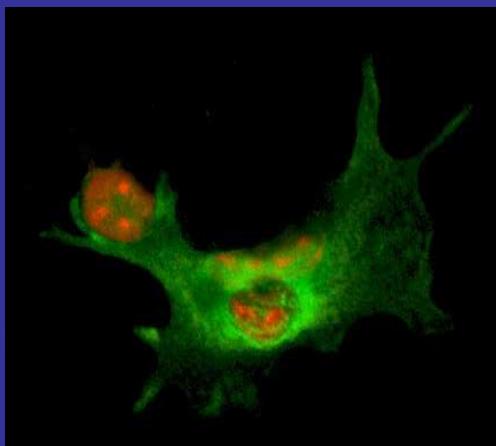


# Dendritic cells: Master switches of immunity



**Prof. Dr. Diana Dudziak**  
Laboratory of Dendritic Cell Biology,  
Department of Dermatology, Erlangen, Germany

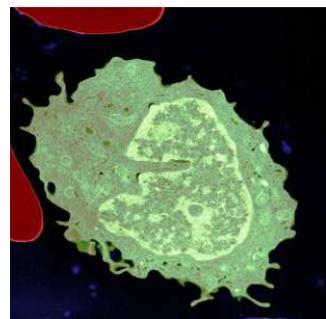
[diana.dudziak@uk-erlangen.de](mailto:diana.dudziak@uk-erlangen.de)



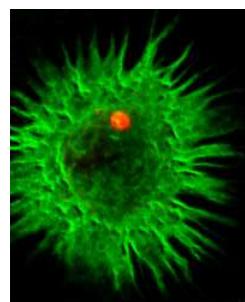
**Universitätsklinikum  
Erlangen**

**FAU**  
FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER  
UNIVERSITÄT  
ERLANGEN-NÜRNBERG  
MEDIZINISCHE FAKULTÄT

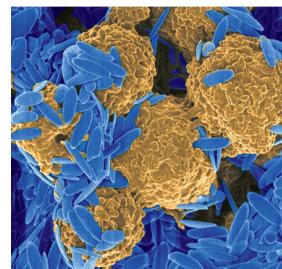
## Antigen presenting cells



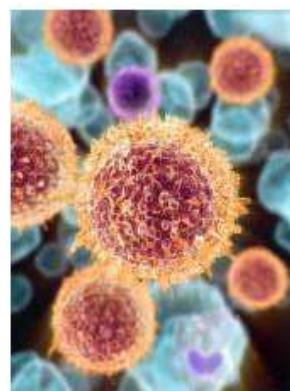
Monocytes



Dendritic cells

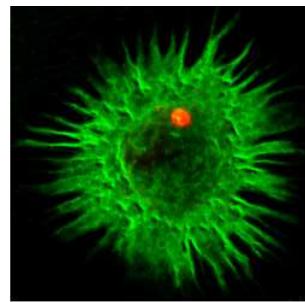


Makrophages



B cells

## Dendritic cells (DCs)

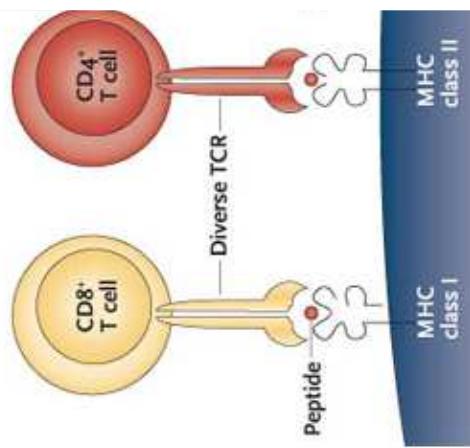


- tree like cytoplasm extensions (lat. *dendritus*)
- 1868 discovery of Langerhans' cells in skin
- functional discovery of DCs by Ralph M. Steinman, 1973 (Nobel prize, 2011)
- very important antigen presenting cells
- bridge innate and acquired immunity

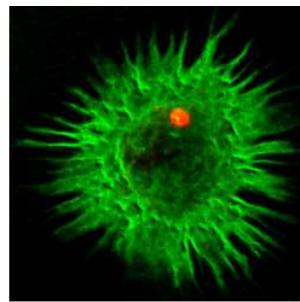


## Dendritic cells (DCs)

- tree like cytoplasm extensions (lat. *dendriticus*)
- 1868 discovery of Langerhans' cells in skin
- functional discovery of DCs by Ralph M. Steinman, 1973 (Nobel prize, 2011)
- very important antigen presenting cells
- bridge innate and acquired immunity
- needed for initiation of CD4 and CD8 T cell responses
- but also needed for maintenance of peripheral tolerance

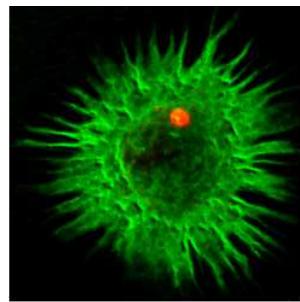


## Dendritic cells (DCs)



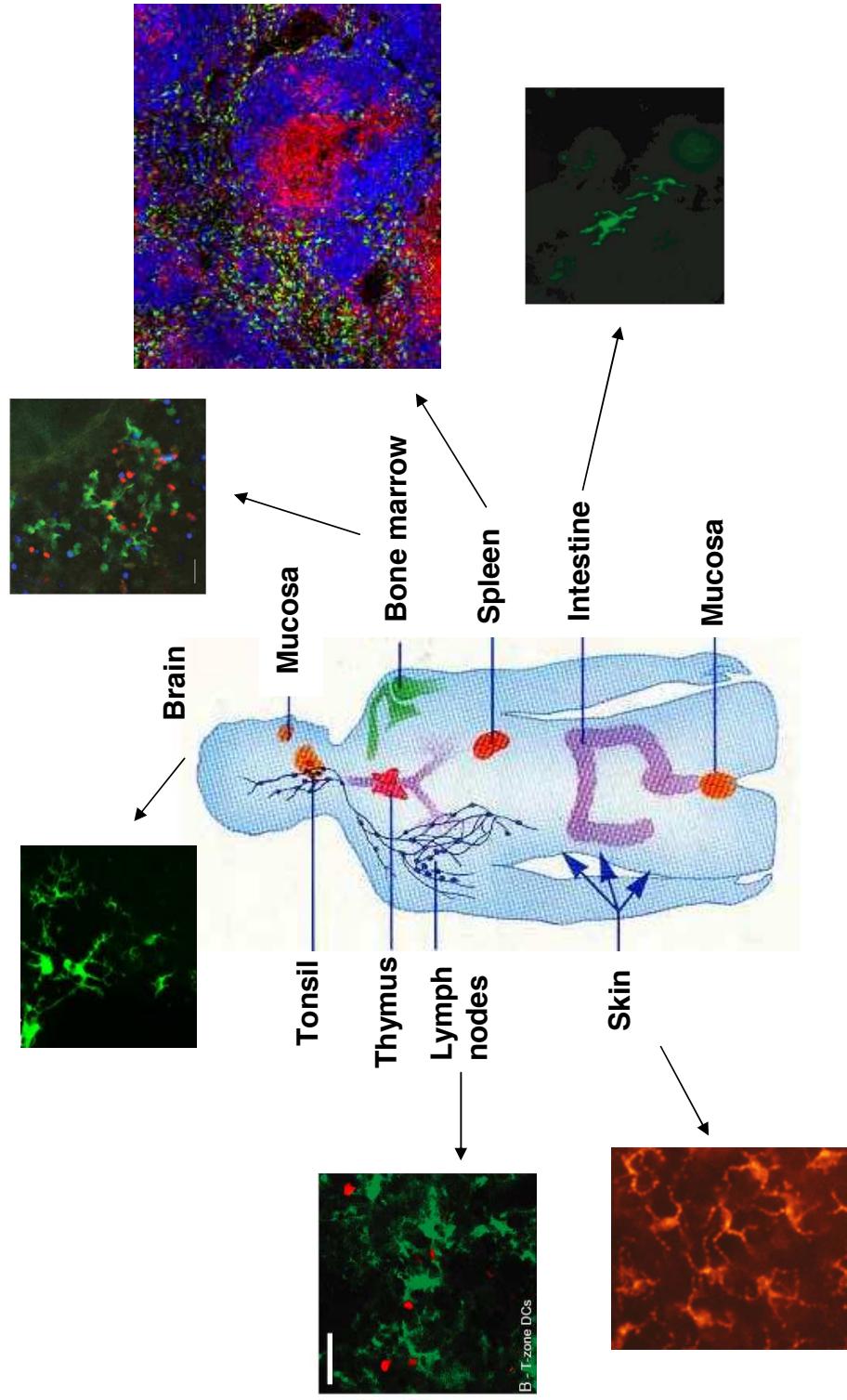
1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and antigen processing
3. DC maturation and migration
4. Antigen presentation
5. T cell activation
6. What makes DCs so complicated?

## Dendritic cells (DCs)

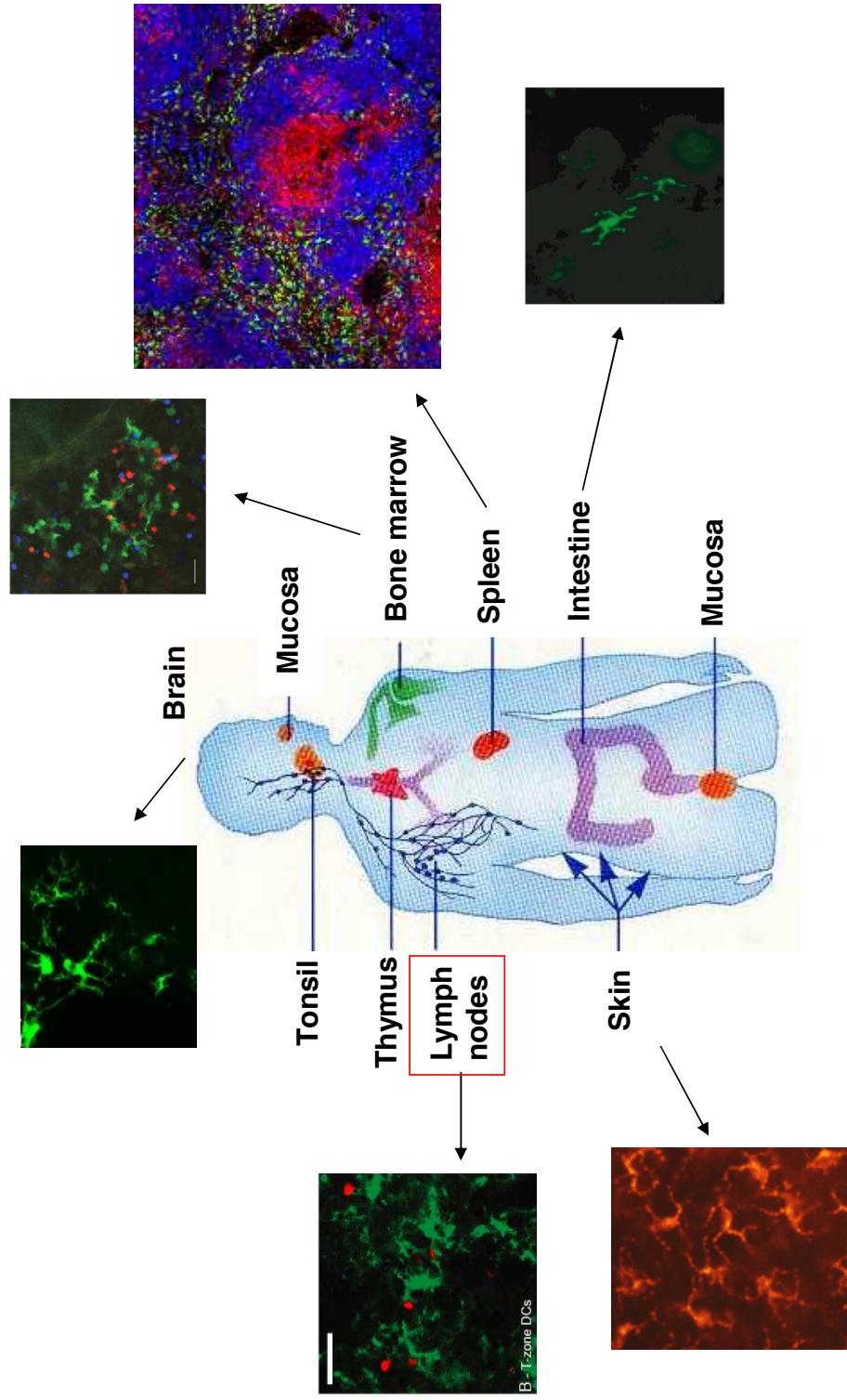


1. Localization
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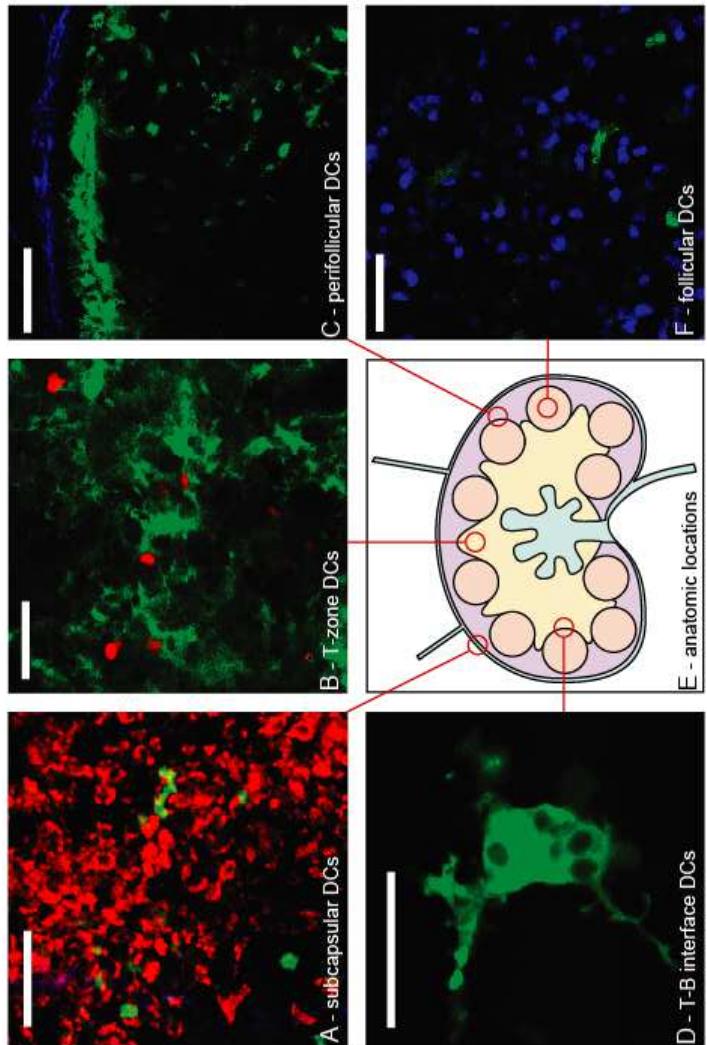
## Localization of dendritic cells



## Localization of dendritic cells



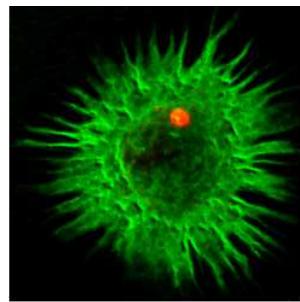
## Differential localization and activity of dendritic cells in lymph nodes



Velocity: B Zone > Subcapsular DCs > Perifollicular > T Zone

Lindquist et al., Nat. Immunol. (2004); Shakhar et al., 2005

## Dendritic cells (DCs)

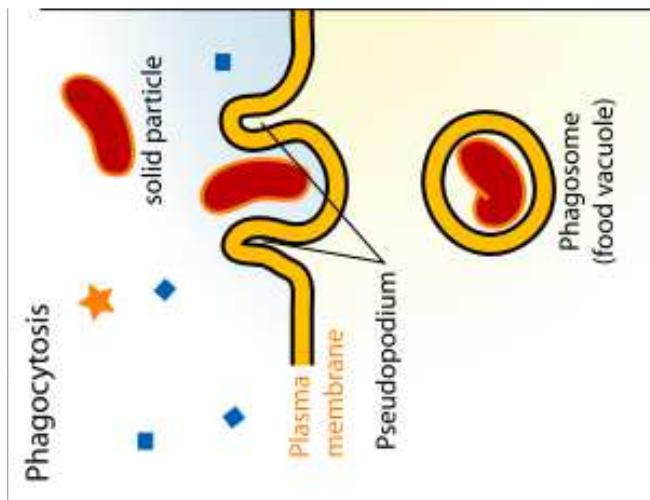


1. Localization
2. **Antigen uptake** and antigen processing  
(classical / alternative processing)
3. DC maturation and migration
4. Antigen presentation
5. T cell activation
6. What makes DCs so complicated?

