# Signaling pathways related to decreased influx of Ca<sup>2+</sup> and increased cAMP concentration in epithelial cells of polycystic kidney disease (PKD)

多発性嚢胞腎(PKD)上皮細胞における Ca<sup>2+</sup>輸送低下および 細胞内cAMP増加に関わるシグナル伝達

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# Today's subject

- 1. Polycystic kidney disease (PKD)
- 2. Decreased influx of Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration
- 3. Increased cAMP concentration
- 4. Clinical trial
- 5. Signaling pathways in epithelial cells of PKD

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# PKD is characterized by the presence of numerous cysts that originate from the renal tubules.



November 19, 2012

http://www.thekidneydoctor.org/

- Cell proliferation
- Fluid secretion
- Fibrosis

## Polycystic kidney disease (PKD)

**ADPKD**: incidence of 1:500-1000

**Autosomal Dominant** 

PKD1 (human chromosome 16) 85%

PKD2 (human chromosome 4) 15%

ARPKD: incidence of 1:20,000-40,000

Autosomal recessive

PKHD1 (human chromosome 6)

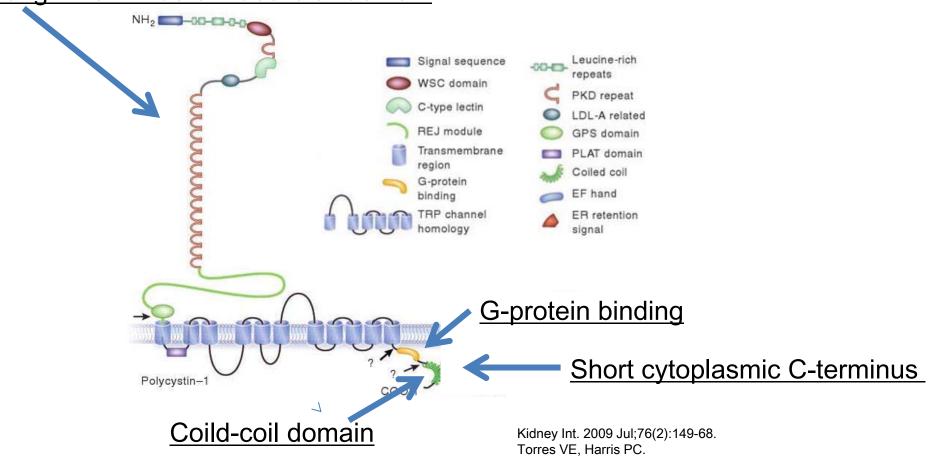
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#### PKD1 Gene product:

polycystin-1 (PC1): a large receptor-like protein

#### Long N-terminus extracellular domain



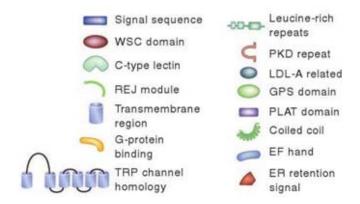
Fujita Health University

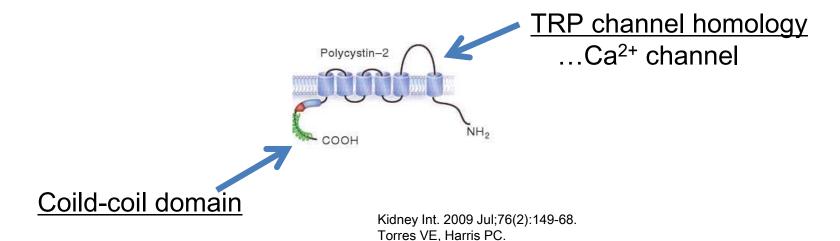
Shizuko NAGAO

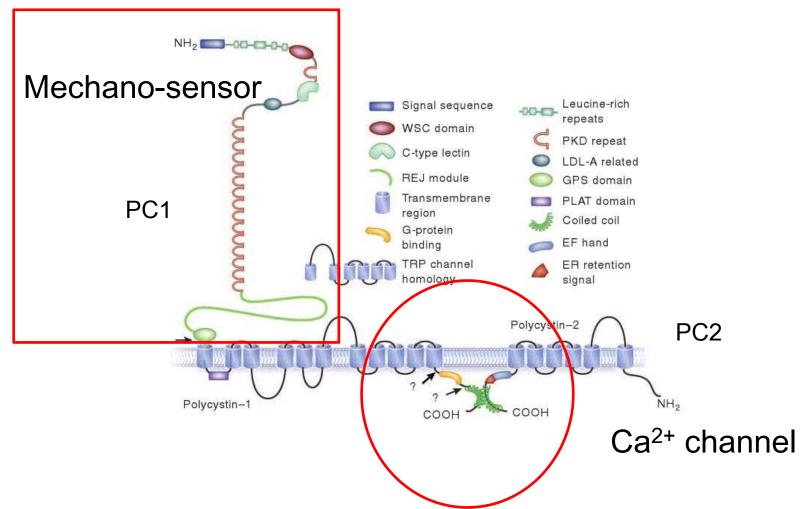
#### **ADPKD**

#### PKD2 Gene product:

polycystin-2 (PC2): calcium (Ca<sup>2+</sup>) channel



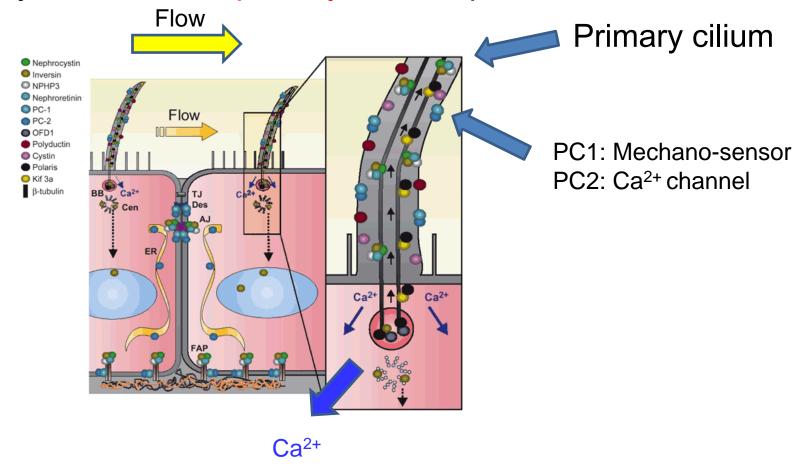




C-terminus of PC1 and C-terminus of PC2 interact by coiled-coil domain.

Kidney Int. 2009 Jul;76(2):149-68. Torres VE, Harris PC.

