

MASTER DEL DEPARTAMENTO DE FAMACOLOGIA:  
INVESTIGACIÓN Y USO RACIONAL DEL MEDICAMENTO

# FARMACOLOGIA DE LA INFLAMACIÓN

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# DEFINITION OF INFLAMMATION

“ *Inflammation is the term used to describe the response of tissue to injury.*

- *Its purpose is to destroy (or at the very least limit) the injurious stimulus, and to begin the process of healing.*
- *Inflammation is a function of the connective tissues, and the immune system (which share a number of cell types in common).*
- *The cells of the CT and the immune response all have specific roles to play in the process: consequently there's a predictable sequence of events.*

## ACUTE VERSUS CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

“ An inflammatory response to some insult begins *acutely*, that is, within seconds to a couple of hours. It may resolve itself in a fairly short time.

The boundary between the two in terms of time isn't hard and fast: but as a general, if an inflammation hasn't resolved itself in a day or two it can be considered *chronic*.

*Chronic inflammations* can last a very long time—years, perhaps—but even they may in time resolve, with restoration and/or repair taking place.

# WHAT CAUSES INFLAMMATION ?

“ Dead cells and cellular debris are powerful inflammatory stimuli:

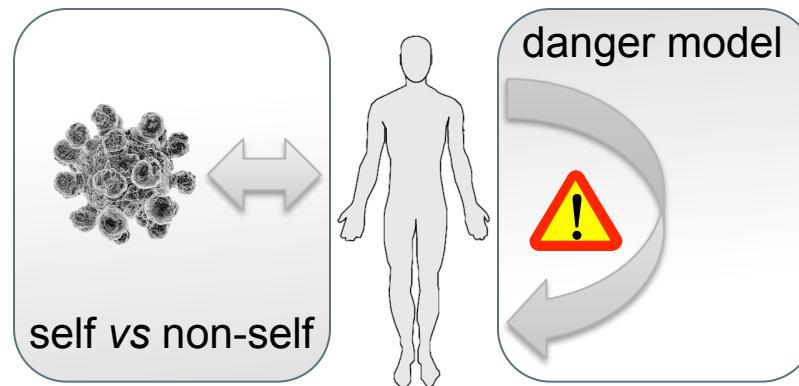
- Anything that injures cells and tissues to the point of necrosis causes an inflammatory response.
- It can be the result of infection, of trauma, of ischemia, chemical injury, radiation, etc.
- Regardless of the initial source of injury, the results are the same.
- Occurs in response to necrosis (but not apoptosis).

# sensing ...

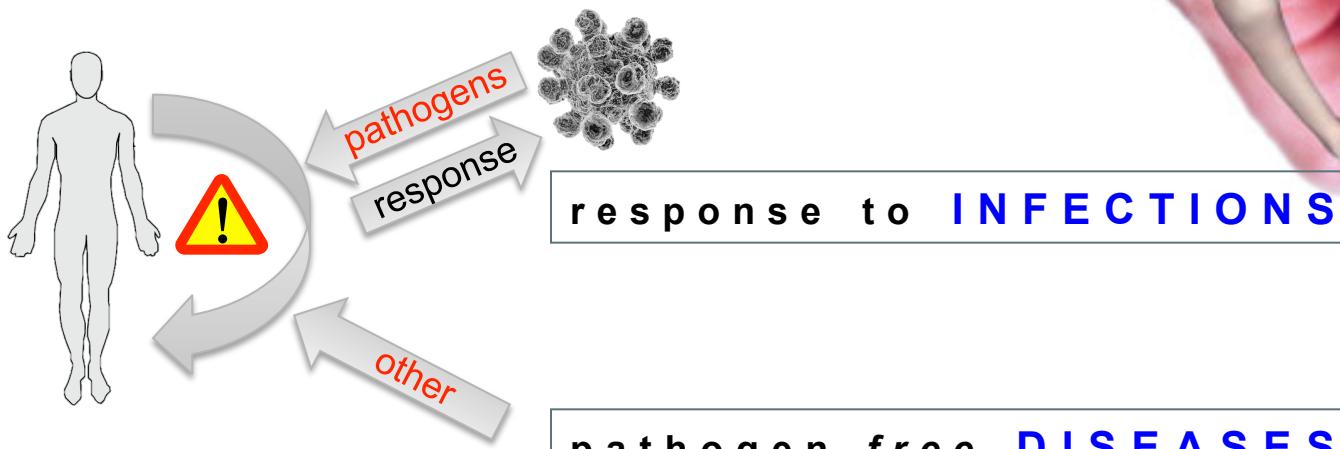
## ... non-self or danger ?

“

*two competing hypothesis for  
immune system activation*



# sensing ... ... non-self or danger ?



## pathogen-free DISEASES

gout, **rheumatoid arthritis**, atherosclerosis,  
ischemia reperfusion, **type 2 diabetes**,  
**metabolic syndrome**, obesity, GVHD,  
alzheimer's, epilepsy, stroke, **COPD**

# definition of danger signals

## ENDOGENOUS MOLECULES



ARE NOT 'IN PLACE'

ARE MODIFIED



A T P  
extracellular

HOMEOSTASIS  
imbalance

osmolarity  
acidity  
glycaemia  
hypoxia

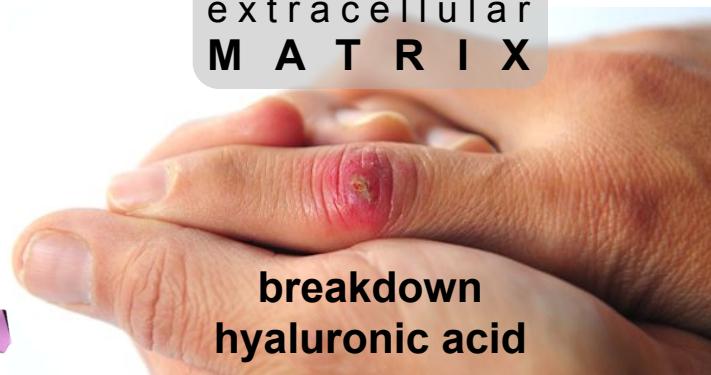
uric acid  
cholesterol  
I A P P  
 $\beta$ -amyloid



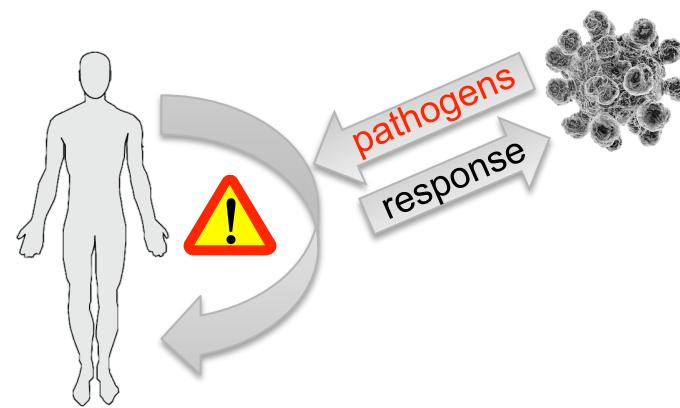
wound

degradation  
extracellular  
M A T R I X

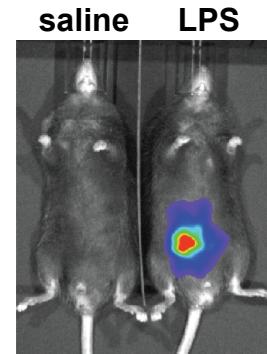
breakdown  
hyaluronic acid



# infection & danger signals



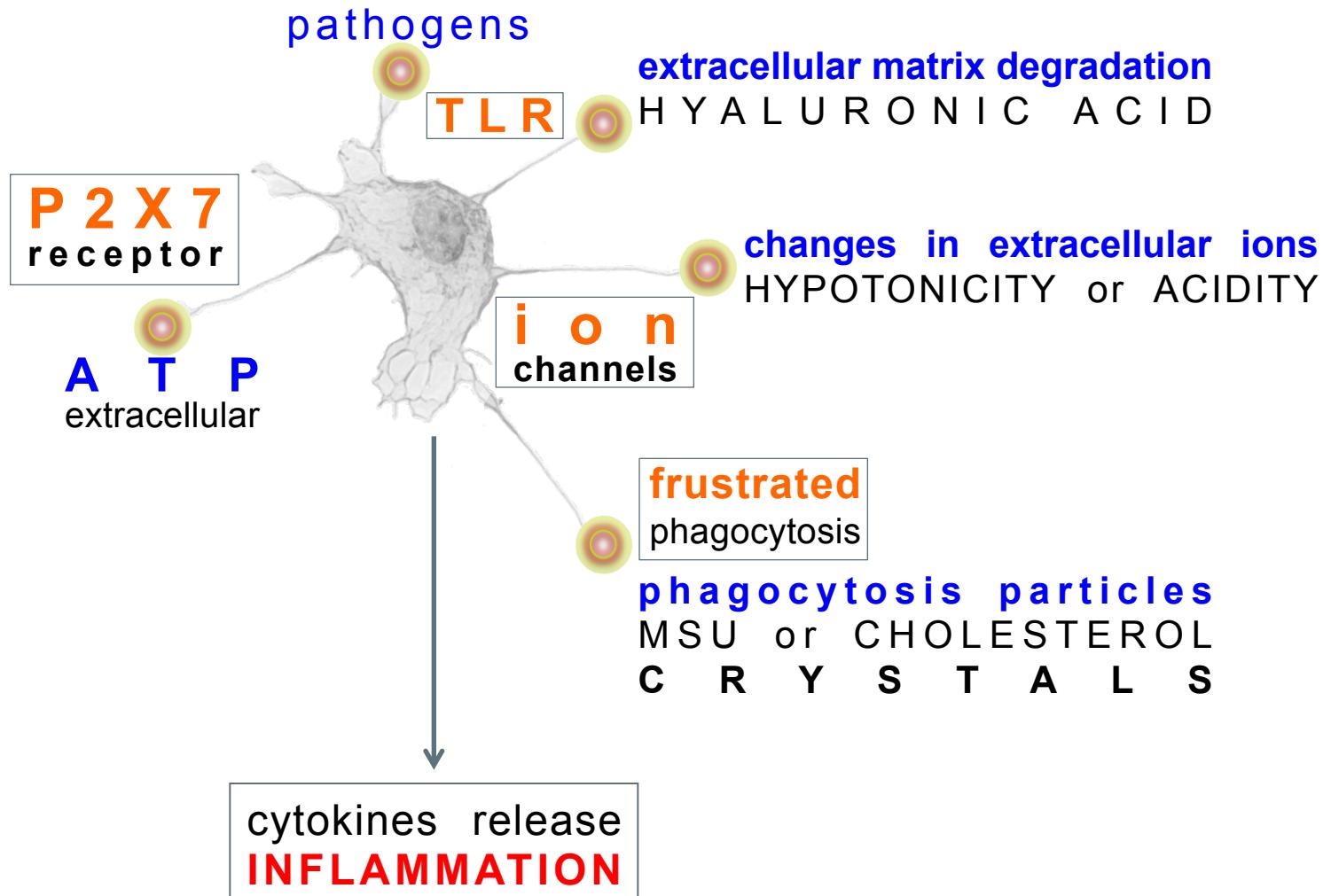
ATP released in response to  
**PATHOGEN SIGNALS**



