

# A New Paradigm

***HLA epitope based donor/recipient mismatch assessment***

**FDA Workshop, ABMR in Kidney Transplantation**

**12 April 2017**

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## ***Relevant Financial Relationship Disclosure Statement***

**Peter Nickerson, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada**

Consultant for Astellas, GSK, Novartis and Vitaeris

AND

My presentation does not include discussion of off-label  
or investigational use of drugs

## RENAL HOMOTRANSPLANTATION IN IDENTICAL TWINS\*

JOSEPH E. MURRAY, JOHN P. MERRILL AND J. HARTWELL HARRISON

Surg. Forum VI: 432–436, 1955



**Personalized Immunosuppression**

## TARGETING HLA MISMATCHING

**Amos**  
**Ceppellini**  
**Kissmeyer-Nielsen**  
**Terasaki**

**Bodmer**  
**Dausset**  
**Payne**  
**van Rood**

## 60 yrs of HLA Transplant Science

- N Engl J Med (1968) 279:501
- Lancet (1969) 1:790
- Lancet (1971) 1:609
- N Engl J Med (1974) 290:979
- Lancet (1975) 1:240
- Lancet (1975) 2:1126
- Lancet (1978) 1:575
- Lancet (1978) 1:1278
- Lancet (1980) 2:282
- N Engl J Med (1980) 303:850
- N Engl J Med (1984) 311:358
- Lancet (1988) 2:61
- N Engl J Med (1988) 318:1289
- Lancet (1991) 338:461
- N Engl J Med (1991) 324:1032
- N Engl J Med (1992) 327:834
- N Engl J Med (1994) 331:765
- N Engl J Med (1995) 333:333
- N Engl J Med (1999) 341:1440
- N Engl J Med (2000) 343:1078
- N Engl J Med (2004) 350:545



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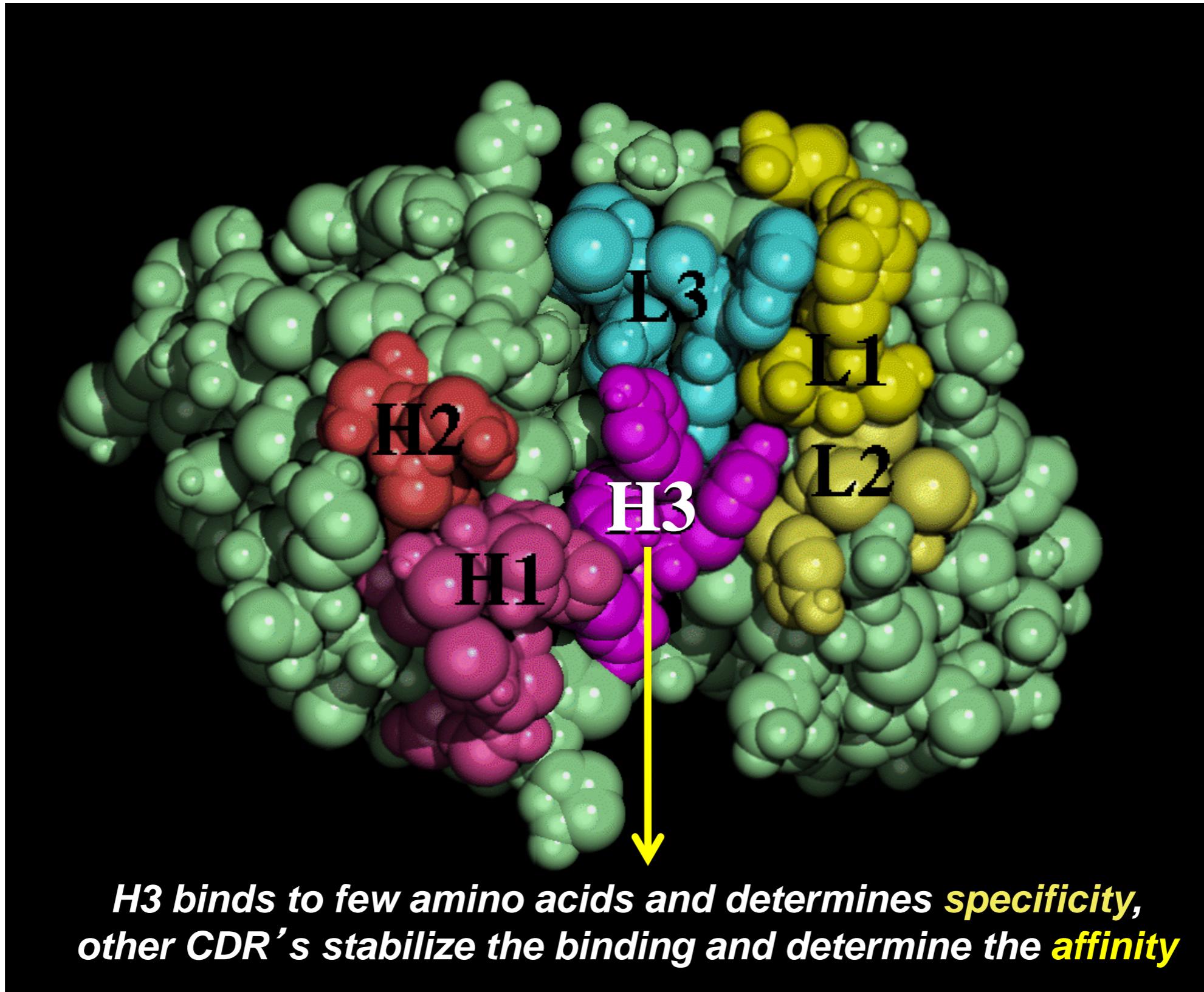
Personalized Immunosuppression

## HLA MISMATCHING – BEYOND WHOLE HLA MOLECULES

**“We must now prepare for the second phase in which more sophisticated measures of HLA compatibility should be developed for more accurate prediction of outcome”**

Mickey, Kreisler, Albert, Tanaka, Terasaki  
Tissue Antigens (1971) 1:57

# Six contact sites determine the reactivity between antibody and antigen (complementarity determining regions (CDR))



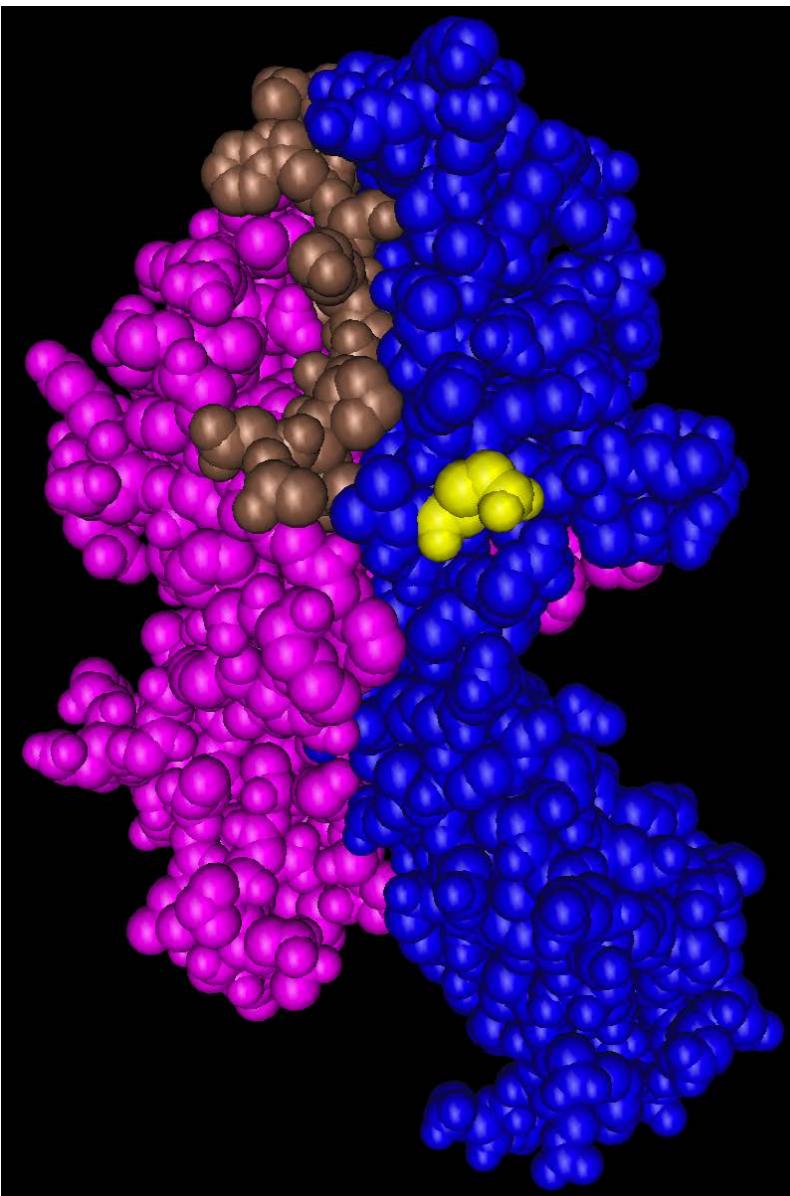
# Antibody-reactive epitope determination with HLA Matchmaker and its clinical applications

