

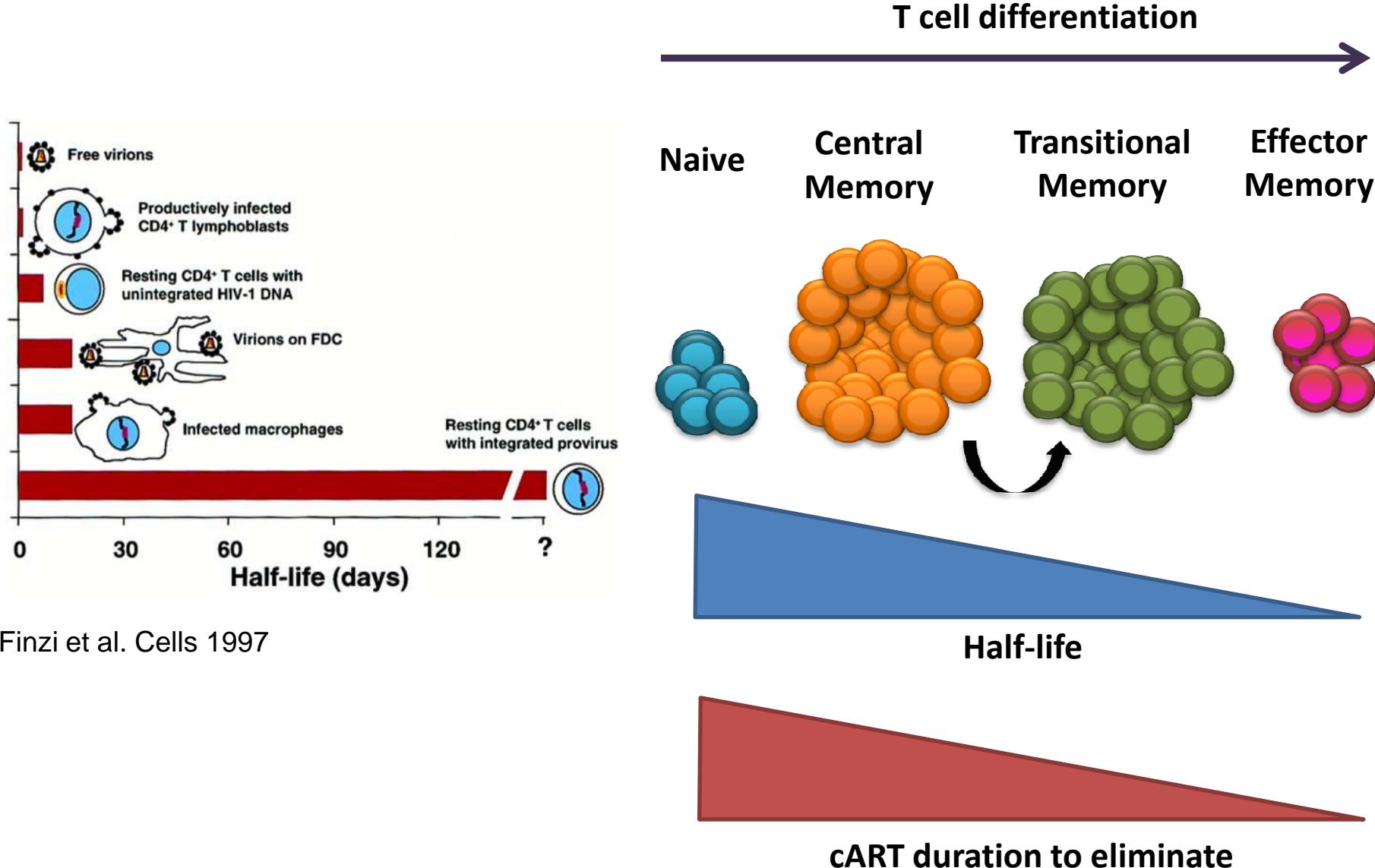
# Infection à VIH : une rémission possible



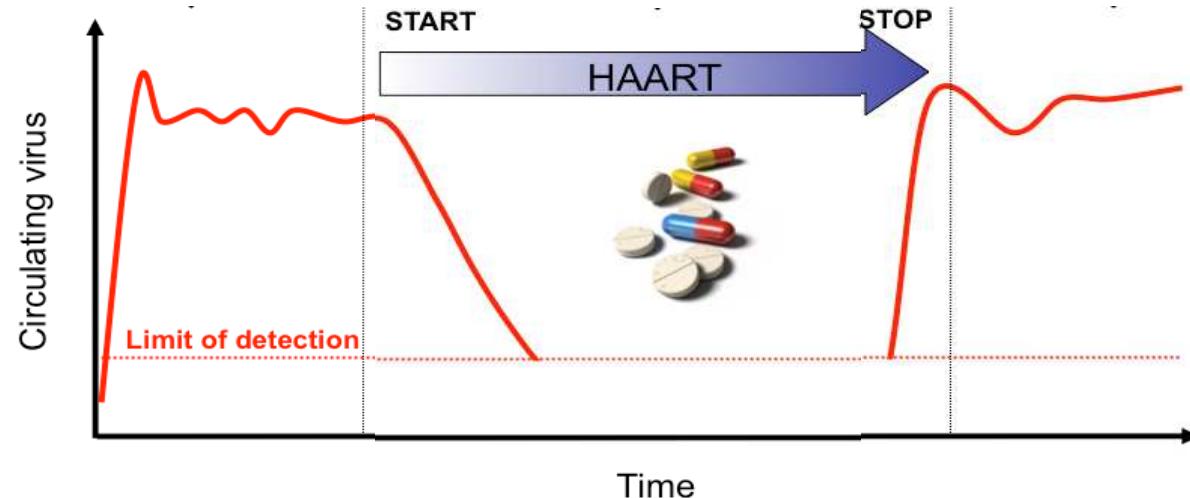
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Institut Pasteur, Paris, France



