

***The Mechanisms of ISR:  
Insights from Pathologic Studies***

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# Disclosure

**Within the past 12 months, I or my spouse/partner have had a financial interest/arrangement or affiliation with the organization(s) listed below.**

**Employment in industry: No**

**Honorarium: Amgen; Abbott Vascular; Biosensors; Boston Scientific; Celonova; Cook Medical; CSI; Lutonix Bard; Sinomed; Terumo Corporation.**

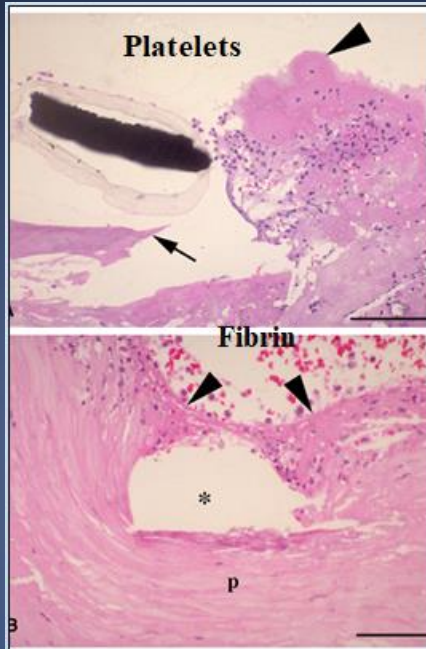
**Institutional grant/research support: R01 HL141425 Leducq Foundation Grant; 480 Biomedical; 4C Medical; 4Tech; Abbott; Accumedical; Amgen; Biosensors; Boston Scientific; Cardiac Implants; Celonova; Claret; Concept Medical; Cook; CSI; DuNing; Edwards; Emboline; Endotronix; Envision Scientific; Lutonix/Bard; Gateway; Lifetech; Limflo; MedAlliance; Medtronic; Mercator; Merrill; Microport; Microvention; Mitraalign; Mitra assist; NAMSA; Nanova; Neovasc; NIPRO; Novogate; Occulotech; Orbus Neich; Phenox; Profusa; Protembis; Qool; Recor; Senseonics; Shockwave; Sinomed; Spectranetics; Surmodics; Symic; Vesper; W.L. Gore; Xeltis.**

**Owner of a healthcare company: No**

**Stockholder of a healthcare company: No**

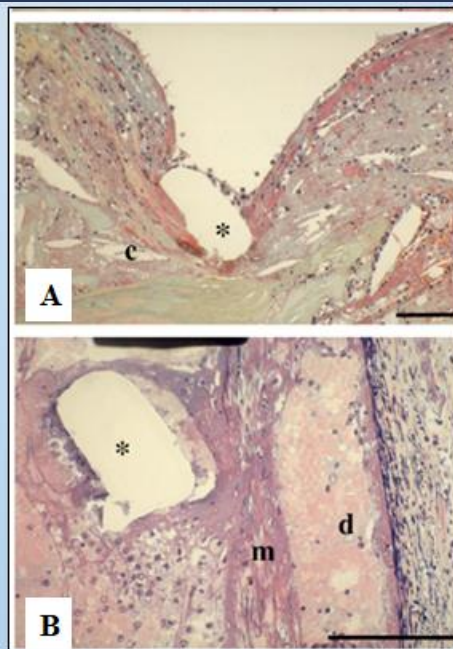
# Bare Metal Stent Healing in Human

## Thrombus



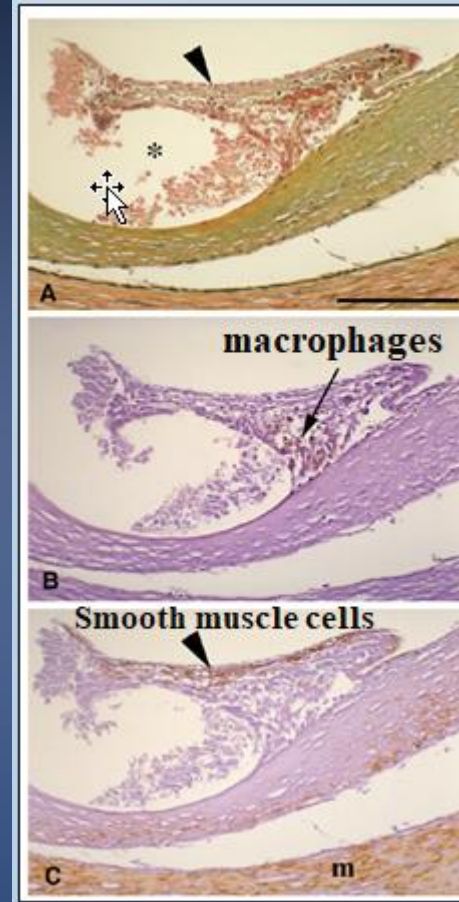
1-30 days

## Acute Inflammation



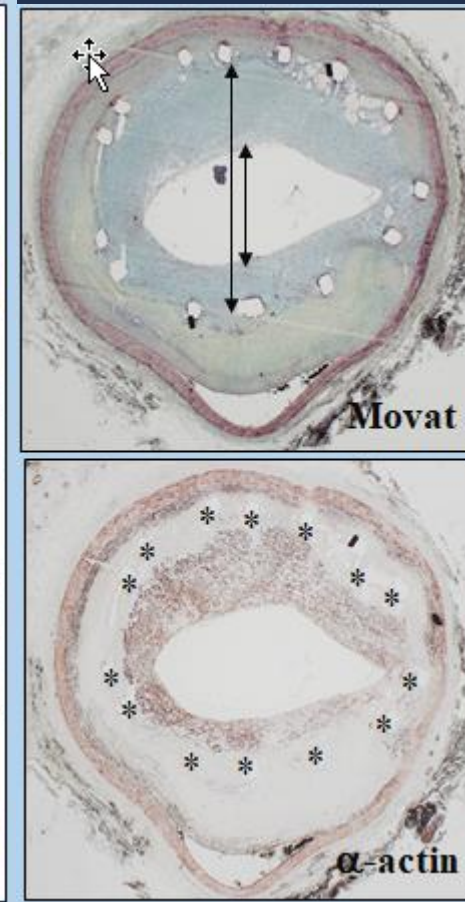
1-30 days

## Granulation tissue



14 - 90 days

## Smooth muscle cells and matrix

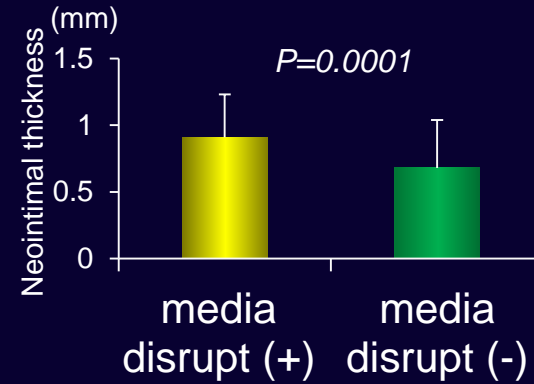
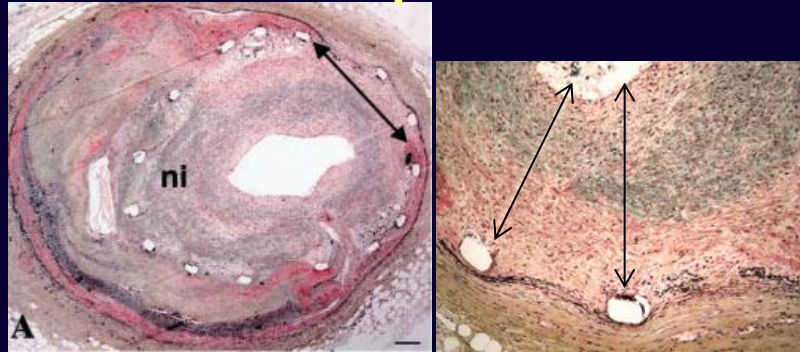


≥ 6 months

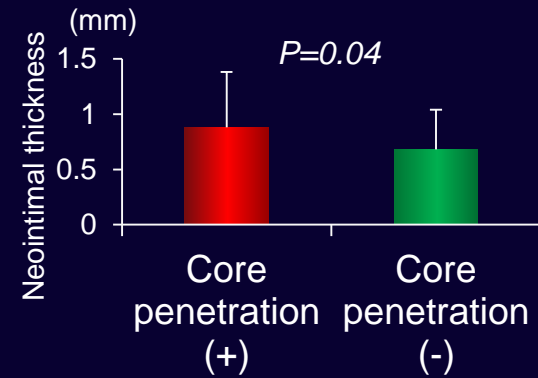
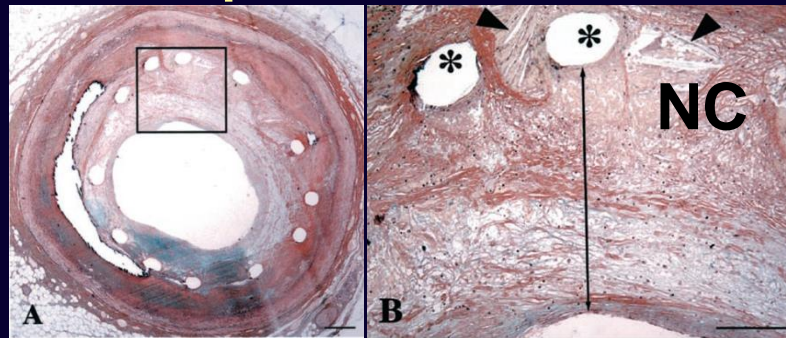


# Predictors of BMS Restenosis

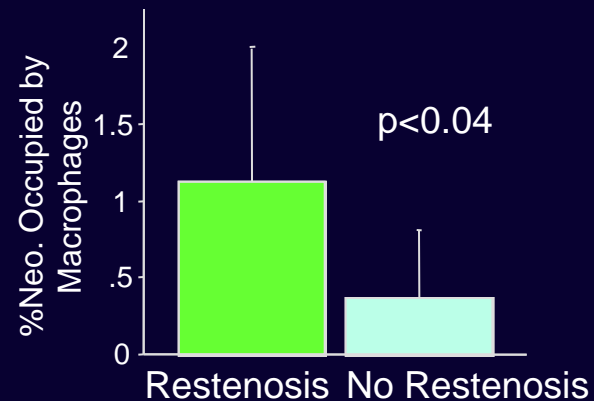
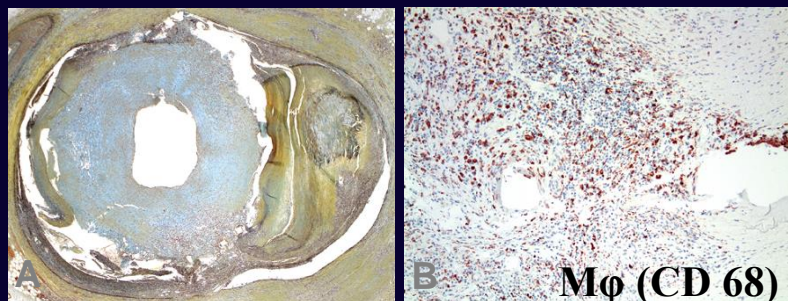
## Media disruption