R. J. Duquesnoy

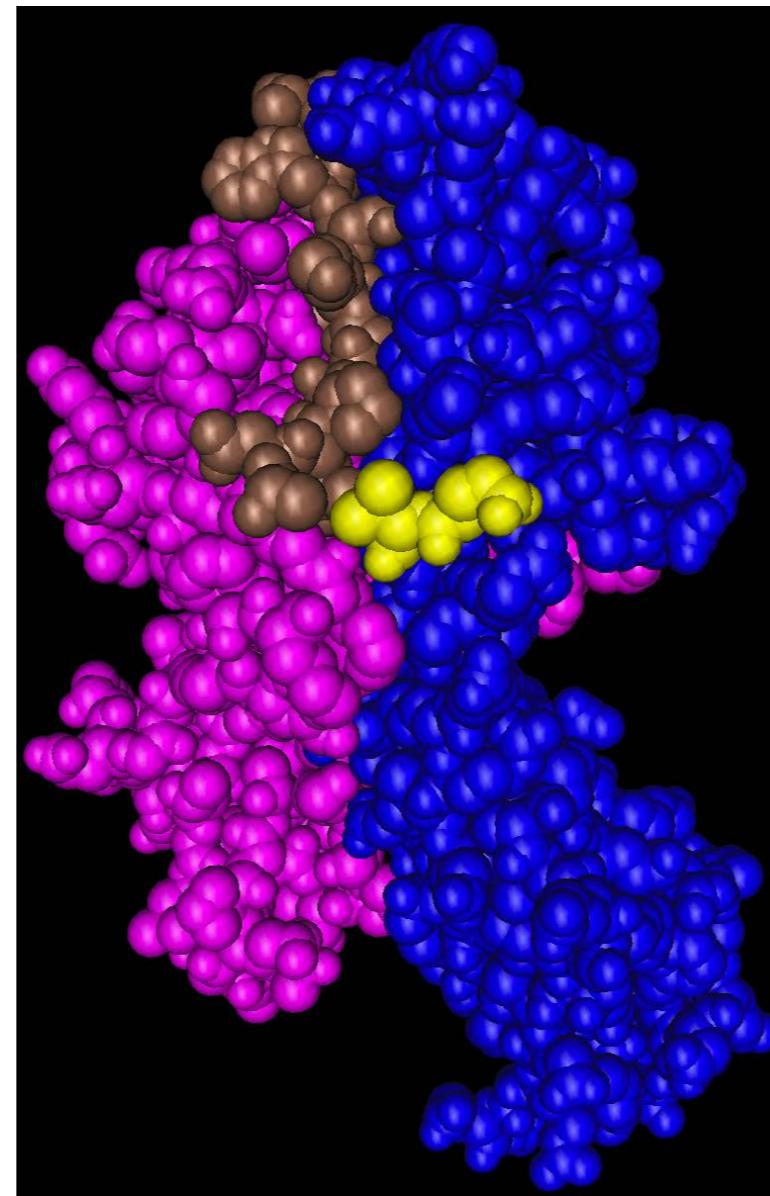
Tissue Antigens (2011) 77:525



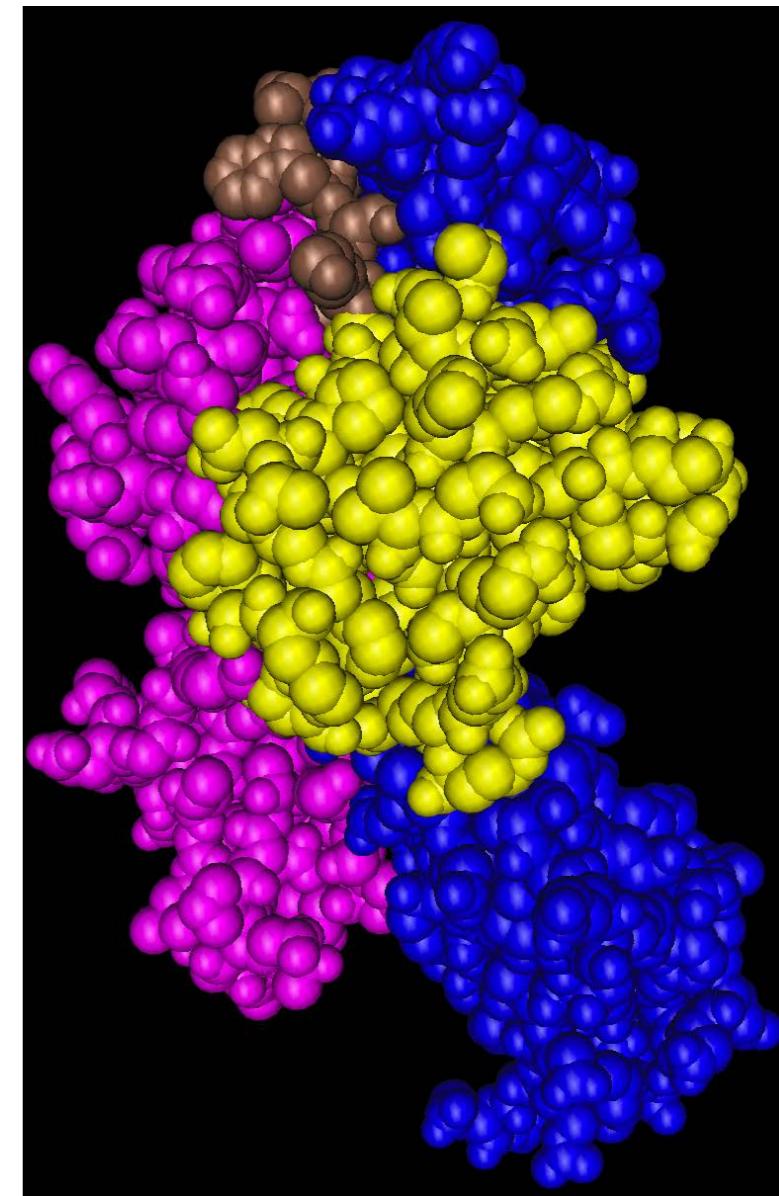
Polymorphic  
amino acid



Functional Epitope (H3 CDR)  
(3Å radius – “Eplet”)



Structural Epitope  
(15Å radius)



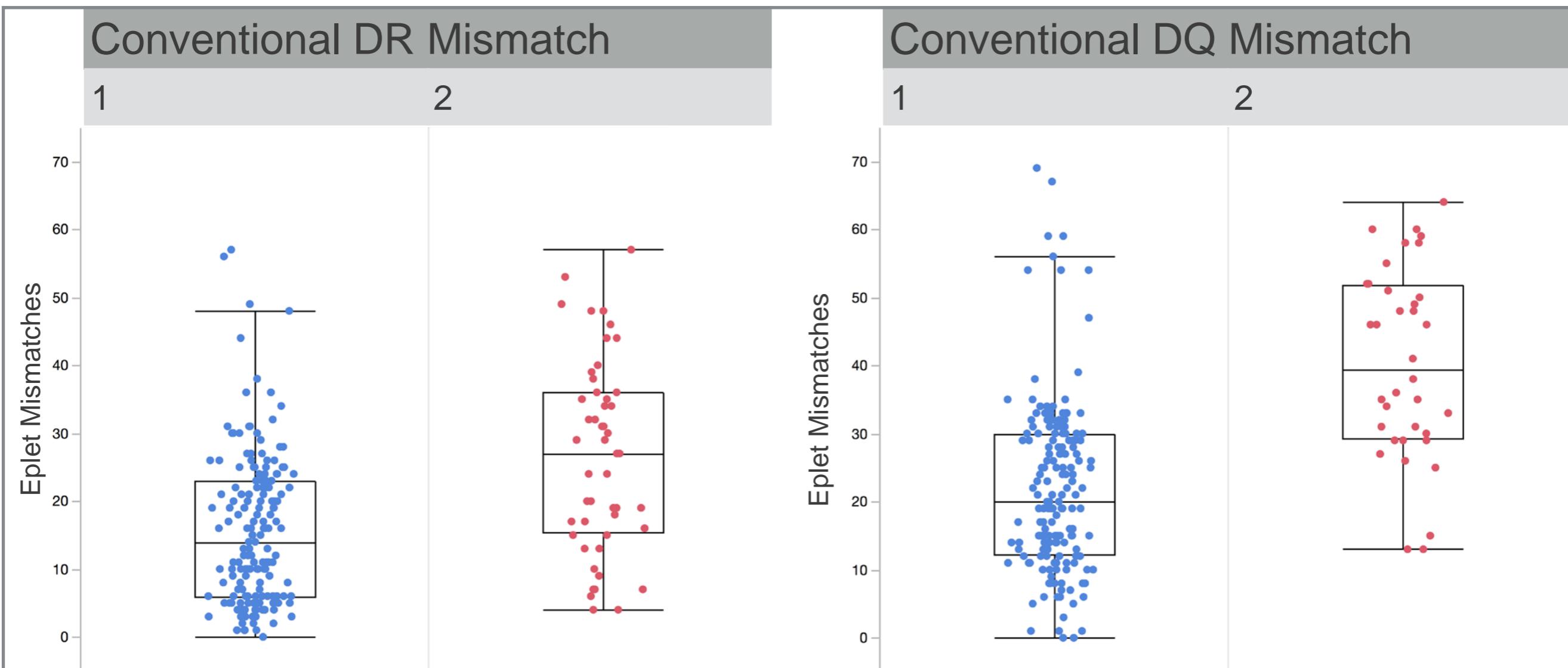
# HLAMatchmaker Eplet Mismatch Assessment

