

18<sup>a</sup> edición

# POSTCROI 2021

Una actualización de la 28<sup>a</sup> Conference on  
Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections

## Investigación básica: Curación del VIH y anticuerpos neutralizantes

Javier Martinez-Picado, PhD



# PROGRAM COMMITTEE WORKSHOP FOR NEW INVESTIGATORS AND TRAINEES

## ADVANCES IN MOLECULAR VIROLOGY OF HIV AND SARS-CoV-2

**Frank Kirchhoff**, *Ulm University Medical Center, Ulm,  
Germany*



## ADVANCES IN HIV AND SARS-CoV-2 IMMUNOLOGY

**Galit Alter**, *Ragon Institute of MGH, MIT and Harvard,  
Cambridge, MA, USA*

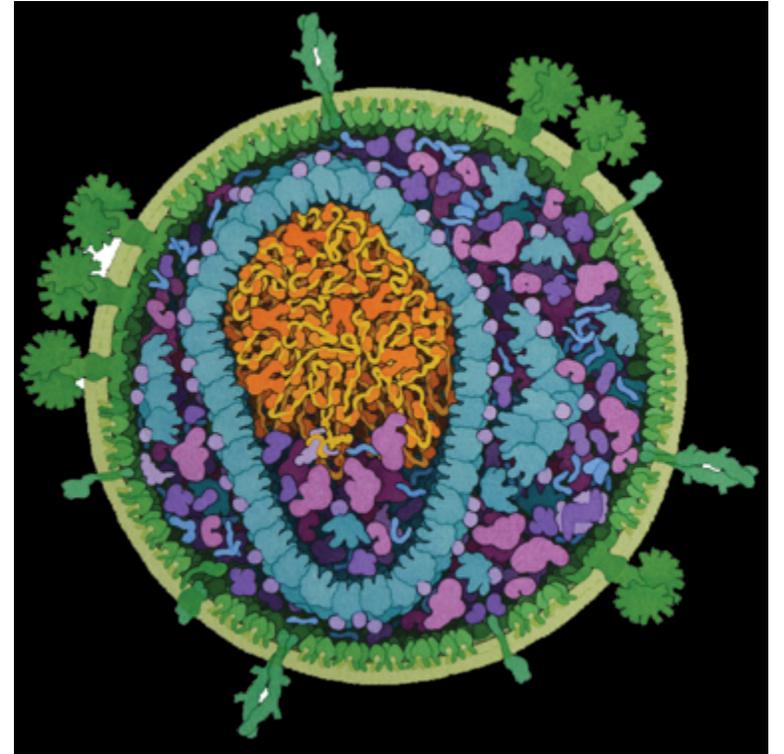
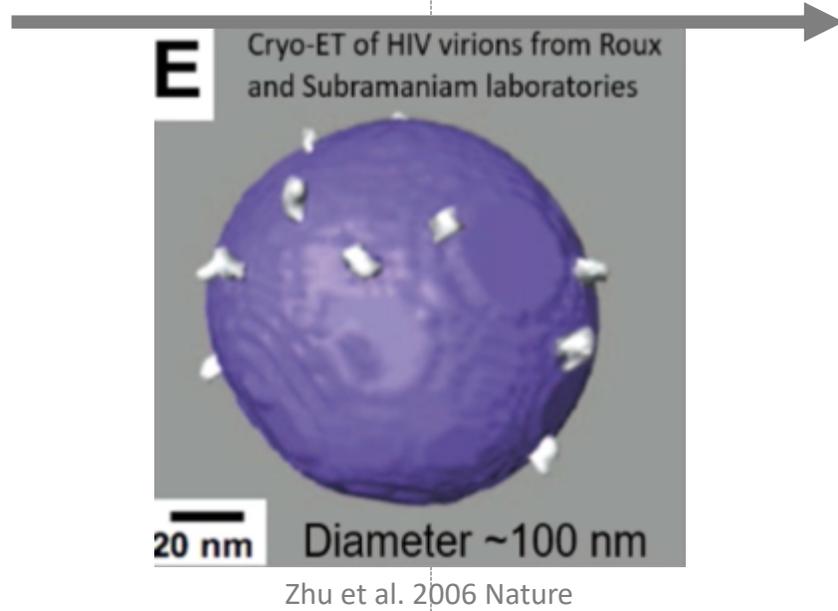
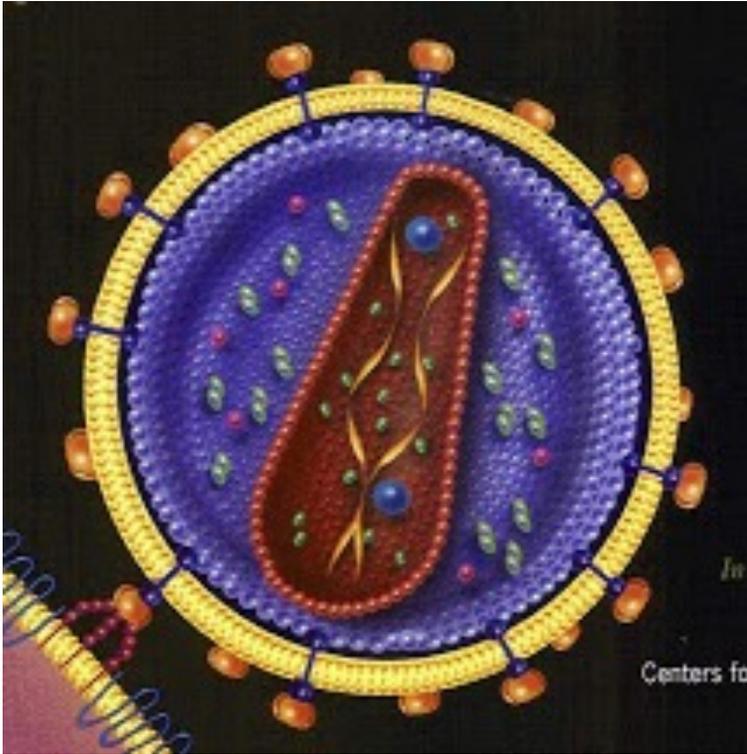


## ADVANCES IN HIV CURE

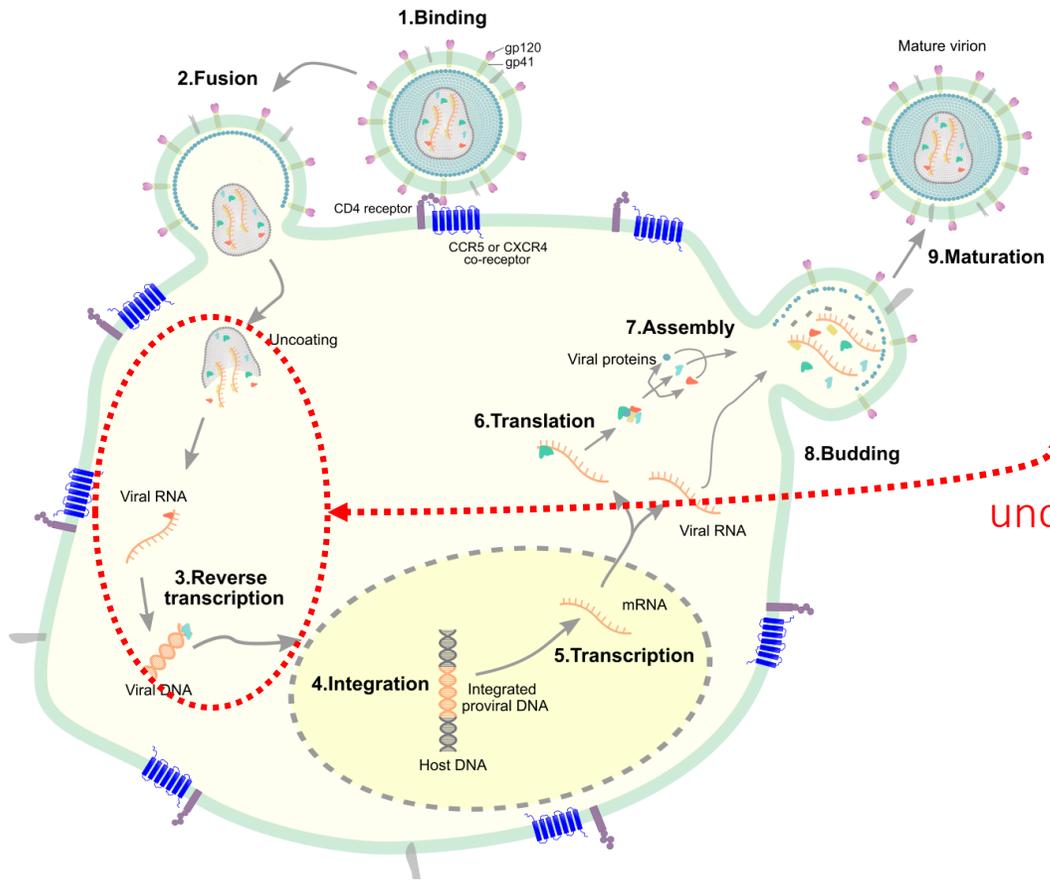
**Katherine J. Bar**, *University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia,  
PA, USA*



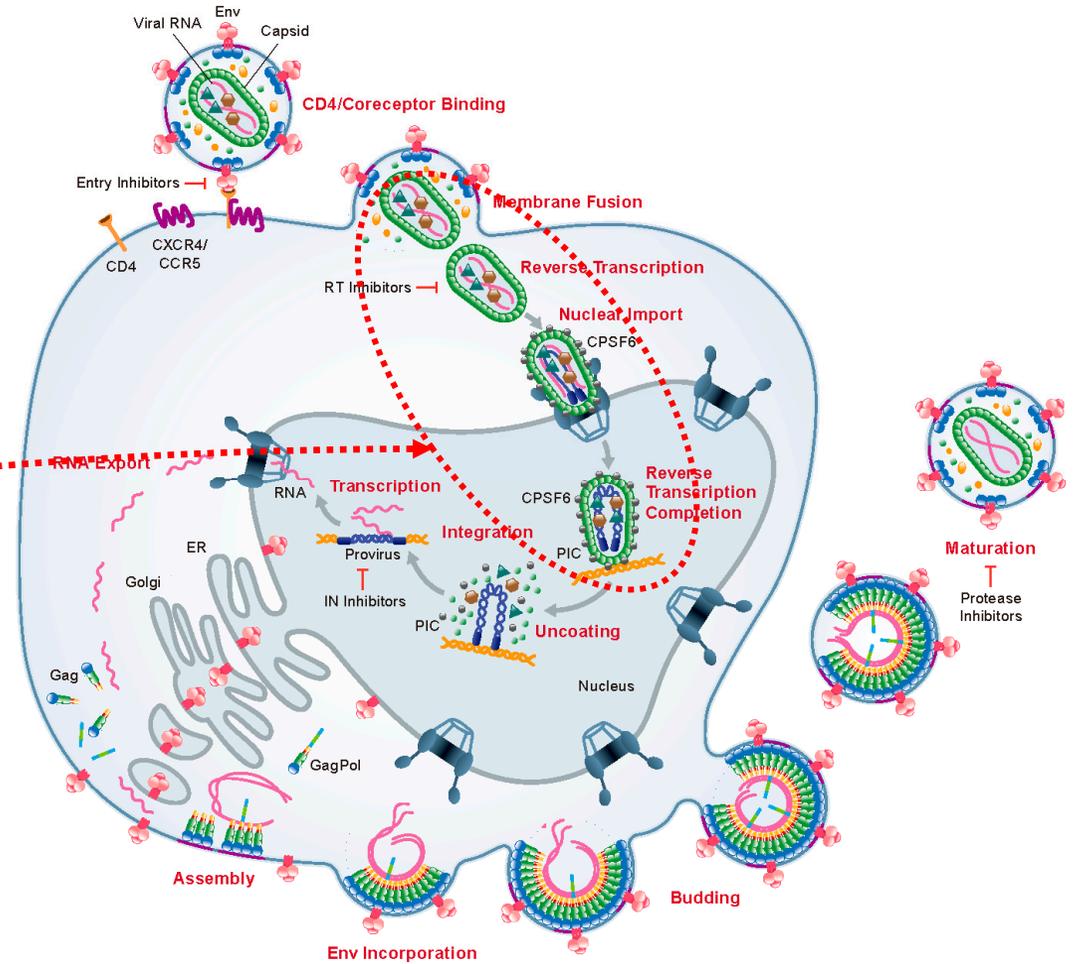
# Changes in the CROI logo over the years



