## Complement and its role in eHUS



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#### DISCLOSURES

R.W. has received unrestricted educational grants from, and attended expert meetings organized by, Alexion Pharmaceuticals (Cheshire, CT), the maker of eculizumab.

#### CONTENTS

HUS Forms
History of eculizumab therapy
Summary

#### HUS / aHUS / eHUS

## HUS: Hemolytic uremic syndrome, a thrombotic microangiopathy defined by

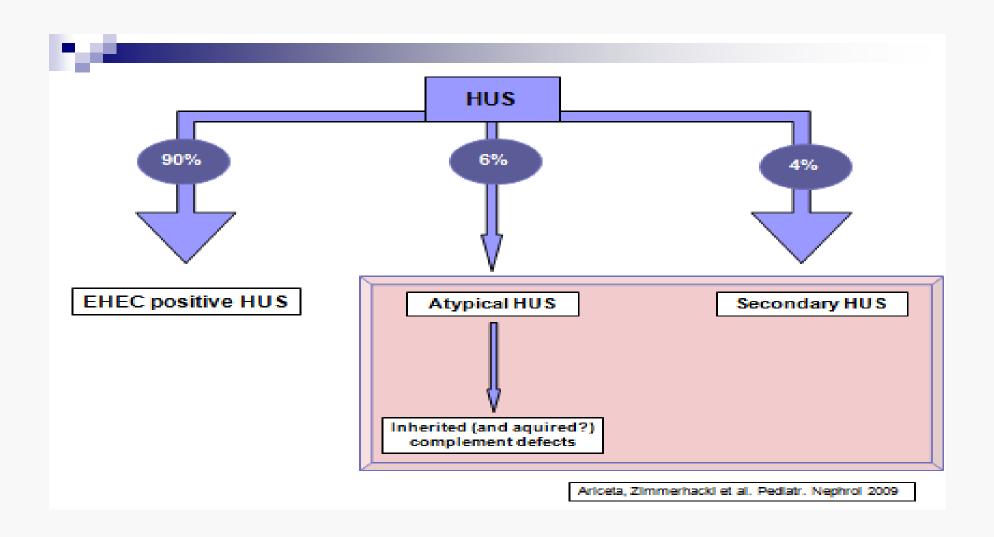
- Hemolytic anemia: Hb<10g/dL with fragmented erythrocytes</li>
- Thrombocytopenia: < 150x10<sup>9</sup> platelets/L
- Acute renal failure: Creatinine > upper normal limit for age

aHUS: Atypical HUS

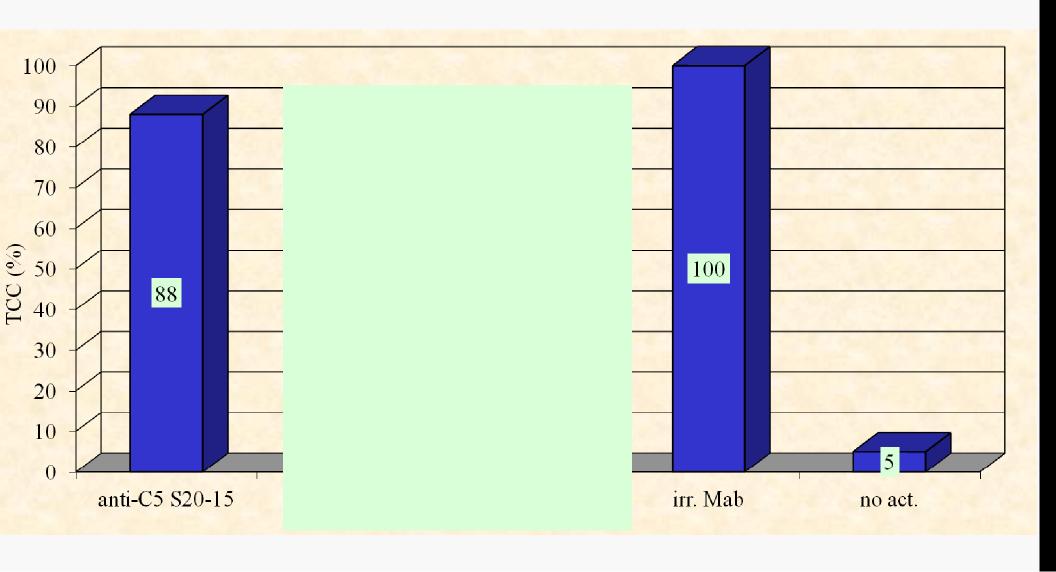
eHUS: Escherichia coli-associated HUS

Secondary HUS – no abbreviation!