#### Polycystins locate in primary cilia of epithelia cells.

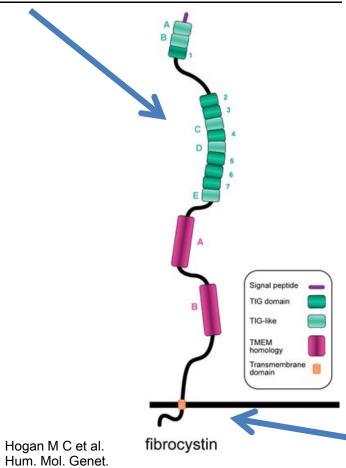


#### **ARPKD**

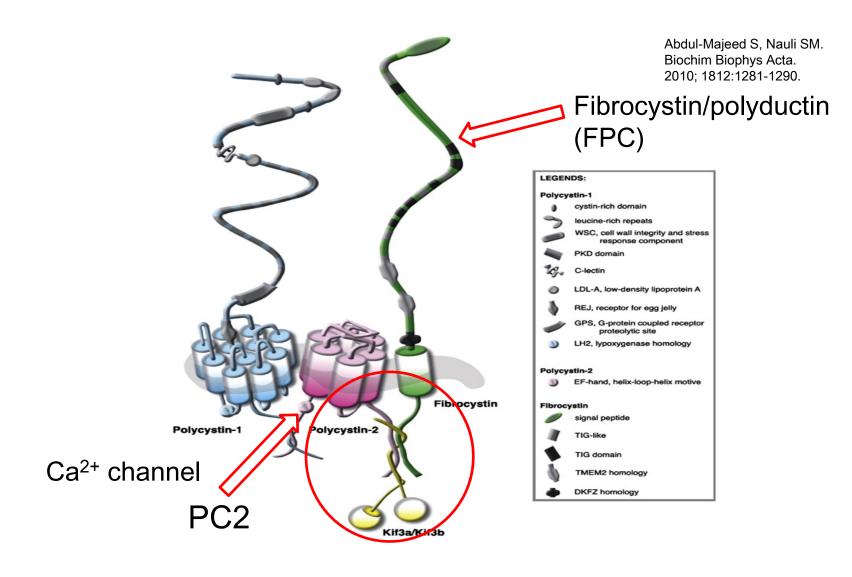
#### PKHD1 Gene product:

Fibrocystin/polyductin (FPC)

Long N-terminus extracellular domain



Short cytoplasmic C-terminus

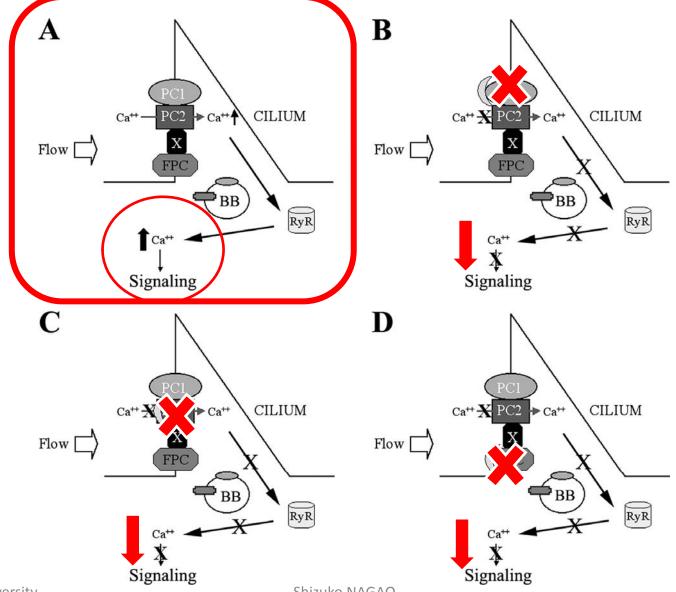


C-terminus of FPC and N-terminus of PC2 interact.

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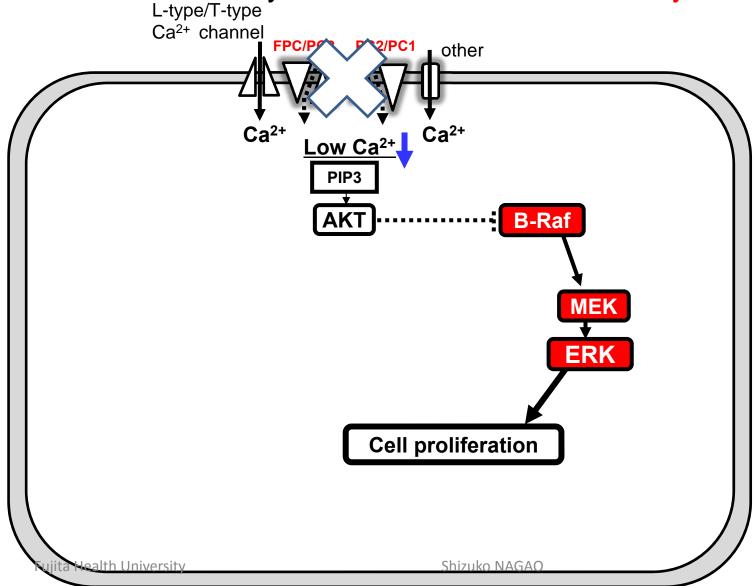
### Model of PC1-PC2-FPC complex at primary cilium



Fujita Health University Shizuko NAGAO Wang S et al. Mol. Cell. Biol. 2007;27:3241-3252

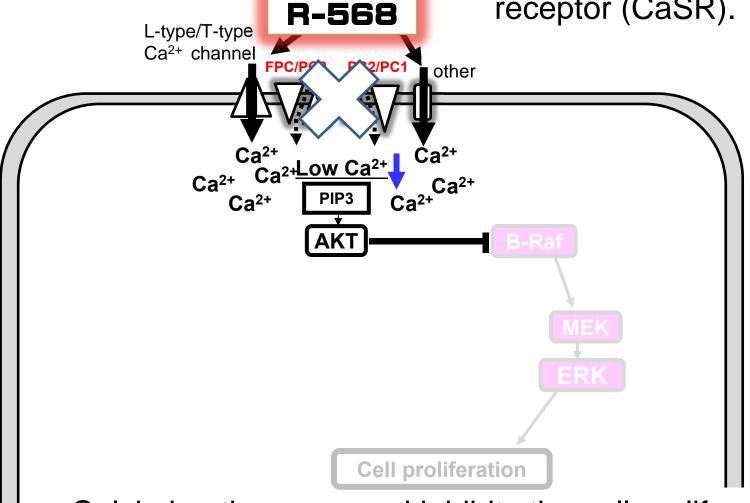
### PKD cells

In PKD epithelia cells, decreased influx of intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> induces cell proliferation by the reduction of AKT activity.



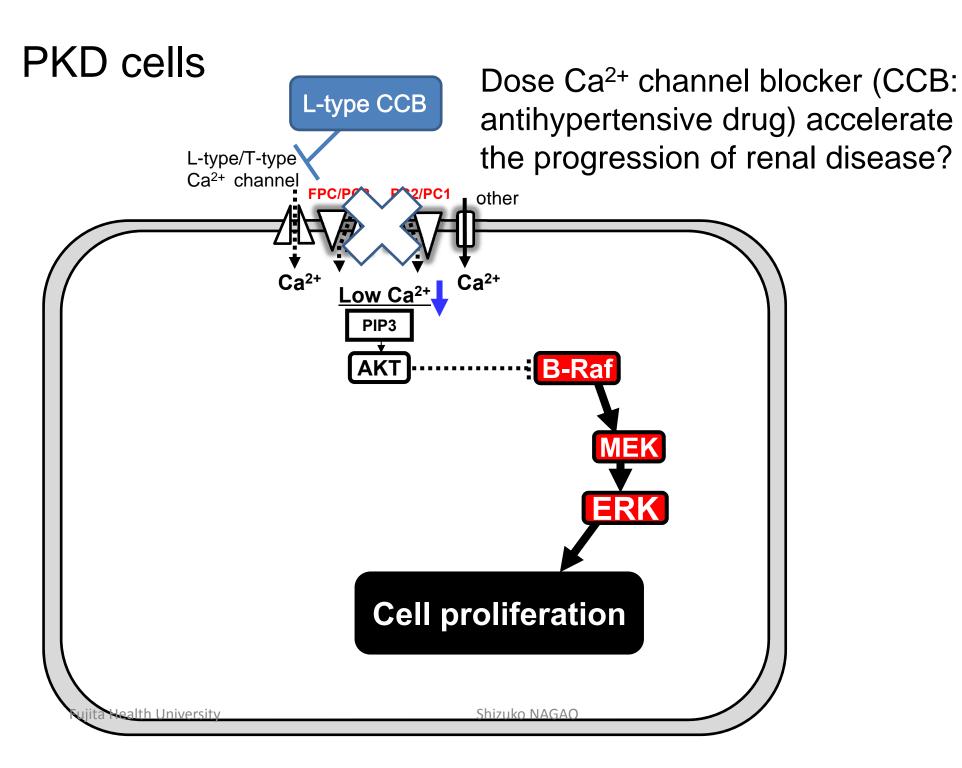


Calcimimetic compound, R-568, is an antagonist of Ca<sup>2+</sup>sensing receptor (CaSR).



