

# **Transmissible spongiform encephalopathies**

<b>Disease</b>	<b>Species</b>
Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease	human
Kuru	human
Scrapie	sheep & goats
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	cattle
Feline spongiform encephalopathy	cats
Chronic wasting disease	deer & elk
Transmissible mink encephalopathy	mink

# TSEs and the prion protein, PrP

**PrP<sup>c</sup>** → **PrP<sup>Sc</sup>**

**Soluble**

**PK sensitive**

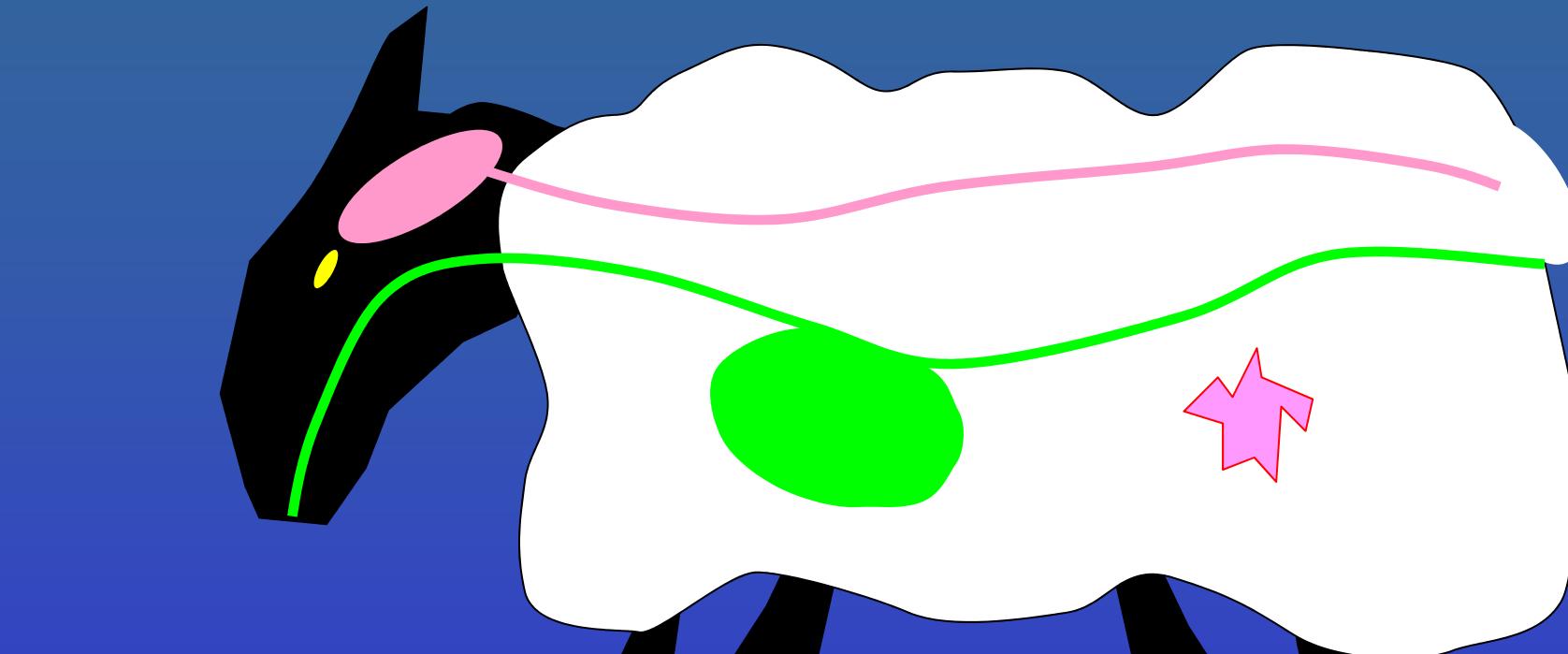
