

### AUTOIMMUNITY IN POTS: FOCUS UPON G-PROTEIN COUPLED RECEPTORS

Artur Fedorowski MD, Assoc.Prof.

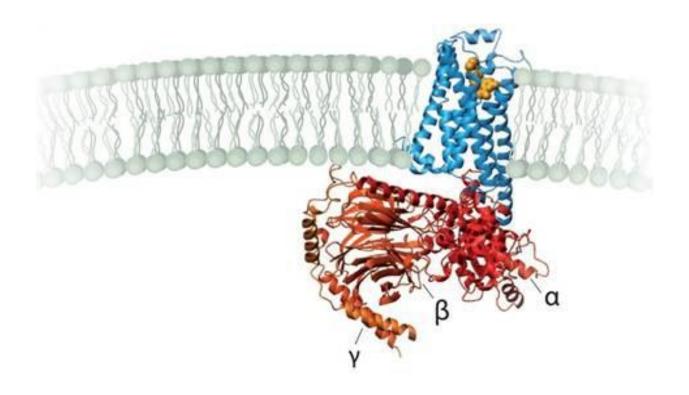
Lund University and Skåne University Hospital

Malmö, Sweden



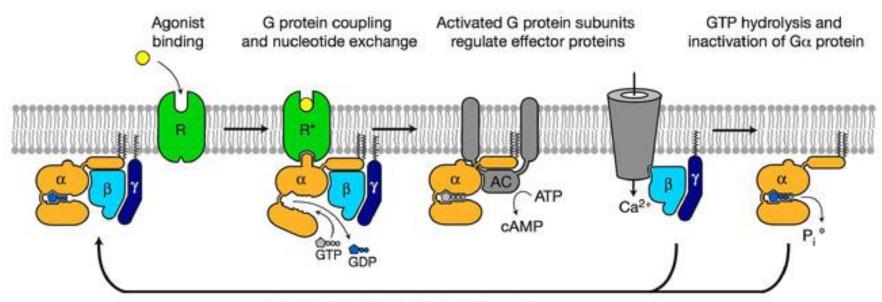
# Activated adrenergic β-receptor

Nobel Prize in Chemistry for 2012 to Robert J. Lefkowitz and Brian K. Kobilka





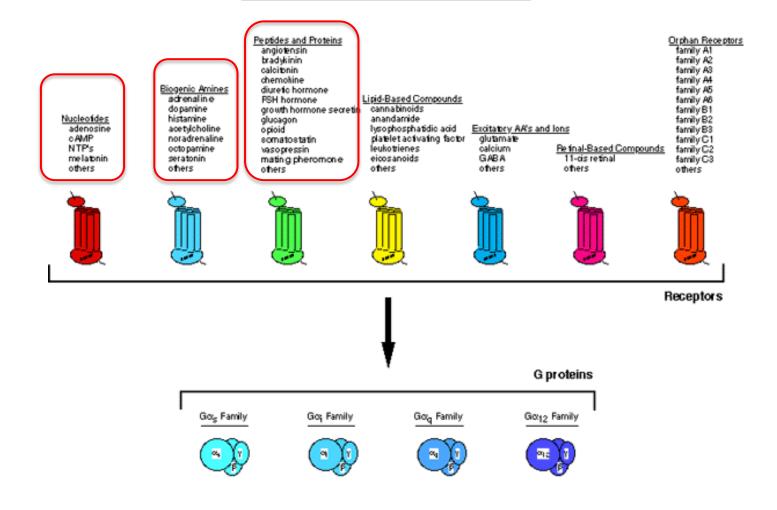
## GPCR: How does it work?



