



6th Annual COVADIS Summit
(August 29, 2018, Munich, Germany)



Inflammation in vasospastic angina

Hiroaki Shimokawa, MD, PhD.

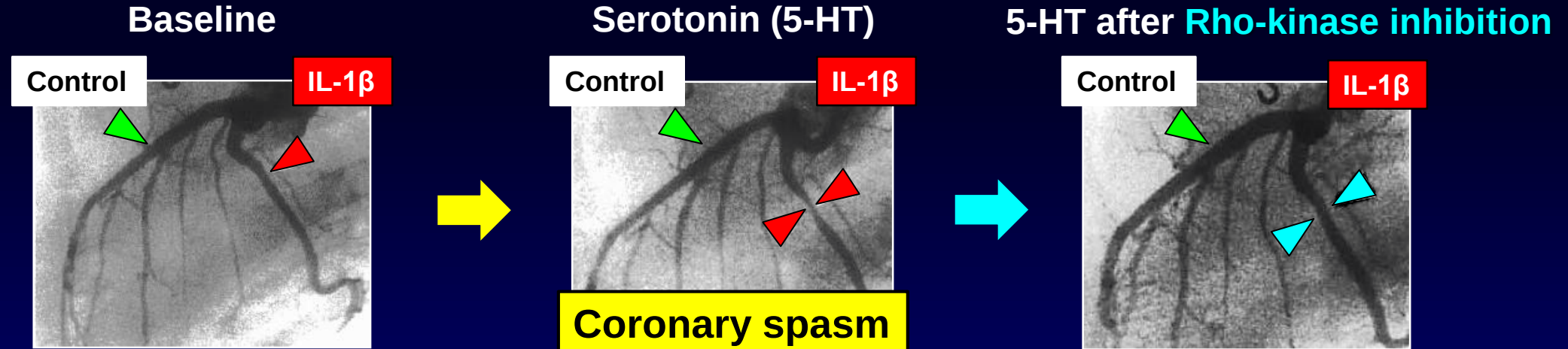
Professor and Chairman

Department of Cardiovascular Medicine,

Tohoku University Graduate School of Medicine, Sendai, Japan

Background (1) Involvement of adventitial inflammation and Rho-kinase activation in coronary spasm

Porcine spasm model



Application of IL-1 β to adventitia

Adventitial inflammation

Rho-kinase activation

Rho-kinase inhibitors

VSMC hypercontraction

Coronary spasm

PVAT

Adventitia

Media

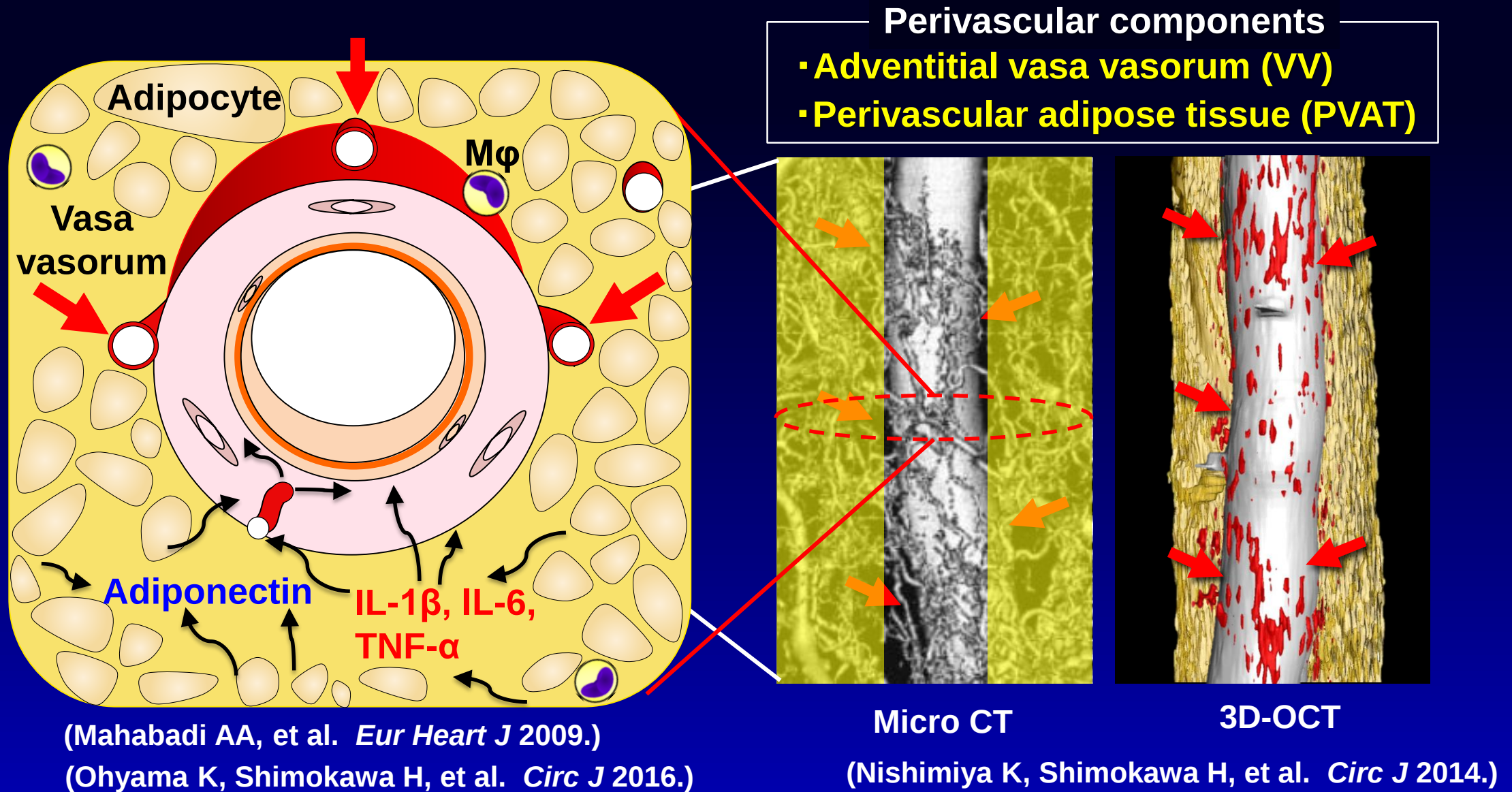
VSMC

Intima

Lumen

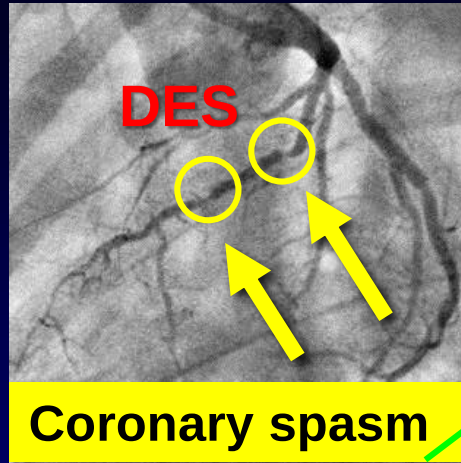
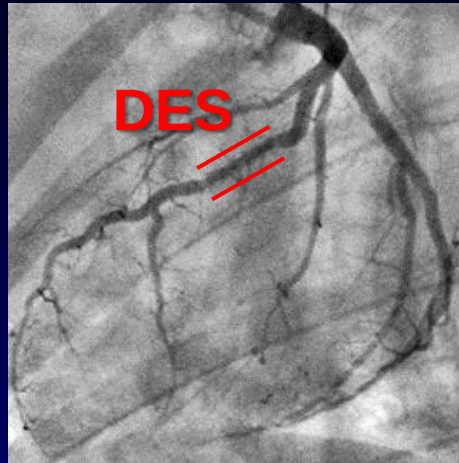
(Shimokawa H. Williams Harvey Lecture. *Eur Heart J* 2014.)

Background (2) Important roles of coronary adventitia and perivascular adipose tissue in cardiovascular disease

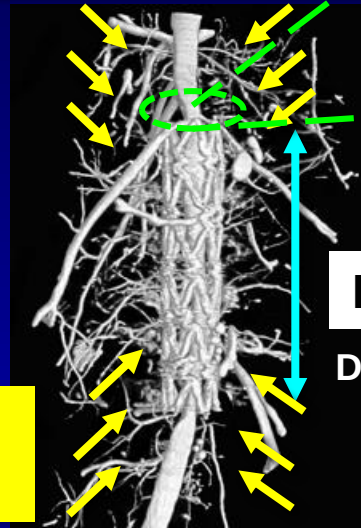


Background (3) Enhanced adventitial VV formation and histological validation with OCT in coronary spasm

DES-induced **coronary spasm** (pigs)



3D micro CT



Enhanced adventitial
VV formation

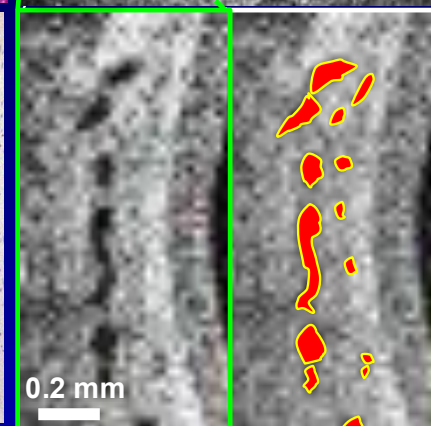
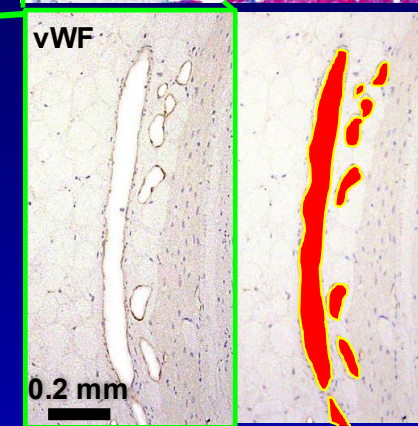
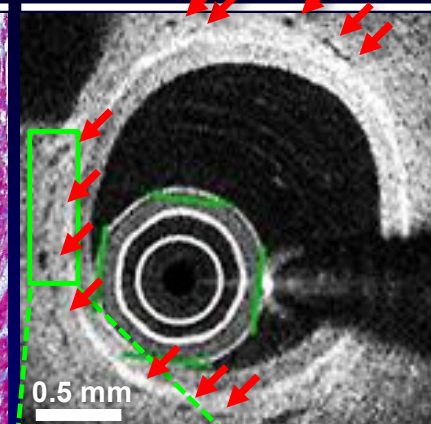
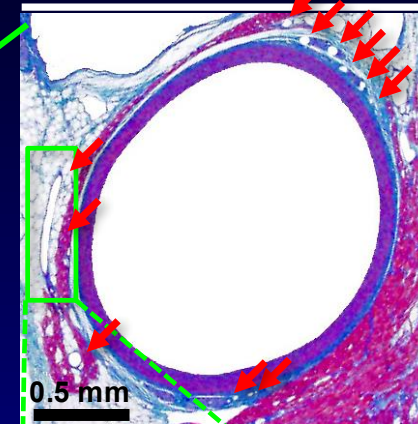
DES

Drug-eluting stents

Histological validation for OCT
measurement of **adventitial VV**

Histology

OCT



(Nishimiya K, Shimokawa H, et al. *Circ J* 2015.)

(Nishimiya K, Shimokawa H, et al. *Circ J* 2015.)

Experimental study

**Importance of inflammatory changes of perivascular
adipose tissue in the pathogenesis of DES-induced
hyperconstricting responses in pigs in vivo**

(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *ATVB* 2017.)

Methods: Study protocol

Animals: 10 domestic male pigs



Stent implantation

↓
Everolimus eluting stent (EES) ⇒ either LAD or LCX
Control ⇒ non-stented coronary artery

Follow-up coronary angiography (1 month)

↓
Coronary vasoconstricting responses

- Serotonin before and after hydroxyfasudil

Coronary vasodilating responses

- Nitroglycerin
- Bradykinin before and after N^G-monomethyl-L-arginine (L-NMMA)

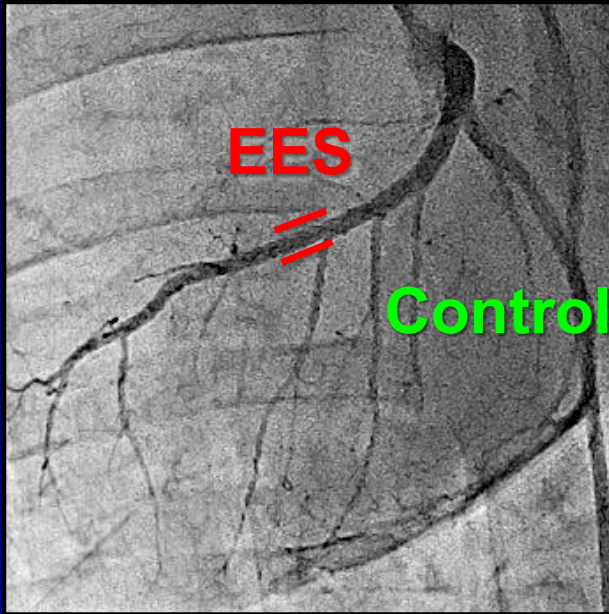
↓

Sacrifice (1 month)

