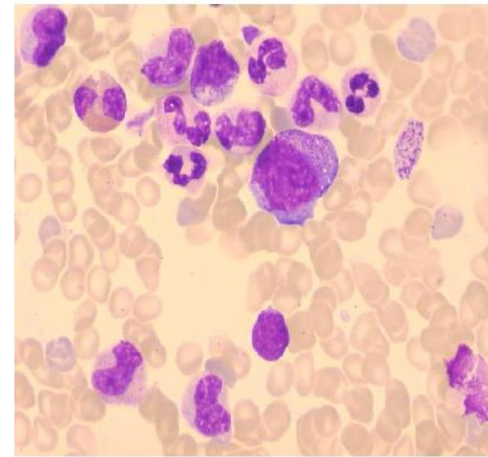
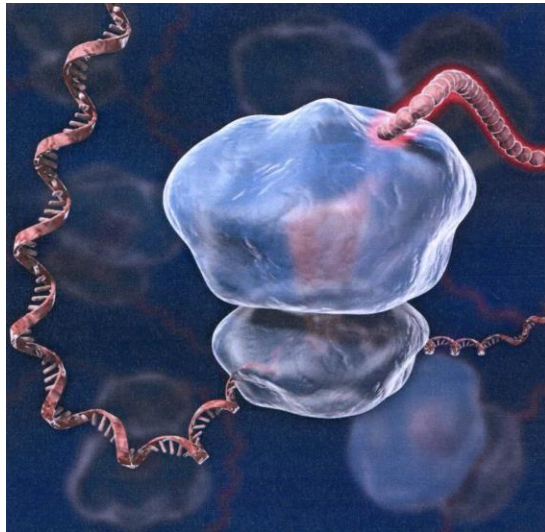


DBA, an intrinsic defect of erythropoiesis



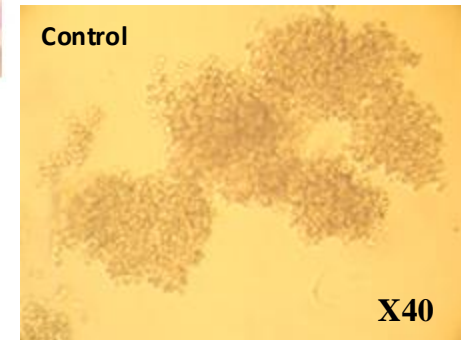
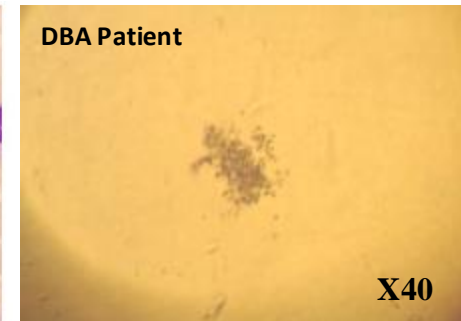
Diamond-Blackfan Anemia :

Why an erythroid tropism in a ribosomopathy?



DBA - Erythroblastopenia

D7 erythroid culture

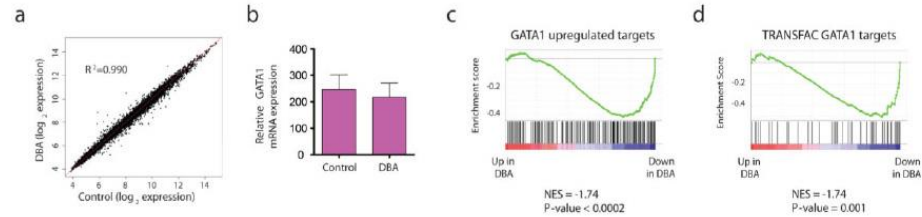
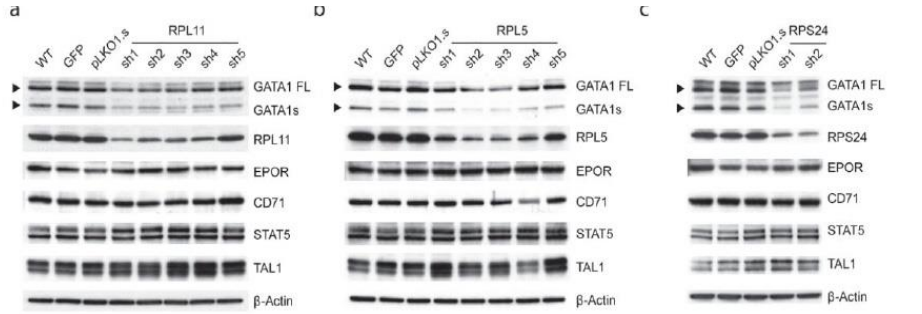
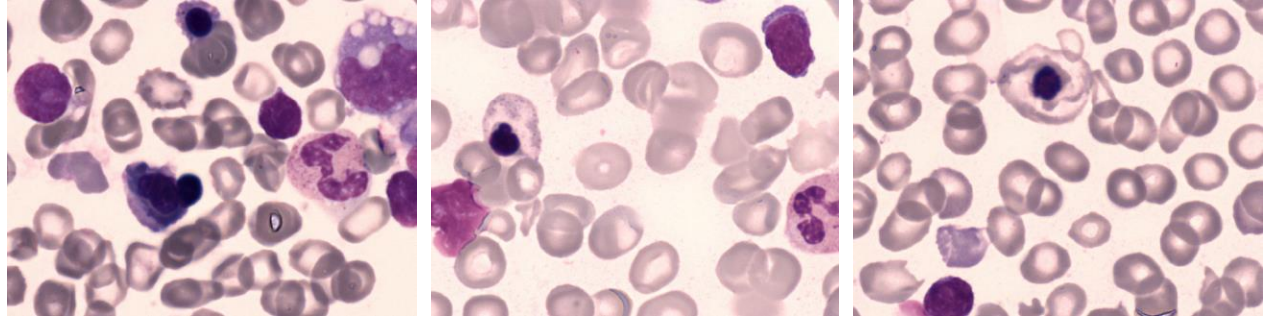


