



64<sup>th</sup>

Myanmar Medical Conference



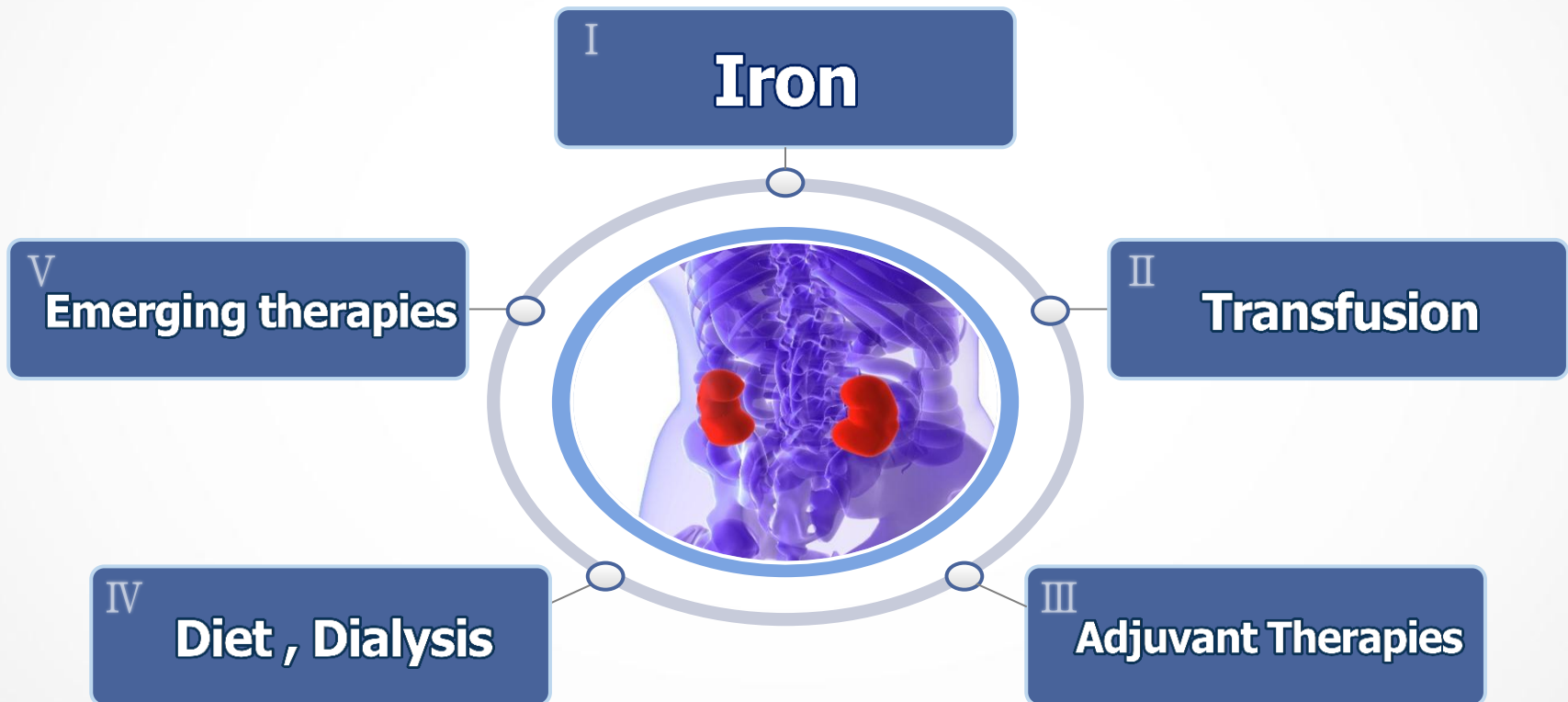
# Role of Non-Erythropoietin Stimulating Agents in Renal Anemia



22-1-2018

**Dr. Mya Htwe Nge**  
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Department of Nephrology  
Yangon Specialty Hospital

# Role of Non-ESA in Renal Anaemia





## Common causes of Anemia in CKD

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- Relative erythropoietin deficiency
  - Iron deficiency
  - Blood loss
  - Reduced erythrocyte survival duration
  - Inflammation
  - Infection
  - Underlying hematologic disease
  - Hyperparathyroidism (dialysis patients)
  - Hemolysis
  - Nutritional deficits
-

# Benefits of Anemia Control

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# Benefits of Anemia Control

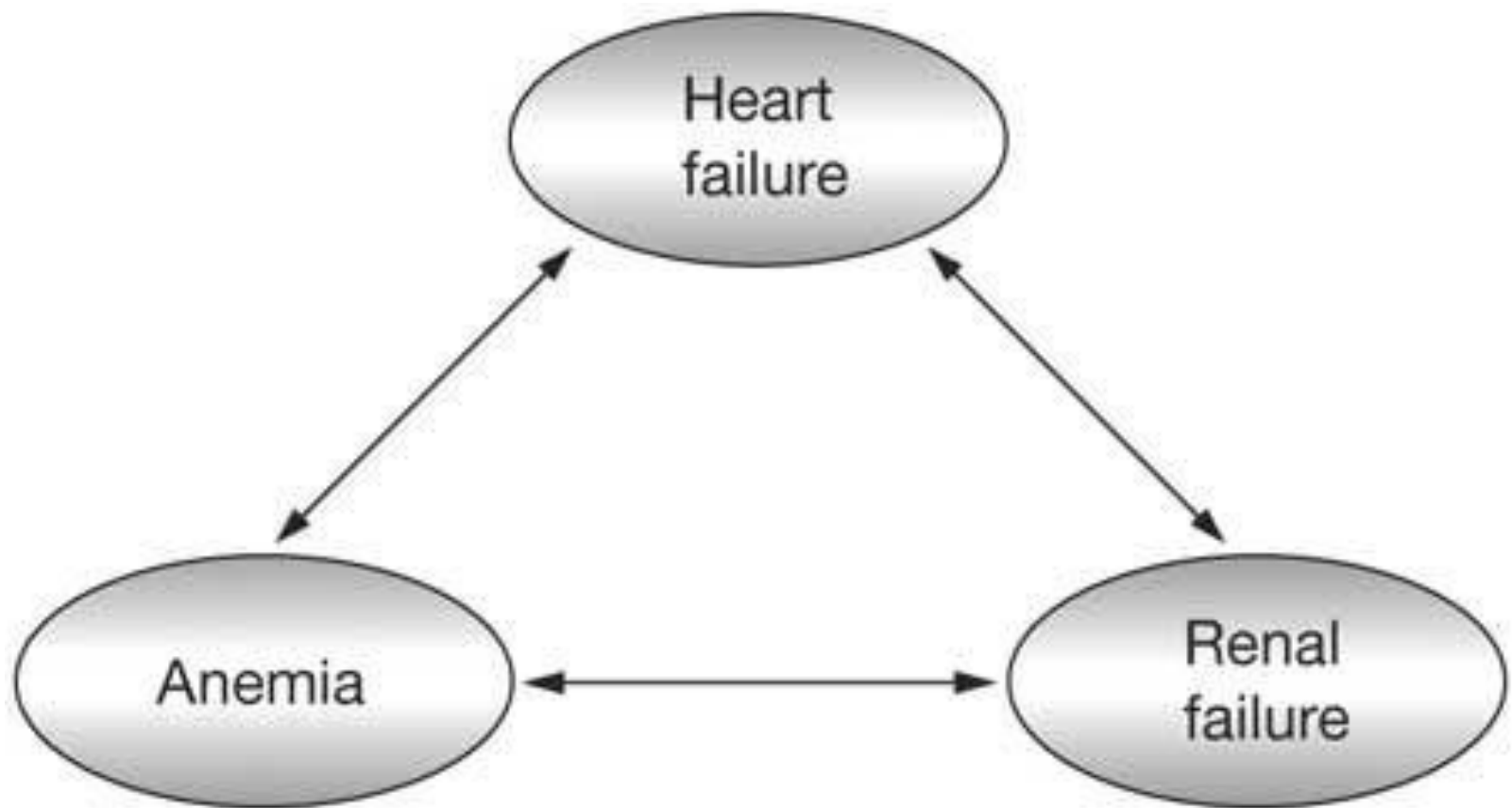
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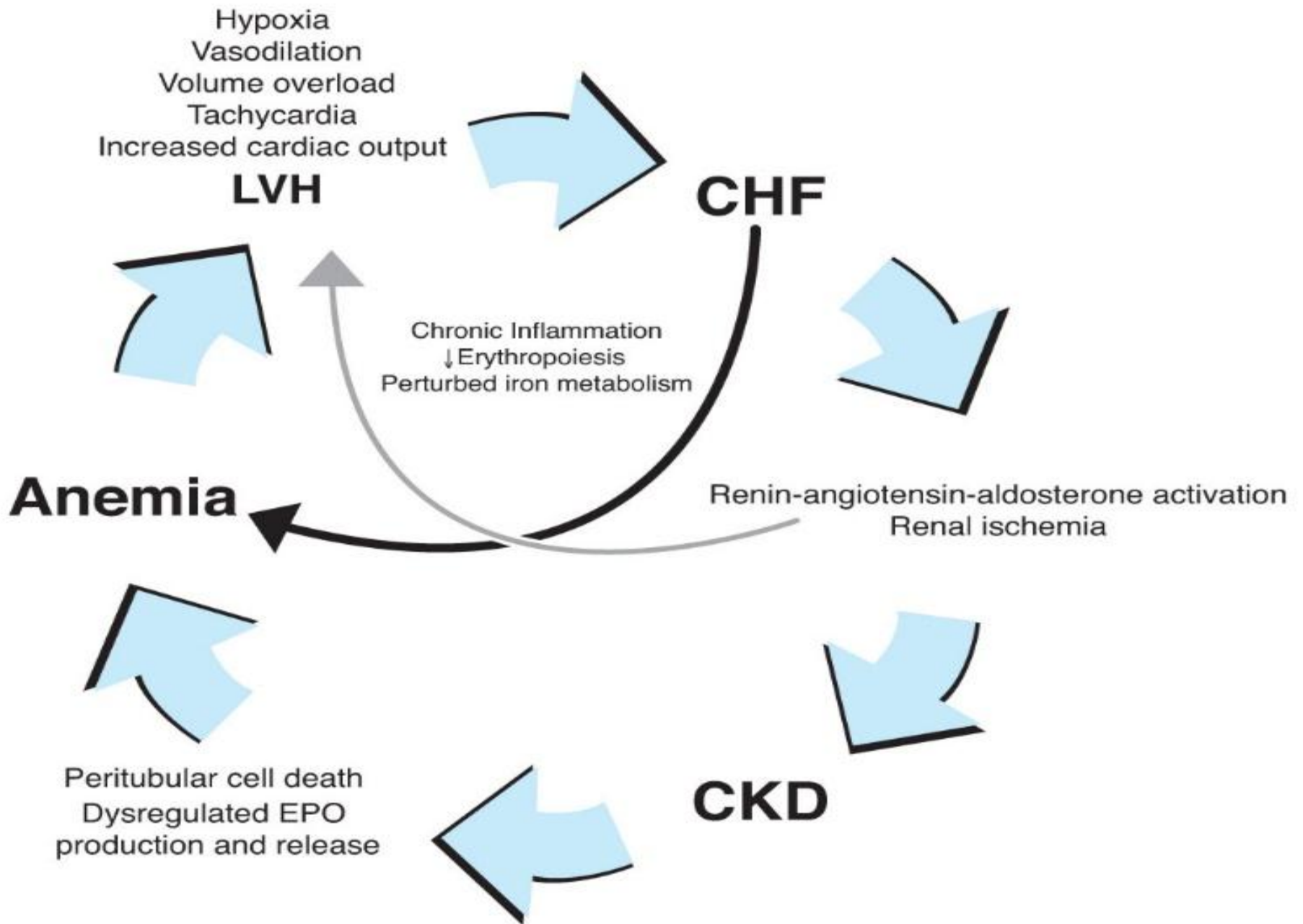
## Improve

- ▶ Quality of life
- ▶ Exercise capacity
- ▶ Cognitive function
- ▶ Sleep patterns
- ▶ Sexual function
- ▶ Endocrine function
- ▶ Immune function
- ▶ Muscle function
- ▶ Nutrition
- ▶ Depression

## Reduce

- ▶ Angina episodes
- ▶ LVH
- ▶ Hospitalizations
- ▶ Transfusion





November 03, 2017

# Anemia Raises ESRD Risk in Patients With Chronic Kidney Disease

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In a study, end-stage renal disease was 31% more likely to develop in CKD patients with versus without anemia.

The following article is part of conference coverage from **Kidney Week 2017** in New Orleans hosted by the American Society of Nephrology. *Renal & Urology News* staff will be reporting live on medical studies conducted by nephrologists and other specialists who are tops in their field in acute kidney injury, chronic kidney disease, dialysis, transplantation, and more. Check back for the latest news from **Kidney Week 2017**.



