

# “IL LISOSOMA: UN REOSTATO DEL METABOLISMO CELLULARE”

**Andrea Ballabio**

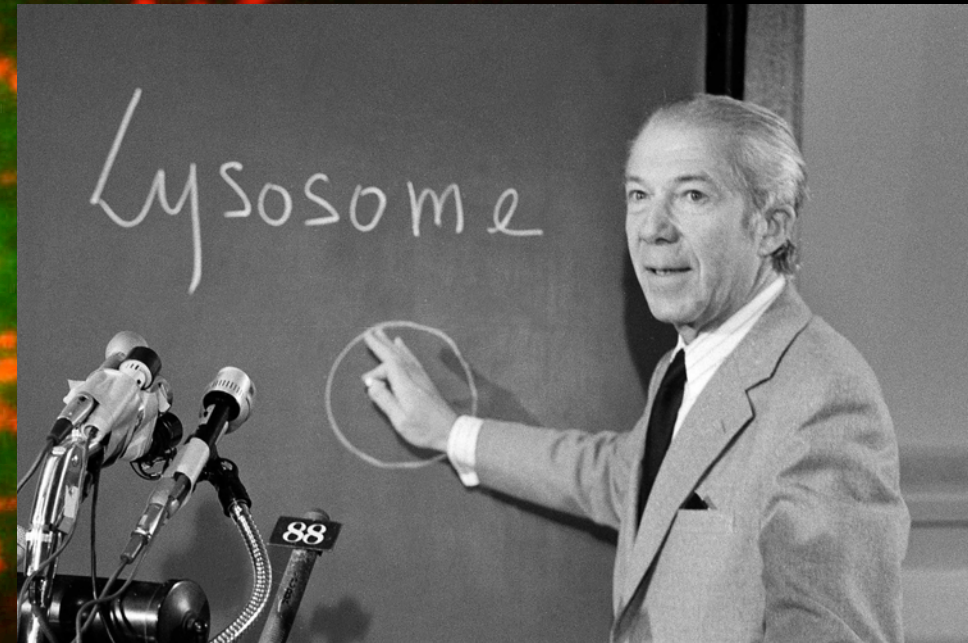
Telethon Institute of Genetics and Medicine (TIGEM),  
Federico II University of Naples, Italy

Neurological Research Institute, Baylor College of  
Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA

CASMA Therapeutics, Boston, MA, USA

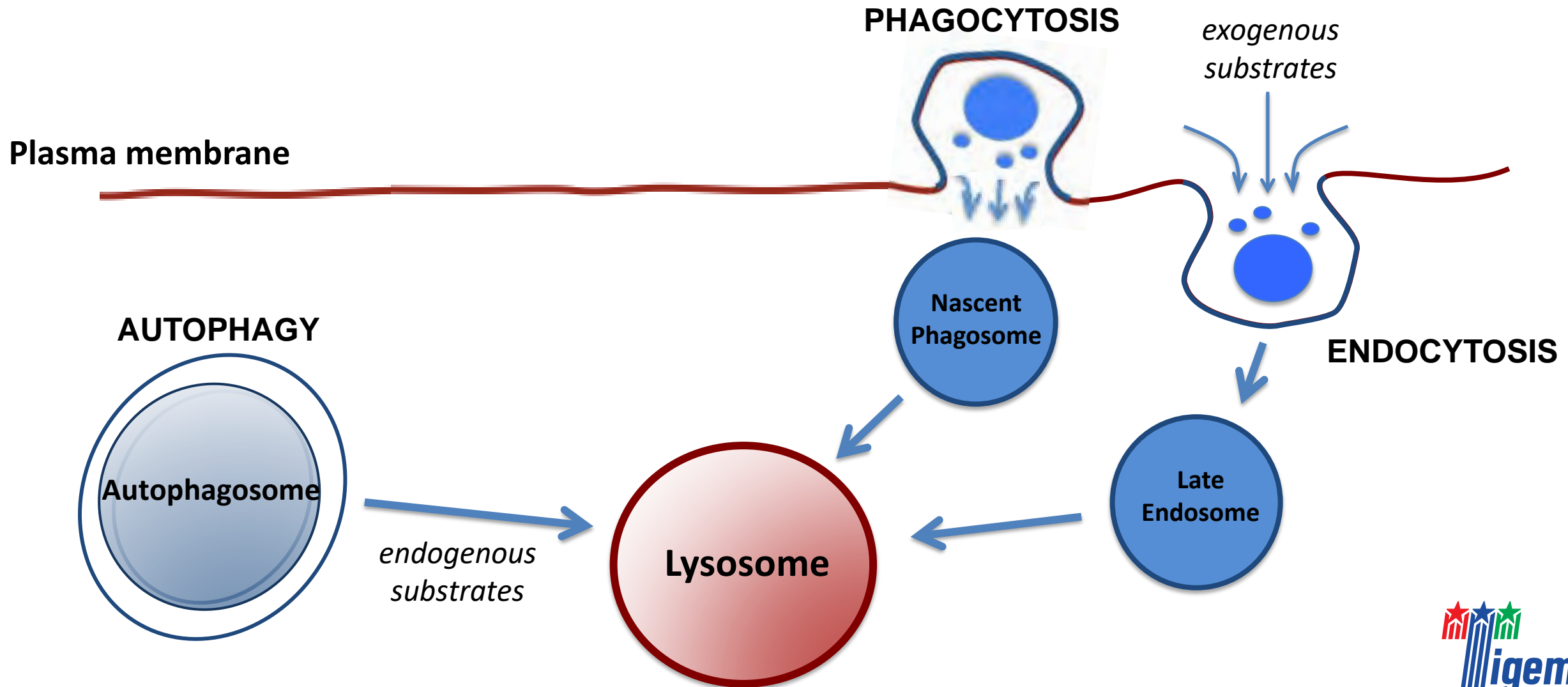
Accademia dei Lincei,  
Roma, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022