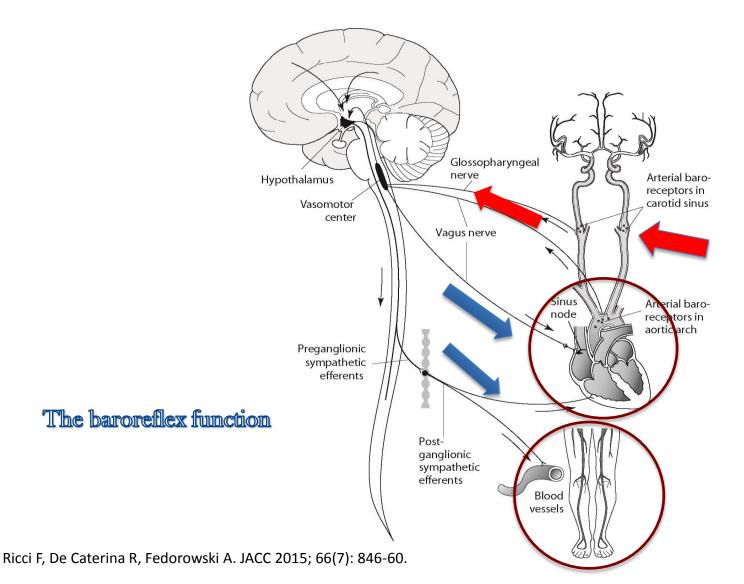
Reassembly of heterotrimeric G protein



#### Receptor and G Protein Diversity

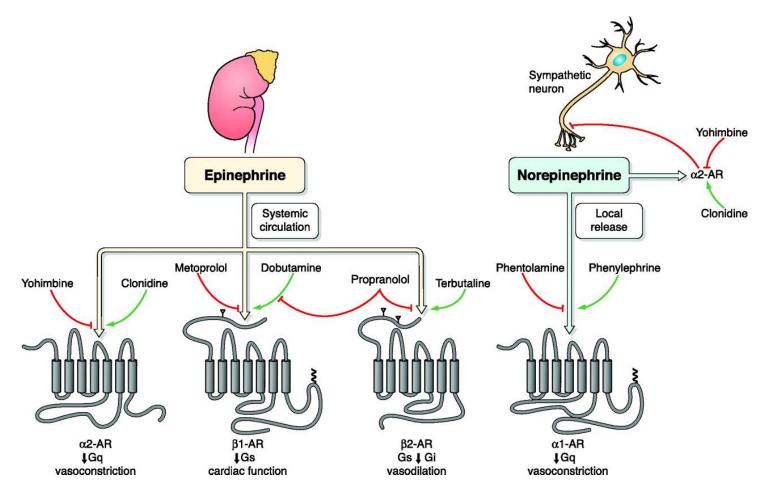








#### Tissue responses to activation of specific adrenergic receptor subtypes.

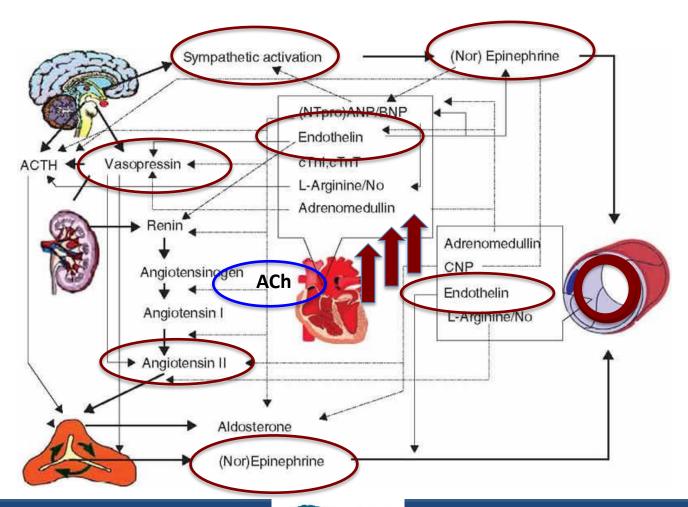


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Gerald W. Dorn II Physiol Rev 2010;90:1013-1062

