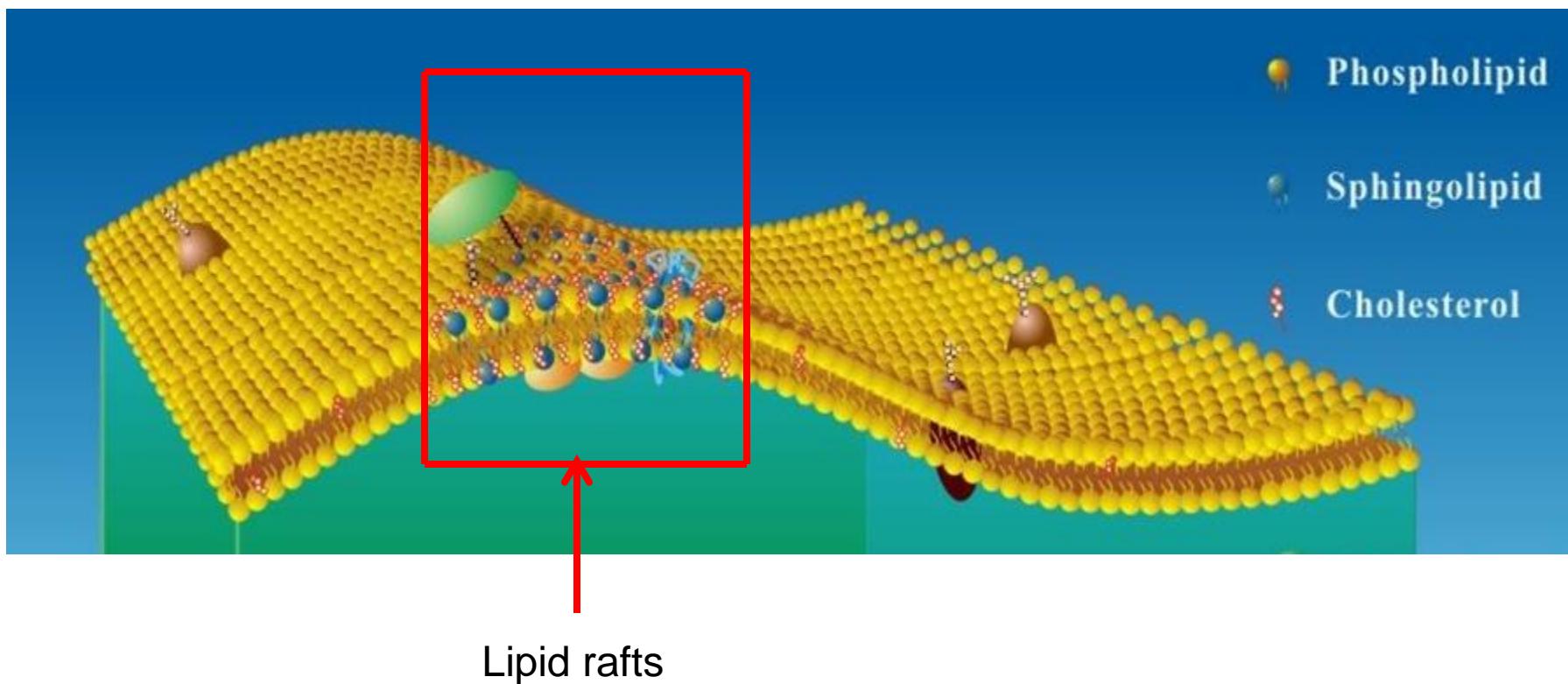


# **Sphingolipid *de novo* synthesis: its relevance to metabolic diseases and cell polarity**

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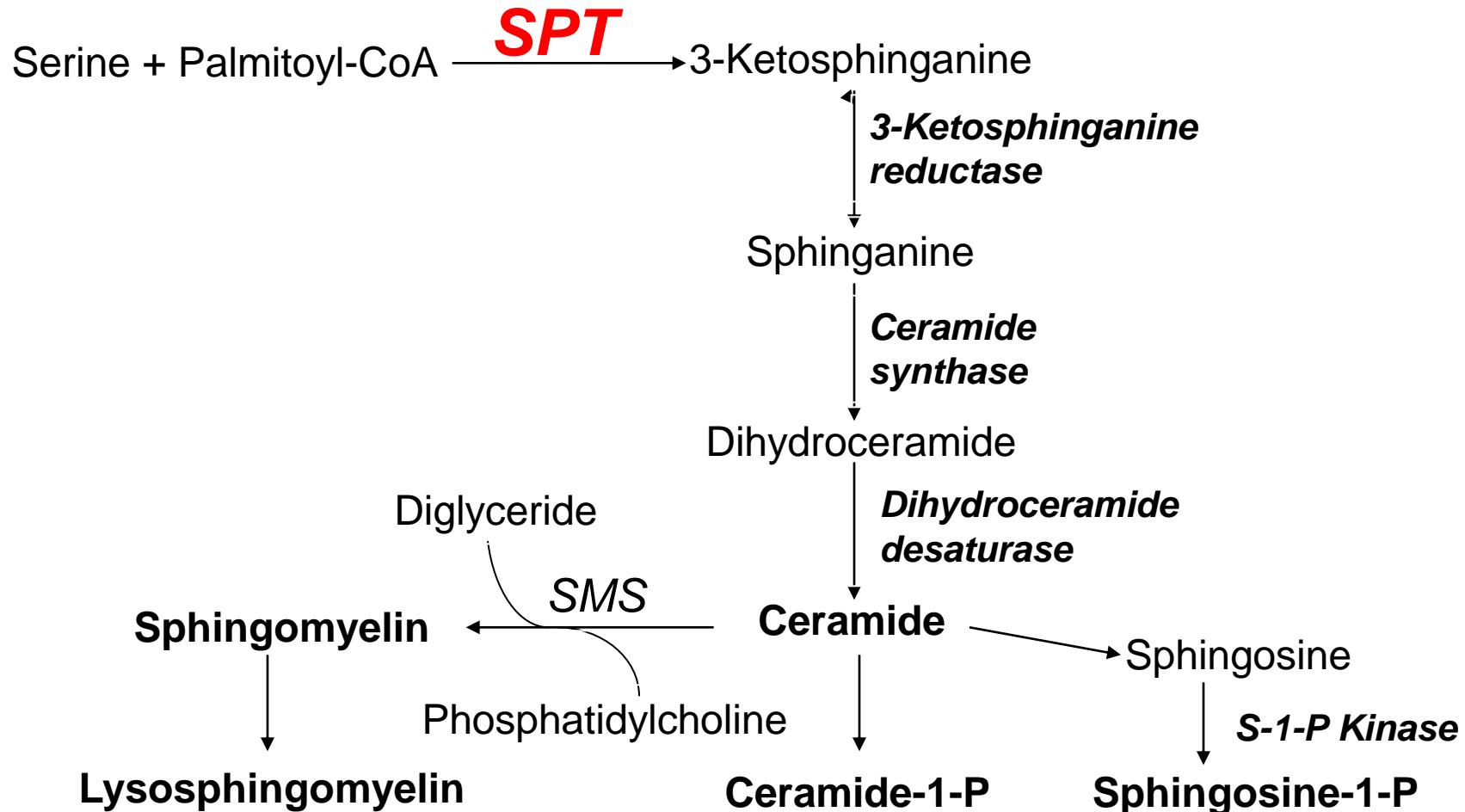
**Xian-Cheng Jiang  
(shian-chen chiang)  
SUNY Downstate Medical Center**

# Cell plasma membrane



Sphingolipid = sphingomyelin, glycosphingolipid, and ceramide

# Sphingolipid Biosynthesis



# Serine Palmitol-CoA transferase (SPT)

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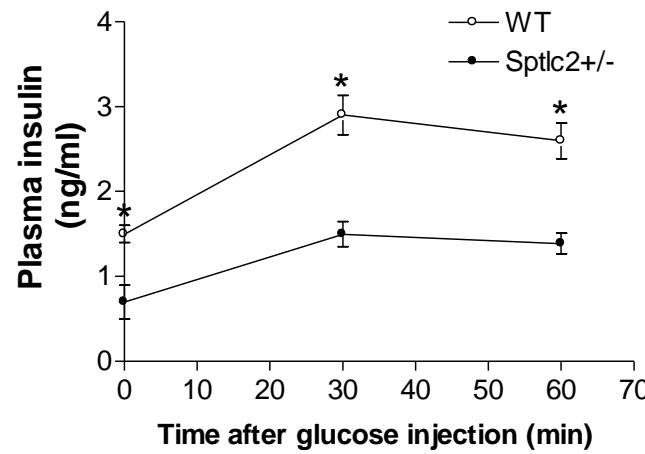
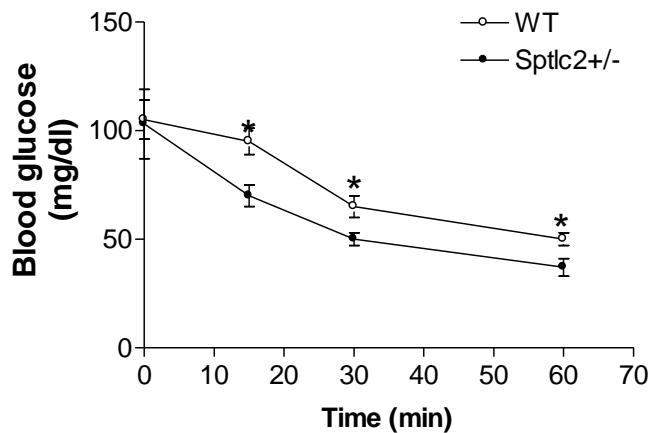
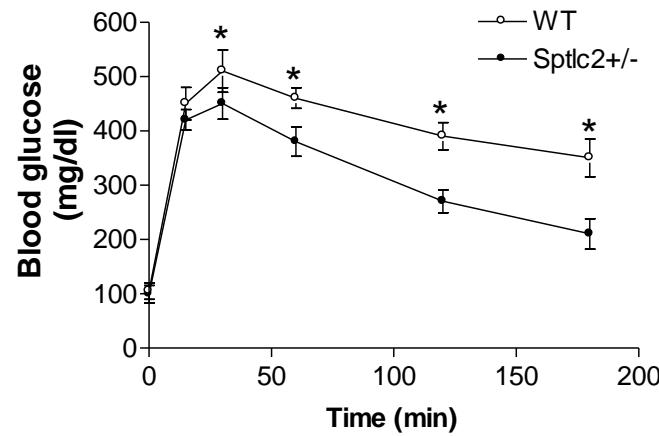
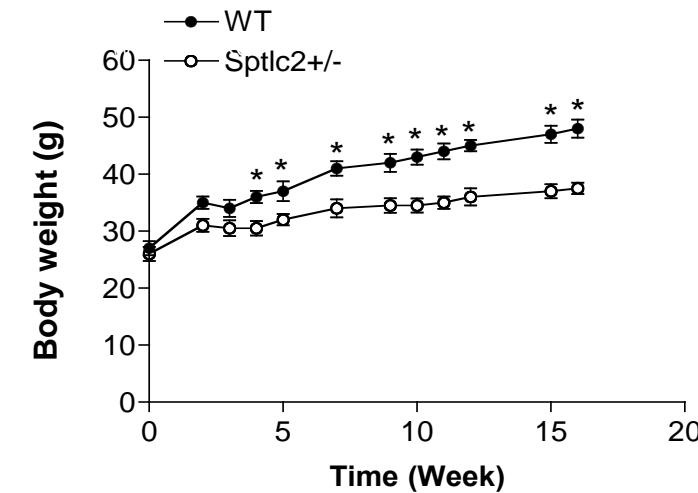
1. SPT has subunits: Sptlc1 and Sptlc2/Sptlc3.
2. Sptlc1 and Sptlc2 total gene knockouts are embryonic lethal.

## Subtopics

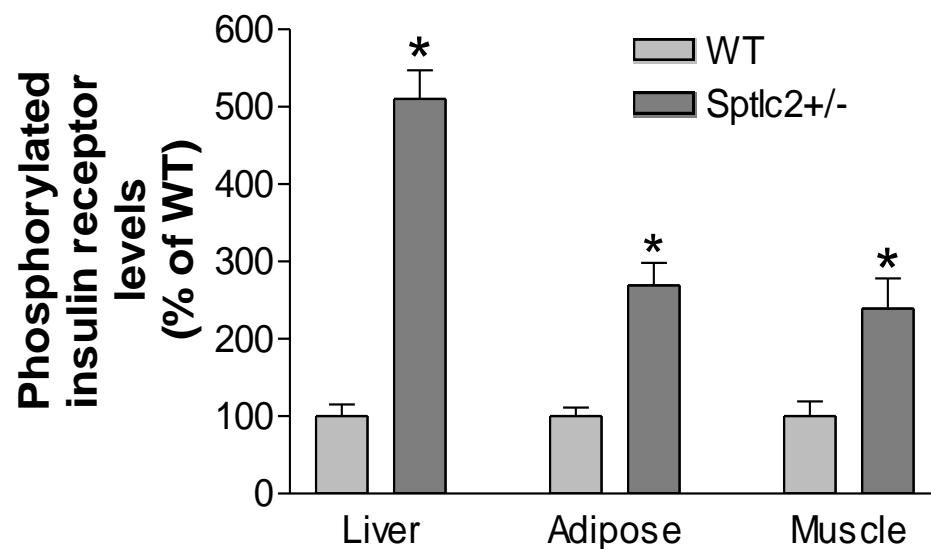
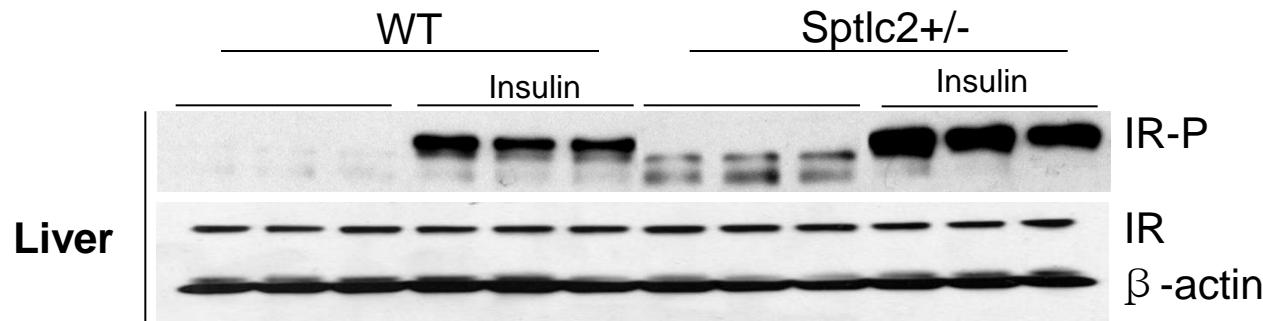
---

- ✓ *The relevance of plasma membrane sphingolipid changes to the metabolic diseases.*
- ✓ The effect of adenovirus associated virus (AAV)-Cre-mediated liver SPT deficiency on lipoprotein metabolism.
- ✓ The effect of albumin-Cre-mediated liver SPT deficiency on hepatocyte polarity.

