



GLPG1972 as a Disease Modifying Therapy for Osteoarthritis





Overview of Osteoarthritis (OA) and Clinical Opportunity for GLPG1972

- **No DMOAD approved**
- **GLPG1972 targets ADAMTS-5, aggrecanase, to reduce cartilage degradation**
- **Serum and SF ARGS measurements are not good indications of OA**
- **Cartilage is degraded, and ARGS fragments are produced from OA tissue**
- **ADAMTS-5 activity inhibits mouse knee injury recovery**
- **ADAMTS activity is correlated with OA progression**
- **ADAMTS inhibition reduces ARGS release in OA explants**
- ***In vitro* data is positive for GLPG1972**
- **Competition from Merck's Sprifermin, far ahead in trials, shows promising results**
 - **However, requires intra-articular injections**



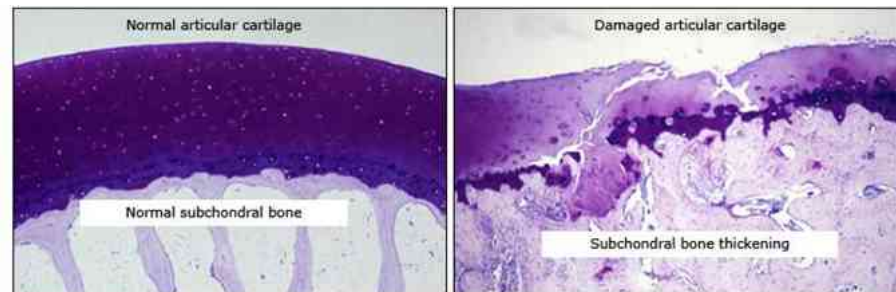
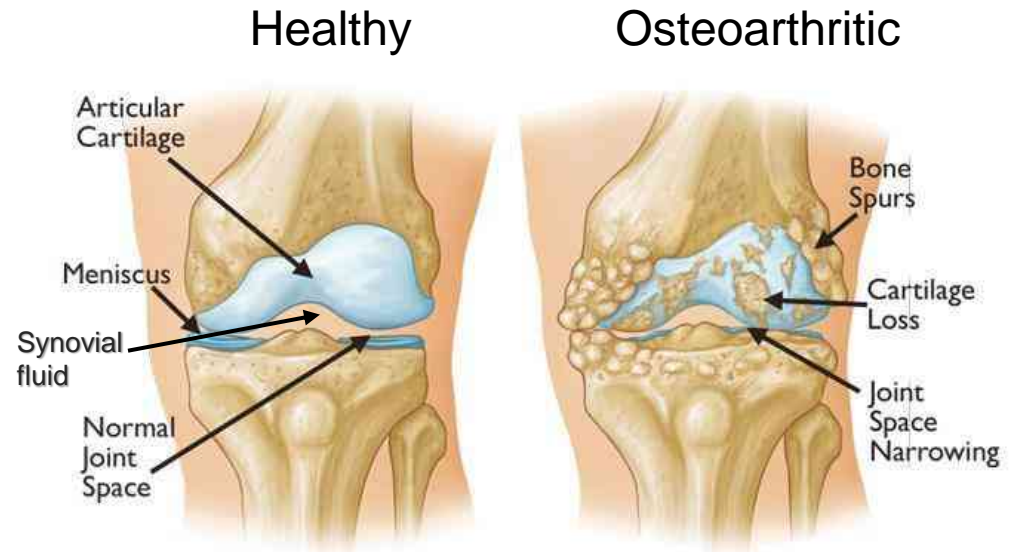


OA Background

- **Affects 240M worldwide**
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- **Bone spurs**
- **Subchondral bone thickening**
- **Cartilage loss (degradation of aggrecan)**
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- **GLPG1972 is a small molecule inhibitor of ADAMTS-5 aggrecanase**

- **GLPG1972 program focuses on OA of the knee**



Source: UpToDate, Inc and American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons.





Why Target ADAMTS5? It Cleaves Aggrecan and is Linked to Cartilage Degradation

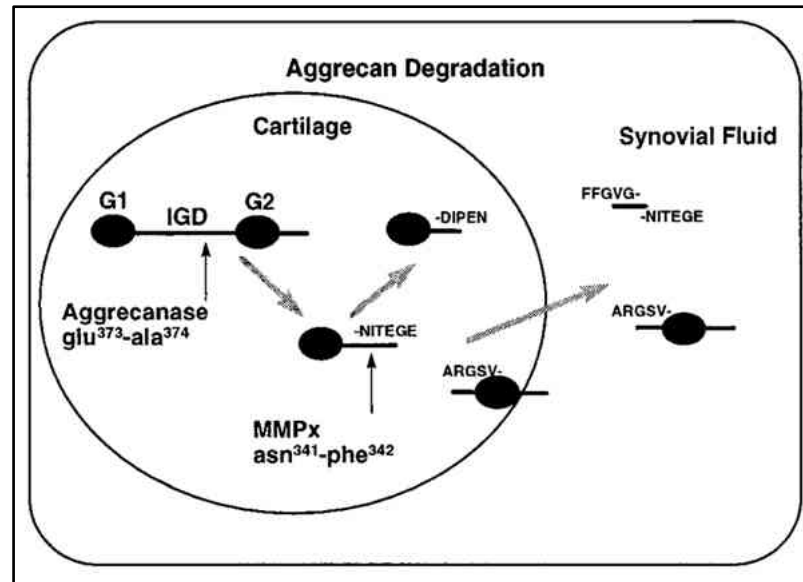
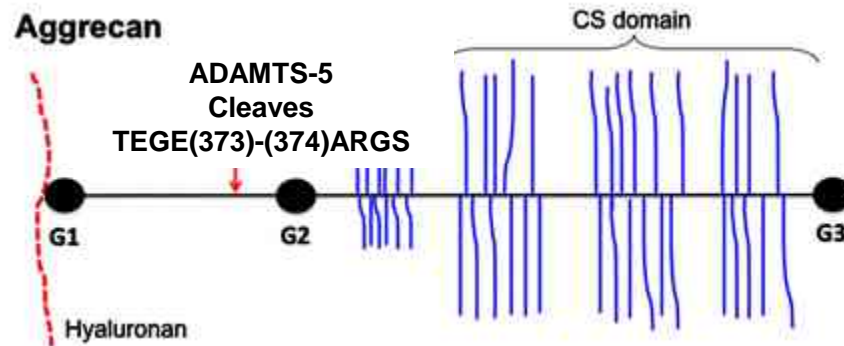
Aggrecan and collagen are most abundant components of cartilage