Calcimimetic compound inhibits the cell proliferation by increase of intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> concentration.

ta Health University



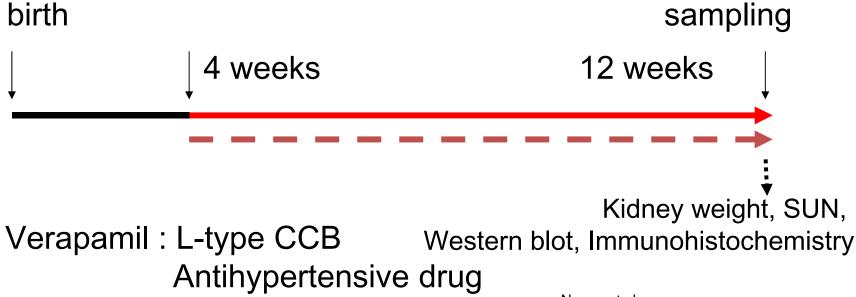
### **Outline**

 Treatment with verapamil, a L-type CCB, increased renal activity of <u>B-Raf/MEK/ERK signaling</u> and caused an acceleration in growth of renal cysts in a PKD model, Cy/+ rats.

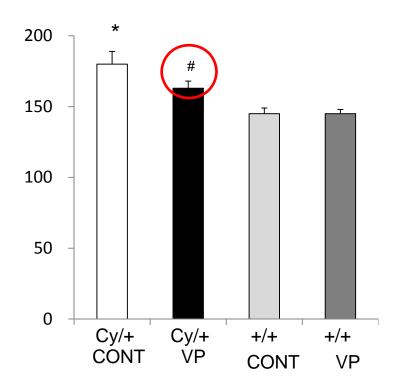
### **Protocol**

Rats were treated with verapamil from 4 to 12 weeks of age.

Cy/+ : polycystic kidney +/+ : normal kidney

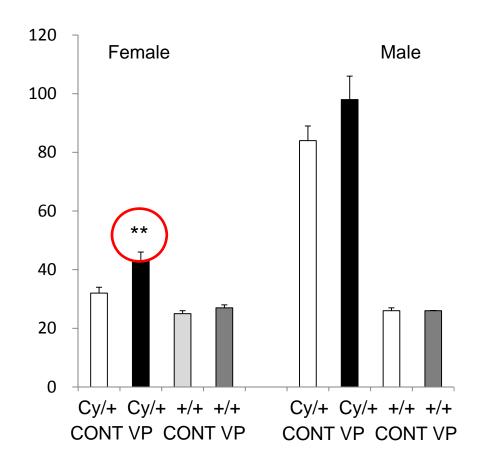


# Effect of verapamil (VP) treatment on systolic blood presure



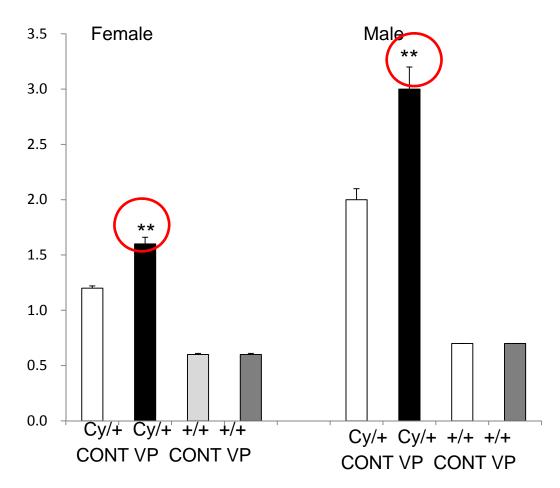
- ➤ Systolic BP was significantly elevated in Cy/+ rats compared to +/+ rats (\*P<0.01).
- ➤ Comparison between VP vs. CONT-treated Cy/+ rats (male and female), #P<0.001.
- ➤ Non-significant effect of VP on systolic BP was shown in +/+ rats.

# Effect of VP treatment on renal function (serum urea nitrogen: SUN, mg/dl)



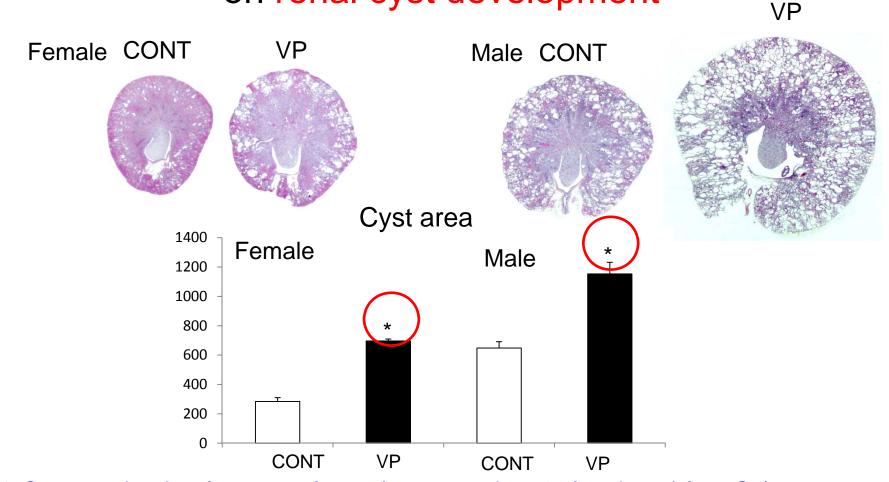
➤ Treatment with VP caused a significant increase in SUN in female Cy/+ animals (n=5), \*\*P<0.01.

# Effect of VP treatment on kidney weight



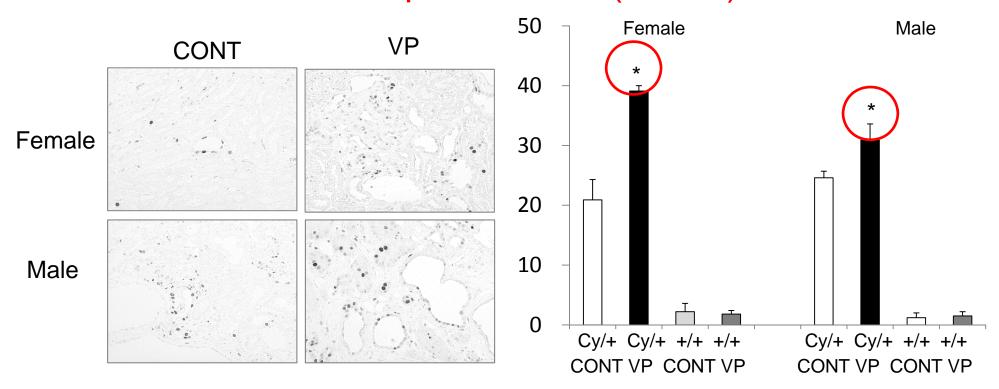
➤ Vp treatment caused a significant increase in kidney weight in both genders of Cy/+ rats (\*\*P<0.001), but had no effect on total kidney weight of +/+ rats.

