



Physiopathologie de l'hypertension portale

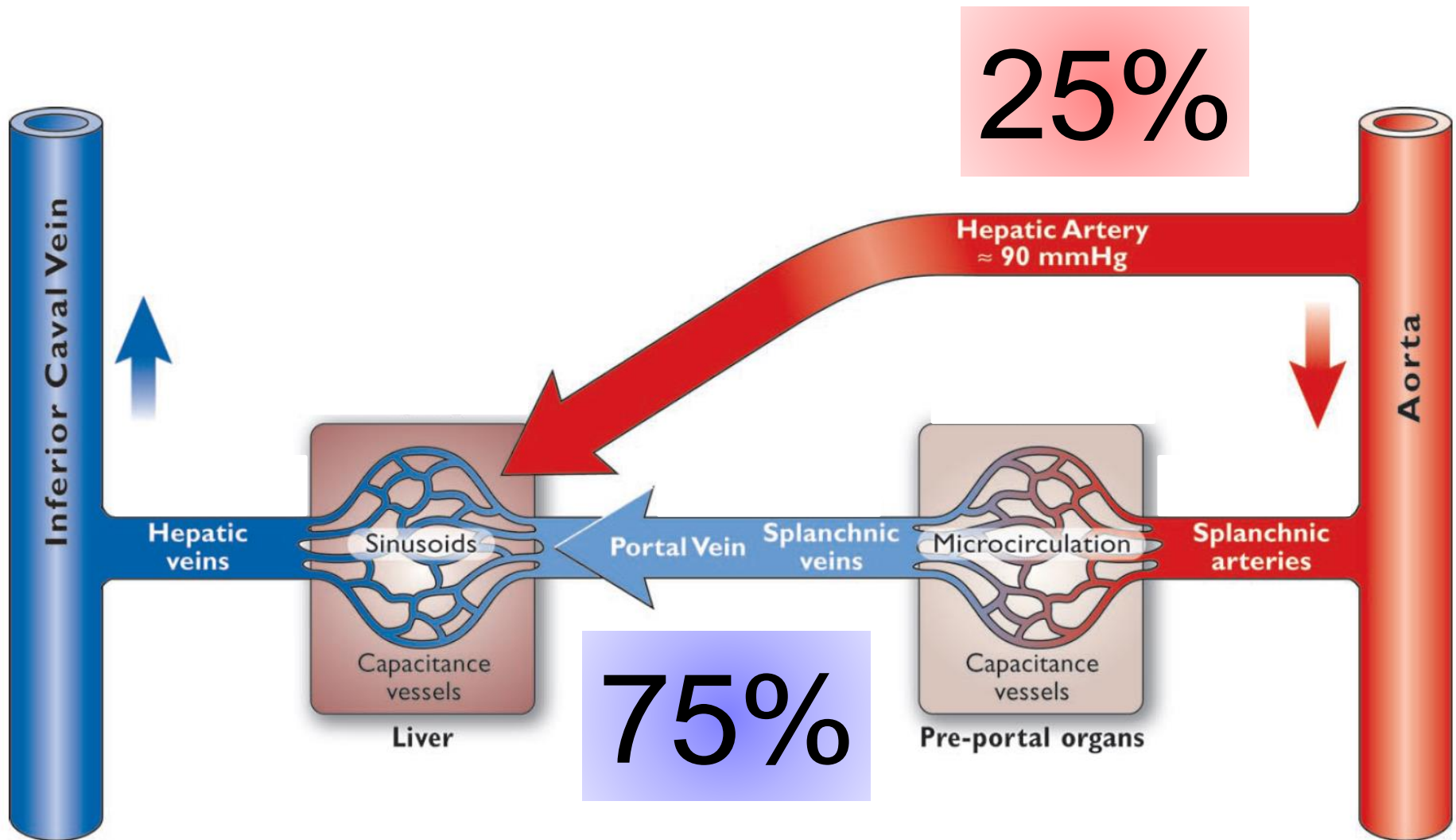
Pierre-Emmanuel RAUTOU

Inserm U1149, Centre de recherche sur l'inflammation, Paris
Service d'hépatologie, Hôpital Beaujon, Clichy, France
pierre-emmanuel.rautou@inserm.fr

I- Physiopathologie de l'hypertension portale

Portal hypertension

- What is portal hypertension?
- Pathophysiology of portal hypertension
- Why to assess portal hypertension?
- How to measure portal hypertension?

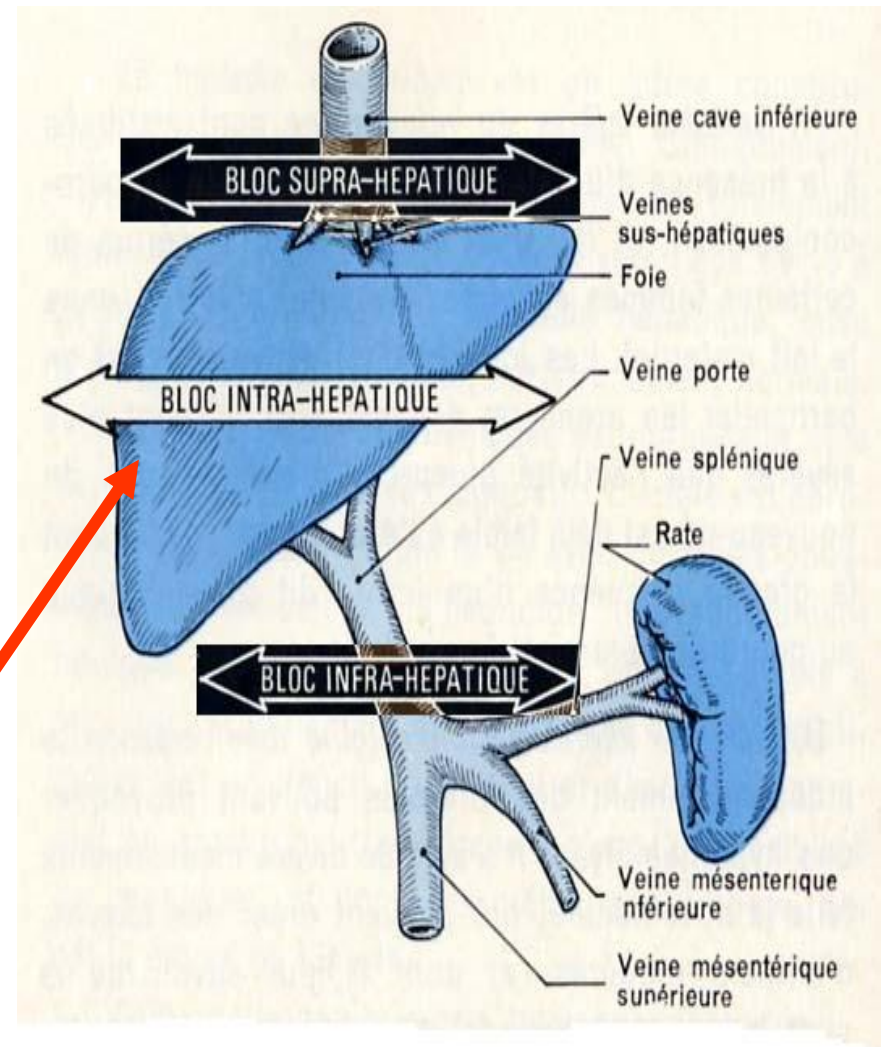


Portal hypertension

- What is portal hypertension?
- Pathophysiology of portal hypertension
- Why to assess portal hypertension?
- How to measure portal hypertension?

Définition, types d'hypertension portale

- HTP : gradient de pression entre pression veine porte et VCI ≥ 5 mmHg
- Bloc intrahépatique, infra- ou suprahépatique
- HTP sinusoidale, présinusoidale et postsinusoidale



Portal hypertension

- What is portal hypertension?
- Pathophysiology of portal hypertension
- Why to assess portal hypertension?
- How to measure portal hypertension?

Pathophysiology of portal hypertension

$$\Delta \text{ Portal pressure} = \text{Resistance} \times \text{Blood flow}$$

1) \uparrow intrahepatic
resistance

2) \uparrow portal blood
flow

Hemodynamic consequences of cirrhosis

Ascites

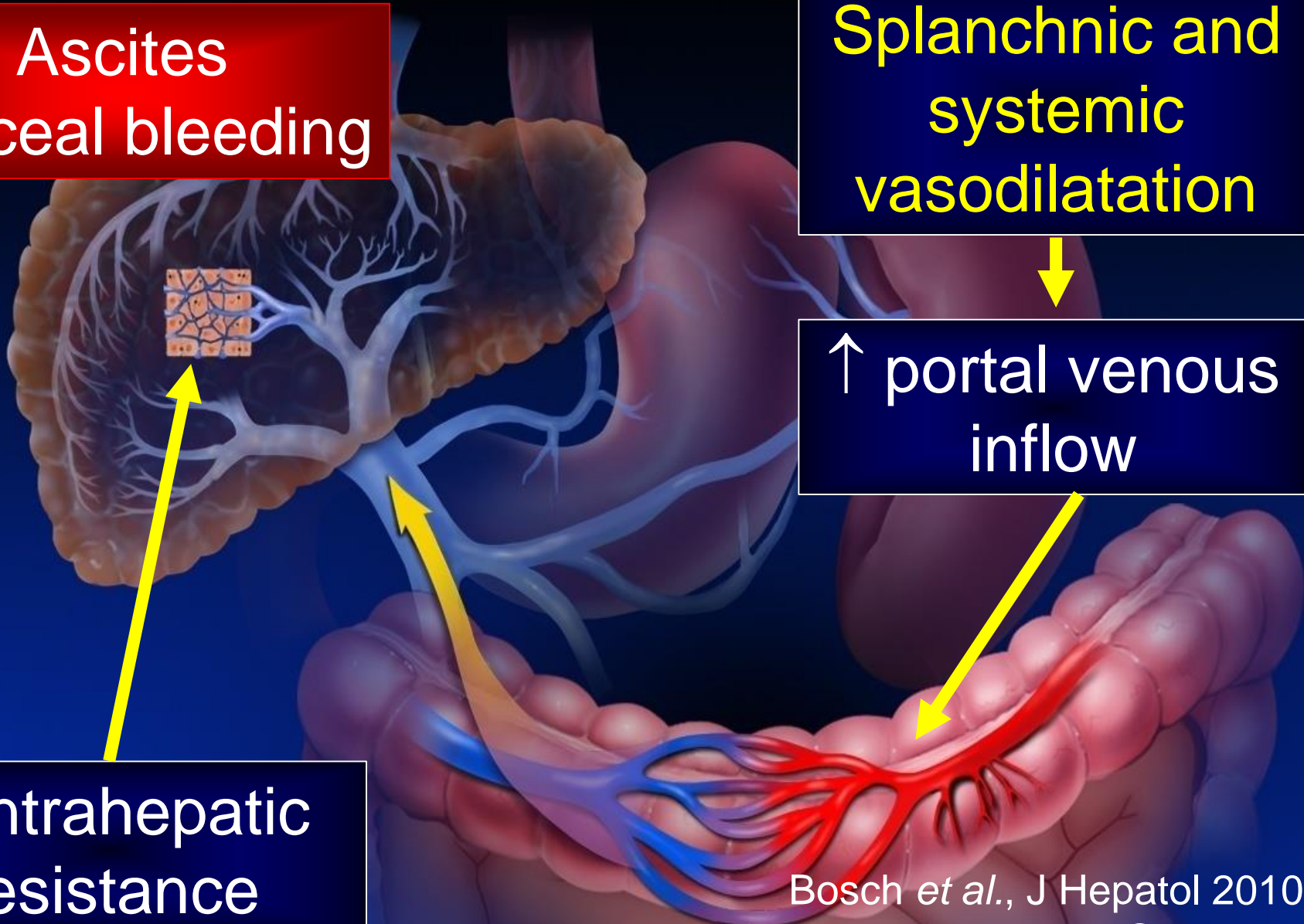
Variceal bleeding

Splanchnic and systemic vasodilatation

↑ portal venous inflow

↑ Intrahepatic resistance

Bosch *et al.*, J Hepatol 2010
Hennenberg *et al.*, Gut 2008



Pathophysiology of portal hypertension

$$\Delta \text{ Portal pressure} = \text{Resistance} \times \text{Blood flow}$$

1) \uparrow intrahepatic
resistance

2) \uparrow portal blood
flow

↑ Intrahepatic resistance

Structural factors:

- fibrosis
- regenerative nodule formation
- vascular remodeling
- vascular occlusion

Dynamic component = ↑ hepatic vascular tone:

- ↓ bioavailability of intrahepatic vasodilators (NO)
- ↑ activity of endogenous vasoconstrictors

↑ Intrahepatic resistance

Structural factors:

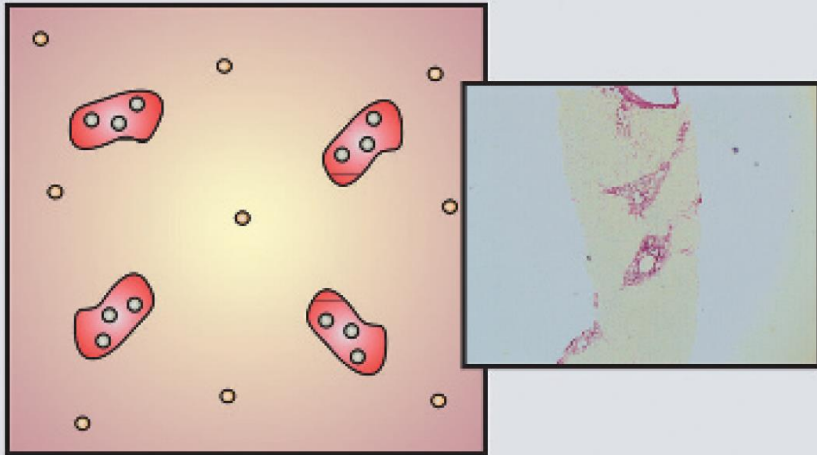
- fibrosis
- regenerative nodule formation
- vascular remodeling
- vascular occlusion

Dynamic component = ↑ hepatic vascular tone:

- ↓ bioavailability of intrahepatic vasodilators (NO)
- ↑ activity of endogenous vasoconstrictors

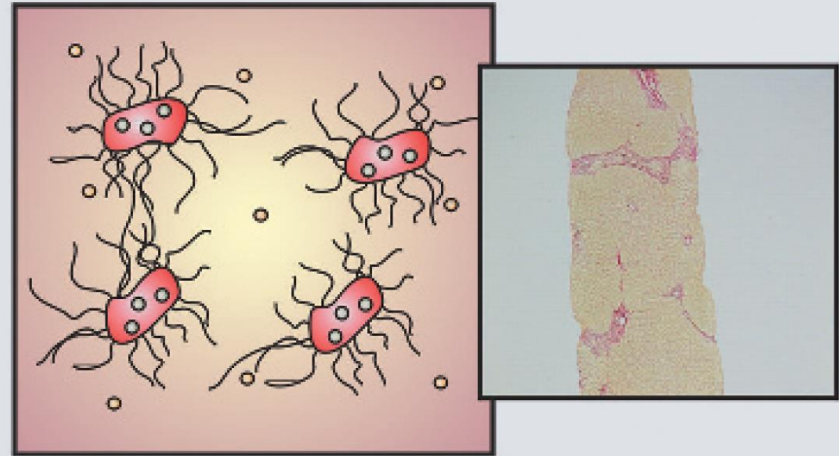
Structural factors: fibrosis and nodules

F1



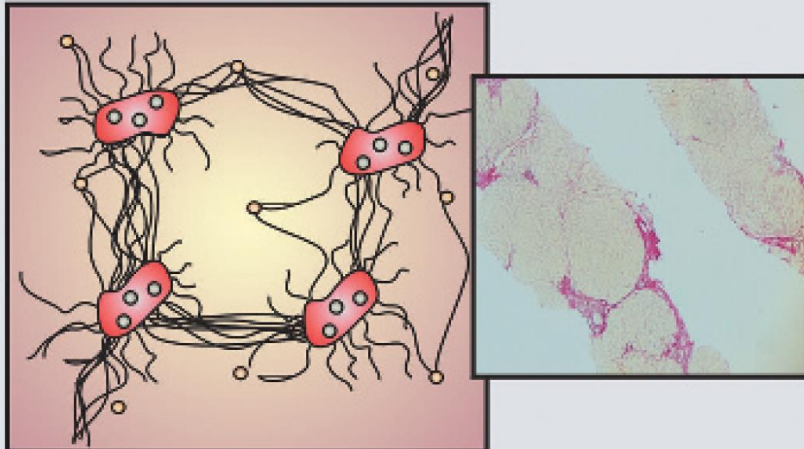
Portal fibrosis

F2



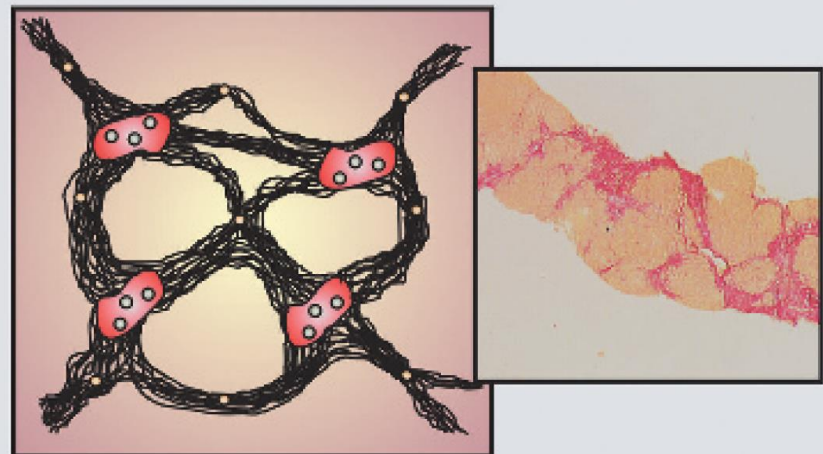
Portal fibrosis with few septa

F3



Septal fibrosis

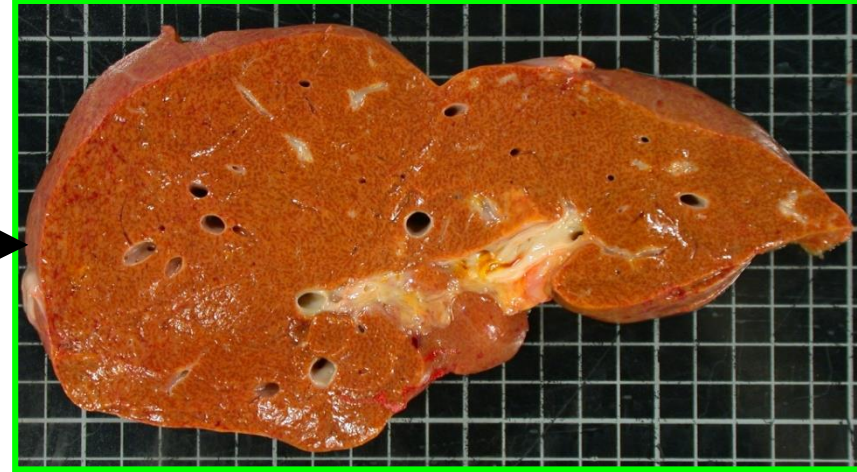
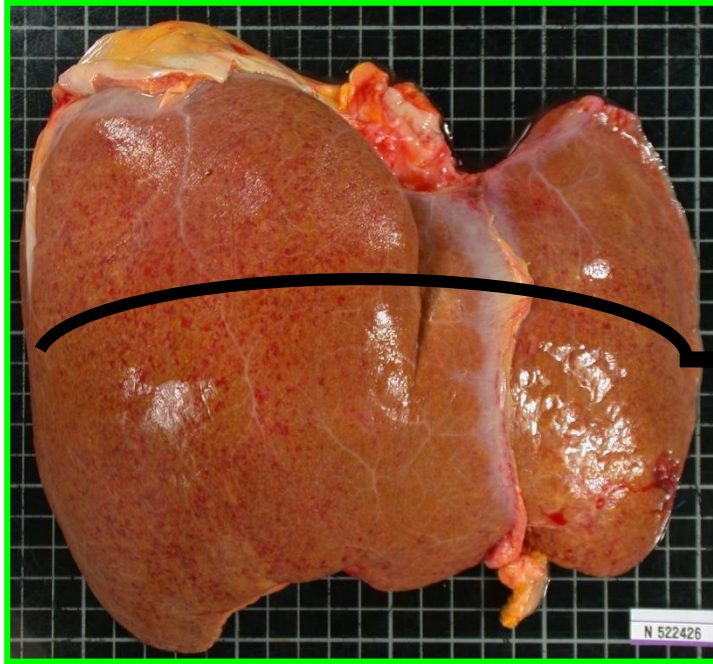
F4