# HIV Replication Cycle

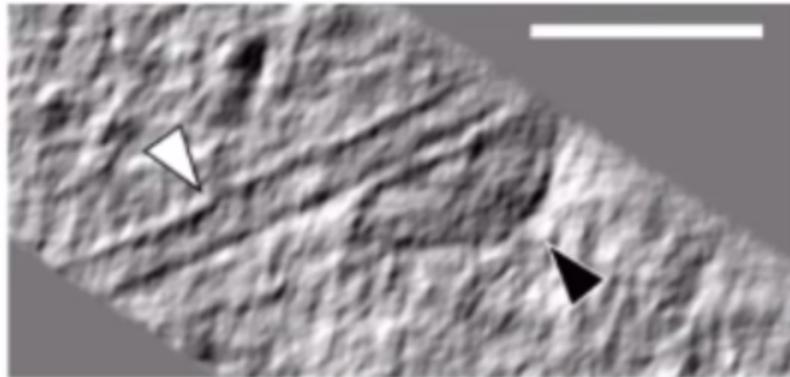
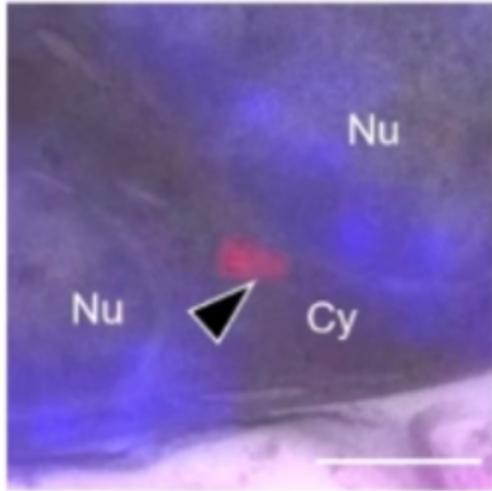


uncoating

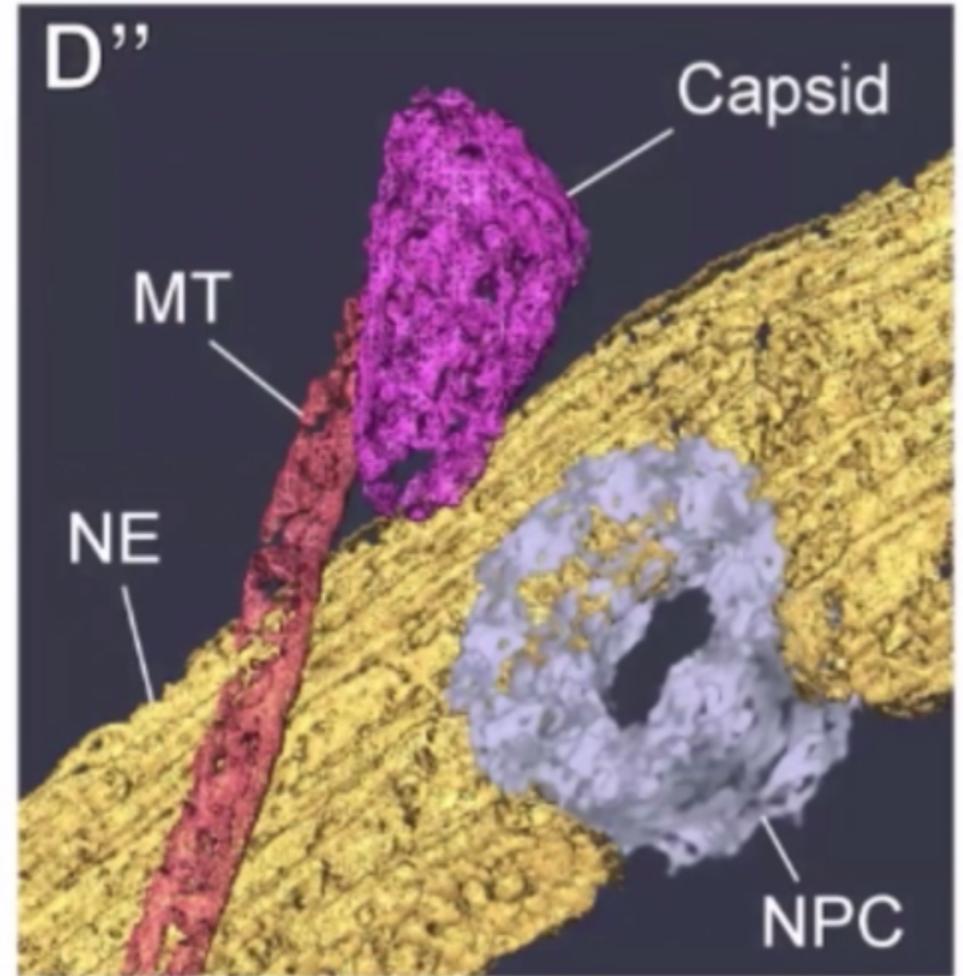


# Post-fusion HIV capsids traffick on microtubules to the nuclear pore

Correlative Electron Tomography of cytoplasmic HIV complexes

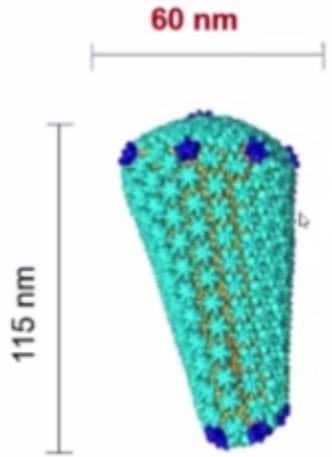


**80% of complexes at the NPC  
associated with microtubules**

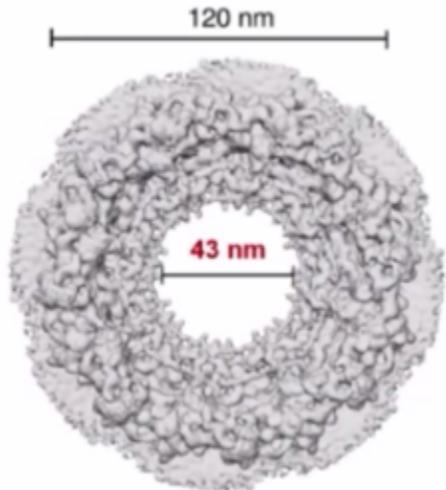


# Cone-shaped HIV-1 capsids are transported through intact nuclear pores

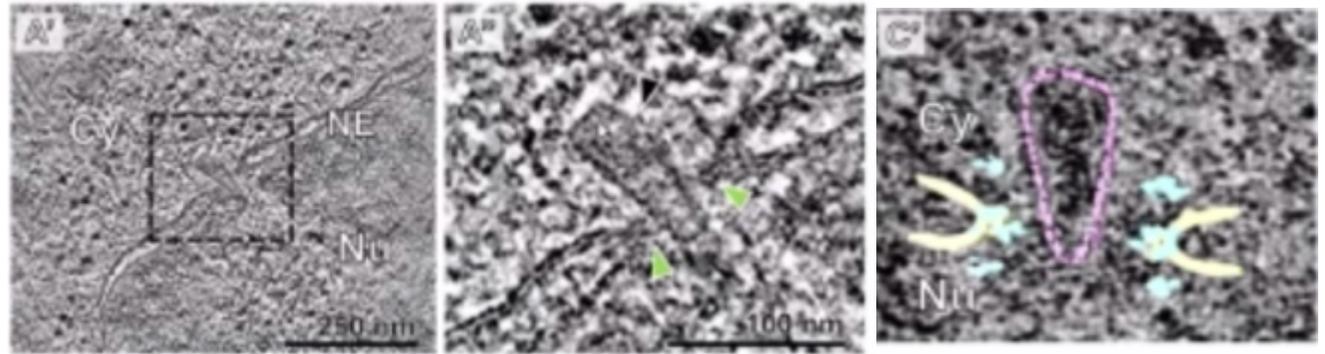
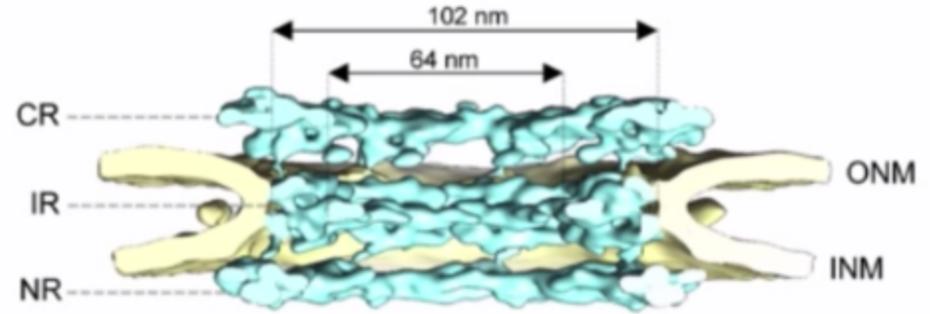
- How does the capsid get through the nuclear pore?
  - $\emptyset$  of the nuclear pore is larger than previously determined
  - The intact capsid can pass through the nuclear pore



