



PMI RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Non-Clinical Toxicology of Nicotine and Aerosol from a Heated Tobacco Product

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Director Pre-Clinical Toxicology



PMI's Goal for Harm Reduction

Offering adult smokers satisfying products that reduce risk

- Smoking is addictive and causes a number of serious diseases
- Worldwide it is estimated that more than one billion people will continue to smoke in the foreseeable future*



- Successful harm reduction requires that current adult smokers be offered a range of Reduced Risk Products (RRPs) so that consumer acceptance can be best fulfilled
- Our **Heated Tobacco Product (HTP)** is a RRP.



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Reduced-Risk Products (“RRPs”) is the term the company uses to refer to products with the potential to reduce individual risk and population harm in comparison to smoking cigarettes. PMI’s RRP’s are in **various stages of development and commercialization**, and we are conducting **extensive and rigorous scientific studies** to determine whether we can support claims for such products of reduced exposure to harmful and potentially harmful constituents in smoke, and ultimately claims of reduced disease risk, **when compared to smoking cigarettes**.

Before making any such claims, we will **rigorously evaluate the full set of data** from the relevant scientific studies to determine whether they substantiate reduced exposure or risk. Any such claims **may also be subject to government review and authorization** as is the case in the US today.

Outline & Scope

Short description of design and methods used in a series of *in vivo* inhalation studies assessing the effects of nicotine aerosol, conventional cigarette smoke and aerosols from potentially Risk-Reduced Product (pRRP) [or candidate Modified Risk Tobacco Product] – Heated Tobacco Product

Description of effects of nicotine (in combination with pyruvic acid) using pre-clinical and systems toxicology endpoints

Toxicity of cigarette smoke exposure and the effect of a HTP – interpretation of findings using nicotine-exposure knowledge

Application of a mouse disease model for cardiovascular and respiratory disease – effects of cigarette smoke exposure, switching to HTP aerosol exposure and cessation

HTP: Heated Tobacco Product



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Methods – *in vivo* studies

Regulatory rat inhalation studies (OECD protocols; 28-day, 90-day*, OECD GLP)

- Aerosol generation: using appropriate standards
 - Smoking machines: conventional cigarettes, reduced risk products
 - Collison nebulizers: nicotine/salt solution, nicotine containing liquids
- Aerosol characterization: *demonstrate that aerosol is representative and follows guidelines*
 - Determination of aerosol markers (e.g. TPM, CO, carbonyls), breathing zone
 - Particle size distribution
- Bio-monitoring: *demonstrate that exposure is representative*
 - Respiratory physiology
 - Urinary particulate and gas phase biomarkers of exposure (e.g. nicotine metabolites, mercapturic acid metabolites from acrolein, benzene, acrylonitrile, NNK) blood carboxyhemoglobin)

***OECD Guidelines for the Testing of Chemicals, Section 4.**

Test No. 413: Subchronic Inhalation Toxicity: 90-day Study, OECD 2009

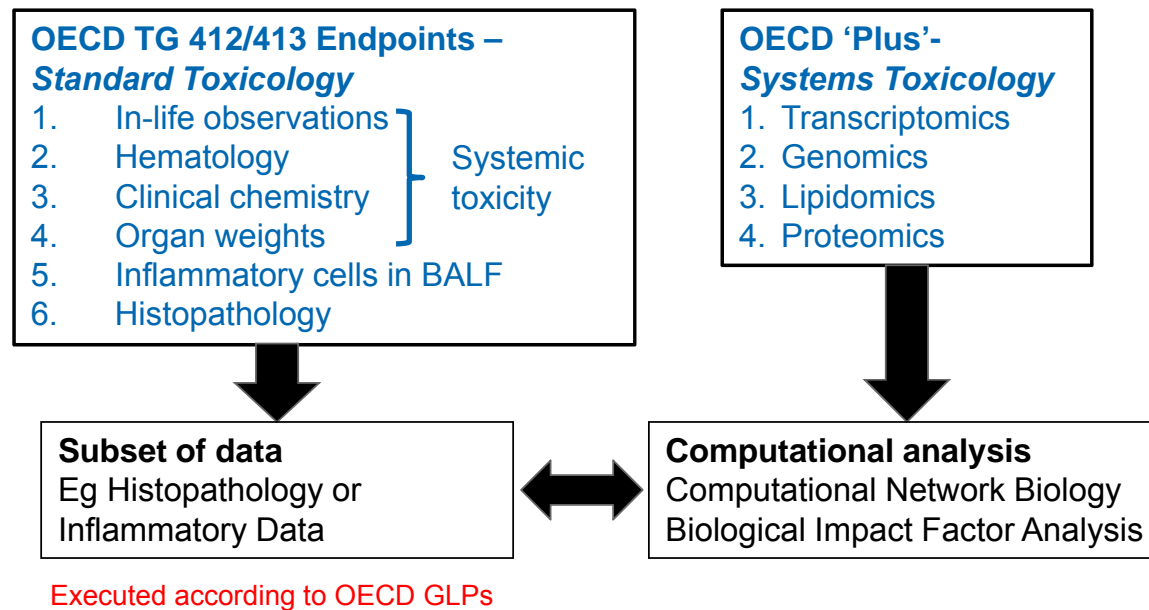
Test No. 412: Subacute Inhalation Toxicity: 28-Day Study, OECD 2009



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Methods - design

- Endpoints:



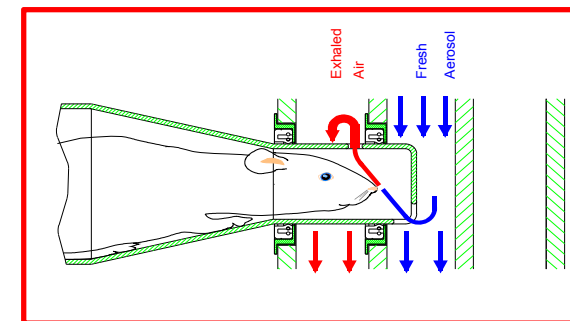
- Test atmospheres presented in low/medium/high concentration: up to MTD: 50 µg Nicotine/l* for nicotine-containing aerosols – 23 µg Nicotine/l for cigarette smoke; concentration-response

*50 µg/l nic corresponds to 13.6 mg/kg, daily dose; way above acute toxicity levels- or the nicotine amount from approx. 130 cig/day for a 60 kg human



Methods

Exposure – nebulized nicotine –nicotine-salt solutions



Sample Collection



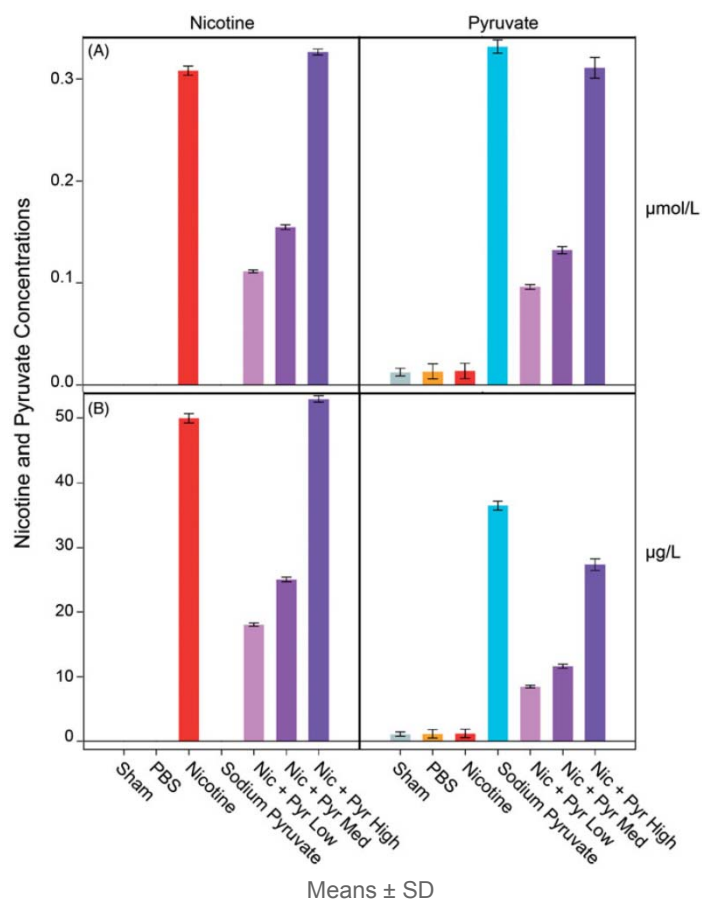
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Effects of nicotine – 28-day inhalation study (OECD TG 412)

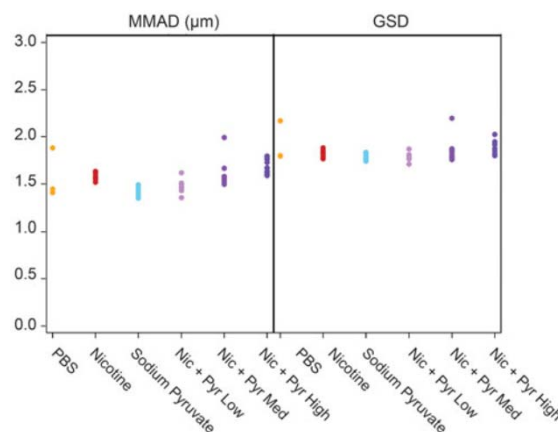
Exposure and Bio-monitoring

Urinary nicotine metabolites demonstrate appropriate exposure to 'respirable' aerosol

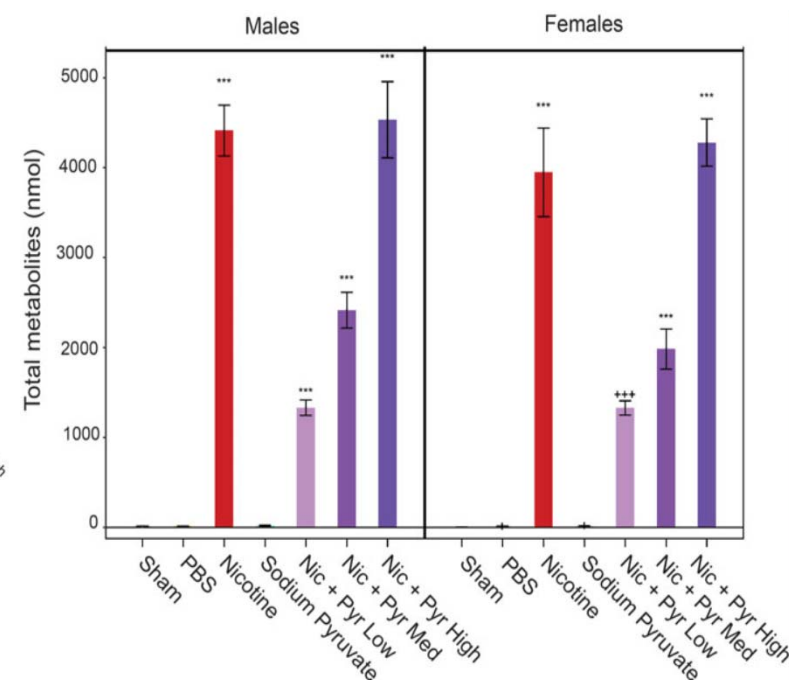
Test atmosphere concentrations



Particle size determination



Urinary nicotine metabolites



Means ± SEM; ***p ≤ 0.001



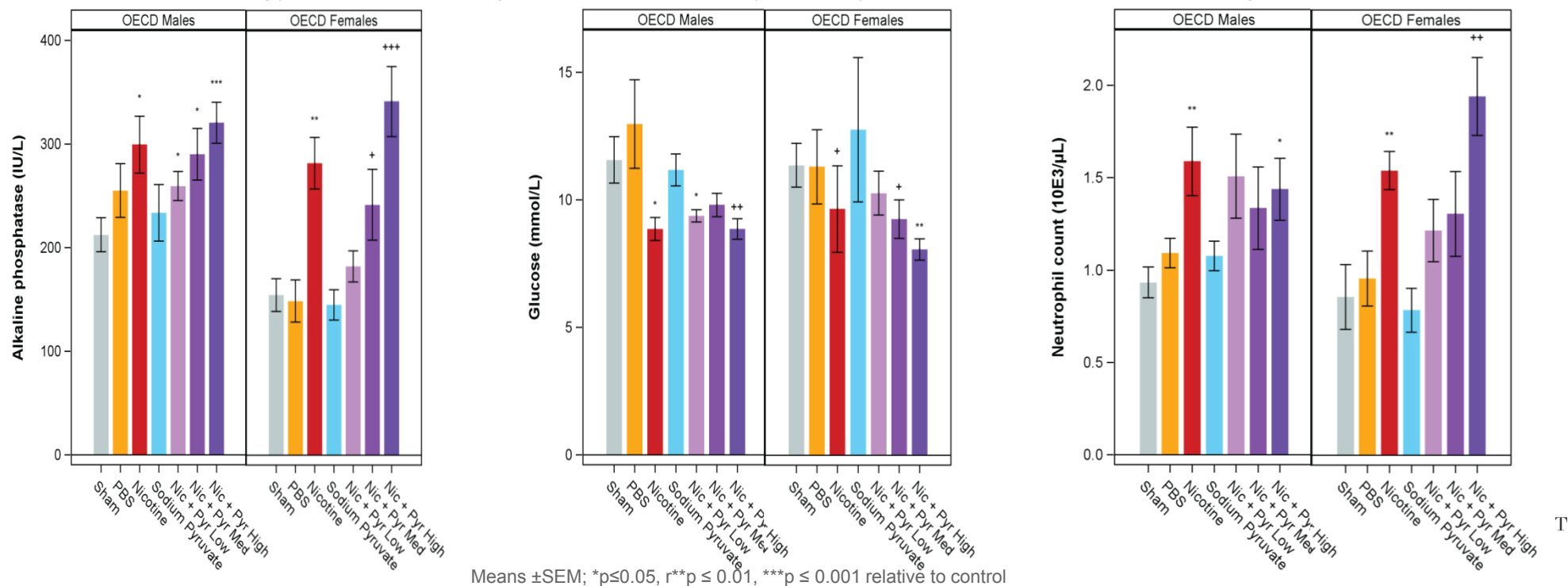
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Effects of nicotine – 28-day inhalation study (OECD TG 412)

