

*Cosmetics & Toiletries* magazine's 2005  
Advanced Technology Conference

# HAIR GROWTH EFFECTS OF ADENOSINE

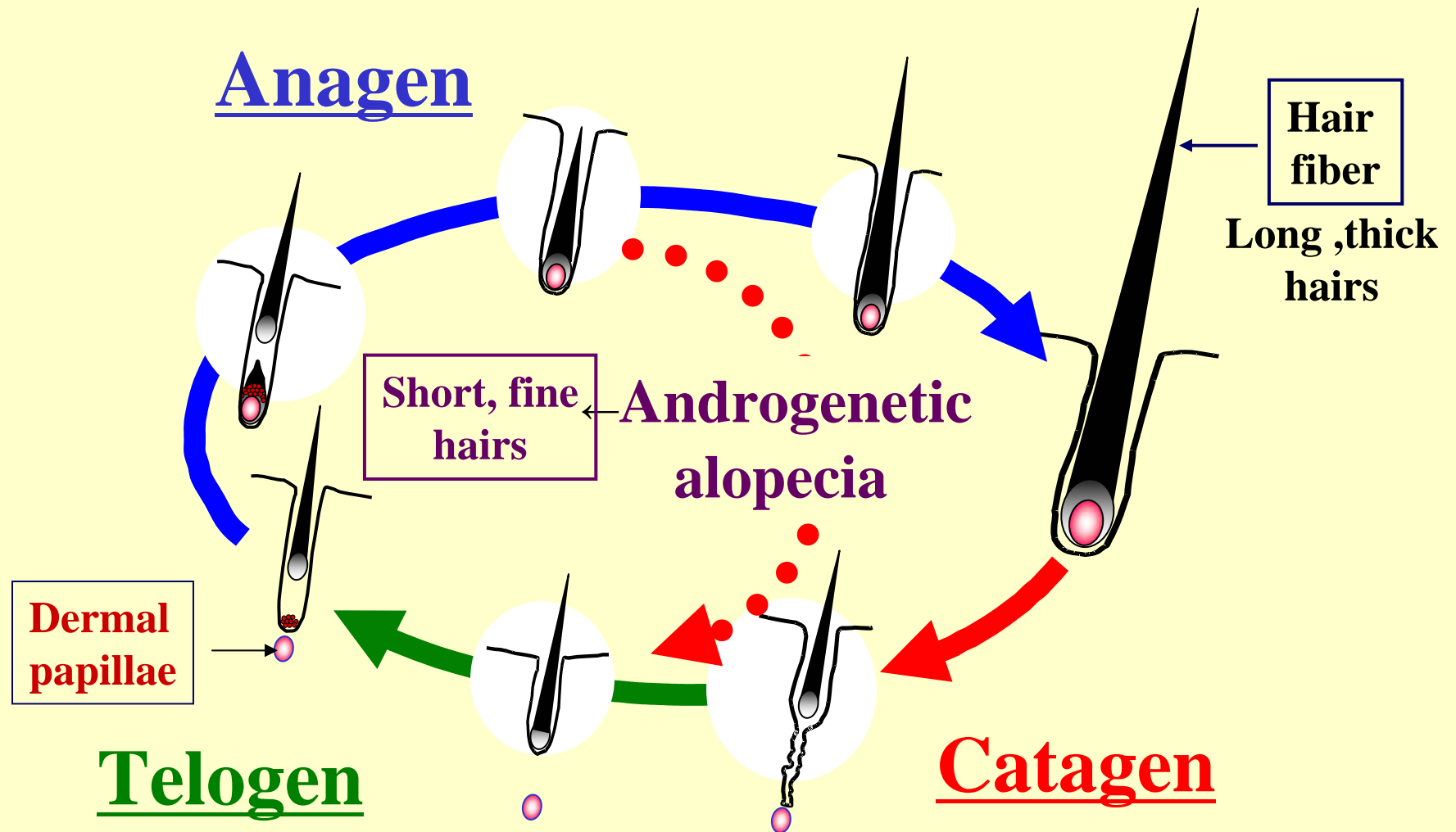
Masahiro Tajima  
Shiseido Research Center

**Tuesday, April 12, 2005**  
**9:15-9:45 am:**

**the Palais am Funkturm located  
in Building 19 at the Messe Fairgrounds  
in Berlin.**

# Hair cycle and androgenetic alopecia

Short, fine hair of androgenetic alopecia results from short duration of anagen and in turn miniaturization of hair cycle.



# Minoxidil: hair growth promoter

## Effects of topical minoxidil in human:

Messenger and Rundegren  
Br J Dermatol 2004; 150: 186-194.

1. Prolongation of anagen
2. Increase of hair follicle size

## Effects of orally administration:

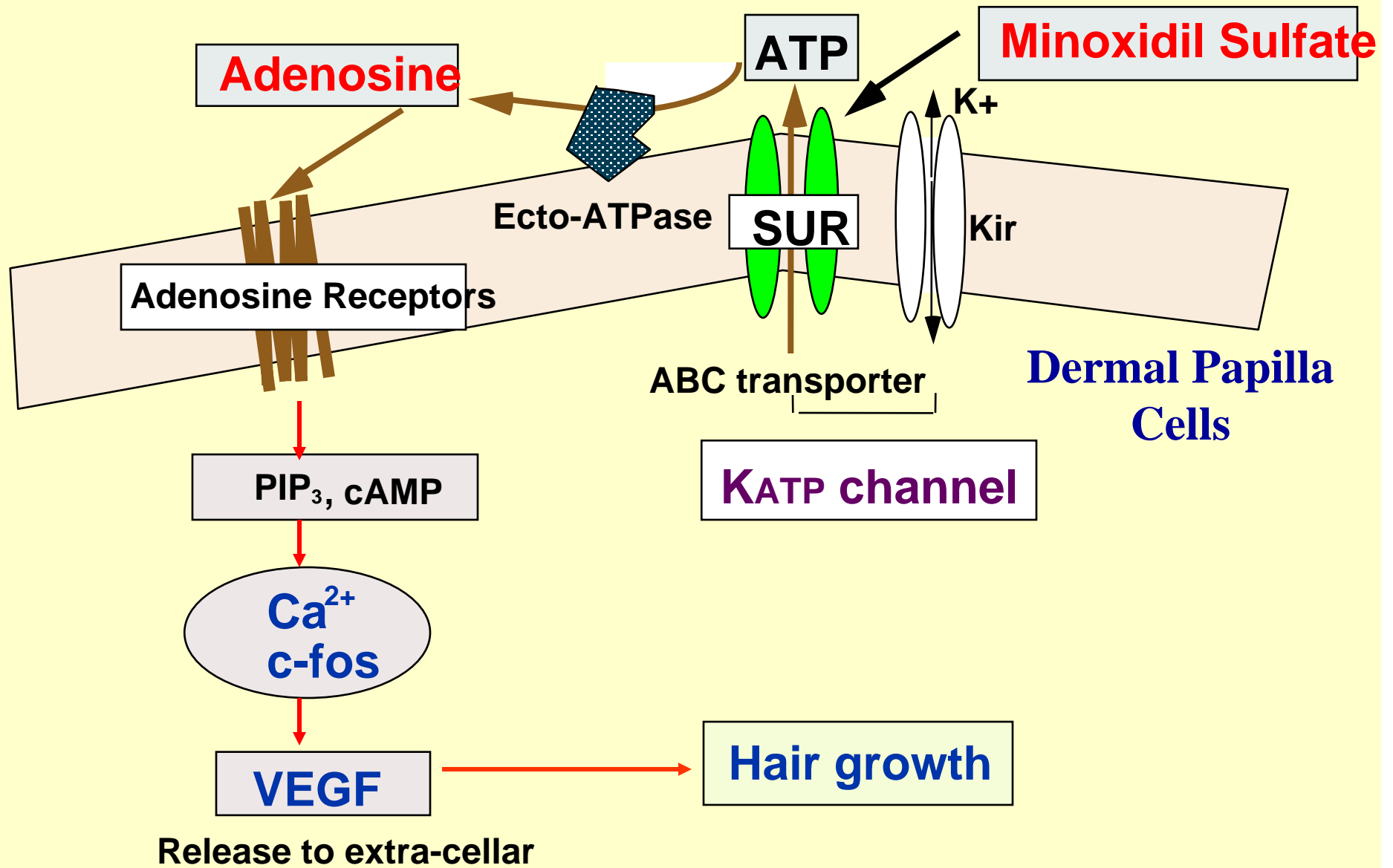
1. Decrease of blood pressure via minoxidil sulfate, as  $K_{ATP}$  channels opener

In hair, **no clear determination of  $K_{ATP}$  channels** .