# Viral reservoirs persist in HIV-infected individuals receiving cART



## Viral replication resumes as soon as therapy is interrupted



## Targeting viral reservoirs



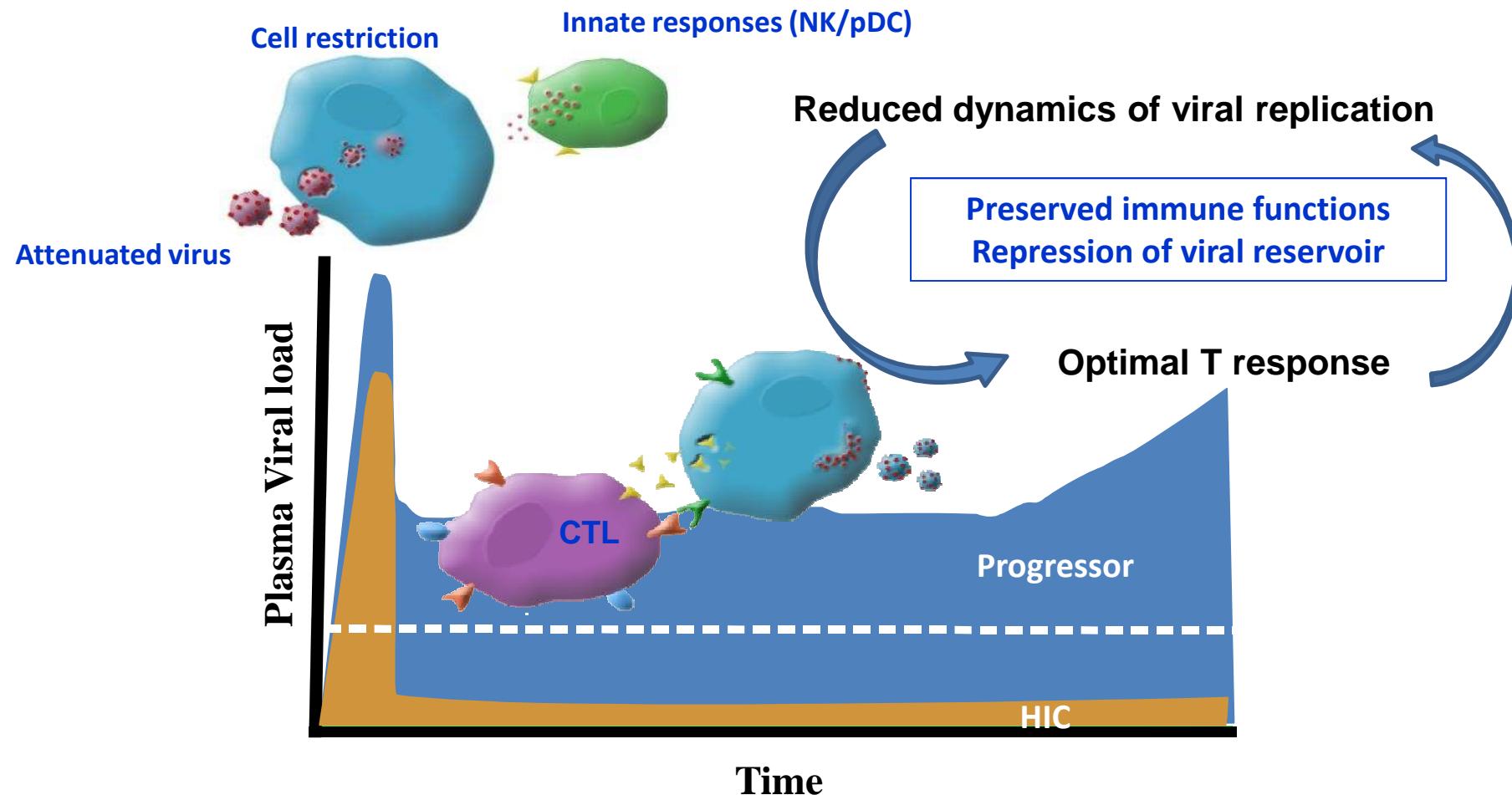
Draining → Eradication



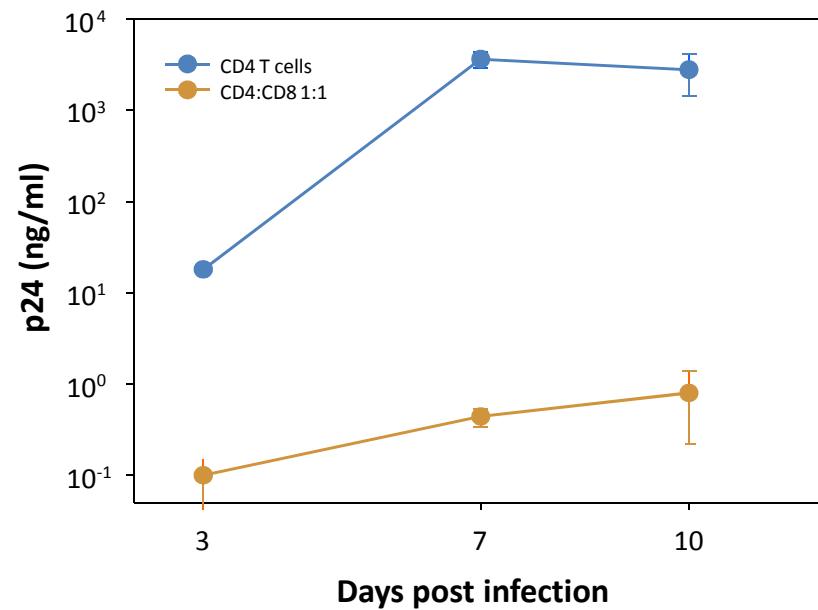
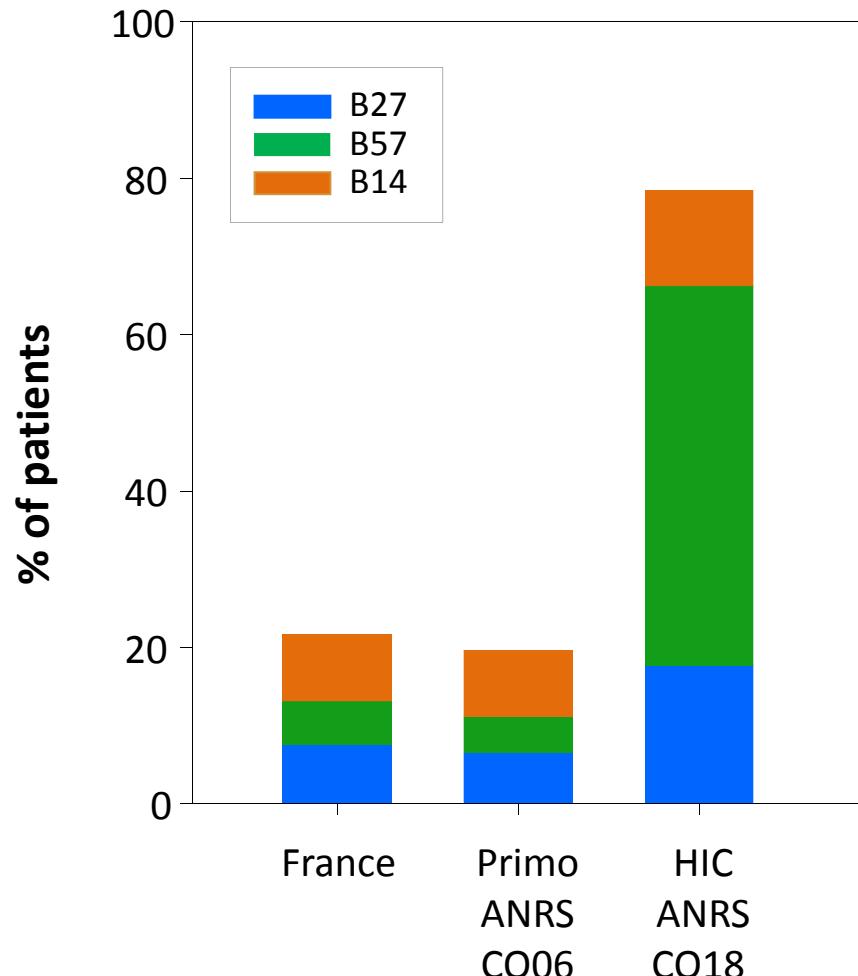
Limiting → Remission



