

48th Annual  
**NEW YORK COURSE**

December 12-13, 2024 • New York, NY



# The Latest and Greatest on Eosinophilic Esophagitis

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Consulting for Takeda, Sanofi-Regeneron, Astra Zeneca, Bristol Myers Squibb

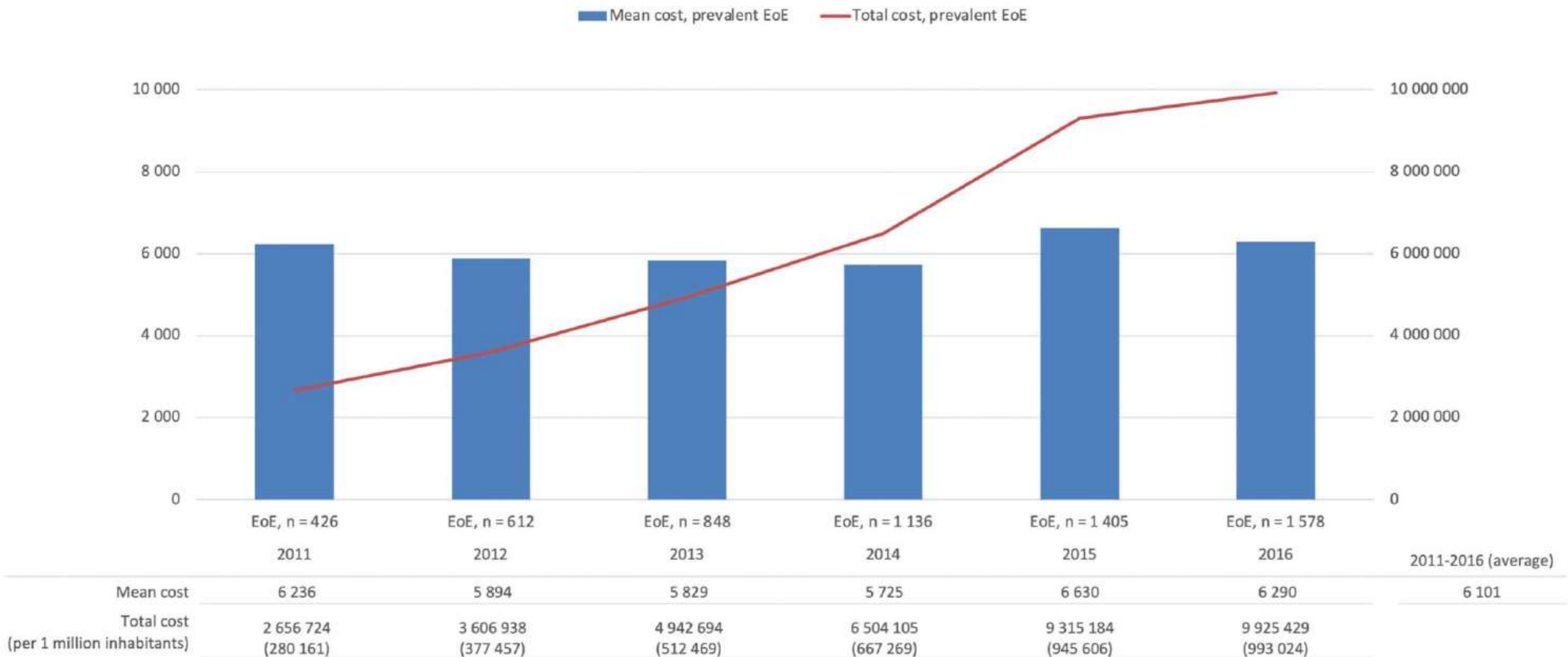
## 48th Annual **NEW YORK COURSE**

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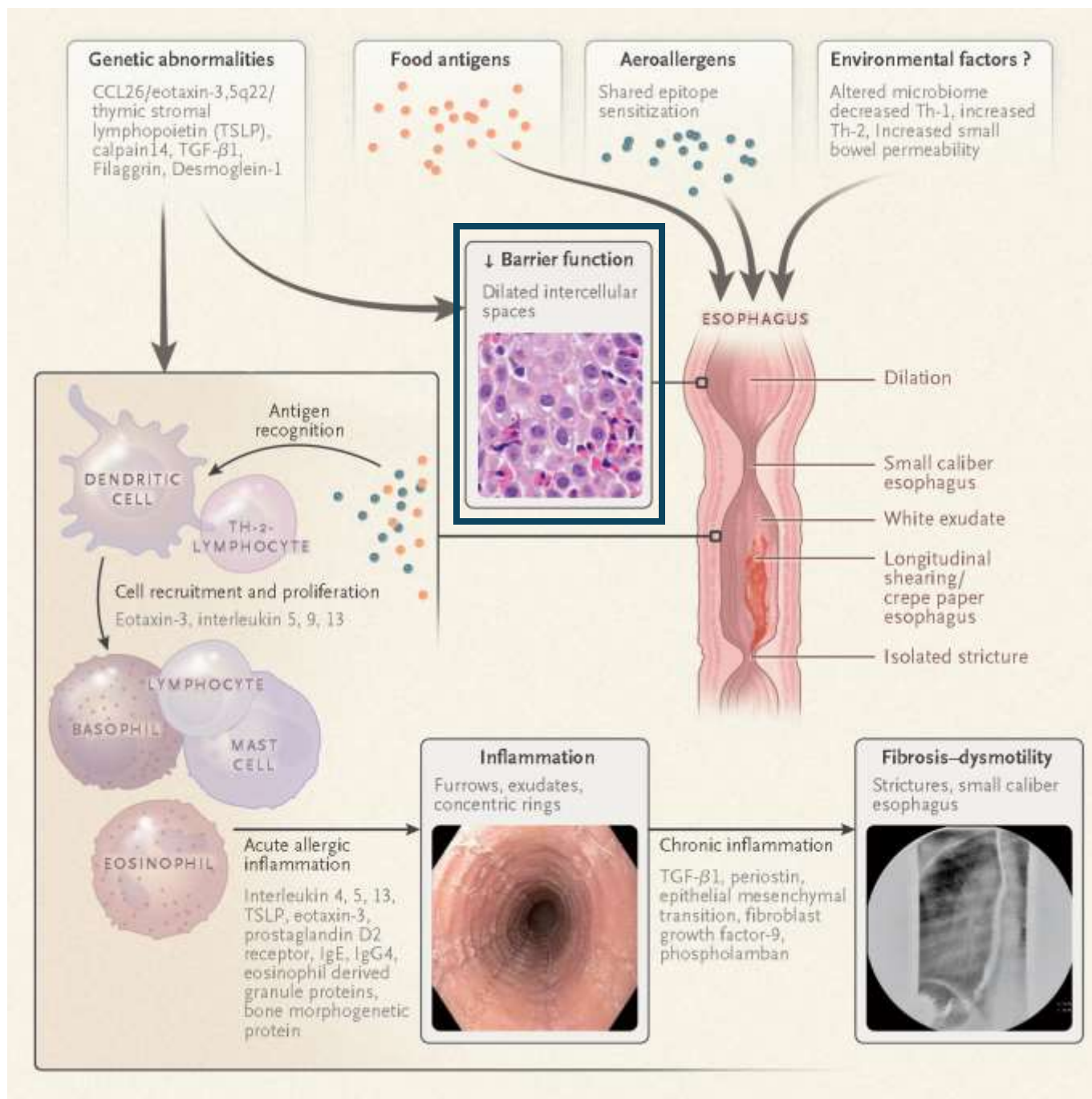
New York, NY



### Mean and total costs of EoE (USD), by calendar year



**Figure 2.** Mean annual societal costs per patient (left axis, bar chart) and total annual societal cost (right axis, line chart) of all prevalent patients with EoE in Sweden by calendar year. Brackets indicate 95% confidence intervals. All costs were adjusted for inflation and converted from Swedish Krona (SEK), to USD according to the annual average exchange rate in 2023 (1 USD = 10.61 SEK). EoE, eosinophilic esophagitis; USD, US dollar.