And GATA1 in DBA pathophysiology ?

Alteration of GATA1 translation in cases of RP gene mutation

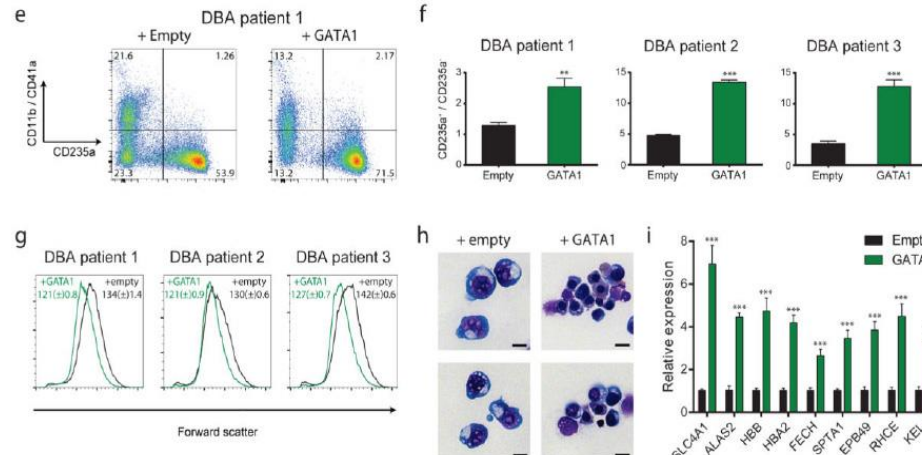
GATA1 gene mutation

However, ...