# HIV controllers (HIC): infected individuals spontaneously controlling HIV-1 infection



## Favorable genetic background and Efficient CD8 T cell responses are associated with control



Saez-Cirion et al, PNAS 2007; Nature Protocols 2010

- Greater and faster upregulation of cytotoxic mediators  
Migueles, et al. *Immunity* 2008; Hersperger, et al. *PLoS Pathogens* 2010
- High functional avidity—Almeida, et al. *JEM* 2007
- MHC and TCR plasticity—Chen et al *Nat Immunol* 2012; Pereyra et al *Science* 2010; Bailey et al *JEM* 2006

**Is it possible to induce a HIV controller-like status?**

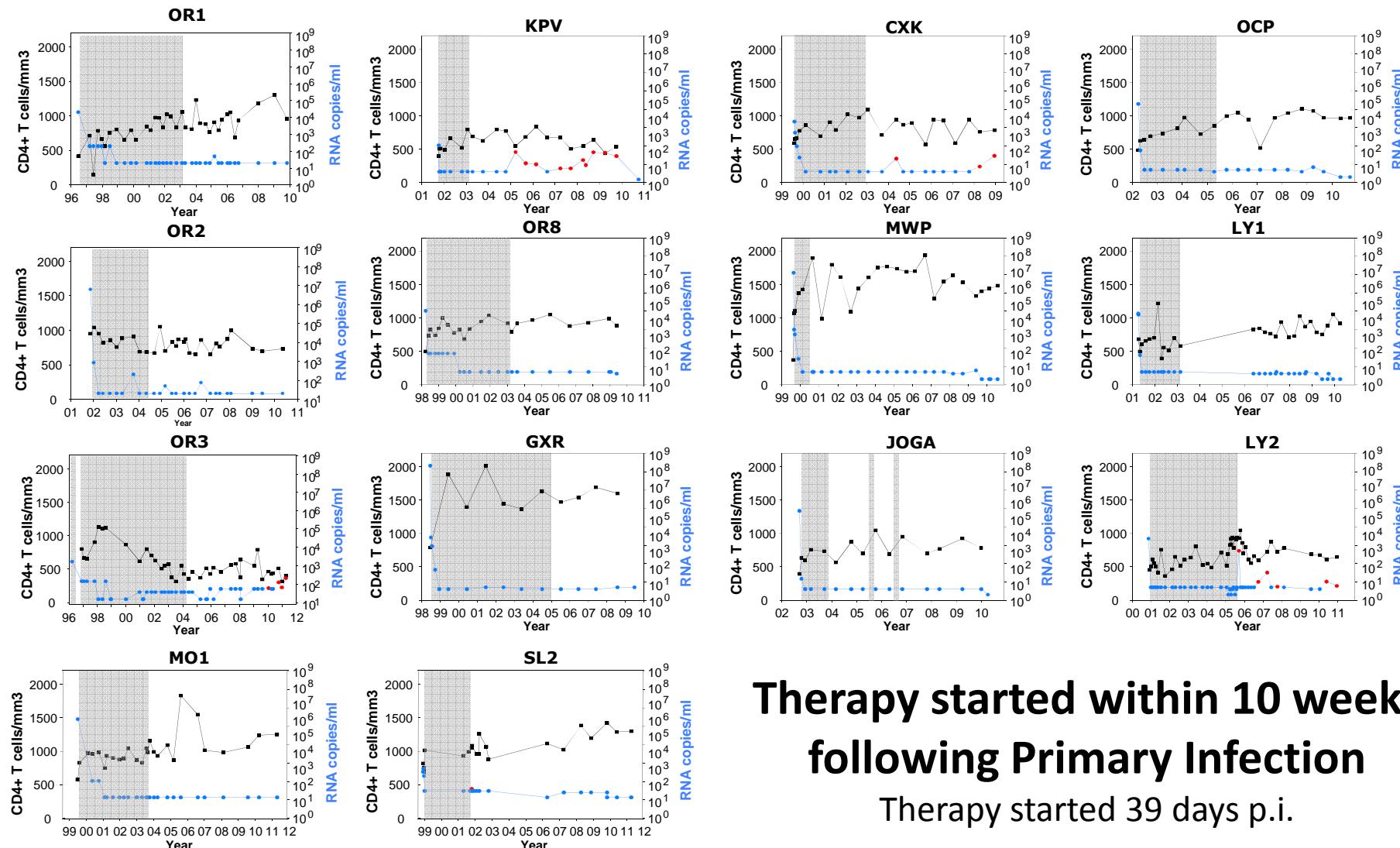


anRS

VISCONTI Study

Virological and Immunological Studies in CONtrollers  
after Treatment Interruption