Main actor	Mechanism of tissue injury in EoE	Ref
Mucosal barrier	Impaired barrier structure - Cadherin, filaggrin, claudin, occludin and desmoglein impairment	(12–16)
	Impaired barrier function - Oncostatin M-, SPINK7- and calpain 14-mediated reduced TEER and increased FITC dextran flux	(22,23)
	Epithelial release of Th2-triggering alarmins (i.e. IL-33, IL-25 and TSLP)	(26–29)
	Allergens and microbes penetration in lamina propria and activation of Th2 inflammation	(24)
	IL-13 and IL-4 - Drivers of Th2 inflammatory process - Promote migration and trafficking of eosinophils - Involved in B cell class switching to IgE, leading to mast cell and basophil degranulation - Mediates impairment of oesophageal epithelial cells and barrier dysfunction	(33–38)

Santacroce et al. Gut (in press)

Cytokines	IL-5	- Eosinophil maturation, differentiation and survival (39)
	IL-18	- Development of mature and pathogenic eosinophils (40)
	Interferon $\alpha$ - Interferon $\gamma$	- Possible non-type 2 inflammatory networks in EoE (43)
Chemokines	Periostin and eotaxin-3	- Eosinophil chemotaxis and activation (41,42)
Immune cells	Eosinophils	- Defining feature of EoE; not clear correlation with disease severity and progression (44) - Infiltrating and degranulating in the epithelium during active EoE - Type 2 inflammatory cytokines production (i.e. IL-4, IL-5, IL-13)

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### Mast cells

- Infiltrating and degranulating in the epithelium during active EoE (46)
  - Release of type 2 inflammatory mediators, prominently IL-13
- 

### Th2 lymphocytes

- Promoting inflammation through type 2 inflammatory mediators (IL-4, IL-5, IL-13) and prostaglandins production (18,51)
  - Contributing to loss of barrier integrity through IL-13
- 

### Group 2 innate lymphoid cells

- Bolstering type 2 inflammation through IL-4, IL-5, IL-9, and IL-13 production (54)
- 

### Dendritic cells and basophils

- Induction and polarisation Th2 phenotype: cytokine production (IL-4, IL-12 and TSLP) and antigen presentation (52)
- 

### B cells and immunoglobulins

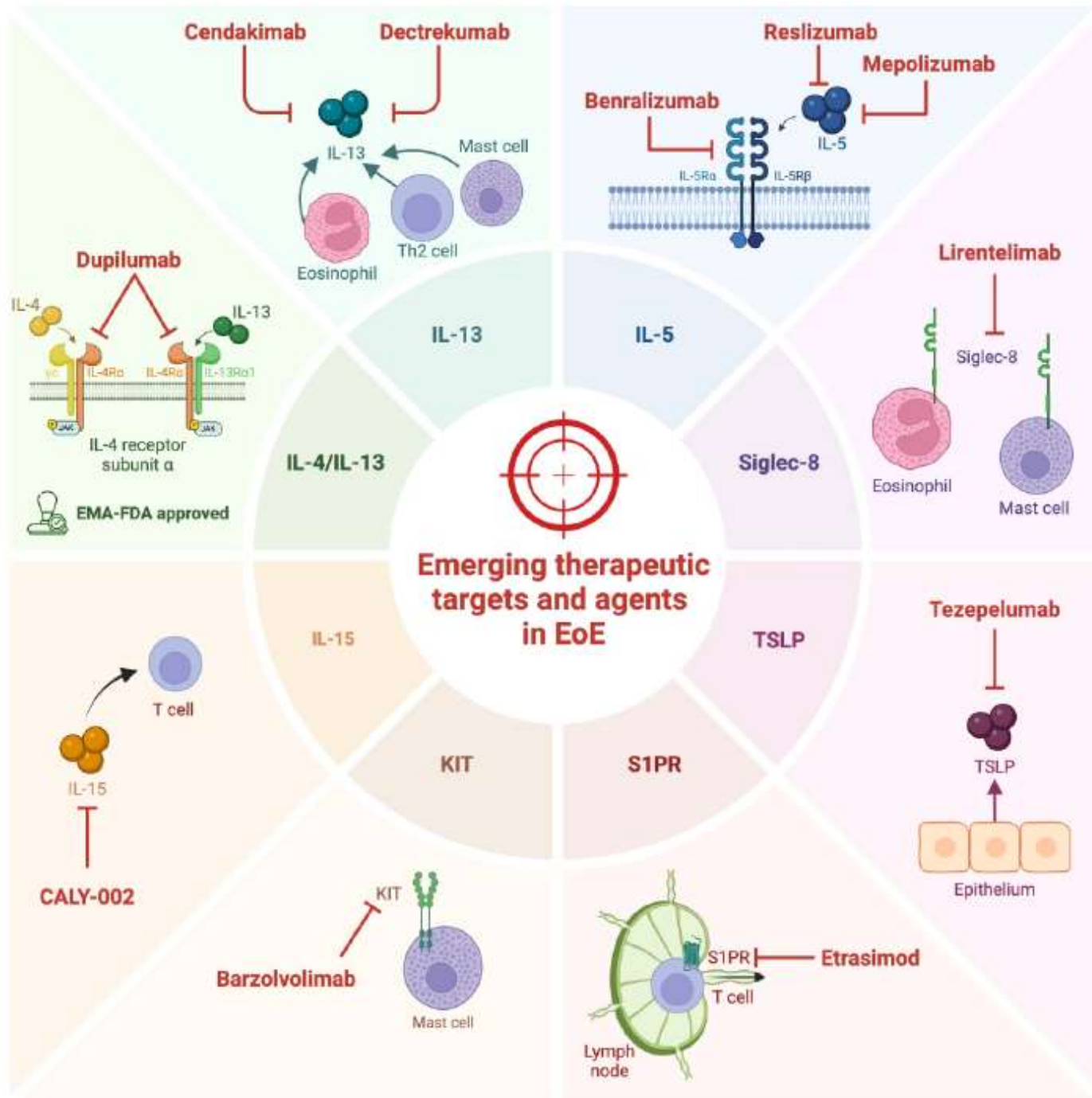
- Increased B cells and IgE class switch recombination, despite EoE is characterised by non-IgE hypersensitivity (38,53)
- Increased IgG4 which correlates with disease severity

**Table 2. Summary of mechanisms of remodelling in EoE**

Main actor	Mechanism of tissue remodelling in EoE	Ref
	Epithelial proliferation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- SFRP1-mediated basal zone hyperplasia</li> <li>- CD74+CD104+ self-renewal epithelial cells depletion</li> </ul>	(57,58)
Epithelial cells	Impaired epithelial differentiation and cell-to-cell communication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Failure of NOTCH, LOX/BMP and TGF-<math>\beta</math> receptor signalling pathways</li> <li>- Decrease in E-cadherin and ZO-1 and increase in N-cadherin</li> </ul>	(59–62)
	Epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition, driven by IL-13 and $\beta$ -catenin/Twist 1 transcription factors, leads to ECM accumulation	(62)
	Fibroblasts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Activation and production of ECM under the stimulation of TGF-<math>\beta</math></li> <li>- Epithelial-fibroblast-endothelial-immune cell cross-talk leads to fibrogenesis</li> </ul>	(64)
Lamina propria cells	Endothelial cells: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- IL-13-mediated endothelial TSPAN12 down-regulation contributes to fibrosis</li> </ul>	(67)



