

IPAF (Interstitial Pneumonia with Autoimmune Features) Should be Considered as a Distinct Phenotype
: **CONS**

계명대의대 내과
최원일

An official European Respiratory Society/ American Thoracic Society research statement: interstitial pneumonia with autoimmune features

Aryeh Fischer^{1,17,18}, Katerina M. Antoniou², Kevin K. Brown³, Jacques Cadranel⁴, Tamera J. Corte^{5,18}, Roland M. du Bois⁶, Joyce S. Lee^{7,18}, Kevin O. Leslie⁸, David A. Lynch⁹, Eric L. Matteson¹⁰, Marta Mosca¹¹, Imre Noth¹², Luca Richeldi¹³, Mary E. Streck^{12,18}, Jeffrey J. Swigris^{3,18}, Athol U. Wells¹⁴, Sterling G. West¹⁵, Harold R. Collard^{7,18,19} and Vincent Cottin^{16,18,19}, on behalf of the “ERS/ATS Task Force on Undifferentiated Forms of CTD-ILD”

Affiliations: ¹Dept of Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine, Denver, CO, USA. ²Thoracic Medicine, University of Crete, Heraklion, Greece. ³Dept of Medicine, National Jewish Health, Denver, CO, USA. ⁴Pneumologie, Hopital Tenon, Paris, France. ⁵The Aldred Hospital, Melbourne, Australia. ⁶Interstitial Lung Disease Unit, Dept of Occupational Medicine, Royal Brompton Hospital, London, UK. ⁷Medicine, University of California San Francisco, San Francisco, CA, USA. ⁸Pathology, Mayo Clinic, Scottsdale, AZ, USA. ⁹Dept of Radiology, National Jewish Health, Denver, CO, USA. ¹⁰Division of Rheumatology, Mayo College of Medicine, Rochester, MN, USA. ¹¹University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy. ¹²Medicine, University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, USA. ¹³Southampton General Hospital, Southampton, UK. ¹⁴Interstitial Lung Disease Unit, Royal Brompton Hospital, London, UK. ¹⁵University of Colorado School of Medicine, Aurora, CO, USA. ¹⁶Service de Pneumologie, Hopital L. Pradel, Lyon, France. ¹⁷Task force chair. ¹⁸Members of the writing group of the task force. ¹⁹Task force vice-chairs, and contributed equally to this manuscript.

Correspondence: Aryeh Fischer, 1775 Aurora Court, P.O. Box 6511, Mail Stop B-115, Aurora, CO 80045, USA.
E-mail: aryeh.fischer@ucdenver.edu

Eur Respir J 2015;
46: 976–987

Classification criteria for “interstitial pneumonia with autoimmune features”

1. Presence of an interstitial pneumonia [by HRCT or surgical lung biopsy] and,
2. Exclusion of alternative aetiologies and,
3. At least one feature from at least two of these domains;
 - A. Clinical domain
 - B. Serologic domain
 - C. Morphologic domain

Clinical Domain:

A Clinical domain

This proposed criteria did not undergo validation prior to the release of the CTD classification criteria, likely because large, high-quality patient cohorts for validation did not exist.

7. Unexplained fixed rash on the digital extensor surfaces (Gottron's sign)
-

Domain

The inclusion of non-Jo-1 related, homogeneous patterns or other myositis-specific or myositis-associated antibodies and within the classification of IPAF is perhaps the biggest issue with the current criteria. **Only anti-Jo-1 antibodies were included in the most recent criteria for myositis**

2. Rheumatoid factor
3. Anti-CCP
4. Anti-dsDNA
5. Anti-Ro (SS-A)
6. Anti-La (SS-B)
7. Anti-ribonucleoprotein
8. Anti-Smith
9. Anti-topoisomerase (Scl-70)
10. Anti-tRNA synthetase (e.g. Jo-1, PL-7, PL-12; others are Jo-1, tRS)
11. Anti-PM-Scl
12. Anti-MDA-5

Morphologic domain

C. Morphologic domain

1. Suggestive radiology patterns by HRCT (see text for descriptions):

- a. NSIP
- b. OP
- c. NSIP with OP overlap
- d. LIP

2. Histopathology patterns or features:

- a. NSIP
- b. OP
- c. NSIP

with germinal centres

lytic infiltration (with or without lymphoid follicles)

involvement (in addition to interstitial pneumonia):

- a. Unexplained pleural effusion or thickening
- b. Unexplained pericardial effusion or thickening
- c. Unexplained intrinsic airways disease[#] (by PFT, imaging or pathology)
- d. Unexplained pulmonary vasculopathy

**Do they want to select mild or early cases?
Excluding UIP pattern or probable UIP**



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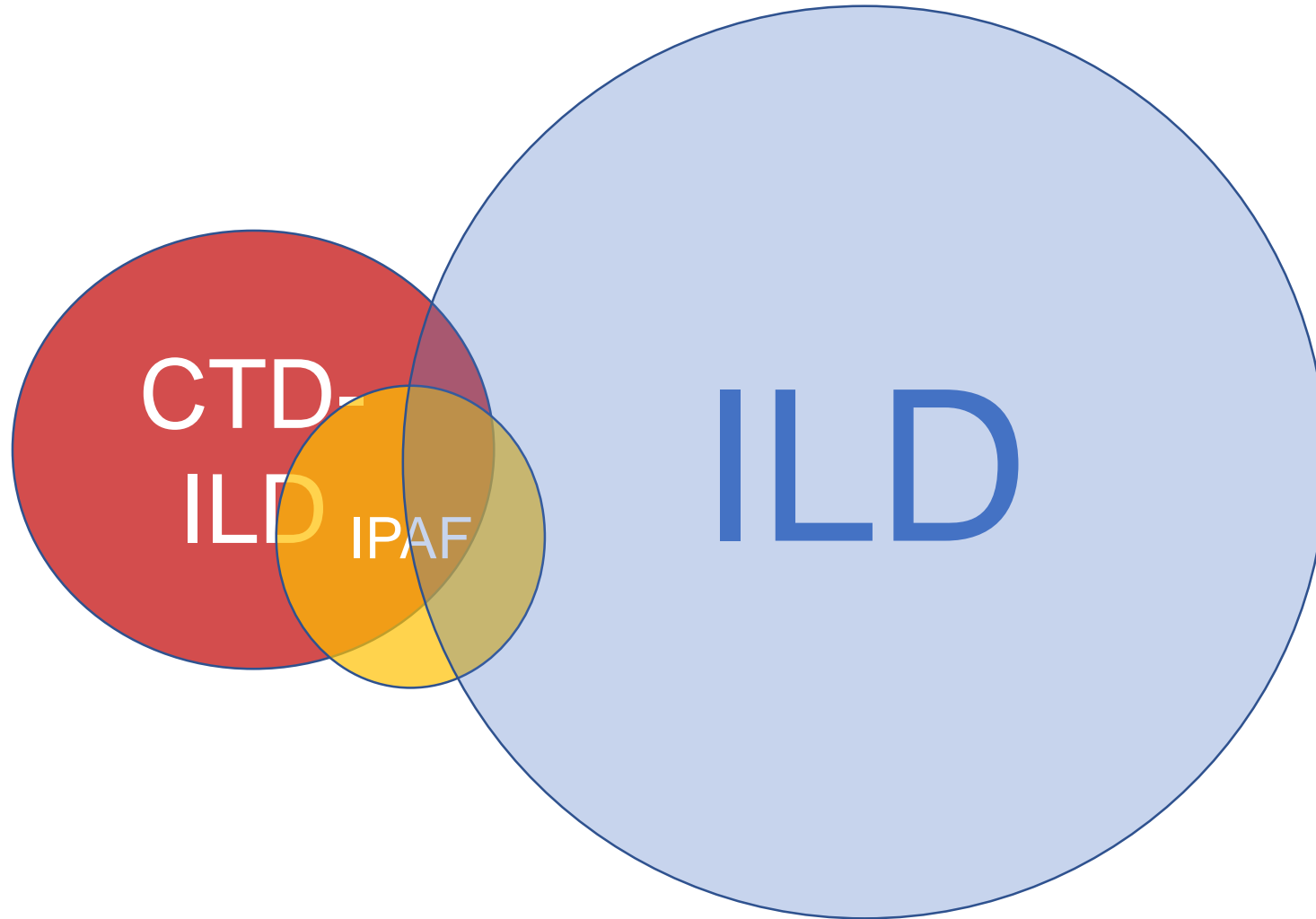
Interstitial pneumonia with autoimmune features: the new consensus-based definition for this cohort of patients should be broadened

Our primary concern with the proposed IPAF criteria is that usual interstitial pneumonia (UIP) is excluded from the morphological domain. This is problematic as UIP is a common pattern of IIP among patients with positive serology for CTD who do not meet criteria for specific CTD and do not meet clinical criteria for IPAF and, thus, are currently labelled as IPF. While this is in keeping with the 2011 criteria for the definition of IPF and may be

Raghu G, et al. ERJ 2016

Disease (DORLAND'S MEDICAL DICTIONARY, 27th Ed)

- Any deviation from or interruption of the normal structure or function of any part, **organ**, or system (or combination of thereof) of the body that is manifested by **a characteristic set of symptoms and signs** and **whose etiology, pathology, and prognosis may be known or unknown**



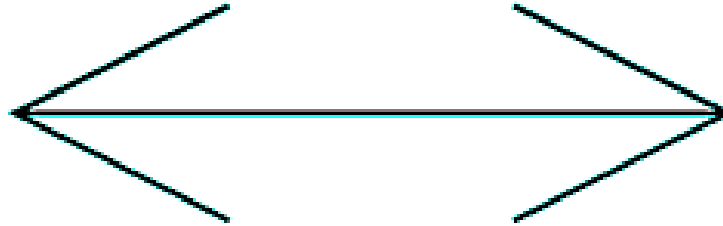
Modified from *Wells et al. ERJ 2018; 17:51*

증명:

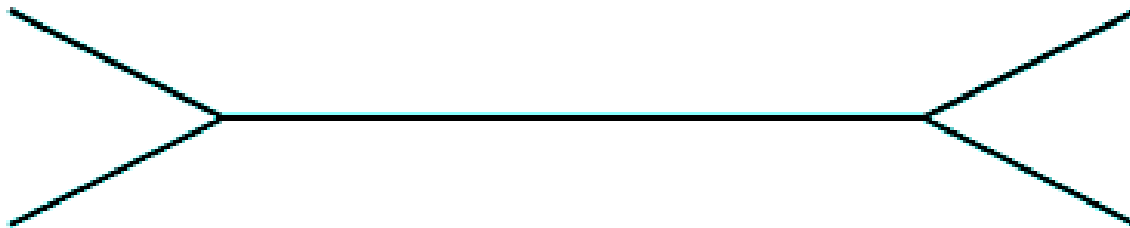
- 귀납추론 vs 연역추론

Muller-Lyer Figure

A



B



- **Sir Bradford Hill** – 9 criteria (1965년)

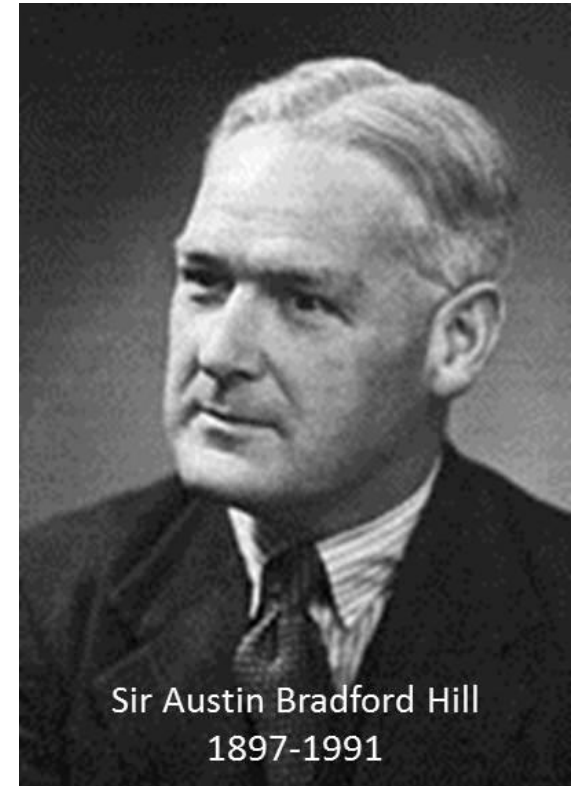
1. **Strength:** association의 크기(강도)

