

# The Seventh International Conference on Systems Biology

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Yokohama, Japan

## " A Systems Biology Approach to Type 1 Diabetes "

Allan E. Karlsen<sup>1,2</sup>, Jørn Nerup<sup>1</sup> & Flemming Pociot<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Steno Diabetes Center

&

<sup>2</sup> Novo Nordisk A/S  
Diabetes Research Unit  
Denmark

# Our “systems biology” vision & approach

“Combine the use of **experimental models** with different **profiling technologies** and *in silico* **approaches** to be followed by **functional assays** in order to identify novel pathways in  $\beta$ -cell destruction associated with T1D”

## Different levels

1. Definition of clinical question to be addressed
2. Selection of experimental model and methods of choice
3. Functional analysis of identified mechanisms
4. Diabetes and global relevance?

# A systems biology approach to T1D

## Level 1. The Aim

T1D is characterised by an immune-mediated destruction of the  $\beta$  cells of the pancreas, leading to absolute insulin deficiency and the corresponding need of exogenous insulin to preserve life.

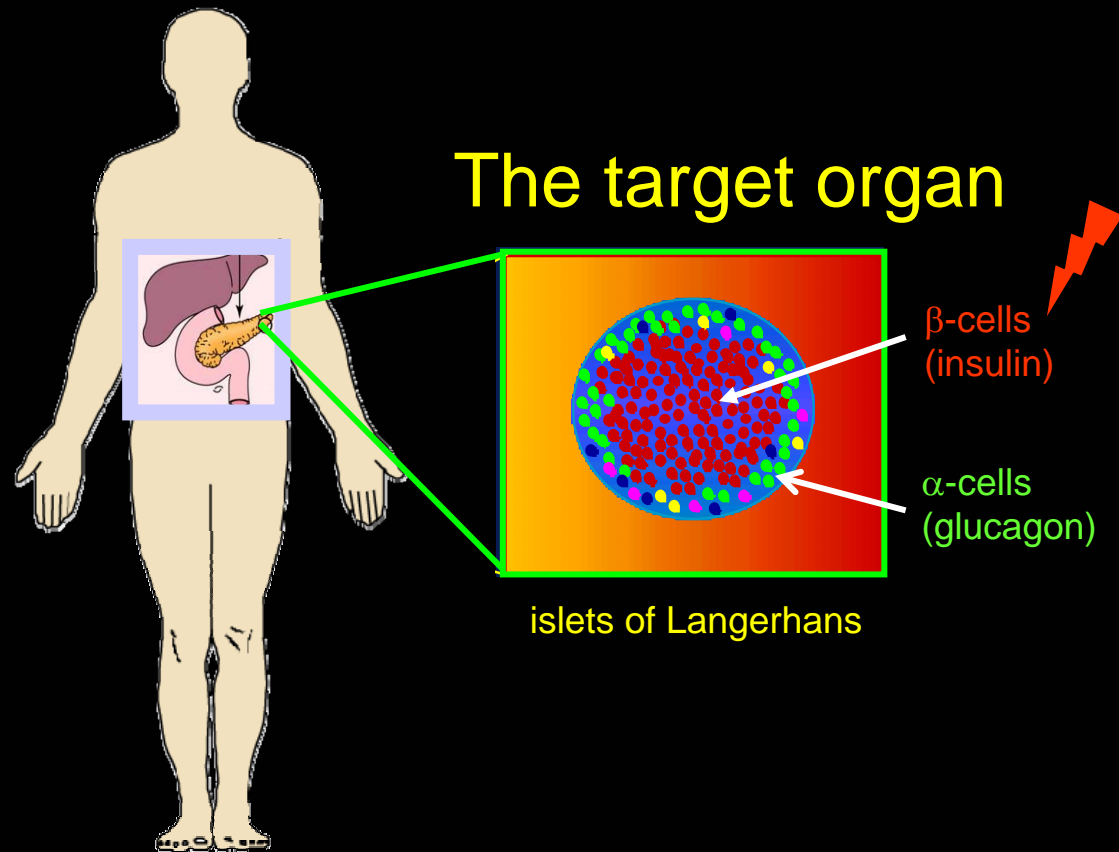
## Important players

### Genetics

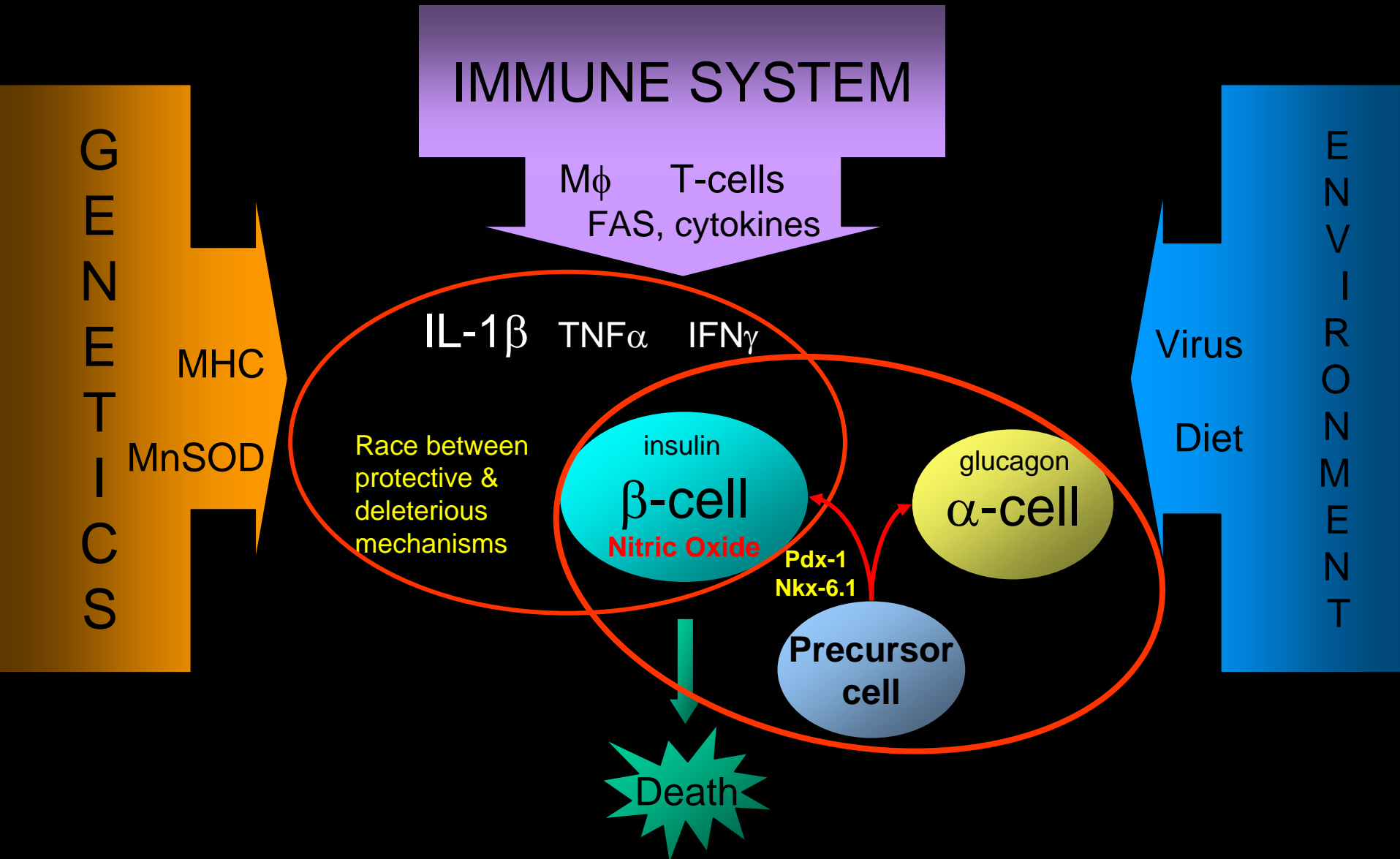
- Multifactorial disease with polygenic predisposition

### Immune system

### Environment



# Outline of today's presentation



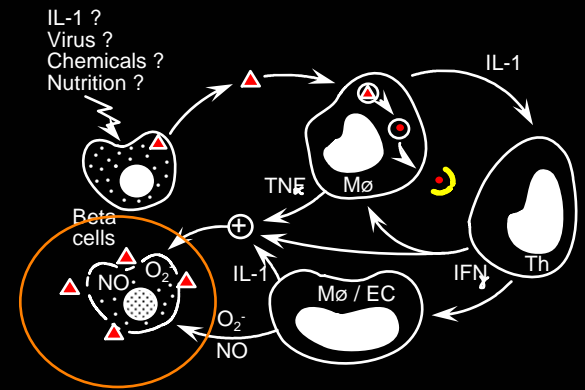
# Level 2: Select the model and methods of choice - laying the puzzle by profiling

## Genome approach

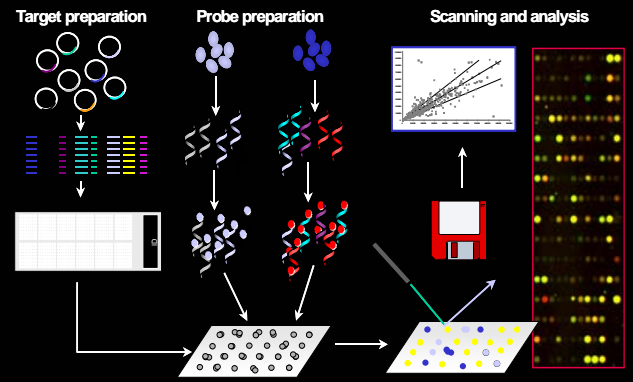
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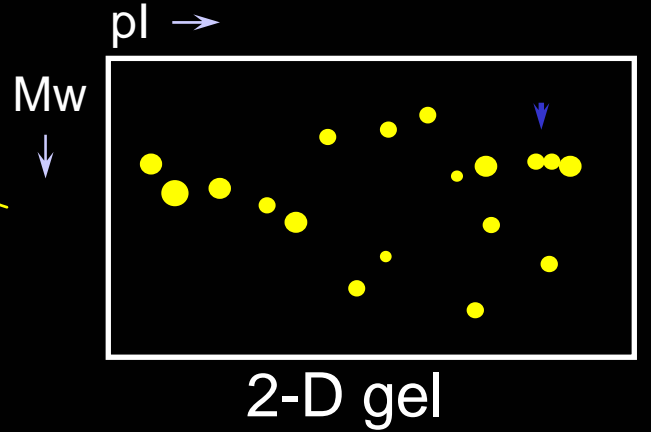
## Candidate approach



