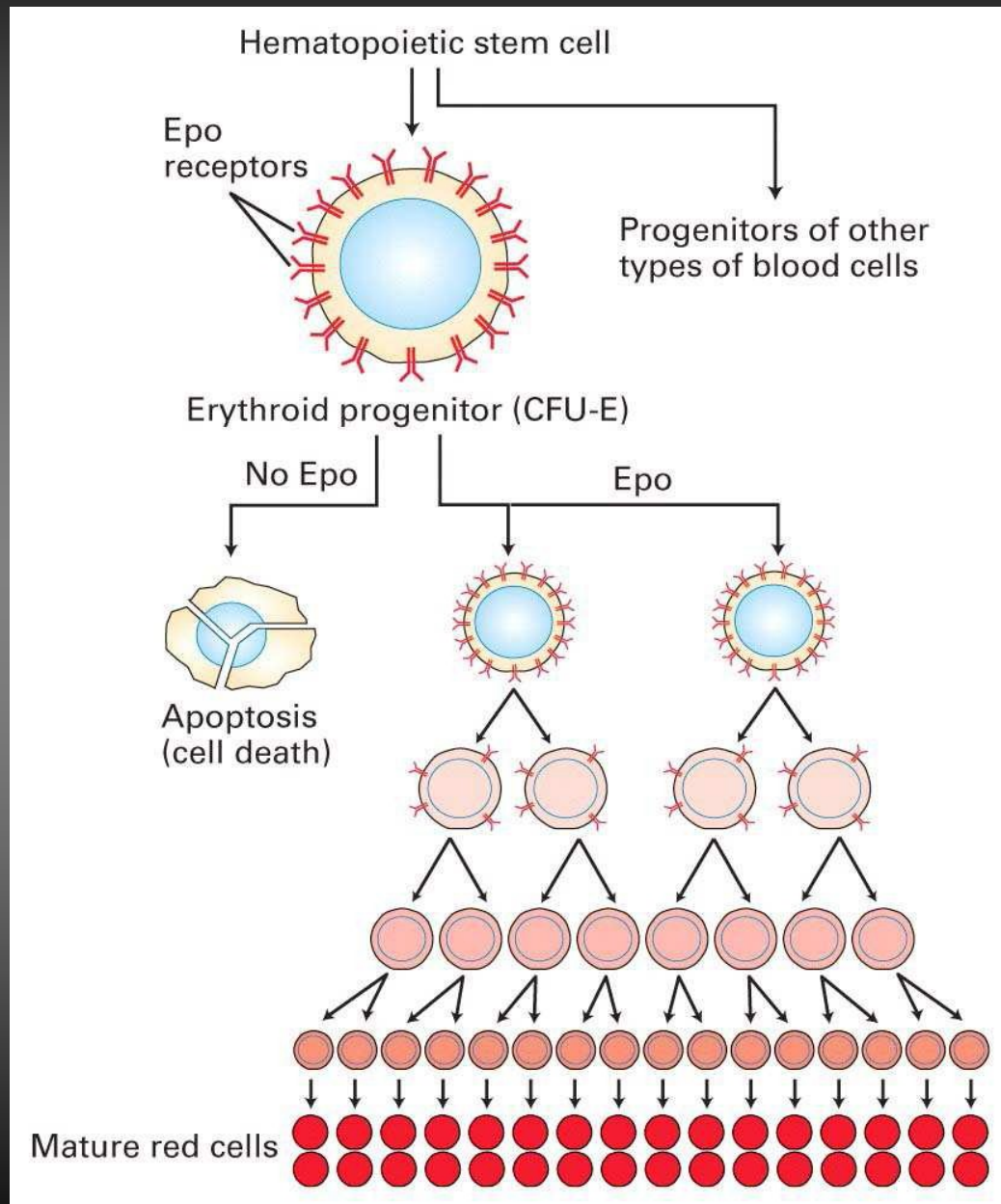


A microscopic view of numerous red blood cells, appearing as bright red, biconcave discs, filling the entire frame. The cells are densely packed and slightly out of focus, creating a textured, organic background.

*Funzioni di Epo e
molecole terapeutiche*

Ruolo dell'Epo nell'eritropoiesi



EpoR è espresso sulla superficie delle cellule eritroidi (massima espressione sulle CFU-E, diminuita sugli stadi più differenziati)

Epo agisce “salvando” dall’apoptosi le cellule progenitrici eritroidi, e stimolandone la maturazione

Epo controls erythrocyte production by preventing apoptosis through activation of Janus kinase 2 (JAK2) and Stat5, which induce expression of the antiapoptotic Bcl2 family member **Bcl-x1**.

Epo/Bcl-x1-dependent survival is both necessary and sufficient for terminal erythroid differentiation.

Consequently, in mouse models, absence of Epo or its receptor, the Epo effector, Stat5, or the Epo/Stat5 target, Bcl-x1, results in **apoptosis of erythrocyte progenitors and anemia**.

Epo

down-modulates adhesion factors

Chemokine receptor-4 (*Cxcr4*) *Integrin* alpha-4 (*Itga4*)
mediates binding to vascular cell adhesion molecule 1
(VCAM-1), fibronectin, and paxillin

up-modulates

growth differentiation factor-3 (*Gdf3*),
oncostatin-M (*OncoM*) – acts via JAK- Stat- heterodimeric
receptor 19 and affects cell growth, differentiation,

Podocalyxin like-1 (*PODXL*)?

Mature mucins are composed of two distinct regions: The amino- and carboxy-terminal regions are very lightly glycosylated, but rich in cys.

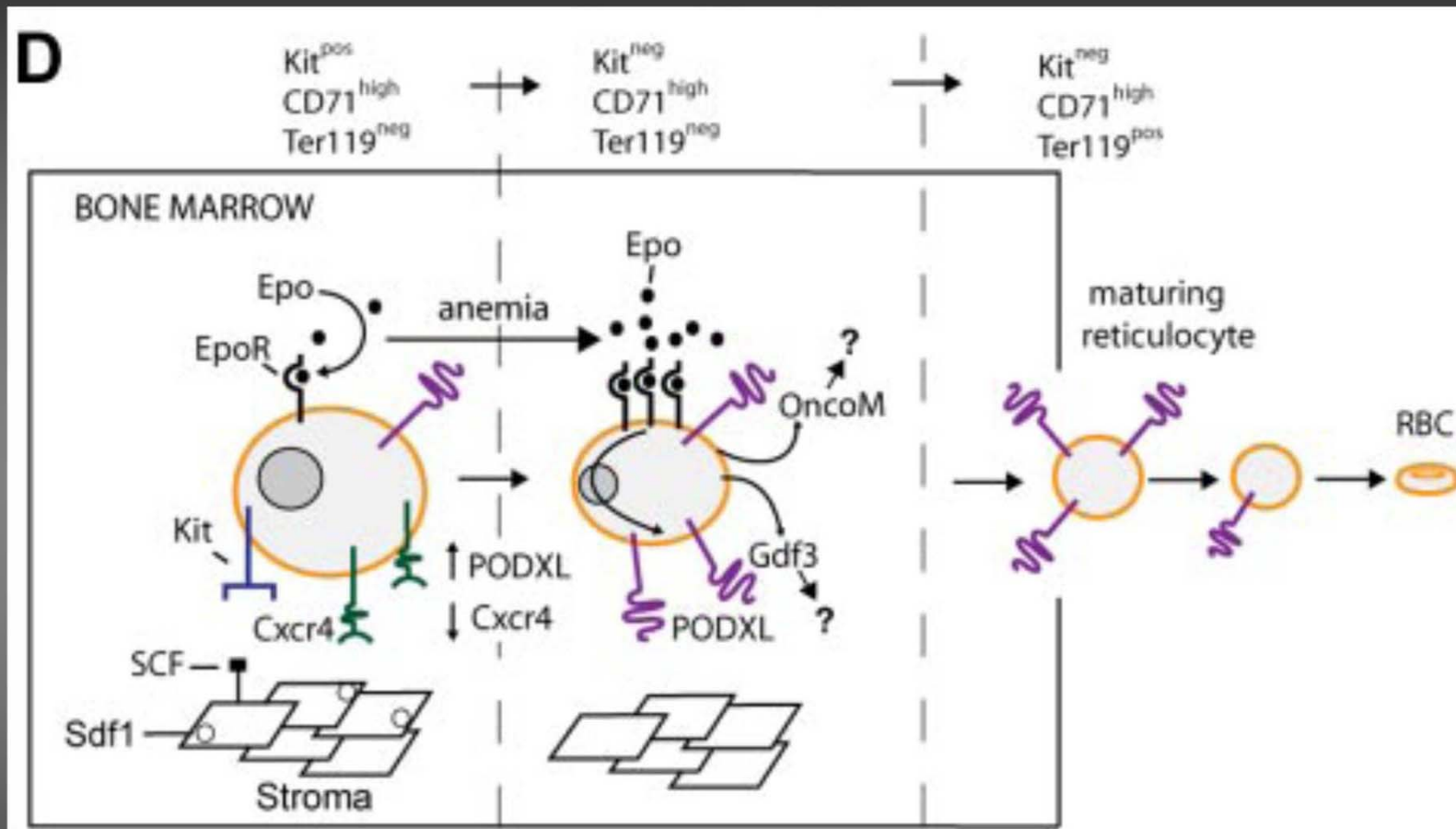
The cys residues participate in establishing disulfide linkages within and among mucin monomers.

A large central region formed of multiple tandem repeats of 10 to 80 residue sequences in which up to half of the aa ser thr.

