



Exhalon

**Pr Stanislas GRASSIN DELYLE**

**Hôpital Foch**

**INSERM U1173 « Infection et inflammation »**

**Département de Biotechnologies de la Santé**

**UFR Simone Veil-Santé**

**Université Paris-Saclay – UVSQ**

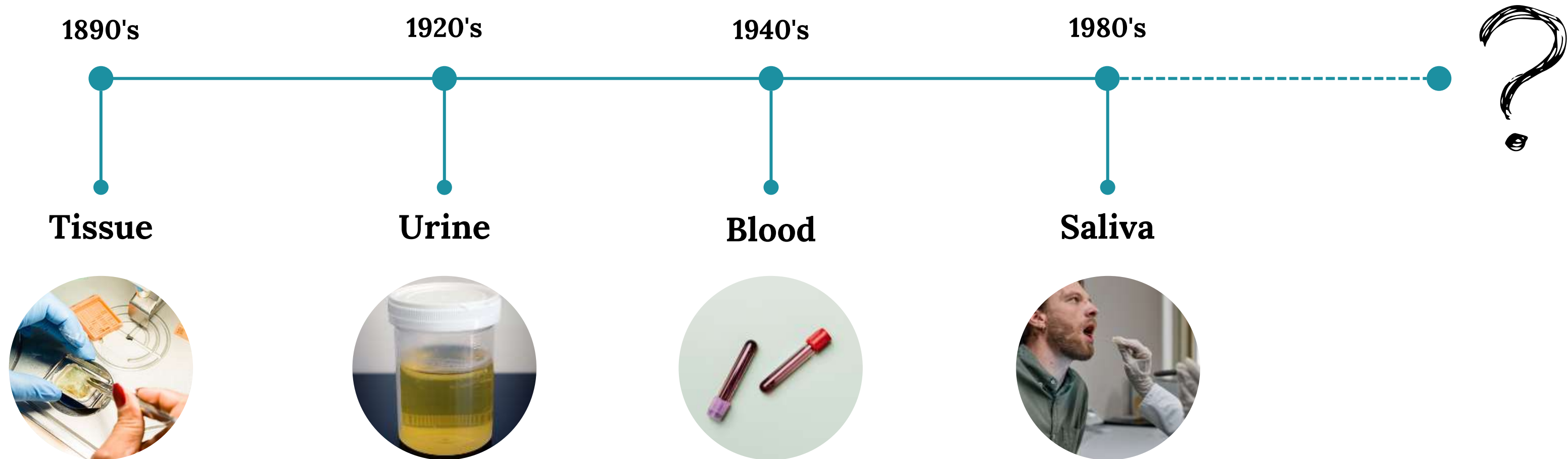
*Real-time breath analysis for precision medicine*



UFR Simone Veil - Santé  
CAMPUS DE SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES

# Advancing healthcare

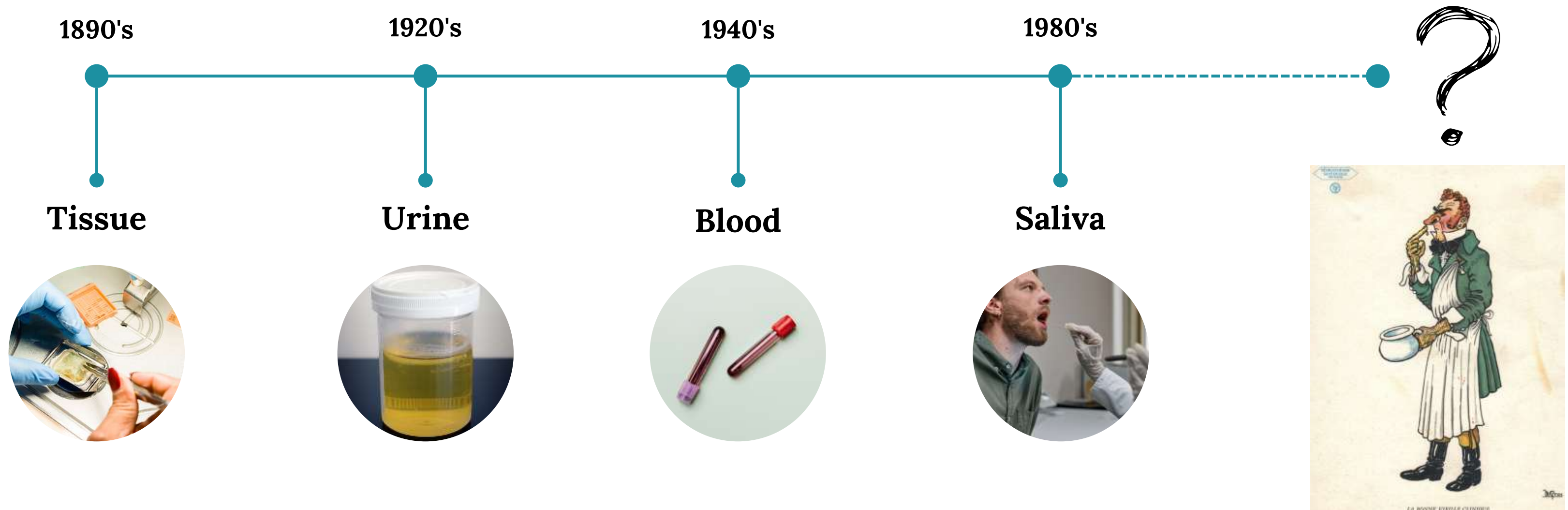
Throughout history, humanity's drive to advance healthcare has fuelled an obsessive **exploration into novel methods for analysing the human body.**



Each new method has unlocked unprecedented insights, revolutionizing medical diagnostics and treatment strategies. **Is there something left to explore?**

# Advancing healthcare

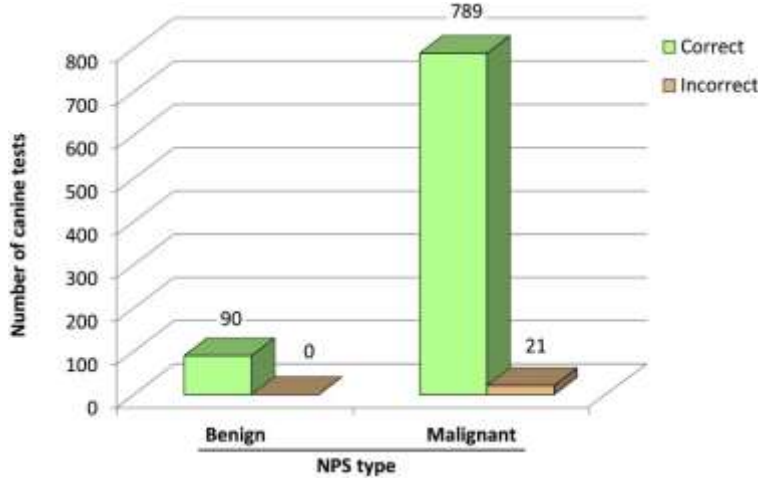
Throughout history, humanity's drive to advance healthcare has fuelled an obsessive **exploration into novel methods for analysing the human body.**



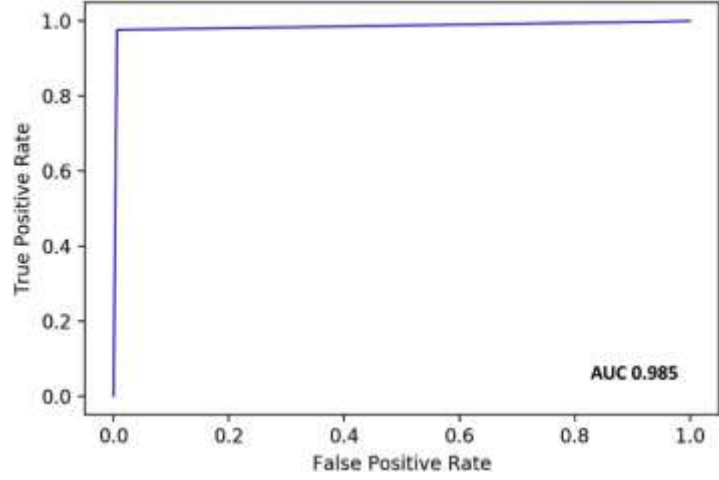
Each new method has unlocked unprecedented insights, revolutionizing medical diagnostics and treatment strategies. **Is there something left to explore?**

# The olfactive signature of diseases

Dogs have demonstrated that **humans produce and emit specific chemicals through their breath that can lead to highly accurate diagnostics.**



Nodule pulmonaire solitaire



Guaro et al., Lung Cancer, 2019

# Olfactive analysis advantages

Even though **dogs** may be superior to some aspects of reference methods, their **lack of standardization** means they can't reach clinical adoption.

## Gold Standards

- Imaging
- Molecular biology
- Blood tests
- Histopathology

VS



Non-invasiveness



Speed



Cost-effectiveness



Standardization



# Breath analysis medical device

A real-time breath analysis medical device would allow for standardized, measurable, and highly reproducible breath diagnostics, making its mainstream adoption possible.



