



生物纳米材料应对当前健康挑战研讨会
Bionanomaterials for Current Health Challenges



Treatment of Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease (NAFLD) with Nanozymes

School of Biotechnology and Health Sciences,
Wuyi University , Jiangmen

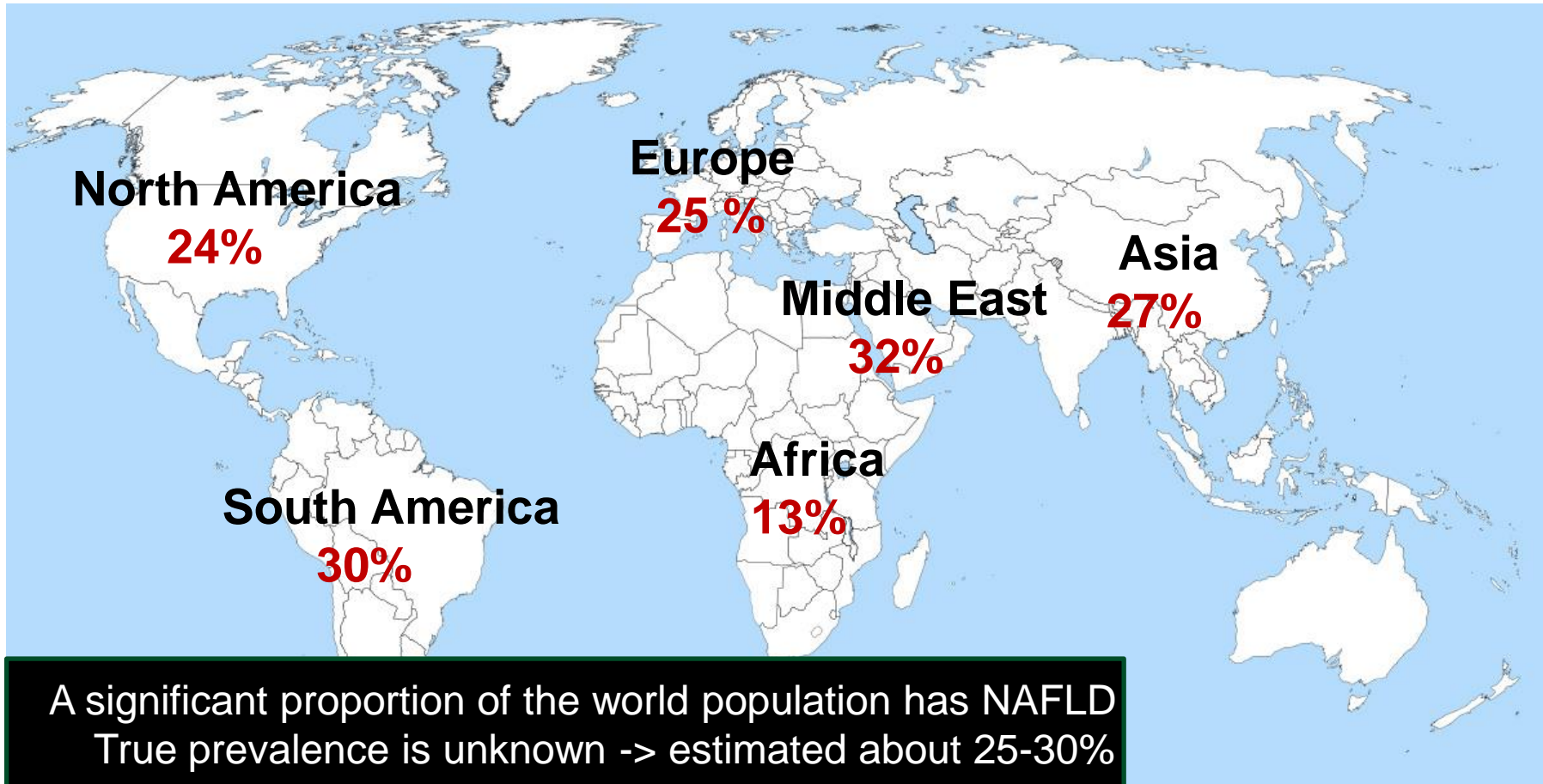
September 5th , 2023

生物科技与大健康学院

Gregori Casals, MD, PhD
Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics
Hospital Clinic
University of Barcelona



Global prevalence of NAFLD



Global prevalence of NAFLD

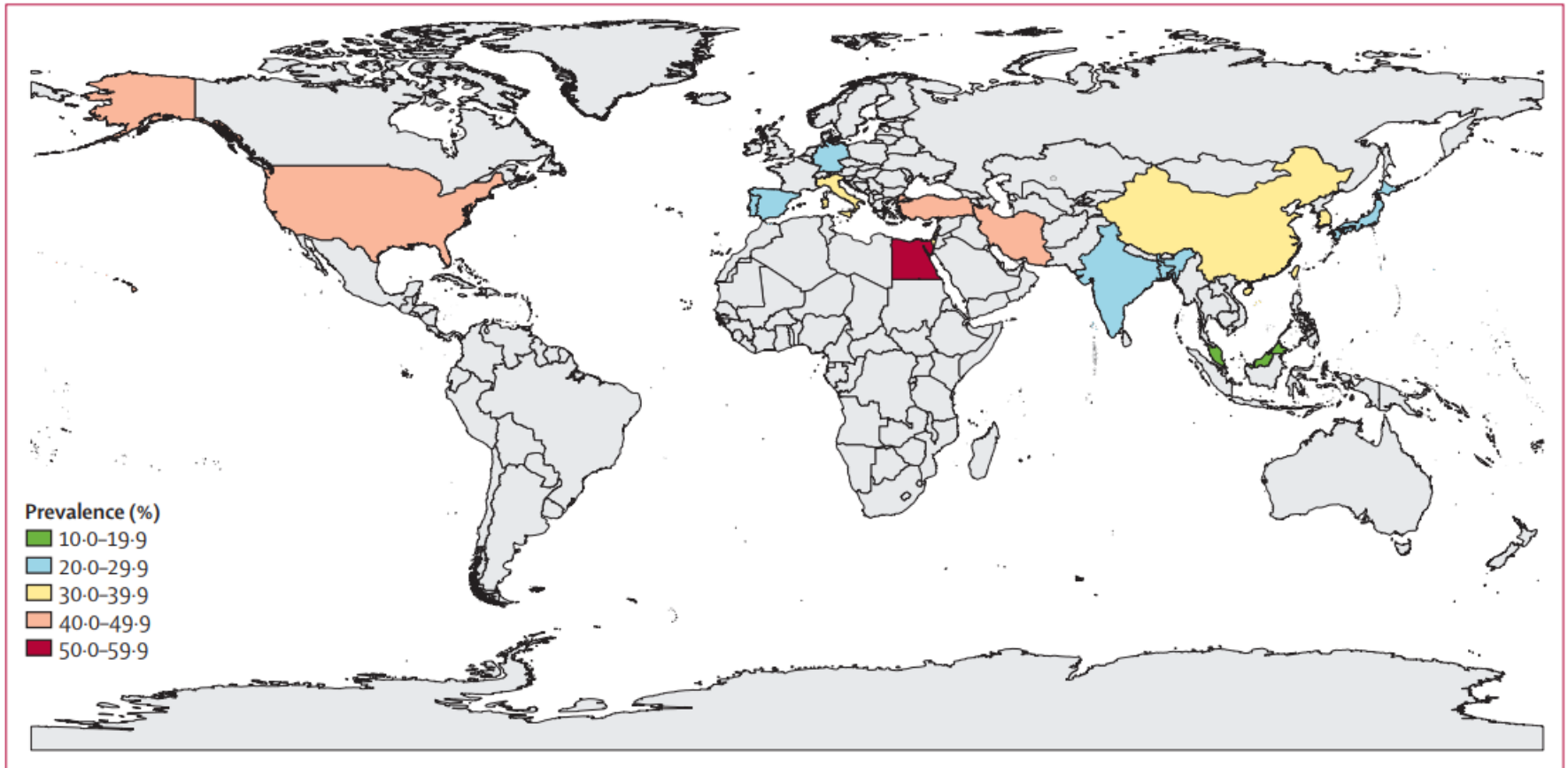


Figure 2: Geographical differences in the prevalence of NAFLD worldwide

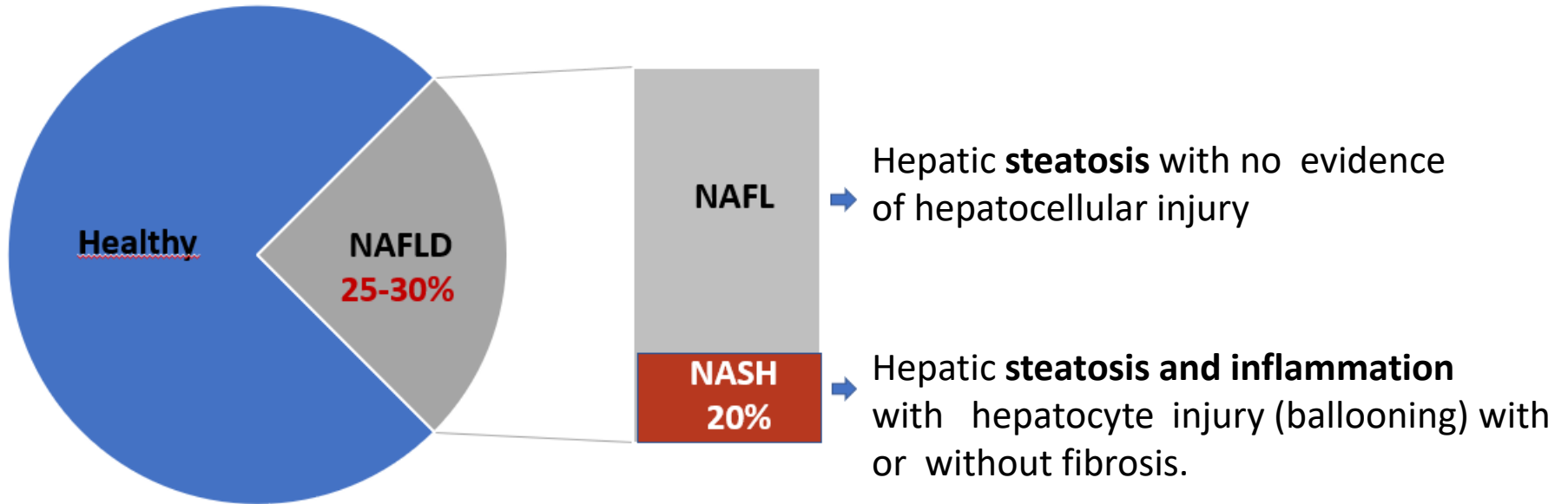
The data represented are from a collection of reports from 1994 to 2019. An interactive map illustrating the prevalence and incidence of NAFLD worldwide is available online.¹⁹

<https://kaplan-nafld-ucalgary.hub.arcgis.com/>

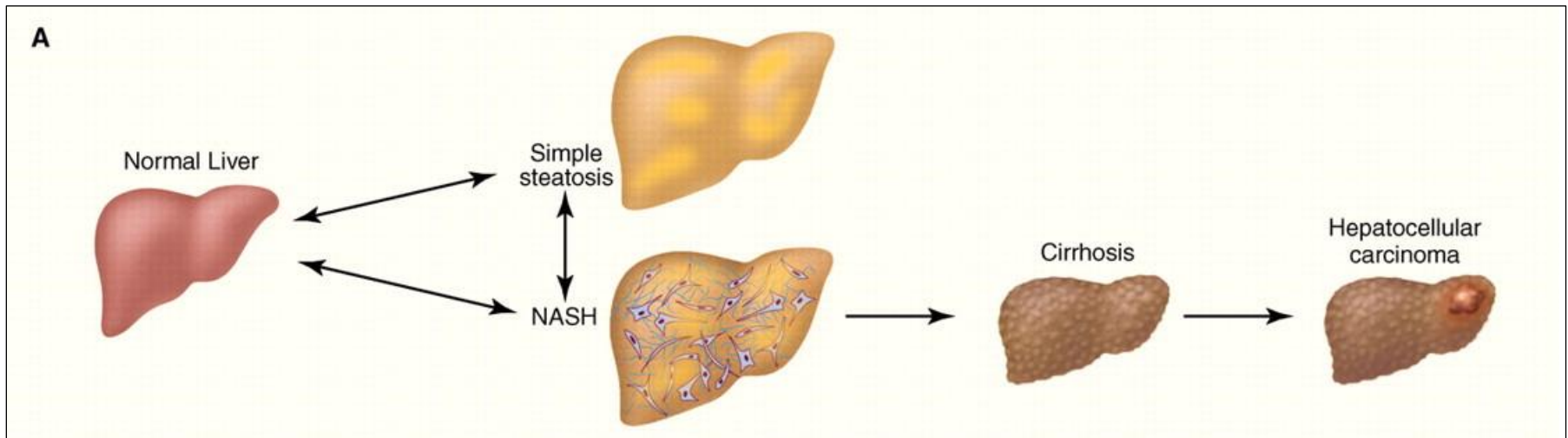
The prevalence and incidence of NAFLD worldwide: a systematic review and meta-analysis.

Lancet Gastroenterol Hepatol 2022;7:851-6.

