



# Expanding our view of ototoxicity as we expand our definition of hearing loss

**Eric C. Bielefeld**  
Department of Speech and Hearing Science



Thanks to those  
with whom I've  
had the good  
fortune to work



Jianxin Bao, PhD



Bo Hua Hu, PhD



Kathrin Meyer, PhD



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

Former Ph.D. students:

**Ryan Harrison, PhD, Ohio Department of Health**

**Riley DeBacker, AuD, PhD, NCRAR**

**Jason Riggs, AuD, PhD, Decibel Therapeutics**

Colleagues in Speech and Hearing Science

Colleagues in Otolaryngology

Colleagues in the Office of Academic Affairs

Current and former AuD students

Current and former undergraduate students

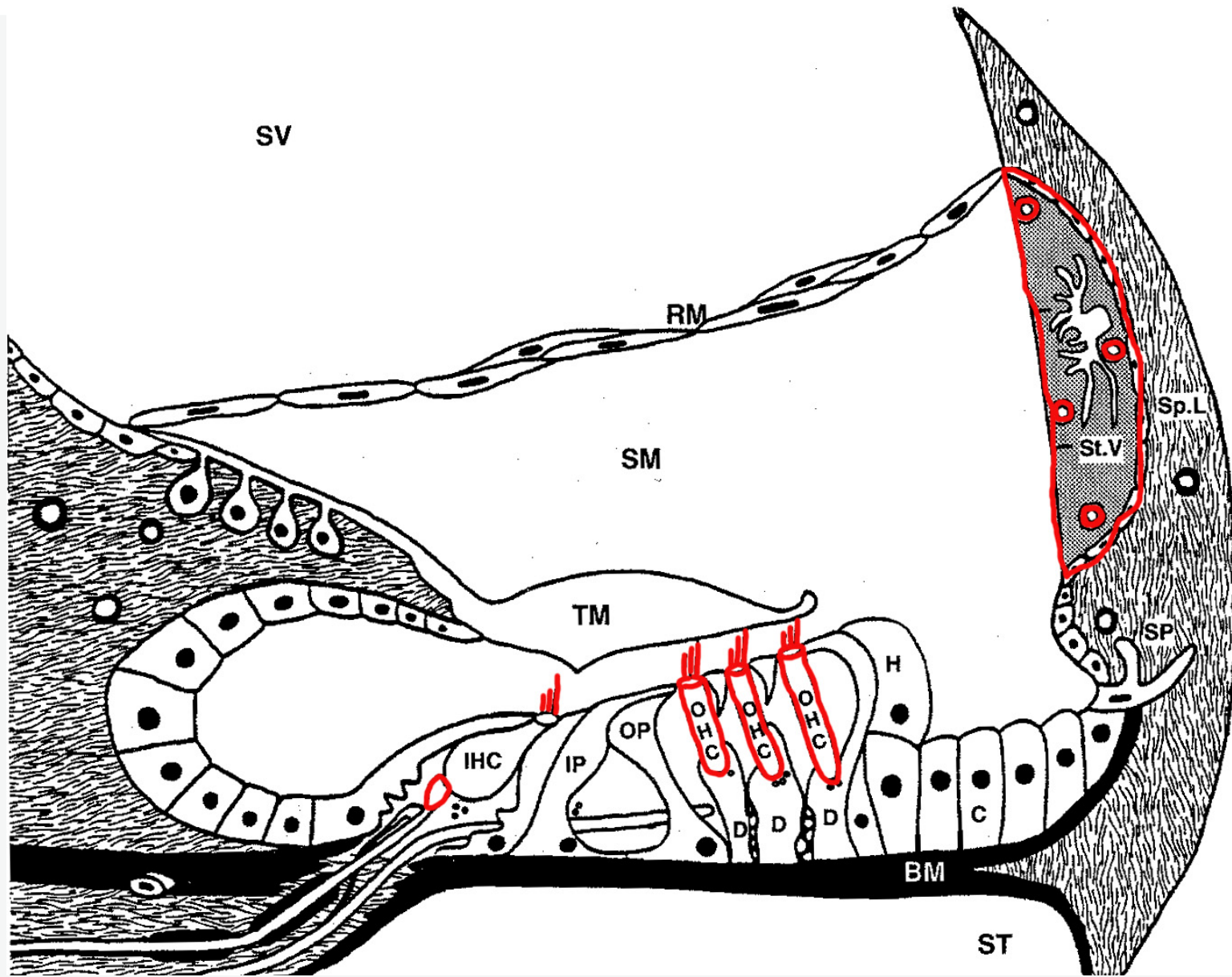


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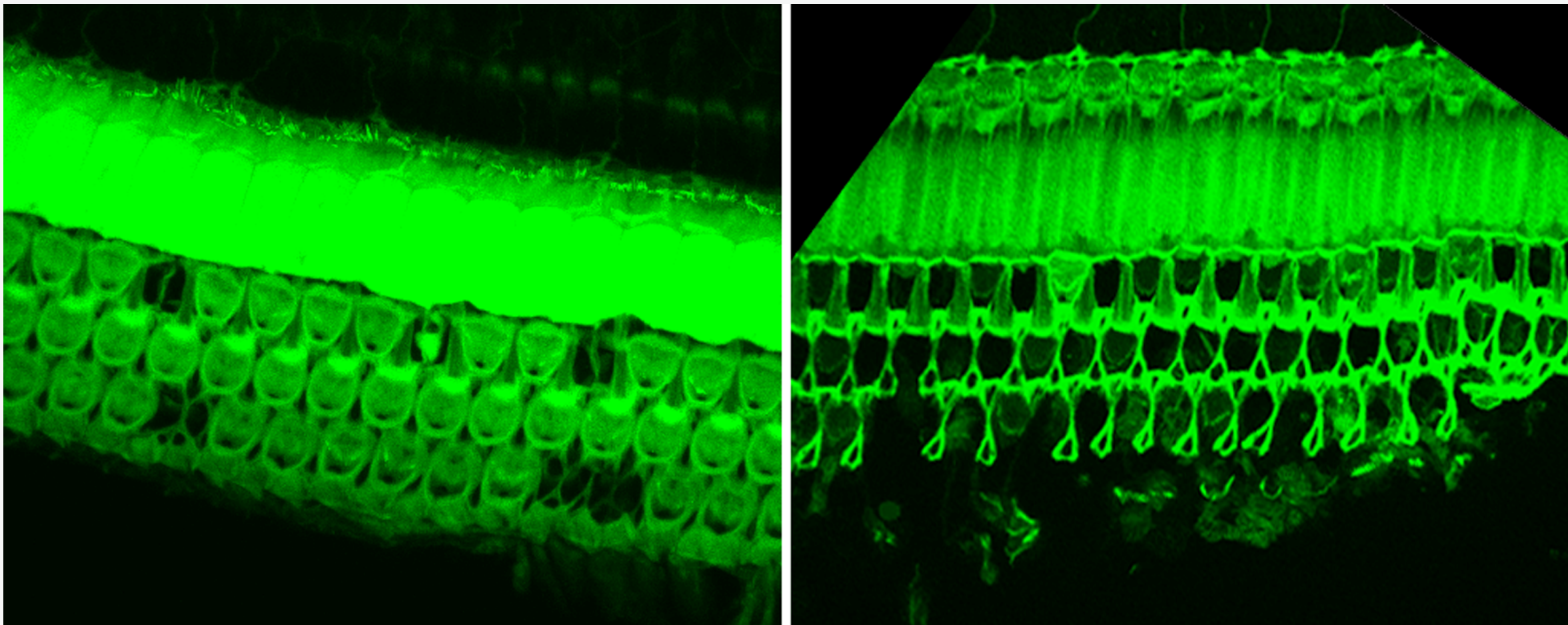
# Outline

- Introduction and overview of expanding the definition of hearing loss and ototoxicity
- Pre-clinical experiments on the interactions of noise, ototoxic drugs, and aging
- Developing clinically-relevant mouse models of ototoxicity
- Approaches to preventing ototoxicity
- Identifying new compounds to evaluate for potential ototoxicity





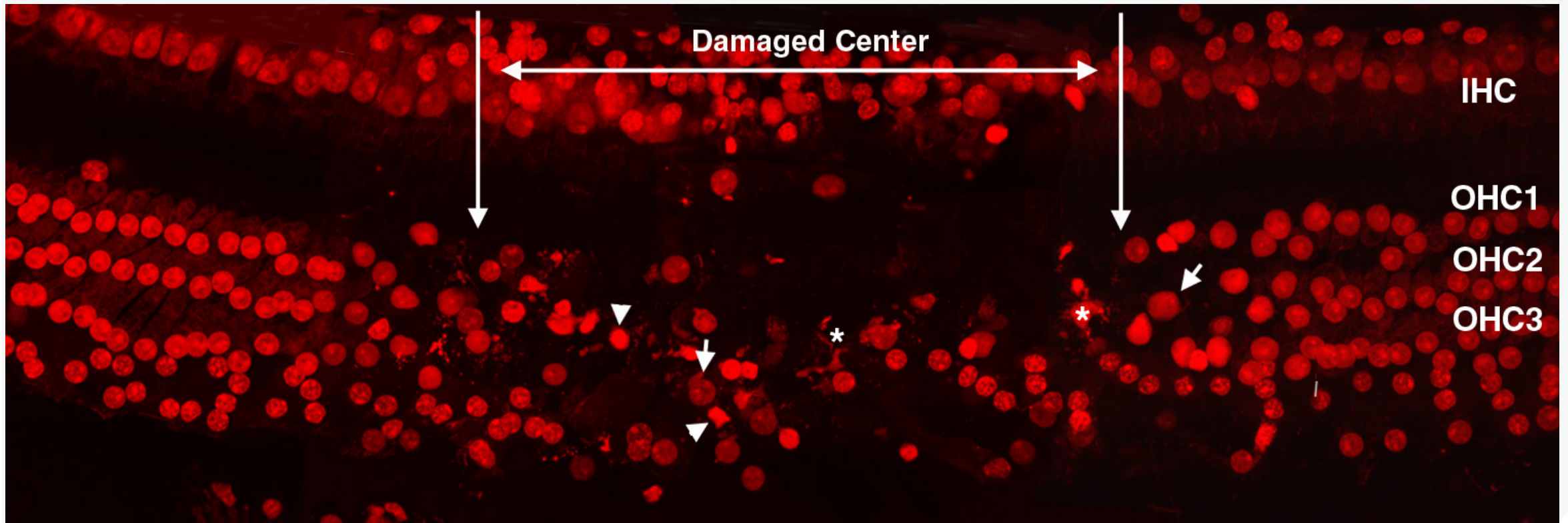
# Noise-induced hearing loss



From Henderson, Bielefeld, Harris, Hu (2006) *Ear and Hearing*

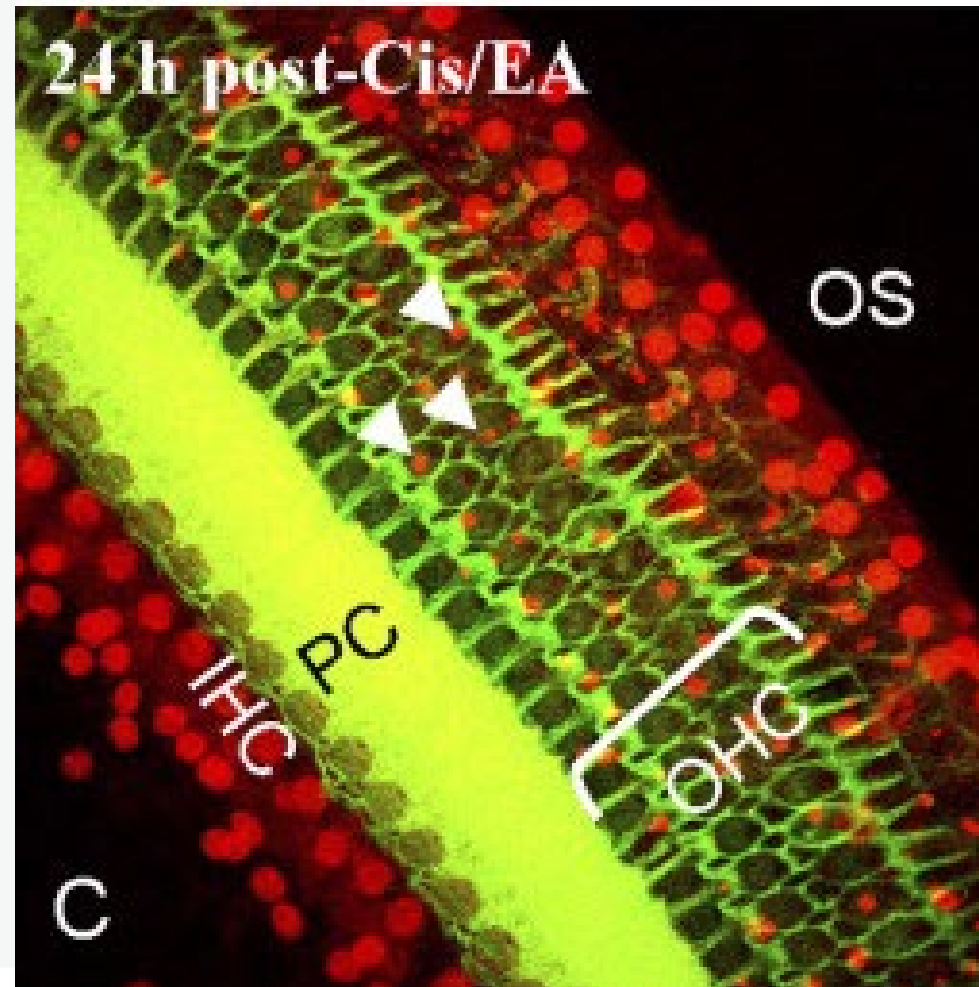
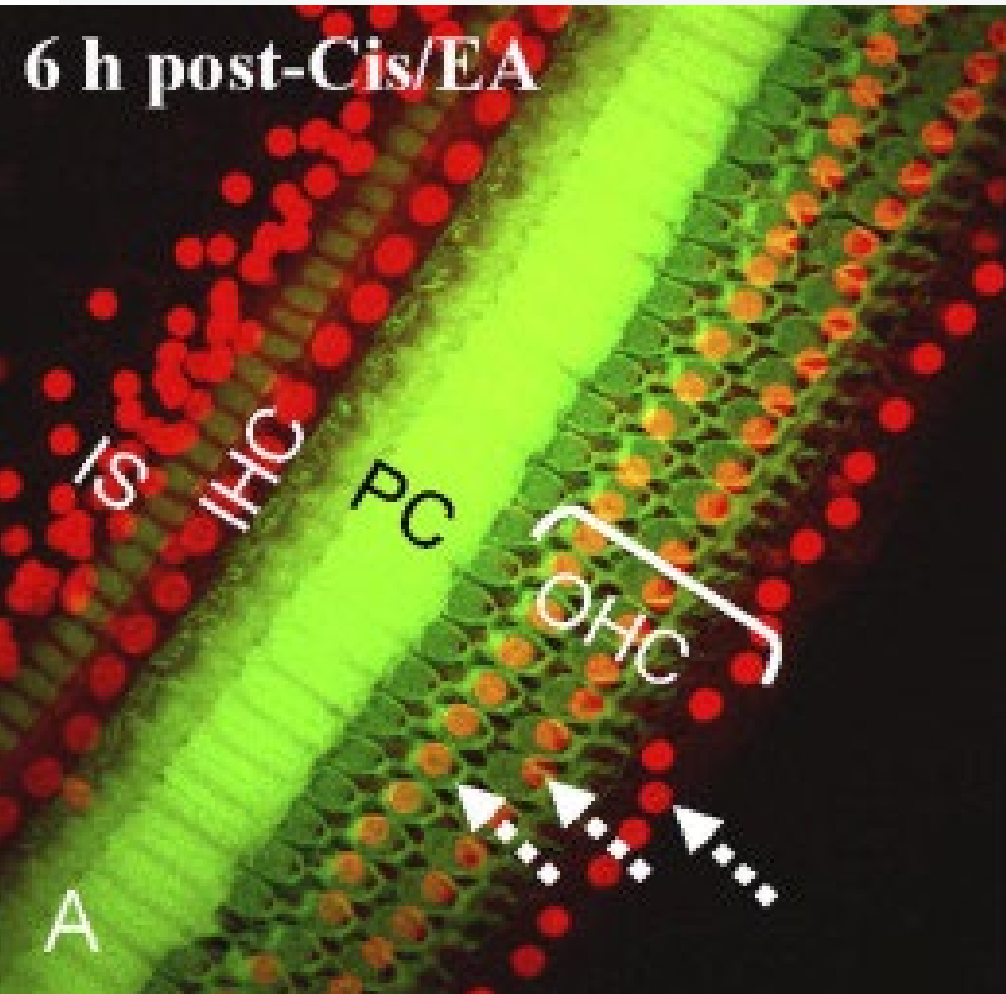


# Necrosis and apoptosis in the noise-exposed OHCs



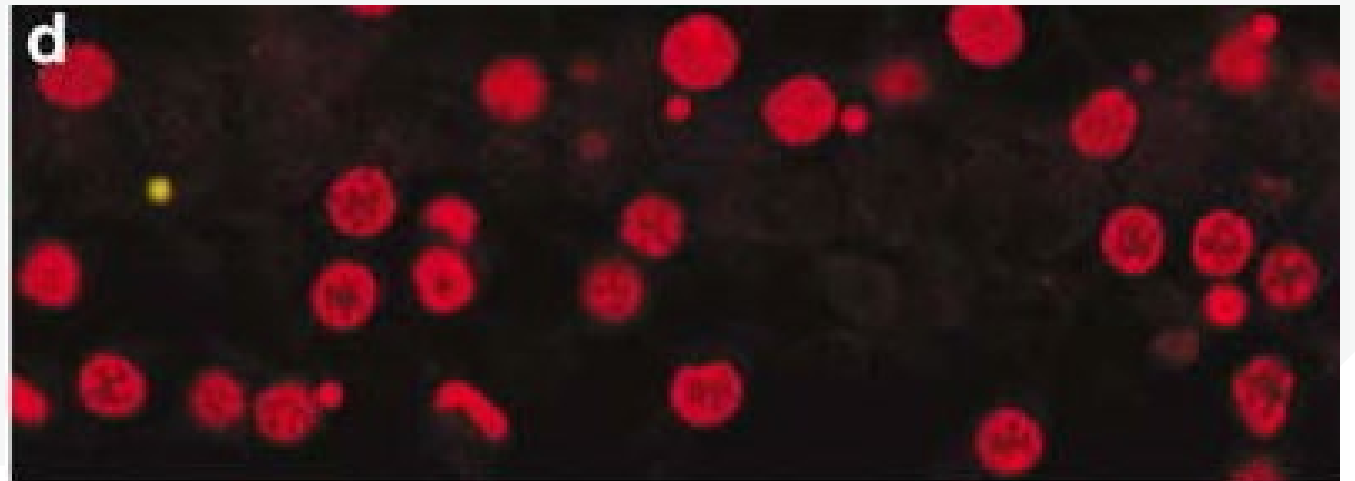
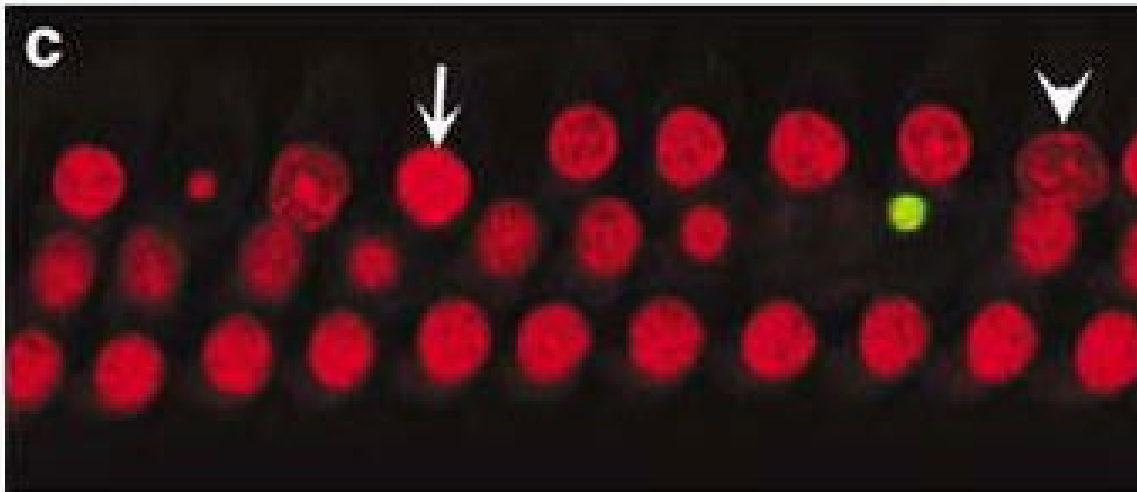
From Henderson, Bielefeld, Harris, Hu (2006) *Ear and Hearing*

