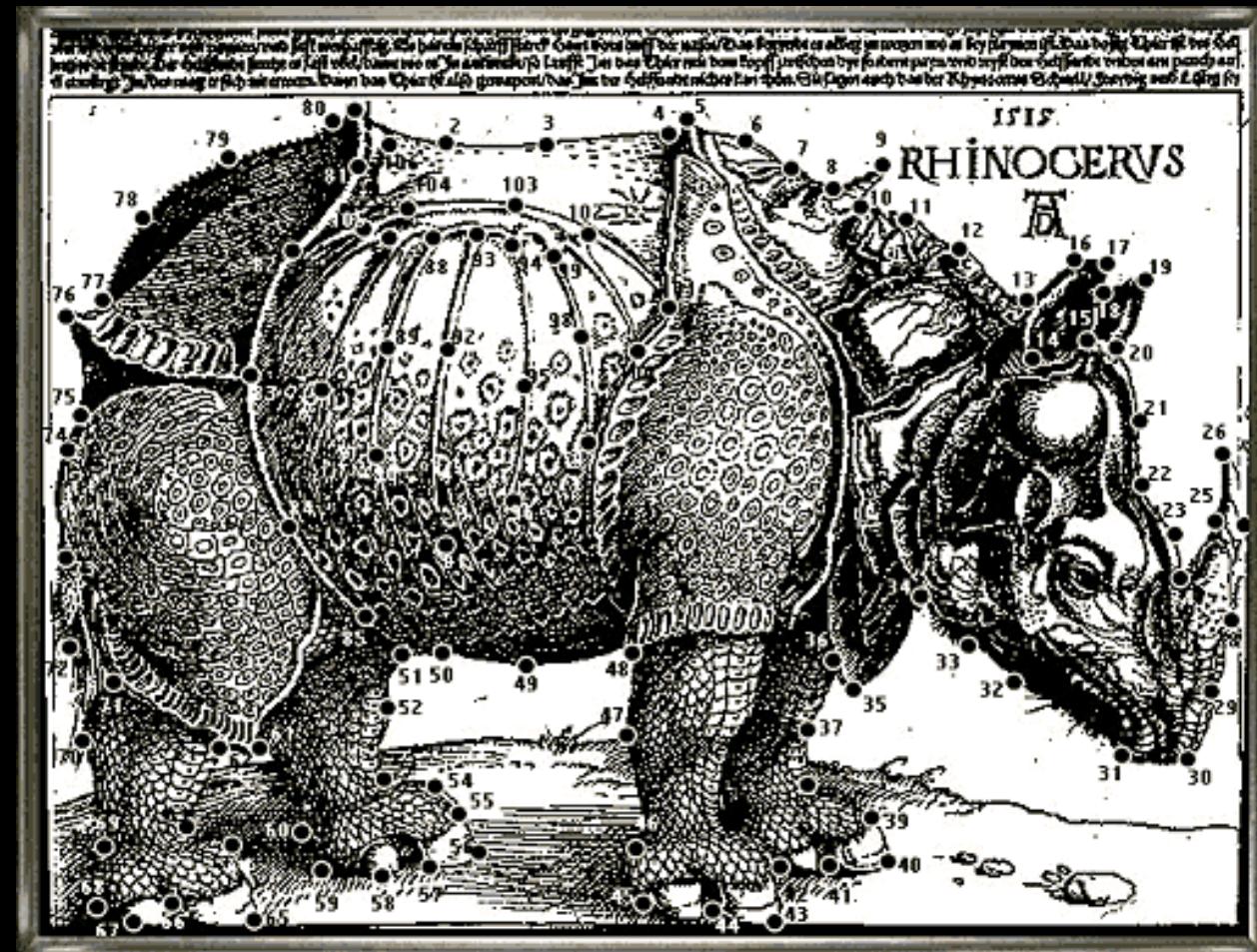
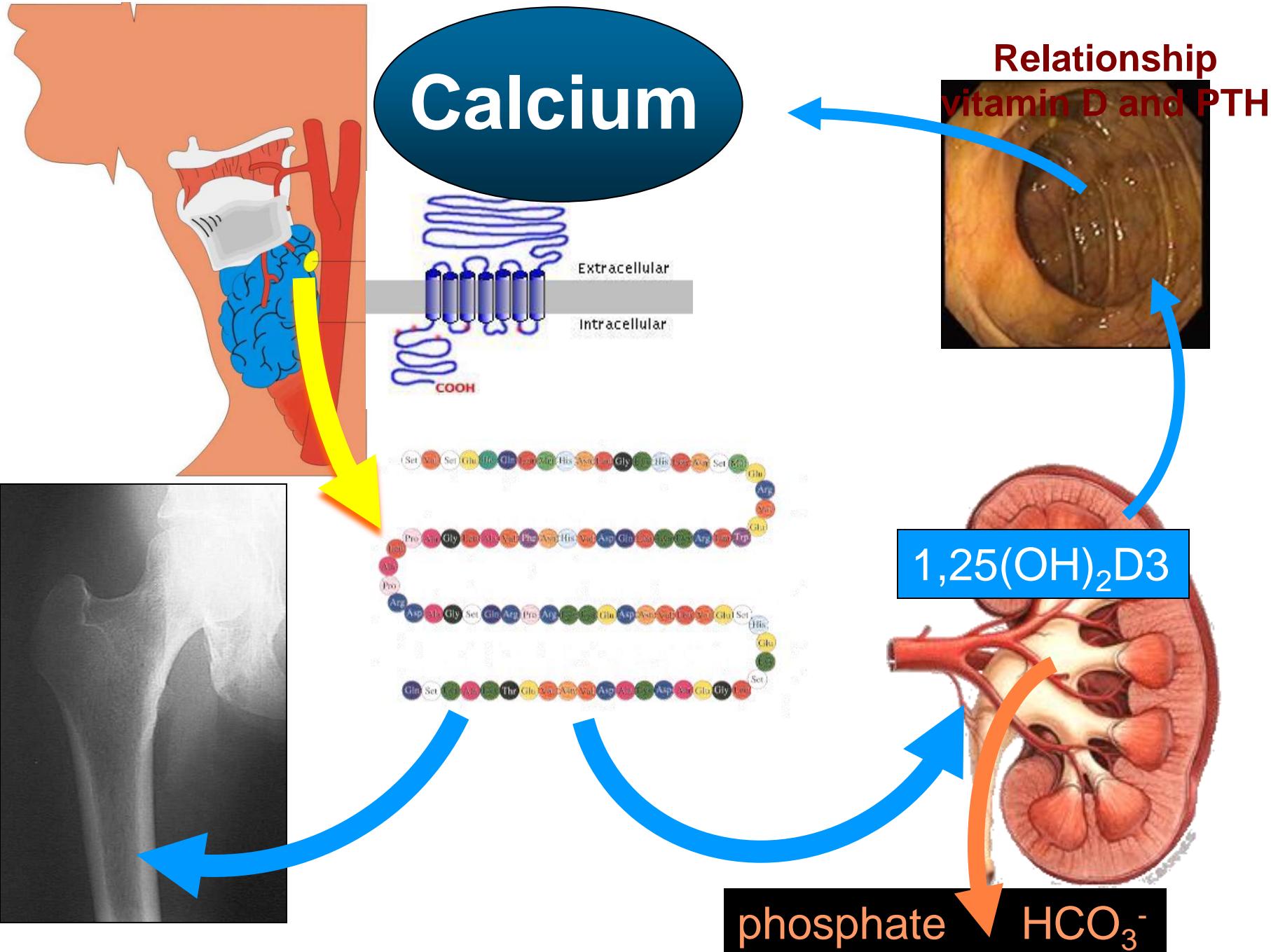