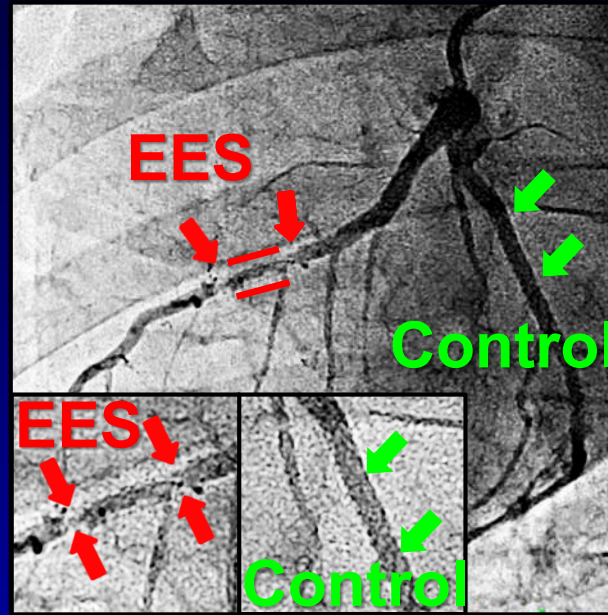
- **PVAT imaging: ex-vivo ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT, autoradiography**
- **Histology** ▪ **RT-PCR**

Results (1) Enhanced coronary vasoconstrictions at EES edges compared with control sites

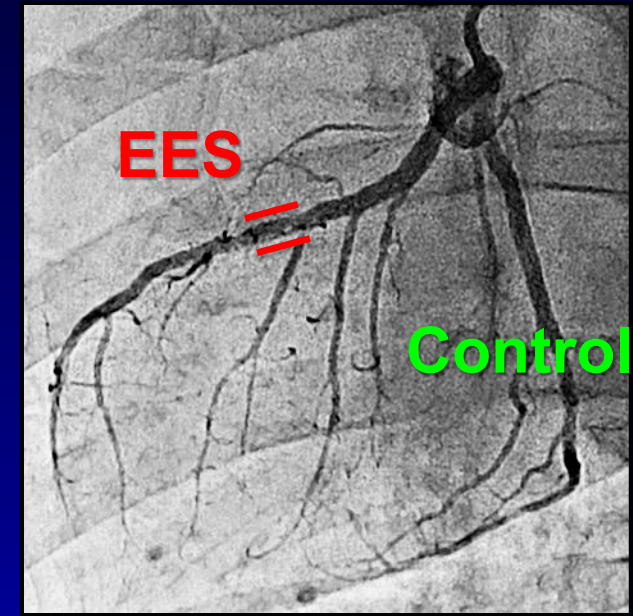
Nitroglycerin



Serotonin

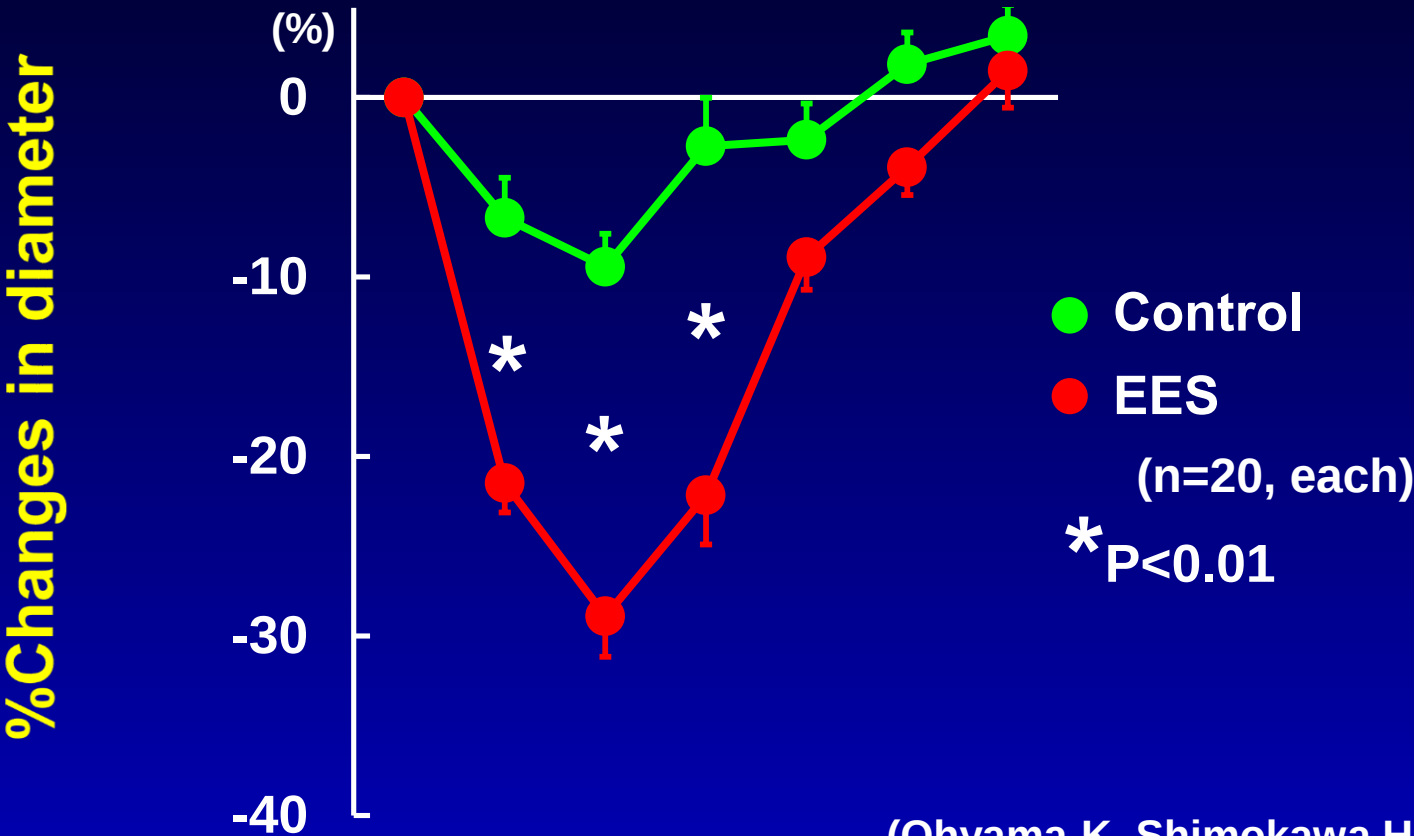


Serotonin after
hydroxyfasudil



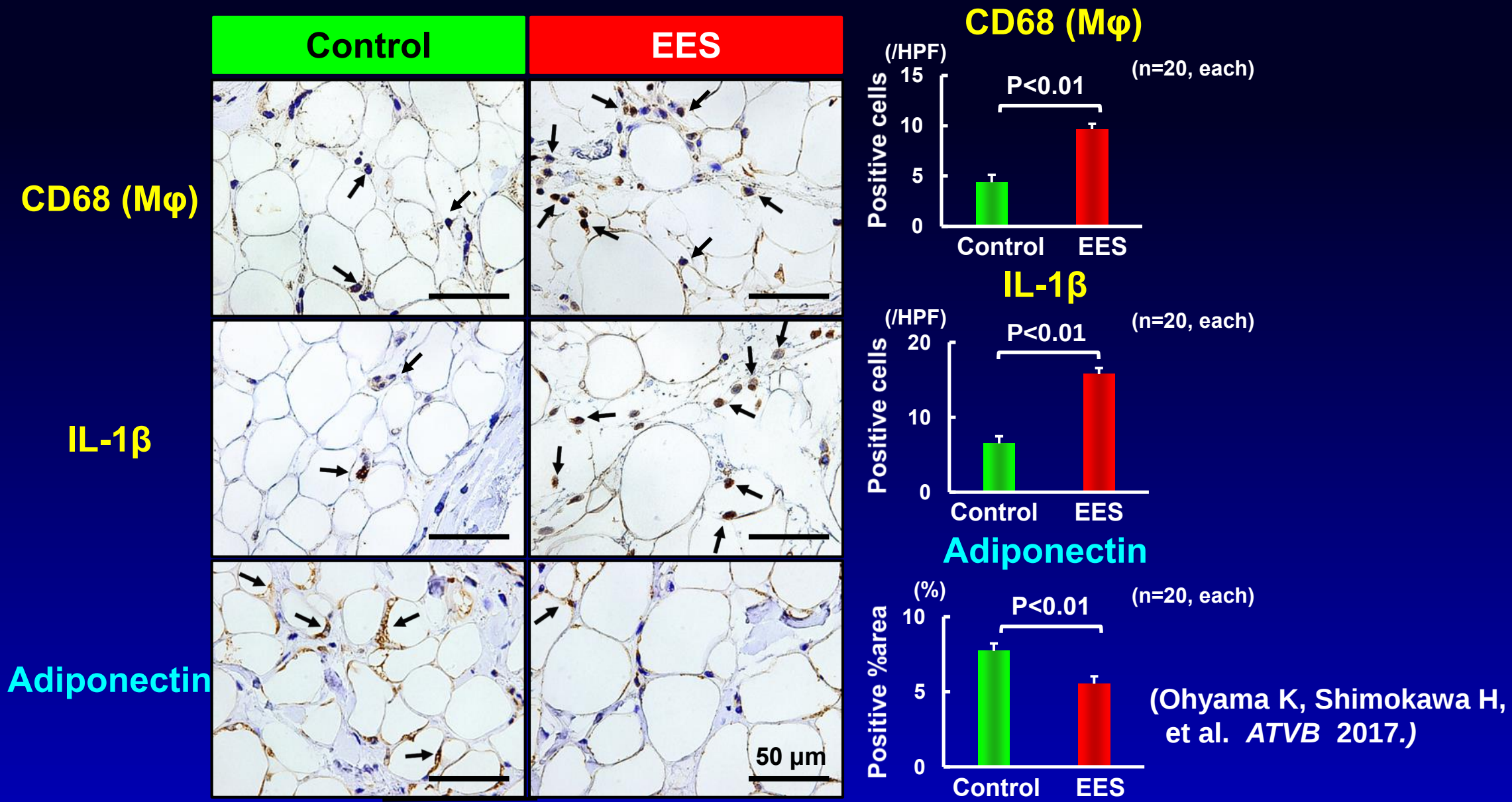
Results (2) Enhanced coronary vasoconstrictions at EES edges compared with control sites

Hydroxyfasudil	—	—	—	90	300	90	300	(μg/kg)
Serotonin	—	10	100	100	100	—	—	(μg/kg)

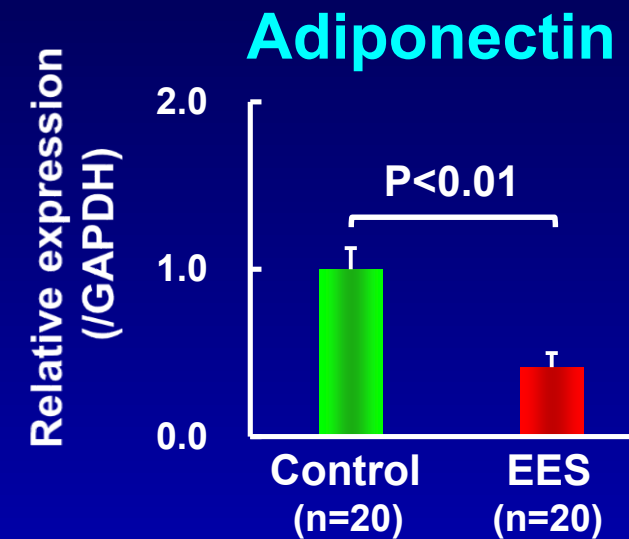
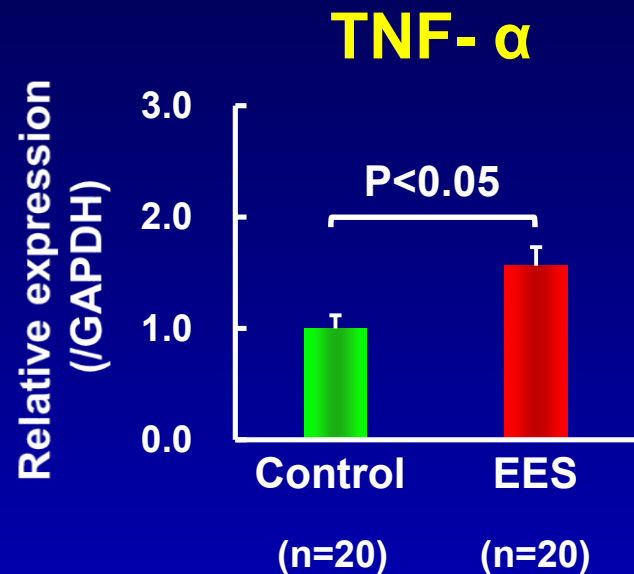
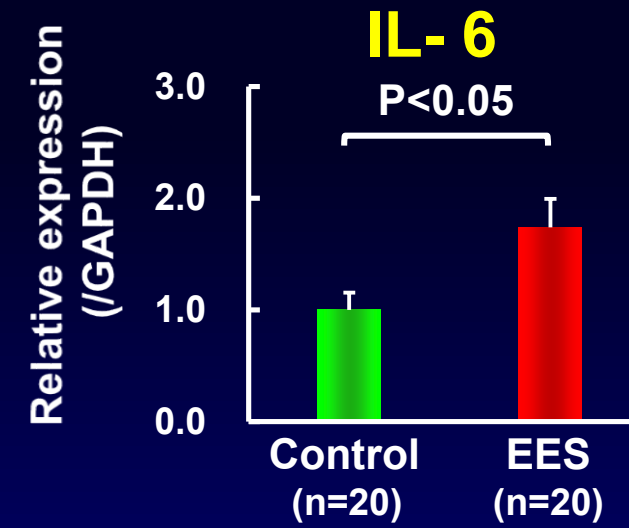
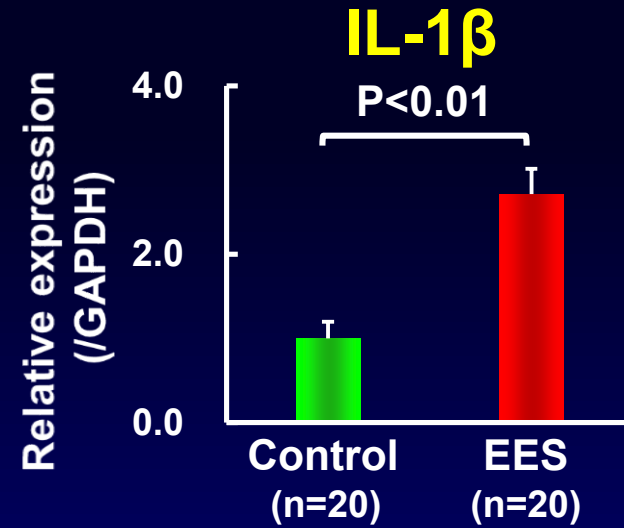


(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *ATVB* 2017.)