ADAMTS-5 enzyme cleaves aggrecan at E373-374A site to release DIPEN fragment

Subsequently MMPs cleave aggrecan to release NITEGE and ARGS fragment

DIPEN, NITEGE, and ARGS fragments are released into synovial fluid and can be markers of aggrecan degradation

GLPG has reported decreased serum ARGS resulting from GLPG1972 treatment in humans



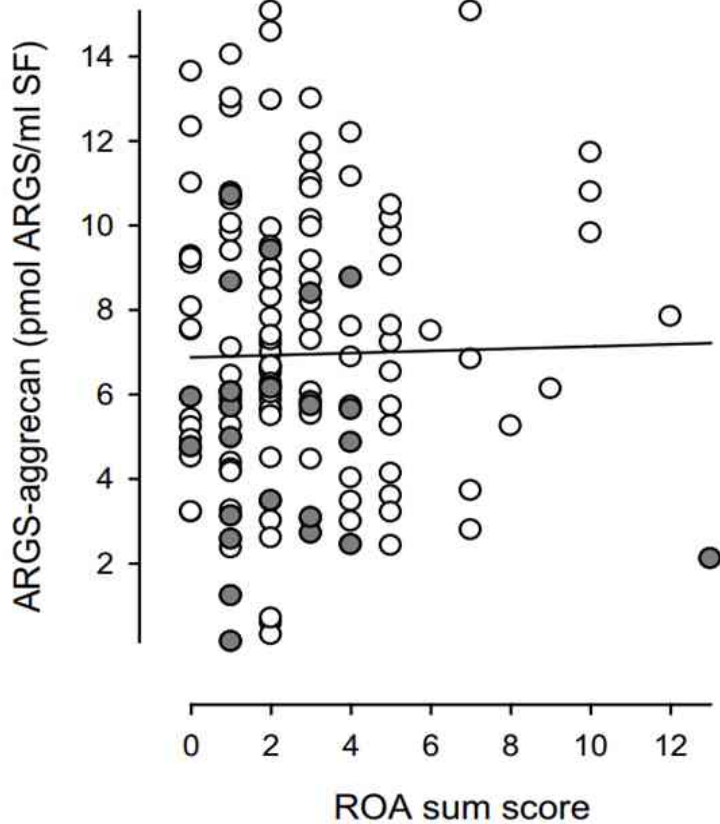
Source: Modified from *Biochemical Journal*, 2015 (473)
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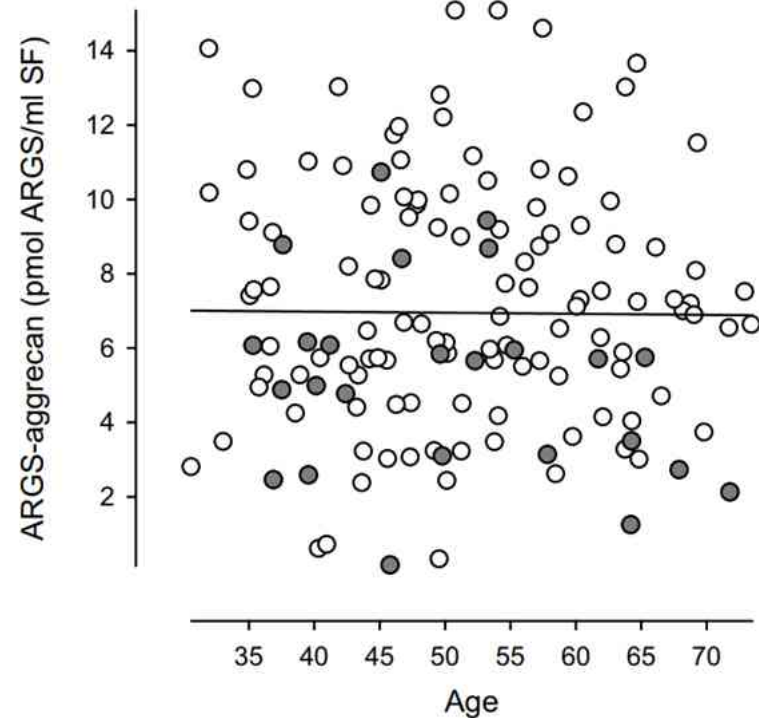


Words of Caution on Serum ARGS as a Marker— No Direct Correlation to OA

Synovial fluid ARGS fragments do not correlate with OA condition



No accumulation of ARGS fragments over time



Source: *Arthritis Research & Therapy* 2010 (12:R230) DOI: 10.1186/ar3217.

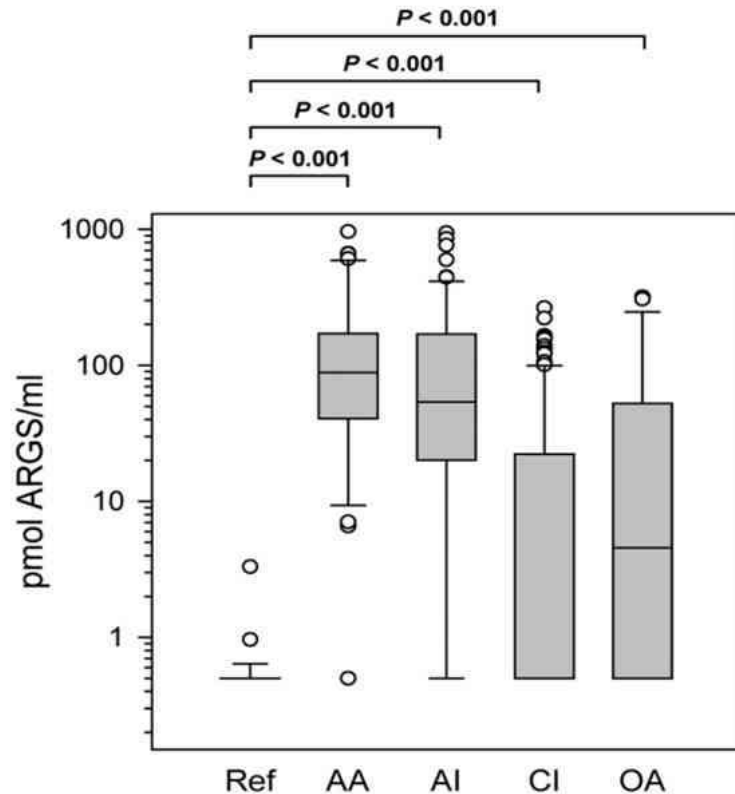
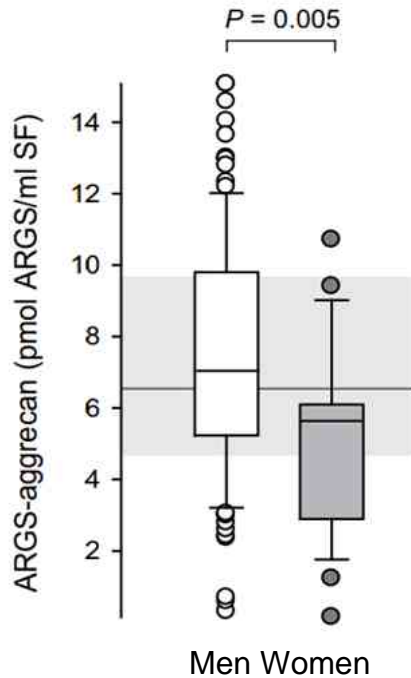