## Effects of *in vitro* experiments:

1. Stimulation of cell proliferation: but reported controversial results.
2. Stimulation of prostaglandin  $E_2$  synthesis by dermal papilla cells (DPC)
3. **Stimulation of VEGF synthesis by DPC.**

# Minoxidil-induced hair growth mediated by adenosine



# **Working hypothesis and research strategy**

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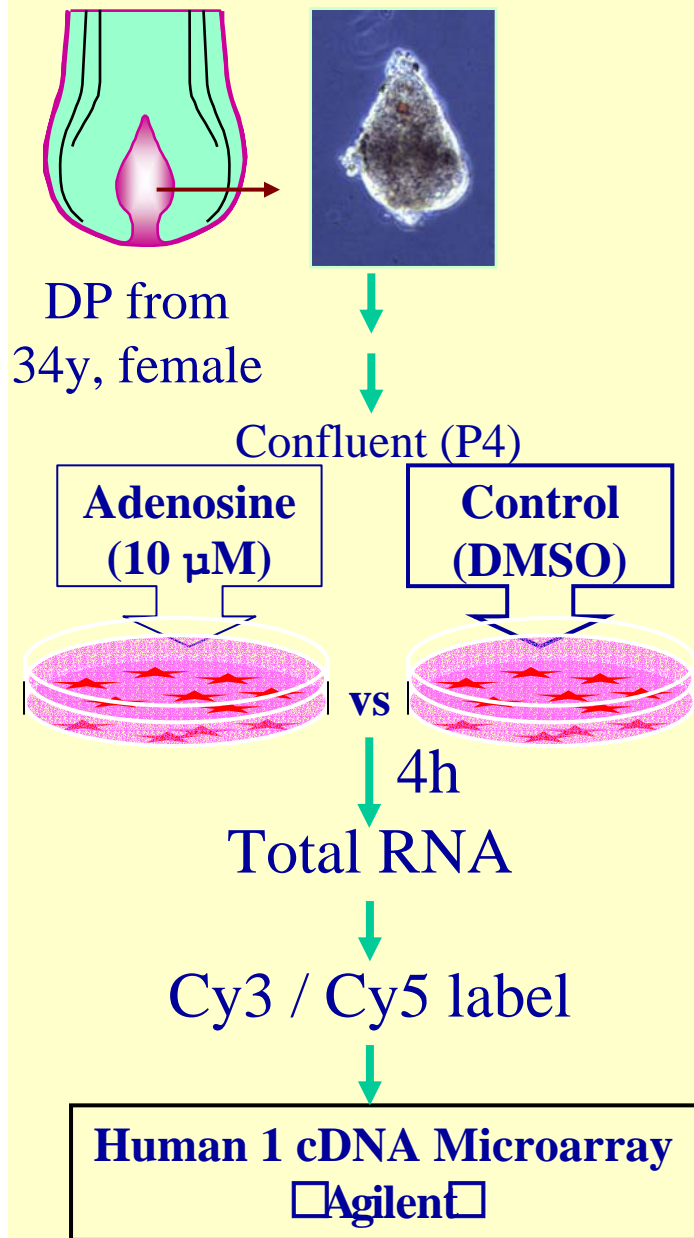
## **Working hypothesis:**

**If minoxidil-induced hair growth is mediated by adenosine receptor on DPC, adenosine also should improve baldness.**

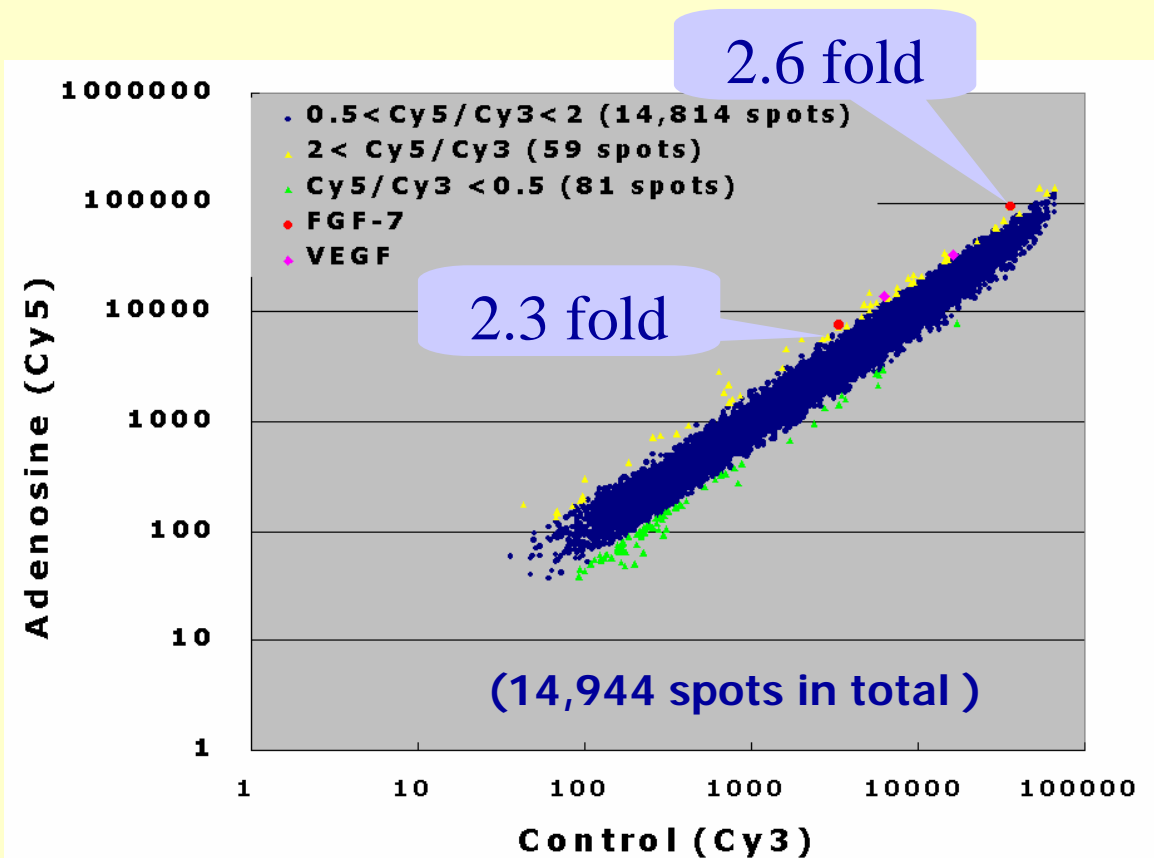
## **Research objects:**

- 1. Growth factors other than VEGF released by adenosine stimulation on DPC.**
- 2. Intracellular signaling by adenosine stimulation on DPC.**
- 3. Efficacy and safety of topical adenosine application for androgenetic alopecia.**

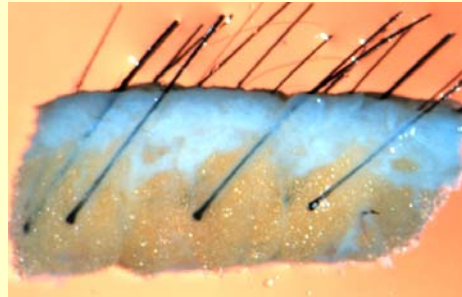
# Microarray analysis of adenosine stimulation on DP



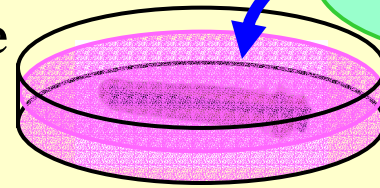
## Up-regulation of Fibroblast Growth Factor 7 (FGF-7)