LAMP1  
TFEB

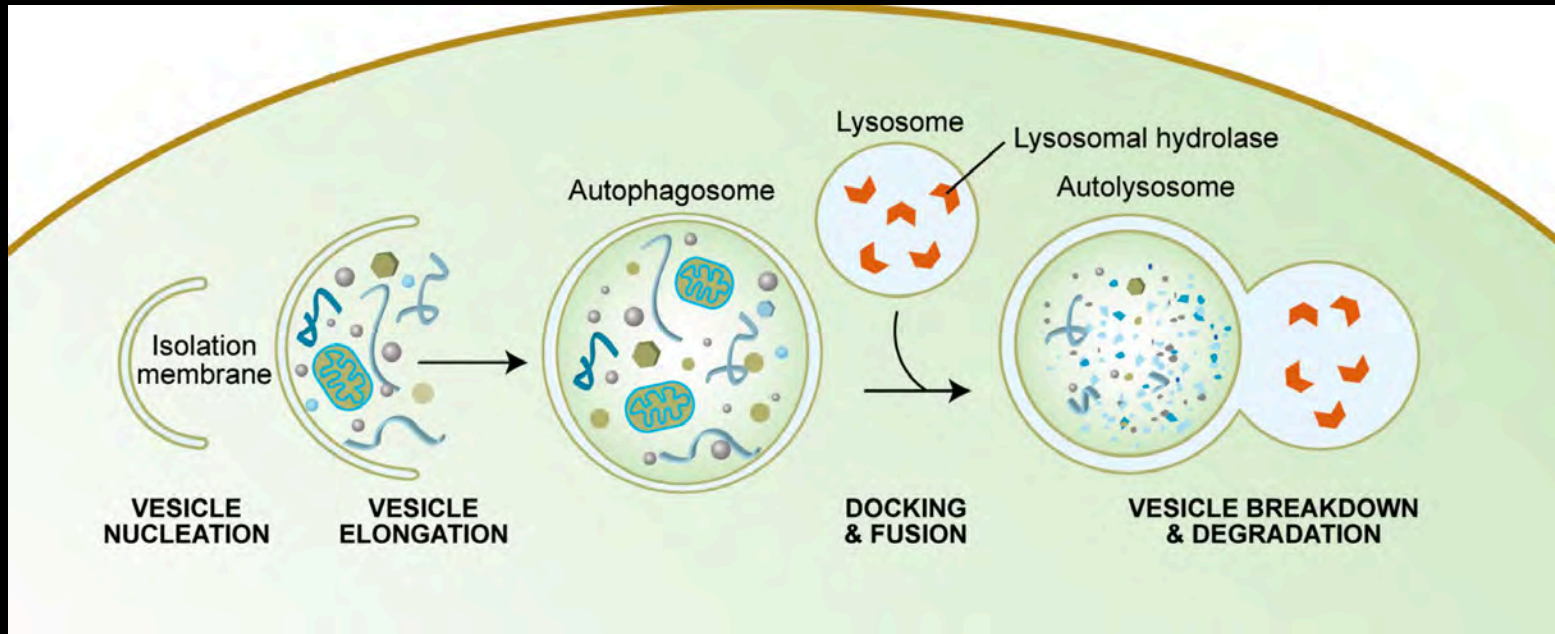


Christian de Duve  
1974 Nobel Prize  
in Physiology or Medicine

# The lysosome in degradation and recycling processes



# The autophagy pathway



# Traditional view of the lysosome



- the “end” of cellular catabolic pathways (the one who does the dirty job....)
- a static organelle: not subject to regulation, not influenced by environmental cues

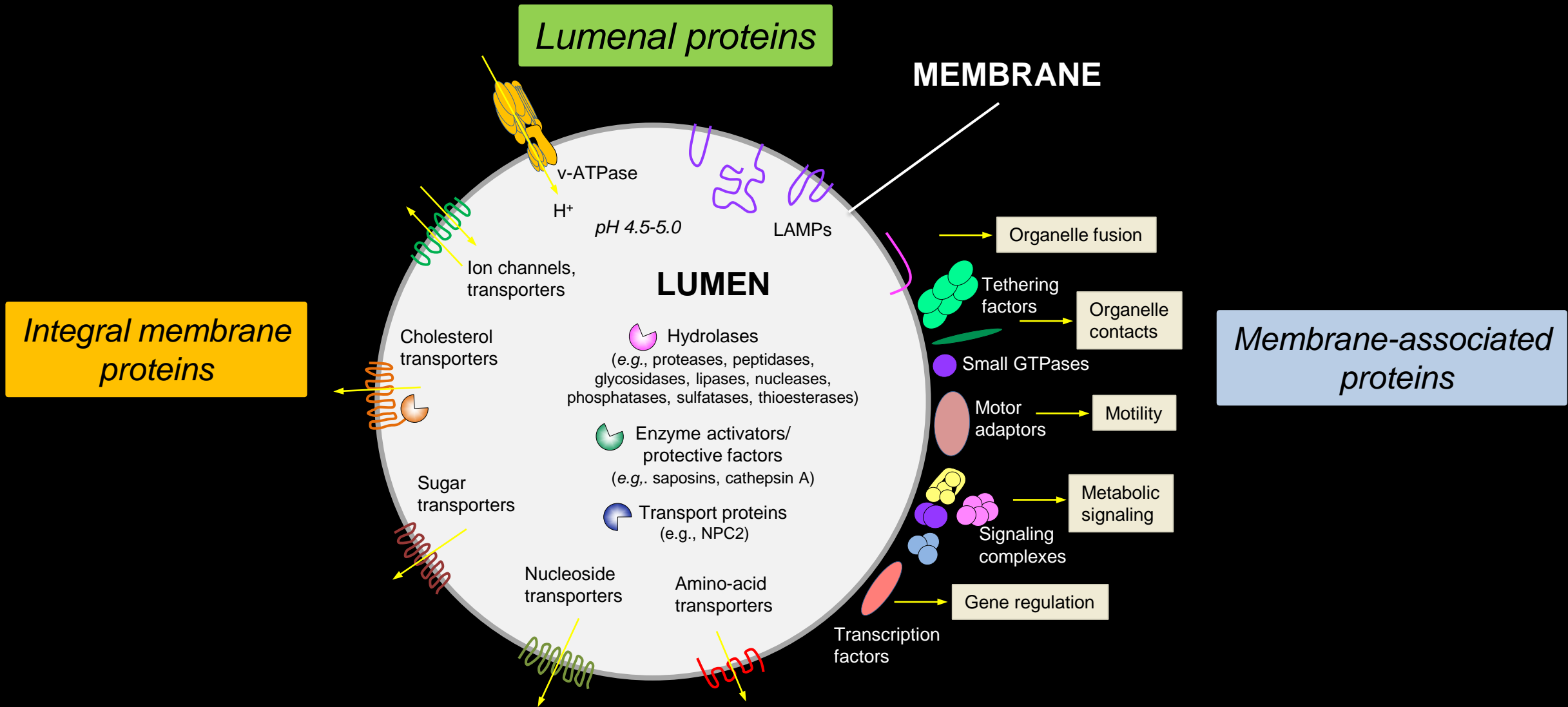
# OUR HYPOTHESIS

The lysosome is a **dynamic structure**, able to **adapt** to environmental cues.

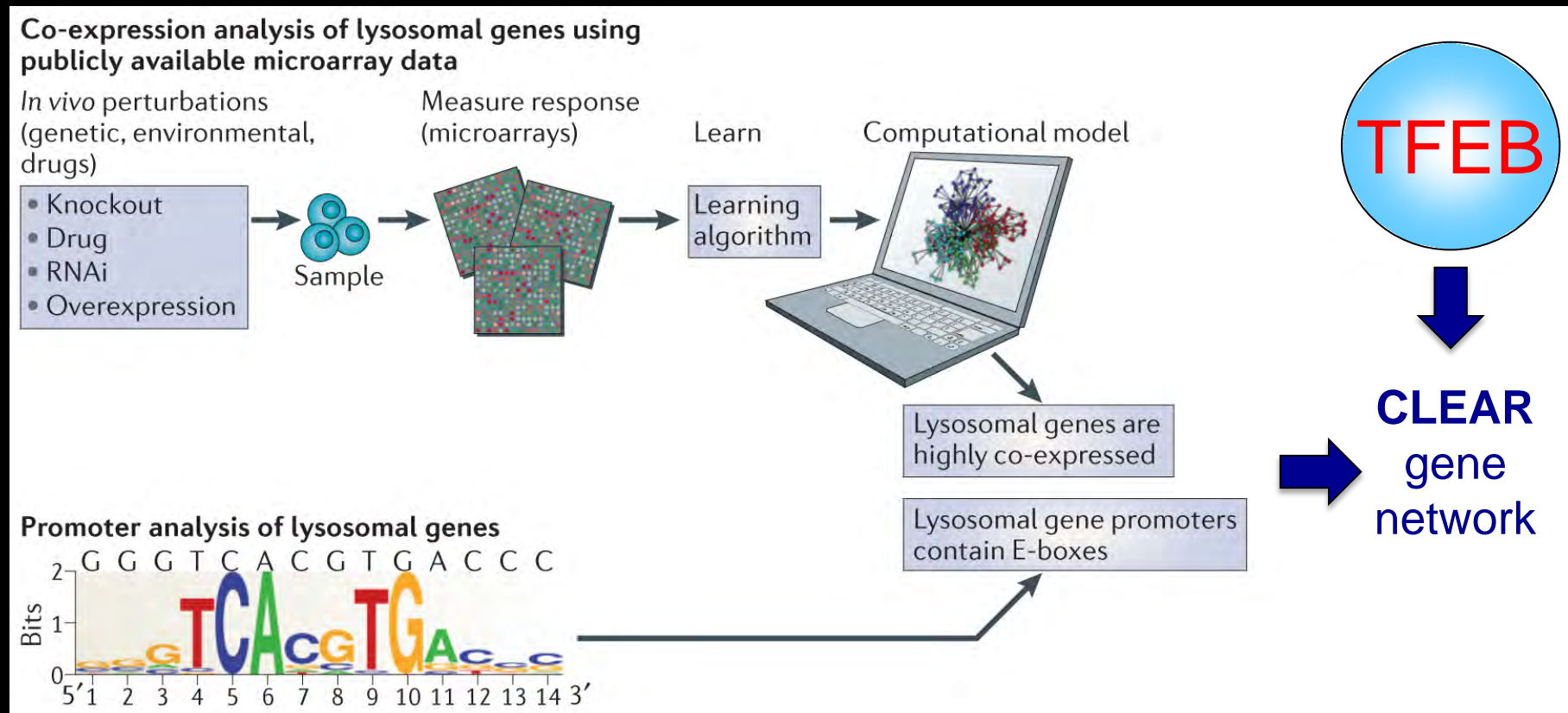
Lysosomal function is subject to a **global control**.