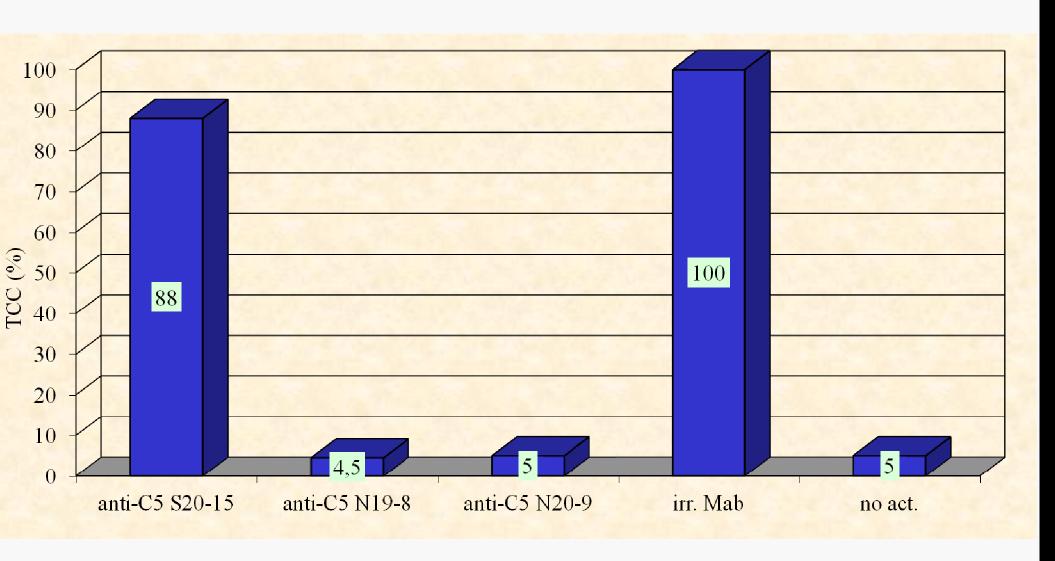
### **HUS FORMS - FREQUENCIES**



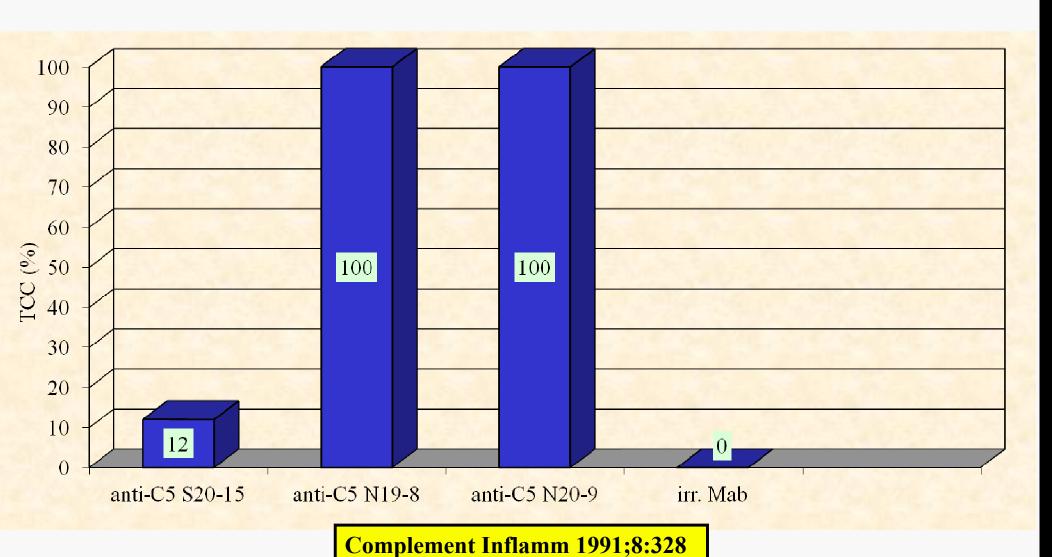
### INHIBITION OF TCC FORMATION



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## EHUS & COMPLEMENT & ECULIZUMAB – TIMELINE I

1991: First anti-human C5 monoclonal antibody

inhibiting TCC formation: N19-8

Complement Inflamm 1991;8:328

1995: Alexion shows preservation of inhibitory function in N19-8 recombin. single chain Fv

Mol Immunol 1995;32:1183

1996: Alexion introduces 5G1.1

Mol Immunol 1996;33:1389

2002: Description of eculizumab

Curr Op Invest Drugs 2002;3:1017



## EHUS & COMPLEMENT & ECULIZUMAB – TIMELINE I

1991: First anti-human C5 monoclonal antibody

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2002: Description of eculizumab

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2004: Use of eculizumab in PNH

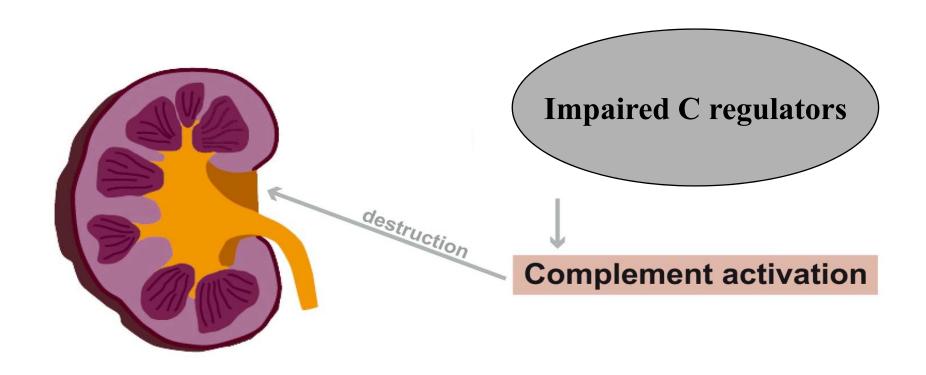
NEJM 2004;350:552

NEJM 2009;360:542

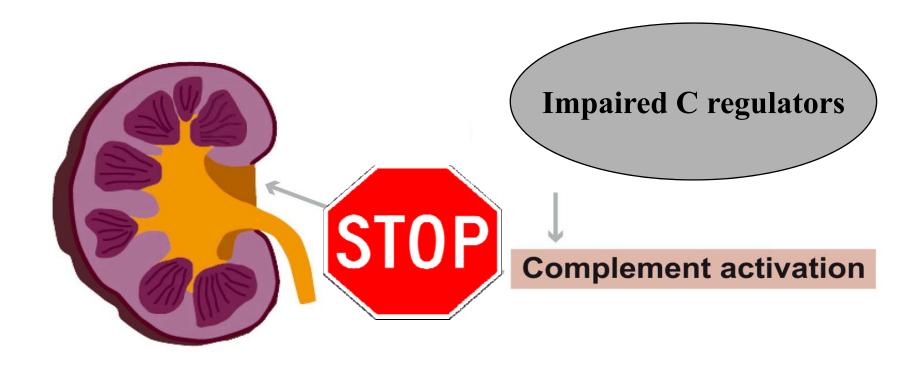
2008: Use of eculizumab in aHUS

NEJM 2010;362:1746

### PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF ATYP. HUS

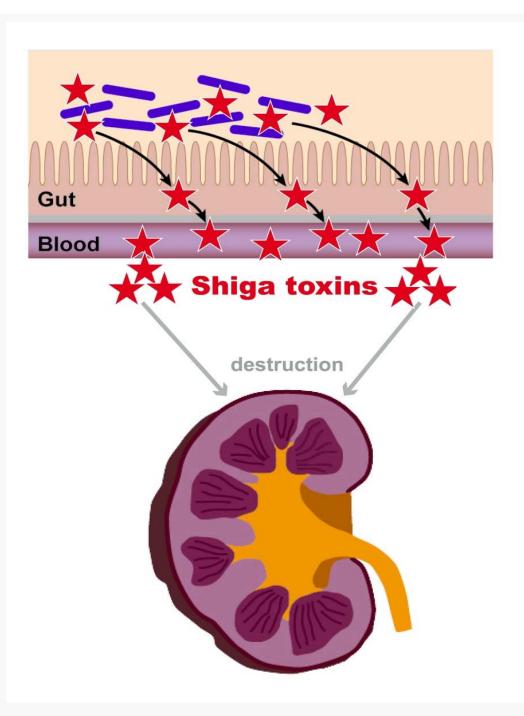


### PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF ATYP. HUS



#### eHUS / SHIGATOXIN 2

Enterohemorrhagic Escherichia coli (EHEC) cause hemolytic uremic syndrome (eHUS) in 5-20% of the cases, which is lethal in 5% Shiga toxin 2 (Stx 2) is considered to represent the most important virulence factor of EHEC Why was a complement inhibitor, eculizumab, used in the German 2011 EHEC outbreak?

