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# URTICAIRE CHRONIQUE SPONTANÉE, MALADIE SYSTÉMIQUE ?

**Audrey Nosbaum, Florence Hacard,  
Frédéric Bérard, Marc Vocanson,  
Jean-François Nicolas**

**Allergologie et Immunologie Clinique, CHU Lyon-Sud  
Université Lyon1  
INSERM U1111-CIRI**



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# URTICAIRE CHRONIQUE SPONTANÉE, SYNDROME D'ACTIVATION MASTOCYTAIRE?

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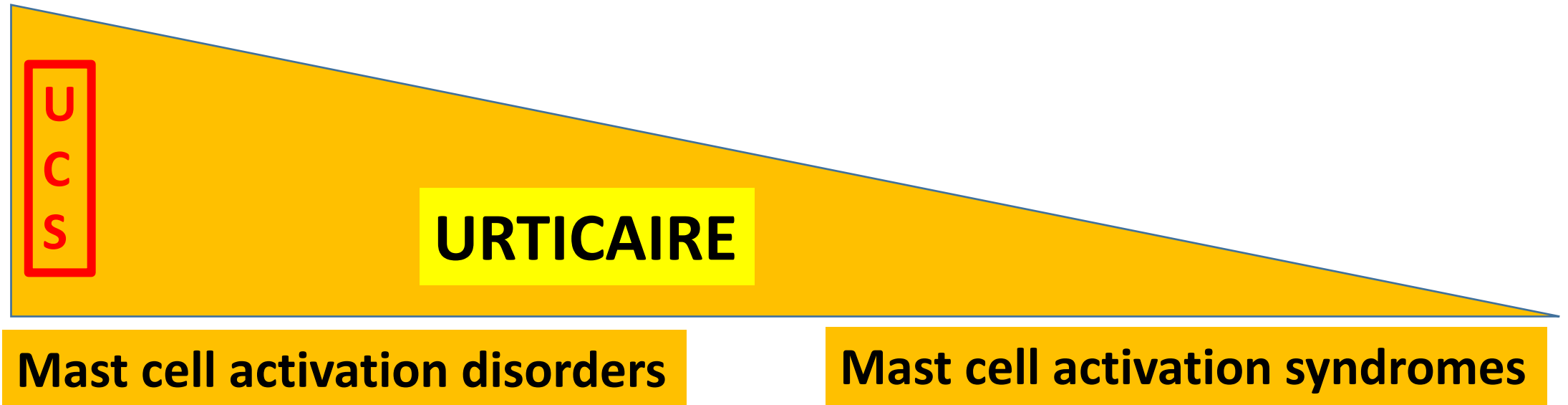
**Allergologie et Immunologie Clinique, CHU Lyon-Sud  
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# Outline

- Urticaire, maladie ou symptôme ?
- Urticaire Chronique Spontanée
- Mastocytes / Désordres d'activation mastocytaire / Syndromes d' activation mastocytaire
- Physiopathologie de l'activation mastocytaire
- Urticaire aux médicaments

# Urticaire

Maladie ou symptôme ?



**Urticaire = Activation mastocytaire**

# Messages clés

- UCS: dermatose inflammatoire chronique
- UCS: activation des mastocytes cutanés dont la physiopathologie est encore inconnue
- UCS + signes systémiques: fréquent (digestifs, asthénie, céphalées)
- Diagnostic des UCS + signes systémiques :
  - UCS
  - SAM si critères diagnostiques réunis

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# Chronic Urticaria

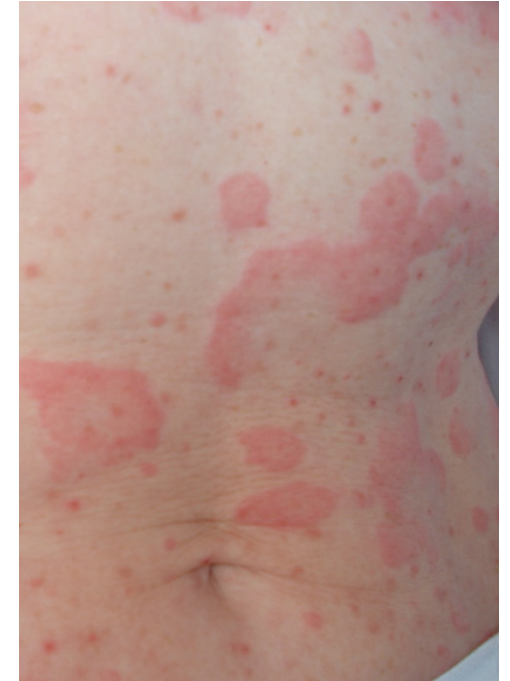
- Frequent (2% population)
- Chronic skin inflammatory disease (not an allergic disease)
- Transient hives (<24h)
- Wheal and Flare

## Pathophysiology

- Mast cells are pre-activated (auto-immune, atopic urticaria)
- Full activation induced by different triggers (food, drugs, infection, stress, trauma, etc.)

## Treatment

- Anti-H1R efficient
- Anti-IgE mAbs (omaluzimab)



# Chronic Urticaria – Delayed form





# Chronic Urticaria – Physical urticaria



# Chronic urticaria – Face urticaria - Angioedema



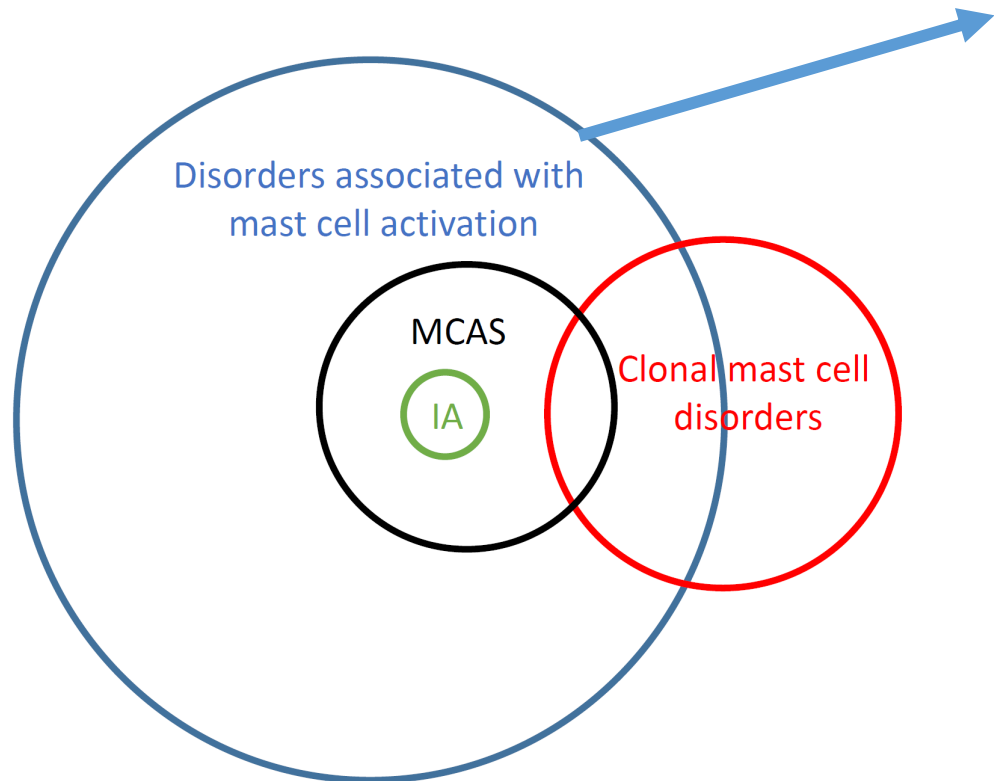
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# Mast cells

- Mast Cells (MC) are widely distributed, long lived cells found predominantly in connective and mucosal tissues, in proximity to blood vessels, nerves and lymphatic vessels
- MC are particularly abundant in epithelia and mucosae: skin, respiratory tract, gastrointestinal tract, eye, nose, buccal mucosae
- MC are the primary effector in immediate hypersensitivity (HS) that could be allergic (IgE) or (most importantly) non allergic (non IgE)
- MC are implicated in both acquired and innate immune responses, wound healing, fibrosis, angiogenesis
- MC are implicated in all types of HS and in the pathophysiology of several (if not all) chronic inflammatory, autoimmune and allergic diseases.