Global prevalence of NAFLD



Only a minority of patients with NAFLD progress to NASH (Nonalcoholic steatohepatitis)



NOMENCLATURE

1986 NAFLD: Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease

Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease. *Prog. Liver Dis* 1986;8:283–98

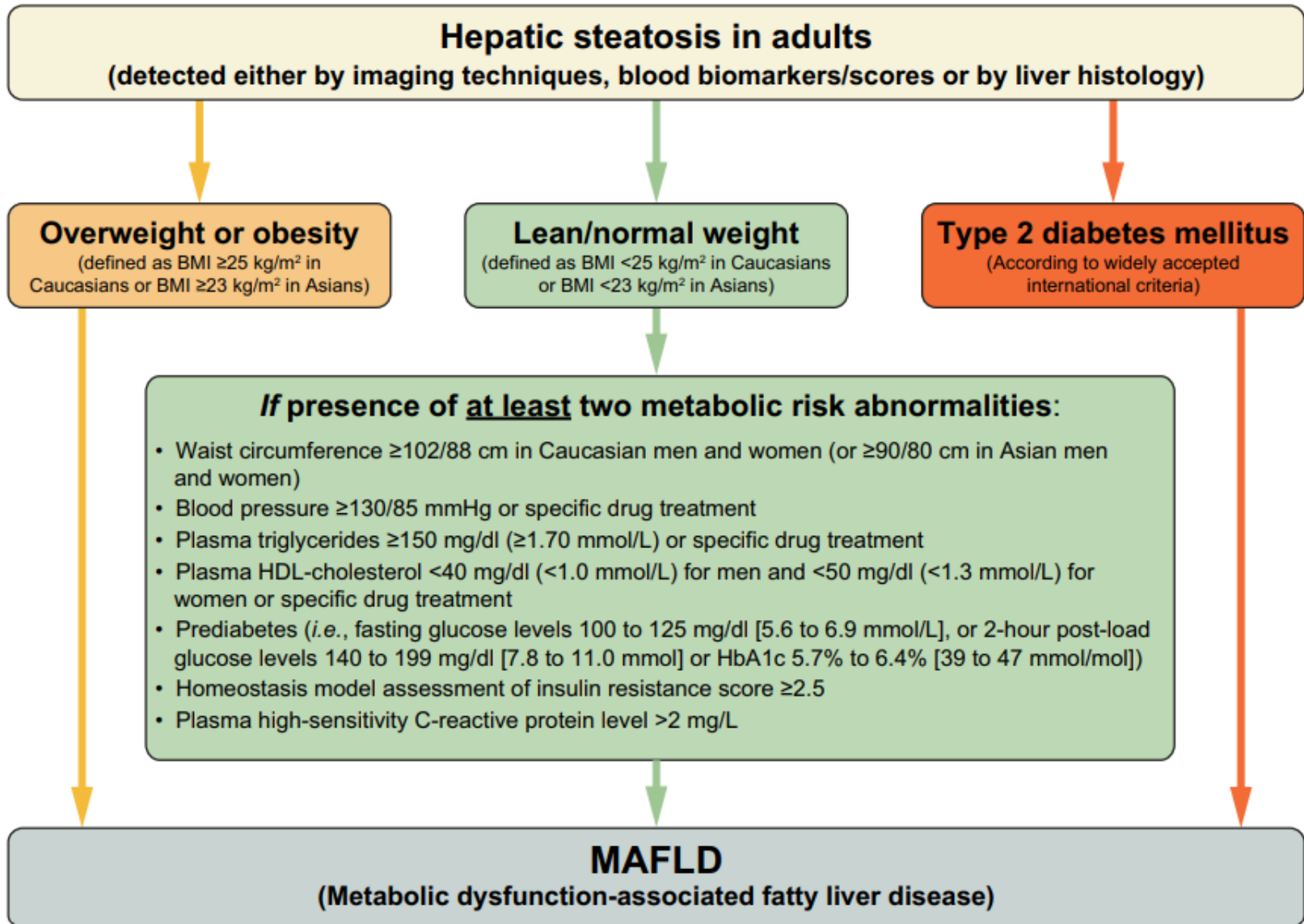
2020 MAFLD: Metabolic dysfunction-associated fatty liver disease

A new definition for metabolic dysfunction-associated fatty liver disease: An international expert consensus statement. *J Hepatol* 2020;73:202-9

2023 MASLD: Metabolic dysfunction-associated steatotic liver disease

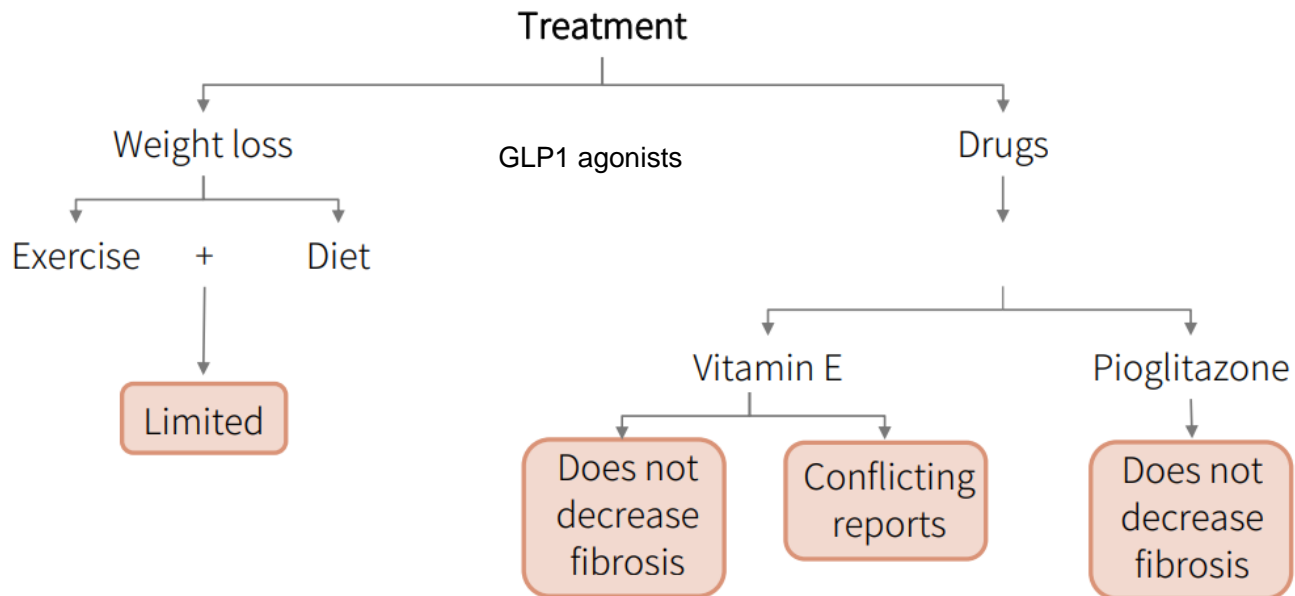
Delphi consensus statement on new fatty liver disease nomenclature. *Hepatology* 2023

DIAGNOSTIC



TREATMENT OF NAFLD

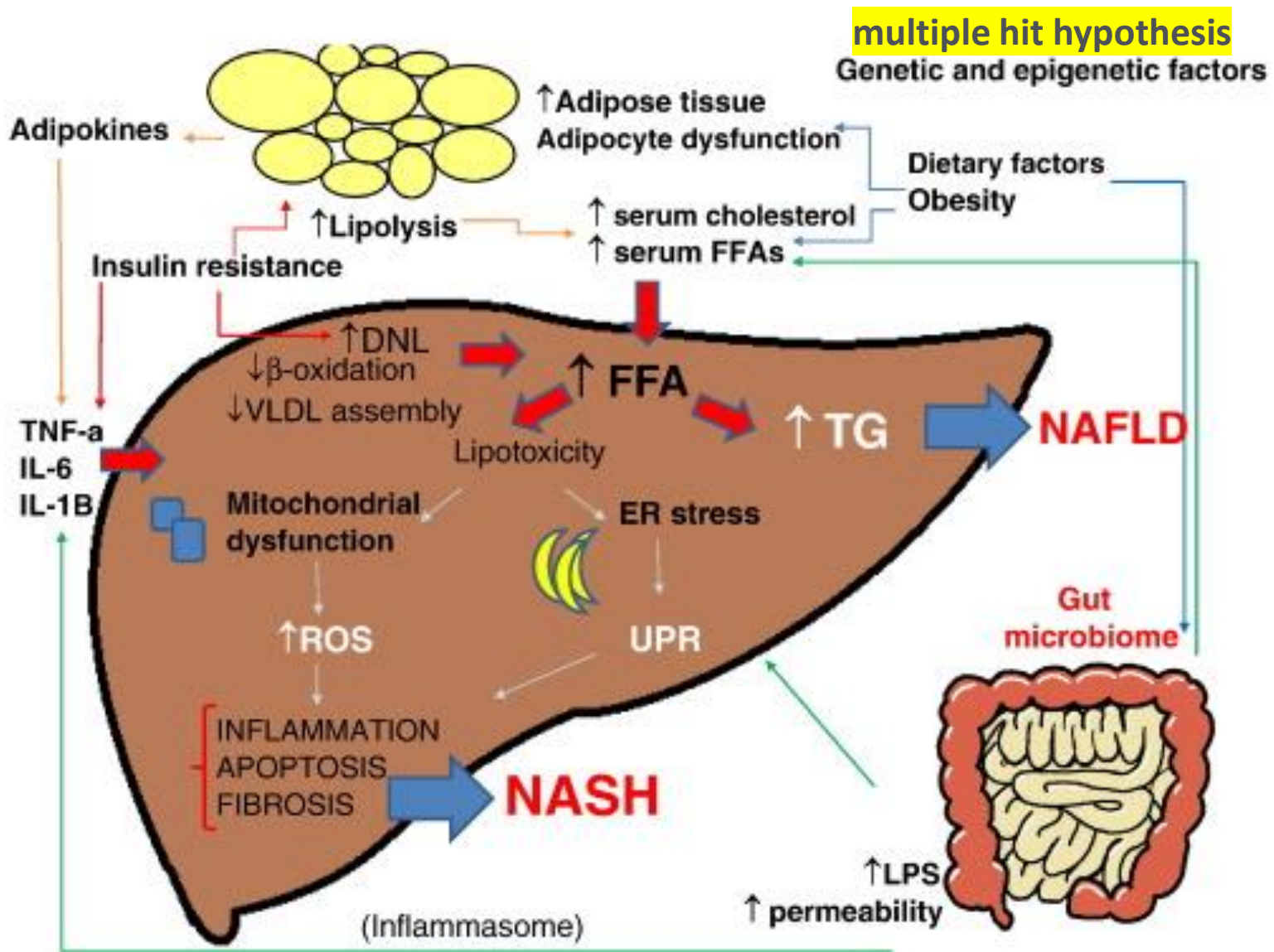
- There are no specific drugs approved for NAFLD treatment
- Vitamin E and pioglitazone may be used in selected patients with NASH, but effects are modest



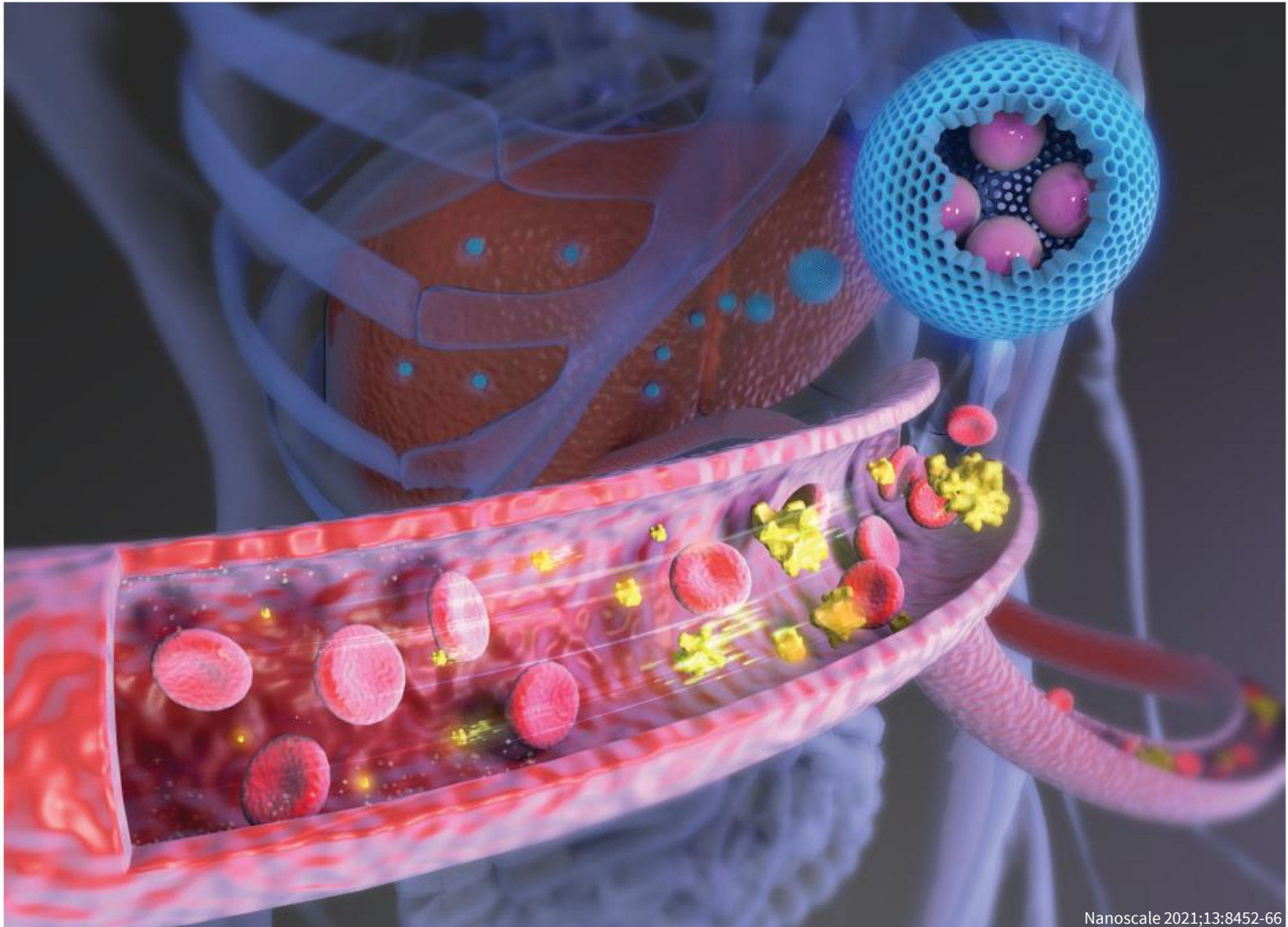
Drugs for Non-alcoholic Steatohepatitis (NASH): Quest for the Holy Grail. Mithun Sharma, Madhumita Premkumar et al. Journal of Clinical and Translational Hepatology, 9, 1, 2 2021

