

# Antivascular and Apoptotic Effects of Imatinib in GIST

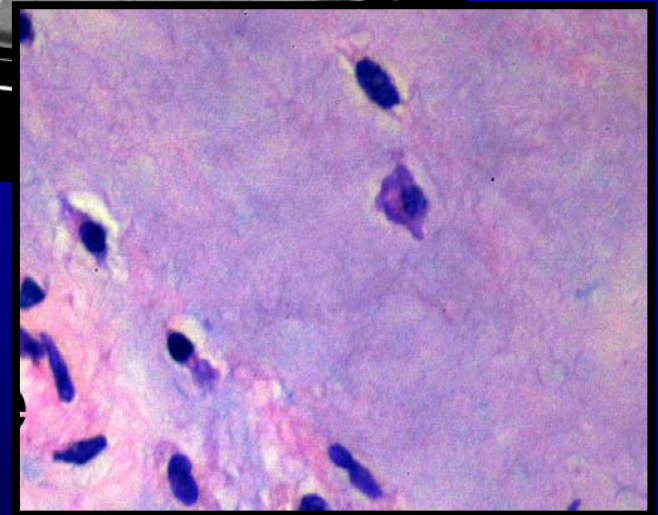
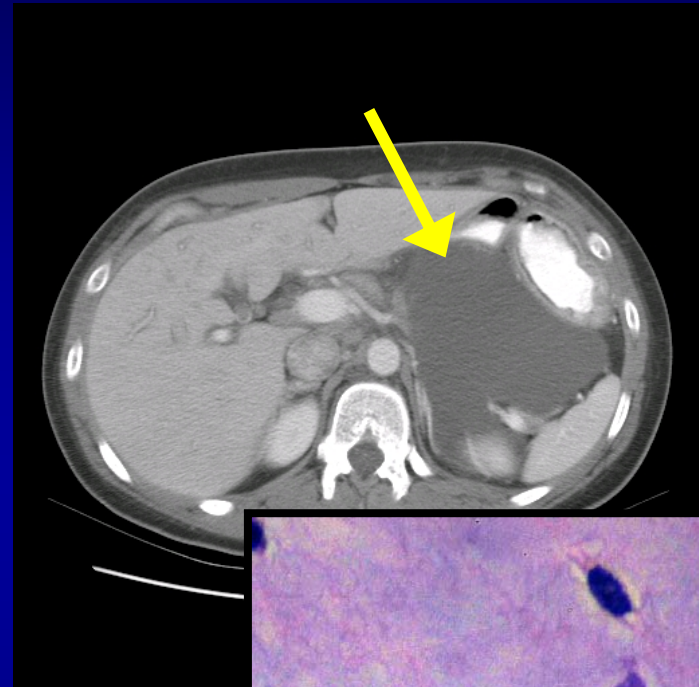
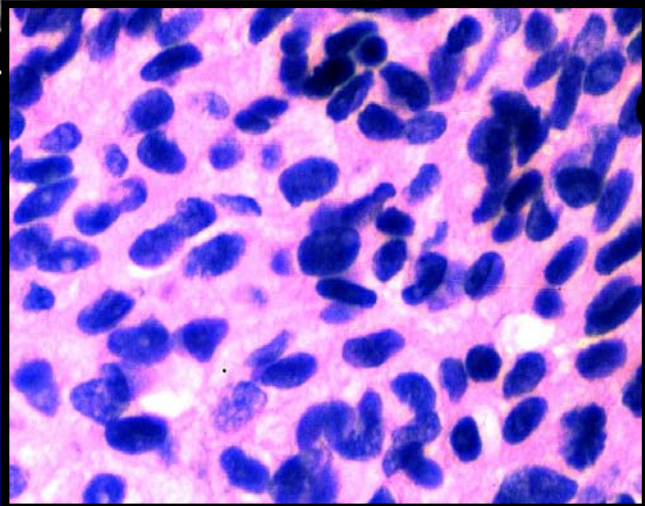
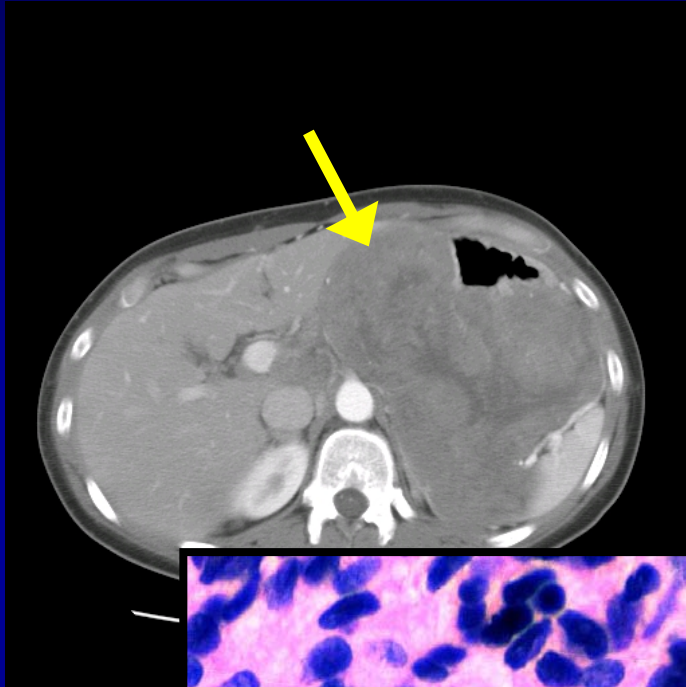
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# Background (cont)