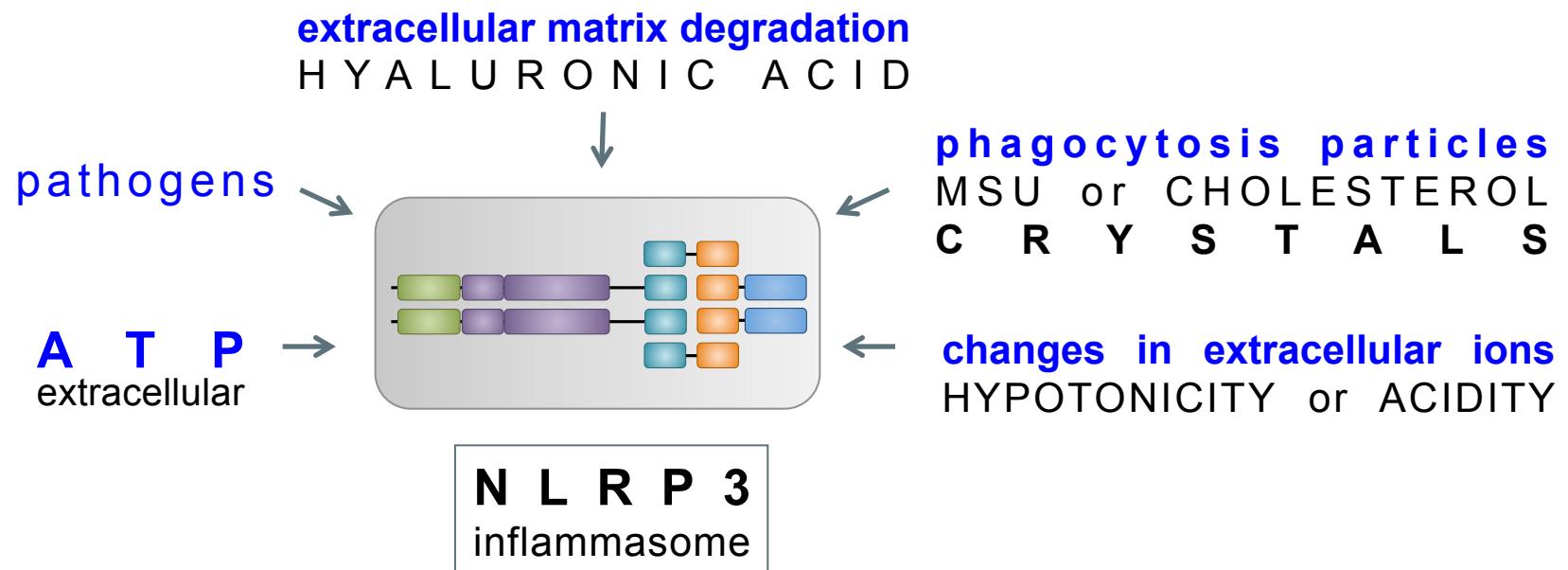
Barberà-Cremades, et al. 2012, FASEB J.