# Evidence of Apoptosis in cisplatin-exposed OHC



From Ding,  
Jiang, Wang,  
and Salvi  
(2007)  
Hearing  
Research  
226, 129-139

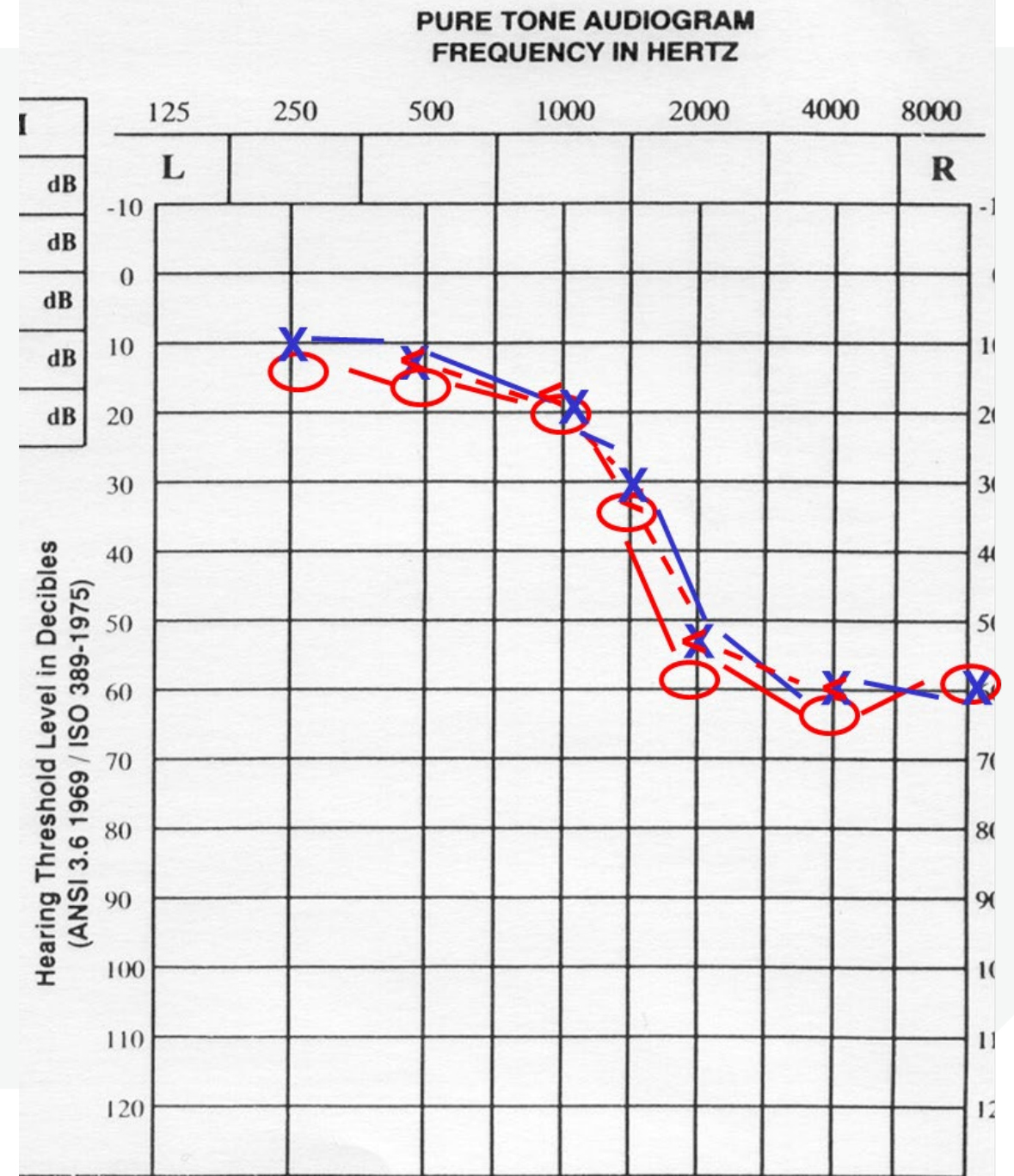
# — Apoptosis in OHC exposed to kanamycin



From Jiang, Sha, Forge, and Schacht (2006). Cell Death and Differentiation, 13(1), 20-30.



Throughout, the focus was on direct threshold shift from the noise or ototoxic drug



# How else should we be thinking about ototoxicity?

- The overall hearing health of our patients over a 9-10 decade lifespan should be part of the mindset
- One additional thought about ototoxicity is how it predisposes the ear to future hearing losses from noise or aging
- Noise-aging interaction can serve as a model



# 75 year-old woman with no noise exposure/ototoxicity history

## Speech Audiometry

Condition	SRT	Discrim	SL	EM
Right	<b>15</b> dB	<b>88</b> %	<b>40</b> dB	dB
Left	<b>10</b> dB	<b>96</b> %	<b>40</b> dB	dB
SF	dB	%	dB	dB
Aided Right	dB	%	dB	dB
Aided Left	dB	%	dB	dB

Right Ear MCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB UCL \_\_\_\_\_ dBHL

Left Ear MCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB UCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB

## TYMPANOMETRY

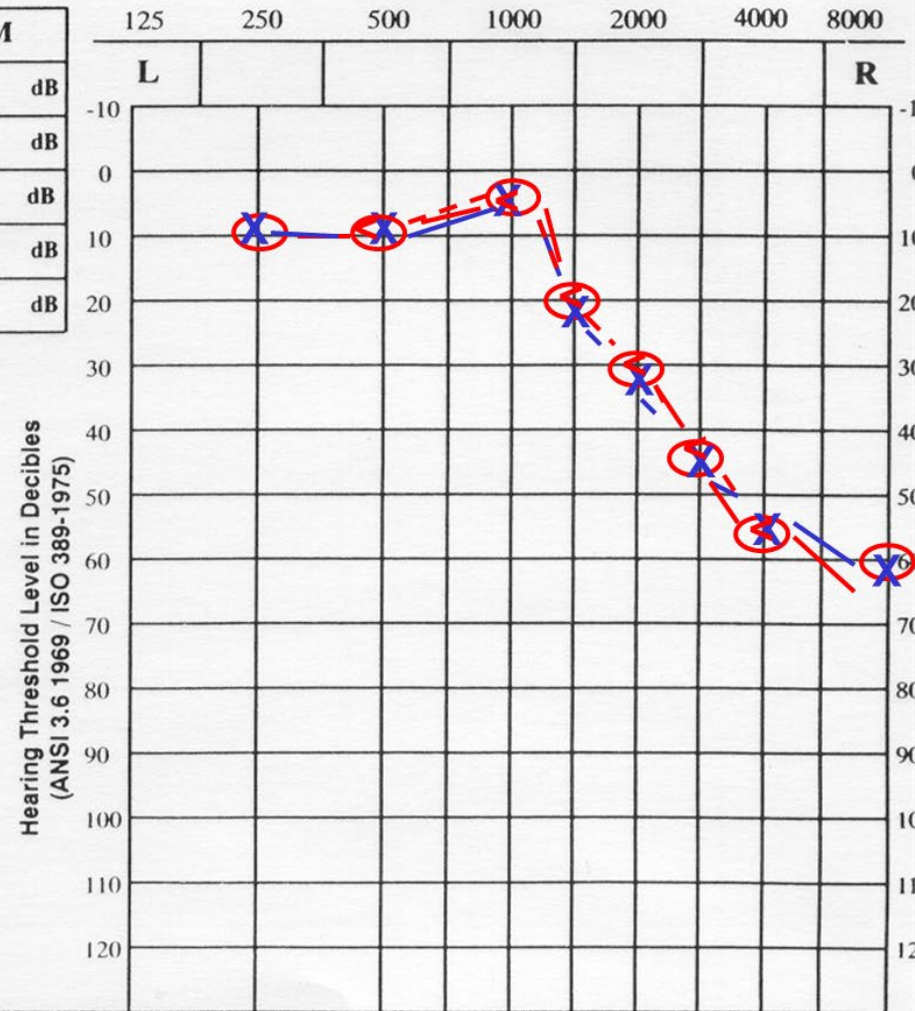
RT Ear Curve **A** Pressure **5** Vol **1.0**

LT Ear Curve **A** Pressure **5** Vol **1.2**

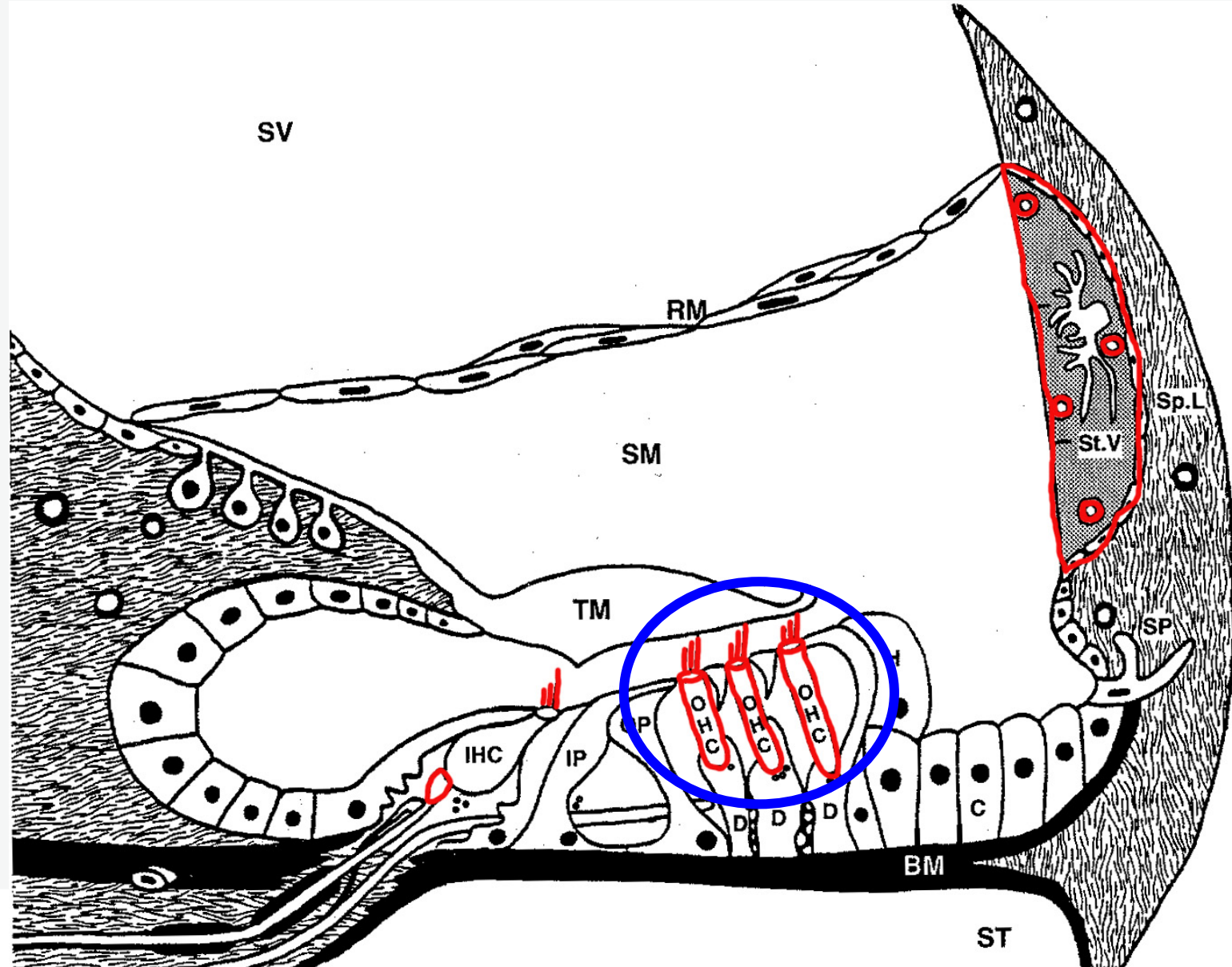
## Audiogram Code

EAR	AIR		BONE		Sound Field	
	Un-Masked	Masked	Un-Masked	Masked	Aided	Un Aided
R	○-○	△-△	<---<	[ [	A	S
L	x-x	□-□	>--->	] ]	A	S

## PURE TONE AUDIOGRAM FREQUENCY IN HERTZ



# Outer hair cell pathology- Sensory presbycusis?



# 85 year-old woman with no noise exposure/ototoxicity history

## Speech Audiometry

Condition	SRT	Discrim	SL	EM
Right	<b>40</b> dB	<b>92</b> %	<b>40</b> dB	dB
Left	<b>40</b> dB	<b>92</b> %	<b>40</b> dB	dB
SF	dB	%	dB	dB
Aided Right	dB	%	dB	dB
Aided Left	dB	%	dB	dB

Right Ear MCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB UCL \_\_\_\_\_ dBHL

Left Ear MCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB UCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB

## TYMPANOMETRY

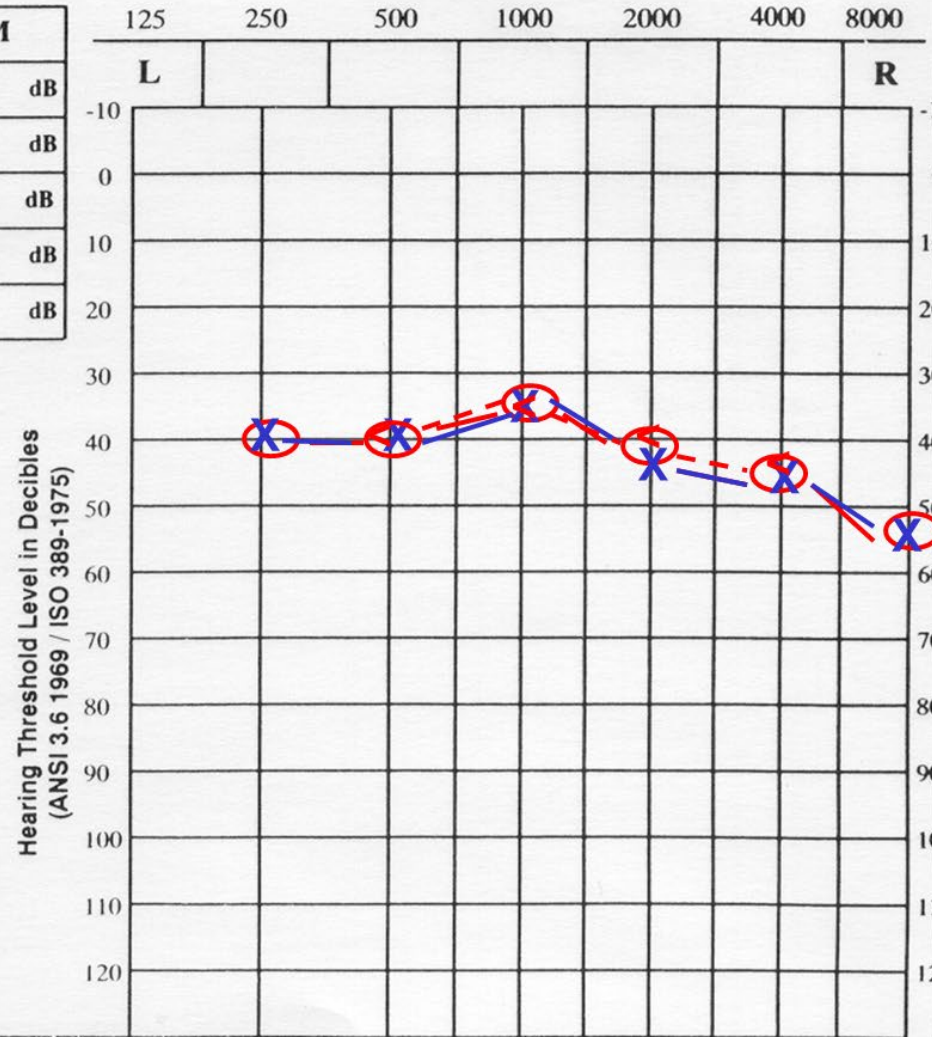
RT Ear Curve **A** Pressure **-60** Vol **1.3**

LT Ear Curve **A** Pressure **-45** Vol **1.1**

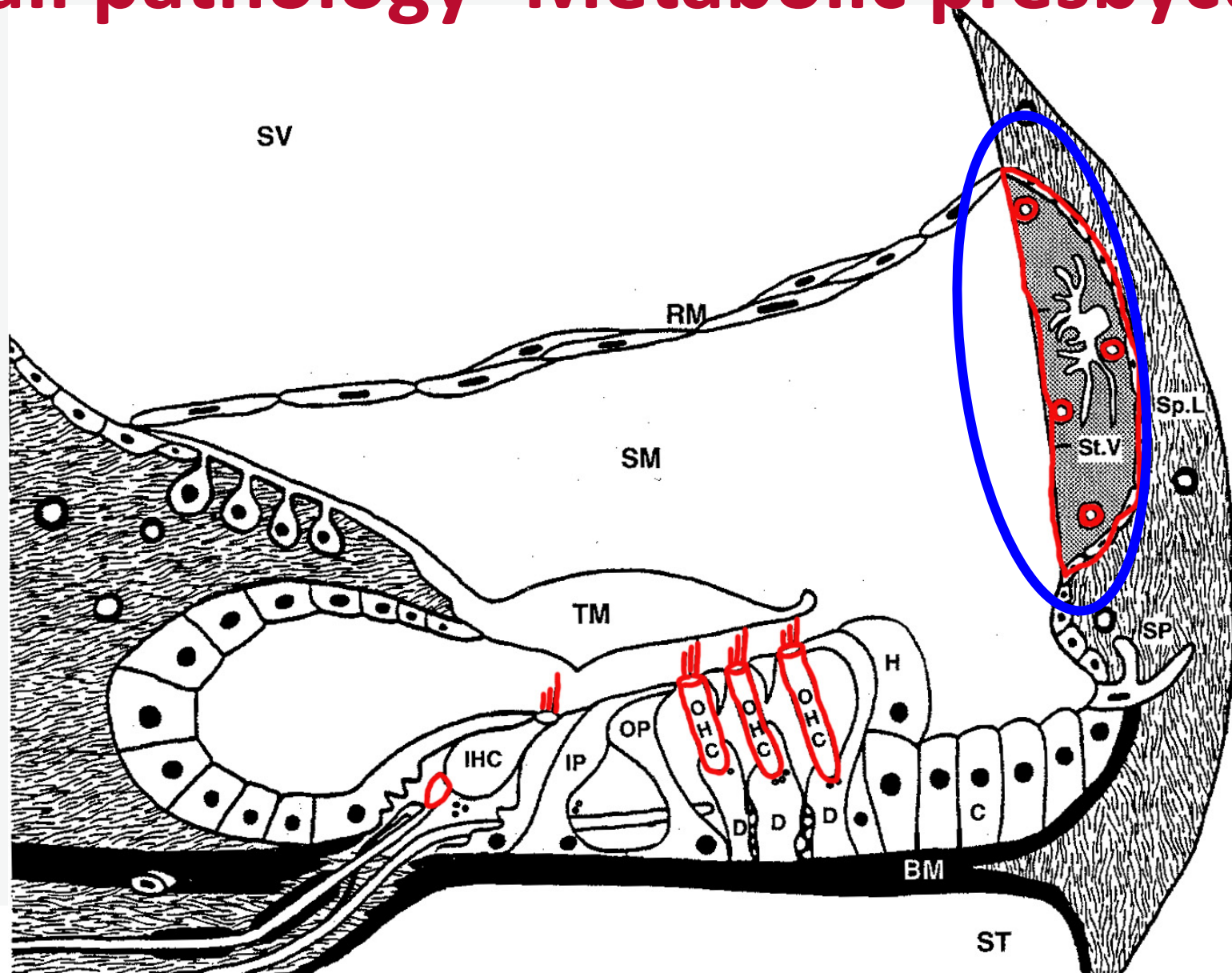
## Audiogram Code

EAR	AIR		BONE		Sound Field	
	Un-Masked	Masked	Un-Masked	Masked	Aided	Un Aided
R	○-○	△-△	<---<	[ [	A	S
L	x-x	□-□	>--->	] ]	A	S

## PURE TONE AUDIOGRAM FREQUENCY IN HERTZ



# Lateral wall pathology- Metabolic presbycusis?



# 86 year-old man with possible early-age noise exposure history

## Speech Audiometry

Condition	SRT	Discrim	SL	EM
Right	<b>65</b> dB	<b>28</b> %	<b>20</b> dB	dB
Left	<b>70</b> dB	<b>36</b> %	<b>20</b> dB	dB
SF	dB	%	dB	dB
Aided Right	dB	%	dB	dB
Aided Left	dB	%	dB	dB

Right Ear MCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB UCL \_\_\_\_\_ dBHL

Left Ear MCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB UCL \_\_\_\_\_ dB