## Most Accurate with 4-digit HLA Typing data

Patient HLA	Donor HLA	mmEp	Mismatched Donor Eplets
DRB1*1101	DRB1*0405	11	,,12VKH,14HEH,,,32FYH,34HQ,,57SA,,67LR,71QRA,,,96YL,98EN,,120N,,,180LT,,
DRB1*1302	DRB1*1119	1	.....,67IR,.....
DRB3*0101	DRB3*0202	-	.....
DRB3*0202	DRB4*0101	19	4Q,18L,12AKC,14CEH,16HLW,26WN,32IYN,,41YNL,48YQ,,67LR,71RRA,,81YV,85VV,96QM,98KN,
DQB1*0301	DQB1*0301	-	.....
DQB1*0301	DQB1*0302	7	,14GM,,26L,,45GV,46GVY,,57PA,.....,167RG,,185I,,
DQA1*0103	DQA1*0302	13	,,25YS,34HE,41ER,,47EQL,48LF,50LF,52FRR,56RR,,,75IVR,80IRS,,,,160DD,,175E,187T
DQA1*0505	DQA1*0505	-	.....
DPB1*0301	DPB1*0201	-	.....
DPB1*0201	DPB1*2301	3	,,,55AA,56AE,....
DPA1*0103	DPA1*0103	-	....
DPA1*0103	DPA1*0103	-	....

# CONTEXT (Donor – Recipient relatedness)

## Conventional Whole Molecule HLA MM vs. Range of Eplet MM

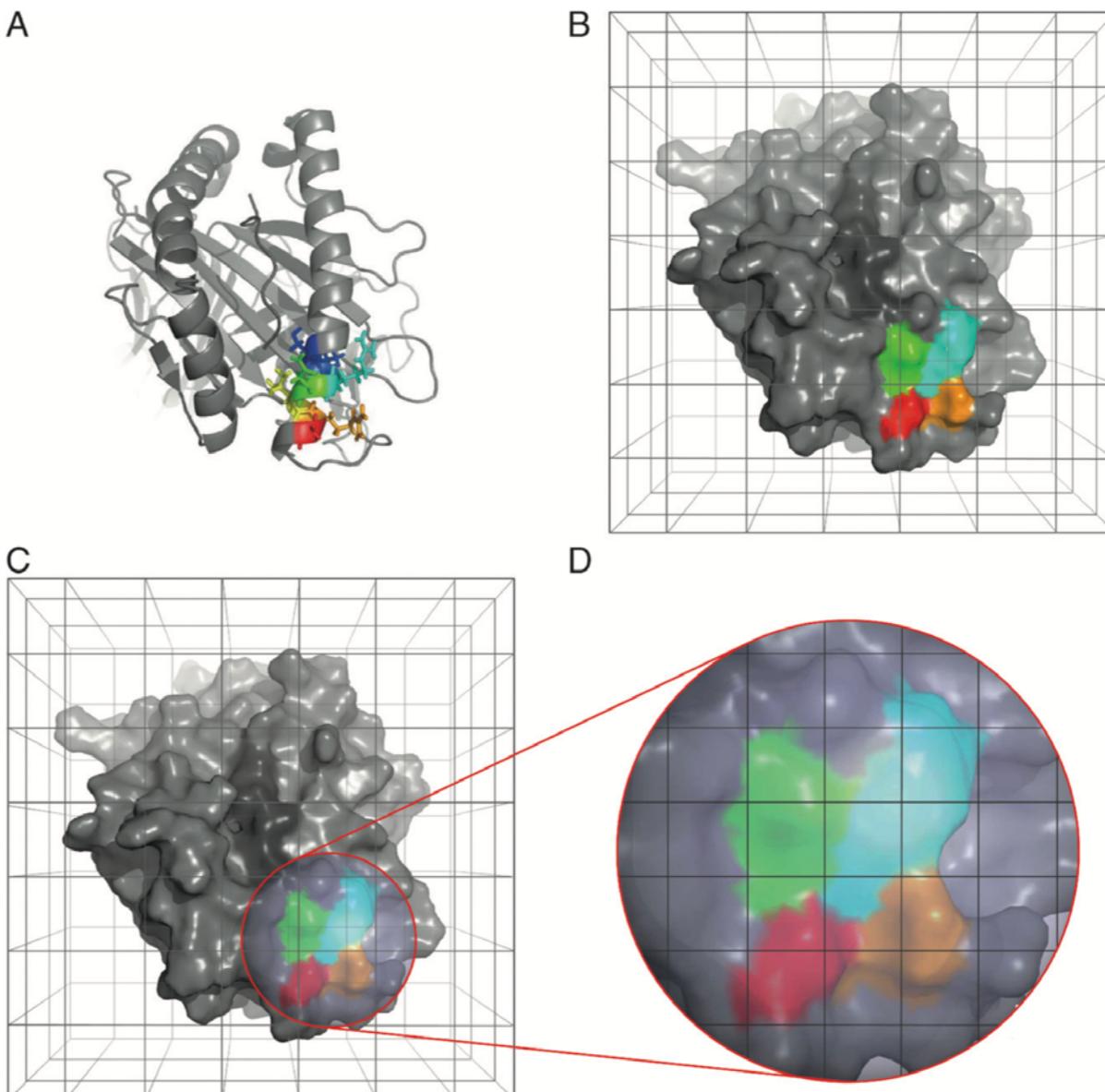


# Eplet MM is an Independent Predictor for *de novo* Class II DSA

<b>Model</b>	<b>HLA Loci</b>	<b>Predictors</b>	<b>Odds Ratio (per unit change)</b>	<b>p value</b>
<b>Clinical Predictors</b>	<b>HLA-DR</b>	Non-Adherence	6.0 (2.1-17.0)	p<0.001
		HLA-DR Eplet Mismatch Load	1.06 (1.03-1.10)	p<0.001
		Clinical Rejection Preceding <i>dn</i> DSA	2.6 (1.5-4.6)	p<0.001
<b>Clinical Predictors</b>	<b>HLA-DQ</b>	Non-Adherence	8.5 (3.6-20.0)	p<0.001
		HLA-DQ Eplet Mismatch Load	1.04 (1.0-1.02)	p<0.001
		Younger Age	1.03 (1.0-1.10)	p<0.01

\* Odds ratios with 95% Confidence Intervals

# Immunogenicity: Electrostatic Potentials of HLA Epitopes



**FIGURE 1.** Schematic representation of the method used to quantitate the surface electrostatic potential of the Bw4 and Bw6 epitopes expressed on HLA class I molecules. The HLA class I molecule is depicted in gray and the Bw4 or Bw6 epitope is highlighted in color. A, Atomic resolution 3-dimensional structural models of common HLA-A and HLA-B alleles that express the Bw4 or Bw6 epitope were created. B, The electrostatic potential in the 3-dimensional space around each HLA class I model was calculated by solving the linearized Poisson-Boltzmann equation, as implemented in APBS, for a cubic grid with sides of 353 points spaced 0.33 Å apart. C and D, To enable selective electrostatic potential comparison of the Bw4 and Bw6 epitopes, a virtual sphere of interest (10 Å in radius) was created to encompass the canonical Bw4/Bw6 motif. Quantitative comparisons of the electrostatic potential of the Bw4/Bw6 epitope were made for each HLA allele by comparing electrostatic potential at analogous grid points within the sphere of interest.

# Predicting Class II DSA development after Graft Loss

## Mismatch evaluation methods appear equivalent

### Amino Acid Mismatch

### Eplet Mismatch

### Electrostatic Mismatch

Variable	Odds ratio (95% CI) on developing HLA donor-specific antibodies (MFI > 2000)	
	OR (95% CI)	p-value
<b>HLA-DRB1/3/4/5</b>		
AMS (per 10 AA MM)	5.42 (2.23, 15.01)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Dual agent immunosuppression	0.05 (0.01, 0.21)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Time on the waiting list (per year)	1.00 (0.83, 1.19)	0.96
<b>EpMS</b>		
EpMS (per 10 eplet MM)	6.30 (2.30, 19.30)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Dual agent immunosuppression	0.06 (0.01, 0.23)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Time on the waiting list (per year)	0.98 (0.82, 1.17)	0.83
<b>EMS</b>		
EMS (per 10 units)	2.77 (1.52, 5.52)	<b>0.002</b>
Dual agent immunosuppression	0.06 (0.01, 0.24)	<b>&lt;0.001</b>
Time on the waiting list (per year)	0.94 (0.79, 1.11)	0.50
<b>HLA-DQ</b>		
AMS (per 10 AA MM)	1.79 (1.19, 2.71)	<b>0.005</b>
Dual agent immunosuppression	0.18 (0.01, 1.10)	0.12
Time on the waiting list (per year)	0.91 (0.70, 1.15)	0.43
<b>EpMS</b>		
EpMS (per 10 eplet MM)	1.99 (1.20, 3.47)	<b>0.011</b>
Dual agent immunosuppression	0.17 (0.01, 1.00)	0.10
Time on the waiting list (per year)	0.91 (0.71, 1.15)	0.45
<b>EMS</b>		
EMS (per 10 units)	1.46 (1.14, 1.90)	<b>0.003</b>
Dual agent immunosuppression	0.17 (0.01, 1.01)	0.11
Time on the waiting list (per year)	0.89 (0.69, 1.14)	0.37

