

LABORATORY OF RESEARCH ON DIABETES « LAREDIAB »  
5<sup>th</sup> SEMINARY OF LAREDIAB  
11<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS OF AMIWIT



# SYSTEMIC JUVENILE IDIOPATHIC ARTHRITIS & ADULT-ONSET STILL'S DISEASE:TWO NAMES ONE DISEASE

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# The Continuum of sJIA and AOSD

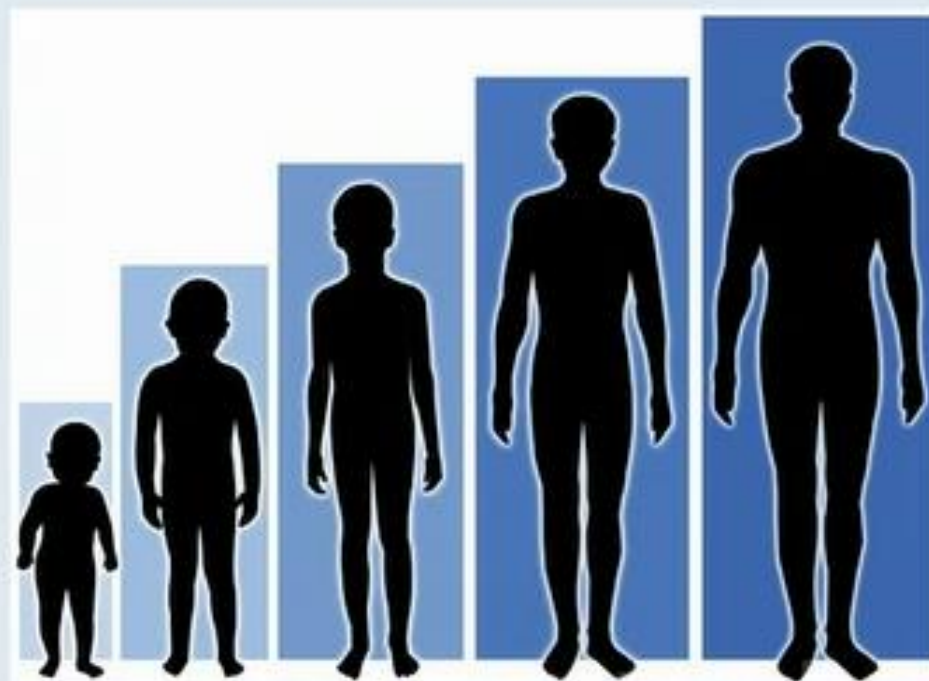
## Systemic Features

### Quotidian Fever

- $>39^{\circ}\text{C}$  often at regular daily intervals
- Can persist, associated with flares

### Evanescent Rash

- Typical salmon-pink, macular rash



sJIA before 16Y & AOSD after 16Y

## Arthritis

- Arthralgia and myalgia
- Arthritis with potential polyarticular joint involvement
- Risk of erosive destruction and loss of function

## Inflammation

- Elevated neutrophils
- Elevated platelets
- Elevated acute phase response and ferritin
- Elevated S100 proteins<sup>5</sup>

1. Ravelli A, Martini A. *Lancet*. 2007;369:767-778; 2. De Benedetti F, Schneider R. Systemic Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis. In: Cassidy JT, Laxer RM, Petty RE, Lindsley CB, eds. *Textbook of Pediatric Rheumatology*. 6th ed. Philadelphia, PA: Saunders Elsevier; 2011;236-247. 3. Woo P. *Nat Clin Pract Rheumatol*. 2006;2:28-34. 4. Schneider R and Laxer RM. *The Rheumatologist*. May 9, 2012. Available at: <https://www.the-rheumatologist.org/article/systemic-juvenile-idiopathic-arthritis/>. Accessed September 28, 2020. 5. Wittkowski H et al. *Arthritis Rheum*. 2008;58:3924-3931.

# Should think in two dimensions? Systemic and articular AOSD

Disease course of refractory AOSD can be categorised into 2 subsets<sup>1</sup>

<b>Systemic</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High fever</li> <li>High levels of liver enzymes</li> <li>High acute phase reactants</li> </ul>	<b>Predictive factors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Female sex</li> <li>Proximal arthritis at disease onset</li> <li>Thrombocytosis</li> <li>Corticosteroid dependency</li> </ul>	<b>Articular</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IL-1<math>\beta</math>, IL-18, IFN-<math>\alpha/\beta</math>, IFN-<math>\gamma</math>, IL-4</li> </ul>	<b>Immune profile</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IL-17, IL-23, TNF-<math>\alpha</math>, IL-6</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>High fever</li> <li>Hepatitis</li> <li>Serositis</li> <li>Macrophage activation syndrome</li> </ul>	<b>Other clinical features</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fever may not be present</li> <li>Arthritis</li> <li>Joint destruction</li> </ul>	

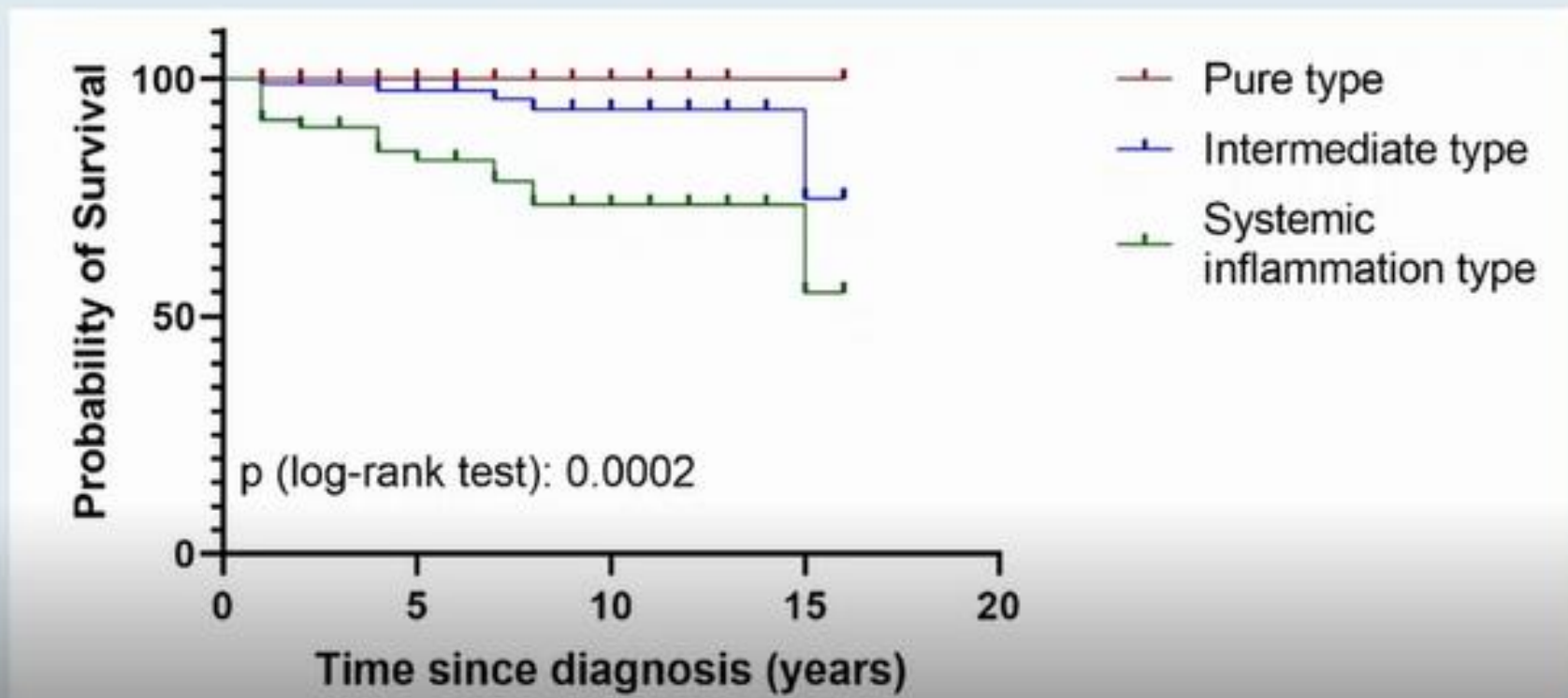
• AOSD, adult-onset Still's disease; IFN, interferon; IL, interleukin; TNF, tumor necrosis factor