## Transcriptome approach



## Proteome approach



# Bioinformatics:

## Proteome analysis of rat islets exposed to IL-1 $\beta$

Phosphatidylethanolamine-binding protein (P23K)  
Lamin A (split product)  
Lamin B1  
TGF- $\beta$  receptor interacting prot. 1 (TGFrip)  
14-3-3 protein- $\epsilon$ -isoform  
Turned on after division (TOAD-64)  
Neuroendocrine convertase 2 precursor (NEC2)  
Metastasis assoc. protein (MTA-1)  
Galectin-3, MAC-2 antigen

T-complex protein 1 ( $\gamma$ -subunit)  
T-complex protein 1 ( $\epsilon$ -subunit)  
T-complex protein 1 ( $\zeta$ -subunit)  
Caldesmon, human  
Tropomyosin NM4 (TMP- $\gamma$ )  
Annexin II  
Calnexin  
Ischemia-responsive protein94 kDa (irp94)  
HSP90- $\beta$  (HSP84)  
HSP71c (Heat shock cognate 71 kD protein)  
HSP70KD protein AGP-2  
Mitochondrial matrix protein p1 (HSP60)  
Glucose regulated protein precursor=HSPA5 (GRP78)  
Mortalin (GRP75)  
Protein disulfide isomerase (PDI) ER60 (GRP58)  
Probable protein disulfide isomerase P5  
ER protein (ERP31 precursor to ERP29)  
Coatomer ( $\delta$ -subunit)  
Ubiquitin carboxyl-terminal hydrolase T

Signal transduction,  
regulation, differentiation  
and apoptosis

Chaperones, protein folding  
and translocation

Elongation factor 2 (EF2, polypeptidyl – tRNA translocase)  
Heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein K/ ROK  
Polypyrimidine tract-binding protein (PTB)  
Major vault protein (RNP protein for nucleocytoplasmic transport)  
Glycyl – tRNA synthetase

HU Andersen et al, Diabetes 44:1995  
HU Andersen et al, Electrophoresis 18:1997  
NE John et al, Diabetes 49, 2000  
PM Larsen at al, Diabetes, 50, 2001  
T Sparre et al, Diabetologia 45, 2002

6-phospho fructo-2-kinase  
Fructose 1,6 - biphosphate Aldolase A  
Triose phosphate isomerase (TPI1)  
Glyceraldehyde-3-p-dehydrogenase (GAPDH)  
Phospho-glycerate kinase  
Phospho-glycerate mutase (PGAM), brain form  
Enolase  $\alpha/1$   
Pyruvate kinase M (processed pseudogene)  
Pyruvate kinase M2, early foetal tissue  
Pyruvate carboxylase

Glycolytic enzymes

Energy transduction and  
redox potentials

Protein synthesis

ATP synthase regulatory subunit (A)  
Rat mitochondrial H<sup>+</sup>-ATP synthase alpha subunit  
ATP synthase catalytic subunit (B)  
Adenylate kinase isoenzyme 2, (mitochondrial)  
Transitional endoplasmic reticulum ATPase  
Vacuolar ATP synthase subunit B, brain isoform  
5-aminoimidazole-4-carboxamid ribonucleotide  
formyl transferase IMP cyclohydrolase  
Acetyl-CoA acetyl transferase (ACAT2)  
L-3-hydroxyacyl-CoA dehydrogenase  
NADH-cytochrome B5 reductase  
NADPH-cytochrome P450 reductase  
Creatin kinase (ubiquitous mitochondrial form)  
Glutamate dehydrogenase (GDH)  
Methylmalonate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase

# Lots of data – what now?

Level 1 and 2 (aim, biological system and profiling methods):

- Systems biology provides a detailed and complex picture of proteins and pathways activated in  $\beta$ -cells or islets in response to cytokines.

Hypothesis generating!

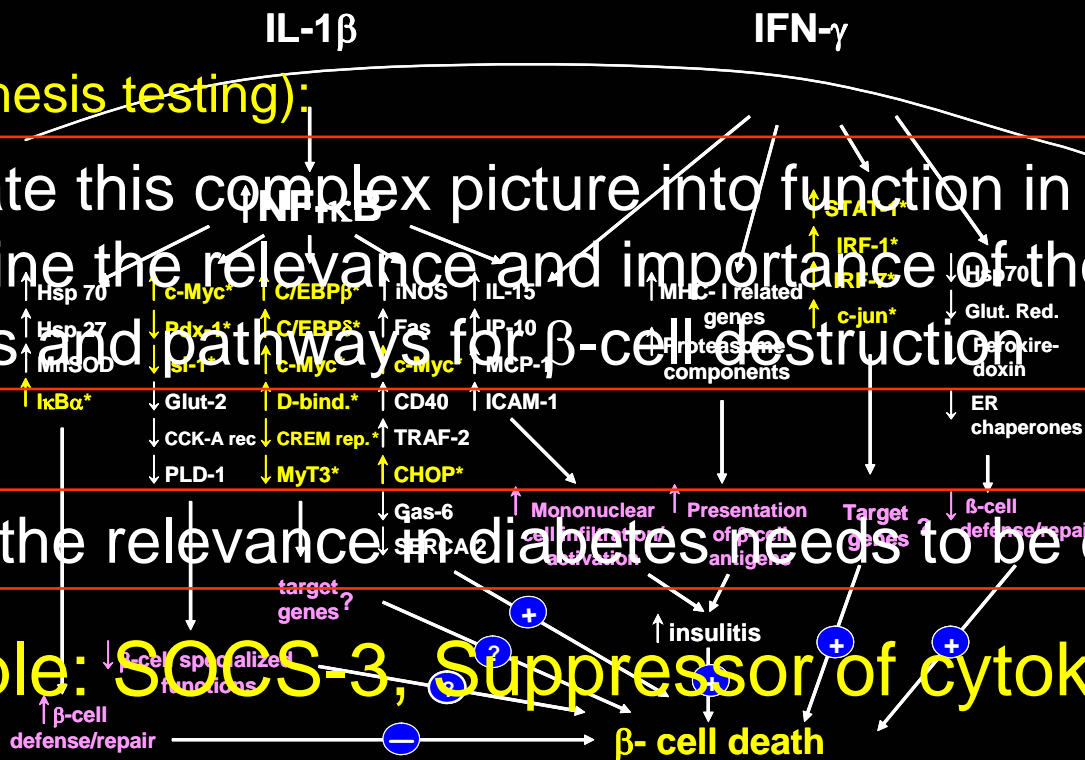
Level 3 (hypothesis testing):

- Translate this complex picture into function in order to determine the relevance and importance of the identified proteins and pathways for  $\beta$ -cell destruction

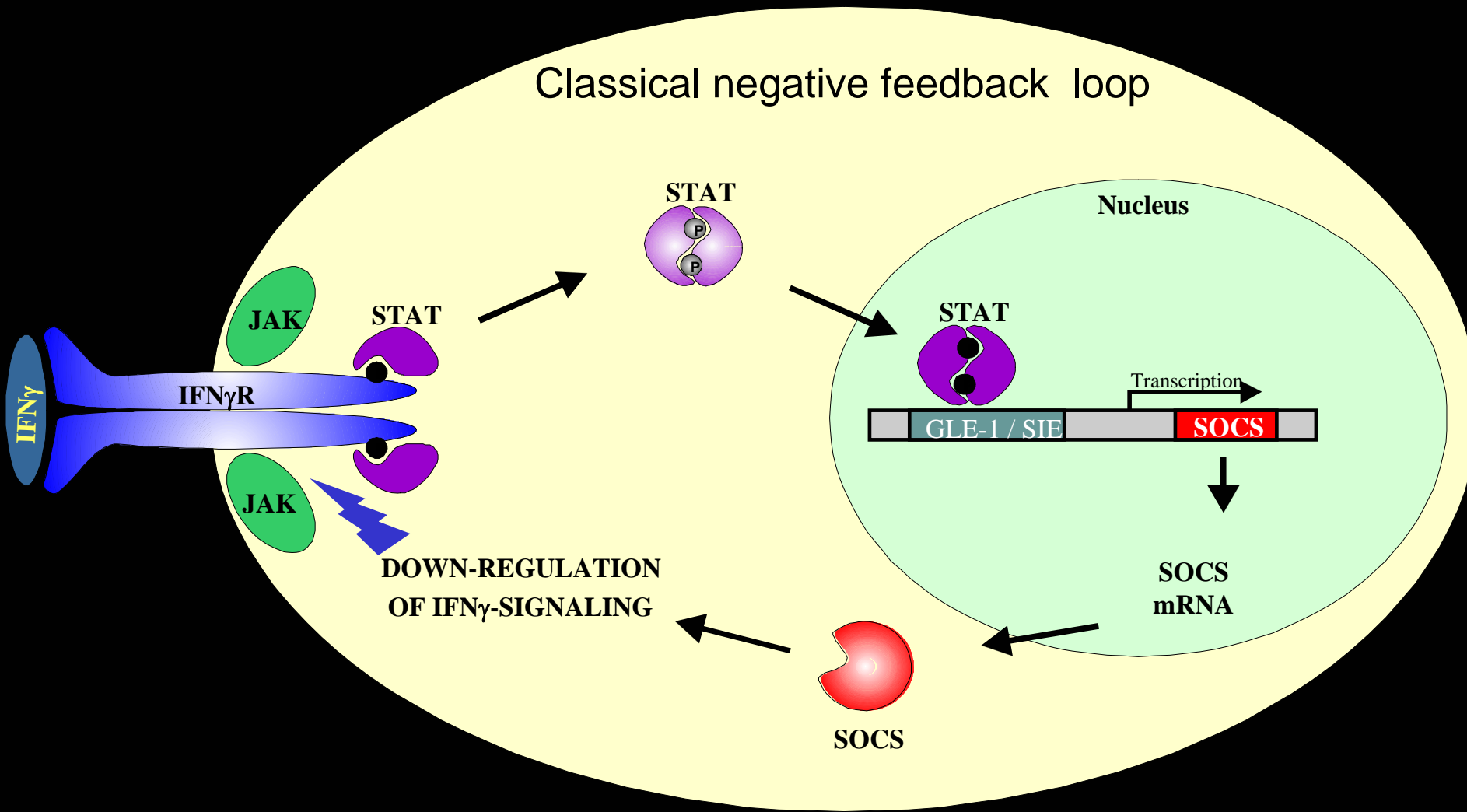
Level 4:

- Finally the relevance in diabetes needs to be determined

An example: SOCS-3, Suppressor of cytokine signaling



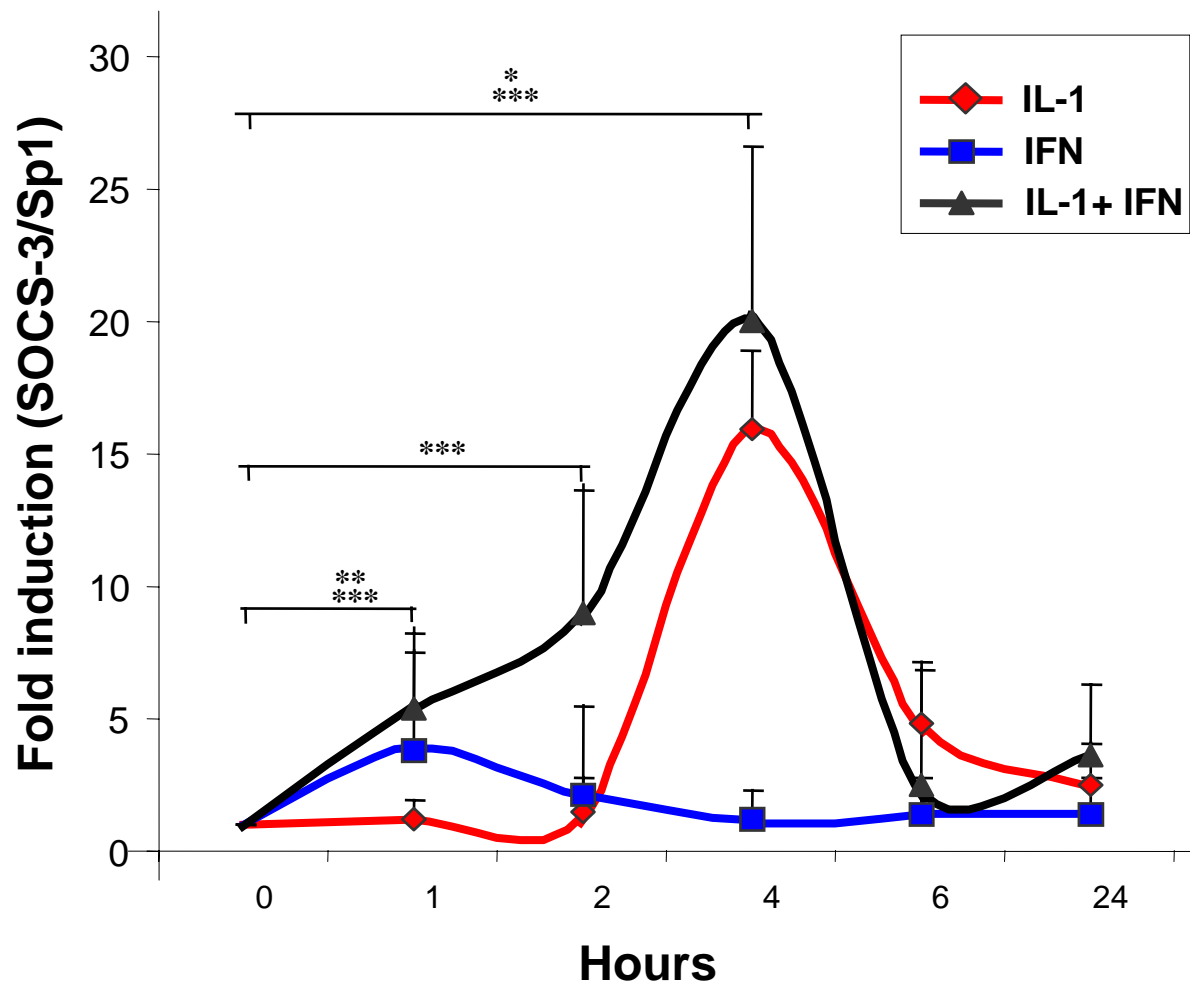
# Suppression Of Cytokine Signaling (SOCS)





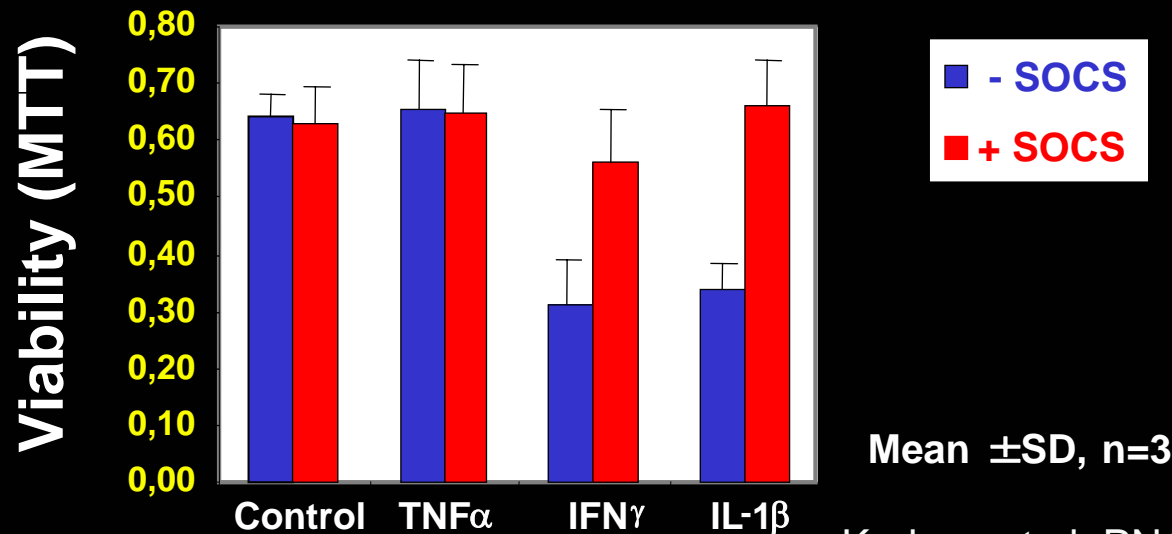
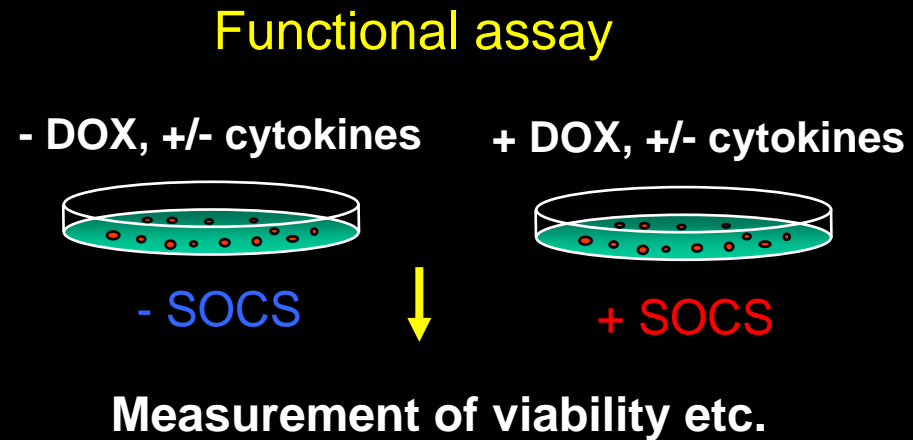
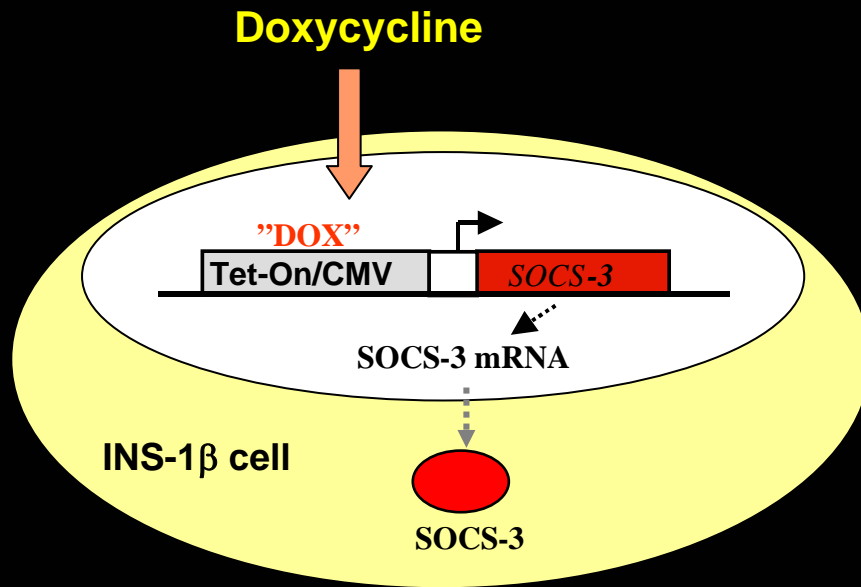
# Level 2: SOCS-3 identified as up-regulated by IL-1 in $\beta$ -cells