- **There are no effective medical treatments**

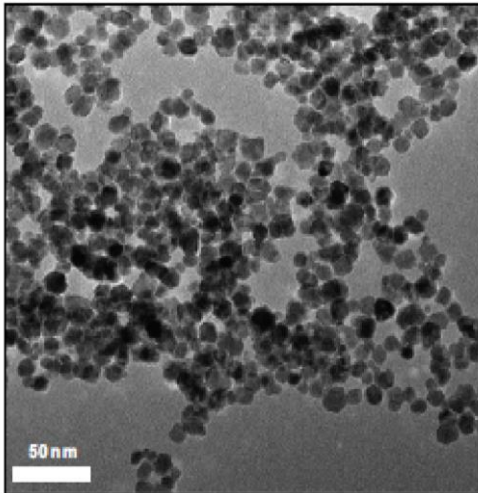
Pathophysiology of NAFLD and NASH



Nanozymes to treat NAFLD?



Cerium oxide nanoparticles (CeO₂NPs)

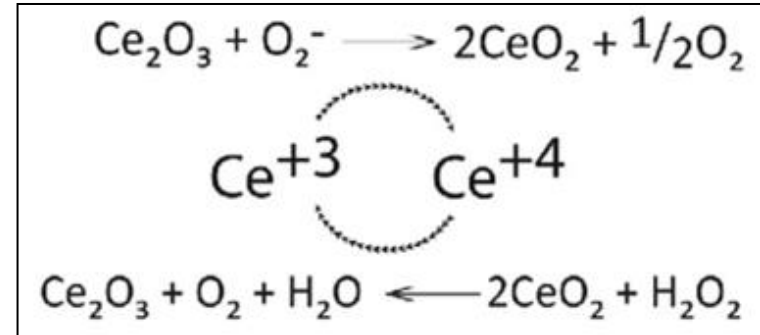


CeO₂NPs (4 nm)

THE PERIODIC TABLE OF ELEMENTS

1																	2
H																	He
3	4											5	6	7	8	9	10
Li	Be											B	C	N	O	F	Ne
11	12											13	14	15	16	17	18
Na	Mg											Al	Si	P	S	Cl	Ar
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
K	Ca	Sc	Ti	V	Cr	Mn	Fe	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Ga	Ge	As	Se	Br	Kr
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
Rb	Sr	Y	Zr	Nb	Mo	Tc	Ru	Rh	Pd	Ag	Cd	In	Sn	Sb	Te	I	Xe
55	56	57-71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86
Cs	Ba	-	Hf	Ta	W	Re	Os	Ir	Pt	Au	Hg	Tl	Pb	Bi	Po	At	Rn
87	88	89-103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118
Fr	Ra	-	Rf	Db	Sg	Bh	Hs	Mt	Ds	Rg	Cn	Uut	Uuq	Uup	Uuh	Uus	Uuo
57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71			
L	Ce	P	Nd	Pm	Sm	Eu	Gd	Tb	Dy	Ho	Er	Tm	Yb	Lu			
89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103			
Ac	Th	Pa	U	Np	Pu	Am	Cm	Bk	Cf	Es	Fm	Md	No	Lr			

Ce: rare earth

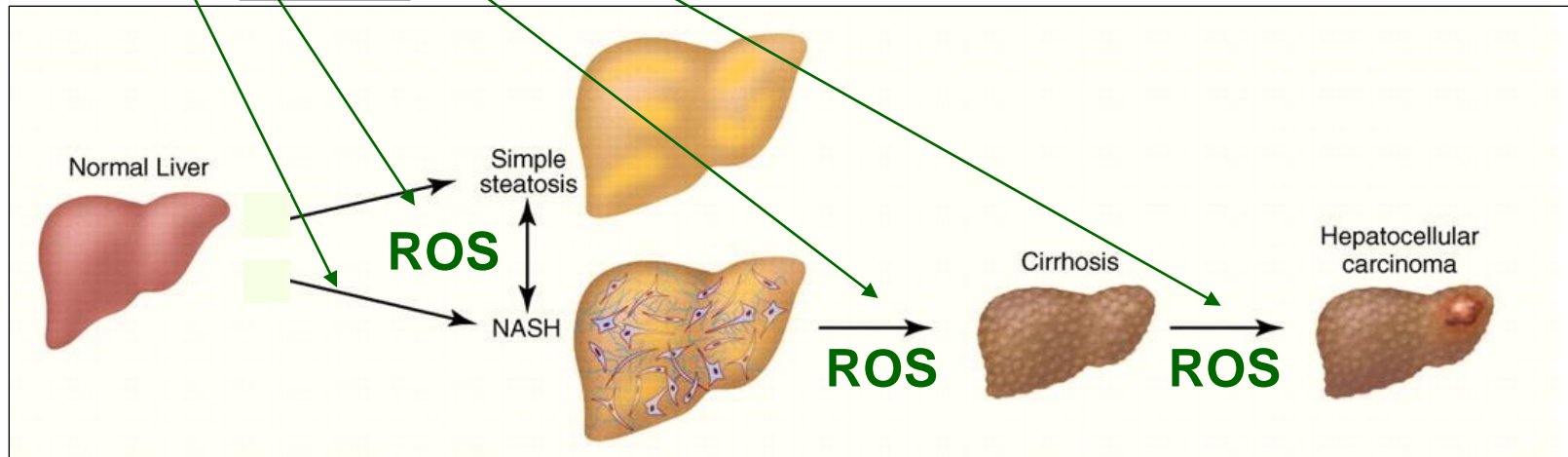


CeO₂NPs: "Redox buffer"

- Superoxide Dismutase and Catalase mimetic catalytic activities
- "Non exhausting" free radical scavenging
- Liver tropism
- Remain long time in the liver

HYPOTHESIS

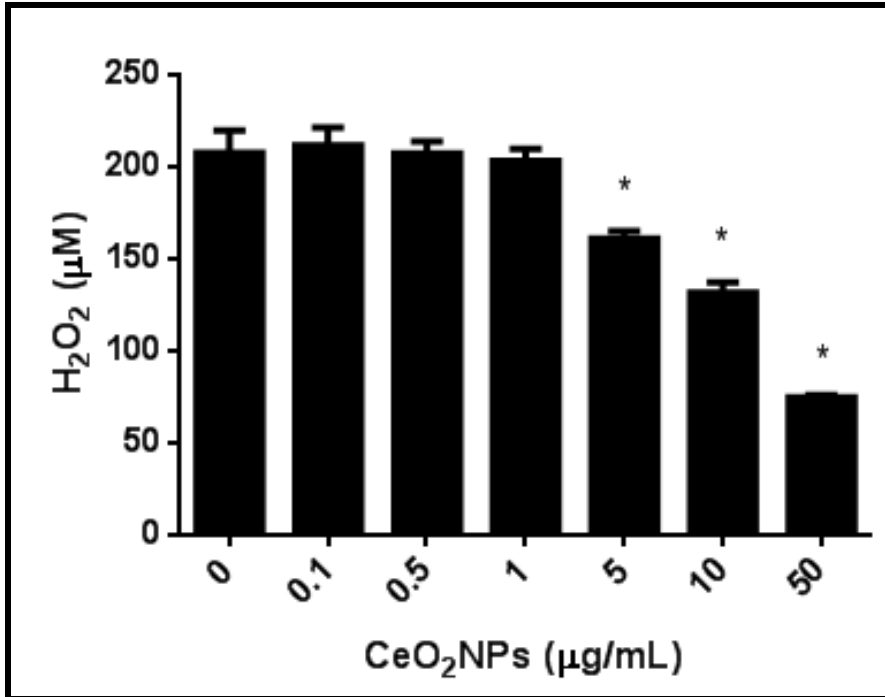
CeO₂NPs are protective antioxidant and anti-inflammatory agents in NAFLD



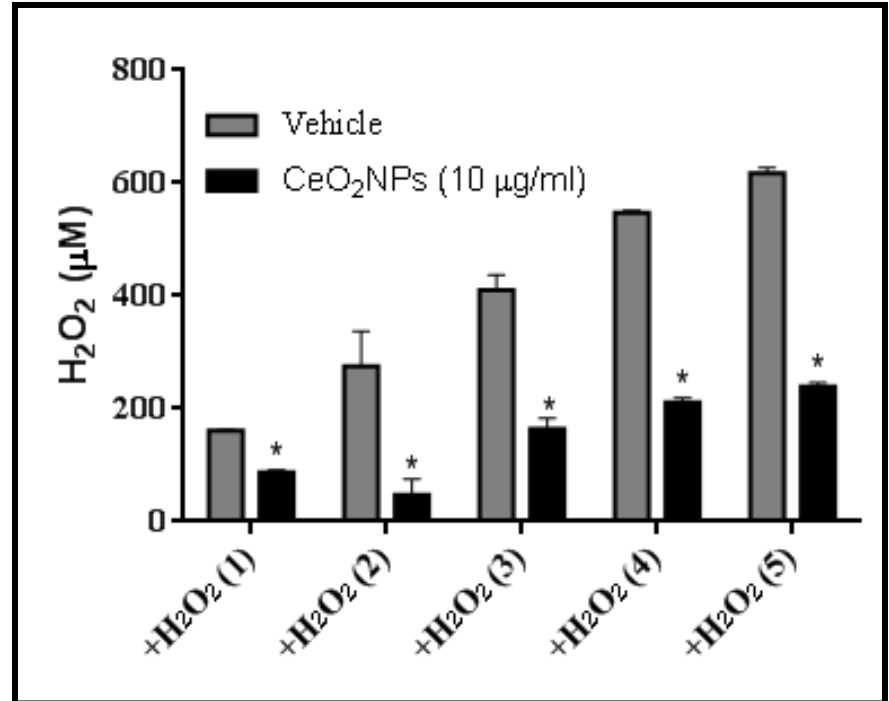
ROS: Reactive Oxygen Species

RESULTS *IN VITRO* (aqueous solution)

AQUEOS SOLUTION OF H₂O₂ Europium-tetracycline assay



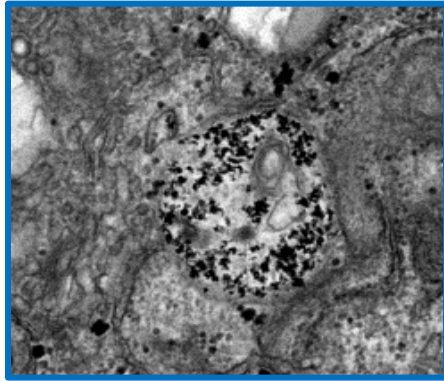
CeO₂NPs (4nm) reduction of H₂O₂ levels in aqueous solution