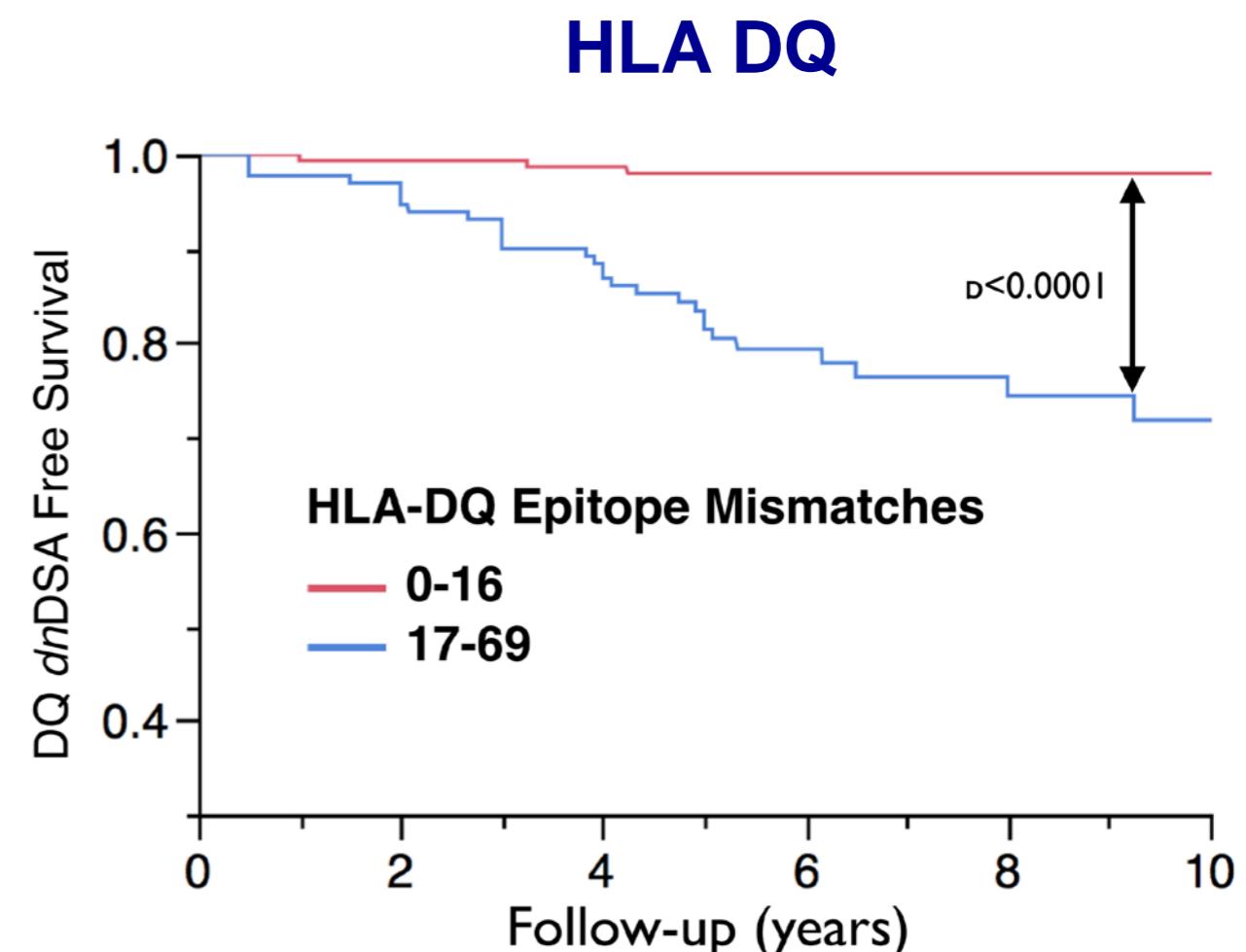
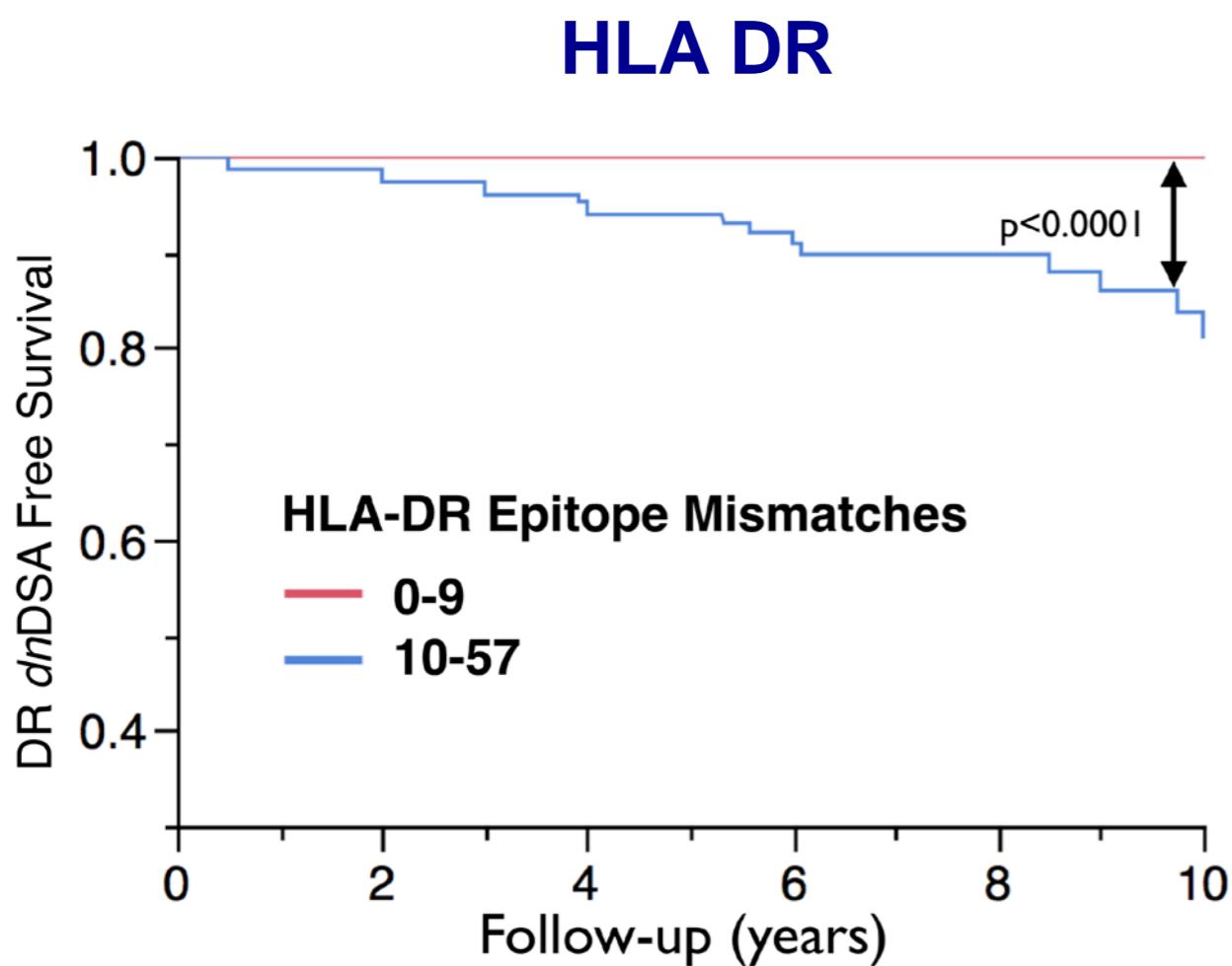


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Personalized Immunosuppression

**HLA MISMATCHING – EPLET MM LOAD FOR RISK ASSESSMENT**

# Optimal HLA Eplet MM thresholds predictive of *de novo* DSA (ROC analysis)



# HLA-DR and -DQ Eplet Mismatches and Transplant Glomerulopathy: A Nested Case–Control Study

R. Sapir-Pichhadze<sup>1,2,3,\*†</sup>, K. Tinckam<sup>1,4</sup>,  
K. Quach<sup>1,5</sup>, A.G. Logan<sup>1,2,3</sup>, A. Laupacis<sup>2,6</sup>,  
R. John<sup>4</sup>, J. Beyene<sup>2,6,7</sup> and S.J. Kim<sup>1,2,3,8</sup>