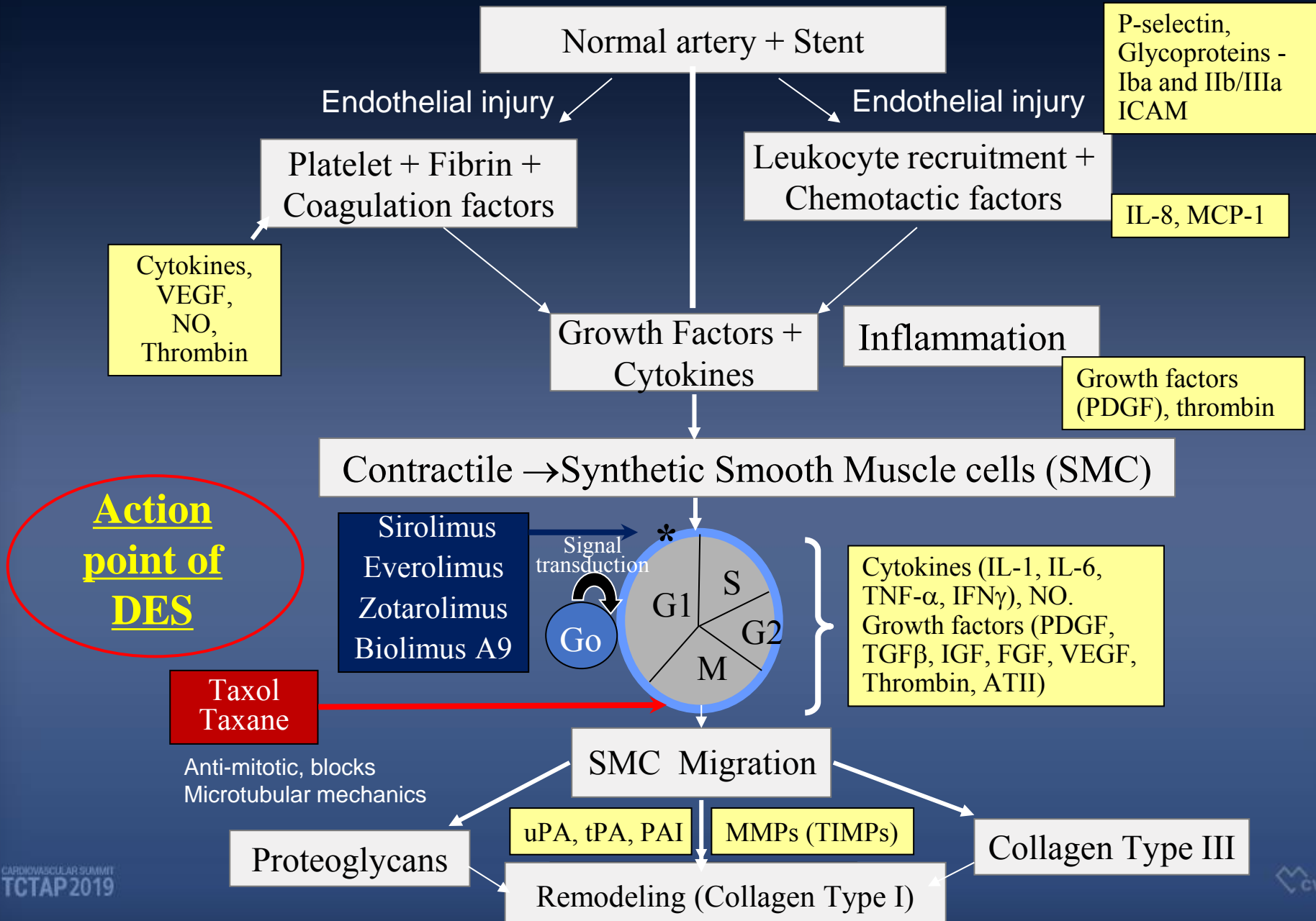
## Strut penetration into NC



## Inflammation

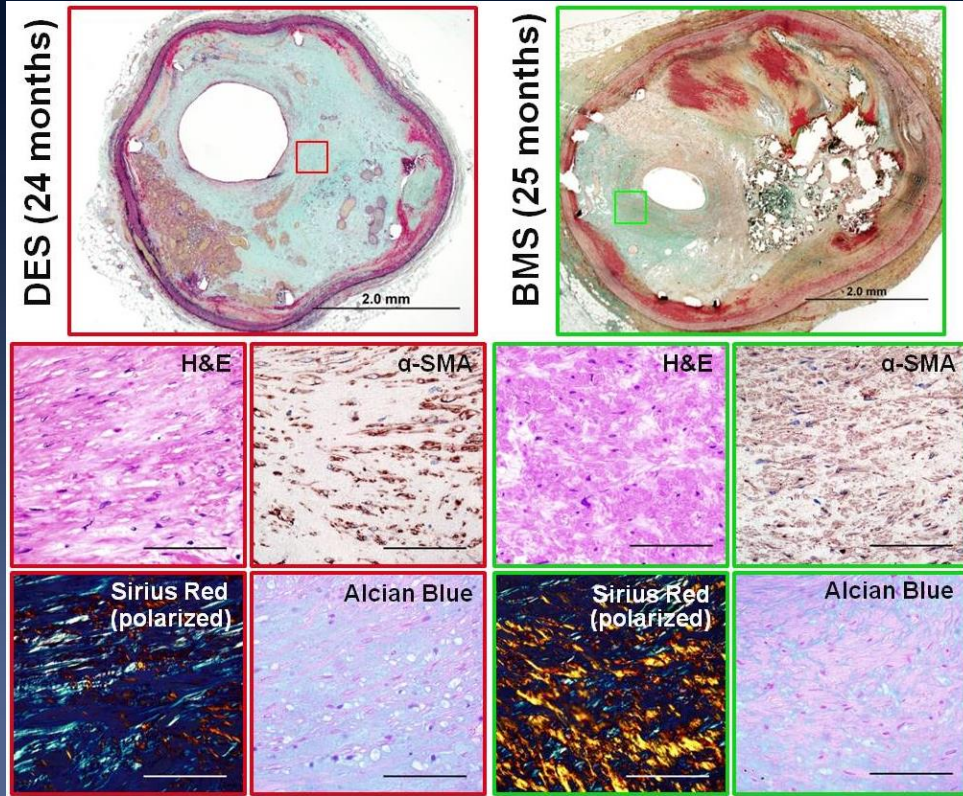


# Processes of BMS Restenosis

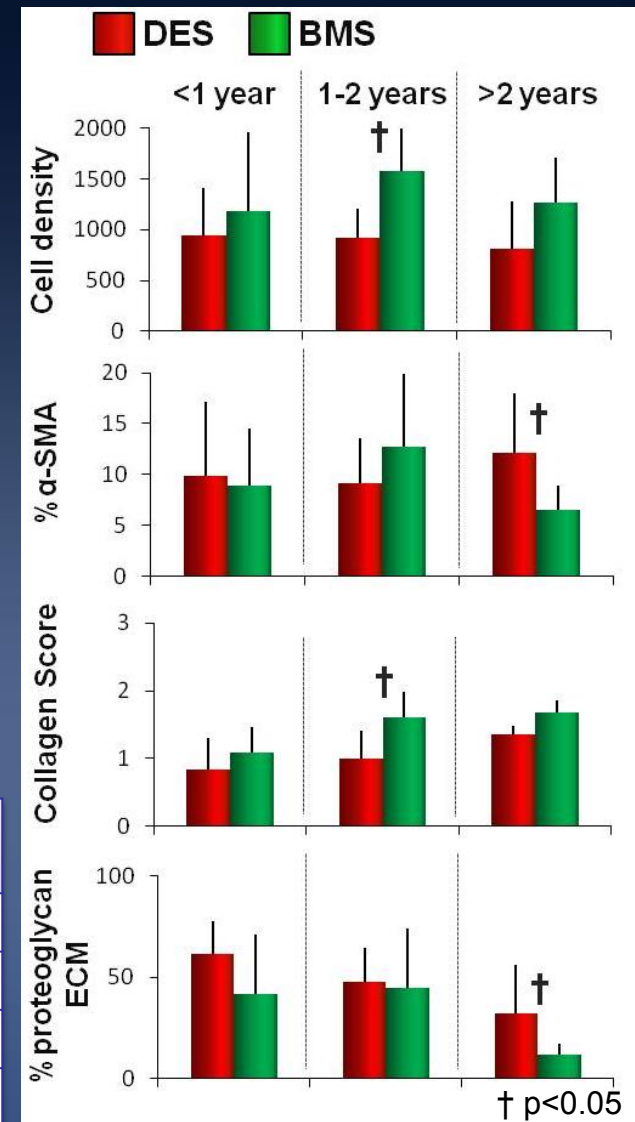


# Restenosis in DES

# Neointimal Characteristics in DES and BMS



	DES (N=15)	BMS (N=15)	P value
Total cell count, /mm <sup>2</sup>	906±404	1409±549	<u>0.014</u>
% α-SMA area	9.5±6.2	10.5±6.3	0.66
Collagen score (0-3)	1.0±0.4	1.4±0.4	<u>0.022</u>
% Proteoglycan area	69.3±22.4	48.0±28.4	<u>0.032</u>

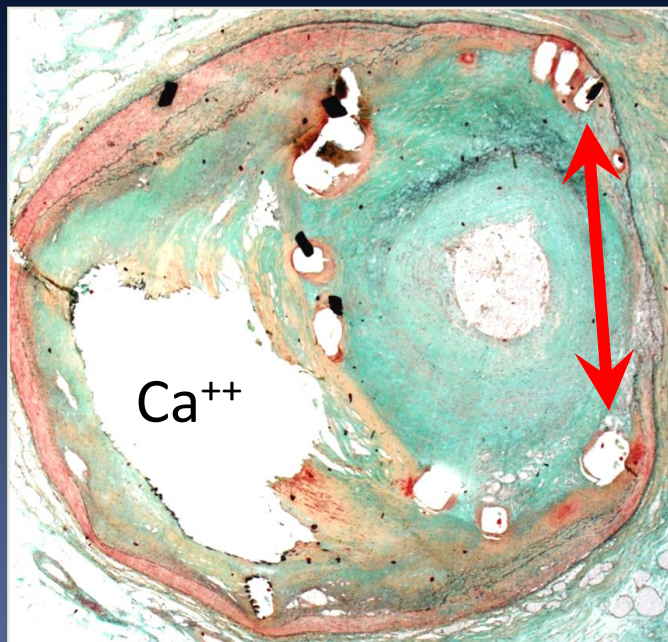


- α-SMA positive SMC activity peaks at 1-2 years and then decreases in BMS whereas in DES there is no change over time, suggesting a persisting neointimal activity .
- DES neointima demonstrates greater proteoglycan deposition and less collagen production.

