Basic mechanisms of chemotherapy-induced alopecia (CIA)

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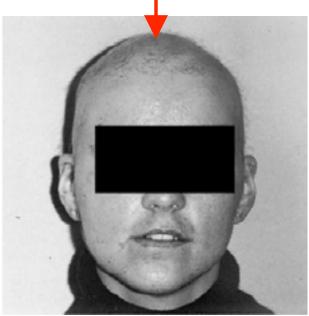
#### No relevant conflicts of interest

For the record

Founder & Consultant: Monasterium Laboratory, Münster/Germany Hair research grants received from and/or consultant for: Giuliani/Italy, Unilever/UK, Wolff/Germany, PPM-Nogra/CH

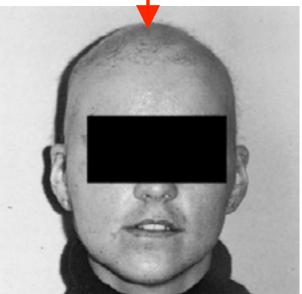


### A *massive* psychoemotional Stressor !



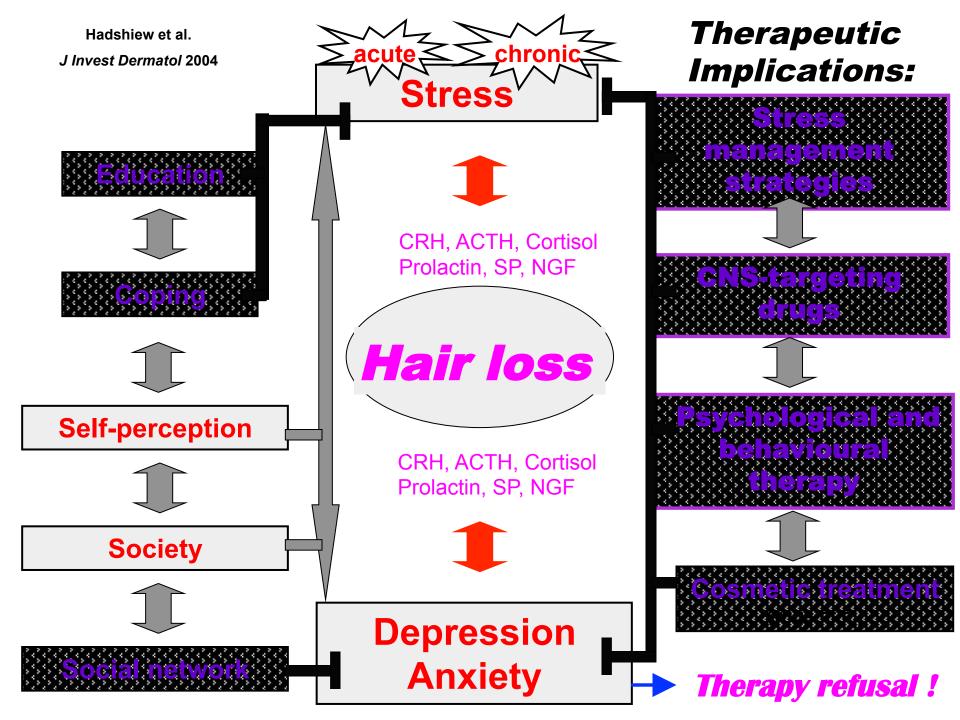
Sudden, cancer therapyassociated massive hair loss





## PATHO-BIOLOGY

?





Most amazing mini-organ that evolution has come up with

### "All the beef is in the bulb"

**Chemotherapy** 

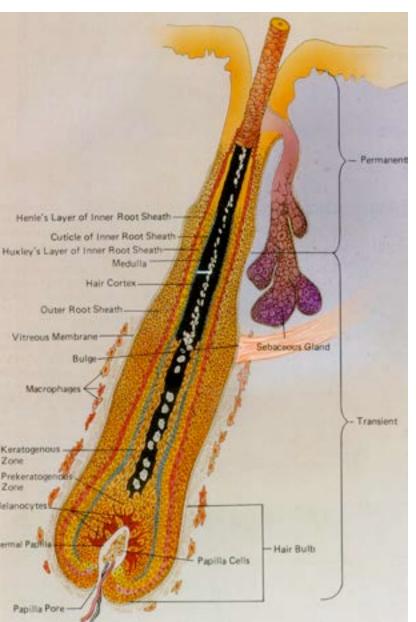
## Hair follicle Anagen hair bulb =hair shaft factory

