

Florian Deisenhammer
Dept. of Neurology
Innsbruck Medical University

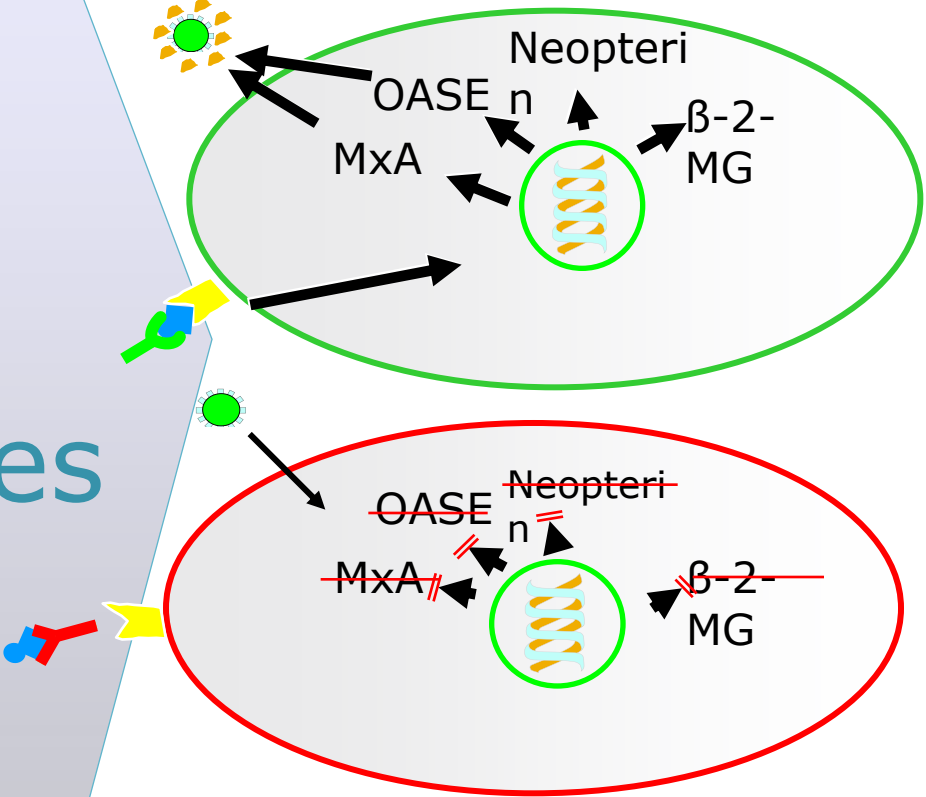
Clinical relevance of IFN β Nab in Multiple Sclerosis

Neutralizing

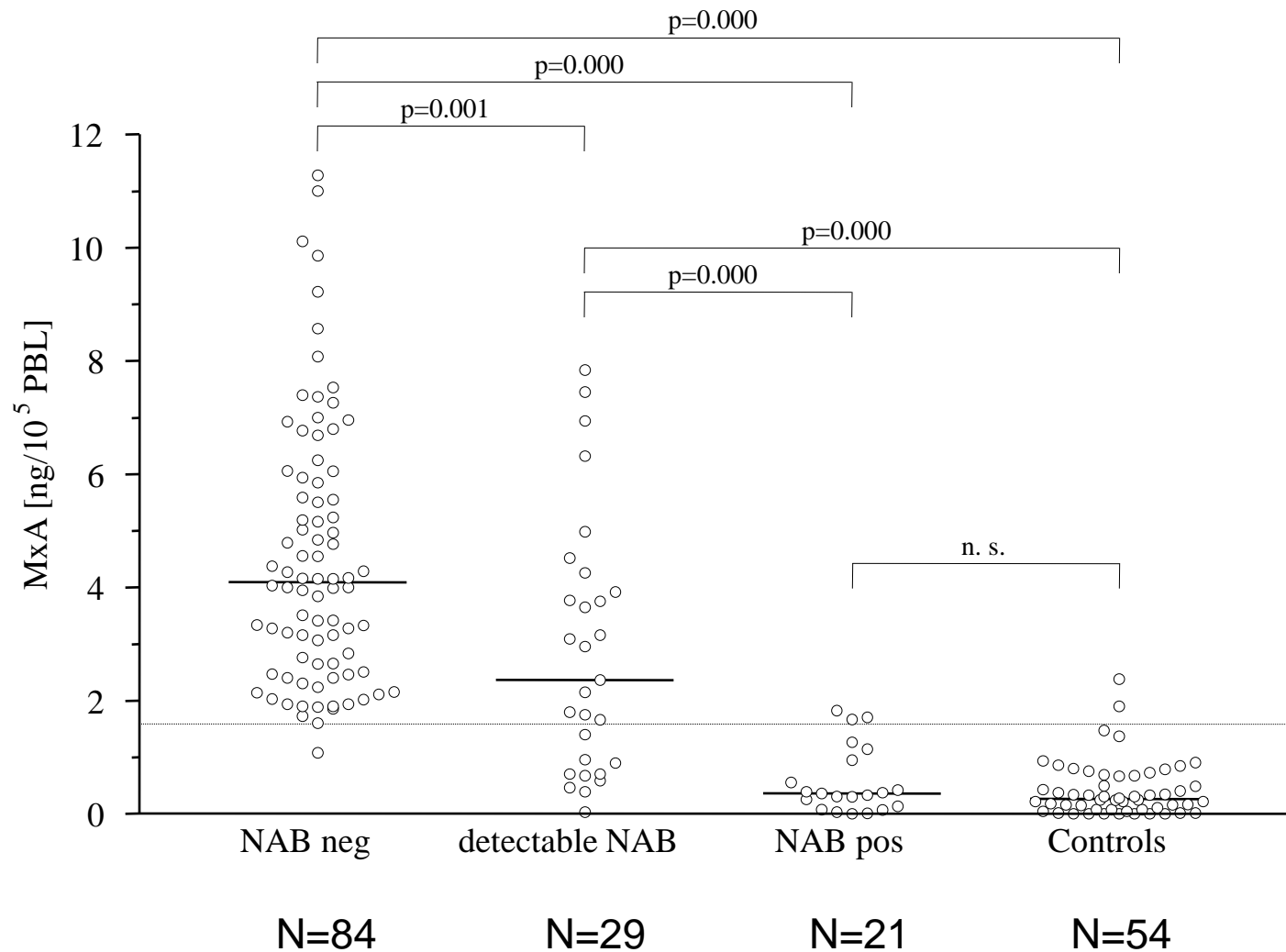
Bioassays

Antibodies

Binding assays

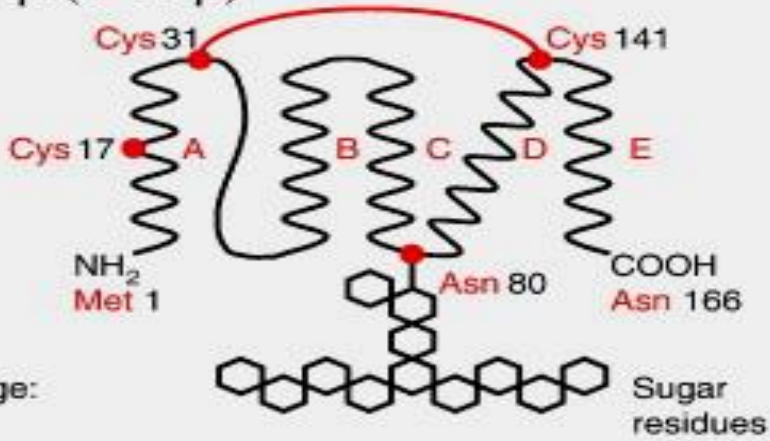


Bioactivity of IFN in NAB+ and NAB- patients



Interferon- β (IFN- β)

