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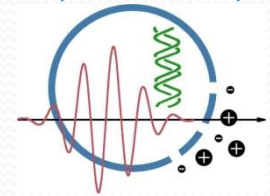
**<http://omicsonline.org/Submitmanuscript.php>**

**NANOSECOND PULSED ELECTRIC FIELD (NSPEF)-  
INDUCED MECHANISMS THAT BYPASS CANCER  
MUTATIONS AND CAUSE CELL DEATH IN CELLS  
AND TUMORS**

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**FRANK REIDY RESEARCH CENTER FOR  
BIOELECTRICS**

**OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY  
NORFOLK VA**



**OLD DOMINION  
UNIVERSITY**

IDEA FUSION

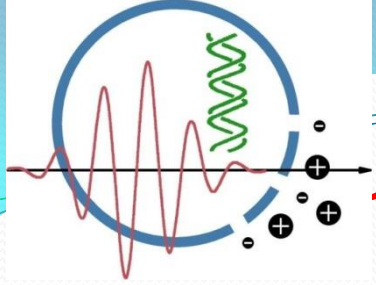
**Some Introduction and Concepts**

**nsPEF Waveforms, Calcium, Mitochondria ( $\Delta\Psi_m$ )  
and Effects on Proteins**

**nsPEFs Conquer Evasion of Apoptosis**

**Some Perspective about Cancer**

**nsPEFs Abolish Rat HCC and Disable  
Evasion of Apoptosis and Immune Surveillance**



# Using Pulse Power Technology

## Cell Manipulations by Pulsed Electric Fields Using Different Pulse Durations

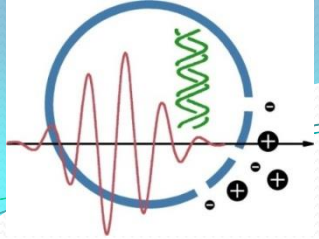
**This includes:**

Conventional Plasma Membrane Electroporation

Milli- second, Micro- second pulses

Sub-MicroSecond Pulsed Electric Fields

Nanosecond and Pico-second



# Pulse Power w/ nsPEFs - Concept 1

Electric Power -stored and released instantaneously into cells and tissues  
This produces **High Power**, low energy, non-thermal conditions

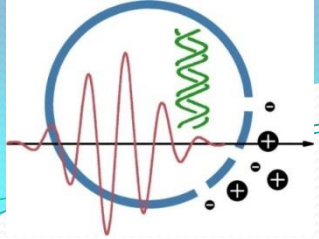
If 1 joule of energy is released all at once in :

**1 second = 1 watt**

**1 microsecond = 1 megawatt**

**1 nanosecond = 1 gigawatt**

**100 nanosecond = 10 megawatts**



# **Pulse Power w/ nsPEFs - Concept - 2 Nanopores**

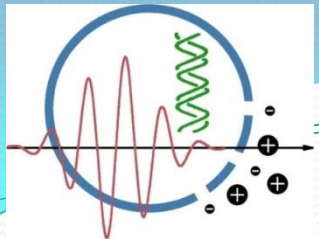
## **High Density Nanoscale Pores in all Cell Membranes**

**Stewart et al., IEEE Trans Plasma Sci. 2004;32:1696-1708;**

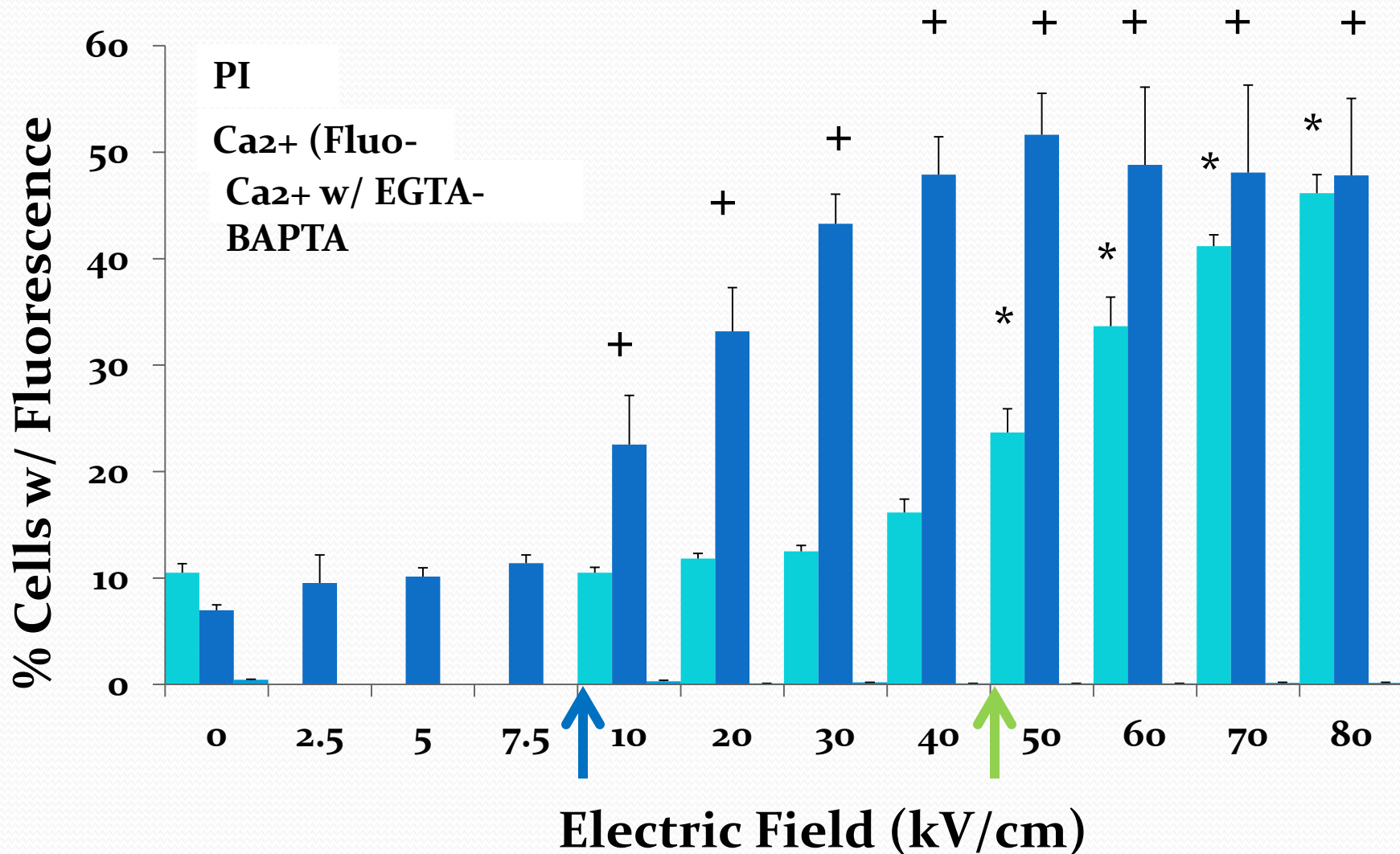
**Gowrishankar et al., BBRC 2006;341:266-1276;**

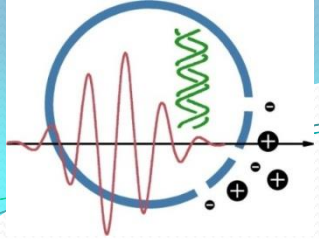
**Vernier et al., BMC Cell Biol. 2006;7:37;**

**Pakhomov et al., BBRC 2009;385:181-186.**



# Ca<sup>2+</sup> and PI Permeabilization in Jurkat Cells (10 min post-pulse)





# **Pulse Power w/ nsPEFs - Concept - 3 Hypothesis**

**Fast Rise Time ( $< \sim 70$  ns) or High Frequency  
Component of Sub-Microsecond Pulses  
Provides Greater Possibilities for Intracellular  
Effects**

Schoenbach et al., *Bioelectromagnetics* 2001; 22 :440-448.

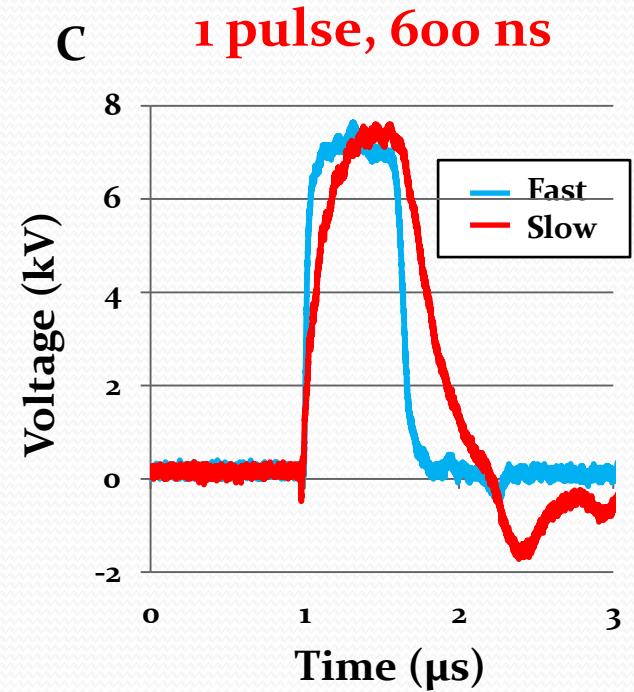
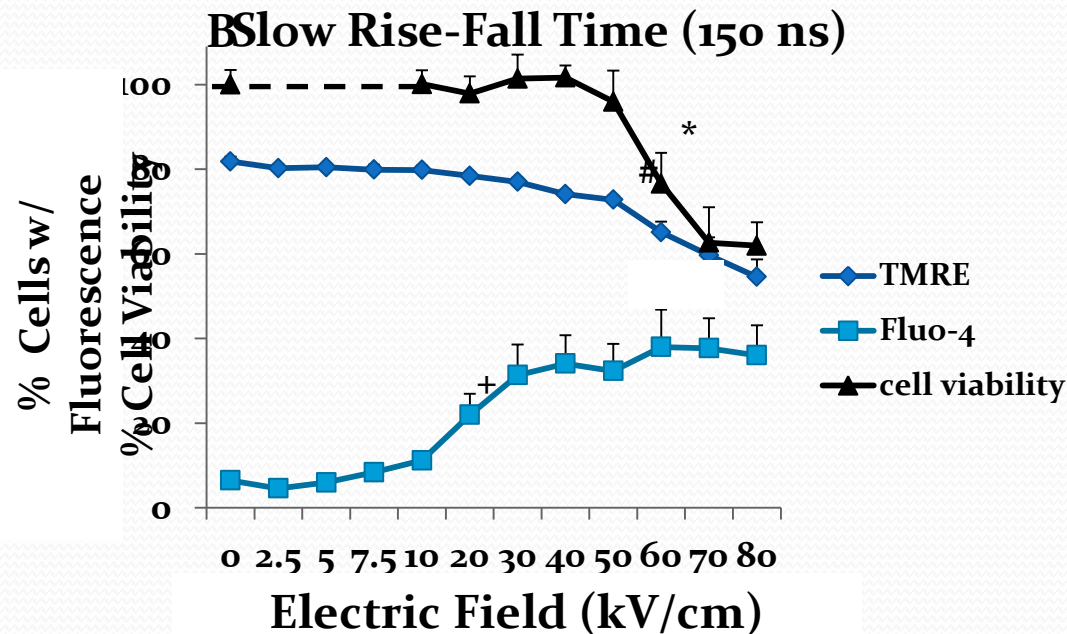
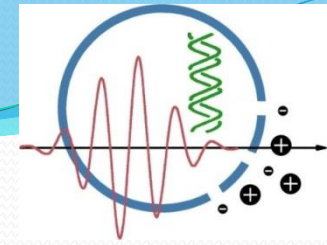
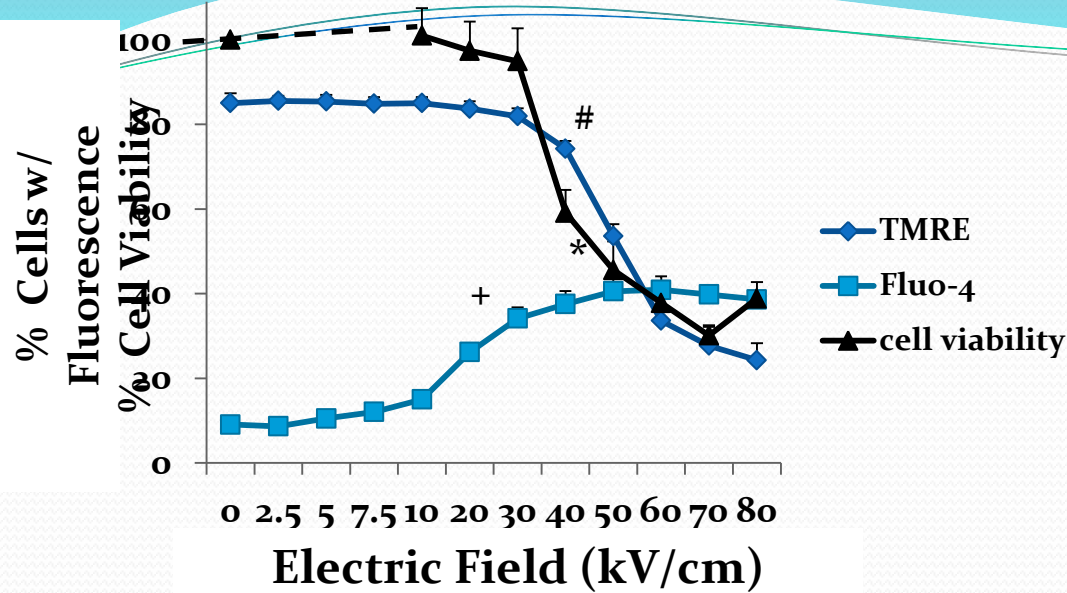
Beebe et al., *PLoS One* 2012 ;7 :e51349.

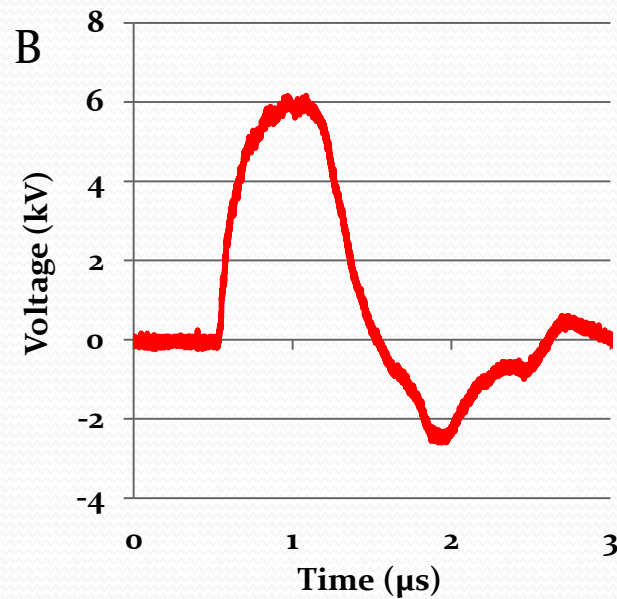
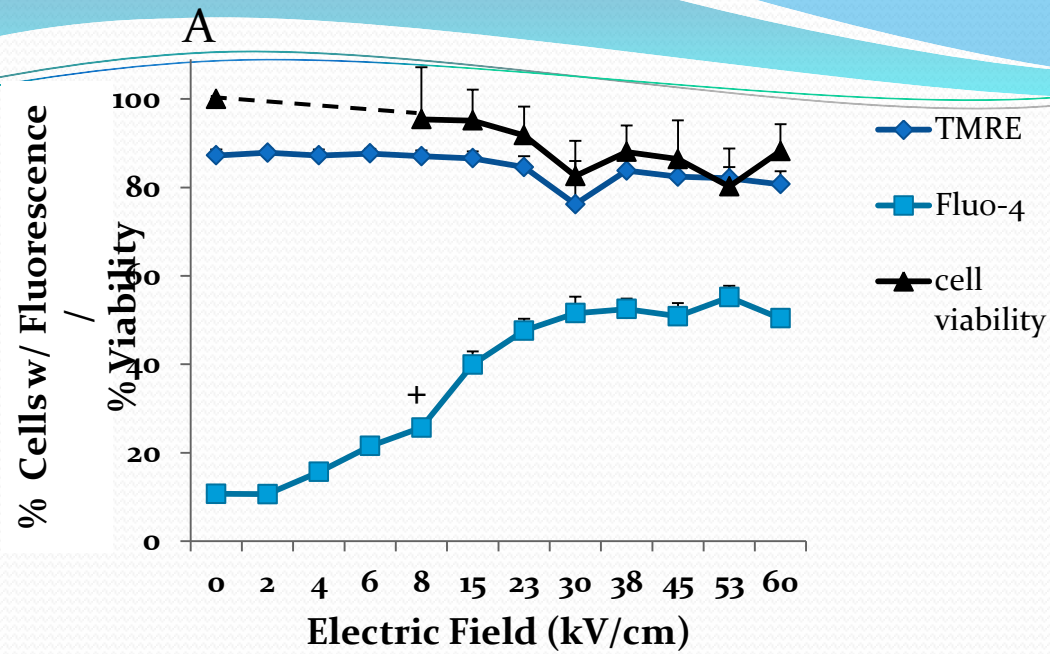
Beebe et al., *Cells* 2012; 2: 136-162.