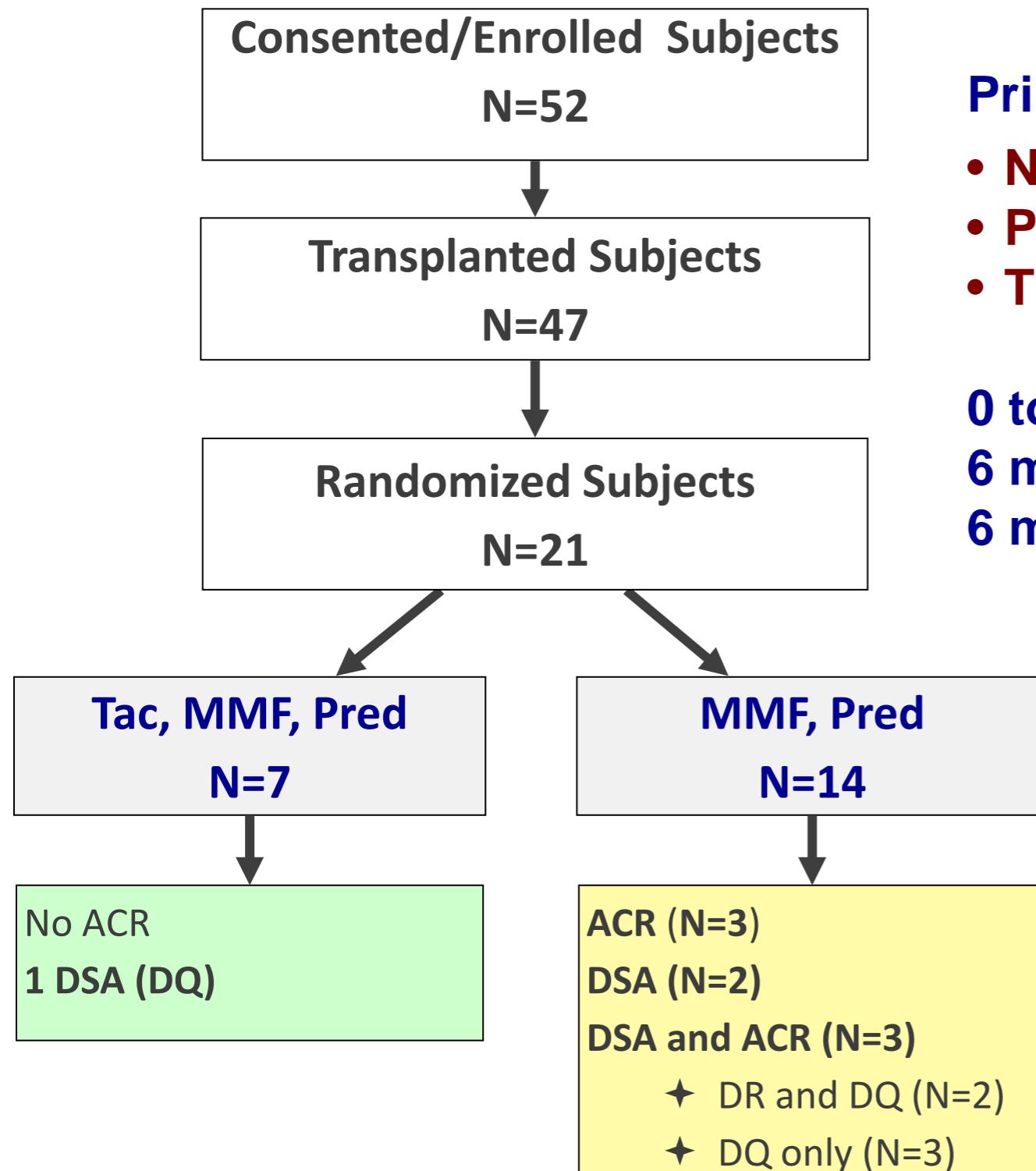
*American Journal of Transplantation 2015; 15: 137–148*

## Odds Ratio of Developing TG based upon Total Eplet Threshold

	Univariate	Multivariate **
<b>DR + DQ ≥36</b>	2.01[1.01-4.01]	3.21 [1.26-7.56]
<b>DQ ≥18</b>	1.50 [0.75,3.00] NS	2.42 [1.03,5.70]
<b>DR ≥15</b>	2.44 [1.16,5.12]	3.64 [1.42,9.37]

\*\* Model includes Eplet exposure, recipient age, sex, peak PRA, race, induction and donor type.

# Tacrolimus withdrawal in *Immune Quiescent* Kidney Transplant Recipients (CTOT-09)



## Primary Living Donor Transplants

- No DSA
- PRA <30%
- Thymo, Tacrolimus, MMF, Prednisone

0 to 6 mo course:

No Acute Rejection

6 mo Protocol Biopsy:

Normal Histology

6 mo Antibody Screen:

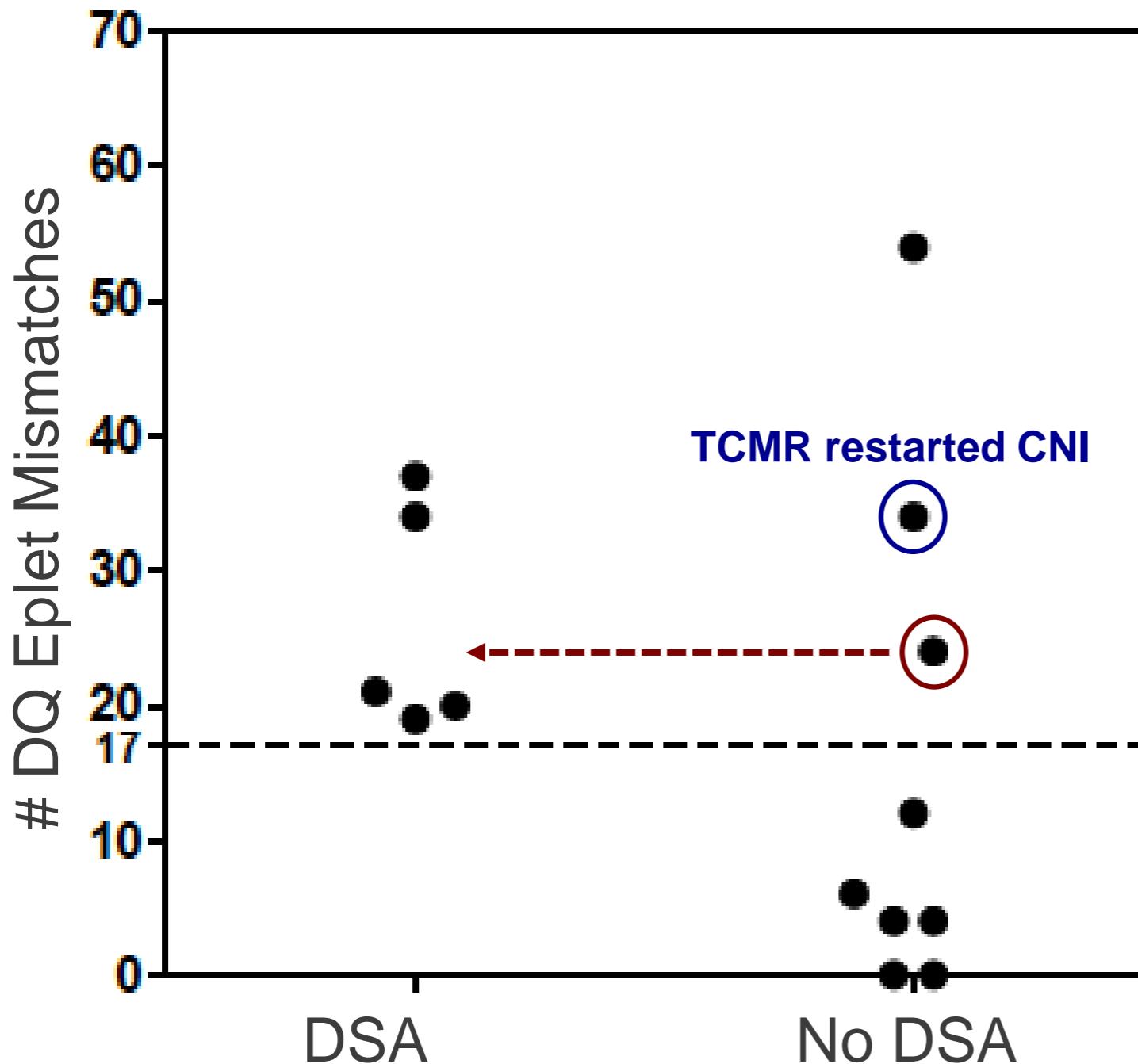
No DSA

Tacrolimus tapered over 3 months

Trial Halted by DSMB

Quiescence ≠ Low Risk to Minimize

# Tacrolimus withdrawal in *Immune Quiescent* Kidney Transplant Recipients (CTOT-09)



*De novo* DQ DSA associated with high Eplet MM load ( $\geq 17$ )

5/8 in Tac withdrawal  
( $P=0.0310$ )

6/8 in longer follow-up  
( $P=0.0096$ )