Cytokine induced SOCS-3 mRNA expression in rat islets

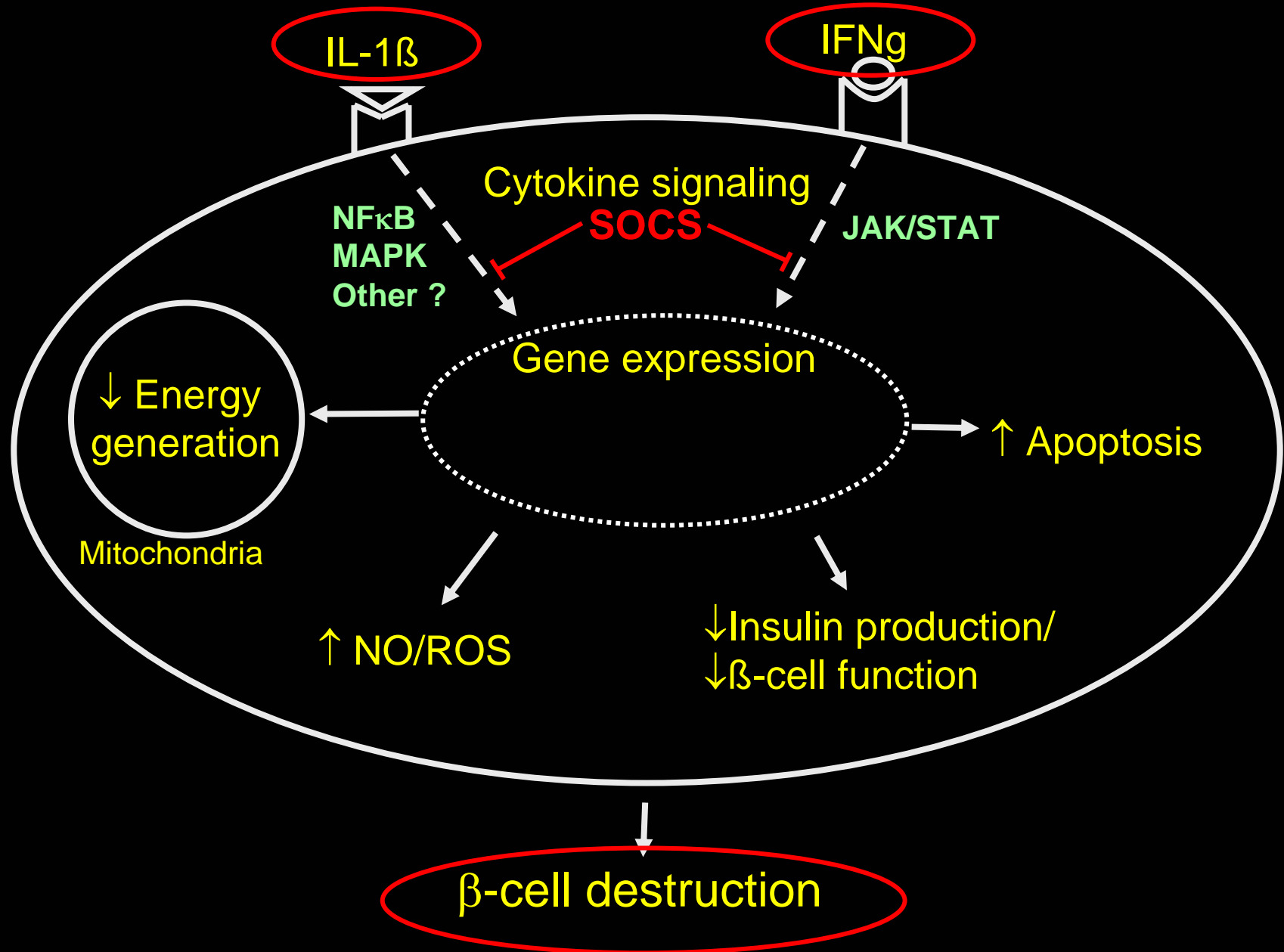


Mean  $\pm$  SD,  
 $n=3$

# Level 3: SOCS-3 inhibits IL-1 $\beta$ induced $\beta$ -cell death

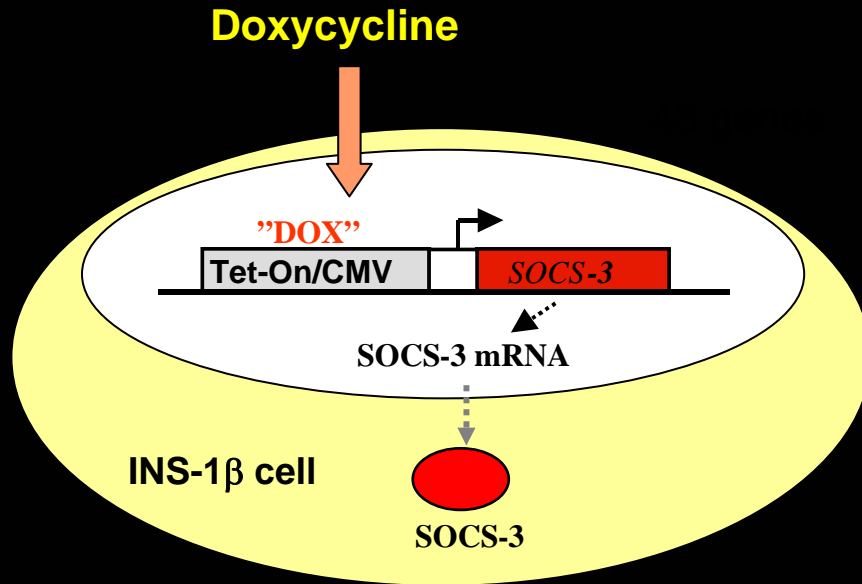


# SOCS-3 inhibits cytokine induced $\beta$ -cell death



# Level 3b: Identify mechanism of action

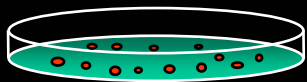
- gene profiling



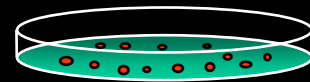
- First pre-culture with or without dox
- Then 6 or 24 hr additional culture in the absence or presence of IL-1
- Score of  $\geq 2.5$ -fold-changes.