## **Antigens**

- bacterial proteins
- viral proteins
- tumor material
- apoptotic/necrotic material
- immune complexes (IgG-antigen)
  
- lipids

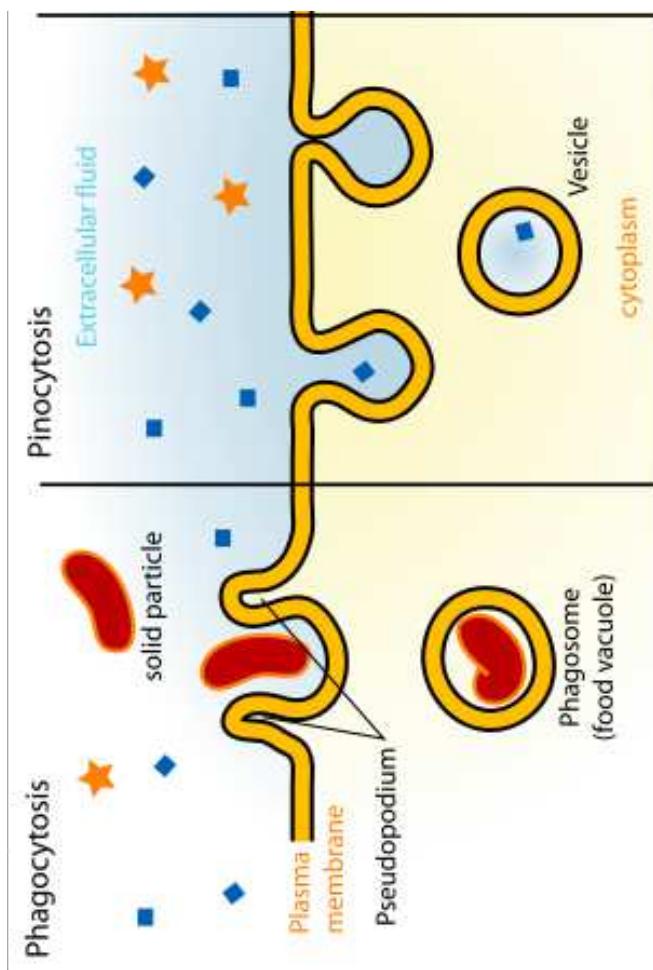
## Antigen uptake



### Phagocytosis:

- Particle ( $> \varnothing 1 \mu m$ )
- membrane extrusions (pseudopod extension),
- Actin assembling (CDC42, Rac)

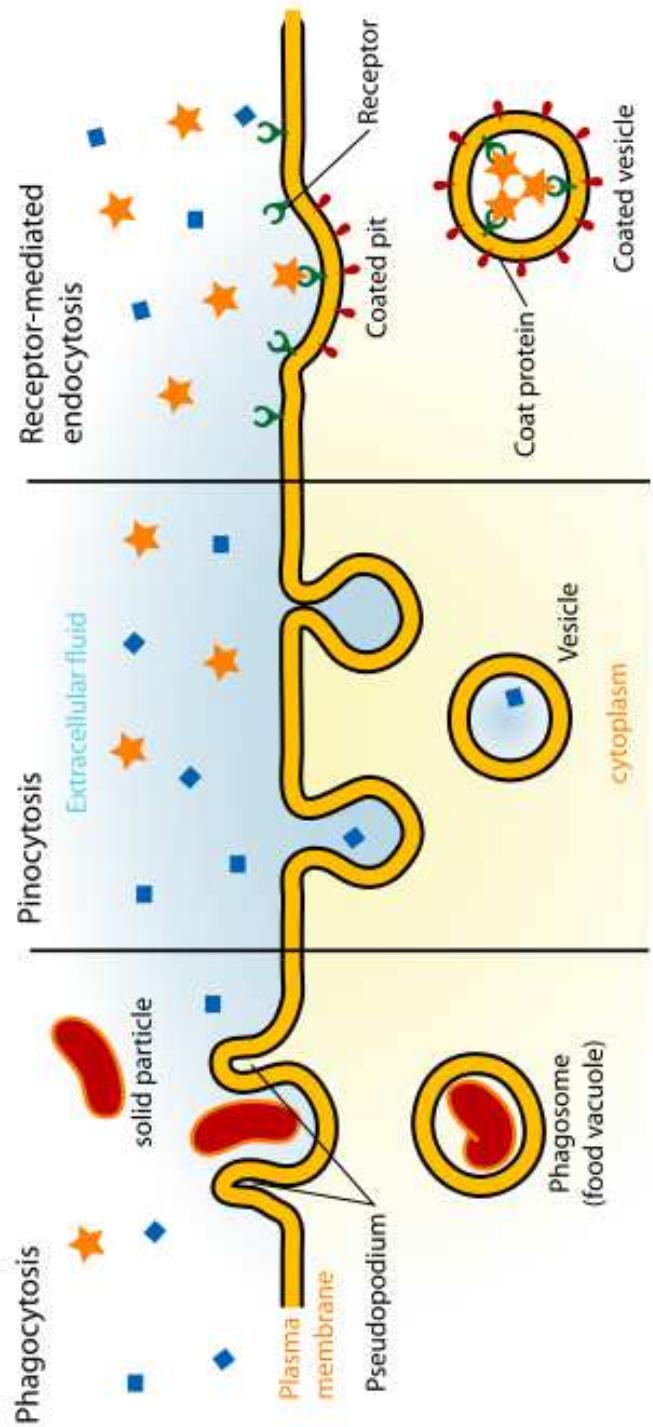
## Antigen uptake



### Macropinocytosis:

- constitutive process
- actin-mediated membrane invagination
- uptake of extracellular fluids and soluble antigens

# Antigen uptake

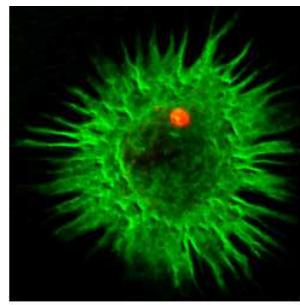


## Receptor-mediated endocytosis:

- uptake into clathrin-coated vesicles
- 'coated pits'
- function of caveolin-coated vesicles unknown

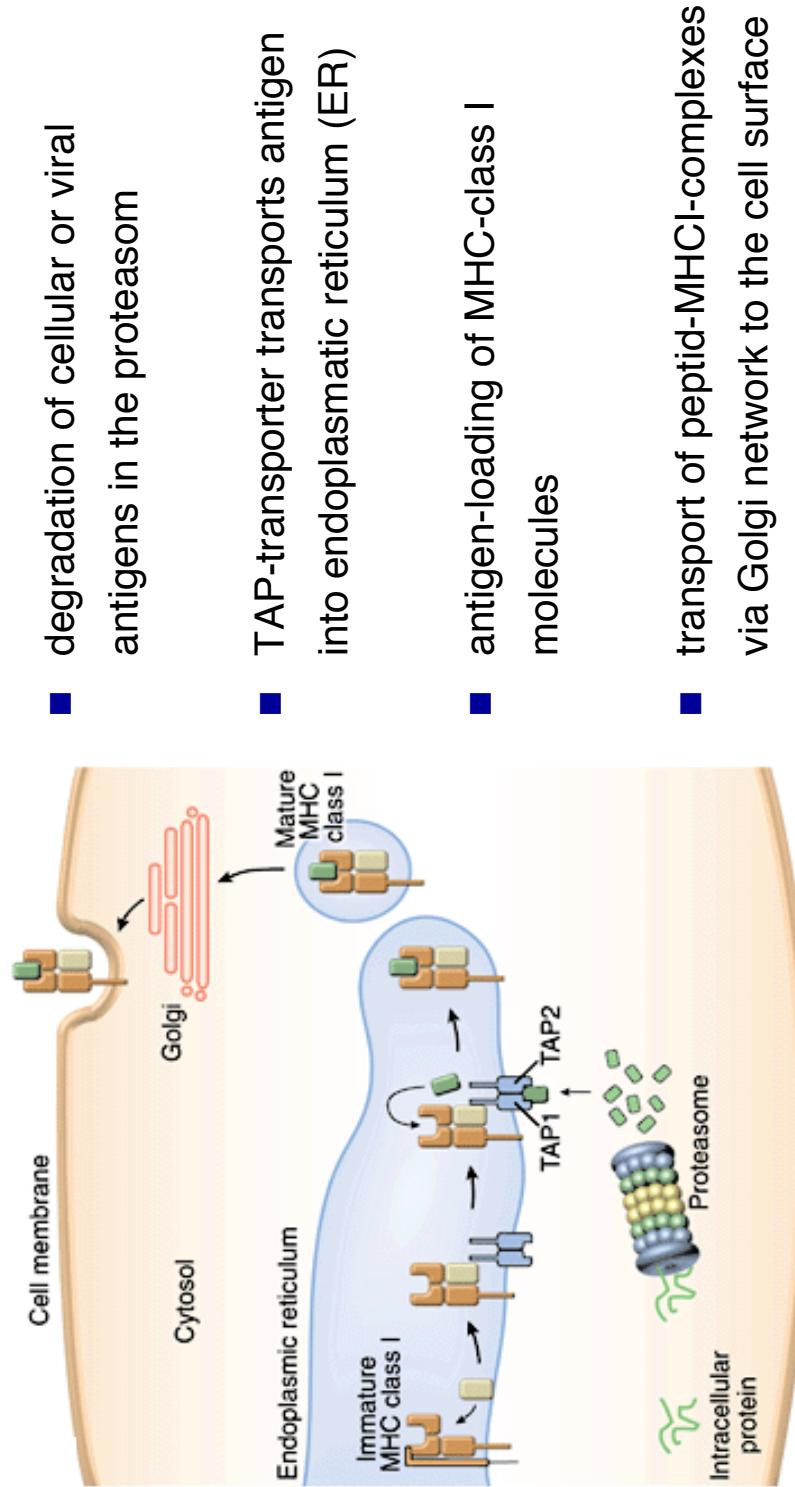
Additional information:  
Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol. 2005

## Dendritic cells (DCs)

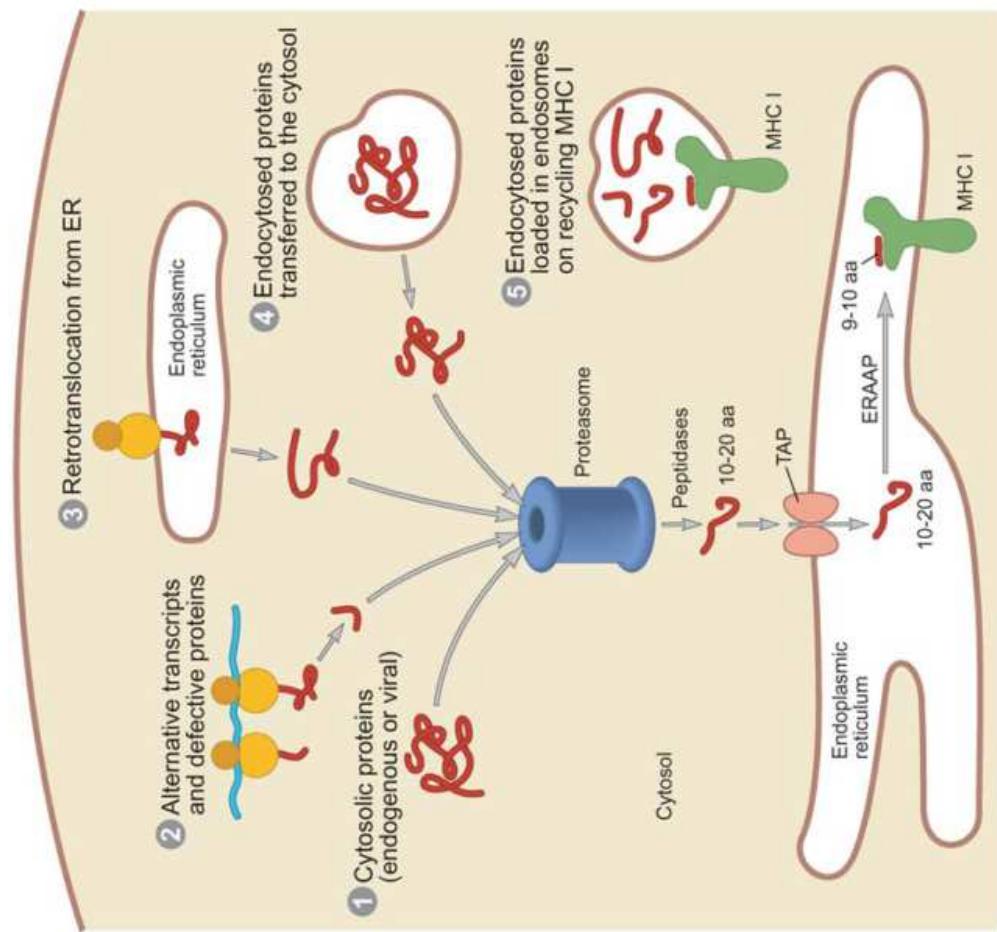


1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and **antigen processing**  
**(classical MHC-I / alternative processing)**
3. DC maturation and migration
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# Antigen processing in the context of MHC I



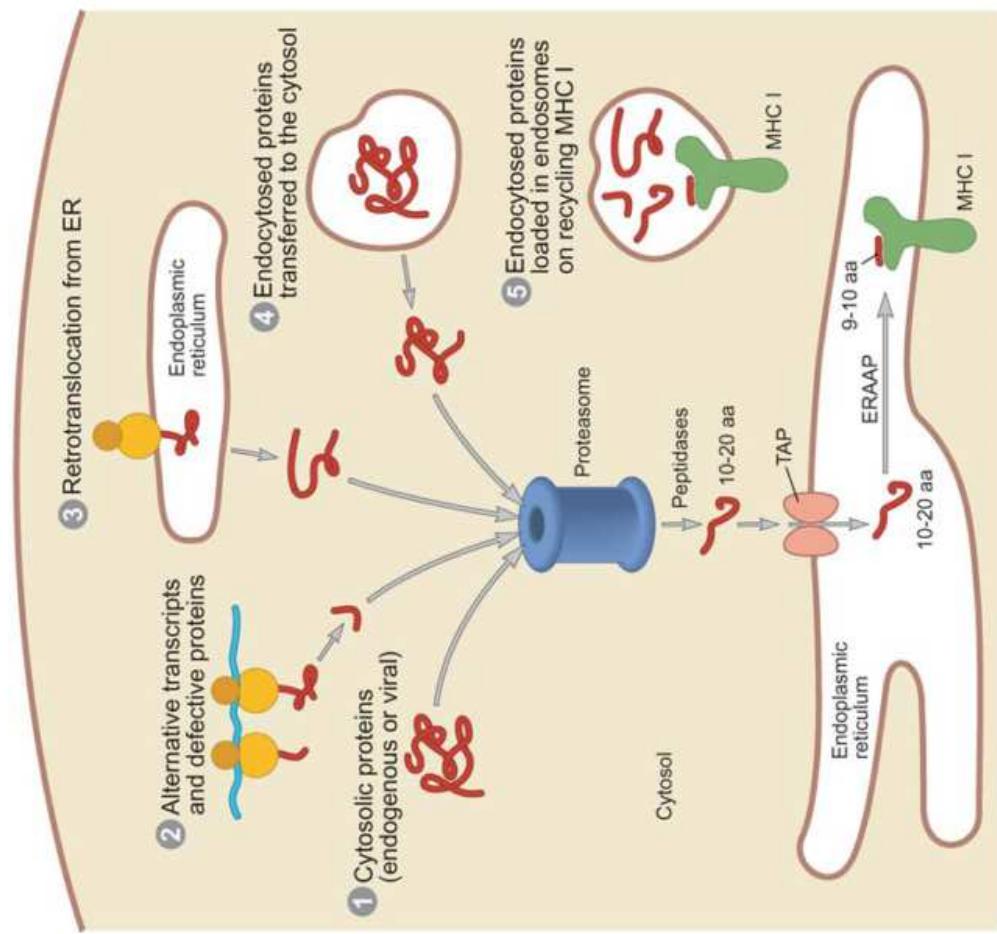
# Antigen sources for MHC class I



1. cytosolic proteins
2. alternative transcripts and defective proteins (DRIPs)
3. proteins derived from ER
4. endocytosed proteins transferred into the cytoplasm
5. endocytosed proteins loaded in endosomes to recycling MHC I

Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

# Antigen sources for MHC class I

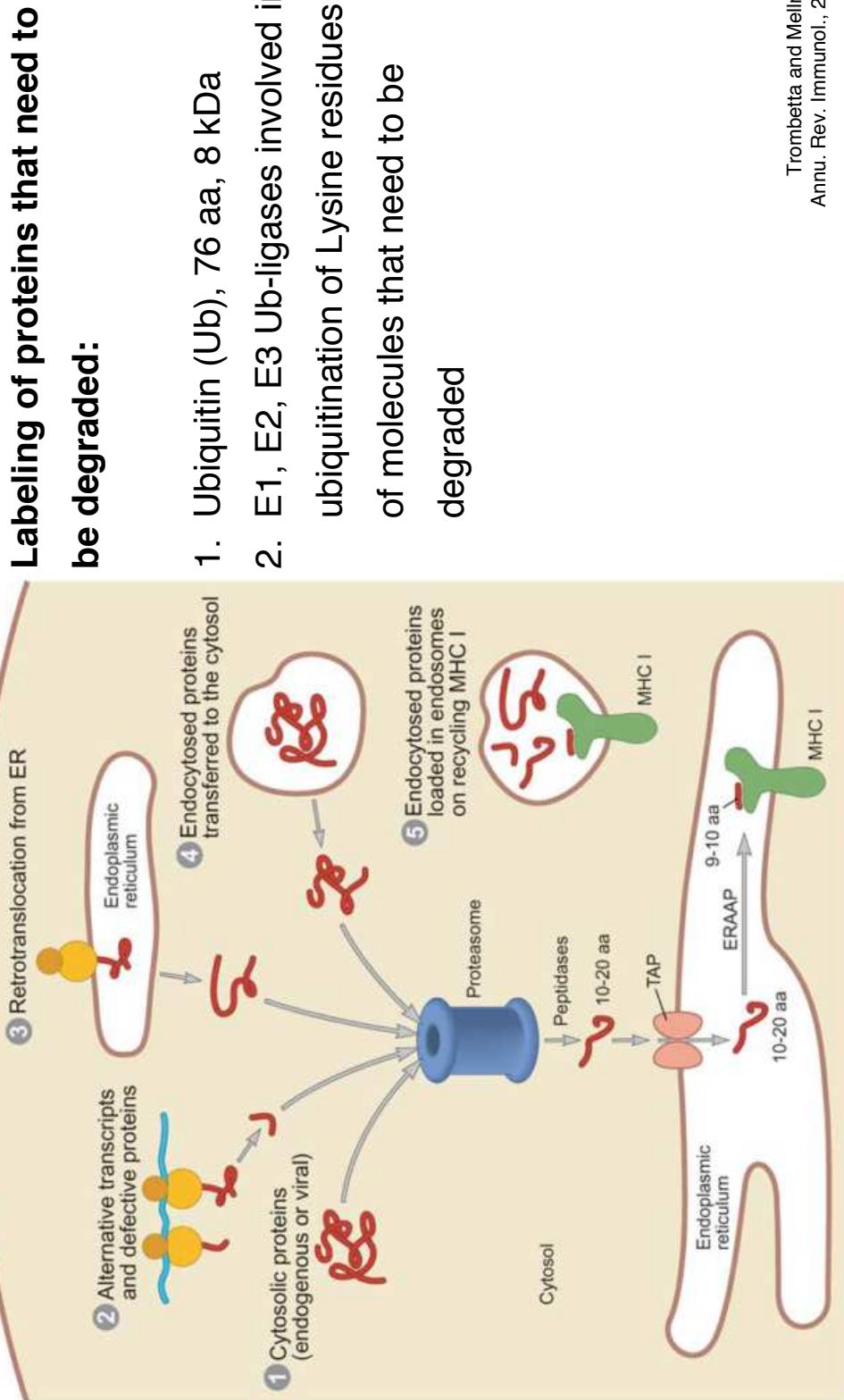


## DRIPs:

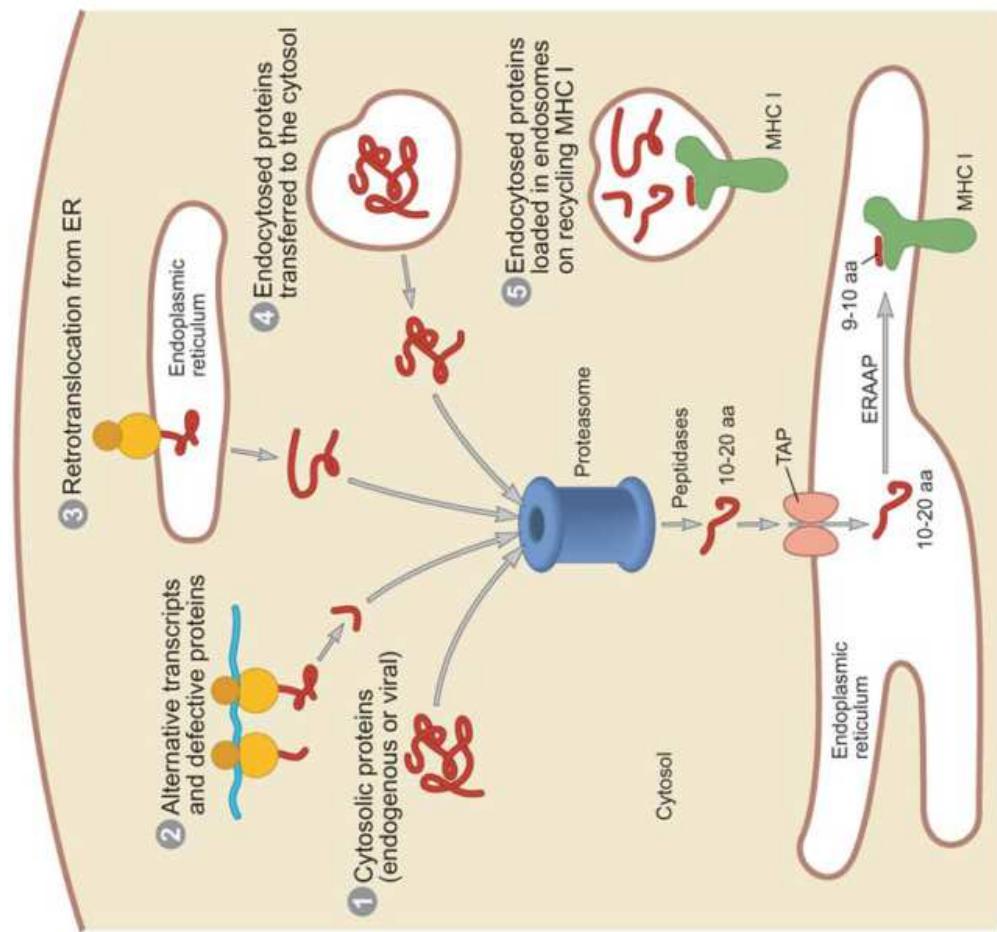
1. (**defective ribosomal products**)
2. short lived proteins, non-complete proteins, wrongly folded
3. self and viral peptides
4. intracellularly produced

