

Renal biopsy – what a general paediatrician needs to know

MPGN – new classification



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Too many names....

- Membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis
- Mesangiocapillary glomerulonephritis
- Dense Deposit Disease
- C3 Glomerulonephritis
- C3 Glomerulopathy

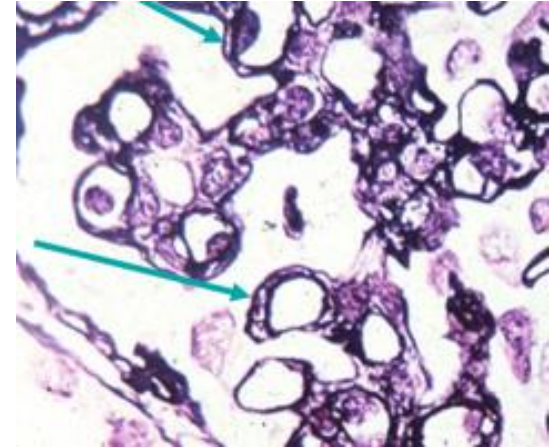
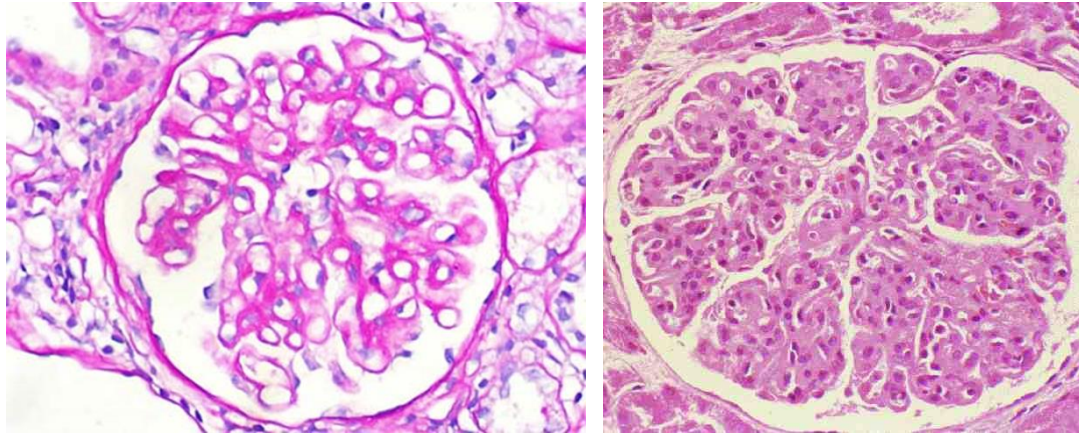


What is the clinical problem?

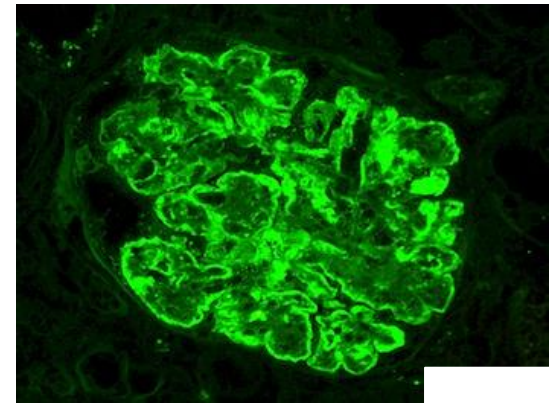
- Ben
 - 8 years old
 - Facial swelling
 - +++ protein in urine
 - Albumin 17g/l, normal creatinine
 - Diagnosis nephrotic syndrome
 - Commenced standard treatment
 - No remission at 28 days
 - Auto-antibody screen negative, C3/C4 normal
 - Renal biopsy

What we saw on the biopsy

Normal glomerulus



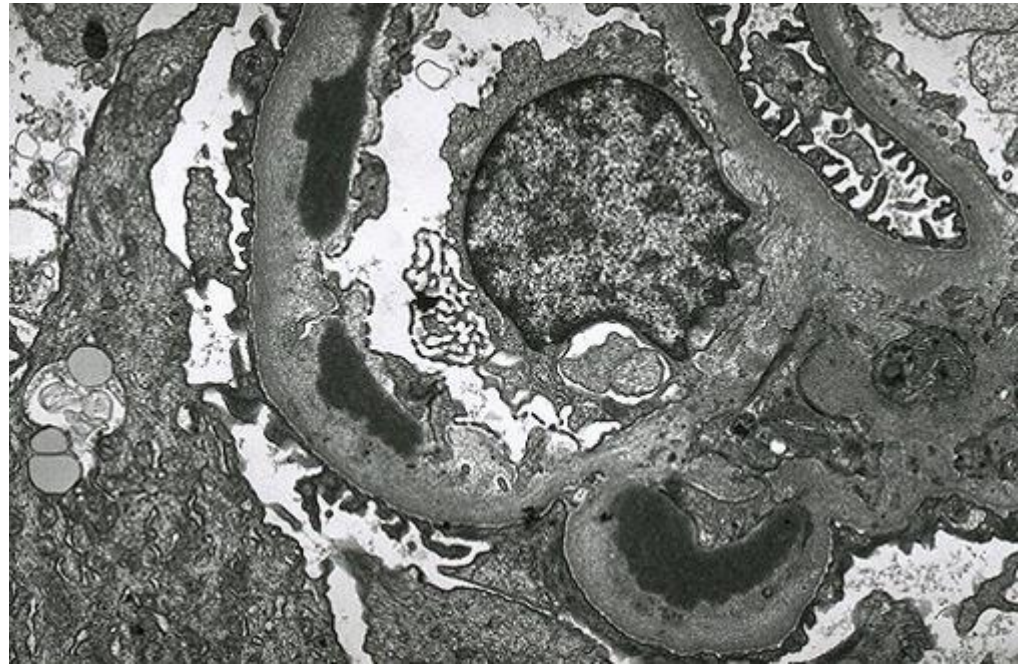
“Membranoproliferative glomerulonephritis”



MPGN describes what it looks like



Type 1 – sub-endothelial deposits



Type 2 – intra-membranous dense deposits “Dense Deposit Disease”