## TYMPANOMETRY

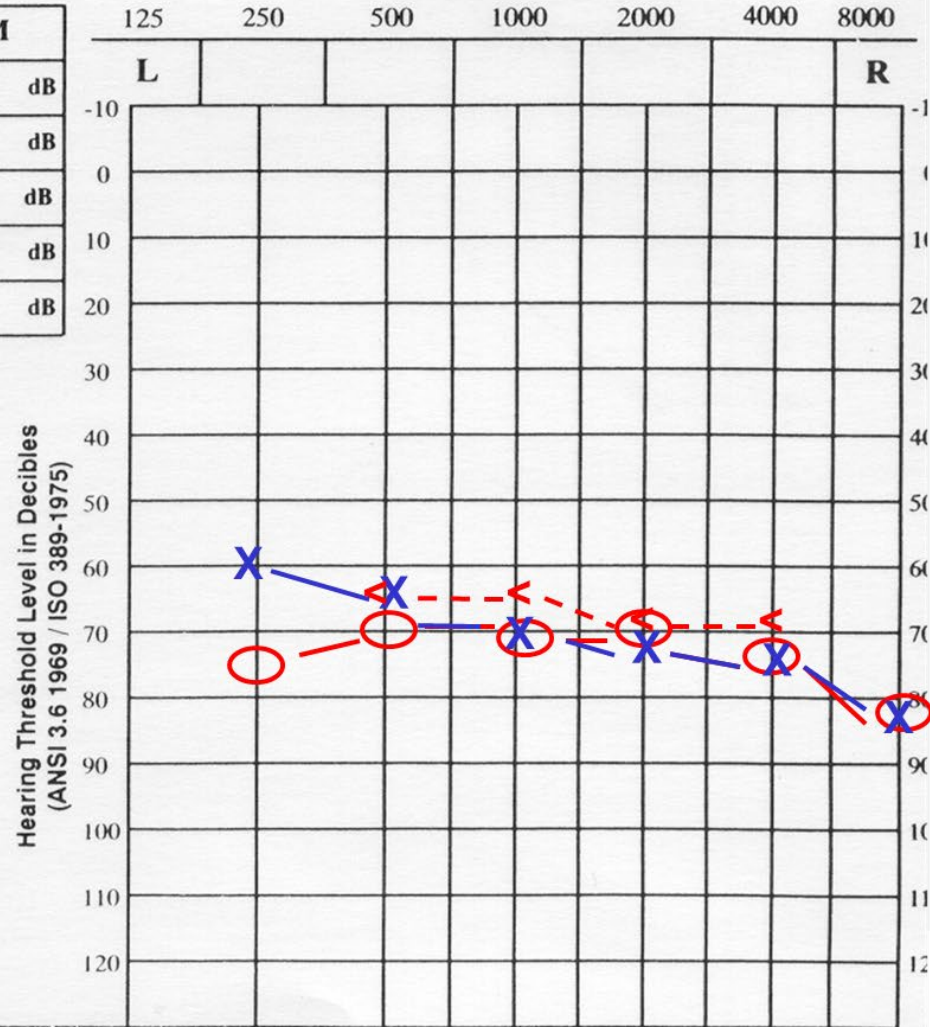
RT Ear Curve **A** Pressure **60** Vol **1.4**

LT Ear Curve **A** Pressure **45** Vol **1.3**

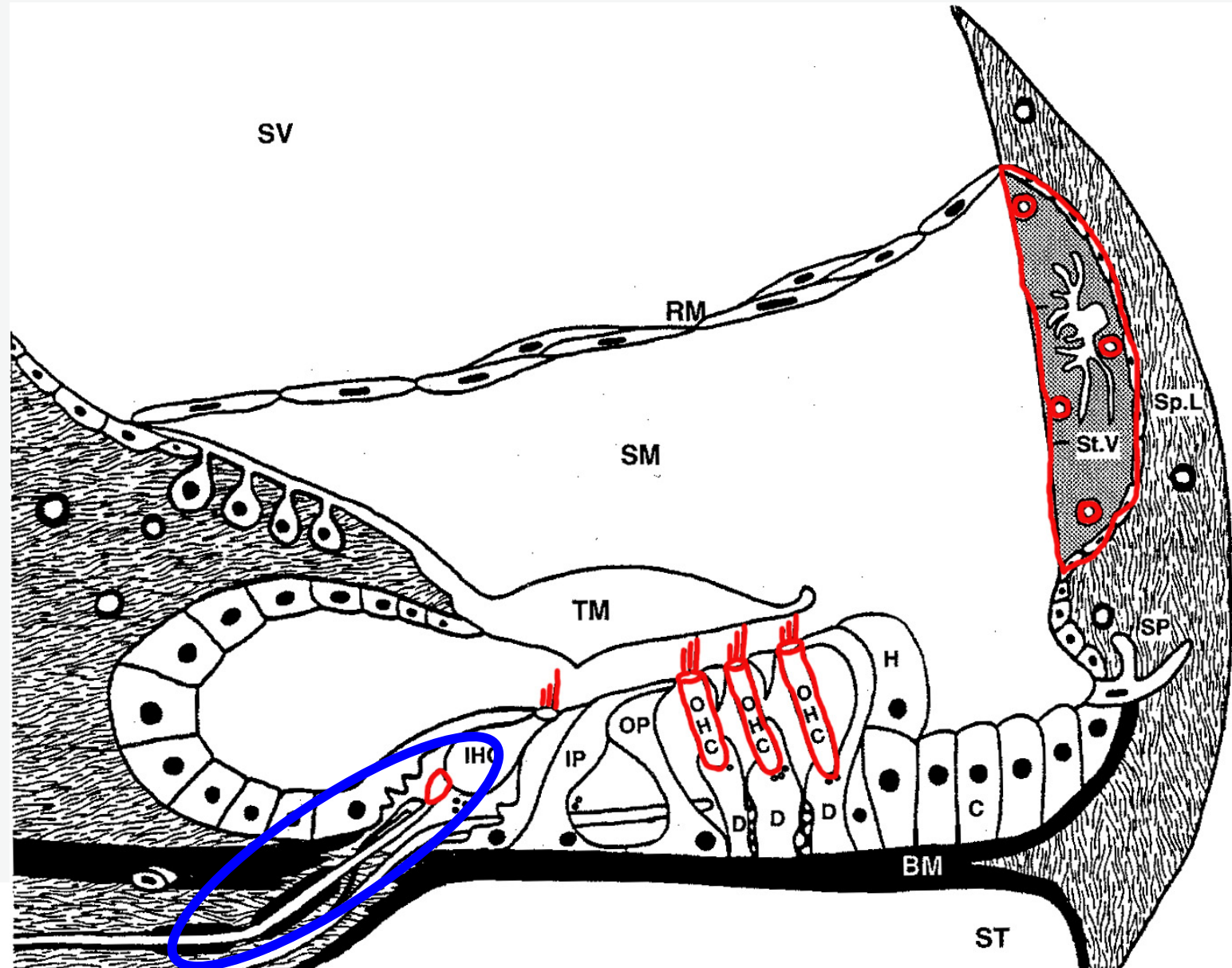
## Audiogram Code

EAR	AIR		BONE		Sound Field	
	Un-Masked	Masked	Un-Masked	Masked	Aided	Un Aided
R	○-○	△-△	<---<	[ [	A	S
L	x-x	□-□	>--->	] ]	A	S

## PURE TONE AUDIOGRAM FREQUENCY IN HERTZ

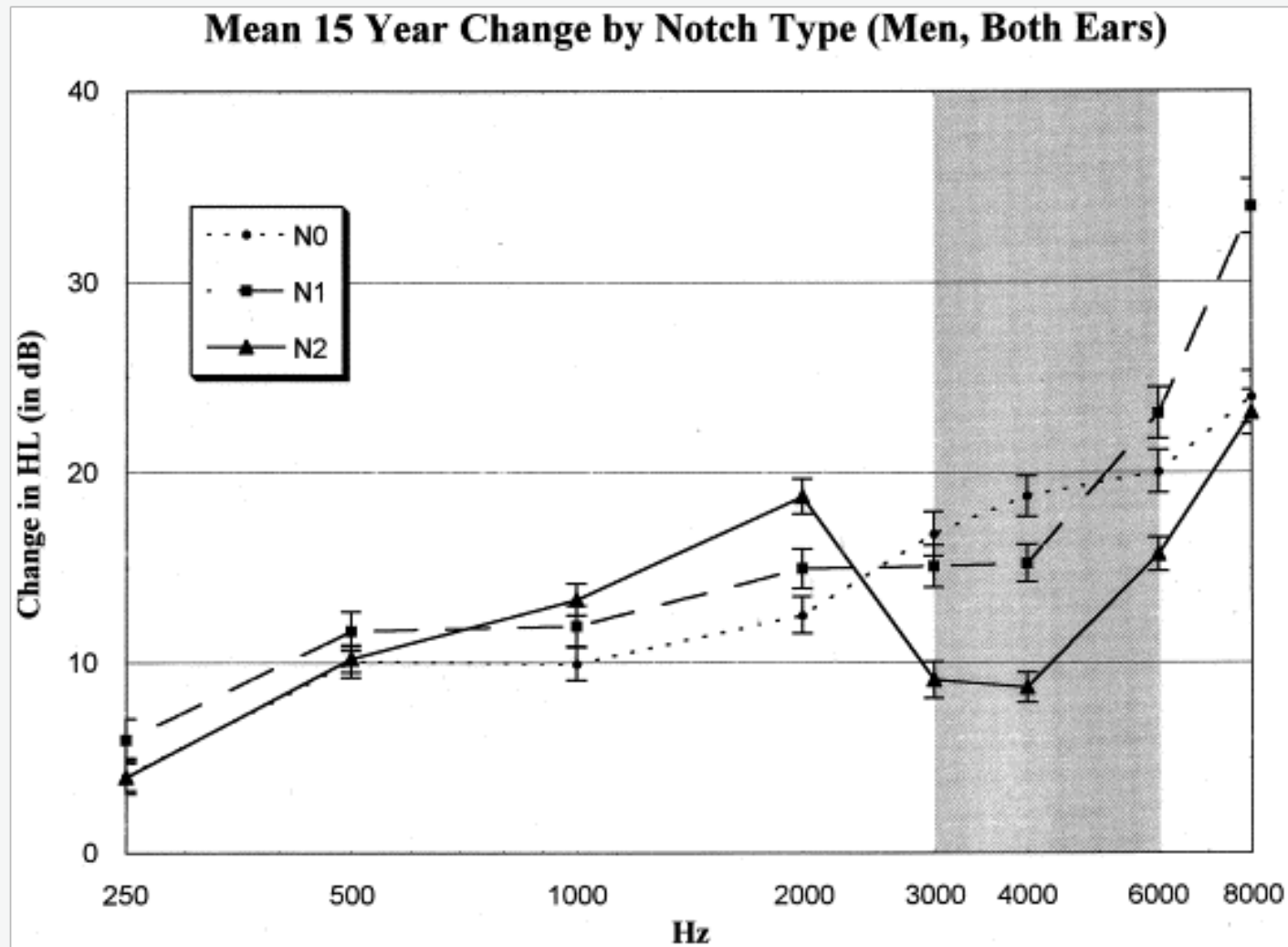


# Afferent auditory nerve pathology - Neural presbycusis?





# Interaction of noise and aging on thresholds is complex



From Gates, G.A., Cooper, J.C. Jr, Kannel, W.B., & Miller, N.J. (1990). *Ear and Hearing*, 11, 247-256.



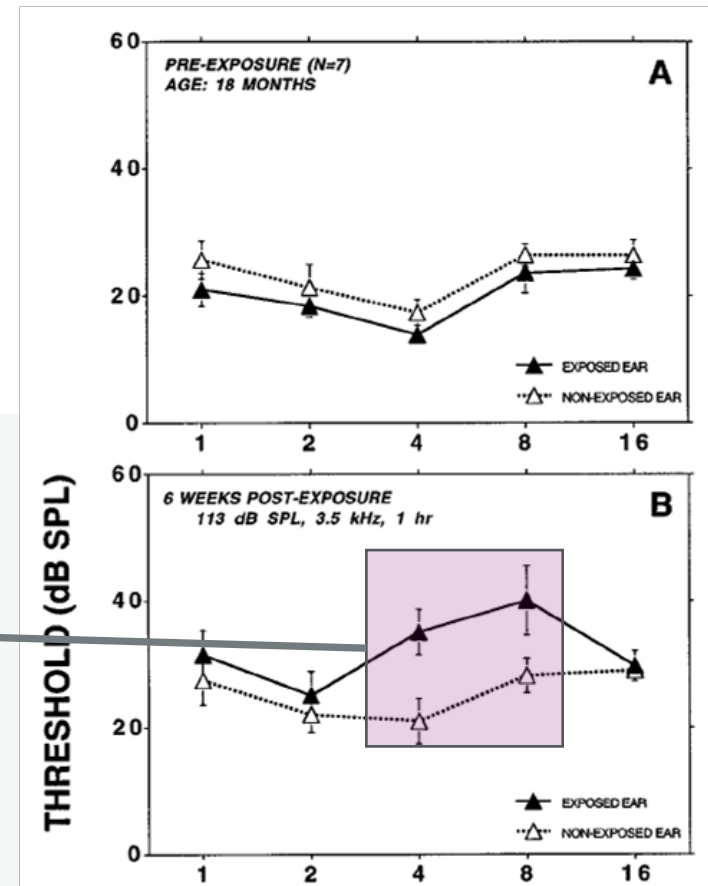
# Human data

- Noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) reduces age-related hearing loss (ARHL) in the noise notch
- NIHL increases ARHL in the adjacent frequency



# Impact of NIHL on ARHL may depend on pathology of ARHL

Noise-exposed Mongolian gerbil ears show significantly higher thresholds at 6 weeks after noise

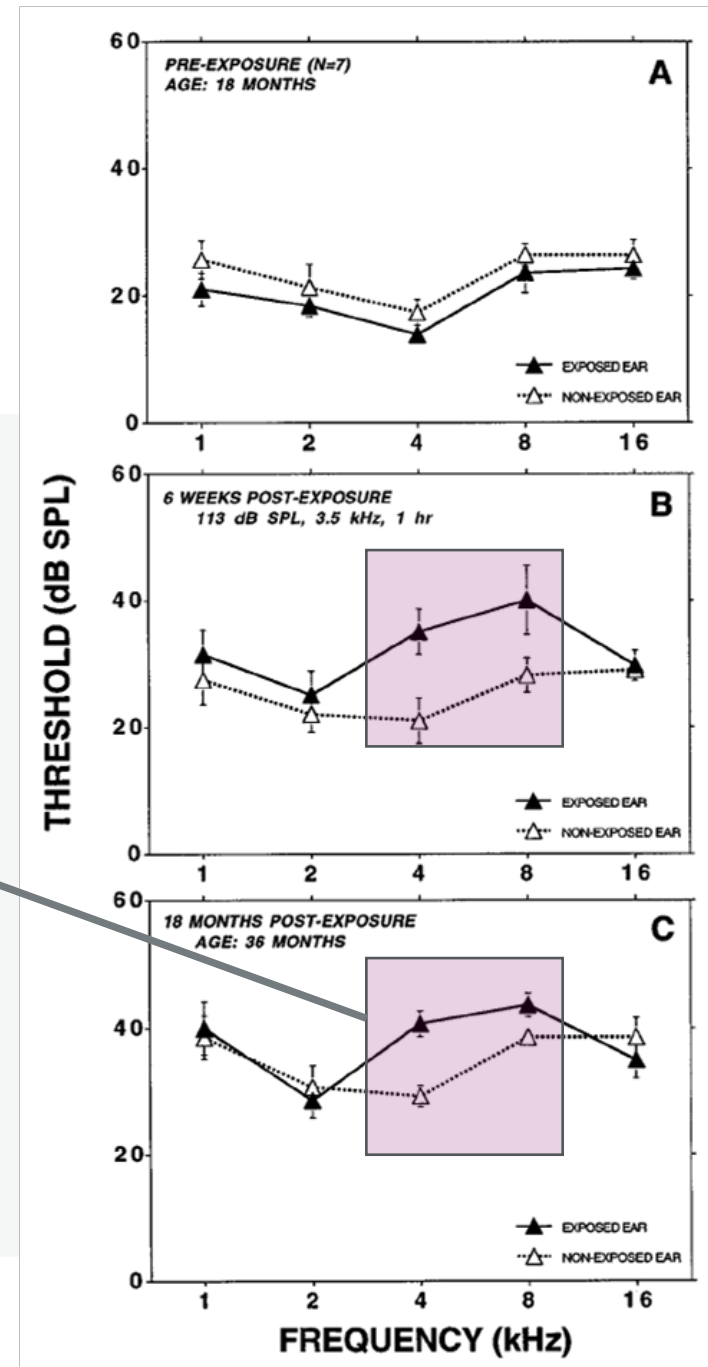


From Mills, J.H., Boettcher, F.A., Dubno, J.R. 1997. *JASA*, 101, 1681-6.

# Impact of NIHL on ARHL may depend on pathology of ARHL

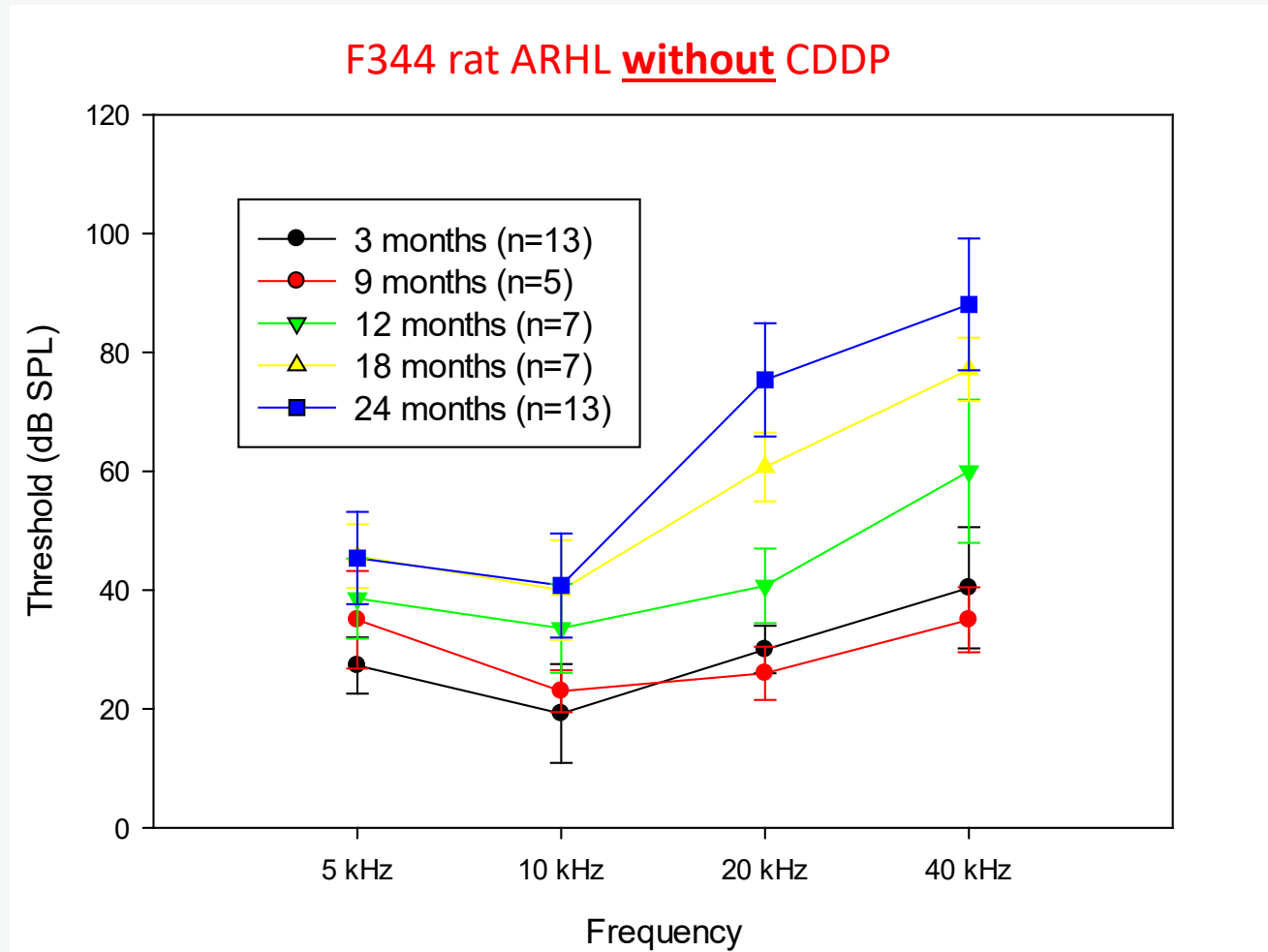
Non-noise-exposed ears show significantly higher threshold shift from 6 weeks to 18 months post exposure

From Mills et al. (1997)



