

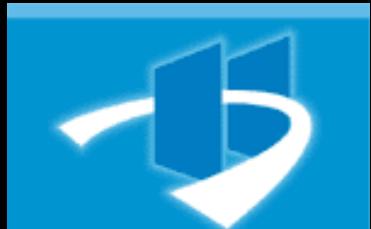


**October 26-27, 2013**  
**Omni Houston Hotel**  
**Houston, Texas**

## **Noninvasive characterization of high-risk ICAS plaque & patient**

*Juan F. Arenillas, MD, PhD*

**Stroke Unit. Department of Neurology**  
**Hospital Clínico Universitario**  
**Valladolid, Spain**



# Presenter Disclosure Information

Juan F. Arenillas, MD, PhD

Non-invasive characterization of high-risk ICAS plaque & patient

## FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE:

No disclosures to be done relevant to attendance and content of talks in 2013 SVIN Conference.

## UNLABELED/UNAPPROVED USES DISCLOSURE:

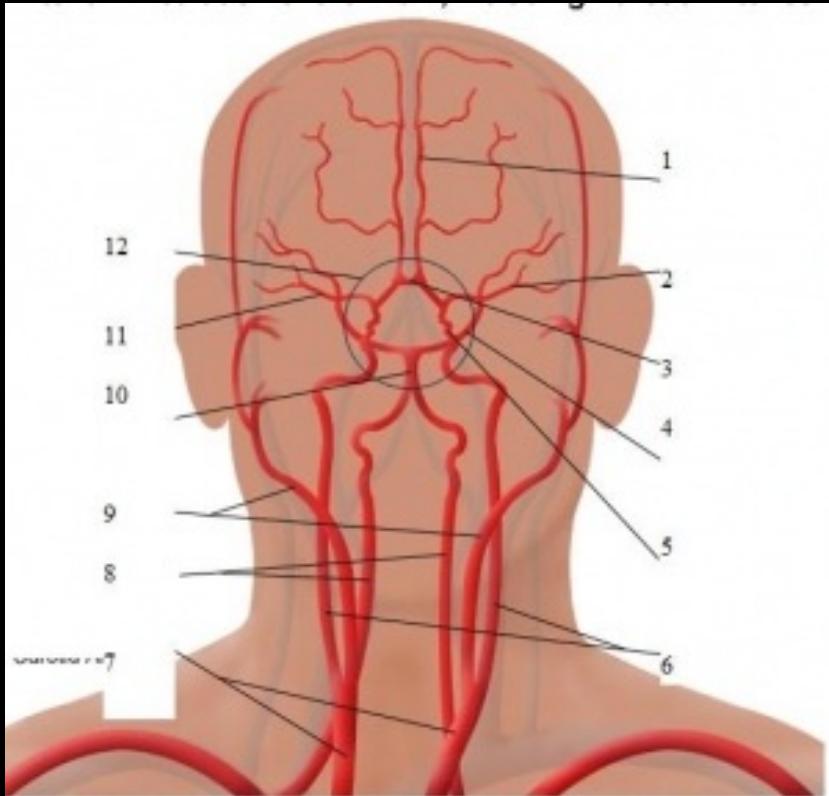
None



# Intracranial Atherosclerosis

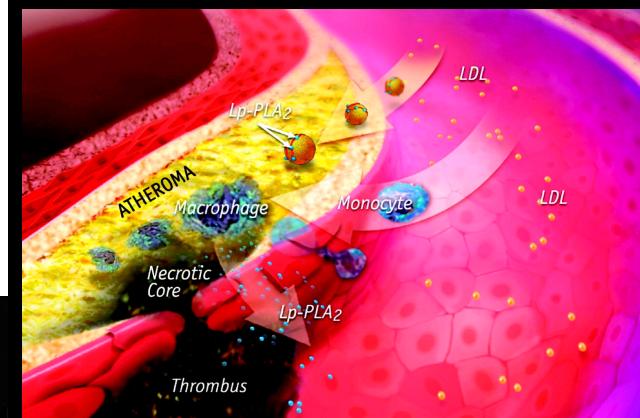
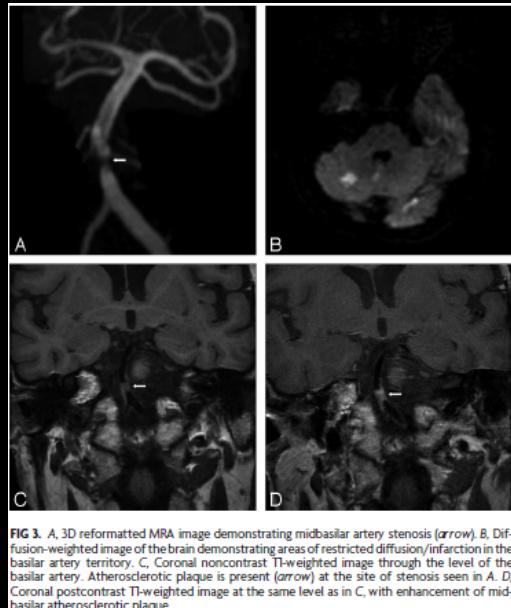