2. **Consistency:** 연구 결과가 repeatable

3. **Specificity:** A well-articulated exposure needs to be associated with a well-articulated outcome.
Misspecification, misinterpretation, & measurement error 가능성을 최소화 한다

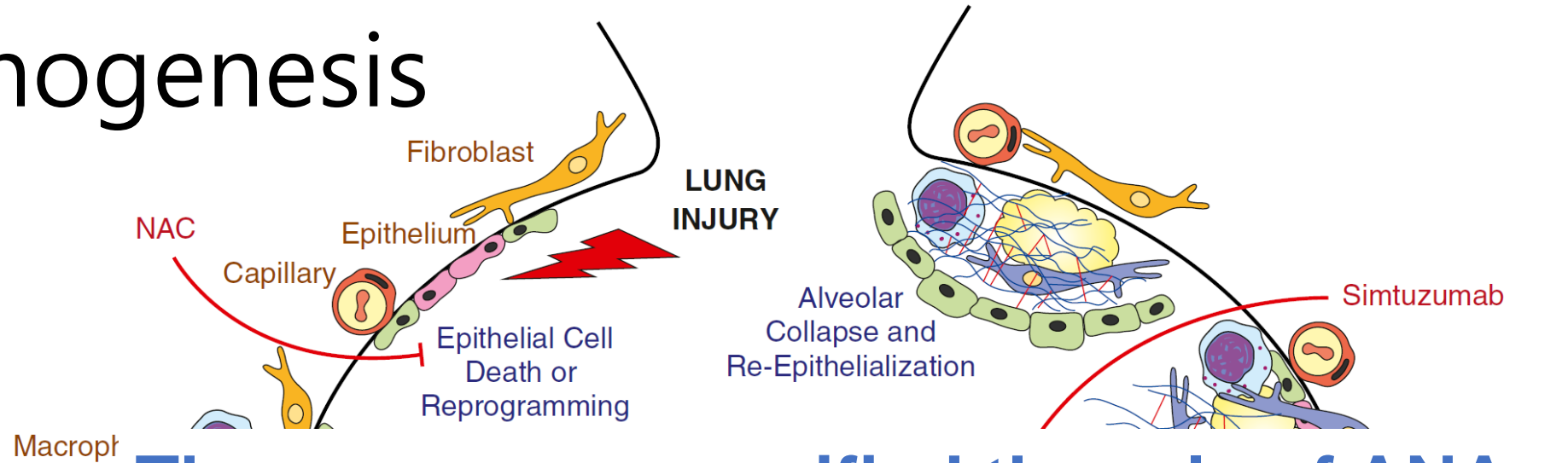
4. **Temporality**

5. **Biological gradient:** a dose-response relationship

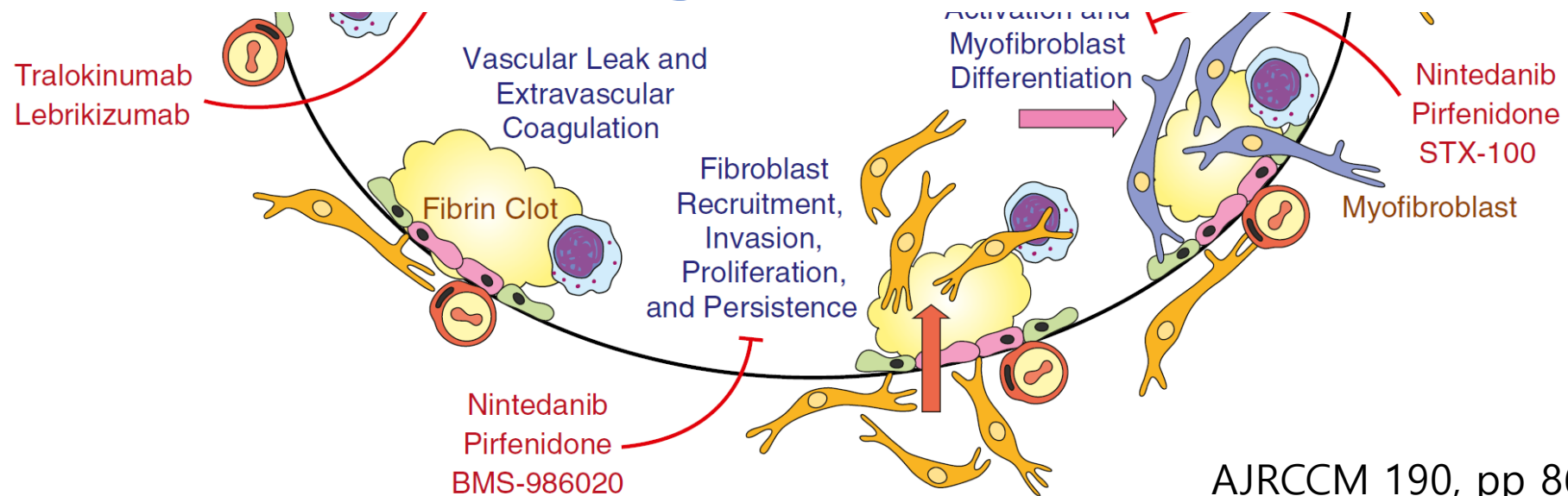


- 6. Plausability:** As far as the current science allows, the relationship between the exposure & the outcome must be biologically possible
- 7. Coherence:** Data generated from a given study should not seriously conflict with (what is known about) the natural history & biology of the disease process
- 8. Experiment:** The association should be demonstrable in a controlled manner
- 9. Analogy:** Could a claim be made with similar exposure & outcome, or does this finding contradict similar relationship?