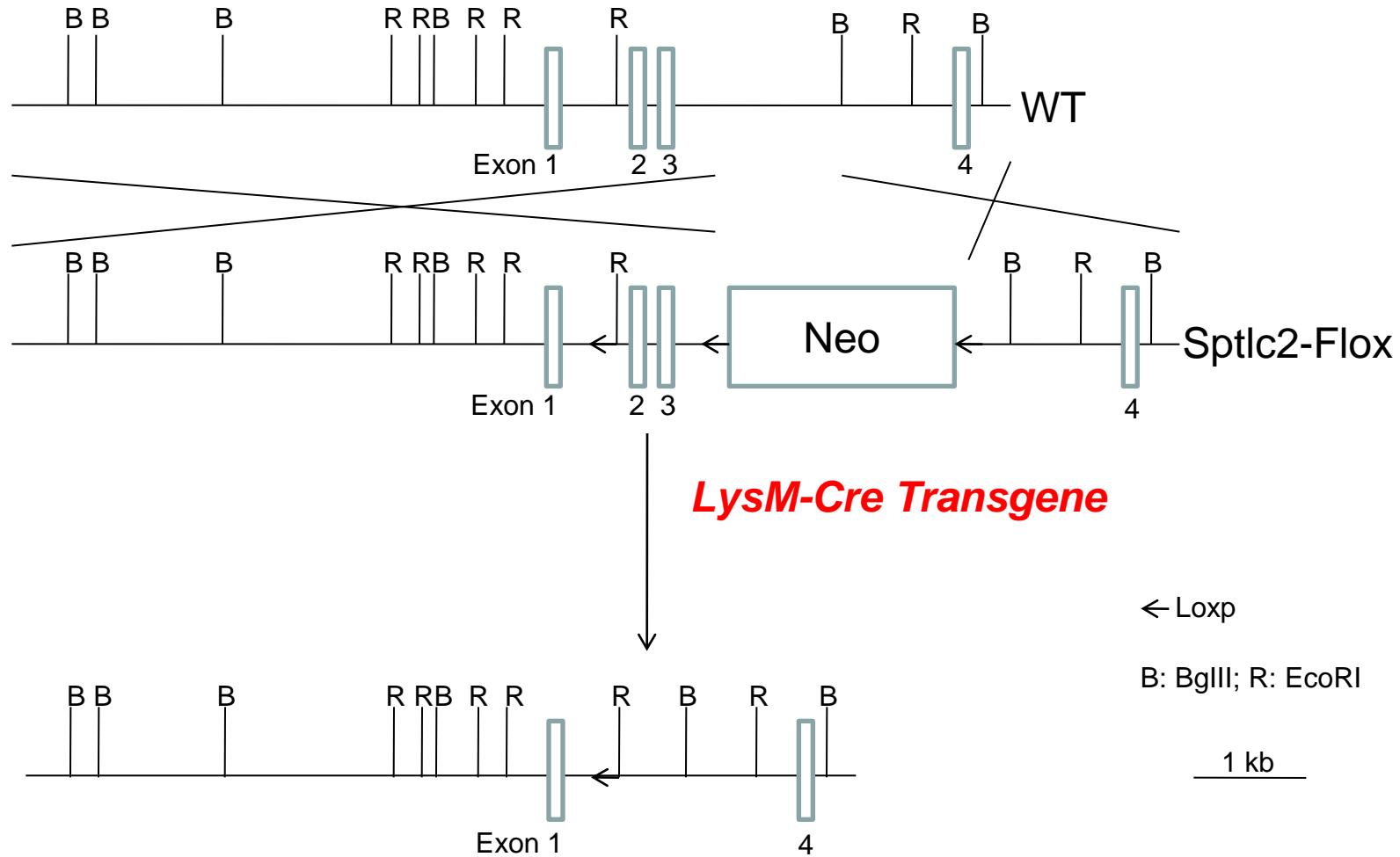
# Sptlc2 partial deficiency increases insulin sensitivity



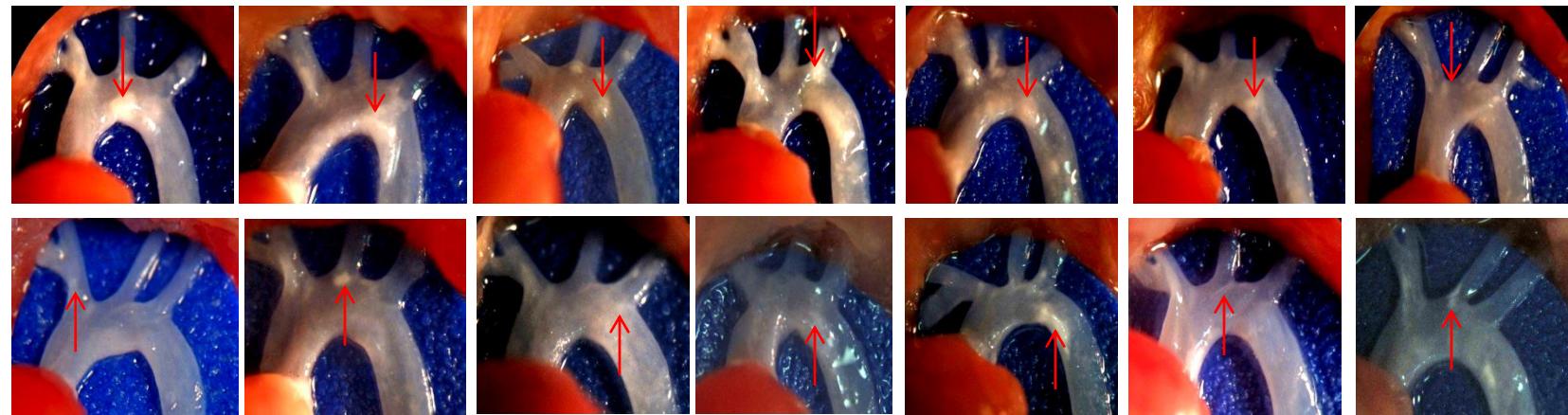
# Sptlc2 partial deficiency increases insulin receptor phosphorylation



# Myeloid cell-specific Sptlc2 deficient mouse preparation

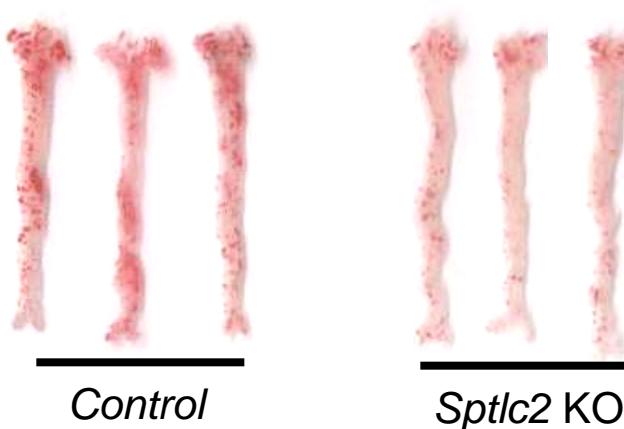
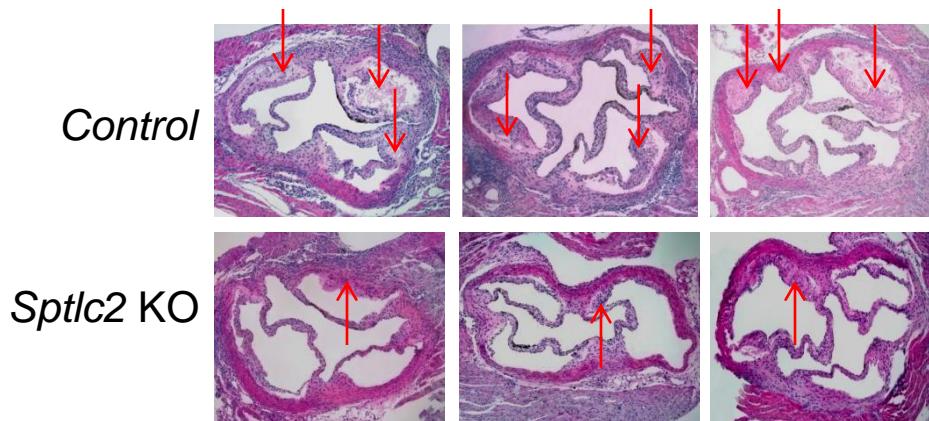


# Myeloid cell-specific *Sptlc2* deficiency decreases atherosclerotic lesions (in arch)



Chakraborty et al. JCI. 2013

# Myeloid cell-specific *Sptlc2* deficiency decreases atherosclerotic lesions (root and *en face*)



## Summary (1)

---

- Sphingolipid *de novo* synthesis related with the development of metabolic diseases.
- Inhibition of sphingolipid *de novo* synthesis may prevent metabolic diseases.

## Subtopics

---

- ✓ The relevance of plasma membrane sphingolipid changes to the metabolic diseases.
- ✓ *The effect of adenovirus associated virus (AAV)-Cre-mediated liver Sptlc2 deficiency on lipid metabolism.*
- ✓ The effect of albumin-Cre-mediated liver Sptlc2 deficiency on hepatocyte polarity.

# Liver-specific KO mouse preparation

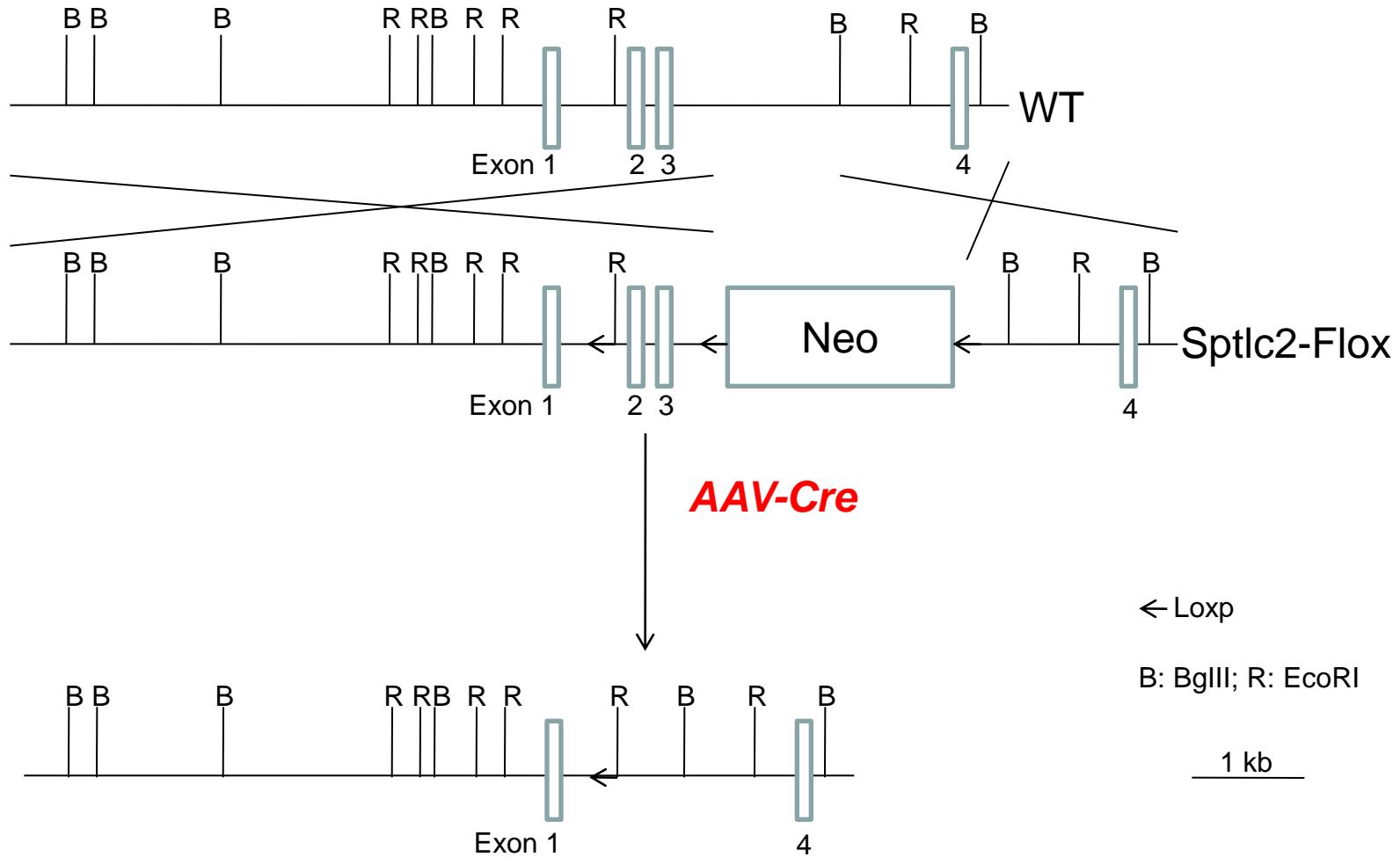
---

1. AAV-Cre (for adult)
2. Albumin-Cre transgenic mice (for whole life)
3. Inducible-Cre (for adult)

# **AAV-Cre/Sptlc2-loxp mice**

---

# Liver-specific Sptlc2 KO mouse preparation (for adult)



# Plasma lipid measurement in liver-specific Sptlc2 KO and WT mice (LC/MS/MS)

Mice	SM ( $\mu$ M)	PC ( $\mu$ M)	PC / SM	Cer (ng/ml)	Sph (ng/ml)	S-1-P (ng/ml)	DHS-1-P (ng/ml)
WT	96 $\pm$ 9	1759 $\pm$ 97	18 $\pm$ 2	1000 $\pm$ 85	23 $\pm$ 2	264 $\pm$ 21	114 $\pm$ 14
Sptlc2 $^{+/-}$	61 $\pm$ 5*	2096 $\pm$ 89*	32 $\pm$ 5*	462 $\pm$ 42*	31 $\pm$ 1*	242 $\pm$ 13	99 $\pm$ 13

Value: mean $\pm$ SD; n=4–5. SM, sphingomyelin; Cer, Ceramide; Sph, Sphingosine; S-1-P, Sphingosine-1-phosphate; DHS-1-P, Dihydroxy-sphingosine-1-phosphate. \*P<0.01.

# Plasma lipid measurement after AAV-Cre injection

	AAV-lacZ	AAV-Cre	Change	P value
Cholesterol (mg/dl)	104 ± 7.5	116 ± 21		
Phospholipid (mg/dl)	198 ± 17	211 ± 27		
Triglyceride (mg/dl)	47 ± 8	50 ± 7		
Sphingomyelin (mg/dl)	28± 5	19± 2	-32%	P < 0.01

# Liver lipid measurement in liver-specific Sptlc2 KO and WT mice (LC/MS/MS)

Mice	<u>SM</u>	<u>PC</u>	<u>Cer</u>	<u>Sph</u>	<u>S-1-P</u>	<u>DHS-1-P</u>
	( $\mu$ g/mg liver)			(ng/mg liver)		
WT	$0.58 \pm 0.02$	$17 \pm 1$	$134 \pm 10$	$2.2 \pm 0.3$	$0.10 \pm 0.01$	$0.12 \pm 0.02$
Sptlc2KO	$0.42 \pm 0.01^*$	$15 \pm 2$	$82 \pm 9^*$	$1.8 \pm 0.2$	$0.11 \pm 0.02$	$0.13 \pm 0.01$

Value: mean $\pm$ SD; n=4–5. SM, sphingomyelin; PC, phosphatidylcholine; Cer, ceramide; Sph, sphingosine; S-1-P, sphingosine-1-phosphate; DHS-1-P, dihydroxyl-sphingosine-1-phosphate. \*P<0.01.

# Plasma

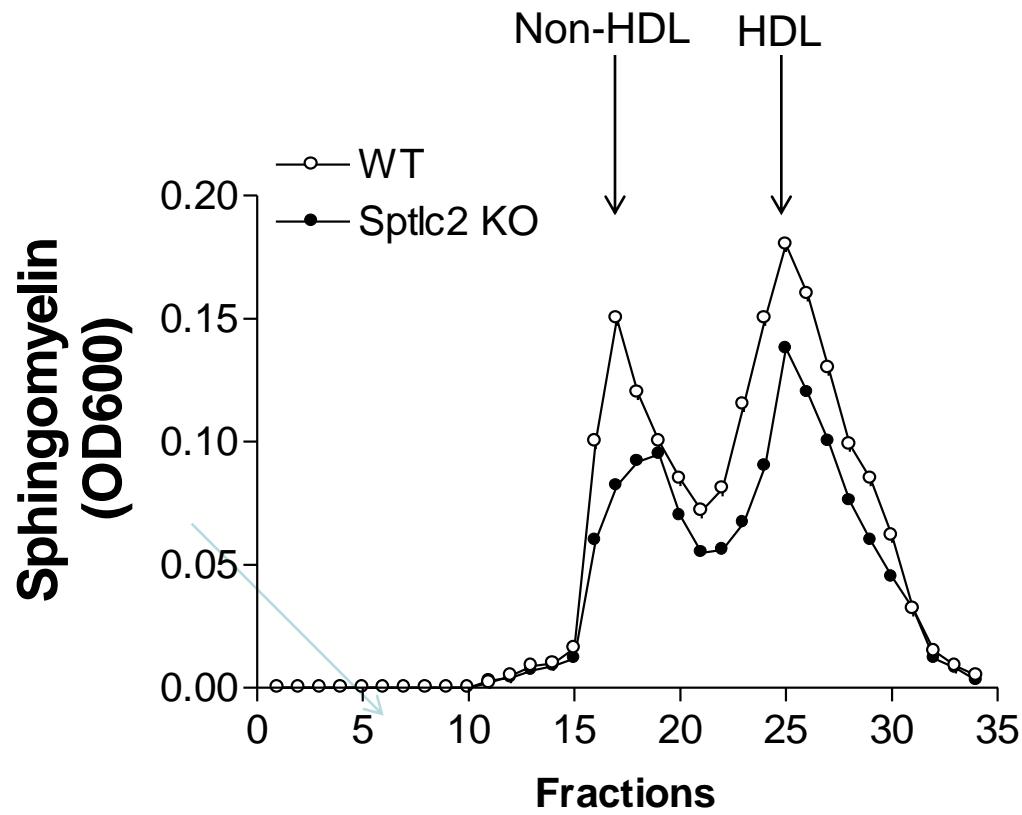
---

AAV-LacZ

AAV-Cre



# Plasma sphingomyelin distribution



## Summary (2)

---

- As expected that AAV-Cre-mediated liver Sptlc2 deficiency decreases plasma sphingomyelin levels.