# FGF-7 elongates hair fiber *ex vivo*



Isolation of  
hair follicle



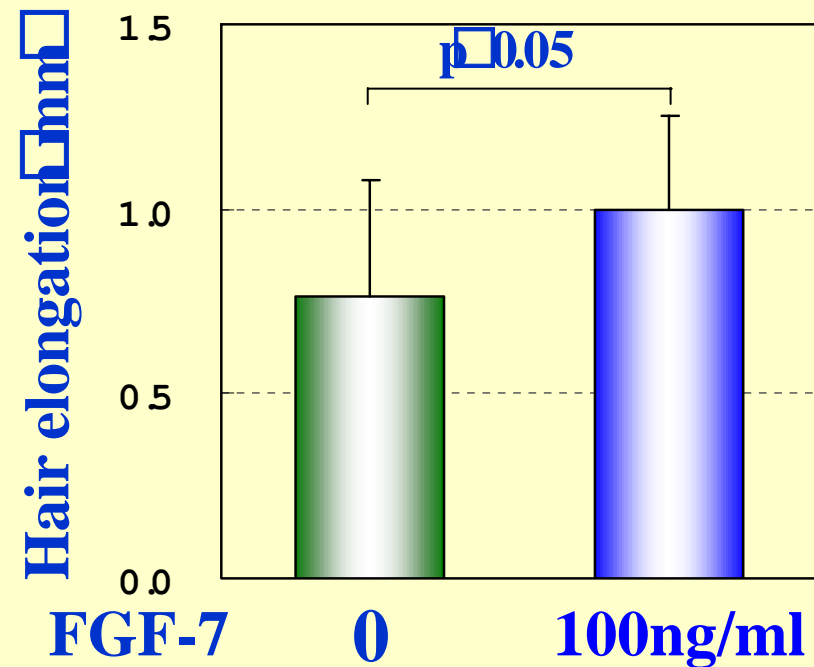
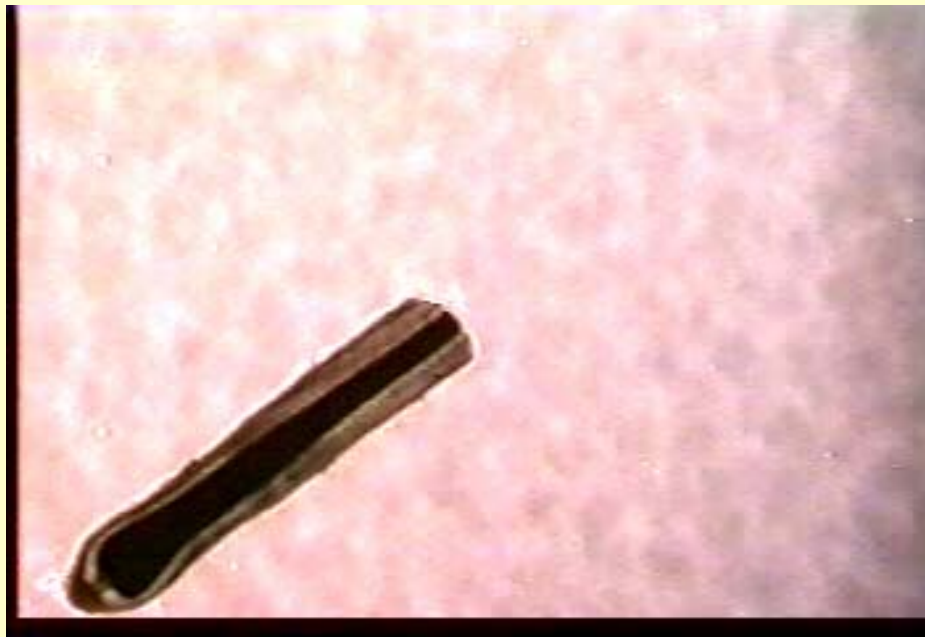
**FGF-7**

Method;

Pilpott: *J Cell Sci*, 97:463, 1997

Organ culture for  
11days

Scalp tissue of a male 42y



**FGF-7 stimulates hair growth.**

# **Working hypothesis and research strategy**

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## **Working hypothesis:**

**If minoxidil-induced hair growth is mediated by adenosine receptor on DPC, adenosine also should improve baldness.**

## **Research objects:**

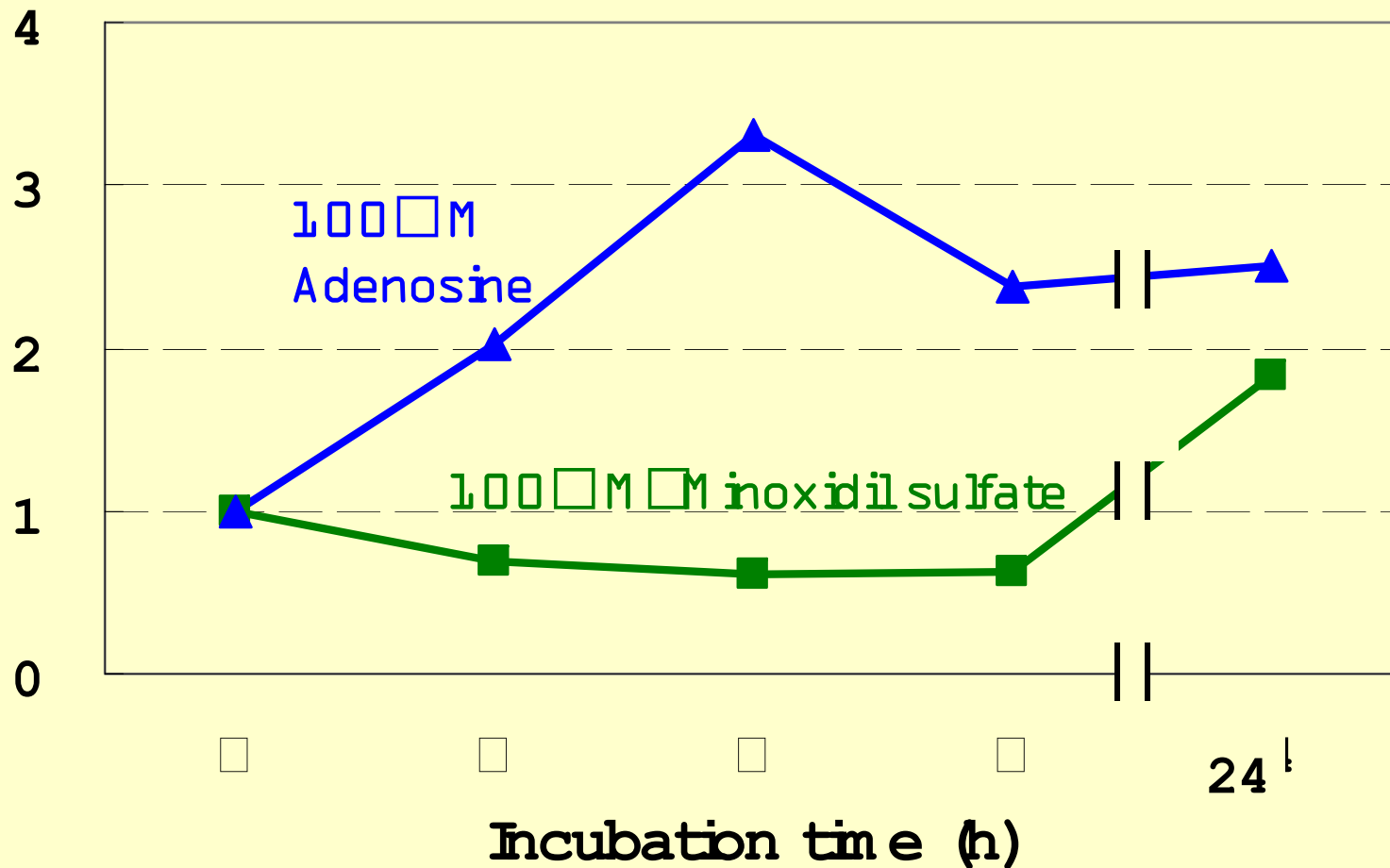
- 1. Growth factors other than VEGF released by adenosine stimulation on DPC. (FGF-7)**
- 2. Intracellular signaling by adenosine stimulation on DPC.**
- 3. Efficacy and safety of topical adenosine application for androgenetic alopecia.**