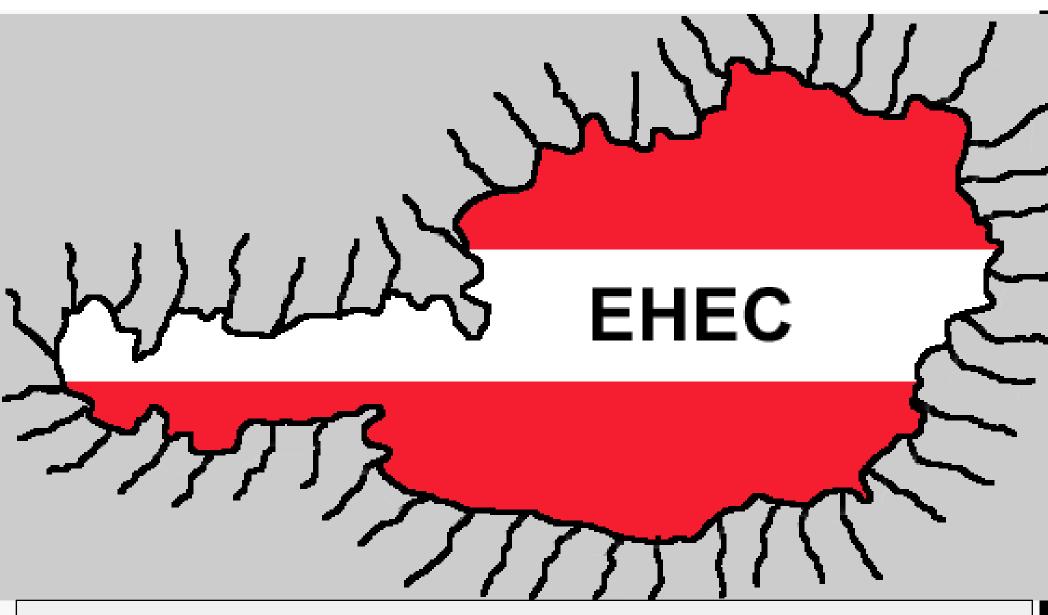


### E. COLI-ASSOCIATED HUS (eHUS)

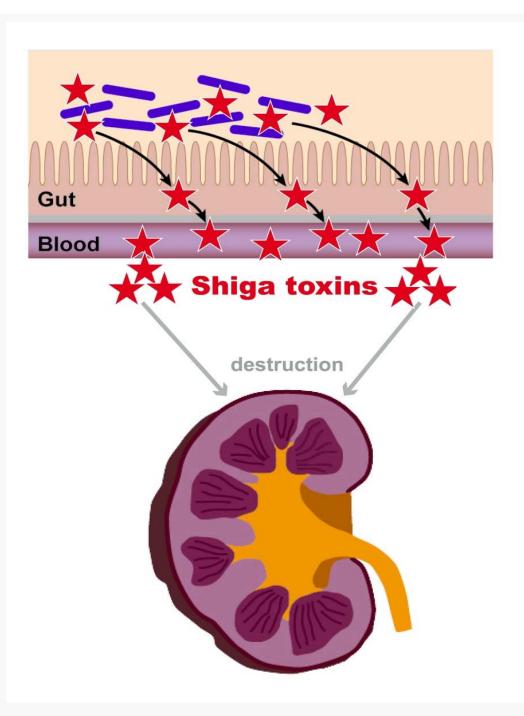
Only a minority (5-20%) develops eHUS

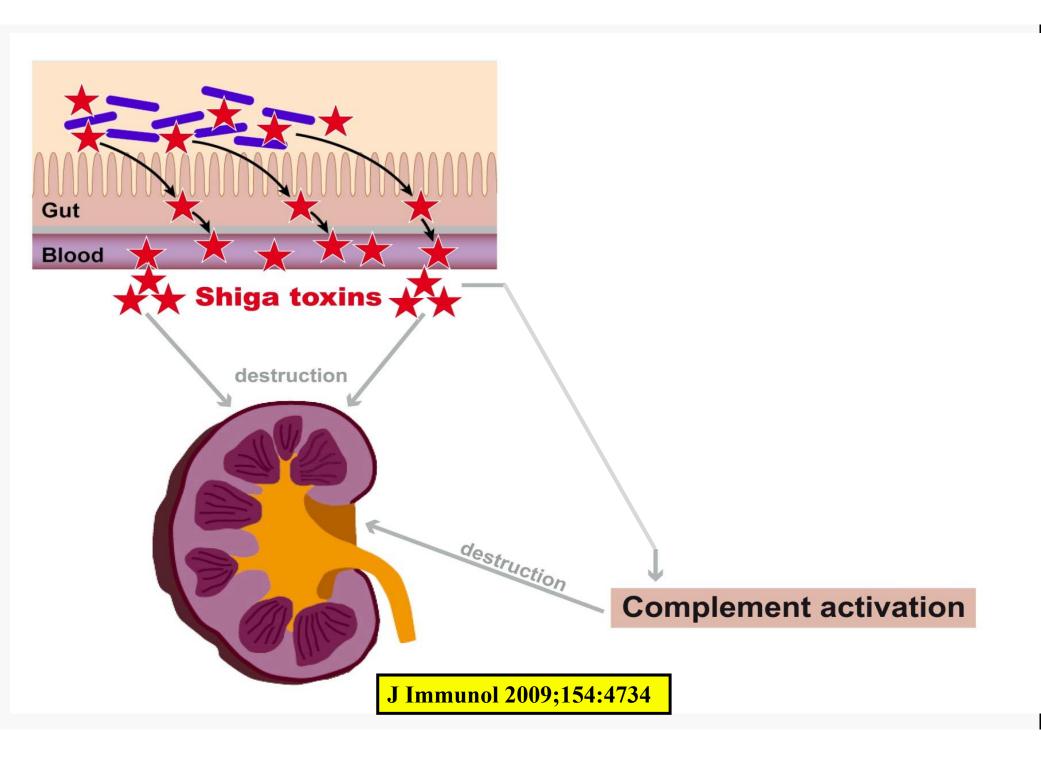
→ host factors may be involved as well!

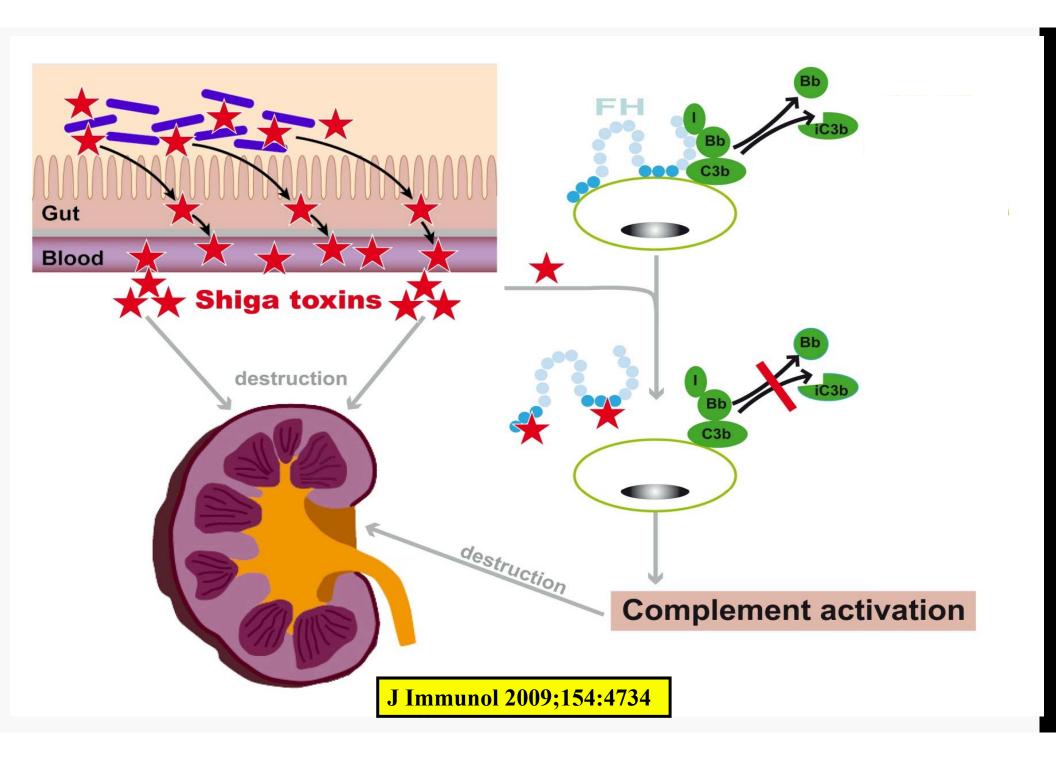
Is complement also involved in eHUS?