Stroke Unit  
HCU Valladolid

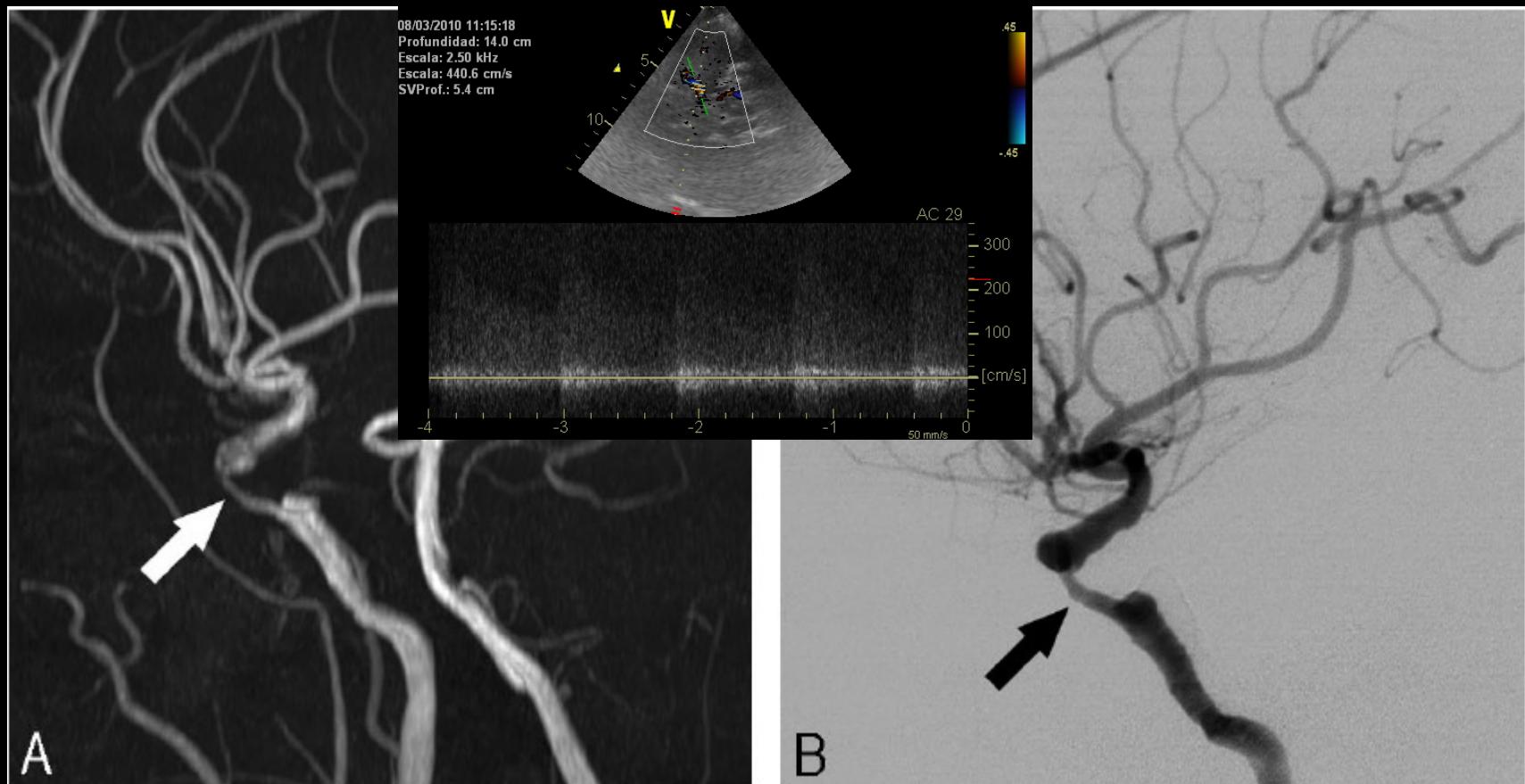


A major cause of stroke worldwide

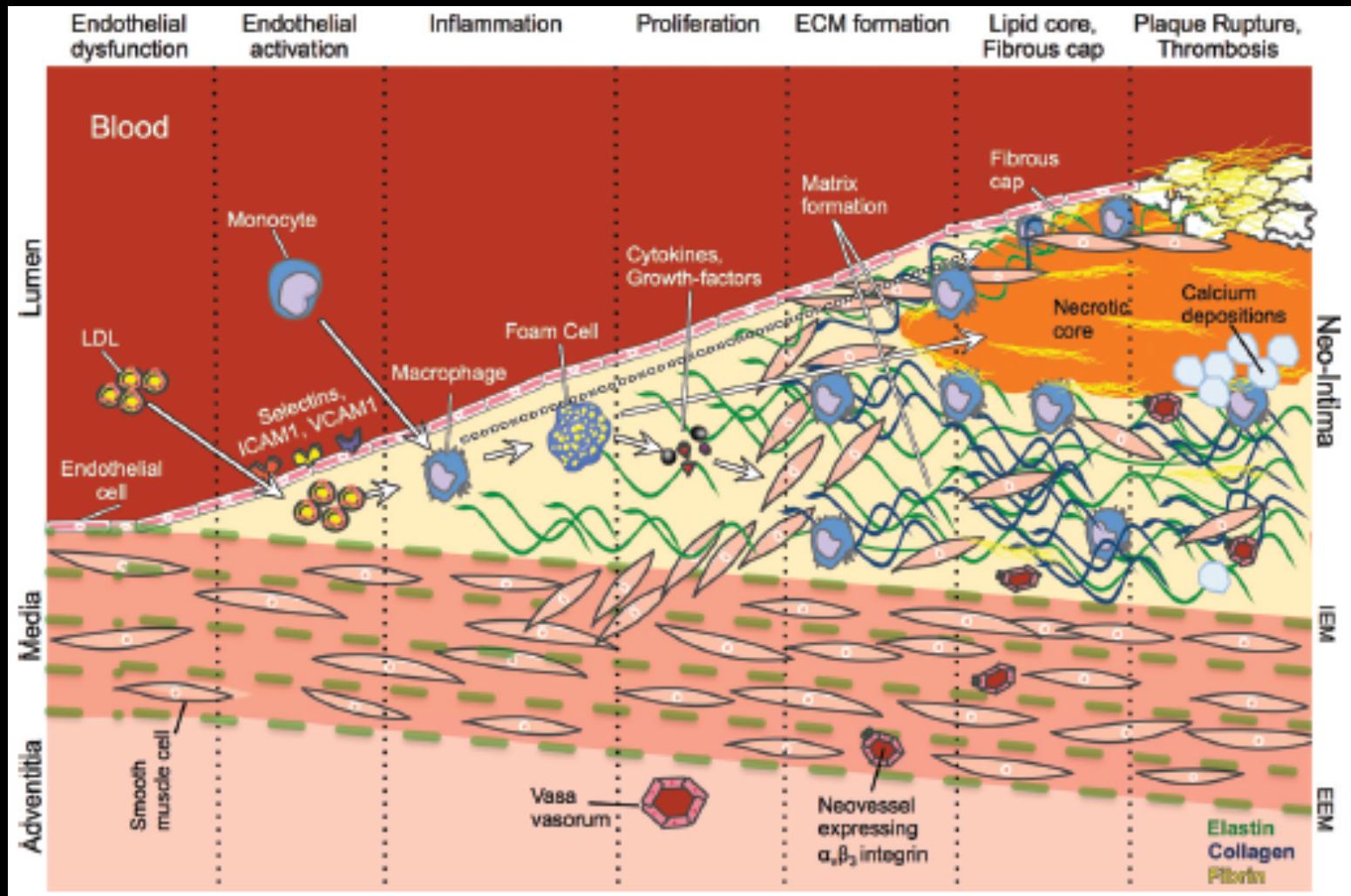
- Intracranial vulnerable plaque characterization
- Vulnerable ICAS patient characterization
- Monitoring basic processes and response to therapies