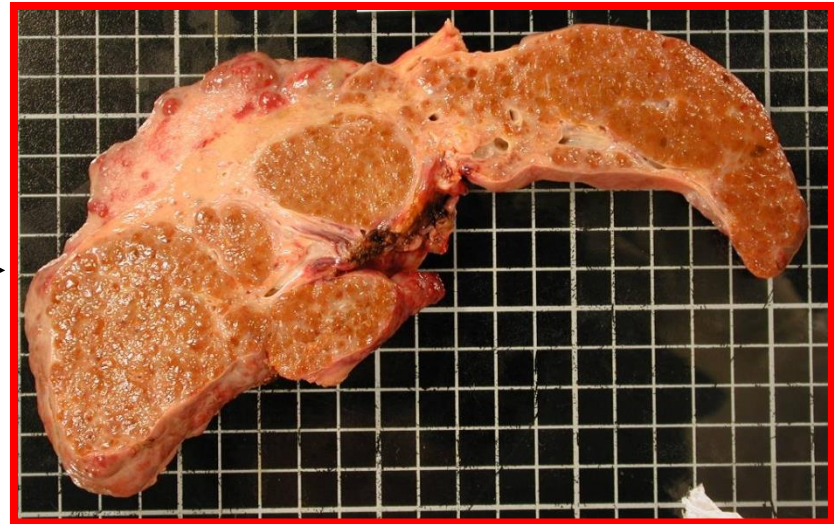
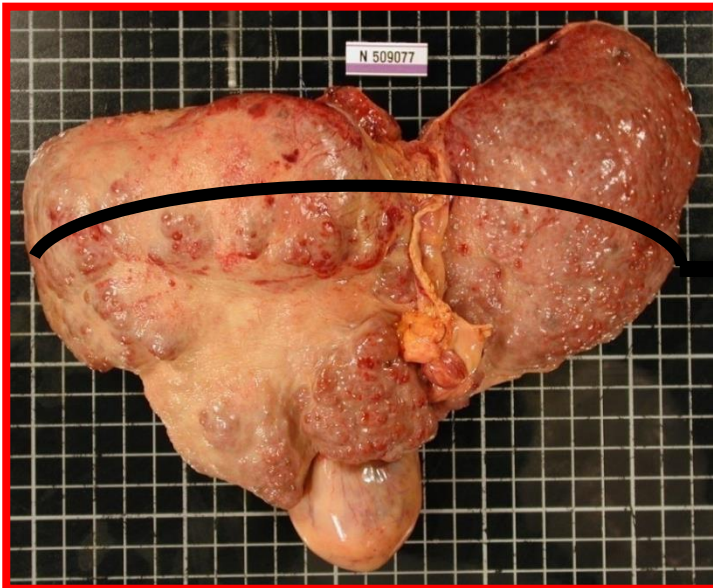
Cirrhosis

Structural factors: fibrosis and nodules

Normal liver



Cirrhotic liver



↑ Intrahepatic resistance

Structural factors:

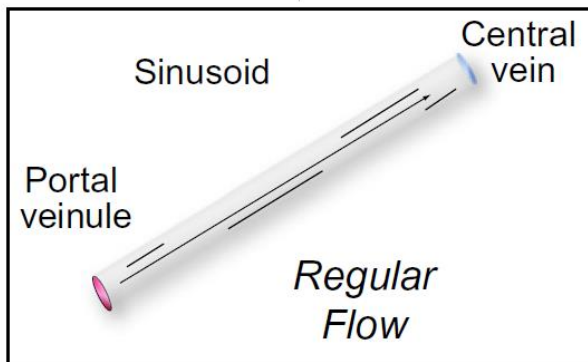
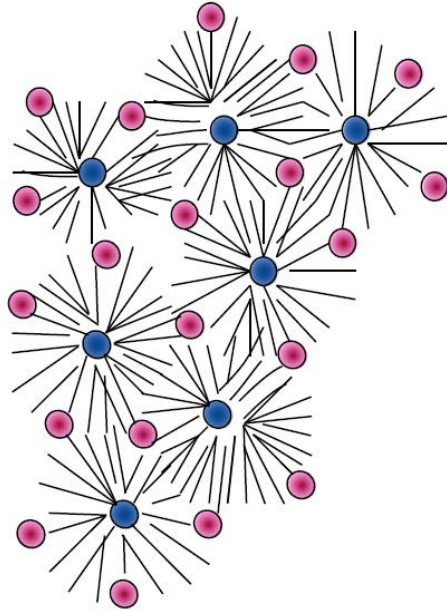
- fibrosis
- regenerative nodule formation
- **vascular remodeling**
- vascular occlusion

Dynamic component = ↑ hepatic vascular tone:

- ↓ bioavailability of intrahepatic vasodilators (NO)
- ↑ activity of endogenous vasoconstrictors

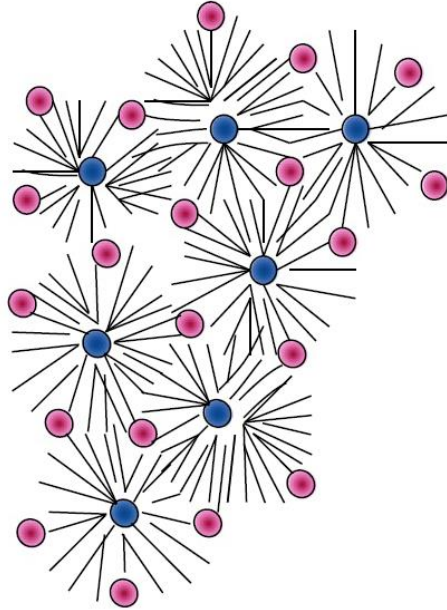
Structural factors: vascular remodeling

NORMAL LIVER

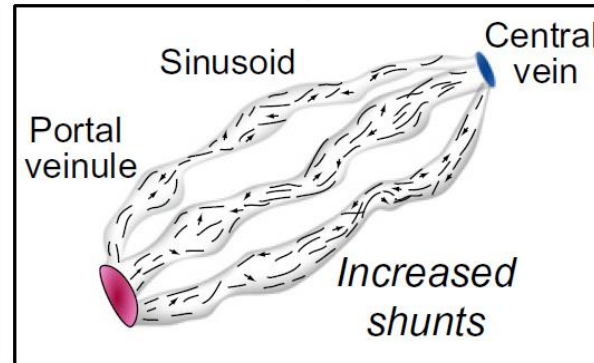
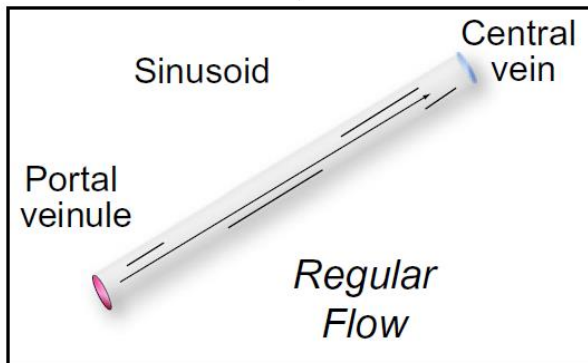
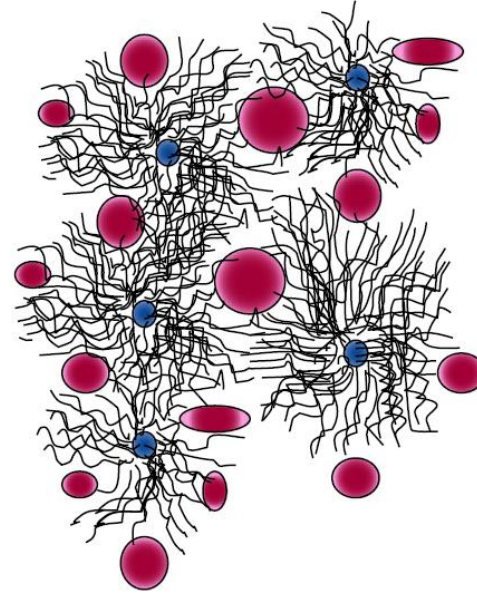


Structural factors: vascular remodeling

NORMAL LIVER

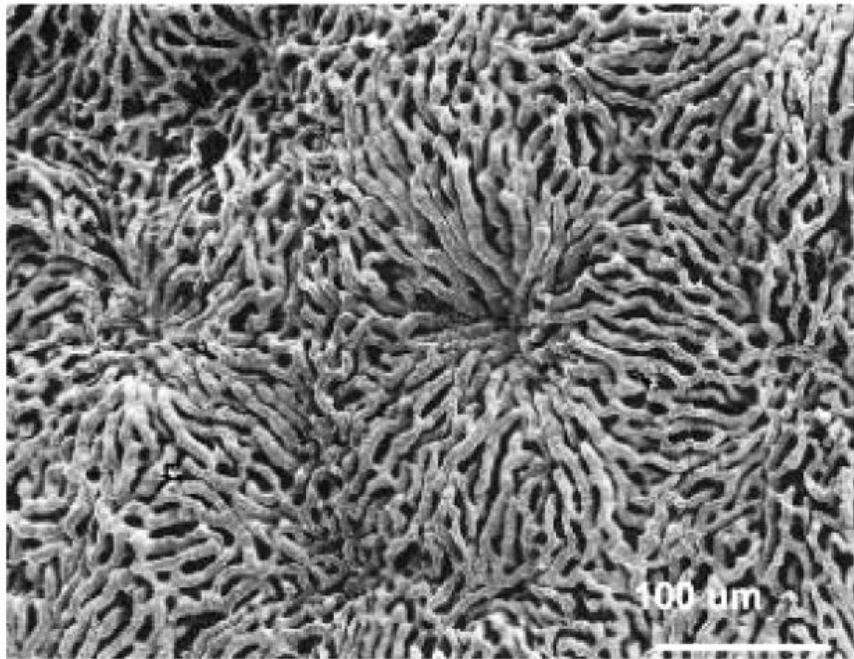


CIRRHOTIC LIVER

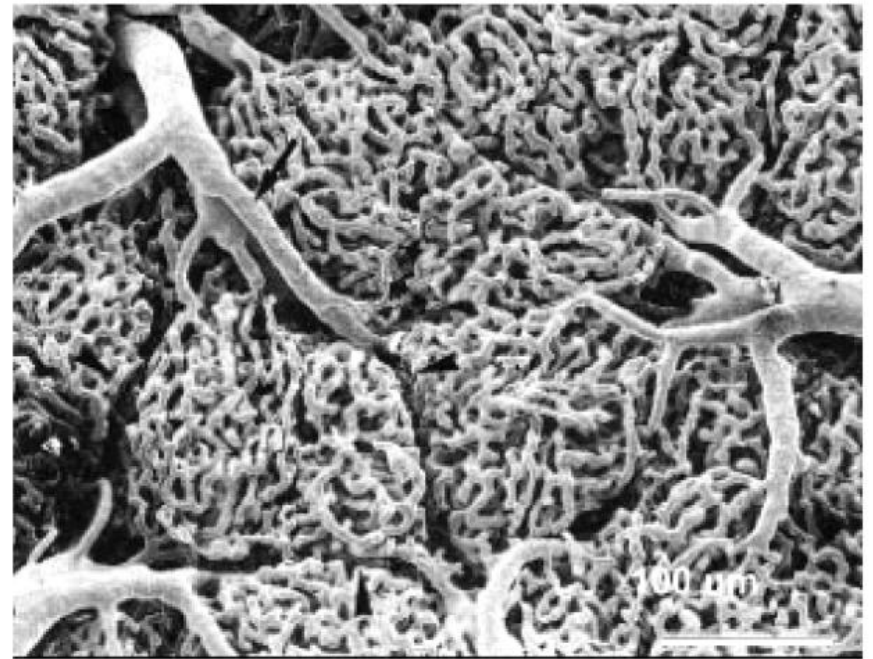


Structural factors: vascular remodeling

Normal liver



Cirrhotic liver



↑ Intrahepatic resistance

Structural factors:

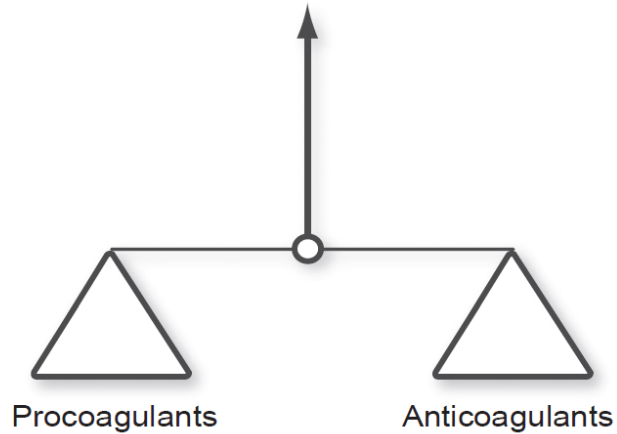
- fibrosis
- regenerative nodule formation
- vascular remodeling
- **vascular occlusion**

Dynamic component = ↑ hepatic vascular tone:

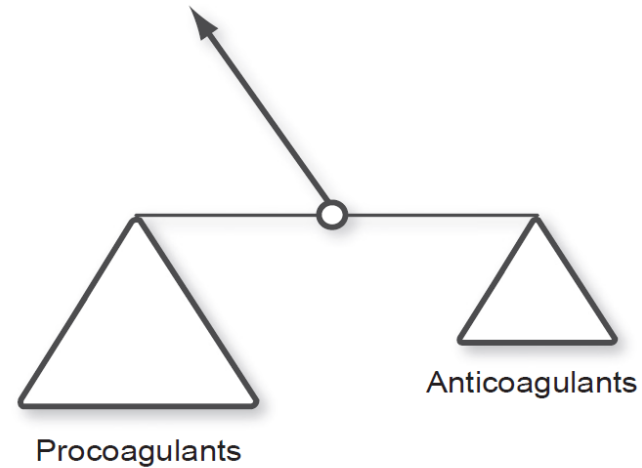
- ↓ bioavailability of intrahepatic vasodilators (NO)
- ↑ activity of endogenous vasoconstrictors

