

# **Cytokines, Chemokines and their Receptors**

**Louise Donnelly**

# Definitions

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## Cytokines

**Small secreted proteins which mediate and regulate immunity, inflammation, and haematopoiesis**

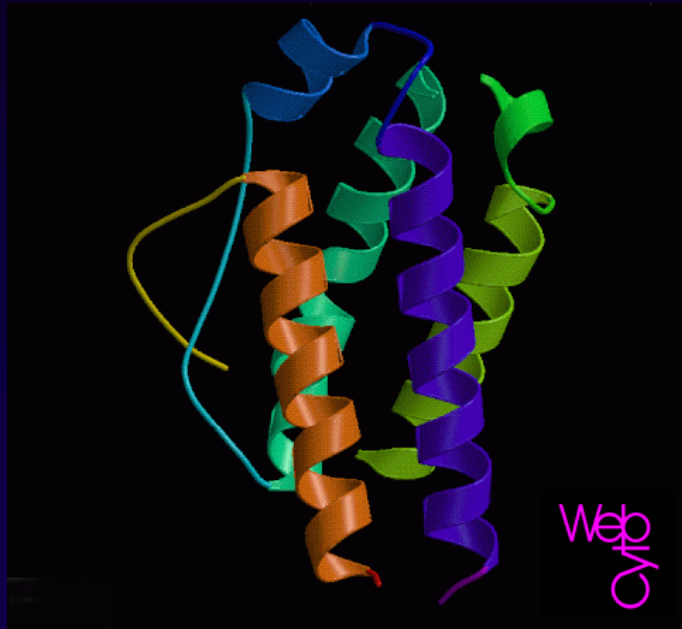
Lymphokine – produced by lymphocytes

Monokine – produced by monocytes

Interleukin – made by one lymphocyte but acts on another

Chemokine – has chemotactic activity

# Cytokines



Small proteins <30 kDa

Secreted by:

T cells

Macrophages

**BUT other cells too!**

Four helix bundle  
- most common eg IL-2

# Cytokine Families

TNF $\alpha$   $\uparrow$  fever

Adhesion molecules

Mucus secretion

Neutrophil degranulation

Cytokine production

M-CSF – macrophages

G-CSF – neutrophils

GM-CSF – monocytes and  
granulocytes

Type I – virus infected cells

Type II – Th1, NK, M $\Phi$

Differentiation, remodelling,  
wound healing

TNF $\alpha$ , IL-4  $\downarrow$  TGF $\beta$ 1

# Interleukins

## IL-1 family

IL-1 $\alpha$ , IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-18, IL-33 and IL-1ra