# Mast cell activation disorders



**FIG 1.** Relationship between clonal mast cell disorders, mast cell activation syndrome (*MCAS*), and idiopathic anaphylaxis (*IA*). Circle sizes do not represent prevalence.

## Disorders (diseases or symptoms) associated with mast cell activation

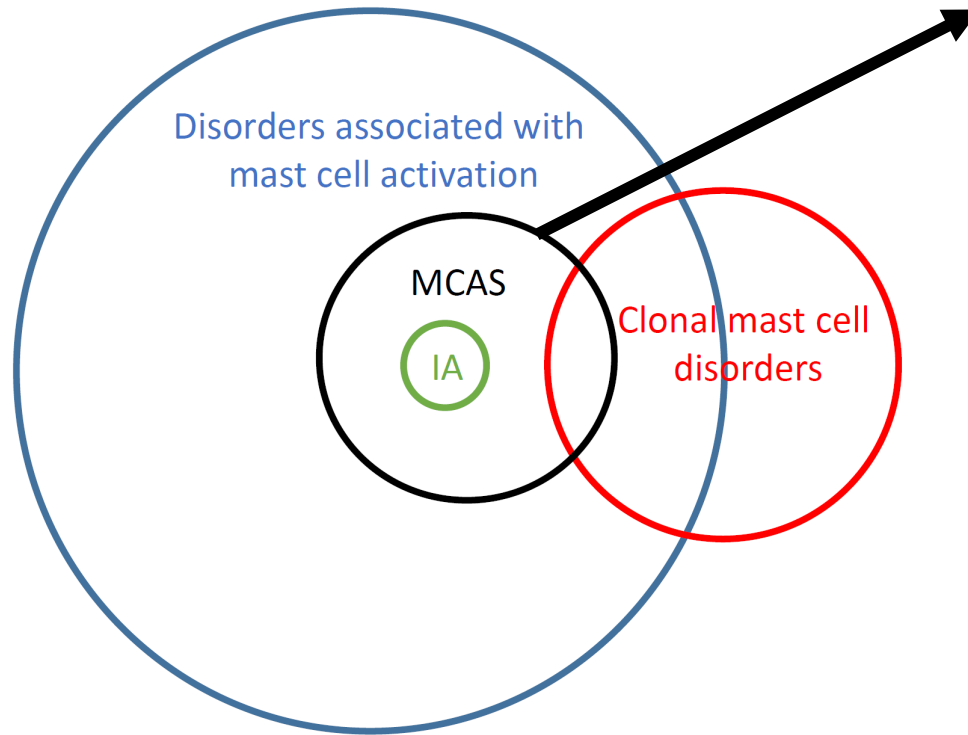
### • Localized

- Asthma
- Rhinitis
- Conjunctivitis
- Urticaria
- GI: nausea, diarrhea, abdominal cramps (IBD)
- Neurological symptoms: asthenia, headaches

### • Systemic

- Anaphylaxis
- Idiopathic anaphylaxis
- Mast cell activation syndrome
- Clonal mast cell disorders

# Mast cell activation syndromes (MAS)



**FIG 1.** Relationship between clonal mast cell disorders, mast cell activation syndrome (*MCAS*), and idiopathic anaphylaxis (*IA*). Circle sizes do not represent prevalence.

## Criteria for mast cell activation syndrome (all 3 must be present)

1. Episodic **multisystem symptoms** consistent with MC activation
2. Documented **increase in serum tryptase levels** during a symptomatic period compared with the patient's baseline values
3. Appropriate **response to medications** targeting MC-derived mediators, MC-stabilizing agents, or both

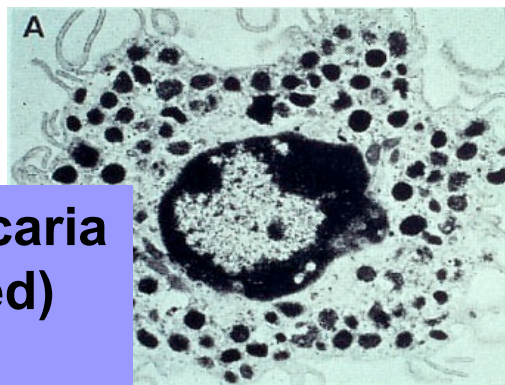
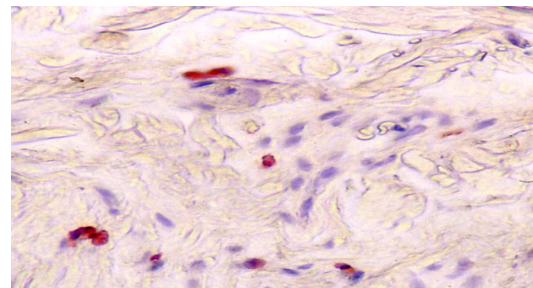
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# URTICARIA: pathophysiology



