



Webinar:

# Predicting subjective or complex clinical outcomes in QSP models

ROSA 

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**Clinical Trial  
Optimization**

**Target  
Prioritization**

# The Challenge

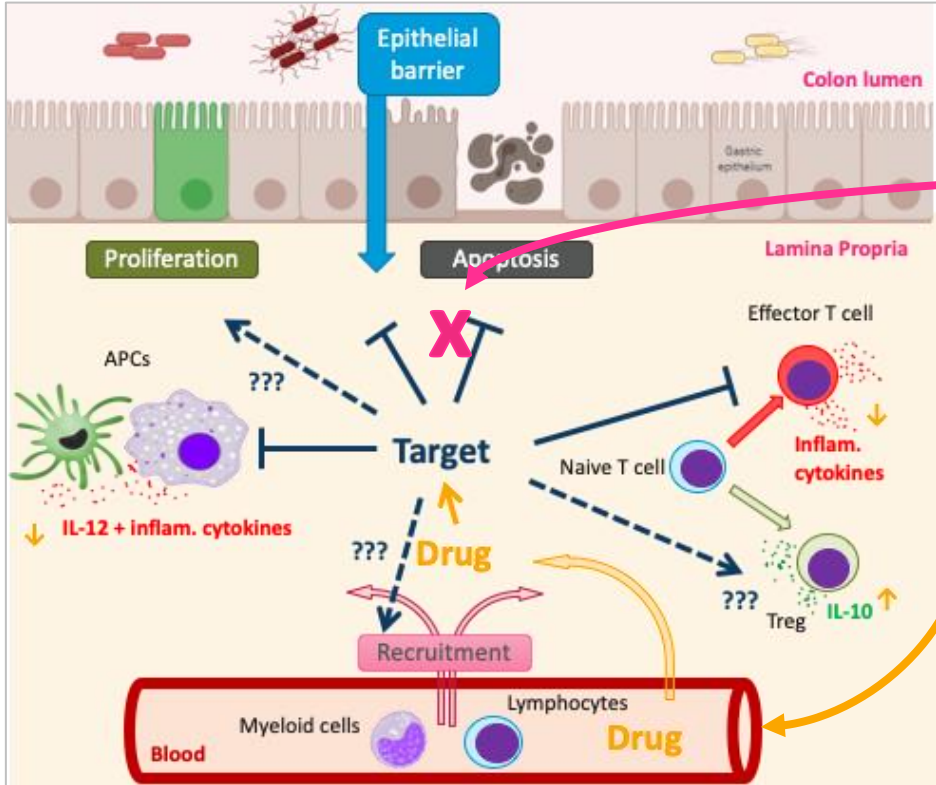
Use Quantitative Systems  
Pharmacology (QSP) models to  
make critical decisions!

**Drug MOA for  
FDA IND Filing**

**GO/No GO  
Decision**

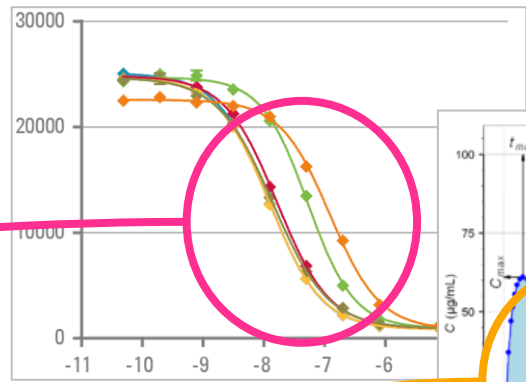
# QSP models are great tools to integrate pre-clinical and PKPD data and predict mechanistic outcomes.

## Scientific Understanding

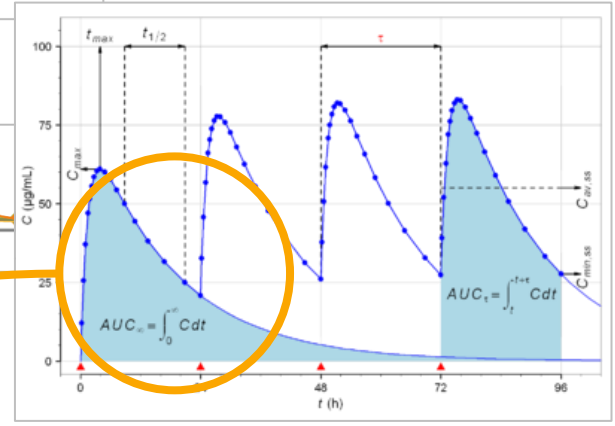


Mechanistic representation informed by in vitro, pre-clinical, and clinical data, all integrated into one modeling platform.

## Preclinical Evidence

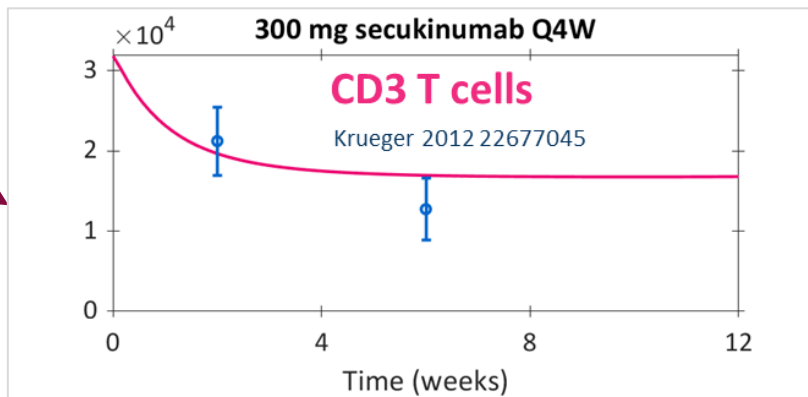


## Drug PK



Alfie  $\uparrow$   $\downarrow$   $\odot$  (Helmut Schütz)

## Predictions for cell or mediator specific outcomes

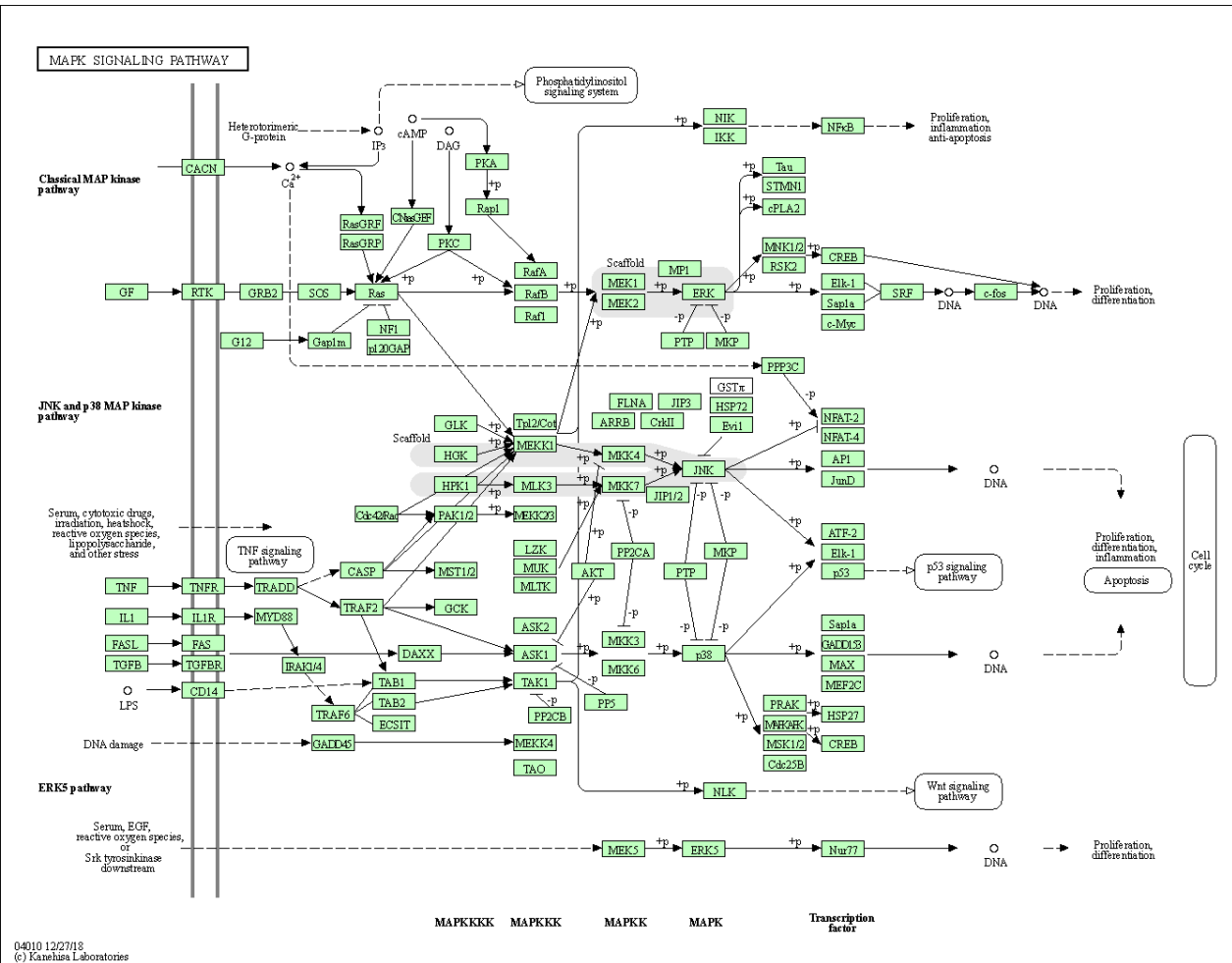




# What is the main goal?

Comprehensive quantitative mapping?

What is the best drug for me, Doctor?

