



25^ο ΕΤΗΣΙΟ ΣΕΜΙΝΑΡΙΟ ΣΥΝΕΧΙΖΟΜΕΝΗΣ ΙΑΤΡΙΚΗΣ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗΣ

Γ. Ν. Α. "Ο Ευαγγελισμός" 17-21 Φεβρουαρίου 2020

Κλινική σημασία - Διάγνωση και Θεραπεία της μη-αλκοολικής λιπώδους νόσου του ήπατος

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Γ.Ν.Α «Ο Ευαγγελισμός»





ΕΝΩΣΗ ΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΟΝΙΚΟΥ ΠΡΟΣΩΠΙΚΟΥ
Γ.Ν.Α. «Ο ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΜΟΣ» (Ε.Ε.Π.Ν.Ε.)

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AENORASIS
Intuition in Healthcare

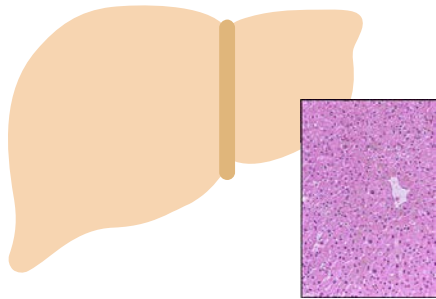
Rontis
Driven by innovation

Specifar
A Teva Company

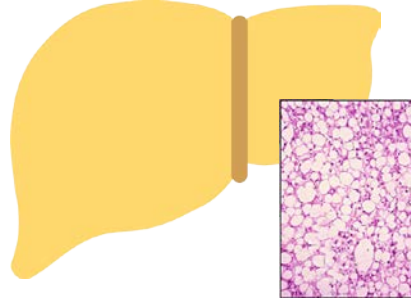
Μη αλκοολική λιπώδης νόσος του ήπατος (ΜΑΛΝΗ)

NAFLD

Normal Liver

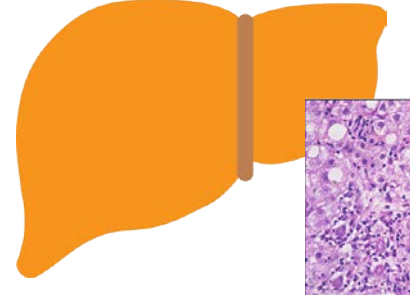


Steatosis “NAFL”

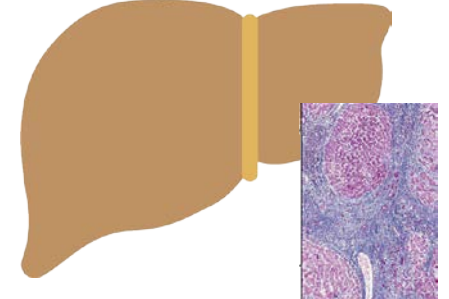


Fat infiltration $\geq 5\%$
without ballooning, with or
without inflammation

Steatohepatitis “NASH”



Cirrhosis



Increasing fibrosis,
leading to cirrhosis

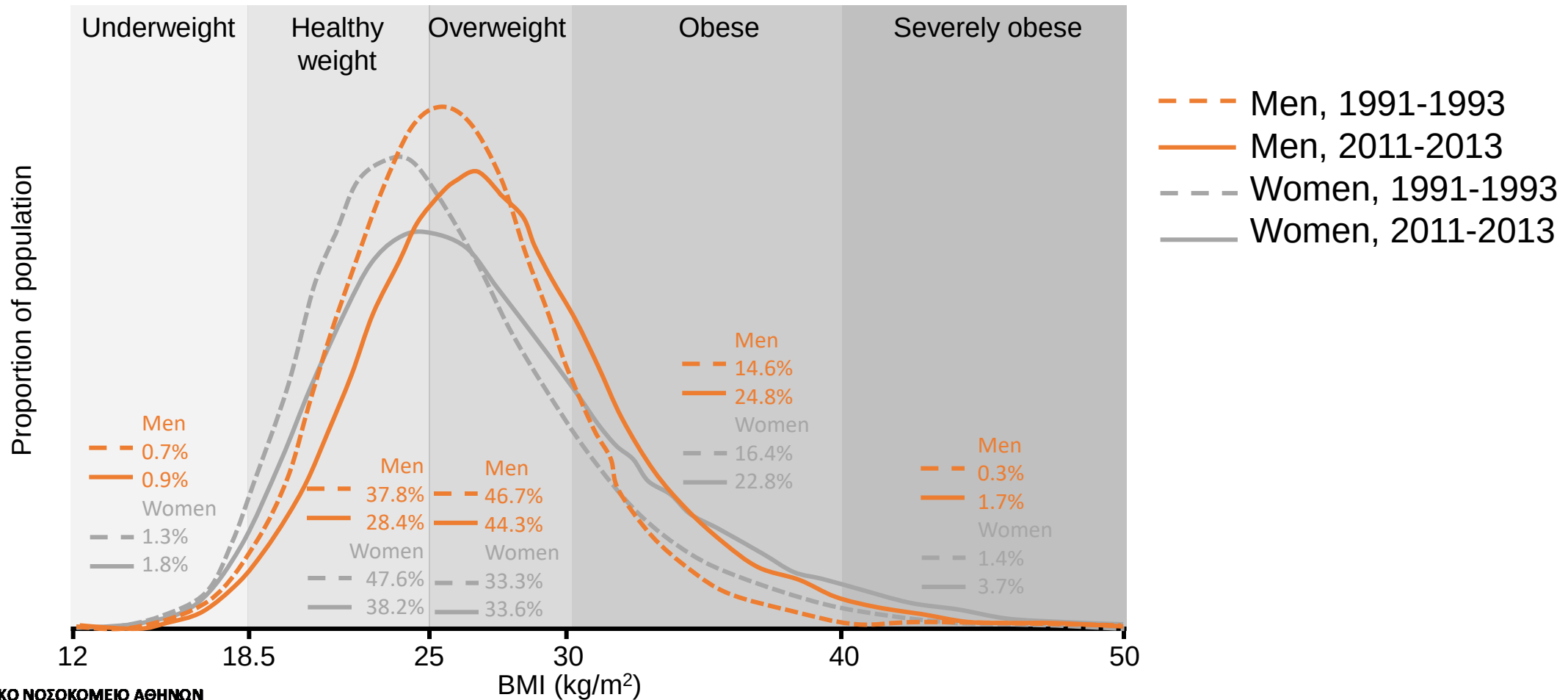
HCC

Risk factor for NASH include metabolic syndrome
(Obesity, Hypertension, Dyslipidemia & T2DM/insulin resistance)

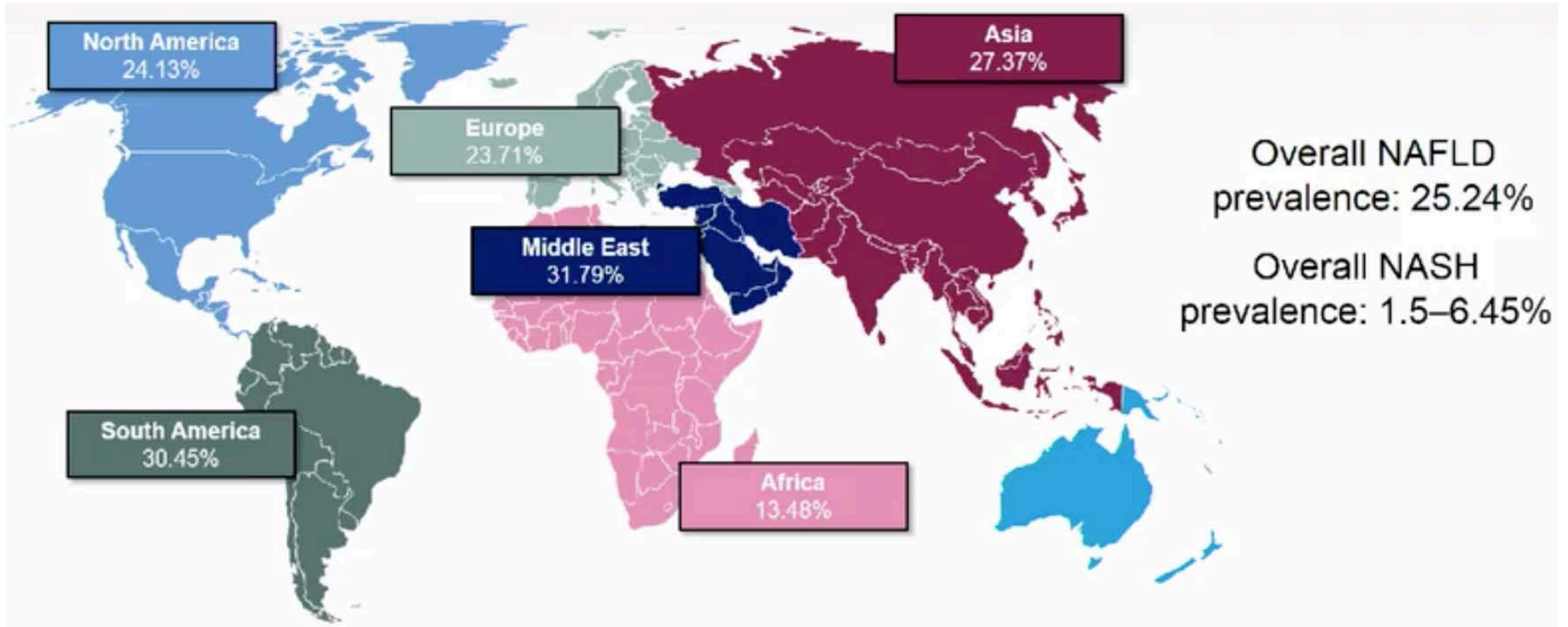
- For NAFLD, alcohol consumption $<20/30\text{gr/d}$
- Other causes for liver dysfunction/hepatotoxins excluded

A “Right-Shift” in Population Body Weight

UK Distribution of BMI in Adults Aged ≥ 18 Yrs (Population Weighted)



Prevalence and Burden of NAFLD



Prevalence of NAFLD in the General Population

In a US population sample (n = 328)^[1]:

- NAFLD by ultrasound 46%
- NASH 12.2% (29.9% of those with NAFLD)

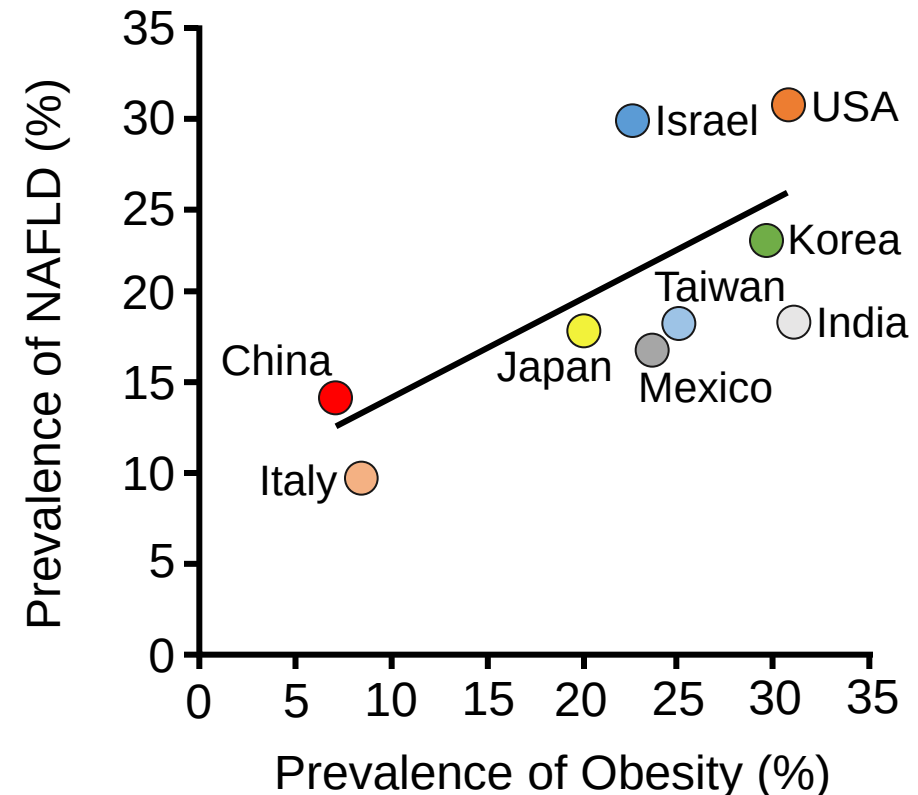
In the Dionysos study, NAFLD present in^[2]:

- Obese pts (BMI > 30), 94%
- Overweight pts (BMI > 25), 67%
- Normal weight pts, 25%

In apparently healthy living liver donors, histological NASH in^[3]:

- Europe, 3% to 16%
- USA, 6% to 15%

Rising Obesity Prevalence Correlates With Rising Prevalence of NAFLD^[4]