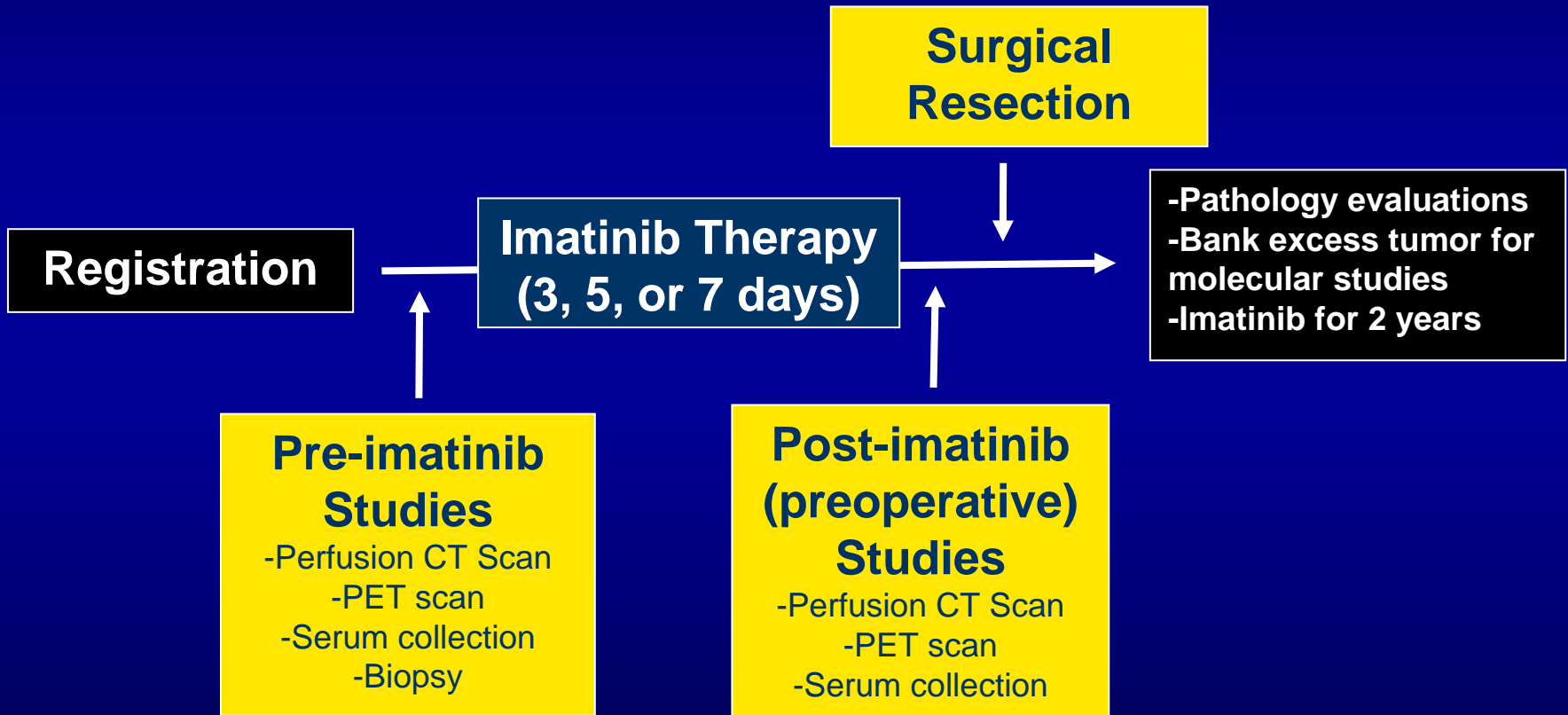


# Hypotheses

- Effects of imatinib begin during the first week of therapy
- Imatinib therapy perturbs vascular physiology in GIST
- Imatinib induces apoptosis of GIST cells

# MDACC ID03-0023

## *Preoperative plus postoperative imatinib for patients with Kit(+) GIST*



# Patient Characteristics

*n=13*

Characteristic	Value
Age (median)	52 (range 38-67)
Gender (M/F)	7/6
Primary Site of Tumor	
- Stomach	6
- Small Intestine	5
- Colon	2

# Preoperative Imatinib Toxicity

## *Grade 3/4*

Toxicity	Number of Patients ( <i>n=13</i> )
Nausea/emesis	2
Abdominal pain	1
GI Hemorrhage	1
Hypovolemia	1
None	11

# PET Response at Day 5



Pre-imatinib



Post-imatinib (Day 5)