## Subtopics

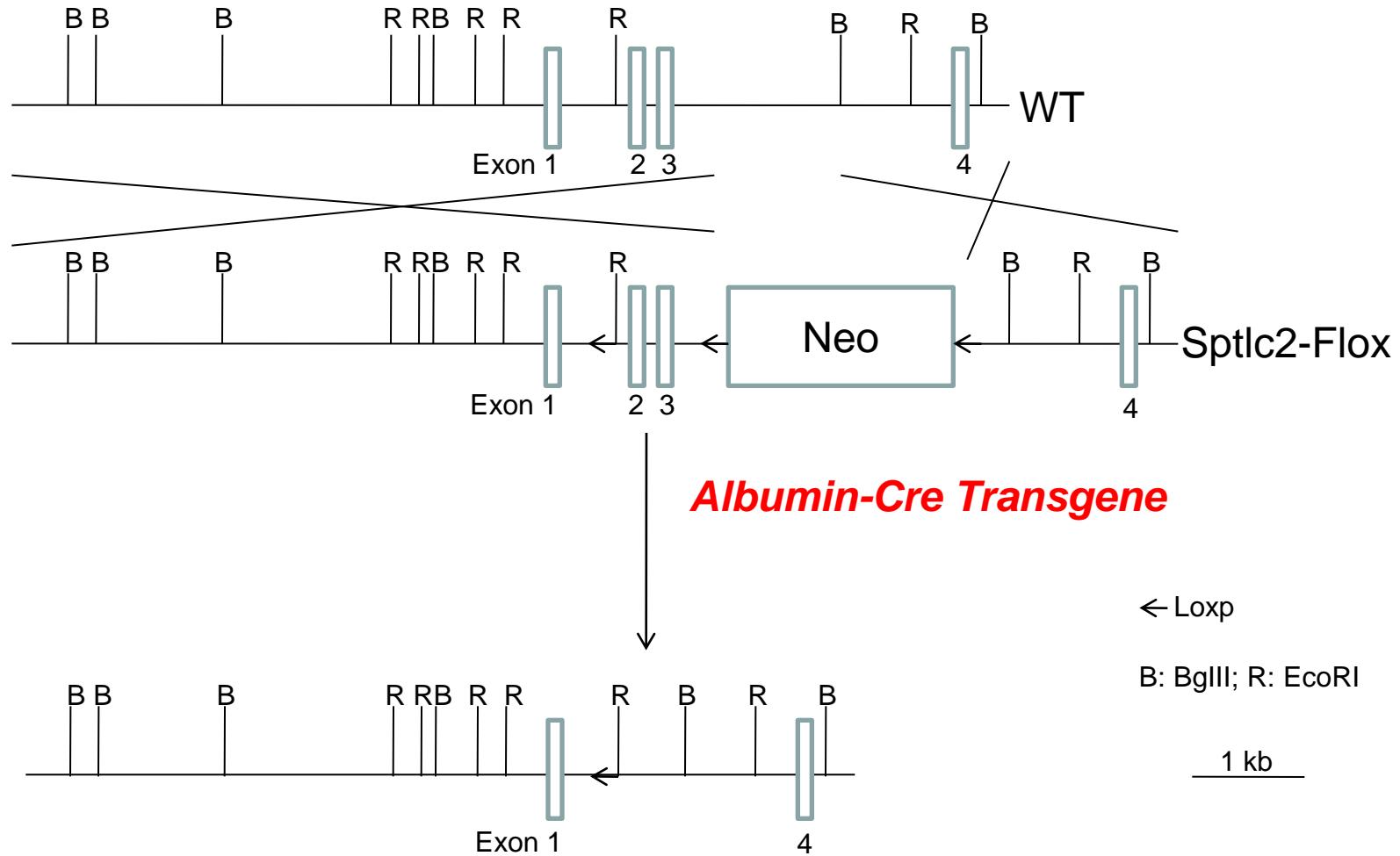
---

- ✓ The relevance of plasma membrane sphingolipid changes to the metabolic diseases.
- ✓ The effect of adenovirus associated virus (AAV)-Cre-mediated liver Sptlc2 deficiency on lipoprotein metabolism.
- ✓ *The effect of albumin-Cre-mediated liver Sptlc2 deficiency on hepatocyte polarity.*

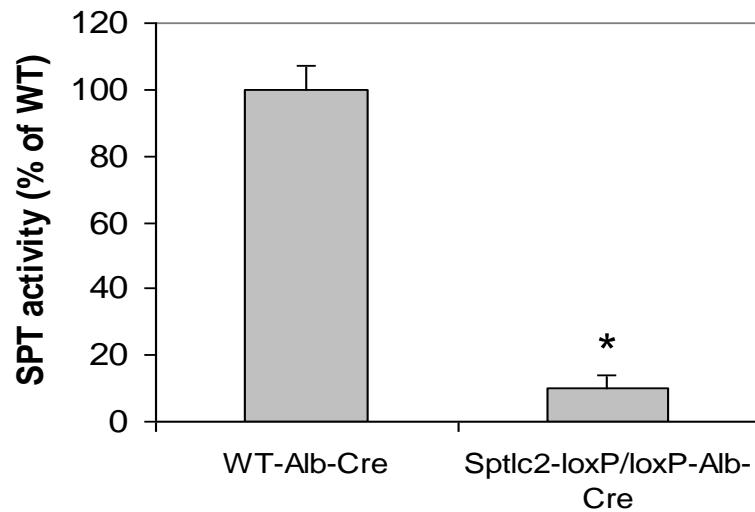
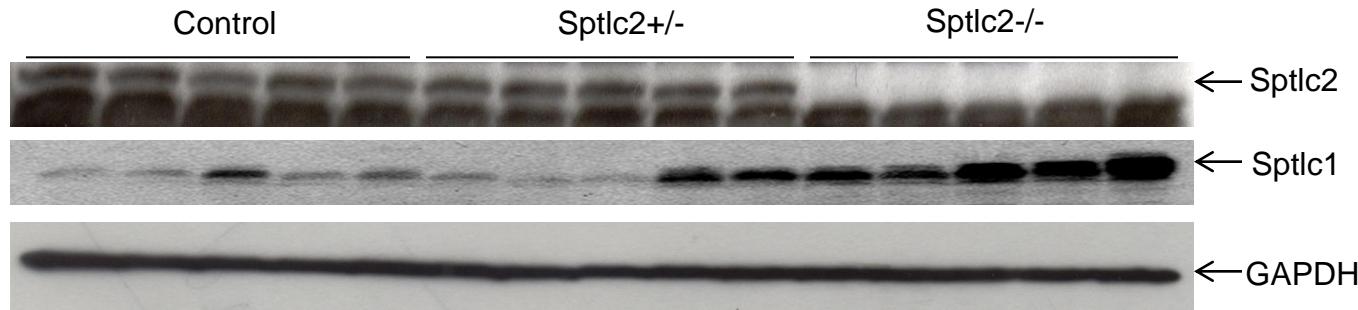
# **Albumin-Cre/Sptlc2-loxp mice**