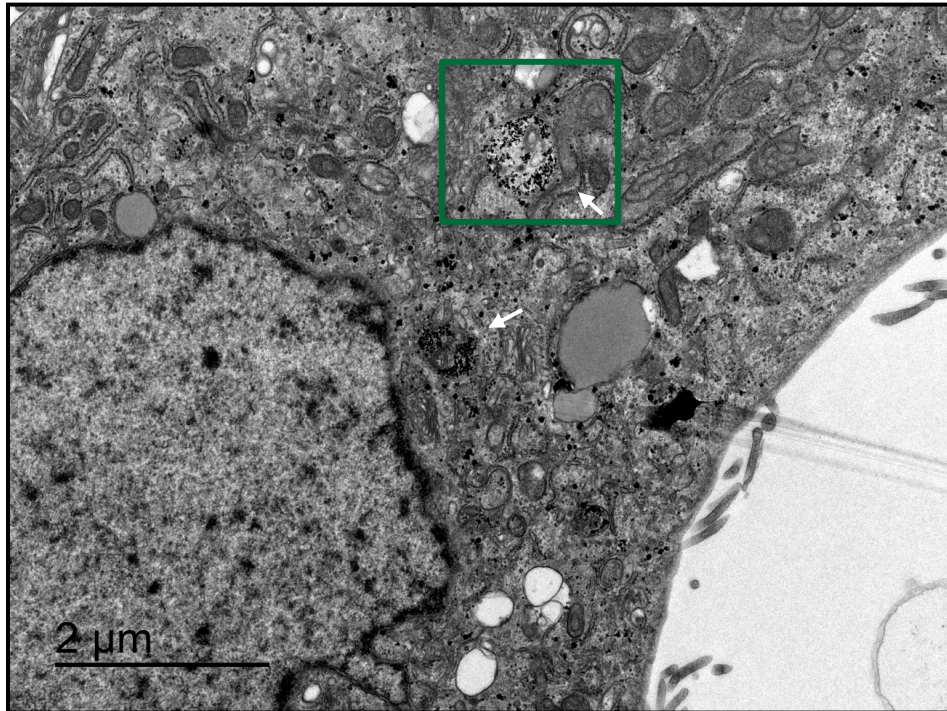
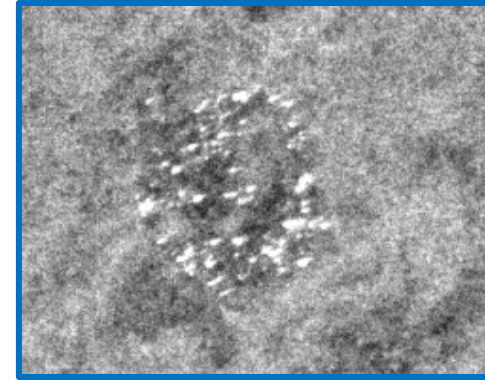
Effect of CeO₂NPs (4 nm) on H₂O₂ levels after addition of H₂O₂ (150 µM) up to 5 times

CeO₂NPs reduce H₂O₂ levels in aqueous solution

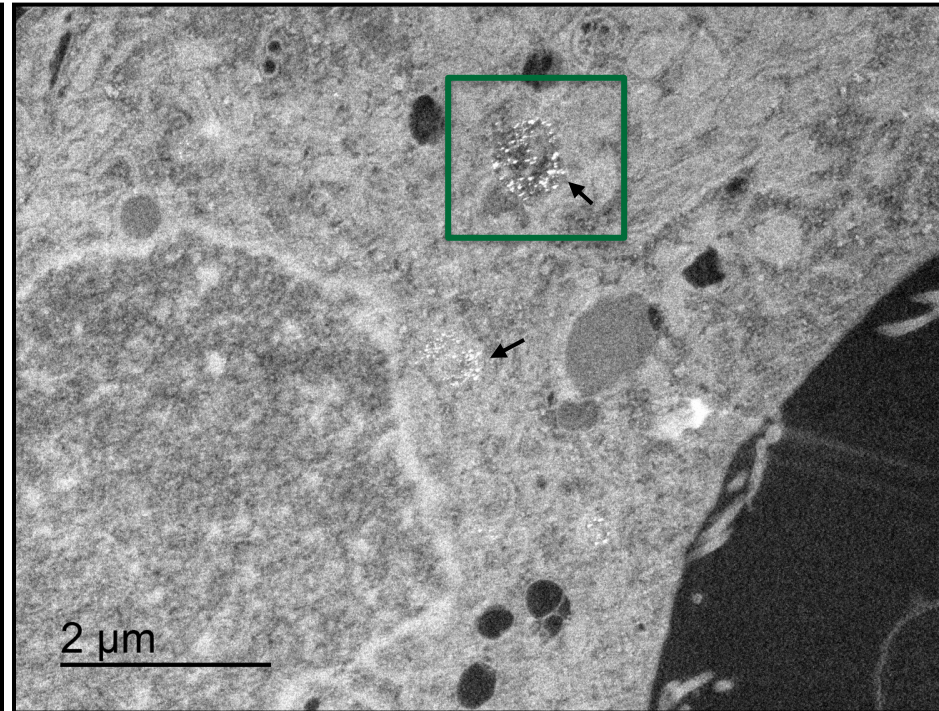
RESULTS *In vitro* HEPATIC CELLS (HepG2 cells)



Transmission
Electron
Microscopy
(TEM)



Normal field



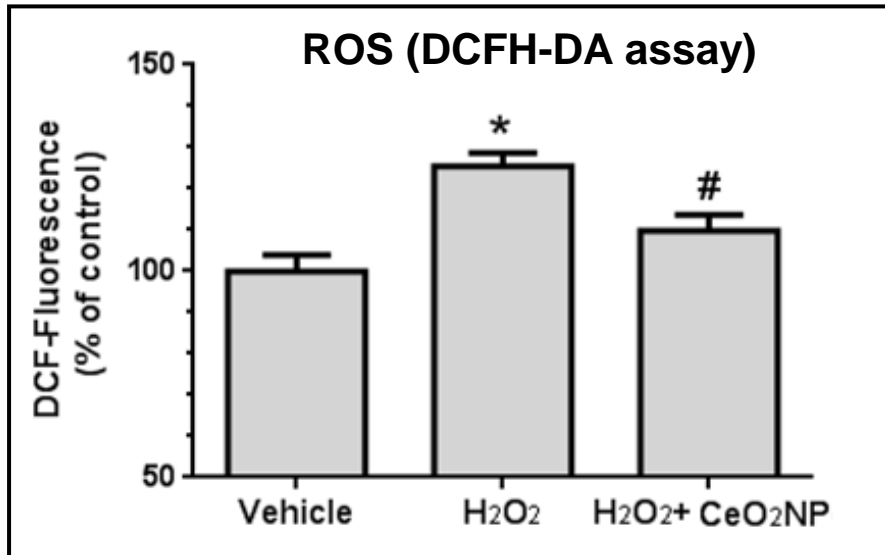
Dark field

CeO₂NPs are uptaken by human hepatic cells (HepG2 cells)

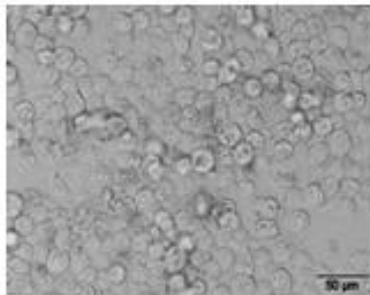
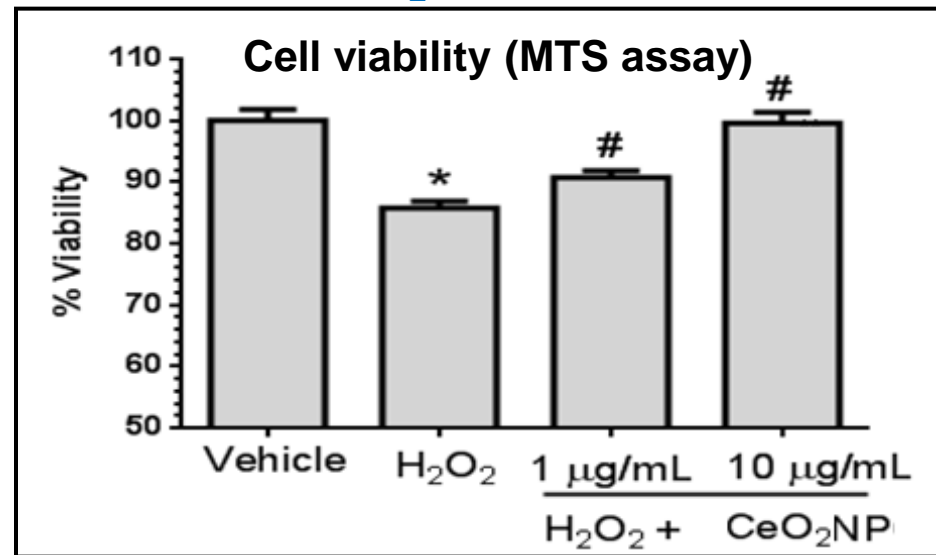
RESULTS *In vitro* (HepG2 cells)

CELLULAR OXIDATIVE STRESS CONDITIONS (H_2O_2 induced)

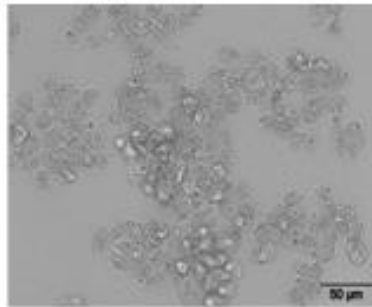
Effect of CeO_2 NPs on cellular ROS



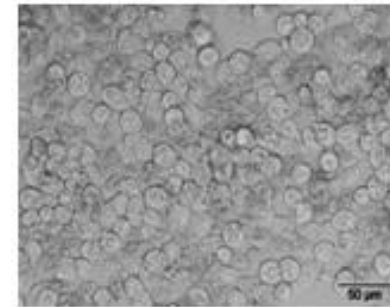
Effect of CeO_2 NPs on cell viability



Vehicle



H_2O_2 (1.5 mM)



H_2O_2 (1.5 mM) + CeO_2NP (10 $\mu g/mL$)

CeO_2 NPs reduce intracellular oxidative stress and improve cell viability in hepatic cells cultured under oxidative stress conditions

RESULTS *In vitro* (HepG2 cells)

CELL CULTURE CONDITIONS

Vehicle

Steatosis

Steatosis+CeO₂NPs

HepG2 cells

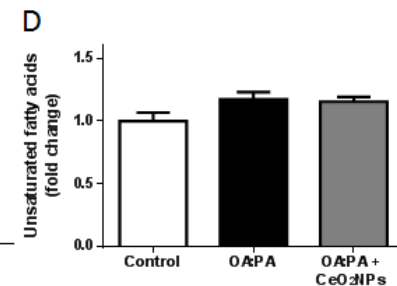
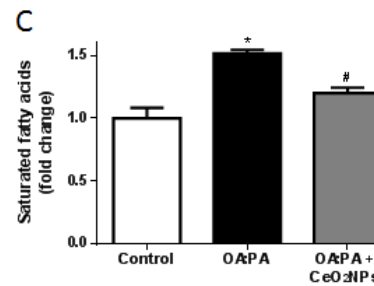
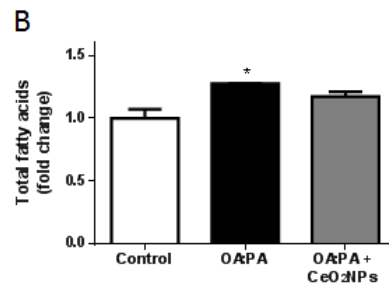
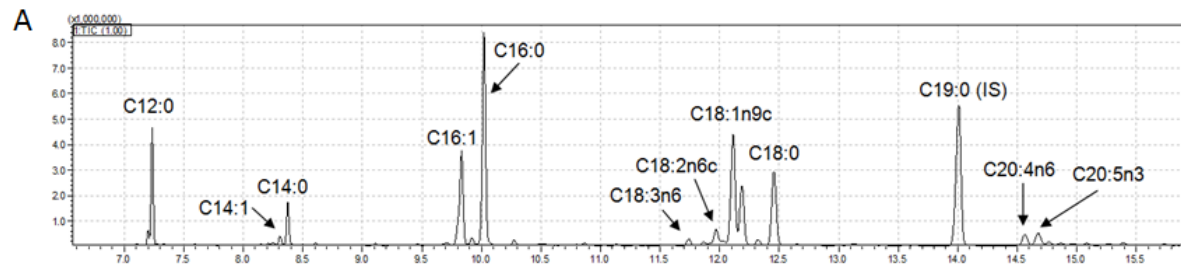
HepG2 cells
+ oleic and
palmitic acid

HepG2 cells
+ oleic and
palmitic acid
+ CeO₂NP

HEPATOCELLULAR
STEATOSIS
INDUCTION



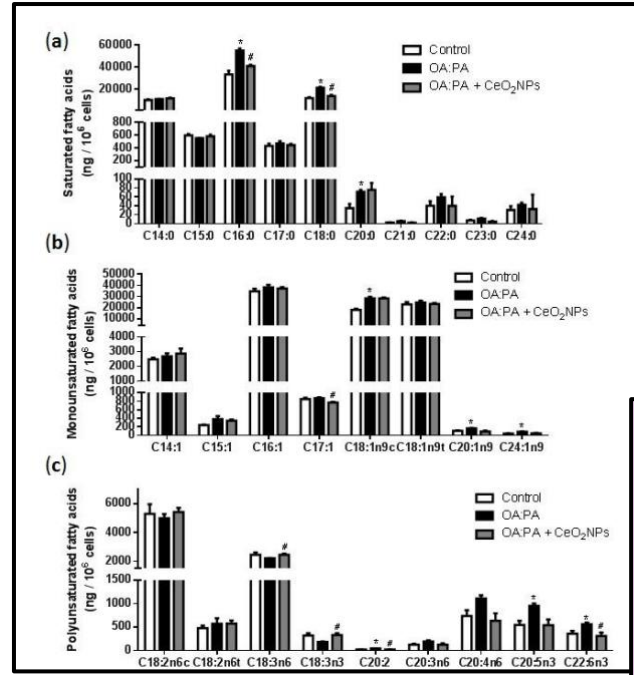
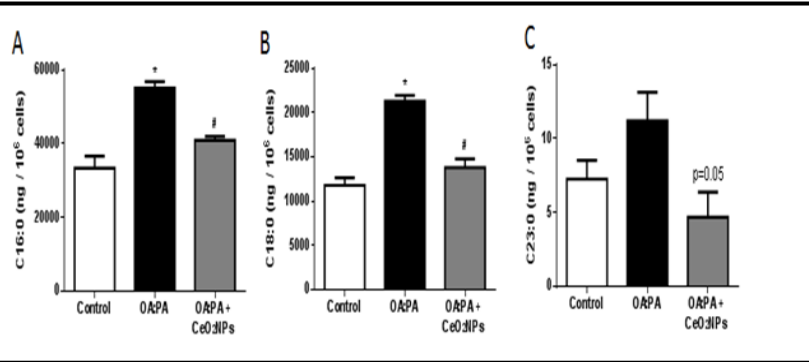
ANALYSIS OF
CELLULAR
FATTY ACID
CONTENT BY
GC-MS