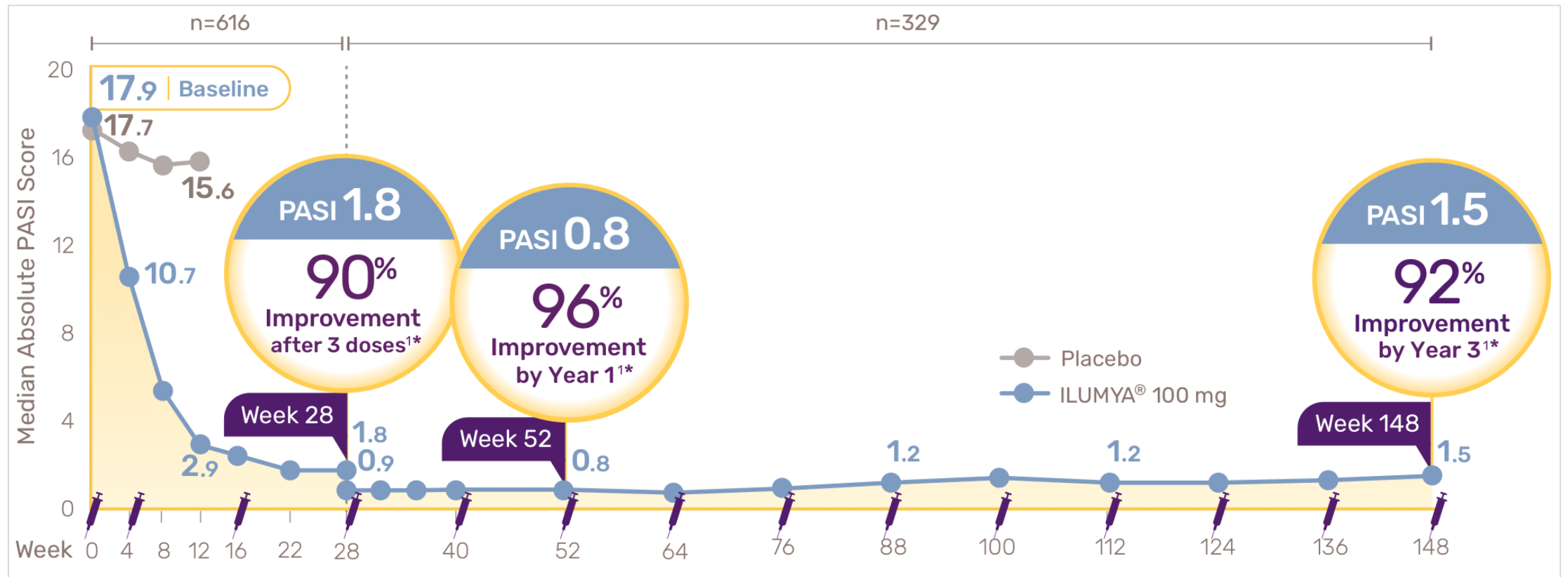


OR



# Clinicians and regulators rely on various clinical scores to evaluate drug efficacy.

Change in Psoriasis Area & Severity Index (PASI)



<https://www.ilumyapro.com/ilumya-results/>

# Some clinical endpoints are relatively straightforward to implement with precise, quantitative definitions.

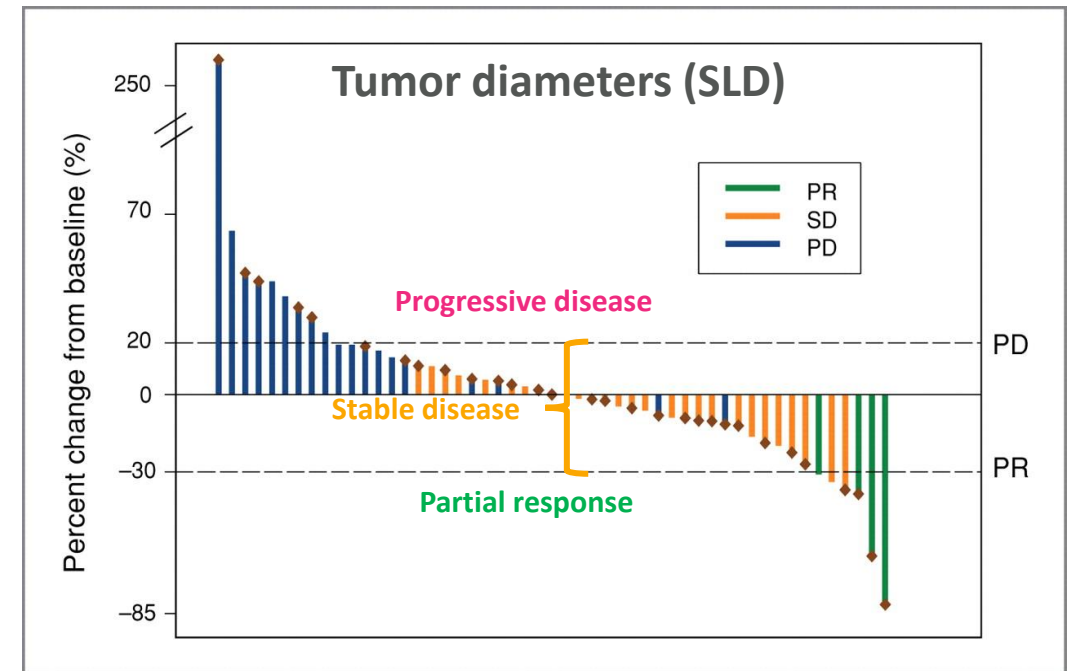
## Robarts histology score (colitis)

RHI = 1 × chronic inflammatory infiltrate level (4 levels)  
 + 2 × lamina propria neutrophils (4 levels)  
 + 3 × neutrophils in epithelium (4 levels)  
 + 5 × erosion or ulceration (4 levels after combining Geboes 5.1 and 5.2).

## DAS28, SDAI score (rheumatoid arthritis)

Formulae to calculate the different DAS and SDAI score	
Score	Formula
DAS28	$0.56 \cdot \sqrt{28TJC} + 0.28 \cdot \sqrt{28SJC} + 0.70 \cdot \ln(\text{ESR}) + 0.014 \cdot \text{pt global VAS}$
DAS28-3	$[0.56 \cdot \sqrt{28TJC} + 0.28 \cdot \sqrt{28SJC} + 0.70 \cdot \ln(\text{ESR})] \cdot 1.08 + 0.16$
DAS28-CRP	$0.56 \cdot \sqrt{28TJC} + 0.28 \cdot \sqrt{28SJC} + 0.36 \cdot \ln(\text{CRP}+1) + 0.014 \cdot \text{pt global VAS} + 0.96$
DAS28-CRP-3	$[0.56 \cdot \sqrt{28TJC} + 0.28 \cdot \sqrt{28SJC} + 0.36 \cdot \ln(\text{CRP}+1)] \cdot 1.10 + 1.15$
SDAI	$28TJC + 28SJC + \text{CRP}/10 + \text{pt global VAS}/10 + \text{phys global VAS}/10$
CDAI	$28TJC + 28SJC + \text{pt global VAS}/10 + \text{phys global VAS}/10$

## RECIST response criteria (cancer)



Quantitative biomarker (# of affected joints, CRP levels)

Subjective measurement (VAS: visual analog scale)

# Other disease scores are more complex involving multiple objective and subjective measurements.

## PASI (psoriasis)



2. Psoriasis in each area rated for erythema, induration and scale 0-4

SCORE	0	1	2	3	4
ERYTHEMA	clear	mild	moderate	severe	very severe
ERYTHEMA	clear	pink to light red	darker pink to red	darker red	beefy red to violaceous
INDURATION	no induration	slight elevation	easily palpable, rounded edge	elevated, with hard sharp edge	very elevated, hard sharp edge
INDURATION	no scale	mainly fine scale some lesions partially covered	coarser thin scale, most lesions partially covered	coarser thick scale nearly all lesions covered	coarse thick scale, lesions entirely covered
SCALING					

3. Percentage of area involved is assessed and converted to score 0-6

Determine the percentage of area of involvement for the area being scored; in this example diagram, approximately 20% of the upper extremities are involved. Using this scale, translate the percentage to an area score:

- 0 = 0%
- 1 = >0 - <10%
- 2 = 10 - <30%
- 3 = 30 - <50%
- 4 = 50 - <70%
- 5 = 70 - <90%
- 6 = 90 - 100%

4. Enter scores in the PASI equation to calculate total

Area being scored	Erythema 0-4	Induration 0-4	Scale 0-4	Sum E+I+S	Area 0-6	Weighting multiplier	(I+E+S) x Area x weighting multiplier
Head and Neck	2	+	2	+	2	= 6	x 2 x 0.1 = 1.2
Upper Extremities	2	+	2	+	2	= 6	x 2 x 0.1 = 2.4
Trunk	2	+	2	+	2	= 6	x 2 x 0.1 = 3.6
Lower extremities	2	+	2	+	2	= 6	x 2 x 0.1 = 4.8
<b>Final PASI score (0-72)</b>							<b>= 12</b>

Duffin 2017 doi:10.1007/978-3-319-66884-0\_2

## SCORAD, EASI (atopic dermatitis)

SCORAD (Front)

- 8.5% x 10%
- 18% x 10%
- 4.5% x 20%
- 4.5% x 20%
- 1% x 10%
- 1% x 10%
- 1% x 0%
- 6% x 20%
- 6% x 20%

Edema / papulation: None, Stage1, Stage2, Stage3

Oozing / crusting: None, Stage1, Stage2, Stage3

Excoriation: None, Stage1, Stage2, Stage3

Lichenification: None, Stage1, Stage2, Stage3

Dryness: None, Stage1, Stage2, Stage3

Linkwave Inc. App

## SLEDAI, SIS, BILAG (lupus)

Table 1. Eczema area and severity index: calculation for patients 8 years of age and older<sup>1</sup>