• Jamilloux Y, et al. *Ther Clin Risk Manag.* 2014;11:33-43

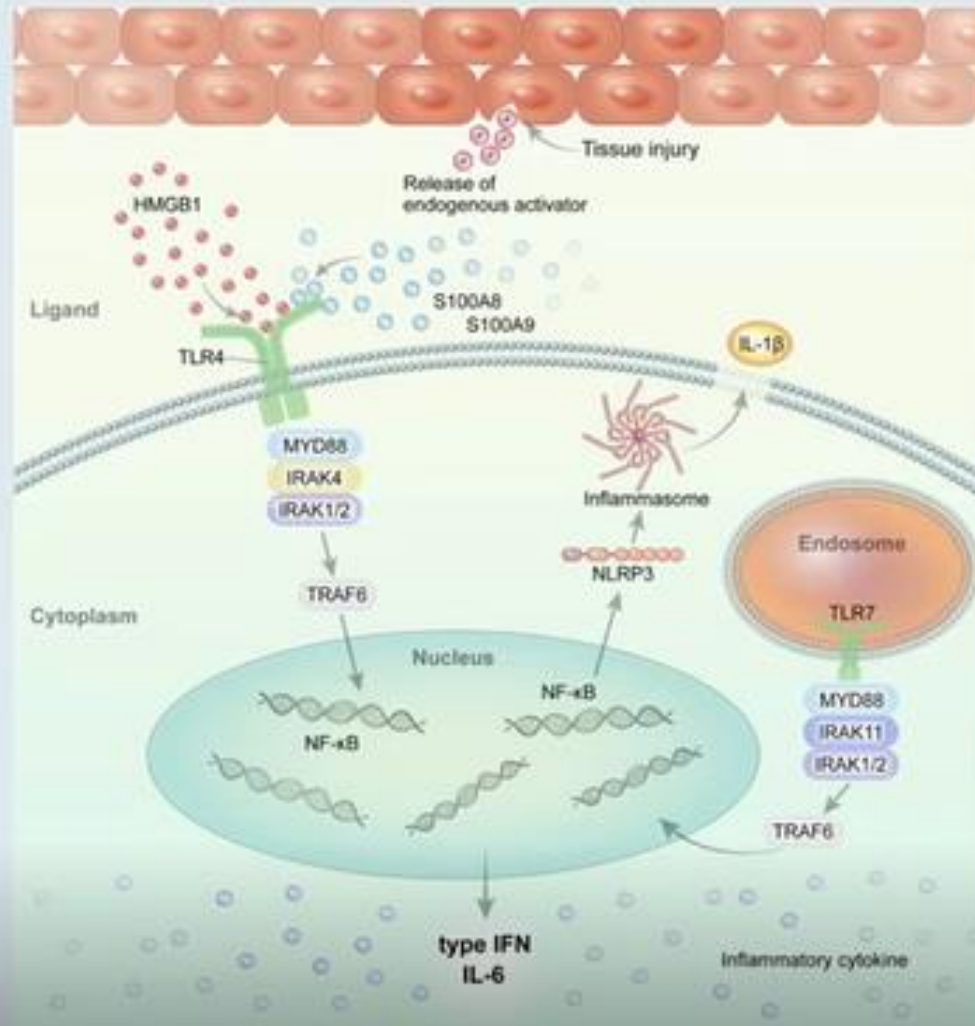


# Clinical phenotypes and prognostic factors of AOSD

- Cluster analysis of 492 patients:
- Systemic (34.6%) multiple organ manifestations, highest infection rate and mortality, >50% relapse
- Pure (21.3%) female, rash and joint involvement, no internal organ involvement, mostly monocyclic course
- Intermediate (44.1%) less infection rate, no serious complications



