

# MRGPRX2 Mediates Mast Cell Activation and Neurogenic Inflammation in Lesional Biopsies from Patients with Atopic Dermatitis

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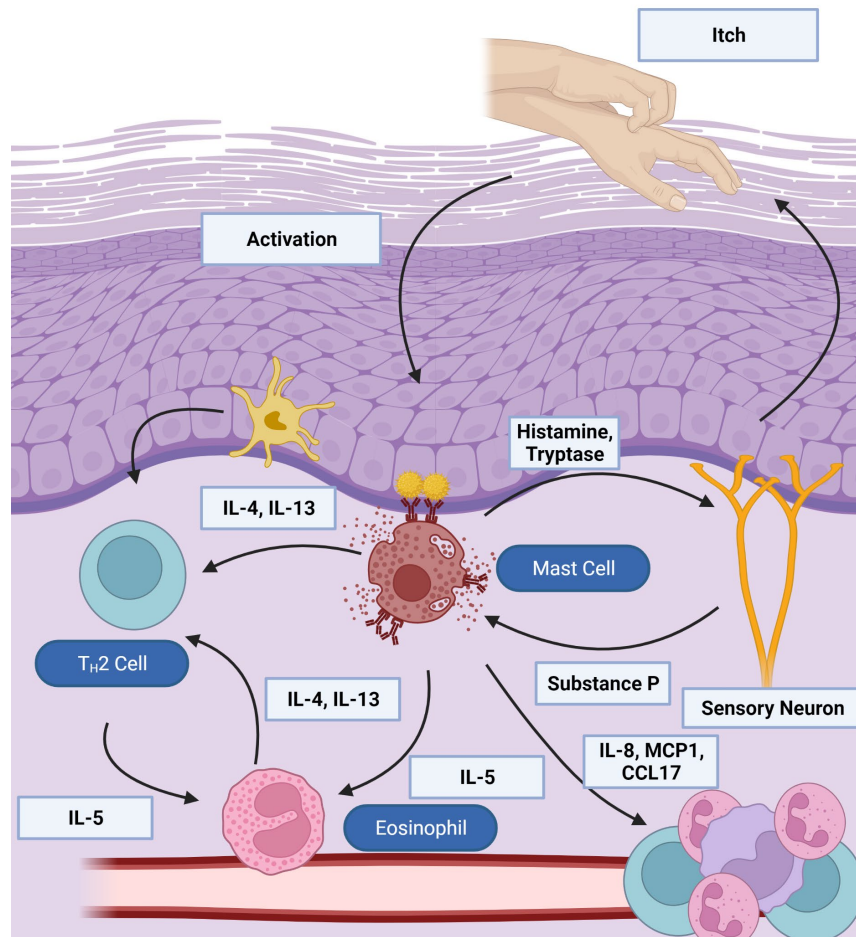
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# Disclosures

