

# ***Delta-Tocotrienol: Radiation Protection and Effects on Signal Transduction Pathways***

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**Principal Investigators  
AFRRI, Bethesda, Maryland**

**Srinivasan (part 1)**

**Prophylactic and mitigatory studies in CD2F1 mice**

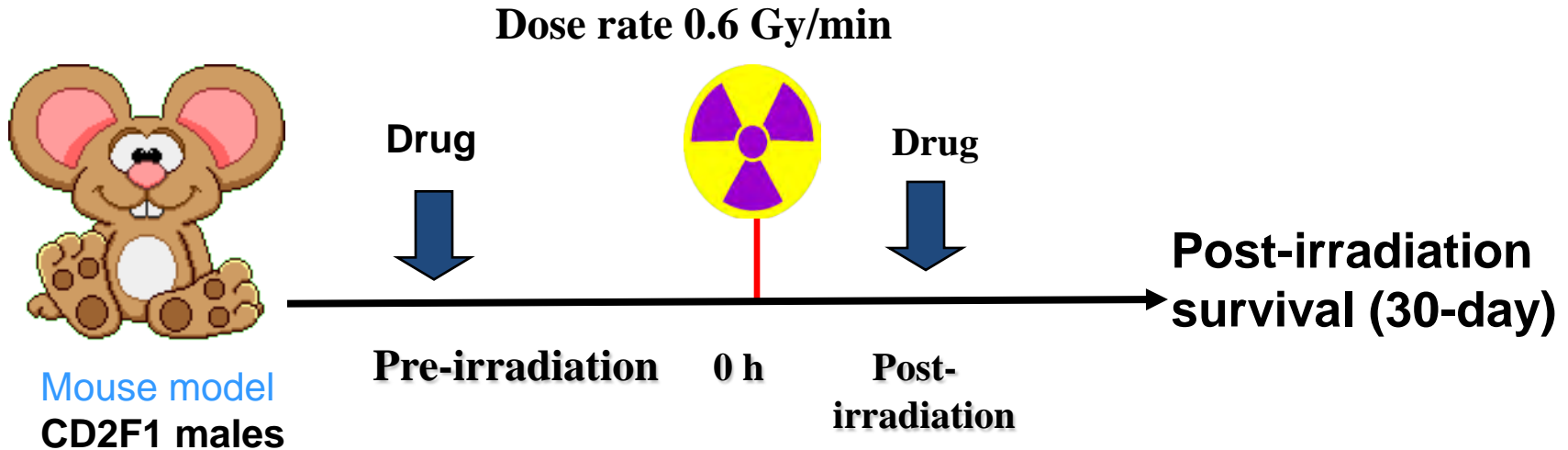
**Xiao (part 2)**

***In vivo* and *in vitro* hematopoiesis and effects of DT3 on  
Erk/mTOR signaling pathway regulation**

**Radiation Countermeasures Symposium  
An AFRRI 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event  
June 15, 2011**

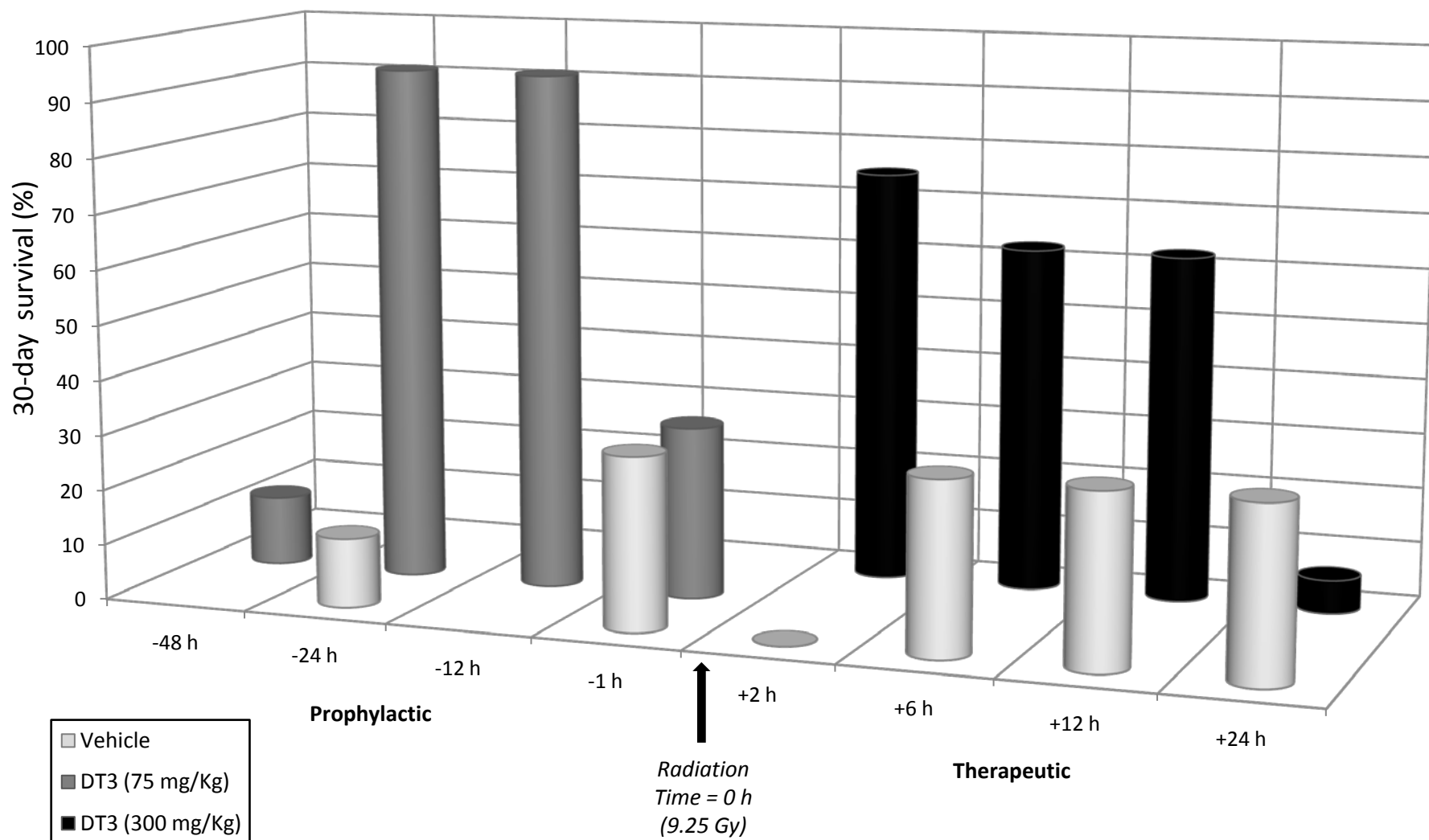
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# Experimental Design (Radiation survival studies)