---

# Liver-specific Sptlc2 KO mouse preparation (for whole life)

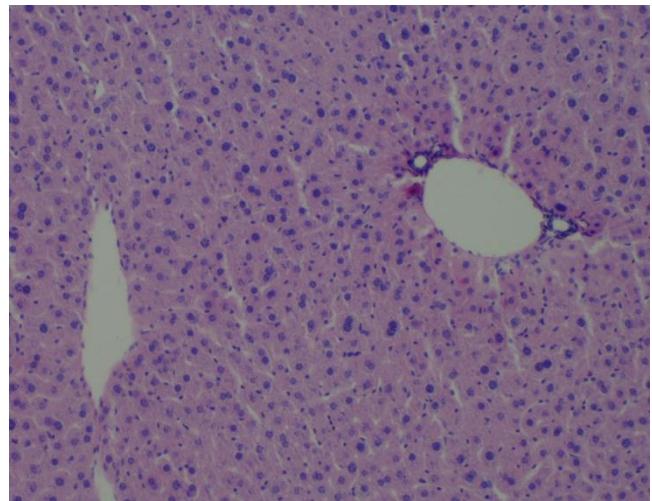


# Liver SPT activity and *Sptlc1/Sptlc2* protein mass in liver-specific *Sptlc2* KO mice

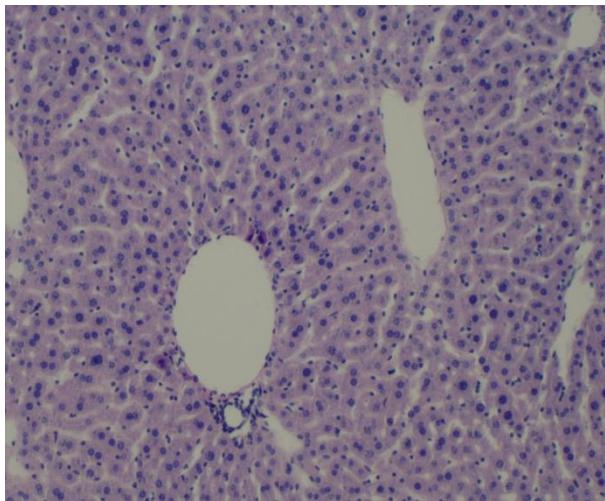


# Bile ducts are few in Sptlc2 KO mouse liver (H&E staining, 2 months old)

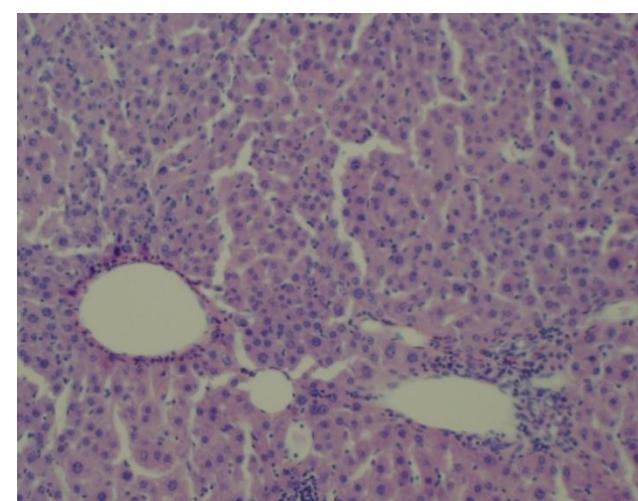
Control



Hetero KO

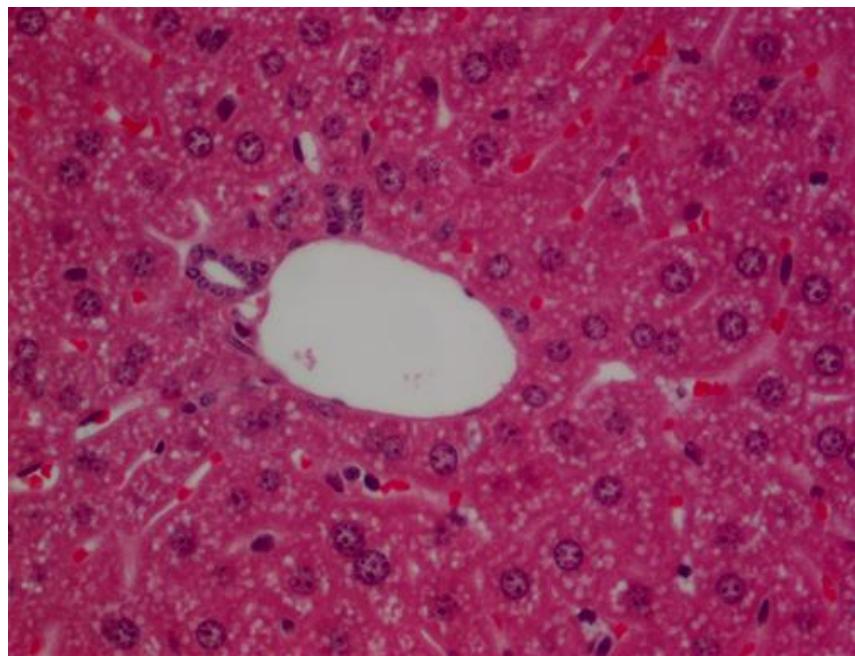


Homo KO

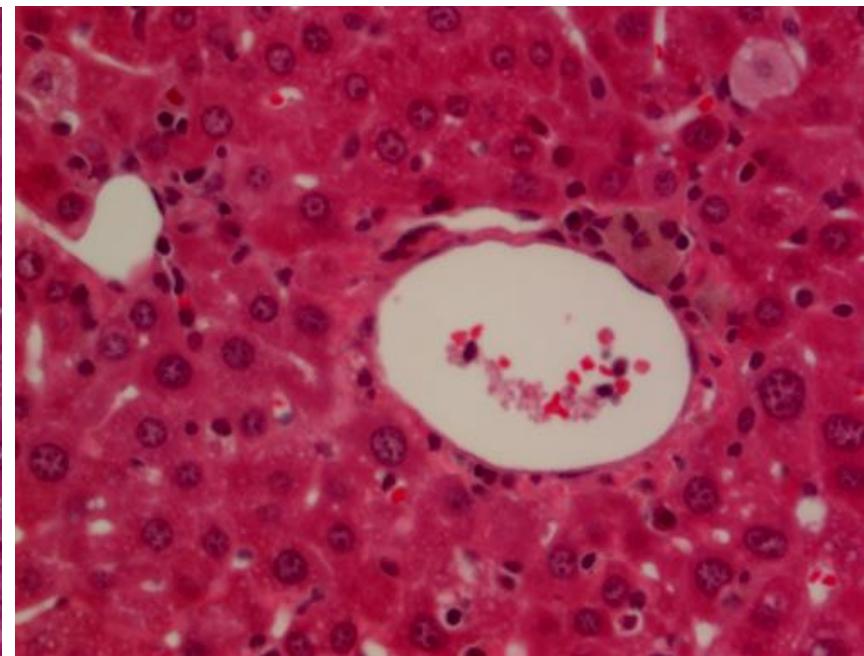


# Bile ducts are few in Sptlc2 KO mouse liver (H&E staining, 2 months old)

Control

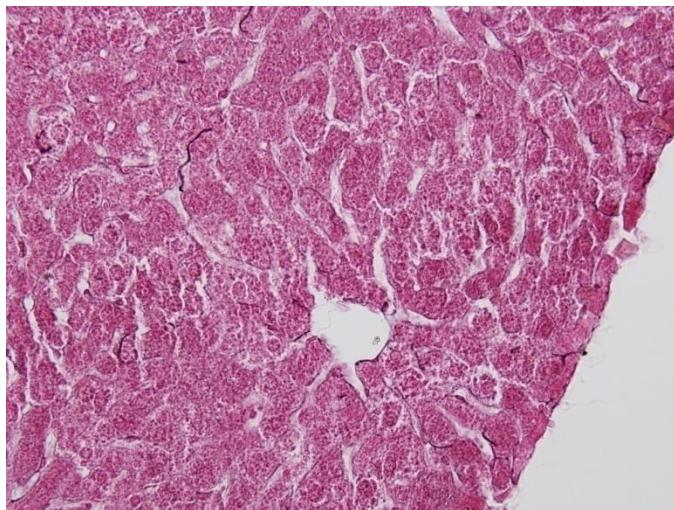


Sptlc2 KO

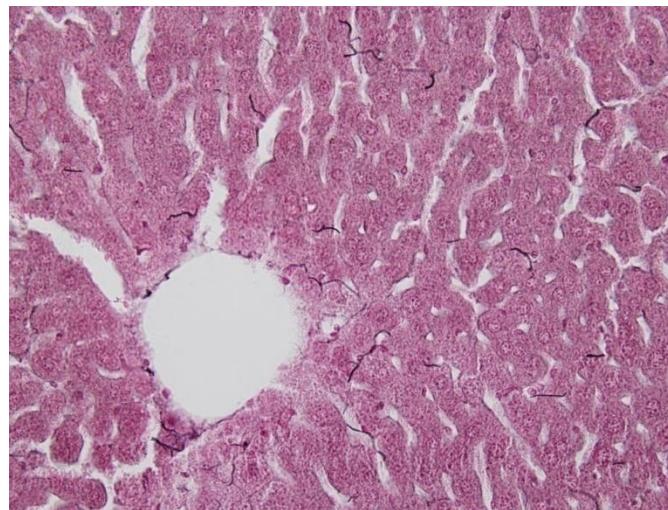


# Reticular Fiber Staining for liver fibrosis (2 months old)

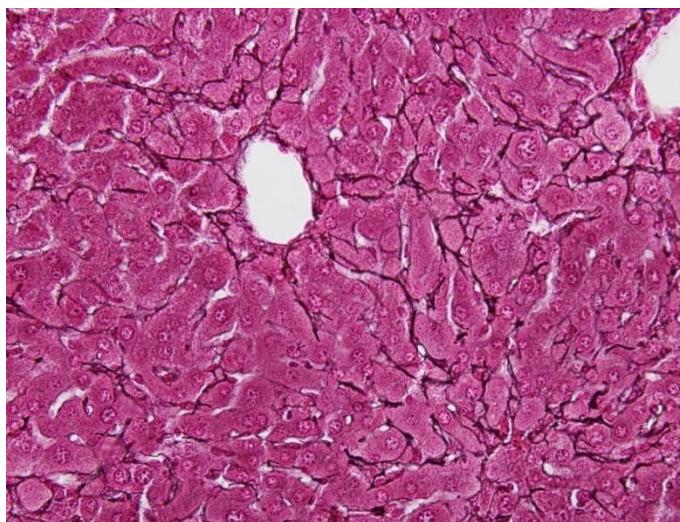
WT



Hetero KO



Homo KO



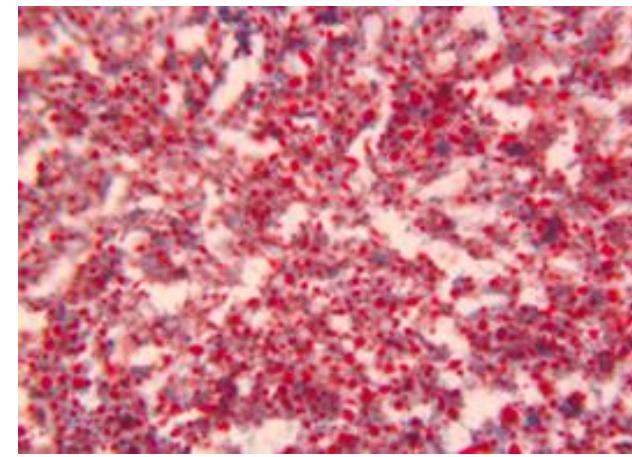
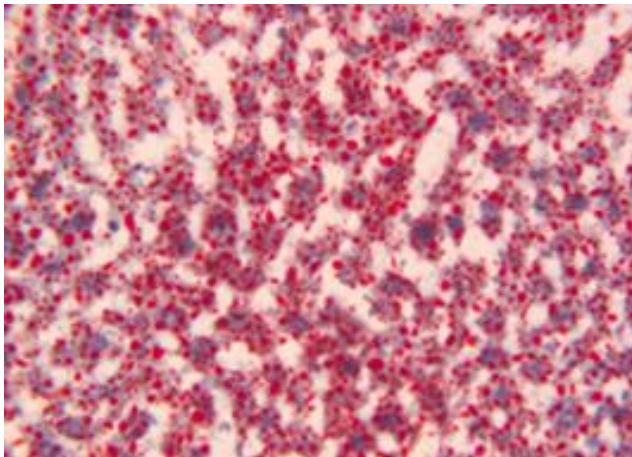
Silver staining (silver nitrate)

----Gordon-Sweets Method

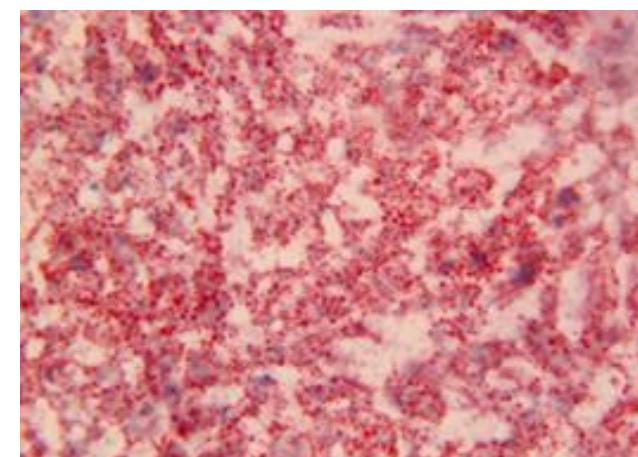
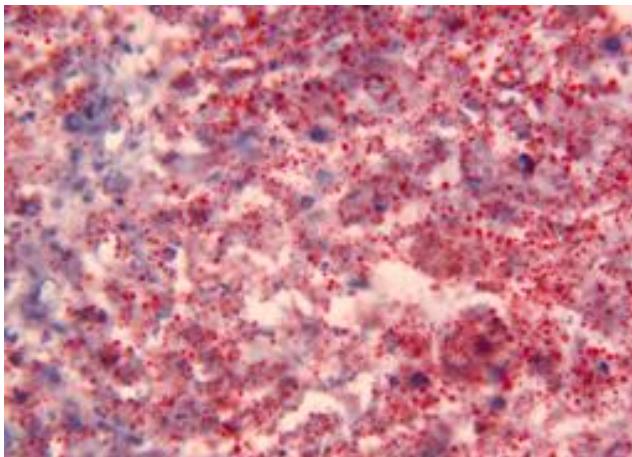
# **Sptlc2 deficiency does not cause lipid accumulation in the liver (2 months old)**

Liver Oil red O staining

Control

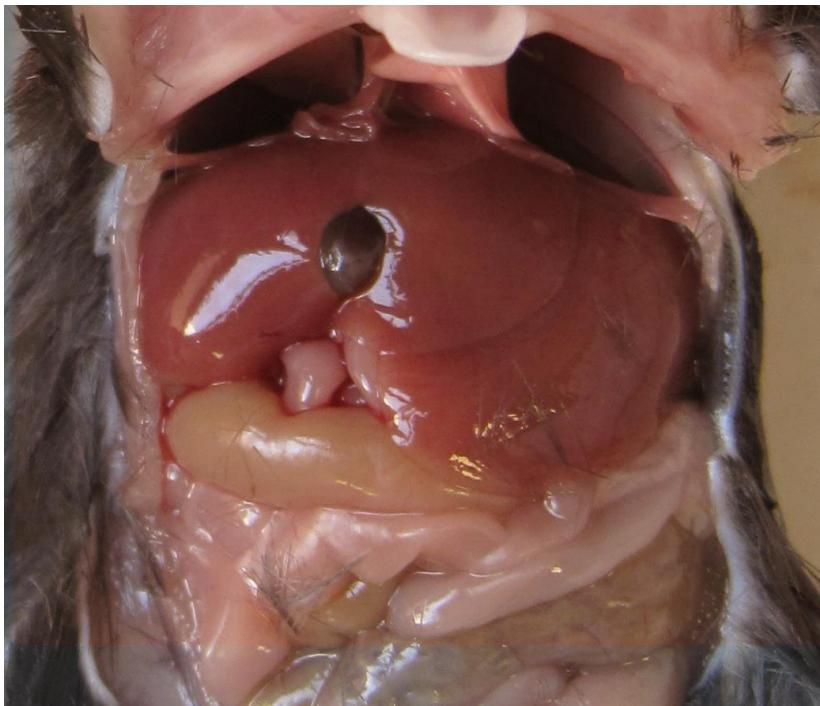


Sptlc2 KO

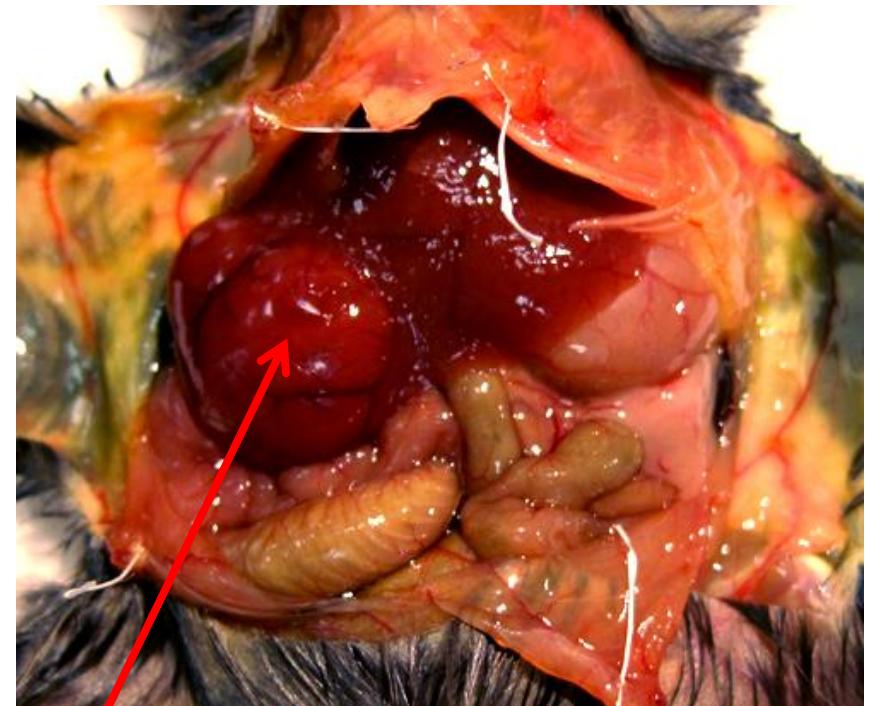


# Sptlc2-deficiency-mediated liver tumor formation (8 months old)

Control



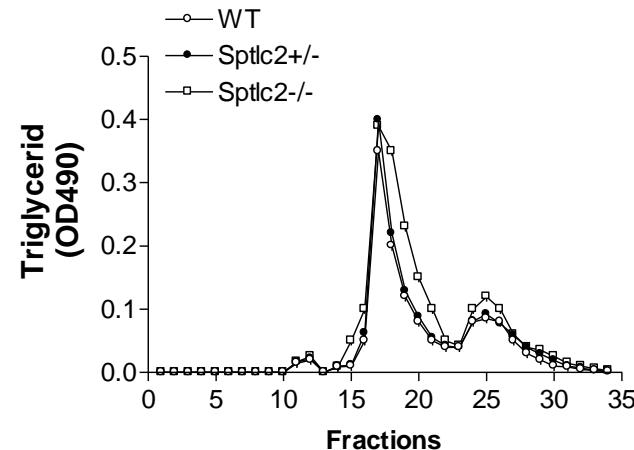
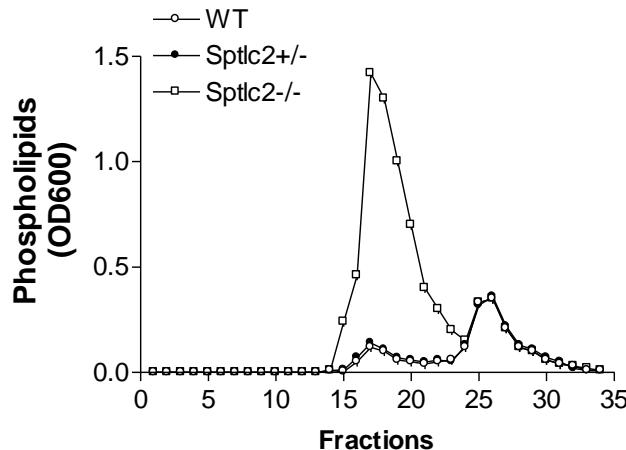
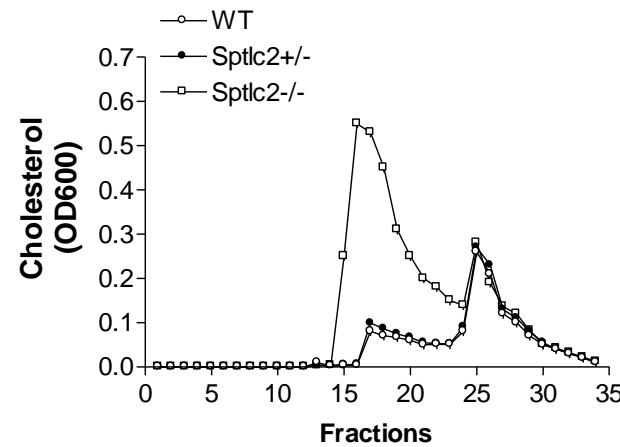
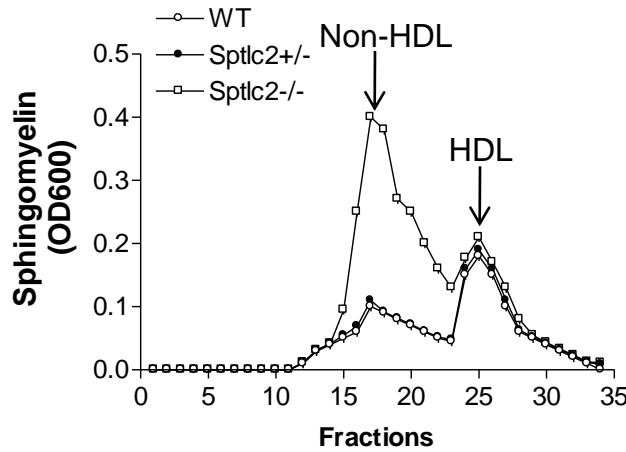
Sptlc2 KO



## Plasma lipid measurement (2 months old)

	WT	Homozygous KO	Heterozygous KO
Cholesterol (mg/dl)	80 ± 6	<b>354 ± 59*</b>	77 ± 14
Phospholipid (mg/dl)	217 ± 10	<b>746 ± 19*</b>	173 ± 44
Sphingomyelin (mg/dl)	14 ± 2	<b>44 ± 10*</b>	12 ± 2
Triglyceride (mg/dl)	56 ± 8	69 ± 10	58 ± 9

# Plasma lipid distribution (FPLC) (chow diet)

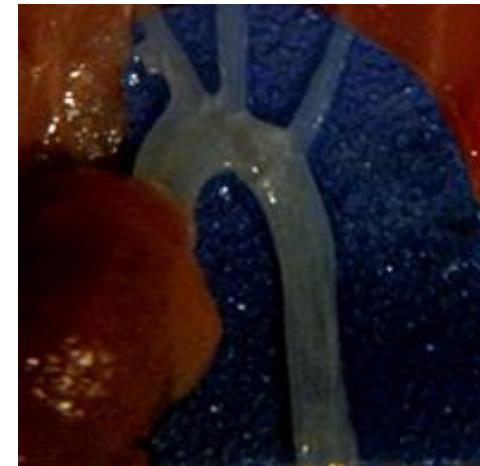
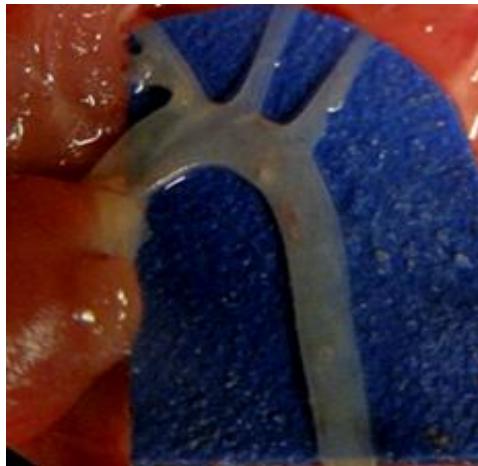