Procoagulant imbalance in cirrhosis

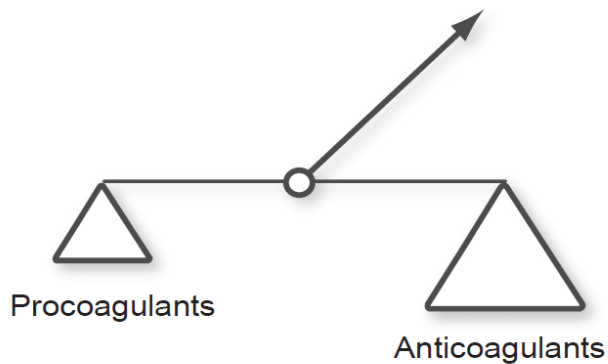
Normal situation – hemostatic balance



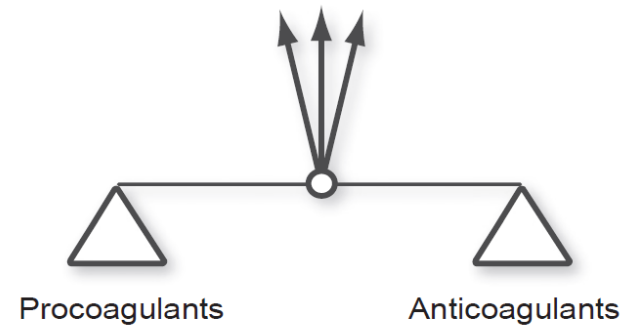
Thrombophilia – hypercoagulability



Hemophilia - hypocoagulability



Liver disease – hemostatic rebalance

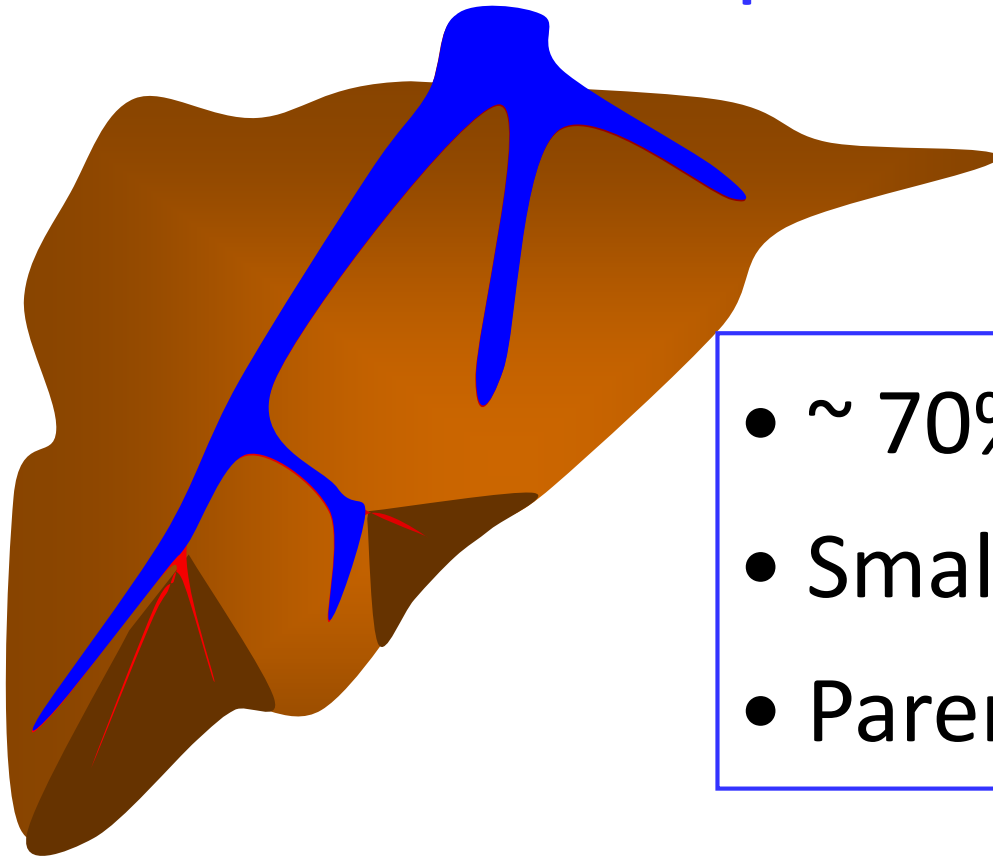


Procoagulant imbalance in cirrhosis

- Portal vein thrombosis: 8-25% in candidates for LT
- Relative risk of DVT/PE: 1.5

Vascular occlusions

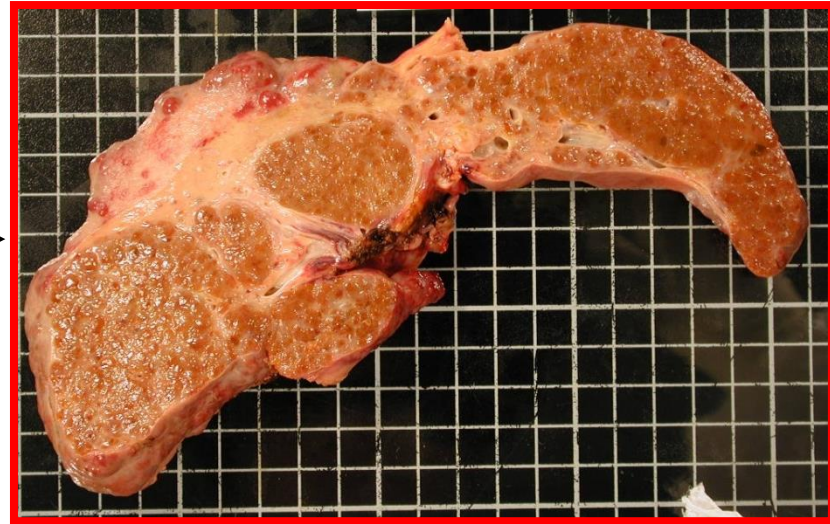
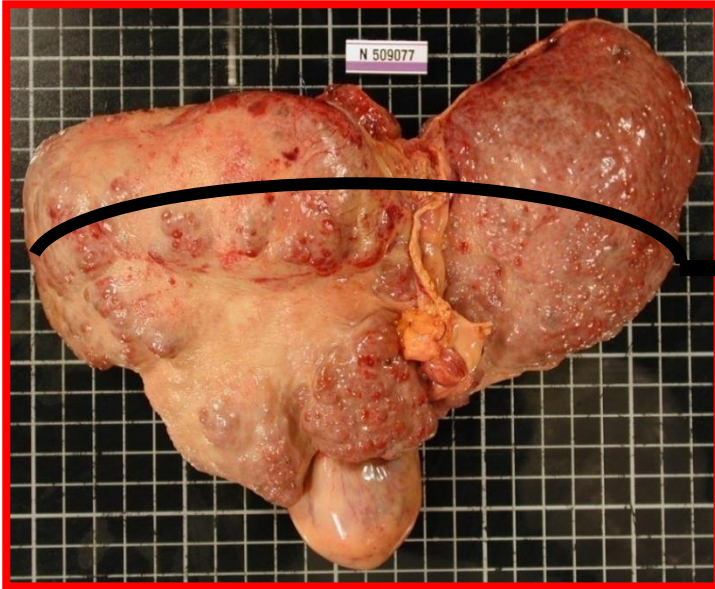
Hepatic vein thromboses



- ~ 70% of veins involved
- Smallest first
- Parenchymal extinction

Vascular occlusions

Cirrhotic liver

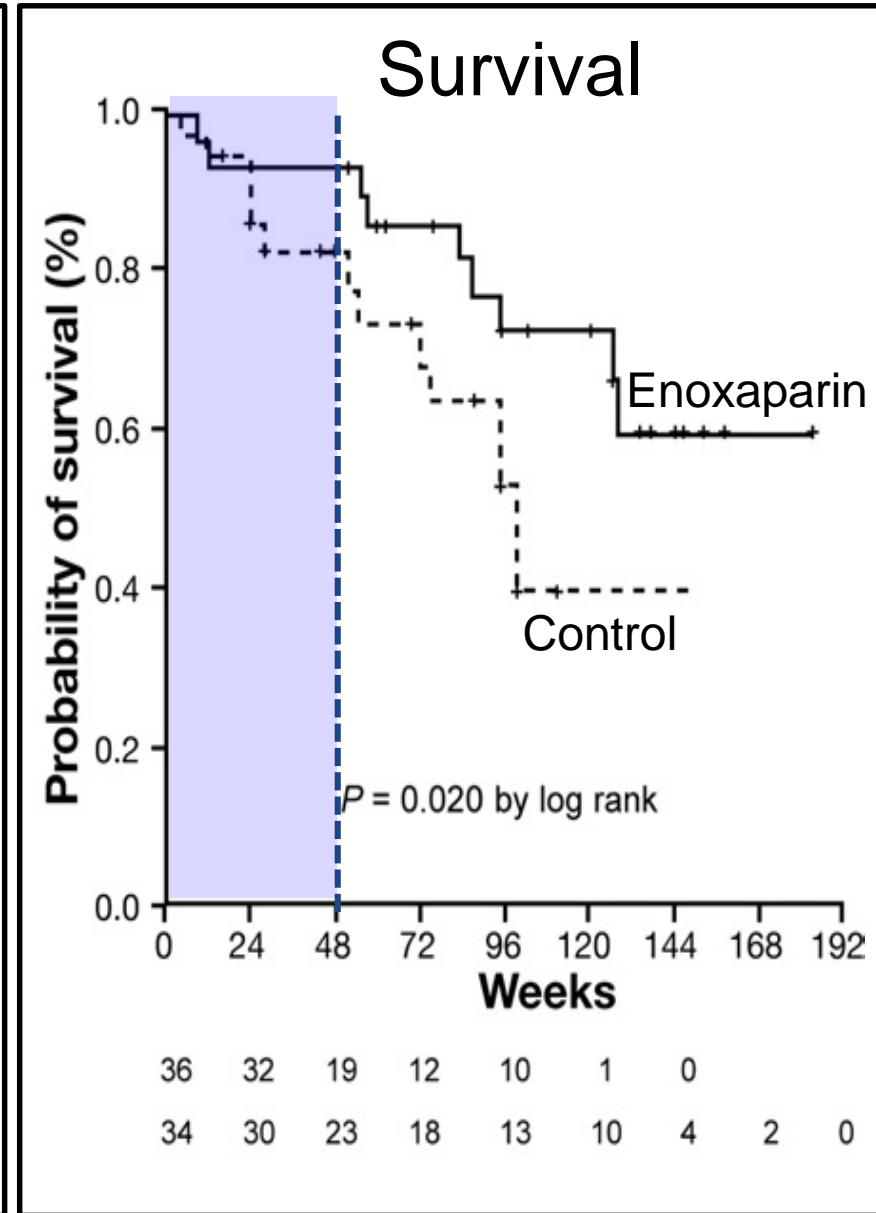
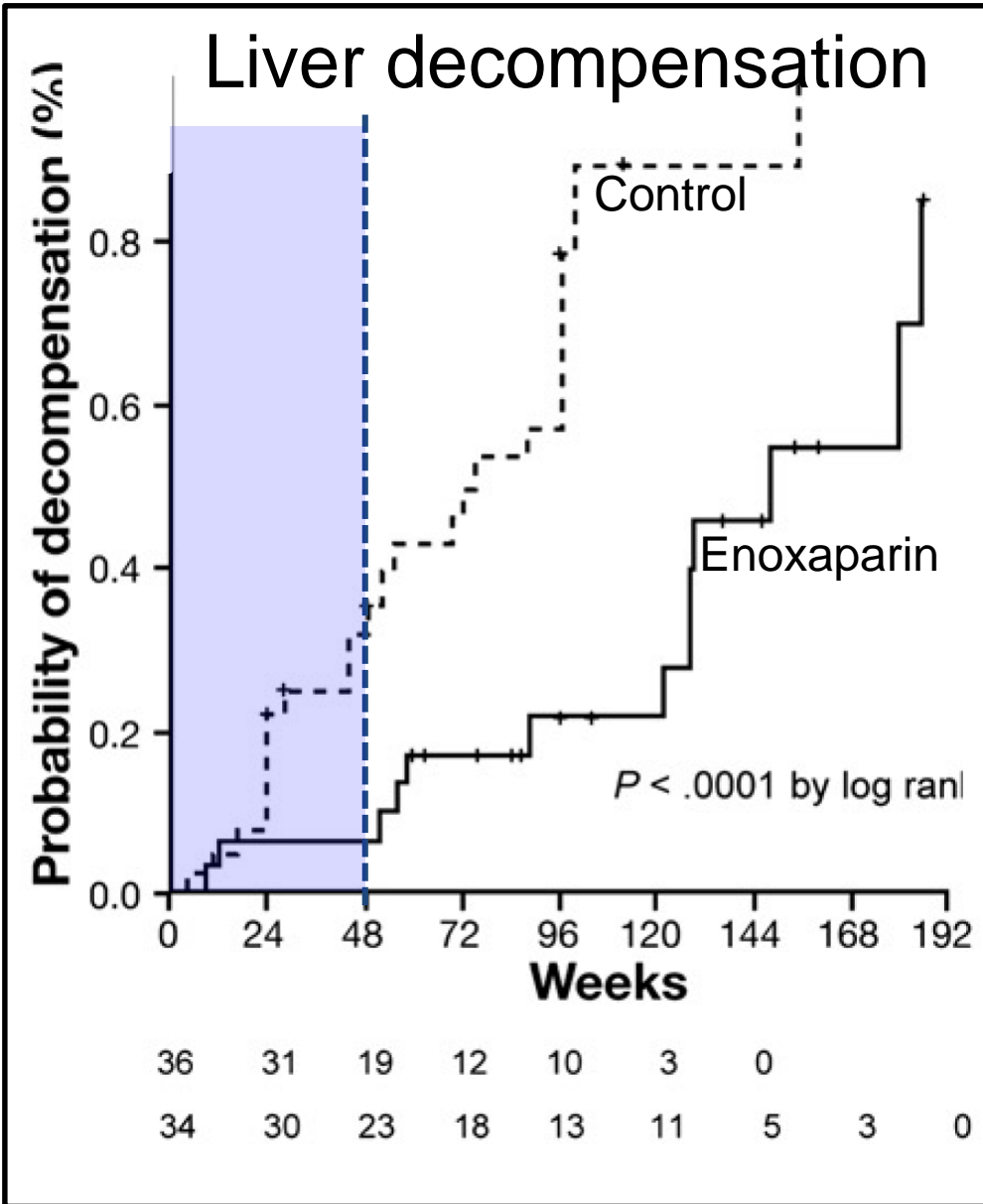


Intrahepatic vascular occlusions in cirrhosis

PVT Prophylaxis – Cirrhosis (CTP B7-C10)

	<u>Control</u>	<u>Enoxaparin</u>
N. of patients	36	34
Partial PVT	3	0
Complete PVT	3	0

Intrahepatic vascular occlusions in cirrhosis



↑ Intrahepatic resistance

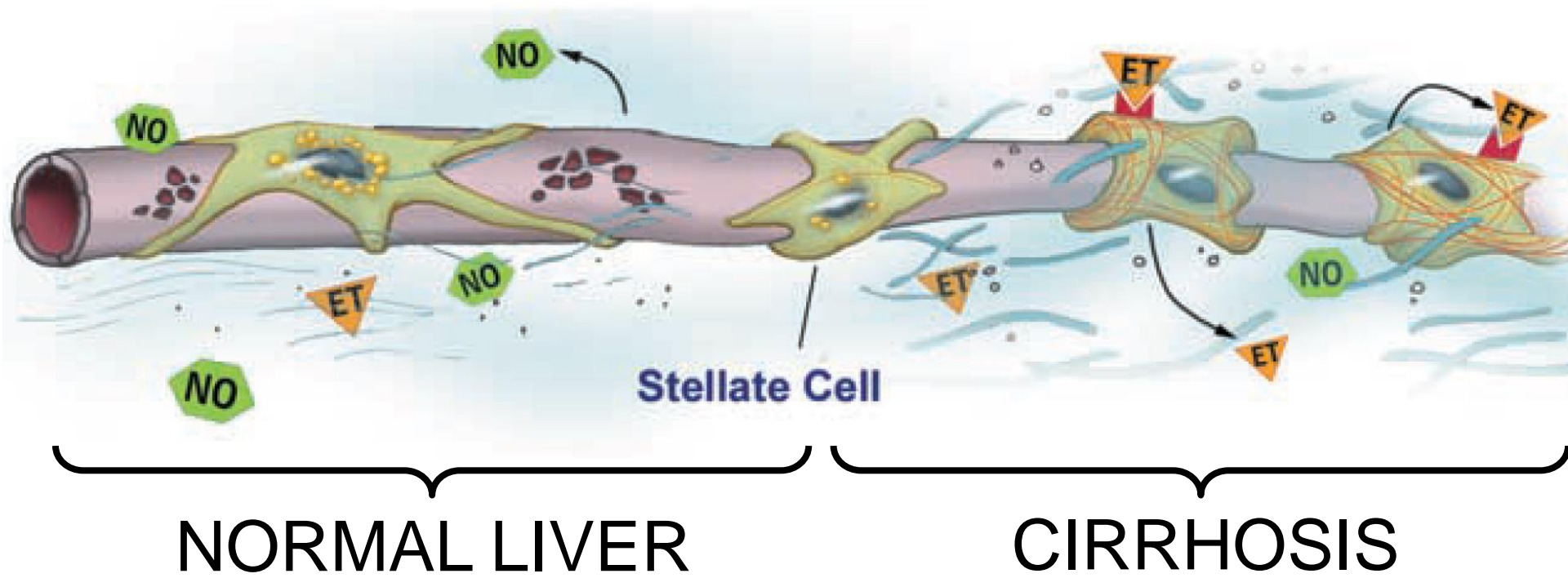
Structural factors:

- fibrosis
- regenerative nodule formation
- vascular remodeling
- vascular occlusion

Dynamic component = ↑ hepatic vascular tone:

- ↓ bioavailability of intrahepatic vasodilators (NO)
- ↑ activity of endogenous vasoconstrictors