This area becomes saturated with hundreds of O-linked oligosaccharides. N-linked oligosaccharides are also found

Sialomucin - acid mucopolysaccharide containing sialic acid

Model for Epo regulation of erythroid progenitor cell adhesion and migration within stromal niche



PODXL is a sulphated sialomucin, antiadhesive

Stati Patologici legati all'eritropoietina

Anemia

Inadeguata produzione endogena
(es. patologia renale)



Carenza di globuli rossi

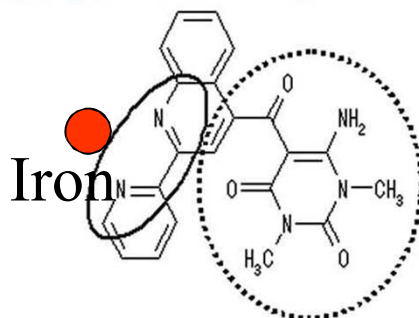
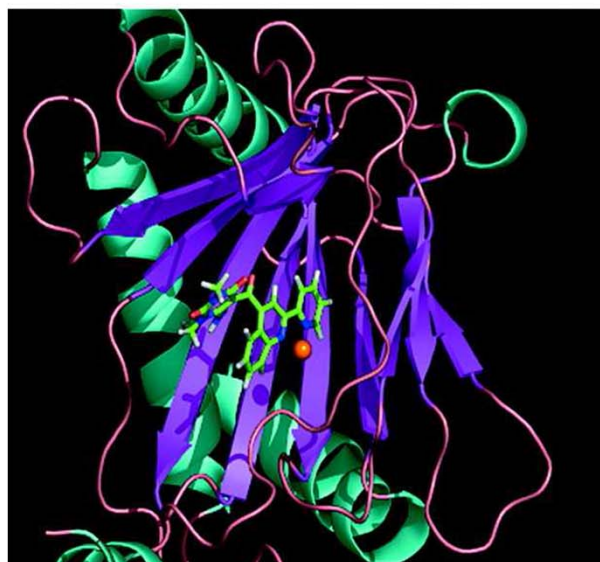


Anemia

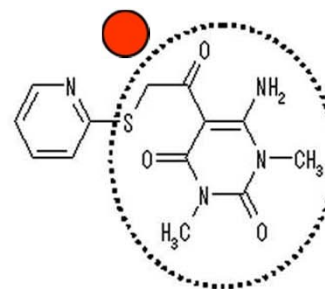
HIF prolyl hydroxylase inhibition results in endogenous erythropoietin induction, erythrocytosis

Figure 3. The predicted binding modes of TM6008 (A) and TM6089 (B) in PHD2.

PHD produces trans-4-hydroxyproline in the presence of Fe(II)



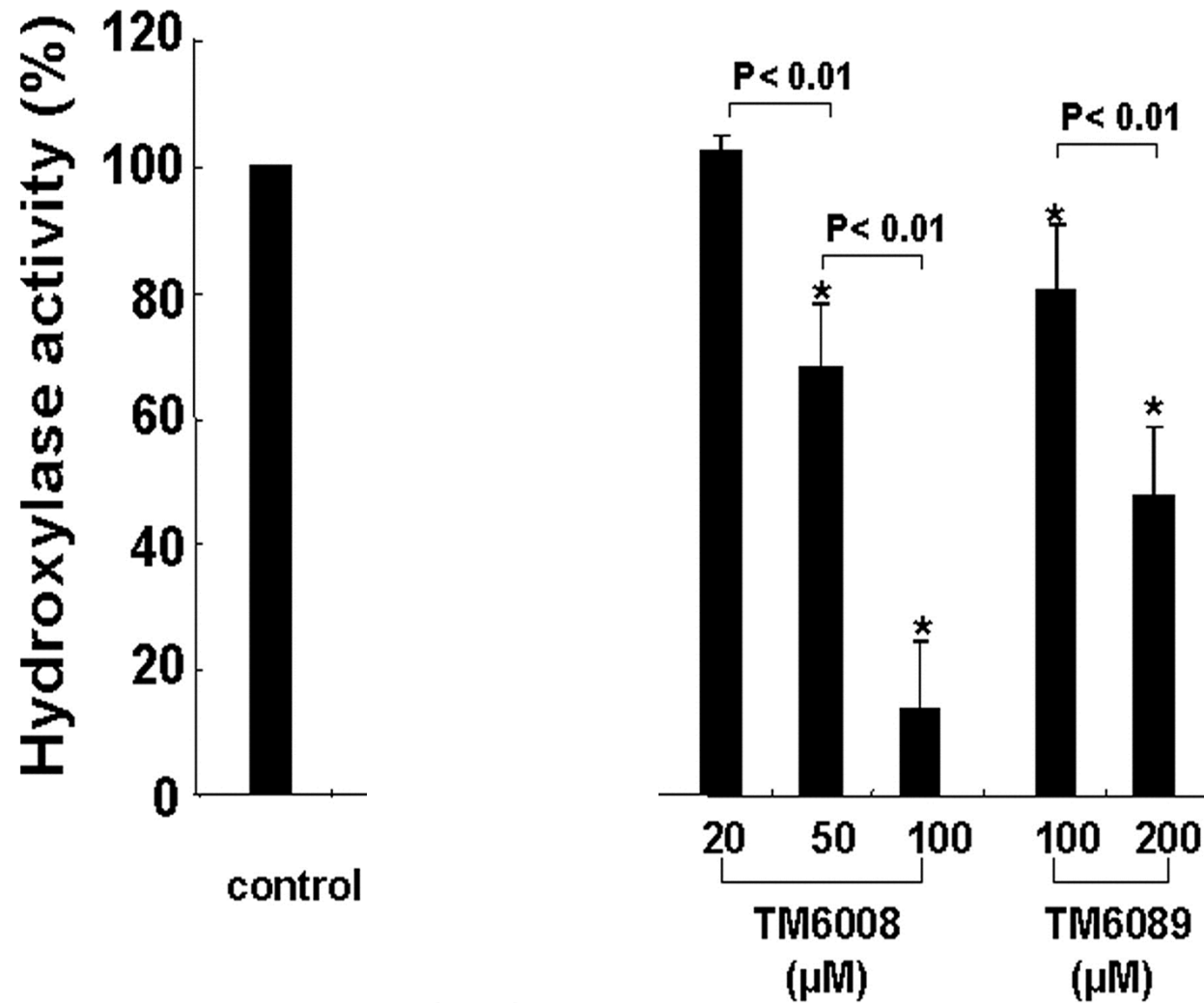
TM6008



TM6089

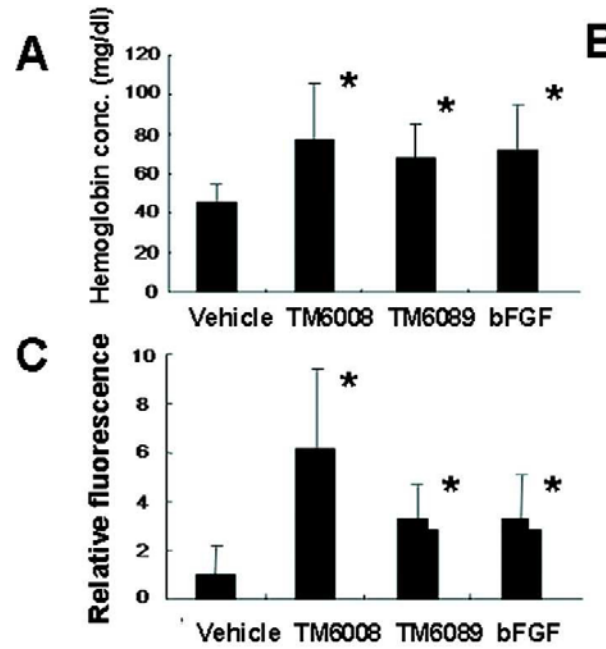
Nangaku M et al. Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol
2007;27:2548-2554

Figure 2. Inhibition of PHD activity.



Nangaku M et al. Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol
2007;27:2548-2554

Figure 4. Stimulation of angiogenesis in the mouse



Nangaku M et al. Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol
2007;27:2548-2554

Trattamento dell'anemia

Epo ricombinante (rHuEPO)

Produzione su larga scala di Epo umana ricombinante

rHuEPO

 34000 Da

 prodotta in cellule mammarie in cui è stato introdotto il gene dell'Epo

Novel Erythropoiesis Stimulating Protein (NESP)

NESP (darbepoetin):

 68500 Da

 Aumentato contenuto di carboidrati, che conferiscono un aumento dell'emivita

 Somministrazione meno frequente

Epo contains one O-linked and three N-linked carbohydrate chains, each having 2–4 branches that often end in a negatively charged sialic acid.

These carbohydrate chains are not required for receptor binding *in vitro* or stimulation of growth of EpoR-expressing cultured cells but are required for the *in vivo* bioactivity

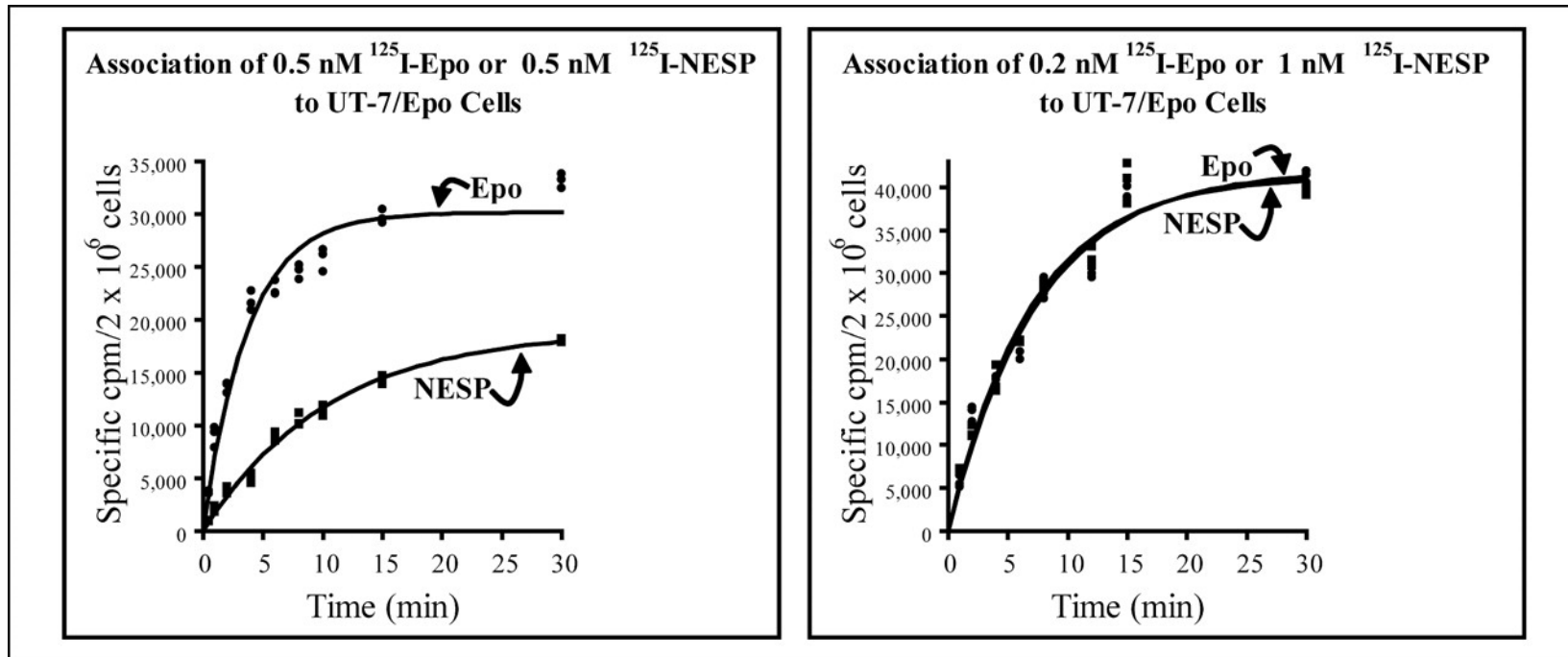
Heterogeneous branching of Epo N-linked carbohydrates results in Epo isoforms with different sialic acid contents up to a maximum of 14.

residues are mutated to provide for 2 additional N-linked glycosylation sites

Epo isoforms with higher sialic acid content have a lower affinity for EpoR but a longer serum half-life and are more effective for stimulating the production of red blood cells in vivo.