# Higher cholesterol in liver *Sptlc2* KO mice has no impact on atherosclerosis

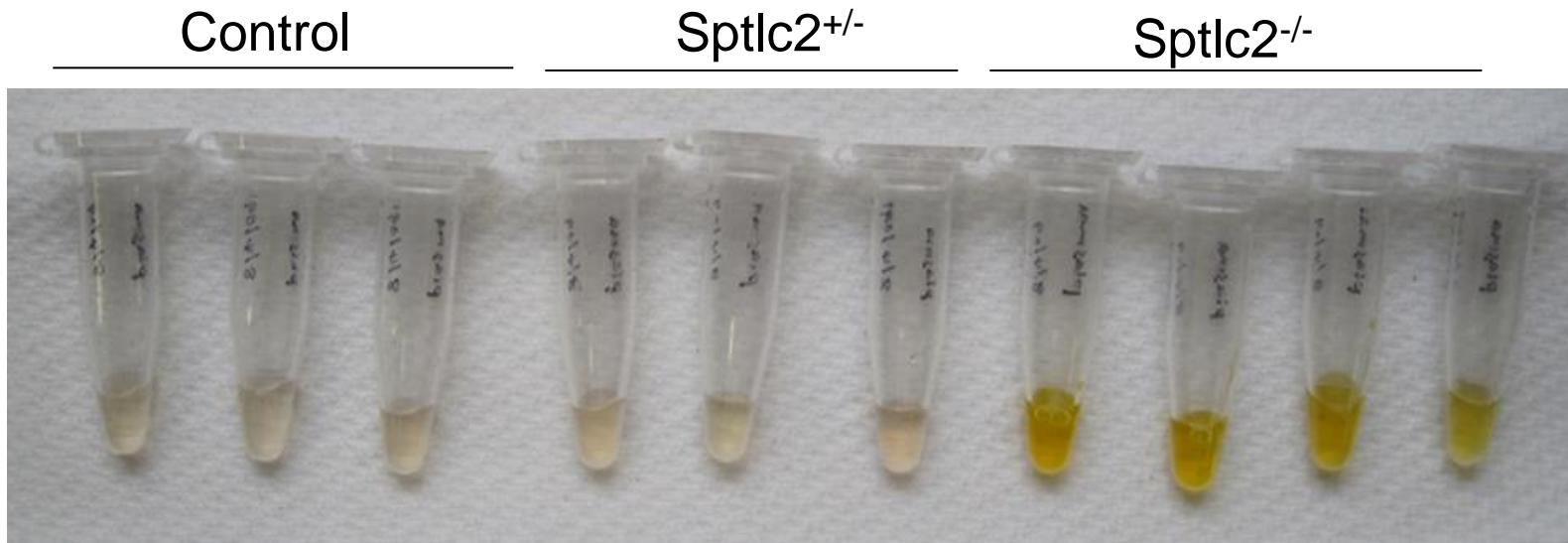
WT



*Sptlc2* KO



# Liver *Sptlc2* KO mice have severe jaundice



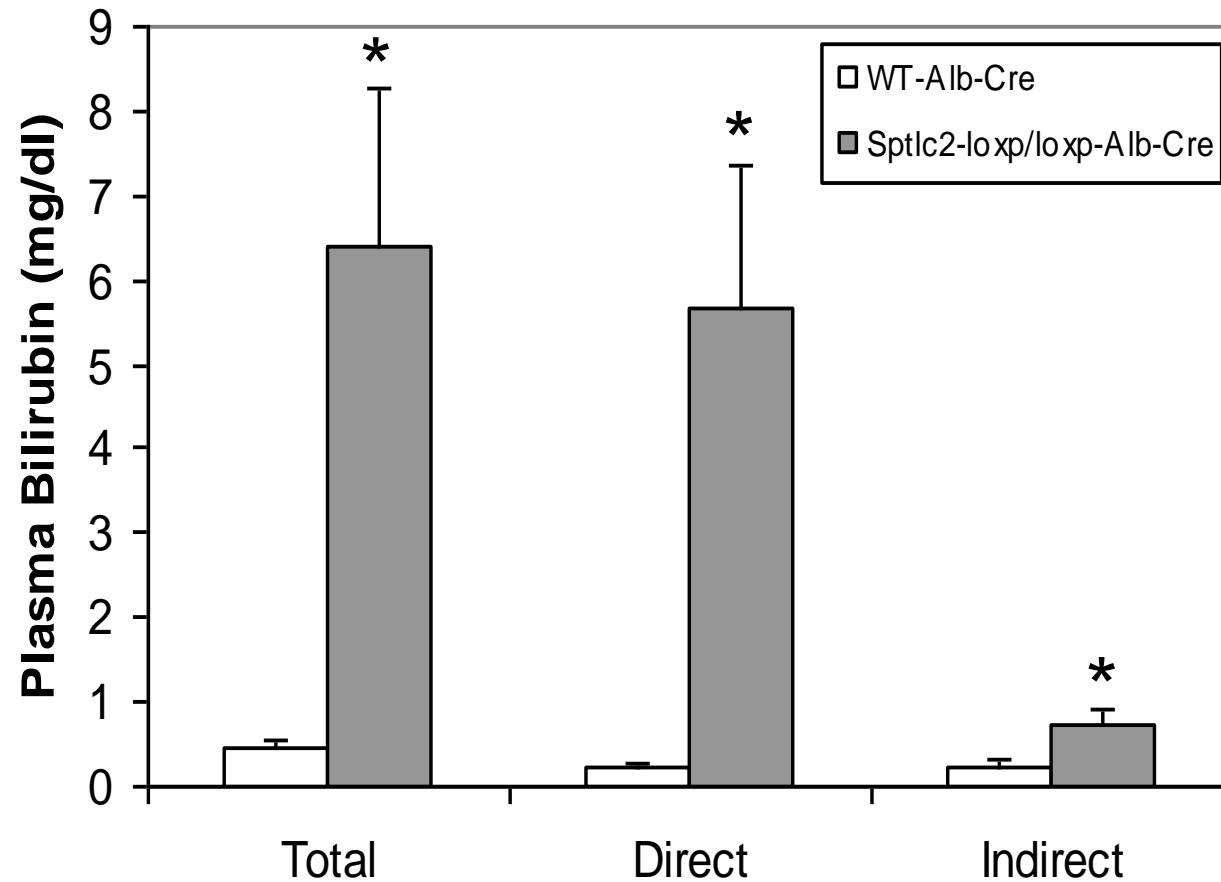
# Cholestasis

---

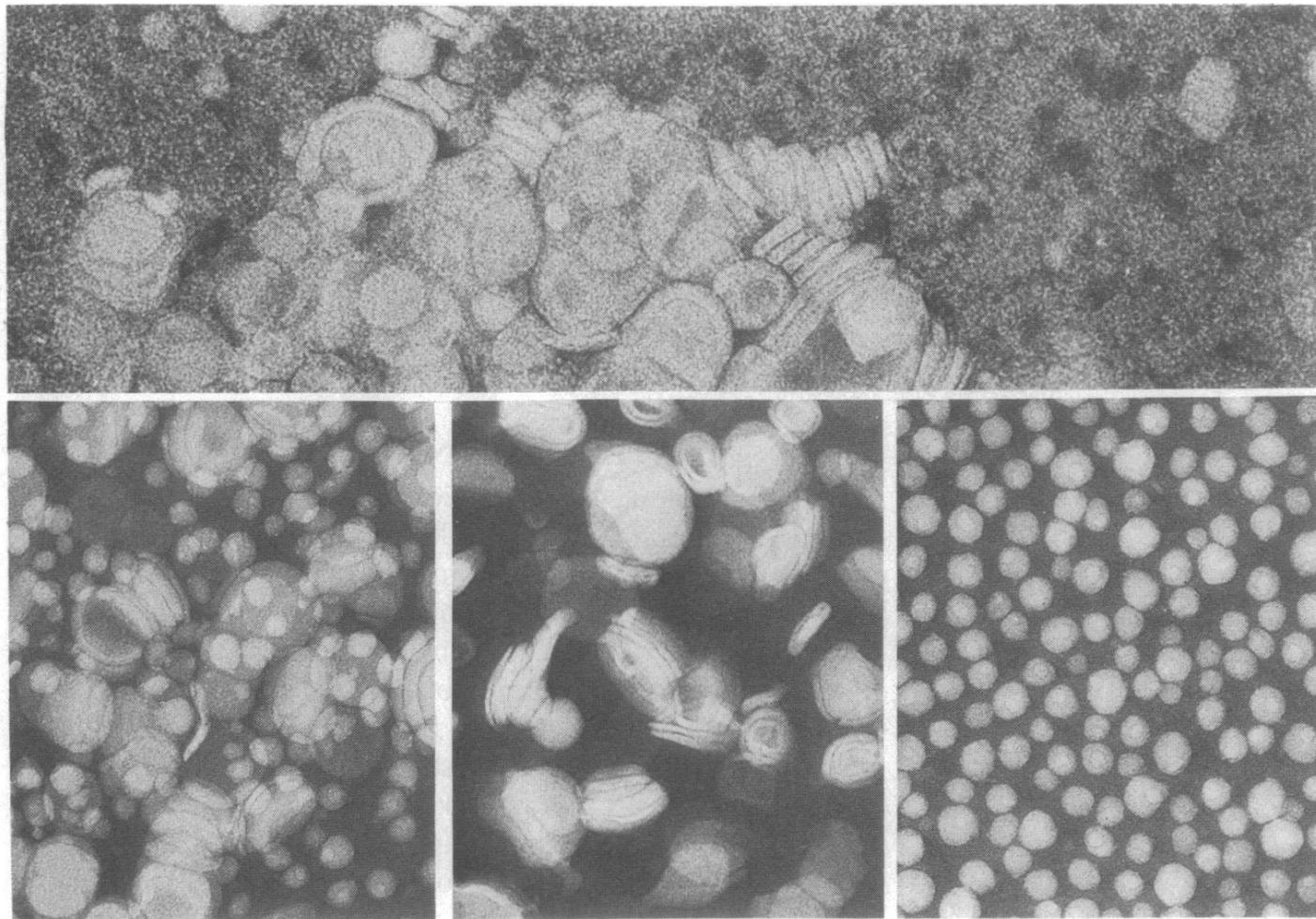
Cholestasis is a condition where bile cannot flow from the liver to the duodenum.

1. Gallstone or malignance
2. Genetic defects

# Plasma Bilirubin



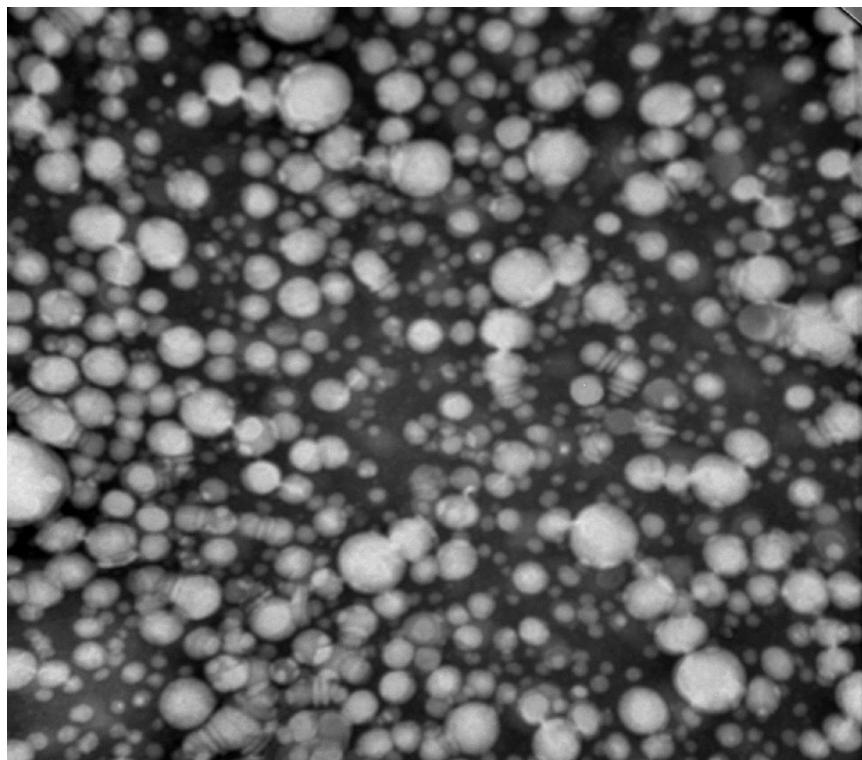
# EM picture for lipoprotein-X



Felker et al. PNAS, 1978

# Accumulation of lipoprotein-X in Sptlc2 KO mouse plasma

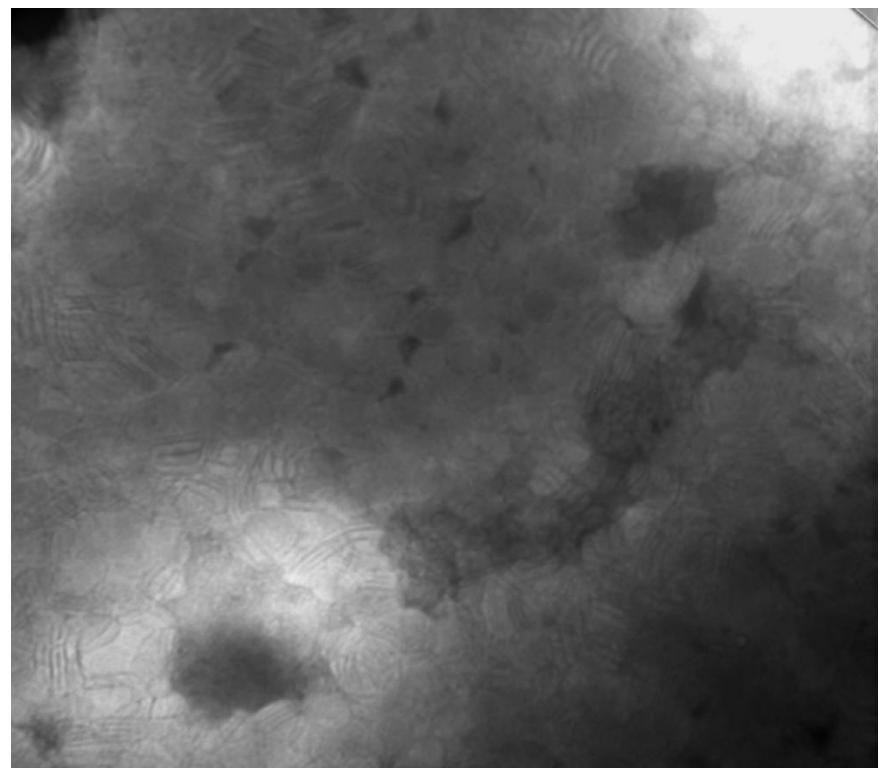
Control



Wei Quan-003.tif  
WT-1  
Print Mag: 170000x @ 7.0 in  
TEM Mode: Imaging  
Microscopist: Wei Quan

100 nm  
HV=80kV  
Direct Mag: 150000x  
Institute for Basic Research

Sptlc2 KO

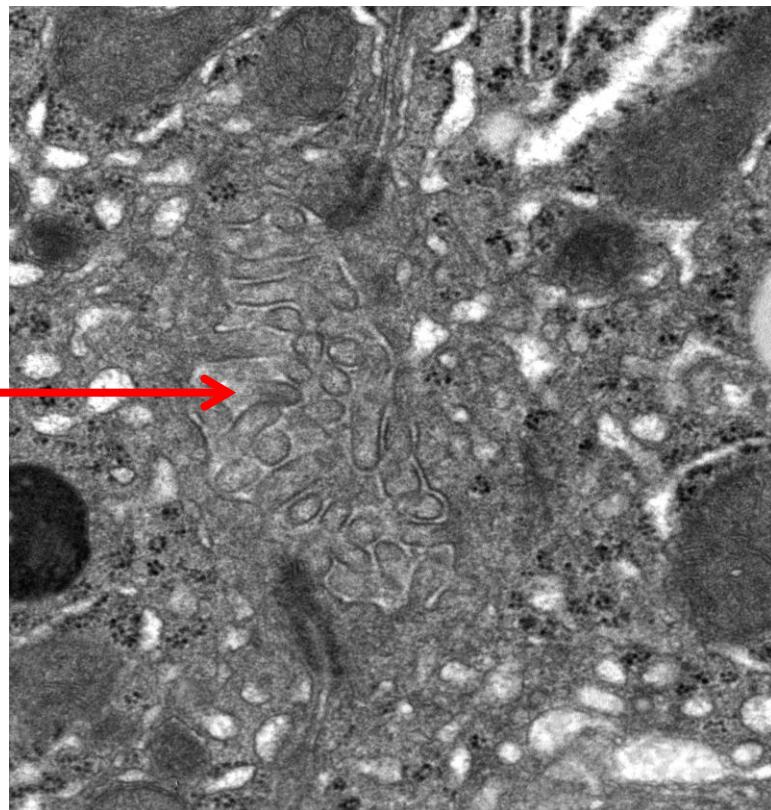


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KO-1  
50  
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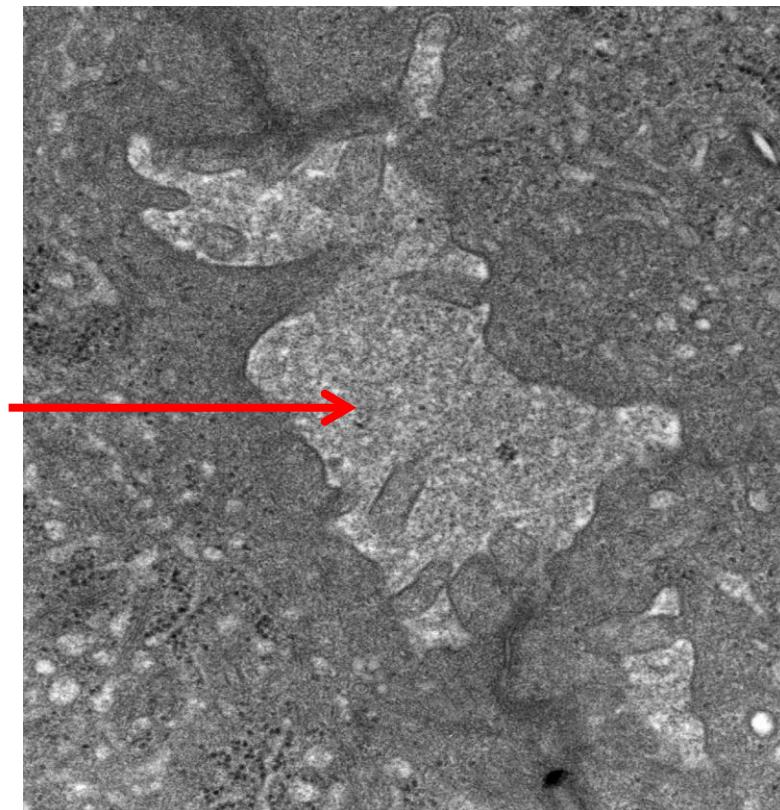
100 nm  
HV=80kV  
Direct Mag: 200000x  
Institute for Basic Research