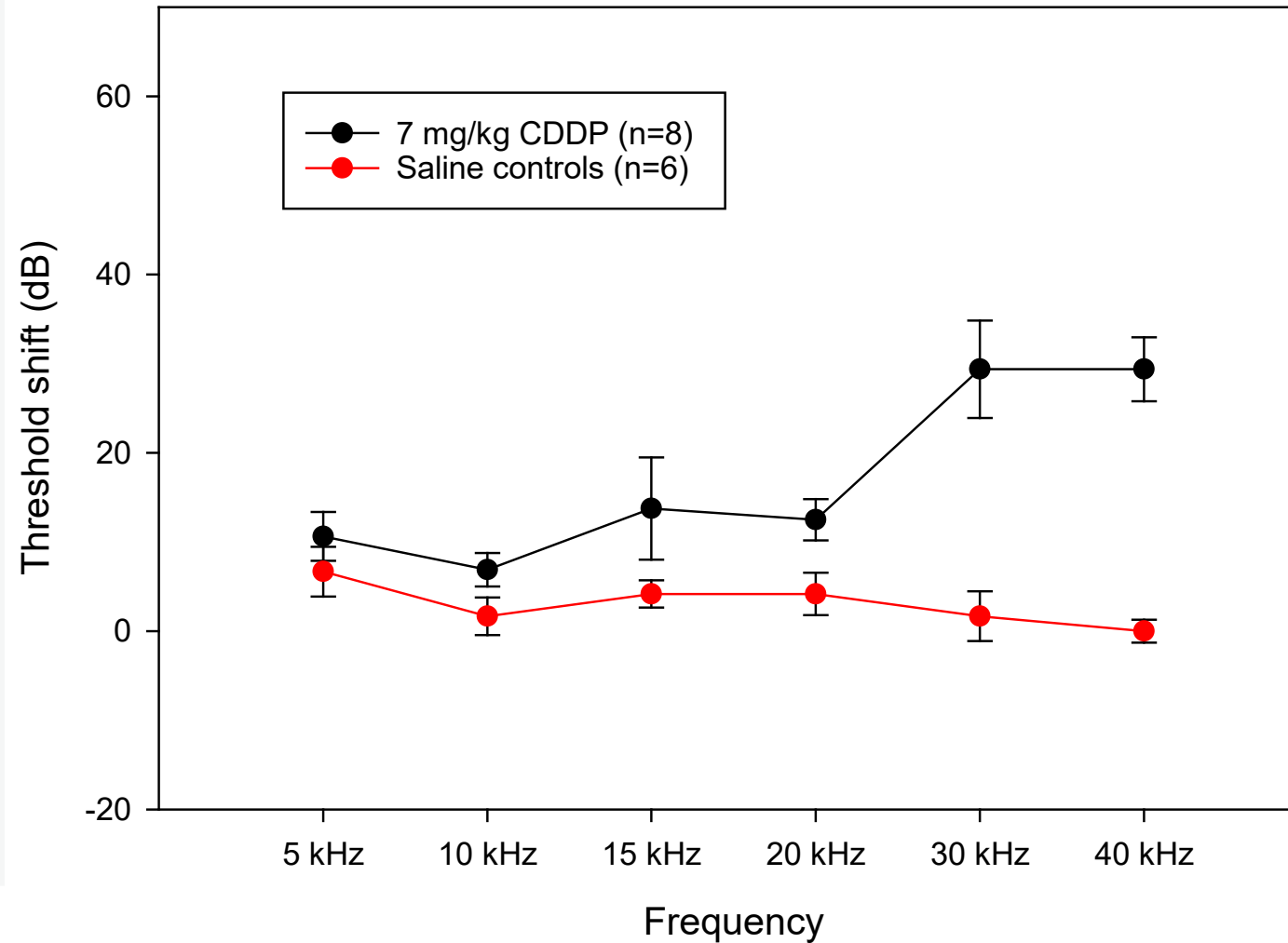
# Cisplatin ototoxicity – aging interaction

- Fischer 344 rats dosed with 7 mg/kg CDDP via i.p. injection at age 7 months
- Tracked through age 18 months

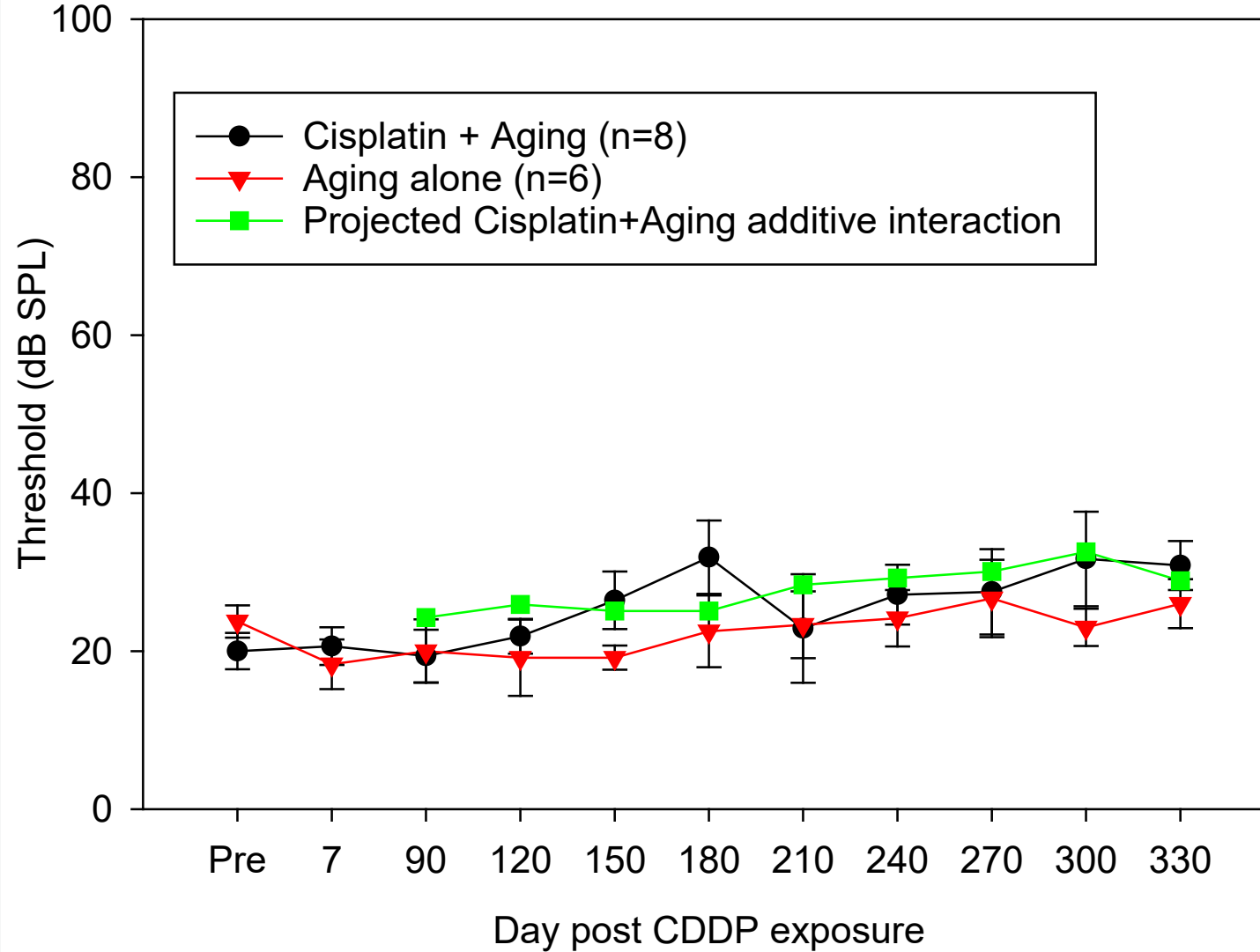


From Bielefeld, Coling, Chen, Li, Tanaka, Hu, Henderson (2008). *Hearing Research*, 245, 48-57.

# Acute threshold shift from cisplatin

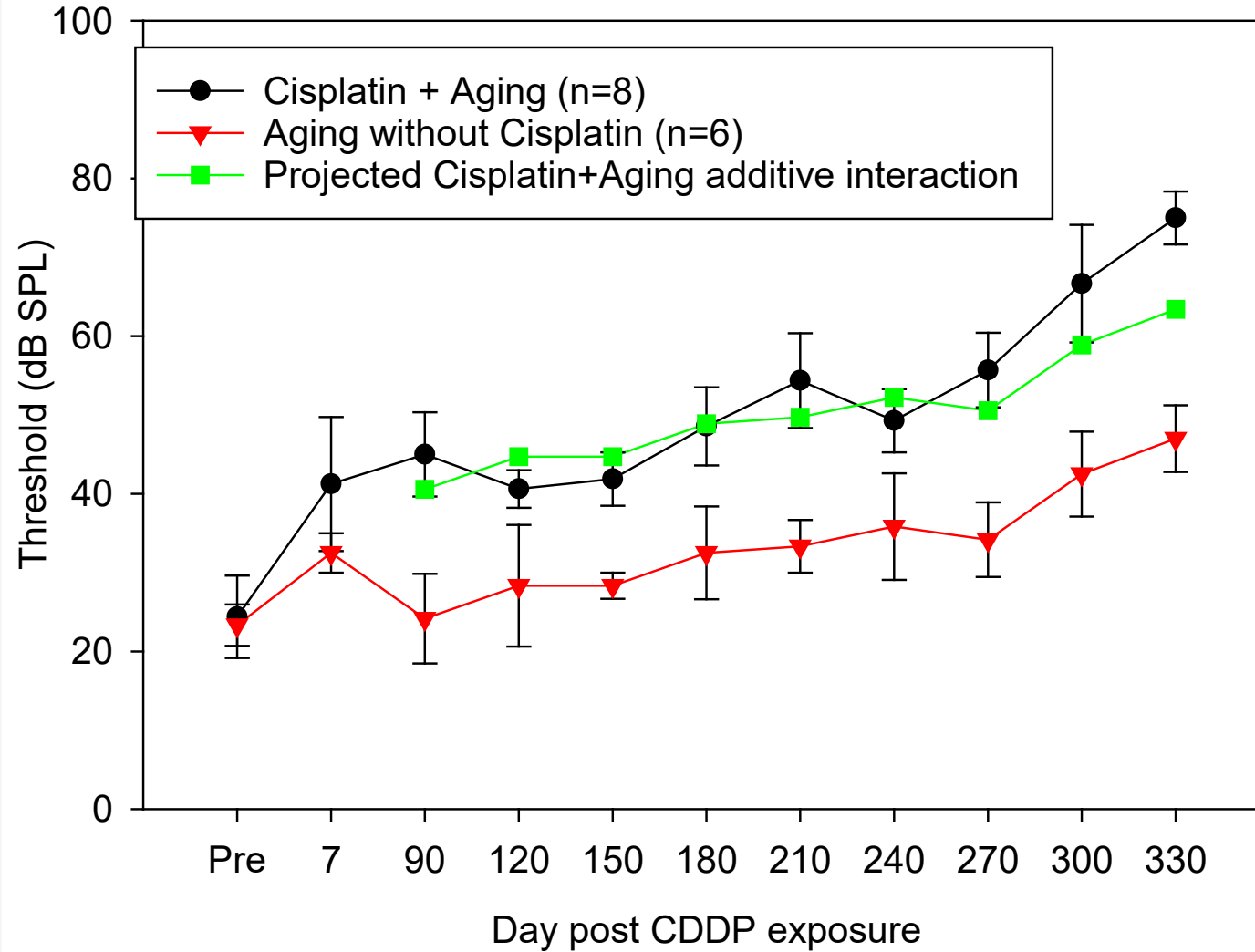


# 10 kHz



From Bielefeld (2013). *Hearing Research*, 306, 46-53.

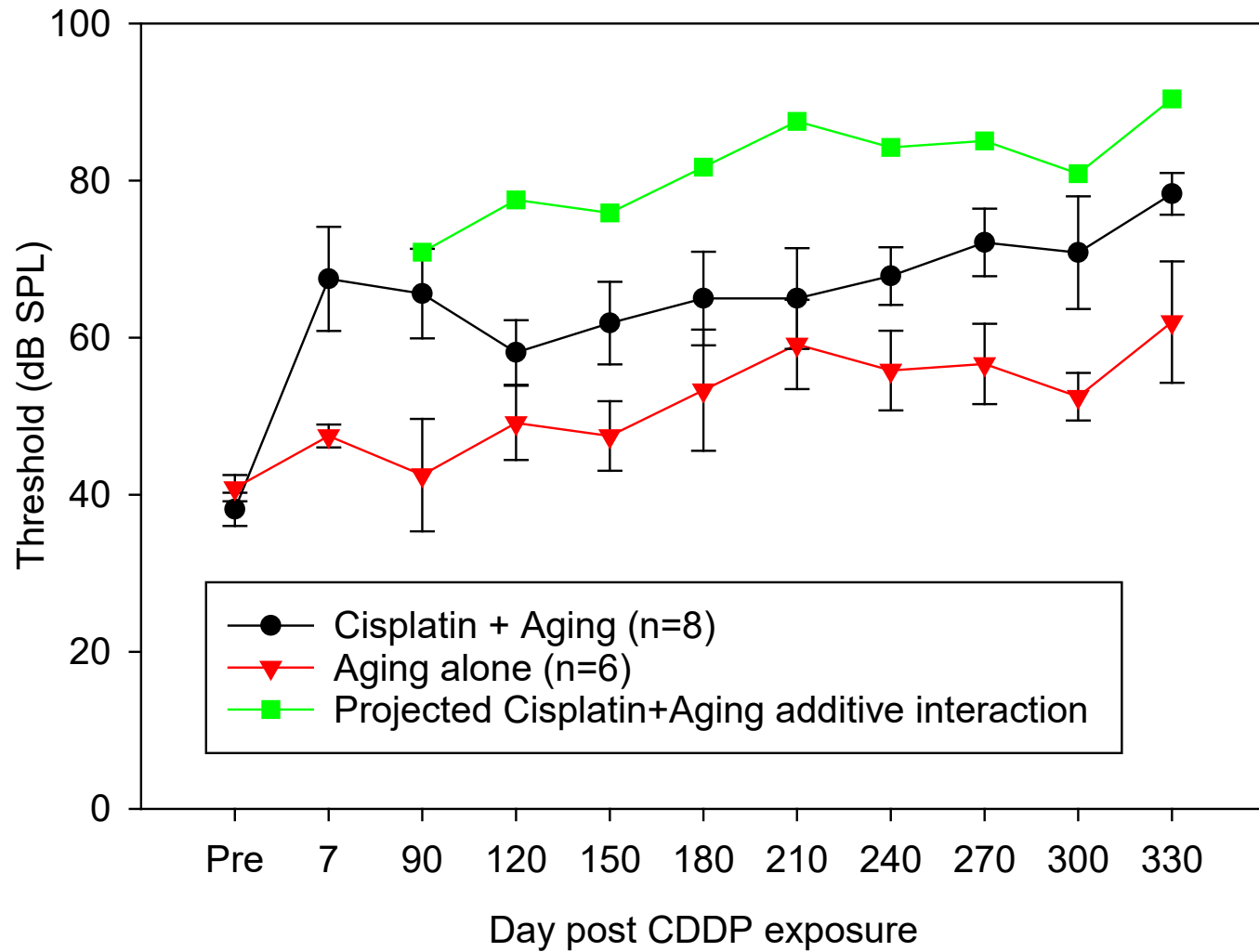
# 20 kHz



From Bielefeld (2013)



# 30 kHz



From Bielefeld (2013)

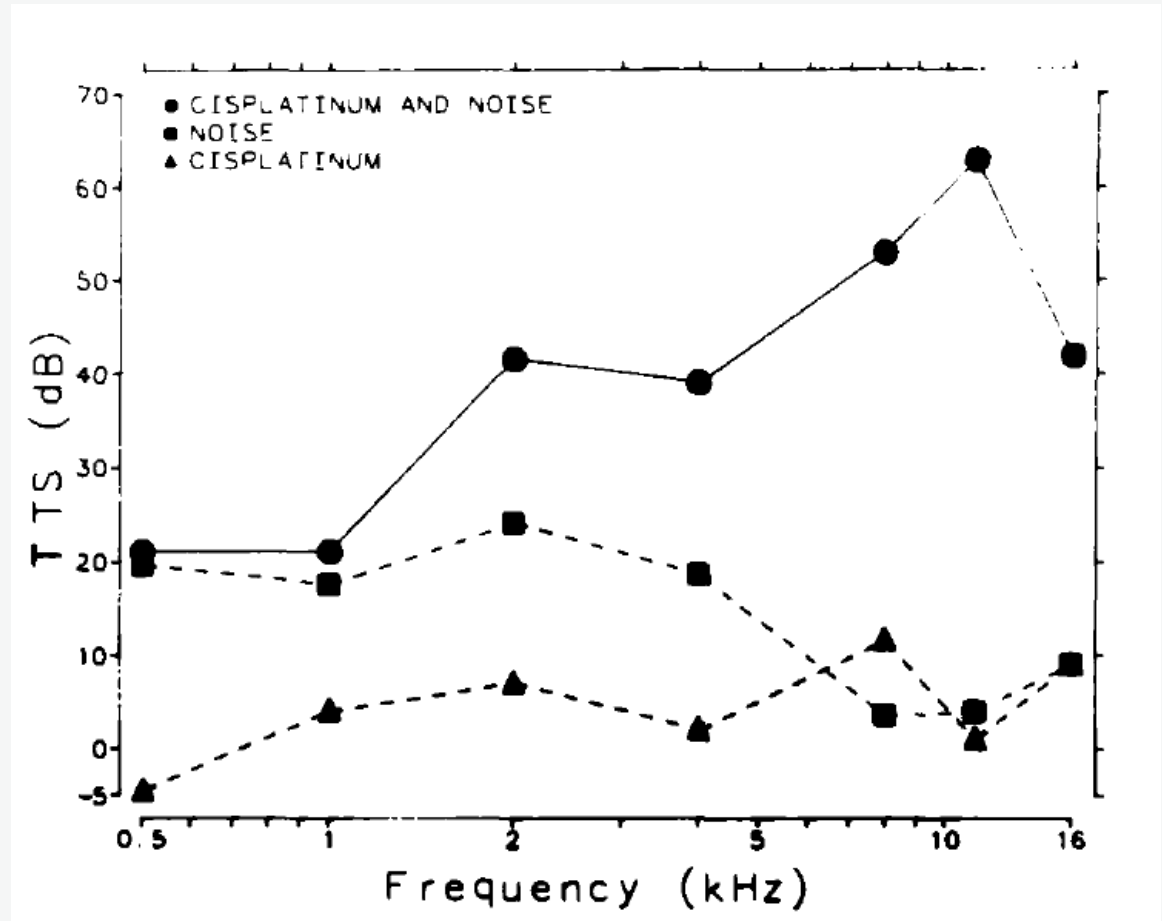
# Rat Cisplatin-aging interaction

- Less threshold shift in the affected high frequencies
- More threshold shift at 20 kHz – the transition point of the acute threshold shift
- Similar to the Gates et al. 1990 data in humans with noise history



# Cisplatin ototoxicity – noise interaction

- Concurrent noise-CDDP synergistic interaction is well-documented
- If CDDP injury can accelerate ARHL, could CDDP permanently predispose ear to NIHL?



From Boettcher, Henderson, Gratton, Danielson, Byrne (1987). *Ear and Hearing*, 8, 192-212.