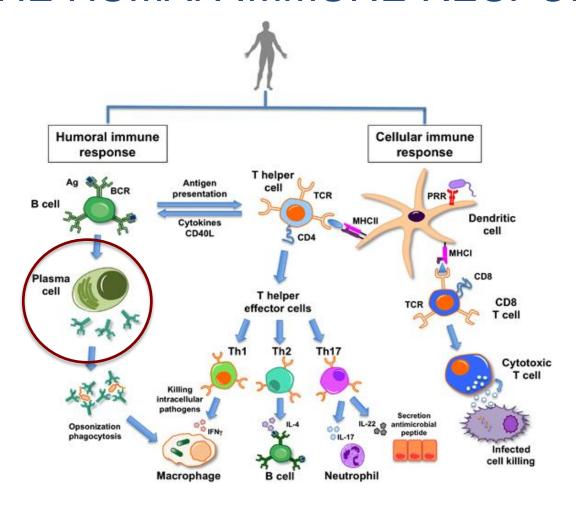


## Neuroendocrine response to hypotension



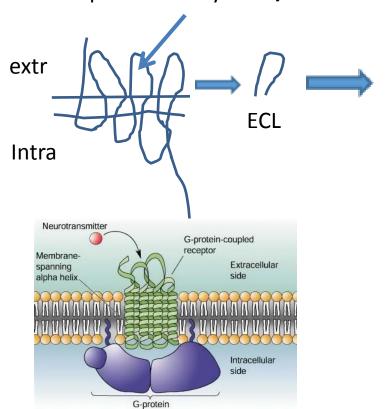


## THE HUMAN IMMUNE RESPONSE





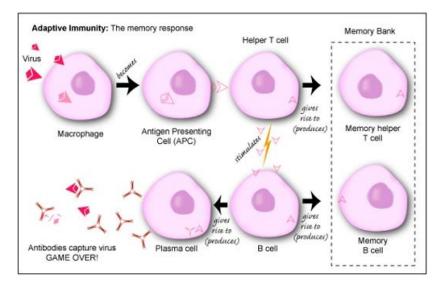
Activation of MMP-10 or equivalent endo proteinase by **virus/stress** 



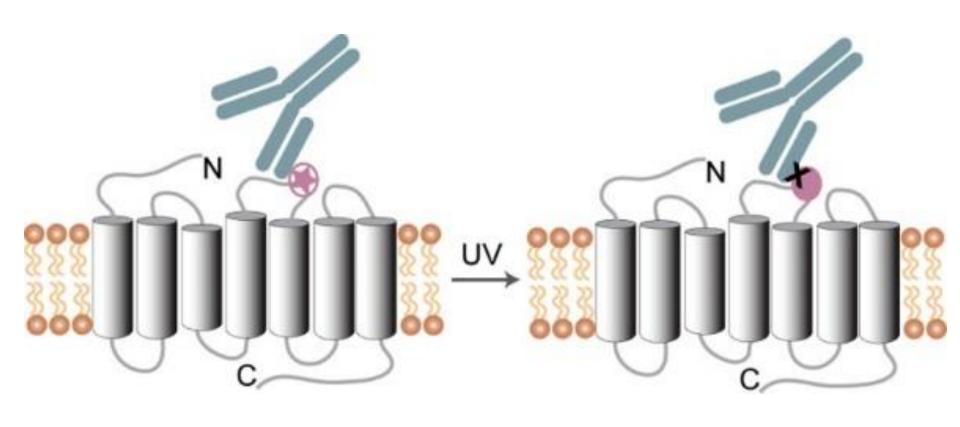
Proteosome degradation of the ECL



#### Immunoprotein complex









# Presence of Activating Autoantibodies (AAb) in POTS (D.Kem)

- The CV pathophysiology of POTS may be caused by the presence of one or more circulating active autoantibodies (AAb).
- These may act as direct stimulators of GPCRs or allosterically alter the activity of their natural ligand.
- A unique cluster (spectrum) of AAbs in each individual will alter their autonomic systems and produce differing but predictable signs and symptoms.



## **Common POTS Symptoms**

#### O Cardio/Vasc

- Palpitations
- Lightheadedness
- Chest discomfort/pain
- Shortness of breath
- Exercise intolerance

#### NeuroMuscular

- Mental clouding (brain fog)
- Headaches (migraine)
- Sleep complaints
- Involuntary movements

#### **Gastrointestinal**

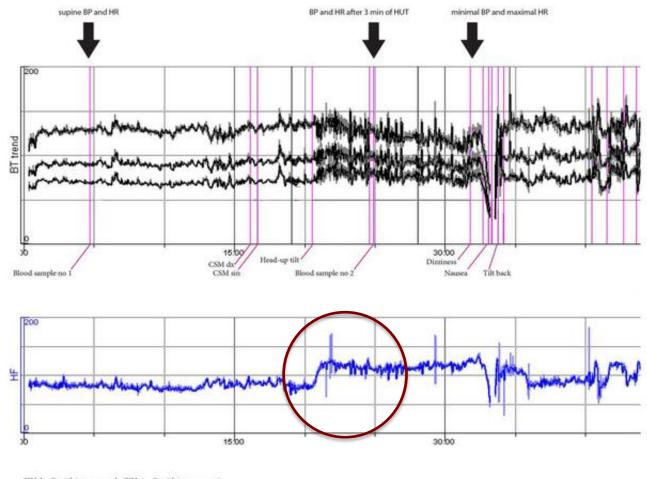
Nausea and vomiting Constipation Weight loss