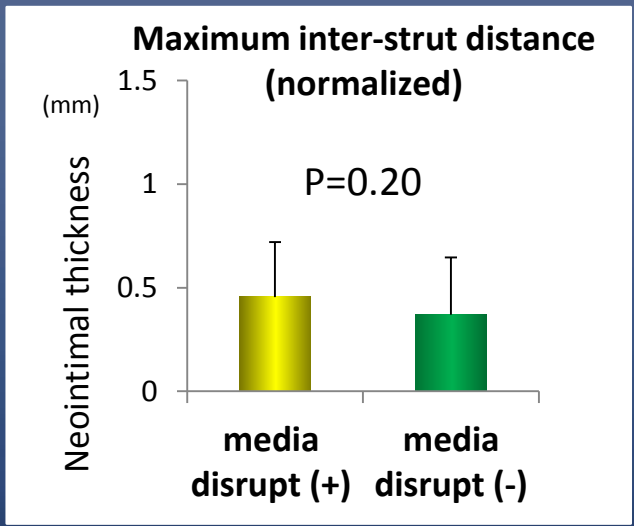
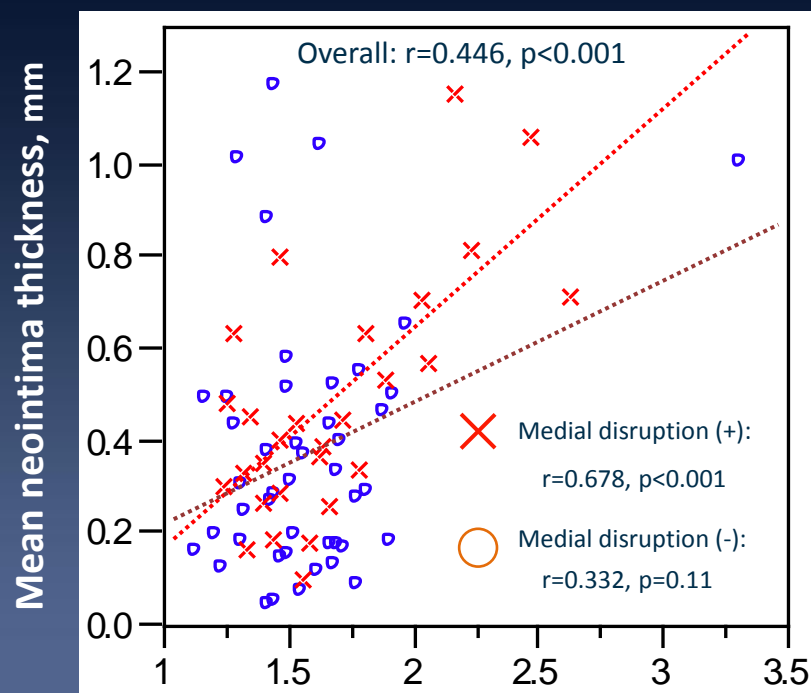
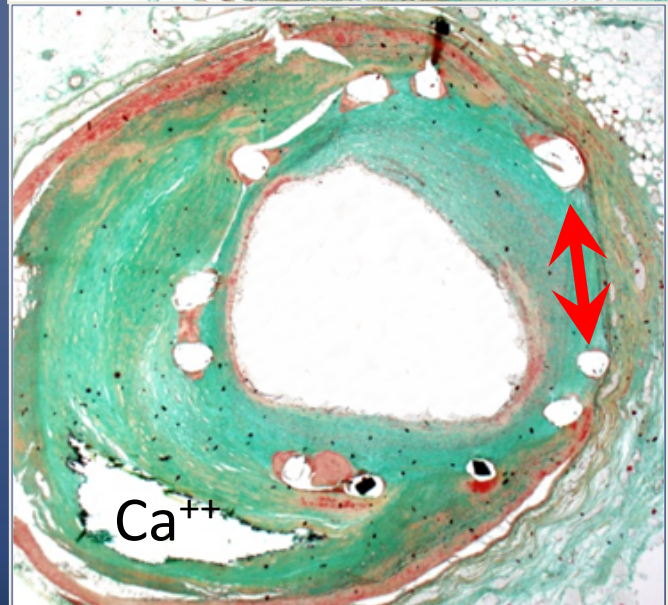


# The efficacy of DES wanes if the distribution of anti-proliferative drug is uneven

Longer inter-strut distance



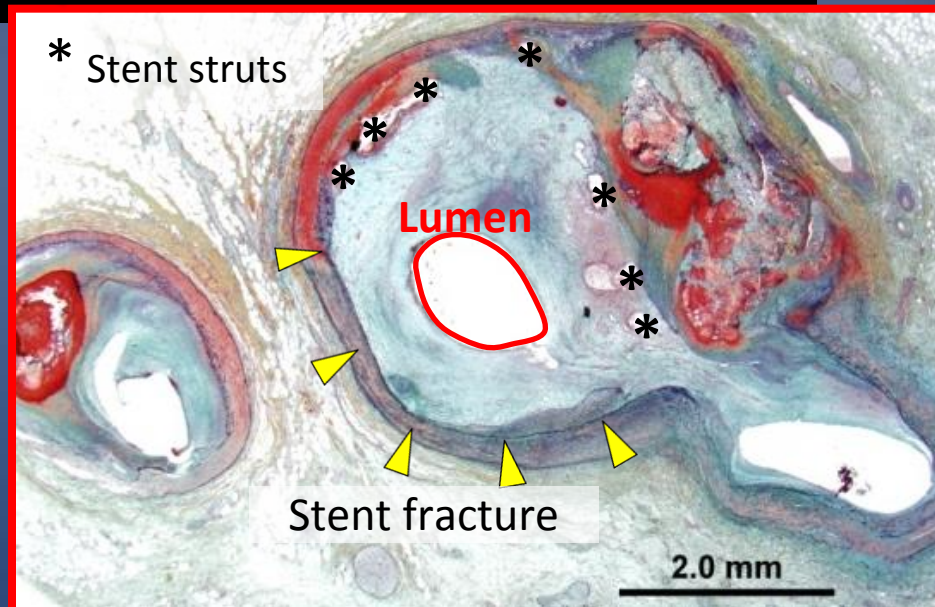
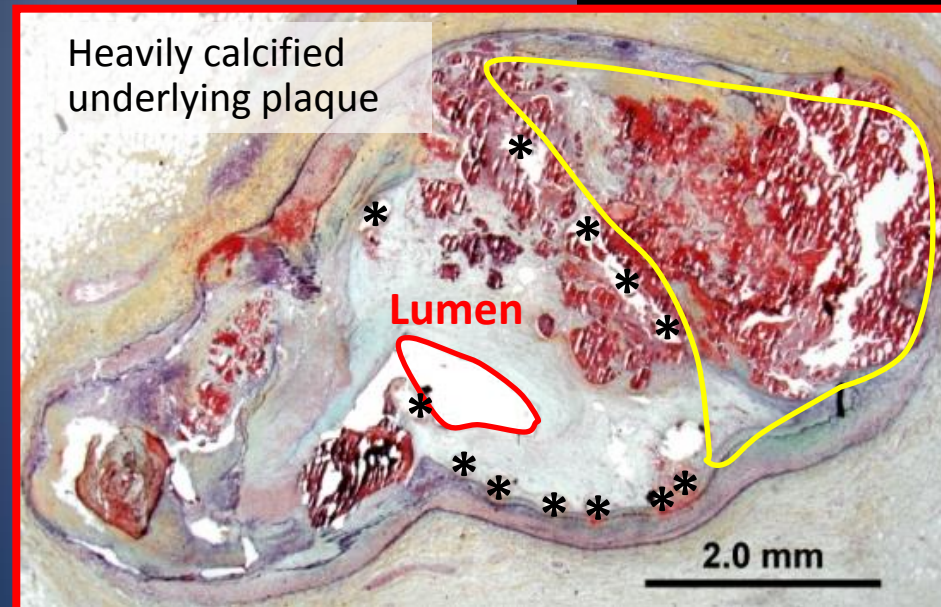
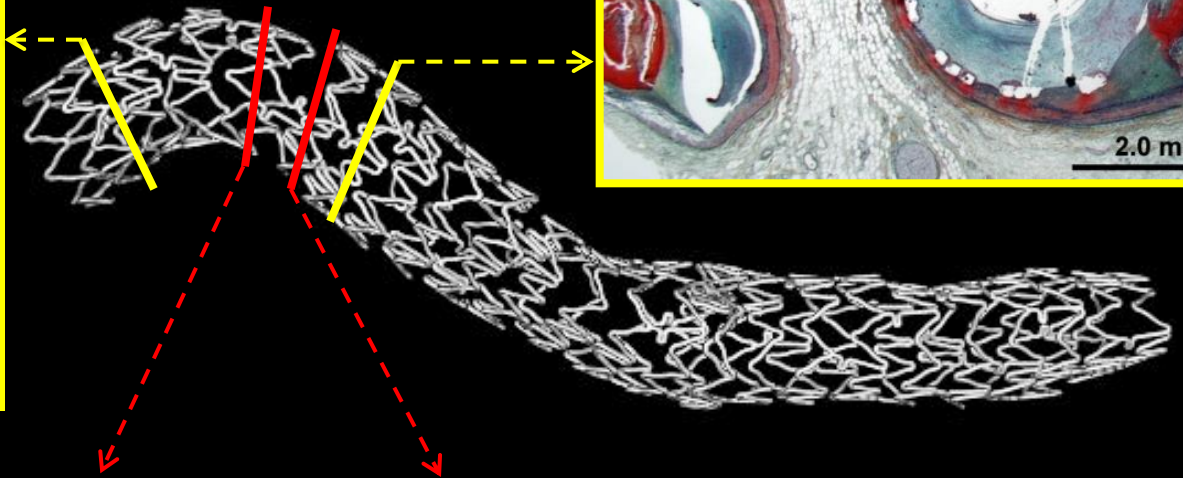
Shorter inter-strut distance