Œdème du derme / Vain



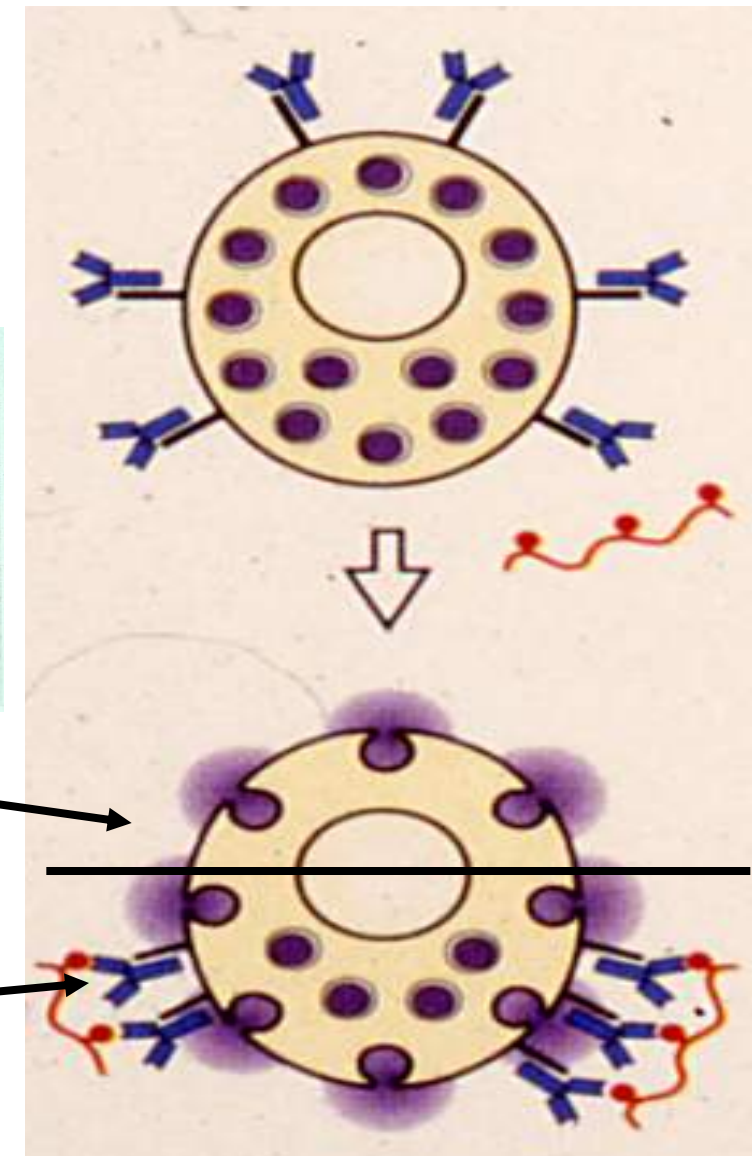
Mast cell / Histamine

## Non allergic Urticaria (non IgE-mediated)

- Drug HS
- Chronic urticaria

## Allergic Urticaria (IgE-mediated)

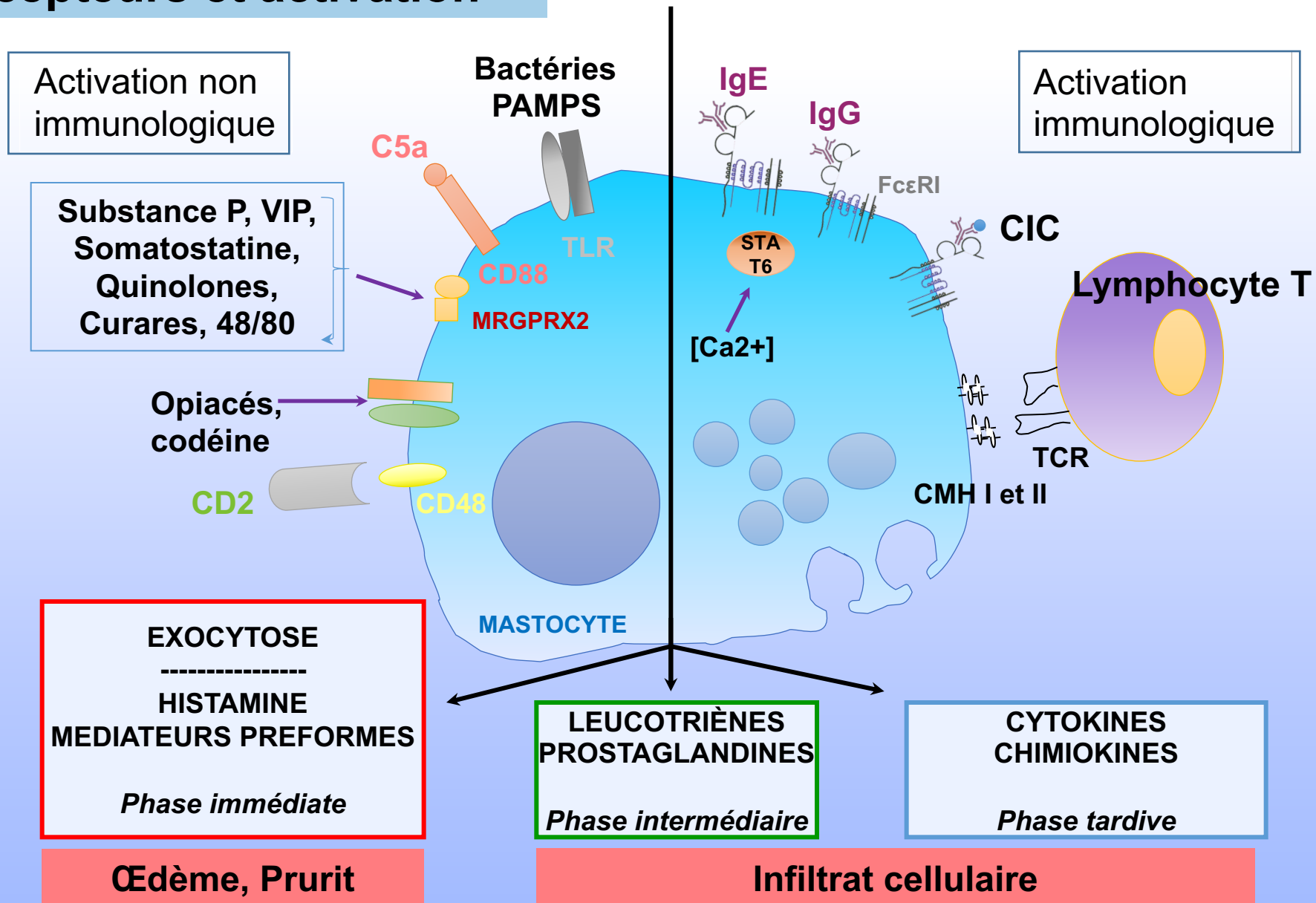