# Experiment:

- Fischer 344/NHsd rats
- Cisplatin: 10 mg/kg cumulative dose over 8 weeks
- Noise: 10 kHz, 2-OBN, at 110 dB SPL for 2 hrs



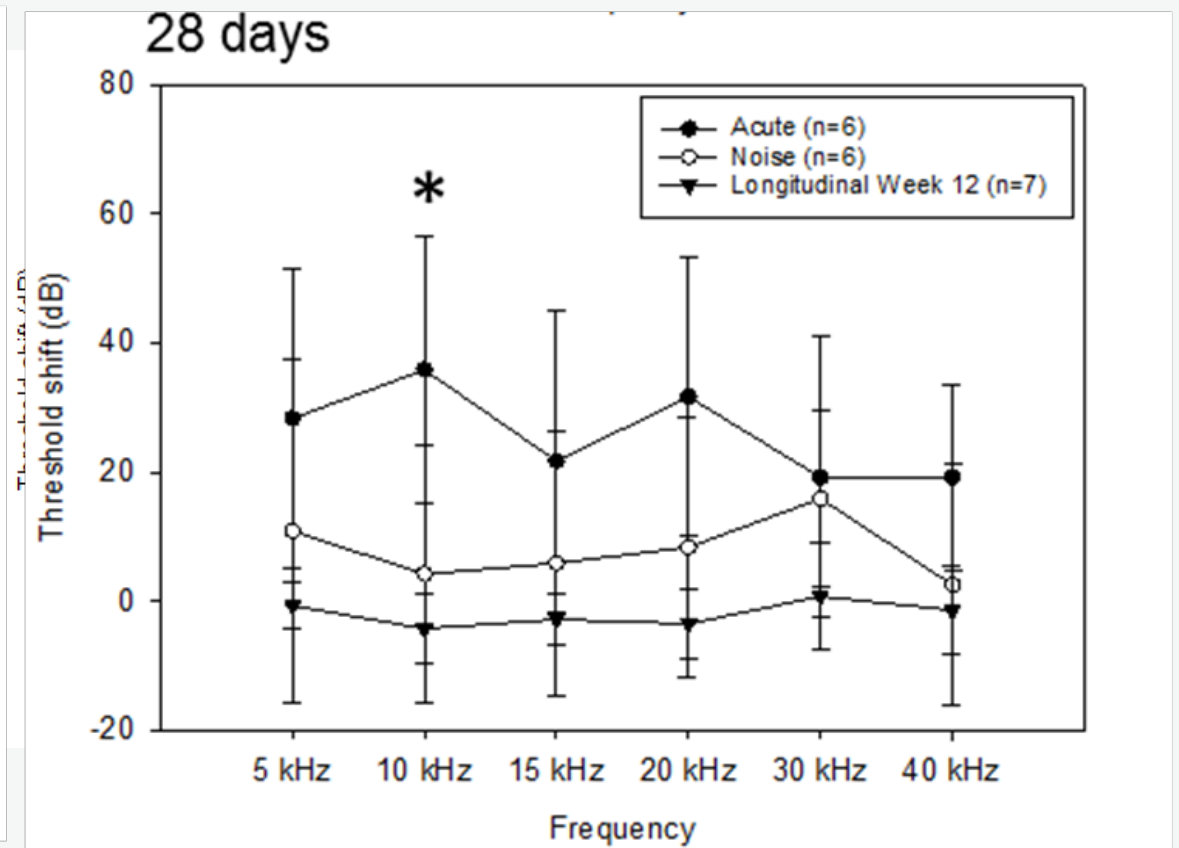
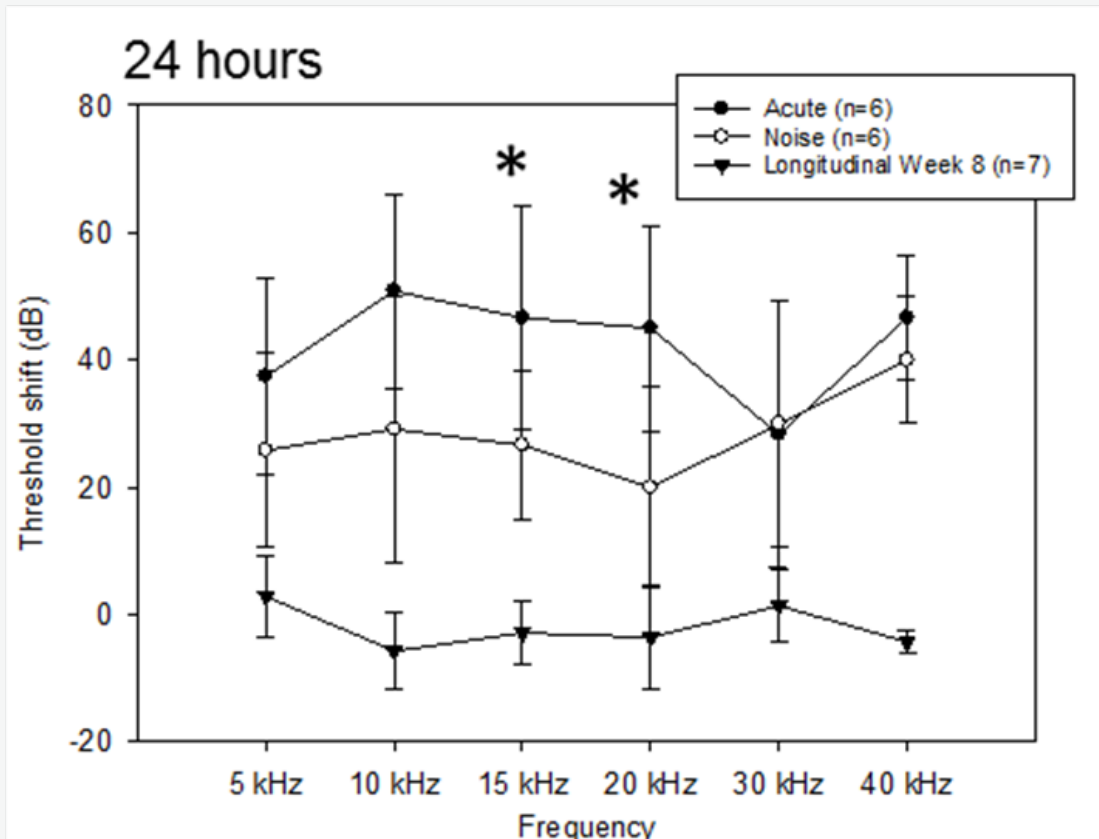
# Five groups:

From DeBacker, Harrison, Bielefeld (2017). *Ear and Hearing*, 38, 282-291

Group	Exposure and Testing Paradigm				
CDDP	Cisplatin	ABR and Tissue Collection			
Noise	X	Noise	ABR and Tissue Collection		
Acute	Cisplatin	Noise	ABR and Tissue Collection		
Delayed	Cisplatin	16-week Monitoring Period		Noise	ABR and Tissue Collection
Longitudinal	Cisplatin	20-week Monitoring Period			ABR and Tissue Collection



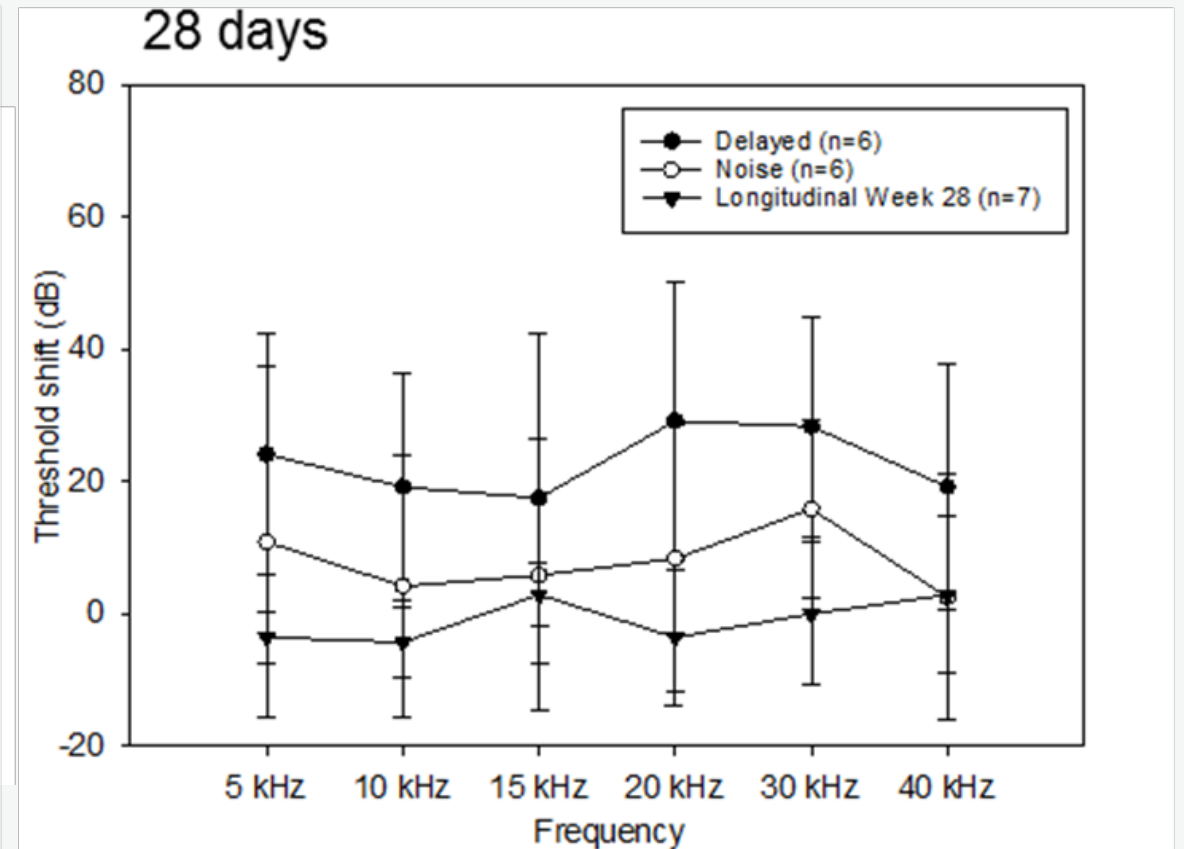
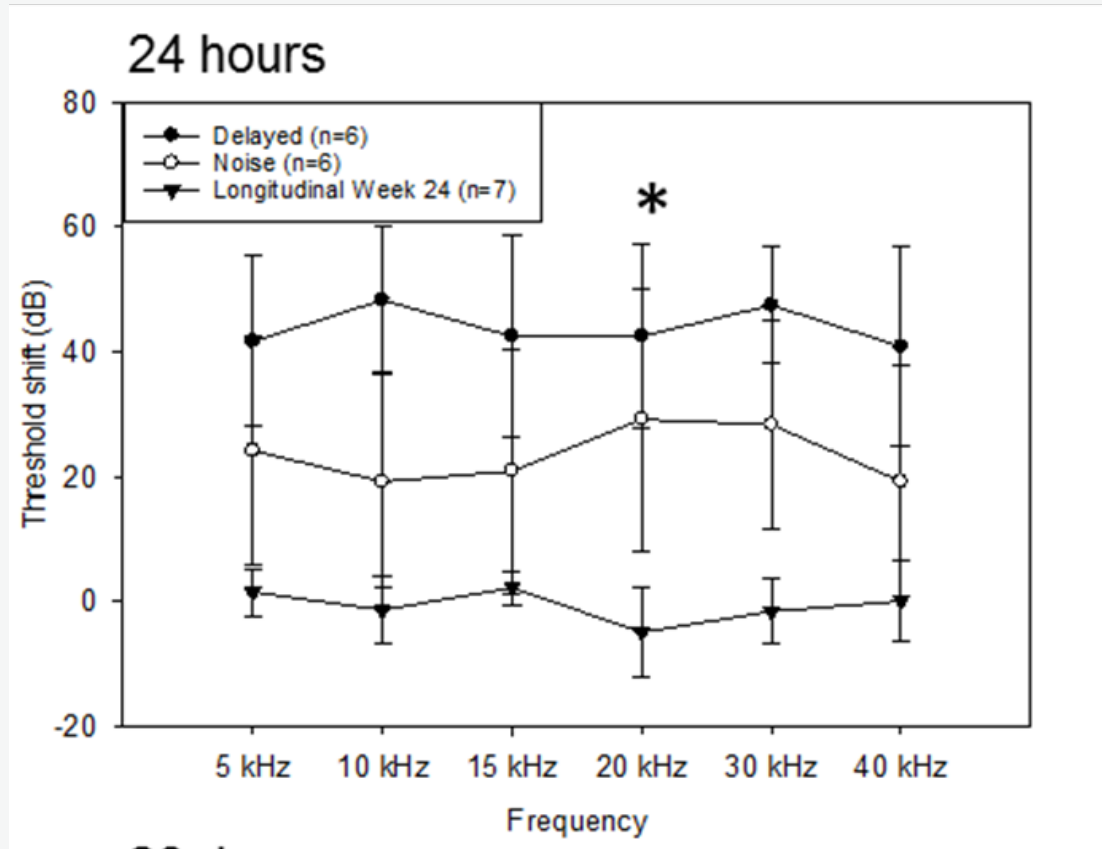
# Acute group noise-induced threshold shifts



From DeBacker et al. (2017)



# Delayed group noise-induced threshold shifts



From DeBacker et al. (2017)

# As we think about cisplatin interactions, we need clinically-relevant animal models of cisplatin exposure

- Which mouse model most efficiently and effectively models human cisplatin-induced hearing loss?
- What mode of cisplatin delivery creates an appropriate hearing loss with minimal mortality?





# Accumulated cisplatin ototoxicity in mouse models

3 mouse strains – all from Jackson Labs

Given 3 cycles of 16 mg/kg cisplatin by i.p. injection

1) C57Bl/6J



2) CBA/CaJ

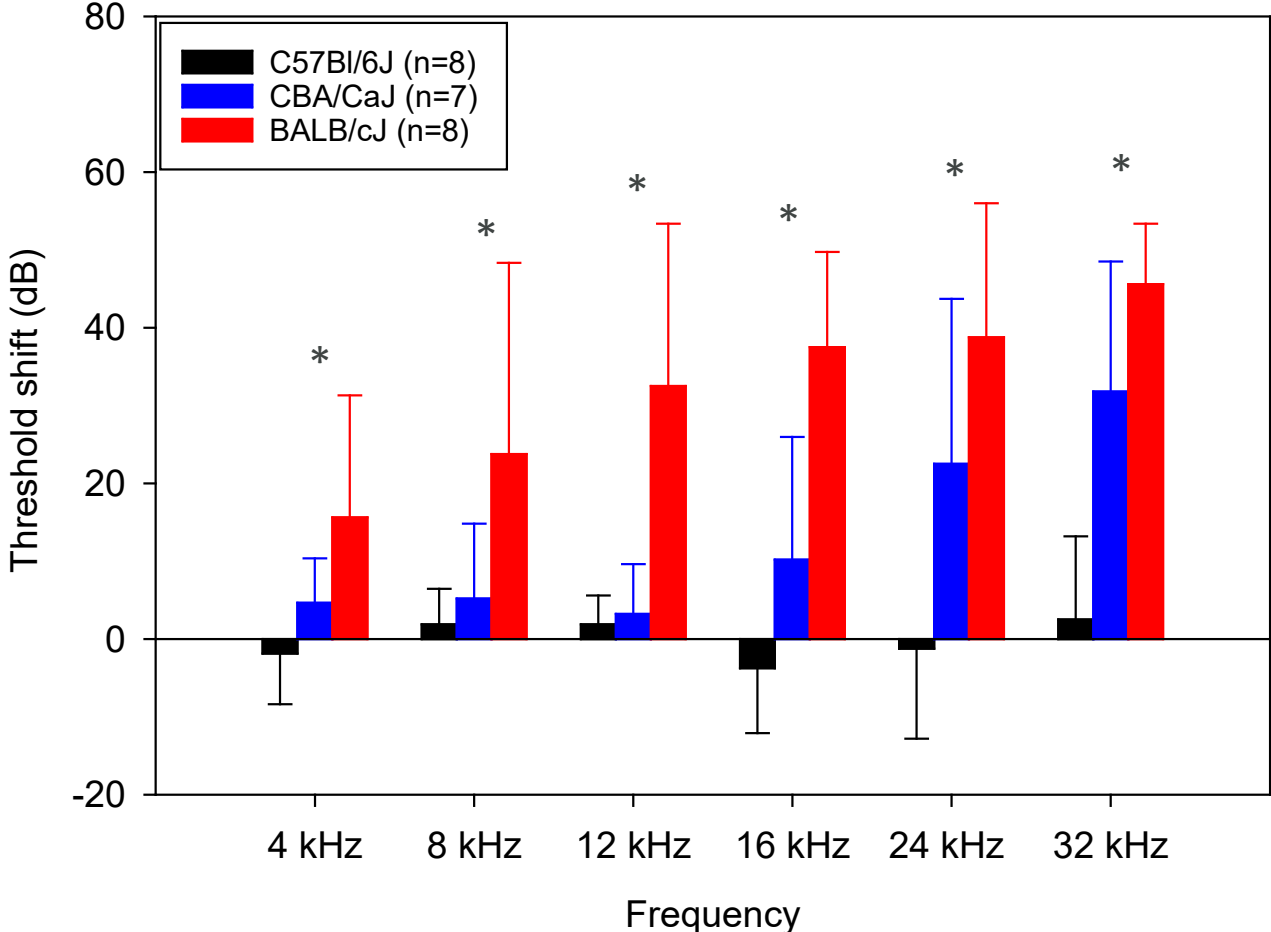


3) BALB/cJ



# Comparison of strains after each round:

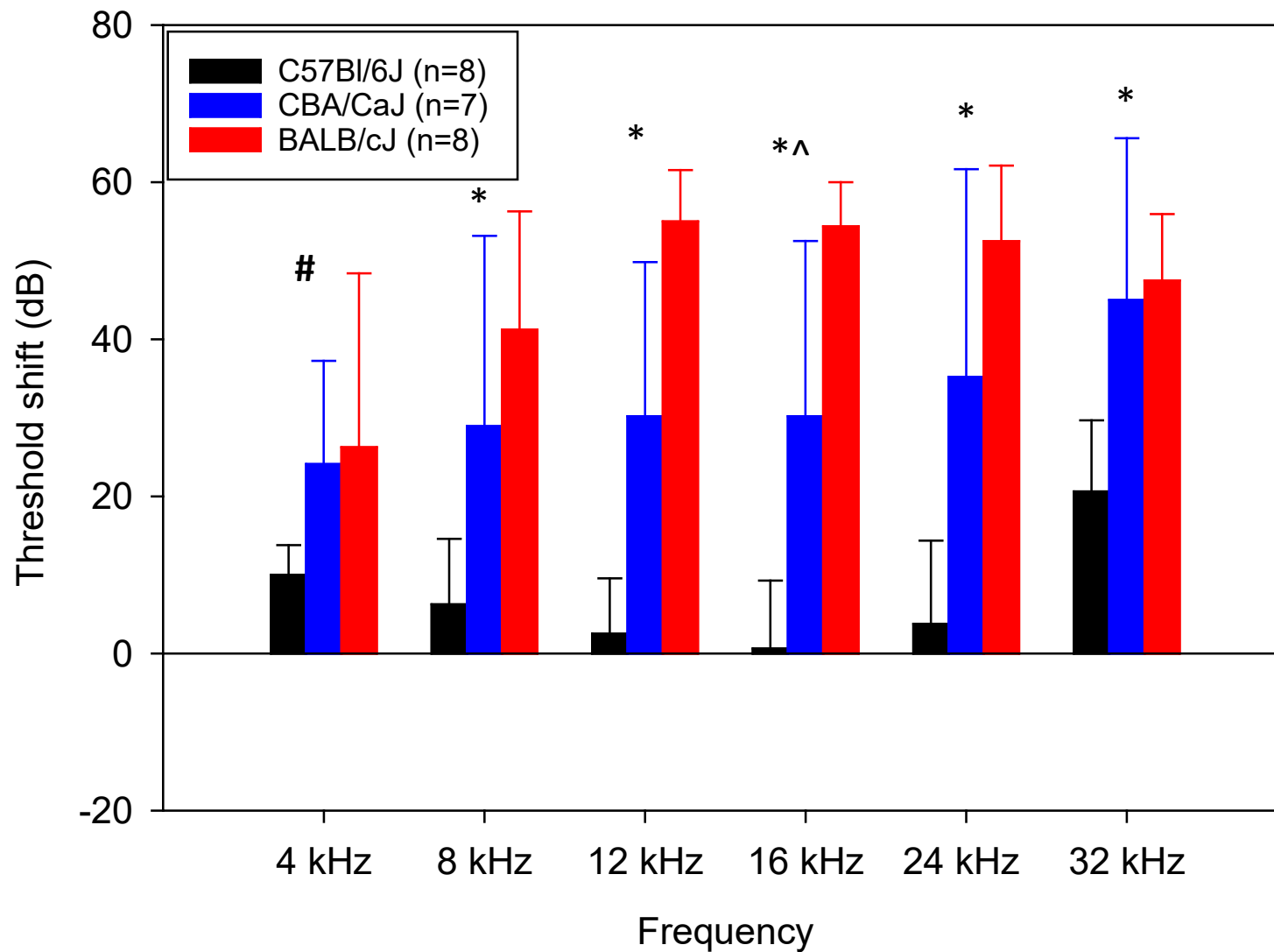
## Round 1: 16 mg/kg cumulative



\*BALB>C57  
and CBA

From DeBacker,  
Harrison, Bielefeld  
(2020). *Hearing  
Research*, 387,  
107878.

