



BRIGHAM AND  
WOMEN'S HOSPITAL



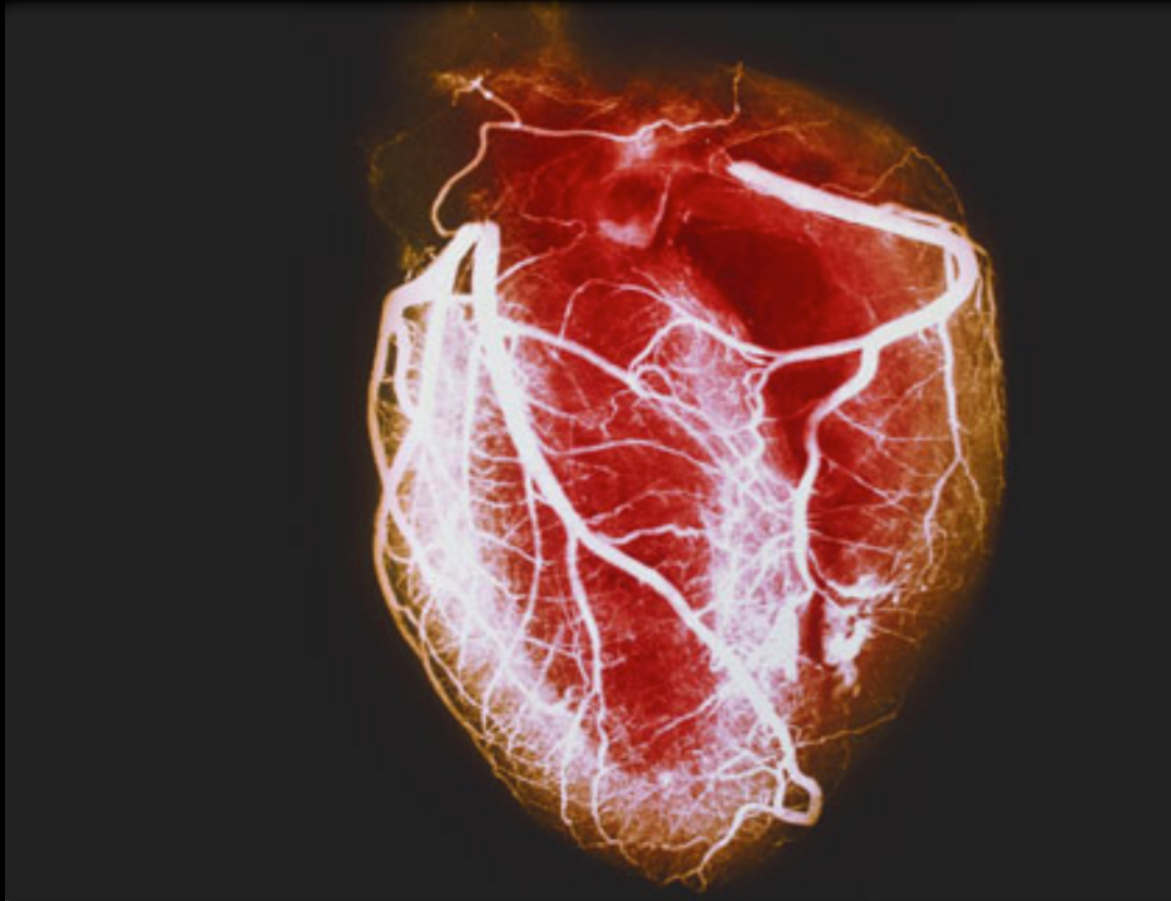
HARVARD  
MEDICAL SCHOOL

# **Molecules, Mutations, and Mechanisms of Heart Failure**

**Christine Seidman, MD**

**Thomas W. Smith Professor of Medicine & Genetics  
Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institutes**

**CES is a founder and owns shares in Myokardia Inc.,  
a startup company that develops therapeutics that target the sarcomere**



## **Heart Failure:**

**Affects ~5 million American; 500,000 new cases/year**

**Expend \$17.8 billion annually**

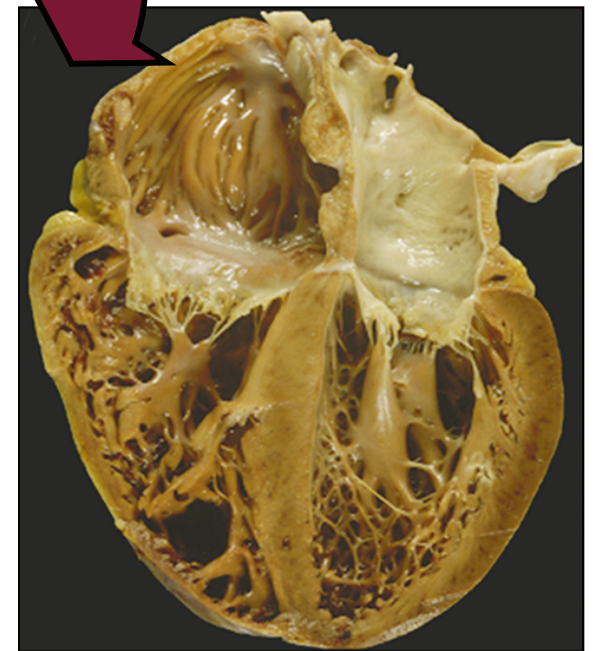
**Prognosis: 75% Die within 8 Years**

**Causes: Atherosclerosis, Hypertension, Valvular, Idiopathic**

**Sarcomere Proteins**  
**Lysosome-associated**  
**Membrane Protein-2**  
**Gamma-2 Subunit AMP-**  
**dependent Protein Kinase**  
**Desmin**  
**Trans-Thyretin**  
**Alpha acid glucosidase**  
**Alpha-D galactosidase**  
**Myozenin-2**  
**Actinin**



**Sarcomere Proteins**  
**Lamin A/C**  
**Z-disc Proteins**  
**Intermediate Filaments**  
**Dystrophin/Glycoproteins**  
**RNA-binding motif protein 20**  
**ATP-binding Cassette**  
**Heat Shock Proteins**  
**Presenilin**  
 **$\alpha$ B Crystallin**



## **Distinct Clinical Outcomes in Genetic Hypertrophy**

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<b>Gene</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Expression &amp; Outcomes</b>
<b>Sarcomere</b>	<b>M+F</b>	<b>Adolescent &amp; Beyond</b> <b><u>Atrial Fibrillation in ~25%</u></b> <b>Variable SCD &amp; HF Risk</b>
<b>PRKAG2</b>	<b>M+F</b>	<b>Adolescent Onset</b> <b><u>Progressive AVB/Pacemaker</u></b> <b>Uniform Need for Pacemaker</b>
<b>LAMP2</b>	<b>M&gt;&gt;F</b>	<b><u>Massive LVH, Arrhythmias</u></b> <b>Often has Systemic Disease</b> <b><u>Uniform Early Death</u></b>
<b>GLA</b>	<b>M&gt;&gt;F</b>	<b>Late Onset HF, Renal Disease</b> <b>Median Survival = 50 yrs</b> <b><u>Genetic Rx: <math>\alpha</math>-Galactosidase</u></b>

# Genetic Causes of “Unexplained” Hypertrophy

## Force

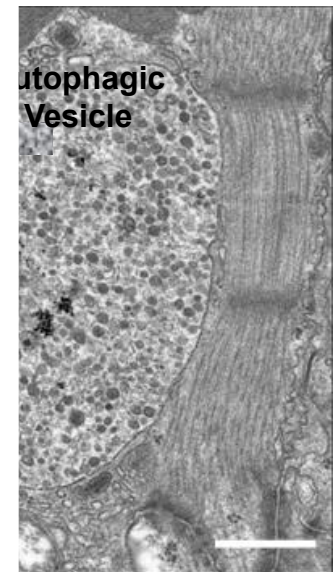
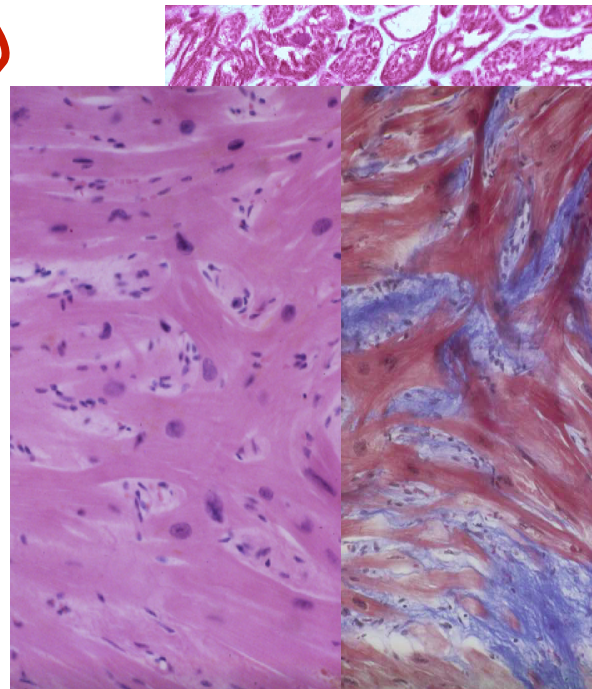
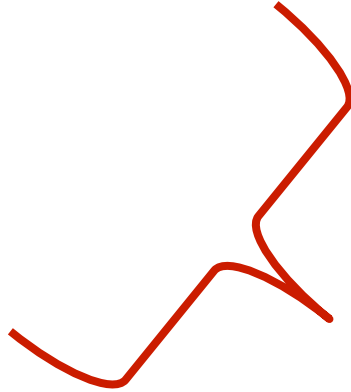
***MYH7, MYBPC3***  
***TNNT2, TNNI3***  
***MYL3, MYL2***  
***TPMI, ACTC***  
***ACTN, MYOZ2***

## Metabolism

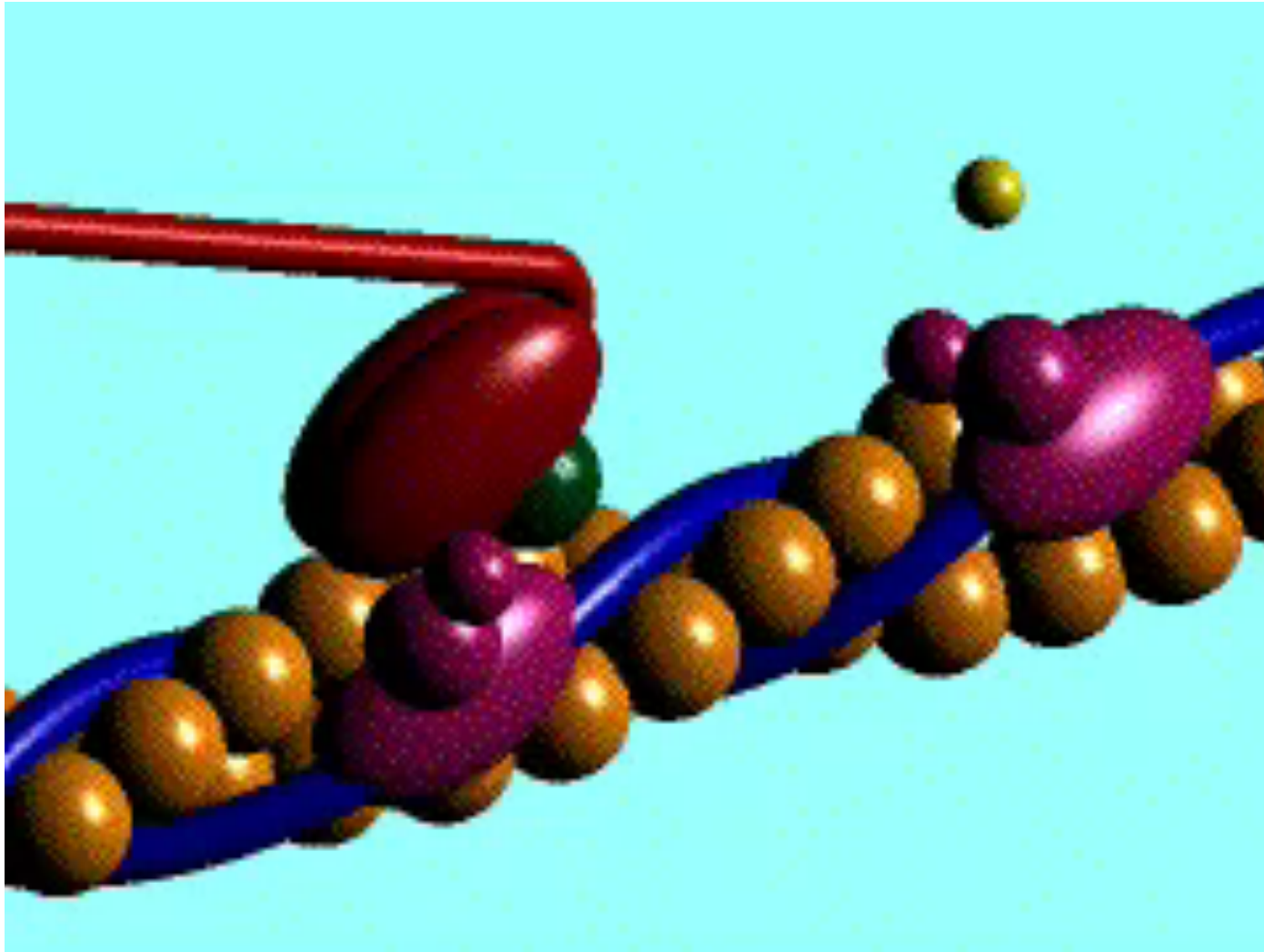
***PRKAG2*: Glycogen**  
***GAA* (Pompe):  
Glycogen**  
***GLA* (Fabry):  
Glycosphingolipids**

## Clearance

***LAMP2*: Cellular  
Debris**  
***DES*: Misfolded  
Protein**  
***TTR*: Amyloid**

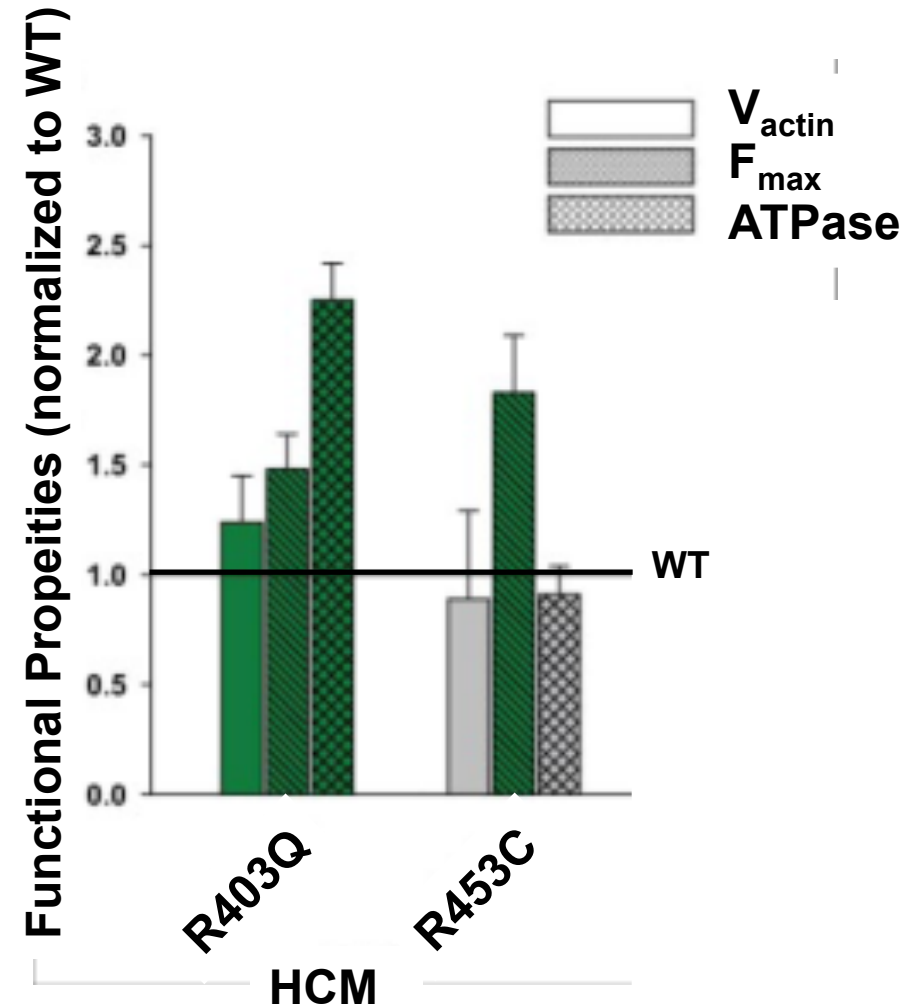
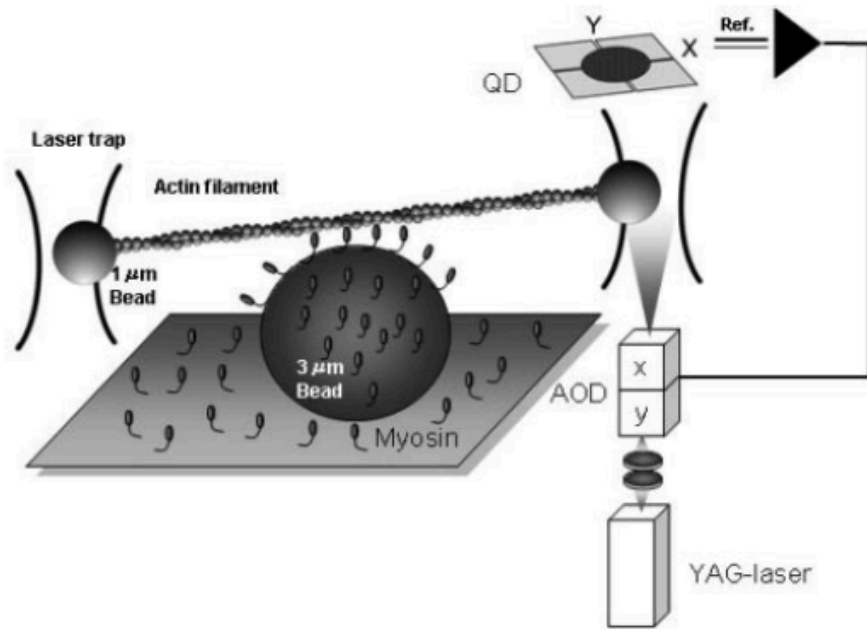