# ANRS VISCONTI : Post-Treatment Controllers (PTC)

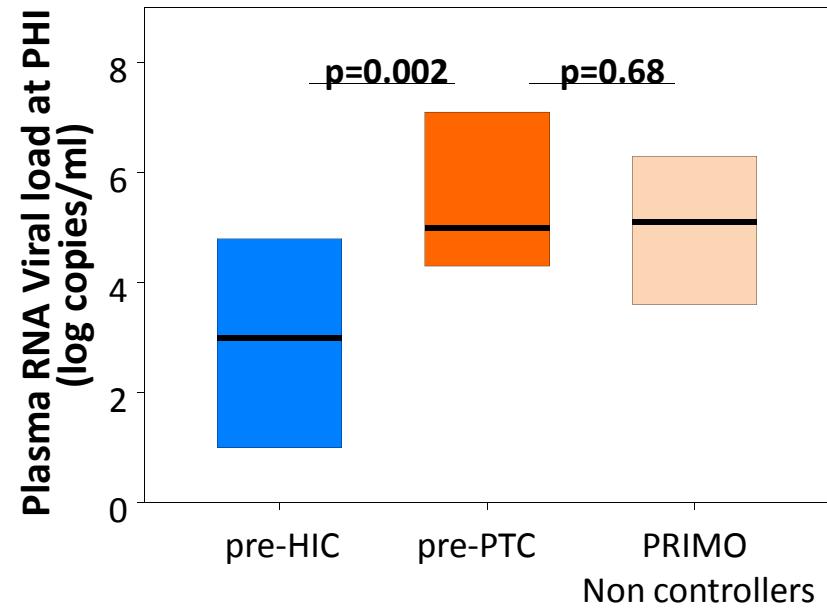
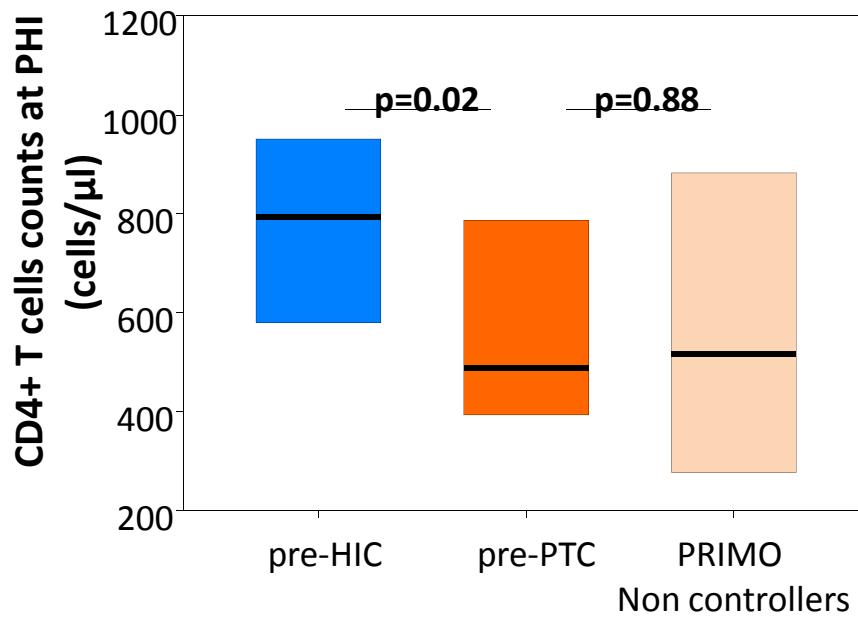


**Therapy started within 10 weeks  
following Primary Infection**  
Therapy started 39 days p.i.

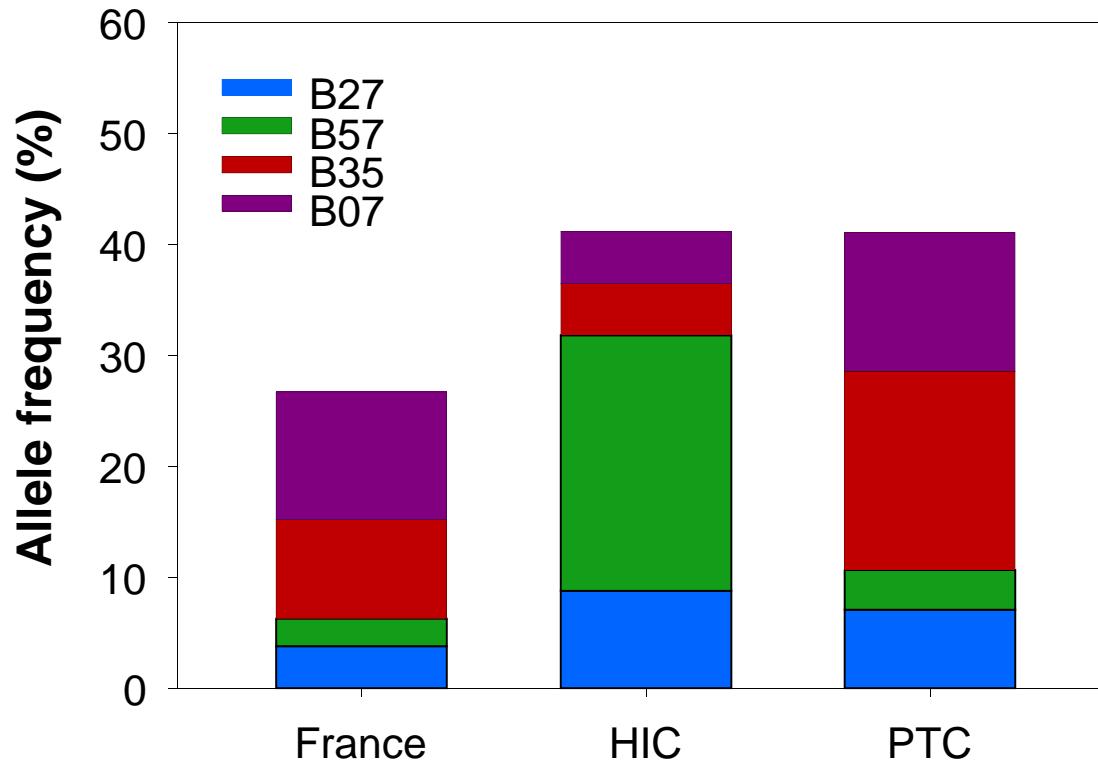
**3 years on therapy followed by 7.5 years of control off therapy**