## IL-4 and IL-13



Th2

## IL-10 family

IL-10, IL-19, IL-20, IL-22, IL-24, IL-26  
IL-28, IL-29

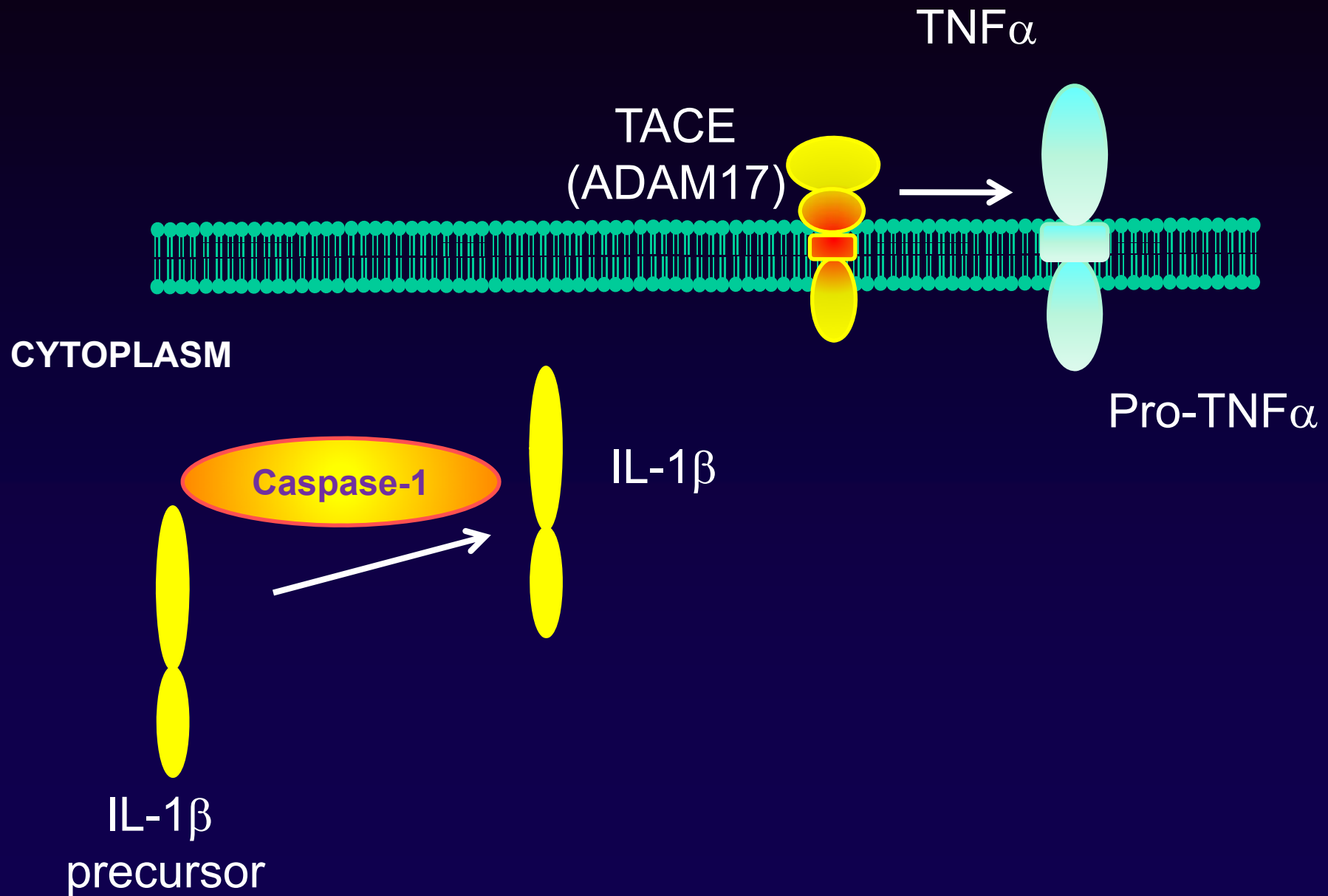
## IL-12 family

IL-12, IL-23, IL-27



Th1

# Cytokine Processing



# Cytokine Receptors

**Cytokine receptor family I – recognise 4 helical cytokines**

eg. IL-5, IL-6, IL-9

Haematopoietin receptors

eg. GM-CSF, IL-2 receptors

**Cytokine receptor family II**

e.g. IFN $\alpha$ , IFN $\gamma$

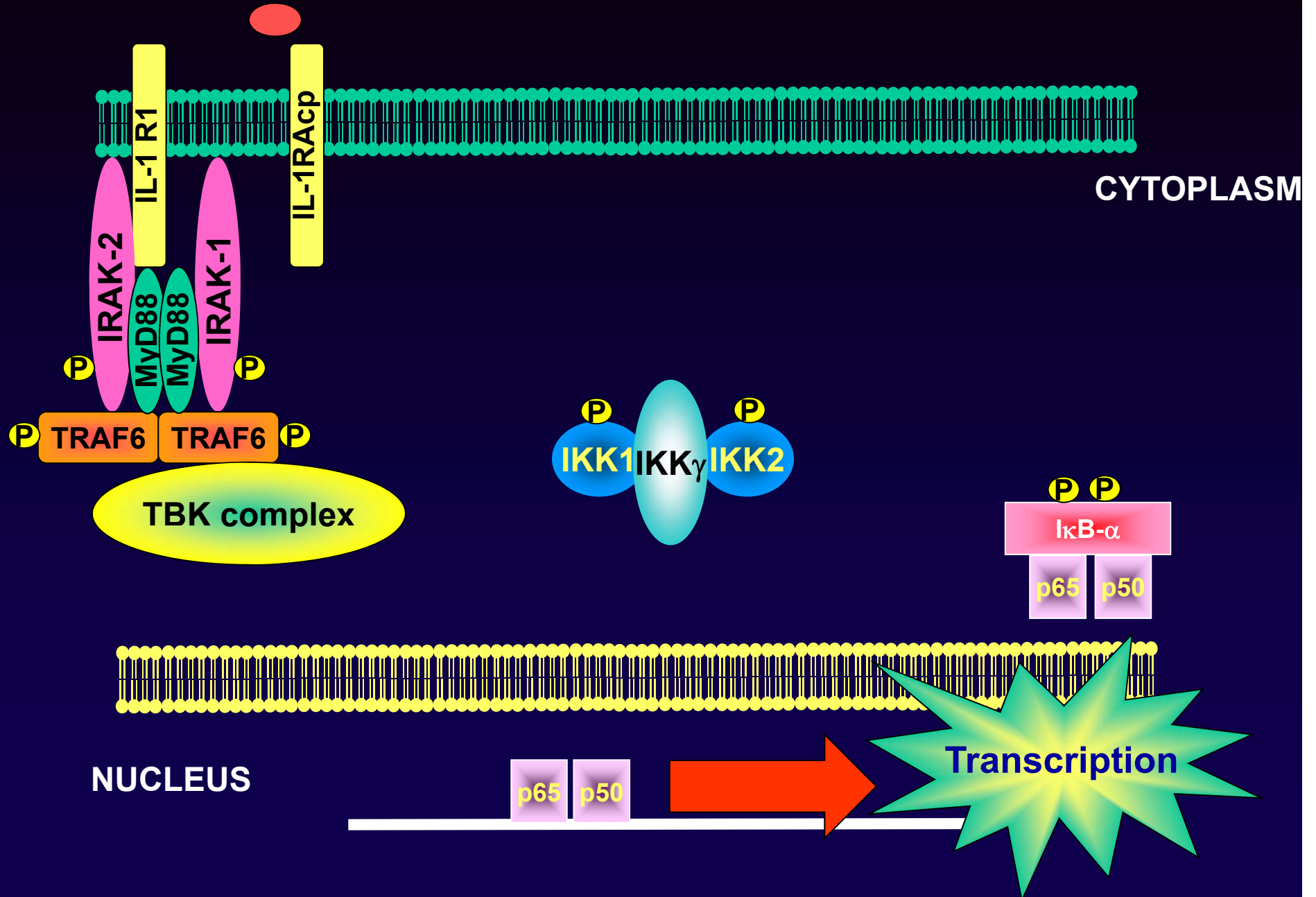
**Ig superfamily**

e.g. IL-1, IL-18, CSF-1

**TNF receptor family**

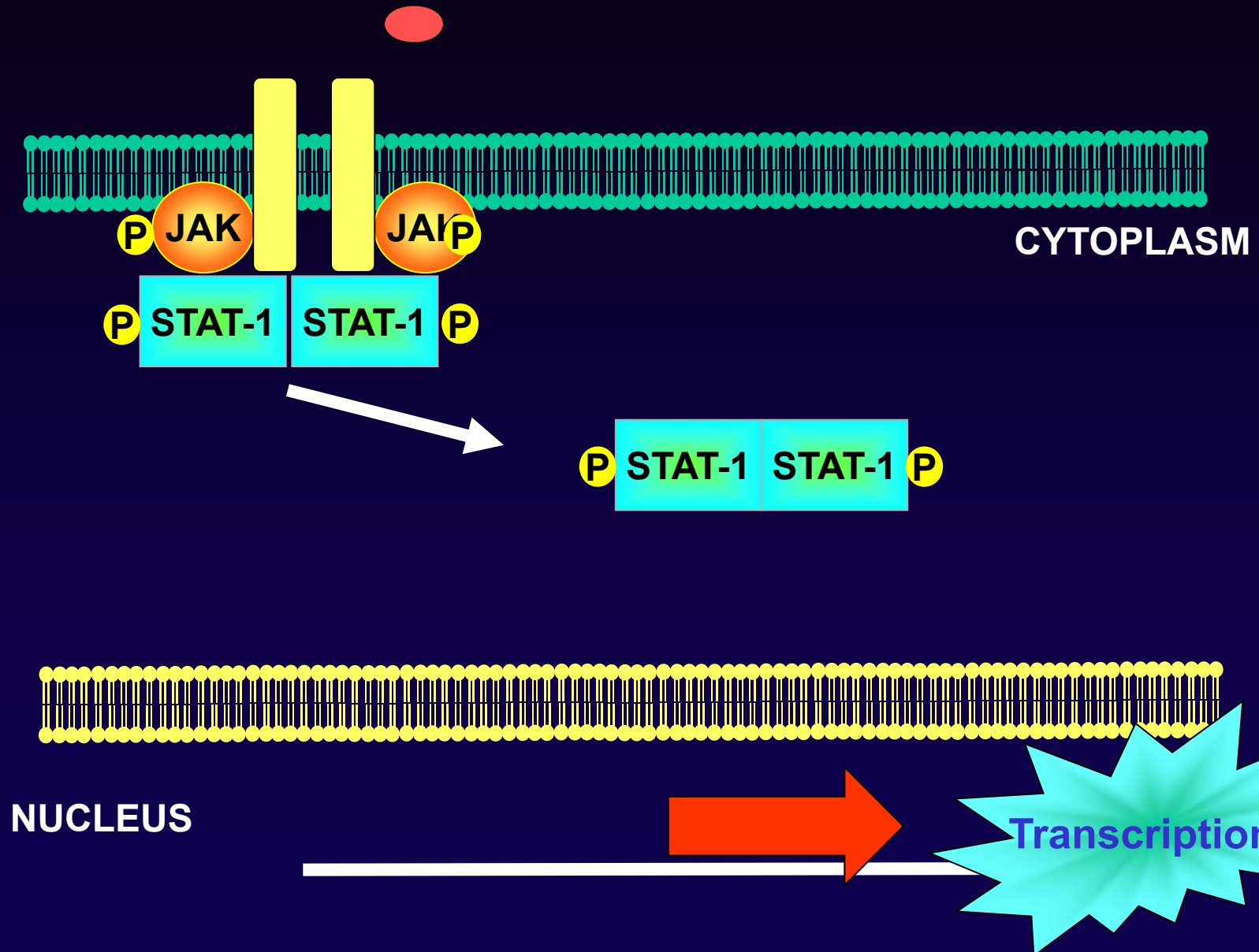
TNF $\alpha$

# Cytokine Signaling - 1

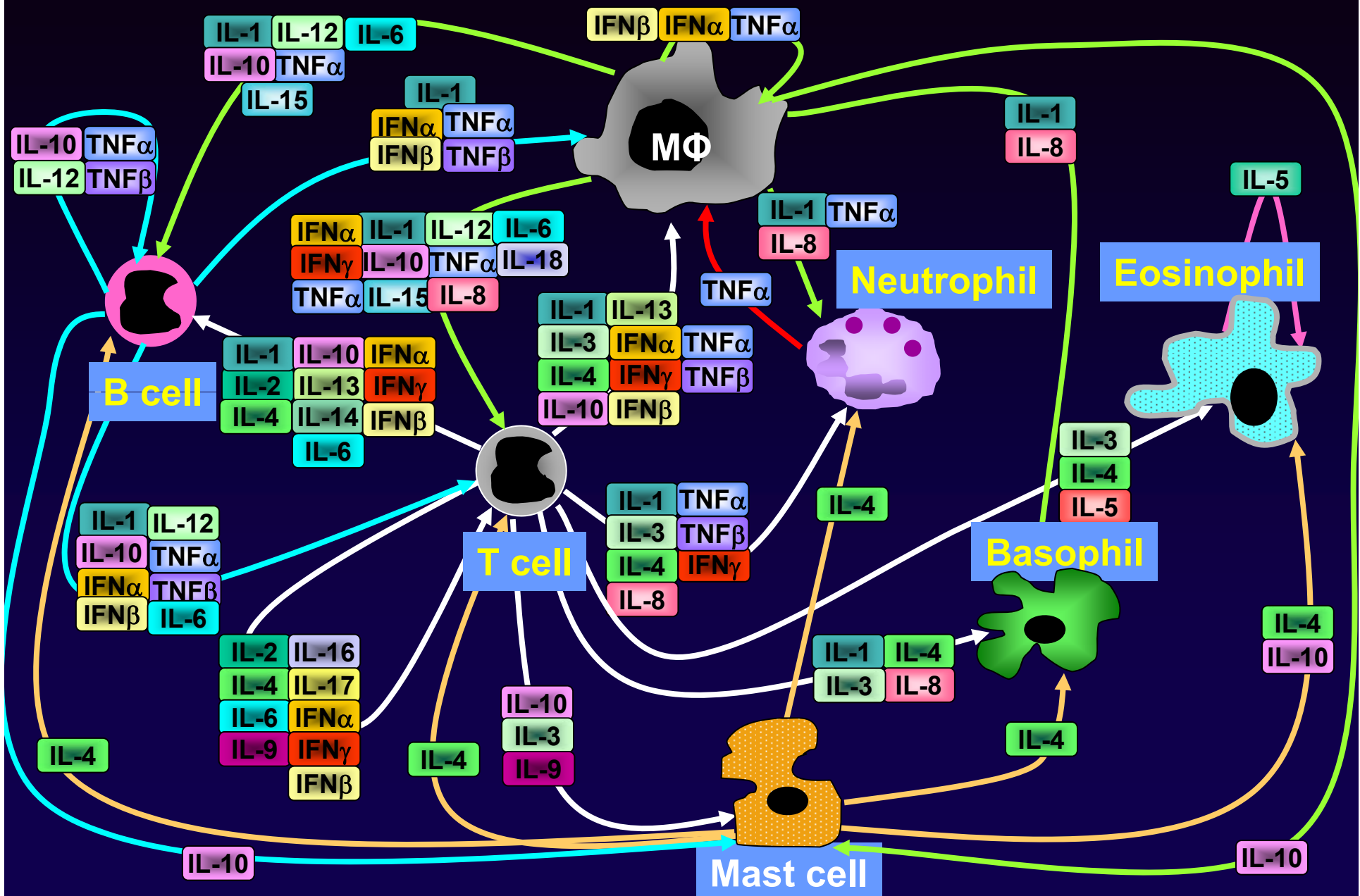




# Cytokine Signaling - 2



# Cytokine Network



# Cytokine Actions

**Autocrine** – act on self secreting cells

**Paracrine** - act on nearby cells

**Endocrine** – act on distant cells

**Pleiotropic** – single cytokine can act on more than one cell type

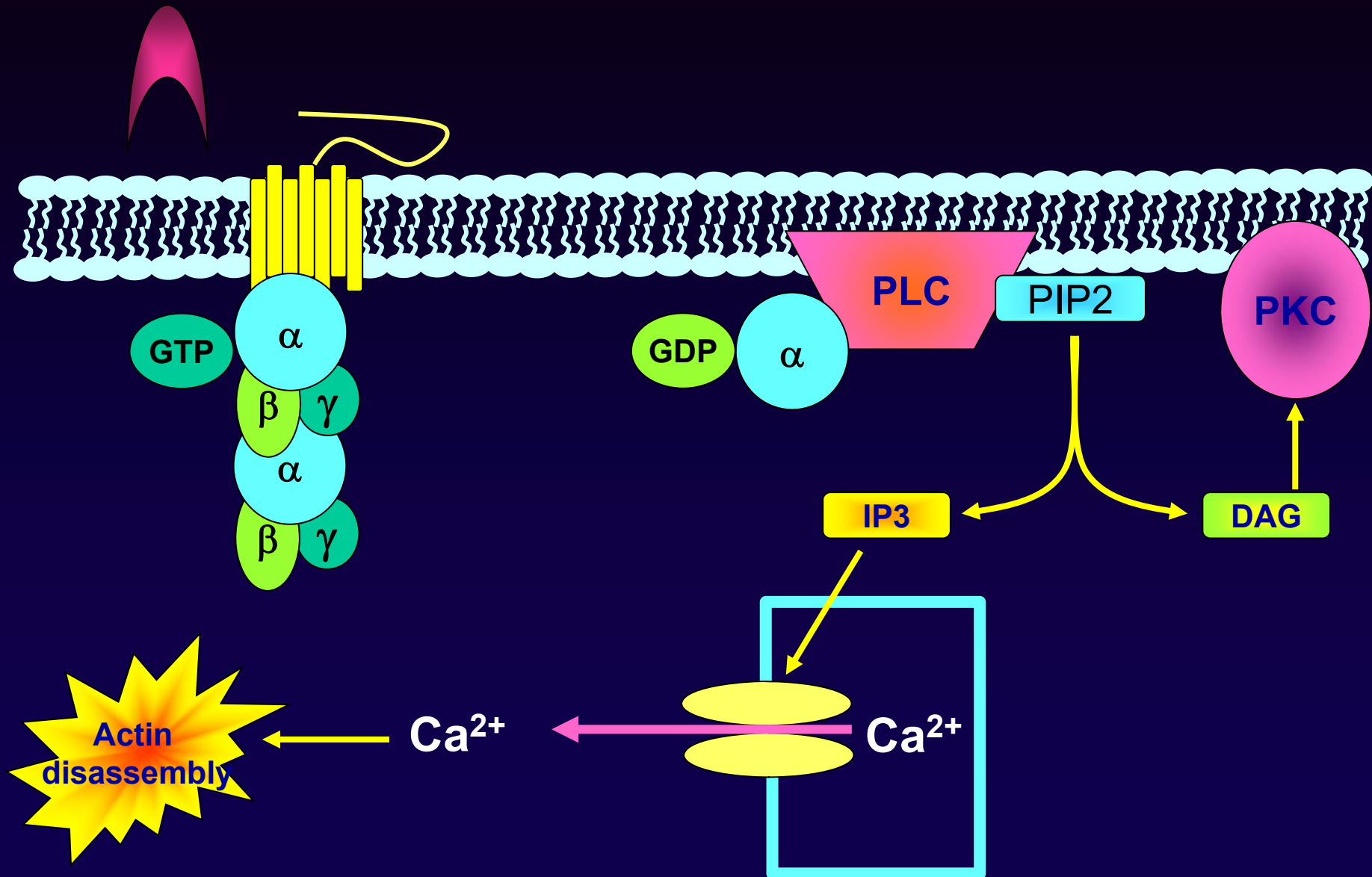
**Redundant** – similar functions can be elicited by different cytokines

