

2018



Progetto  
Ematologia-Romagna

*F. Lanza, P. Tosi, S. Tura, A. Zaccaria, P.L. Zinzani*



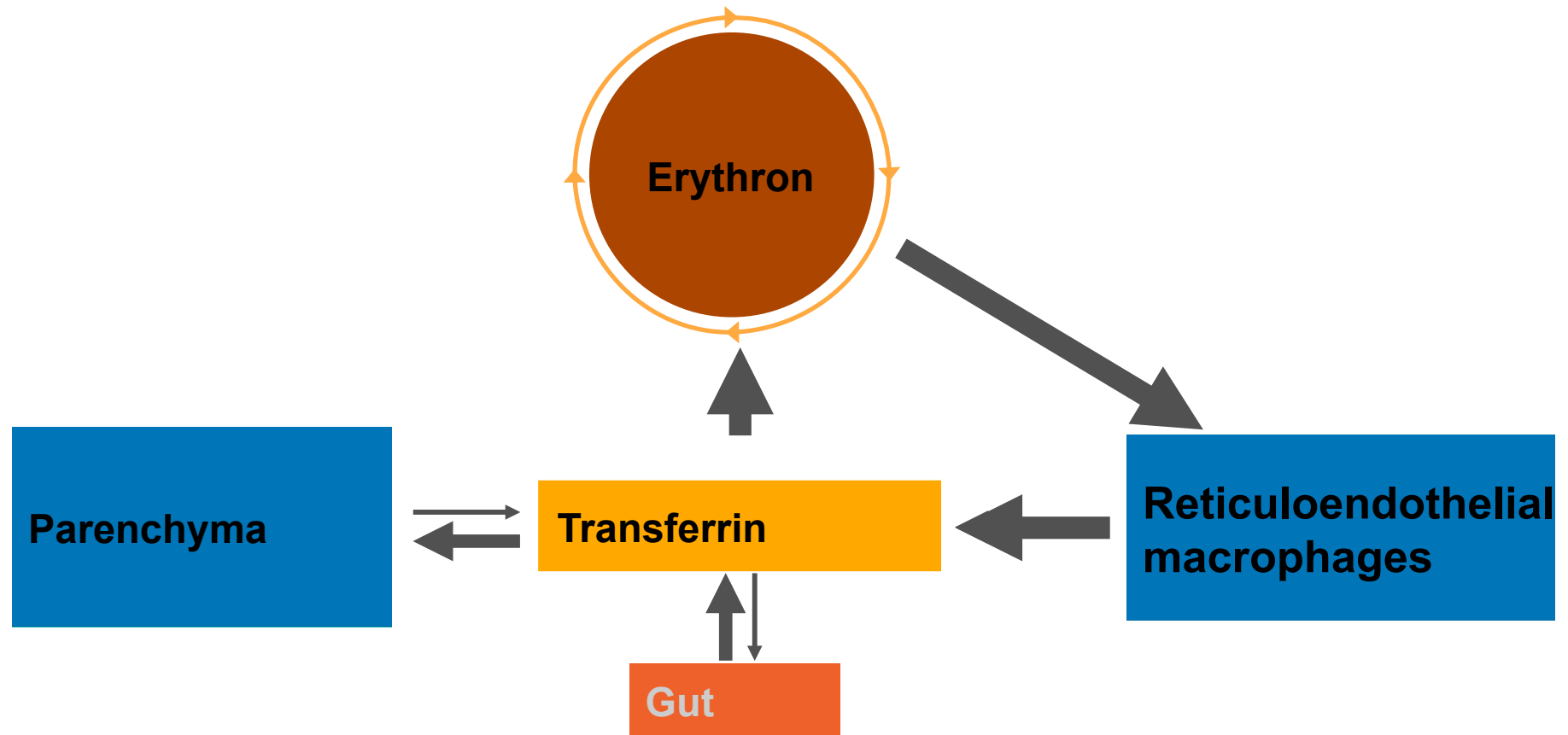
## **La ferrochelazione, oggi e domani.**



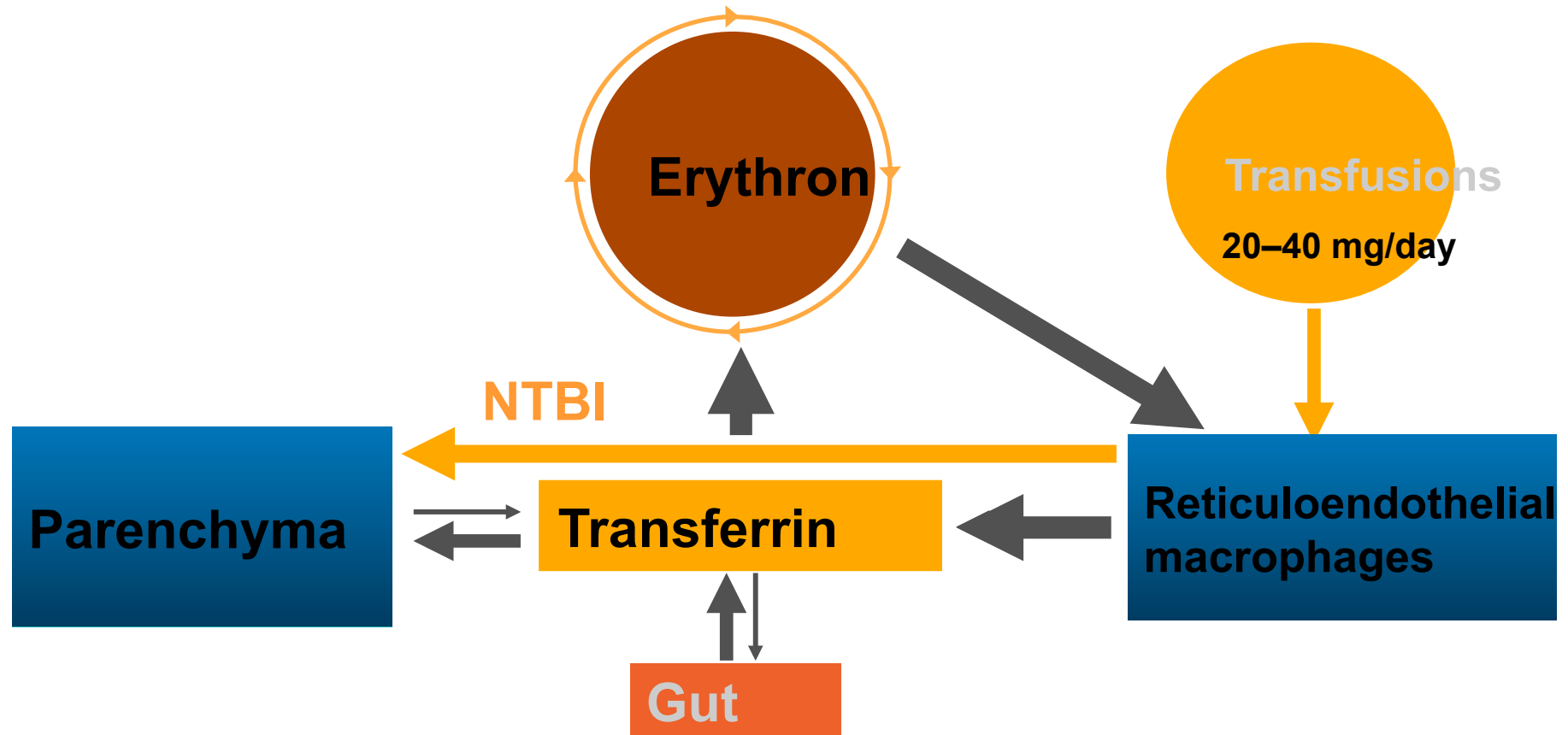
# Agenda

- Iron toxicity
- Differences between Thalassemia and MDS
- Today guidelines
- Future approaches