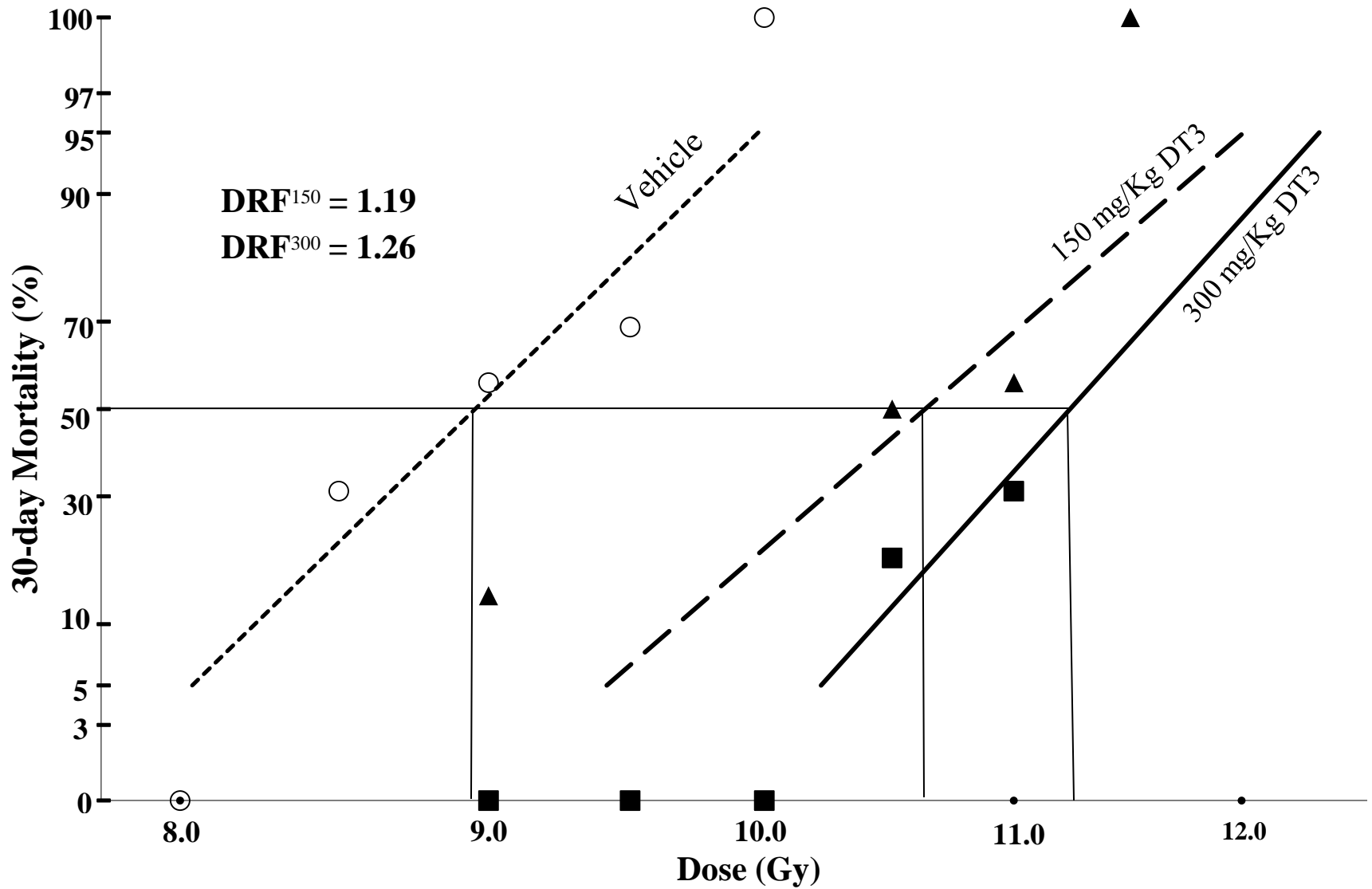
1. Positive control=5-AED and vehicle PEG-400; 24 h pre-TBI
2. 12-14 week old
3. Cobalt 60 gamma radiation