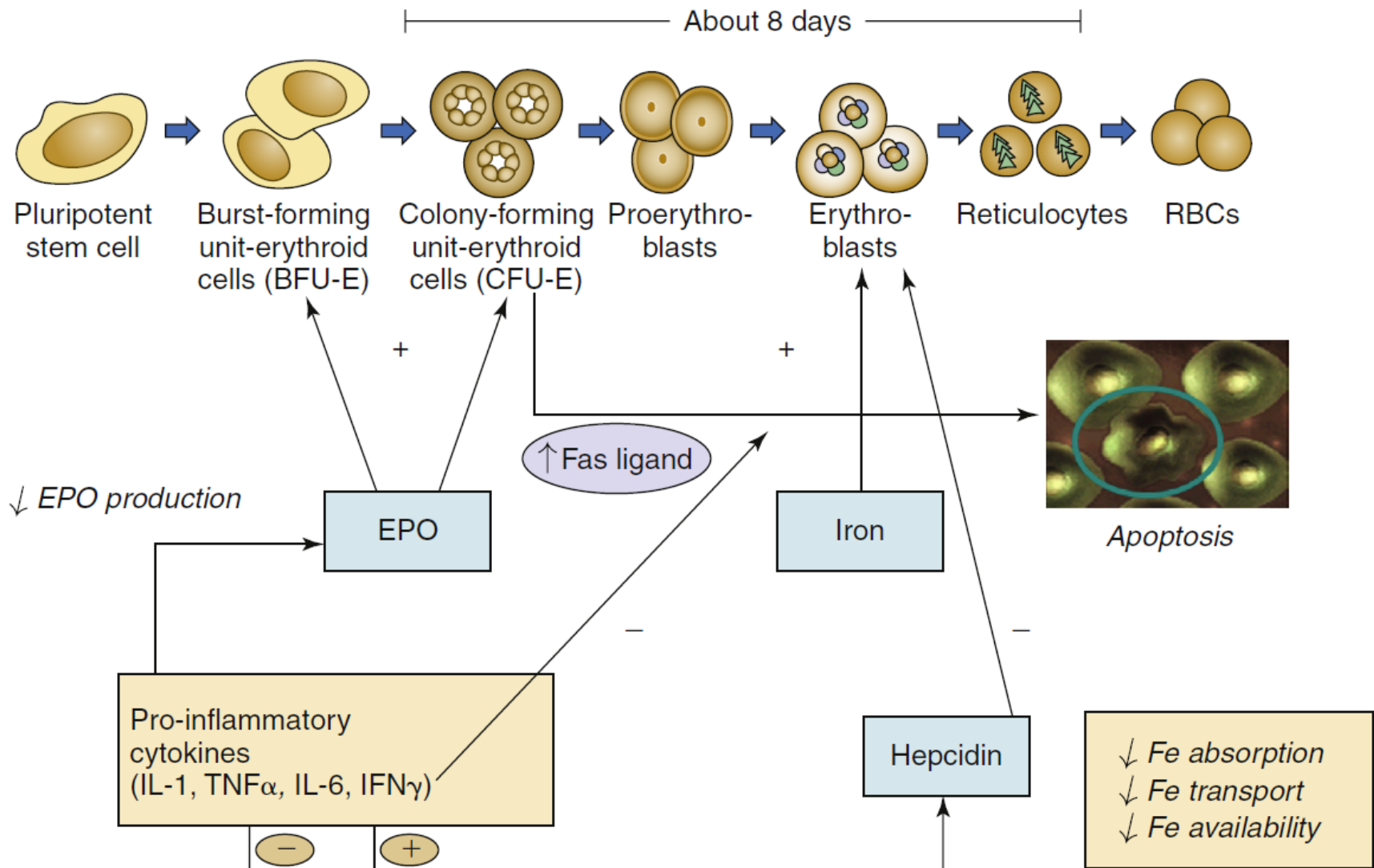


# Evaluation of Anemia in CKD

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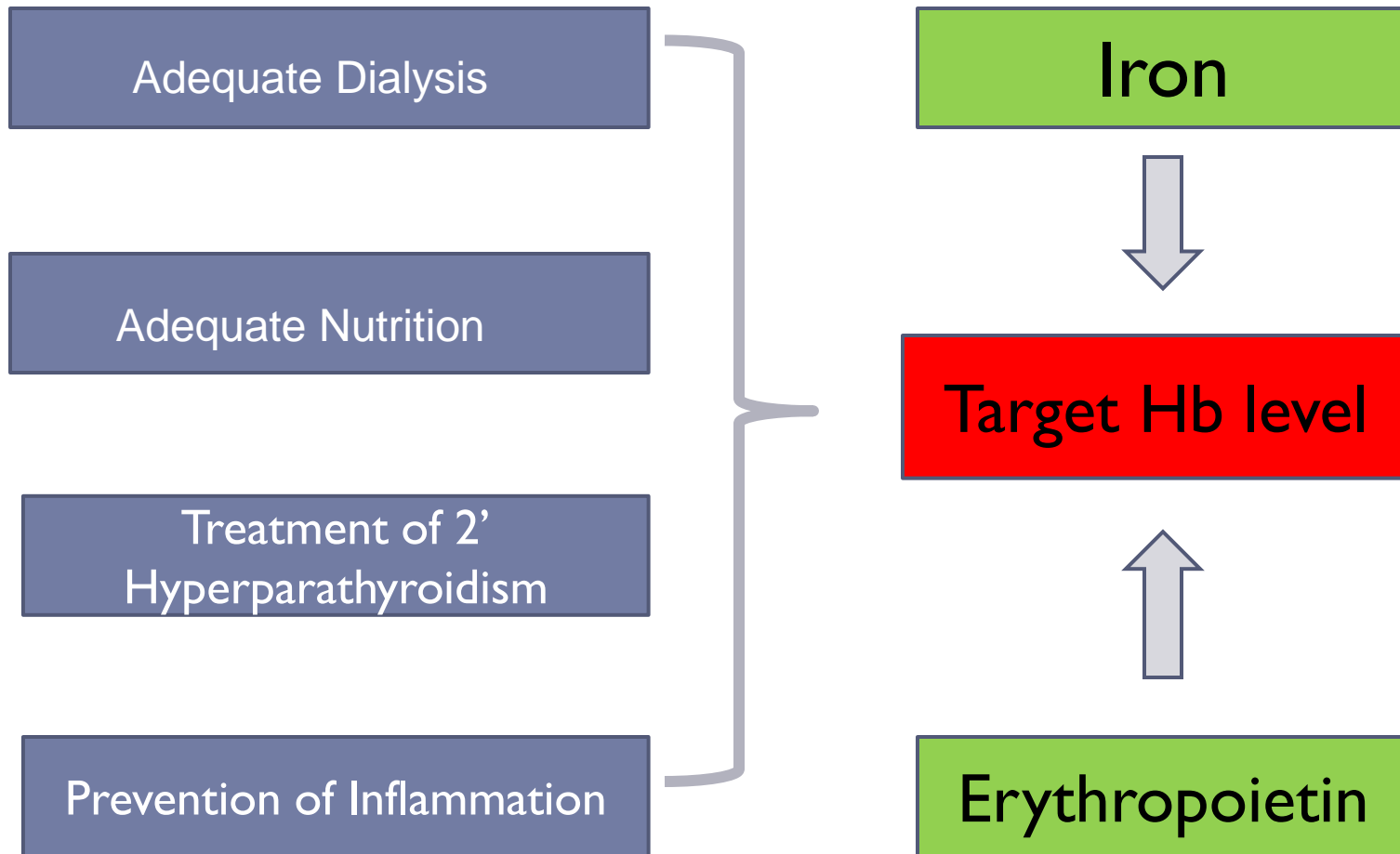
- Focused history and physical examination
  - Blood testing
    - ◇ Complete blood cell count (including red blood cell indexes)
    - ◇ Reticulocyte count
    - ◇ Serum ferritin
    - ◇ Transferrin saturation
    - ◇ Folic acid
    - ◇ Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>
-

# Erythropoiesis in chronic kidney disease



# Treatment of Renal Anemia

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# Iron Therapy



# Causes of Iron Deficiency in CKD

## Absolute iron deficiency

- Low body iron stores – low serum ferritin
- **Reduced intake** -  
Poor appetite,  
Dietary restrictions
- **Increased iron loss** -  
GI bleeding,  
Multiple blood tests, Hemodialysis  
(may lose upto 2g/year through blood left in dialyser circuit)

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- Common when ESA driven supraphysiological rate of erythropoiesis has outpaced the delivery of iron by transferrin
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- Normal or raised serum ferritin, low TSAT

## Reticuloendothelial ('inflammatory') block

- Occurs with infection or inflammation
- Iron is trapped in RE system & not released to transferrin for Hb synthesis
- High CRP, raised ferritin, low TSAT

# Iron therapy in CKD

| Organization                            | Indication to iron therapy   | Upper limits  |
|---|--|---|
| KDIGO, <sup>7</sup> 2012                | <p>ESA-naïve and ESA therapy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serum ferritin &lt;500 ng/mL</li> <li>• TSAT &lt;30%</li> </ul>  | <p>Serum ferritin 500 ng/mL<br/>TSAT 30%</p>  |
| ERBP, <sup>8</sup> 2013                 | <p>ESA-naïve</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CKD-ND <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serum ferritin &lt;200 ng/mL</li> <li>• TSAT &lt;25%</li> </ul> </li> <li>• CKD-5D <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serum ferritin &lt;300 ng/mL</li> <li>• TSAT &lt;25%</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>ESA therapy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CKD all stages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serum ferritin &lt;300 ng/mL</li> <li>• TSAT &lt; 30%</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <p>Serum ferritin 500 ng/mL<br/>TSAT 30%</p> <p>Serum ferritin 500 ng/mL<br/>TSAT 30%</p>   |
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| NICE, <sup>11</sup> 2015                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CKD all stages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serum Ferritin &lt;200 ng/mL</li> <li>• TSAT &lt;20% (unless ferritin &gt;800 ng/mL)</li> <li>• %HRC less than 6% (unless ferritin &gt;800 ng/mL)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  | <p>Serum ferritin 500–800 ng/mL</p>   |
| CARI, <sup>9</sup> 2013                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Serum Ferritin &lt;200 ng/mL</li> <li>• TSAT &lt;20%</li> </ul>   | <p>Serum Ferritin 1200 ng/mL<br/>TSAT 30%</p>   |



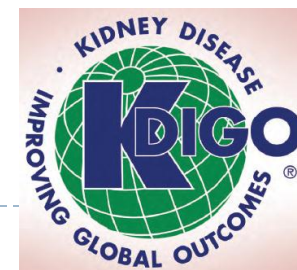
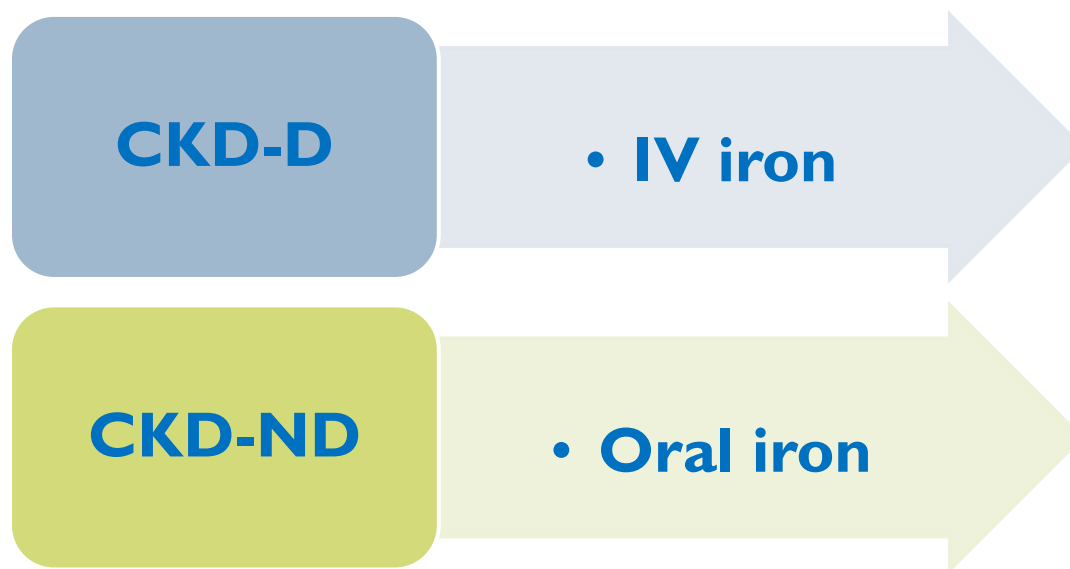
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# Use of iron to treat anemia in CKD

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- ▶ suggest a trial of IV iron (or in CKD ND patients alternatively a 1–3 month trial of oral iron therapy)



# Route of iron administration in CKD ND

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Based on

- ▶ severity of iron deficiency
- ▶ availability of venous access
- ▶ response to prior oral iron therapy
- ▶ side effects with prior oral or IV iron therapy
- ▶ patient compliance
- ▶ cost



# Subsequent iron administration in CKD

---

Based on

- ▶ Hb responses to recent iron therapy
- ▶ Ongoing blood losses
- ▶ Iron status tests (TSAT & ferritin)
- ▶ Hb concentration
- ▶ ESA responsiveness & ESA dose in ESA treated patients, trends in each parameter
- ▶ Patient's clinical status



# Iron Status (**TSAT, Ferritin**) Evaluation

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## **Ferritin**

- ▶ Cellular storage protein
- ▶ Marker of **storage iron**
- ▶ **Acute phase protein**
- ▶ Raised in inflammation & liver disease

## **TSAT (Tranferrin saturation)**

- ▶  $TSAT = (\text{serum iron}/TIBC) \times 100$
- ▶ Measure of **available iron**



# Iron Status (TSAT, Ferritin) Evaluation

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- ▶ **at least every 3 months** d/r ESA therapy, including the decision to start or continue iron therapy
- ▶ **more frequently**
  - ▶ when initiating or increasing ESA dose
  - ▶ when there is blood loss
  - ▶ when monitoring response after a course of IV iron
  - ▶ in other circumstances where iron stores may become depleted.



## Markers of Iron Status in Chronic Kidney Disease Patients

| Test                                  | Recommended Range   |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| Serum ferritin                        | 100-500 $\mu\text{g/l}$ (CKD)<br>200-500 $\mu\text{g/l}$ (HD) |
| Transferrin saturation                | 20%-40%   |
| Hypochromic red cells                 | <10%  |
| Reticulocyte hemoglobin content (CHr) | >29 pg/cell   |
| Serum transferrin receptor            | Not established   |
| Erythrocyte zinc protoporphyrin       | Not established   |



# Cautions Regarding Iron Therapy

---

## Initial dose

(IV iron dextran) - recommend

(IV non dextran iron) – suggest

patients - **monitored for 60 minutes after infusion**

**resuscitative facilities** (including medications) & **personnel** trained to evaluate & treat serious adverse reactions - available





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**Avoid administering IV iron to patients with active systemic infections**



# IV Iron Toxicities

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## Immediate severe “anaphylactoid” reactions

Primarily with iron dextran

- ▶ Not IgE mediated
- ▶ May be direct release of mediators from mast cells

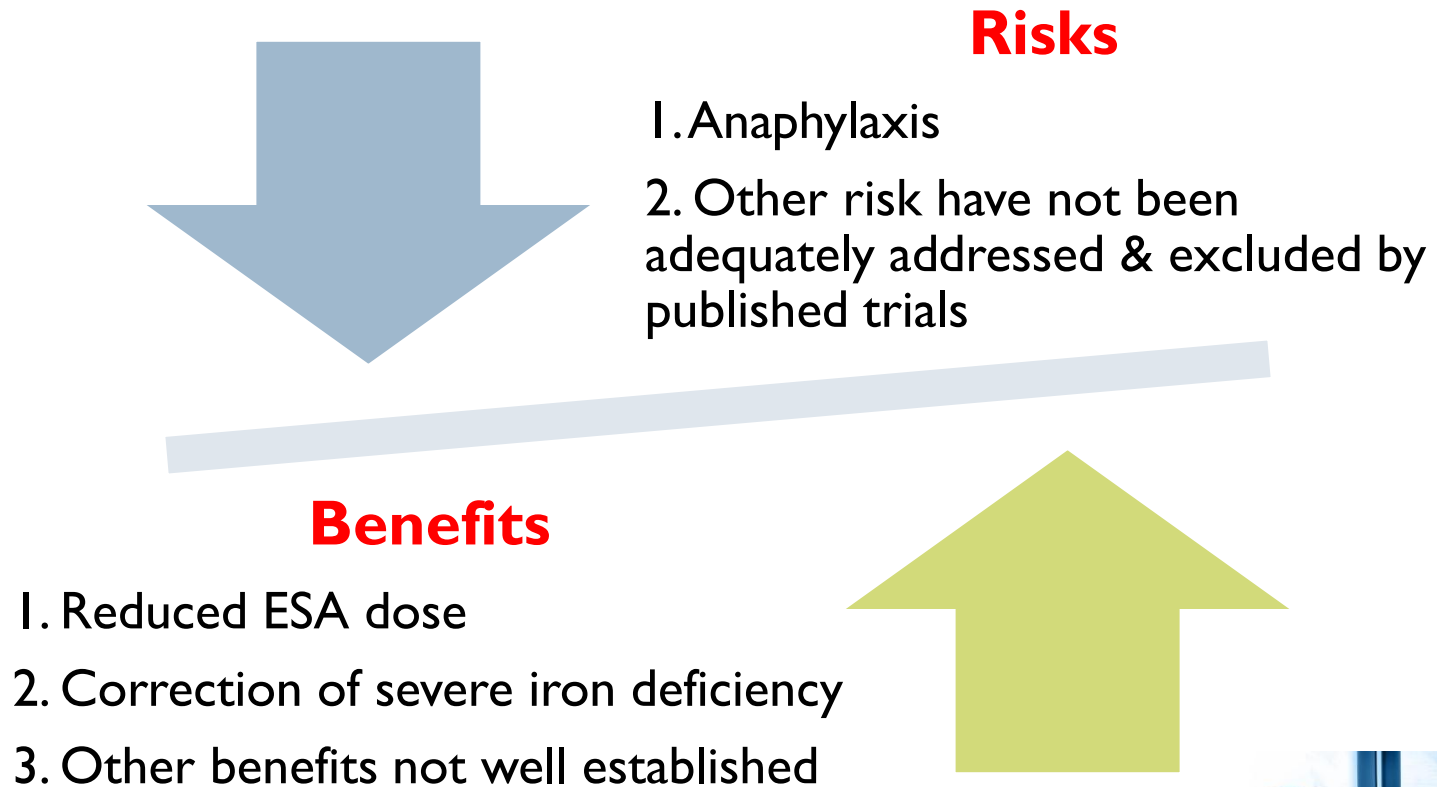
## Other acute reactions — occur with all IV irons, some dose and rate of infusion related

- ▶ Arthralgias-myalgias
  - ▶ Anaphylactoid reactions
  - ▶ Hypotension
  - ▶ Nausea, vomiting
  - ▶ Urticaria
  - ▶ Bronchospasm
  - ▶ Chest, back, abdominal pain
  - ▶ Death
- 



# Balancing Benefits and Risks of IV Iron Treatment

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# IV Iron Preparation

|                                      | Sodium ferric gluconate            | Iron sucrose   | Ferric carboxymaltose                        | Low molecular weight iron dextran               | Iron isomaltoside 1000                                    | Ferumoxytol                                 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|
| Trade name(s)                        | Ferrlecit <sup>a</sup>             | Venofer <sup>b</sup>                                   | Injectafer, Ferinject <sup>c</sup>           | Cosmofer <sup>d</sup>                           | Monofer <sup>e</sup>                                      | Feraheme <sup>f</sup>                       |
| Formulation                          | 12.5 mg/mL in 5 mL single-use vial | 20 mg/mL in 2.5 and 5 mL single-use vials and ampoules | 50 mg/mL in 2, 10 and 20 mL single-use vials | 50 mg/mL in 2, 5, and 10 mL single-use ampoules | 100 mg/mL in 1, 2, 5, and 10 mL single-use vials/ampoules | 30 mg/mL in 17 mL as 510 mg single-use vial |
| Maximum single dosage [59, 60]       | 125 mg                             | 200 mg   | 1000 mg (up to 200 mg in CKD-HD patients)    | 20 mg/kg  | 20 mg/kg  | 510 mg                                      |
| Minimal administration time [59, 60] | 10–60 min                          | 10–30 min  | 15 min                                       | 4–6 h   | 15–30 min   | 15 min                                      |
| Test dose required                   | No                                 | No   | No   | Yes   | No  | No  |
| FDA black box warning                | No                                 | No   | No   | Yes   | NA (available in Europe only)                             | Yes   |



# Oral iron supplements

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**200 mg elemental iron / day**

| Compound                   | Dose  | Content of ferrous iron |
|----------------------------|-------|-------------------------|
| Ferrous Sulphate           | 200mg | 60 mg                   |
| Ferrous Gluconate          | 300mg | 35 mg                   |
| Ferrous Fumarate           | 200mg | 65 mg                   |
| Colloidal Ferric hydroxide | 200mg | 100 mg                  |