- Anaphylaxy
- Contact Urticaria





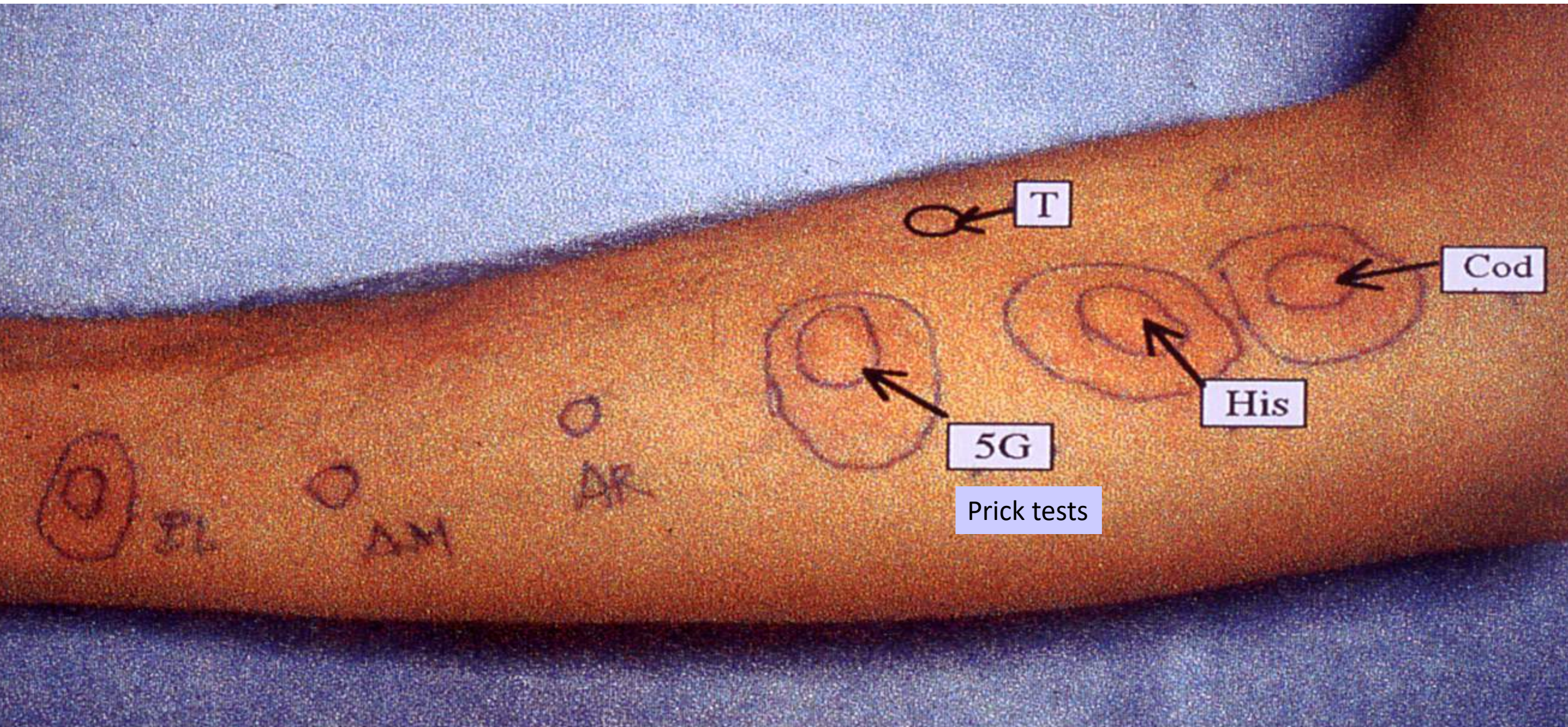
# MASTOCYTES

## Récepteurs et activation



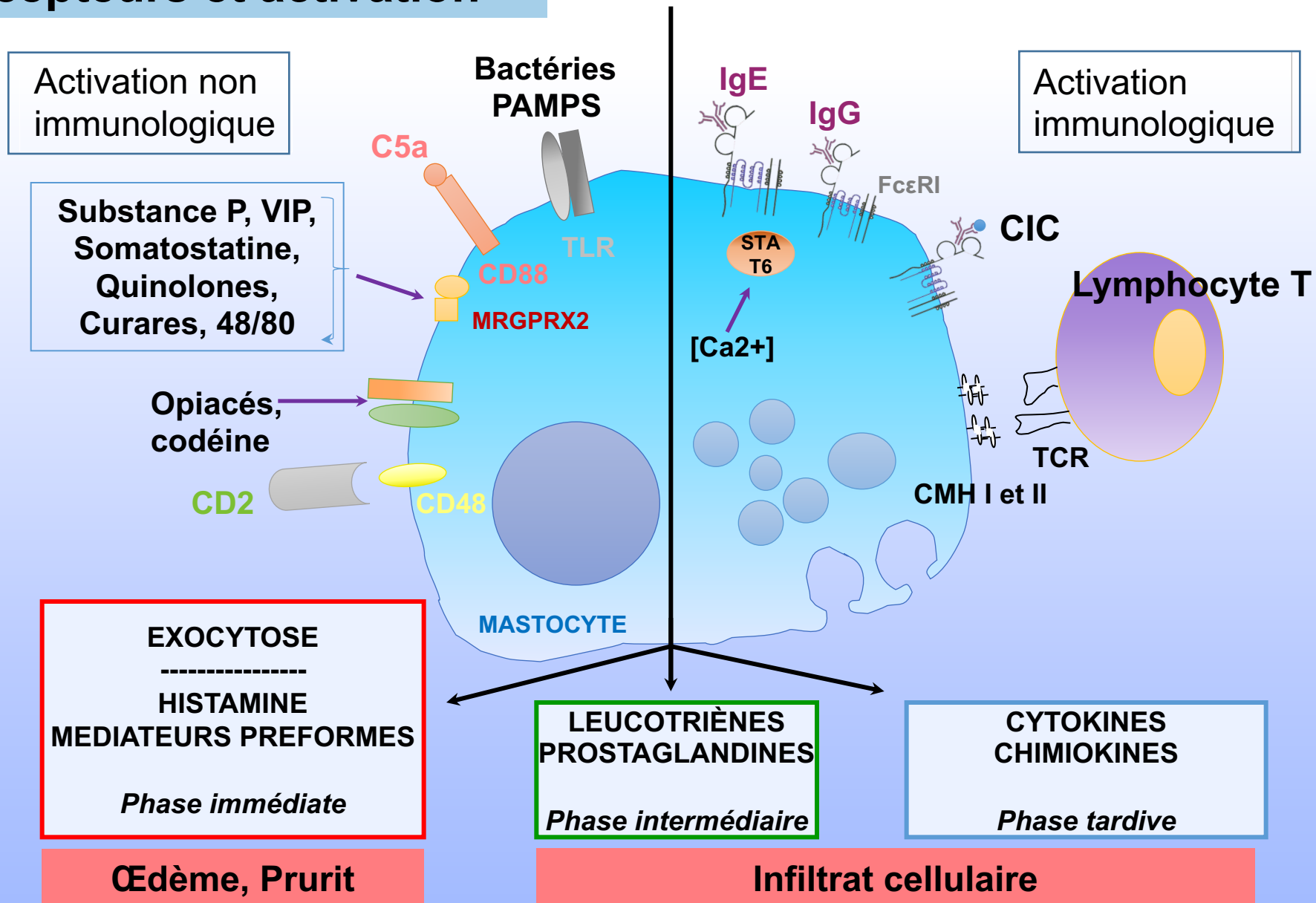
# Urticaria – Immediate phase

Skin prick tests of allergens on the forearm