# EES Restenosis Associated with Stent Fracture

70F, EES implanted in LM to LCX for 6 months



# Cause of Late DES Failure; Neoatherosclerosis

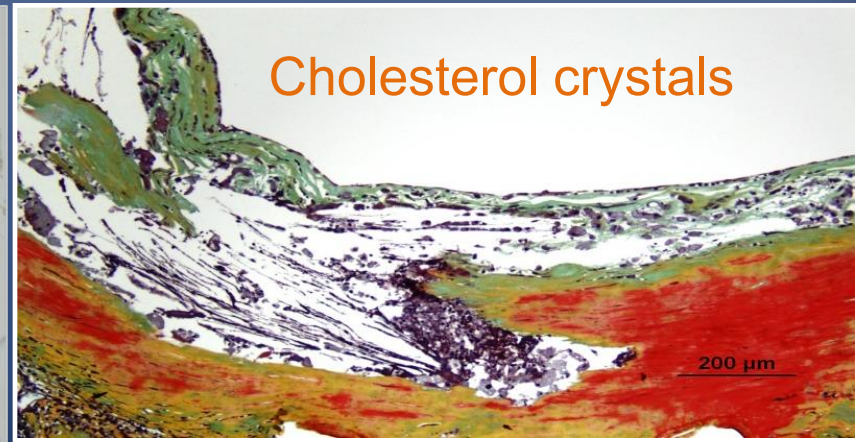
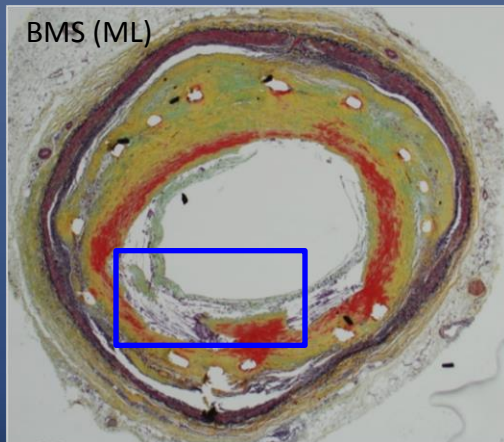
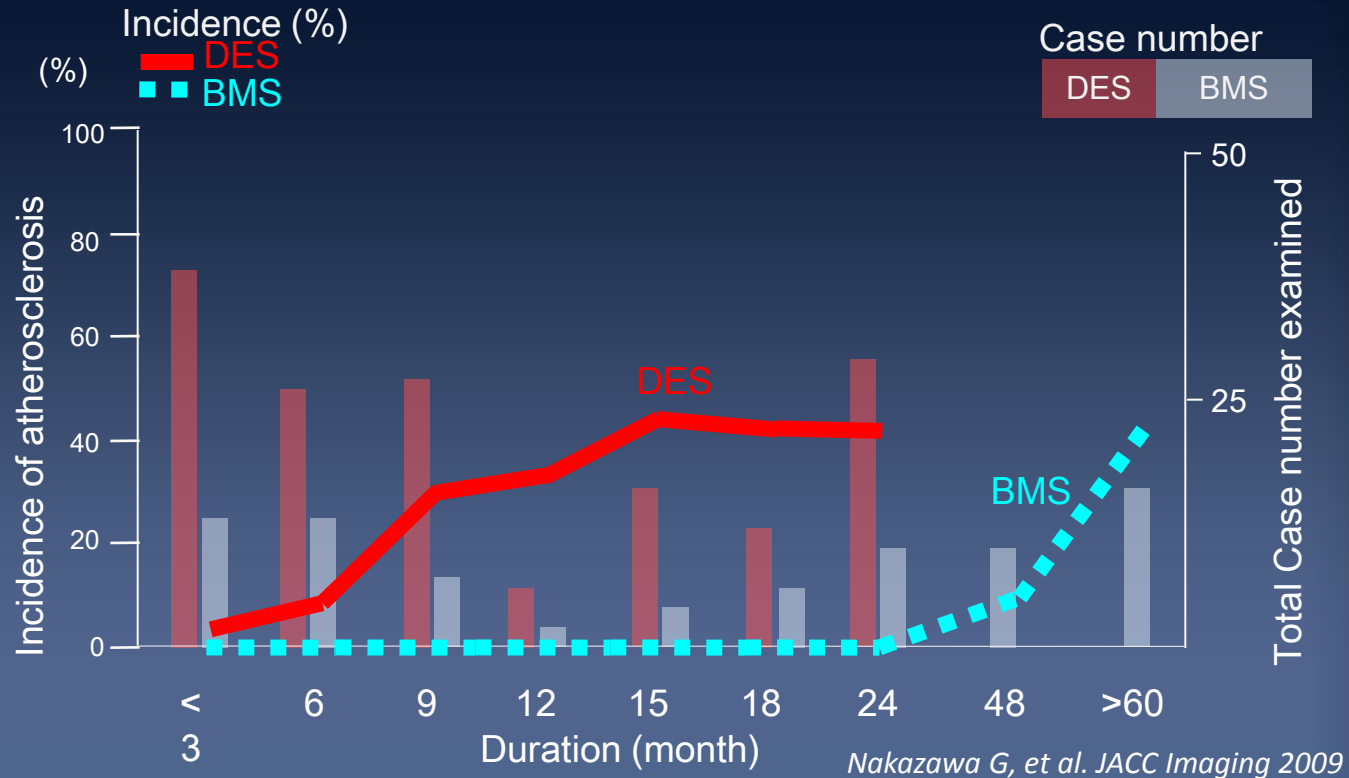
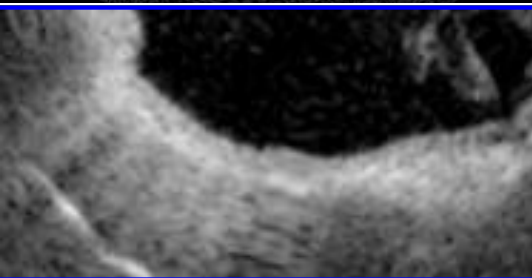
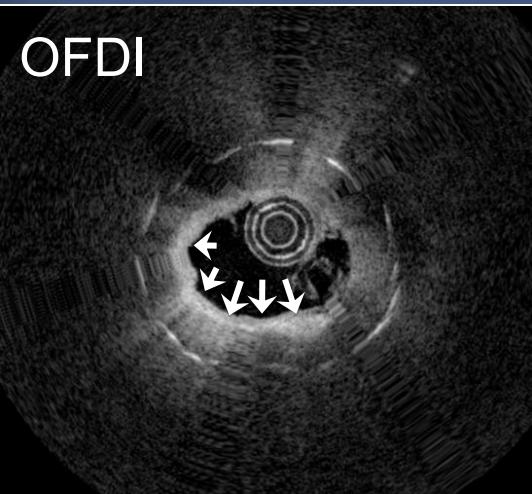


# Late vascular complication: Neoatherosclerosis

## Definition:

In-stent neo-atherosclerosis is histologically characterized by an accumulation of lipid-laden foamy macrophages with or without necrotic core formation and/or calcification within the neointima.

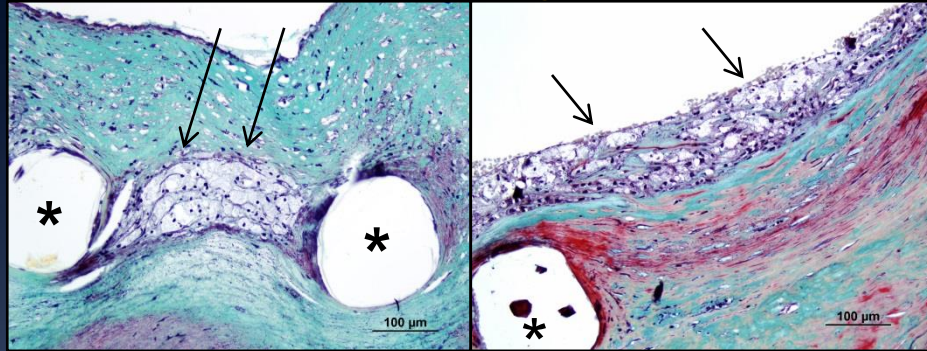
*Otsuka et al., Eur Heart J. 2015 May 20. pii: ehv205*



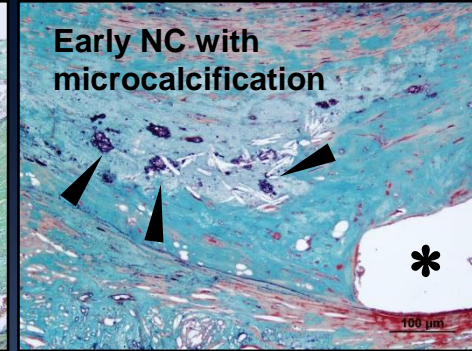
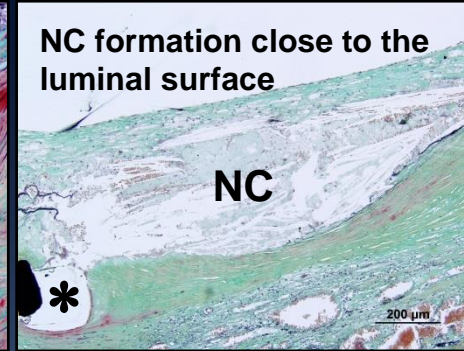