Serum ARGs as a Marker—Correlates With Gender, but Not Underlying Disease

Men have higher amounts of ARGs, but women have a higher incidence of OA

Acute injuries show high levels of ARGs while chronic conditions show lower levels of ARGs



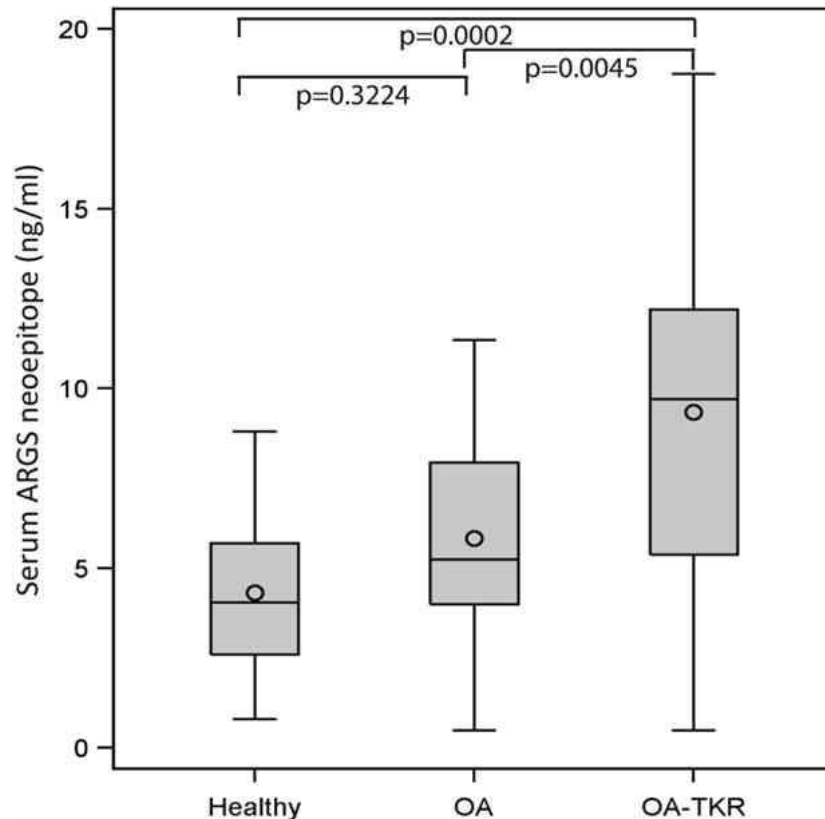
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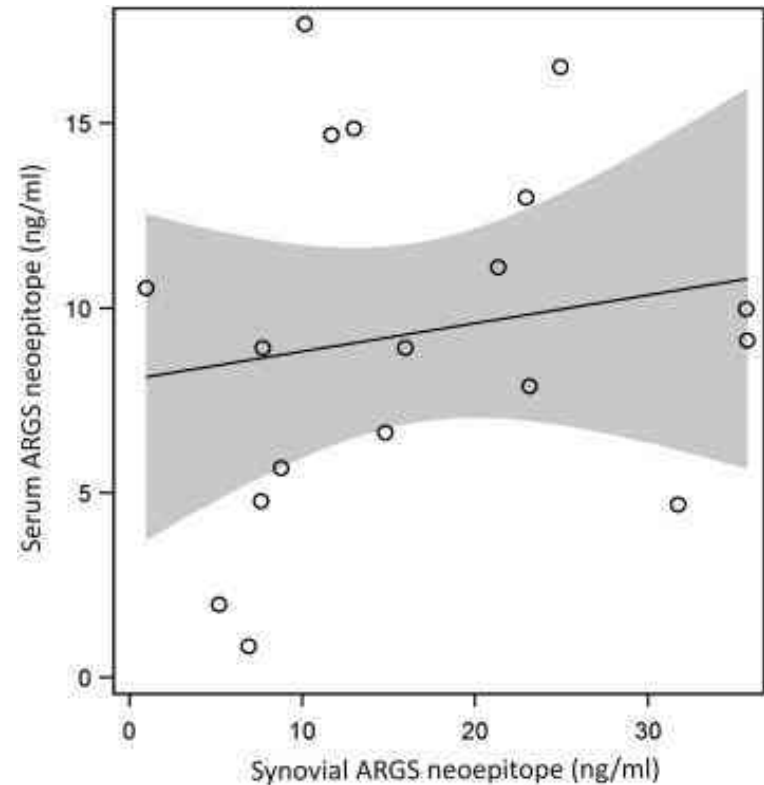


Bottom line—Serum ARGs Might Not Be the Best Marker for OA

No difference between OA and healthy patients



Serum ARGs does not correlate with synovial ARGs



Source: *Osteoarthritis and Cartilage* 2014 (22;5) DOI: 10.1016/j.joca.2014.02.930.





Lack of Correlation With Serum ARGS Does Not Make ADAMTS5 a bad Target, in our View