# Sarcomere Gene Mutations: Expected to Perturb Contractile Function

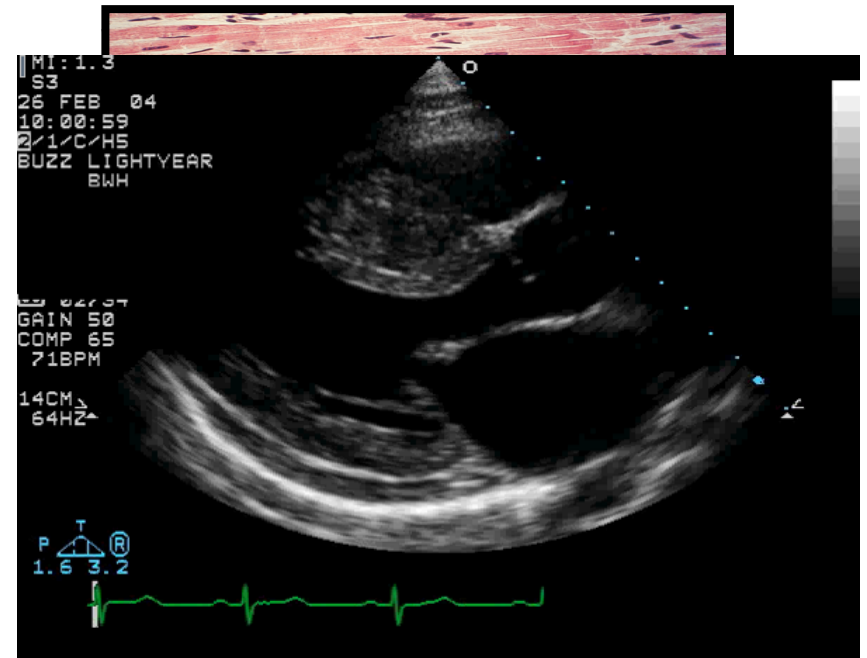
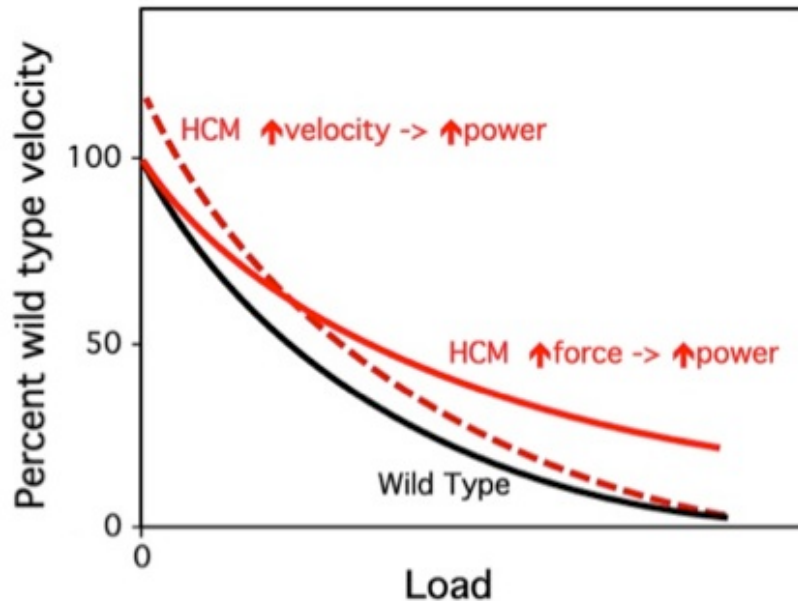
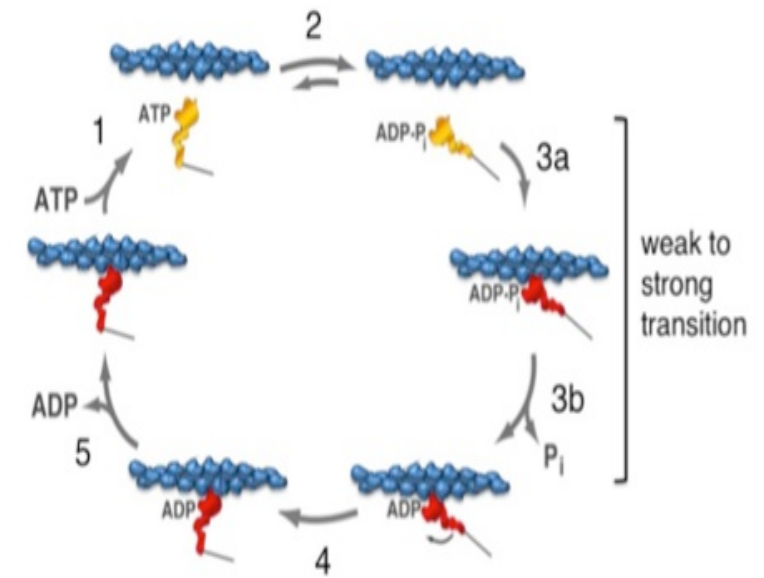
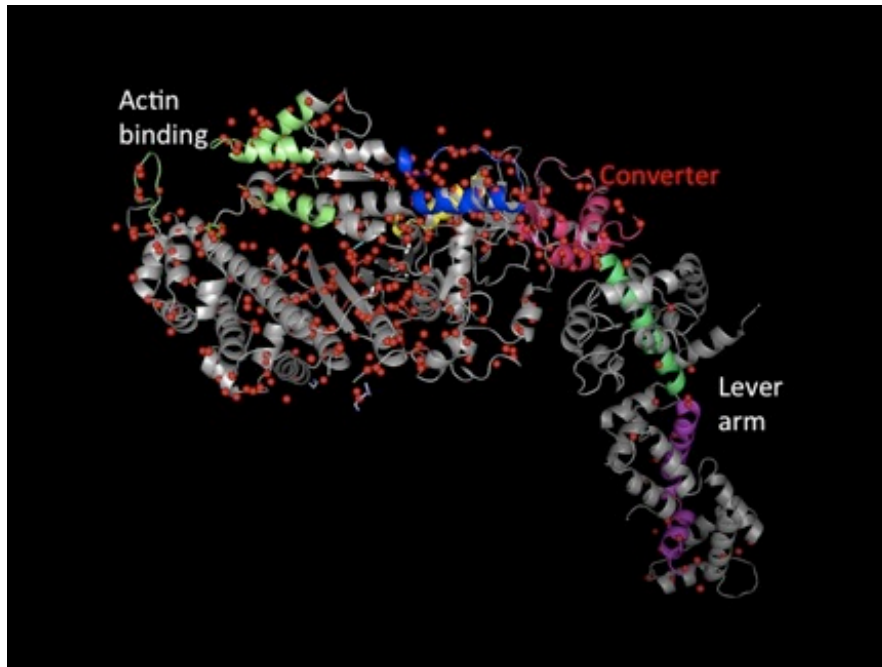


# Biophysical Impact of HCM Myosin Missense Mutation

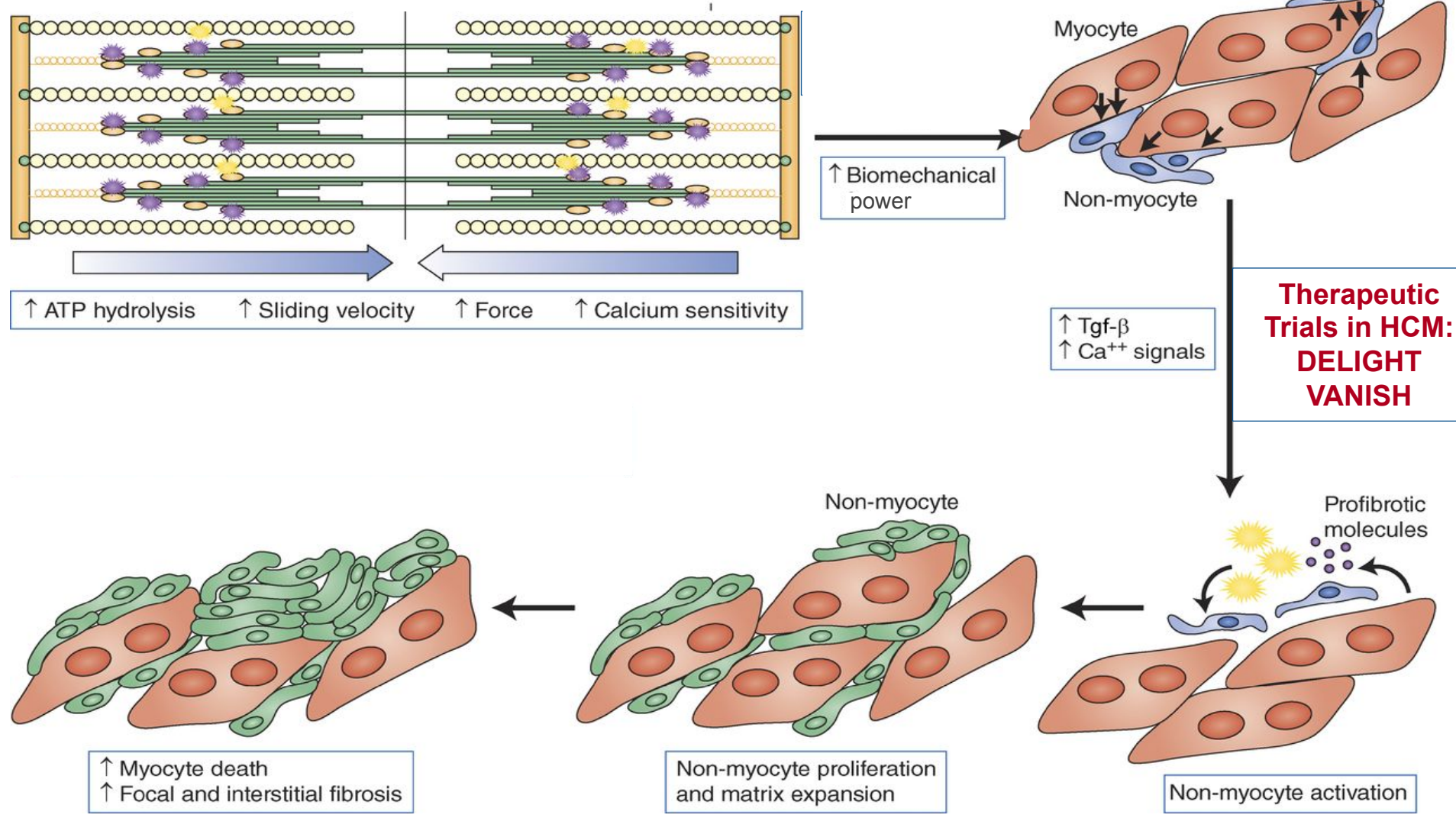
*De Bold et al, Am J Physiol 2007*



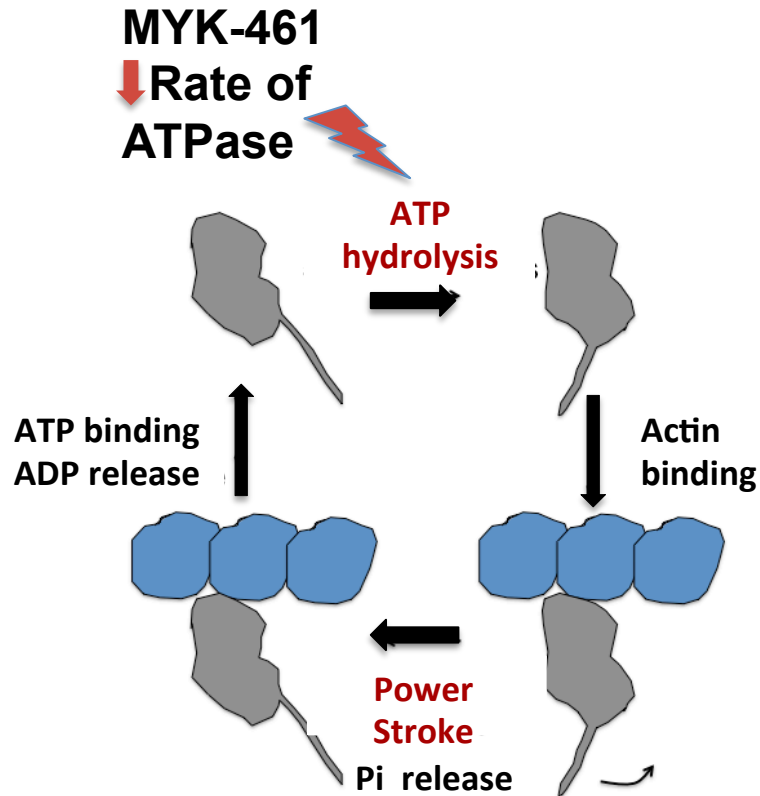
# HCM Myosin Mutations Increase Sarcomere Power