## Focus on intracranial stenosis (Angiographic & Haemodinamic)



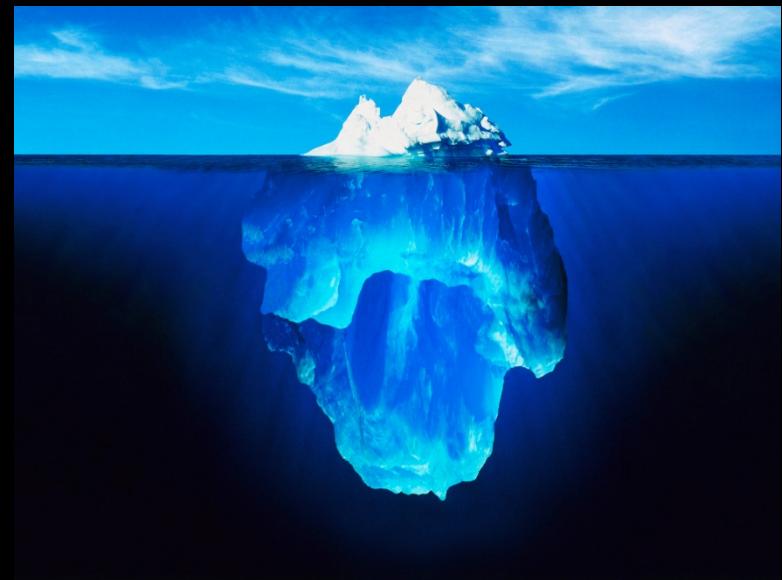
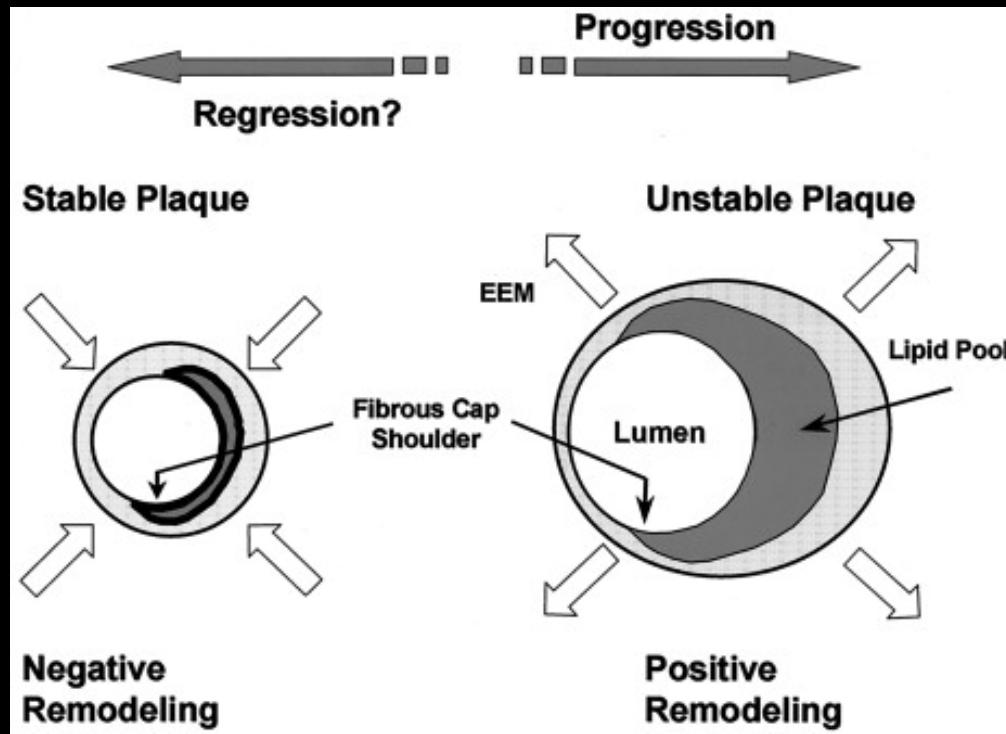
## Restricted to advanced and stenoocclusive stage



Makowski, Radiology 2013

© JF Arenillas SVIN 2013

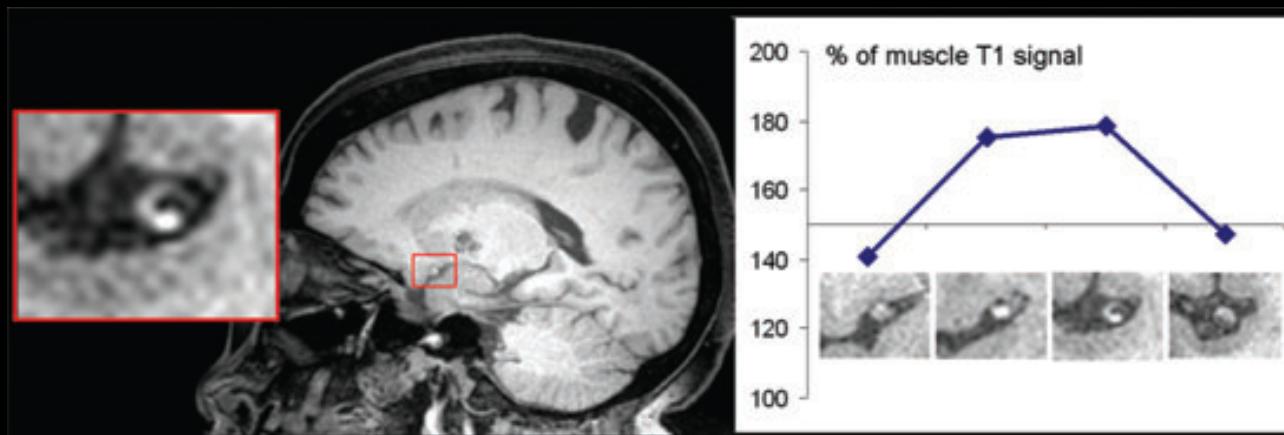
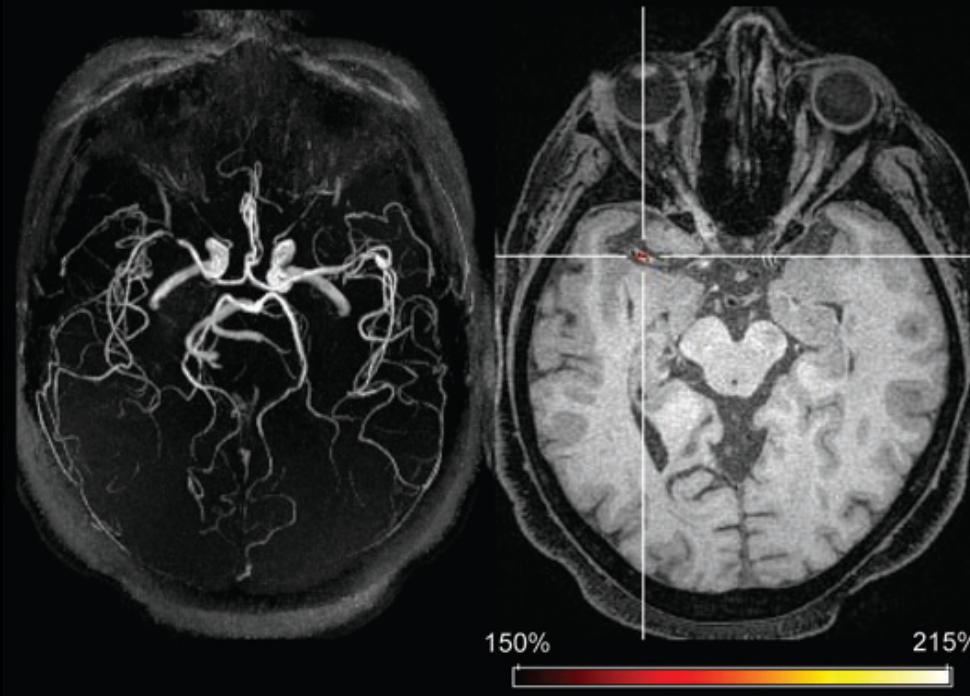
## Arterial remodelling and plaque composition