1981

1999

2000

2009

2013

2014

2015

Oral Iron  
Ferrous salts, iron polysaccharide,  
heme iron polypeptide

IV Iron  
Iron  
dextran

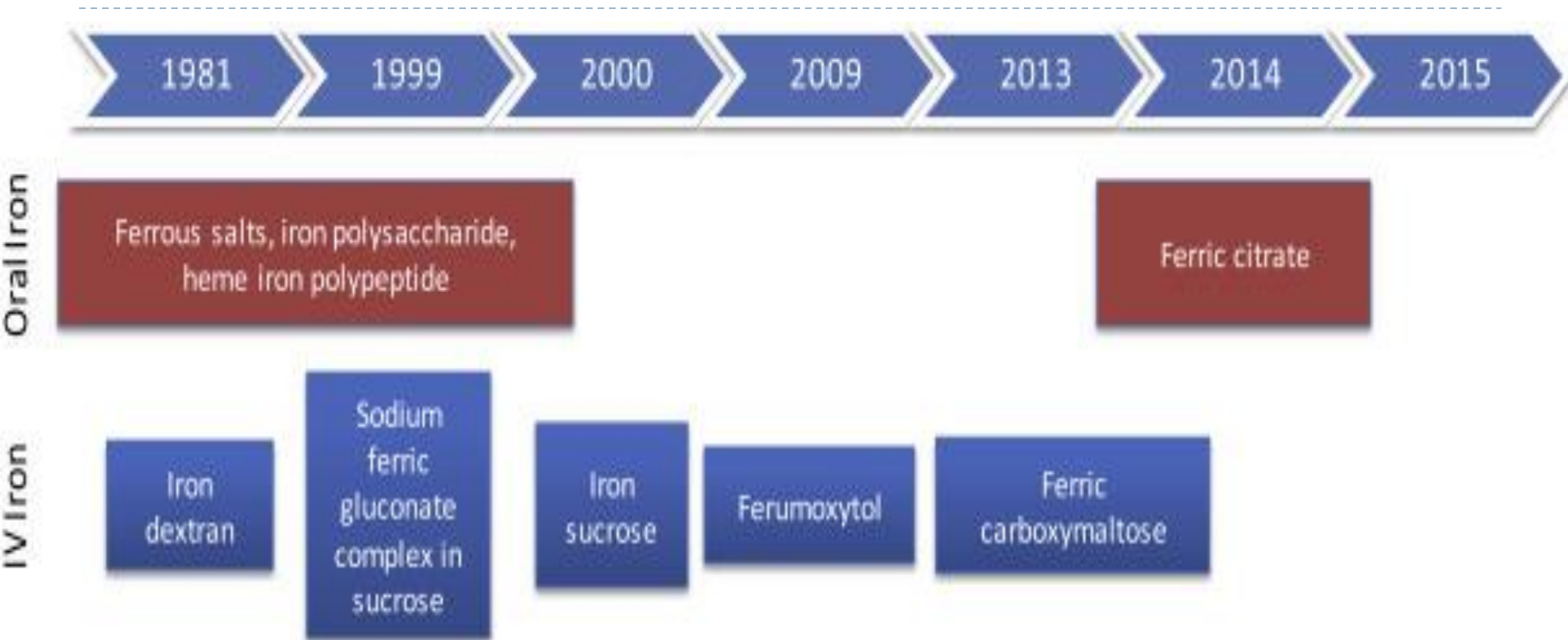
Sodium  
ferric  
gluconate  
complex in  
sucrose

Iron  
sucrose

Ferumoxytol

Ferric  
carboxymaltose

# New option for Iron supplementation



# Ferric citrate

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- ▶ novel phosphate binder
- ▶ also supplies elemental iron
- ▶ orally
- ▶ potentially adherence enhancing strategy
  
- ▶ Ferric ion in ferric citrate combines with dietary phosphorus in GI tract
- ▶ excess ferric ions are reduced by bowel mucosa to ferrous iron and absorbed into systemic circulation



Nephrol Dial Transplant (2016) 31: 1588–1594

doi: 10.1093/ndt/gfv268

Advance Access publication 3 July 2015



## *Full Reviews*

# Novel iron-containing phosphate binders and anemia treatment in CKD: oral iron intake revisited

Takeshi Nakanishi, Yukiko Hasuike, Masayoshi Nanami, Mana Yahiro and Takahiro Kuragano

Department of Internal Medicine, Division of Kidney and Dialysis, Hyogo College of Medicine, Nishinomiya, Japan

Correspondence and offprint requests to: Takeshi Nakanishi; E-mail address; [t-nkns@hyo-med.ac.jp](mailto:t-nkns@hyo-med.ac.jp)



# Iron-based Binder Improves Phosphorus Levels in Dialysis Patients

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**Sept 2014 - FDA approved - Phosphate binder in CKD-D**

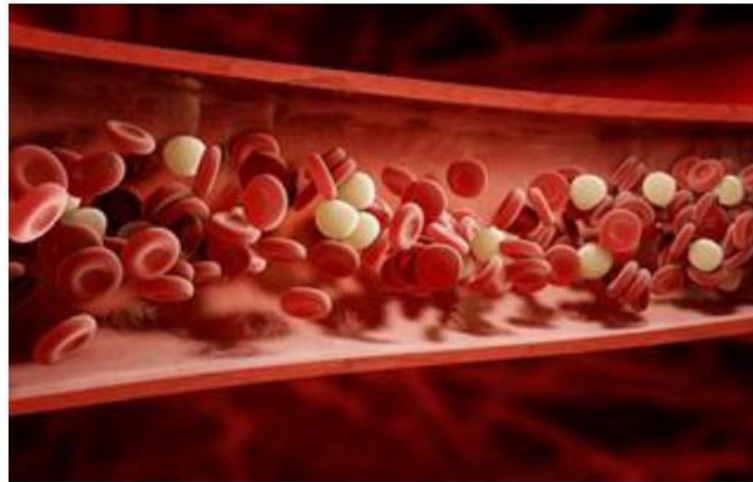
and anemia biomarker levels improved in a small group of real-world patients taking ferric citrate.

Natasha Persaud, Digital Content Editor

April 22, 2017

# Ferric Citrate Modestly Improves Anemia, Study Confirms

Share this content:



Significantly more patients treated with ferric citrate increased their hemoglobin levels by 1 g/dL or more over 8 weeks.

ORLANDO, Fla. — The phosphate binder ferric citrate can partially raise hemoglobin levels in patients with non-dialysis dependent chronic kidney disease (NDD-CKD) and iron deficiency anemia, investigators confirmed at the National Kidney Foundation Spring Clinical Meetings.



November 08, 2017

NEWS IN BRIEF

# Ferric Citrate Approved for Anemia in CKD Patients

Share this content:



Study results show that the phosphate binder was superior to placebo in raising hemoglobin levels in non-dialysis-dependent CKD patients with iron-deficiency anemia.

**Nov 2017 - FDA approved — additional indication: IDA in CKD-ND**

# A new way of administering iron to HD patients?

*Kidney International, Vol. 55 (1999), pp. 1891–1898*

## Dialysate iron therapy: Infusion of soluble ferric pyrophosphate via the dialysate during hemodialysis

**AJAY GUPTA, NEETA B. AMIN, ANATOLE BESARAB, SUSAN E. VOGEL, GEORGE W. DIVINE, JERRY YEE, and J. V. ANANDAN**

*Division of Nephrology, Department of Pharmacy Services, and Department of Biophysics, Detroit, Michigan, USA*

### Dialysate iron therapy: Infusion of soluble ferric pyrophosphate via the dialysate during hemodialysis.

**Background.** Soluble iron salts are toxic for parenteral administration because free iron catalyzes free radical generation. Pyrophosphate strongly complexes iron and enhances iron transport between transferrin, ferritin, and tissues. Hemodialysis patients need iron to replenish ongoing losses. We evaluated the short-term safety and efficacy of infusing soluble ferric pyrophosphate by dialysate.

**Methods.** Maintenance hemodialysis patients receiving erythropoietin were stabilized on regular doses of intravenous

with premature defects in cognition during childhood, [3–8]. Oral iron is primarily because of gastrointestinal absorption. A alternative to the parenterally formulated compounds are

*Hemodialysis International 2017; 21:S104–S109*

### Scholarly Review

## Ferric pyrophosphate citrate as an iron replacement agent for patients receiving hemodialysis

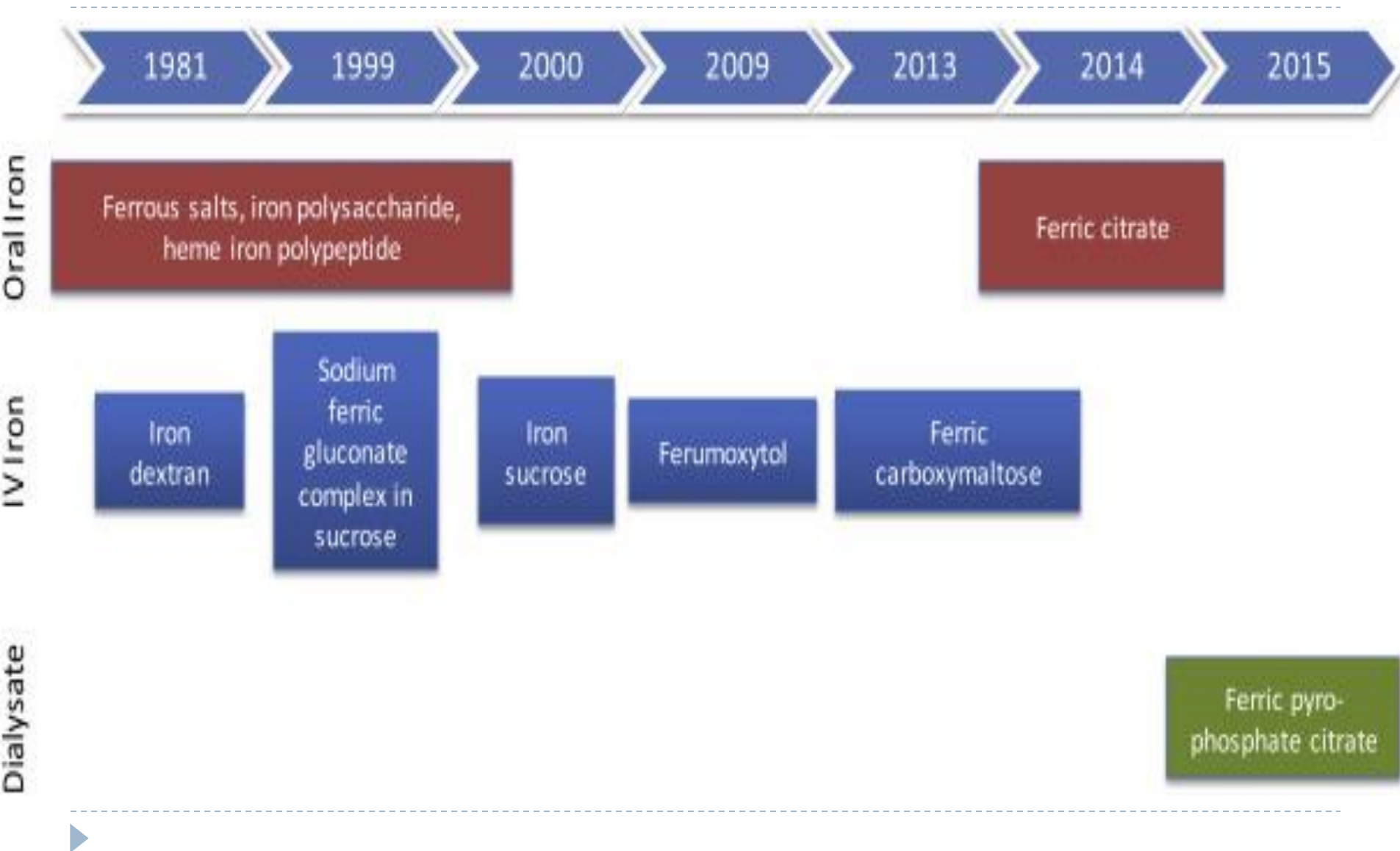
Steven FISHBANE, Hitesh H. SHAH

*Division of Kidney Diseases and Hypertension, Department of Medicine, North Shore University Hospital and Long Island Jewish Medical Center, Hofstra Northwell School of Medicine, Great Neck, New York, USA*

### Abstract

Treatment of anemia remains an integral component in the care of patients with end stage kidney disease receiving dialysis. Currently, both erythropoiesis stimulating agents and iron replacement agents remain important anemia management strategies for patients undergoing hemodialysis (HD). Ferric pyrophosphate citrate (FPC) was approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in January 2015 as an iron replacement product in adult patients receiving long-term maintenance HD. FPC is administered to patients on HD through the dialysate. Multicenter randomized, placebo-controlled phase three clinical studies (CRUISE 1 and 2) have found dialysate FPC to maintain hemoglobin level and iron balance in patients receiving chronic HD. Adverse events were similar in both the dialysate FPC-treated and placebo groups. Another study showed a significant reduction in the prescribed erythropoietin-stimulating agents dose at the end of treatment in the dialysate FPC-treated group compared with placebo. These studies have shown that dialysate FPC is efficacious and well tolerated. In this article, we review clinical studies evaluating the efficacy and safety of FPC and also propose a protocol for iron replacement in HD units where dialysate FPC is to be used.

# New option for Iron supplementation



# Ferric pyrophosphate citrate

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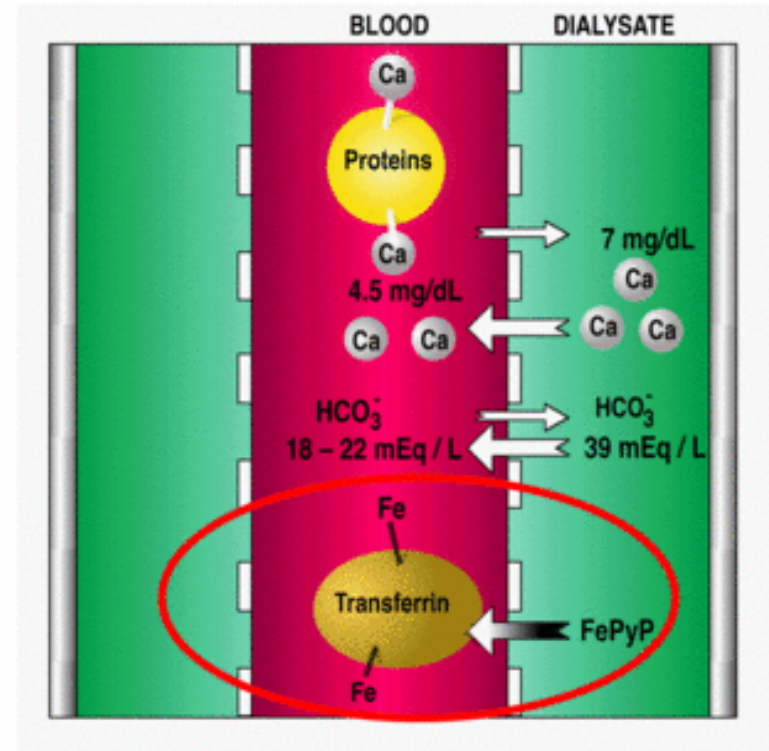


- ▶ novel, carbohydrate free, water-soluble, complex iron salt
- ▶ administered **via the dialysate**
- ▶ **approved by FDA in 2015**
- ▶ good efficacy and safety in adults on hemodialysis
- ▶ provides smaller amounts of iron over hours compared with supplementation IV, which may help avoid oxidative toxicity

# SFP Iron Delivered via Dialysate

- Iron-citrate-pyrophosphate complex: soluble, non-colloidal salt that is not conjugated with a sugar moiety.
- SFP is infused into the blood via dialysate over the course of the dialysis treatment
- SFP crosses the dialyzer membrane just like calcium and bicarbonate, entering the blood
- **SFP iron simply replaces the 5-7mg of iron that is lost during the dialysis treatment**
- SFP is the only iron in the world that can be delivered via dialysate

## Inside Dialyzer Filter





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# Red Cell Transfusion



# Red cell transfusion to treat anemia in CKD

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Recommend - **avoiding, when possible,** red cell transfusions to minimize the general risks related to their use

In **patients eligible for organ transplantation,** we specifically recommend avoiding, when possible, red cell transfusions to **minimize the risk of allosensitization**





**Table 5 | Estimated risk associated with blood transfusions per unit transfused**

| Adverse event                                 | Estimated risk*                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| <i>Immunological</i>                          |                                 |
| Fever/allergic reactions                      | 1 in 100–200 <sup>a,b</sup>     |
| Hemolytic reaction                            | 1 in 6000 <sup>b</sup>          |
| Transfusion-related acute lung injury (TRALI) | 1 in 12,350 <sup>a</sup>        |
| Anaphylaxis                                   | 1 in 50,000 <sup>b</sup>        |
| Fatal hemolysis                               | 1 in 1,250,000 <sup>a</sup>     |
| Graft versus host disease (GVHD)              | Rare                            |
| <i>Other</i>                                  |                                 |
| Mistransfusion                                | 1 in 14,000–19,000 <sup>c</sup> |

\*United States data.

