From Gene to Treatment in Rare Inflammatory Disease: Importance of Families

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Translational Approach



→ Patients / Families



Therapeutic Studies

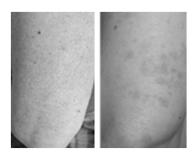


Disease Characterization





Genetic Studies



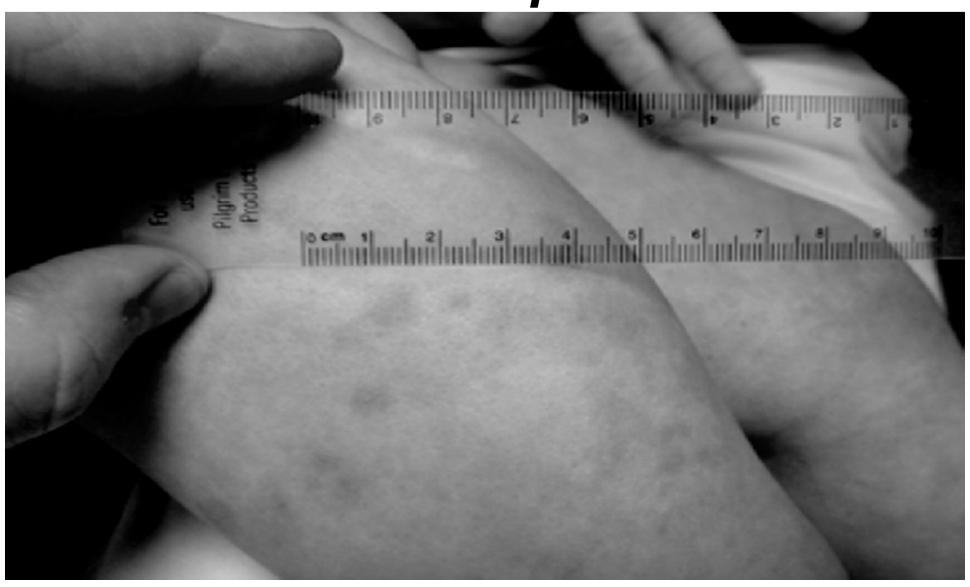
In vitro or Ex vivo studies



Outline

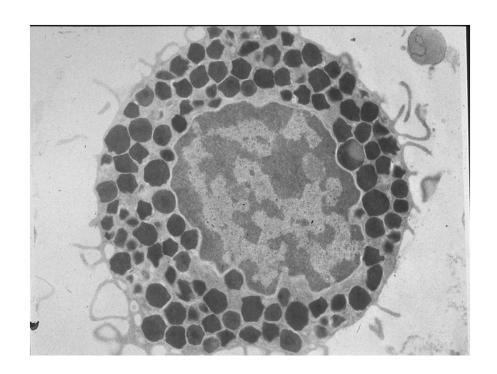
- A patient with cold induced rash
- Proven methods of gene identification
- Gene to Disease mechanisms
- Disease mechanisms to therapy

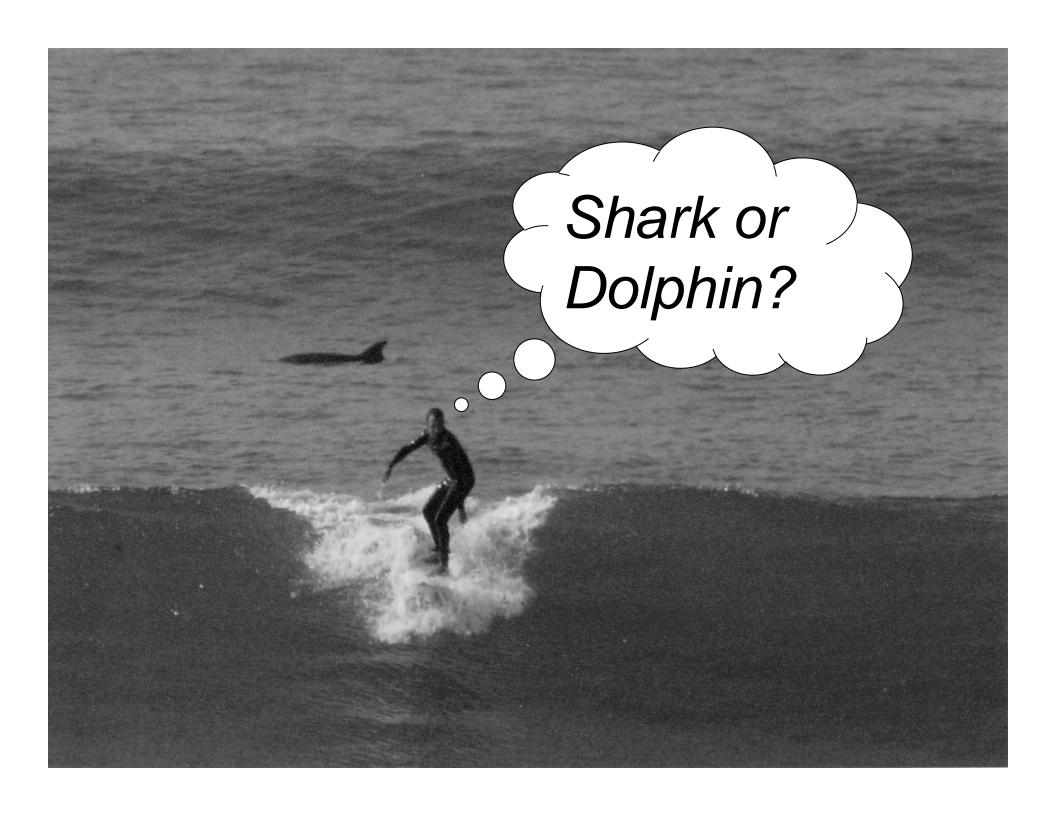
3 y/o girl with rash after cold exposure



Cold Urticaria?