# New approach to ICAS: Plaque imaging



Stroke Unit  
HCU Valladolid

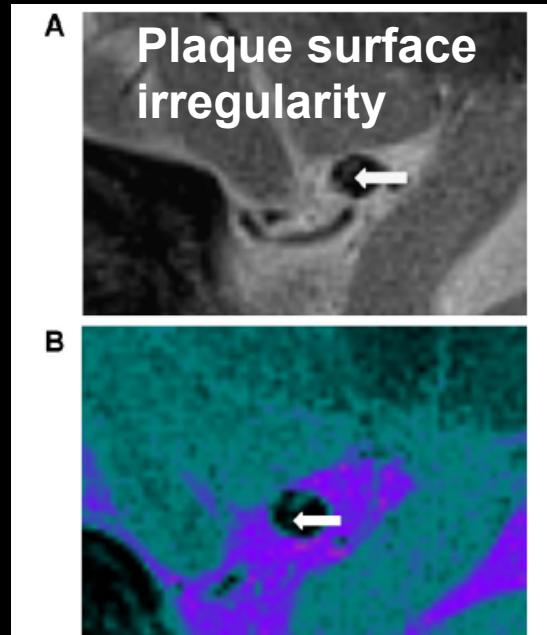
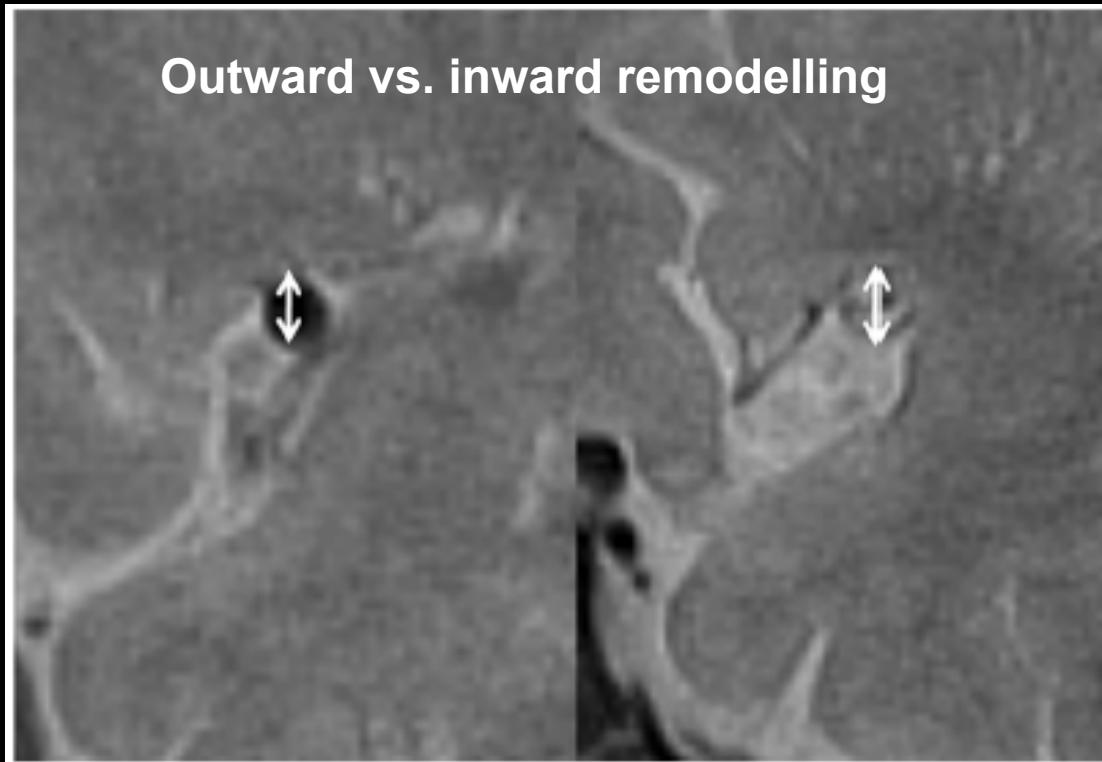


Turan et al, J Neuroimaging 2010

# Vulnerable plaque characterization



Stroke Unit  
HCU Valladolid



**Fig. 4.** Plaque surface irregularity on a color map of high resolution MRI in a 47-year-old man with multifocal infarctions of the right middle cerebral artery territory. (A) T2-weighted high resolution MR imaging shows the ill-defined plaque margin (arrow). (B) Color map imaging of T2-weighted high resolution MR shows the luminal irregularity of the plaque's inner margin, suggestive of plaque surface irregularity (arrow).

**Table 3**  
Predictors of symptomatic disease with MCA stenosis.

	Univariate regression		Multivariate regression	
	OR (95% CI)	p	OR (95% CI)	p
Degree of MCA stenosis (%)	1.07 [1.01–1.15]	0.02	1.10 [1.00–1.22]	0.04
Remodeling ratio	1.11 [1.03–1.20]	<0.001	–	–
Outward remodeling	5.50 [1.15–26.41]	0.03	–	–
Inward remodeling	0.05 [0.01–0.45]	<0.001	0.02 [0.001–0.48]	0.01
Plaque surface irregularity	9.33 [1.52–57.66]	0.008	13.06 [0.84–203.84]	0.07

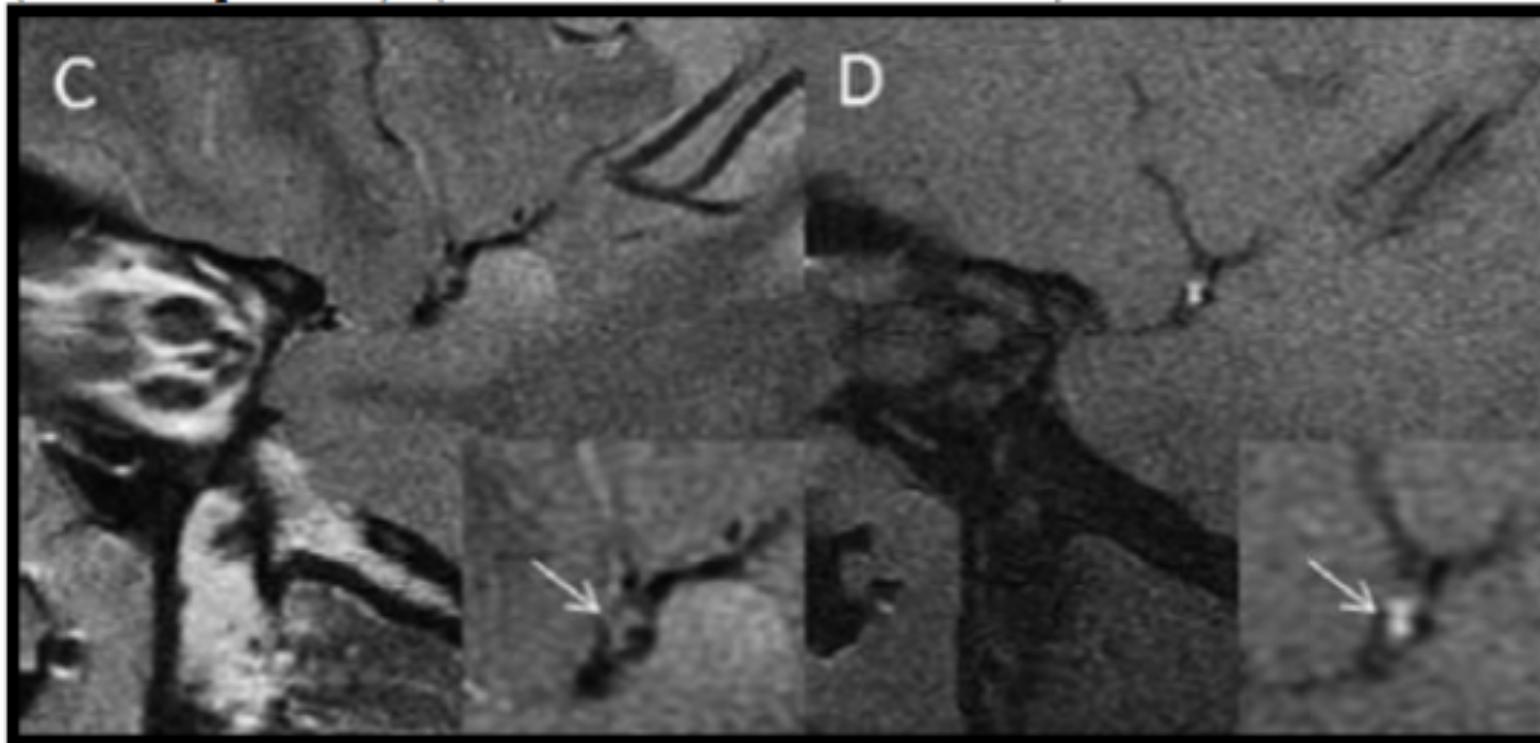
OR = odds ratio; CI = confidence interval; MCA = middle cerebral artery. The univariate columns show results for each variable fit separately while the multivariate columns show results from a single model fitting all variables simultaneously.