# Chemokines

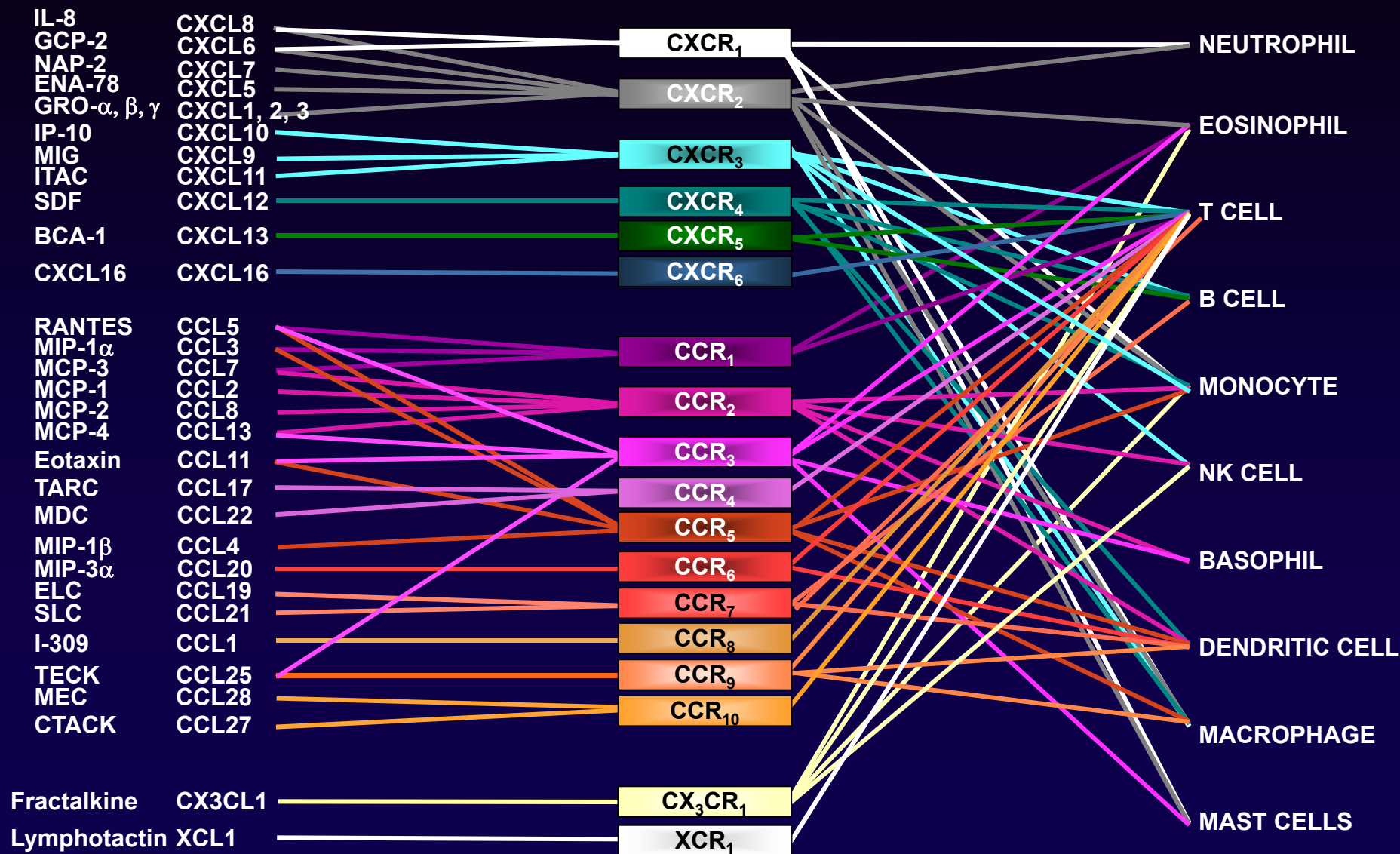
Cytokines that cause cell migration



# Chemokine Receptor Signaling



# Chemokine Receptor Redundancy



# Redundancy

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- 1. More than one chemokine/receptor**
- 2. More than one receptor type/cell**