**How does the cell control the function of an entire organelle?**

# LYSOSOMAL PROTEINS

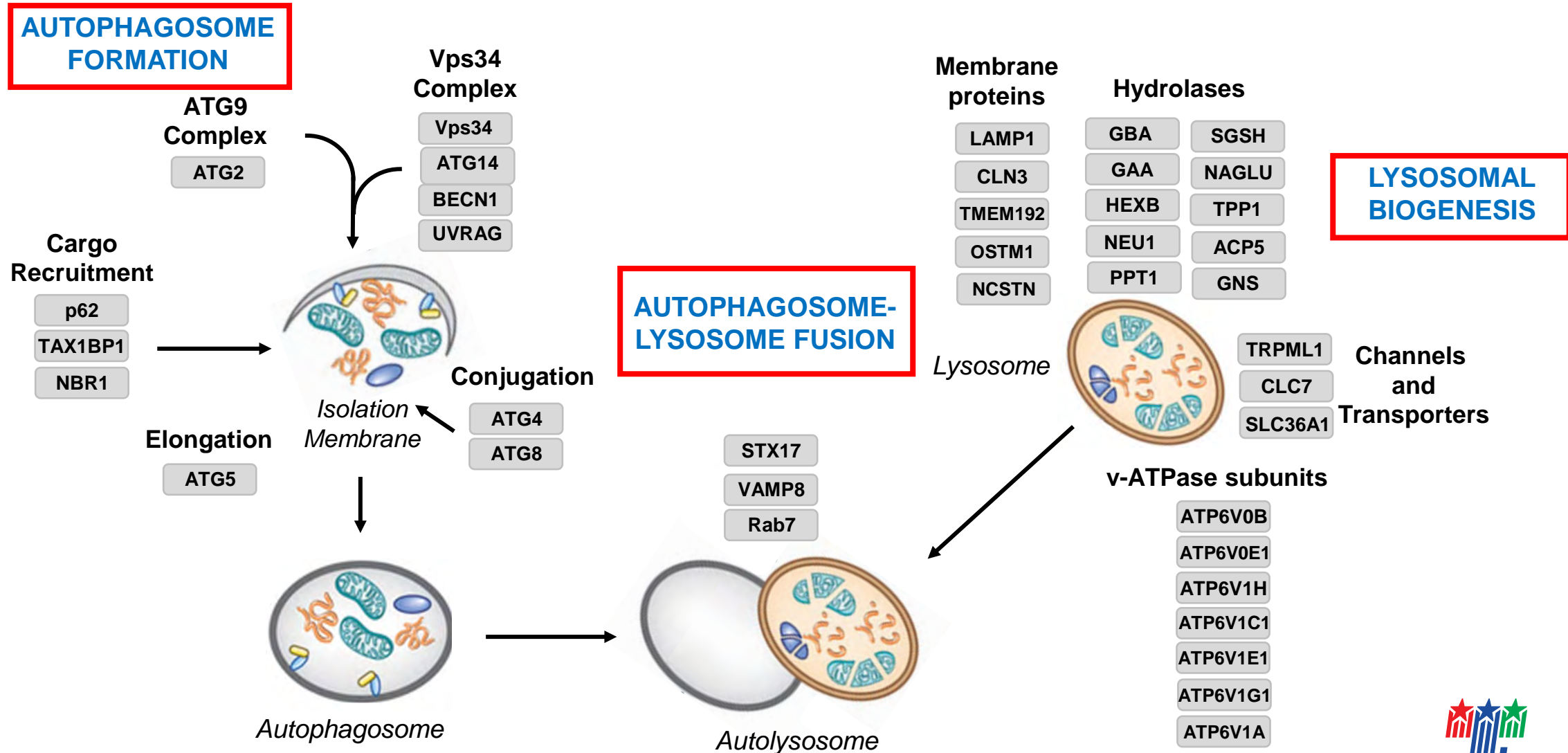


# A Gene Network Regulating Lysosomal Biogenesis and Function

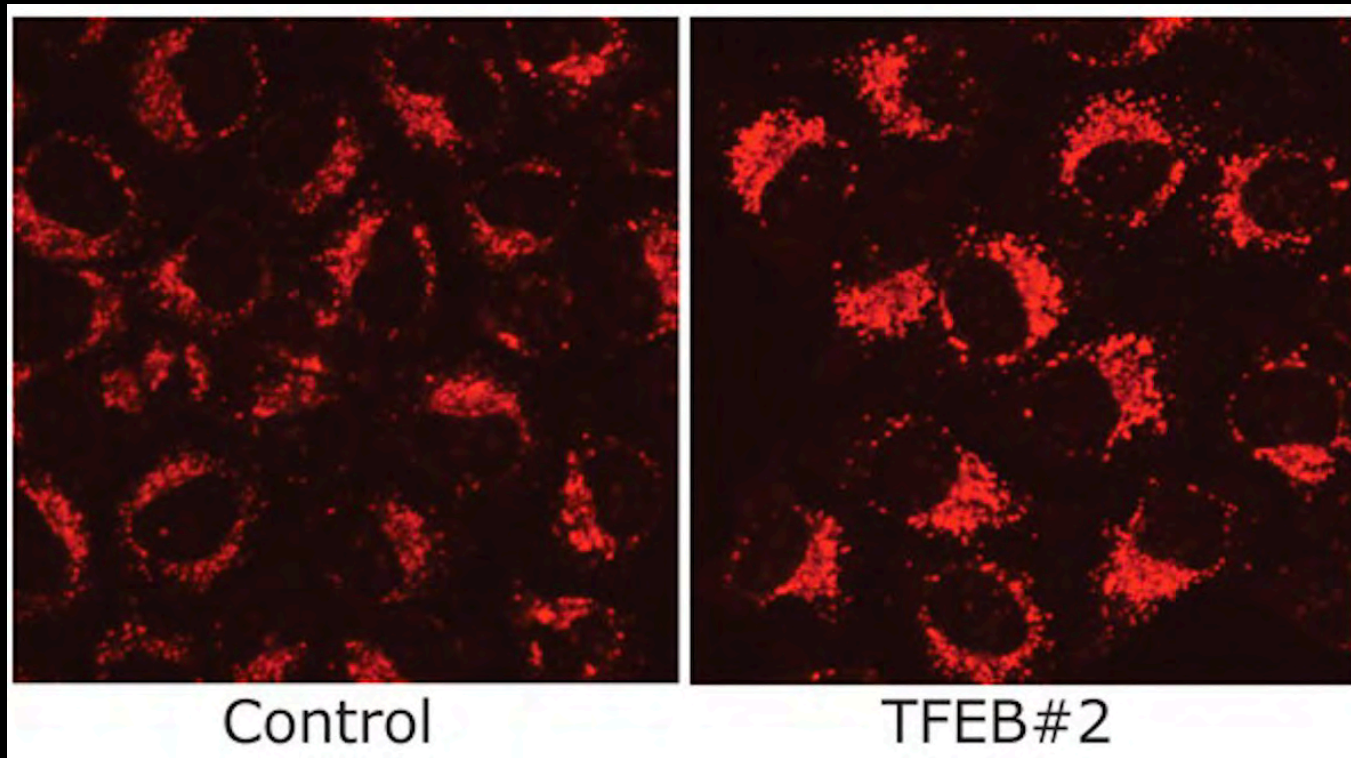




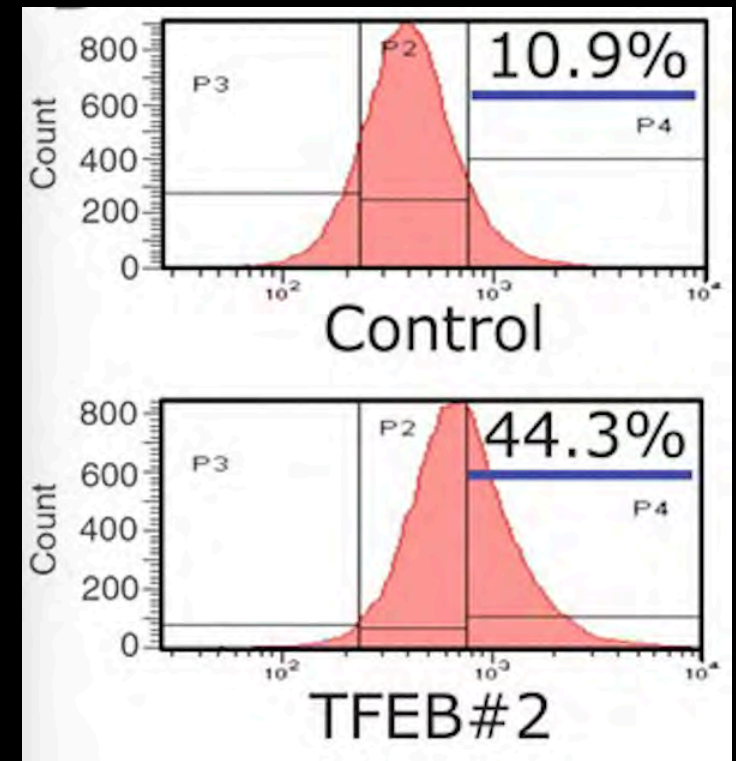