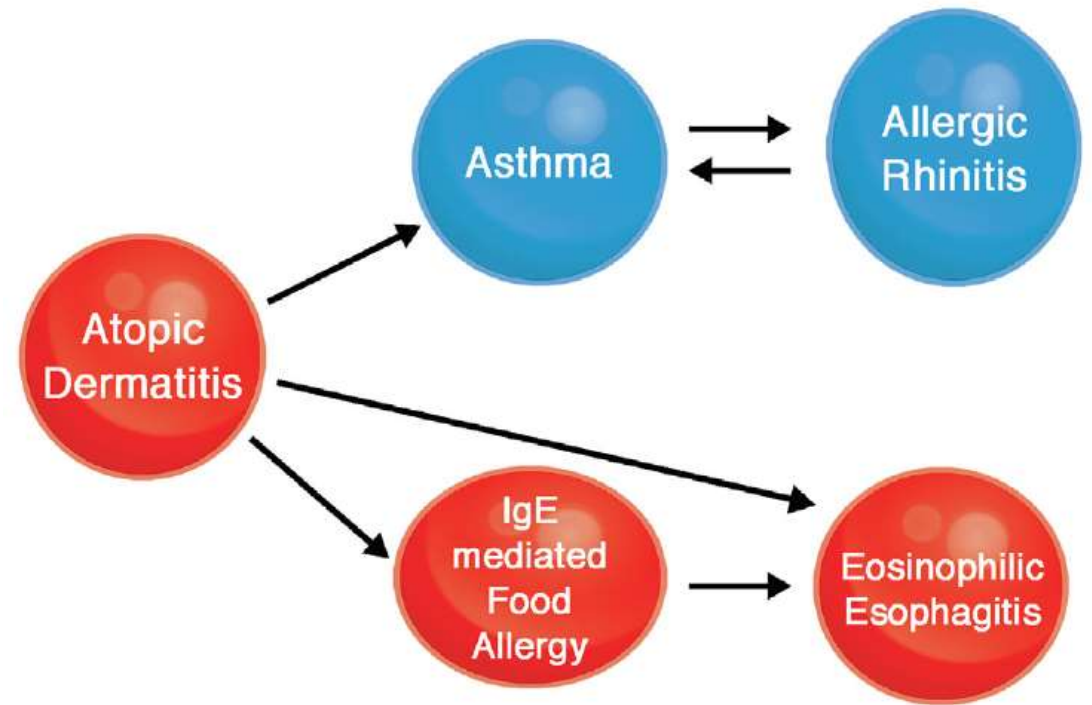
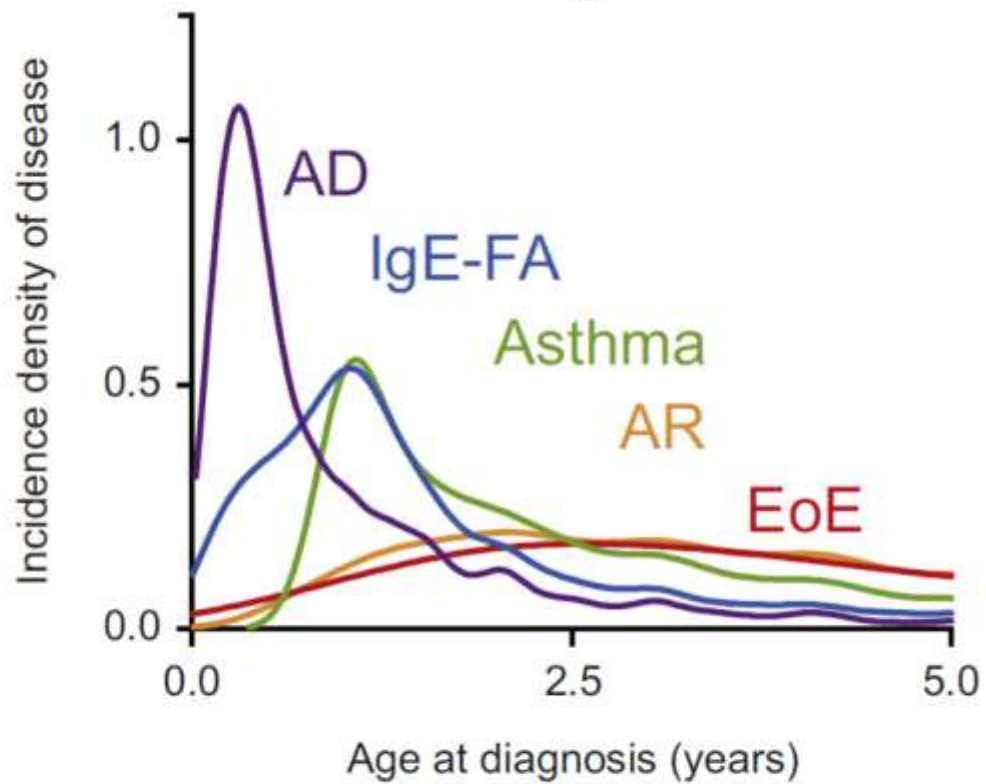
	Smooth muscle cells:	
	- Proliferation and contraction mediated by TGF- $\beta$ 1-induced phospholamban	(68)
	Macrophages:	
	- Modulation of fibrosis through GM-CSF and CCL18	(69)
	TGF- $\beta$ :	
	- Promote ECM deposition by myofibroblast	(70)
	- Stimulate epithelial-to-mesenchymal transition	
	- Regulate smooth muscle cell proliferation and contractility	
Molecules	Thrombospondin-1	
	- Profibrotic molecule, central in EoE ECM protein-protein interactome	(71)
	- Induce fibroblast collagen I and $\alpha$ -SMA production	
	TNFSF14/LIGHT	
	- Upregulated in EoE	(72)
	- Promotes fibroblast remodelling	



## Biologics Currently Being Investigated for Use in Patients With EoE

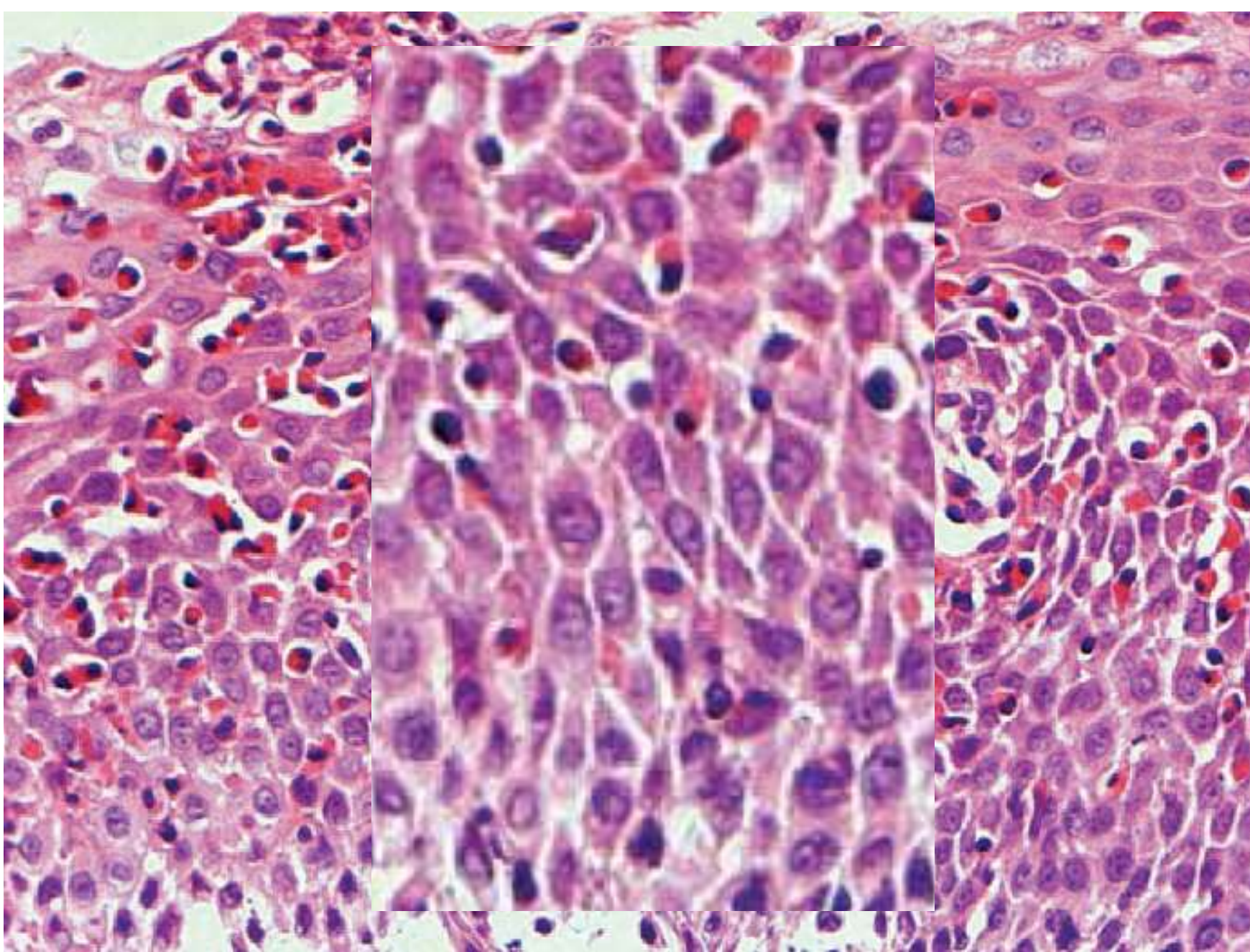
<b>Tezepelumab</b>	<b>Benralizumab</b>	<b>Lirentelimab</b>	<b>Cendakimab</b>	<b>Etrasimod</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TSLP inhibitor</li><li>• Orphan drug designation by FDA for treatment of EoE</li><li>• Phase III trial planned</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IL-5 inhibitor</li><li>• Phase III trial in progress</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Siglec-8 inhibitor</li><li>• Phase II/III trial in progress</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• IL-13 inhibitor</li><li>• Also known as RPC4046 and CC-93538</li><li>• Phase III trial in progress</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• S1P receptor modulator</li><li>• Phase II trial in progress</li></ul>