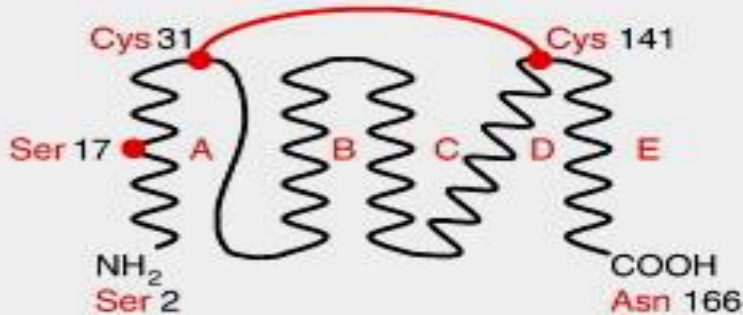
IFN- β 1a
22.5 kDa



IFN- β 1a: (glycosylated at Asn 80)

1 **Met**-Ser-Tyr-Asn-Leu-Leu-Gly-Phe-Leu-Gln
11 Arg-Ser-Ser-Asn-Phe-Gln-**Cys**-Gln-Lys-Leu
21 Leu-Trp-Gln-Leu-Asn-Gly-Arg-Leu-Glu-Tyr
31 **Cys**-Leu-Lys-Asp-Arg-Met-Asn-Phe-Asp-Ile
41 Pro-Glu-Glu-Ile-Lys-Gln-Leu-Gln-Gln-Phe
51 Gln-Lys-Glu-Asp-Ala-Ala-Leu-Thr-Ile-Tyr
61 Glu-Met-Leu-Gln-Asn-Ile-Phe-Ala-Ile-Phe
71 Arg-Gln-Asp-Ser-Ser-Ser-Thr-Gly-Trp-**Asn**
81 Glu-Thr-Ile-Val-Glu-Asn-Leu-Leu-Ala-Asn
91 Val-Tyr-His-Gln-Ile-Asn-His-Leu-Lys-Thr
101 Val-Leu-Glu-Glu-Lys-Leu-Glu-Lys-Glu-Asp
111 Phe-Thr-Arg-Gly-Lys-Leu-Met-Ser-Ser-Leu
121 His-Leu-Lys-Arg-Tyr-Tyr-Gly-Arg-Ile-Leu
131 His-Tyr-Leu-Lys-Ala-Lys-Glu-Tyr-Ser-His
141 **Cys**-Ala-Trp-Thr-Ile-Val-Arg-Val-Glu-Ile
151 Leu-Arg-Asn-Phe-Tyr-Phe-Ile-Asn-Arg-Leu
161 Thr-Gly-Tyr-Leu-Arg-**Asn**