# Chemokine Receptor Redundancy





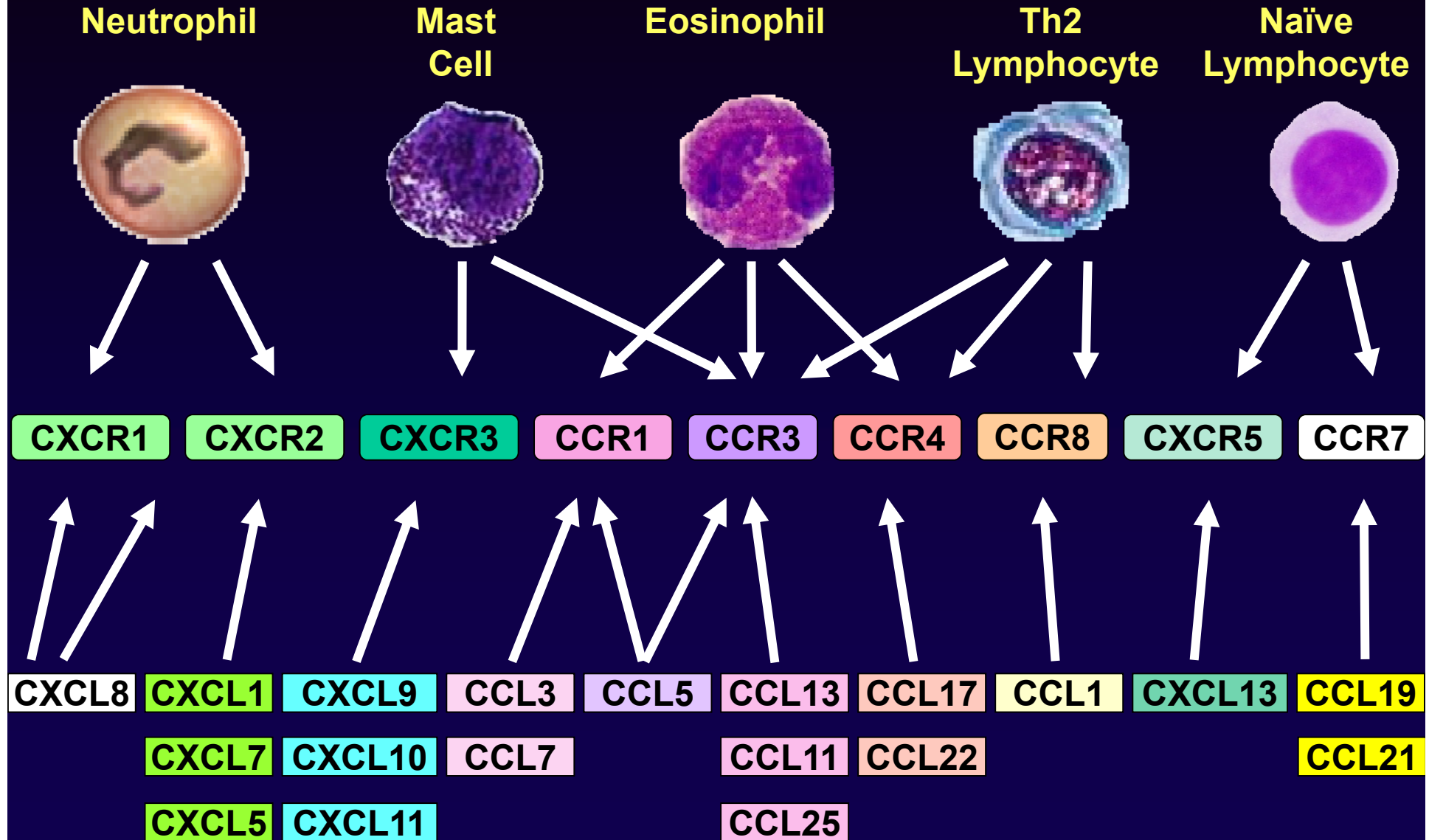
# Redundancy - Assumptions

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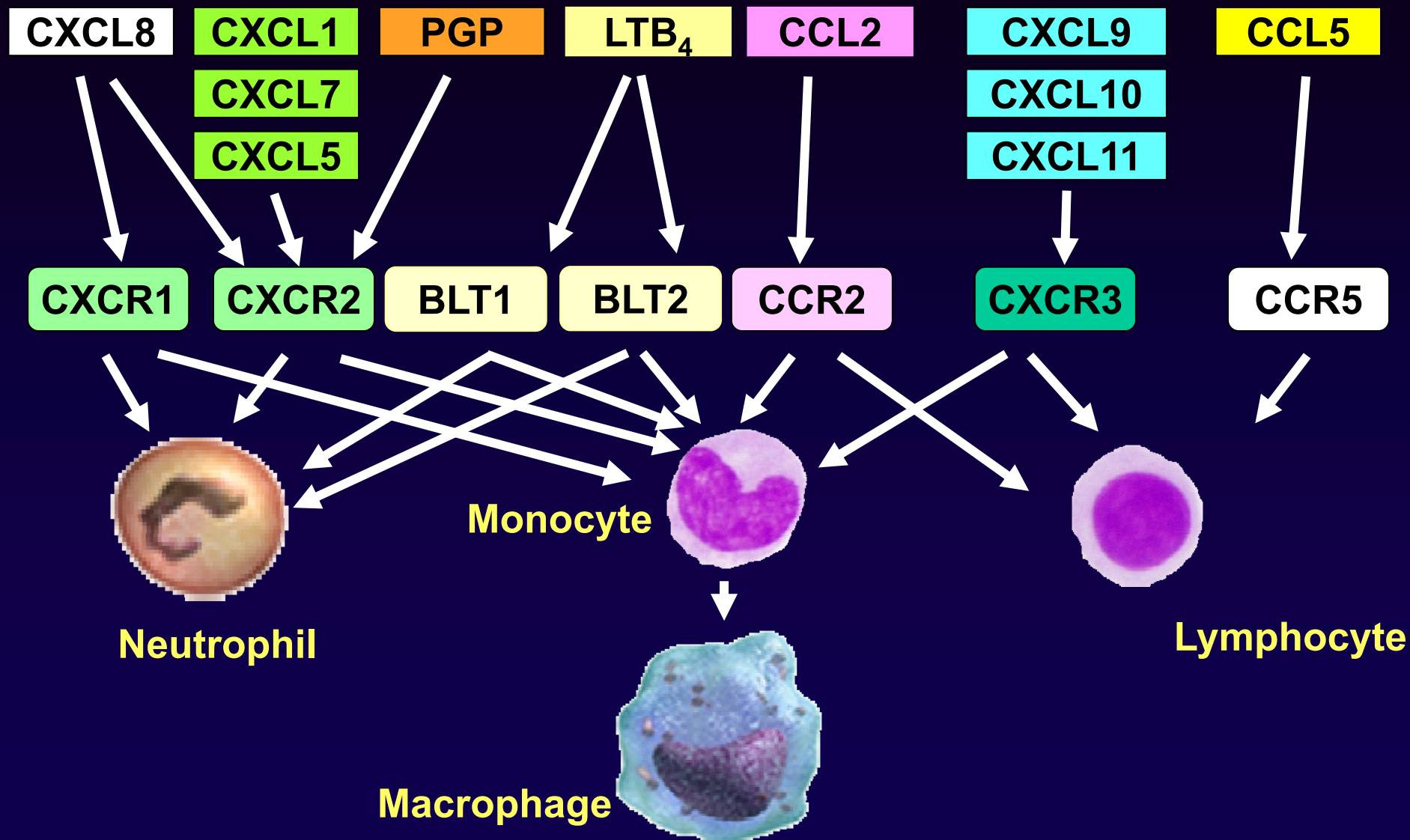
- 1. Different chemokines are equipotent at a single receptor**
- 2. Different chemokines have the same function at a single receptor**
- 3. Different chemokine receptors on a single cell have the same function**