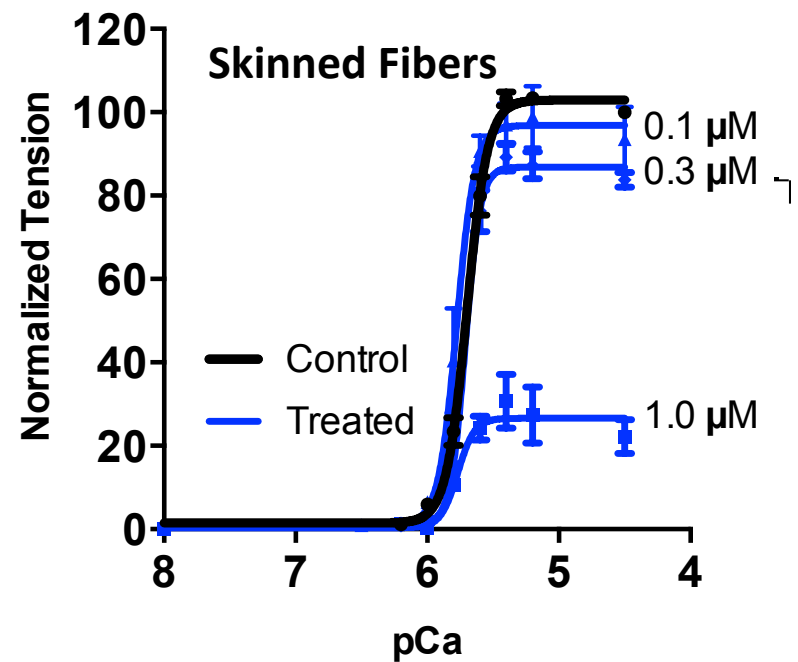
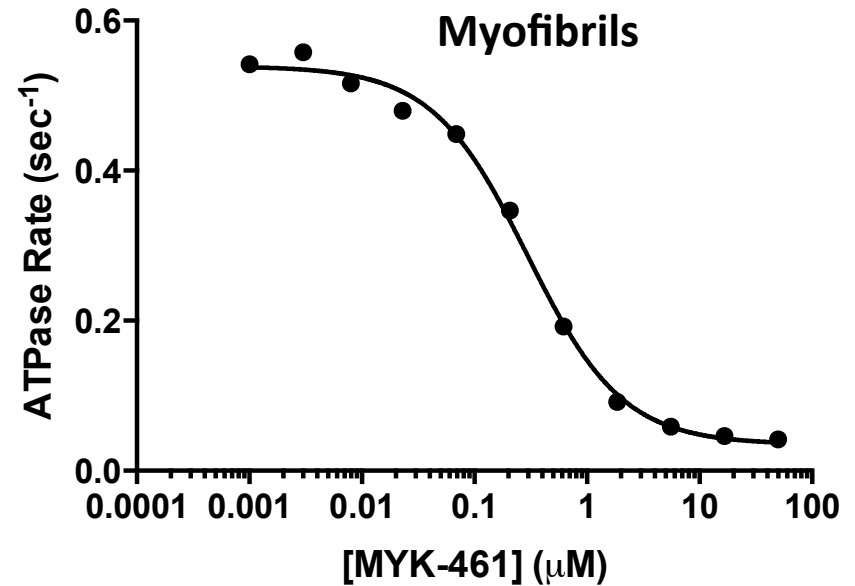
# Sarcomere Missense Proteins



# Pharmacologic Reduction of Sarcomere Power

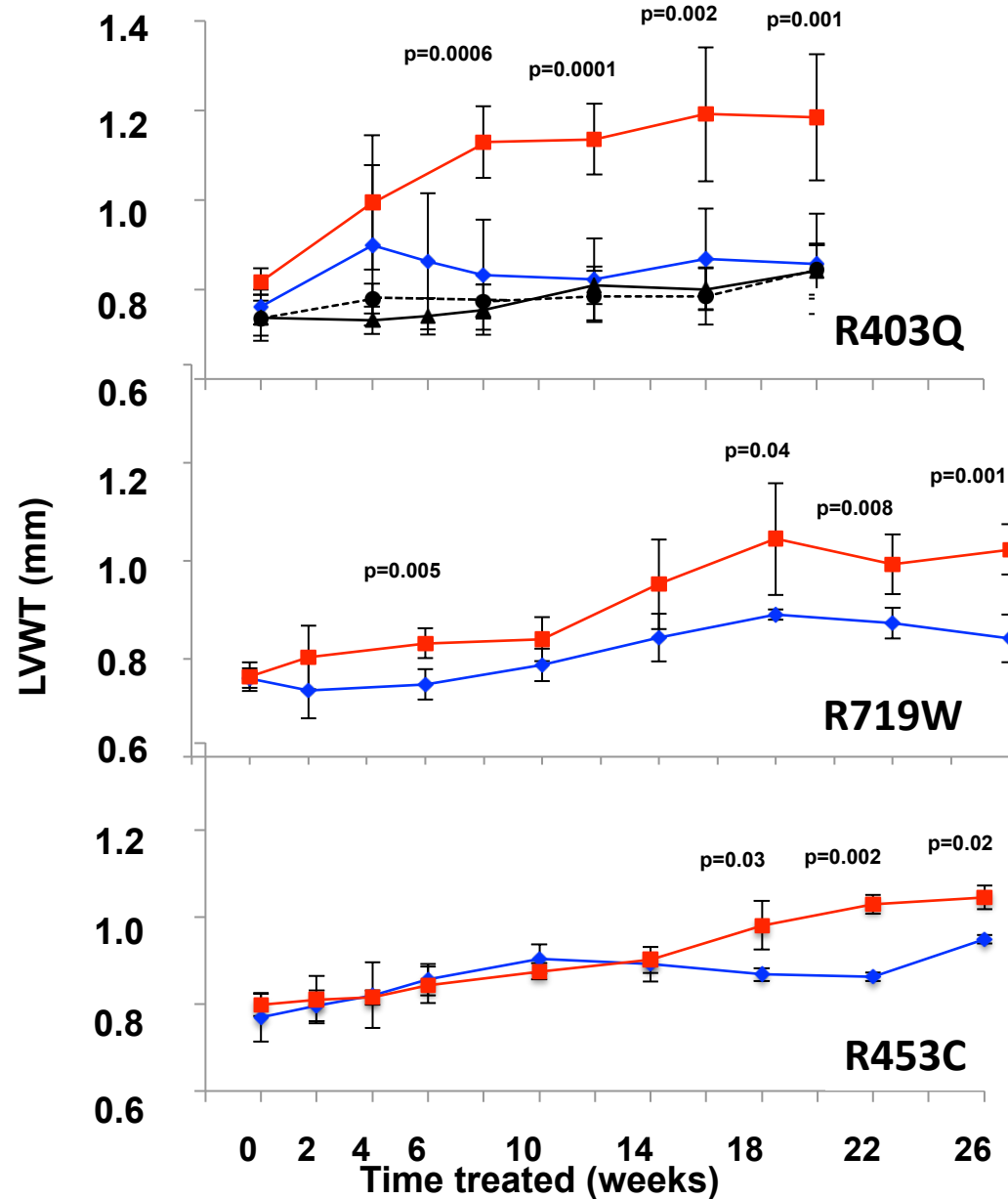
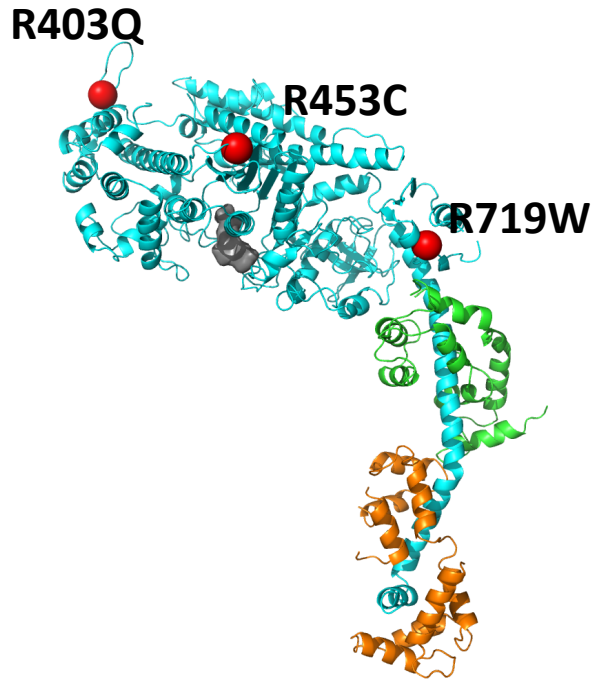


Green et al, Science 2015



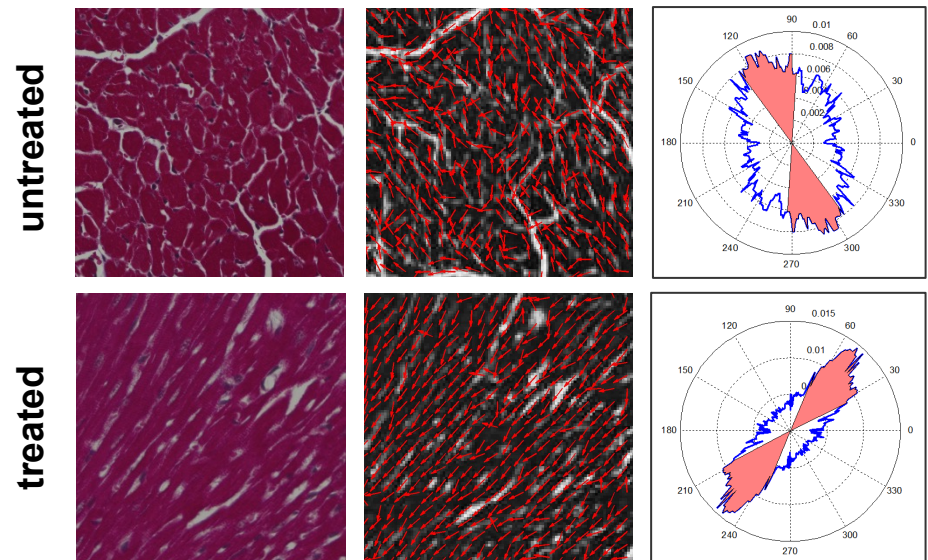
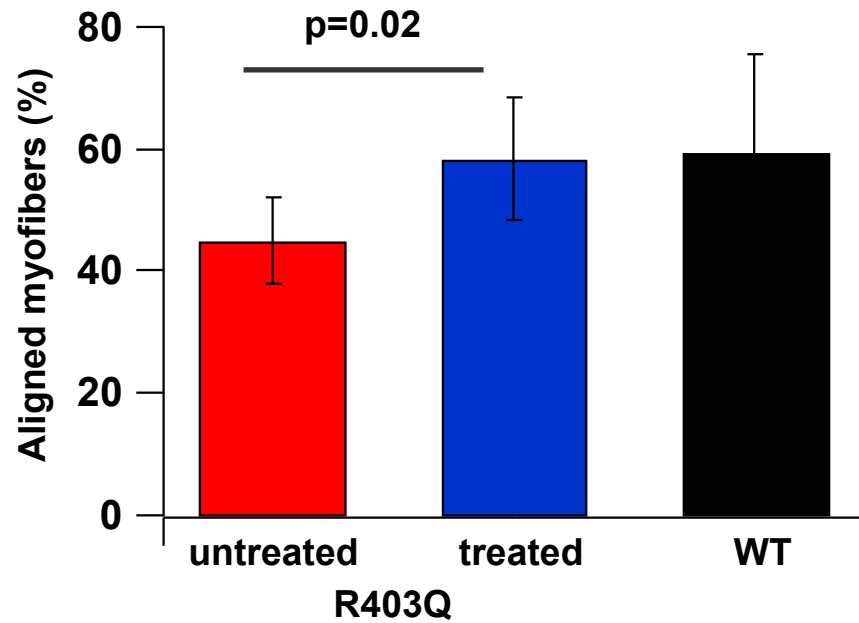
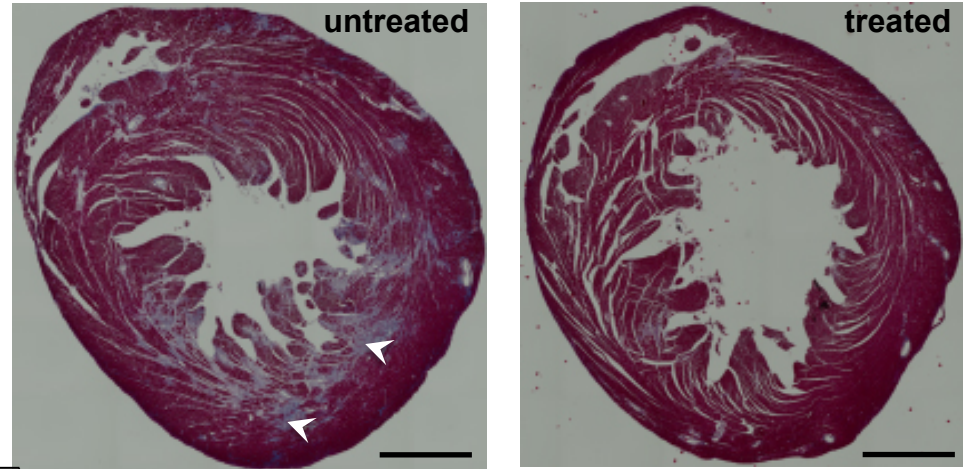
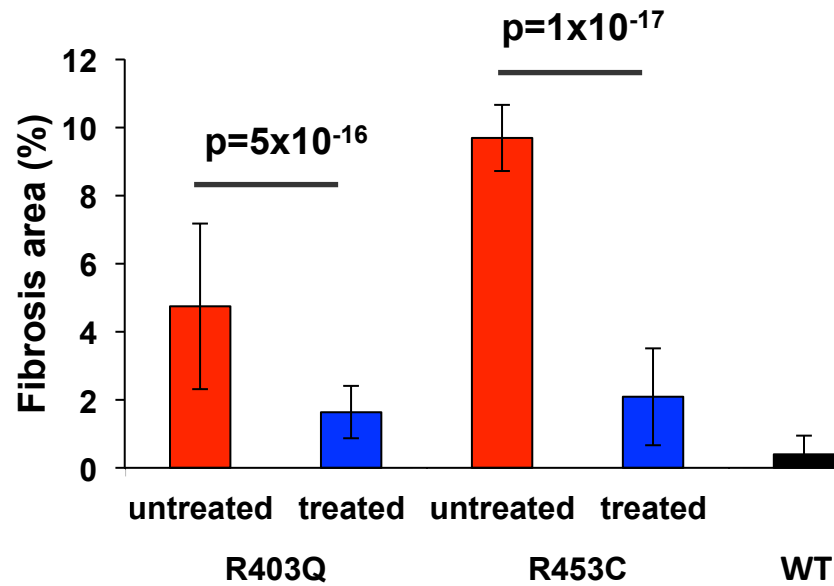
# MYK 461 (2.5mg/kg): 10-15% ↓ Fractional Shortening

Preclinical HCM Mice (Treated Untreated) & WT (-Treated, ---Untreated)