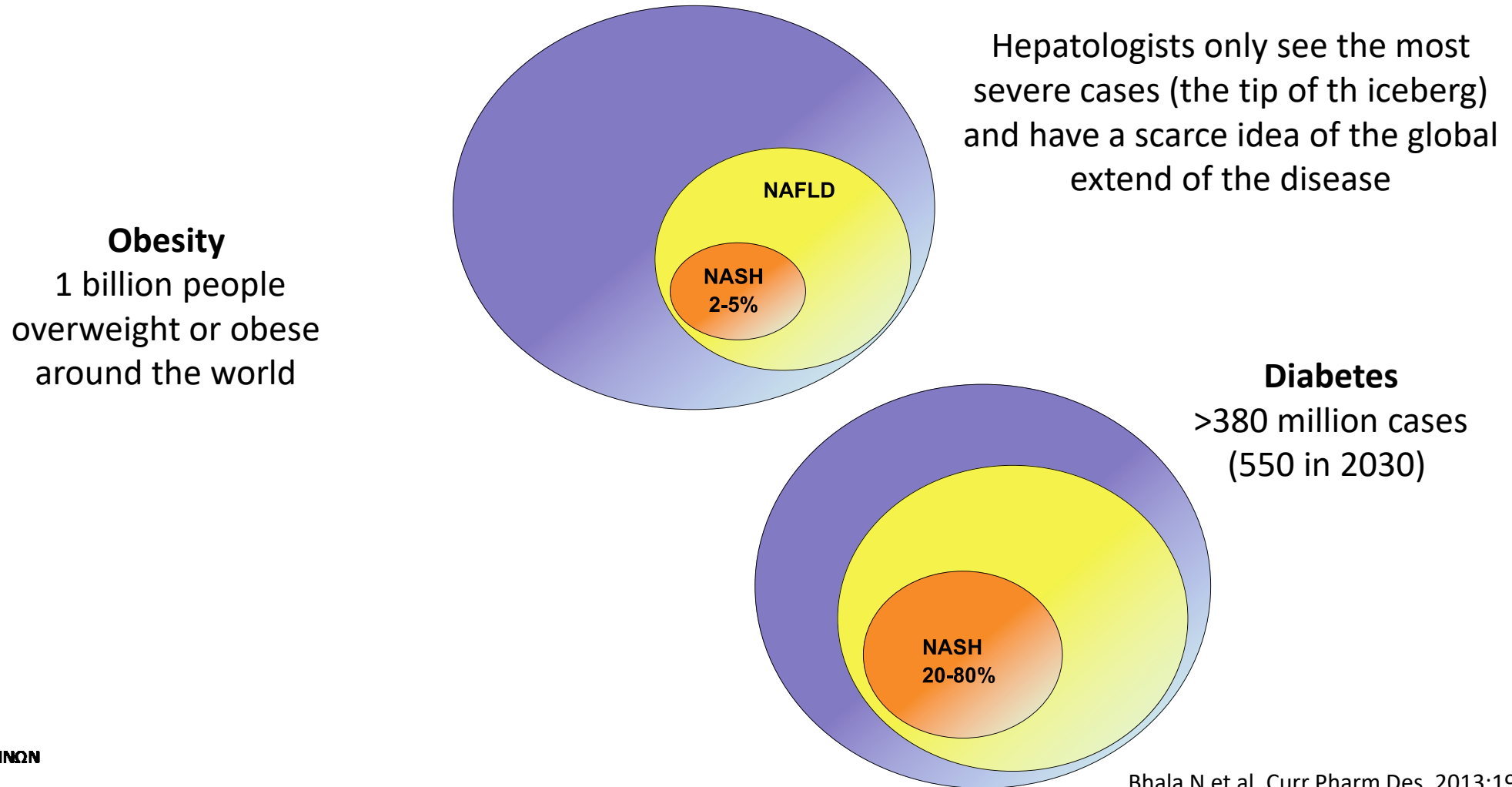


1. Williams CD, et al. Gastro. 2011;140:124-31.

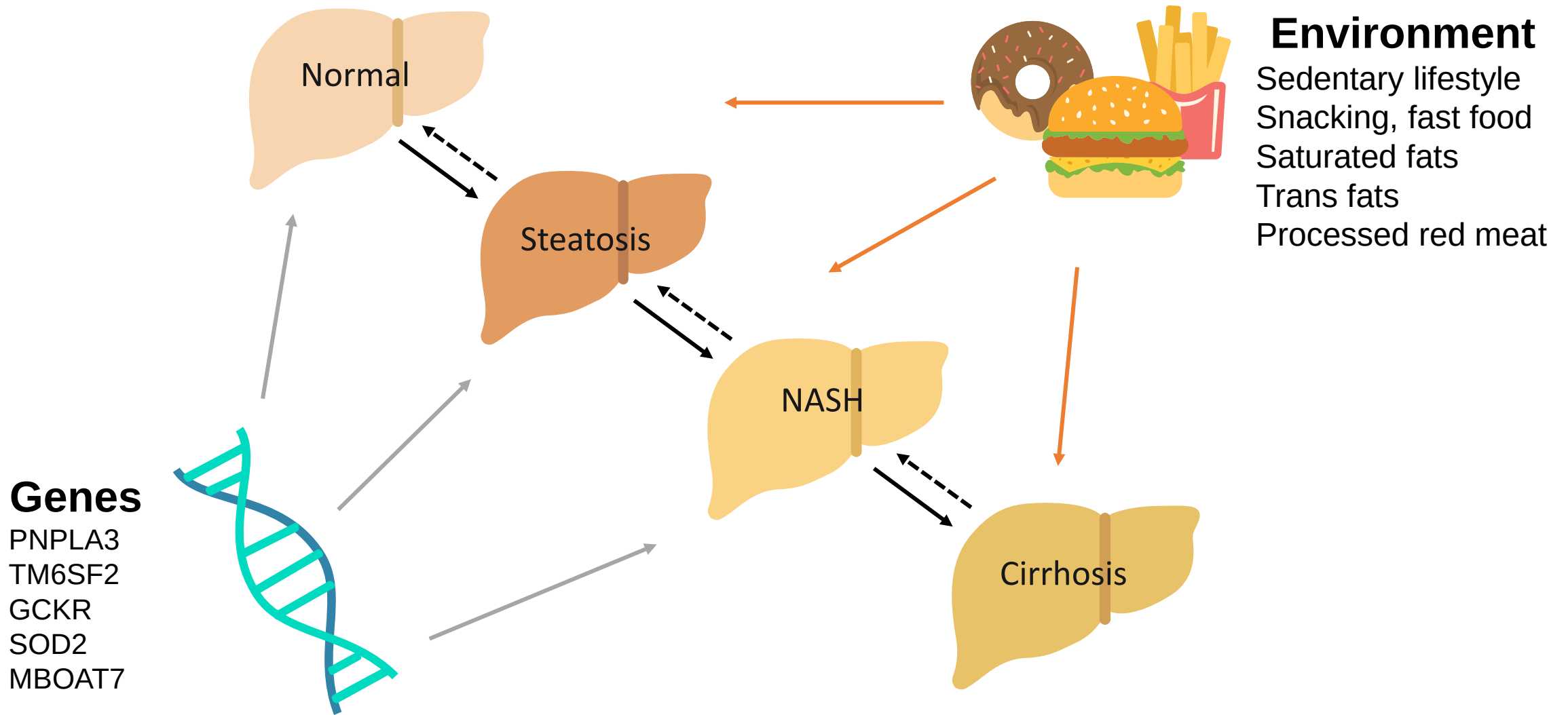
2. Bellentani S, et al. E J Gastro Hep. 2004; 1087-1093. 3. Anstee et al. Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2013;10:330-344. 4. Loomba R, et al. Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol. 2013;10:686-690.



