# Where Are the Opportunities, Challenges in Airway Disease

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Equity – Nocion Therapeutics, Entrinsic Health
Consulting – AstraZeneca, Bayer, Corbus Pharmaceuticals, Gossamer Bio, Entrinsic Health, Medlmmune, Merck, Metera
Pharmaceuticals, Nocion Therapeutics, Novartis, Pieris Pharmaceuticals, Sanofi, Teva Pharmaceuticals
Collaborative research – Merck, Meso Scale, SRA, Sanofi







# Market Overview: Airway Disease Opportunities and Challenges

Major Airway Diseases: Opportunities:

Cough

Asthma Precision Medicine

COPD Mitigating Symptoms (Exacerbations)

Disease Modification (Loss of Lung Function/Cure)

Leveraging Technology (New sensors/drug delivery/ AI)

**Challenges:** 

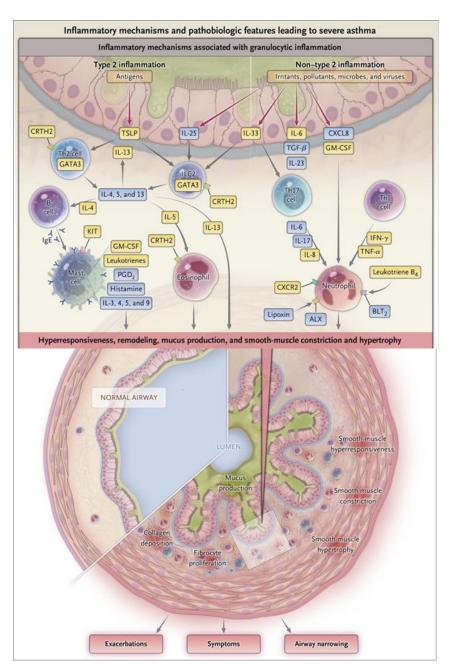
Moving from Phenotype to Endotype

Disrupting Paradigms/Rethinking Pathobiology

Learning from both Academia and Industry

**Implementation** 

#### **Opportunities and Challenges For Asthma**



#### Asthma -

Phenotype to Endotype (Clinical Criteria to molecular mechanisms)
T2 – Treatment is now addressed with several molecules
Non-T2 mechanisms – Where's the tractable biology?
Neutrophils – IL-6<sup>High</sup>/Infections/NETosis

Revisiting the asthma paradigm for increased pro-inflammatory factors
Non-inflammatory mechanisms/AHR
Defective Resolution mechanisms/SPMs

Disease modification - Next frontier is primary prevention

Preserving lung function, reducing exacerbations, inducing remissions

All 3 require early intervention

Implementation - Impact of the new 2019 GINA recommendations – No SABA alone SABA with ICS prn or ICS-LABA combination

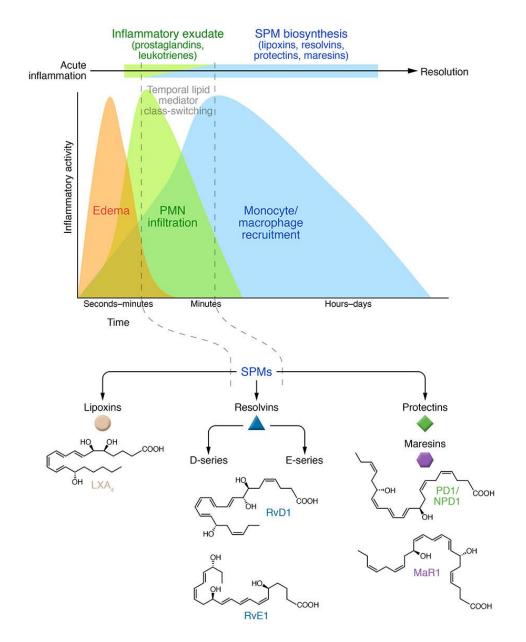
Israel E, Reddel HK. NEJM 2017;377:965





Neutrophil cytoplasts induce TH17 differentiation and skew inflammation toward neutrophilia in severe asthma