## Time Optimization with DT3

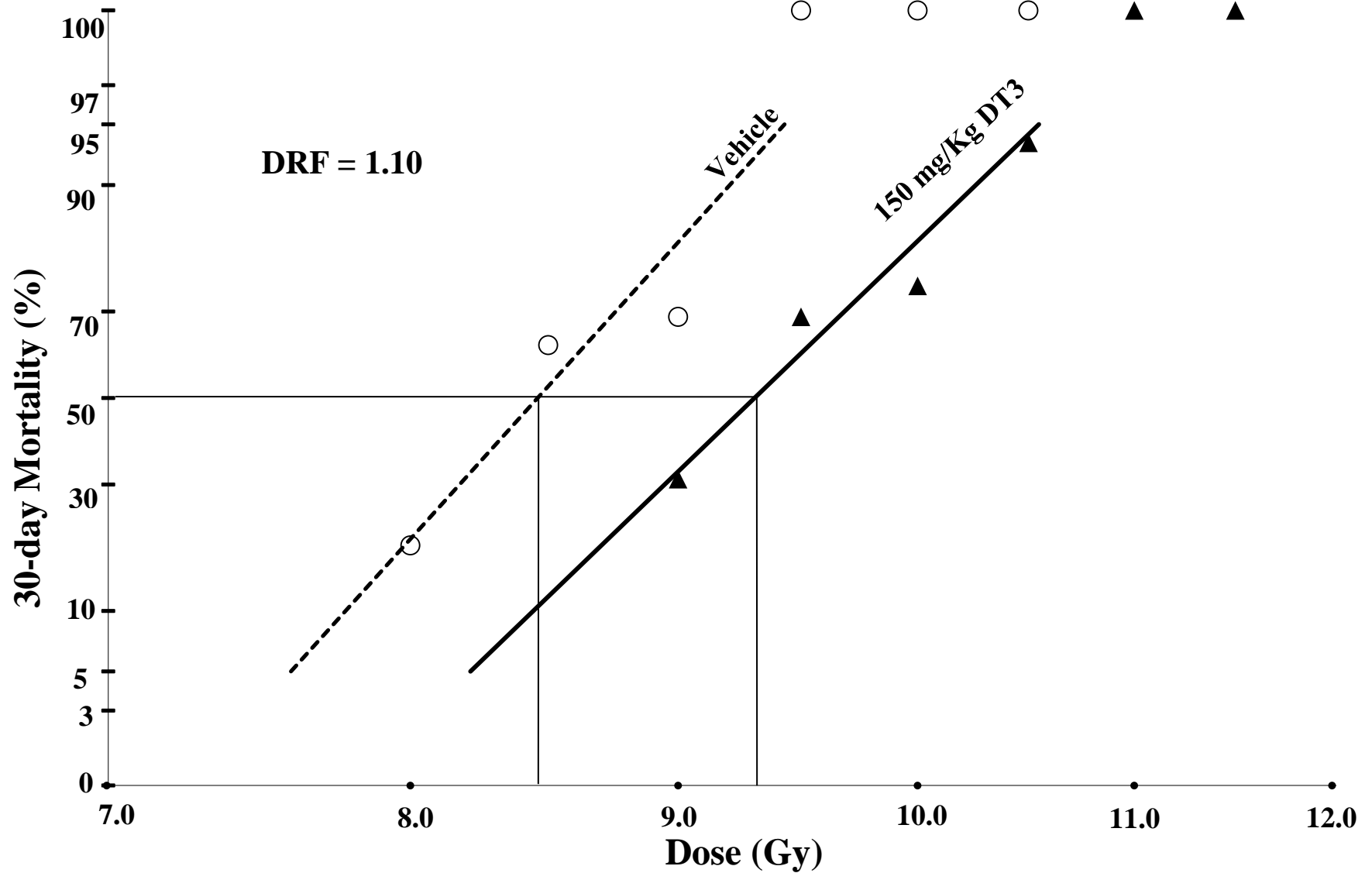


Satyamitra et al 2011 *Rad Res* 175, 736

## DRF for DT3 (-24 h, sc)

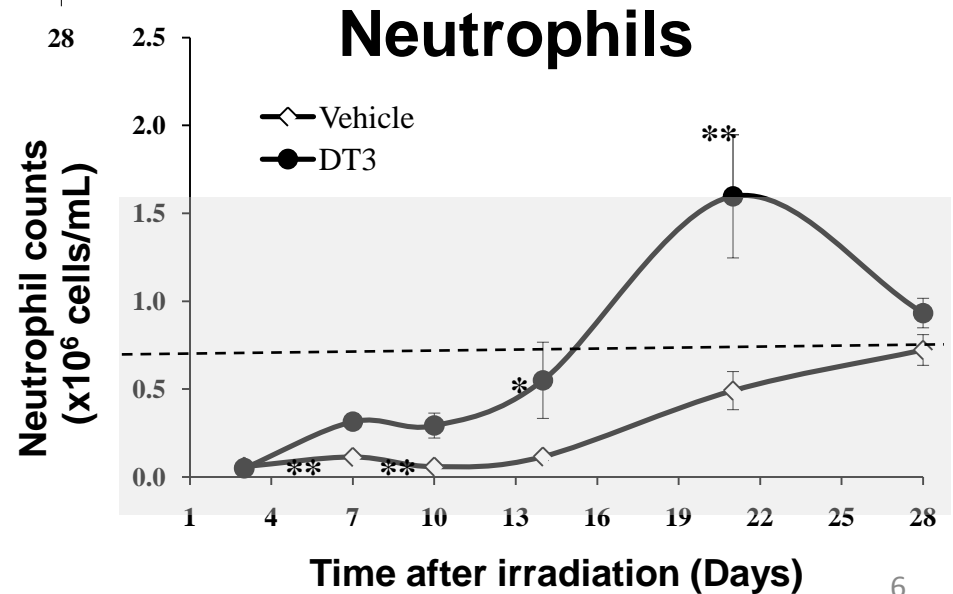
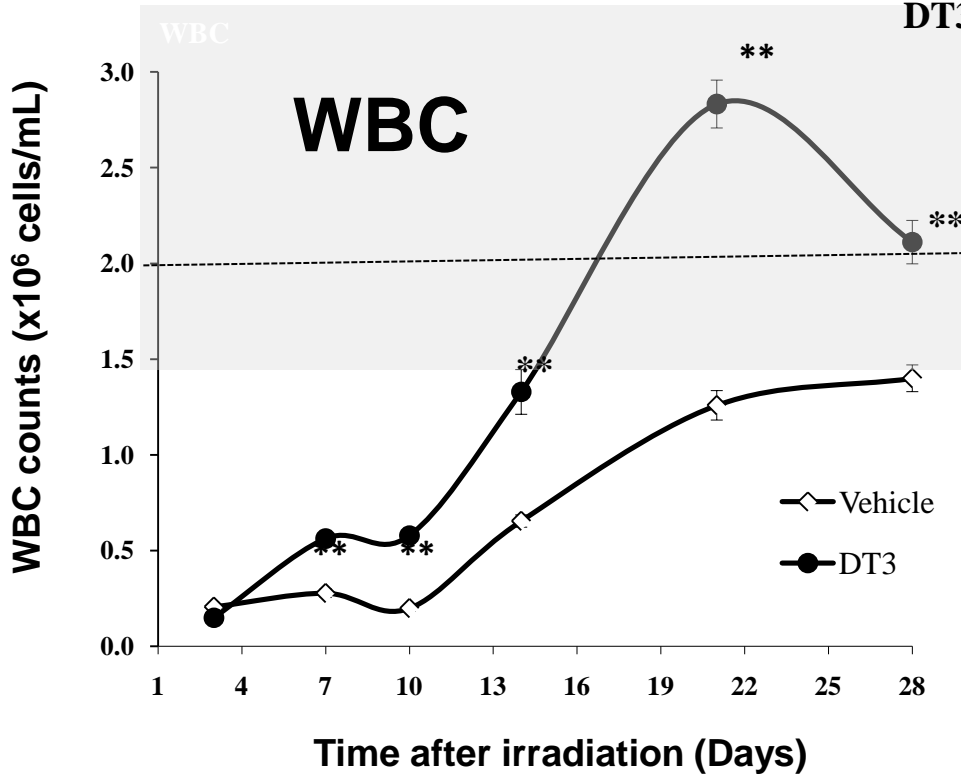


## DRF DT3 (2 h postirradiation sc)



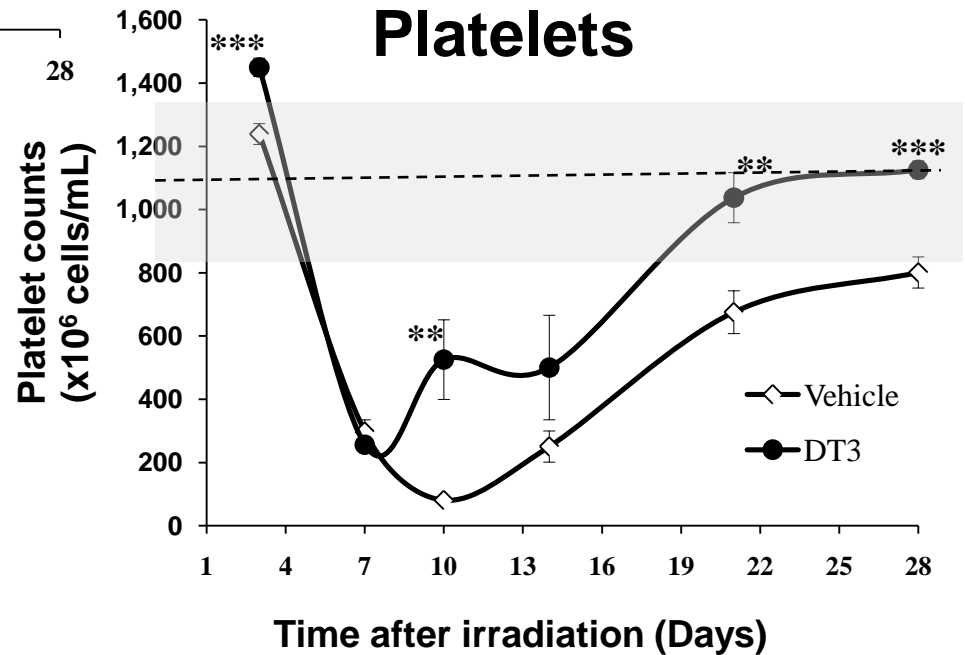
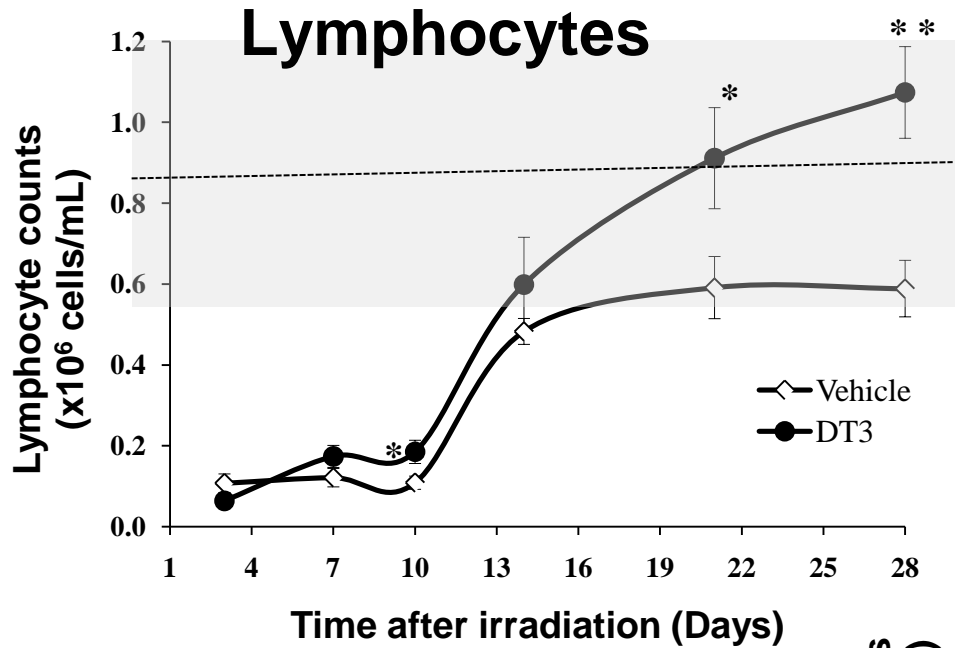
# Hematology

DT3- 300 mg/kg, -24 h, sc , 7 Gy @ 0.6 Gy/min



# Hematology (Ctd)

DT3- 300 mg/kg, -24 h, sc , 7 Gy @ 0.6 Gy/min



# **Preliminary studies**

**Oral formulations**

**Pharmacokinetics (SC and Oral)**

**Survival studies  
with oral formulations**

# Oral formulations of DT3

(in collaboration with Yasoo health)