Results (3) Enhanced inflammatory changes in the PVAT at EES edges compared with control sites

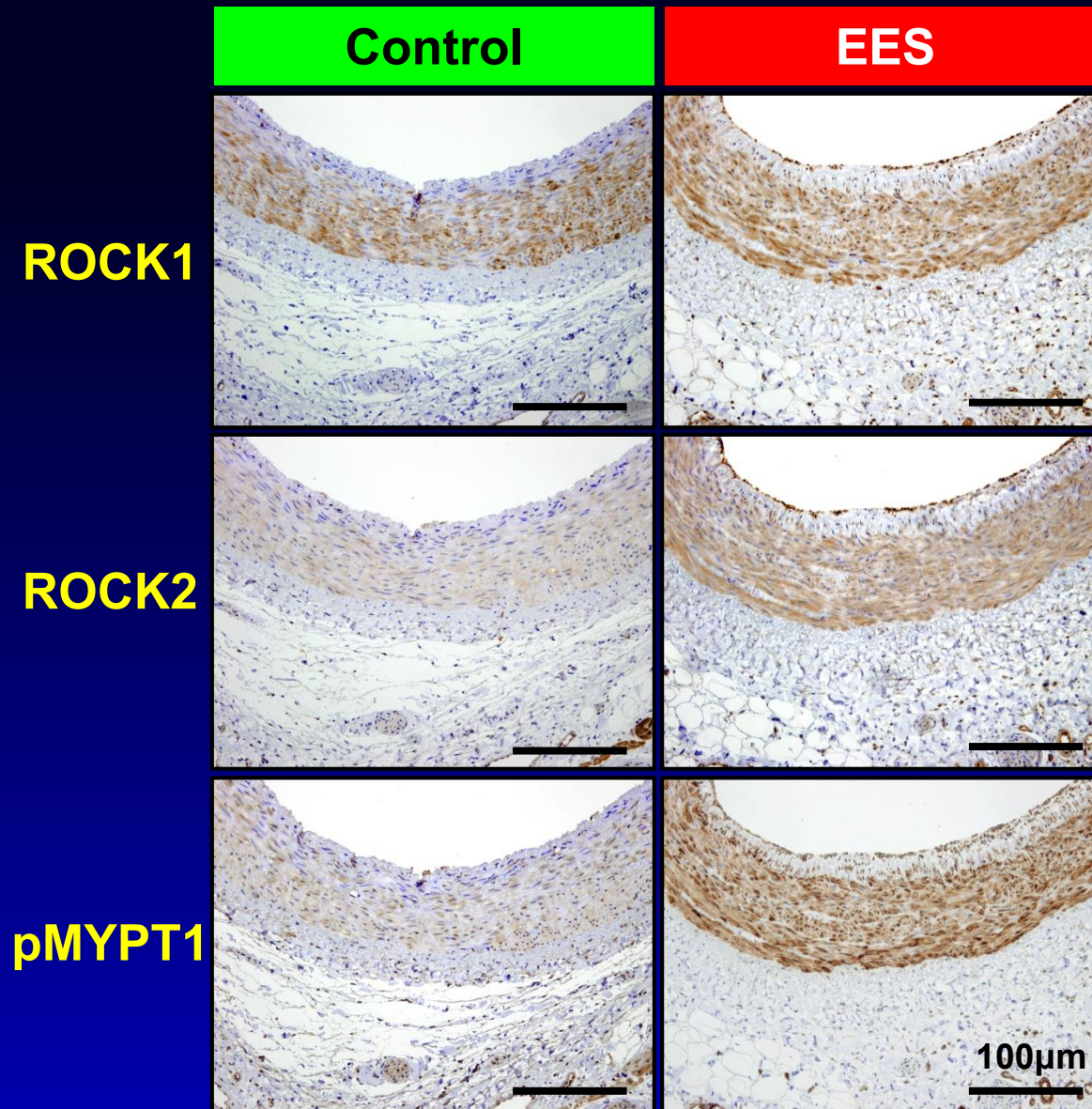


Results (4) Enhanced mRNA expressions of inflammatory cytokines in the PVAT at EES edges compared with control sites

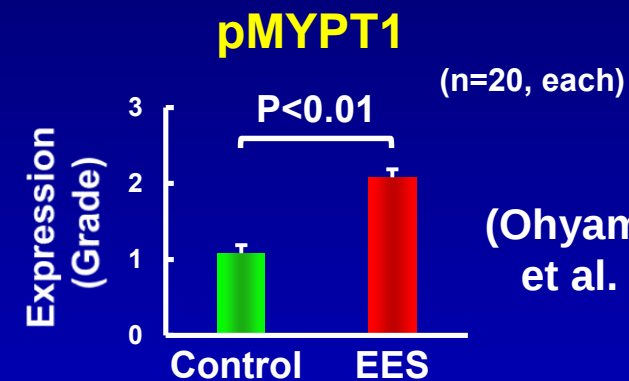
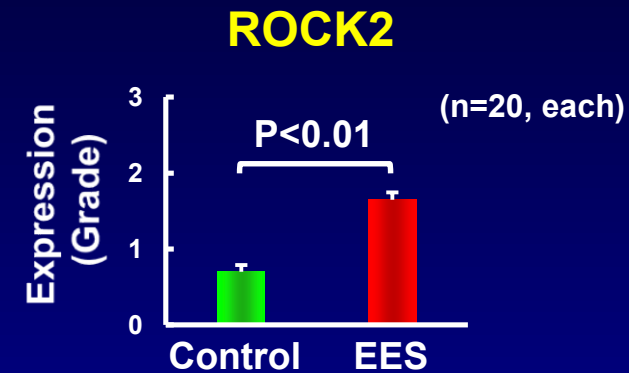
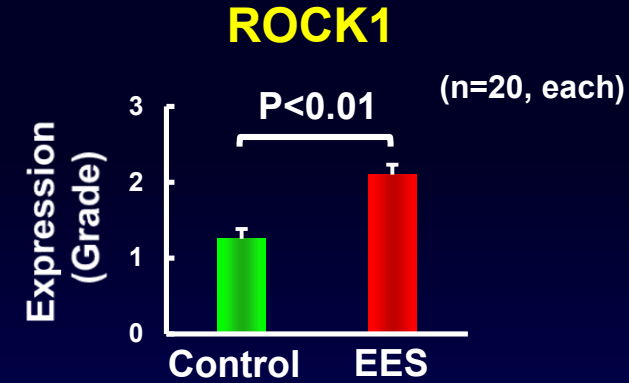


(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *ATVB* 2017.)

Results (5) Enhanced expression and activity of Rho-kinase at EES edges compared with control sites

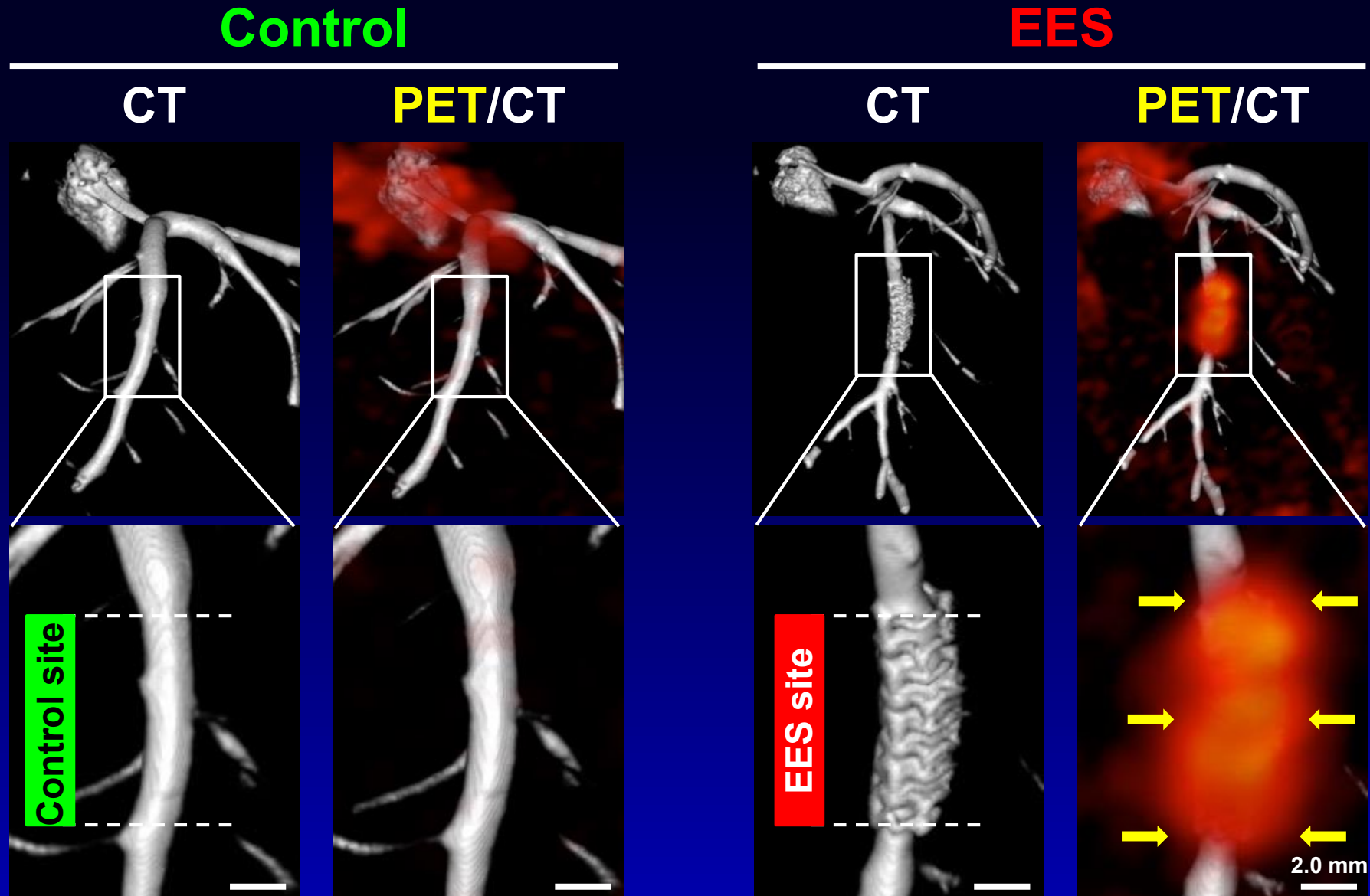


ROCK1/2: Rho-kinase isoforms pMYPT-1: Rho-kinase substrate



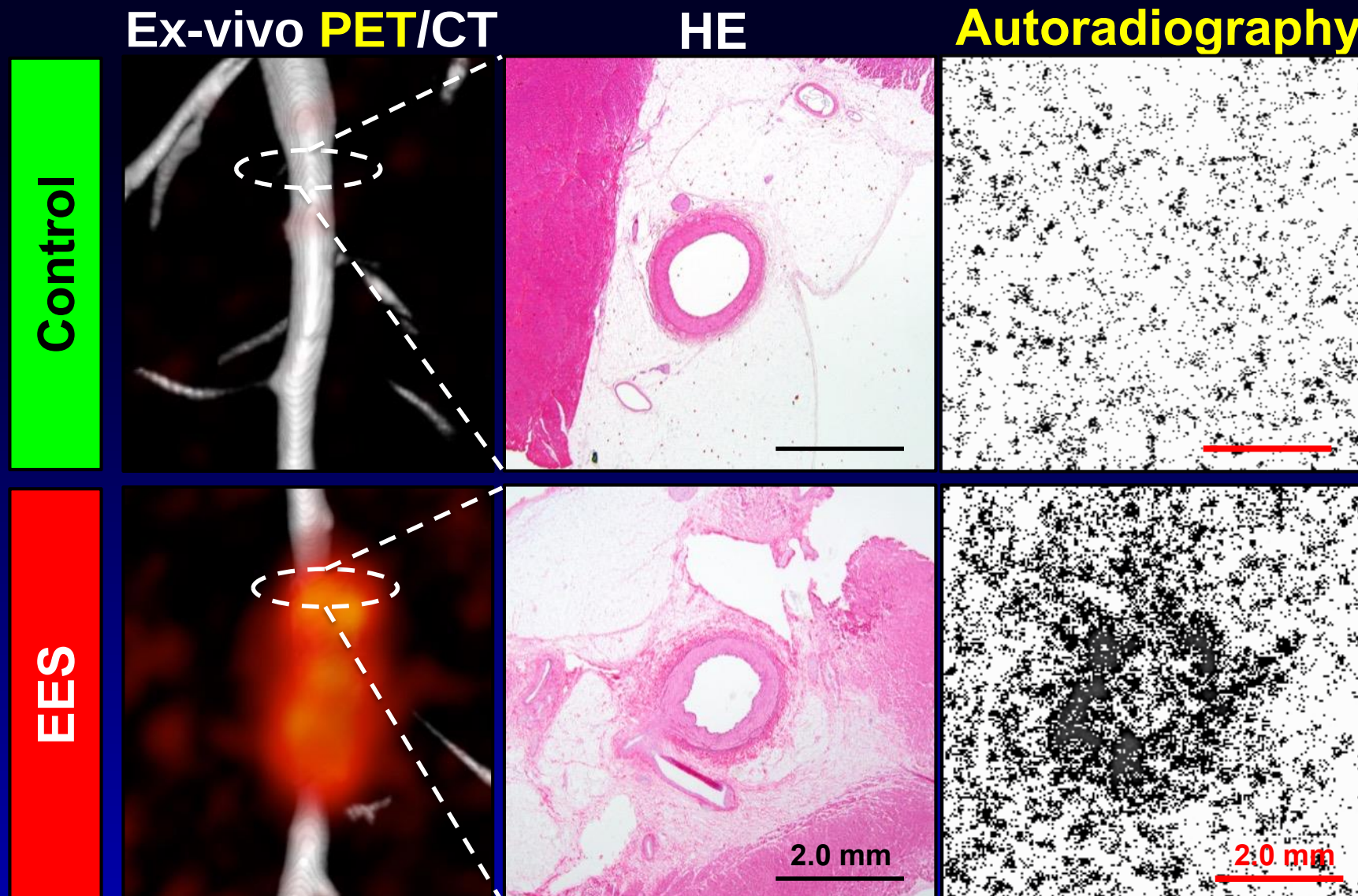
(Ohya K, Shimokawa H, et al. *ATVB* 2017.)