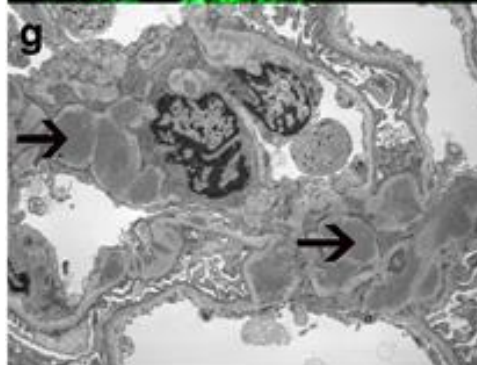
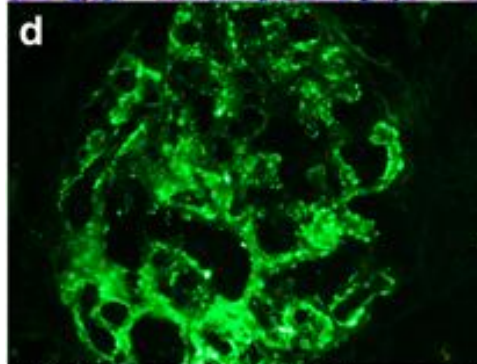
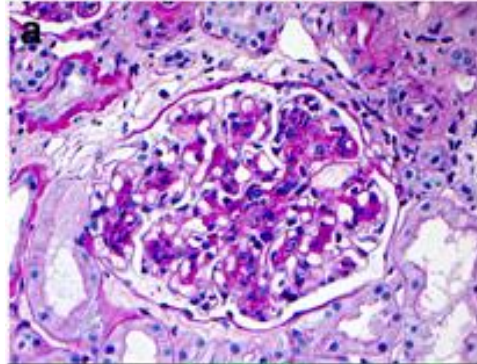
What happened next?

- Relentless nephrotic state
- Rapid decline in renal function
- Immunosuppression
 - More prednisolone
 - Cyclophosphamide
 - No effect
- Developed end stage renal disease within 6 months of presentation
- Peritoneal dialysis for 2 years
- Successful kidney transplant....so far

A different presentation

- Kia
 - 6 years old
 - Frank haematuria, urine protein ++
 - Preceding sore throat
 - Complement C3 0.09g/l
 - Normal BP and renal function
 - ASOT borderline
 - Auto-antibody screen negative
 - Presumed post-infectious glomerulonephritis
 - 3 months later
 - C3 0.06g/l
 - Persistent proteinuria
 - Renal biopsy consistent with post-infectious GN
 - 6 months later
 - C3 0.07g/l
 - Persistent proteinuria
 - Repeat renal biopsy