Mattei et al., Science 2016

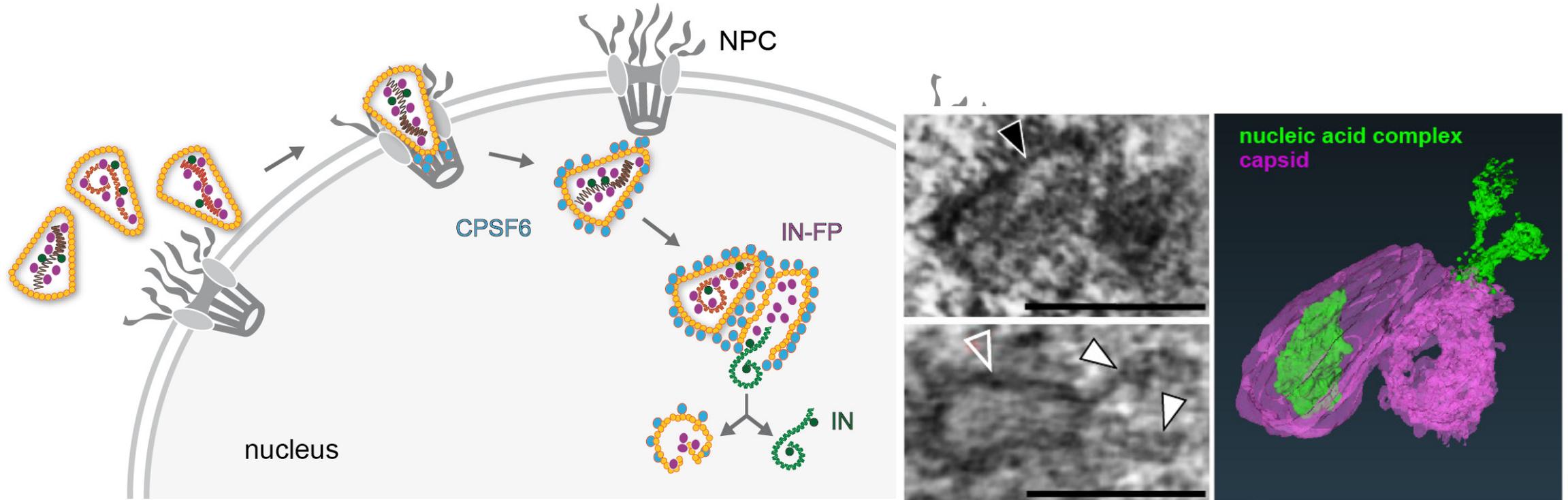


von Appen et al., Nature 2015



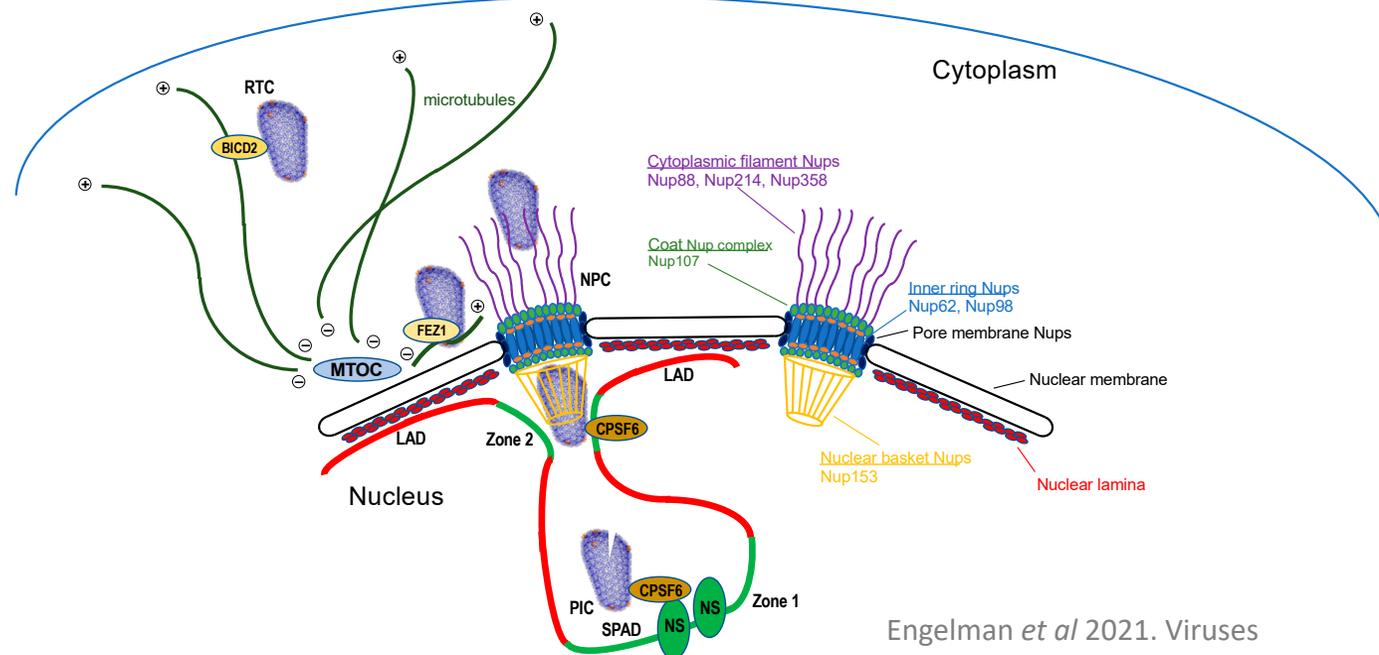
# Uncoating occurs by breakage of the capsid lattice in the nucleus

- CPSF6 releases the cores from the nuclear pore and cluster on nuclear capsids.
- +sDNA synthesis of the viral cDNA is completed
- Physical disruption of the capsid releases the completed cDNA into the nucleoplasm
- It becomes integrated into the host cell genome in the vicinity of the uncoating site



# Why HIV uses intact capsids to traffic to the nucleus ?

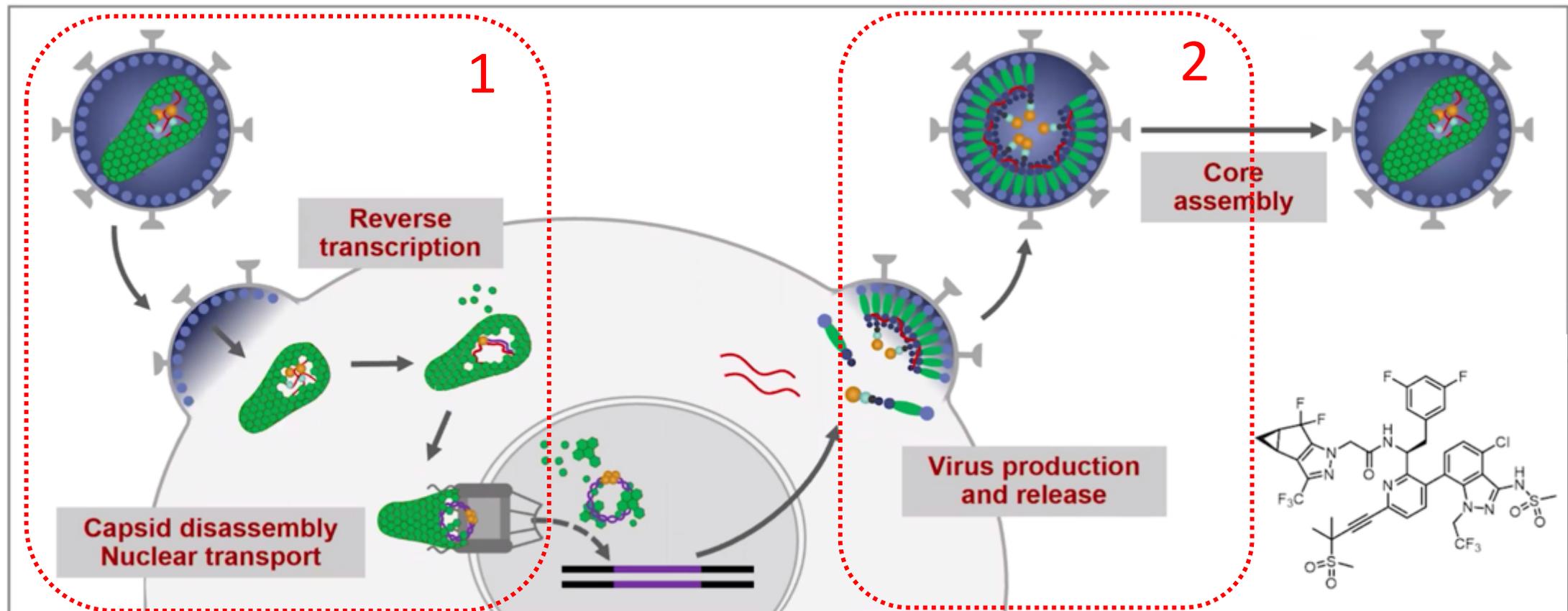
- Reaction container for reverse transcription: *initiated in the cytosol*
- Trafficking module in the cytosol: *along the cytoskeleton of the cell*
- Shield from cytolytic DNA sensors: *restriction factors!*
- Nuclear import vehicle: *shape matters ...*
- Nuclear breakage of the capsid releases the genome complex for integration



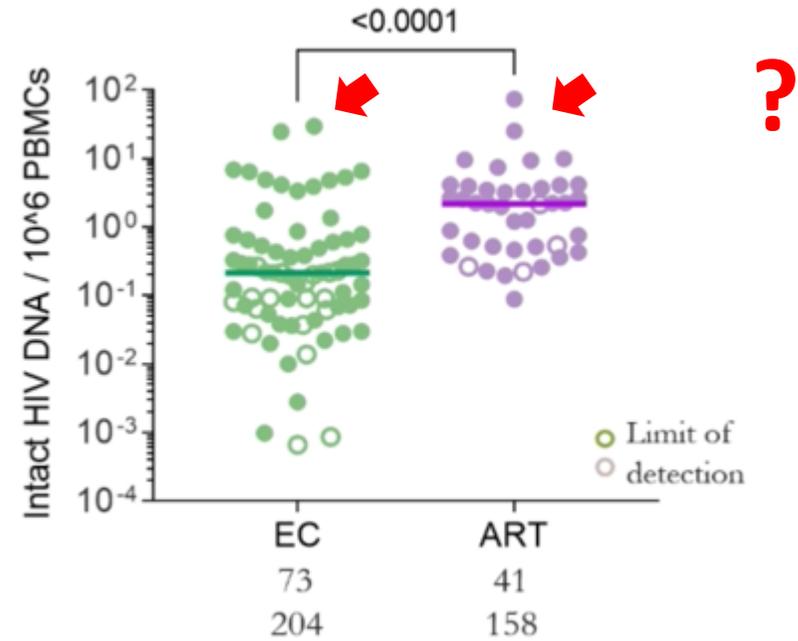
Engelman *et al* 2021. *Viruses*

# Lenacapavir (GS-6207): First-in-class Inhibitor of the HIV Capsid

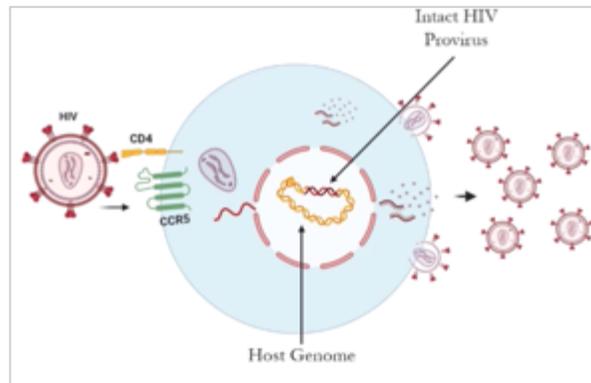
- pM, Long-active, Long-acting, All HIV subtypes, No Cross Resistance
- Interferes with the assembly, disassembly and traffic of capsid core
- Binds at a conserved interface between capsid monomers stabilizing the core



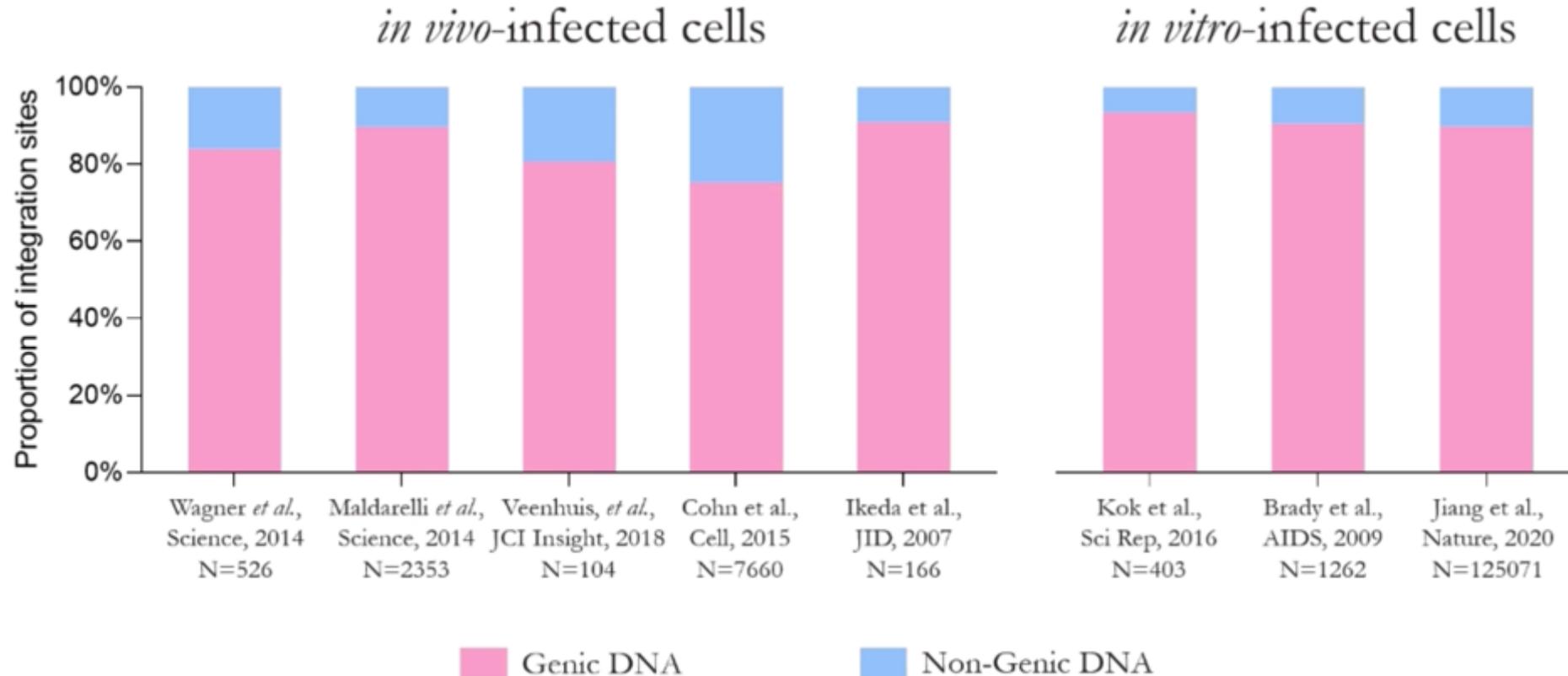
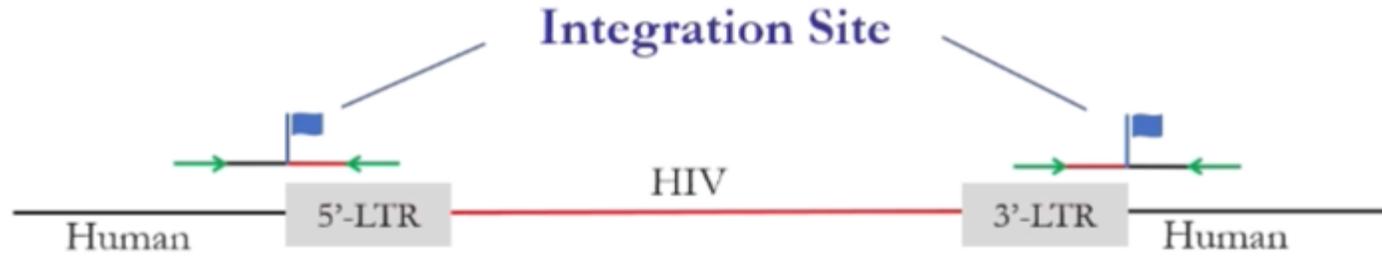
# The thousand faces of the Elite Controller