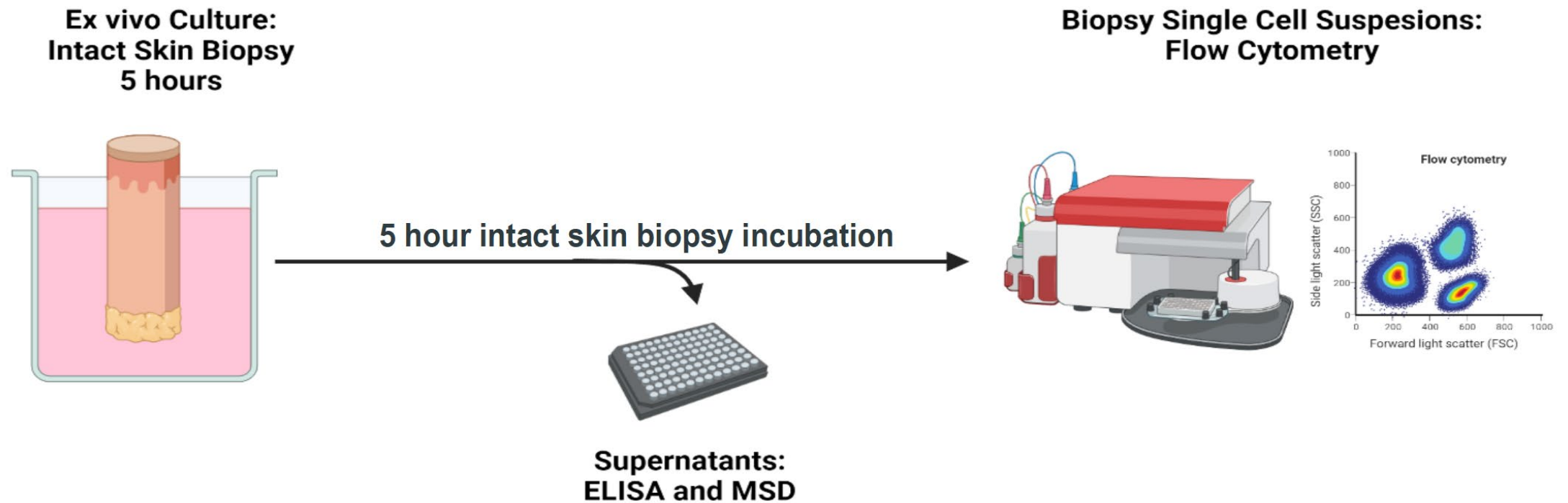
- Lirentelimab is an investigational drug candidate and is not FDA/EMA approved
- This study was funded by Allakos Inc.

# Mast Cells Drive Itch and Neurogenic Inflammation in Skin

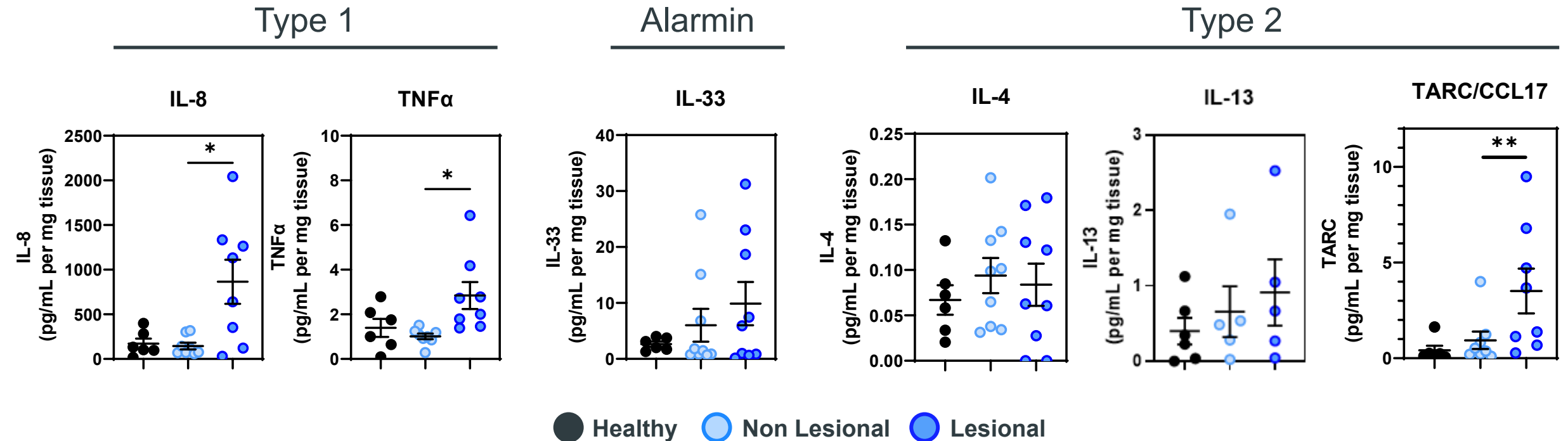


- Mast cells are elevated in atopic dermatitis (AD) tissue and are poised to be key drivers of itch
- Crosstalk between mast cells and sensory neurons contribute to itch via MRGPRX2
- The role of MRGPRX2 in contributing to AD pathogenesis has not been well studied