What we saw on the biopsy



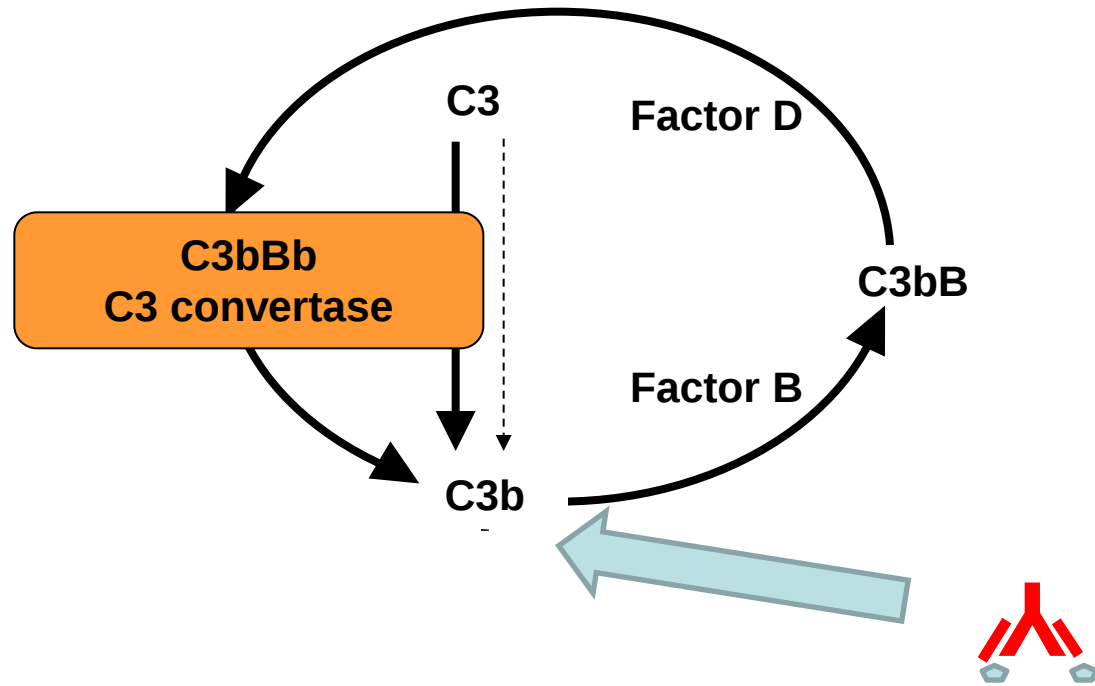
C3 glomerulonephritis

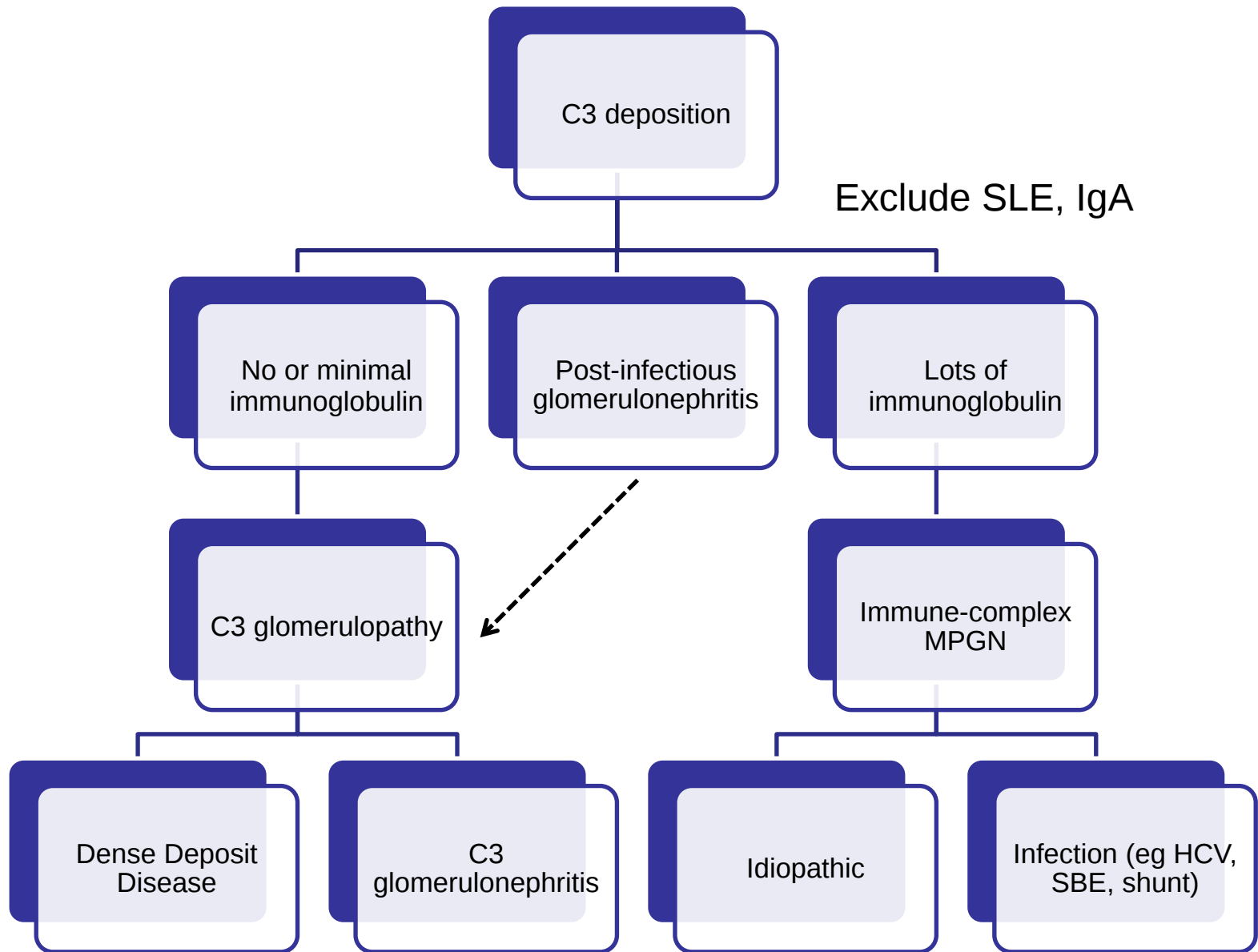
And another presentation

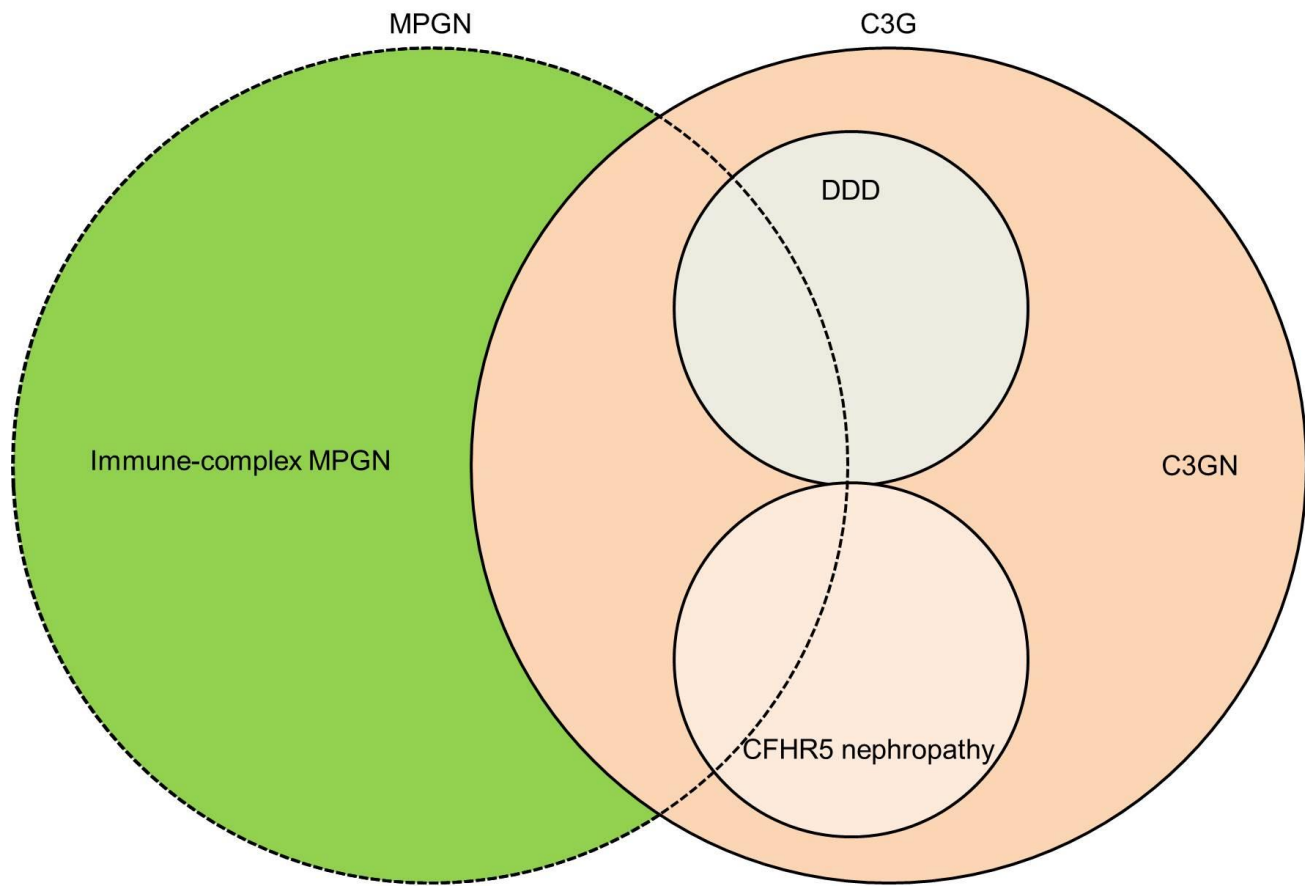
- Aaron
 - 10 years old
 - Incidental haematuria and proteinuria
 - Persistent
 - Normal renal function and albumin
 - Borderline C3
 - Urine protein:creatinine ratio ~100
 - Renal biopsy
 - MPGN pattern with C3 and IgG in capillary walls
 - Sub-endothelial deposits
 - MPGN type 1

Heterogeneity

- A variety of presentations
 - Nephrotic syndrome
 - Nephritic picture
 - Asymptomatic dipstick haematuria and proteinuria
- A variety of outcomes
 - ESRD
 - Significant proteinuria
 - Minor urinary abnormalities
- Unifying feature is glomerular complement C3 deposition