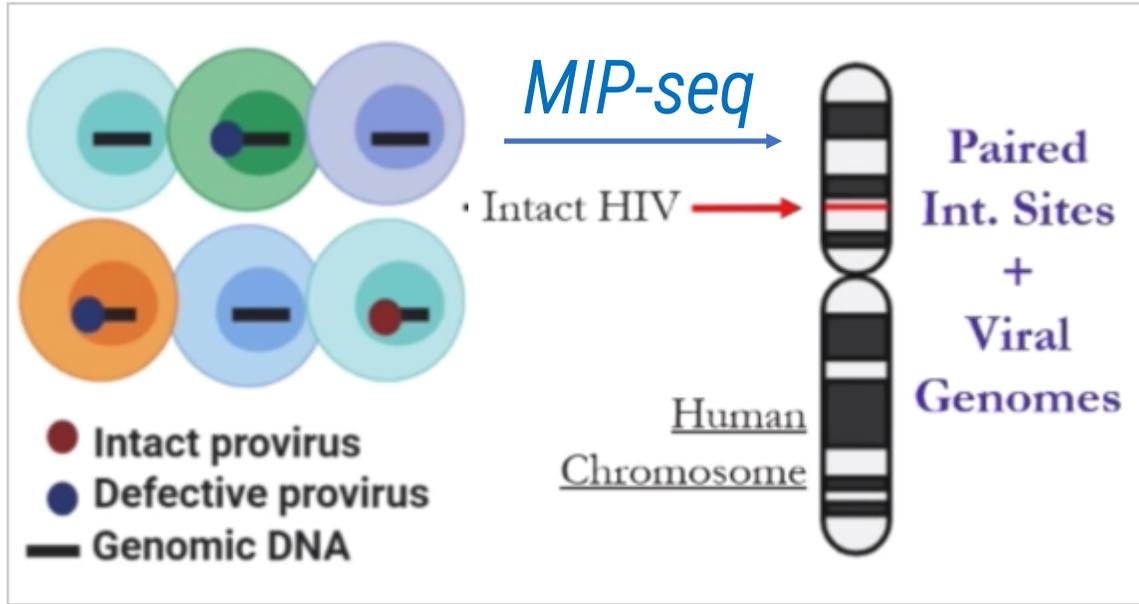
+



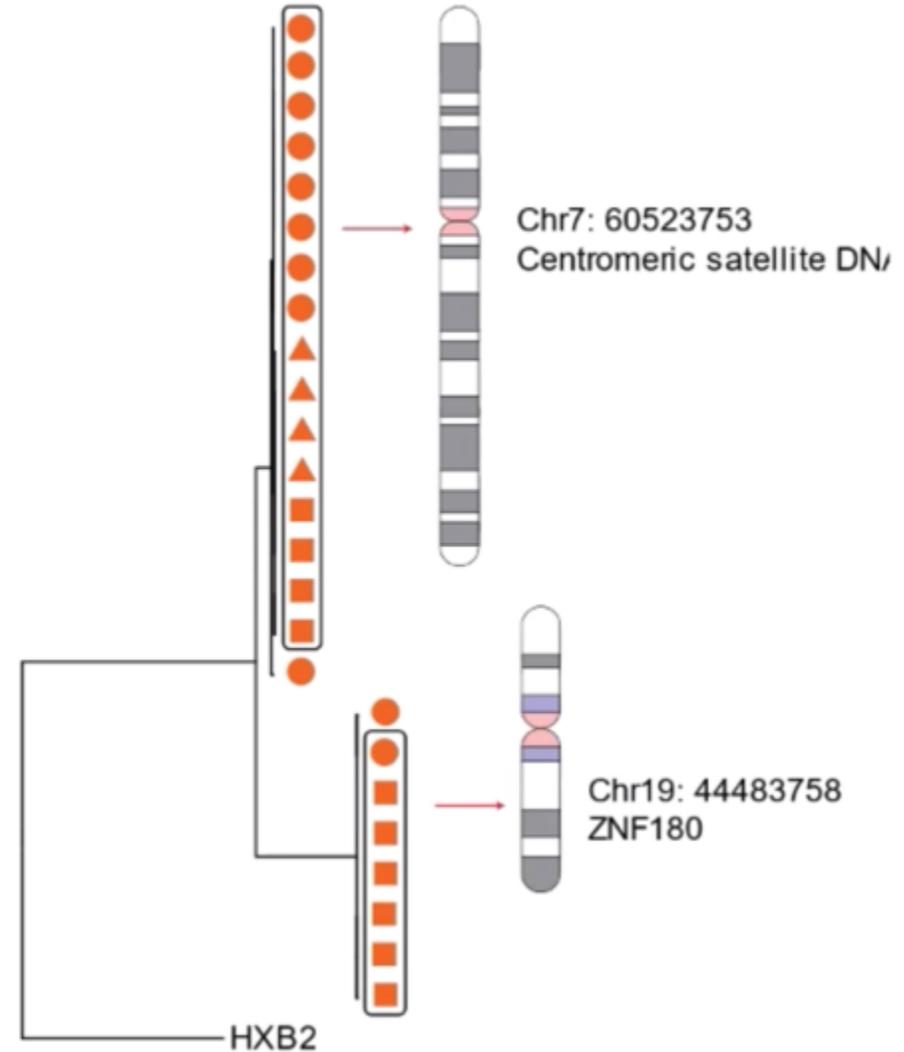
# Integration Site Analysis in the Host Chromosome



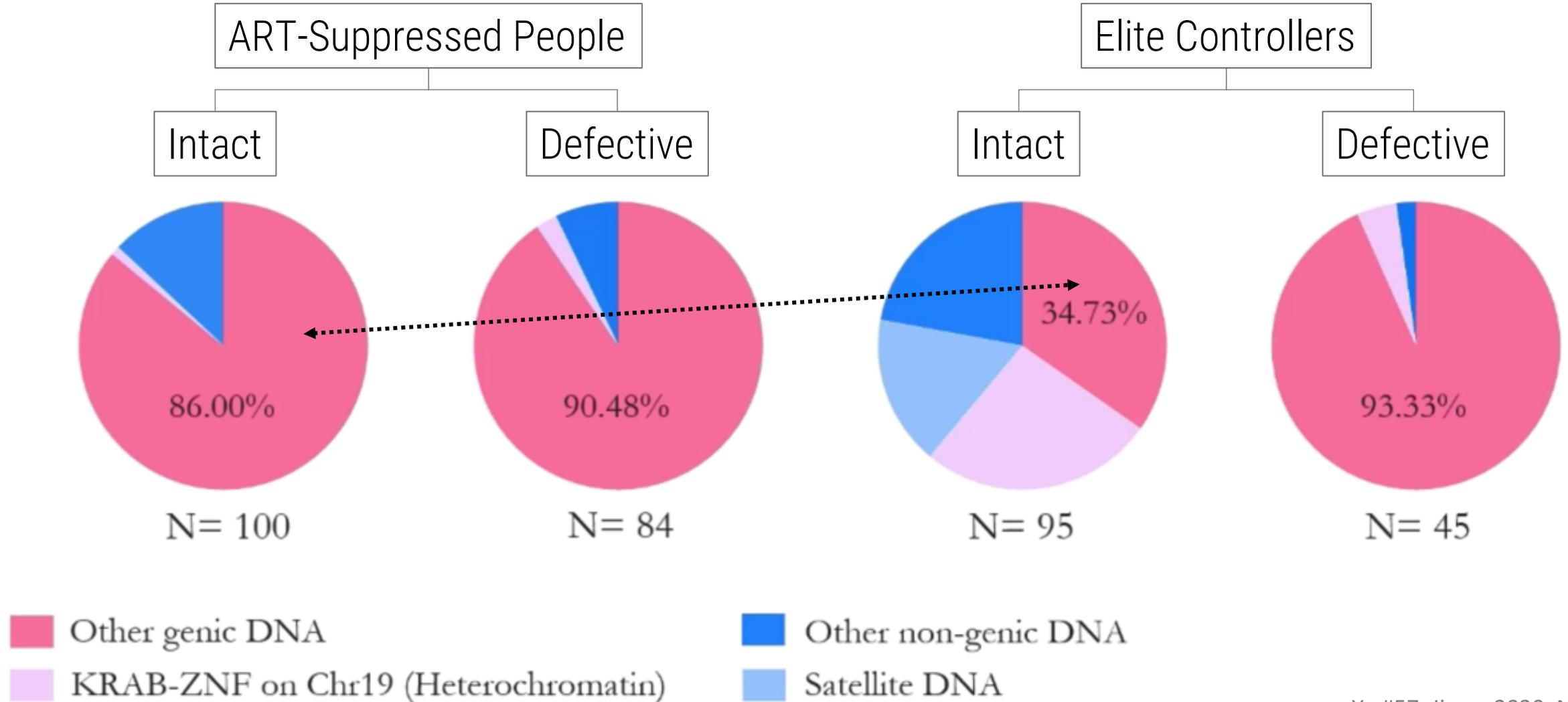
# Matched Integration Site and Proviral Sequencing Assay