How Epo is cleared from the circulation and degraded?

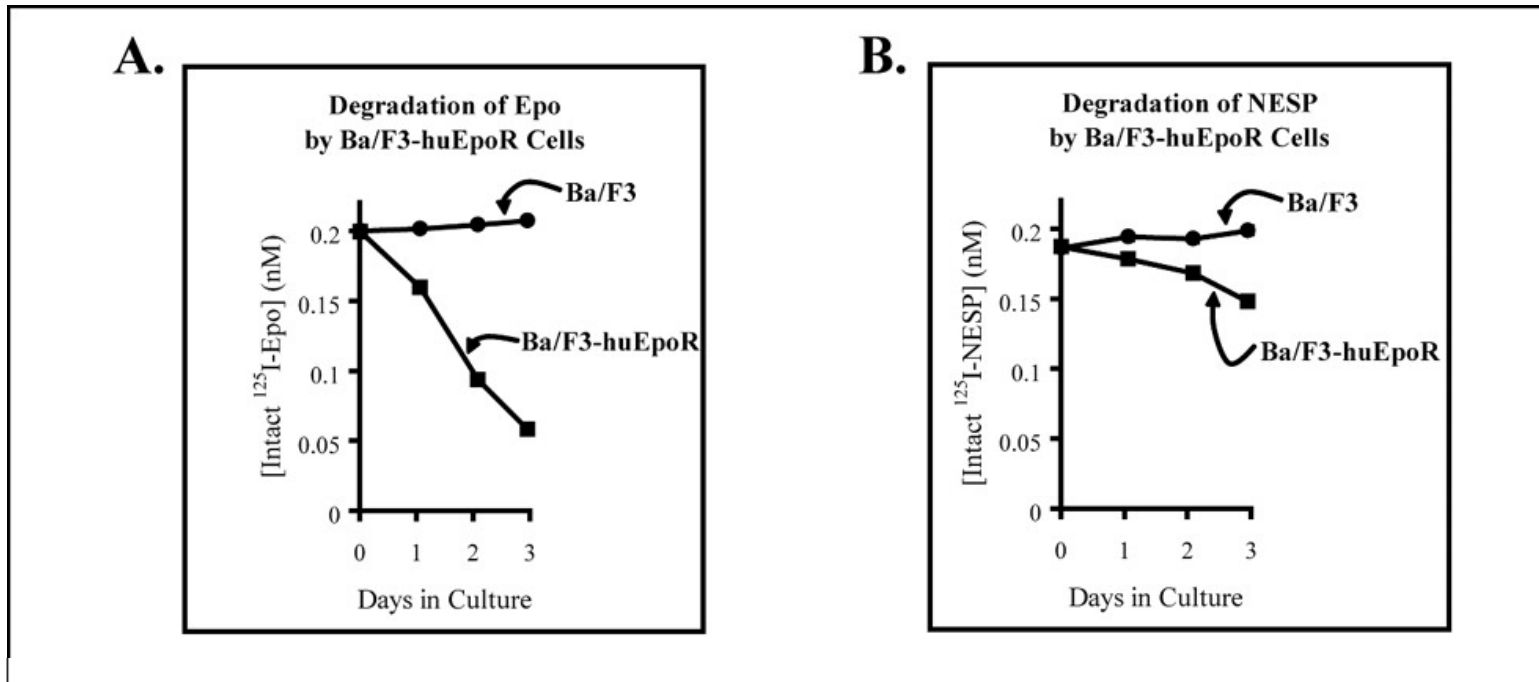
Net binding of ^{125}I -Epo or ^{125}I -NESP with UT-7/Epo cells at 37 °C.



Cells were preincubated at 37 °C for 5 min with endocytosis inhibitors (0.1% sodium azide and 10 µg/ml cytochalasin B) then ^{125}I -labeled ligand was added. Cells were collected and rapidly separated from the medium after the indicated then cell-associated radioactivity was measured. The

Gross A W , Lodish H F J. Biol. Chem. 2006;281:2024-2032

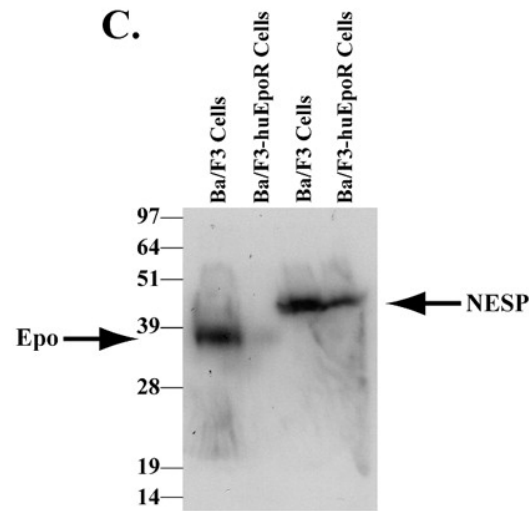
Degradation and endocytosis of Epo and NESP by Ba/F3-huEpoR cells.



cultures of Ba/F3 parental (circles) or Ba/F3-huEpoR (squares) cells were initiated with excess IL-3 and 0.2 nM ¹²⁵I-Epo (A) or 0.2 nM ¹²⁵I-NESP (B)

Gross A W , Lodish H F J. Biol. Chem. 2006;281:2024-2032

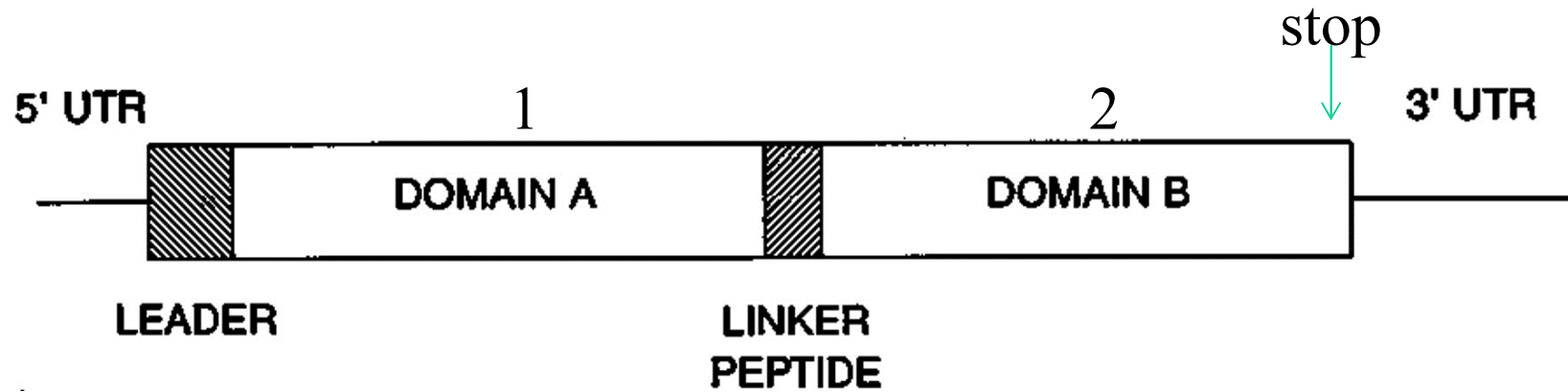
Degradation and endocytosis of Epo and NESP by Ba/F3-huEpoR cells.



cultures of Ba/F3 parental (circles) or Ba/F3-huEpoR (squares) cells were initiated with excess IL-3 and 0.2 nM ^{125}I -Epo (A) or 0.2 nM ^{125}I -NESP (B) after the third day in culture, proteins precipitated by trichloroacetic acid from the media of the cultures shown in A and B were separated by SDS-PAGE and analyzed by autoradiography. The type of cells cultured with each sample is indicated at the top of each lane. The position of intact Epo and NESP proteins are indicated by arrows. Numbers indicate the size in kDa and position of prestained molecular weight markers.

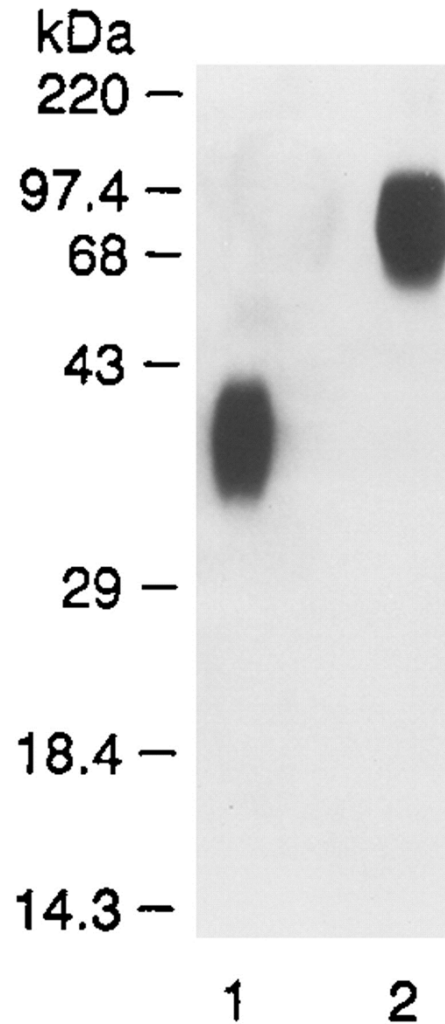
Epo-Epo” -a peptide-linked head-to-tail dimer

Diagram of cDNA encoding the Epo-Epo fusion protein.