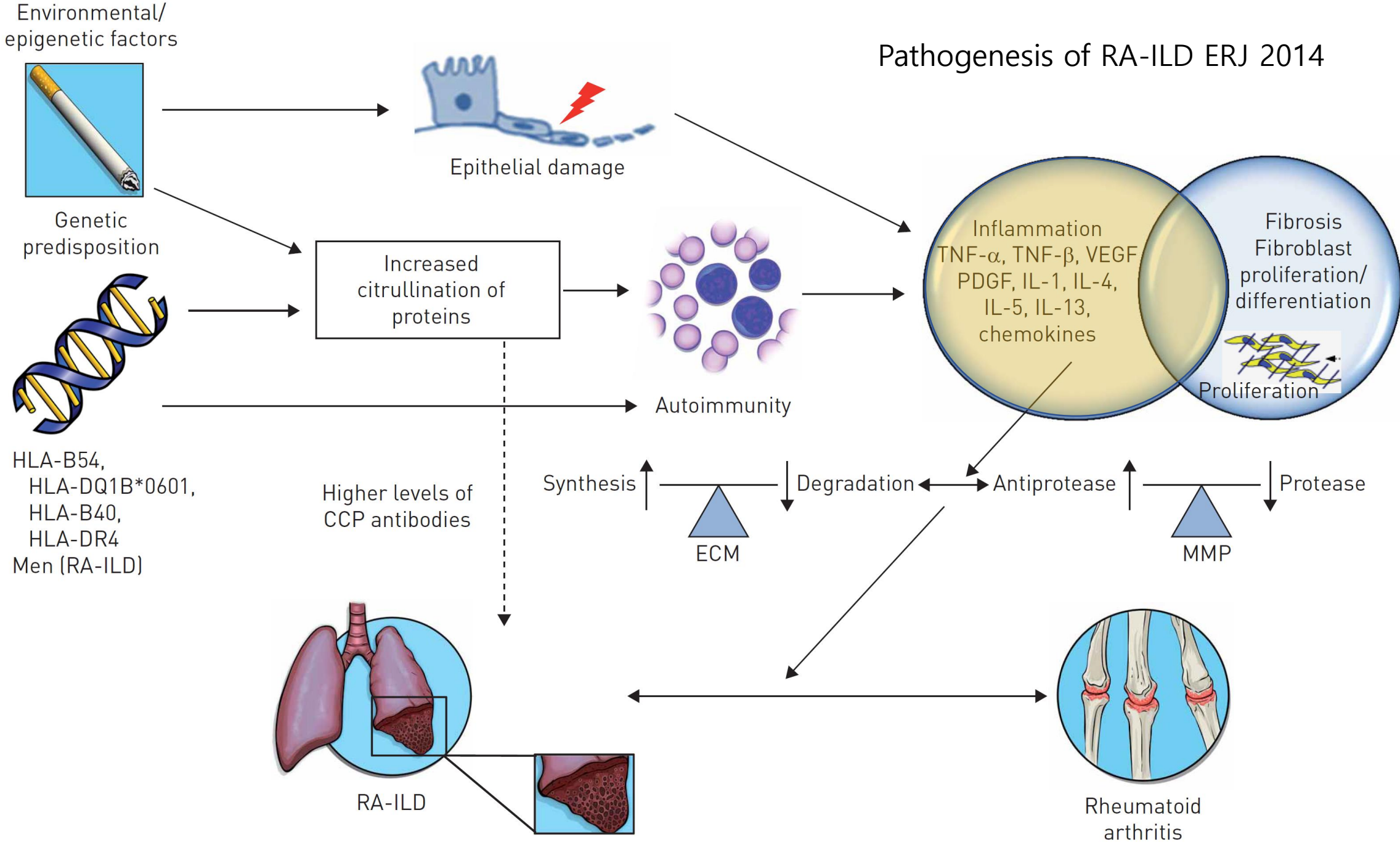
Pathogenesis



There were no specified the role of ANA or T cells in lung fibrosis



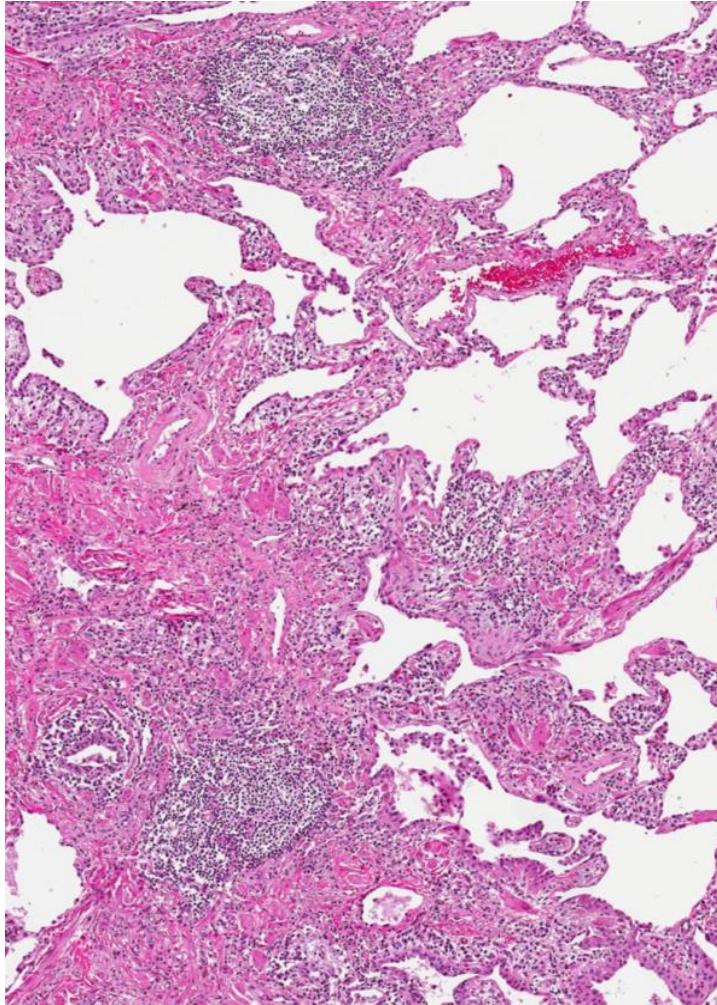
Pathogenesis of RA-ILD ERJ 2014



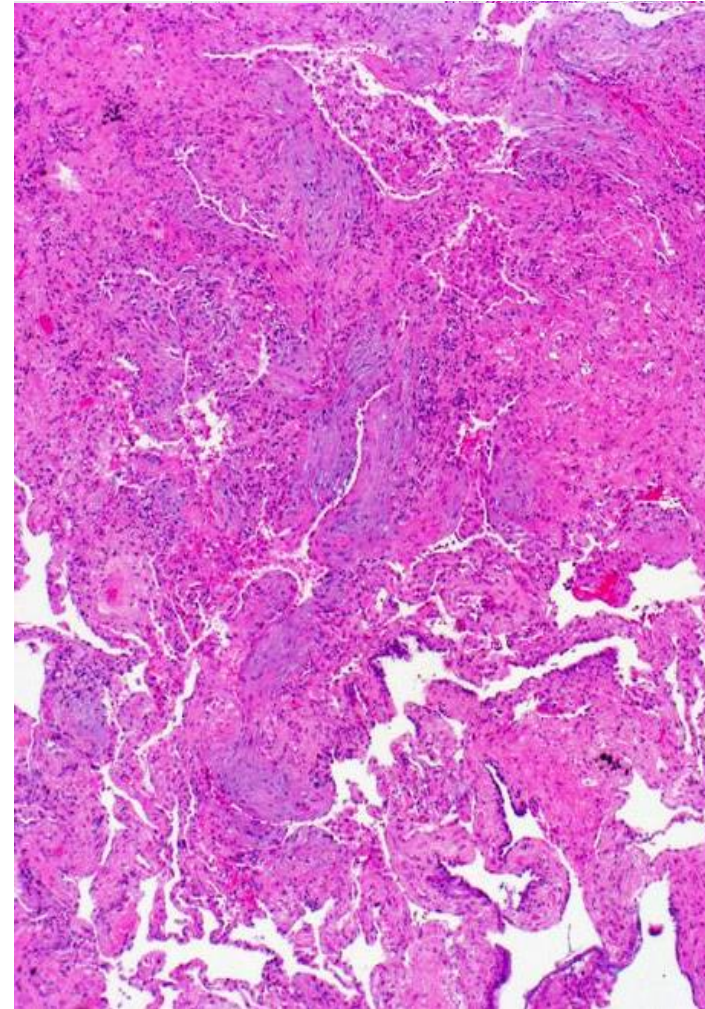
Pathology of Connective Tissue Disease-Associated Lung Diseases (CTD-LDs)

- Involvement of multiple anatomic compartments; airways, alveolar walls, alveolar spaces, pleura, and vascular structure
- Acute, subacute, and chronic lesions within the same biopsy specimen: ongoing pathophysiologic process
- Most CTD-ILDs: nonspecific histologic patterns, indistinguishable from idiopathic interstitial pneumonias of UIP, NSIP, DAD, OP or LIP

CVD-UIP patients had fewer fibroblastic foci and smaller honeycombing (HC) spaces with **higher germinal centers and total inflammation scores** than IPF/UIP patients. Song JW et al, CHEST 2019; 136:23-30



RA-UIP pattern



Idiopathic-UIP

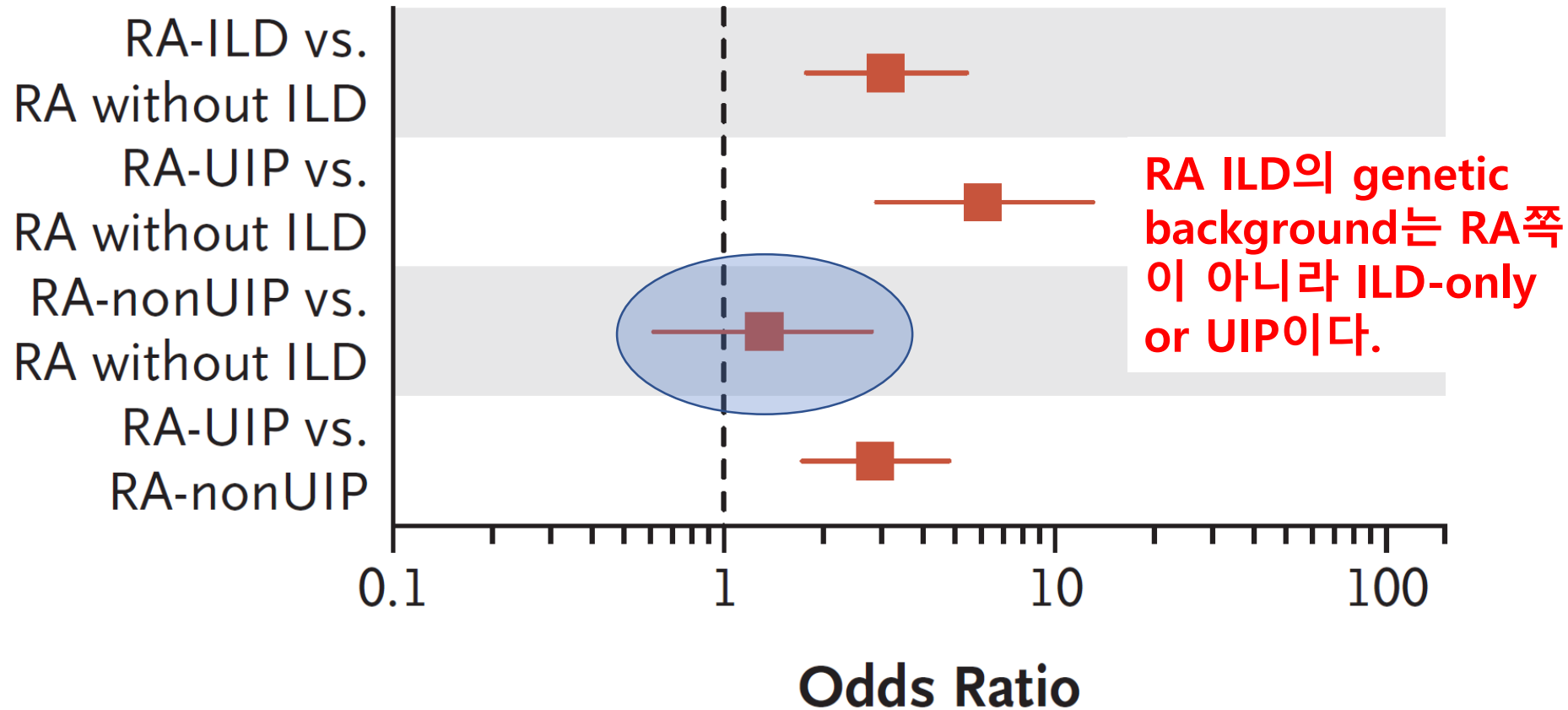
Table 2. Characteristics of previously reported cohorts of patients evaluated for criteria for the classification of interstitial pneumonia with autoimmune features*

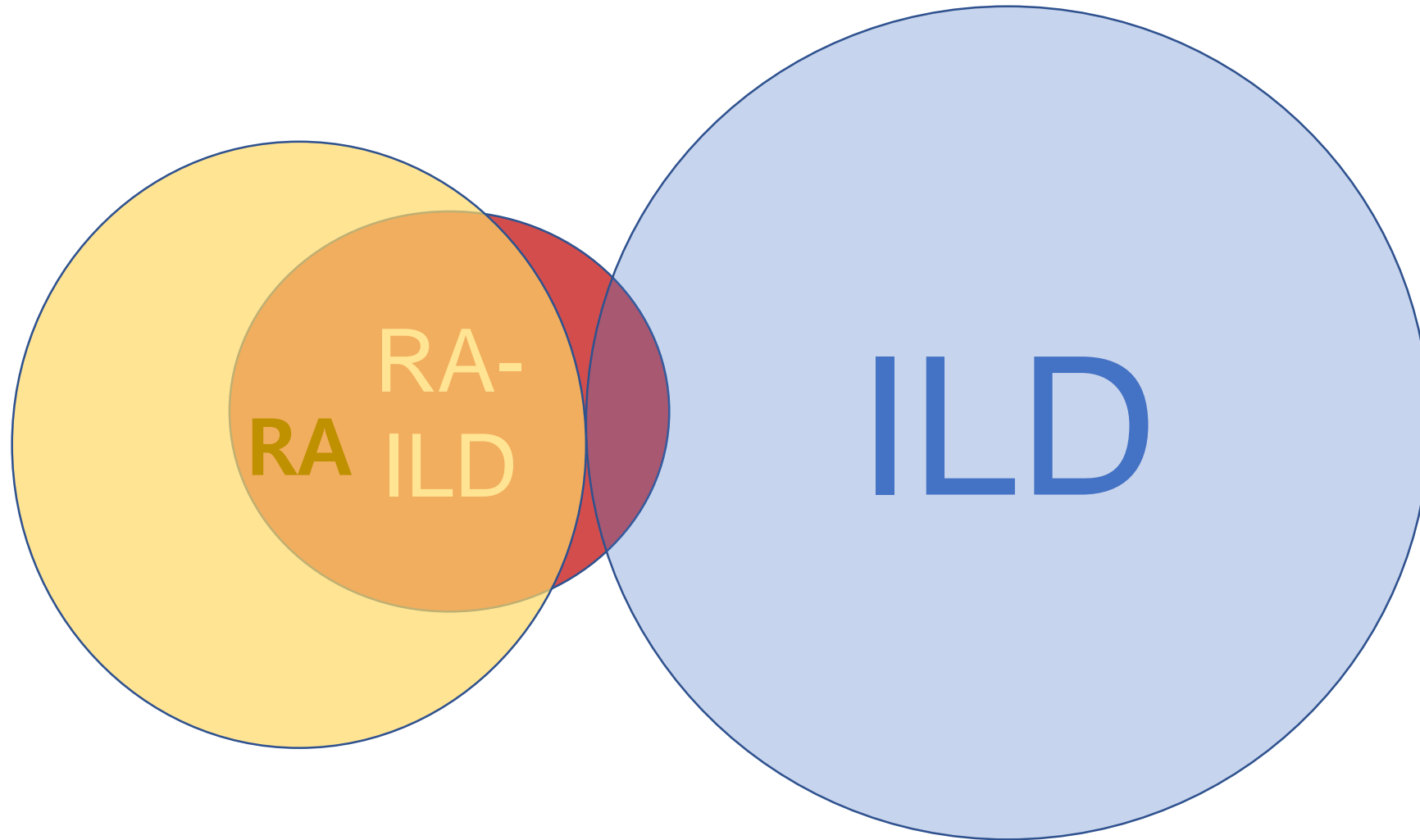
	Ahmad, 2017 (ref. 36)	Chartrand, 2016 (ref. 37)	Oldham, 2016 (ref. 35)
Location	France	Colorado	Chicago
Clinic type	Pulmonary	Rheumatology	Pulmonology
No. of patients	57	56	144
Sex, % female	49.1	71.4	52.1
Age at diagnosis, mean \pm SD years	64.4 \pm 14	54.6 \pm 10.1	63.2 \pm 11
By biopsy	29.8	NR	57.6
NSIP	8.8	23.2	13.1
OP	3.5	7.1	9.7
NSIP with OP overlap	1.8	14.3	2.1
LIP	1.8	1.8	NR
Interstitial aggregates with GCs	10.5	23.2	7.6
Diffuse lymphoplasmacytic infiltration	12.3	10.7	5.6