Austrian Reference Centre for EHEC till 2009 Director: Reinhard Würzner



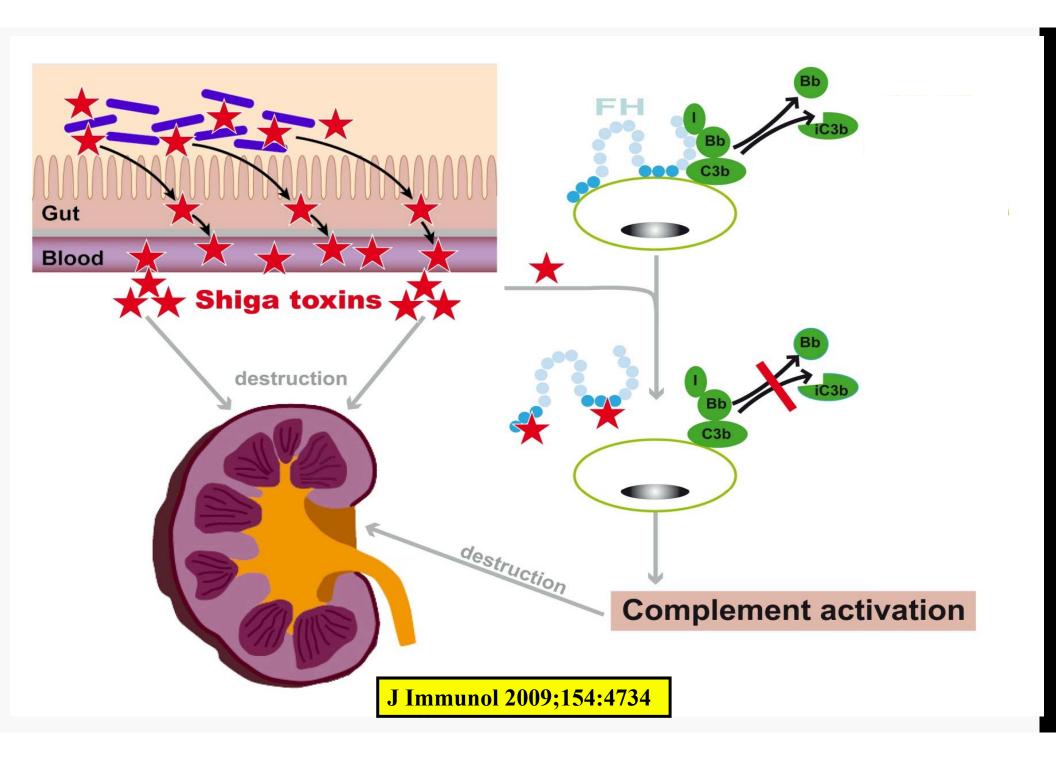


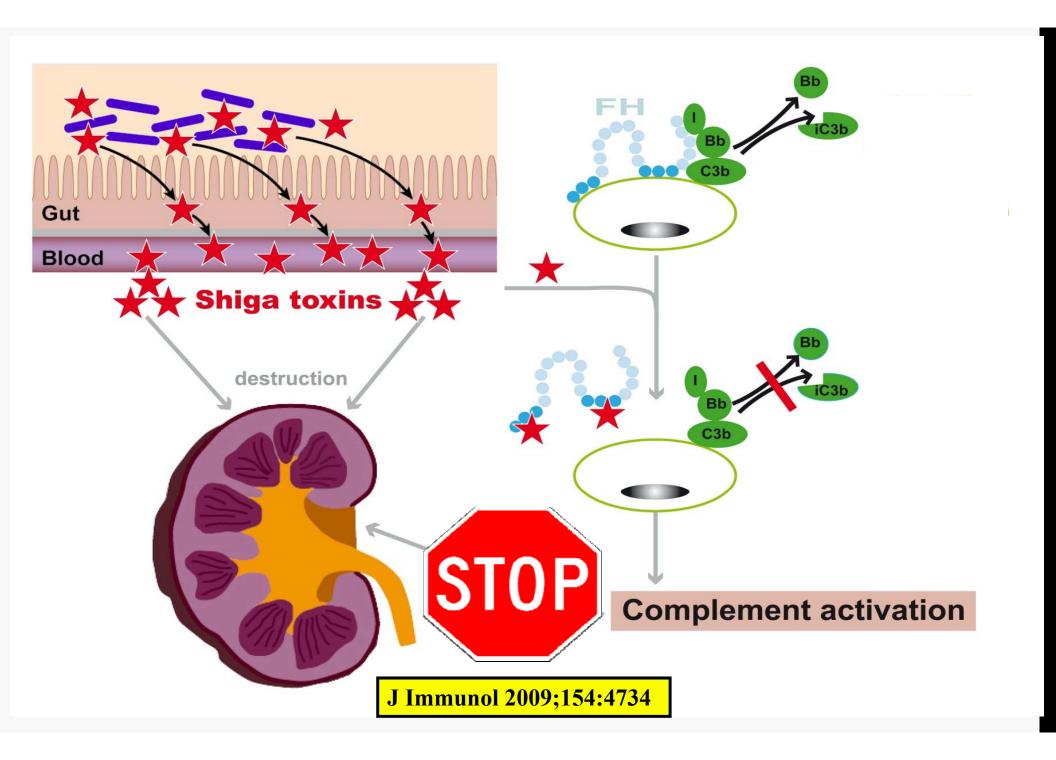


## SHIGA TOXIN ATTACKS COMPLEMENT

Stx2 attacks complement in a <u>dual</u> way: it directly activates complement enzymatically & decelerates FH cofactor activity on target cells.

Complement inhibition in eHUS may be clinically relevant!