## Profiling assay

- DOX, +/- cytokines      + DOX, +/- cytokines



- SOCS

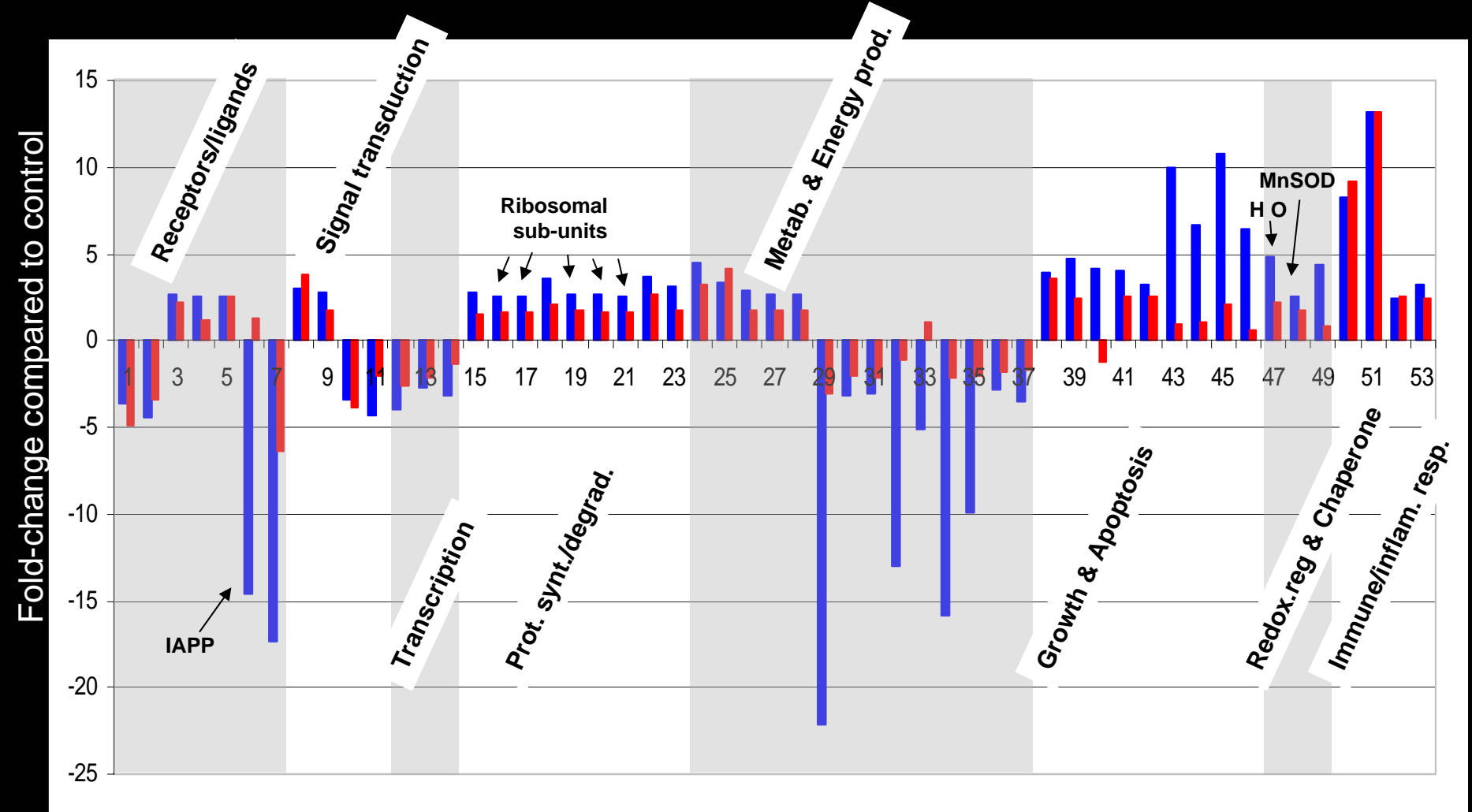


+ SOCS

Array analysis, Affymetrix U34A chips

# SOCS-3 expression “normalizes” gene-expression

24 hrs IL-1 exposure: ■ without SOCS-3 ■ with SOCS-3



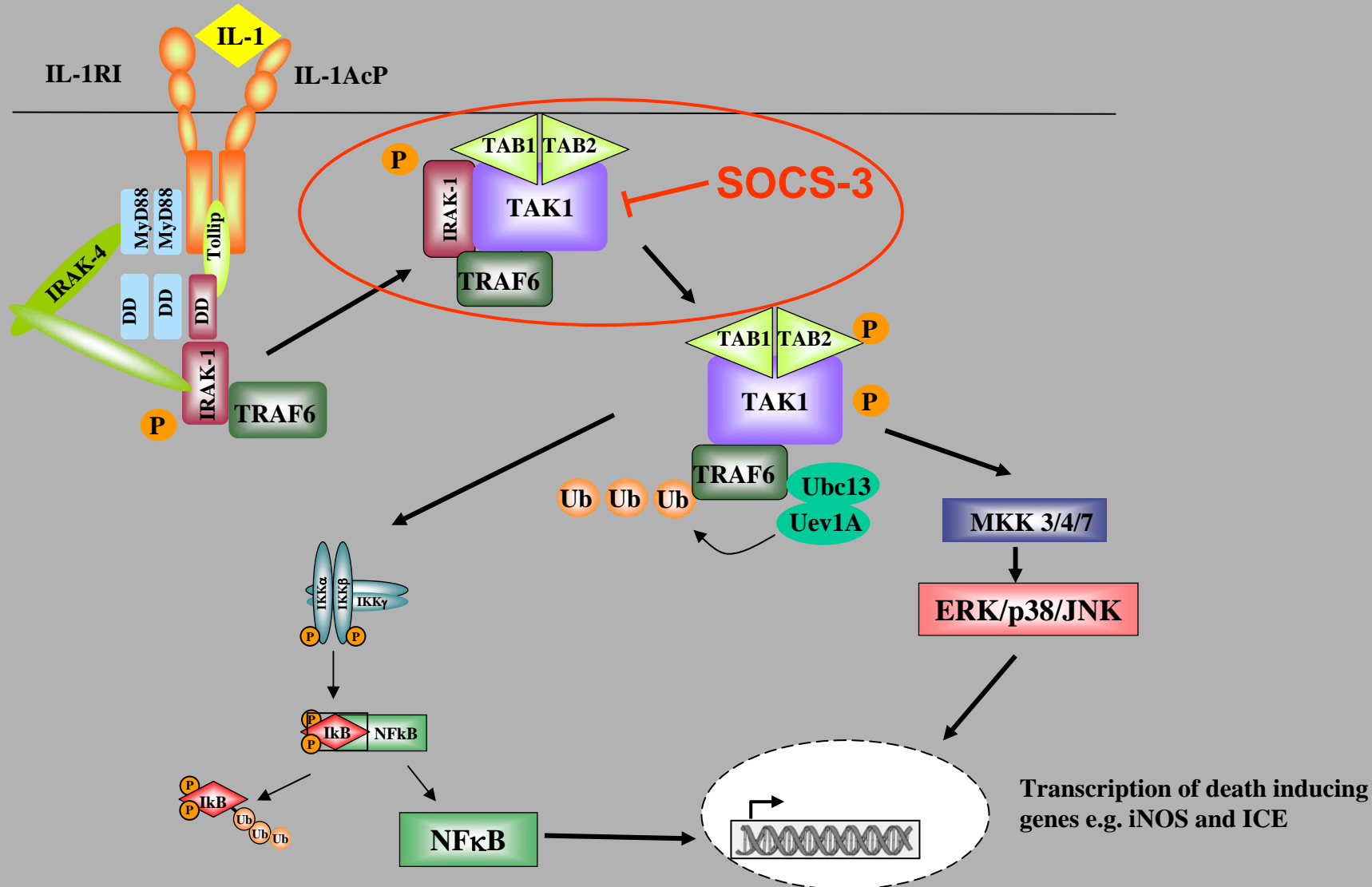
# Summary of array study – 6-hr data

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- 23 transcripts were up-regulated in response to IL-1
- 16 of these were inhibited by SOCS-3
- 8 of these encoded proteins related to immune/inflammatory responses, e.g. chemokines and receptors
- 9 of the SOCS-3 inhibited transcripts encoded pro-apoptotic transcripts previously shown to be NF- $\kappa$ B dependent early response genes (iNOS, ICAM, complement C3, Mob-1, MIP-1, CX3C, NF $\kappa$ B-p105, IRF-1, Fibrinogen- $\gamma$ ) suggesting that SOCS-3 inhibits NF $\kappa$ B mediated signal transduction

# SOCS-3 inhibits IL-1 signaling at the TAK1 level

- biochemical analysis



# Perspective

- 4<sup>rd</sup> level, involvement in diabetes?

- SOCS-3 inhibits signaling through both IL-1 $\beta$  and IFN $\gamma$  at proximate steps in the  $\beta$ -cell (**cellular level**)
- Thus, SOCS-3 may represent a potential target in pharmacological and/or genetic engineering strategies to protect the  $\beta$ -cells against the toxic effects of the immune system in T1D (**organ level**)
- SOCS-1 and SOCS-3 causes insulin resistance by inhibition of IRS1/2 phosphorylation. Increased SOCS expression in liver, muscle and fat associated with obesity (low grade inflammation) has a negative effect on insulin signaling (**individual**)

Ueki, Kondo and Kahn; *Mol. Cell. Biol.* 24, 2004

Ueki, Kadowaki and Kahn; *Hepatology Res.* 33 (2005)



# Systems Biology- Population level

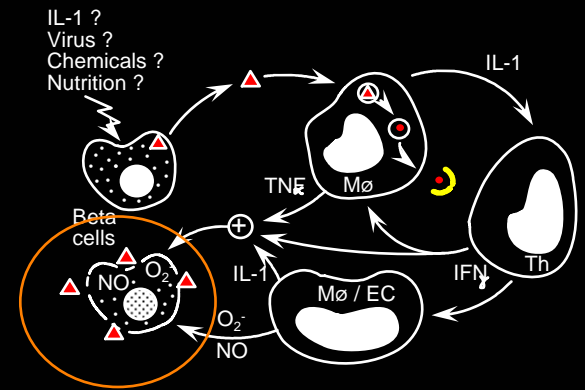
## Genome approach

Diabetes associated  
SOCS-3 polymorphisms

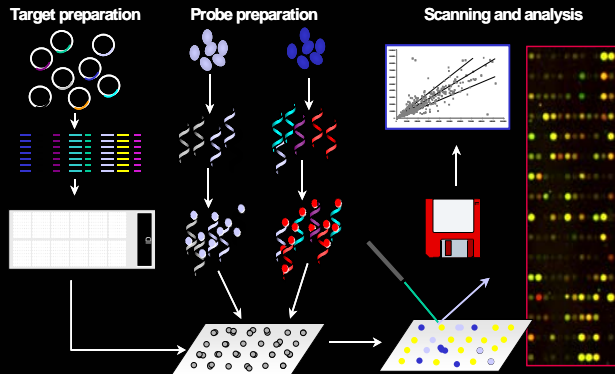
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Molecular mechanisms  
in  $\beta$ -cell destruction in  
T1DM