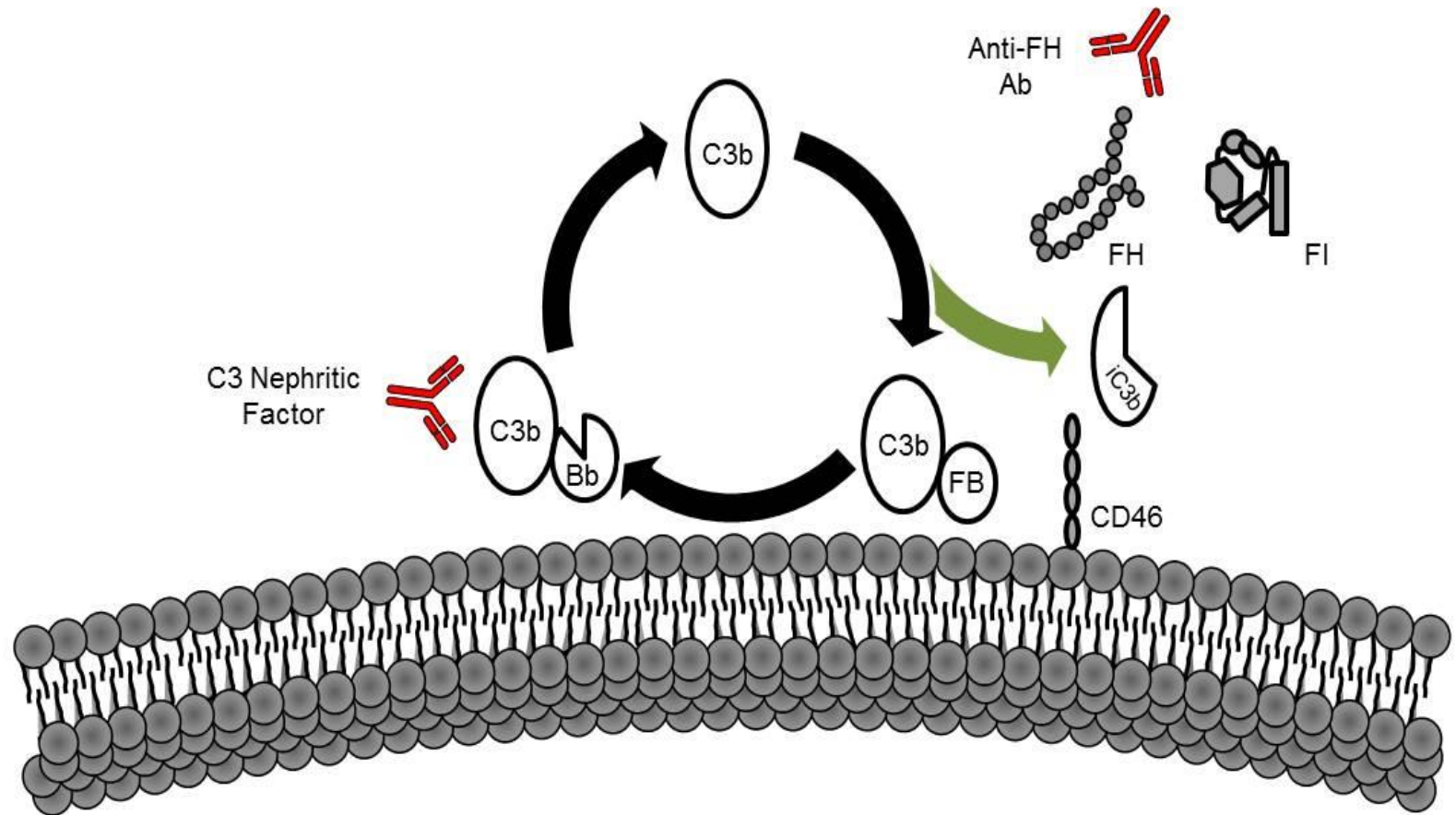
Immunoglobulin Deposition

Dominant C3 Deposition

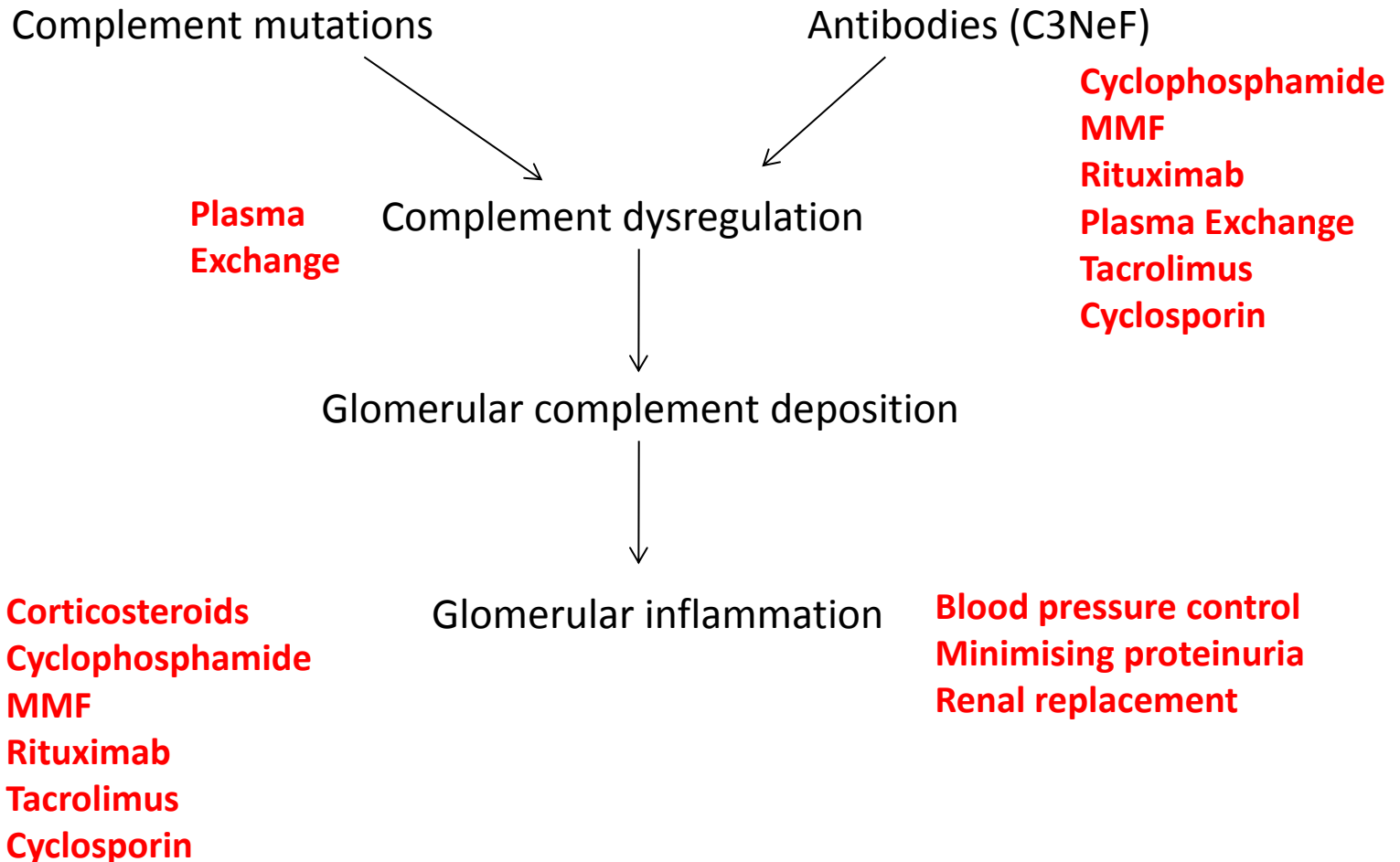
What causes it?