# MASTOCYTES

## Récepteurs et activation



# Urticaria – Late phase

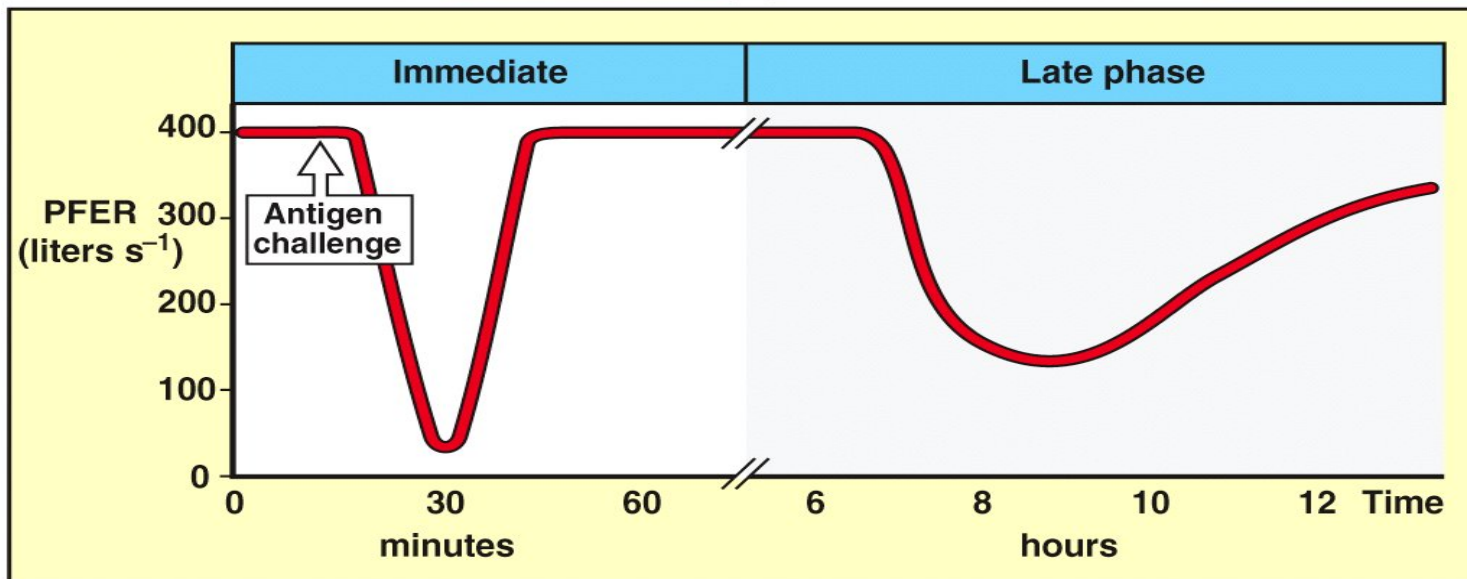
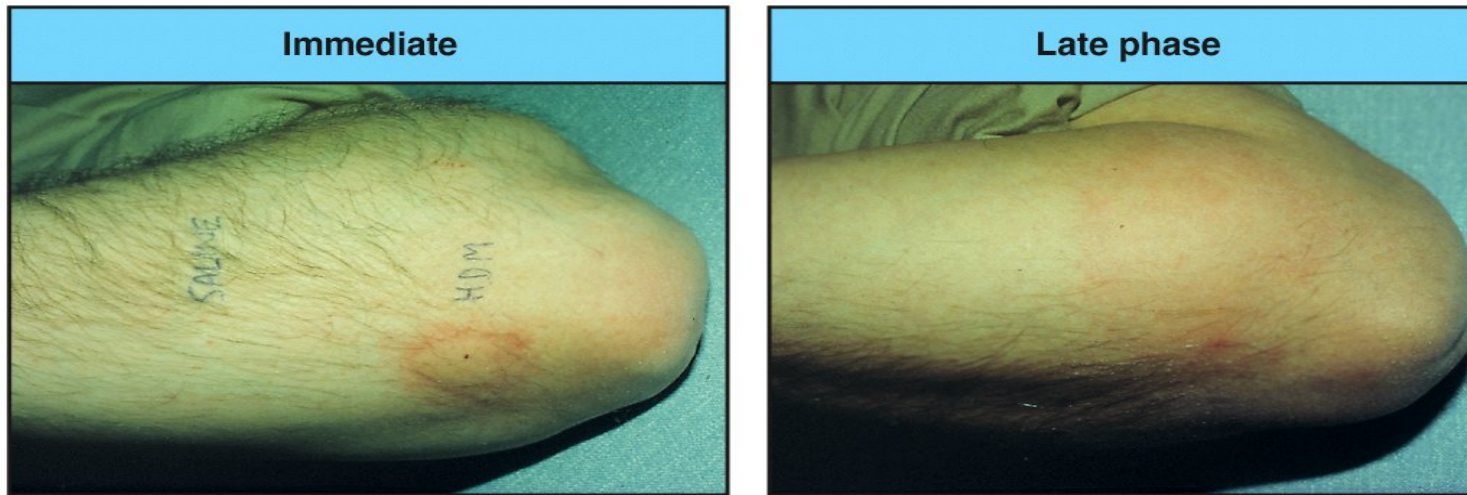
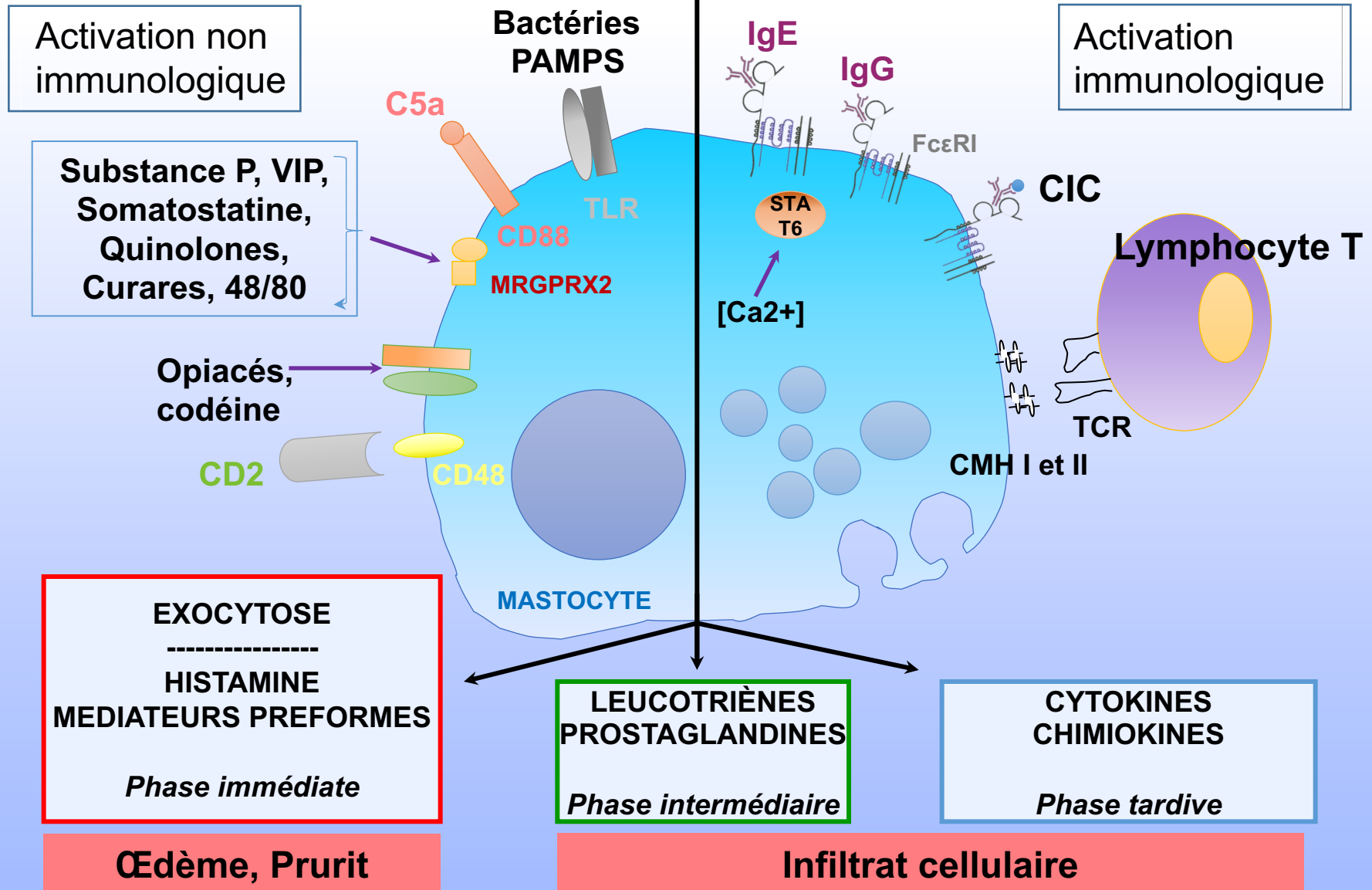


Figure 12-16 Immunobiology, 6/e. (© Garland Science 2005)