HF pigmentary unit

Hair matrix

Dermal papilla

# Hair follicle



**ca. 5 million mini-organs** scalp: ca. 100,000 HFs

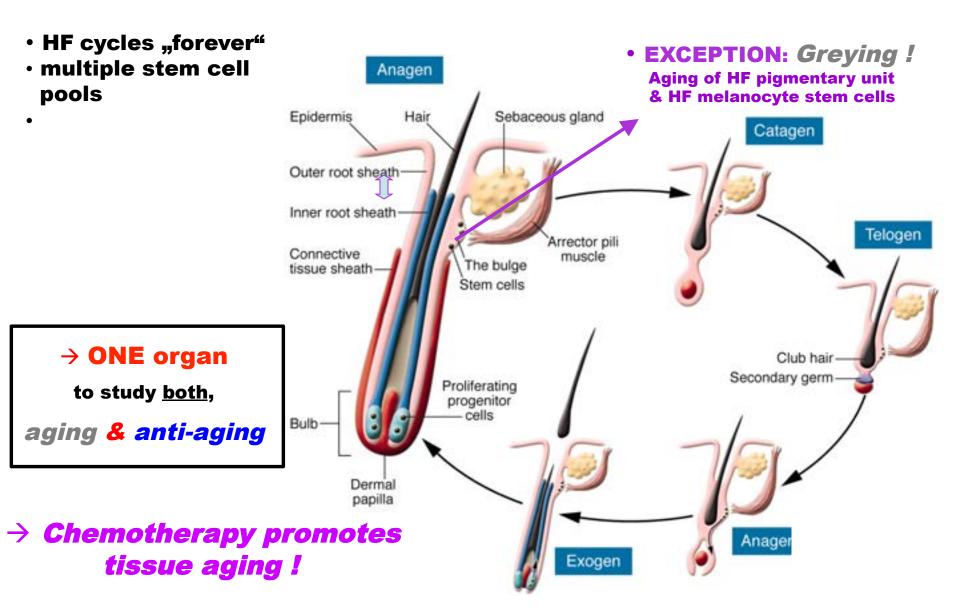
### "work horse of the skin"

- $\rightarrow$  fiber & pigment production
- $\rightarrow$  epidermal regeneration & repigmentation
- →Important for wound healing, angiogenesis, innervation etc.pp.
- $\rightarrow$  Major hormone & protein factory
- → highly sensitive to nutrients,, hormones, "stress", <u>drugs</u>