Complement Activation

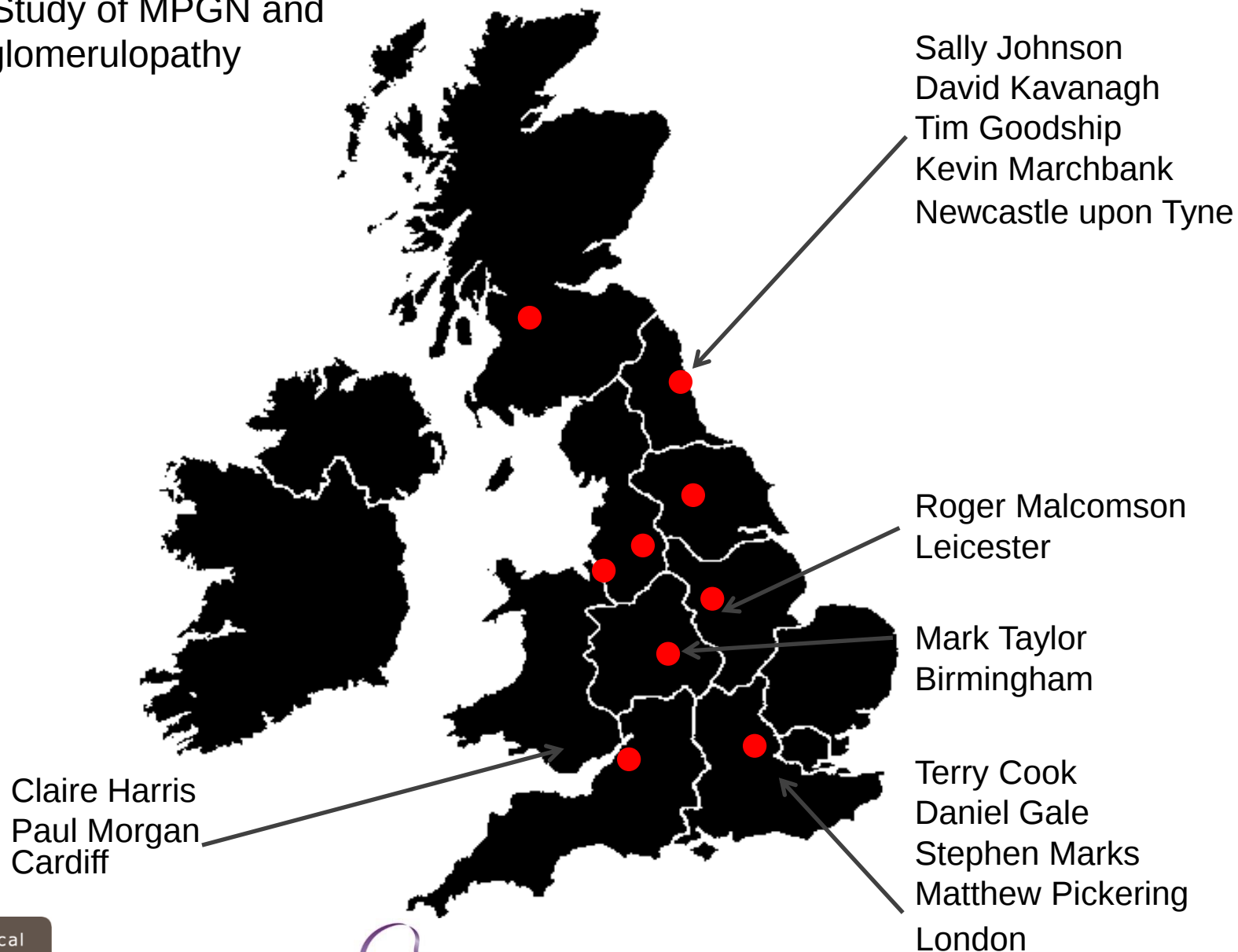
Complement Regulation



Treatment of MPGN/C3G



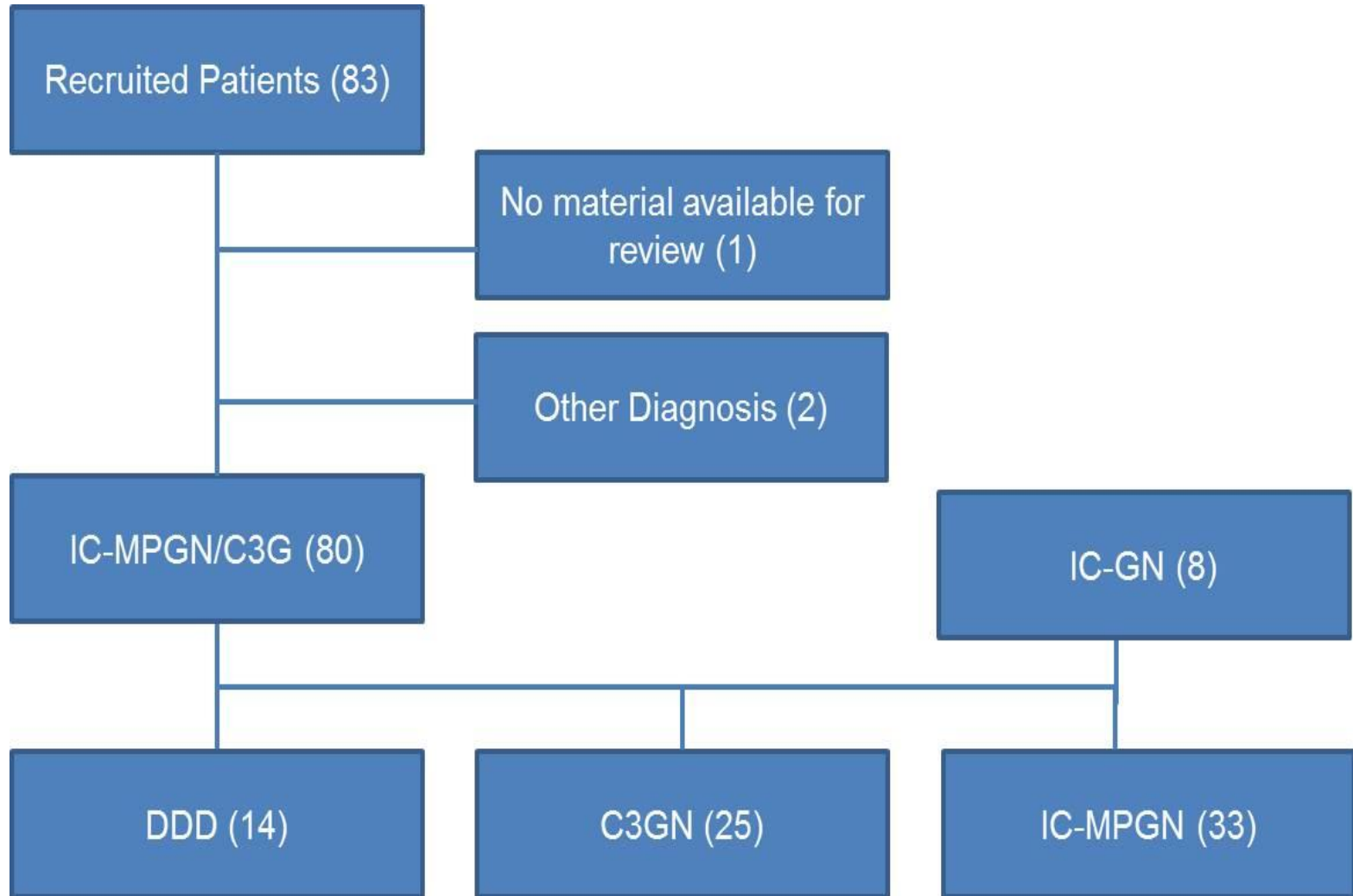
National Study of MPGN and C3 glomerulopathy