# Which chemokine receptors to target?

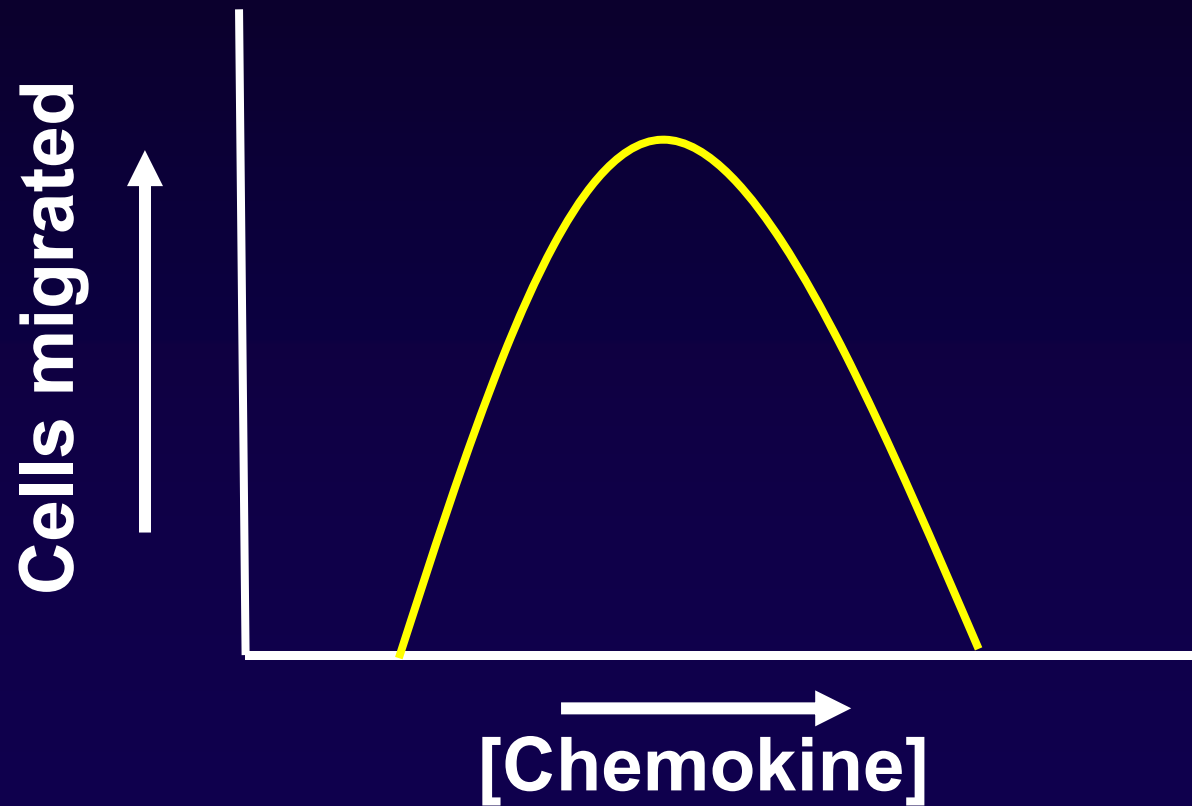
## Asthma



# Which chemokine receptors to target? COPD



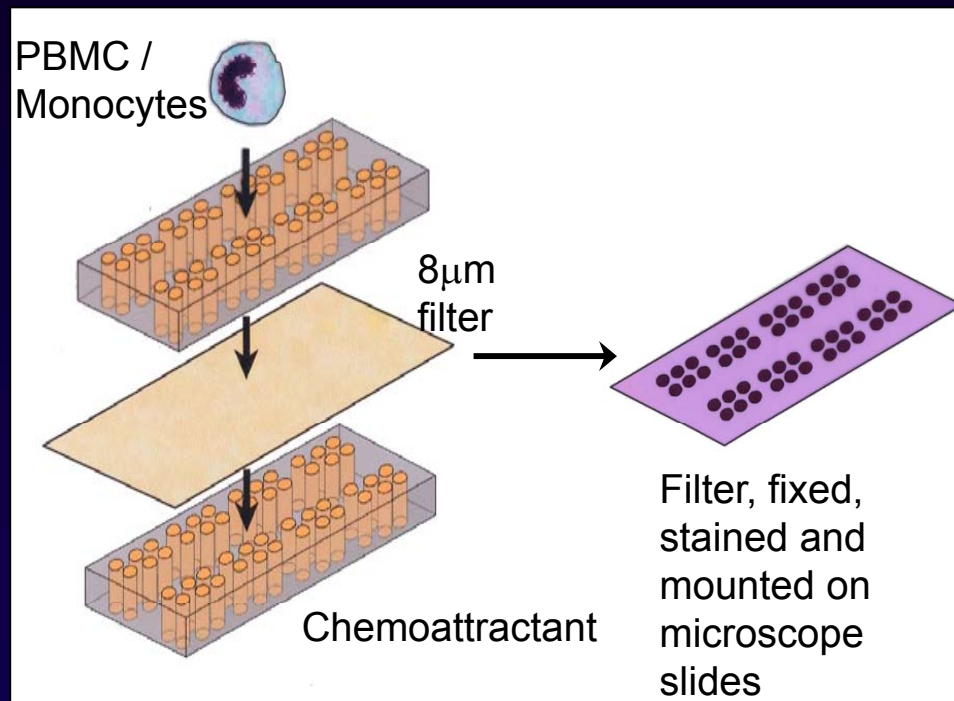
# Bell-shaped Chemotactic Response



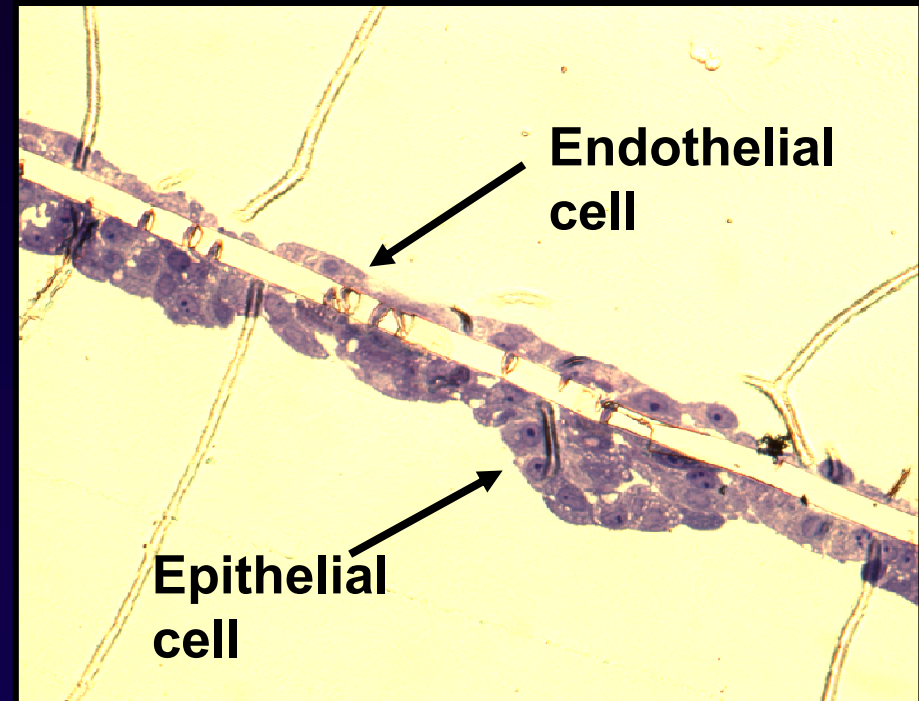
# Assessing Antagonists

## Chemotaxis assays

### Boyden Chamber



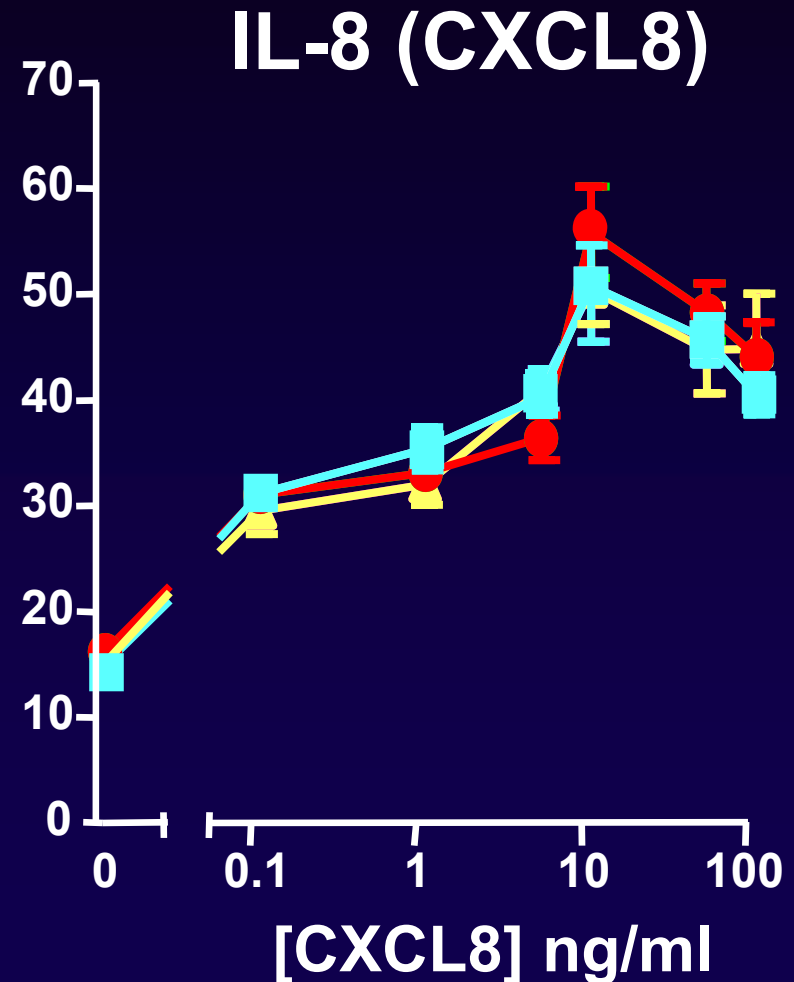
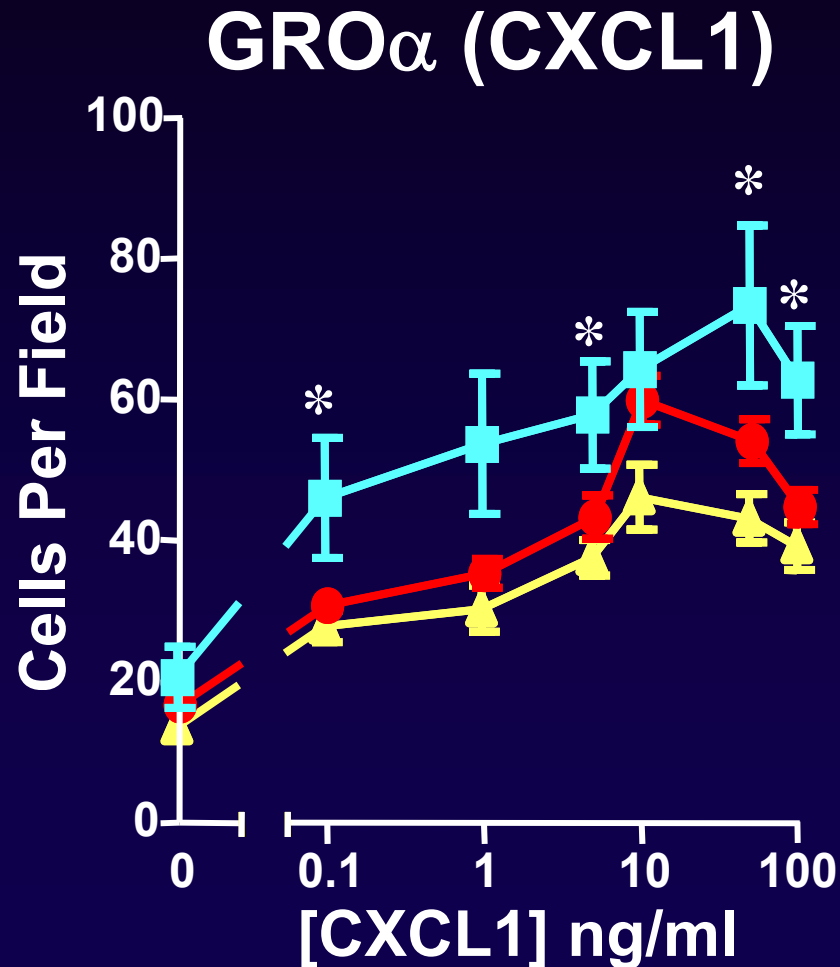
### Transwell systems



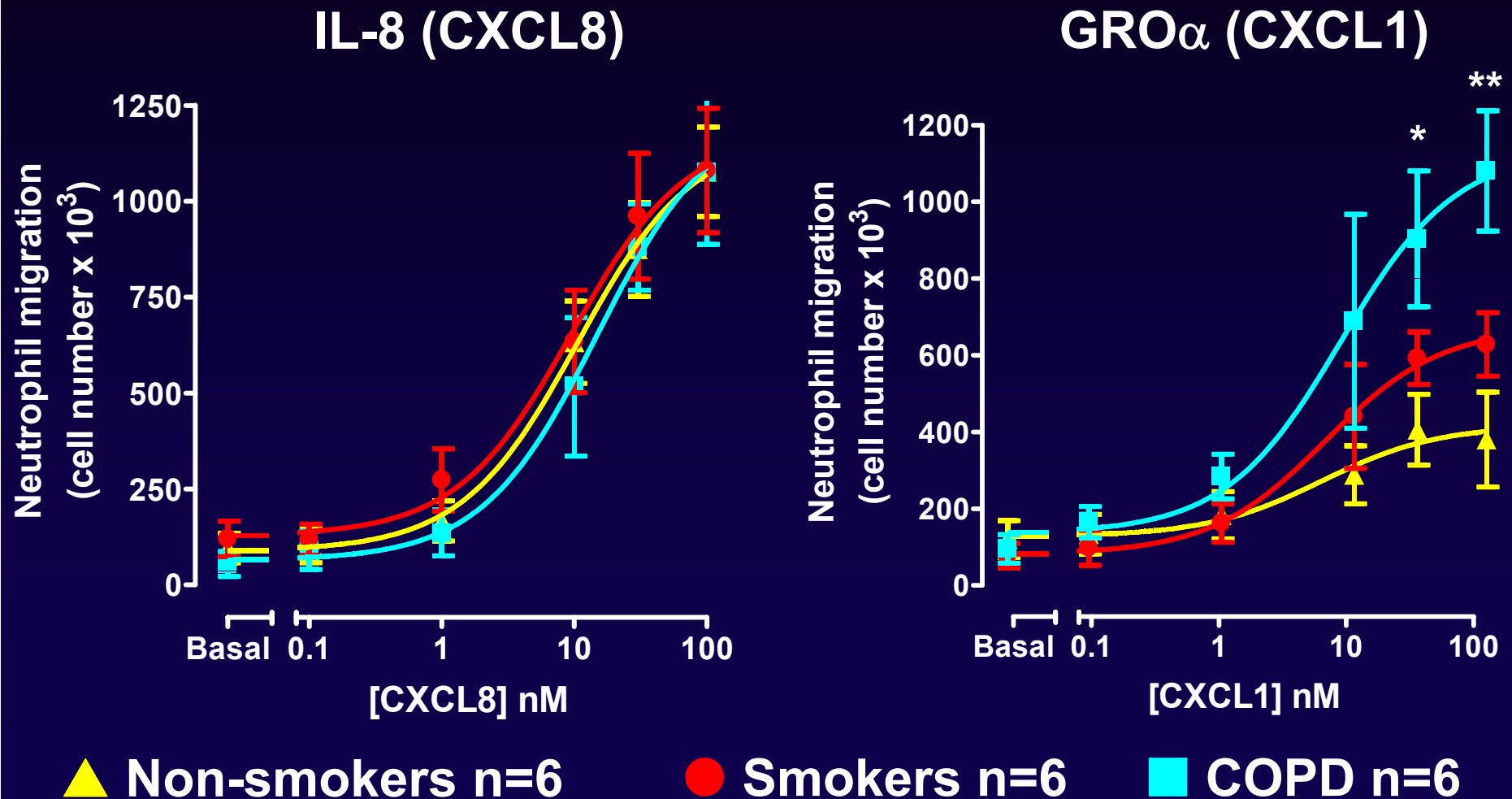
**Surrogates – Shape change assays, Ca<sup>2+</sup> mobilization**

# PBMC Migration

(Non-smokers (n=8), Smokers (n=8), COPD (n=10))