Results (6) Enhanced ^{18}F -FDG uptake at EES sites compared with control sites in ex-vivo PET/CT



(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *ATVB* 2017.)

Results (7) Enhanced ^{18}F -FDG accumulation at EES edges compared with control sites in autoradiography

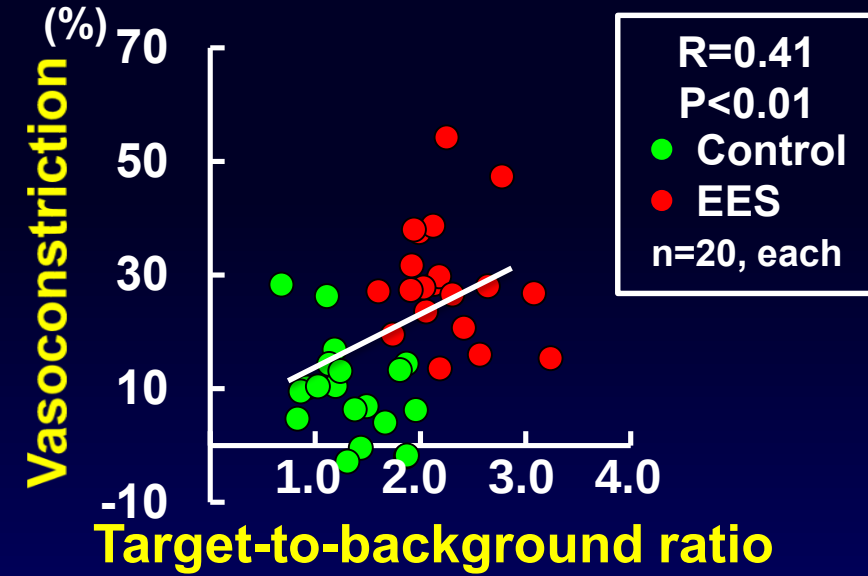
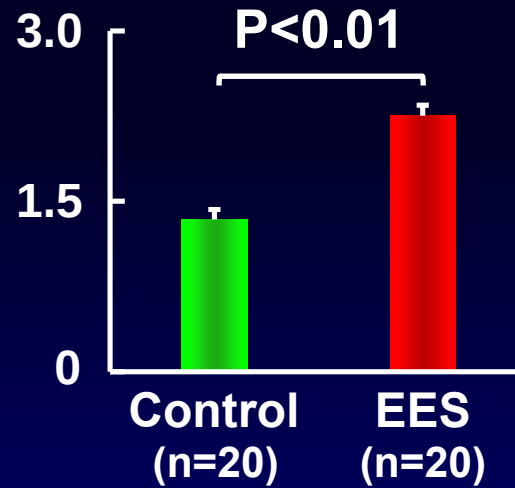


(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *ATVB* 2017.)

Results (8) Enhanced ^{18}F -FDG uptake in the PVAT at EES Edges compared with control sites in ex-vivo PET/CT, autoradiography

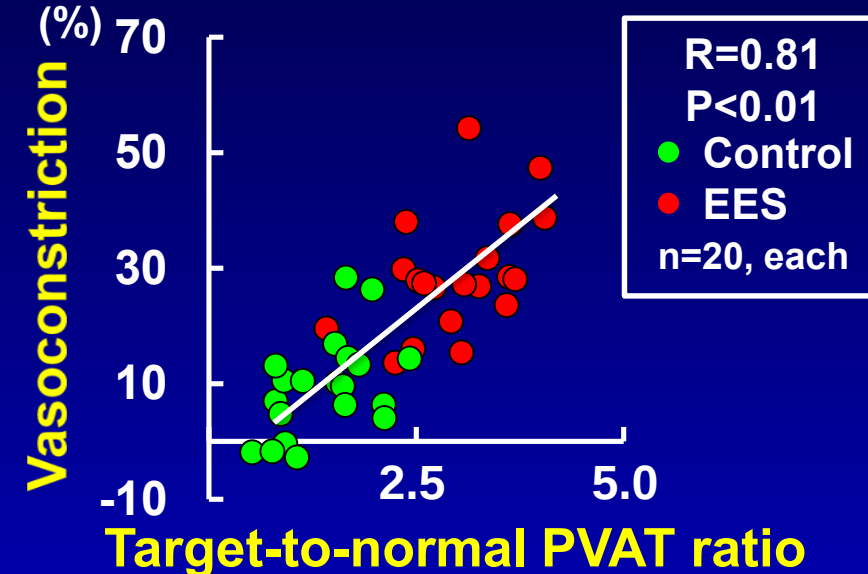
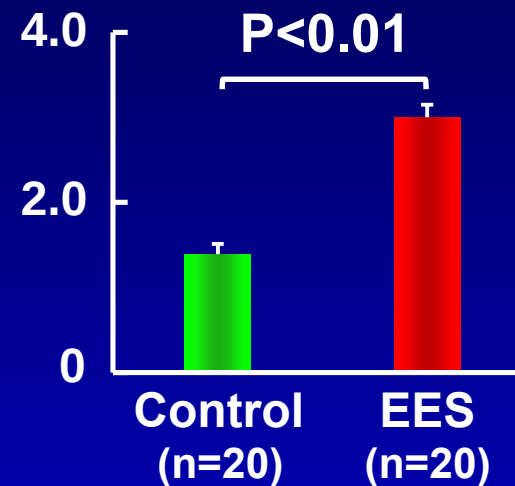
Ex-vivo PET/CT

Target-to-background ratio



Autoradiography

Target-to-normal PVAT ratio



Summary of the experimental study

1. **Inflammatory changes in the PVAT** and **Rho-kinase activity** were significantly enhanced at EES edges compared with control sites.
2. **^{18}F -FDG uptake in the PVAT** evaluated by ex-vivo PET/CT and autoradiography were significantly enhanced at EES edges compared with control sites.
3. There were significant **positive correlations** between **^{18}F -FDG uptake in the PVAT** and the extent of **coronary vasoconstriction**.

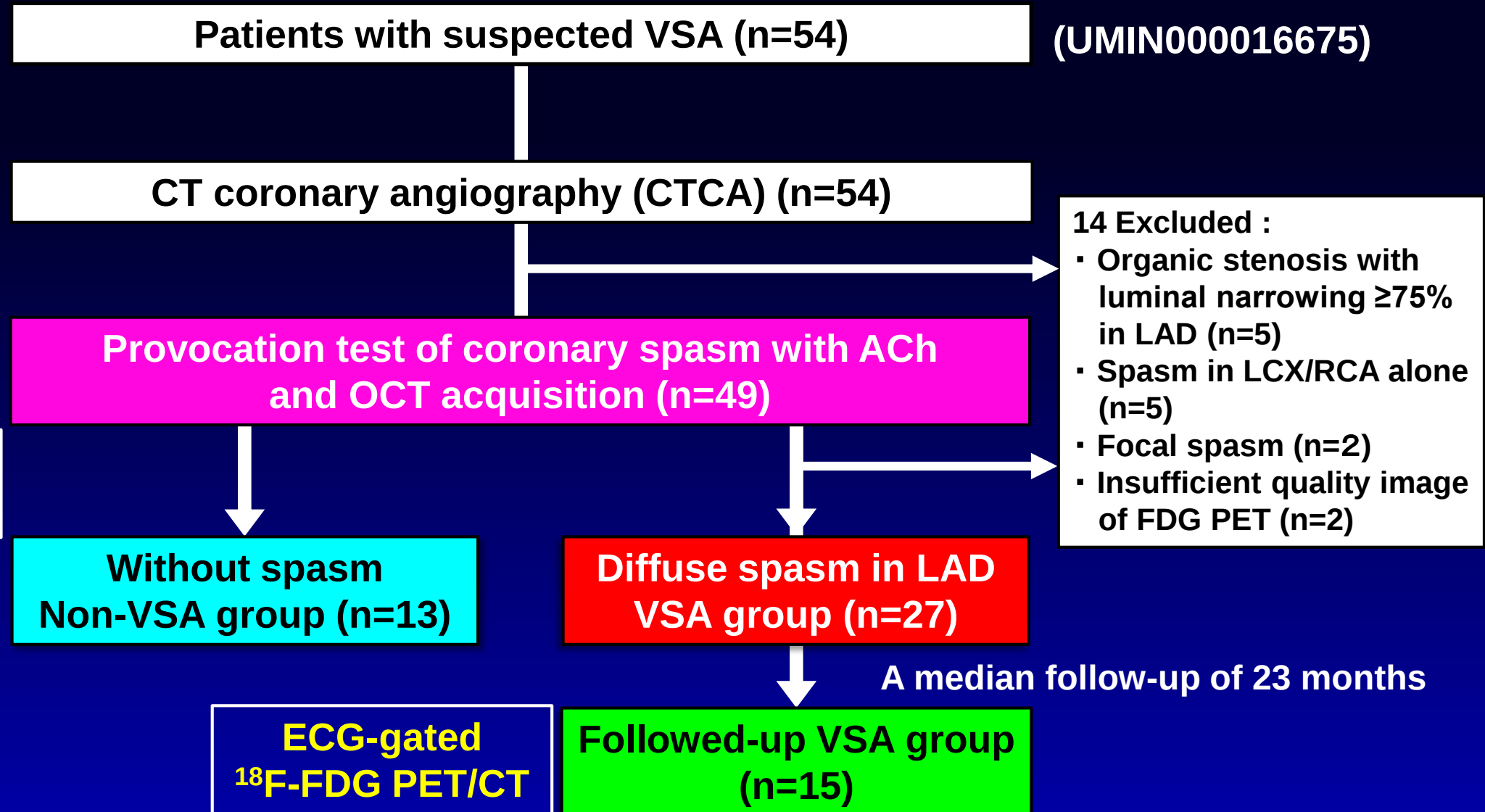
Clinical study

**Coronary adventitial and PVAT inflammation in
patients with vasospastic angina**

-A multi-modality imaging study-

(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol.* 2018.)

Methods: Study flow



Results (1) Baseline patient characteristics ①

	Non-VSA (n=13)	VSA (n=27)	P value
Age, years	65.4±3.3	62.1±2.1	0.40
Male, n (%)	8 (61)	16 (59)	0.89
Body weight, kg	59.1±2.4	59.5±3.5	0.93
Body mass index, kg/m ²	22.1±0.7	22.7±1.0	0.55
Percent body fat, %	24.4±2.0	26.1±1.4	0.49
Hypertension, n (%)	5 (38)	11 (41)	0.89
Diabetes mellitus, n (%)	1 (8)	2 (7)	0.97
LDL cholesterol, mg/dL	109.2±8.8	106.9±4.9	0.81
Current smoker, n (%)	5 (38)	11 (41)	0.88
Positive family history of CVD, n (%)	3 (23)	2 (8)	0.18
LVEF, %	68.6±1.8	66.9±1.1	0.44