## eHUS & COMPLEMENT & ECULIZUMAB – TIMELINE II

C activation products in HUS serum
C activation products on HUS blood cells

CJASN 2009;4:1920

Blood 2011;117:5503

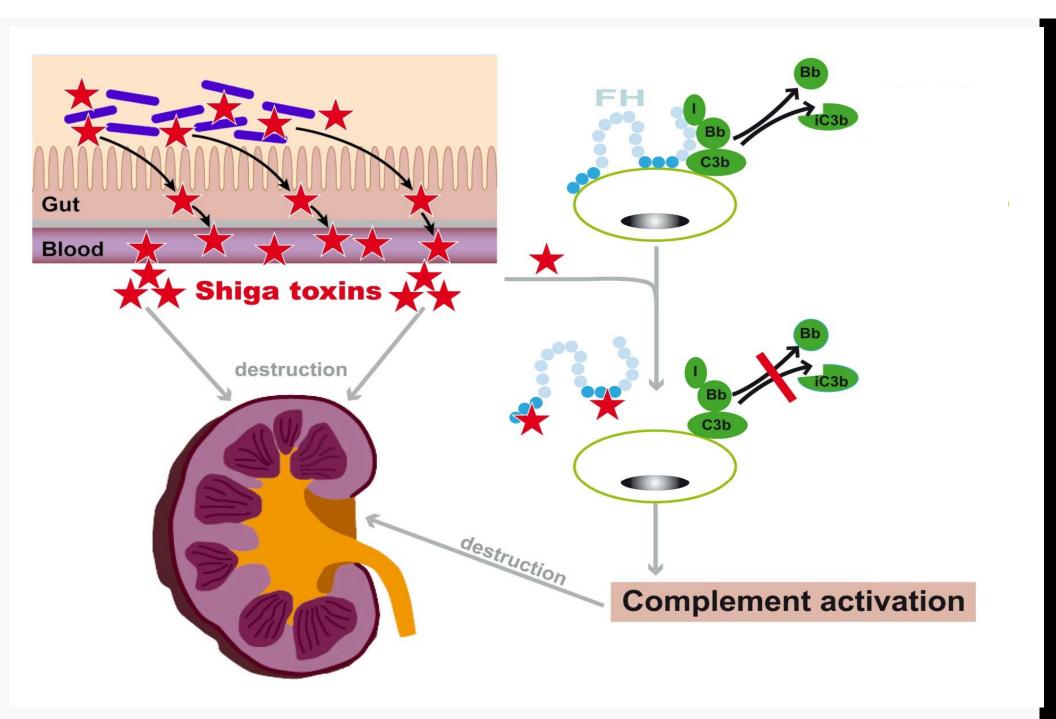
J Immunol 2011;187

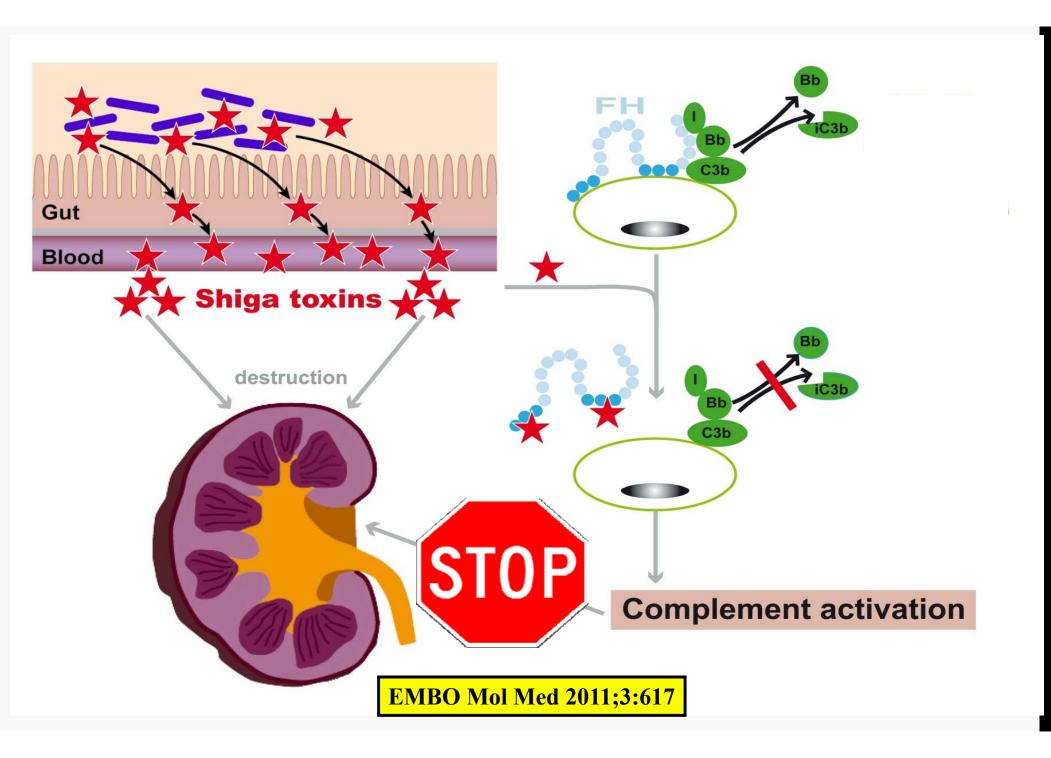
Marked clinical improvement by eculizumab in three 3 yr. old eHUS patients with devastating prognoses