**Cell membrane**

**Insoluble**

**Relatively PK resistant**

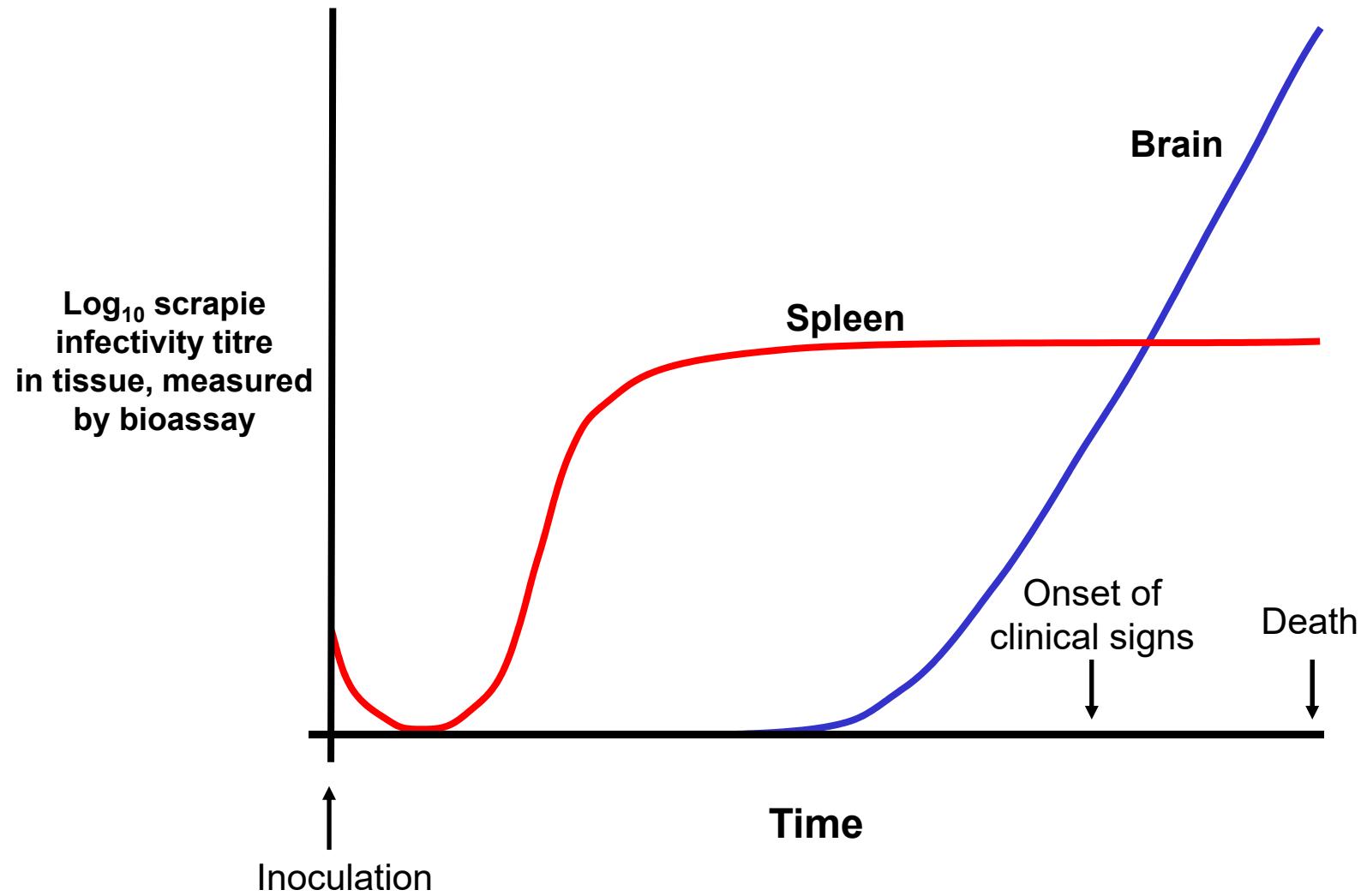
**Fibrillar**

# How do TSEs reach the brain?



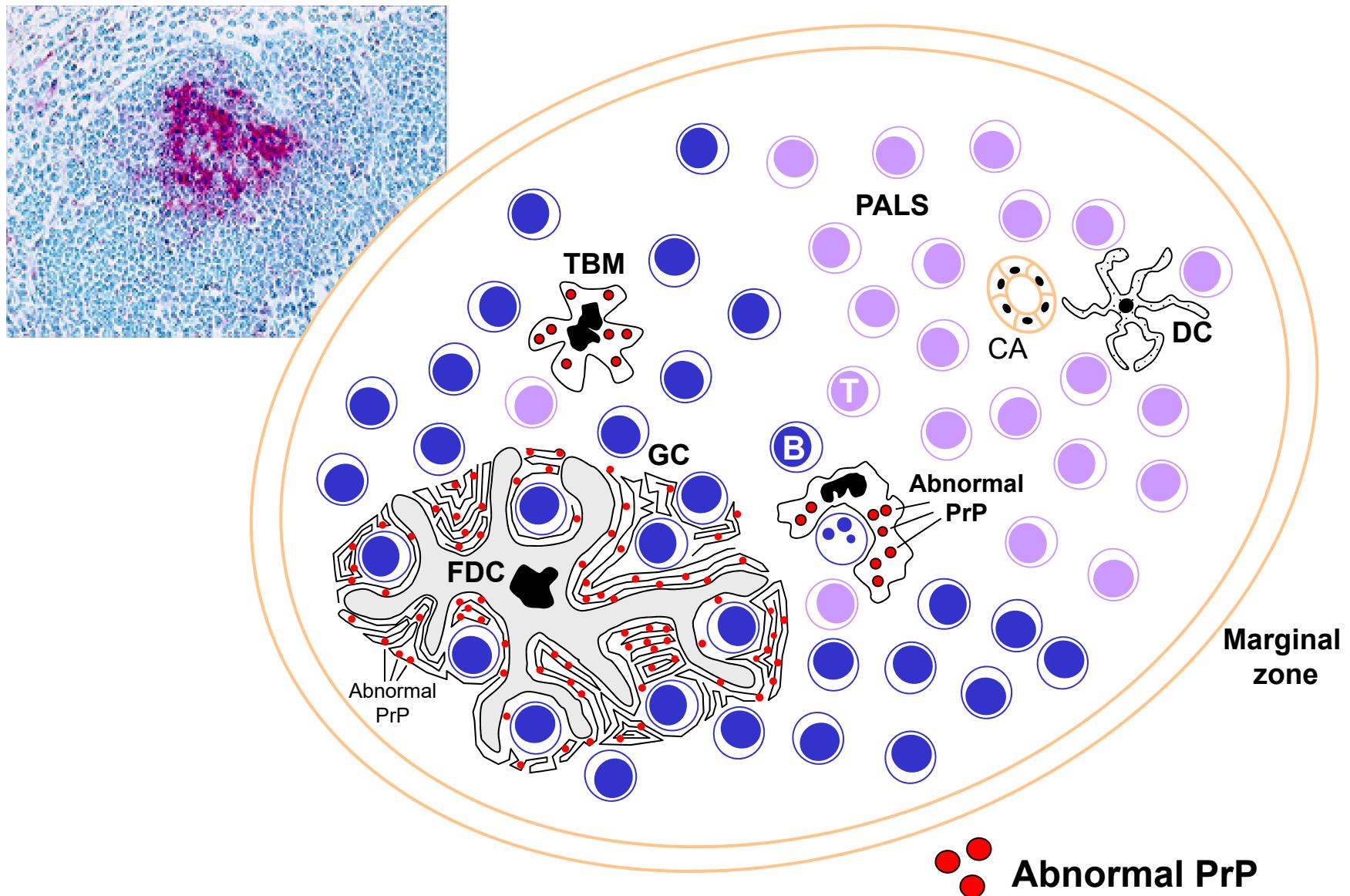
~~~~~ GI tract

~~~~~ CNS

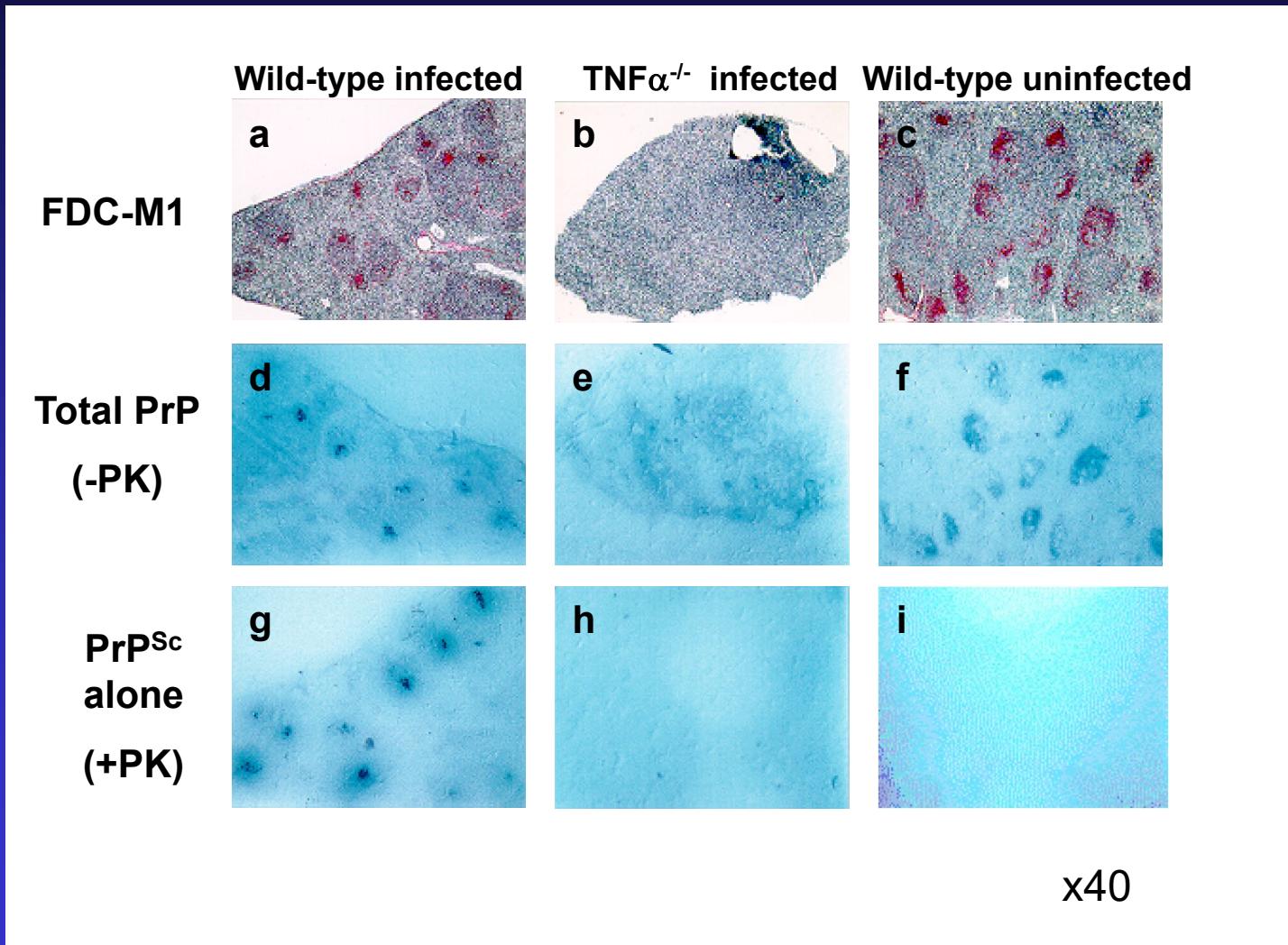


**Accumulation of infectivity in the spleen and brain following peripheral challenge of mice with scrapie**

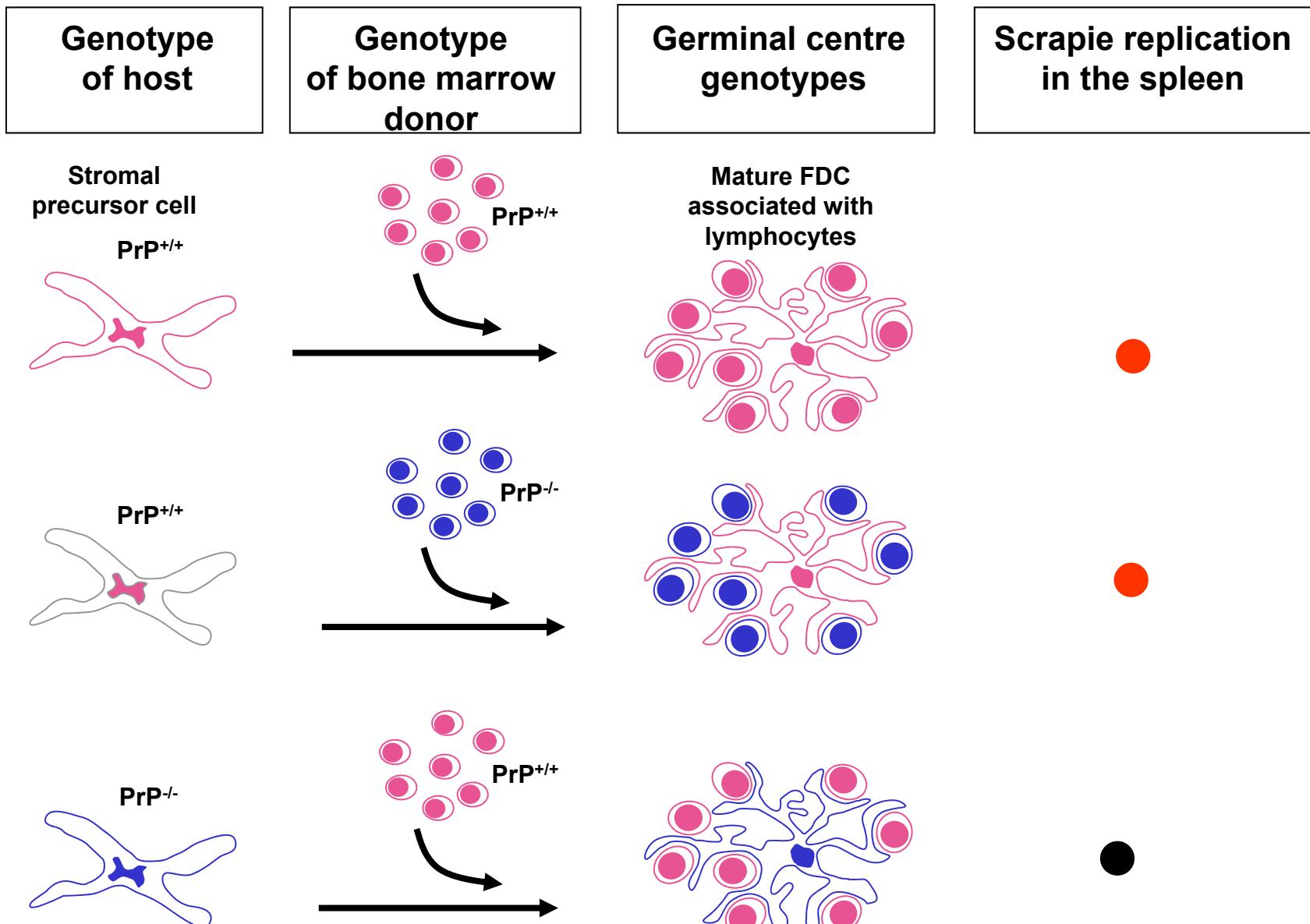
# Sites of abnormal PrP accumulation in the spleen