# Sptlc2 KO mice have much less microvilli in bile canaliculus

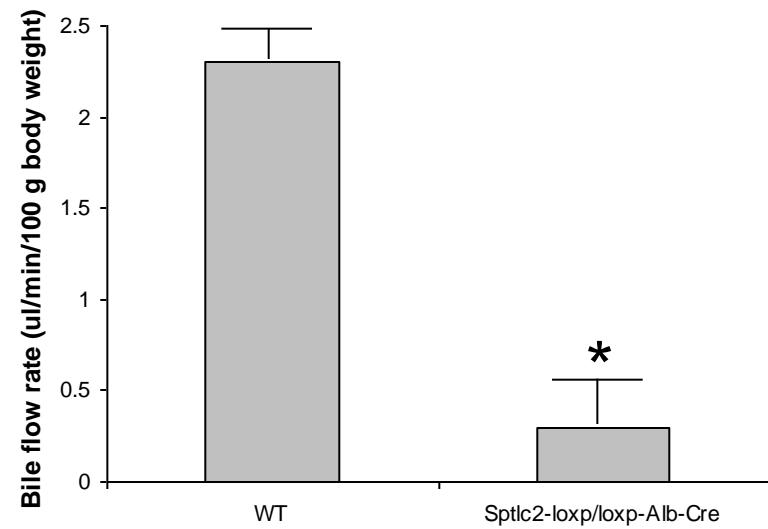
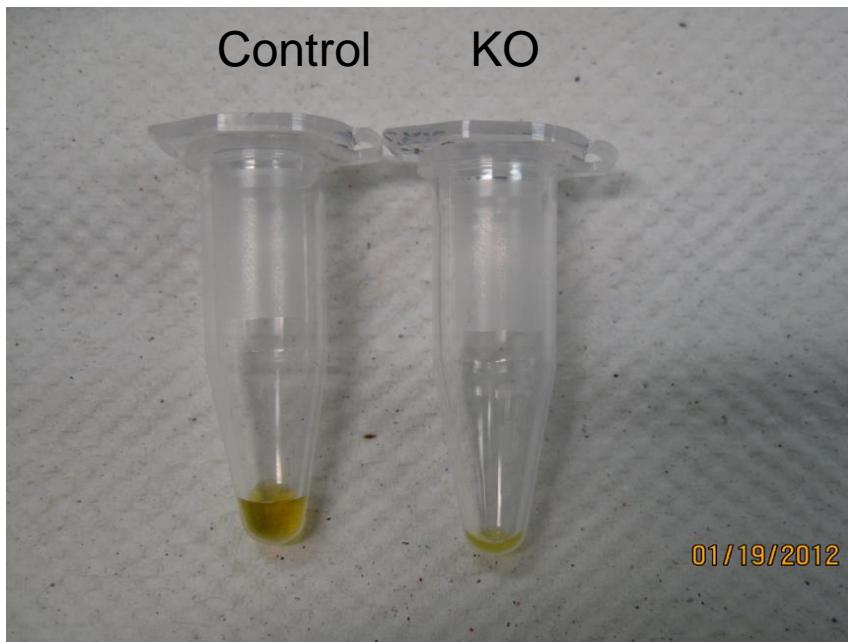
Control



Sptlc2 KO

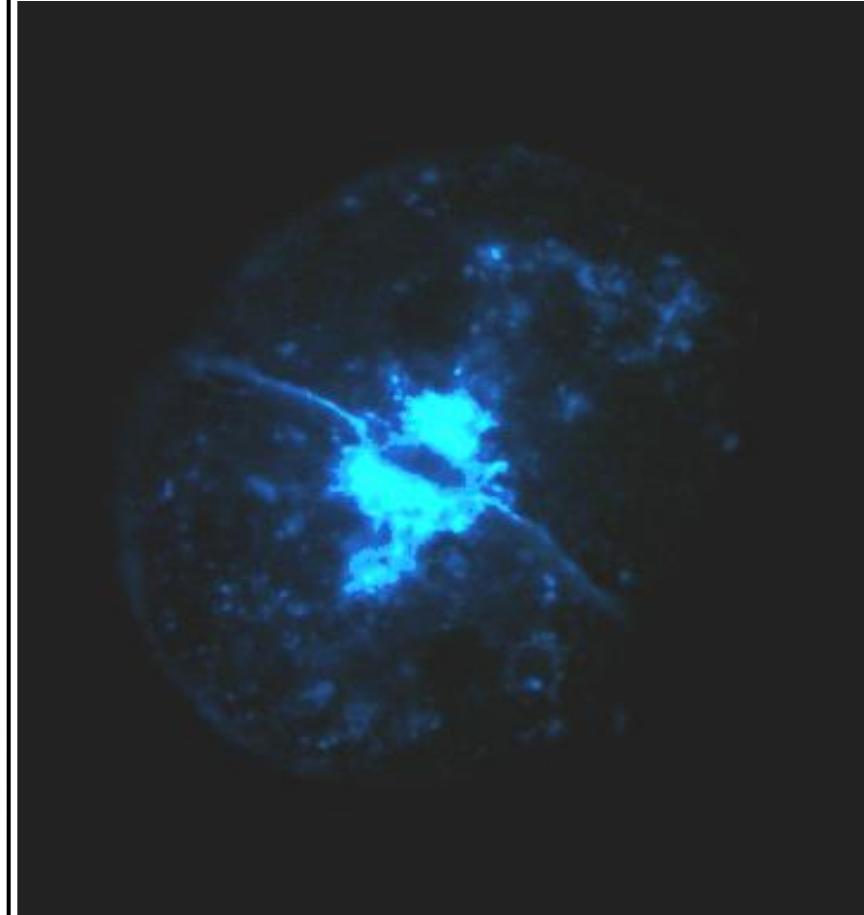
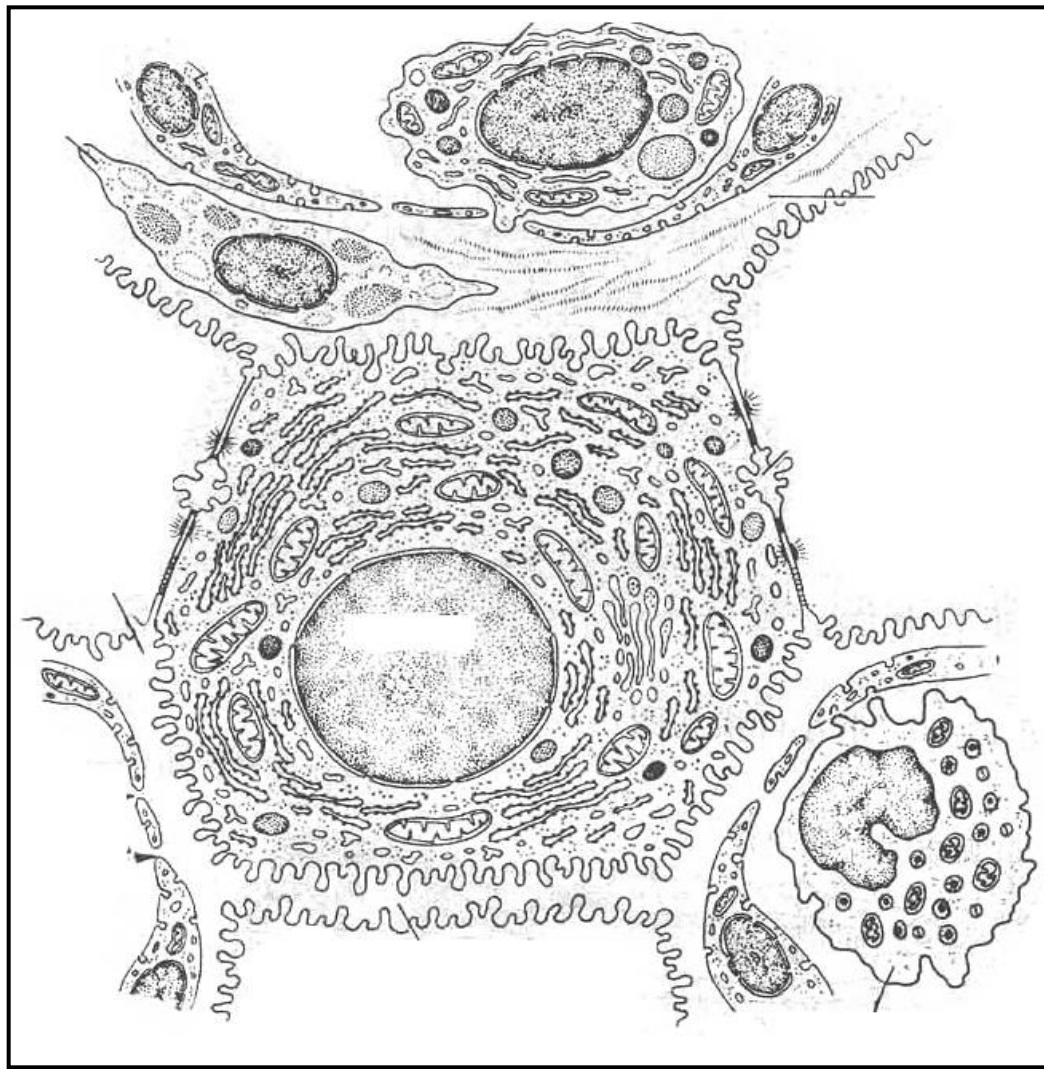