- Acute hives with direct cold exposure
- Usually presents in adolescents or adults
- May present with systemic anaphylaxis
- Involvement of histamine and mast cells





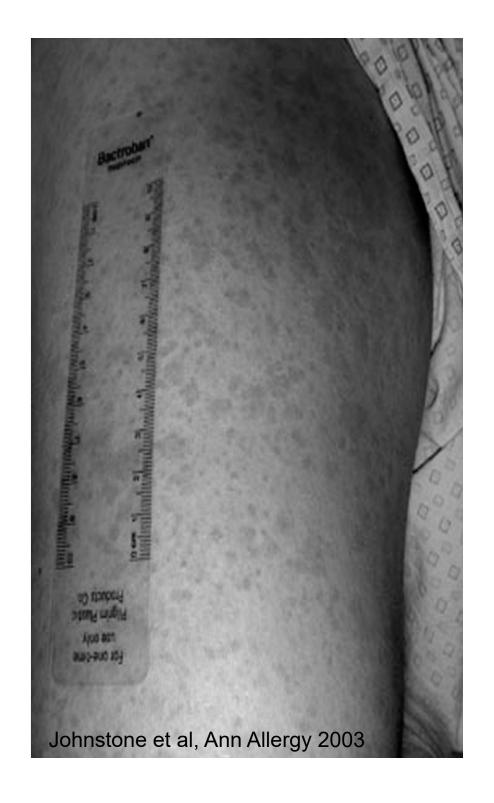
It's NOT cold urticaria

- Rash develops hours after generalized cold exposure
- Associated symptoms include fever, joint pain/swelling and eye redness/pain
- Antihistamines don't work
- Age of onset at birth
- Significant family history