# macrophages

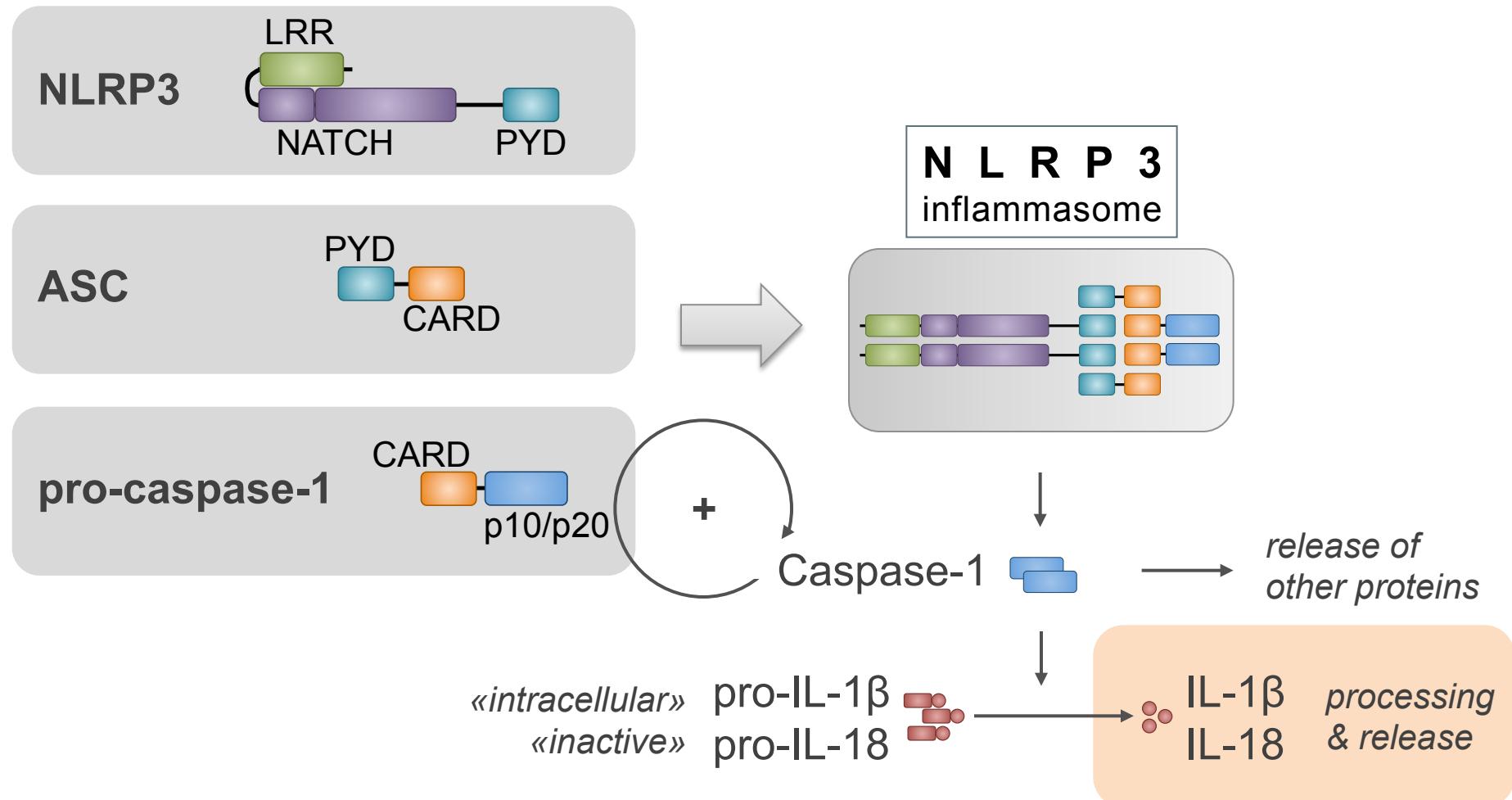
recognize danger



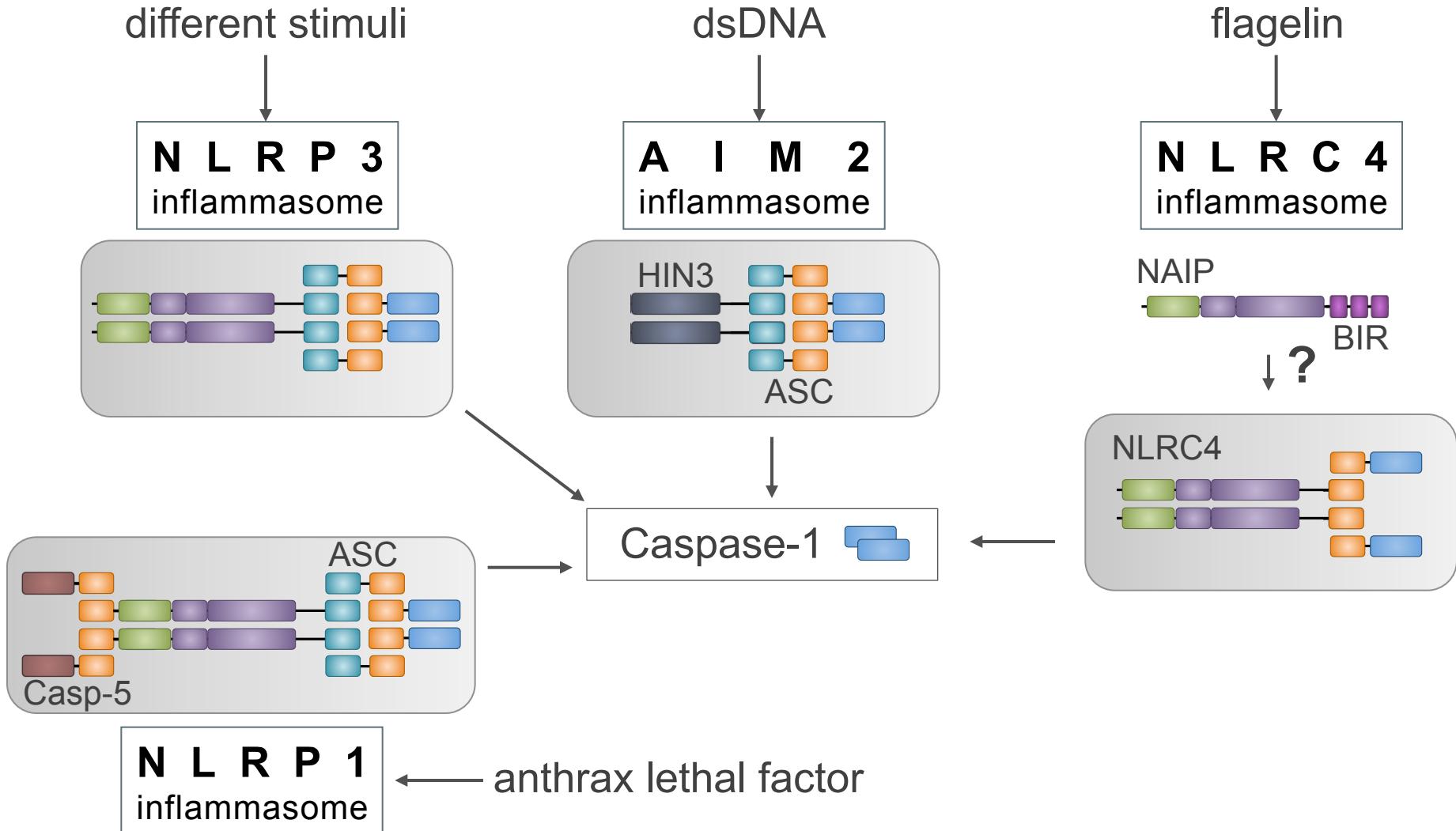
# the NLRP3 inflammasome



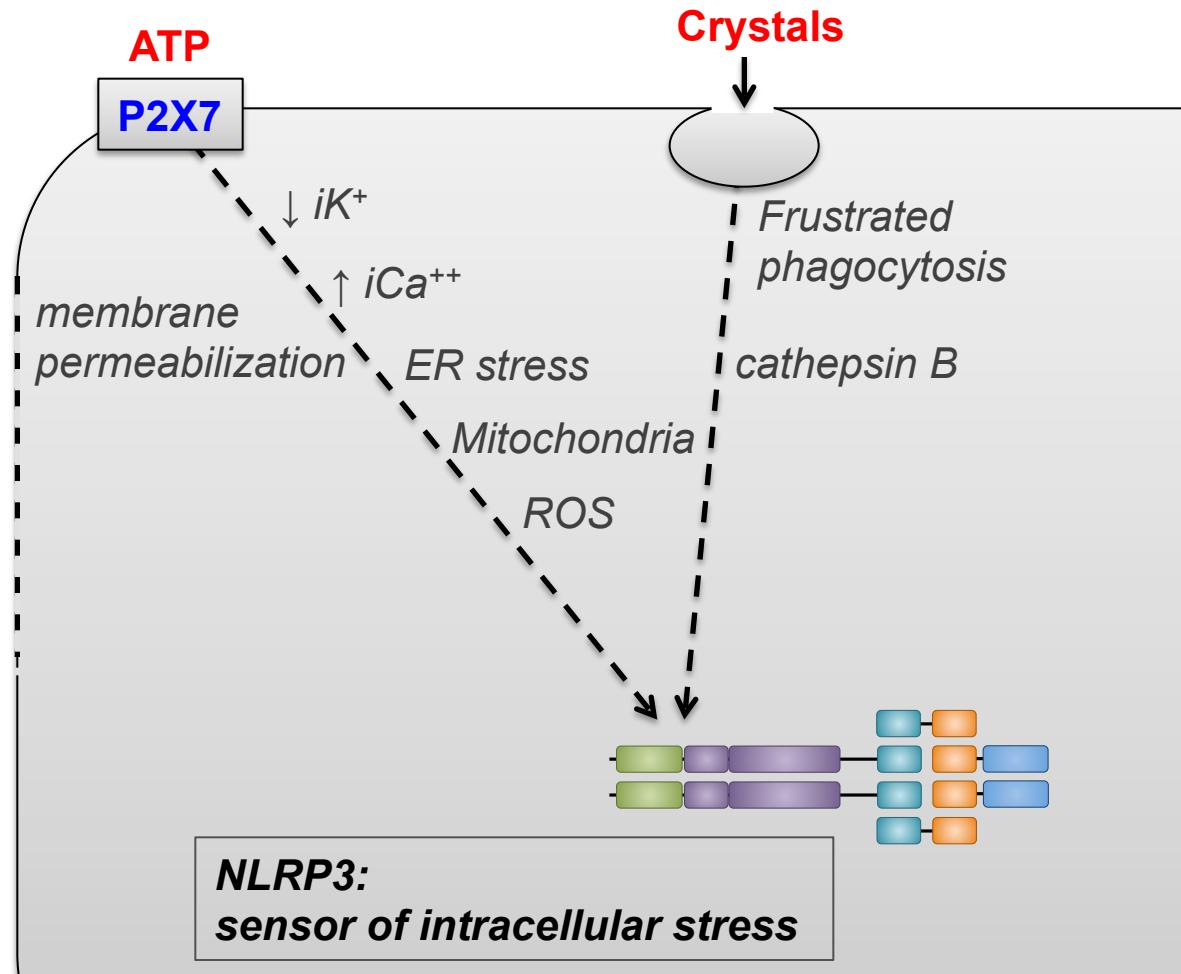
# the NLRP3 inflammasome



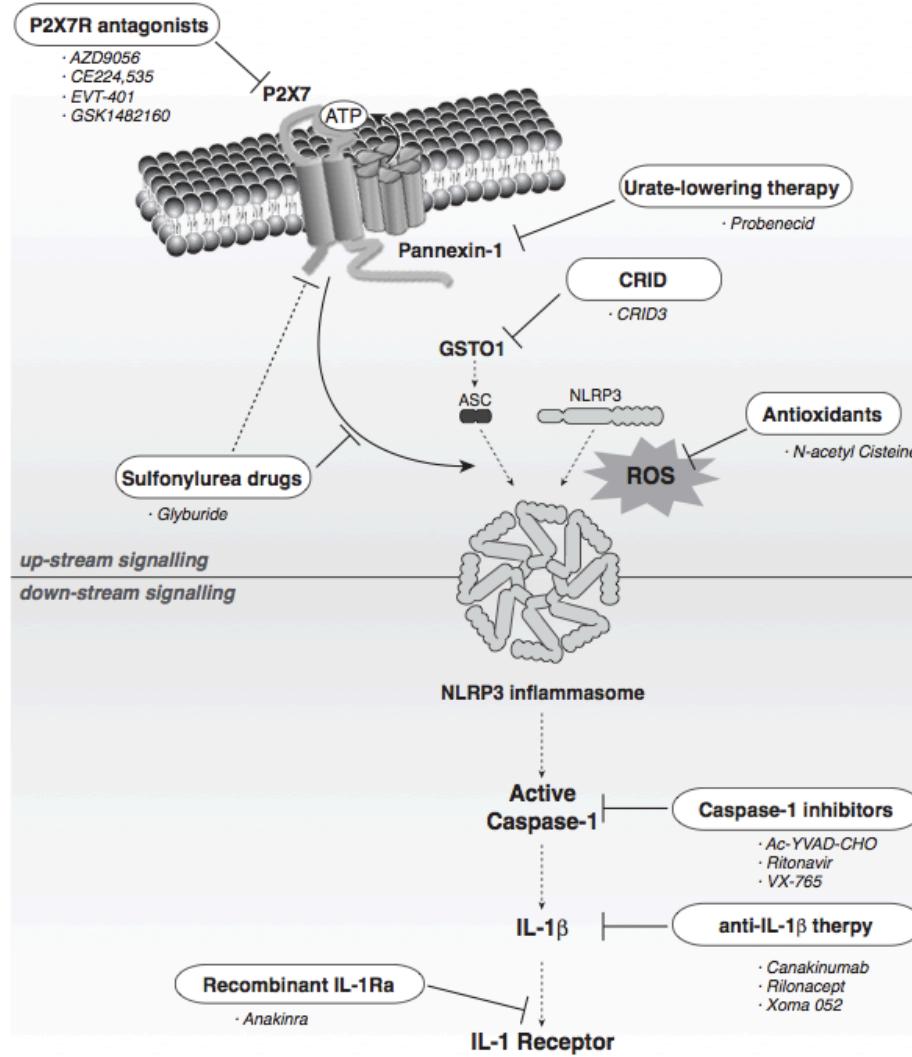
# the different inflammasome scaffolds



# activating the NLRP3 inflammasome



# PHARMACOLOGICAL TARGETS FOR INFLAMMATION



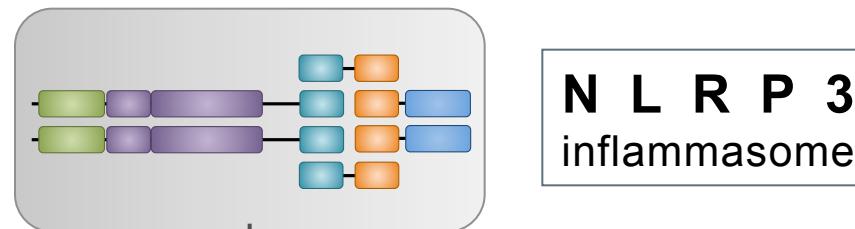
# SCIENTIFIC CHALLENGE

## discovering pharmacological targets

“

*how NLRP3 sense changes in hypotonicity ?*

changes in extracellular ions  
H Y P O T O N I C I T Y



N L R P 3  
inflammasome

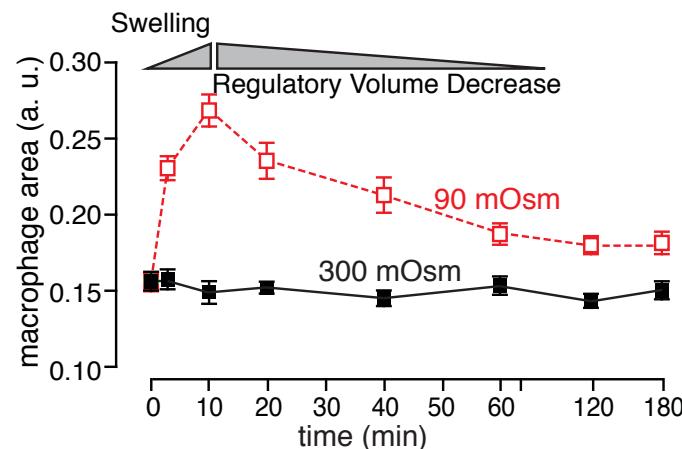
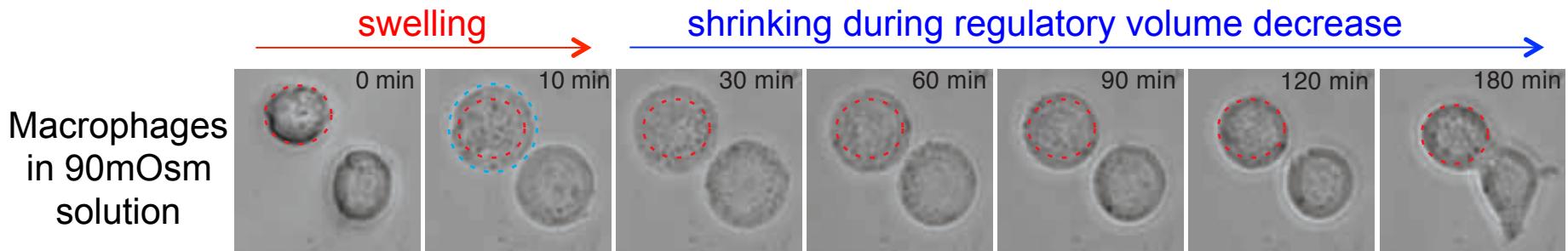