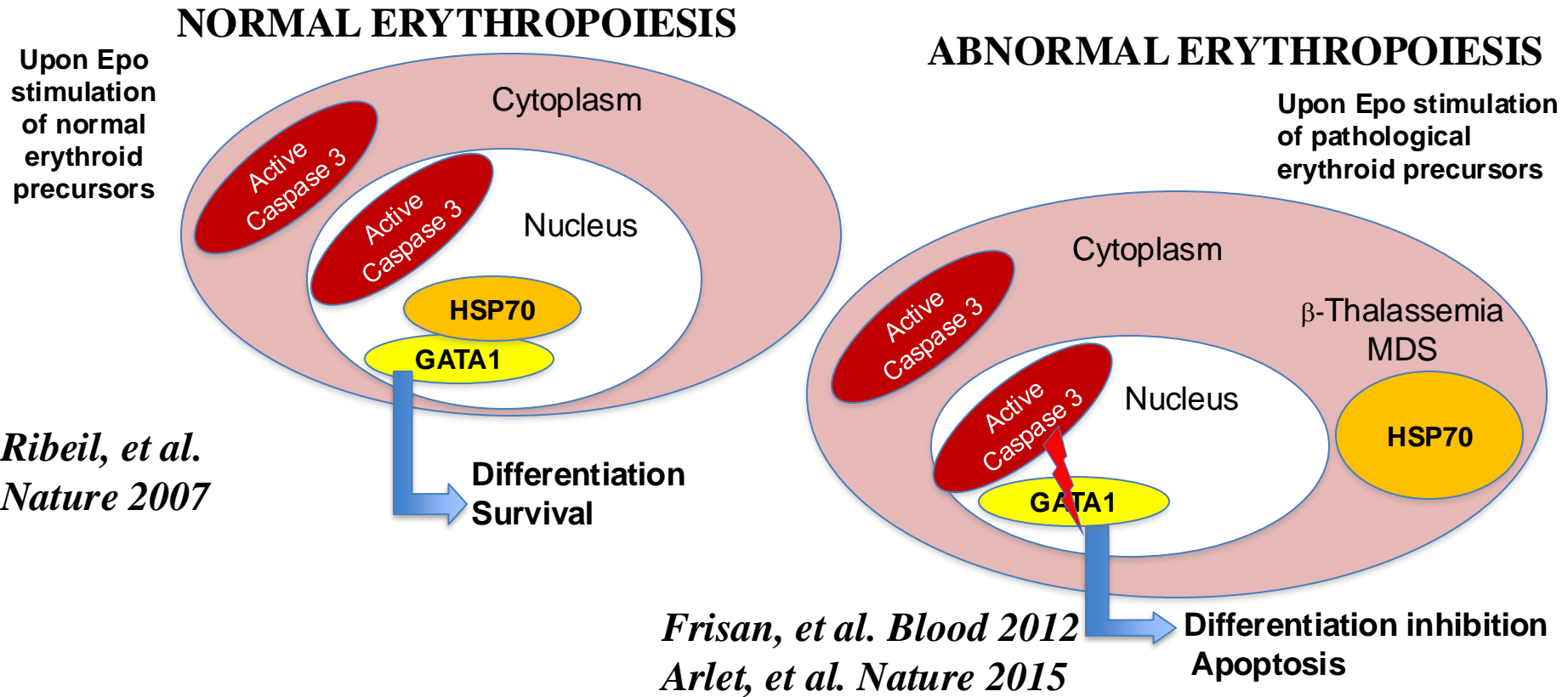
c.220 +2T>C
p.?
Class 4

Birgit van Dooijeweert et al., Genes, 2022



HSP70 ?

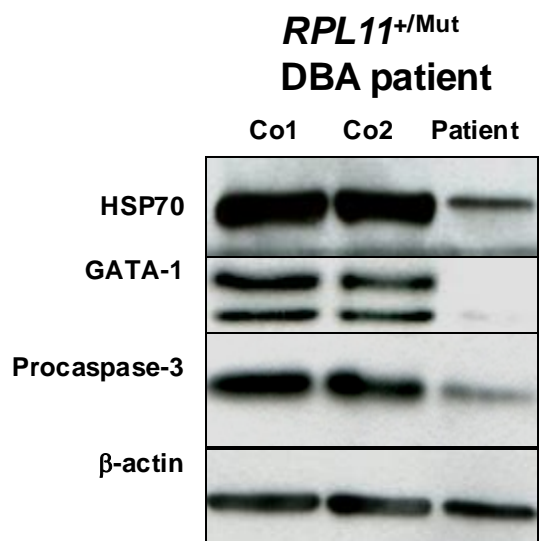
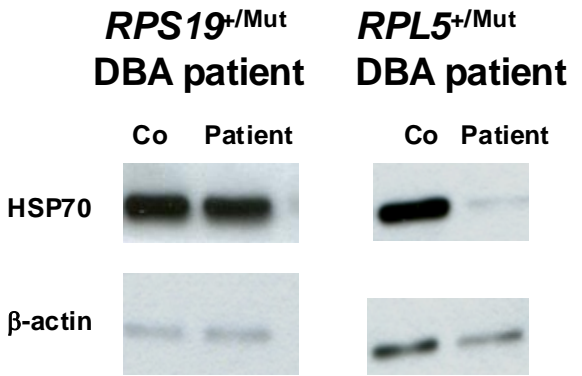
Hypothesis