# $\text{PrP}^{\text{Sc}}$ accumulates in direct association with FDCs

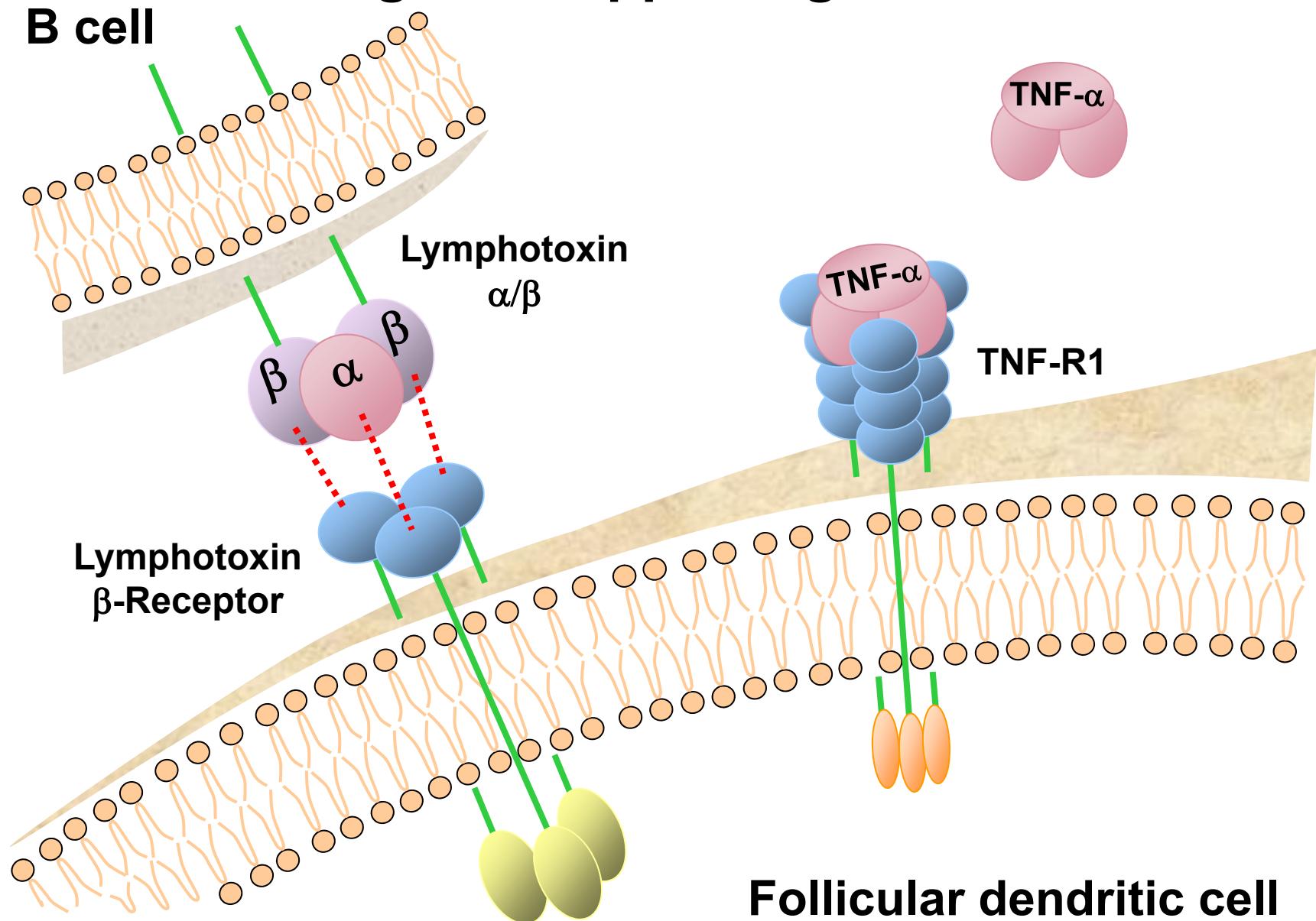


## ME7 scrapie replication in lymphoid tissues depends on PrP-expressing FDCs

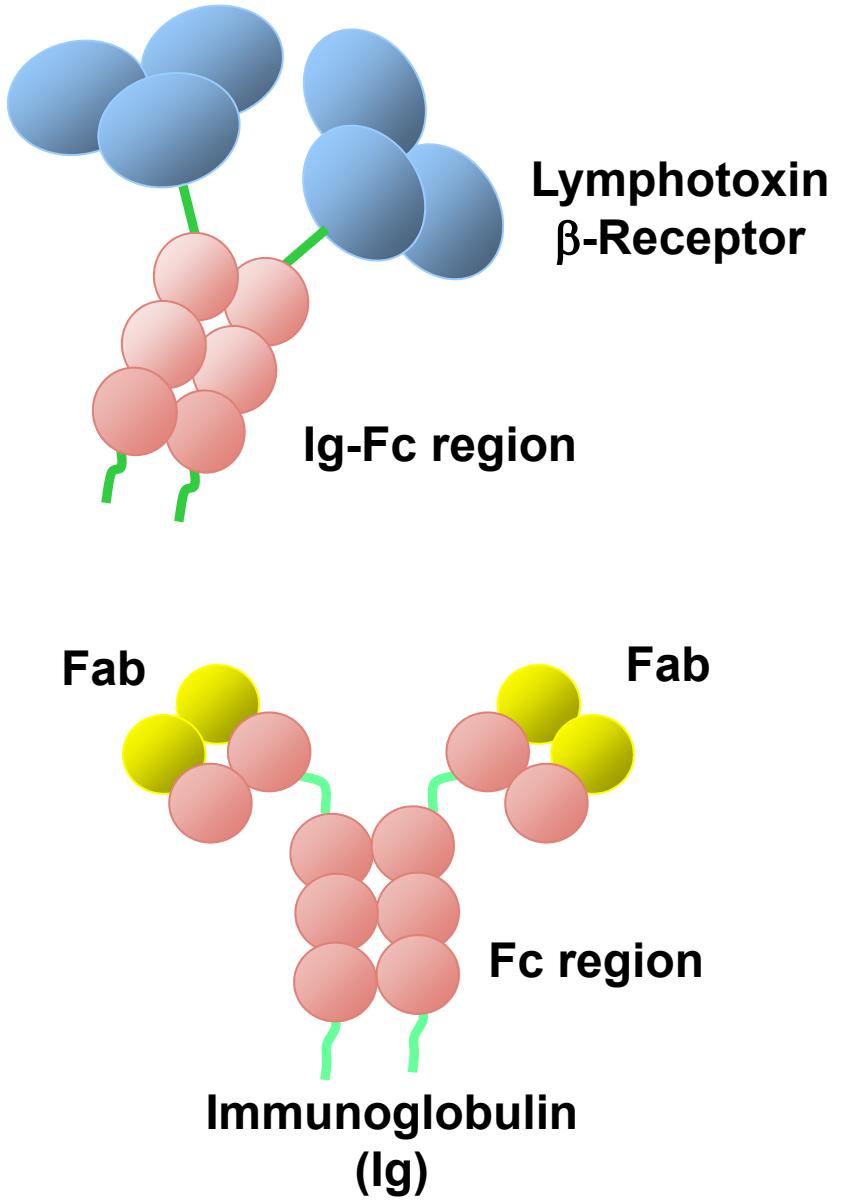
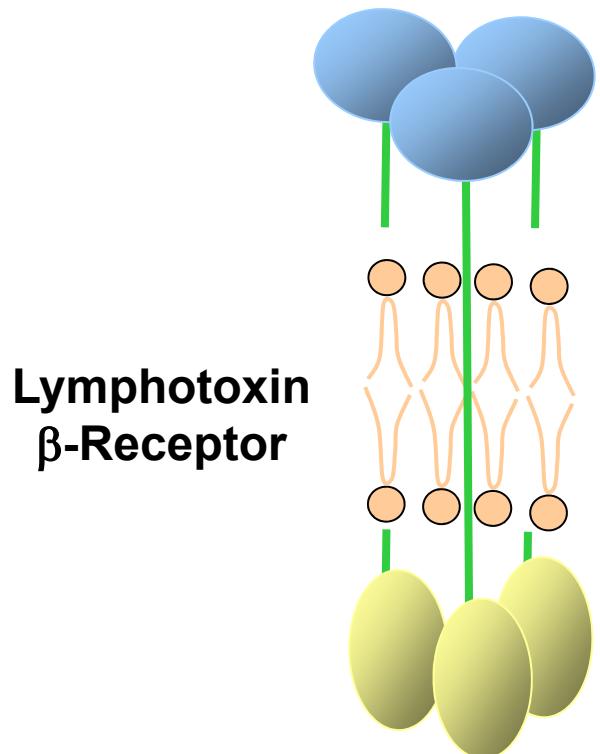


Nature Medicine (1999) 5, 1308

# Signals supporting FDC maintenance

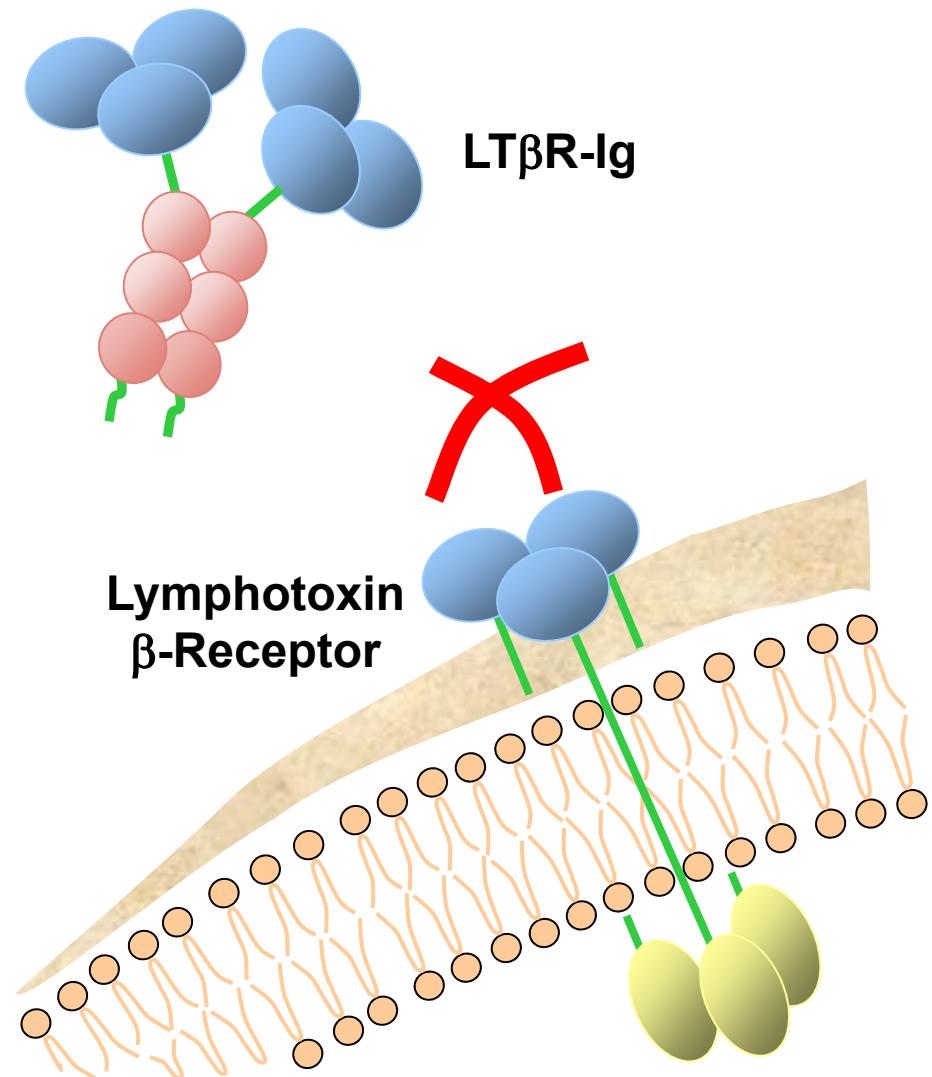
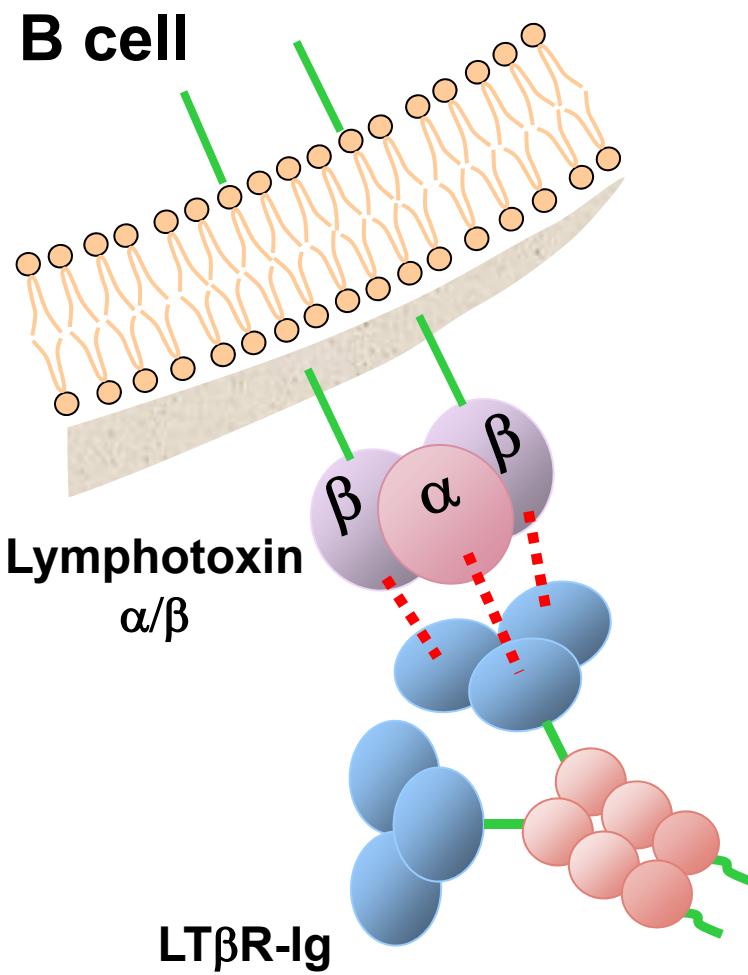


# The LT $\beta$ R-Ig fusion protein



Force et al. (1995) J. Immunol. **155**, 5280.

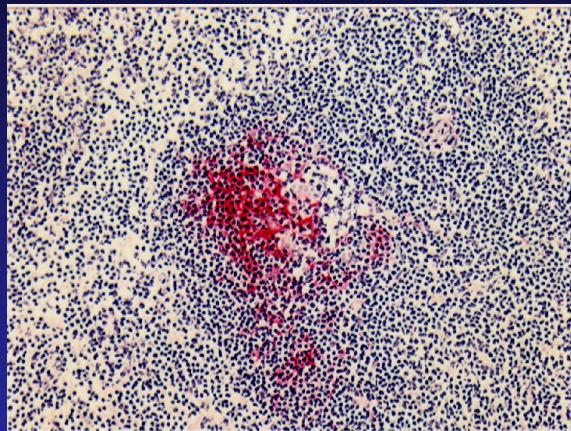
## 'Turning-off' FDCs



Mackay & Browning (1998) Nature **395**, 26.

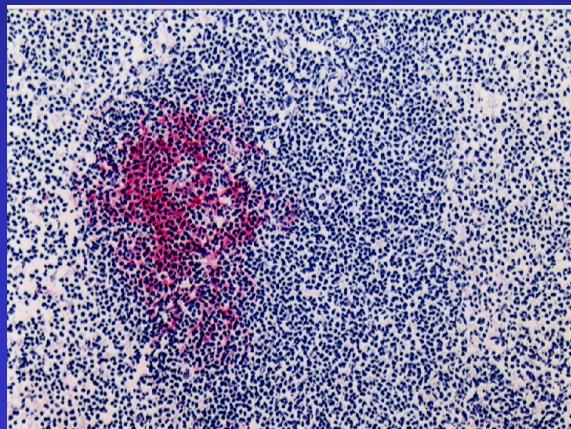
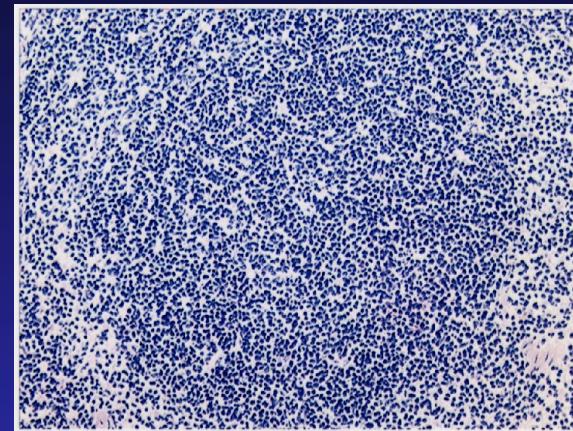
# 'Turning-off' FDCs

Control (hu-Ig)