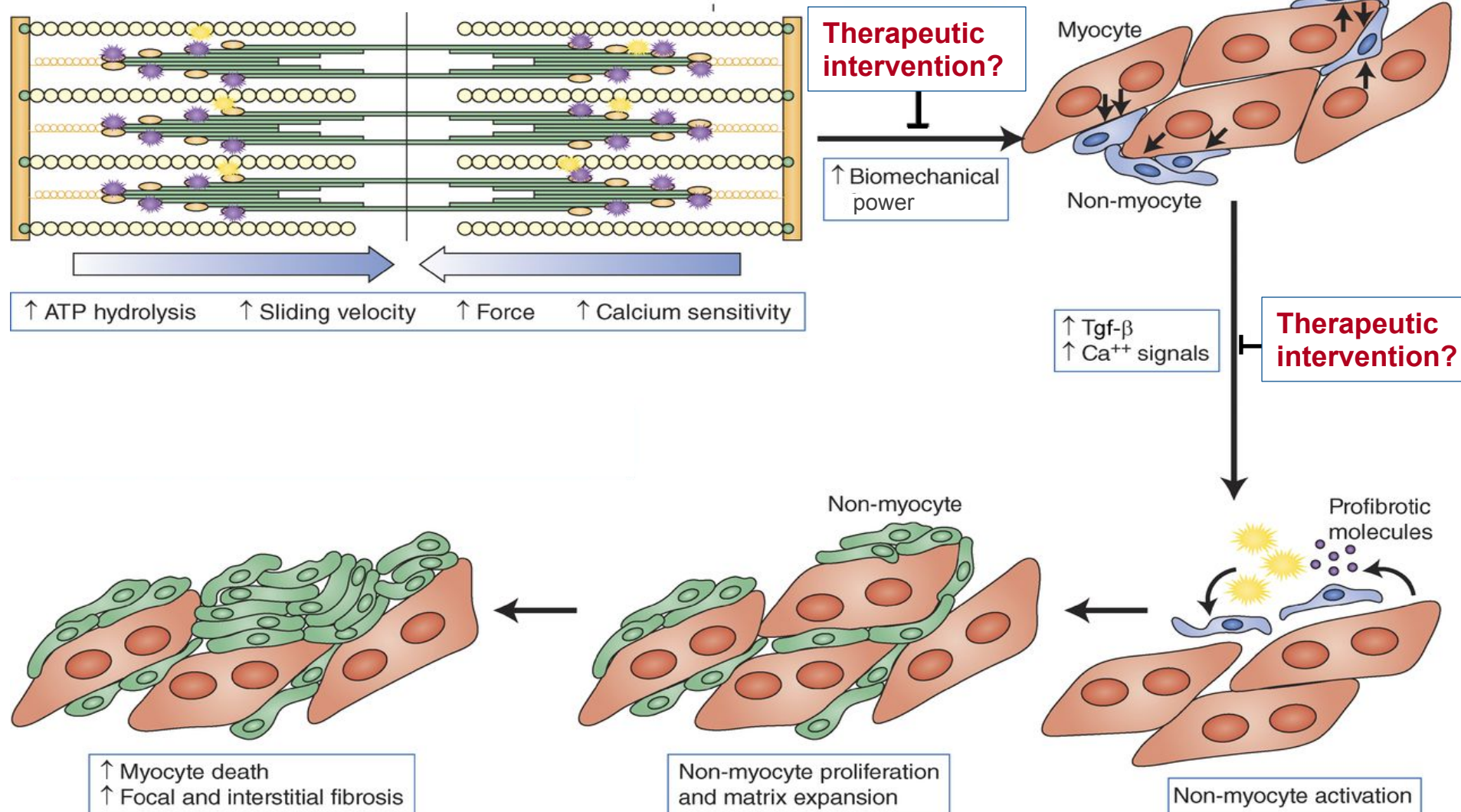
Green et al, Science 2015

# Reduced Fibrosis and Disarray

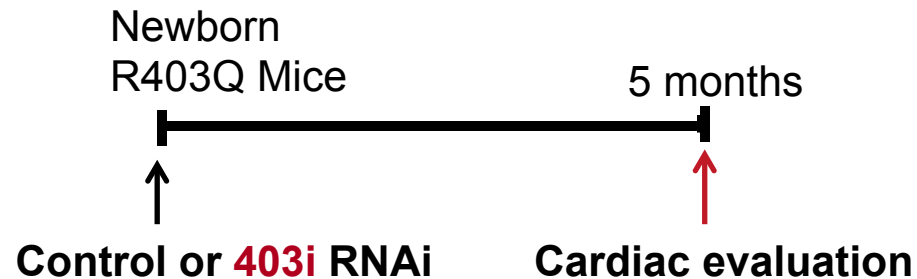
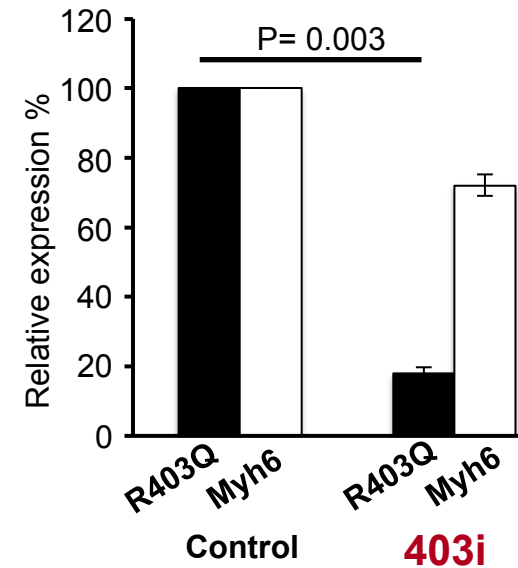
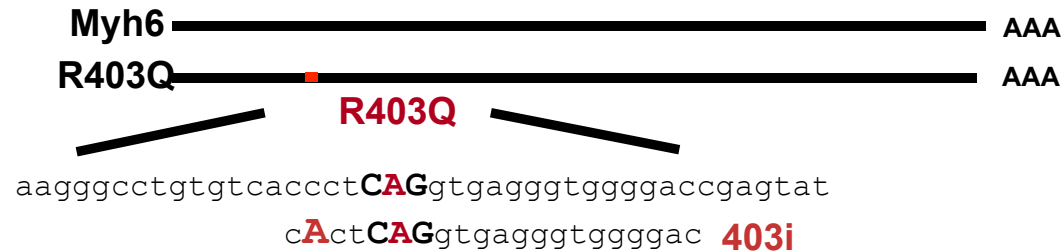


*Green et al, Science 2015*

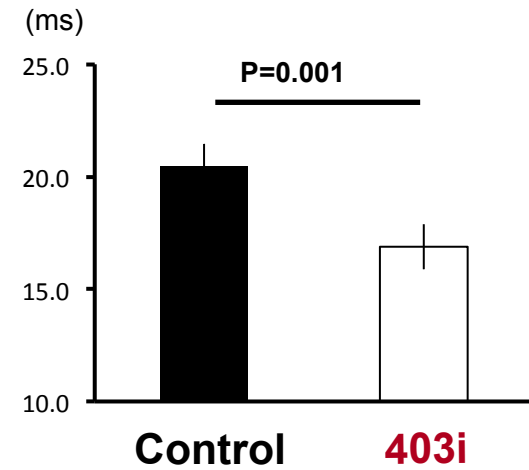
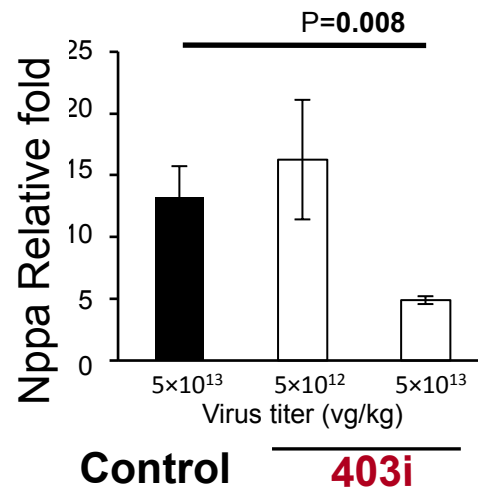
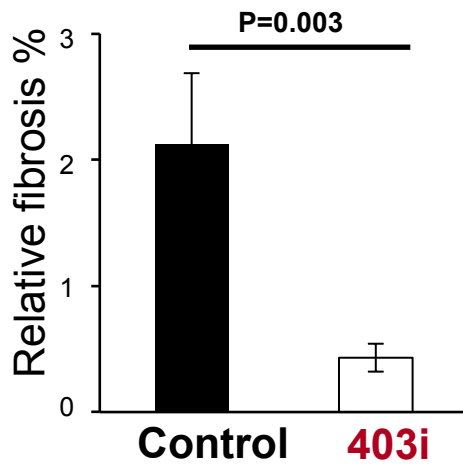
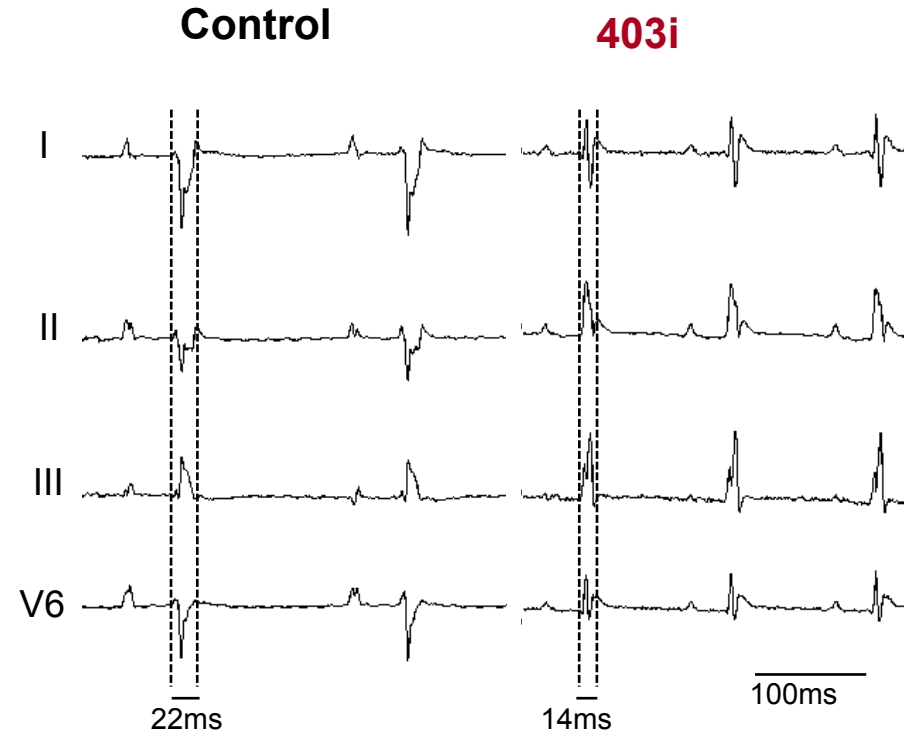
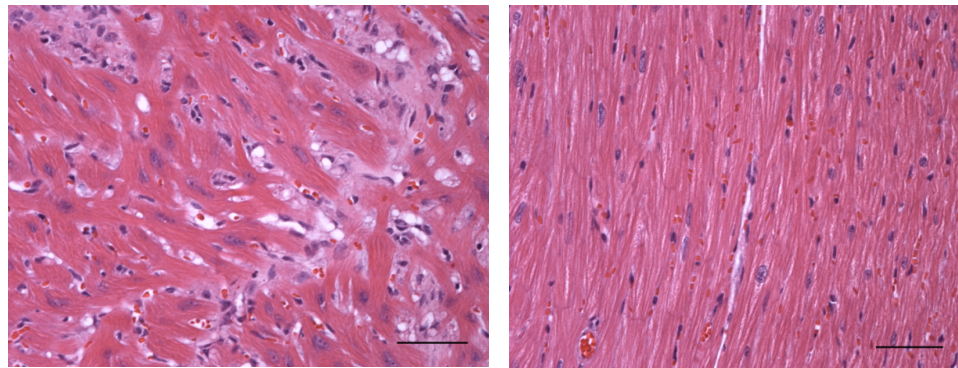
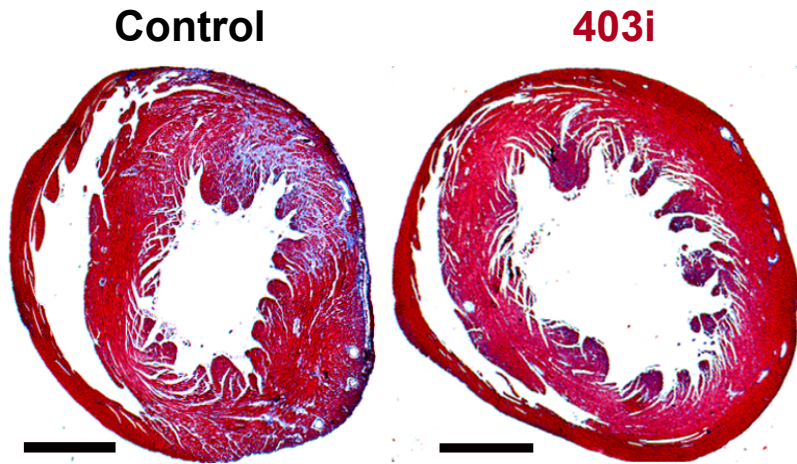
## Sarcomere Missense Proteins



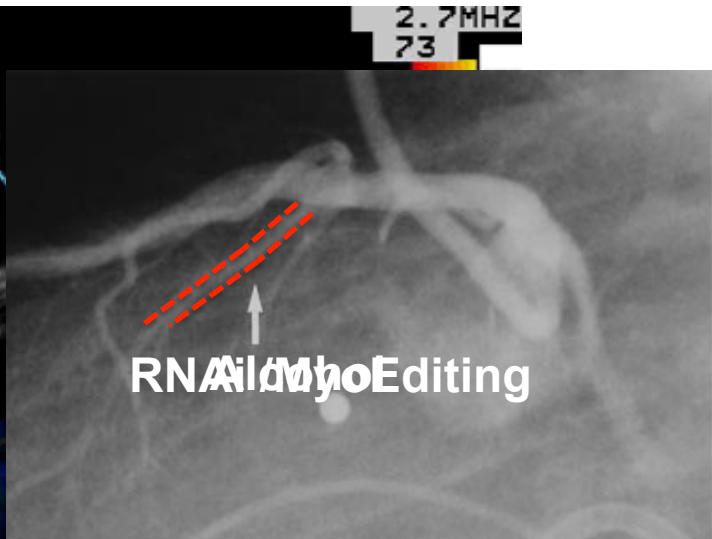
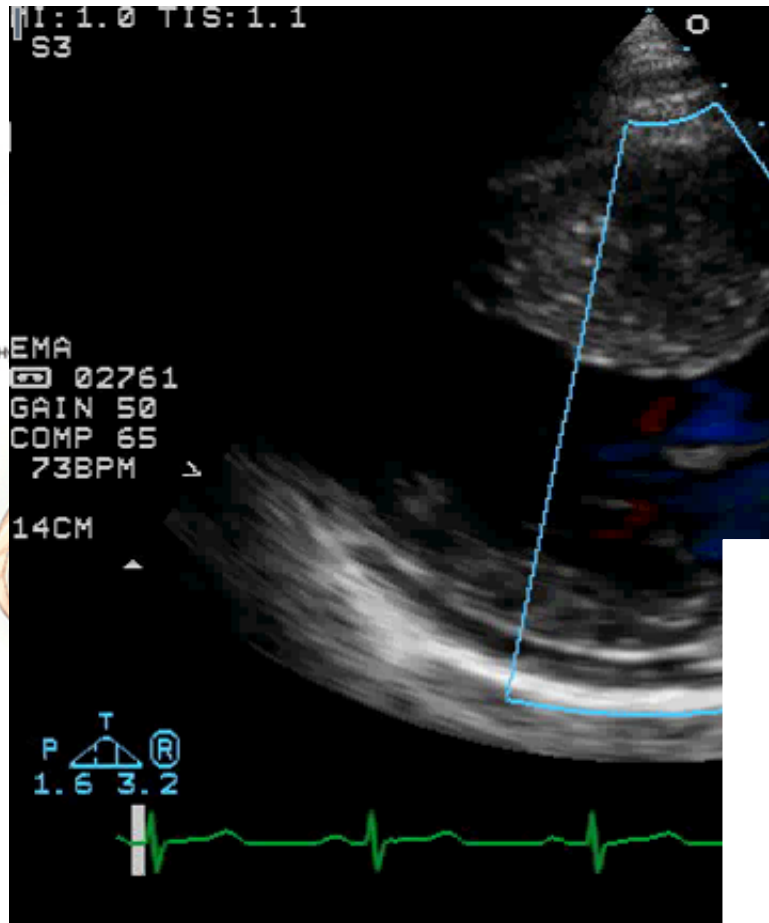
# Selectively Silence HCM Transcripts