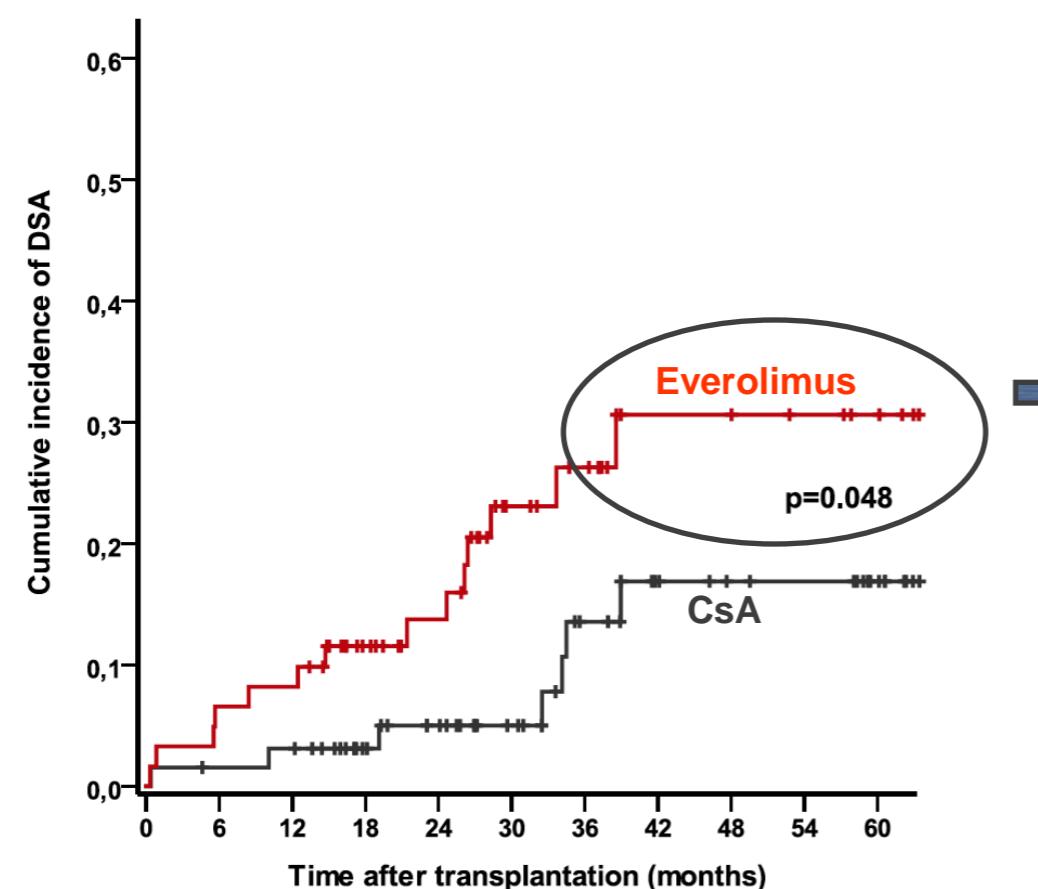
# Donor-Specific HLA Antibodies in a Cohort Comparing Everolimus with Cyclosporine After Kidney Transplantation

L. Liefeldt<sup>a,†,\*</sup>, S. Brakemeier<sup>a,†</sup>, P. Glander<sup>a</sup>,  
J. Waisser<sup>a</sup>, N. Lachmann<sup>b</sup>, C. Schönemann<sup>b</sup>,  
B. Zukunft<sup>a</sup>, P. Illigens<sup>a</sup>, D. Schmidt<sup>a</sup>, K. Wu<sup>a,c</sup>,  
B. Rudolph<sup>c</sup>, H.-H. Neumayer<sup>a</sup> and K. Budde<sup>a</sup>

AJT (2012) 12:1192-1198

**Anti-CD25 Induction + CsA + MMF + Pred**

**Patients switched from CsA to Everolimus at 3.0 to 4.5 months post-transplant have an increased incidence of *de novo* DSA and ABMR**



**DR *dnDSA* n=6**

**DQ *dnDSA* n=24,**

**DQ eplet MM 14.3 vs. 7.4,  
p<0.0001**

AJT 2016 Vol 16, S3, 203–404

Abstract #279 R. Snanoudj et al.

# Predictive Patterns of Early Medication Adherence in Renal Transplantation

Thomas E. Nevins,<sup>1,4</sup> William N. Robiner,<sup>2</sup> and William Thomas<sup>3</sup>

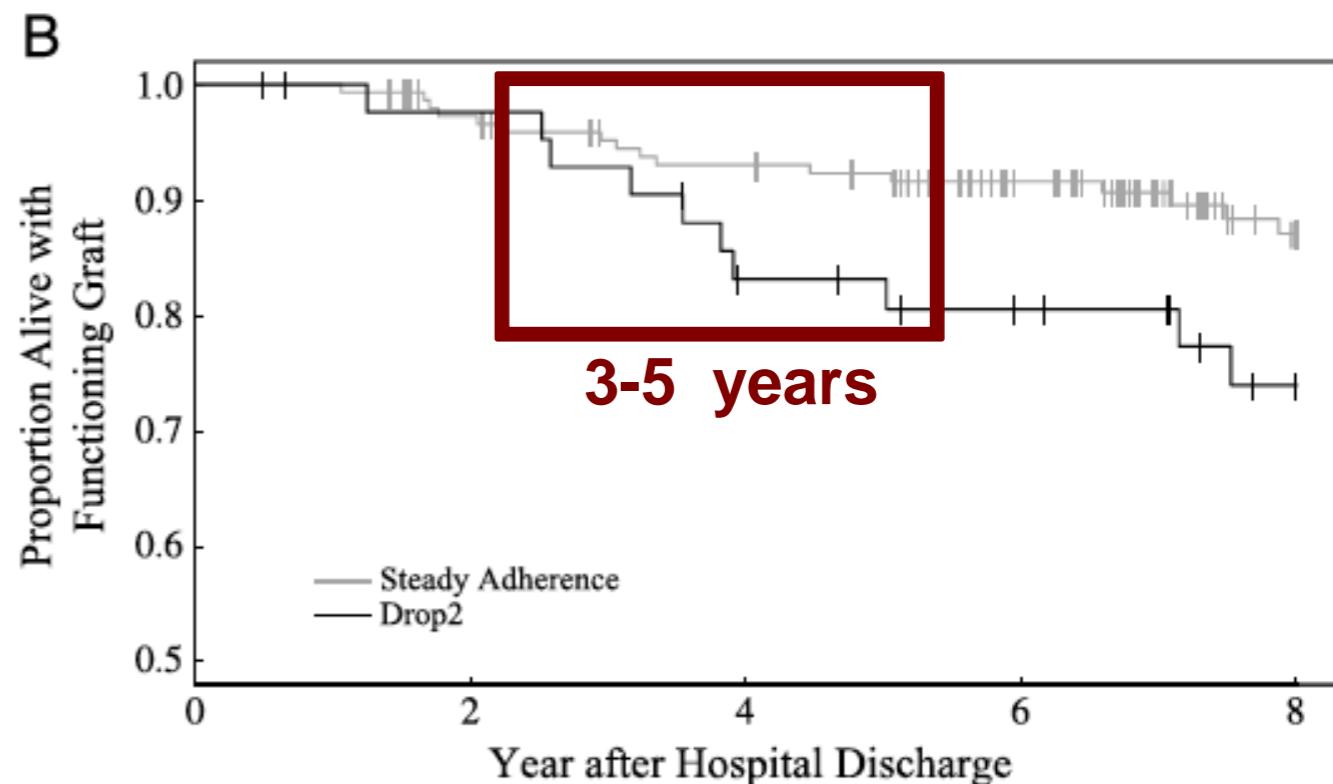
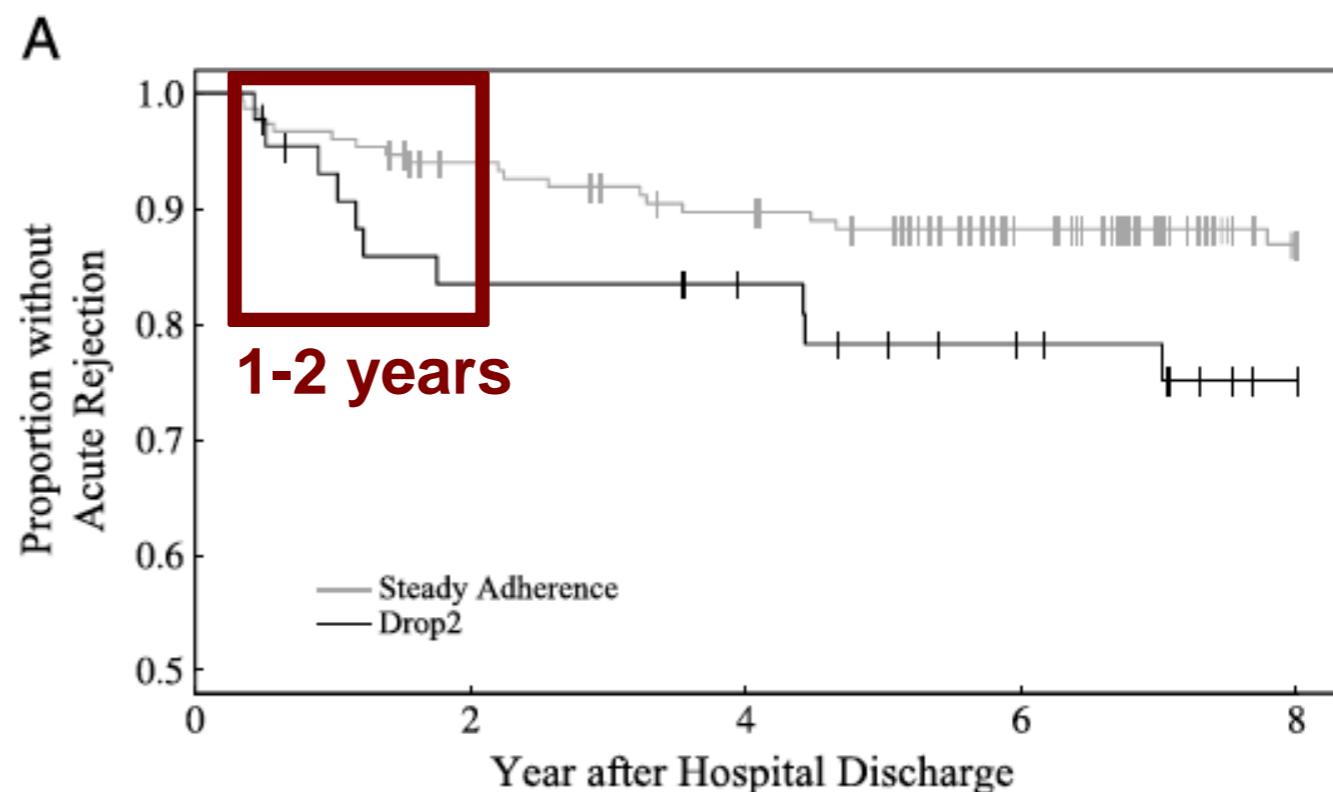