## Round 2: 32 mg/kg cumulative



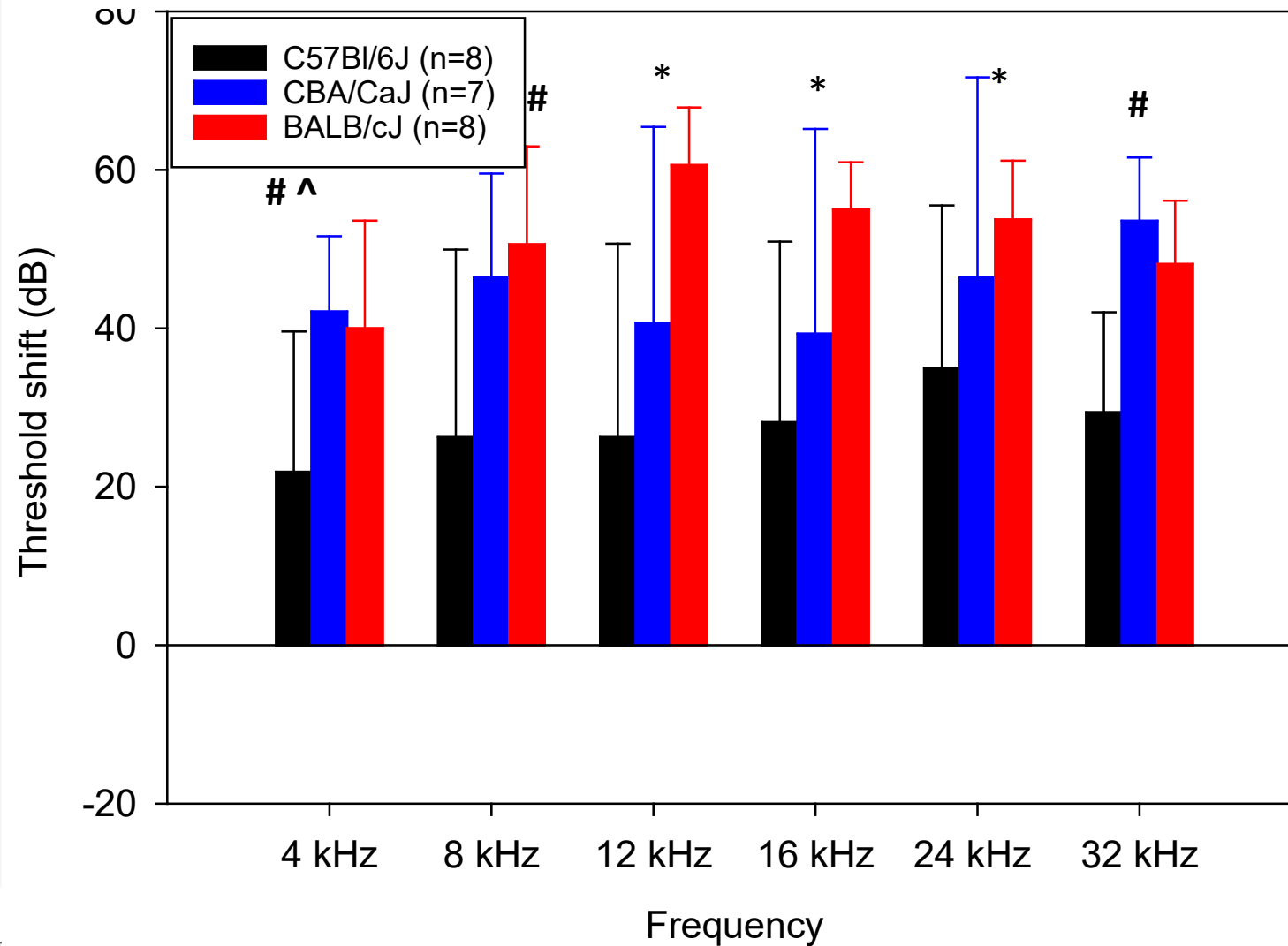
\*BALB>C57  
and CBA

#BALB>C57  
only

^CBA> C57

From DeBacker, et  
al. (2020)

# Round 3: 48 mg/kg cumulative



\*BALB>C57  
and CBA

#BALB>C57  
only

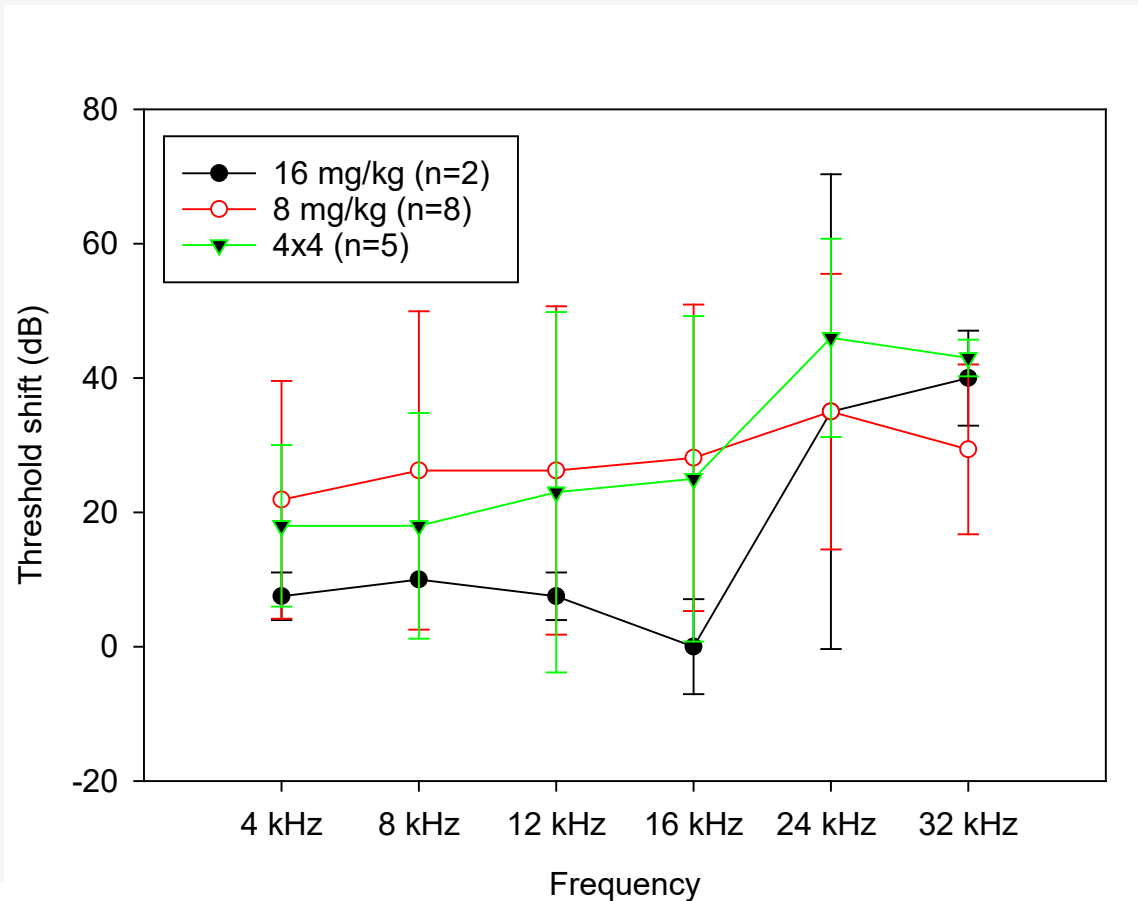
^CBA> C57

From DeBacker, et  
al. (2020)

# Dose delivery paradigms

- Single 16 mg/kg doses every 3 weeks
  - 8 mg/kg doses every 10 days – 2 per 3-week interval
  - 4x4: 4 mg/kg daily for 4 consecutive days repeated every 3 weeks
- 
- Total cumulative doses were the same: 48 mg/kg

# C57: No differences in delivery on hearing loss - big differences in mortality

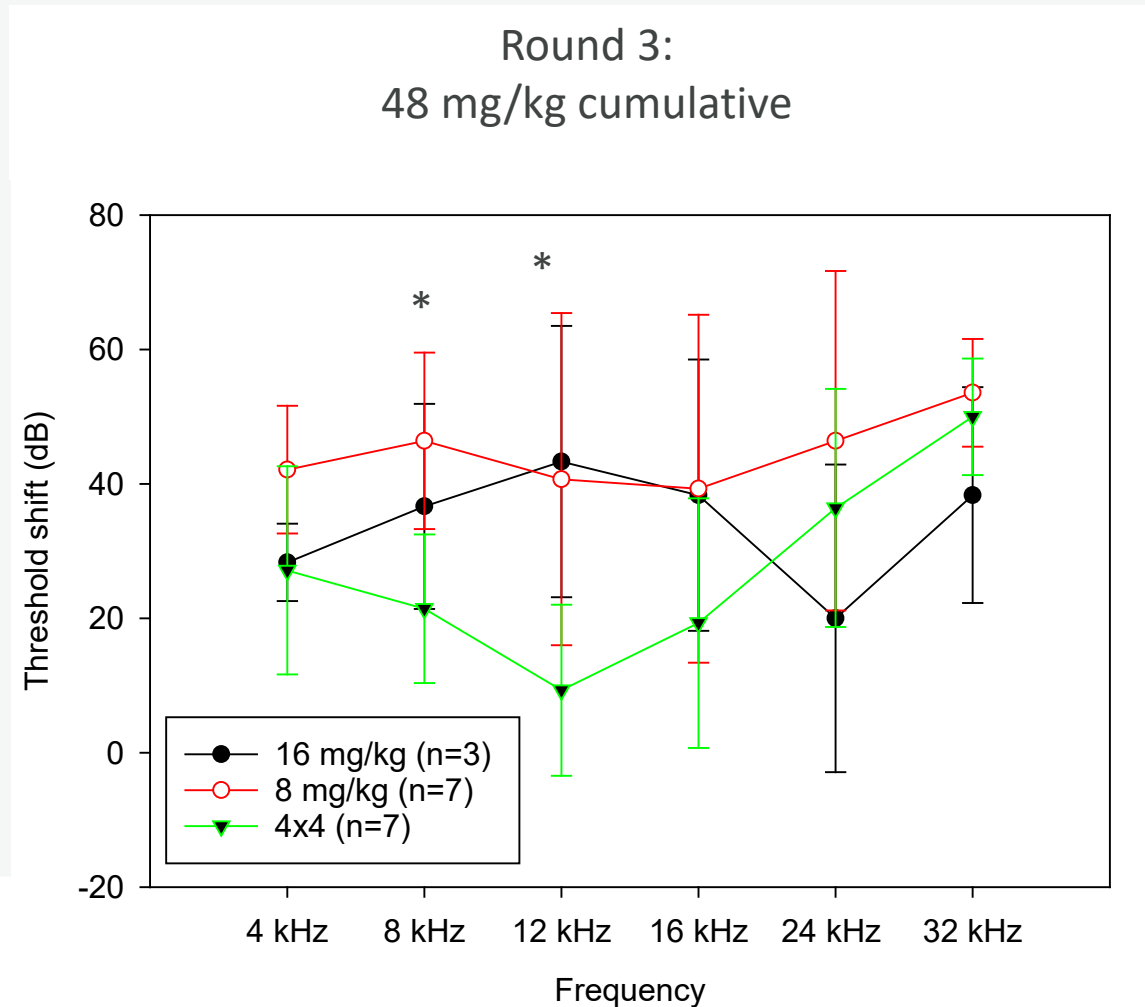


Round 3:  
48 mg/kg cumulative

From DeBacker, et  
al. (2020)

# CBA: No differences in delivery on hearing loss after Rd 3

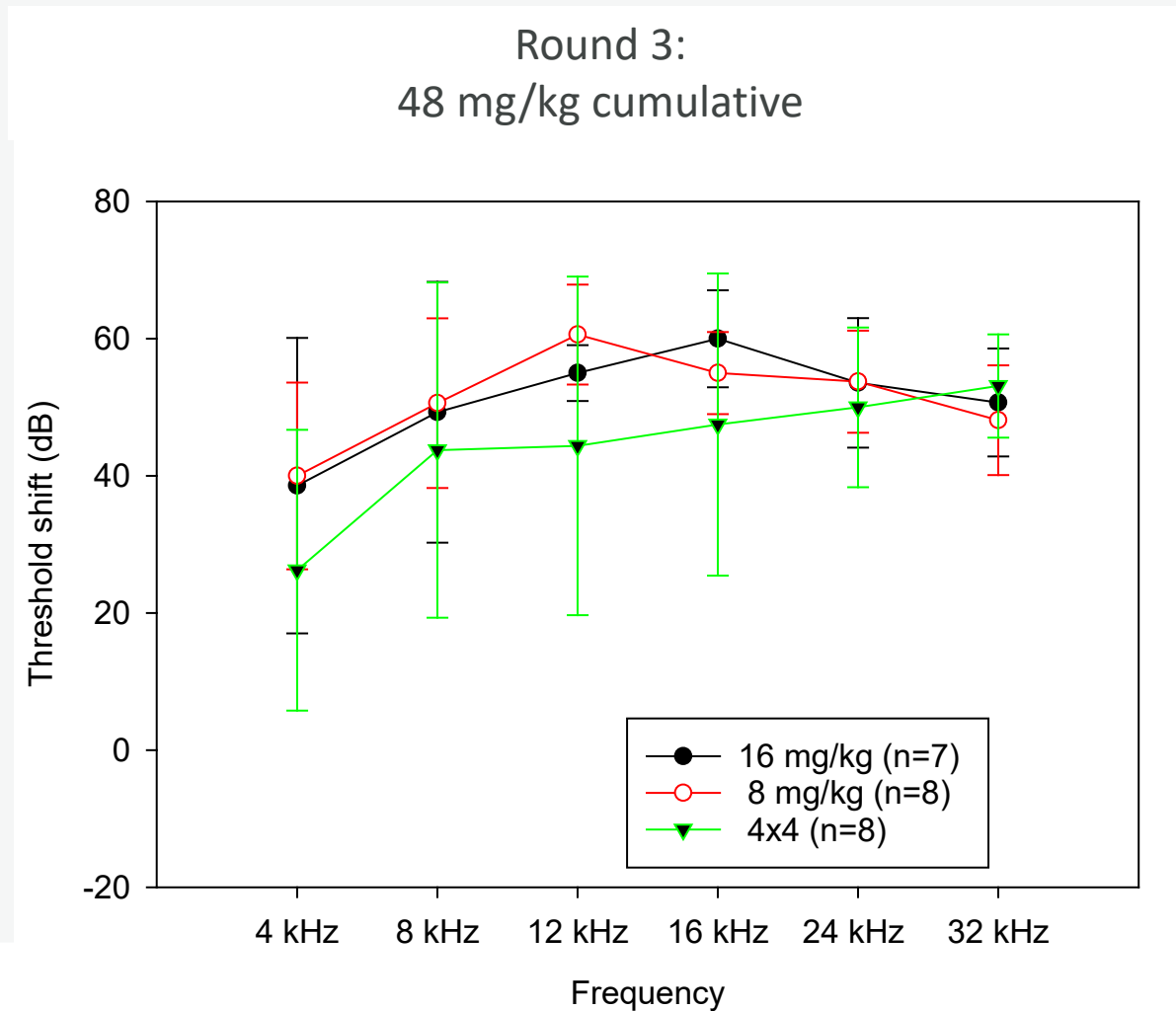
## - big differences in mortality



\* 8 mg/kg  
group > 4x4  
group

From DeBacker, et  
al. (2020)

# BALB: No differences in delivery on mortality or hearing loss after Rd 3

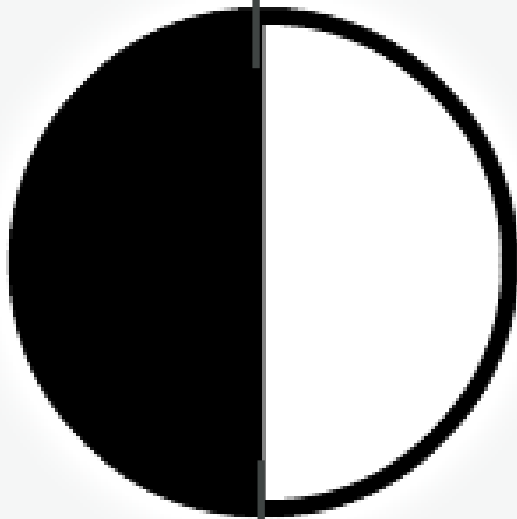


From DeBacker, et al. (2020)



As we expand our definition of ototoxicity, we can also expand options for preventing it

HALO 0 = 6:00 light onset

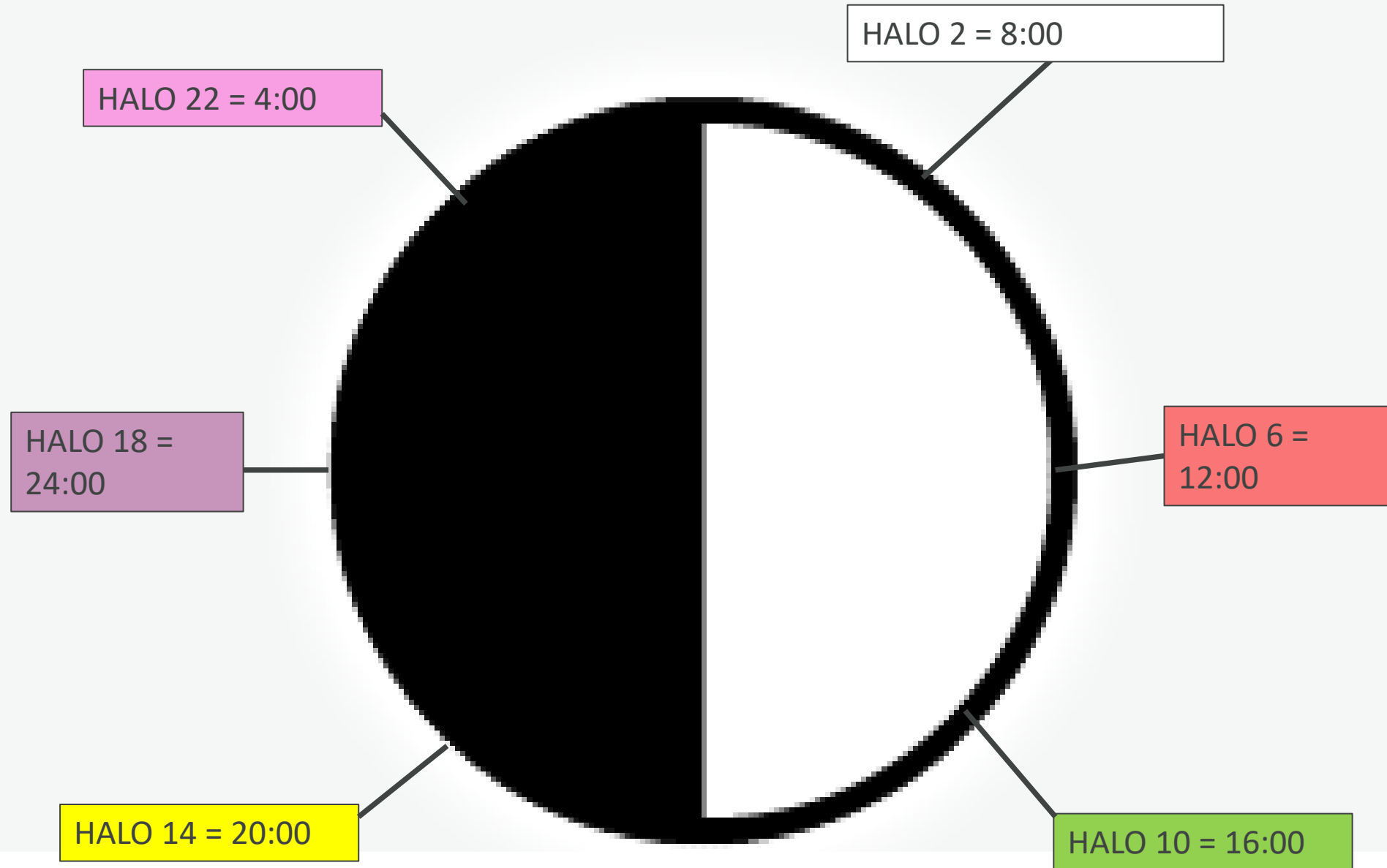


HALO 12 = 18:00 light offset

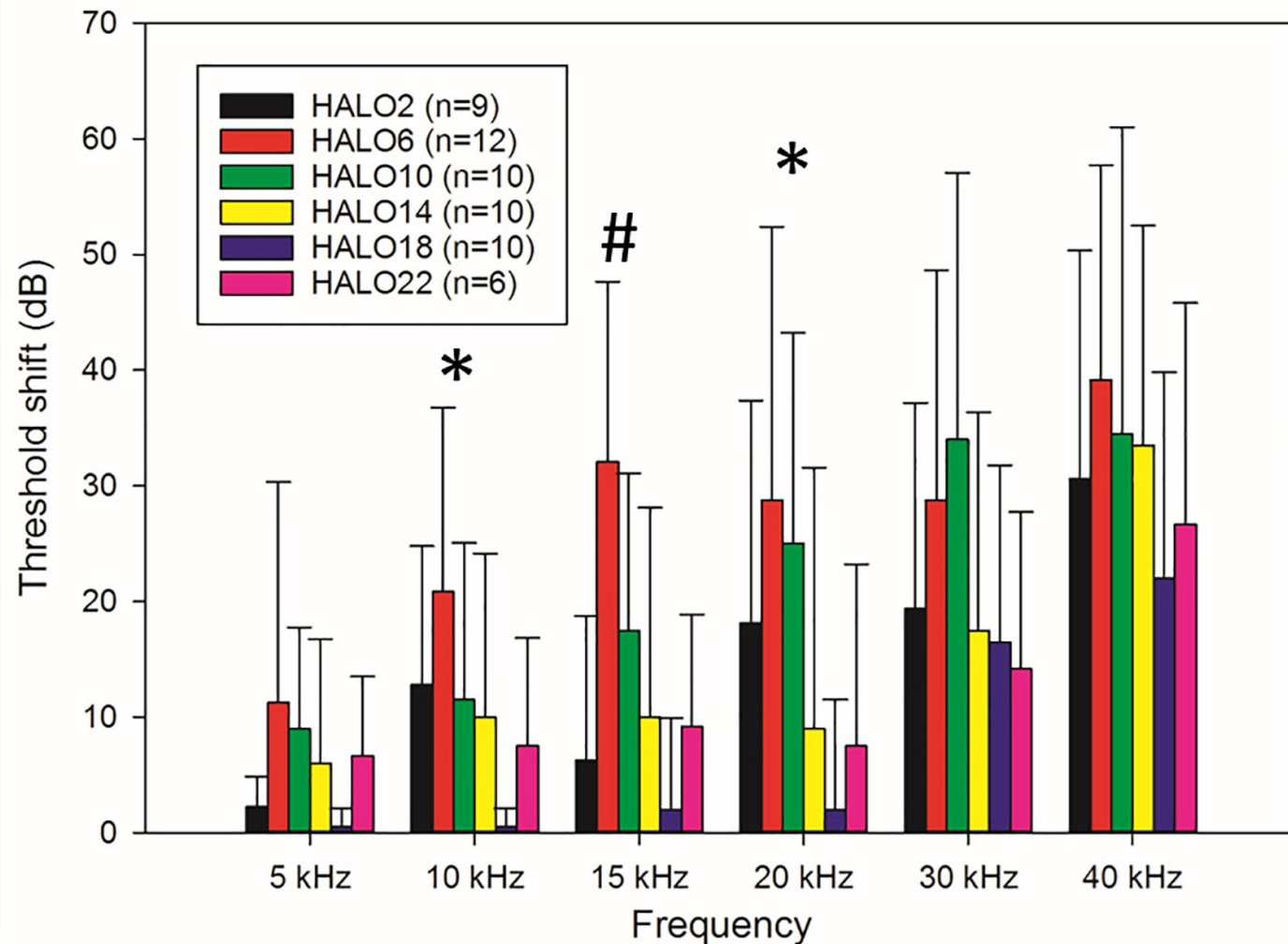
**Chronotolerance:** differential side effects for a compound based on the time point on the circadian cycle it is delivered