## The allergic march

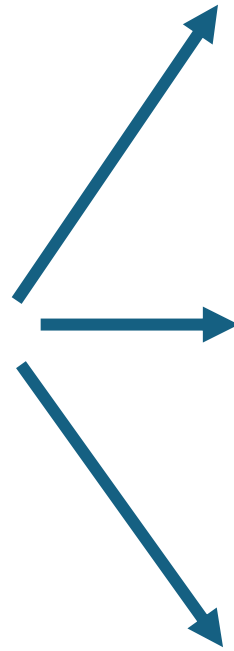
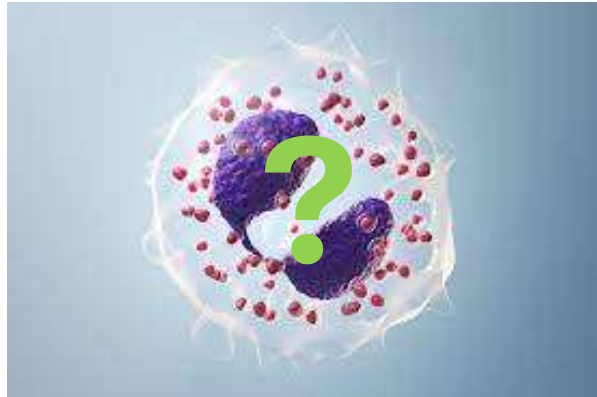


**FIGURE 1.** The allergic march. Density incidence of atopic dermatitis (AD), IgE-mediated food allergy (IgE-FA), asthma, allergic rhinitis (AR), and eosinophilic esophagitis (EoE) by age.

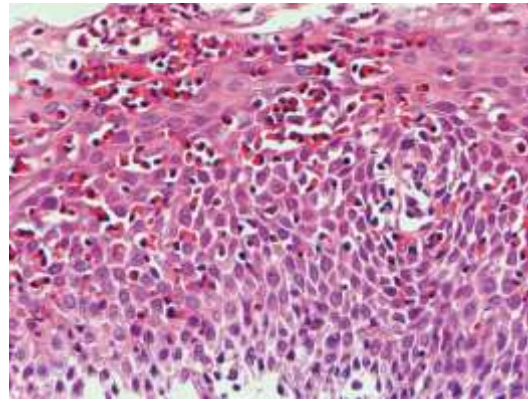
Spergel JM, et al. JACI 2023 (in press)



