

# Laboratorium analyses op darmbiopten in kader van de diagnostiek voor “refractaire coeliakie type I of II”

---

CRITICALLY APPRAISED TOPICS: 07 JUNI 2022 DR ANTOINE MAIRESSE

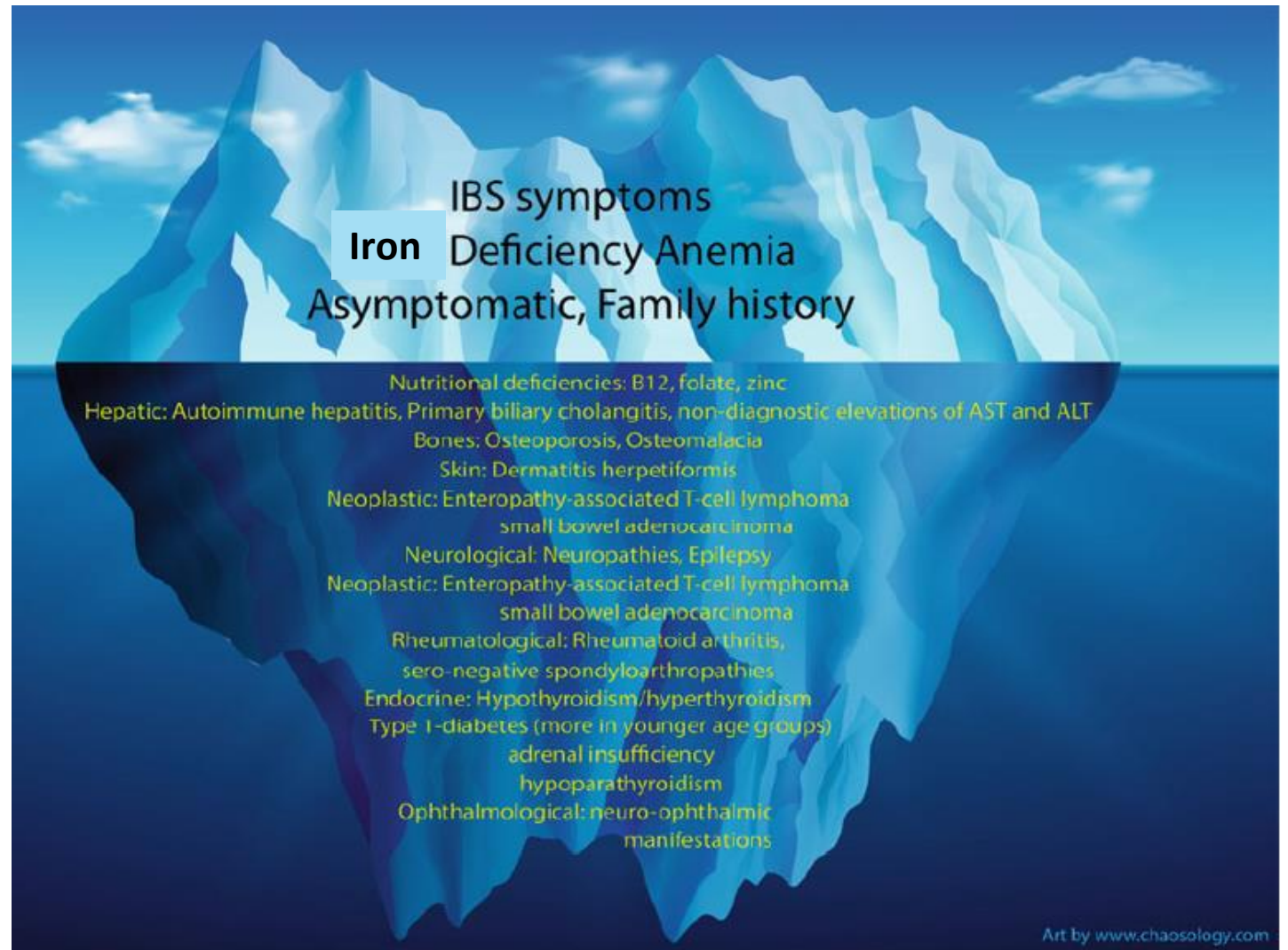
SUPERVISOR: PR NANCY BOECKX

# Introduction: celiac disease

“a chronic immune-mediated enteropathy precipitated by exposure to dietary gluten in genetically predisposed individuals (alleles encoding HLA DQ2 or DQ8)”