# Adenosine, but not minoxidil, directly regulates FGF-7 expression

DPC

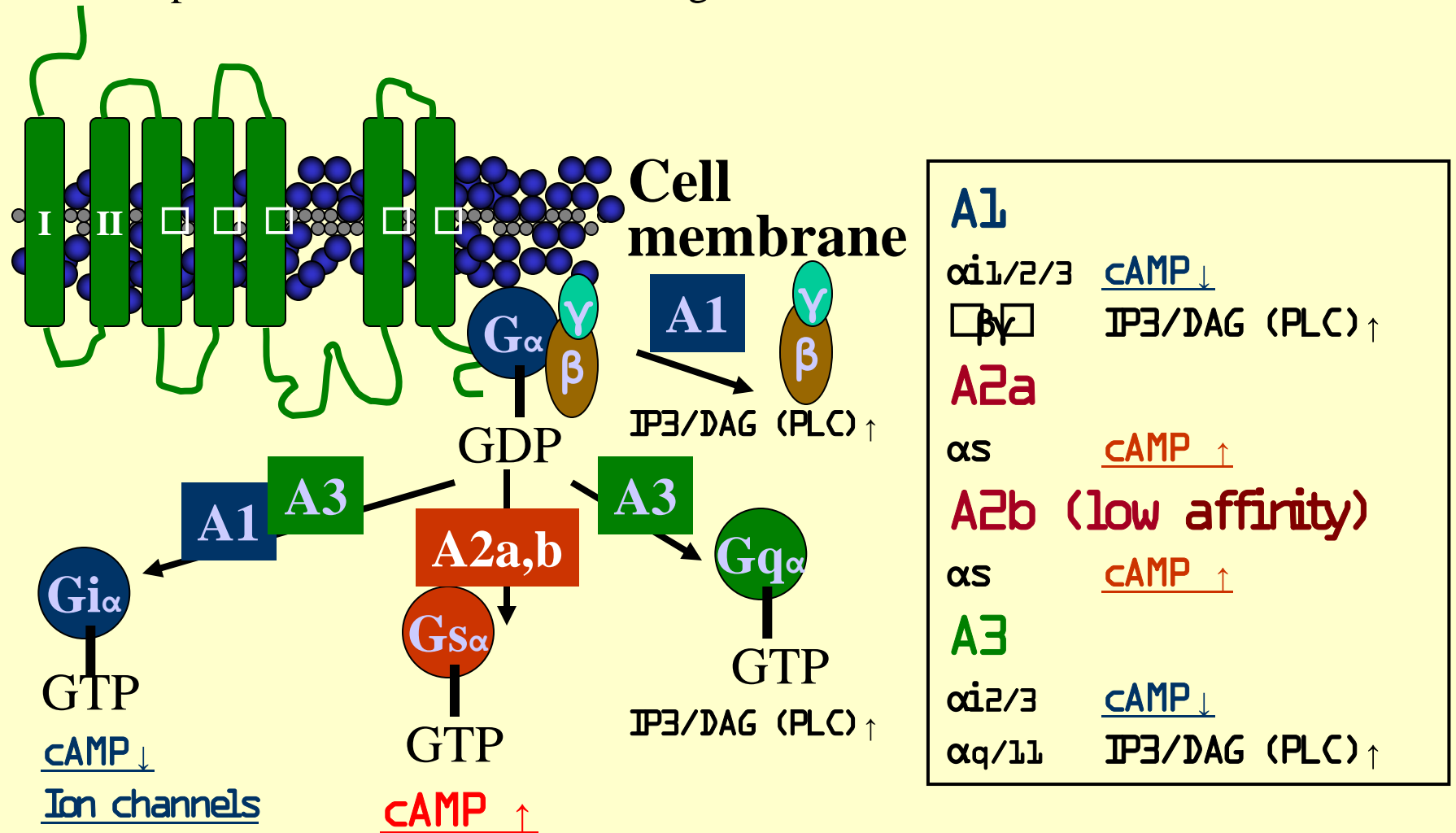
Real-time RT-PCR data

Relative expression of FGF-7 mRNA

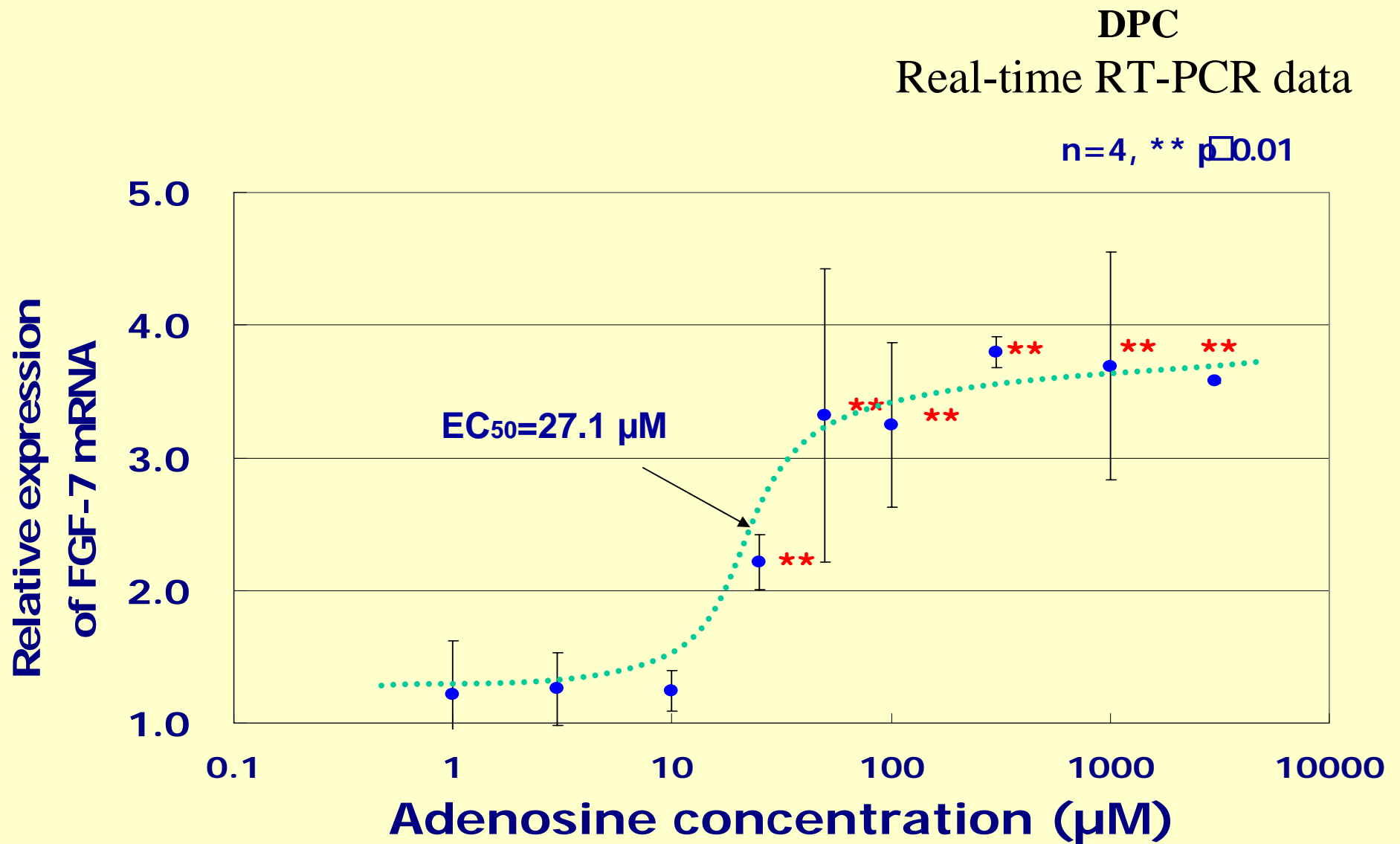


# Adenosine Receptors

Four adenosine receptors, A1, A2a, A2b and A3, have distinct in tissues. Adenylate cyclase is a common effector, which is negatively coupled to A1 and A3 receptors and positively coupled to A2 receptors. They may contribute fine tuning of signaling pathway. A1 and A2 receptors also controls ion exchange.

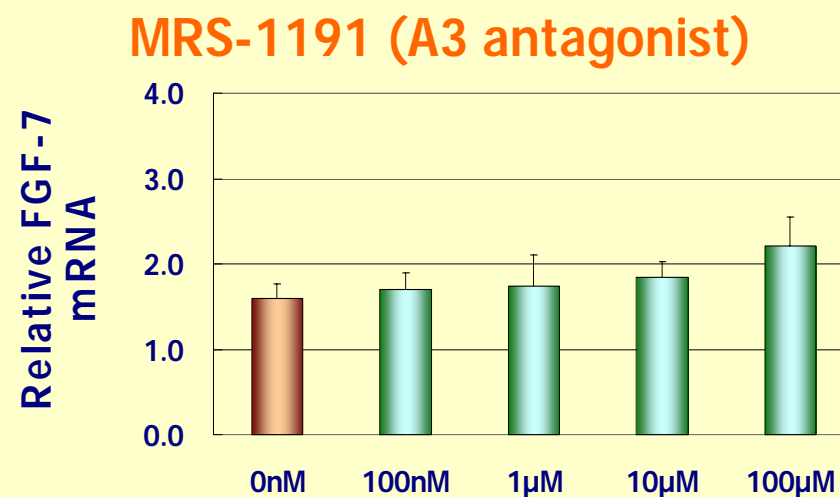
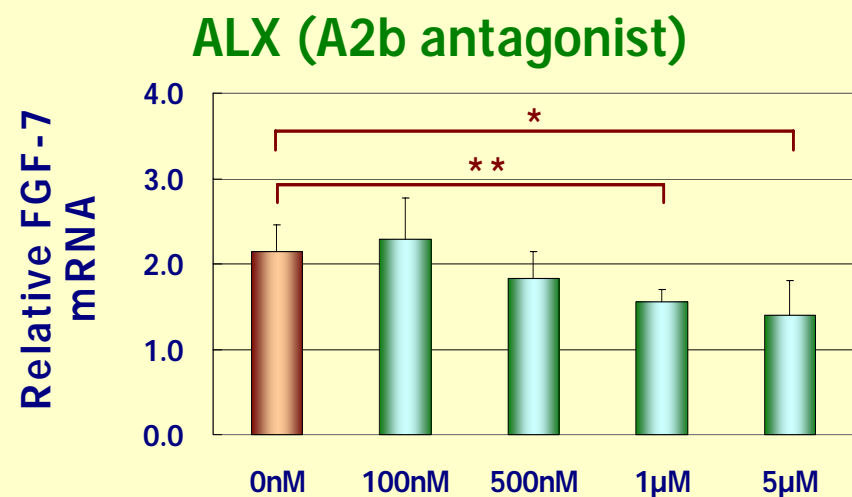
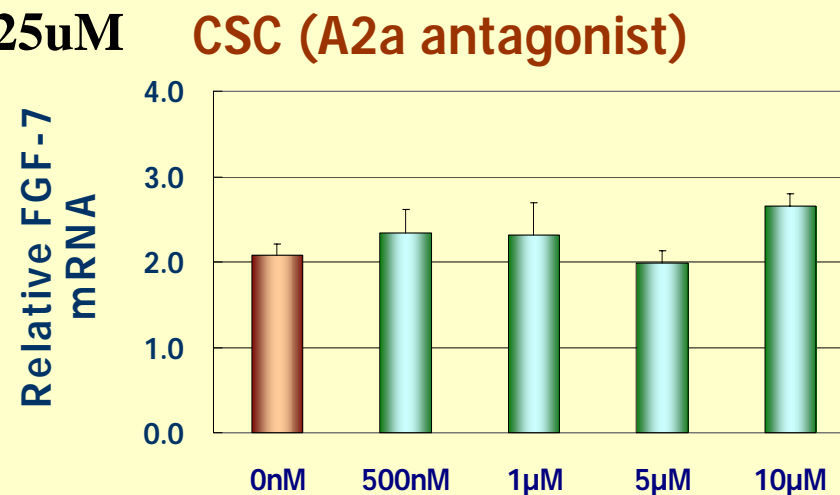
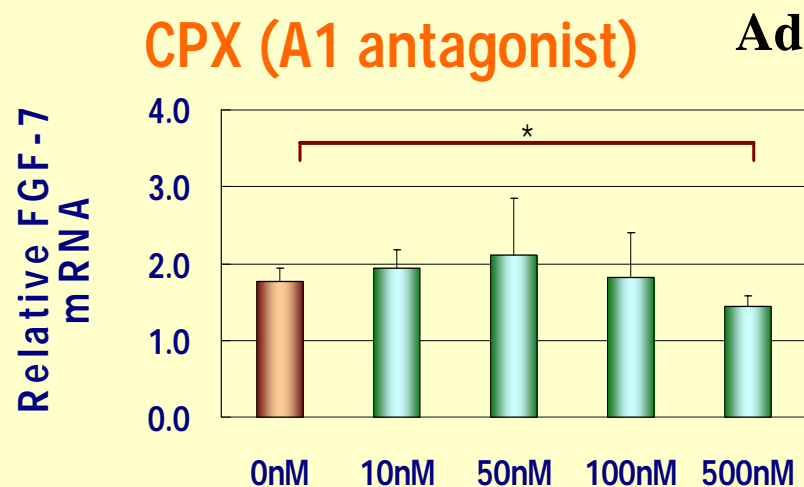