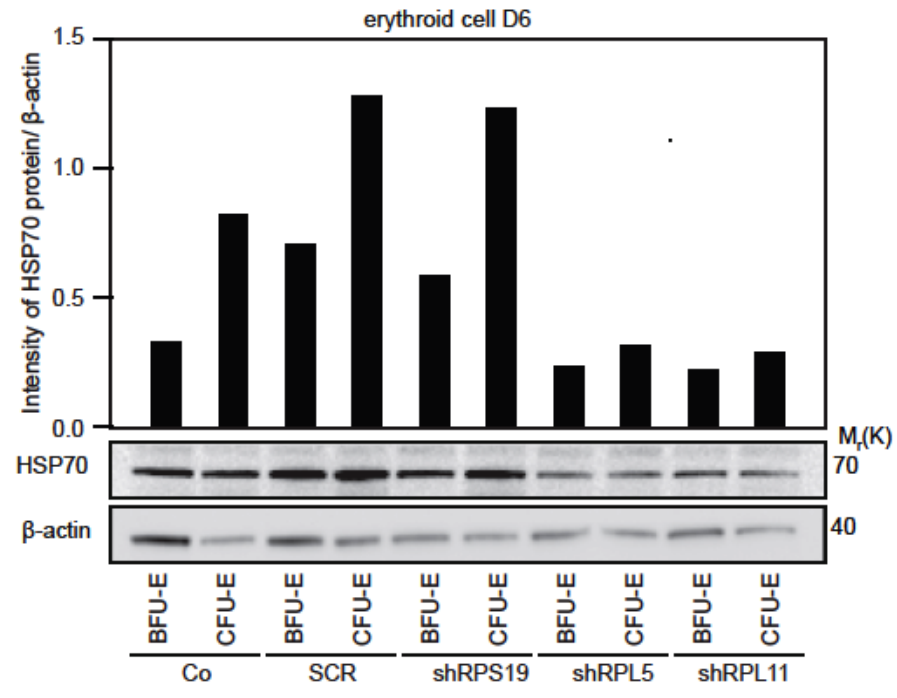
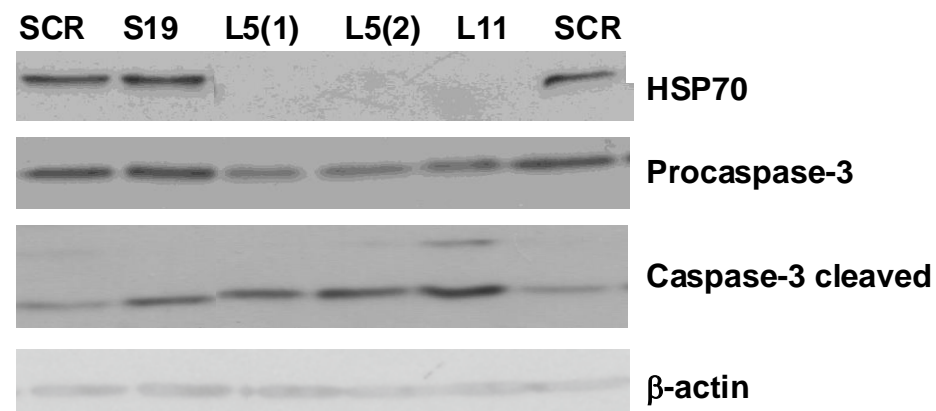
Does a defective protection of GATA1 by HSP70 also account for DBA-associated erythroblastopenia ?

HSP70 protein expression level is decreased in *RPL5* and *RPL11* haploinsufficient primary erythroid cells as soon as BFU-e stage