Chang Pathology (January 2008) **40(1)**, pp. 3–8



**EREFs**



**EoEHSS**

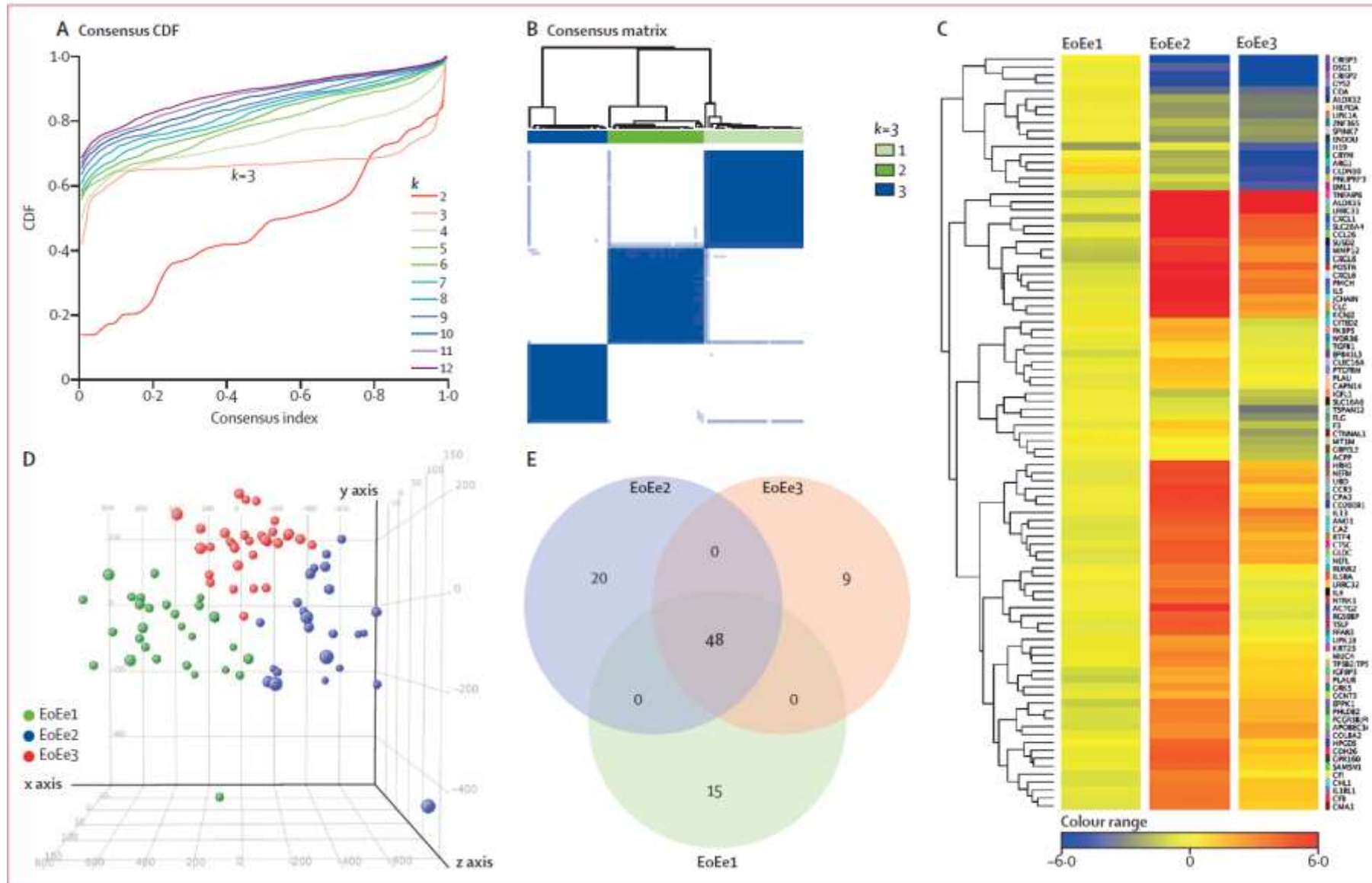


**EEsAI  
DSQ**

# Index of Severity in EoE (I-SEE)

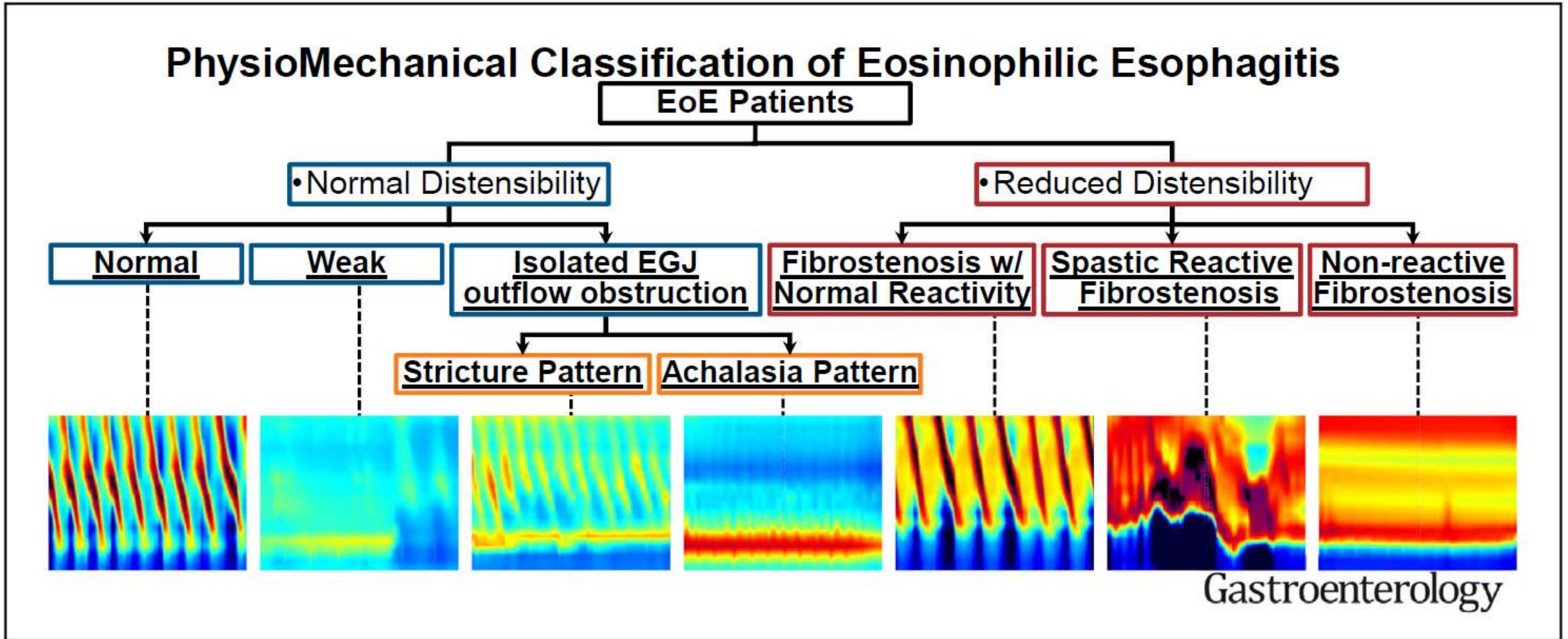
Clinical features of severity	Points assigned
<b>Symptoms and complications</b>	
<i>Symptoms</i>	
None	0
Weekly	1
Daily	2
Multiple times per day or disrupting social functioning	4
<i>Complications</i>	
None	0
Food impaction with emergency department visit or endoscopy (patient ≥18 years)	2
Food impaction with emergency department visit or endoscopy (patient <18 years)	4
Hospitalization due to EoE	4
Esophageal perforation	15
Malnutrition with body mass index <5th percentile or decreased growth trajectory	15
Persistent inflammation requiring elemental formula, or systemic corticosteroid, or immunomodulatory treatments	15
<b>Inflammatory features</b>	
<i>Endoscopy (edema, furrows, and/or exudates)</i>	
None	0
Localized	1
Diffuse	2
<i>Histology</i>	
<15 eos/hpf	0
15-60 eos/hpf	1
>60 eos/hpf	2
<b>Fibrostenotic features</b>	
<i>Endoscopy (rings, strictures)</i>	
None	0
Present, but endoscope passes easily	1
Present, but requires dilation or a snug fit when passing a standard endoscope	2
Cannot pass standard upper endoscope, repeated dilations in an adult ≥18 years, or any dilation in a child <18 years	15
<i>Histology</i>	
None	0
Basal zone hyperplasia or lamina propria fibrosis (or dyskeratotic epithelial cells/ surface epithelial alterations if no lamina propria)	2
<b>Category</b>	<b>Total score</b>
Inactive	<1
Mild	1-6
Moderate	7-14
Severe	≥15

# Eosinophilic oesophagitis endotype classification by molecular, clinical, and histopathological analyses: a cross-sectional study