Worldwide prevalence of 0,6-1%

Underdiagnosed



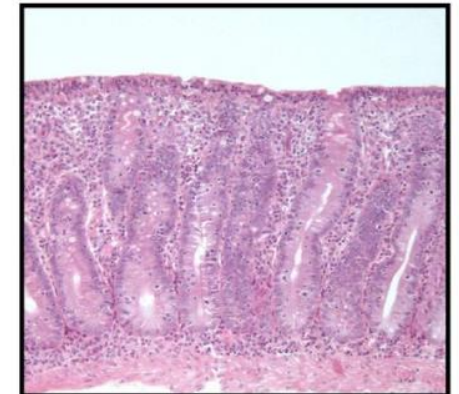
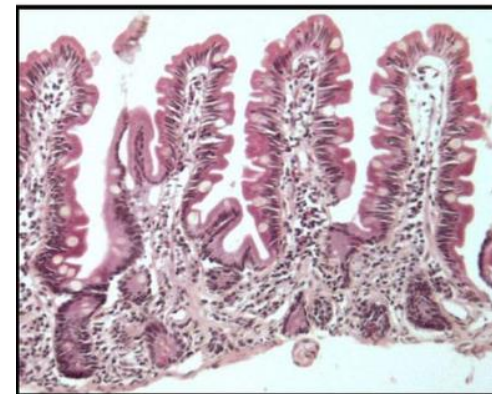
# Celiac disease: diagnosis

## SEROLOGY

- IgA-TG2 antibody is preferred single test
- Total IgA level needs to be measured concurrently with serology testing
- In patient with selective total IgA-deficiency, IgG-based testing (IgG-DGPs or IgG-TG2) should be performed
- All diagnostic serology testing should be done while patients on a gluten-containing diet

## DUODENAL BIOPSIES

- Atrophic villi
- Crypt hyperplasia
- Increase in number of intra-epithelial lymphocytes (IELs)



# Celiac disease: treatment

## Strict gluten-free diet

- Avoiding
  - Wheat (Tarwe – Blé)
  - Ry (Rogge – Seigle)
  - Barley (Gerst – Orge)
- Lifelong diet (expensive, socially isolating)
- Reduce symptoms, mortality and risk for malignancy
- Normalisation of histopathology
- Disappearance of antibodies



# Refractory Celiac Disease (RCD)

- Persisting or recurring **symptoms** despite strict adherence to gluten-free diet (>12 months) AND in absence of other causes
  - diarrhea, abdominal pain, involuntary weight loss,...
  - severe malnutrition, protein-losing enteropathy, ulcerative jejunitis,...
- Prevalence: <1% of CD patients, but significant morbidity and mortality
- Subdivided into
  - RCD type I
  - RCD type II

# Refractory Celiac Disease (RCD)

**TABLE 1 |** Clinical and Immuno-phenotypic features of Refractory Celiac Disease (RCD) type I and II.

Features	RCD I	RCD II
Female predominance	–	+
Hypoalbuminemia	–	+
Low BMI	±	+
Anemia	+	+
Lymphocytic gastritis	±	+
Lymphocytic colitis	±	±
Extraintestinal Manifestation	–	+
Ulcerative jejunoileitis	–	+
Intra epithelial lymphocytes (IELs)	Normal	Aberrant T-cell IELs Clonal
Surface CD3	+	–
Surface CD8	+	–
Intracellular CD3		+
Trisomy 1q		+