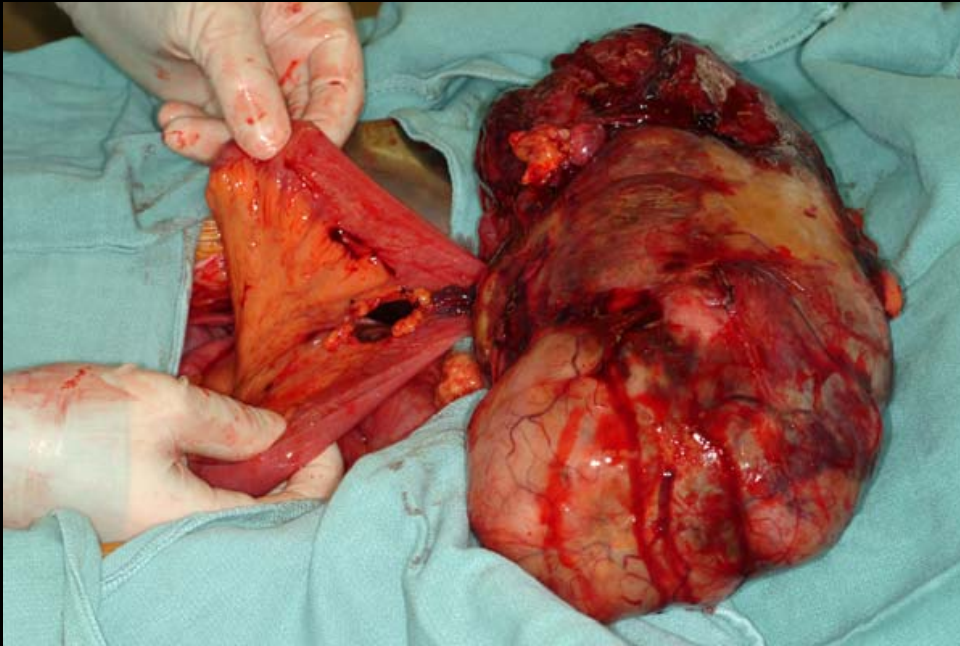
# PET Response Data

$n=12$

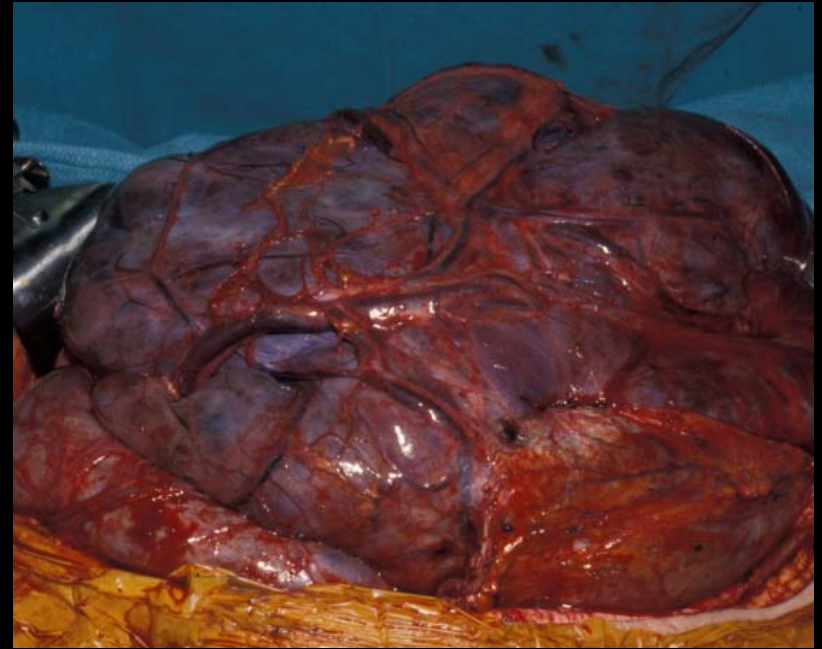
	3 Days	5 Days	7 Days	Total
Responders	3	2	3	8
Non-responder	1	2	1	4



# Surgical Findings



Preoperative Imatinib (3 days)



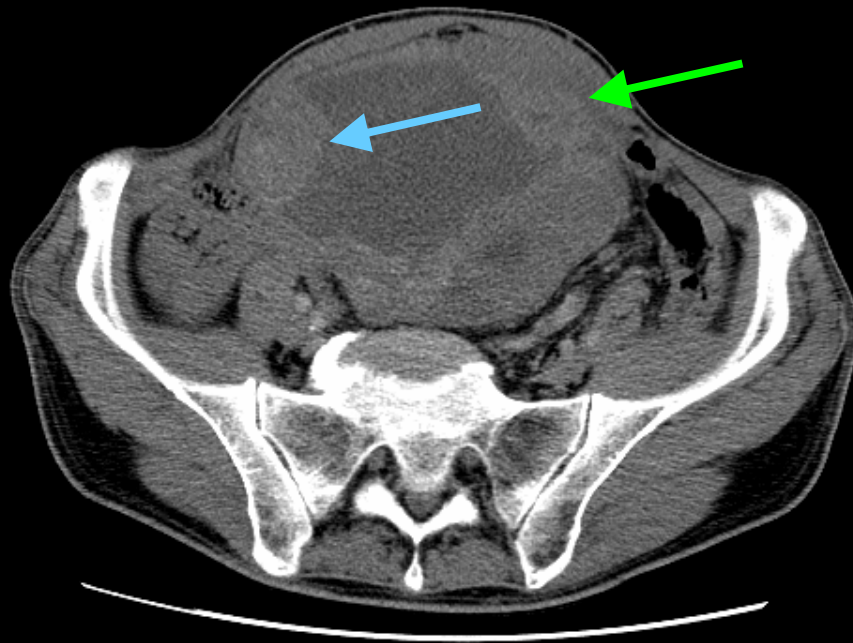
No Preoperative Imatinib

# Perfusion Computed Tomography (CT)

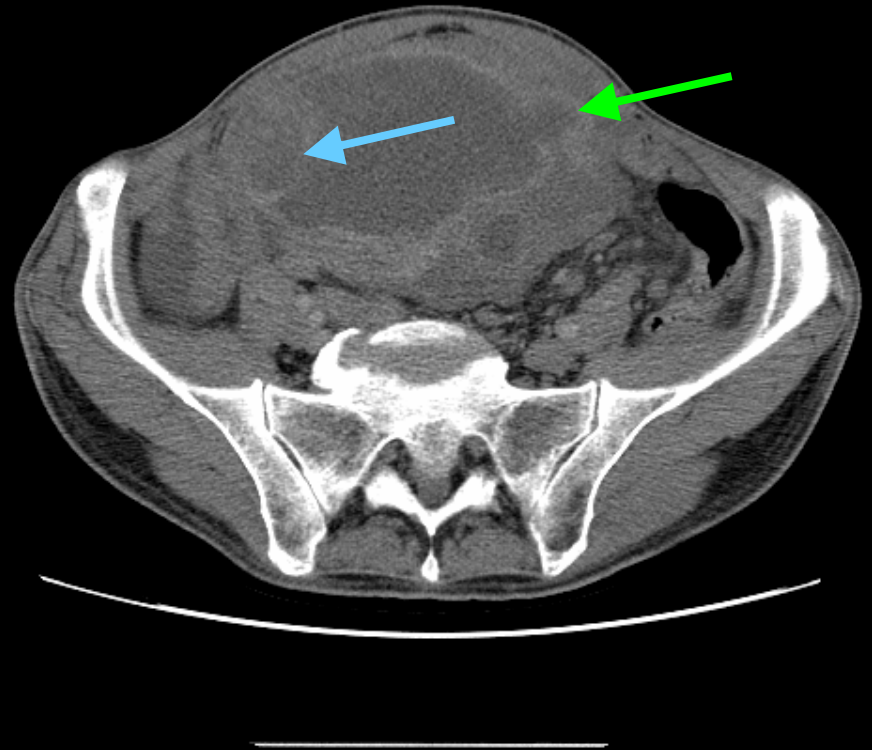
- Allows quantitative measurement of tumor vascular physiology
- Non-invasive, rapid
- Validated in oncology
  - Detection of metastases
  - Indicator of malignancy
  - Assessment of response to therapy