#### **Chronic Fatigue**

Visceral and regional pain



#### Pronounced orthostatic tachycardia (≈POTS) and vasovagal reflex syncope (woman, 24 years).

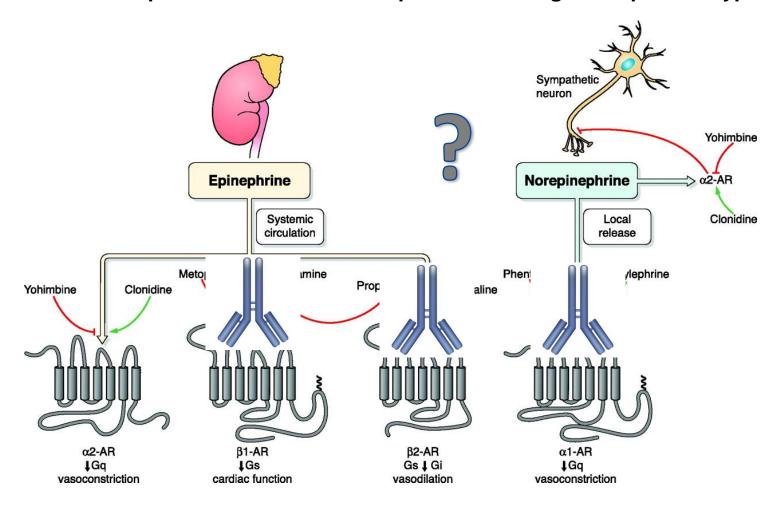


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Nilsson D, Sutton R, Tas W, Burri P, Melander O, ...Fedorowski A. (2015) PLoS ONE 10(6): e0128962



#### Tissue responses to activation of specific adrenergic receptor subtypes.



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Gerald W. Dorn II Physiol Rev 2010;90:1013-1062





# Antiadrenergic autoimmunity in postural tachycardia syndrome

Artur Fedorowski<sup>1,2\*†</sup>, Hongliang Li<sup>3</sup>, Xichun Yu<sup>3</sup>, Kristi A. Koelsch<sup>3,4</sup>, Valerie M. Harris<sup>3,4</sup>, Campbell Liles<sup>3</sup>, Taylor A. Murphy<sup>3</sup>, Syed M.S. Quadri<sup>3,4</sup>, Robert Hal Scofield<sup>3,4</sup>, Richard Sutton<sup>5</sup>, Olle Melander<sup>1</sup>, and David C. Kem<sup>3†</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Clinical Sciences, Lund University, Lund, Sweder; <sup>2</sup>Department of Cardiology, Skåne University Hospital, Inga Marie Nilssons gata 46, Malmö 20502, Sweden; <sup>3</sup>Department of Medicine, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center and VA Medical Center, Oklahoma Gty, OK, USA; <sup>4</sup>Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, Oklahoma City, OK, USA; and <sup>5</sup>National Heart & Lung Institute, Imperial College, London, UK

## Journal of the American Heart Association OPEN ACCESS 6



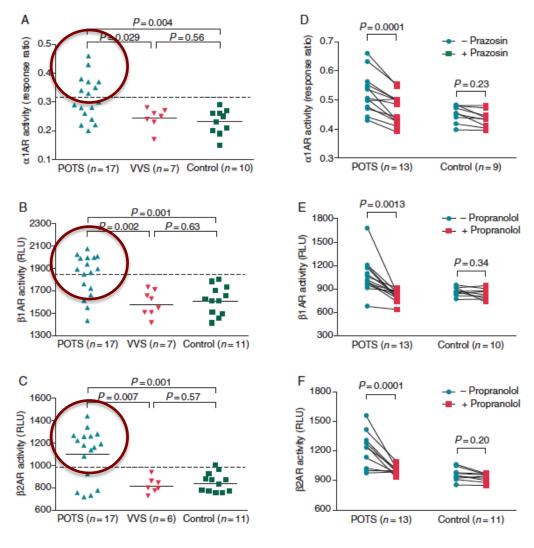
#### Autoimmune Basis for Postural Tachycardia Syndrome