**Non-invasiveness**

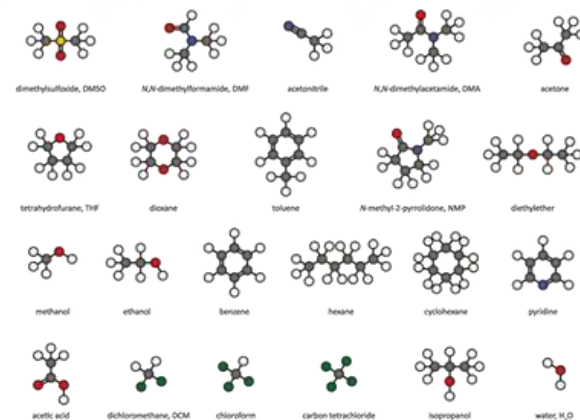
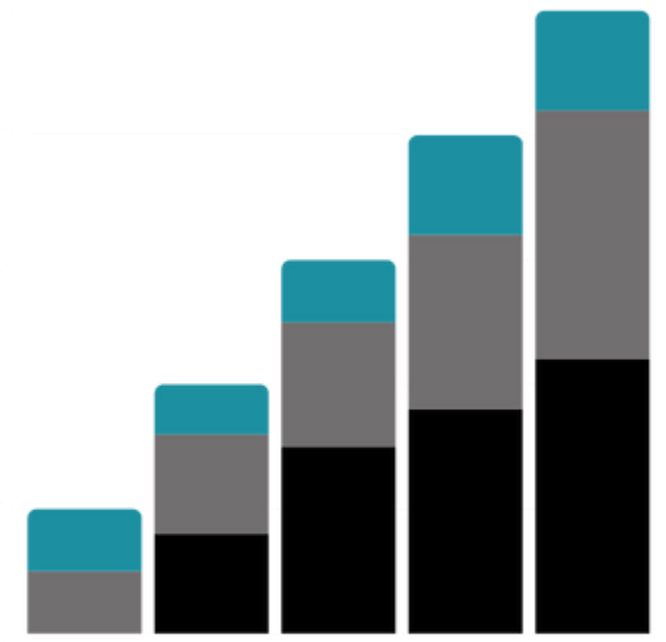
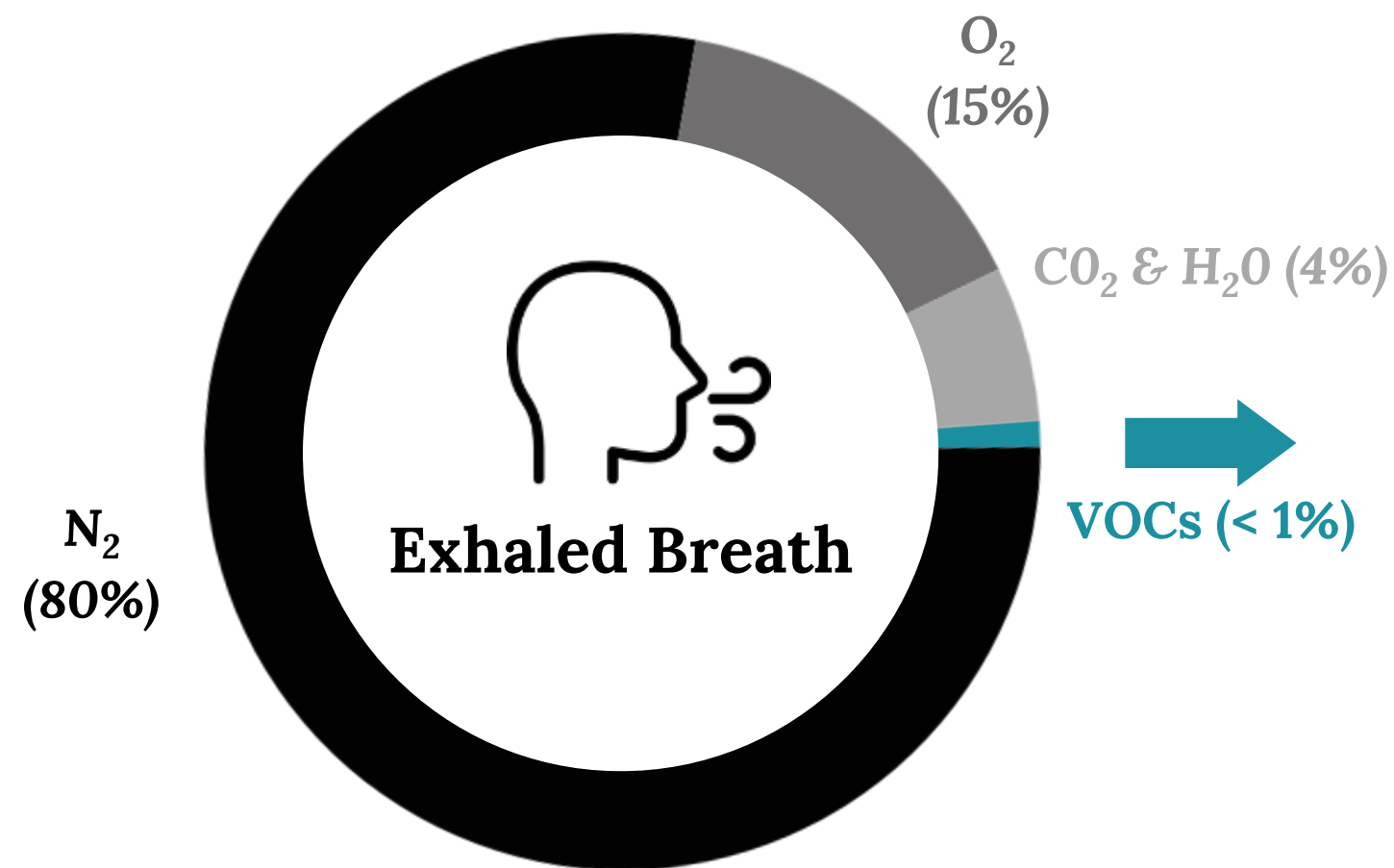
**Speed**

**Cost-effectiveness**

 **Standardization**

# The science behind

By analysing **Volatile Organic Compounds** in breath we gain access to patient-specific information:  
Breath-Based Biomarkers

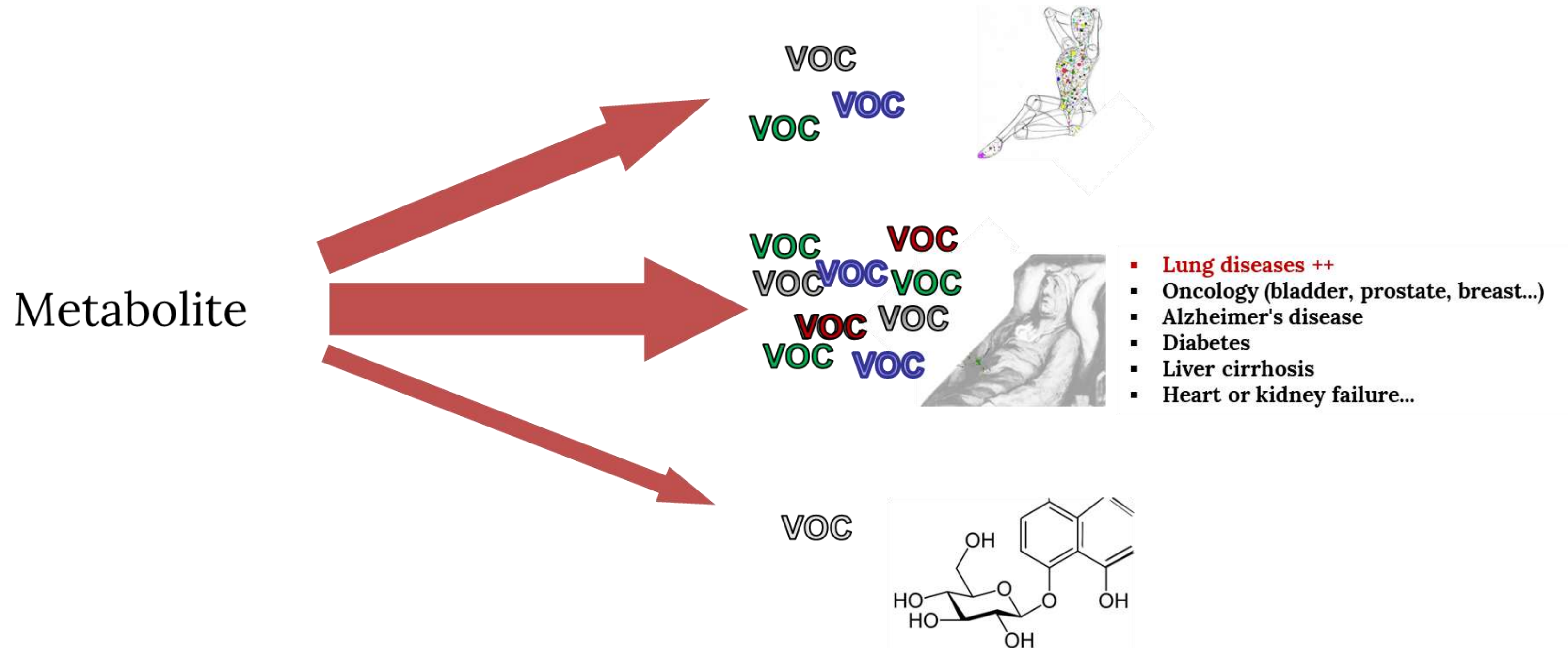


## Breath signatures

- ▶ Diagnostics
- ▶ Endotyping
- ▶ Treatable traits





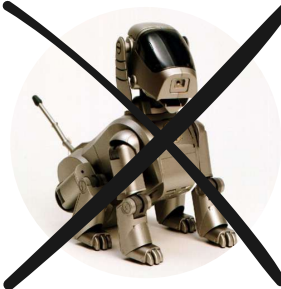




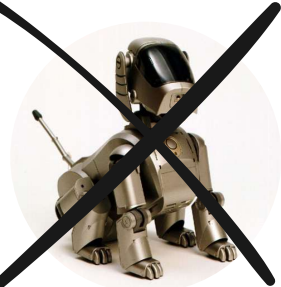
# The science behind

By analysing **Volatile Organic Compounds** in breath we gain access to patient-specific information:  
Breath-Based Biomarkers











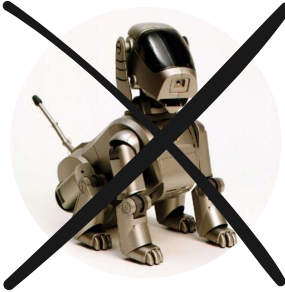




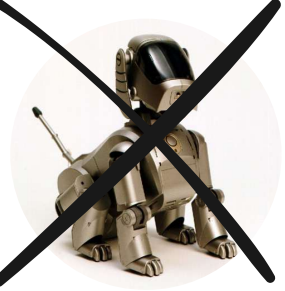


# Current attempts

	Non-invasiveness	Speed	Cost-effectiveness	Accuracy	
E-Noses					
GC-MS					

- ▶ **GC-MS (Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry):** A technique that separates and identifies compounds in a sample based on their mass.
- ▶ **E-Noses (Electronic Noses):** Devices that mimic the human sense of smell to detect and identify complex odors and volatile organic compounds through sensor arrays and pattern recognition algorithms.