# Fischer 344/NHsd rat exposure times

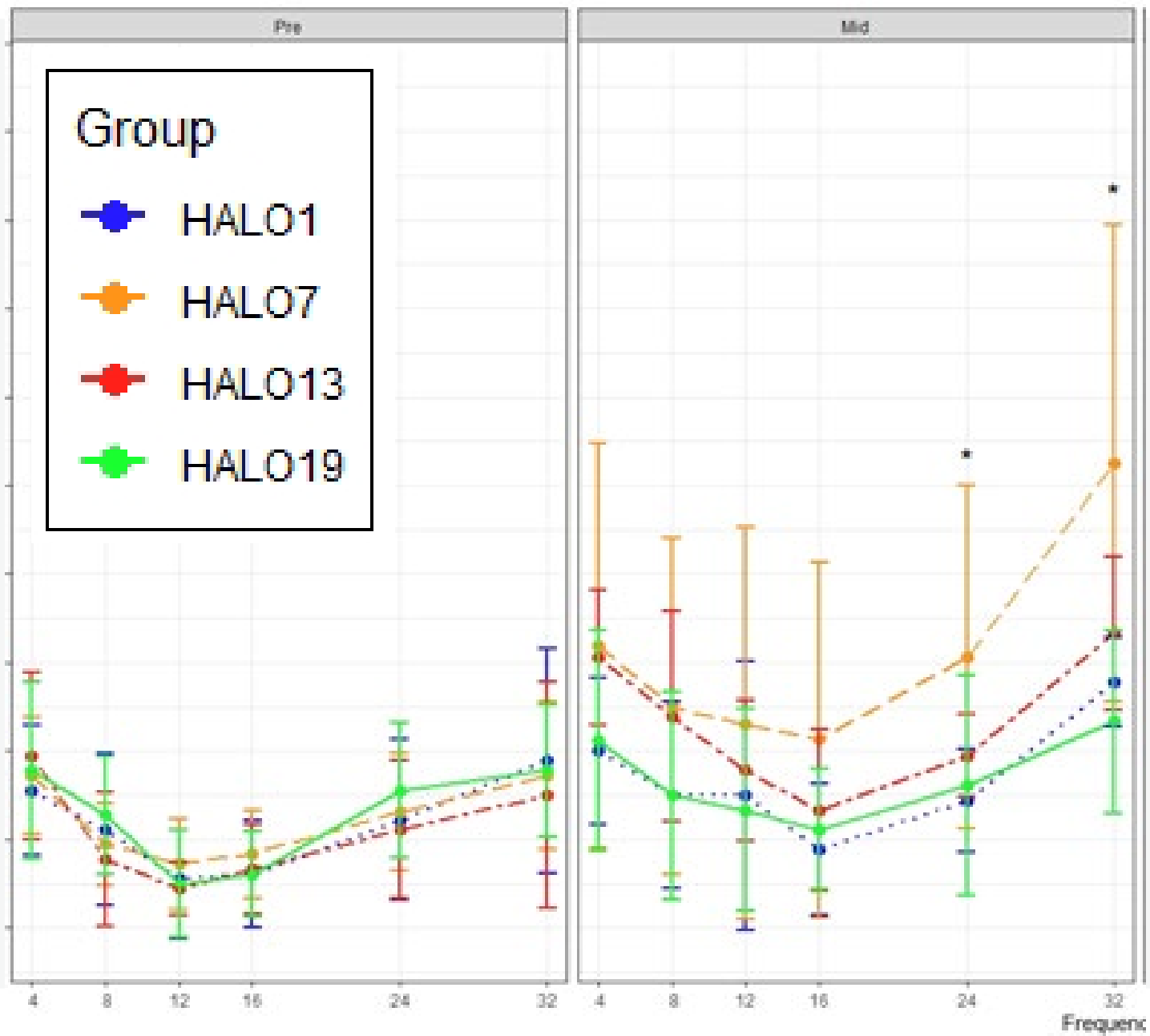


# ABR threshold shifts on Day 3



From Bielefeld, Markle, and DeBacker (2018). *Hearing Research*, 370, 16-21.

Mouse study  
using  
CBA/Cal  
mice and 24  
mg/kg  
cumulative  
dose over 21  
days



From  
Bielefeld  
and  
Harrison.  
Manuscript  
submitted

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# Investigating new classes of compounds for ototoxicity

- Anti-retroviral medications
- Methadone and opioids



# Anti-retroviral medications

- ARVs: used to manage HIV infection
- Anecdotal evidence of hearing problems with ARV treatment
- NRTIs: nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors
  - Primarily compounds in most HIV ARV cocktails
  - Can damage the mitochondria by depleting mtDNA



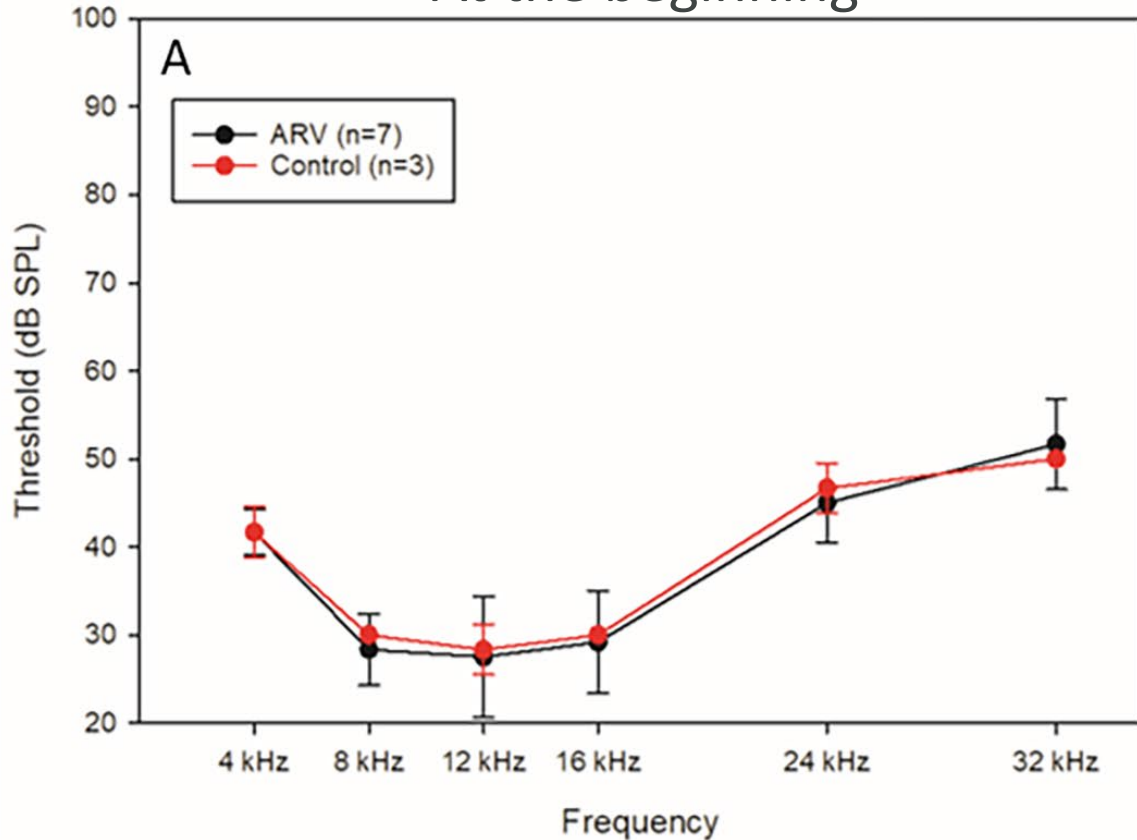
# Gestational and nursing exposure to ARVs

- Dosed pregnant/nursing female C57Bl6/J mice with ARVs Lamivudine and Tenofovir by daily oral gavage
- Assessed ABRs and susceptibility to noise-induced hearing loss in the offspring

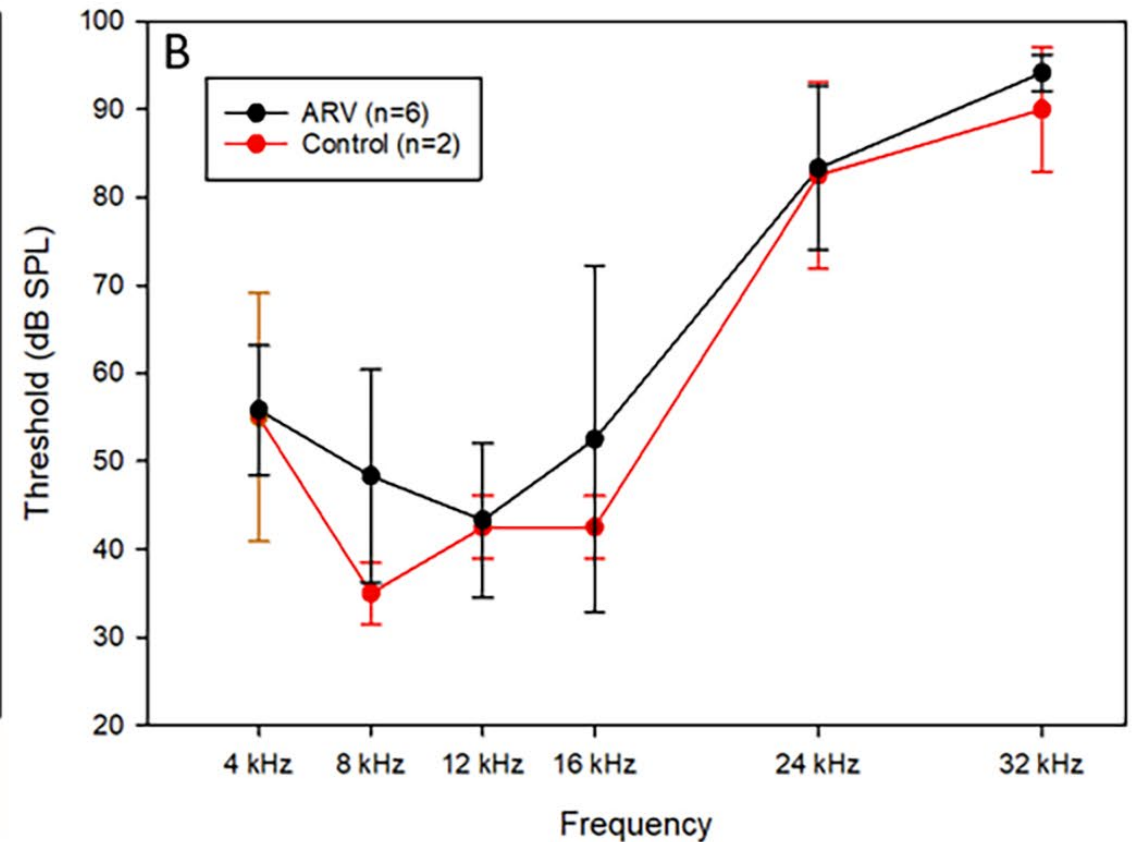


# Thresholds in the females over duration of the experiment

At the beginning

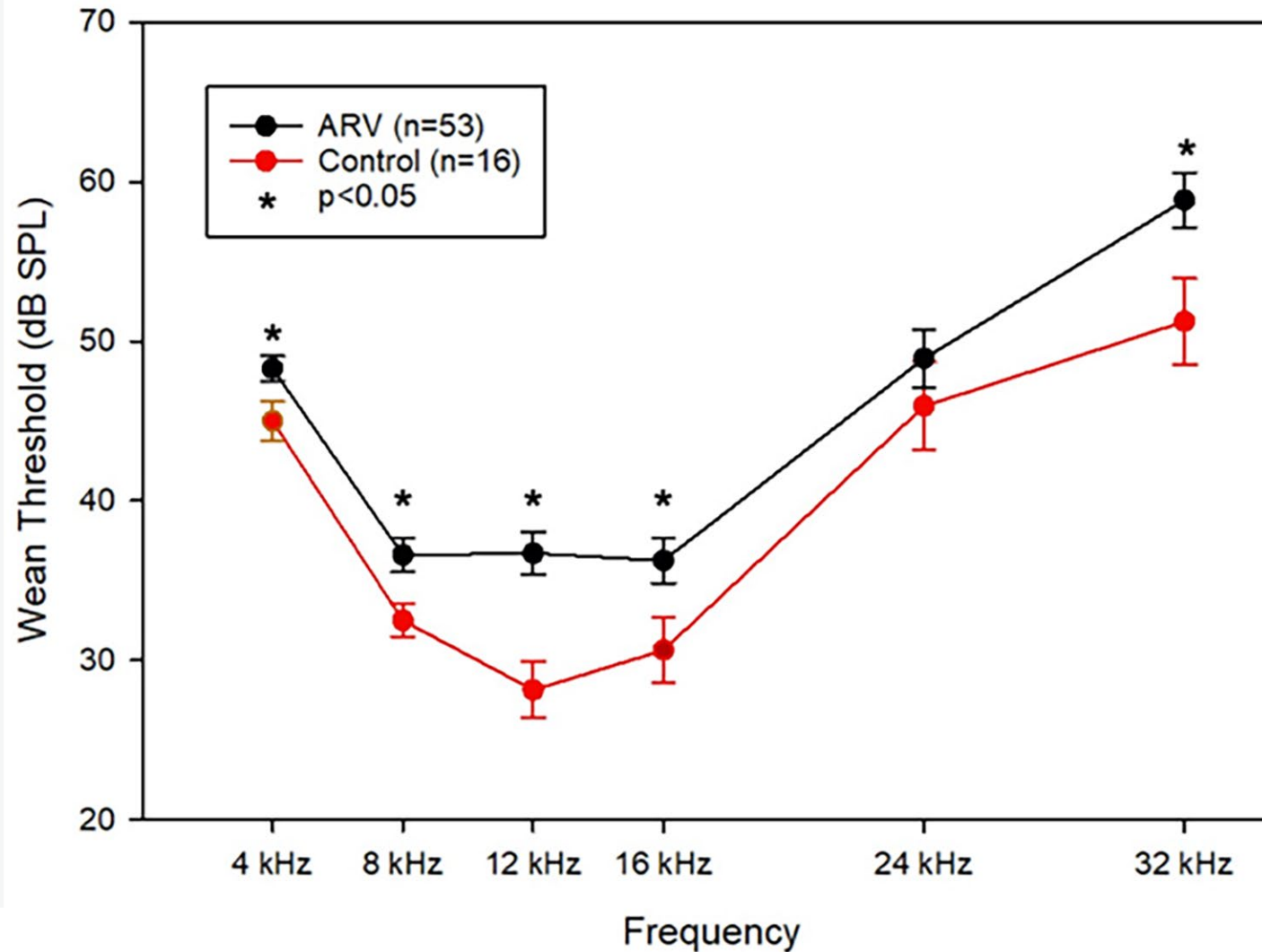


At the end



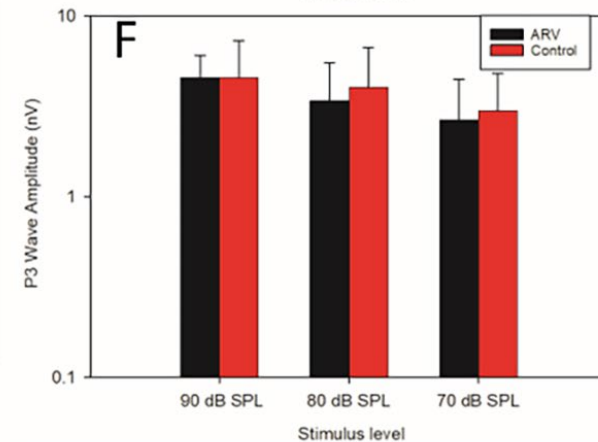
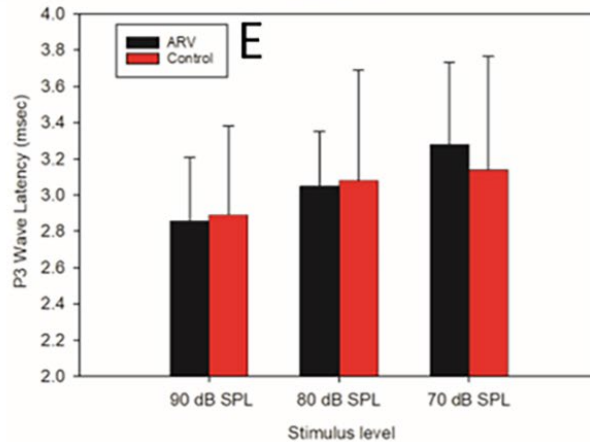
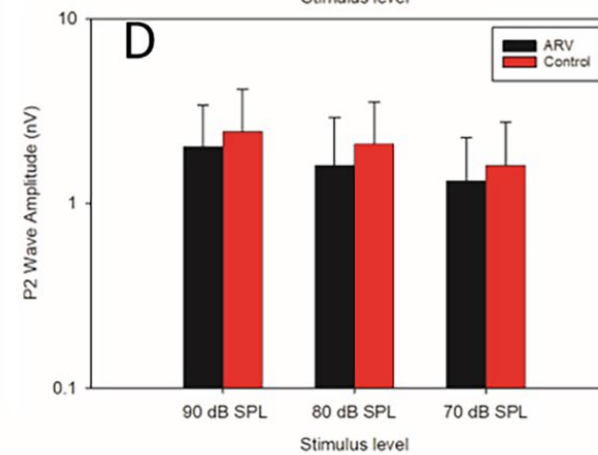
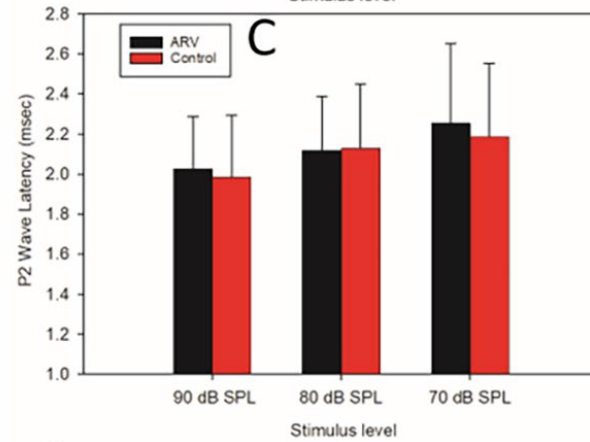
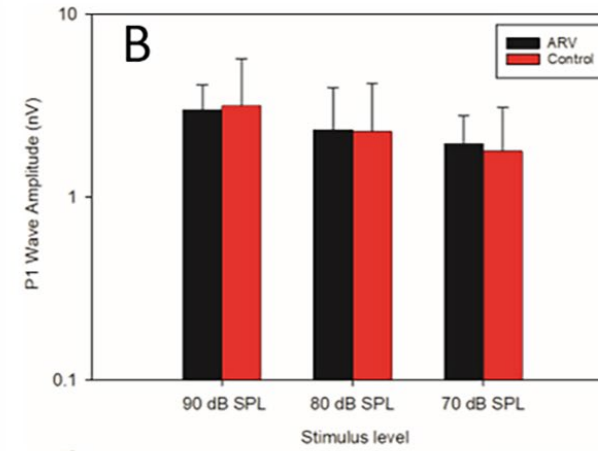
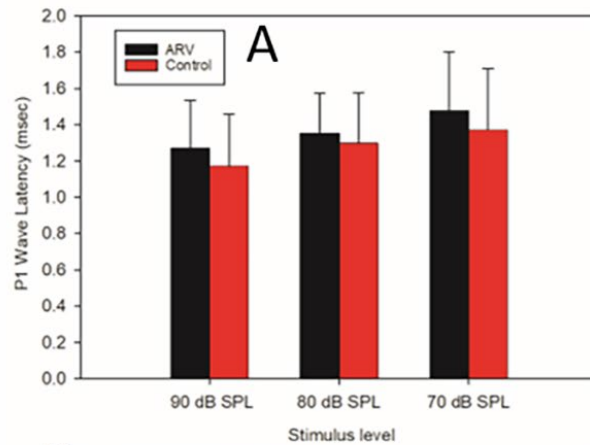