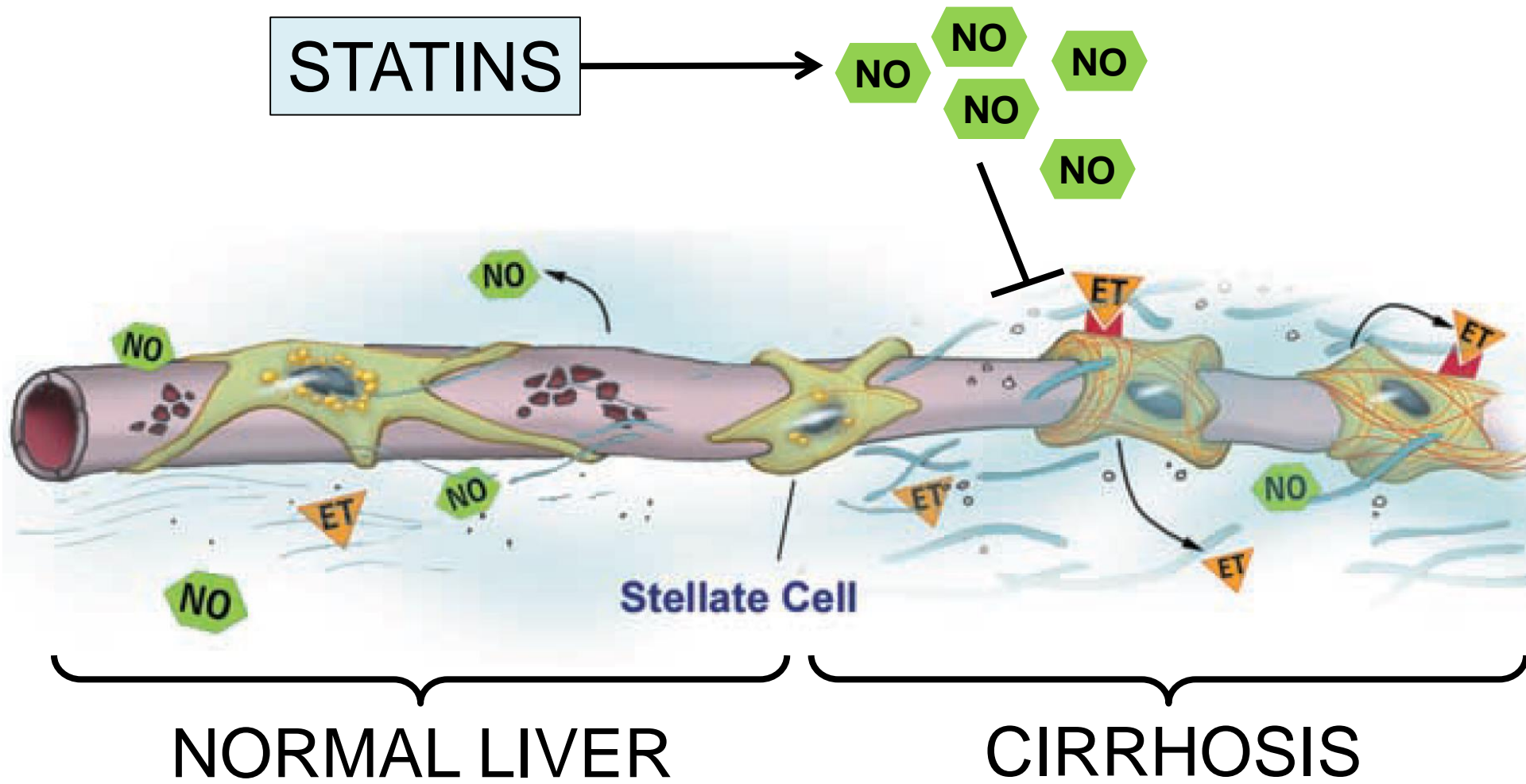
↑ hepatic vascular tone in cirrhosis



ET: endothelin
NO: nitric oxide

Rockey, Hepatology 2008
Garcia-Pagan, J Hepatol 2012

↑ hepatic vascular tone in cirrhosis



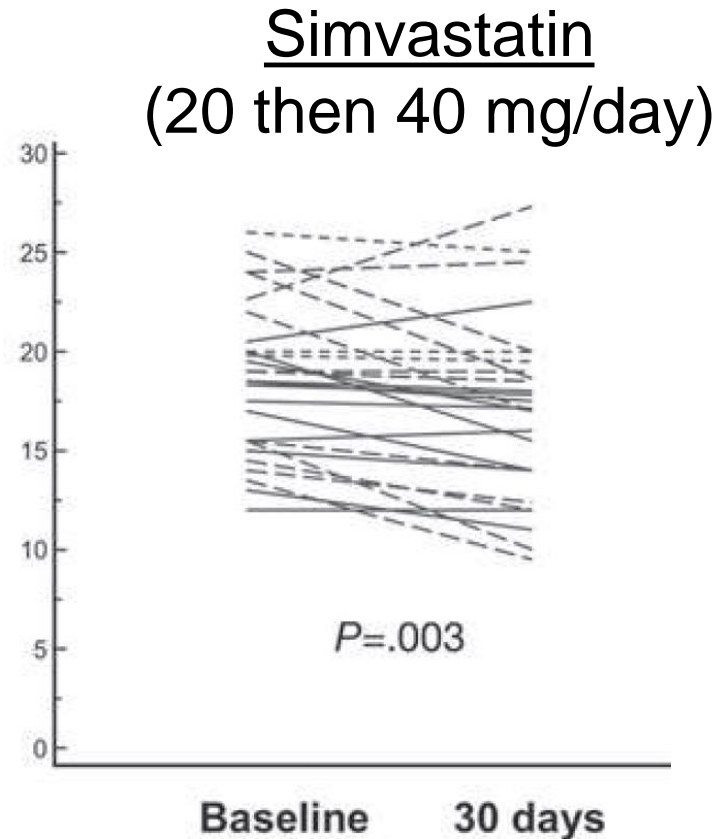
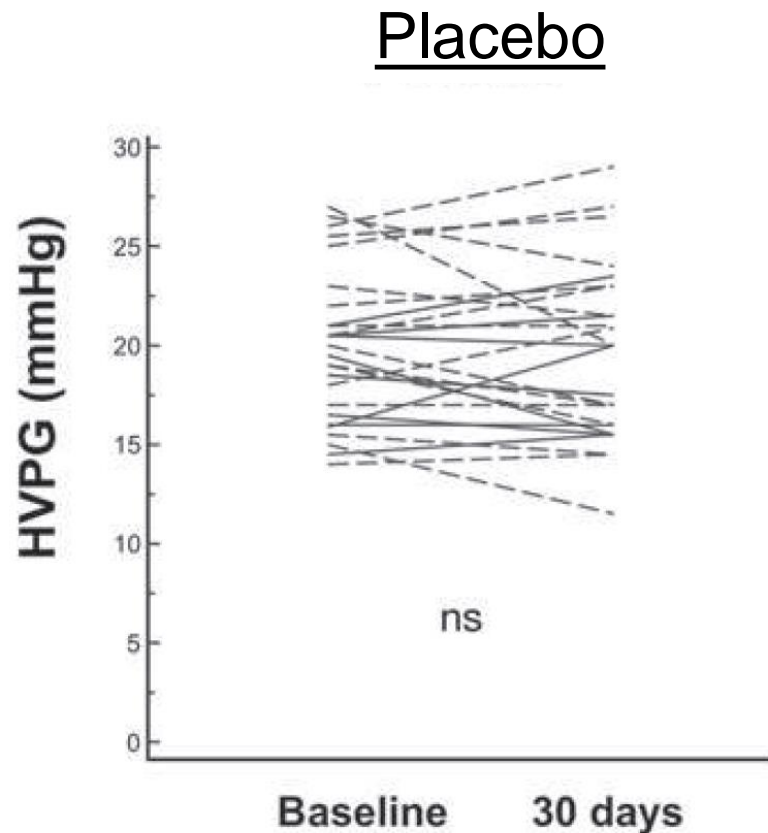
ET: endothelin
NO: nitric oxide

Trebicka, Hepatology 2007
Marrone, J Hepatol 2013

Rockey, Hepatology 2008
Garcia-Pagan, J Hepatol 2012

Simvastatin to target hepatic vascular resistance

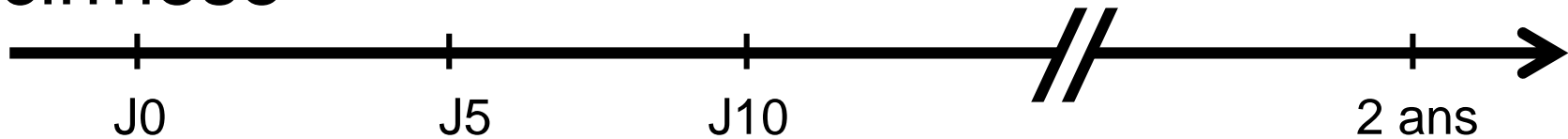
Double-blind randomized trial, 59 patients



Simvastatin to target hepatic vascular resistance

14 centres espagnols
Oct 2010 à Oct 2013

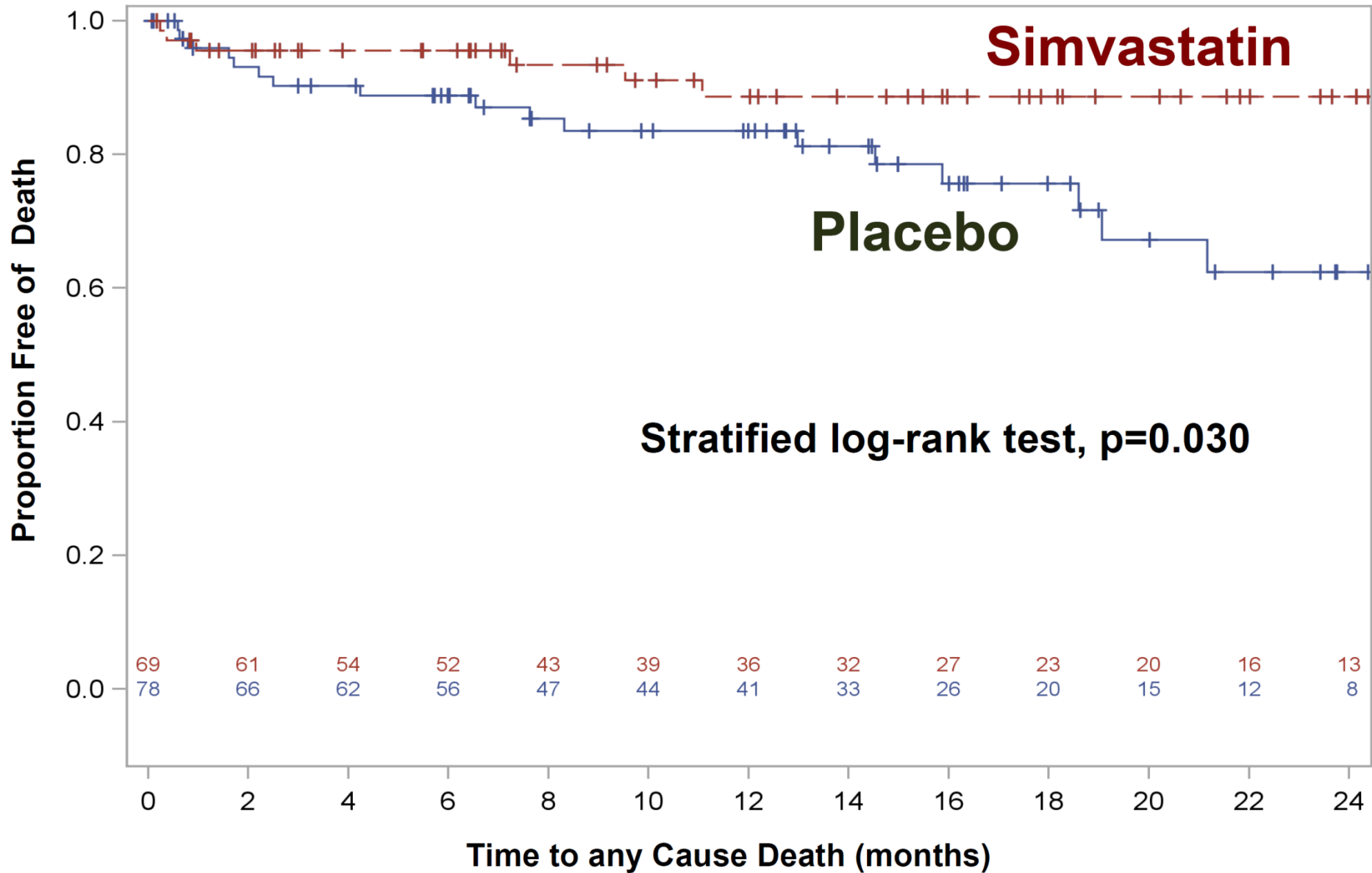
RVO sur
cirrhose



BB + LVO + placebo
N=78

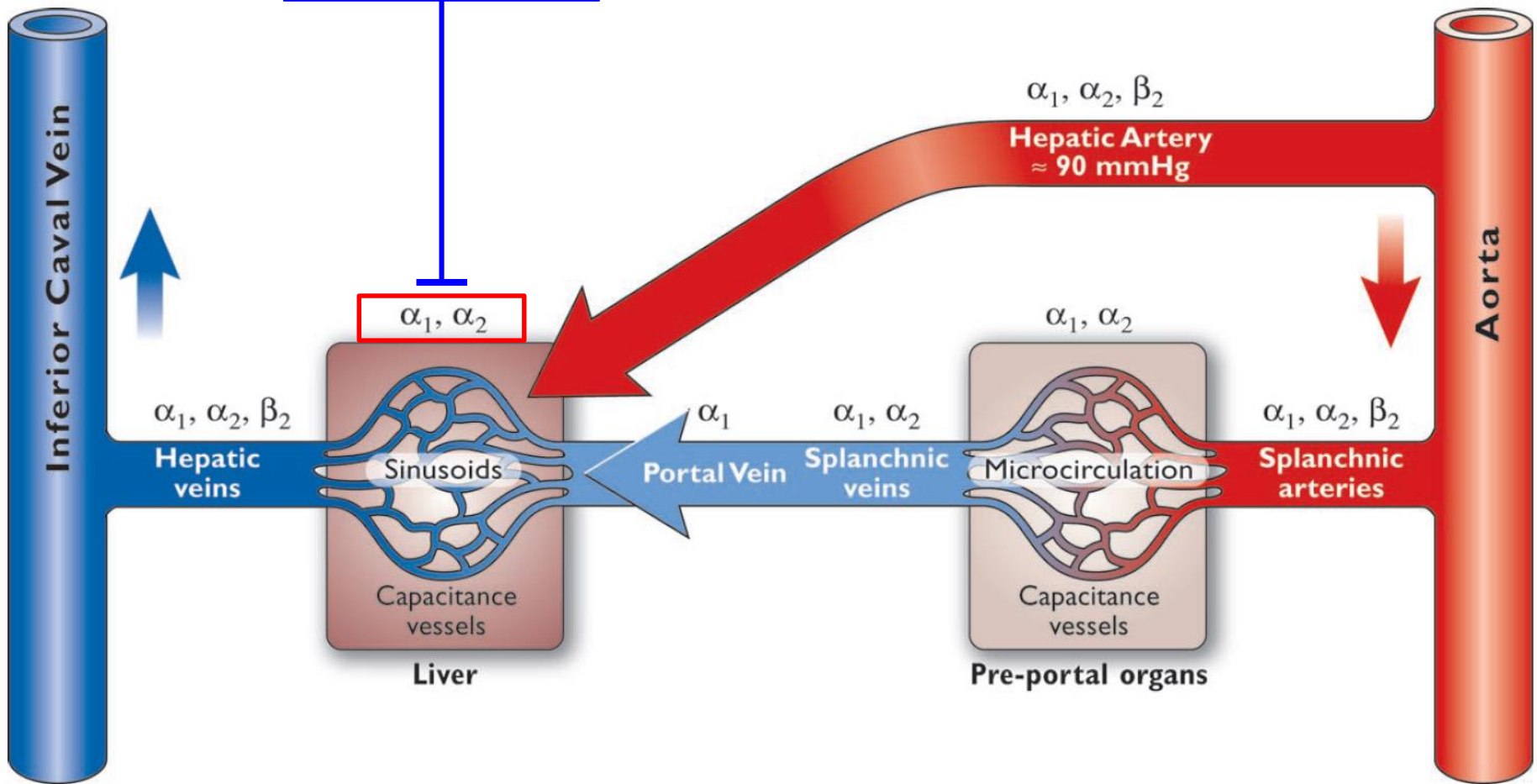
BB + LVO + simvastatine*
N=69

Simvastatin to target hepatic vascular resistance



Cause of death	Placebo (n = 78)	Simvastatin (n = 69)
Overall	17 (21.5)	6 (8.6)
Bleeding	5 (6.4)	1 (1.4)
Spontaneous bacterial peritonitis	3 (3.8)	0 (0)
Other infections	0 (0)	1 (1.4)
Alcoholic hepatitis	0 (0)	1 (1.4)
Progression of liver disease	3 (3.8) ^a	3 (4.3)
Hemoperitoneum	1 (1.3)	0 (0)
Cholangiocarcinoma	1 (1.3)	0 (0)
Lymphoproliferative disease	1 (1.3)	0 (0)
Small-cell lung cancer	1 (1.3)	0 (0)
Cerebral edema post correction of severe hyperglycemia	1 (1.3)	0 (0)
Incarcerated umbilical hernia secondary to tense ascites	1 (1.3)	0 (0)