# Evaluation of Local Inflammation in Fresh Skin Biopsies via Ex Vivo Immunological Assays

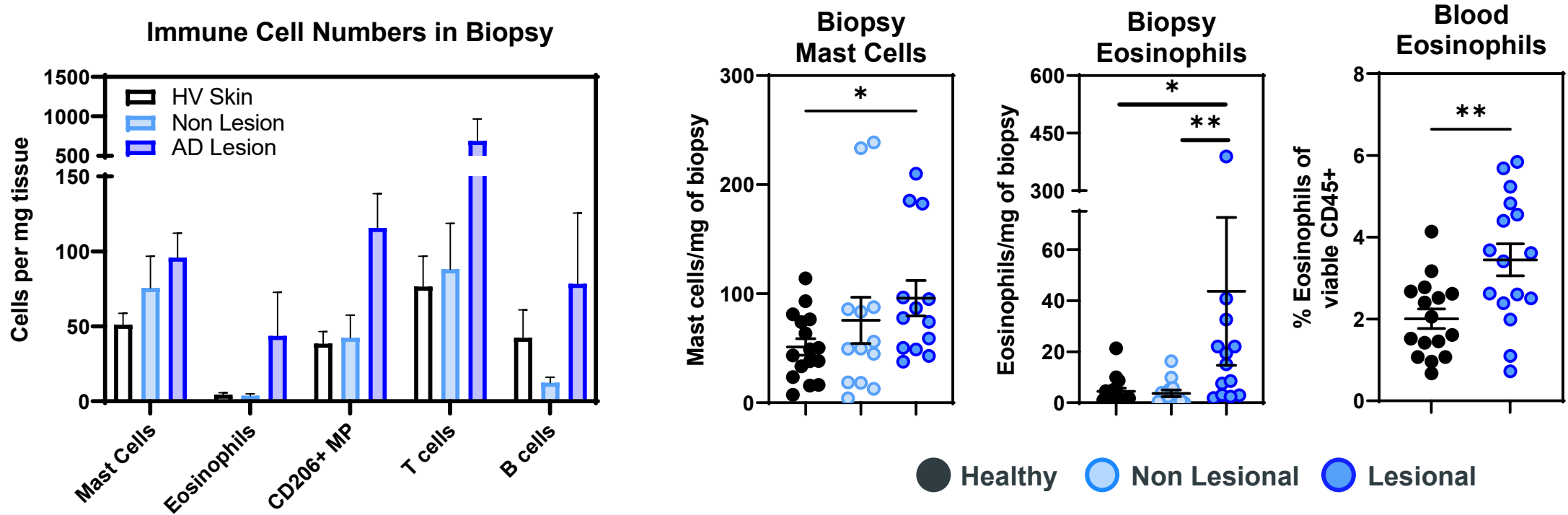


# AD Skin Lesions Display Mixed Inflammatory Profile



AD skin biopsies show evidence of both Th1 and Th2 inflammation

# Mast Cells and Eosinophils are Elevated in AD Lesions

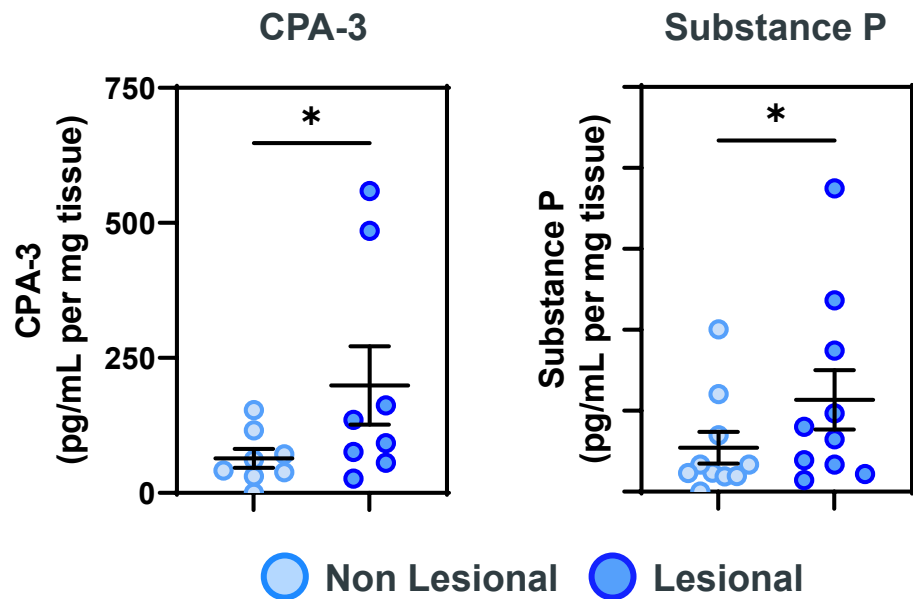