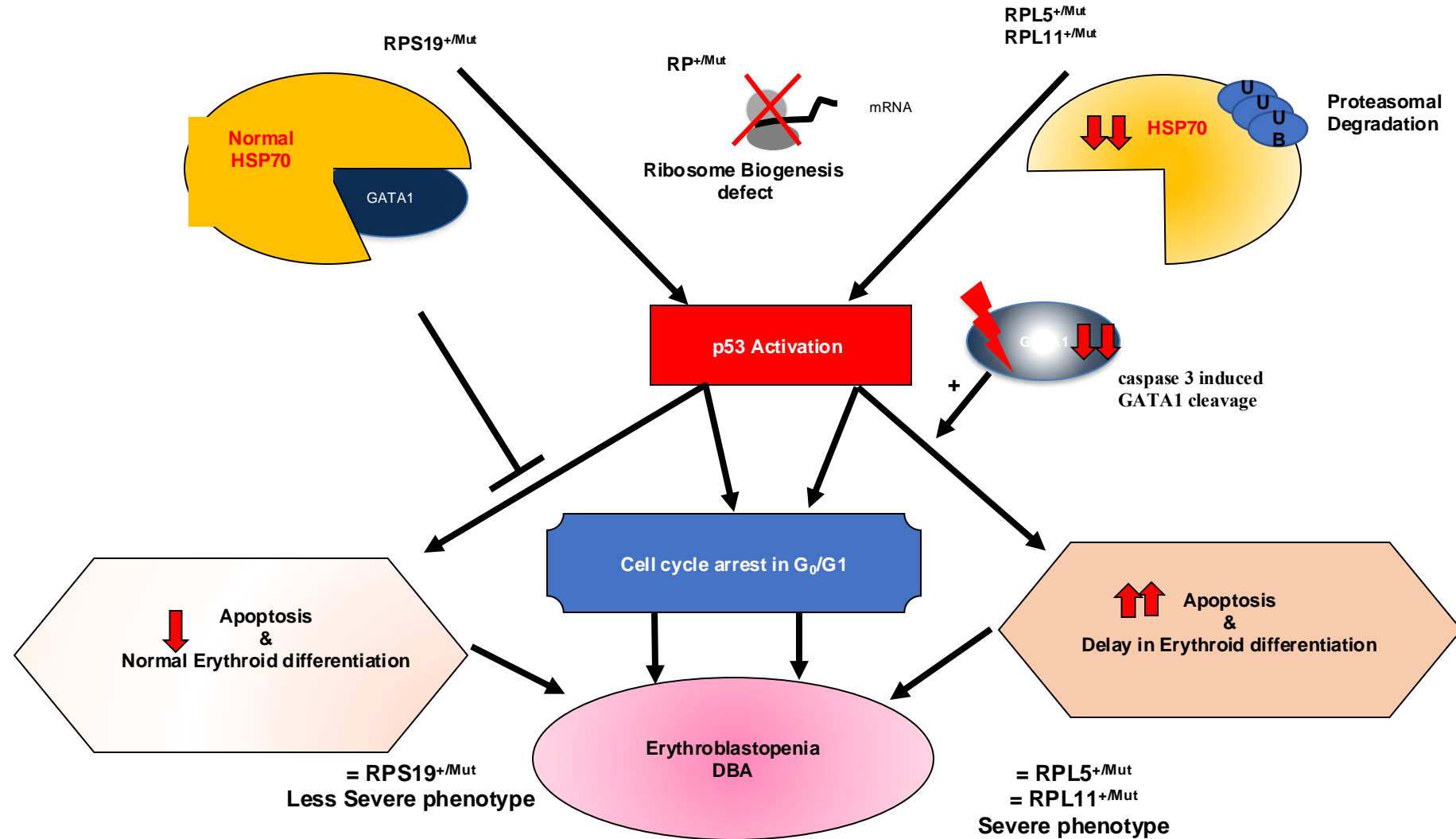
D10



Erythroid Cells after CD34⁺ infection with different RP-shRNA



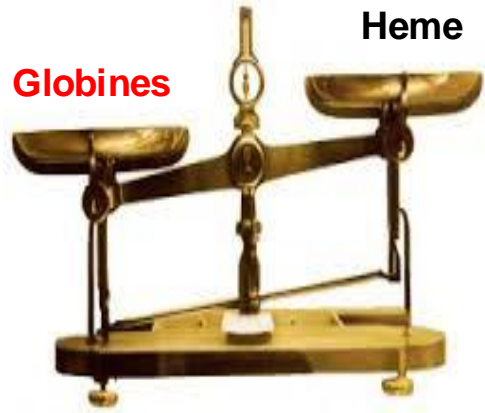
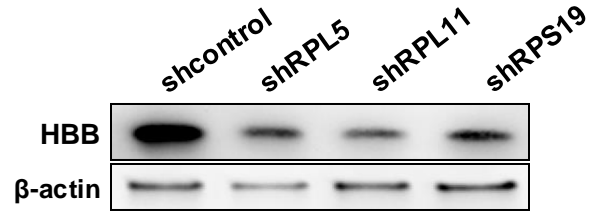
HSP70 is involved in DBA erythroid defect