# Dose dependency of FGF-7 mRNA up-regulation



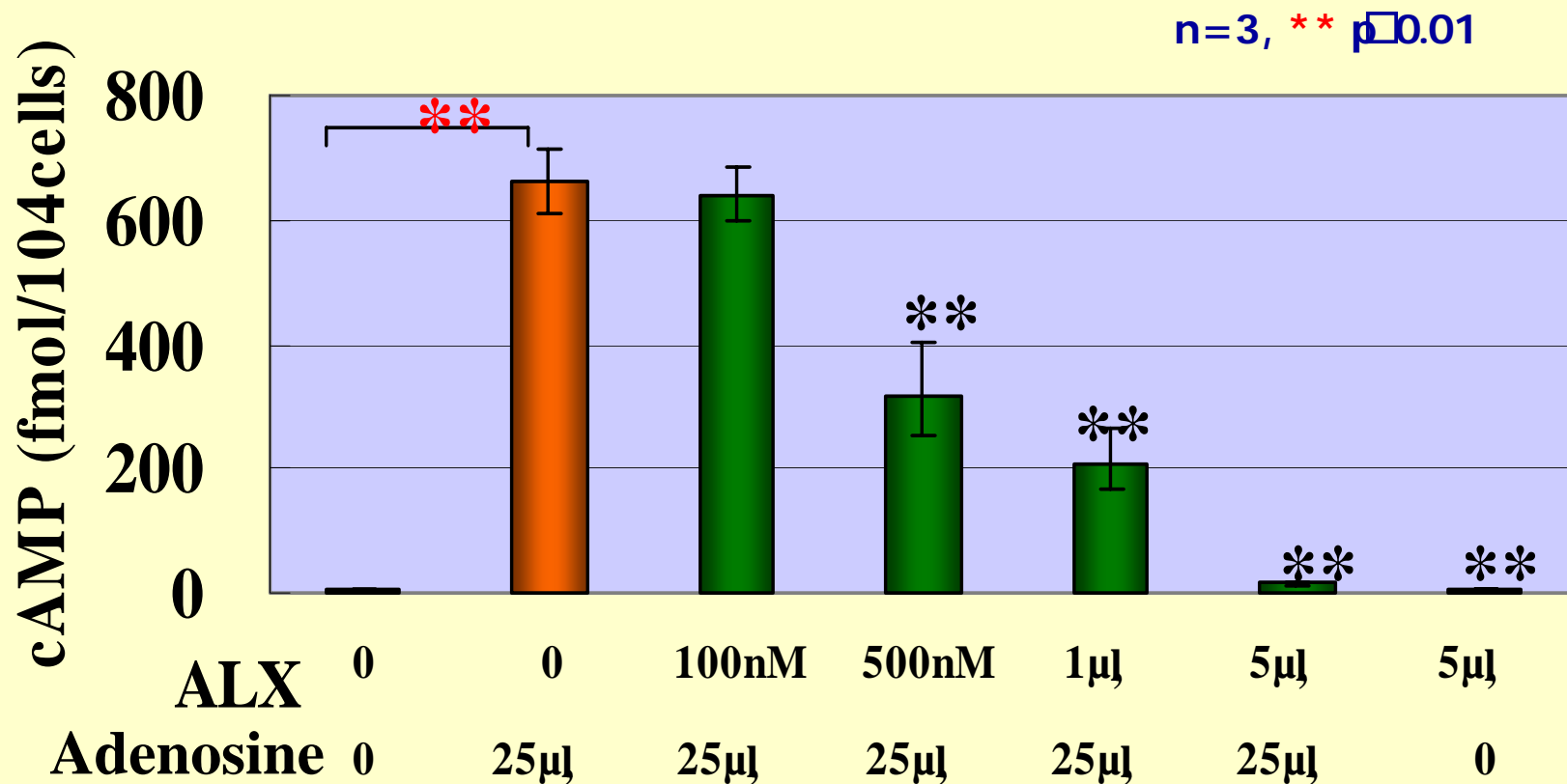
Incubation: 2h

# A2b antagonist suppressed FGF-7 up-regulation



CPX : 8-cyclopentyl-1,3-depropylxanthine, CSC : 8-(3-chlorostyryl)caffeine, ALX : alloxazine  
 MRS-1191 : 3-ethyl 5-benzyl 2-methyl-6-phenyl-4-phenylethynyl-1,4-(±)-dihydropyridine-3,5-dicarboxylate  
 n=4, \* p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01