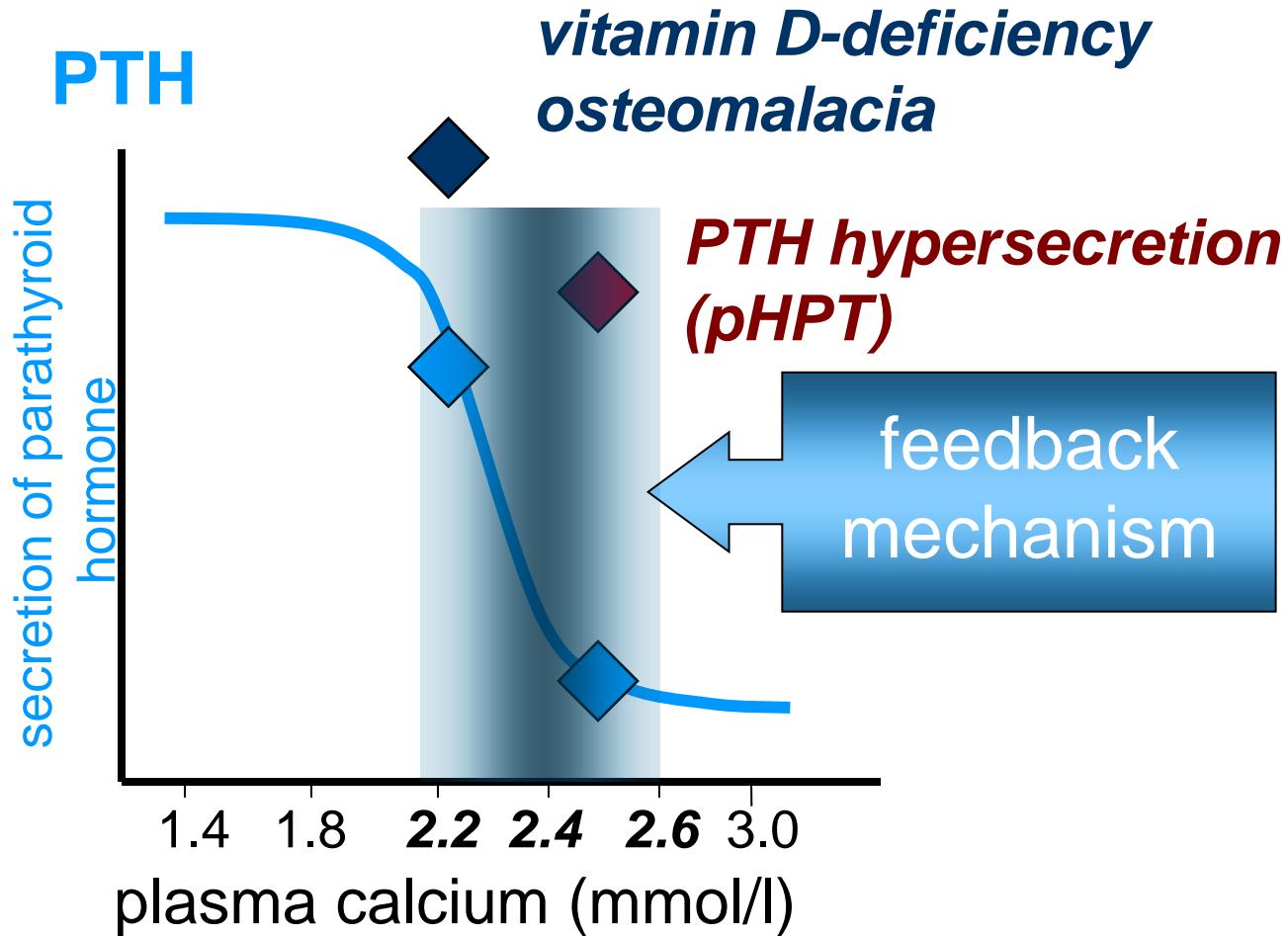
# Hypercalcemia



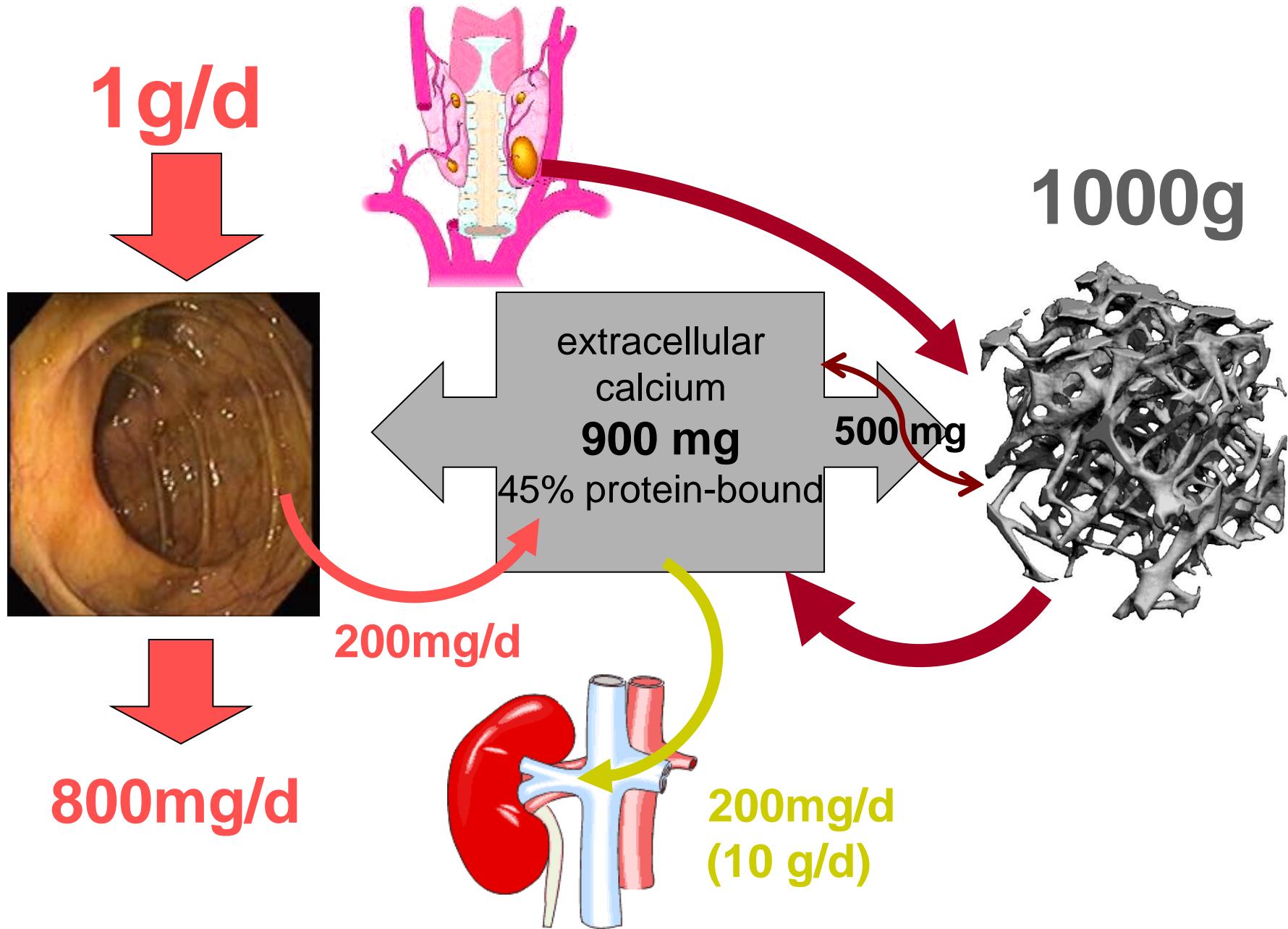
1. Calcium homeostasis: physiology and pathophysiology
2. Signs and symptoms of hypercalcemia
3. Primary hyperparathyroidism
  - 3.1 Epidemiology – symptomatic vs "asymptomatic" HPT?
  - 3.2 Diagnosis and treatment
  - 3.3 Cinacalcet – alternative to surgery?
4. Differential diagnosis of hypercalcemia
5. Summary