MUC5B promoter variant

MUC5B Promoter Variant and Rheumatoid Arthritis with Interstitial Lung Disease

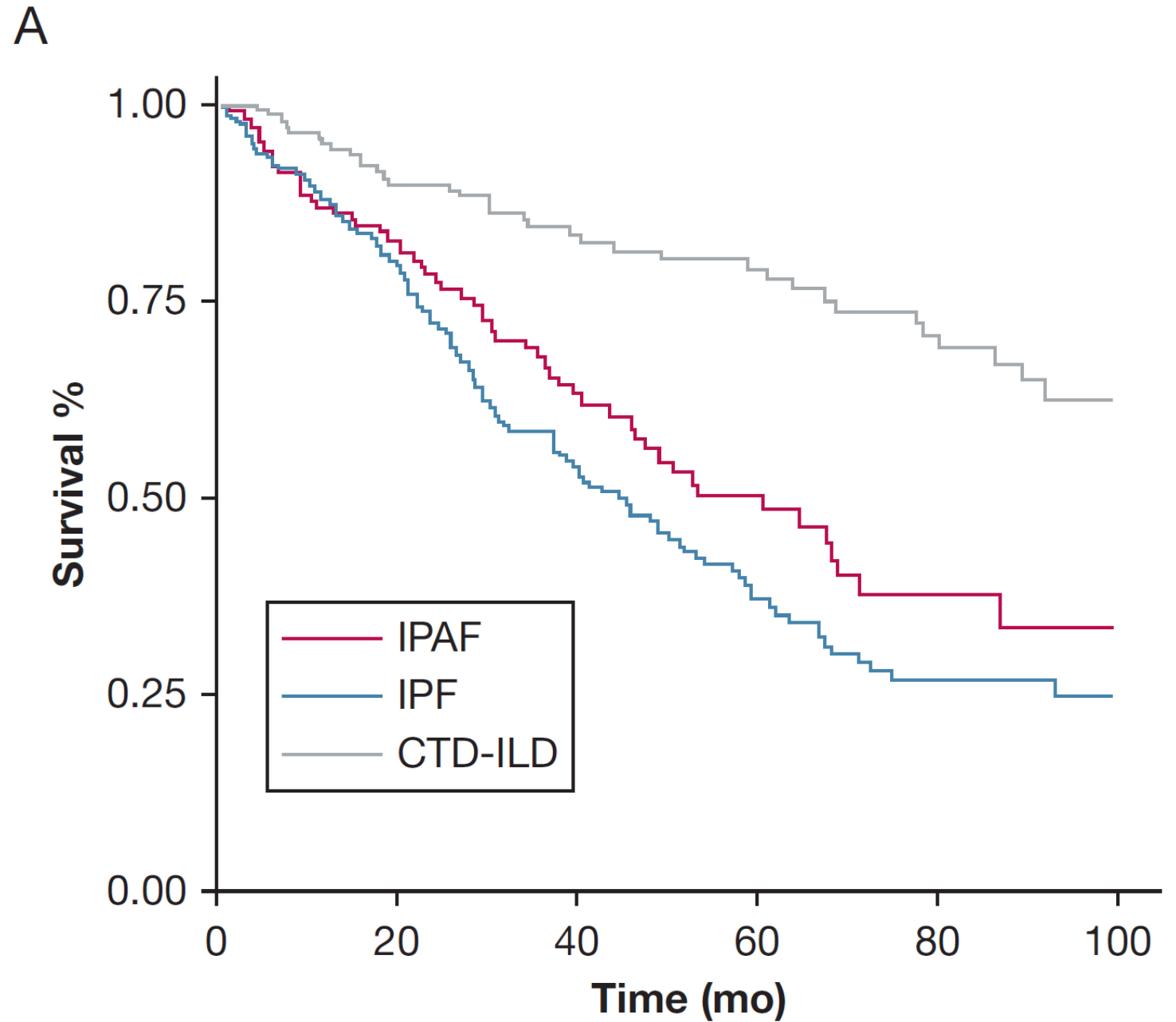
C Comparisons among Patients with RA





Modified by *N Engl J Med* 2018;379:2209-19

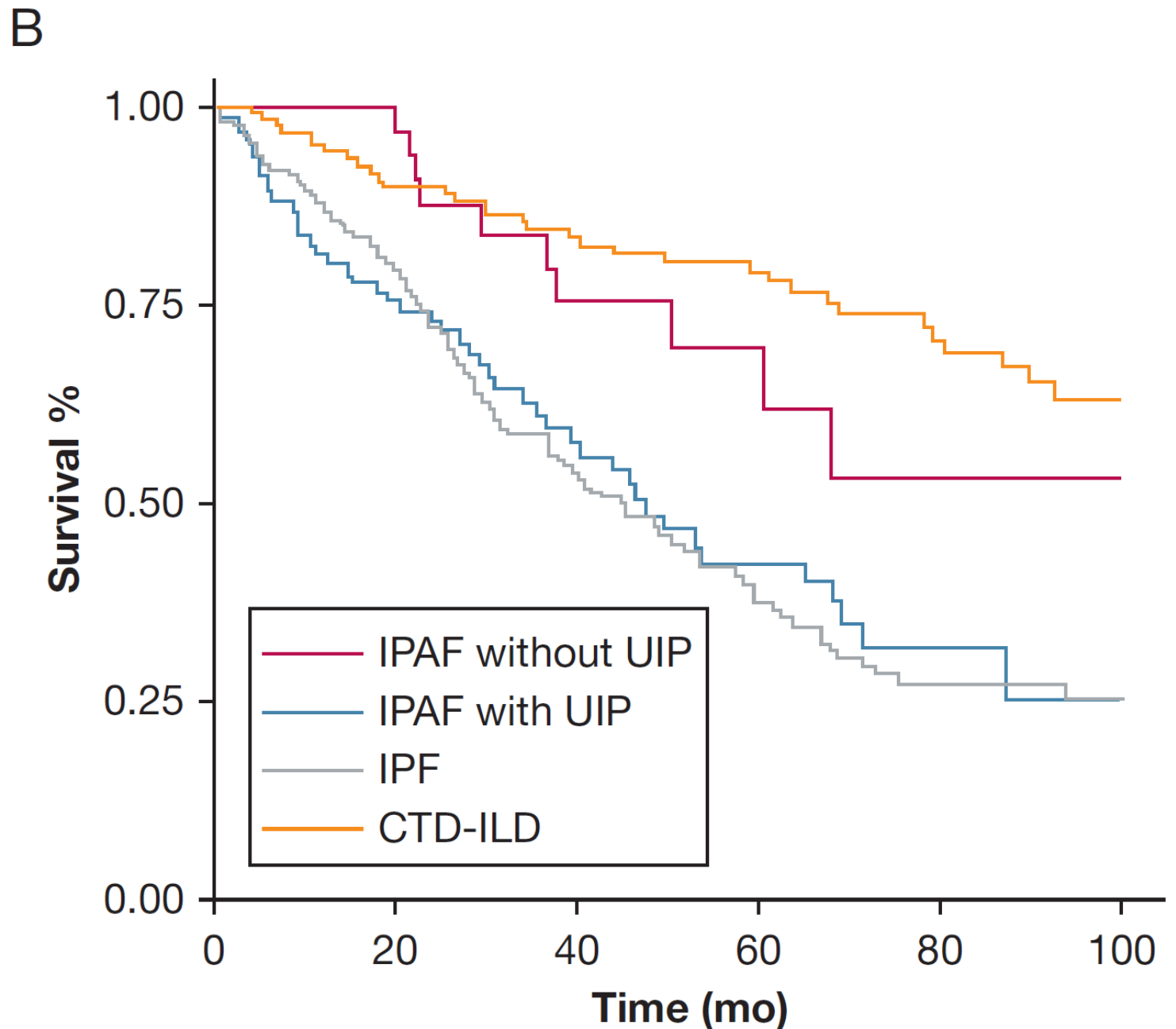
IPAF natural course?



IPAF natural course?

Prognosis of IPAF is Dependent by FIBROSIS

ERJ 2016;47:1767-1775



Prognosis of IPAF is Based on Pulmonary Fibrosis and Vasculopathy

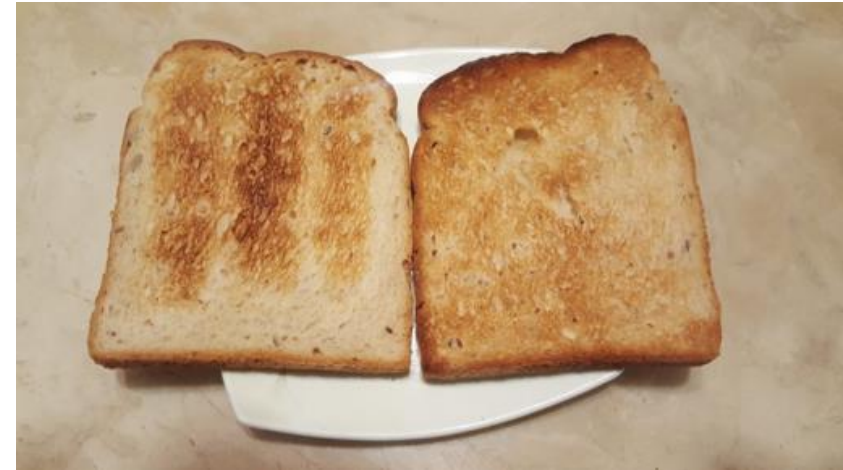
Table 4. Prognostic Value of Pathologic Features^a

Variables	IIP						IPAF					
	Unadjusted, n = 169			Adjusted, ^b n = 166			Unadjusted, n = 84			Adjusted, ^b n = 81		
	HR	<i>P</i> value	95% CI	HR	<i>P</i> value	95% CI	HR	<i>P</i> value	95% CI	HR	<i>P</i> value	95% CI
IPAF histopathologic criteria	0.55	.05	0.31–1.00	0.77	.41	0.41–1.44	0.82	.63	0.37–1.81	1.07	.87	0.47–2.46
UIP Pattern	7.31	.006	1.77–30.13	4.64	.04	1.08–20.00	6.11	.01	1.43–26.08	5.35	.03	1.21–23.67
NSIP	0.48	.12	0.19–1.22				0.71	.50	0.26–1.90			
OP	0.59	.31	0.21–1.64				0.99	.98	0.34–2.90			
Interstitial lymphoid aggregates with GCs	0.9	.83	0.36–2.72				1.12	.84	0.38–3.29			
Diffuse lymphoplasmacytic infiltrates	1.13	.79	0.48–2.64				1.58	.37	0.58–4.26			
Pulmonary vasculopathy	1.65	.07	0.96–2.83				2.50	.04	1.05–5.92			