# cAMP induction by adenosine and its inhibition by A2b antagonist



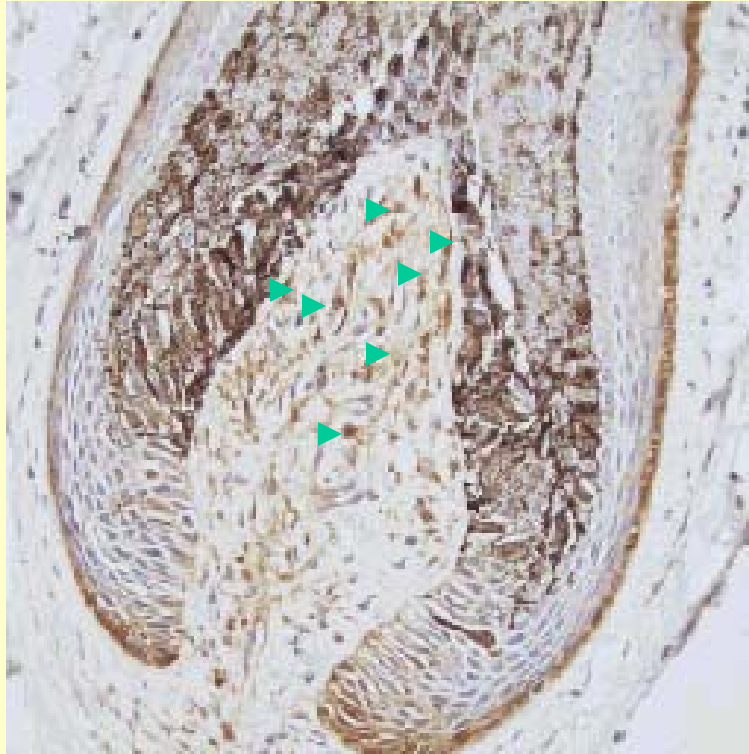
Reaction: 20 min

\*\* p<0.01 ; Compared with adenosine alone

ALX: Alloxazine

# Expression of AdoR A2b in human hair DP

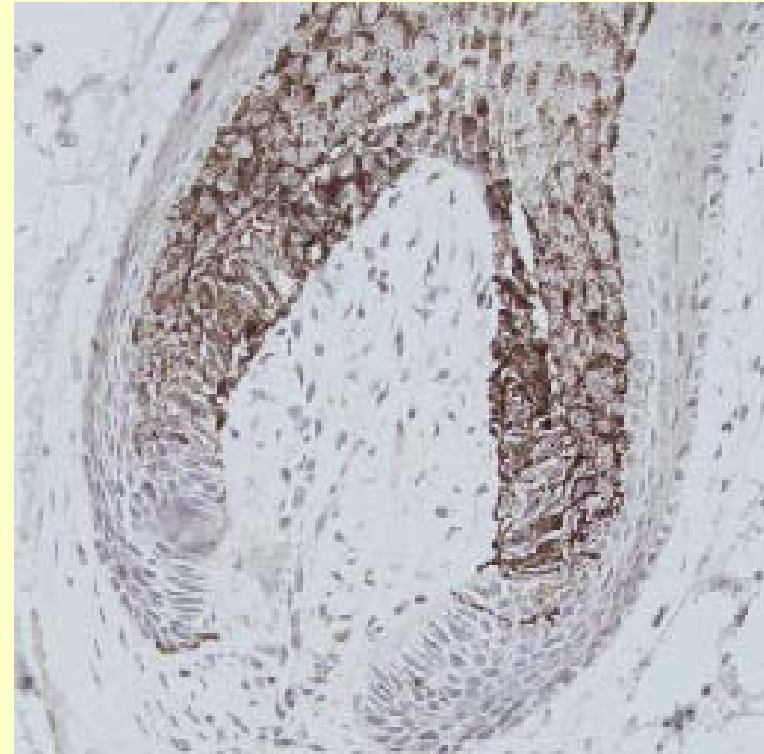
Scalp hair from 25y male □ DAB



**A2b receptor antibody**

20µg/ml

Ab1589 □ Chemicon □



**Control**

□ normal rabbit IgG □

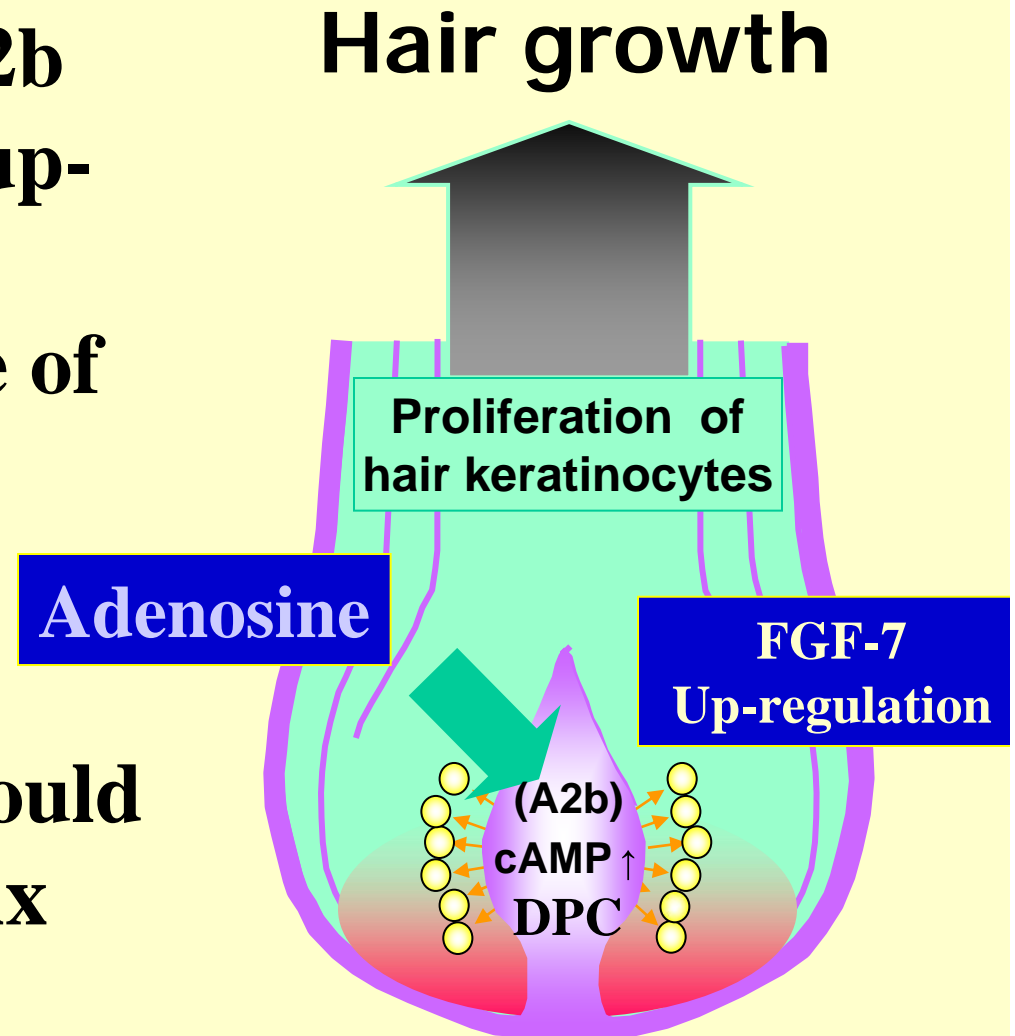
20µg/ml

A2b receptor expression cells indicate with **arrow heads**.

# Hair growth mechanisms by adenosine

**Adenosine activates A2b receptor on DPC and up-regulates FGF7 gene expression via increase of intracellular cAMP.**

**The released FGF-7 would increase the hair matrix cells proliferation and promote hair growth.**



# Working hypothesis and research strategy

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## Working hypothesis:

If minoxidil-induced hair growth is mediated by adenosine receptor on DPC, adenosine also should improve baldness.

## Research objects:

1. Growth factors other than VEGF released by adenosine stimulation on DPC (FGF-7)
2. Intracellular signaling by adenosine stimulation on DPC. (cAMP via A2b-R)
3. Efficacy and safety of topical adenosine application for androgenetic alopecia.

# Clinical Test

**Study objective** □ Evaluation of efficacy for baldness and safety of adenosine lotion versus niacinamide lotion as a positive control.

**Study type:** Double blind randomized controlled trial.

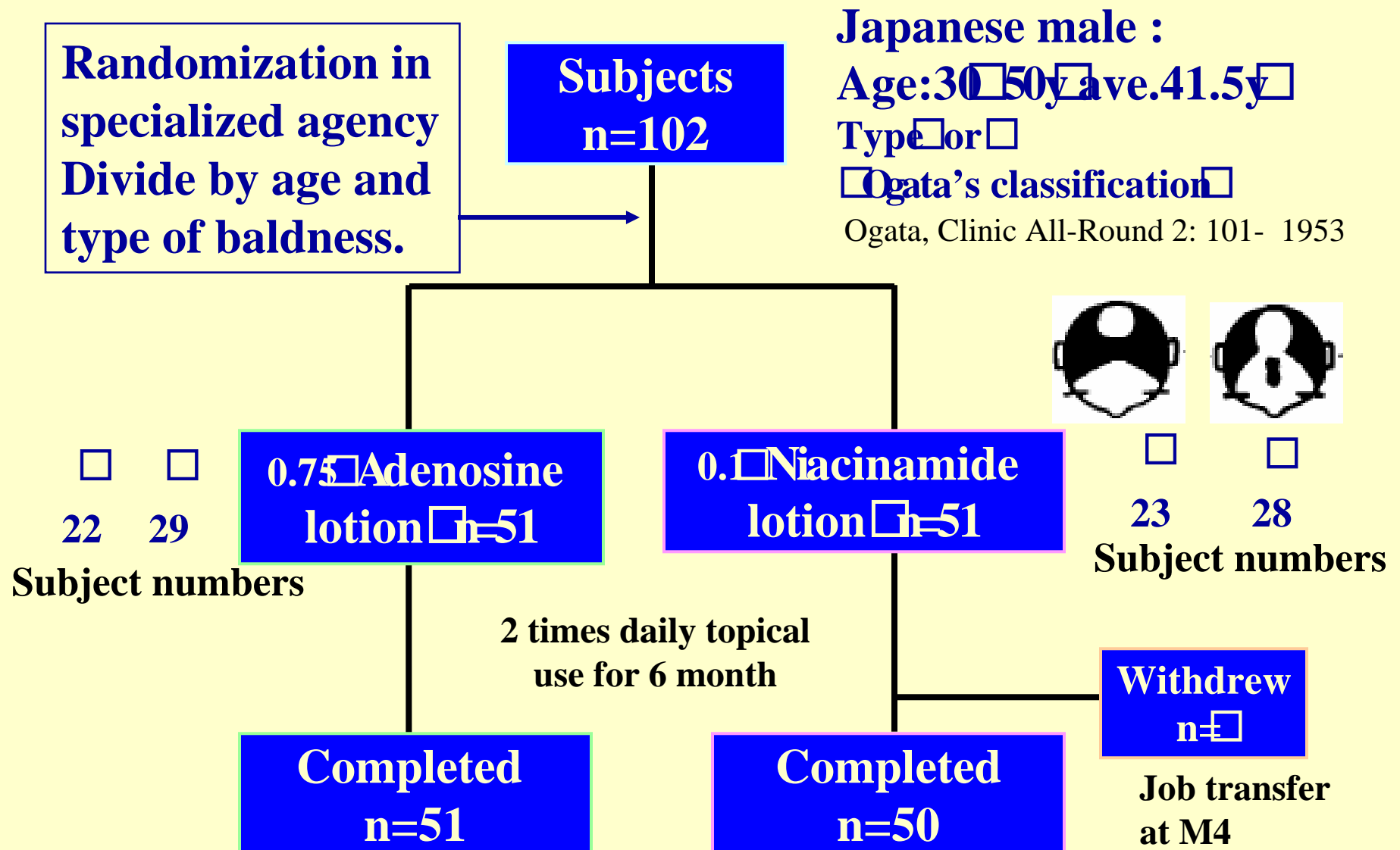
**Modalities of use:** Topical applications approximately 3ml of lotions twice daily to vertex area for 6 months.