Saez-Cirion et al PLoS Path 2013

## Post-treatment controllers have a tougher primary infection than HIV controllers

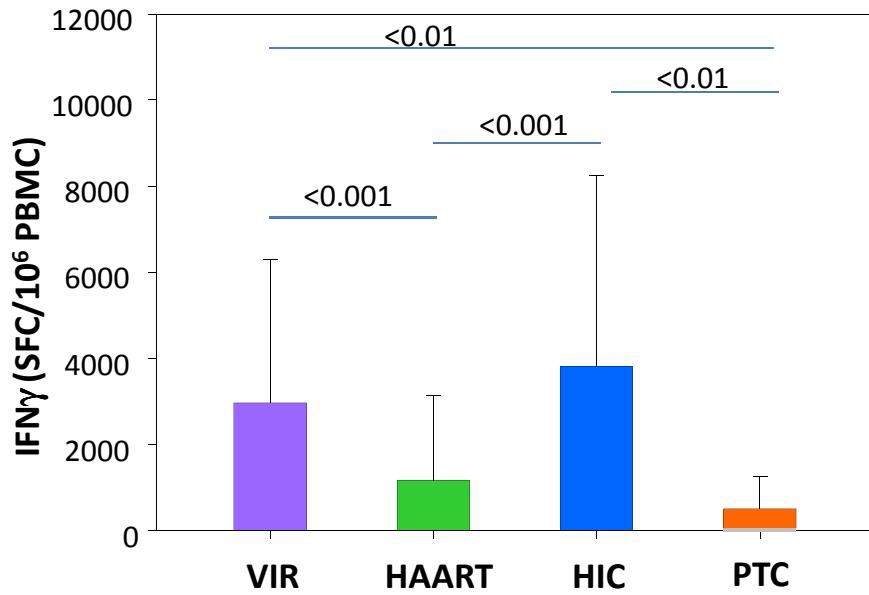


## Post-treatment controllers don't have a favorable MHC background

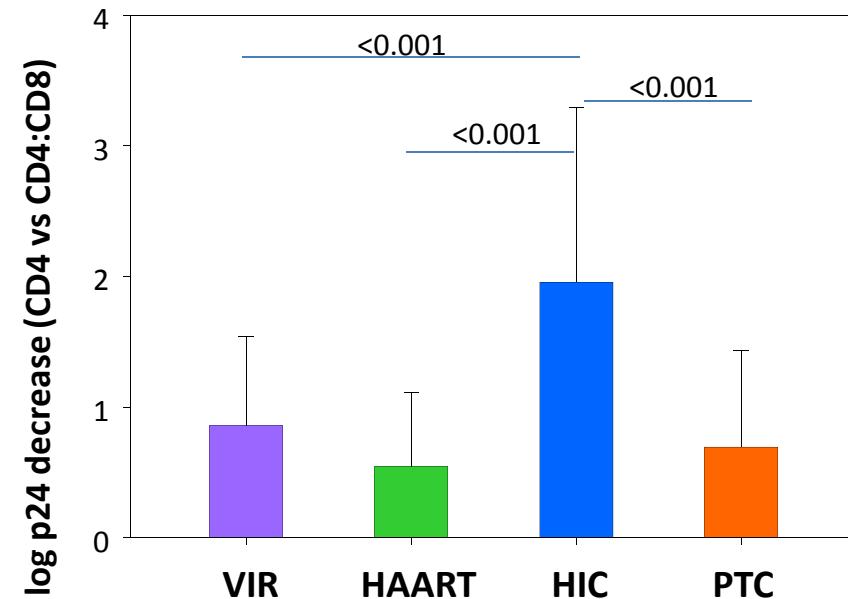


## Post-treatment controllers have weak HIV-specific CD8+ T cell responses

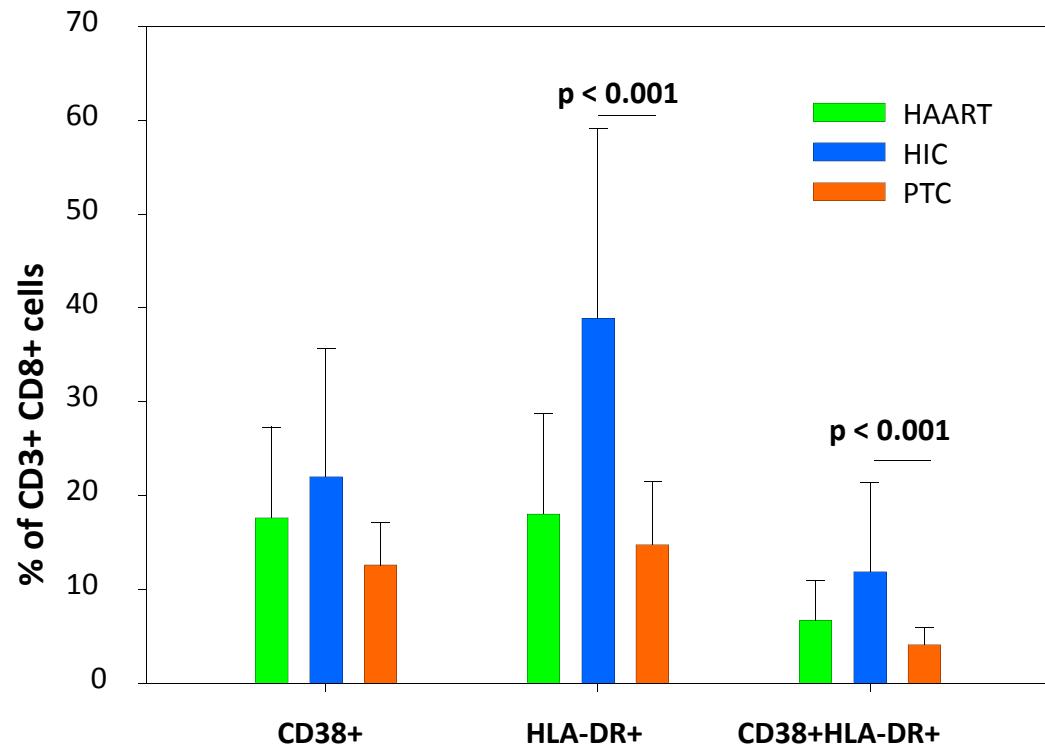
**IFN $\gamma$  ELISPOT**



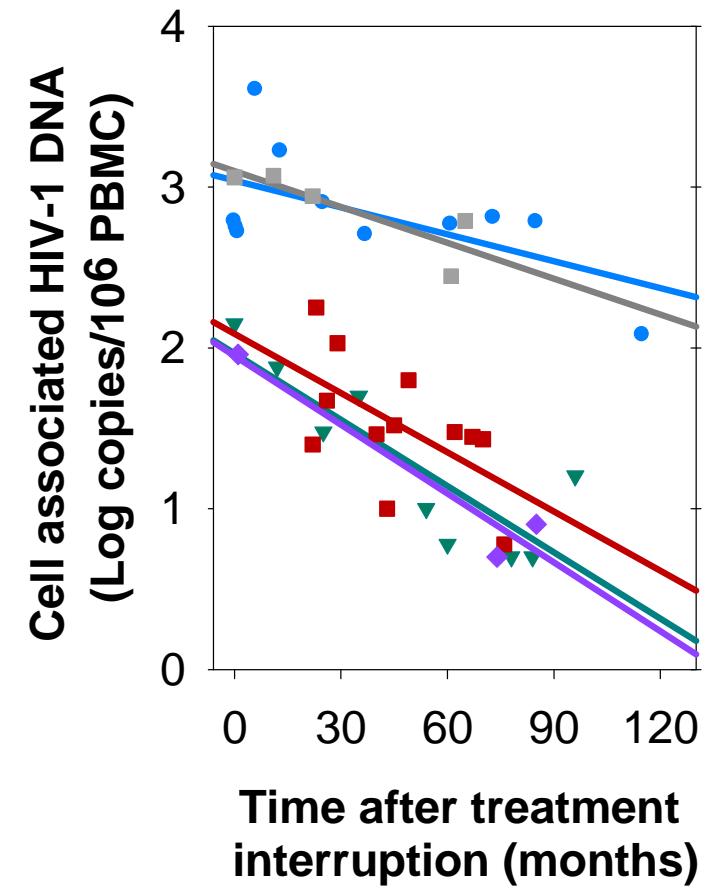
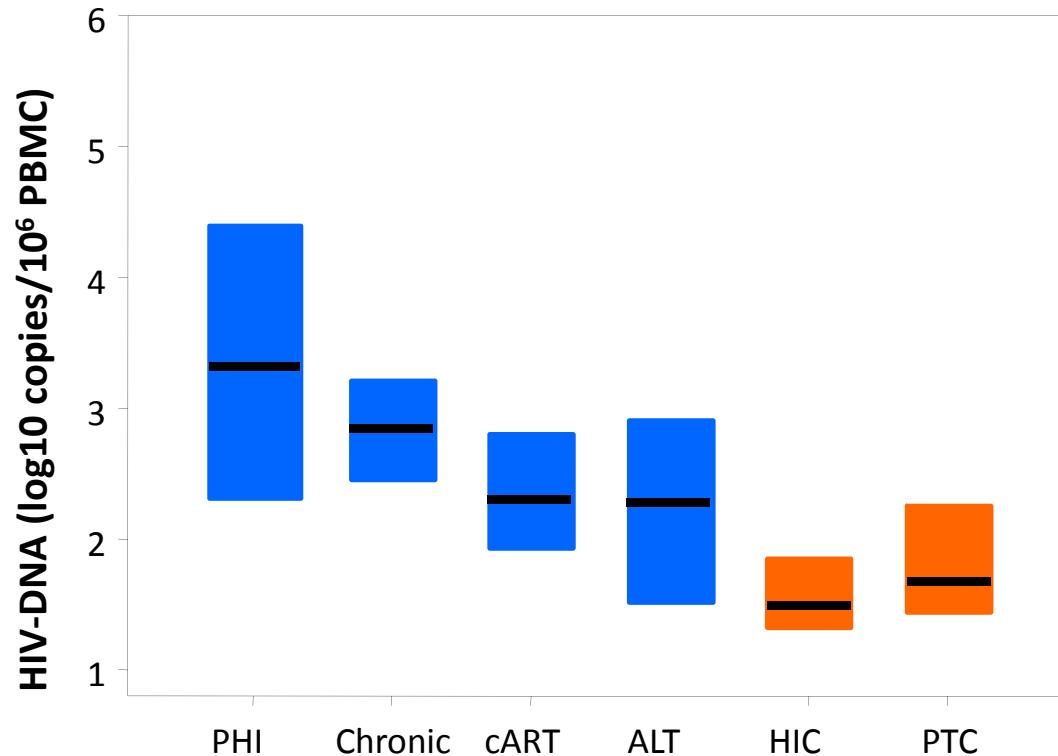