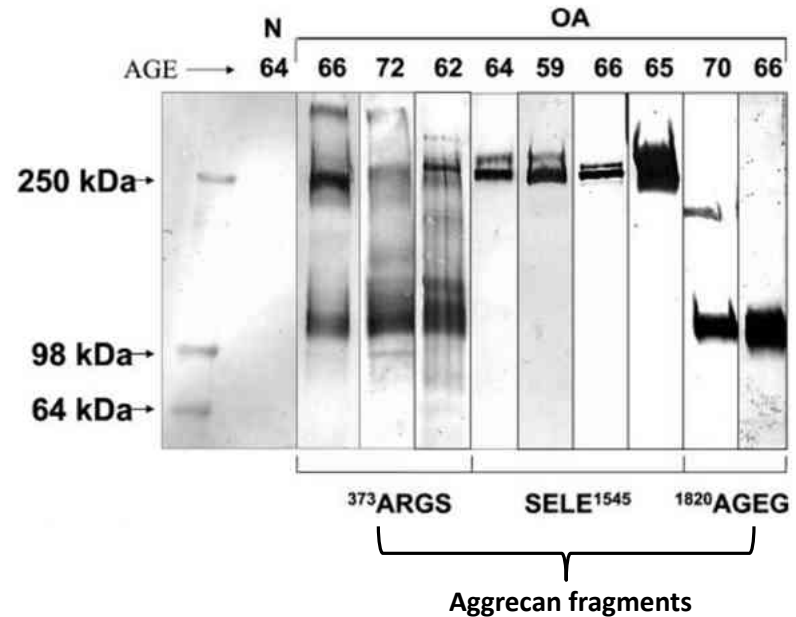
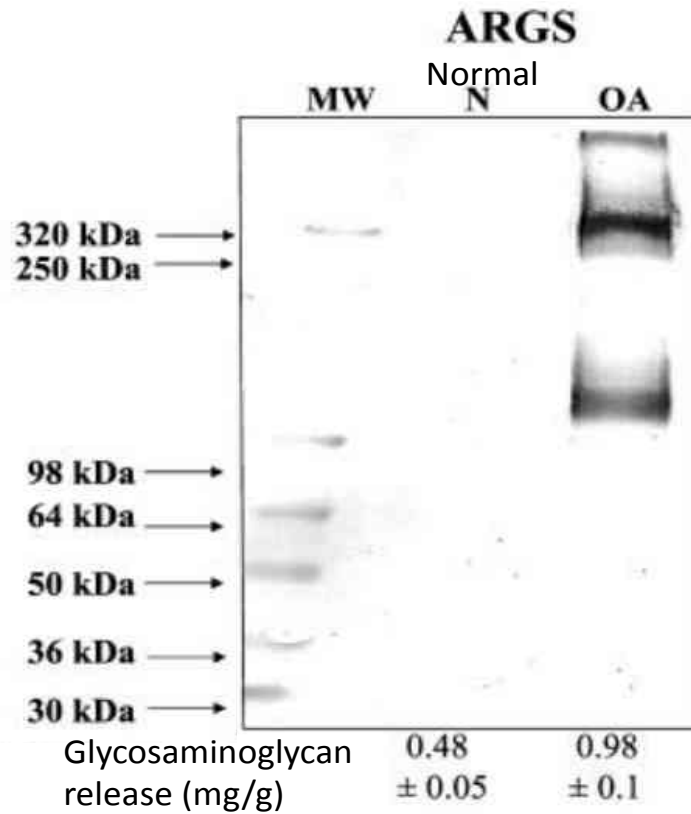




Synovial Fluid Measurements Paints a Different Picture on ARGs in OA

In cartilage explants, OA patients produce ARGs fragments while healthy individuals do not

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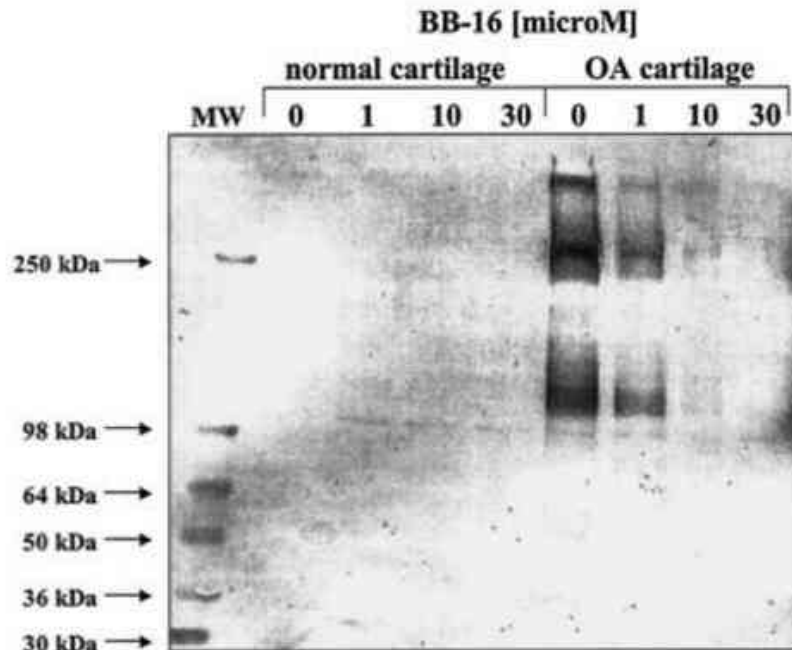


Source: *Journal of biological chemistry* 2002 (277;25) 2002 DOI: 10.1074/jbc.M200431200.





While MMP's and ADAMTS' Are Both Responsible for ARGS, MMP Inhibitors Have Failed in Clinical Trials



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- ARGS was detected by western blot
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Our Take—It Might Well Be ADAMTS5

- **Serum ARGS measurements are not a good indicators of OA**
- **Cartilage is degraded during OA, and ARGS fragments are produced from OA tissue**
- **Suggests that ARGS are probably degraded or re-integrated rapidly**
- **While ADAMTS and MMP might both be responsible, as elaborated upon subsequently ADAMTS5 might be the primary driver of the degradation, in our view**





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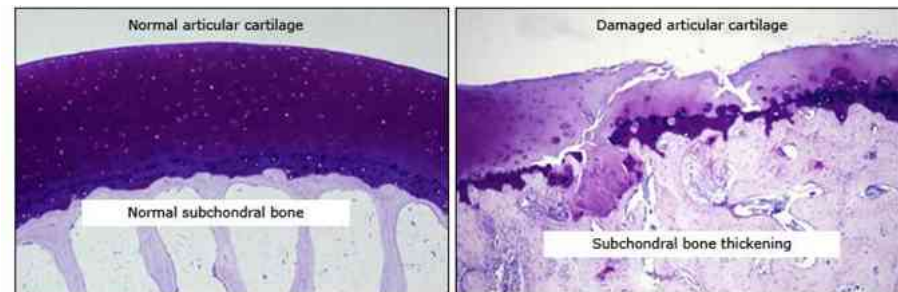
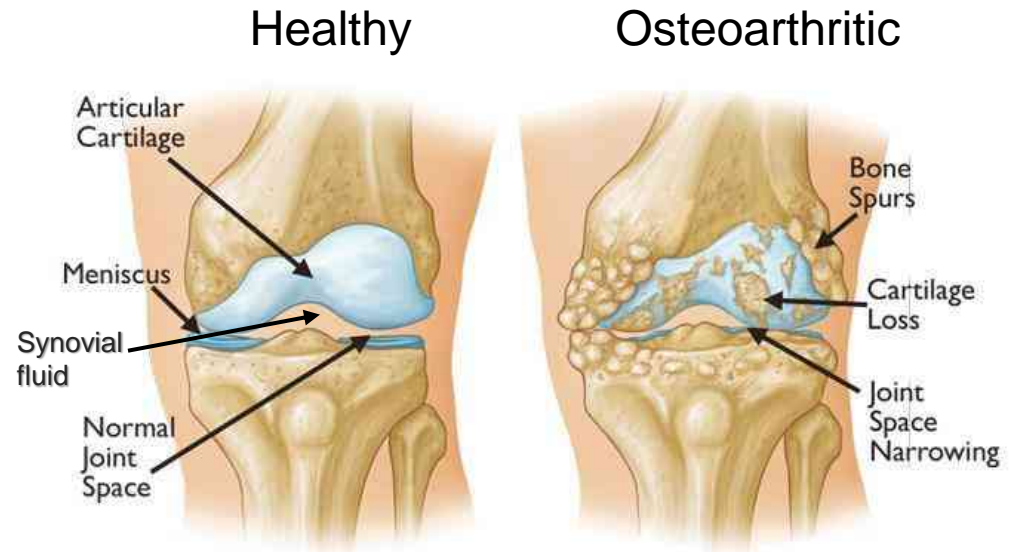