**Efficacy evaluation:**

1. Assessment by dermatologists
2. Self-assessment
3. Hair density and diameter in vertex area
4. Global photograph

**Safety evaluation:** An extensive interview and clinical diagnosis by dermatologists

# Volunteers accounting



# Measurements of hair diameter and density



- ☐ Cutting vertex hair with scissors (5×5mm)
- ☐ Digital images using video microscope
  - ☐ k40
- ☐ Measurement of hair diameter and number

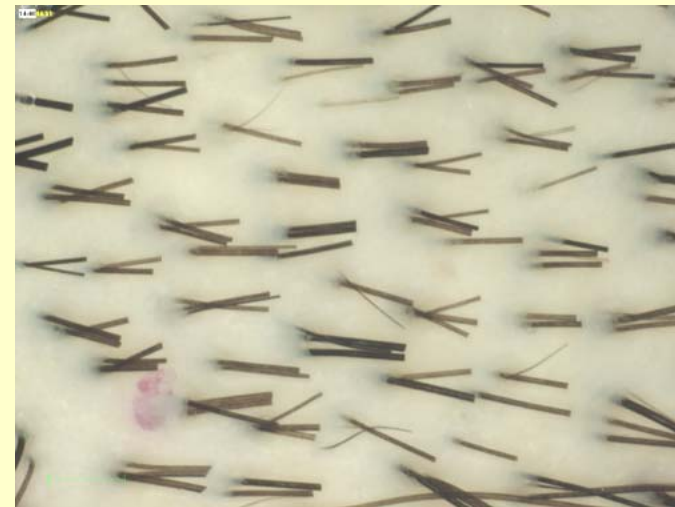
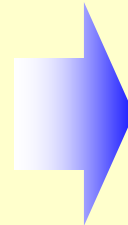
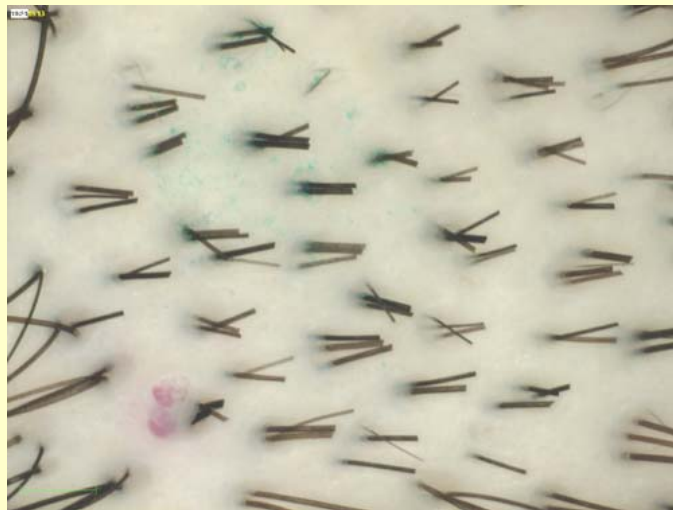
**Definition:**