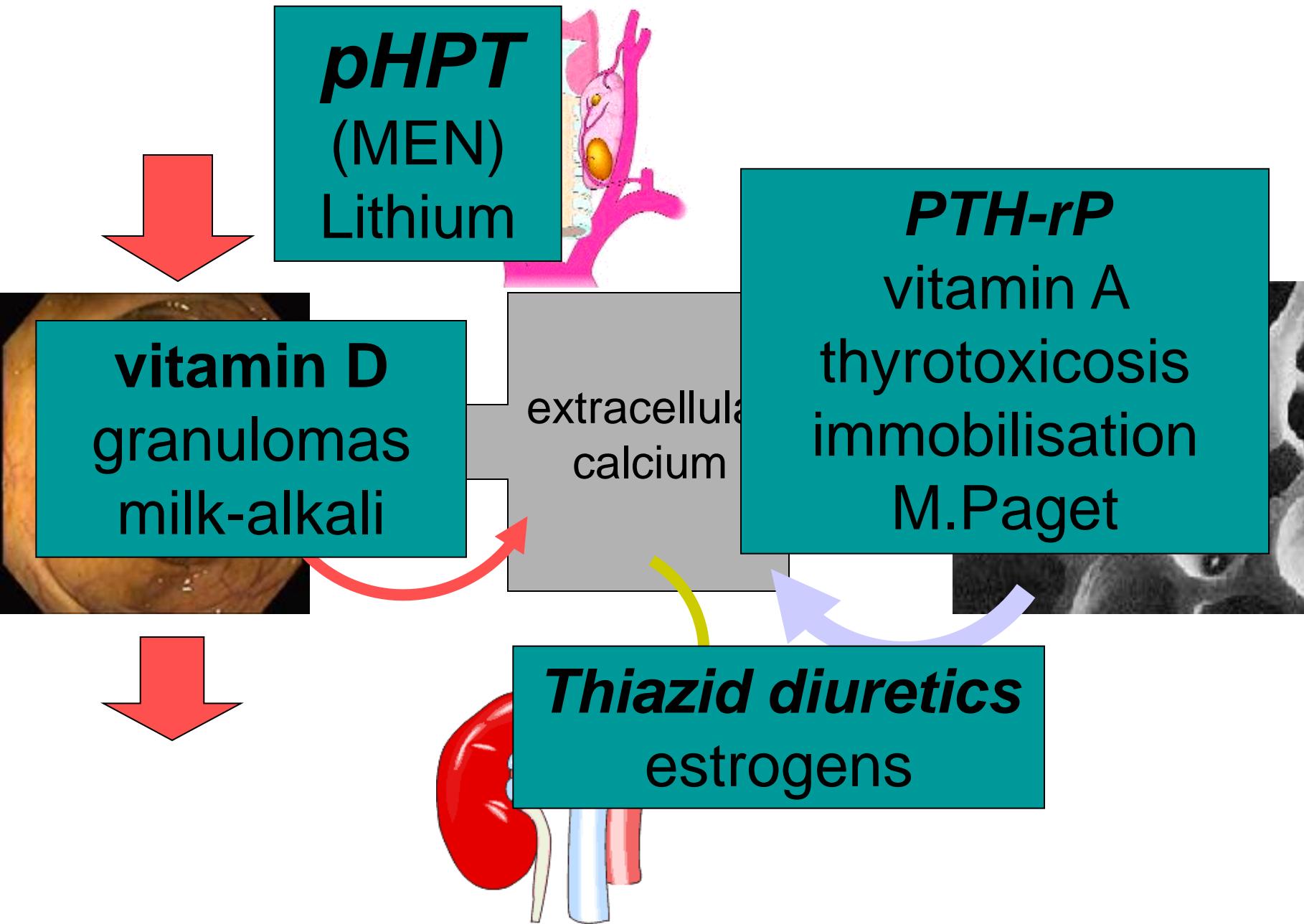
# Calcium concentration and parathyroid hormone (PTH) secretion



# Calcium flux in the adult



# Causes of hypercalcemia



Friedrich von Recklinghausen



1833-1910

*Recklinghausen*

# Signs and symptoms of hypercalcemia

"Stein-, Bein- und Magenpein"

**"Stones, bones, abdominal  
groans and psychiatric moans"**

# **Signs and symptoms of hypercalcemia**

## ***Metabolic CNS dysfunction***

Depression, anxiety, fatigue, adynamia, cognitive impairment, arterial hypertension

## ***Neuromuscular***

Muscular weakness, constipation, short QT syndrome

## ***Renal***

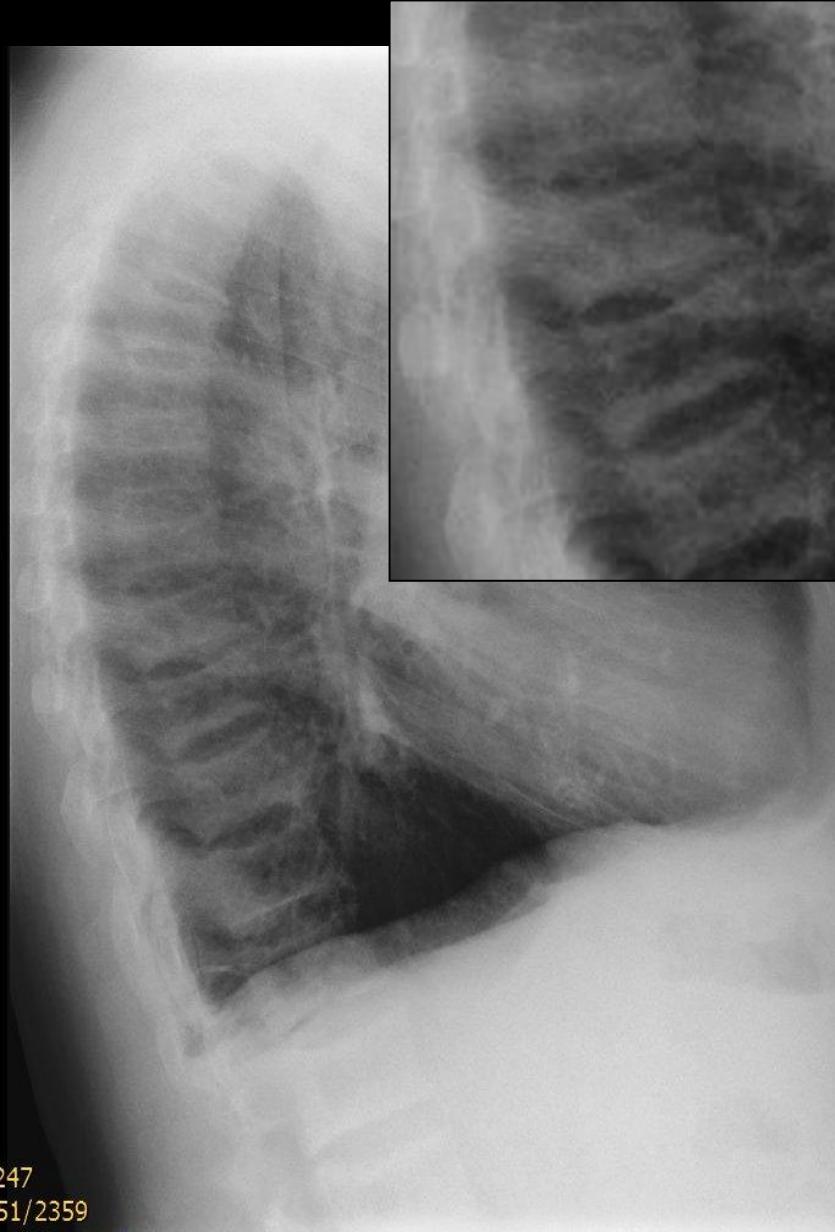
Polyuria, reduced GFR, ECV deficit, metab. acidosis

## ***Gastrointestinal***

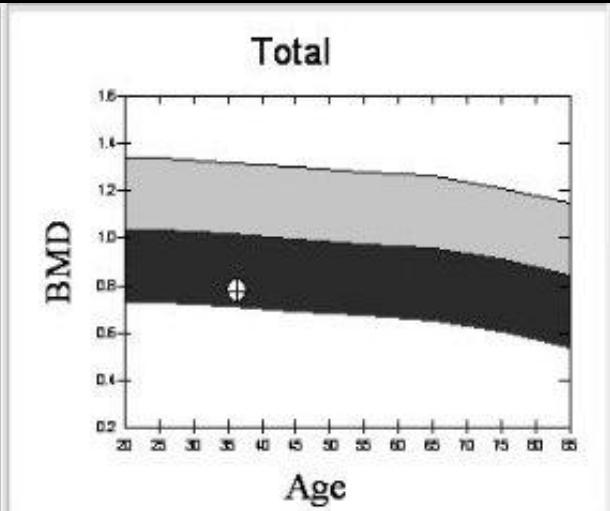
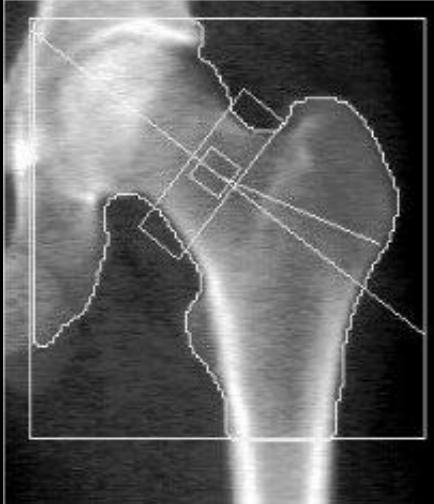
nausea, anorexia, pancreatitis, ulcer (?)