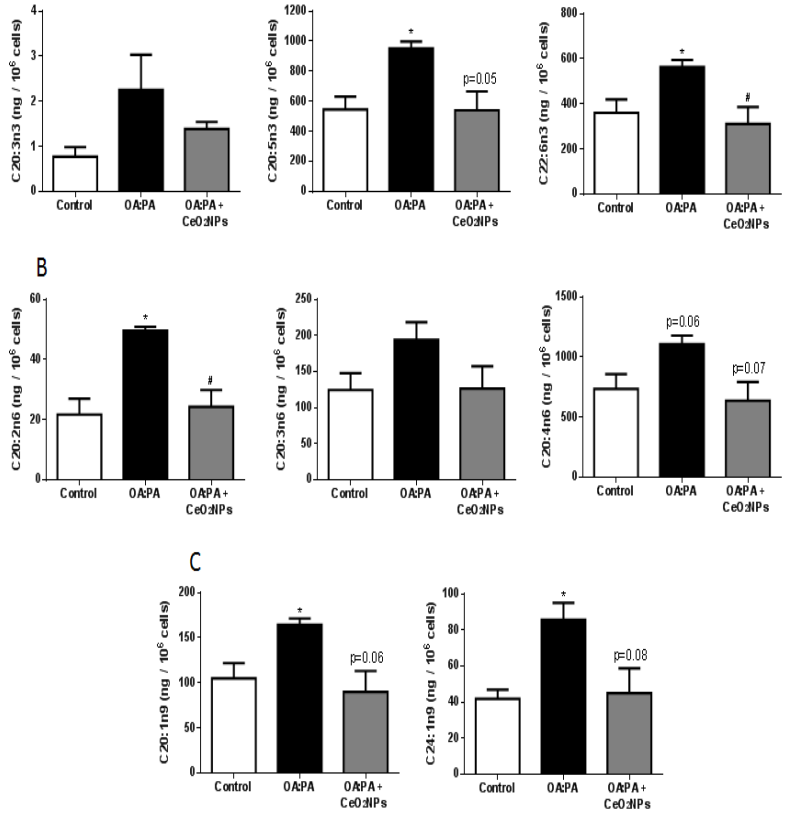
RESULTS *In vitro* (HepG2 cells)

SATURATED FATTY ACIDS

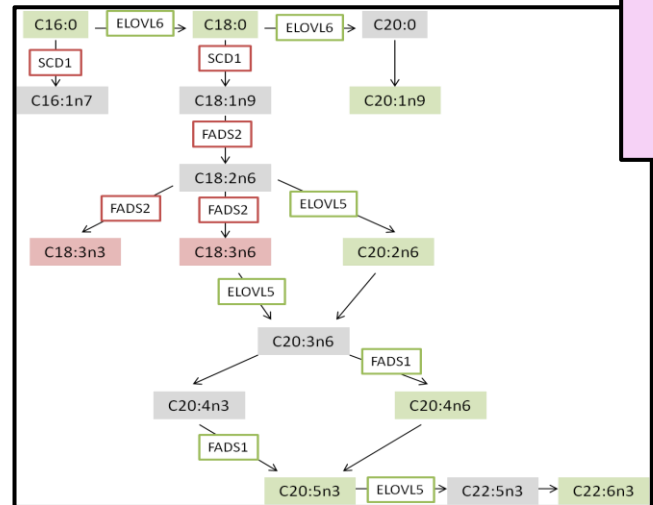
EFFECT OF CeO₂NPs ON FATTY ACID METABOLISM IN HEPATIC CELLS



UNSATURATED FATTY ACIDS



CeO₂NPs reduce fatty acid content by inducing specific changes in steatotic hepatocellular metabolism



EXPERIMENTS *In vivo* (Rats)

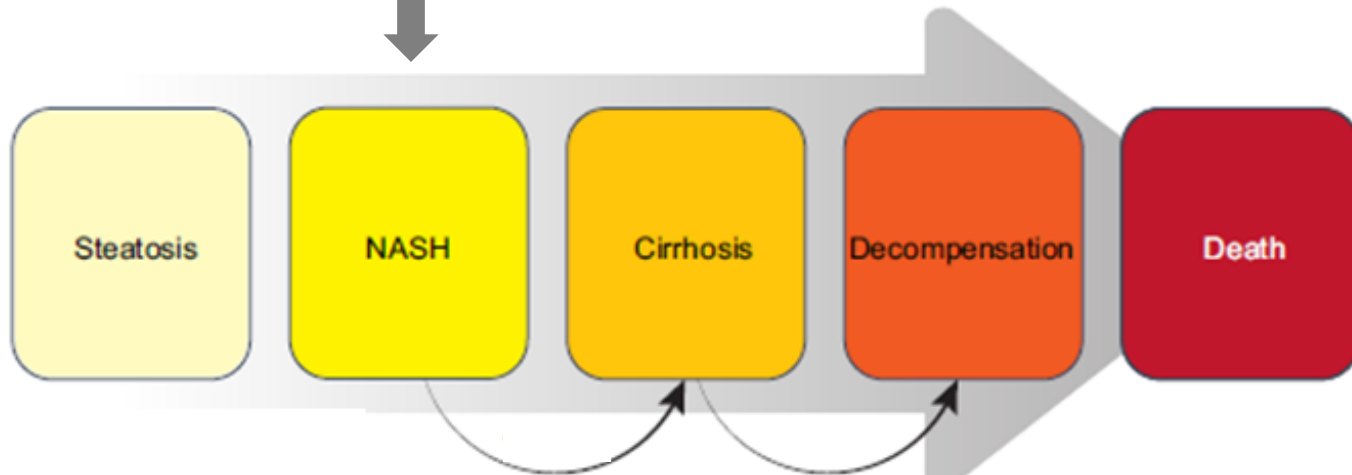
NAFLD: Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease



Wistar rats



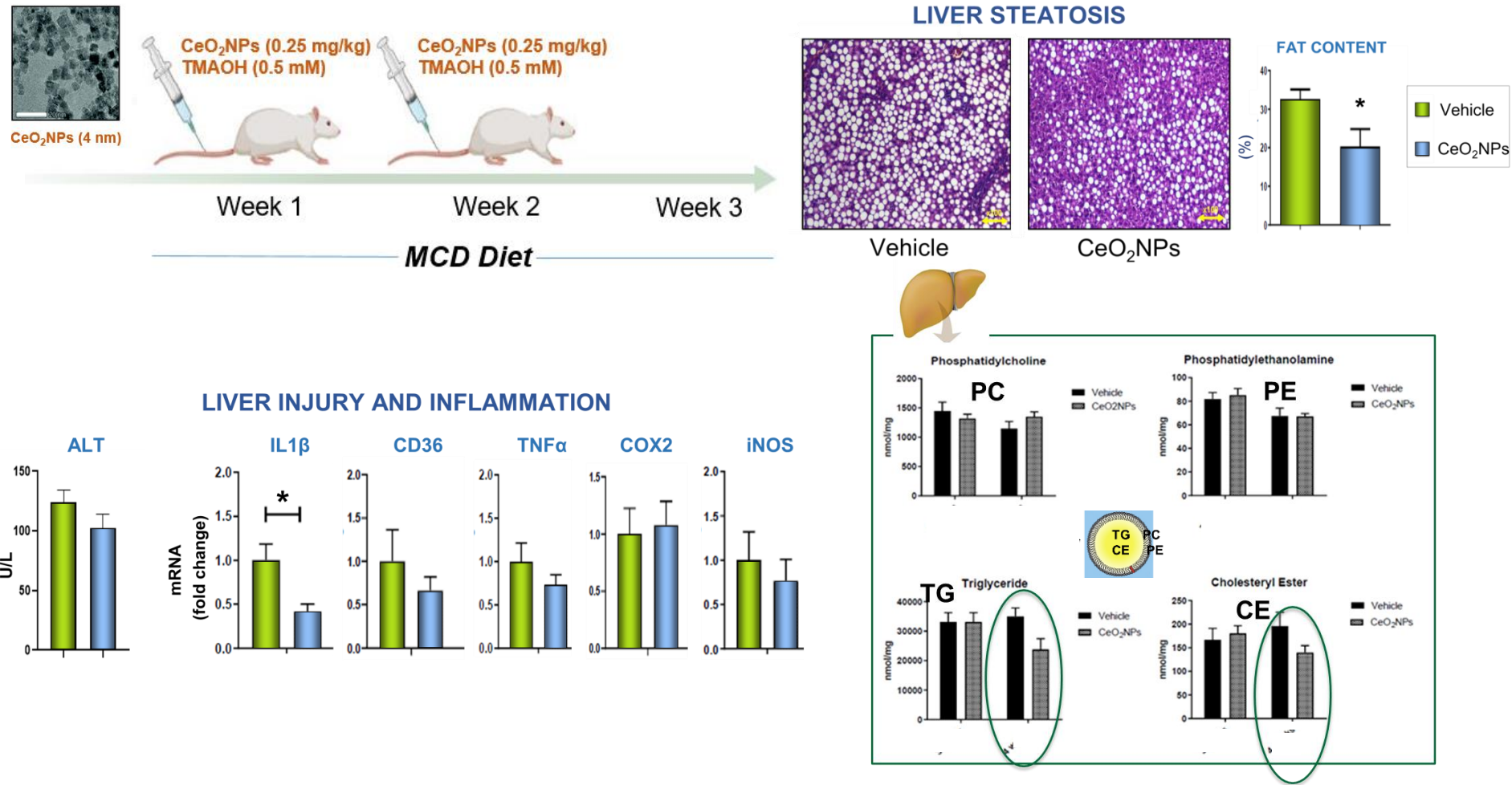
Methionine and Choline
Deficient Diet (MCDD)*



** Methionine and choline deficient diet (MCDD) leads to macrovesicular steatosis, hepatic injury and inflammation in rats*

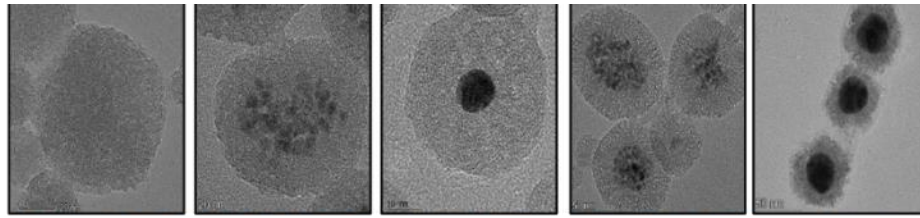
EXPERIMENTS *In vivo* (Rats with NASH)

Protocol 1 (pilot study). Steatohepatitis was induced by a MCD diet for 3 weeks in Wistar rats, which were randomly administered intravenously (iv) with CeO₂NPs (0.25 mg/kg; n=5) or vehicle (TMAOH; n=5).

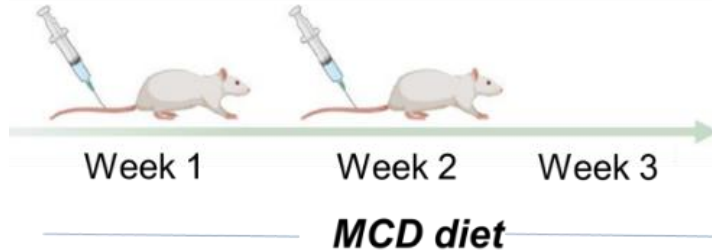


EXPERIMENTS *In vivo* (Rats with NASH)

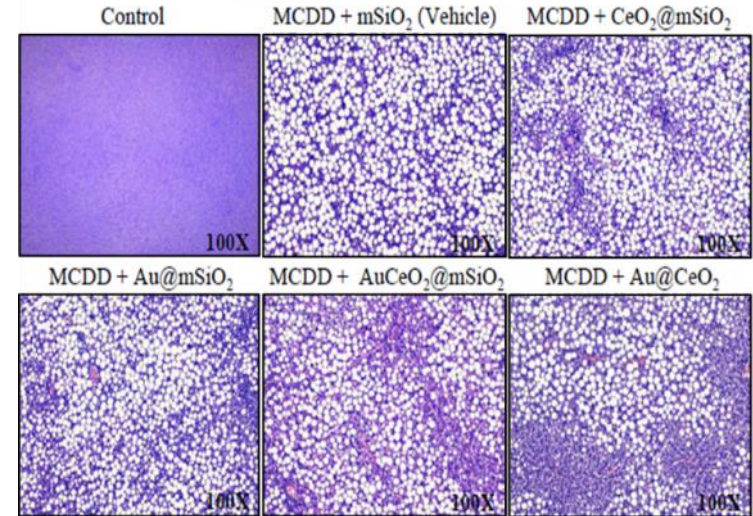
PROTOCOL 2. MCD-diet induced steatohepatitis in Wistar rats (5 groups; n=10/group).