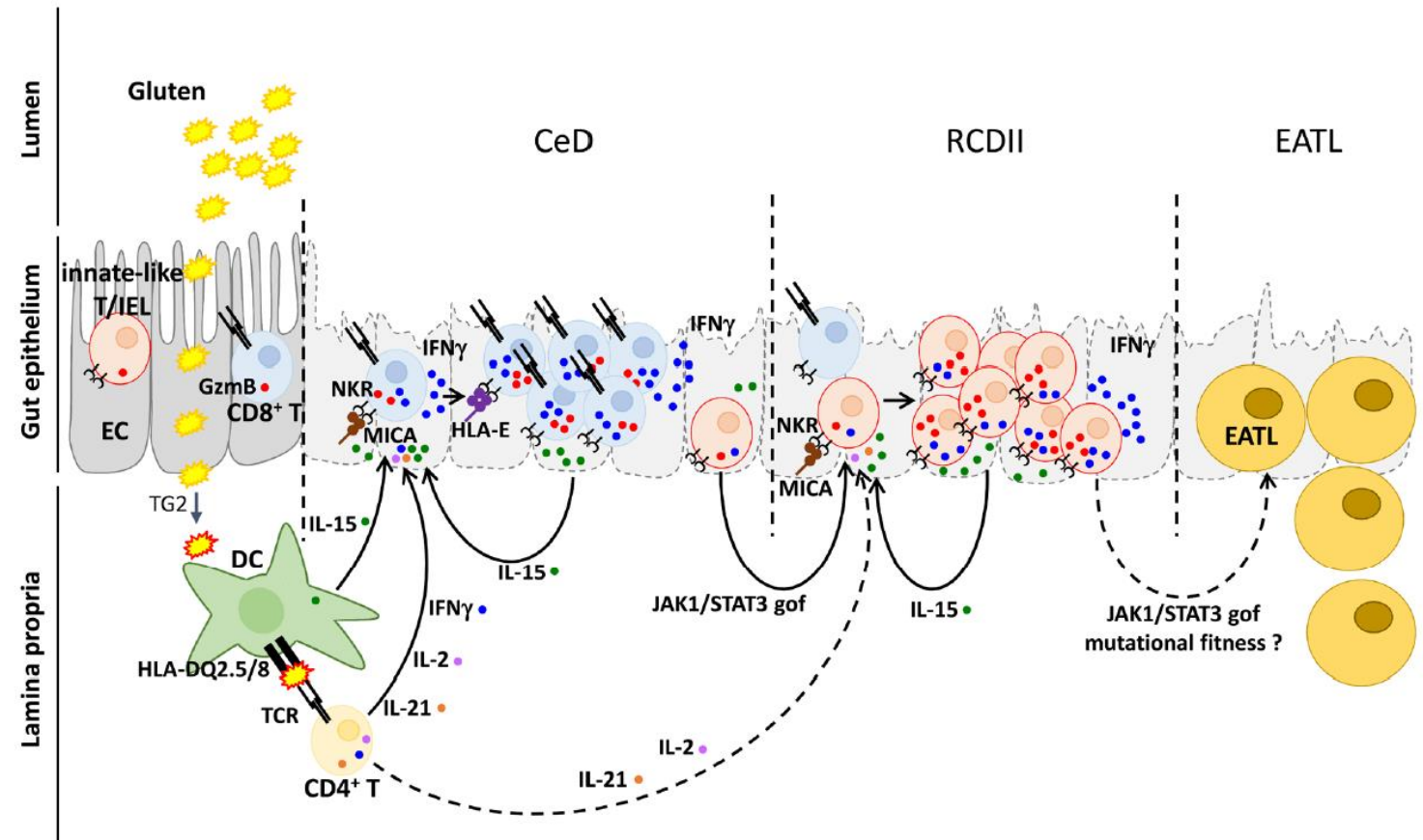
## RCD type II

- high risk of developping EATL (40 – 50% within 5 years)
- Poor 5-year survival (50%)
- Pre-malignant (indolent lymphoma), requires cytotoxic chemotherapeutic therapy, eg. 2-CDA