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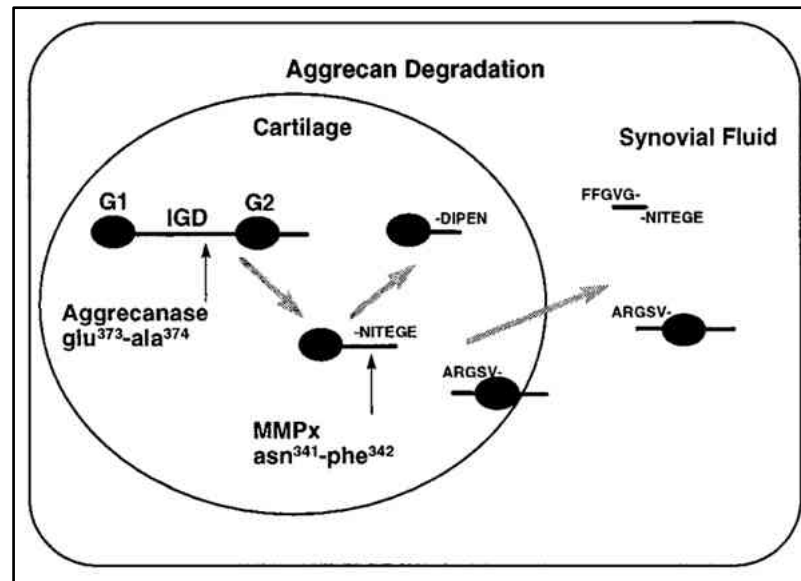
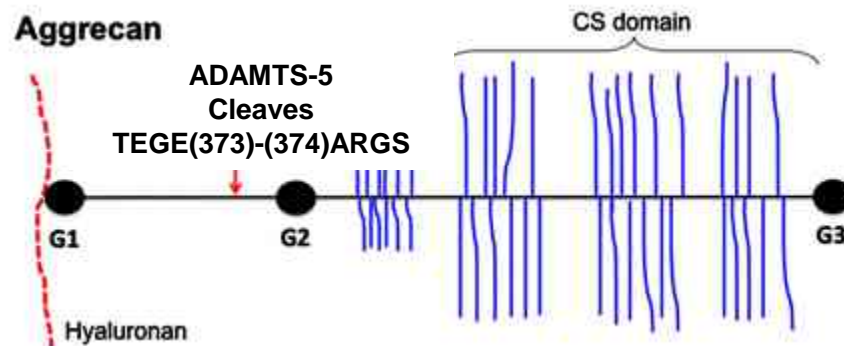
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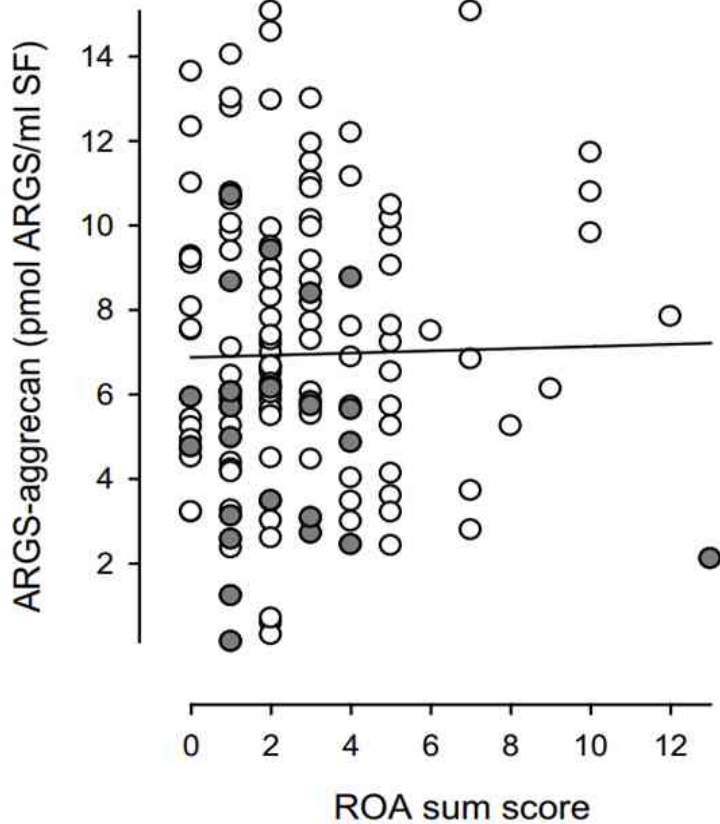
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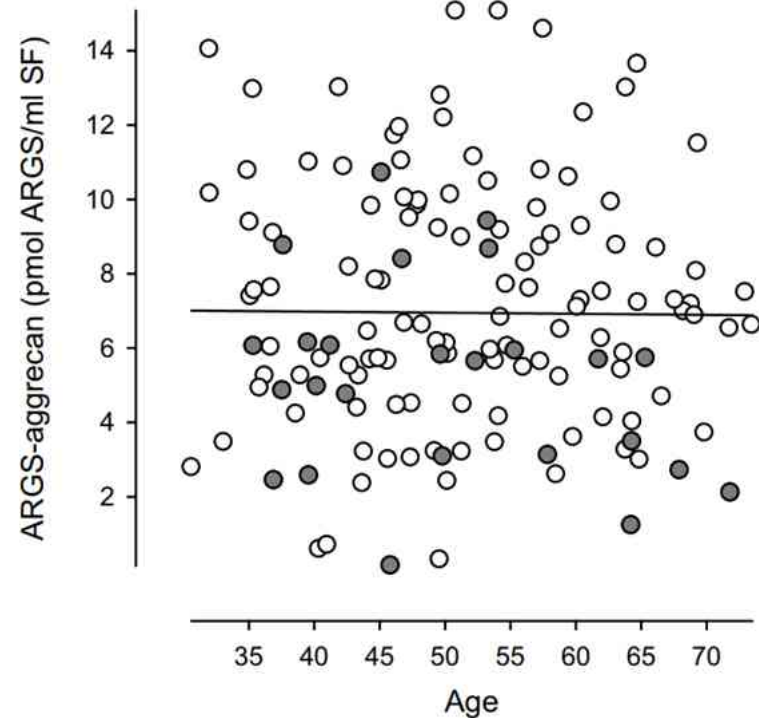