Yewdell, J., 1996  
Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

# Antigen sources for MHC class I



# Antigen sources for MHC class I



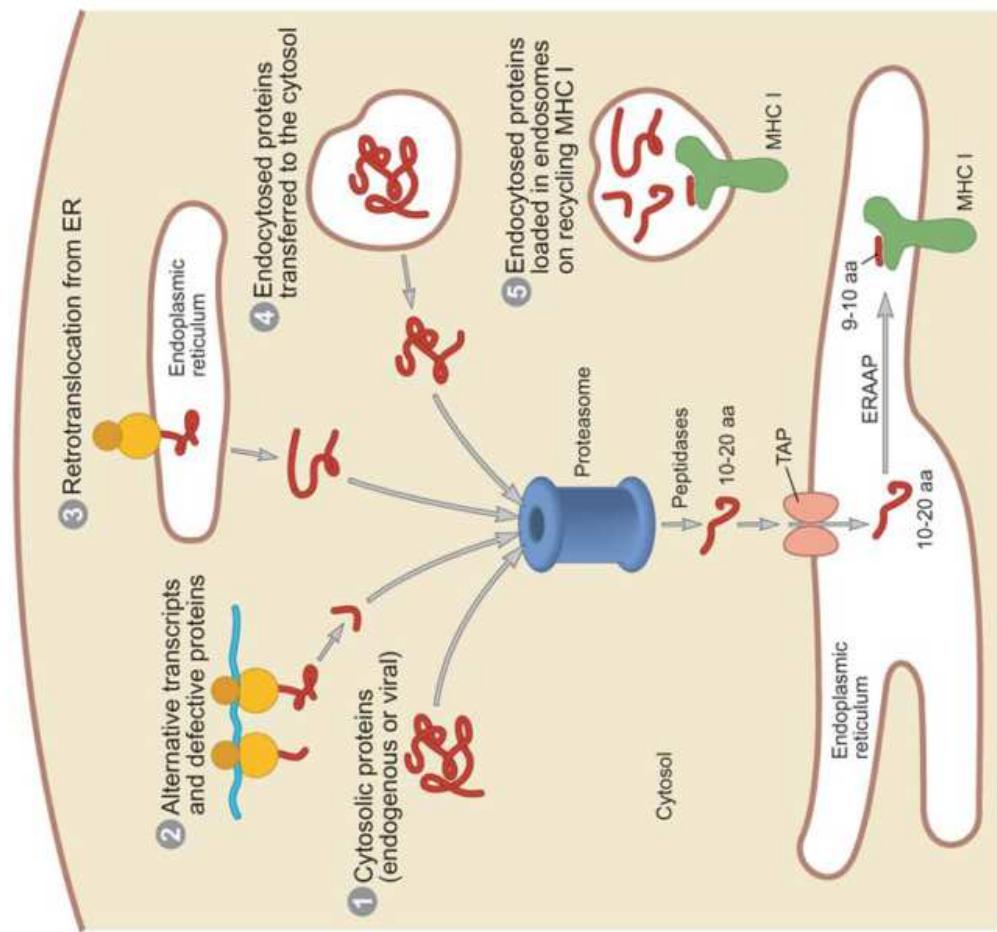
## Proteasome:

1. 2MDa, 15nm long, 11nm, 30.000 per cell
2. central garbage can (20 S-score), two 19 S-capping complexes
3. 20 S Core: Ring of each 7 $\alpha$  - , and  $\beta$ -subunits ( $\alpha\beta\beta\alpha$ ), multicatalytic proteinase  
 $\beta 1i$  (LMP2)  
- low PGPH-activity (cleavage after acidic aa)  
 $\beta 2i$  (MECL-1)  
- tryptic activity (cleavage after alkaline aa)  
 $\beta 5i$  (LMP7)  
- chymotryptic activity (cleavage after hydrophobic aa)
4. 20 S Core: Ring of each 7 $\alpha$  - , and  $\beta$ -subunits ( $\alpha\beta\beta\alpha$ ), multicatalytic proteinase  
 $\beta 1i$  (LMP2)  
- low PGPH-activity (cleavage after acidic aa)  
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- tryptic activity (cleavage after alkaline aa)  
 $\beta 5i$  (LMP7)  
- chymotryptic activity (cleavage after hydrophobic aa)

Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

PGPH: peptidylglutamyl peptide hydrolyzing

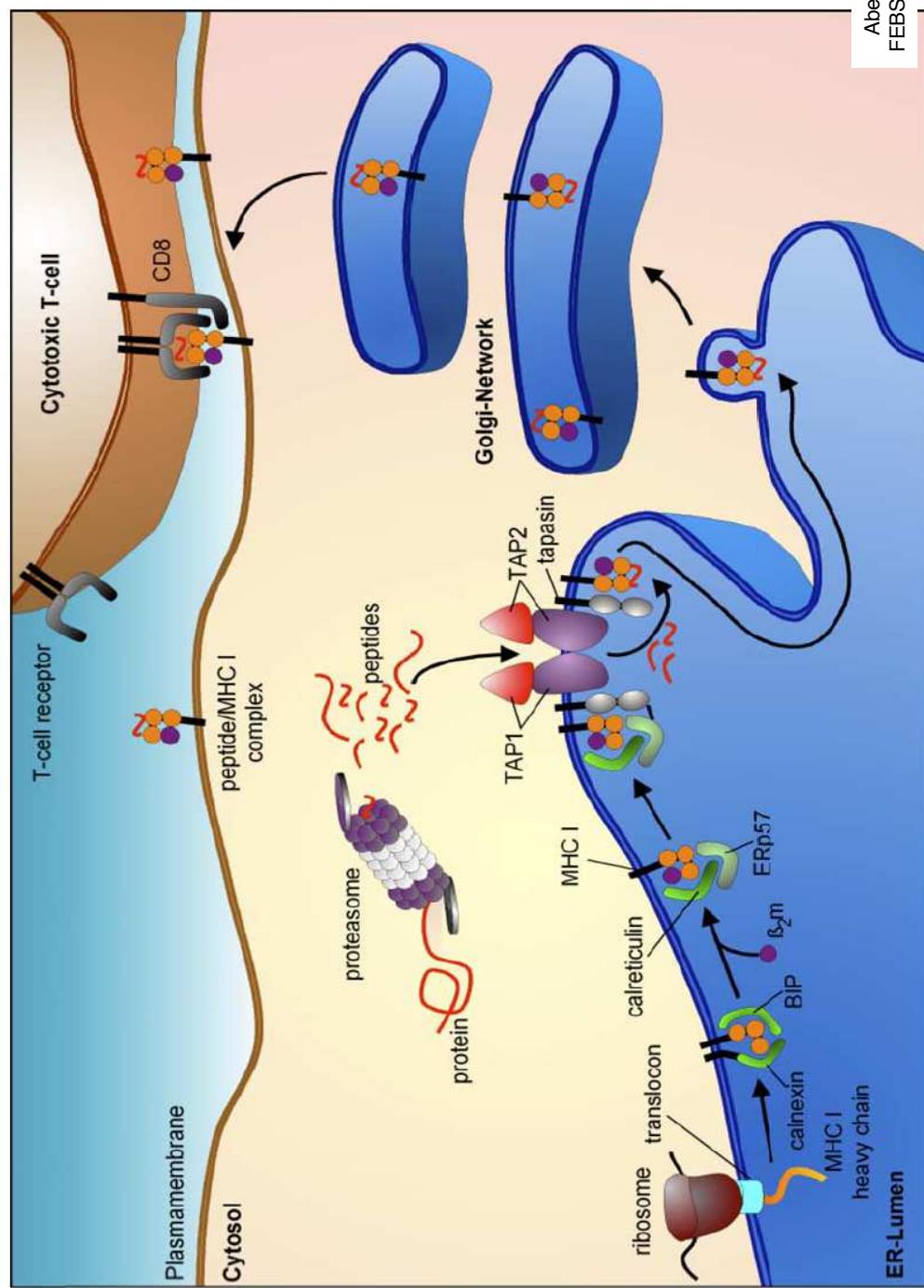
# Antigen sources for MHC class I



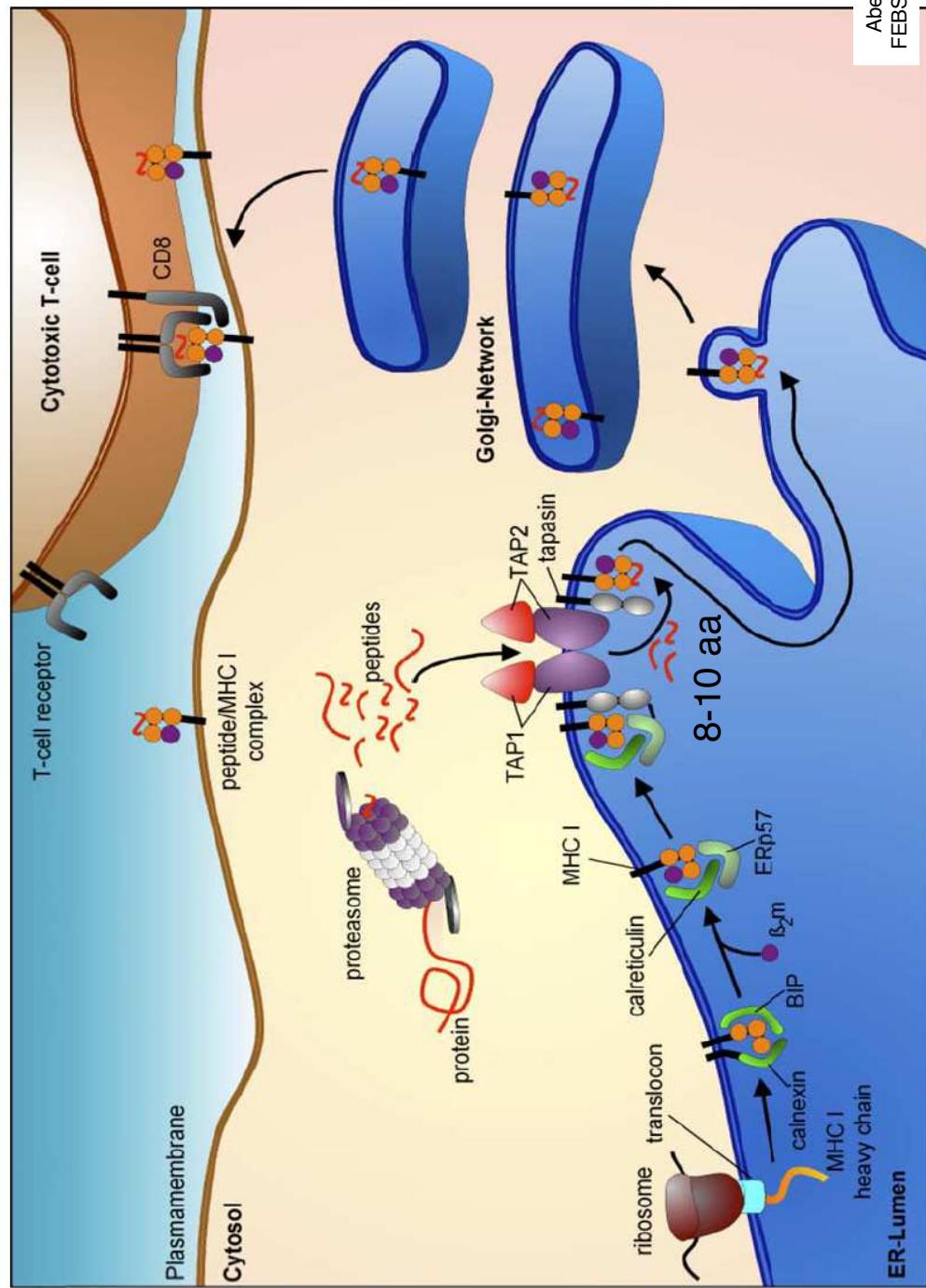
- Proteasome:**
1. ubiquitininated protein binds to 19S-complex
  2. Ub will be cleaved, ATP-dependent
  3. proteins unfold
  4. proteases on the active centers of the  $\beta$ -subunits cleave proteins in 10-20 aa peptides
  5. further cleavage by cytosolic peptidases

Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

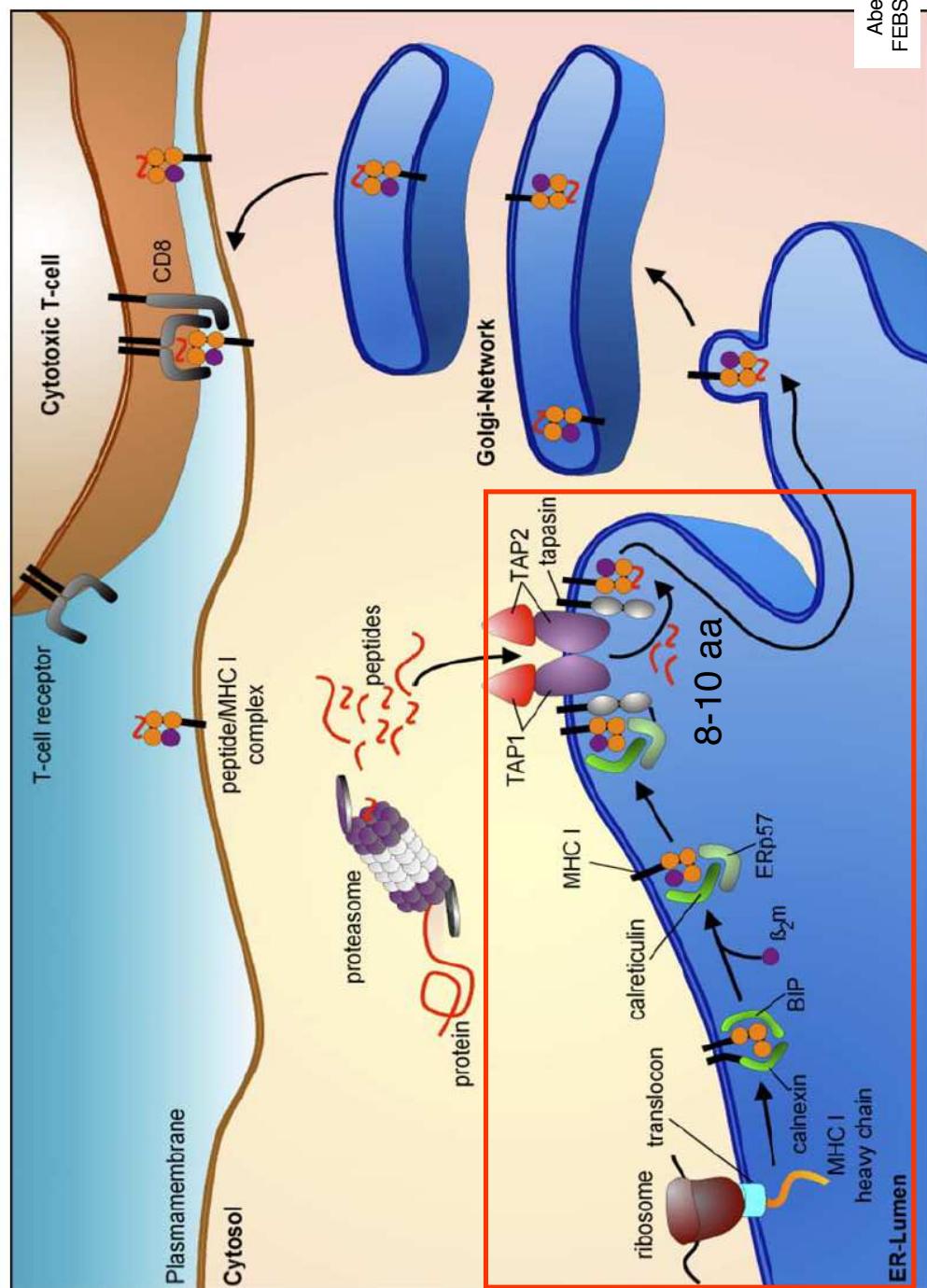
# MHC class I antigen processing



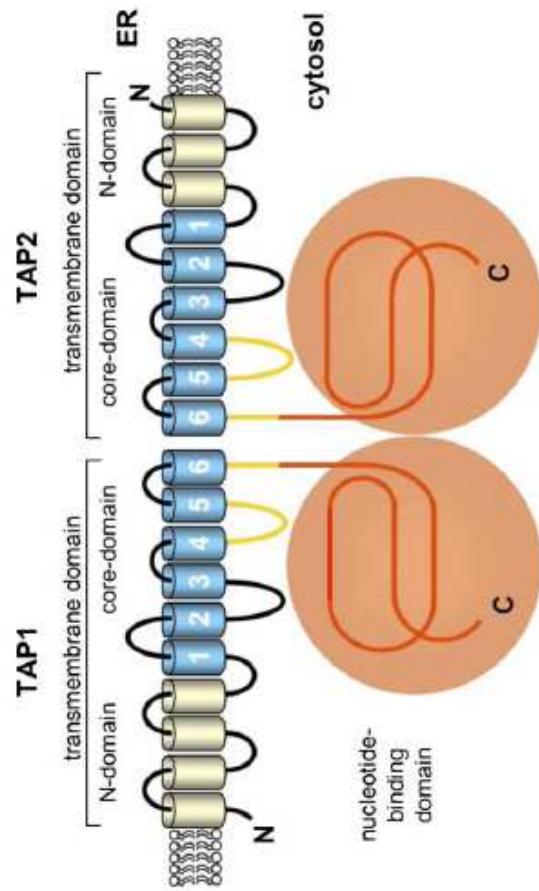
# MHC class I antigen processing



# MHC class I antigen processing

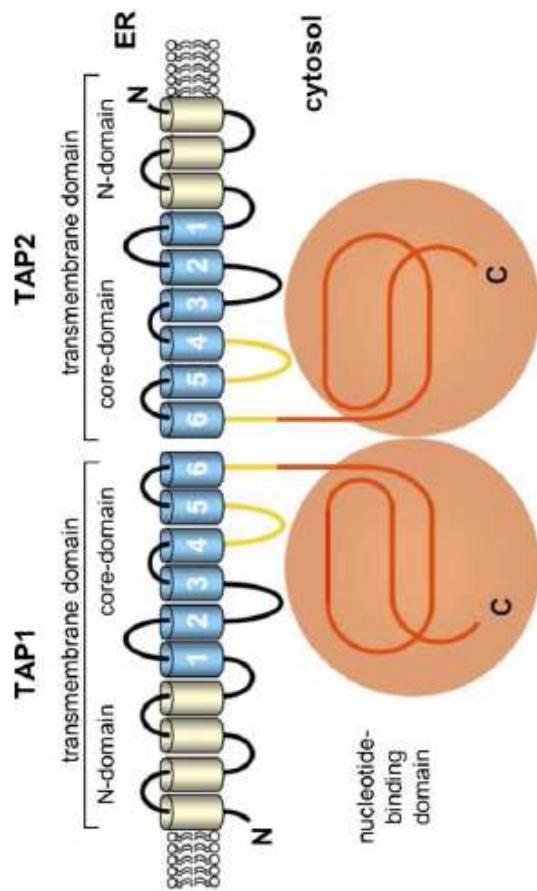


# TAP transporter



- TAP transporter (Transporter associated with Antigen Processing)  
with **ATP-binding cassette (ABC-transporter)**
- transport of cleaved protein fragments/peptides from cytosol into ER
- localized in ER and cis-Golgi)