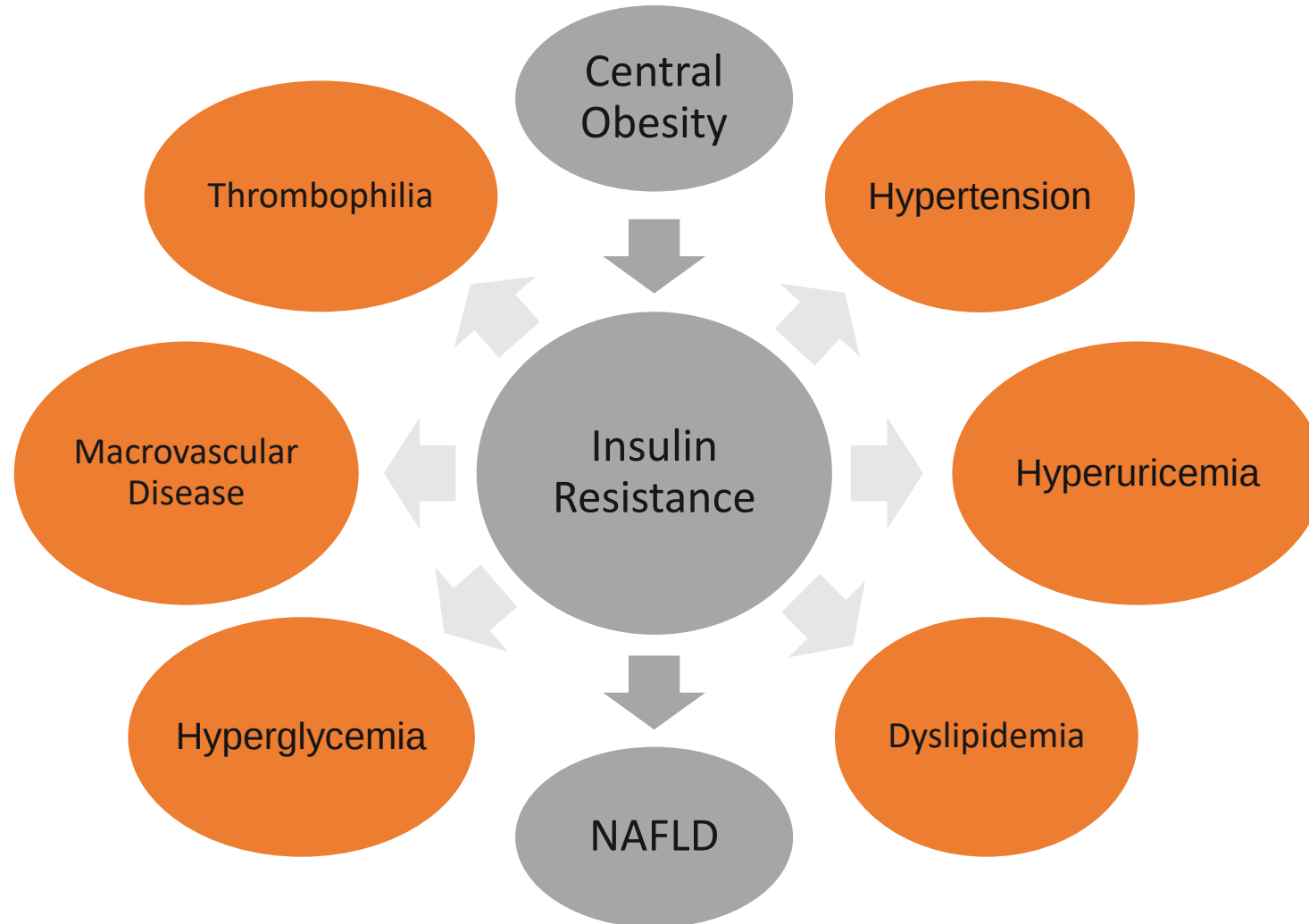
NAFLD: The dimension of the problem



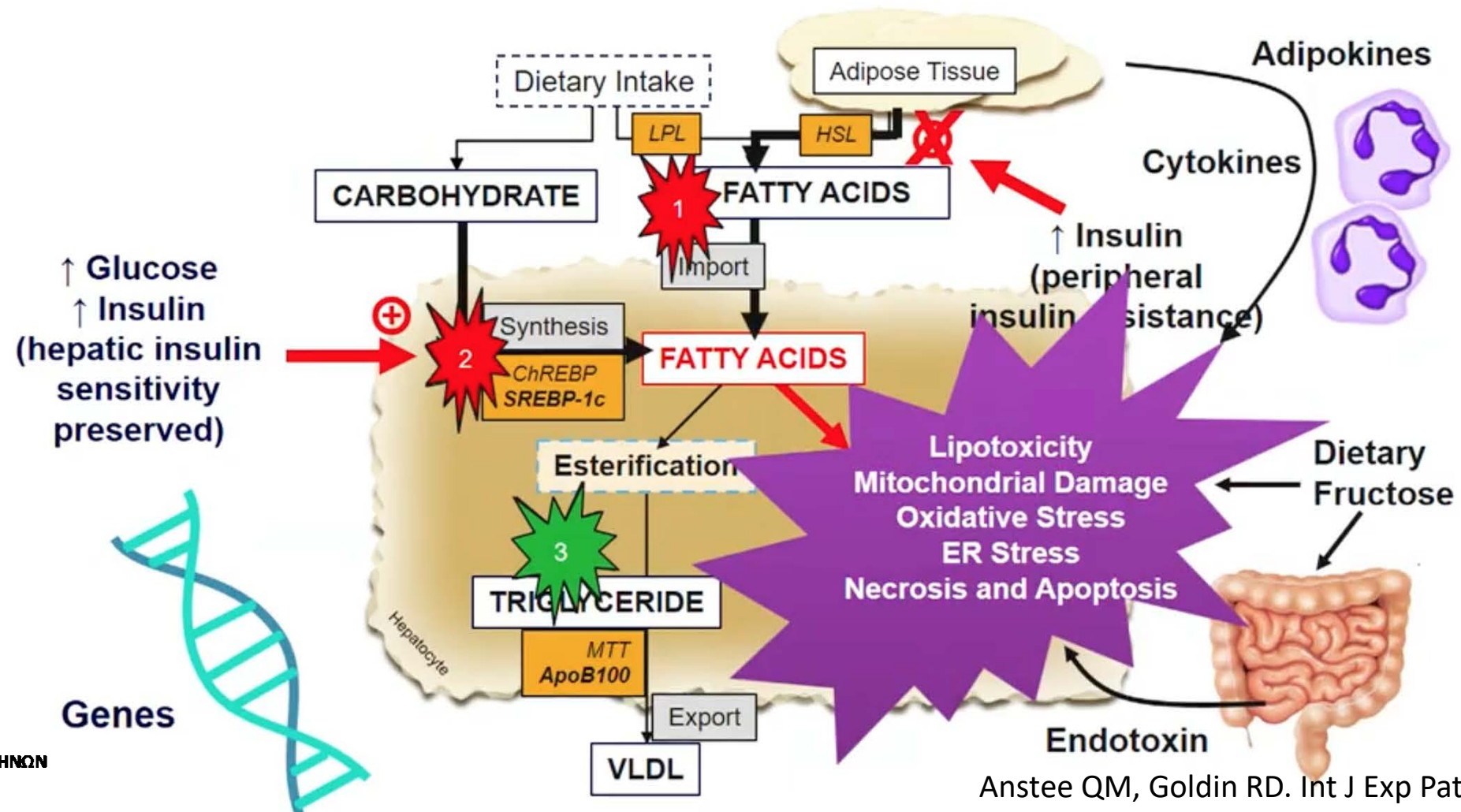
NAFLD as a Complex Disease Trait



Obesity and Insulin Resistance as Pathogenic Drivers

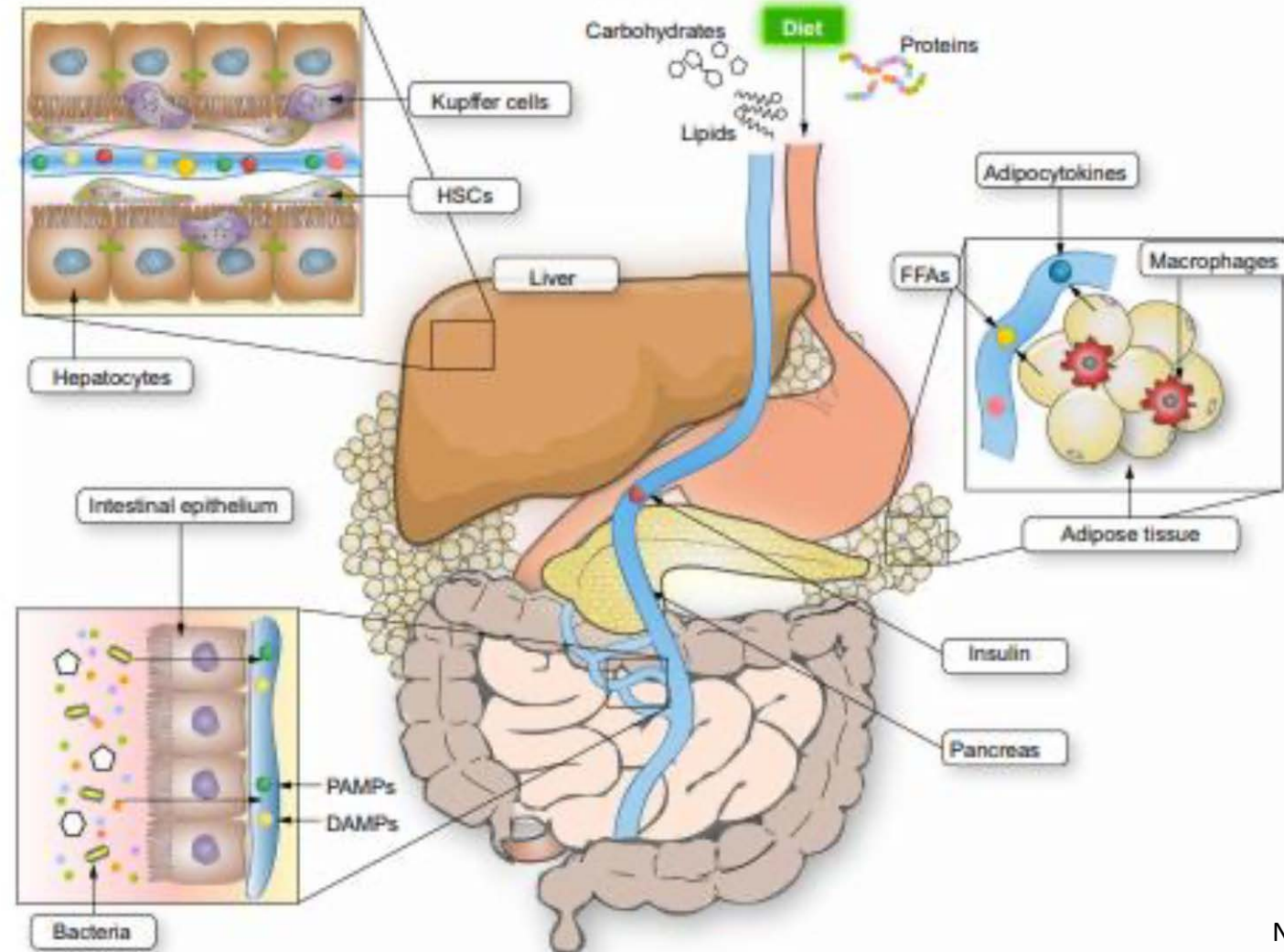


Multiple parallel "hits" drive NASH pathogenesis

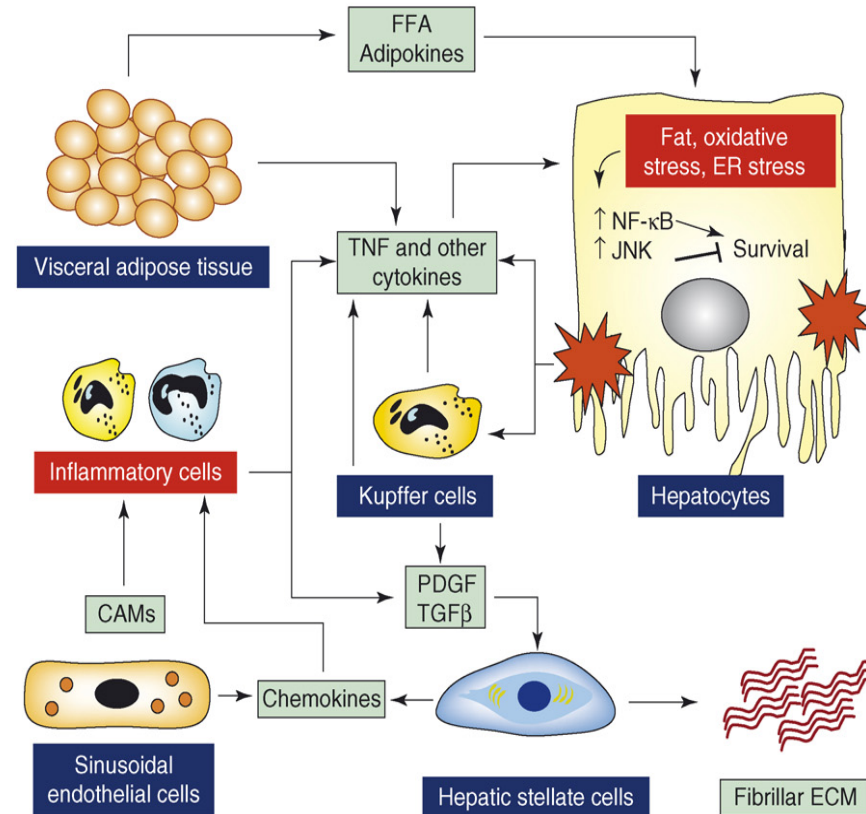
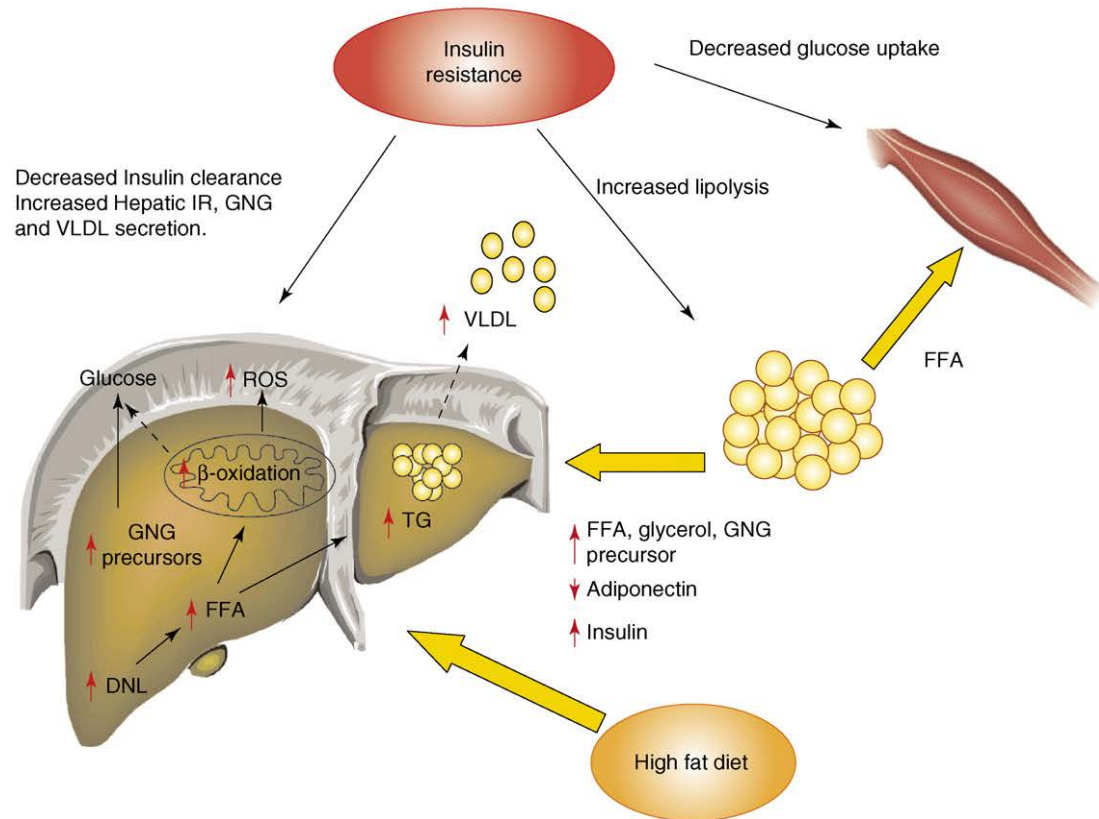


Anstee QM, Goldin RD. Int J Exp Pathol. 2006;87:1-16.

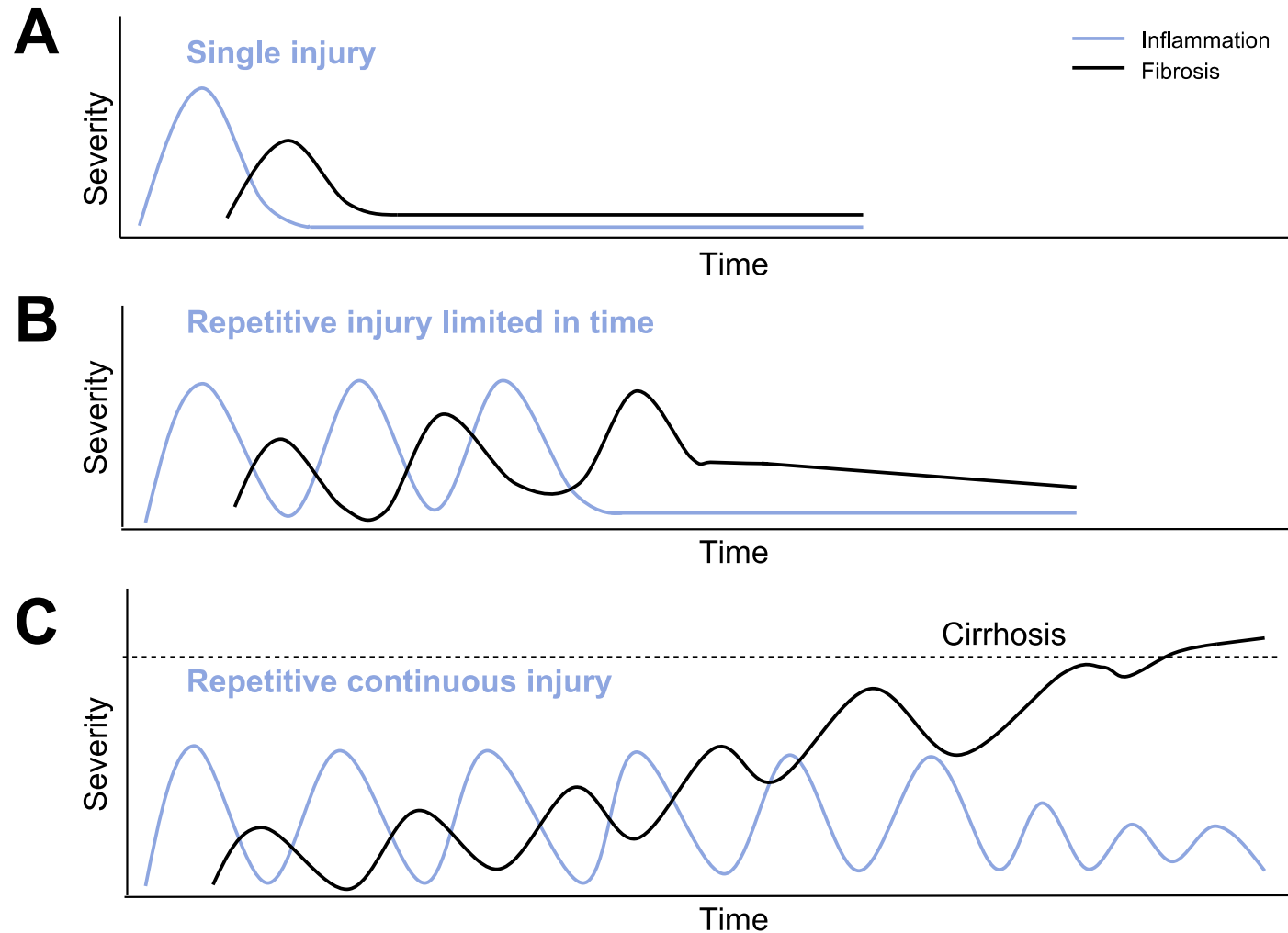
Pathogenesis of NAFLD probably involves inter-organ crosstalk