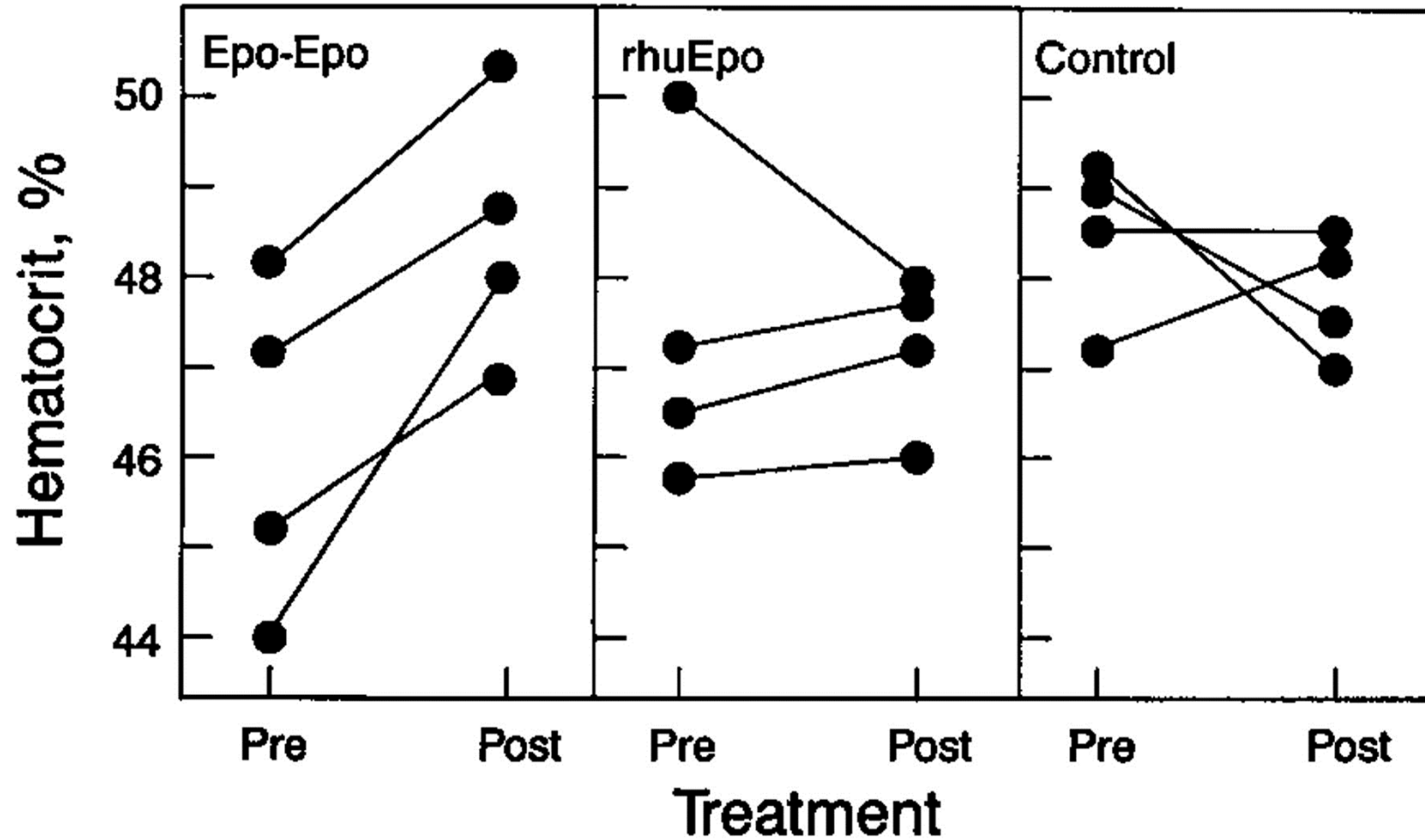
Sytkowski A J et al. J. Biol. Chem. 1999;274:24773-24778

Western blot of purified recombinant Epo (lane 1) and the supernatant of COS1 cells transfected with Epo-Epo cDNA (lane 2).



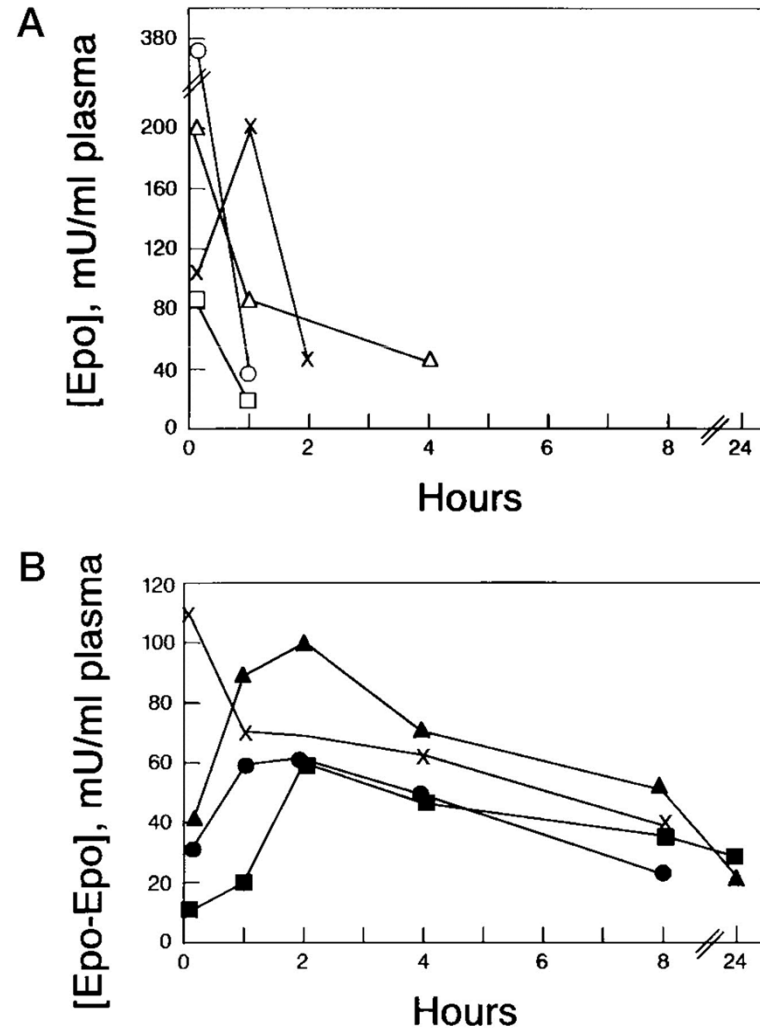
Sytkowski A J et al. J. Biol. Chem. 1999;274:24773-24778

In vivo efficacy of Epo-Epo compared with that of conventional Epo .



Sytkowski A J et al. J. Biol. Chem. 1999;274:24773-24778

Pharmacokinetics of Epo (A) and Epo-Epo (B) in mice.



Sytkowski A J et al. J. Biol. Chem. 1999;274:24773-24778

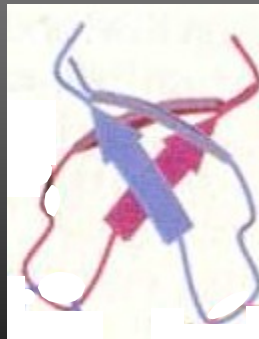
"Hormone mimicry"

Una piccola molecola può "mimare" la funzione di un grande ORMONE POLIPEPTIDICO

Wrighton et al, Science 1996

Sintesi di piccoli peptidi (20 aa) che si legano al recettore dell'Epo e lo attivano  "mimano" l'effetto biologico dell'Epo

EMP1



Eritropoietina

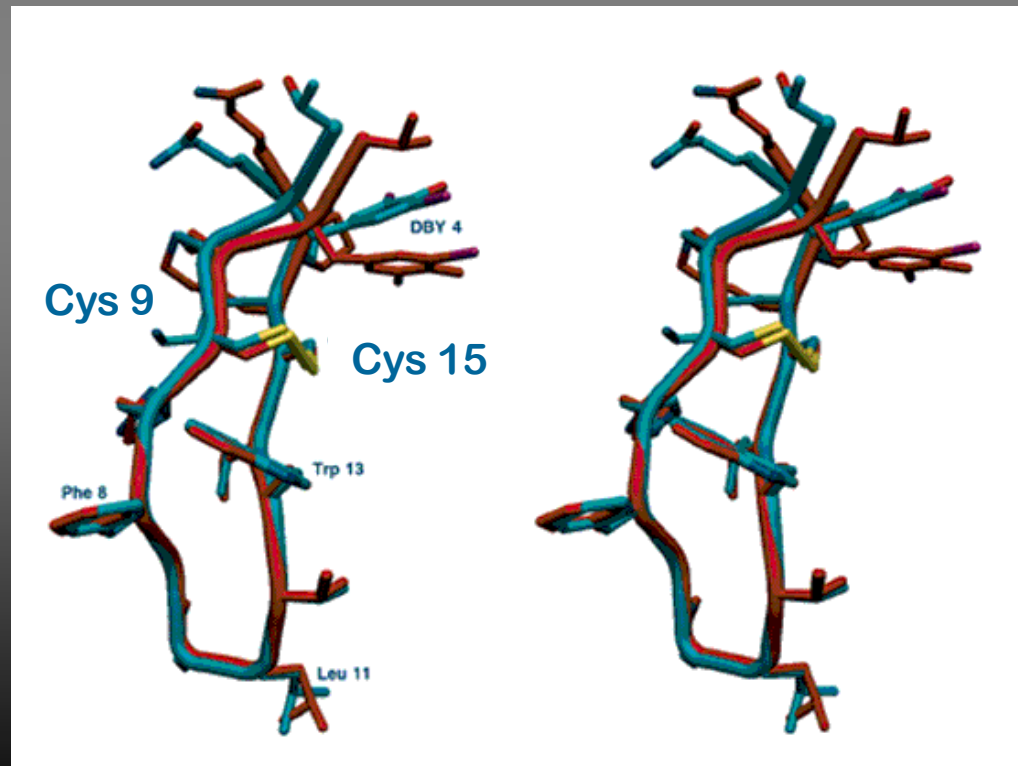
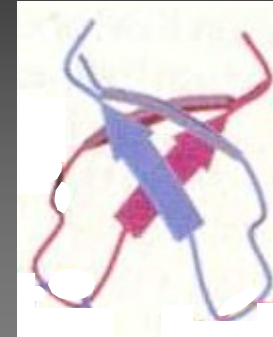


EMP1 (EPO mimetic peptides (EMPs))