# Liver Sptlc2 deficiency dramatically decreases flow rate of bile

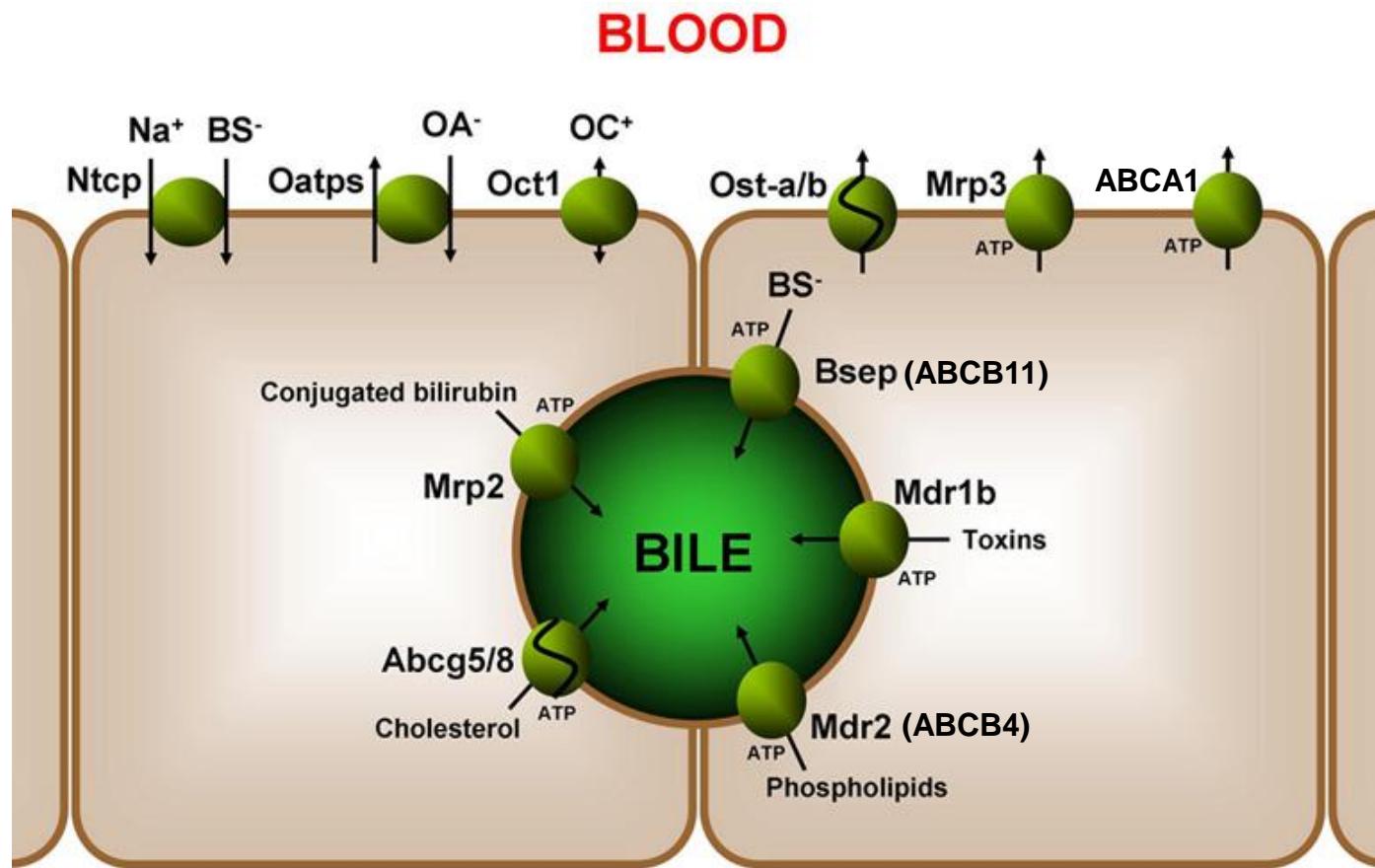


Collect bile for 1 hr

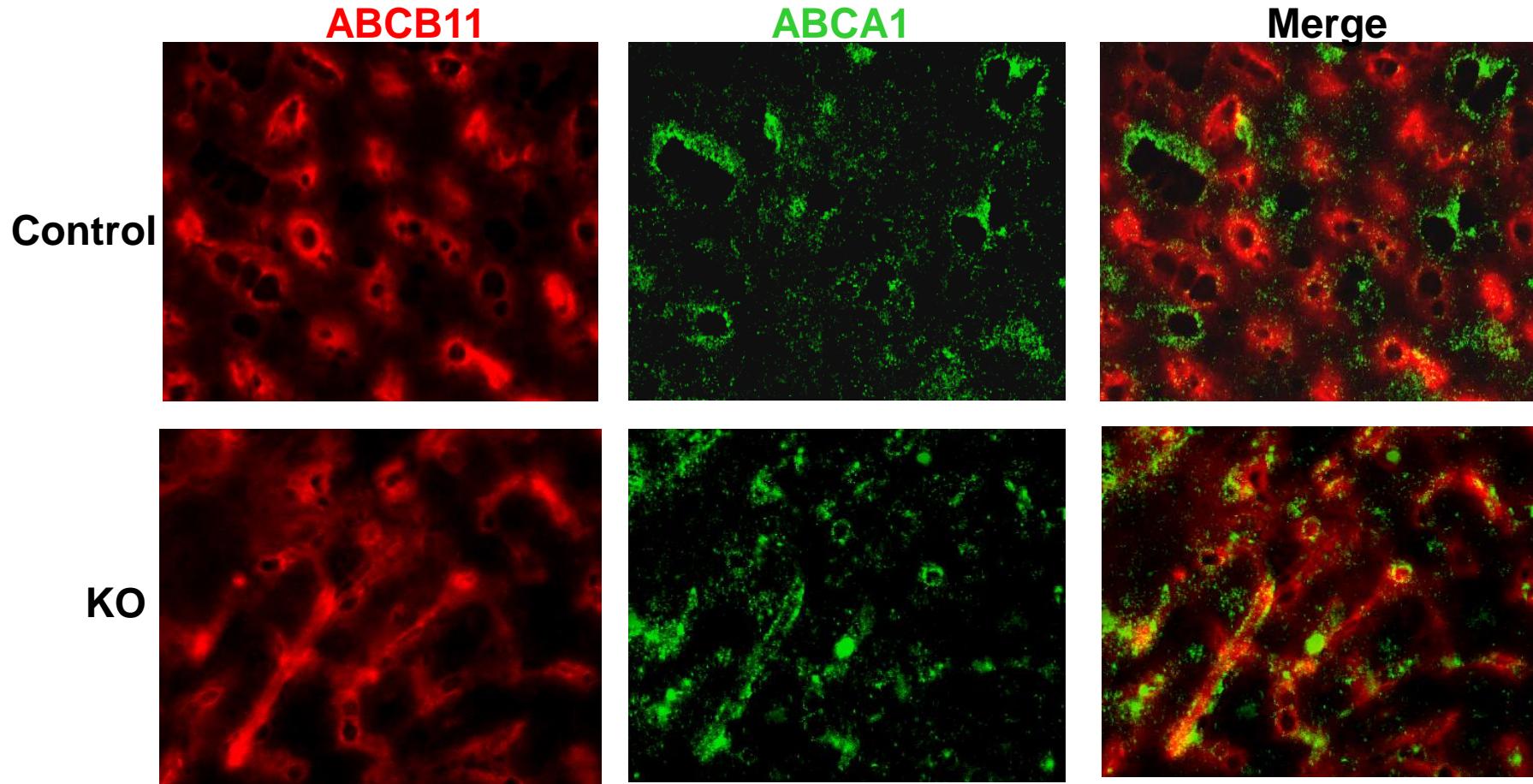
# Hepatocyte polarity



# Bile production

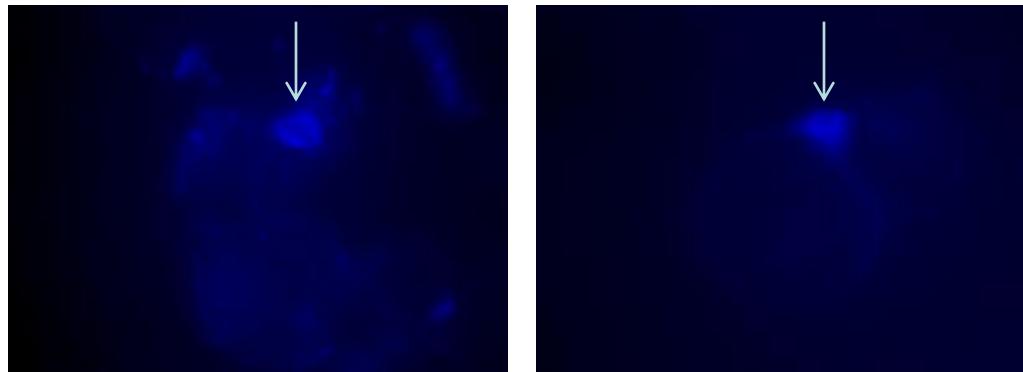


# Sptlc2 KO mice lose hepatocyte polarity

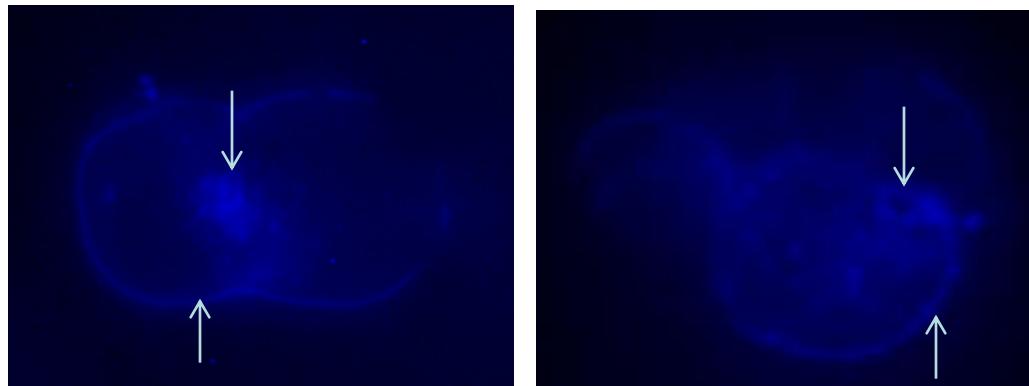


# Sptlc2 KO mice lose hepatocyte polarity (Filipin staining)

Control



Sptlc2 KO

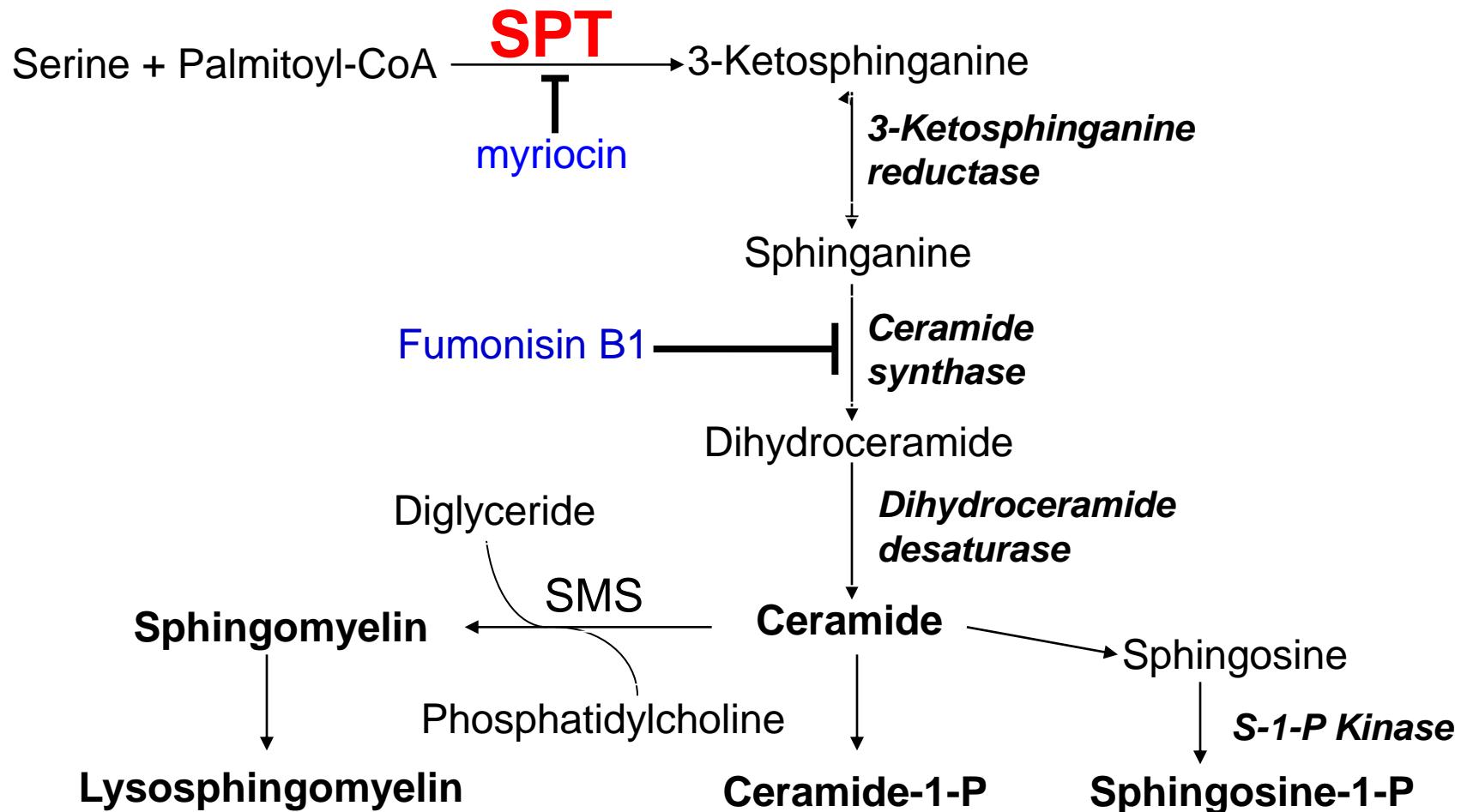


# Comparison between liver LKB1 KO and liver Sptlc2 KO mice

<u>LKB1-Flox/albumin-Cre</u> (Woods et al. BJ 2011)	<u>Sptlc2-Flox/albumin-Cre</u>
LpX accumulation in the blood	LpX accumulation in the blood
Defective targeting of ABCB11	Defective targeting of ABCB11
Jaundice	Jaundice
Abnormal bile canaliculus	Abnormal bile canaliculus
Died at age 30 days	Normal life span with liver tumors

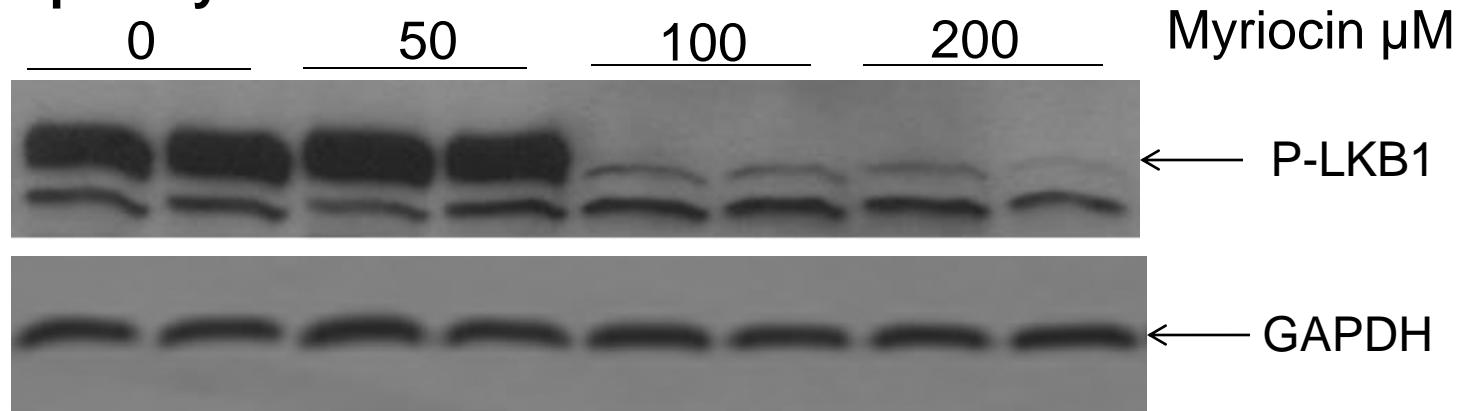
Above abnormalities do not exist in AdV-Cre-mediated LKB1 liver deficiency (Shaw et al. Science, 2005) and AAV-Cre-mediated Sptlc2 liver deficiency (Li et al. JBC, 2009).