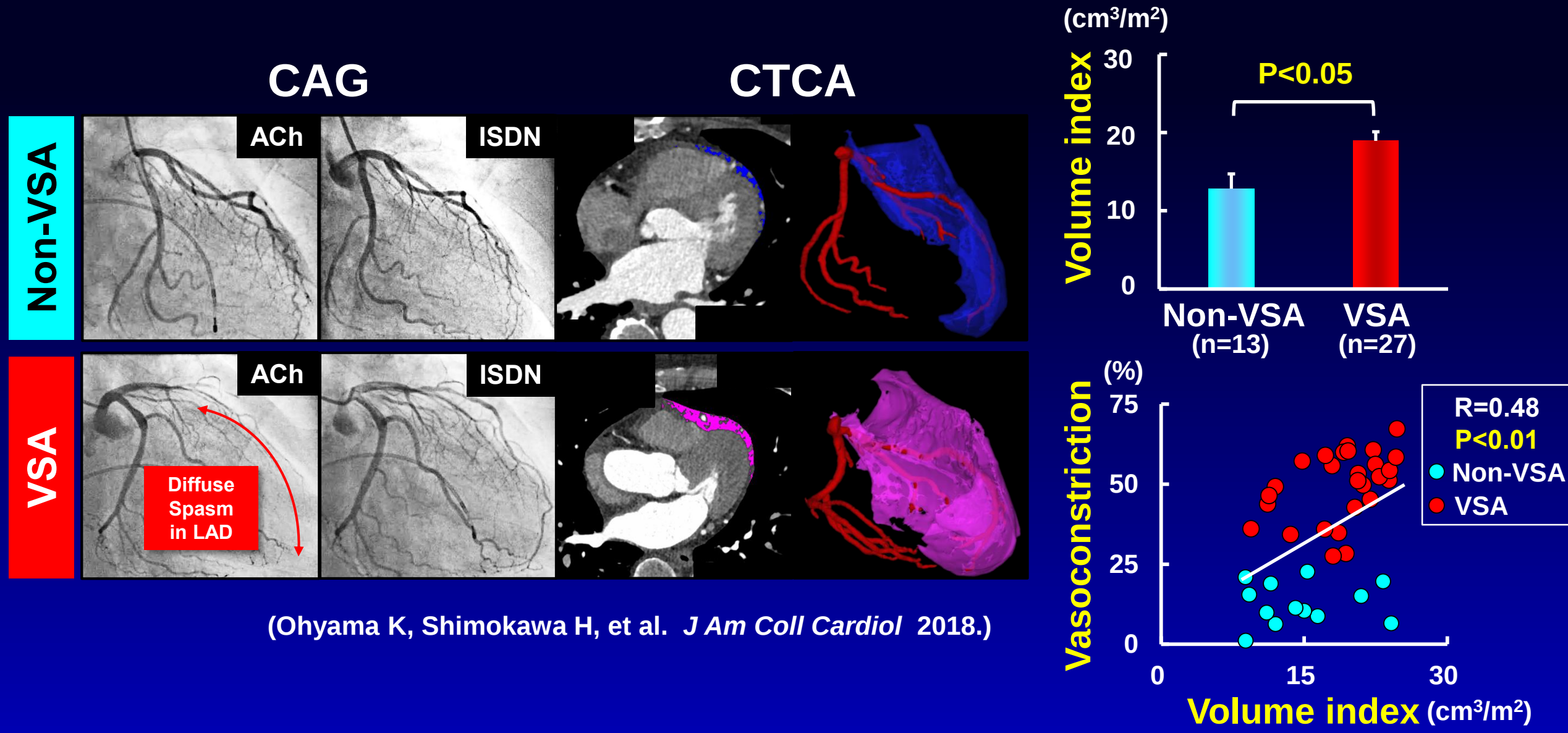
Results (2) Baseline patient characteristics ②

	Non-VSA (n=13)	VSA (n=27)	P value
Cardiac markers			
hs-CRP, mg/dl	0.06±0.31	0.05±0.01	0.55
BNP, pg/ml	20.4±4.1	21.2±3.8	0.89
Troponin I, µg/l	0.01±0.001	0.01±0.002	0.72
Medical treatments, n (%)			
CCB	8 (62)	17 (63)	0.93
Long-acting nitrate	2 (15)	6 (22)	0.61
K channel opener	2 (8)	9 (14)	0.39
ACE-I or ARB	5 (38)	6 (22)	0.41
Beta-blocker	0 (0)	6 (22)	0.07
Statin	4 (31)	9 (33)	0.87
Anti-platelet	3 (23)	11 (41)	0.27

Results (3) Angiographic assessment

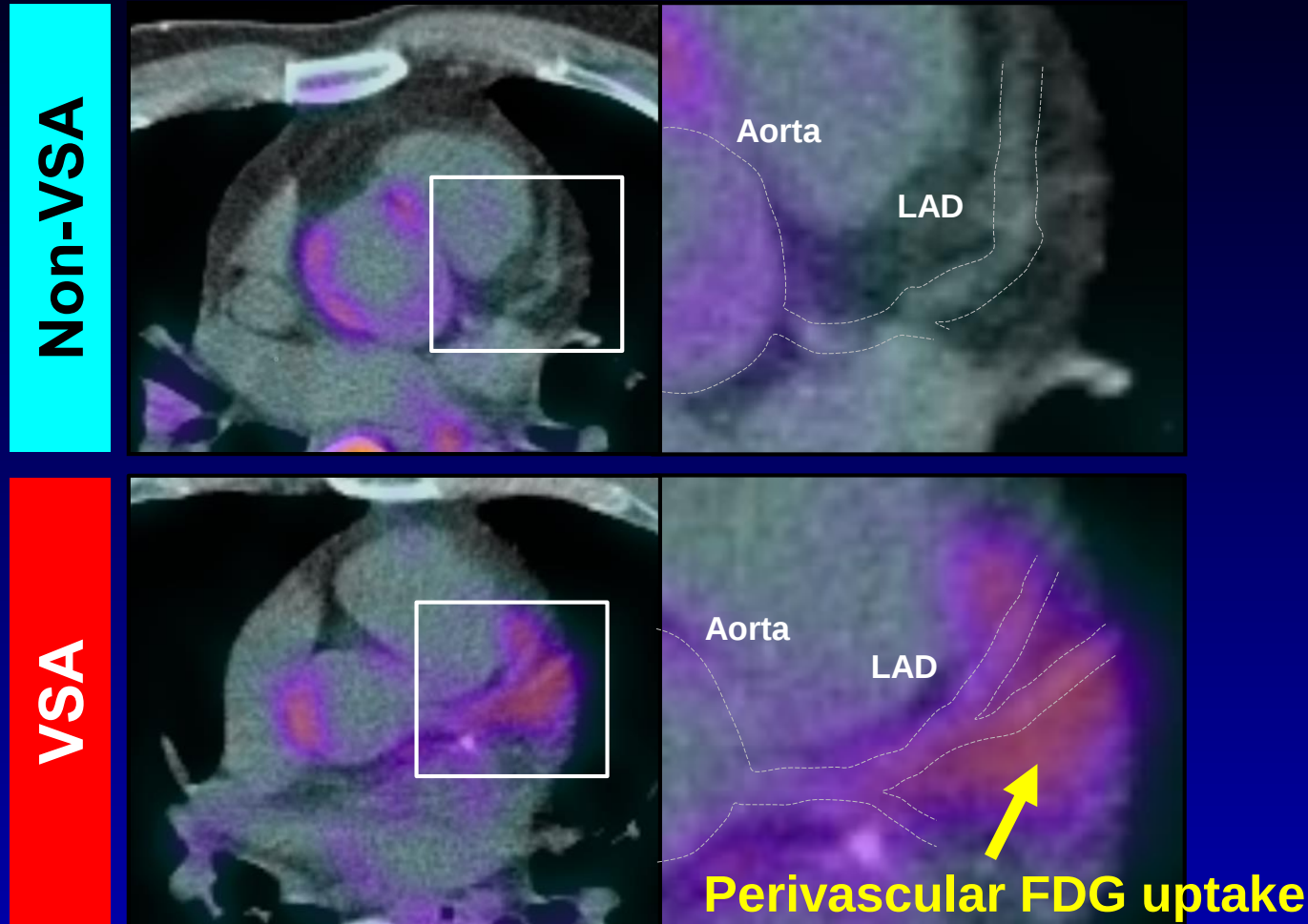
		Non-VSA (n=13)	VSA (n=27)	P value
Organic stenosis, n (%)				
	LAD 25%	5 (38)	8 (30)	0.58
	50%	3 (23)	5 (19)	0.74
	LCX 25%	1 (8)	2 (7)	0.97
	50%	0 (0)	1 (4)	0.48
	75%	1 (8)	1 (4)	0.59
	RCA 25%	3 (23)	5 (19)	0.74
	50%	0 (0)	1 (4)	0.48
	75%	0 (0)	1 (4)	0.48
Coronary spasm provocation test				
Maximum dose of acetylcholine, µg/kg		100.0±0.0	73.0±8.1	N/A
Multi-vessel spasm		-	6 (22)	N/A

Results (4) Increased PVAT volume at the spastic coronary segment

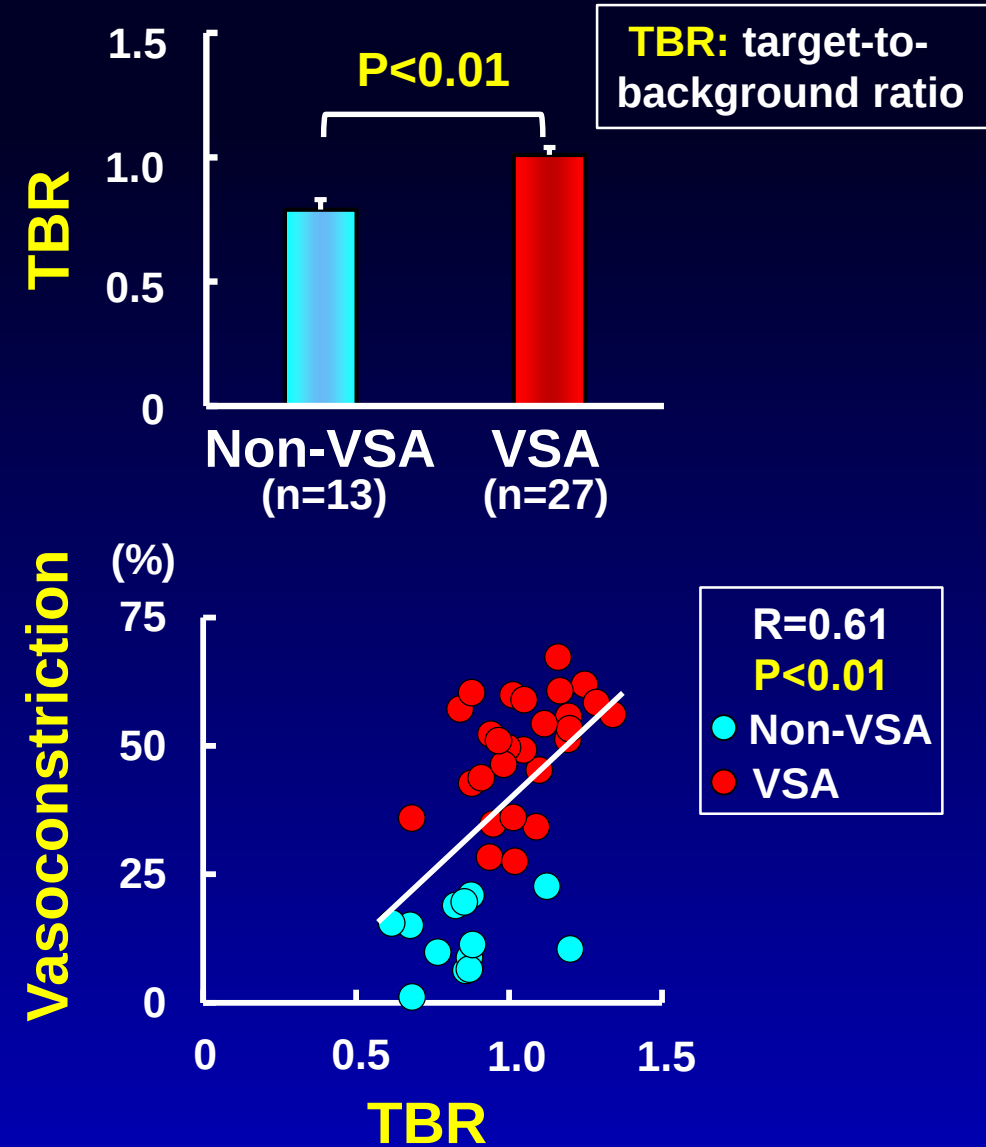


Results (5) Enhanced perivascular FDG uptake in VSA patients

ECG-gated ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT



(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018.)

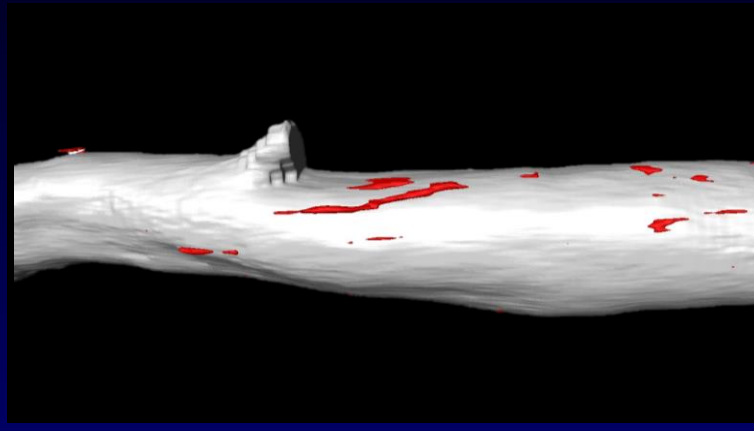
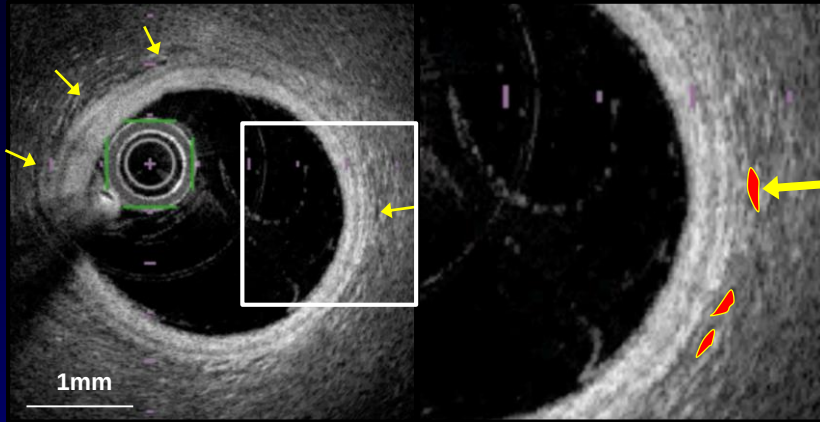


Results (7) Enhanced adventitial VV formation associated with PVAT volume and perivascular FDG uptake in VSA patients