Pathogenesis of fibrosis in NAFLD

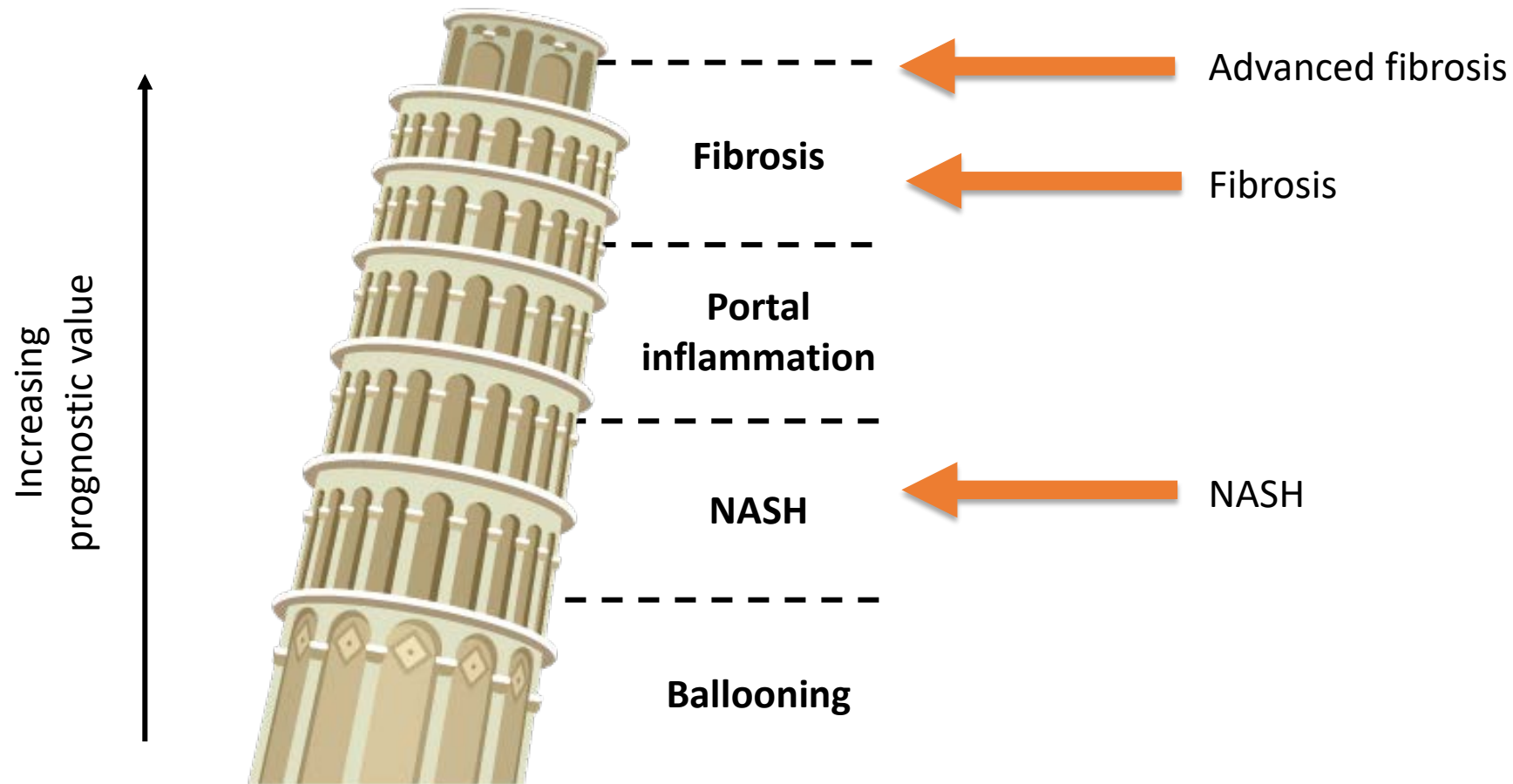


A new view of fibrosis progression in NASH

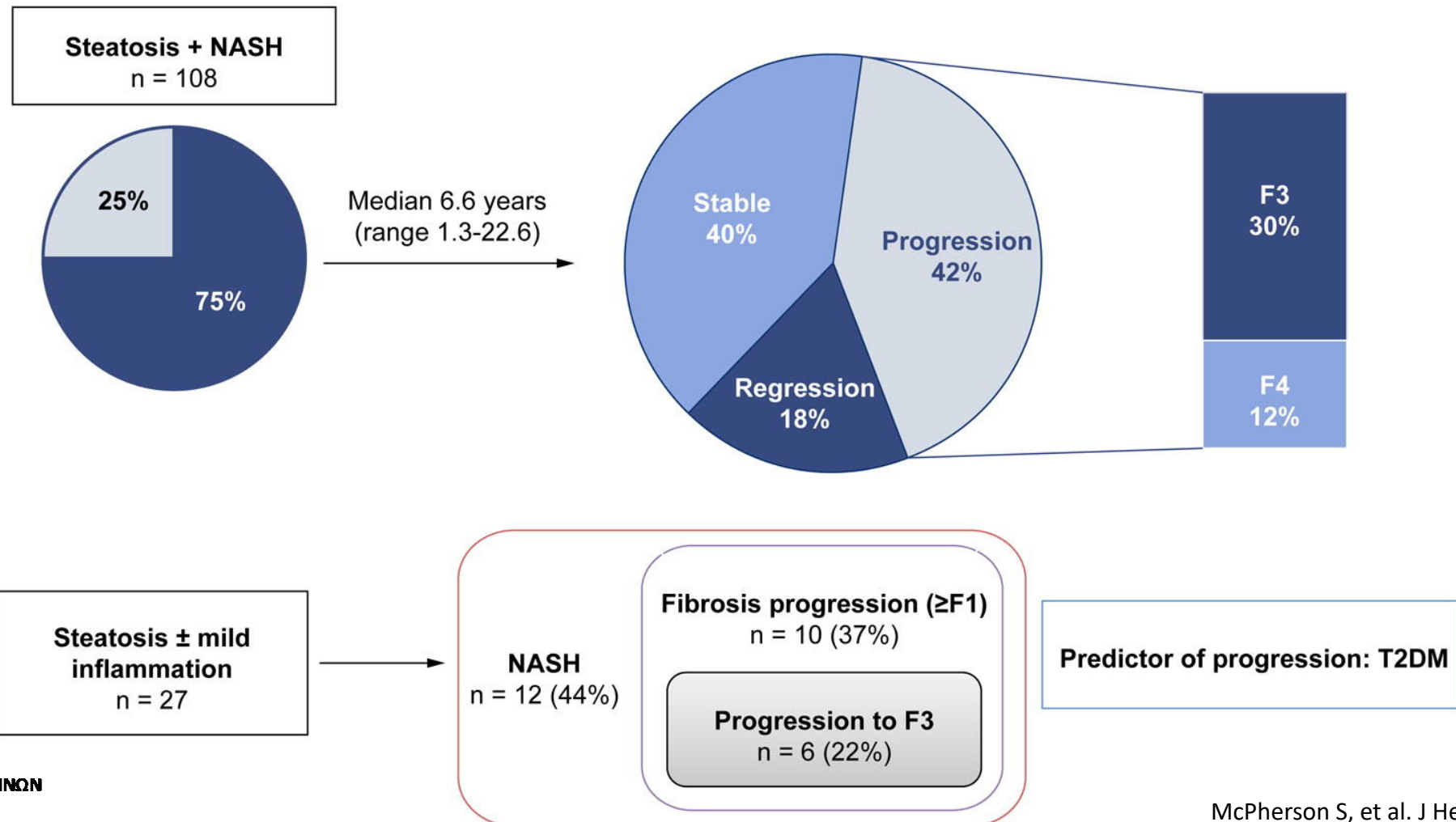


Key Histologic Predictors of Mortality in NAFLD

Fibrosis is the single most important predictor of mortality in NASH

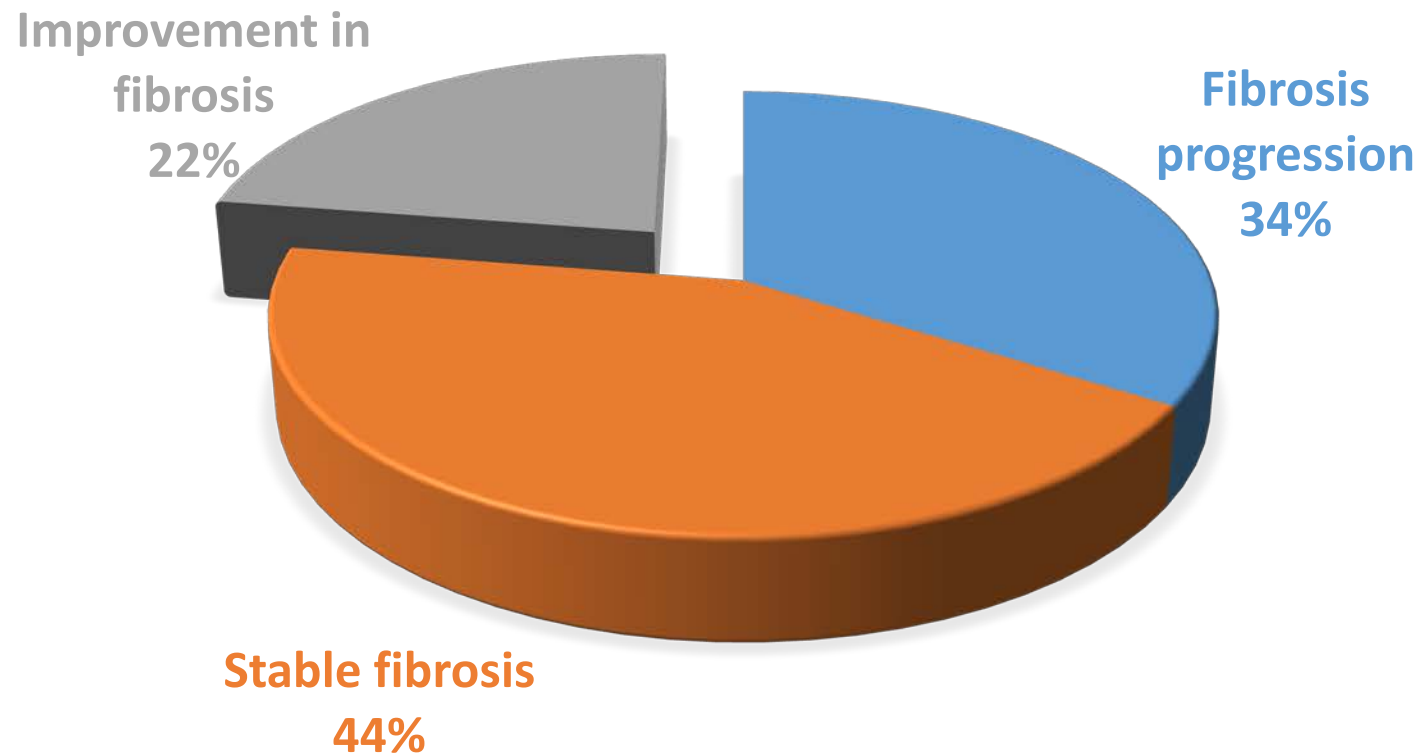


Ιστολογική εξέλιξη της ΜΑΛΝΗ σε συνδυασμένες βιοψίες



Progression of Fibrosis in Pts With NAFLD

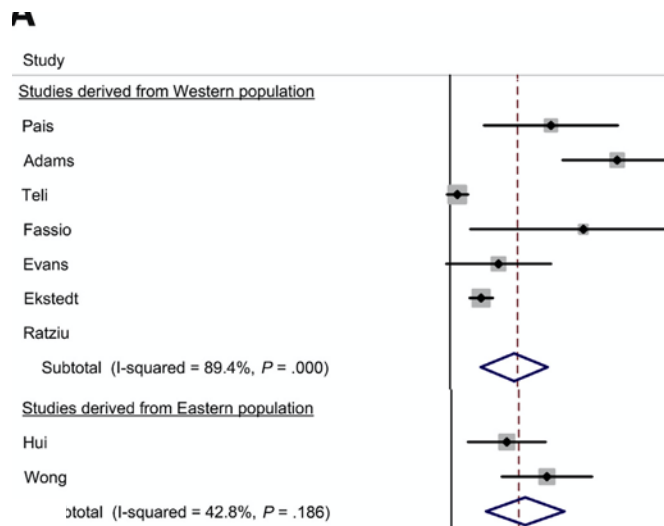
- Meta-analysis of 11 paired-biopsy studies (N = 411) with 2145.5 person-years of follow-up



Εξέλιξη της ίνωσης στη ΜΑΛΝΗ

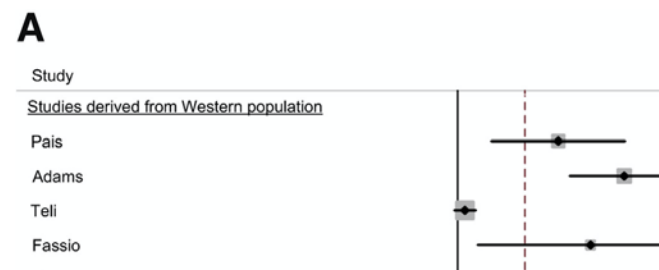
Meta-analysis 11 cohort studies [411 pts (150 steatosis, 261 NASH)] 2145 person yrs

Steatosis



39% progressed,
0.07 stages/yr (95% CI 0.02-0.11)
One stage in 14.3 (95% CI 9.1-50.0) yrs

NASH



35% progressed,
0.14 stages/yr (95% CI 0.07-0.21)
One stage in 7.1 (95% CI 4.8-14.3) yrs

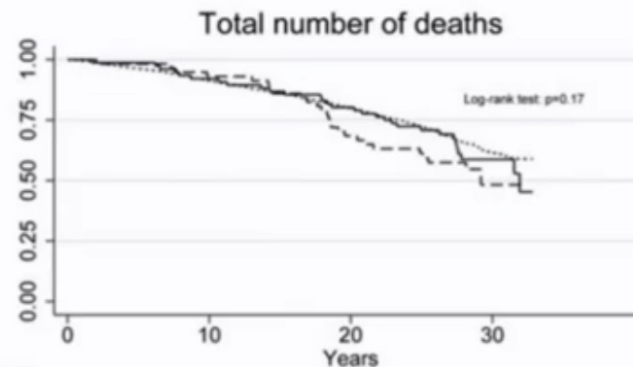
Η ΜΑΛΗΝΗ οδηγεί στην εμφάνιση κλινικών συμβάντων

229 patients with histologically characterized NAFLD (mean follow-up 26.4±5.6 years [range 6-33 years])

96 deaths

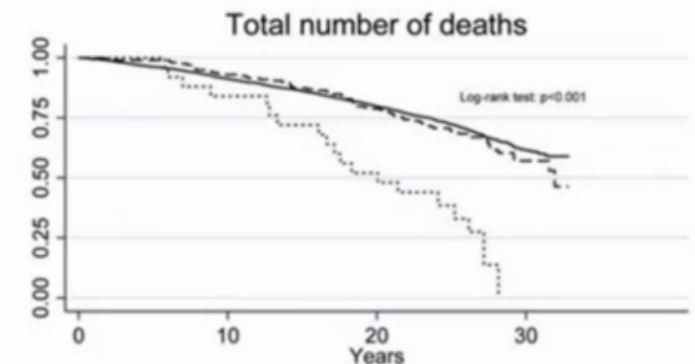
	<u>N</u>	
CVD	41	(43%)
HCC	5	(5%)
Liver-Death	4	(4%)

Caution:
Very small number of
liver-related events!



Number at risk	0	10	20	30
NAS<5 & Fibrosis<3	76	70	61	16
NAS>4 & Fibrosis<3	57	53	39	12
Controls	2286	2085	1818	387

— NAS<5 & Fibrosis<3 - - - NAS>4 & Fibrosis<3
..... Controls



Number at risk	0	10	20	30
Controls	2286	2085	1818	387
Fibrosis<3	198	184	156	28
Fibrosis>2	25	21	13	0

— Controls - - - Fibrosis<3
..... Fibrosis>2

Cause of Death	Entire Cohort (n = 229)	P	NAS 0-4, F0-2 (n = 76)	P	NAS 5-8, F0-2 (n = 57)	P	NAS 0-8, F3-4 (n = 16)	P
Overall mortality	1.29 (1.04-1.59)	0.020	1.13 (0.79-1.60)	0.511	1.41 (0.97-2.06)	0.072	3.28 (2.27-4.76)	<0.001
Cardiovascular disease	1.55 (1.11-2.15)	0.01	1.19 (0.65-2.20)	0.557	1.38 (0.72-2.65)	0.335	4.36 (2.29-8.29)	<0.001
Hepatocellular carcinoma	6.55 (2.14-20.0)	0.001	No outcome	—	15.7 (4.1-59.9)	<0.001	16.9 (1.95-146)	0.01
Cirrhosis	3.2 (1.05-9.81)	0.041	4.86 (1.08-22.0)	0.04	No outcome	—	10.8 (1.38-83.9)	0.023

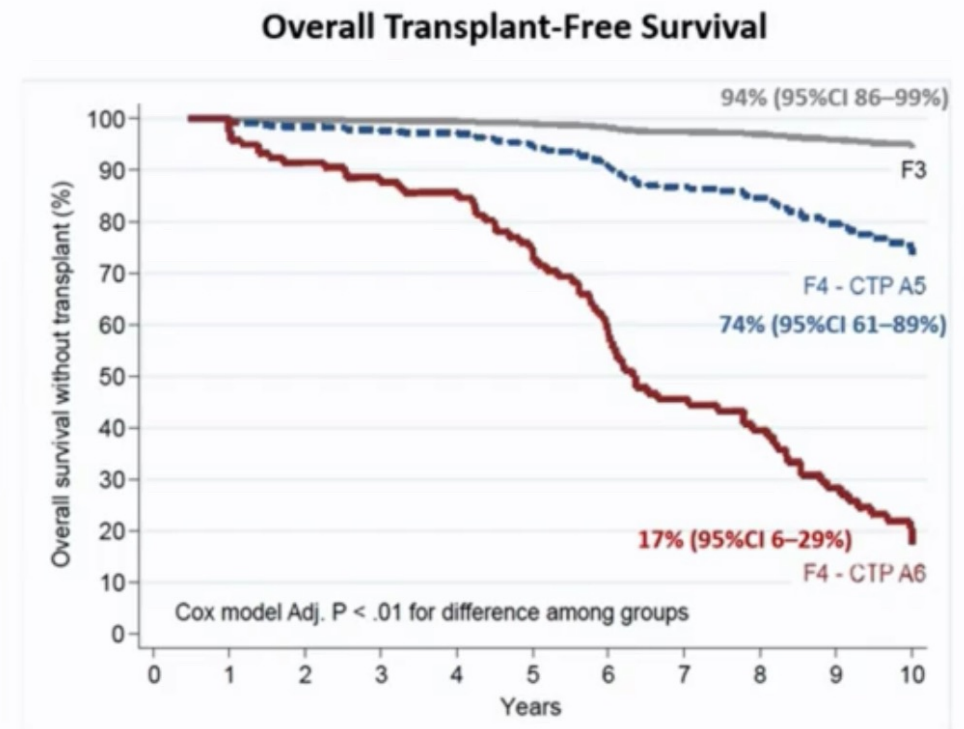


Η κλινική πορεία ποικίλει ανάλογα με το στάδιο της νόσου

Longitudinal study: n=458 biopsy proven NAFLD (F3: n=159; F4: n=299)