# Effect of Imatinib on Perfusion CT

*5 days of therapy*

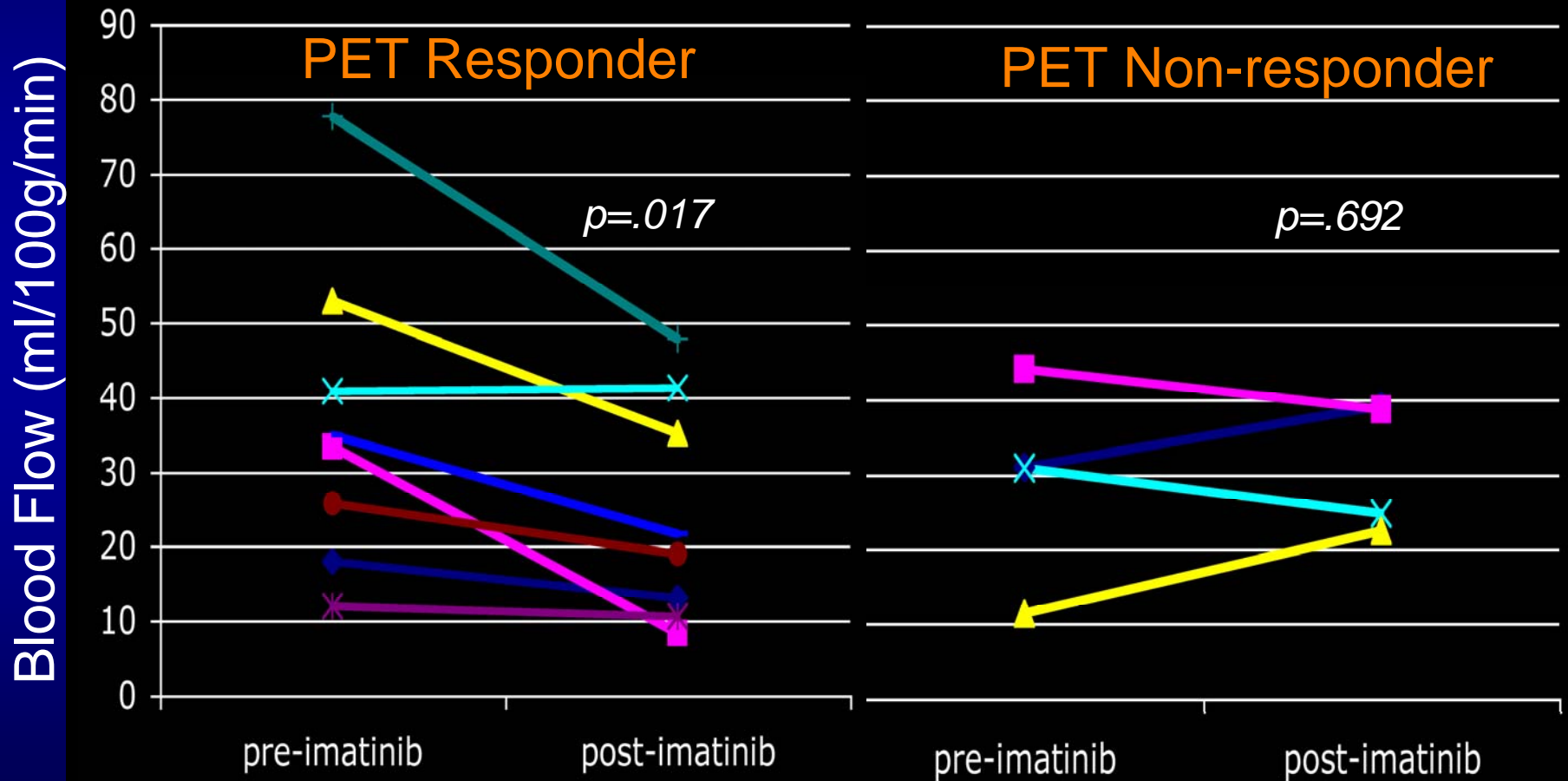


Pre-imatinib



Post-imatinib (Day 5)

# Effect of Imatinib on Perfusion CT



# Effect of Imatinib on Vascular Physiology by Perfusion CT

Perfusion Parameter	Pre-Imatinib	Post-Imatinib	<i>P</i> Value
BF (mL/100g/min)	36.84	24.55	0.017
BV (mL)	3.90	2.84	0.005
MTT (s)	9.47	9.96	0.26

# Laser Scanning Cytometry (LSC)

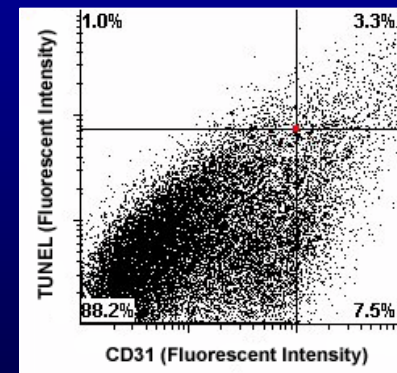
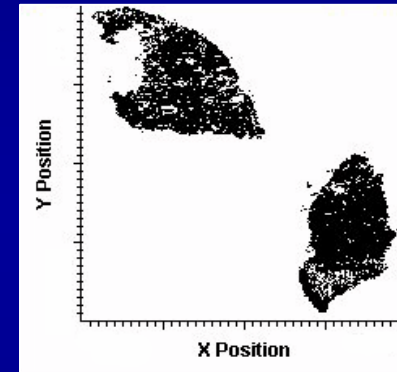
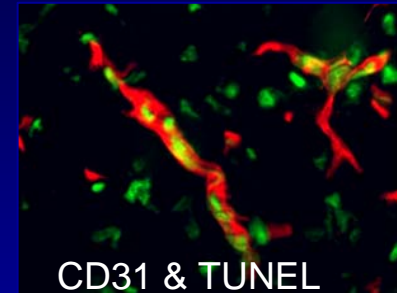
Immunofluorescent  
Staining  
of Target Antigen



Scan Specimen using the LSC  
to Generate a Tissue Map



Quantitate Cell Number  
Based on Gating Labelled cells  
Reported as a % of Total Cells Counted