### Effect of VP treatment on renal cyst development



- ➤ Cross-sectional surface area of cysts (represented as % of total area) from Cy/+ kidneys was measured by morphometric analysis.
- Comparisons between CONT and VP showed that VP increased cyst area 140% in females and 75% in males of Cy/+ rats, \*P<0.001. Shizuko NAGAO

# Effect of VP treatment on cell proliferation (PCNA)



- ➤ Comparison between VP and CONT-treated Cy/+ rats (female or male), \*P<0.01.
- ➤ By contrast, few PCNA-positive cells were shown in +/+ kidney sections and VP had no effect on the proliferative index (data not shown).

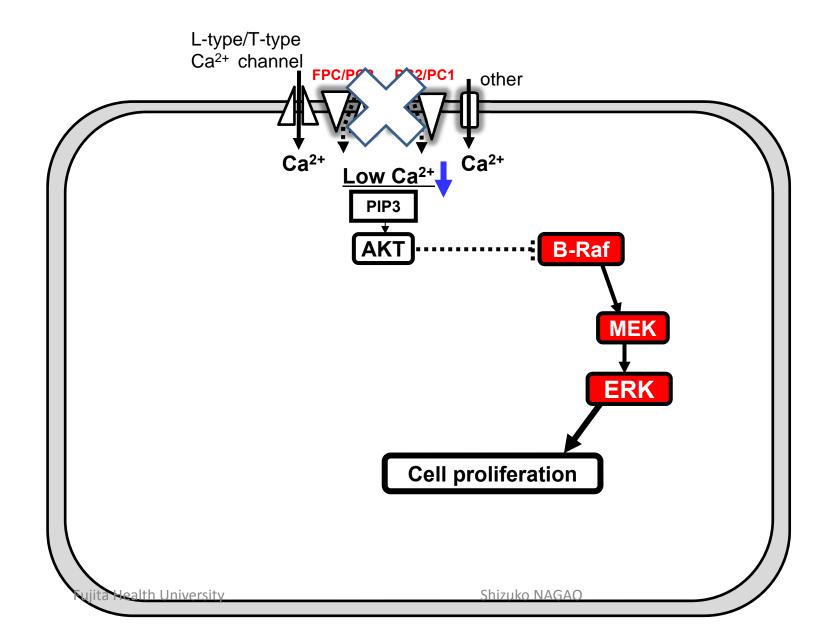
# Effect of VP treatment on the activity of B-Raf/MEK/ERK signaling

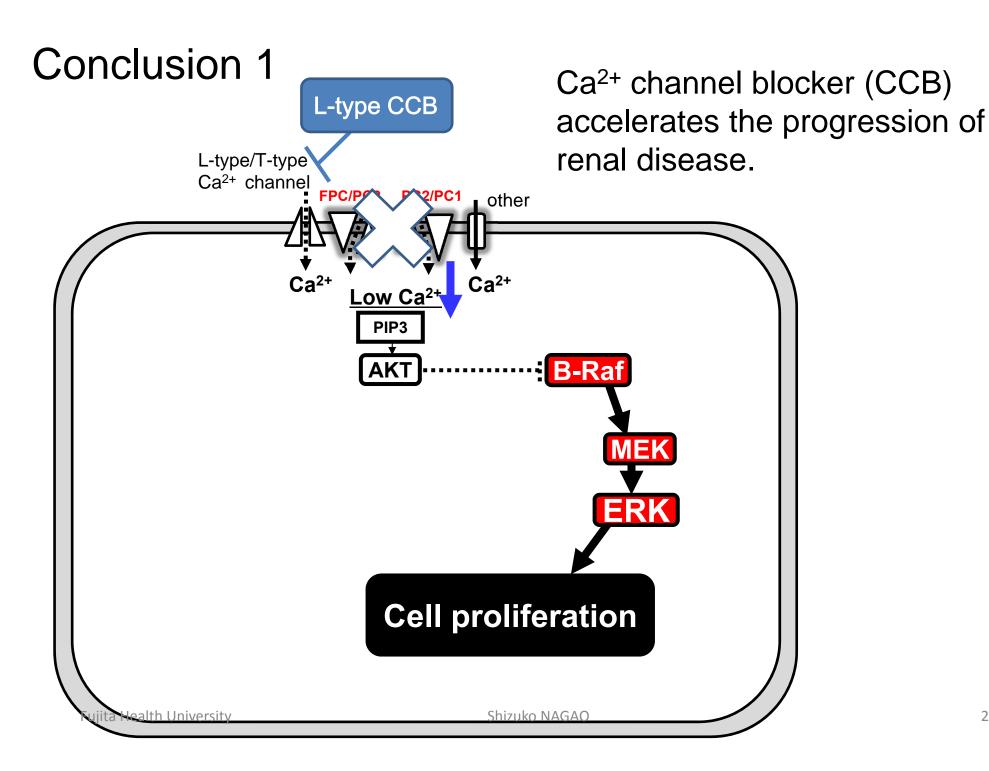
Genotype	Treatment	N	P-BRaf/B-Raf	B-Raf	P-ERK/ERK	ERK				
Female										
+/+	CONT	5	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.00	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.00	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.00	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.00				
+/+	VP	5	1.15 <u>+</u> 0.11	0.76 <u>+</u> 0.17	1.04 <u>+</u> 0.08	0.98 <u>+</u> 0.11				
Cy/+	CONT	5	1.81 <u>+</u> 0.07 <sup>‡</sup>	1.16 <u>+</u> 0.05	2.07 <u>+</u> 0.21	1.16 <u>+</u> 0.10				
Cy/+	VP	5	2.16 <u>+</u> 0.17 <sup>‡, **</sup>	1.41 <u>+</u> 0.11*	3.75 <u>+</u> 0.63 <sup>‡,#</sup>	1.03 <u>+</u> 0.05				
Male										
+/+	CONT	5	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.00	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.00	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.00	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.00				
+/+	VP	5	1.00 <u>+</u> 0.08	0.94 <u>+</u> 0.03	1.62 <u>+</u> 0.50	0.98 <u>+</u> 0.08				
Cy/+	CONT	5	1.88 <u>+</u> 0.23 <sup>†</sup>	1.65 <u>+</u> 0.24*	4.77 <u>+</u> 0.58 <sup>†</sup>	1.13 <u>+</u> 0.14				
Cy/+	VP	5	1.96 <u>+</u> 0.27 <sup>†</sup>	1.86 <u>+</u> 0.27*	6.50 <u>+</u> 0.98 <sup>‡</sup>	1.09 <u>+</u> 0.12				

<sup>➤</sup> Comparison between Cy/+ and +/+ kidneys (\* *P*<0.05, † *P*<0.01, ‡ *P*<0.001)

Comparison between CONT and VP treatment either in Cy/+ or +/+ kidneys (\*\* P<0.05, # P<0.01).