# Current attempts

	Non-invasiveness	Speed	Cost-effectiveness	Accuracy	
					
<b>E-Noses</b>					
<b>GC-MS</b>					

- ▶ **GC-MS (Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry):** A technique that separates and identifies compounds in a sample based on their mass.
- ▶ **E-Noses (Electronic Noses):** Devices that mimic the human sense of smell to detect and identify complex odors and volatile organic compounds through sensor arrays and pattern recognition algorithms.

# A novel approach



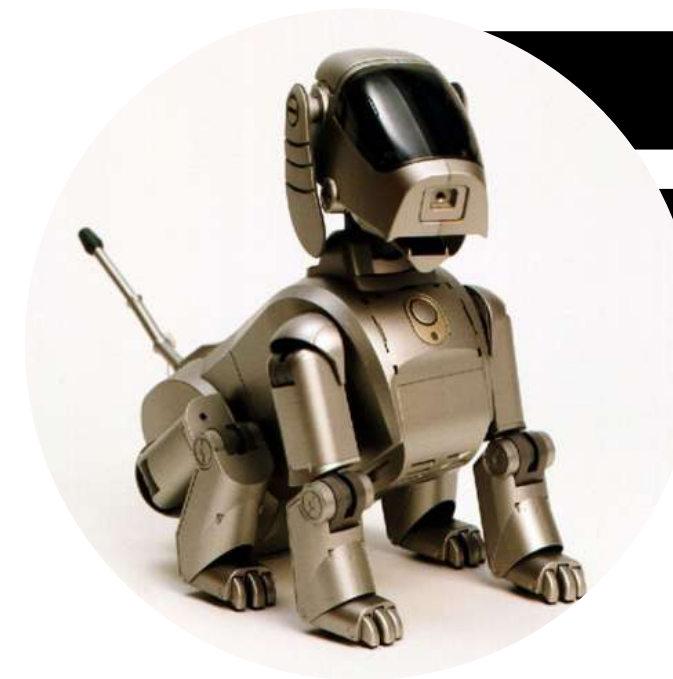
World's most advanced real-time gas analyzer

Perfect for our Robotic Dog?



## Current utilization

- ▶ Air quality monitoring
- ▶ Biological research
- ▶ Semiconductors



✓ Non-invasive


✓ Rapid

✓ Cost-effective

? Accuracy

In 2018, a team from Hospital Foch and Université Paris - Saclay / UVSQ medicine faculty partnered together to **explore a different technological approach**

# Real-time breath analysis

 *Diagnosis in < 1 minute*



**Early diagnosis**

**Phenotyping**

**Monitoring**

**Drug response**

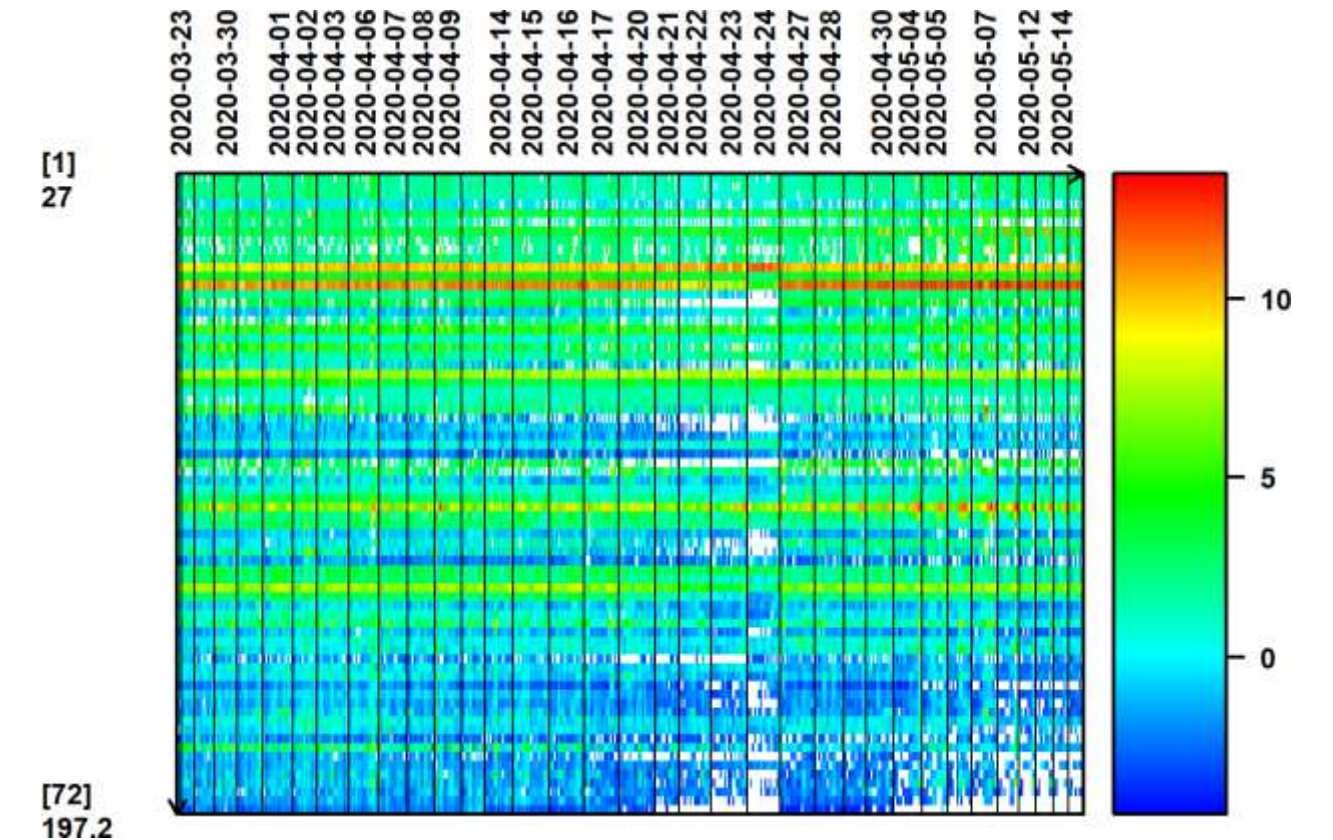


# COVID-19

## RECORDS study: intubated, mechanically ventilated patients

Longitudinal analysis of exhaled breath from 40 ARDS patients: 299 measurements

	COVID-19 ARDS	Non-COVID-19 ARDS
Number of patients ( <i>n</i> )	28	12
Males/females ( <i>n</i> )	20/8	6/6
Age (years)	61 [55-72]	72 [54-79]
Body weight (kg)	80.0 [66.6-87.6]	86.5 [65.3-94.1]
Height (cm)	170 [164-175]	173 [169-175]
Body mass index (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	26.3 [23.7-32.4]	28.9 [23.0-30.9]
SAPS II score in the first 24 hours	62 [49-68]	46 [40-57]
SOFA score in the first 24 hours	11 [7-12]	8 [5-12]





Bioinformatics, 2022, 1930–1937  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/bioinformatics/btad001>  
 Advance Access Publication Date: 19 January 2022  
 Original Paper