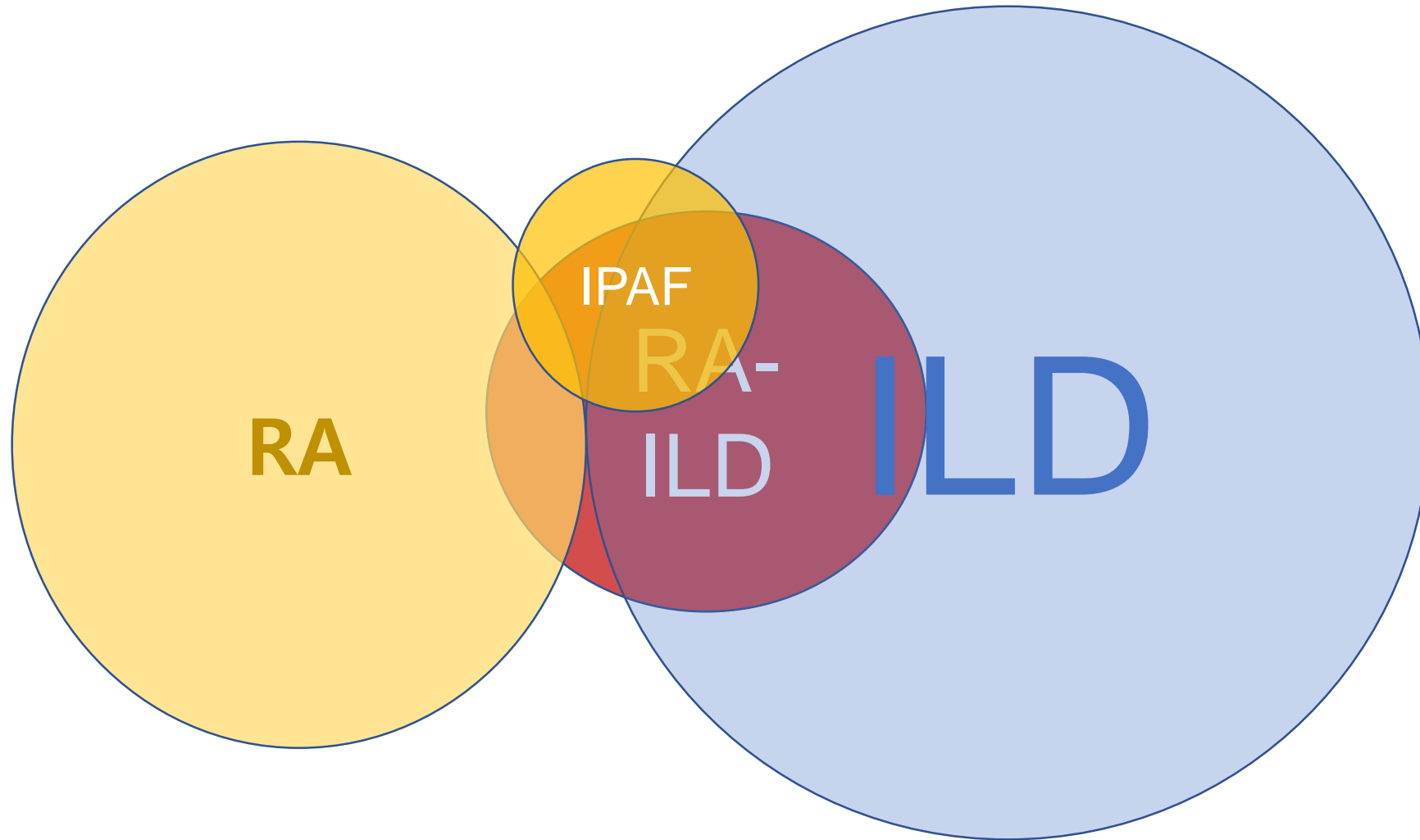


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Fibrosis
Vasculopathy



If the genetic background and prognosis of **IPAF** is significantly linked with fibrosis, the classification should be based on... **in the context of fibrosis**



Modified from by Arch Pathol Lab Med 2017; 141: 960-969

- **Sir Bradford Hill** – 9 criteria (1965년)

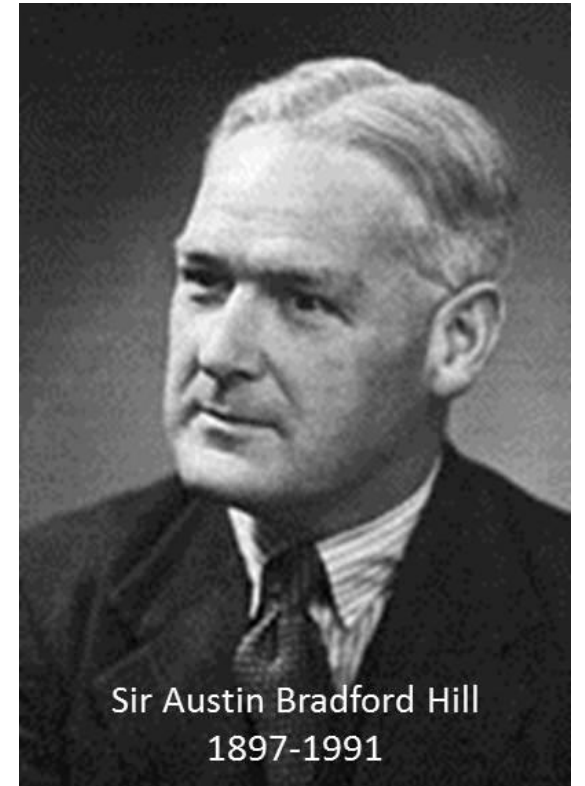
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4. **Temporality**

5. **Biological gradient:** a dose-response relationship



Current RCT

Curr Opin Pulm Med 2017, 23:418–425

Table 1. Ongoing RCTs in nonidiopathic pulmonary fibrosis interstitial lung disease^a

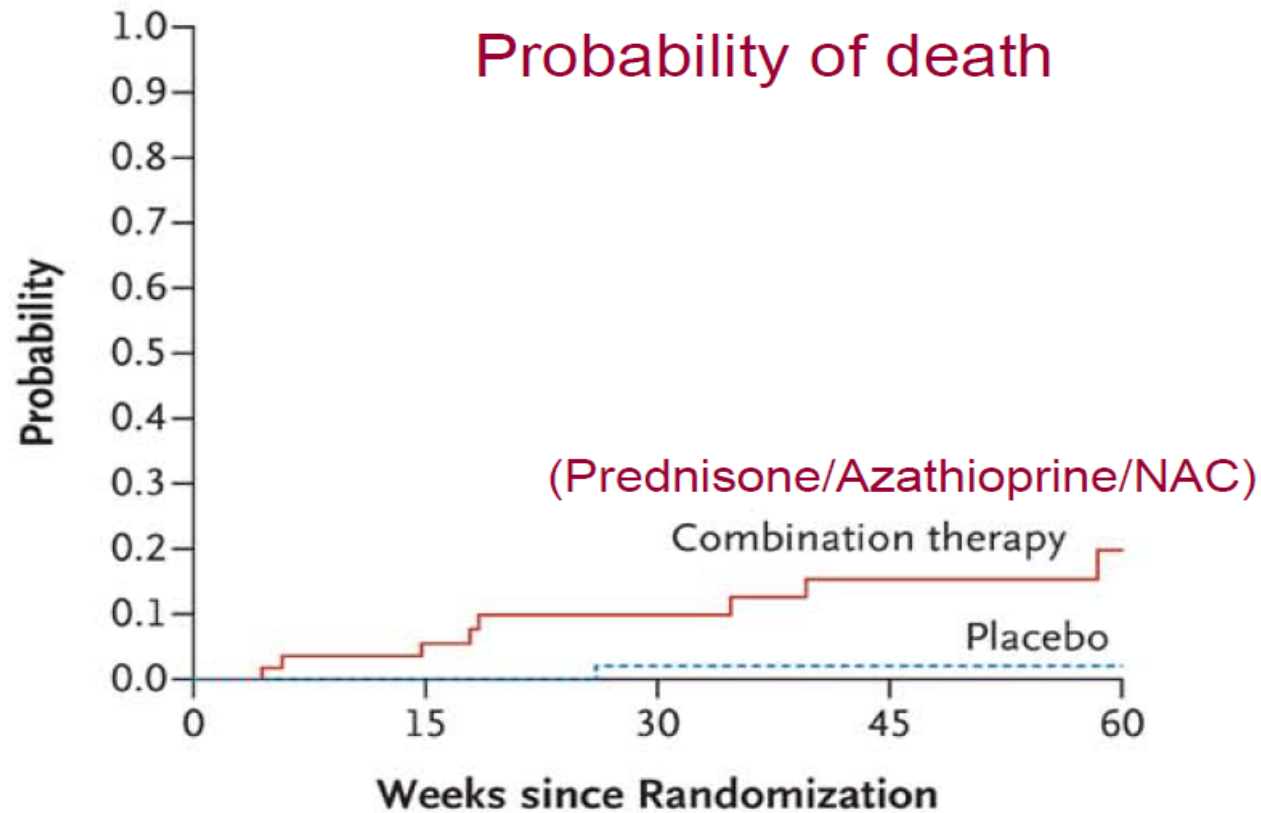
Study identifier [Ref]	Study	Target disease	Treatment (n)	Primary outcomes	Secondary outcomes	Duration (phase)
EudraCT 2014–000861-32 DRKS00009822 [53,54]	Exploring efficacy and safety of oral pirfenidone for progressive, non-IPF lung fibrosis (RELIEF)	CTD-ILD; fNSIP; cHP; ALF	2403 mg daily for 48 weeks; add-on to existing treatment (n = 374)	Absolute change in % predicted FVC	Time to disease worsening; changes in DL _{CO} , 6MWT distance, and quality of life scores (SGRQ and EQ-5D); safety and tolerability	48 weeks (phase 2)
NCT02808871 [55]	Phase 2 study of pirfenidone in patients with RA-ILD	RA-ILD	2403 mg daily; add-on to existing treatment (n = 270)	Composite endpoint; progression free survival (≥10% decline in FVC or death)	Relative decline in DL _{CO} (≥15%), % predicted FVC (≥10%), incidence of acute exacerbations, dyspnea scores; SGRQ scores; safety and tolerability	52 weeks (phase 2)
NCT02958917 [56]	Study of efficacy and safety of pirfenidone in patients with fibrotic hypersensitivity pneumonitis	fHP	2403 mg daily (n = 40)	Mean change in % predicted FVC	PFS; ≥5% mean change in %FVC; acute exacerbations; decrease in 6MWT distance; safety and tolerability	52 weeks (phase 2)
NCT02496182 [52]	Pirfenidone in the cHP treatment (Picheon)	cHP	1800 mg or 1200 mg daily; add-on to existing treatment (n = 60)	FVC at week 26 and week 52	Inflammation and fibrosis grade on HRCT using Kazerooni scale; 6MWT distance; SGRQ Scores; safety and tolerability	52 weeks (phase 2/3)
NCT03099187 [57]	Multicenter, international, double-blind, two-arm, randomized, placebo-controlled phase 2 trial of pirfenidone in patients with unclassifiable progressive fibrosing ILD	unclassifiable fibrosing ILD	2403 mg daily; patients may continue with MMF (n = 250)	Rate of decline in FVC (ml)	Change in % predicted FVC; change in % predicted DL _{CO} ; change in 6MWT distance; patient reported outcomes (including SGRQ); safety and tolerability	24 weeks (phase 2)
NCT02821689 [58]	Pirfenidone in progressive ILD associated with clinically amyopathic dermatomyositis	CADM	1800 mg daily; add-on to existing treatment (n = 60)	Overall survival	Changes in HCRT features; pulmonary function; safety and tolerability	52 weeks (phase 4)
NCT02597933 [59]	SENSCIS (Safety and Efficacy of Nintedanib in Systemic Sclerosis) study	SSc-ILD	150 mg twice daily (n = 520)	Annual rate of decline in FVC	Change in the mRSS; change in SGRQ score; change in % predicted FVC and % predicted DL _{CO} ; change in digital ulcer burden.	52 weeks (phase 3)
NCT02999178 [60]	Efficacy and safety of nintedanib in patients with PF-ILD	PF-ILD	150 mg twice daily (n = 600)	Annual rate of decline in FVC	Change in K-BILD score; time to first exacerbation; overall survival.	52 weeks (phase 3)
NCT02262299 [61]	European Trial of Pirfenidone in BOS, a European multicenter study (EPOS)	BOS	2403 mg daily (n = 80)	Change in FEV ₁	Change in FVC; change in % predicted DL _{CO} ; change in 6MWT distance; change in BOS grade; hospitalization, survival and retransplantation rates; safety and tolerability	26 weeks (phase 2/3)