MCs and eosinophils may play a role in AD pathogenesis

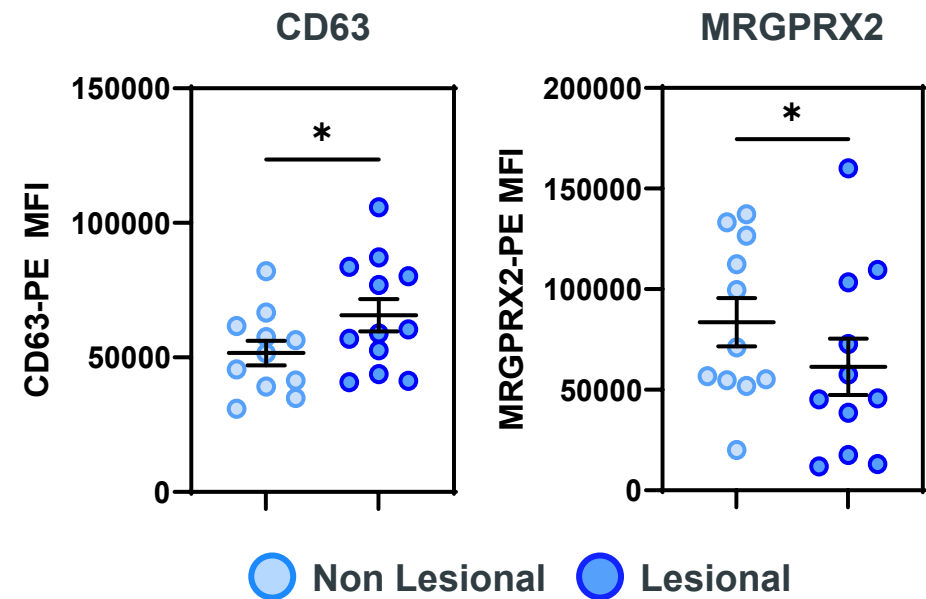


# MRGPRX2-Substance P Axis is Active in AD Lesional Skin

## Ex Vivo Biopsy Culture Supernatants

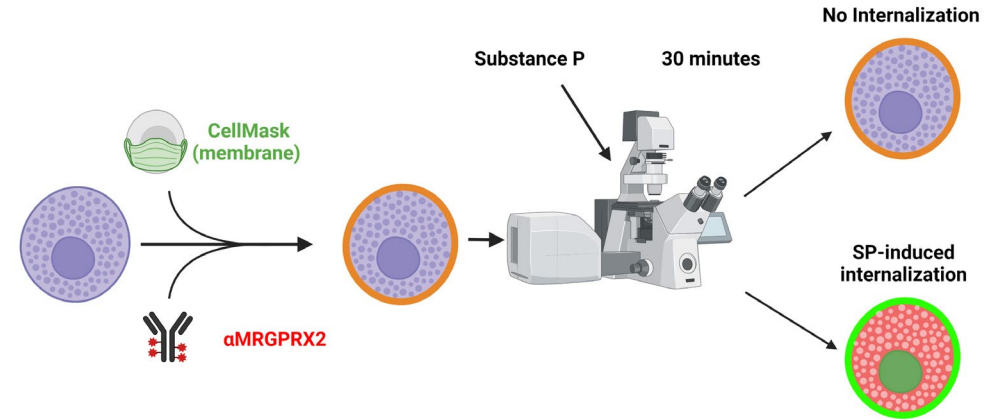
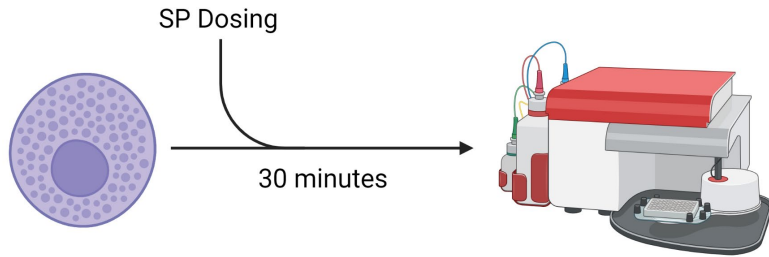