Vehicle (mSiO₂) CeO₂@mSiO₂ Au@mSiO₂ AuCeO₂@mSiO₂ Au@CeO₂

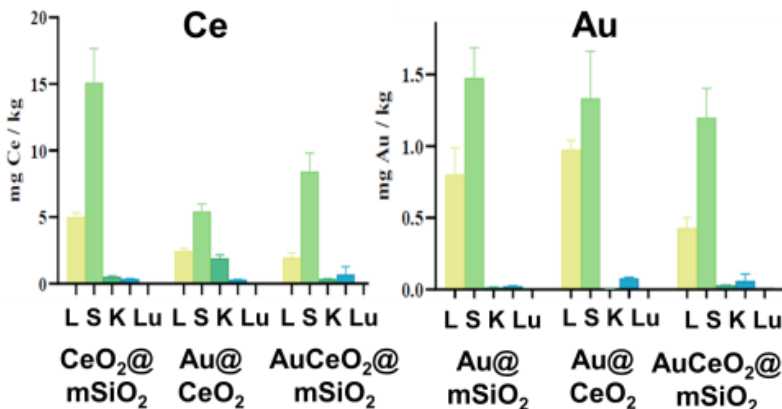


LIVER STEATOSIS

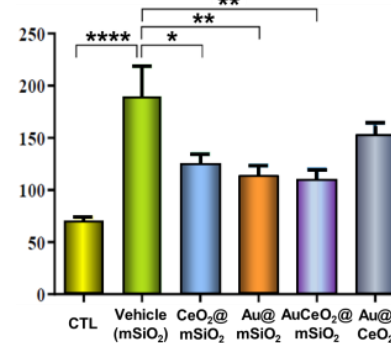


BIODISTRIBUTION

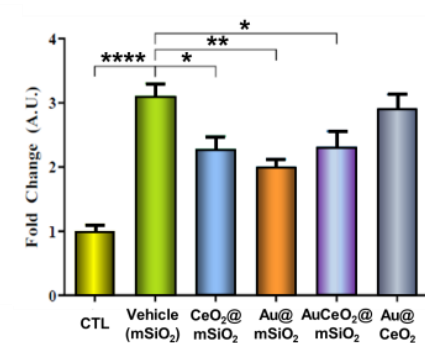
L: Liver S: Spleen
K: Kidney Lu: Lung



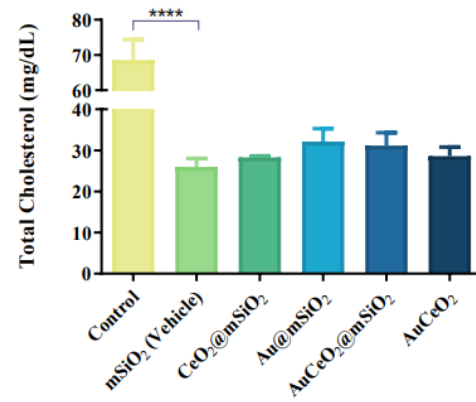
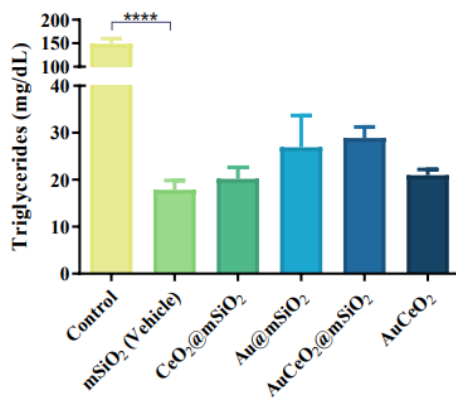
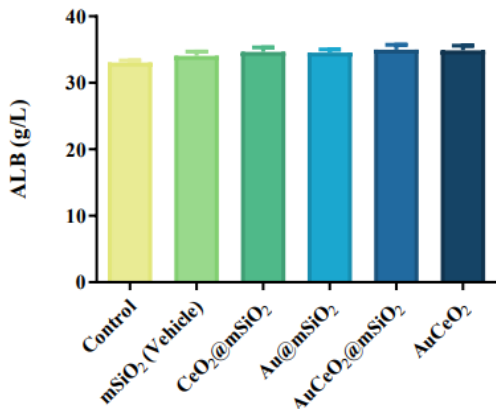
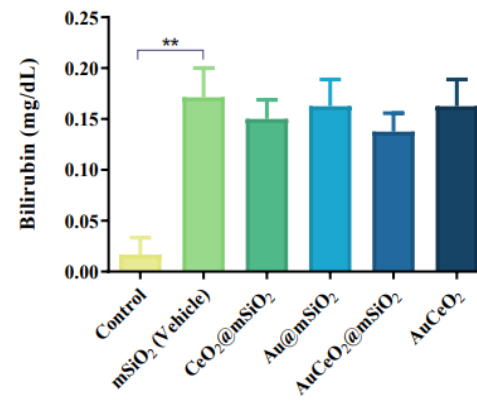
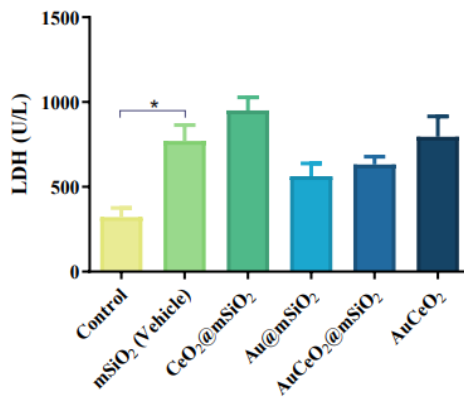
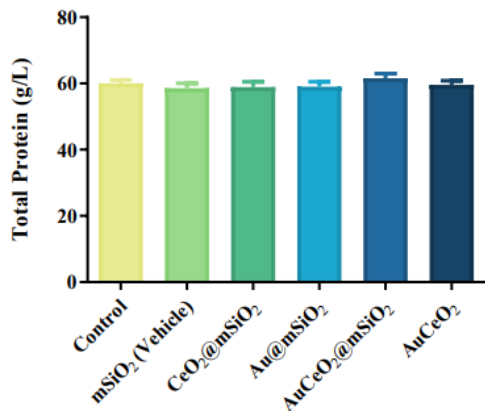
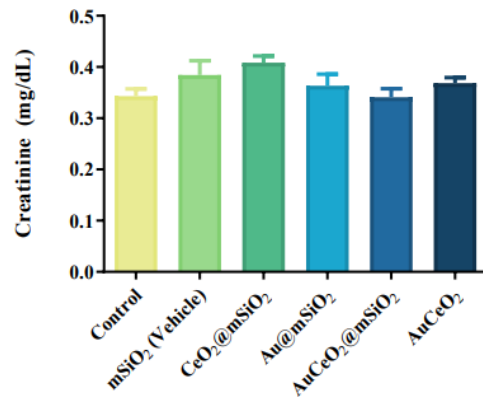
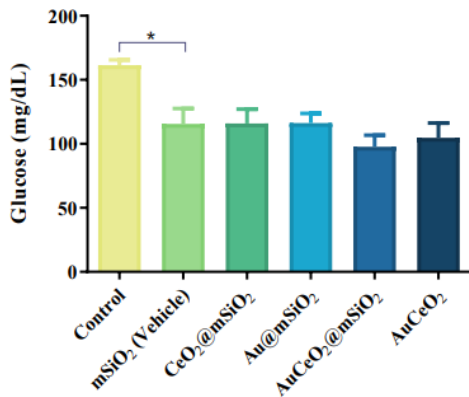
ALT (U/L)



CD36 (mRNA)