### Conclusion 1



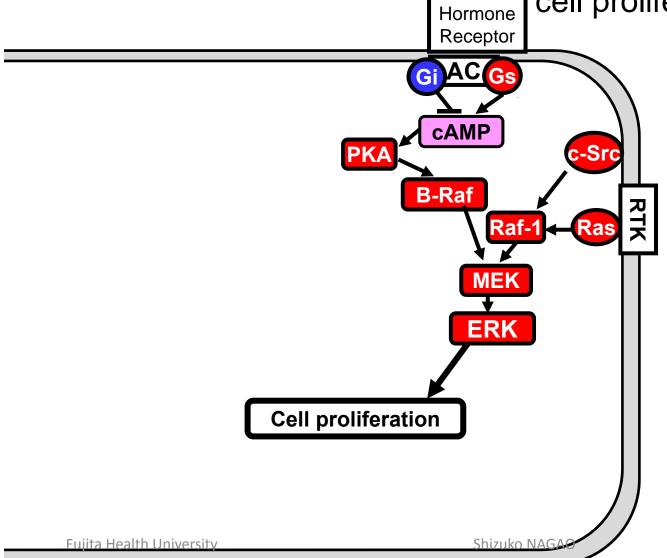


# Today's subject

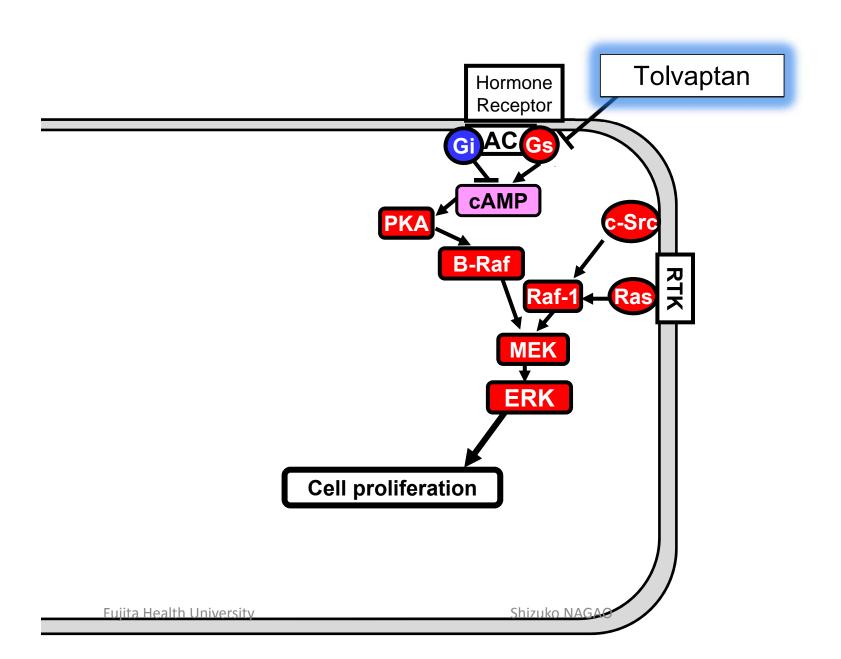
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### PKD cells

In PKD renal epithelial cells, intracellular cAMP is increased, ERK signaling is up-regulated and cell proliferation rate is elevated.

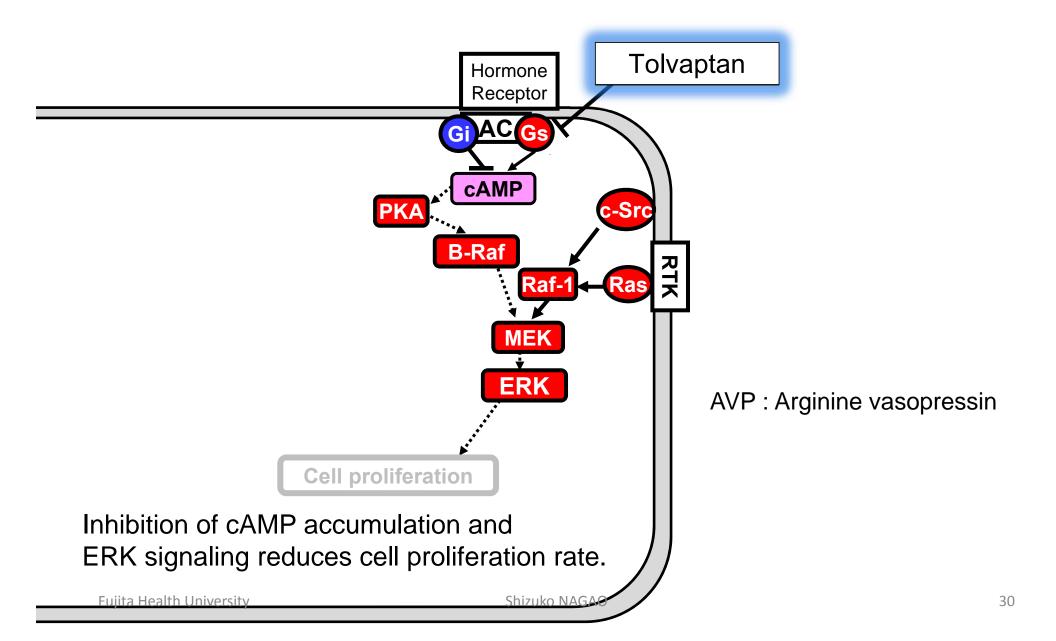


Tolvaptan suppresses arginine vasopressin (AVP)-activated Gs protein.