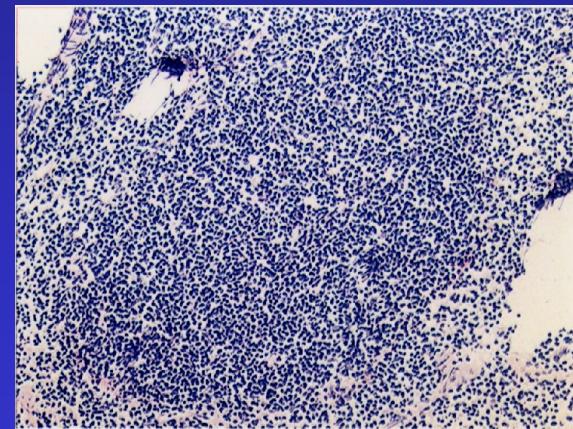


FDC-M2

Lt $\beta$ -R-Ig



CD35

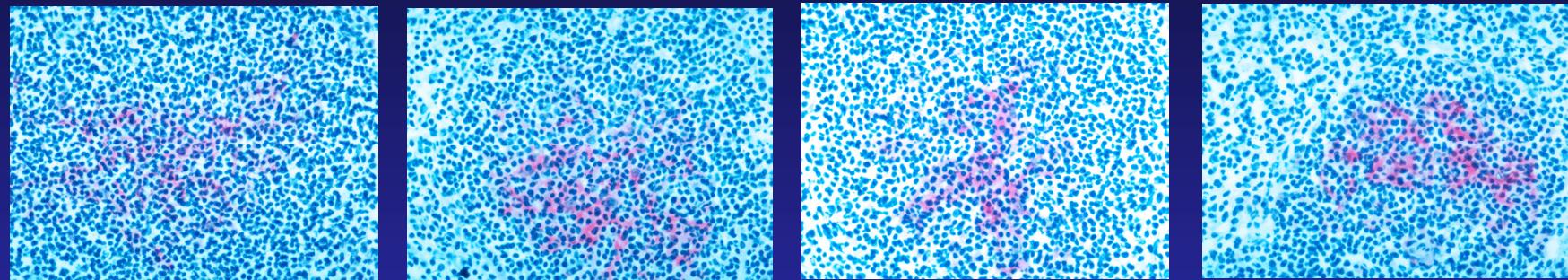


x100

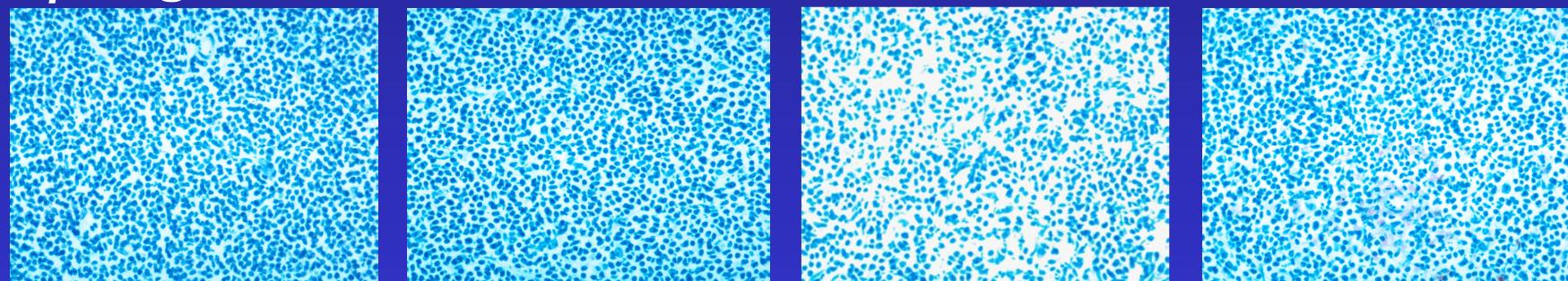
72 h-post treatment

# Temporary inactivation of follicular dendritic cells

hu-Ig control



LT $\beta$ R-Ig



T = 7d

T = 14d

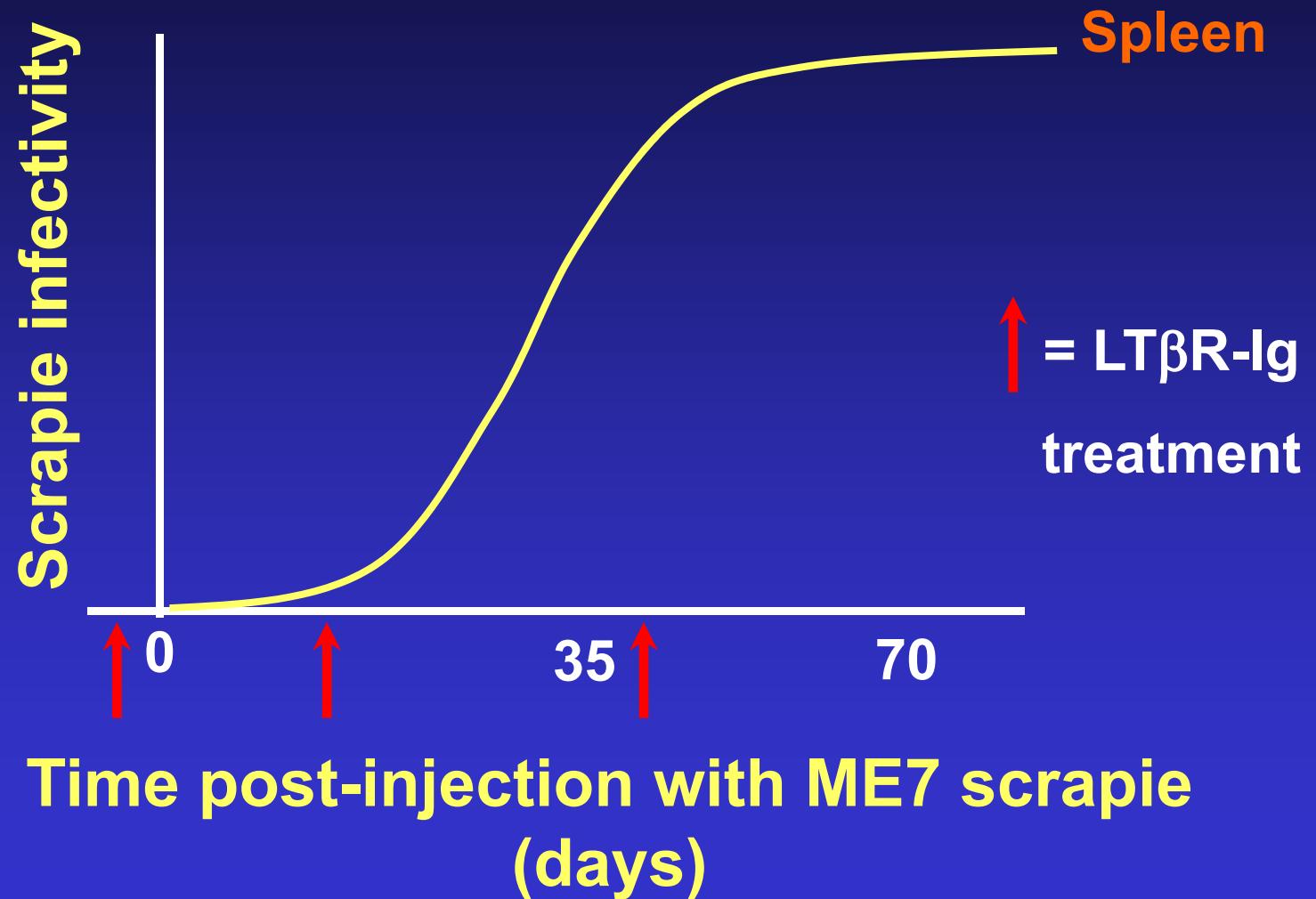
T = 21d

T = 28d