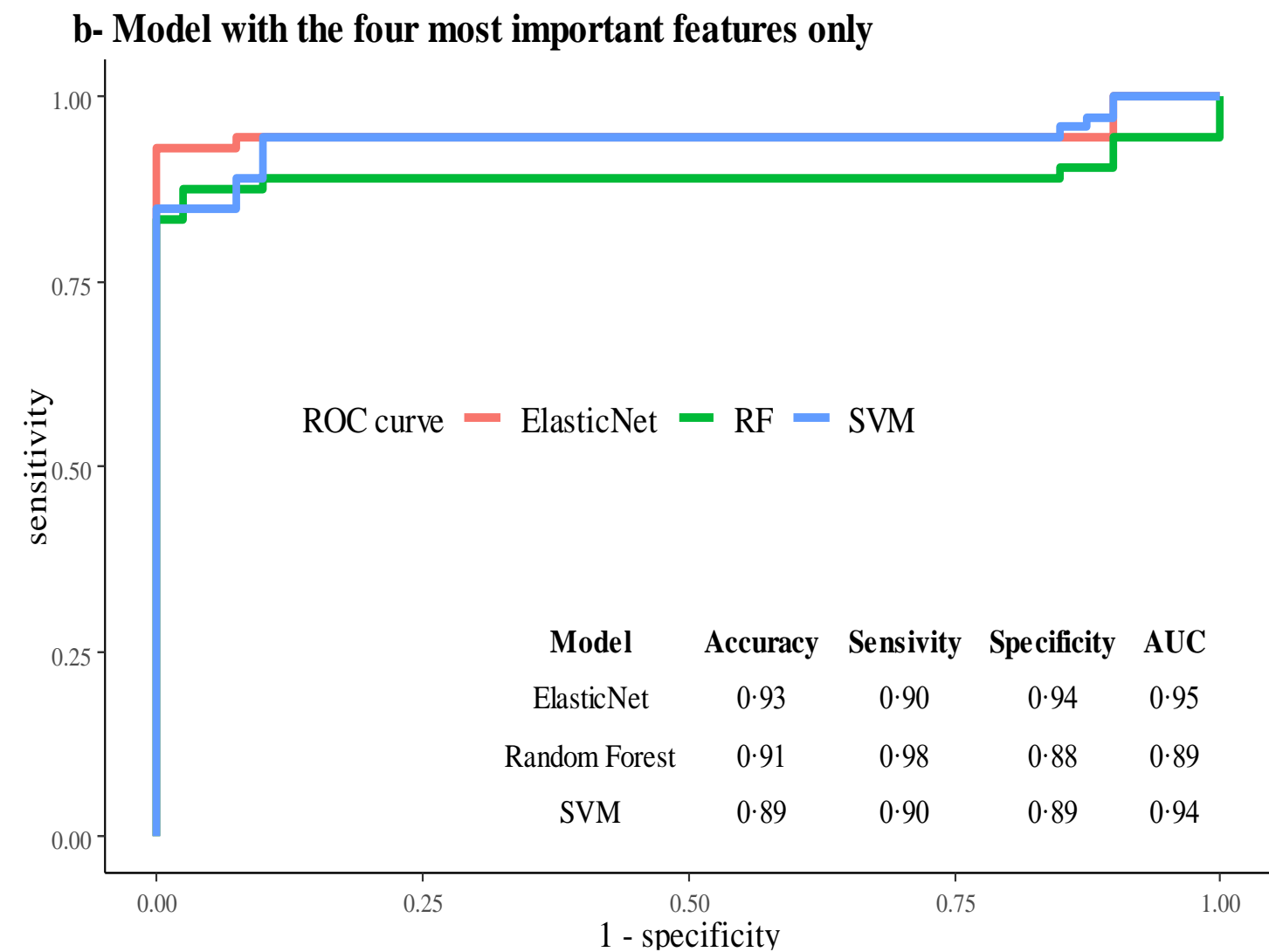
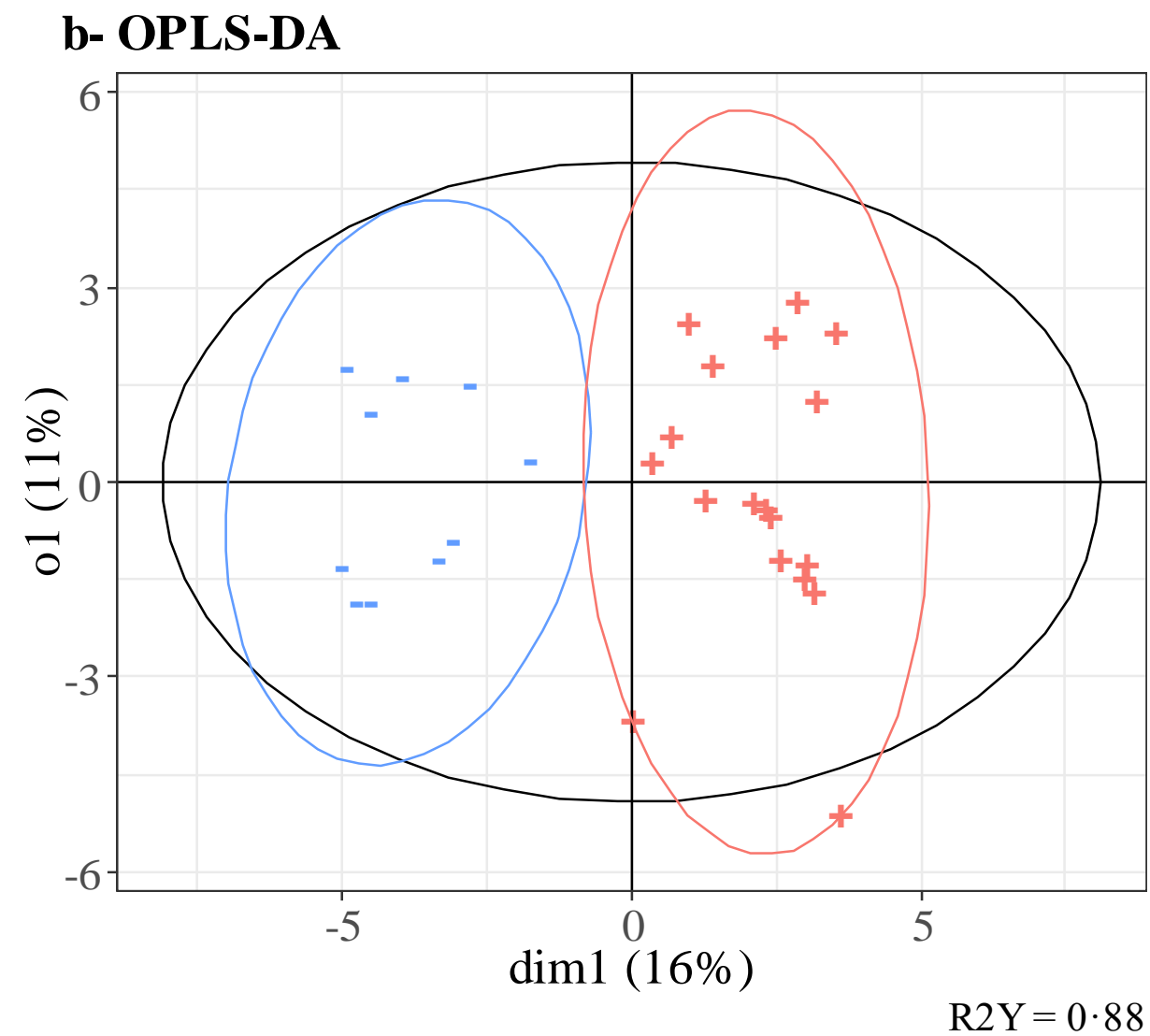
---

Gene expression  
**ptairMS: real-time processing and analysis of PTR-TOF-MS data for biomarker discovery in exhaled breath**  
 Camille Roquencourt <sup>1,\*</sup>, Stanislas Grassin-Delyle <sup>2,3,4</sup> and Etienne A. Thévenot <sup>5</sup>

# COVID-19

## RECORDS study: intubated, mechanically ventilated patients

Longitudinal analysis of exhaled breath from 40 ARDS patients: 299 measurements



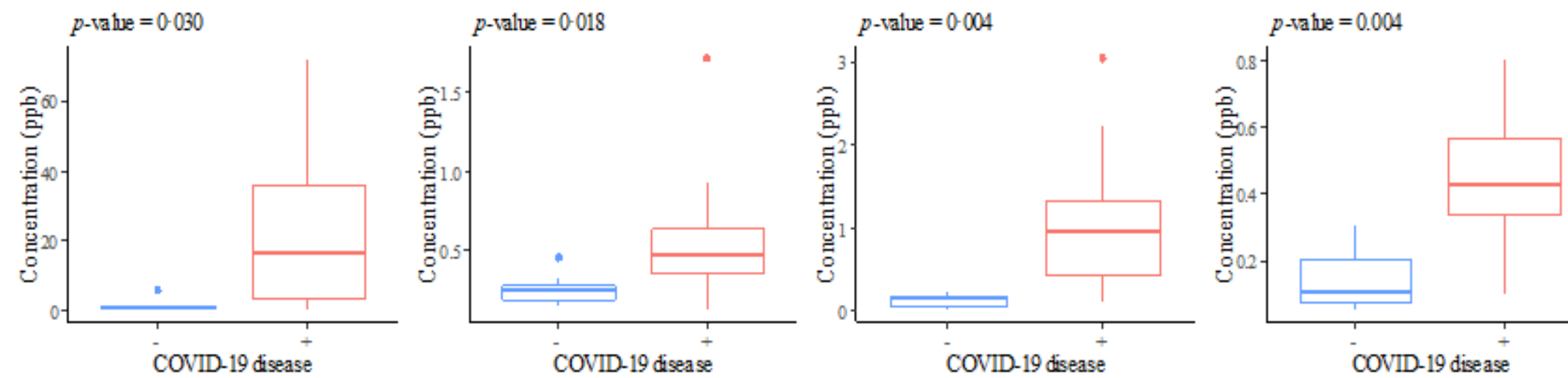
# COVID-19

## RECORDS study: intubated, mechanically ventilated patients

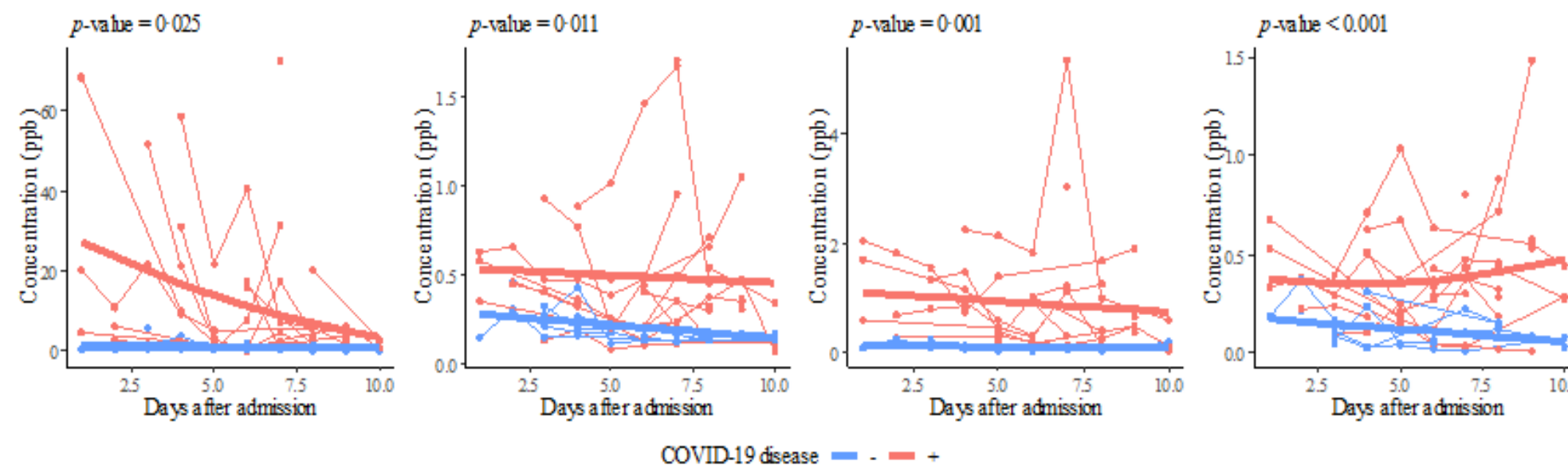
Longitudinal analysis of exhaled breath from 40 ARDS patients: 299 measurements

### Longitudinal analysis

a- First acquisition per patient



b- Longitudinal modeling



# COVID-19



Is artificial-intelligence-enhanced real-time MS breath analysis a reliable, safe, rapid means of screening **ambulatory patients** for COVID-19?