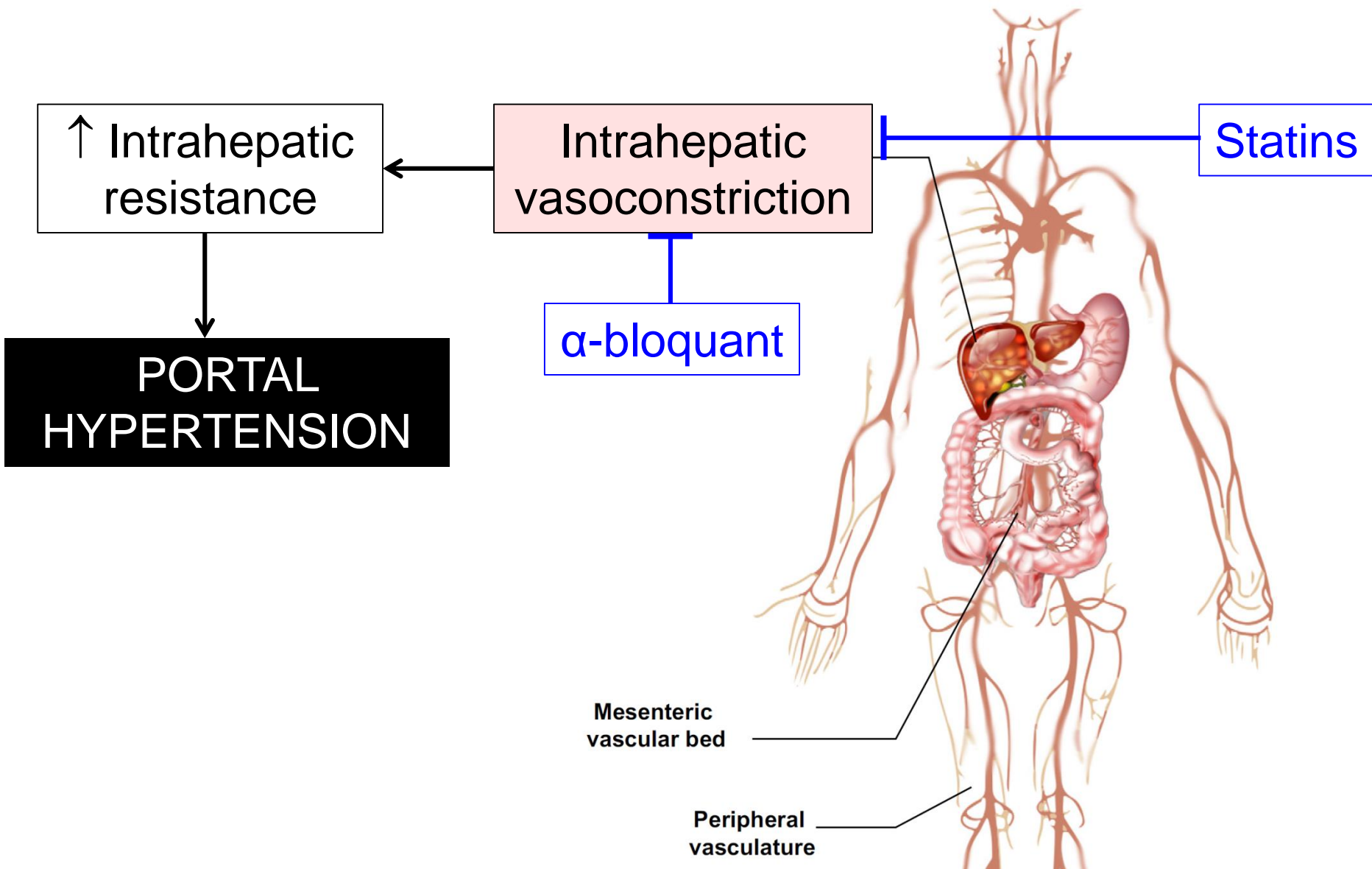
Carvedilol



Reiberger, J Hepatol 2017

Gelman, Anesthesiology. 2004

Vascular tone in cirrhosis



Pathophysiology of portal hypertension

$$\Delta \text{ Portal pressure} = \text{Resistance} \times \text{Blood flow}$$

1) \uparrow intrahepatic
resistance

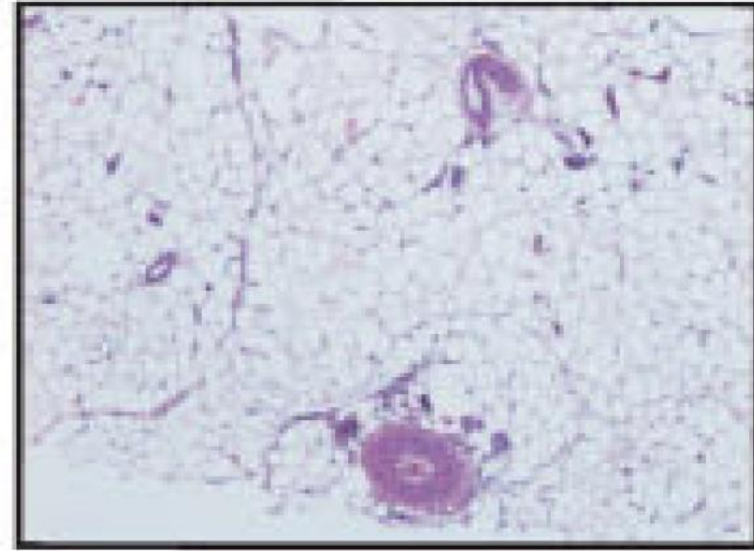
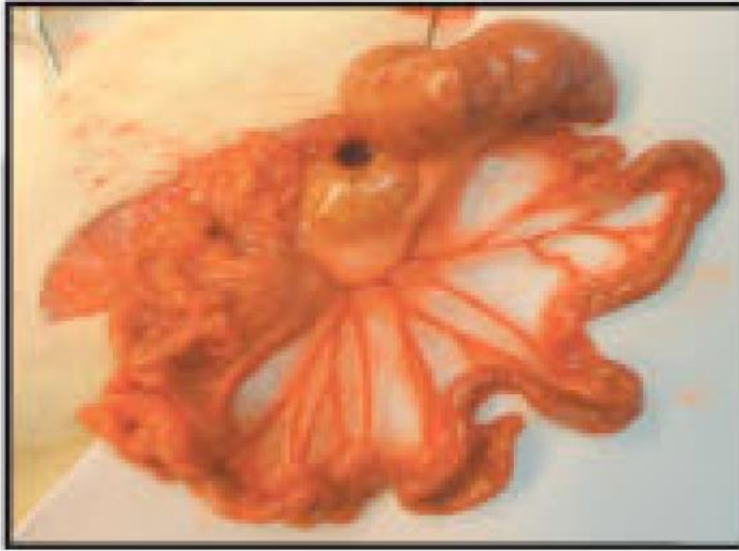
2) \uparrow portal blood
flow

Splanchnic and systemic consequences of portal hypertension

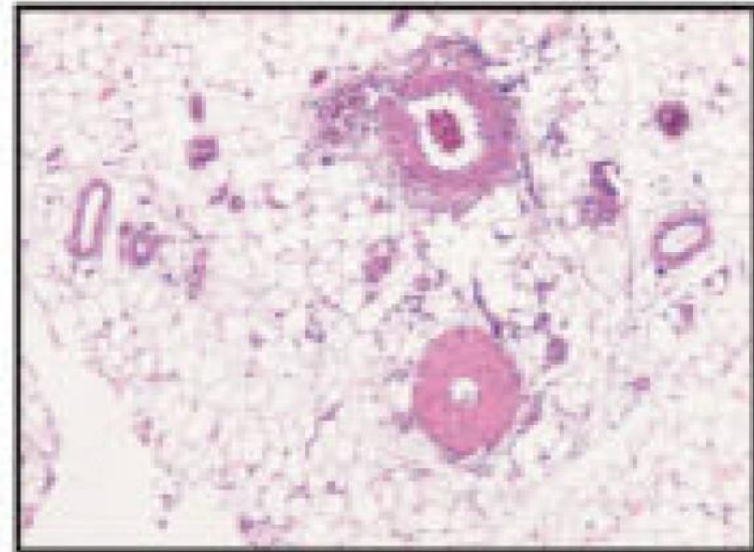
- **Dilation of splanchnic arteries**
- Increased cardiac output and portal blood flow
- Increased plasma volume
- Portosystemic venous collaterals

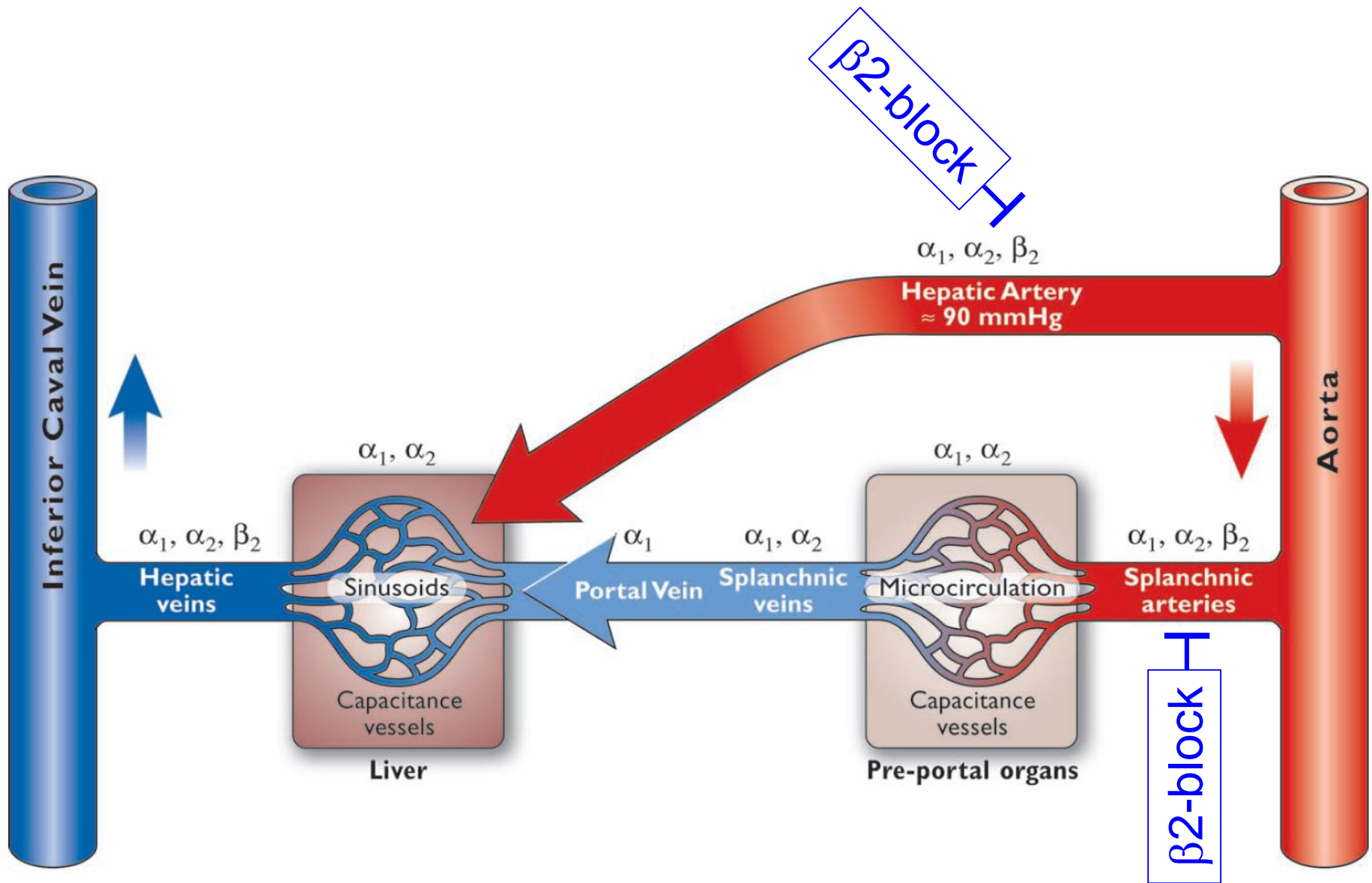
Arterial dilation and angiogenesis

Control
rat



Portal
vein
stenosis
rat

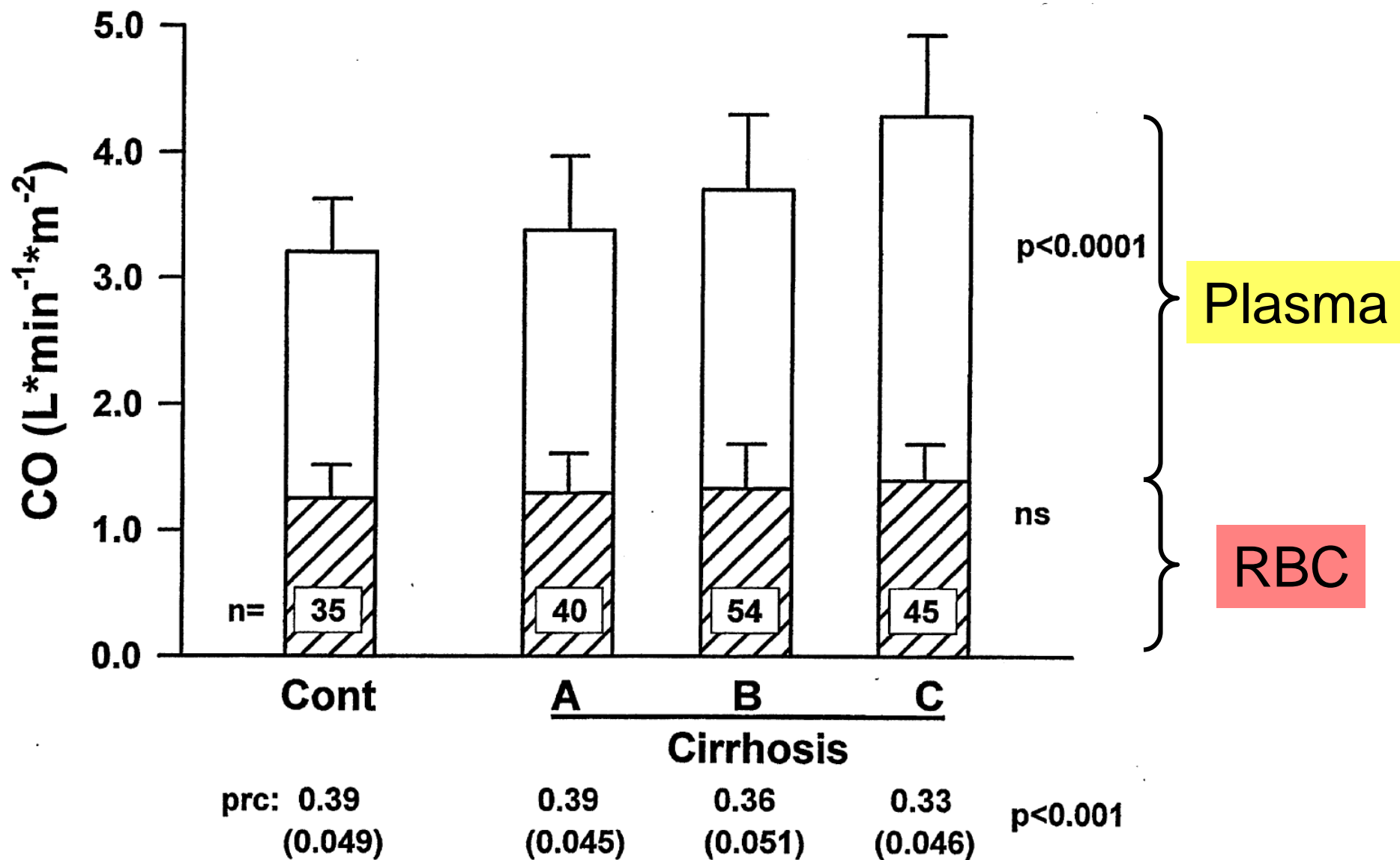




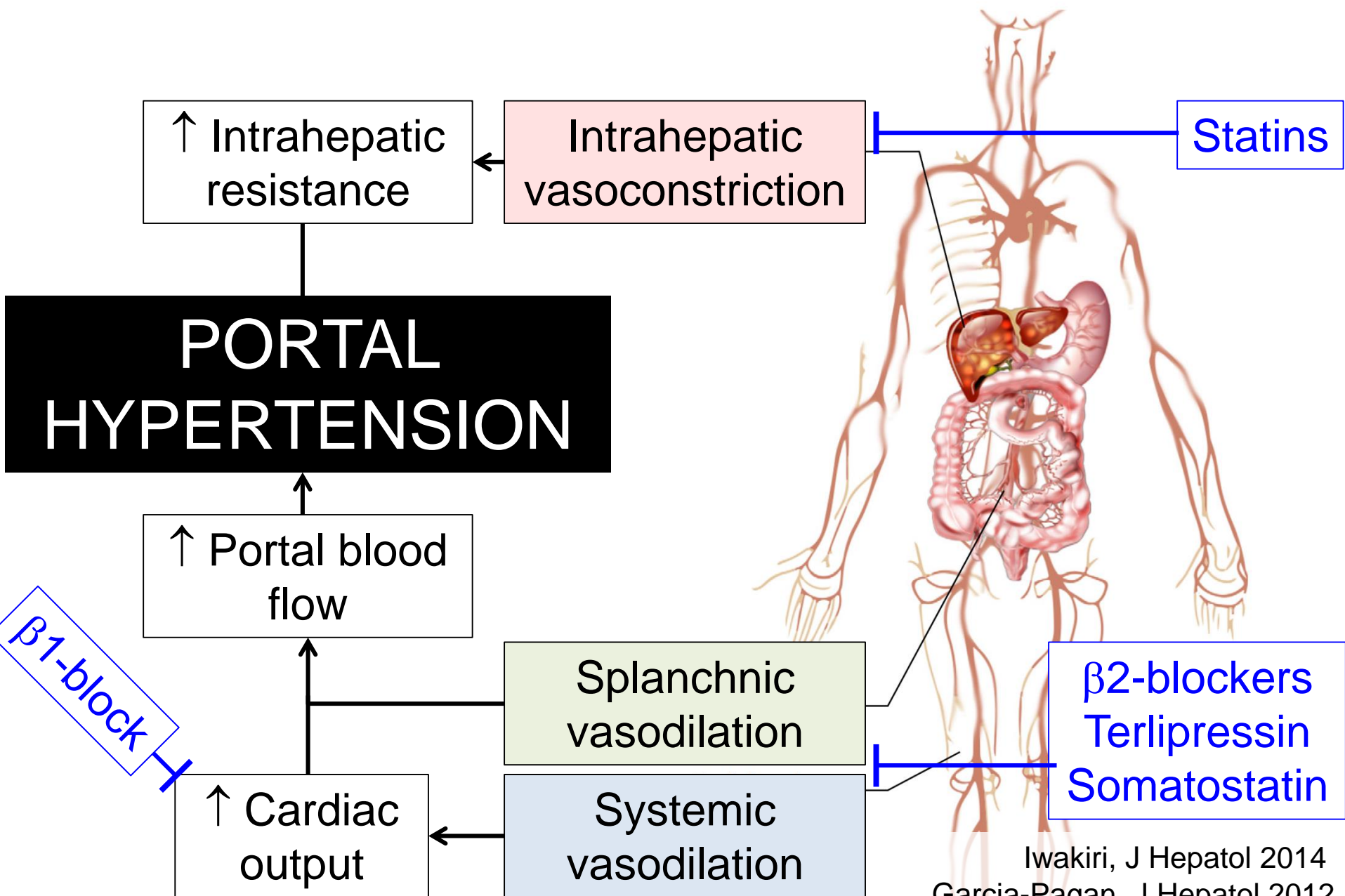
Splanchnic and systemic consequences of portal hypertension

- Dilation of splanchnic arteries
- Increased cardiac output and portal blood flow
- Increased plasma volume
- Portosystemic venous collaterals