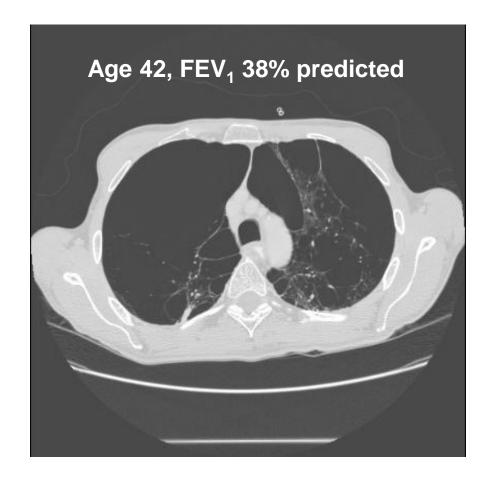
### Ideal Outcome of Acute Inflammation Is Complete Resolution

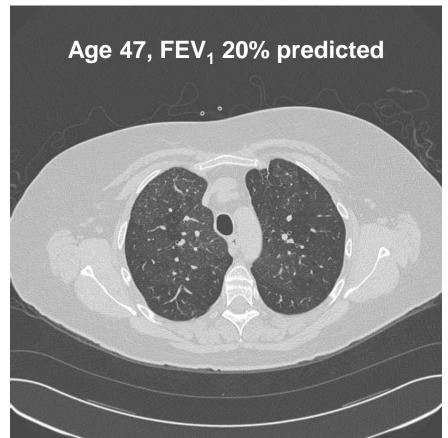




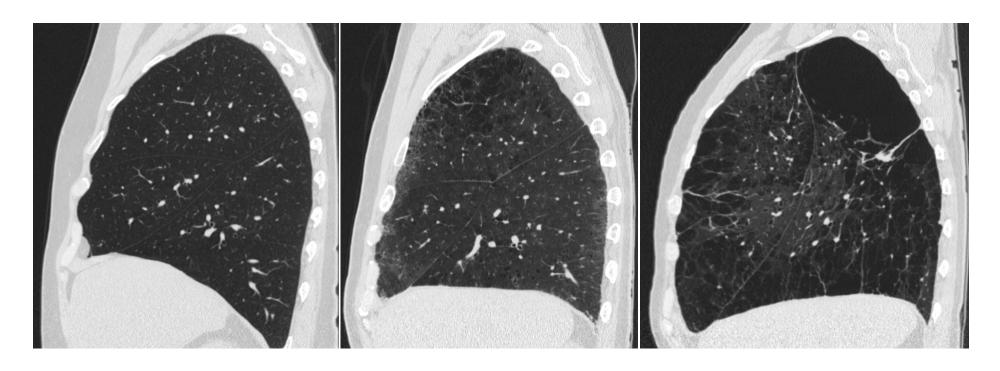
J. Clin. Invest. May 14, 2018.