# Iron Distribution and Turnover



# Imbalance of Distribution and Turnover of Body Iron With Transfusion Therapy

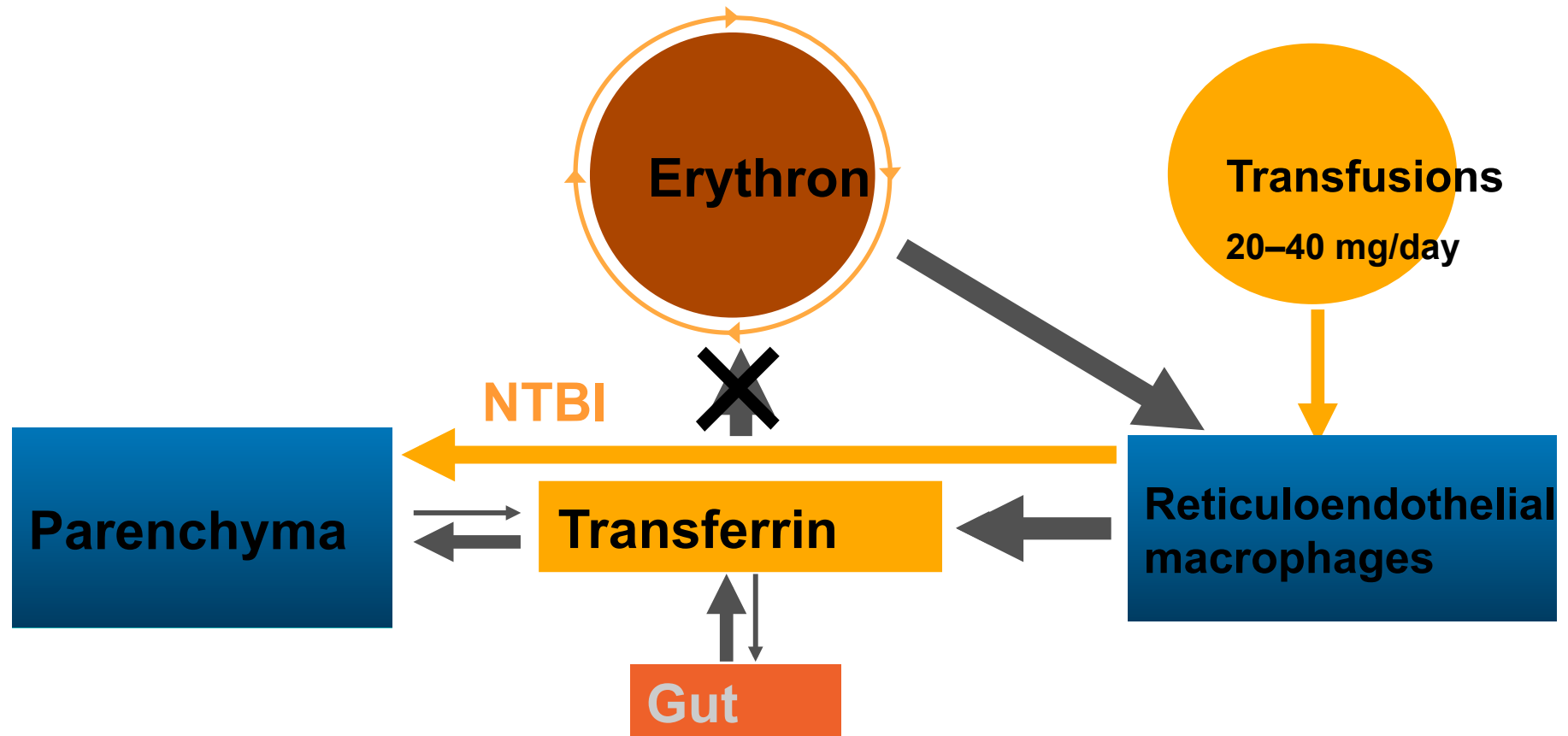


**Iron balance is disturbed by blood transfusion because the body cannot remove the excess iron**

NTBI=non-transferrin-bound iron.

Hershko C, et al. *Ann NY Acad Sci.* 1998;850:191-201.

# Imbalance of Distribution and Turnover of Body Iron With Transfusion Therapy



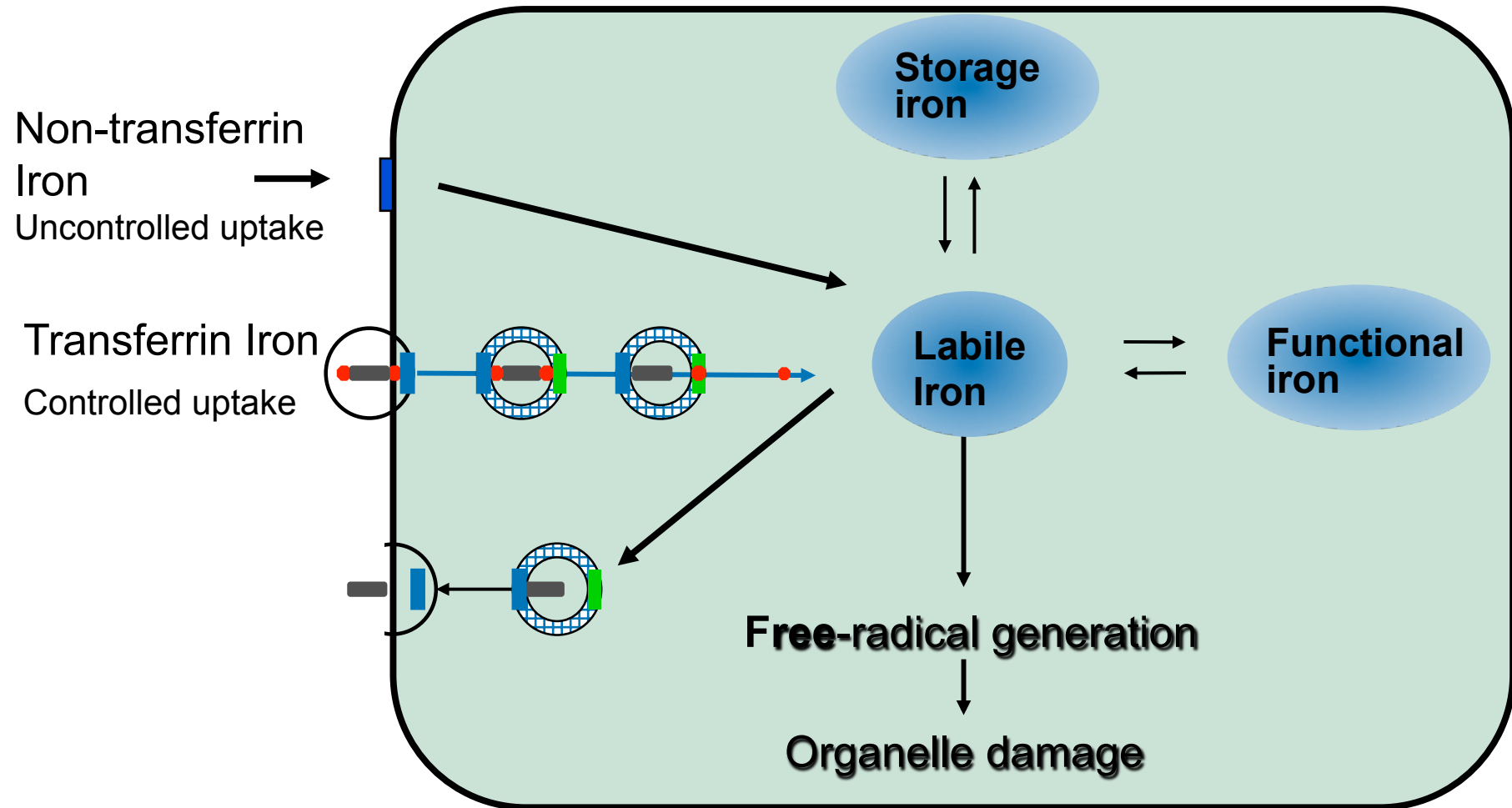
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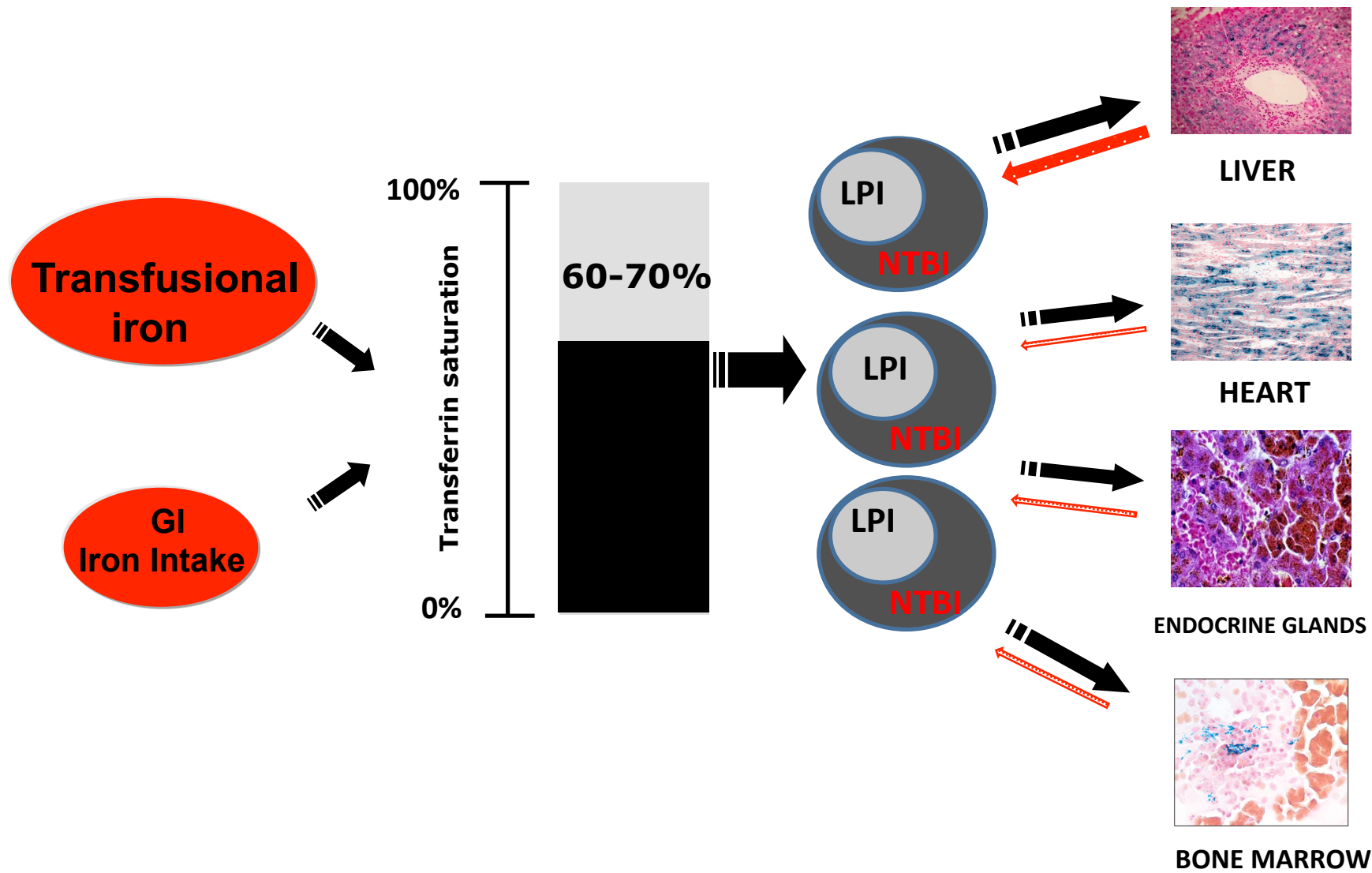
NTBI=non-transferrin-bound iron.