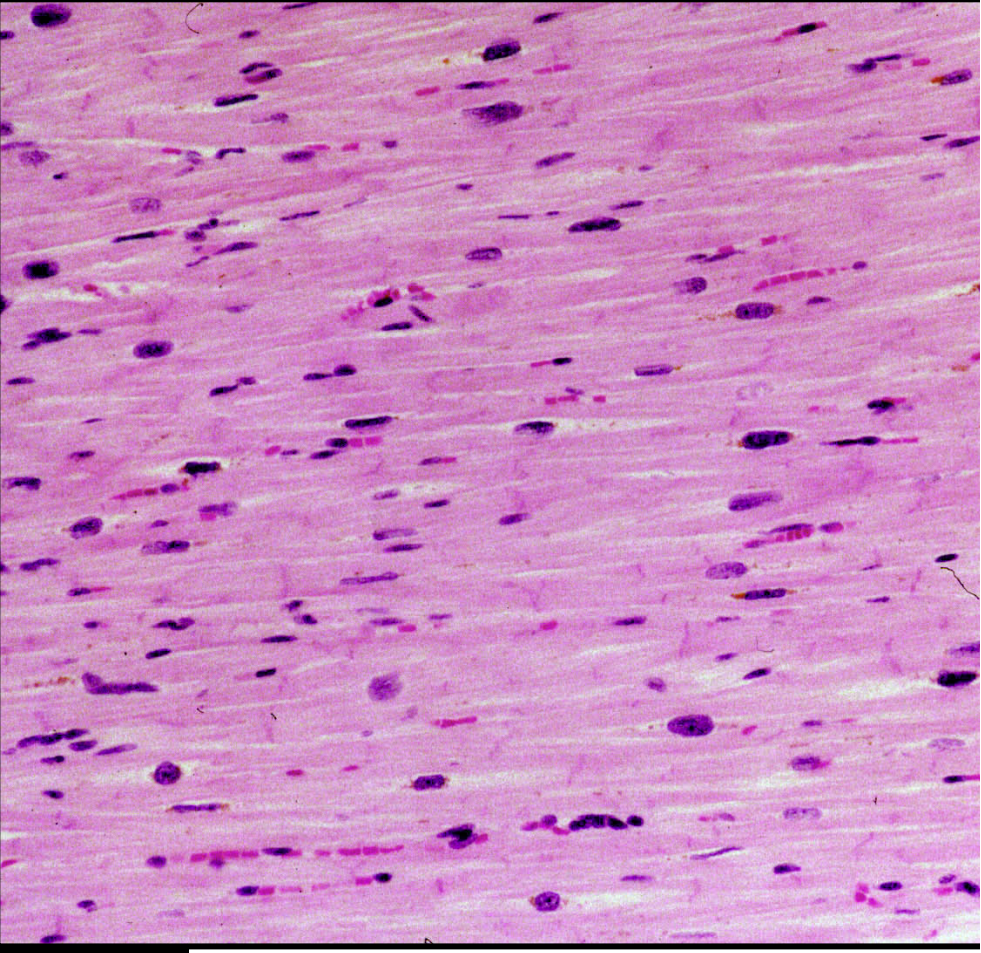
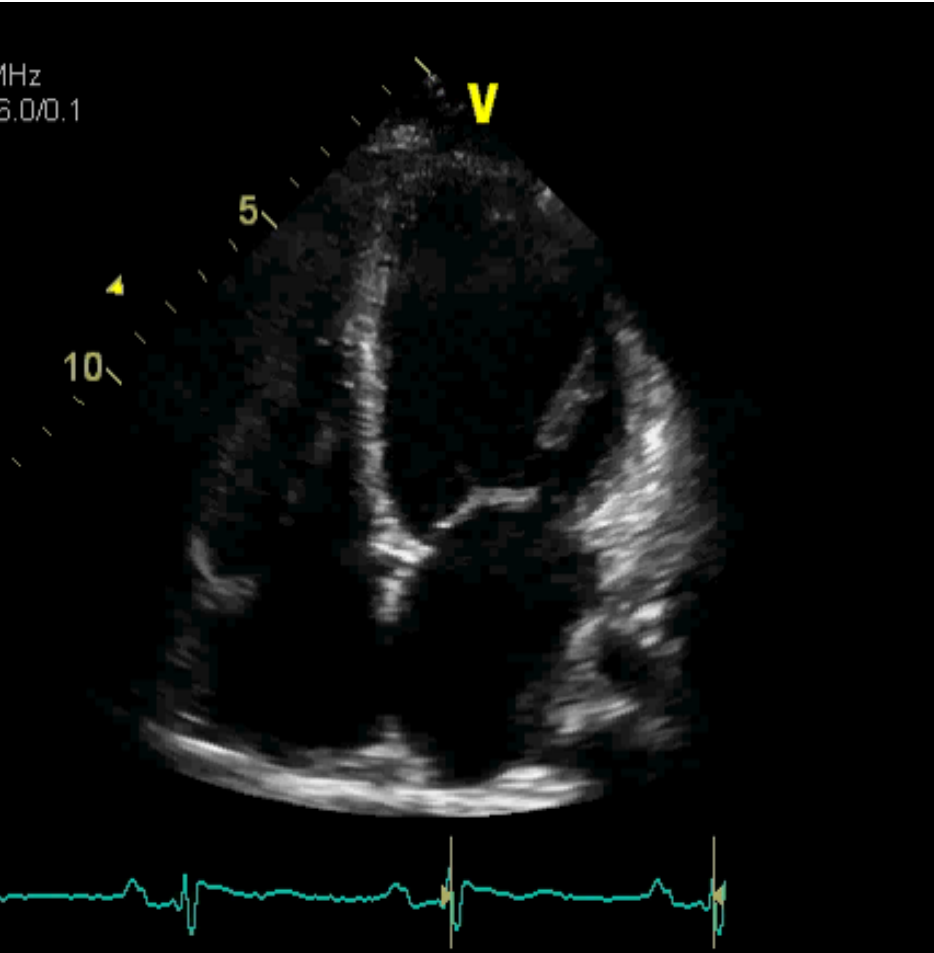
Mutant	RNAi	Age	LVDD	P	LVWT	P	FS (%)	P
403	Control	8 wks	2.53 ± 0.41		1.52 ± 0.25		32.68 ±	
403	<b>403i</b>	8 wks	3.04 ± 0.21	0.01	0.84 ± 0.10	1.9E-05	40.37 ±	0.04
WT	None	6	3.75 ± 0.28		0.74 ± 0.05		30.01 ±	



*Jian et al, Science 2013*

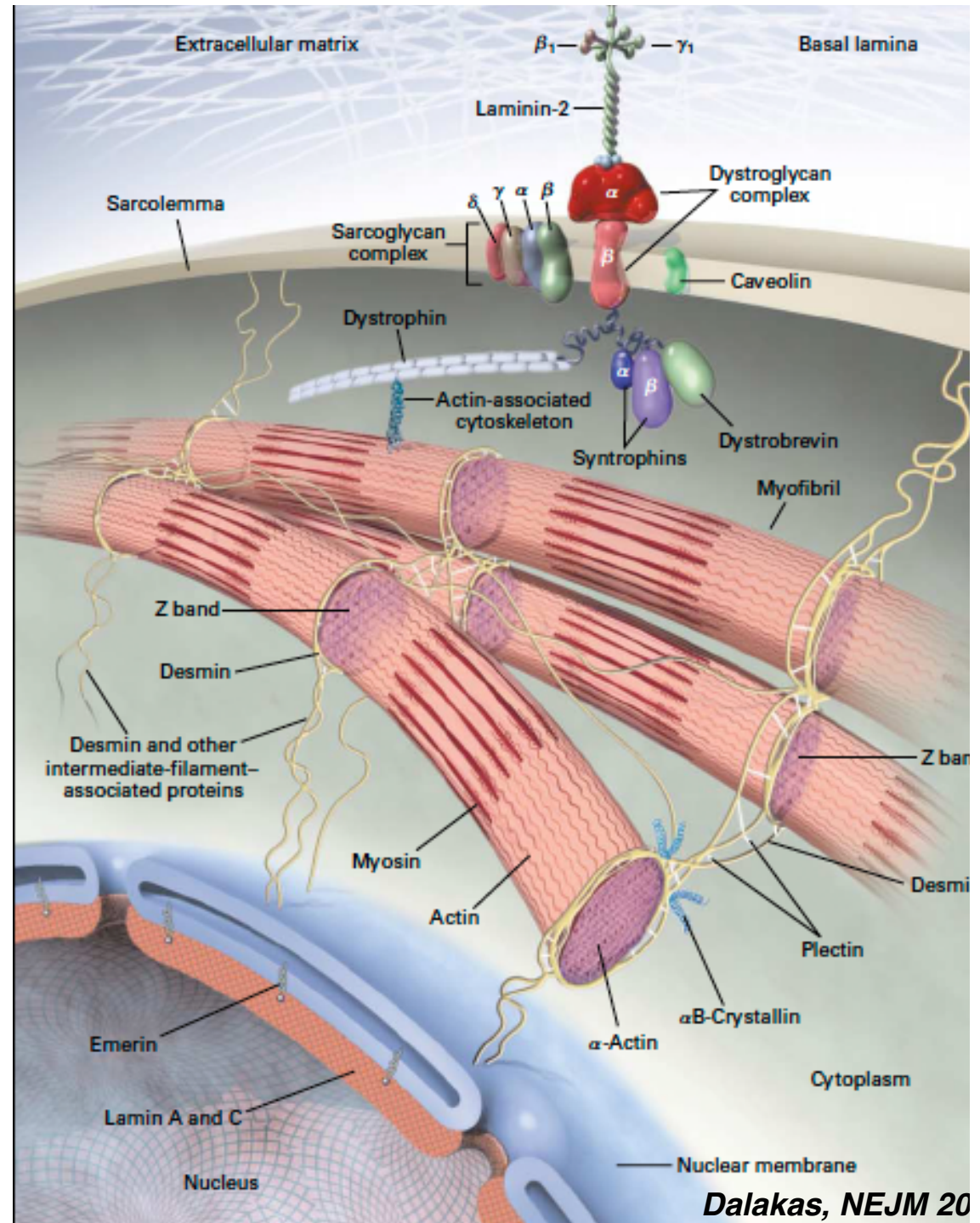


# Dilated Cardiomyopathy: Morphology/Histopathology Unable to Distinguish Etiology

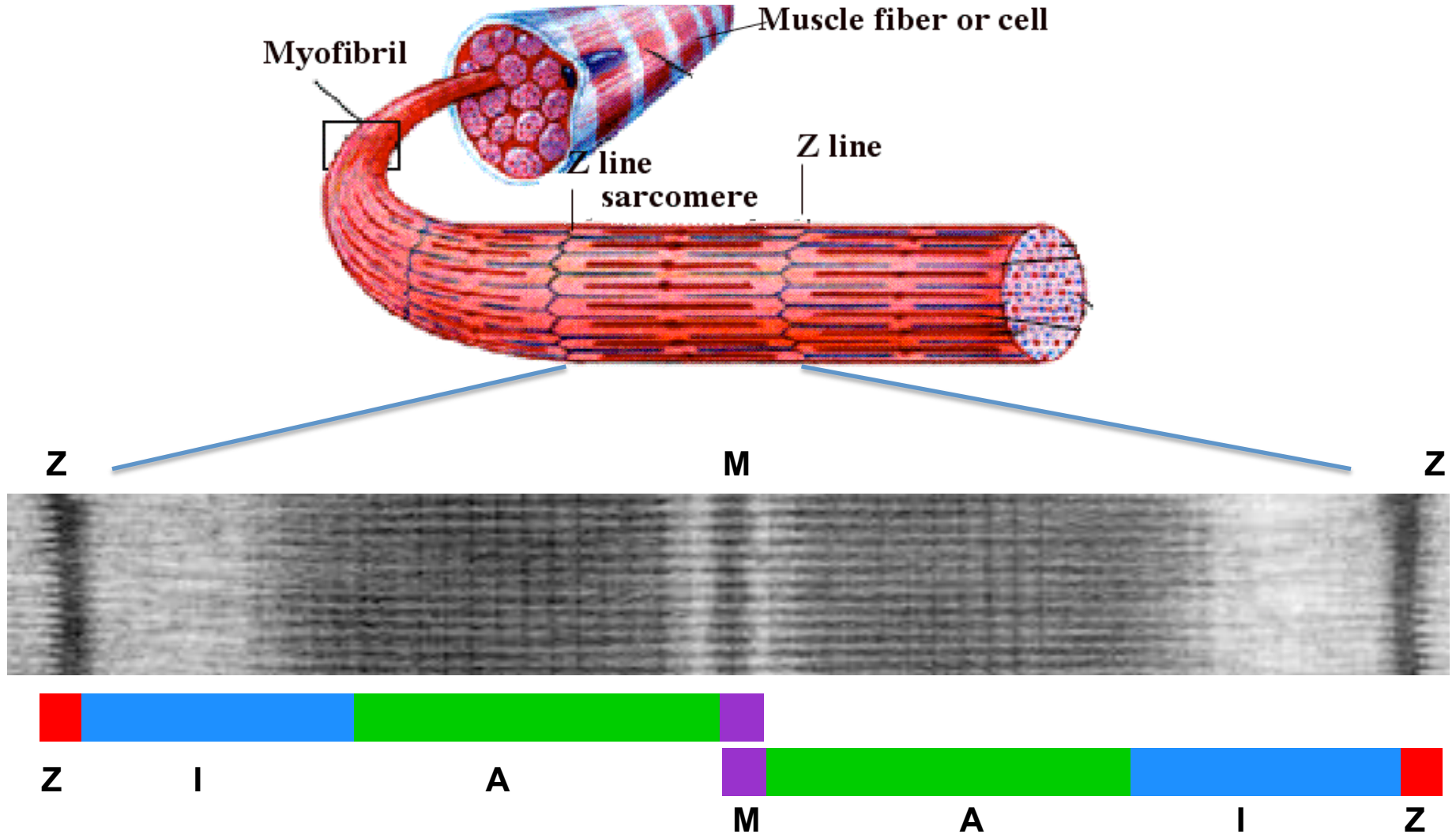


# Genetic Causes of Dilated Cardiomyopathy

ATP-binding Casette  
Apolipoprotein A-1  
 $\alpha$ B Crystallin  
Dystrophin/Glycoproteins  
Fukutin  
Intermediate Filaments  
Nuclear Lamina  
Presenlin-1,2  
RNA-binding motif protein 20  
Sarcomere Proteins  
Tafazzin  
Transcriptional Regulators  
Voltage gated Na<sup>+</sup> channel  
Z-disc Proteins



# Titin (TTN)



- Giant protein spans  $\frac{1}{2}$  Sarcomere ( $1 \mu\text{m}$ )
- Contains **34,350 amino acids encoded in  $>100,000$  bp**
- Variants are Prevalent: **1 rare missense residue / person**



*“It’s true that more is not necessarily better, Edward, but it frequently is.”*

# Titin Sequenced in 5267 Individuals with Spectrum of Cardiac Physiology in Health & Disease

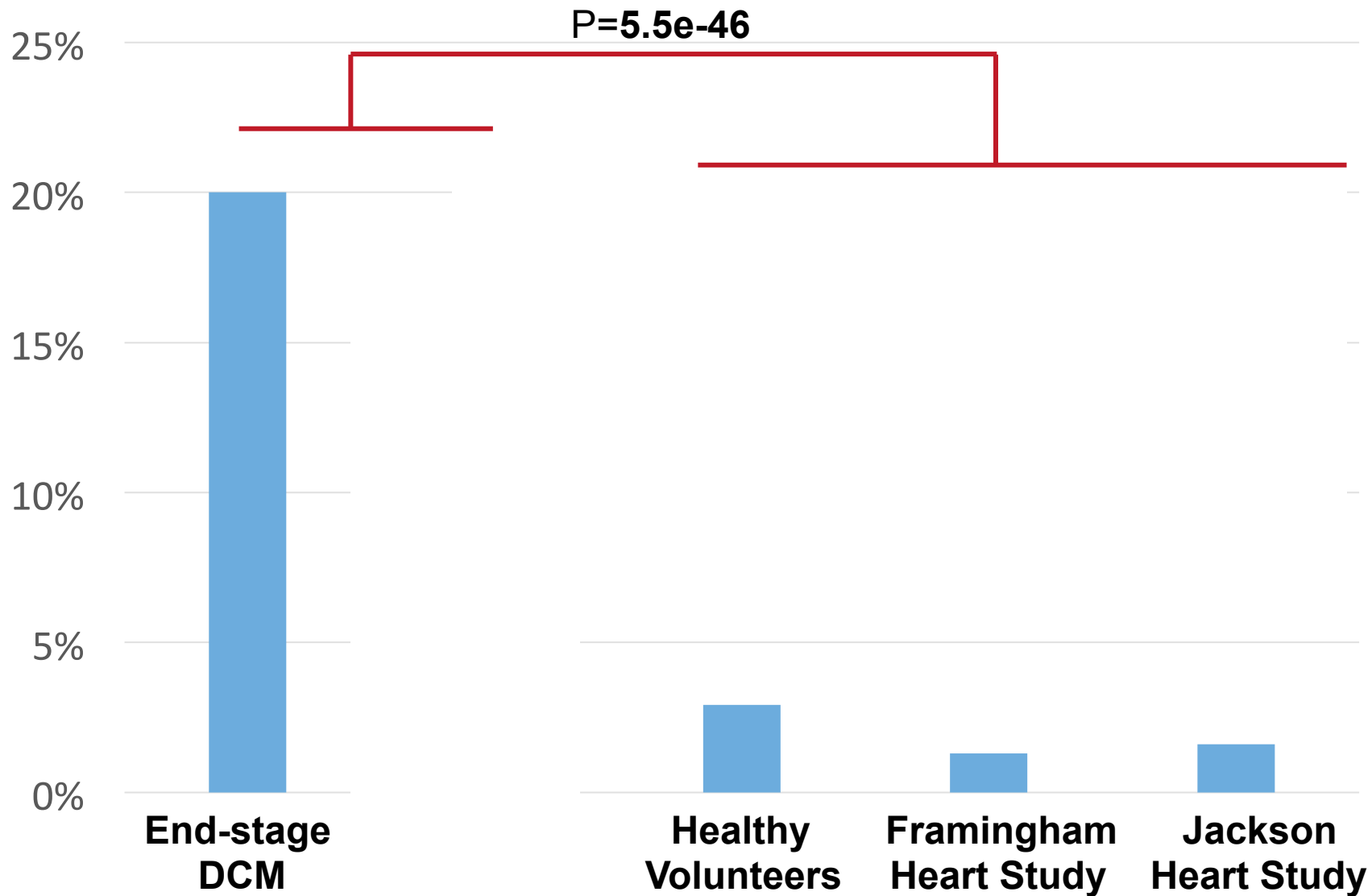
- 308 Intensively Phenotyped Healthy Volunteers
- 3603 Jackson and Framingham Heart Study Subjects
- 231 Mutation-negative HCM Patients
- 374 Prospective ambulatory DCM Patients
- 155 End-stage DCM Patients listed for Transplant
- Replication cohorts: 160 DCM Patients and 667 Controls
- DCM tissues for protein and RNA studies
- Restrict analyses to Truncating Variants: TTNtv