*Ostitis fibrosa cystica*  
in about 2%

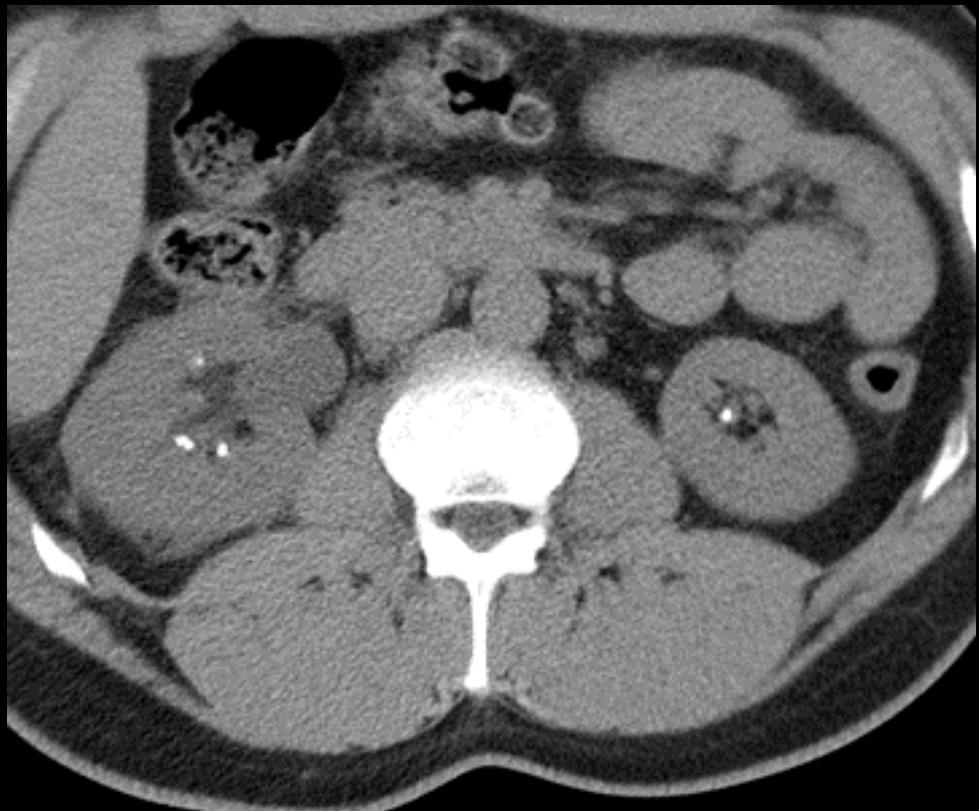
"Rugger jersey spine"



$\beta$ -Wert: 247  
N/C: 4451/2359  
Kantonsspital Luzern



*Osteoporosis of the  
cortical bone  
(femur or 1/3 radius)*



*Nephrolithiasis 15%*

*acute pankreatitis 5%*



# Primary Hyperparathyroidism (pHPT)?

**Mrs M. S., 74y**

*Fatigue, diffuse arthralgias*

$\text{Ca}^{2+}$  2.23 ( $N$  2.1 - 2.6)

*Phosph* 1.2 ( $N$  0.9 - 1.5)

**PTH** **84** ( $N$  13 - 65)

**Mr B. M., 38y**

*Fatigue, diffuse arthralgias*

$\text{Ca}^{2+}$  2.79 ( $N$  2.1 - 2.6)

*Phosph* 0.7 ( $N$  0.9 - 1.5)

**PTH** **59** ( $N$  13 - 65)

Vitamin D deficiency  
(osteomalacia)

Primary  
hyperparathyreoidism

# **Primary hyperparathyroidism**

**Prevalence:** 1:500 F/1:2000 M; >60y 0.4-2.6%

**Incidence:** 22/100.000

( Christensson, Acta Med Scan 1976, Heath, NEJM 1980, Marcocci, NEJM 2011)

**Etiology:** 85% solitary parathyroid adenoma

**Localization:** imaging vs. surgeon

**Treatment:** symptomatic pHPT → parathyreoidectomy (alternative: calcimimetics)  
„asymptomatic“ pHPT?)

**Curative Tx in 90 – 98%, morbidity < 2%**

**CAVE experienced surgeon!**

(Sosa, JCEM 1998; Strewler, Clin Endo 2000)

# Mr K.A., 1927

→*Hypercalcemia*

Osteoporosis (vertebral fractures),  
Reflux oesophagitis/gastritis 8/05,  
Urolithiasis 2/01 and 7/08.



Adynamia, intestinal discomfort, constipation,  
polyuria, weight loss –3kg → **Ca<sup>++</sup> 3.2**

BP 186/92, P 96/min, BMI 31; Struma nodosa II;  
3/6 systolic murmur, no focal neurological deficits.

# Mr K.A. , 1927

Ca<sup>++</sup> : 3.2 mmol/l (*N* 2.1 -2.6)

Phosph: 0.7 mmol/l (*N* 0.9-1.4)

Albumin: 40 g/l

Creatinine: 154 µmol/l (*N* 48-100)

TSH : 2.8 mU/l (*N* 0.27-4.2)