Systemic effects

Nicotine concentration-dependent changes in:

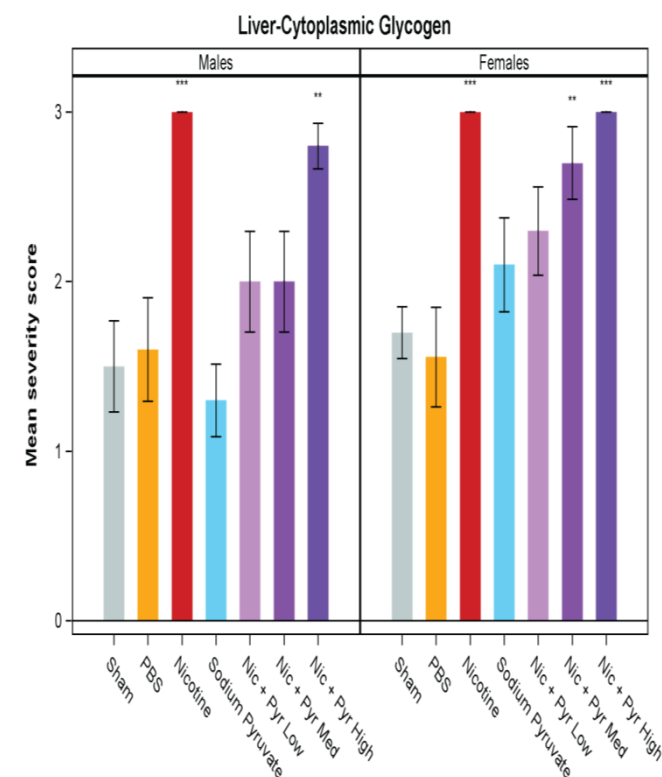
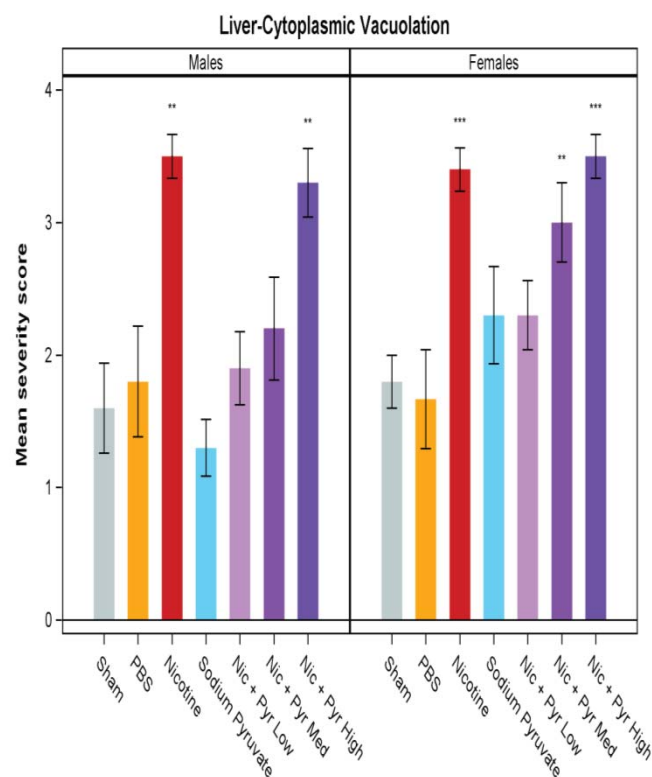
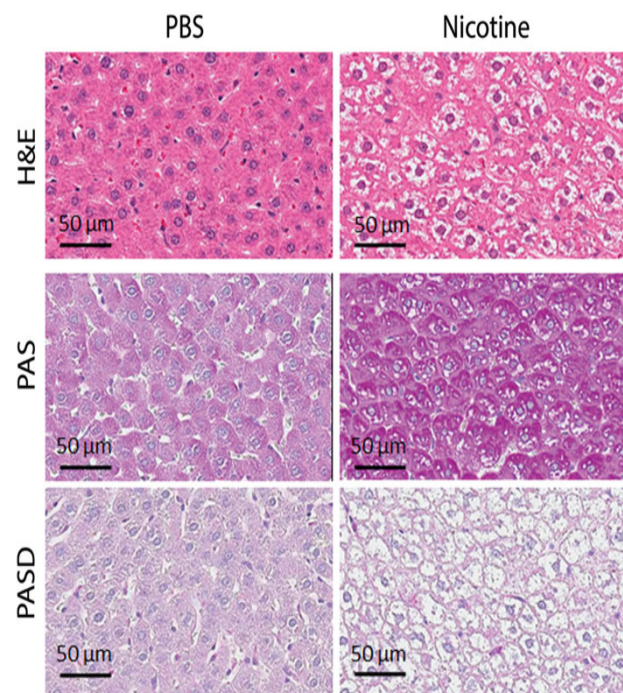
- Body weight development (approx. 5% body weight gain reduction in 'high' concentration group)
- Organ weights (relative to body weight): Liver, higher than controls; Spleen, lower
- Clinical chemistry: Alkaline phosphatase and alanine aminotransferase: higher than controls; cholesterol and glucose: lower than controls – all in normal ranges
- Hematology: neutrophils, higher than controls; lymphocytes, lower – all in normal ranges



Effects of nicotine – 28-day inhalation study (OECD TG 412)

Histopathology of non-respiratory tract organs

Liver effects: nicotine concentration-dependent cytoplasmic vacuolation – vacuoles contain PAS-positive material, likely to consist of glycogen granules



Means \pm SEM; * $p \leq 0.05$, ** $p \leq 0.01$, *** $p \leq 0.001$ relative to control



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Effects of nicotine – 28-day inhalation study (OECD TG 412) Summary & Conclusion

- Exposure to nicotine aerosols, alone or in combination with pyruvic acid, results in mild changes in toxicity in a 28-day inhalation toxicology study with respect to:
 - Systemic effects: increased liver weight, blood neutrophil counts, activity of liver enzymes and decreased blood levels of cholesterol and glucose
 - Histopathological effects: increased vacuolation of and glycogen content in hepatocytes

Changes in liver gene expression and lipidomics provide mechanistic explanation for the changes observed, i.e. alterations in xenobiotic and lipid metabolism

Toxicity of aerosols of nicotine and pyruvic acid (separate and combined) in Sprague–Dawley rats in a 28-day OECD 412 inhalation study and assessment of systems toxicology.

Blaine Phillips, Marco Esposito, Jan Verbeeck, Stephanie Boue, Anita Iskandar, Gregory Vuillaume, Patrice Leroy, Subash Krishnan, Ulrike Kogel, Aneli Utan, Walter K. Schlage, Monali Bera, Emilija Veljkovic, Julia Hoeng, Manuel C. Peitsch, and Patrick Vanscheeuwijck.

Inhalation toxicology 2015 Aug;27(9):405-31, PMID 26295358



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Methods – Conventional cigarette smoke and aerosol from a HTP 90-day inhalation study (OECD TG 413)

Approximately 1.2m

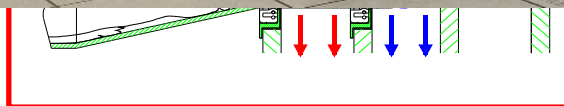
Exp



Assessment of
smoke/aerosol – Health
Canada Intense smoke
protocol

Conventional cigarettes:
Smoke from University of
Kentucky Standard
Reference Cigarette 3R4F

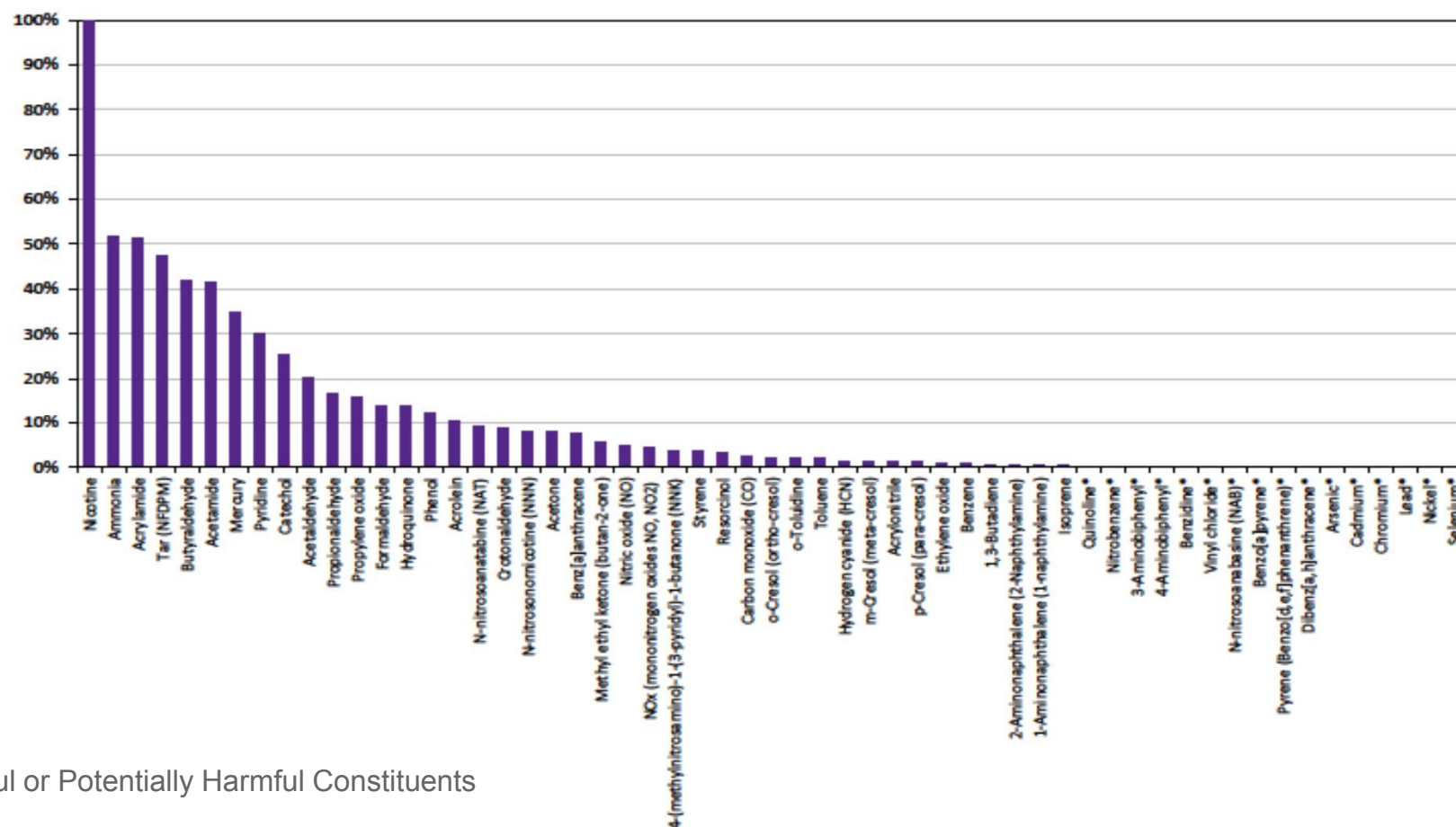
Potentially Reduced-Risk
product: **Aerosol** from
Heatsticks and Tobacco
Heating System, **HTP**,
commercialized as iQOS
(also designated as P1 or
THS 2.2)



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Smoke chemistry – determination of 58 constituents in conventional cigarette smoke and HTP (THS2.2) aerosol

- Smoke chemistry data shows a strong reduction of HPHC* in THS2.2 relative to 3R4F (data per mg nicotine, 100 % is data from 3R4F)

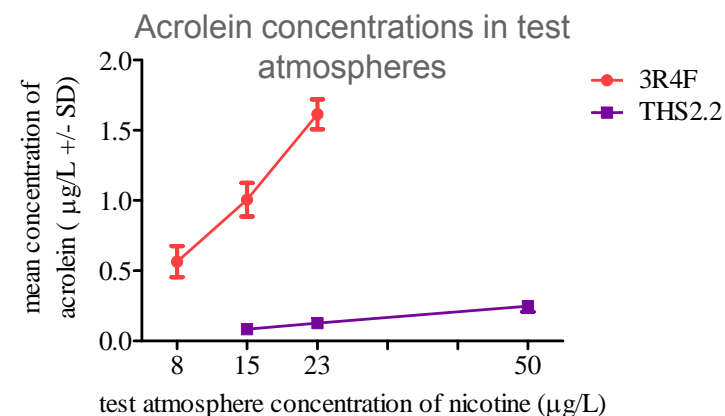
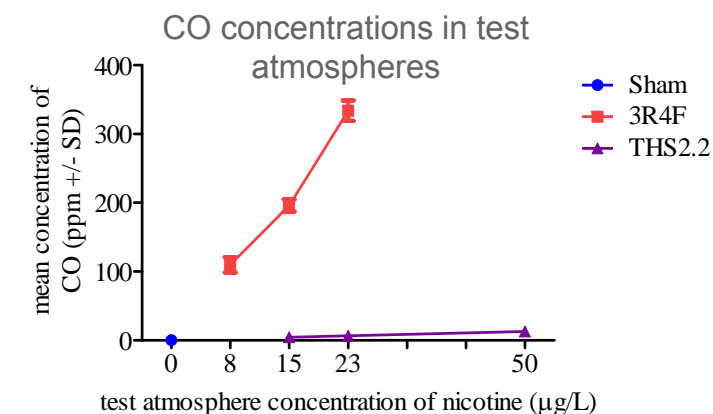
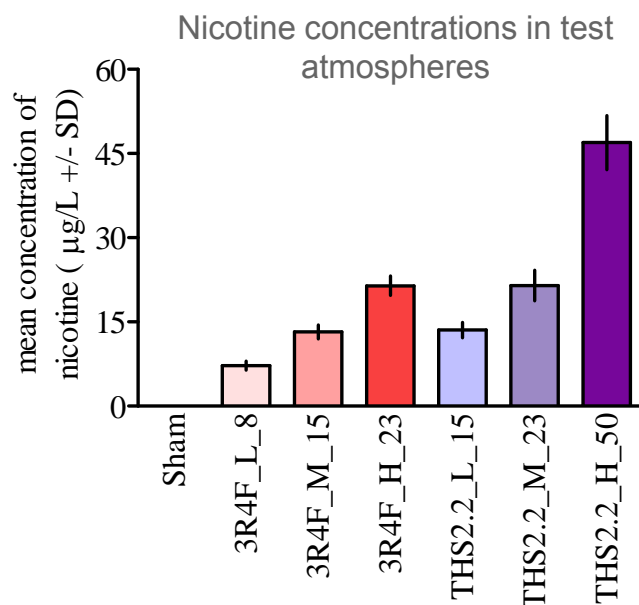