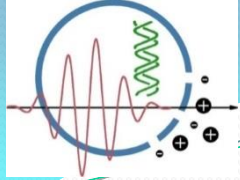
Beebe et al., *J Nanomedic Nanotechnol.* 2013 ;4: 163.



### A Fast Rise-Fall Time (15 ns)



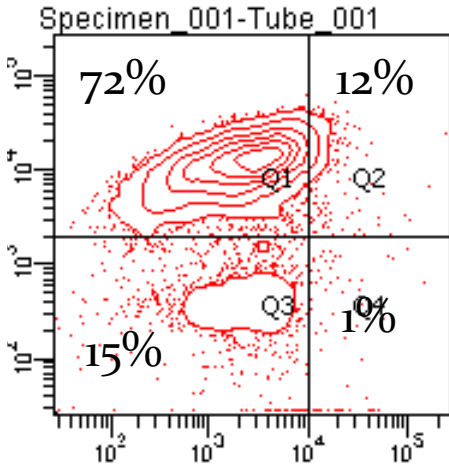




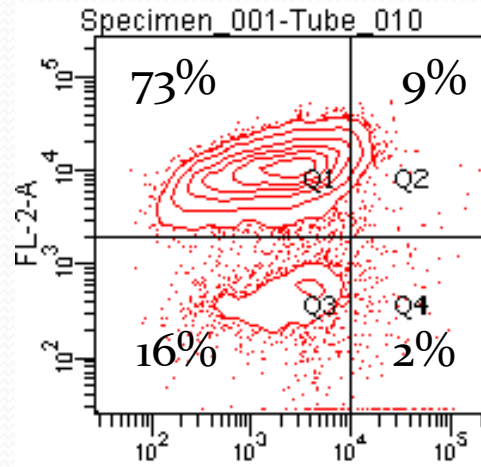
# Fast Rise-Fall Time, Matched Load

0 kV/cm

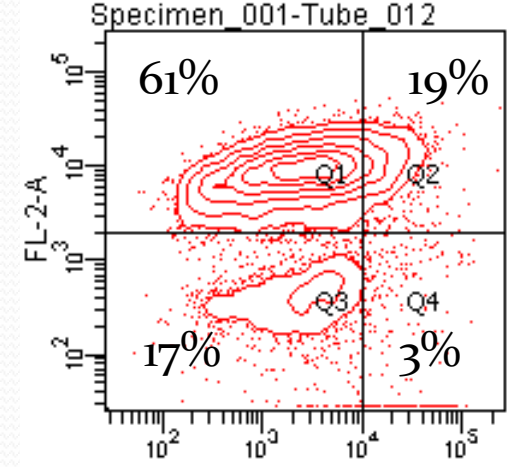
TMRE  $\Delta\psi_m$



10 kV/cm



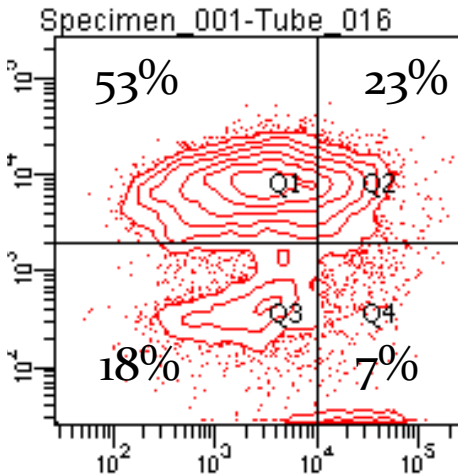
20 kV/cm



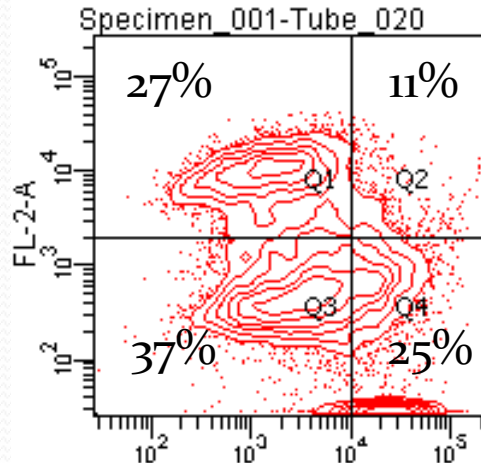
Fluo-4 Calcium Influx

40 kV/cm

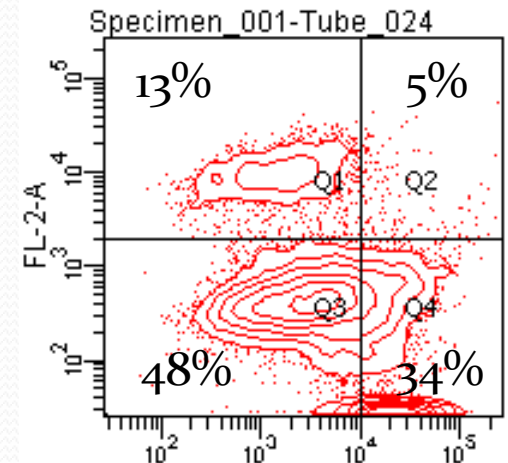
TMRE  $\Delta\psi_m$



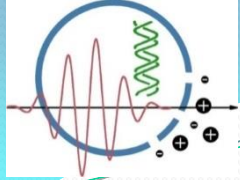
60 kV/cm



80 kV/cm



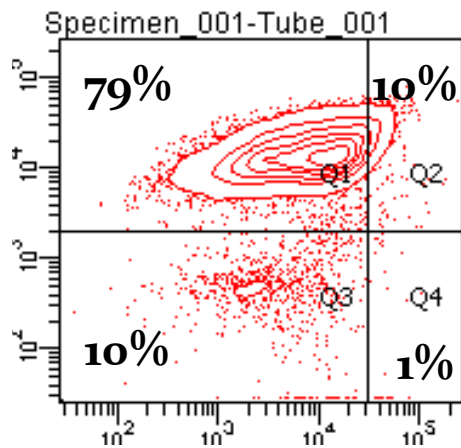
Fluo-4 Calcium Influx



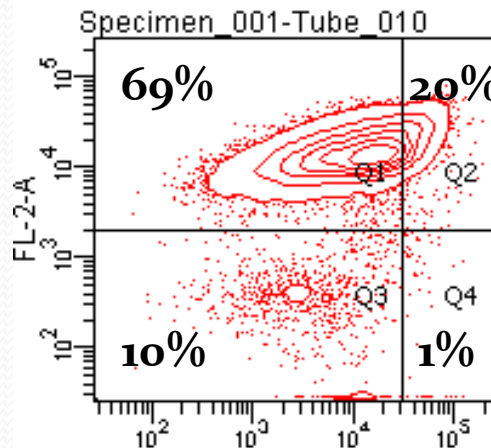
# Slow Rise-Fall Time, Unmatched Load

0 kV/cm

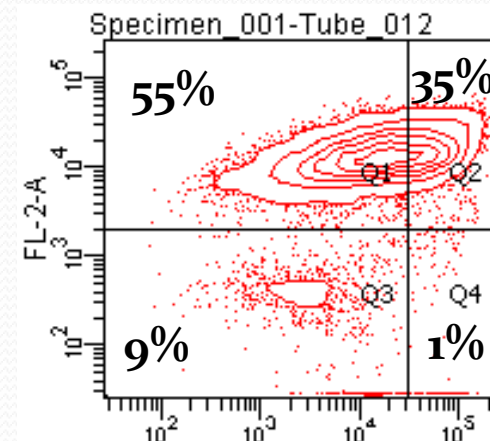
TMRE  $\Delta\psi_m$



7.5 kV/cm



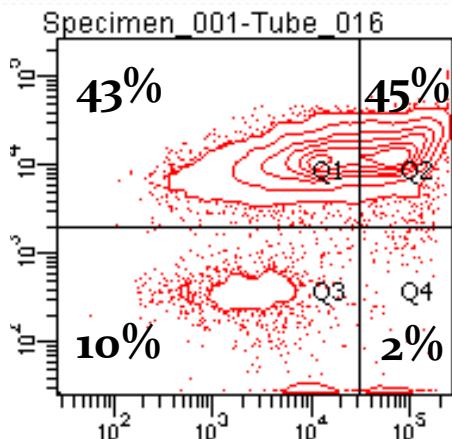
15 kV/cm



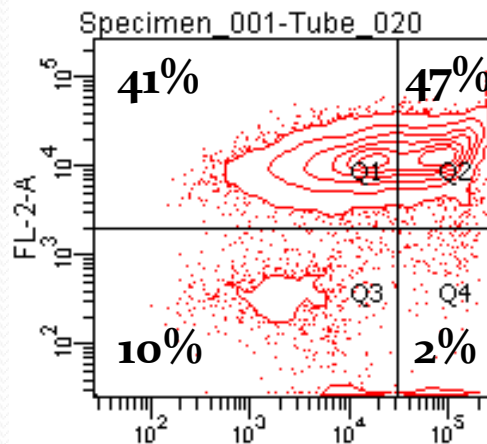
Fluo-4 Calcium Influx

30 kV/cm

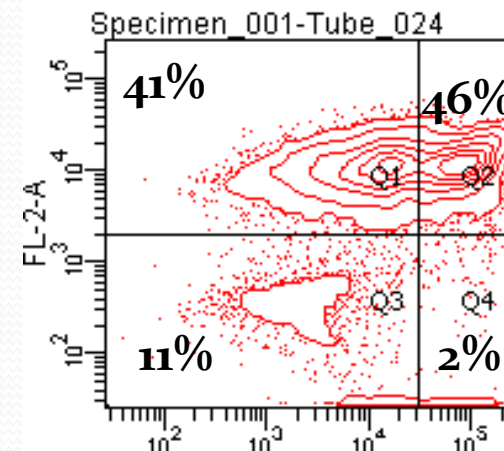
TMRE  $\Delta\psi_m$



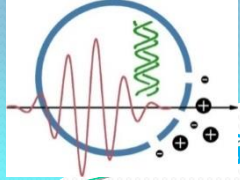
45 kV/cm



60 kV/cm



Fluo-4 Calcium Influx



# PEF-induced Decrease in $\Delta\Psi_m$ is $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ Dependent

[ (1) Effects on Proteins (2) Not Poration of Inner Mitochondria Membrane ]

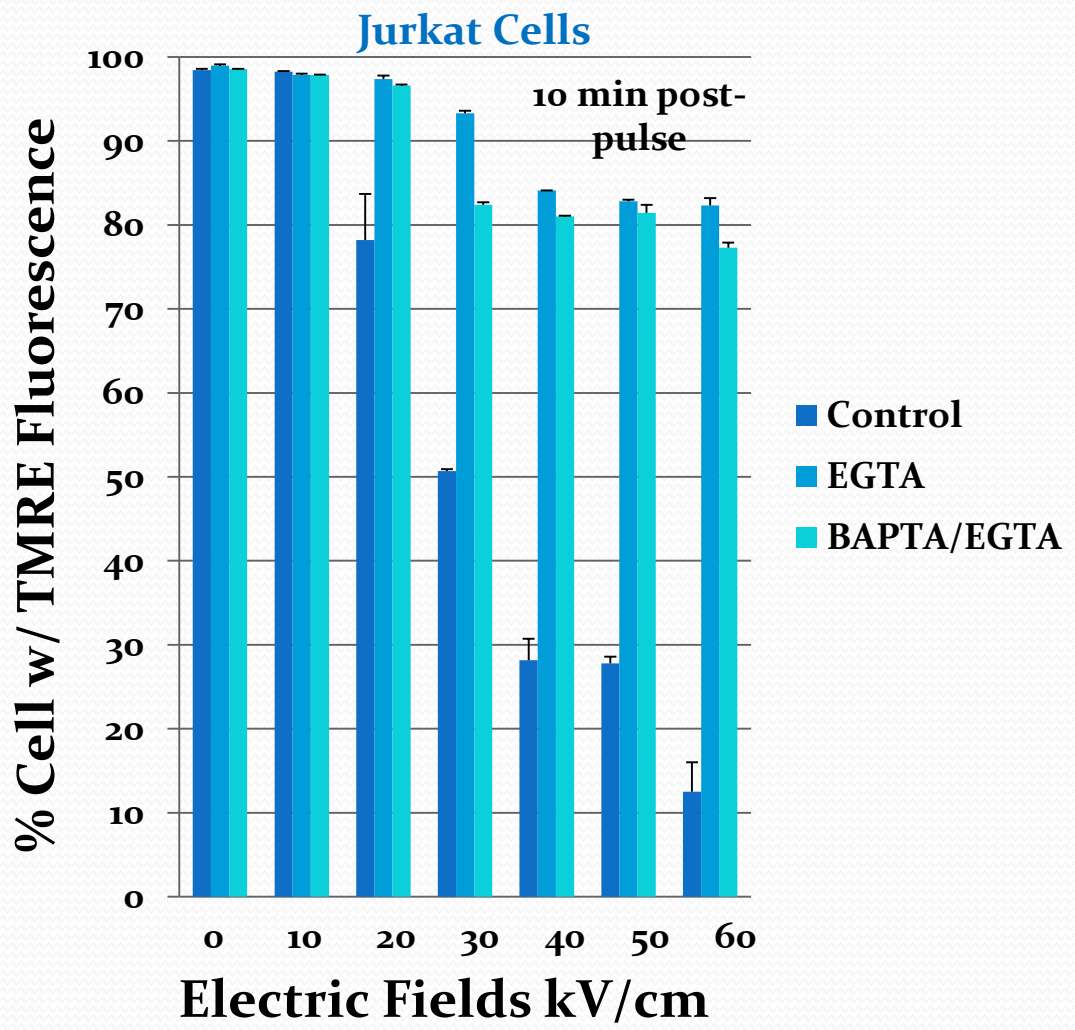
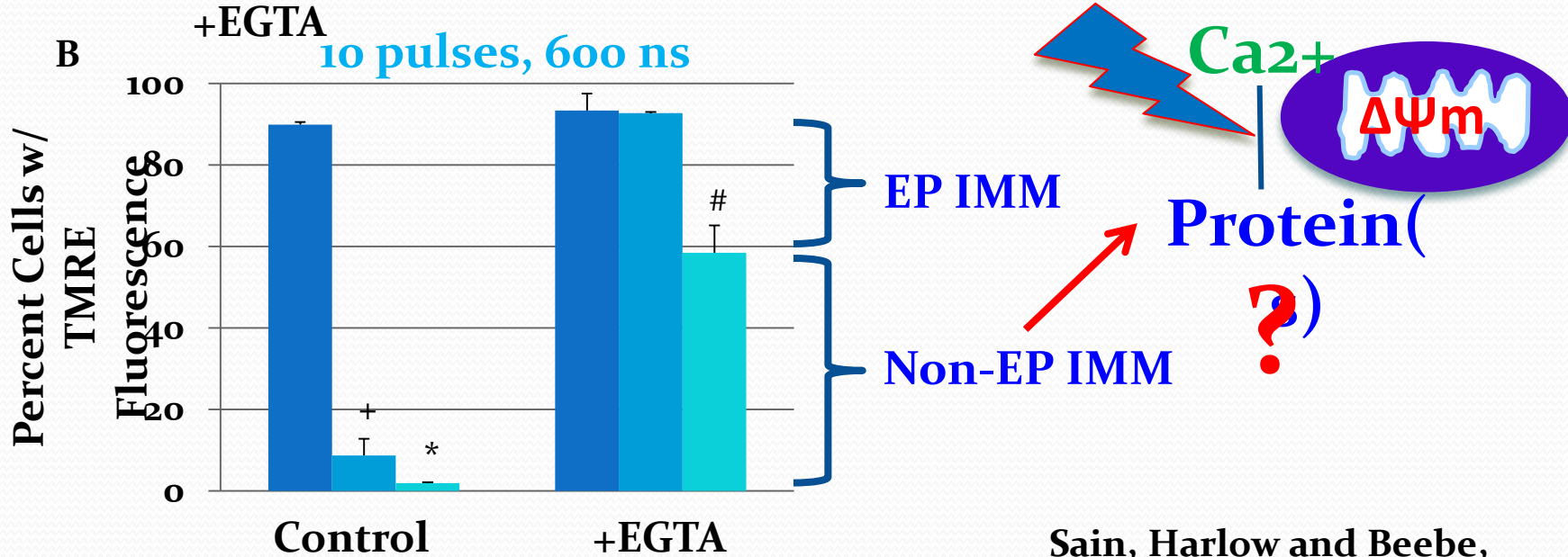
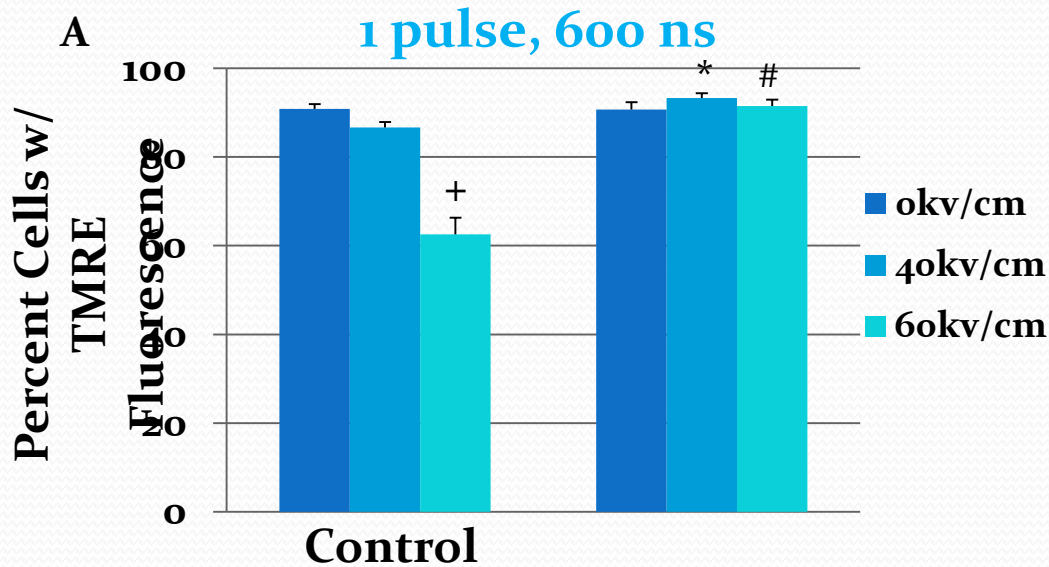