# COVID-19



	COVID - (n = 106)	COVID + (n = 67)	p value
Sex (M/F)	50/56	31/36	1
Age	46 ± 18	56 ± 14	<0.001
Patients / volunteers (n)	97 / 9	67 / 0	-
Presence of: (n (%))			
- Fever	15 (14.2%)	32 (47.8%)	<0.001
- Cough	12 (11.3%)	39 (58.2%)	<0.001
- Dyspnoea	12 (11.3%)	34 (50.7%)	<0.001
- Anosmia	3 (2.8%)	10 (14.9%)	0.003
- Ageusia	1 (0.9%)	7 (10.4%)	0.004
- Fatigue	8 (7.5%)	30 (44.8%)	<0.001
- Aches	6 (5.7%)	17 (25.4%)	<0.001
<b>Symptom score:</b>	0.32 ± 0.66	2.2 ± 1.1	<0.001
Medical history: (n (%))			
- High blood pressure	12 (11.3%)	19 (28.4%)	0.008
- Asthma	3 (2.8%)	9 (13.4%)	0.018
- Overweight	5 (4.7%)	8 (11.9%)	0.144
- Diabetes	5 (4.7%)	7 (10.4%)	0.255
- Organ transplant	1 (0.9%)	4 (6.0%)	0.055
Previous COVID-19 infection	12 (11.3%)	0 (0%)	-
COVID-19 vaccination:	79 (74.6%)	13 (19.4%)	<0.001
Previous treatment with corticosteroids	5 (4.7%)	33 (49.3%)	<0.001

- **Two prospective, open, interventional studies**
- University hospital: Foch Hospital, Suresnes, France
- **Metabolomic analysis of exhaled breath vs RT-PCR**
- Proton transfer reaction time-of-flight mass spec.
- **Artificial intelligence** and machine learning techniques