Increased cardiac output and plasma volume



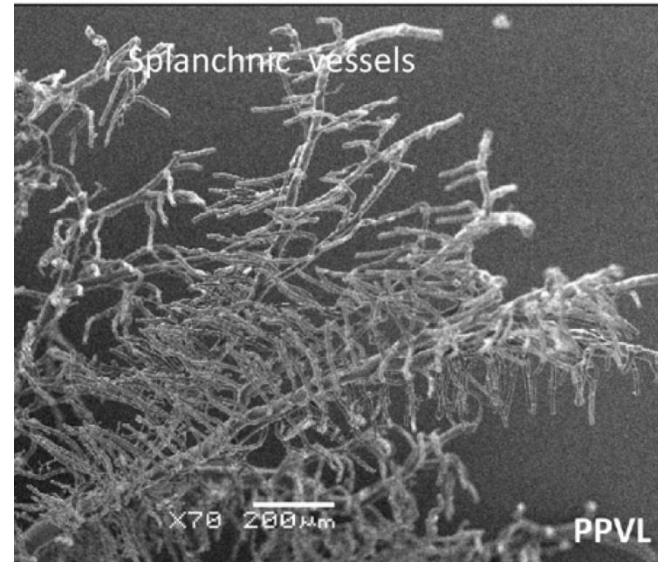
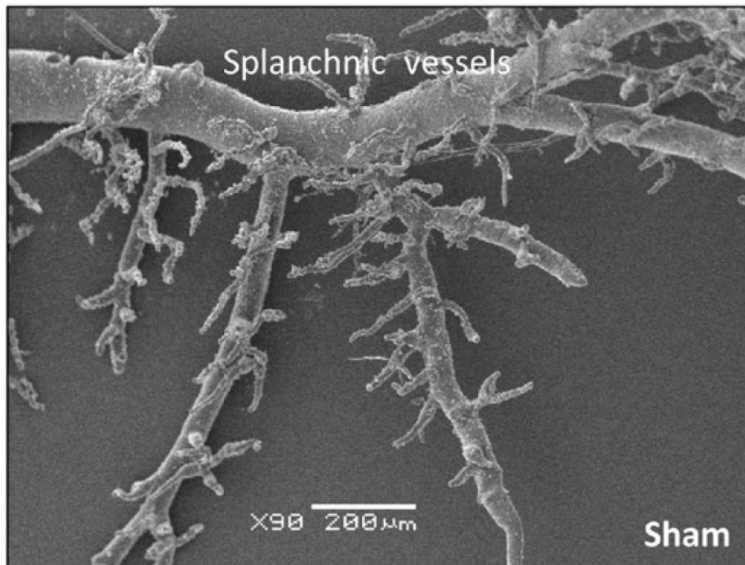
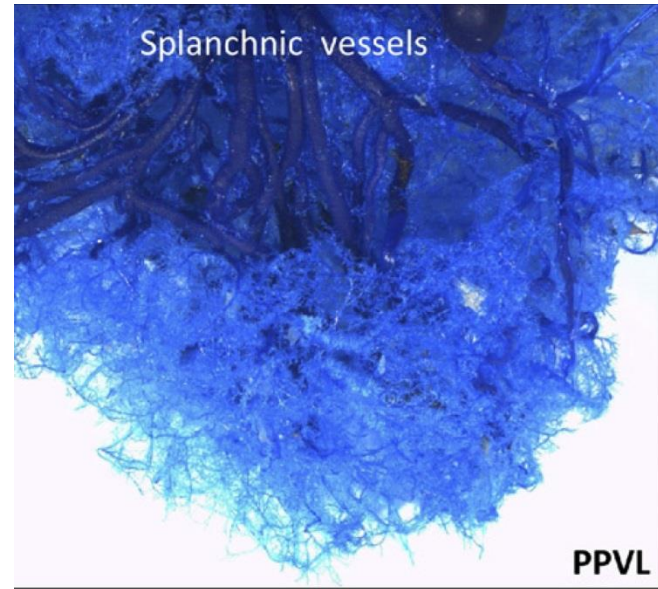
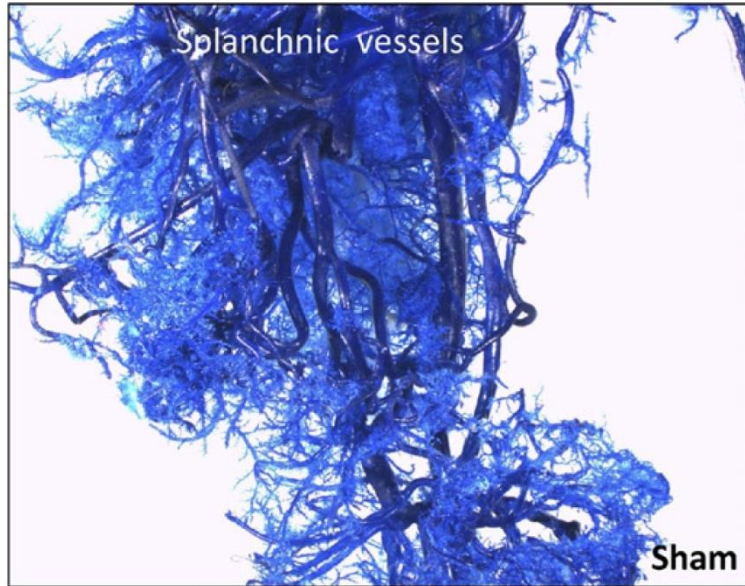
Vascular tone in cirrhosis



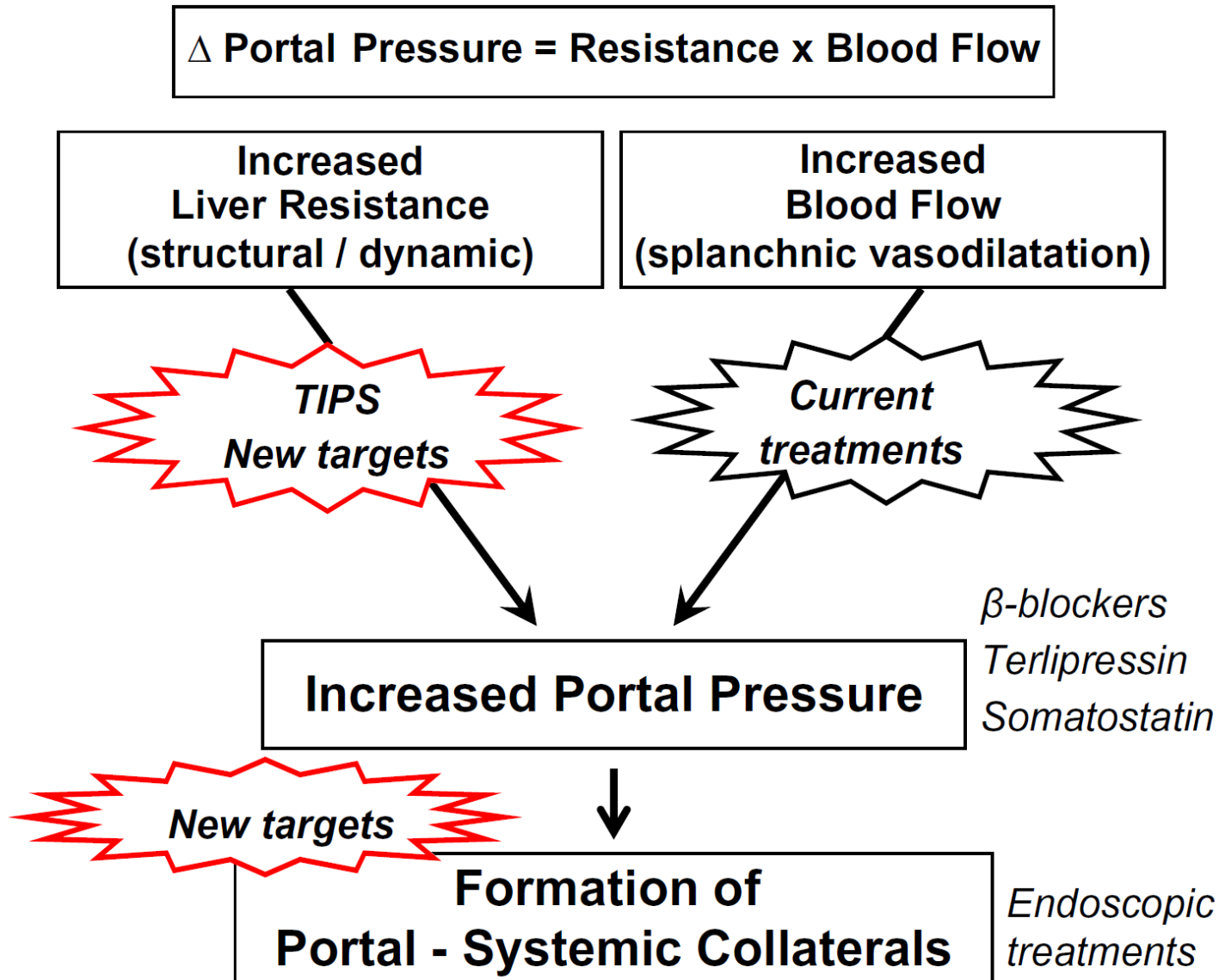
Splanchnic and systemic consequences of portal hypertension

- Dilation of splanchnic arteries
- Increased cardiac output and portal blood flow
- Increased plasma volume
- Portosystemic venous collaterals

Portosystemic collaterals



Pathophysiology of portal hypertension



Portal hypertension

- What is portal hypertension?
- Pathophysiology of portal hypertension
- Why to assess portal hypertension?
- How to measure portal hypertension?

Portal pressure and liver disease progression

	METAVIR: F1-F3		F4		
HVPG:	>5	≥10	≥12	≥20	
Clinical:	None	None	Varices formation	Development of ascites VH, HE	Worse prognosis in VH
Stage:	Compensated	Compensated (stage 1)	Compensated (stage 2)	Decompensated (stages 3/4)	
Biology:	Fibrogenesis & Neovasc.	Scar x-linking	Acellular scar Nodule size	Insoluble scar & small nodules	

HVPG: hepatic venous pressure gradient

Friedman, Gastroenterology 2008

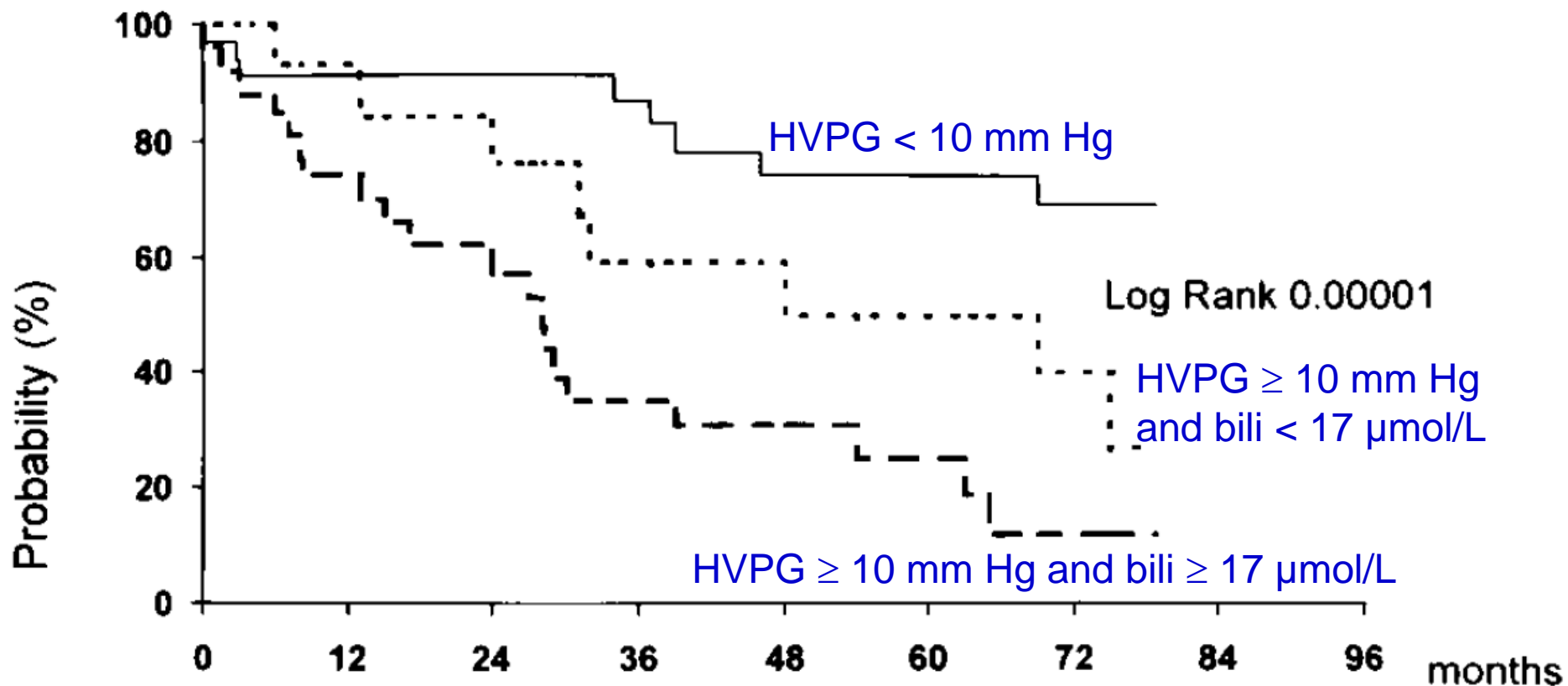
Many applications of HVPG measurement

- Diagnosis and classification of portal hypertension (*e.g.* ascites of unknown origin)
- Preoperative evaluation (hepatic resection)
- Prognosis of portal hypertension and cirrhosis
- Assessment of new agents for portal hypertension
- Surrogate marker in clinical trials (viral and metabolic liver disease)

Many applications of HVPG measurement

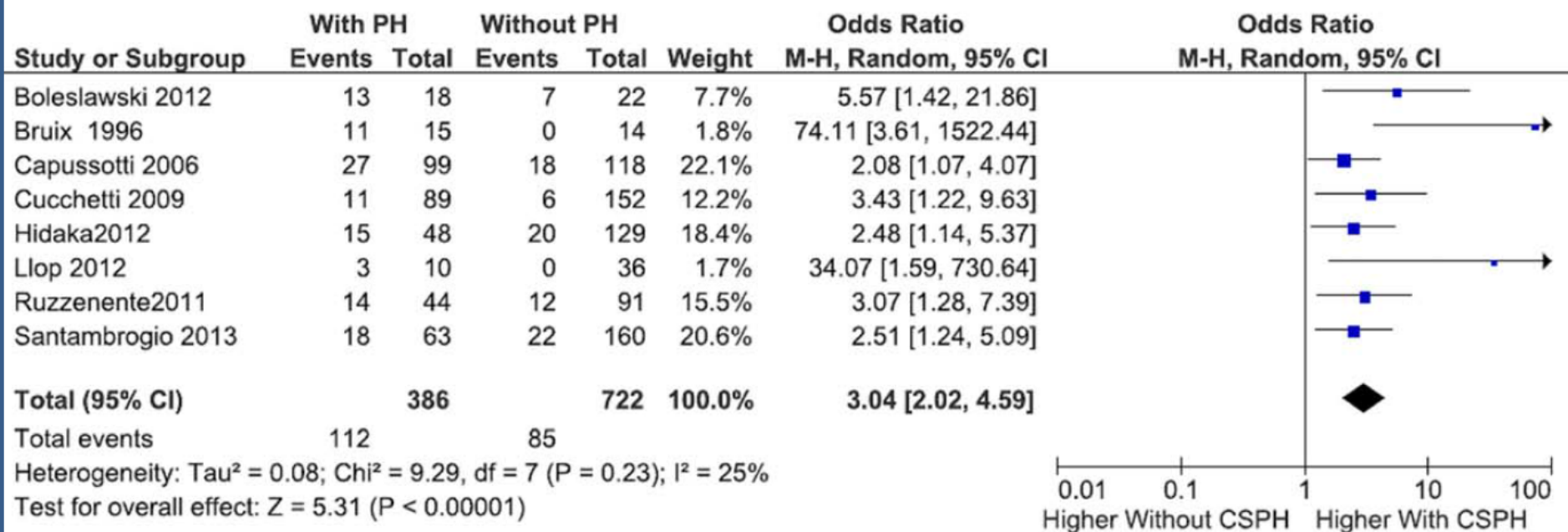
- Diagnosis and classification of portal hypertension (*e.g.* ascites of unknown origin)
- Preoperative evaluation (hepatic resection)
- Prognosis of portal hypertension and cirrhosis
- Assessment of new agents for portal hypertension
- Surrogate marker in clinical trials (viral and metabolic liver disease)

HVPG for preoperative evaluation



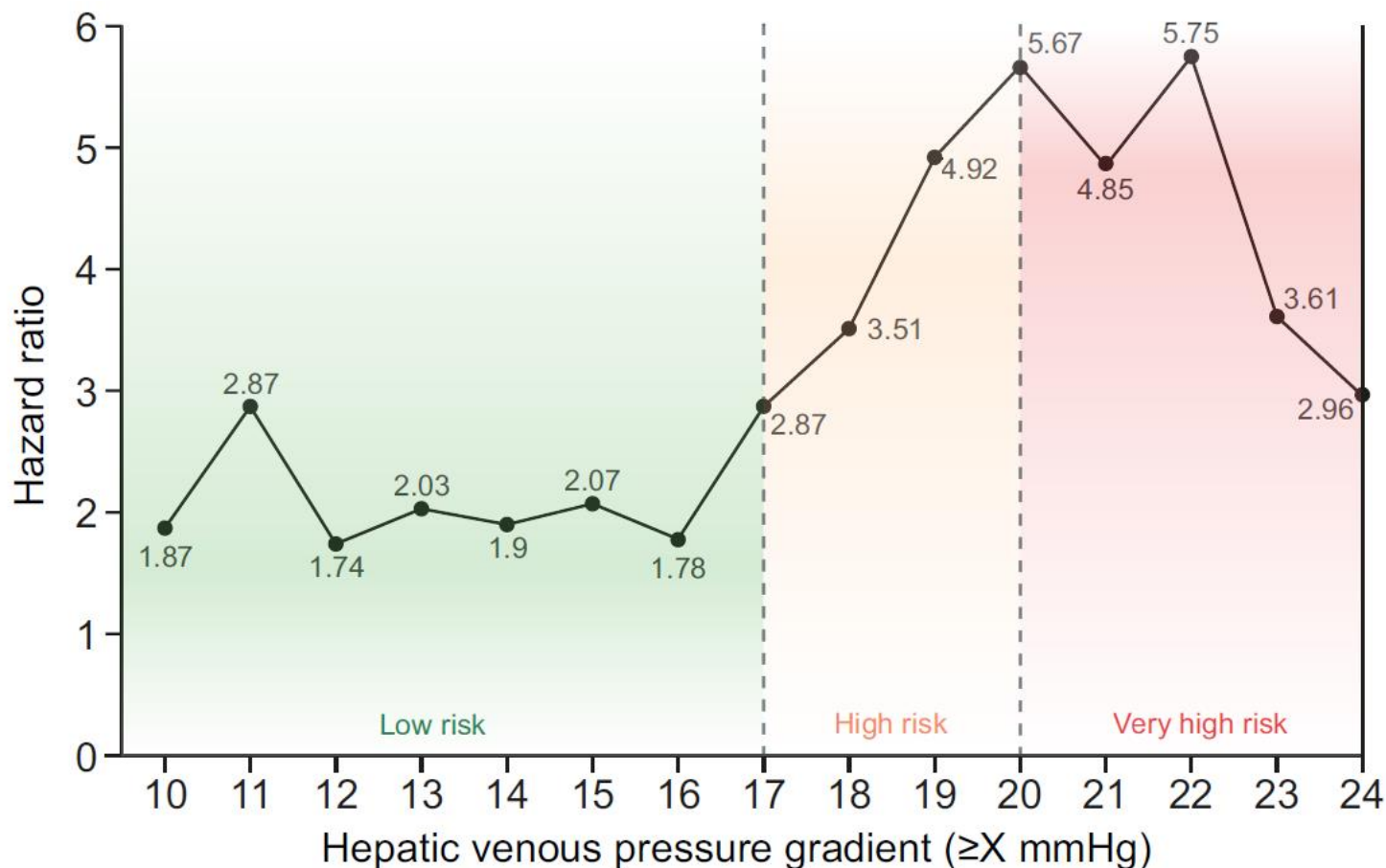
HVPG before liver resection

Décompensation hépatique post-réssection hépatique



Résultats similaires pour mortalité à 1 et 5 ans

HVPG before extrahepatic surgery



Events	22	22	20	20	19	18	16	16	15	14	14	11	6	4	3
Patients	116	104	98	92	88	75	65	56	46	36	32	20	10	8	7

- 140 patients with cirrhosis: Child-Pugh A/B/C: 59/37/4%
- elective extrahepatic surgery: 121 abdo; 9 cardiovascular/thoracic; 10 ortho

Many applications of HVPG measurement

- Diagnosis and classification of portal hypertension (*e.g.* ascites of unknown origin)
- Preoperative evaluation (hepatic resection)
- Prognosis of portal hypertension and cirrhosis
- Assessment of new agents for portal hypertension
- Surrogate marker in clinical trials (viral and metabolic liver disease)

Many applications of HVPG measurement

- Diagnosis and classification of portal hypertension (*e.g.* ascites of unknown origin)
- Preoperative evaluation (hepatic resection)
- Prognosis of portal hypertension and cirrhosis
- Assessment of new agents for portal hypertension
- Surrogate marker in clinical trials (viral and metabolic liver disease)

Portal hypertension

- What is portal hypertension?
- Pathophysiology of portal hypertension
- Why to assess portal hypertension?
- How to measure portal hypertension?