**PTH : 143 pg/ml (*N* 13-65)**

***Primary hyperparathyroidism***

**PTH : 12 pg/ml ?**

# *Localization imaging sensitivity*

Ultrasound → 36 – 70%

CT → 42 – 68%

MRI → 57 – 90%

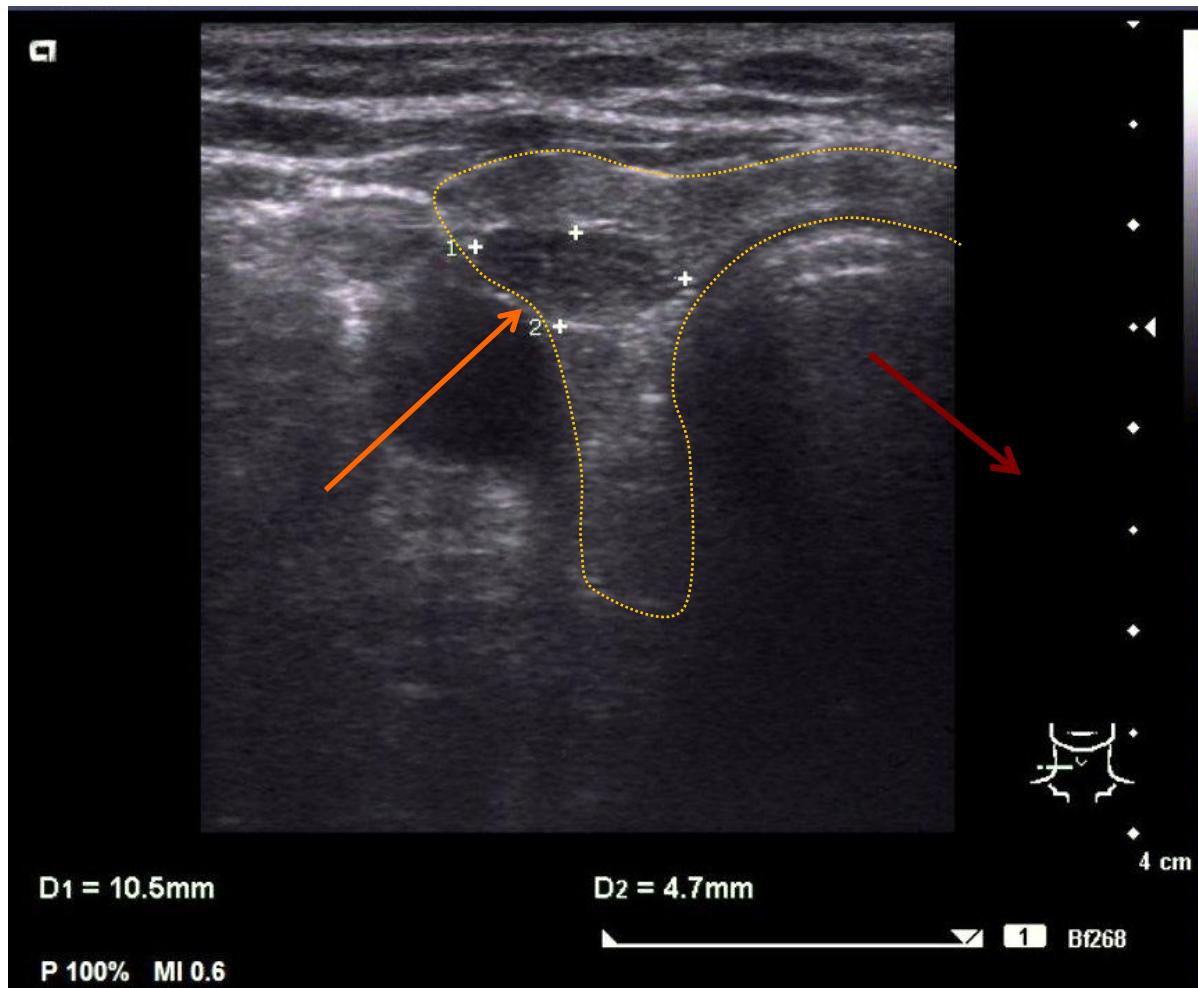
Scintigraphy → 70 – 91%

**Surgeon → 95 – 98%**

*Marcocci 2011, Eigelberger 2000, Shen 1996, Numerow 1995, Rodriguez 1994*

# Mr K.A., 1927

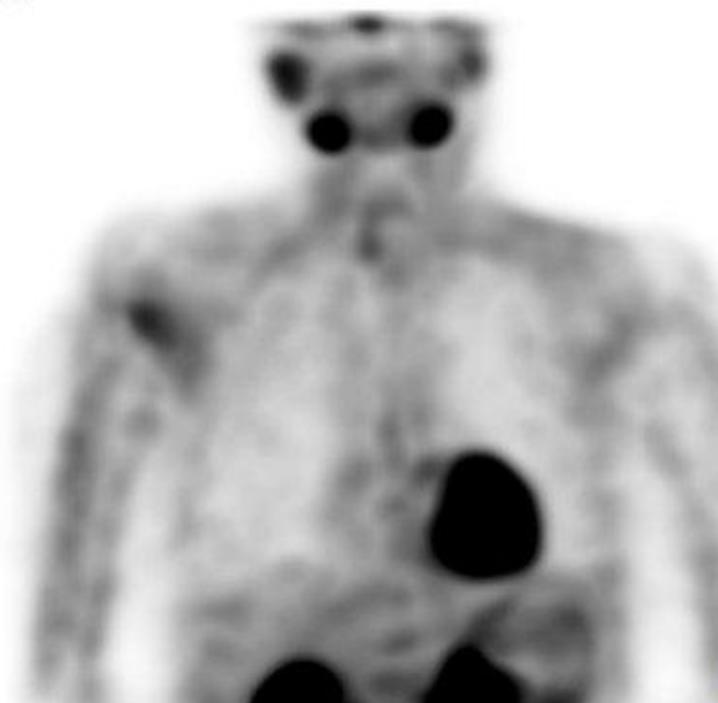
## Ultrasound



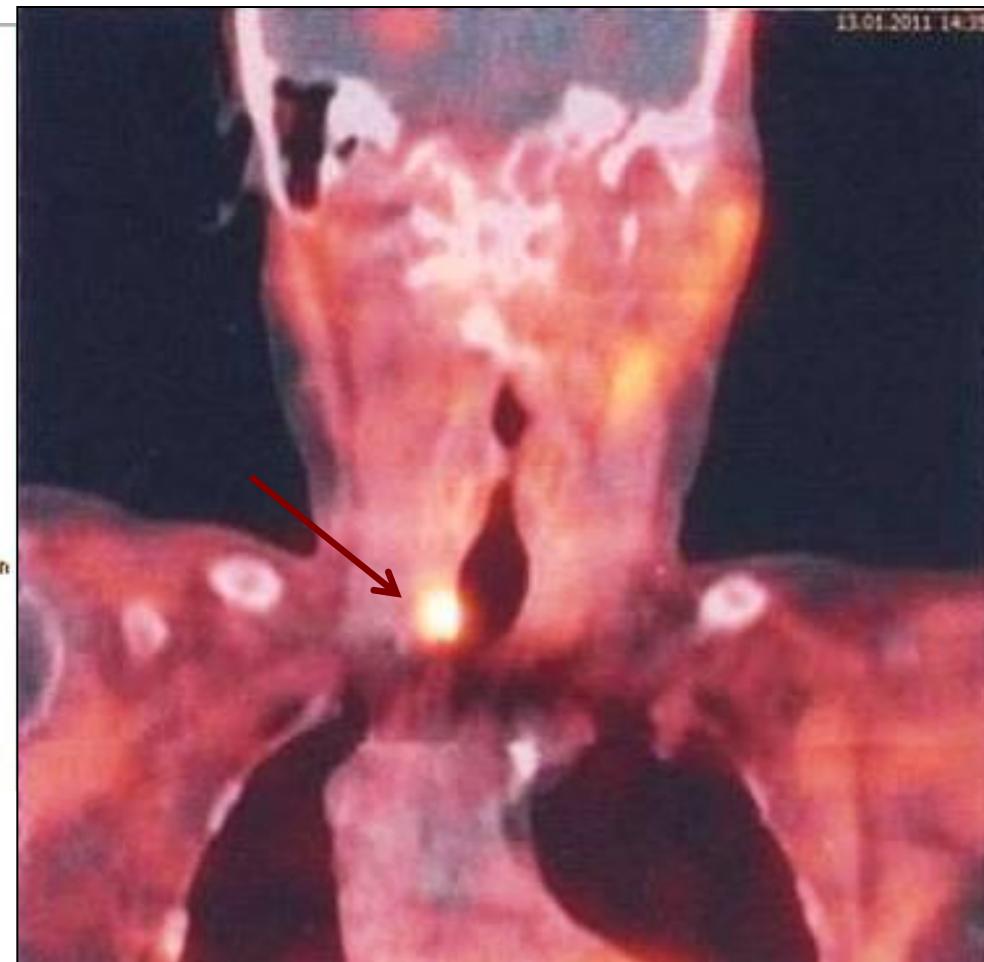
# Herr K.A. , 1927

Tc 99m-Sestamibi scan

RECON TOMO/SPECTRECON  
4/15/2010



SPECT-CT

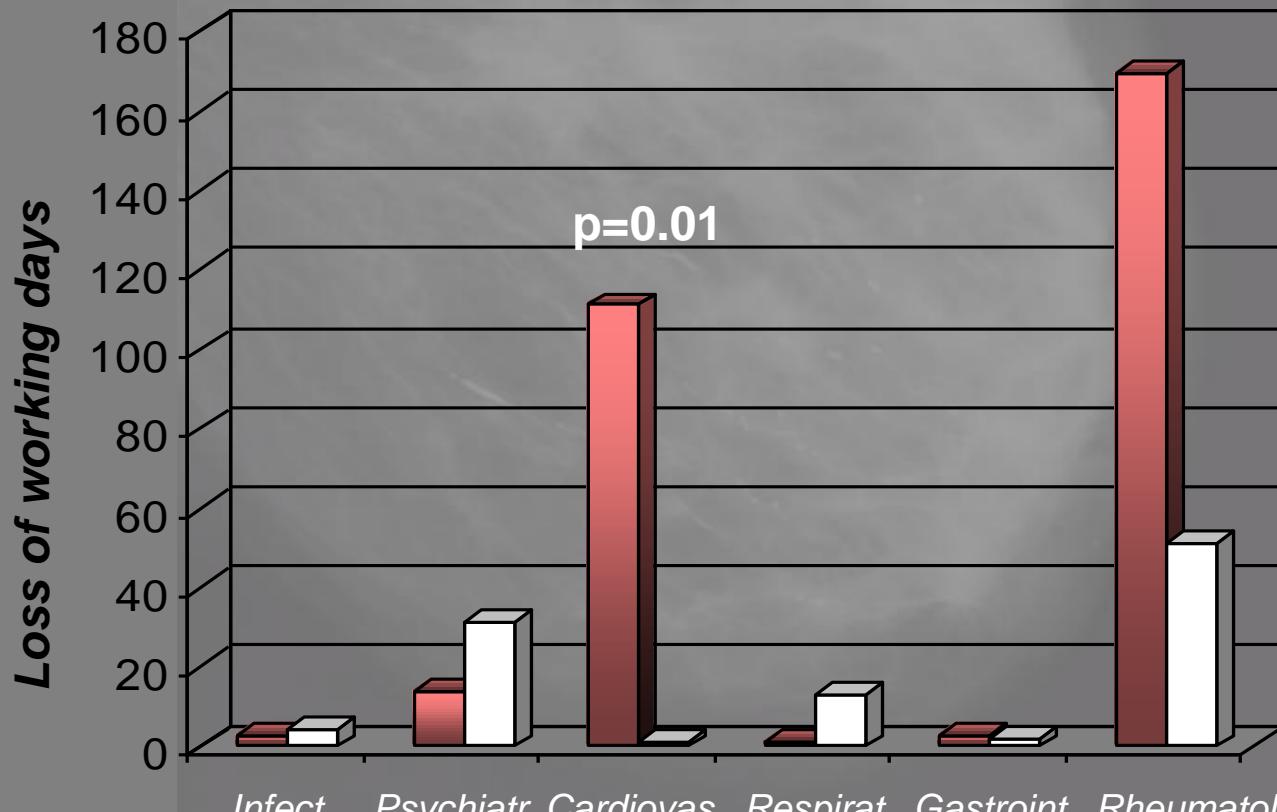


# „asymptomatic“ hyperparathyroidism

5202 women 55-75y → **109 (2.1%) pHPT**

calcium:      2.6 mmol/l      (*N* 2.2-2.6)

PTH :            69 ng/l            (*N* 12-55)



# *Surgery for asymptomatic pHPT?*

121 patients over 10 y  
**Serum-Ca<sup>++</sup> 2.65, PTH 121**

Surgery: 61 patients  
**Serum-Ca<sup>++</sup> 2.35**  
**PTH 49**

**BMD +12% LS**  
**BMD +14% Femur**  
**0/12 Nephrolithiasis**

No surgery: 60 patients  
**Serum-Ca<sup>++</sup> 2.6**  
**PTH 106**

**BMD  $\pm$  0%**

**6/8 Nephrolithiasis**

**Surveillance**  
*Calcium 6 mts*  
*BMD 2 y*

*...progression of disease in about ¼ of  
asymptomatic patients...*

# Guidelines for parathyreoidectomy

*serum-calcium >3 mmol/l (>0.25 UNL)*

*hypercalcaemic crisis*

*Creatinine (-clearance) -30% or <60 ml/min*

*hypercalciuria >10 mmol/24h*

*T-Score <-2.5 SD at any site or fragility fx*

*age <50y*

*NIH Consensus 2002,  
Intern Workshop, JCEM 2009;94:335-  
NEJM 2011;365:2389-*

# Pharmacological treatment of pHPT

Estrogens (progestogens)