Rash was present at birth



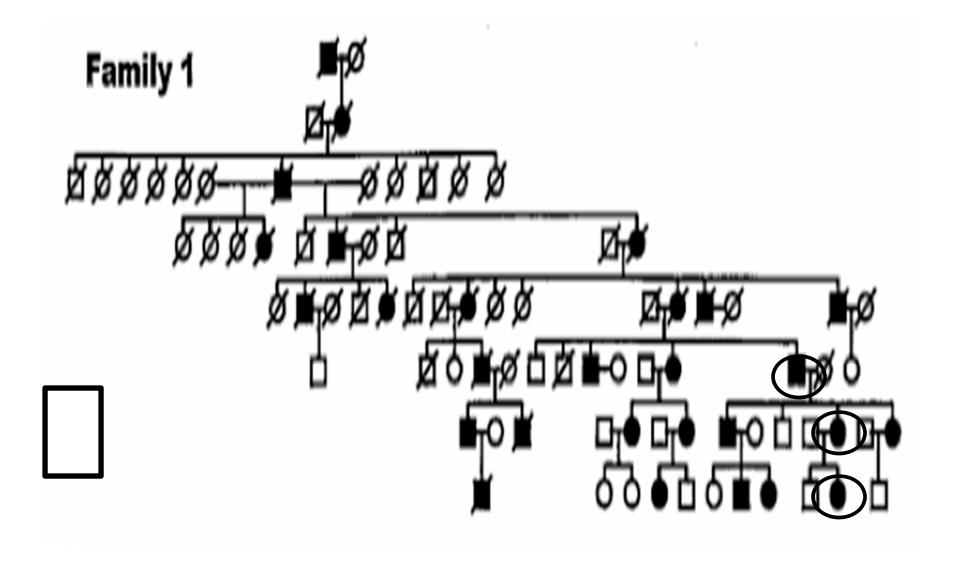
32 year old mother with same history



66 year old grandfather with same rash



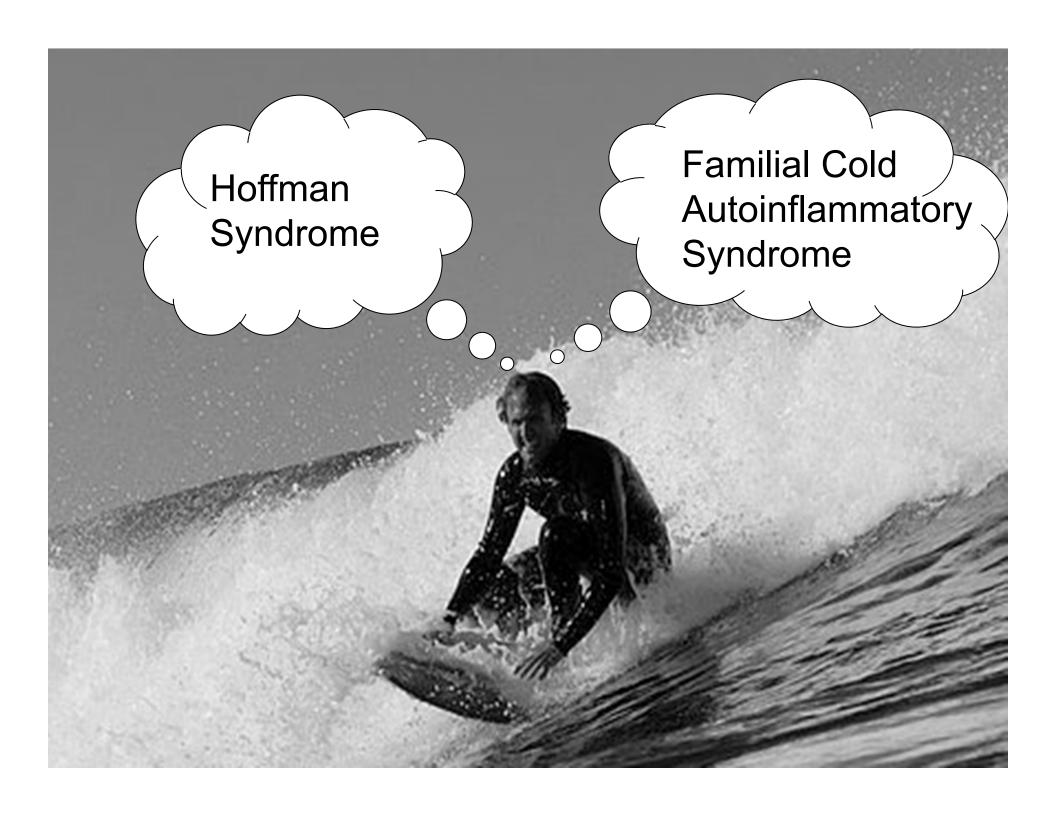
Family History



Hereditary Fever Disorders Autoinflammatory Syndromes

- Familial Mediterranean fever (FMF)
- Hyper IgD syndrome (HIDS)
- TNF Receptor Assoc. Periodic Syndrome (TRAPS)

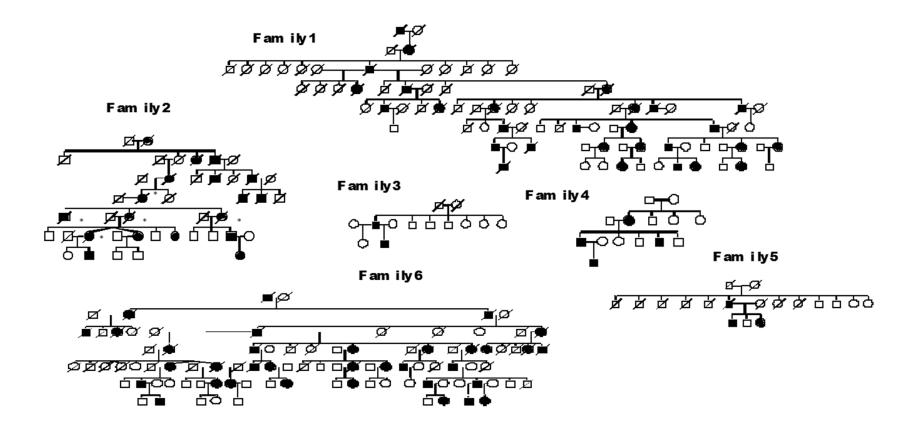
All are characterized by recurrent episodes of fever, rash, and joint pain