<sup>a</sup>Data from Carson JL *et al.*<sup>212</sup>

<sup>b</sup>Data from Klein.<sup>213</sup>

<sup>c</sup>Data from Klein HG *et al.*<sup>214</sup>

**Table 6 | Estimated risk of transfusion-related infections per unit transfused**

| Potential transfusion-related risks | Estimated risk*                        |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Hepatitis B                         | 1 in 282,000–1 in 357,000 <sup>a</sup> |
| West Nile virus                     | 1 in 350,000 <sup>b</sup>              |
| Death from bacterial sepsis         | 1 in 1,000,000 <sup>b</sup>            |
| Hepatitis C                         | 1 in 1,149,000 <sup>a</sup>            |
| Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)  | 1 in 1,467,000 <sup>a</sup>            |

\*United States data.

<sup>a</sup>Data from Carson JL *et al.*<sup>212</sup>

<sup>b</sup>Data from Rawn J.<sup>215</sup>



---

suggest - benefits of red cell transfusions > risks in patients in whom :

- ▶ **ESA therapy - ineffective** (e.g., hemoglobinopathies, bone marrow failure, ESA resistance)
- ▶ **ESA risks > benefits** (e.g., previous or current malignancy, previous stroke)

We suggest that the decision to transfuse a CKD patient with non-acute anemia should not be based on any arbitrary Hb threshold, but should be determined by the occurrence of symptoms caused by anemia.



# URGENT TREATMENT OF ANEMIA

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Certain acute clinical situations

Suggest – transfusion (benefits > risks)

- ▶ **rapid correction of anemia is required to stabilize the patient's condition** (e.g., acute hemorrhage, unstable coronary artery disease)
- ▶ **rapid preoperative Hb correction is required**



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# Adjuvant Therapies



# Adjuvant Therapies

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Several agents have been investigated for a role in increasing efficacy of ESA's, allowing reduced doses:

- ▶ **L-carnitine**
- ▶ **Ascorbic acid**
- ▶ **Vitamin E**
- ▶ **Androgens**
- ▶ **Pentoxifylline**
  
- ▶ Effects on [Hb] = inconsistent
- ▶ None have been shown to improve clinical outcomes
- ▶ **Use as ESA adjuvants = not recommended**



# Adjuvant Therapies

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- ▶ We recommend **not using androgens** as an adjuvant to ESA treatment.
  
- ▶ We suggest **not using adjuvants to ESA treatment including vitamin C, vitamin D, vitamin E, folic acid, L-carnitine, and pentoxifylline.**





# Androgen

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Research Article

## Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials on Androgens versus Erythropoietin for Anaemia of Chronic Kidney Disease: Implications for Developing Countries

B. Adamu,<sup>1</sup> S. M. Ma'aji,<sup>2</sup> P. J. Erwin,<sup>3</sup> and I. M. Tleyjeh<sup>4</sup>

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Androgens which are relatively cheap were used in the treatment of anaemia in dialysis patients before the advent of Erythropoietin (EPO). However, there are concerns about their efficacy and side effects. *Aims.* To examine the efficacy and harms of androgens for the treatment of anaemia of chronic kidney disease (CKD) compared to EPO. *Settings and Design.* A systematic review and meta-analysis using an a priori protocol. *Methods and Materials.* We searched several databases for randomized controlled trials using the key terms anaemia, chronic kidney disease, and androgens, without language restrictions. We also searched reference lists of relevant articles. *Statistical Analysis Used.* Data was analyzed using Review manager 5 software. We summarized treatment effects as relative risks and mean differences, with 95% confidence intervals using a random-effect model. We tested for heterogeneity with  $\text{Chi}^2$  and the  $I^2$  statistics. *Results.* We identified four eligible trials involving 114 participants, majority (83.33%) of whom were males, mostly over 50 years of age. The pooled difference in mean haemoglobin between the nandrolone and EPO arms at the end of the trials was  $-0.11$  (CI  $-0.80$  to  $0.58$ ) which is not statistically significant. *Conclusions.* This meta-analysis revealed no difference between nandrolone and EPO for the treatment of anaemia of CKD in men over 50 years. Therefore, nandrolone can be used for the treatment of anaemia of CKD in this category of patients, in resource-limited countries. However, further studies are needed to determine the long-term safety of nandrolone in men over 50 years old, as well as its effectiveness and safety in females in general, and males less than 50 years of age.





## Androgens for the anaemia of chronic kidney disease in adults (Review)

Yang Q, Abudou M, Xie XS, Wu T

We found limited evidence to suggest that androgens may confer positive effects to increase Hb, HCT and serum albumin.

We were unable to determine if:

1. dose-effect relationships exist in relation to androgens and CKD-related anaemia in adults;
2. time-effect relationships exist in relation to androgens and CKD-related anaemia in adults;
3. androgens-erythropoietin relationships exist in relation to androgens and CKD-related anaemia in adults.

# Androgen – Side Effects

---

- ▶ Acne
- ▶ Virilization
- ▶ Priapism
- ▶ Liver dysfunction
- ▶ Injection site pain
- ▶ Risk for peliosis hepatis
- ▶ Hepatocellular carcinoma



# Vitamin - C



Kidney Research and Clinical Practice

journal homepage: <http://www.krcp-ksn.com>  
Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](#)



Original Article

The effect of intravenous ascorbic acid in hemodialysis patients with normoferritinemic anemia



Dae Woong Kang, Chi Yong  
Hyun Lee Kim\*

**Research & Reviews: Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences**

e-ISSN: 2320-1215

p-ISSN: 2322-0112

[www.rroij.com](http://www.rroij.com)

*Division of Nephrology, Department of Internal Medicine*

## Effectiveness of Vitamin C in the Treatment of Anemia in Patients with Chronic Diseases: A Case Study

Krystal M Rivera-Rodriguez<sup>1</sup>, Alana V Rodríguez-Rivera<sup>1</sup>, Roberto Roman-Julia<sup>2</sup> and Raul H Morales-Borges<sup>2\*</sup>

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Hemodialysis

Vitamin C

**Research Article**

## Intravenous vitamin C can improve anemia in erythropoietin-hyporesponsive hemodialysis patients

### Vit-C

**enhances absorption of dietary iron, contributes to mobilization of intracellular stored iron, and increases carnitine synthesis.**

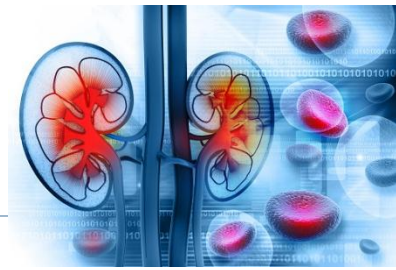
Caution should also be used, as **excessive vitamin C** ingestion can be associated with **renal oxalate deposition** and acute kidney injury

hyporesponsiveness in hemodialysis patients with hyperferritinemia of no obvious etiology.

sion of 1 participant because of bleeding). After 6 months, there were considerable increases

Determination of the **lowest effective dosages** and careful **monitoring of iron indices and plasma oxalate levels** are necessary, both to ensure the efficacy of high dose vitamin C, and to prevent any adverse effects of this treatment.

# Vitamin - D



## Evaluation of Effect of Vitamin D Deficiency on Anemia and Erythropoietin Hyporesponsiveness in Patients of Chronic Kidney Disease

N Nand<sup>1</sup>, R Mittal<sup>2</sup>

See discussions, stats, and author profiles for this publication at: <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/44682608>

### Abstract

**Background:** The role of vitamin D deficiency in renal anemia has been documented. However, in India where the role of vitamin D supplementation in hyporesponsiveness to increased doses of erythropoietin is not clear. Hence this study.

**Material and Methods:** This study was conducted in 100 patients of CKD, on regular, twice weekly hemodialysis. Group A with deficient serum vitamin D levels (n=50) and group B with sufficient vitamin D levels (n=50). All cases were receiving erythropoietin in a dose

The effects of changing vitamin D levels on anemia in chronic kidney disease patients: A retrospective cohort review

Article in *Clinical nephrology* · July 2010

DOI: 10.5414/CNP74025 · Source: PubMed

Potential role of nutritional vitamin D supplementation in reducing hepcidin production is under active investigation, and ***vitamin D decreases hepcidin mRNA expression in vitro***

# Suppression of Iron-Regulatory Heparin by Vitamin D

Justine Bacchetta,<sup>\*†‡</sup> Joshua J. Zaritsky,<sup>†</sup> Jessica L. Sea,<sup>\*</sup> Rene F. Chun,<sup>\*</sup> Thomas S. Lisse,<sup>\*</sup> Kathryn Zavala,<sup>\*</sup> Anjali Nayak,<sup>†</sup> Katherine Wesseling-Perry,<sup>†</sup> Mark Westerman,<sup>§</sup> Bruce W. Hollis,<sup>||</sup> Isidro B. Salusky,<sup>†</sup> and Martin Hewison<sup>\*</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

The antibacterial protein hepcidin regulates the absorption, tissue distribution, and extracellular concentration of iron by suppressing ferroportin-mediated export of cellular iron. In CKD, elevated hepcidin and vitamin D deficiency are associated with anemia. Therefore, we explored a possible role for vitamin D in iron homeostasis. Treatment of cultured hepatocytes or monocytes with prohormone 25-hydroxyvitamin D or active 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D decreased expression of hepcidin mRNA by 0.5-fold, contrasting the stimulatory effect of

# Vitamin - E

## REVIEW

### DOES VITAMIN E HAVE A ROLE IN TREATMENT AND PREVENTION OF ANEMIA'S?

#### ABSTRACT

Vitamin E is a high-dose antioxidant and non-antioxidant. It is shown that treatment with vitamin E precursors, enhanced in clinical trials have indicated decreasing the prevalence of the post-supplement low birth weight patients with renal failure patients.

## RENAL FAILURE

<http://informahealthcare.com/rnf>  
ISSN: 0886-022X (print), 1525-6049 (electronic)

Ren Fail, 2014; 36(5): 722-731  
© 2014 Informa Healthcare USA, Inc. DOI: 10.3109/0886022X.2014.890858

**informa**  
healthcare

#### CLINICAL STUDY

### Effects of vitamin E-coated dialyzer on inflammation status in hemodialysis patients: a randomized controlled trial and meta-analysis

Shi-Kun Yang\*, Li Xiao\*, Bo Xu, Xiao-Xiao

*Department of Nephrology, The Second Xiangya Hospital, Changsha, China*

#### Abstract

**Background:** Vitamin E-coated dialyzer may have anti-inflammatory effects on inflammation status in hemodialysis (HD) patients. Therefore, we conducted a randomized controlled trial to evaluate the anti-oxidation and anti-inflammatory effects of vitamin E-coated dialyzer. **Methods:** The randomized controlled trials (RCTs) comparing vitamin E-coated dialyzer versus conventional dialyzer for HD patients were screened. We screened relevant studies according to PRISMA. We analyzed the data using meta-analysis software using RevMan 5.1 software. **Results:** Vitamin E-coated dialyzer therapy could significantly decrease the levels of C-reactive protein (CRP) (SMD, -0.95; 95% CI, -1.38 to -0.61), interleukin-6 (IL-6) (SMD, -0.95; 95% CI, -1.38 to -0.61), and tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ) (SMD, -0.95; 95% CI, -1.38 to -0.61).

## Blood Purification

Blood Purif 2017;44:288-293  
DOI: 10.1159/000478971

### Vitamin E-Coated Dialyzer Inhibits Oxidative Stress

Shiho Yamadera<sup>a</sup> Yuya Nakamura<sup>b,c</sup> Masahiro Inagaki<sup>d</sup> Isao Ohsawa<sup>c</sup>  
Hiromichi Gotoh<sup>c</sup> Yoshikazu Goto<sup>c</sup> Naoki Sato<sup>b</sup> Tatsunori Oguchi<sup>b</sup>  
Yurika Gomi<sup>b</sup> Mayumi Tsuji<sup>b</sup> Yuji Kiuchi<sup>b</sup> Shinichi Iwai<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Healthcare and Regulatory Sciences, School of Pharmaceutics, Showa University, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, <sup>b</sup>Department of Pharmacology, School of Medicine, Showa University, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo, <sup>c</sup>Saiyu Soka Hospital, Soka City, Saitama-ken, and <sup>d</sup>Department of Chemistry, College of Arts and Sciences, Showa University, Fujiiyoshida City, Yamanashi-ken, Japan



# Evaluation of the Impact of a New Synthetic Vitamin E-Bonded Membrane on the Hypo-Responsiveness to the Erythropoietin Therapy in Hemodialysis Patients: A Multicenter Study



Francesco Locatelli<sup>a</sup> Simeone Andrulli<sup>a</sup> Sara Maria Viganò<sup>a</sup> Massimo Concetti<sup>b</sup>  
Sauro Urbini<sup>c</sup> Franca Giacchino<sup>d</sup> Roberto Broccoli<sup>e</sup> Filippo Aucella<sup>f</sup>  
Maria Cossu<sup>g</sup> Paolo Conti<sup>h</sup> Laura Fattori<sup>i</sup> Giorgio Punzo<sup>l</sup> Daniela Angelini<sup>j</sup>  
Marco Peruzzini<sup>k</sup> Salvatore Di Giulio<sup>m</sup> Marta Piroddi<sup>n</sup> Francesco Galli<sup>n</sup>

**Conclusions:** The ViE dialyzer can improve ESA response in HD patients. Changes in ERI during follow-up are independent from baseline ERI only in the ViE group. Video Journal Club 'Cappuccino with Claudio Ronco' at <http://www.karger.com/?doi=453442>.

# Carnitine

## *Clinical Study*

**Effects of Oral L-Carnitine Supplementation on Lipid Profile, Anemia, and Quality of Life in Chronic Renal Disease Patients under Hemodialysis: A Randomized, Double-Blinded, Placebo-Controlled Trial**

Afsoon Emami  
Asghar Amir  
Hamed Basiri

**L-Carnitine for Anemia in Hemodialysis Patients:  
A Last Resort**

<sup>1</sup>Isfahan Kidney Center, Iran  
Jerry Yee

Some studies suggested that **L carnitine supplementation can prolong RBC lifespan and stimulate erythropoiesis by inhibiting apoptosis**

No large-scale randomized clinical trials evaluating whether supplementation is effective as an adjunctive treatment

ator in 1952 (2). It is the product of the multistep metabolism of 6-N-trimethyllysine. Carnitine production

with regard to the beneficial effects of LC in the anemia of CKD. In CKD, erythrocyte, cellular free levels are

hfhs.org

# Pentoxifylline

<http://www.revistanefrologia.com>

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originals

## Effect of pentoxifylline on anaemia control in haemodialysis patients: retrospective observational case-control study

José M. Mora-Gutiérrez, Asunción Ferrer Nadal, Nuria García Fernández

Servicio de Nefrología, Hemodiálisis, Clínica Universitaria

Nefrología 2013;33(4):524-31

doi:10.3265/Nefrologia.pre2013.Apr.11654

## Pentoxifylline Improves Hemoglobin Levels in Patients with Erythropoietin-resistant Anemia in Renal Failure

ANGELA COOPER,\*<sup>†</sup> ASHRAF MIKHAIL,\* MARK W. LETHBRIDGE,<sup>†</sup>  
D. MICHAEL KEMENY,<sup>†</sup> and IAIN C. MACDOUGALL\*

Departments of \*Renal Medicine and <sup>†</sup>Immunology, GKT School of Medicine, King's College Hospital, London, United Kingdom.

### ABSTRACT

**Introduction and objectives:** Treatment of ar haemodialysis (HD) with iron and erythropoiesis-s agent (ESA) does not always lead to adequate control and has been associated with inflammatory effect of pentoxifylline (PTX) may be in these cases. Our aim was to study the potentia PTX on anaemia in haemodialysis patients. **Pat method:** Retrospective observational case-control s patients (treated with PTX) and 18 controls (wi matched by age and sex) on HD (Clínica Unive Navarra). Four patients received PTX due to vascu

**Abstract.** It was hypothesized that pentoxifylline might improve the response to recombinant human erythropoietin (rh-Epo) in anemic renal failure patients. Sixteen patients with ESRD and rh-Epo-resistant anemia, defined by a hemoglobin of  $<10.7$  g/dl for 6 mo before treatment and a rh-Epo dose of  $\geq 12,000$  IU/wk, were recruited. They were treated with oral pentoxifylline 400 mg o.d. for 4 mo. *Ex vivo* T cell generation of tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF- $\alpha$ ) and interferon gamma (IFN- $\gamma$ ) from the patients was assessed before treatment and 6 to 8 wk after therapy. A total of 12 of 16 patients completed the study. Before therapy, the 12 patients' mean hemoglobin con-

centration was  $9.5 \pm 0.9$  g/dl. After 4 mo of pentoxifylline treatment, the mean hemoglobin concentration increased to  $11.7 \pm 1.0$  g/dl ( $P = 0.0001$ ). Baseline *ex vivo* T cell expression of TNF- $\alpha$  decreased from  $58\% \pm 11\%$  to  $31\% \pm 23\%$  ( $P = 0.0007$ ) after therapy. Likewise, IFN- $\gamma$  expression decreased from  $31\% \pm 10\%$  to  $13\% \pm 10\%$  ( $P = 0.0002$ ). Pentoxifylline therapy may significantly improve the hemoglobin response in patients with previously rh-Epo-resistant anemia in renal failure. This may occur due to inhibition of proinflammatory cytokine production, which could interfere with the effectiveness of rh-Epo.