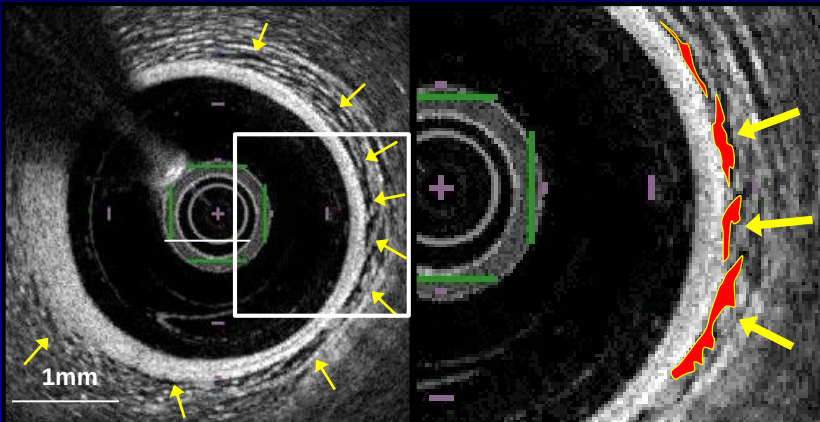
Cross-sectional OCT

3D-OCT

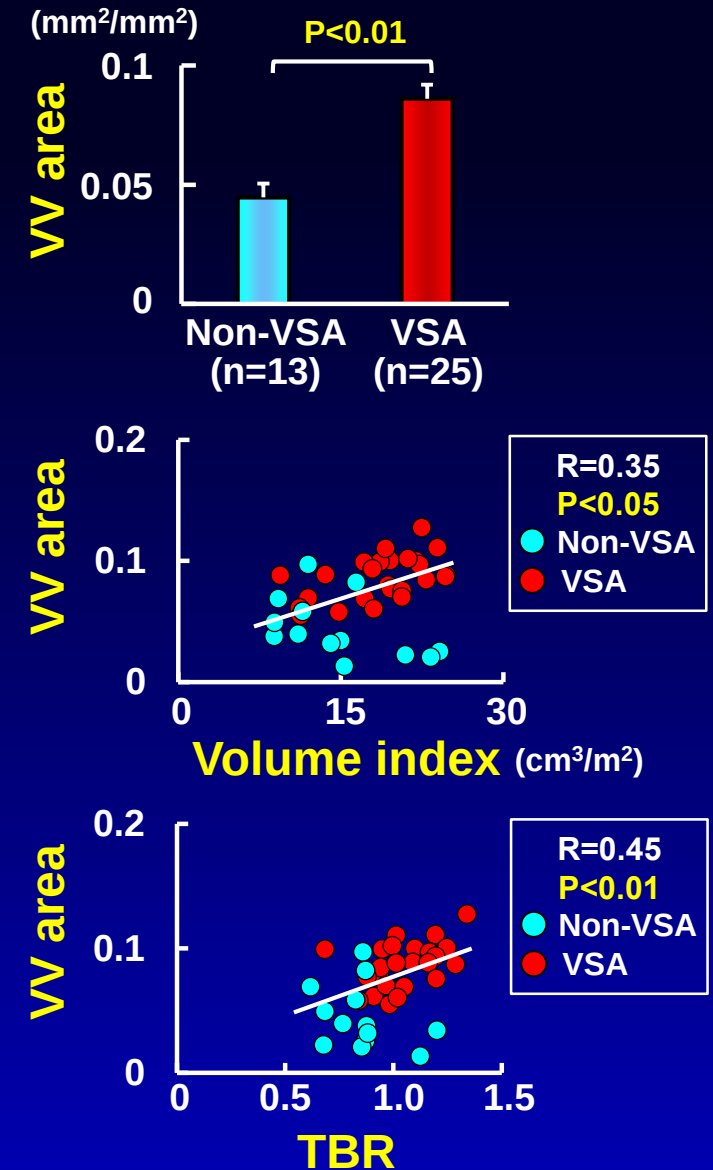
Non-VSA



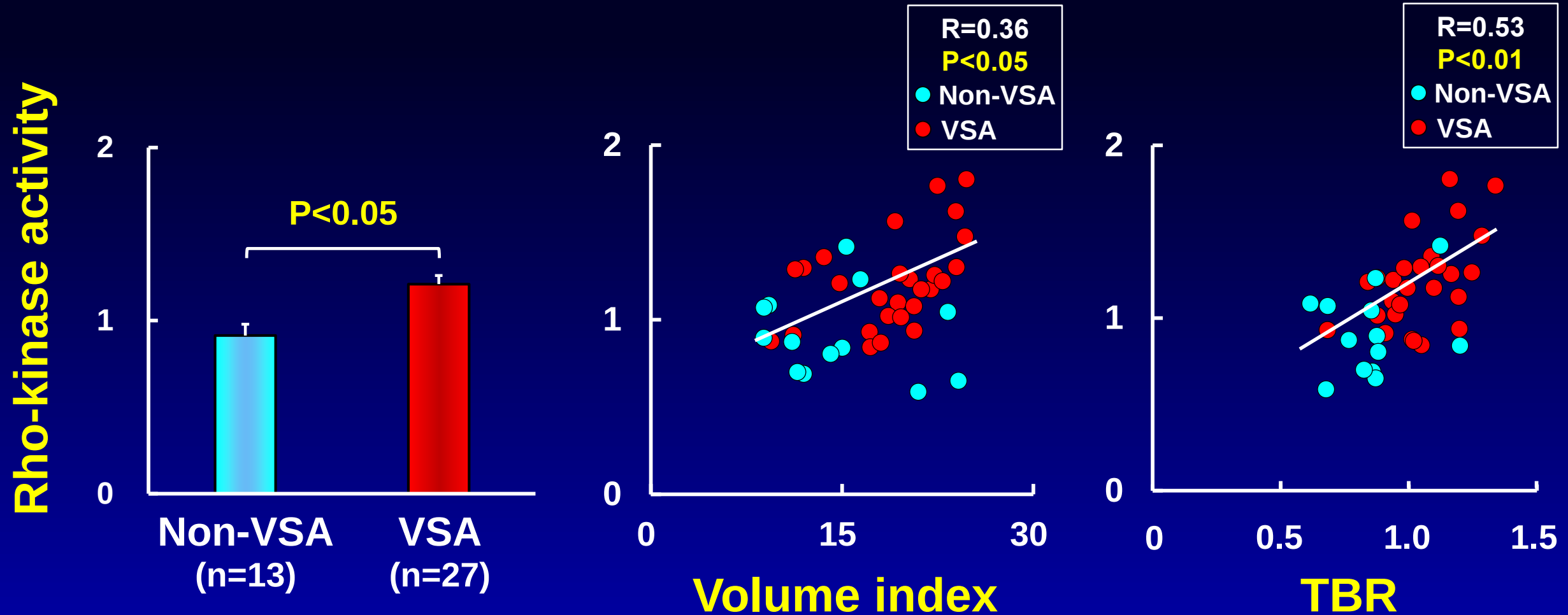
VSA



(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018.)



Results (8) Enhanced Rho-kinase activity associated with PVAT volume and perivascular FDG uptake in VSA patients



Follow-up study

Study flow

Patients with suspected VSA (n=54)

(UMIN000016675)

CT coronary angiography (CTCA) (n=54)

Provocation test of coronary spasm with ACh
and OCT acquisition (n=49)

ECG-gated
 ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT

Non-VSA group (n=13)

VSA group (n=27)

ECG-gated
 ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT

Followed-up VSA group
(n=15)

A median follow-up of 23 months

Follow-up study

Results (9) Baseline patient characteristics in the follow-up study

	Followed-up VSA (n=15)	Non-Followed-up VSA (n=12)	P value
Age, years	64.1±2.6	59.6±3.3	0.32
Male, n (%)	8 (53.3)	8 (66.7)	0.48
Body weight, kg	57.7±2.8	61.6±3.3	0.40
Body mass index, kg/m ²	22.5±0.8	23.0±0.97	0.72
Percent body fat, %	24.7±1.4	28.0±2.6	0.29
Hypertension, n (%)	6 (40)	5 (42)	0.93
Diabetes mellitus, n (%)	0 (0)	2 (17)	0.10
LDL cholesterol, mg/dL	104.7±5.9	109.6±8.1	0.64
Current smoker, n (%)	3 (20)	3 (25)	0.76
Positive family history of CVD, n (%)	1 (7)	1 (8)	0.91
LVEF, %	67.1±1.3	66.7±1.8	0.88

(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018.)

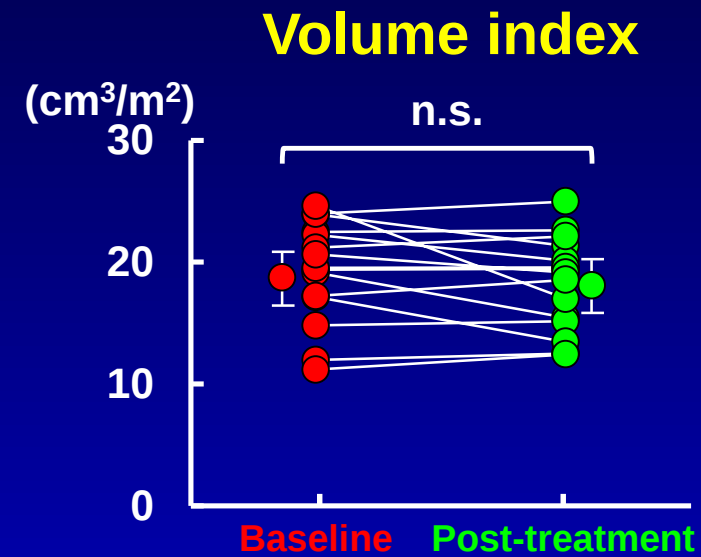
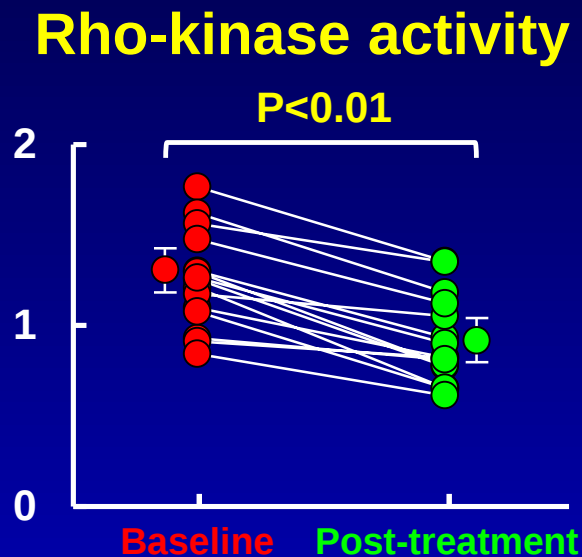
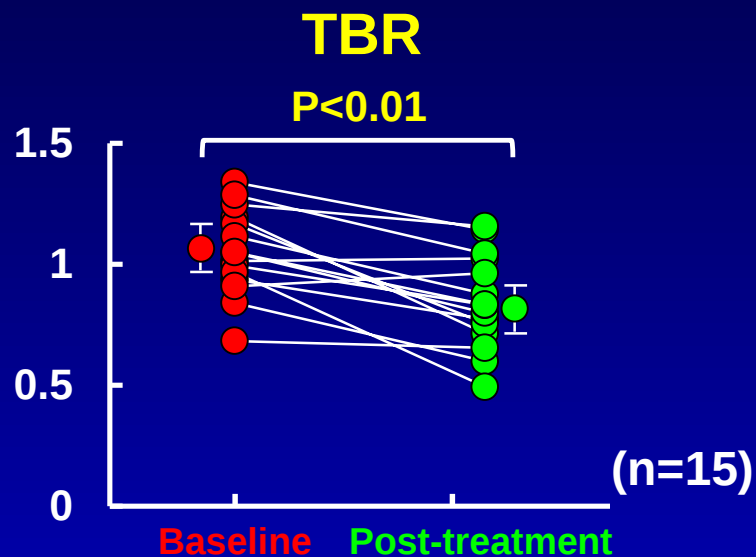
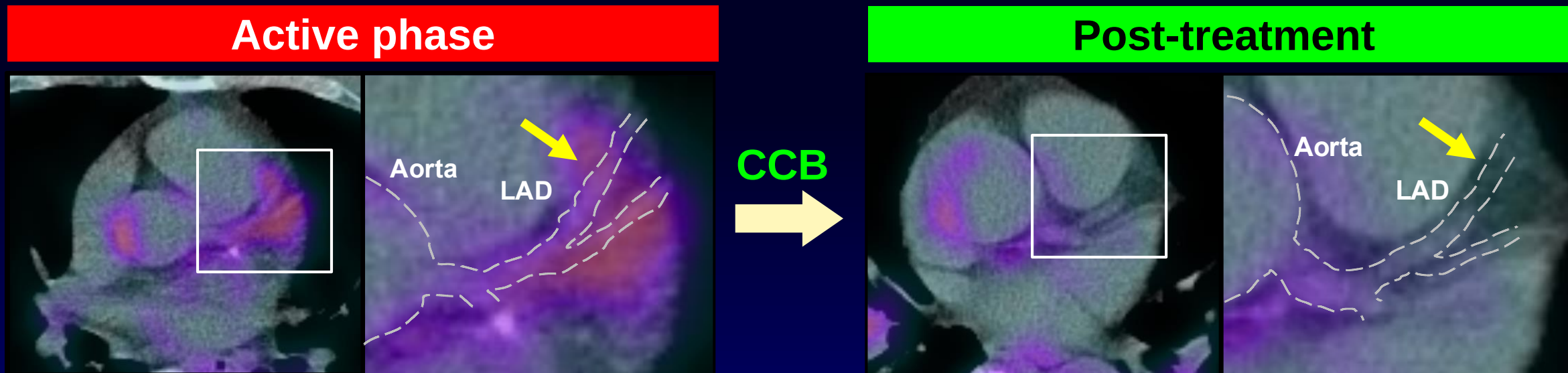
Results (10) Medical treatment during follow up

	Baseline	Post-treatment	P value
CCB	11 (73)	15 (100)	0.03
Long-acting nitrate	5 (33)	5 (33)	1.00
Potassium channel opener	2 (13)	4 (27)	0.39
ACE-I or ARB	2 (13)	3 (20)	0.62
Beta-blocker	4 (27)	4 (27)	1.00
Statins	4 (27)	7 (47)	0.26
Anti-platelet	7 (47)	6 (40)	0.71

(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018.)