ERS/ATS가 IPAF라는 category를 등장시킨 이유

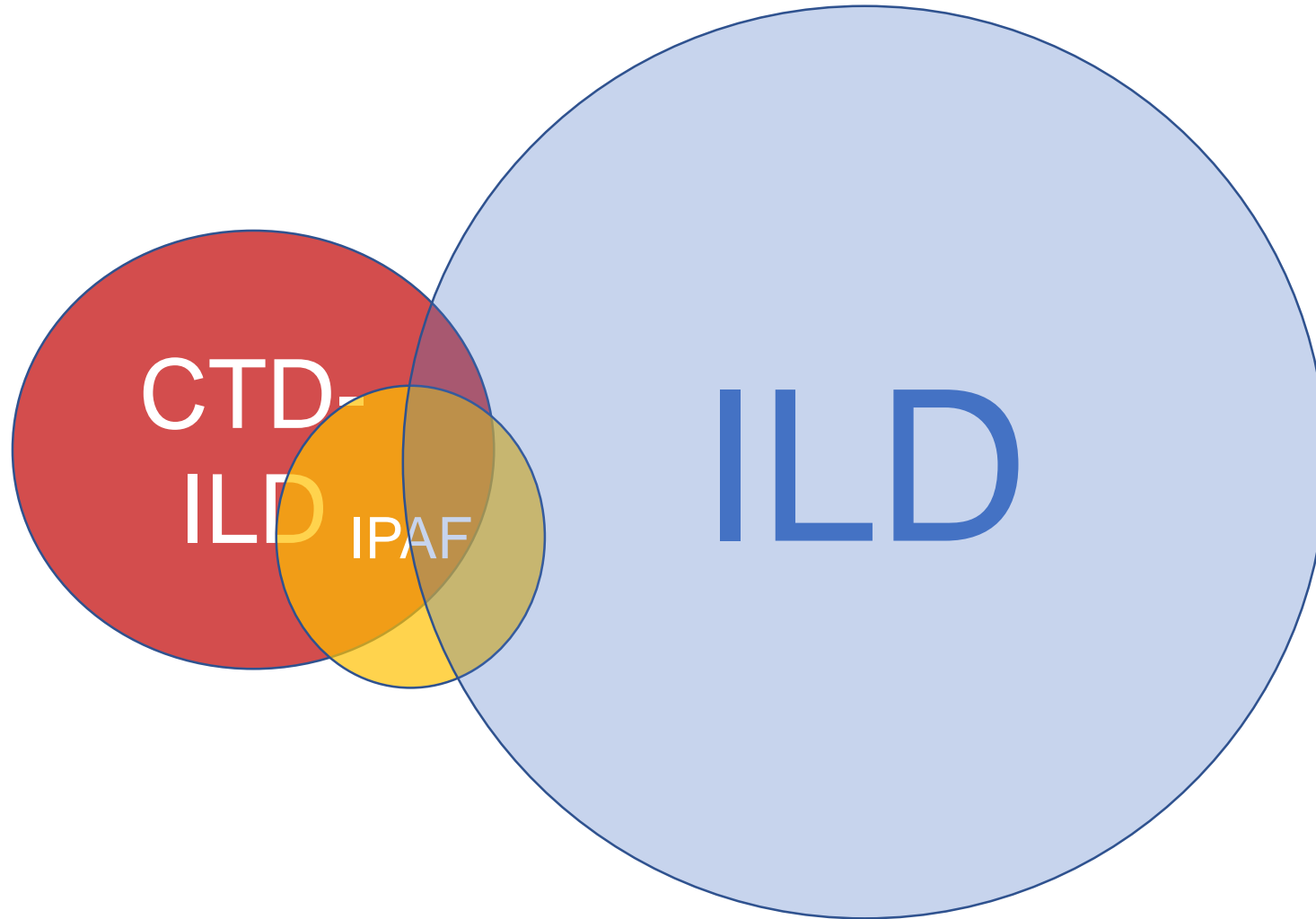
- The task force aimed to derive a uniform name and set of classification criteria for patients with IIP and an autoimmune “flavour” with the hope of **developing a sound platform** from which to **launch future research investigations**.

Increased Risk of Death with Traditional Targeting Lymphocytic Inflammation

PANTHER-IPF Trial



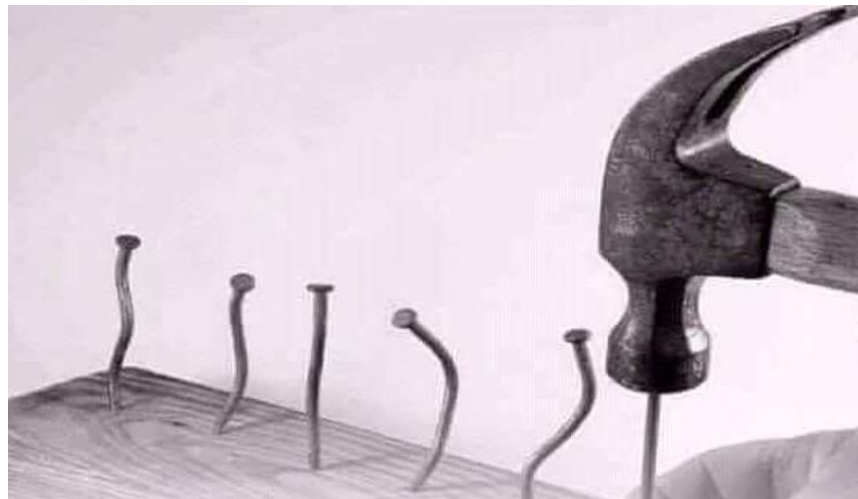
The Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Clinical Research Network, *N Engl J Med* 2012



Modified from *Wells et al. ERJ 2018; 17:51*

My conclusions

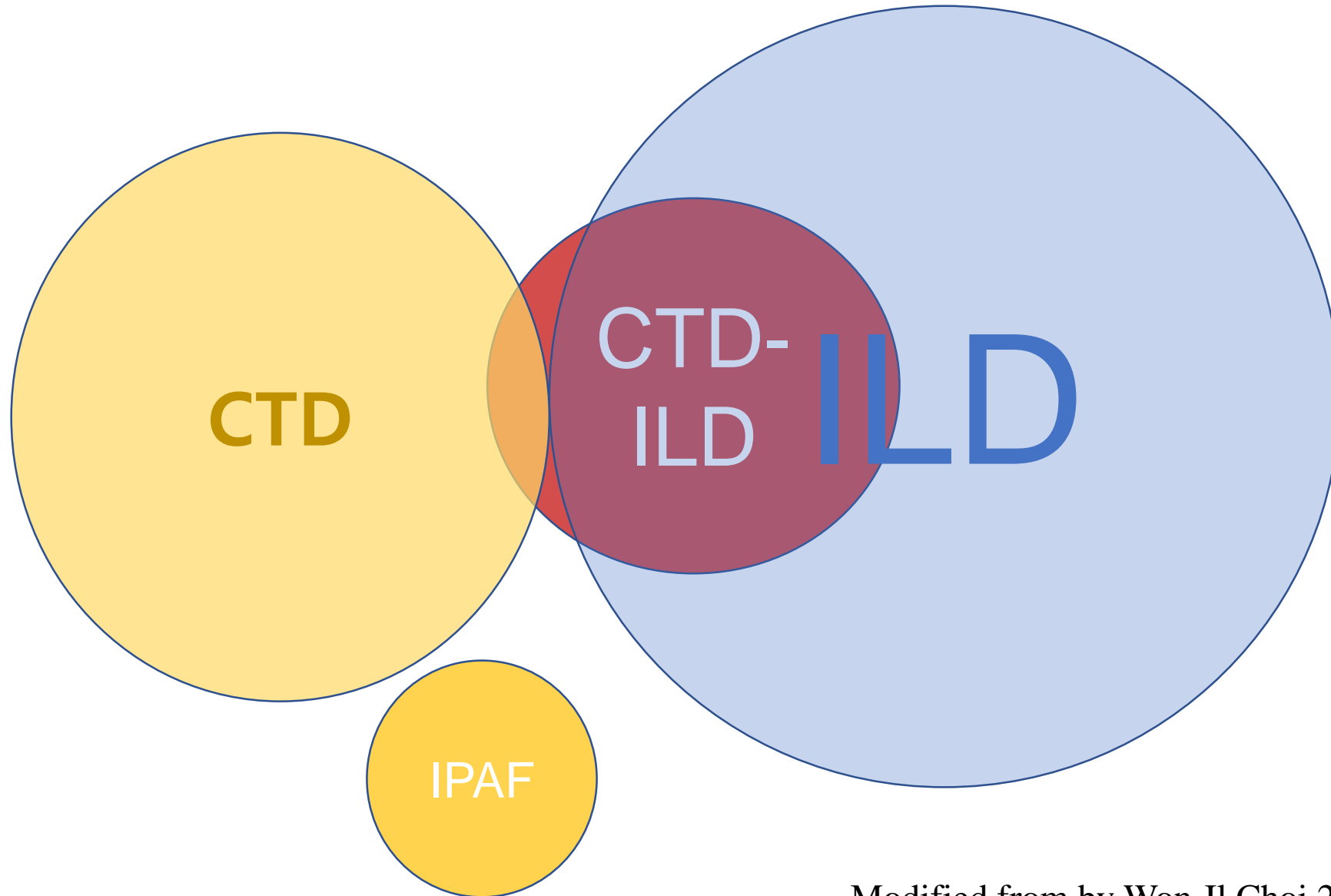
- IPAF라는 category를 만든 이유는 Early form of (autoimmune)ILD를 속아내어 다양한 약제(immune modulator 포함)로 clinical trials을 시도하기 위한 하나의 방편으로 보인다.



Overall structure of IPAF

- The criteria state up-front several a priori requirements for the classification of IPAF:
- Individuals must have evidence of interstitial pneumonia by high-resolution computed tomography (HRCT) imaging and/or by surgical lung biopsy, a thorough clinical evaluation during which