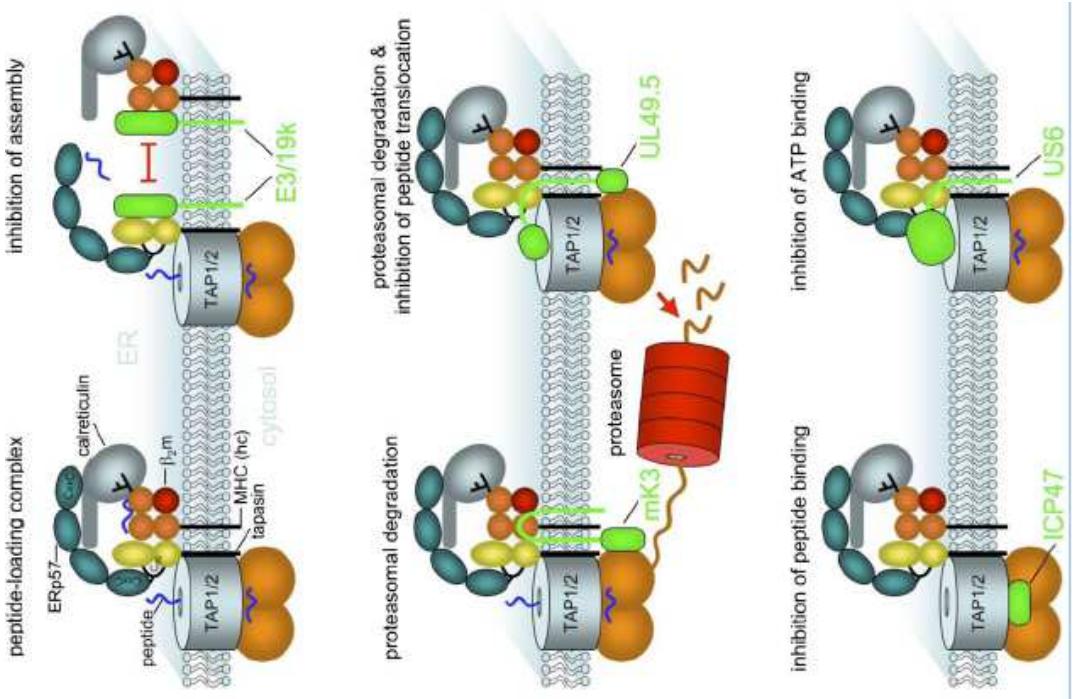
# TAP transporter



- upregulated by IFN- $\gamma$ , stabilization of the complex
- in tumors low TAP activity
- heterodimer of TAP1 (748aa) and TAP2 (686aa)
  - TM-domain with peptide binding side
  - cytosolic nucleotide-binding domain (NBD) –
- transport of 8-16 and 8-12 aa

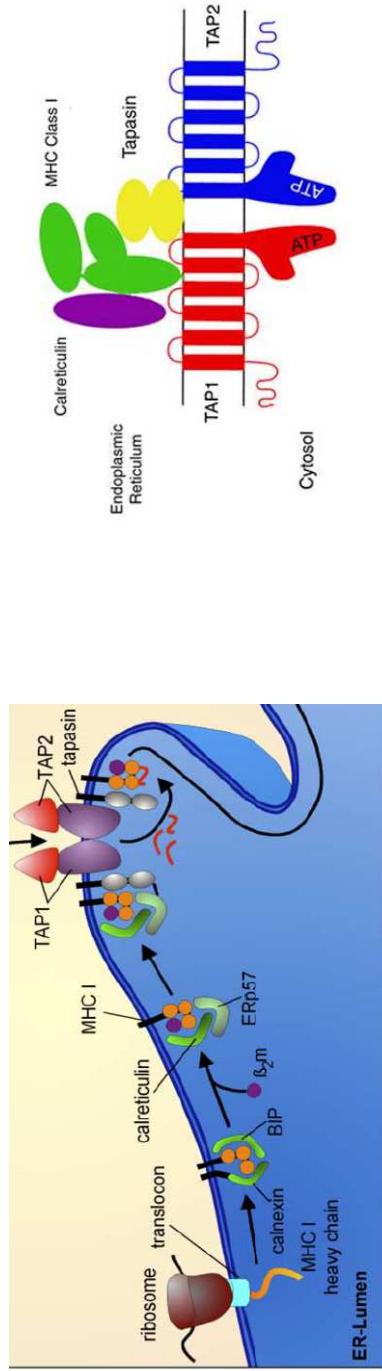
Abelle and Tampel  
FEBS Letters, 2006

# Viral Interference with TAP transporter



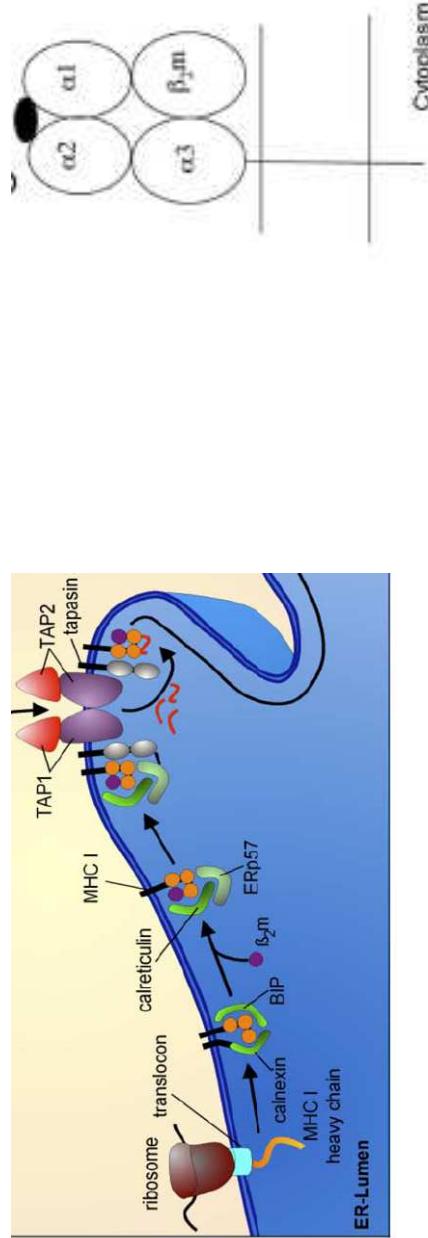
- Modulation of TAP function by viral factors. Upper panel: The structural organization of the peptide-loading complex (PLC) is illustrated as a model. ERp57 is covalently linked to tapasin via a disulfide bond (C95 of tapasin to the CxxC motif of the oxidoreductase).
- Within the ER quality control, calreticulin recognizes the N-core glycosylation of the MHC I heavy chain (hc) and forms additional contacts with ERp57. For simplicity, only one of four TAP-associated sub-complexes (tapasin, MHC heavy chain, b2m, ERp57 and calreticulin) is shown.
- The **E19 protein of adenovirus E3 disturbs the interaction of MHC class I molecules with the pre-assembled TAP–tapasin–ERp57 complex** which impairs efficient peptide loading of MHC class I.
- Middle panel: The **mK3 protein of murine c-herpesvirus-68 binds directly to TAP and induces polyubiquitylation and subsequently proteasomal degradation.**
- The interaction of **UL49.5 of the bovine herpes virus drives TAP to proteasomal degradation** and arrests TAP in a transport-incompetent conformation, in which binding of ATP and peptide is not affected.
- Lower panel: **ICP47 of the herpes simplex virus inhibits peptide binding** from the cytosolic site of TAP.
- The association of **US6 of the human cytomegalovirus to the ERluminal transmembrane core of TAP blocks ATP binding** to the cytosolic peptide loading complex.

# Peptide loading complex (PLC)



- TAP<sup>-/-</sup> mice
  - peptide transport into ER blocked
  - no (few) MHC-I-peptid-complexes on the surface
- multi-component-peptide-loading-complex (PLC)
  - TAP heterodimer
  - 4 molecules tapasin (TAP-binding protein= TAP-BP) and
  - 4 molecules MHC-class-I
  - lectin-like chaperons: Calreticulin, Calnexin, Oxidoreductase ERp57

# $\beta$ 2 microglobulin



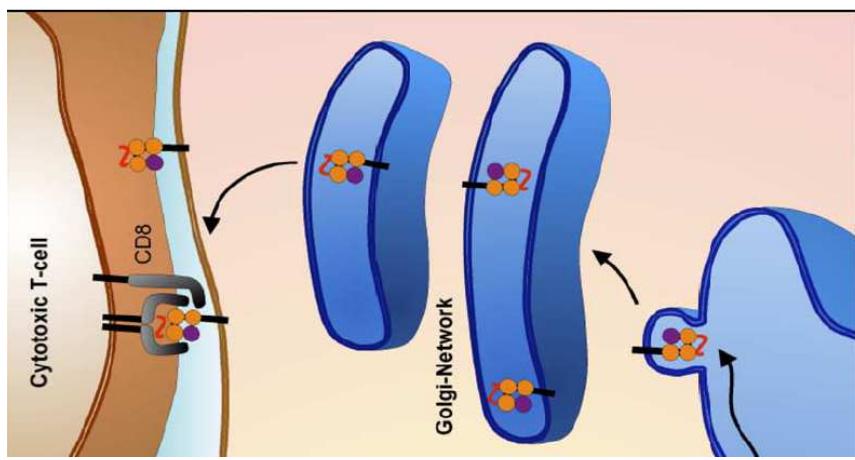
## $\beta$ 2 microglobulin

- essential for transport of MHC-I to the cell surface
- stabilizes peptides in MHC-I-binding groove
- is β2M missing - low to no MHC-I molecules on the surface
- development of CD8 T cells distracted
- β2M not polymorph
- laterally to α3 subunits of MHC-I (also in CD1, non-classical MHC-molecules),
- no TM-domain

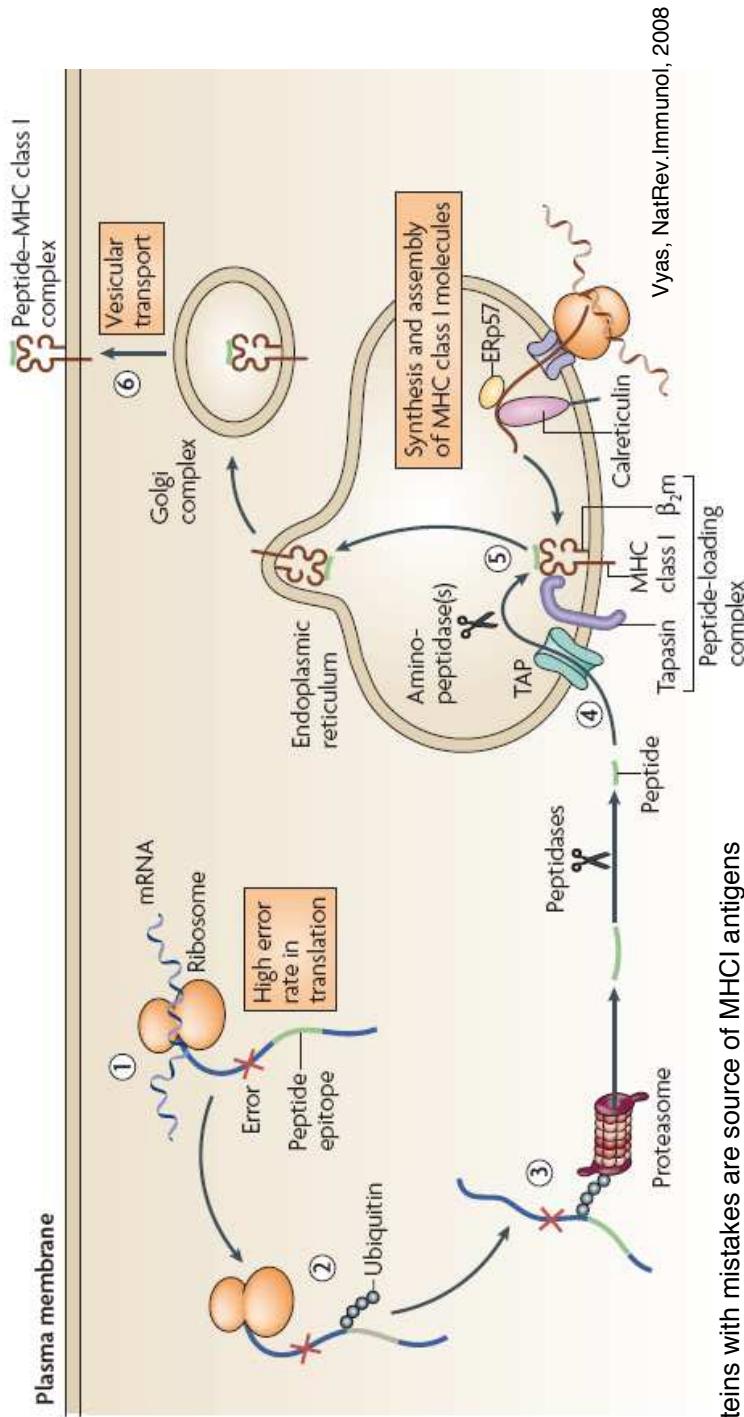
Abele and Tampé  
FEBS Letters, 2006

## Transport of peptide MHCI complex to surface

- peptide-MHCl-complex transferred from ER via secretory pathway into Golgi network to cell surface
- post-translational modifications of MHCI (N-Glycan-Binding in ER and Golgi)
- interaction of Peptide-MHCl-complex with TCR of CD8 T cells

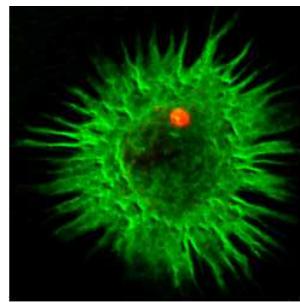


# Summary: Antigen processing for MHC I



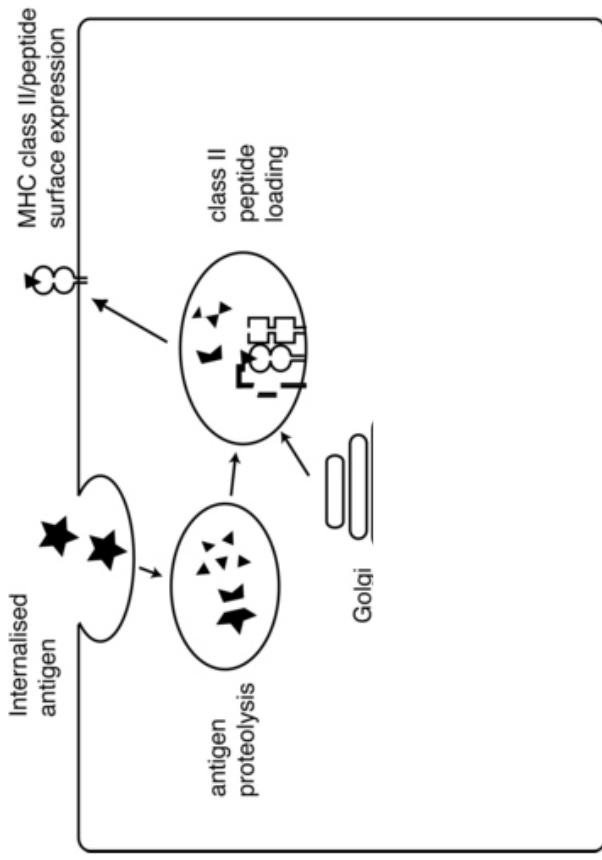
1. Proteins with mistakes are source of MHC I antigens
2. Wrongly folded proteins labeled with Ub
3. Degradation of Ub-labeled proteins in peptides in proteasom, further trimming to shorter peptide by cytosolic peptidases
4. Peptides transported into ER by TAP-complex, further trimming of peptides to 8-10 aa
5. Peptides loaded onto MHC-I by peptide-loading complex (PLC) consisting of ERp57, Tapasin, and Calreticulin
6. pMHC-I complex transferred to surface via Golgi network

## Dendritic cells (DCs)



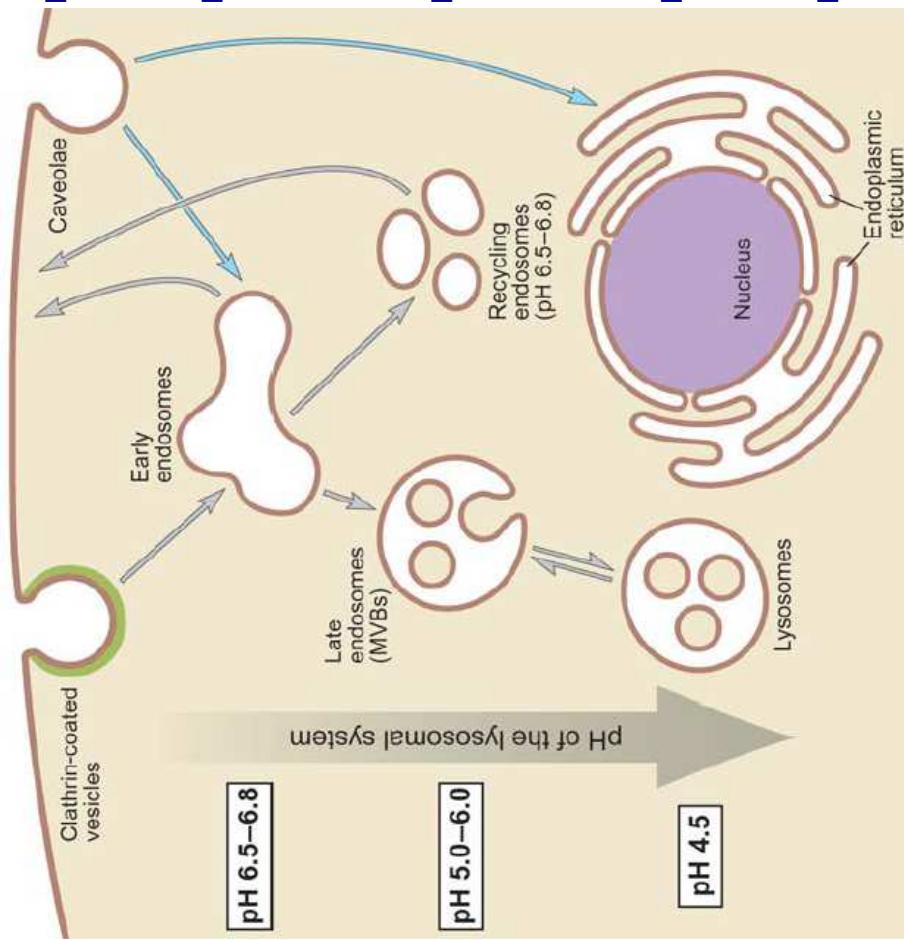
1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and **antigen processing**  
**(classical MHC-II / alternative processing)**
3. DC maturation and migration
4. Antigen presentation
5. T cell activation
6. What makes DCs so complicated?