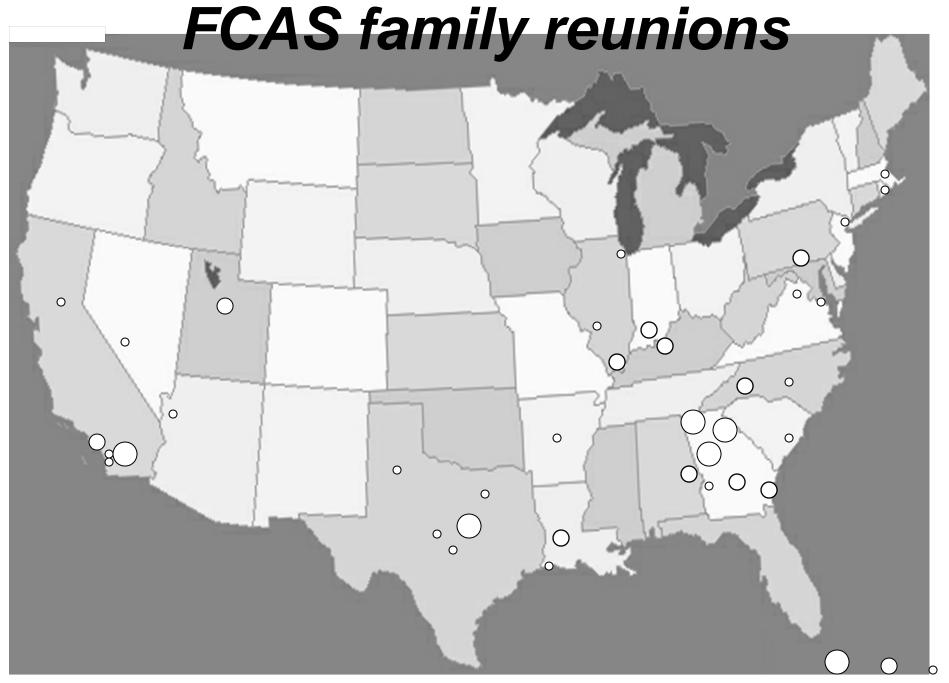
Autoinflammatory Diseases Genetics

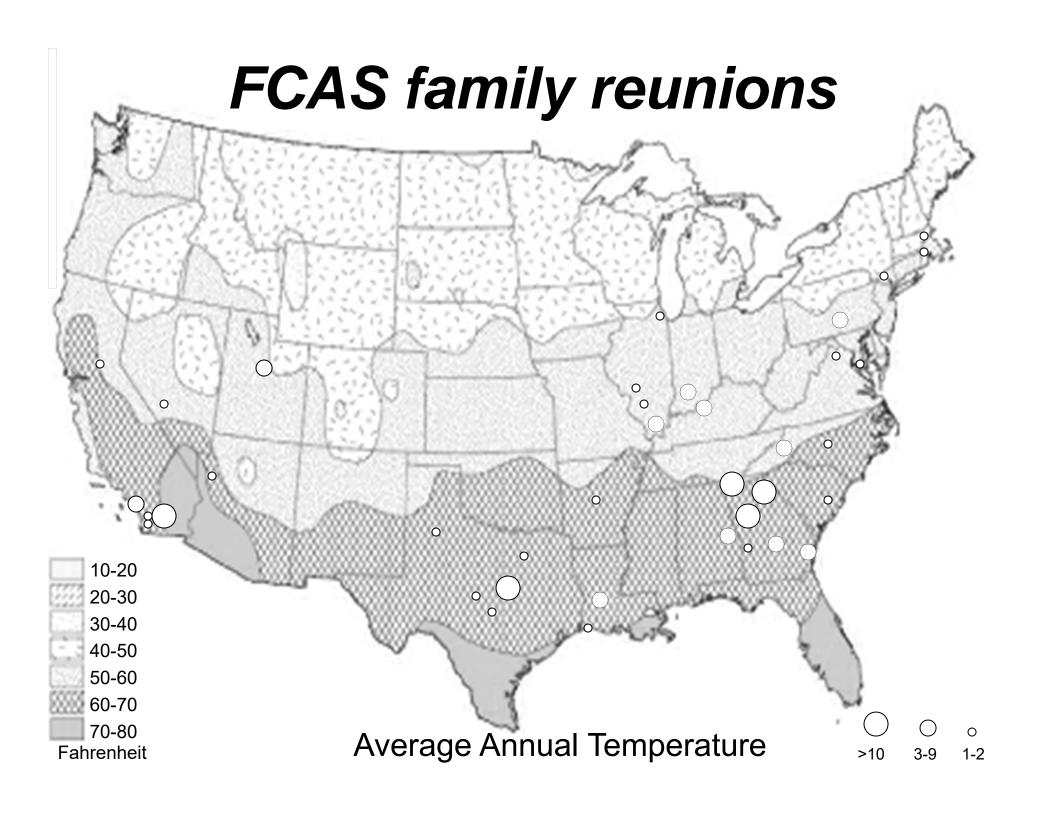
- Gene for Familial Mediterranean Fever (FMF) was discovered in 1997
 - MEFV Pyrin
- Gene for Hyper IgD syndrome (HIDS) was discovered in 1999
 - MVK Mevalonate Kinase
- Gene for TNF receptor associated periodic syndrome (TRAPS) was discovered in 1999
 - TNFSRIA TNF Receptor p55
- Gene for Familial Cold Autoinflammatory Syndrome?