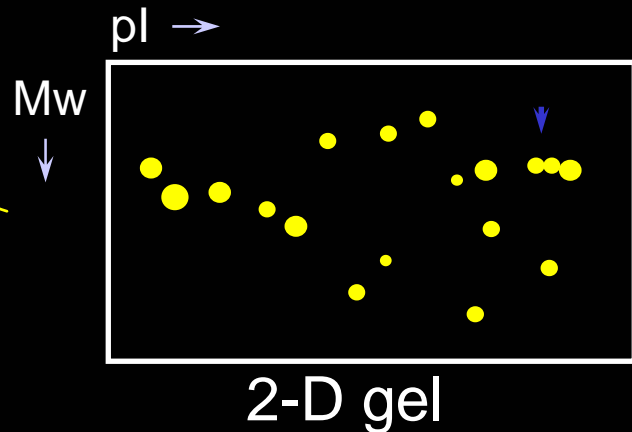
## Candidate approach



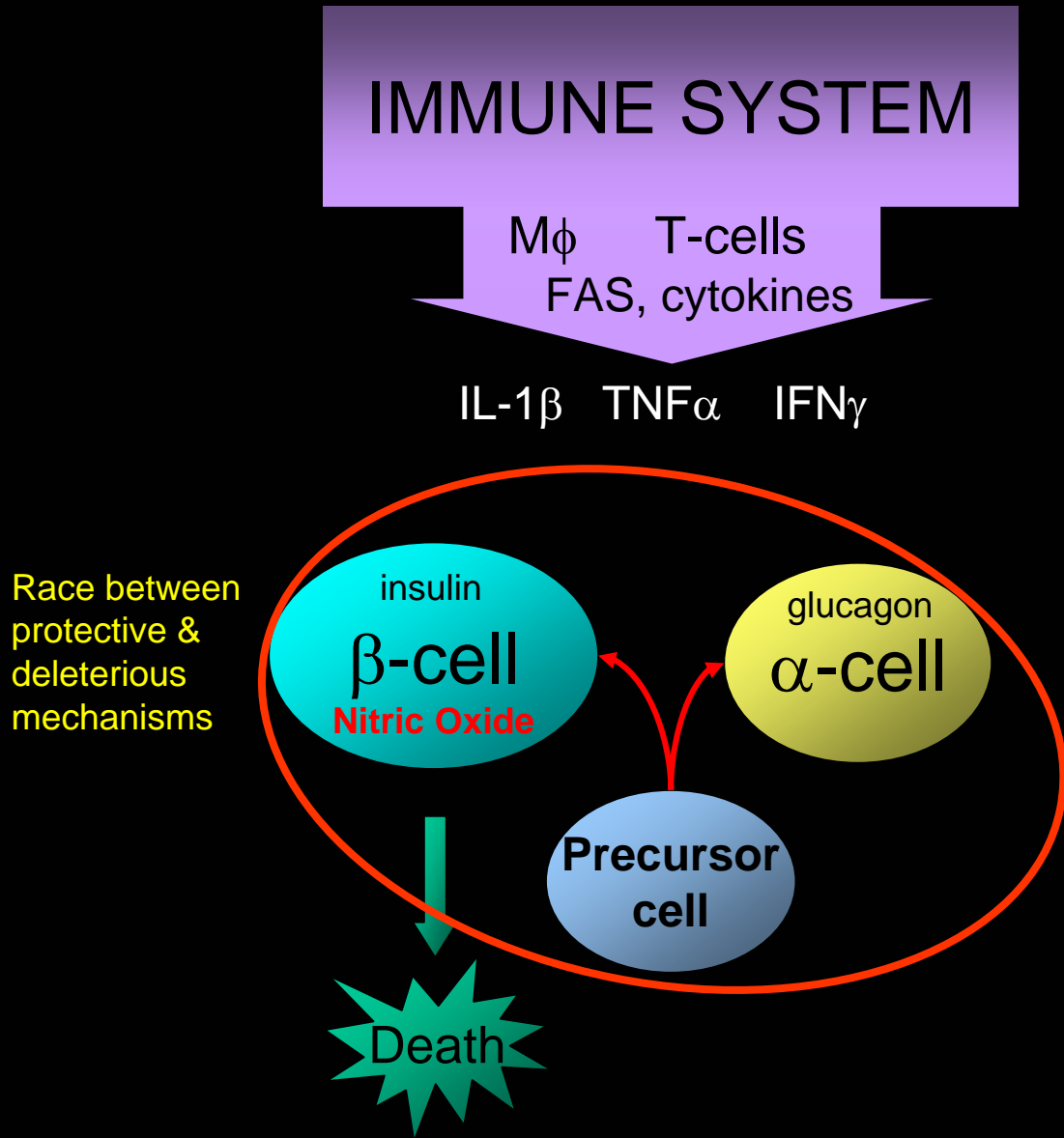
## Transcriptome approach



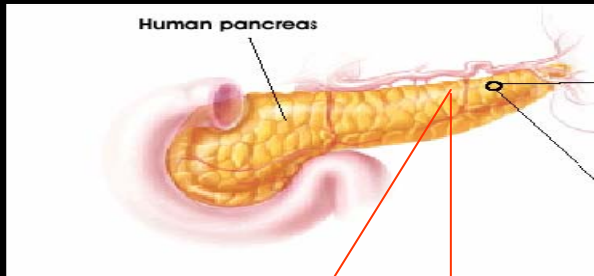
## Proteome approach



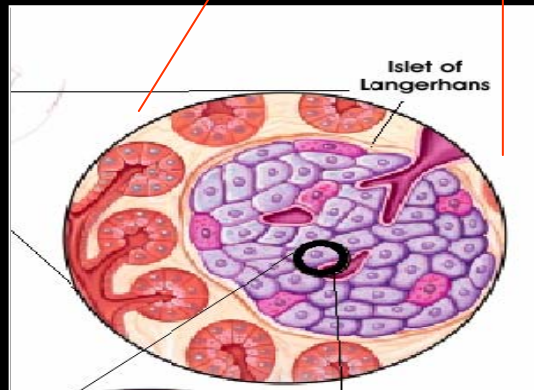
# What are the mechanisms responsible for the acquired cytokine sensitivity during $\beta$ -cell maturation?



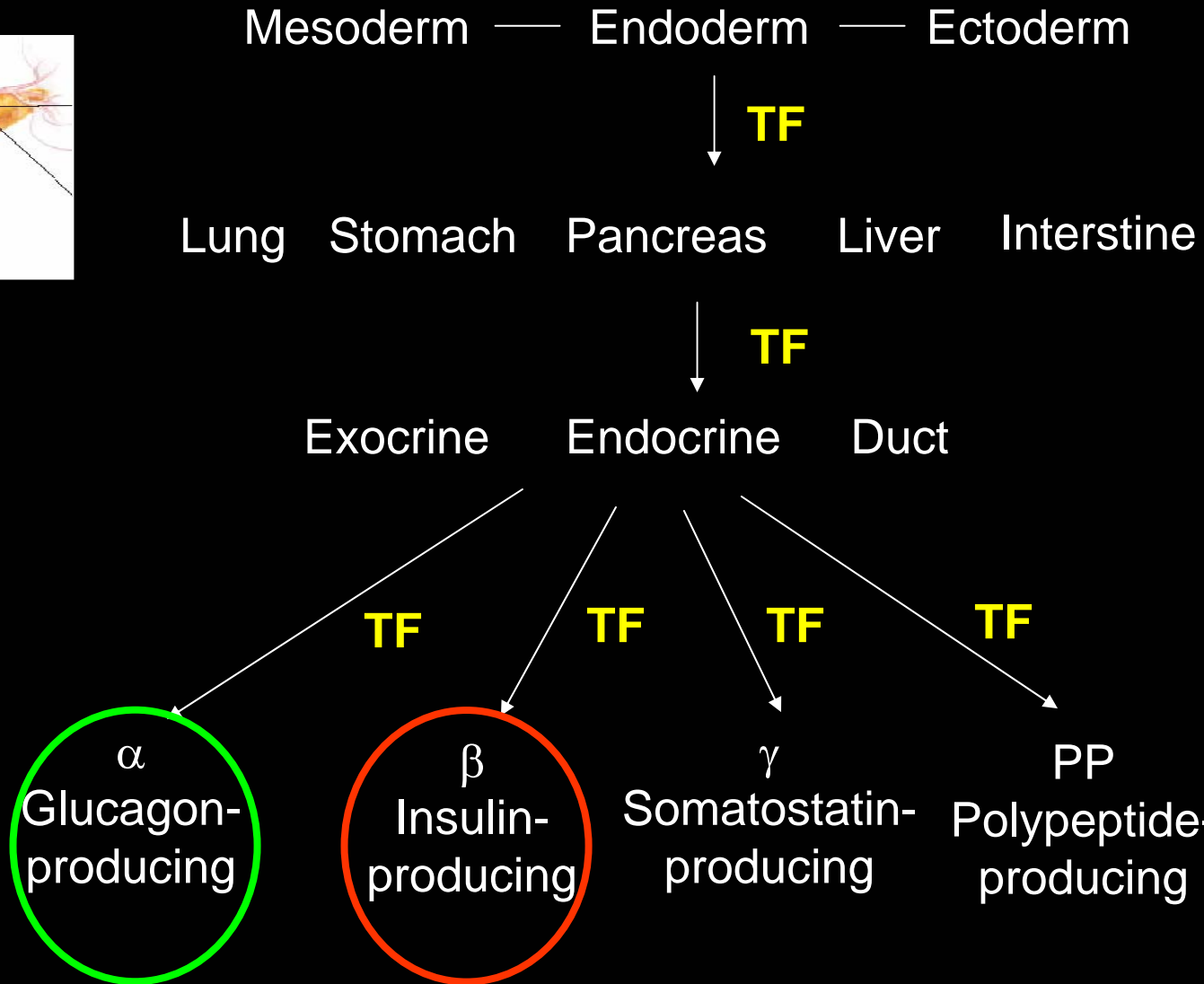
# Development of the 4 endocrine cell-types