## Surface Markers on Mast Cells

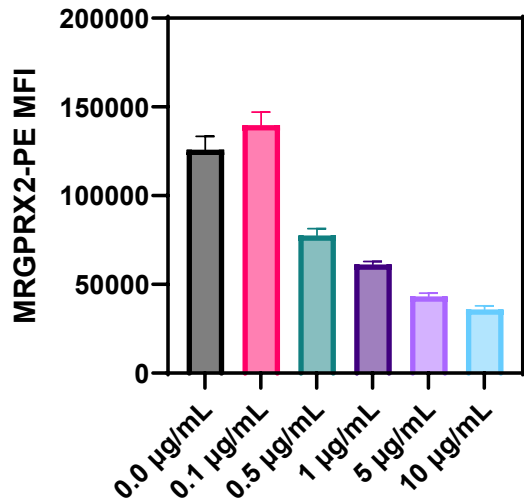


MRGPRX2-mediated MC activation is found in AD skin

# Substance P-mediated MC Activation Induces MRGPRX2 Internalization

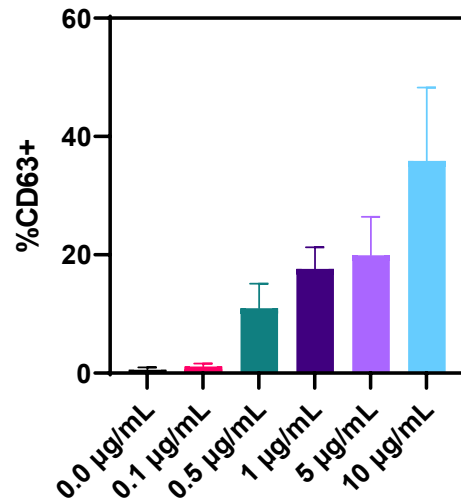


Internalization

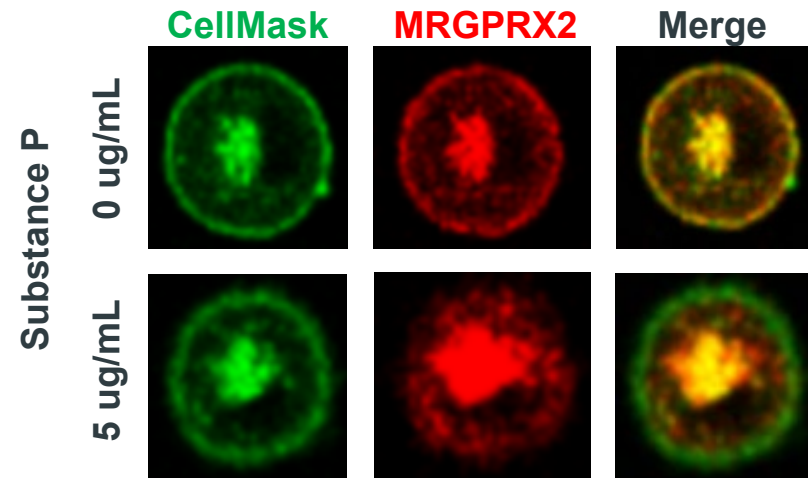


Substance P

Activation



Substance P

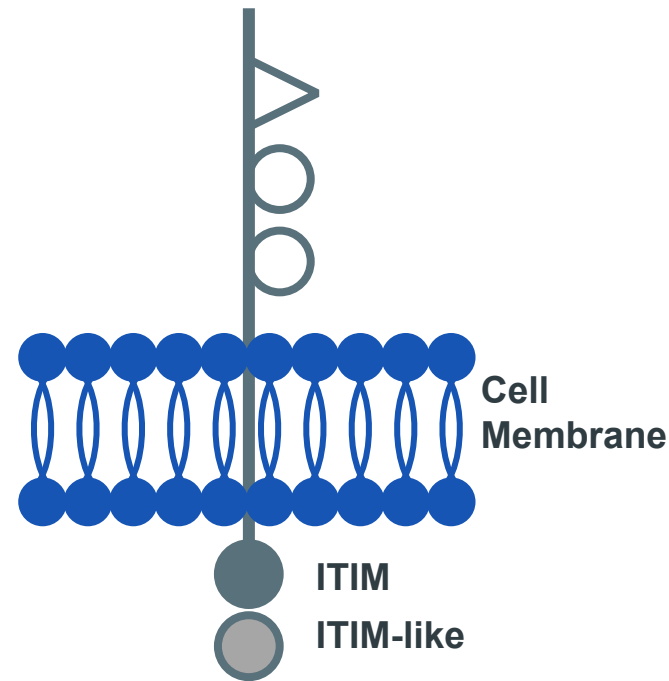