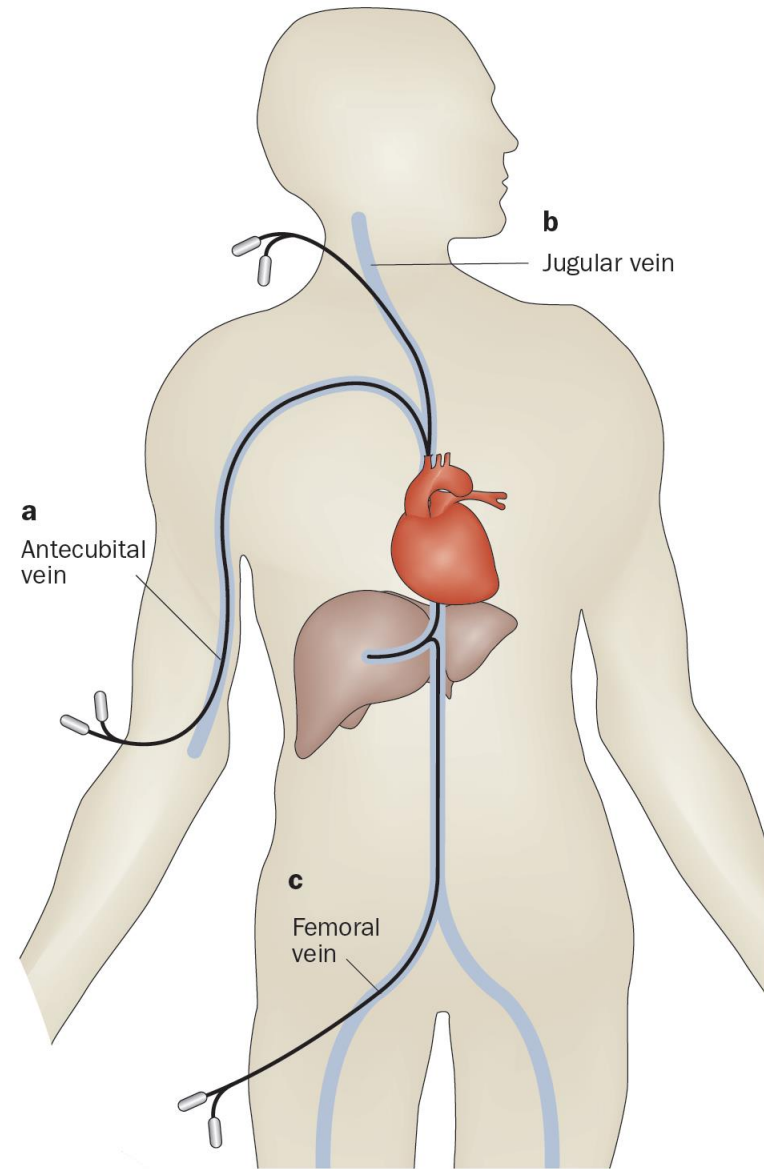
How to measure portal hypertension?

- DIRECT measurement into the portal vein
 - Invasive
 - Tricky

How to measure portal hypertension?

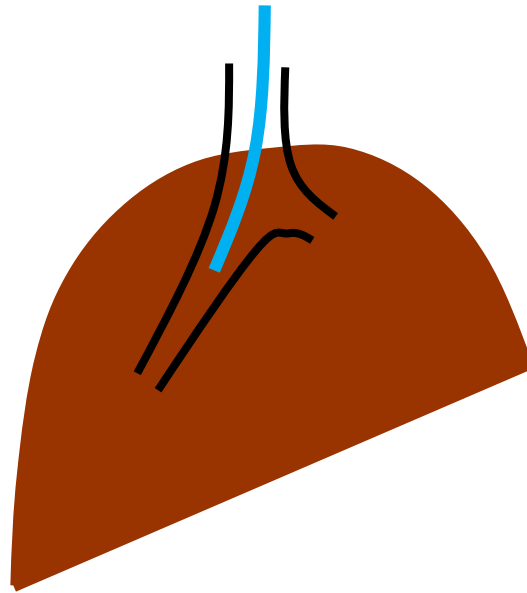
- Indirect: Hepatic venous pressure gradient (HVPG)

$\text{HVPG} = \text{Wedge} - \text{Free hepatic venous pressure}$



Free hepatic venous pressure

Free



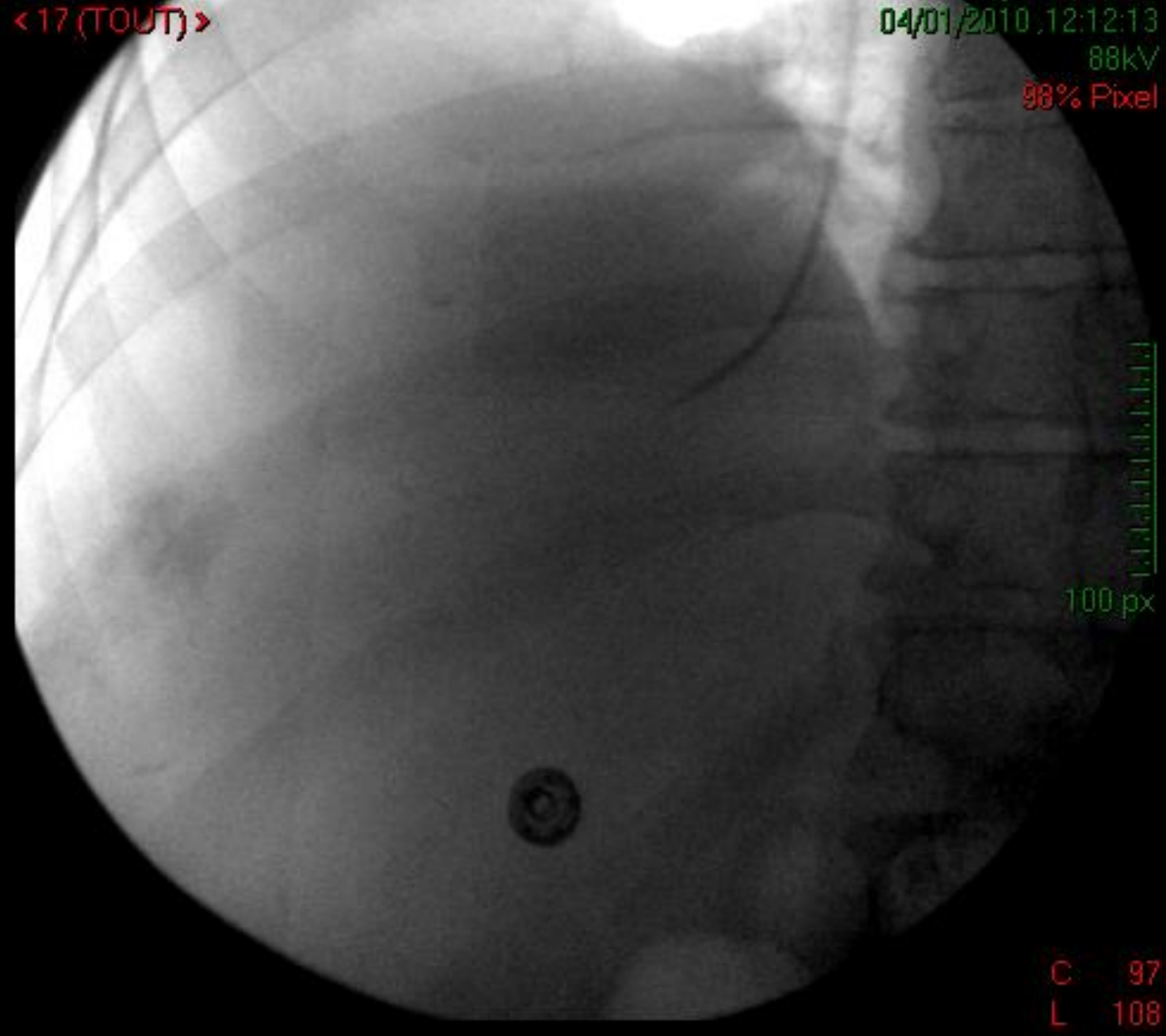
Free hepatic venous pressure

<17 (TOUT)>

04/01/2010 12:12:13

88kV

98% Pixel

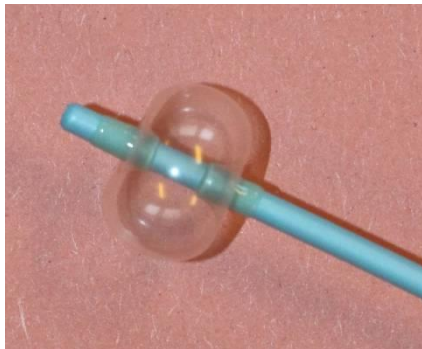
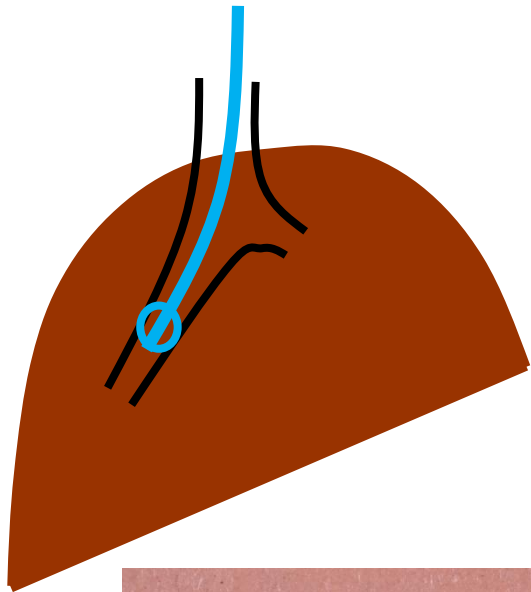


C 97

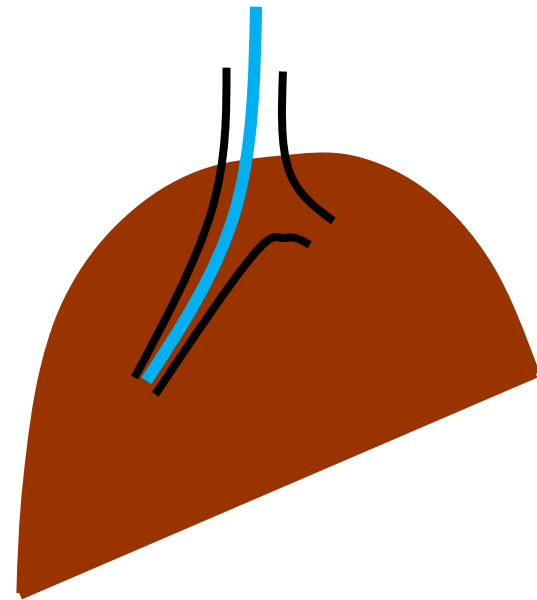
L 108

Wedge hepatic venous pressure

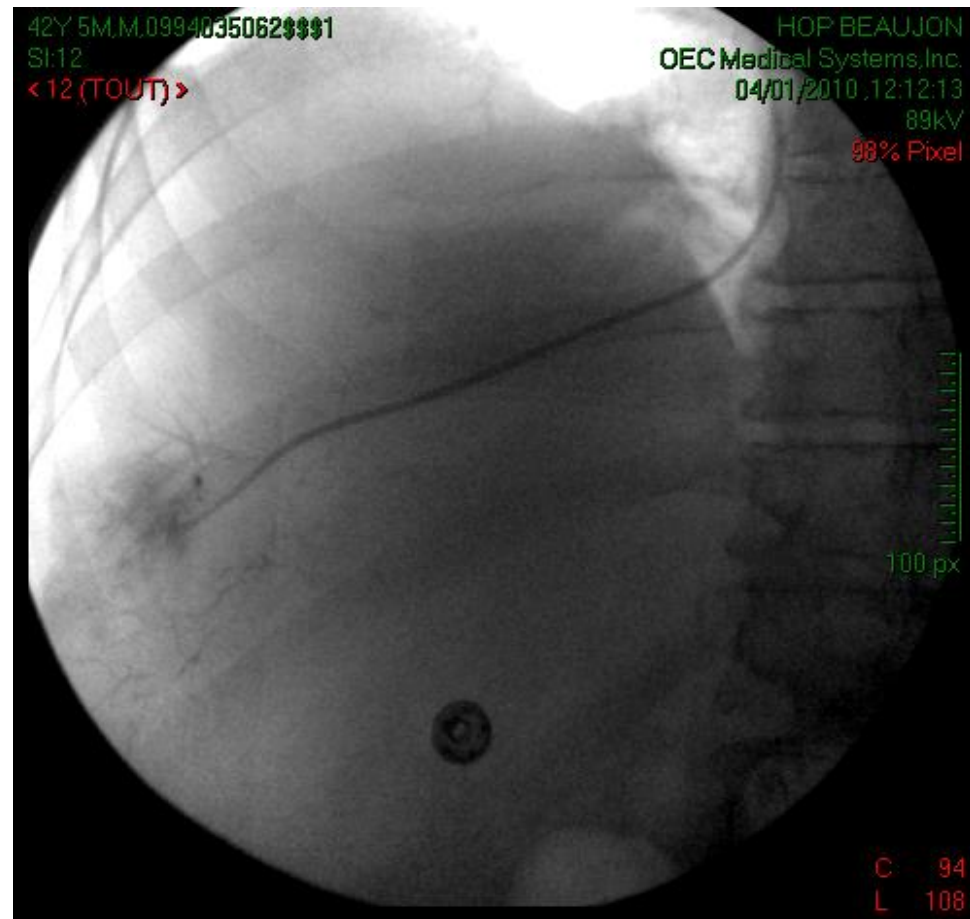
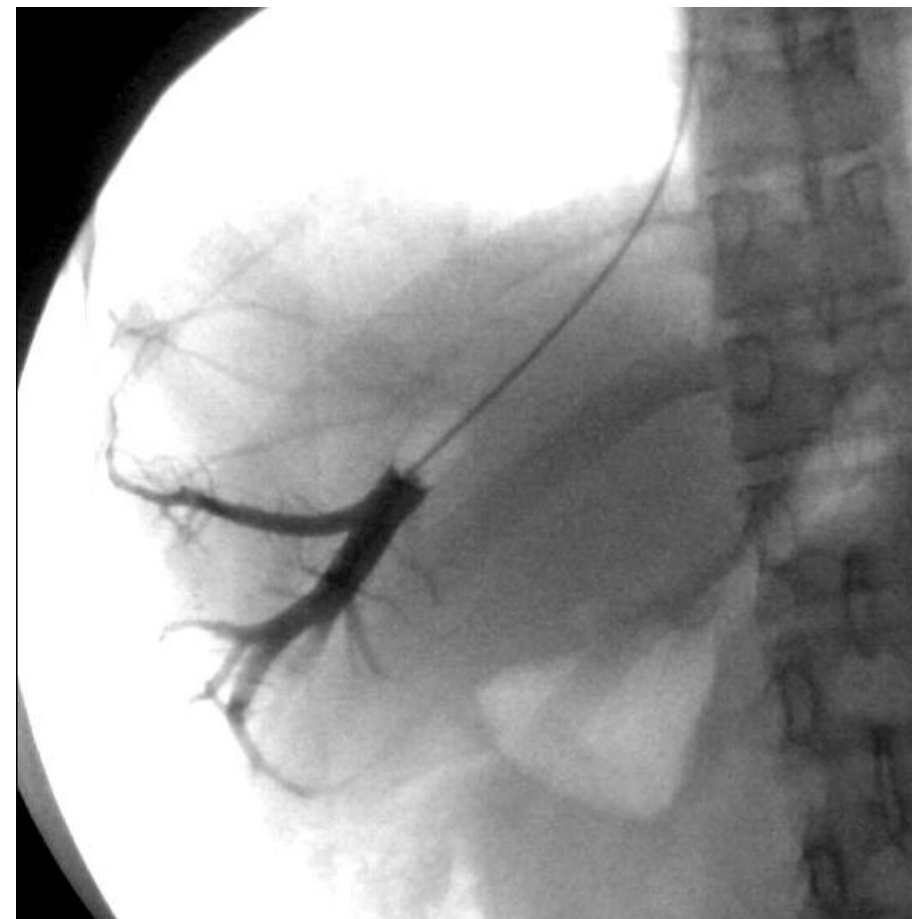
Balloon