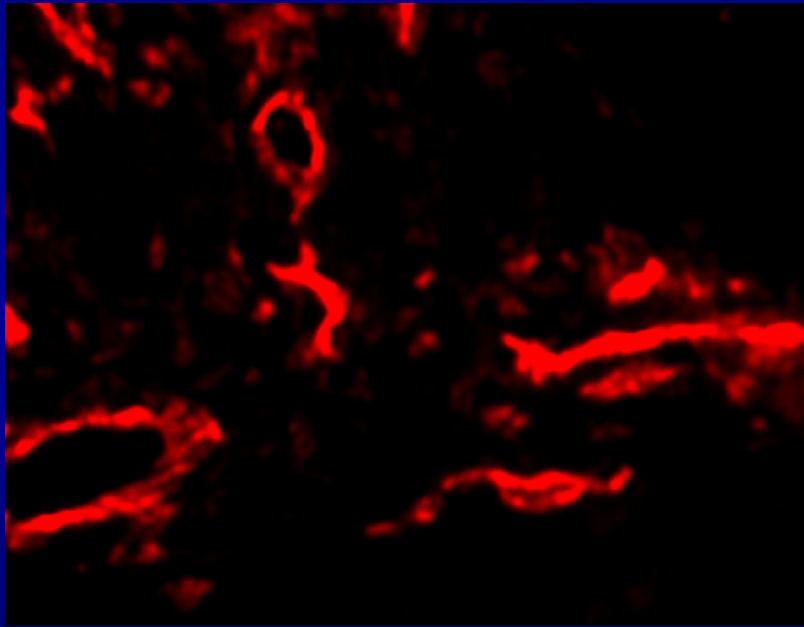


Scattergram

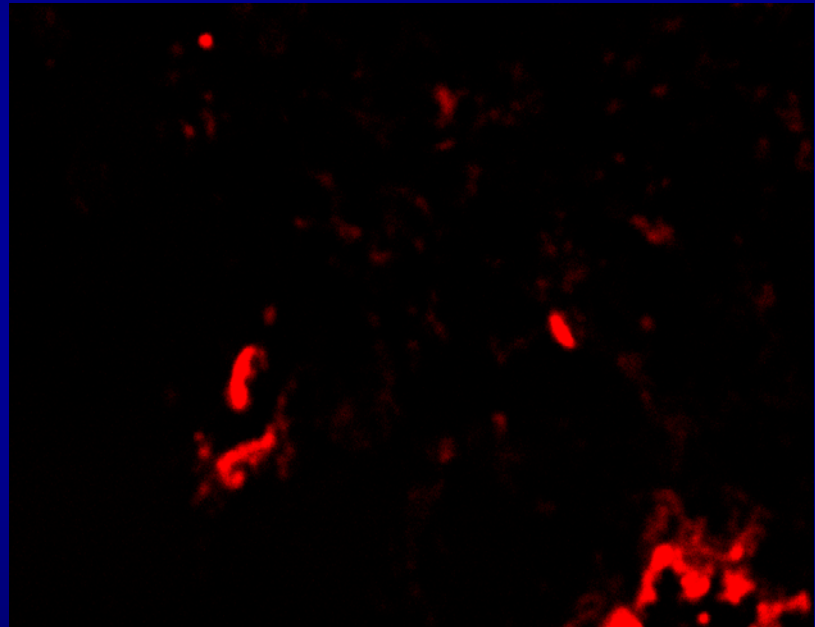
# Effect of Imatinib on MVD

*3 days of therapy*

Pre-Imatinib

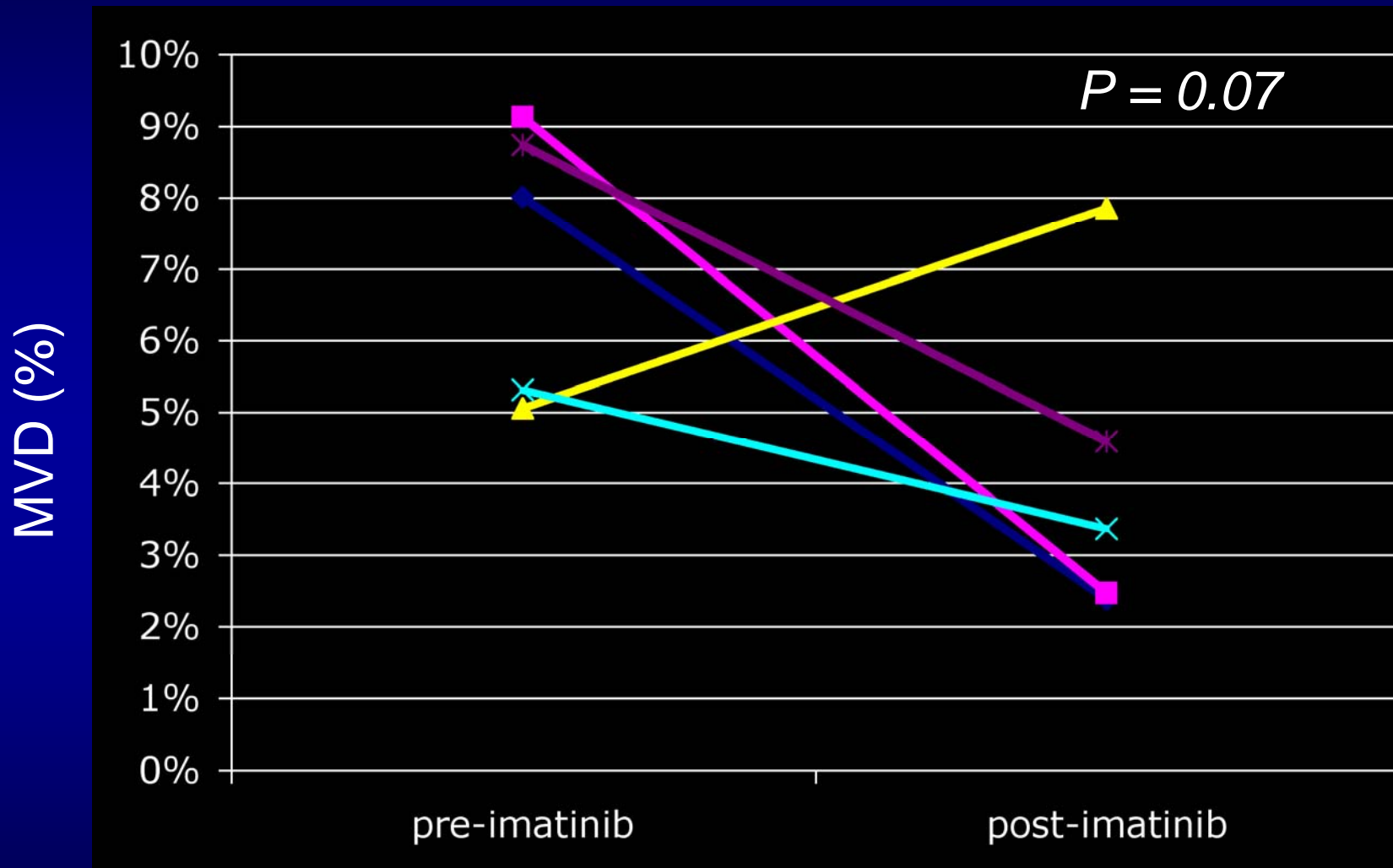


Post-Imatinib



CD-31 immunofluorescent staining of GIST vessels