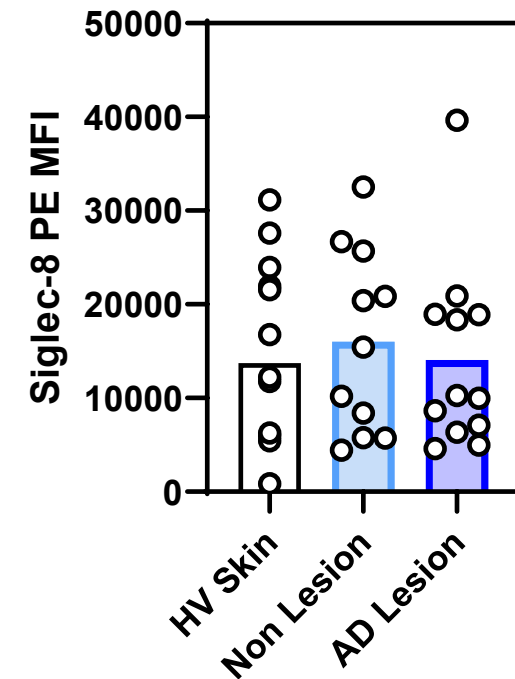
# Sialic Acid-binding Immunoglobulin-like Lectin (Siglec)-8 is an Inhibitory Cell Surface Receptor on Mast Cells

## Siglec-8

- Siglec-8 is a cell surface receptor of the CD33-related subfamily of Siglecs only found in humans
- Selectively expressed on eosinophils and mast cells
- Upon antibody engagement, Siglec-8 induces eosinophil depletion and mast cell inhibition