Hershko C, et al. *Ann NY Acad Sci.* 1998;850:191-201.

# Uncontrolled Uptake of Labile Iron Leads to Cell and Organ Damage

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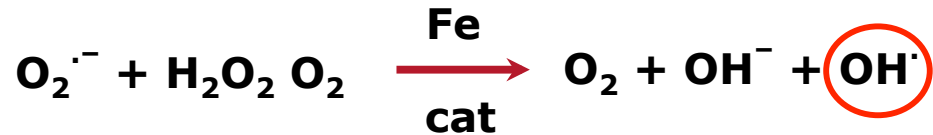


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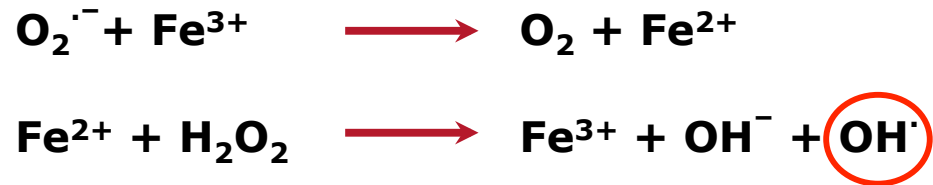


# Iron-dependent damage

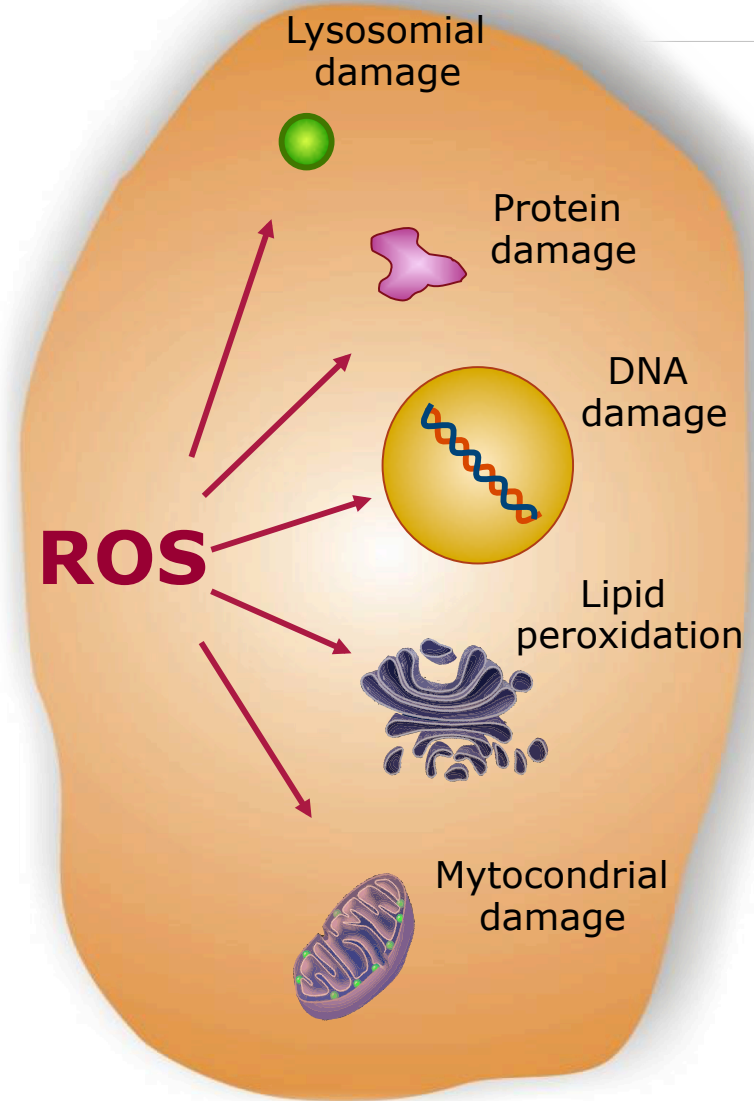
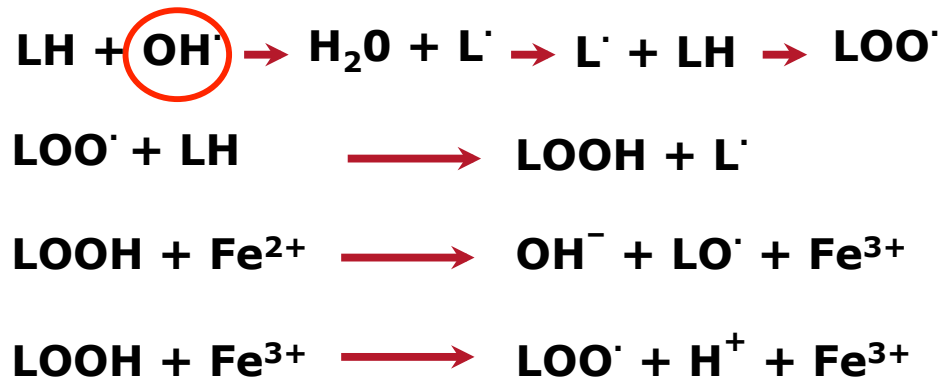
## Haber-Weiss reaction