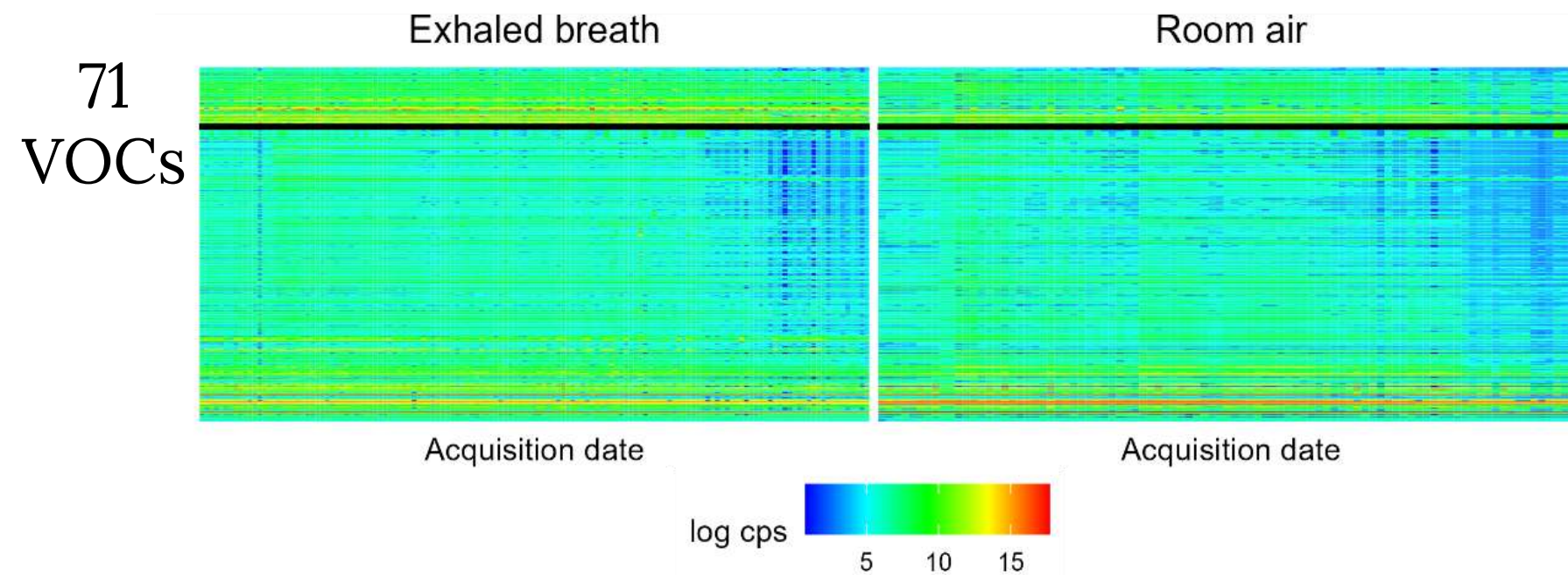
173 participants

# COVID-19

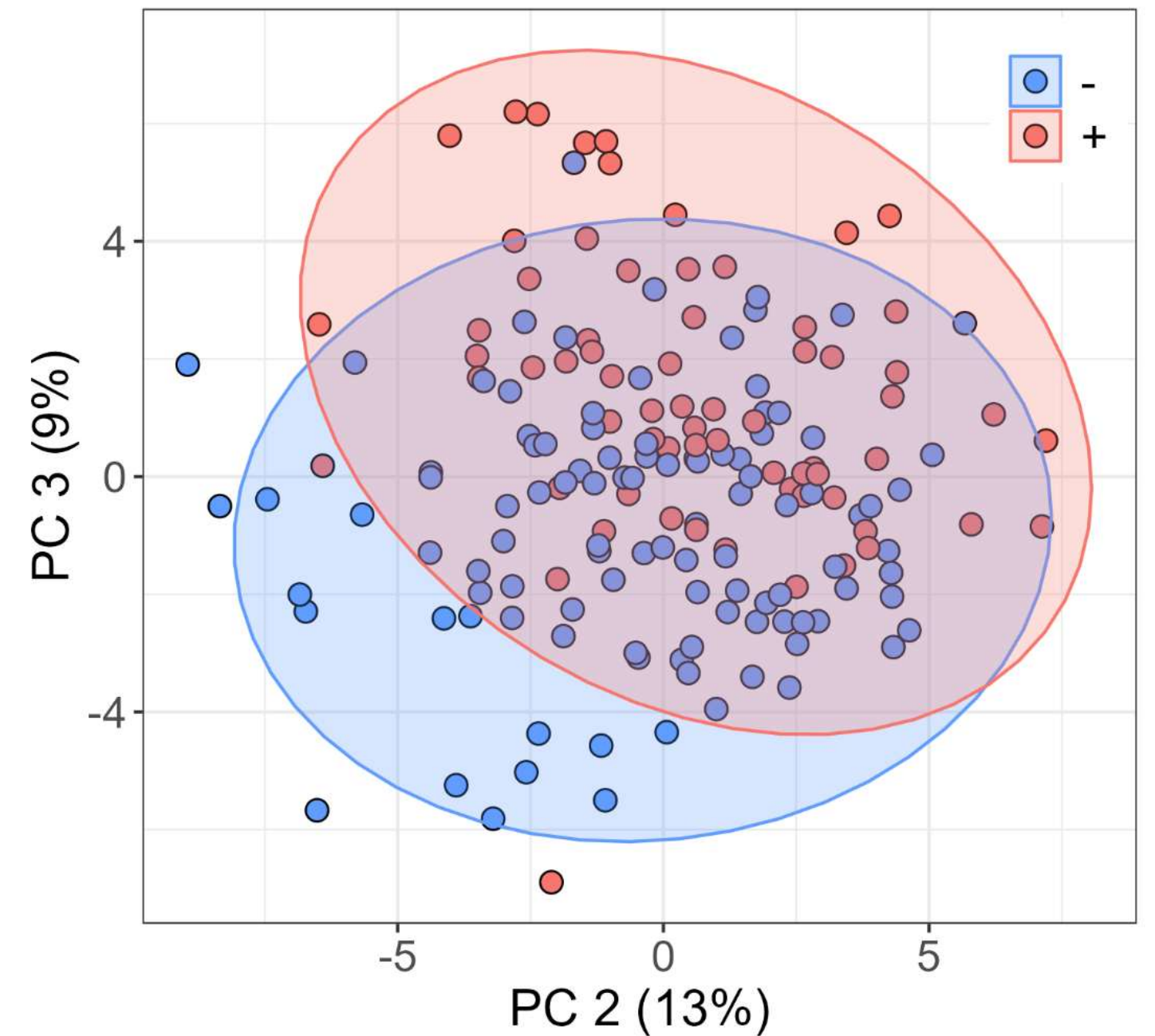


## Volatile organic compounds

347 features detected



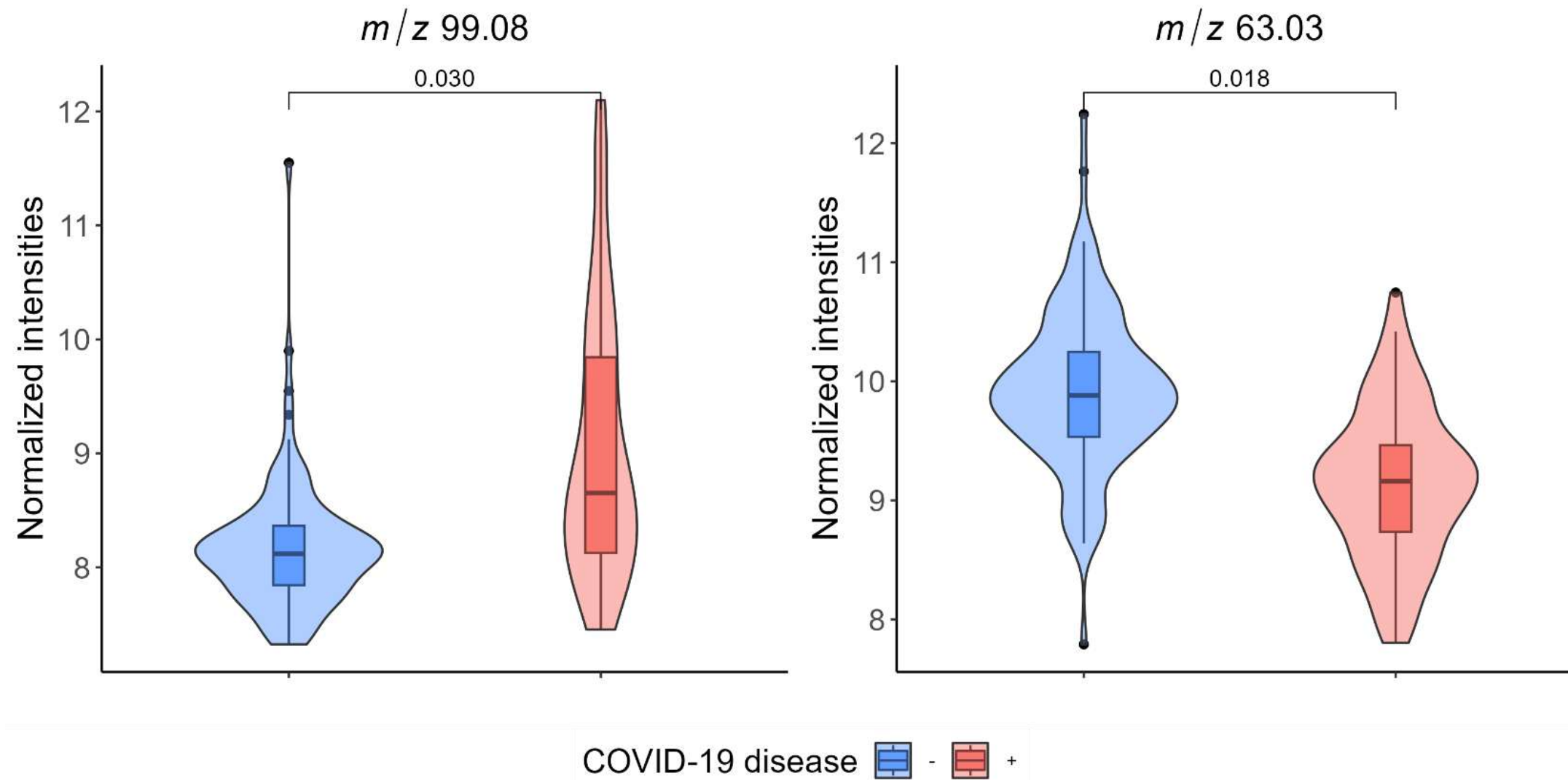
## Unsupervised analysis



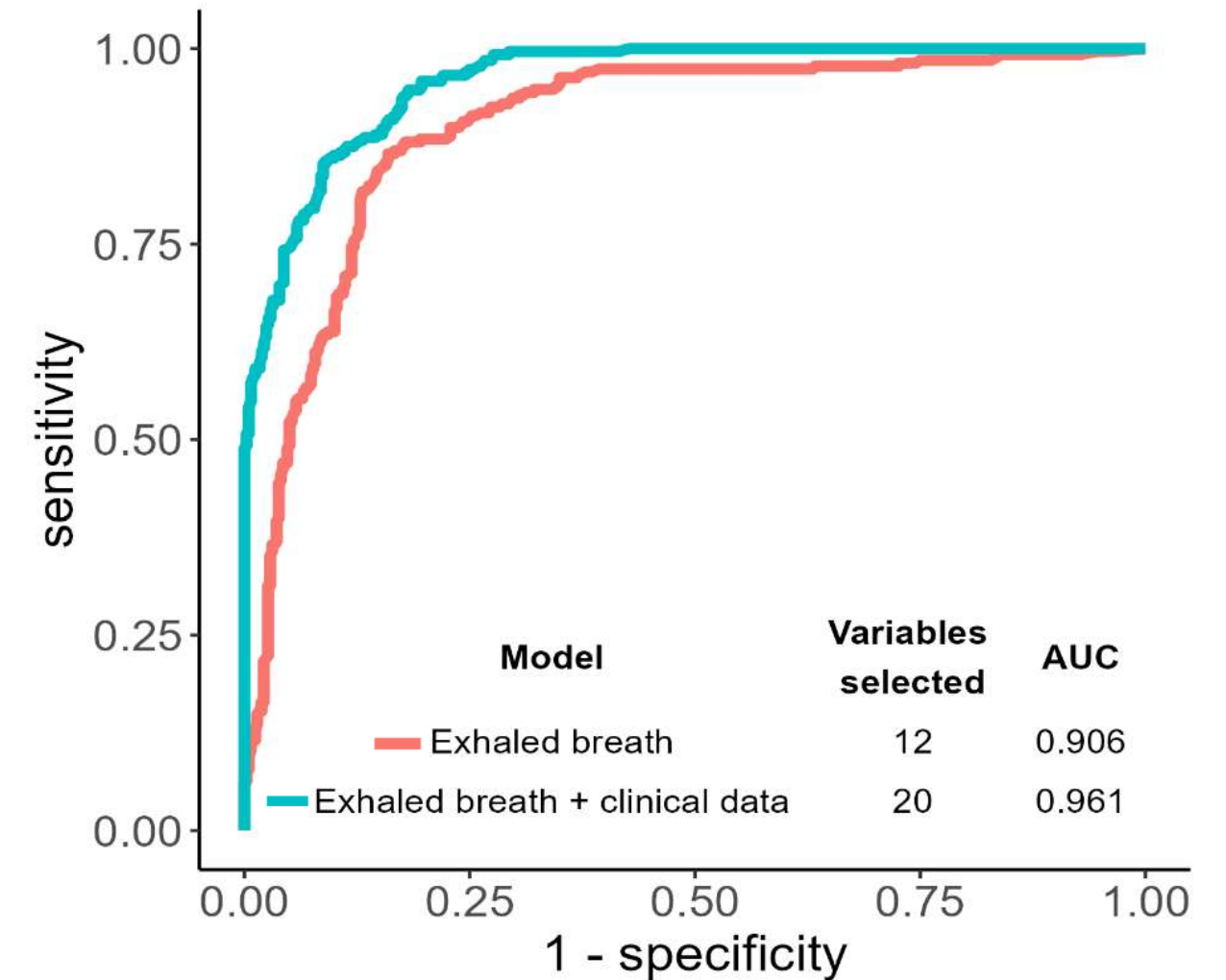
# COVID-19



## Set of VOC biomarkers



## Diagnostic performance

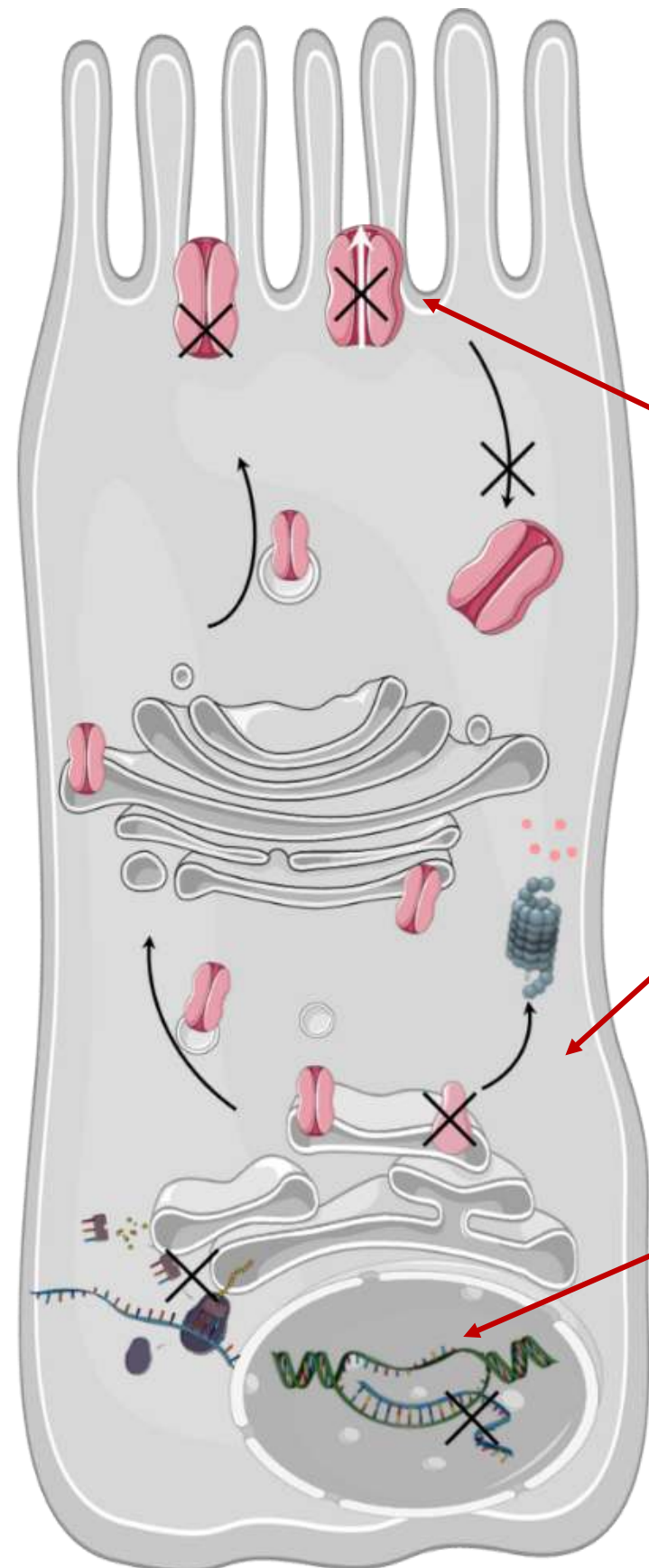


Predictive performance similar for asymptomatic, weakly symptomatic and symptomatic participants and not biased by the COVID-19 vaccination status