# Vulnerable plaque characterization



Stroke Unit  
HCU Valladolid

Sagittal T2 (panel C) and T1-weighted fat-suppressed (panel D) imaging of symptomatic MCA. Lower right corner shows central region magnified. IPH is defined as bright signal on T1 fat-suppressed images (arrow in panel D). (Xu et al, Annals Neuro 2012)

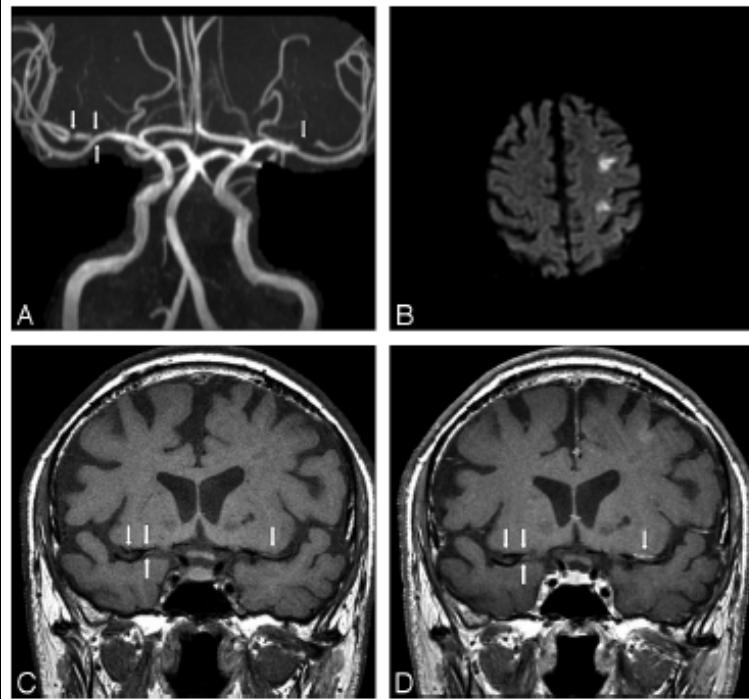


Intraplaque hemorrhage more frequent in symptomatic MCA plaques (19.6% vs 3.2%)

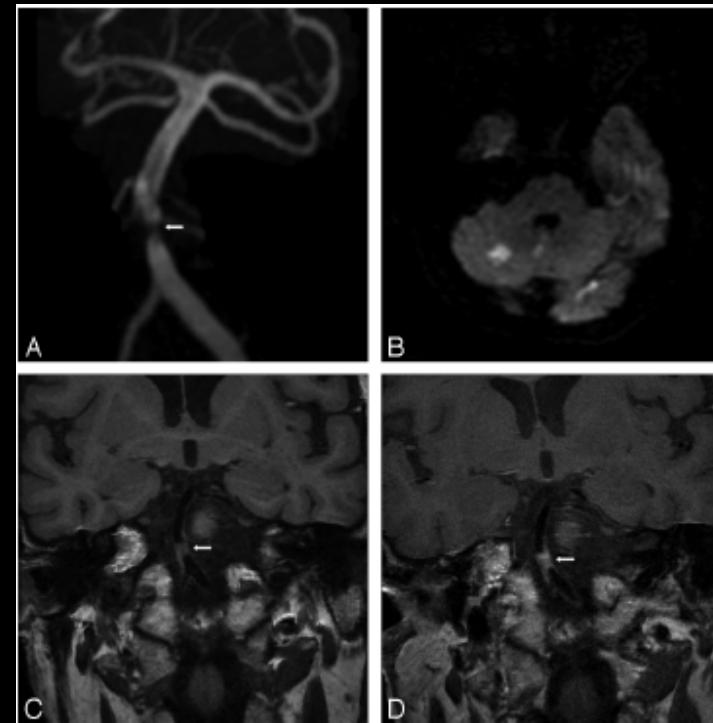
## Intracranial Atherosclerotic Plaque Enhancement in Patients with Ischemic Stroke

M. Skarpagiotakis, D.M. Mandell, R.H. Swartz, G. Tomlinson, and D.J. Mikulis

AJNR Am J Neuroradiol 34:299–304 Feb 2013



**FIG 1.** A, 3D reformatted MRA image demonstrating bilateral MCA stenoses (arrows). B, Diffusion-weighted image of the brain demonstrating areas of restricted diffusion/infarction in the left MCA territory. C, Coronal noncontrast T1-weighted image through the level of the MCAs. Atherosclerotic plaque is present in both the right MCA and left MCA (arrows) at the site of stenoses seen in A. D, Coronal postcontrast T1-weighted image at the same level as in C, with enhancement of the left MCA atherosclerotic plaque but not of the plaques on the right.



**FIG 3.** A, 3D reformatted MRA image demonstrating midbasilar artery stenosis (arrow). B, Diffusion-weighted image of the brain demonstrating areas of restricted diffusion/infarction in the basilar artery territory. C, Coronal noncontrast T1-weighted image through the level of the basilar artery. Atherosclerotic plaque is present (arrow) at the site of stenosis seen in A. D, Coronal postcontrast T1-weighted image at the same level as in C, with enhancement of midbasilar atherosclerotic plaque.