# Neutrophil Migration to CXCL8 (IL-8) and CXCL1 (GRO $\alpha$ )



# Receptor Expression by FACS

- CXCR<sub>1</sub> and CXCR<sub>2</sub>

- No difference in expression between the groups

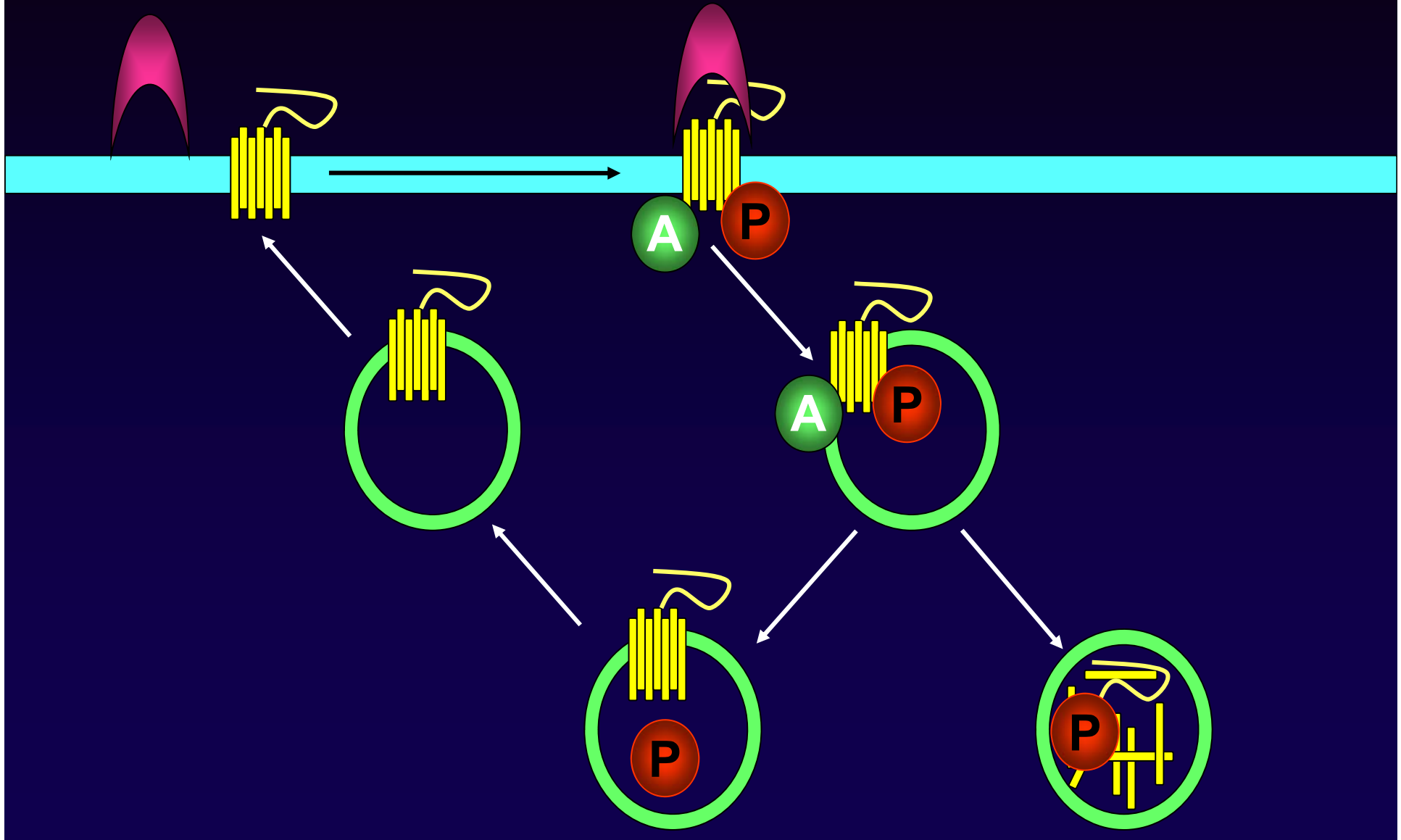
- Approx 30-40%

Are differences in migration due to differences in regulation of receptor expression?

Receptor recycling



# Receptor Recycling



# Summary

- Differential effects of  $\text{GRO}\alpha$  and IL-8 suggest non-redundancy of chemokine function
- This may be due to differences in receptor recycling

## Supporting evidence:

IL-8,  $\text{GRO}\alpha$  and NAP-2 bind to different amino acids in the CXCR2 receptor

**Katancik et al 2000 Cytokine**

IL-8 and NAP-2 lead to differential phosphorylation of the CXCR2 receptor

**Ben-Baruch et al 1997 J. Immunol**

# Clinical Trials – CXCR1/2 Antagonist

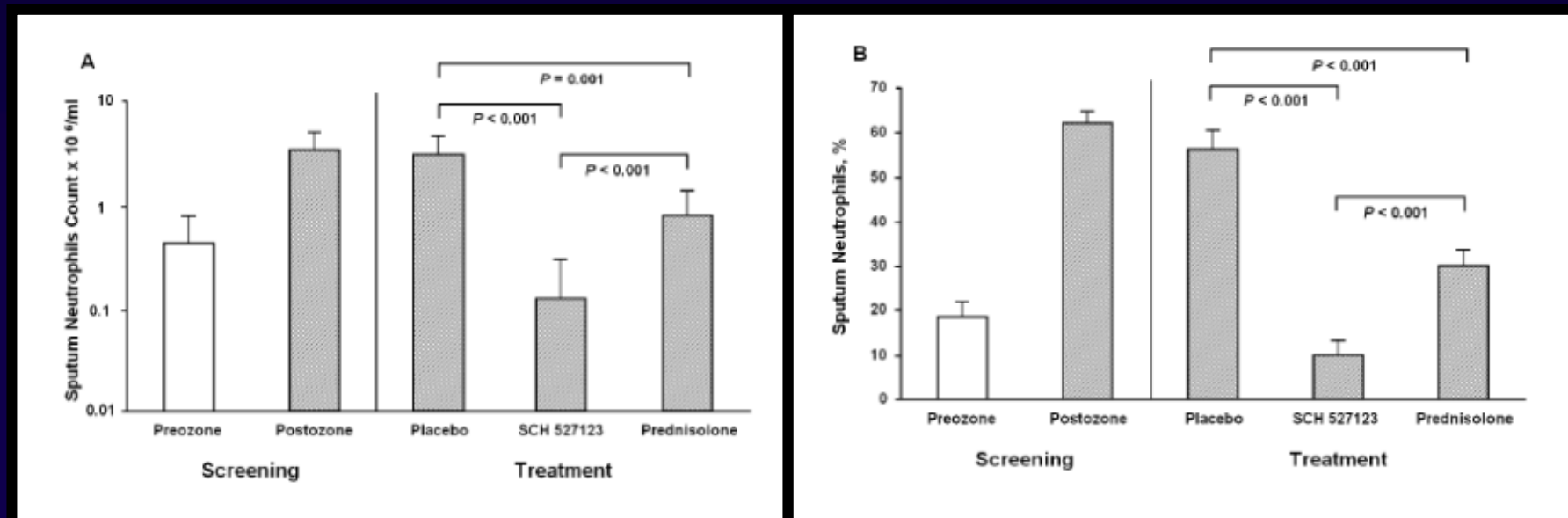
## SCH 527123

Double blind, placebo controlled trial

SCH 527123 50mg for 4 days – healthy volunteers

Ozone challenge – induce sputum neutrophilia

## Results



# Clinical Trials – CXCR1/2 Antagonist

## SCH 527123

Double blind, placebo controlled, escalating dose trial

SCH 527123 – 12 weeks 3,10, 30mg – COPD patients

## Results

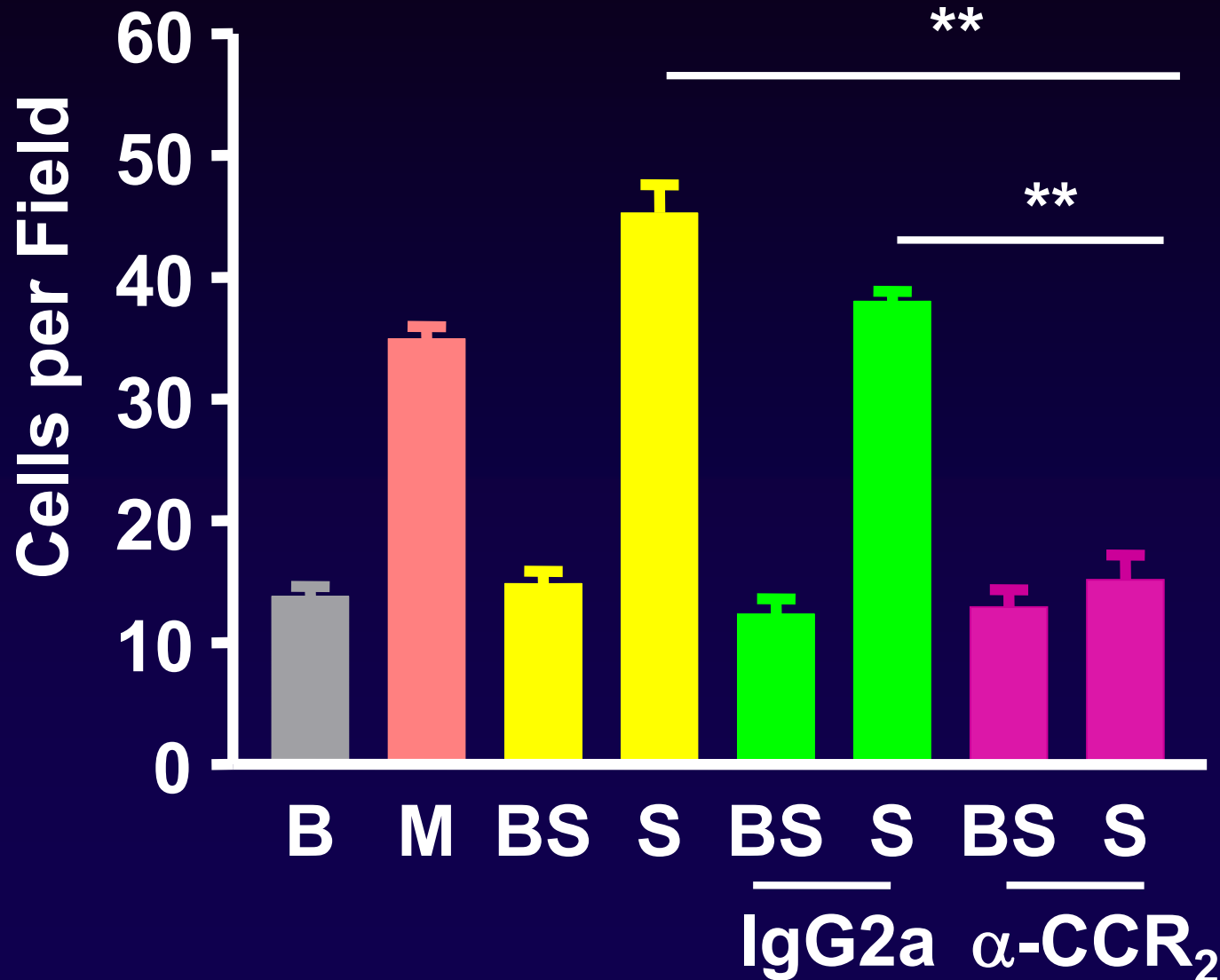
↓ Sputum neutrophils (47%)

↓ Sputum MMP-9 (59%)