# MASTOCYTES

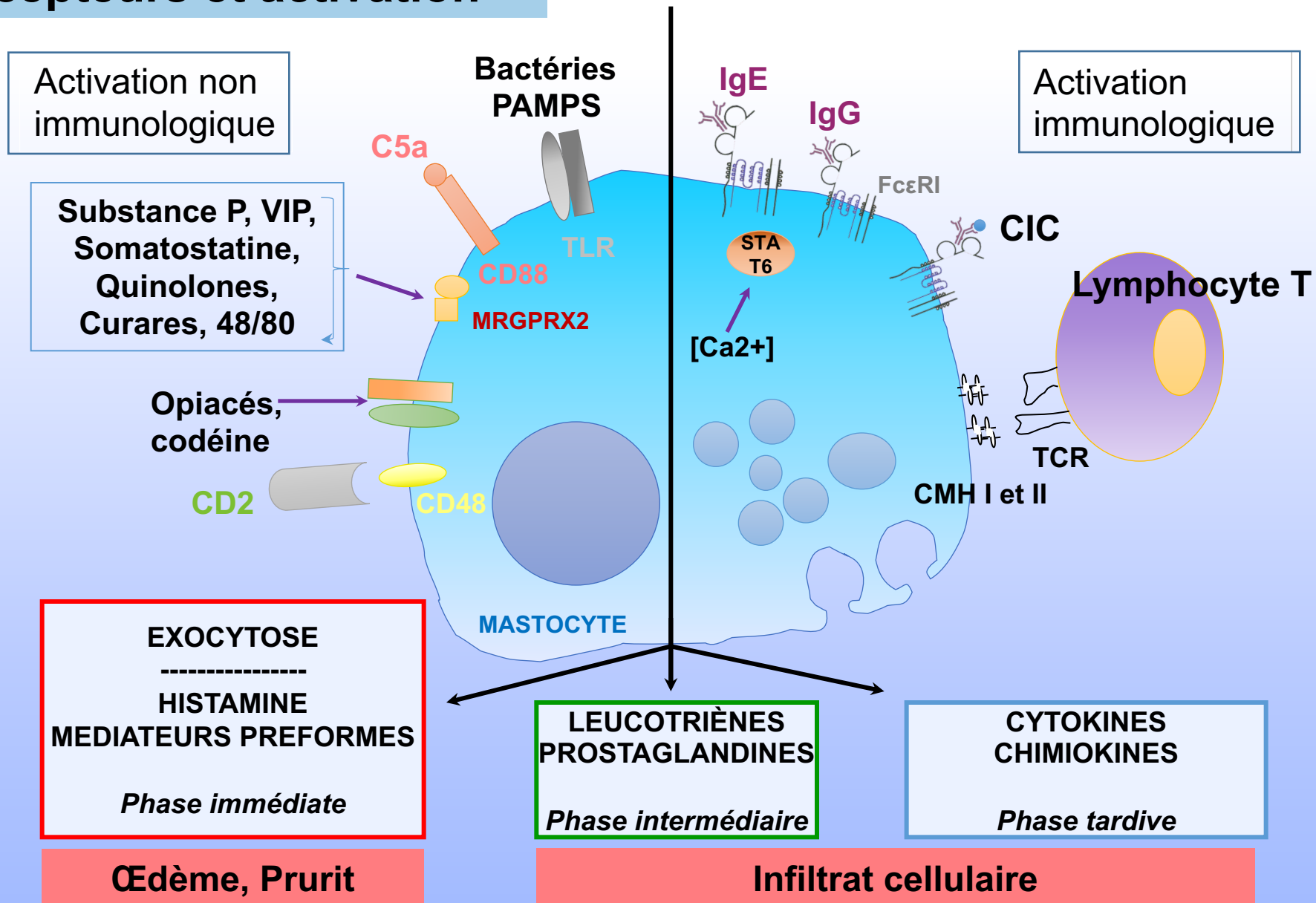
## Récepteurs et activation

- Autoimmune Chronic Urticaria
- Atopic Chronic Urticaria



# MASTOCYTES

## Récepteurs et activation



# Identification of a mast-cell-specific receptor crucial for pseudo-allergic drug reactions

Benjamin D. McNeil<sup>1</sup>, Priyanka Pundir<sup>2</sup>, Sonya Meeker<sup>3</sup>, Liang Han<sup>1</sup>, Bradley J. Undem<sup>3</sup>, Marianna Kulka<sup>2,4</sup> & Xinzhong Dong<sup>1,5</sup>

Mast cells are primary effectors in allergic reactions, and may have important roles in disease by secreting histamine and various inflammatory and immunomodulatory substances<sup>1,2</sup>. Although they are classically activated by immunoglobulin (Ig)E antibodies, a unique property of mast cells is their antibody-independent responsiveness to a range of cationic substances, collectively called basic secretagogues, including inflammatory peptides and drugs associated with allergic-type reactions<sup>1,3</sup>. The pathogenic roles of these substances have prompted a decades-long search for their receptor(s). Here we report that basic secretagogues activate mouse mast cells *in vitro* and *in vivo* through a single receptor, *Mrgprb2*, the orthologue of the human G-protein-coupled receptor MRGPRX2. Secretagogue-induced histamine release, inflammation and airway contraction are abolished in *Mrgprb2*-null mutant mice. Furthermore, we show that most classes of US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved peptidergic drugs associated with allergic-type injection-site reactions also activate *Mrgprb2* and MRGPRX2, and that injection-site inflammation is absent in mutant mice. Finally, we determine that *Mrgprb2* and MRGPRX2 are targets of many small-molecule drugs associated with systemic pseudo-allergic, or anaphylactoid, reactions;

we show that drug-induced symptoms of anaphylactoid responses are significantly reduced in knockout mice; and we identify a common chemical motif in several of these molecules that may help predict side effects of other compounds. These discoveries introduce a mouse model to study mast cell activation by basic secretagogues and identify MRGPRX2 as a potential therapeutic target to reduce a subset of drug-induced adverse effects.

Substance	<i>Mrgprb2</i> EC <sub>50</sub>	MRGPRX2 EC <sub>50</sub>
Compound 48/80	3.7 ± 0.5 µg/ml	470.1 ± 139.6 ng/ml
Substance P	54.3 ± 4.9 µM	152.3 ± 48.0 nM
Cortistatin-14	21.3 ± 0.9 µM	106.7 ± 39.3 nM
PAMP (9-20)	12.4 ± 1.6 µM	166.0 ± 35.7 nM
Mastoparan	24.0 ± 3.6 µM	3.9 ± 0.7 µM
Icatibant	32.5 ± 2.0 µg/ml	15.8 ± 2.7 µg/ml
Cetrorelix	23.4 ± 1.4 µg/ml	221.7 ± 63.1 ng/ml
Sermorelin	29.1 ± 1.2 µg/ml	4.5 ± 0.9 µg/ml
Octreotide	10.0 ± 1.1 µg/ml	6.6 ± 0.7 µg/ml
Leuprolide	152.0 ± 7.1 µg/ml	9.1 ± 0.7 µg/ml
Atracurium	44.8 ± 1.4 µg/ml	28.6 ± 2.4 µg/ml
Rocuronium	22.2 ± 3.3 µg/ml	261.3 ± 14.4 µg/ml
Ciprofloxacin	126.5 ± 5.1 µg/ml	6.8 ± 0.5 µg/ml
Moxifloxacin	14.1 ± 2.1 µg/ml	9.9 ± 0.6 µg/ml
Levofloxacin	807.6 ± 47.1 µg/ml	22.7 ± 0.4 µg/ml
Ofloxacin	225.0 ± 25.4 µg/ml	30.1 ± 1.5 µg/ml