## Intracranial-Derived Atherosclerosis Assessment: An In Vitro Comparison between Virtual Histology by Intravascular Ultrasonography, 7T MRI, and Histopathologic Findings

S. Majidi, J. Sein, M. Watanabe, A.E. Hassan, P.-F. Van de Moortele, M.F.K. Suri, H.B. Clark, and A.I. Qureshi

AJNR 2013

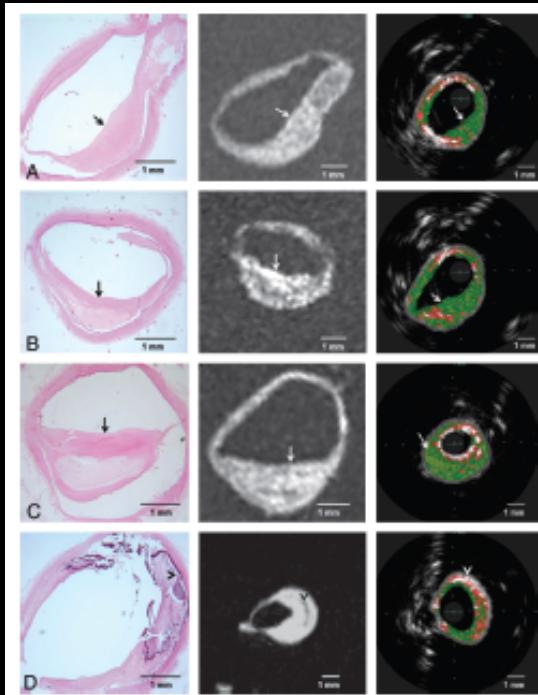


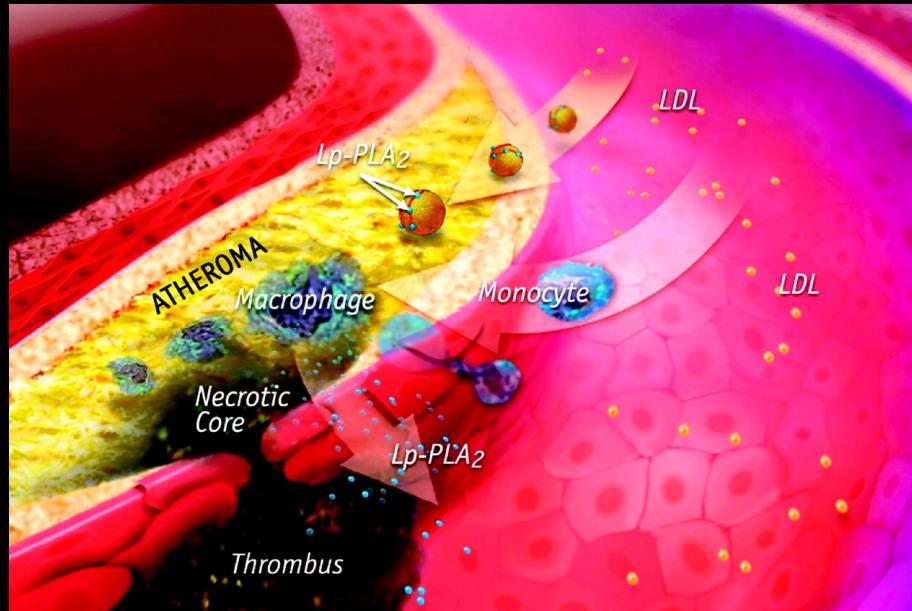
FIG 3. Four different histopathologic sections of intracranial vessels with atherosclerotic plaque and their corresponding 3D SPACE MR imaging (in the middle) and VH-IVUS (on the right) images. Fibrous areas (arrow) and attenuated calcium (arrowheads) consistently visualized as areas with hyperintense and hypointense signals in MR imaging, respectively.

Very good  
identifying  
presence of plaque

Still limitations  
regarding plaque  
components

## In vivo monitoring of basic mechanisms and molecular pathways determining high-risk ICAS

- Inflammatory infiltration, Thrombogenic potential
- Response to therapies: Plaque stabilization and regression
- Development of collateral circulation (Angiogenesis, Arteriogenesis)





## C-Reactive Protein Predicts Further Ischemic Events in First-Ever Transient Ischemic Attack or Stroke Patients With Intracranial Large-Artery Occlusive Disease

Juan F. Arenillas, MD; José Álvarez-Sabín, MD, PhD; Carlos A. Molina, MD, PhD; Pilar Chacón, MD, PhD;  
Joan Montaner, MD, PhD; Álex Rovira, MD; Bernardo Ibarra, MD; Manuel Quintana

**Stroke 2003**

## Progression of Symptomatic Intracranial Large Artery Atherosclerosis Is Associated With a Proinflammatory State and Impaired Fibrinolysis

Juan F. Arenillas, MD, PhD; José Álvarez-Sabín, MD, PhD; Carlos A. Molina, MD, PhD;  
Pilar Chacón, MD, PhD; Israel Fernández-Cadenas, PhD; Marc Ribó, MD, PhD;  
Pilar Delgado, MD, PhD; Marta Rubiera MD, PhD; Anna Penalba;  
Alex Rovira, MD; Joan Montaner, MD, PhD

**Stroke 2008**

## Association between Inflammatory Biomarkers and Progression of Intracranial Large Artery Stenosis after Ischemic Stroke

Kanako Shimizu, MD, Kana Shimomura, MD, Yoshiaki Tokuyama, MD,  
Kenzo Sakurai, MD, PhD, Kenji Isahaya, MD, PhD, Satoshi Takaishi, MD, PhD,  
Bunta Kato, MD, PhD, Noriko Usuki, MD, Takahiro Shimizu, MD,  
Koji Yamada, MD, PhD, and Yasuhiro Hasegawa, MD, PhD

*Journal of Stroke and Cerebrovascular Diseases*, Vol. 22, No. 3 (April), 2013: pp 211-217