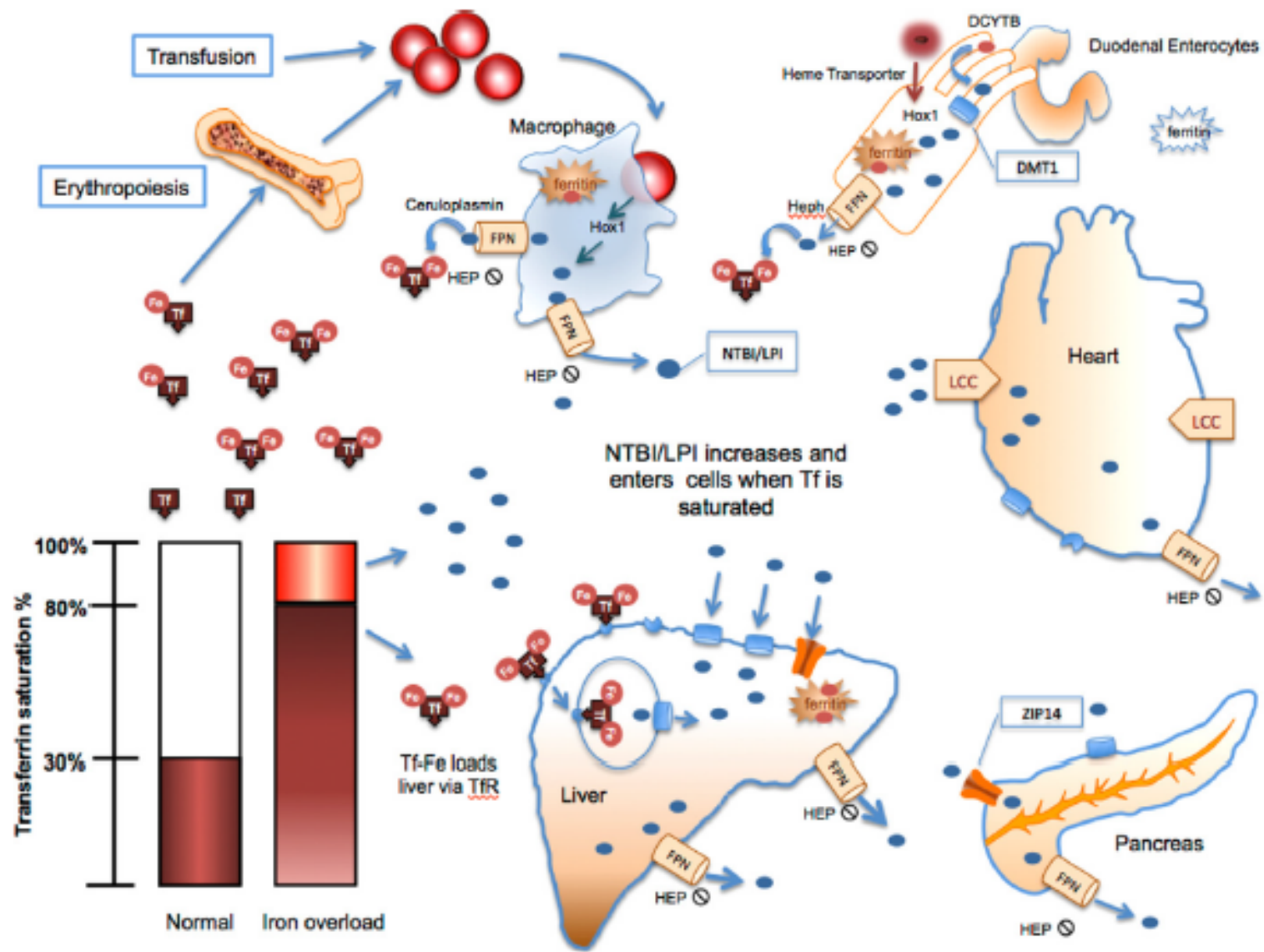
## Fenton reaction



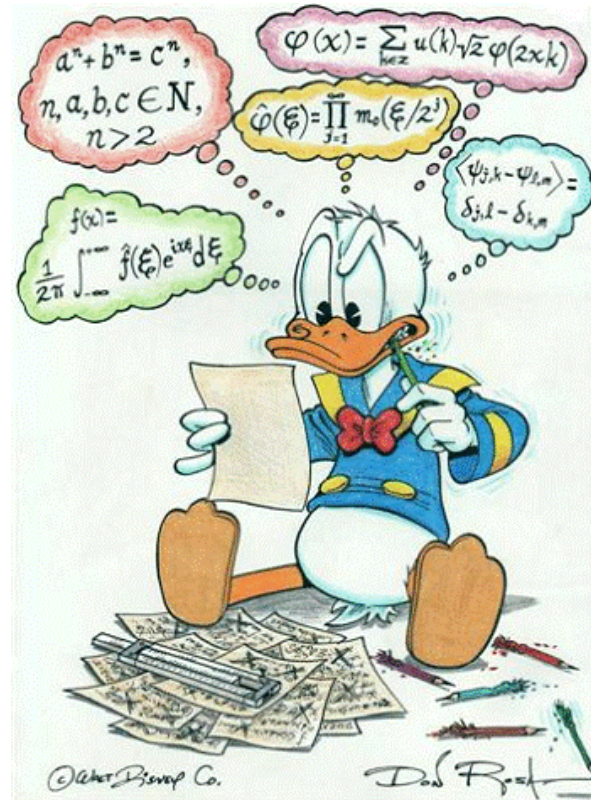
## Lipoperoxide formation



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...pituitary, pancreatic and cardiac iron detected by MRI reflects **time-averaged exposure to toxic reactive iron** since loading of these organs essentially only occurs when NTBI/LPI enters through ion channels and transporters.



Fe Toxicity tissue =

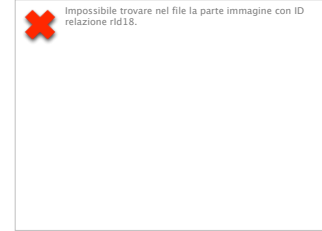
$\sum$  Tissue Reactive Iron  $\times$  Genetics  $\times$  Environmental Factors  $\times$  Time

# Fe Toxicity tissue =

Tissue Reactive Iron x Genetics x Environmental Factors x Time

ΣTissue Reactive Iron	Tissue toxicity sums (Σ) ROS generation
Genetics	The marrow pathology Differences in iron transport Antioxidant defense mechanisms
Environmental Factors	Nutritional status Blood transfusions Drugs that may modulate iron toxicity Co morbidities (Viral infections, ecc) Administration of chelating agents
Time	Time of exposition

# Perspective



*"Iron toxicity depends on many factors in addition to the level of iron per se"*

- There is a different relation (iron and damage) for different tissues
- Tissue toxicity sums ( $\Sigma$ ) over time ( $\Delta$ Time)
- It will likely never be possible to accurately predict toxicity from individual component factors.

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# Key differences between Thalassemia and MDS and other Hemolymphopaties

## ➤ Etiopathogenesis

- monogenetic mutation vs multifactorial acquired known and unknown mutations

## ➤ Etiopathogenesis.

- Hemopoietic stem cell involvement

## ➤ Age at diagnosis

- no comorbidity vs comorbidity,
- stem cell aging

## ➤ Natural history of pathology without therapy

- chronic vs progression



# Different pattern of iron overload in different diseases.

		TDT Suboptimal transfusion chelation regimen	TDT standardized transfusion regimen (pre transfusion HB ≥ 9)	NTDT	HH	Lower risk MDS
Iron input	Transfusions	+ /+++	+++	- /+	-	++ /+++
	GI iron adsorption	+++	+	++	++	+
Patient	Aging	-	-	-	++	+++
	Age related comorbidity	-	-	- /+	+ /+++	+++
	anemia	+++	+	++	-	+++
Erythropoiesis	ineffective	+++	+++	++	-	+ /++
	Hyperplastic	+++	+	+++	-	+ /++
		↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Major causes of death		Anemia Cardiac disease	Cardiac disease Liver disease	Cardio-vascular disease Liver disease (?)	Liver disease	Cardiac disease Infectious disease Liver disease. Acute leukemia

# Fe Toxicity tissue =

Tissue Reactive Iron x Genetics x Environmental Factors x Time

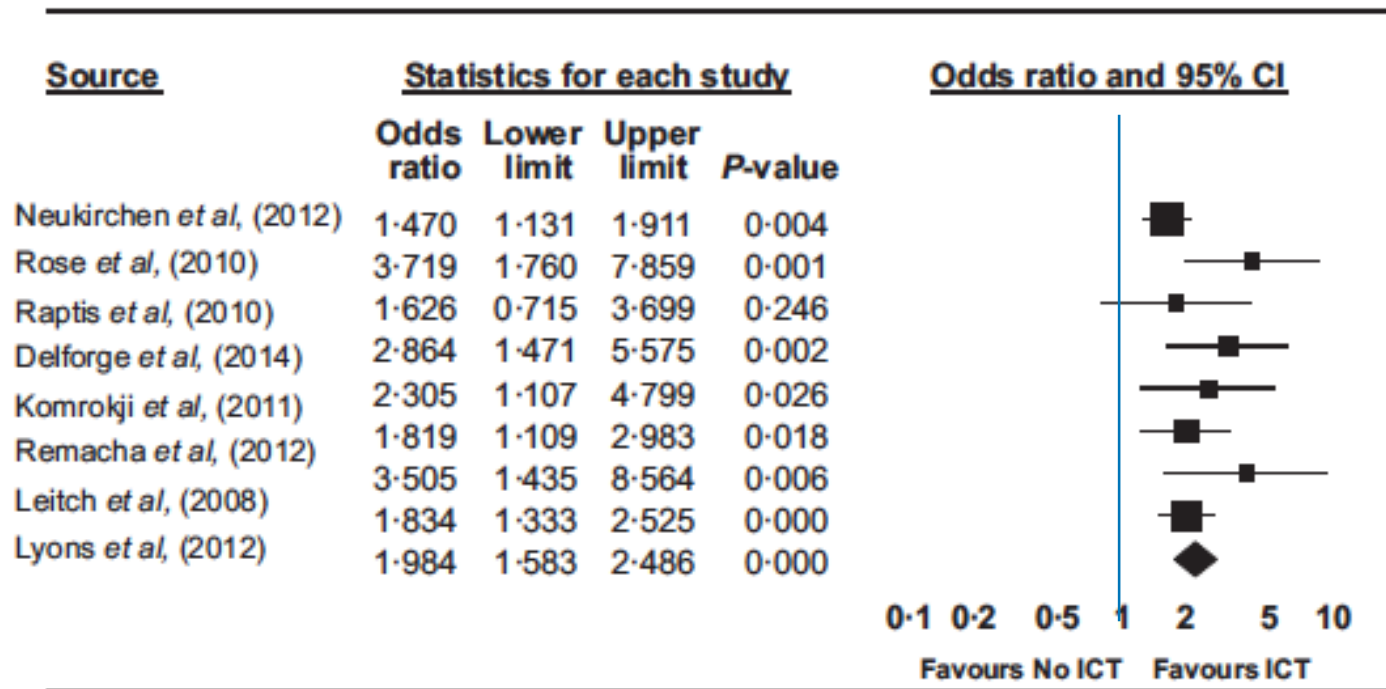
		Thal vs MDS	
		Worse in Thal	Worse in MDS
ΣTissue Reactive Iron	Tissue toxicity sums (Σ) ROS generation		+ +
Genetics	The marrow pathology Differences in iron transport Antioxidant defense mechanisms	+/-	+++ +/- +++
Environmental Factors	Nutritional status Blood transfusions Drugs that may modulate iron toxicity Co morbidities (Viral infections, ecc) Administration of chelating agents	+	++  +++ ++ ++
Time	Time of exposition	+++	