# Representative Images Showing Progression of Neoatherosclerosis

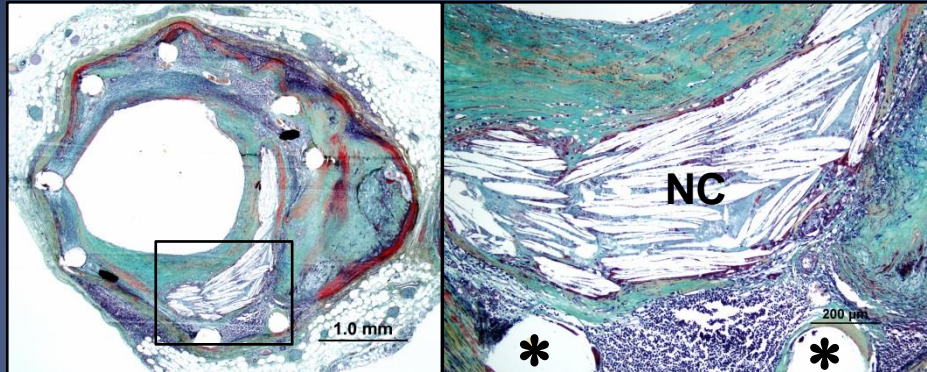
## Foamy macrophage clusters



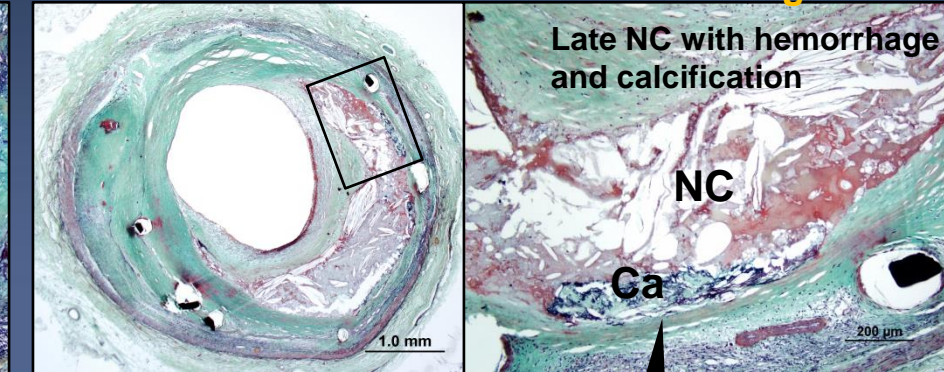
## Fibroatheroma



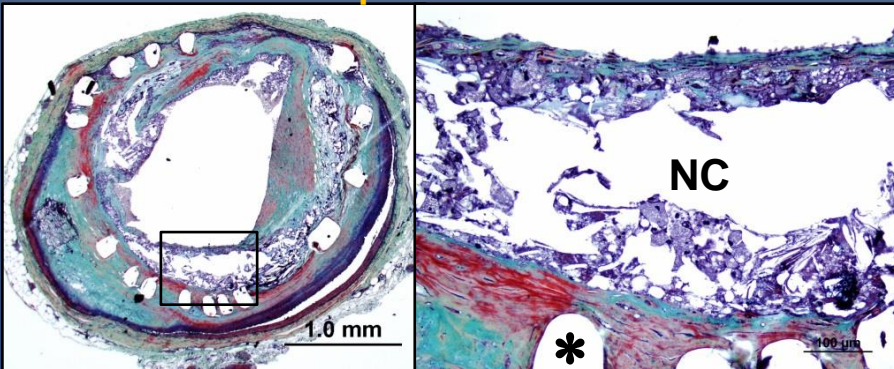
## Late Fibroatheroma



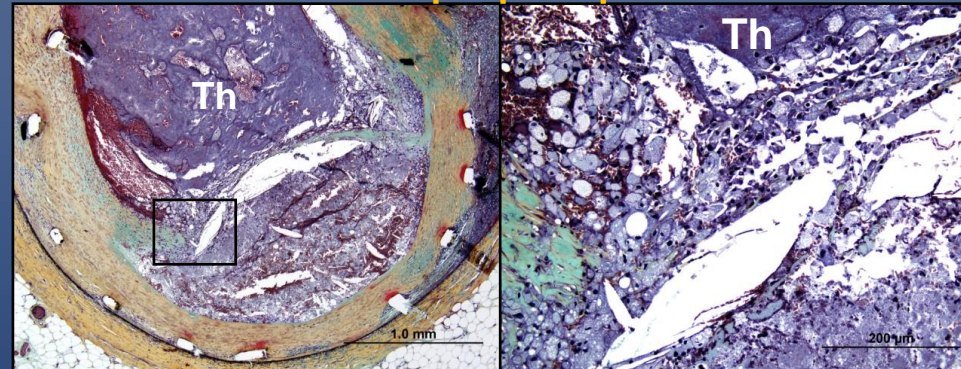
## Late Fibroatheroma with hemorrhage



## Thin-cap Fibroatheroma



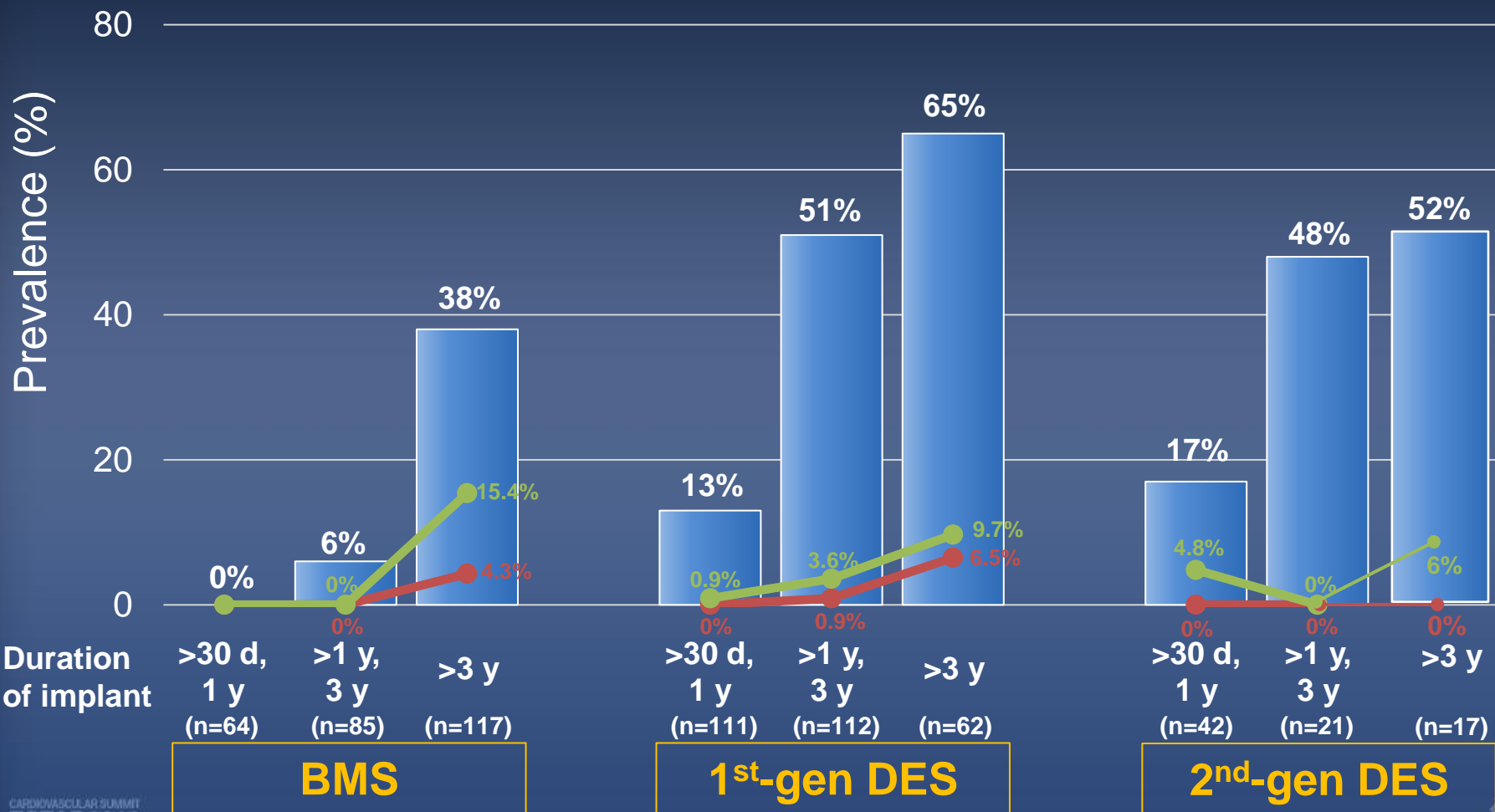
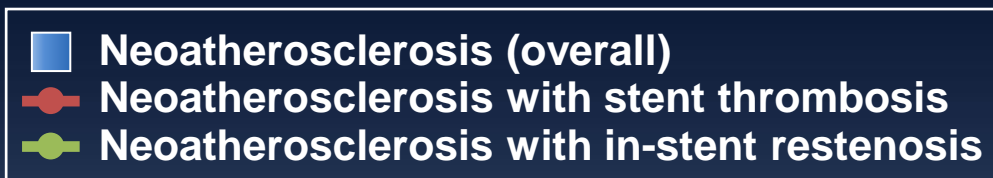
## In-stent plaque rupture



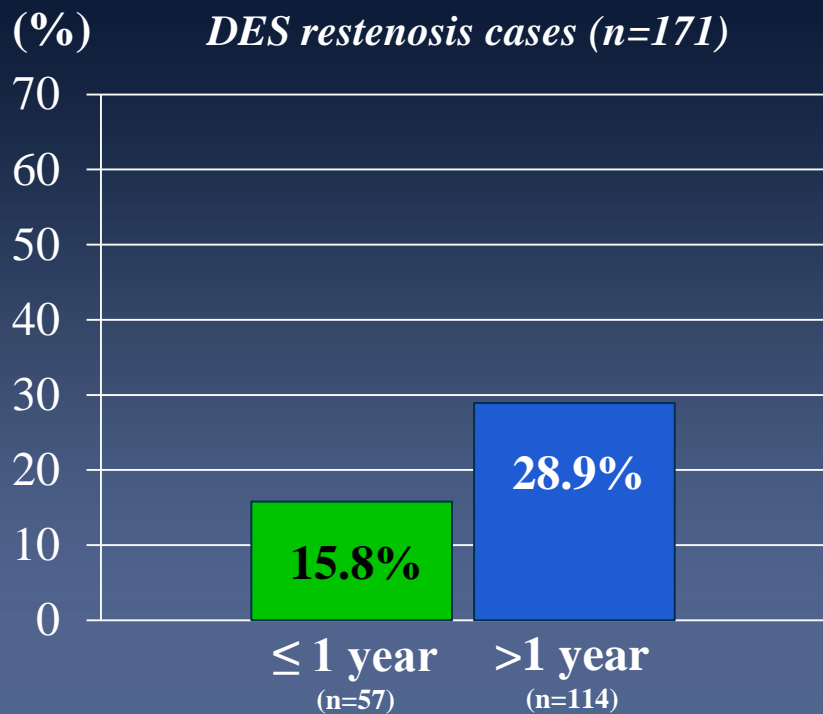
Neoatherosclerosis was defined as the presence of foamy macrophages within the neointima with or without necrotic core and/or calcification.



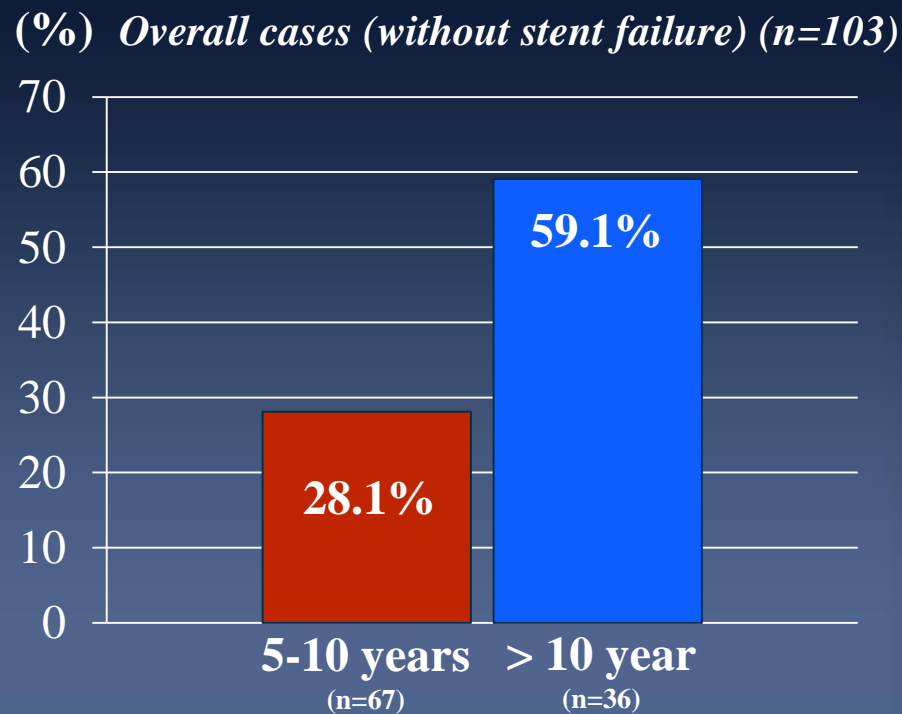
# Prevalence of Neoatherosclerosis (Autopsy cases): Overall, in Stent Thrombosis, and Restenosis



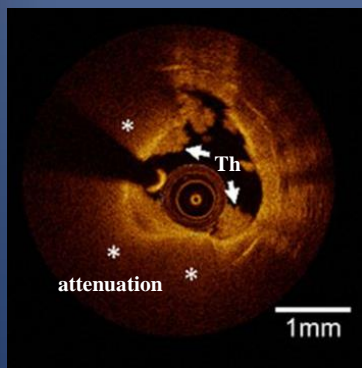
# Over-time Clinical Prevalence of Neoatherosclerosis in DES (in vivo OCT analysis)



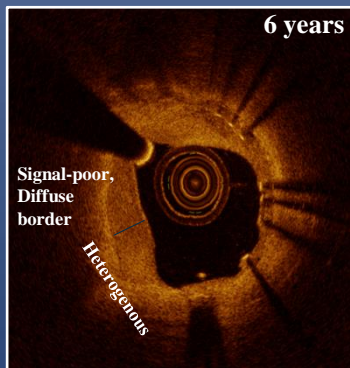
Song L, et al. EuroIntervention. 2017;13:294-302.