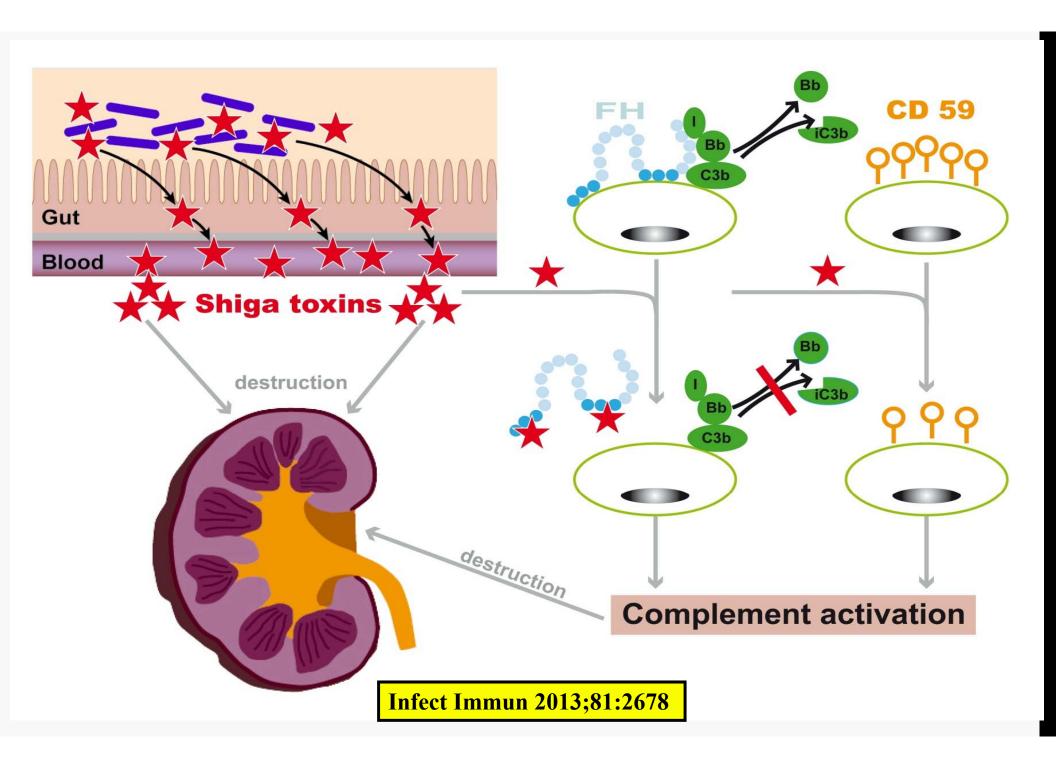
NEJM 2011;364:2561

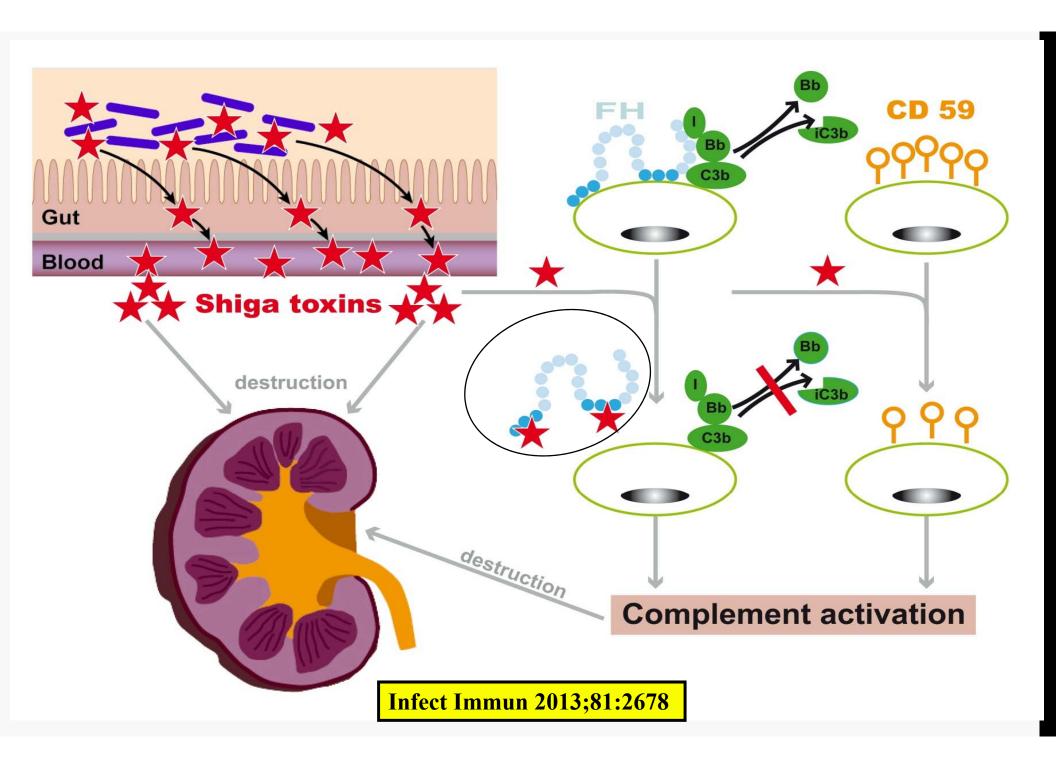
EHEC 0104:H4 outbreak 2011: eculizumab improved the outcome of many of the ~400 treated HUS patients

EMBO Mol Med 2011;3:617

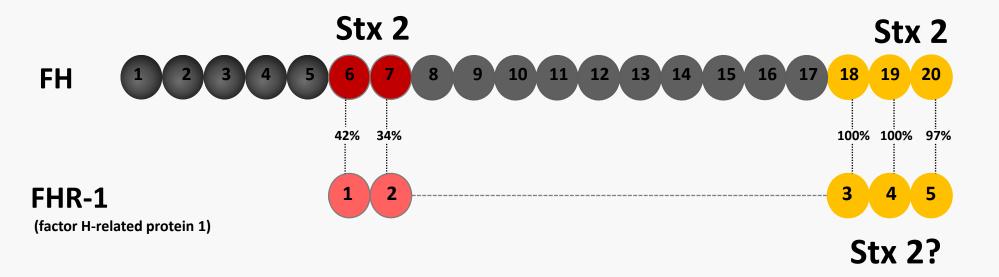


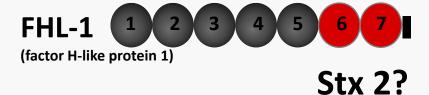




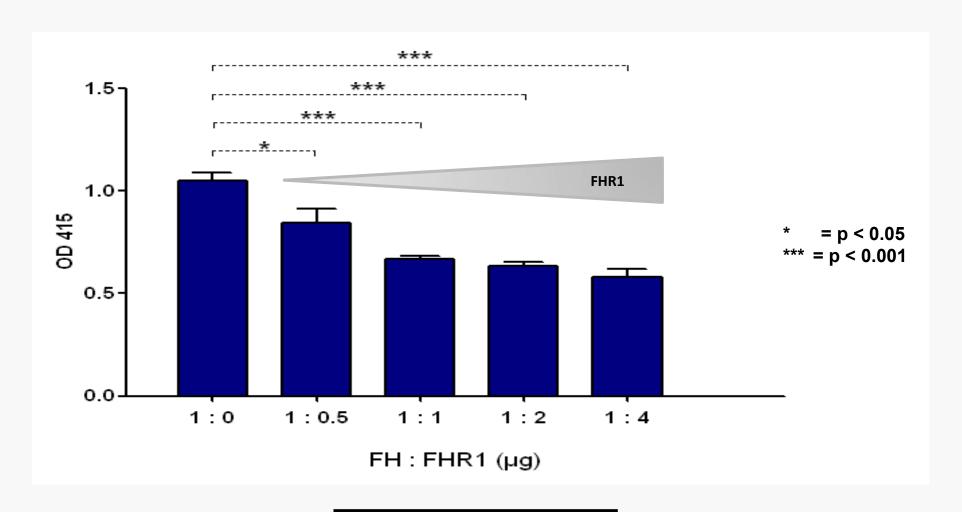


## DOES Stx 2 ALSO BIND TO PROTEINS OF THE FH FAMILY?

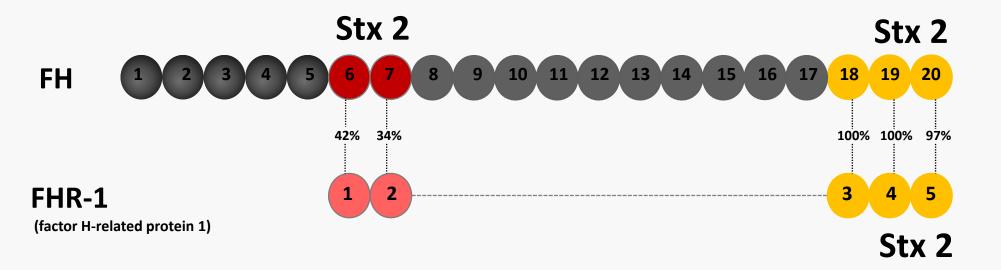




# FHR-1 COMPETES WITH FH FOR Stx2 BINDING

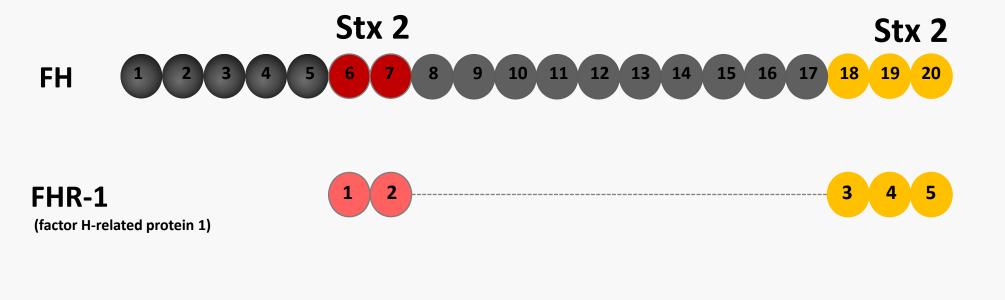


## Stx 2 BINDING TO PROTEINS OF FH FAMILY





#### COMPETITION OF Stx 2 BINDING

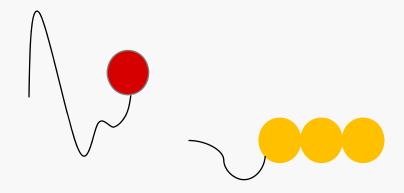


FHL-1

(factor H-like protein 1)

### FUTURE?





#### TAKE HOME MESSAGES

In addition to aHUS, complement also plays a role in eHUS Stx 2 activates complement