- Récepteur non sélectif
- Tous les mastocytes n'expriment pas MRG
- Variants avec gain ou perte de fonction
- Lie des peptides et molécules aux propriétés physico-chimiques particulières
  - Cationique, Hydrophobiques,
  - Peptides toxines
  - Neuropeptides
  - Peptides anti-microbiens
  - Other endogenous peptides: kallikreine
  - Peptides médicaments

## Cell-specific receptor crucial for allergic reactions

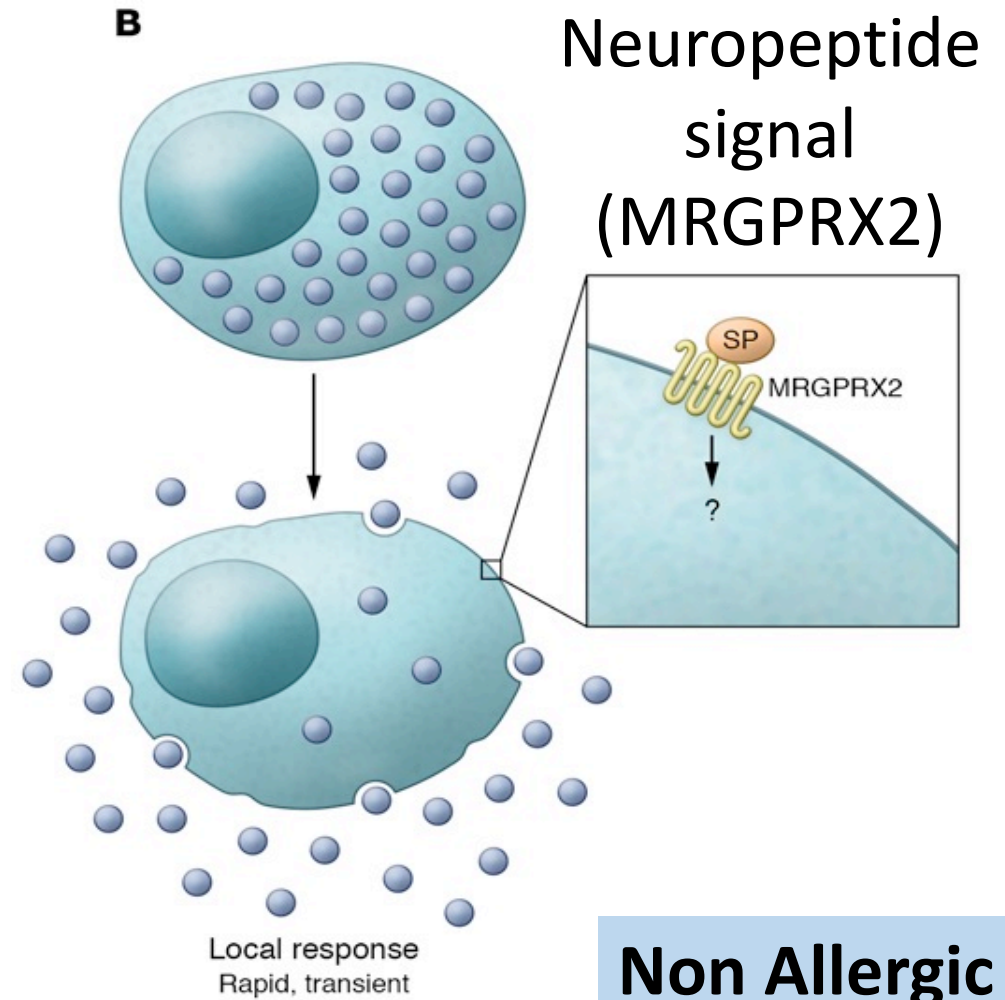
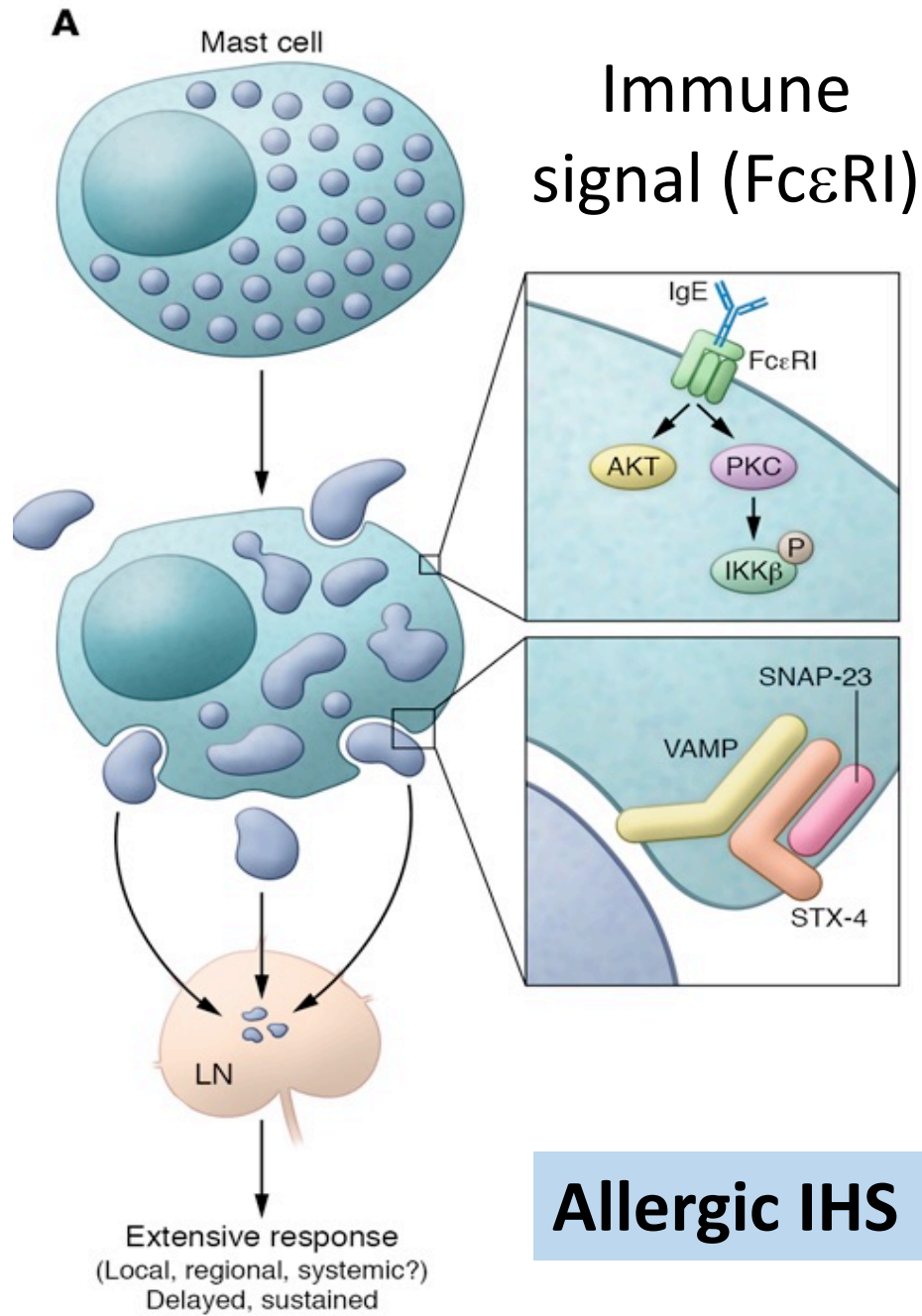
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# Two fundamental degranulation pathways in mast cells