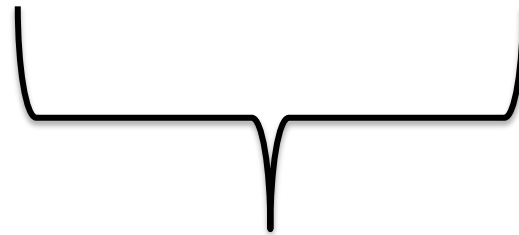
# TTN1/TNNT3 Most Common Genetic Cause of Unselected DCM

*Aleman et al (2012) N Engl J Med.*

14% Cases ( $P=1.7 \times 10^{-25}$ ) *Roberts et al (2015) Sci. Transl. Med.*

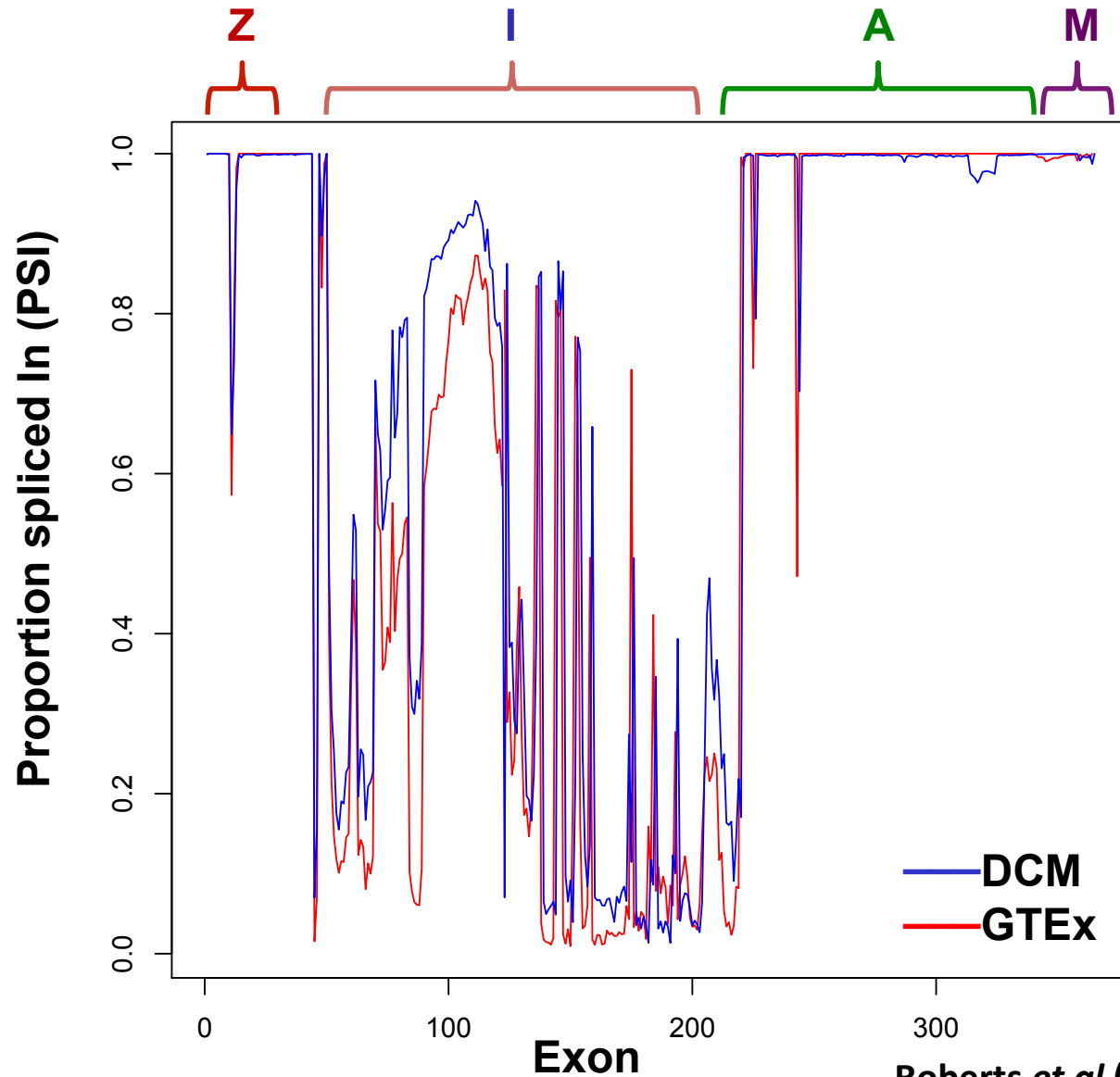


# Distribution of TTNtv Mutations



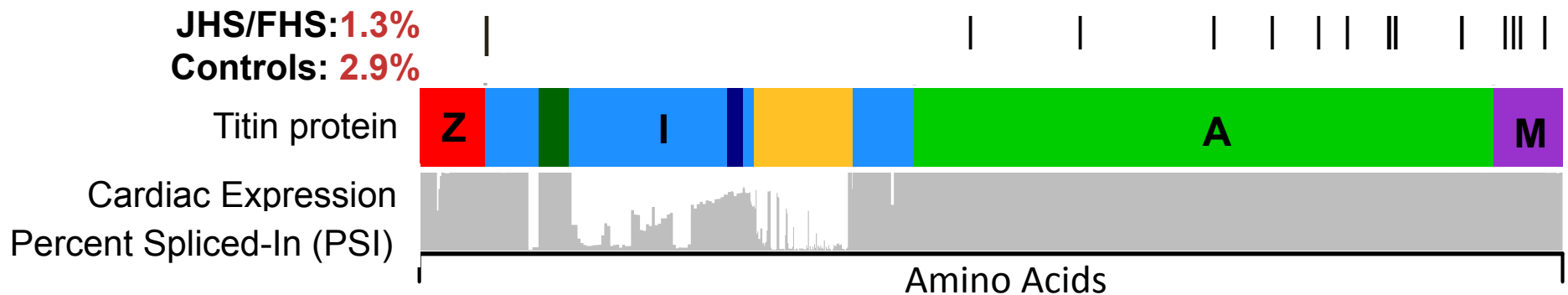
Repeat Elements  
Provides Elasticity

**TTN Splicing:** 85% Symmetric Exons (Exome-wide;  $P=1.2e11$ )  
Exon symmetry  $\approx$  PSI; Asymmetric exons,  $PSI > 0.99$   
**I-band Exons: Lowest PSI + Greatest Symmetry**



# TTNtv in General Population / Controls

- Usually Associated with Normal Cardiac Physiology
- TTNtv in **high PSI exons** increased DCM Risk (RR=16, p=0.008)



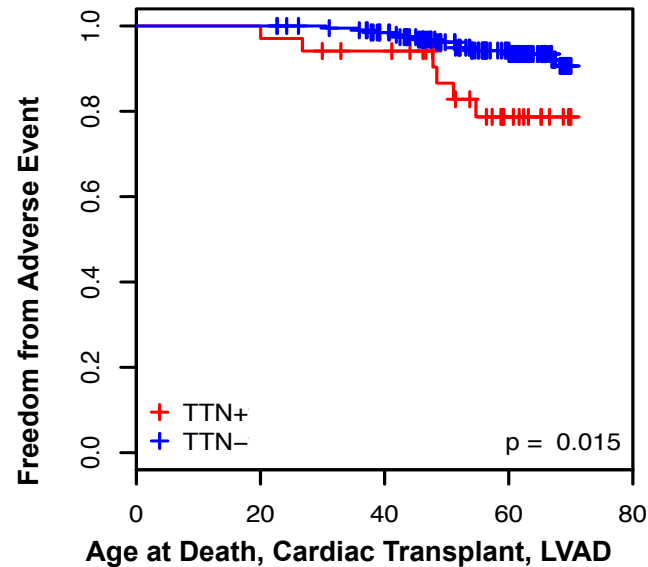
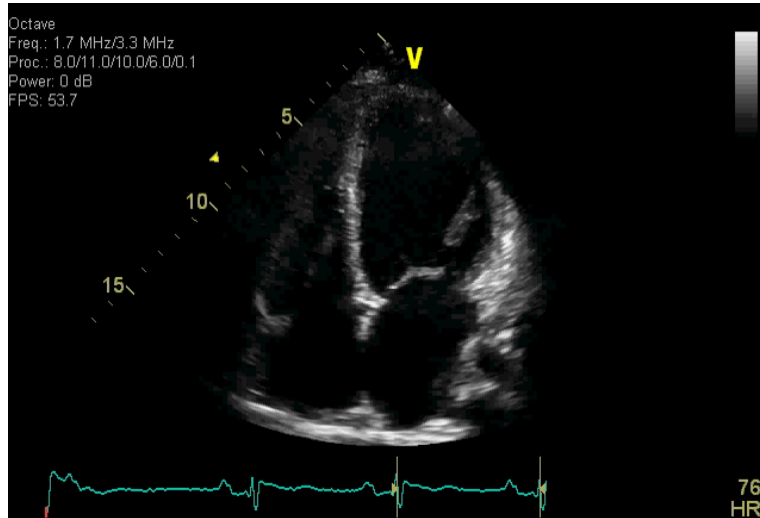
## TTNtv

Controls: Low PSI (I-band) enrichment: (vs DCM  $P=2.0e-4$ )

DCM: High PSI enrichment (vs. Controls:  $P=5.5.e-45$ )

**Validation:** Independent cohorts:  $P=3.e-21$

# Clinical Manifestations of TTNtv<sup>+</sup> DCM



## TTNtv<sup>+</sup> vs TTN<sup>-</sup> DCM

LV Ejection Fraction: **-18±7%**,  $P = 0.006$

LV Stroke volume: **-22±8ml**,  $P = 0.0017$

LV Walls Thickness: **-0.84 mm**,  $P = 0.0007$

Sustained Ventricular Tachycardia: **47%** vs 18%;  $P = 0.003$

Adverse Events: **10 Years Earlier in Men** than Women;  $P = 4.5e-5$

*Roberts et al (2015) Sci. Transl. Med.*

# **Peripartum Cardiomyopathy (PPCM)**

**Incidence: 1 in 300 (Nigeria and Haiti)**

**1 in 1000-4000 (US and Europe)**

**Risk Factors: Preeclampsia**

**Twin pregnancy**

**Advanced maternal age**

**Outcomes: Heart Failure Resolves**

**Death in 5-19%**

**Cardiac Tx: Accounts for 4% of Tx in US**

***Zolt Arany MD PhD (University of Pennsylvania)***

***IMAC/IPAC Investigators***

**IMAC-2: Intervention in Myocarditis and Acute Cardiomyopathy-2**

**IPAC: Investigations in Pregnancy Associated Cardiomyopathy**

# Genetic Analyses of 172 PPCM Cases



**Age= 31 ± 6 years, 35% African ancestry**

**Number of Pregnancies: 2.8 ± 2; Twins =20%**

**Family Hx of DCM: 10%**

**Hypertension: 45%**

**Ejection Fraction = 33%**

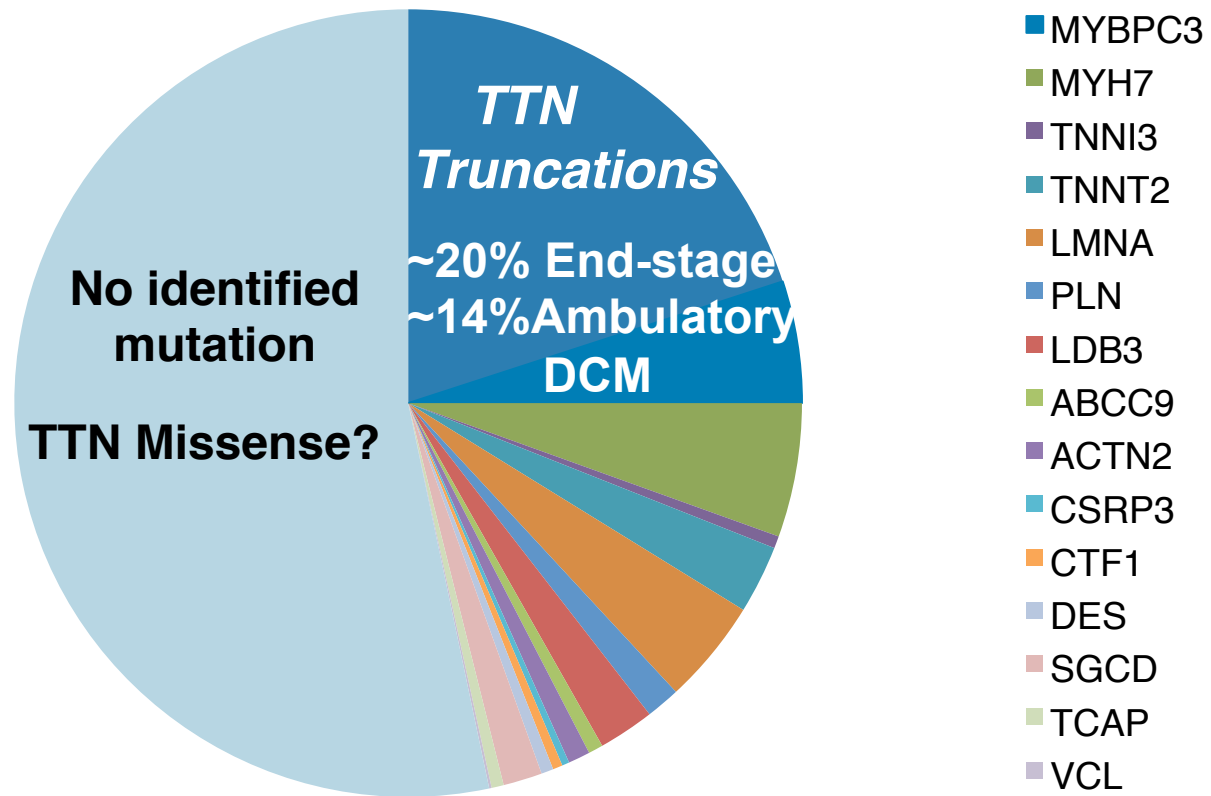
**TTNtv<sup>+</sup>: 26 (15%) P=1.3E-7 vs controls**