Stx 2 binds to FH downmodulating its protective function

Stx 2 binds to proteins of the FH family – deficiency of these proteins may result in an even stronger FH binding

Stx 2 downregulates CD59 on the target cell

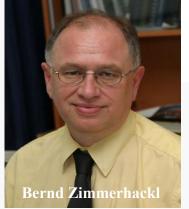
Sem Thromb Hemost 2014;40:503 Sem Thromb Hemost 2014;40:508





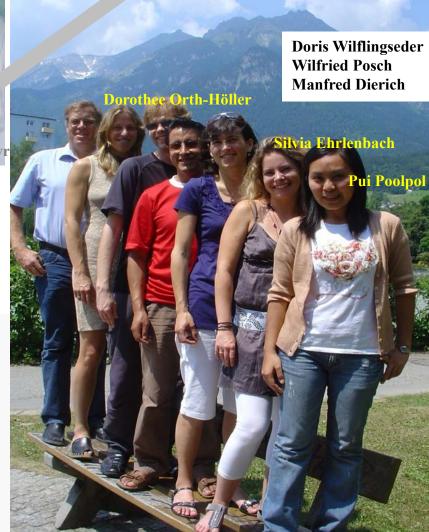


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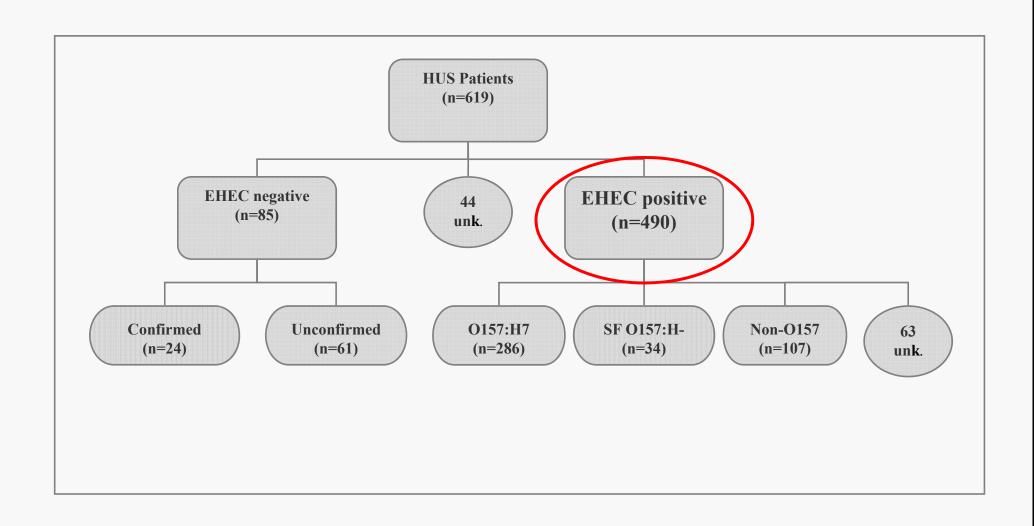


### DIAGNOSIS: STUDY POPULATION

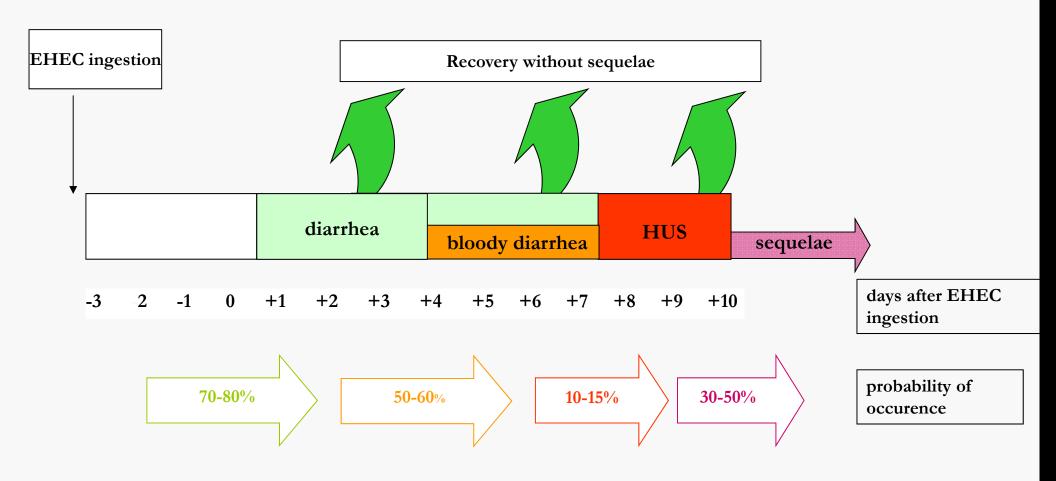
	Acute phase	One- year follow up	Two-year follow up	Three-year follow up	Five-year follow up
Number of all patients	619	449	354	306	274
Boys : Girls	0.89	0.78	0.81	0.78	0.82
Age, Median years (IQR)*	2.9 (1.4 - 5.2)	2.9 (1.6 - 5.4)	2.7 (1.5 - 5.0)	2.9 (1.5 - 5.7)	2.6 (1.4 - 6.1)
Number of EHEC+ patients	490	366	290	249	226
Boys : Girls	0.84	0.73	0.77	0.73	0.74
Age, Median years (IQR)*	2.7 (1.4 – 4.9)	2.7 (1.6 - 5.0)	2.7 (1.5 - 4.8)	2.9 (1.5 - 5.4)	2.5 (1.3 – 5.3)

<sup>\*</sup>Time relapsed since acute phase was subtracted in order to allow direct comparison.

### DISEASE CAUSE



## Diagnostics & Clinical courses



**Adapted from Phil Tarr** 

#### CLINICAL COURSES: LONG TERM

70% of patients recovered completely after the acute phase, 30% presented with hypertension, neurolog. symptoms, renal impairment



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70% of patients recovered completely after the acute phase, 30% presented with hypertension, neurolog. symptoms, renal impairment



In general,
only 54% of patients
with symptoms after 5 years
already presented
symptoms after 1 year!

Clin Infect Dis 54:1413

#### DIAGNOSIS: STUDY POPULATION

#### "eHUS" when:

- 1. Isolation of EHEC from stool culture,
- 2. Stx antigens in stool or *stx* genes evidenced by ELISA or PCR, or
- 3. IgG and IgM antibodies against
  - E. coli O157 lipopolysaccharide (LPS)
  - in serum, detected by immunoblot