*HPHC: Harmful or Potentially Harmful Constituents

VELOPMENT

Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study (OECD TG 413) Exposure

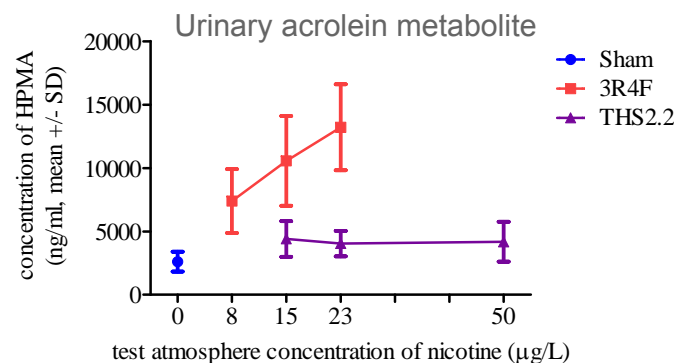
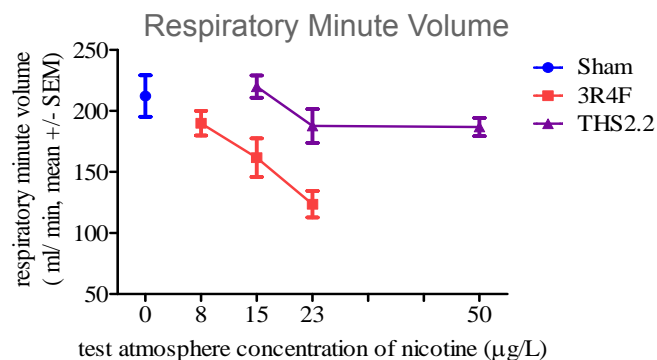
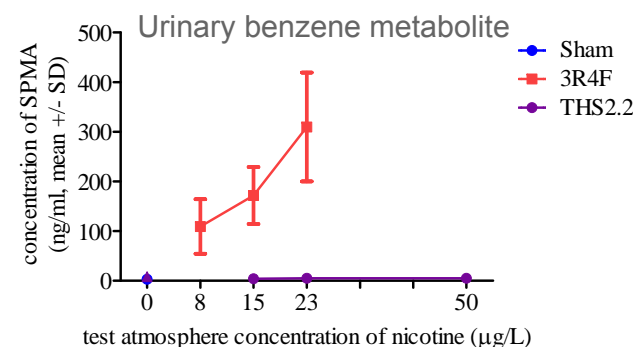
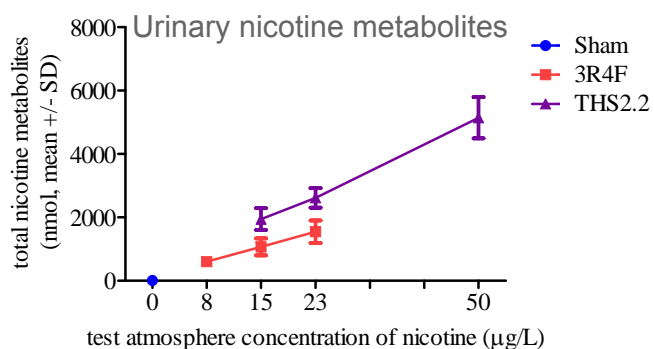
- Test atmosphere characterization – gas phase and particulate matter markers indicate that:
 - Target nicotine concentrations met
 - HPHCs in test atmospheres reflect aerosol chemistry data



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Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study (OECD TG 413) - Biomarkers of exposure

- Bio-monitoring parameters indicate that:
 - Urinary biomarkers of nicotine correlate with nicotine levels in test atmosphere
 - Urinary biomarkers of HPHC correlate with chemical composition of aerosols
 - The HTP causes much less upper respiratory tract irritation resulting in higher uptake of aerosol



Data for male rats only, after 4 weeks of exposure. The data for female rats and different collection time points are very similar.



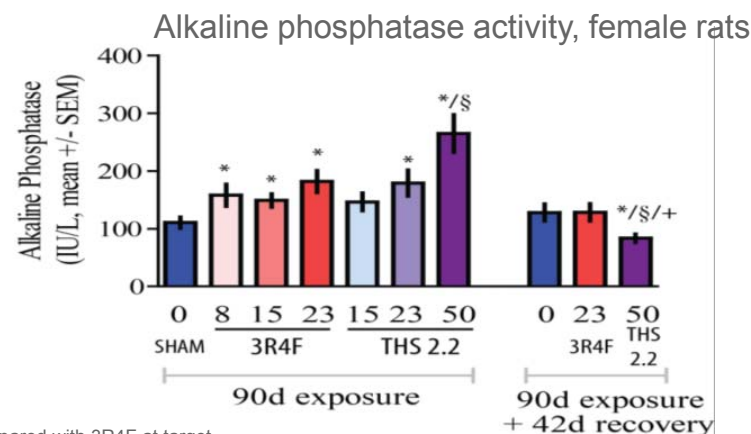
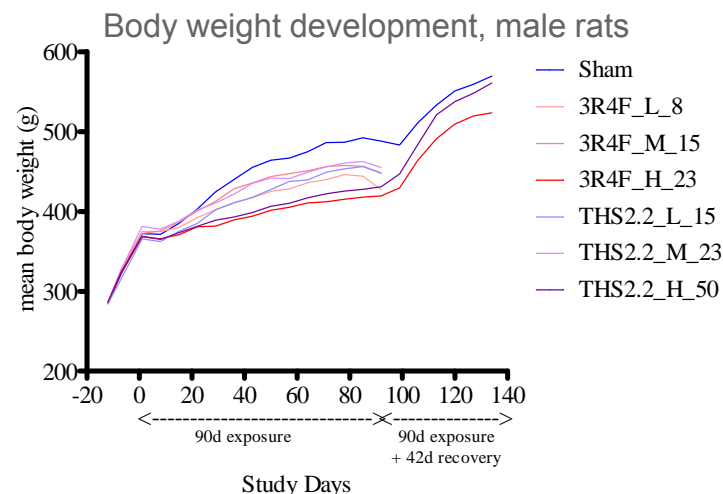
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Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study (OECD TG 413) - Systemic toxicity

- No remarkable toxic effects in THS 2.2
- Body weight effect in males only
- Nicotine concentration-related increases in
 - Neutrophil count in blood
 - Relative weight of liver
 - Liver enzyme activity (normal range)
- Mild liver effects



Effects similar to those of nicotine exposure



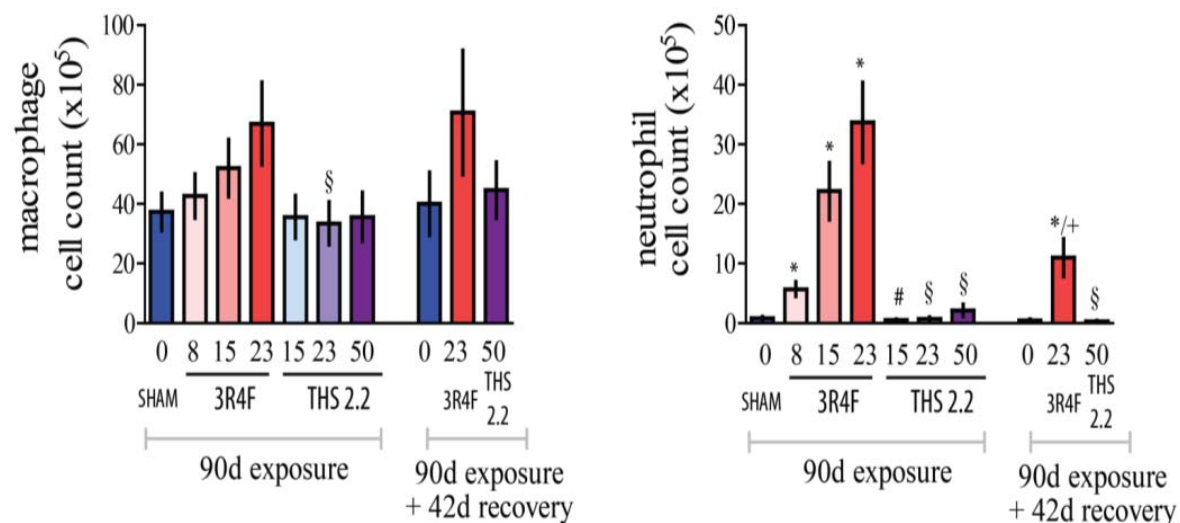
* $p < 0.05$ as compared with SHAM at a given time point, # $p < 0.05$ as compared with 3R4F at target nicotine 15 $\mu\text{g/l}$ at a given time point, § $p < 0.05$ as compared with 3R4F at target nicotine 23 $\mu\text{g/l}$ at a given time point, and + $p < 0.05$ as compared with the same group at the 90-day exposure time point



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Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study (OECD TG 413) - Lung inflammation

- Very low numbers of inflammatory cells are recruited in the lungs (BALF) of THS2.2 aerosol-exposed rats



Remarks:

•Data for male rats; the data for female rats are very similar.

* p < 0.05 as compared with SHAM at a given time point, # p < 0.05 as compared with 3R4F at target nicotine 15 µg/l at a given time point, § p < 0.05 as compared with 3R4F at target nicotine 23 µg/l at a given time point, and + p < 0.05 as compared with the same group at the 90-day exposure time point