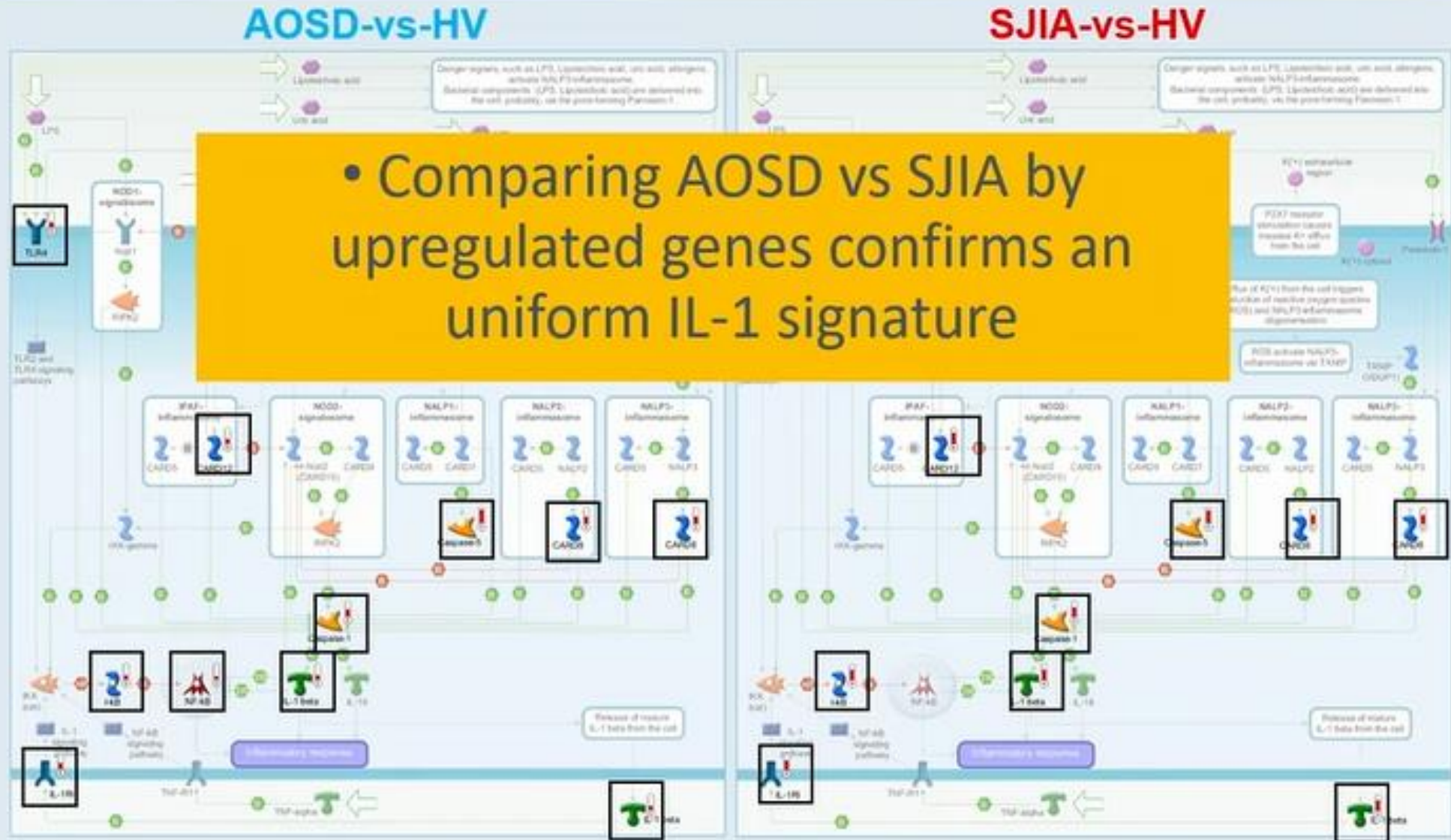
# Pathogenesis



- DAMPs induce the activation of innate immune cells, leading to sterile inflammation
- Endogenous ligands (S100A8, S100A9, and S100A8/A9, and HMGB1) interact with and stimulate the TLR4 pathway
- Activated TLR4 and TLR7 induce NLRP3 inflammasome activation and the secretion of IL-1 $\beta$

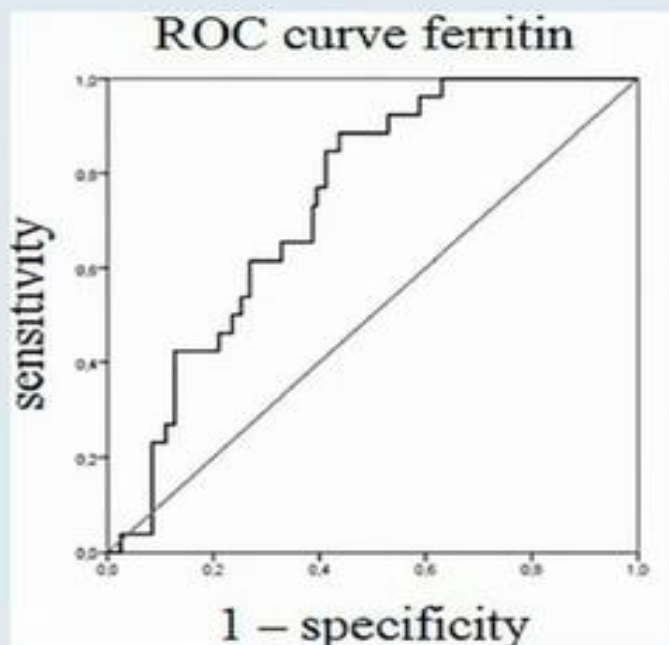


# Cytokine Balance is the Key to Life!

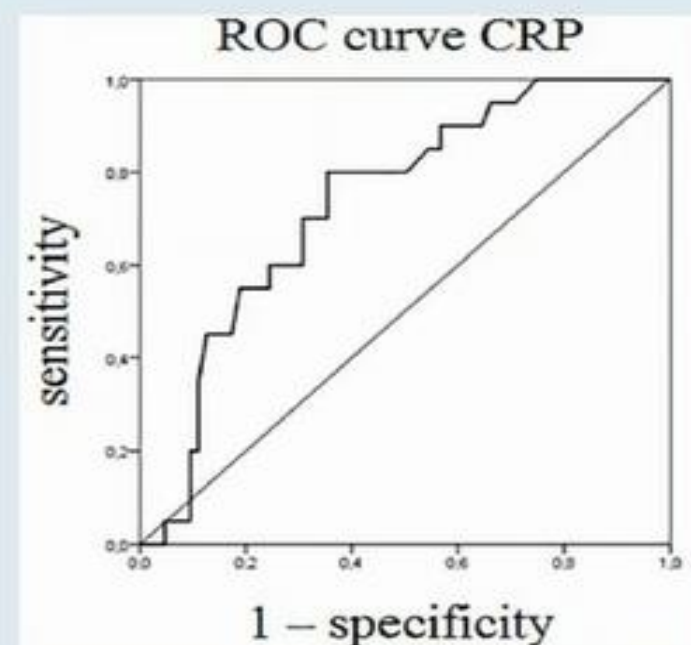


# BIOMARKERS

## Ferritin and CRP are predictive biomarkers of mortality and macrophage activation syndrome in AOSD



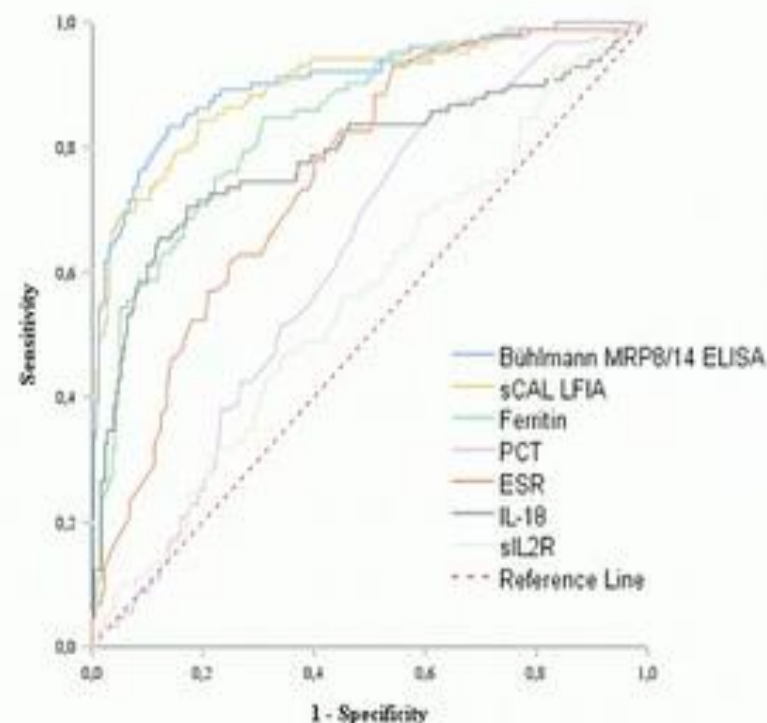
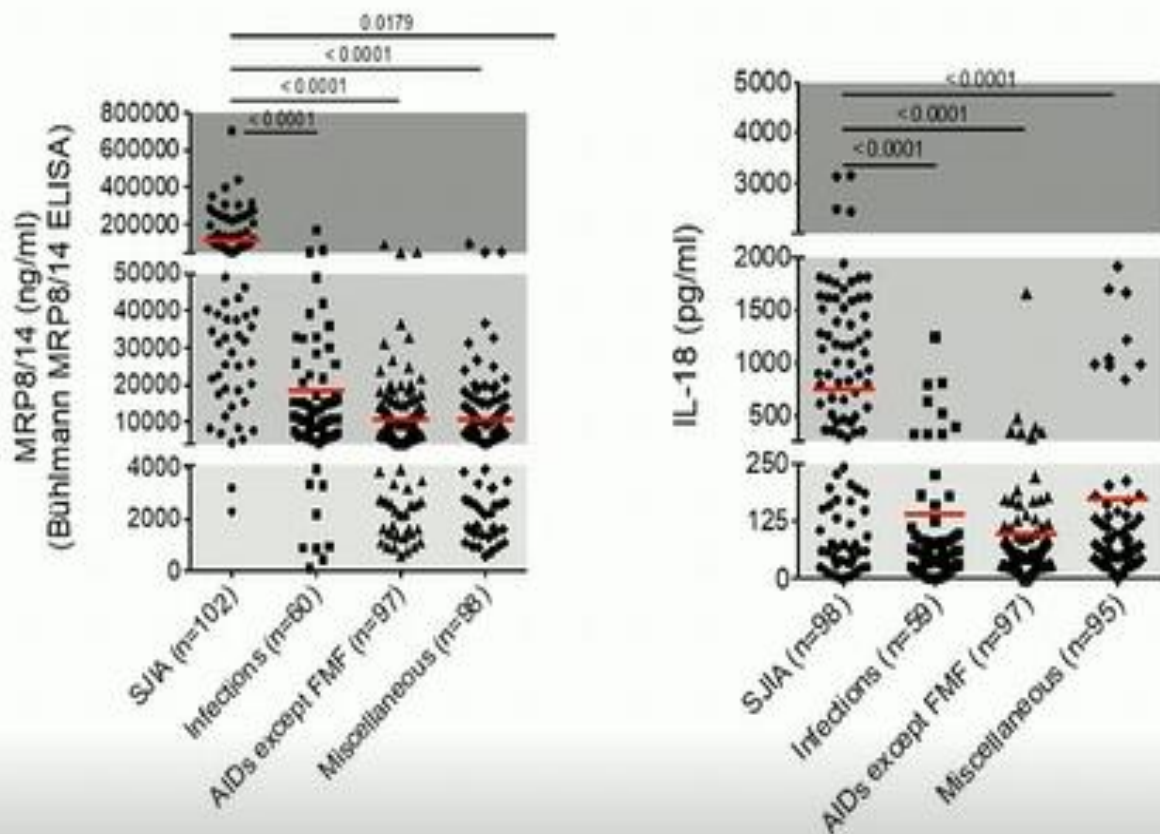
Best cut-off for ferritin was 1225 ng/ml in predicting MAS, providing a sensitivity of 88% and a specificity of 57%.