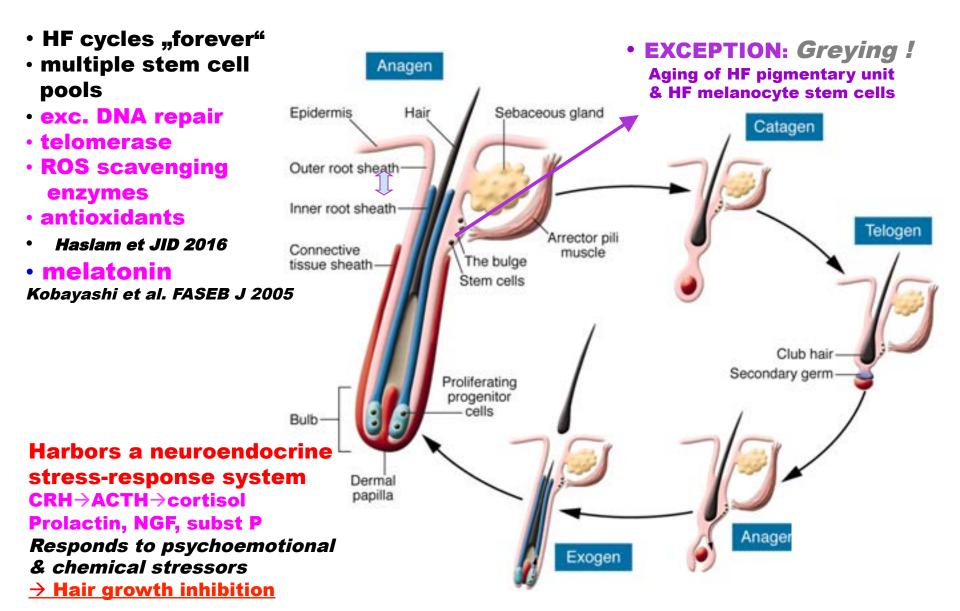
### **Unique feature:**

**Cyclic organ remodelling** 

## **HF***=* regeneration miracle & anti-aging wonder



## **HF***=* regeneration miracle & anti-aging wonder



## Cancer therapy-associated hair loss: Key frontier in psychooncology

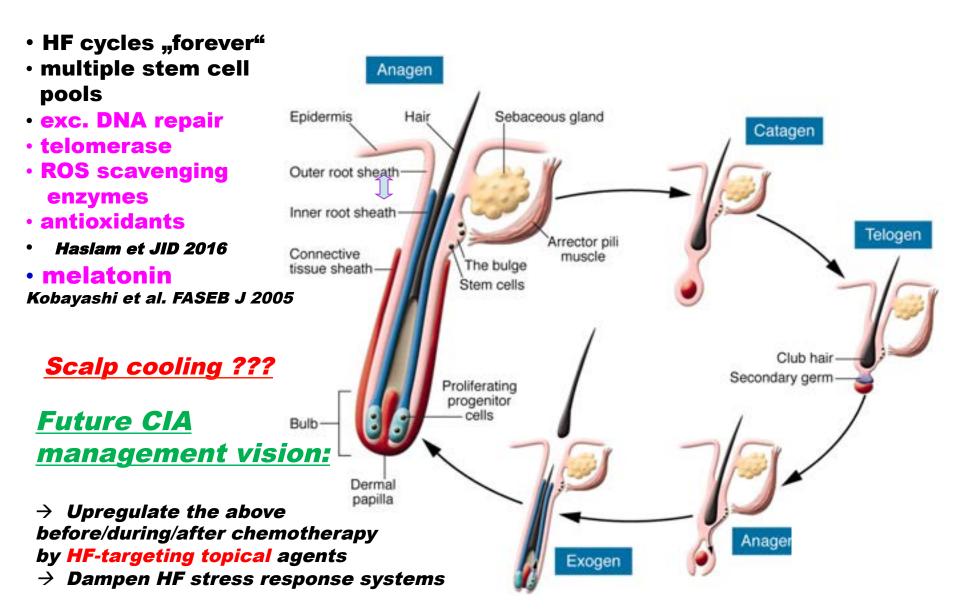
- Sudden loss of hair as a key instrument of mammalian communication → CIA= profound psychoemotional stressor → acute & chronic stress responses + depression
- **Psychoemotional "stress" is hair growth-inhibitory**!
- → Neurogenic perifollicular inflammation (NGF→ substance P→ mast cells activation) induces premature catagen and attacks HF stem cells (bulge)
- Hair follicles are targets & sources of key stress mediators: CRRH→ACTH→cortisol, PRL → inihibit hair growt!

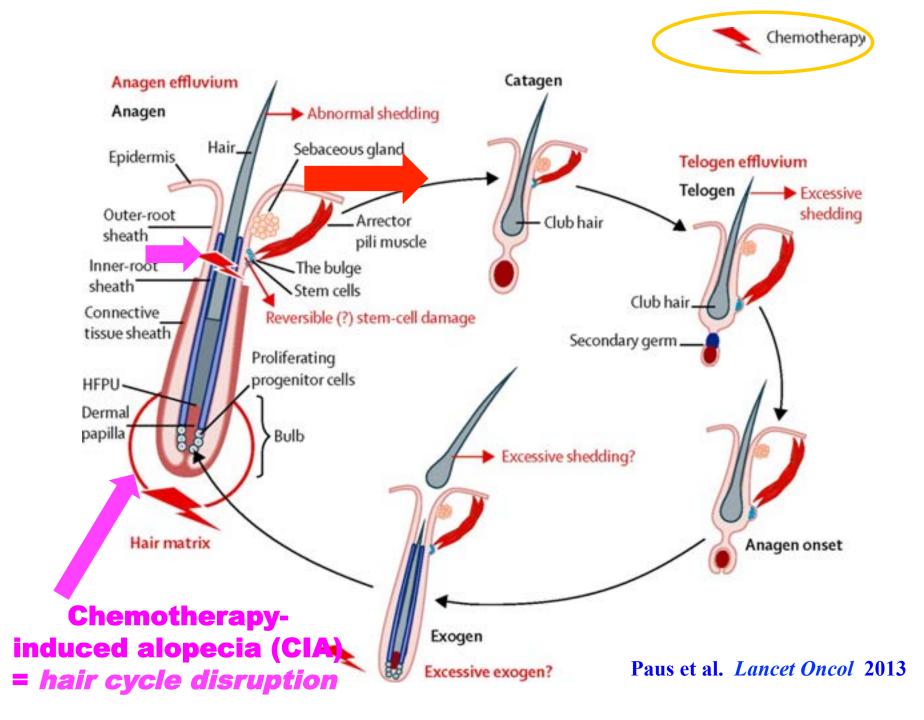
Enhanced intrafollicular generation of hair growth-inhibitory stress hormones by chemotherapy & CIA-associated stress ?

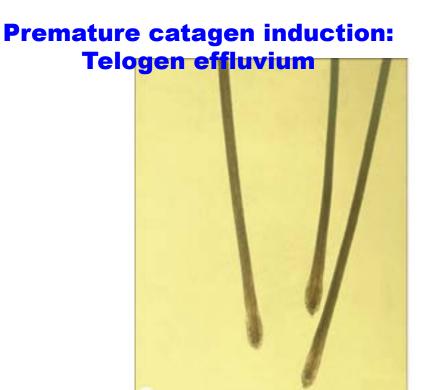
#### → Psychological stress intervention: essential in CIA on multiple levels

Arck et al. J Mol Med 2005, Peters et al. Am J Pathol 2007, Paus et al. Lancet Oncol 2013