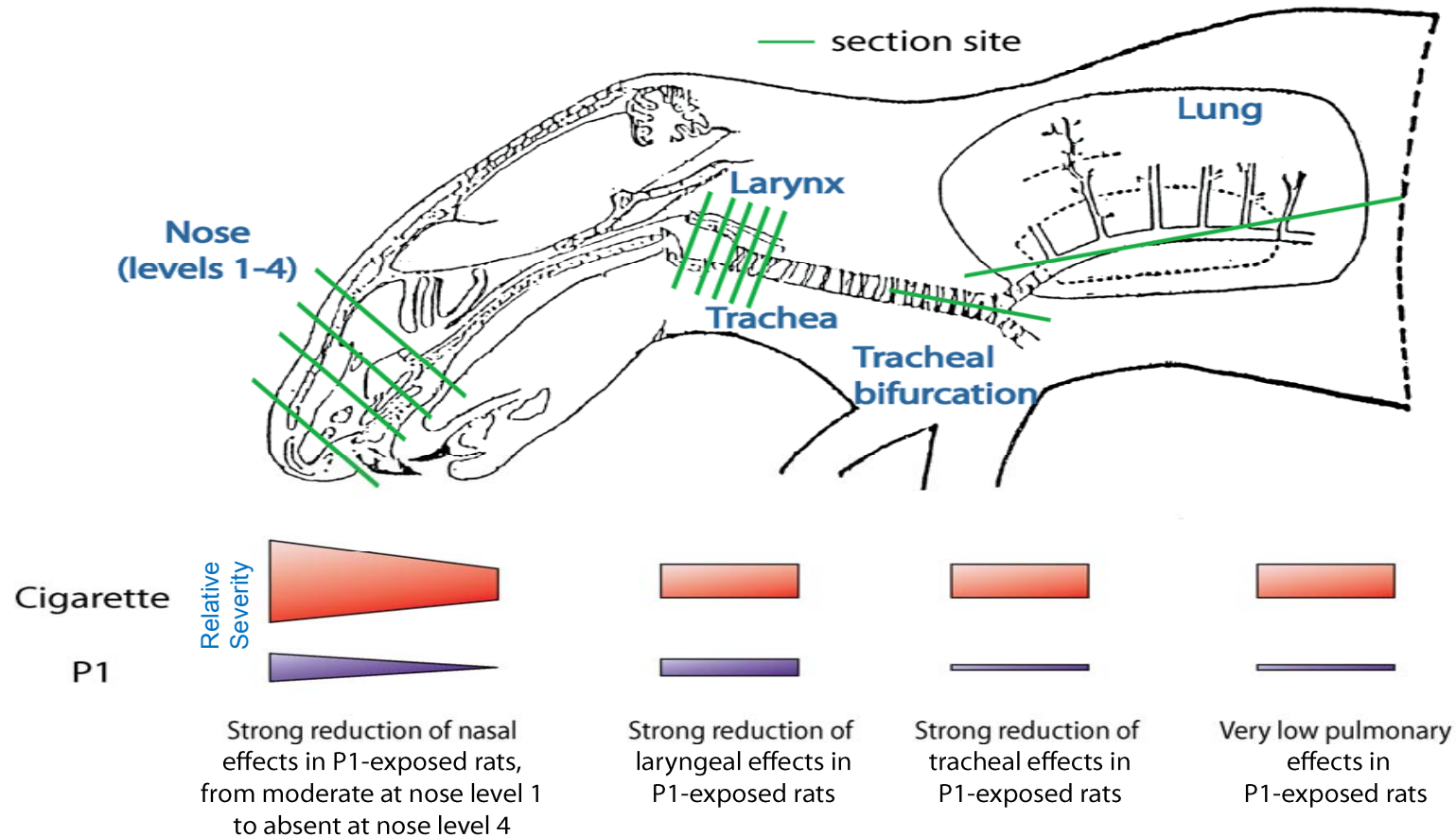
Means ± SEM



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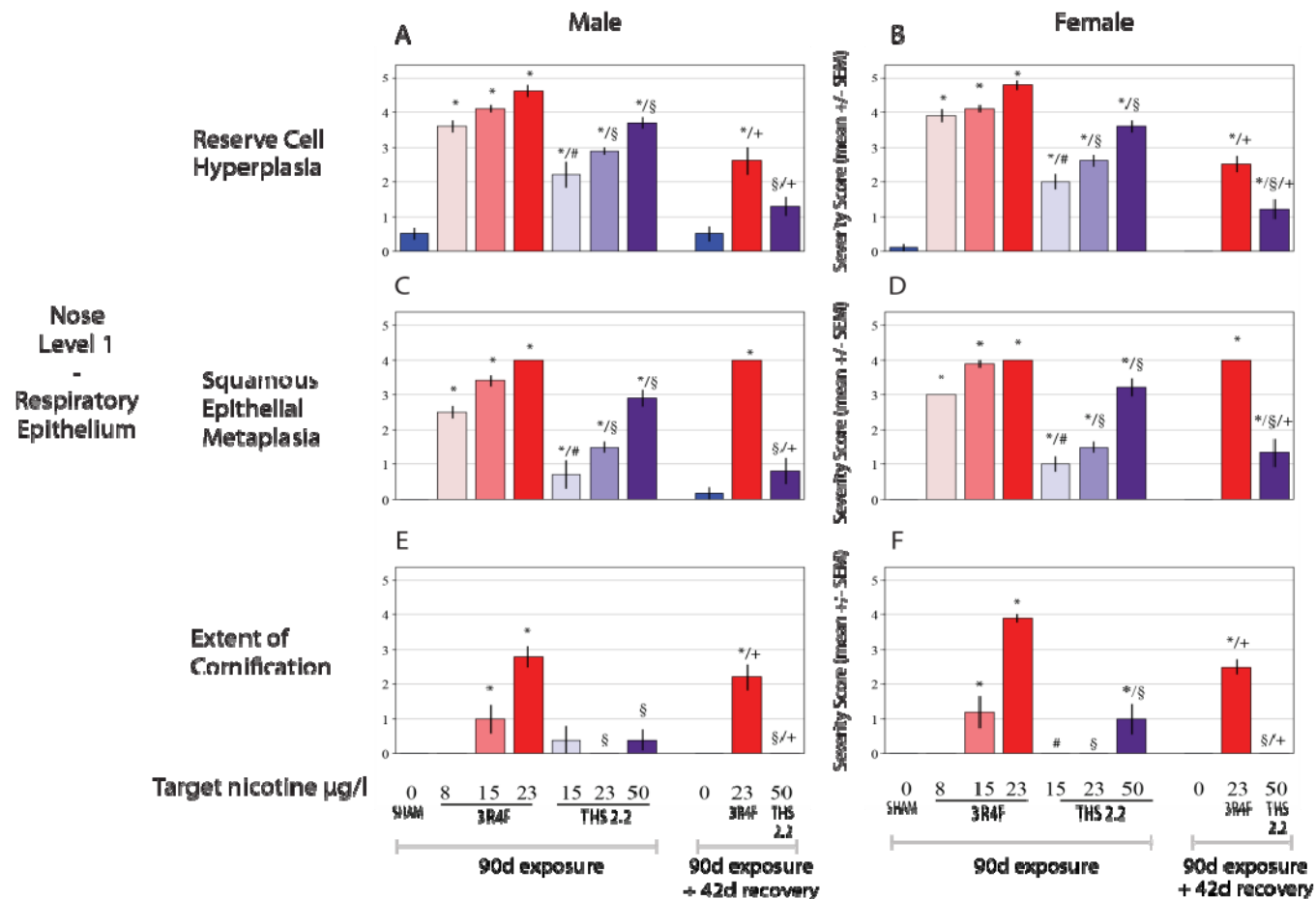
Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study (OECD TG 413)

Histopathology of respiratory tract organs



Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study (OECD TG 413)

Histopathology of respiratory tract organs - Nose



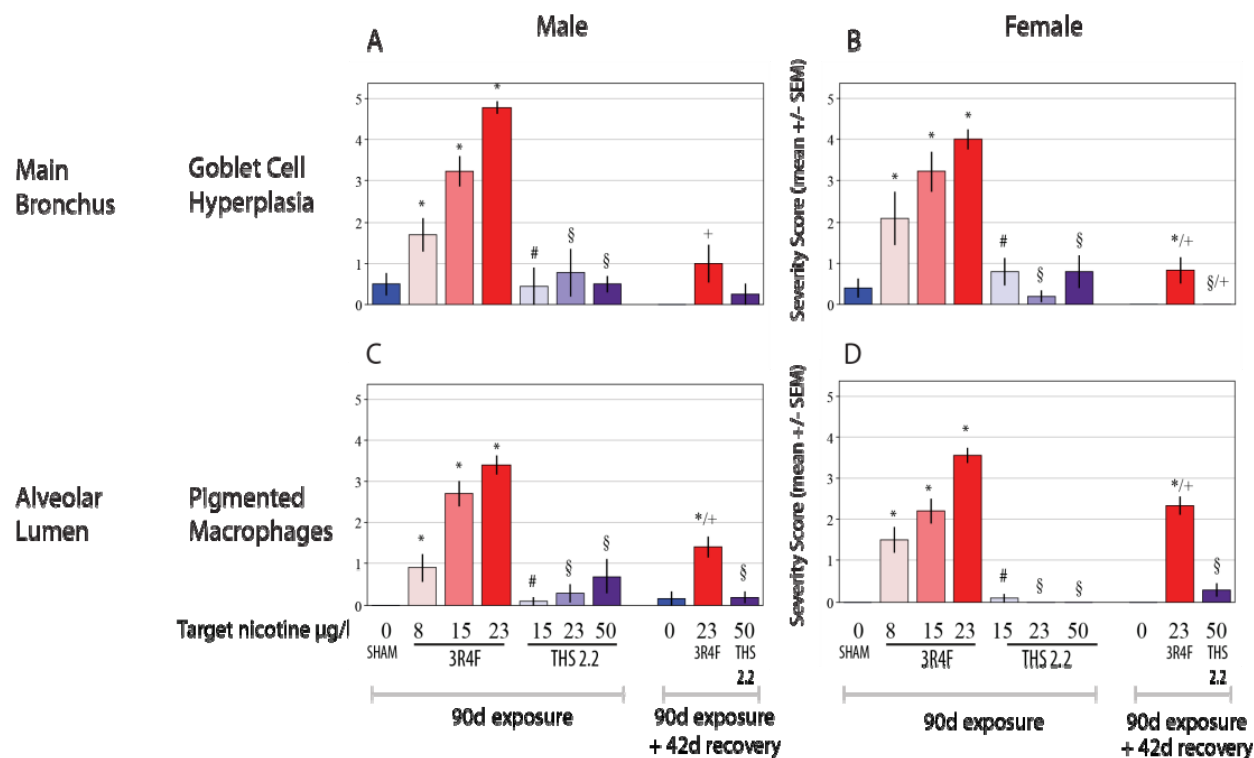
* P < 0.05 as compared to SHAM at a given time point.
 # P < 0.05 as compared to 3R4F at target nicotine 15 µg/l at a given time point.
 S P < 0.05 as compared to 3R4F at target nicotine 23 µg/l at a given time point.
 + P < 0.05 as compared to the same group at the 90d exposure time point.



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Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study (OECD TG 413)

Histopathology of respiratory tract organs – Bronchi and lungs



* P < 0.05 as compared to SHAM at a given time point.

P < 0.05 as compared to 3R4F at target nicotine 15 µg/l at a given time point.

\$ P < 0.05 as compared to 3R4F at target nicotine 23 µg/l at a given time point.

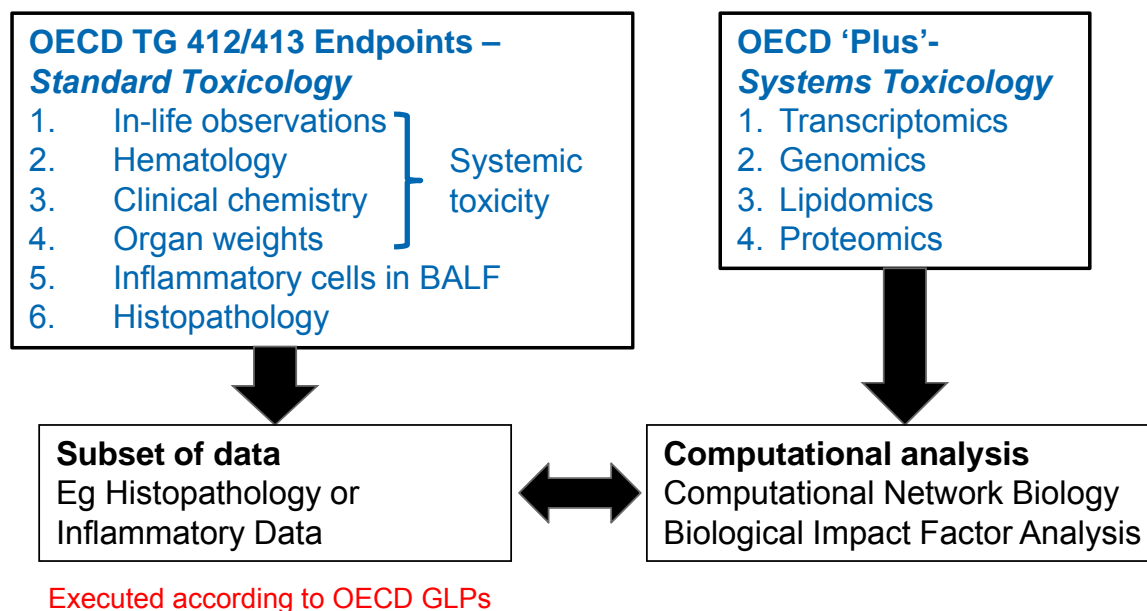
+ P < 0.05 as compared to the same group at the 90d exposure time point.



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Methods - design

- Endpoints:



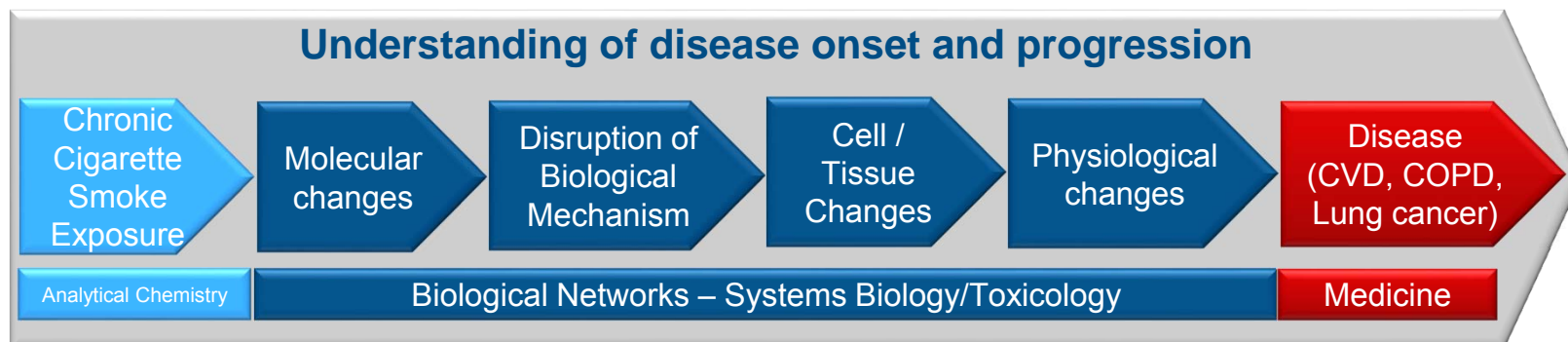
- Test atmospheres presented in low/medium/high concentration: up to MTD: 50 µg Nicotine/l* for nicotine-containing aerosols – 23 µg Nicotine/l for cigarette smoke; concentration-response

*50 µg/l nic corresponds to 13.6 mg/kg, daily dose; way above acute toxicity levels- or the nicotine amount from approx. 130 cig/day for a 60 kg human



System Toxicology Research

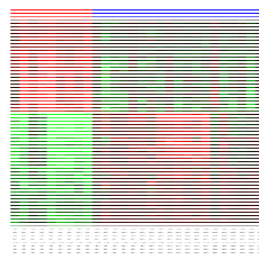
Identify and Represent Disease Mechanisms