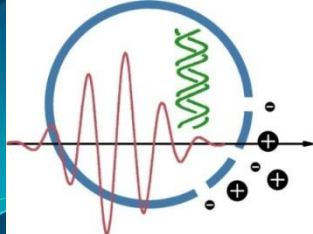
Figure Unpublished  
Beebe et al., Cells 2013; 2: 136-

# Rat Ni-Si Hepatocellular Carcinoma Cells

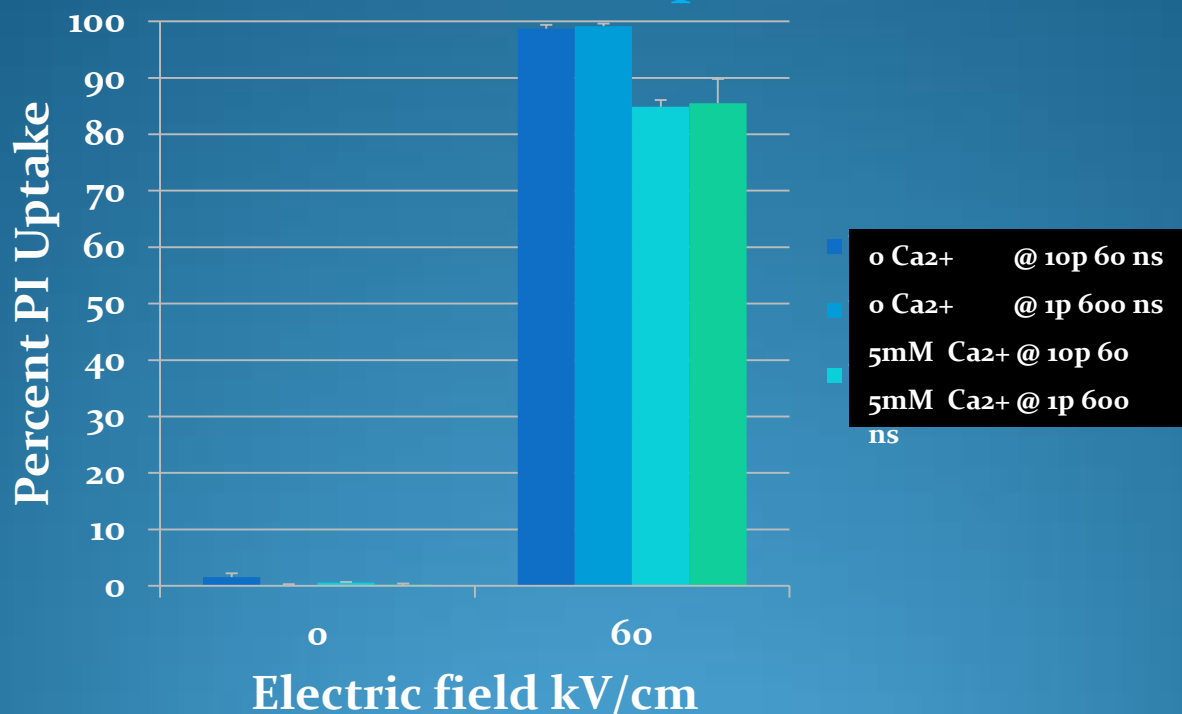
(Ca<sup>2+</sup> dependent decrease in  $\Delta\Psi_m$  – not poration effect)



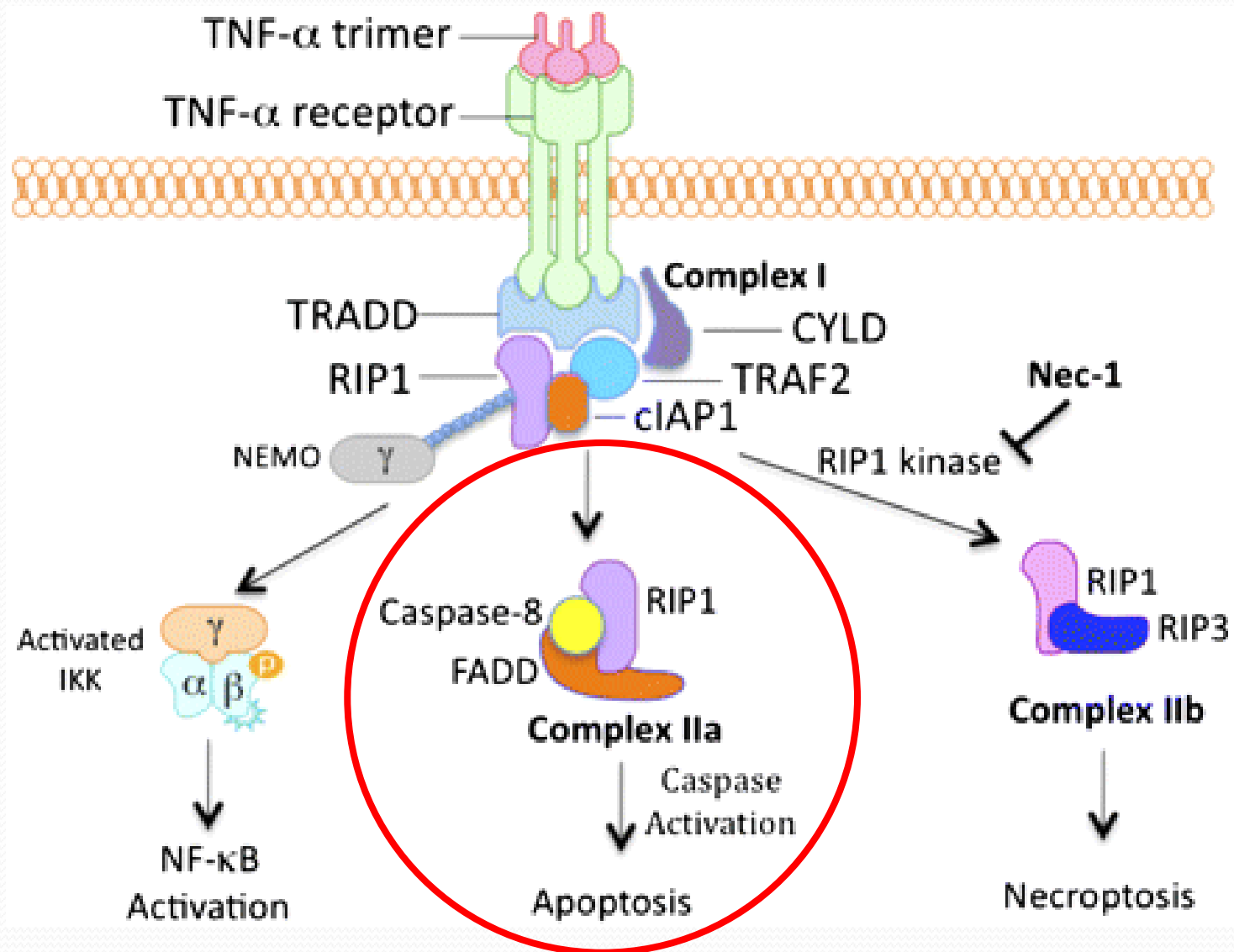
Sain, Harlow and Beebe,  
Unpublished



## Plasma Membrane Permeabilization is not $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ Dependent



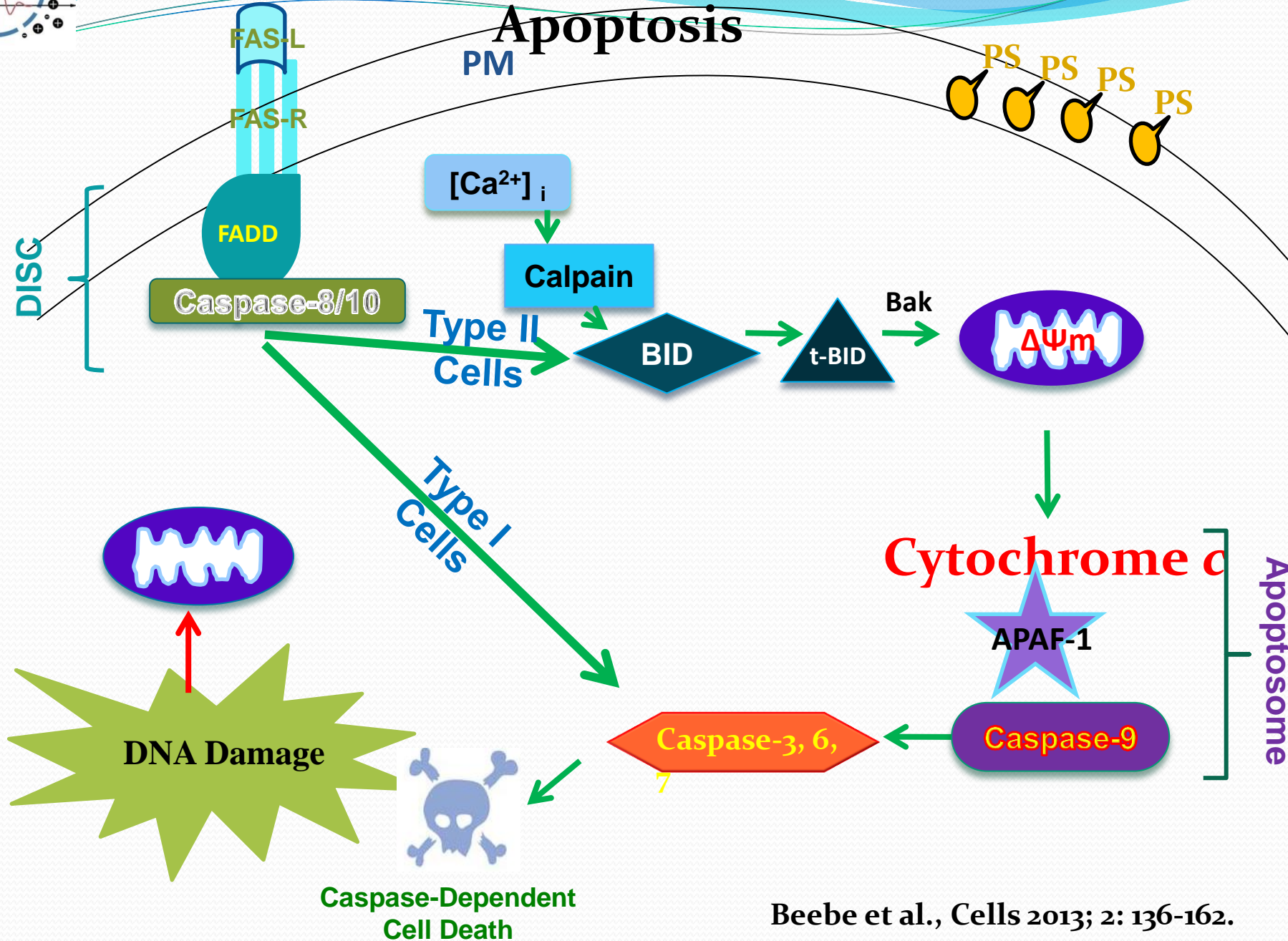
# Signaling Complexes induced by TNF $\alpha$ mediate Nf $\kappa$ B activation, apoptosis and necroptosis