**Sensitivity: 98%** **Specificity: 74%**  
**Negative predictive value: 98%**  
Positive predictive value: 72%

**IA for combining breath analysis and patient metadata** → predictive performances improved

# Cystic fibrosis: drug therapy with CFTR modulators



Impaired functioning or stability

Impaired trafficking

**F508del**

Impaired production

**G542X**

- Potentiators: Ivacaftor
- Correctors: Tezacaftor + Elexacaftor

**Kaftrio®**

➤ CFTR modulators restore the CFTR protein at the membrane

*Pranke et al, Front Pharmacol. 2019*

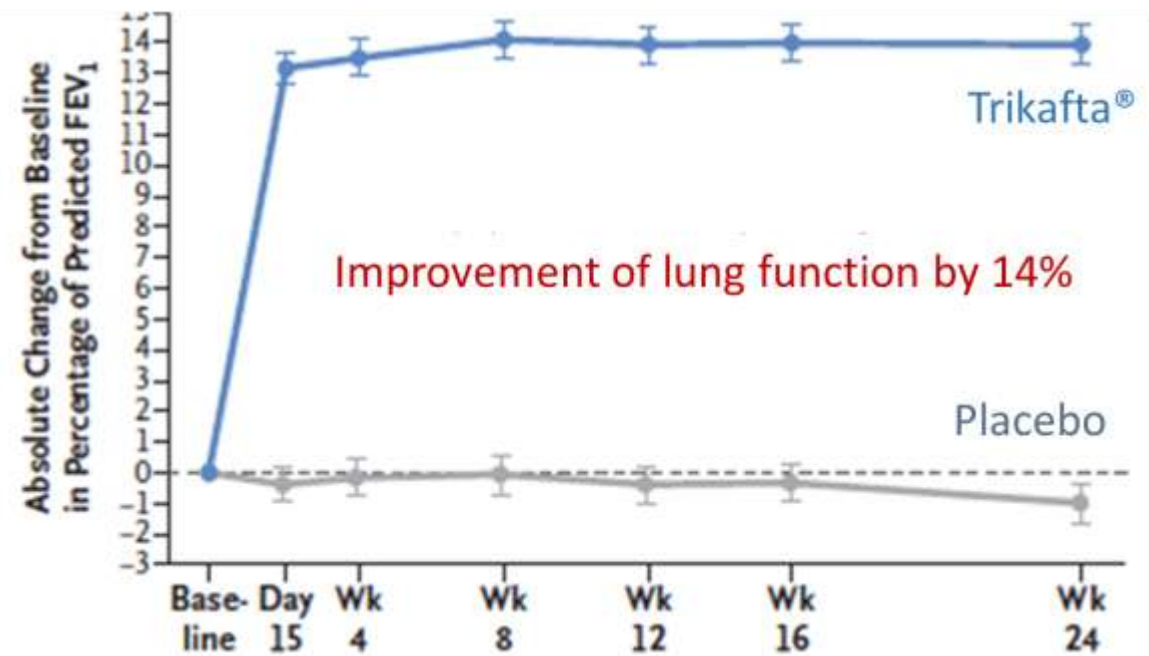


**Projet Emmanuelle Bardin**

Collaboration I. Sermet (Necker) + S. Fowler (U. Manchester)

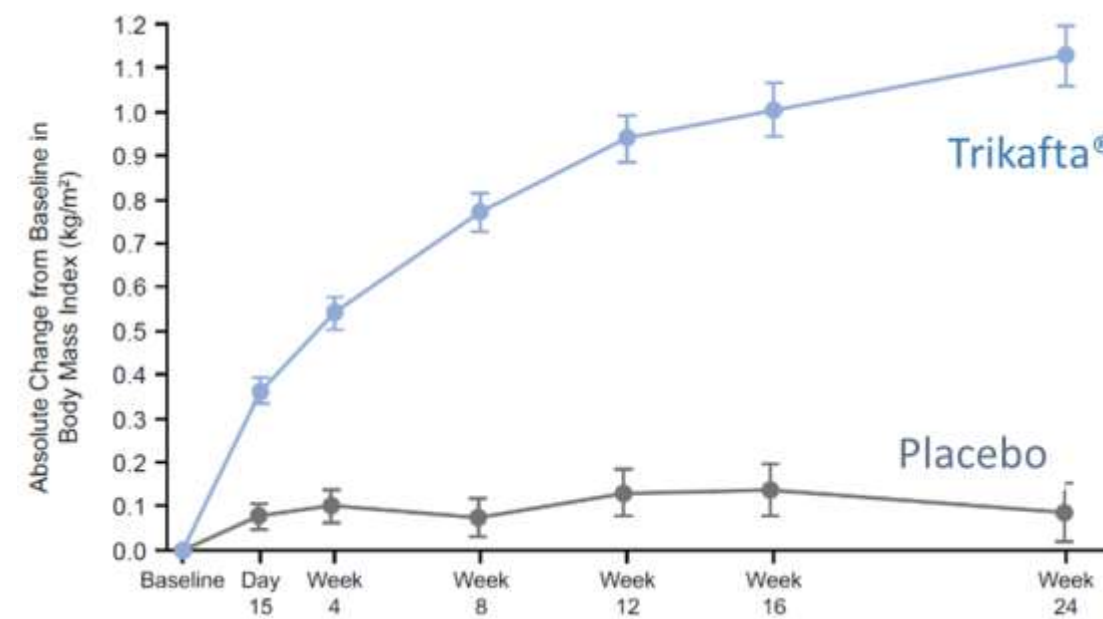
# Cystic fibrosis: drug therapy with CFTR modulators

## ➤ Lung function

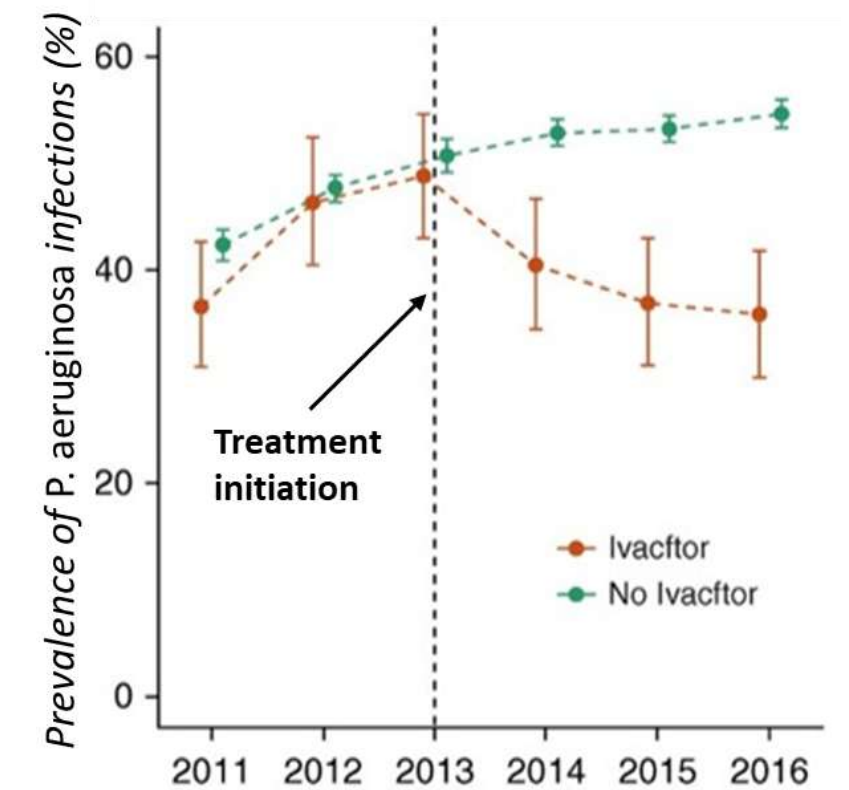


Middleton et al, NEJM 2019

## ➤ BMI



## ➤ Infection rate

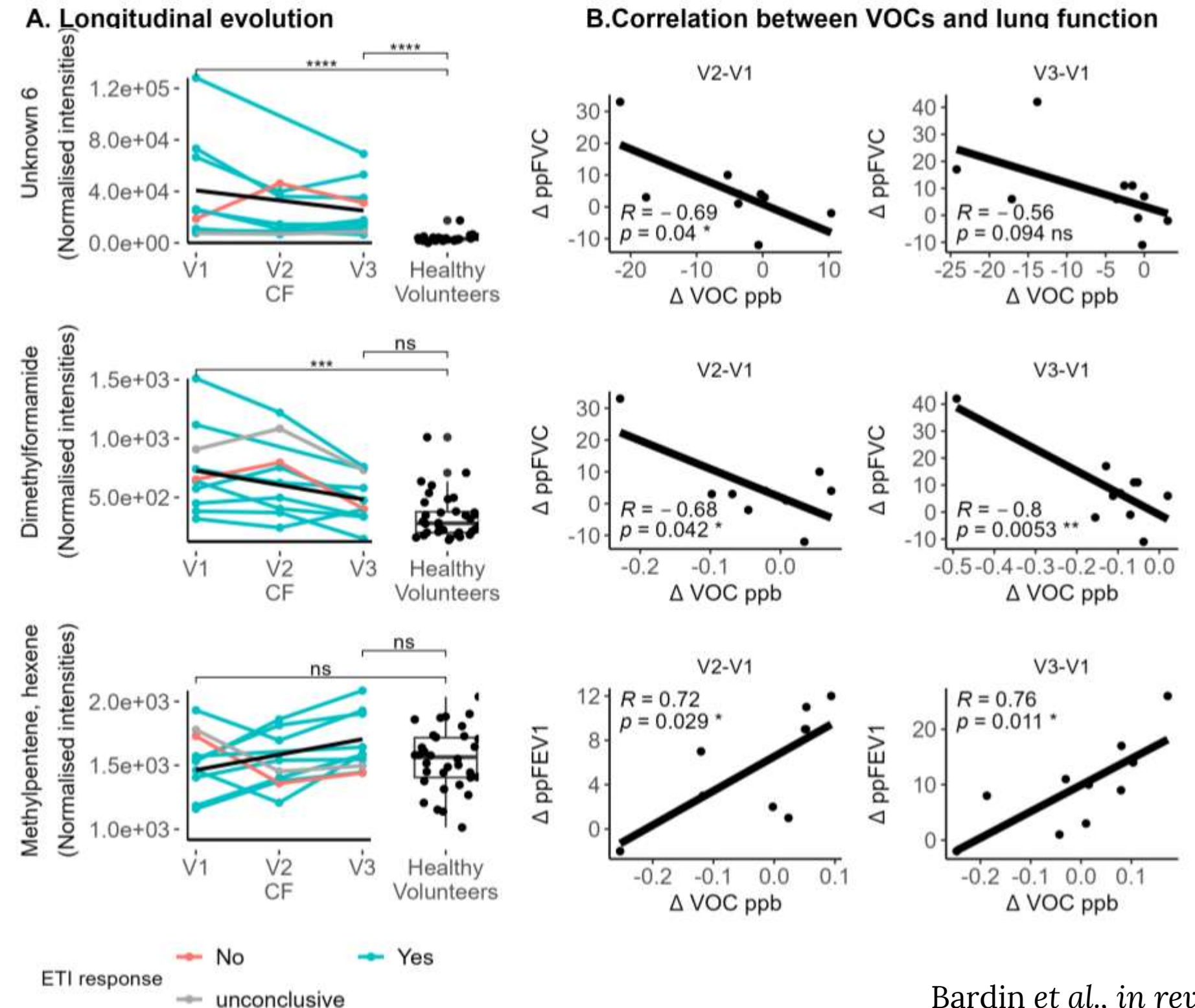
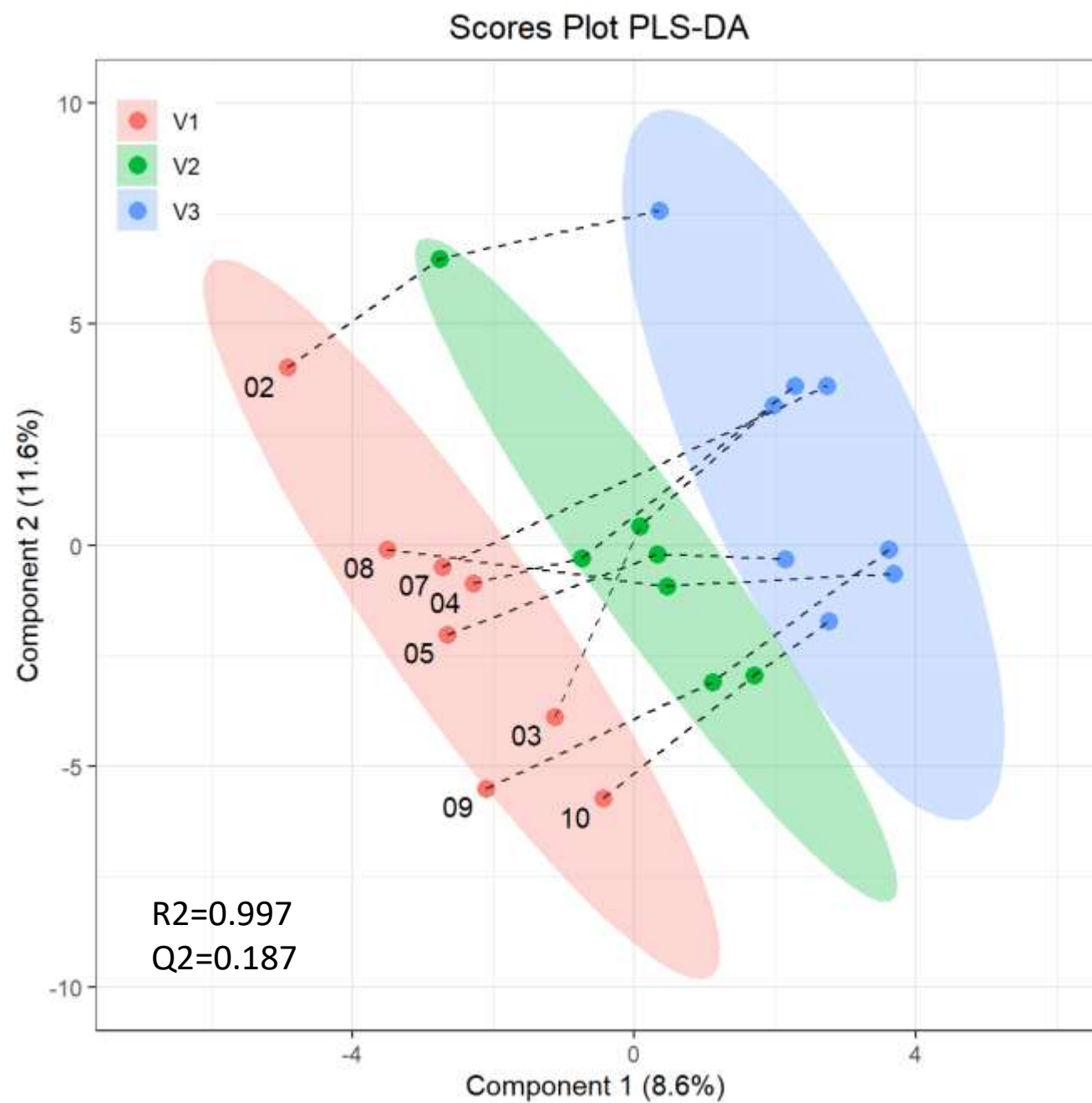