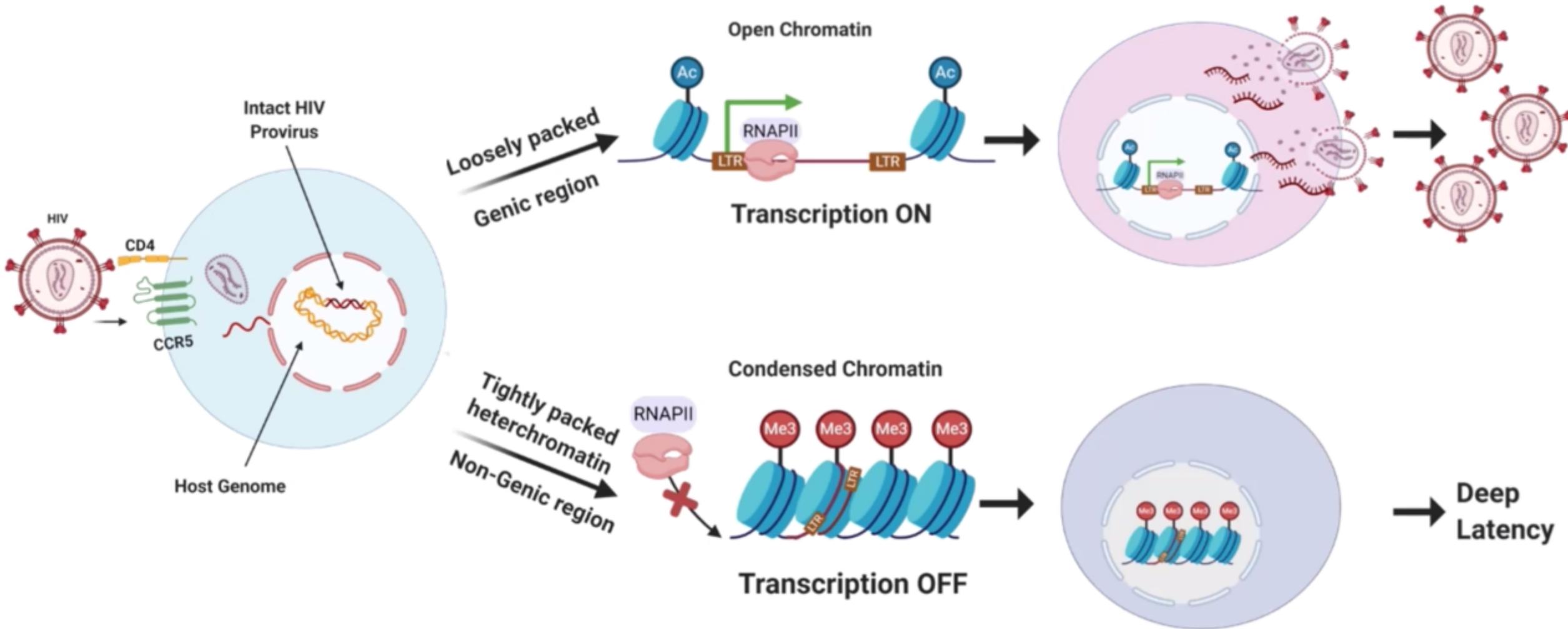
*Clonally-expanded intact proviral genomes in Elite Controllers accumulate in Centromeric regions and KRAB-ZNF genes*



# Intact proviral genomes in EC in: non-genic, satellite or heterochromatin regions



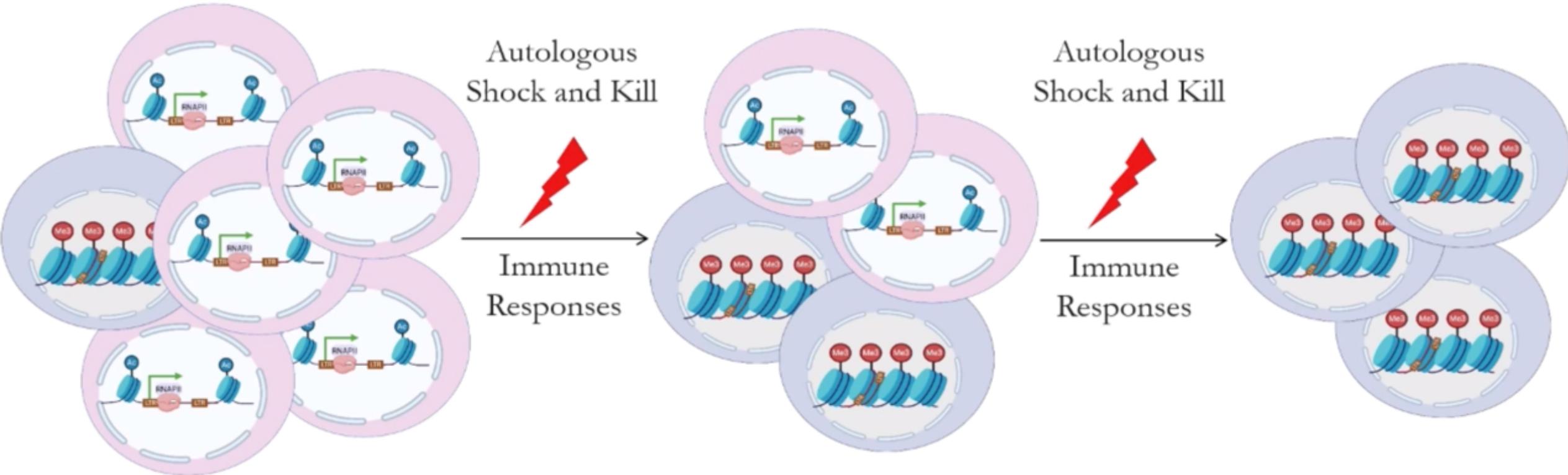
# Chromosomal Location Matters



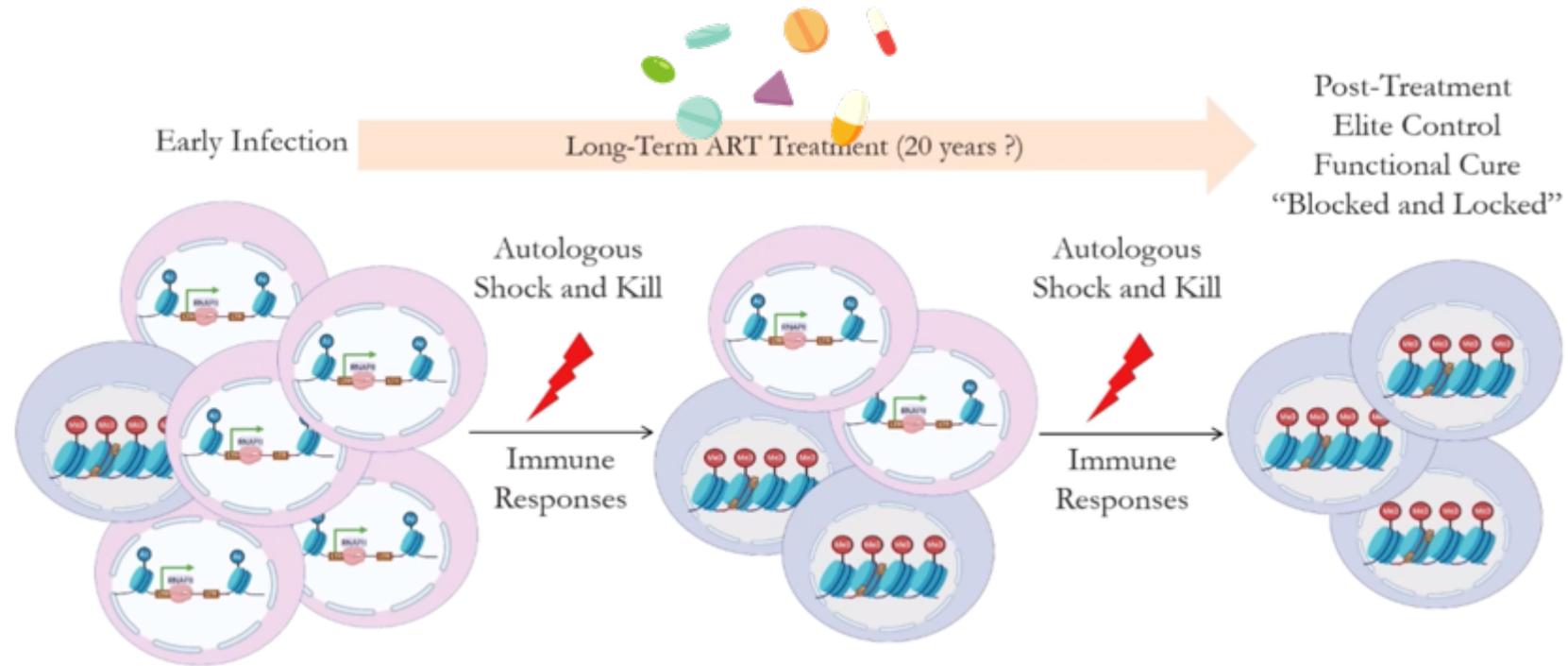
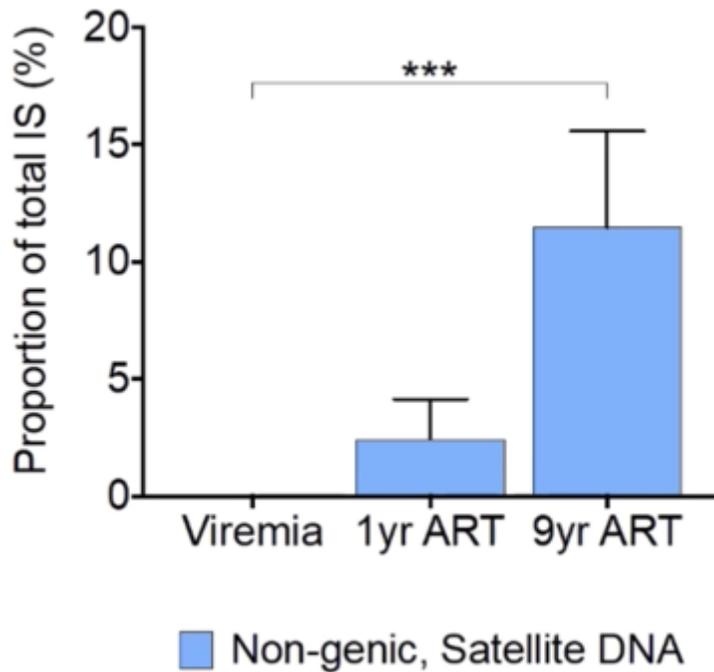
# “Autologous Shock and Kill” Immune Selection

Early Infection

Elite Control  
Functional Cure  
“Blocked and Locked”

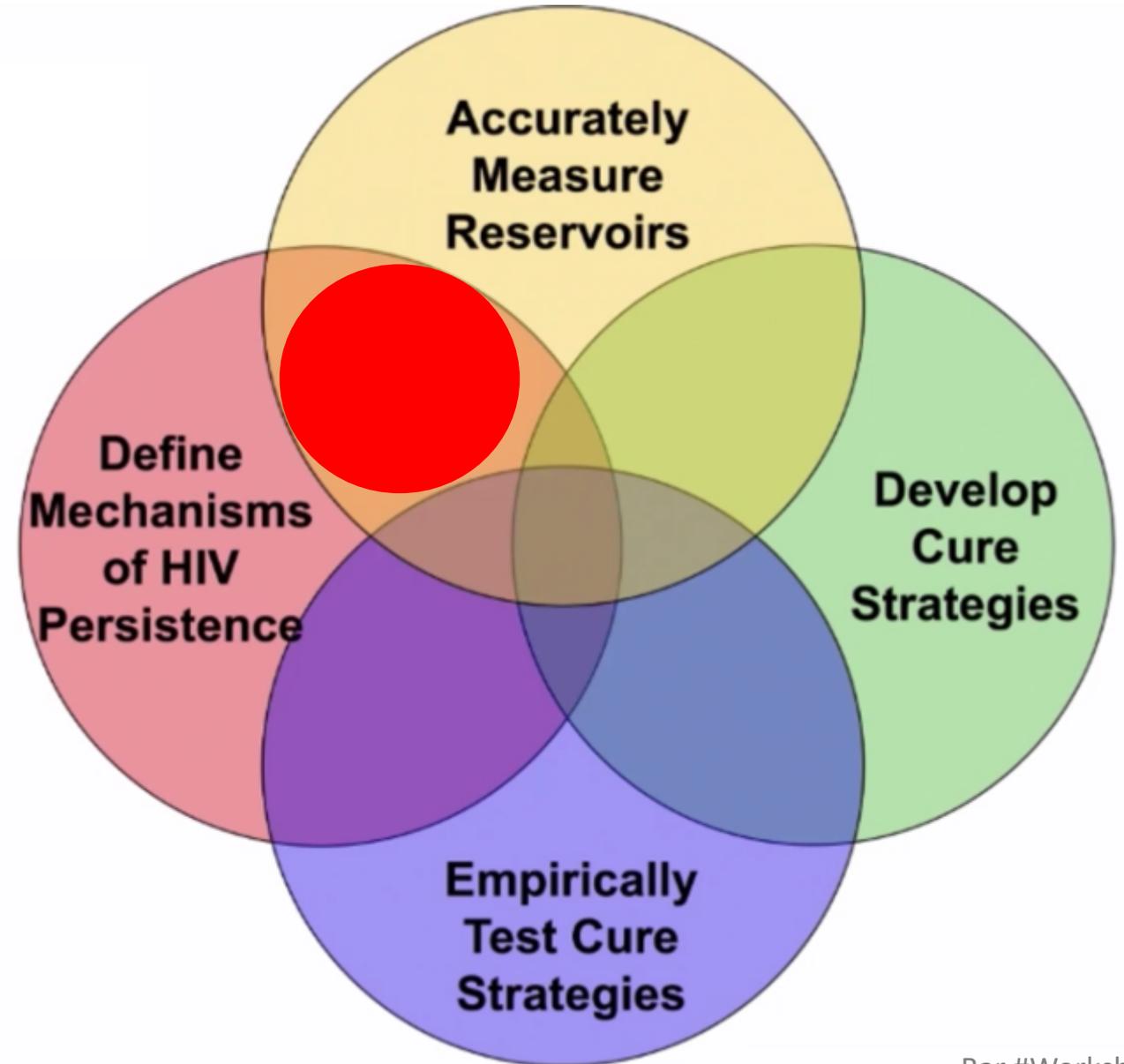


# Do intact viruses in "deep latency" undergo immune selection during ART ?



# HIV Cure Research Priorities

Overlapping, mutually dependent priorities to elucidate and overcome barriers to HIV cure