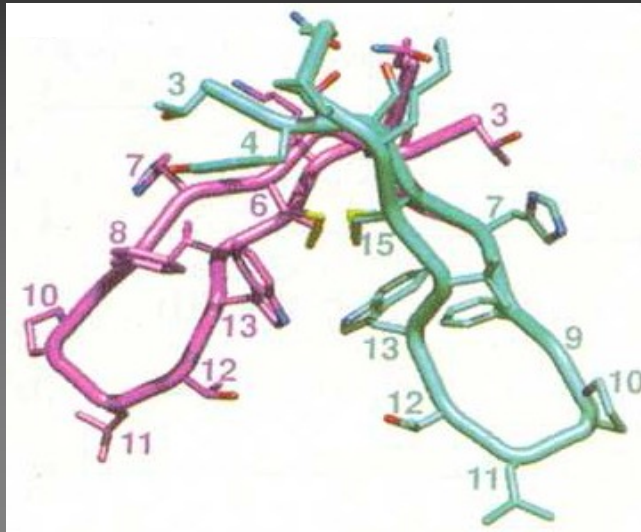
Peptide di 20 aa (2 kDa): GGTYSCHFGPLTWVCKPQGG

Struttura: 2 corti β -foglietti uniti da un ponte disolfuro

Sintesi: ottenuto da una libreria di peptidi random prodotti in sistema fagico (phage display); selezionato mediante saggi di legame alla porzione extracellulare di EpoR

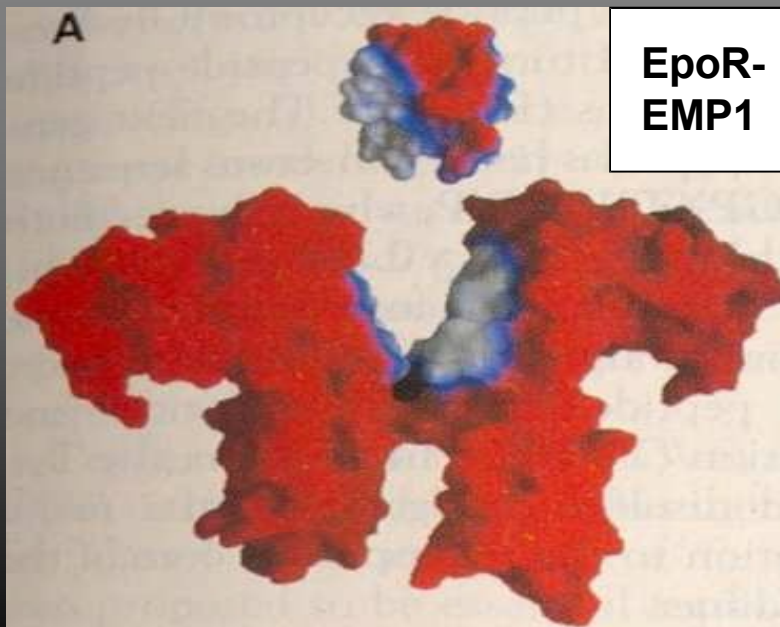
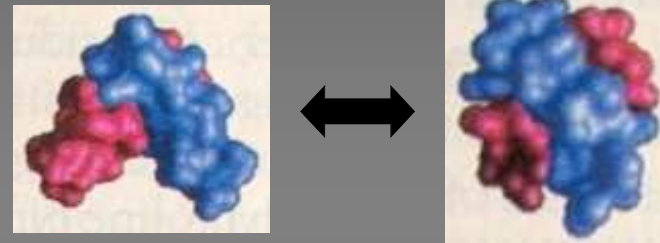


Complesso EpoR-EMP1



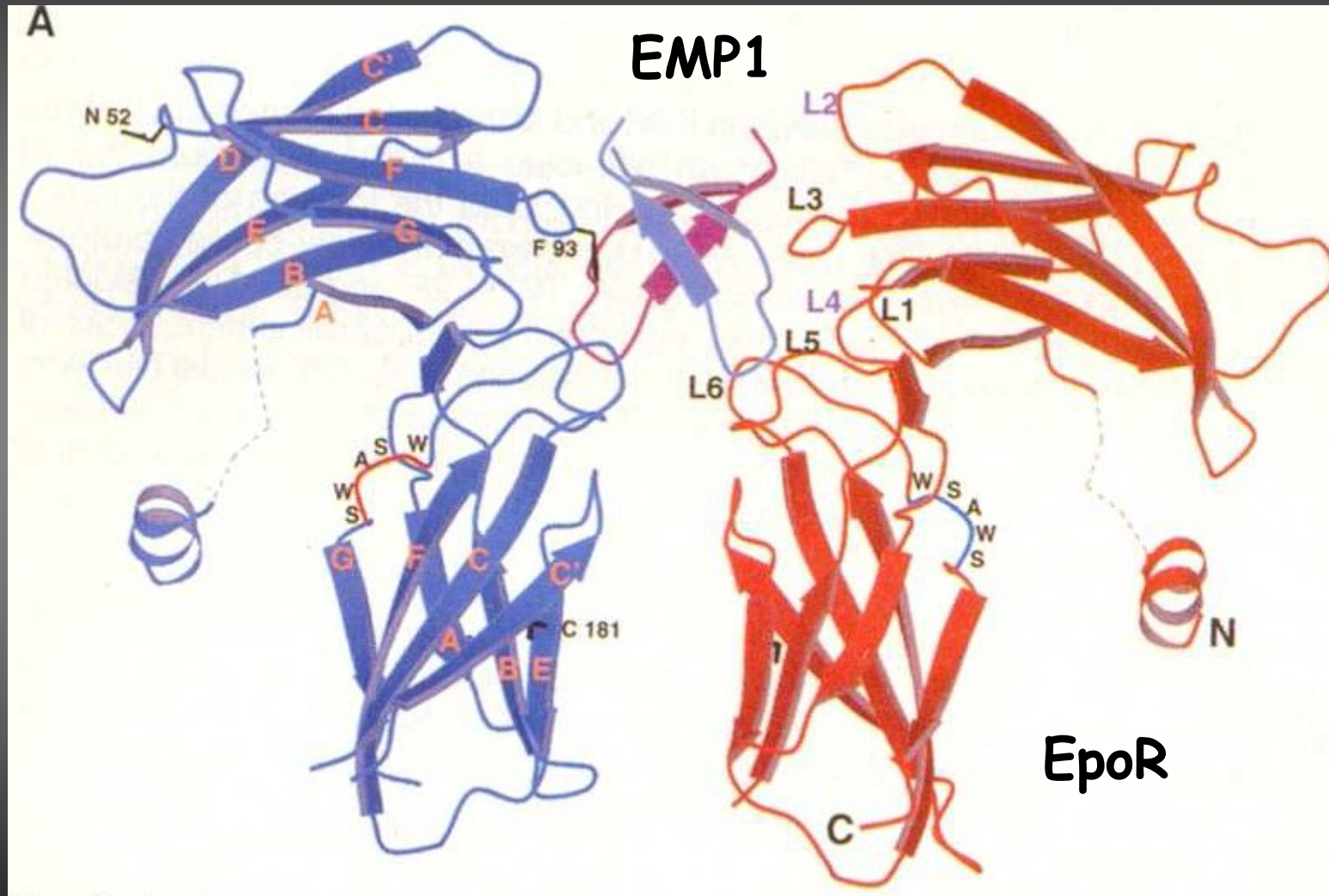
EMP1 dimerizza per legarsi a EpoR

Struttura dimerica molto forte,
stabilizzata da 4 legami idrogeno



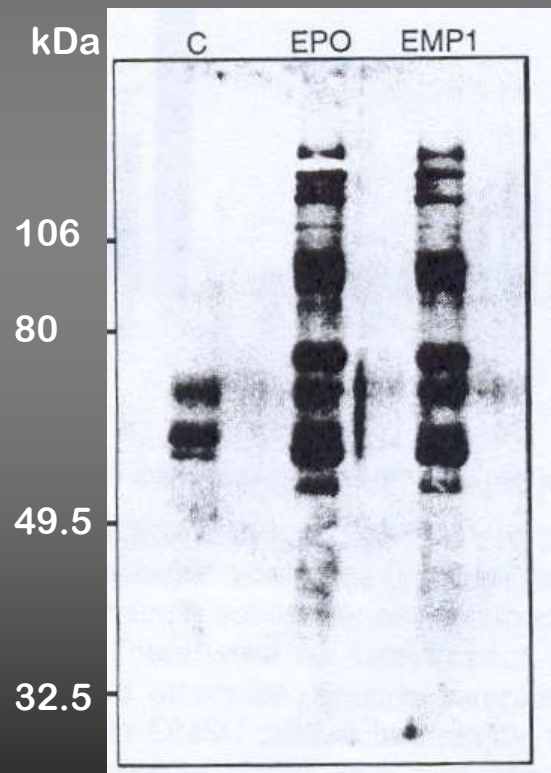
Ogni monomero di
EMP1 interagisce sia
con l'altro monomero
che con EpoR

Complesso EpoR-EMP1



EMP1 stimola l'eritropoiesi attraverso la *stessa via di trasduzione del segnale* indotta da Epo