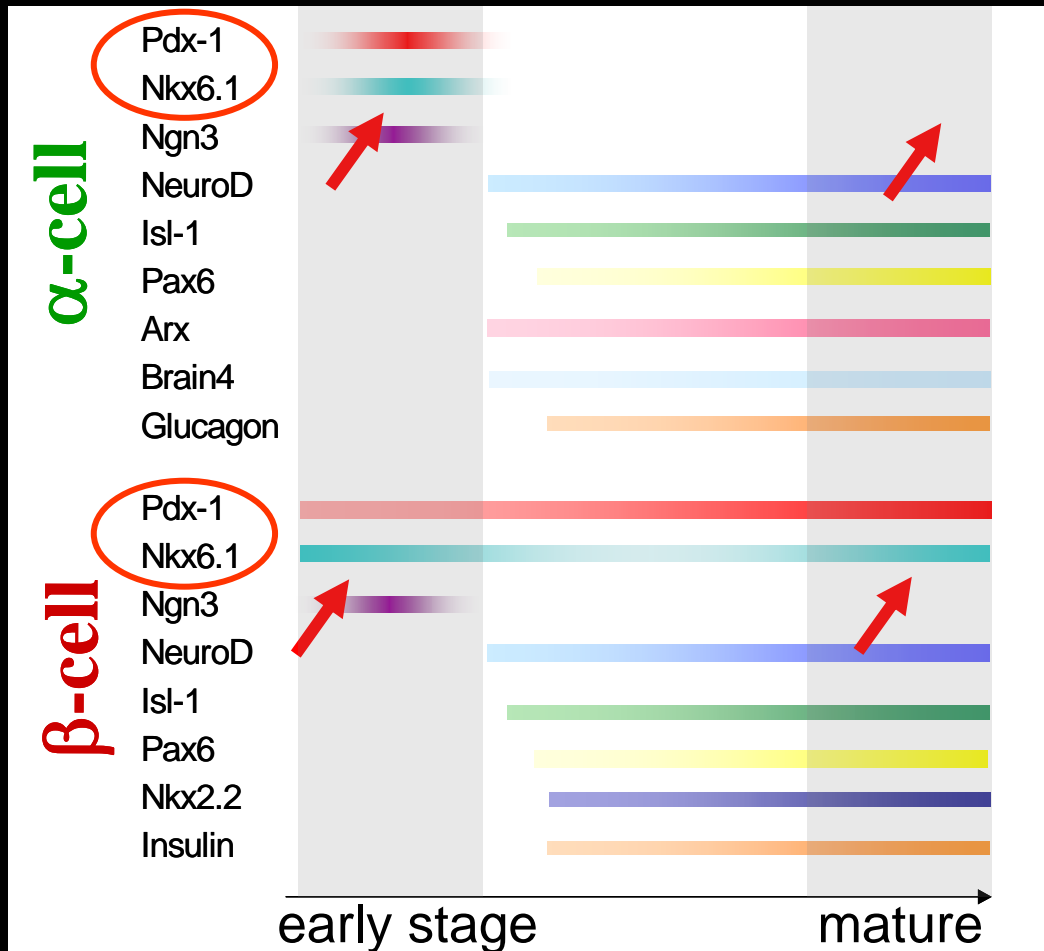
Pancreas



Islet of Langerhans



# Expression pattern of some of the transcription factors during maturation towards mature $\alpha$ - and $\beta$ -cells



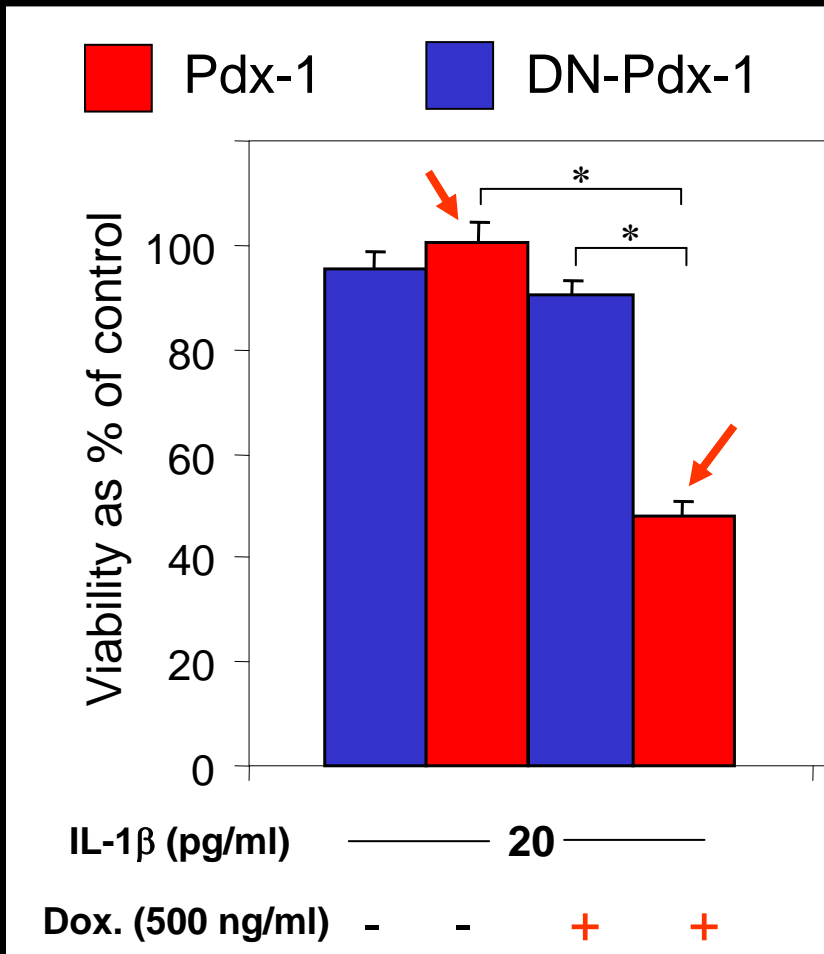
K. Nielsen et al. Diabetes 48, 1999.

K. Nielsen et al, Diabetologia, 47;62-74; 2004

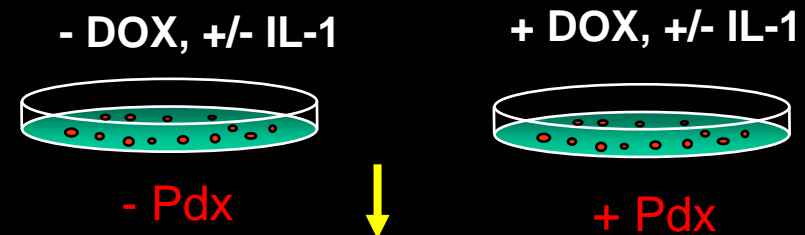
K. Nielsen et al, Diabetologia, 47:2185-2199 , 2004

Pdx-1 expression in  $\beta$ -cells is reduced by IL-1 exposure

- Is Pdx-1 expression important for the acquired  $\beta$ -cell sensitivity to IL-1?
- If so how is that reflected in GEPs and PEPs?



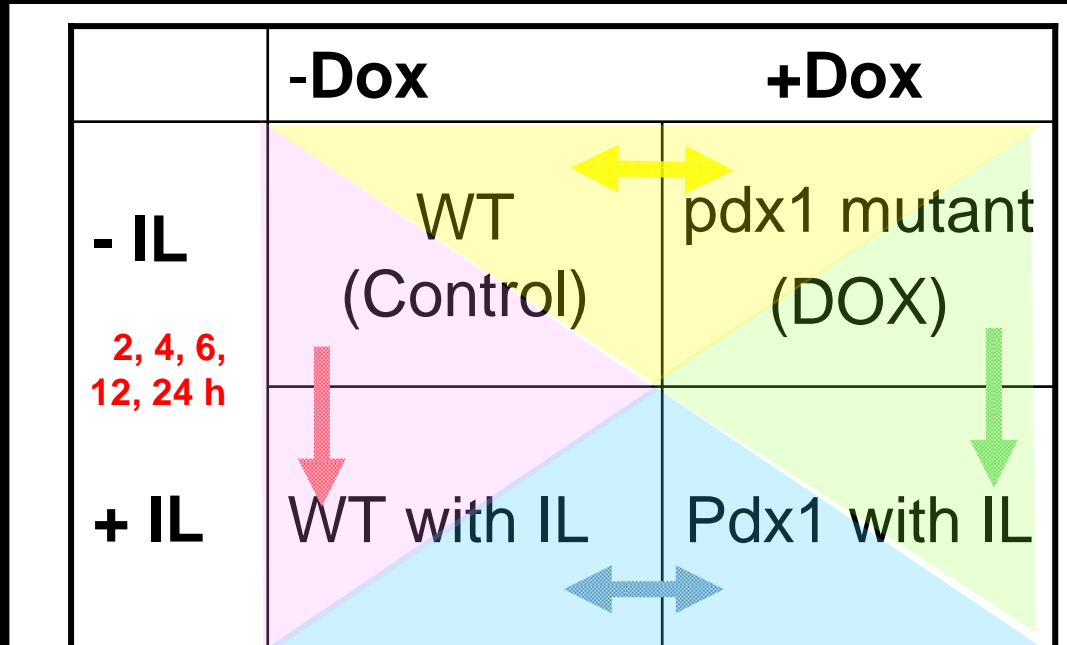
### Functional and Profiling assay



Functional assays (viability etc.)

Array analysis, Affymetrix U34A chips

# Effect of IL treatment



What is the effect of over-expressing pdx?



What is the effect of IL-1 treatment in pdx-negative cells?



What is the effect of IL-1 in pdx expressing cells?

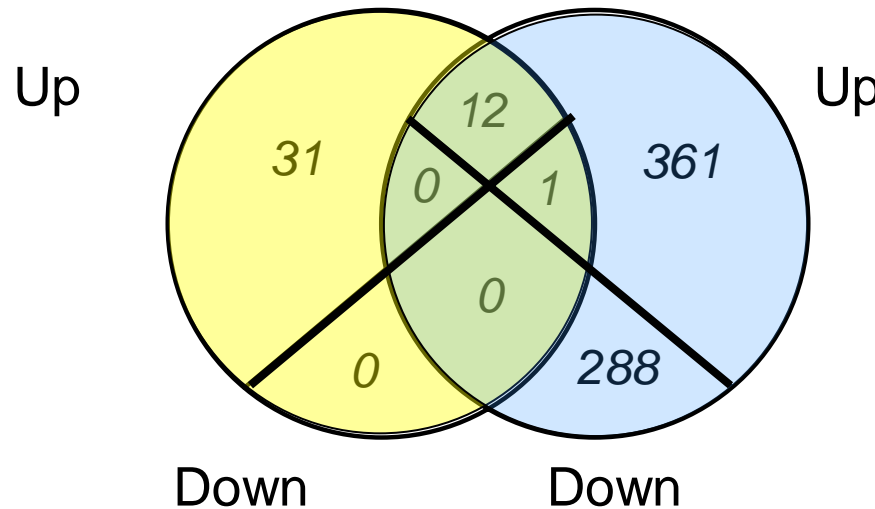


What is the effect of pdx-1 on IL-1 exposure? Does pdx change the way beta cells respond to IL-1?