FCAS Pedigrees



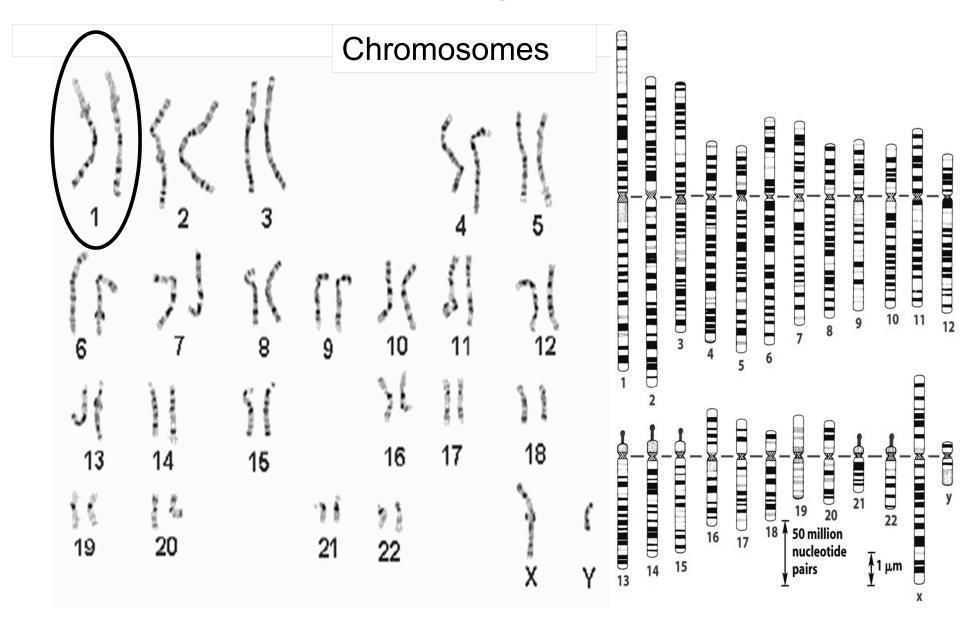




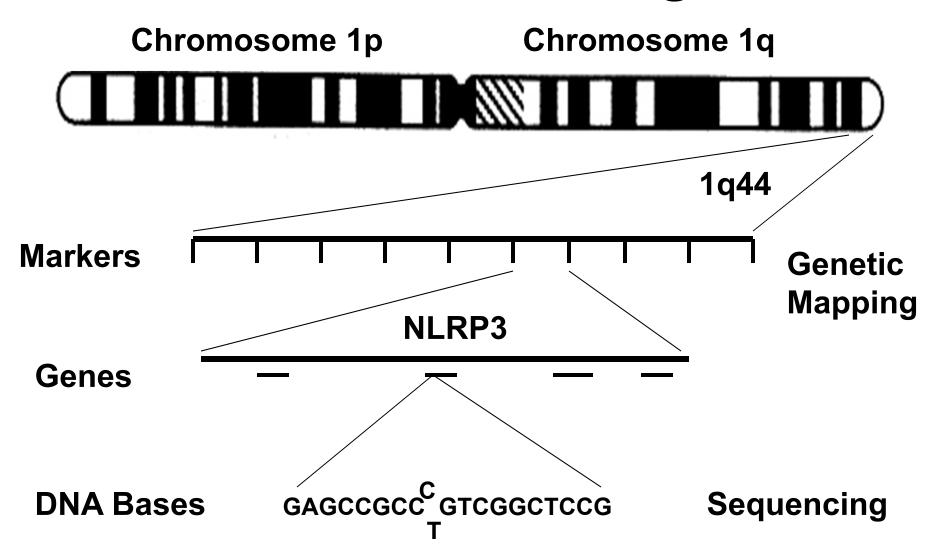




Human Genome

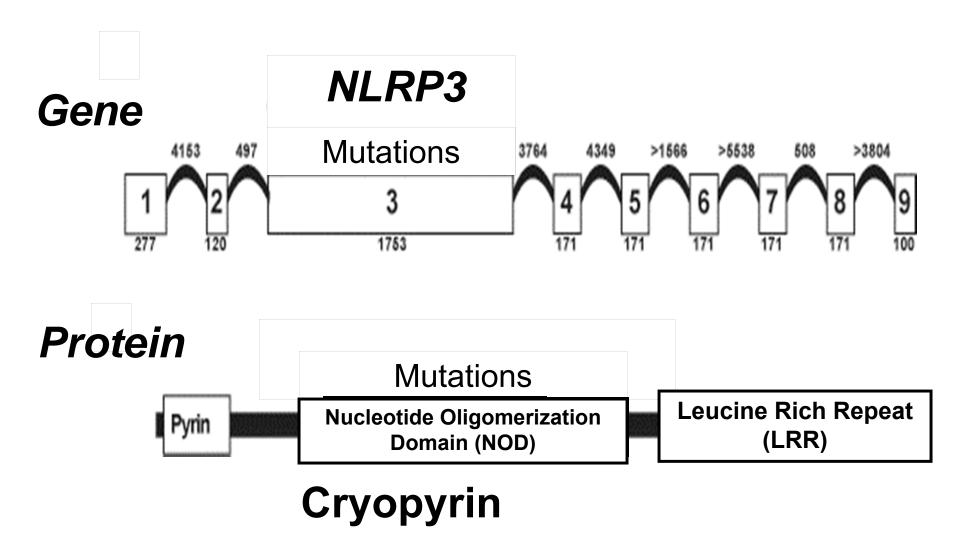


Positional Cloning



Heterozygous *NLRP3* mutations in FCAS patient**₽**

Gene and Protein Structure

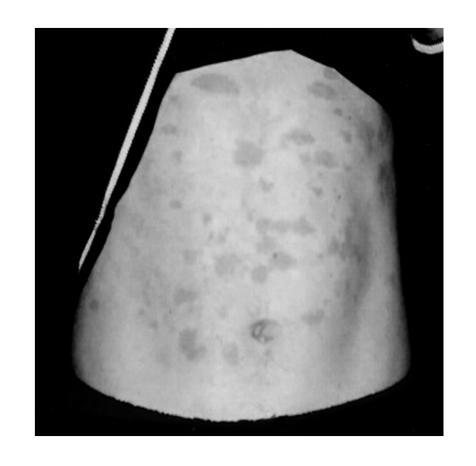


Hoffman et al, Nature Genetics 2001

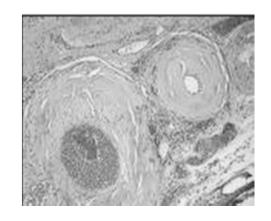
Muckle Wells Syndome

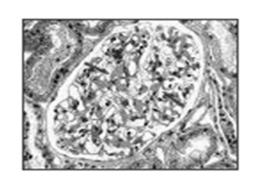
Fever episodes with urticaria like rash and joint symptoms

Progressive neurosensory hearing loss



AA Amyloidosis





Neonatal Onset Multisystem Inflammatory Disorder (NOMID)

Chronic fever, pain, and urticaria-like rash

Hearing loss, and other CNS inflammation

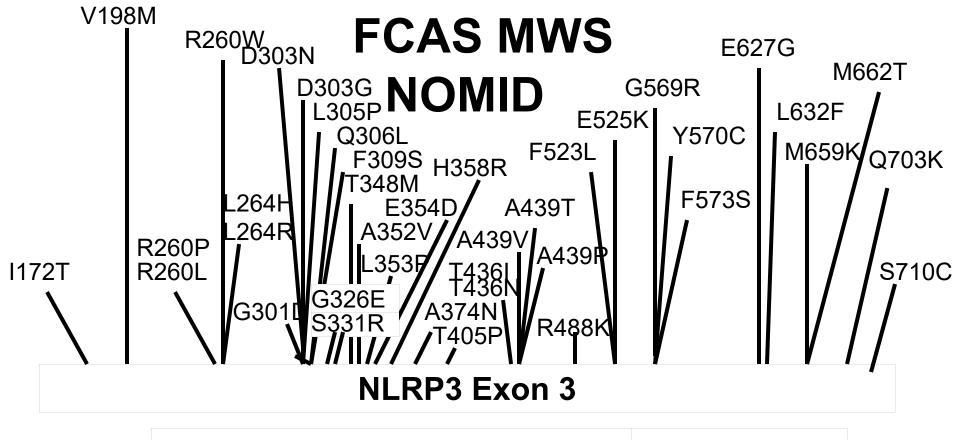
Dysmorphic features and enlarged tibial epiphysis