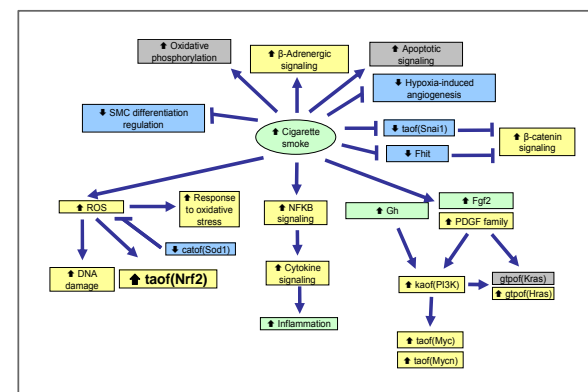
Literature-derived knowledge



Data-derived knowledge



Identify & Build Biological Network models



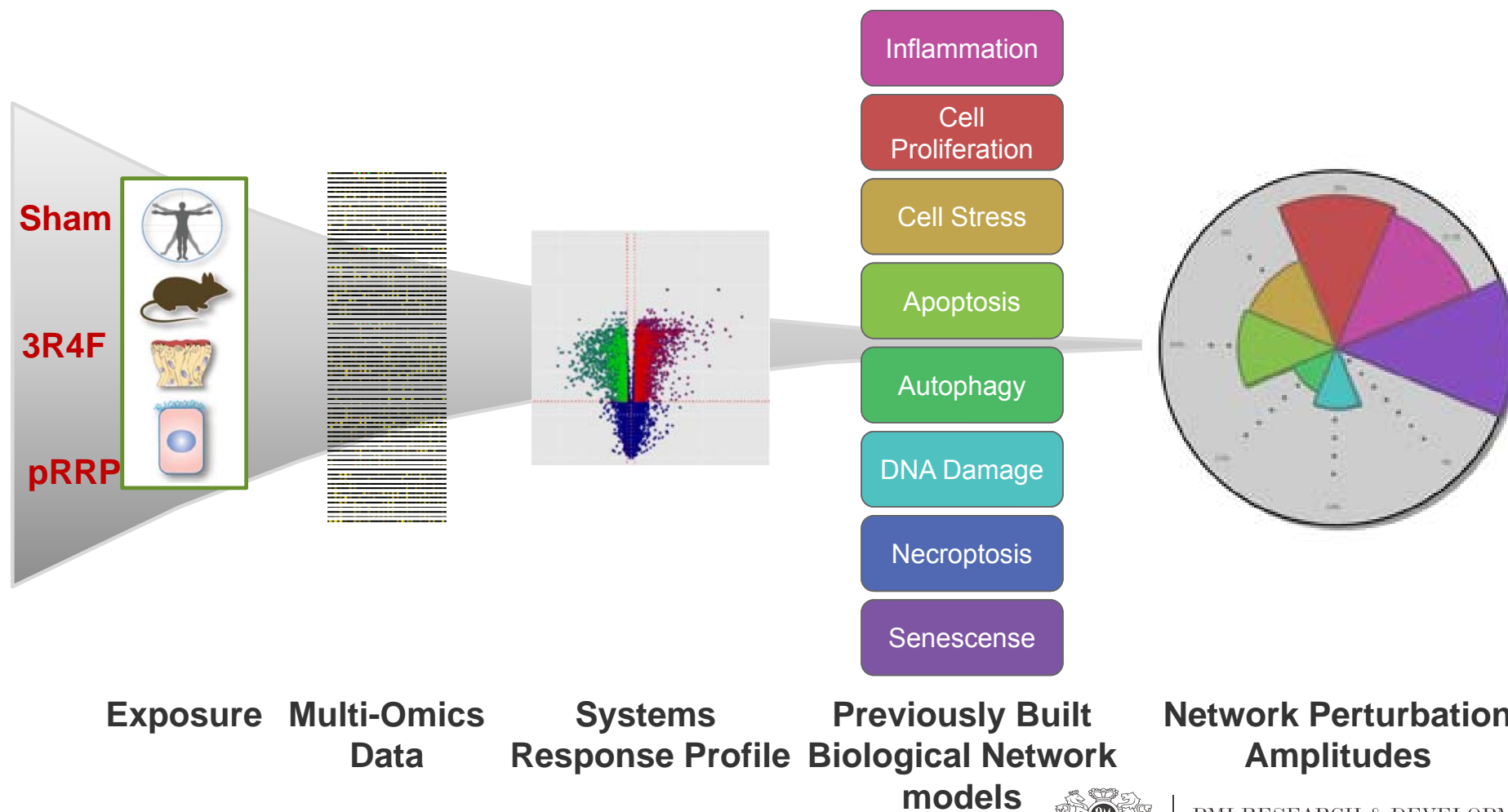
Hoeng *et al.*, Case Study: The Role of Mechanistic Network Models in Systems Toxicology. *Drug DiscoveryToday*, 2013, 19:183-192. (PMID: 23933191)



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Methods - Systems Toxicology Assessment

Use Disease Mechanism Understanding for Product Assessment



Hoeng J *et al.* A network-based approach to quantifying the impact of biologically active substances. **Drug Discovery Today**, 2012, 17:413-418 (PMID: 22155224)

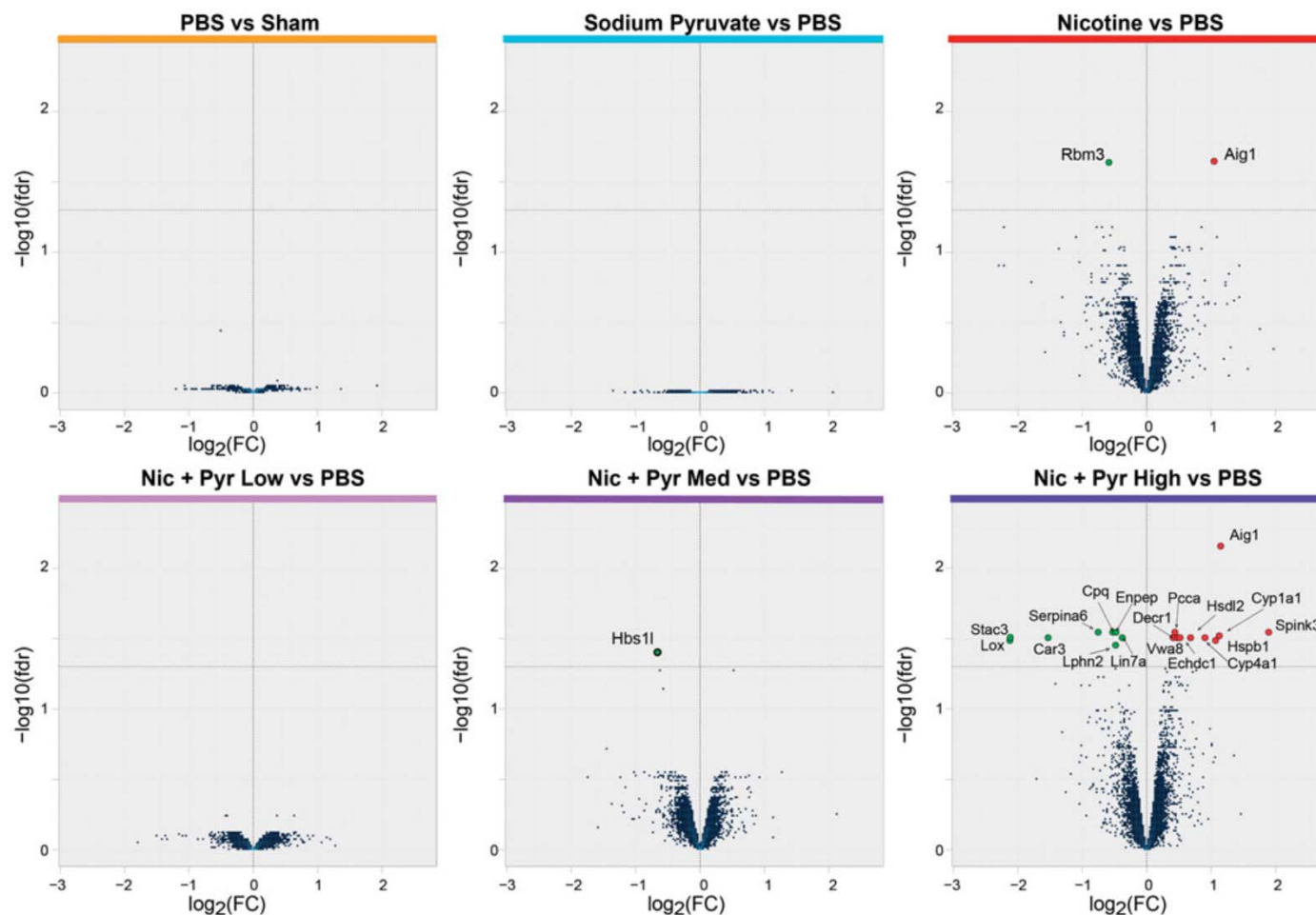


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Effects of nicotine – 28-day inhalation study (OECD TG 412)

Application of systems toxicology on liver changes

System response profile of liver transcriptomics reveal up- and down-regulated gene expression



Up-regulated:

- Xenobiotic metabolism
- Oxidative phosphorylation
- Fatty acid/cholesterol metabolism
- Cell cycle

Down-regulated:

- Intracellular signaling

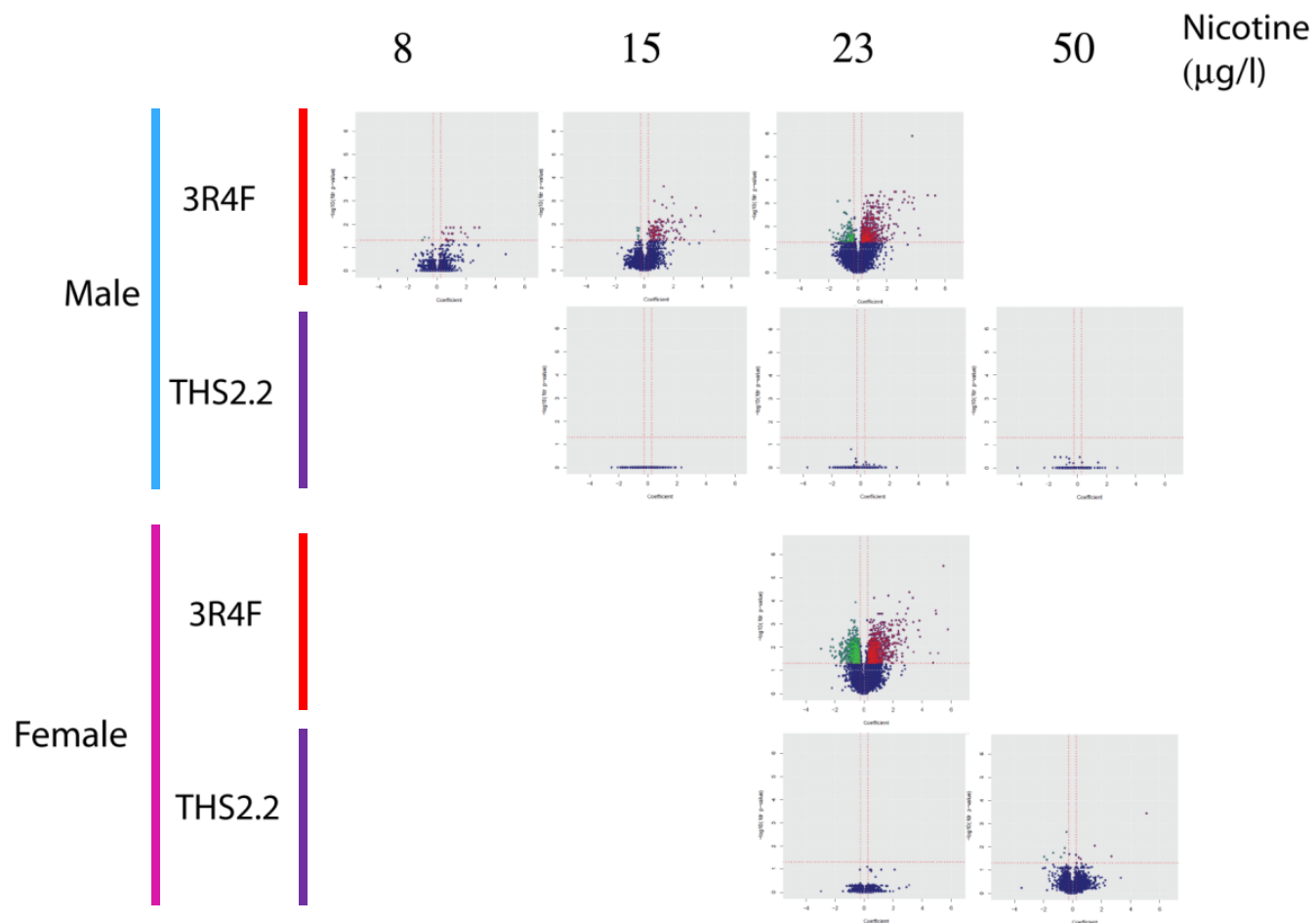
Lipidomics confirm downregulated glycerolipids and sterols



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Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study

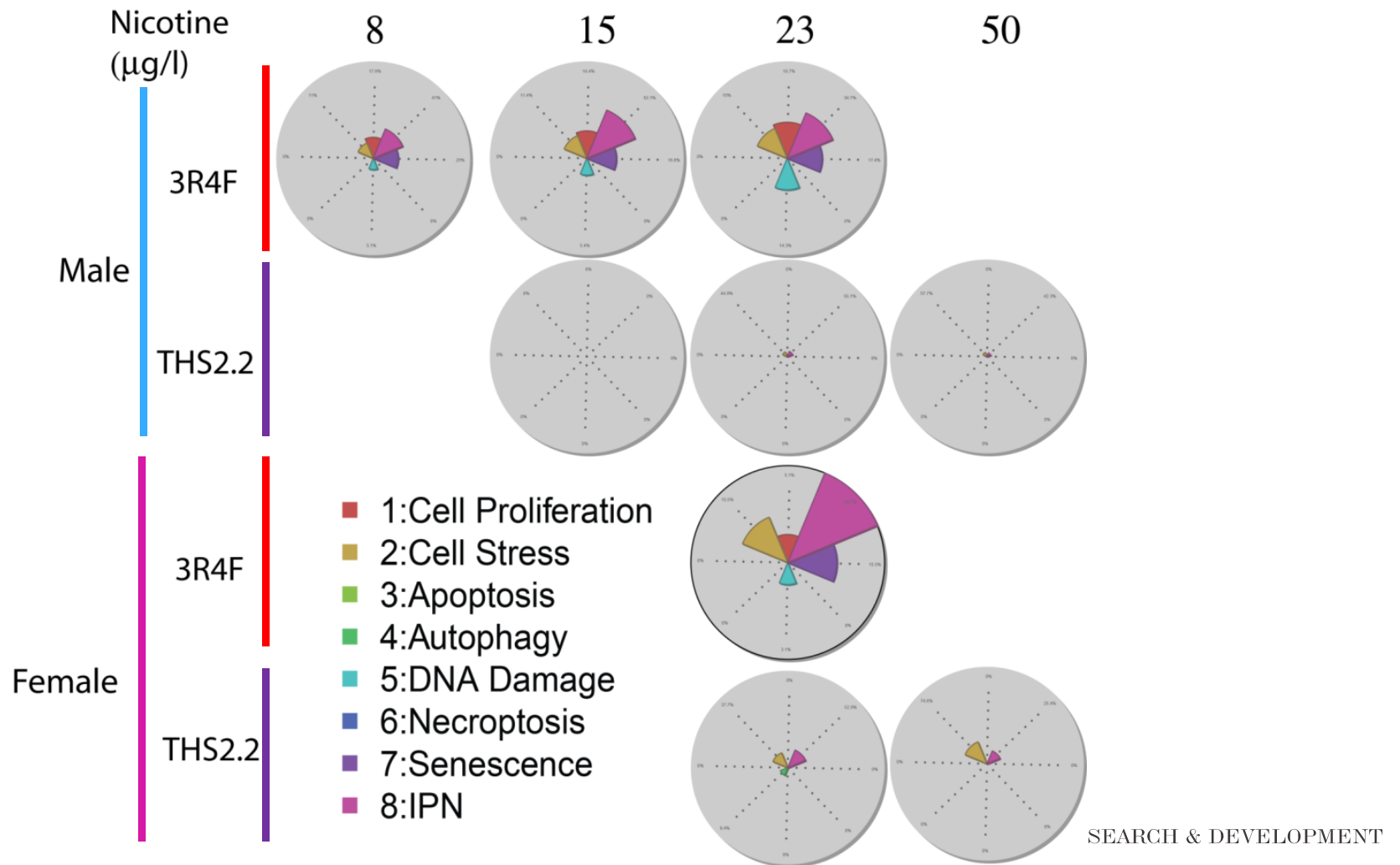
Systems biology evaluation – Systems Response Profile analysis of lung (90 days)