## MHC class II antigen processing



- internalization of antigens (receptor-mediated endocytosis)
- proteolysis in lysosom (cleavage of thiol groups)
- transport of peptides in so called MIIC complexes

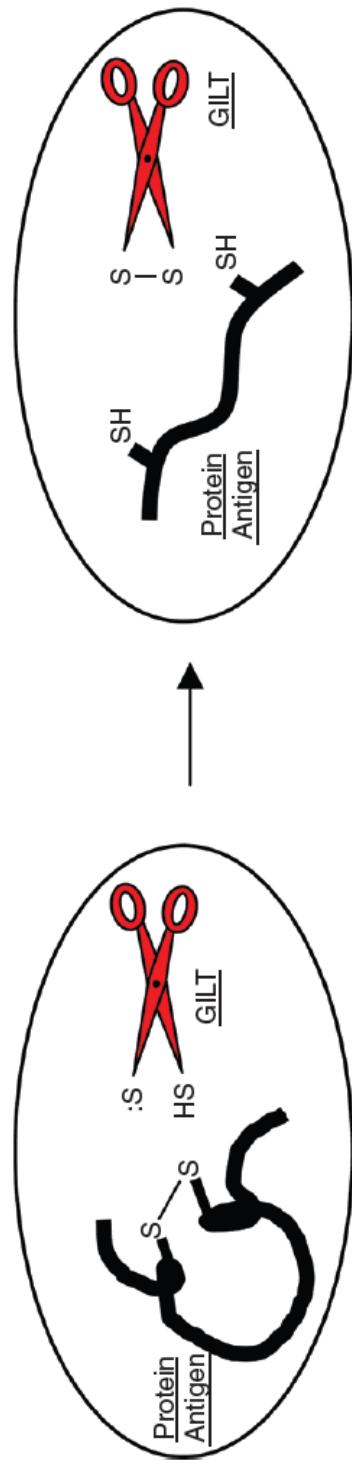
# Organelles of the endocytic pathway



- receptor-recycling from 1-2 min until up to 20-30 min
- Internalization into early endosomes, late endosomes, and lysosomes
- pH drops, lysosomal hydrolase-activity increases the deeper the cargo is transported into the cell
- late endosomes and lysosomes are in exchange
- regeneration of lysosomes

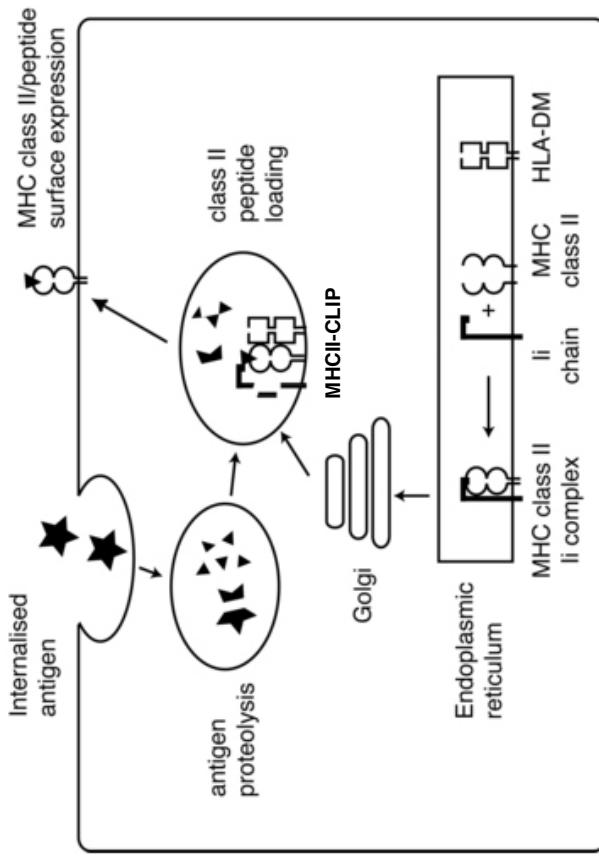
Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

## Lysosomal thiol reductase GILT



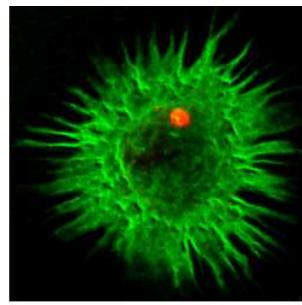
- GILT: gamma-Interferon-inducible lysosomal Thiol-Reductase
- active at very low pH,
- cleaves disulfide-bridges

## MHC class II antigen processing



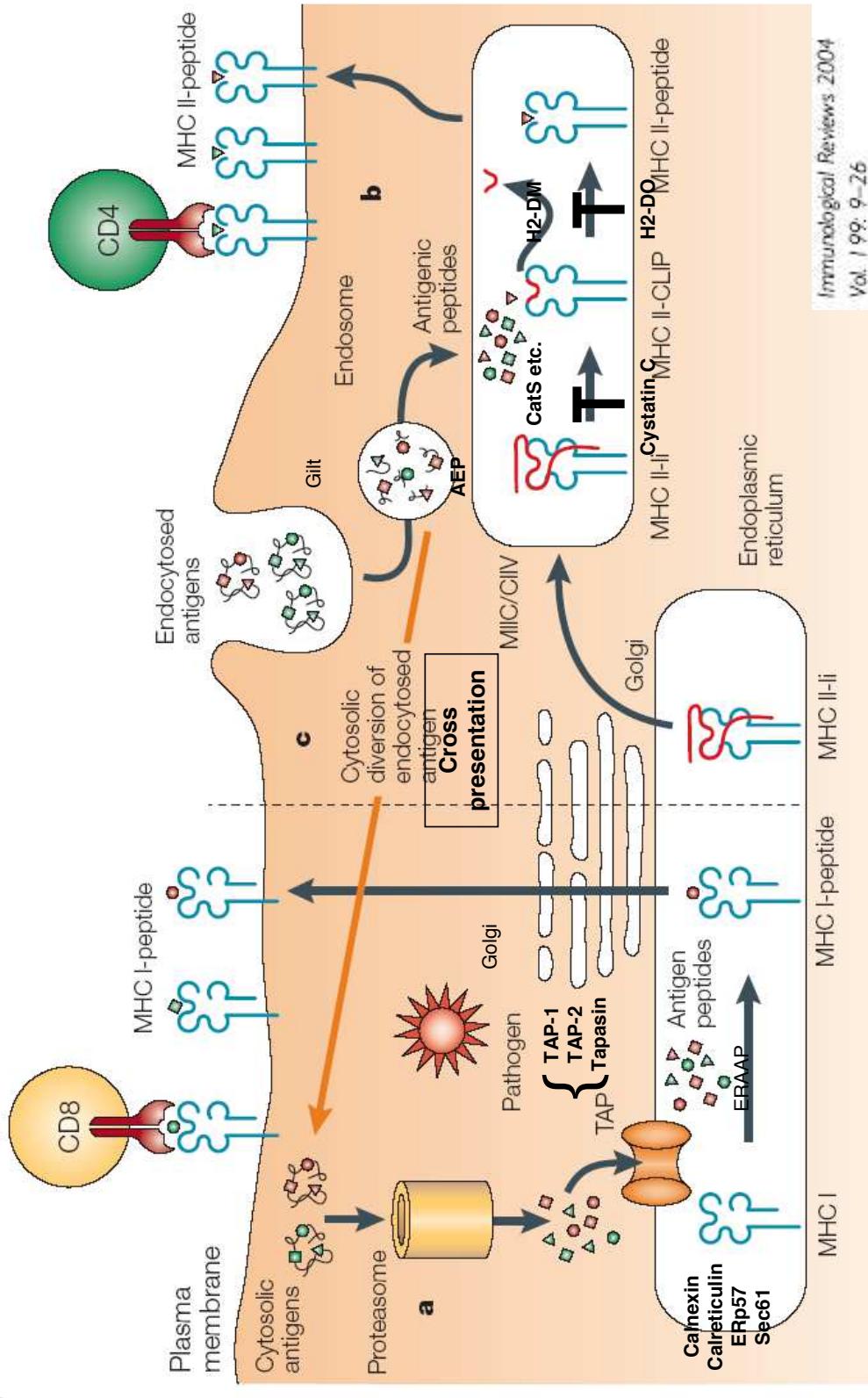
- MHCII blocked by invariant chain li
- AEP and Cathepsines cleave invariant chain N and C terminally resulting in MHCII-Clip complex
- chaperon HLA-DM exchanges the CLIP fragment into antigenic peptides
- transport of pMHCII complex to surface
- characteristic for professional antigen presenting cells

## Dendritic cells (DCs)



1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and **antigen processing**  
**(classical / alternative processing - cross-presentation)**
3. DC maturation and migration
4. Antigen presentation
5. T cell activation
6. What makes DCs so complicated?

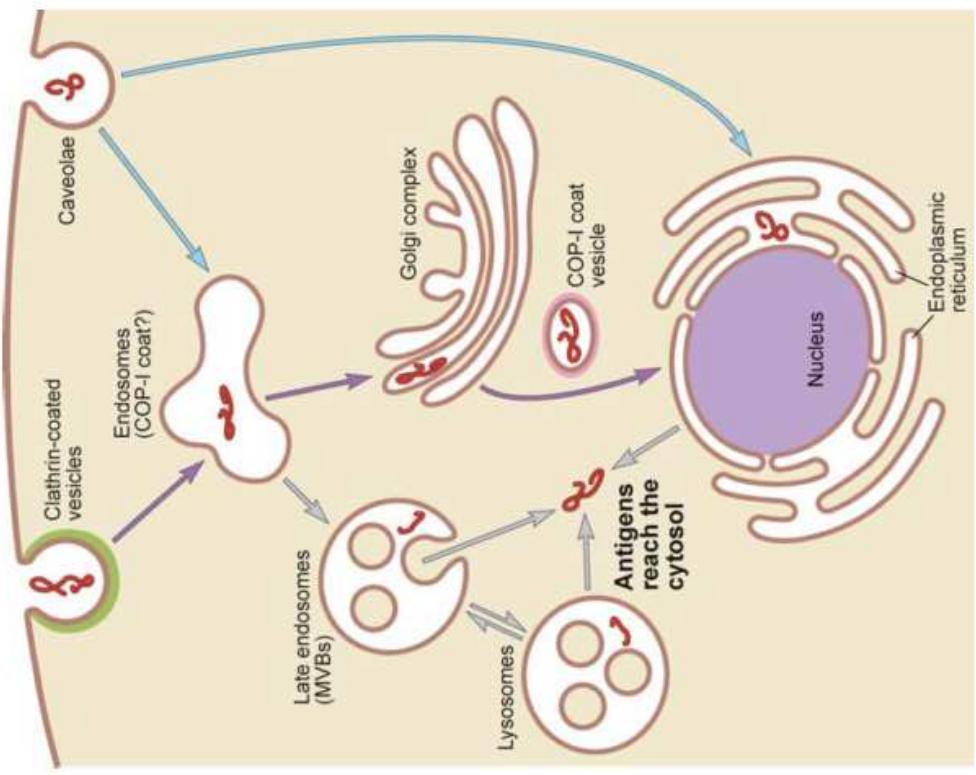
# Alternative MHCI and MHCII antigen processing pathways



## Antigen cross presentation

- antigen uptake via receptor mediated endocytosis into the so called phagosome/phagolysosome
  - taken antigens reach the cytosol (unclear mechanism)
  - degradation of self and oder viral proteins/antigens in the proteasome
  - In ER: loading of peptides to MHC-I
  - transport of peptid-MHC-complexes via Golgi-network to the surface
- 
- The diagram illustrates the pathway of antigen cross-presentation. It shows a cross-section of a cell with various compartments: Cell membrane, Cytosol, Endoplasmic reticulum, and Golgi. A phagosome is shown engulfing a virus (green wavy lines). Inside the phagosome, viral proteins are being degraded by a proteasome (represented by green dots). The resulting peptides are transported by TAP1 and TAP2 proteins into the ER lumen. There, they bind to MHC class I molecules (orange and brown trimers). These complexes are then transported through the Golgi network and delivered to the cell membrane. On the cell surface, the MHC class I-peptide complex is presented to CD8+ T cells.

# Antigen cross presentation

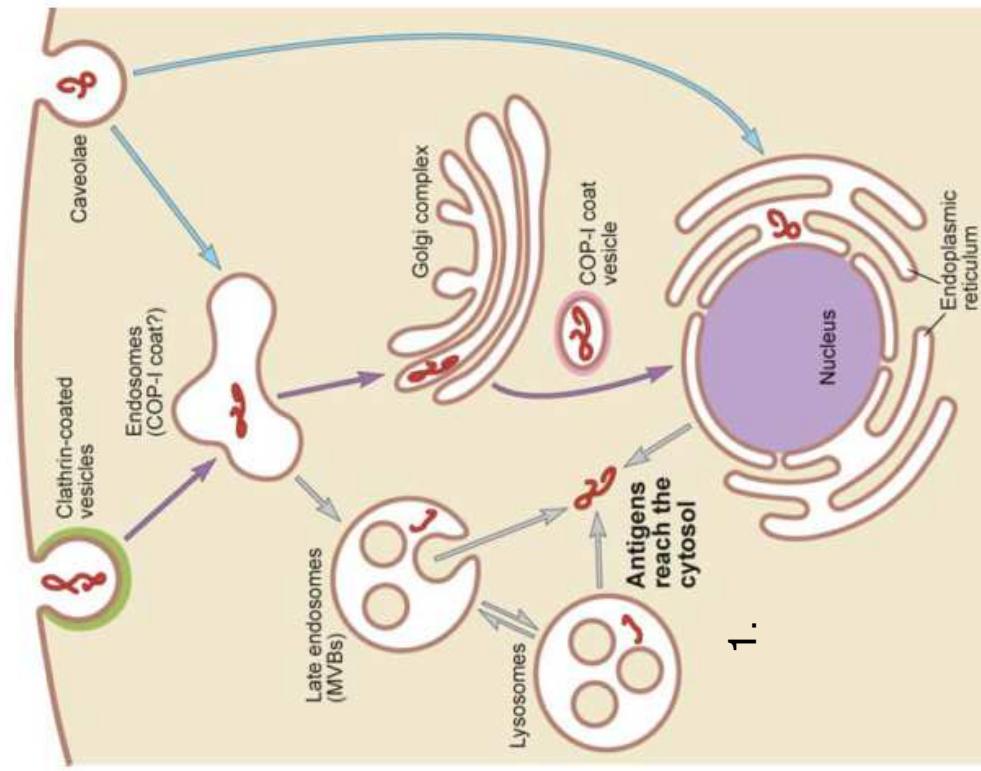


- **Cross-presentation:**
  - = loading exogenous antigens onto MHC-I
  - = mechanisms still unclear

Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

## Antigen cross presentation – Hypothesis 1

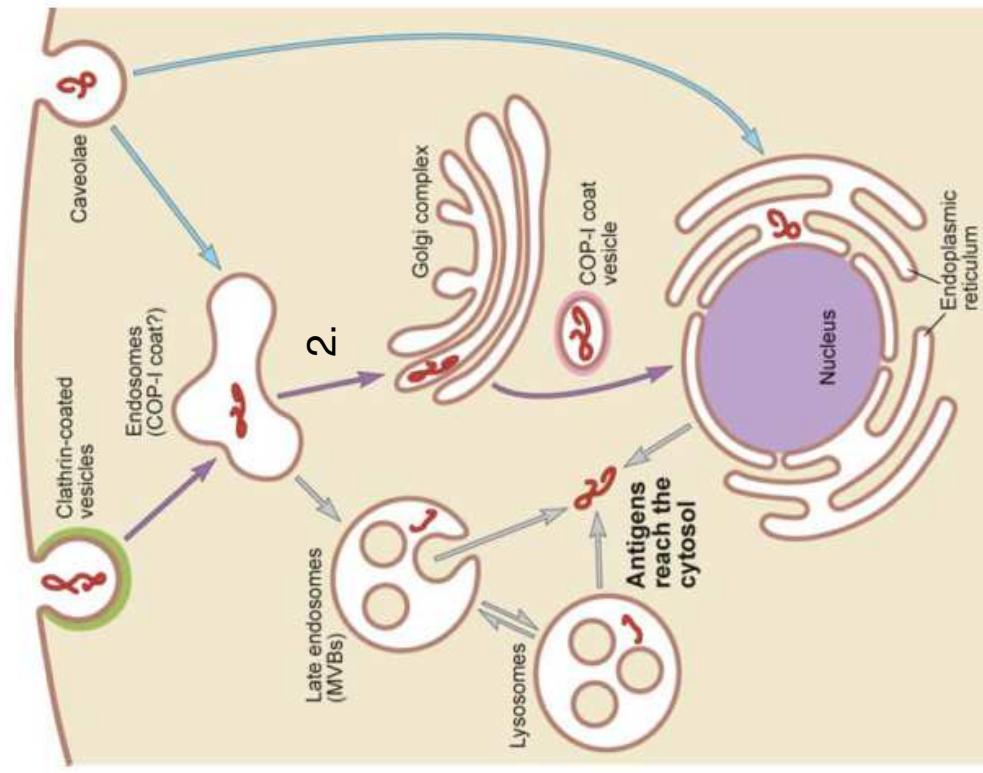
- **Hypothesis 1:**
- physical disruption of endosomal/lysosomal membranes
- antigen reaches cytoplasm



Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

## Antigen cross presentation – Hypothesis 2

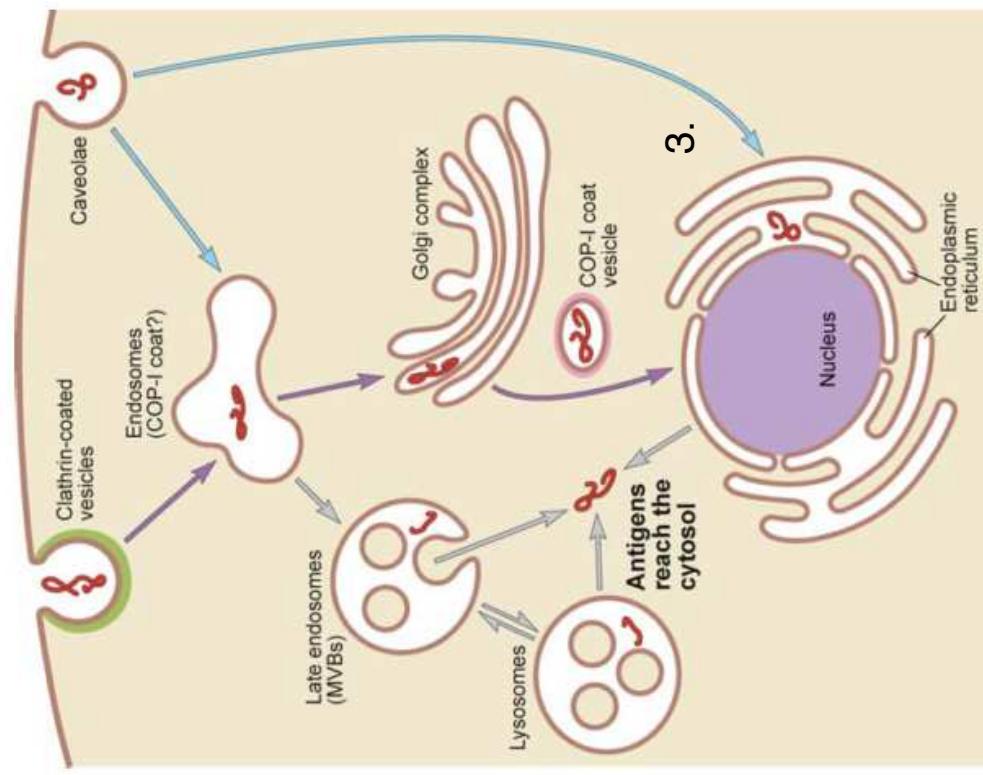
- Hypothesis 2:
- retrograde antigen transport  
endosome → Golgi → ER
- speculated translocation channel -  
transport of antigen from ER into  
cytoplasm



Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

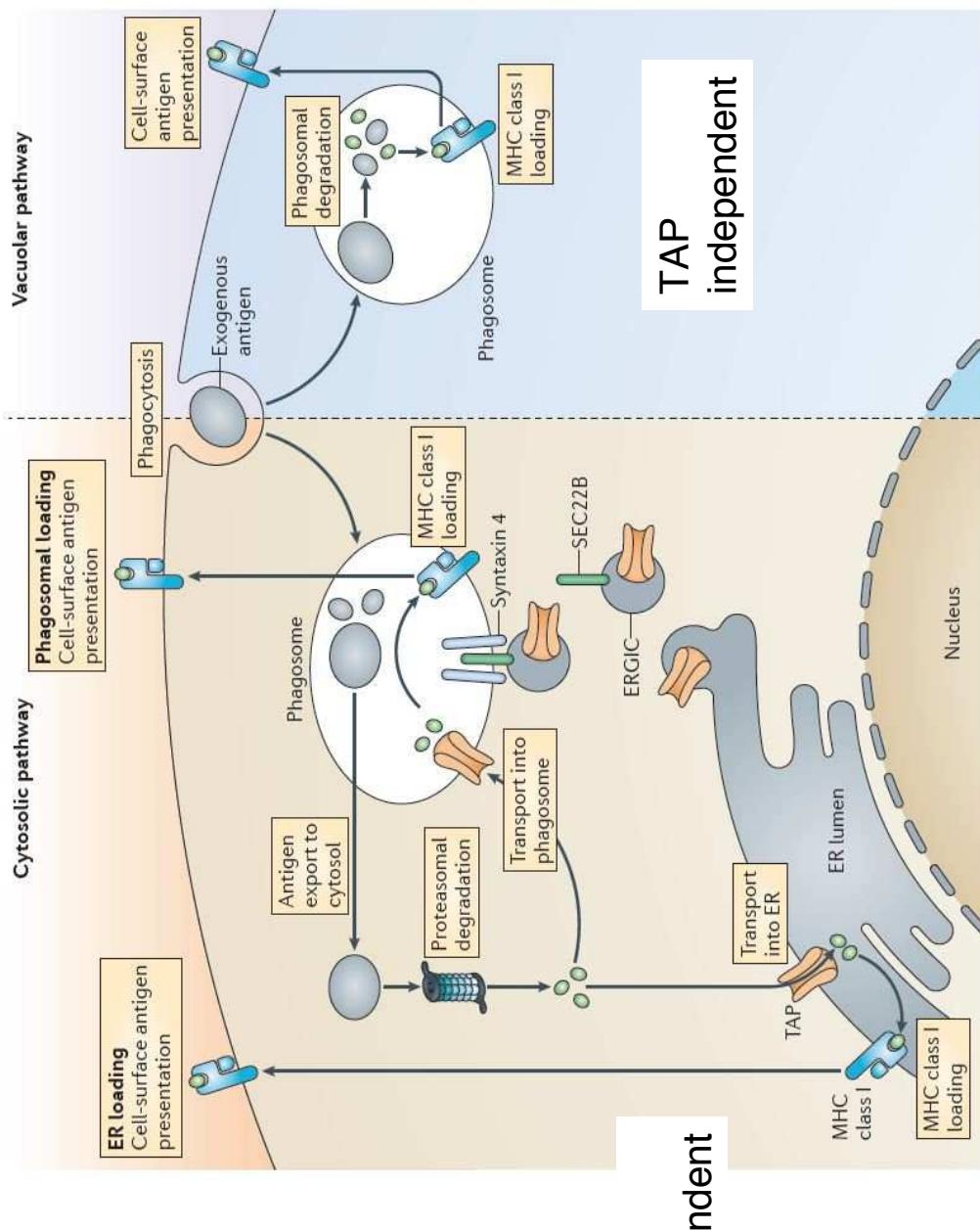
## Antigen cross presentation – Hypothesis 3

- Hypothesis 3:
- phagosomes fuse with ER



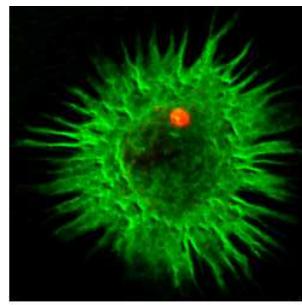
Trombetta and Mellman  
Annu. Rev. Immunol., 2005

# Cytosolic and vacuolar pathway



Joffre, 2012

## Dendritic cells (DCs)

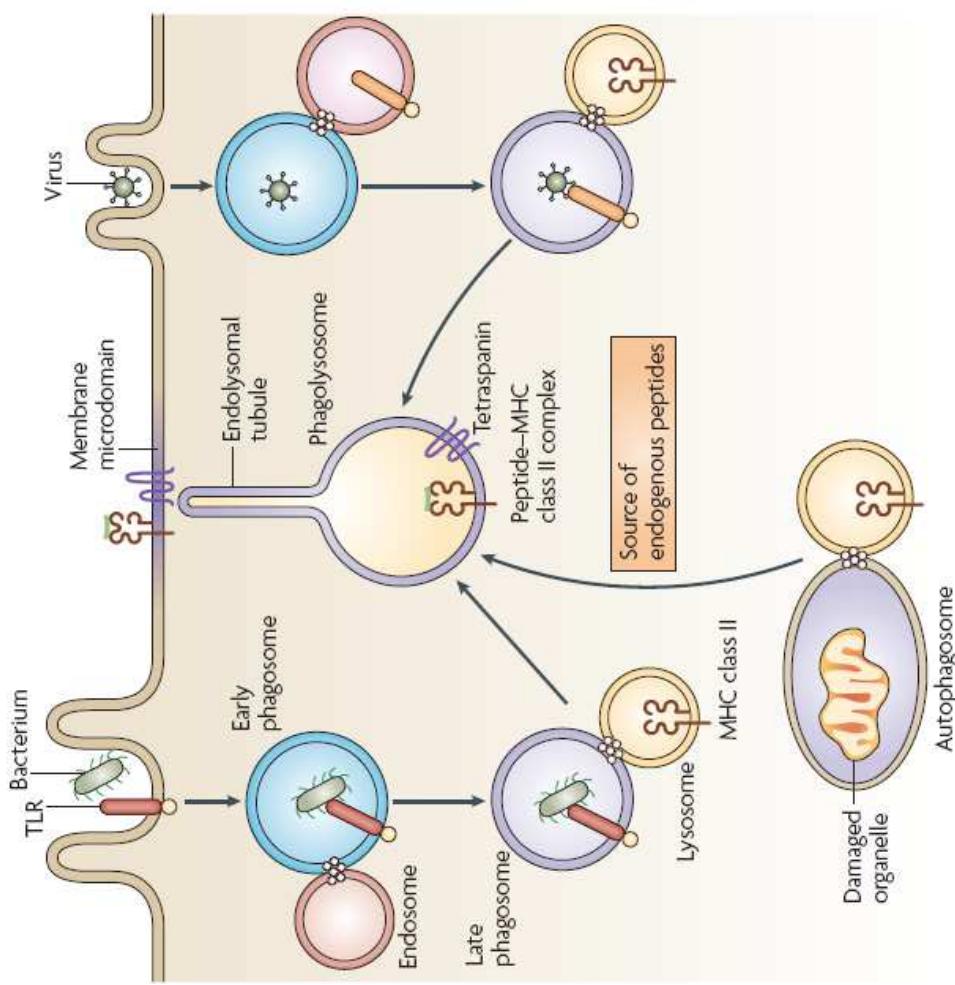


1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and antigen processing  
(classical MHC-I / alternative processing - autophagy)
3. DC maturation and migration
4. Antigen presentation
5. T cell activation
6. What makes DCs so complicated?



Yoshinori Ohsumi

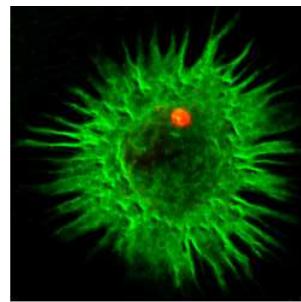
## Autophagy: Presentation of endogenous antigens on MHCII



- **Autophagy:**
  - autophagy is a process, in which membranes assemble de novo
  - presentation of endogenous antigens on MHC-Klasse-II
  - pathogens, self proteins
  - maturation of the phagosome by TLR activation (virus, bacteria)
  - fusion of the phagosome with lysosome
- Phagolysosome
- antigen loading onto MHC class II in the lysosome
- micro- and macroautophagy

Vyas, NatRev Immunol, 2008

## Dendritic cells (DCs)



1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and antigen processing  
(classical MHC-I / alternative processing)
- 3. DC maturation and migration**
4. Antigen presentation
5. T cell activation
6. What makes DCs so complicated?

# **Pattern recognition receptors responsible for sensing**

## **Extracellular PRRs:**

- Toll-like receptors (TLRs)
- C-Type lectin receptors (CLRs)
- Scavenger receptors

## **Intracellular PRRs**

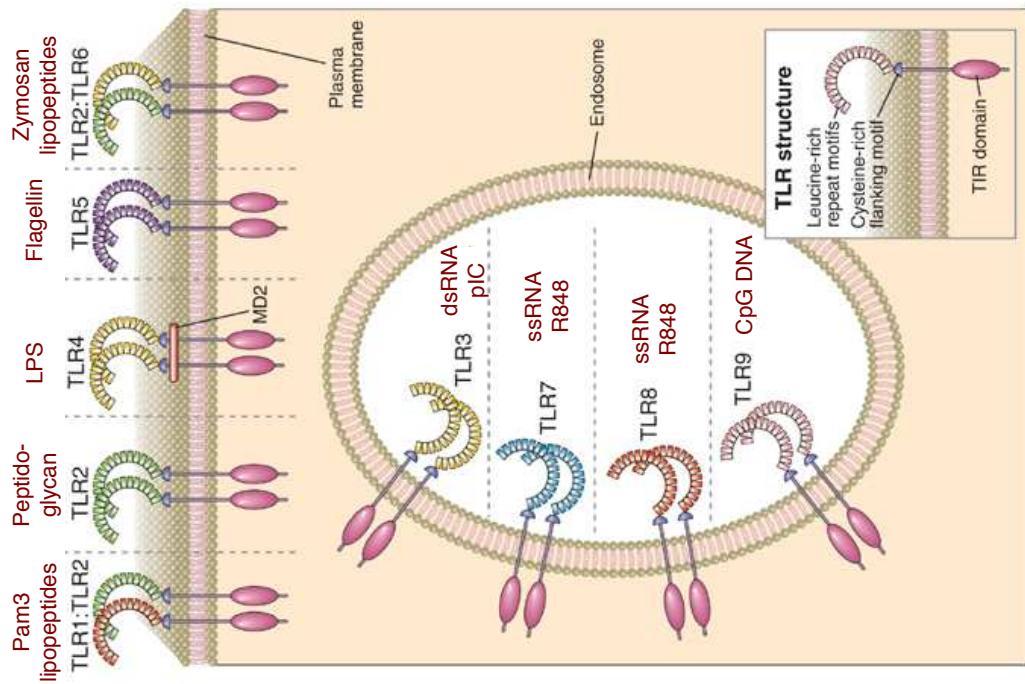
- NOD-like receptors (NLRs)
- RIG-I-like proteins

# Pathogen-Associated Molecular Patterns

## Definition:

- “Pattern Recognition Receptors” recognize structures specifically conserved in microorganisms, so-called ‘**Pathogen-Associated Molecular Patterns**’ (PAMPs)
- Signal transduction via Pattern Recognition Receptors in antigen presenting cells leads to
  - cytokine production (proinflammatory:TNF $\alpha$ , IL6, IL12, anti-inflammatory: IL-10, TGF $\beta$ )
  - chemokine production (CCR7)
  - upregulation of co-stimulatory molecules (CD80, CD86)
- state of activation and antigen presentation connect the innate with the adaptive immune system

## Recognition of pathogens by Toll like receptors (TLRs)

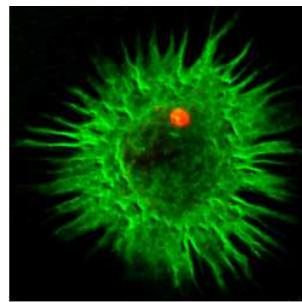


- recognition of structurally conserved molecules derived from microbes (PAMPs)
- signaling via MyD88 or TRIF
- activation of NF $\kappa$ B and IRFs
- pathogen-specific response (cytokine production, cell recruitment)

## **Immature and mature DCs**

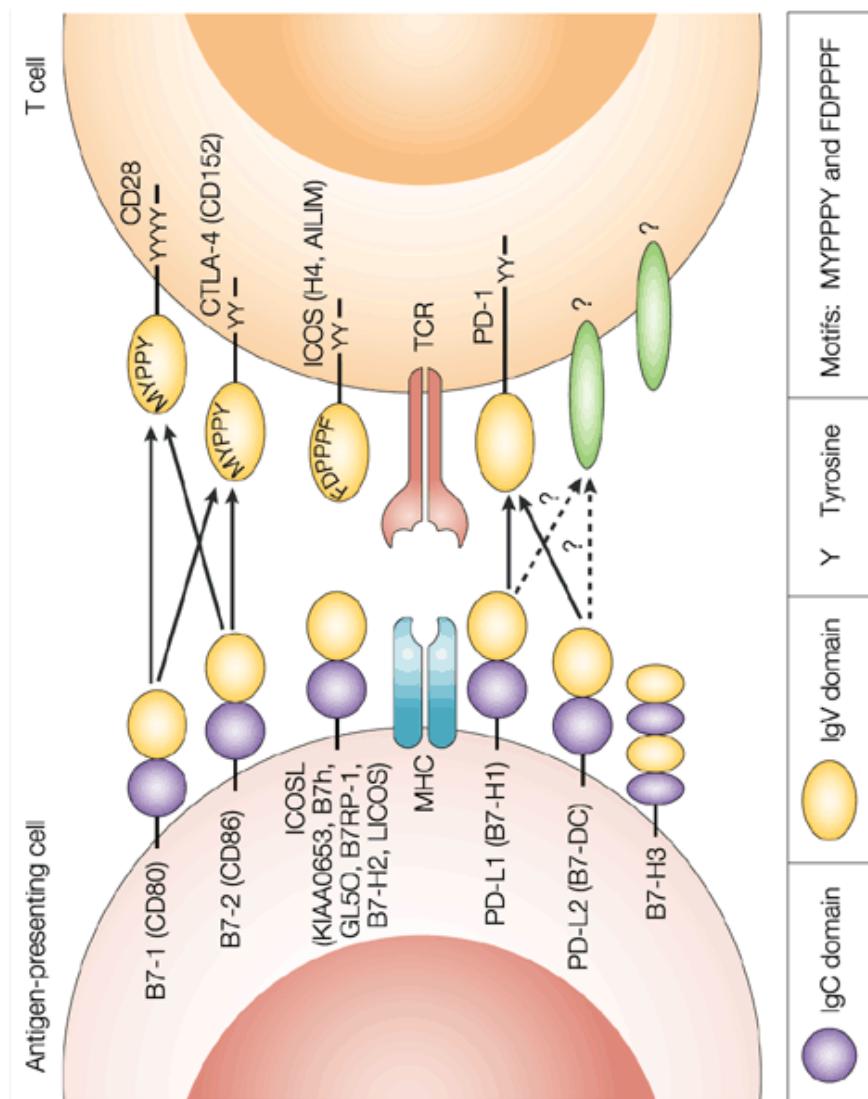
- DCs in the periphery show an immature phenotype:
  - sentinels
  - high antigen uptake and processing capacity
  - only low levels of co-stimulatory molecules
  - only low levels of MHC-I and MHC-II on the cell surface
- Upon stimulation, DCs migrate from periphery into local lymph nodes
  - reduced antigen uptake capacity
  - strong antigen presentation of peptide-MHC-complex
  - cytokine secretion, upregulation of co-stimulatory molecules and CCR7
  - strong interaction with T cells
- Distinction of conventional tissue resident (semi mature) and migratory DCs, as well as plasmacytoid DCs

## Dendritic cells (DCs)



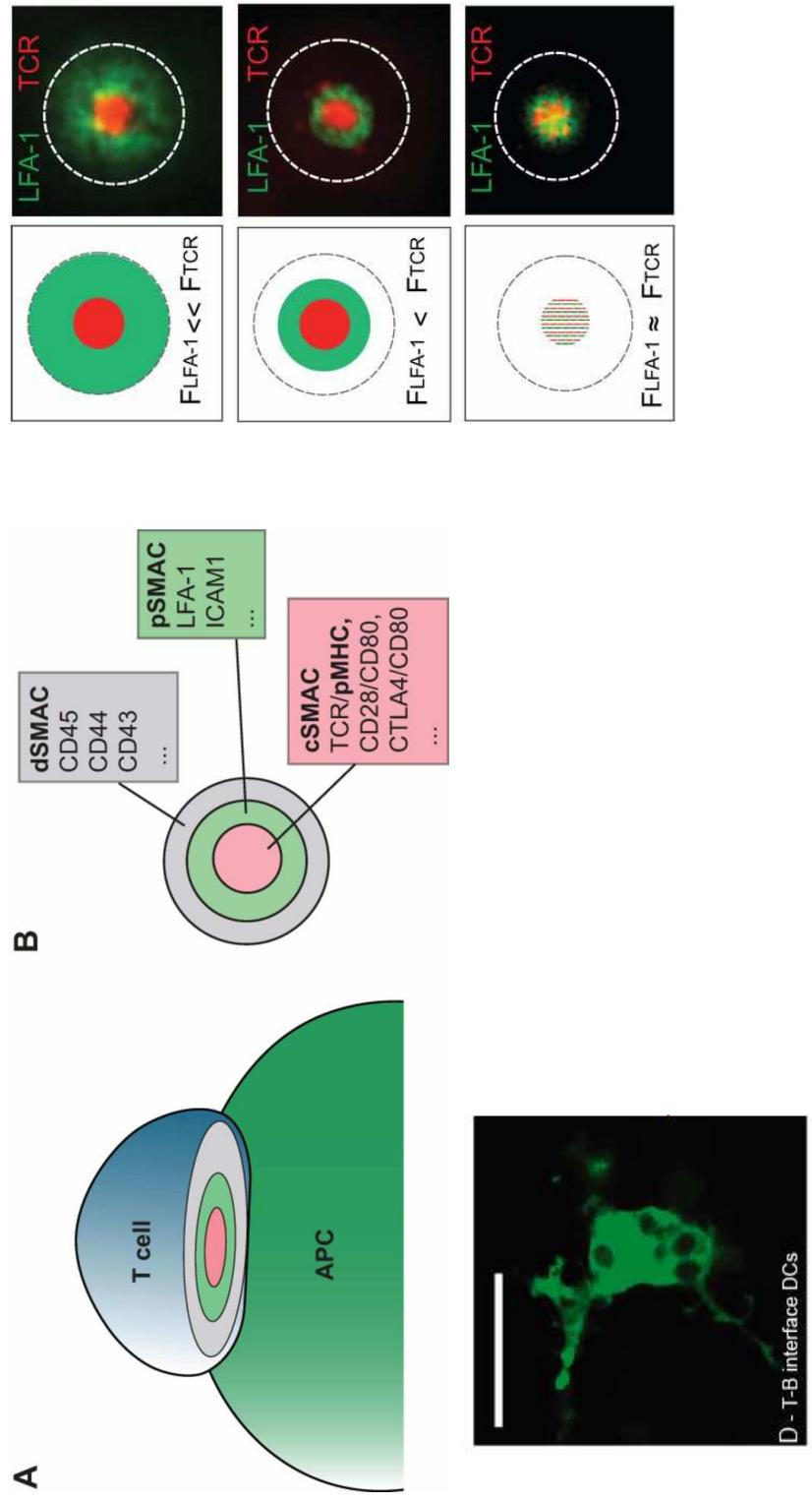
1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and antigen processing  
(classical MHC-I / alternative processing)
3. DC maturation and migration
- 4. Antigen presentation**
5. T cell activation
6. What makes DCs so complicated?