**MEMS**  
(Medication Event Monitoring System)

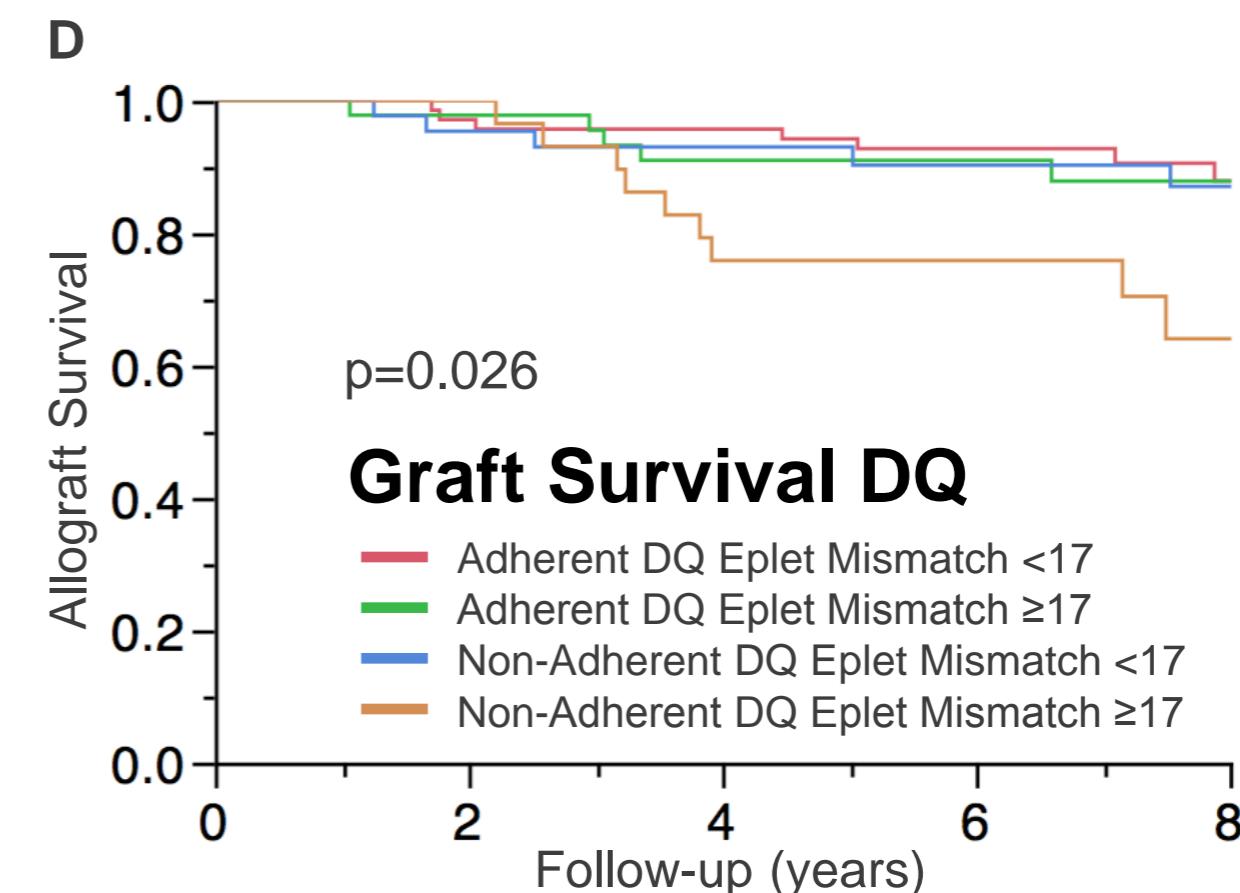
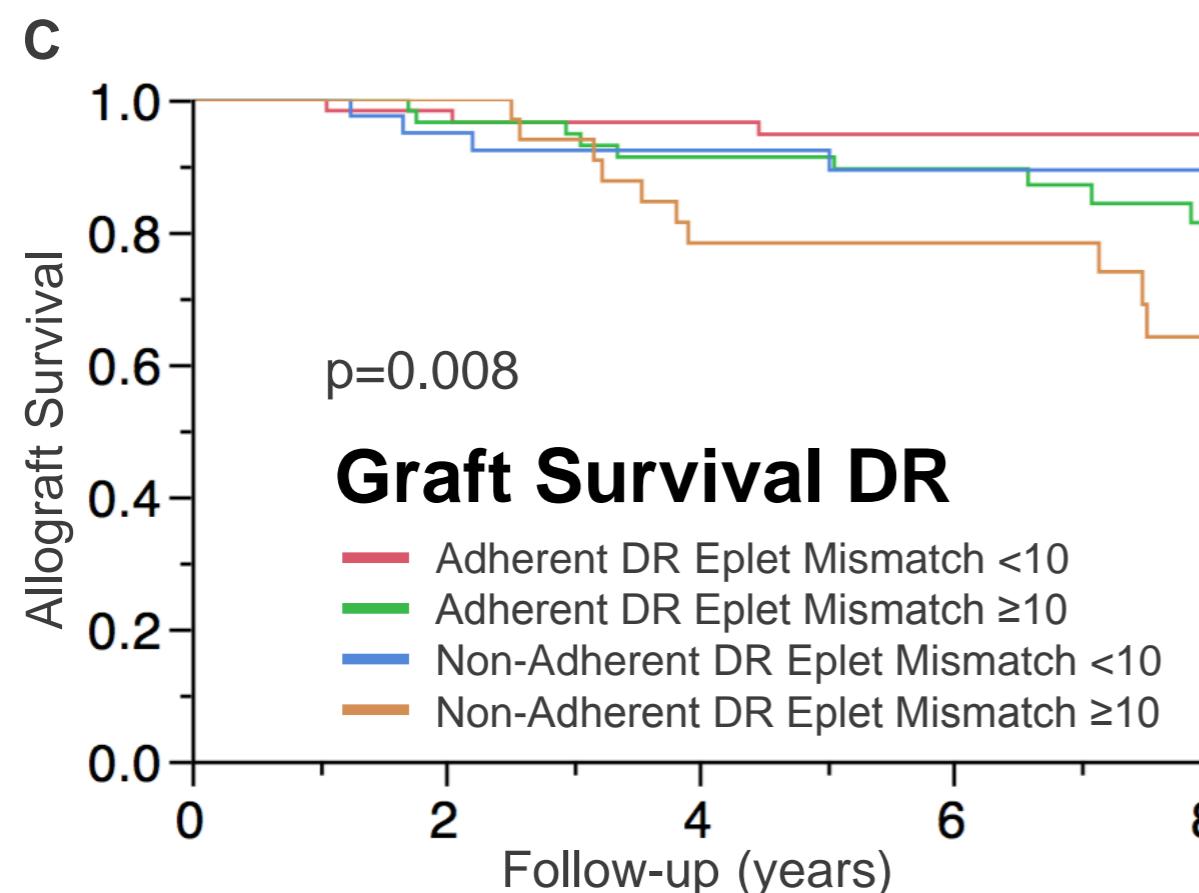
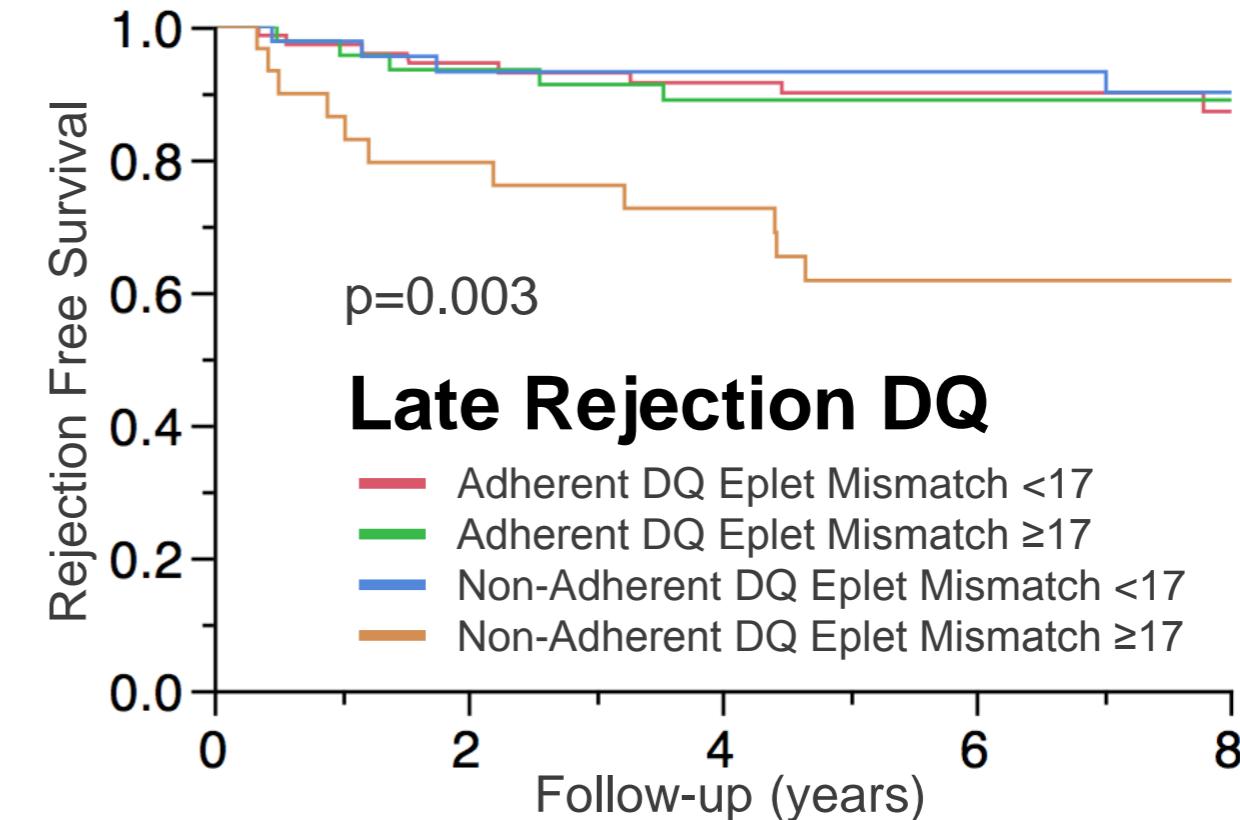
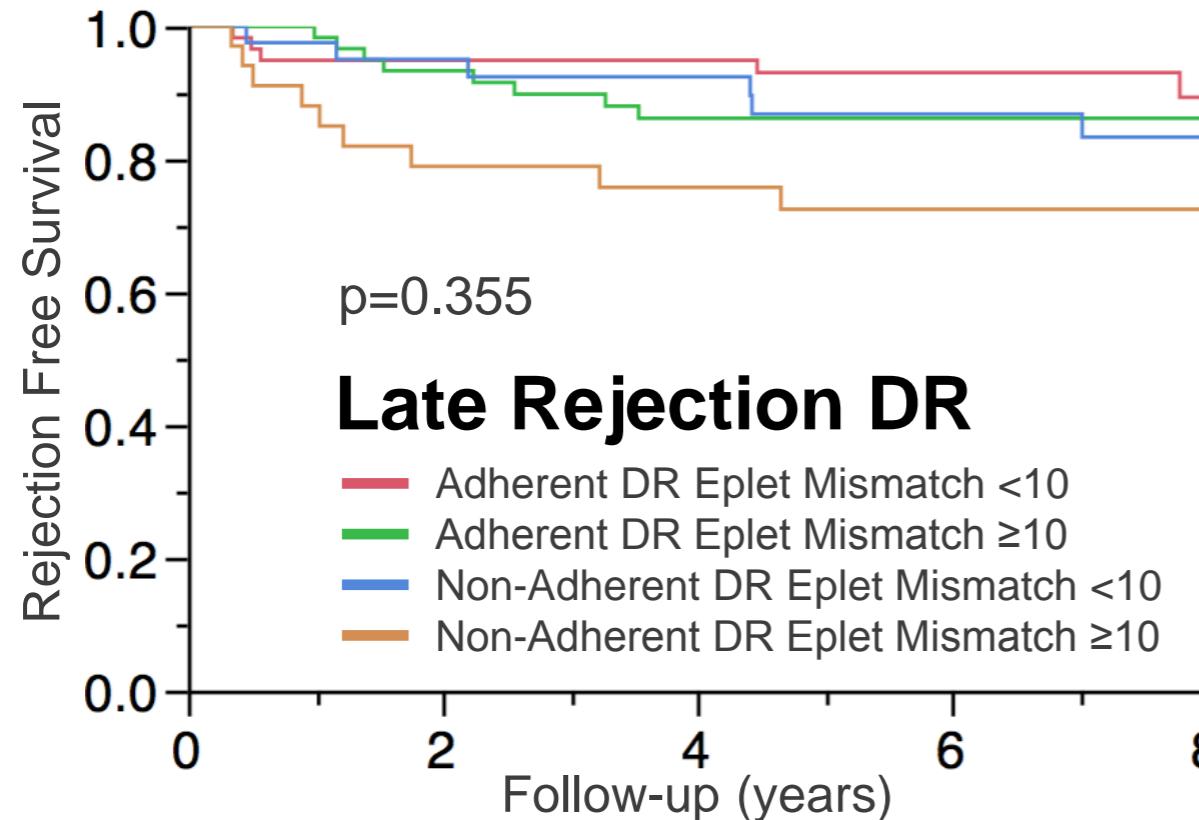
**195 patients**