Best cut-off for CRP in predicting mortality was 68.7 mg/L, providing a sensitivity of 80% and a specificity of 65%



- 357 patients with fever of unknown origin
- Retrospectively confirmed diagnosis (after 1 year)
- Validation of S100, other biomarkers



### MRP8/14 or IL-18 elevated

80/88 patients correctly positive  
(Sensitivity 92%)

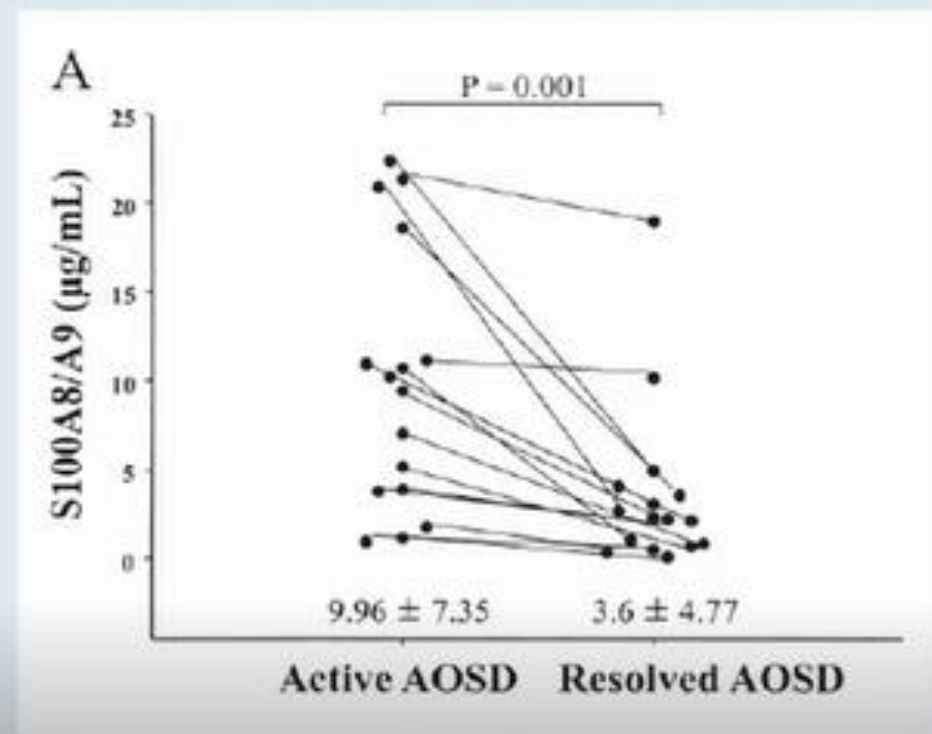
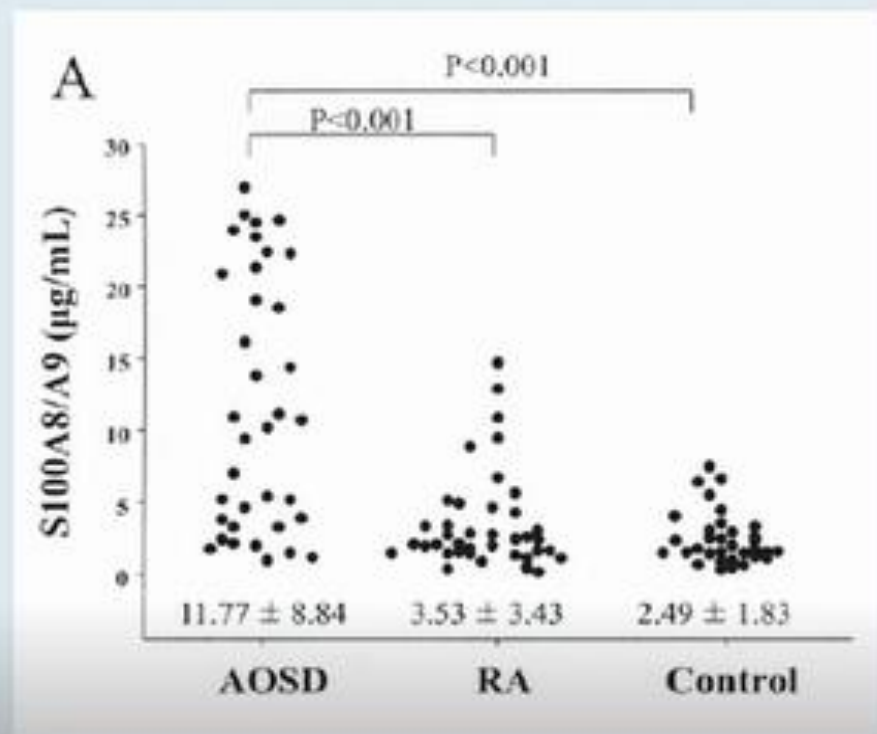
### MRP8/14 and IL-18 low

208/214 patients correctly negative  
(Specificity 97%)



# S100 Proteins as Biomarkers for AOSD

- Serum levels of S100A8/A9 are significantly elevated and correlate with disease activity