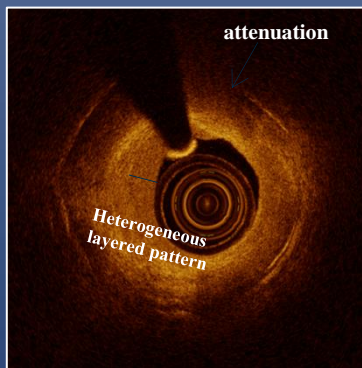
Usui E, et al. EuroIntervention.2018;14:e1316-e1323



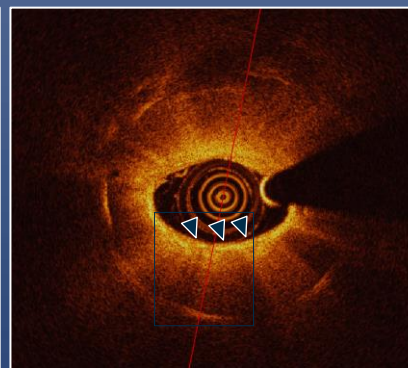
Plaque Rupture



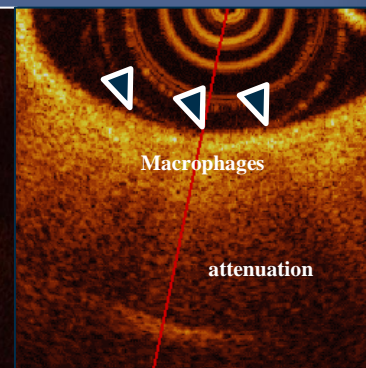
Fibroatheroma



Fibroatheroma



Fatty Streak



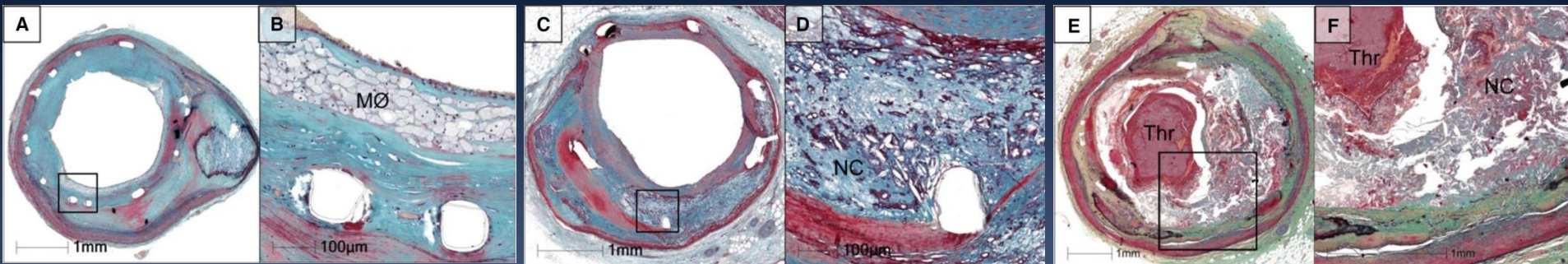
Fatty Streak

# Prevalence and Type of Neoatherosclerosis in very long term (1-5 years)

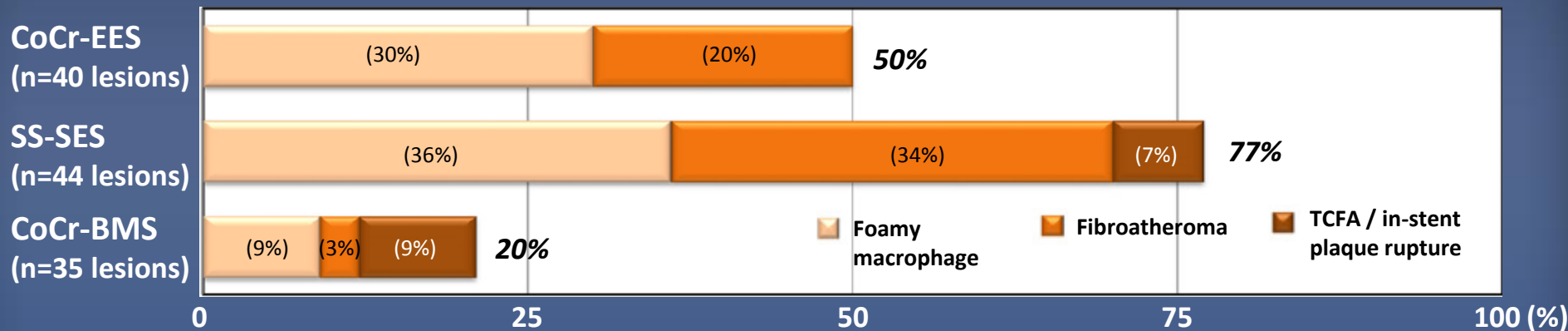
63-y male CoCr-EES 5 years

40-y female SS-SES 5 years

56-y male BMS 5 years



## Prevalence and Type of Neoatherosclerosis (%)



	CoCr-EES (n=20 lesions)	SS-SES (n=34 lesions)	CoCr-BMS (n=7 lesions)	P-value for CoCr-EES vs. SS-SES	P-value for CoCr-EES vs. CoCr-BMS
<b>Distribution of neoatherosclerosis</b>	<b>n=20</b>	<b>n=34</b>	<b>n=7</b>	0.74	0.92
<b>Focal</b>	11 (55%)	17 (50%)	4 (57%)		
<b>Diffuse</b>	9 (45%)	17 (50%)	3 (43%)		

**Why neoatherosclerosis is accelerated  
in DES as compared to BMS?  
- Impact of Endothelial Integrity -**



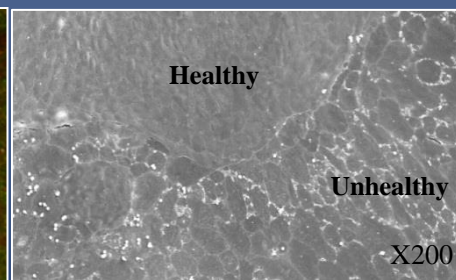
# Importance of the Endothelial Barrier Function in Health and Disease

- ✓ The endothelium plays a critical role in vascular homeostasis by providing a solid barrier between blood and vessel wall, secreting substances that influence vascular inflammation, cell migration, and proliferation over the longer term
- ✓ Dysfunction of the endothelium is the initial inciting event in atherogenesis
- ✓ **VE-cadherin** (red arrow) regulates endothelial barrier function via binding to **p120** (green arrow), constructing healthy adherence cell-cell junction
- ✓ Unhealthy endothelium has dysregulation of these two molecules which normally should be expressed together at endothelial cell borders (as yellow)

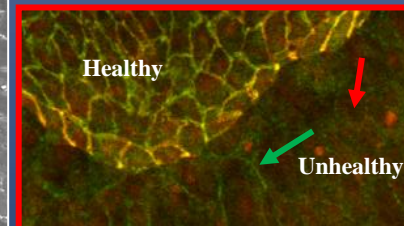
**VE-cadherin** Confocal Microscopy  
**p120**



Scanning Electron Microscopy



Confocal Microscopy

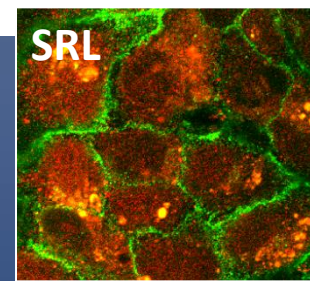
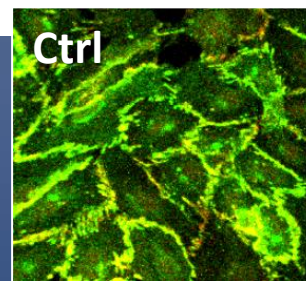
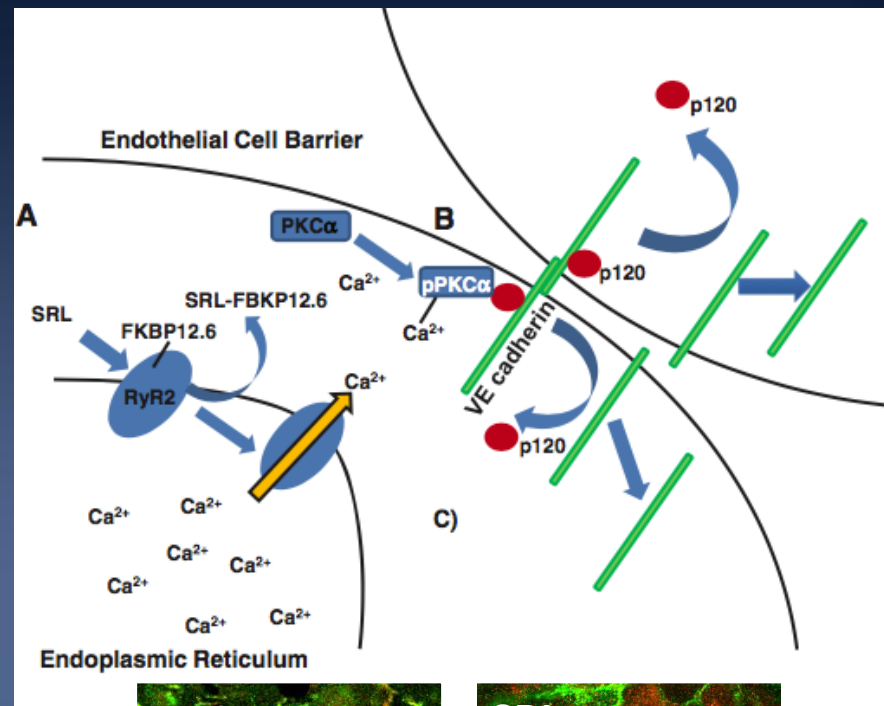