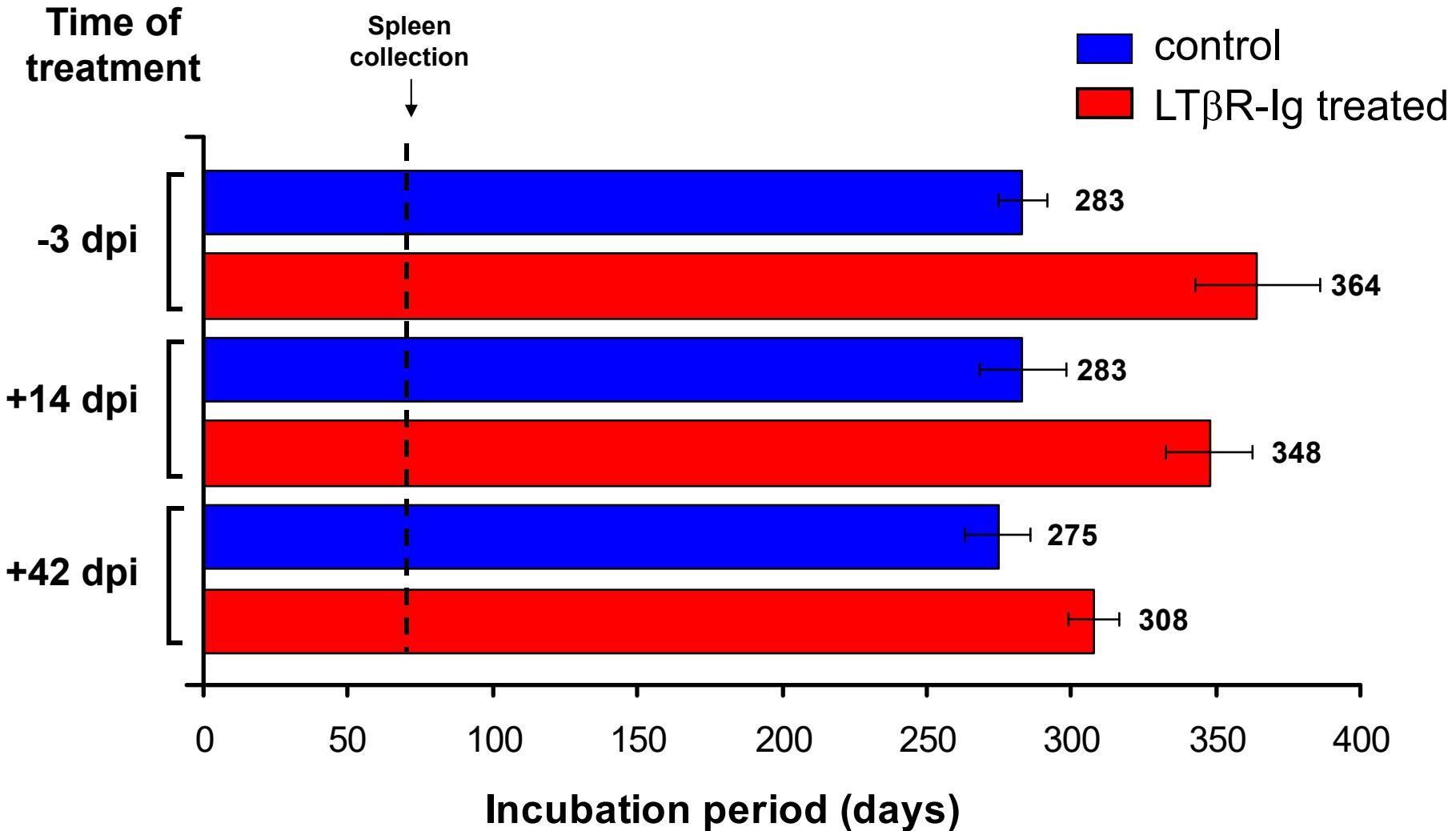
FDCM2 positive cells

x 400

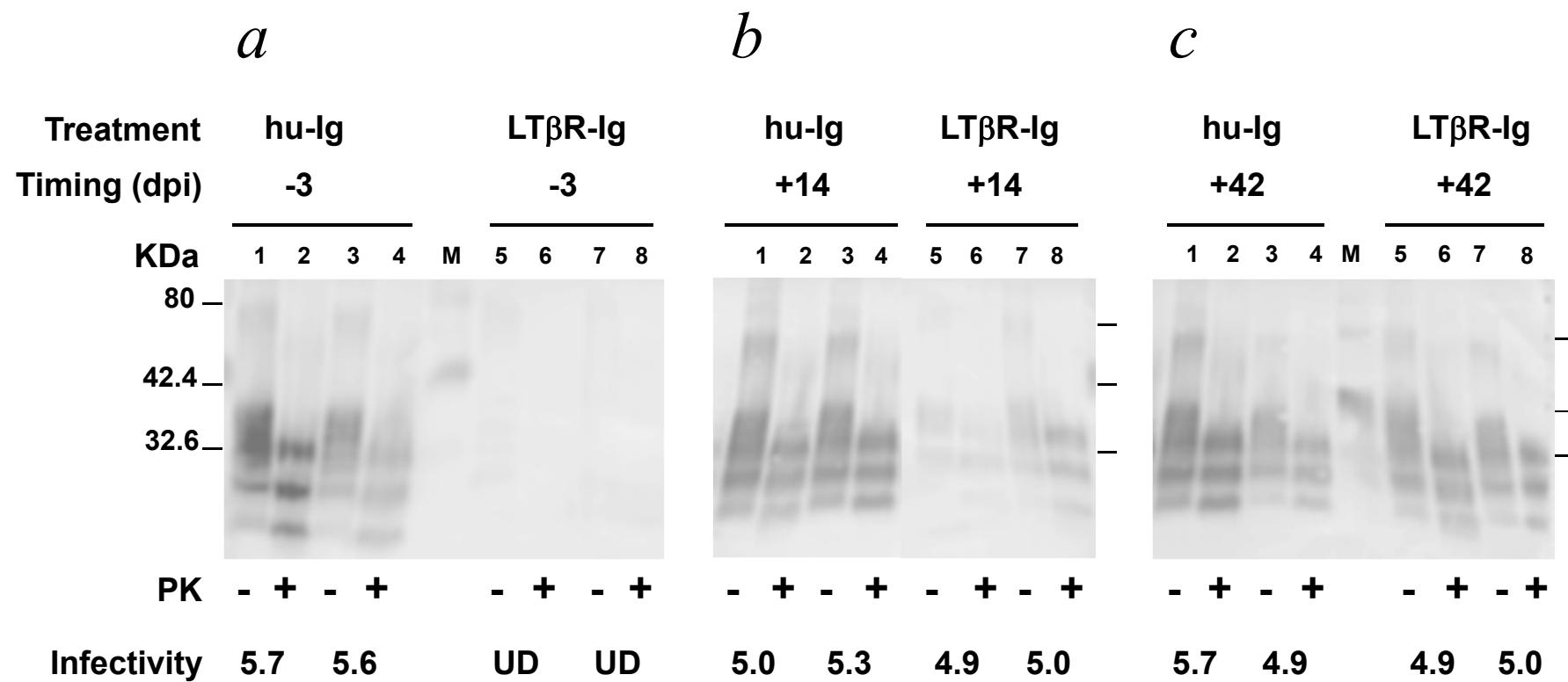
# Experiment Design



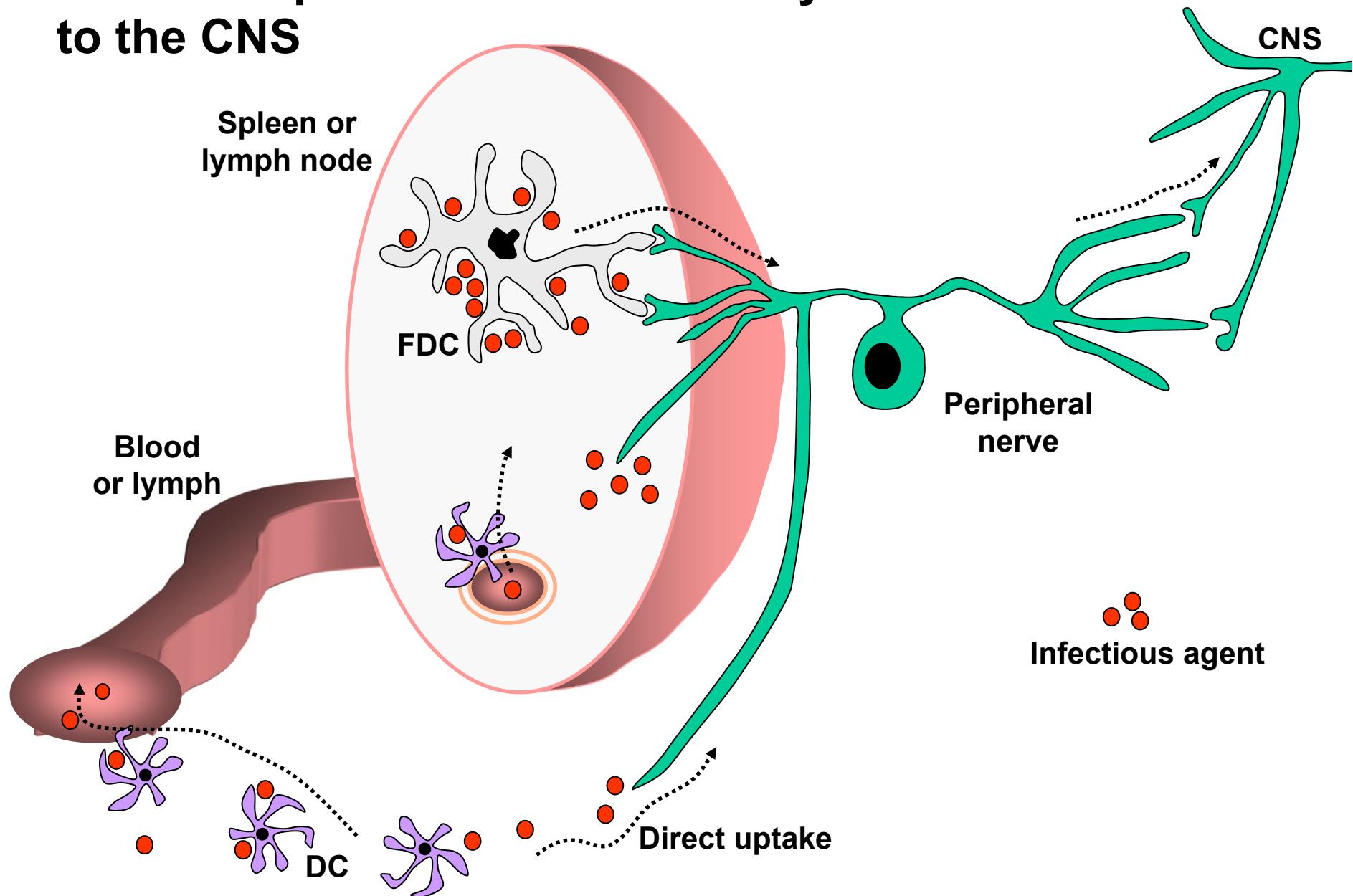
# Temporary inactivation of FDCs delays neuroinvasion of scrapie



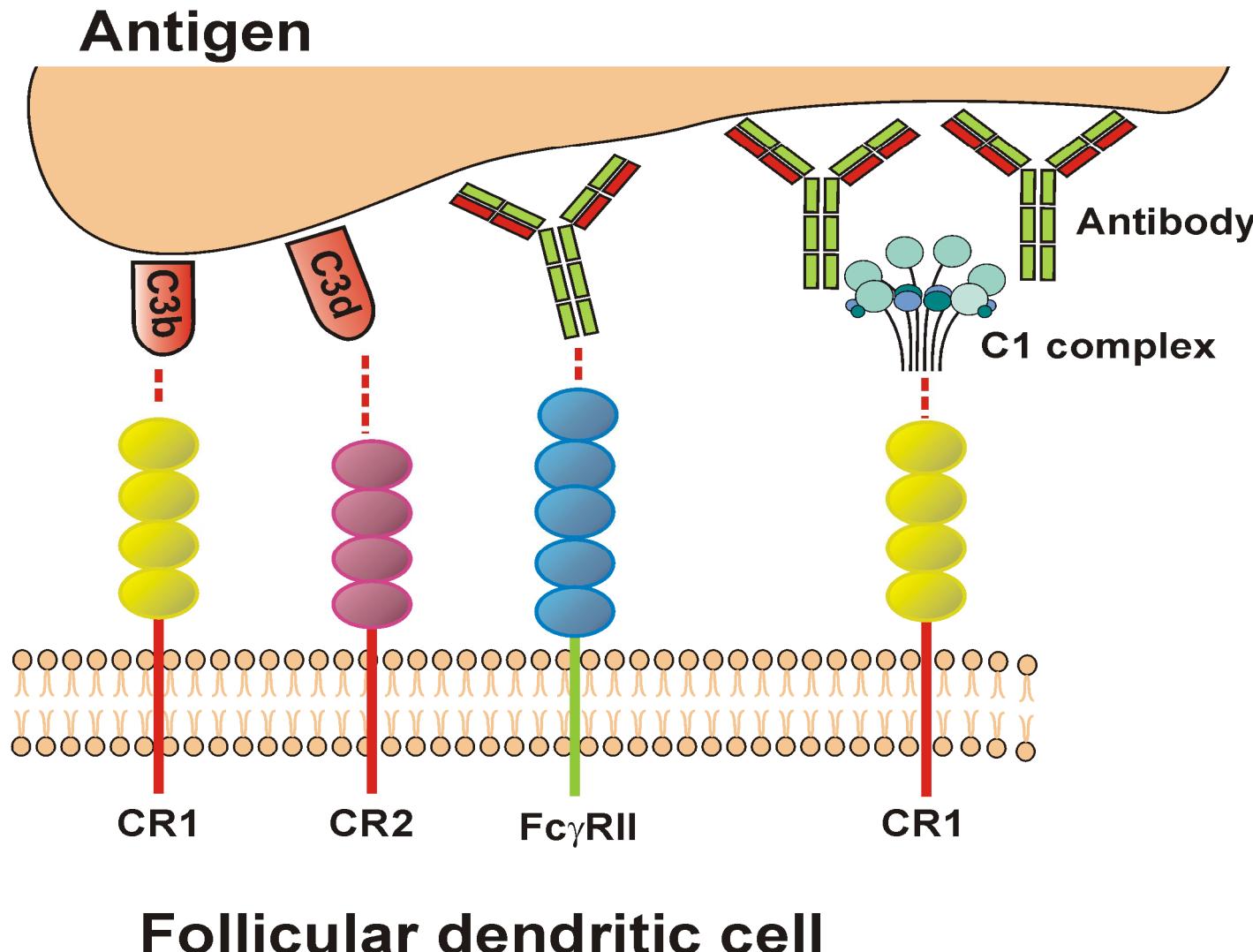
# **PrP<sup>Sc</sup> accumulation in the spleen 70 d following i.p. injection with ME7 scrapie**