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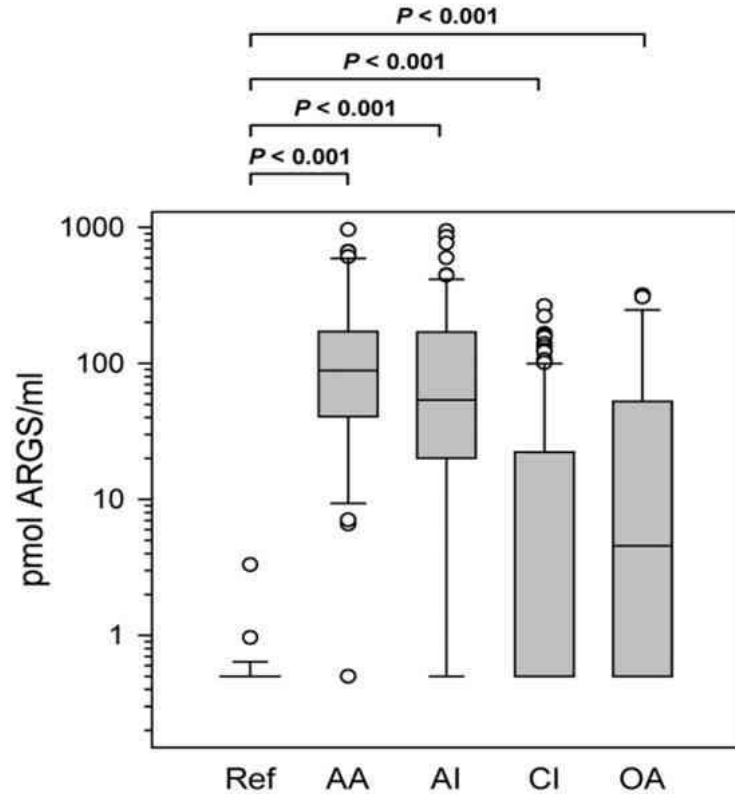
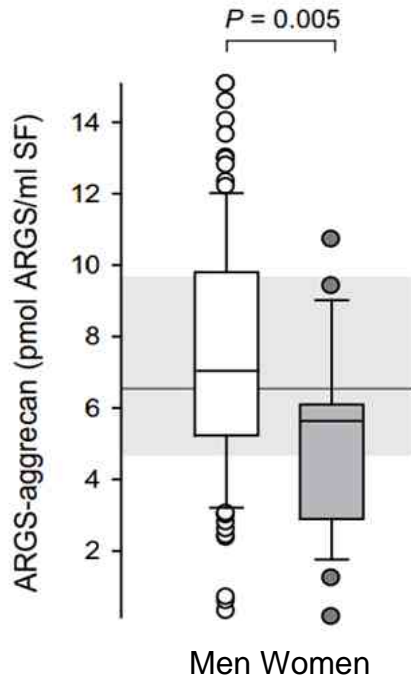




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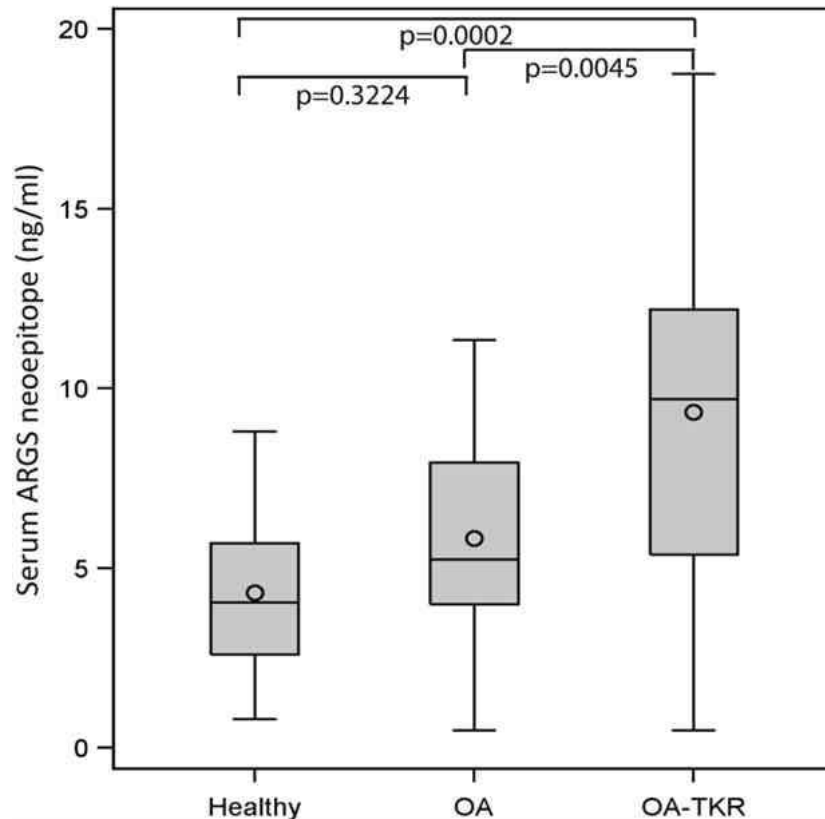
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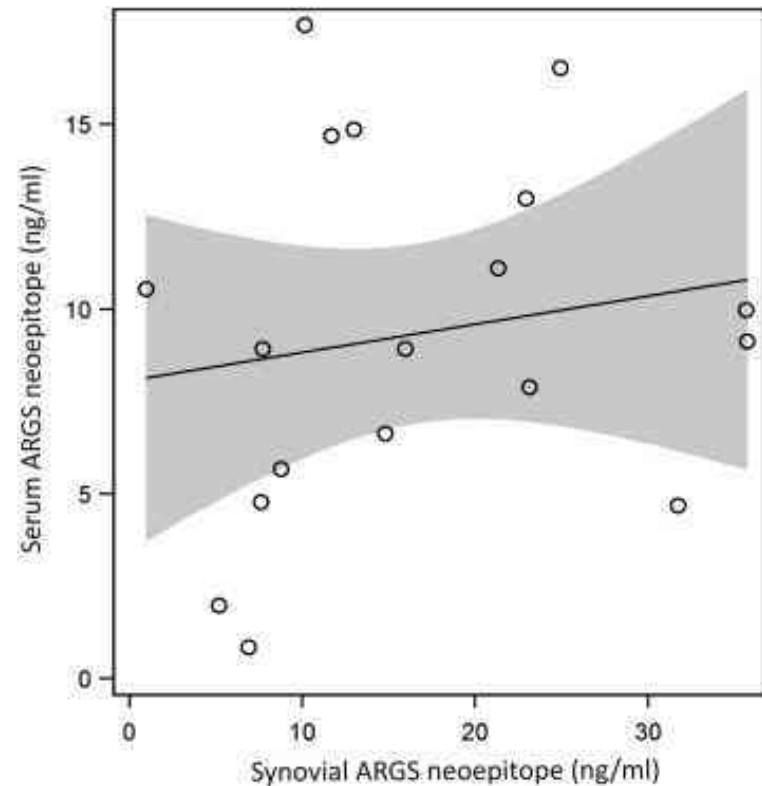