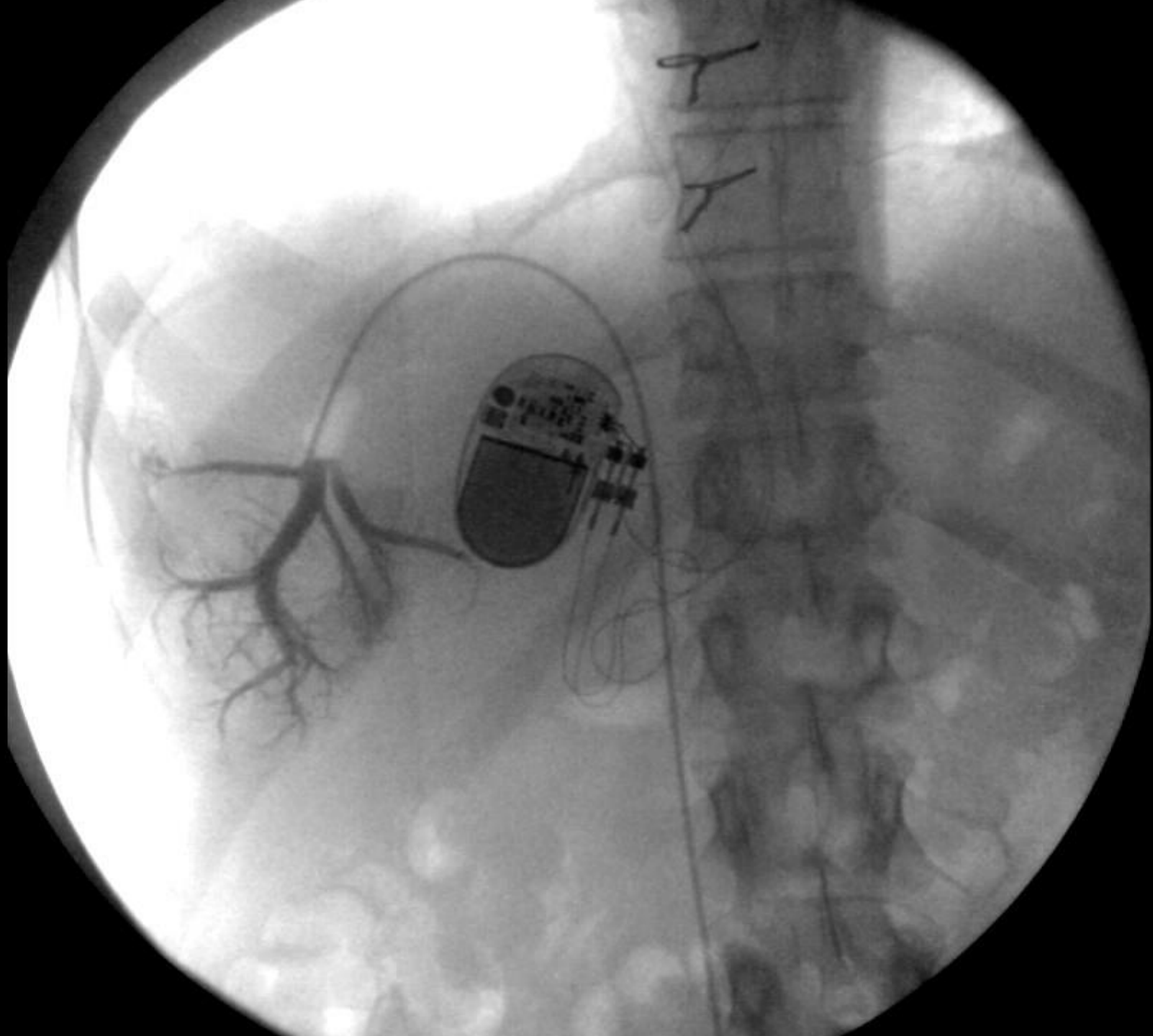


Wedged

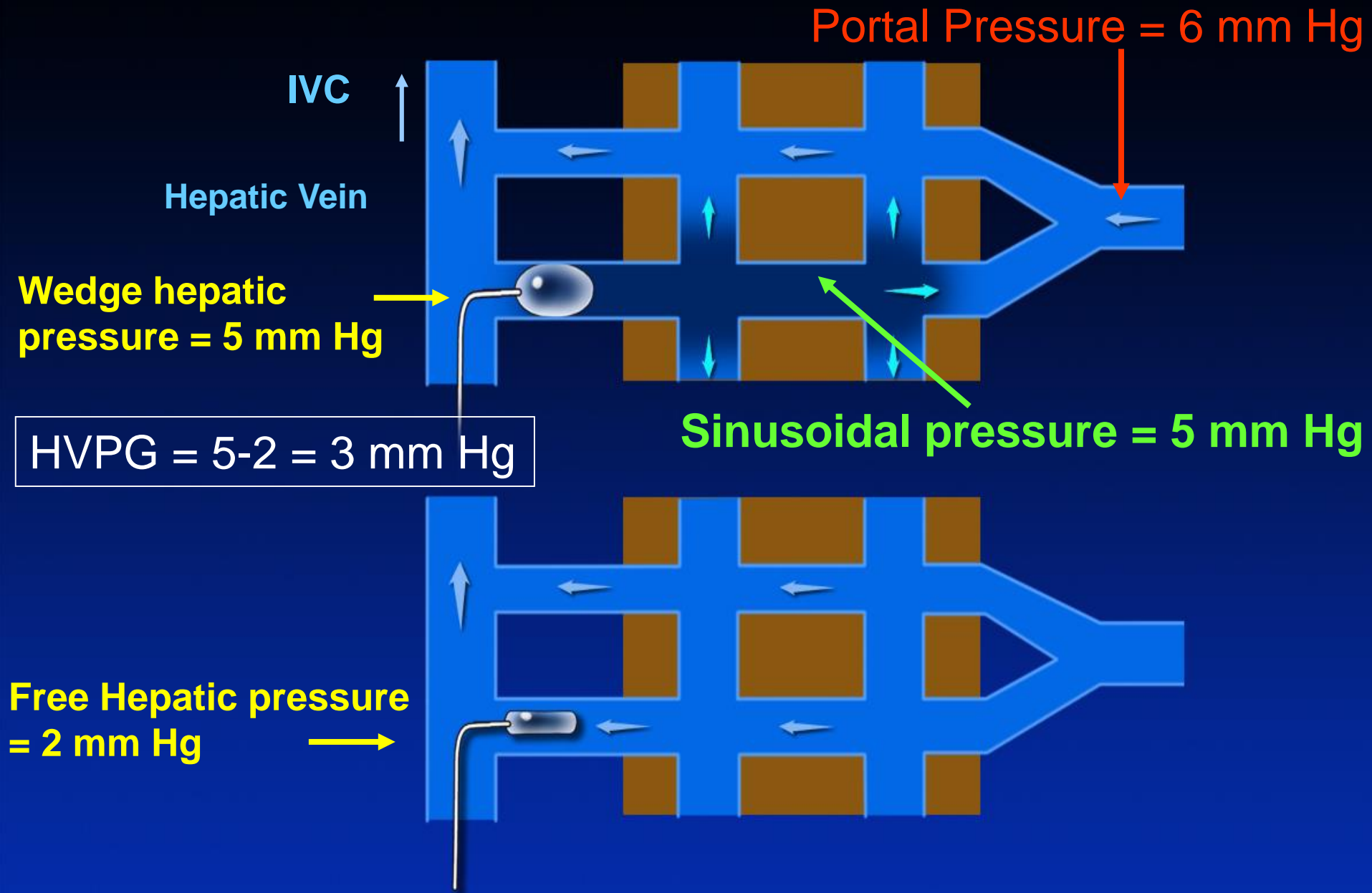


Wedge hepatic venous pressure

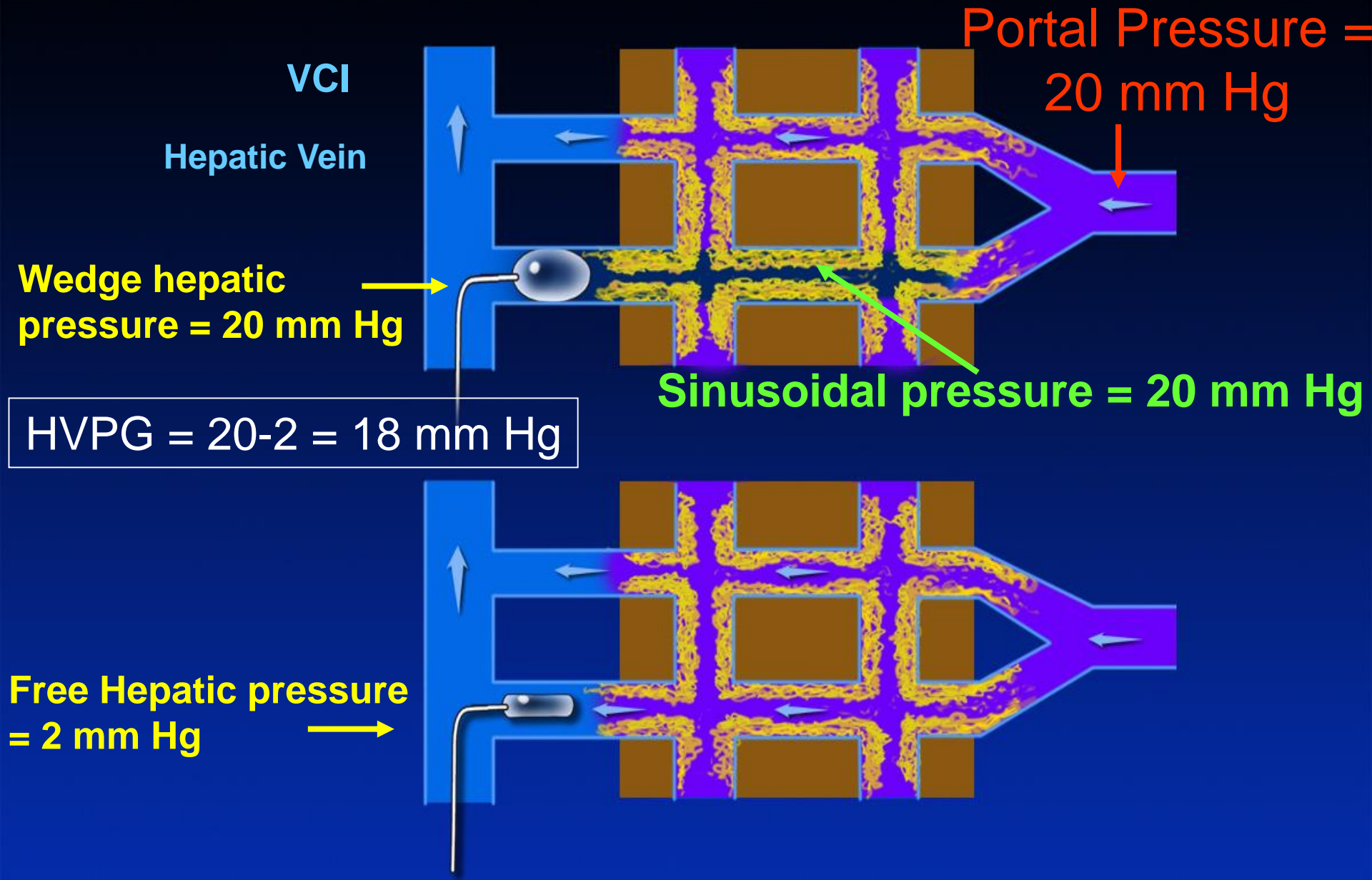




Normal HVPG: 3-5 mmHg



Increased HVPG in Cirrhosis



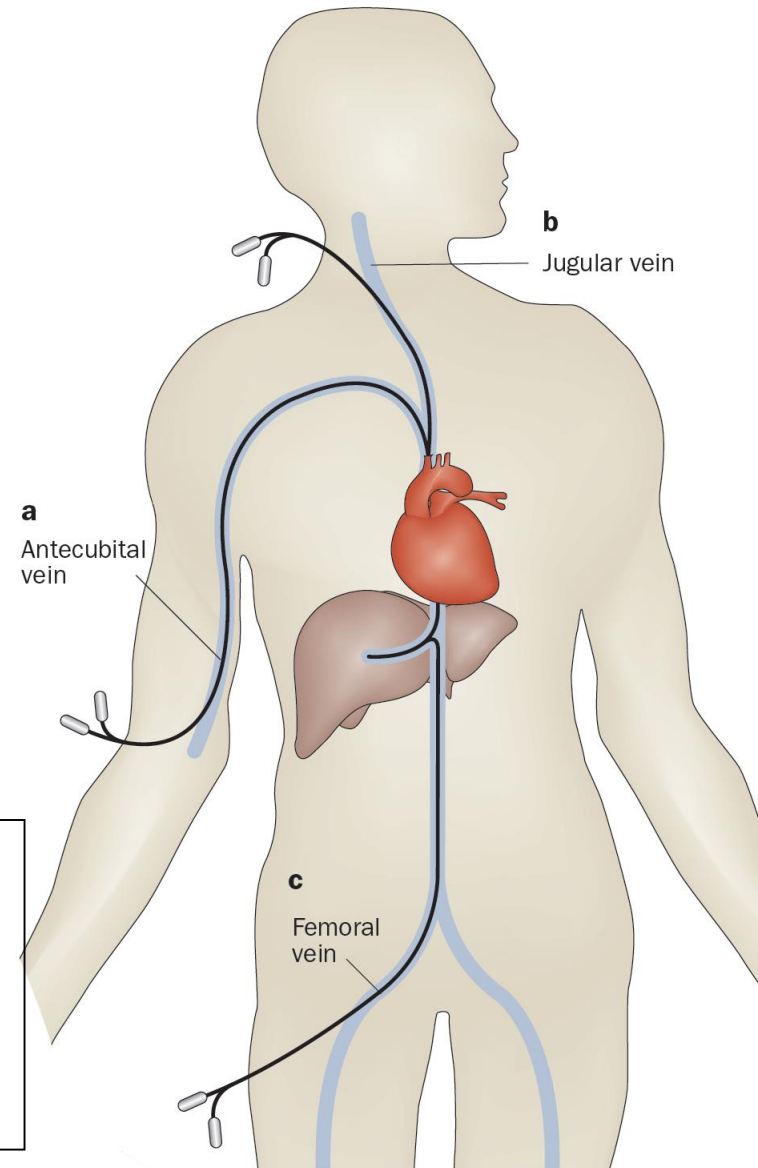
How to measure portal hypertension?

- Indirect: Hepatic venous pressure gradient (HVPG)

$$\text{HVPG} = \text{Wedge} - \text{Free hepatic venous pressure}$$

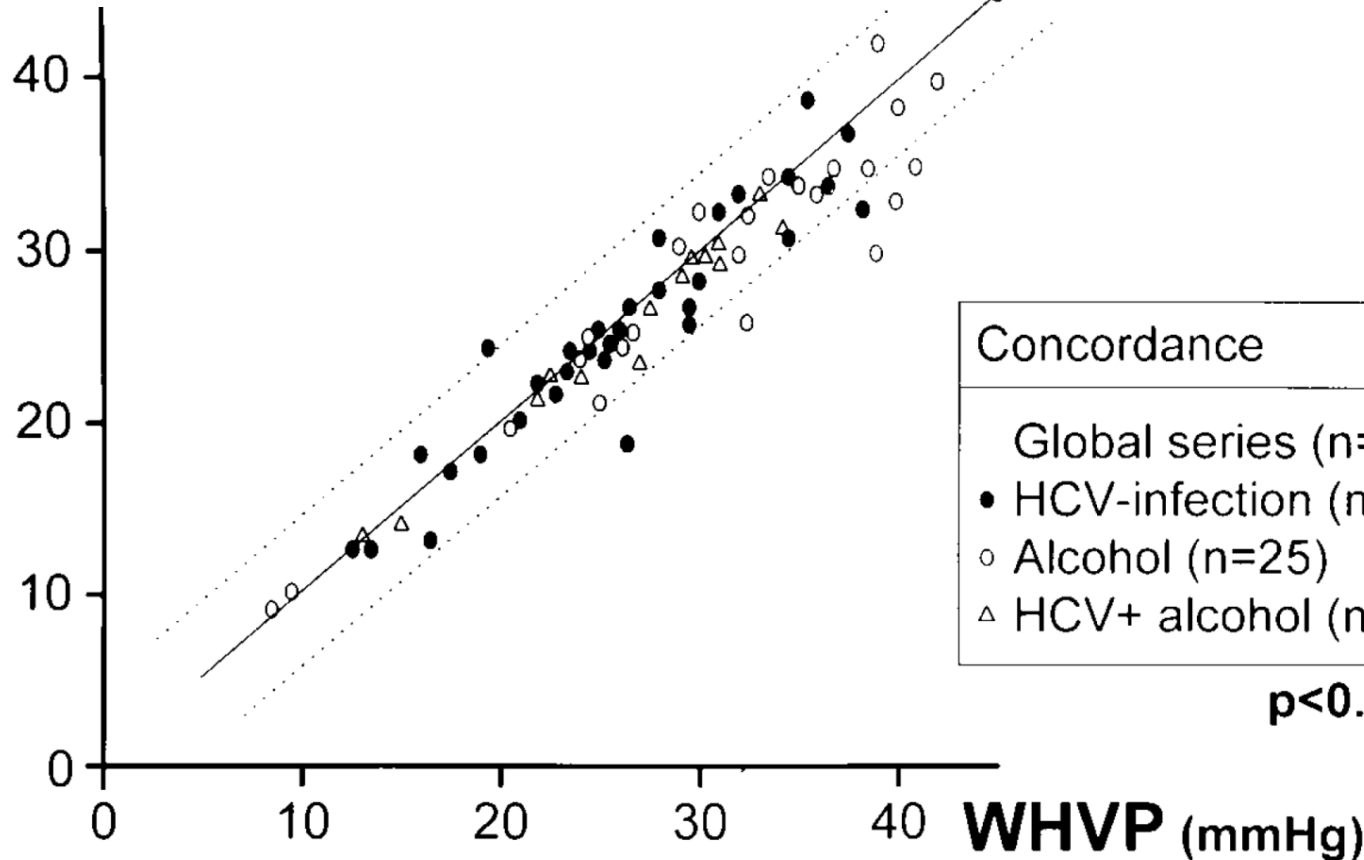
Not influenced by:

- Changes in intra-abdominal pressure
- Inadequate positioning of the external zero reference point



How to measure portal hypertension?

Direct portal pressure (mm Hg)



Conclusions : Portal hypertension

- Portal hypertension is responsible for the main complications of cirrhosis
- Although the increase in intrahepatic resistance accounts for 2/3 of portal hypertension, current therapies act on the systemic component
- HVPG reliably assesses portal pressure
- HVPG is particularly useful when the cause of ascites is unclear and to predict post-operative outcome