### **COPD or COPS**

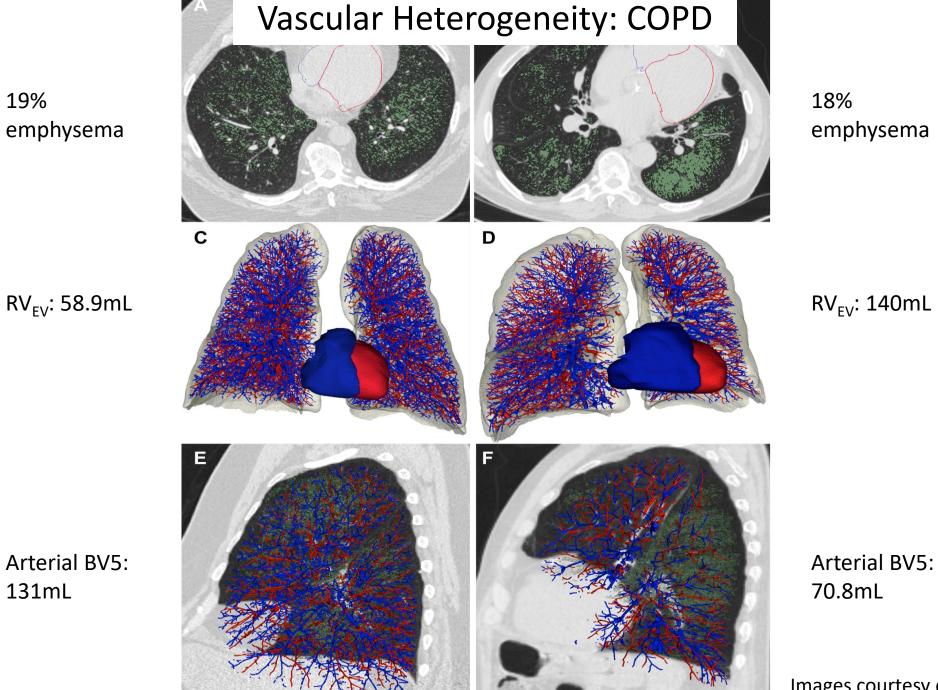




# Parenchymal Heterogeneity: GOLD Stage 1 COPD



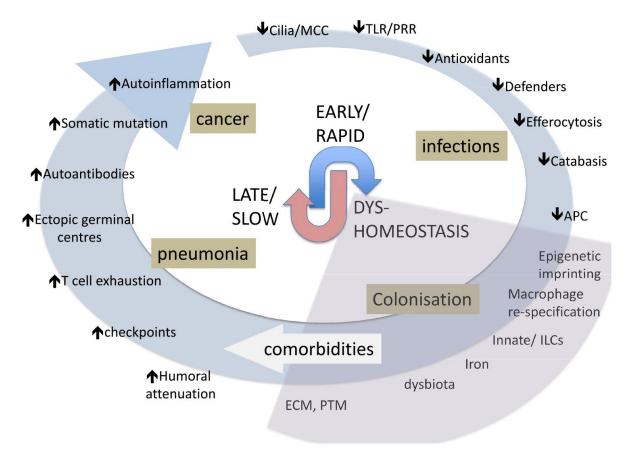
FEV1: 85% FEV1: 82% FEV1: 88%



Images courtesy of George Washko

#### **Opportunities and Challenges For COPD**

#### **Smoke Damages Immunity From Almost the First Exposure**



2016, 5(F1000 Faculty Rev):2392 (doi:10.12688/f1000research.7018.1

#### COPD -

Phenotype to Endotype (Clinical Criteria to molecular mechanisms)
COPD or COPS – Evident clinical heterogeneity

COPD gene

Dysregulated innate immune responses

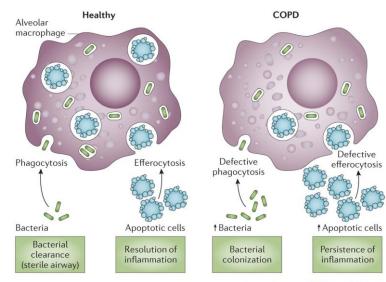
#### Revisiting the COPD paradigm

Need more than bronchodilators

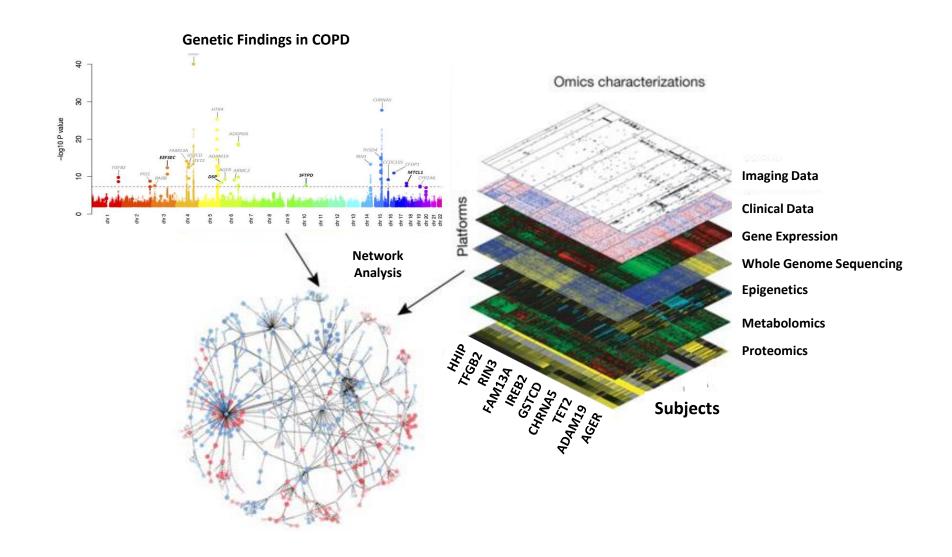
Links between inflammation matrix destruction and microbiome Defective Catabasis