Scanning Electron Microscopy



# mTOR inhibitors and the endothelium

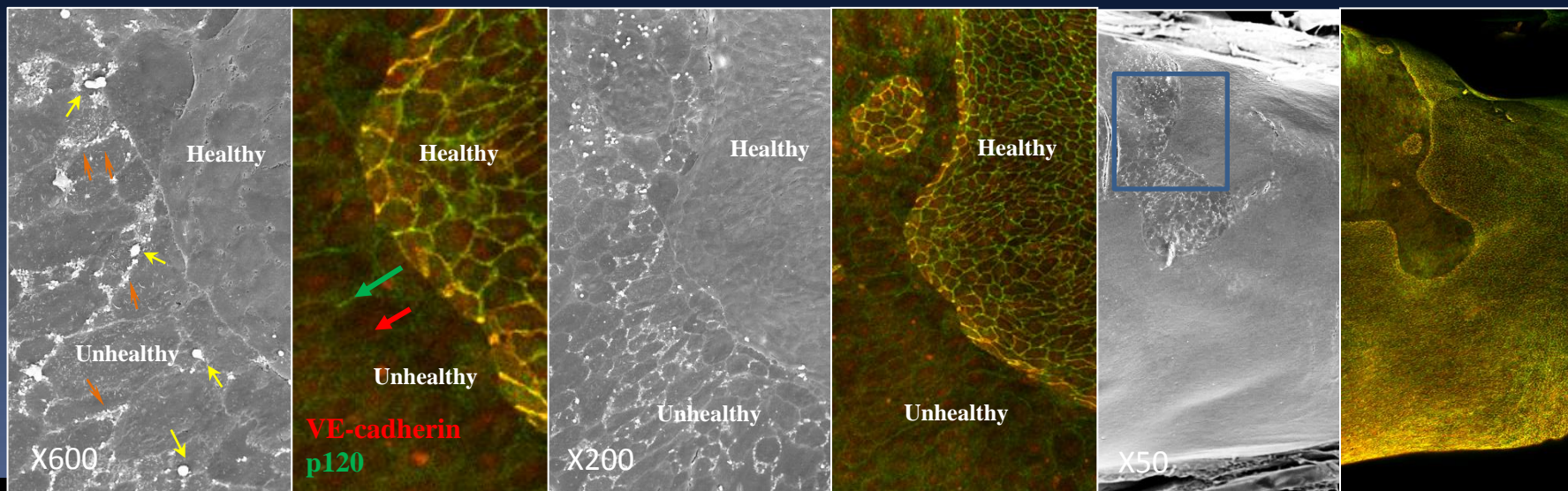
- ✓ Sirolimus inhibits mTOR complex by binding FKBP12.6 and displaces it from intracellular calcium release channels
- ✓ Sirolimus/FKBP12.6 increases intracellular calcium levels and endothelial dysfunction by PKC activation
- ✓ **VE-cadherin** regulates endothelial barrier function via binding to **p120**. PKC $\alpha$  activation causes impaired endothelial barrier function via disruption of the VE-cadherin and p120 interaction
- ✓ Limiting exposure to sirolimus through biodegradable polymers may improve endothelial function more quickly





# VE-CAD Pattern and Monocyte Adhesion

## Rabbit Iliac artery stenting model



Orange arrow → Platelet  
Yellow arrow → Monocyte

DES (60-day post implant)

Unhealthy

Healthy CVRF

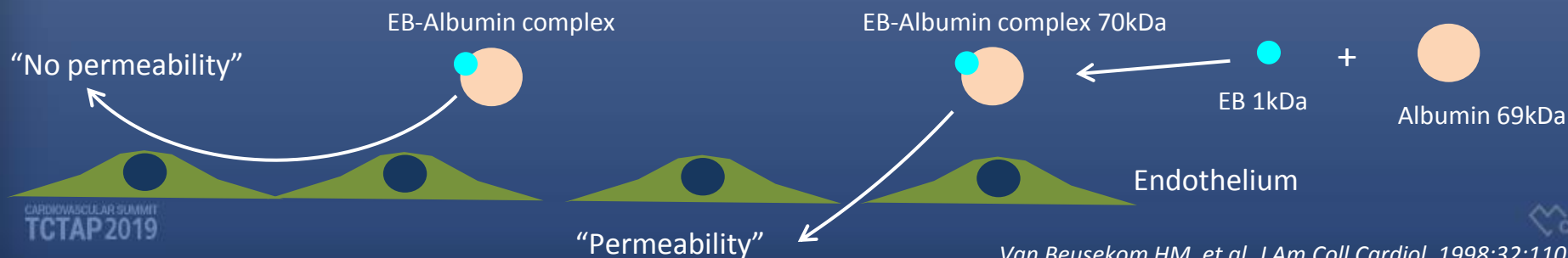
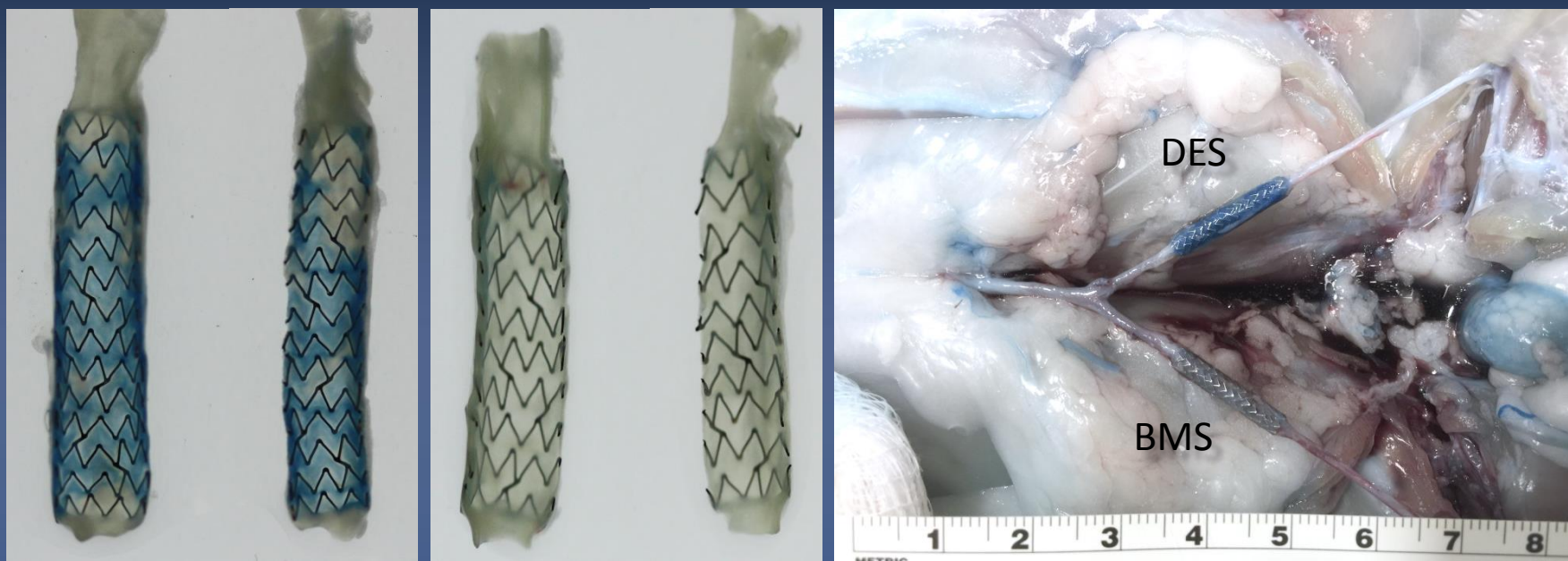
# Impaired Endothelial Barrier Function at DES site

## Evans Blue Dye analysis

Gross image of the rabbit iliac arteries following Evans Blue (EB) injection prior to sacrifice at **60-days**

DES

BMS



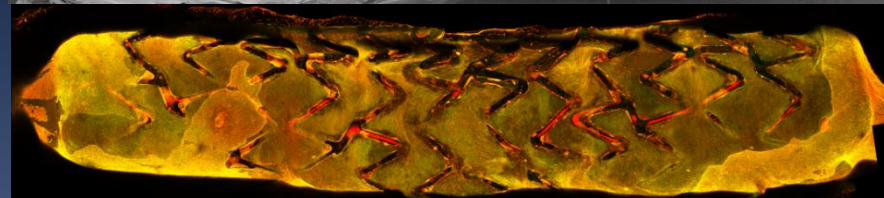
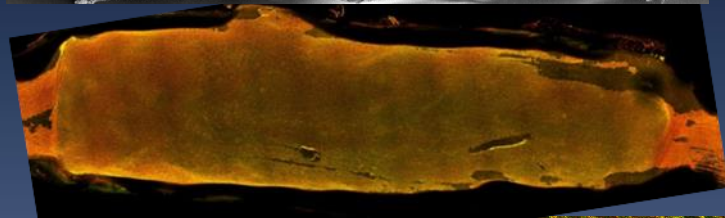
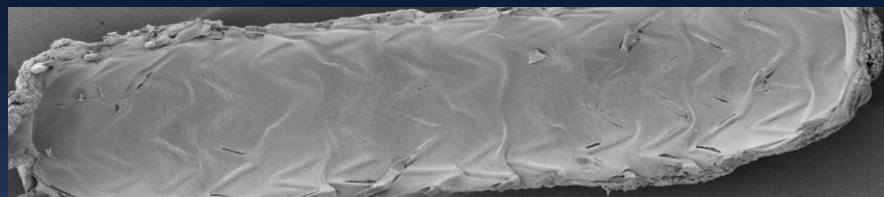
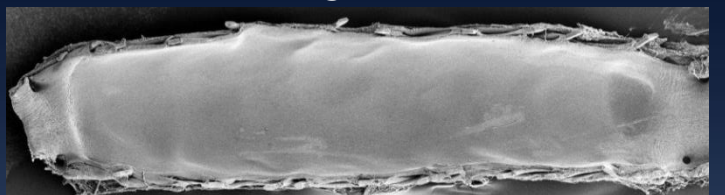


# Impaired Endothelial Barrier Function in DES site

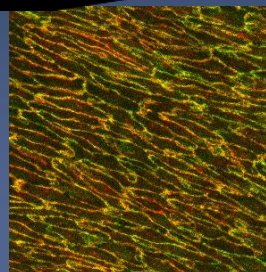
## VE-Cad/p120 co-localization and cell shape

BMS

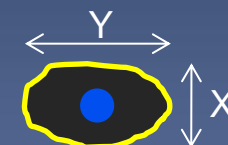
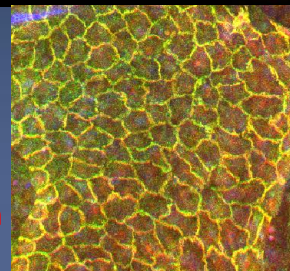
DP-DES