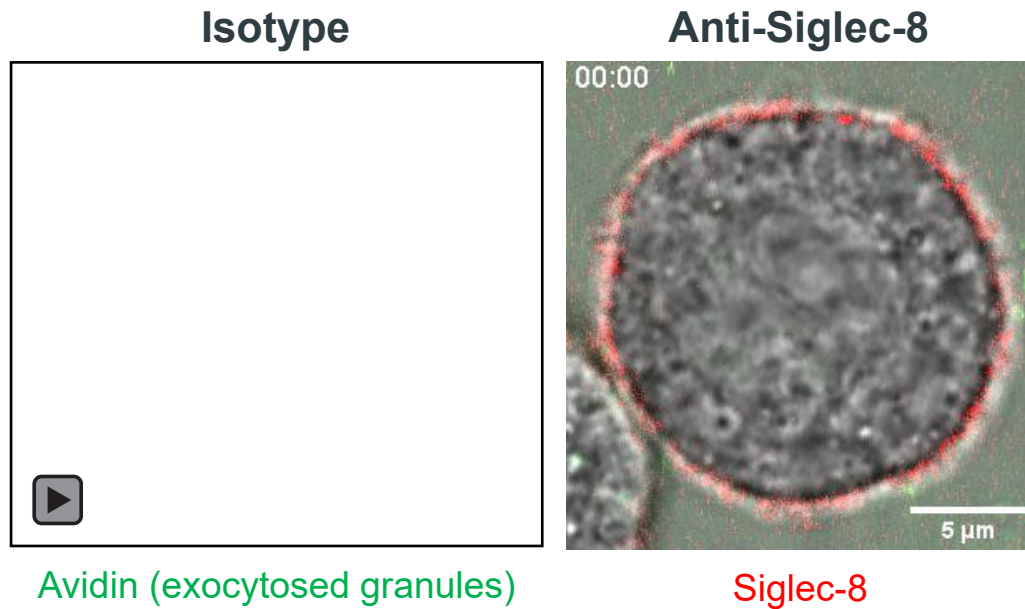


## Mast Cell Siglec-8

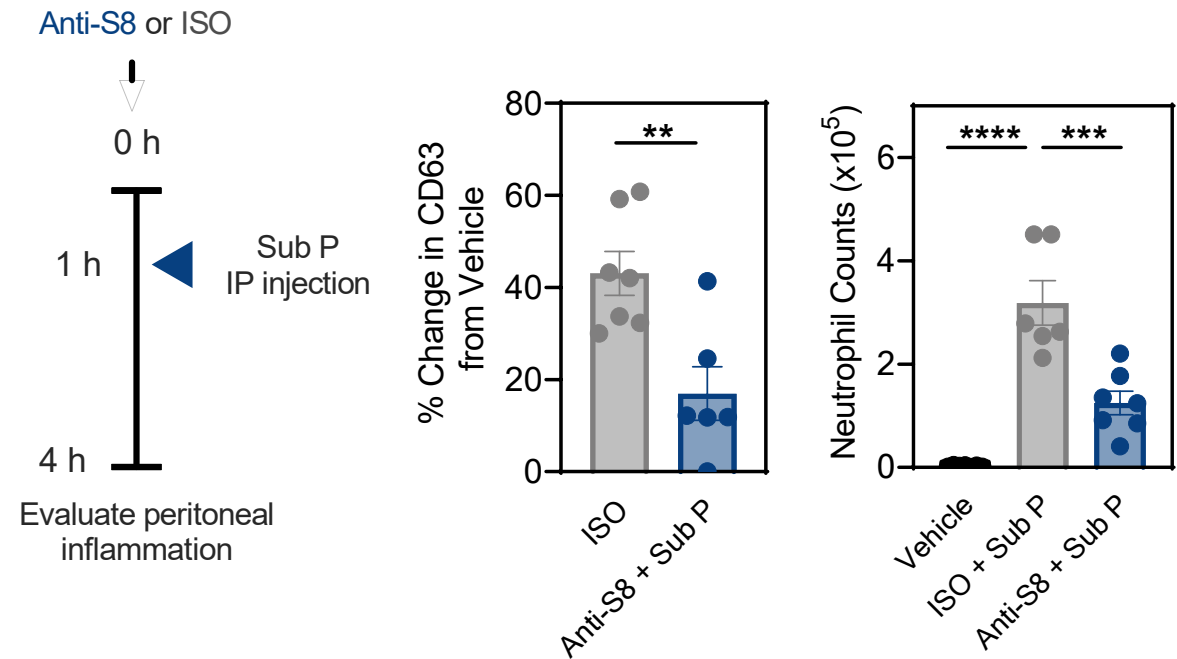


# Siglec-8 mAb Inhibits Substance P-mediated Activation of MCs

## Human Mast Cells



## Siglec-8 Transgenic Mice



Siglec-8 represents a novel target to inhibit MRGPRX2-mediated MC activation

# Summary

- Mast cells are elevated and activated in lesional skin of patients with AD
- Activation is in part driven through the MRGPRX2 axis
  - Levels of substance P are elevated in biopsy supernatants
  - MRGPRX2 surface levels are reduced on mast cells in lesional skin
- MRGPRX2 is internalized upon ligand engagement
- Targeting the inhibitory receptor Siglec-8 on mast cells represents an attractive approach to reduce MRGPRX2-mediated MC activation