Site Name	Recruited
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE HOSPITALs	21
NOTTINGHAM - QUEEN'S MEDICAL CENTRE CAMPUS	18
ROYAL FREE HOSPITAL	17
NOTTINGHAM UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS TRUST - CITY CAMPUS	16
ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR SICK CHILDREN (GLASGOW)	13
CITY GENERAL HOSPITAL	12
THE ROYAL VICTORIA INFIRMARY	11
BIRMINGHAM CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL	10
ST THOMAS' HOSPITAL	9
ALDER HEY CHILDREN'S NHS FOUNDATION TRUST	8
GREAT ORMOND STREET HOSPITAL CENTRAL LONDON SITE	8
ROYAL DEVON & EXETER HOSPITAL (WONFORD)	7
ROYAL MANCHESTER CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL	7
ST JAMES'S UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	7
LEEDS GENERAL INFIRMARY	6
LEICESTER GENERAL HOSPITAL	5
SUNDERLAND ROYAL HOSPITAL	5
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL OF WALES	5
ROYAL SUSSEX COUNTY HOSPITAL	4
NORFOLK & NORWICH UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL	3
NORTHERN GENERAL HOSPITAL	3
SOUTHERN GENERAL HOSPITAL (GLASGOW)	3
BRISTOL ROYAL HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN	1
SOUTHAMPTON GENERAL HOSPITAL	1
COVENTRY	0