# Venn diagram – Time perspective

**Different response  
to IL1 (2h) 43 genes**

**Different response  
to IL1 (24h) 662 genes**



693 genes differentially expressed

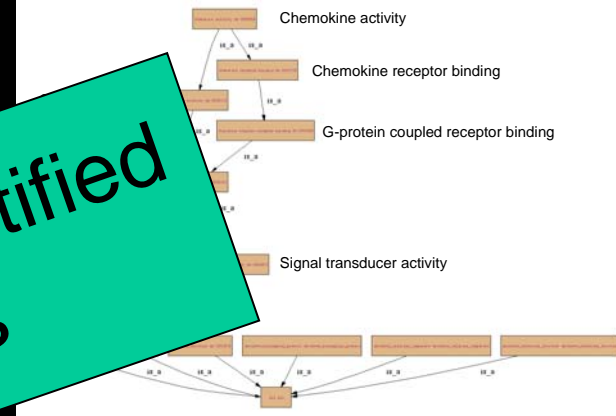
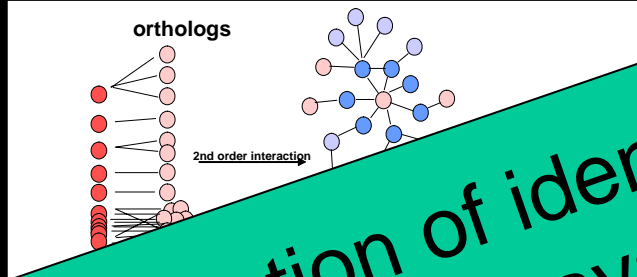
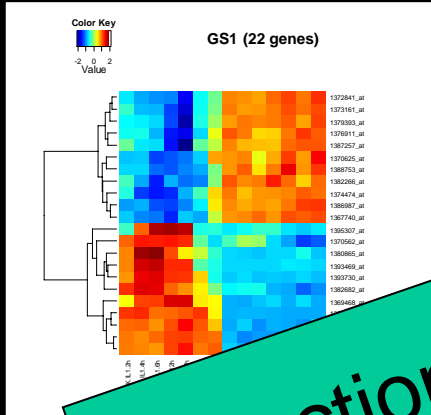
# Systems biology analysis

Geneshaving and SuperParamagnetic cluster analysis

CENTER FOR BIOLOGICAL SEQUENCE ANALYSIS CBS

Protein interaction network

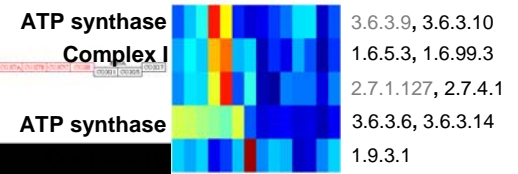
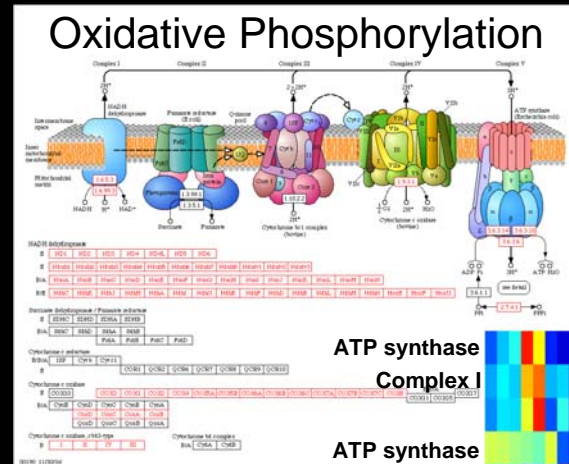
Gene Ontology analysis



Functional evaluation of identified mechanisms/pathways

Pathway analysis

ProbeSet ID	Location	Gene Name	Alone	Diabetes	Interleukin	pdx
1368527_at	29527	Ptgs2	10372	109	1157	1
1369200_at	58813	Nt5	4604	34	39	0
1367877_at	25715	Slc11a2	408	6	6	0
1387343_at	25695	Cebpd	212	1	47	0
1367679_at	25599	Cd74	108	0	6	0
1370562_at	171519	Calcb	3	0	0	0





# The $\beta$ -cell

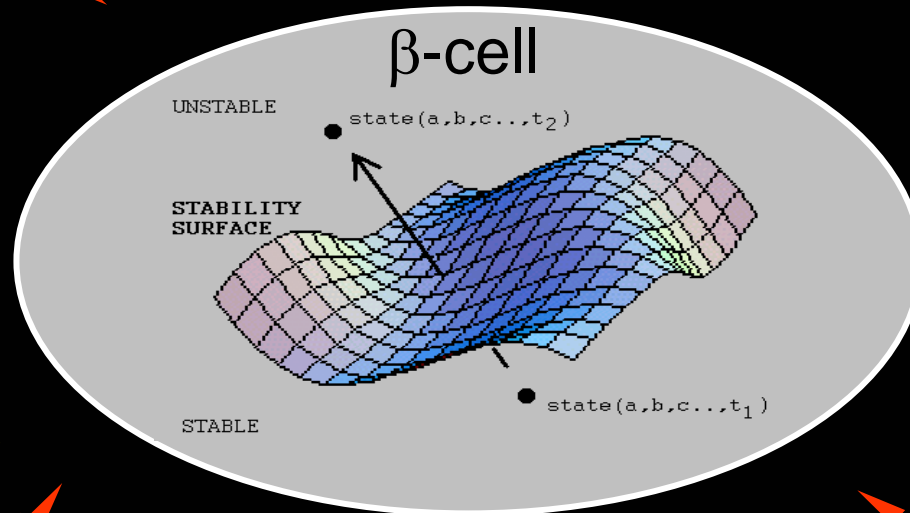
- a “sophisticated” and brittle target in T1D & T2D

## Specialized phenotype

Pdx-1, Nkx6.1  
Insulin; GLUT-2  
iNOS  
IL-1 $\beta$   
IL-1Ra  
Fas/FasL  
SOCS-3  
scavengers  
etc.

## Genetics

MnSOD  
HFN  
Pdx-1  
GK



## Autoimmunity

T-cells  
FAS  
auto antibodies

## Environment

Cytokines  
High Glucose  
High FFA  
Virus  
GH, EGF, GLP-1  
Drugs

Freisleben et al, Diabetes 48 (1999)

# Perspective in diabetes treatment

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Knowledge about the  $\beta$ -cell response to cytokines may allow the development of new therapies to **prevent  $\beta$ -cell destruction in diabetes.**

Knowledge about regulation of  $\beta$ -cell neogenesis and proliferation may allow the development of new therapies to **increase  $\beta$ -cell mass in diabetes.**

# Acknowledgement

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Copenhagen, Denmark

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Danish Diabetes Association

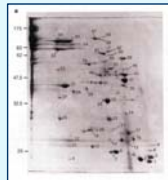
Danish Medical Research Council

# Steno Diabetes Center

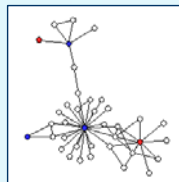
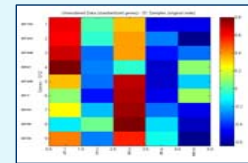
## A Systems Biology Approach to Understand Type 1 Diabetes Pathogenesis

Steno Diabetes Centre (SDC) is a centre that specializes in treating and managing diabetes. SDC has a long research tradition.

It was researchers at SDC who first identified Type 1 diabetes (T1D) as an autoimmune disease with a strong genetic component located in the HLA-region

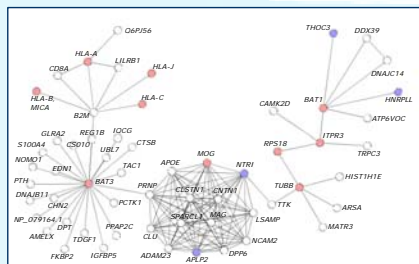
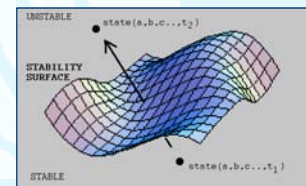


We were the first to use proteomics to address the pathogenesis of T1D. These studies showed that complex protein expression patterns were associated with progressive decline in beta-cell function leading to T1D.



Extensive transcriptional profiling of several T1D model systems have been performed. In combination these demonstrate that genes involved in cytokine signaling, oxidative phosphorylation, defense responses, and apoptosis play crucial roles.

We have attempted to describe the earliest pathogenetic processes leading to T1D by mathematical language. This led to the suggestion that disease arises when a virtual surface is broken and the system changes from dynamic stability to instability.



Most recently we have integrated this information in a 'systems biology approach', where e.g. genetic, functional genomics and proteomics are combined in modeling T1D pathogenesis.

**Selected references:** Nerup et al (1971); Nerup et al (1974) Lancet ii:864; Pociot et al (1993) Eur J Immunol 23: 224; Andersen et al (1995) Diabetes 44: 400; Freiesleben et al (1999) Diabetes 48: 1677; Larsen et al (2001) Diabetes 50: 1056; Sparre et al (2002) Diabetologia 45: 1550; Sparre et al (2003) Diabetologia 46: 1497; Nielsen et al (2004) 47: 62; Nielsen et al (2004) Diabetologia 48: 2185; Sparre et al (2004) Diabetologia 47:592; Pociot et al (2004) Am J Hum Genet 74: 647; Karlens et al (2004) Diabetologia 47: 1998; Sparre et al (2005) Mol Cell Proteomics 4: 441; Concannon et al (2005) Diabetes 54: 2995; Karlens et al (2006) Biochem Bioph Res Co 344: 406;

For further information contact Professor, Chief Physician, DMSc, Flemming Pociot, Steno Diabetes Center, Dept. of Type 1 Diabetes Pathogenesis and Systems Biology, Niels Steensensvej 2, DK-2820 Gentofte, Denmark. E-mail: fpoc@steno.dk