# TFEB controls the lysosomal-autophagic pathway



# TFEB OVEREXPRESSION INDUCES LYSOSOMAL BIOGENESIS



LAMP1 immunofluorescence



LysoTracker staining (FACS)

# Transcription Factor EB

## A Master Regulator of Lysosomal Biogenesis and Autophagy



Lysosomal biogenesis

Autophagy

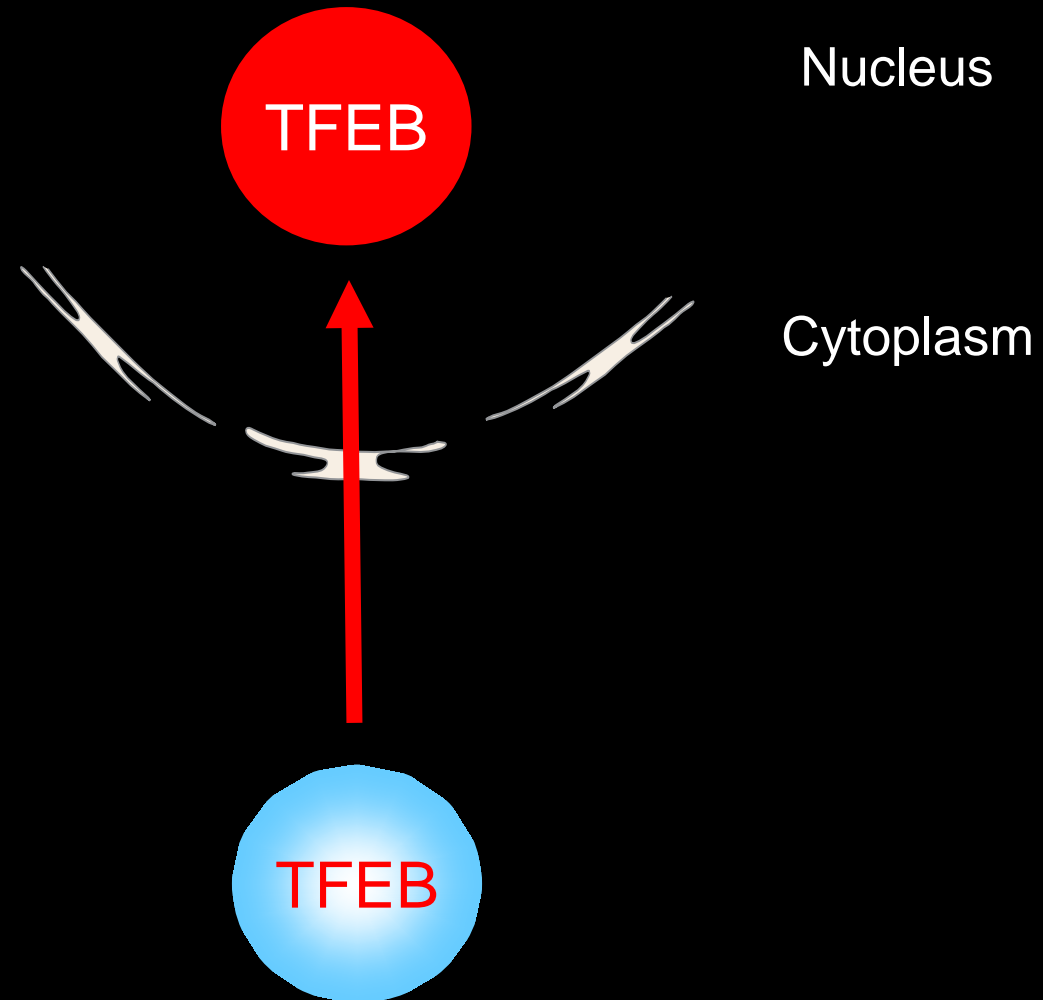
Sardiello et al. *Science* 325: 473-476, 2009