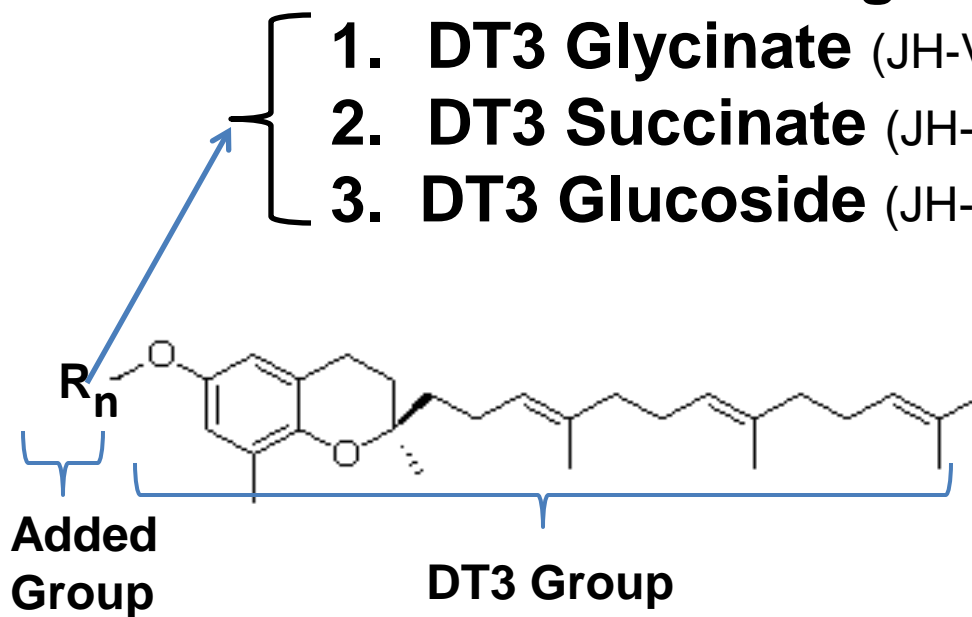
## Emulsions

1. **DT3 in Emulsifier 1** (JH-V-107)
2. **DT3 in Emulsifier 2** (JH-V-101.3)

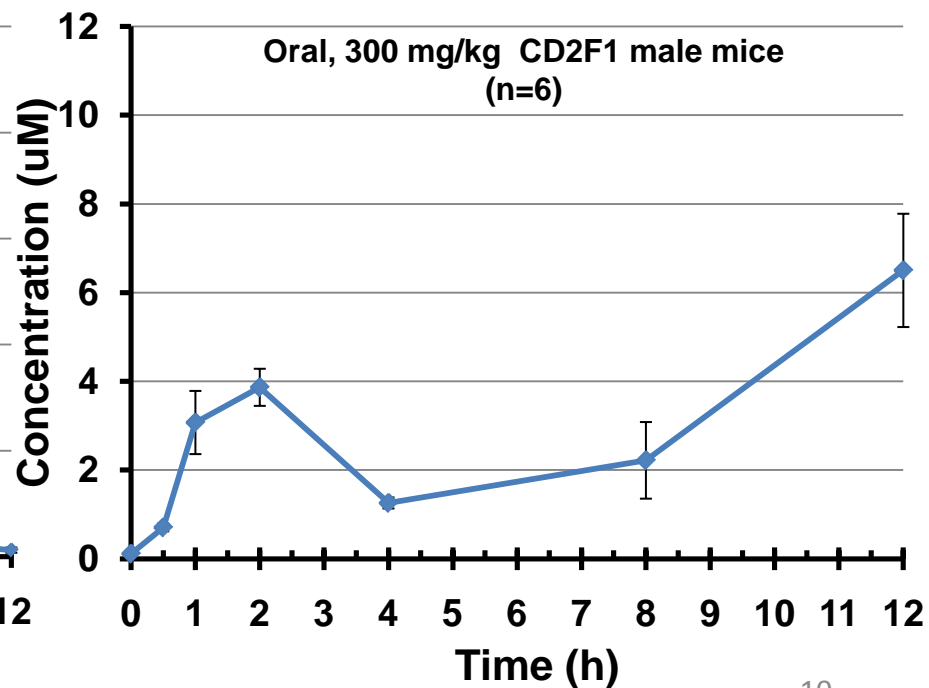
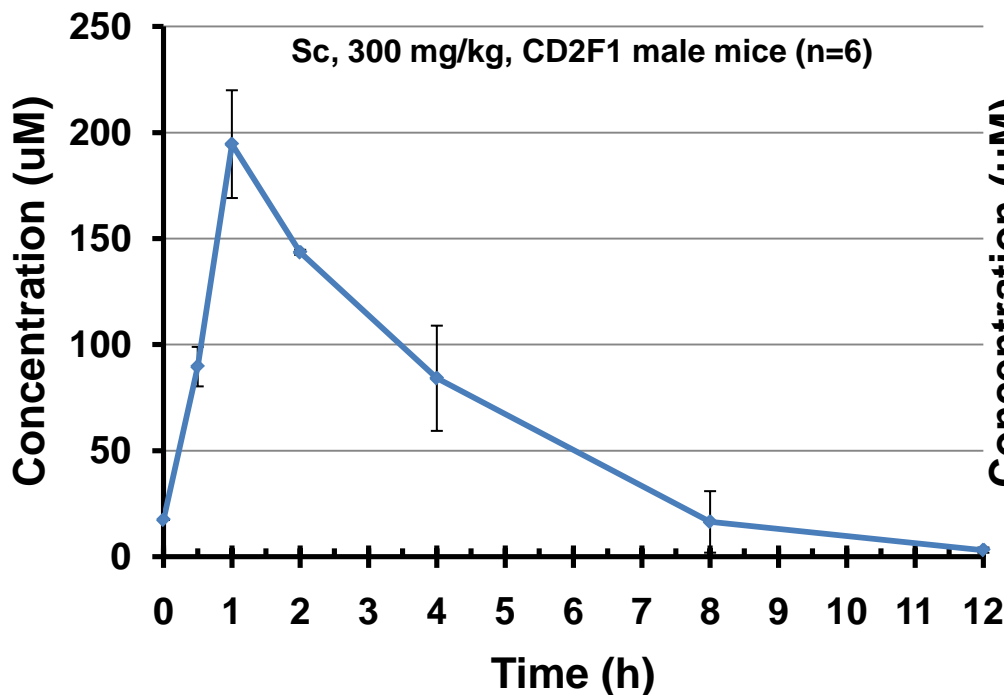
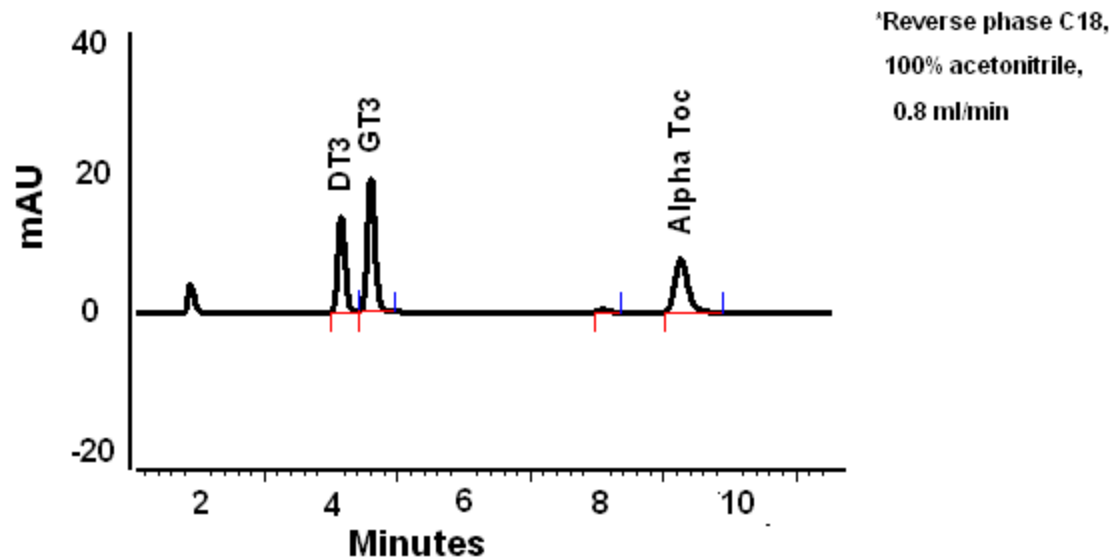
Tween 80, Brij combinations

## Prodrugs

1. **DT3 Glycinate** (JH-V-91.2)
2. **DT3 Succinate** (JH-V-103.2)
3. **DT3 Glucoside** (JH-V-119)