# Effects of Imatinib on MVD





# Endothelial Cell Apoptosis

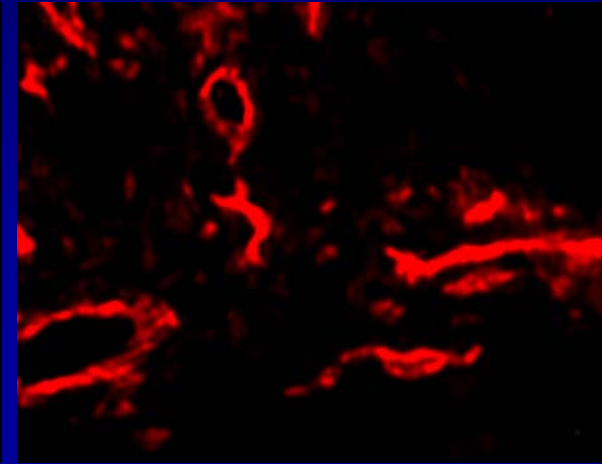
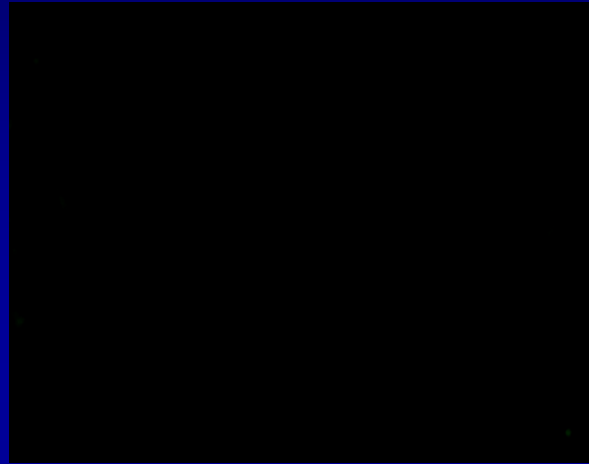
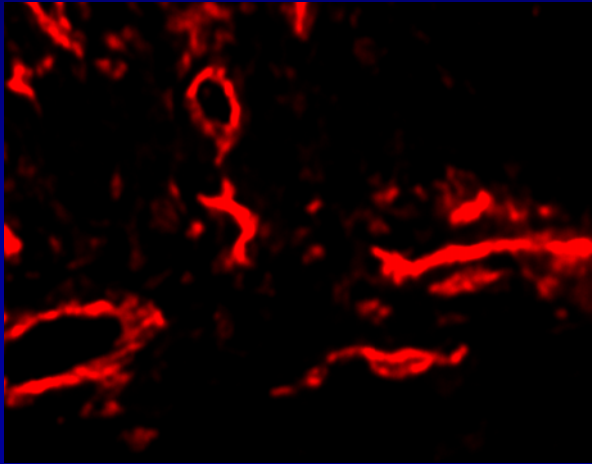
*3 days post-imatinib*

CD31

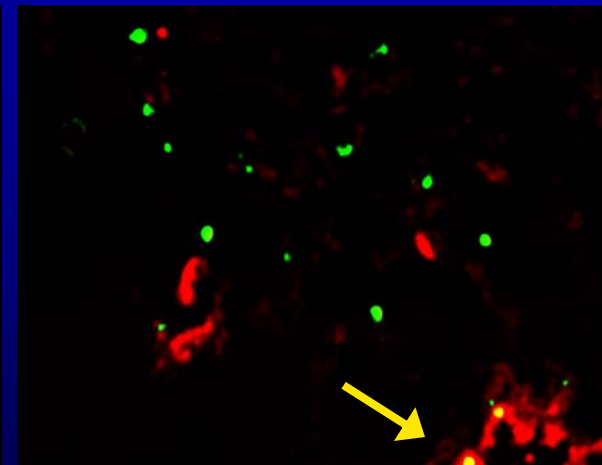
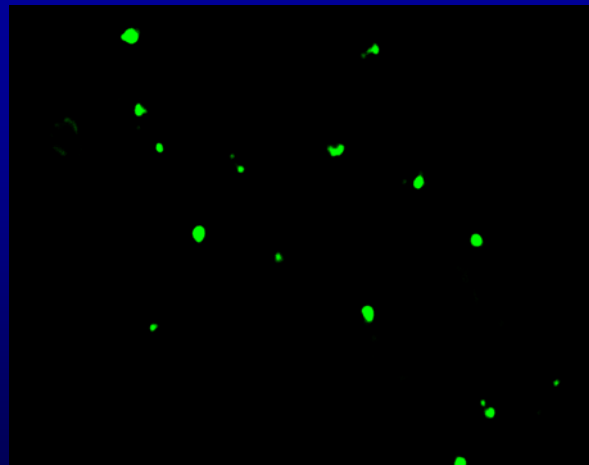
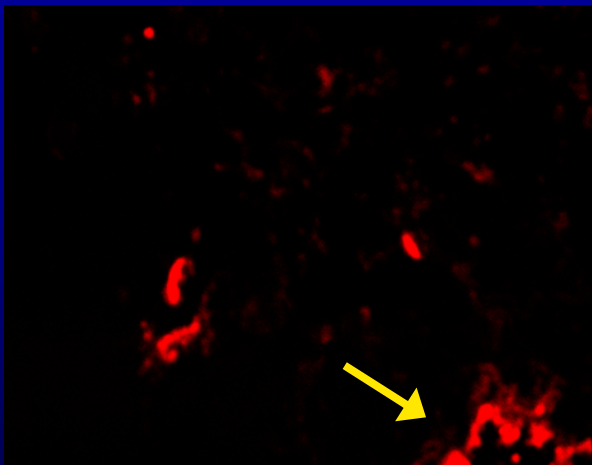
TUNEL