# Sphingomyelin Biosynthesis

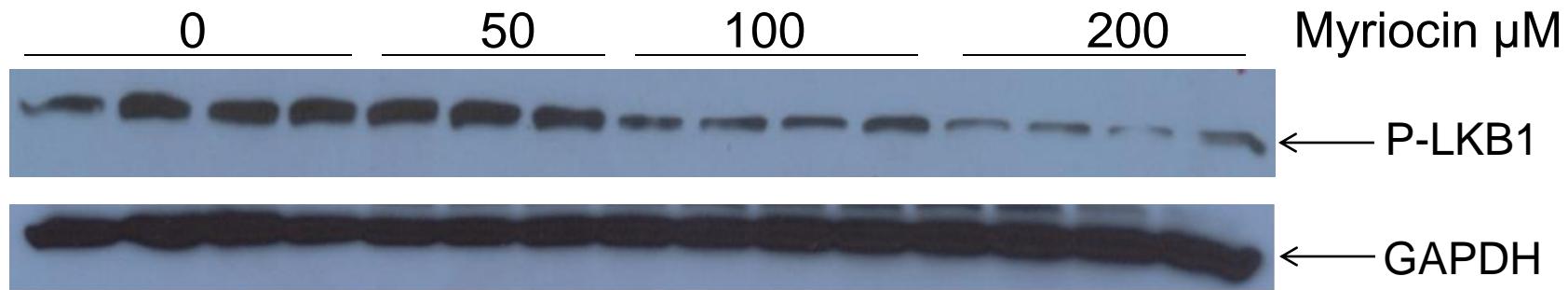


# Myriocin treatment attenuates LKB1 activation

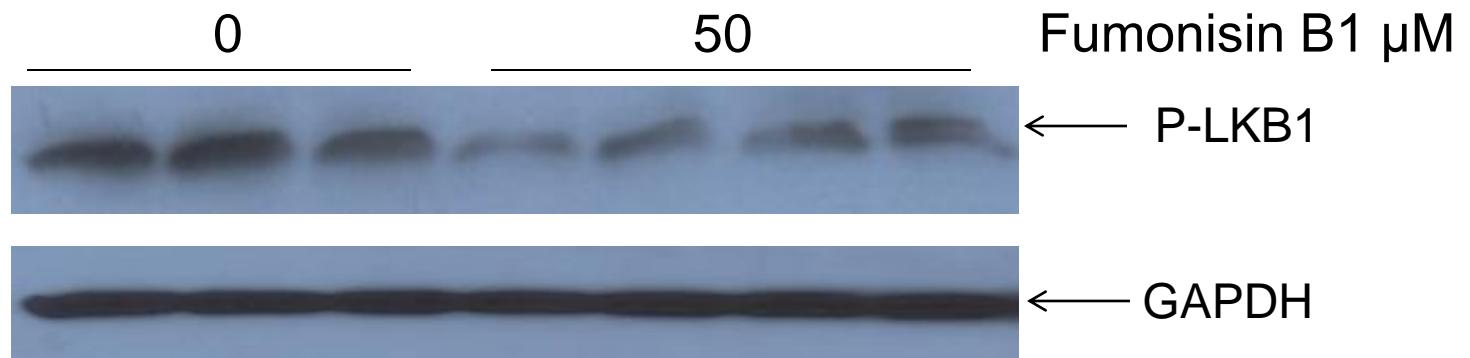
Primary hepatocytes



Huh7 Cells

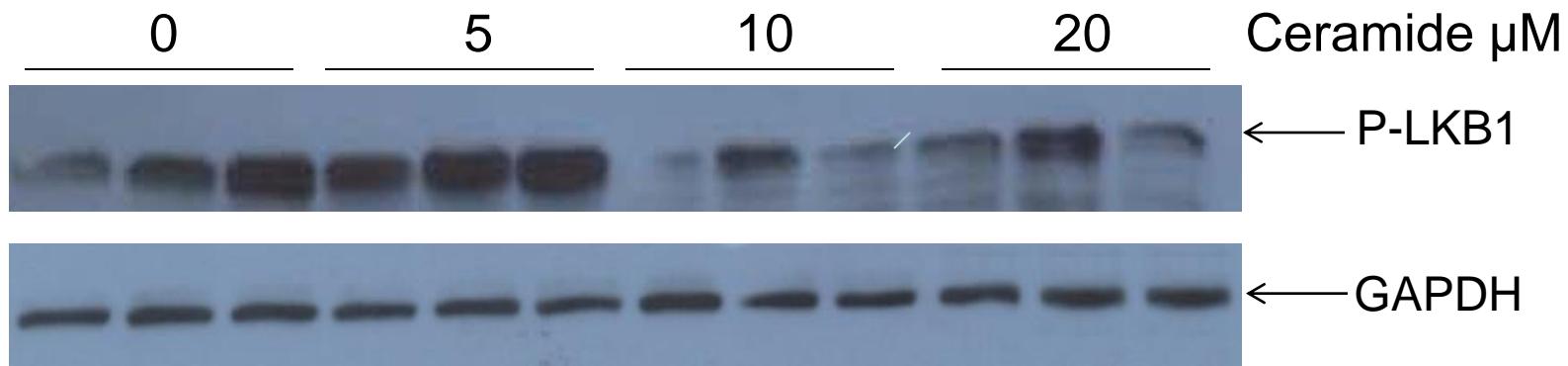


# Fumonisin B1 treatment attenuates LKB1 activation in primary hepatocytes

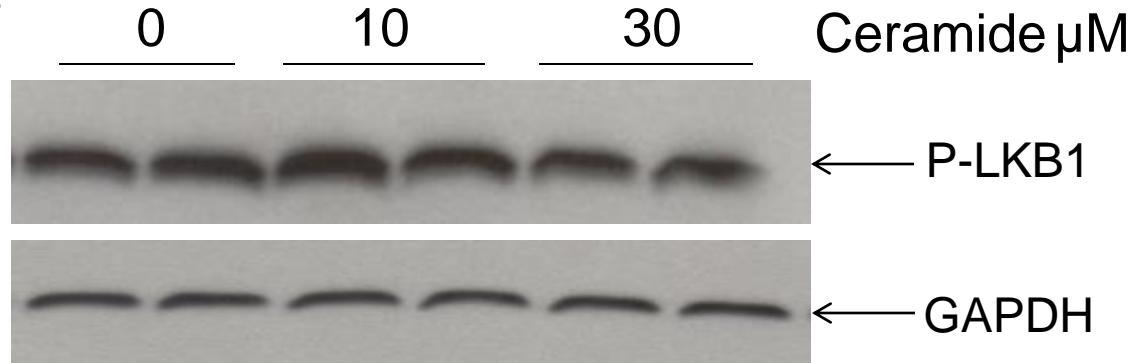


# Ceramide treatment attenuates LKB1 activation in primary hepatocytes

Primary hepatocytes

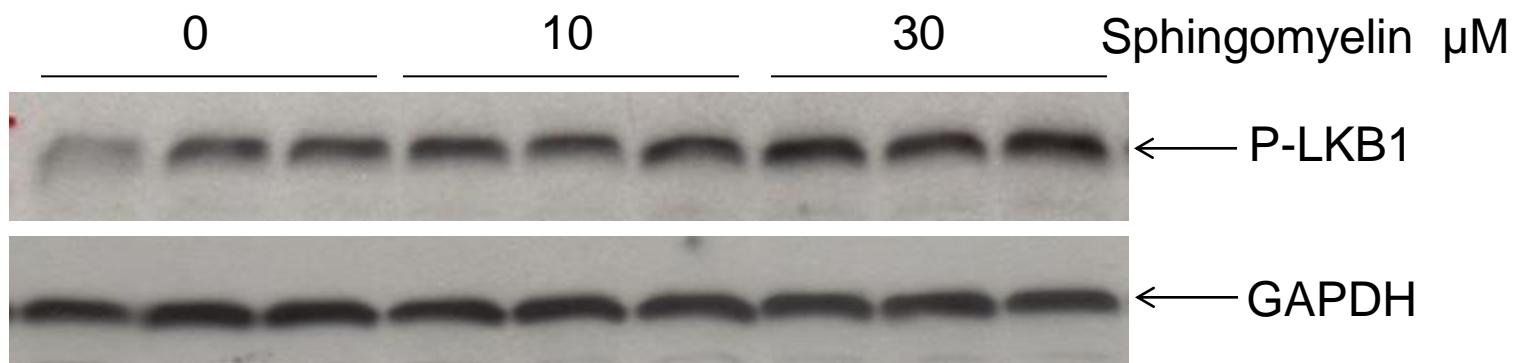


Huh7 Cells



# Sphingomyelin treatment promotes LKB1 activation

Huh7 Cells

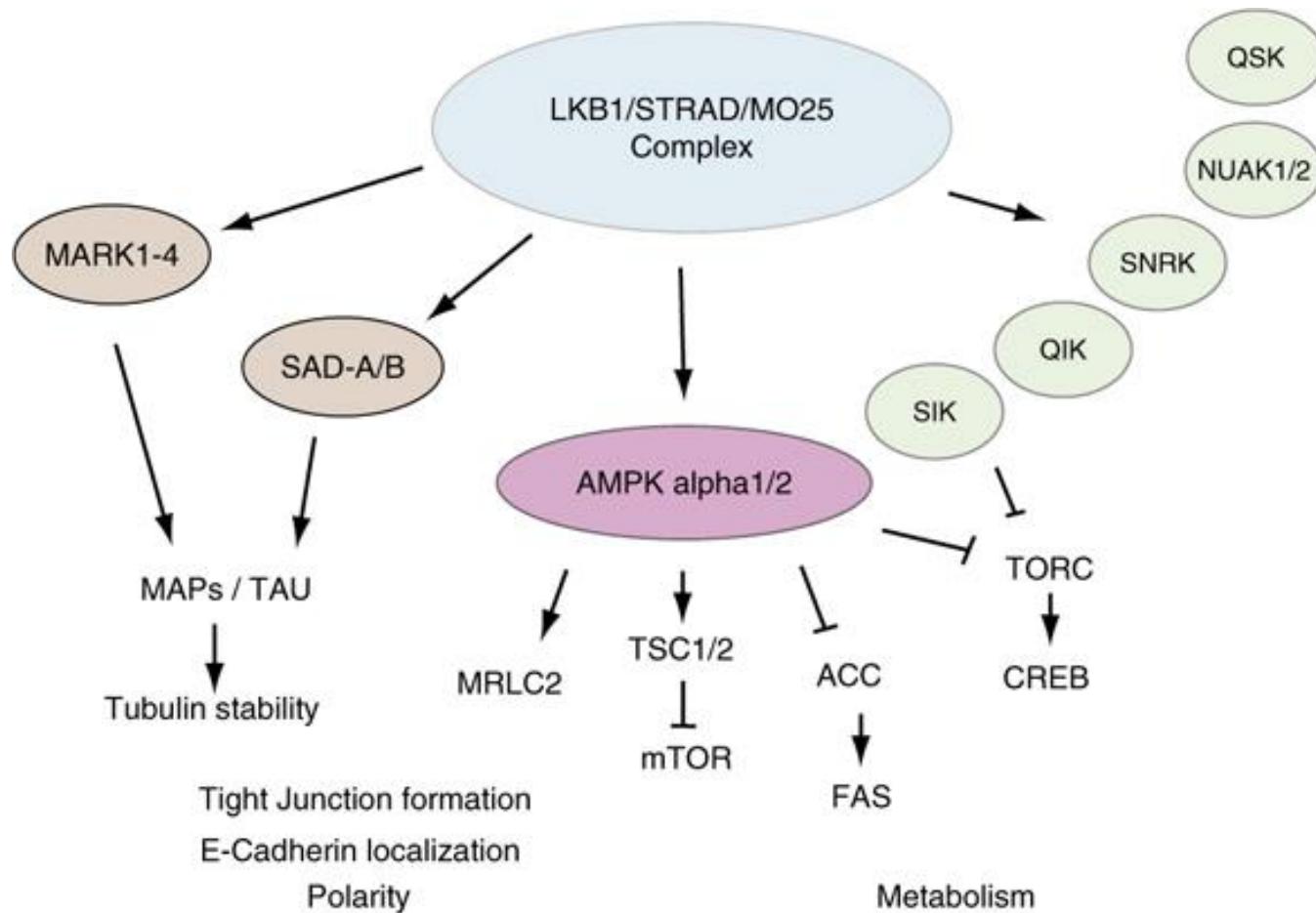


## Summary (3)

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- In the early stage of life, Sptlc2 is involved in the formation of liver cell polarity.
- In adult livers, cell polarity formation would have progressed normally through development. Sptlc2 deficiency in adulthood do not influence cell polarity.
- Both LKB1 and Sptlc2 deficiencies in the liver have similar phenotype, in terms of cell polarity.
- Do LKB1 and Sptlc2 have a linkage?

# LKB1: cell polarity and metabolism

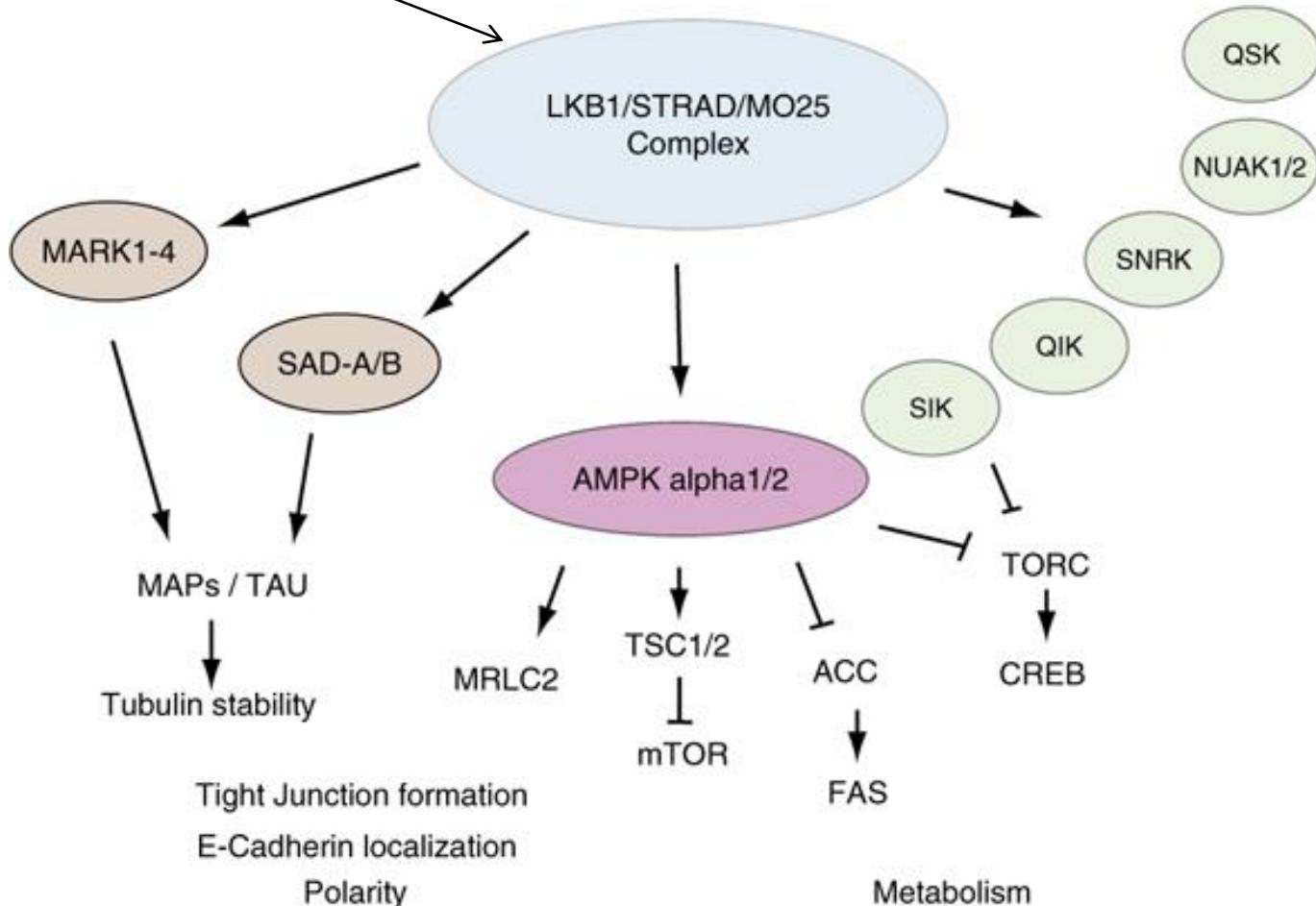


# Questions:

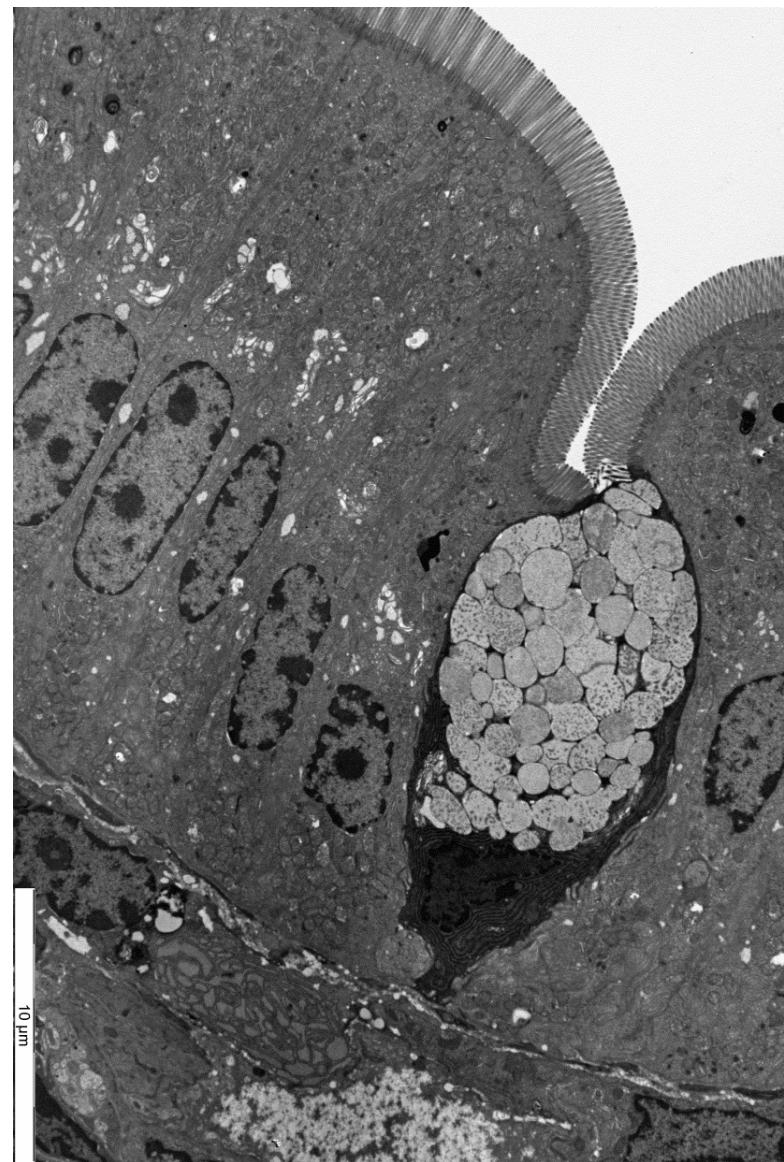
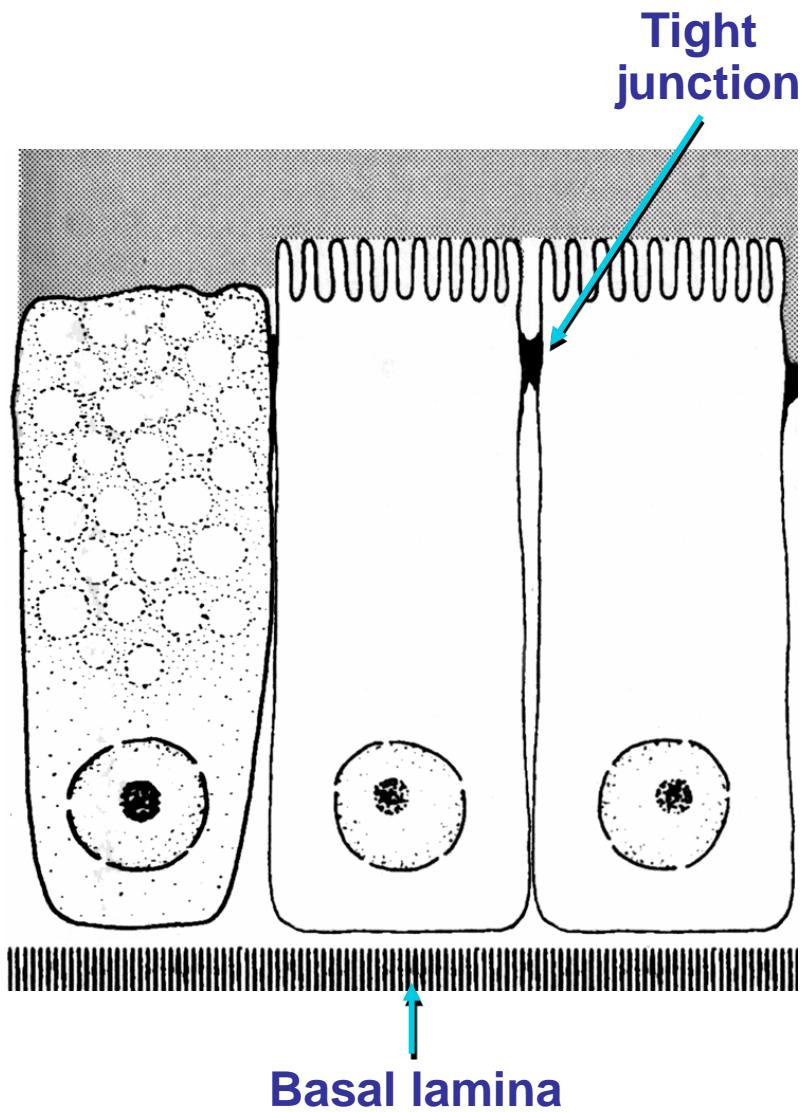
Sphingolipid *de novo*  
synthesis

Where? membrane?

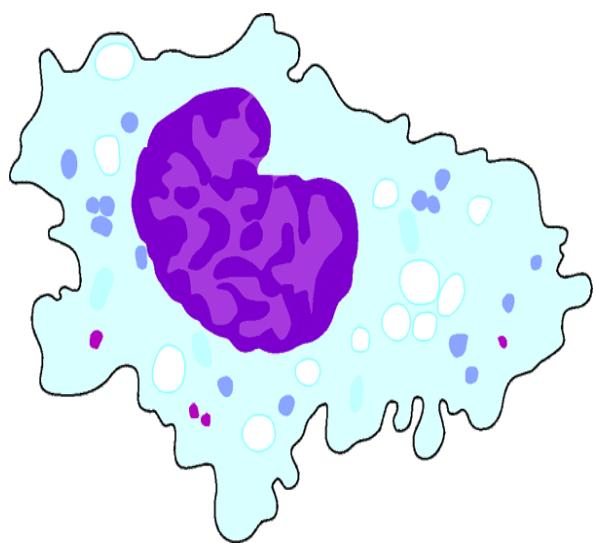
Which factors? PKCs?



# Enterocyte polarity



# Macrophage polarity





Mahua

Zhiqiang

# Acknowledgement

---

## Downstate Medical Center

Zhiqiang Li  
Mahua Chakraborty  
Chongmin Huan  
Inamul Kair

## Gachon University of Medicine and Science

Tae-Sik Park  
Eli Lilly & Company  
Ming-Shang Kuo  
Guoqing Cao