# Refractory celiac diseases

## Physiopathology



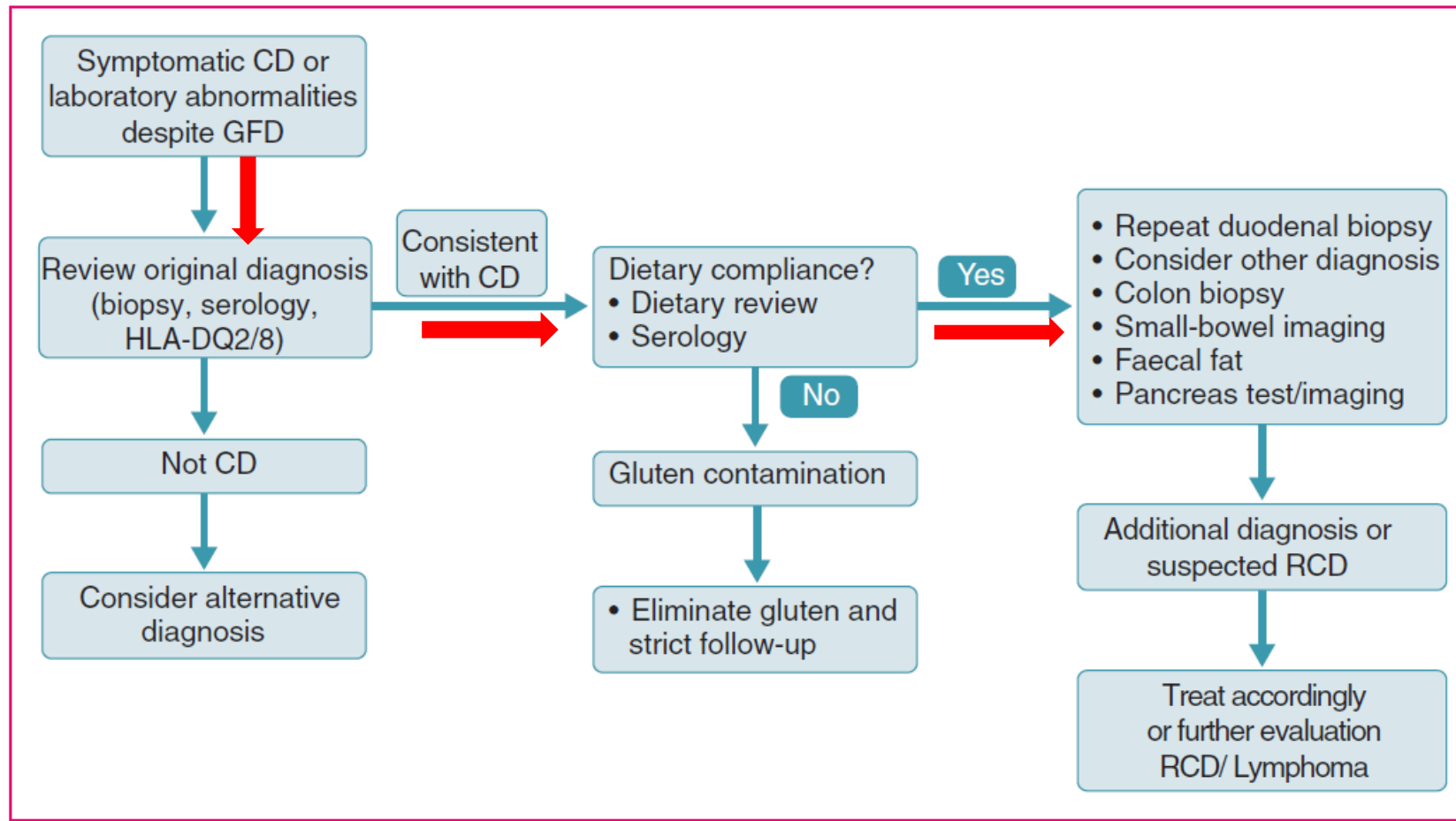
# Questions

Between 2015-2021, **16 patients** with a **possible** diagnosis of RCD were referred to our laboratory for FCM analysis of their duodenal biopsies.

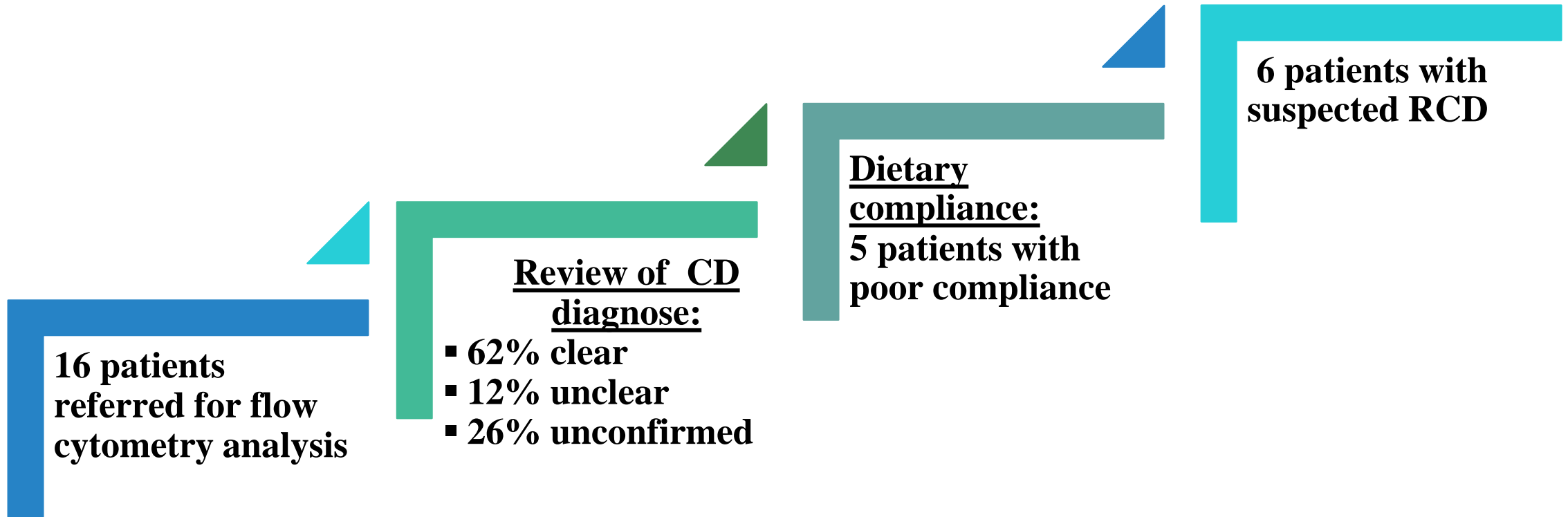
- I. Determine which laboratory analytical techniques are used to diagnose RCD.
- II. Determine which analytical laboratory techniques (FCM analysis, molecular analysis, pathology) are used to make the diagnosis of RCD type I versus RCD type II.
- III. Determine the contribution of each analytical laboratory technique (FCM analysis, molecular analysis, pathology) to the final diagnosis of RCD type I/II (concordances/discordances)?
- IV. Discuss the clinical course of patients diagnosed with RCD type I and RCD type II.