# Offspring thresholds at 3-week weaning

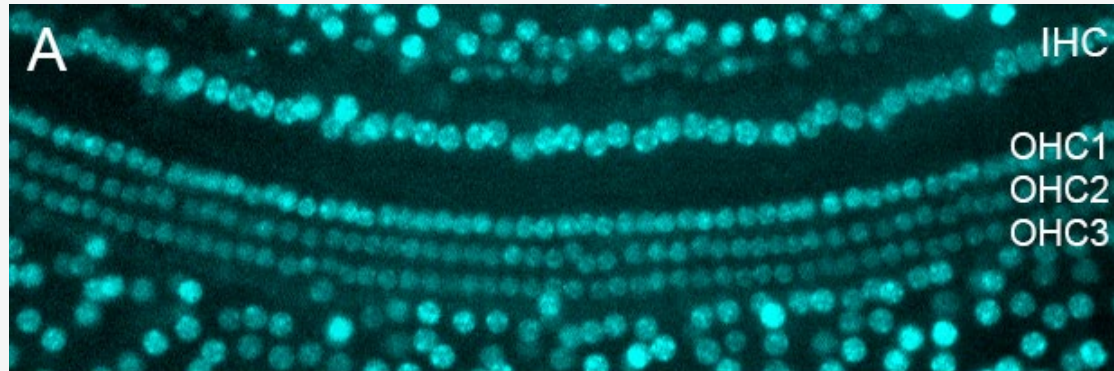


From DeBacker, Hu, and Bielefeld. Manuscript under revision

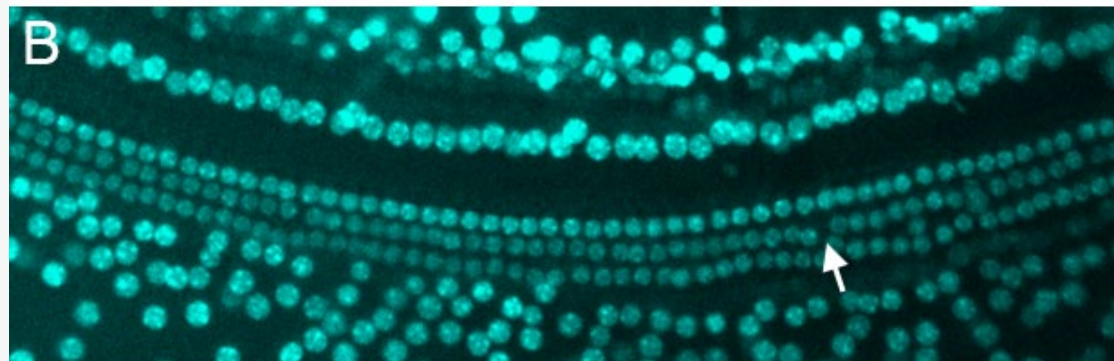
# Offspring supra-threshold ABRs at 3-week weaning



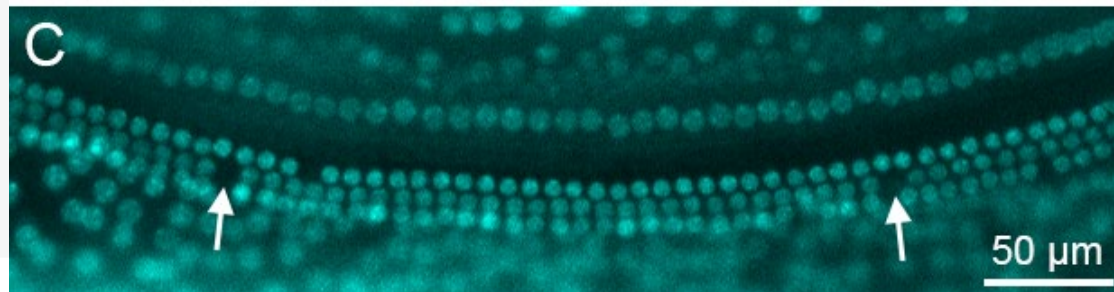
# Offspring representative hair cells



Apical turn



Middle turn



Basal turn

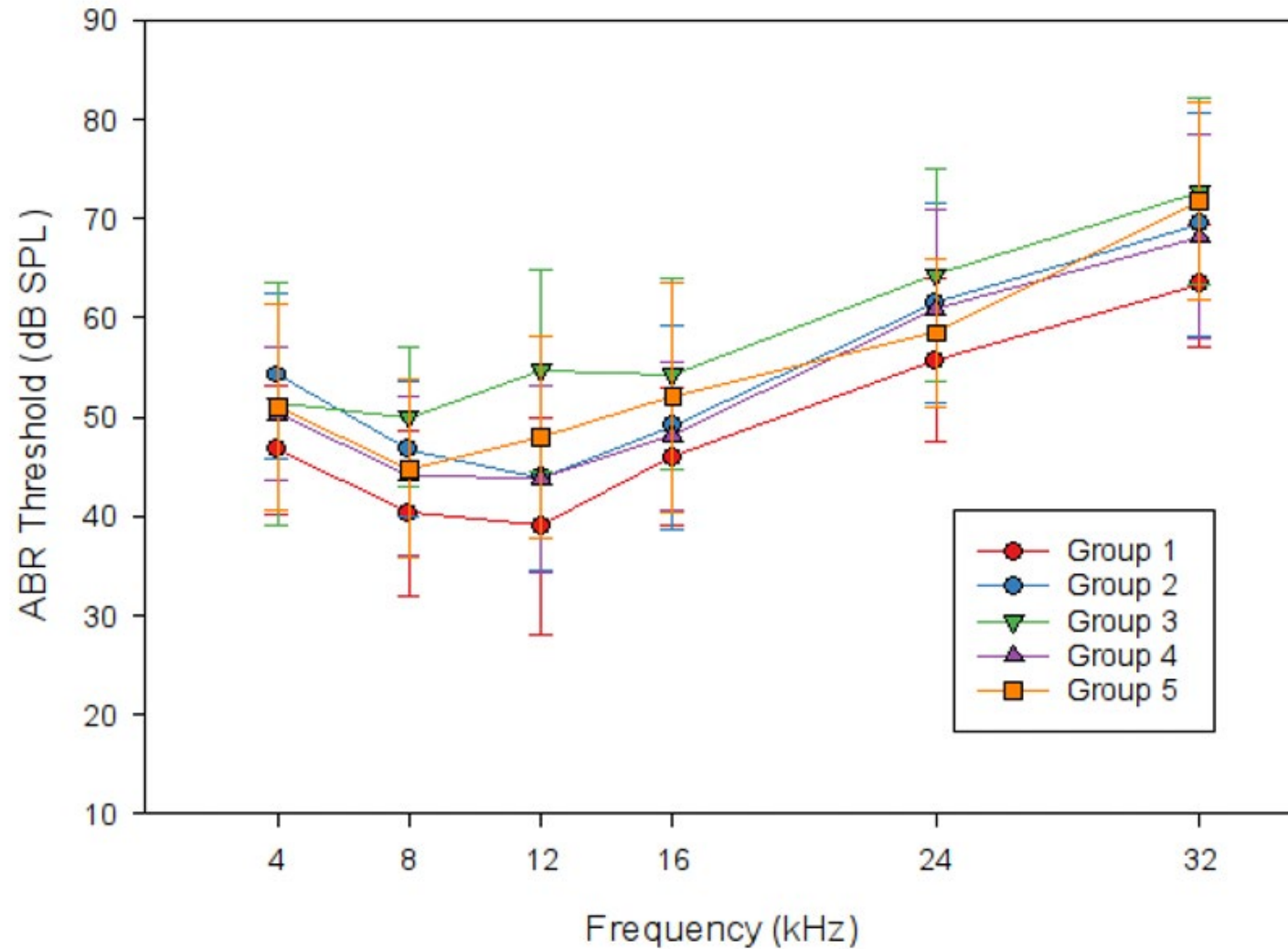
# Expanding the roster of NRTIs studied

## EXPERIMENTAL GROUPS:

- 1) Control - water
- 2) Lamivudine (3TC) + tenofovir (TDF) + efavirenz (EFV)
- 3) 3TC + zidovudine (AZT) + EFV
- 4) 3TC + TDF + nevirapine (NVP)
- 5) 3TC+ AZT + NVP



# Offspring thresholds at 3-week weaning



Group 2, 3, 5 > Group 1 at all freqs

Group 2 > 1 by ~5 dB

Group 3 > 1 by ~9 dB

Group 5 > 1 by ~5 dB

From DeBacker, Langenek,  
Bielefeld, in preparation

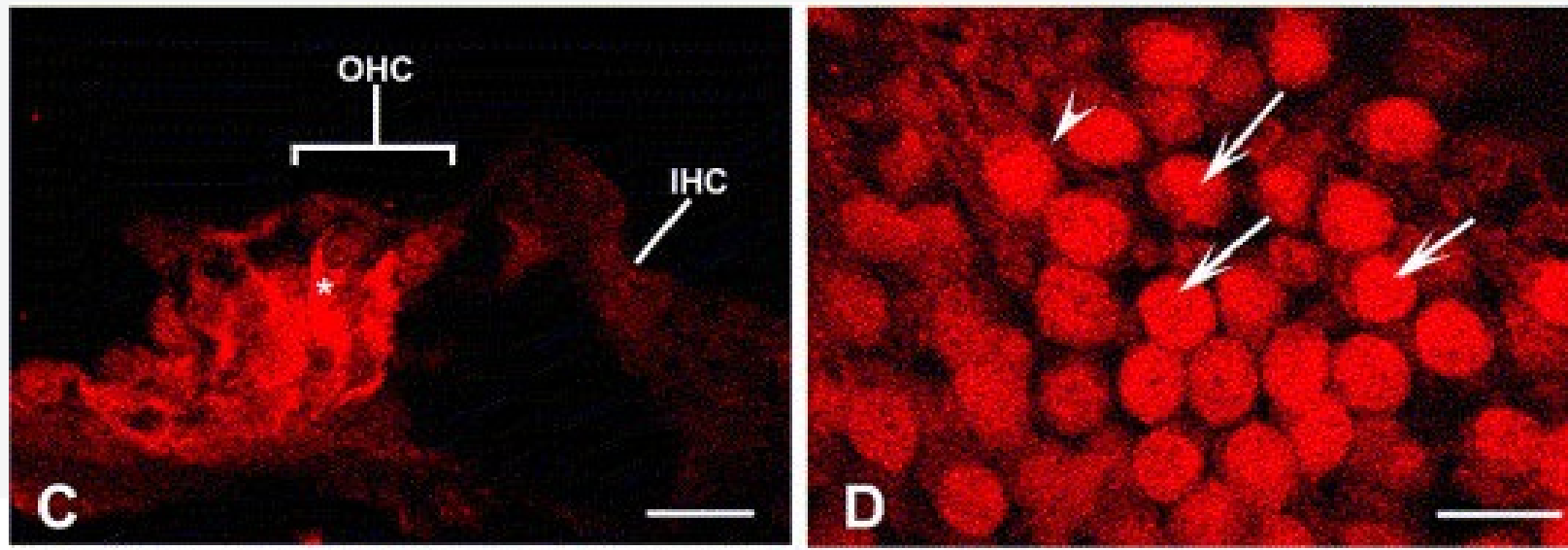
## — Takeaways

- 1) Gestational and nursing exposure to ARVs leads to higher mean thresholds in offspring
- 2) Not accounted for with hair cell losses
- 3) No physiologic evidence of hidden hearing loss
- 4) Threshold elevations would not be captured on hearing screening or even full diagnostic ABR test



# Exploring ototoxicity from Methadone

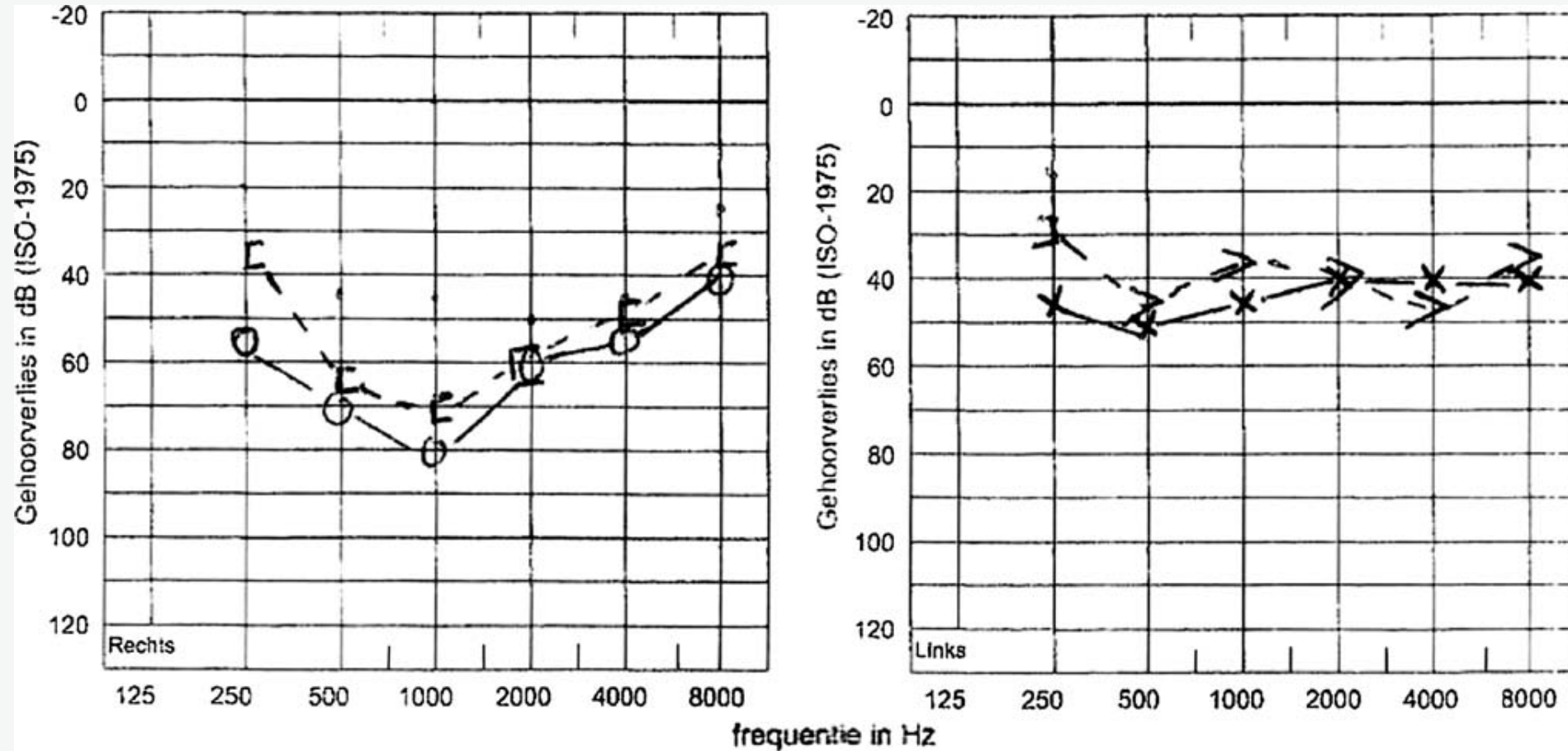
- Methadone maintenance treatment (MMT) is a common approach to treating opioid use disorder
- Necessitates use of methadone for weeks, months, years
- Acts on mu opioid receptors



From Jongkamonwiwat et al. 2003, *Hearing Research*, 181, 85-93



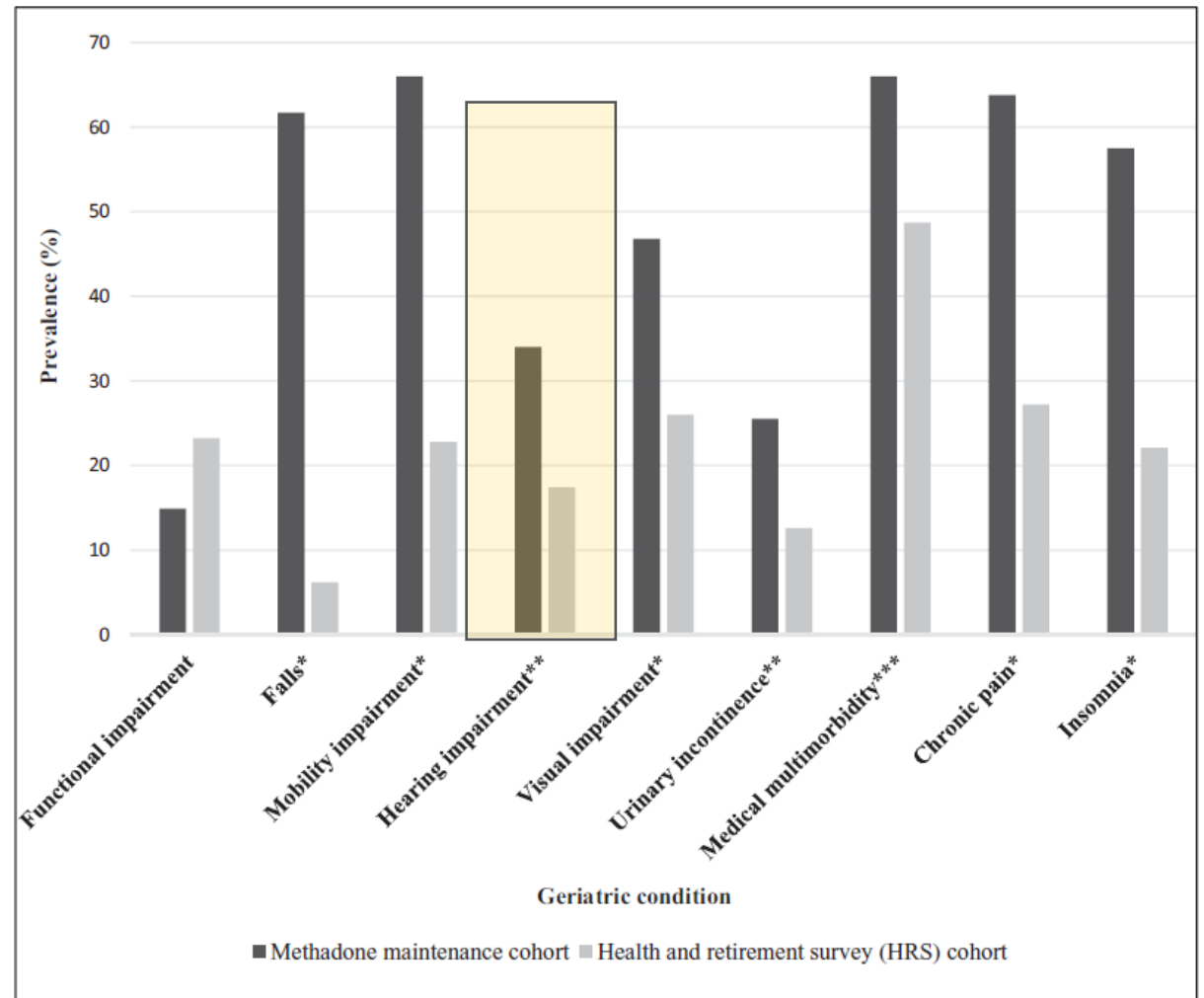
# Sudden SNHL from Methadone



From van Gaalen et al. 2009, *Eur Arch Otol*



# Increased prevalence of hearing loss in adults using MMT



From Han et al. 2020, *J Addiction Med*

# This year

- 1) Oral gavage dosing of CBA/CaJ mice with MMT for 3, 6, 9 months
  - Track with ABRs and OAEs to assess ototoxicity
  - Post mortem hair cell assessments
- 2) Oral gavage dosing of C57Bl6/J mice for 3 months and then track aging afterward



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