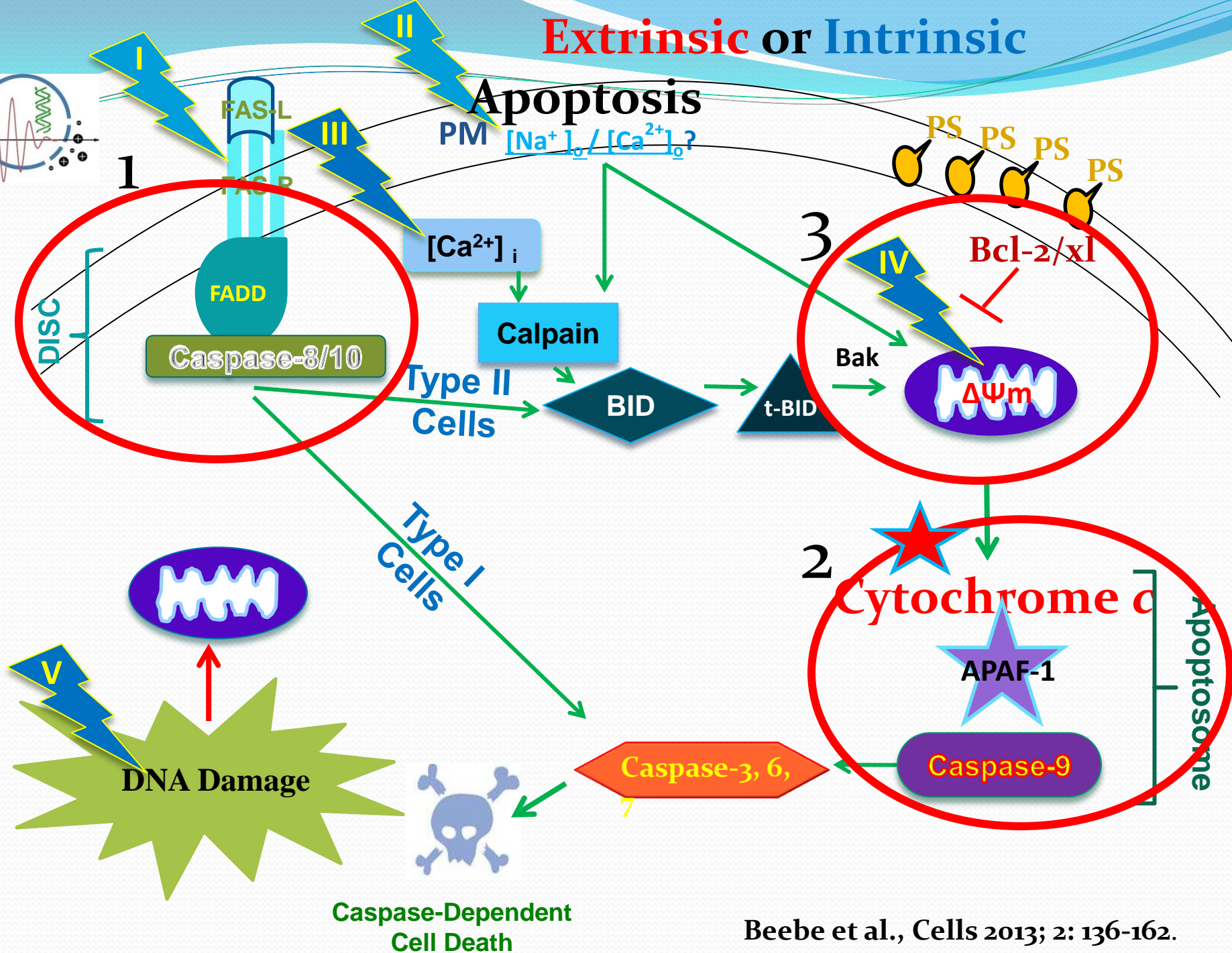
# Extrinsic or Intrinsic

## Apoptosis



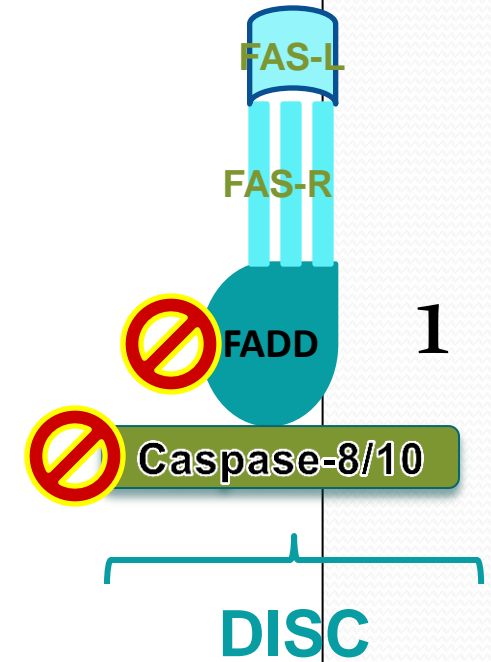
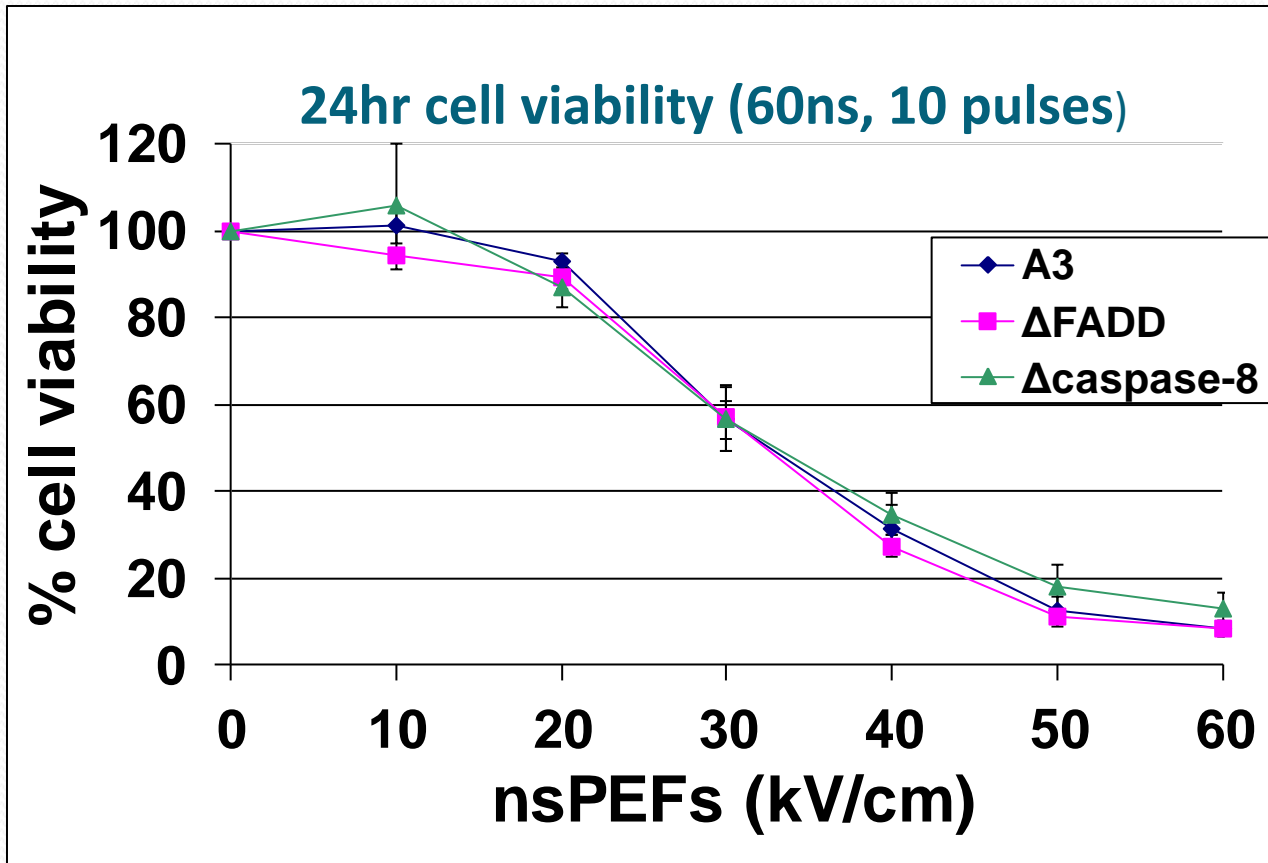
# Extrinsic or Intrinsic

## Apoptosis



Caspase-Dependent Cell Death

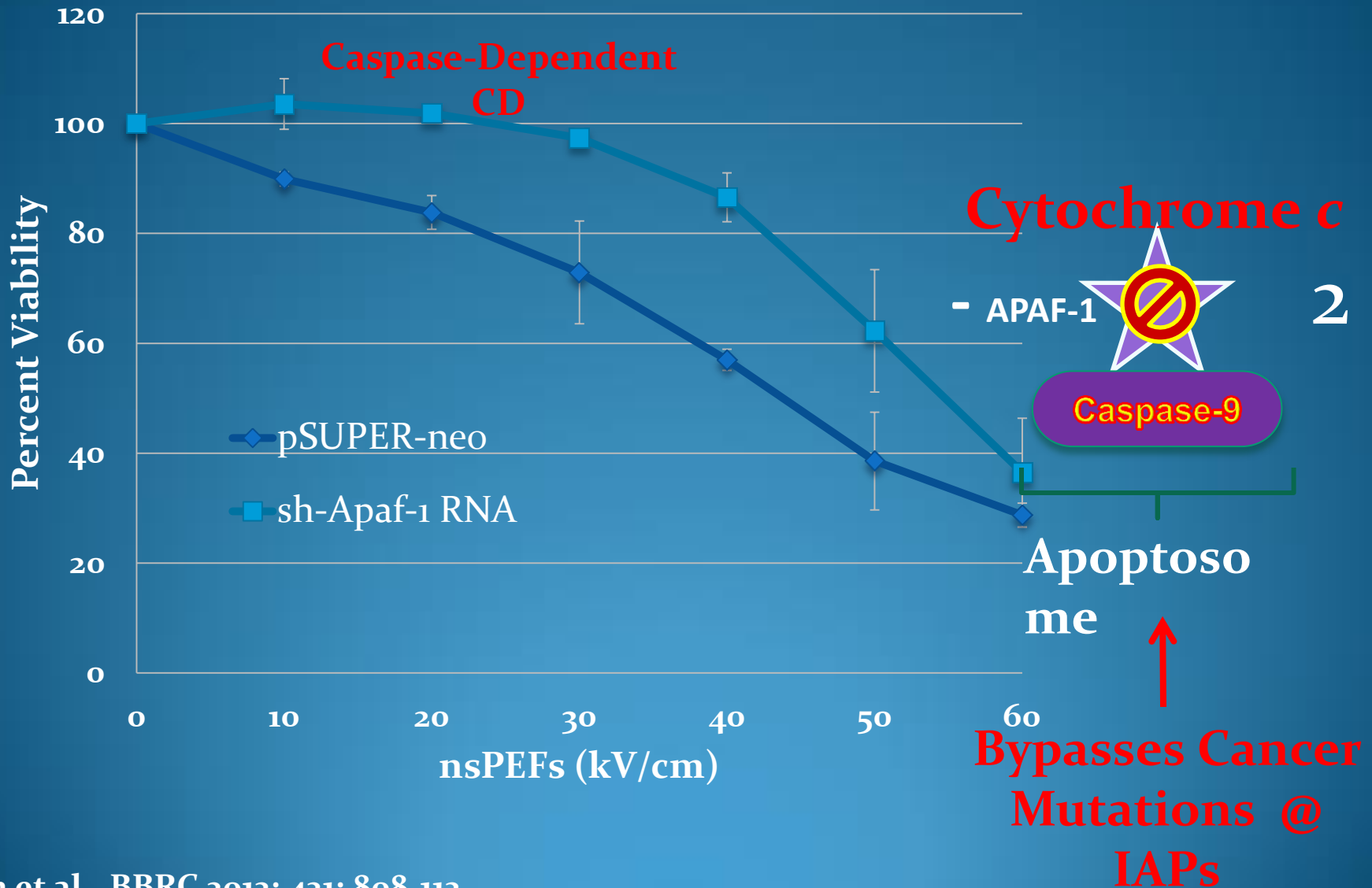
# nsPEF-Induced Cell Death Does Not Require The DISC ( $\Delta$ Caspase-8 / $\Delta$ FADD)

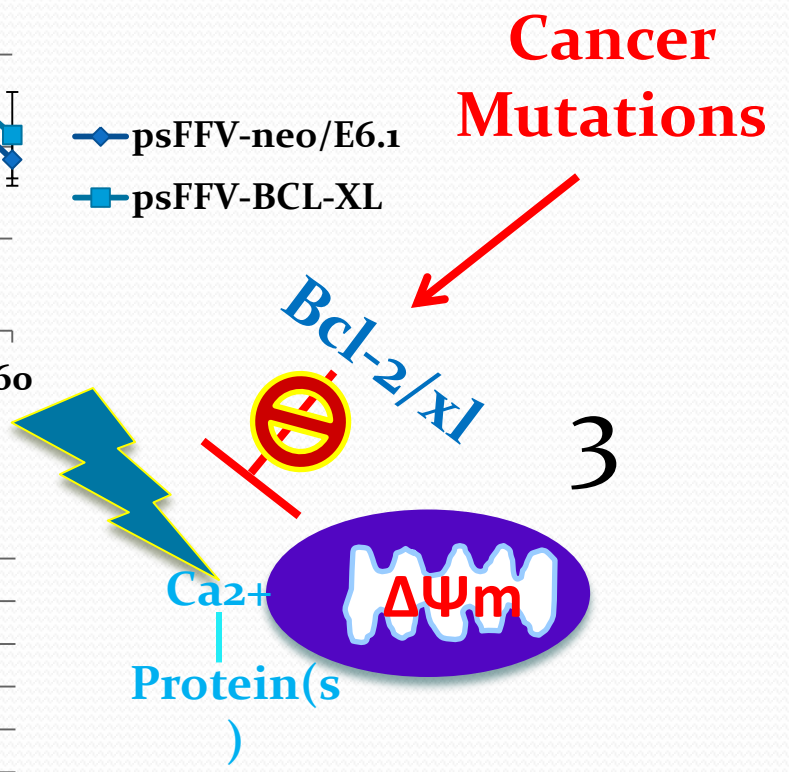
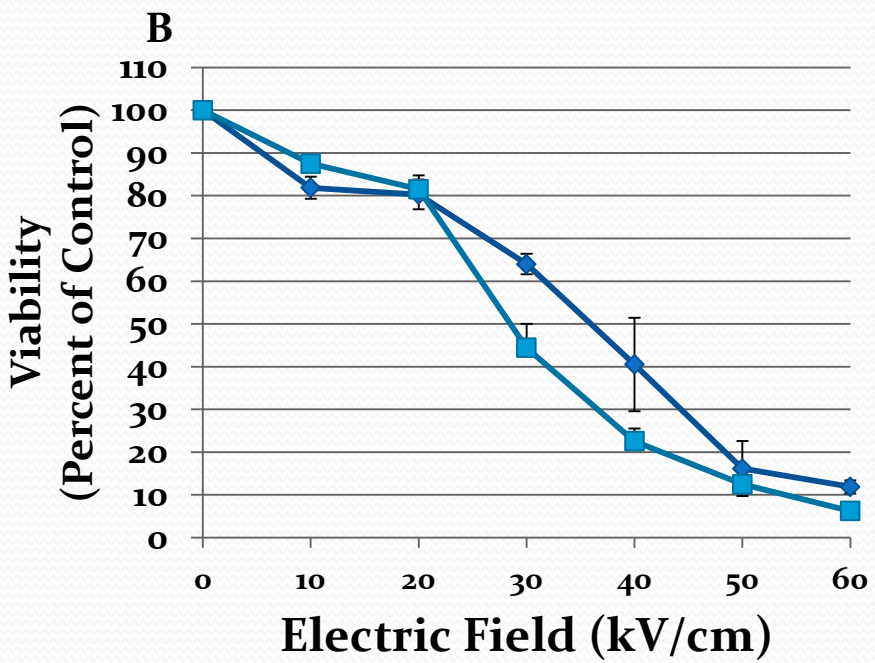
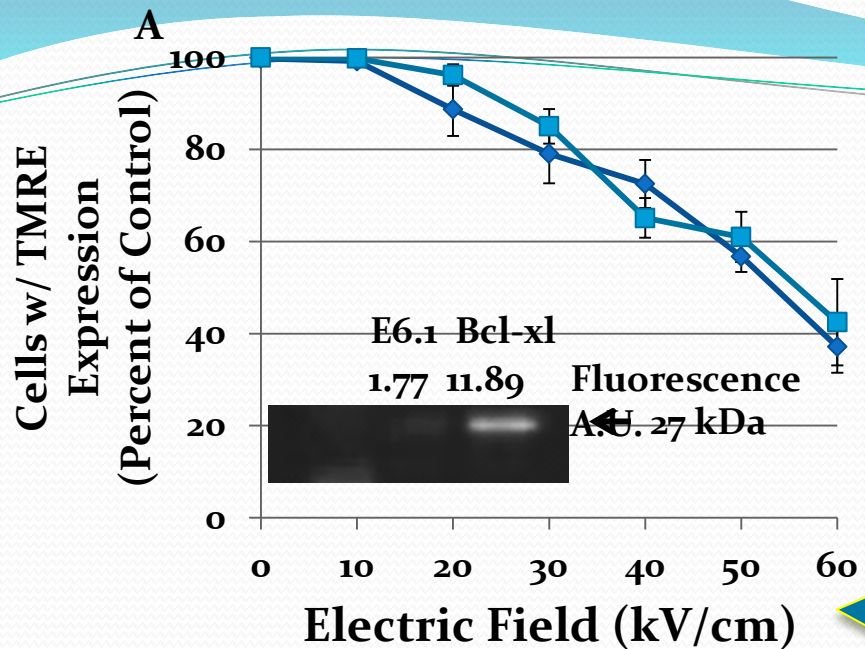
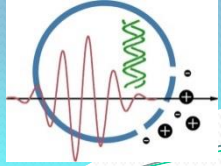


Bypasses  
Cancer  
Mutations @  
Death



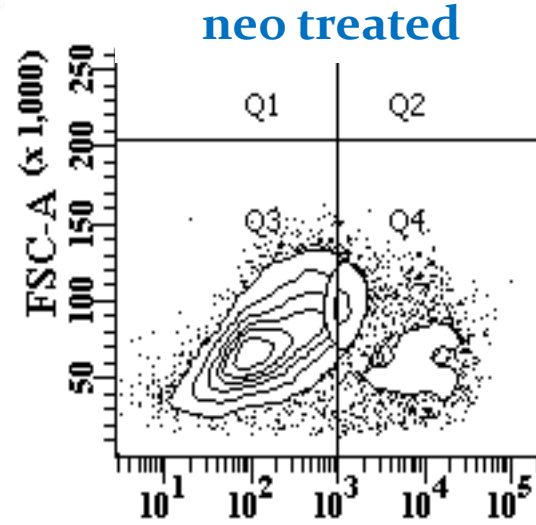
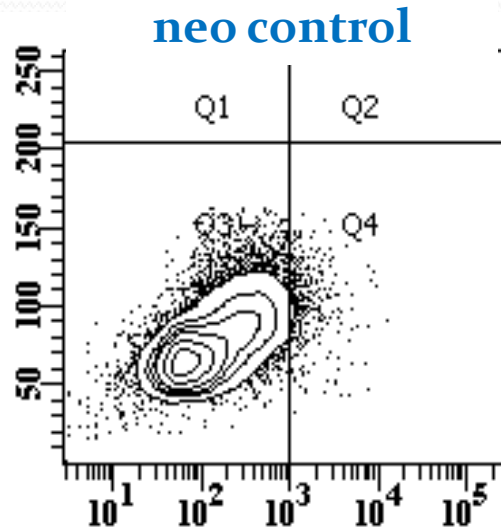
# APAF-1 Deficient Jurkat Cells Require Higher Electric Fields to Induce Cell Death



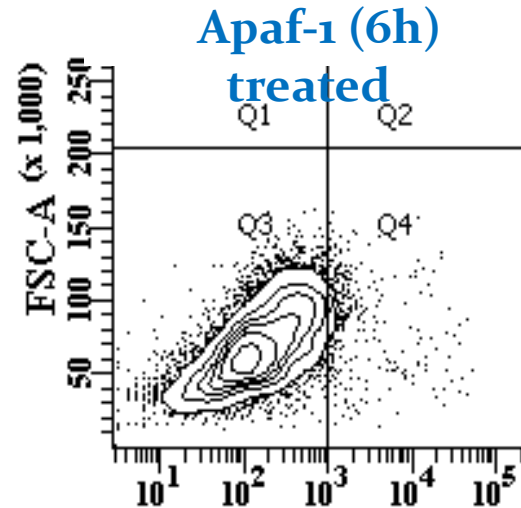
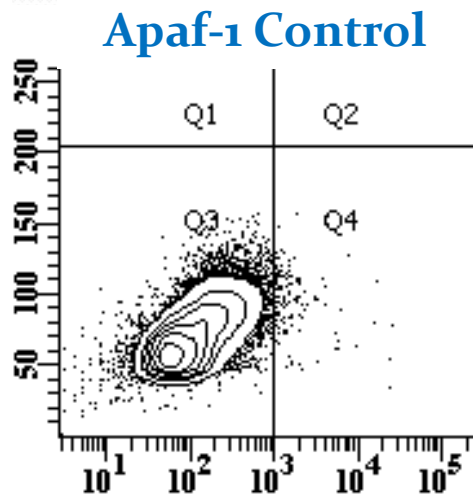