Frost et al. Annals American Thorac Soc 2019

⇒ Identification / monitoring of responders / non-responders?

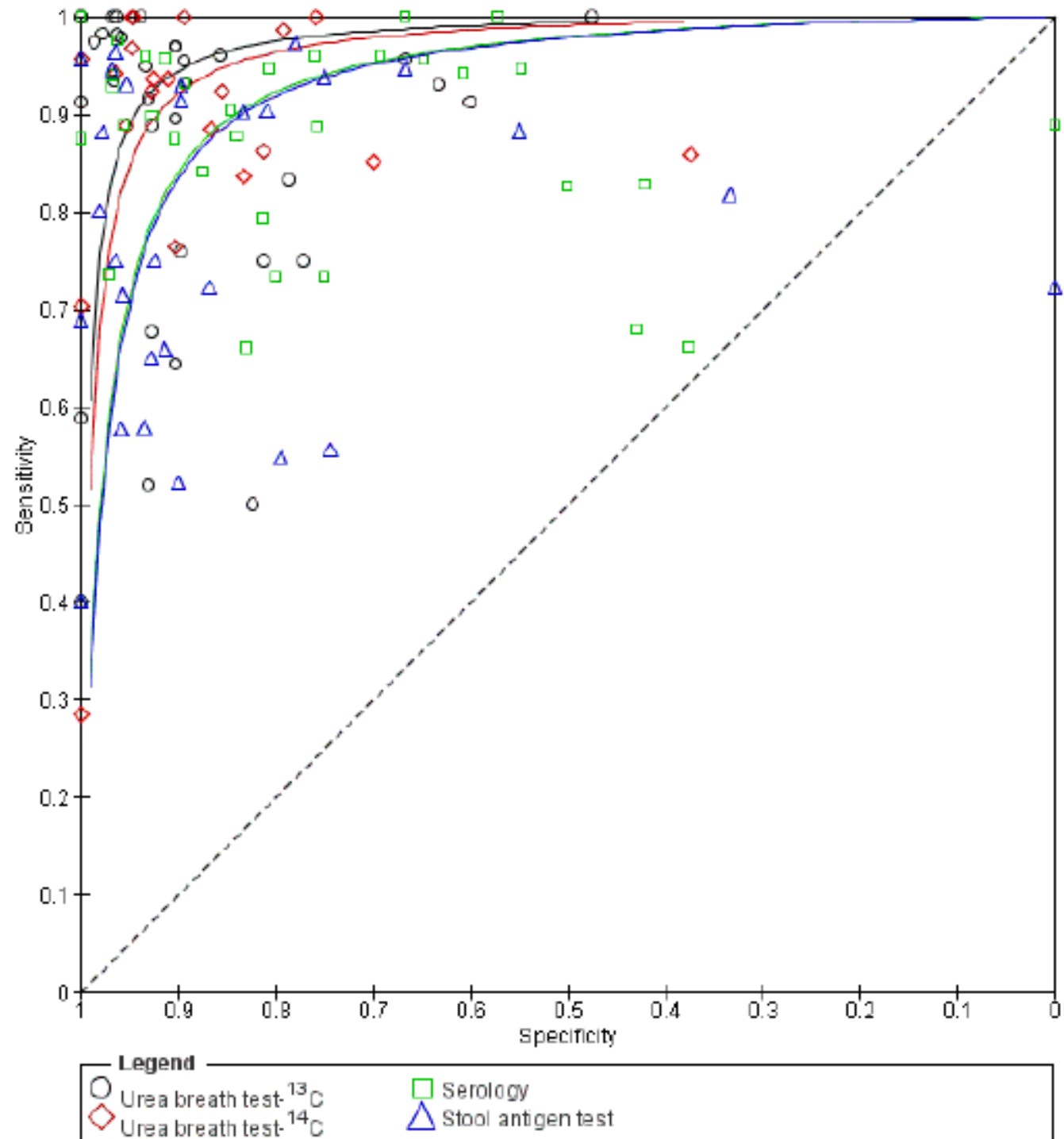
# Cystic fibrosis: drug therapy with CFTR modulators

## VOC-Kaftrio study: adult cohort (10) initiating ETI



# Current tests: offline breath analysis

## Urea test for the diagnosis of *Helicobacter pylori* infection



PERTINENCE DES SOINS

Diagnostic de l'infection par  
*Helicobacter pylori* chez l'adulte

Mai 2017

→ Le test respiratoire est performant pour le diagnostic avant traitement et pour le contrôle d'éradication mais il n'est remboursé que pour le contrôle d'éradication.

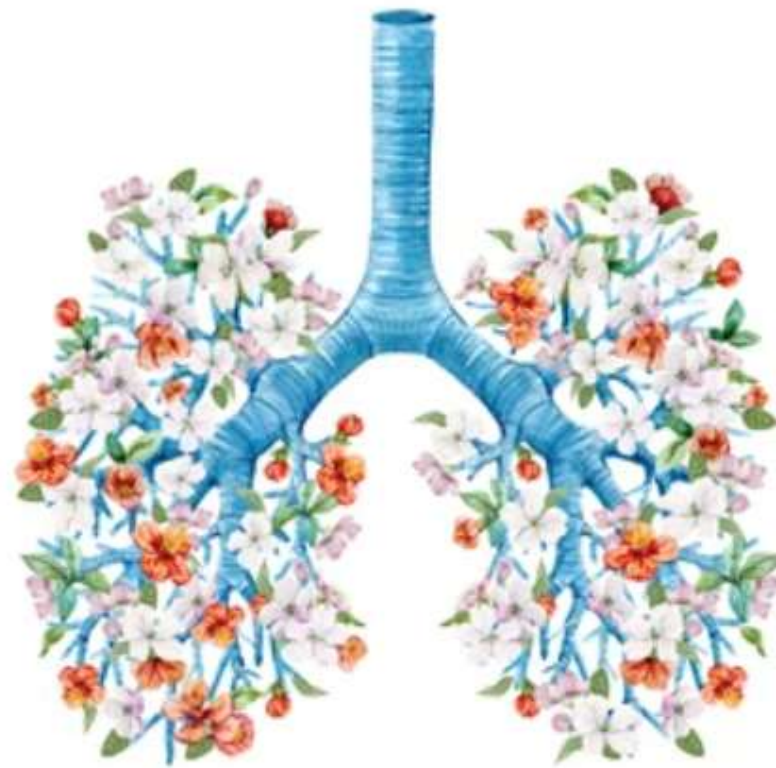
# Real-time breath diagnostic tests

Meets most of **REASSURED** criteria from WHO for an ideal test that can be used at the point-of-care





# Thank You



UFR Simone Veil - Santé  
CAMPUS DE SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES