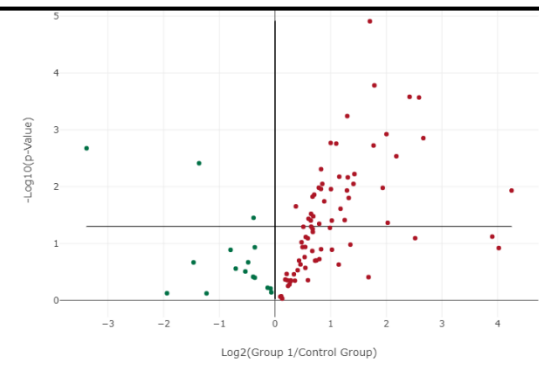


General biochemical parameters

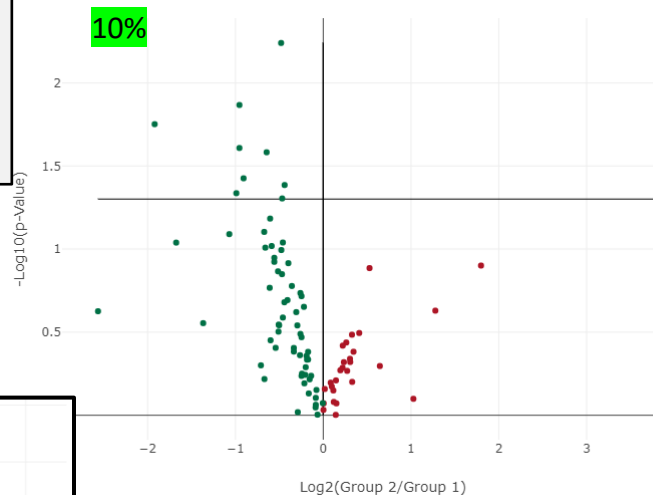


Hepatic messenger expression of inflammatory and steatosis genes

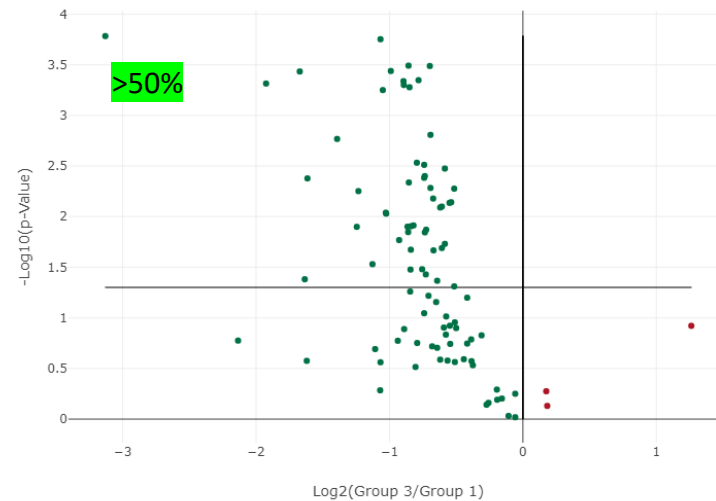
Vehicle (mSiO₂) vs Control



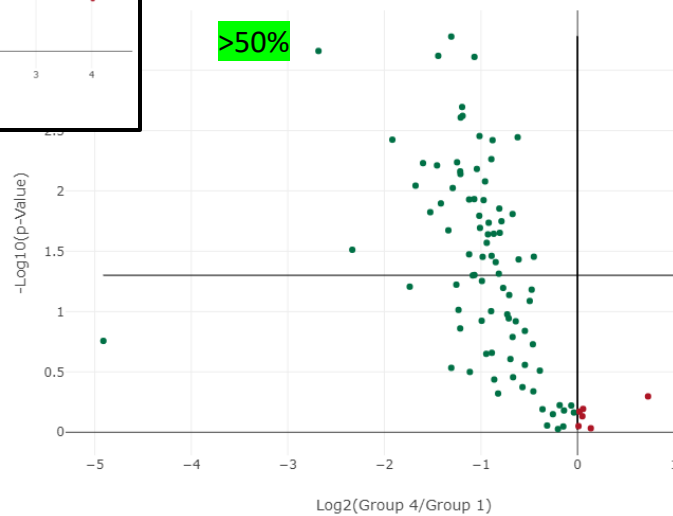
CeO₂@mSiO₂ vs Vehicle



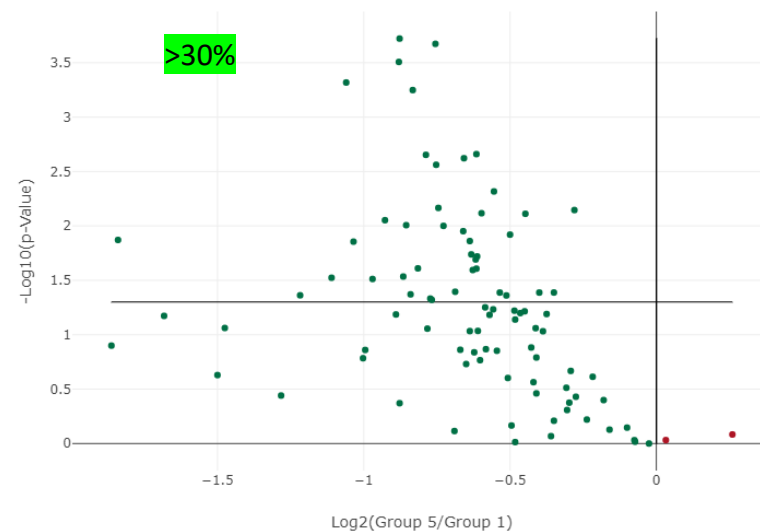
Au@mSiO₂ vs Vehicle



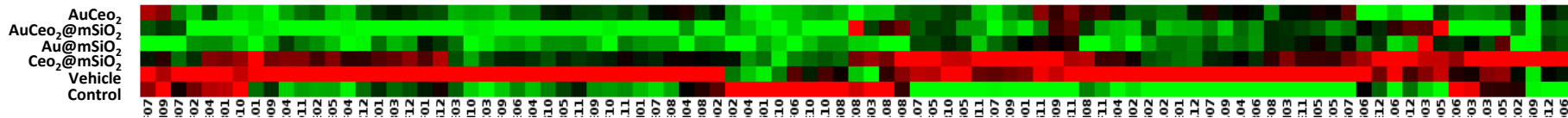
AuCeO₂@mSiO₂ vs Vehicle



AuCeO₂ vs Vehicle

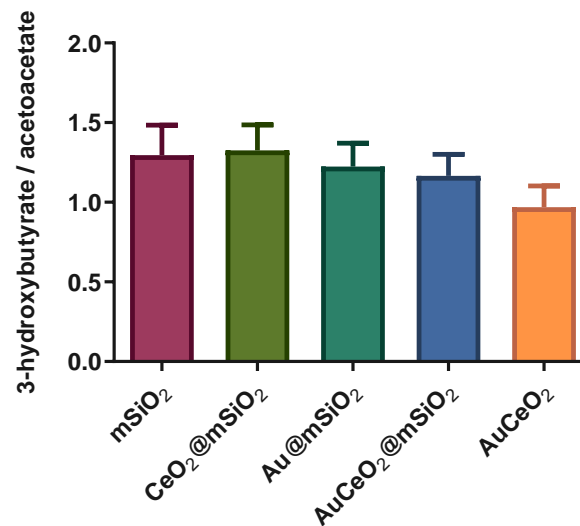
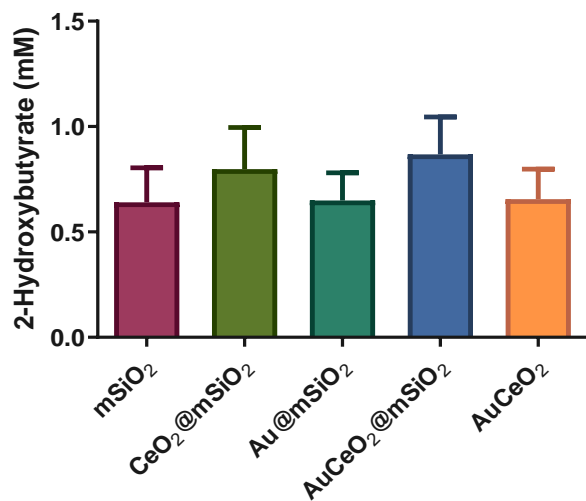
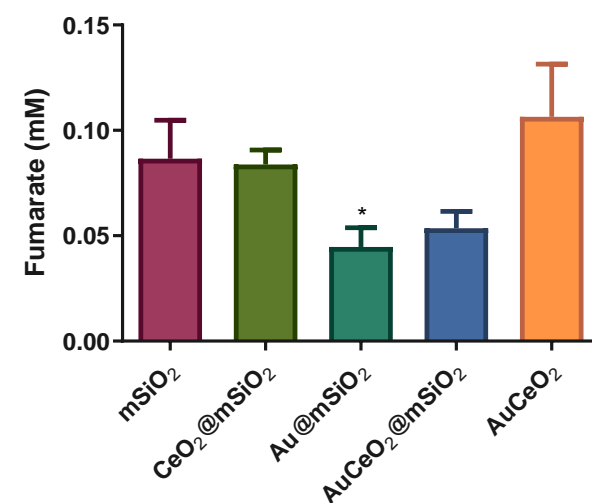
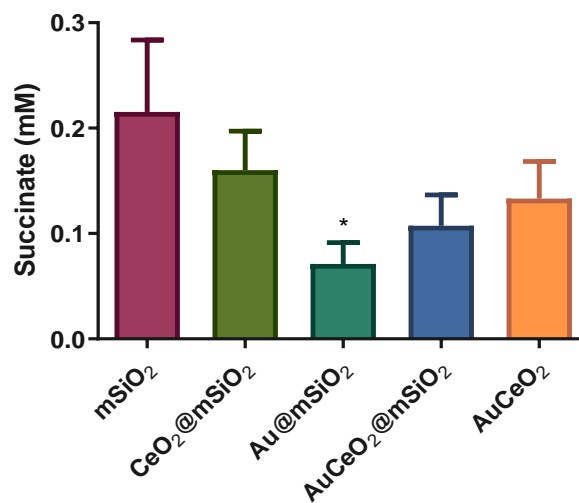
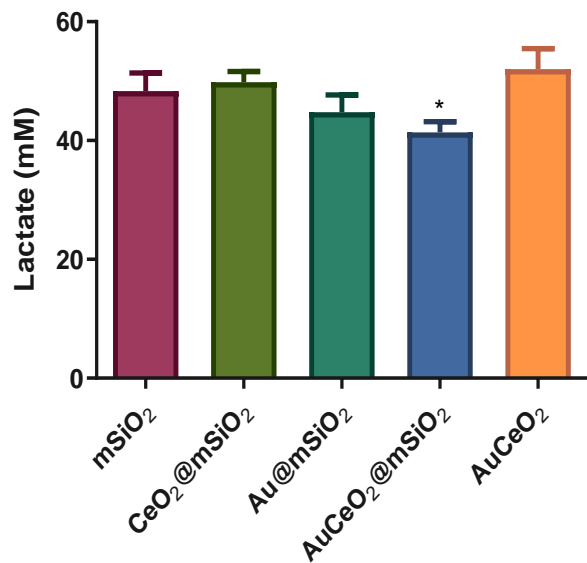


min avg max



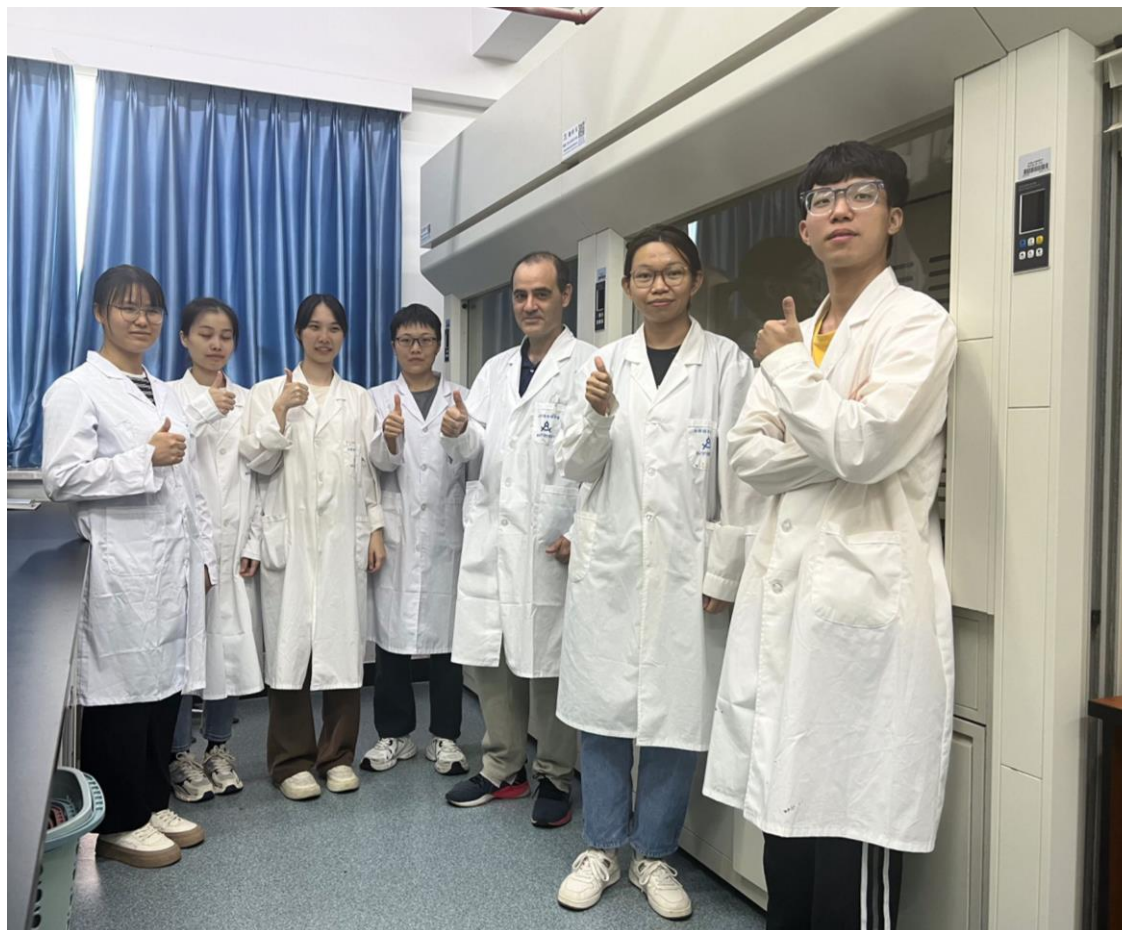
METABOLITES

(GC-MS)



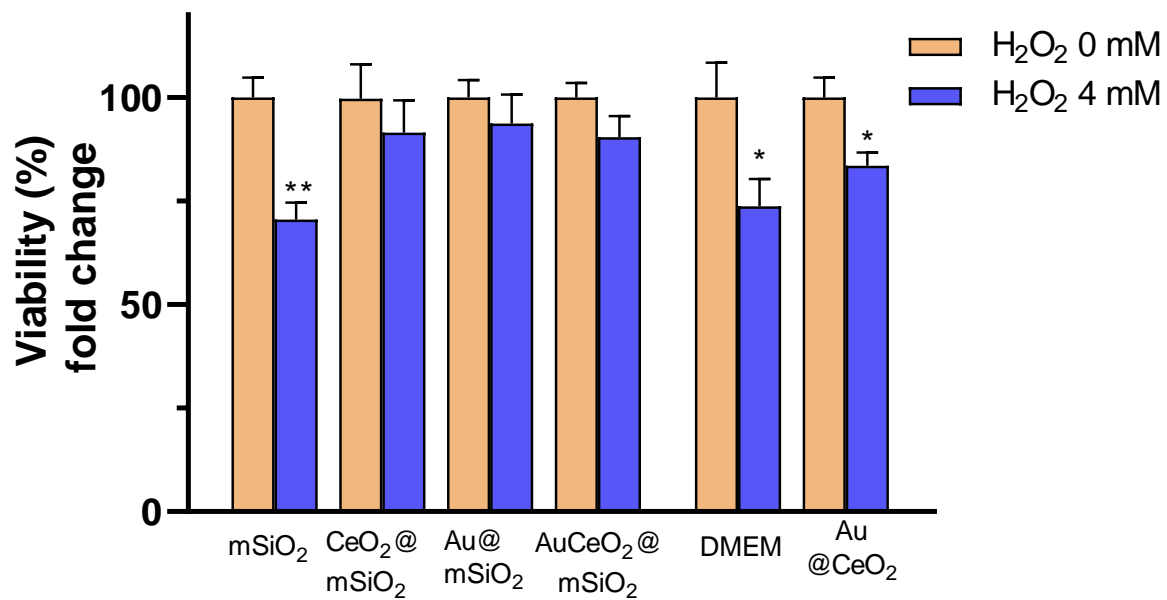
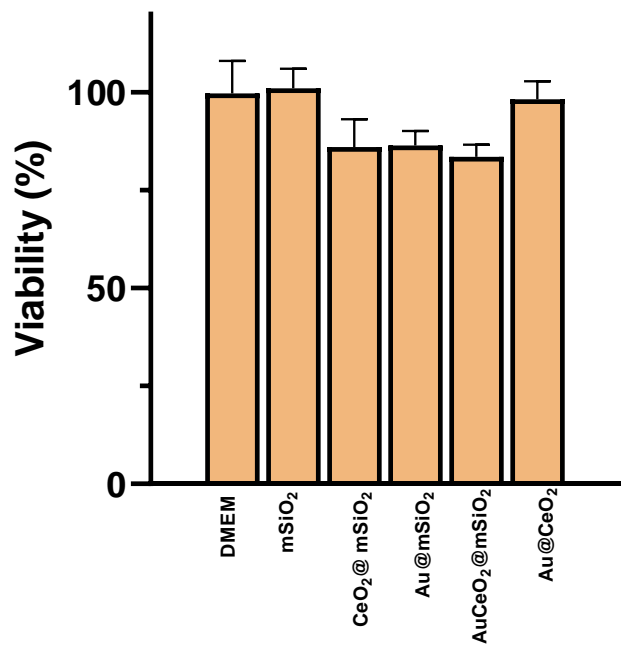