# nsPEF-induced DNA Damage is Caspase-dependent

Forward Light Scatter

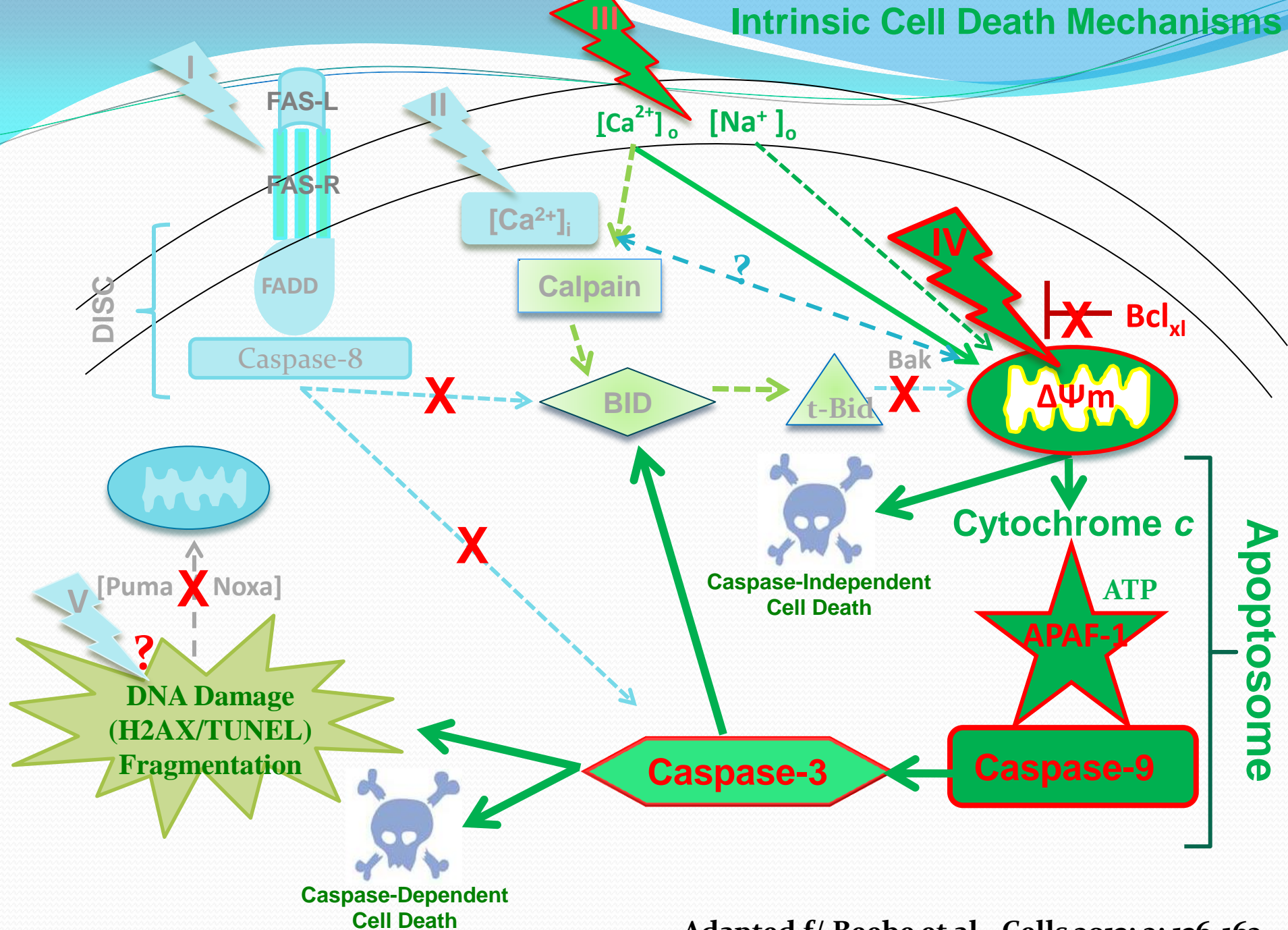


Histone 2AX Phosphorylation



Histone 2AX Phosphorylation

# Intrinsic Cell Death Mechanisms



Adapted f/ Beebe et al., Cells 2013; 2: 136-162.



# **In Vitro Summary and Conclusions**

**Pulse Shape is a Determinant of Effects on  $\Delta\Psi_m$  and Viability**

**NsPEF-induced Decrease in  $\Delta\Psi_m$  is  $Ca^{2+}$  Dependent**

**Influx of  $Ca^{2+}$  Necessary, but not Sufficient, for Drop in  $\Delta\Psi_m$  and CD**

**Primary Decrease in  $\Delta\Psi_m$  is Not Due to Poration of IMM**

**Decrease in  $\Delta\Psi_m$  May be Due to Effects on Protein(s)**

**nsPEF-induced DNA Damage is Caspase-Dependent**

**nsPEF Bypass Cancer Mutations @ DR, Caspases and Mitochondria**



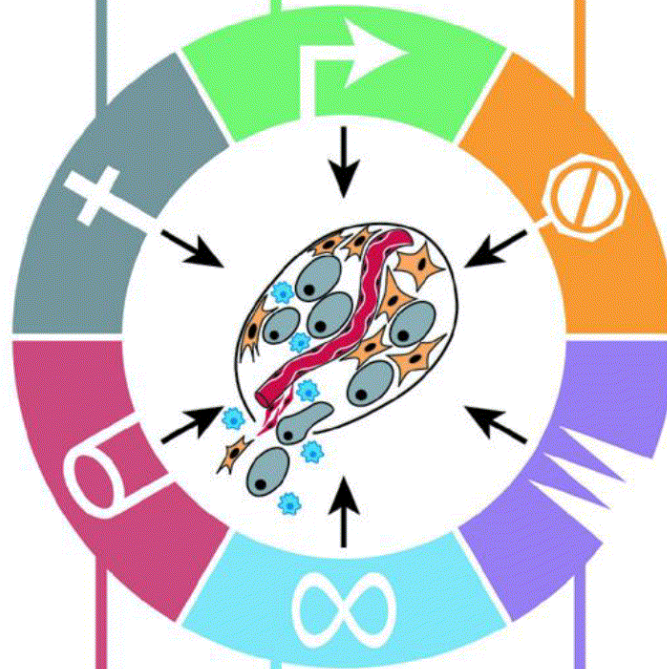
# Hallmarks of Cancer

Self-sufficiency in growth signals



Evading apoptosis

Insensitivity to anti-growth signals



Cancer Diagnosis and Treatment  
Rate Limiting-Stochastic Events

Evasion of Immune



Sustained angiogenesis

Tissue invasion & metastasis

Limitless replicative potential

Hanahan and Weinberg Cell 2000; 100: 57-70  
Cell. 2011; 144: 646-674.

# Cancer Genome Landscapes



# A Concept for Cancer

Not an Invading Army – Cancer Comes from Within Us

A Criminal Gang

Cancer

Within the local community

Microenvironment

Coerces the local population  
cells

Supporting host

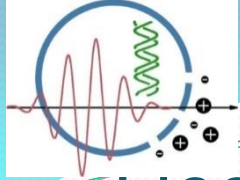
Uses their resources

Growth, vascularization

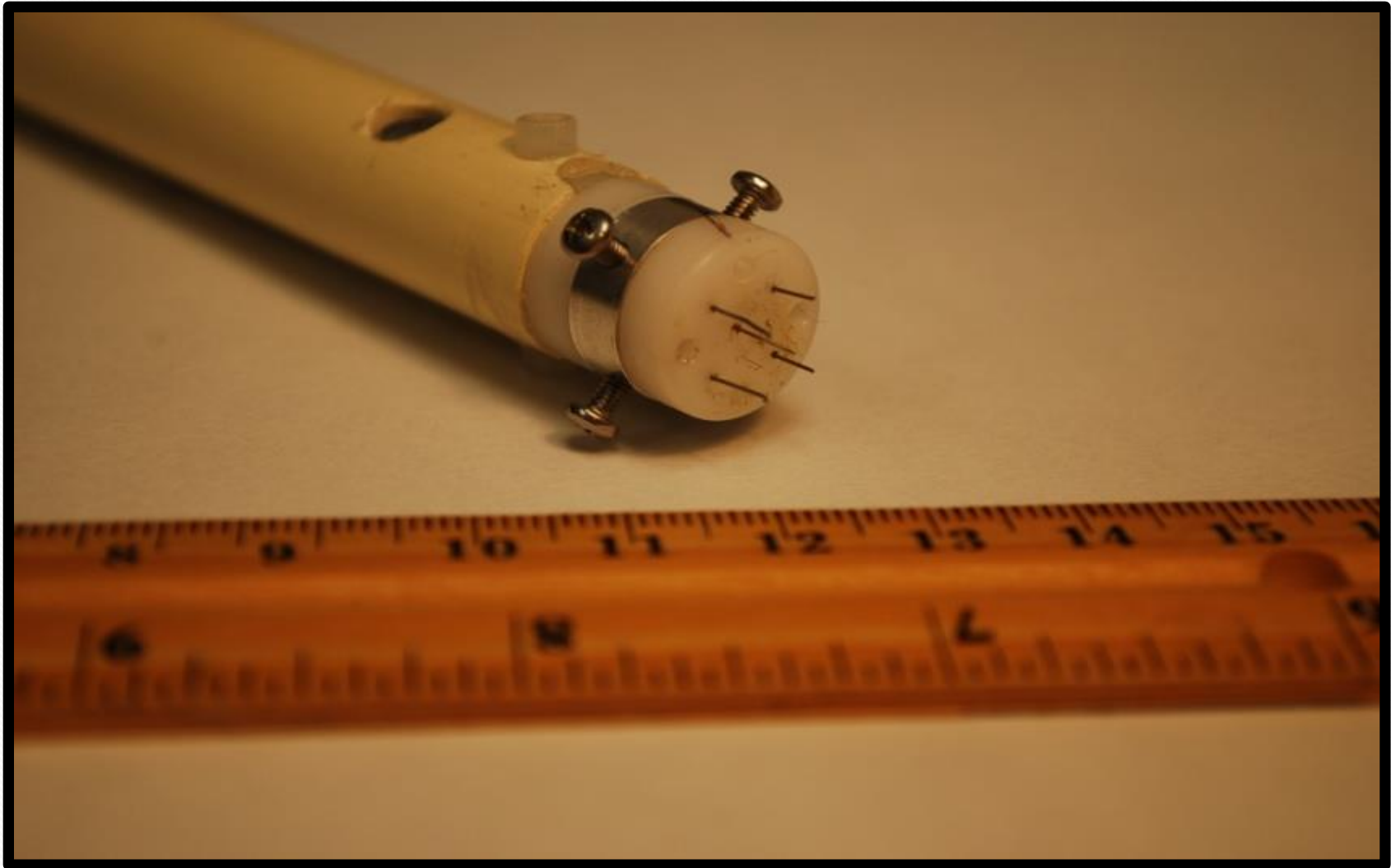
Thwart the authorities  
surveillance

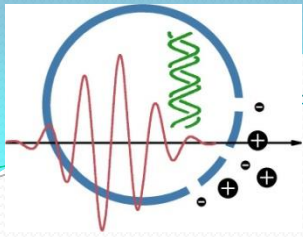
Evades immune





# Electrode Design: 5 Needle Array





# NsPEF Ablation of Rat N<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub> Orthotopic HCC

## Conditions:

Pulse Duration: 100 ns

Electric Field: 50 kV/cm

Pulse Number: 100, 300, 500 or

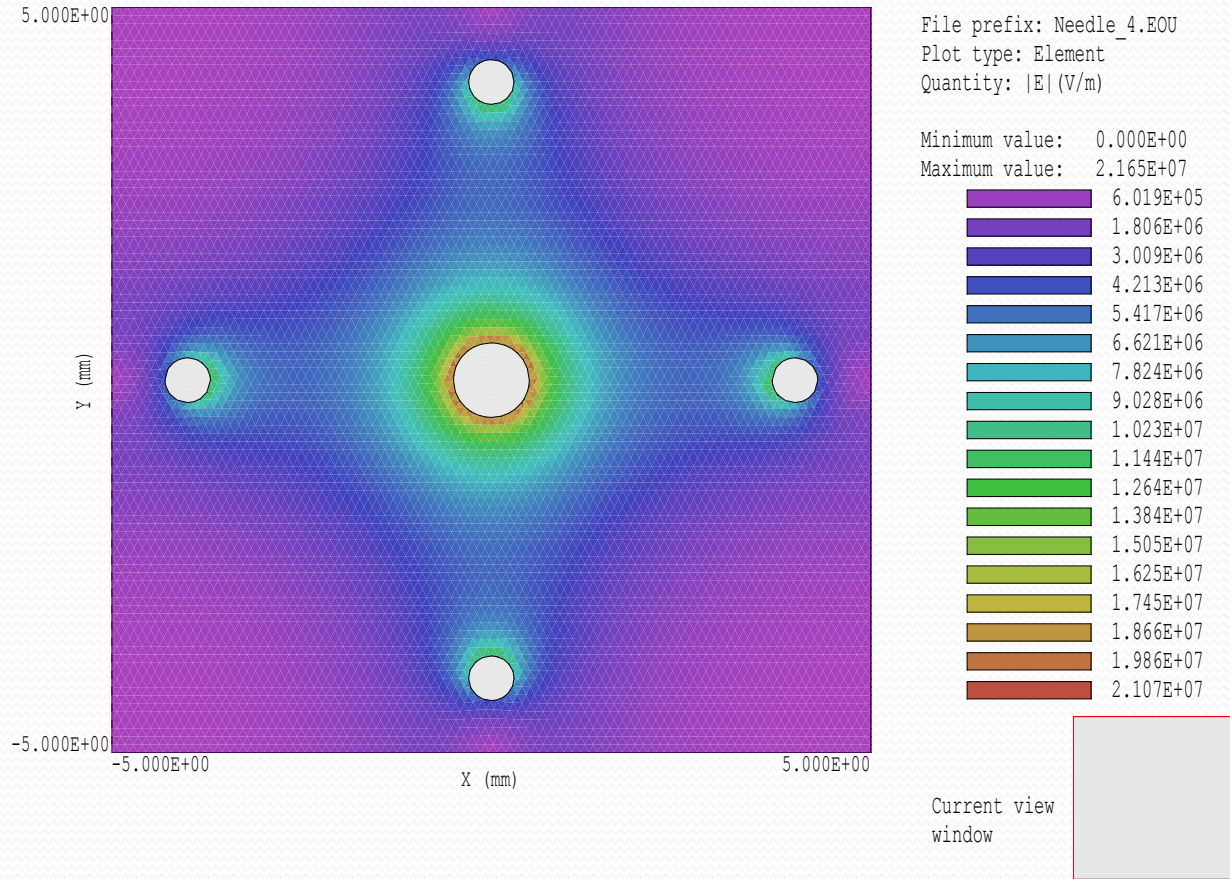
**1000**

Treatments: 1

Electrodes: 5 Needle Array

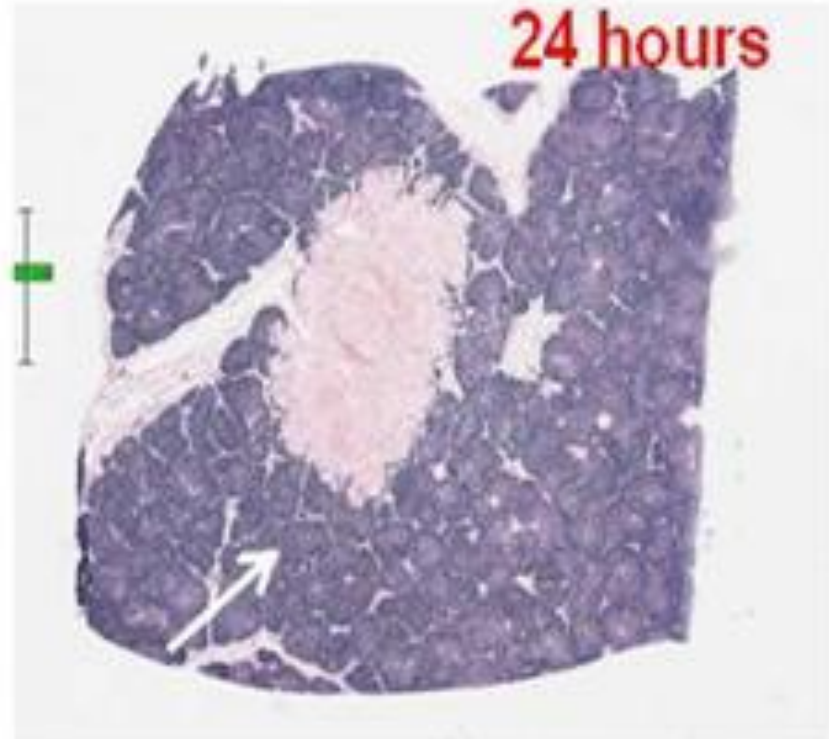
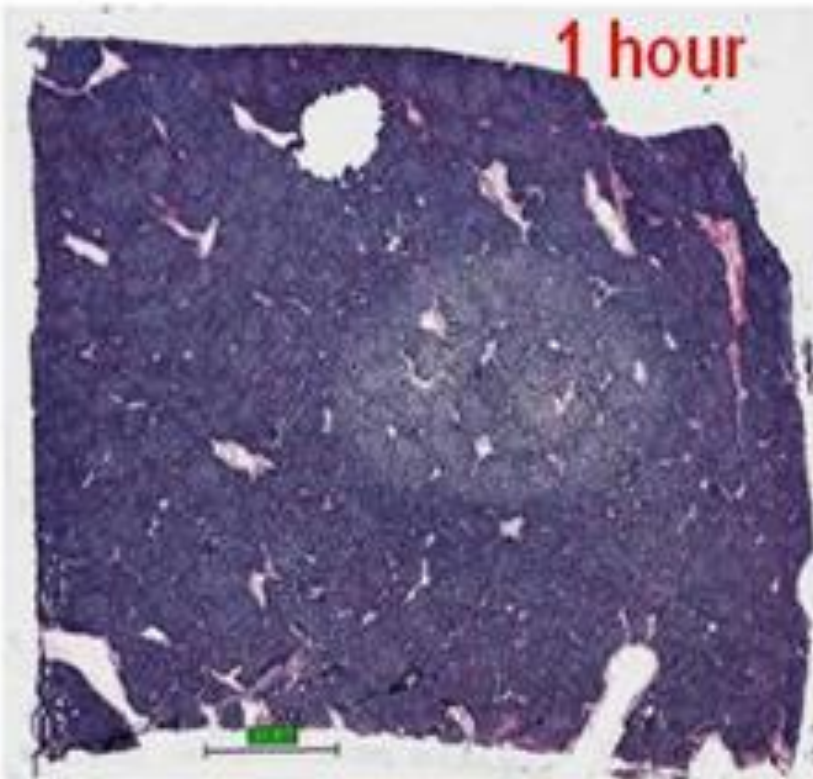
## Electric Field Simulation