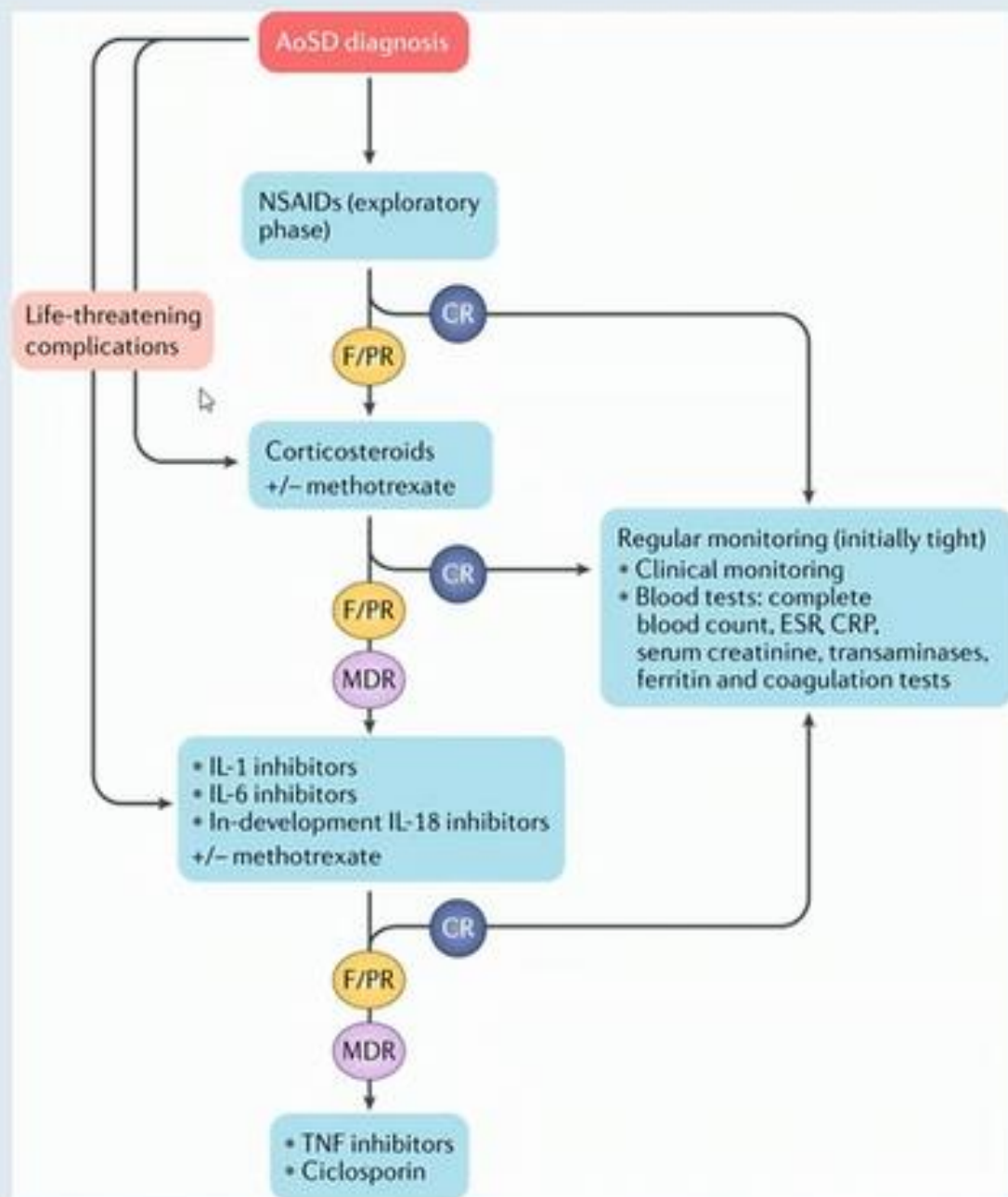




- Laboratory features suggest significant systemic inflammation

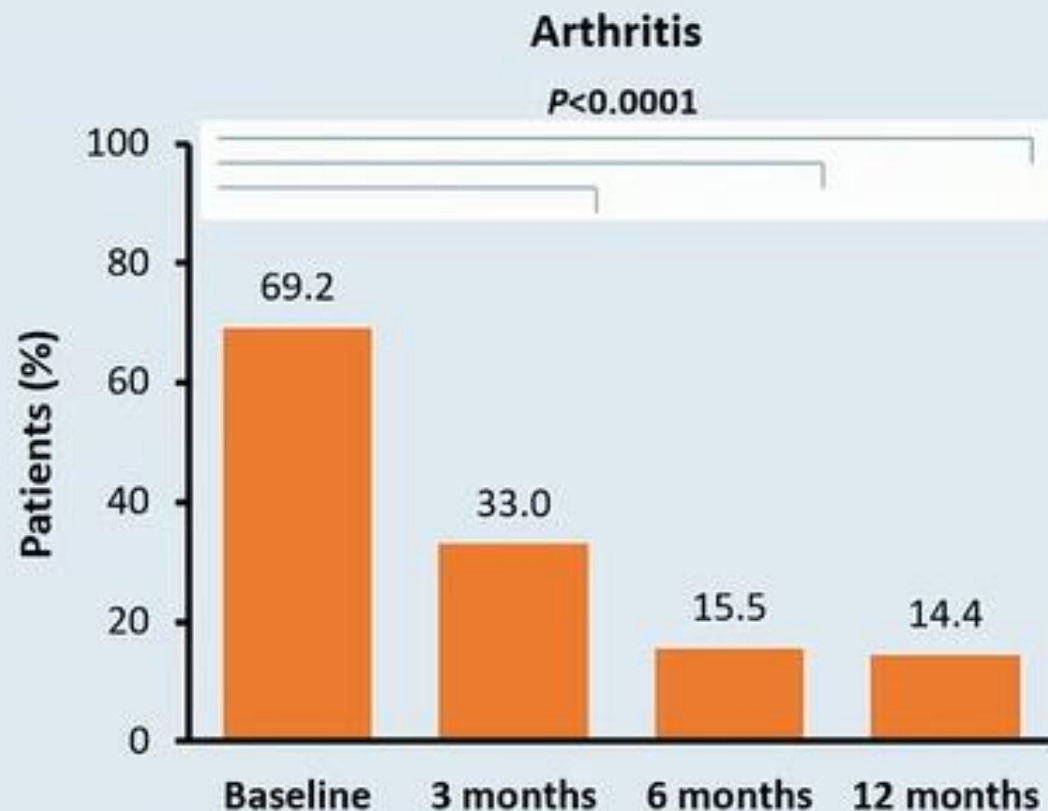
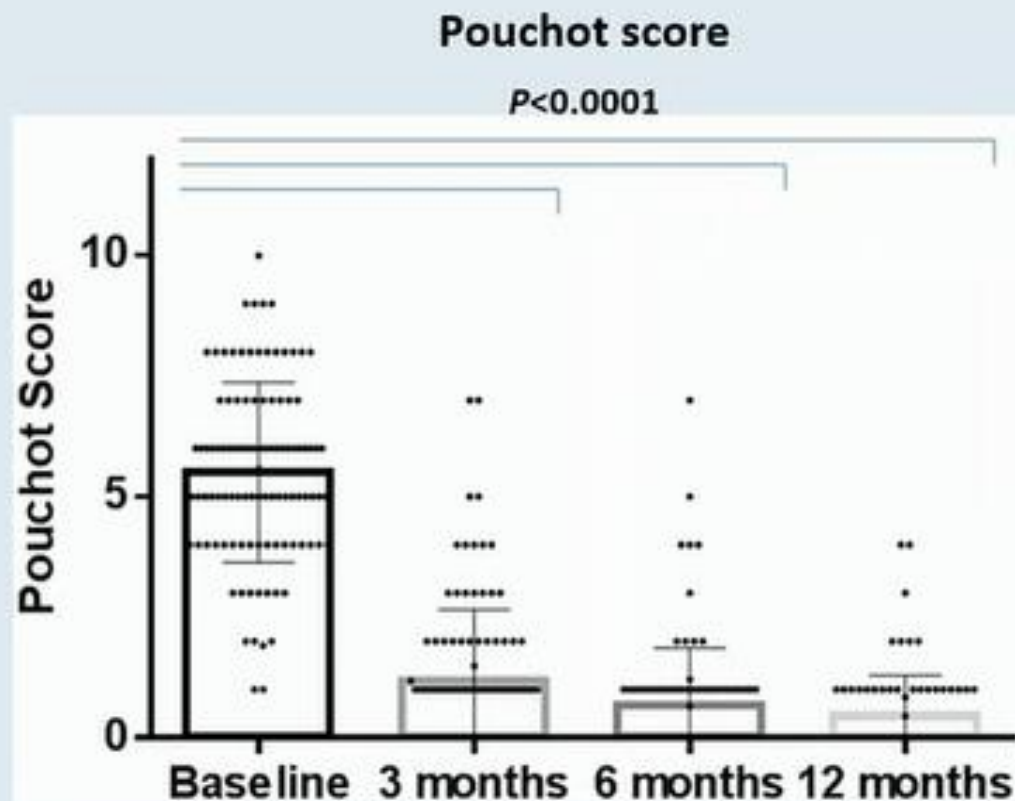
- Gerfaud-Valentin M, et al. *Autoimmun Rev* 2014;13:708–22. 1. Chen D-Y, et al. *J Rheumatol* 2004;31:2189–98.