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Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study

Systems biology evaluation – Network Perturbation Analysis of lung (90-days)



Cigarette smoke and HTP aerosol– 90-day inhalation study

Summary and conclusions

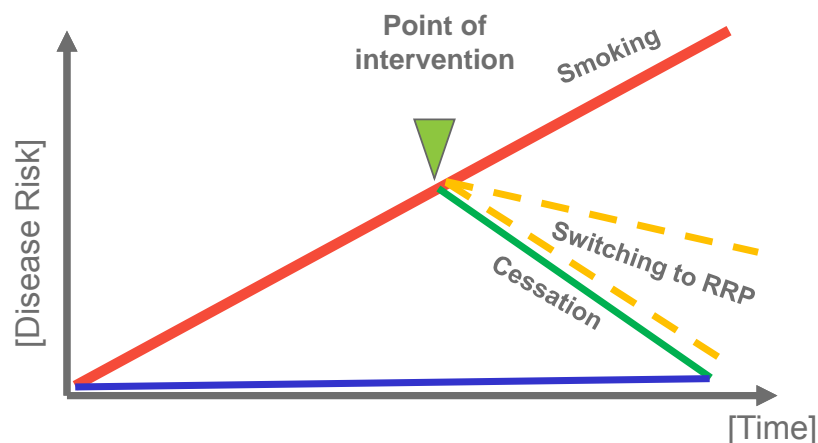
- *Pre-clinical toxicology*: Exposure of rats to aerosol from THS2.2 – even at a multiple of the aerosol concentration - results in a dramatically lower biological effects as compared to exposure to 3R4F in
 - Systemic toxicity; where effects were observed, they are related to nicotine exposure
 - Lung inflammation
 - Histopathology of respiratory tract organs
- *Systems toxicology*: Exposure of rats to aerosol from THS2.2 results in a dramatically lower biological network perturbations in the transcriptomes of the nasal epithelium and lung tissue



Methods

Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease – cardiovascular disease/emphysema

Comparing switching to the HTP P1* with ongoing smoking and benchmarking against cessation



Non-clinical study

ApoE-P1 Switching Study Design

Groups

Combustible Cigarette: 3R4F

SWITCHING

CESSATION

Control: Sham/Air

HTP

Point of intervention

Inhalation

3R4F

3R4F

HTP

3R4F

Fresh Air

Fresh Air

HTP

Start

Month 2

Month 8

Mice:

- ApoE^{-/-} mice: animal model for aspects of CVD and COPD

Exposure:

- 8 months with dissections at 1,2,3,6 and 8 months
- Test atmosphere nicotine concentrations: approx. 30 µg/l
- Whole body, 3 x 1 h/day

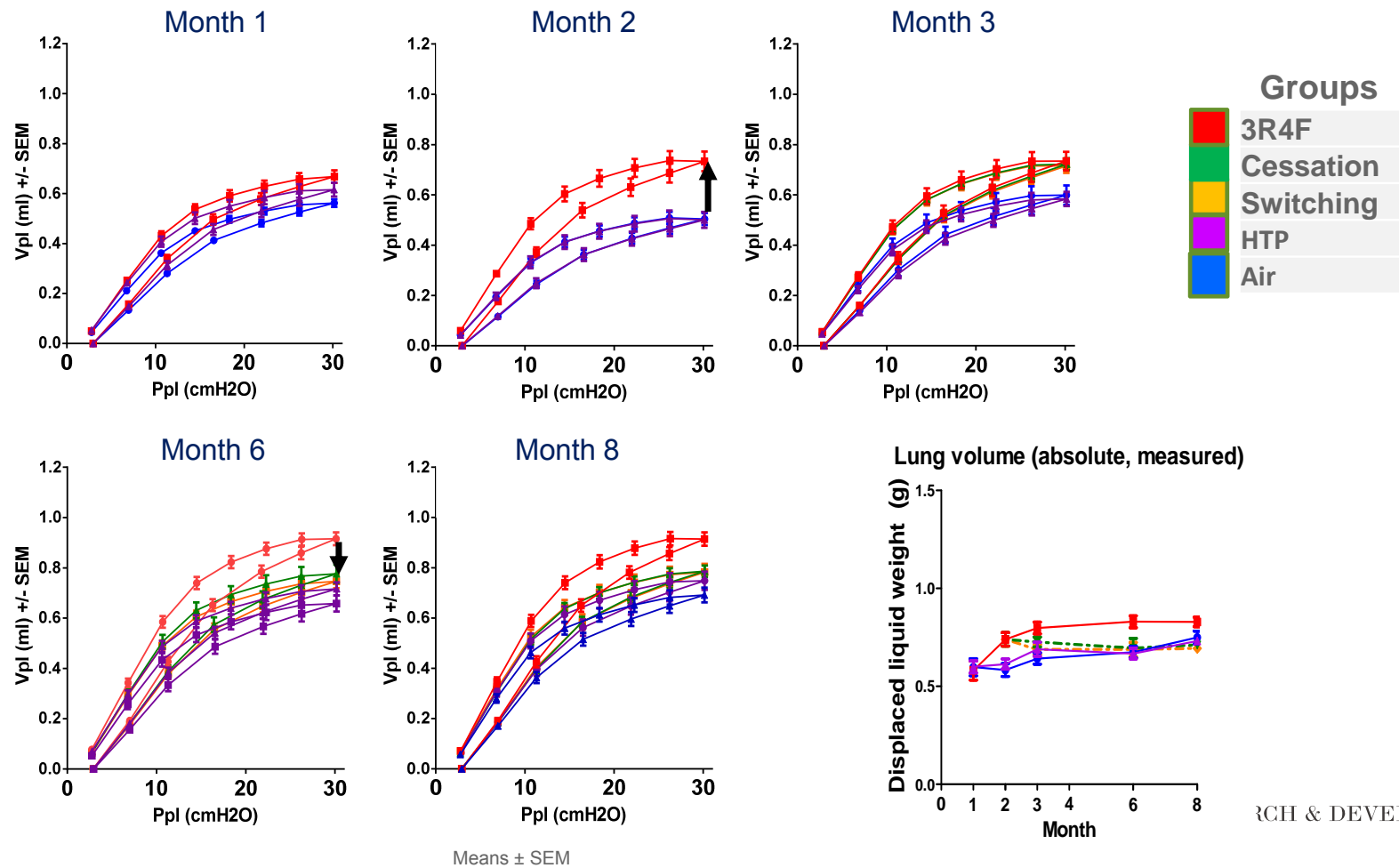
*P1: HTTP:THS2.2 or iQOS



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Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease

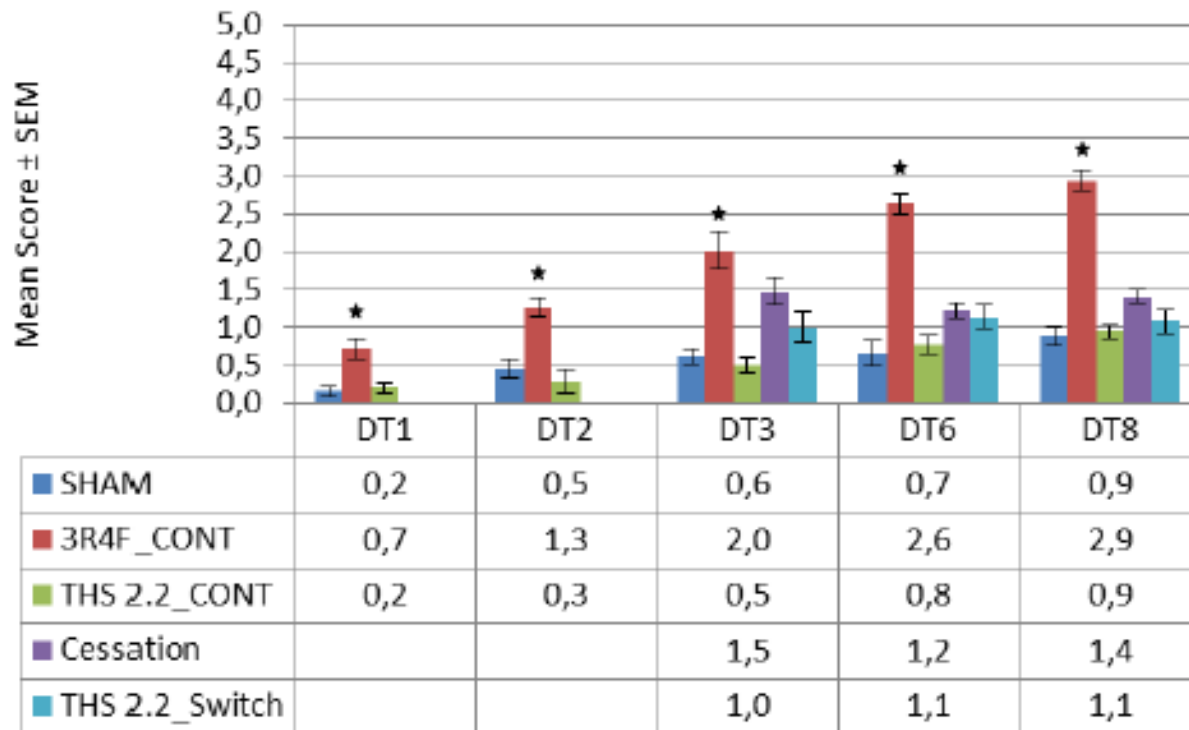
Result Summary: Disease Endpoint - Lung function and Lung Volume



Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease

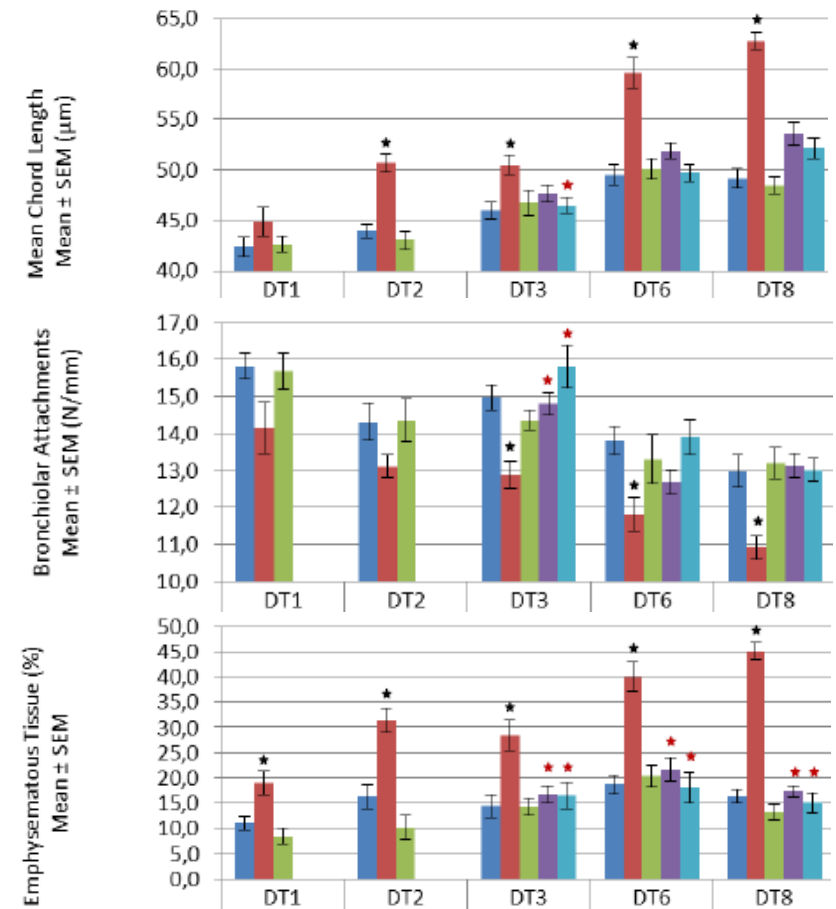
Result Summary: Tissue changes – Lung Emphysema