Body region	EASI Score <sup>2,3</sup>	
	SLE ACTIVITY INDEX SCORE (SIS)	
	Clinical variables	Laboratory variables
Head	1. Fatigue	22. ESR 25–50 mm/h
Upper Trunk	2. Temperature >38°C	23. ESR >50 mm/h
Lower Trunk	3. Arthralgia	24. DNA binding <50%
EAS	4. Arthritis (joint effusion)	25. DNA binding ≥50%
1 For upper	5. Myalgia	26. Mild hypocomplementemia (CH50 80–150 U/mL) ↓
2 E =	6. Muscle weakness	27. Severe hypocomplementemia (CH50 <80 U/mL) ↓
3 Wh =	7. Serositis (pain)	28. CPK >100, aldolase >10 U/mL
2 =	8. Serositis (friction rub/X ray/sonography)	29. LE anticoagulant
6 =	9. Vasculitis (minor*)	30. Proteinuria <1.5 g/24 h□
	10. Vasculitis (major †)	31. Proteinuria >1.5 g/24 h□
	11. Bullous skin lesions	32. 5–15 RBC or 1–3 casts/HPF
	12. Active SLE rash	>15 RBC or >3 casts/HPF
	13. Active alopecia	33. Hemolytic anemia (>8 g Hb)
	14. Mucosal ulcers	34. Hemolytic anemia (<8 g Hb)
	15. CNS (minor ¥)	35. Thrombocytopenia (40–100,000)
	16. CNS (major ¶)	36. Thrombocytopenia (<40,000)
	17. Cranial nerve palsy	37. Lymphopenia (<3,000)
	18. Blood pressure >150/90	38. Lymphopenia (<1,000)
	19. Lymphadenopathy	
	20. Noninfectious lung infiltrates	
	21. Active thromboembolic event	
	<b>Maximum</b>	<b>33</b>
	<b>Total SIS (Maximum: 52)</b>	<b>19</b>

Physician's assessment of activity: 0 \_\_\_\_\_ 100 mm  
None Most severe

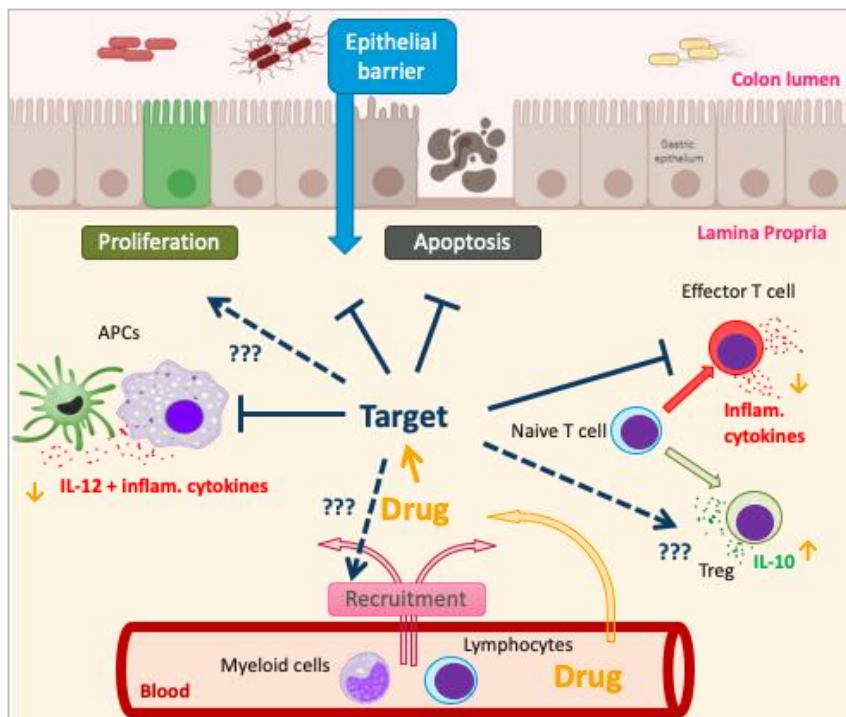
Parker 2019 doi:10.1016/B978-0-323-47927-1.00049-9



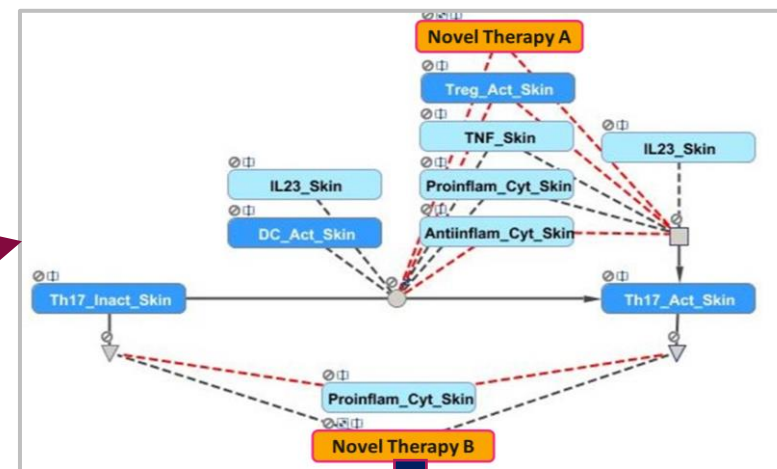
# How to bridge the gap between QSP model outcomes and relevant clinical trials endpoints?



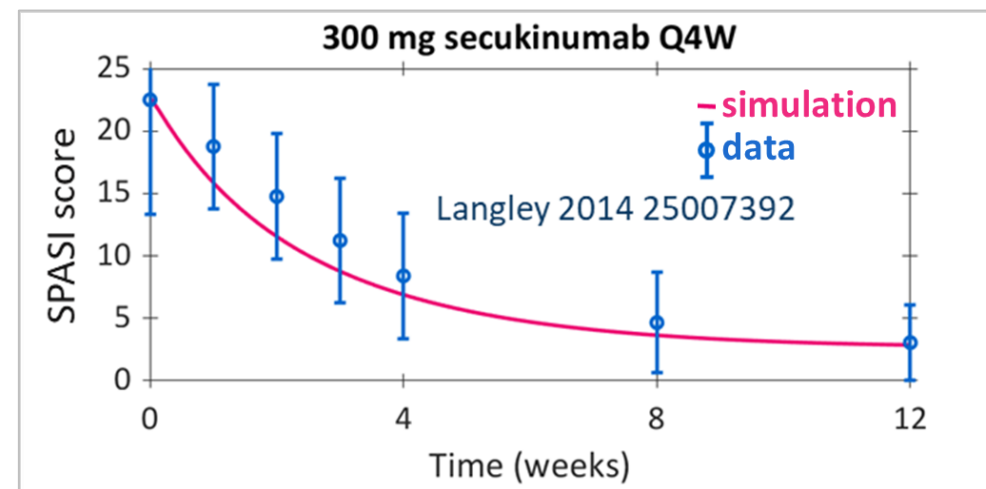
## Scientific Understanding



## QSP Model



## Clinical Outcome Predictions





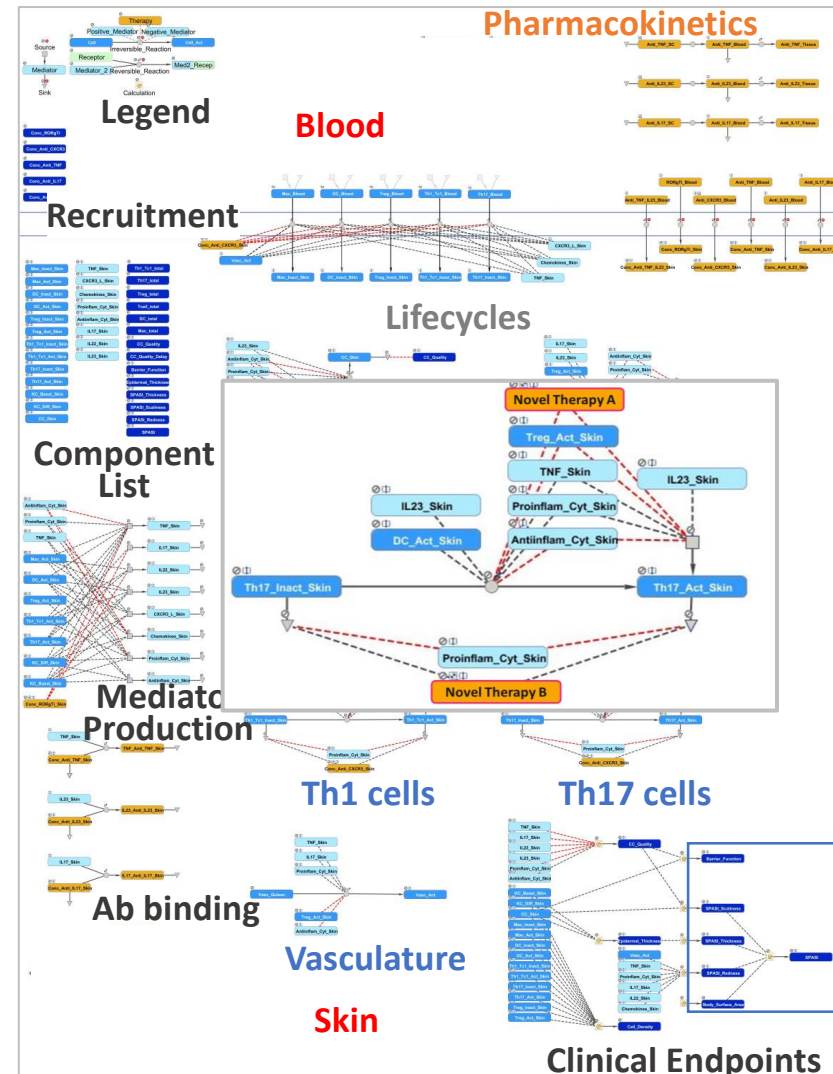
# Systematic Process Developed at Rosa



# 1. Develop QSP model connecting mechanisms to measurable biomarkers

- The goal of the fit-for-purpose QSP model is to address a specific research question
- Model components necessary to represent target MOA and disease pathophysiology are prioritized
- Discussions with the scientific team inform inclusion of relevant biomarkers, therapies and calculations of defined endpoints