# Possible spread of TSE infectivity from site of infection to the CNS

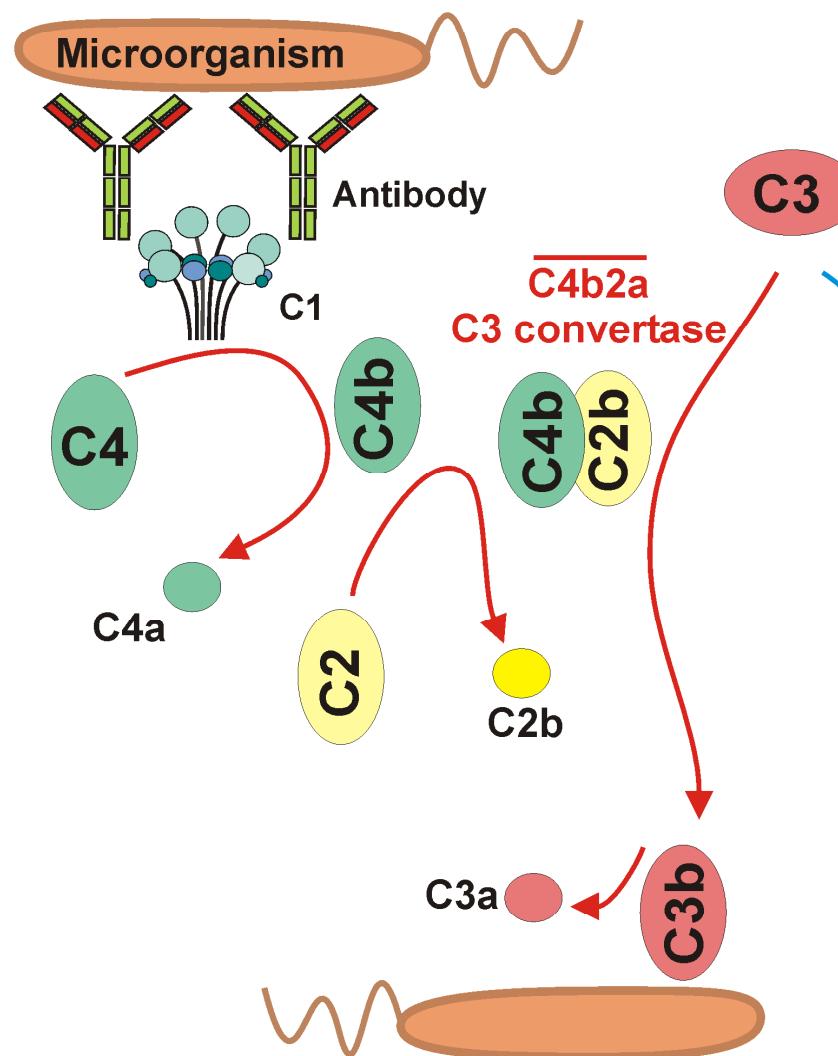


# Molecular mechanisms of immune complex-trapping by follicular dendritic cells

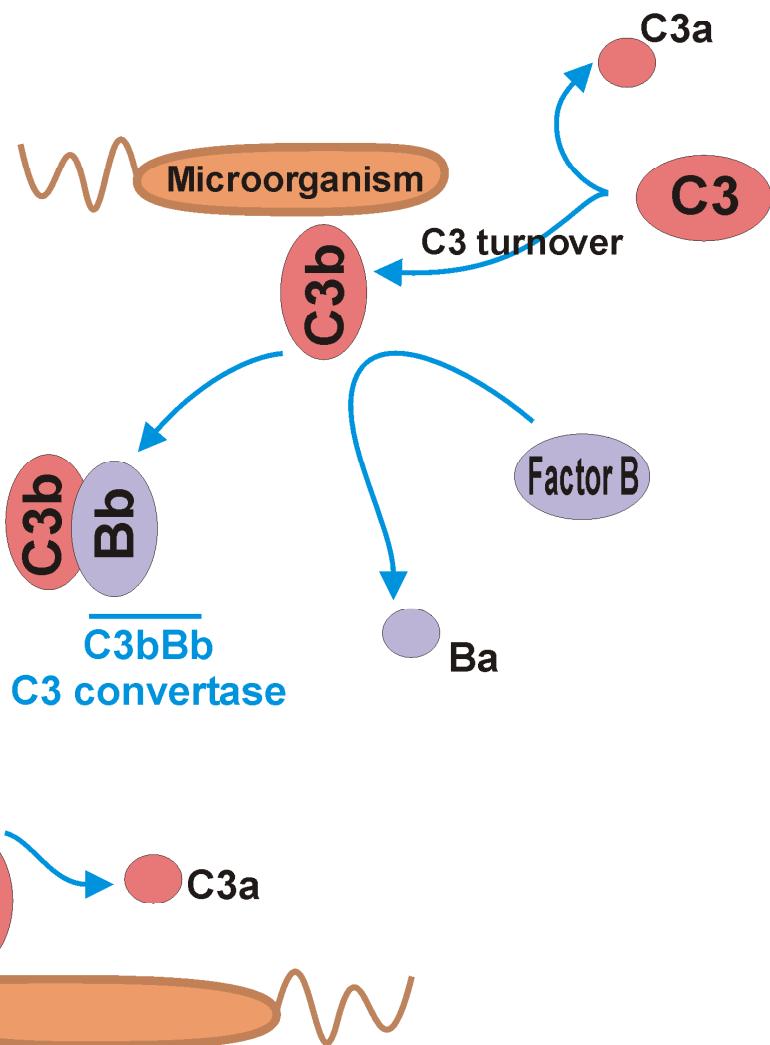


# Brief overview of complement C3 activation

## Classical pathway

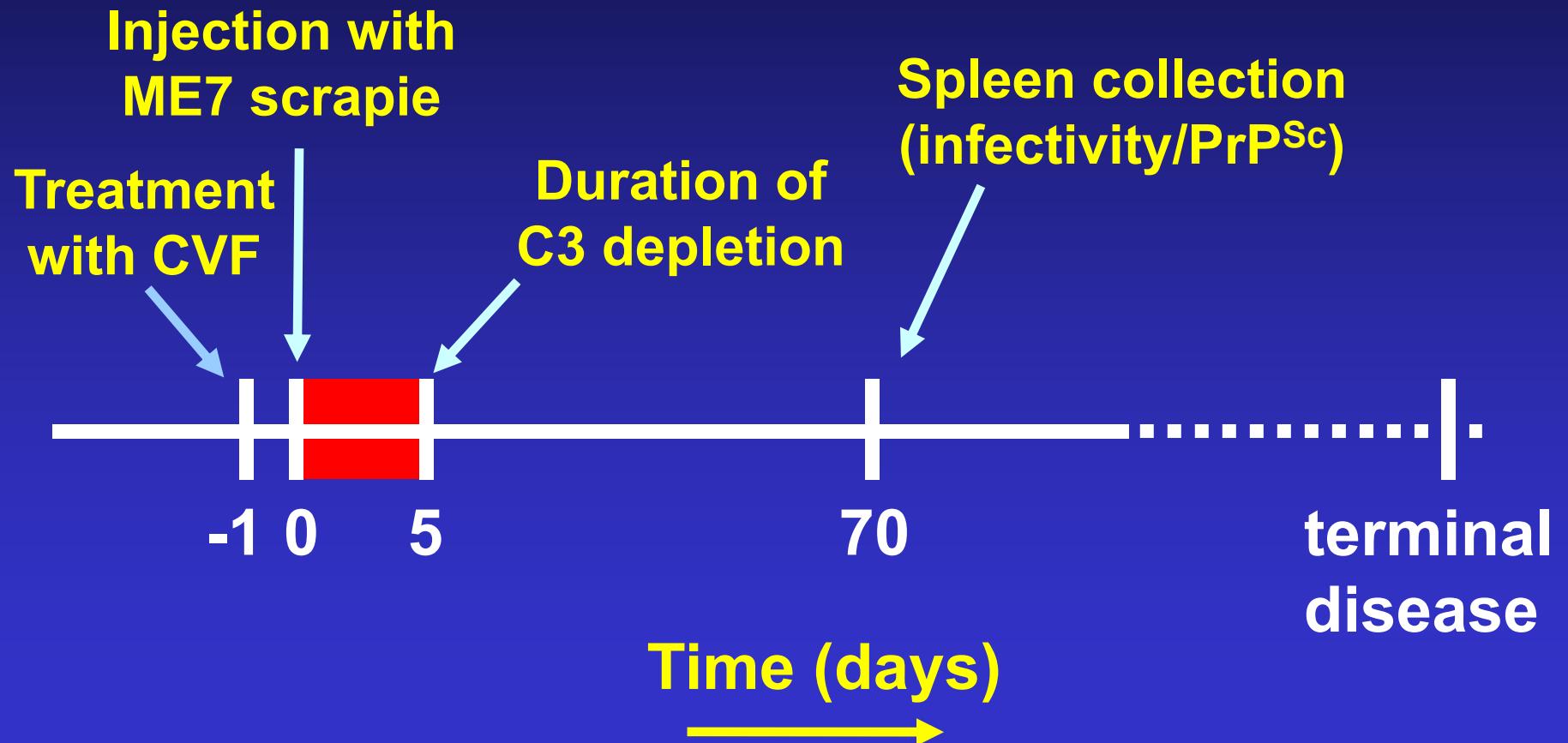


## Alternative pathway



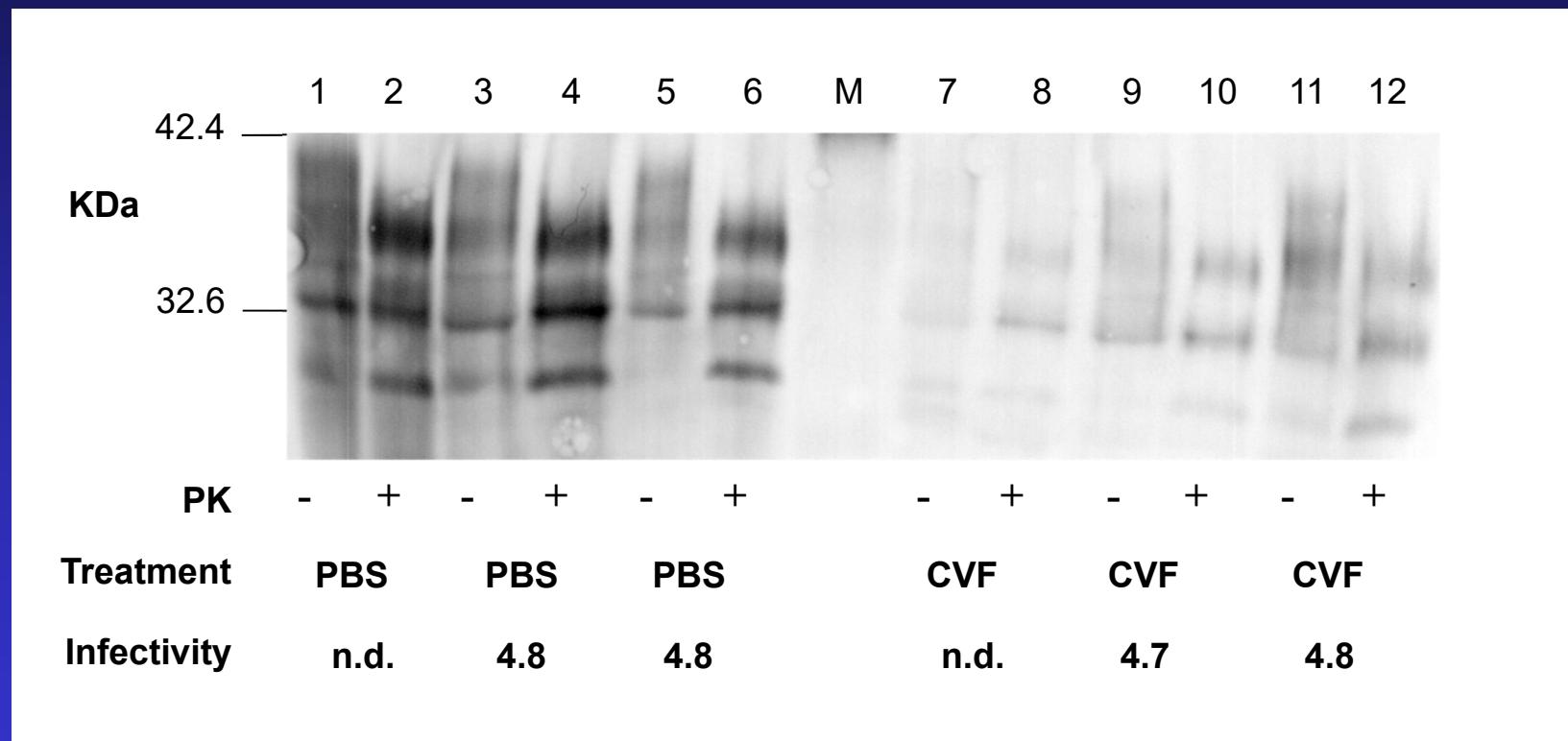
# Role of C3 in scrapie pathogenesis

## Experiment design

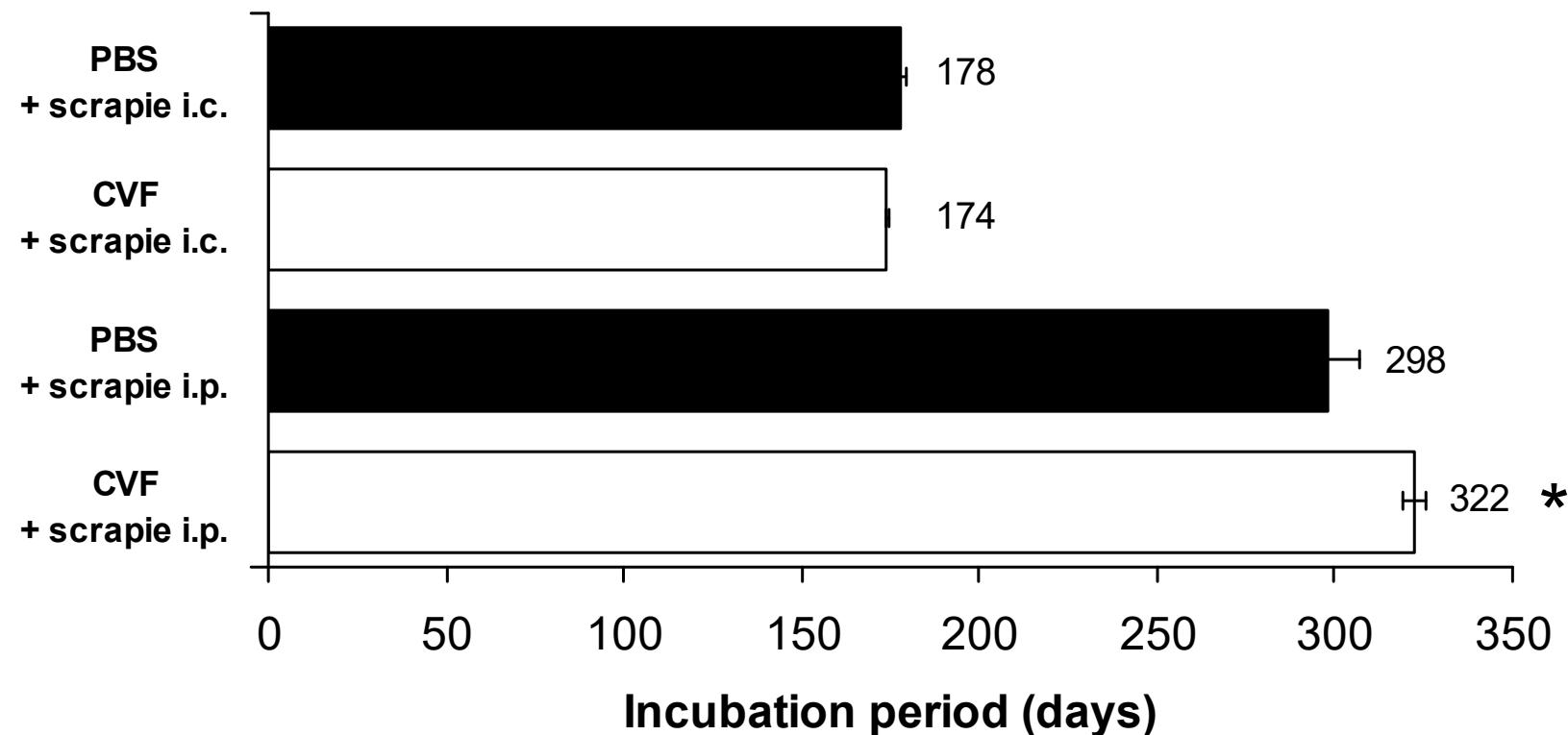