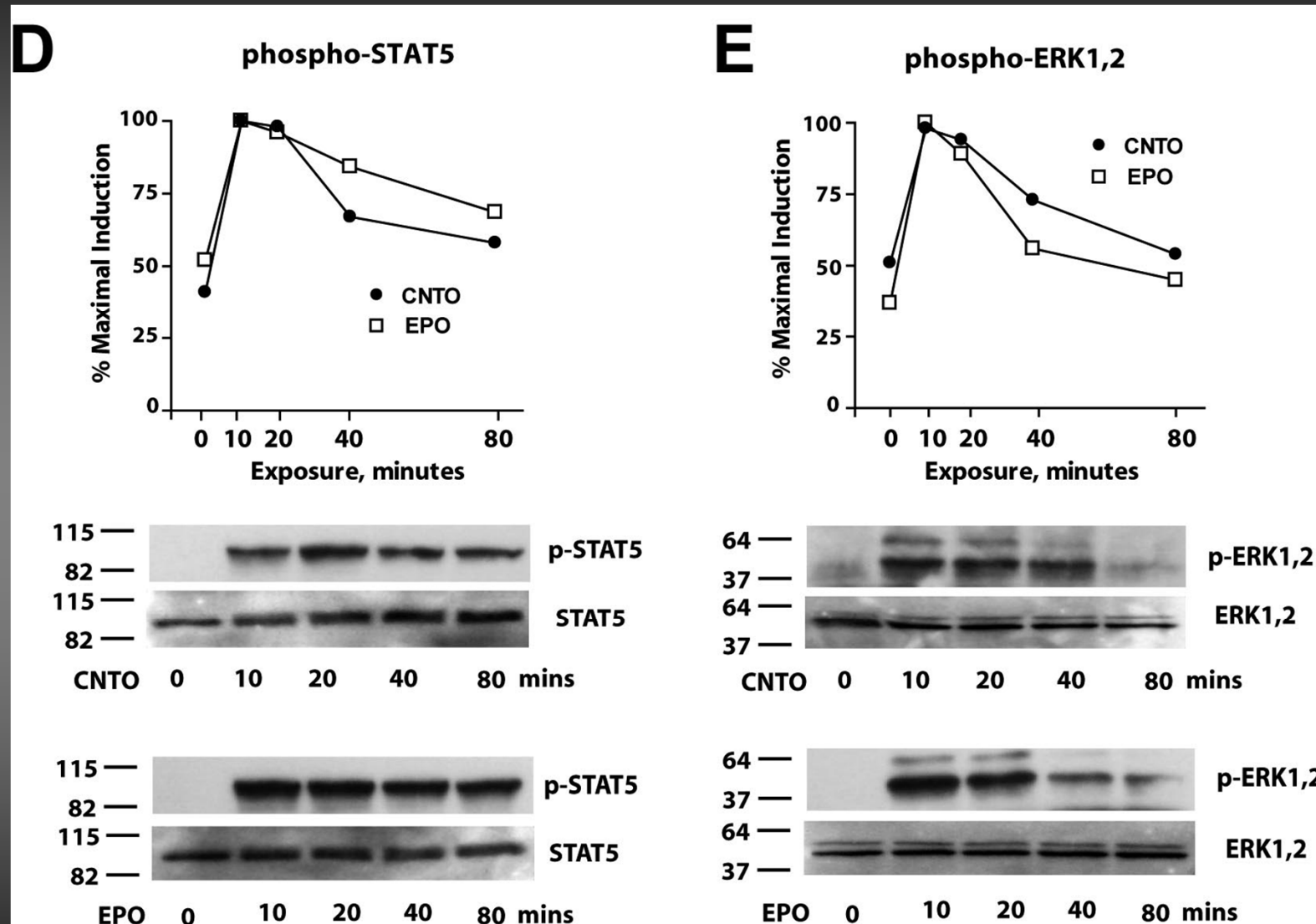
Western blot (anticorpo anti-fosfoTyr)



Cellule stimulate con
EMP1 e con Epo
presentano lo stesso
pattern di fosforilazione

Wrighton et al., Science 1996, 273:458-463

CNTO 530 activates known EPO signal transduction pathways



CNTO 530 is a dimeric EMP fused to a human IgG4 Fc

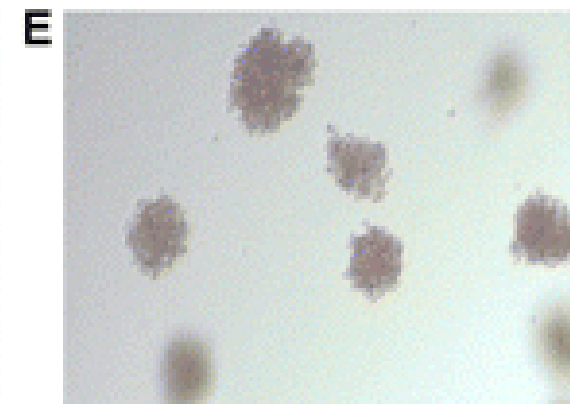
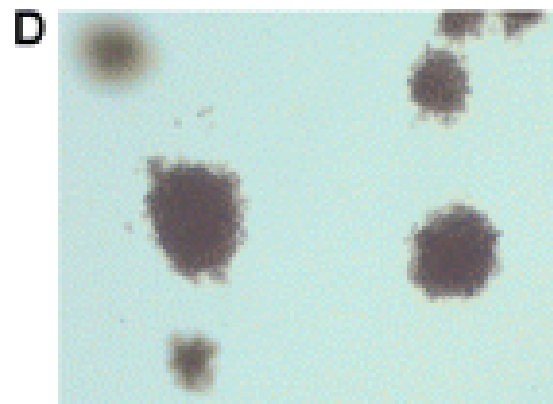
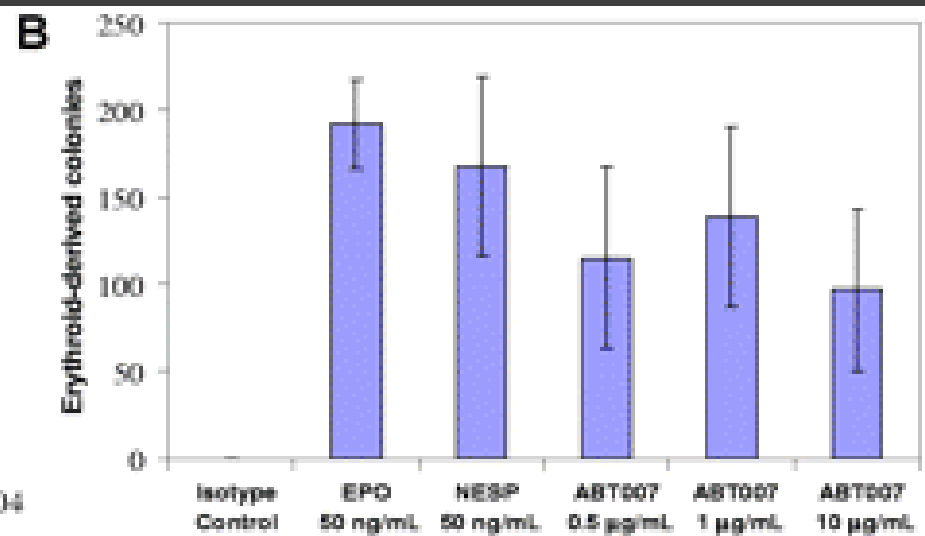
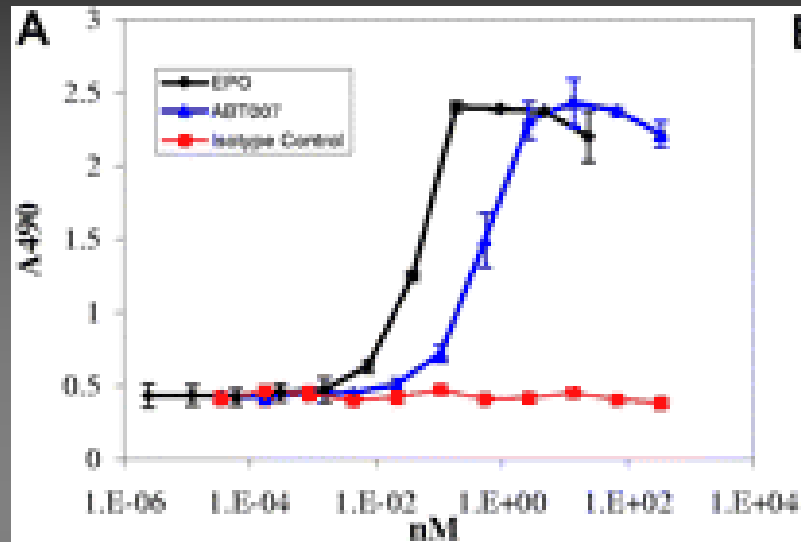
"Hormone mimicry"

EMP1 è la dimostrazione che una molecola di 20 aa può mimare la funzione di un ormone

☞ Stimolando la stessa via di trasduzione del segnale (JAK, STAT...)

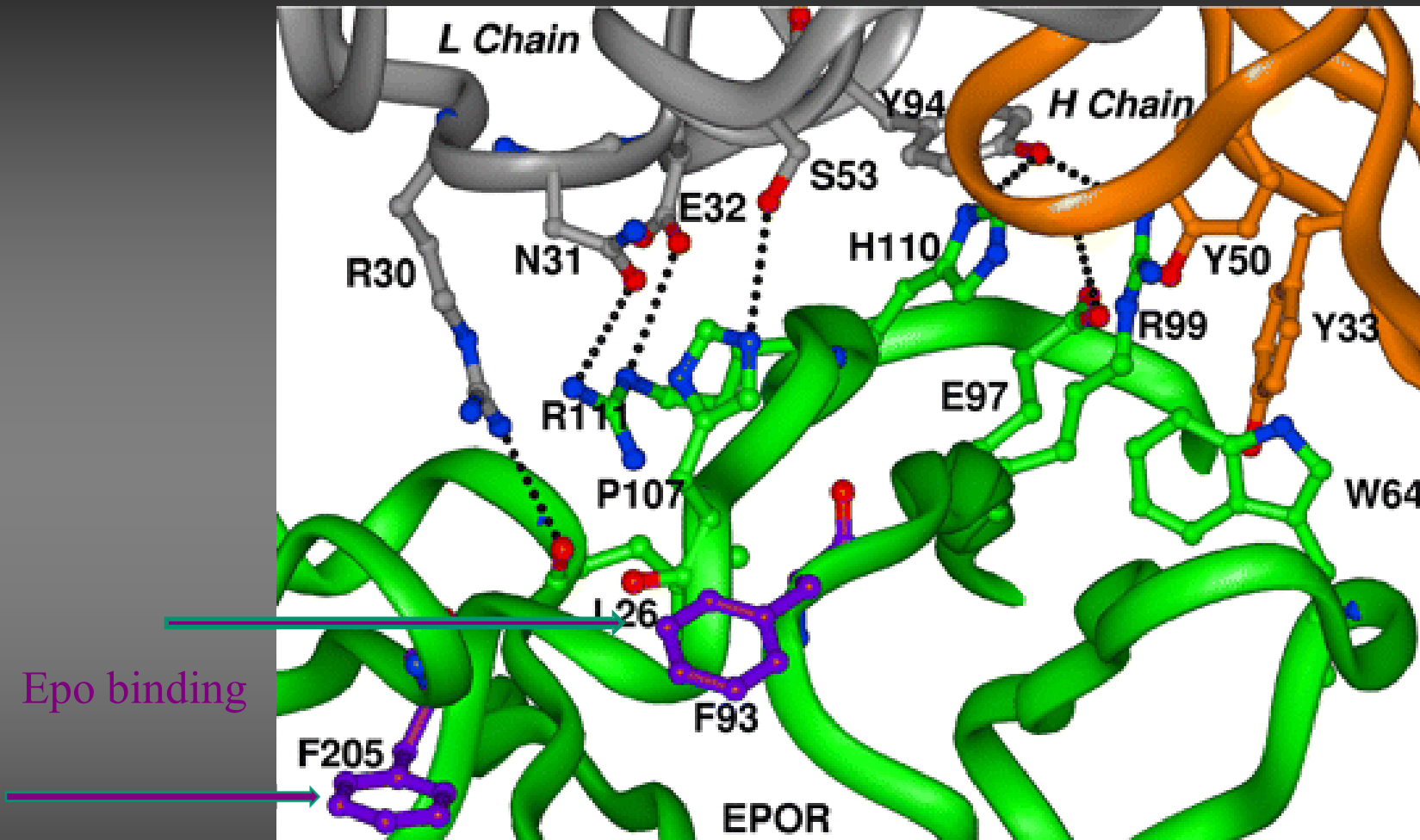
☞ Senza avere nessuna omologia di sequenza o struttura con l'ormone