## Psoriasis Platform



### Therapies

- Adalimumab
- Guselkumab
- Secukinumab
- Methotrexate

### Outcomes

- SPASI score
- Scaliness
- Thickness
- Redness
- % BSA
- Barrier Function

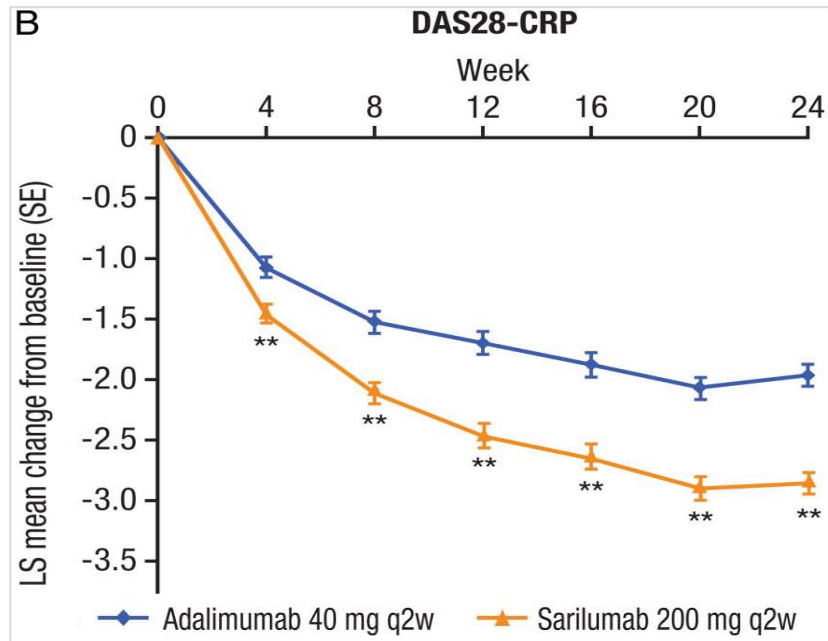
# “Focused” clinical endpoints implemented in QSP models can be correlated with complex global outcomes.

Focused Clinical Endpoints (Tissue/pathway-specific)	Link	Global Clinical Endpoints
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skin:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Psoriasis: PASI</li> <li>• Atopic Dermatitis: EASI</li> <li>• Cutaneous Lupus: CLASI</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple tissue involved               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ex: Lupus SLEDAI (32 measurements), correlation with CLASI, DAS-28 score + other biomarkers reported in literature</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rheumatoid Arthritis: DAS-28</li> <li>• Lupus Arthritis: DAS-28</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	→	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• “Subjective” assessments               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Patients or physician visual assessment scores</li> <li>• Fatigue, pain assessment</li> <li>• Correlation with inflamed joints &amp; other biomarkers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cancer:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sum of longest diameter (SLD)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life expectancy (cancer survival)</li> </ul>



# Continuous Clinical Score vs. % of Responder Patients

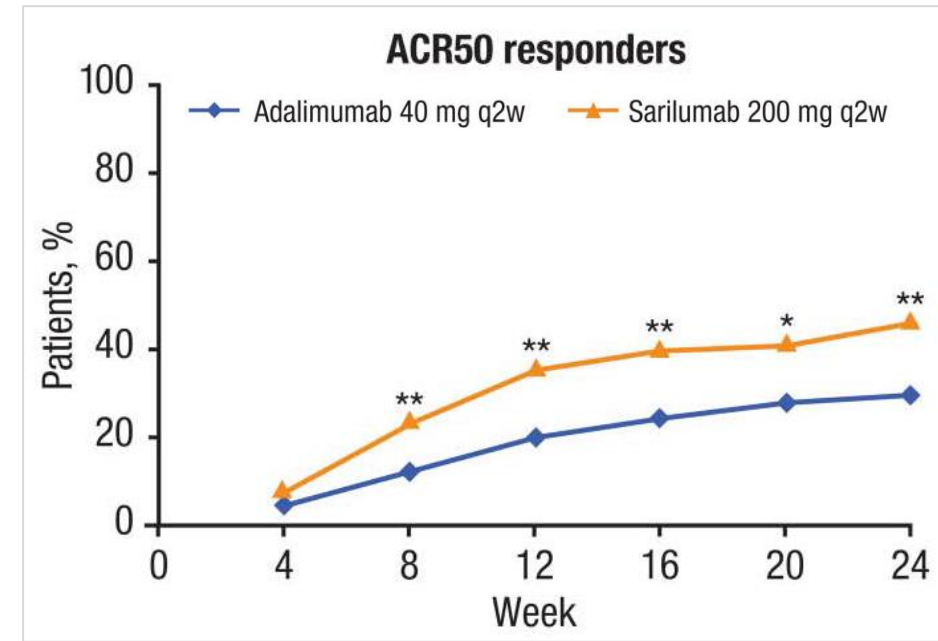
Absolute change in DAS28-CRP score (RA)



Burmester 2016 PMID: 27856432

Single virtual patient sufficient

% of patients with ACR50 response (RA)

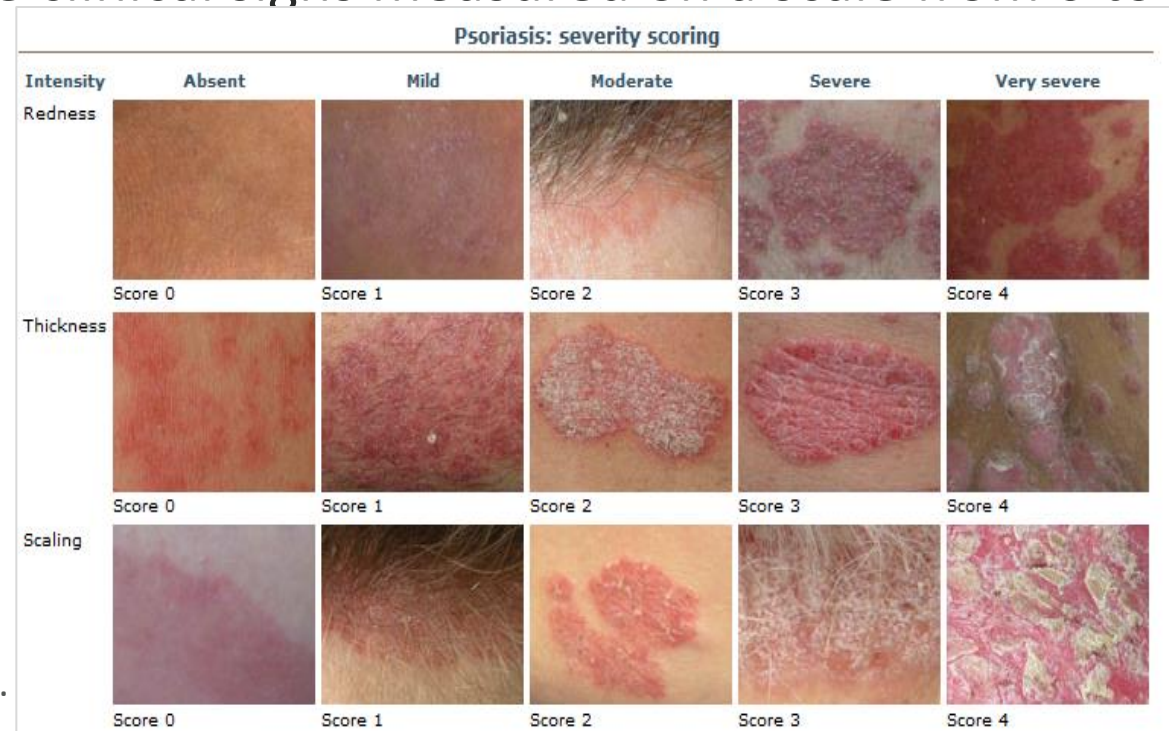


Need prevalence-weighted virtual population

➔ The clinical score of interest can influence the scope of the project

## 2. Identify relevant data, clinical score definition and subcomponent measurements

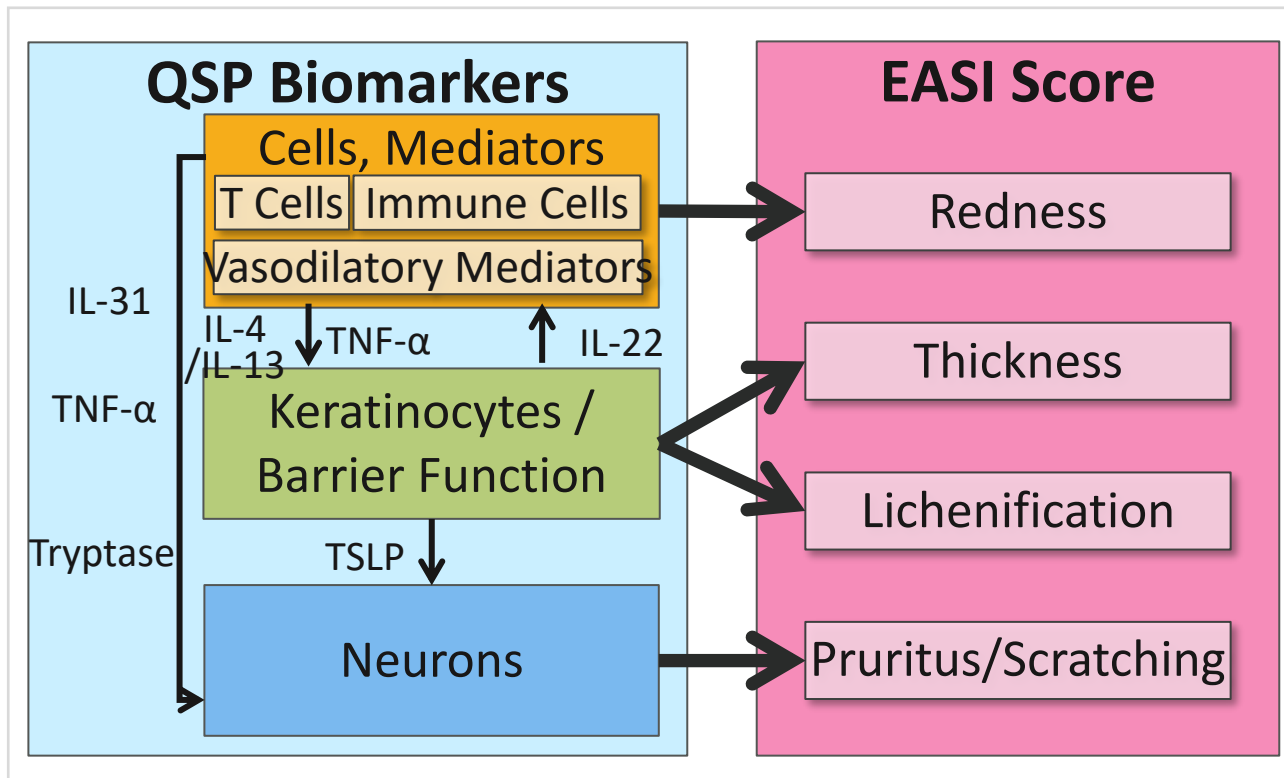
- PASI score  $PASI = 0.1 \cdot (E_H + I_H + D_H) \cdot A_H + 0.2 \cdot (E_A + I_A + D_A) \cdot A_A + 0.3 \cdot (E_T + I_T + D_T) \cdot A_T + 0.4 \cdot (E_L + I_L + D_L) \cdot A_L$ 
  - Body divided into four sections (**H**ead, **A**rms, **T**runk, **L**ower)
    - percent of body surface area (% BSA) involved estimated ( $A_H, A_A, A_T, A_L$ )
  - Severity estimated by three clinical signs measured on a scale from 0 to 4
    - Erythema (redness)
    - Induration (thickness)
    - Desquamation (scaling)