# How to improve therapeutic strategies?





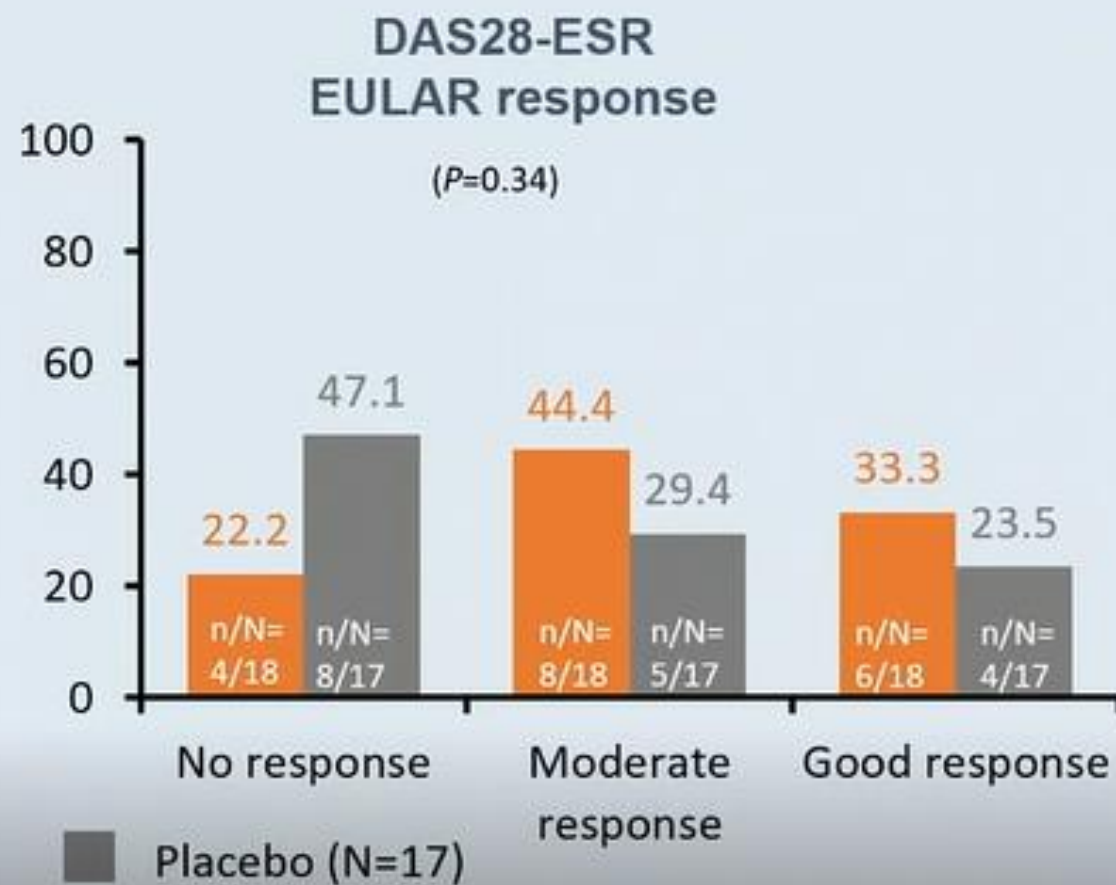
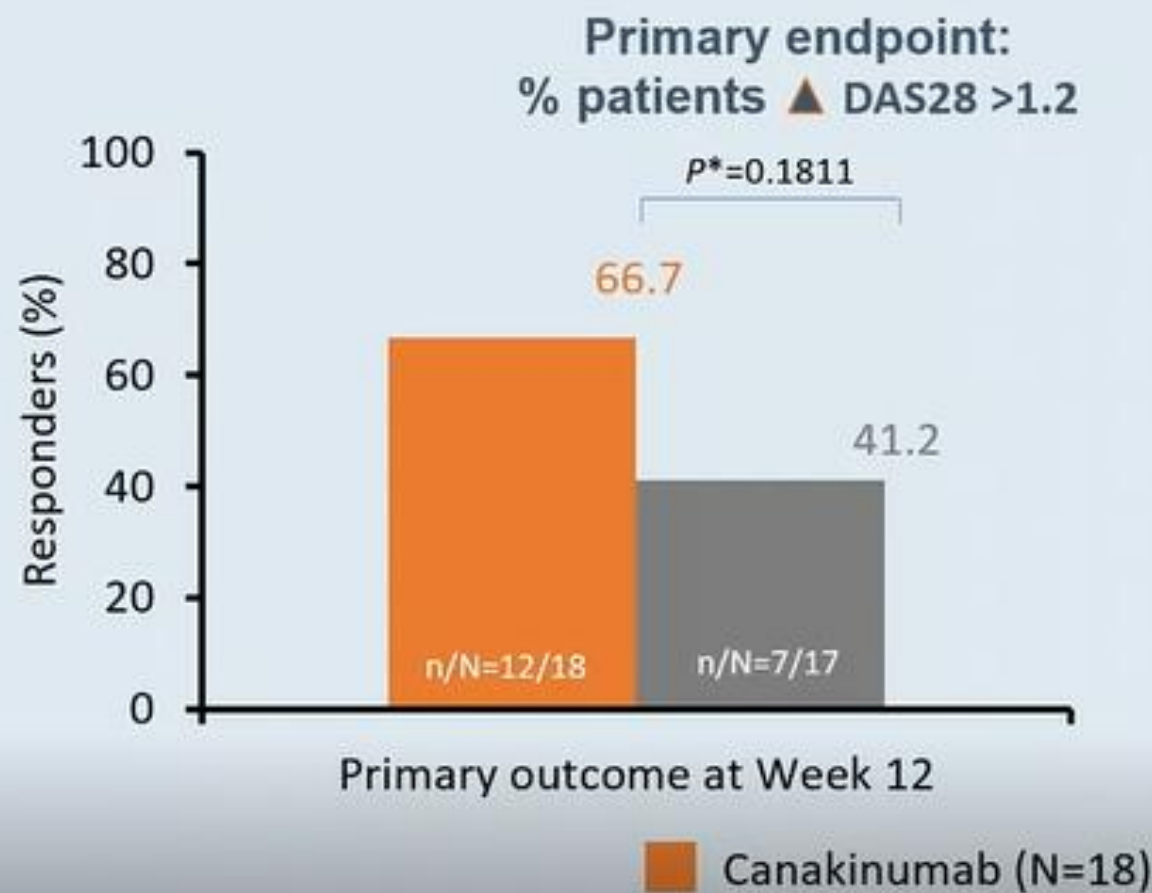
# IL-1 inhibition significantly improved clinical and serological manifestations of AOSD