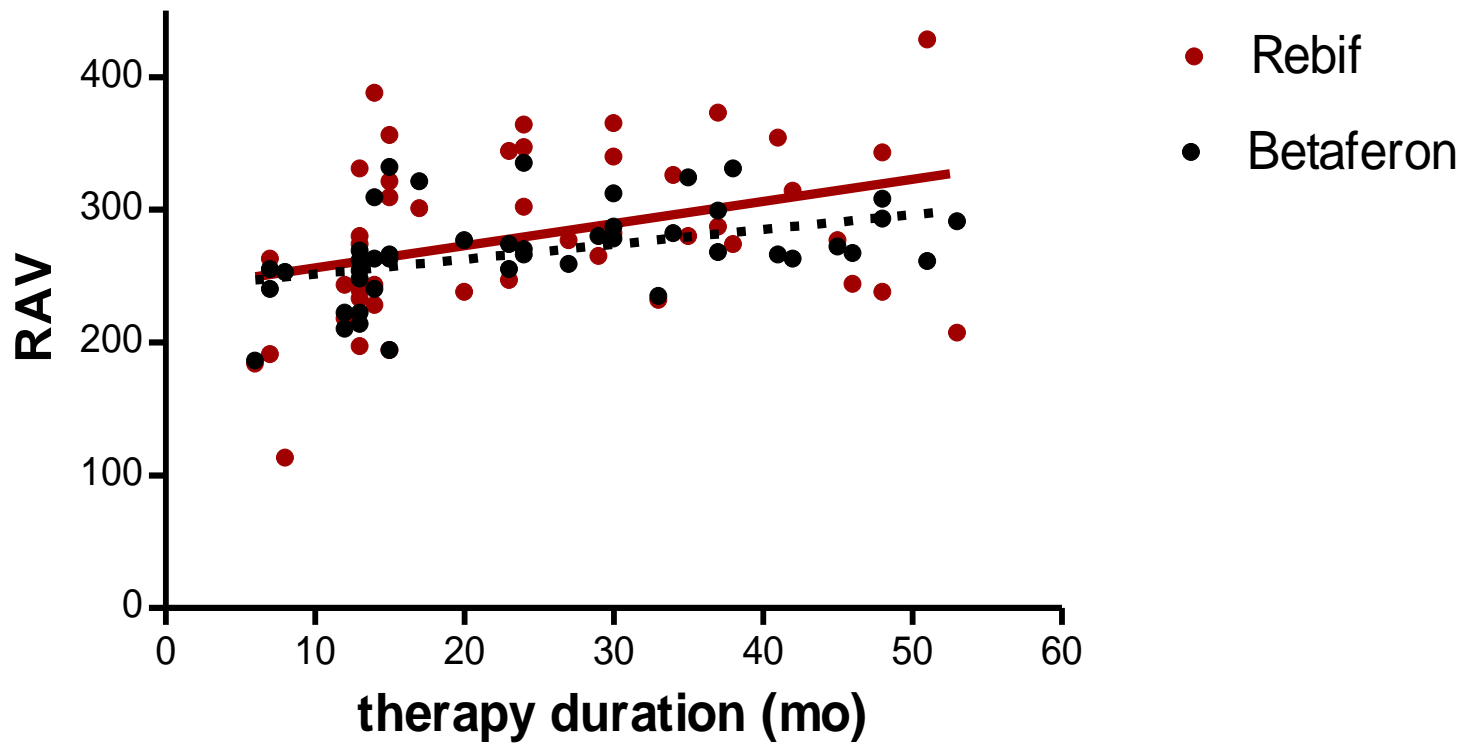
IFN- β 1b
18.5 kDa



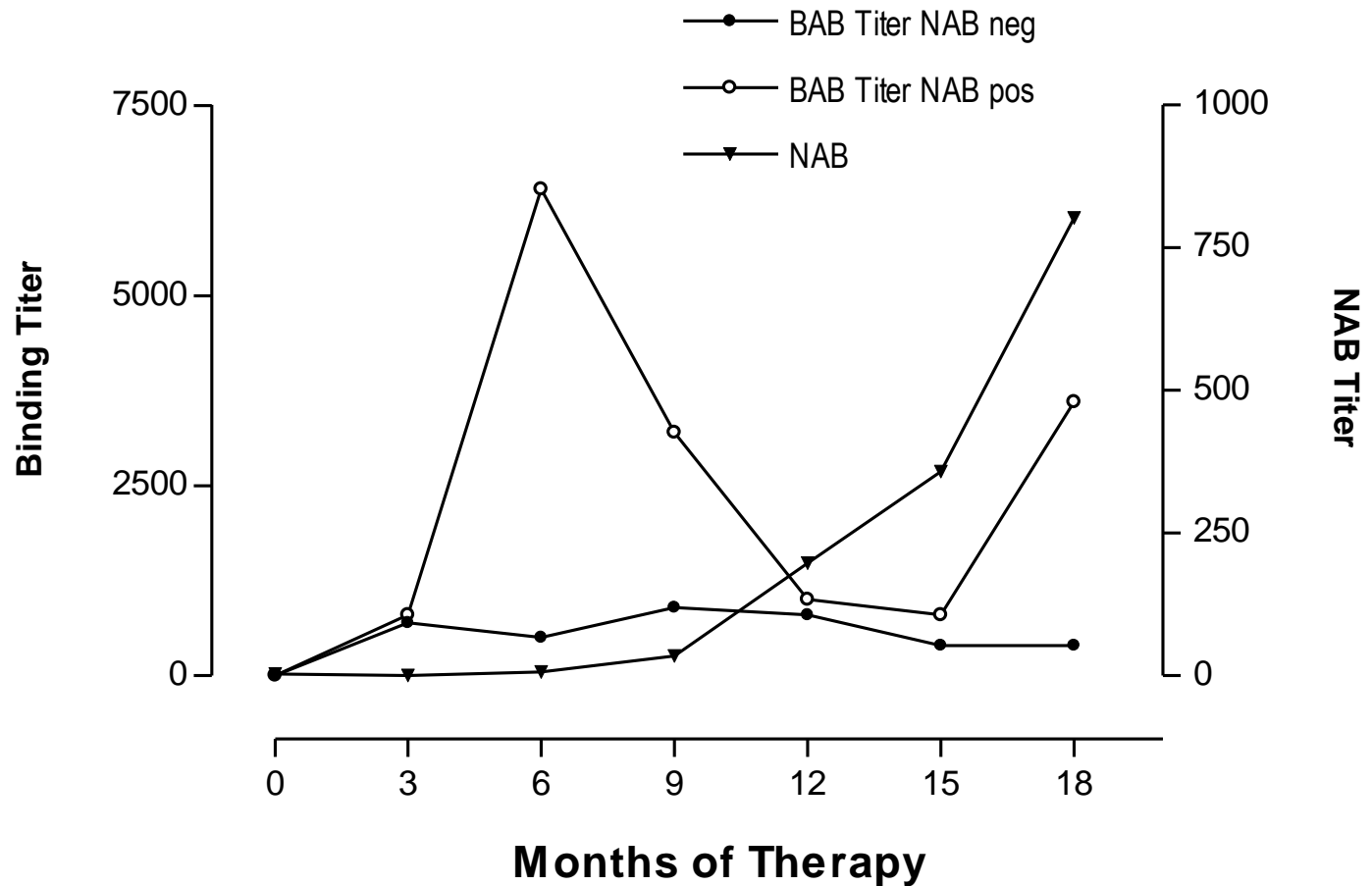
IFN- β 1b:

- Not glycosylated
- **Met 1** lacking
- **Cys 17** replaced by **Ser 17**

Affinity maturation IFNb 1a vs 1b

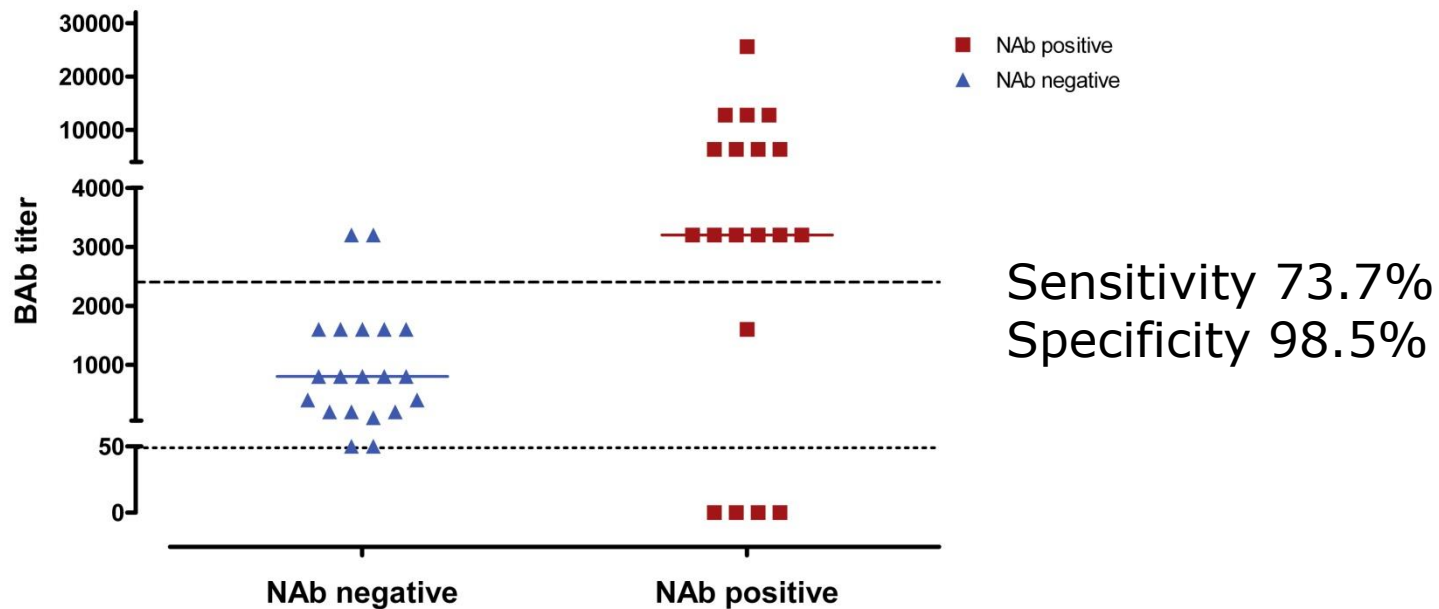


Binding titers in NAB+ and NAB- patients

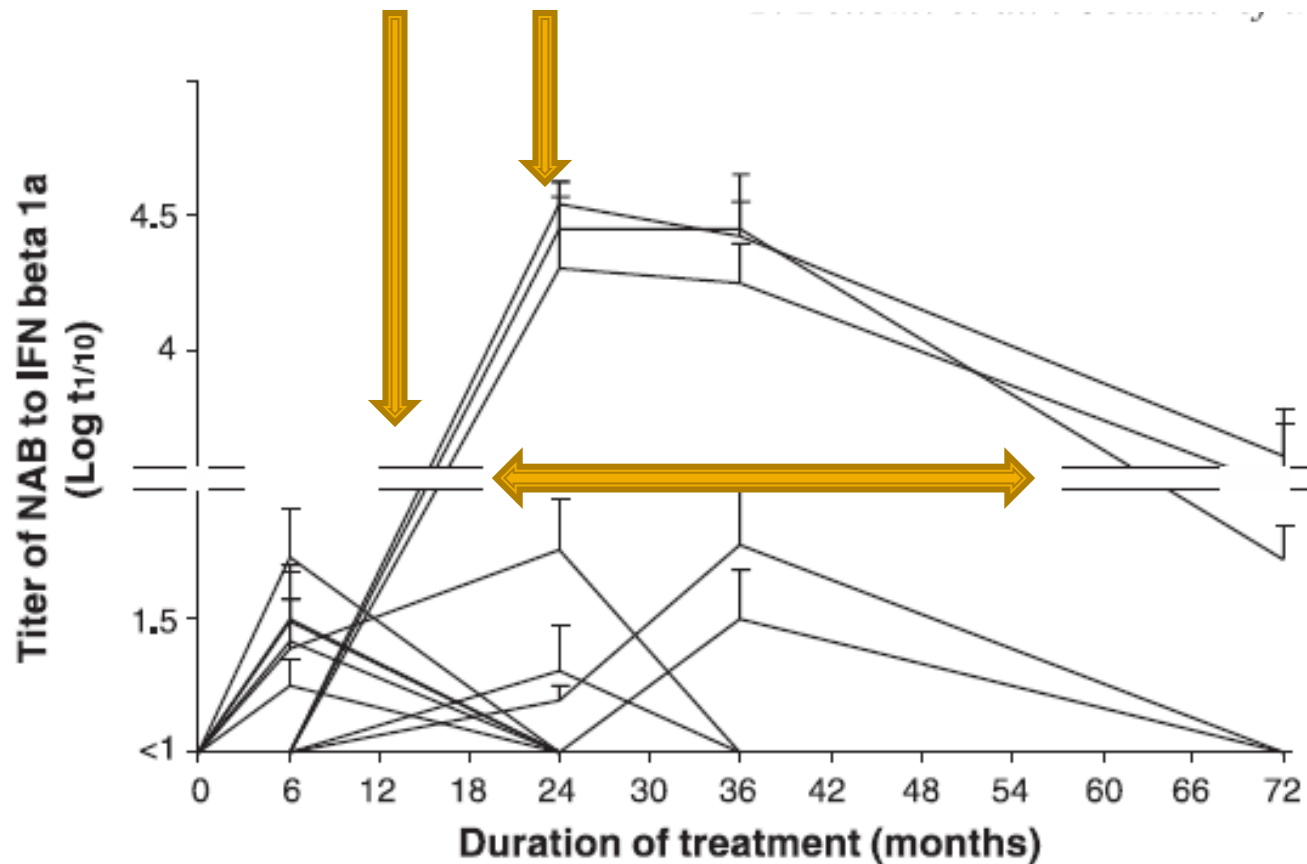


Predictiveness of BAB for NAB+

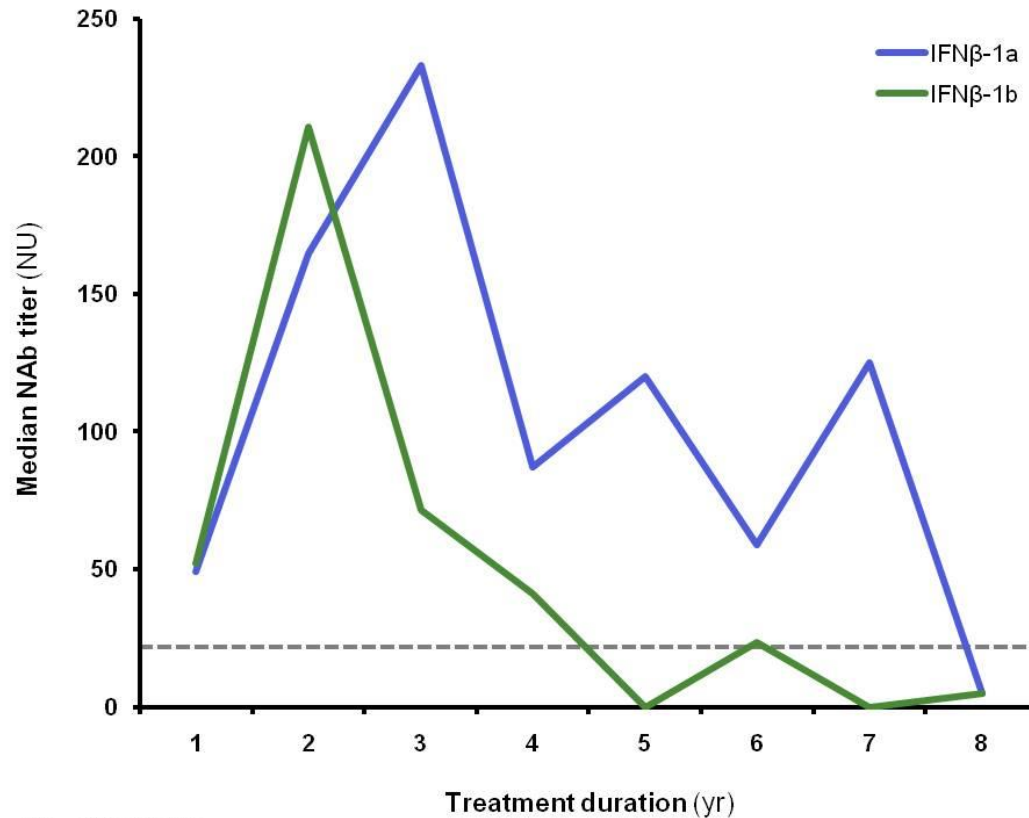
3 of 22 NAB+ @ mo 3



NAB persistency depends on titer



Long-term development of NABs

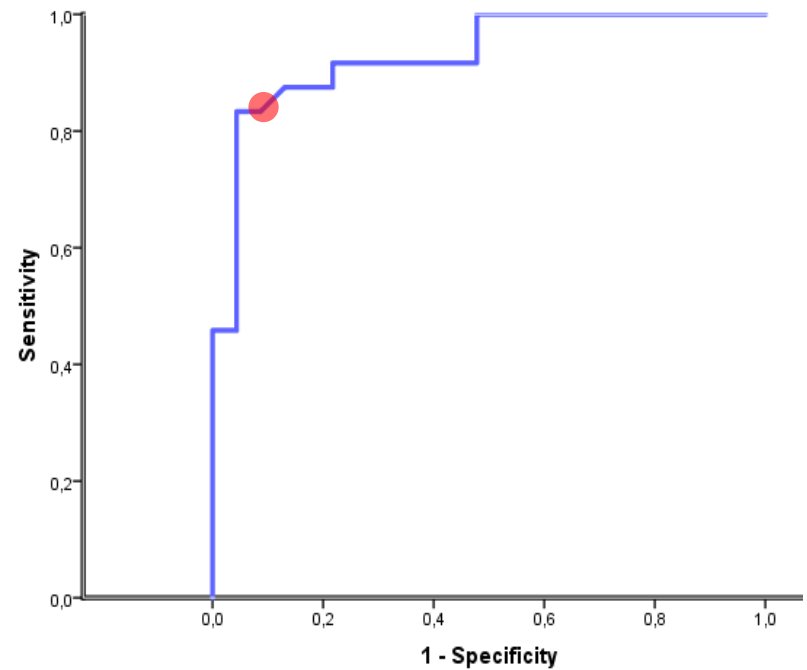


No. of patients

IFNβ-1a	11	14	23	14	17	10	4	4
IFNβ-1b	15	16	18	14	17	10	7	2