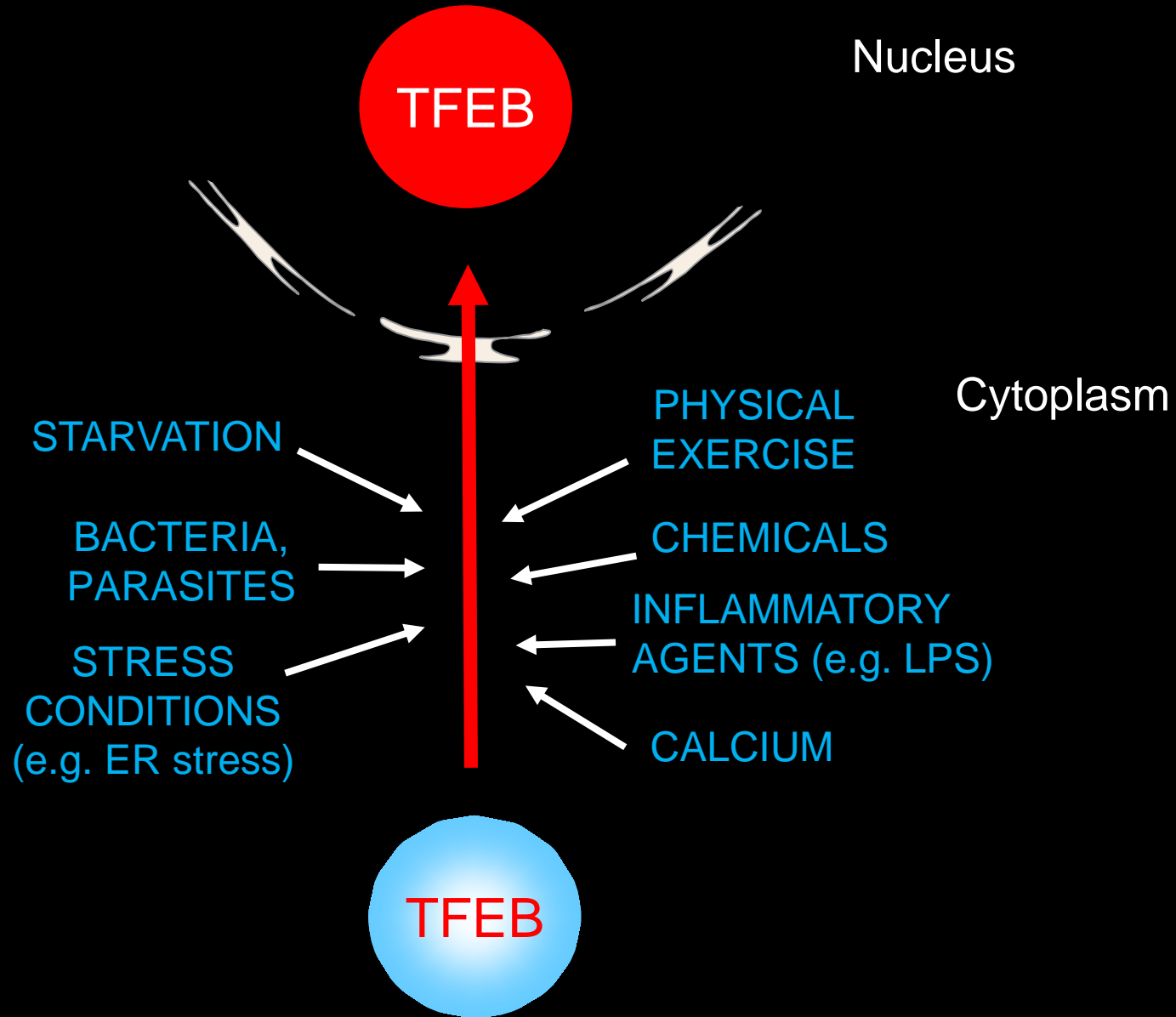
Settembre et al., *Science* 332: 1429-1433, 2011