- Multicenter, retrospective, observational study in 140 Italian patients with adult-onset Still's disease. 40 patients were treated with anakinra; 4 were subsequently switched to canakinumab following anakinra failure. Data shown for anakinra-treated patients  
Pouchot score captures changes in fever, rash, pneumonia, pericarditis, pleuritis, sore throat, lymphadenopathy, hepatomegaly, myalgia, arthritis, macrophage activation syndrome

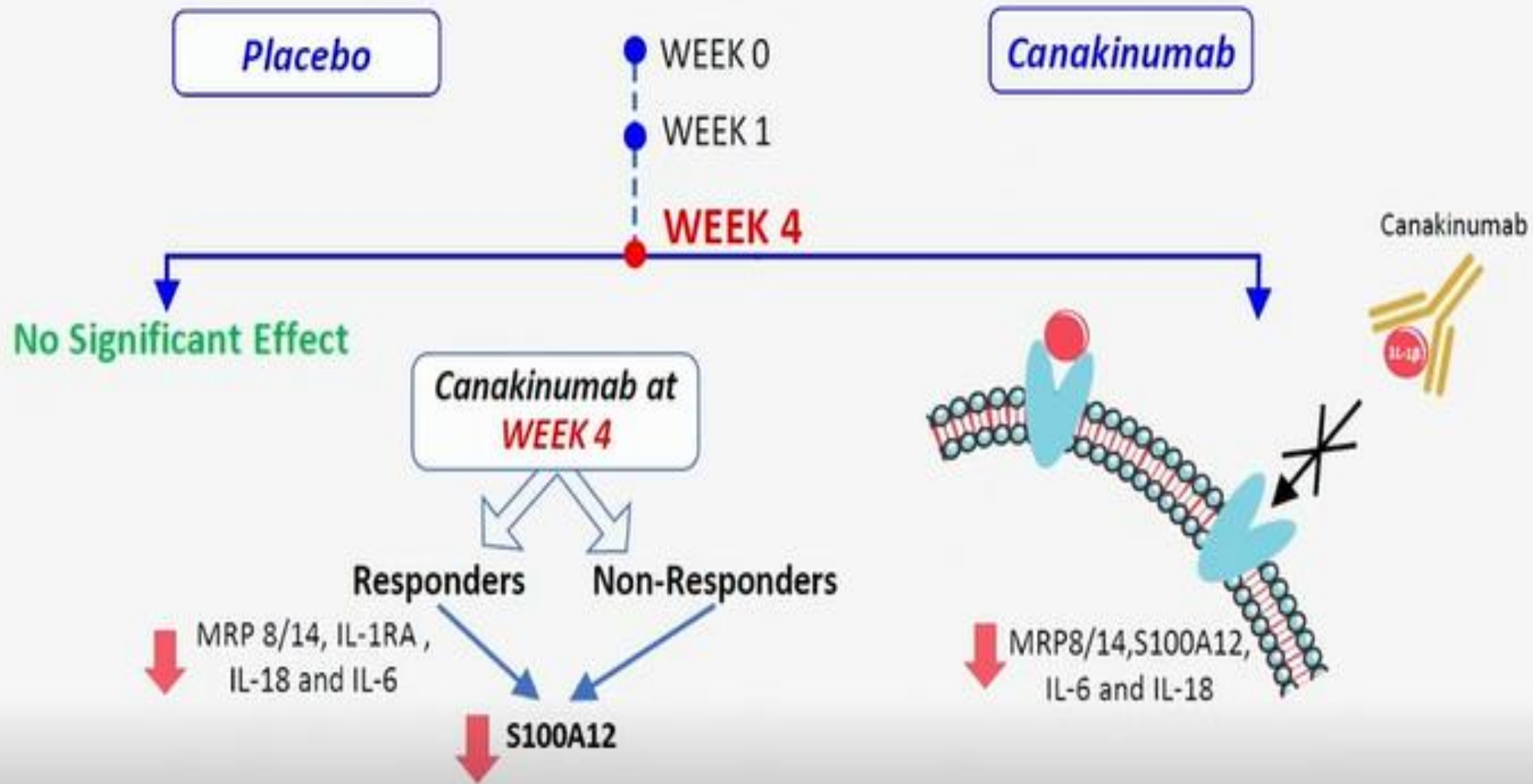
- Colafrancesco S, et al. *Front Pharmacol.* 2017;8:369

# More patients had clinically-meaningful improvements in disease activity with Canakinumab vs placebo at Week 12 (ITT)



• \*Fisher's exact test  
n, number of responders; N, total number of patients; DAS28, 28-joint disease activity score; ITT, intent to treat

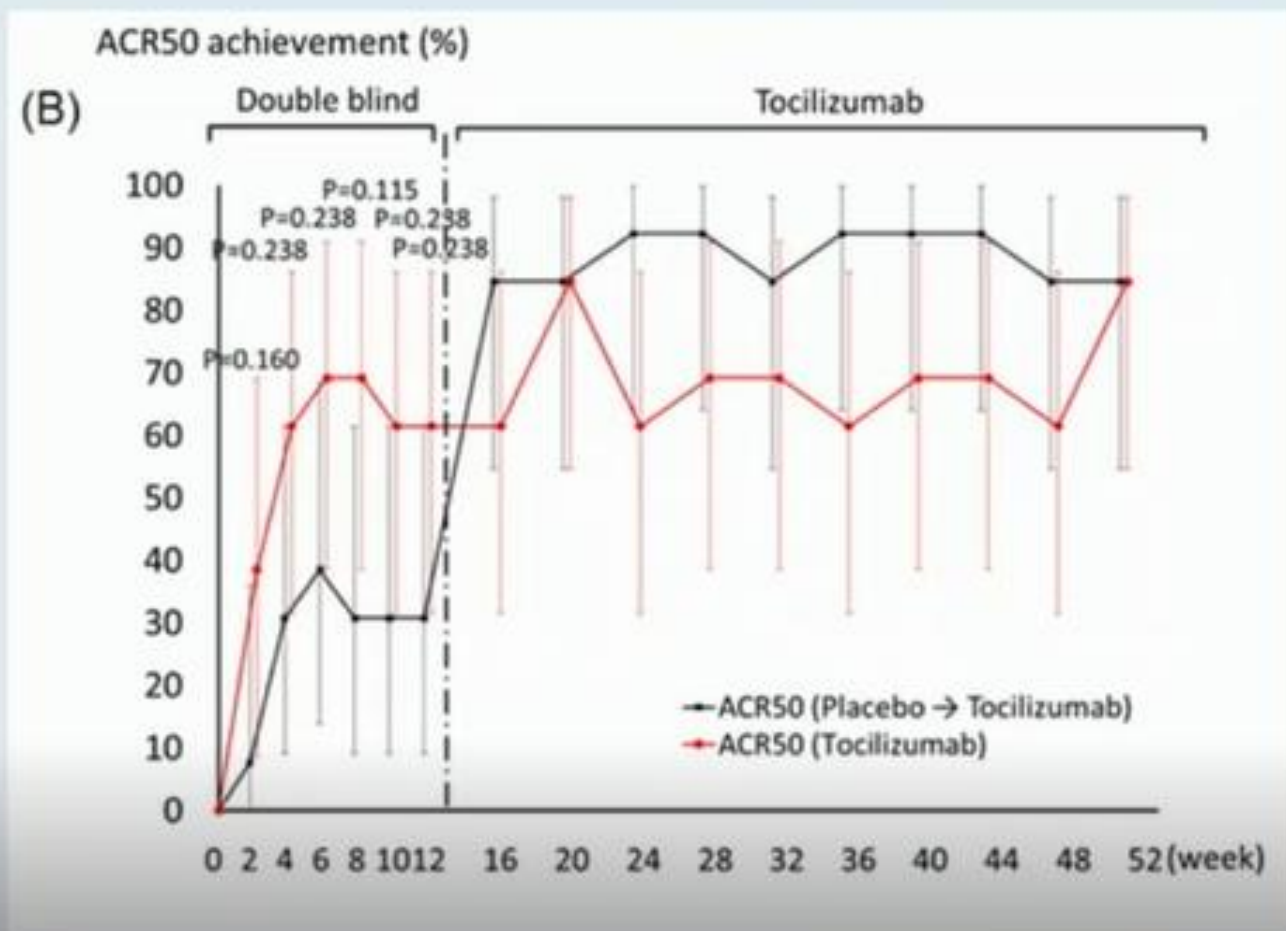
• Kedor C, et al. ARD 2020,  
doi:10.1136/annrheumdis-2020-21715