Caspase-1

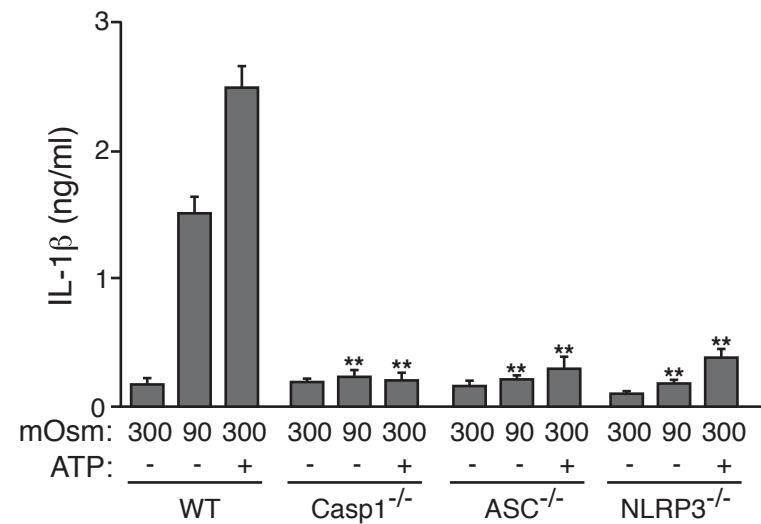
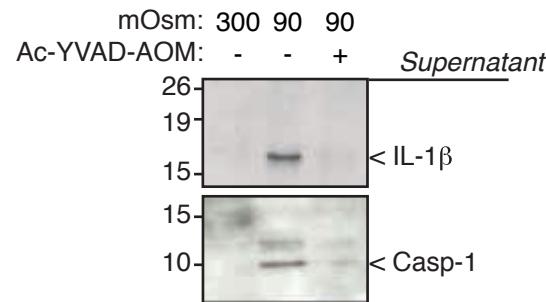
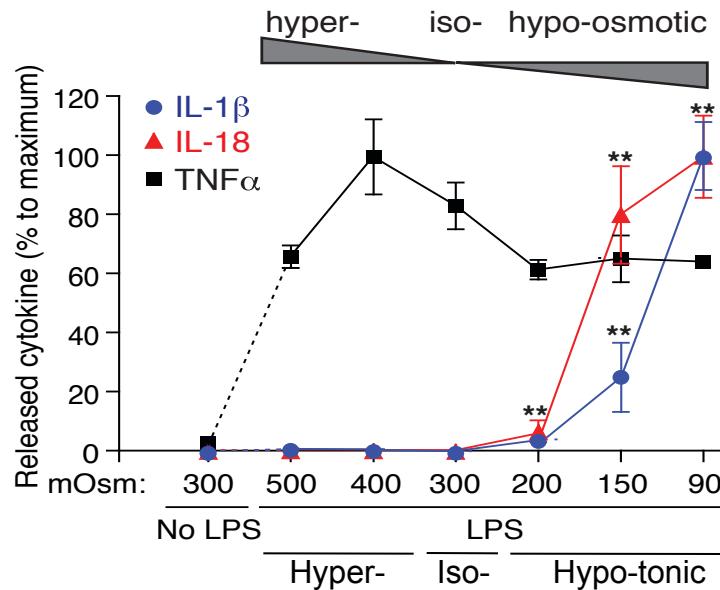


# detecting osmolarity by macrophages

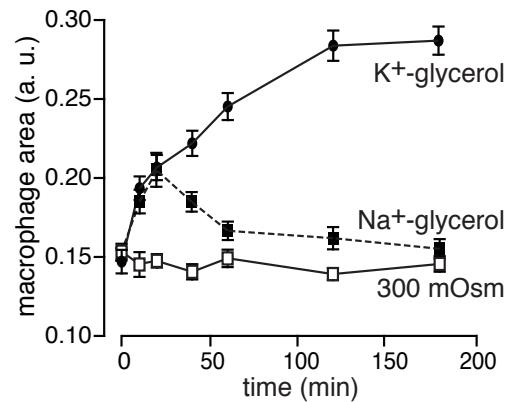
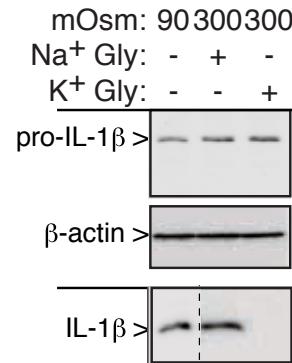
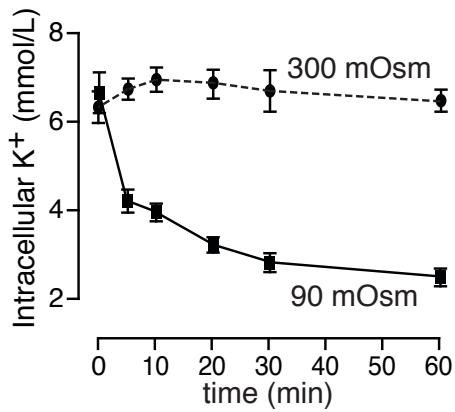
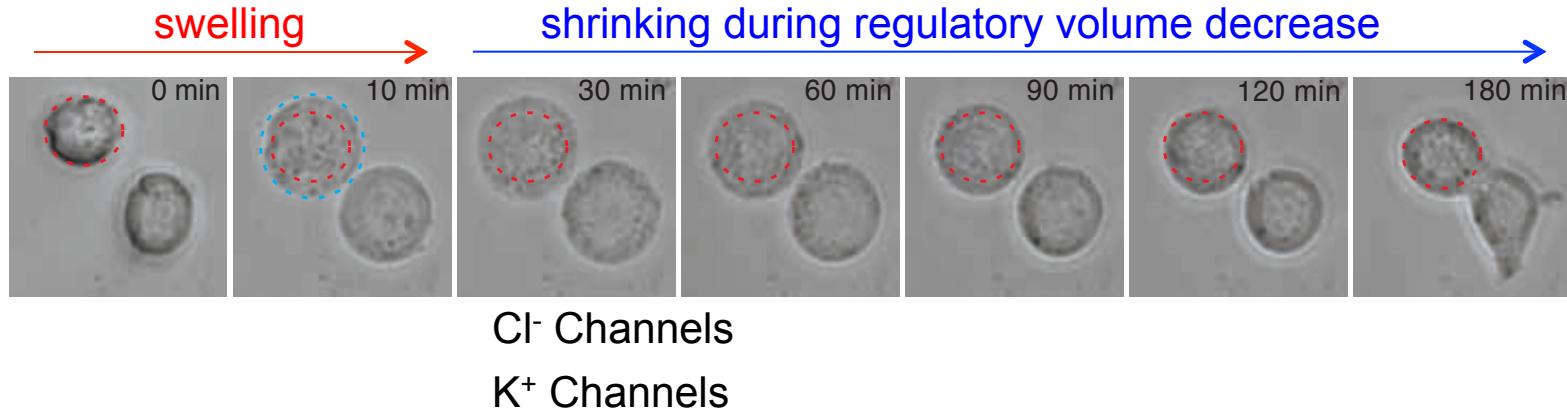
- Extracellular osmolarity is a homeostatic parameter
- However: changes occur during physio- or patho-logical conditions (arthritis)
- Mechanism highly regulated and conserved



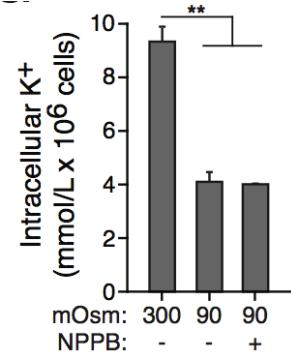
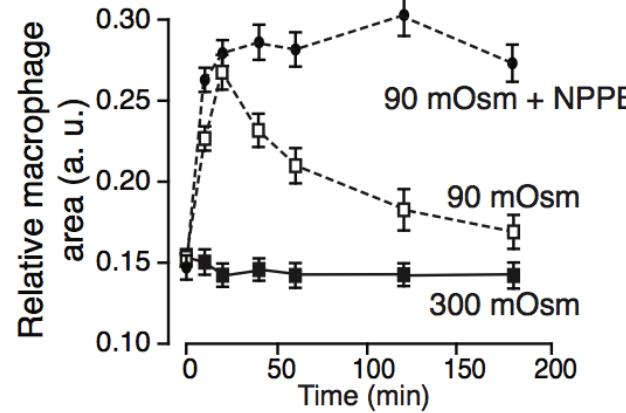
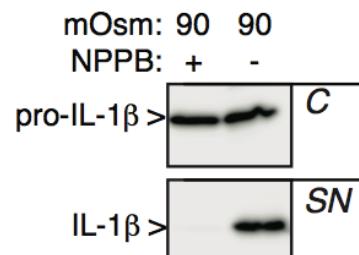
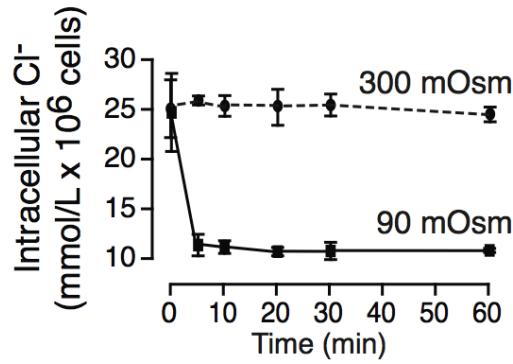
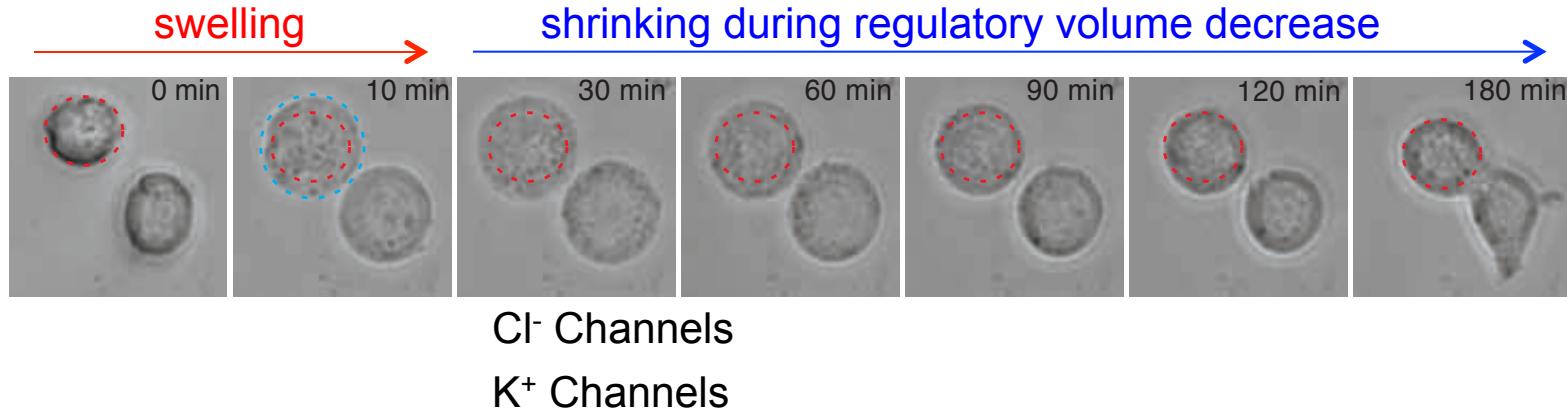
# hypotonicity induces NLRP3-dependent release of IL-1 $\beta$