# I. Diagnosis of RCD



# I. Diagnosis of RCD



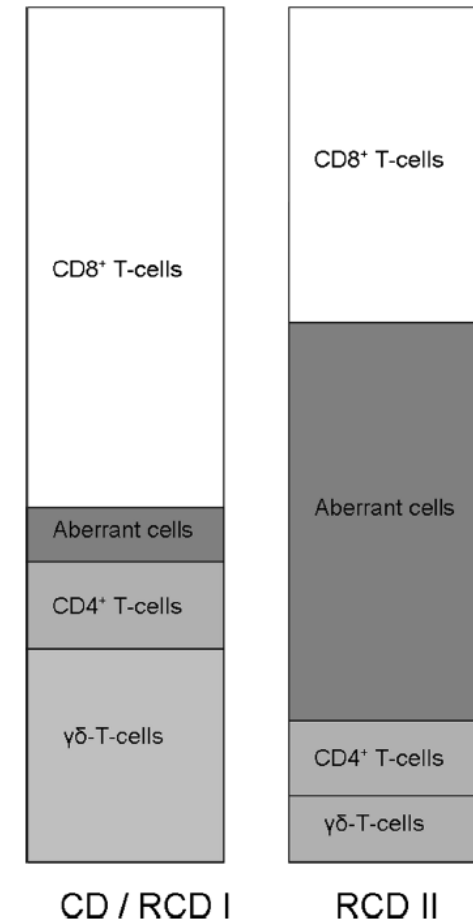
## II. Diagnosis of RCD type I versus RCD type II.

### Identify aberrant IELs

I. Flowcytometric immunophenotyping

II. TCR gene rearrangement analysis

III. Immunohistochemistry: CD3 and CD8 staining

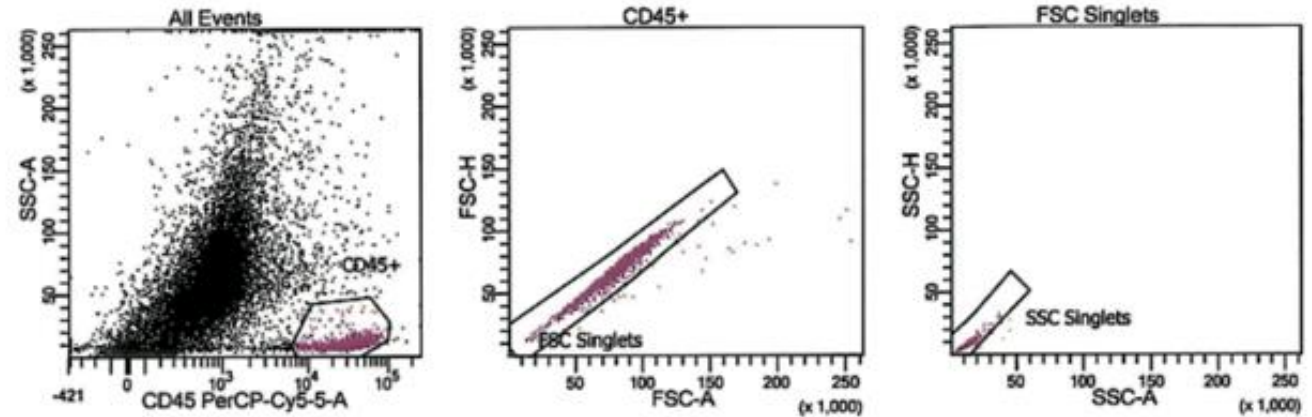


## II. Diagnosis of RCD type I versus RCD type II.

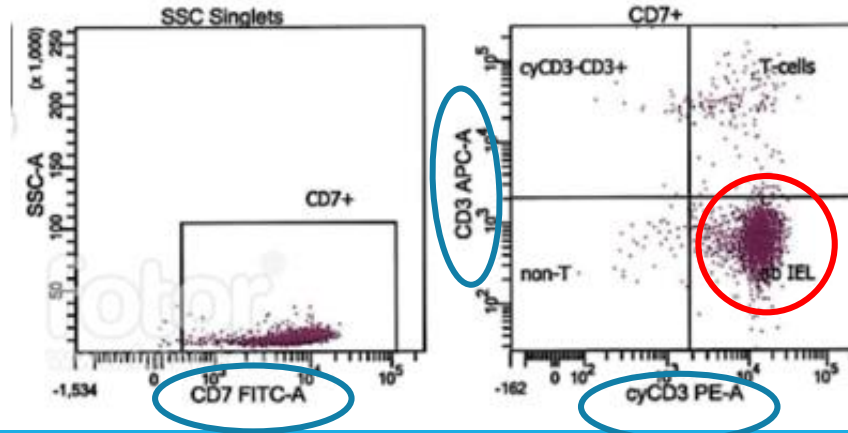
### Flow Cytometry

Clonal expansion **cut-off**:

- RCD type I: <20% aberrant IELs
- RCD type II: 20-100% aberrant IELs

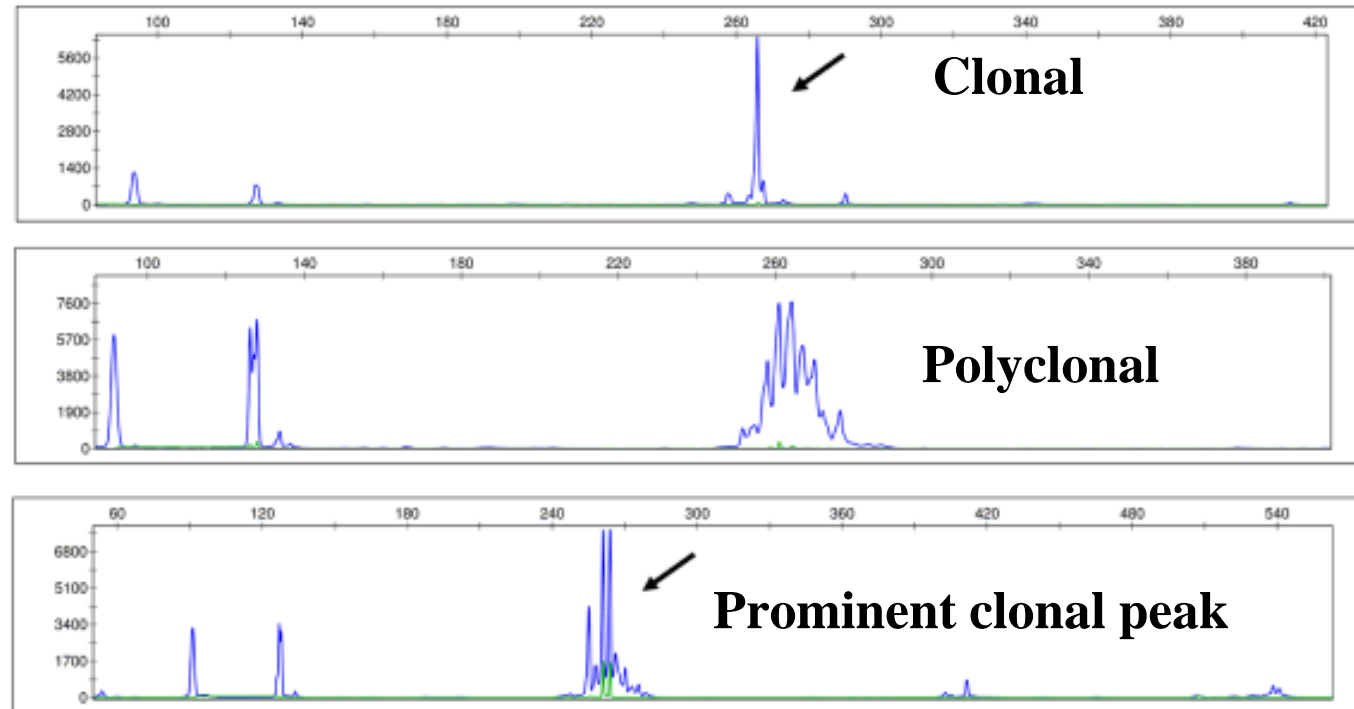
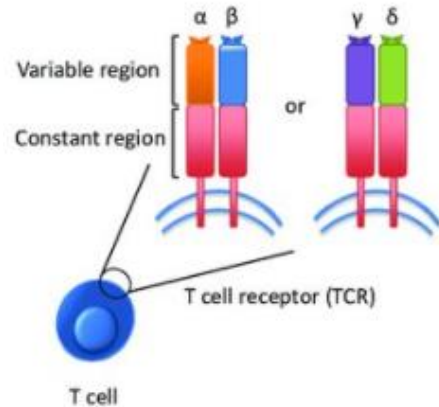


### GATING STRATEGY



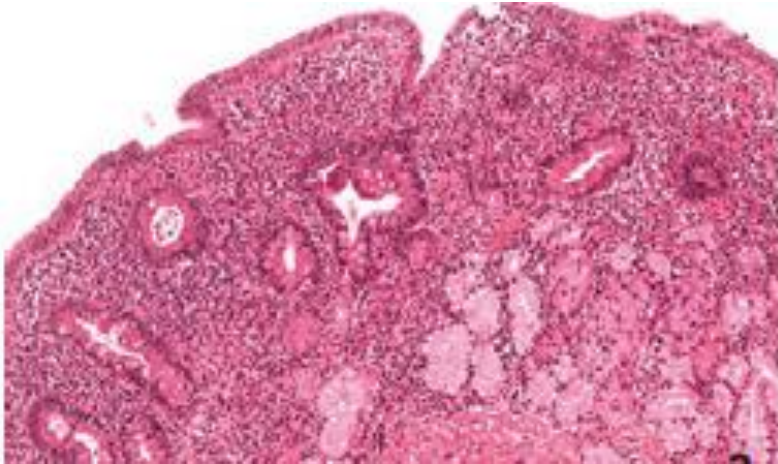
## II. Diagnosis of RCD type I versus RCD type II.