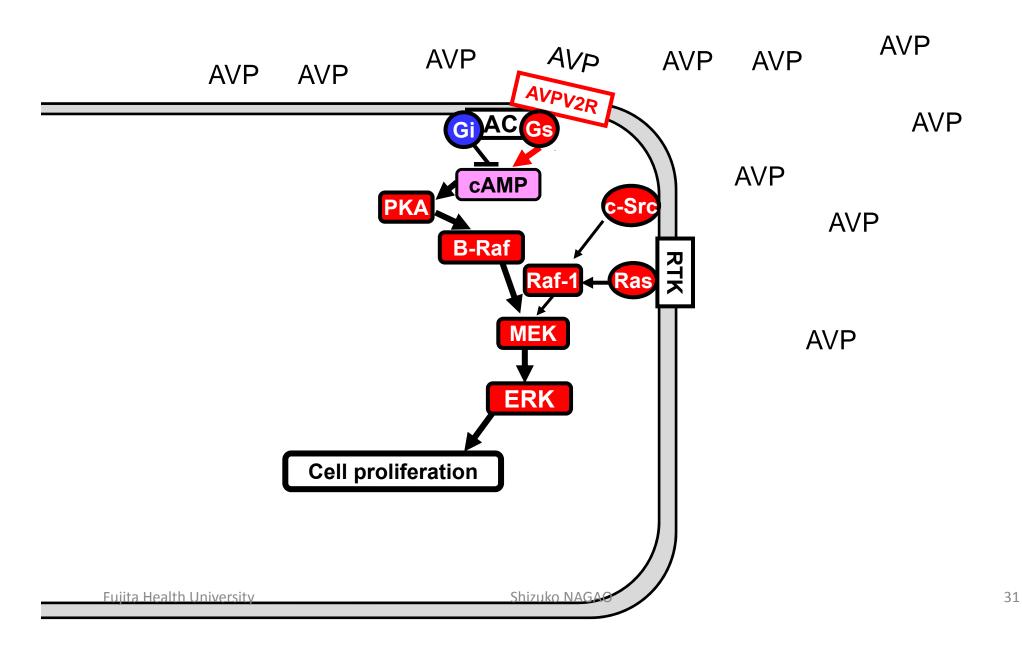


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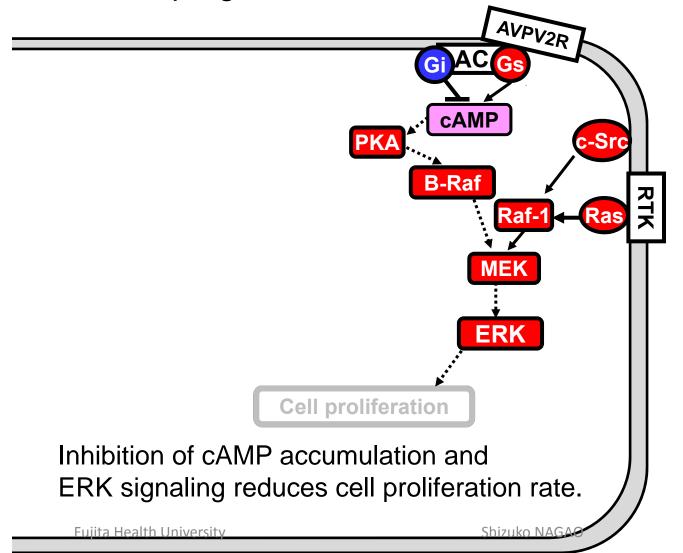
Tolvaptan suppresses arginine vasopressin (AVP)-activated Gs protein. Tolvaptan reduces the concentration of intracellular cAMP in PKD cells.



# AVP bands to a hormone receptor, AVPV2R. AVP increases intercellular cAMP.

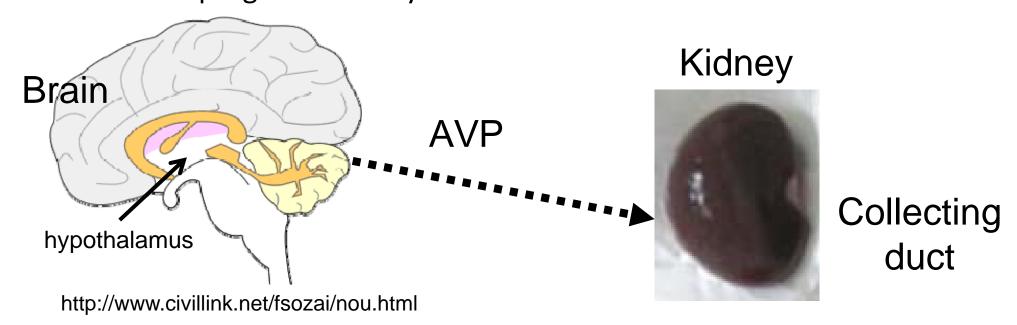


Does decreased release of AVP cause a reduction of intercellular cAMP concentration in PKD epithelial cells and ameliorate renal disease progression?



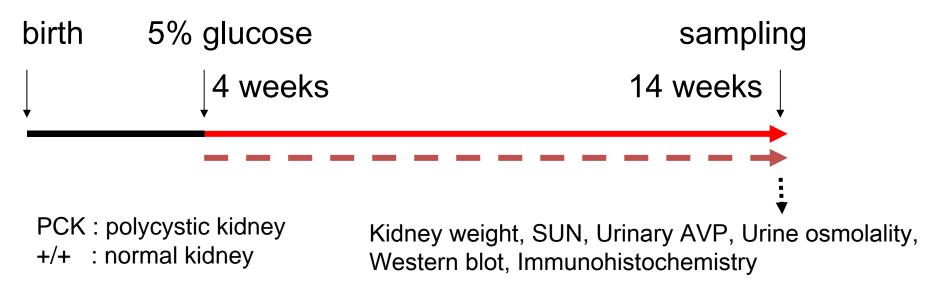
### **Outline**

Decreased plasma AVP by high water intake (HWI)
 suppresses B-Raf/MEK/ERK signaling activity in PKD kidneys and slows the progression of cystic disease in PCK rats.



### **Protocol**

- PCK rats were allowed free access to water and food throughout the study.
- Animal on high water intake (HWI) were offered water containing
   5% glucose from 4 to 14 weeks of age.

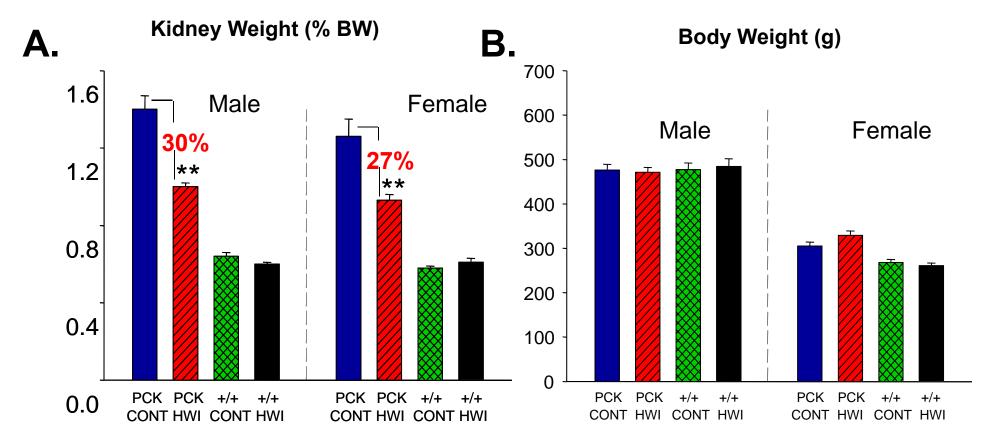


### Renal effects of high water intake (HWI)

Genotype	Treatment	n	Water Intake (mL)		Urine Volume (mL)		Urine Osmolarity (mOsmol/kg H2O)		Urinary AVP (pg/mg creatinine)		
Male				4	3.8 hold						56%
PCK	CONT	8	$18 \pm 1$		$18 \pm 2$		$1088 \pm 96$		257 ± 22		
PCK	HWI	10	68 ± 5	**	<b>■</b> 58 ± 5	**	$232 \pm 47$	**	$114 \pm 46$	**	<b>1</b>
+/+	CONT	8	$10 \pm 5$		$9 \pm 1$		$1498 \pm 130$		$160 \pm 19$		
+/+	HWI	8	$94 \pm 26$	*	$91 \pm 10$	**	$197 \pm 73$	**	$88 \pm 38$		
Female			3.5 hold								74%
PCK	CONT	10	18 ± 3		$+16 \pm 2$		$982 \pm 74$		435 ± 83		7 <del>4</del> /0
PCK	HWI	8	63 ± 9	**	<b>■</b> 49 ± 8	**	$284 \pm 52$	**	$111 \pm 59$	**	<b>↓</b>
+/+	CONT	7	$13 \pm 5$		$12 \pm 1$		$1559 \pm 211$		335 ± 49		•
+/+	HWI	10	$107 \pm 10$	**	$80 \pm 11$	**	$131 \pm 25$	**	$31 \pm 4$	**	

- The rate of urine AVP excretion, an indicator of plasma AVP levels, was decreased 56% in male and 74% in female, respectively, by HWI
- > Suppression of the renal effects of AVP decreases intracellular cAMP levels and reduces the water permeability of collecting ducts.