# Tocilizumab in patients with AOSD refractory to glucocorticoid treatment: a randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III trial

- 27 patients with AOSD refractory to GC were randomised to tocilizumab at a dose of 8 mg/kg or placebo given IV every 2 weeks during the 12-week, double-blind phase.
- Patients received open-label tocilizumab for 40 weeks subsequently



## Consensus Treatment Plans

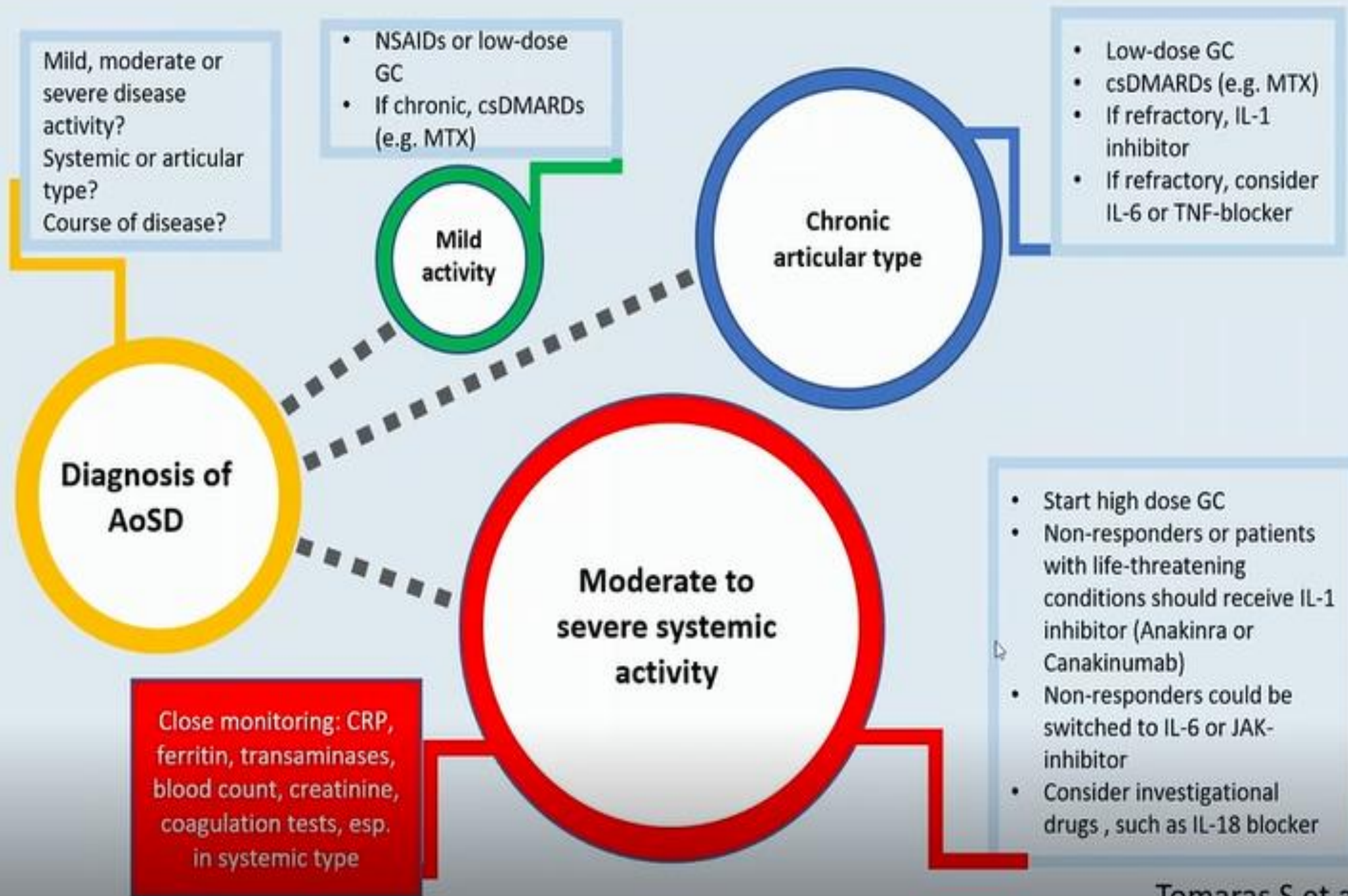
- Option 1: Glucocorticoids**  
Prednisolone (1-2 mg/kg/d; max. 80 mg/d)  
+/- Methylprednisolone i.v. 3 days (20-30 mg/kg/d; max. 1 g/d)
- Option 2: Anakinra**  
(2-4 mg/kg/d; initially max. 100 mg)  
+/- Glucocorticoids (as in option 1)
- Option 3: Canakinumab**  
(4 mg/kg; max. 300 mg; q 4 wks)  
+/- Glucocorticoids (as in option 1)
- Option 4: Tocilizumab**  
(≥30kg: 8 ml/kg q 2 wks, max. 800 mg  
<30kg: 12 mg/kg q 2 wks)  
+/- Glucocorticoids (as in option 1)

May be added:

**Intraarticular GCs, NSAR, MTX**









# IN SUMMARY

- STARTING THERAPY EARLY IS CRUCIAL :EARLY DIAGNOSIS WITH THE USE OF BIOMARKERS AND BETTER DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA IS THE KEY TO SUCCESS
- DEVELOPPMENT OF NEW OUTCOMES MEASURES AND TREATMENT GUIDELINES IS NEEDED URGENTLY
- DEVELOPPMENT AND VALIDATION OF A EULAR DISEASE ACTIVITY SCORE FOR AOSD