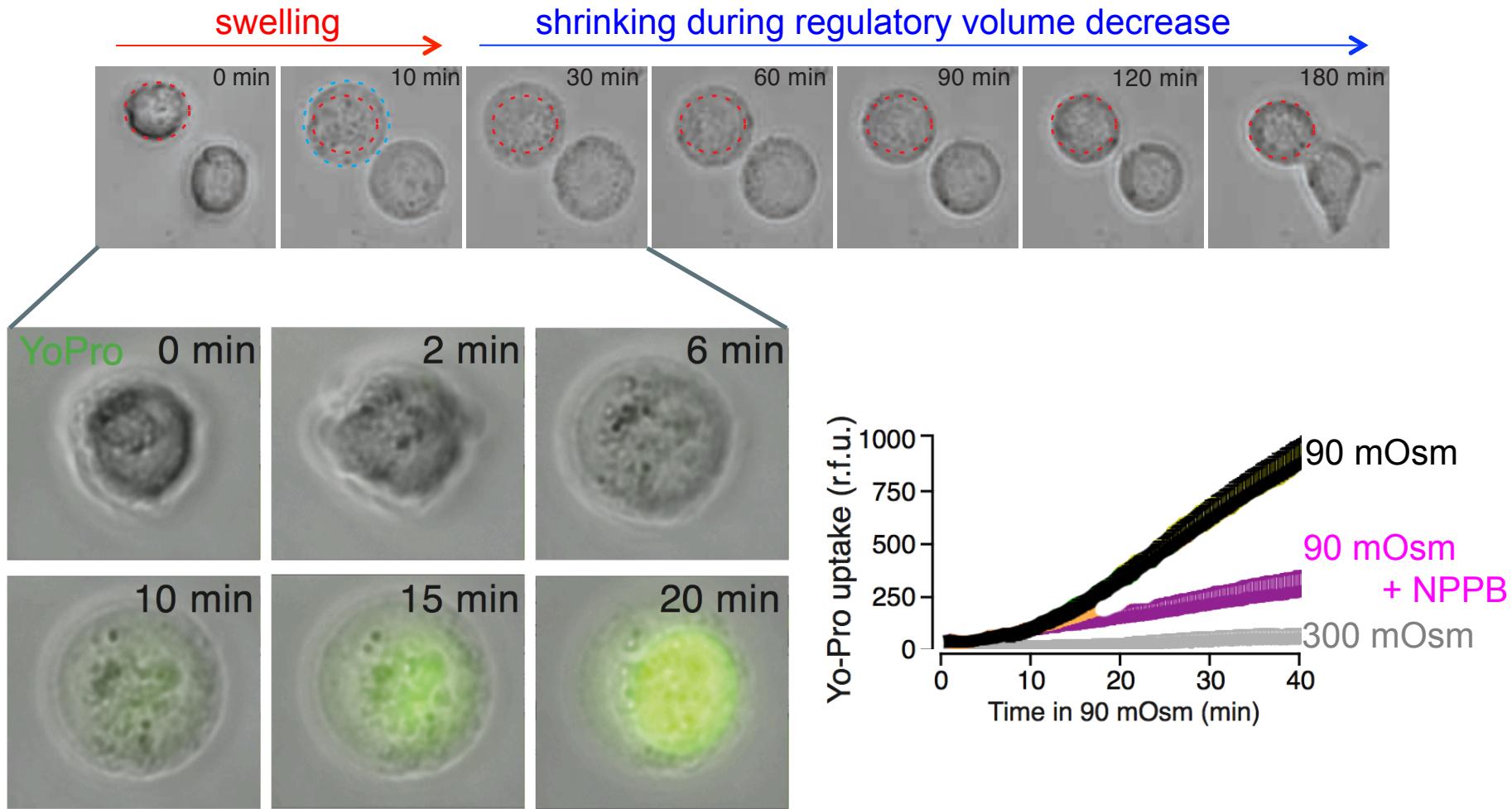
# hypotonicity induces decrease of intracellular K<sup>+</sup>



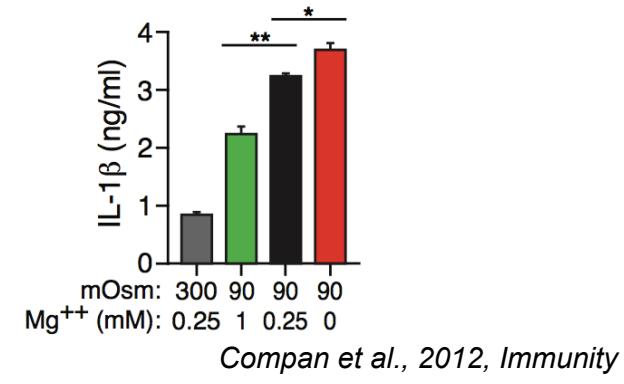
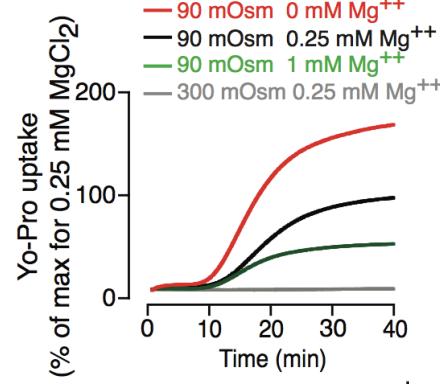
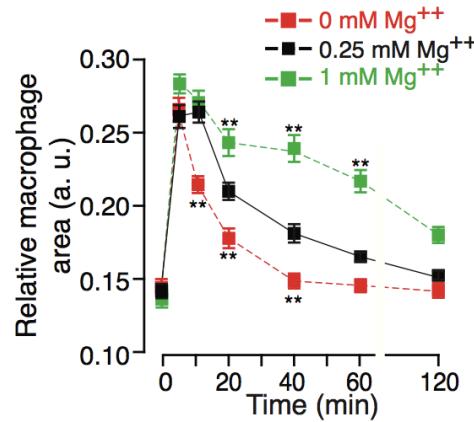
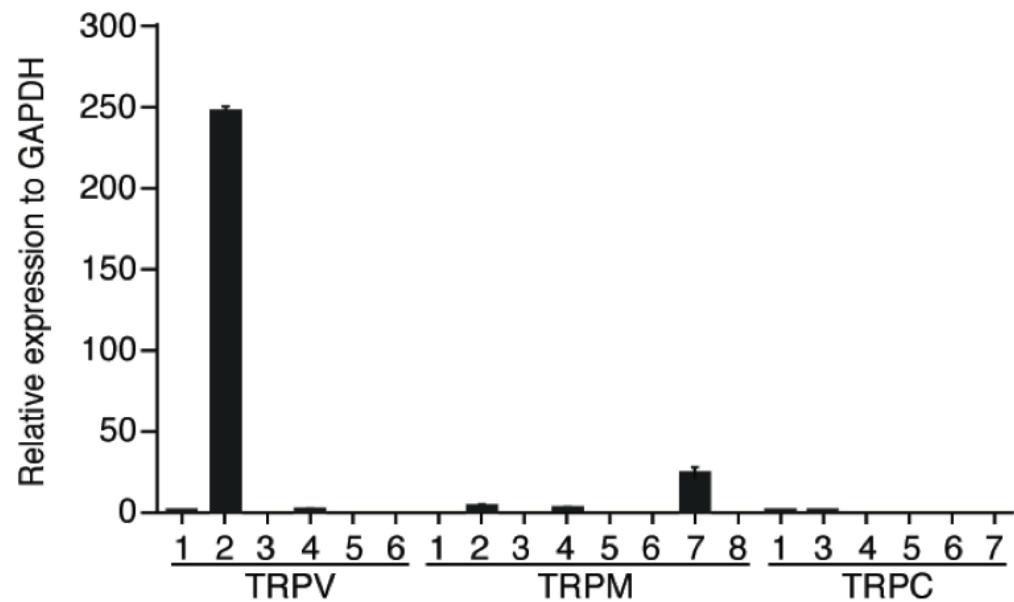
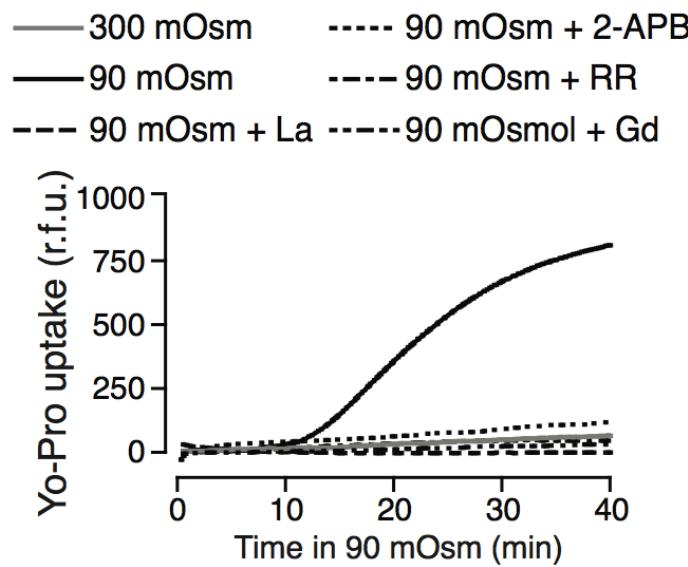
# hypotonicity induces decrease of intracellular Cl<sup>-</sup>