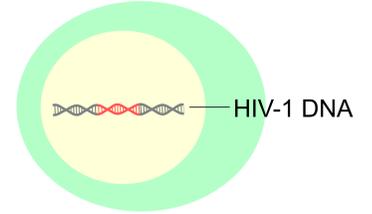
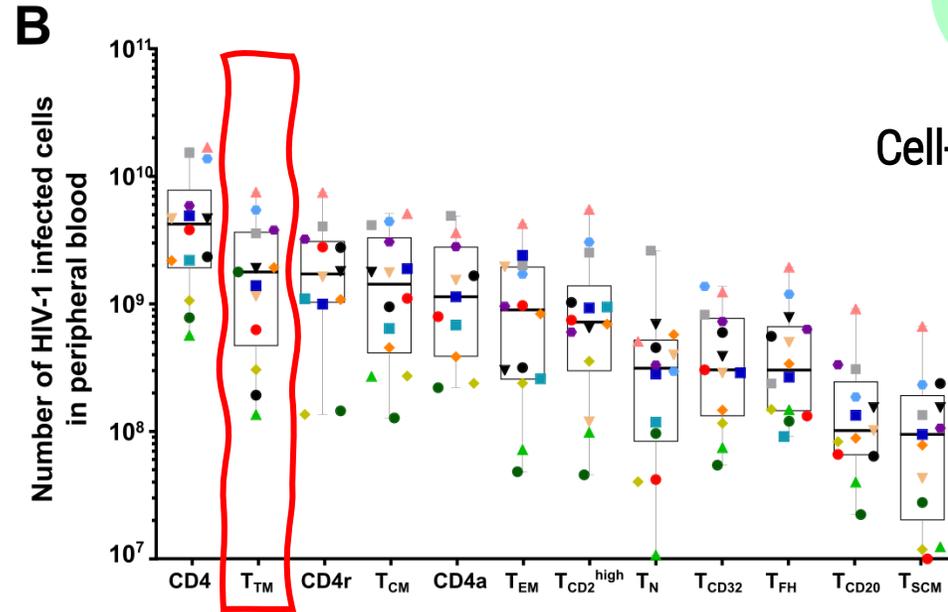
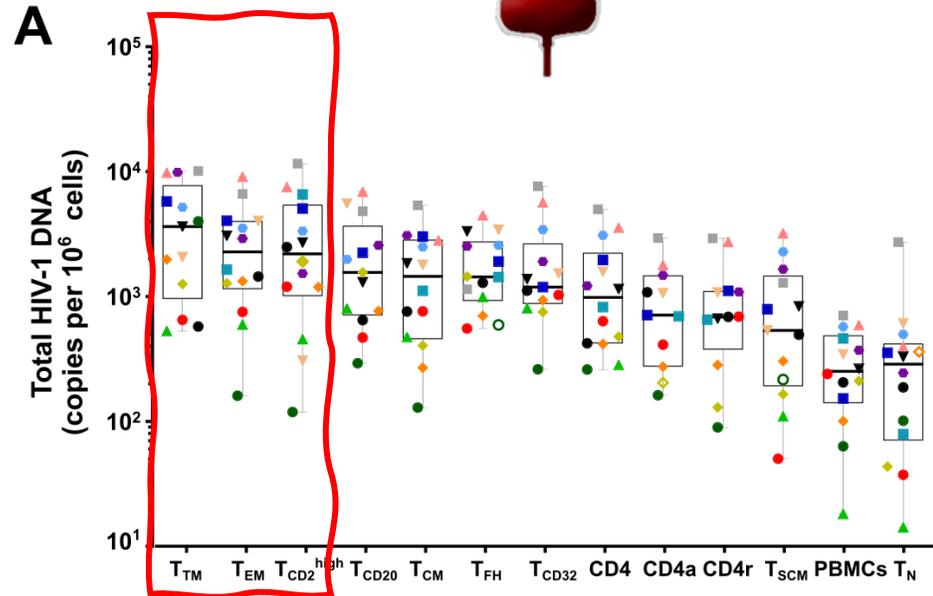
# HIV Reservoir Atlas in Peripheral Blood



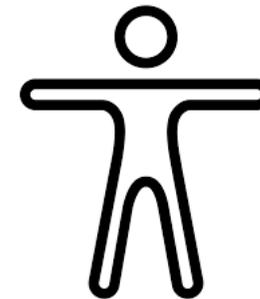
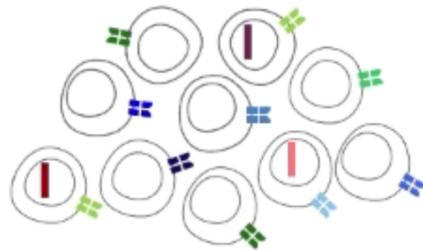
# The most infected subpopulations had a memory phenotype