## Why relevant in CIA ?







## **Trichogram**

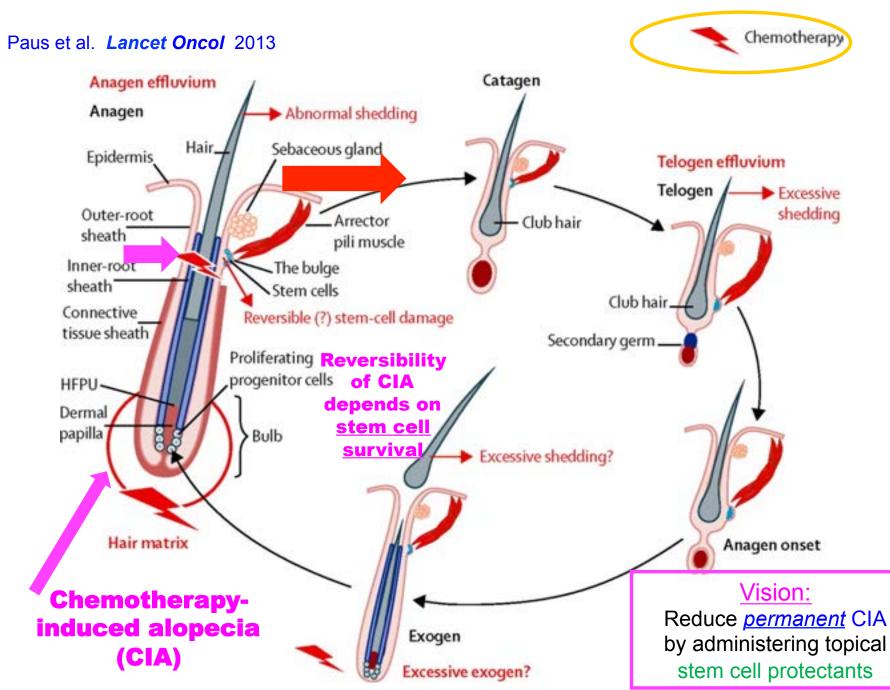
#### telogen = *club* hairs <u>depigmented</u> tip

#### Dysruption of anagen without normal catagen induction

anagen = "broom stick" IRS+ pigmented tip



# - CIA Anagen effluvium



e.g. PPARg agonists, spermidine, endocannabinoids

## human anagen hair bulb

#### outer root sheath

keratinocytes amelanotic melanocytes/-blasts T cells, Langerhans cells

#### **connective tissue sheath**

fibroblasts, mast cells, macrophages, endothelial cells *progenitor cells* 

*pericytes*\*\*\* *nestin+ cells*\*\*\* *Schwann cells*\*\*\* \*\*\* = pluripotent progenitors

hair follicle pigmentary unit differentiated melanocytes

### hair matrix

massively proliferating keratinocytes

follicular dermal papilla

*inductive* fibroblasts

*Most sensitive to noxious stimuli/agents* 

## human anagen hair bulb

**Conventional wisdom:** 

Chemotherapy  $\rightarrow$ 

#### Cycling hair matrix keratinocytes

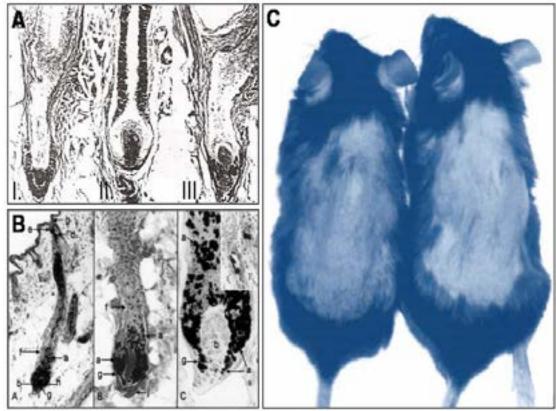
 $\textbf{p53} \rightarrow \textbf{apoptosis}$ 

### hair matrix

massively proliferating keratinocytes

*Most sensitive to noxious stimuli/agents* 

## **Murine CIA model**



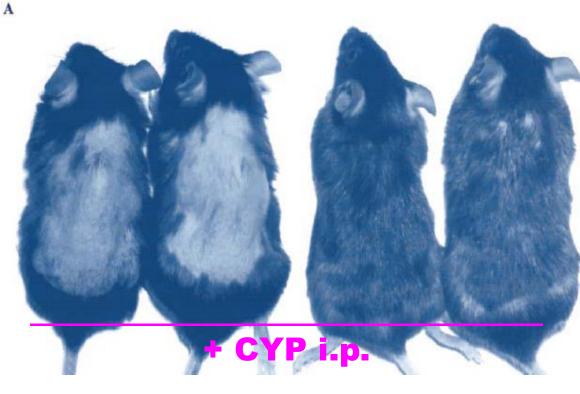
#### Human pendant:

#### **Scalp HF organ culture**

Bodo et al. Am J Pathol 2007

Intraperitoneal injection of high-dose **cyclophosphamide** into adolescent/adult, darkly pigmented **C57BL/6 mice** with all back skin HFs in depilation-induced, early anagen VI causes massive hair matricx apoptosis, HF dystrophy and rapid alopecia, *perfectly imitating human cyclophosphamide-induced alopecia* 

Paus et al. Am J Pathol 1994



Botchkarev et al. *Am J Pathol* 2001

WT

p53 -/-

- p53 plays a key role in mediating CYP-induced massive hair matrix apoptosis and HF dystrophy
- Mediated via Fas (=direct p53 target!) ?
  Sharov et al. Cancer Res 2004