- **44 (22.6%)** decreased adherence by 7% or more in **month 2** post tx

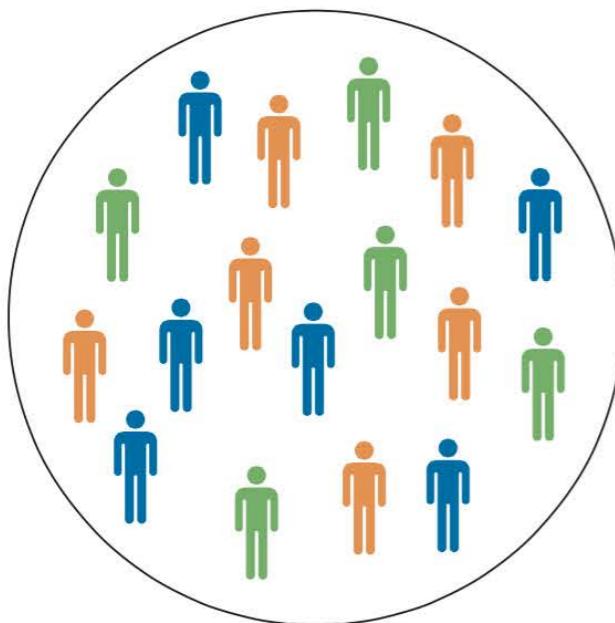
→ **Late Acute Rejection**  
→ **Early Graft Loss**



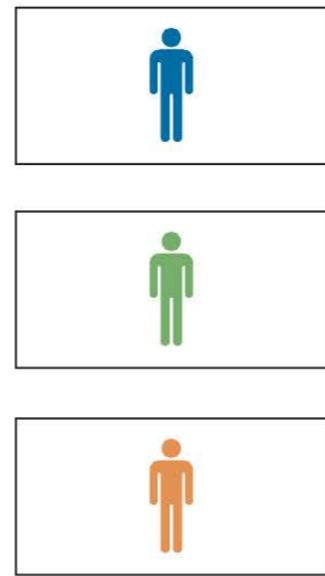
# Synergy of Non-Adherence and Eplet MM Load



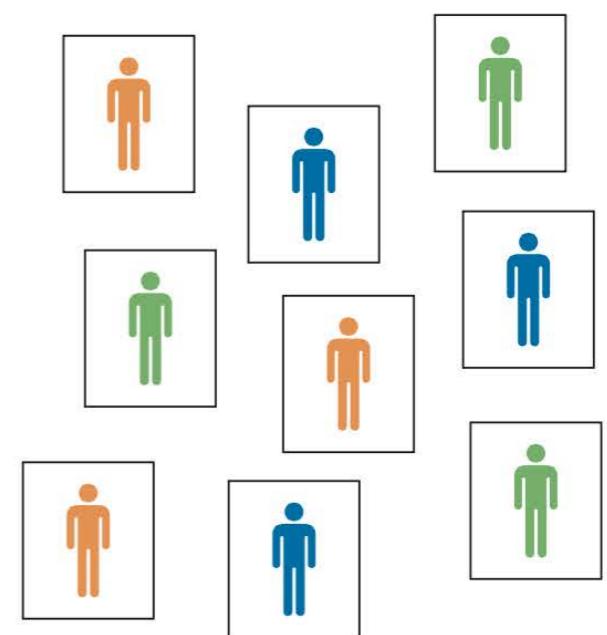
Empirical medicine



Stratified medicine



Personalized medicine



**HLA Mismatch**

**Low**  
Allocation Points  
(2 points – 0 DR MM)

**DR or DQ**  
**Eplet MM Load**  
**Electrostatic MM**

**Low (both)**  
Allocation Points  
Minimization ???

**Same Treatment for All**

**High (either)**  
Avoid Minimization

**DR or DQ**  
**Immunogenic Epitopes**

**Immunodominant**  
Avoid or Low Priority

Avoid Minimization

# Acknowledgements

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