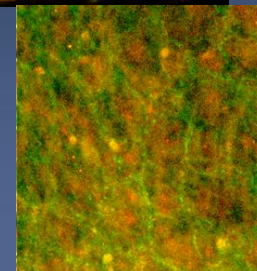
Spindle shape



VE-cadherin  
p120



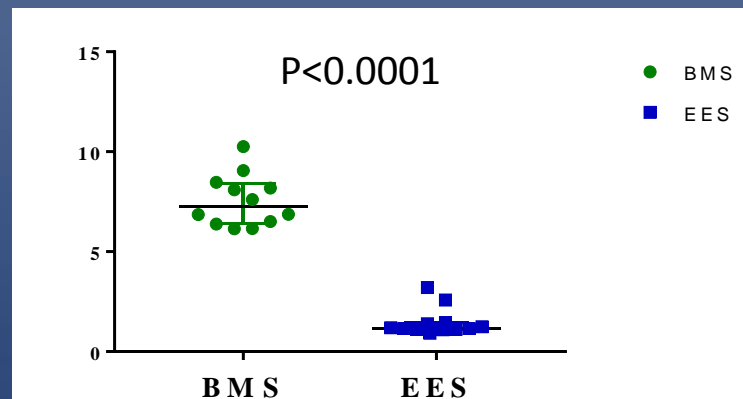
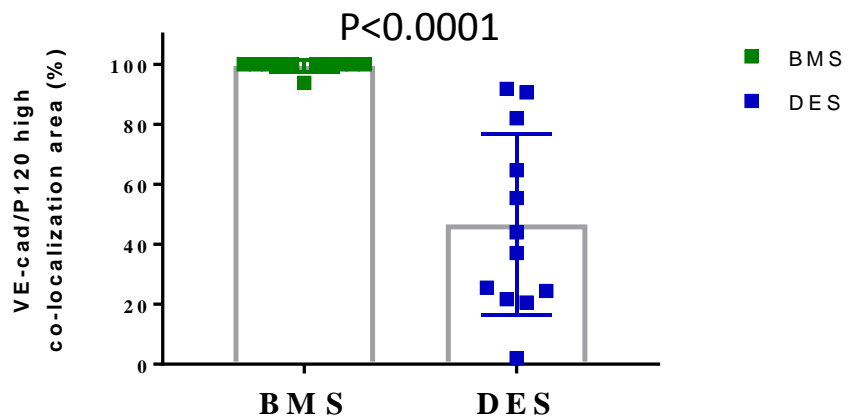
Cobble-stone  
shape



60-day rabbit  
iliac model

VE-Cad/P120 co-localization

Cell Shape Index

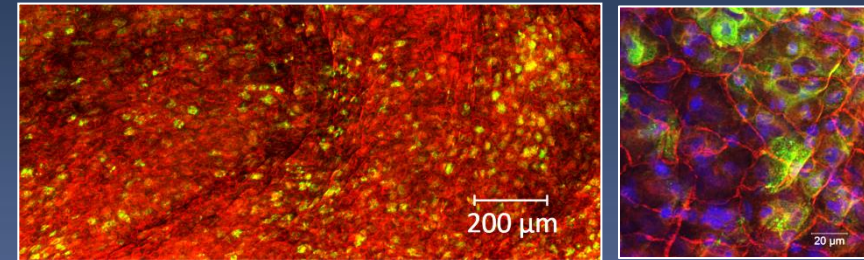
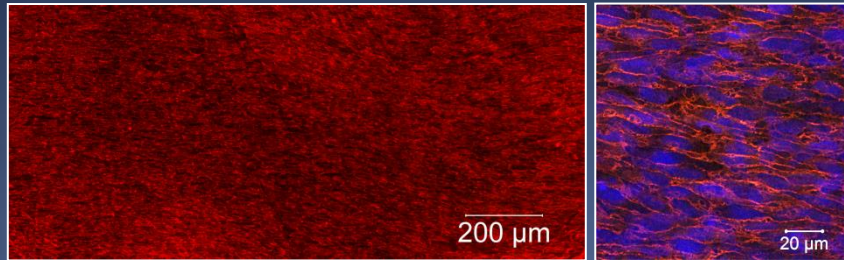
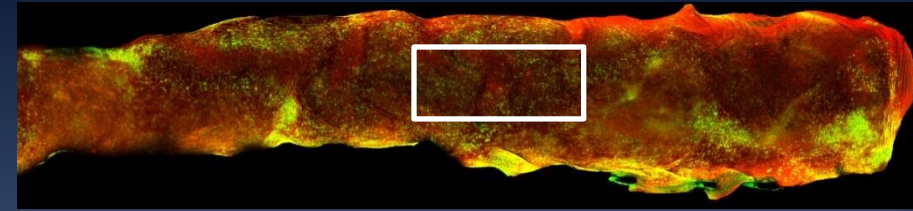
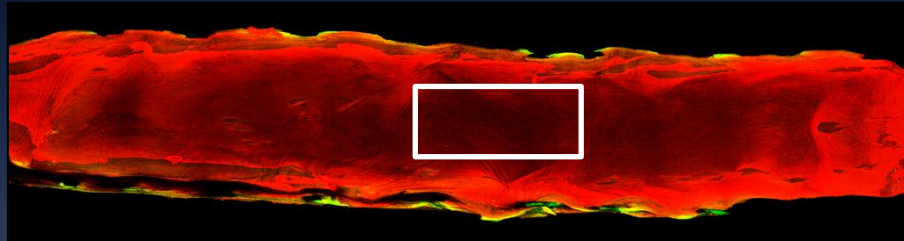


# Accelerated Macrophage infiltration at DES site

## RAM11 (macrophage marker) and VE-cad

BMS

DP-EES

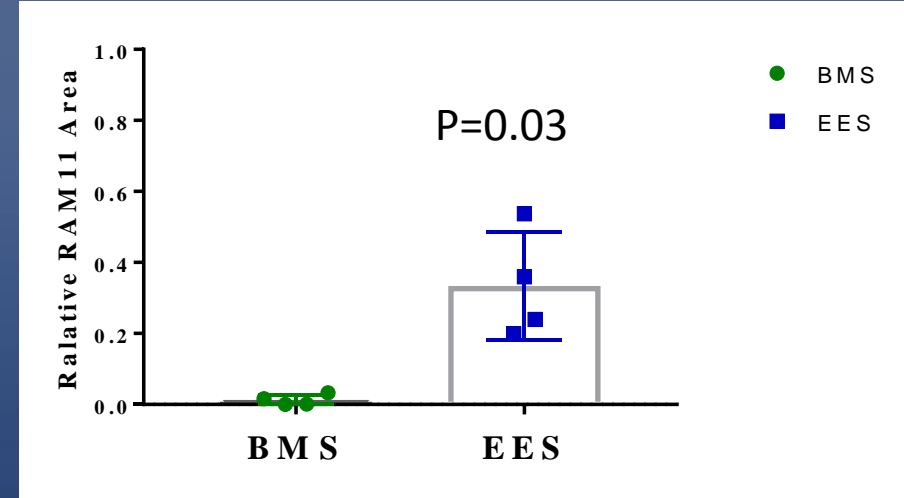
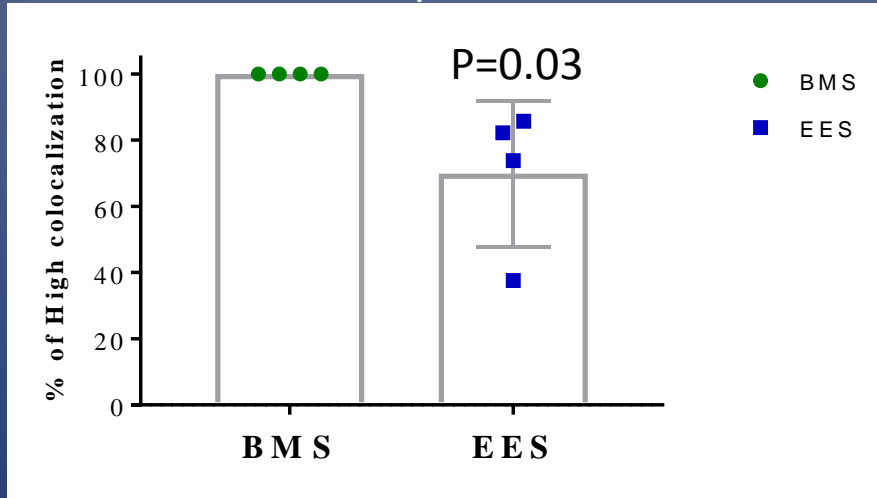


VECAD RAM11 DAPI

130-day atherosclerotic rabbit iliac model

VE-Cad/P120

RAM11 area



# Summary

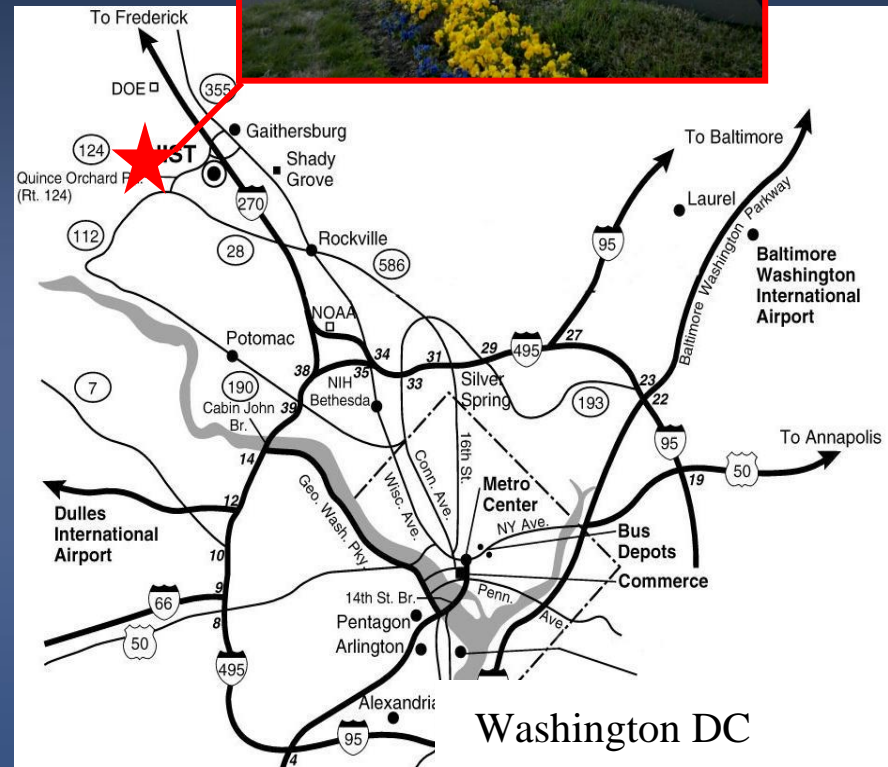
- 1) Neointimal hyperplasia is the cause of restenosis in stented arteries.
- 2) Drugs used on DES mainly inhibit SMC proliferation.
- 3) The efficacy of DES wanes if the distribution of anti-proliferative drug is uneven (e.g. complex lesion, stent fracture, etc...).
- 4) Neoatherosclerosis is one of the crucial mechanisms of late stent failure, develops rapidly and more frequently in 1st- and 2nd-generation DES as compared to BMS.
- 5) The optimal treatment strategy for ISR lesions with underlying neoatherosclerosis remains unstudied.
- 6) Endothelial barrier dysfunction due to rapamycin analogues loaded in DES is one of the main causes of early development of in-stent neoatherosclerosis.
- 7) Further technical innovations are needed to achieve better long term outcome after coronary stenting.



# Acknowledgments

## CVPath Institute

Atsushi Sakamoto, MD  
Hiroyuki Jinnouchi, MD  
Yu Sato, MD  
Anne Cornelissen, MD  
Salome Kuntz, MD  
Liang Guo, PhD  
Robert Kutyz, MS  
Russ Jones  
Abebe Atiso, HT  
Jinky Beyer  
Lila Adams, HT  
Frank D Kolodgie, PhD  
Renu Virmani, MD





# Causes of Very Late (>1 year) Drug-Eluting Stent Thrombosis: Malapposition and Neoatherosclerosis >60%