### 5 Needle Array



# Histopathological Analysis of Porcine Liver

30 pulses, 100ns and 10-12kV/cm



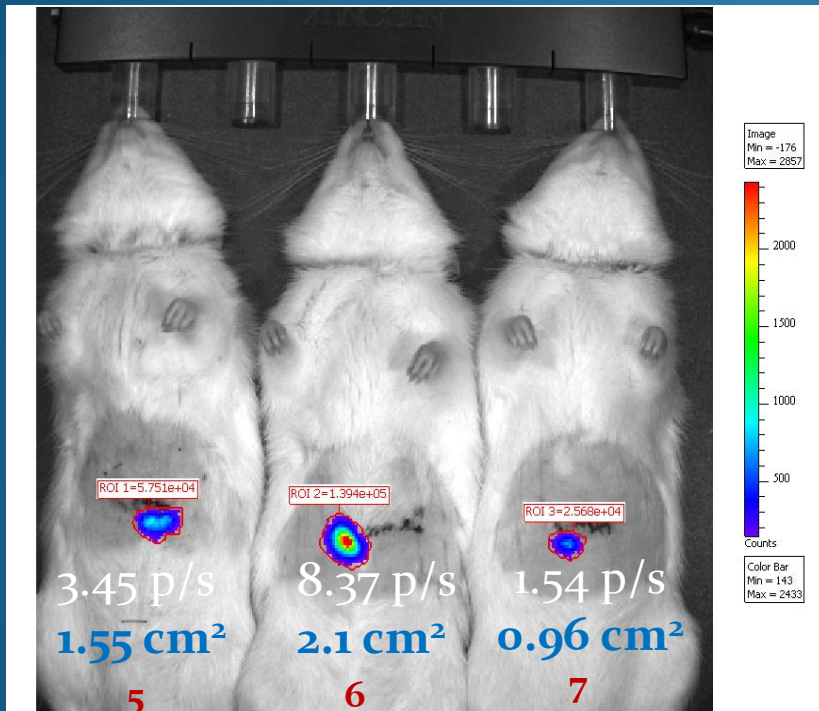
NADH activity using Nitro Blue Tetrazolium  
Viable: Purple Non-viable: Pink



# Luminescence of N1S1/Luciferase Cells in Rat Liver

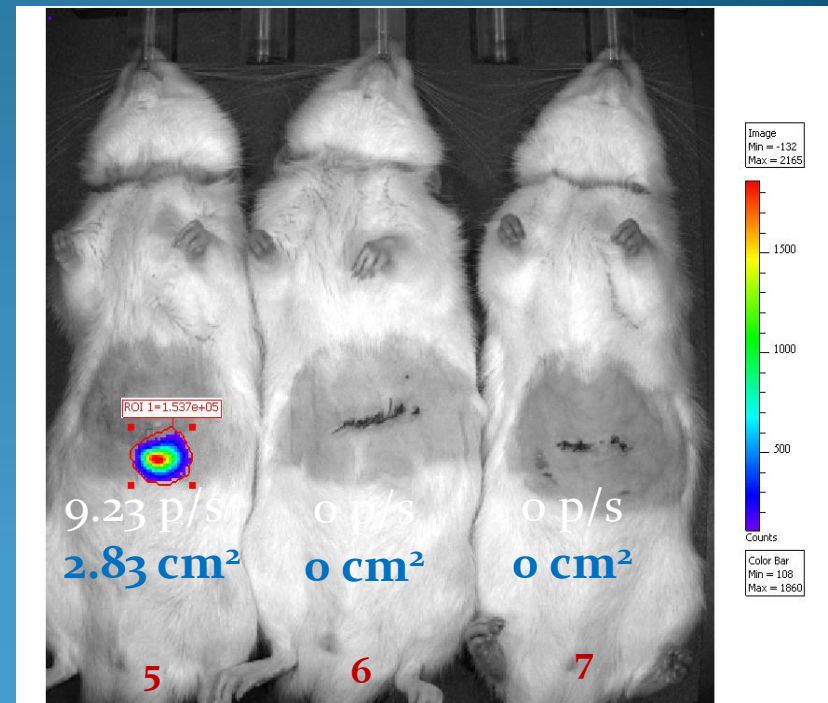
Before and After Treatment with 100 ns, 50 kV/cm

Day -1



100p 300p 1000p

Day +6

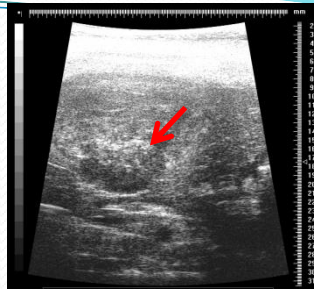
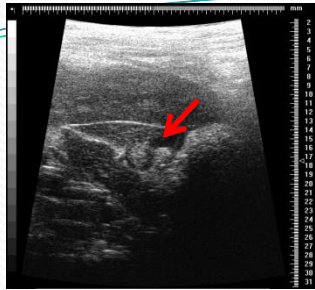


100p 300p 1000p

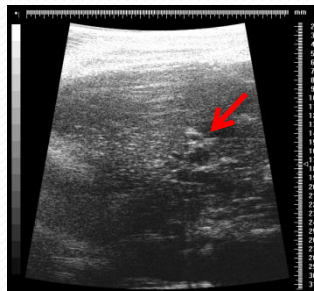
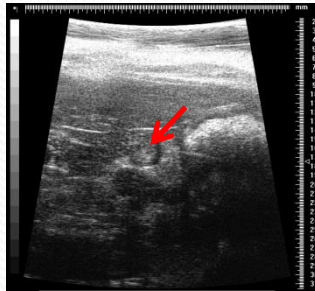
Sain NM and Beebe SJ,



# Orthotopic Rat N1S1 HCC



Sham

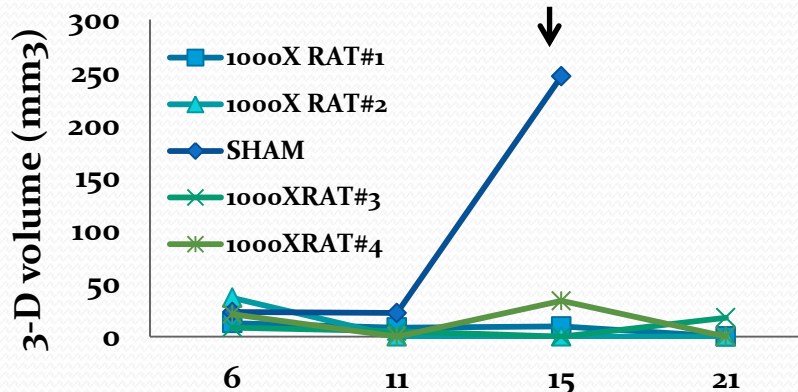


1000X

Day 6

Day 15

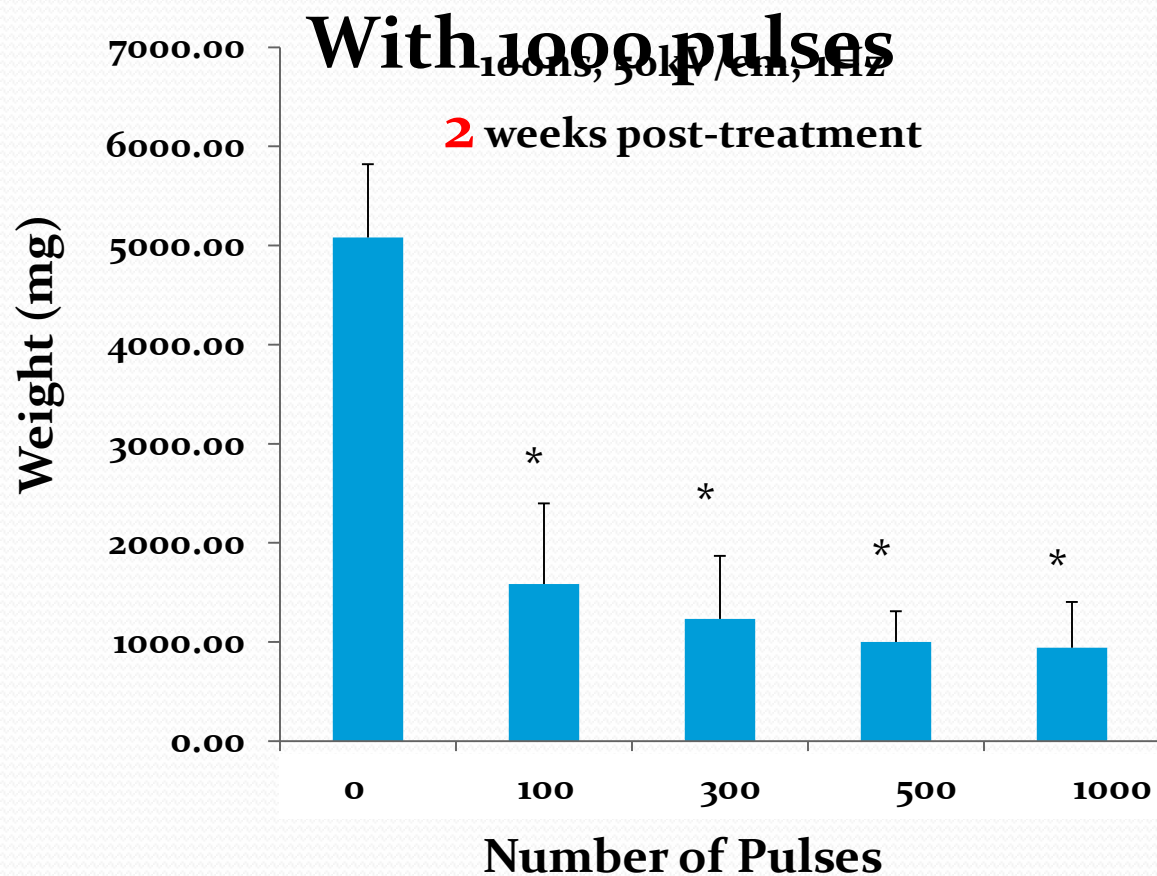
## N1-S1 Tumor volume



Days after N1-S1 injection

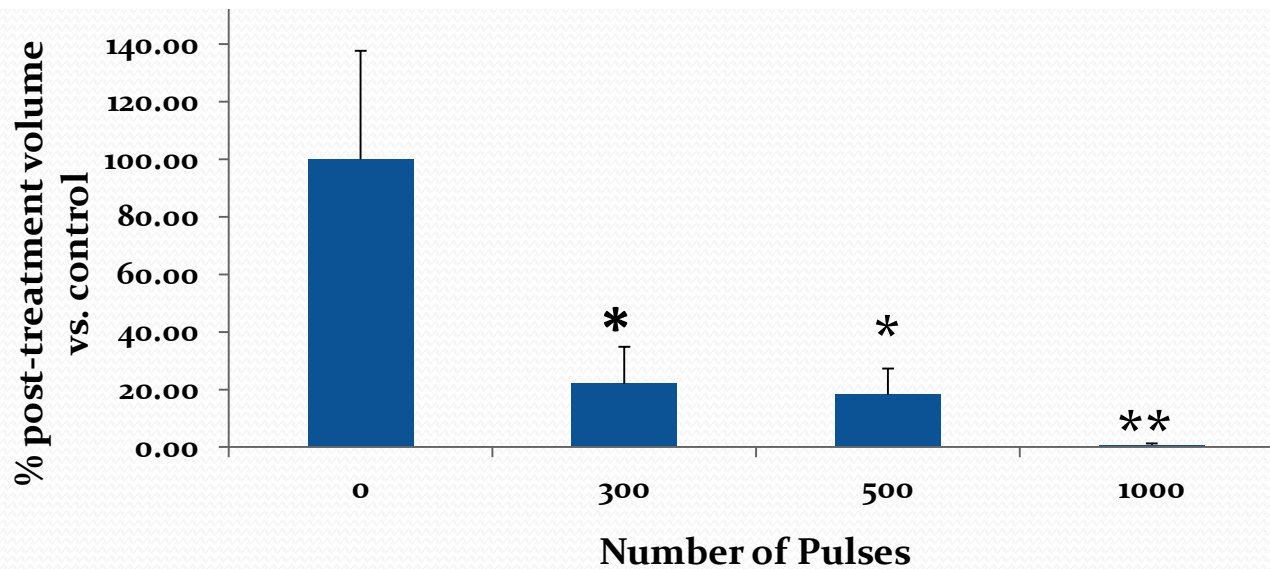


# NsPEFs Eliminate Orthotopic Rat N1-S1 HCC Tumors



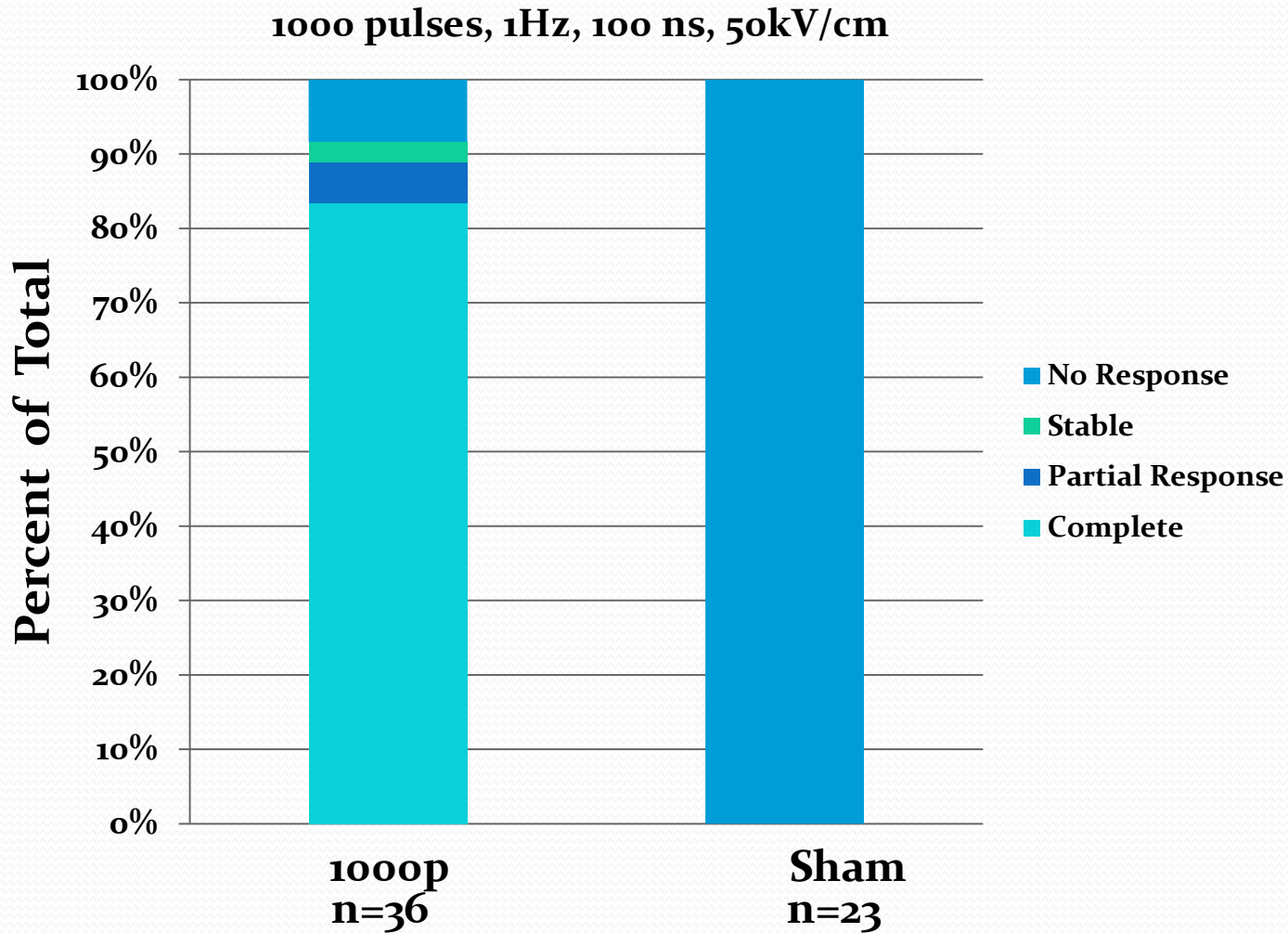
## Orthotopic Rat N1S1 Hepatocellular Carcinoma Treated with nsPEFs [100 ns, 50 kV/cm, 1 Hz]