#### Disease modification -

Preserving lung function, reducing exacerbations, inducing remissions All 3 require early detection (biomarkers) and intervention



### **COPDGene Phase 3**



# Opportunities in Airway Disease: Conceptual Framework of Endotypes Provides Stratification

Reduces large heterogenous syndromes into smaller cohorts with aligned molecular mechanisms

Advances the field

Create smaller, potentially more tractable (?) opportunities for industry

# **Opportunities and Challenges For Cough:**

"Itch of the airway" - mediated by nociceptors

- Prevalence of cough ranges from 5-40% of population
  - Single most common symptom prompting outpatient medical visits in US
- Labeled products show marginal benefit over placebo
- Pain medications and sodium channel blockers used to treat cough
  - Nebulized lidocaine is used for procedures, in severe chronic cough patients as well as in the military





Cough –

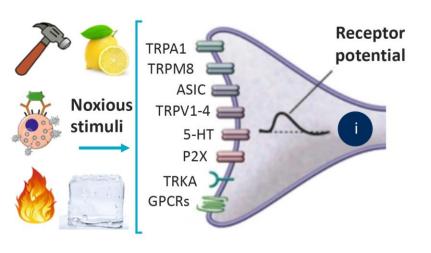
Lessons from challenges in industry (Value of industry-academic partnerships) Rethinking the paradigm

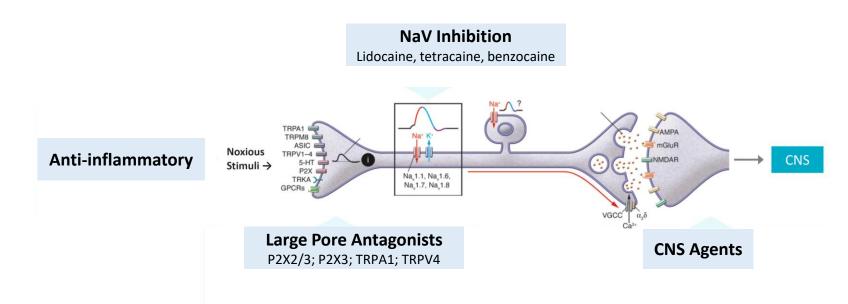
# **Nociceptor Activation in Cough: Large Pore Channels**

nocion

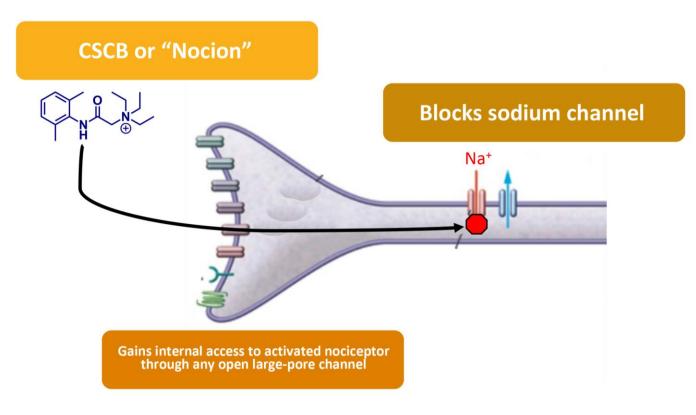
PERIPHERAL TERMINAL

Nociceptor Activation in Cough: Multiple Approaches





### **Nociceptor Silencing – Charged Sodium Channel Blockers**



#### **Nocions**

- Longer-acting, potential for QD/BID dosing
- Locally selective, not passively cell permeable
- ✓ Topical; minimal systemic redistribution
- ✓ Broad and potent Na<sub>V</sub> inhibition
- ✓ No TRPA1 / TRPV1 agonism
- ✓ In vivo data in cough, itch, surgical pain, atopic dermatitis
- ✓ Novel composition of matter



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