# **PrP<sup>Sc</sup> and infectivity accumulation in the spleen**

**70 days following i.p. injection with ME7 scrapie**



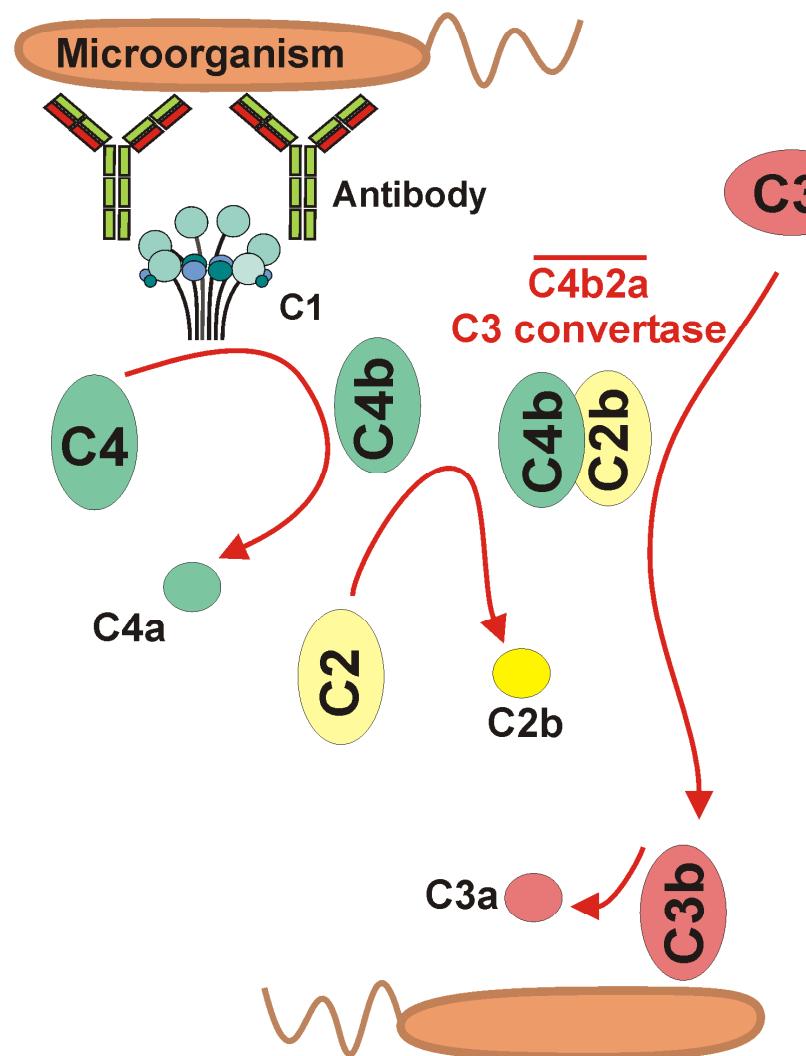
# Transient C3 depletion significantly delays onset of scrapie



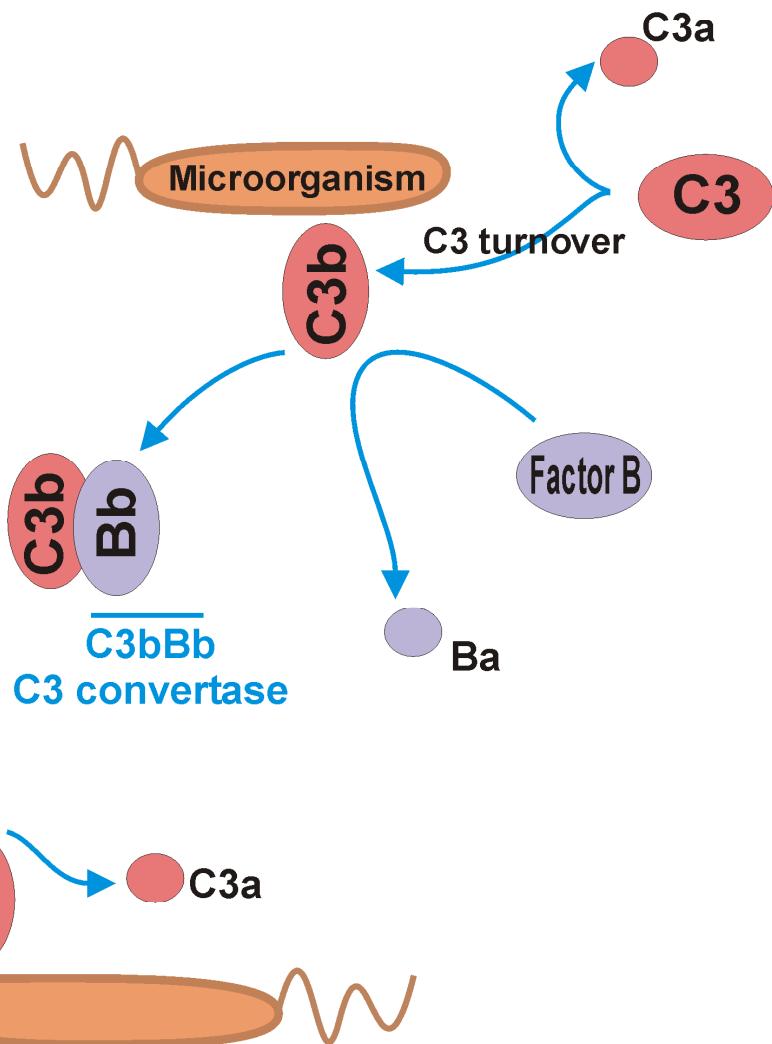
\*; p < 0.016

# Which complement activation pathway?

## Classical pathway

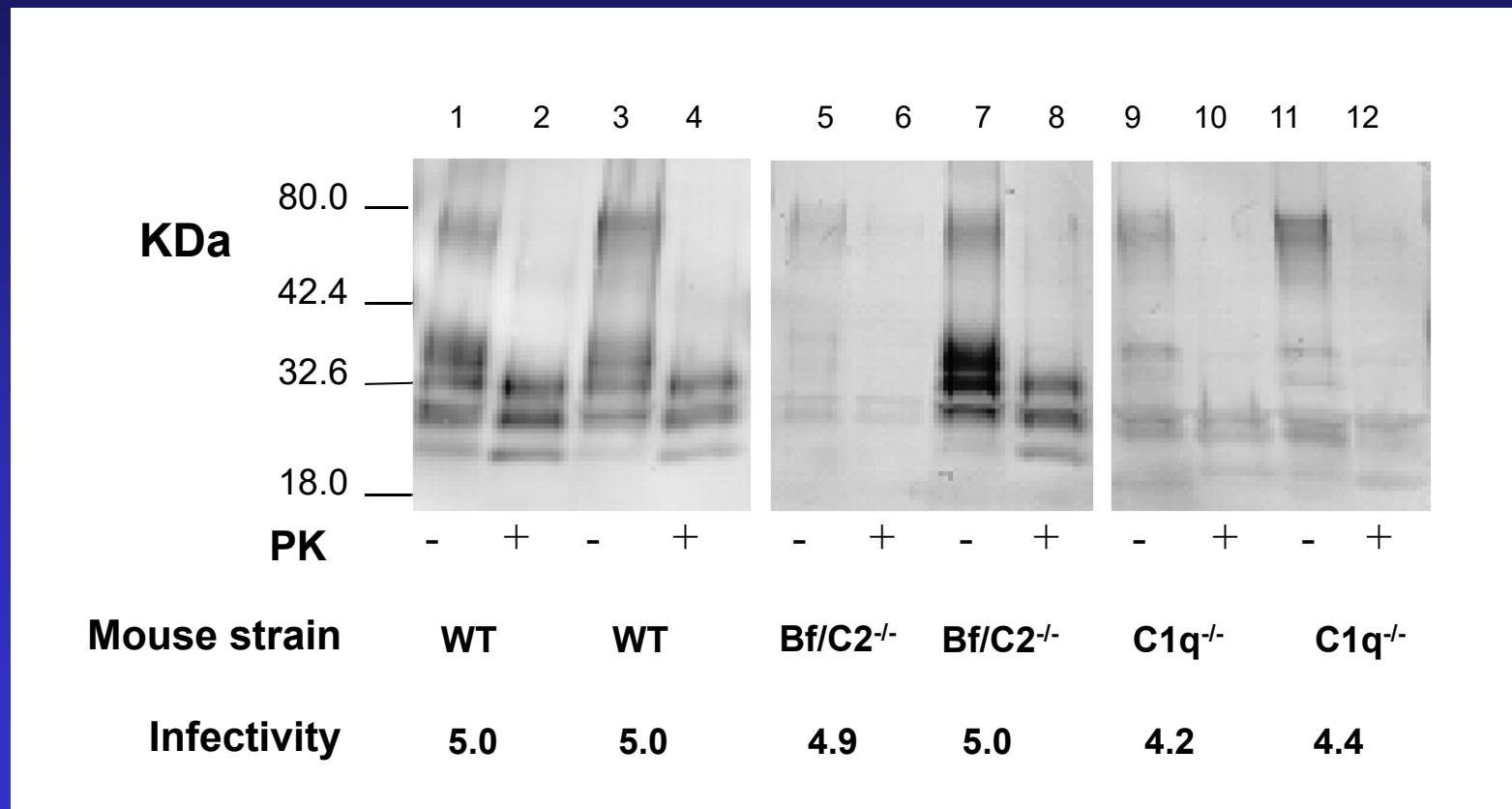


## Alternative pathway



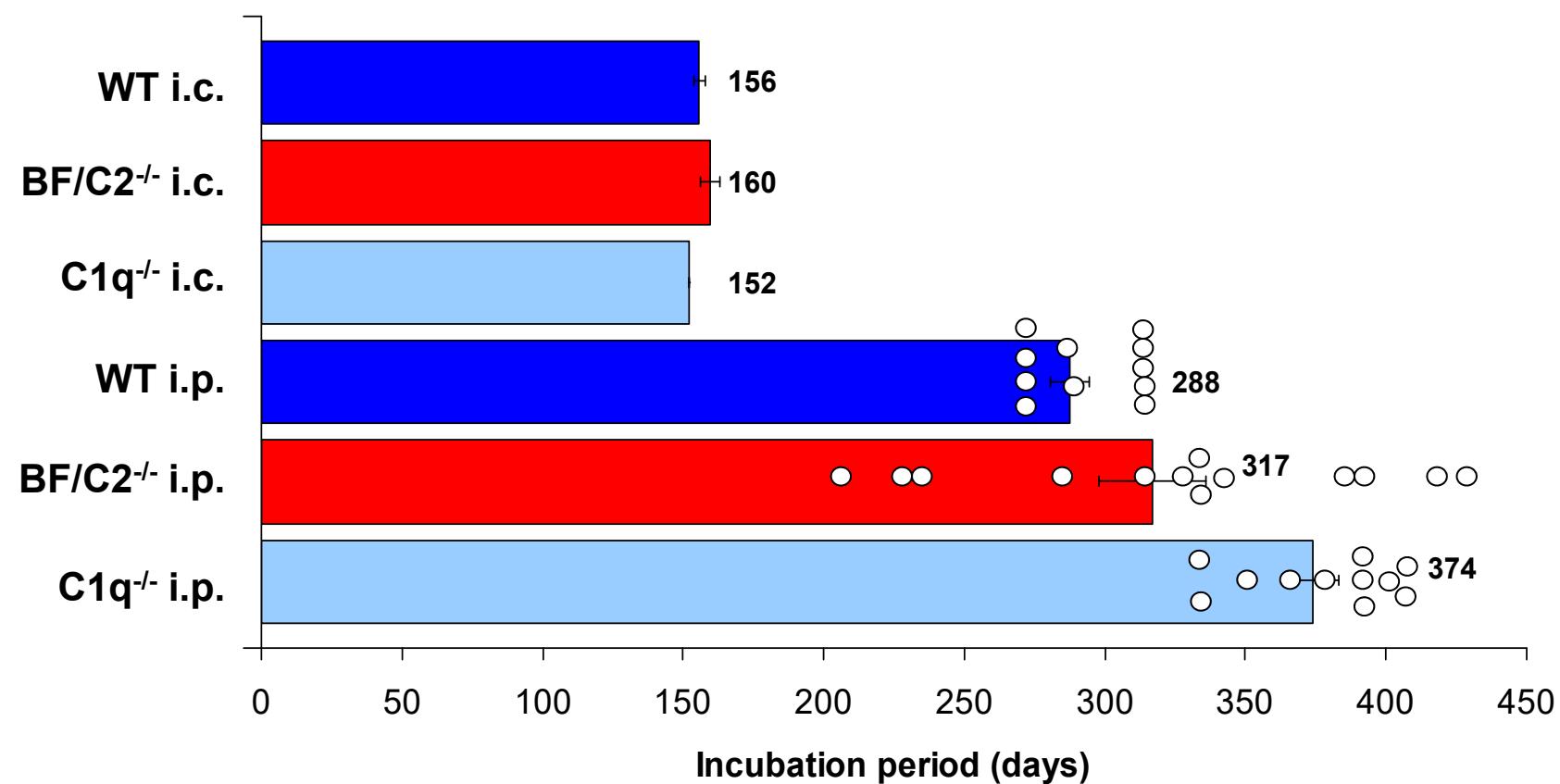
# **PrP<sup>Sc</sup> and infectivity accumulation in the spleen**