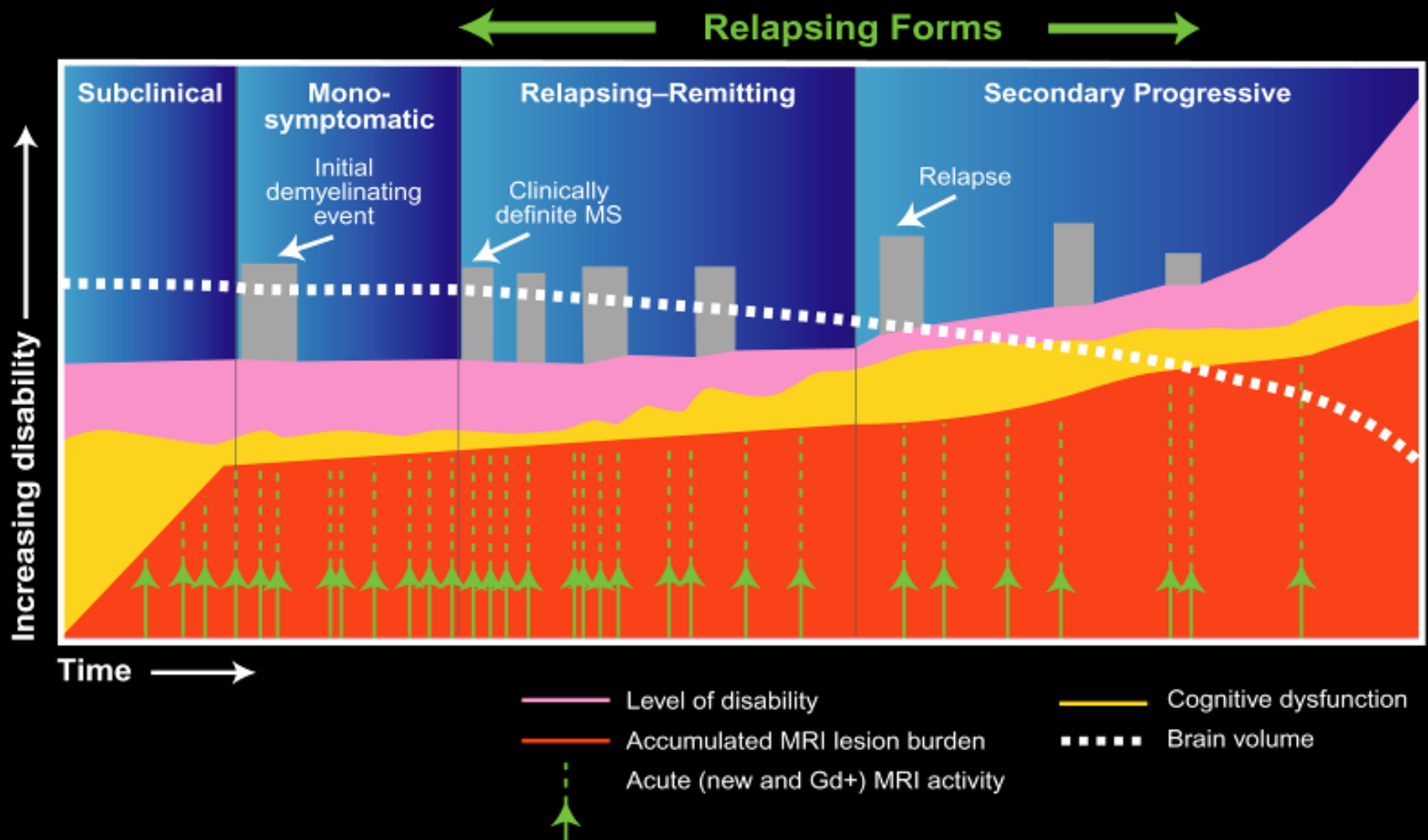
Predictive NAb cut-off titers

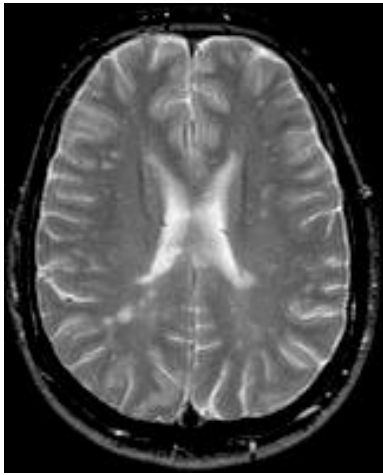
	All IFN β	IFN β -1a	IFN β -1b
Sensitivity (%)	83.3	81.3	100
Specificity (%)	91.3	90.9	91.7
Cut-off NAb titer (TRU)	> 344	> 258	> 460



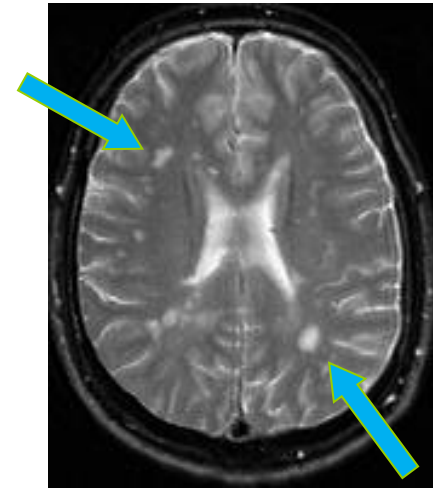
Clinical data

The natural course of MS....





New lesion formation (enlarging lesions)

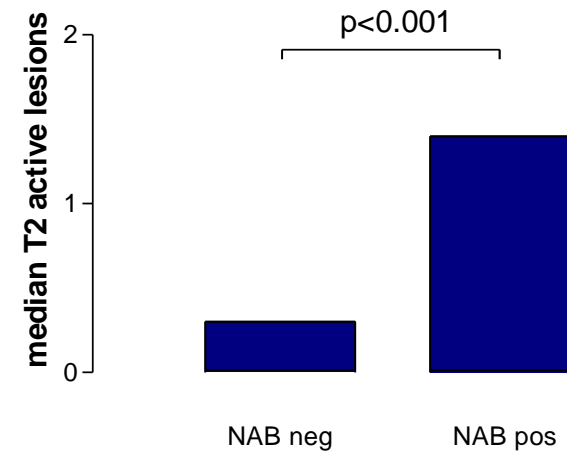
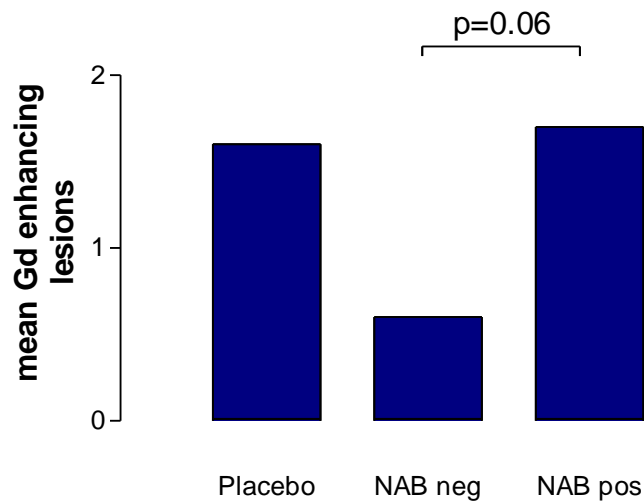
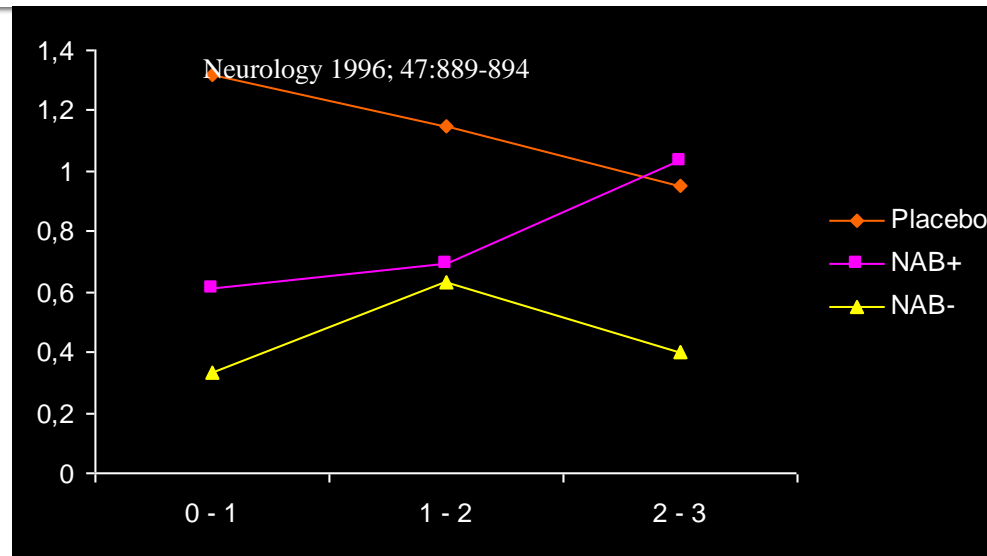