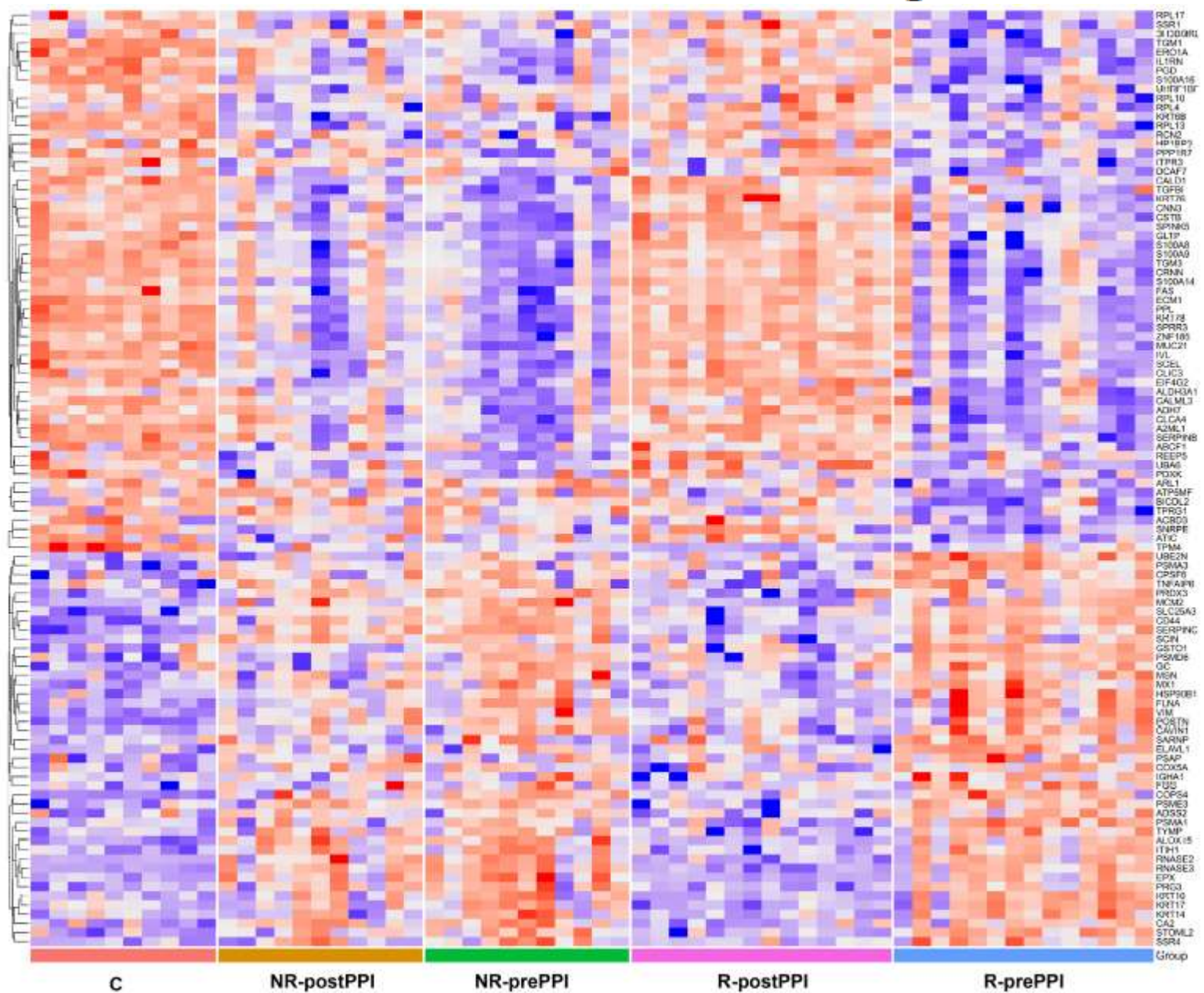


# Phenotypes of Eosinophilic Esophagitis



Carlson DA, et al. Gastroenterology 2023;165:552–563

# Proton pump inhibitor effect on esophageal protein signature of eosinophilic esophagitis after treatment resolution



# Diet Therapy

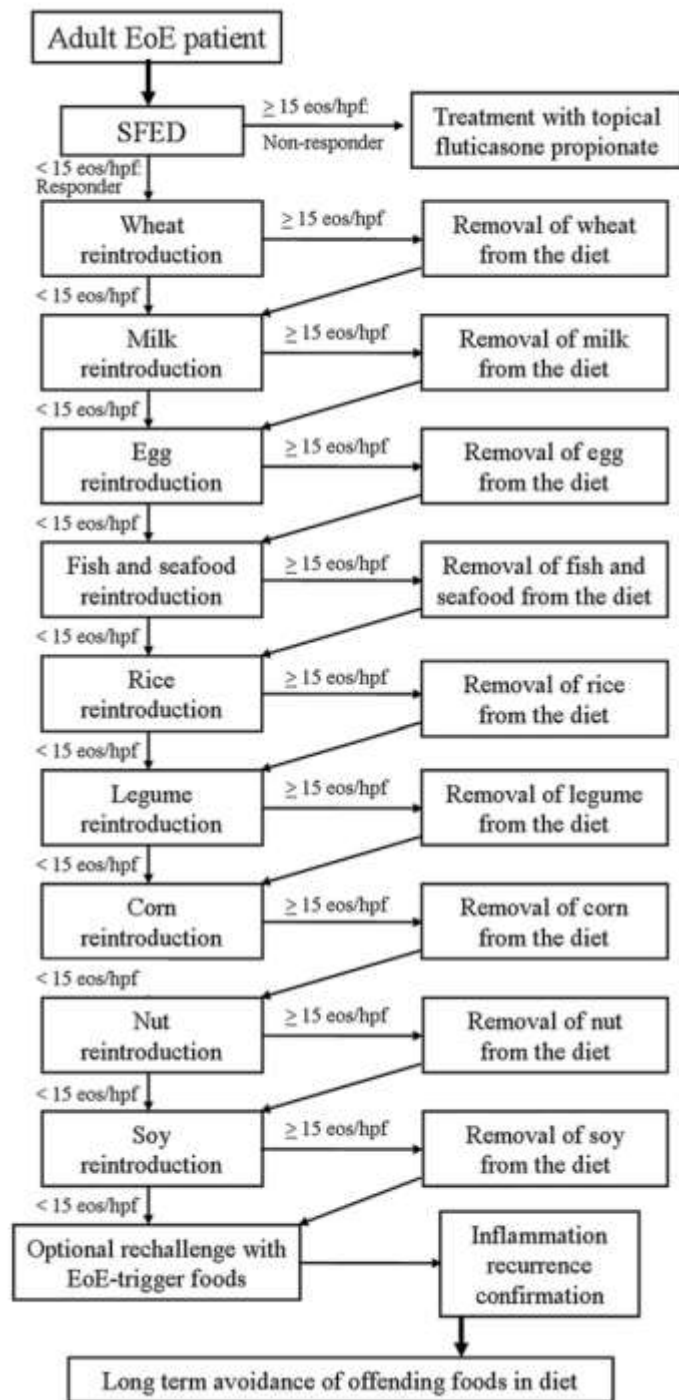


One-food versus six-food elimination diet therapy for the treatment of eosinophilic oesophagitis: a multicentre, randomised, open-label trial *Kliwer KL, et al. Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol 2023; 8: 408–21*

	1FED (n=67)	6FED (n=62)	Percentage point difference*	p value
<15 eos/hpf†	23 (34%; 23 to 46)	25 (40%; 28 to 53)	6% (-11 to 23)	0.58
≤10 eos/hpf	20 (30%; 19 to 41)	23 (37%; 25 to 49)	7% (-9 to 24)	0.46
≤6 eos/hpf	12 (18%; 9 to 27)	20 (32%; 21 to 44)	14% (-0 to 29)	0.069
≤1 eos/hpf	4 (6%; 0 to 12)	12 (19%; 10 to 29)	13% (2 to 25)	0.031

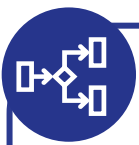
Data are n (%; 95% CI) or % (95% CI). p values were calculated with Fisher's exact test. 1FED=one-food elimination diet. 6FED=six-food elimination diet. eos/hpf=eosinophils per high-power field. \*6FED versus 1FED. †Primary endpoint.

**Table 2: Proportion of patients in histological remission (intention-to-treat population)**

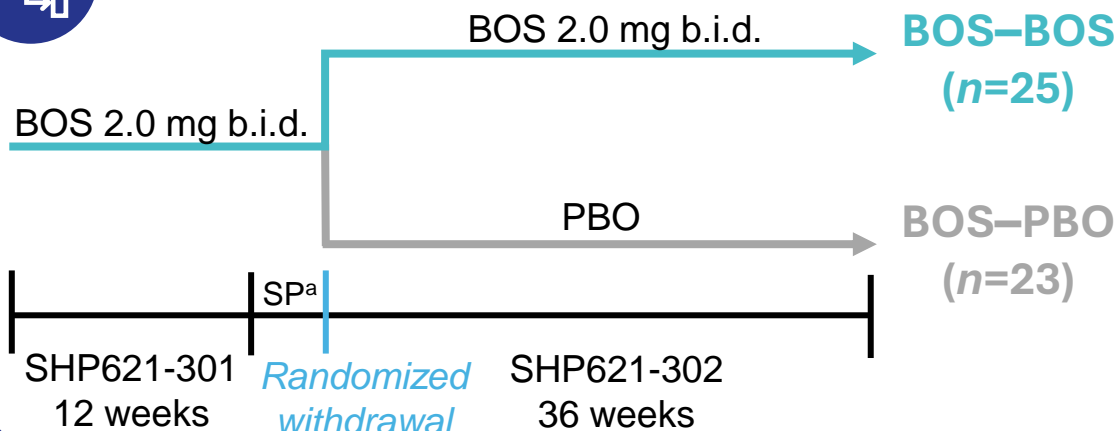


Lucendo AJ, JACI. 2013;131:797

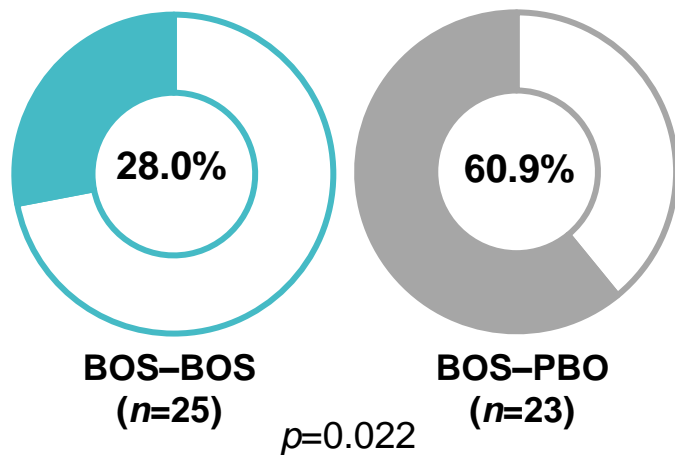
# Effect of randomized treatment withdrawal of budesonide oral suspension on clinically relevant efficacy outcomes in patients with eosinophilic esophagitis: a *post hoc* analysis