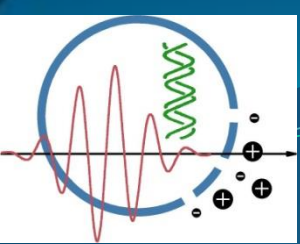
### Tumor Volumes 6 Weeks Post-Treatment Percent Change vs. Sham Treatment





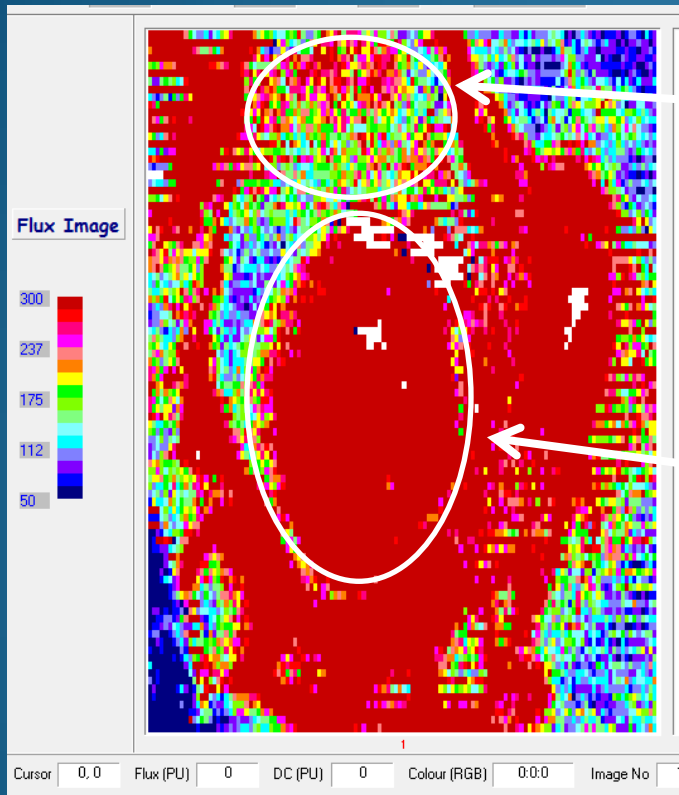
# NsPEFs Eliminate 80-90% of Rat N<sub>1</sub>-S<sub>1</sub> HCC Tumors





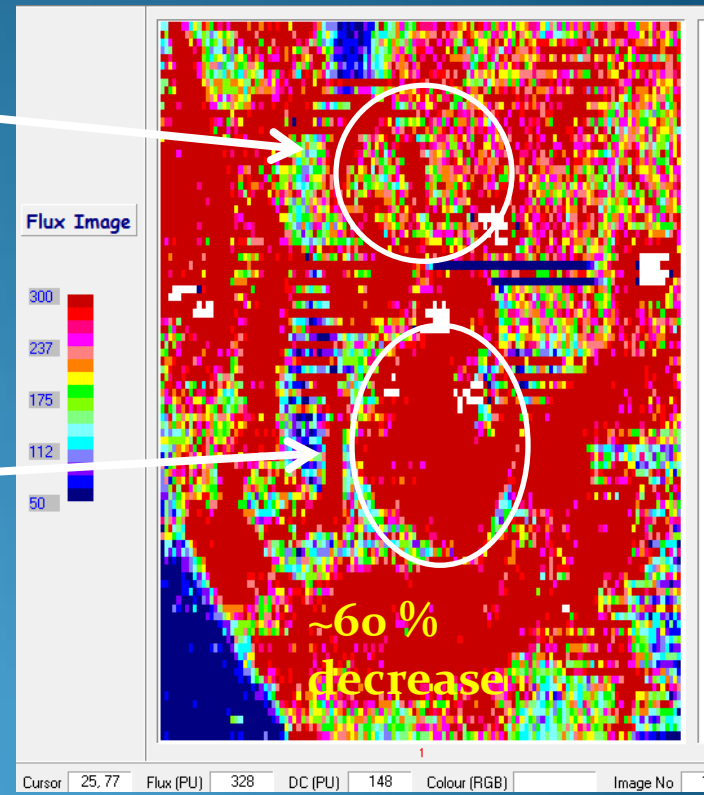
## nsPEFs Decrease Blood Flow – Laser Doppler

Before



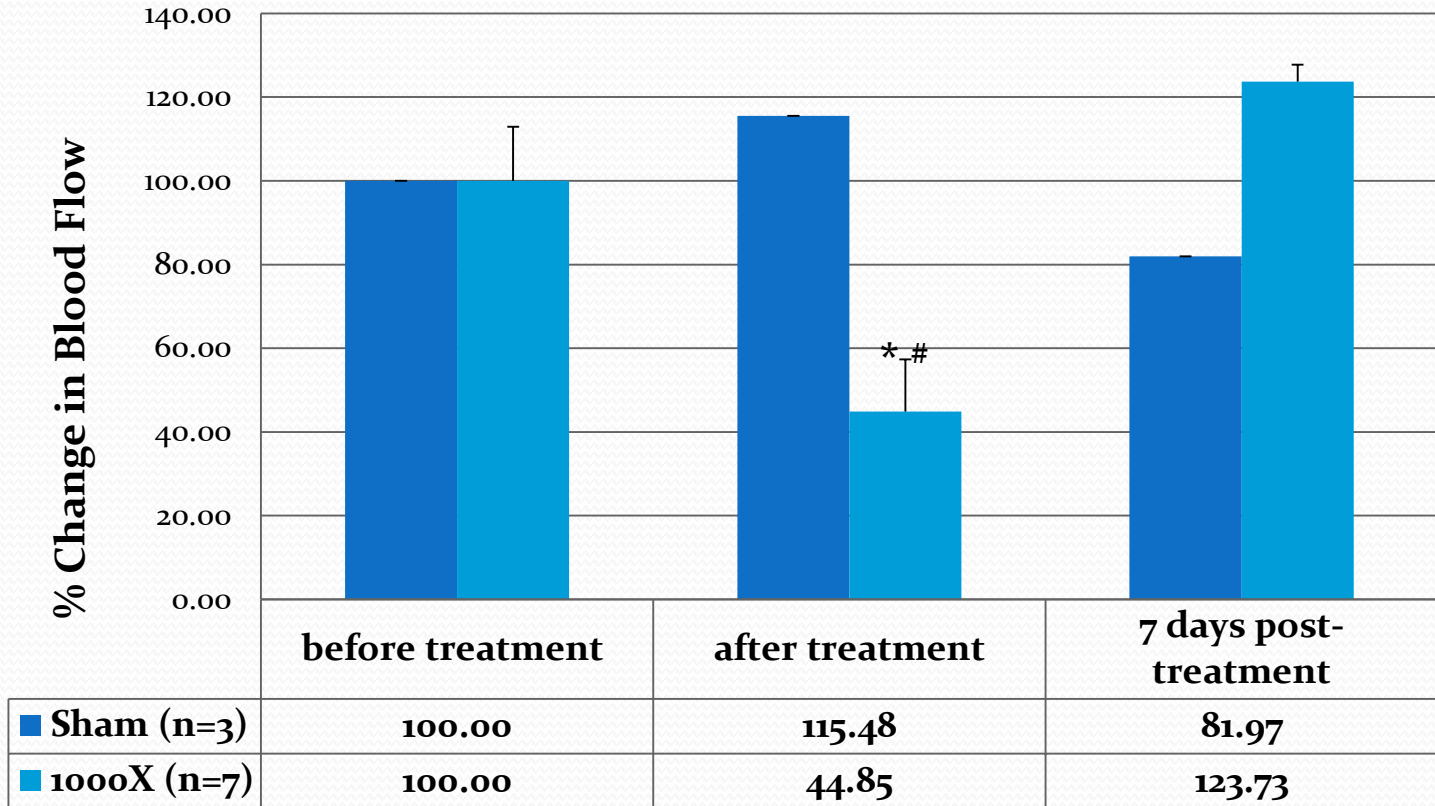
Before Treatment

After

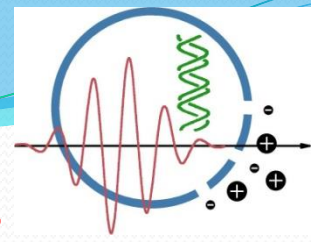


After Treatment  
1000p x 100ns x 50kV/cm

# Transient, Tumor-Specific Blood Flow Change



# Intrinsic Caspase Activation in N1S1 Tumors



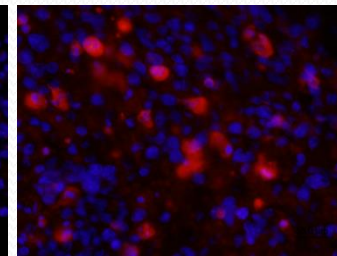
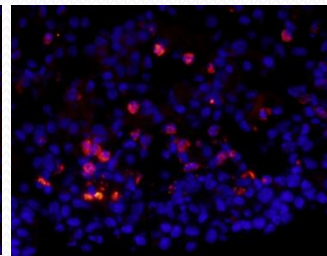
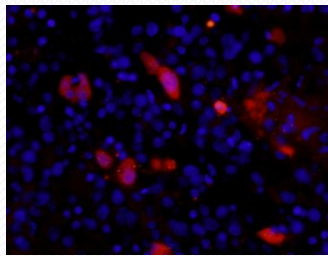
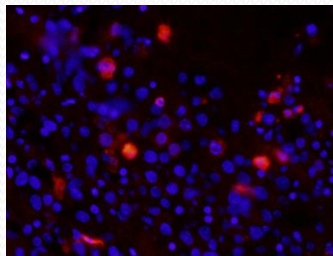
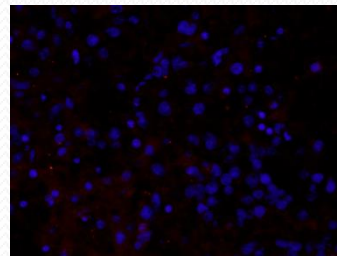
Sham 6h

1000X 1h

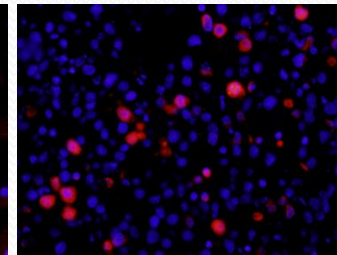
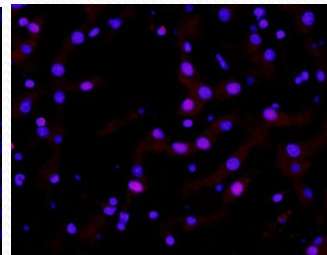
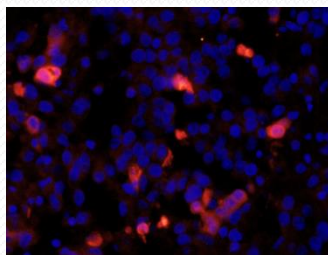
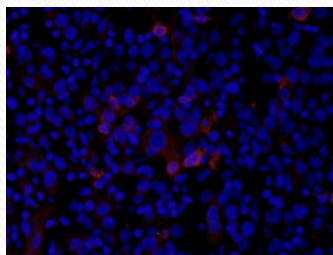
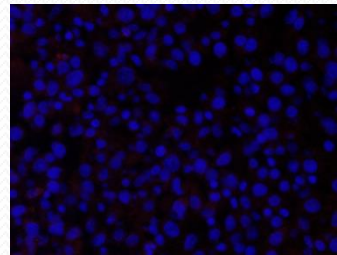
1000X 2h

1000X 4h

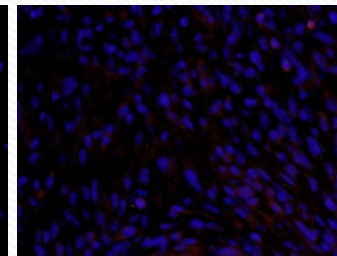
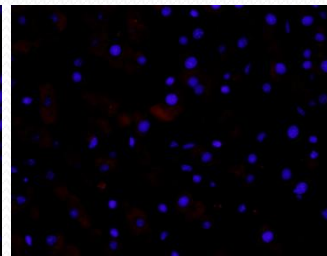
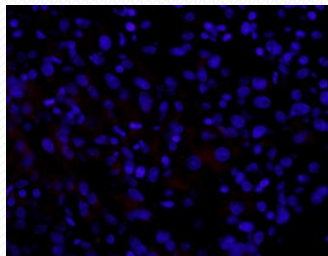
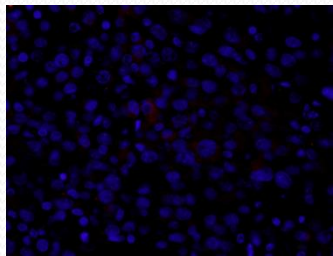
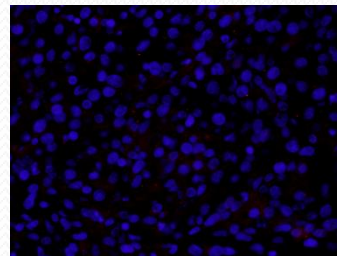
1000X 6h



Caspase-3  
(Cleaved)

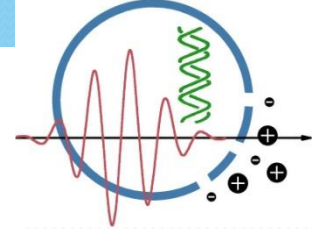


Caspase-9  
(Cleaved)

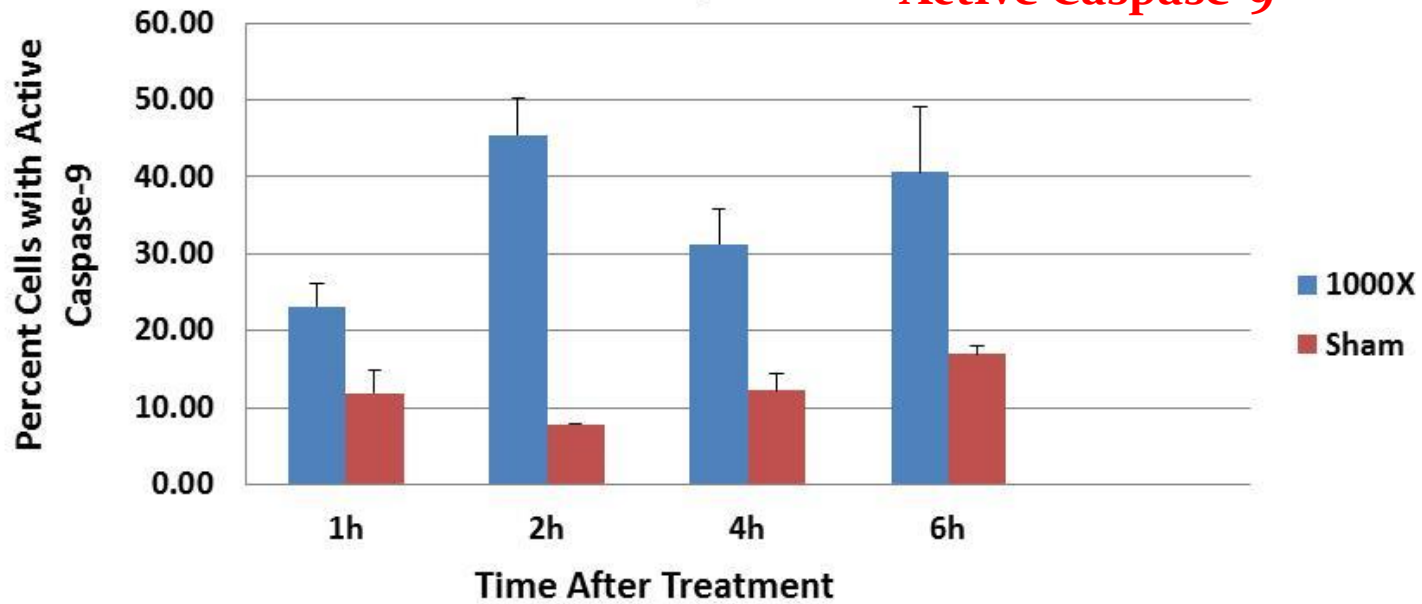


Caspase-8  
(Cleaved)