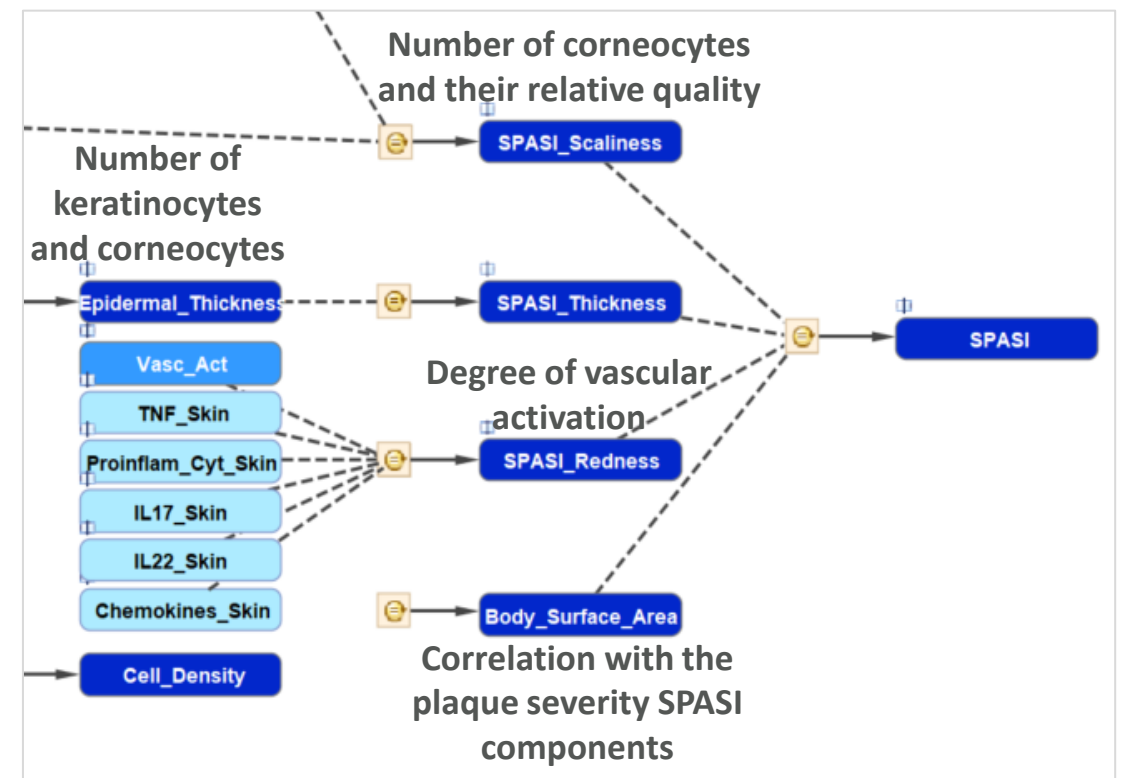
Examples of redness, thickness, and scaling used in a PASI score.  
(<http://www.dermnetz.org/scaly/pasi.html>)

# 3. Map disease score subcomponents to QSP model species or biomarkers

EASI Score Component Mapping



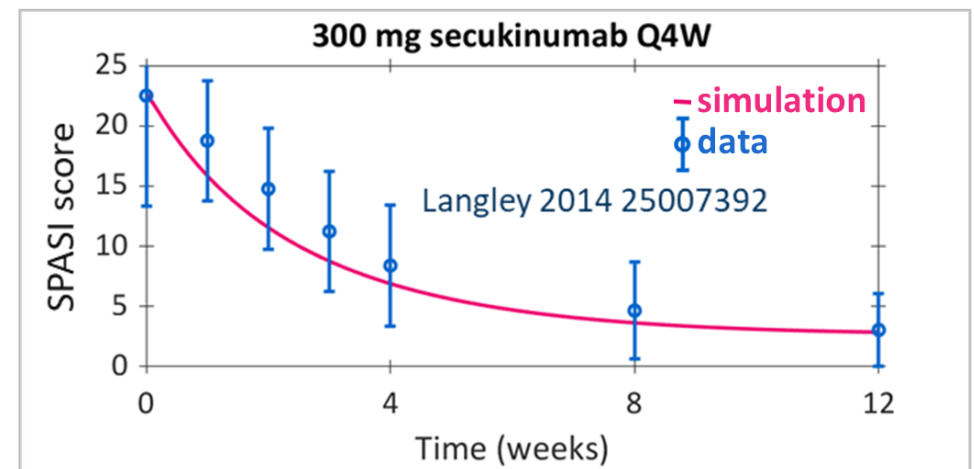
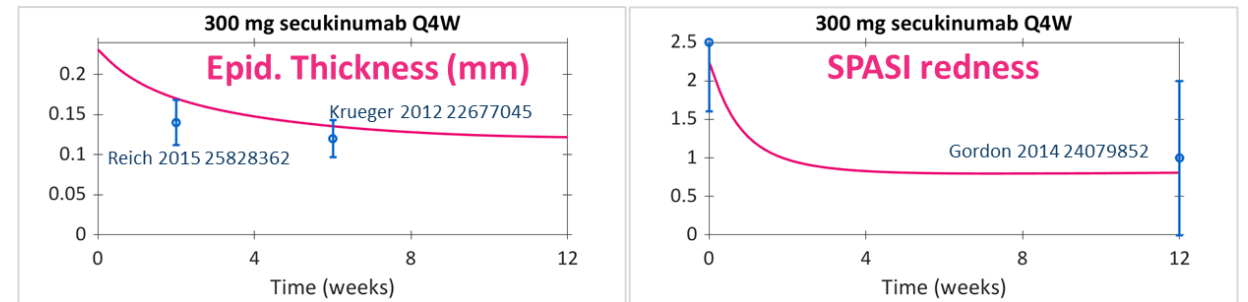
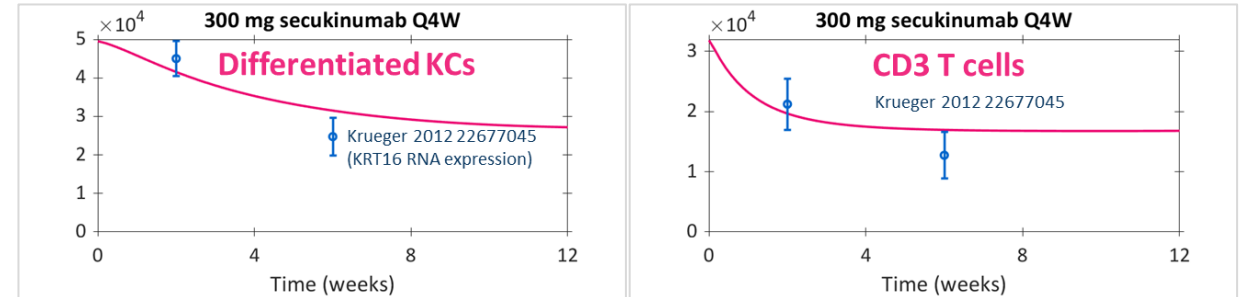
SPASI Score Component Mapping





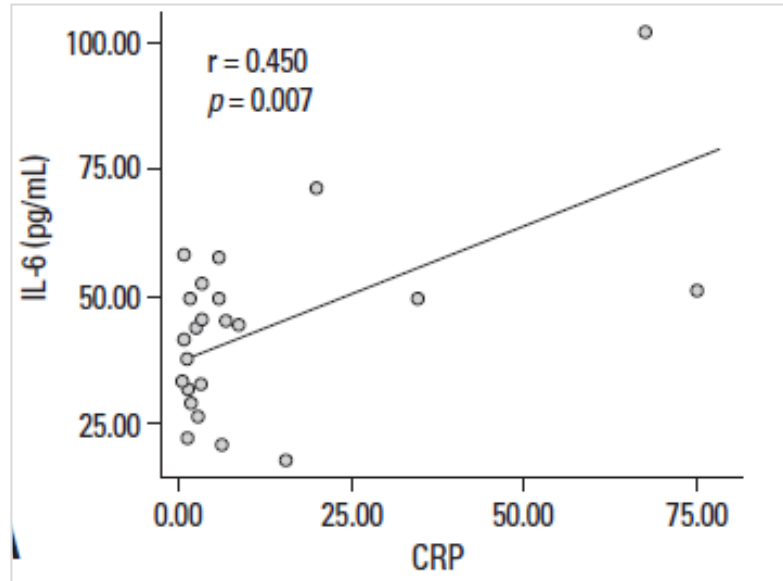
# 4 . Fit parameters for outcome calculations to match published/proprietary clinical data