Courtesy of R Goldbach-Mansky





NLRP3 Mutations/Variants - >90



NBS Domain

NAD Domain

Variants in healthy controls, but also in atypical patients

Cryopyrin

Mutation negative patients – most somatic mosaics

Infevers – Touitou et al



Diseases associated with NLRP3 mutations

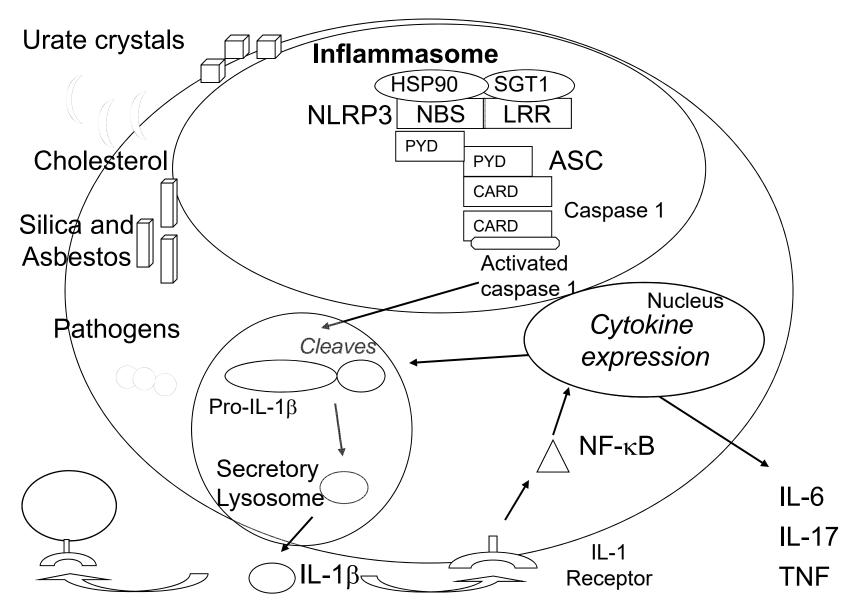
 Cryopyrinopathies or CAPS - Cryopyrin associated periodic syndromes

CAPS clinical spectrum

FCAS

- Cold triggered inflammatory febrile episodes
- Urticaria like rash
- Limb pain/arthralgia
 - Conjunctivitis
 - Rare amyloidosis