Hongliang Li, Xichun Yu, Campbell Liles, Muneer Khan, Megan Vanderlinde-Wood, Allison Galloway, Caitlin Zillner, Alexandria Benbrook, Sean Reim, Daniel Collier, Michael A. Hill, Satish R. Raj, Luis E. Okamoto, Madeleine W. Cunningham, Christopher E. Aston and David C. Kem

J Am Heart Assoc. 2014;3:e000755; originally published February 26, 2014;
doi: 10.1161/JAHA.113.000755

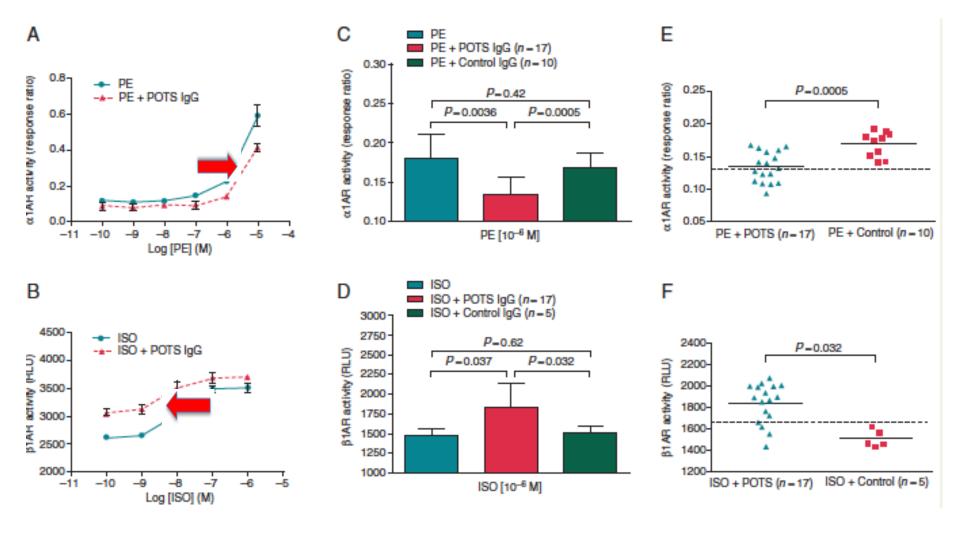
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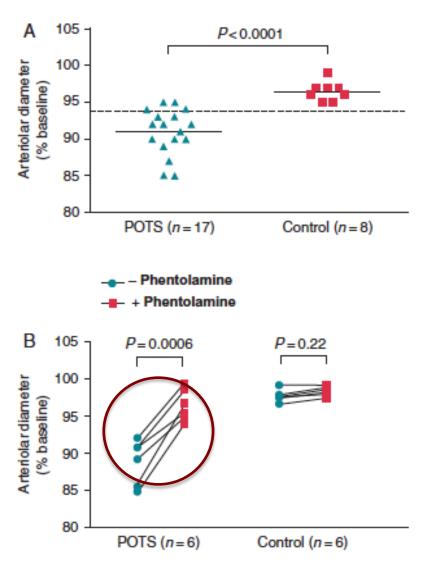
Fedorowski, Sutton, Melander, Kem. Europace (2016).





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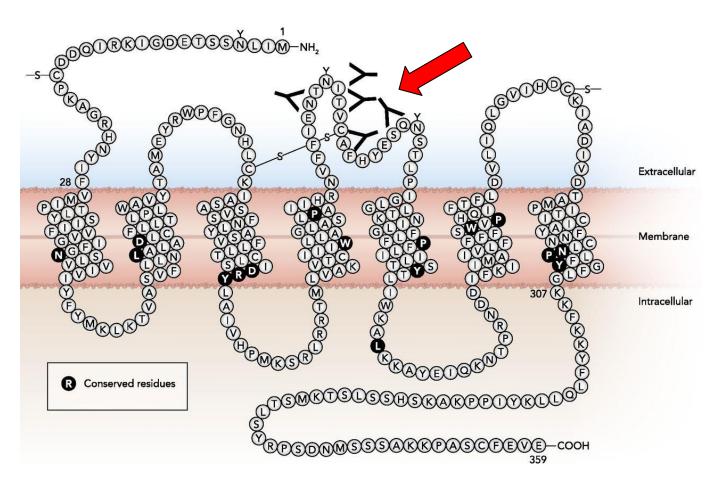




Fedorowski, Sutton, Melander, Kem. Europace (2016)