**HIV suppression**



## Post-treatment controllers have weak levels of T cell activation

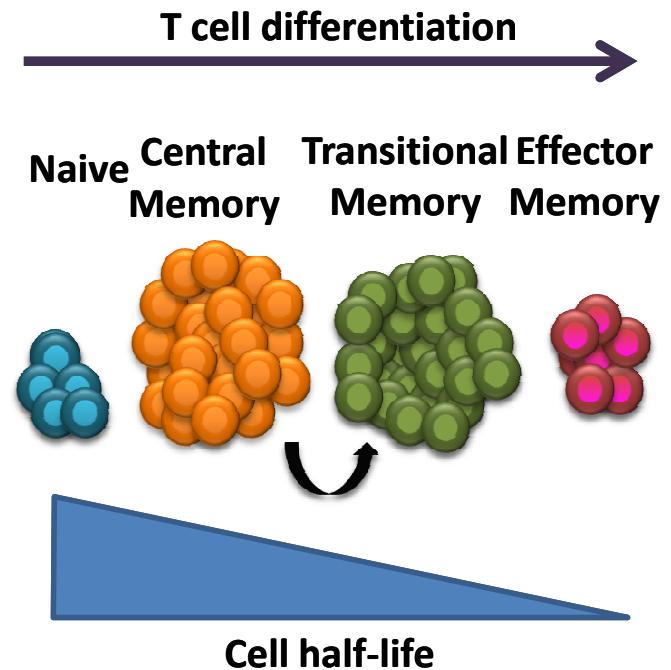
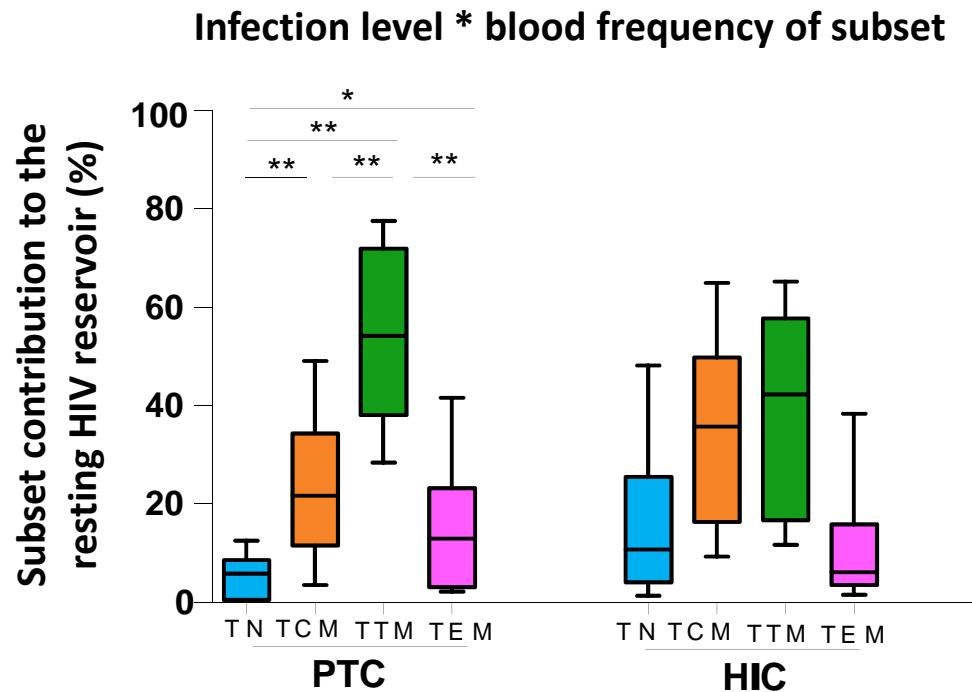


**Post-treatment controllers have low levels of HIV-1 DNA in PBMC, which further decreased after treatment interruption in some cases**



# Skewed CD4 subsets distribution in PTC impacts the subsets contribution to the HIV reservoir

## Resting CD4 Cell Subsets Contribution to the HIV reservoir



- A contribution to the HIV reservoir:
  - Major for TTM subset
  - Low for the TN and TCM subsets