Overlay

Pre-Imatinib



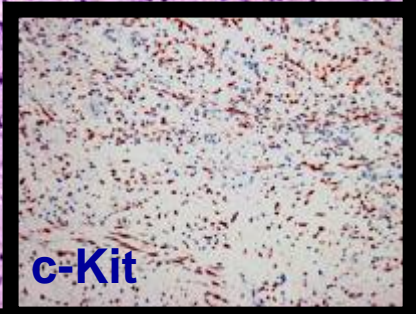
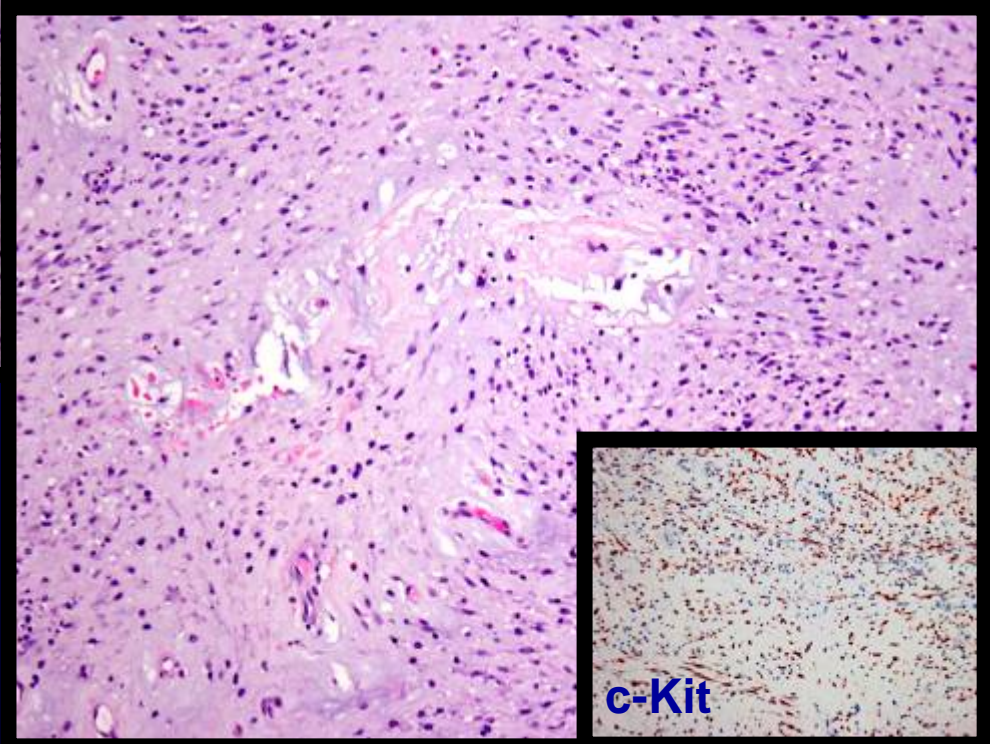
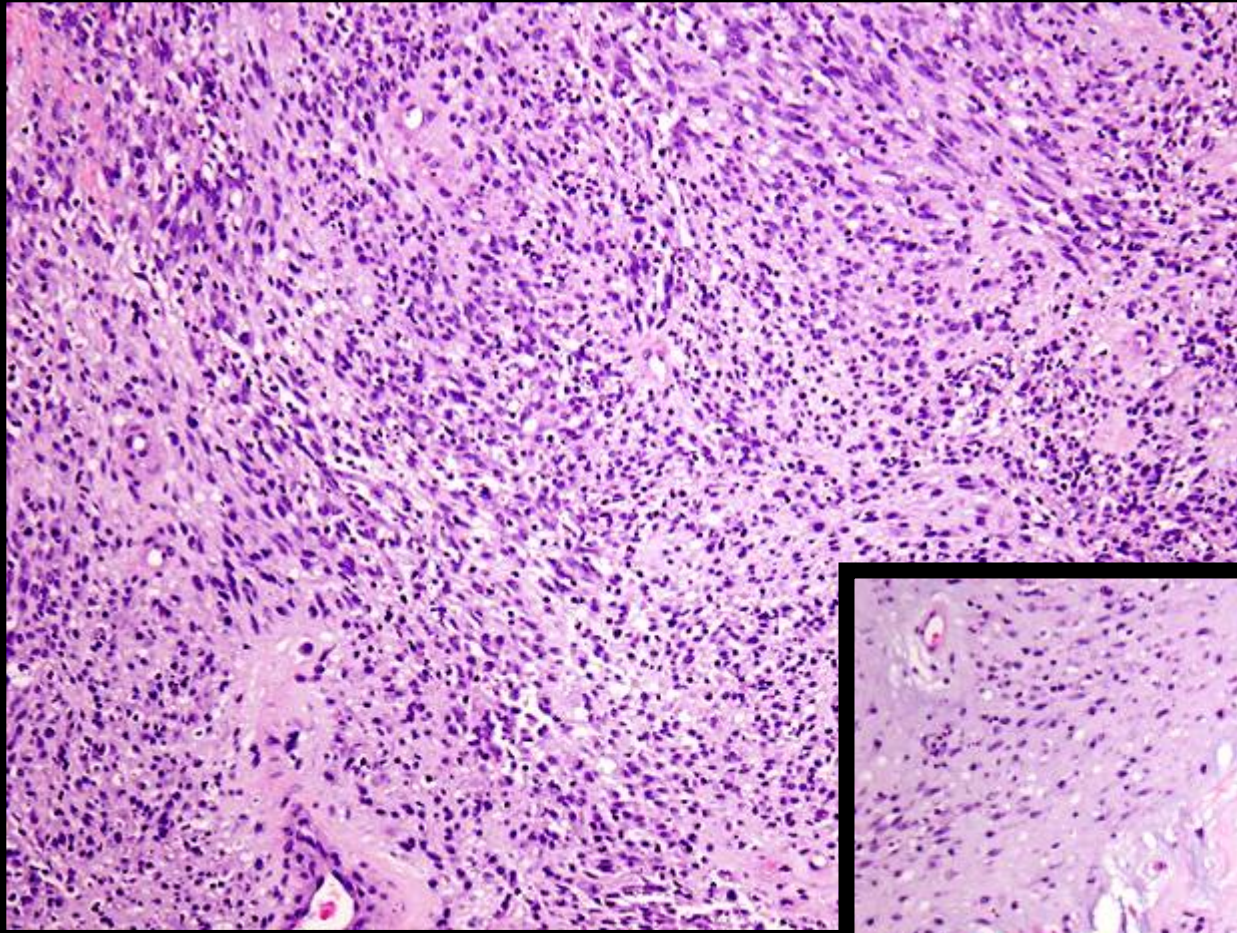
Post-Imatinib