Monocyte Macrophage NLRP3 Inflammasome



Diseases of the Inflammasome

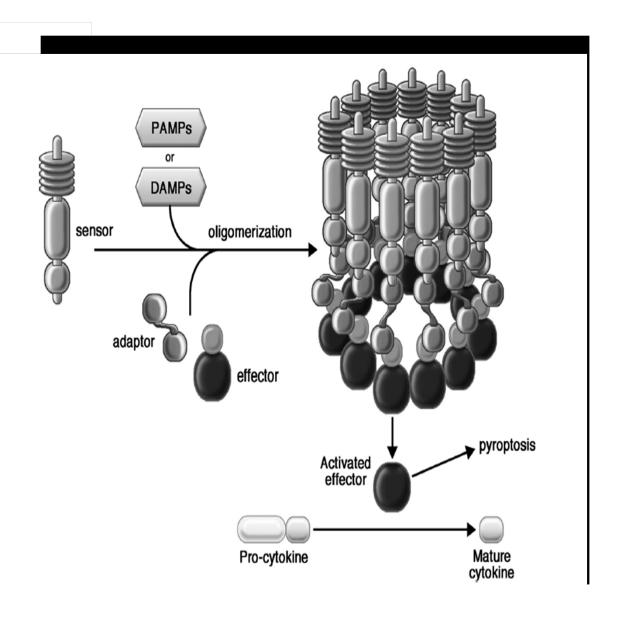
Gout

Pseudogout

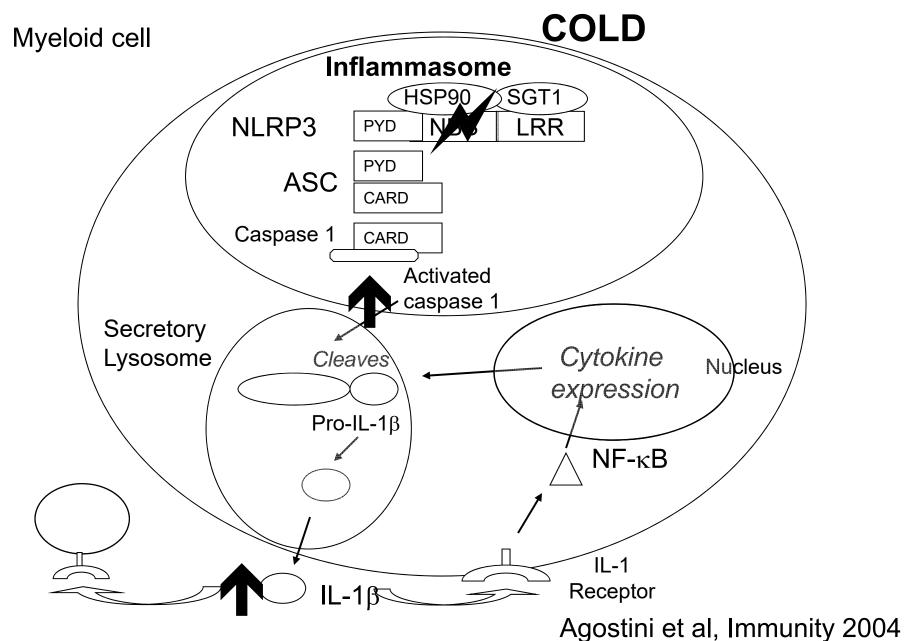
Asbestosis

Silicosis

Atherosclerosis



NLRP3 Inflammasome and CAPS

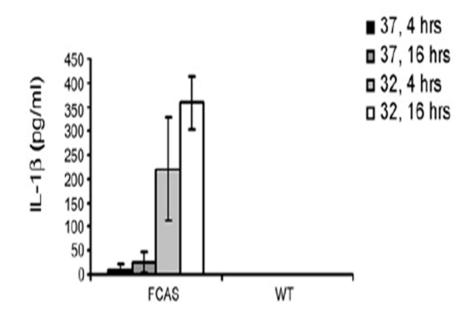




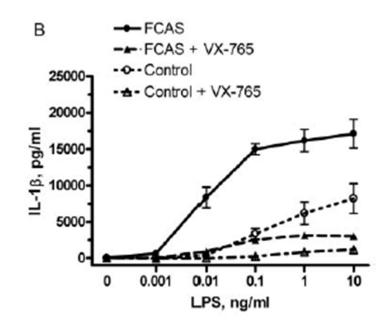
CAPS Blood studies

COLD

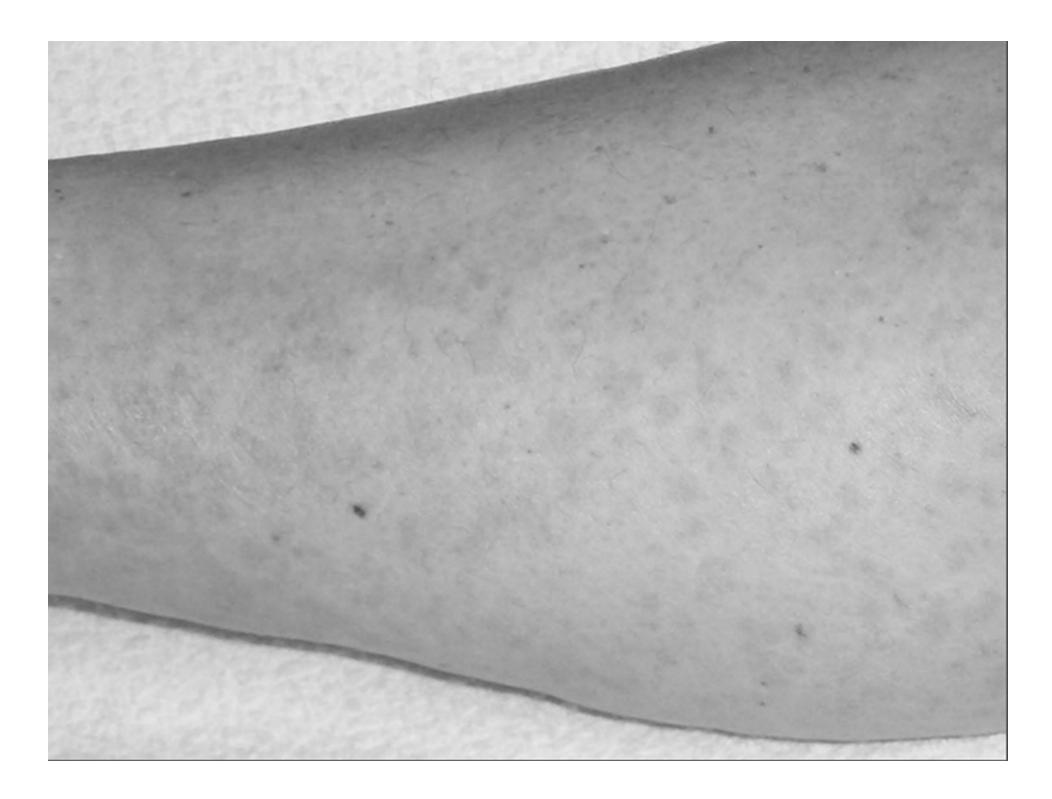
Bacterial Toxin



Hoffman et al JACI 2007

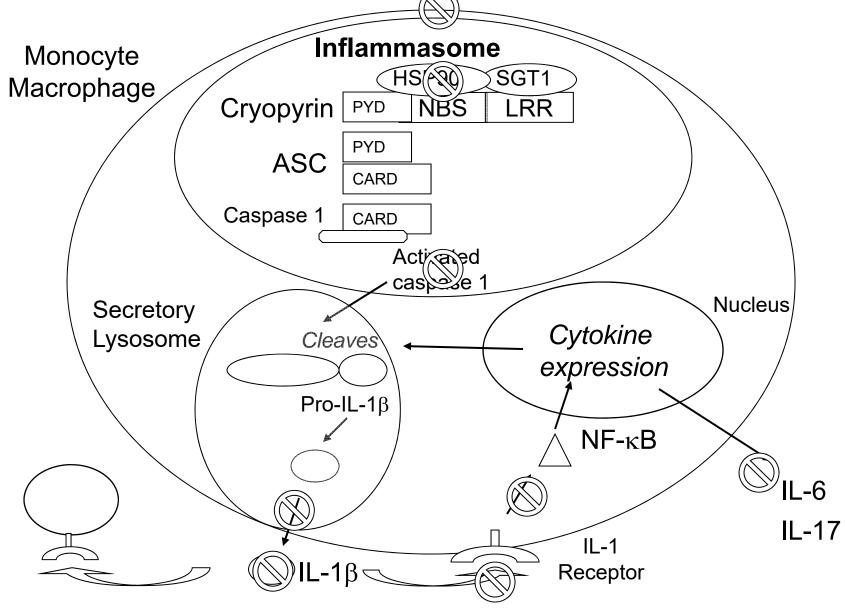


Stack et al JI 2005



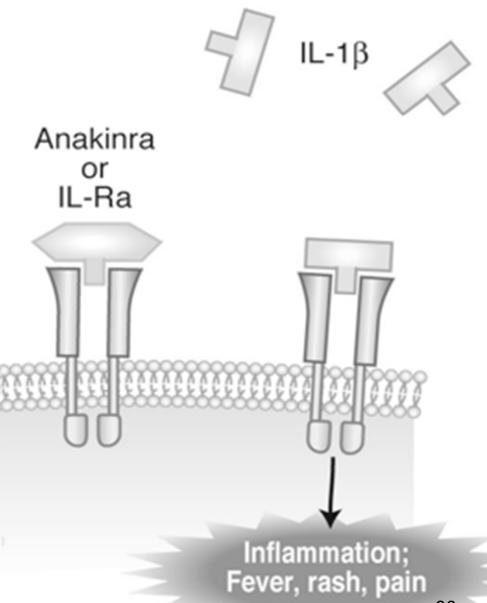


Targeted Therapy

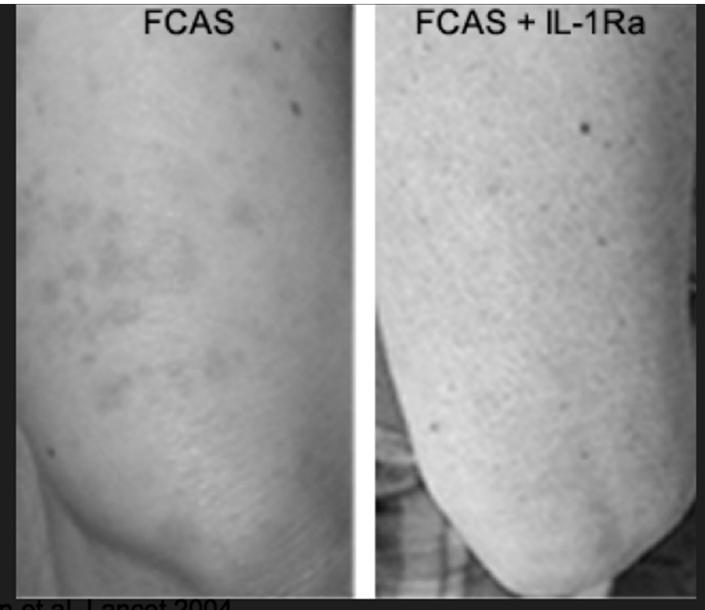


Anakinra (IL-1Ra)

Approved for Rheumatoid Arthritis in 2001



Skin following cold challenge



Hoffman et al, Lancet 2004



FDA Approved



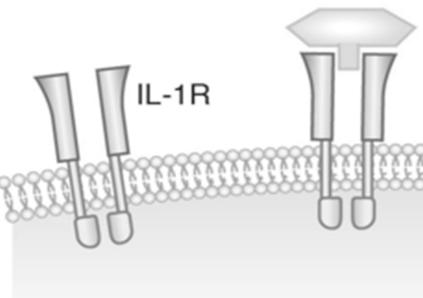
IL-1β

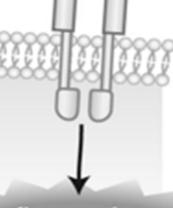


Canakinumab

Rilonacept

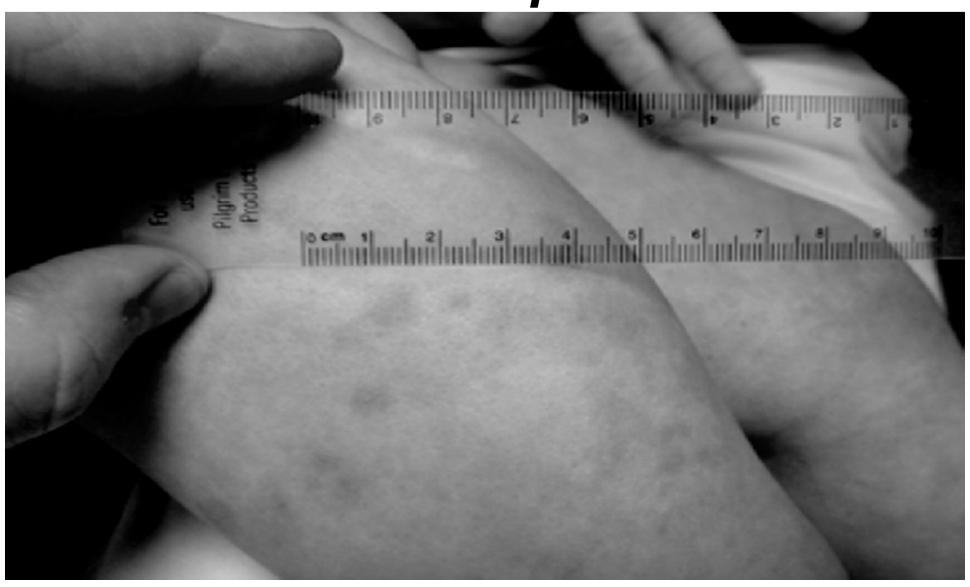
Anakinra or IL-Ra





Inflammation; Fever, rash, pain

3 y/o girl with rash after cold exposure



Translational Success



→ Patients / Families

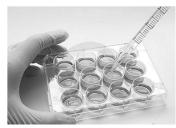


Therapeutic Studies

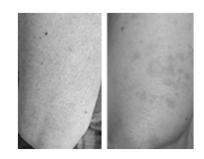


Disease Characterization

In vivo studies



Genetic^{*} Studies



In vitro or Ex vivo studies



IL-1 Targeted Therapy Issues

Safety - Infections

- Gram positive pathogens
- Increased upper respiratory infections

Costs

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Anakinra $ 25,000/year
Rilonacept $250,000/year
Canakinumab $110,000/year
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Summary

- FCAS is a rare autoinflammatory diseases caused by mutations in the NLRP3 gene resulting in dysregulated IL-1β release
- IL-1 targeted therapy has shown proven efficacy in FCAS and other diseases
- Studying rare diseases has challenges and advantages
- Family involvement is crucial in all steps of the process