# The immunological synapse



- Upregulation of co-stimulatory molecules (CD80/CD86, Ig-superfamily)

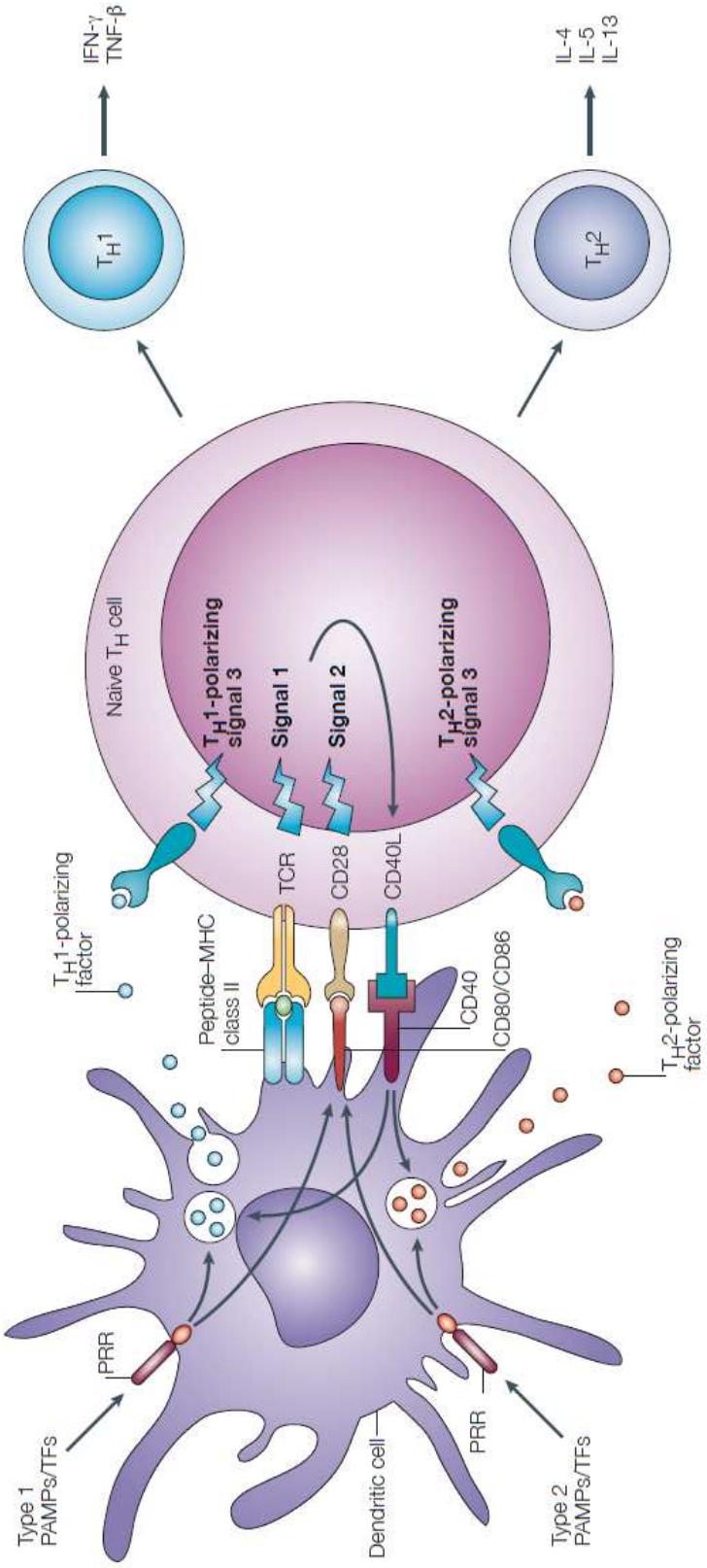
# The immunological synapse



Supramolecular activation complex (SMAC)  
central, peripheral, distal

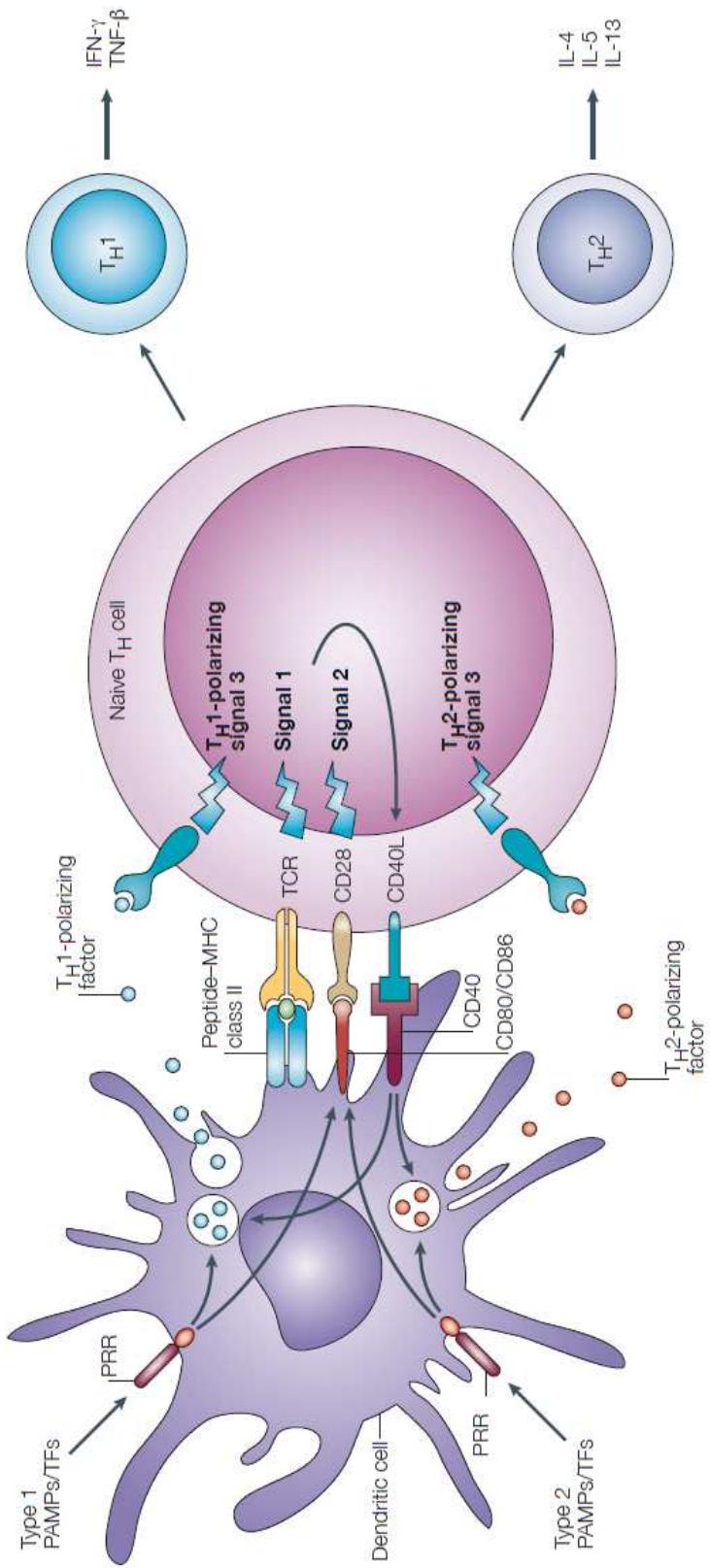
Yan Yu et al. J Cell Sci 2013;126:1049-1058

# Signal 1 (antigen), Signal 2 (co-stimulation), Signal 3 (cytokines/T cell polarization)



Kapsenberg

# Signal 1 (antigen), Signal 2 (co-stimulation), Signal 3 (cytokines/T cell polarization)

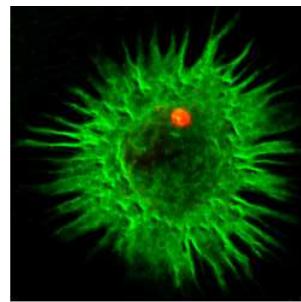


Cytokine and chemokine production strongly depend on the given stimulus

Cytokines: (secured): IL-12 necessary for T<sub>H</sub>1 CD4 T cell polarization,  
TGF-β necessary for T<sub>reg</sub> polarization

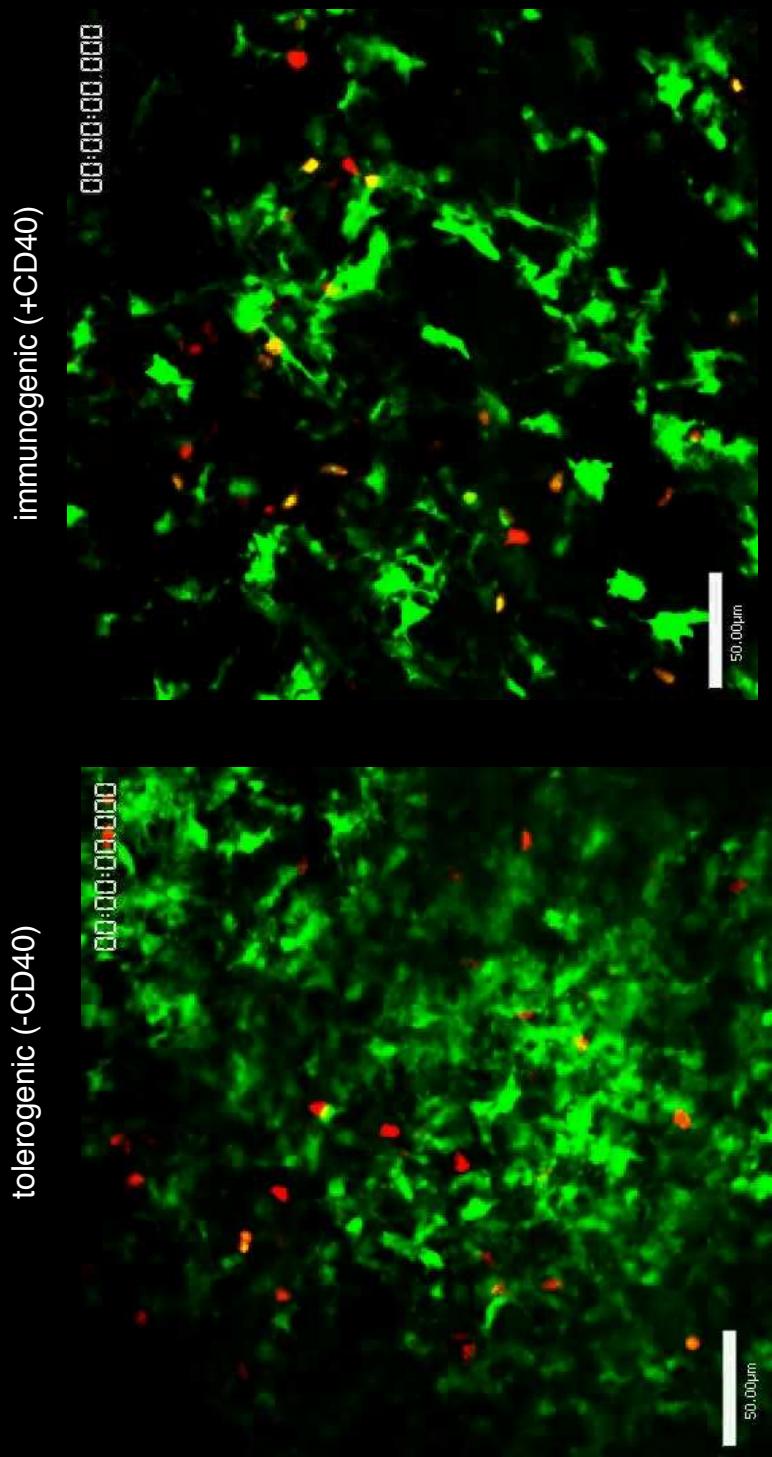
Kapsenberg

## Dendritic cells (DCs)



1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and antigen processing  
(classical MHC-I / alternative processing)
3. DC maturation and migration
4. Antigen presentation
5. **T cell activation**
6. What makes DCs so complicated?

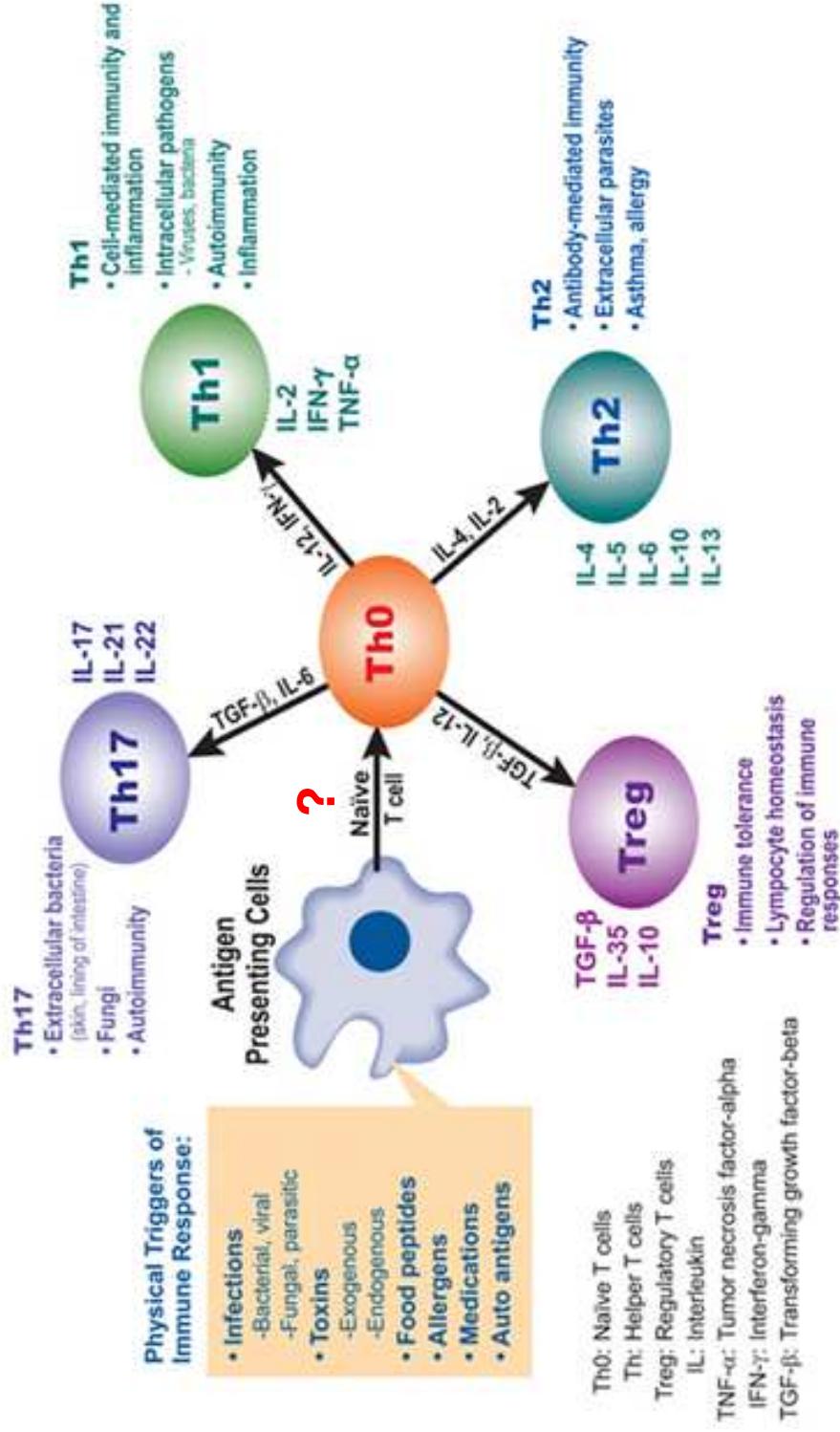
**Antigen loaded DCs interact with antigen specific T cells independent of the DC maturation status**



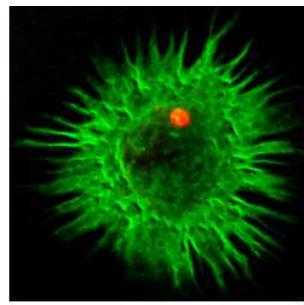
EYFP-DC  
CFP-T tracks  
GFP-OTII tracks

Shakar et al., Nat. Immunol. (2005)