- ▶▶ Occurrence of new (focal) T2 lesions is consistent with new areas of MS related tissue damage
- ▶▶ Modifications by
 - Imaging parameters (sequence, slice thickness, etc.)
- ▶▶ Outcome variables
 - Number of new T2 lesions
 - Number of enlarging T2 lesions

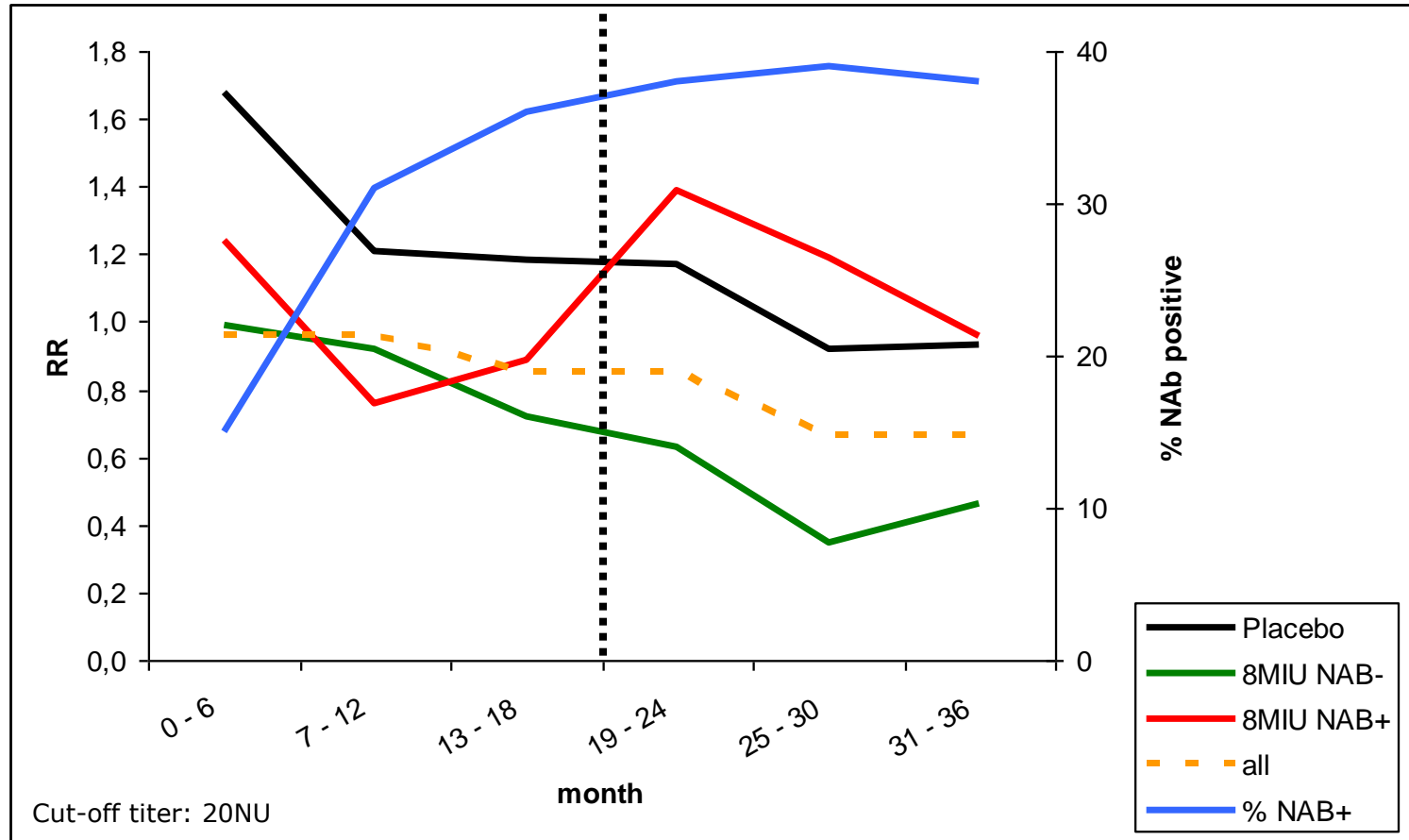
**Number of newly active lesions
(new and enlarging T2 and new contrast enhancing lesions)**

Number of new MRI lesions

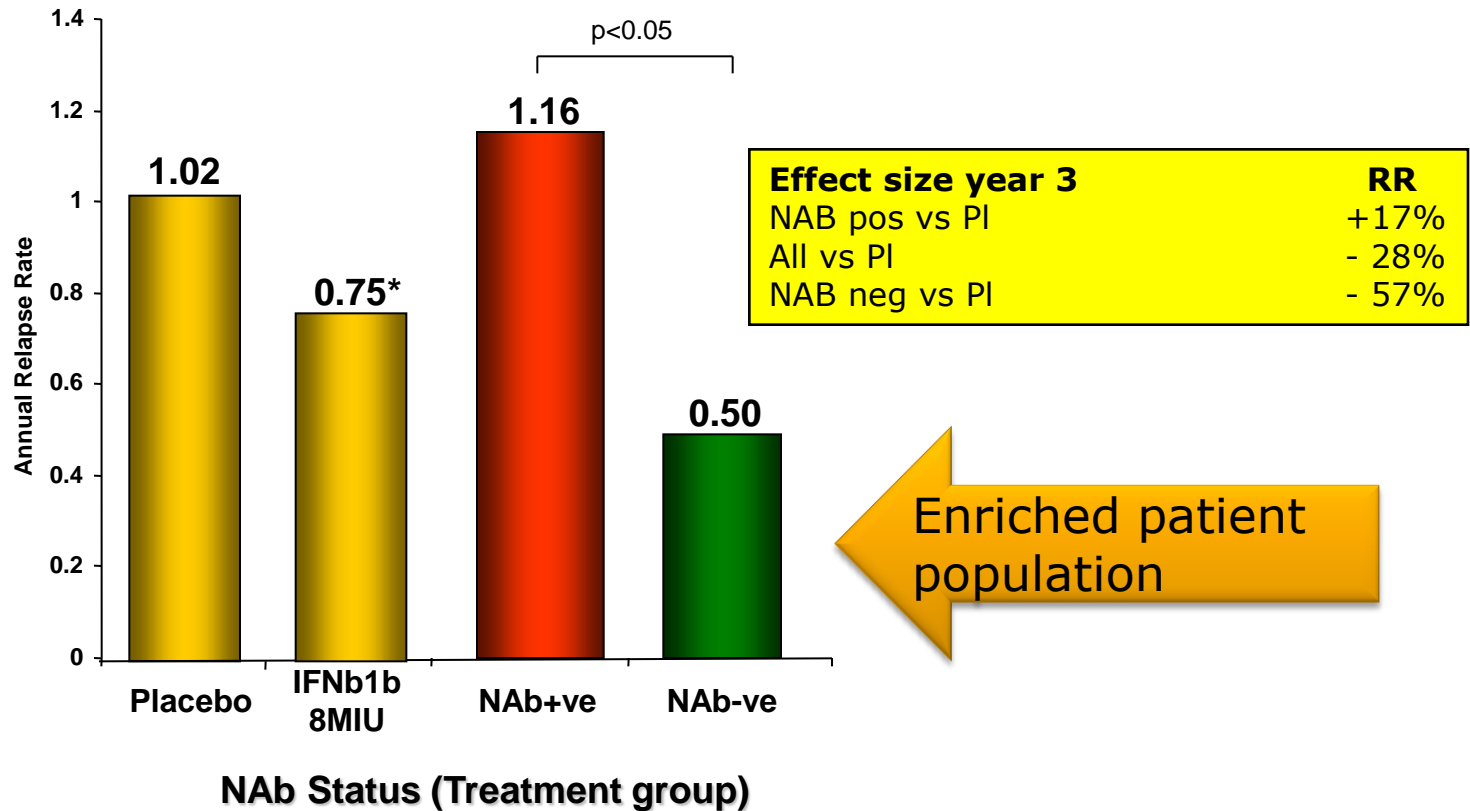
Betaferon trial 8MIU, Avonex trial, PRISMS-4