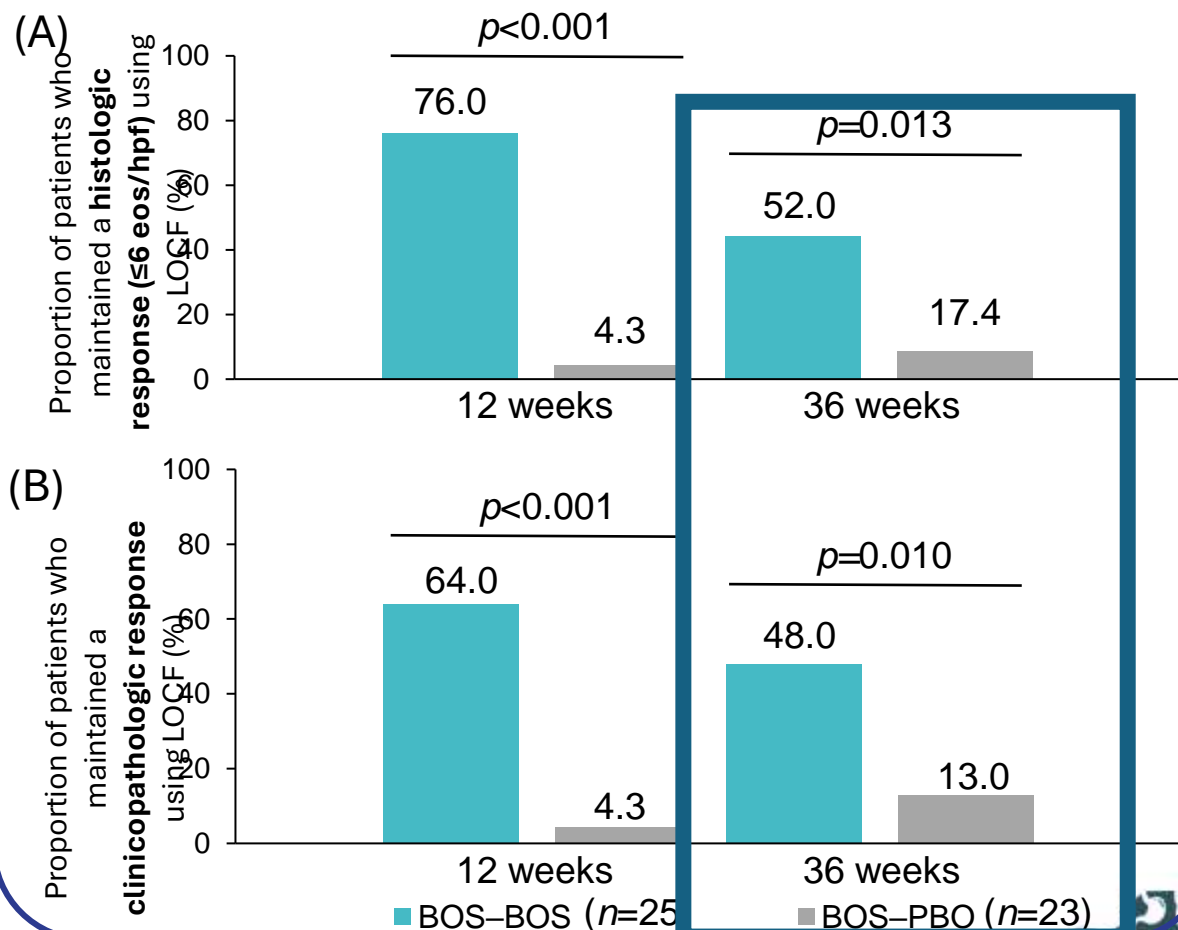
## Phase 3, double-blind, randomized withdrawal study



A significantly greater proportion of BOS-PBO than BOS-BOS patients relapsed ( $\geq 15$  eos/hpf [ $\geq 1$  esophageal region] and  $\geq 4$  days of dysphagia [DSQ]) over 36 weeks of therapy using a *post hoc* alternative definition of relapse



Significantly more BOS-BOS than BOS-PBO patients maintained a (A) **histologic response** and a (B) **clinicopathologic response** at weeks 12 and 36 of therapy



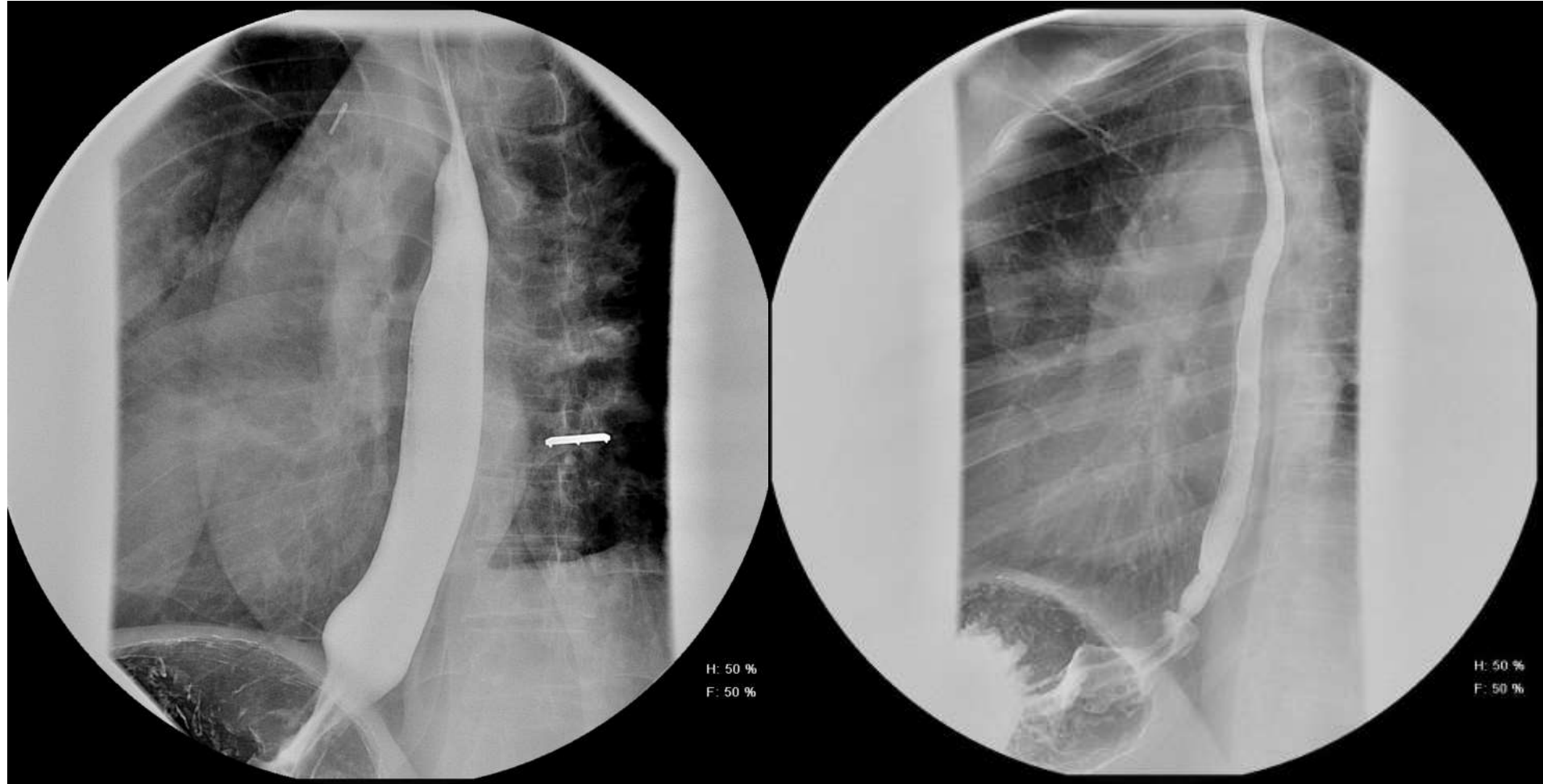
<sup>a</sup>4-week SP, during which patients continued treatment with BOS 2.0 mg b.i.d.

b.i.d., twice daily; BOS, budesonide oral suspension; DSQ, Dysphagia Symptom Questionnaire; eos/hpf, eosinophils per high-power field; LOCF, last observation carried forward; PBO, placebo; SP, screening period