# Vascular Effects of Imatinib

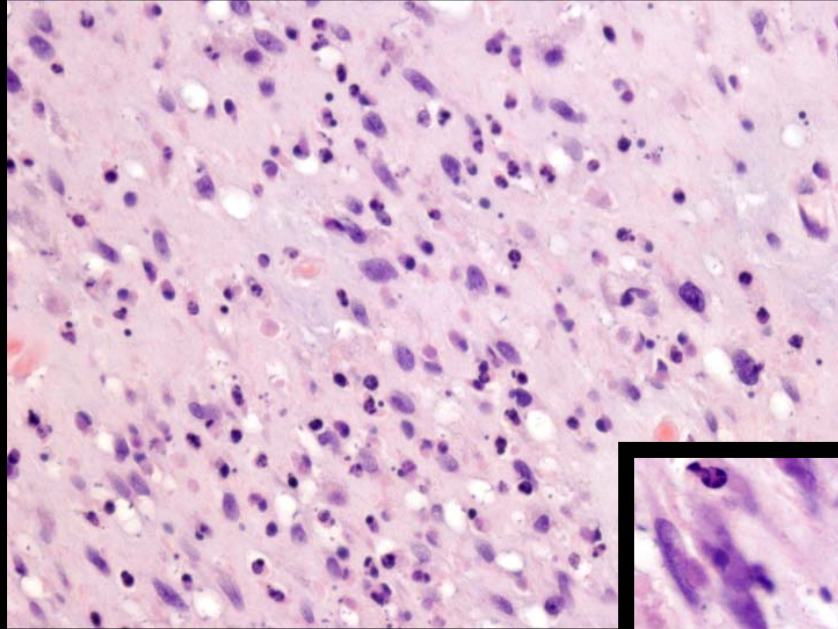
- GISTs with response by PET show a significant decrease in BF and BV after imatinib therapy
- There is a trend toward a decrease in MVD after imatinib
- Endothelial cell apoptosis was observed

# Apoptotic Effects of Imatinib in GIST

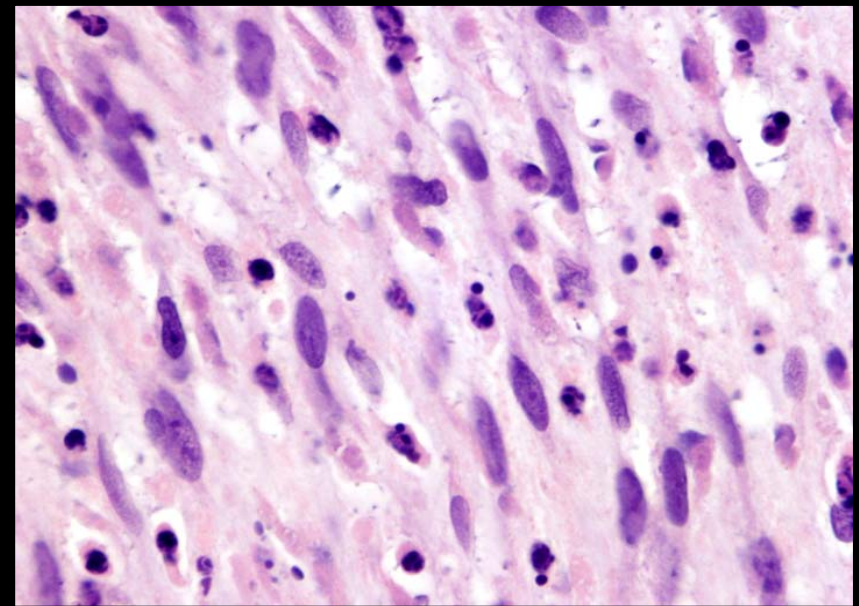


5 days post-imatinib

# Apoptosis After Imatinib



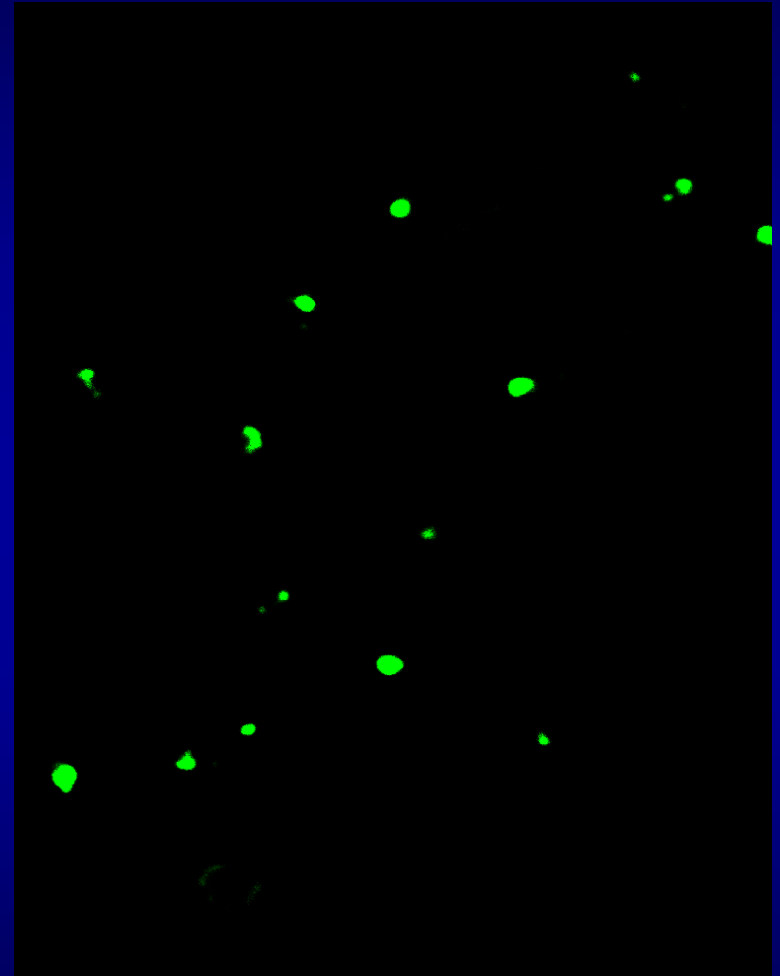
5 days  
post-imatinib



# Effect of Imatinib on Apoptosis



Pre-Imatinib



Post-Imatinib

Immunofluorescent TUNEL Assay

# Effect of Imatinib on Apoptosis

- Apoptosis was observed in GIST tissue after imatinib therapy by light microscopy and immunofluorescent LSC
- This effect is observed after less than 1 week of therapy

# Conclusions

- Perfusion CT of GIST enables assessment of changes in vascular physiology early in imatinib therapy
- Immunofluorescent LSC allows detection of GIST cell and endothelial cell apoptosis after less than 1 week of therapy imatinib



# Thanks

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