Pending Sites
LISTER (STEVENAGE)
BIRMINGHAM ADULTS
WOLVEHAMPTON
CAMBRIDGE

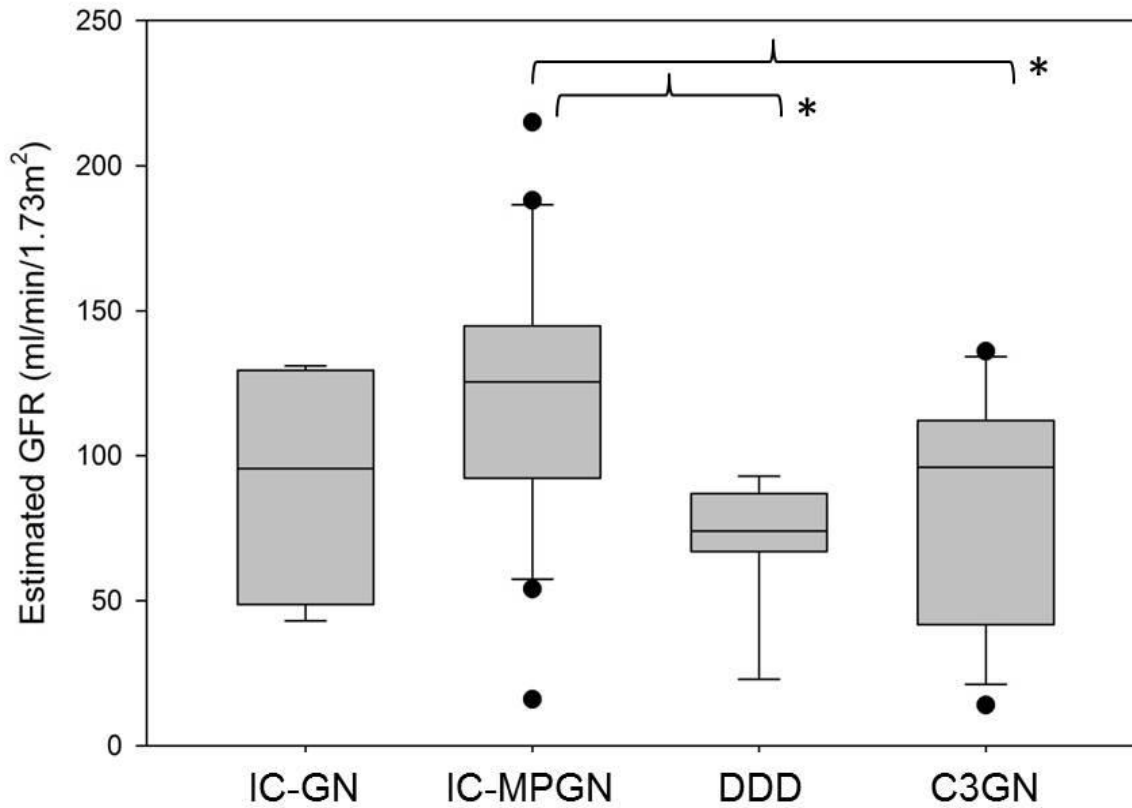
The National study of MPGN/C3G



Clinical characteristics at presentation

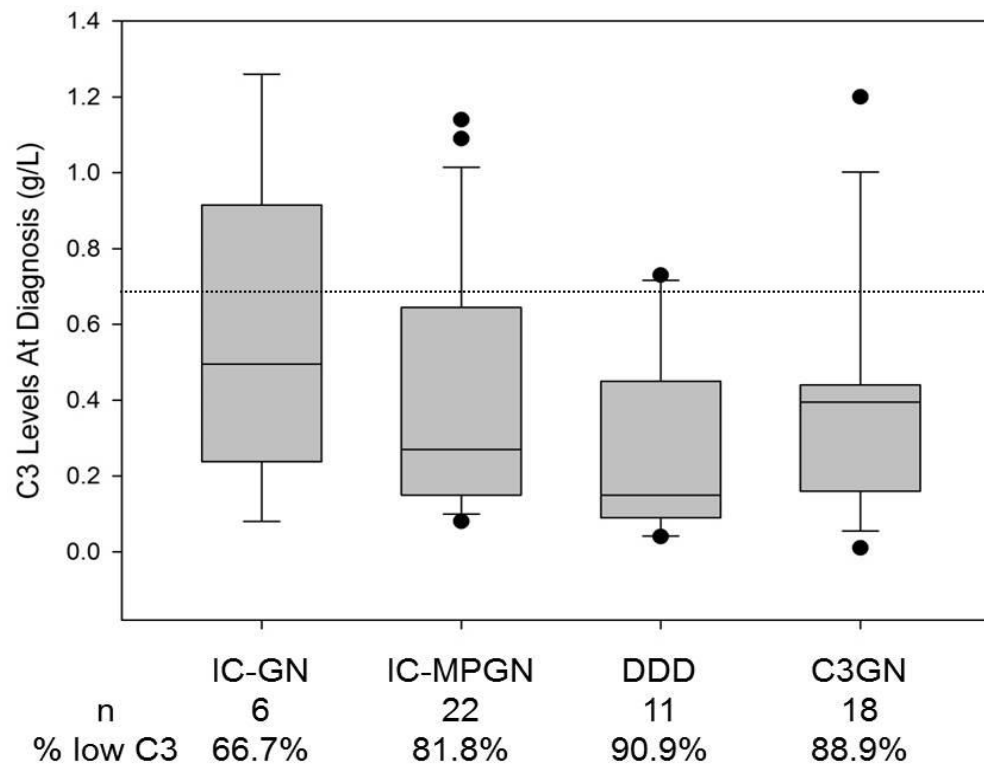
	IC-GN	IC-MPGN	DDD	C3GN
Number of patients	8	33	14	25
Median age at presentation (range)	8 (2-10)	9 (2-15)	9.5 (4-15)	9 (4-15)
Median albumin at presentation (n)(g/L)	34 (7)	25 (31)	30 (14)	26 (22)
Median P:Cr (n) (mg / mmol creatinine)	332.3 (5)	546.9 (18)	775.5 (8)	402.0 (17)