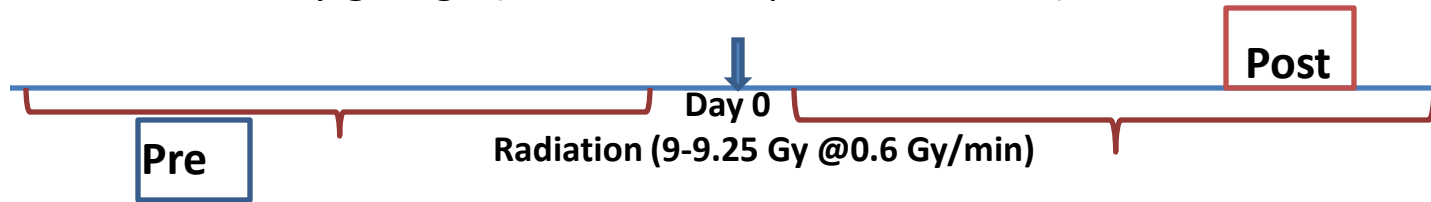
# HPLC analysis and Pharmacokinetics (Sc and oral) of DT3



# Survival: Oral formulations (% 30 day)

**Design:** Pre- 4 daily gavage (last dose -24 h)

Post- 4 daily gavage (first dose 1 h postirradiation)



	DT3 dose (mg/kg)	Vehicle	<u>DT3 in emulsifiers (EM)</u>	
			Pre	Post
<u>EM1</u>	75	25	25	56
<u>EM2</u>	100	25	25	25
<hr/>				
			<u>DT3 as Prodrugs</u>	
<u>Glycinate</u>	225	6	6	19
<u>Succinate</u>	240	19	13	38
<u>Glucoside</u>	225	37*	38	44 (75)
* contains 10% ethanol				

# Introduction

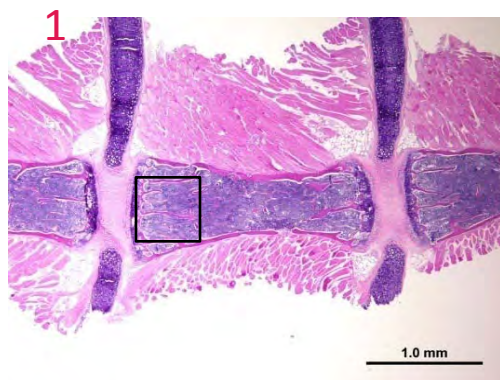
## (part 2- Xiao)

Promising candidates identified in a rodent system require further extensive mechanistic studies for FDA approval under the Animal Efficacy Rule.

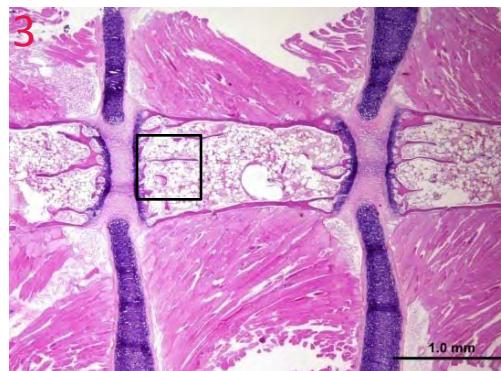
In the present study, we investigated the radioprotective mechanisms of DT3 on  $\gamma$ -irradiated CD2F1 mouse bone marrow and human hematopoietic progenitor CD34+ cells.

# Mouse bone marrow (sternum) pathological changes

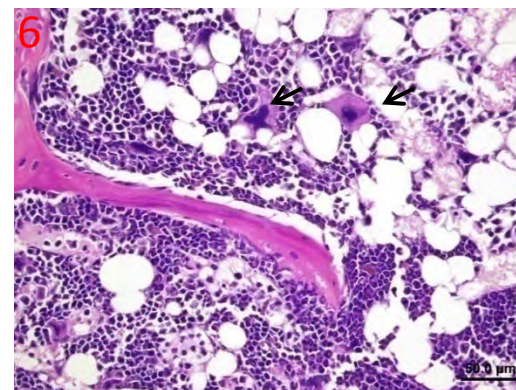
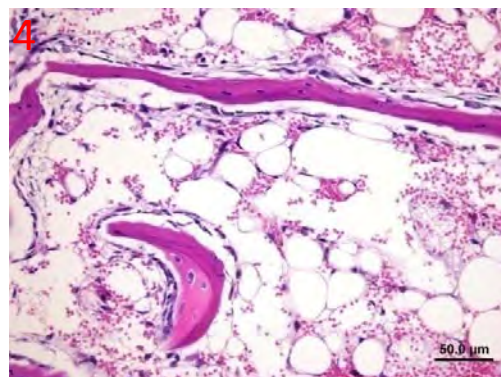
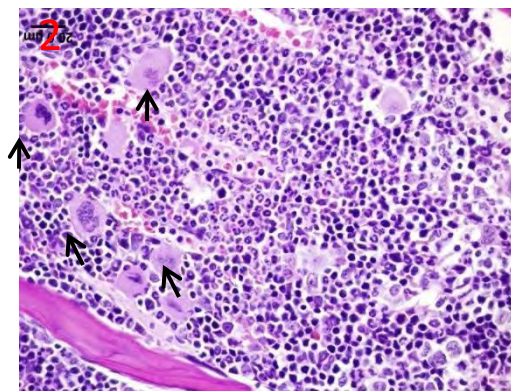
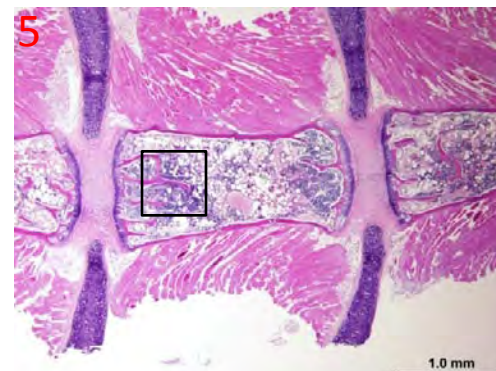
Control, 0 Gy