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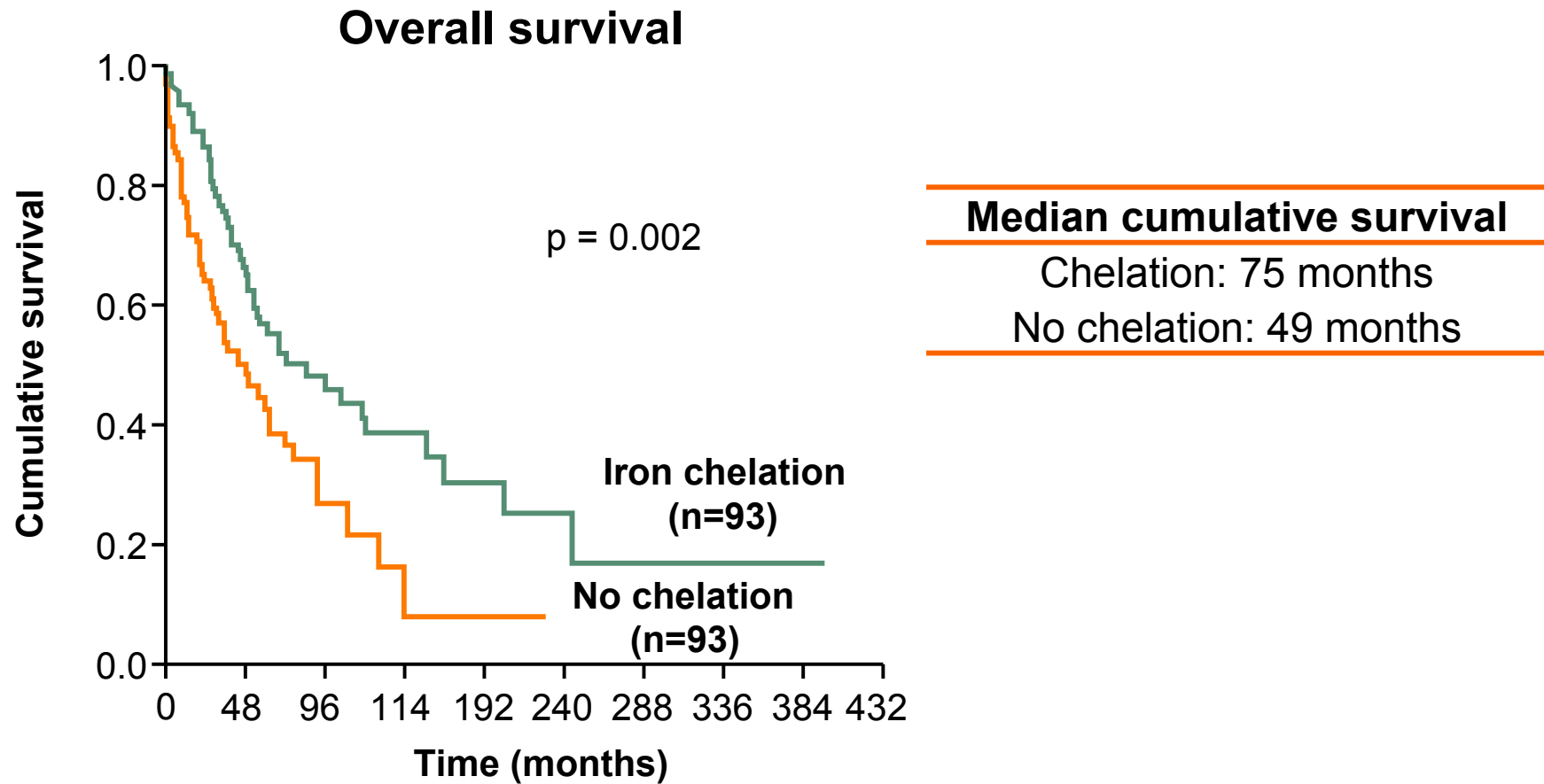
# Iron chelation and survival in MDS Meta-analysis

Pooled Difference in Median Overall Survival



Mainous AG 3rd, Tanner RJ, Hulihan MM, Amaya M, Coates TD. **The impact of chelation therapy on survival in transfusional iron overload: a meta-analysis of myelodysplastic syndrome.** *Br J Haematol* 2014 Dec; 167(5):720-3.

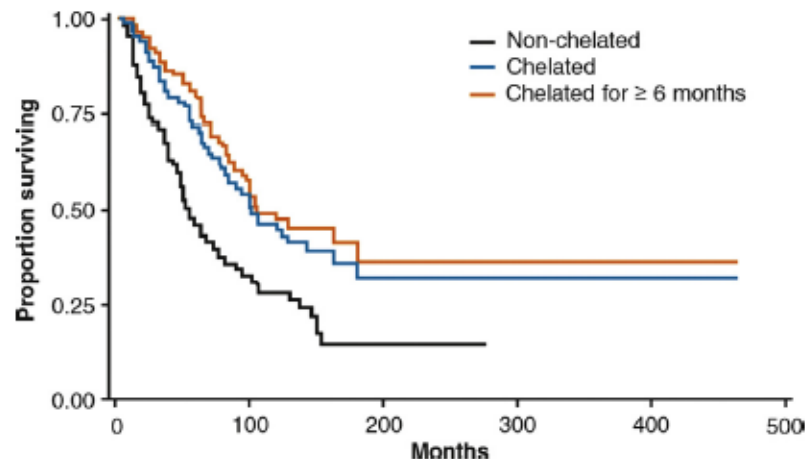
# Iron Chelation Therapy improves Survival in MDS Patients: Matched-pair Analysis



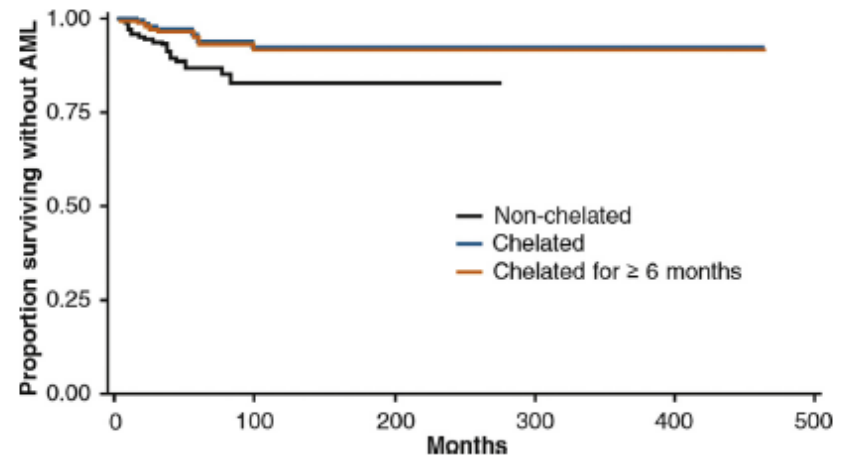
## Comparison of 24-month outcomes in chelated and non-chelated lower-risk patients with myelodysplastic syndromes in a prospective registry



Roger M. Lyons<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Billie J. Marek<sup>b,c</sup>, Carole Paley<sup>d</sup>, Jason Esposito<sup>d</sup>, Lawrence Garbo<sup>b,e</sup>, Nicholas DiBella<sup>b,f</sup>, Guillermo Garcia-Manero<sup>g</sup>



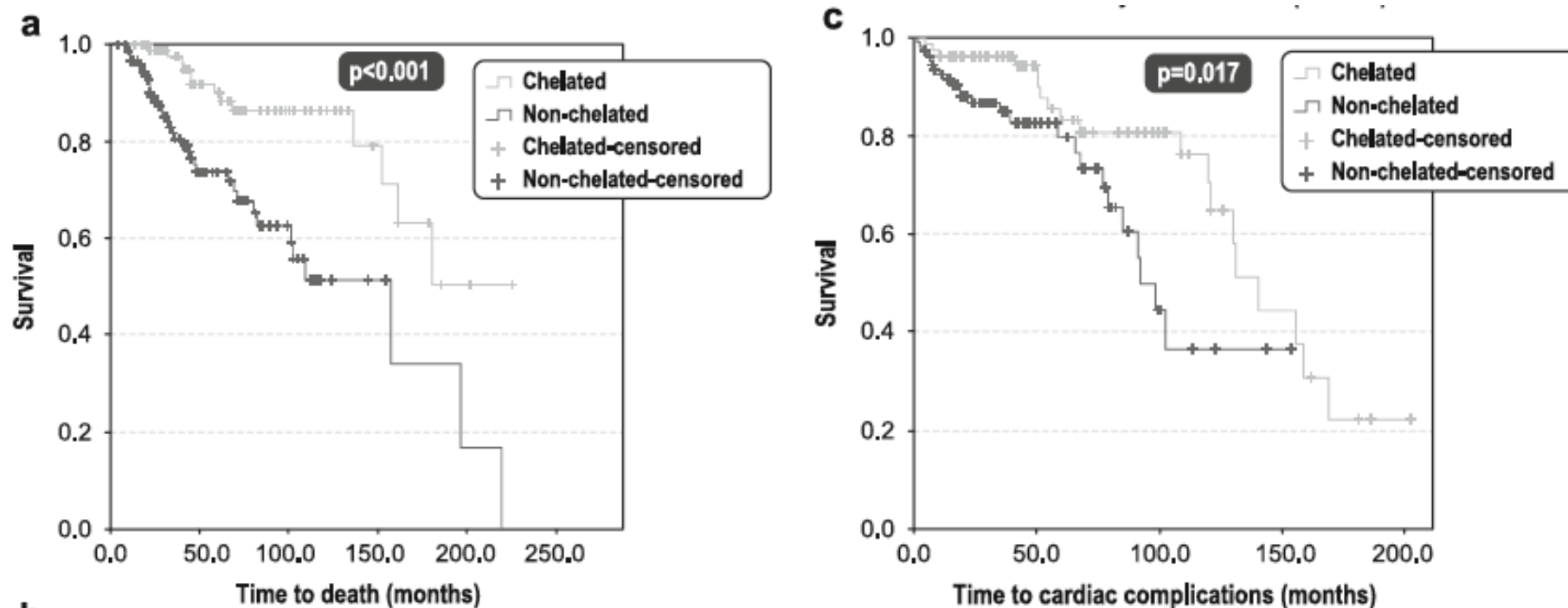
**Fig. 1.** Overall survival. Chelated patients had longer overall survival compared with non-chelated patients. Kaplan-Meier curves for overall survival showed median (25th, 75th percentile) time to death from MDS diagnosis in the non-chelated, chelated, and chelated  $\geq 6$  months groups was 52.2 (24.0, 136.2), 99.3 (54.1, not attained [NA]), and 104.4 months (63.4, NA), respectively ( $p < .0001$  for non-chelated vs. both chelated groups).