Mean follow-up time of 5.5 years (range 2.7–8.2 years)

Events	N	Annualised Incidence Rates by Fibrosis Stage		
		F3	F4 (CTP-A5)	F4 (CTP-A6)
CVD	14	0.9 (0.5-1.8)	0.4 (0.2-1.0)	0.2 (0.03-0.6)
HCC	41	0.2 (0.02-0.9)	1.8 (1.1-2.7)	4.7 (3.0-7.5)
Decompensation	88	0.6 (0.2-1.4)	3.3 (2.4-4.6)	15.6 (11.7-20.9)
Death/OLT	74	0.5 (0.2-1.2)	2.1 (1.4-3.1)	11.1 (8.3-14.8)

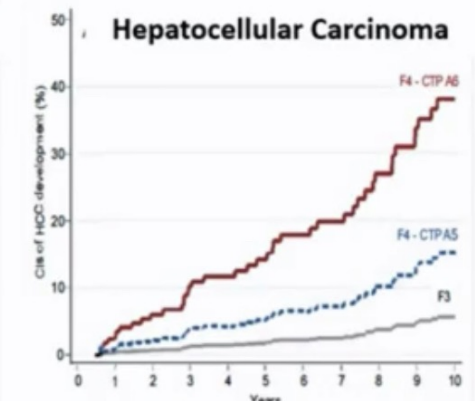
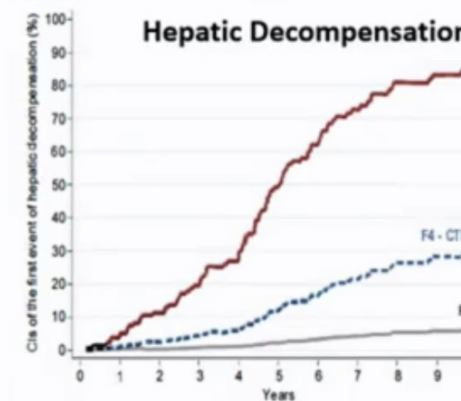
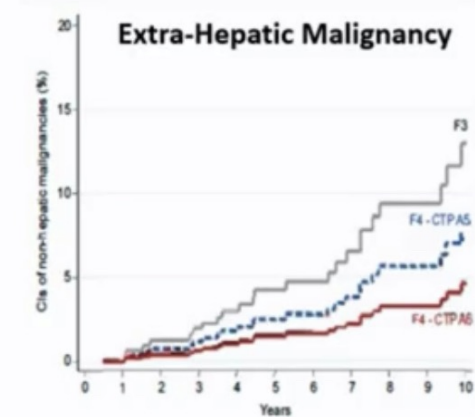
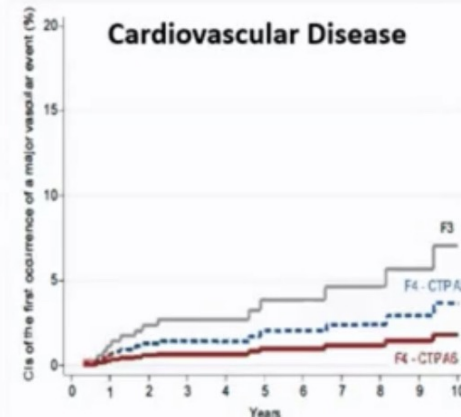
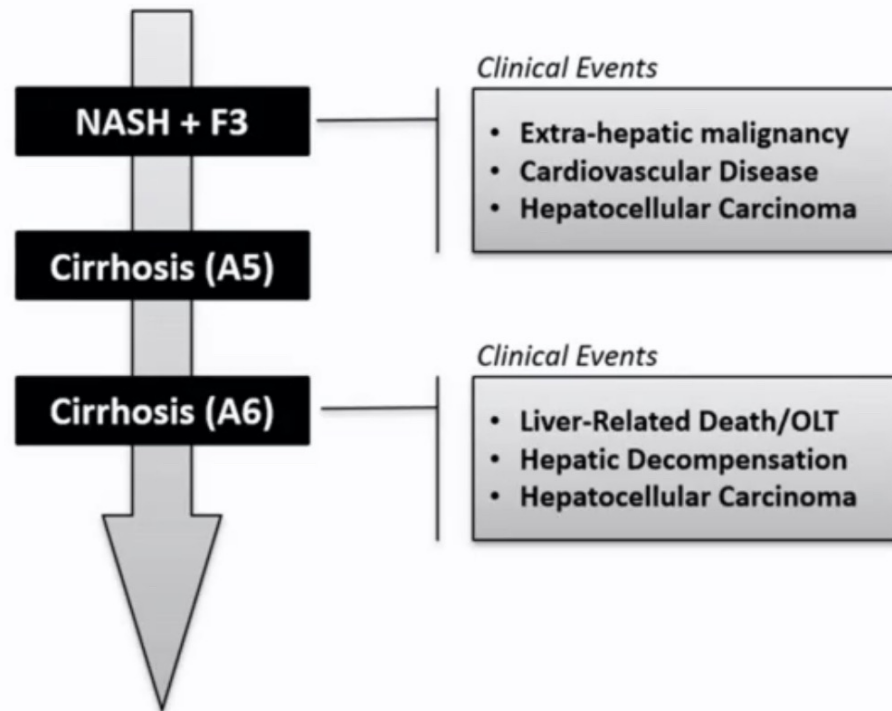


Ten-year overall transplant-free survival 68% (95%CI 53-75%)

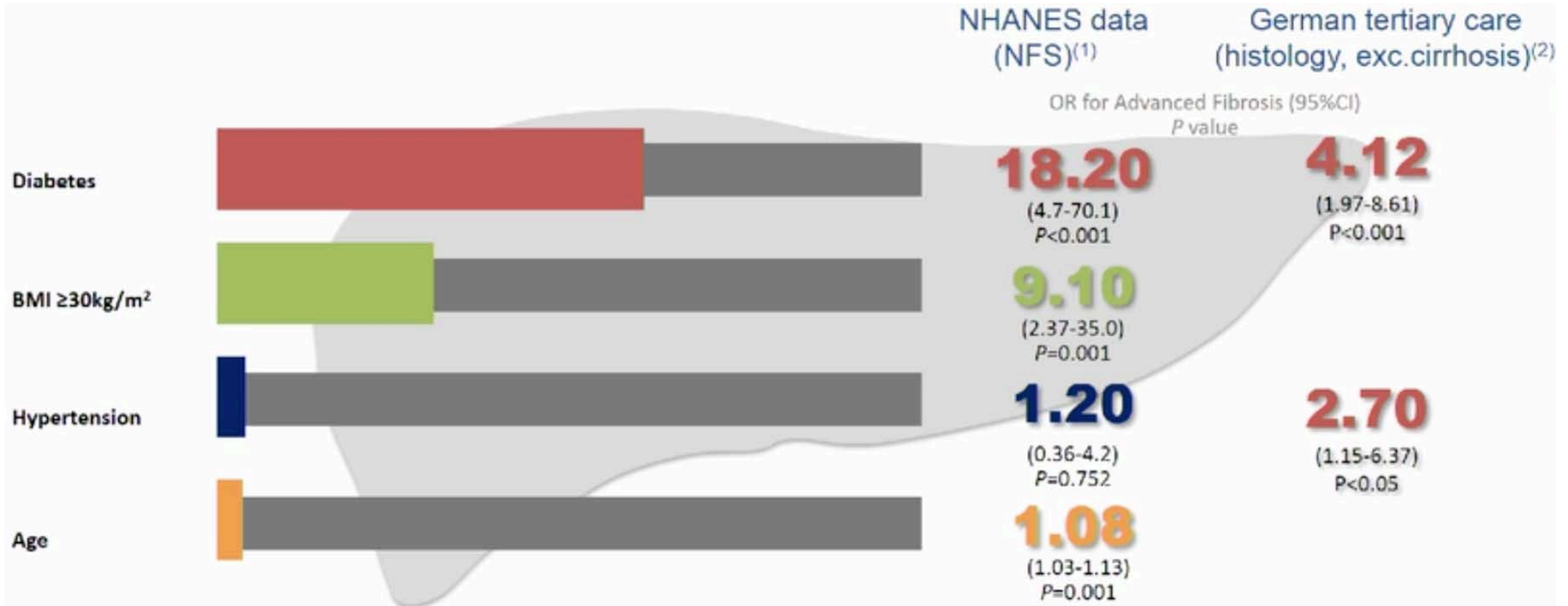


Τα κλινικά συμβάματα ποικίλουν ανάλογα με το στάδιο της νόσου

Longitudinal study: n=458 biopsy proven NAFLD (F3: n=159; F4: n=299)



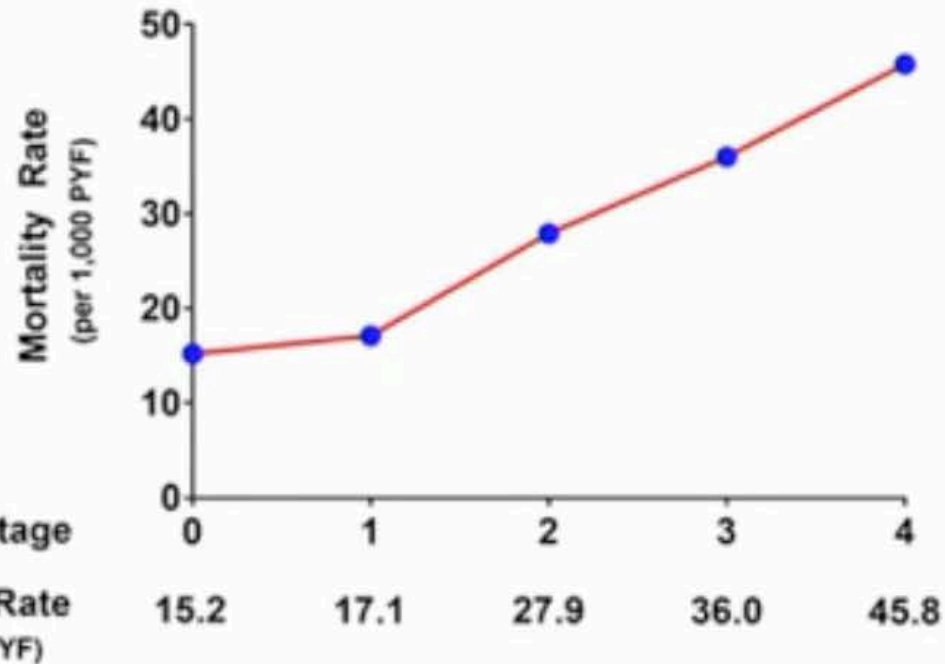
Diabetes is the strongest predictor of advanced fibrosis



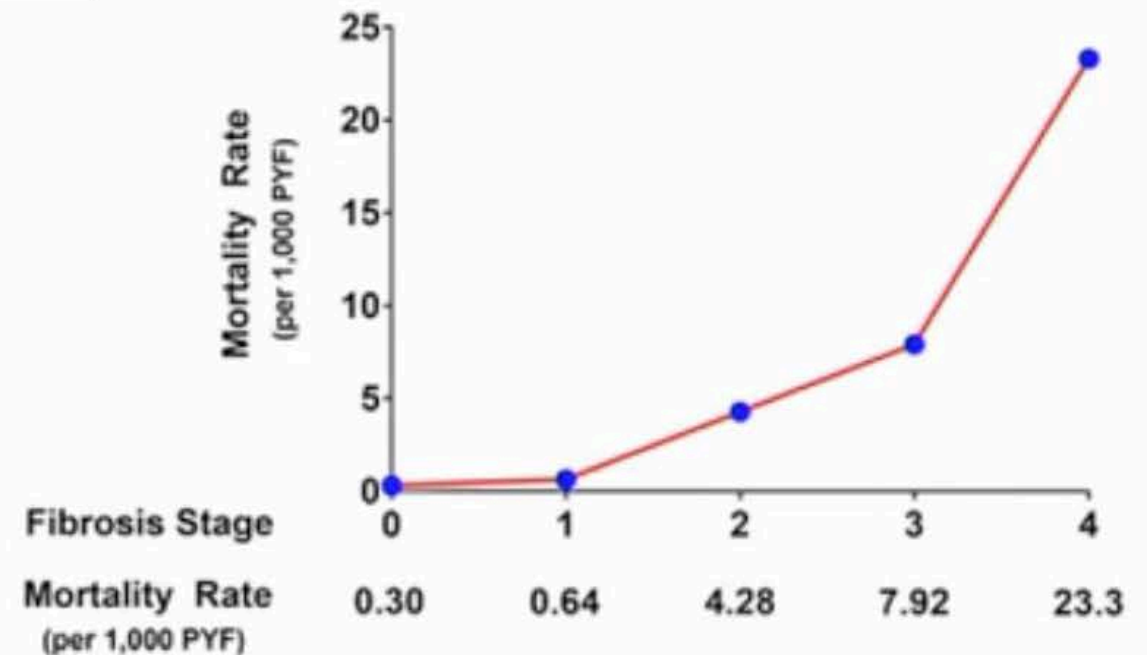
Mortality in pts with NAFLD is multicasual

Systematic review and meta-analysis of 5 studies 1495 NAFLD pts with 17.452 pt/yr follow-up