Vehicle, 8.75 Gy

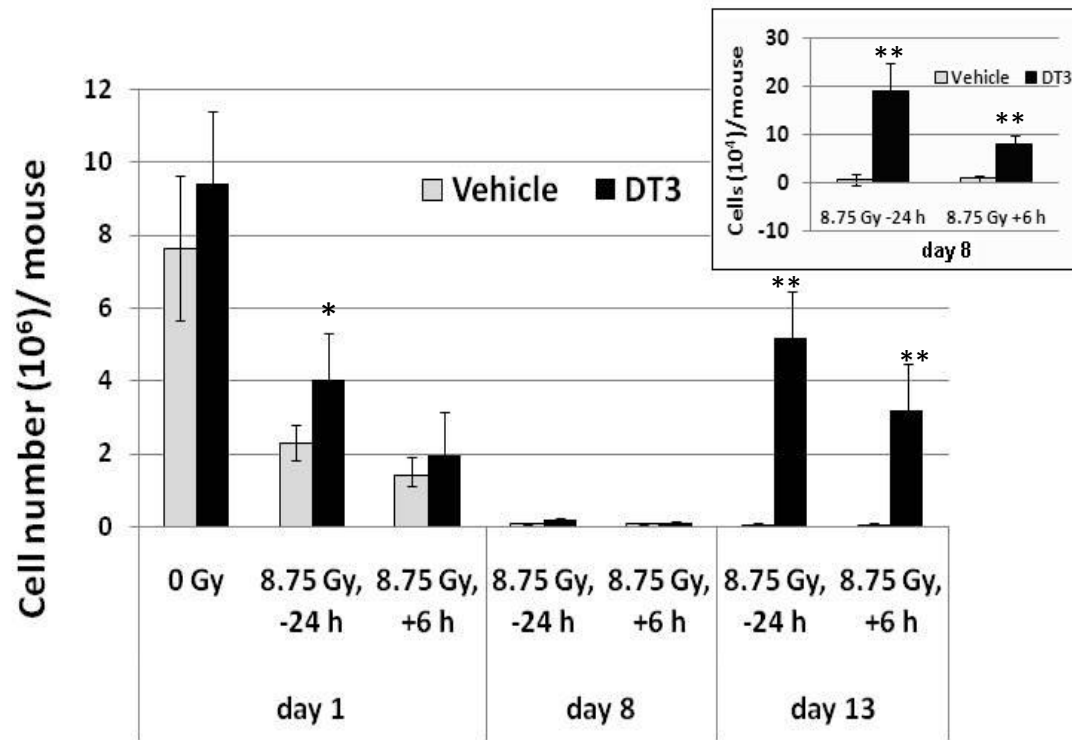


DT3, 8.75 Gy



8 days post-irradiation

## Effects of DT3 on recovery of mouse bone marrow myeloid cells from radiation damage (*in vivo*)



## Mouse serum

**0 Gy**

**8.75 Gy**

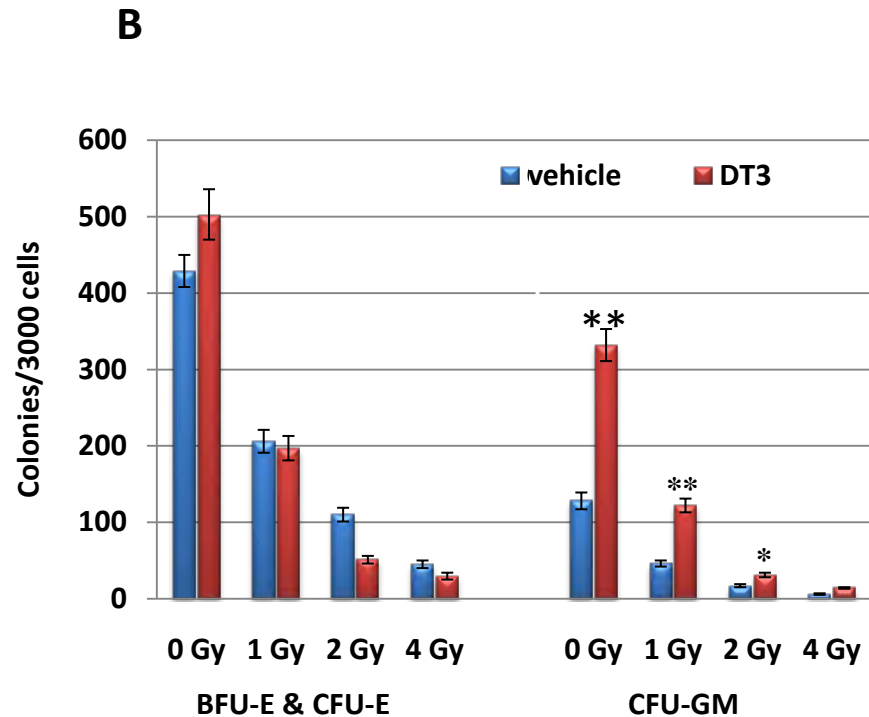
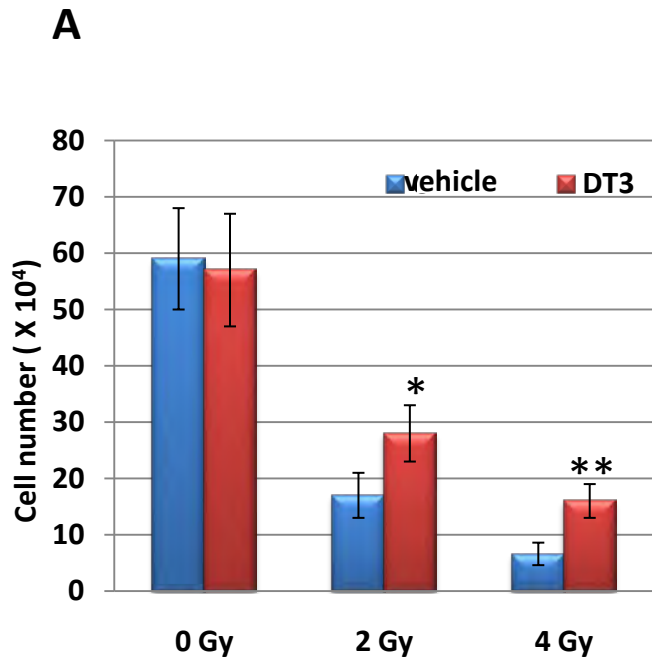
## Vehicle