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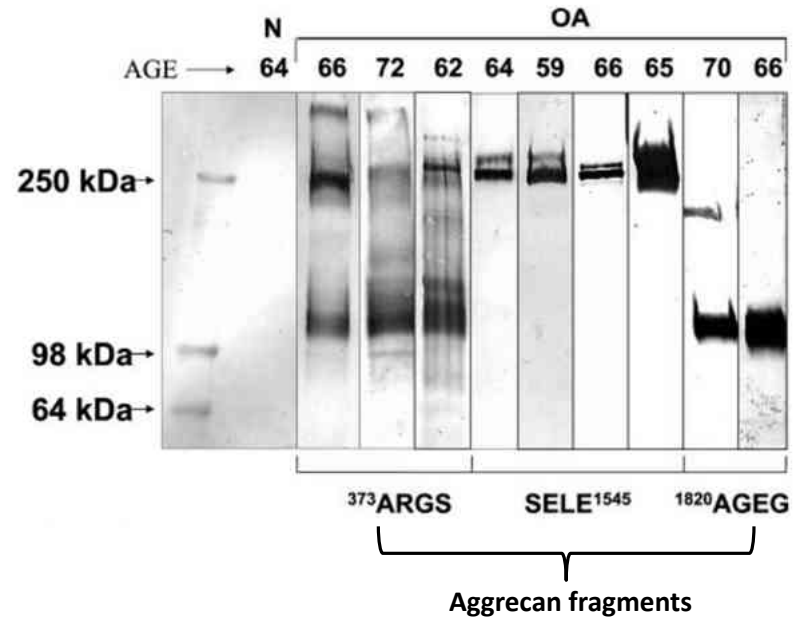
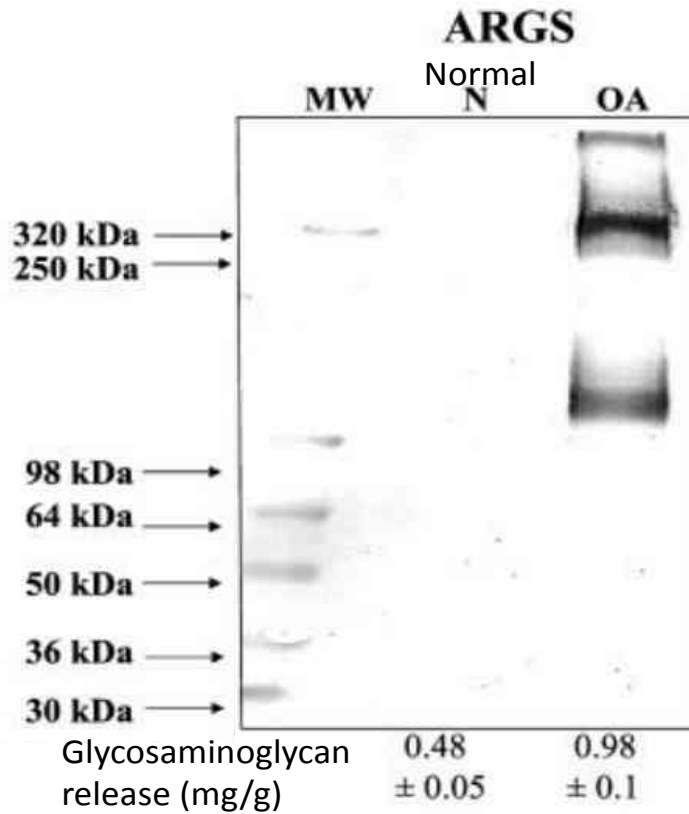




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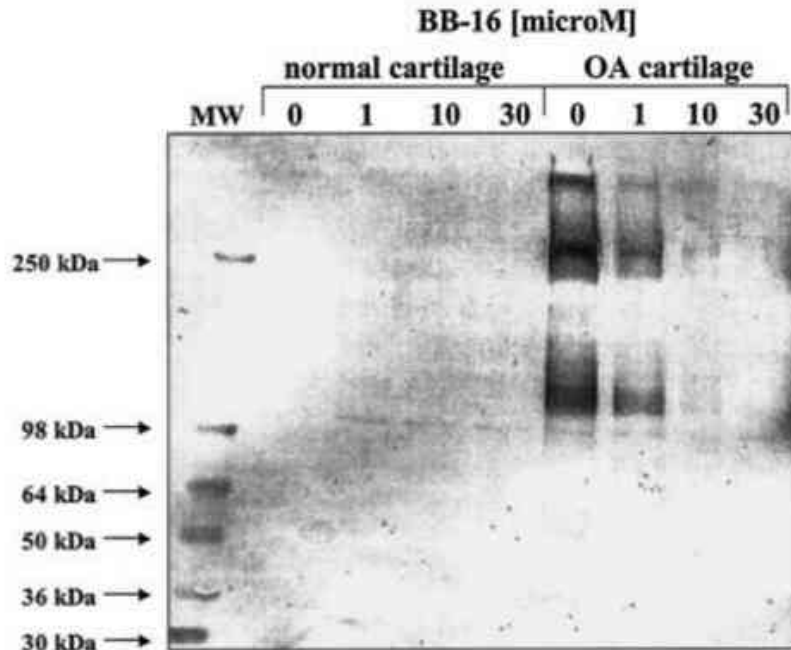