# DCs direct T cell polarization

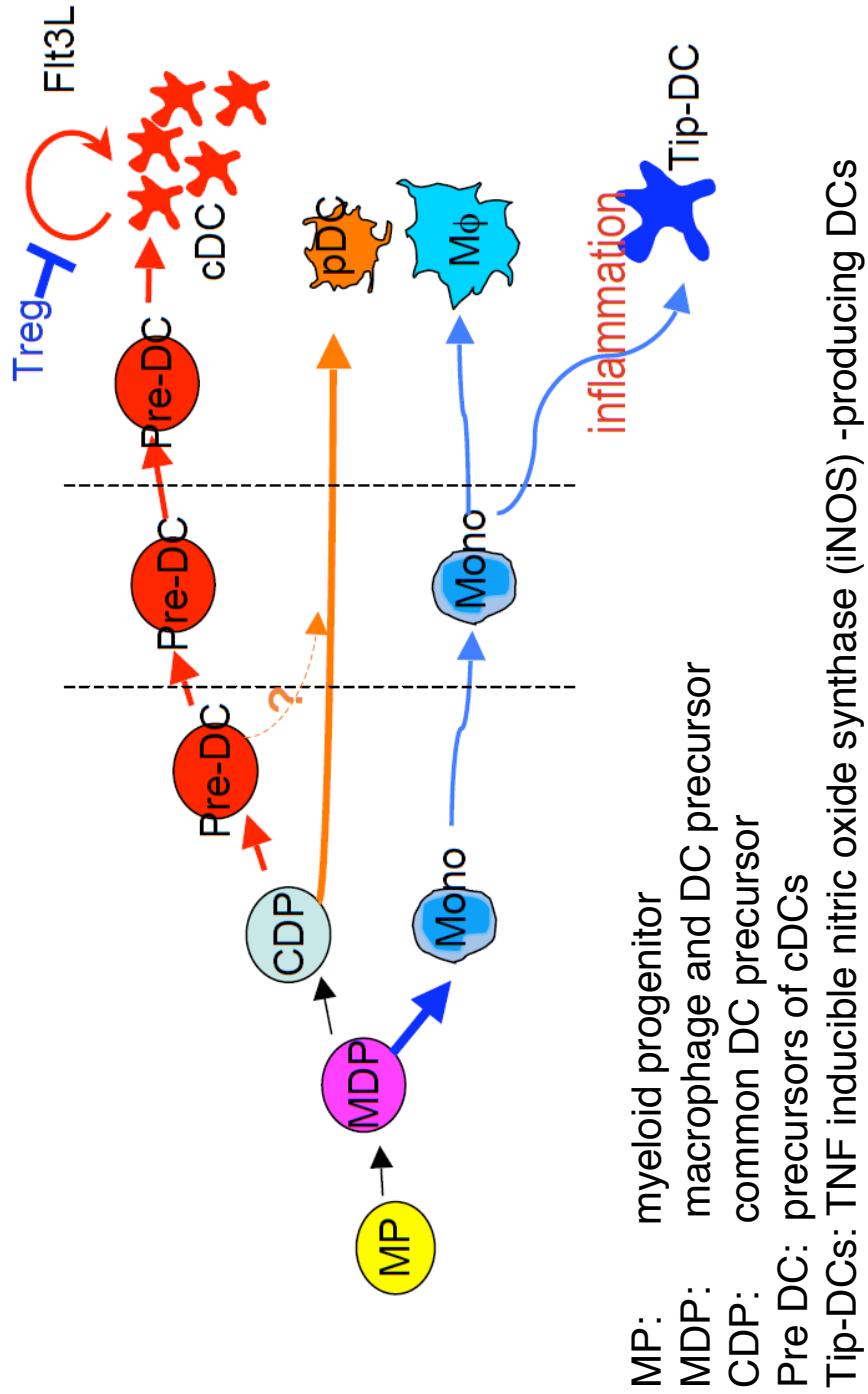


## Dendritic cells (DCs)



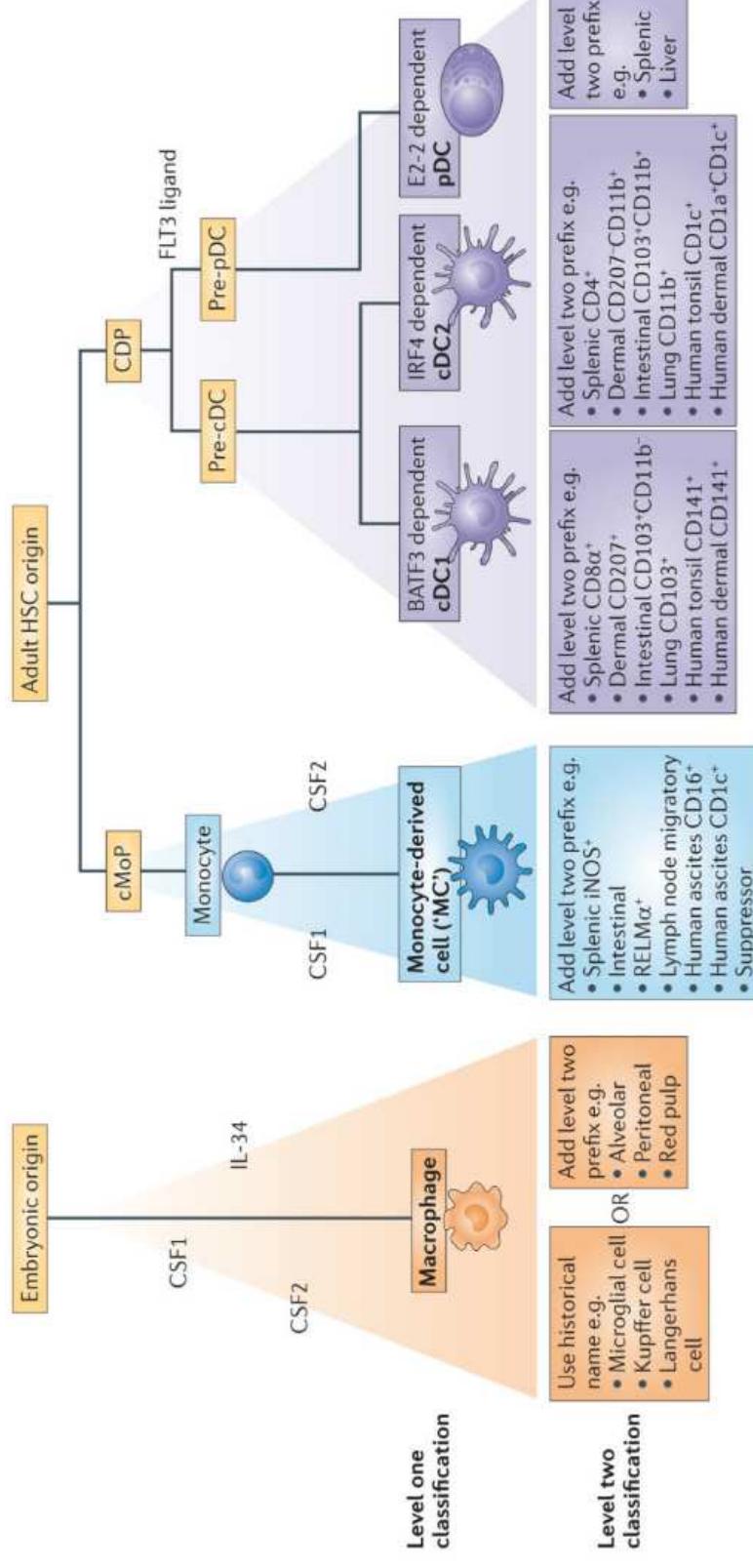
1. Localization
2. Antigen uptake and antigen processing  
(classical MHC-I / alternative processing)
3. DC maturation and migration
4. Antigen presentation
5. T cell activation
6. **What makes DCs so complicated?**
  - Very small cell numbers,
  - Comes in a variety of subsets, localized in different tissues
  - Can easily activate via preparation from tissue
  - Variety of surface markers

# Dendritic cells (DCs)



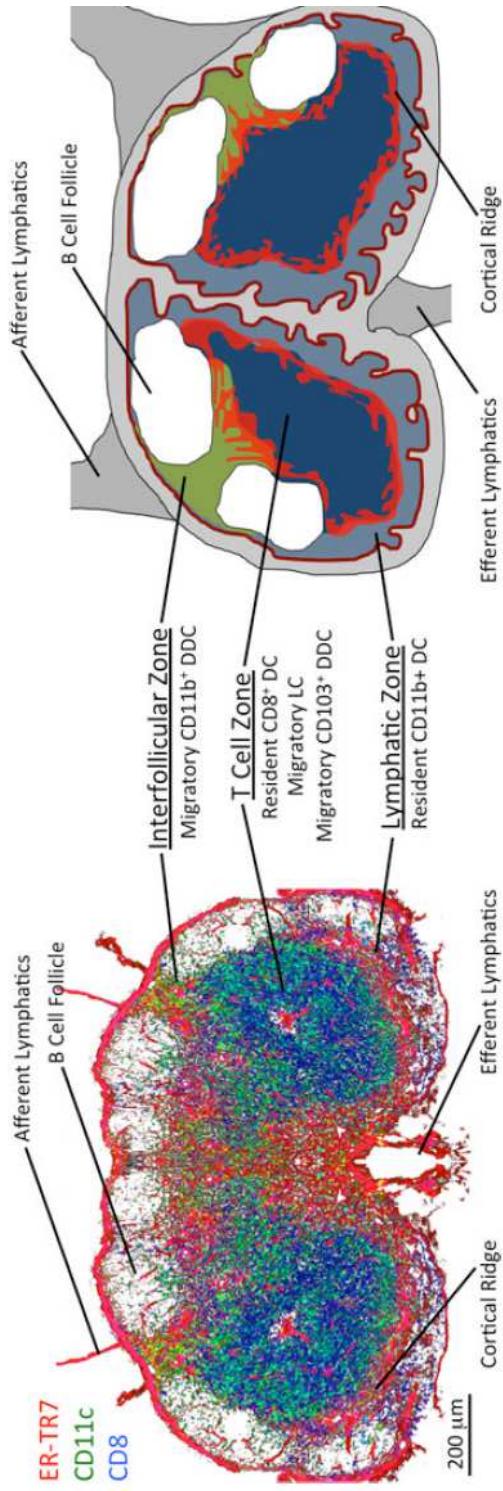
Liu K, Science. 2009 Apr 17;324(5925):392-7.

# New classification of DC subpopulations

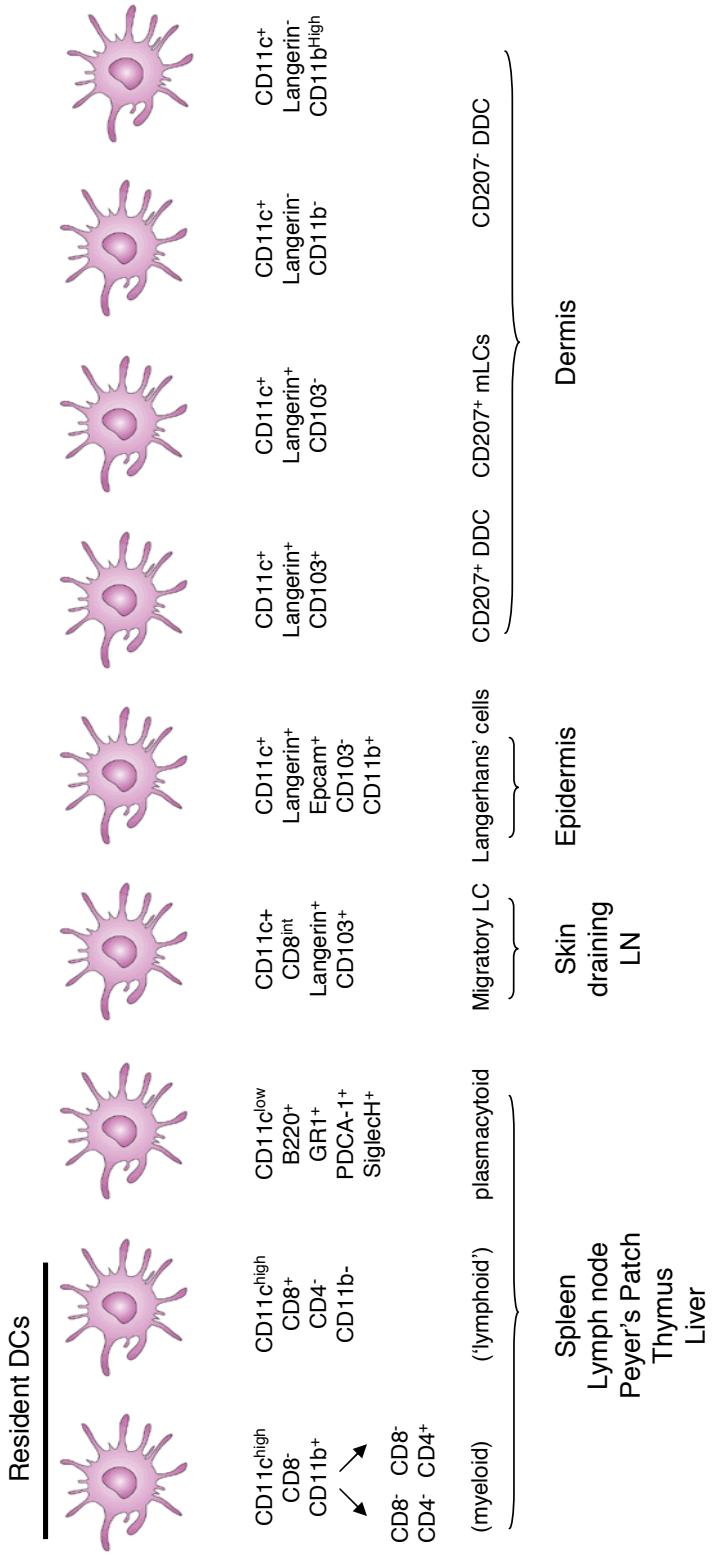


Guilliams, Nat. Rev. Immunol., 2014

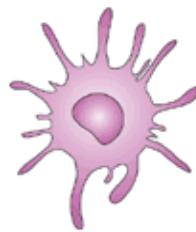
# Histocytometry of DC subpopulations



# Organ distribution of murine Dendritic cells



## Murine resident CD8+ DCs

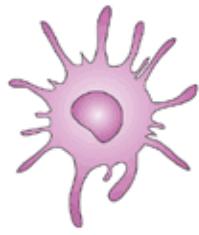


- cross-presentation of endocytosed antigens on **MHCII**
- activation of CD8+ cytotoxic T cells (leading to IFN- $\gamma$ , Granzyme)
- also able to activate  $T_H 1$  CD4+ helper T cells (IFN- $\gamma$ ), by antigen presentation on MHCII
- uptake of tumor material, virus-infected cells
- main producers of IL-12
- additional receptors: DEC205, XCR-1, Clec9A
- BATF3 dependent
- Cross-presentation demonstrated also for some CD103+ migratory DCs

CD11chigh  
CD8+/CD11b-

(“lymphoid”)

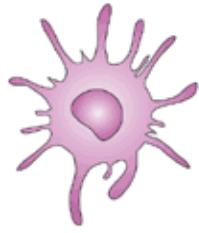
## Murine resident CD8- DCs



- important for anti-bacterial, anti-parasite immune response
- uptake of 'Blood-born Antigens'
- antigen presentation on MHC-class II
- activation of TH2 CD4<sup>+</sup> T-helper cells (IL-4)
- upregulation and secretion of Notch-ligands ('myeloid')
- further receptors: DCIR2, SIRP  $\alpha$
- IRF4 dependent

CD11c<sup>high</sup>  
CD8-/CD11b+

## Murine plasmacytoid DCs

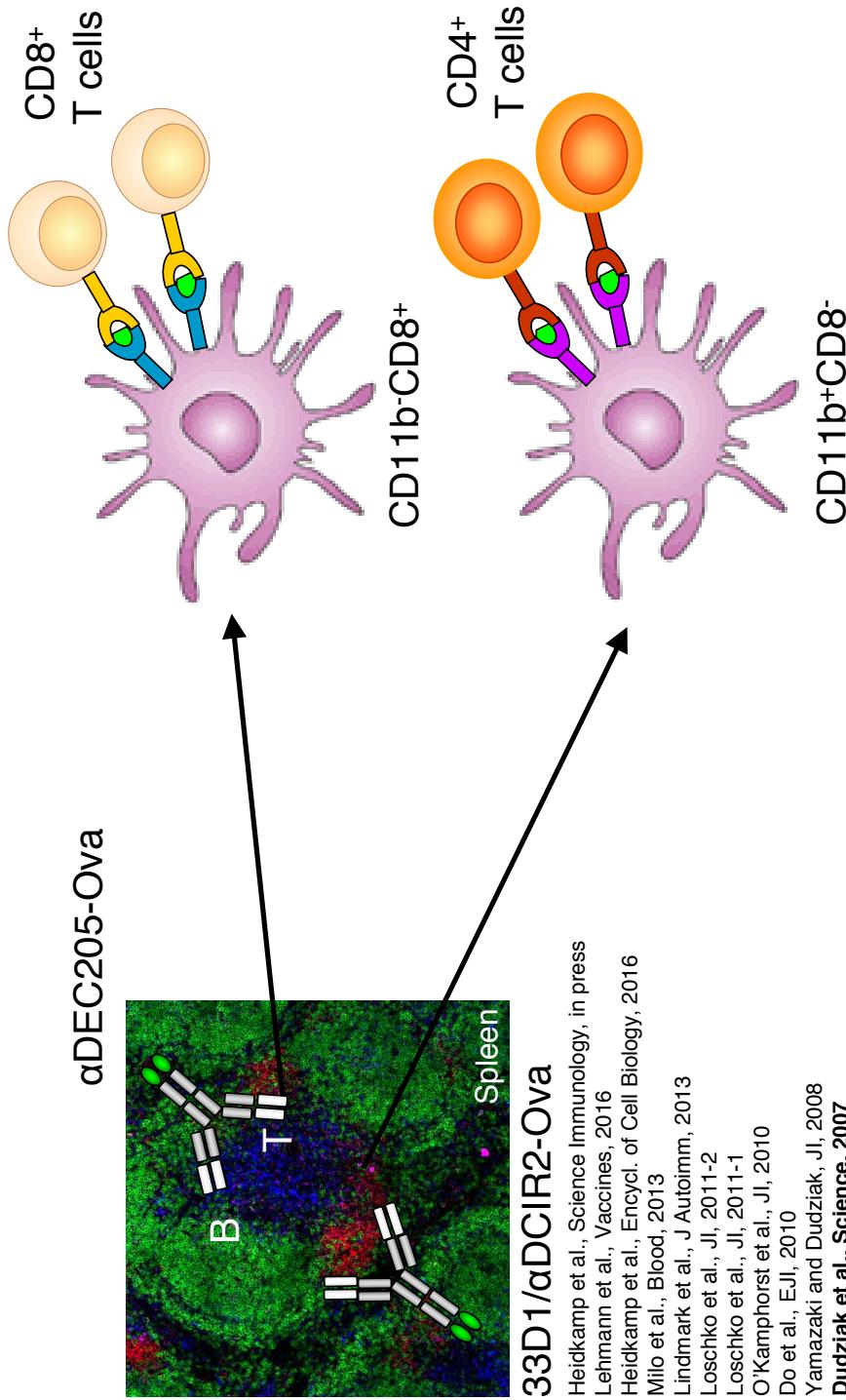


- morphological similar to antibody producing plasma cells (B cells)
- production of high amounts of Interferon I (IFN- $\alpha$ , IFN- $\beta$ ) upon virus infection
- maintenance of peripheral tolerance
- further receptors: PDCA-1, SiglecH, partly CCR9
- E2-2 dependent

CD11c<sup>low</sup>  
PDCA-1<sup>+</sup>

plasmacytoid

# In vivo antigen targeting of DC subpopulations induces different T cell responses in mice



Thank you for your attention !