# hypotonicity permeabilize cell membrane during RVD

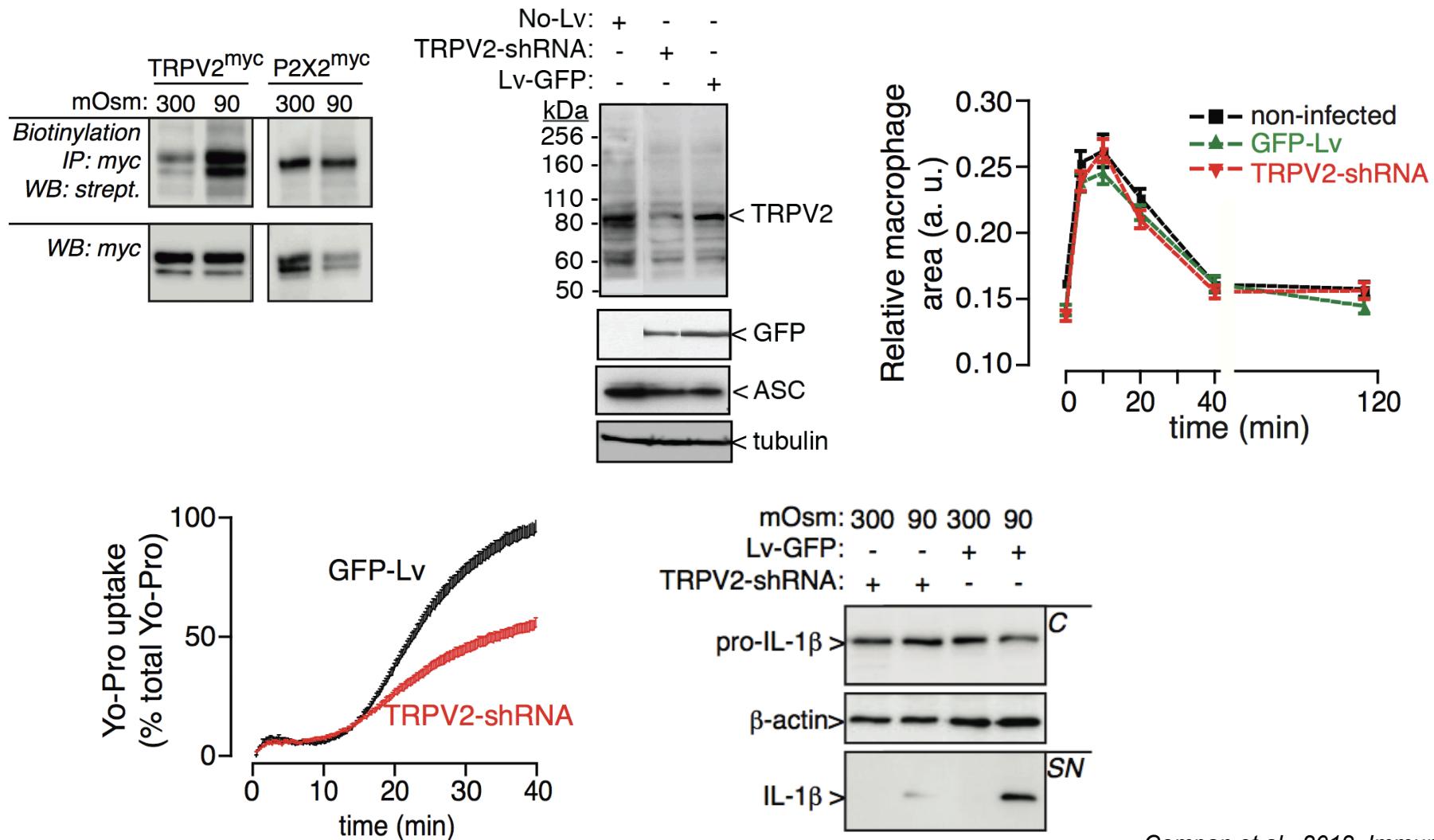


# cell permeabilization depends on TRP channels

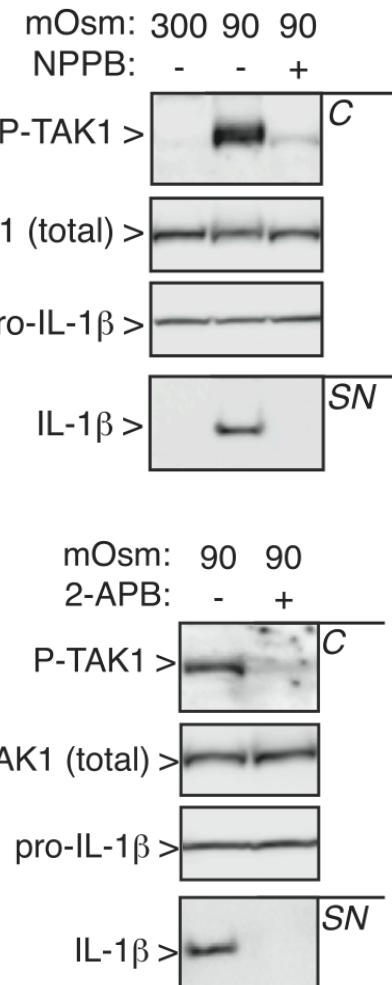
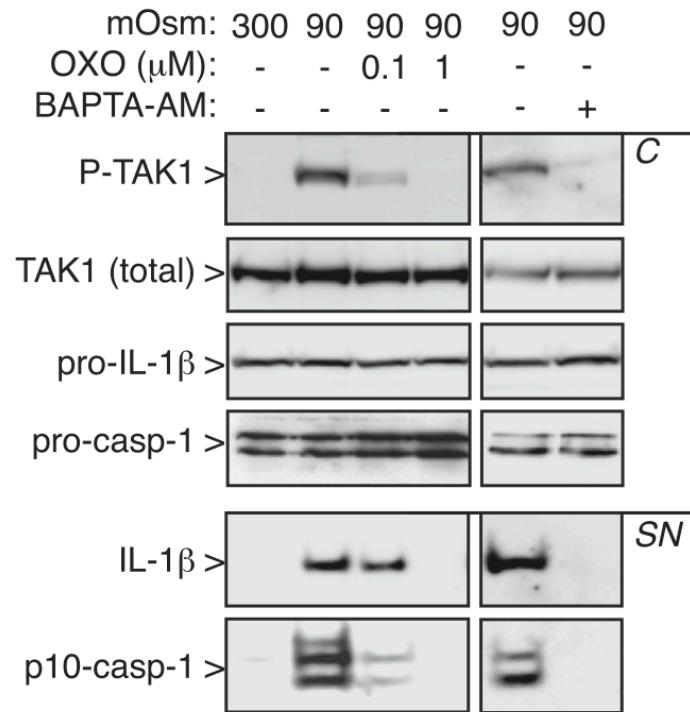
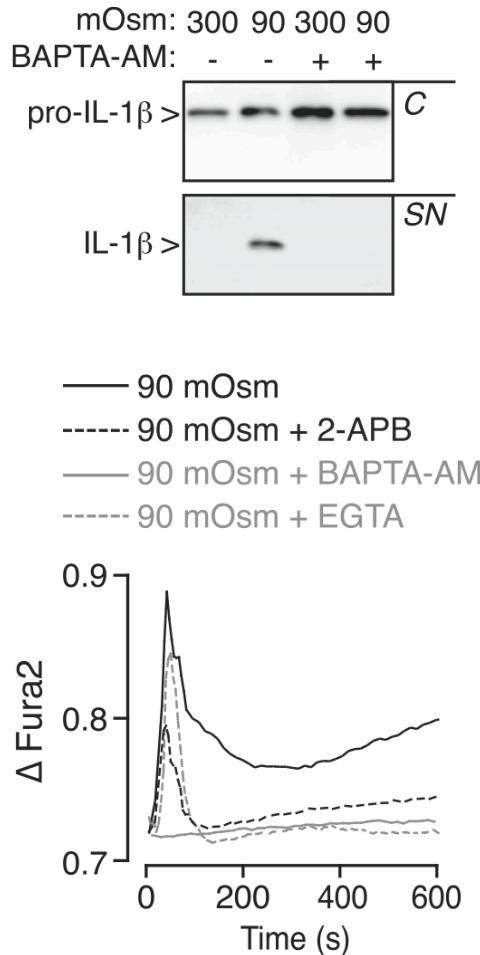


Compan et al., 2012, Immunity

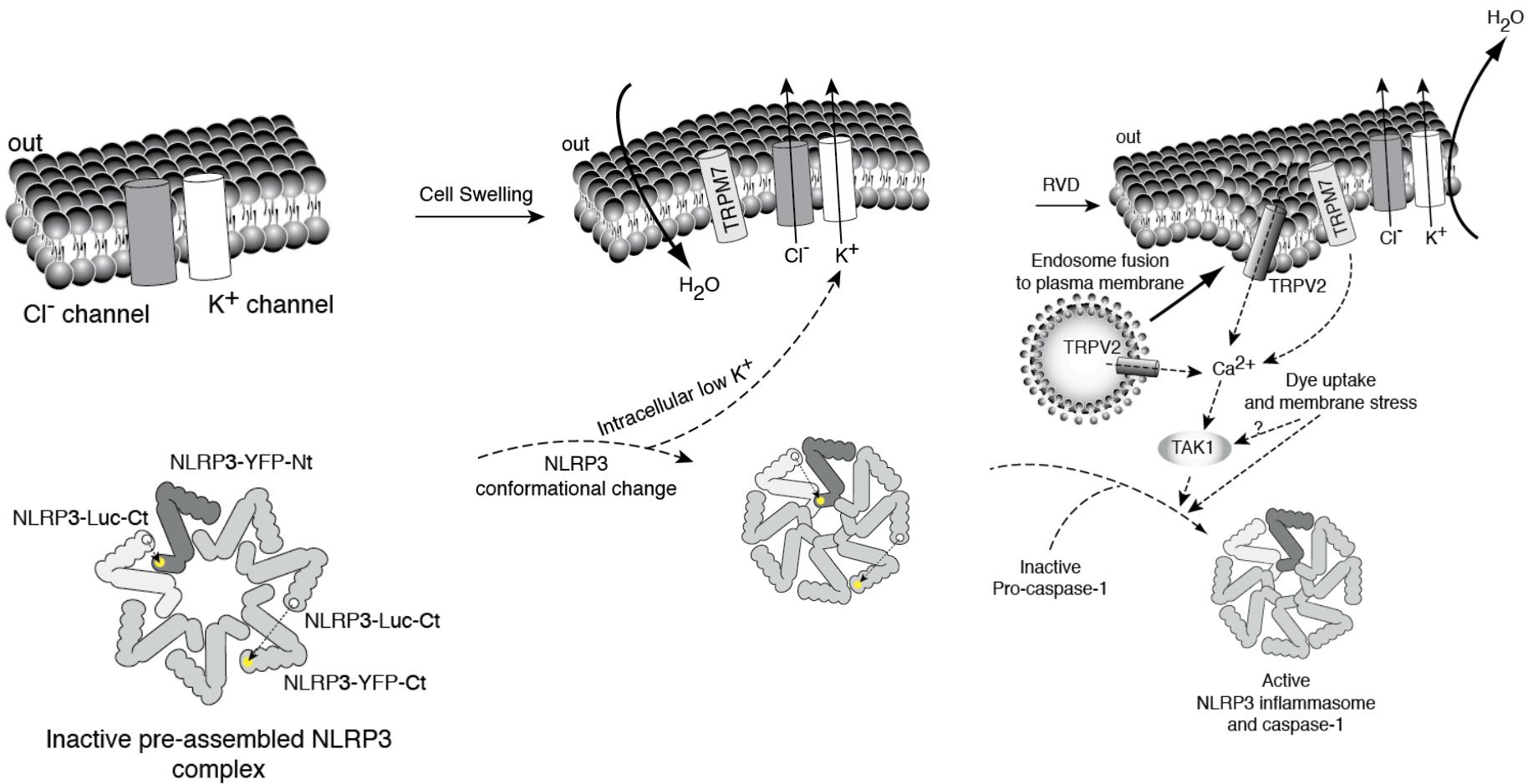
# TRPV2 permeabilize plasma membrane during RVD