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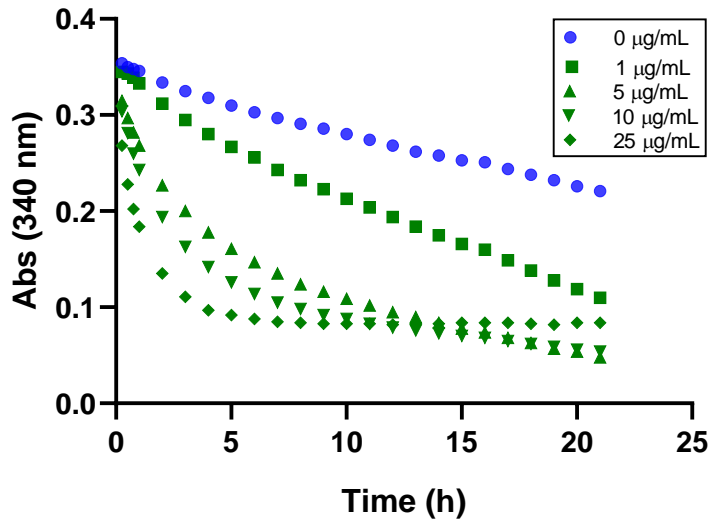
Cell viability

HepG2 cells

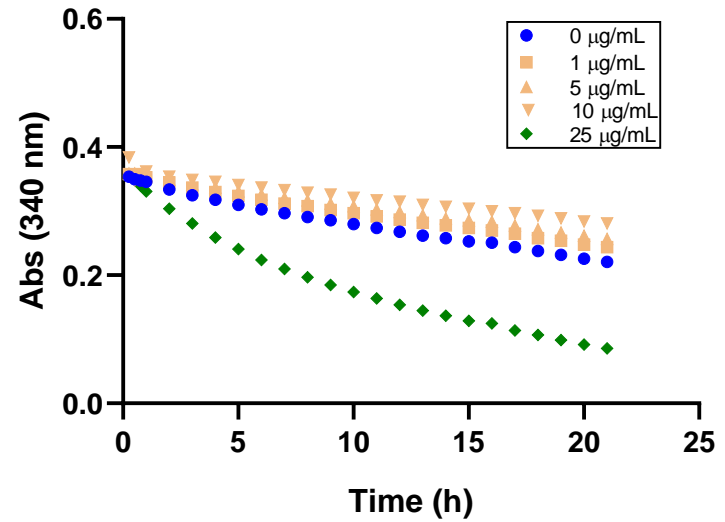


NADH oxidation activity

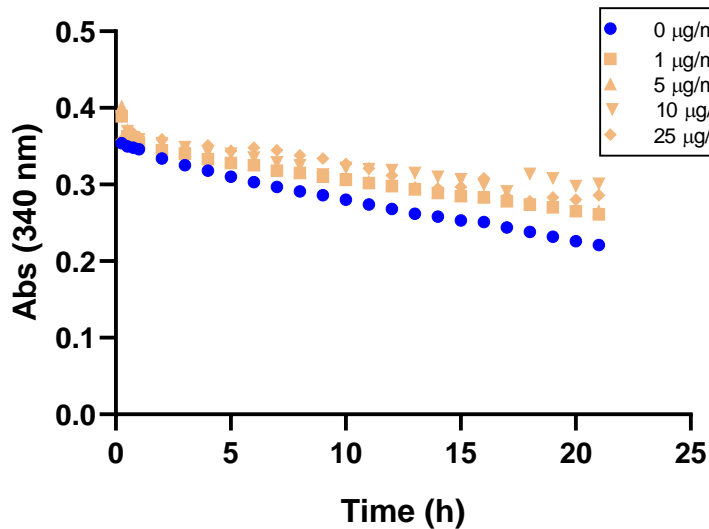
AuNPs (4 nm)



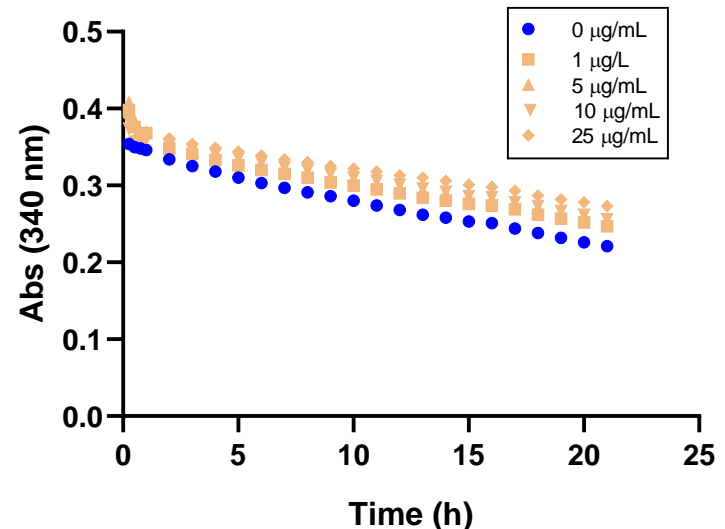
AuNPs (10 nm)



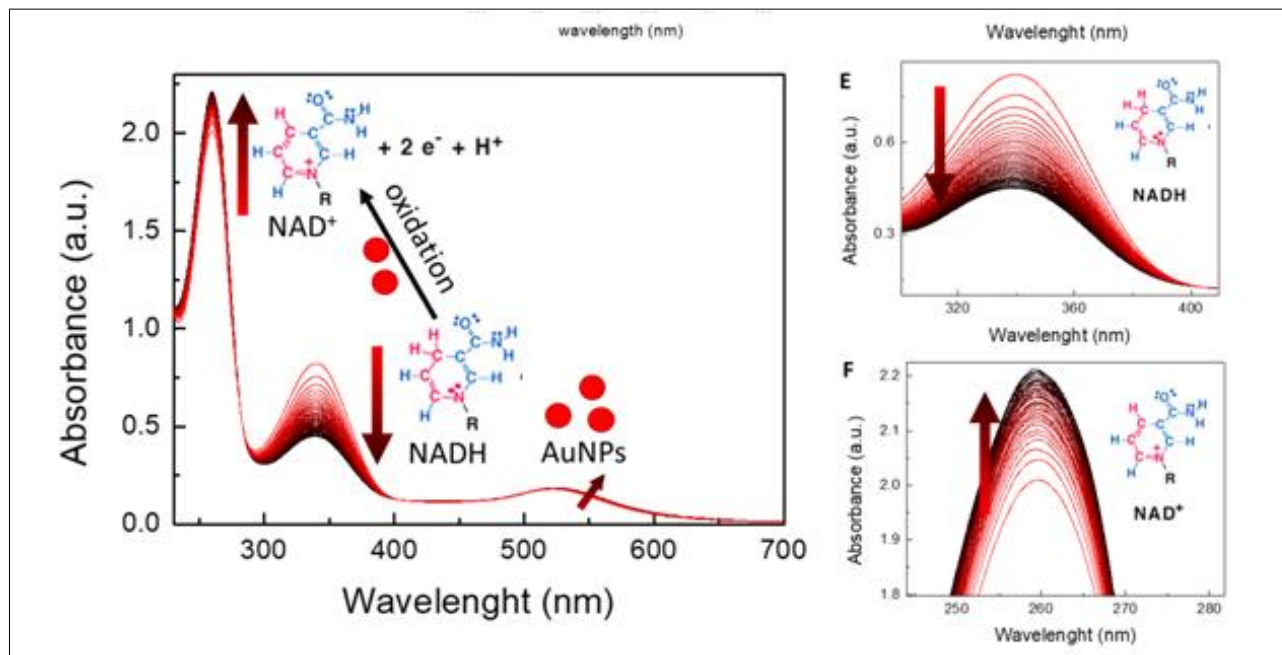
CeO₂ (4 nm)



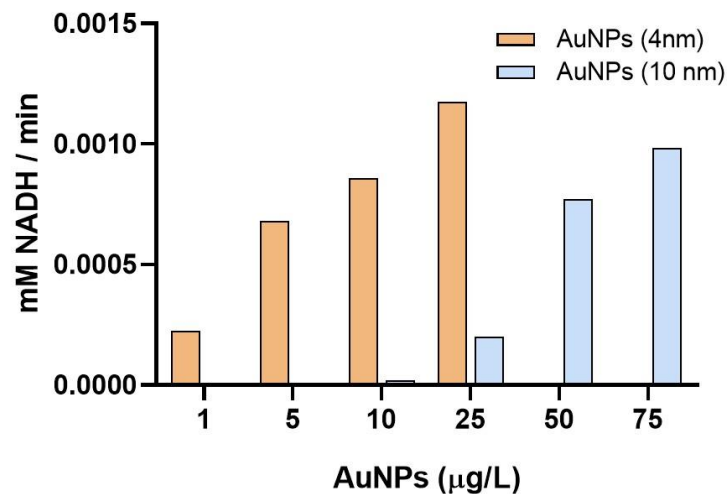
Au@CeO₂



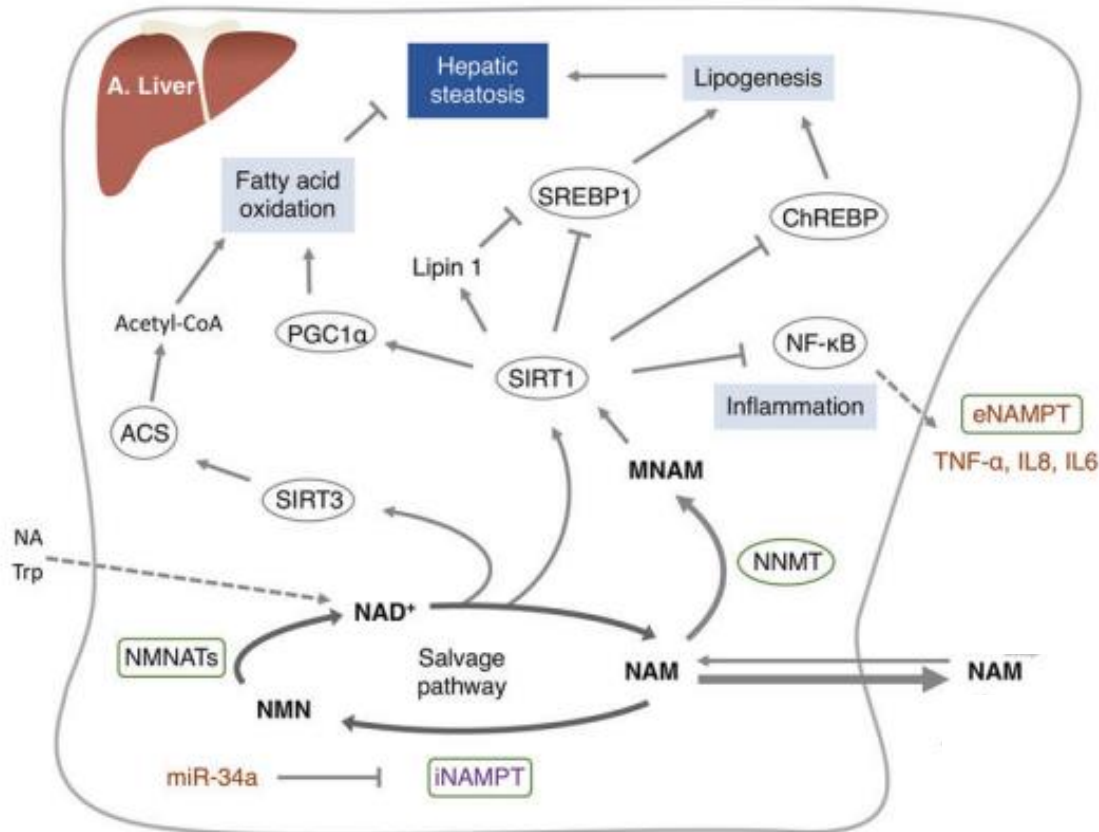
Conversion of NADH to NAD⁺



Reaction rate



PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL ROLE OF LOW NAD⁺ IN NAFLD



Signal Transduct Target Ther 2020;5:227

ONGOING EXPERIMENTS

Evaluation of NADH oxidase activity *in vivo*
Study of the metabolome of the liver

SUMMARY (1)

1. CeO₂NPs reduce H₂O₂ levels

***In vitro* - Human hepatic cells (HepG2)**

2. CeO₂NPs are internalized in the cytoplasm
3. CeO₂NPs reduce oxidative stress and improve cell viability in cells treated with H₂O₂
5. CeO₂NPs reduce fatty acid content in an *in vitro* model of hepatocellular steatosis

***In vivo* – Rats (NASH)**

6. CeO₂NPs reduce liver steatosis and IL-1 β
7. Ce and Au are mainly distributed to the liver after i.v. administration of NPs (CeO₂ and/or Au @mSiO₂)

SUMMARY (2)

8. CeO₂ and/or Au @mSiO₂ NPs reduce liver steatosis, ALT and hepatic expresión of inflammatory and steatosis genes in a rat model of NASH

**CeO₂NPs and AuNPs may be of therapeutic value in
NAFLD**

謝謝

Thank You