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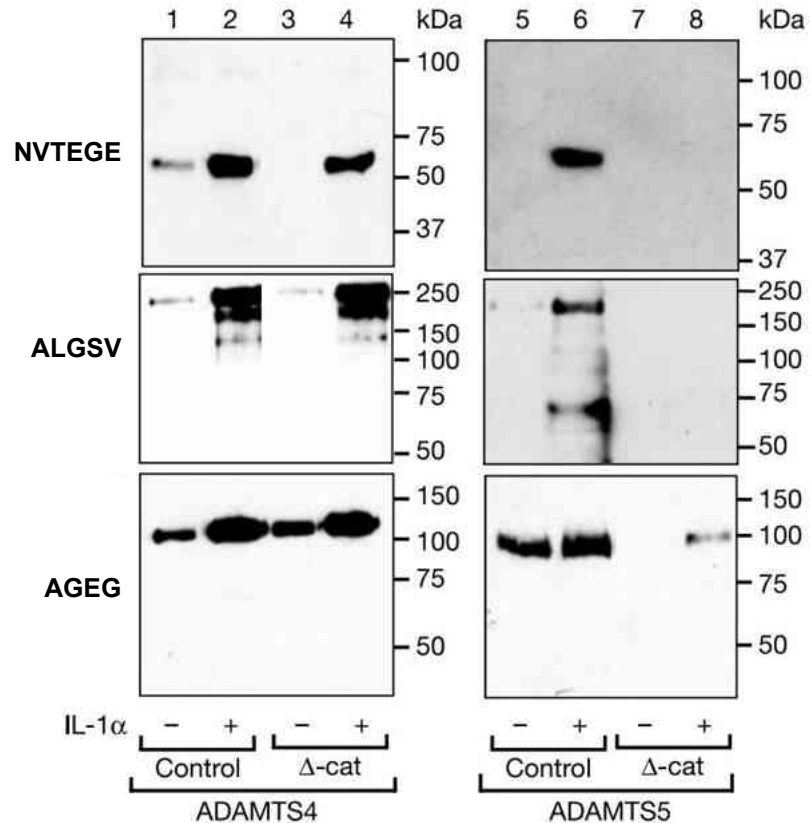
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ADAMTS-5 Activity Is Required for Aggrecan Release in Mice

- **IL-1 α stimulates mouse cartilage explants to release different aggrecan fragments**
- **Release dependent on ADAMTS5 catalytic activity**
- **However, the precise cytokine responsible for stimulating cartilage degradation in humans is unknown**



Source: *Nature*, 2005 (434)

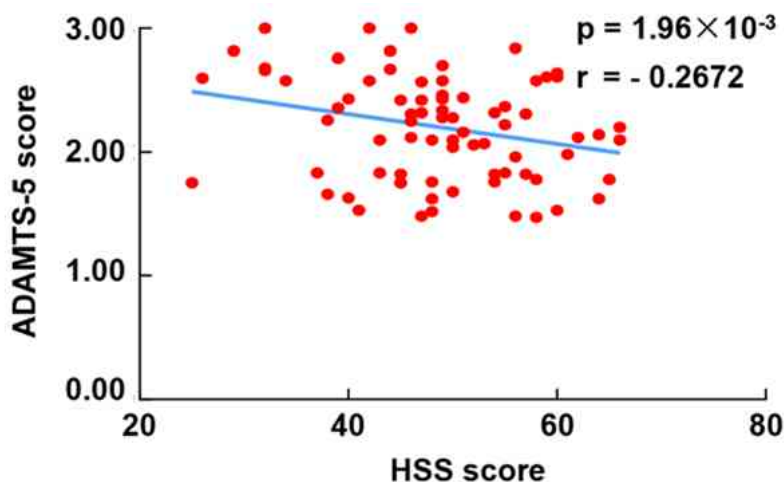
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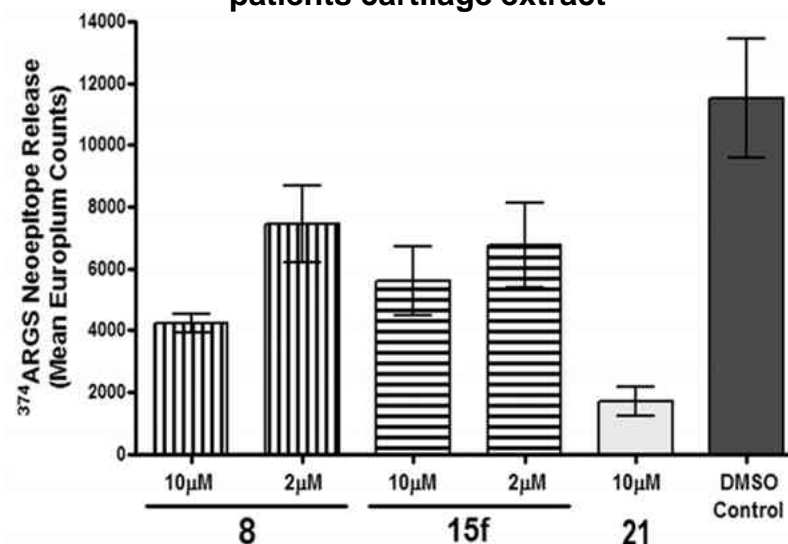


ADAMTS5 Expression and Inhibition Correlates With ARGS Activity—Bodes Well for GLPG1972

ADAMTS-5 expression is positively correlated with worse OA diagnosis



ADAMTS-5 inhibition reduces ARGS release in OA patients cartilage extract



Source: *J Mol Med* 2016 (94) DOI: 10.1007/s00109-016-1418-z and *Journal of medicinal chemistry* 2012 (55;16) DOI: 10.1021/jm300449x.

- Compound 15f is a specific ADAMTS-5 ($IC_{50}=30$ nM) & ADAMTS-4 ($IC_{50}=1300$ nM) small molecule inhibitor developed by GSK
- 15f inhibits ARGS release by 50% in a human OA cartilage explant
- Compound 21 is a non-specific MMP inhibitor reduces ARGS by 83%
- GLPG1972 has lower IC_{50} s





Our Take—ADAMTS5 Inhibition With GLPG1972 Might Correlate With Disease Stabilization

- **Cartilage is degraded by ADAMTS-5 and ARGS fragments are produced in joints**
- **ADAMTS-5 activity inhibits mouse knee injury recovery**
- **ADAMTS-5 activity is correlated with OA progression**
- **ADAMTS inhibition reduces ARGS release in OA explants**
- **GLPG1972 has lower IC50s compared to the discontinued GSK effort, 15f**