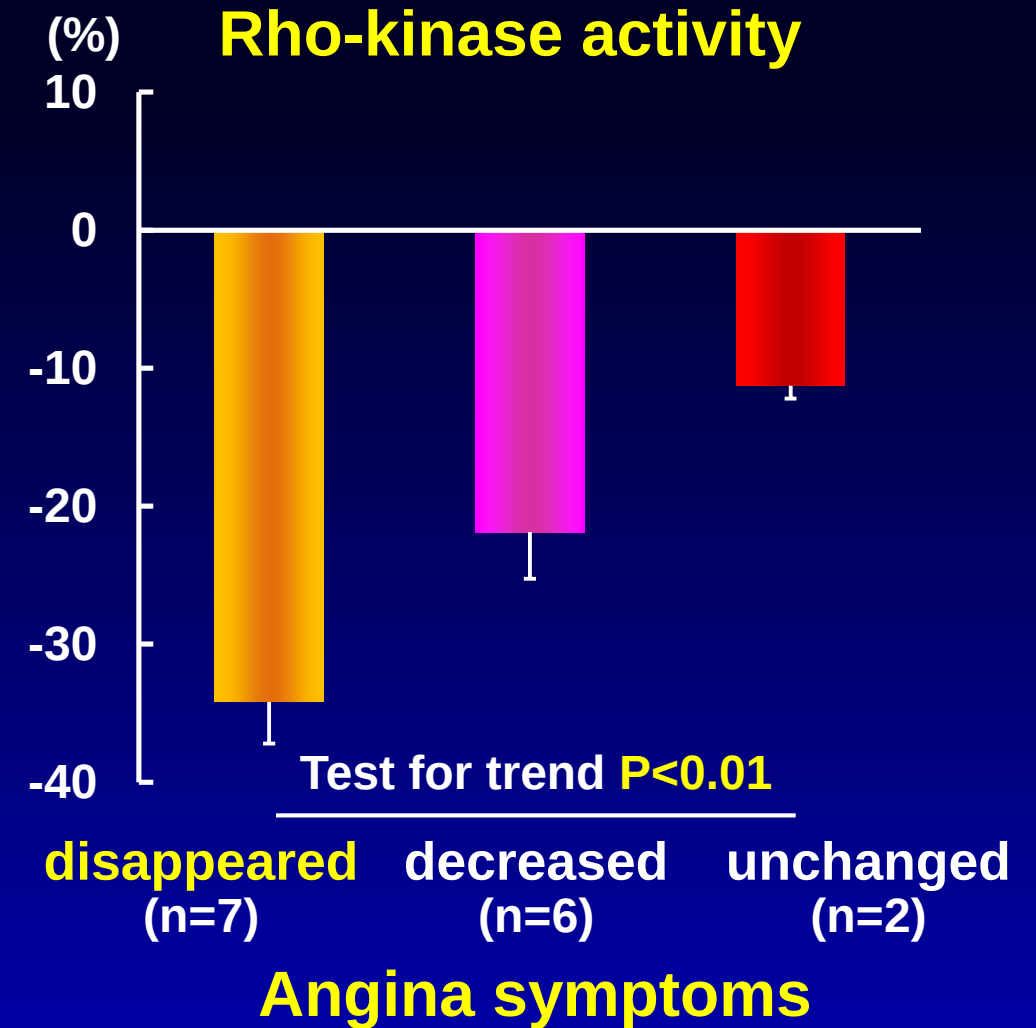
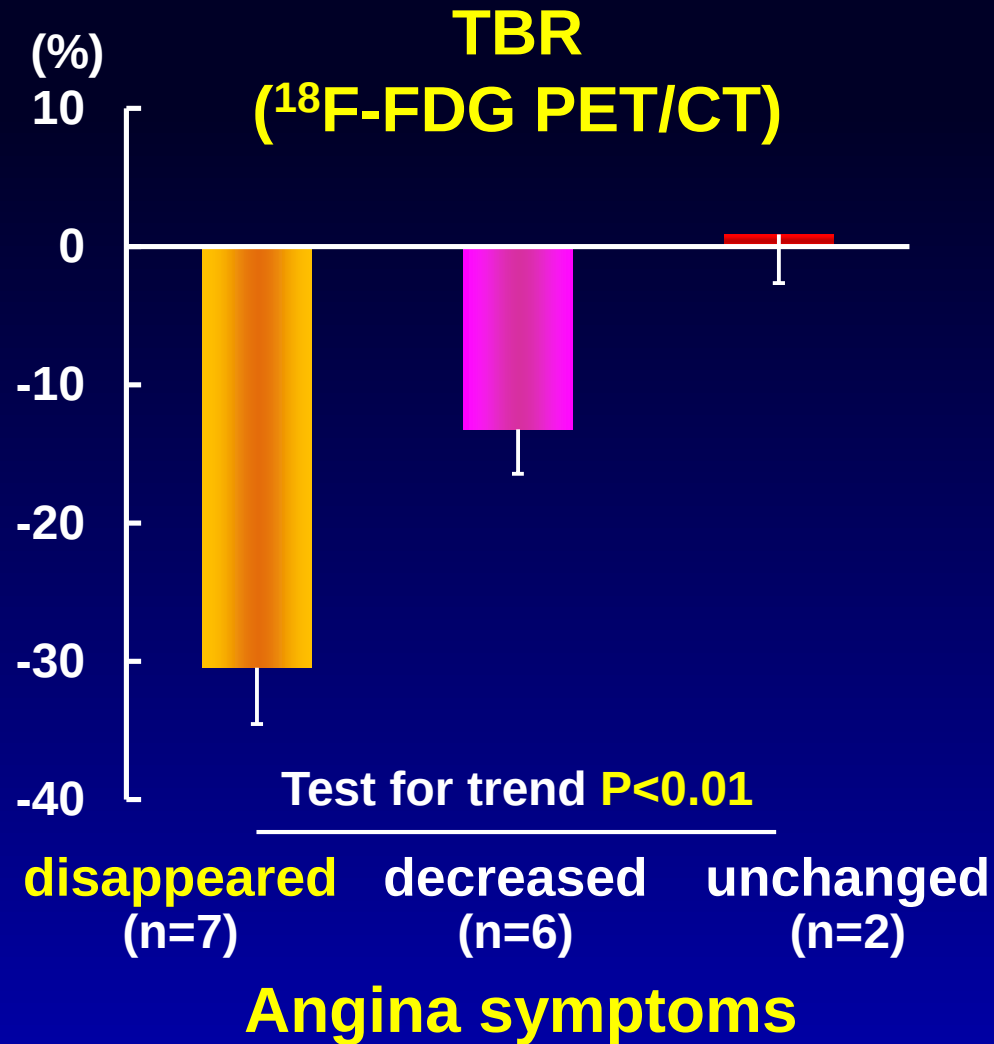
Results (11) Reduced perivascular FDG uptake and Rho-kinase activity after treatment with CCB in VSA patients

^{18}F -FDG PET/CT



(Ohya K, Shimokawa H, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018.)

Results (12) Improvement of angina symptoms associated with reduced perivascular FDG uptake and Rho-kinase activity after treatment with CCB



Summary of the clinical study

1. **PVAT volume** with CTCA and **perivascular FDG uptake** with ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT were significantly increased in the **VSA group** compared with the non-VSA group.
2. The extents of **PVAT volume** and **perivascular FDG uptake** were positively correlated with those of **adventitial VV formation** with OCT and **Rho-kinase activity** in all patients.
3. The levels of **perivascular FDG uptake** and **Rho-kinase activity** were significantly reduced after **long-term treatment with CCB** in the VSA group.

Discussion (1) Working model of the present study

Ca channel blocker
(anti-inflammation)



Spasm site

Adip

FDG uptake
(= Perivascular inflammation)

PVAT

PVAT

^{18}F -FDG PET/CT imaging is also
useful for assessment of disease
activity in VSA patients

Adventitia

Adventitia

EEL

EEL

Media

Media

Vascular smooth muscle

Rho-kinase activation

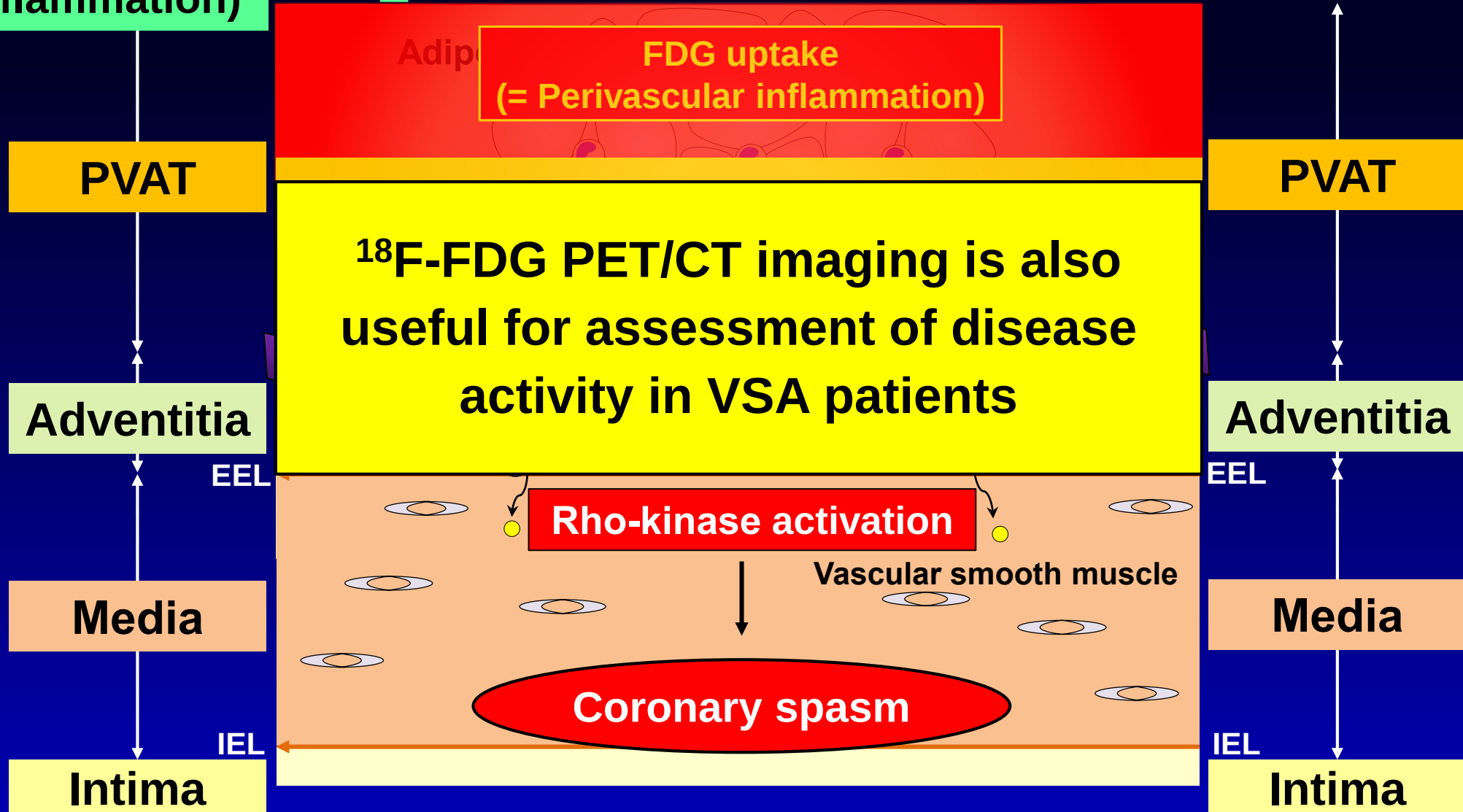
Coronary spasm

Intima

Intima

IEL

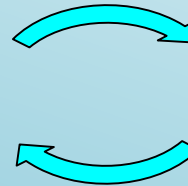
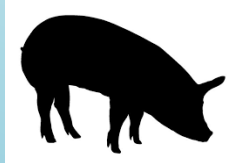
IEL