**Fig. 3.** Progression to AML. Time to progression to AML trended longer in chelated patients. Kaplan-Meier curves for progression to AML showed a mean (standard deviation) time to progression of 27.3 (20.3), 40.6 (25.3), and 40.8 months (27.0) in the non-chelated, chelated, and chelated  $\geq 6$  months groups, respectively. Curves for the chelated groups were practically identical and overlapped. **No statistical difference was observed among groups.** AML, acute myeloid leukemia.

## Evolution of iron overload in patients with low-risk myelodysplastic syndrome: iron chelation therapy and organ complications

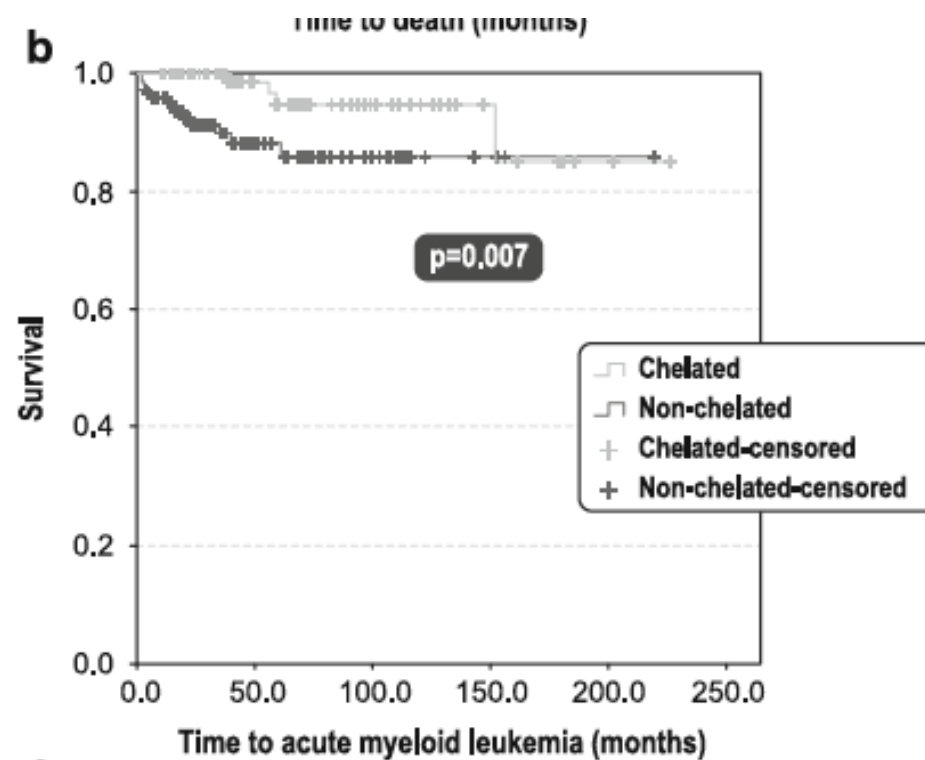
Ángel F. Remacha · Beatriz Arrizabalaga · Ana Villegas · María Soledad Durán · Lourdes Hermosín · Raquel de Paz · Marta García · María Díez Campelo · Guillermo Sanz · On behalf of the IRON-2 Study Group



**Fig. 1** Overall survival (a), leukemia-free survival (b), cardiac event-free survival (c)

## Evolution of iron overload in patients with low-risk myelodysplastic syndrome: iron chelation therapy and organ complications

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**Fig. 1** Overall survival (a), leukemia-free survival (b), cardiac event-free survival (c)



Countries	Transfusion status	Serum ferritin (ng/mL)	Patient profile	Target serum ferritin level
<b>Italian</b> (Alessandrino et al., 2002)	≥ 50 RBC units	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life expectancy &gt; 6 months</li> </ul>	NR
<b>UK</b> (Bowen et al., 2003)	~ 25 RBC units (5 g iron)	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pure sideroblastic anemia</li> <li>del 5q</li> </ul>	< 1000
<b>US (NCCN)</b> (v2. 2011)	20-30 RBC units (≥5-10 g iron)	> 2500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IPSS Low or Int-1</li> <li>potential transplant patients</li> </ul>	For pts with SF >2500, aim to decrease to <1000
<b>International</b> (Gattermann et al., 2005)	transfusion-dependent	> 1000-2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA, RARS, del 5q</li> <li>IPSS Low or Int-1</li> </ul>	NR
<b>Japanese</b> (Suzuki et al., 2008)	> 40 Japanese units	> 1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life expectancy &gt; 1 year</li> </ul>	500-1000
<b>Canadian</b> (Wells et al. 2008)	transfusion-dependent	> 1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RA, RARS, del 5q</li> <li>IPSS Low or Int-1</li> <li>IPSS Int-2 or High (if SF &gt;1000 and</li> <li>SCT candidates/life expectancy &gt;1yr)</li> </ul>	NR; reduce dose when < 2000; discontinue chelator when < 1000
<b>Spanish</b> (Arrizabalaga et al., 2008)	transfusion-dependent	> 1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IPSS Low or Int-1</li> <li>WPSS Very low, Low, or Int</li> <li>Spanish prognostic index Low risk</li> </ul>	NR
<b>Austrian</b> (Valent et al., 2008)	transfusion-dependent	> 2000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life expectancy &gt; 2 years</li> </ul>	NR
<b>Israeli</b> (Mittelman et al., 2008)	20-25 RBC units	> 1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low or Int-1 (IPSS)</li> <li>Candidates for SCT</li> </ul>	< 500 to < 1000
<b>MDS Foundation</b> (Bennett et al., 2008)	2 RBC units/month for ≥1 year	> 1000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Life expectancy &gt; 1 year</li> </ul>	NR
<b>Italian update</b> (Santini et al., 2010)	≥ 20 RBC units (4 g iron)	NR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low or Int-1 (IPSS)</li> <li>Int-2, High when responding to disease-modifying agent or candidates for SCT</li> </ul>	NR

# **Indication to start chelation**

1. Bulky iron accumulation (serum ferritin / number of transfusions)
2. Life expectancy

# Indication to start chelation

1. Bulky iron accumulation (serum ferritin / number of transfusions)
2. Life expectancy

Development of organ damage  
require:

- overload (bulky disease)
  - time (years)