**만약 CTD disease definition에
lung involvement를 포함해서 criteria가 revision 된다면?**

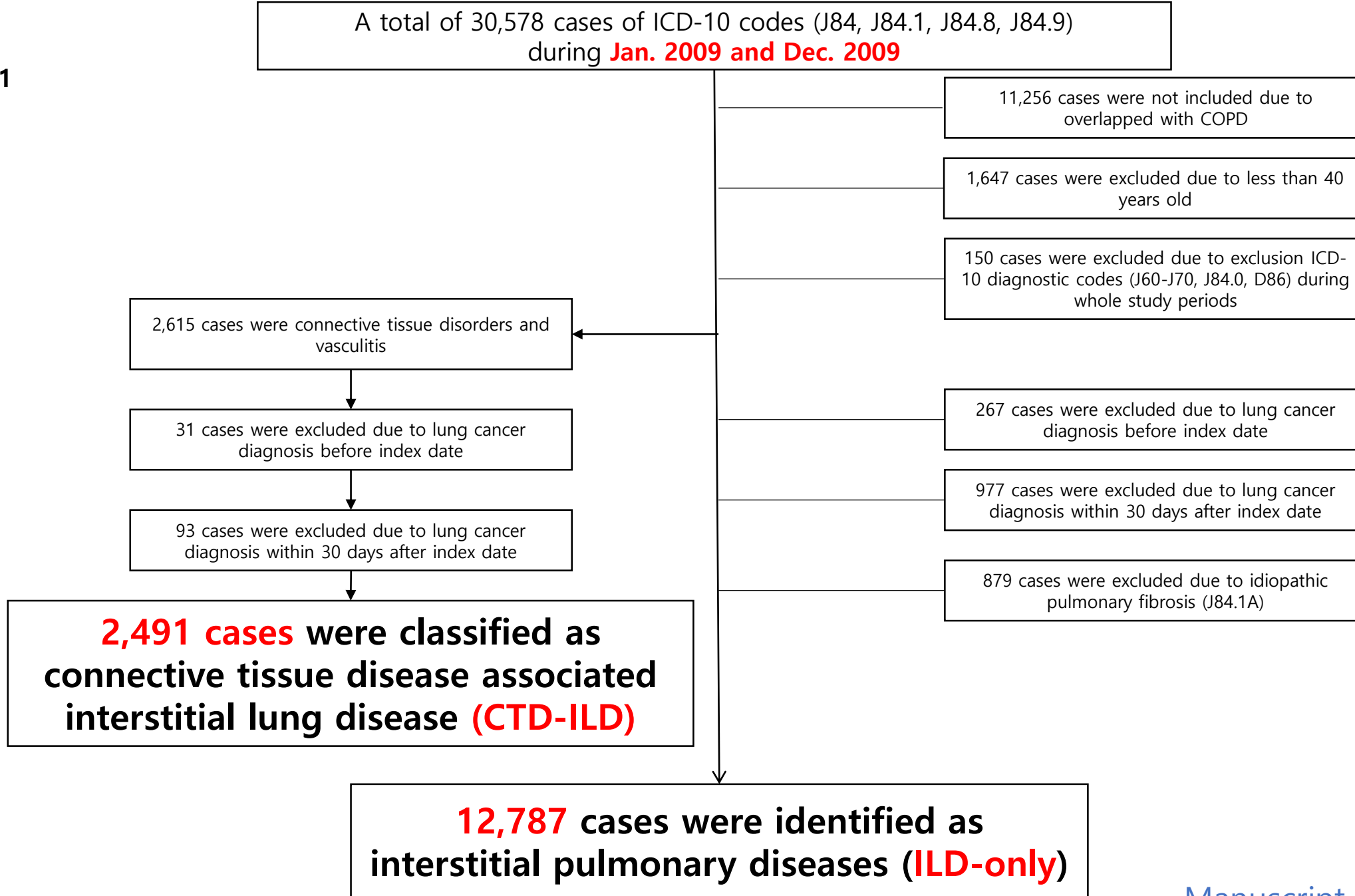


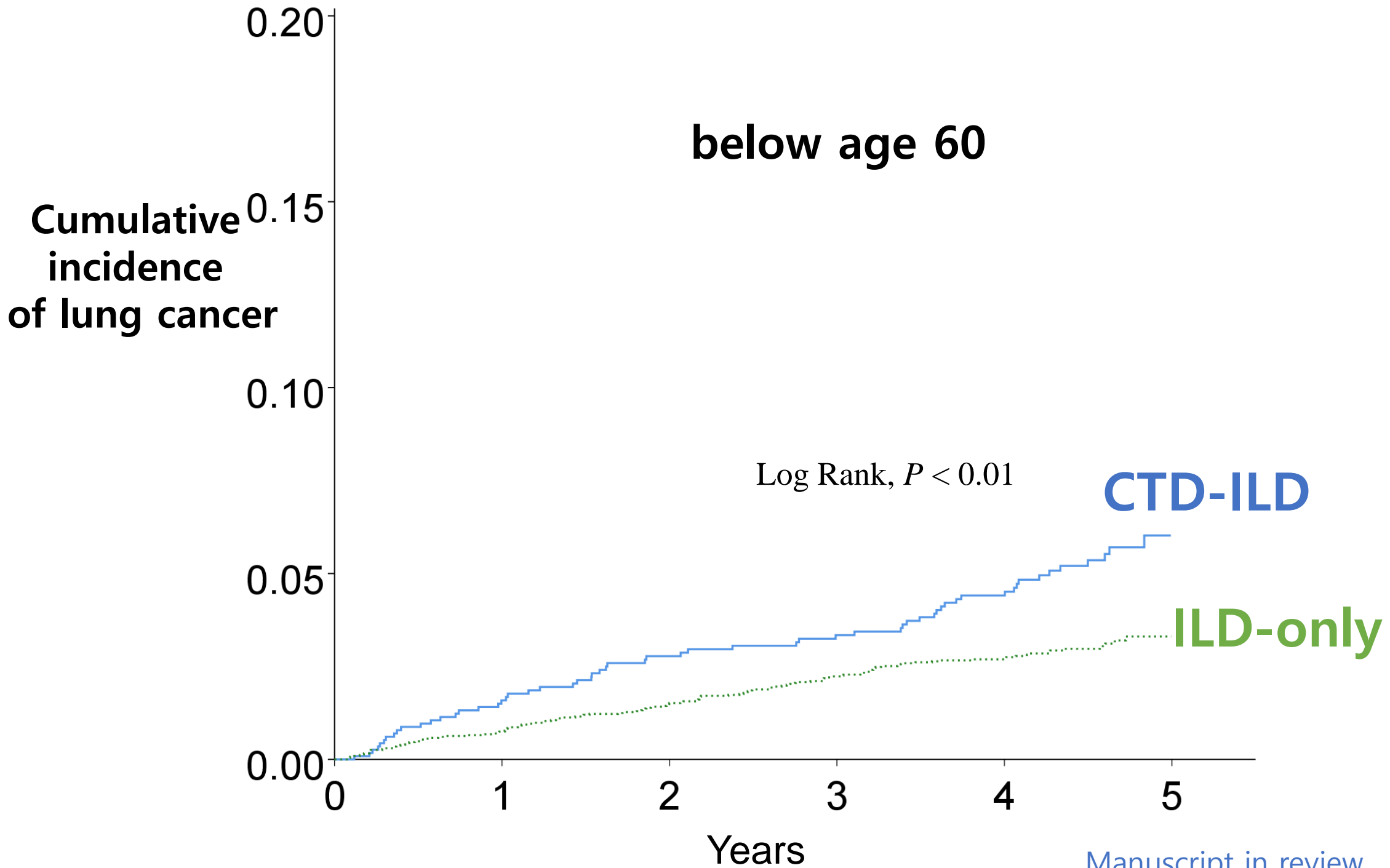
Modified from by Won-Il Choi 2019

국내 심평원 자료 분석

CTD-ILD vs. ILD-only

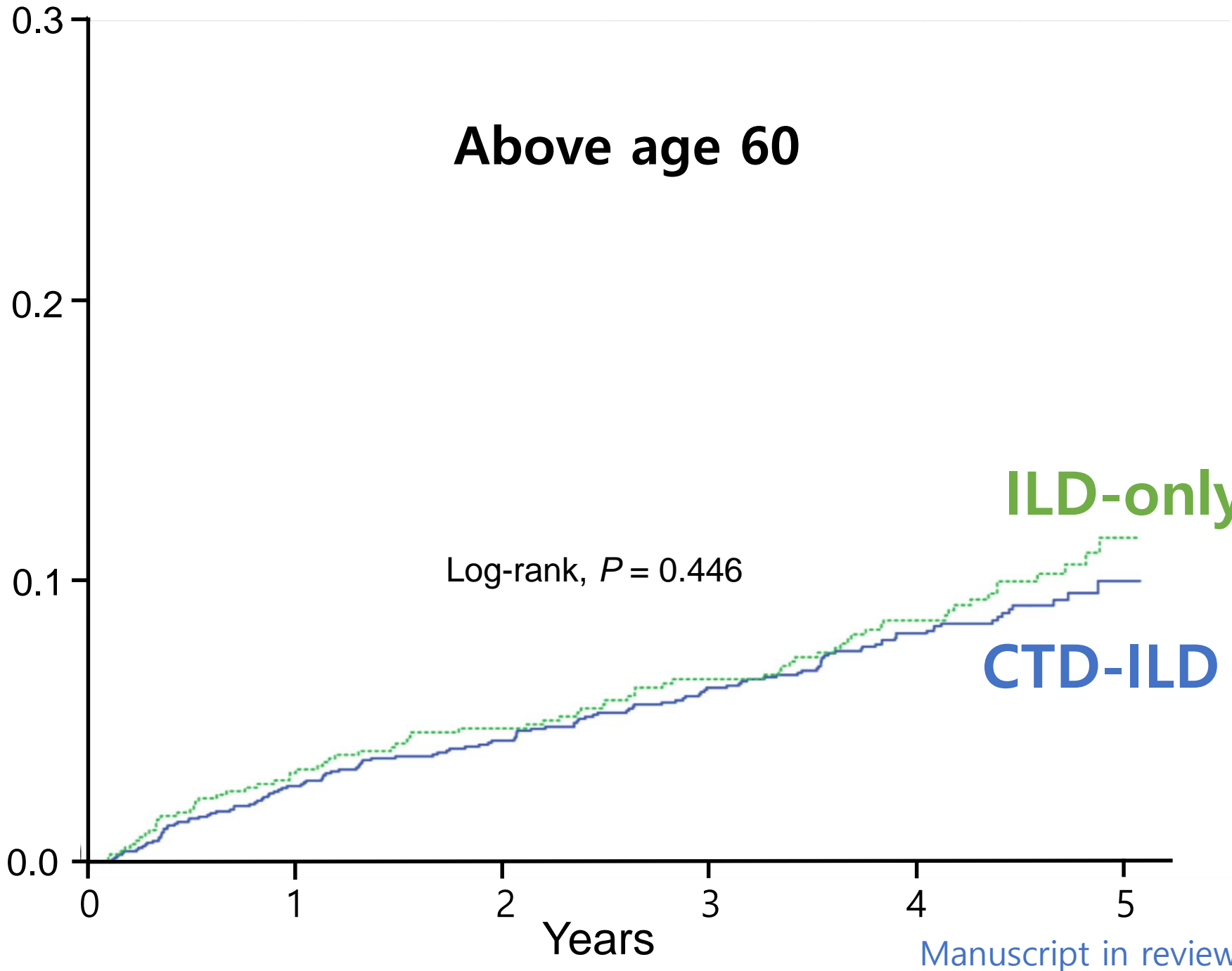
Figure 1

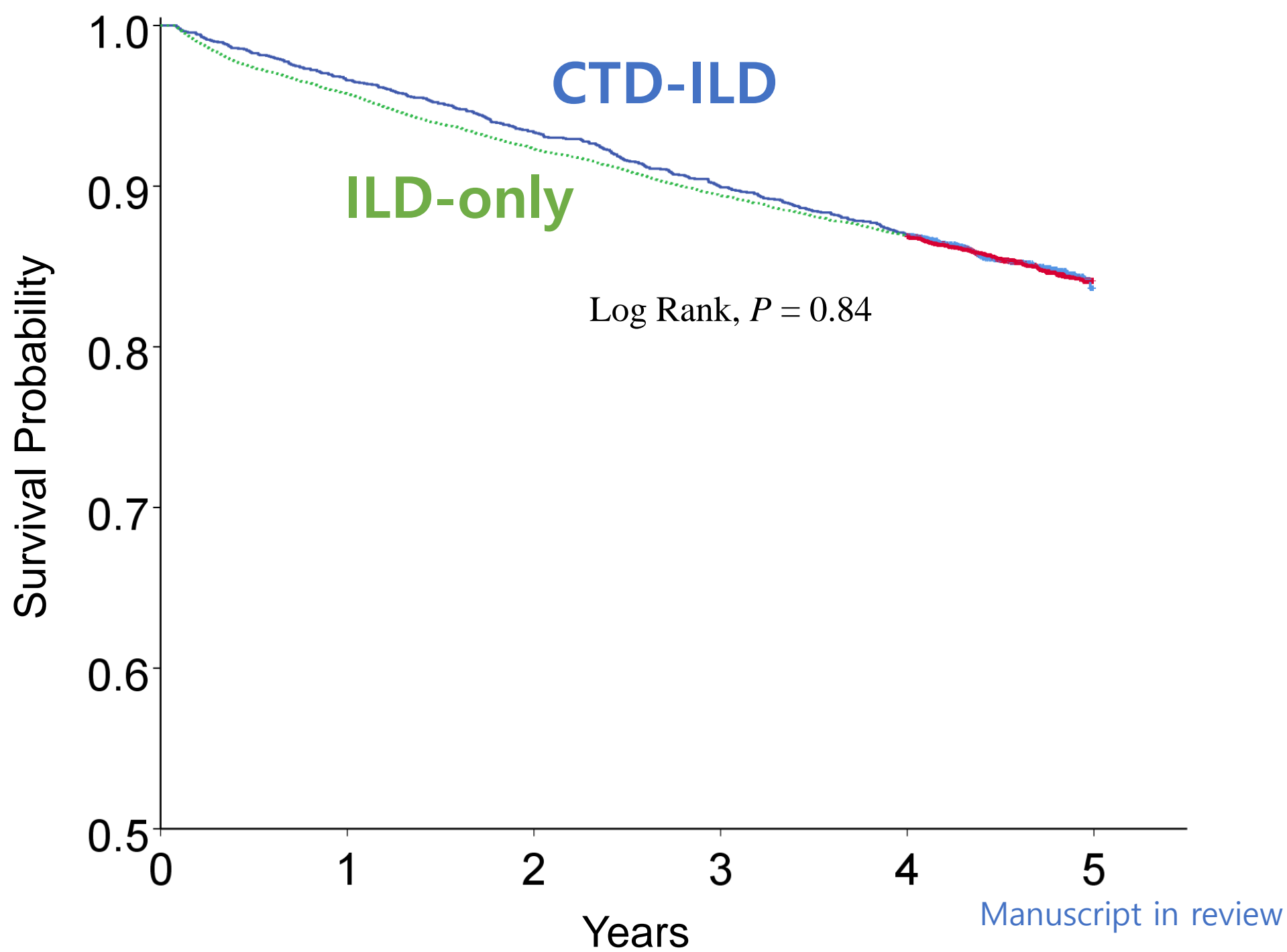


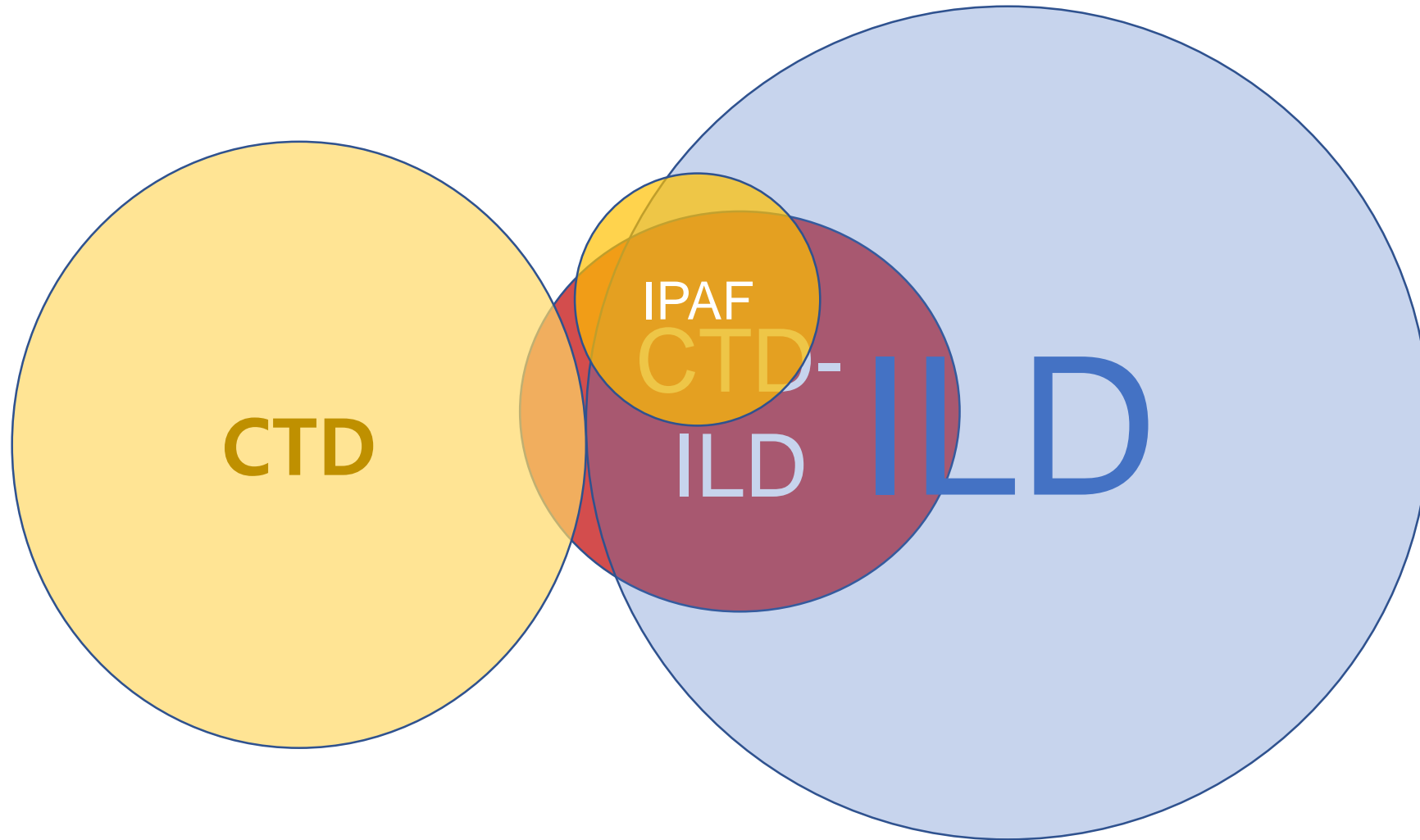


Cumulative
incidence
of lung cancer

Above age 60







Modified from by Won-Il Choi 2019

Come to think of IPAF vs IIP

Muller-Lyer Figure

A



B



Idiopathic Pneumonia



Idiopathic Pneumonia Autoimmune Feature



The question!

- Predictive accuracy 측면에서 nature 를 잘 흉내내는 models 은 복잡(complex) 하고 불가해(inscrutable) 한 것이라는 것이라는 믿음이 있는데,
 - 이러한 딜레마는 애초에 질문을 잘못 한 것임을 깨달으면 해결 될 수 있다



Black box – complex & unknown interior



“All things being
equal, the simplest
solution tends
to be the best one.”

William of Ockham

“무언가를
다양한 방법으로
설명할 수 있는
있다면 우리는
그중에서 가장
적은 수의
가정을 사용하여
설명해야 한다”

결론

1. Idiopathic pneumonia with autoimmune features를 잘 정의할 만한 뛰어난 코호트가 없이 define되었고
2. IPAF 진단 Domain 각각에 대해서 논란이 존재하며
3. RCT를 위해 잠재적으로 IPAF category를 만든 것으로 보이며
4. 만약 CTD의 criteria에 lung involvement를 포함한다면 IPAF는 독립적인 형태가 아니라 CTD에 속하게 될 수 있으며,

결론



5. IPAF의 pathogenesis는 CTD를 따르거나 ILD를 따를 것으로 보이는데
6. CTD-ILD의 genetic background가 CTD가 아니라 ILD에 가까우므로 CTD-ILD의 early form으로 볼 수 있는 IPAF도 ILD에 속할 것으로 보인다.
7. 또한, IPAF의 예후는 autoimmune feature에 의해 결정되는 것이 아니라 섬유화 정도에 의해 결정되고
8. 이와 마찬가지로 CTD-ILD의 예후는 ILD(fibrosis)에 의해 예후가 결정되므로
9. IPAF의 경우 **New category로 분류할 것이 아니라 기존의 IIP로 분류되어야 할 것으로 보인다.**

Rebuttal

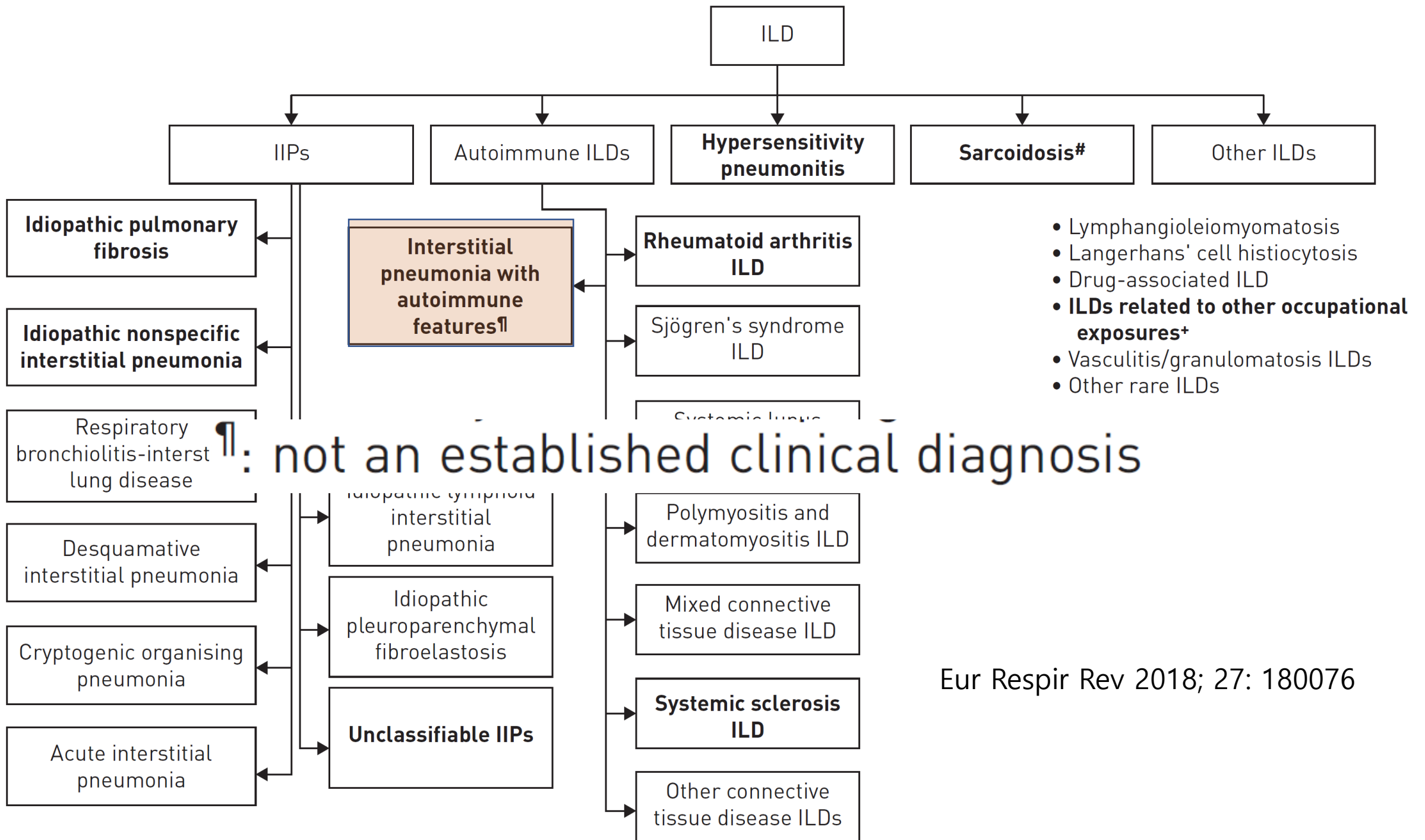


CrossMark