500ml blood drawn

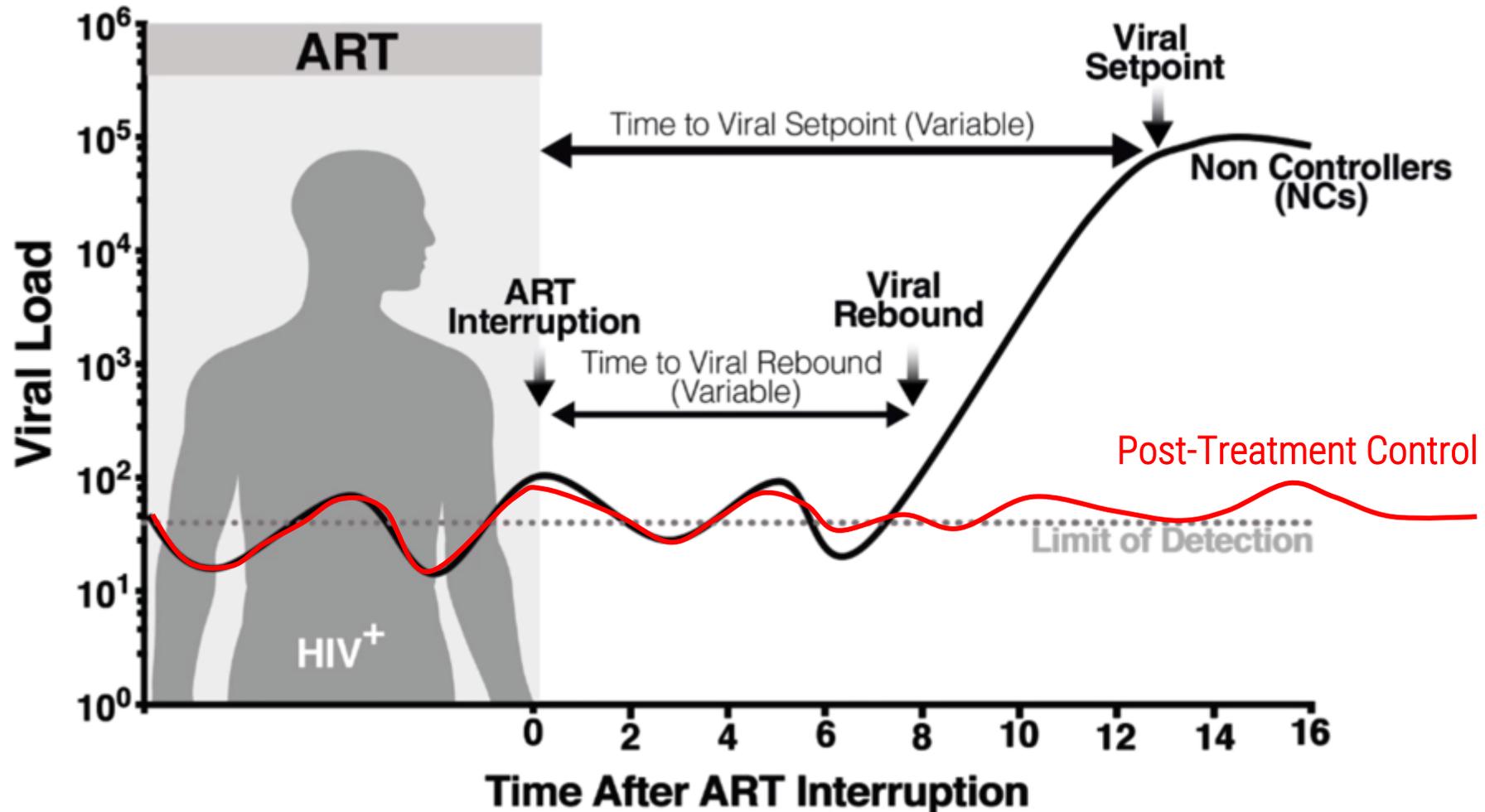


Cell-associated HIV-DNA



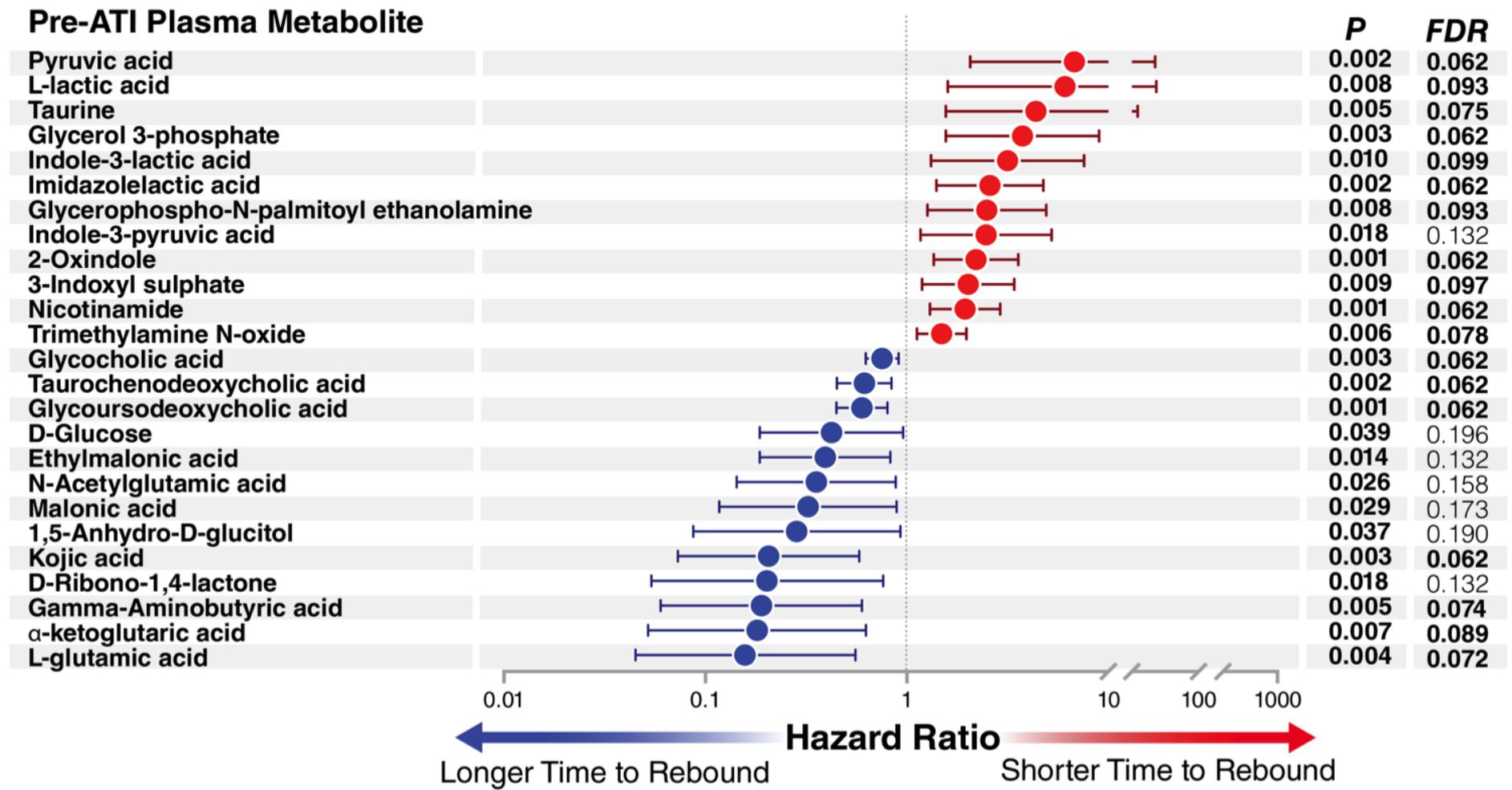
# Predictors of Viral Rebound

*Non-invasive plasma glycomic and metabolomic biomarkers of post-treatment HIV control  
Improve the safety of analytic treatment interruption*



# Predictors of Viral Rebound

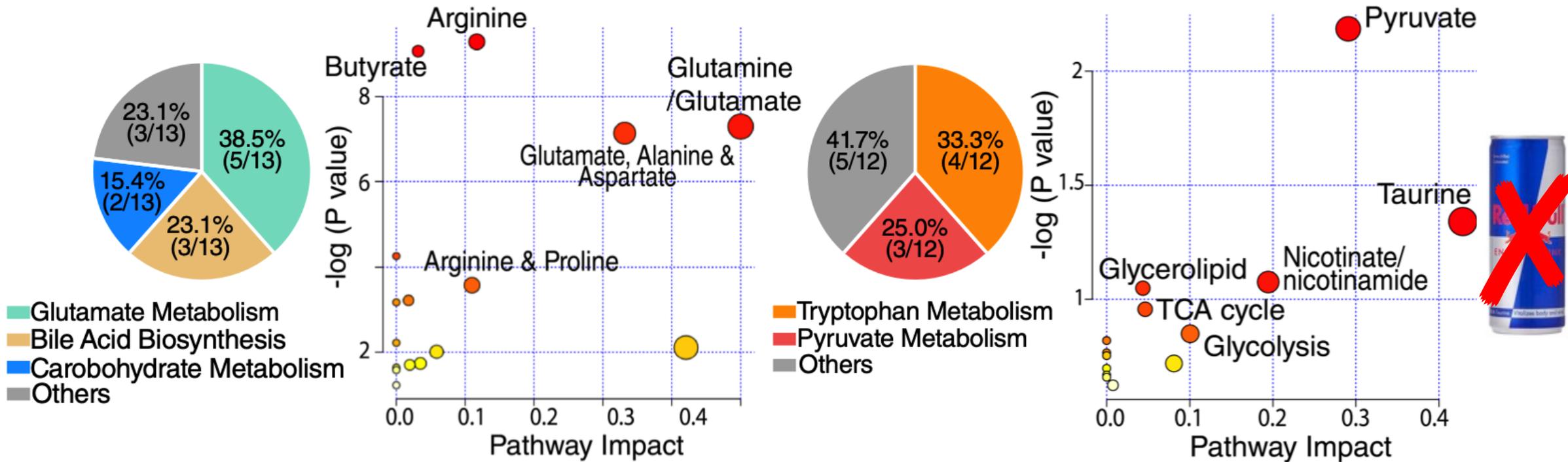
Plasma metabolites associate with time-to-viral-rebound in the Philadelphia Cohort



# Predictors of Viral Rebound

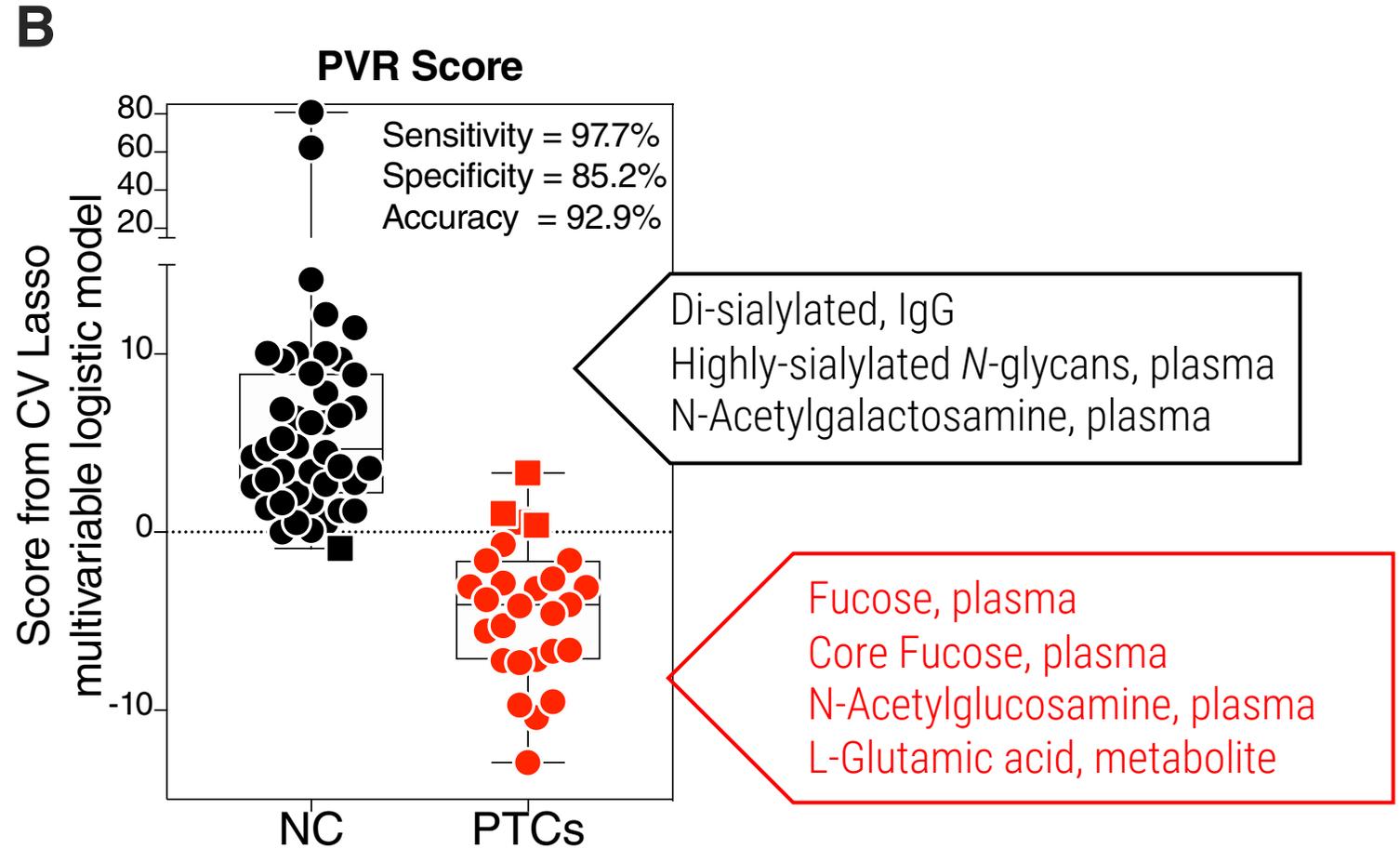
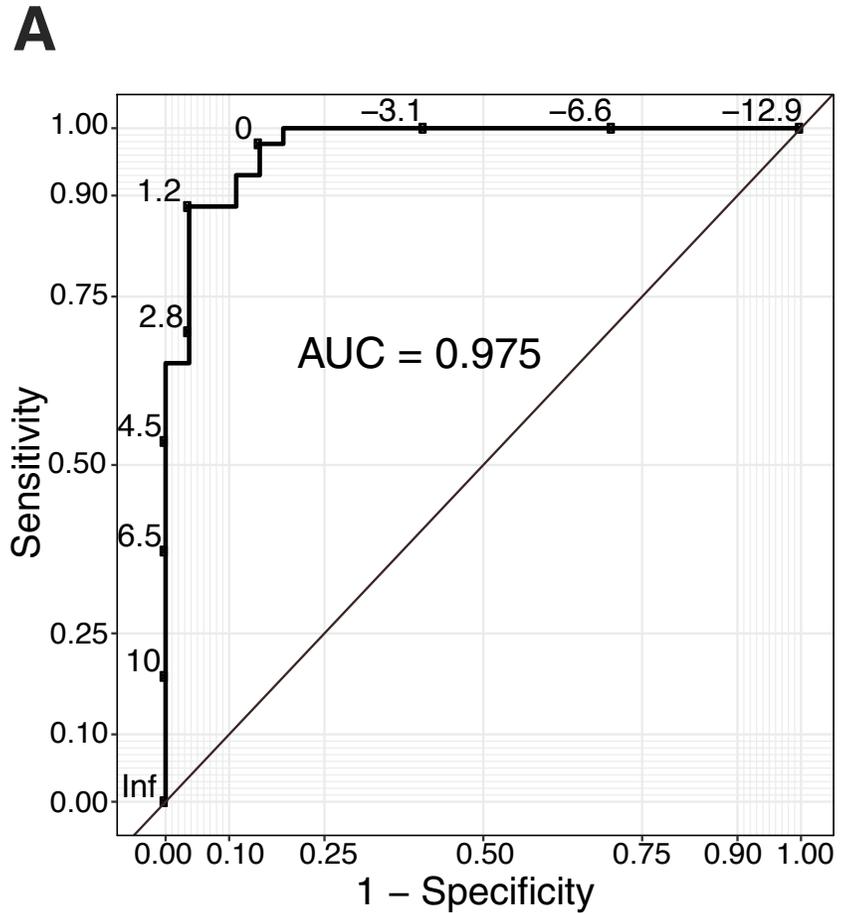
Plasma metabolites associate with time-to-viral-rebound in the Philadelphia Cohort