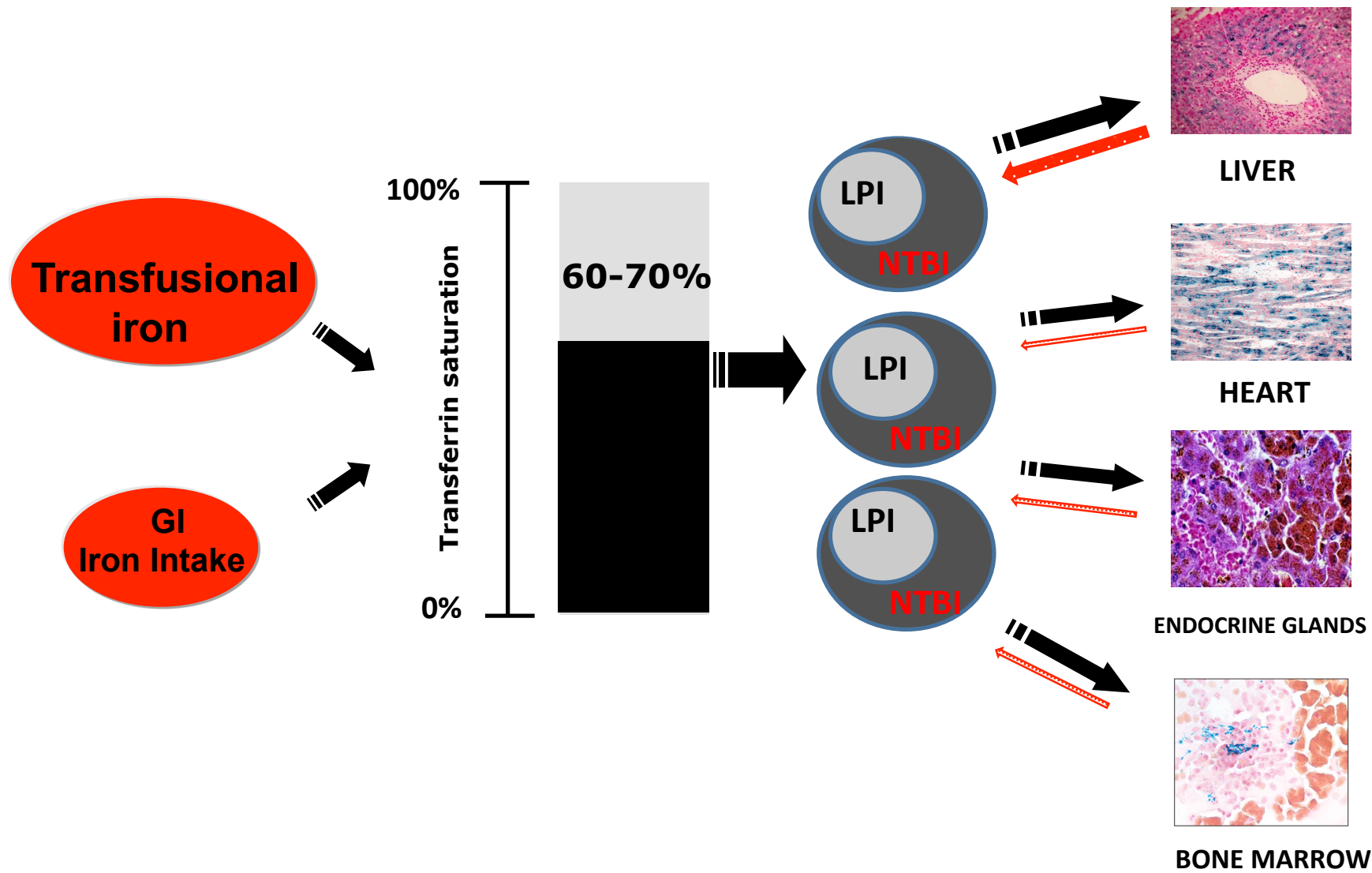
# Fe Toxicity tissue =

Tissue Reactive Iron × Genetics × Environmental Factors × Time

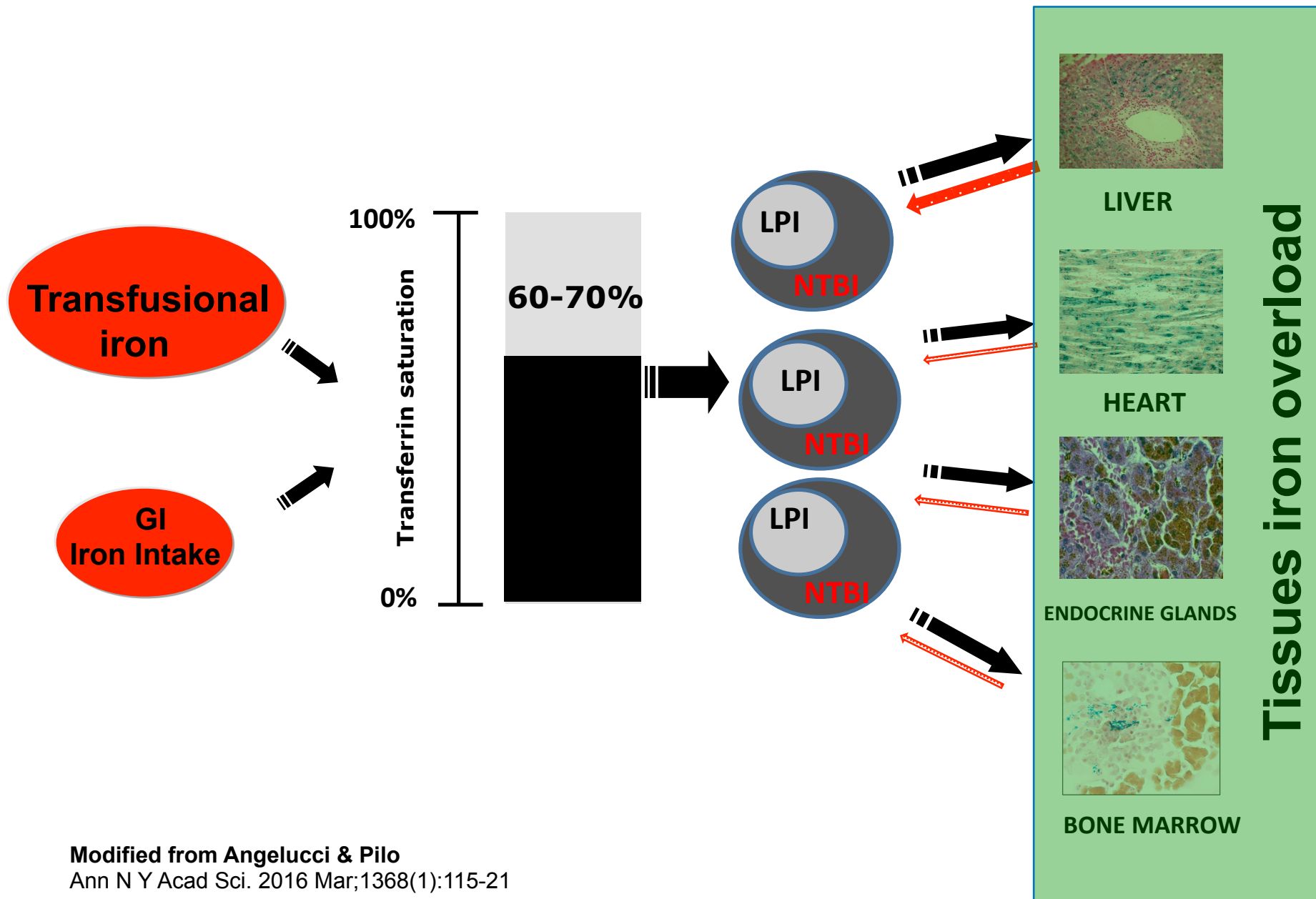
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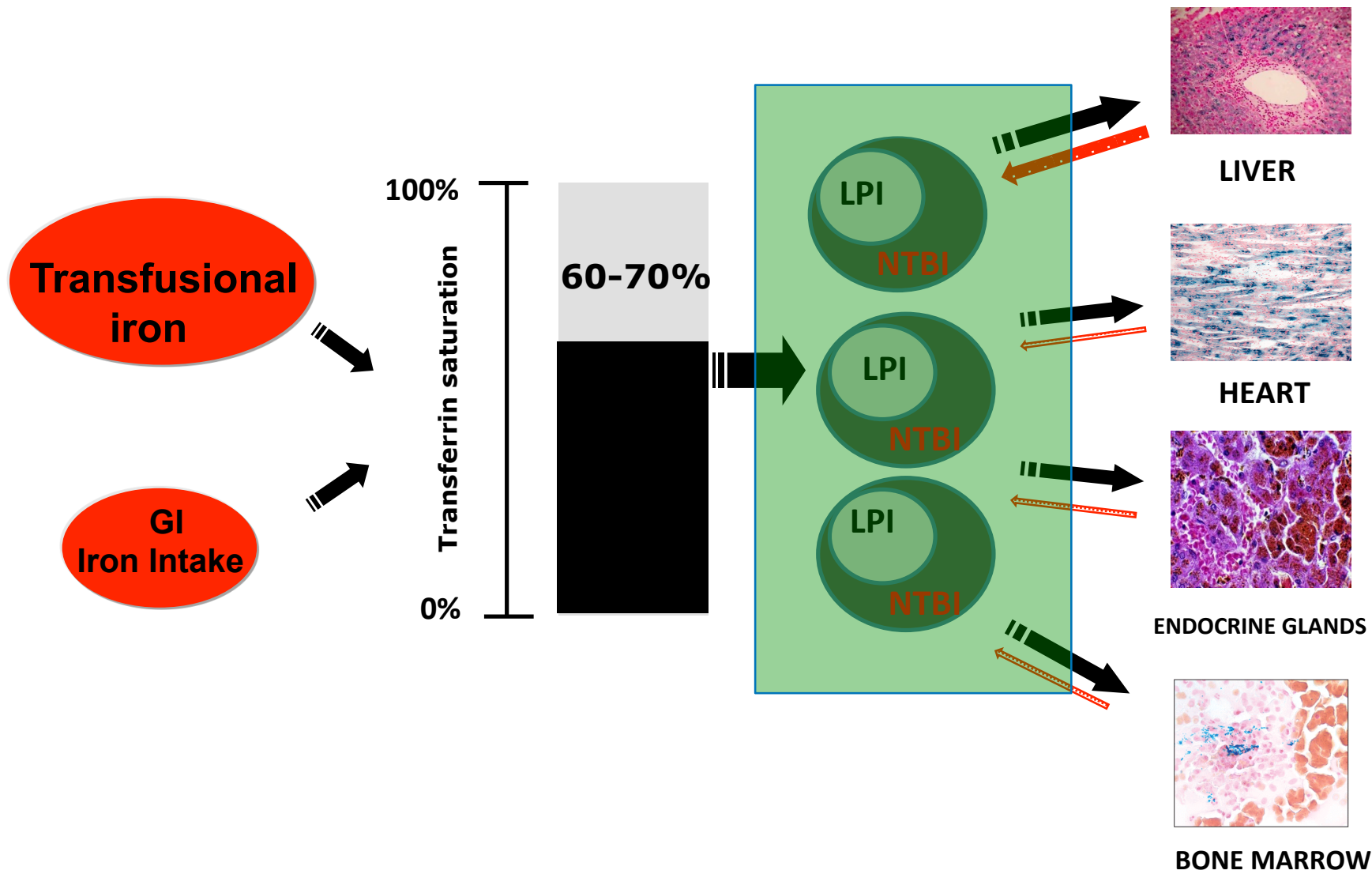
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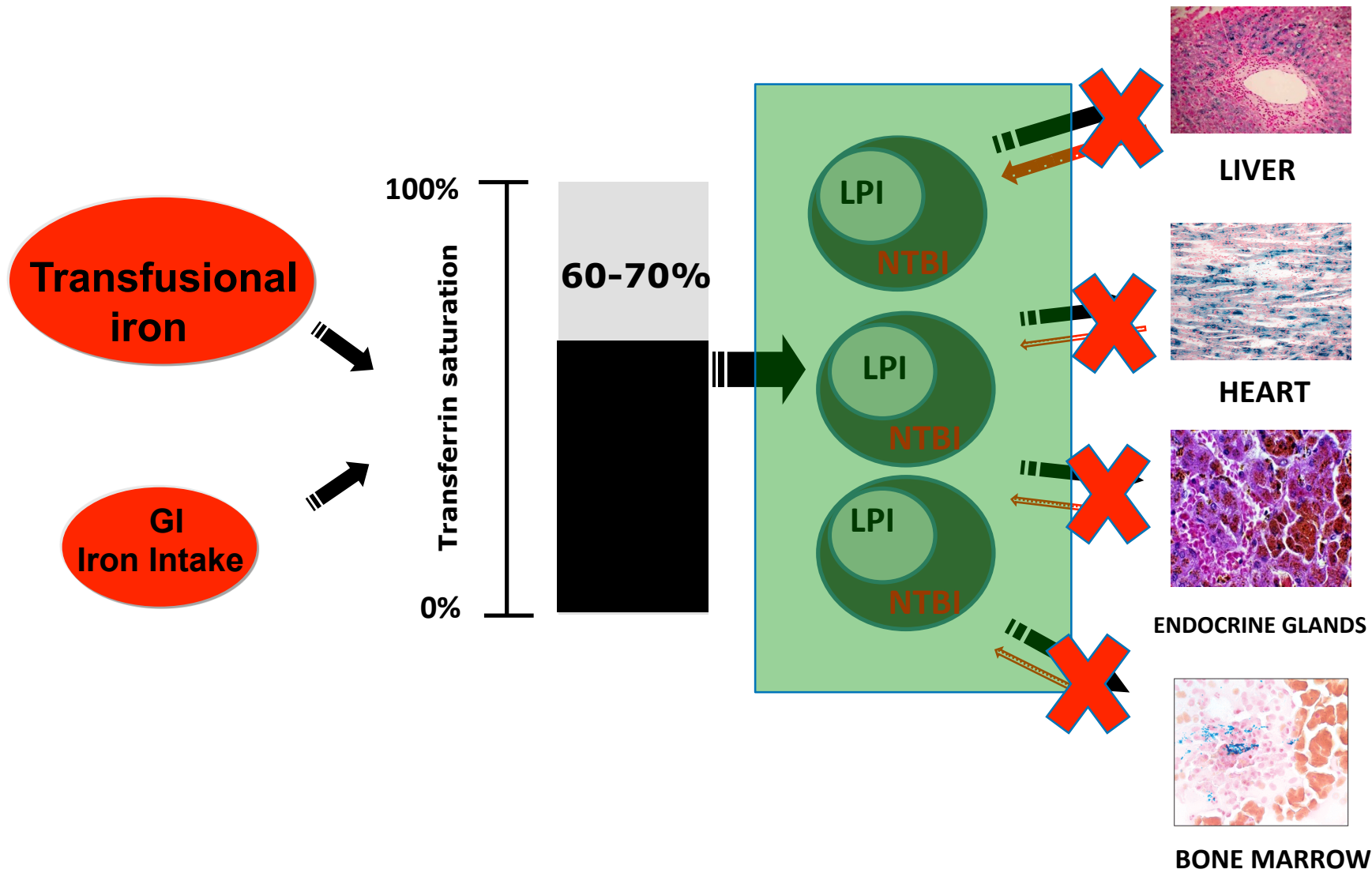