**70 days following i.p. injection with ME7 scrapie**

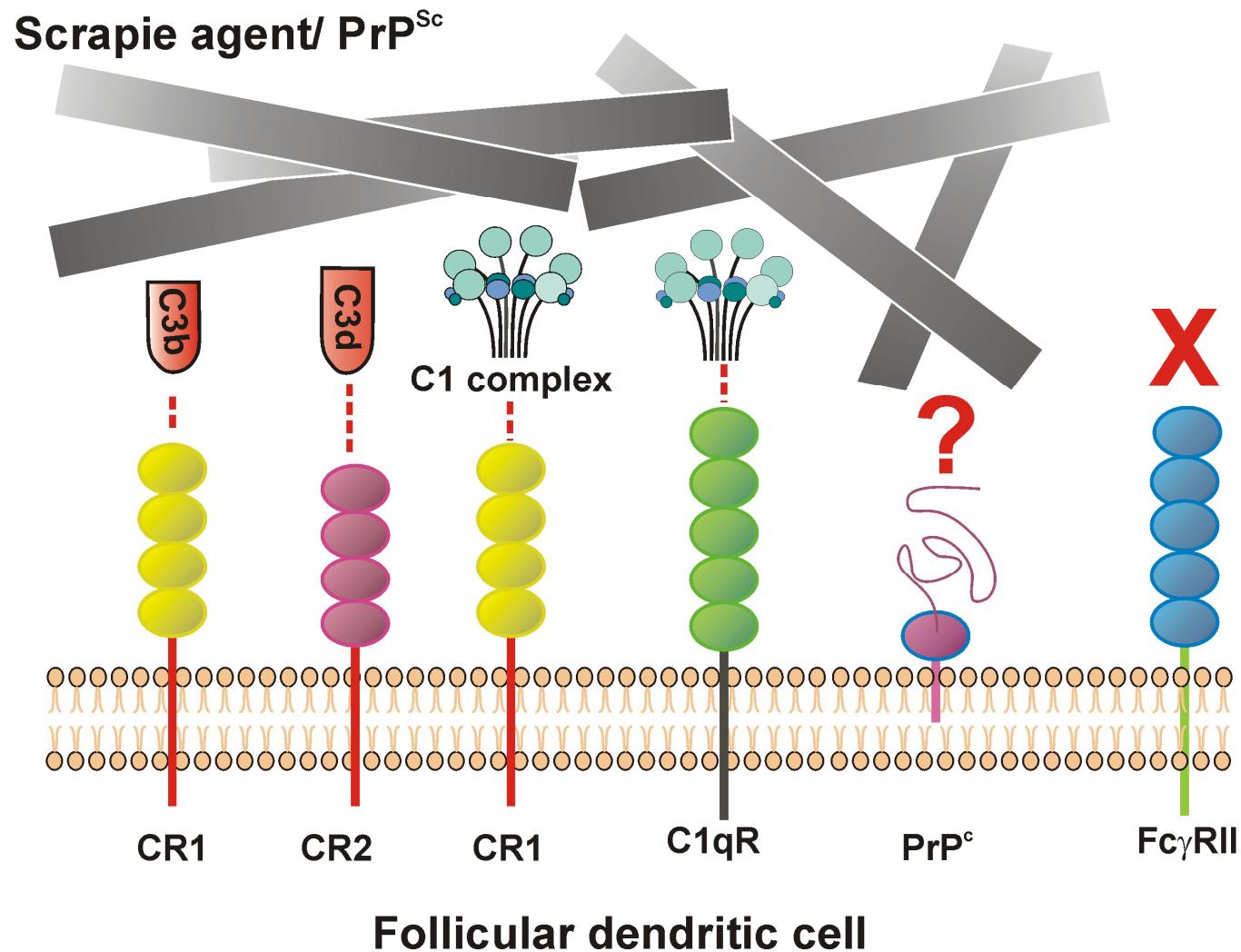


**WT = C57BL/6**

# Scrapie pathogenesis in C1q<sup>-/-</sup> and Bf/C2<sup>-/-</sup> mice

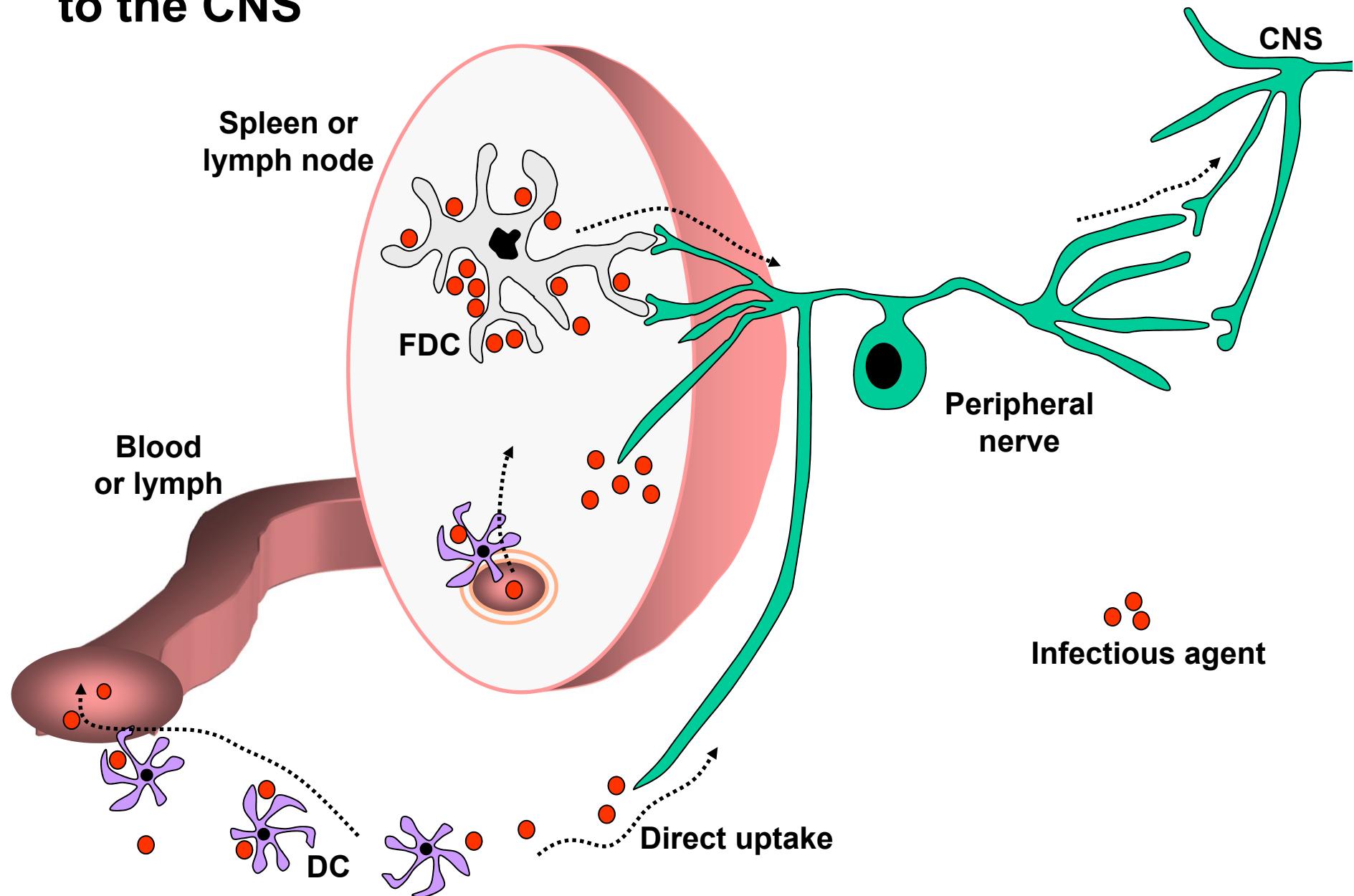


# Potential molecular interactions between scrapie and follicular dendritic cells

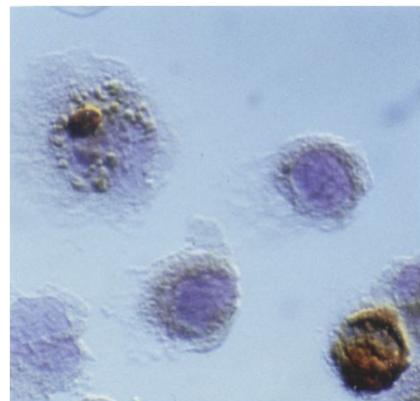


Nature Medicine (2001) 7, 485-487

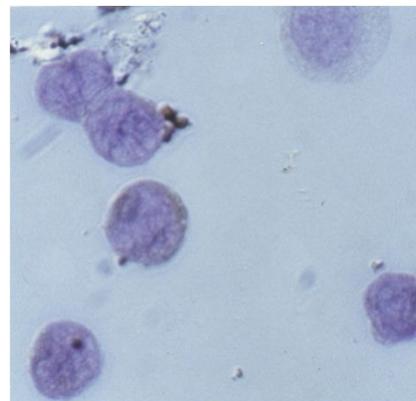
# Possible spread of TSE infectivity from site of infection to the CNS



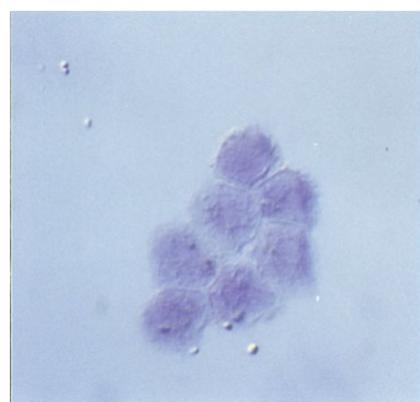
# Migrating intestinal dendritic cells transport PrP<sup>Sc</sup> from the gut



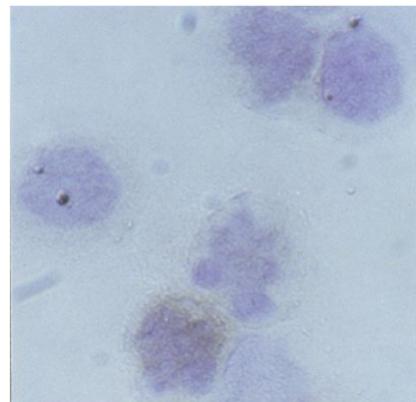
DCs



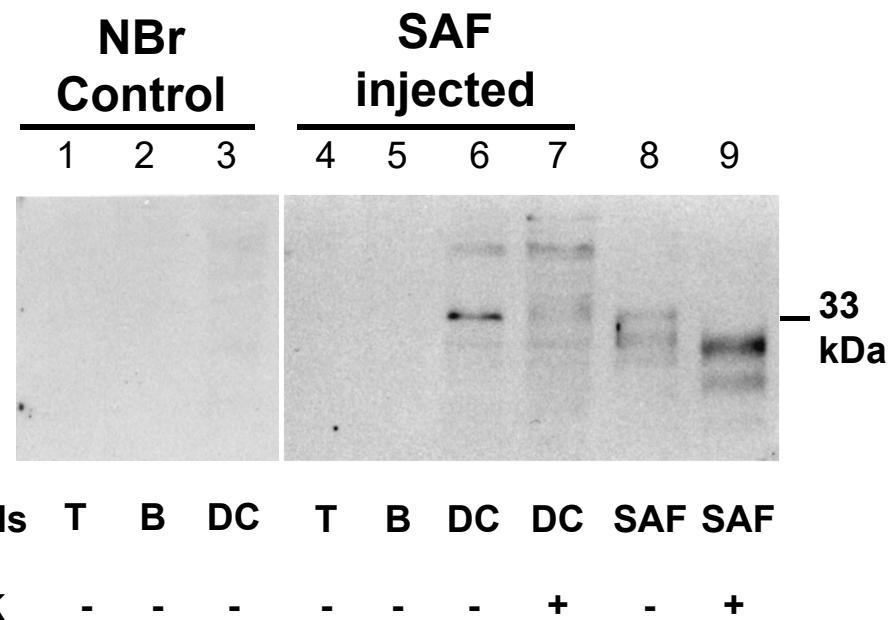
B cells



T cells



DCs control



Huang et al. *J. Gen. Virol.* in press

# Possible spread of scrapie from the gut lumen to the CNS