All Cause Mortality



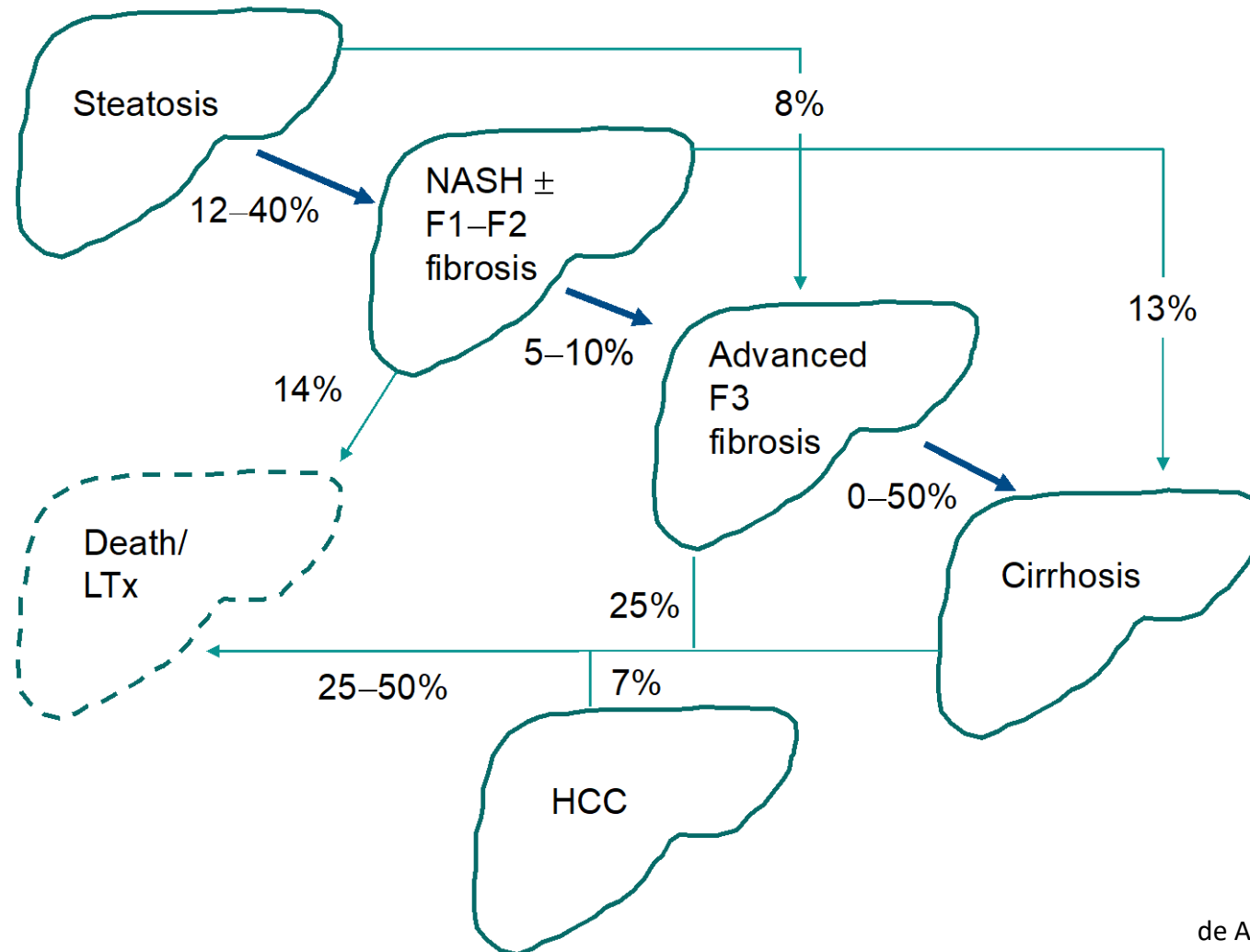
Liver Related Mortality



Causes of death:

1. Cardiovascular disease
2. Non-hepatic cancer
3. Liver-related causes

Natural history of NAFLD over 8-13 yrs



NAFLD Presentation

Symptoms

- Usually asymptomatic; majority discovered by chance
- Fatigue frequently present

Often an “incidental finding”

- Incidental abnormal LFTs
- Incidental “bright liver” on imaging
- Incidental hepatomegaly

Common scenarios

- Statin monitoring
- “Annual reviews” in T2D/lipid/hypertension clinics
- Medical insurance/occupational health checks

Pragmatic First Steps in Suspected NAFLD

1. Risk Identification

- Metabolic syndrome or other high prevalence group

2. History

- Alcohol intake (< 14/21 units/wk)
- No known preexisting liver disease

3. Investigations

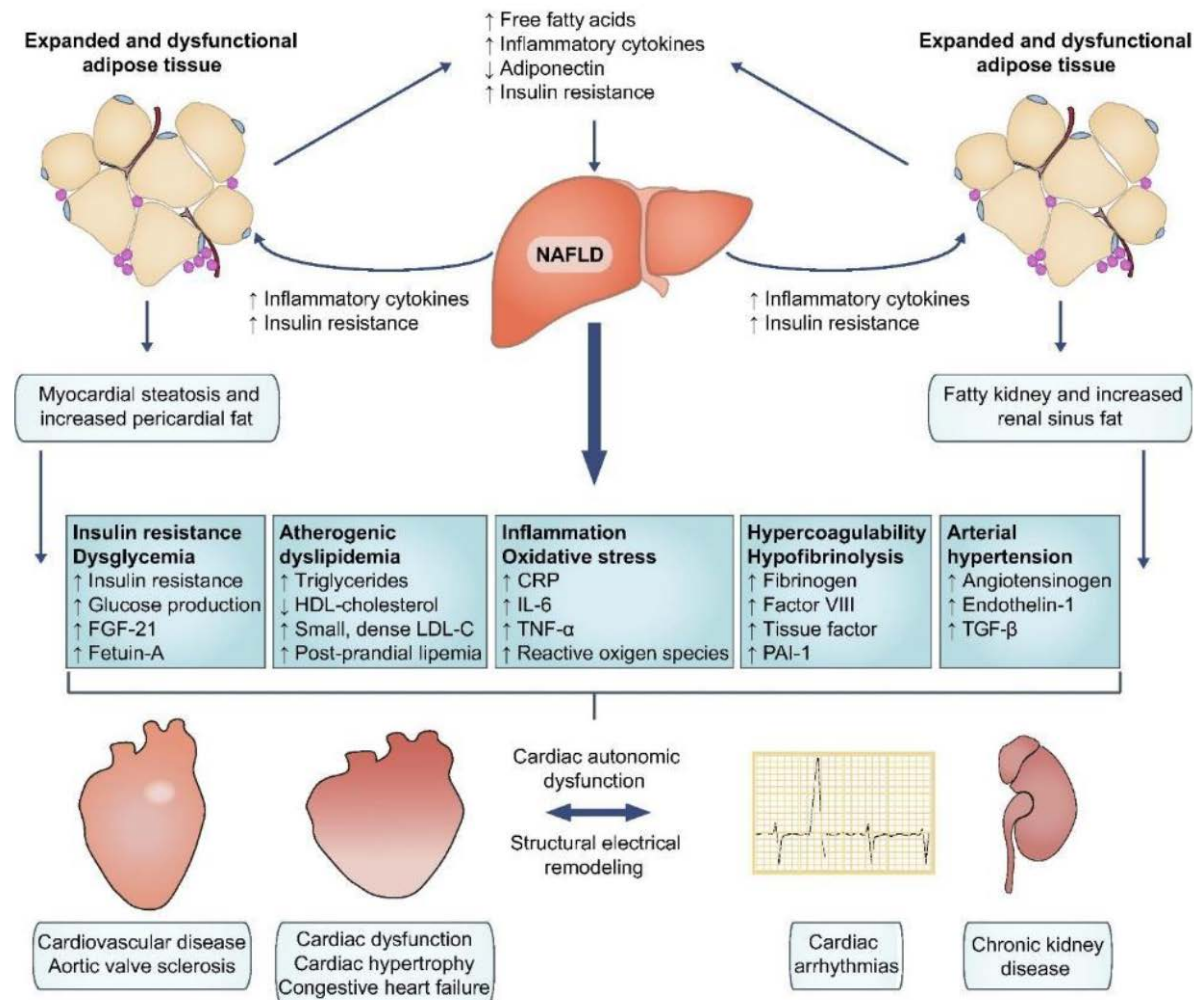
- Liver biochemistry (ALT, AST, etc)
- Exclude/identify other liver diseases:
 - Negative HBV & HCV serology
 - Negative autoantibodies (ANA, AMA, SMA, LKM1, ANCA)
 - Negative coeliac serology
 - Normal immunoglobulins, ferritin, A1AT, Cu²⁺, etc
- Liver ultrasound: increased echogenicity (steatosis)

Spectrum of NAFLD and concurrent disease

Sub-classification of NAFLD*	Most common concurrent diseases
NAFL - Pure steatosis - Steatosis and mild lobular inflammation	AFLD[†] Drug-induced fatty liver disease[†] HCV-associated fatty liver disease (GT 3)[†] Others[†] - Haemochromatosis - Autoimmune hepatitis - Coeliac disease - Wilson disease - A/hypo-betalipoproteinaemia lipodystrophy - Hypopituitarism, hypothyroidism - Starvation, parenteral nutrition - Inborn errors of metabolism - Wolman disease (lysosomal acid lipase deficiency)
NASH - Early NASH (no or mild fibrosis) - Fibrotic NASH (significant/advanced fibrosis) - NASH cirrhosis	
HCC[‡]	

*Also called primary NAFLD and associated with metabolic risk factors/components of MetS †Also called secondary NAFLD.

Putative connection between NAFLD, CVD and CKD

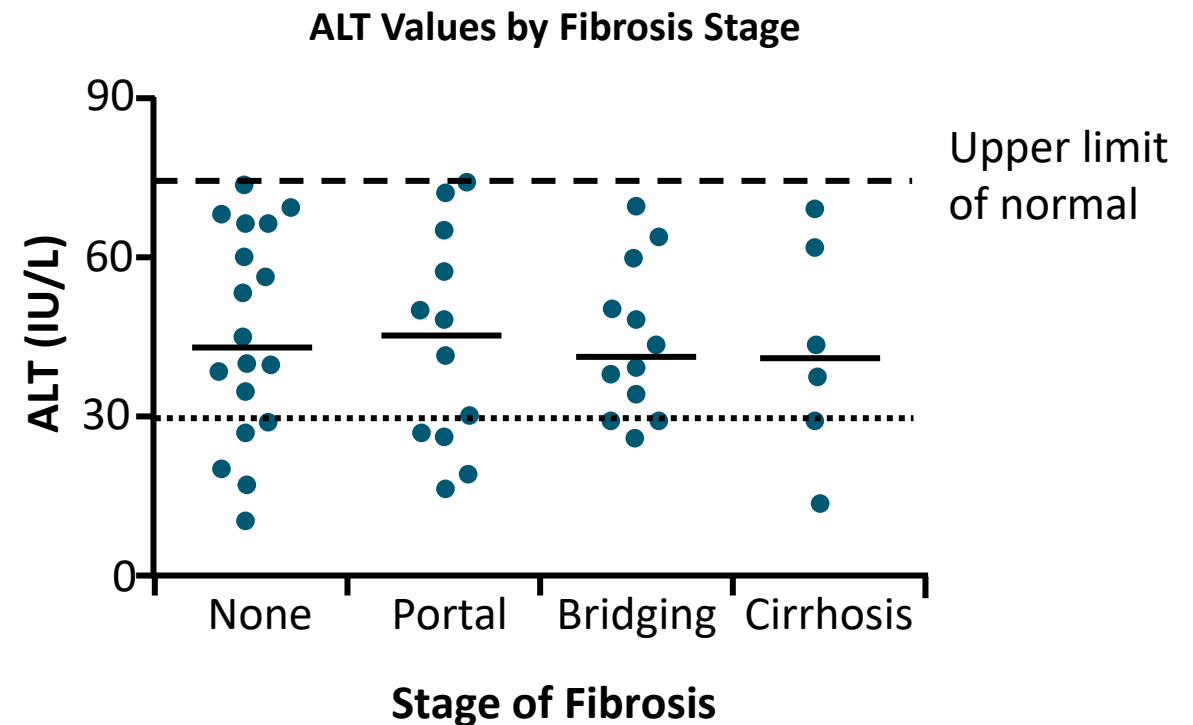


Liver Enzymes: Inadequate in Assessing NAFLD/NASH

- ALT can be normal in > 50% of individuals with NASH, 80% of individuals with NAFLD^[1,2]
- ALT can be elevated in > 50% of individuals with NAFLD but without NASH
- In NAFLD, ALT is neither indicative nor predictive of NASH or fibrosis stage^[3]:
 - Normal ALT does not preclude NASH/progressive disease
 - Elevated ALT cannot predict NASH or fibrosis
 - **ALT and AST not sensitive for NAFLD/NASH**

NAFLD Grade and Stage Similar With Normal vs Abnormal LFTs

Pattern	Normal ALT (n = 51)	Abnormal ALT (n = 50)	P Value
Fat alone, n	8	10	NS
Fat + scattered inflammation, n	8	10	NS
Fat + ballooning ± inflammation, n	13	11	NS
Fat + ballooning ± Mallory hyaline ± pericellular fibrosis, n	22	19	NS



Non invasive assessment to fibrosis

Blood

- AST/ALT ratio
- AST to platelet ratio index
- BARD
- FIB-4
- NAFLD fibrosis score

ELF score	Severity of liver fibrosis
<7.7	None-to-mild
7.7–9.8	Moderate
>9.8	Severe

Imaging

ARFI



Fibrosis Classification:
(equivalence in fibrosis stage)



MRE



Fibrosis stage

Stage 0

Stage 1

Stage 2

Stage 3

Stage 4

Liver stiffness

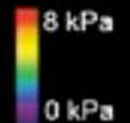
1.69 kPa

2.11 kPa

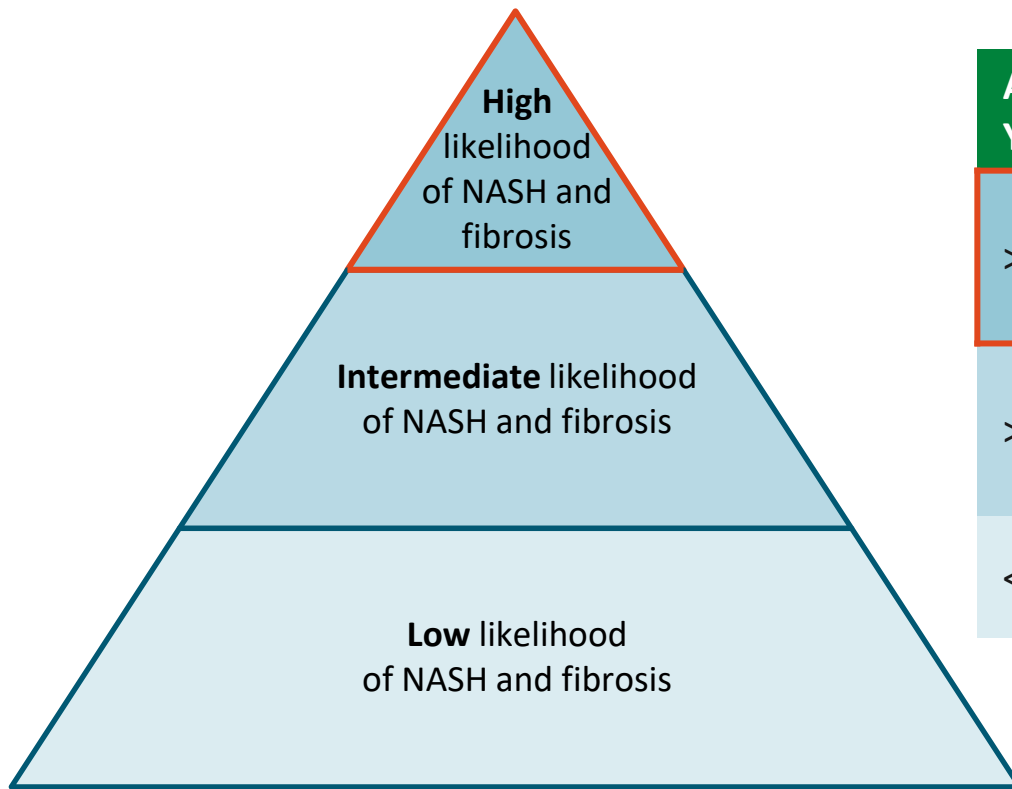
3.20 kPa

6.22 kPa

6.91 kPa



Determining High-Risk Features for NASH



Prescreening Criteria for NASH Clinical Trials

Age, Yrs	Comorbidities	VCTE, kPA	AST, IU/L	NFS	FIB-4	Other
> 50	DM, obesity, HTN	> 8.5	> 40	> .676	> 2.67	Hispanic, AST:ALT ratio ≥ 1
> 40	Well-controlled DM, obesity, HTN	> 7.0	> 20			
< 40	No DM, no obesity	< 7.0	< 20	< -1.455	< 1.30	