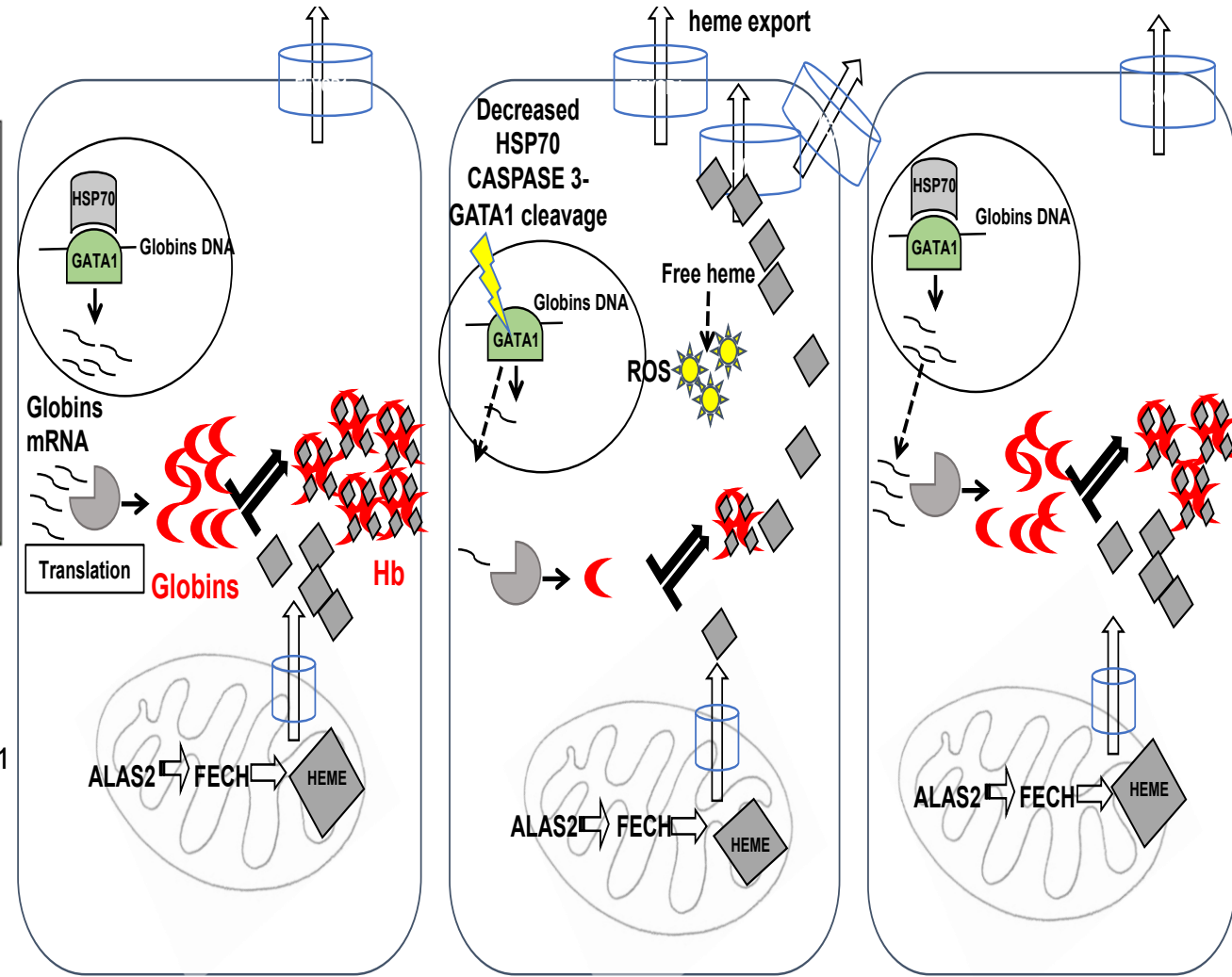
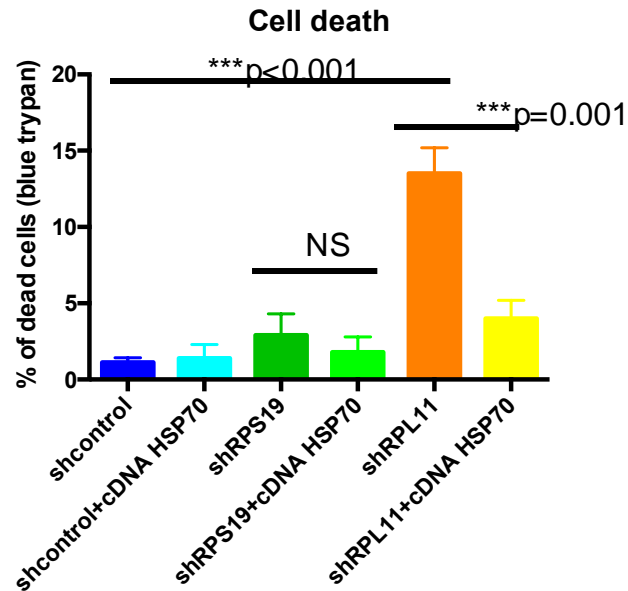
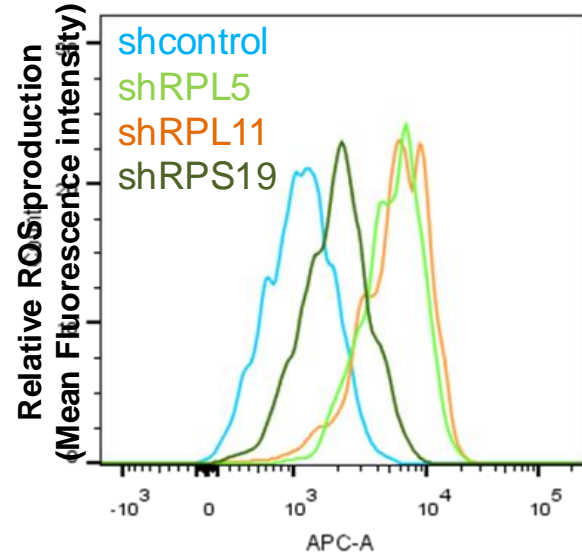
Gastou M. et al., Blood Advances 2017
Moniz H et al., Cell Death and Dis, 2012