### Human scalp HF organ culture

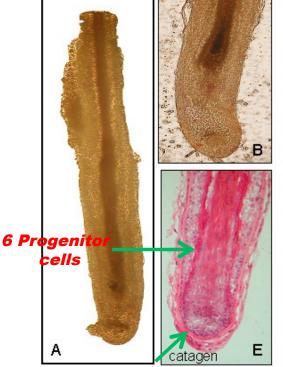
ightarrow identify hair growth promoters & inhibitors

2 Hair shaft elongation





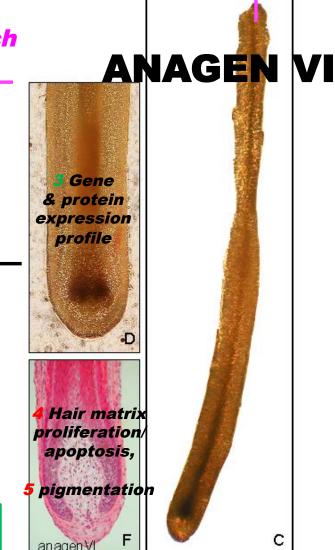




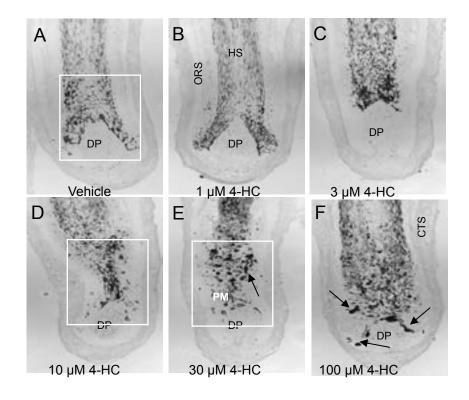
7 Mast cells Macrophages



Use to test impact of chemotherapy



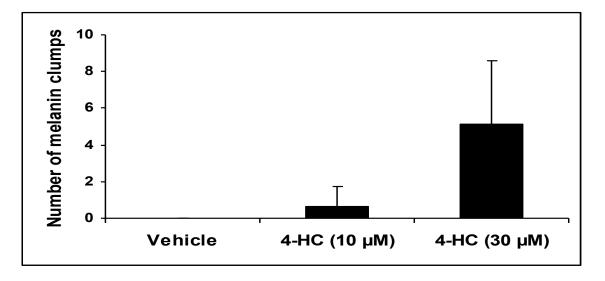
8 Gene silencing possible !



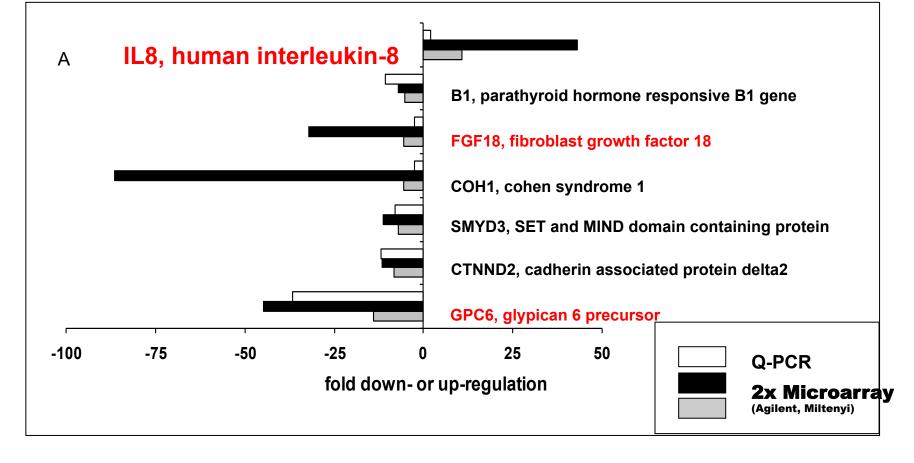
Cyclophosphamide (4-HC) severely disrupts HF pigmentation:

- Ectopic melanin
- Melanin clumping

Sensitive parameter for quantification of human HF damage level







**Cyclophosphamide metabolite (4-HC)** induces a distinct and reproducible "gene expression damage profile" of human HFs

Define molecular damage-response profile of any chemotherapeutic agent in a living human organ !

scalp cooling ???

#### Human anagen HF

### HF damage responses to chemotherapy

**ORS:** TGFß1/2 up, IGF-1 down, CRH up reduced mitochondrial activity; loss of epithelial & melanocyte progenitor cells

• CTS: Mast cells degranulate, MACs activated

**Disruption of HF pigmentation:** Ectopic melanin, melanin clumping, Cessation of melanogenesis

#### Hair matrix keratinocytes:

Increased apoptosis, reduced Proliferation; p53 up, Increased oxidative & DNA damage

Faster emigration of and reduced morphogen production by DP cells

 $\rightarrow$  Premature catagen, stop of hair shaft production

LDH IL-8, IL-6, TNF-α release up

## human anagen hair bulb

**Conventional wisdom:** 

Chemotherapy  $\rightarrow$ 

Cycling hair matrix keratinocytes

 $p53 \rightarrow apoptosis$ 

Bodo et al. AJP 207

#### Shh downregulation

Xie /Paus/Yie J Invest Dermatol 2015 & unpublished

### hair matrix apoptosis

→ Vismodegib

→scalp cooling ???