↑
VCTE:
Imaging

↑ ↑
NFS, FIB-4: Scores
based on labs

NAFLD Fibrosis Score and FIB-4

Cutoff Scores for Measurement of Advanced Fibrosis^[1,2]

FIB-4: ≤ 1.3
NFS: < -1.455

FIB-4: ≥ 2.67
NFS: > 0.675

Absence of advanced
fibrosis

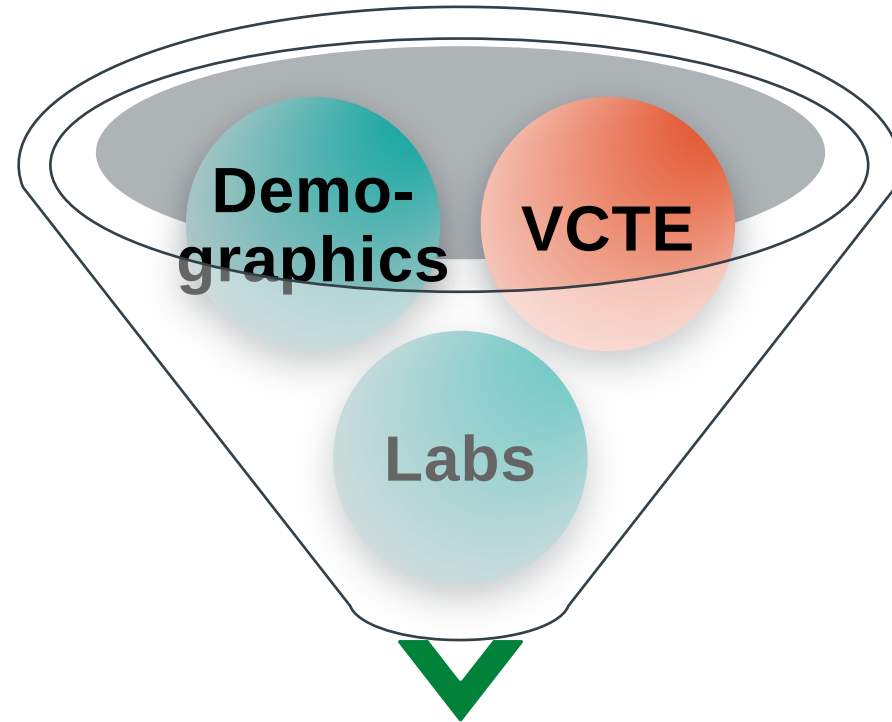
Indeterminate

Presence of advanced
fibrosis

**Both FIB-4 and NFS lack sufficient PPV
to be used alone to predict NASH and fibrosis**

Noninvasive Tests

- Proper use of noninvasive tests—including imaging—can aid risk stratification

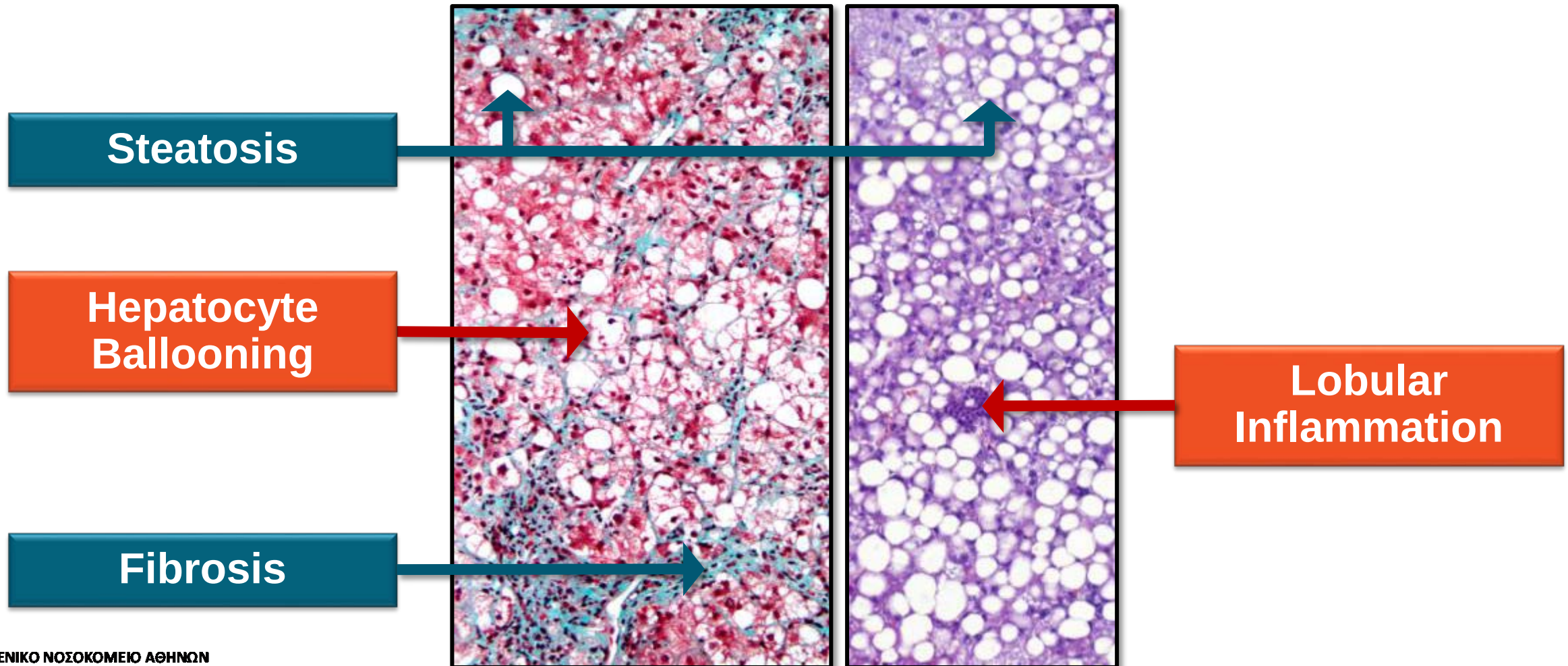


Enrich for NASH and F2/3 Fibrosis

Is a Liver Biopsy Always Necessary in NAFLD?

- Not always required but remains necessary and useful in many cases
 - Confirm diagnosis and exclude alternative/secondary pathology
 - Stage disease
 - Stratify progression risk
- Use of biopsy should be tailored to the individual patient
 - Marked biochemical abnormalities on LFTs
 - Diagnostic doubt
 - Noninvasive scores that are high or indeterminate risk
 - Patient choice

Histological Features of NAFLD and NASH



Components of a life style approach to NAFLD

Energy restriction

- Calorie restriction (500–1,000/day)
- 7–10% weight loss target
- Long-term maintenance approach

Fructose intake

- Avoid fructose-containing food and drink

Coffee consumption

- No liver-related limitations

Daily alcohol intake

- Strictly below 30 g men and 20 g women

Comprehensive
lifestyle approach

Macronutrient composition

- Low-to-moderate fat
- Moderate-to-high carbohydrate
- Low-carbohydrate ketogenic diets or high protein

Physical activity

- 150–200 min/week moderate intensity in 3–5 sessions
- Resistance training to promote musculoskeletal fitness and improve metabolic factors

Weight loss in NAFLD

- Counsel all patients on healthy lifestyle with **diet, exercise, lifestyle**
- To achieve and maintain weight loss, consider adjunctive **pharmacologic approaches in all overweight individuals (BMI > 27)** and **surgical approaches in otherwise eligible obese individuals**

Diet, Exercise, Lifestyle

~ 5% to 8% weight loss^[1]

Pharmacologic Approaches

~ 8% to 10% weight loss^[1]

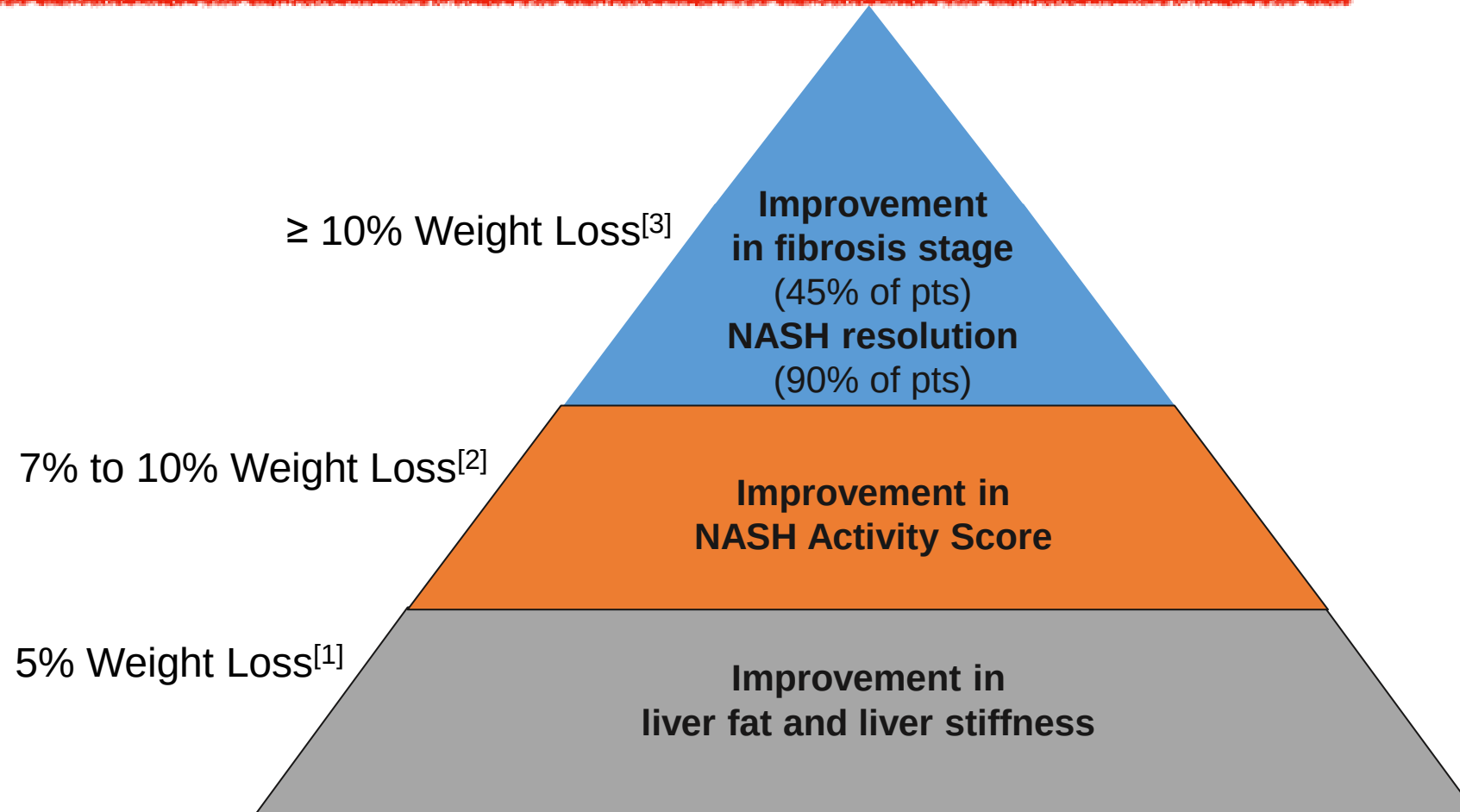
Bariatric Surgery

~ 10% to 30% weight loss^[2]

1/3 to 2/3 of dieters regain more weight than they lost on their diets despite bias toward showing successful weight loss maintenance³.



How Much Weight Loss Is Needed for Improvement in NASH?



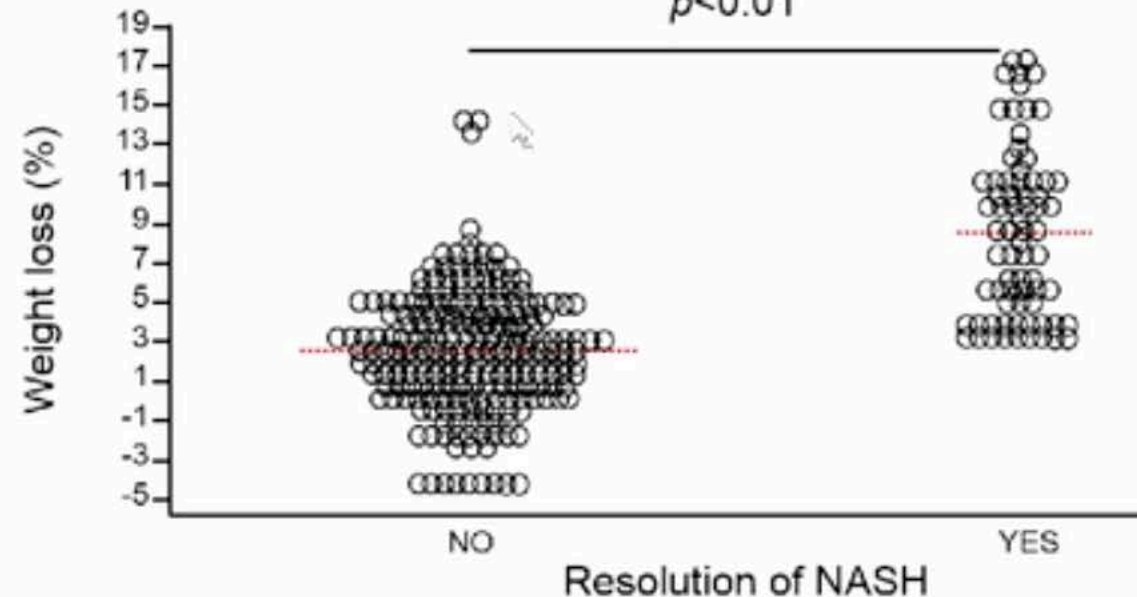
Effects of weight loss on NAFLD/NASH

Prospective study with biopsy-proven NASH
Lifestyle changes over 52 weeks:

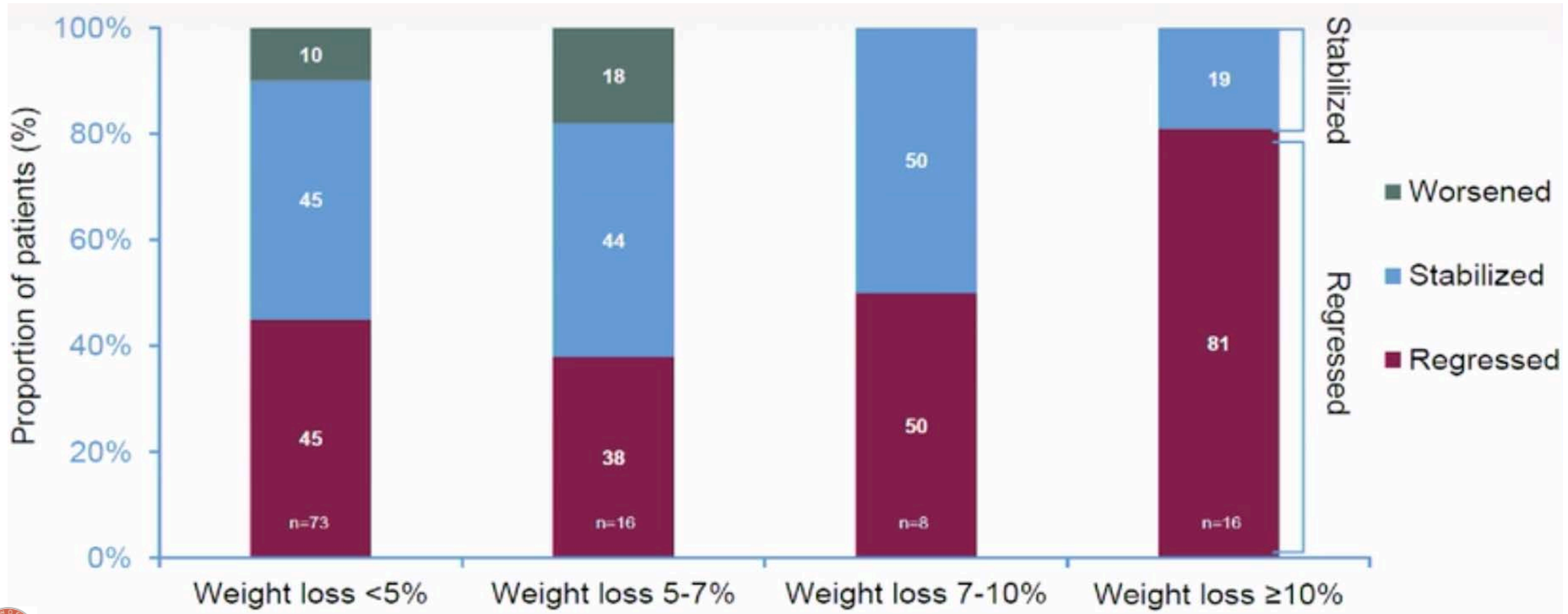
1. ↓750 kcal/day
2. Walk 200 min/week
3. Behavioural session (every 8 weeks)

Variables	Overall (n=293)	WL <5 (n=205)	WL = 5–6.99 (n=34)	WL = 7–9.99 (n=25)	WL ≥10 (n=29)
Weight loss, %	3.8 ± 2.7	1.78 ± 0.16	5.86 ± 0.09	8.16 ± 0.22	13.04 ± 6.6
Resolution of Steatohepatitis, n (%)	72 (25)	21 (10)	9 (26)	16 (64)	26 (90)

$p < 0.01$



Weight loss through life style modifications improves fibrosis



Treatment of NAFLD/NASH

>20 preclinical programs

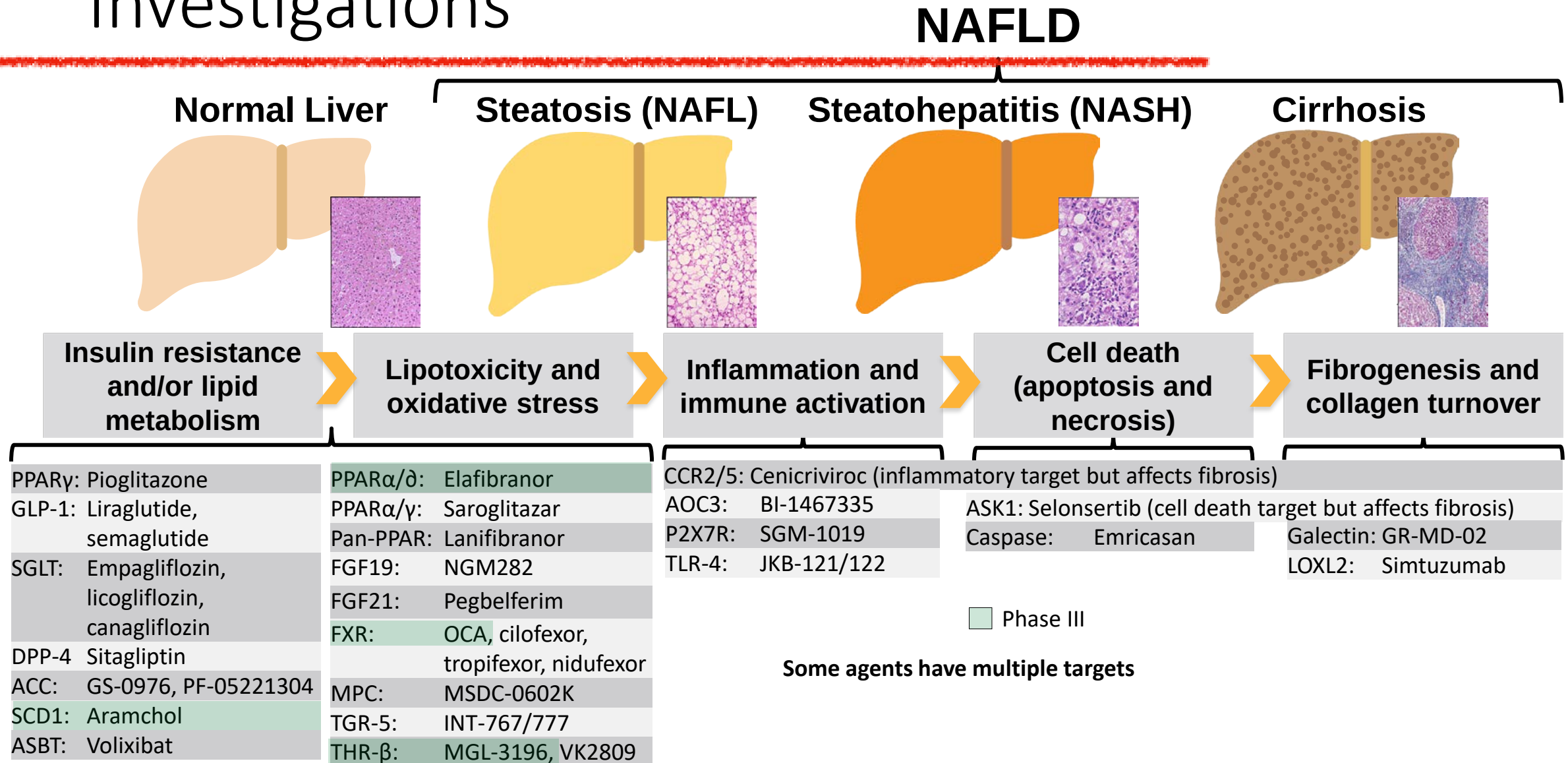
29 compounds in phase I development

45 Phase II trials

4 Phase III trials

There is no treatments currently
licensed for the treatment of NASH

Examples of NASH Treatments in Phase II or III Investigations



Currently Available Pharmacologic Agents (Off Label)

Targeting Insulin Resistance

Compound	Mechanism of Action	Trial	Primary Endpoint(s)	AASLD Recommendation as NASH Treatment
Metformin	Multiple	Multiple studies	Various	Not recommended for NASH per se
Pioglitazone	PPAR γ agonist	PIVENS Multiple studies	Improvement in NAS ≥ 2 without fibrosis worsening	May be used in patients with biopsy-proven NASH
Liraglutide	GLP-1 receptor agonist	LEAN*	Resolution of NASH without fibrosis worsening	Premature to consider GLP-1 receptor agonists

Targeting Oxidative Stress

Compound	Mechanism of Action	Trial Name	Primary Endpoint(s)	AASLD Recommendation as NASH Treatment
Vitamin E	Antioxidant	PIVENS TONIC	Improvement in NAS ≥ 2 without fibrosis worsening	May be used in nondiabetic adults with biopsy-proven NASH

Safety and Tolerability of Recommended Therapies (Off Label)

Vitamin E (800 IU/day)

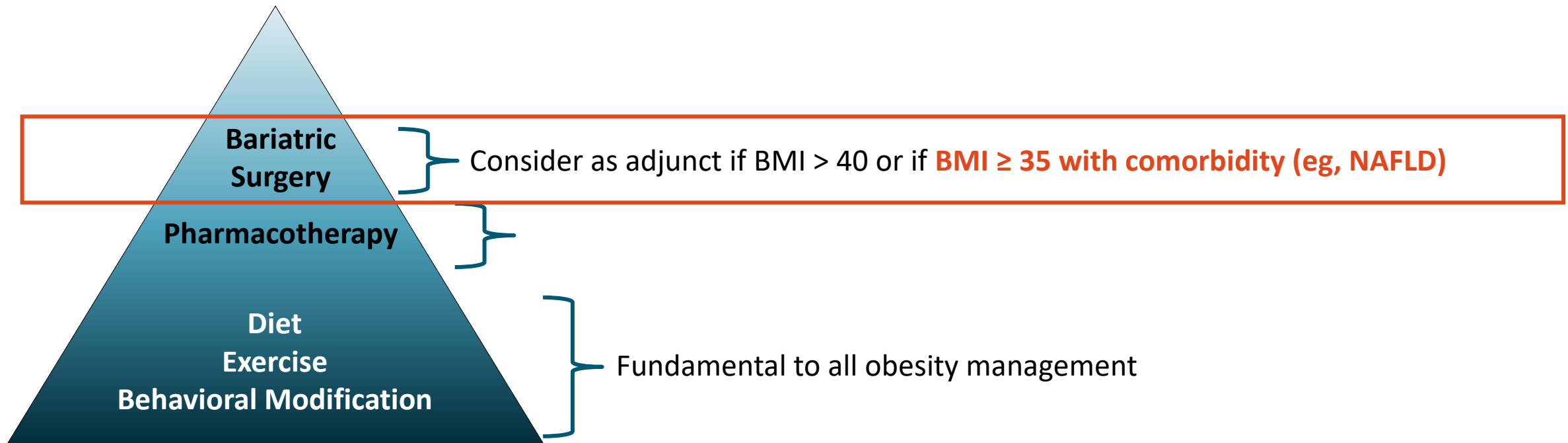
- Possible all-cause mortality risk at > 800 IU/day^[1]
- Increased hemorrhagic stroke risk^[2]
 - Also shows reduced ischemic stroke risk
- Increased prostate carcinoma risk (HR vs placebo: 1.17; 99% CI: 1.004-1.36; $P = .008$)^[3]

Pioglitazone

- Edema, weight gain (~ 2-3 kg over 2-4 yrs)^[4]
- Risk of osteoporosis in women^[5]
- Equivocal bladder cancer risk
 - Increased in some studies^[6]
 - No association in most studies^[7,8]

Use of these agents should be personalized for selected patients with histologically confirmed NASH after careful consideration of risk/benefit ratio

Bariatric surgery



“ . . . we suggest the use of approved weight loss medication (over no pharmacologic therapy)”

Bariatric Surgery Improves Liver Histology in Obese Patients

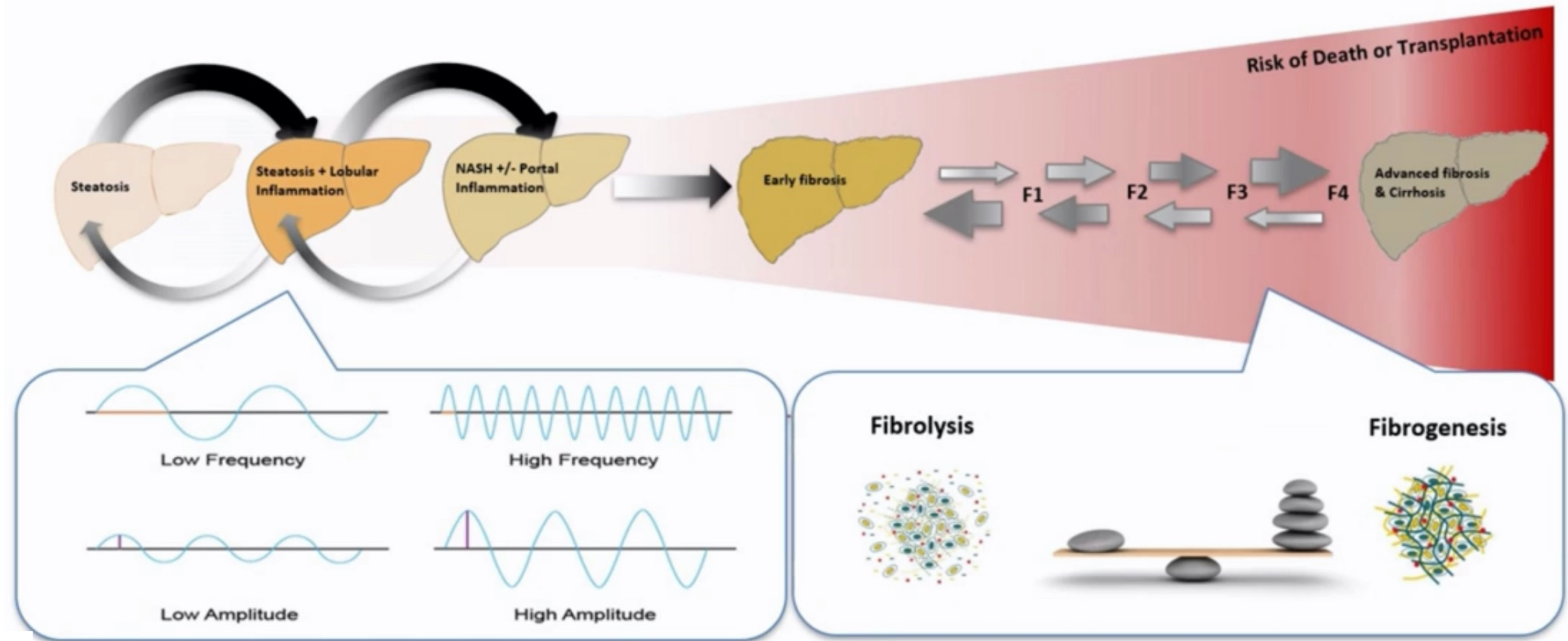
- Prospective study in morbidly obese patients with **biopsy-validated NASH**, ≥ 1 comorbidity factor for > 5 yrs, no chronic liver disease (N = 109)^[1]

Outcome	Baseline	After 1 Yr
Mean BMI $\pm$ SD	49.3 $\pm$ 8.2	37.4 $\pm$ 7.0
Patients with NASH resolution, %	NA	85.0
Patients with fibrosis reduction, %	NA	33.8

- Meta-analysis of 32 cohort studies of bariatric surgery in obese patients (n = 3093 biopsies)^[2]

Characteristic	Outcome
Mean reduction in NAS, points	2.39
Patients with resolution of NAFLD components, %	
■ Steatosis	66
■ Inflammation	50
■ Ballooning	76
■ Fibrosis	40
Patients with new or worsening histologic NAFLD components, %	12

Conclusions



Ερωτήσεις – συζήτηση