## A long-term treatment initiated during primary infection seems to increase the chances to control viremia

Natural control of infection: 81 HIC from 34 317 patients followed-up: **0.24%**

Buffassa et al, PLoS One 2011

Early treatment induced control of infection:

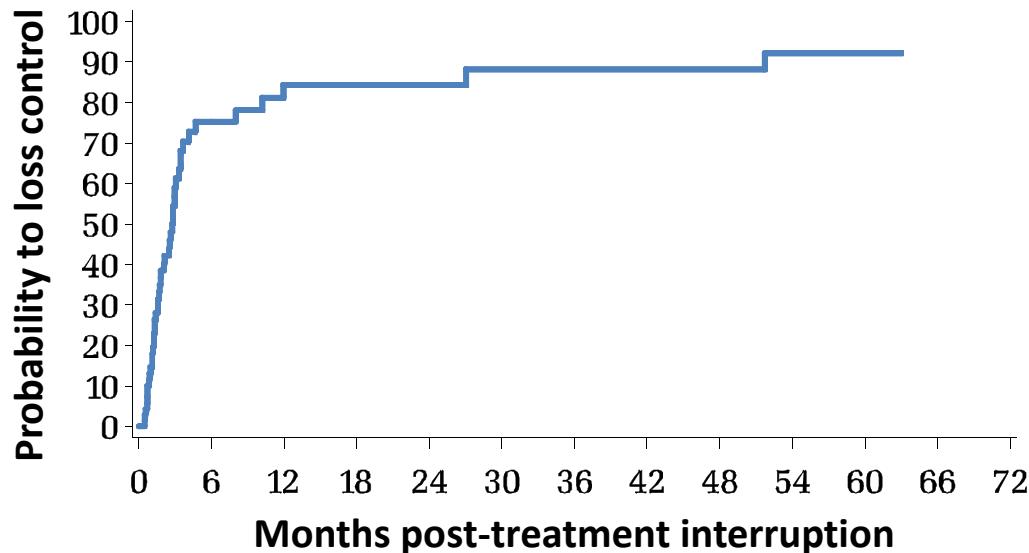
Hocqueloux et al AIDS 2010: N=32 patients, **15.6%** VL<50 at M24

Goujard et al Antivir Ther 2013: N=164 patients, **8.5%** VL<50 at M24

**3538** patients included in the FHDH within 6 months of primary infection 1997-2011

**756** patients treated within 6 months and at least for a year

**74** patients with a viral load below <50 RNA copies/ml who stop



Probability to keep controlling infection at 24M (loss of control: 2VL>50 RNA copies/ml or 1VL>50 RNA copies/ml +cART) :  
**15.7%** [6.5-28.5]

Saez-Cirion et al PLoS Path 2013

## HIV controllers (HIC)

**Asymptomatic primary infection, low viral loads and high CD4 T cell counts in PHI**

**80% HIC carry one protective HLA-class I allele**

Generally **strong HIV-specific T cell** responses with strong capacity to eliminate infected cells

Abnormal **high levels of T cell activation**

Estimated **frequency:** 0.5% of HIV infected patients

## Post-Treatment Controllers (PTC)

**Symptomatic primary infection, high viral loads and low CD4 T cell counts in PHI**

**57% PTC carry one HLA-class I allele associated with high viral loads**

Generally very **weak HIV-specific T cell** responses with poor capacity to eliminate infected cells

**Low levels of T cell activation**

Estimated **frequency:** 5-15% of HIV infected patients interrupting a >12 months-length treatment initiated in primary infection

## Conclusions from the VISCONTI study

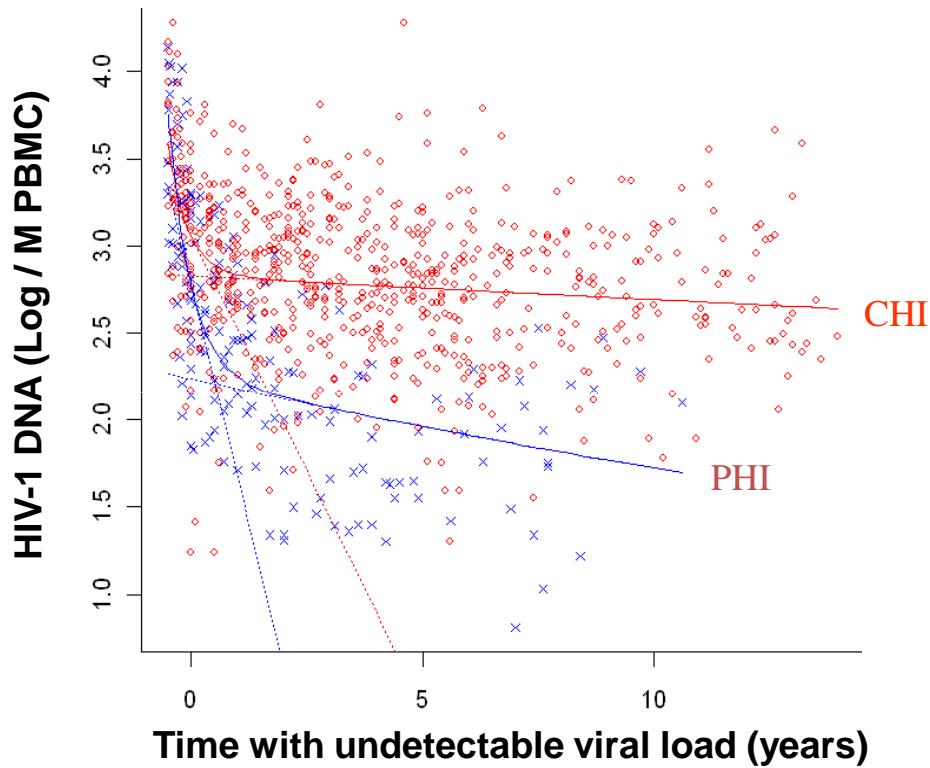
We have identified a group of HIV patients in virological remission, who are able to maintain a durable control of viral replication after treatment interruption.

Overall, these patients have a different HLA profile, lower frequency and quality of HIV-specific CD8+ T cell responses, and lower CD8+ T cell activation than “natural” HIV controllers.

Post-treatment controllers have a weak HIV reservoir in which there is a minor contribution of long-lived cells.

Post-treatment control Patients in the VISCONTI study was likely achieved through early and long-lasting therapeutic intervention.