Case	Treatment	Hair Loss	Molecular	Expression	Change
			Shh	p21	Fas
H04	Platin/Taxol	no	1.3	3.4	-4.2
L13	Taxol/Calcium forlinate/FU/Cisplatin	no	-0.5	-1.5	1.2
Y12	Vinblastine/Prednisone /Cyclophosphamide	no	2.9	1.7	-0.2
Z02	Taxol	80	1	-0.9	3.2
P16	Taxol	yes	-3.6	-0.5	8.5
T06	FU/Taxol	yes	-4.1	-0.4	-1.9
X18	Taxol	yes	-4.3	0.7	1.4
¥09	FU/Oxaliplatin/Calcium folinate	yes	-3.23	0.42	0.23
Z20	Tegafur Gimeracil	yes	-3.8	-0.8	4.6

#### Shh mRN downregulated in plucked hair shafts from all patients with CIA

Haslam/Paus/Yue, •unpublished

Cylophosphamide or Shh silencing both Inhibit proliferation & Induce apoptosis in human hair matrix

...and so does cyclopamine

**CIA management vision:** <u>Up-regulate Shh expr/activity</u> in hair matrix

B Ki67 TUNEL MF Control Cyclopamine

Α

## human anagen hair bulb

SFRP1

**Cyclosporine A cause hypertrichosis,** inhibits catagen Hawkshaw et al. JID 2015

**Cyclosporine A also Inhibits CIA in mice** Paus et al. AJP 1994 + 1997

**Cyclosporine A suppresses SFRP1** Hawkshaw ert al. PloS Biol 2018

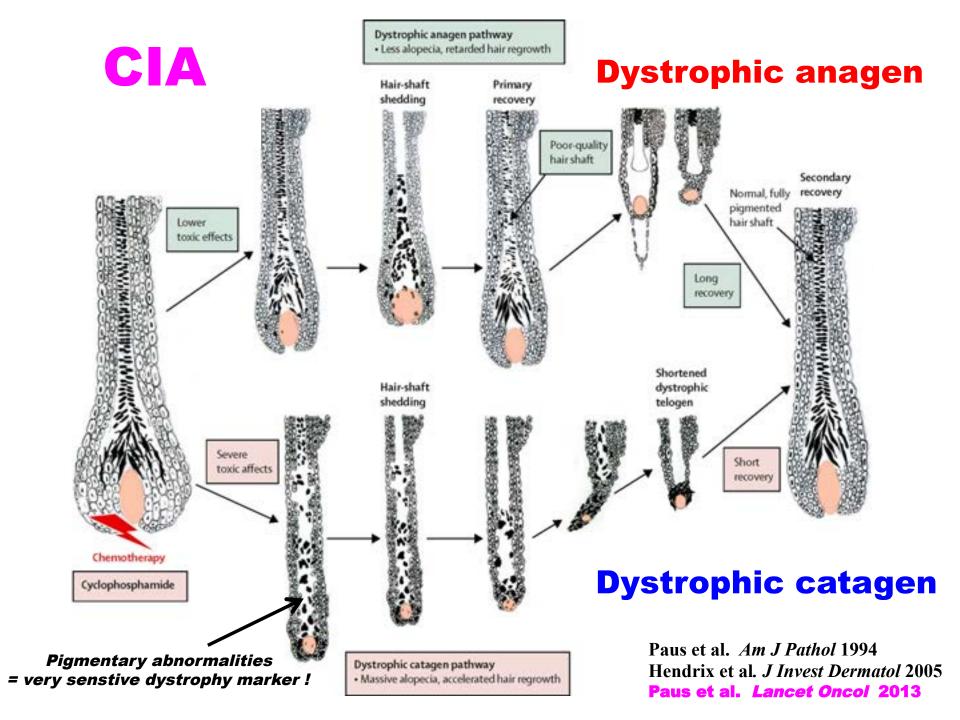
Shh  $\rightarrow$  p53  $\rightarrow$  apopto**sis** 