## BIOSIS

### Biomarkers of Ischemic Outcomes in Symptomatic Intracranial Stenosis

NIH Grant# 1 R01 NS064162

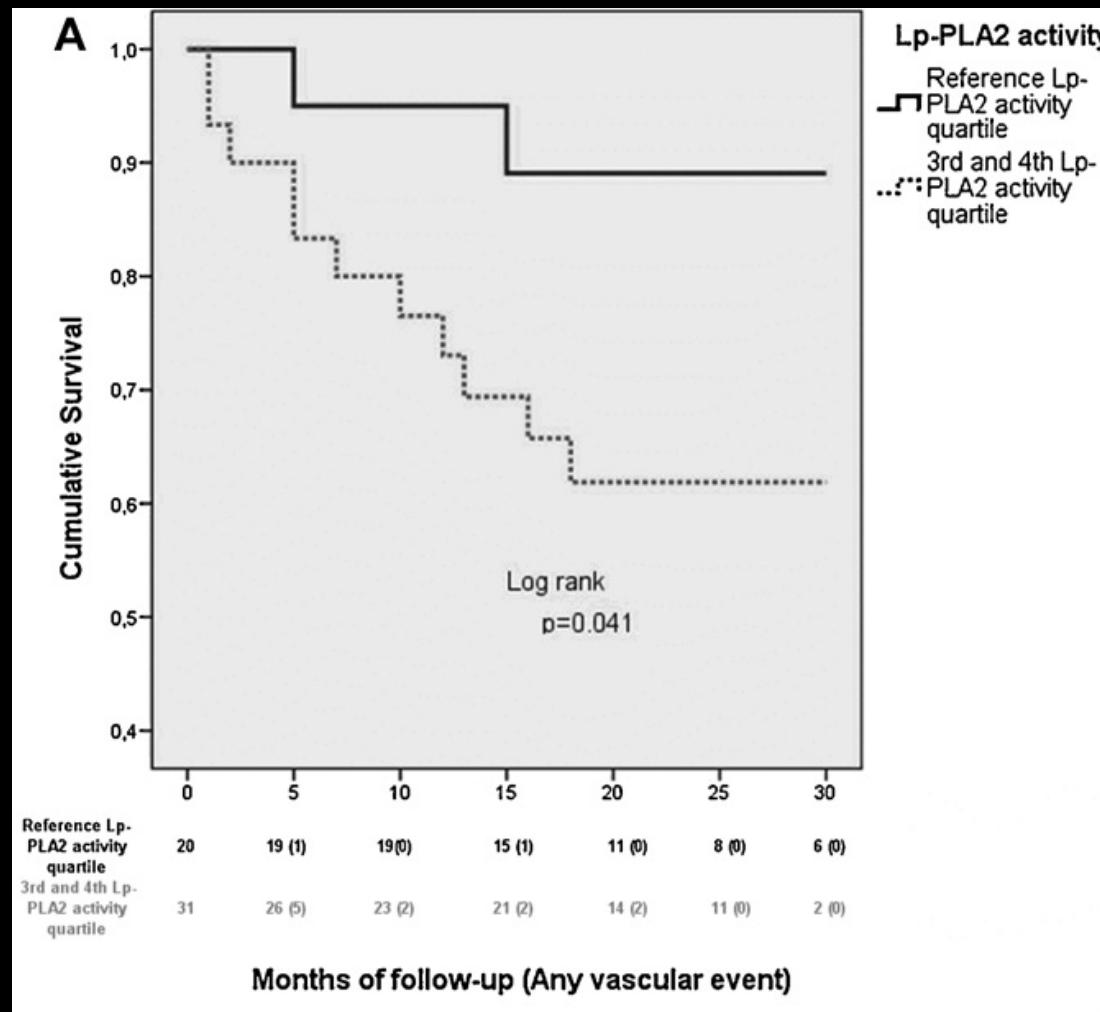
PI: Michael Frankel, MD

Institution: Emory University

# Biomarkers: Inflammation LpPLA2



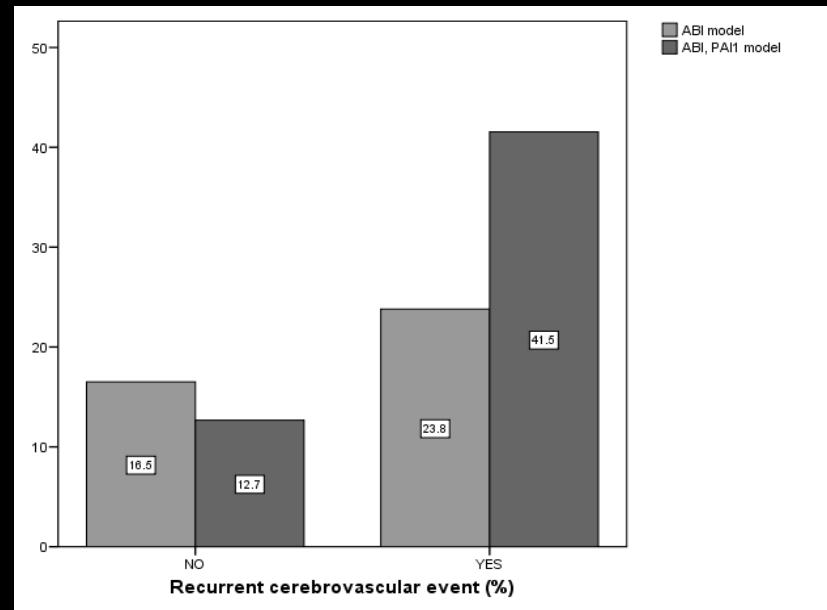
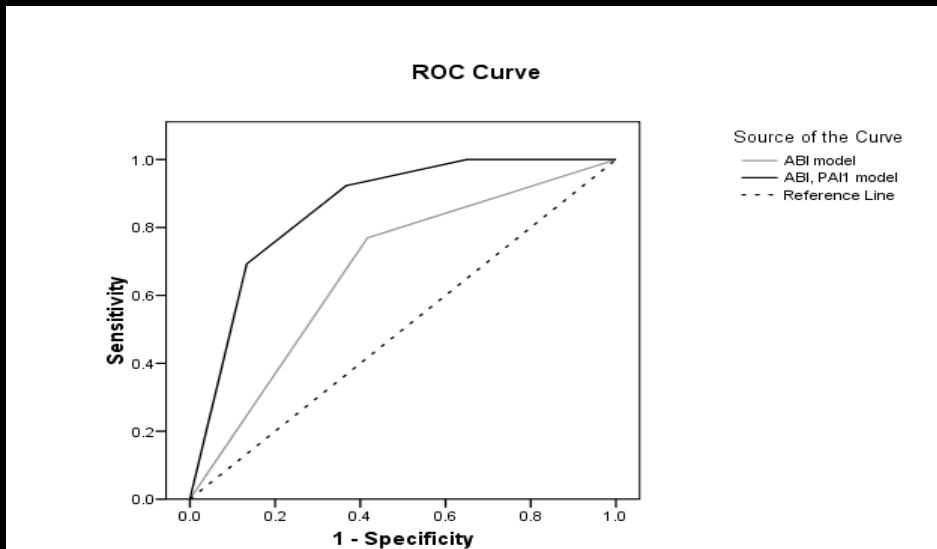
Stroke Unit  
HCU Valladolid



N= 75

18 recurrent events  
(10 ischemic stroke)

Massot A, Vall d'Hebron ICAS investigators, *Atherosclerosis* 2011

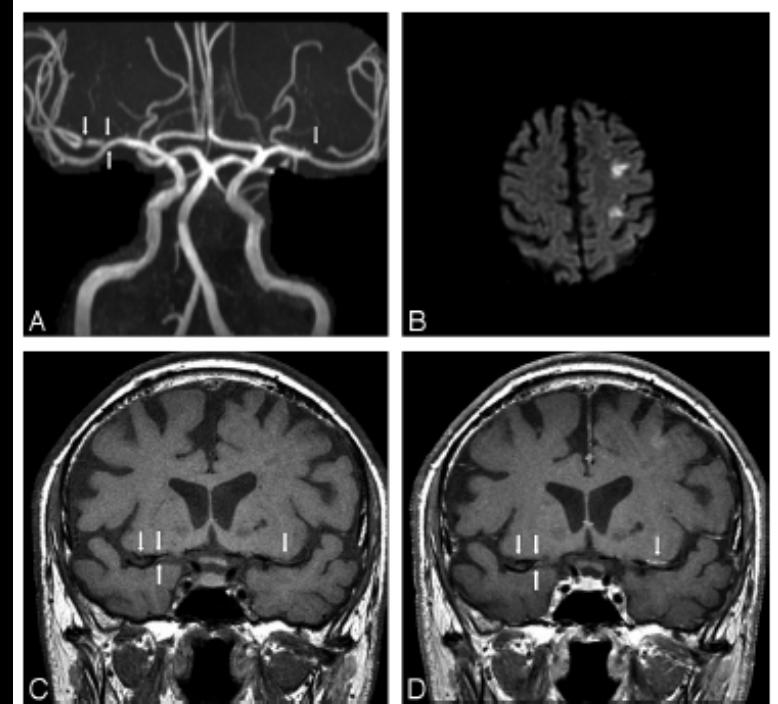
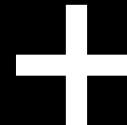
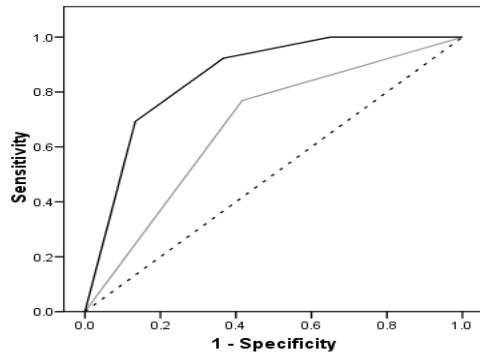