GATA-1/HSP70 and free heme overload in DBA

D9 erythroid differentiation



ROS production at D9



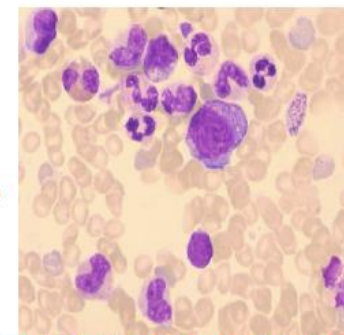
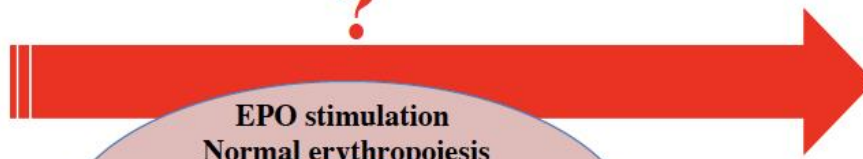
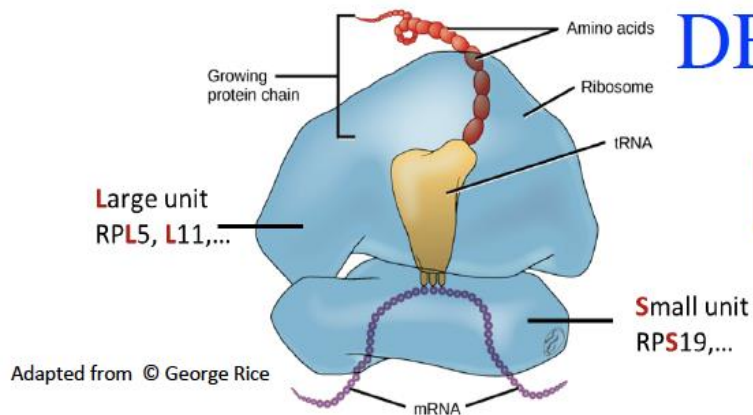
Control
Normal erythroid proliferation and differentiation

RPL5^{+/Mut} & RPL11^{+/Mut} DBA
Apoptosis and delay in erythroid differentiation

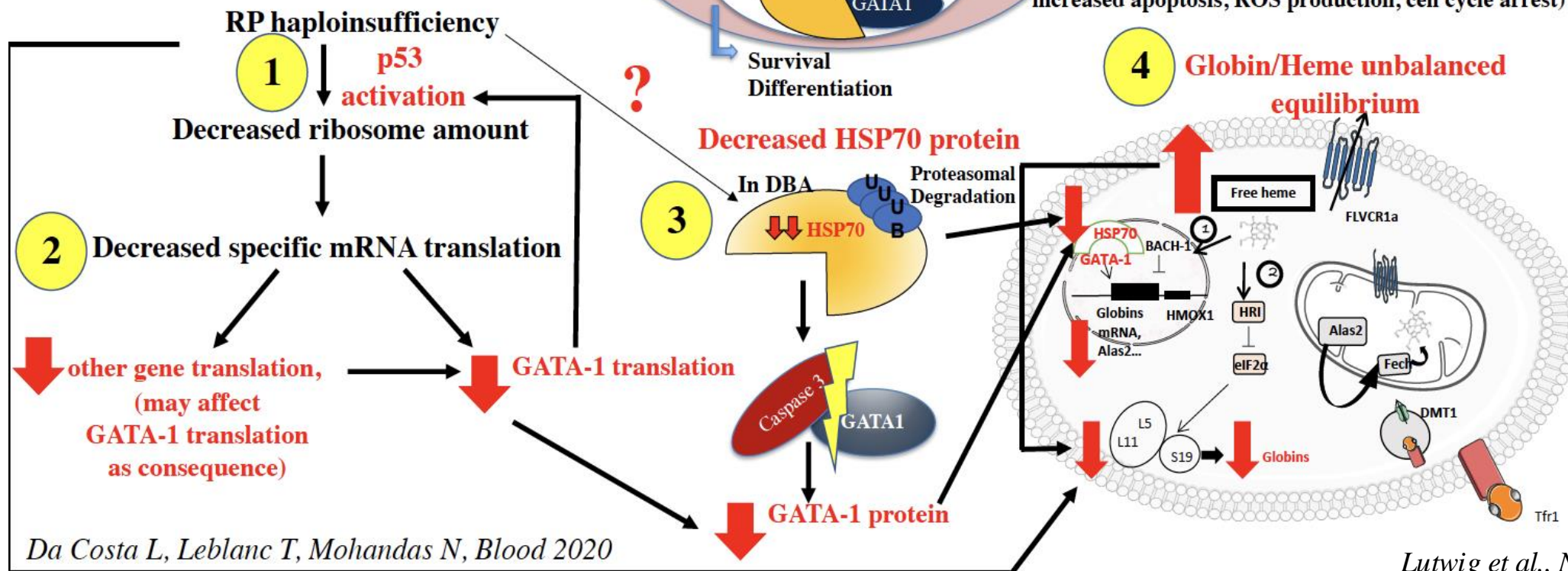
RPL5^{+/Mut} & RPL11^{+/Mut} DBA After HSP70 overexpression
Rescued erythroid proliferation and differentiation