Discussion (2) Translational research on the pathogenesis of coronary spasm

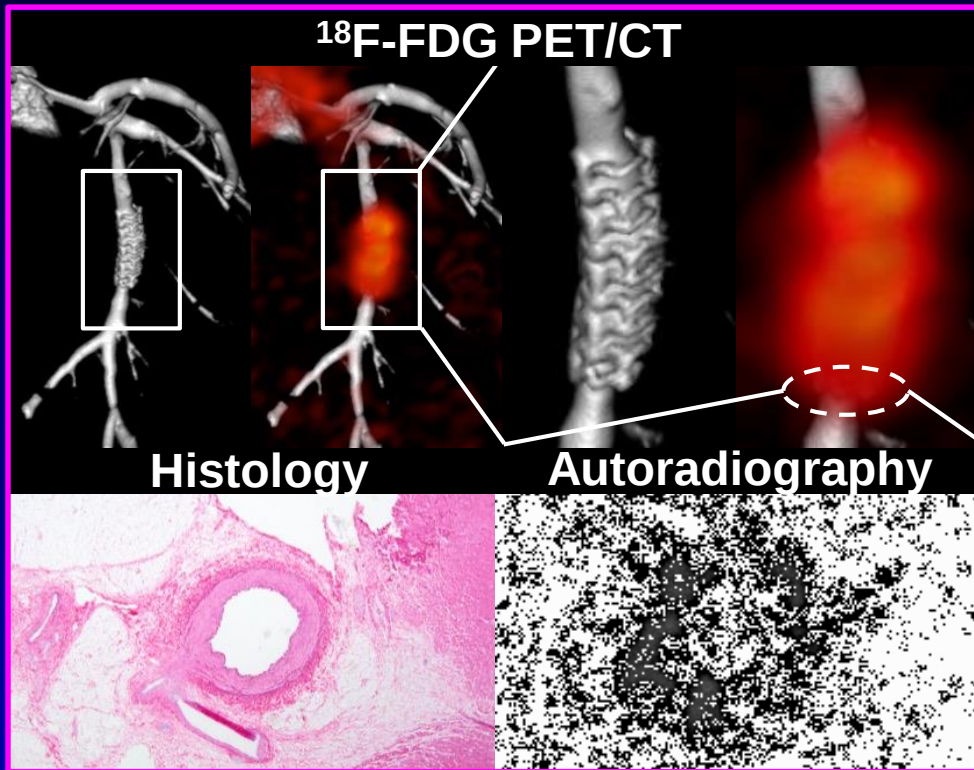
Basic research

Pig

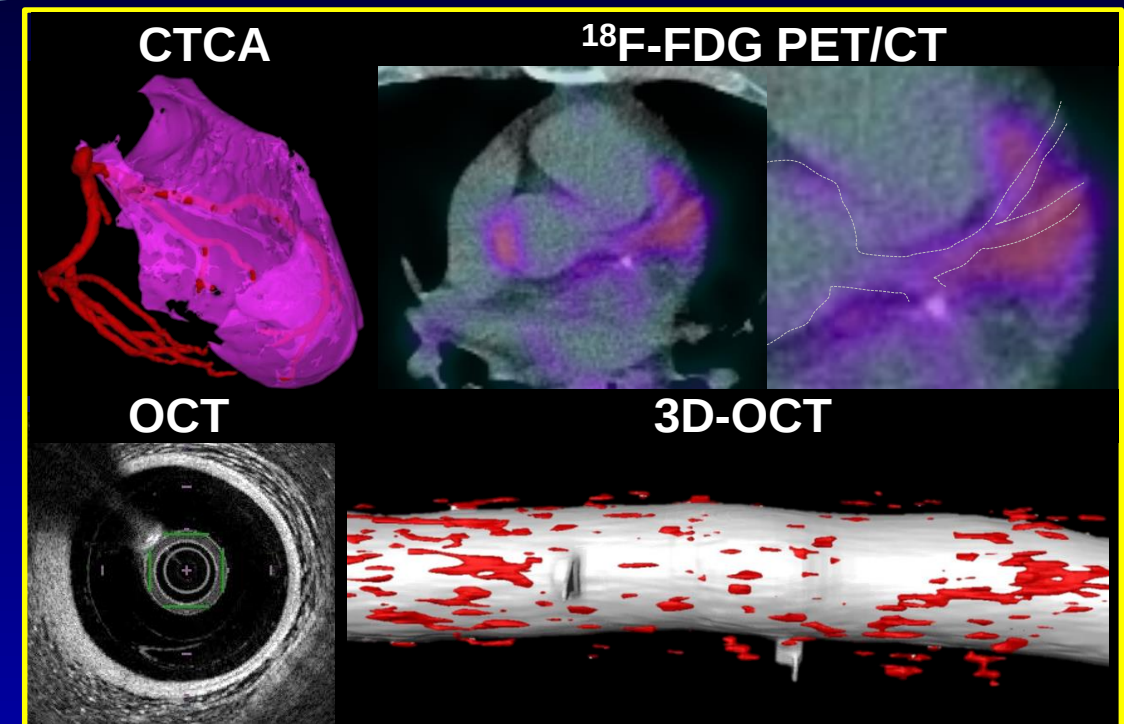


Clinical research

Human



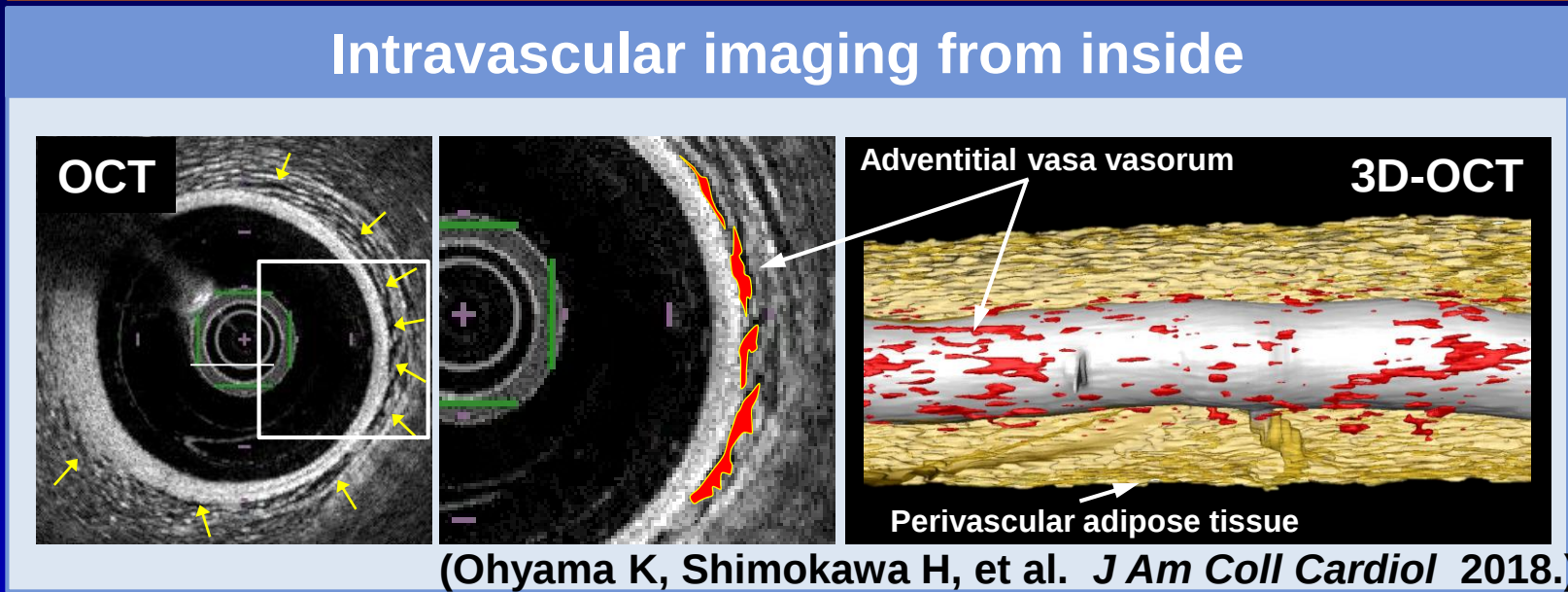
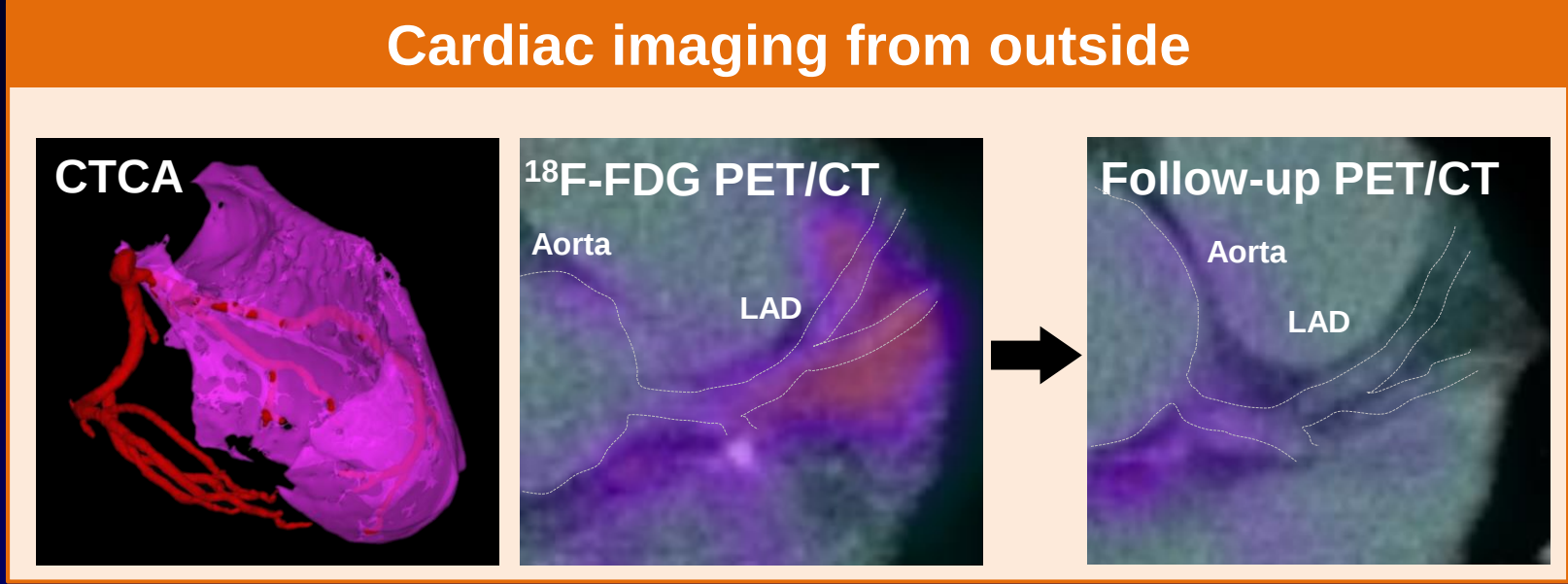
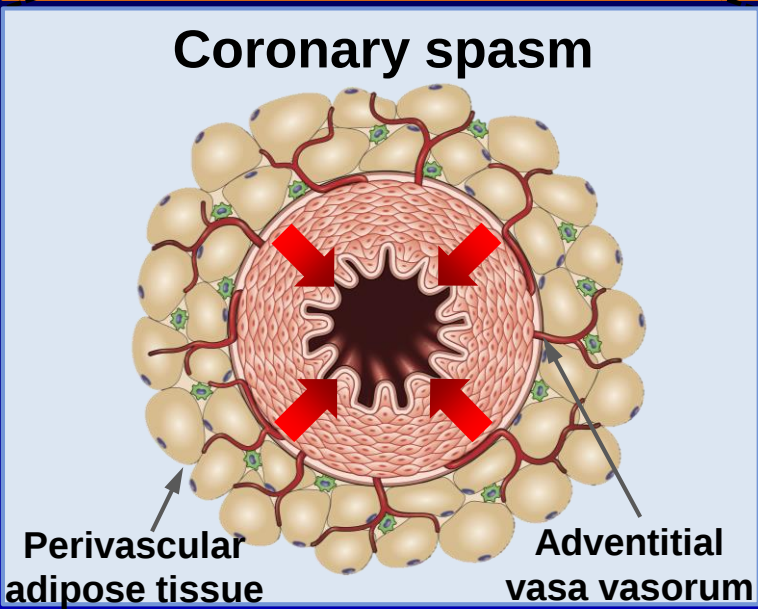
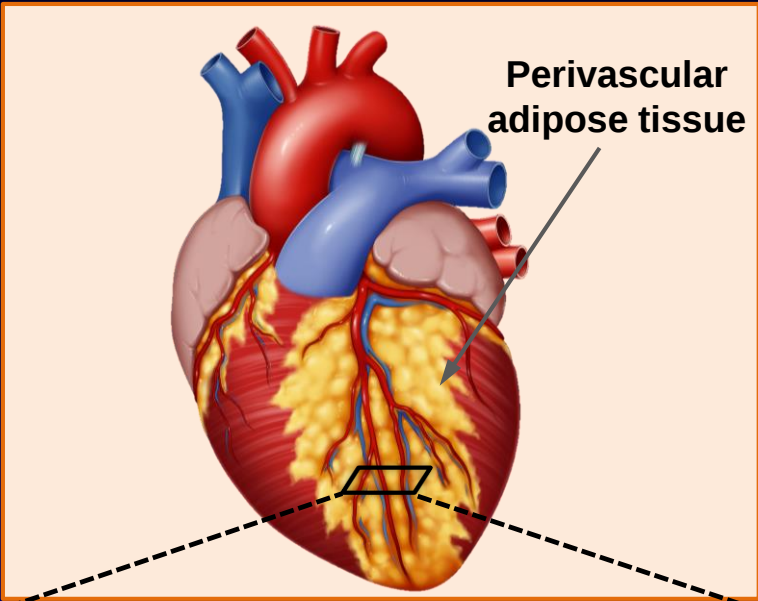
(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *ATVB* 2017.)



(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *Circ J* 2016.)

(Ohyama K, Shimokawa H, et al. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2018.)

Discussion (3) Important role of perivascular inflammation as a potent substrate for coronary spasm with multi-modality imaging



Conclusions

These findings provide the first direct evidence that **perivascular inflammation** could be the substrate for **coronary spasm**, which can be improved after long-term treatment with CCB and that **^{18}F -FDG PET/CT** is useful for assessment of disease activity in **VSA patients**.

Department of Cardiovascular Medicine Totoku University





TOHOKU
UNIVERSITY



**Thank you
for
your kind attention**