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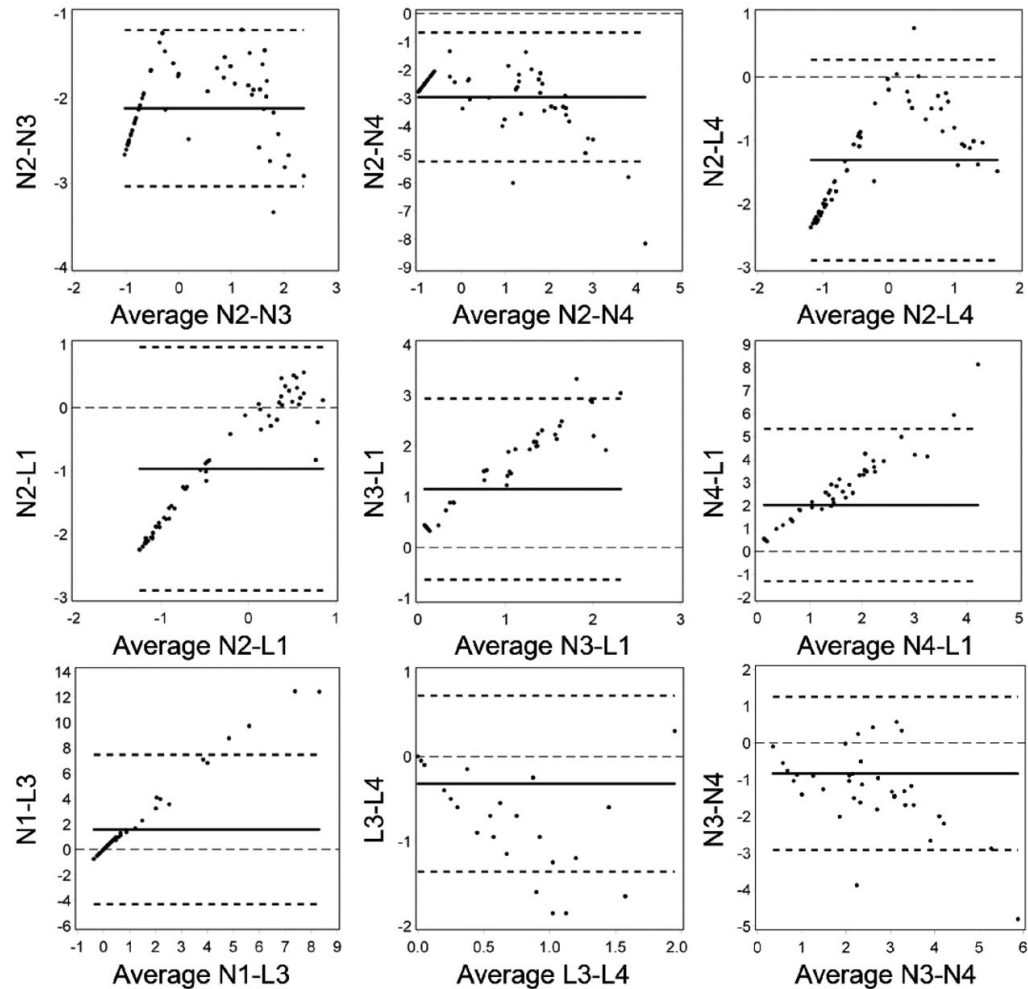




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**Bland-Altman plots showing differences in mean NTBI or LPI levels ( $\mu\text{mol/L}$ ) between two methods versus the average of the mean values of these two methods.**



Louise de Swart et al. *Haematologica* 2016;101:38-45



## Clinical Protocol

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Title: Early and low dose Deferasirox (3.5 mg/kg FCT) to suppress NTBI and LPI as early intervention to prevent tissue **iron** overload in lower risk **MDS**.

### **IRON – MDS**

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**ID Study: IRON - MDS**

**EudraCT number: .....**

### **INVESTIGATOR SPONSOR**

Fondazione Italiana Sindromi Mielodisplastiche ONLUS (FISM)

COORDINATING INVESTIGATOR/S	Dr. Emanuele Angelucci, Genova, Italia
WRITING COMMITTEE AND SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT	Dr Mario Capasso, Napoli, Italia Prof Matteo Della Porta, Milano, Italia Prof Domenico Girelli, Verona, Italia Dr Ester Oliva, Reggio Calabria, Italia Dr Federica Pilo, Cagliari, Italia Prof. Valeria Santini, Firenze, Italia

**Version and date of Protocol: Version 4, May 2, 2018**

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# Stone, bronze, gold, and silver come and go; iron always has the last word





*Thank you for your kind attention*