#### follicular dermal papilla (DP)

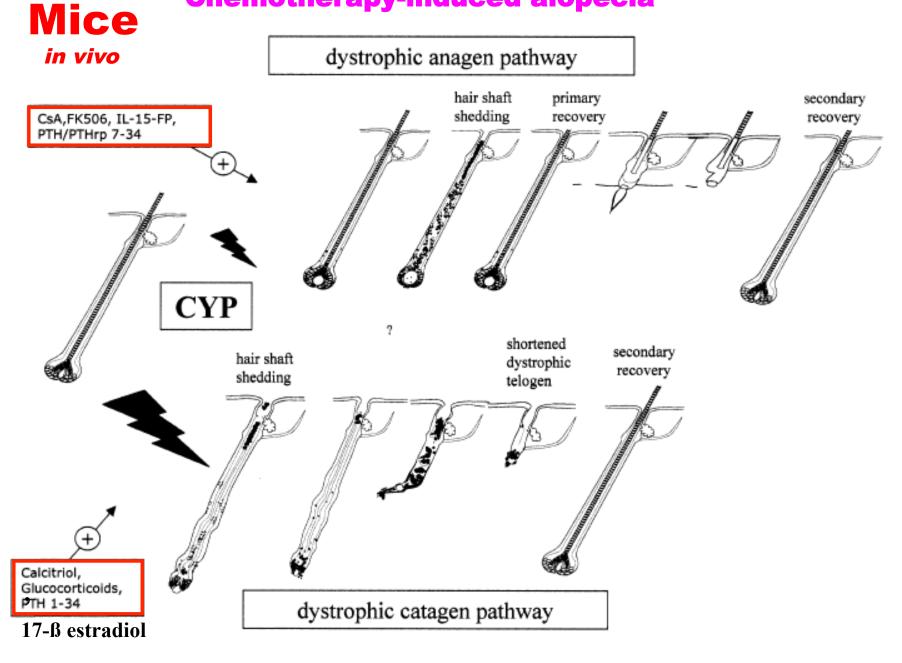
*inductive* fibroblasts

Hawkshaw et al. *PLoS Biol* 2018 → Does chemotherapy up-regulate SFRP1-secretion from the DP ?