Histopathology Score



*: Statistically significant compared to sham

*: Statistically significant compared to 3R4F:CONT at DT2

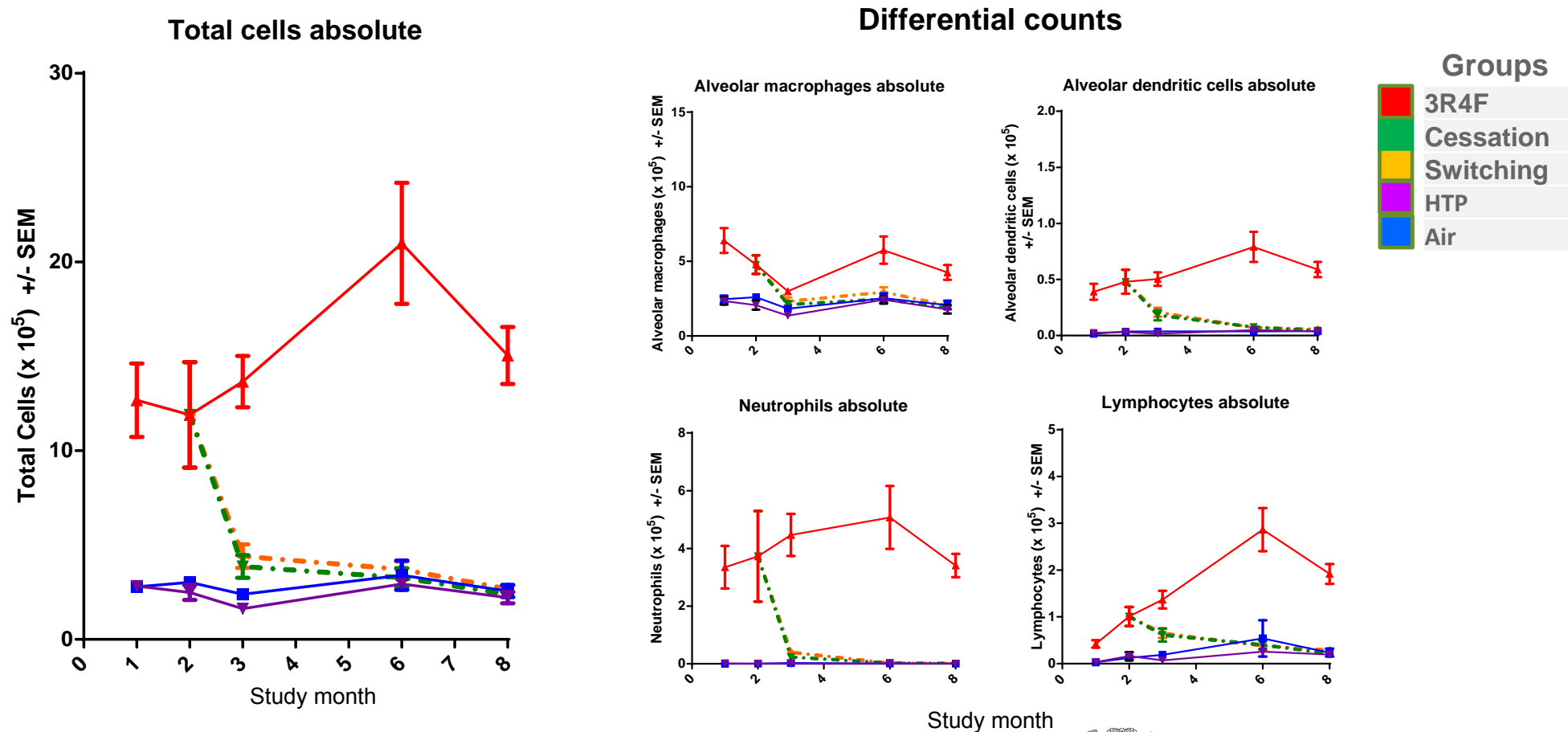


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Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease

Result Summary: Disease Mechanism - Lung Inflammation

Free lung cells in Broncho-alveolar lavage fluid (BALF)

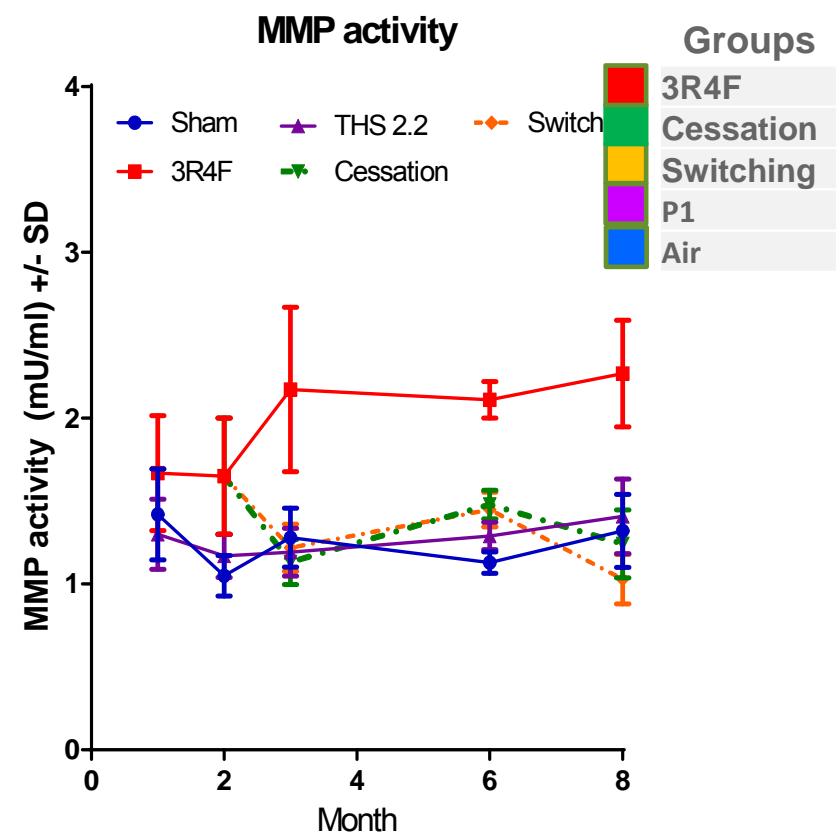
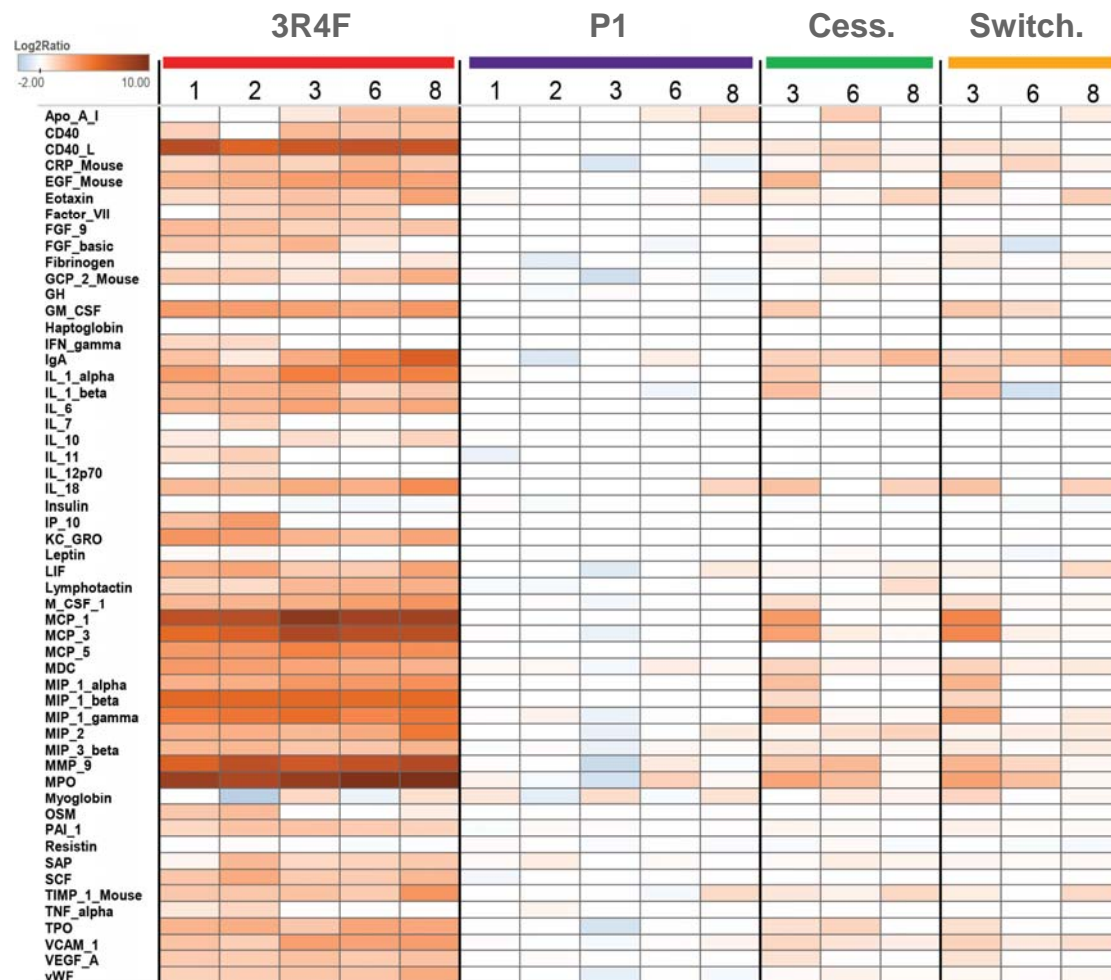


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Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease

Result Summary: Disease Mechanism - Lung Inflammation

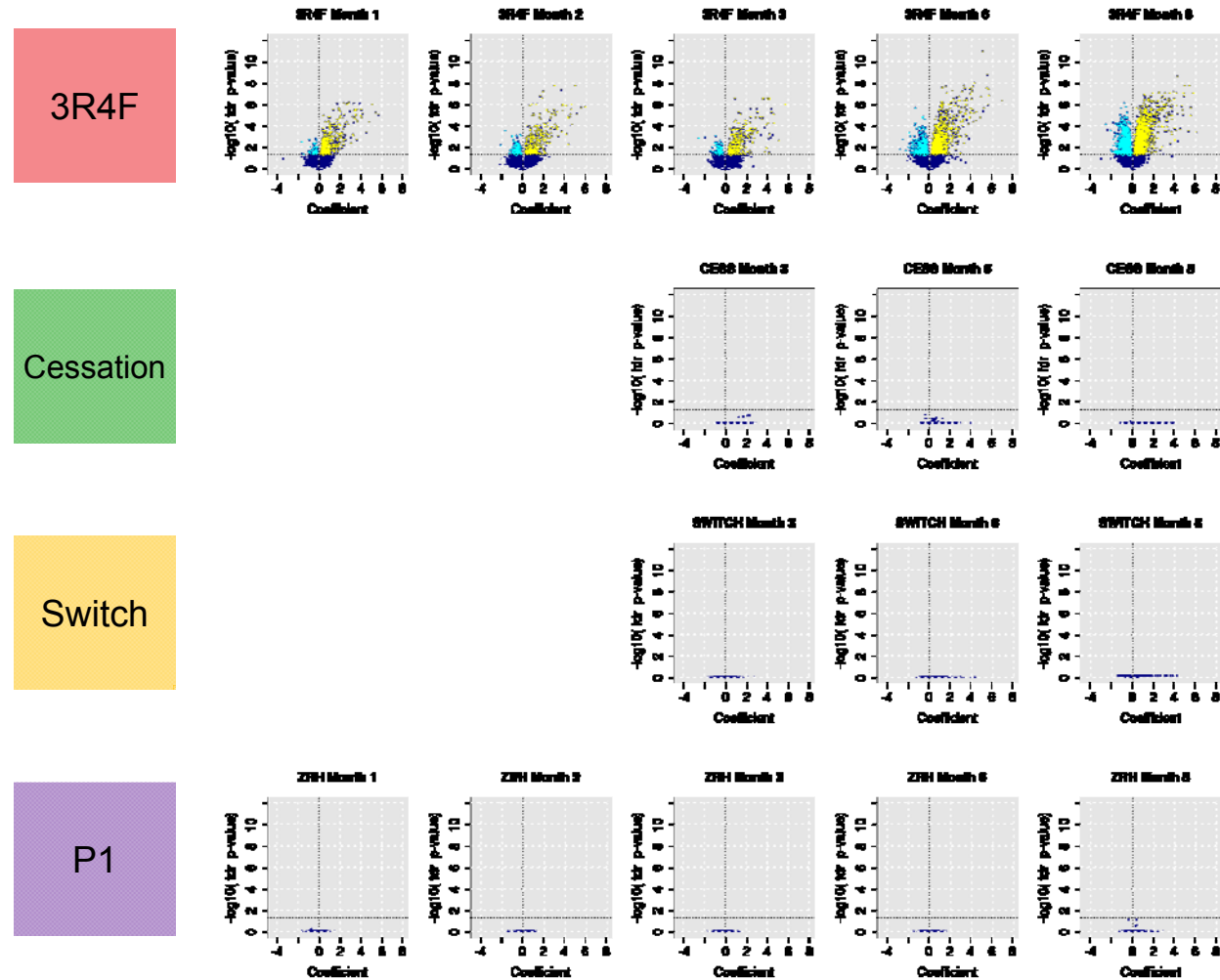
Multiple analyte profiling in Broncho-alveolar Lavage Fluid



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Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease

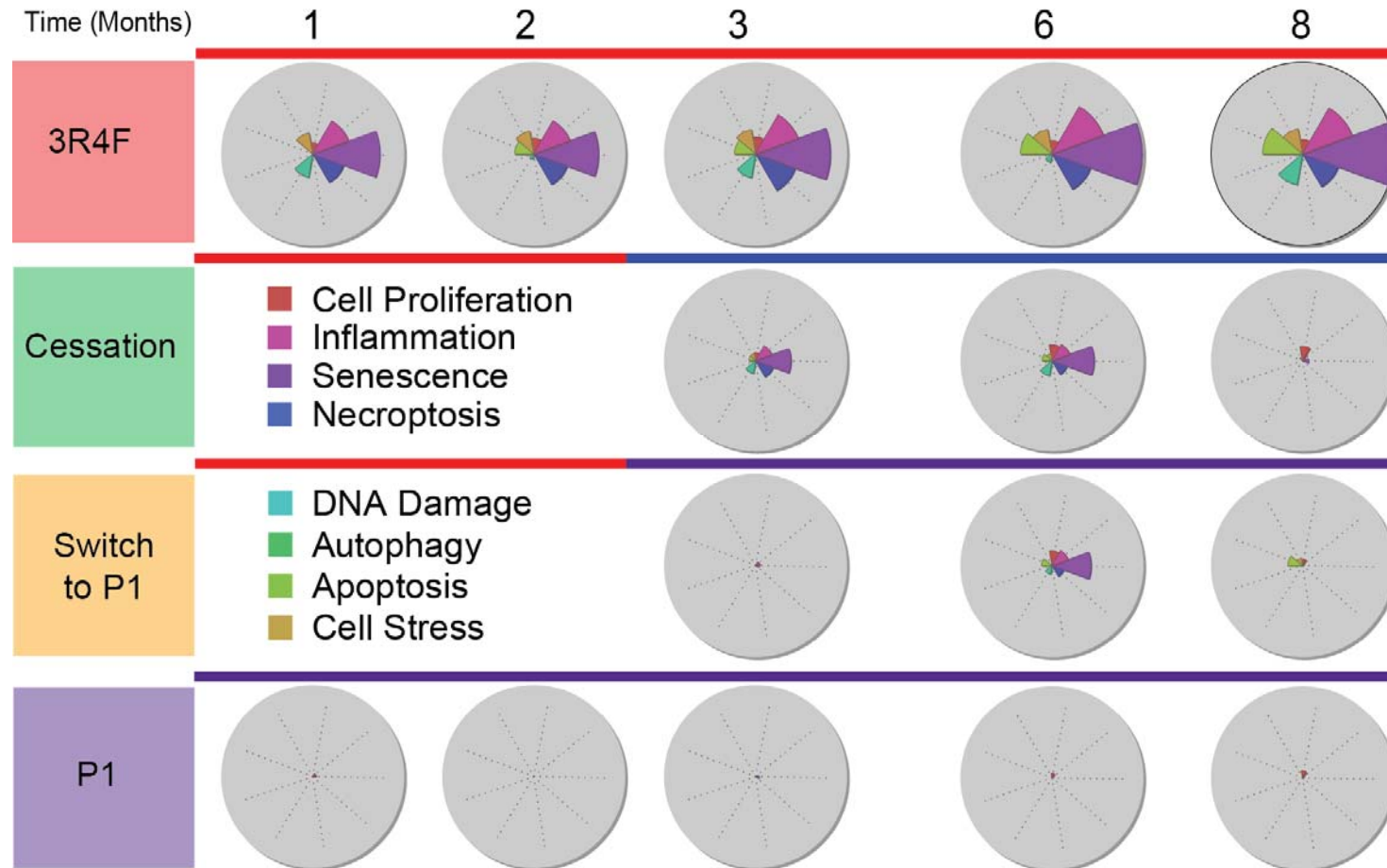
Result Summary: Differential Gene Expression - Lung



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Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease

Result Summary: Disease Mechanisms – Network Perturbations - Lung

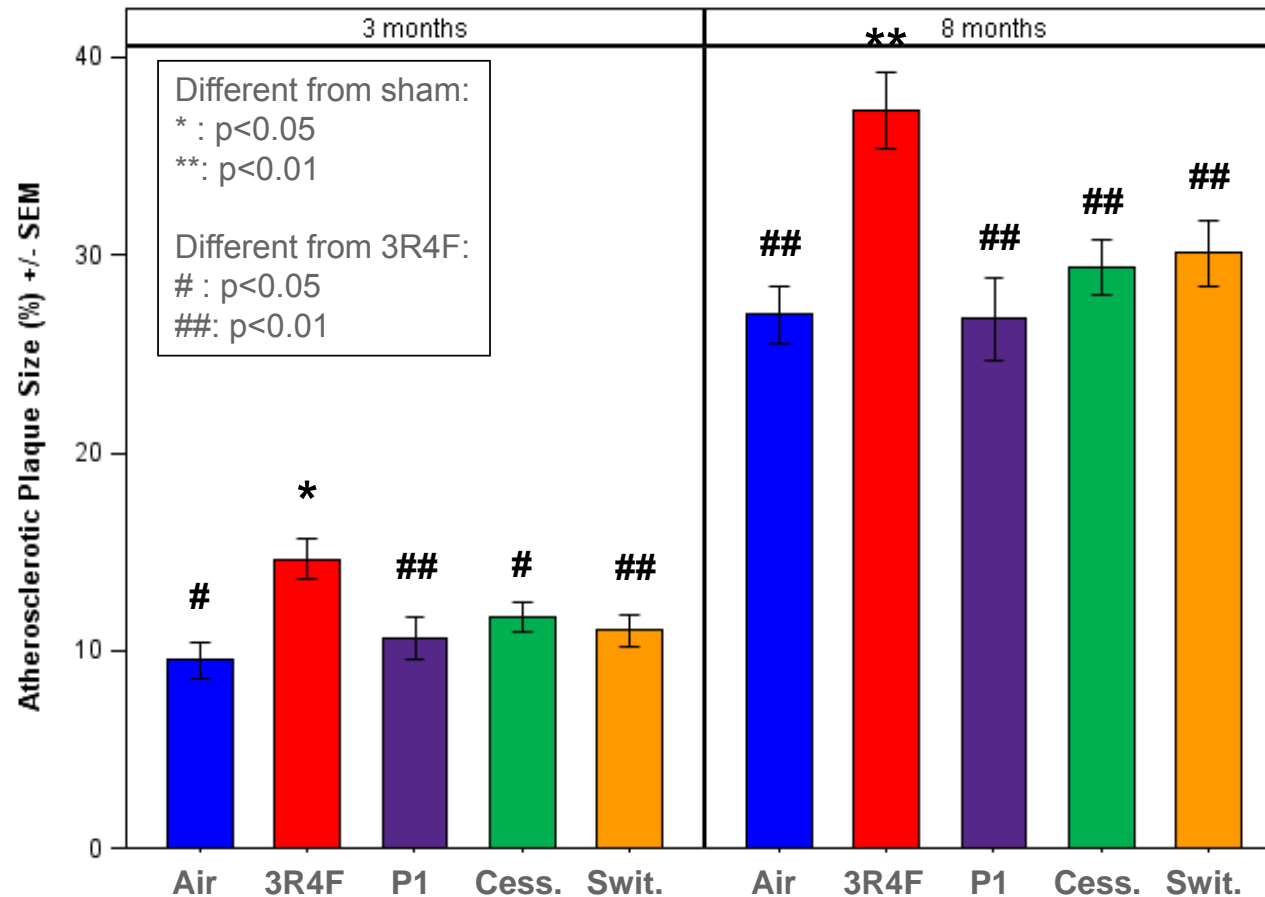


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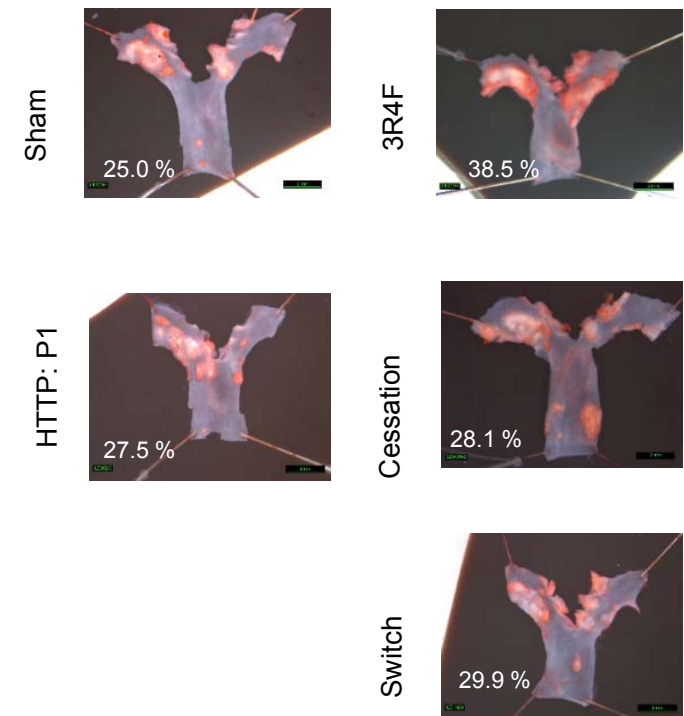
Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease

Result Summary: Disease Endpoint - Aortic Plaque Growth

Image analysis of stained atherosclerotic plaques



Aortic Arches at month 8

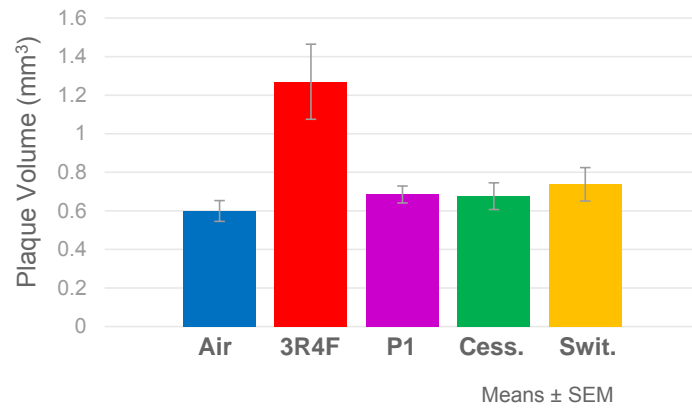


Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease

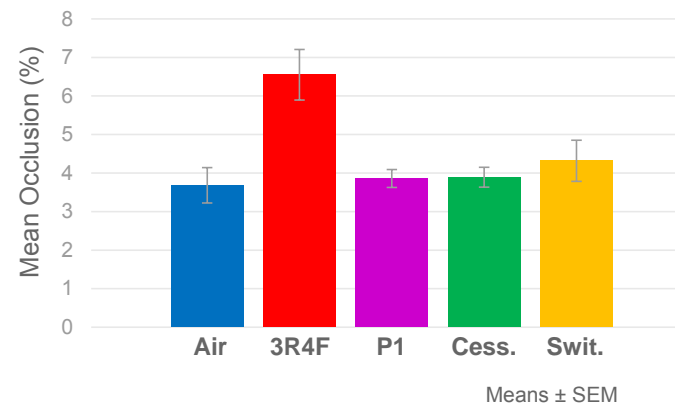
Result Summary: Disease Endpoint - Aortic Plaque size at Month 8

3D Reconstruction from High Resolution micro-Computed Tomography

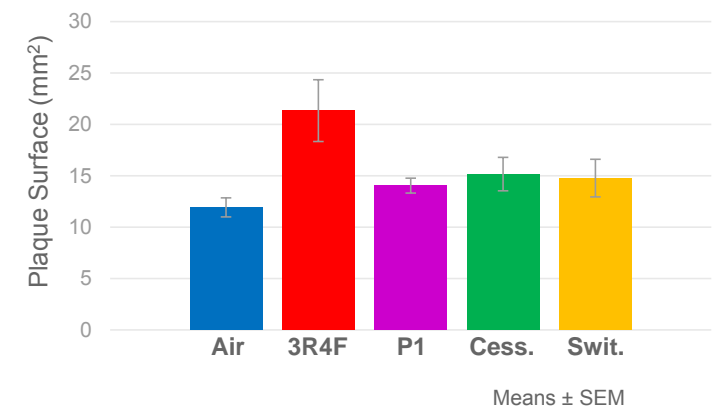
Plaque Volume



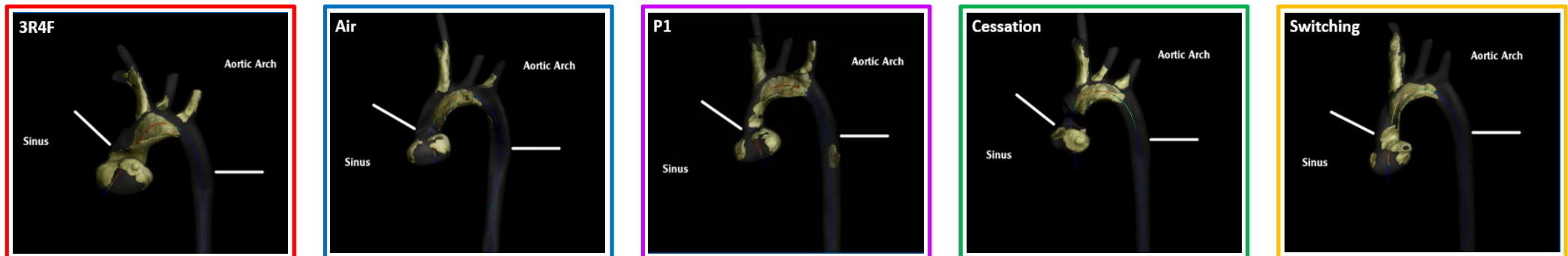
Aortic Arch Occlusion



Plaque Surface



3D-Reconstructions



Switching Study in an Animal Model of Disease Summary and Conclusions

- The ApoE^{-/-} mouse model is suitable for studying smoke-related aspects of cardiovascular disease and COPD
- Continuous exposure to aerosol from a pRRP for up to 8 months does not increase cardiovascular disease, inflammation and emphysema
- Switching from cigarette smoke exposure after 2 months to fresh air exposure reverses the onset of disease as measured in apical, functional, and molecular endpoints
- Switching from cigarette smoke exposure to pRRP aerosol exposure reverses the onset of disease in a similar manner as cessation

Use of Apoe^{-/-} Mice in an 8-Month Systems Toxicology Inhalation/Cessation Study to Investigate Cardiovascular and Respiratory Exposure Effects of a Candidate Modified Risk Tobacco Product, THS 2.2, Compared with Conventional Cigarettes

Phillips B, Veljkovic E, Boué S, Schlage WK, Vuillaume G, Martin F, Titz B, Leroy P, Buettner A, Elamin A, Oviedo A, Cabanski M, Guedj E, Schneider T, Talikka M, Ivanov NV, Vanscheeuwijck P, Peitsch MC, Hoeng J.
Toxicological Sciences (2016) 149, 411-32 (PMID 26609137)



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Overall conclusion

- Exposure of rodents to cigarette smoke results in clear toxicological effects and development of known diseases
- Nicotine, when administered via inhalation exposure, causes limited toxicological effects after 28 or 90 days
- Aerosol from a pRRP, HTP elicits much lower toxicity (overall more than 80%) than cigarette smoke, even at a multiple of the nicotine exposure concentration. Most effects can be attribute to nicotine
- Aerosol from a pRRP, HTP does not lead to smoke-related disease and switching from smoke to pRRP aerosol exposure is almost identical to cessation.



THANK YOU!

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