# Who regulates TFEB?



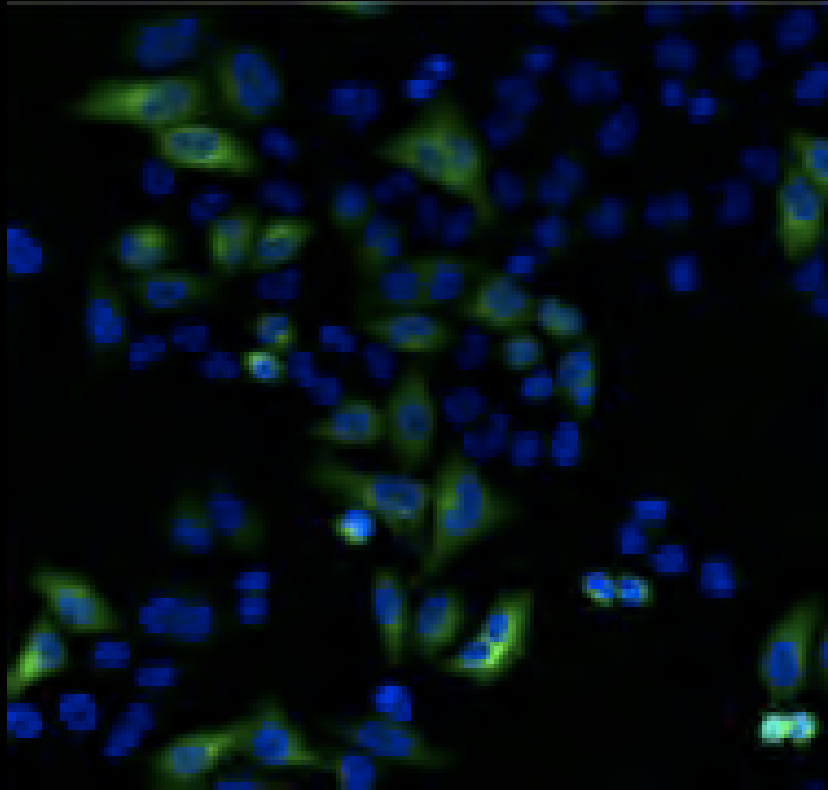
# TFEB ACTIVITY IS REGULATED BY ITS NUCLEO-CYTOPLASMIC SHUTTTLING



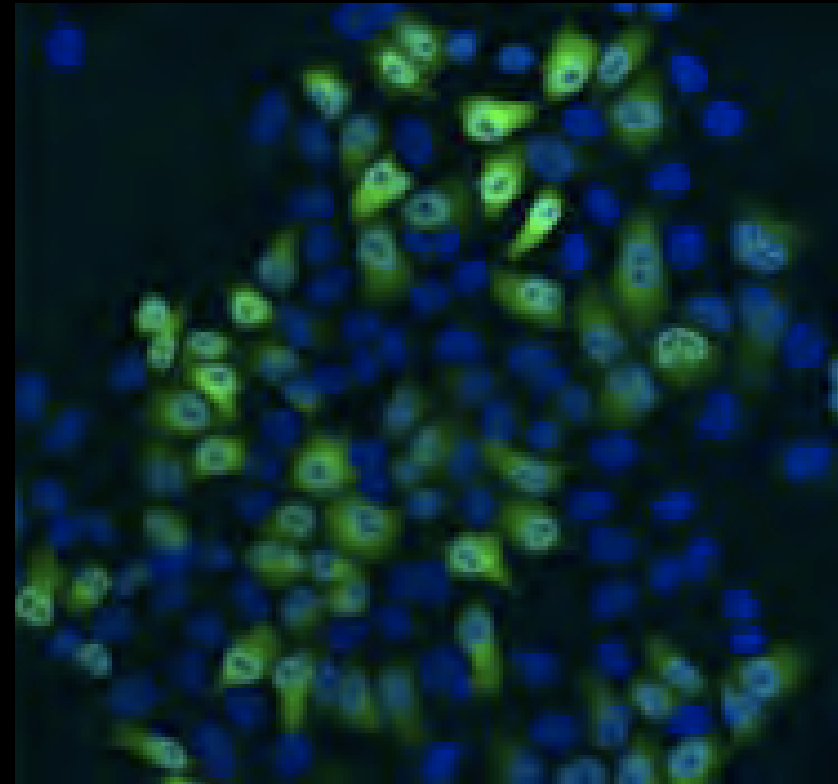


# STARVATION INDUCES TFEB NUCLEAR TRANSLOCATION

HeLa TFEB-3XFLAG transfectants

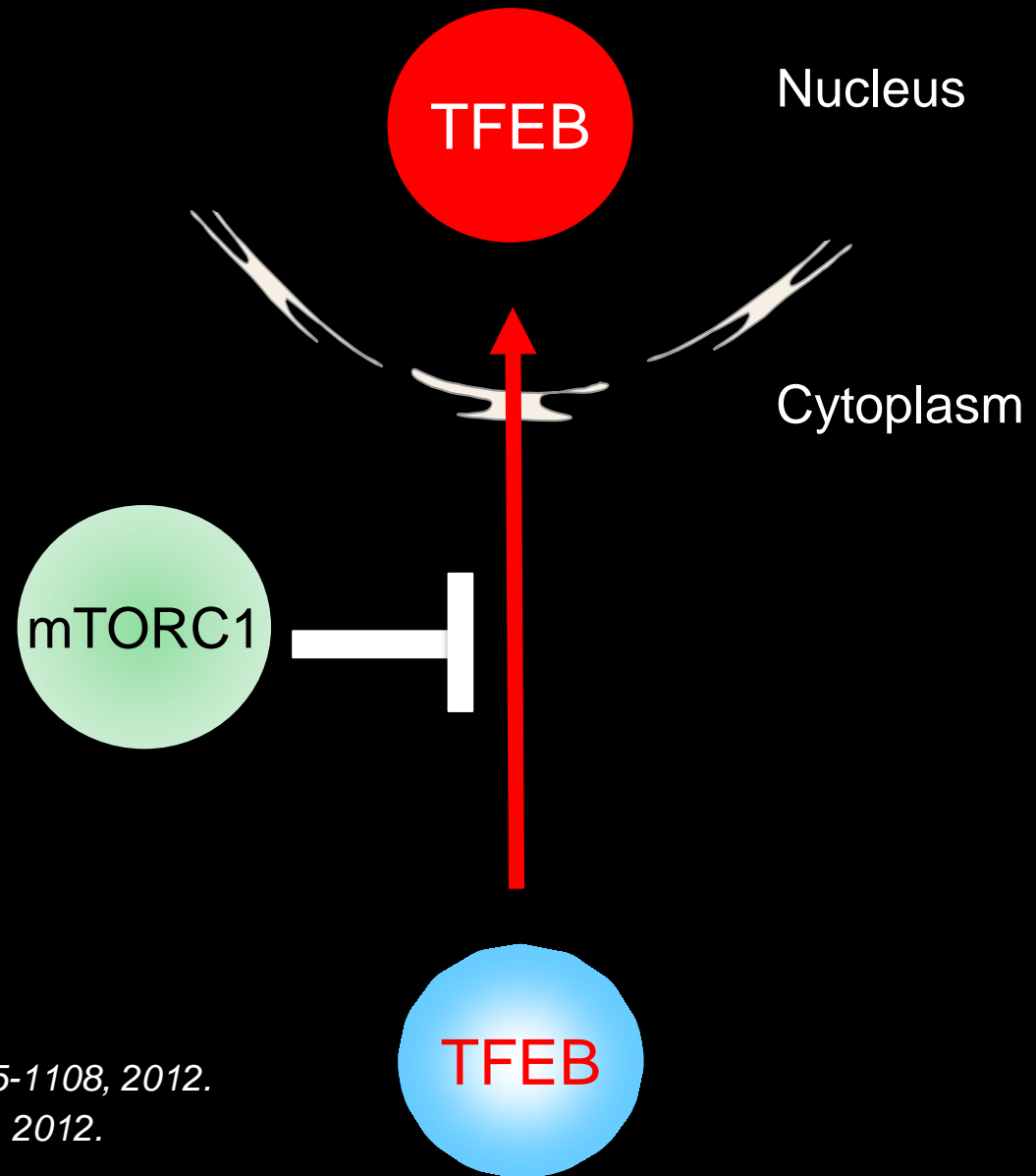


Standard medium



HBSS

mTORC1 phosphorylates  
TFEB and inhibits its  
nuclear translocation



*Settembre, C., Zoncu, R., et al. EMBO J. 31, 1095-1108, 2012.*

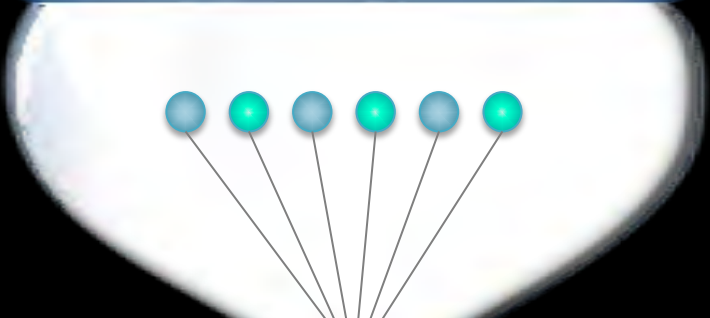
*Roczniak-Ferguson, A., et al. Sci. Signal. 5, ra42, 2012.*

*Martina, J. A., et al. Autophagy 8, 903-914, 2012.*

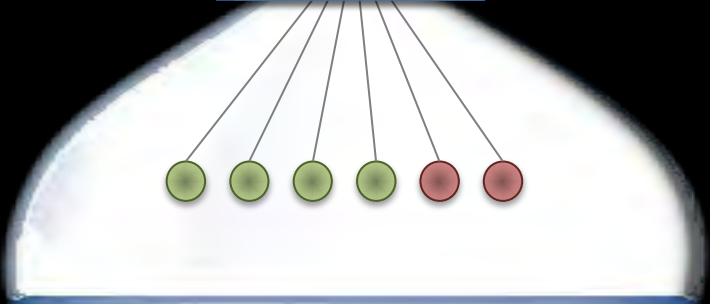


Growth factors    Amino acids    Lipids    Glucose    Oxygen

SIGNAL INPUT (many)



mTORC1



OUTPUTS (many)