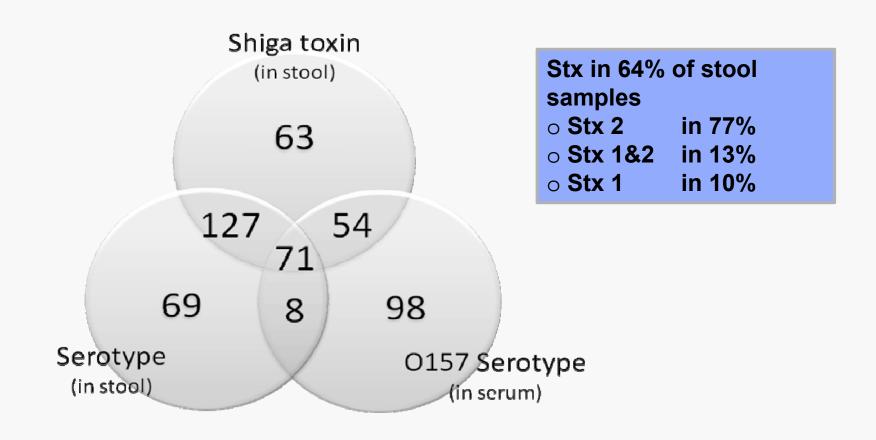
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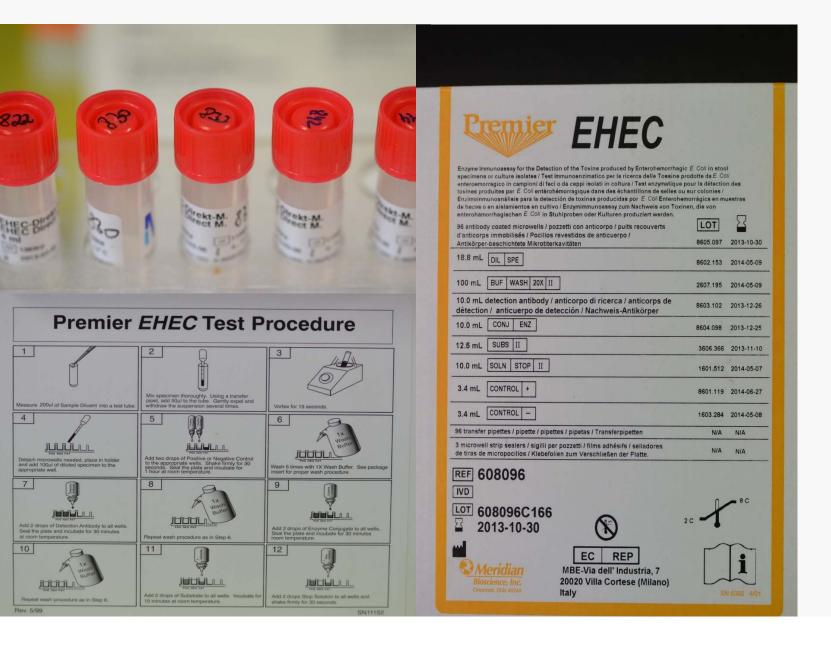
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## DIAGNOSIS: MICROBIOLOGICAL FINDINGS

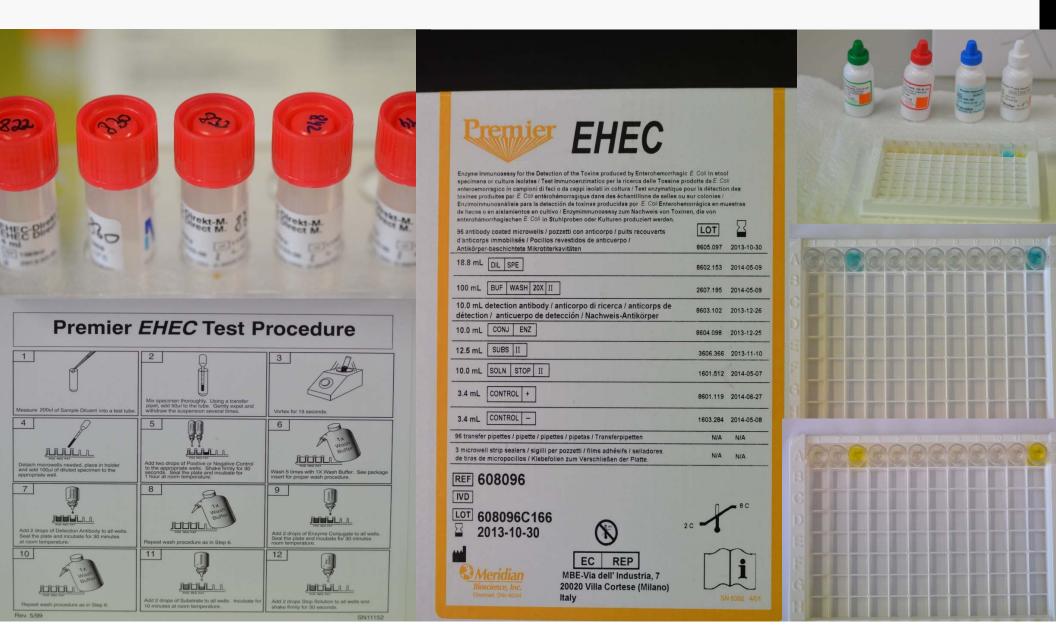


Clin Infect Dis 54:1413

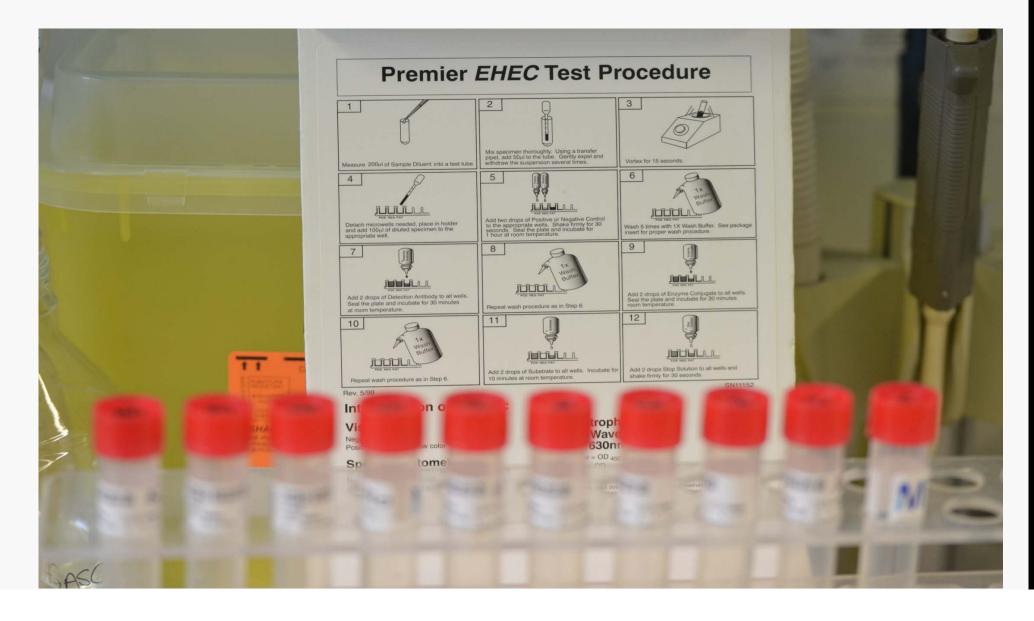
#### SHIGATOXIN ELISA



### SHIGATOXIN ELISA



### EHEC ELISA



# ECULIZUMAB IN TREATMENT OF PNH



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#### **Start of treatment:**

07:00



## ECULIZUMAB IN TREATMENT OF PNH

## Start of treatment: 07:00



#### Reports:

Hillmen et al. 2004, NEJM 350:552

Hillmen et al. 2006, NEJM 360:2142

Long term results

**Dramatic increase of survival** 

7-times lower rate of thrombosis

(Kelly et al. 2011, Blood 117:6786)

#### TAKE HOME MESSAGES

Diagnosis: identify Shiga toxins in stool when HUS

Clinical courses: follow up patients for >5 years

Therapy: as HUS is a

complement-dependent disease,

consider Eculizumab in severe clinical courses!