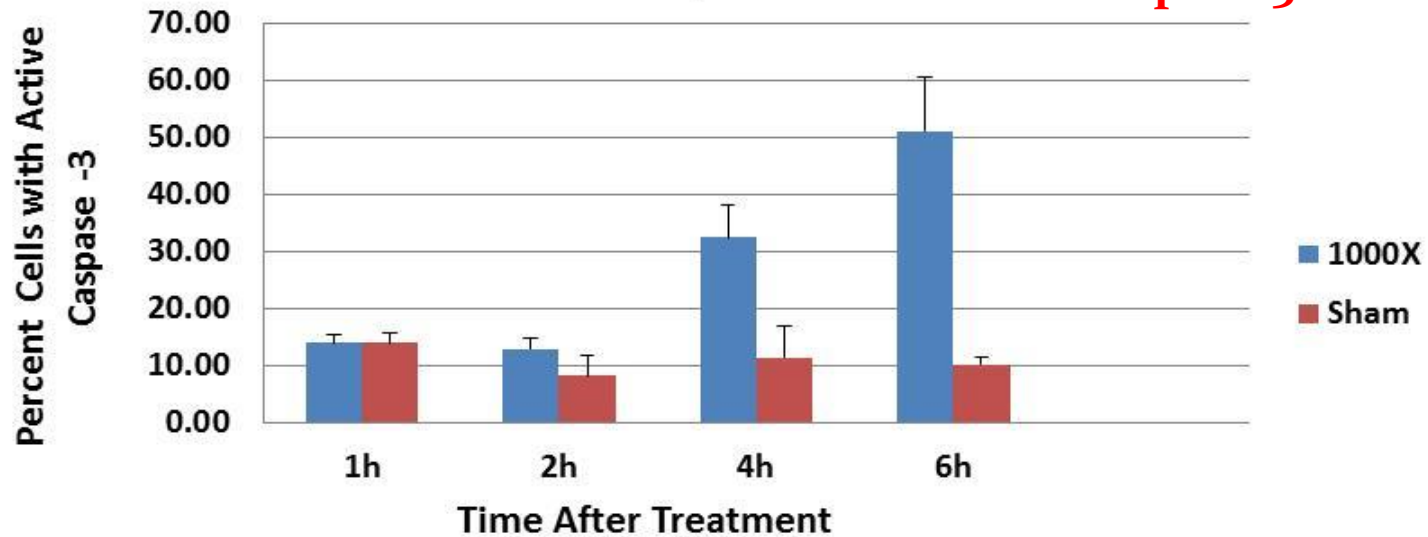




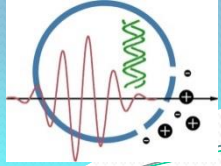
### Active Caspase-9



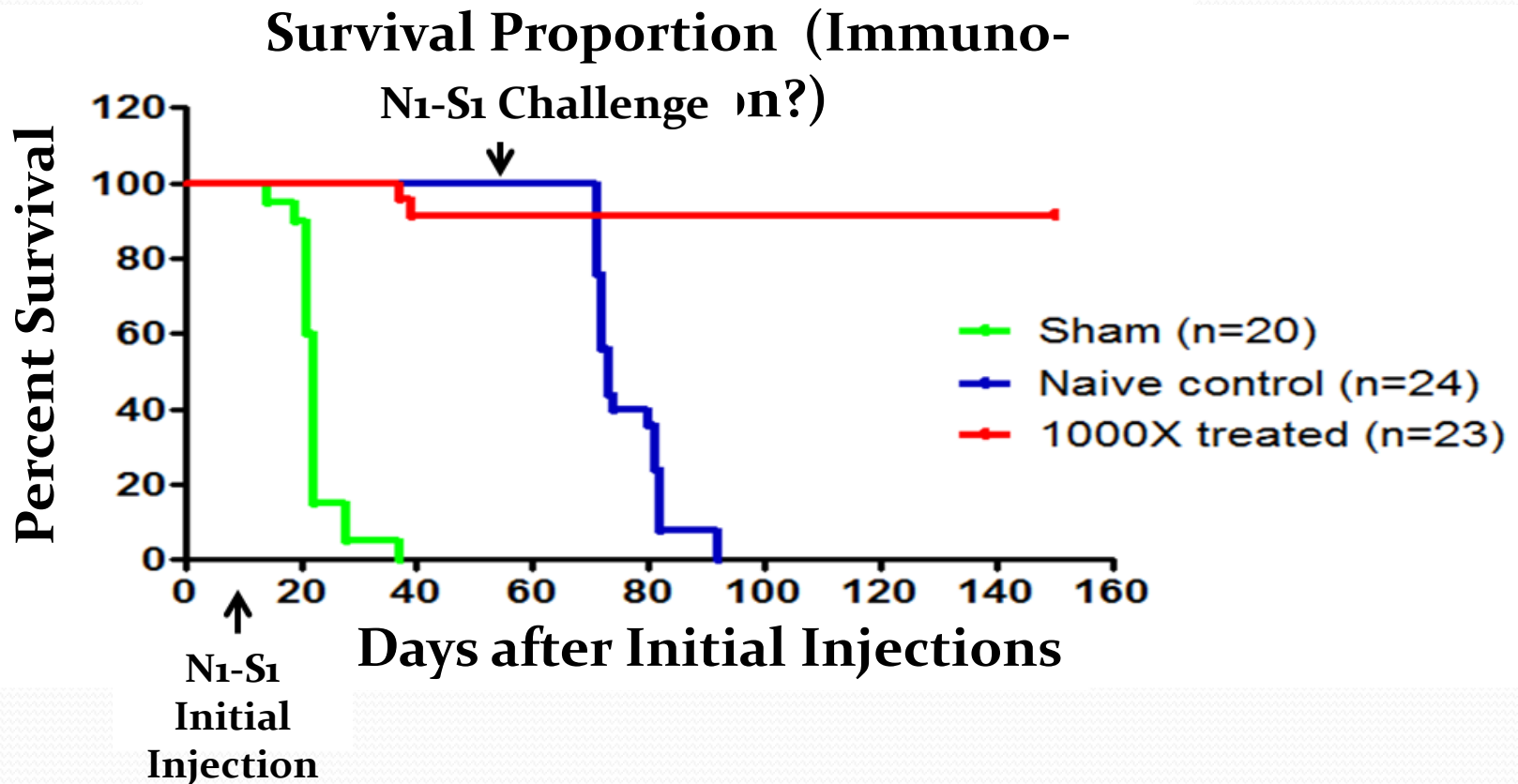
### Active Caspase-3

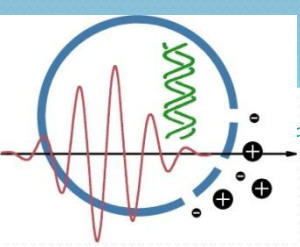






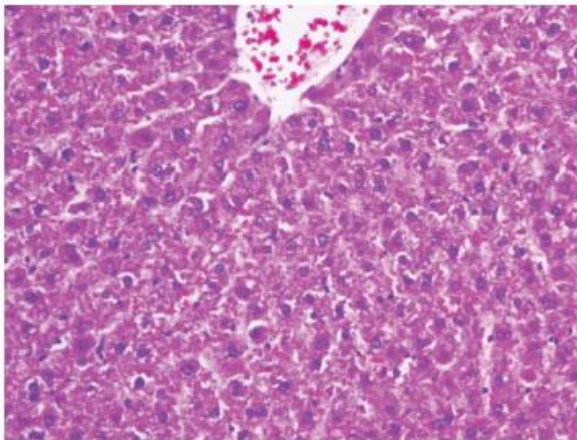
# NsPEF Ablation Induces a Vaccine-Like Protective Effects Against N<sub>1</sub>-S<sub>1</sub> HCC



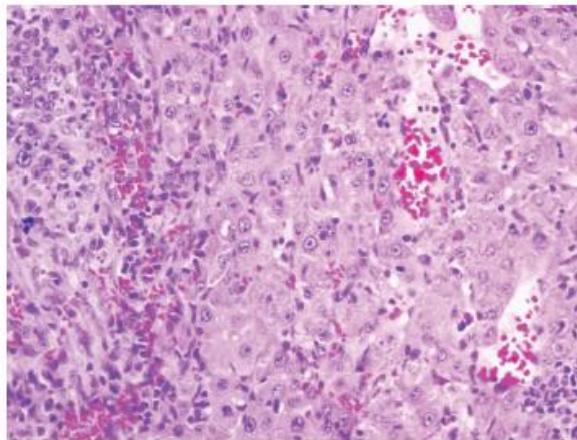


## NsPEFs Induce a Primary Immune Response in N<sub>1</sub>S<sub>1</sub> HCC Tumors 14 Days after Treatment

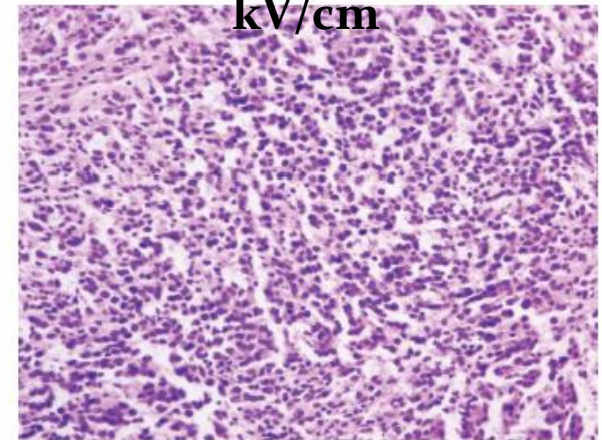
Normal Liver



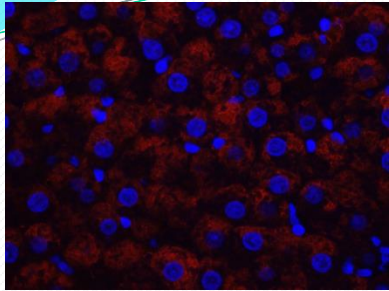
Sham



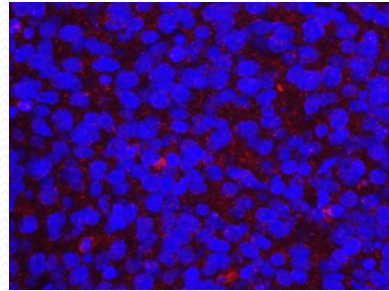
1000 X 100 ns X 50  
kV/cm



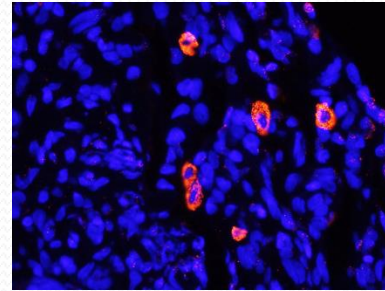
# Granzyme B



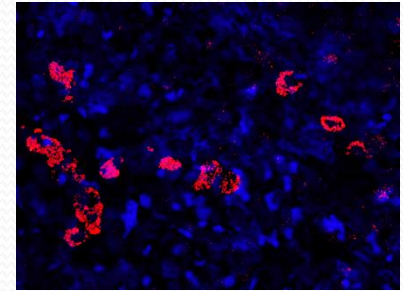
Normal Liver



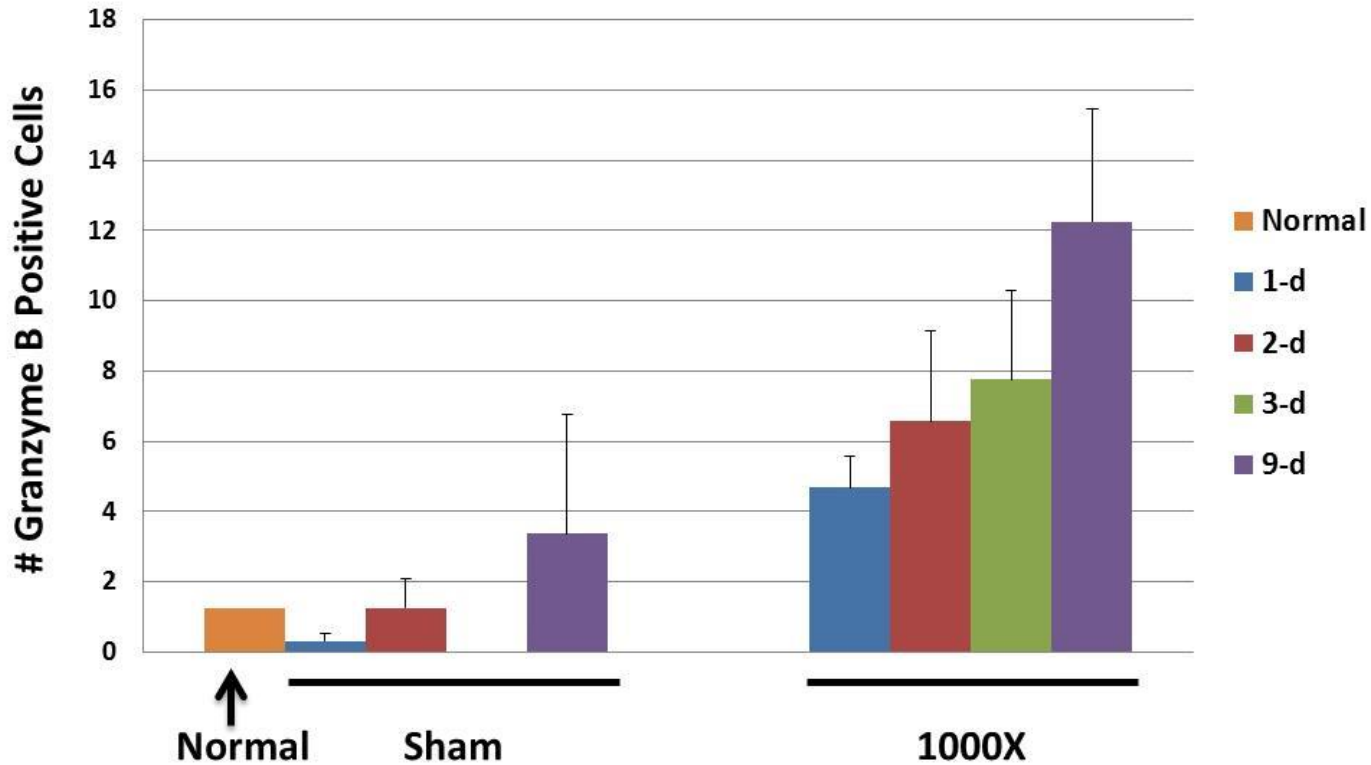
Sham, 1d

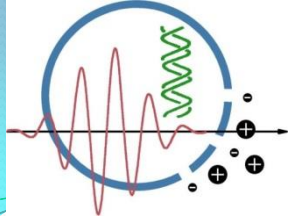


1000ps, 3d



1000ps, 9d





# **Pulse Power with nsPEFs Ablates 80-90% of N1-S1 HCC Tumors**

**Ablation with 1 Treatment without Recurrence  
Induces Caspase-Dependent and -Independent Cell  
Death**

**Induces Transient Decrease in Tumor Blood Flow  
Provides a Post-Ablation Protective Vaccine-Like Effect  
Activates Innate and/or Adaptive Immune Responses**

# Advantages with nsPEFs

1. **Targets multiple cell death mechanisms**
2. **Well defined treatment zones**
3. **Targets mitochondria and PMs – bypasses cancer mutations**
4. **Broad cell death specificity (tumor & host cells, cancer stem cells)**
5. **Local infarction of small vessels**
6. **Minimal local and systemic side effects**
7. **Possibly enhances immune surveillance**
8. **No need to block muscle contractions**



# Acknowledgments

## Who Did the Work

Dr. Ru Chen

*In Vivo*

Dr. Wei Ren

*In Vitro*

Ms Nova M Sain

*In Vitro and In Vivo*

Ms K. Tyler Harlow

*In Vitro and In Vivo*

**Peter Shires and Richard Heller**

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**Mr. Frank Reidy (Research Center for Bioelectrics)**

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