# Pentoxifylline

RESEARCH ARTICLE

## Pentoxifylline for Anemia in Chronic Kidney Disease: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis

Davide Bolignano<sup>1\*</sup> Graziella D'Arrigo<sup>1</sup> Anna Pisano<sup>1</sup> Giuseppina Connolino<sup>2</sup>

### Conclusions

There is currently no conclusive evidence supporting the utility of pentoxifylline for improving anemia control in CKD patients. Future trials designed on hard, patient-centered outcomes with larger sample size and longer follow-up are advocated.

### Background

Pentoxifylline (PTX) is a promising therapeutic approach for reducing inflammation and improving anemia associated to various systemic disorders. However, whether this agent may be helpful for anemia management also in CKD patients is still object of debate.

### Study Design

Systematic review and meta-analysis.

---

# Diet



# Dietary Management

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## **Sources of Heme iron (from animal sources)**

Lean meat  
Red meat  
Sea food

## **Sources of Non-heme iron (from plants)**

Nuts  
Beans  
Vegetables fortified grain products

**Milk & milk products, tannins & caffeine inhibit iron absorption & should be avoided with iron rich sources of food.**

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**Vitamin C can improve iron absorption & can be administered concomitantly with iron rich foods.**

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# Dialysis



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

# Adequate hemodialysis improves anemia by enhancing glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase activity in patients with end-stage renal disease

Mahmoud Husni Ayesh (Haj Yousef)<sup>1\*</sup>, Ahnaf Bataineh<sup>2</sup>, Elham Elamin<sup>3</sup>, Yousef Khader<sup>4</sup>, Khaldoon Alawneh<sup>1</sup> and Mohamed Rabab<sup>1</sup>

# Adequate Hemodialysis

## Abstract

**Background:** We conducted this study to determine the erythrocyte glucose-6-phosphate dehydrogenase (G6PD) activity level in patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) on maintenance hemodialysis (HD) and to determine the effect of hemodialysis adequacy on G6PD activity levels and its impact on anemia.

**Methods:** Eighty-two patients (48 men and 34 women) receiving regular hemodialysis for ESRD through arteriovenous fistulae for at least one year prior to the start of the study were enrolled in this study. G6PD activity levels were measured in all patients and the average Kt/V was used as a parameter of HD adequacy. Patients were divided into two groups according to Kt/V values. Group 1 included 45 patients with Kt/V<sup>≥</sup>1.2 (adequate HD), and group 2 included 37 patients with Kt/V<sup><</sup>1.2 (inadequate HD). The average hemoglobin level and the weekly dose of an erythropoietin-stimulating agent, epoetin alpha (ESA), for each patient were calculated for one year.

**Results:** The mean (SD) erythrocyte G6PD activity for all patients on hemodialysis was 7.64 ± 1.85 U/g Hb. Patients who had received adequate hemodialysis had a significantly higher average erythrocyte G6PD (mean (SD) = 9.2 ± 0.7 U/g Hb) compared to patients who had inadequate hemodialysis (mean (SD) = 5.7 ± 0.7 U/g Hb) (*P*-value <0.005). The mean hemoglobin concentration was significantly higher in patients with adequate hemodialysis compared to those with inadequate hemodialysis.

**Conclusion:** Our study demonstrated the beneficial effect of adequate hemodialysis in correcting anemia by enhancing the erythrocyte G6PD activity in patients.





# The effect of high-flux hemodialysis on renal anemia

Deniz Aylı<sup>1</sup>, Meltem Aylı<sup>2</sup>, Alper Azak<sup>1</sup>, Cüneyt Yüksel<sup>1</sup>, Gözde Petek Koşmaz<sup>1</sup>, Gökhan Atılğan<sup>1</sup>, Fatih Dede<sup>1</sup>, Ekrem Abaylı<sup>1</sup>, Mine Çamlıbel<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Nephrology, <sup>2</sup>Department of Hematology, Ankara Numune Education and Research Hospital, Ankara - Turkey

<sup>3</sup>Yaşam Dialysis Center, Ankara - Turkey

## High-flux Hemodialysis

**ABSTRACT:** *Background:* Anemia is an important predictor of mortality and morbidity in patients with end-stage renal disease (ESRD) undergoing hemodialysis (HD). Erythropoietin (EPO) is an expensive drug, which increases the cost of therapy. In addition, anemia persists in 20-30% of cases despite EPO treatment. In this study, which depended on the idea that the clearance of moderate and high molecular weight erythropoiesis inhibitors leads to an improvement in terms of anemia, we aimed to investigate the effect of high-flux dialysis on anemia and EPO requirement in patients undergoing HD.

*Methods:* The study included 48 patients with ESRD on chronic HD treatment who could not reach the target hemoglobin (Hb) level, despite treatment with at least 200 IU/kg/week subcutaneous EPO. Patients were randomized into two groups and HD was performed with polysulphone low-flux dialyzer (Fresenius F6 HPS) or polysulphone high-flux dialyzer (Fresenius F60) for 6 months.

*Results:* Although the EPO doses were significantly lower ( $p<0.001$ ) in the high-flux dialysis group, Hb levels showed a significant increase ( $p<0.001$ ). In the low-flux dialysis group, Hb levels showed no significant increase, despite the steady increase in EPO doses. In the high-flux group, the reduction of beta<sub>2</sub>-microglobulin ( $\beta_2$ -MG) and phosphorus levels during dialysis was significantly higher when compared to the low-flux group ( $p<0.001$ ). During the follow-up period, while  $\beta_2$ -MG levels decreased significantly in the high-flux group ( $p<0.05$ ), there was an increase in the low-flux group ( $p<0.05$ ). Kt/V<sub>urea</sub> values showed no significant difference throughout the study.

*Conclusions:* Our results suggest that high-flux dialysis use is effective and this can be an alternative method in terms of controlling renal anemia and reducing the cost of therapy. These beneficial effects of high-flux dialysis are probably mediated by the improved clearance of moderate and high molecular weight toxins.

**Key words:** End-stage renal disease, Hemodialysis, Anemia, Erythropoietin, High-flux dialysis, Beta<sub>2</sub>-microglobulin

## Ultrapure dialysate improves iron utilization and erythropoietin response in chronic hemodialysis patients - a prospective cross-over study.

Hsu PY<sup>1</sup>, Lin CL, Yu CC, Chien CC, Hsiao TG, Sun TH, Huang LM, Yang CW.

⊕ Author information

# Ultrapure Dialysate

### Abstract

**BACKGROUND:** The impact of ultrapure dialysis on dialysate-related chronic inflammatory status and anemia in uremic patients on maintenance hemodialysis (HD) remains uncertain. We evaluated ultrapure dialysate effects on erythropoietin (EPO) response and inflammatory status in a prospective, randomized, cross-over study.

**METHODS:** Thirty-four HD patients were divided into two groups. One group was treated with conventional dialysate and the other group with ultrapure dialysate for 6 months and crossed over for another 6 months. Bacteria growth and dialysate endotoxin were examined. Parameters including C-reactive protein (CRP), recombinant human erythropoietin (rHuEPO) dose, ferritin, iron saturation and serum albumin were measured at the start, and at 6 and 12 months.

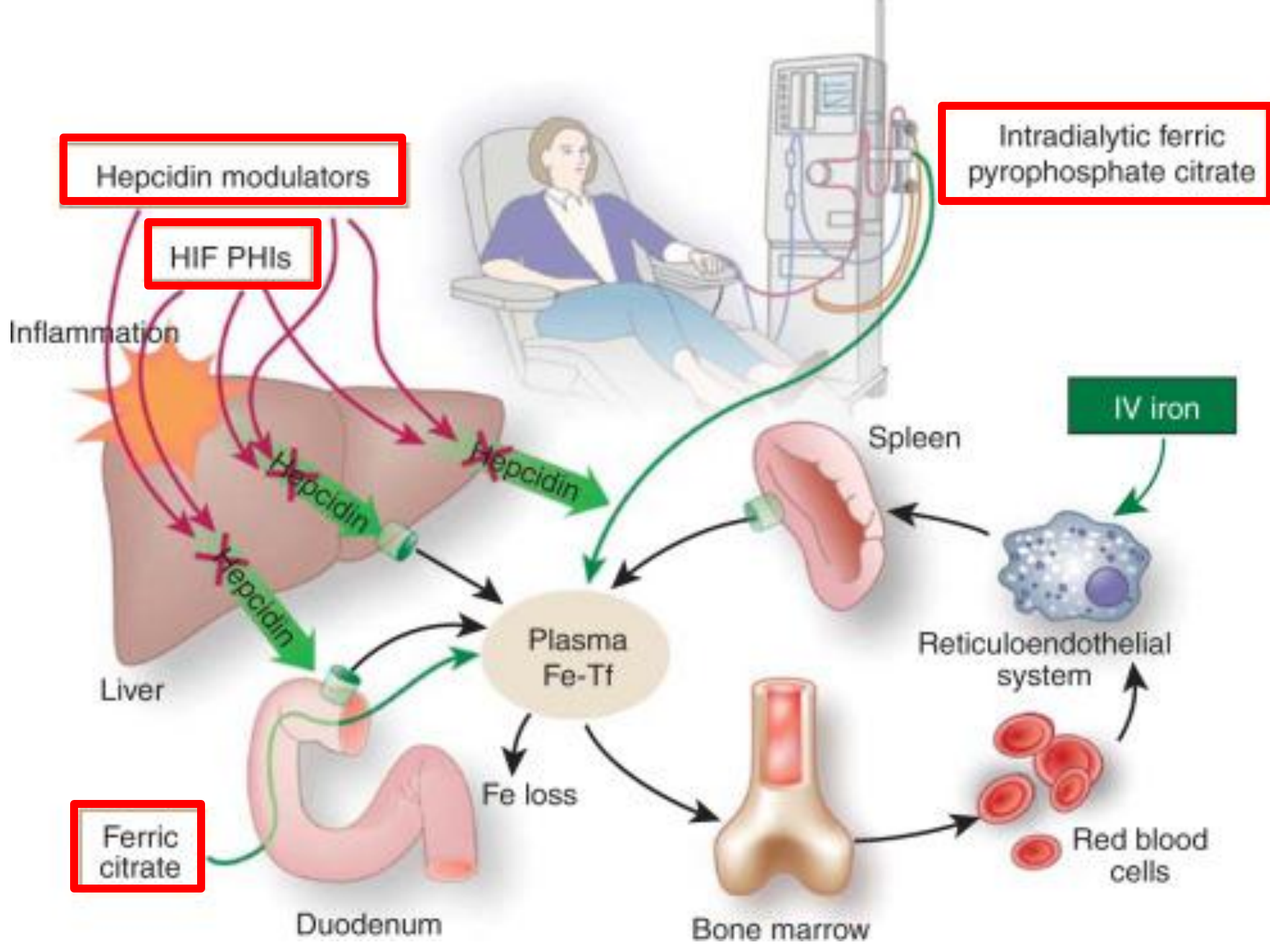
**RESULTS:** The endotoxin levels reduced significantly in the ultrapure dialysate by adding a dialysate ultrafilter. After a 6-month treatment with ultrapure dialysate, there were statistically significant differences in the systemic inflammation markers between both groups. Changing from conventional to ultrapure dialysis fluid significantly reduced CRP (7.01 +/- 5.059 to 4.461 +/- 3.754 mg/L,  $p < 0.05$ ), and resulted in reduced rHuEPO doses (12500 +/- 7060 to 10440 +/- 7050 U/month,  $p < 0.05$ ). Continuous conventional dialysate use was not associated with significant alternations in CRP (from 5.849 +/- 7.744 to 6.187 +/- 7.997 mg/L,  $p = 0.456$ ) and rHuEPO dose (14060 +/- 6210 to 15060 +/- 7250 U/month,  $p > 0.05$ ). The ferritin level reduced significantly (422 +/- 183 to 272 +/- 162 mcg/L,  $p < 0.05$ ) in the ultrapure dialysate group. After another 6-month cross-over, the study parameters were reversed among the two groups indicating the beneficial effect of ultrapure dialysis.

---

# Emerging Therapies

- ▶ Hypoxia-inducible Factor Stabilizers
- ▶ Heparin Modulators





Hepcidin modulators

HIF PHIs

Intradialytic ferric pyrophosphate citrate

Inflammation

IV iron

Spleen

Reticuloendothelial system

Liver

Plasma Fe-Tf

Fe loss

Bone marrow

Red blood cells

Ferric citrate

Duodenum

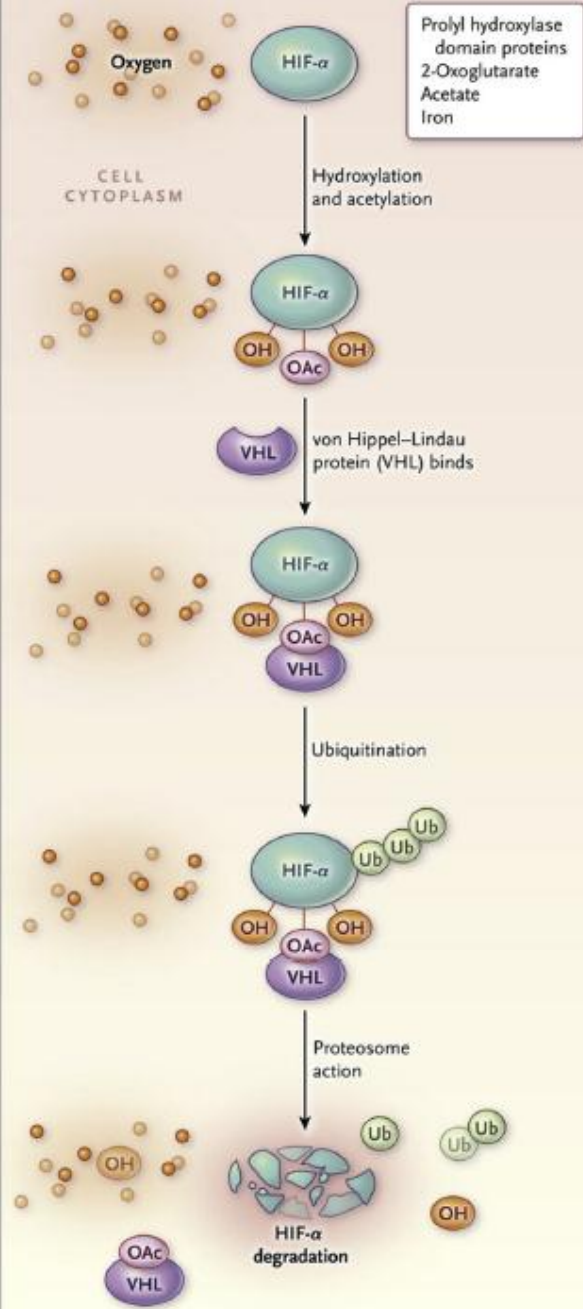
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# Emerging Therapies

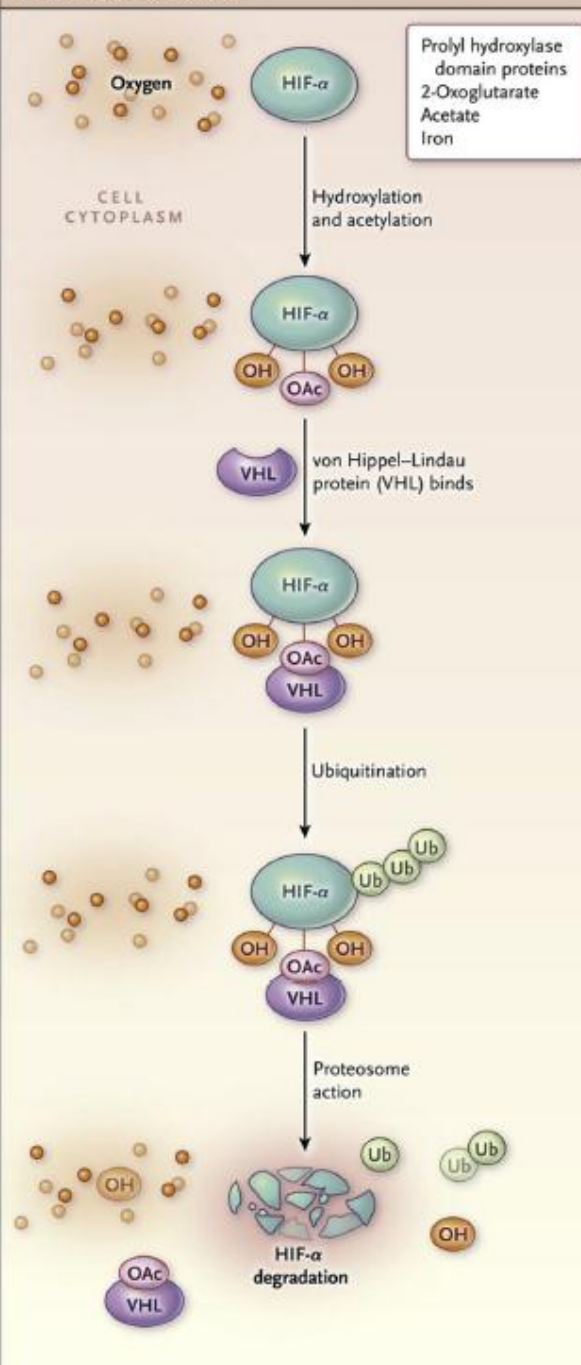
- ▶ Hypoxia-inducible Factor Stabilizers
- ▶ Hepcidin Modulators