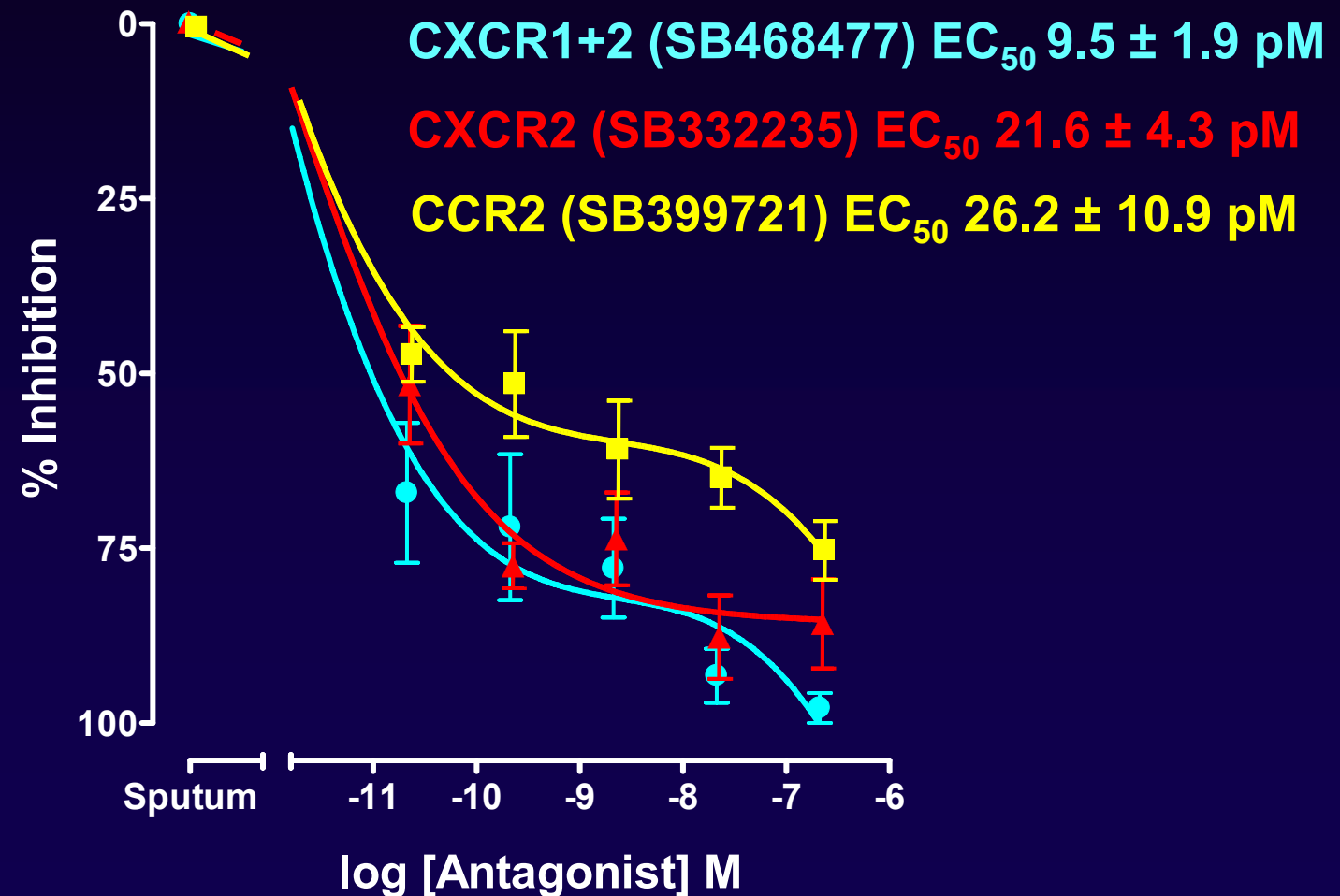
↑FEV<sub>1</sub> (91ml)

Magnussen *et al.*, ERS, 2010

# Effect of 10 $\mu$ g/ml Antibody on Monocyte Chemotaxis to Sputum



# Effect of Receptor Antagonists on Monocyte Chemotaxis to Sputum



# Chemokine Receptor Antagonism

Antagonists are more effective than  $IC_{50}$  values would suggest

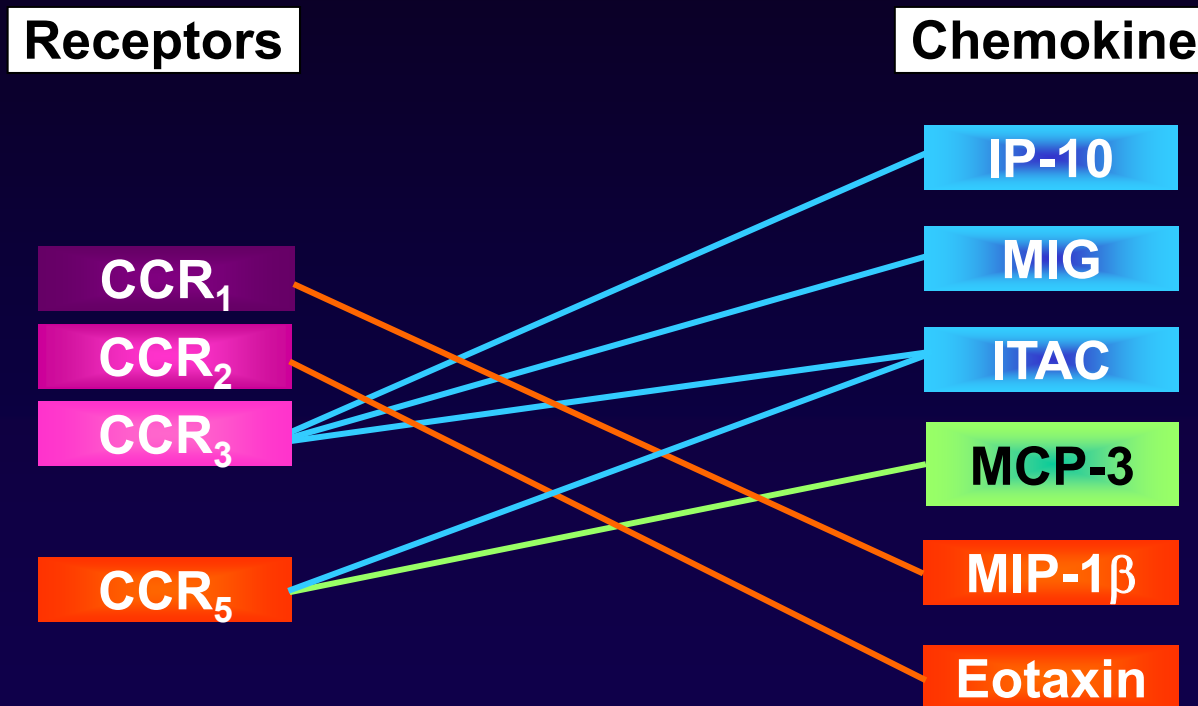
**SB468477:** CXCR1 67 nM  
CXCR2 12 nM

**SB332235:** CXCR2 19 nM

**SB399721:** CCR2 219 nM

More efficacious than would be predicted

# Natural Chemokine Receptor Antagonists





# Summary

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- Measuring effect of a chemokine receptor antagonist vs a single agonist does not predict efficacy vs a complex inflammatory infiltrate
- Chemokine receptor antagonists have increased efficacy vs complex inflammatory fluids (chemotaxis assay)

# Why are antagonists more effective against mixtures?

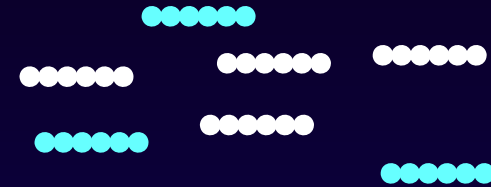
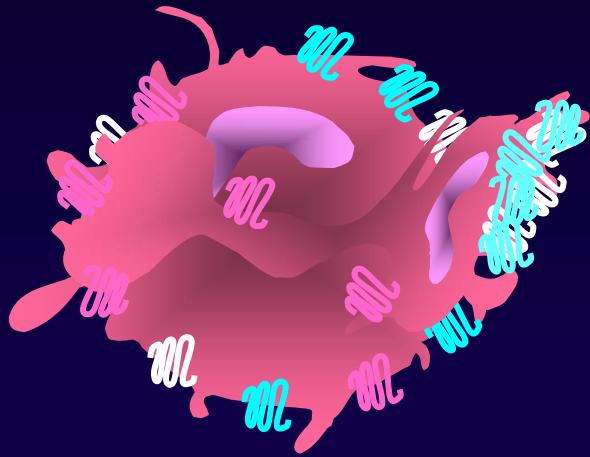


Wang *et al* 2002 Nature Cell Biol

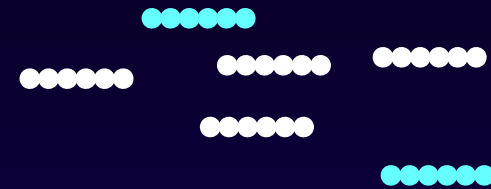
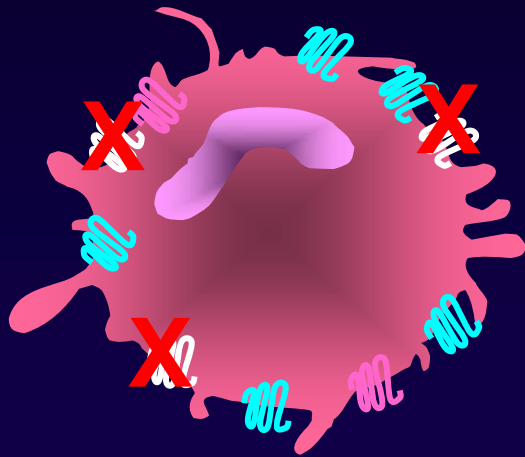
# Chemotaxis to a single agonist



# Chemotaxis to a mixed agonists



# Chemotaxis to mixed agonists in the presence of an antagonist



Steric hindrance?

# Other reasons

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Receptor-Receptor interactions