# Normal

# Eosinophilic Esophagitis



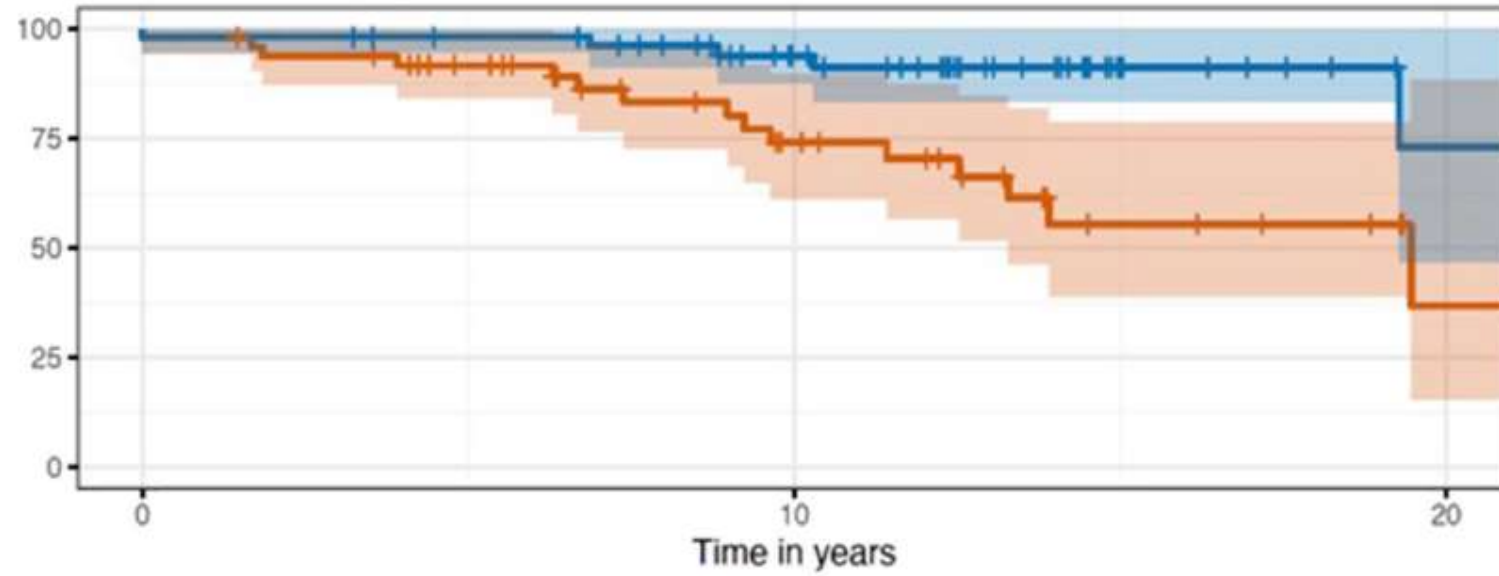
# Reducing Eosinophil Counts in Eosinophilic Esophagitis in Children Is Associated With Reduction in Later Stricture Development

Alexandra Strauss Starling, MD<sup>1</sup>, Yue Ren, MS<sup>2</sup>, Hongzhe Li, PhD<sup>2</sup>, Jonathan M. Spergel, MD<sup>3</sup>, Amanda B. Muir, MD<sup>4</sup>, Kristle L. Lynch, MD<sup>1</sup>, Chris A. Liacouras, MD<sup>4</sup> and Gary W. Falk, MD, MS, MACG<sup>1</sup>





### Stricture Development by Histologic Control



#### Number at risk

No Histologic Control	49	22	2
Histologic Control	55	36	4

#### Cumulative number of events

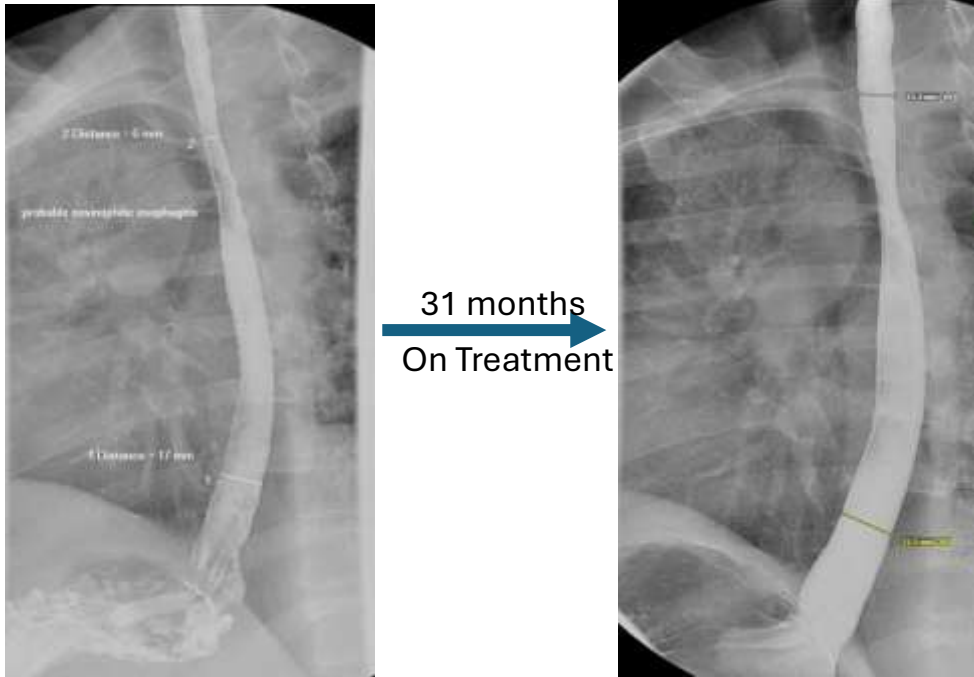
No Histologic Control	1	10	15
Histologic Control	1	3	5

—+ No Histologic Control   
 —+ Histologic Control

Starling et al. Am  
 J Gastroenterol  
 2024;119:2002—  
 2009



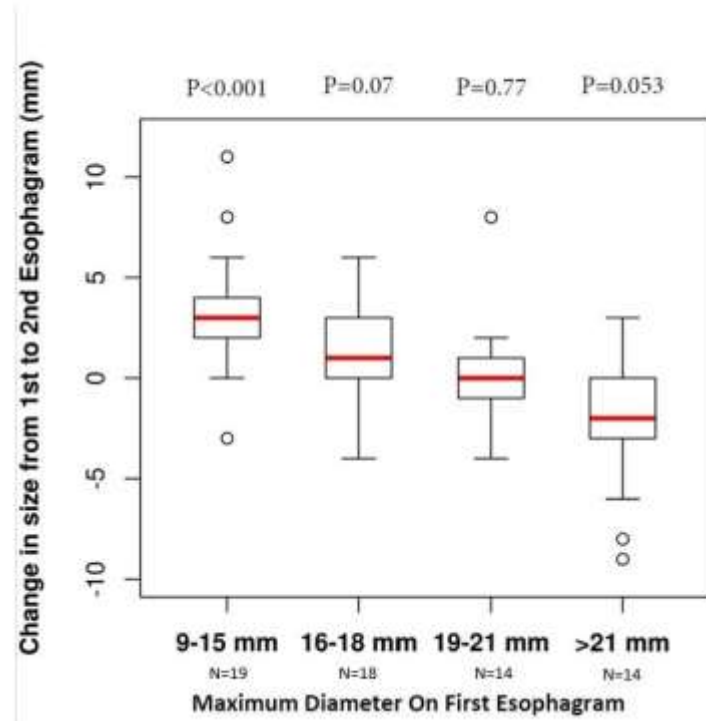
# Course of Esophageal Strictures in Eosinophilic Esophagitis Using Structured Esophagram Protocol



Median Maximum Diameter Change Per Year, mm (IQR)

Active Disease	0.0 (-0.4-0.6)
Inactive Disease	0.8 (0.0-5.3)

2.6 years  $P=.019$



Snyder et al., GastroHepAdv (in press)

# Summary of EoE Present and Future

- EoE will continue to increase worldwide including Asia
- The etiology is unclear but likely multifactorial including genetic, allergic, microbial and iatrogenic origins
- Diet therapy will become more attractive with a one food elimination diet
- Therapies will continue to emerge as we further dissect the pathways
- Lifelong maintenance treatment is suggested and will be tailored based on the identification of severity and prognostic phenotypes.