NAB timeline (Betaferon trial)



IFN β - Clinical Impact



PRISMS-4: NABs and relapse rates

Table 2 Relapse rate based on NAb status: PRISMS 4-year data

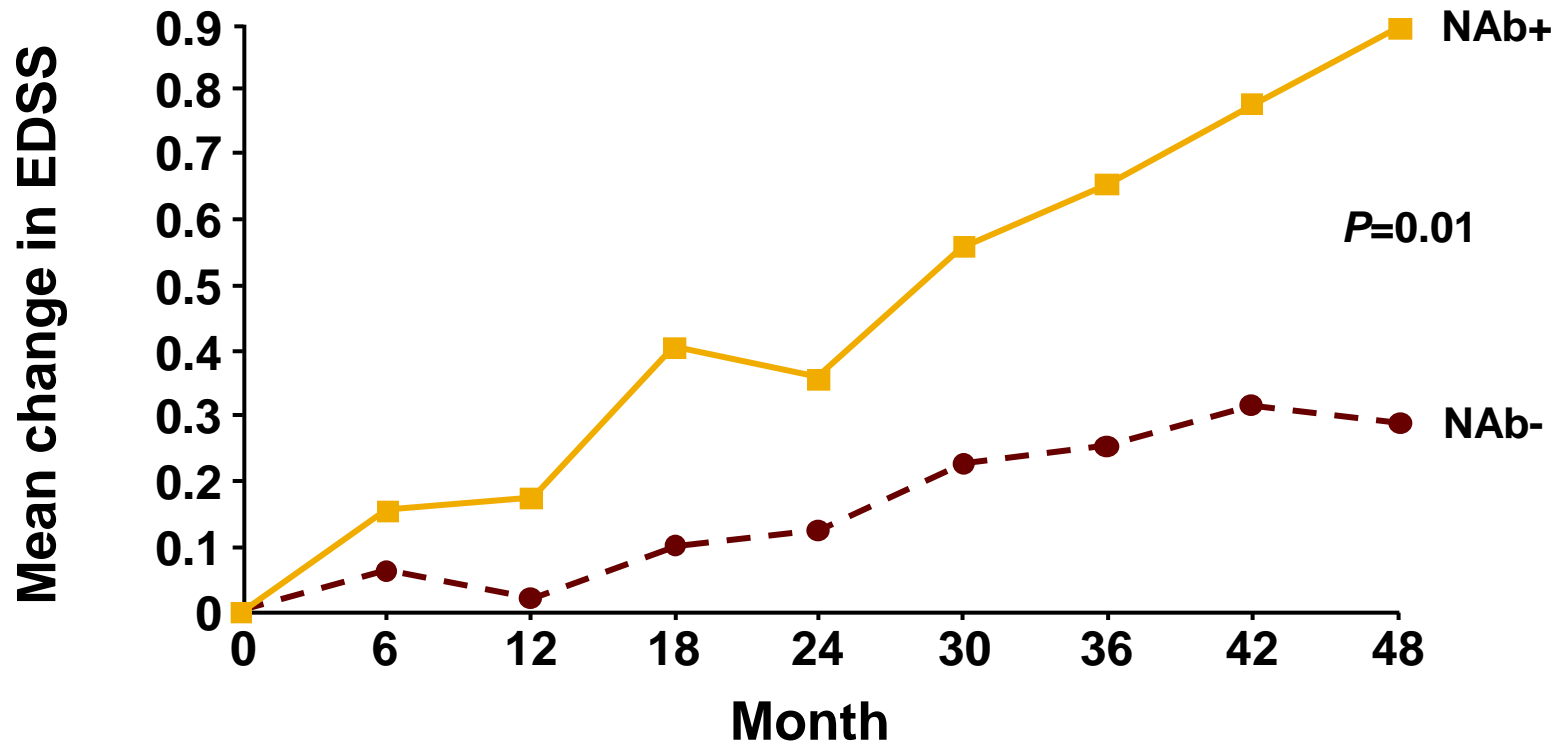
Time	Mean annualized relapse rate		Adjusted relapse rate ratio NAb+/NAb- (95% CI)	p Value
	NAb- (22 and 44 µg) n = 278	NAb+ (22 and 44 µg) n = 90		
“Anytime positive” method*				
Years 1–4	0.74	0.82	1.00 (0.82–1.22)	0.98
Years 1–2	0.94	0.83	0.81 (0.65–1.01)	0.06
Years 3–4	0.51	0.82	1.41 (1.12–1.78)	0.004
“Interval positive” method†				
Years 1–4	0.74	0.86	1.21 (1.03–1.43)	0.02
Years 1–2	0.92	0.88	1.04 (0.84–1.28)	0.73
Years 3–4	0.52	0.85	1.60 (1.29–1.97)	<0.001

* Patients remain in same category throughout, regardless of when Ab first detected.

† Patients may change category if Ab status changes.

Effect of NAb on Disability

NAb+ Patients Have Greater Disability Progression



NAb+ n=	26	26	26	26	25	26	26	20	14
NAb- n=	732	722	698	670	649	621	605	420	286

Titre-dependency of clinical effects

Table 4 Percentage increase in relapse rates for eventually NAB+ subgroups in low- and high-NAB+ periods relative to NAB- periods*