DT3

## G-CSF

**DT3 300mg/kg, SC. N = 6**

# DT3 protected human hematopoietic progenitor CD34+ cells (*in vitro*) from radiation damage

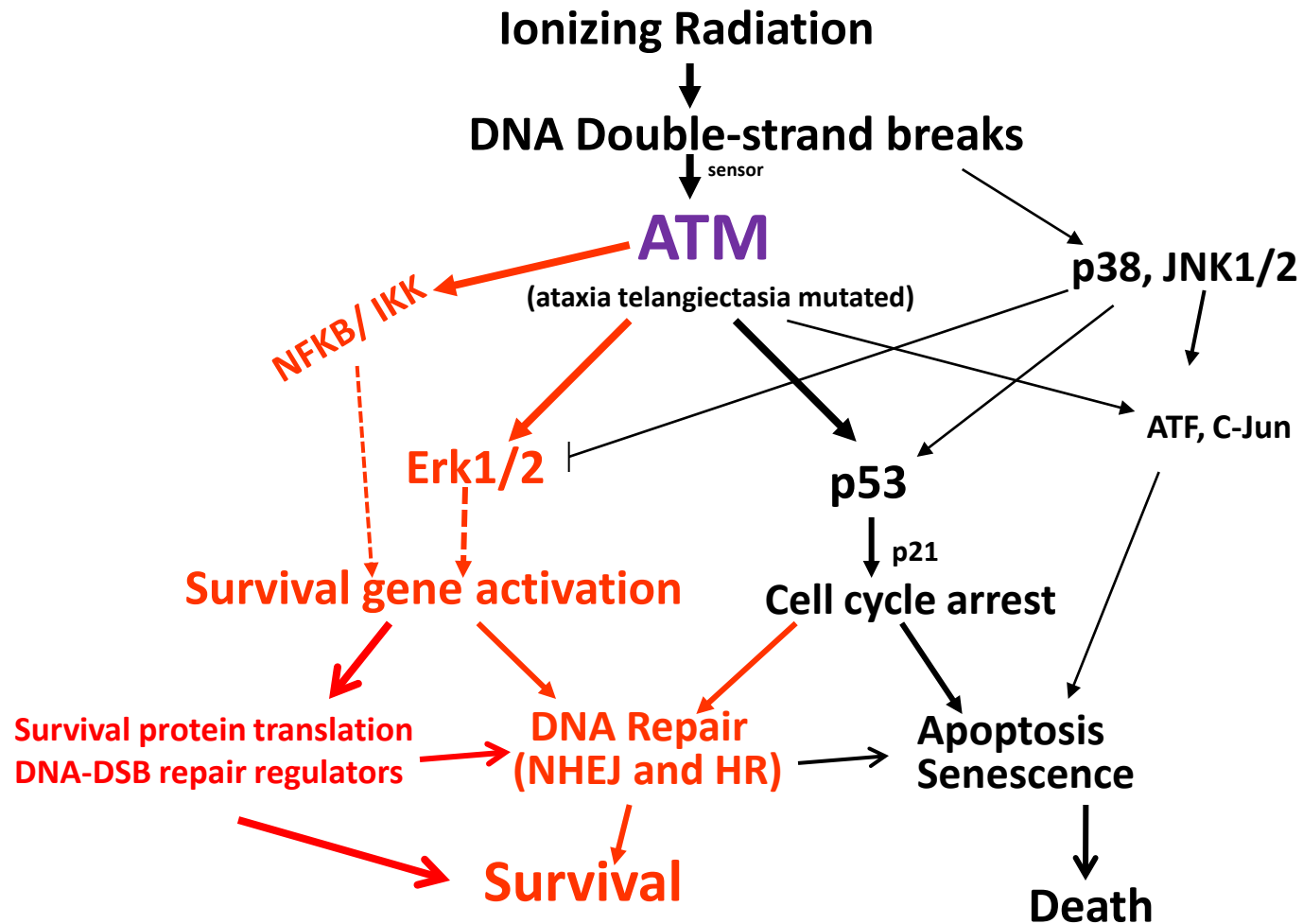


DT3 2  $\mu$ M/mL, 24 h before radiation

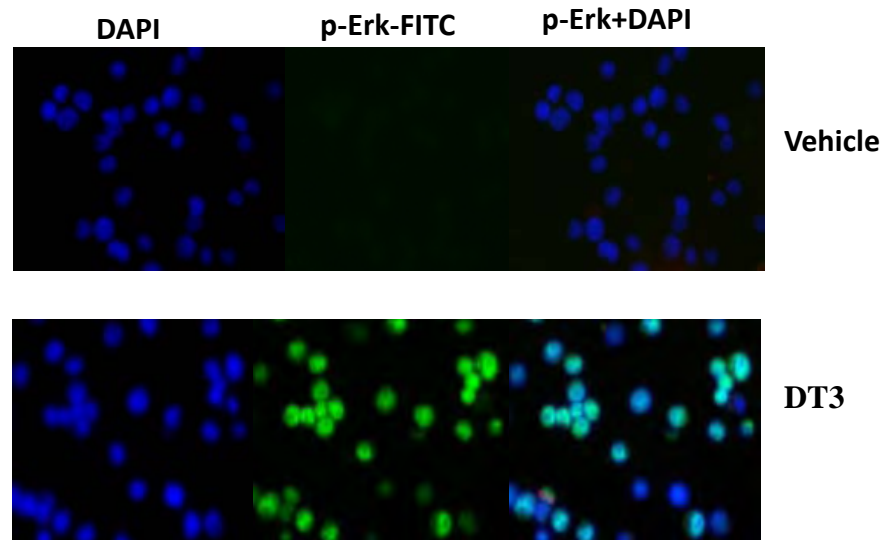
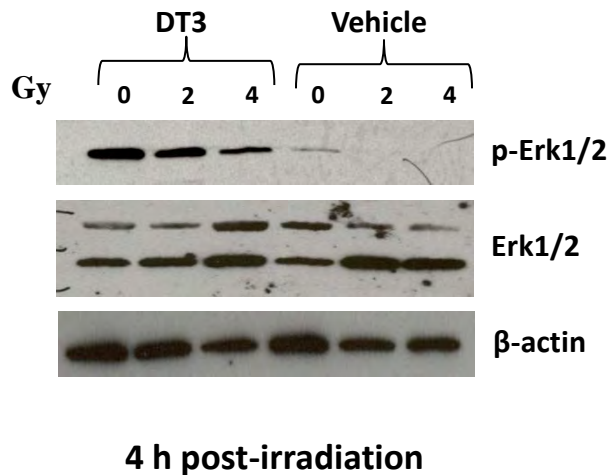
Survival of  $\gamma$ -irradiated mouse bone marrow and primary human hematopoietic CD34+ cells was significantly enhanced by Delta-tocotrienol (DT3).

## Mechanisms?

# Radiation-induced activation of intracellular signal pathways

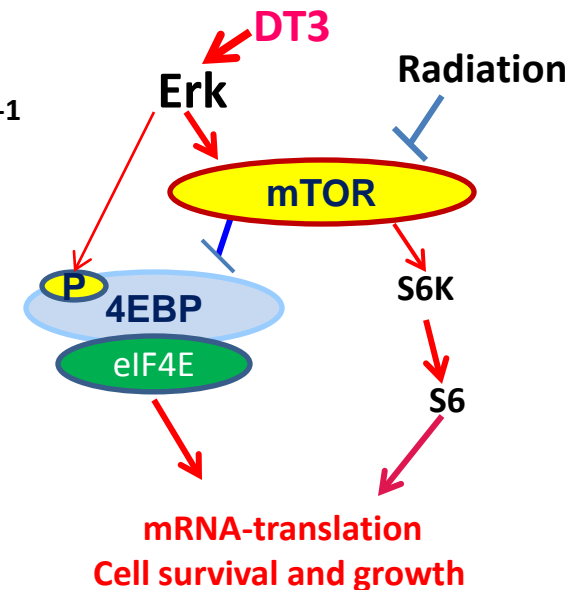
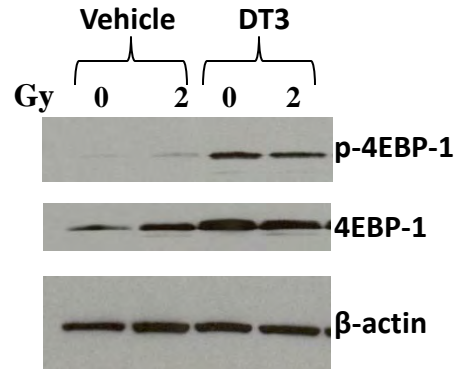
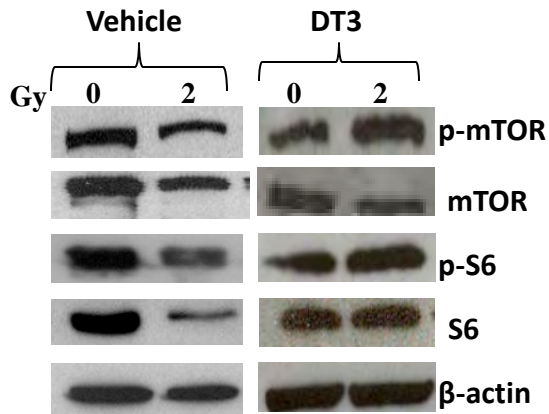


## DT3 induced Erk1/2 phosphorylation in CD34+ cells



Normal human hematopoietic CD34+ cells have little or no Erk phosphorylation [Ricciardi et al. *Leukemia*. 2005;19:1543-1549], and the phosphorylated Erk expression was very low or undetectable after  $\gamma$ -irradiation in CD34+ cells.

# DT3 reversed the radiation-inhibited mTOR and S6 protein activation and induced 4EBP-1 phosphorylation in CD34+ cells



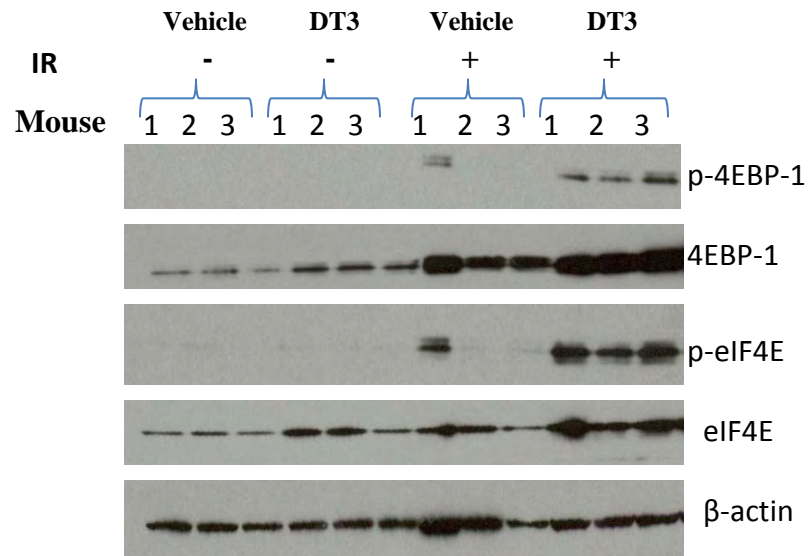
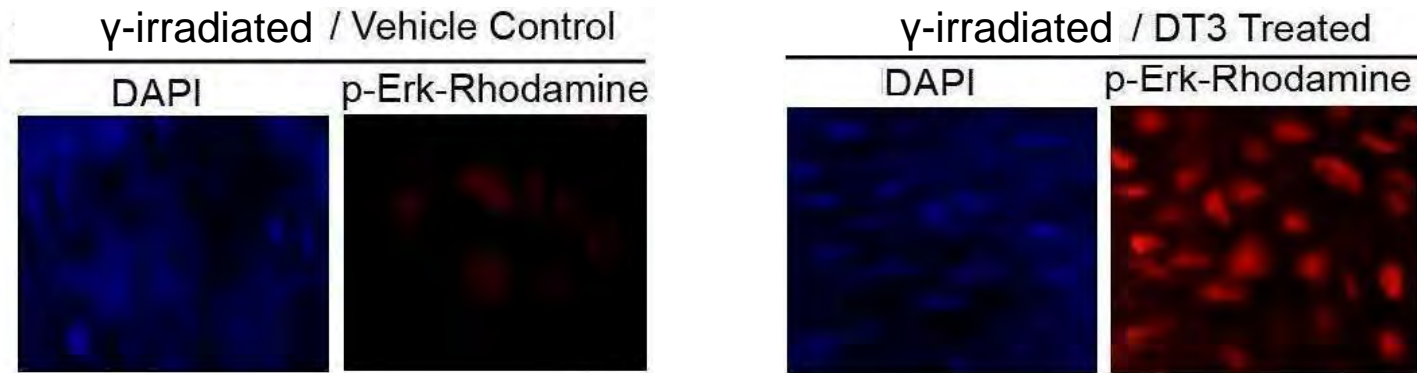
mTOR: Mammalian target of rapamycin