### **Effect of HWI on kidney weight (%BW)**

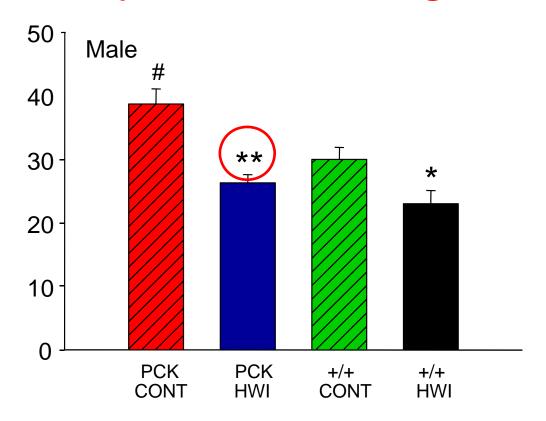


Kidney weight (% body weight) significantly decreased 30 and 27% in PCK male and female rats, respectively. ➤ Body weight was unaffected by water intake either in +/+ or PCK rats.

NAGAO et al. J Am Soc Nephrol 17: 2220–2227, 2006.

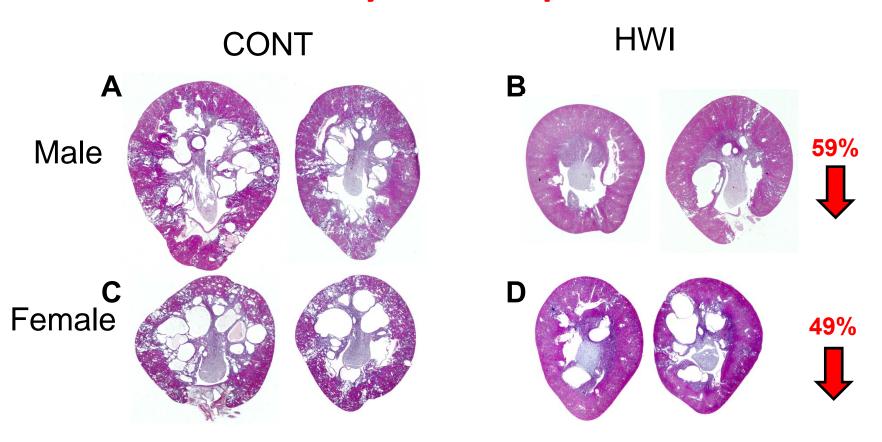
#### **Effect of HWI**

### on renal function (serum urea nitrogen: SUN, mg/dl)



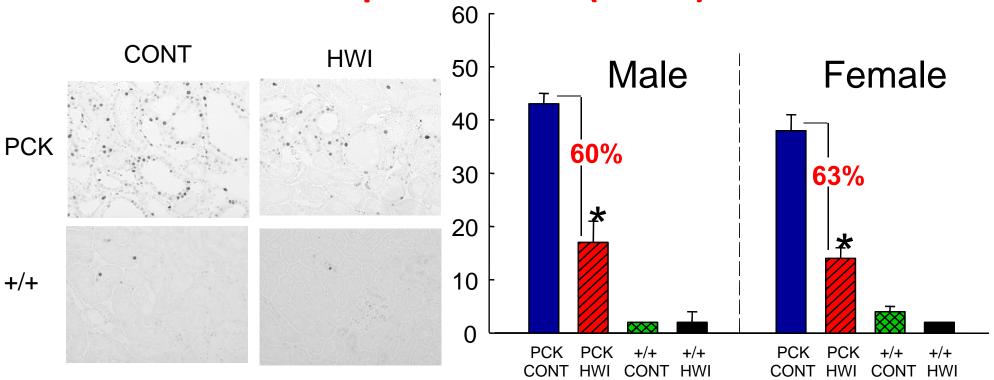
- ➤ HWI for 10 weeks decreased SUN from 38.7 to 26.3 mg/dl in the PCK male rats, a level that was similar to that of normal rats that drank increased water.
- ➤ HWI also caused a small but significant decrease in SUN in +/+ rats.

# Effect of High Water Intake (HWI) on renal cyst development



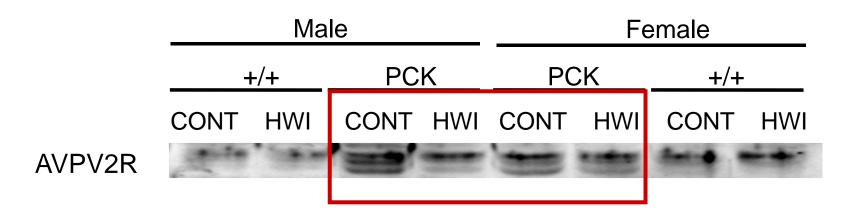
➤ HWI treatment diminished cystic area 59% in male and 49% in female PCK rats, compared with rats that drank tap water.

## effect of HWI on cell proliferation (PCNA)



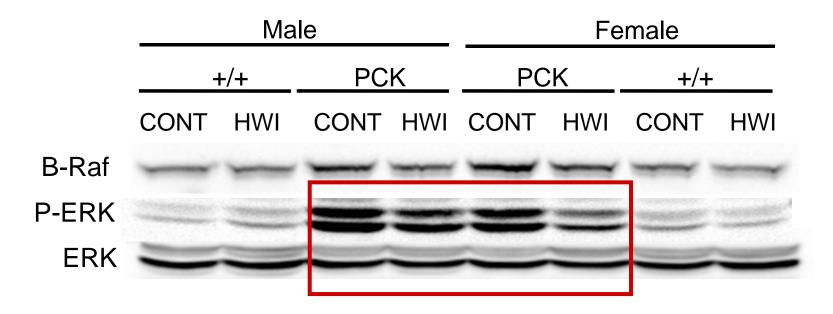
Consistent with a reduction in cyst area and kidney weight, HWI decreased cell proliferation of cyst epithelial cells (PCNA-positive cells decreased approximately 60%).

## Effect of HWI on V2R expression



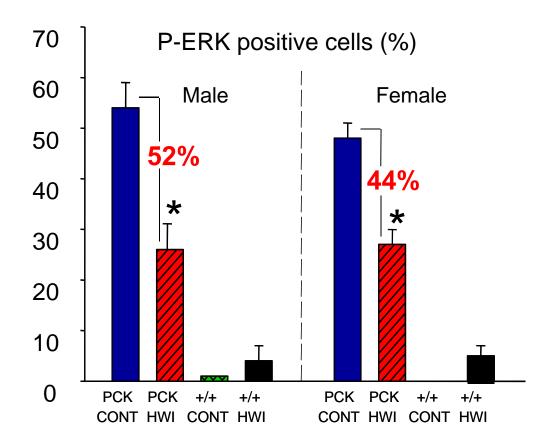
- Overexpression of AVPV2R in the epithelial cells of collecting duct cysts could contribute to persistently high levels of cAMP.
- > HWI normalized AVPV2R expression in the PCK kidneys.

## Effect of HWI on renal activity of B-Raf/MEK/ERK signaling



➤ HWI decreased the level of P-ERK 33% in male and 41% in female rats, but had no effect on P-ERK levels in +/+ rats.