S. Rio, M. Gastou* et al., Blood 2019*

DBA pathophysiology



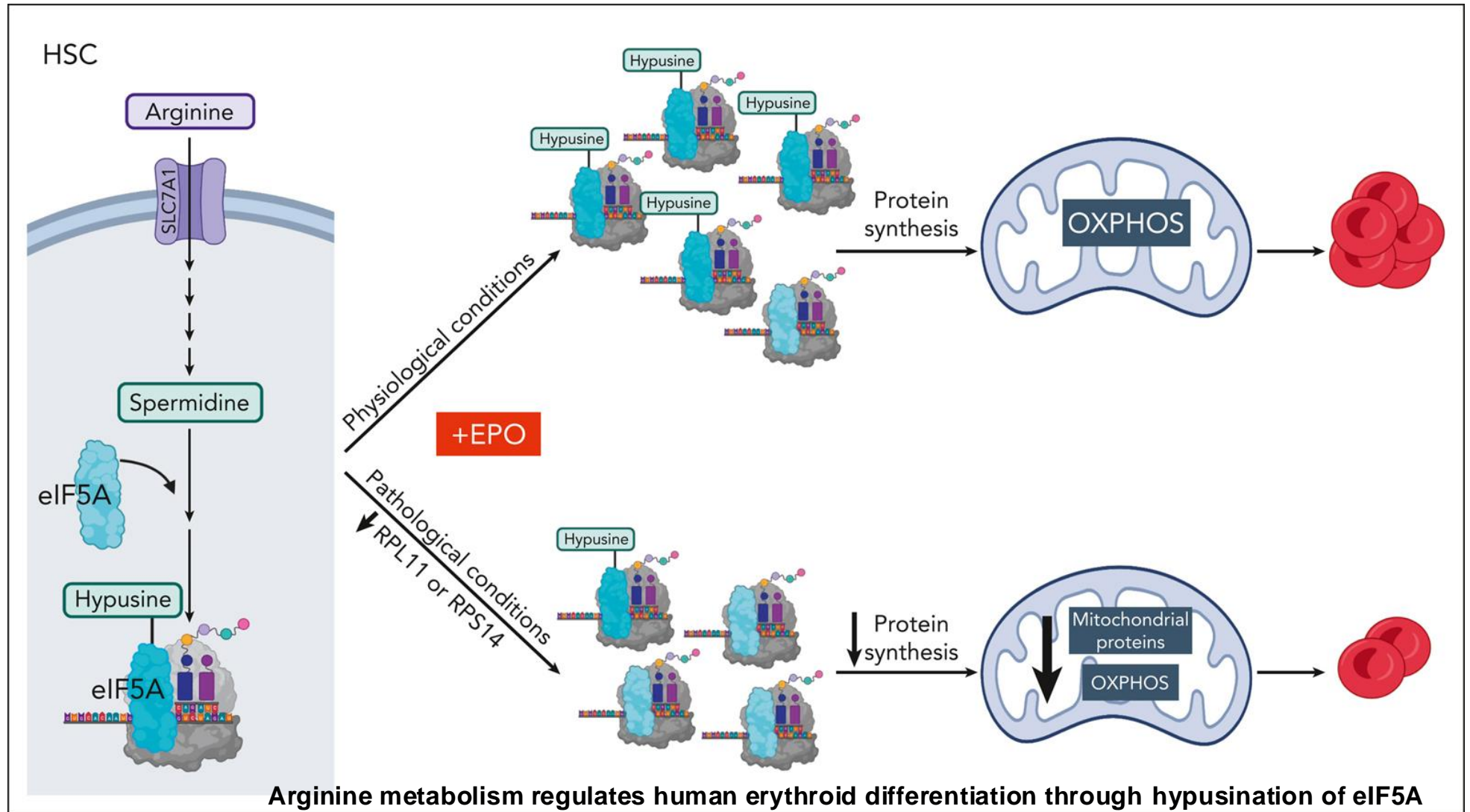
DBA Erythroblastopenia
(decreased proliferation, delayed differentiation, increased apoptosis, ROS production, cell cycle arrest)



Da Costa L, Leblanc T, Mohandas N, Blood 2020

Lutwig et al., Nature Med, 2014
 Boussaid, I et al. Haematologica, 2021
 Gastou M. et al, Blood Advances 2017
 S. Rio*, M. Gastou* et al., Blood 2019
 Doty et al., Blood 2019

New Mechanism of erythroid defect in DBA ? Default in hypusination and mitochondrial RP



Take home message

- DBA a rare constitutional erythroblastopenia
- First described ribosomopathy
- Not easy to diagnose
- New definition = DBA syndrome (DBAS) including
 - The “classical” DBA (90% of the cases) but also
 - The DBA-other (DBA-like)(related to *GATA1*, *TP53* genes)
 - The RP mutated gene related to DBA phenotype without anemia
- New guidelines published !

Wlodarski MW, et al., Lancet Haematol. 2024 May;11(5):e368-e382. PMID: 38697731

- Large progress in the mechanistic understandings of the DBA pathophysiology: p53, GATA1, HSP70, free heme excess, hypusination, and.....

Thank you for your attention



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Olivier Hermine
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Flore Sicre de Fontbrune
And all the MDs involved in DBA cares



Jérôme Larghero
Thomas Domet
Lionel Faivre