Drinking > 1.5 L

**Cinacalcet (Mimpara®)**

Correction of vitamin D-deficiency

**CAVE:** Thiazids, lithium, vitamin A

*Acute hypercalcemia:*

**NaCl 0.9% + loop diuretics**

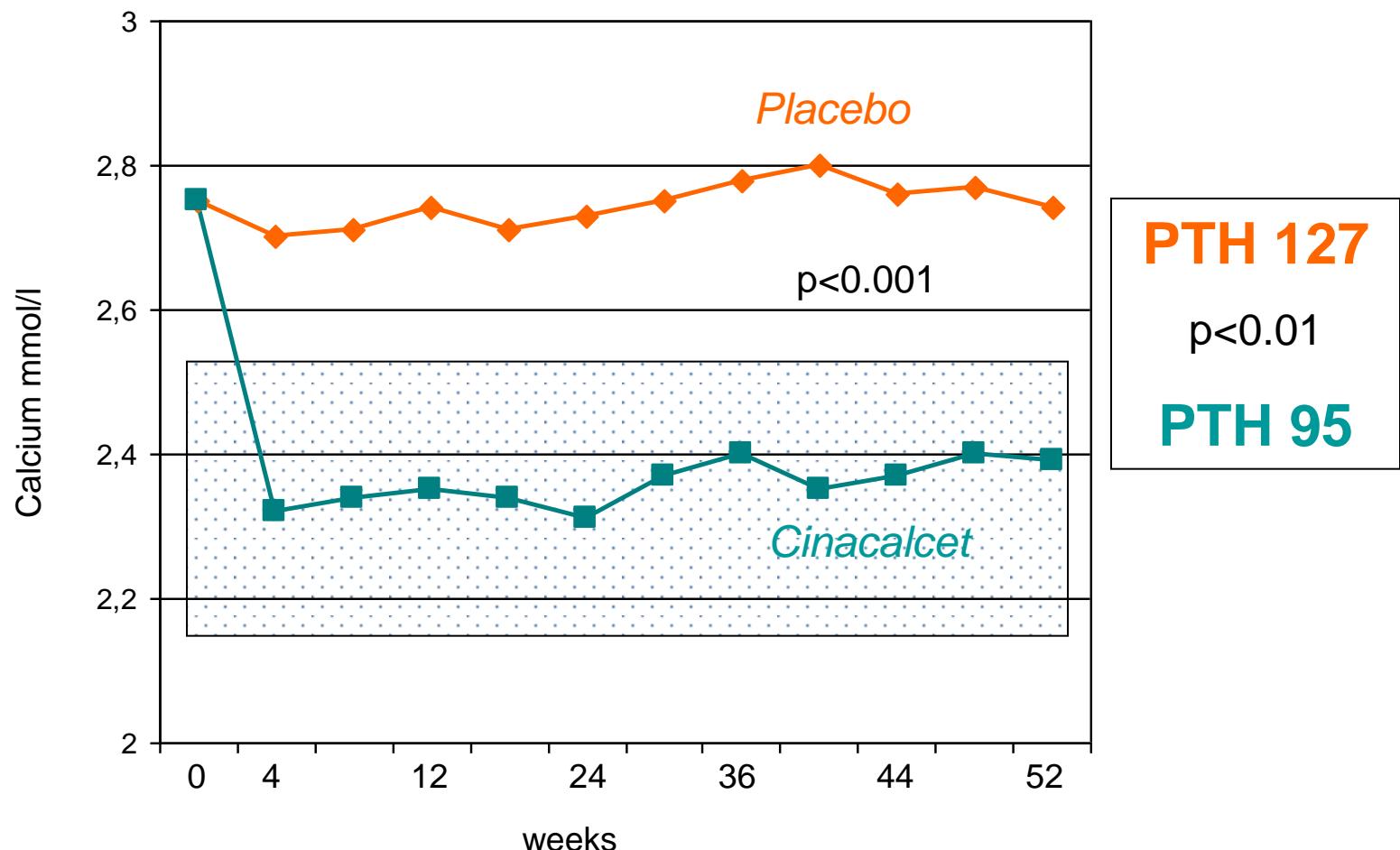
Bisphosphonates

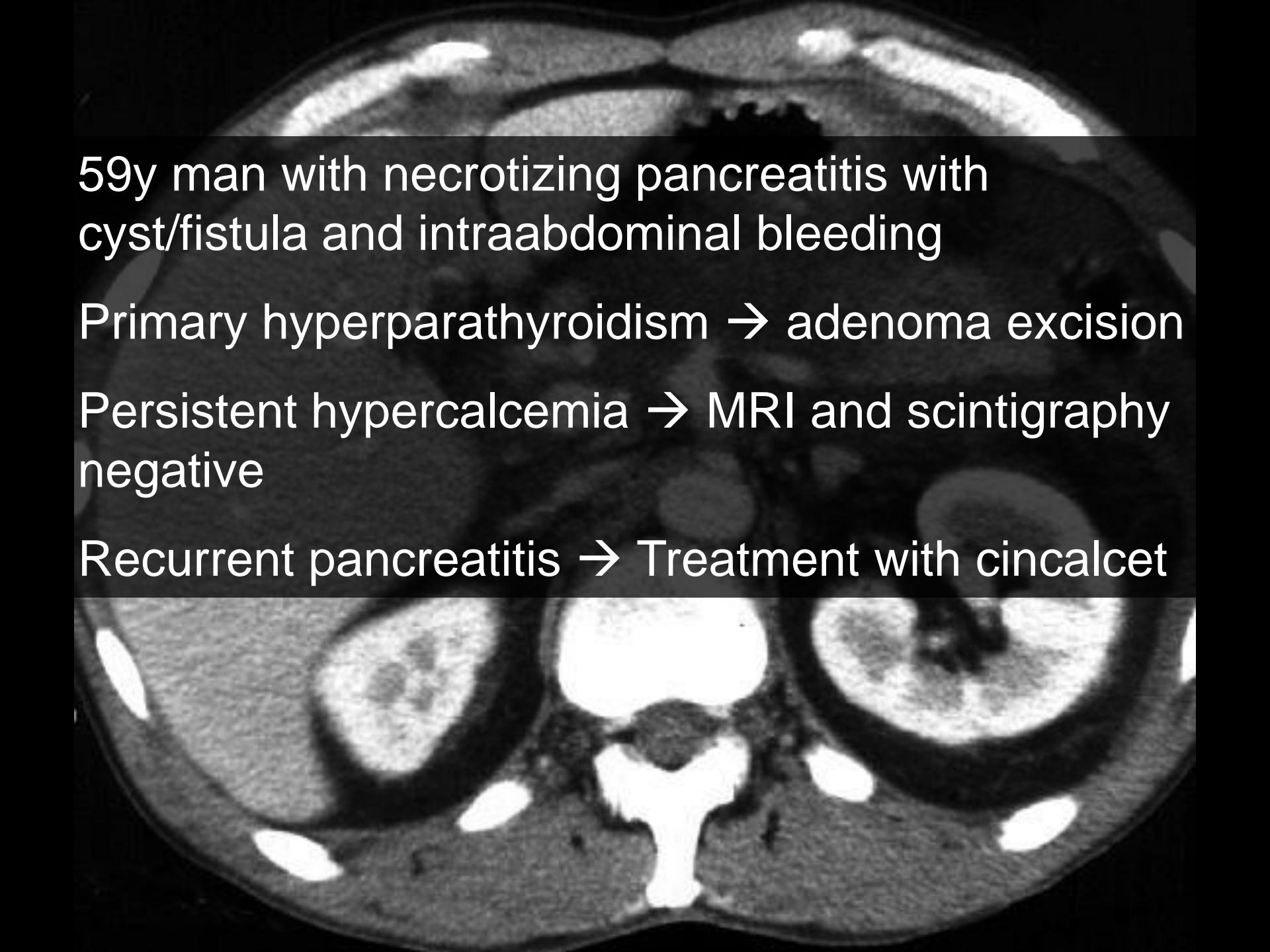
Calcitonin

# Cinacalcet (Mimpara®) in patients with pHPT

Peacock et al, JCEM 2004;90;135-

78 patients (57 F/21 M, 27 – 83y) with pHPT RCT Cinacalcet 2x30 – 50mg/d vs Placebo → normocalcemia



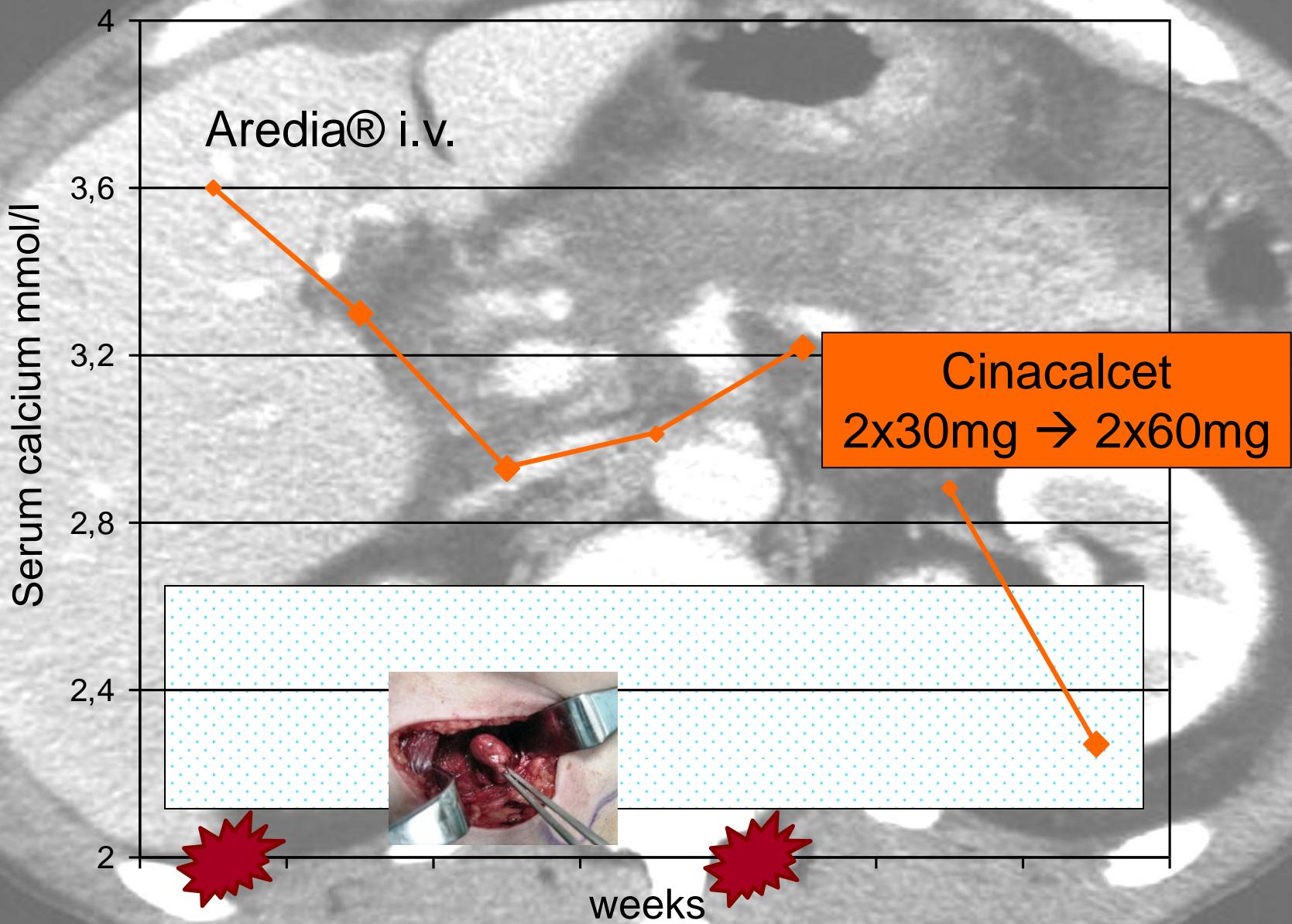


59y man with necrotizing pancreatitis with cyst/fistula and intraabdominal bleeding