**9% Hypertensive (P=0.009 vs TTNtv<sup>-</sup>)**

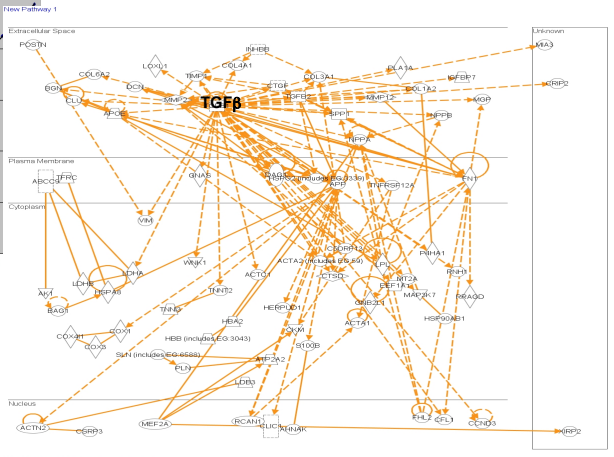
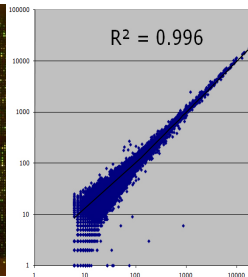
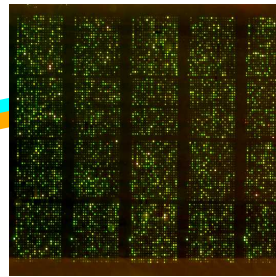
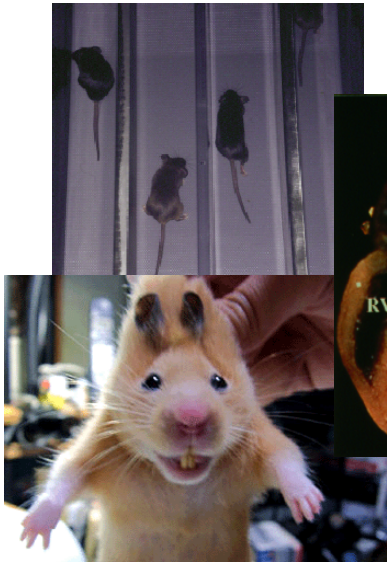
**1Year Outcome (n=83): EF TTNtv<sup>+</sup> < TTNtv<sup>-</sup> (P=0.005)**

*Ware et al NEJM, 2016*

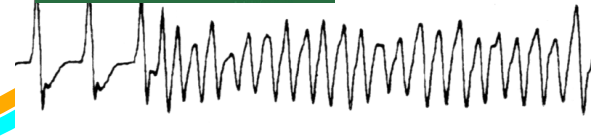
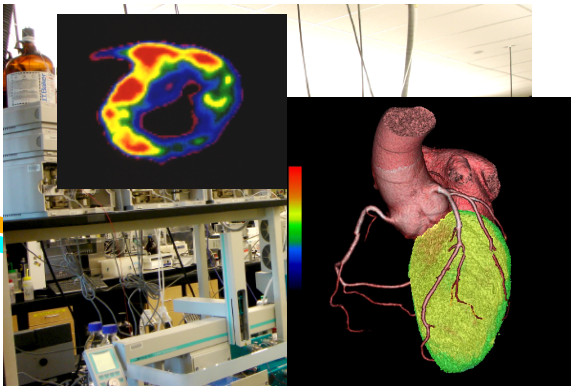
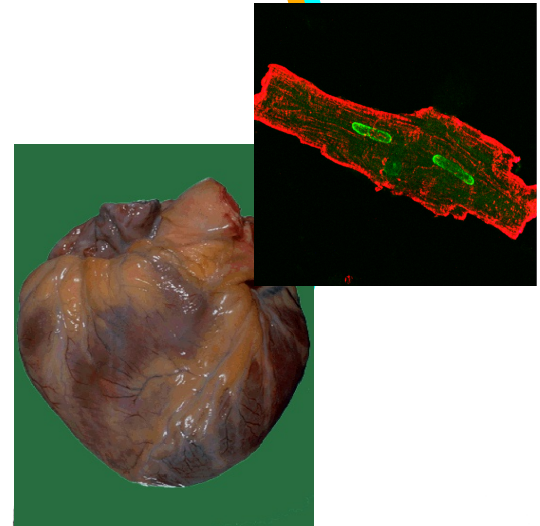
# Gene involvement in DCM



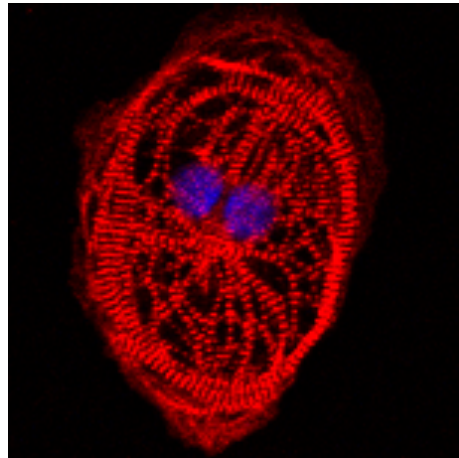
*Adapted from Zimmerman et al  
Genet Med, 2009*



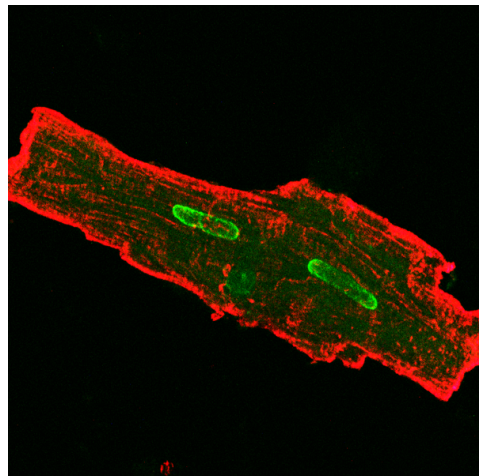
# Models Inform Cardiac Physiology Disease Mechanism Therapeutic Targets



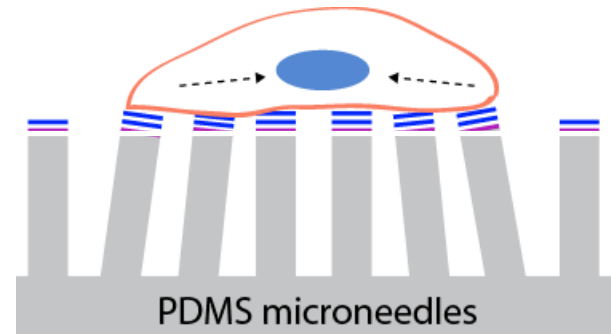
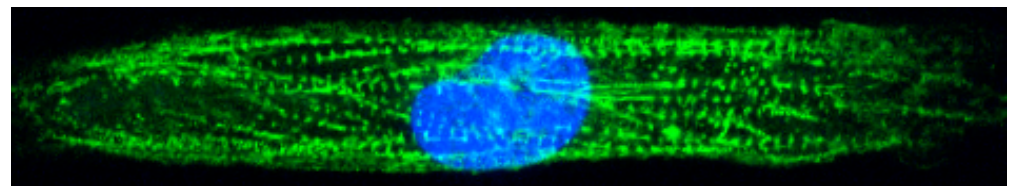
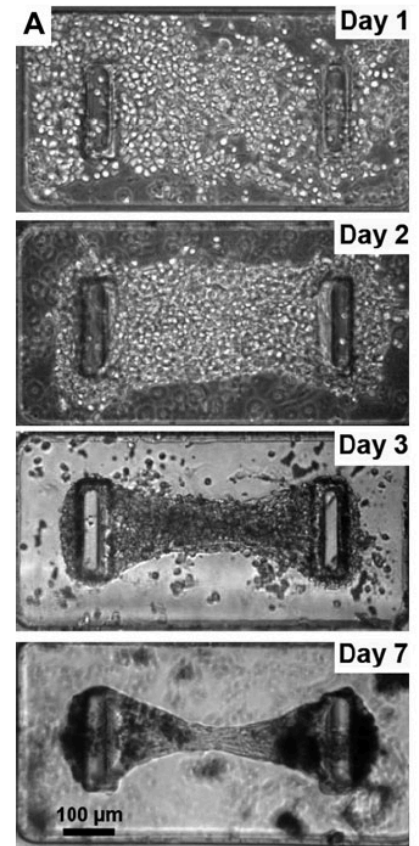
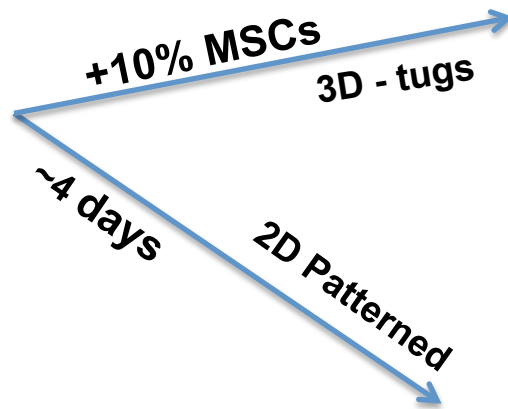
# Functional Assessments of iPS-induced Cardiomyocytes



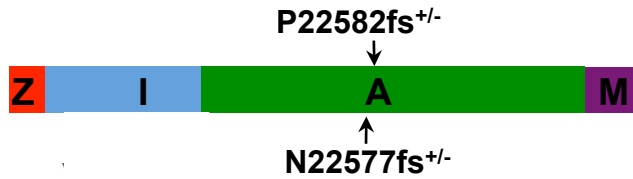
iPS cell derived CMs  
MYH7:MYH6 0.8-1.2



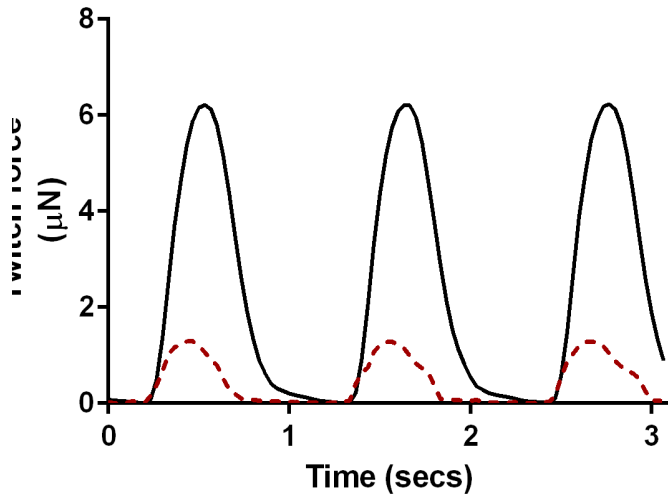
In Vivo CMs



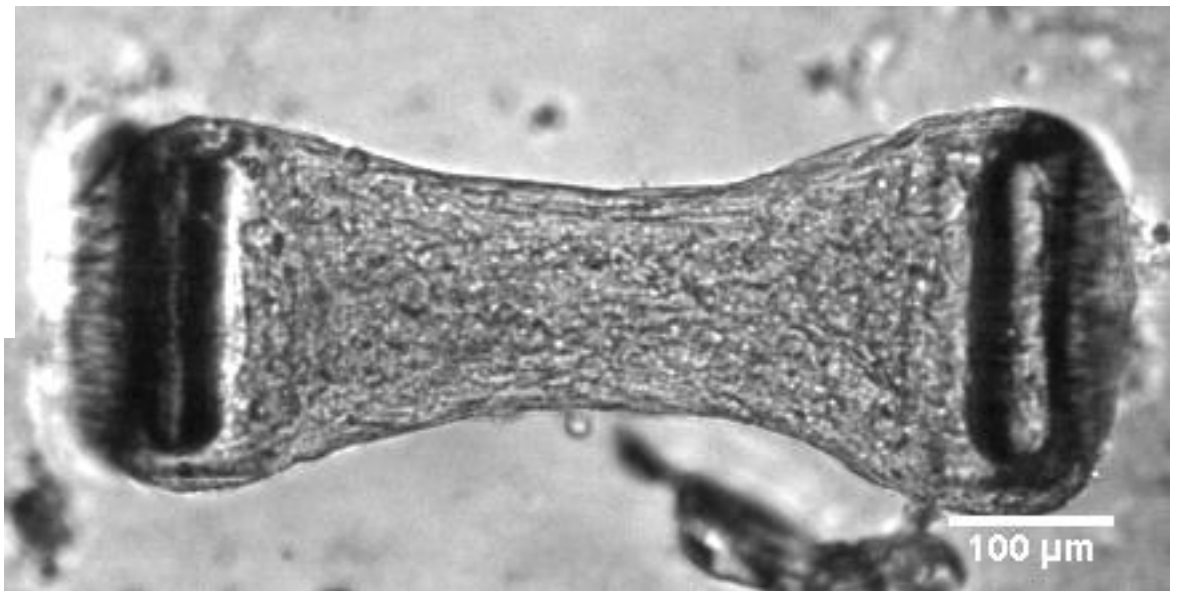
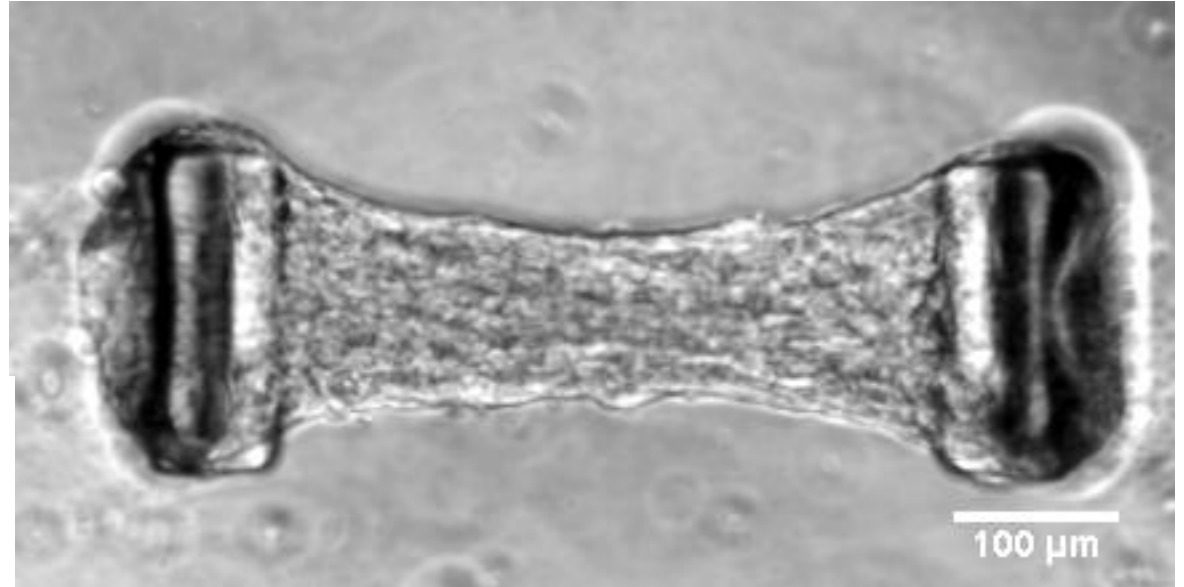
# TTNtv: Diminished Contractile Function