## C Delayed Viral Rebound      D Accelerated Viral Rebound



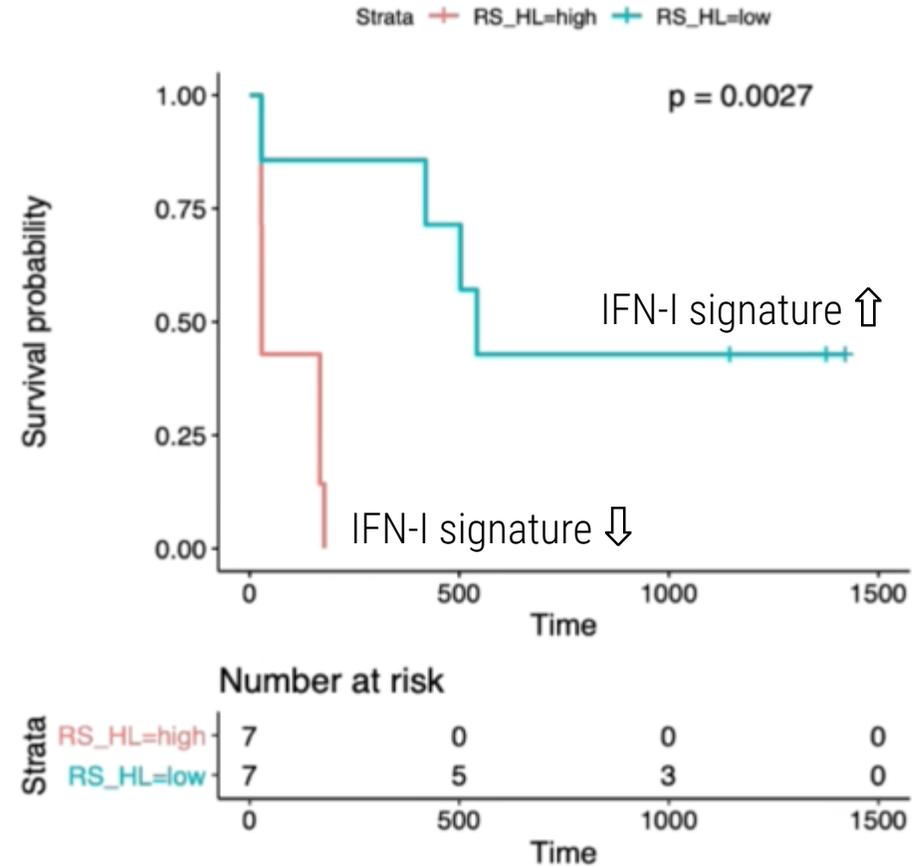
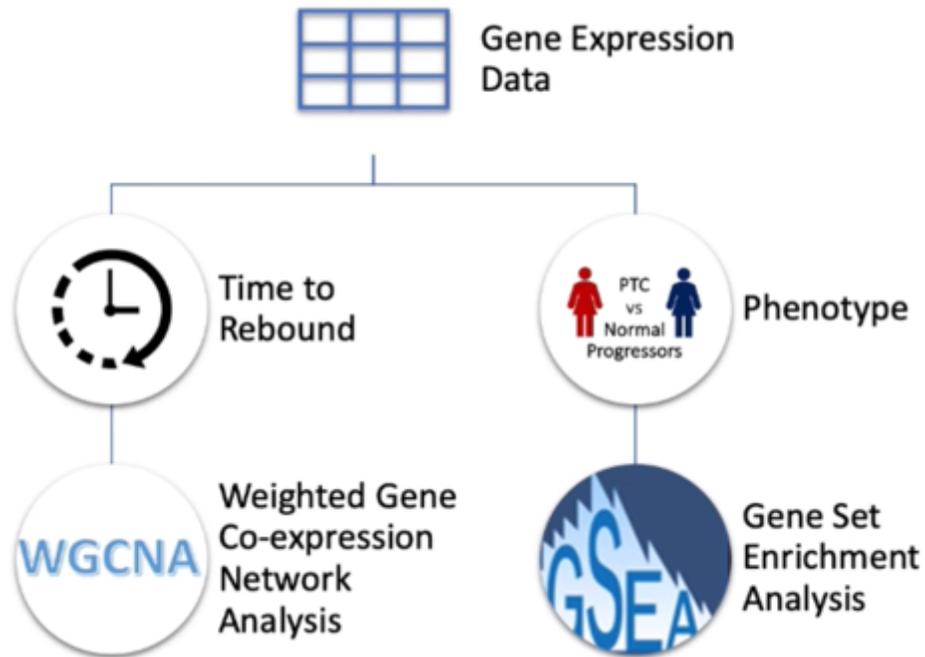
# Predictors of Viral Rebound

A multivariable logistic model selected variables predicts probability of viral remission post ATI



# Predictors of Viral Rebound

IFN-I-associated gene expression predicts time to viral rebound after ART interruption

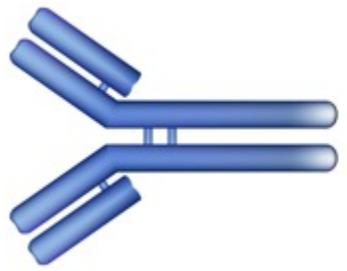


Risk Score

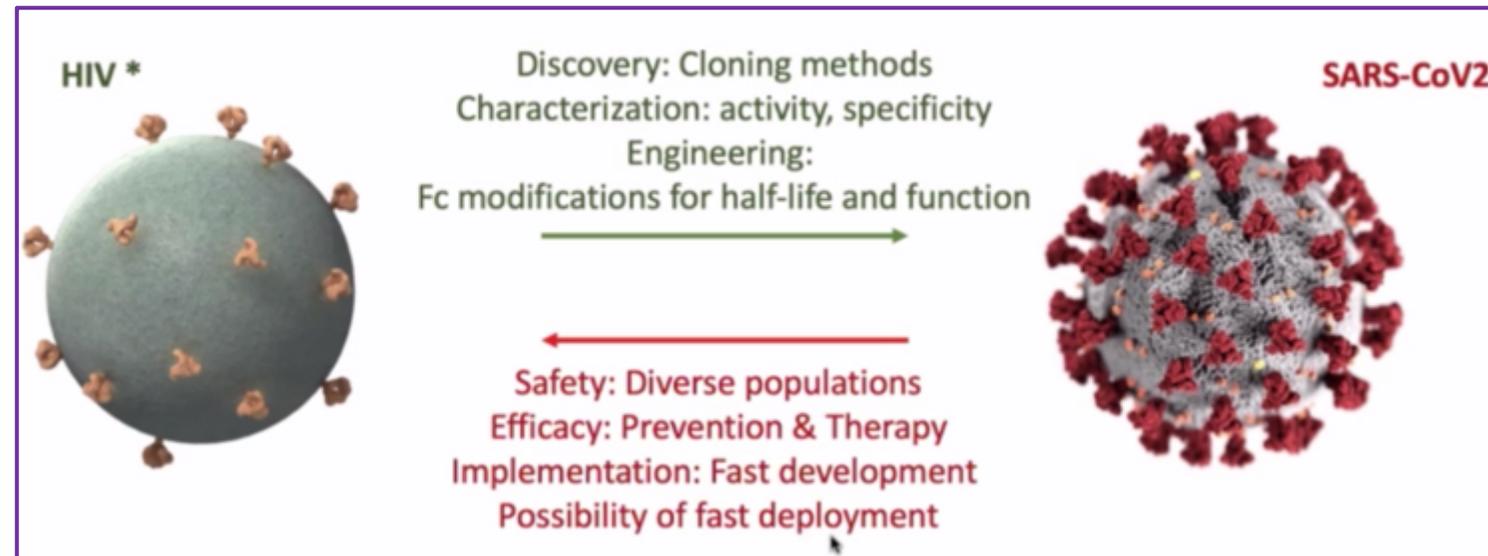
ISG15  
 TRIM25  
 XAF1  
 USP18

*All with negative coefficient*

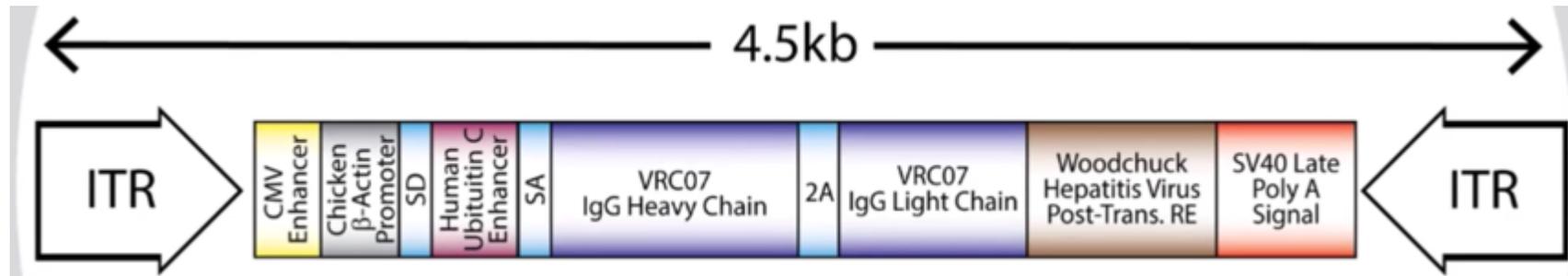
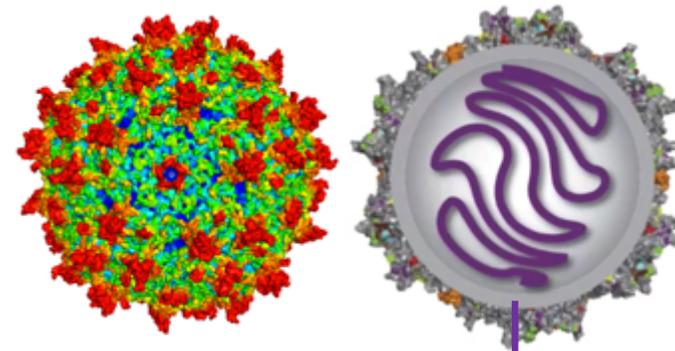
# HIV-1 bNAbs: Looking ahead



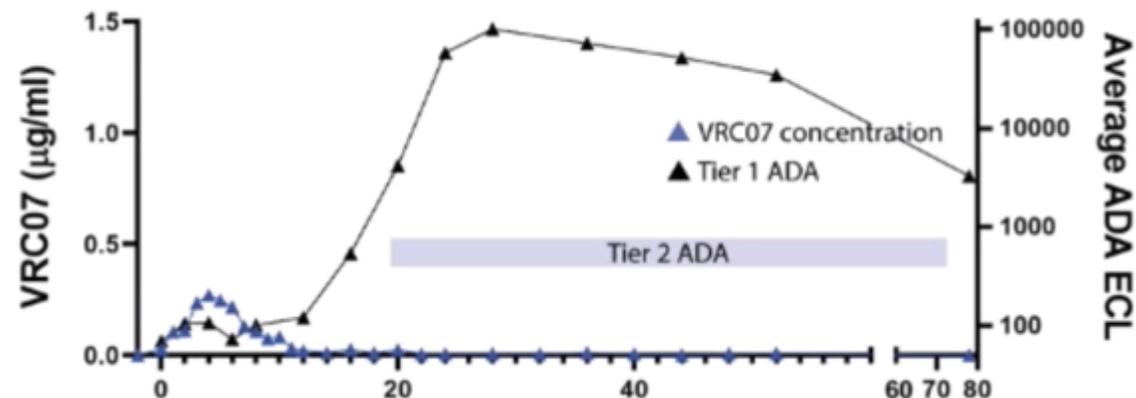
- Proof-of-concept for Ab-mediated **PREVENTION**
- Emergence evidence that bNAbs can maintain viral suppression as **THERAPY**
- Early promising data with **LONG-TERM CONTROL**, through delivery systems
- Safety in humans
- Promising results in NHP
- Challenges:
  - *pre-existing resistance*
  - *emergence of anti-drug Abs*
  - *cost*
- Future:
  - *new molecules*
  - *combinations*
  - *multiple studies for the next 2 yrs*



# Durable HIV-1 Ab production in humans after AAV8-mediated gene transfer



- First-in-human RCT with bNAbs for HIV-1 (n=8, 3 IM doses, 2-3 yrs follow-up)
- No reactogenic production of difficult to induce functional neutralizing Abs
- Induction of anti-drug Abs



- How HIV-1 capsid navigates to the cell nucleus
  - *A new way to understand the HIV replication cycle?*
- Chromosomal location of HIV-1 matters ...
  - *In elite controllers and some people in long-term ART*
- Simultaneous comparison of CD4 T cell in peripheral blood
  - *Memory CD4 T cells form the most abundant reservoir*
- Predicting viral rebound through
  - *Plasma metabolites*
  - *IFN-I-signatures*
- bNAb: their role in treatment, prevention and cure strategies
  - *Durable HIV Ab production in humans after AAV8-mediated gene transfer*
  - *SARS-CoV-2: a win-win situation in bNAb development*





¡MUCHAS GRACIAS!

Javier Martinez-Picado

[jmpicado@irsicaixa.es](mailto:jmpicado@irsicaixa.es)