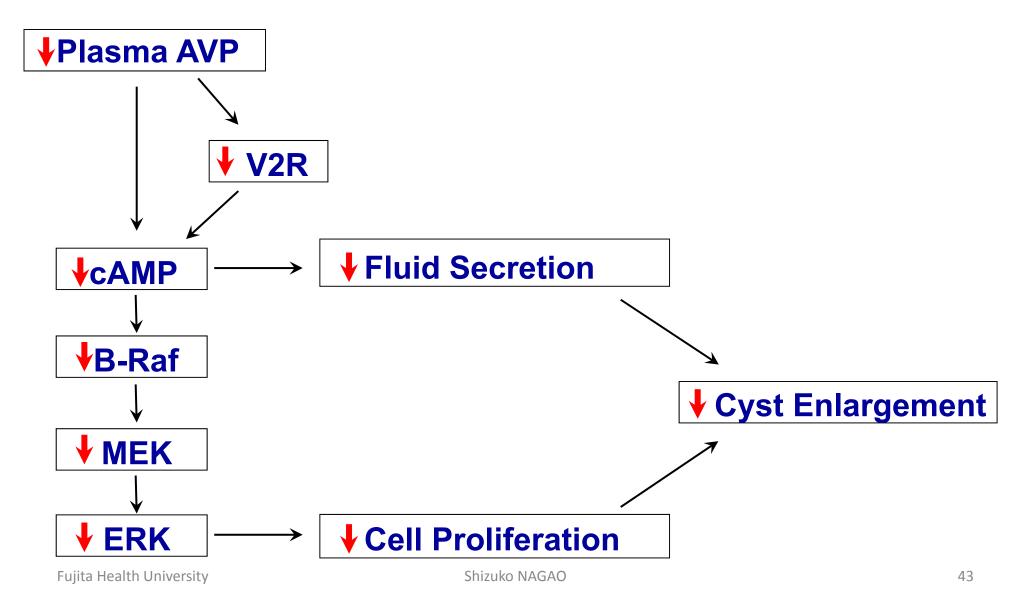
## **Effect of HWI on number of cells staining for P-ERK**



➤ The number of cells (% of cells per section) that stained positive for P-ERK was reduced 52% in PCK male rats and 44% in PCK female rats, confirming the observations made by immunoblot analysis.

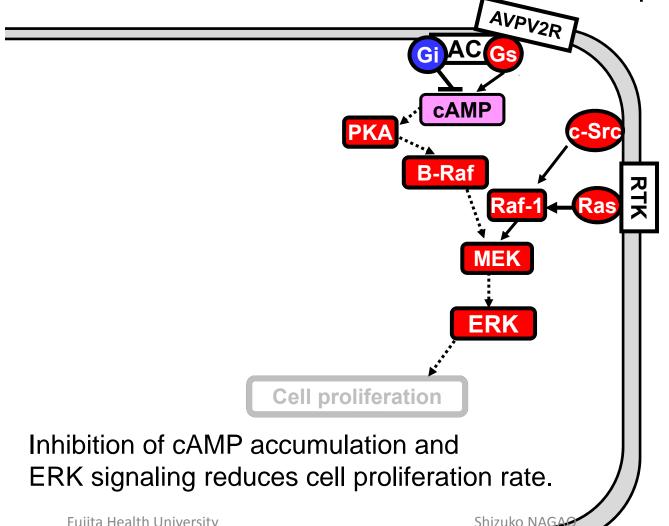
NAGAO et al. J Am Soc Nephrol 17: 2220–2227, 2006.

### **Effects of HWI on cyst enlargement**



#### Conclusion 2

Decreased release of AVP by HWI causes a reduction of intercellular cAMP concentration in PKD epithelial cells and ameliorates renal disease progression.



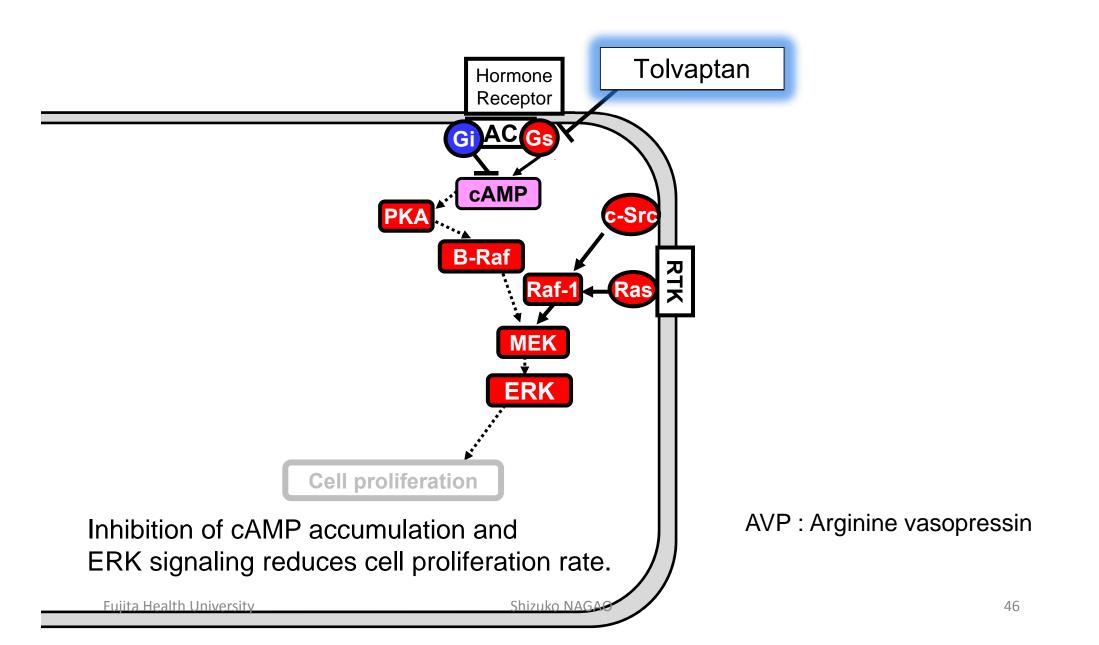
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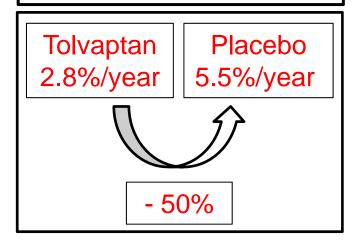
#### PKD cells

Tolvaptan suppresses AVP-activated Gs protein, and reduces the concentration of intracellular cAMP.



### Effect of Tolvaptan (reduction of cAMP) in PKD patients

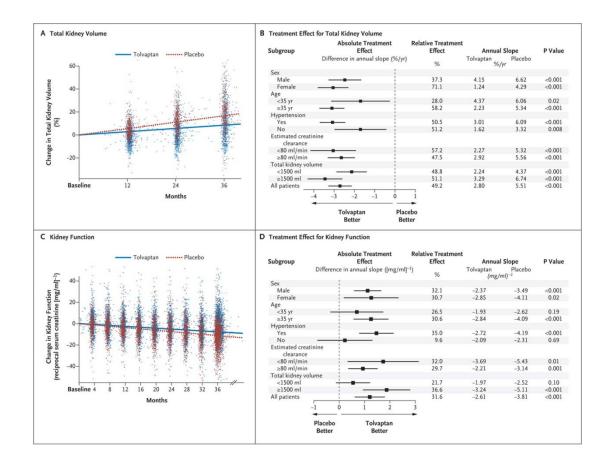
## **Growing Ratio of Total Kidney Volume**



Decline of Kidney Function (serum creatinine)

Tolvaptan
-2.61
mg/mL/year

Placebo -3.81 mg/mL/year



Torres VE et al. N Engl J Med 2012. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1205511



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