4EBP-1: Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 4E-binding protein 1

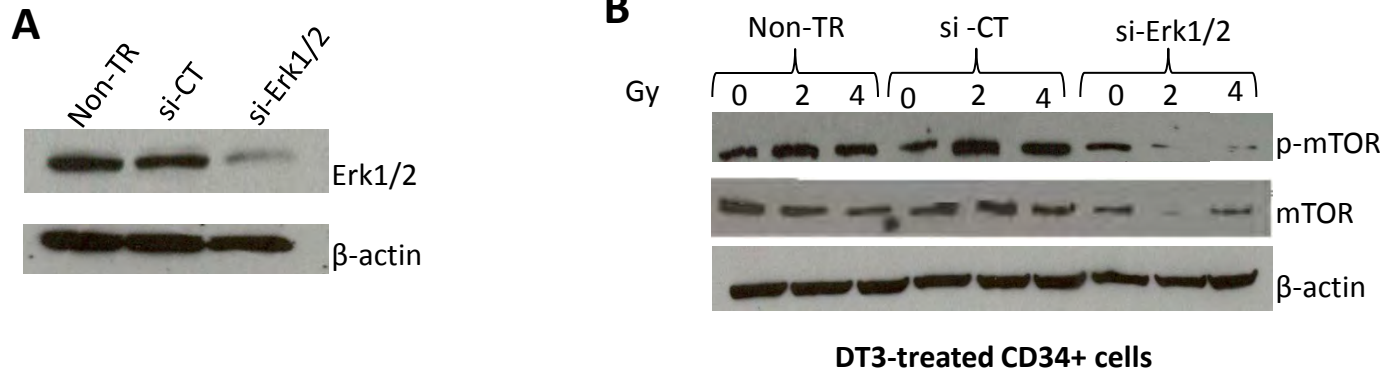
S6: Ribosomal protein

mTOR is a member of the phosphoinositid 3-OH kinase (PI3K)-related kinase family factors which involved in cell proliferation, cell cycle progression, DNA damage checkpoints and cell survival and growth.

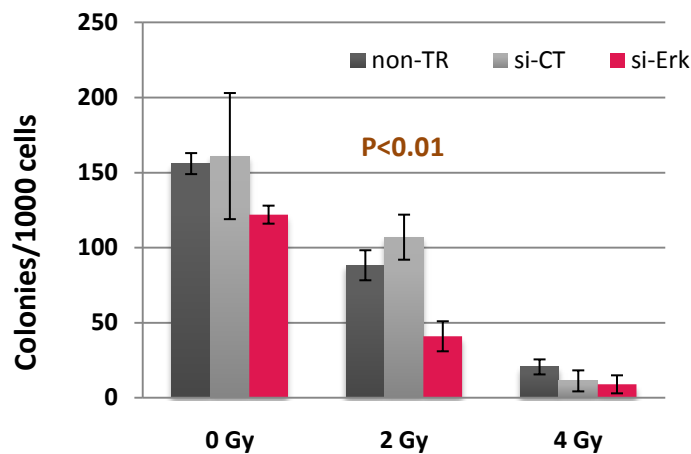
# DT3 induced Erk phosphorylation in mouse bone marrow cells after irradiation (*in Vivo*)



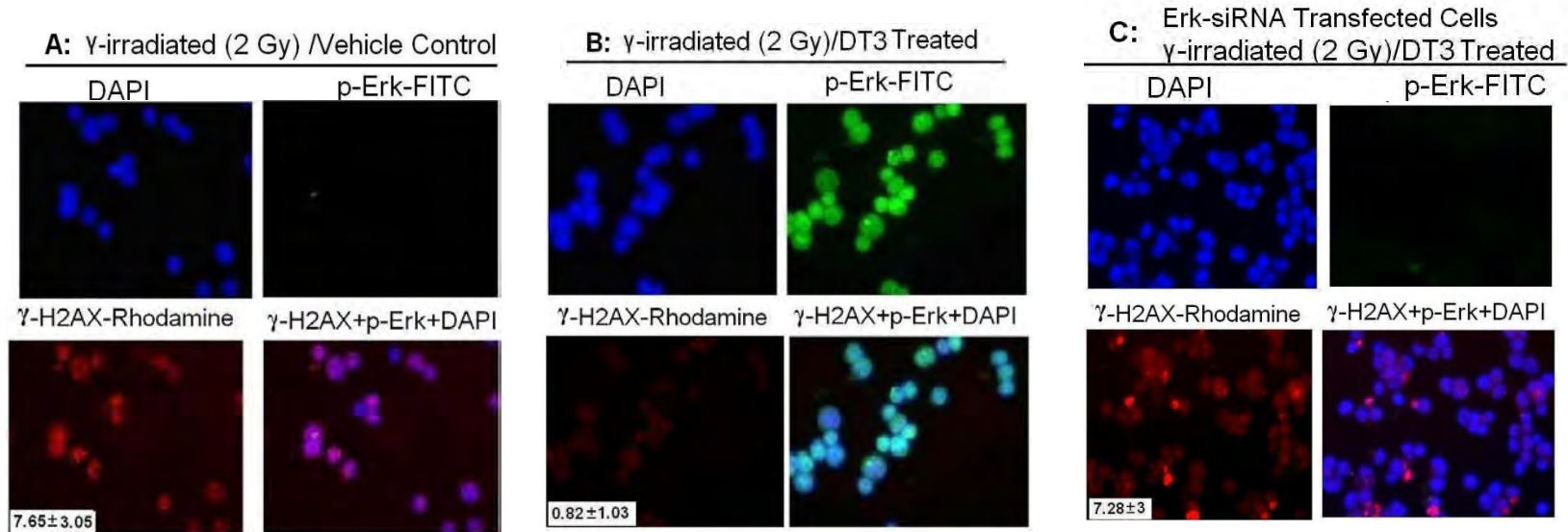
# **Erk gene knockdown suppressed m-TOR phosphorylation and clonogenicity in DT3-treated CD34+ cells after IR**



## **C Clonogenicity of DT3-treated CD34+ cells**



# DT3 induced Erk phosphorylation in $\gamma$ -irradiated CD34+ cells and protected cells from irradiation-induced DNA-damage



Immunofluorescence staining using anti- $\gamma$ -H2AX-Rhodamine (red) and anti-phospho-Erk-FITC (green) antibodies. DAPI (blue) defined the cell nucleus.

# Summary and Conclusions

- Survival of  $\gamma$ -irradiated mouse bone marrow and primary human hematopoietic CD34+ cells was significantly enhanced by Delta-tocotrienol (DT3).
- DT3 dramatically induced Erk phosphorylation and decreased the DNA-damage marker  $\gamma$ -H2AX foci formation.
- DT3 reversed the radiation-inhibited mTOR and S6 protein activation, and induced 4EBP-1 phosphorylation.
- Knockdown of *Erk* gene expression by siRNA abrogated DT3-induced mTOR phosphorylation, induced  $\gamma$ -H2AX foci formation, and inhibited clonogenicity in CD34+ cells.

**In conclusion, our data suggest DT3 effectively protects mouse bone marrow and human CD34+ cells from radiation damage through the Erk/mTOR survival pathway (Hematological 2010; 95(12) 1996-2004).**

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