Primary hyperparathyroidism → adenoma excision

Persistent hypercalcemia → MRI and scintigraphy negative

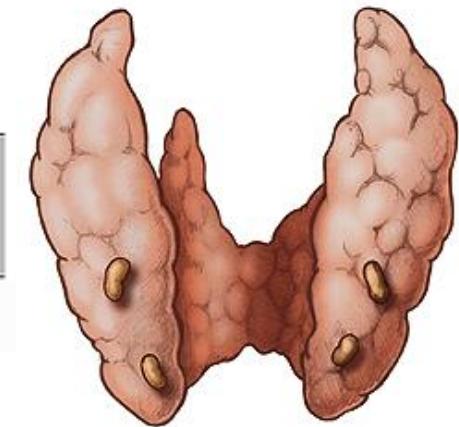
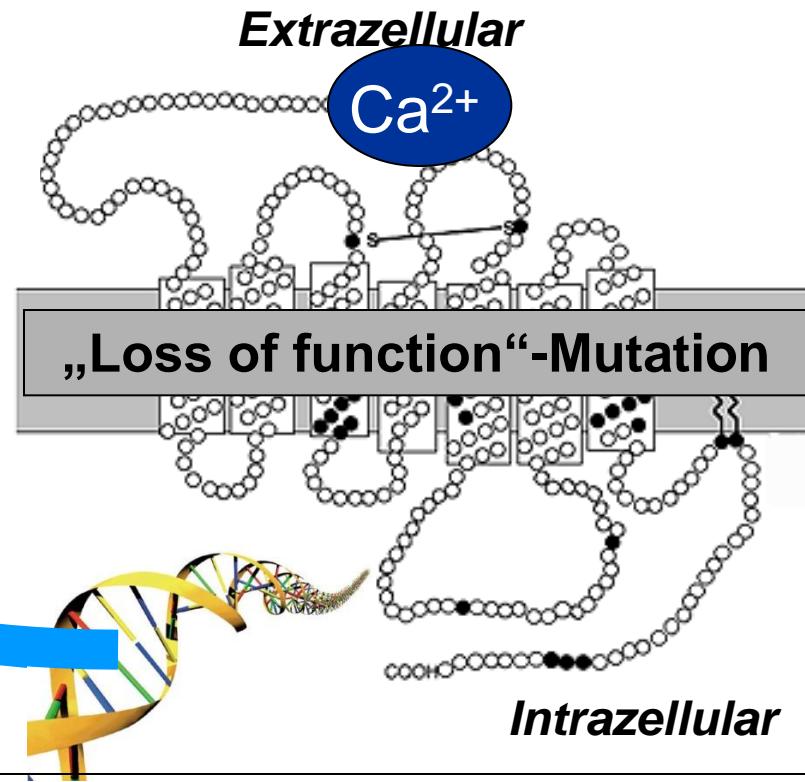
Recurrent pancreatitis → Treatment with cinacalcet



**DD:**

# **Hypercalcemia**

**PTH**



**Familial hypocalciuric hypercalcemia (FHH)**

**Ca<sup>++</sup>/Kreatinin-Cl < 0.01**

**(24h-urinary calcium < 2.5 mmol/l)**

**DD:**

# Tumor-induced hypercalcemia

**Parathyroid  
hormone-related  
peptide**

**80% humoral hypercalcemia**

20% local osteolysis

(exzessive secretion  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$  or PTH)

Lung cancer  
breast cancer  
esophagus ca  
renal cell carcinoma  
lymphoma  
hepatoma  
melanoma...

# **DD:**

# **Multiple endocrine Neoplasia (MEN)**

**Multiple endokrine  
Neoplasie 2**

Medullary thyroid carcinoma  
100%

***hyperparathyreoidism* 10-20%**

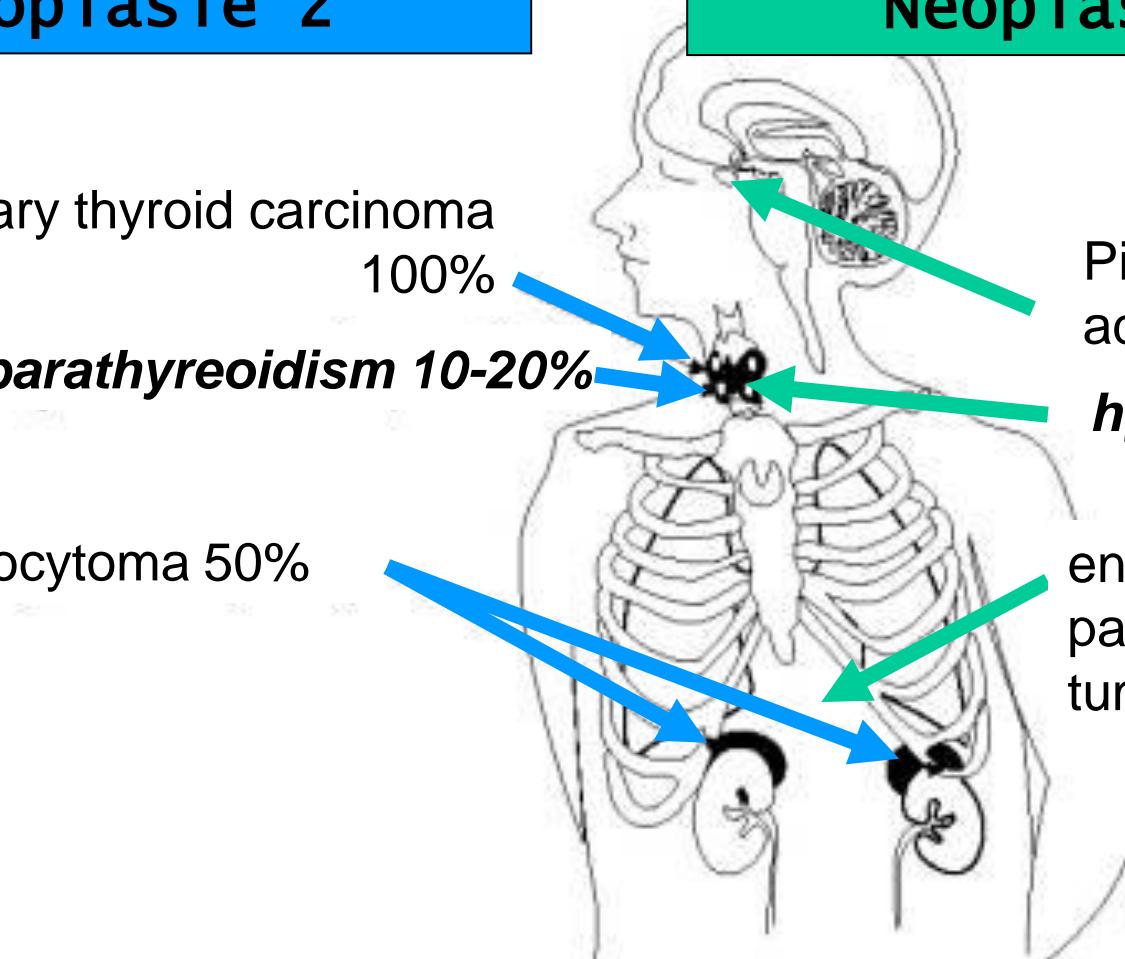
pheochromocytoma 50%

**Multiple endokrine  
Neoplasie 1**

Pituitary  
adenoma 25%

***hyperpara* 95%**

endocrine  
pancreatic  
tumors ~ 80%



**DD:**

68y man, flu-like infection →  
immobilization → fatigue →  
→shoulder pain at left, radiating  
in the arm

Prostatic hyperplasia; 34 PY;  
Hypertension (amlodipine 5 mg)

**→*Laboratory findings:***

$\text{Ca}^{++}$  2.6 ( $n$  2.1-2.5),  
 $\text{PTH}$  17 ng/ml ( $n$  10-65),  
 $\text{alk phosph}$ : 567 ( $n$  30-120)  
 $\text{PSA}$ : 6.8 ( $n < 4.0$ ),  
 $\text{BSR}$  34,  
 $\text{CRP}$  11.

**Paget's  
disease**

# Summary I

1. Hypercalcemia and pHPT are common, particularly in >60y (prevalence ~2%)
2. Signs and symptoms may be subtle:  
parathyroidectomy for symptomatic pHPT,  
guidelines for „asymptomatic“ pHPT (trial with cinacalcet?)
3. However, pHPT may be the cause of kidney stones, cortical osteoporosis, or pancreatitis
4. Beware of secondary elevated PTH levels in patients with vitamin D-deficit

## Summary II

5. pHPT may be part of MEN 1, particularly in patients <40y, with familial history or other endocrine tumours
6. Hypercalcemia in sarcoidosis is caused by overproduction of calcitriol
7. Calcimimetics (Mimpara®) are a pharmacological alternative to surgery
8. In acute hypercalcemia treatment consists of fluid administration with NaCl 0.9% and loop diuretics, and bisphosphonates (e.g. zolendronate i.v.)