# TRP-channel Ca<sup>++</sup> activates the NLRP3 via TAK1 phosphorylation

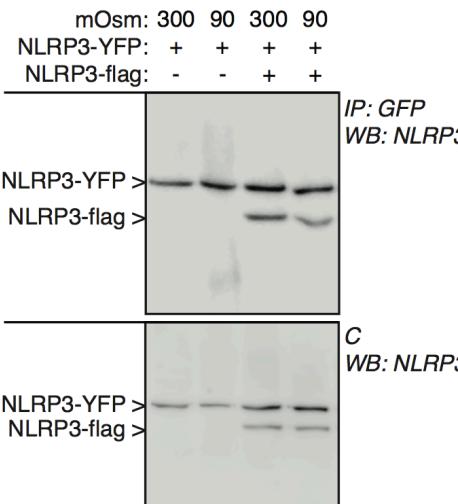
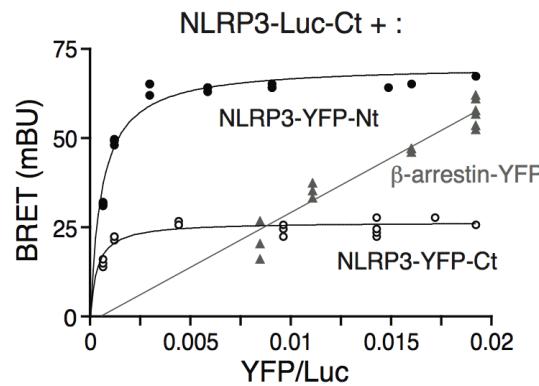
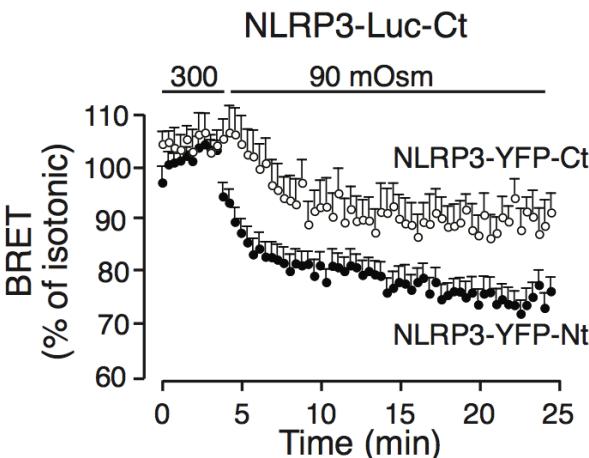
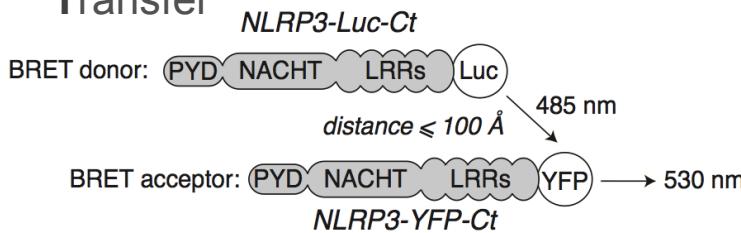


# model for NLRP3 activation in response to hypotonicity



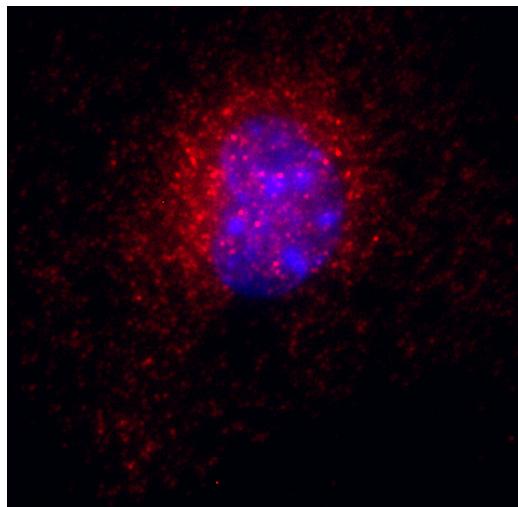
# study NLRP3 inflammasome by BRET

Bioluminescence  
Resonance  
Energy  
Transfer

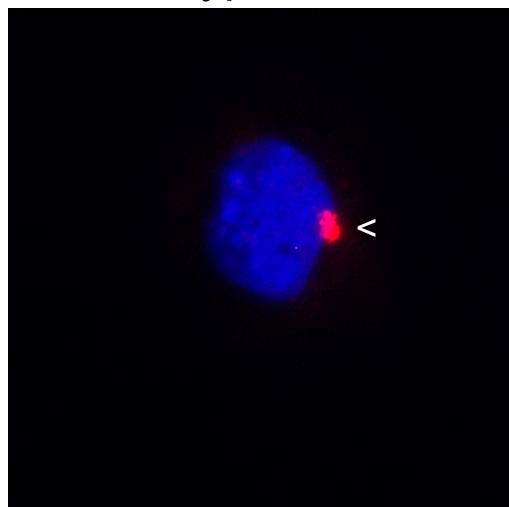


# hypotonicity induces formation of ASC focus

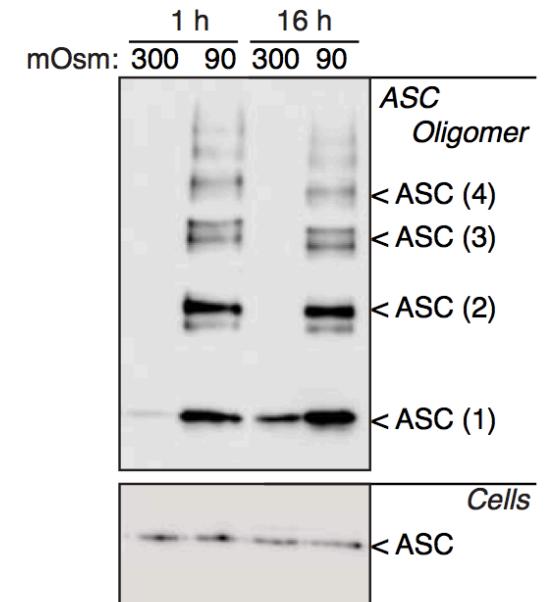
ASC - isotonic



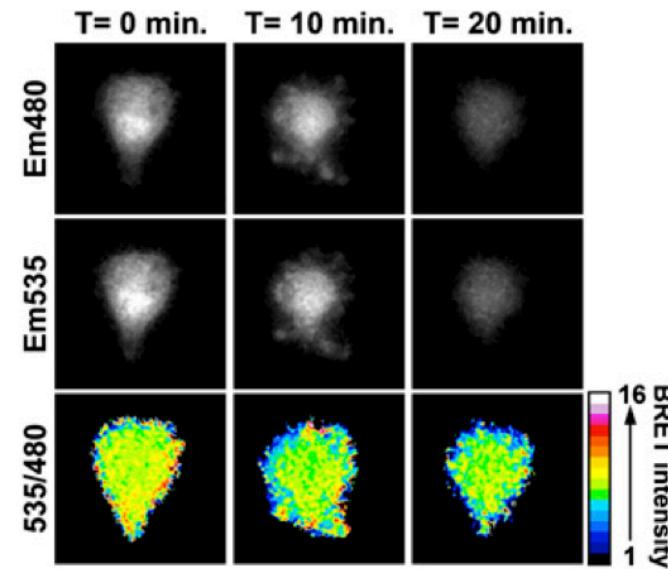
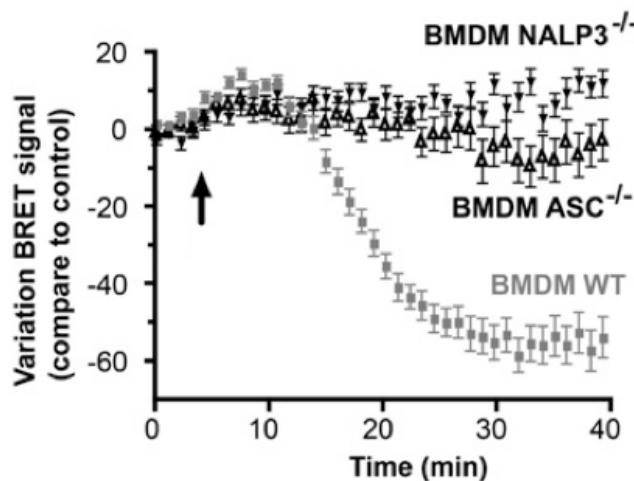
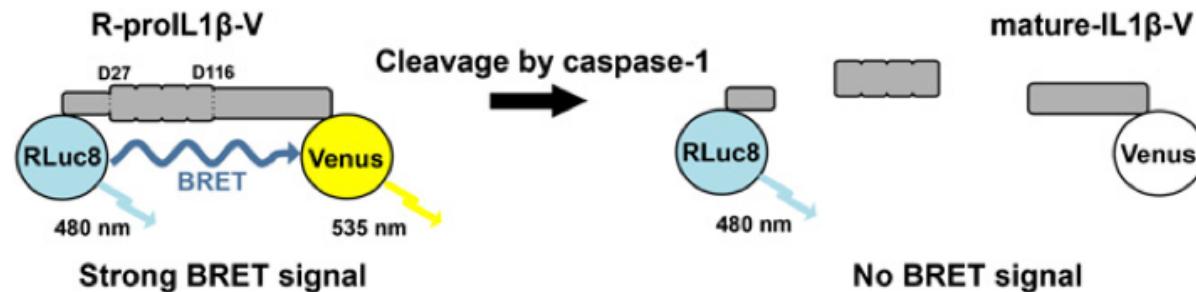
ASC - hypotonic