Protein synthesis

S6K - 4E-BP1

Nucleotide synthesis

S6K - ATF4

Lipid synthesis

Lipin1 - SREBPs

Aerobic glycolysis

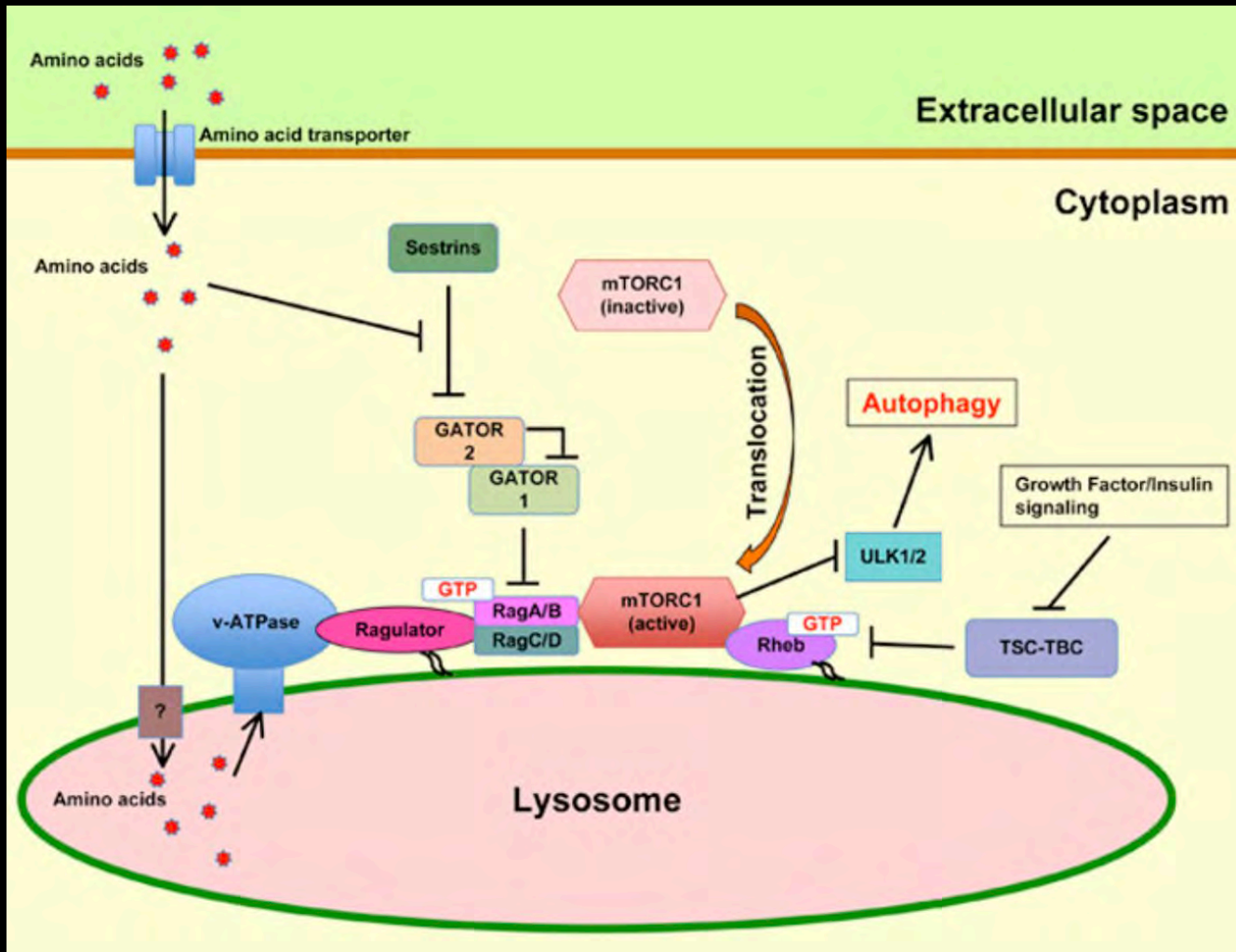
HIF1 $\alpha$

Autophagy

TFEB and ULK1

Lysosome biogenesis

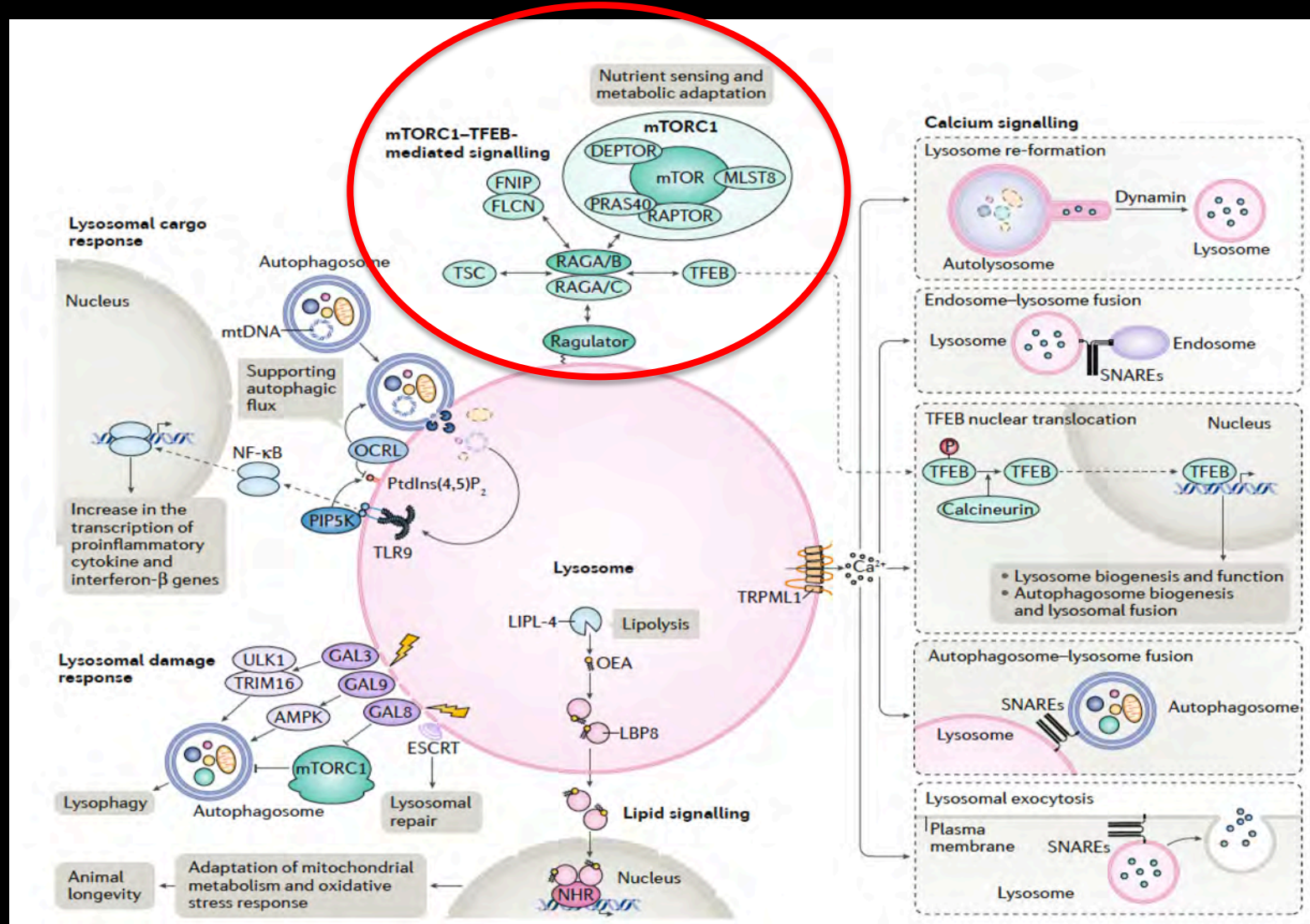
TFEB



mTORC1 is activated on the **lysosome** and is part of the **lysosomal nutrient sensing machinery**