→ WAY-316601 suppresses SFRP1



#### **Chemotherapy-induced alopecia**



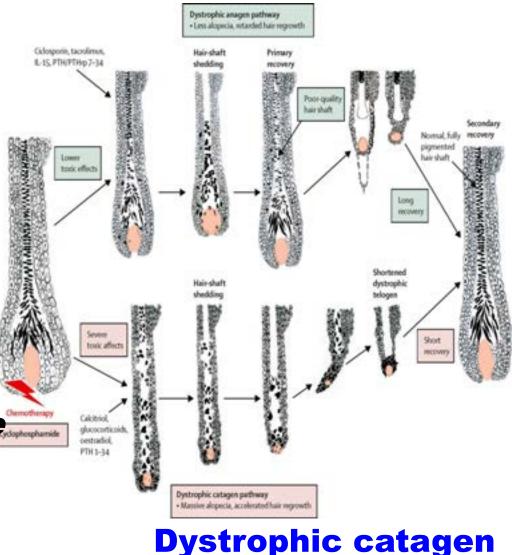


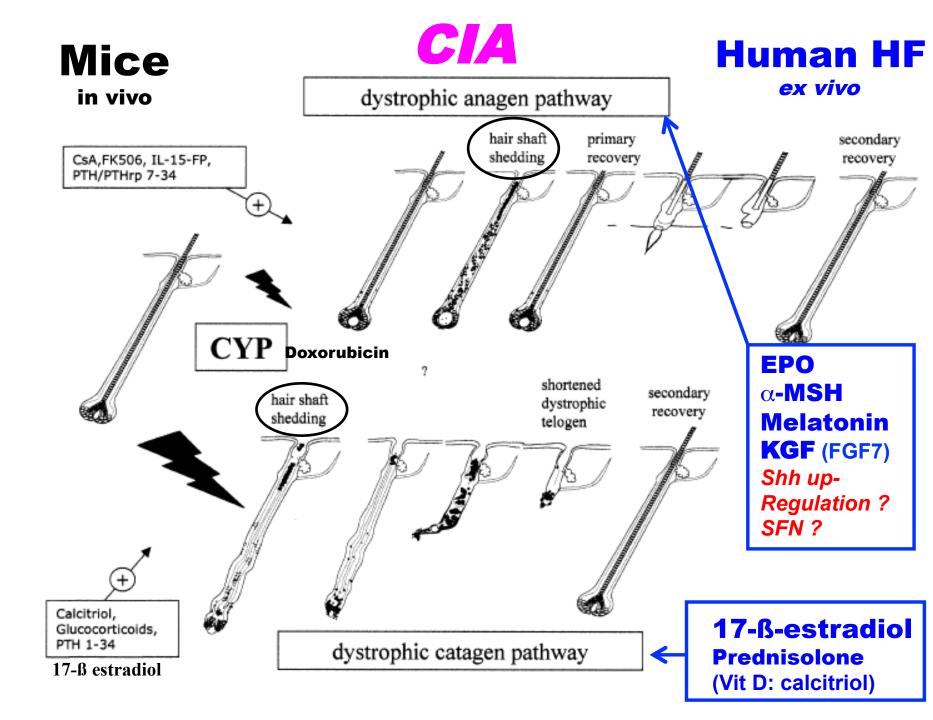
### **Dystrophic anagen**

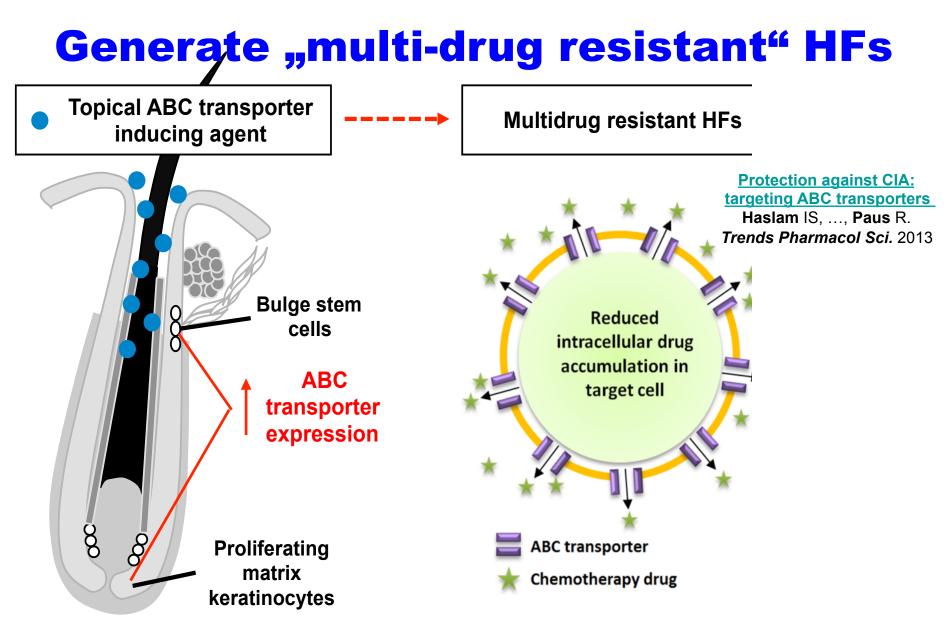
### Conundrum:

 Path to fastest & best hair recovery shows the most massive initial alopecia

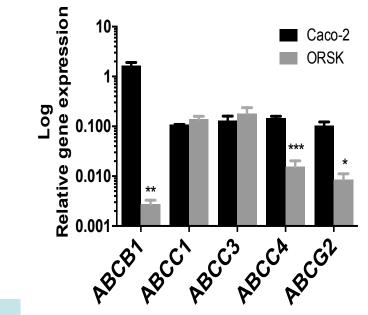
### Does it even make sense to inhibit CIA ?







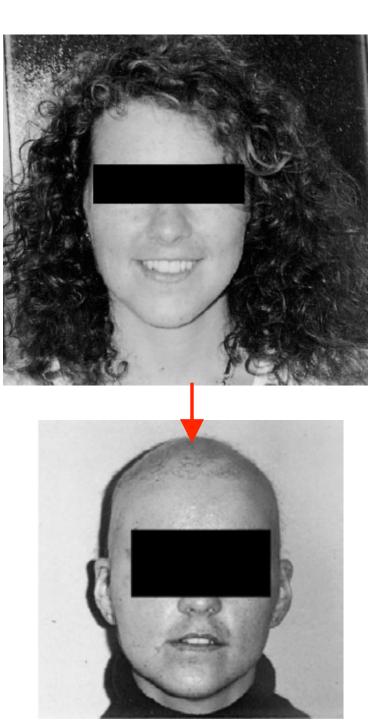
Differential expression and functionality of ATP-binding cassette transporters in the human hair follicle. Haslam IS, ..., Paus R. *Br J Dermatol.* 2015



#### Primary human HF keratinocytes (ORS Kc) express key ABCs

	Receptor	Agonist	Concentration	ABCB1	ABCC1	ABCC3	ABCC4	ABCG2
1	PPARg	Rosiglitazone	10µM	1.8±0.2	1.0±0.0	1.0±0.1	0.8±0.0	0.8±0.0
	GR	Dexamethasone	50µM	<b>2.1</b> ±0.6	1.0±0.0	1.2±0.2	1.0±0.1	1.6±0.5
	VDR	Vitamin D	0.5µM	<b>17.1</b> ±3.8	1.3±0.1	1.5±0.2	0.6±0.0	<b>2.</b> 9±0.4

Induction of ABC transporters in human ORS keratinocytes (24 h, mRNA, qRT-PCR)



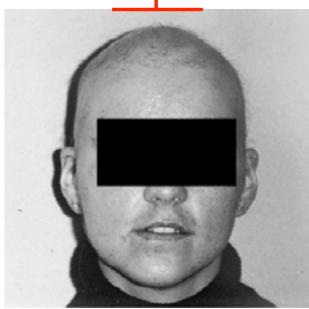
### Don't just accept this:

Do something !



Acknowledgements

- Iain Haslam
- •Zhicao Yue
- •Enikö Bodo
- •Boris Handjiski



We can & must do better than just scalp cooling e.g. *explore* 

How does scalp cooling work ???

> EPO, α-MSH Melatonin,KGF

Up-regulate HF defenses against oxidate damage Sulforaphane /Nrf2

Enhance intra-HF DNA repair & telomerase activity

> Upregulate Shh Downregulate SFRP1

Stem cell protectants Cell cycle arrest

Make HFs "multi-drug resistant"