eGFR at presentation



* P<0.05

C3 Levels at Diagnosis

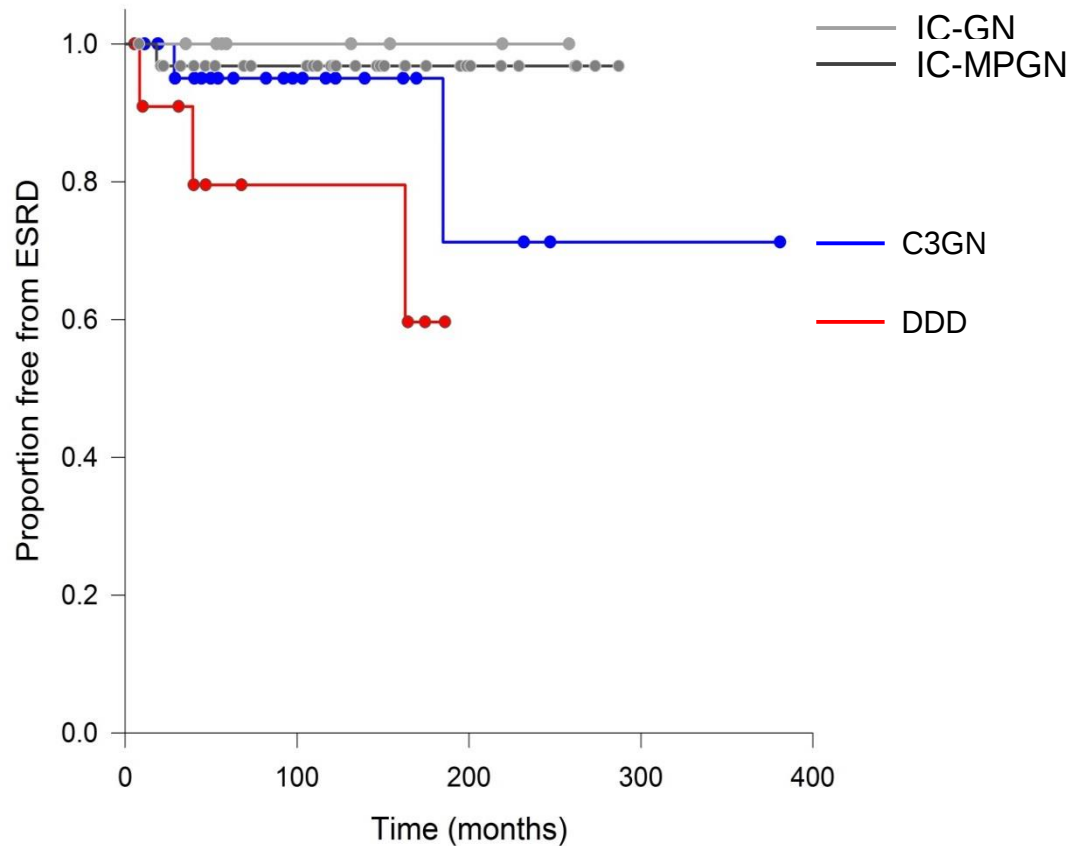


Complement abnormalities by disease

- Acquired abnormalities predominant in this cohort

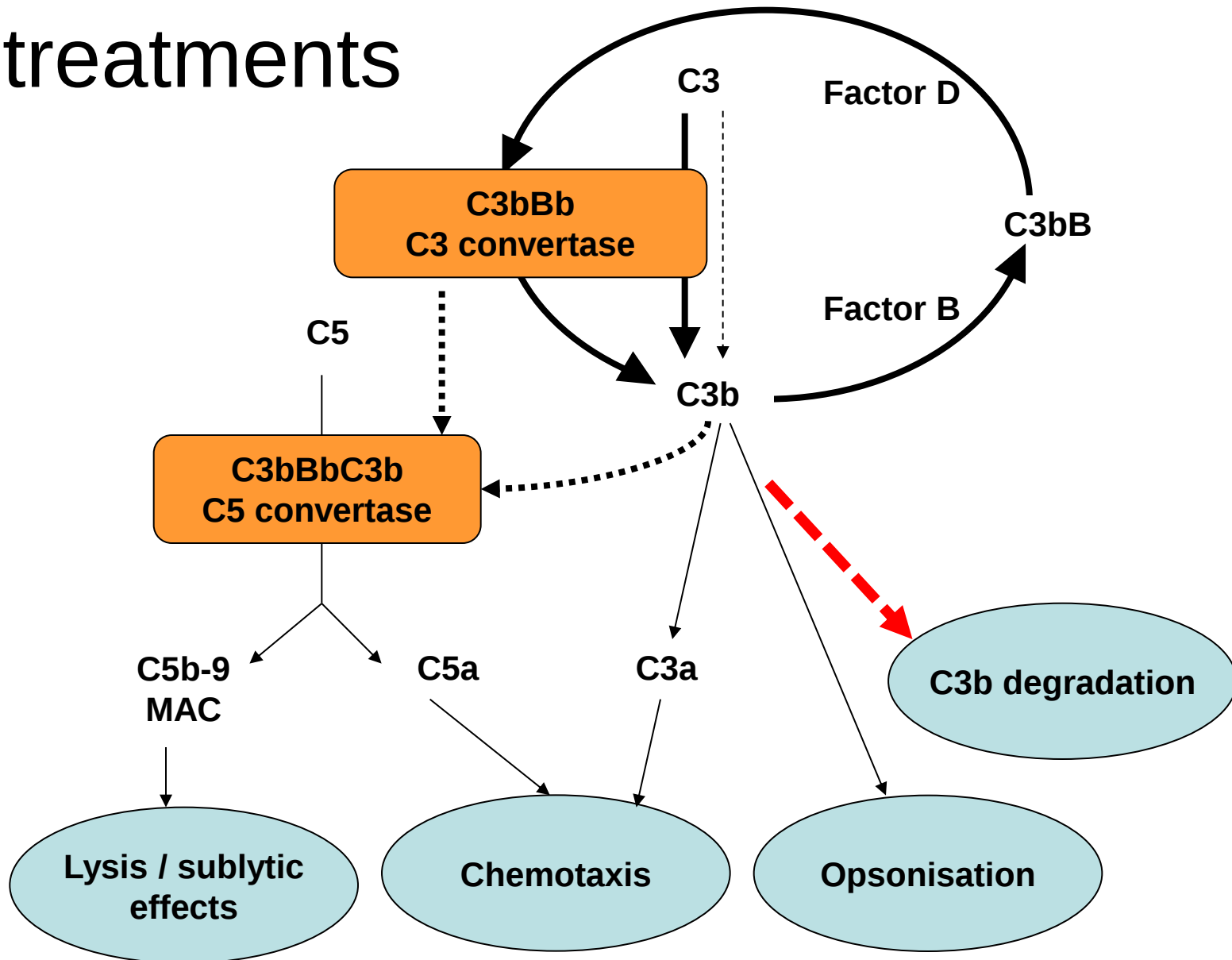
	Overall	ICGN	ICMPGN	C3GN	DDD
C3 Nephritic Factor	42.1%	0%	28.6%	33.3%	66.7%
Autoantibody to FH	16.7%	37.5%	12.5%	12.5%	21.4%
Rare Genetic Variant	8.3%	0%	14.3%	4.5%	8.3%

Outcomes by Disease



$P = 0.04$ – no significant differences between groups

Possible treatments



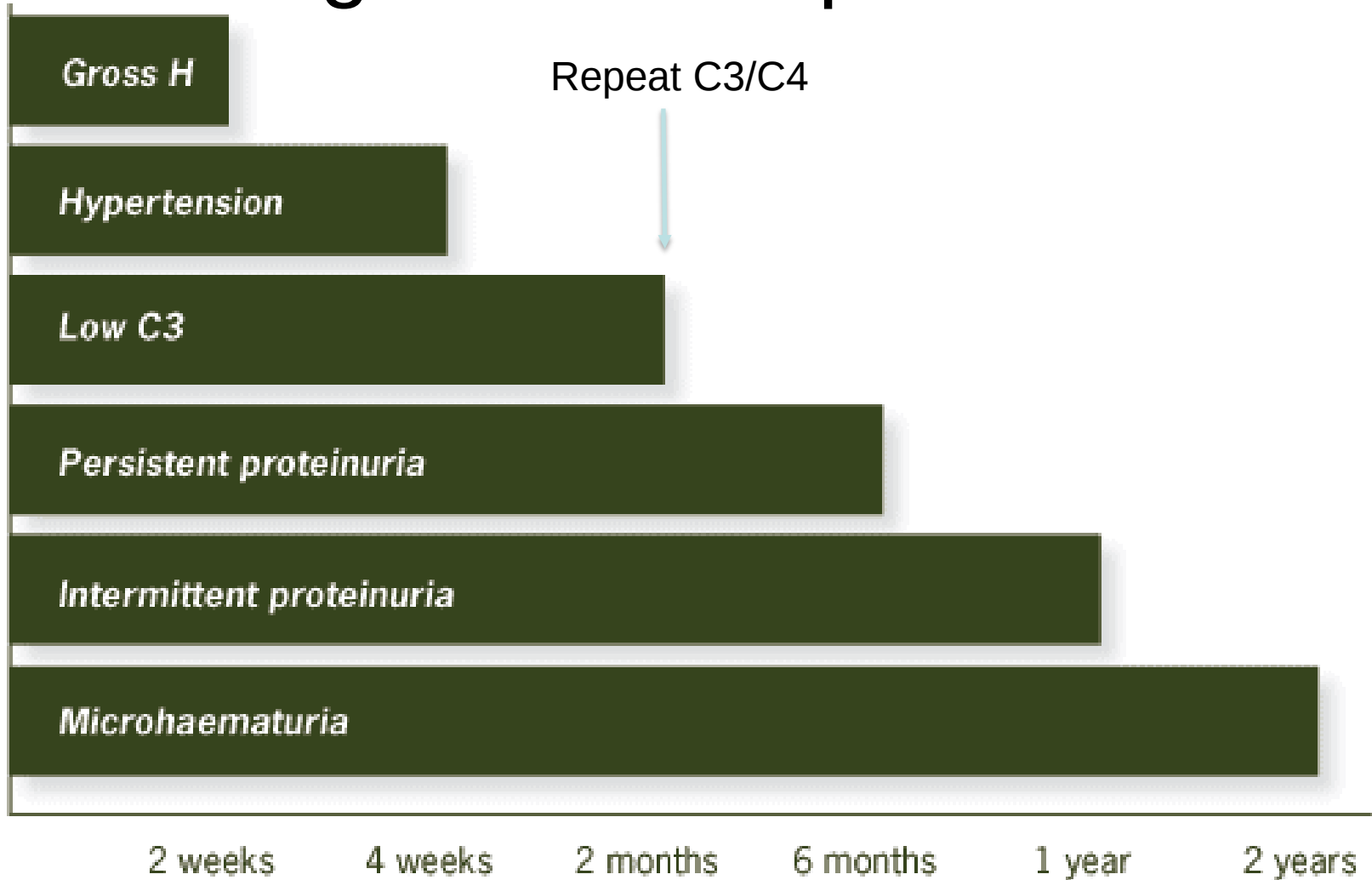
Take home messages

- MPGN and C3 glomerulopathy are rare kidney diseases with poor prognosis and no curative treatment
- The terminology needs to improve!
- They can present in a variety of ways
 - Nephrotic syndrome
 - Like post-infectious glomerulonephritis
 - Incidental urinary abnormalities
- The key defect is a failure to control complement activation
 - This will ultimately lead to targeted treatments

Red flags that may indicate MPGN/C3G

- Low C3 in a child with nephrotic syndrome
- Steroid resistant nephrotic syndrome
- Persistent low C3 and proteinuria in a child with apparent post-infectious glomerulonephritis
 - Even with barn-door evidence of streptococcal infection!

Evolution of post-infectious glomerulonephritis



Thank you!