Thick hair ☐ 60 $\mu$ m and over in diameter

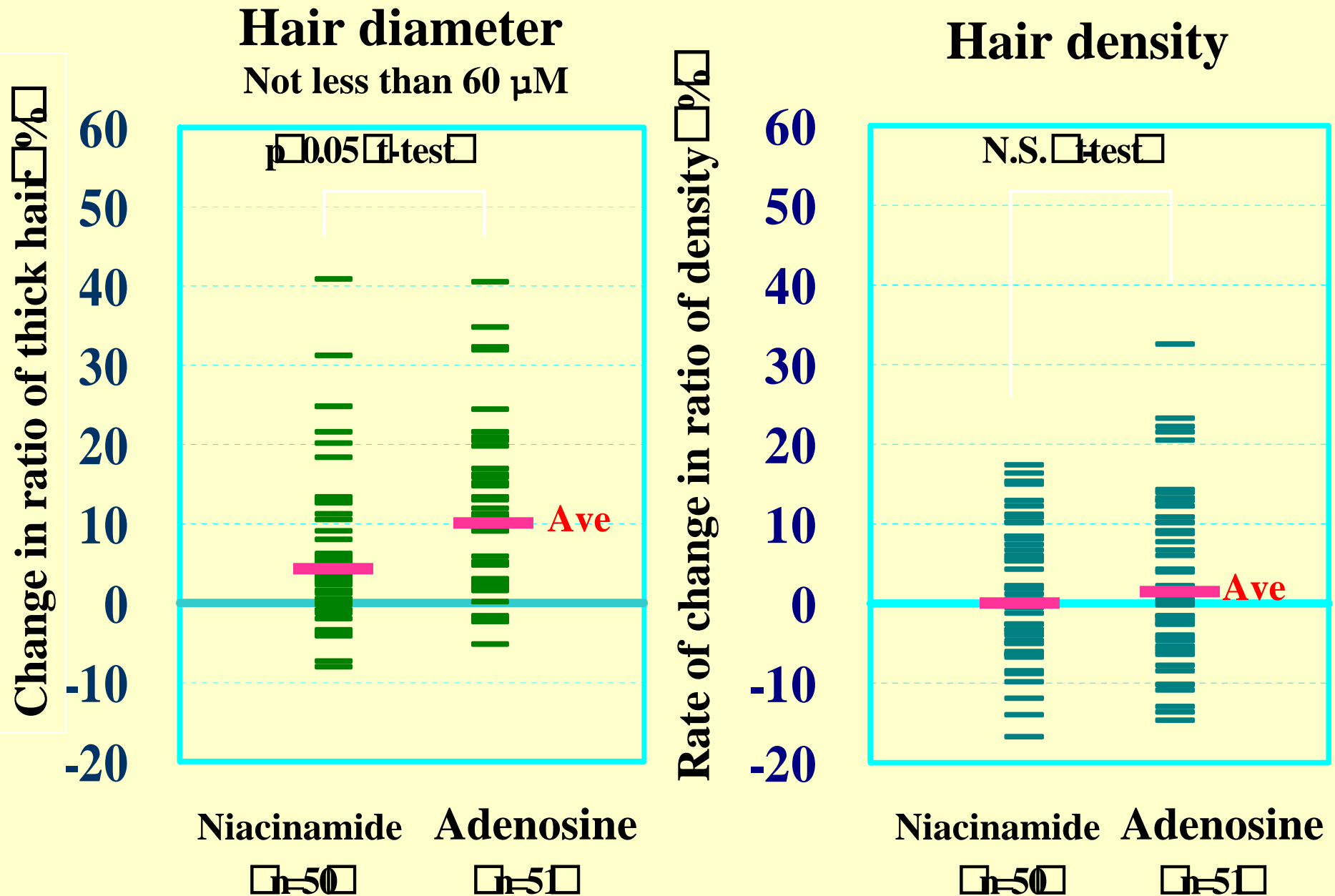
**Baseline**

Vertex scalp

**6M**

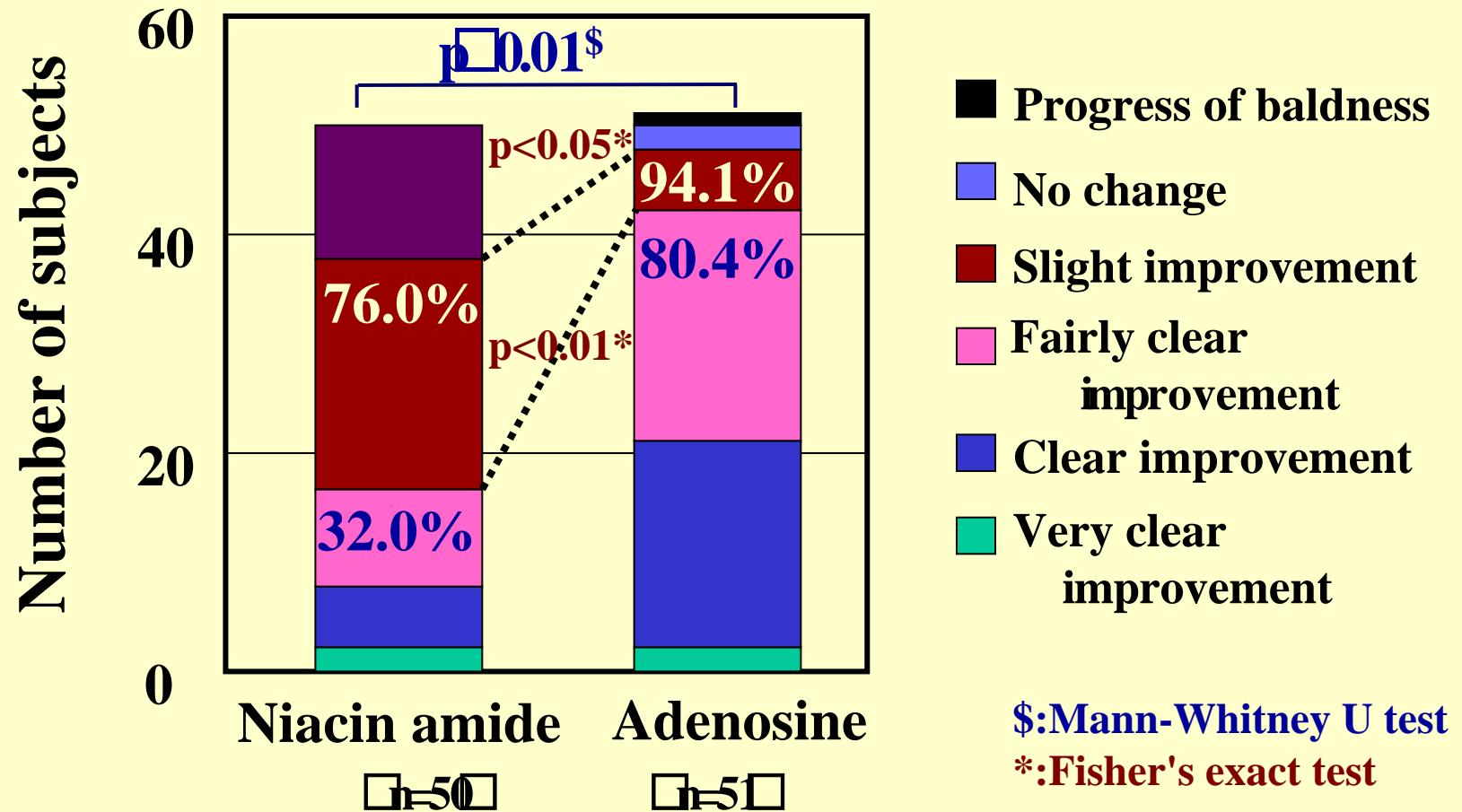


# Efficacy at 6M compared with baseline



# Global improvement

Two dermatologists evaluate global improvement based on visual evaluation on grounds of hair diameter and density in vertex.



# Global photographs

Example of “Clear improvement”



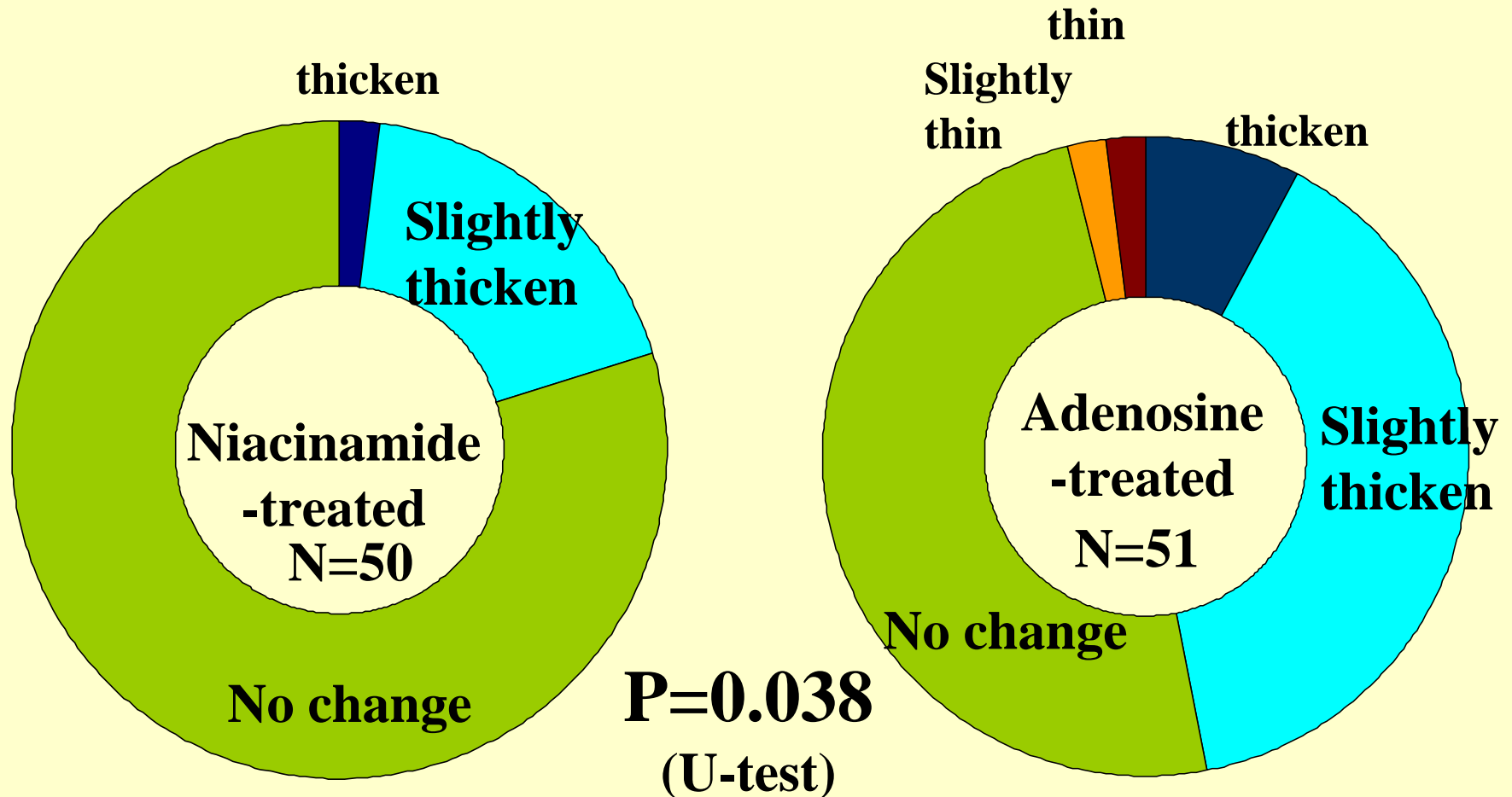
**Baseline** □ **6M**

Adenosine-treated Subject

# Subjects' self-assessment

## Questionnaire about hair thickness

Do you feel that hair thickness change compared with base line?



# Safety

## Recapitulative table of adverse events

Coetaneous reactions and distemper noted by dermatologists	<u>Adenosine</u>		<u>Niacinamide</u>		Causal association
	3M n=51	6M	3M n=50	6M	
Erythema or swelling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	no
Eczema	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no
Seborrhea	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no
Scaling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	no
Disorder on Blood Pressure or pulse rate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

☒ disappeared within 1M

# Conclusions

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- 1. Adenosine upregulated FGF-7 gene expression through intracellular cAMP signaling pathway via AdoR A2b in dermal papilla.**
- 2. Topical application of adenosine induced hair growth due to thickness of vellus-like hair in men with androgenetic alopecia.**
- 3. It is considered that adenosine directly acts on AdoR A2b in dermal papilla and possesses hair growth action similar to minoxidil.**

# Collaborators

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**Shiseido Research Center:**  
**Masashi Ogo, MS**  
**Yosuke Nakazawa, PhD**

## Hair growth mechanisms

**The University of Tokushima:**  
**Prof. Seiji Arase, MD, PhD**

**Shiseido Research Center:**  
**Masato Iino, MS**  
**Ritsuko Ehama, MS**  
**Tokuro Iwabuchi, PhD**

## A randomized trial

**Watanabe Dermatological Clinic:**  
**Yasushi Watanabe, MD, PhD**

**Shinjuku Biru Clinic:**  
**Takashi Nagashima, MD, PhD**

**Shiseido Research Center:**  
**Norio Hanzawa, MS**  
**Akihiro Ishino, PhD**  
**Masaaki Uemura, MS**