- Calibrate QSP model parameters to match changes in mediators and cell numbers with therapies
- Calculate disease score components parameters to match changes in disease subscores
- Integrate disease subscore components into overall clinical score, adjusting parameters, if necessary, to match clinical data



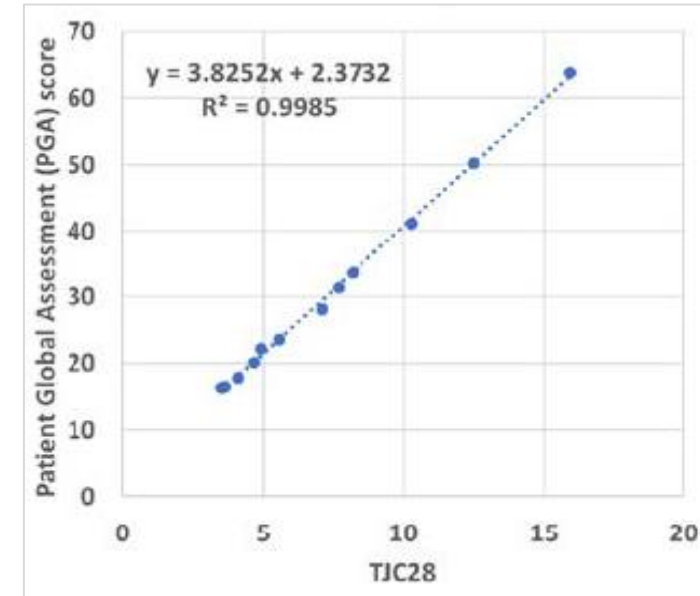
# Sometimes, clinical score subcomponents cannot be directly linked to model outcomes.

Correlation between CRP and IL-6



Chung 2011 PMID 21155043 (RA patients)

Correlation between TJC28 and PGA score



Proprietary Clinical Trial Data

→ Rely on correlation between QSP model outcomes and clinical score subcomponent not represented

- DAS28-CRP RA Clinical Score:

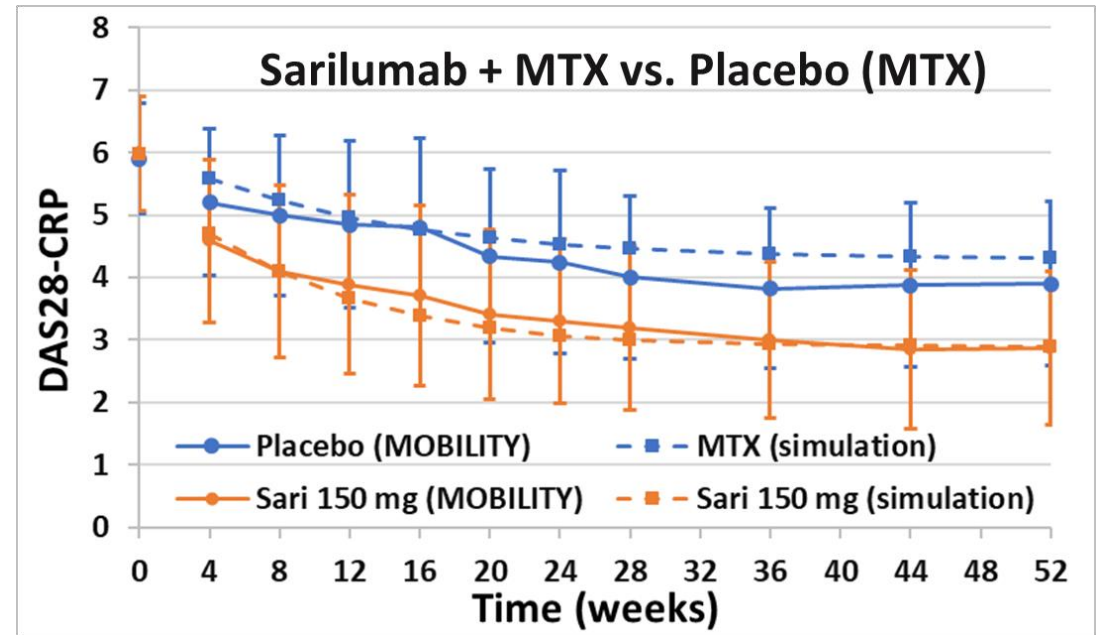
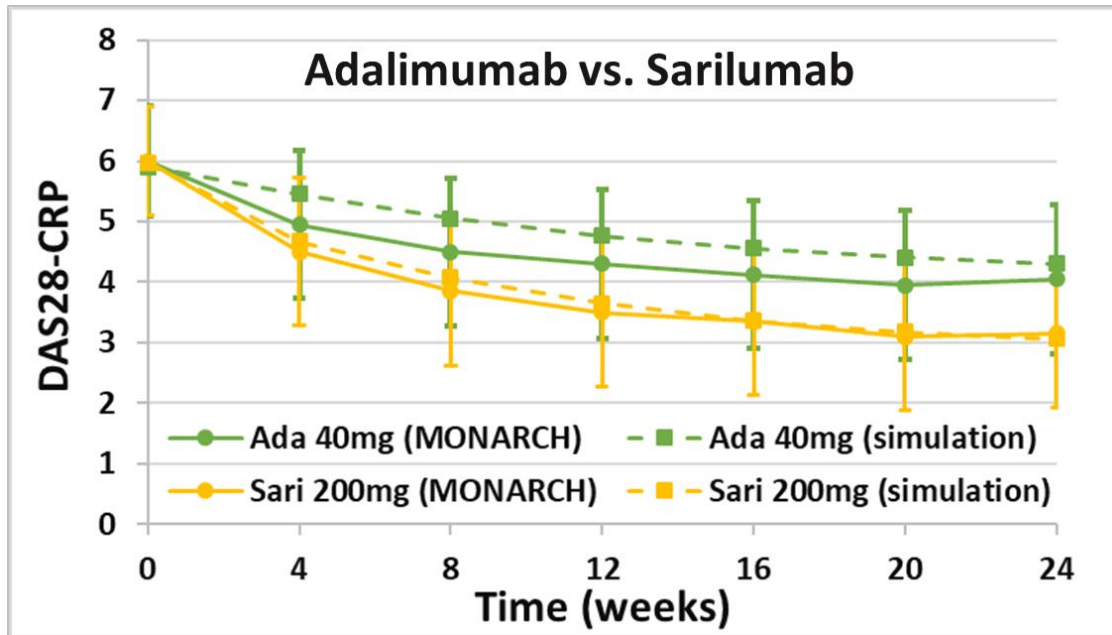
- $DAS28-CRP = 0.56 \times \sqrt{TJC28} + 0.28 \times \sqrt{SJC28} + 0.36 \times \ln(CRP + 1) + 0.014 \times GH + 0.96$

- From literature and proprietary clinical trial data:

- **CRP** correlated with IL-6 levels implemented in the QSP model
    - **GH** (patients global health) correlated with TJC28 calculated in the QSP model

# 5. Use simulated clinical score outcomes to compare efficacy of new drugs to SOC therapies in virtual patients

DAS28-CRP score simulations compared to clinical trial data

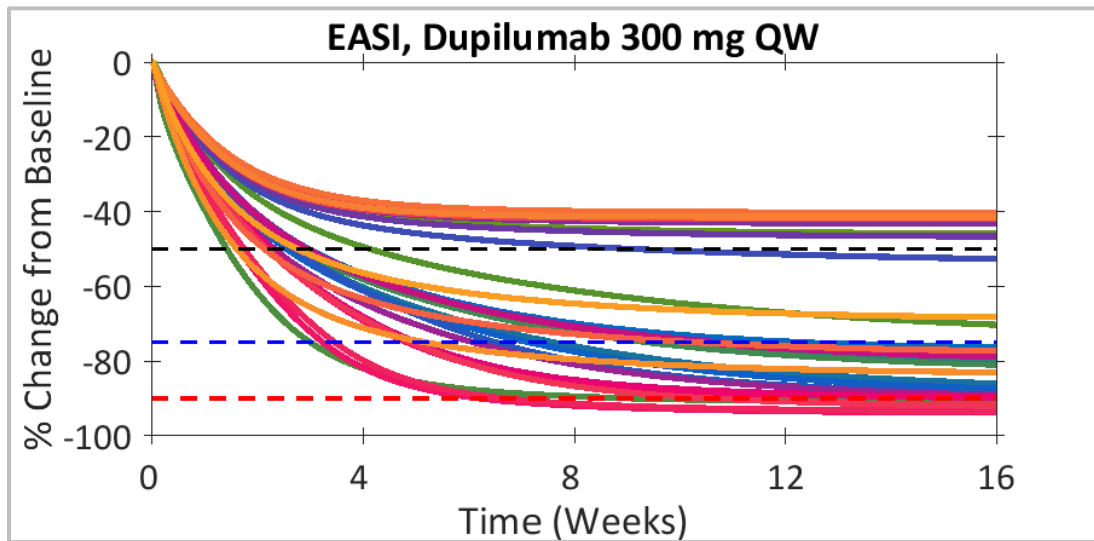


Comparison of predicted reduction in DAS28-CRP (---) with published data ( $\phi$ : mean  $\pm$  SD)