## cART initiation during primary infection deeply impacts on HIV reservoirs

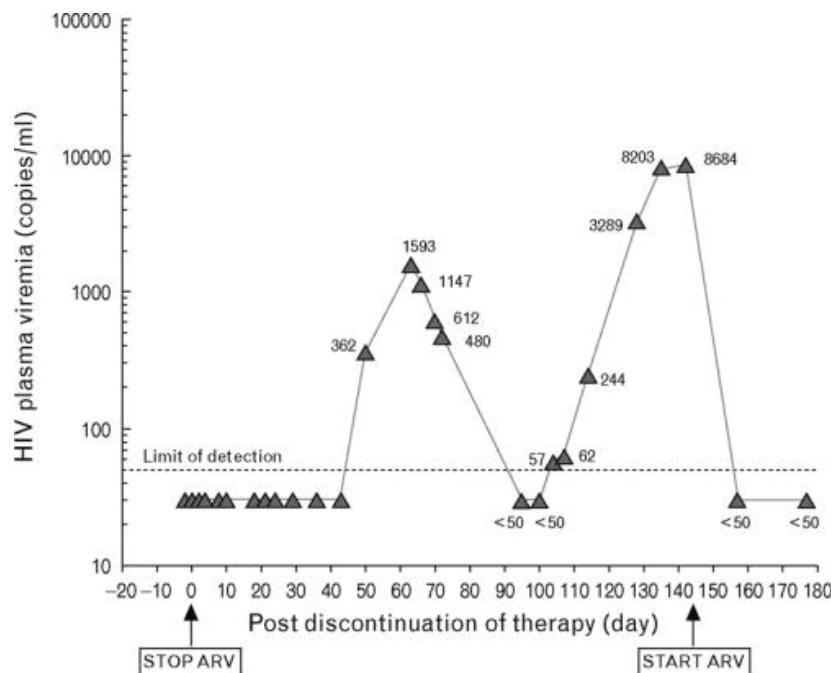


Hocqueloux et al, JAC 2013

**However, a weak HIV reservoir is not enough**

**Rebound of plasma viremia following cessation of antiretroviral therapy despite profoundly low levels of HIV reservoir: implications for eradication**

Tae-Wook Chun<sup>a</sup>, J. Shawn Justement<sup>a</sup>, Danielle Murray<sup>a</sup>,  
Claire W. Hallahan<sup>a</sup>, Janine Maenza<sup>b</sup>, Ann C. Collier<sup>b</sup>,  
Prameet M. Sheth<sup>c</sup>, Rupert Kaul<sup>c</sup>, Mario Ostrowski<sup>c</sup>, Susan Moir<sup>a</sup>,  
Colin Kovacs<sup>c</sup> and Anthony S. Fauci<sup>a</sup>



## **EARLY TREATMENT**

**Limiting the establishment of the viral reservoir**

**Limiting viral diversity**

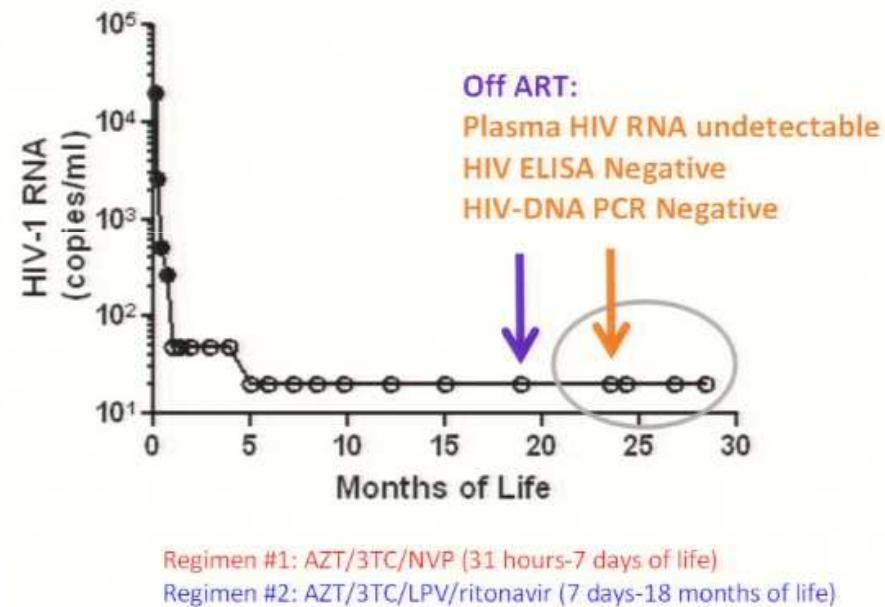
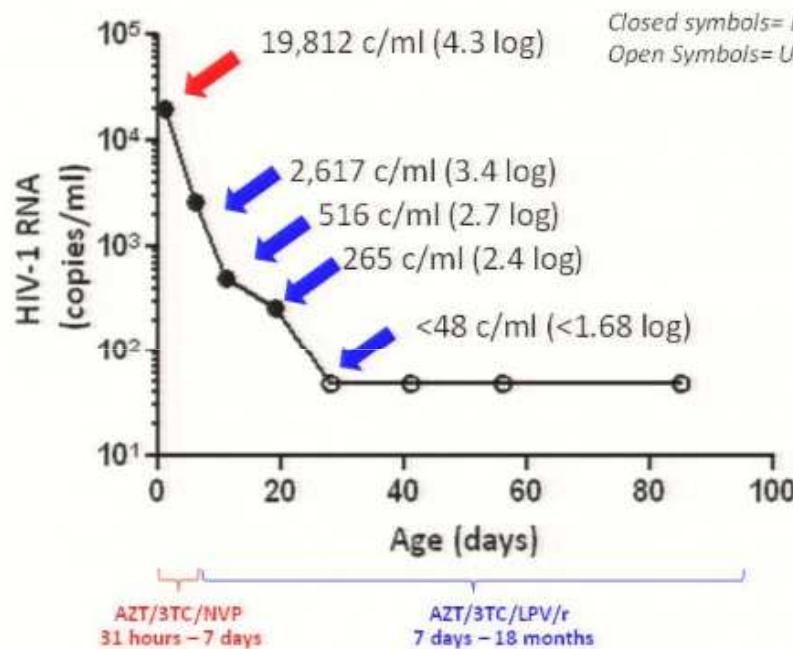
**Reducing immune activation**

**Preserving and cooperating with immune responses**



**Limiting the dynamics of viral replication in acute infection  
may be crucial for spontaneous control of infection**

# HIV remission in a 28-month old Perinatally-infected child (Mississippi Toddler)



# World-wide observations of post-treatment controllers



Remember: treatment interruption is not recommended outside structured protocols!!!

## OBJECTIVES

- **To build an international cohort of Post Treatment Controllers in order to :**
  - Uncover mechanisms underlying viral control, i.e. HIV remission
  - Identify predictive markers associated with viral control after treatment interruption
- **Main Outcome:**  
To identify patients in whom HAART could be safely interrupted

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**ANRS CO6**  
**“PRIMO”**

**ANRS CO18**  
**“HIV controllers”**

**ANRS CO15**  
**“ALT”**

**FHDH**  
**“French Hospital Database on HIV”**