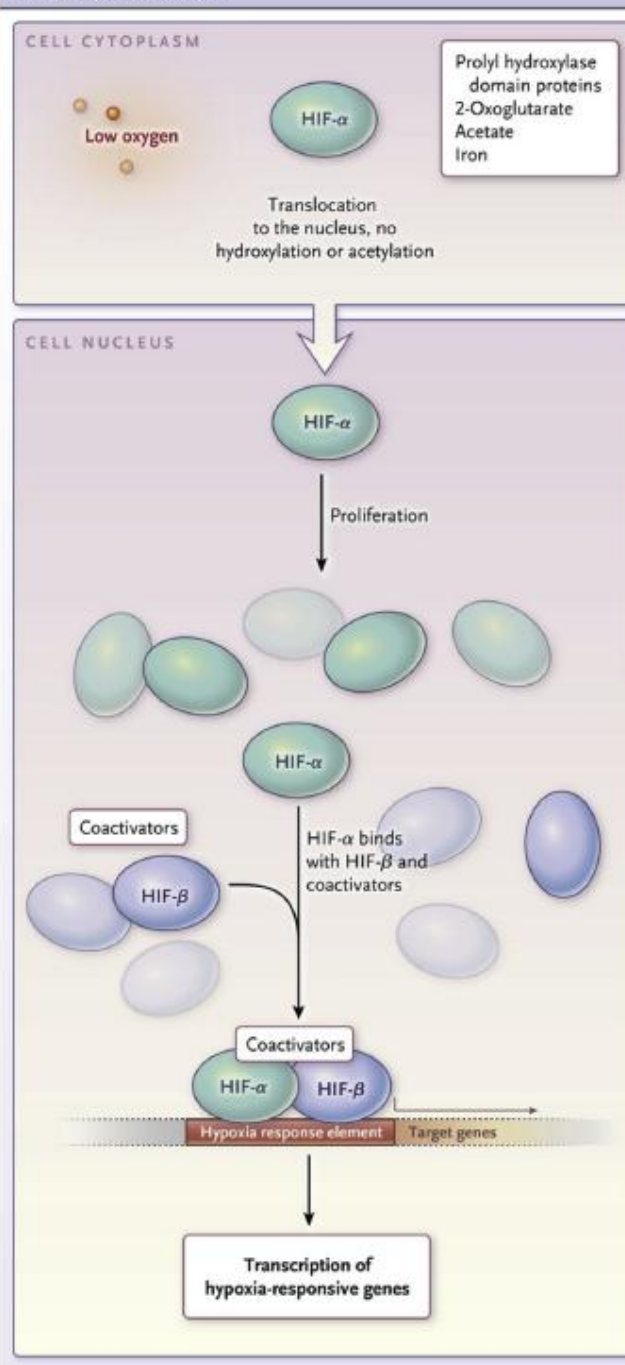
### A Normoxic Conditions

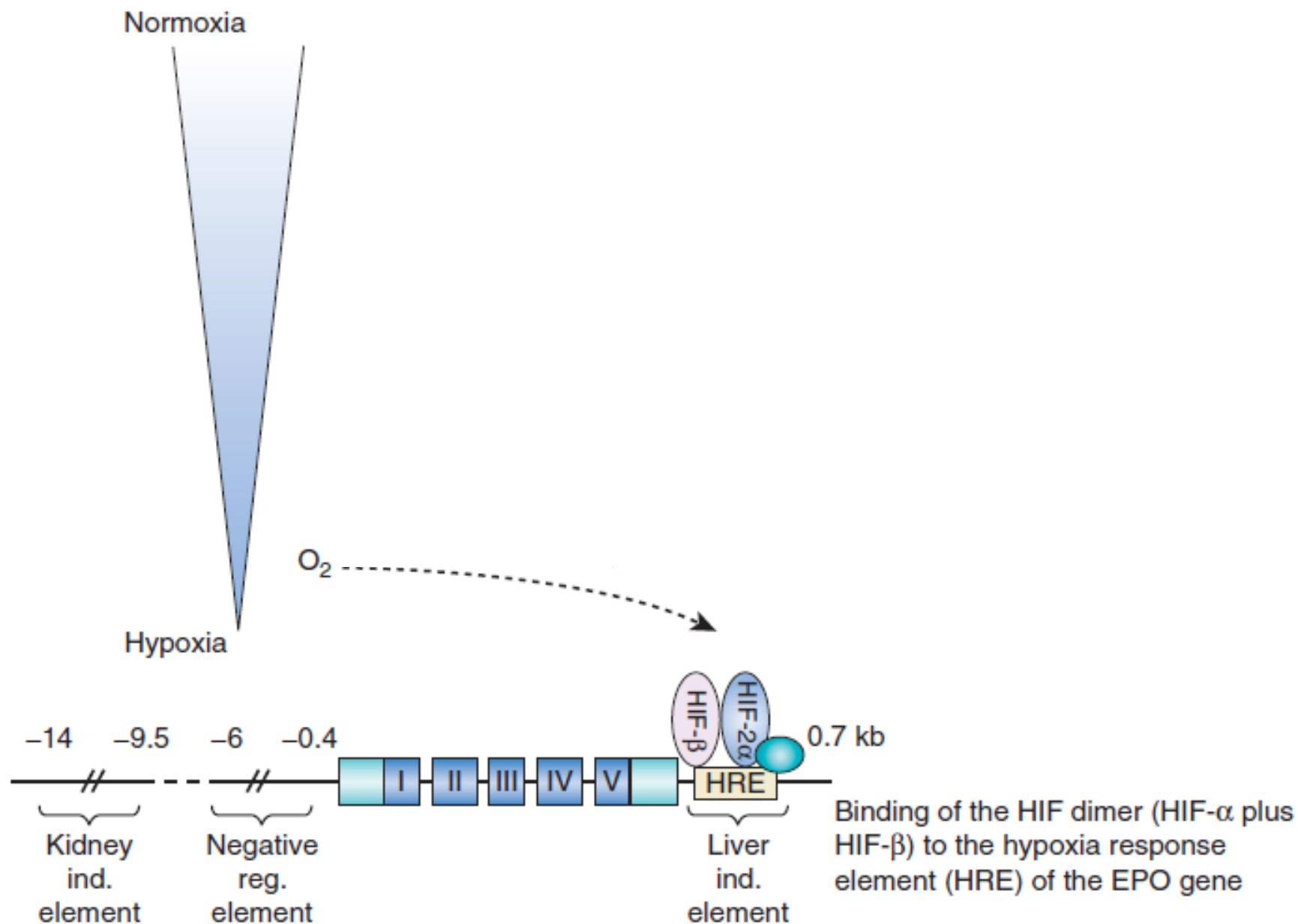


### A Normoxic Conditions

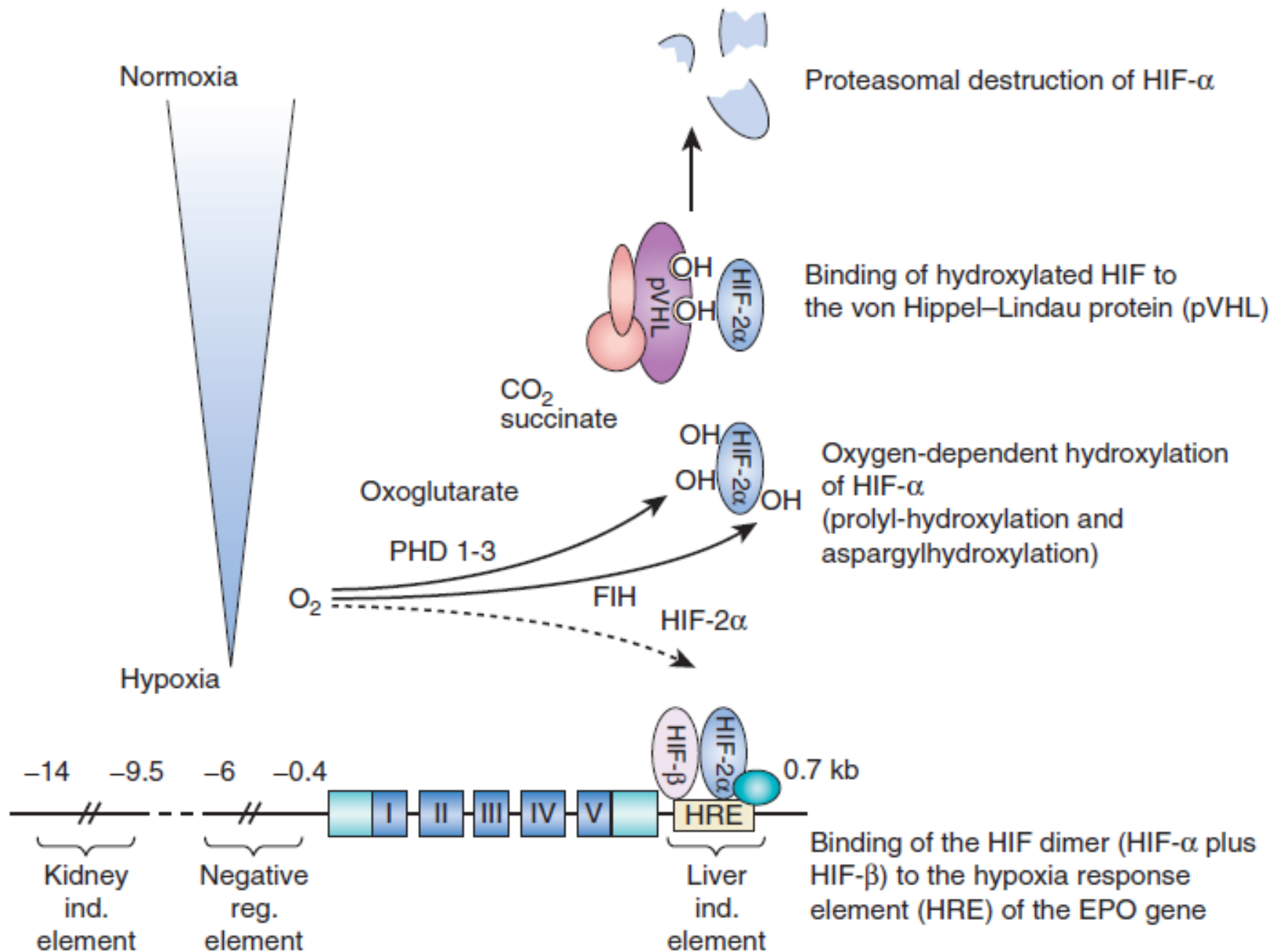


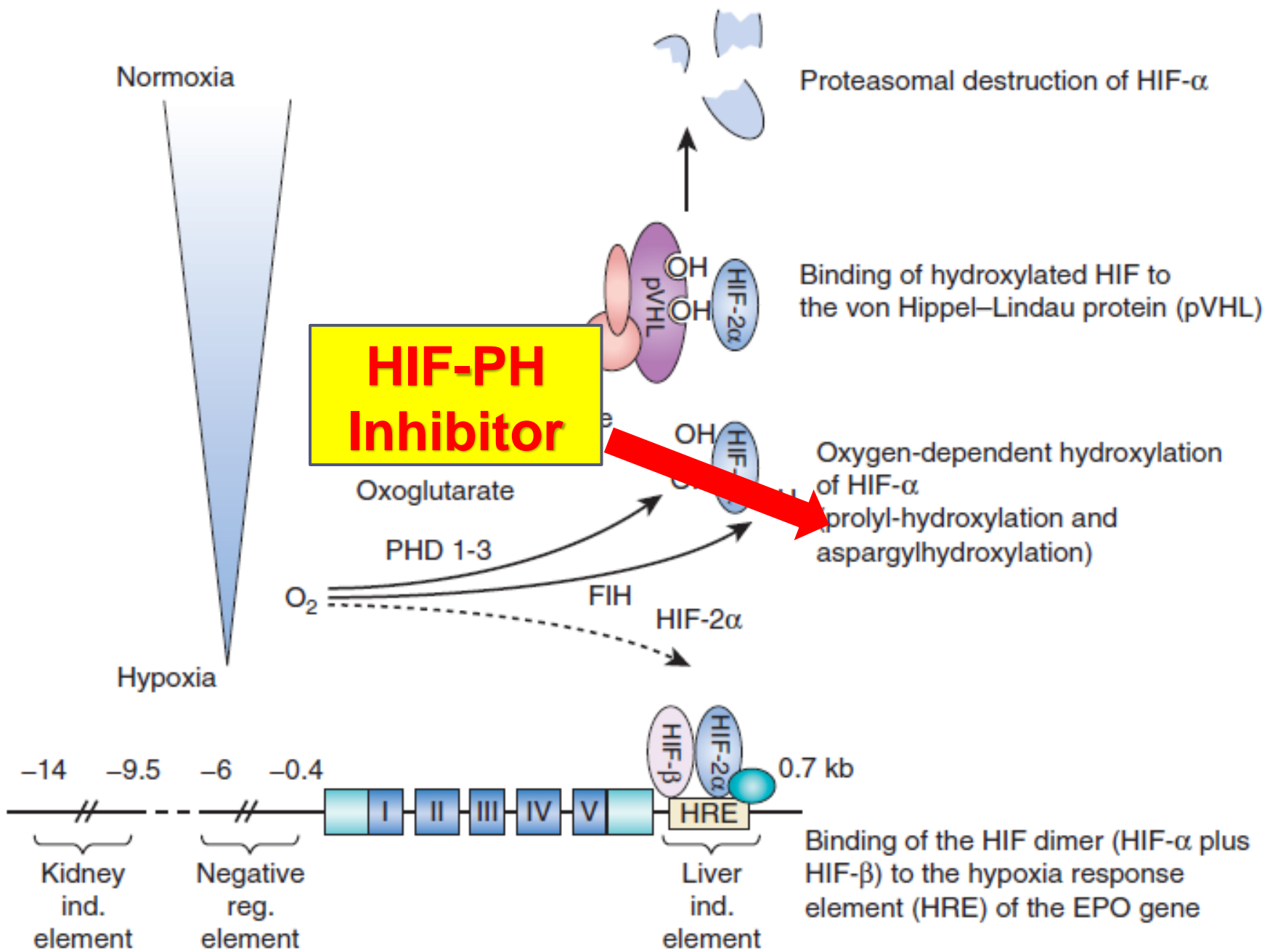
### B Hypoxic Conditions

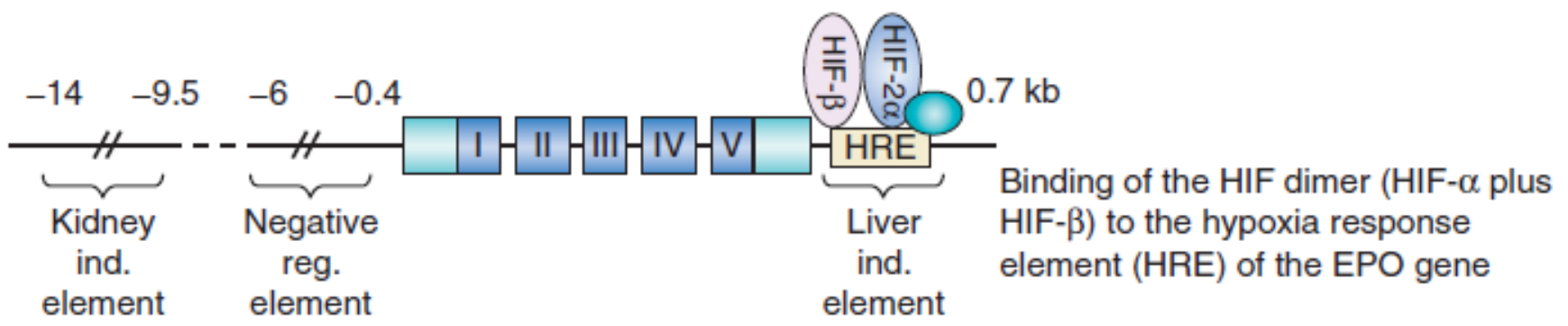
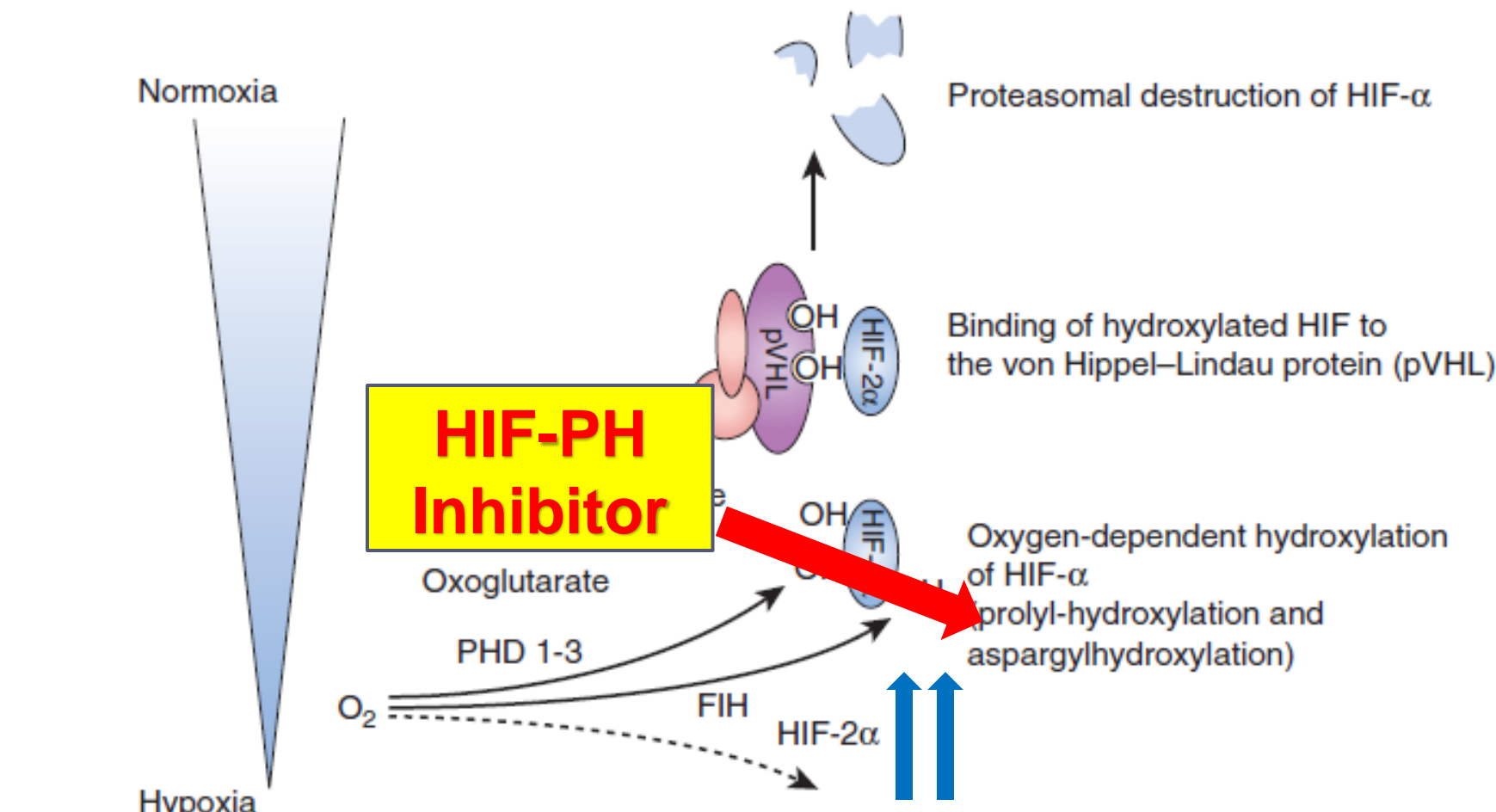












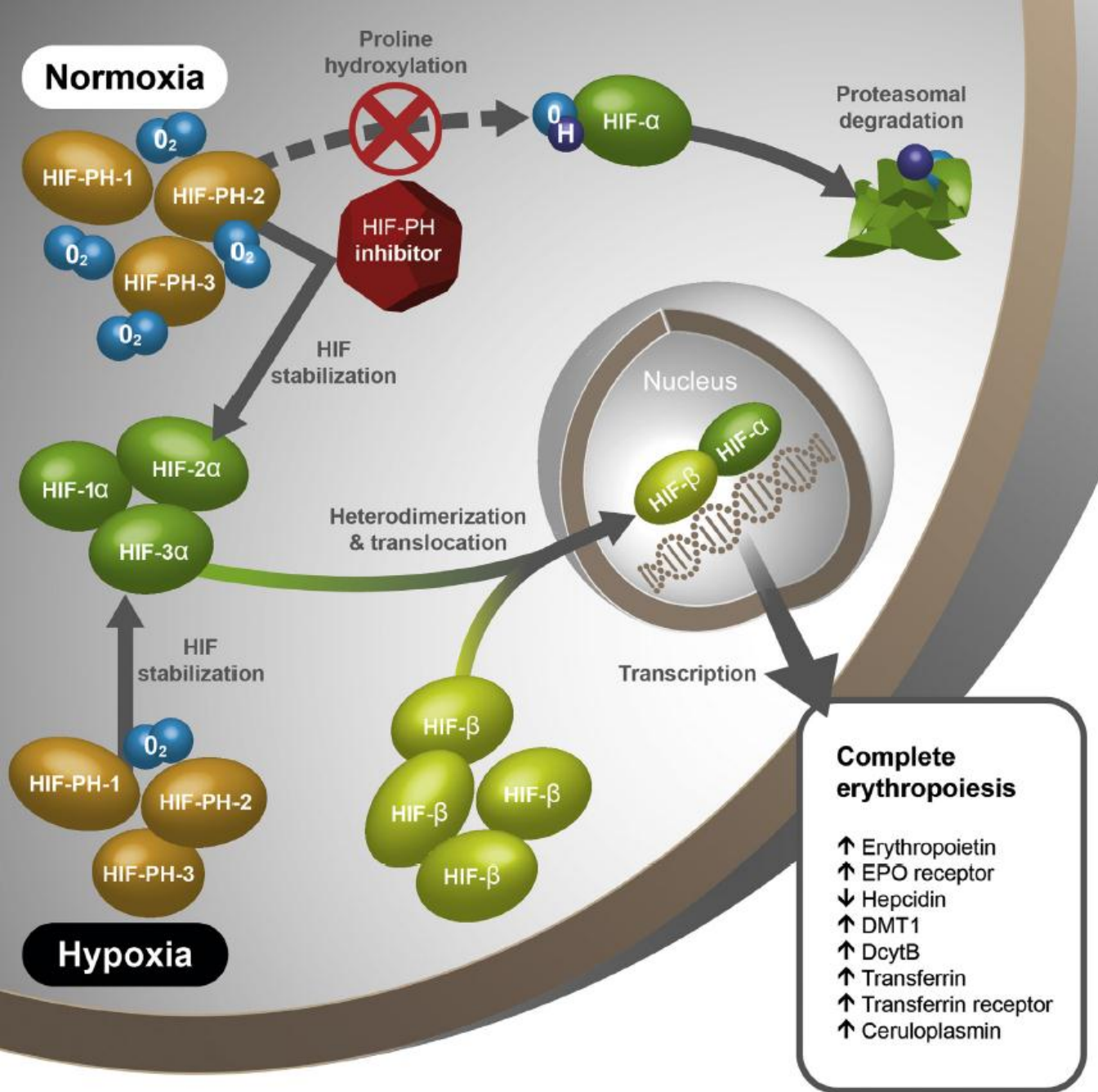


Fig:  
Hypoxia-inducible factor (HIF) pathway.

Abbreviations:  
DcytB, duodenal cytochrome B;  
DMT1, divalent metal transporter 1;  
EPO, erythropoietin;  
PH, prolyl hydroxylase

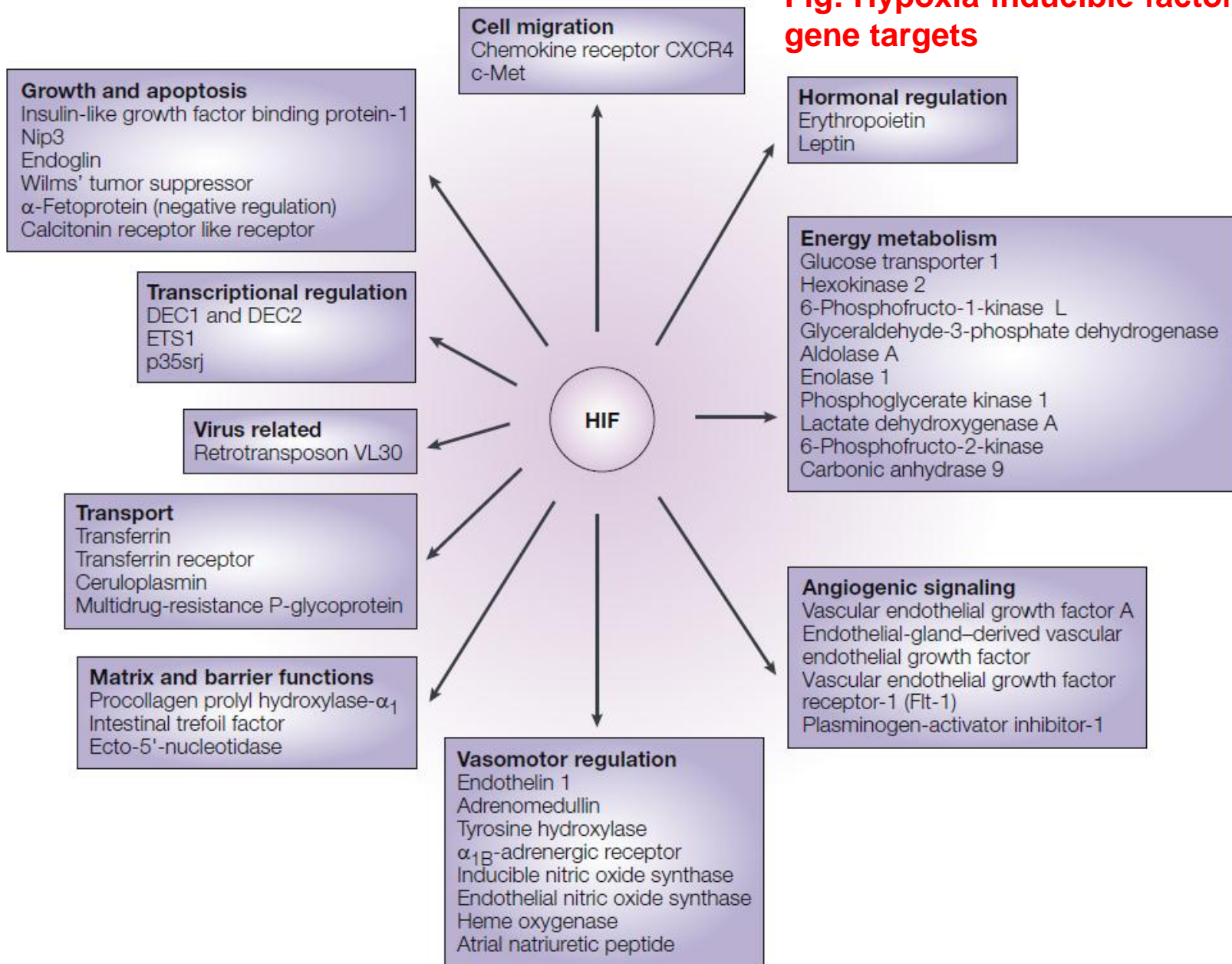
# HIF stabilizers

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- ▶ competitive inhibitors of HIF prolyl hydroxylases & asparagyl hydroxylase (enzymes involved in metabolism of HIF & its transcriptional activity)
- ▶ increase endogenous EPO production
- ▶ orally active
- ▶ currently being tested in Phase II & III clinical trials



## Fig: Hypoxia-inducible factor (HIF) gene targets



# HIF stabilizers

---

## Upregulate

- ▶ **EPO gene expression**
- ▶ expression of **other HIF target genes** including those coding for **enzyme & transporters involved in iron metabolism, angiogenesis, mitochondrial genesis**
- ▶ long-term consequences - not established & merit careful monitoring



## Hypoxia-inducible factor stabilizers under development for treatment of anemia in chronic kidney disease

| Company                             | Molecule    | Drug name   | Phase of development |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------|
| FibroGen<br>Astellas<br>AstraZeneca | FG-4592     | Roxadustat  | Phase 3              |
| GlaxoSmithKline                     | GSK 1278863 | Daprodustat | Phase 3              |
| Akebia                              | AKB-6548    | Vadadustat  | Phase 3              |
| Bayer                               | BAY 85-3934 | Molidustat  | Phase 2/3            |
| Japan Tobacco Inc                   | JTZ-951     |             | Phase 1              |