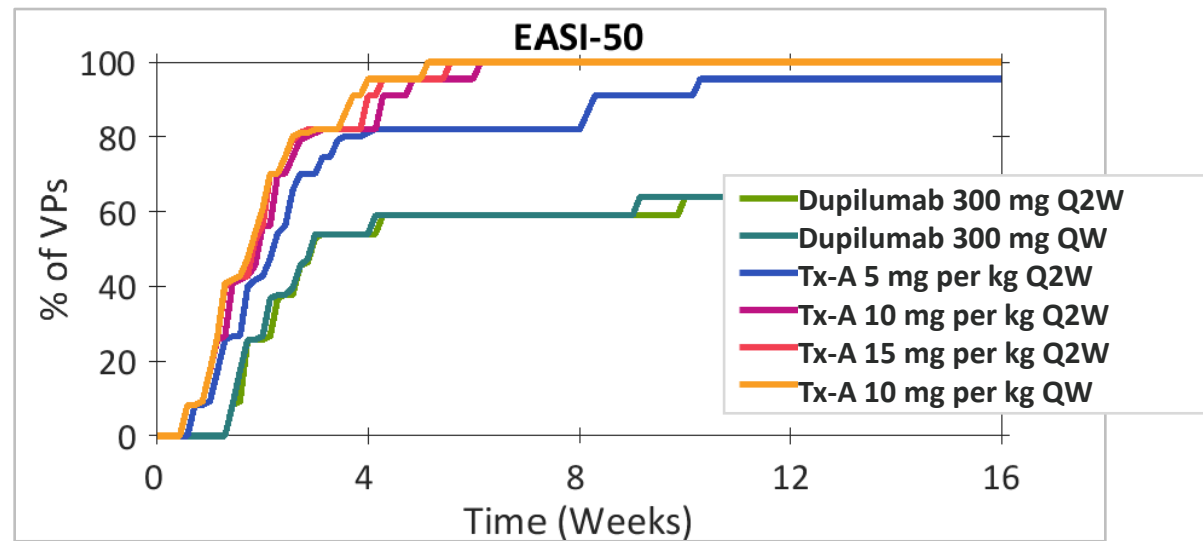


# VPs with different phenotypes can then be created to explore variability in clinical response.

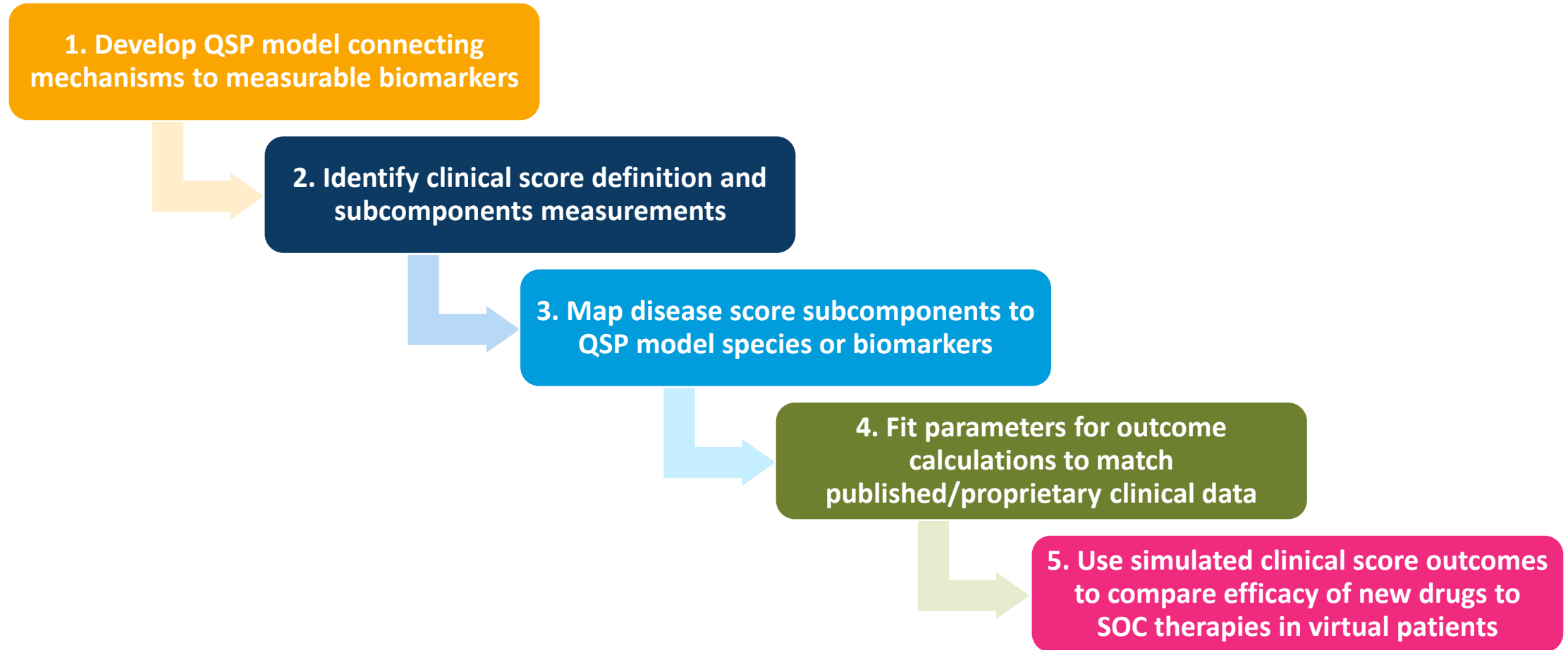
VPs cover the range of EASI response to Dupilumab



% of VPs with EASI-50 response:  
new therapy (Tx-A) compared to dupilumab



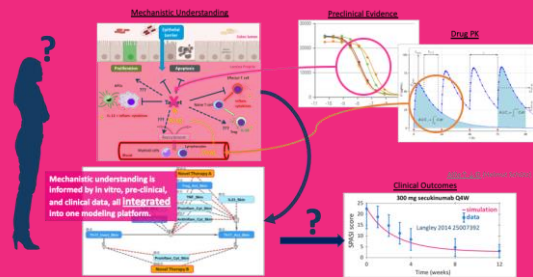
# Rosa's Process for Complex Clinical Scores



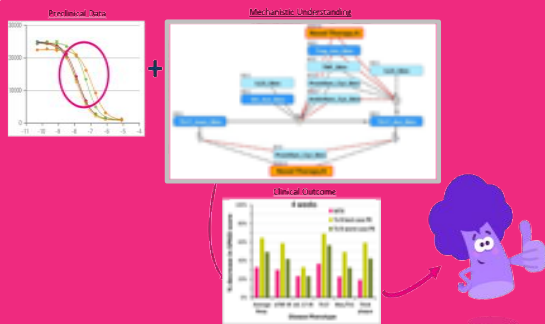
# Remaining Challenges and Limitations

Challenging Clinical Endpoints for QSP	Solution Used in QSP Projects
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Trial results expressed as % of patients reaching a specific clinical response criteria (ACR20, EASI-50, RECIST,...)</li></ul>	→ Build a prevalence weighted virtual patient cohort using detailed individual patient data from existing clinical trial
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discrete events (flares, nausea, asthma attacks,...)</li></ul>	→ Use a statistical threshold model based on correlation with a continuous outcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Progression-free survival in oncology</li><li>• Cognitive outcomes in neurological disease</li></ul>	→ Identify, with clinicians' help, alternate endpoints that can help answering the specific research question

# Key Take Home Messages



Complex scores can be simulated in QSP models, if a link between model biomarkers and the disease subscores can be established and calibrated with clinical data.



The capacity of a QSP Platform to report clinically relevant disease scores allows broader adoption of QSP modeling throughout clinical organizations.



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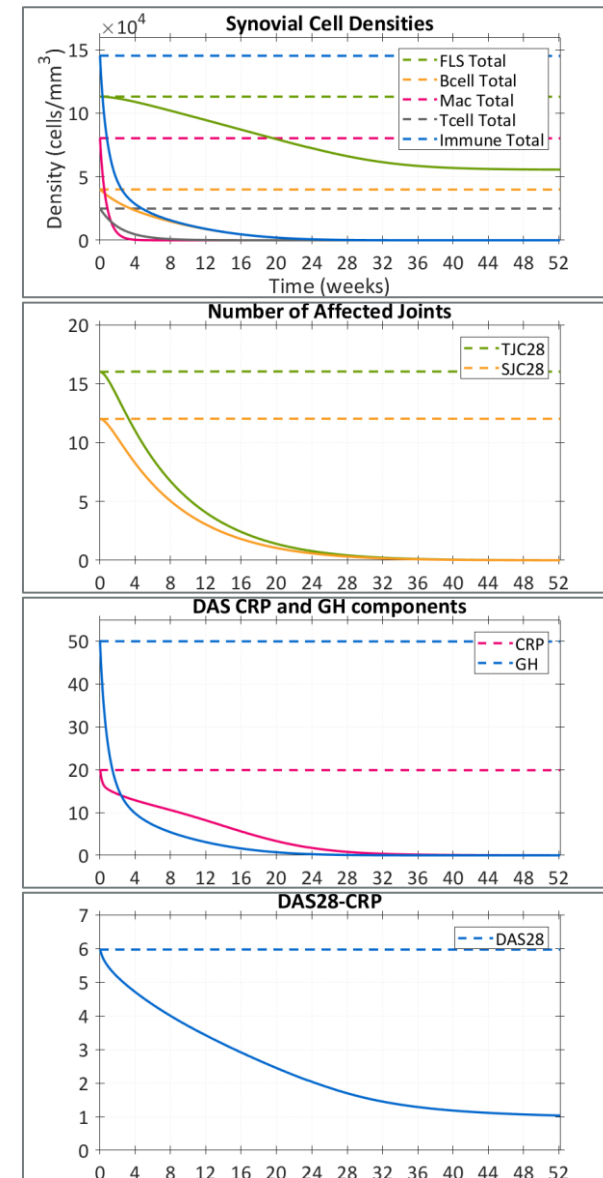
# Thank you!