## I-Band TTNtv

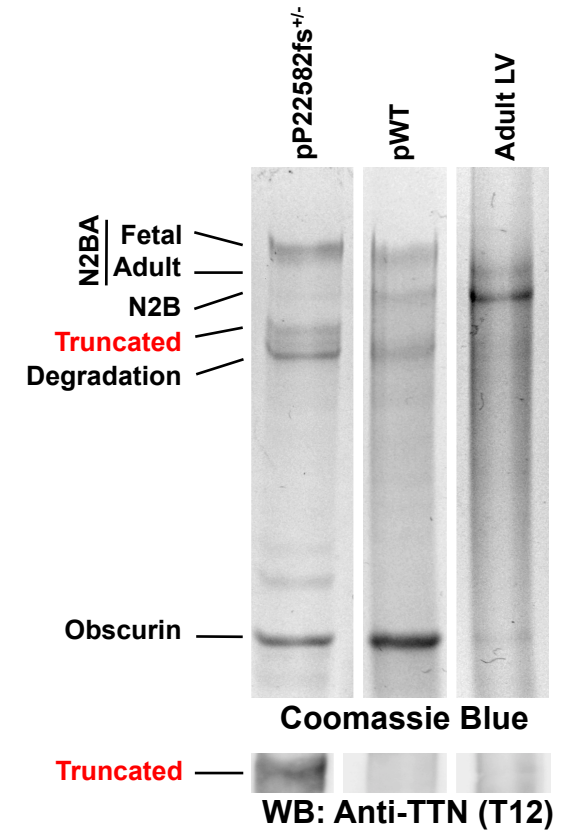


**Exon 66 Usage**  
**Adult LV: 18%**  
**iPS-CM: 80%**



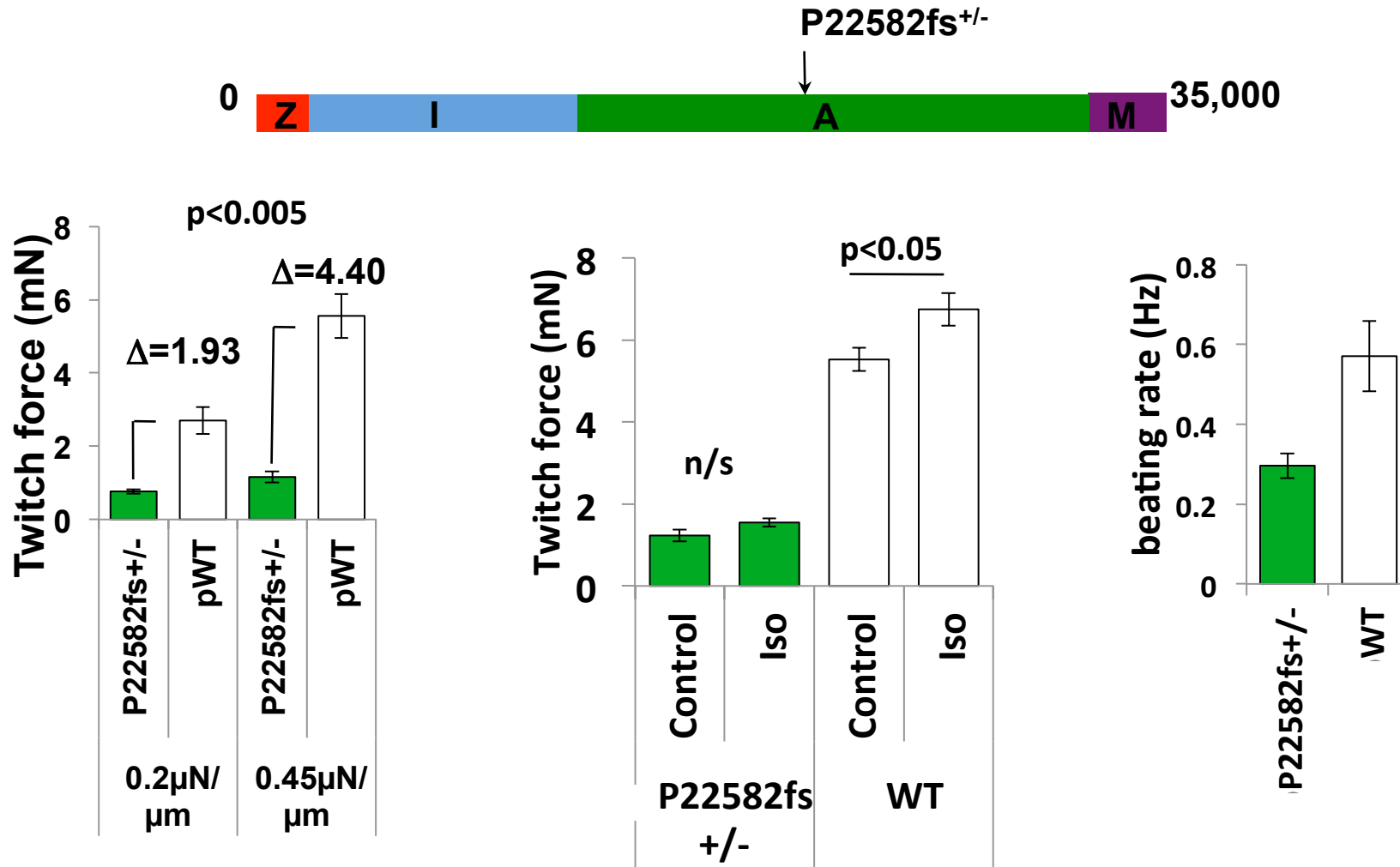
*Hinson et al (2015) Science*

# TTNtv Protein: Sometimes Stable in Cells but Impairs Sarcomerogenesis

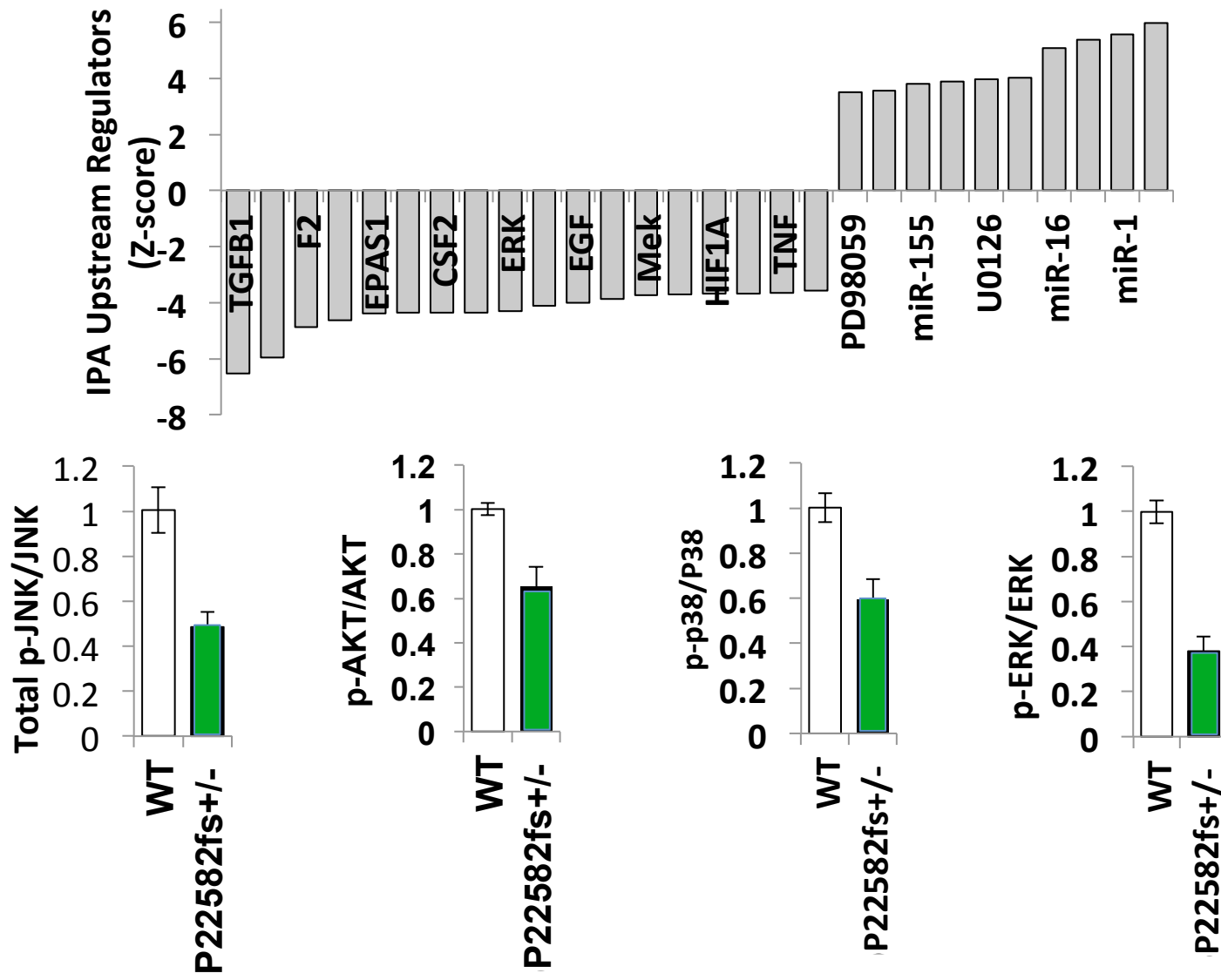


*Hinson et al (2015) Science*

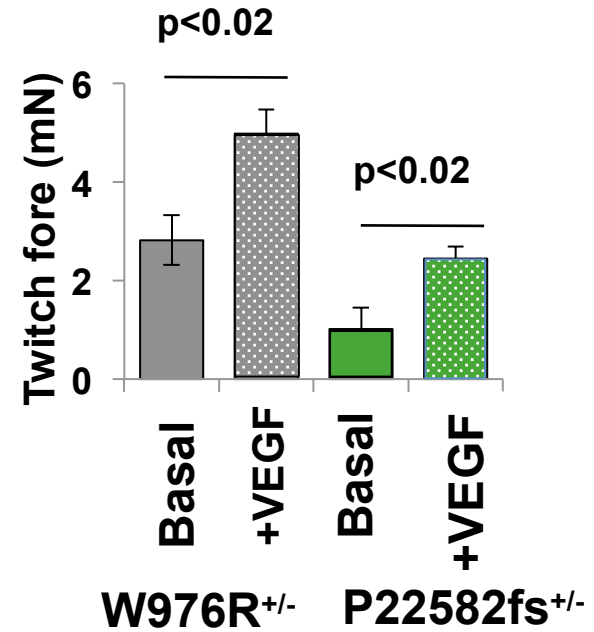
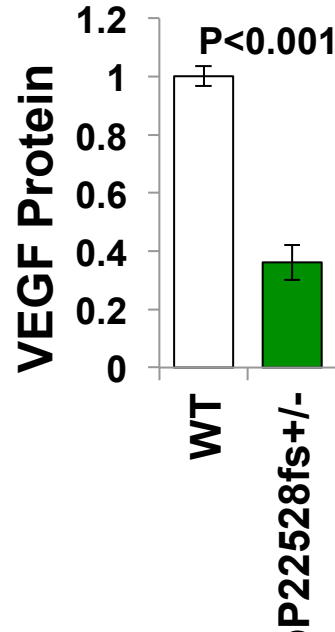
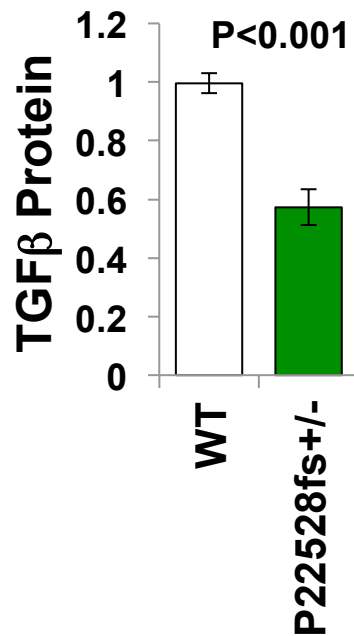
# A-band TTNtv Cardiomyocytes: Reduce Responses to Load & Adrenergic Stimuli



# A-band TTNtv iPS-CMs: Reduced Growth Factors & Signaling Molecules



# Supplemental Growth Factors Improved Force Production by TTNtv iPS-CMs





↓ TTN<sup>tv+/-</sup>



Haploinsufficiency of full length TTN  
Disease severity ~ PSI of truncated exon  
A-band (PSI 100%) >> I-band (mean PSI 69%)



### Sarcomere Insufficiency

#### Failed Adaptation

↓ Responsiveness:  
Mechanical load  
Adrenergic stimulus

#### Failed Signaling

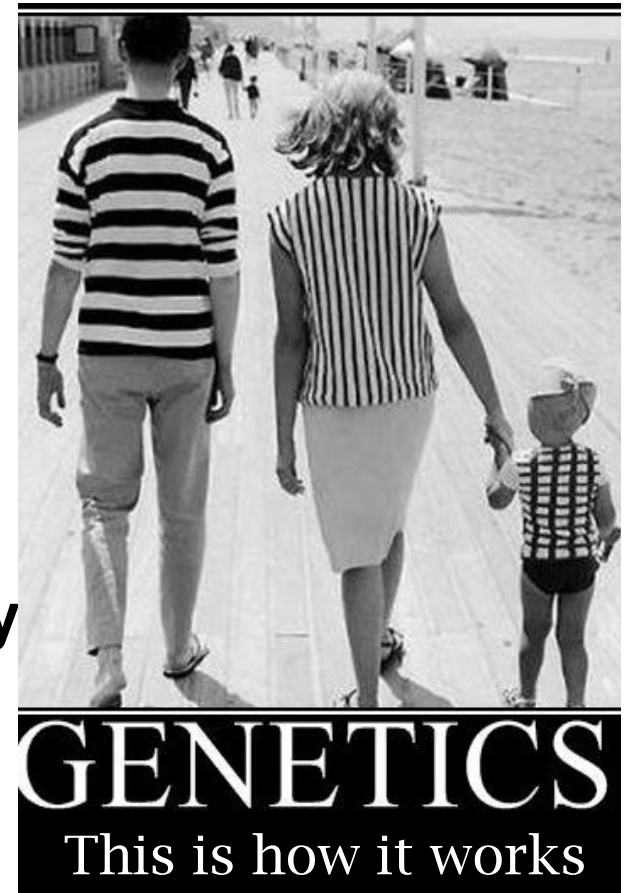
↓ Activation:  
Growth factors/Regulators  
(TGF- $\beta$ , VEGF, MAPK, AKT)

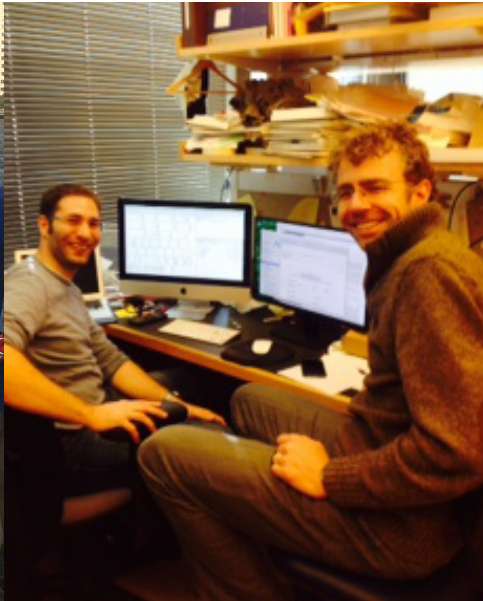


**Dilated Cardiomyopathy and Heart Failure**

# Insights From Genetic Heart Diseases

- **Molecules:** Sarcomere Proteins  
Prevalent Causes of DCM and HCM
- **Mutations:** Not Created Equal  
Variables = Type, Location, Exon Usage  
Exquisite Probes for Molecular Physiology
- **Mechanisms:** Informed by New Tools  
Provide Powerful Strategies to Identify  
New Treatment Strategies





## Human Genetics

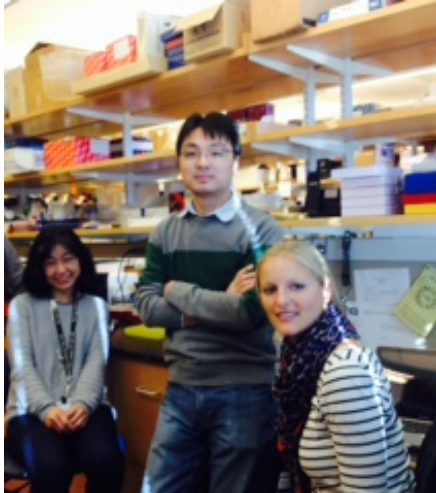
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