### TCR rearrangement analysis

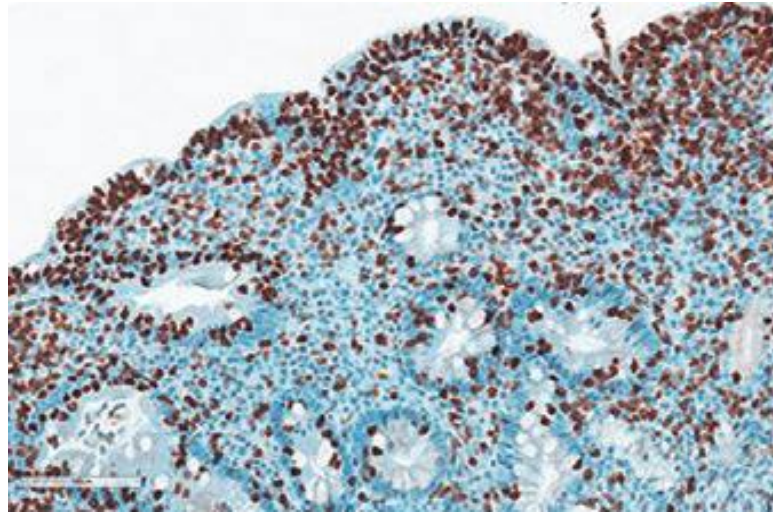


## II. Diagnosis of RCD type I versus RCD type II.

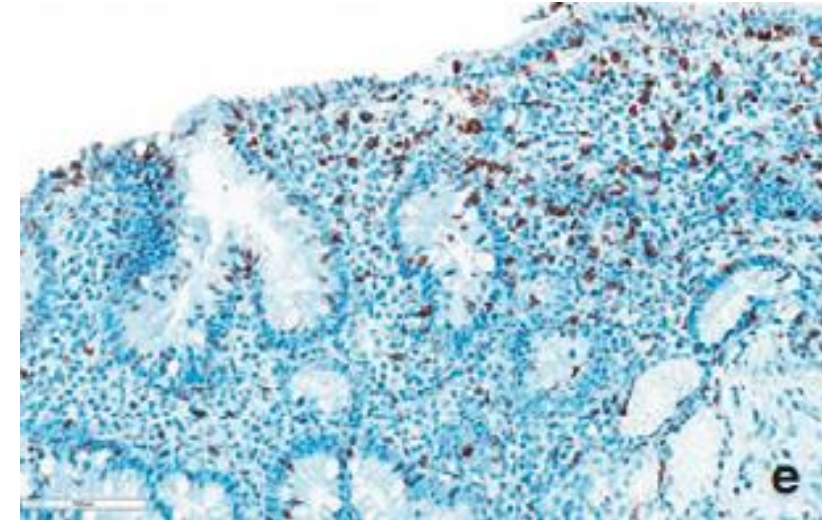
### Immunohistochemistry



Villous atrophy (Marsh type 3)  
Intraepithelial lymphocytosis



CD3+ IELs are increased in the  
surface epithelium



Less than 50% of IELs express CD8  
indicating an aberrant abnormal  
phenotype



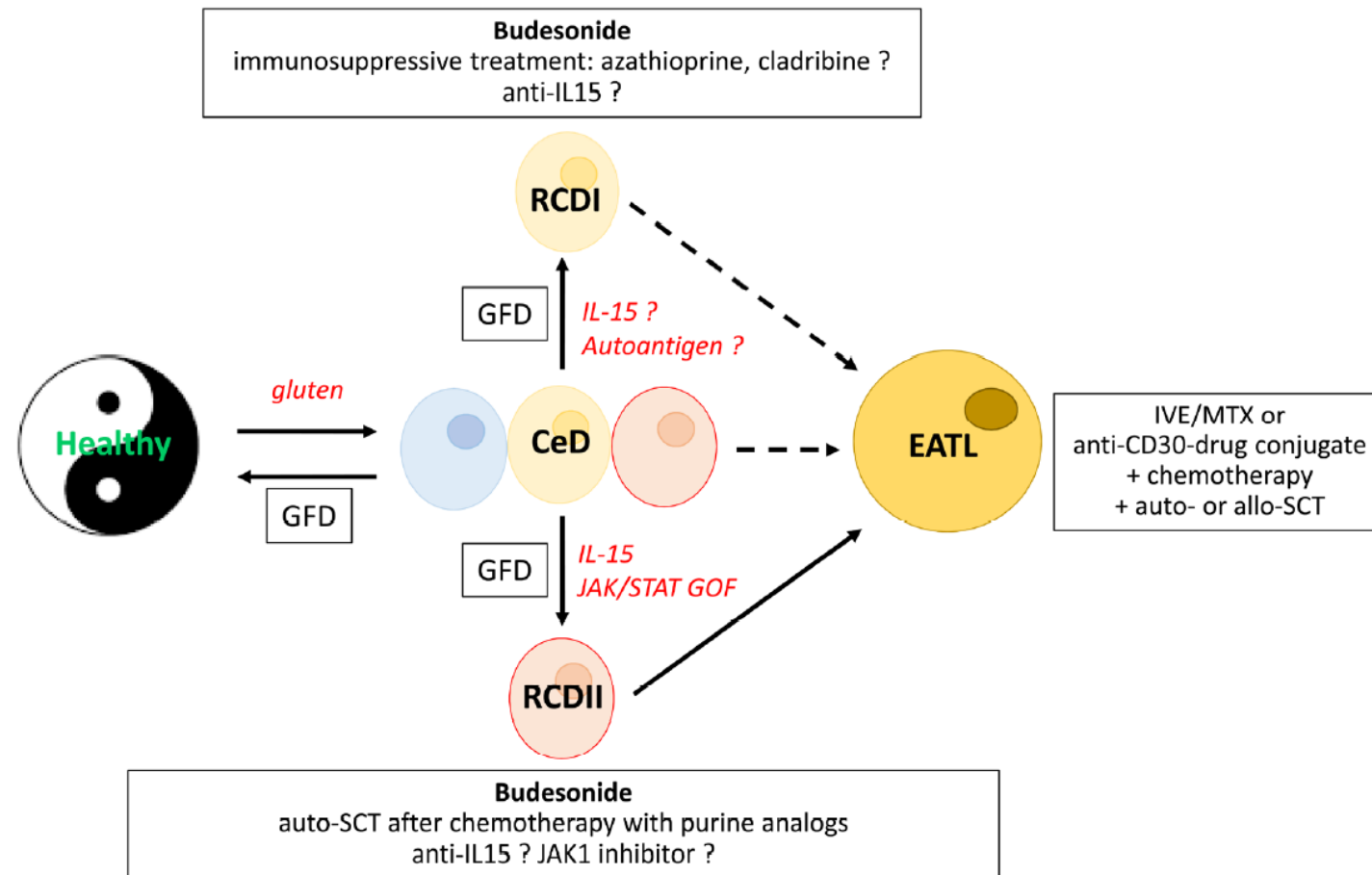
# III. Contribution of each technique to the final diagnosis

Figure 2: Results of the FCM analysis (16 patients), TCR rearrangement analysis (8 patients) and IHC (16 patients) on the duodenal biopsies of the 16 patients.

Table 2	Pathology (n=16)	TCR rearrangement analysis (n=8)	FCM, % aberrant IELs (n=16)
Patients	<i>iCD3+CD8- IELs&gt;50%</i>		
1	no	Monoclonal	0,6
2	no	Monoclonal	1,2
3	yes	Monoclonal	0,8
4	no	Not done	1,2
5	no	Not done	0,12
6	yes	Monoclonal	1,5
7*	no	Not done	4,1
8*	no	Monoclonal	0,9
9*	no	Polyclonal	0,2
10	no	Not done	0,2
11	no	Not done	<0,2
12	no	Not done	0,3
13	no	Not done	0,1
14*	yes	Monoclonal	73
15*	yes	Monoclonal	96,5
16*	no	Not done	0,6

\* Patients with confirmed RCD

# IV. Clinical course of patients with RCD



## IV. Clinical course of patients with RCD

Patient	Treatment	Outcome	Follow-up time
7	Budesonide	Indicates alive	-
8	Budesonide	Indicates alive	No abnormalities on follow-up histology in 2018 after treatment
9	Budesonide/medrol	Indicates alive	No abnormalities on follow-up histology in 2020 after treatment
14	Cladribine	Dead not disease related	-
15	Cladribine + everolimus	Indicates alive	Histological remission at the consultation in 2021
16	CHOP <sup>2</sup>	Dead not disease related	-

- = data not found

1= mycophenolate mofetil

2= cyclophosphamide, doxorubicine, vincristine and prednisone

# TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Recognize CD patients who are susceptible to RCD
- Exclude alternative causes
- Review diet compliance
- RCD type II patients are at risk for development of EATL
- FCM => powerful tool in the diagnosis and follow-up of RCD-II
  - \* Enumeration of the sCD3<sup>-</sup> icCD3<sup>ε</sup><sup>+</sup> aberrant IEL >20%
- Other techniques available with advantages and disadvantages => multidisciplinary approach

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

---

Dept. of Laboratory Medicine

- N. Boeckx

Dept. of Gastroenterology

- M. Hiele