homodimerization

heterodimerization

oligomerization

Chemokine-Chemokine interactions

heterodimerization

# Receptor-Receptor Interactions

## Homodimers

- CCR2, CCR5, CXCR2, CXCR4

## Heterodimers

- CCR2-CCR5 →
- CCR2-CXCR4
- CCR5-CXCR4 →

CCR5 ligands inhibit CCR2  
ligand binding

Modulate T cell function  
Contento *et al* 2008 PNAS

## Oligomers

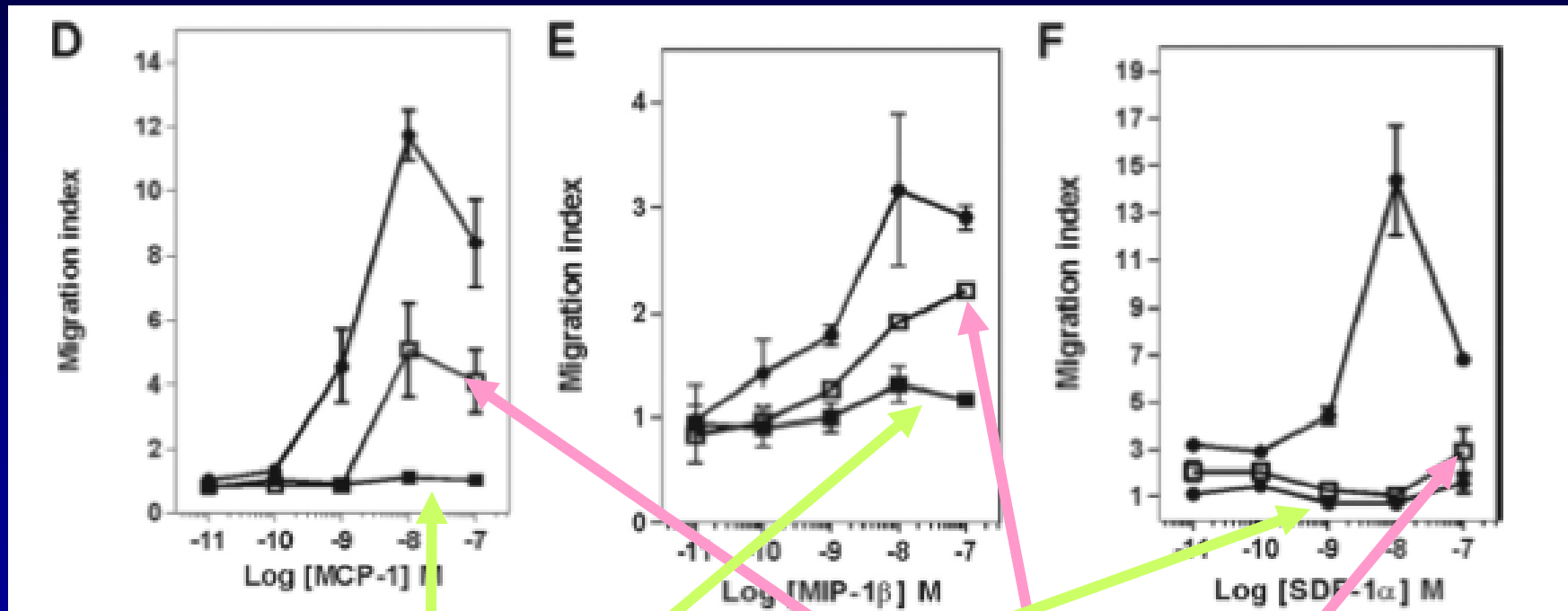
- CCR2/CXCR4/CCR5/CXCR2

# Human CD4<sup>+</sup> Lymphocytes

CCR2

CCR5

CXCR4



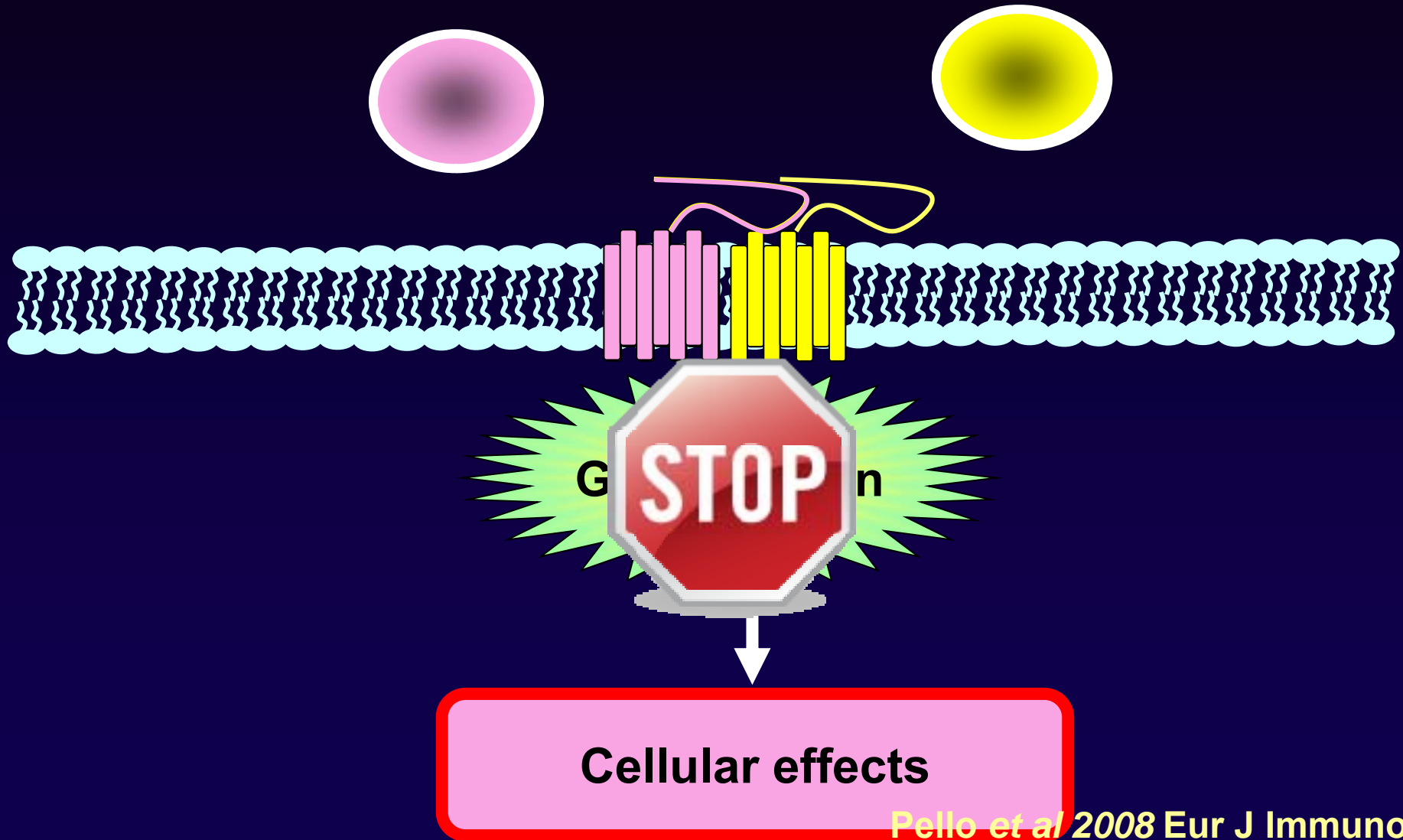
CCR2/5 antagonist

CXCR4 antagonist

Sohy et al 2009 J Biol Chem



# CXCR4-CXCR4 Opioid Receptor



# Chemokine Receptors – Dimers with other GPCR

CXCR2 -  $\delta$  opioid receptor




+ CXCR2 Antagonist

**Enhance  $\delta$  opioid  
receptor signalling**

# Chemokine-Chemokine Interactions

## Homodimers

- IL-8, IP-10,  MCP-1, RANTES, TARC, NAP-2 etc

IL-8 dimers reduced CXCR1 binding

*Fernando et al 2004 JBC*

## Heterodimers

- IL-8-PF-4 
- MIP-1 $\alpha$ -MIP-1 $\beta$

$\uparrow$ IL-8/CXCR2-dependent migration

$\uparrow$ PF-4-dependent-anti-proliferative effect on EC

*Nesmelova et al 2005 JBC*

## Oligomers

TARC, PF-4, NAP-2 etc

# Summary

## Redundancy

- Little redundancy in the system
- Need to understand biology further

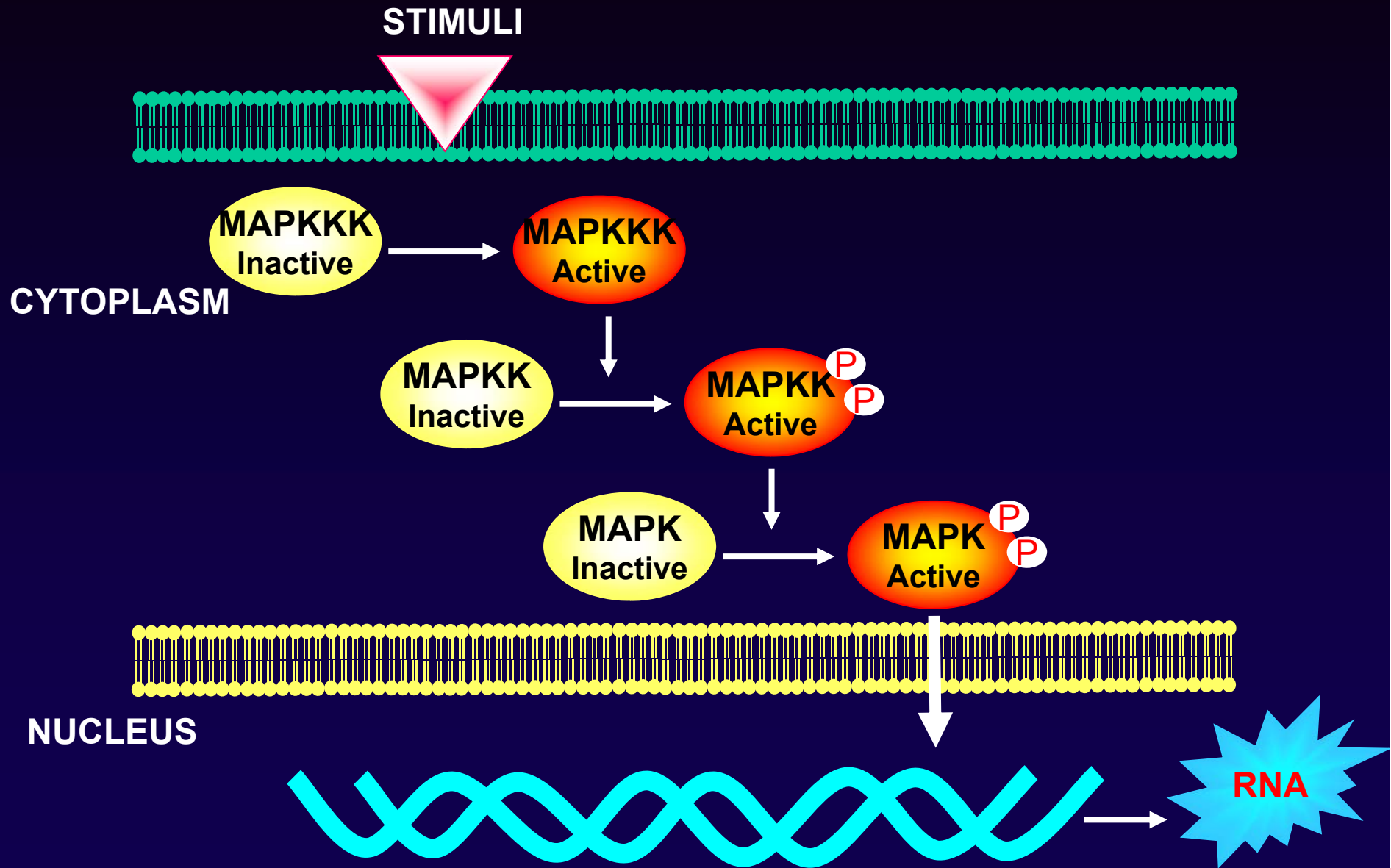
## Target identification

- Need to understand receptor dimerization/oligomerization
- Cellular expression patterns
  - eg. 40% monocytes express CXCR2
- Single antagonists vs dual antagonists(?)

# Questions

1. Is targeting a single cytokine a reasonable method for inhibiting inflammatory lung disease?
2. Would targeting specific signal transduction pathways produce more effective therapies?
3. How could you stop inflammatory cell migration?
4. Which chemokine/receptor would you select as a target for
  - i) COPD?
  - ii) Asthma?
  - iii) CF?

# MAP Kinase Pathways



# MAP Kinase Pathways