# Amino-acid sequence structure of AT1RAntibody binding sites on the second extracellular loop of AT1R are identified.

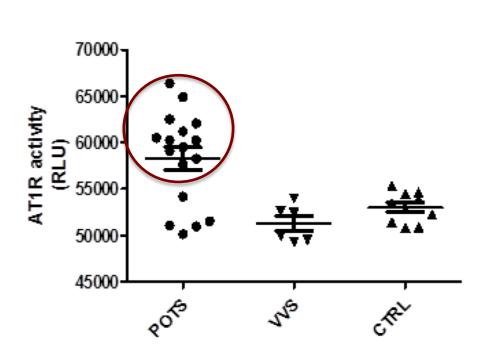


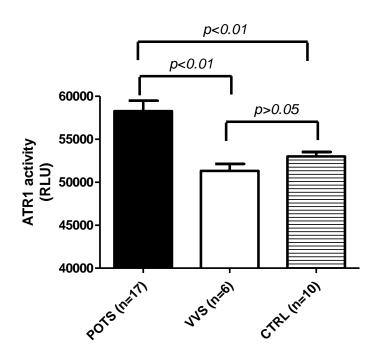
Friedrich C. Luft Physiology 2013;28:254-261



## Effects of POTS IgG on AT<sub>1</sub> (unpublished)

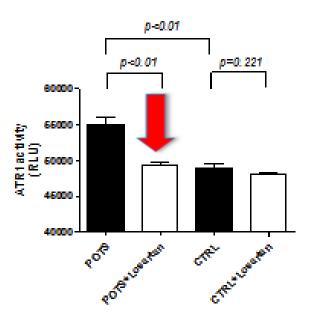
Hongliang Li, Artur Fedorowski, David Kem et al.







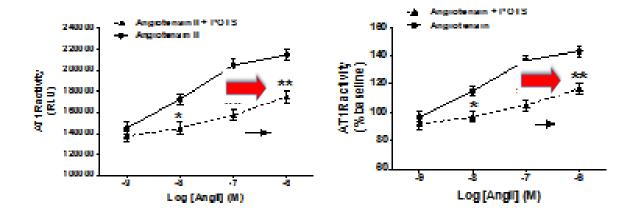
## Effect of losartan on AT1R activating autoantibody induced AT1R activation in transfected CHO cells



Compared with the CTRL IgG, POTs IgG led to significant activation of AT1R, which was suppressed by AT1R blocker losartan (10  $\mu$ M).

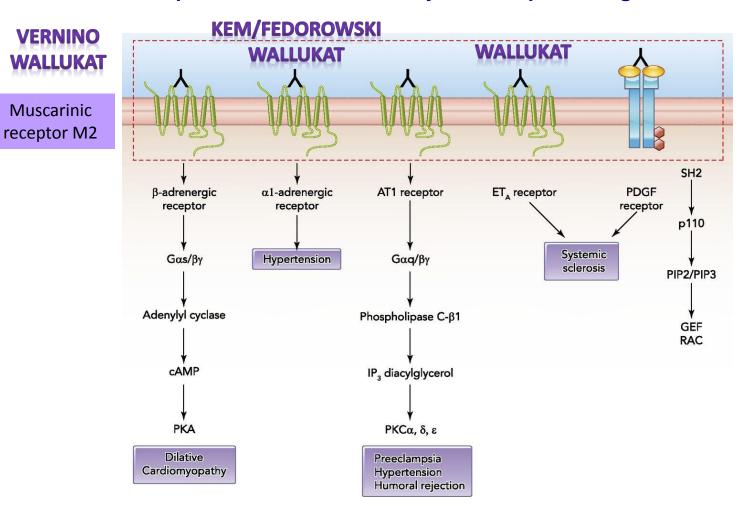


#### Allosteric effects of POTS IgG on Angiotensin II dose response





# Cardiovascular G-protein-coupled receptors that regulate cardiac function and blood pressure via activation by their respective ligands.



**POTS** 

Friedrich C. Luft Physiology 2013;28:254-261



# Take-home messages

- Presence of AAbs against GPCRs has been demonstrated in POTS.
- POTS may have an autoimmune etiology.
- The next step is to find a way to eliminate AAbs and demonstrate improvement of symptoms.



# Thank you for your attention!

Contributors:
David Kem
Hongliang Li
Olle Melander
Richard Sutton
Gerd Wallukat