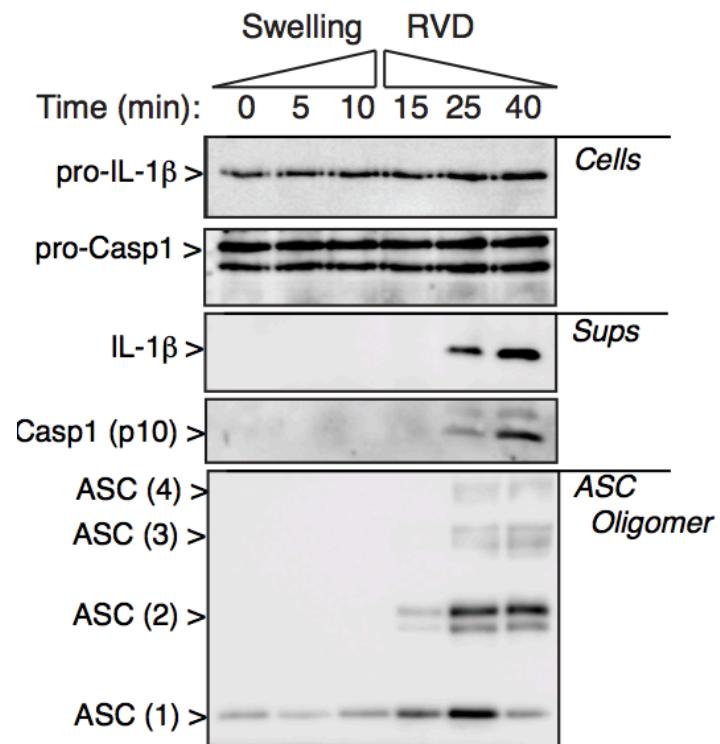
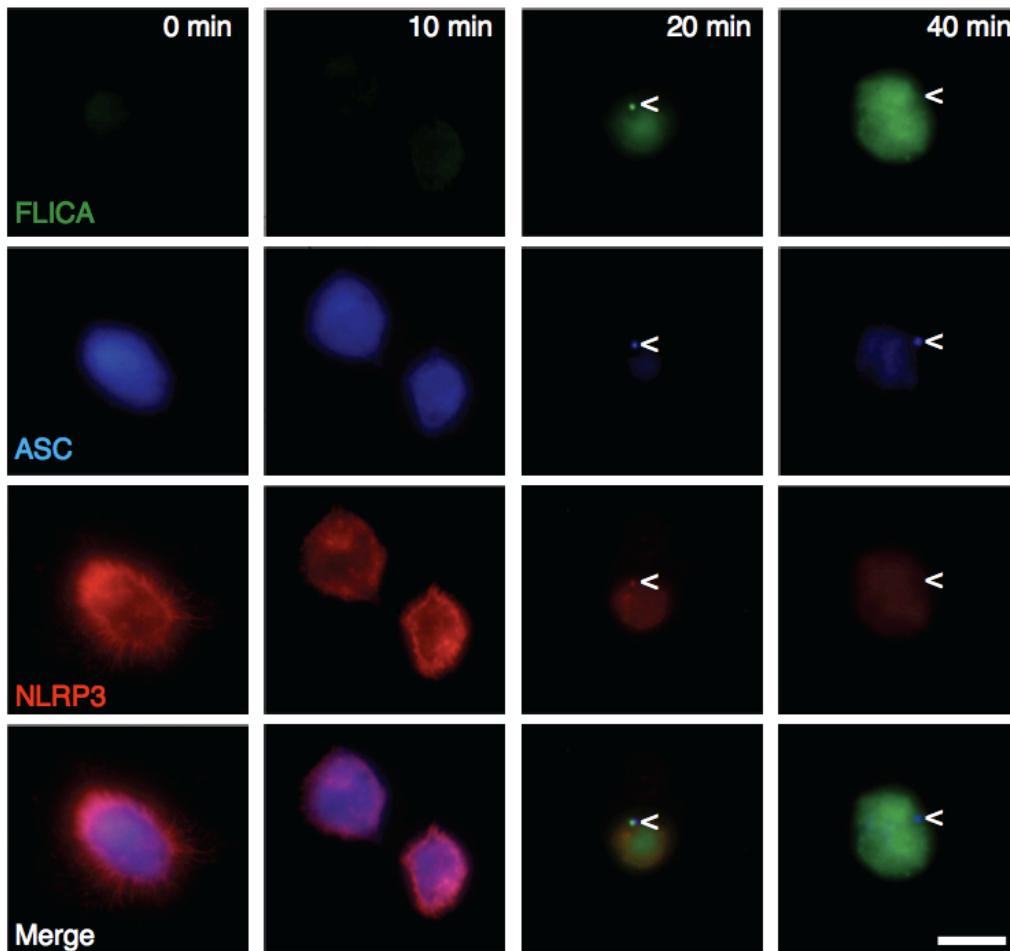
FLICA: active casp-1



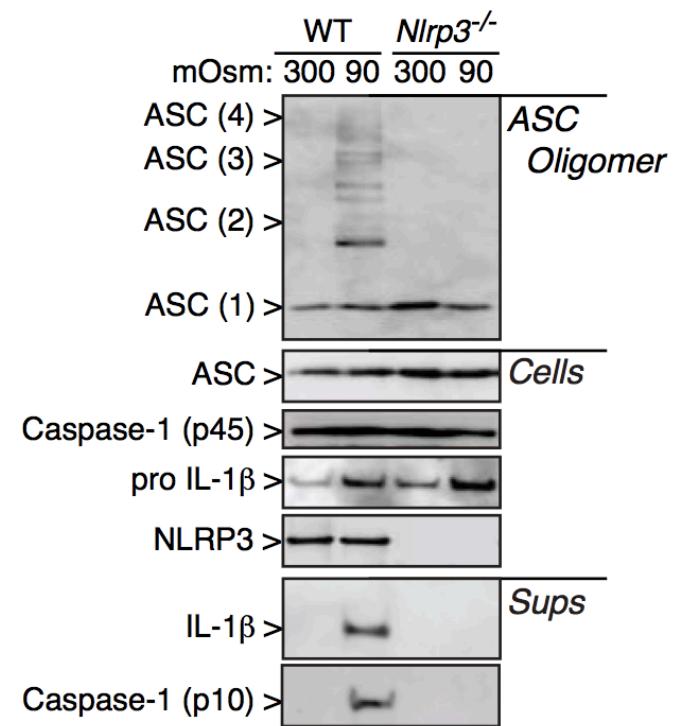
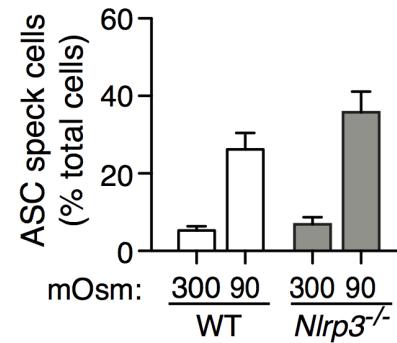
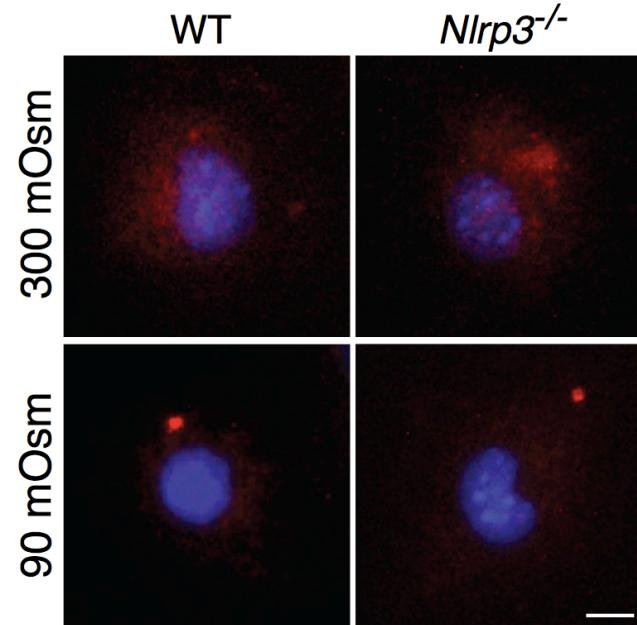
# ASC focus is NOT the main IL-1 $\beta$ processing site



# ASC focus is the initial platform to activate caspase-1



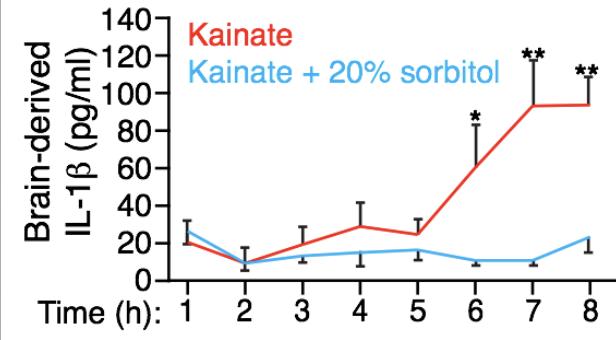
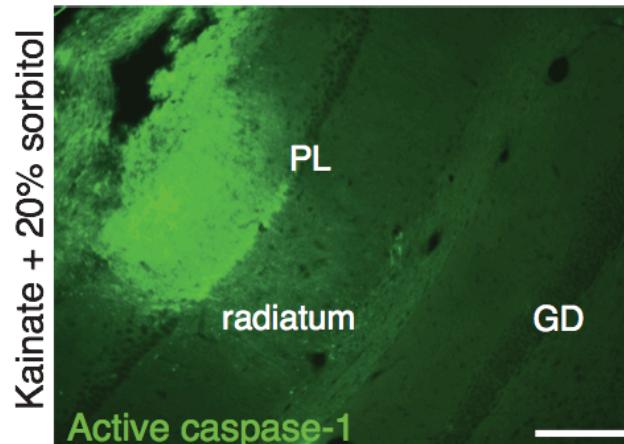
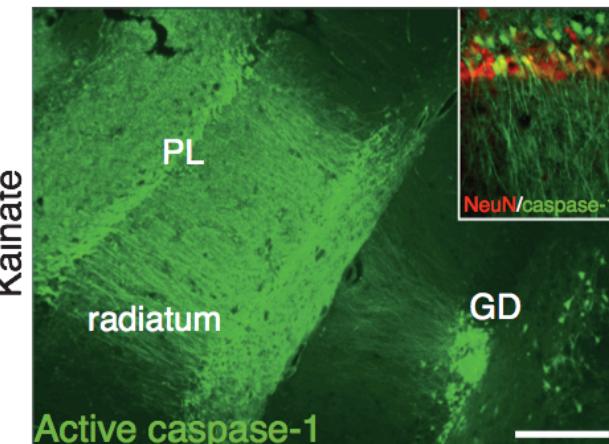
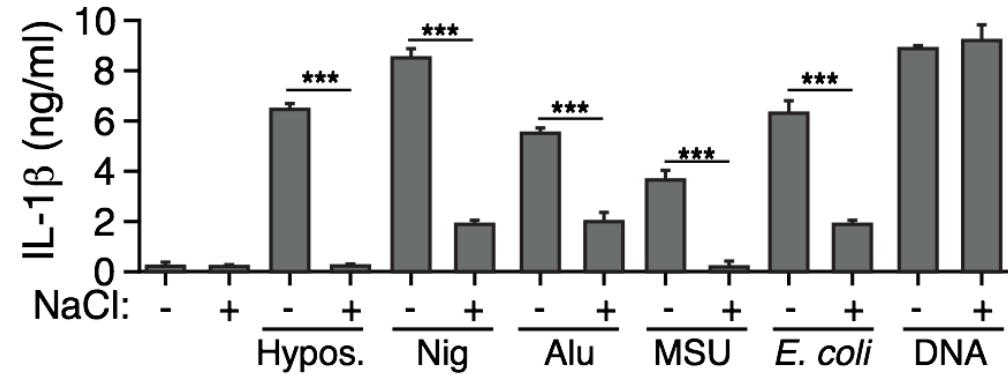
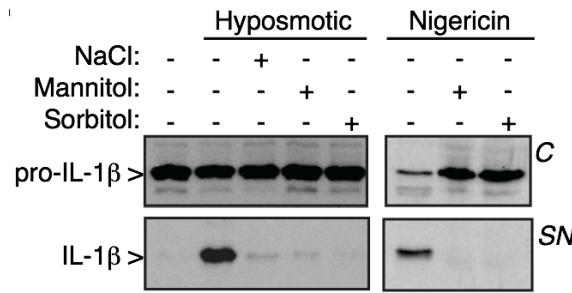
# ASC focus is independent on NLRP3



ASC oligomers detected by cross-linking is not the same structure than the ASC speck

# *in vivo* significance of cell swelling & inflammation

## HYPERTONICITY INHIBITS CASPASE-1 ACTIVATION



# FINAL REMARKS FOR THE SCIENTIFIC CHALLENGE

“

*discovering pharmacological targets*

- TRP channels
- « Easy » to target as they are plasma membrane receptors
- TRPV2 and TRPM7 are under Biootech drug discovery screening programmes
- Hypotonic solutions made with novel solvents: mannitol / sorbitol