QSP models presented developed in collaboration with



# DAS28-CRP Calculation in the RA Platform

- $DAS28-CRP = DAS28-CRP = 0.56 \times \sqrt{TJC28} + 0.28 \times \sqrt{SJC28} + 0.36 \times \ln(CRP + 1) + 0.014 \times GH + 0.96$ 
  - Total immune cell density includes inactive and active immune cells
  - TJC28 = dynamic calculation function of total immune cell density in joint
  - $SJC28 = 0.75 * TJC$
  - $CRP = 4.4 * (IL6\_Blood)$
  - $GH = 3.125 * TJC28$
- Example simulation (right) shows hypothetical 100% inhibition of immune cell recruitment

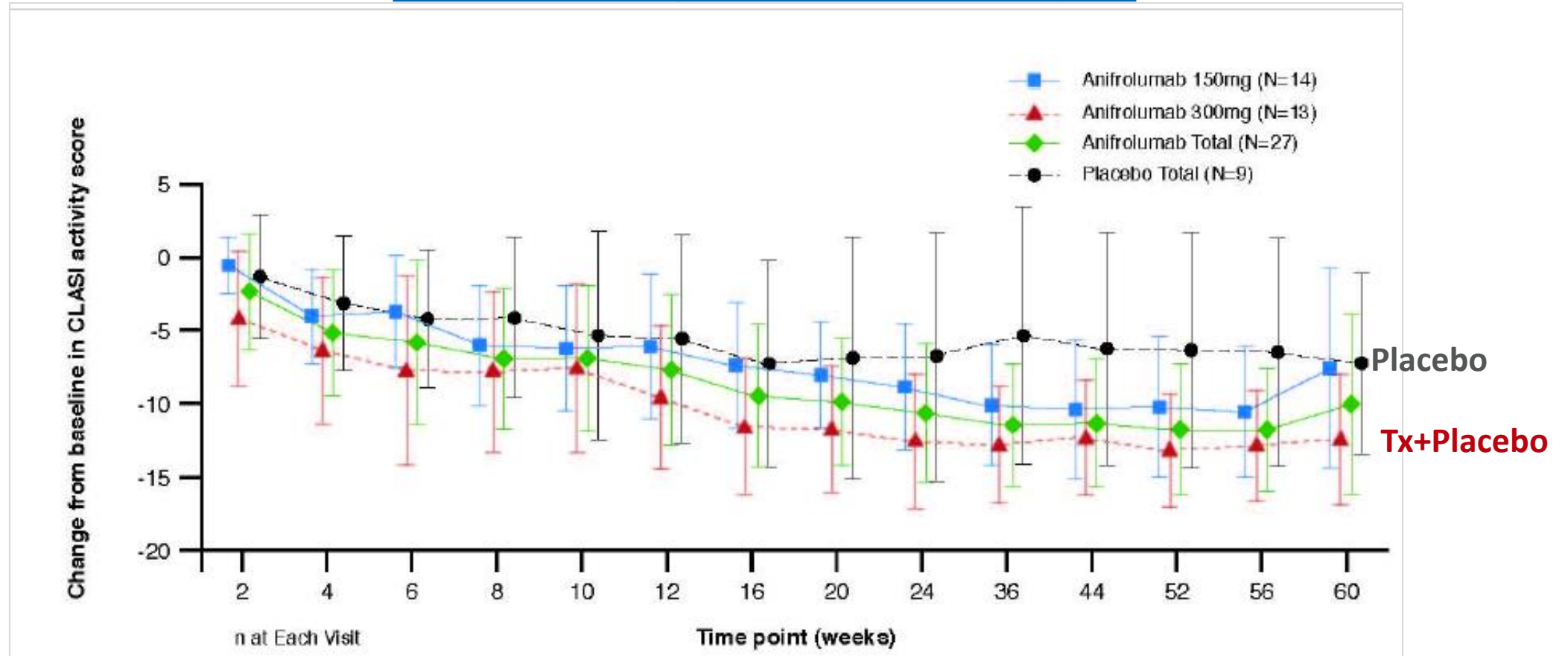


# Placebo Representation

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# Some diseases show strong clinical response in the “Placebo” group.

Absolute change in CLASI score (lupus)





# QSP models need mechanistic hypothesis to represent the “placebo” effect.

- Identify hypothesis for response in the “placebo” group
  - Background therapy: steroids, topical treatments, palliative interventions
  - Change in disease severity over time
  - Change in diet
  - Better compliance or doctor surveillance
  - ...
- Mechanistic components affected by the “placebo” effect must be represented in the QSP model

# Implement mechanistic “placebo” hypothesis.

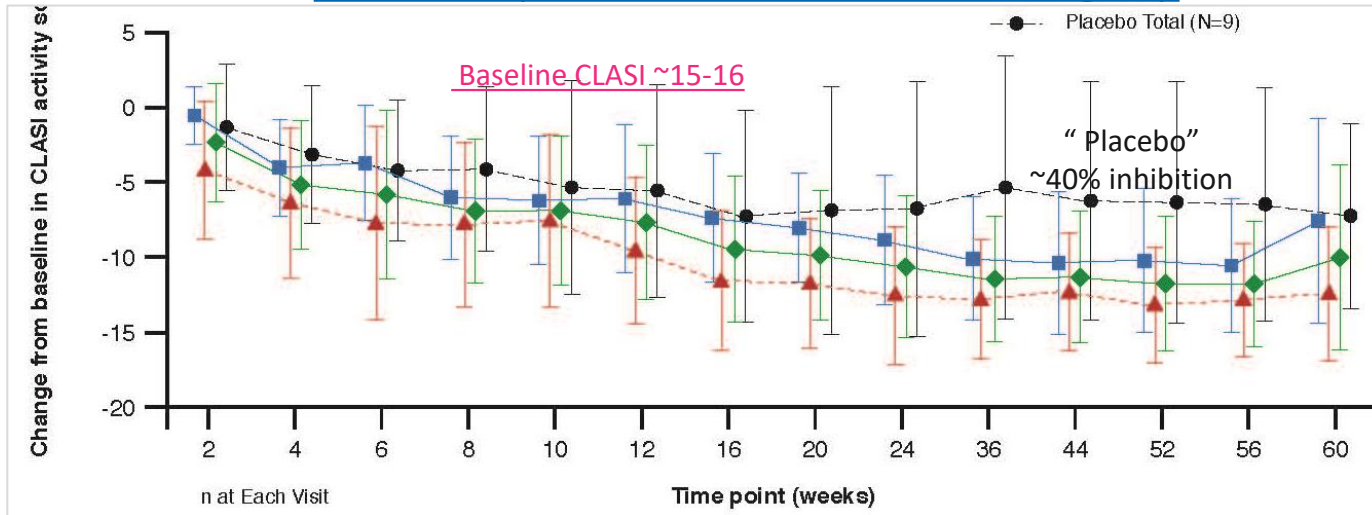
Examples of reported steroids effects on relevant cell types in skin diseases

Cell Type	IC50 (steroids)	I <sub>max</sub>	References
Keratinocytes	10-100 nM	- 20-70 %	Stojadinovic 2007 PMID: 17095510; Le 2010 PMID: 20357482
Dendritic Cells	5-50 nM	- 50-80%	de Jong 1999 PMID: 10449154; Piemonti 1999 PMID: 10352262; Weichhart, 2011 PMID 21368289
T cells	1-10 nM	- 60-90%	Migliorati 1994 PMID: 7831194; Braun 1997 PMID: 9314354; Sun, 2011 PMID: 21204899

- The “placebo” effect is implemented as a constant effect (no drug PK)
- Hill function inhibition parameters is based on in vitro literature data for the various cell types
- As in vivo drug concentrations in skin are difficult to estimate, the simulations will be calibrated to match clinical trial response by adjusting the [drug]/IC50 ratio

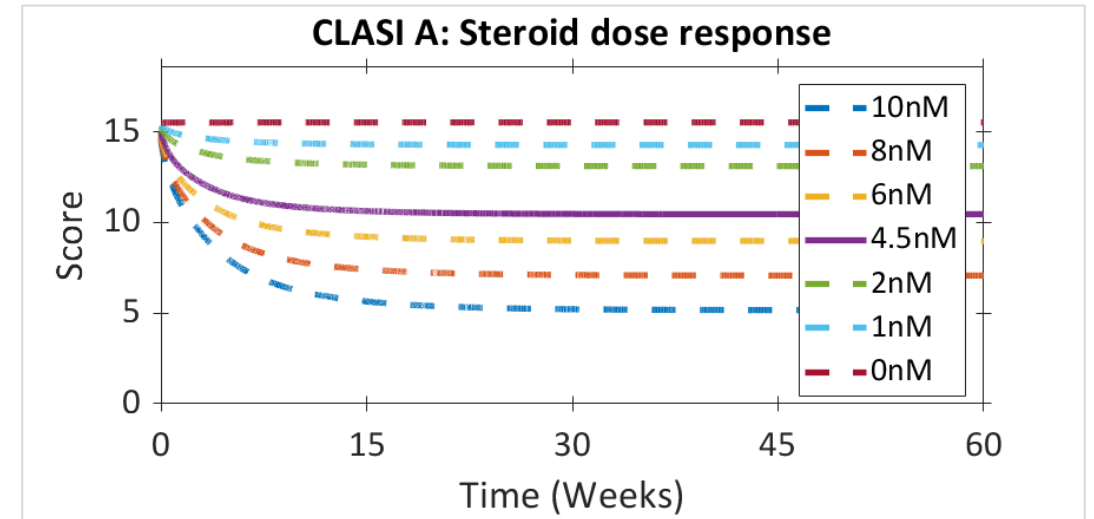
# Adjust “placebo” response to match clinical data.

CLASI-A response in anifrolumab “Placebo” group



Bruce 2019 Arthritis Rheumatol. Abstract Number: 2563

CLASI-A response to increasing steroid dose in the Platform



- Protocol
  - Steroid constant effect with doses ranging from 0 to 10nM
- Results:
  - The 4.5nM steroid dose was chosen for the “Placebo” response in the reference VP