Presentation, diagnosis and clinical course of the spectrum of progressive-fibrosing interstitial lung diseases

Vincent Cottin ^{1,11}, Nikhil A. Hirani², David L. Hotchkin³, Anoop M. Nambiar ⁴, Takashi Ogura⁵, María Otaola⁶, Dirk Skowasch⁷, Jong Sun Park⁸, Hataya K. Poonyagariyagorn³, Wim Wuyts⁹ and Athol U. Wells^{10,11}

Affiliations: ¹Louis Pradel Hospital, Reference Center for Rare Pulmonary Diseases, Hospices Civils de Lyon, UMR 754, Université Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Lyon, France. ²Edinburgh Lung Fibrosis Clinic and MRC Centre for Inflammation Research, The Queen's Medical Research Centre, The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK. ³Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Oregon Clinic, Portland, OR, USA. ⁴Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Dept of Medicine, University of Texas Health Science Center San Antonio and the South Texas Veterans Health Care System, San Antonio, TX, USA. ⁵Kanagawa Cardiovascular and Respiratory Center, Kanagawa, Japan. ⁶Fundación FUNEF, Instituto de Rehabilitación Psicofísica (IREP Hospital), Buenos Aires, Argentina. ⁷Dept of Internal Medicine II, Cardiology, Pneumology and Angiology, University Hospital Bonn, Bonn, Germany. ⁸Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Dept of Internal Medicine and Lung Institute of Medical Research Center, Seoul National University College of Medicine, Seoul National University Bundang Hospital, Seongnam, Republic of Korea. ⁹Unit for Interstitial Lung Diseases, University Hospitals Leuven, Leuven, Belgium. ¹⁰Interstitial Lung Disease Unit, Royal Brompton Hospital, London, UK. ¹¹Co-lead authors of this paper.



Eur Respir Rev 2018; 27: 180076