A potent erythropoietin-mimicking human antibody



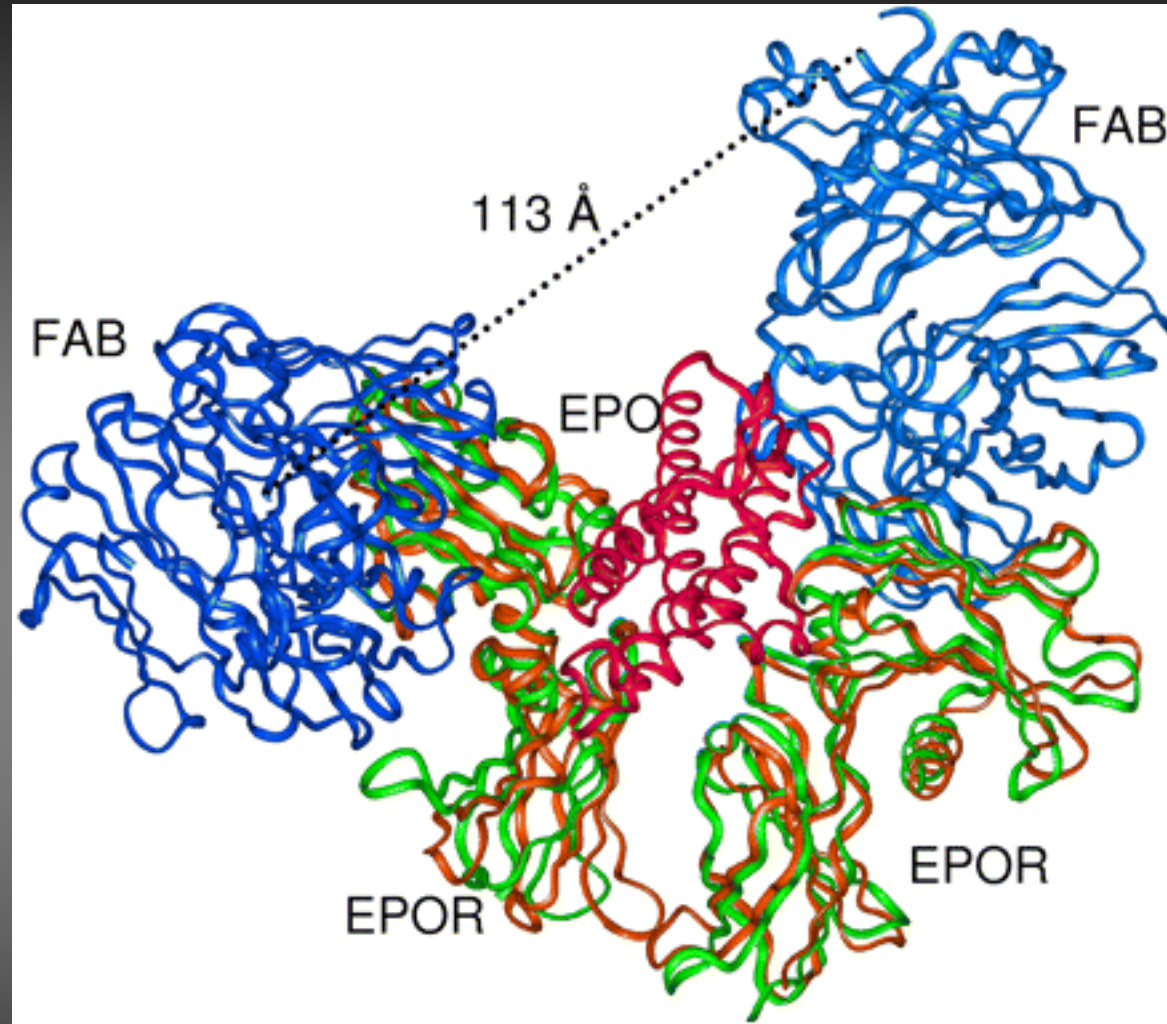
ABT007 stimulates in vitro erythropoiesis

The antibody interacts through a novel binding site



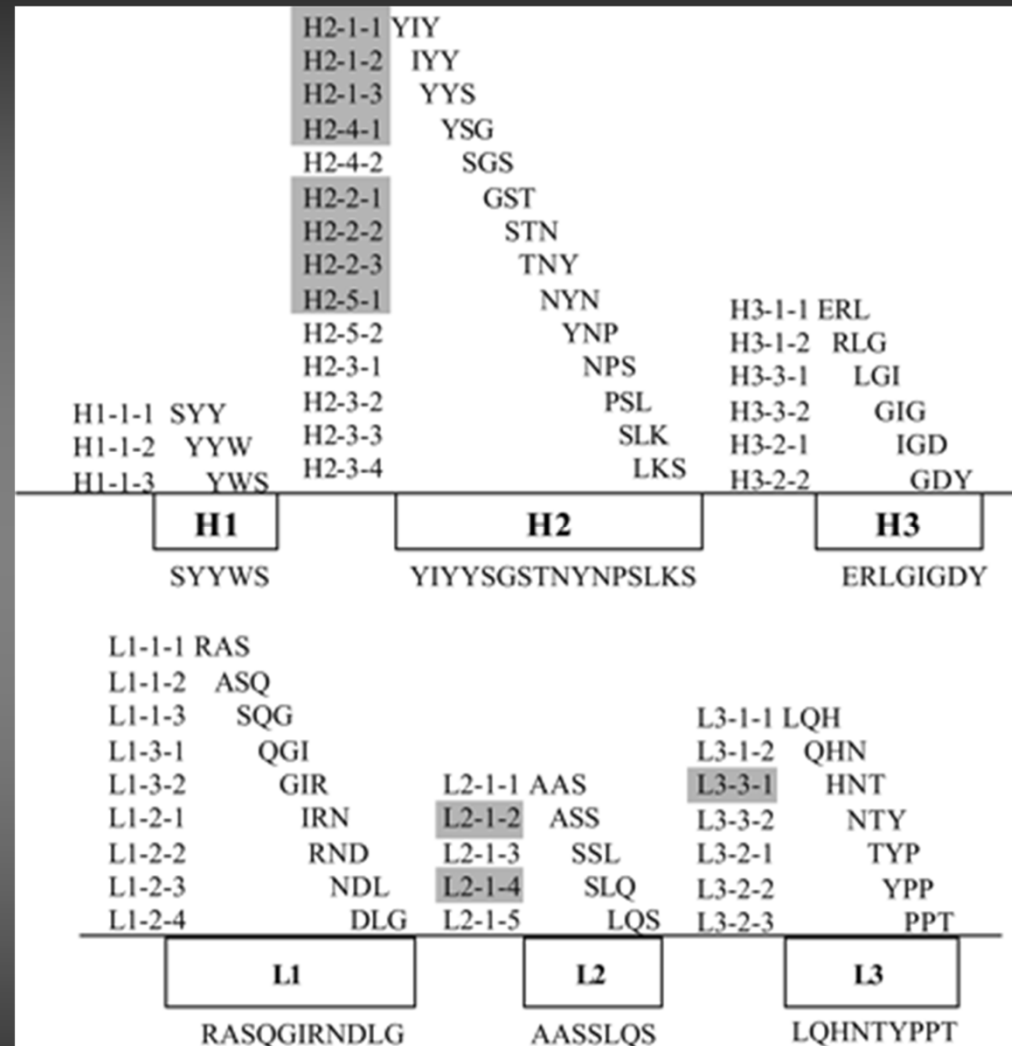
F93 and F205 of EPOR, highlighted in purple, are key residues involved in binding EPO and are not involved in Fab binding.

Comparison of the Fab-EPOR complex with the EPO-activated EPOR



A model of activation based on a conformation induced onto EPOR by ABT007 in a 2:1 ratio that is different from that caused by EPO.