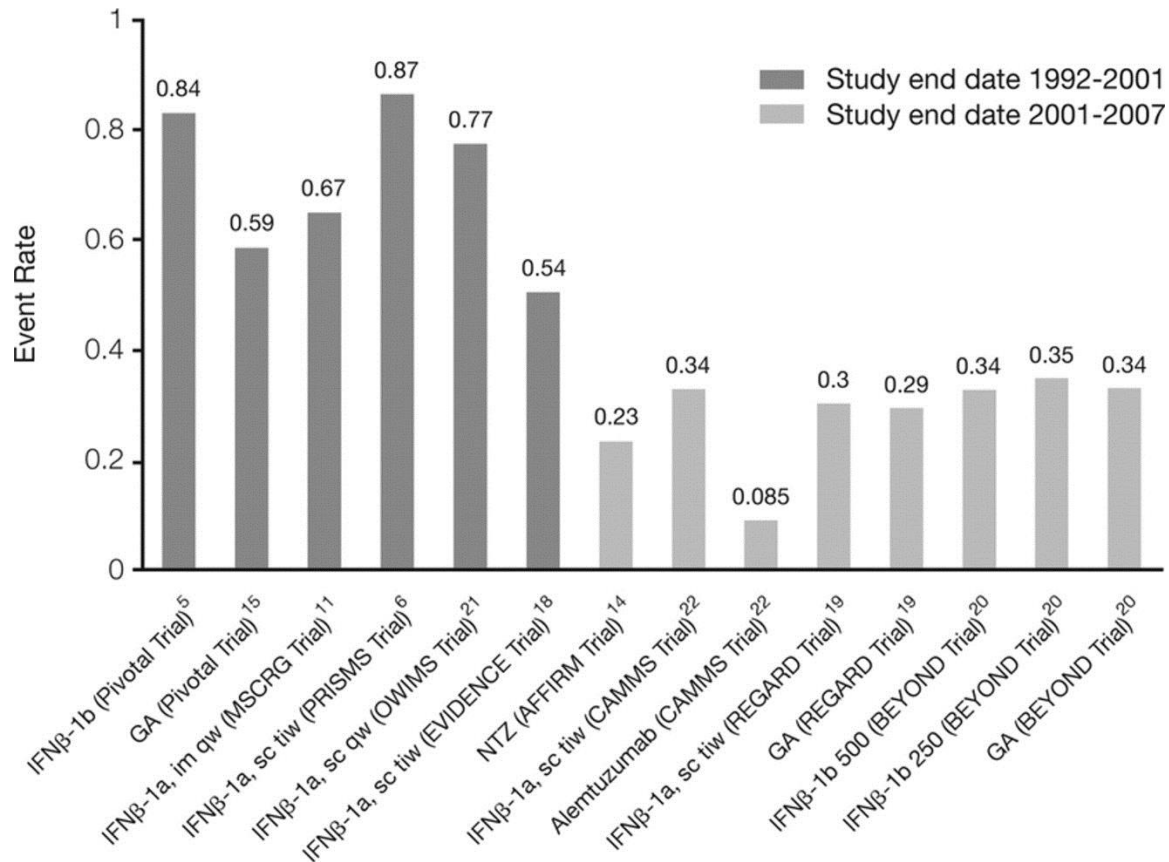
Cutoff titer	Increase in relapse rate					
	Low NAB+, cutoff titer 20			High NAB+		
	% Increase	95% CI	p Value	% Increase	95% CI	p Value
"Once positive, always positive"						
100, n = 57	48	10, 98	0.01	39	0, 94	0.05
200, n = 45	41	5, 90	0.02	70	21, 140	0.002
400, n = 33	41	6, 89	0.02	115	54, 200	<0.001
"All switches considered"						
100, n = 57	29	-5, 75	0.10	21	-10, 62	>0.20
200, n = 45	23	-9, 65	0.17	46	7, 99	0.02
400, n = 33	22	-8, 62	0.17	82	37, 140	<0.001

Patient counts refer to patients with high-NAB+ status, which differ from counts in eventually NAB+ subgroups for respective cutoff titers as no confirmation was required.

* Definition of low-NAB+ periods (confirmation required) refers to cutoff titer of 20. Definition of high-NAB+ periods (no confirmation required) refers to respective cutoffs.

NAB = neutralizing antibodies.

Relapse rates in RCTs



IFN β dose dependency

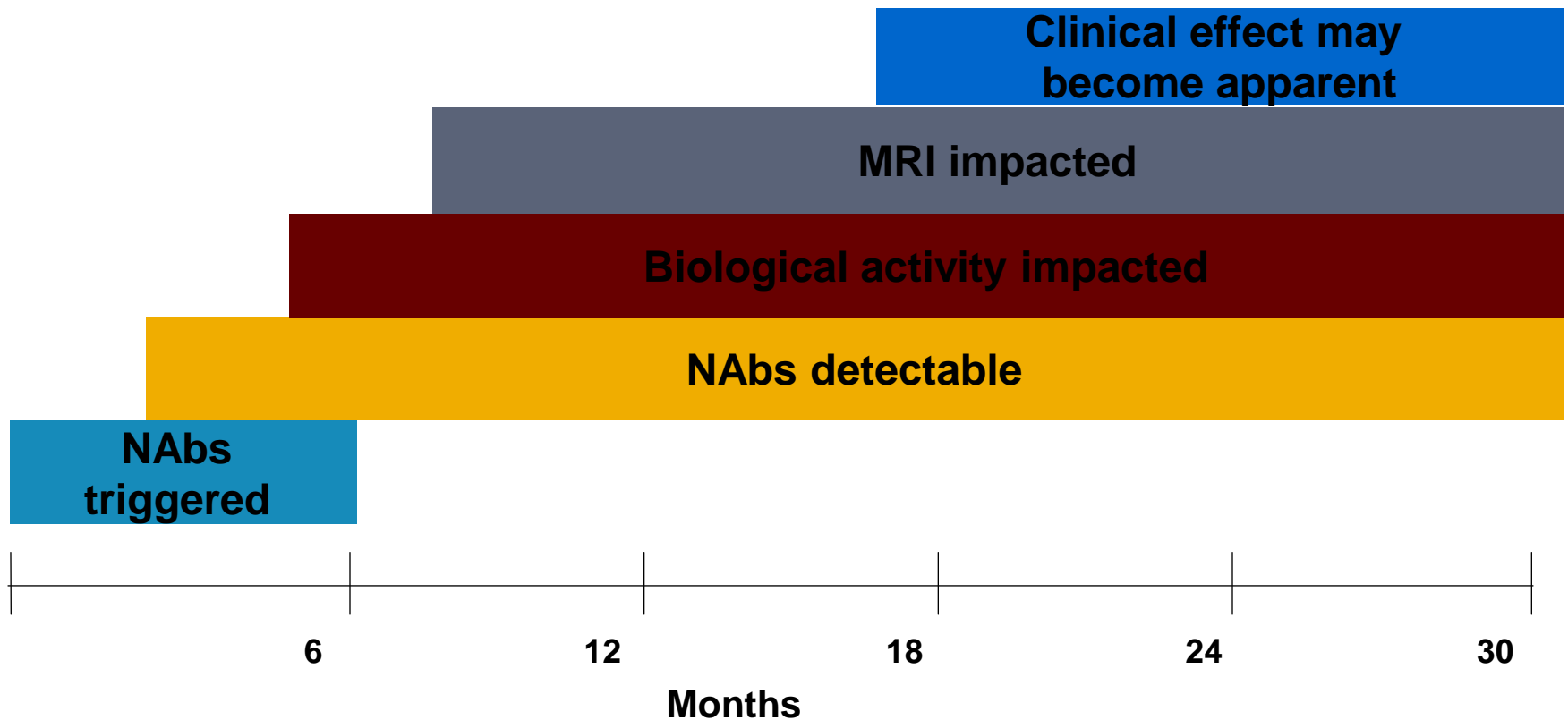
Table 2. Time-to-first relapse and time-to-confirmed EDSS progression using NAb status as a time-dependent covariate, as assessed by the Cox proportional hazards regression model*

Time period	IFN β -1b, 250 μ g	p-value [†]	IFN β -1b, 500 μ g	p-value [†]
Time to first relapse: HR (95% CI)				
Positive (≥ 20 NU/ml) vs. negative (< 20 NU/ml) <i>Single model</i>	1.29 (0.97 to 1.72)	0.09	1.39 (1.04 to 1.85)	0.03
Low (≥ 20 to 100 NU/ml) vs. negative	1.36 (0.96 to 1.92)	0.08	1.09 (0.73 to 1.62)	0.68
Medium (≥ 100 to 400 NU/ml) vs. negative	1.37 (0.82 to 2.27)	0.23	1.53 (0.95 to 2.48)	0.08
High (≥ 400 NU/ml) vs. negative	0.95 (0.48 to 1.89)	0.89	1.99 (1.25 to 3.16)	0.004
Medium to high (≥ 100 NU/ml) vs. negative	1.19 (0.78 to 1.82)	0.42	1.74 (1.22 to 2.48)	0.002

Conclusion:

.....On MRI measures, the impact was consistent and convincing, whereas on clinical measures a negative impact of NAbs was not found.....

When Do the Clinical Consequences of NAbs Become Apparent?



Conclusion

- nADA are predictive of clinical non-response
- nADA are the best and only surrogate marker for Rx (non) response to date
- Requires routine testing at least in high immunogenic drugs
- Relatively late with IFN
 - Cut off depends on Rx preparation
 - >460 NU for Betaferon
 - >260 NU for IFNb-1a