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# Emerging Therapies

- ▶ Hypoxia-inducible Factor Stabilizers
- ▶ Heparin Modulators

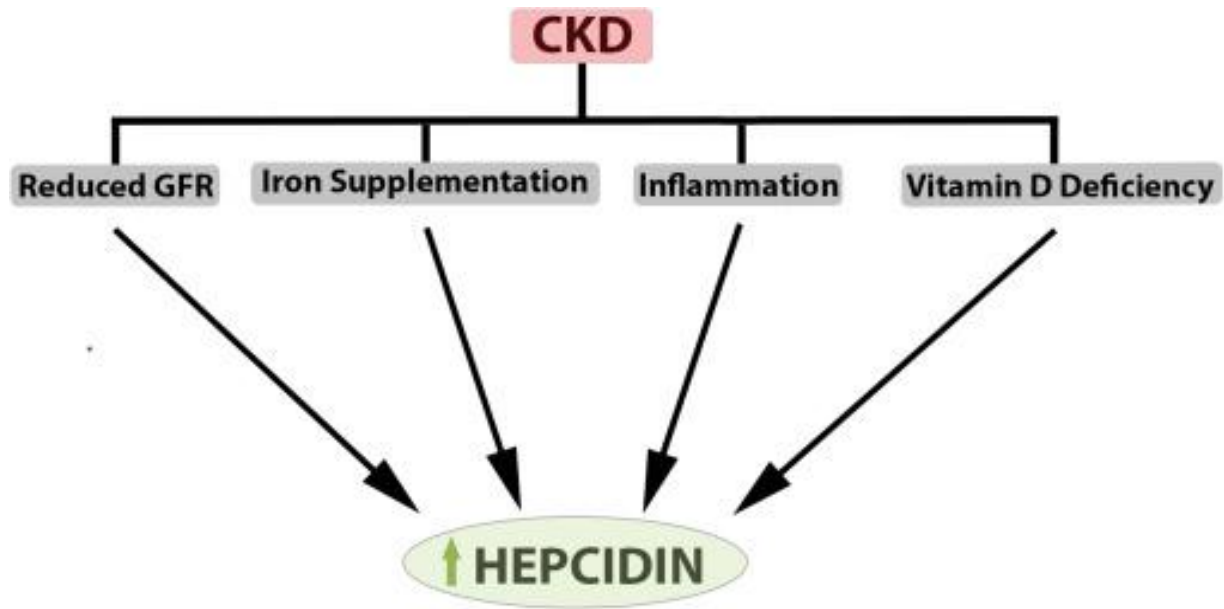


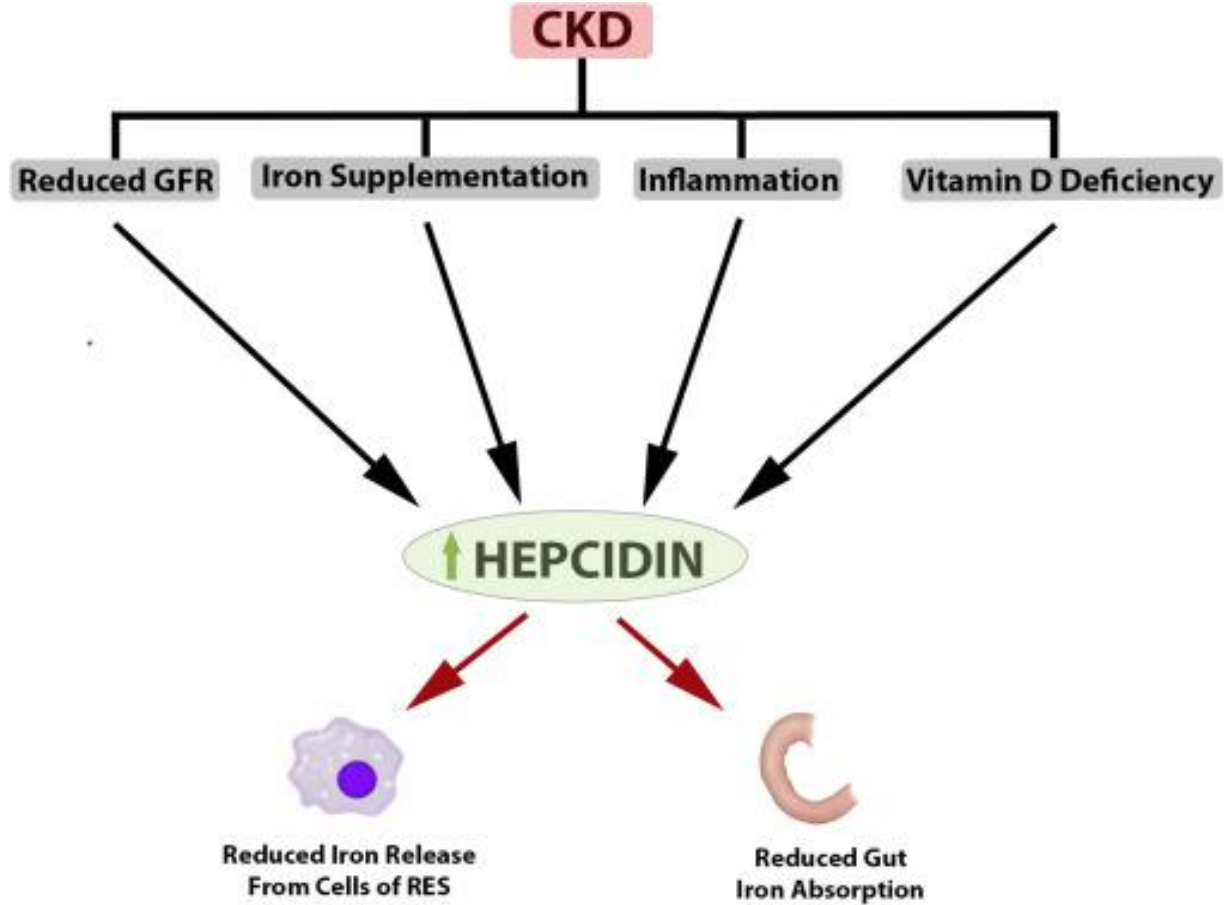


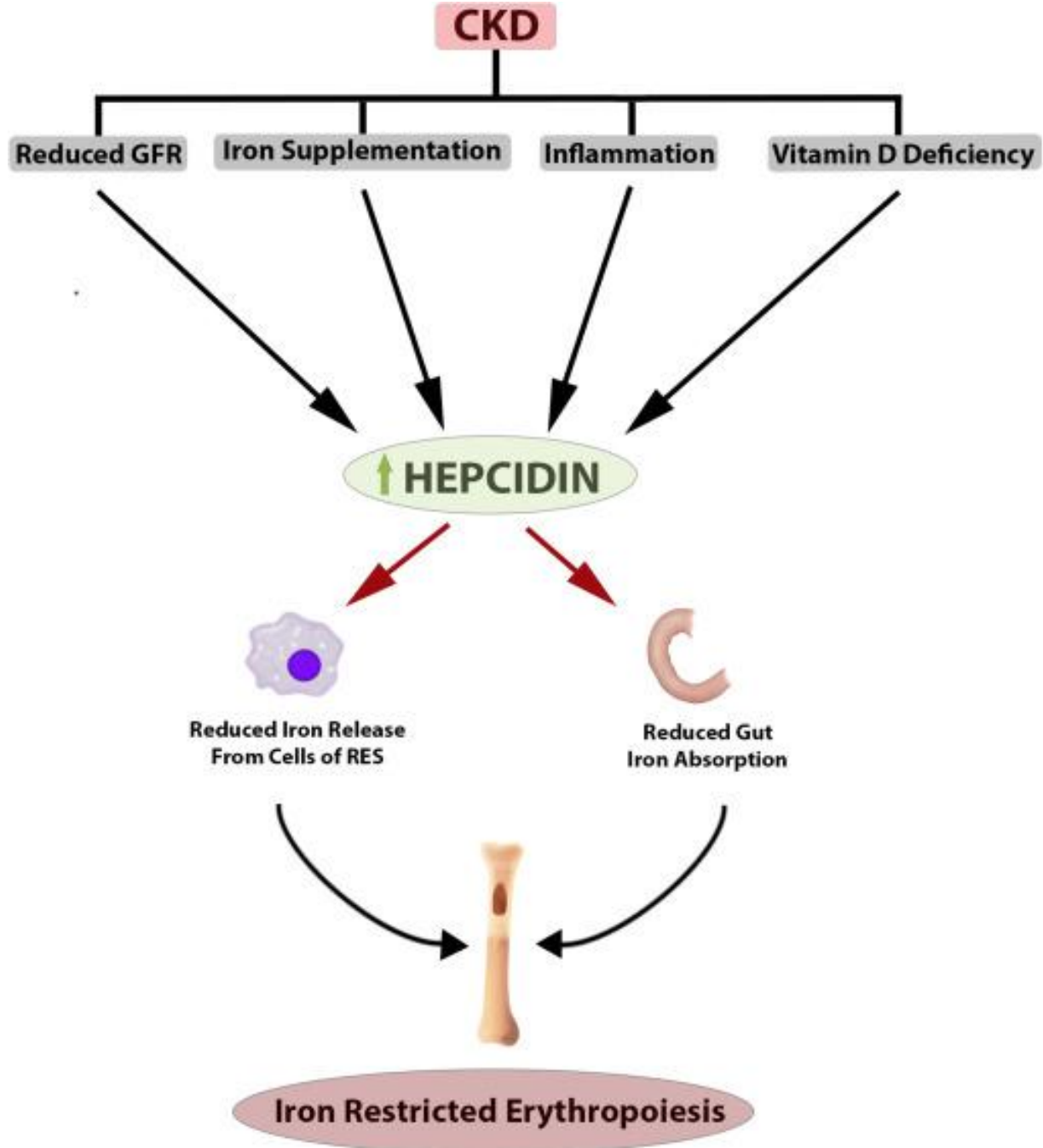
**25-amino acid peptide**

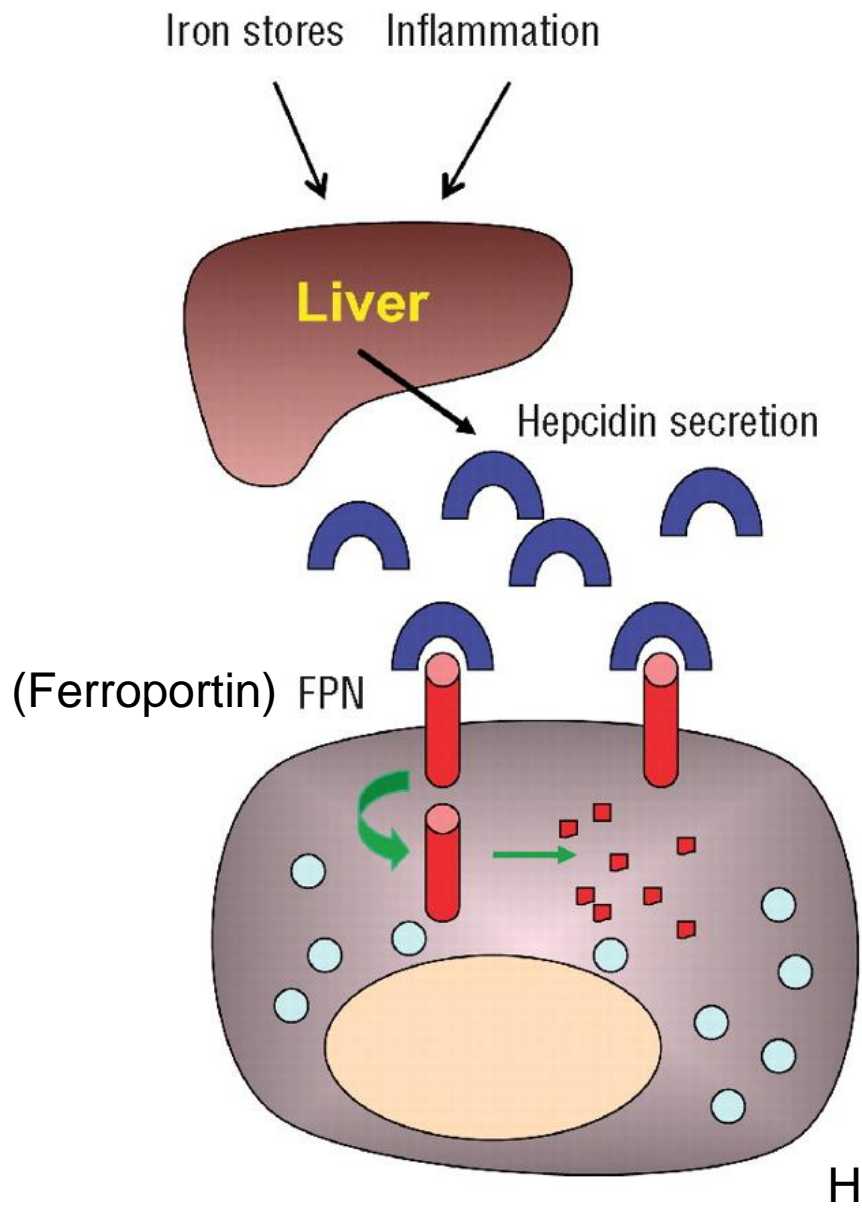
**Iron regulatory protein**

**Produced by hepatocytes**

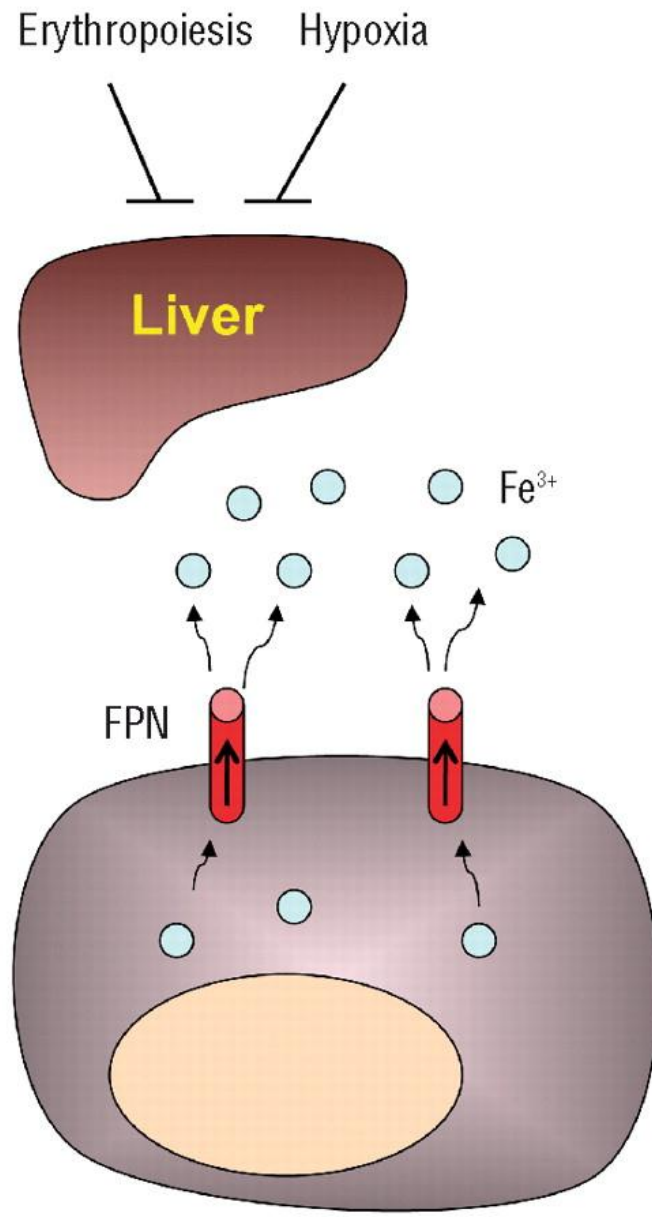
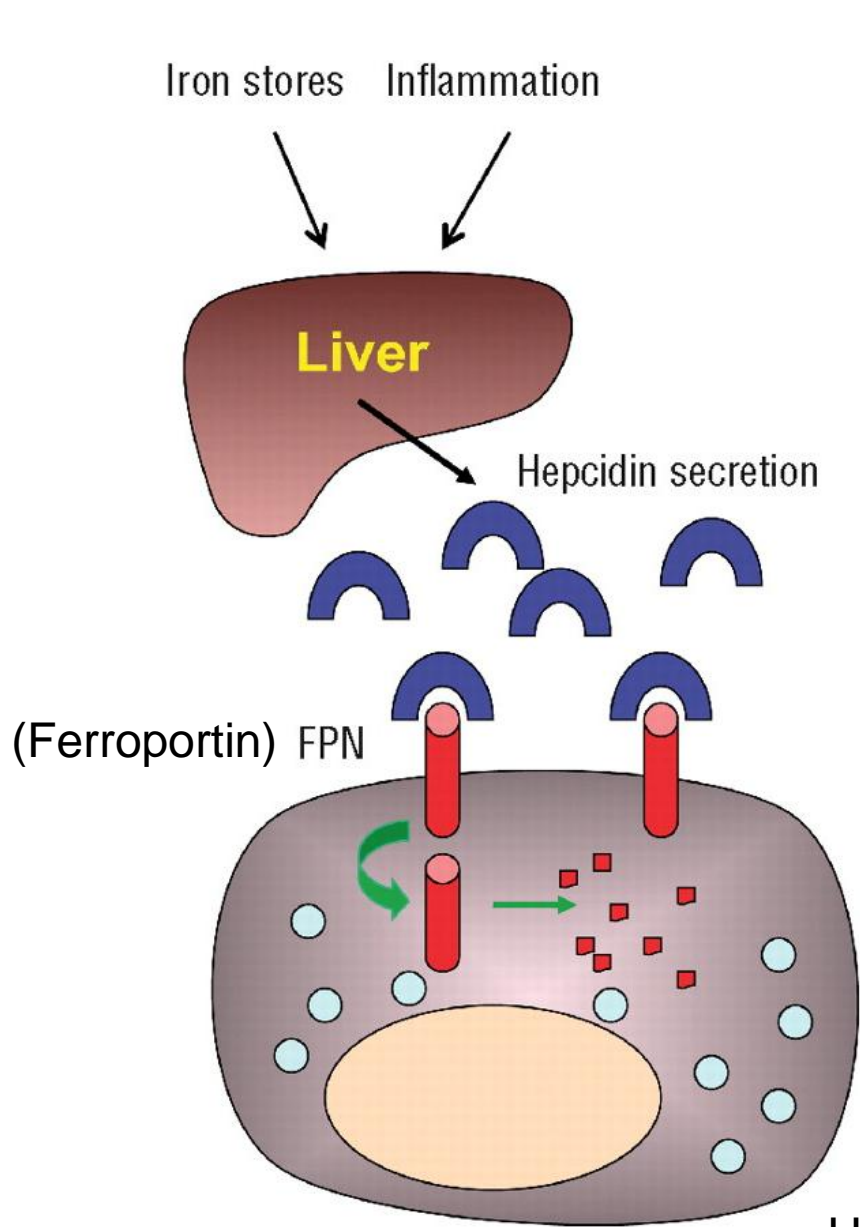








FPN (Ferroportin) = Iron Efflux channel



Hepcidin target cell

## Scholarly Review

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# Role of hepcidin-ferroportin axis in the pathophysiology, diagnosis, and treatment of anemia of chronic inflammation

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### Abstract

Anemia of chronic inflammation (ACI) is a frequently diagnosed anemia and portends an independently increased morbidity and poor outcome associated with multiple underlying diseases. The pathophysiology of ACI is multifactorial, resulting from the effects of inflammatory cytokines which both directly and indirectly suppress erythropoiesis. Recent advances in molecular understanding of iron metabolism provide strong evidence that immune mediators, such as IL-6, lead to hepcidin-induced hypoferremia, iron sequestration, and decreased iron availability for erythropoiesis. The role of hepcidin-ferroportin axis in the pathophysiology of ACI is stimulating the development of new diagnostics and targeted therapies. In this review, we present an overview of and rationale for inflammation-, iron-, and erythropoiesis-related strategies currently in development.

**Key words:** Anemia, inflammation, iron metabolism



# Strategies for modulating hepcidin

- Anti-hepcidin antibodies
- Short interference RNA and anti-sense oligonucleotides
- Hepcidin-binding proteins
- Hepcidin-binding spiegelmeiers
- Hepcidin production inhibitors
- BMP6-HJV-SMAD pathway inhibitors
- IL-6 inhibitors
- Vitamin D
- Ferroportin agonists / stabilisers



## What I would like to share from my learning:

### Iron Therapy

- **cornerstone in Mx of Renal Anemia**

### Red cell Transfusion

- **avoid if possible**

### Adjuvant Therapies

- **not routinely recommended**

### Dialysis – adequacy/ ultrapure dialysate

- **better ESA response**

### Diet

- **important in Anemia Mx**



Ferric citrate  
Ferric pyrophosphate citrate

**Emerging Therapies**  
**HIF stabilizers**  
**Hepcidin modulators**



64<sup>th</sup>

# Myanmar Medical Conference



*Thank  
you*