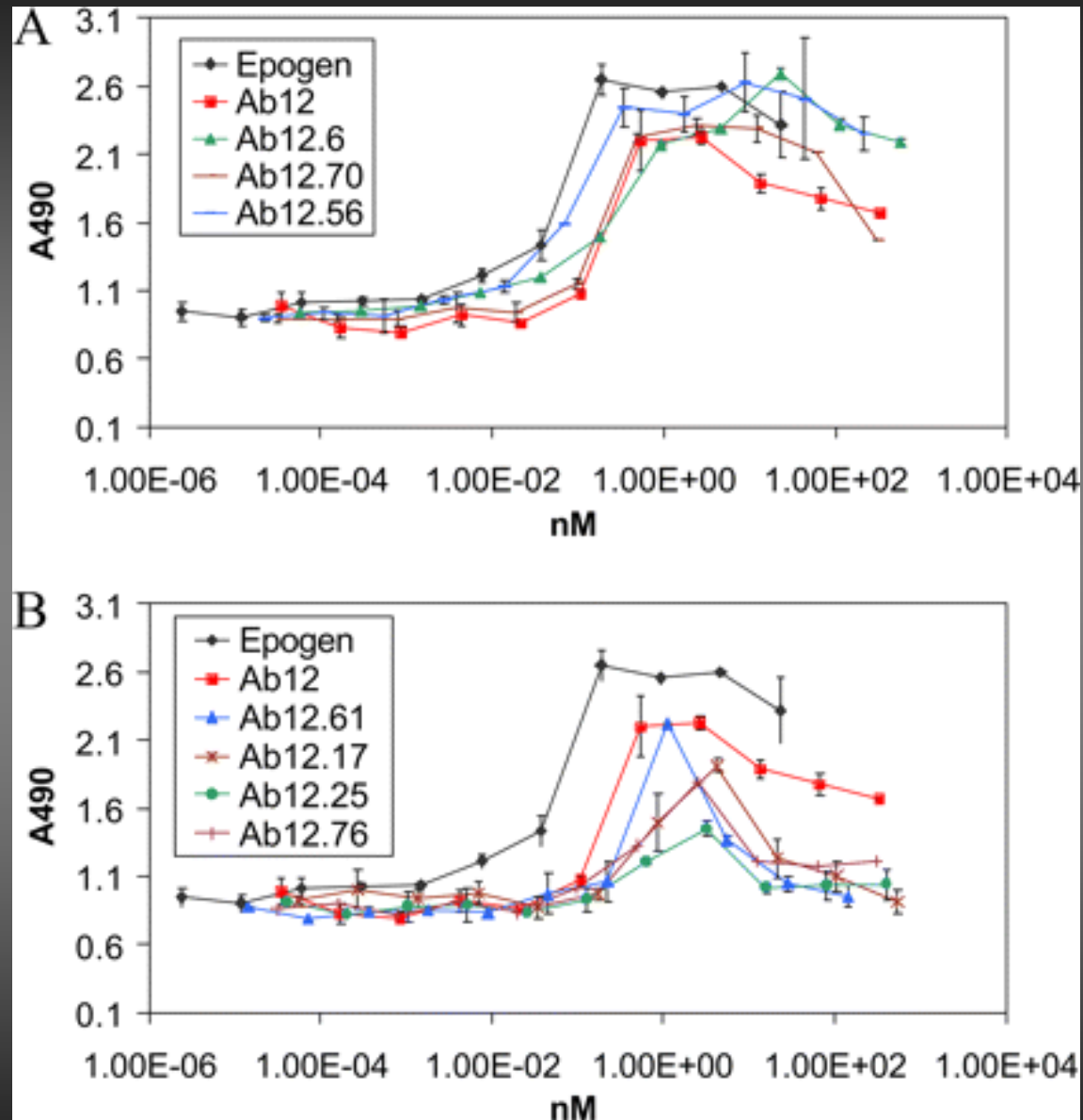
Ab12 scFv CDR VH and VL yeast libraries



Ab12 CDR H2 variants

	H1		H2		H3
12			Y I Y Y S G S T N Y N P S L K S		
12.6			G G E		
12.17				V P W	
12.25				K W Y	
12.56			A G T		
12.61				W W A	
12.70			S P S		
12.76				W V A	

EPO-dependent cell proliferation activity of Ab12 variants

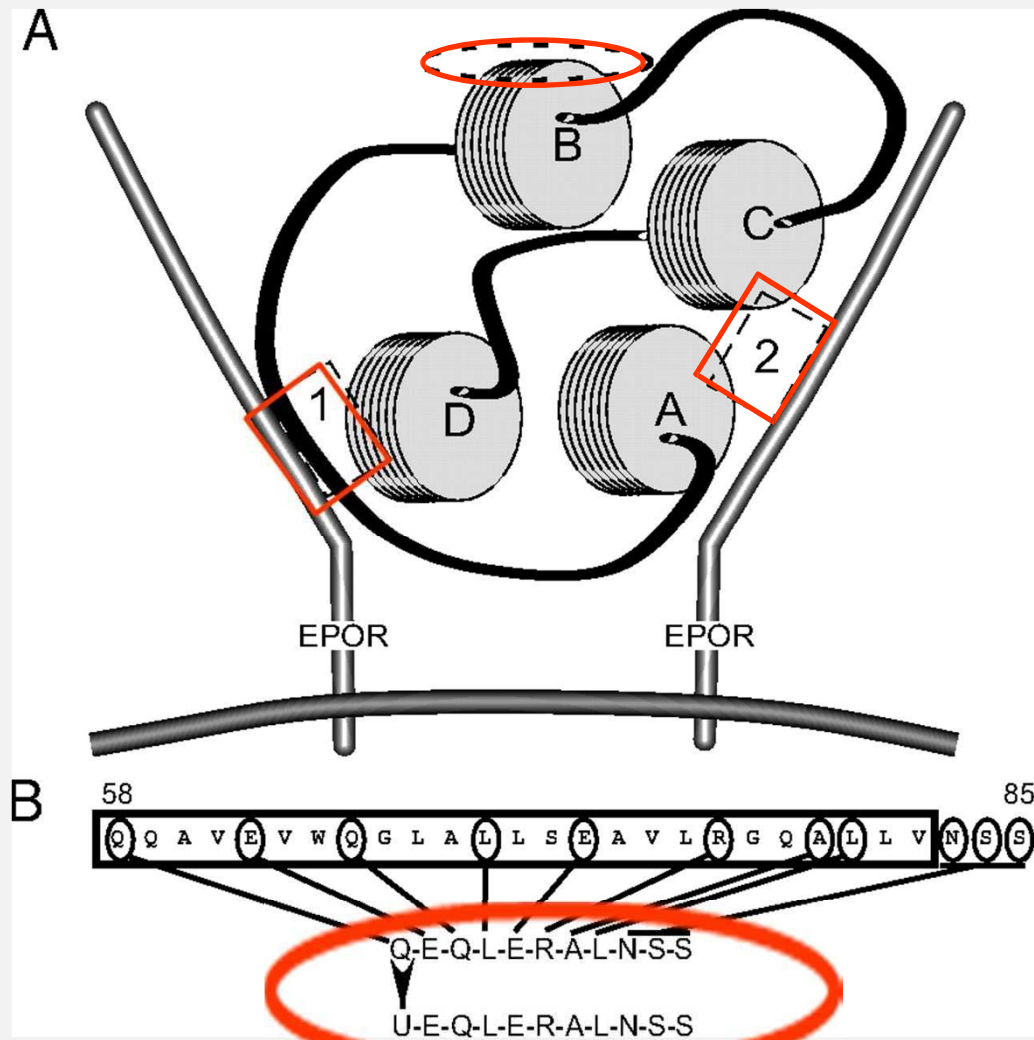


activity of Ab12 variants correlates inversely with K_d

EPO's tissue-protective actions have been shown to be mediated by a tissue-protective receptor complex consisting of the EPO receptor and the β common-receptor (CD131) subunit that is also used by GM-CSF, IL-3, and IL-5.

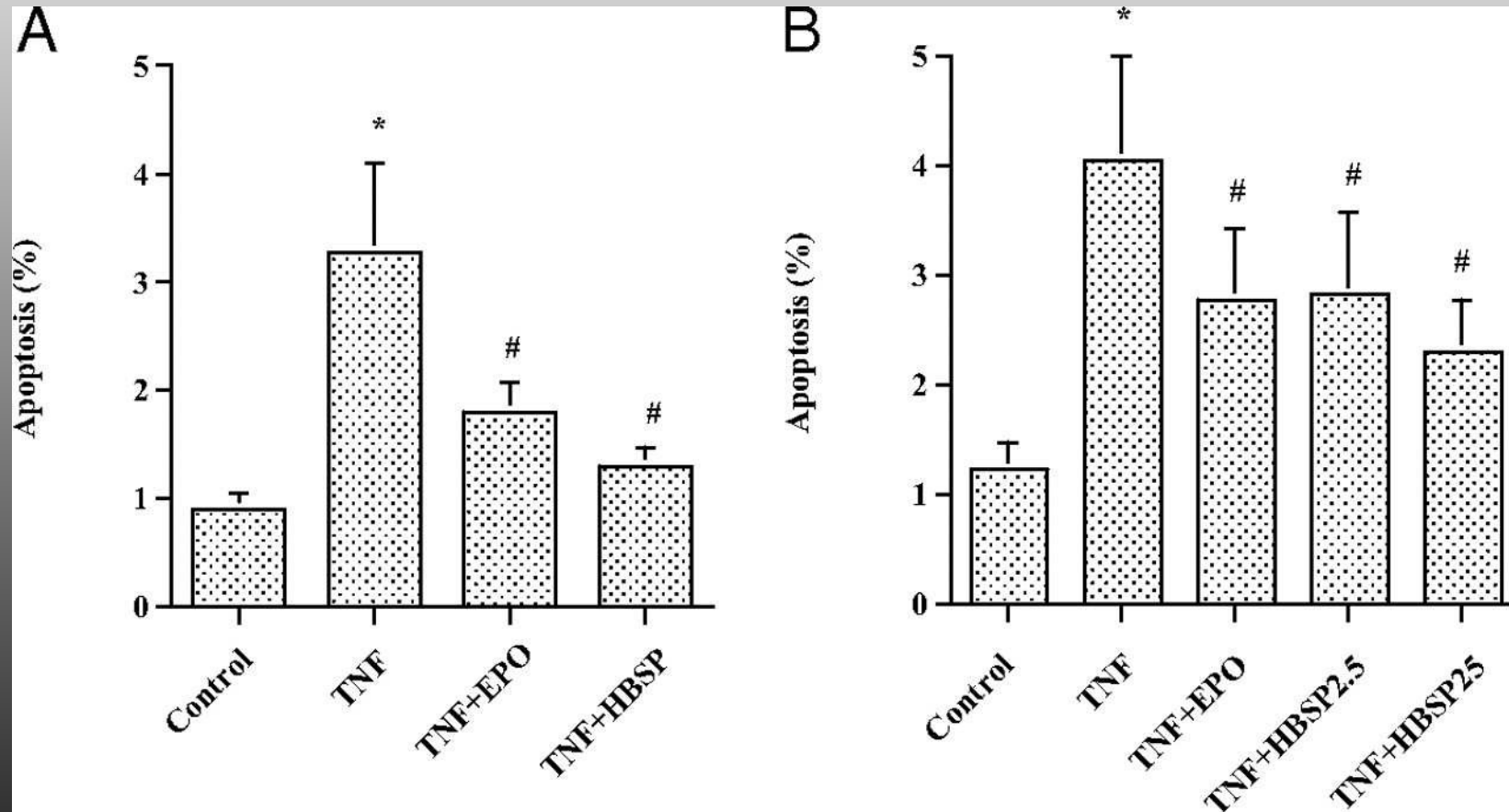
helix B-surface peptide (HBSP). This peptide is composed of 11 amino acids (QEQLERALNSS) derived from the aqueous face of helix B of EPO and exhibits tissue-protective activities

Structure of EPO indicating tissue protective domains and sequences.



Brines M et al. PNAS 2008;105:10526-10531

Effect of HBSP on TNF- α -induced cardiomyocyte apoptosis.



Ueba H et al. PNAS 2010;107:14357-14362