**Predictive value of ankle-brachial index and PAI-1 in symptomatic intracranial atherosclerotic disease recurrence (new ischemic stroke)**

Massot A, Arenillas J et al, under review



ROC Curve



## Omics approach

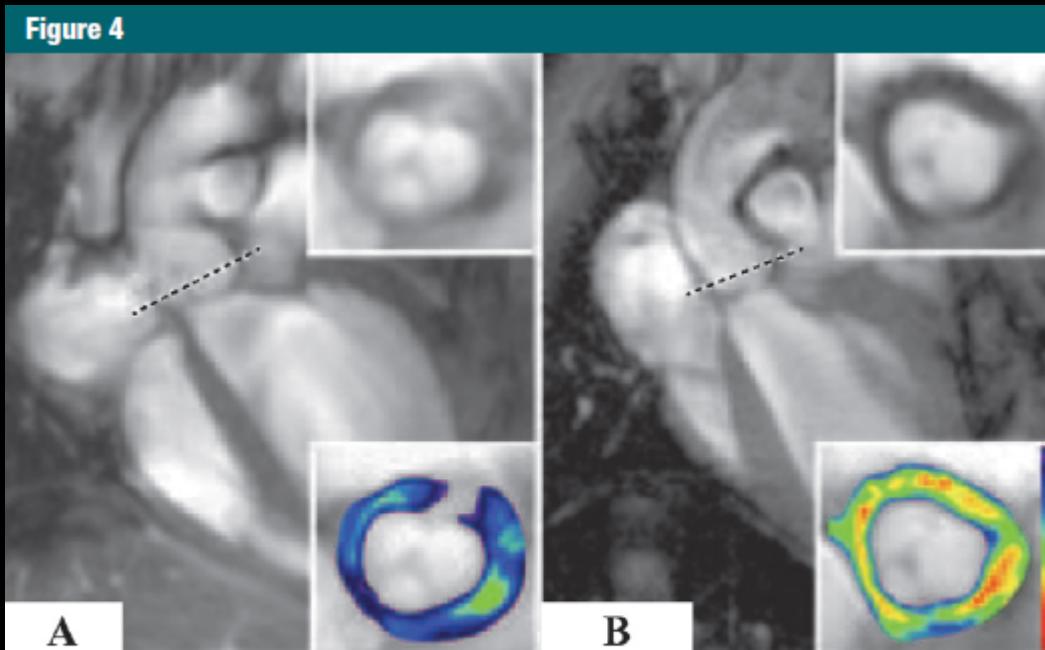
Refine statistical analysis to improve predictive power

# Next step: Molecular imaging in ICAS



Stroke Unit  
HCU Valladolid

Figure 4



**Figure 4:** In vivo imaging of atherosclerotic inflammation by using a specific marker for VCAM-1 (VINP-28) performed in the aortic root of apolipoprotein E-knockout mice prior to, *A*, and after, *B*, administration of VINP-28. Considerable decrease in signal intensity is seen on the transverse MR images (repetition time, 7.0–8.0 msec; echo time, 2.7 and 4.7 msec) of the aortic root wall (grayscale insets). The contrast-to-noise ratio is significantly increased after the administration of the probe (color insets), demonstrating noninvasive imaging of VCAM-1-expression on endothelial cells and macrophages of atherosclerotic vessel segments. (Adapted and adapted, with permission, from reference 53.)

## Following coronary & carotid literature

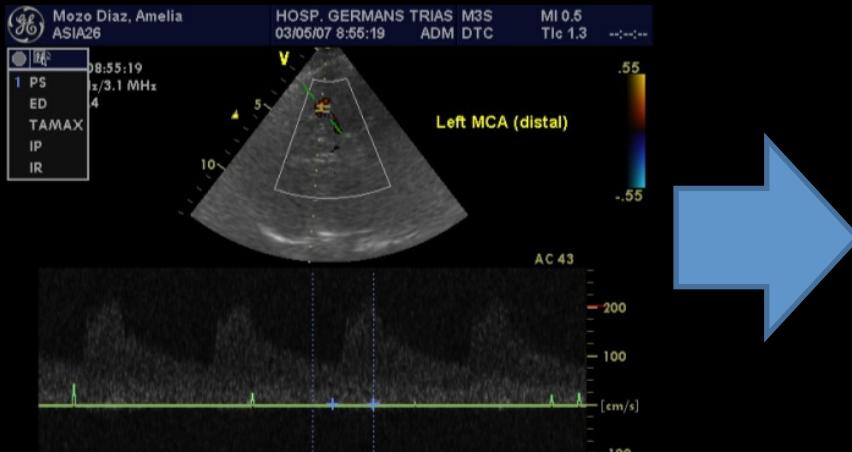
Makowski et al, Radiology 2013

# Conclusion

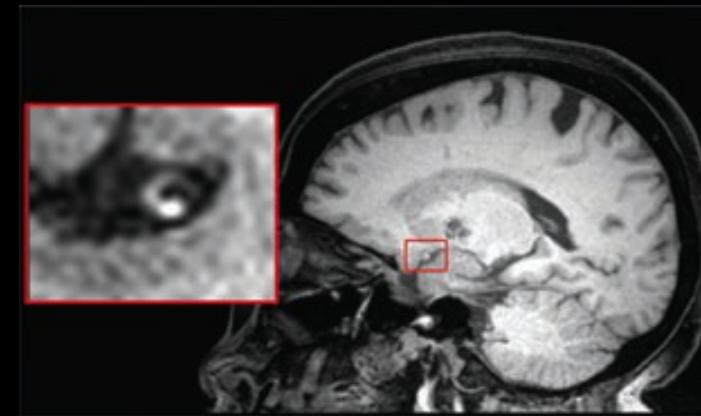


Stroke Unit  
HCU Valladolid

- Noninvasive identification of high-risk ICAS plaque & patient as a main research priority
- HRMIR shows first evidence of differential ultrastructural characteristics of symptomatic intracranial ath plaque in vivo
- Biomarker studies suggest involvement of inflammation and PAI-1, further studies needed



Intracranial stenosis



Intracranial ath PLAQUE

# STROKE PROGRAM HCU VALLADOLID



@ArenillasJF



GRACIAS

# **GRACIAS**

## **Stroke Unit**

**Ana I Calleja  
Elisa Cortijo  
Juan F. Arenillas  
Javier Reyes  
Rosa Alcaide  
Edita Sánchez**

**Residents &  
Neurology staff**



## **INR Unit**

**Mario Martínez-Galdámez  
Pablo García Bermejo  
Santiago Pérez Fernández  
Eduardo Crespo  
Enfermería NRI**