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# Drug-induced urticaria and angioedema

- **Allergic (IgE):** rares (5%) and exceptionally isolated
- **Non allergic:** frequent (95%) and almost always benign

# Anaphylactic shock : e.g. amoxicilline

2 minutes after the first tablet  
of Amoxicilline 1g

- Bronchospasm
- Cardiac failure
- Vomiting, Diarrhea
- Epinephrine necessary
- Urticaria was not a problem

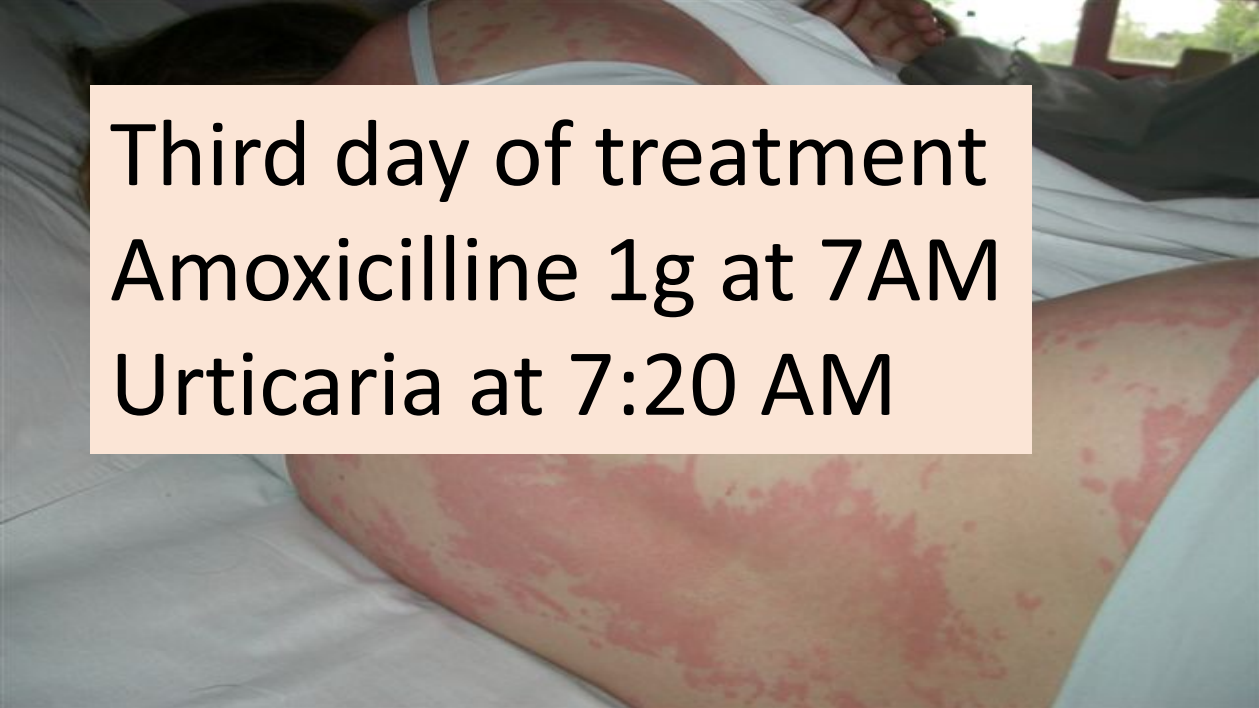
IMMUNOALLERGO work-up  
(prick tests, IDT 1:1000 puis 1:100)

- Amox, ampi positive
- C1G positive
- C2G et C3G negative

C3G adminisitred to the amox-allergic  
patient and well tolerated

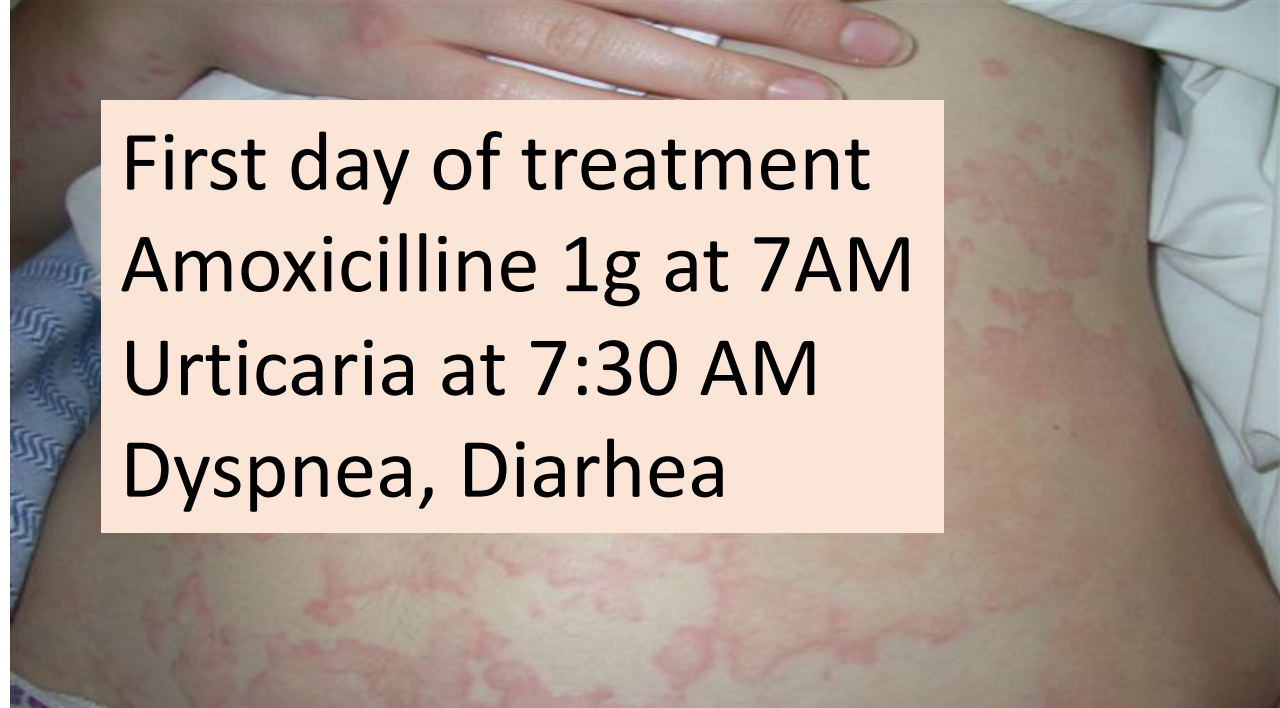


Third day of treatment  
Amoxicilline 1g at 7AM  
Urticaria at 7:20 AM



First day of treatment  
Amoxicilline 1g at 7AM  
Urticaria at 11 AM





First day of treatment  
Amoxicilline 1g at 7AM  
Urticaria at 7:30 AM  
Dyspnea, Diarhea



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# Département Allergologie et Immunologie Clinique



Clinical Research Unit



INSERM translational research team



Allergy & Clinical  
Immunology Department