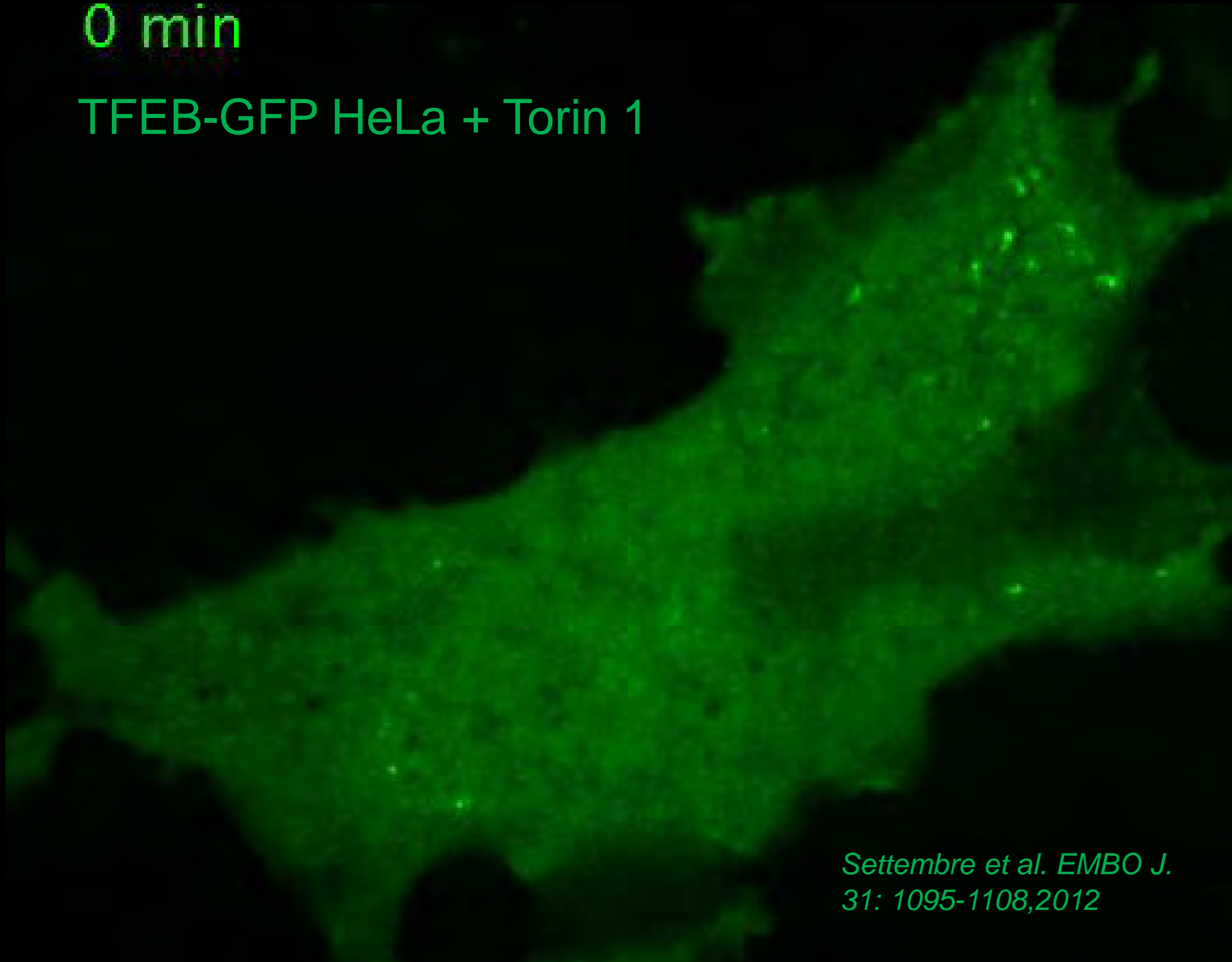
*D. Sabatini's group  
Cell 141, 290–303, 2010*

# Lysosome signaling



0 min

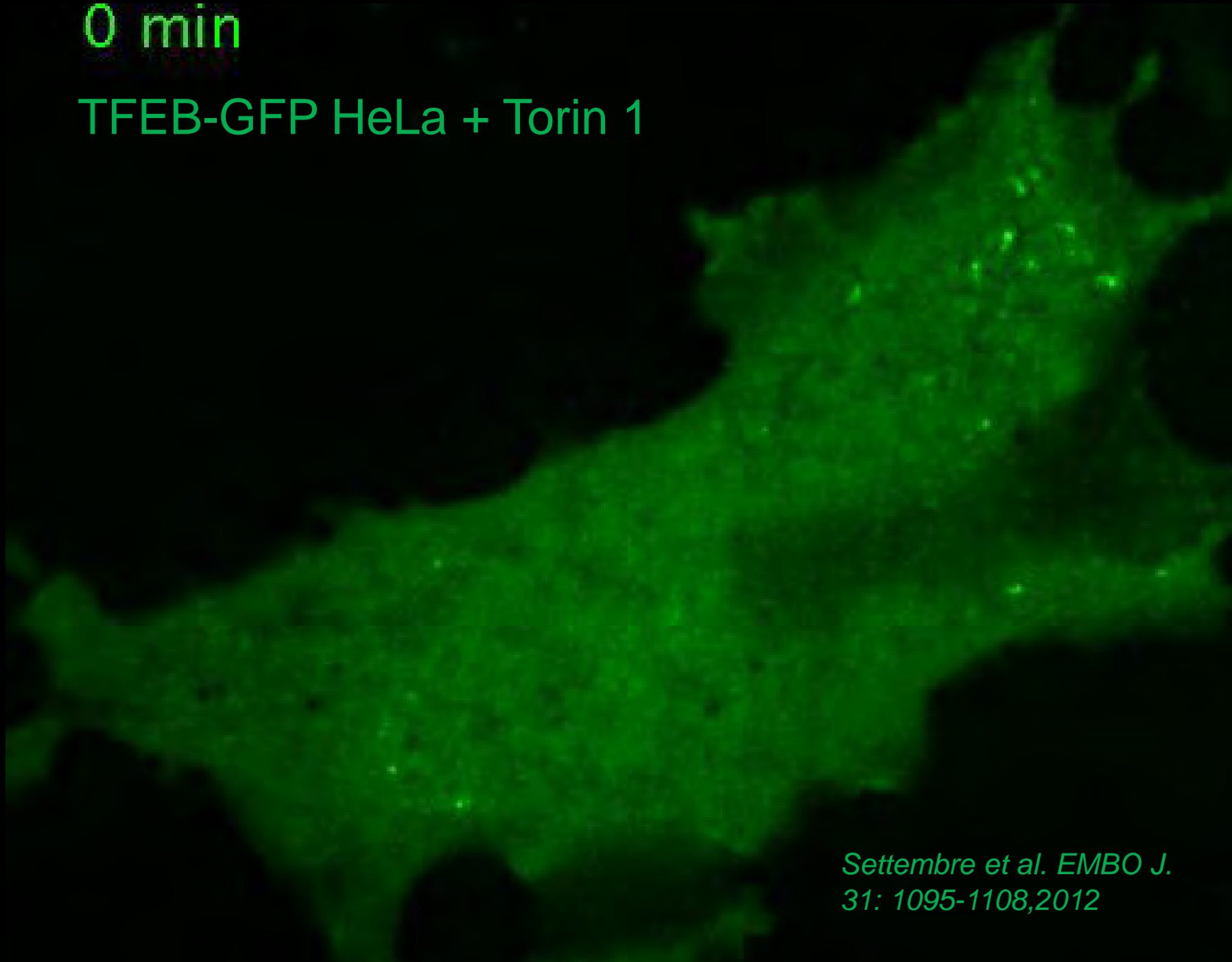
TFEB-GFP HeLa + Torin 1



*Settembre et al. EMBO J.*  
31: 1095-1108, 2012

0 min

TFEB-GFP HeLa + Torin 1



*Settembre et al. EMBO J.*  
31: 1095-1108, 2012

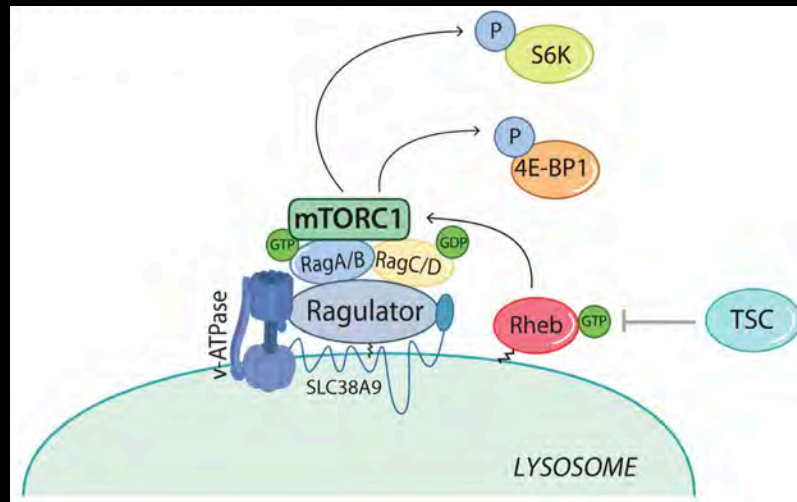
# A Substrate-Specific mTORC1 Pathway

Nature, 585: 597-602, 2020

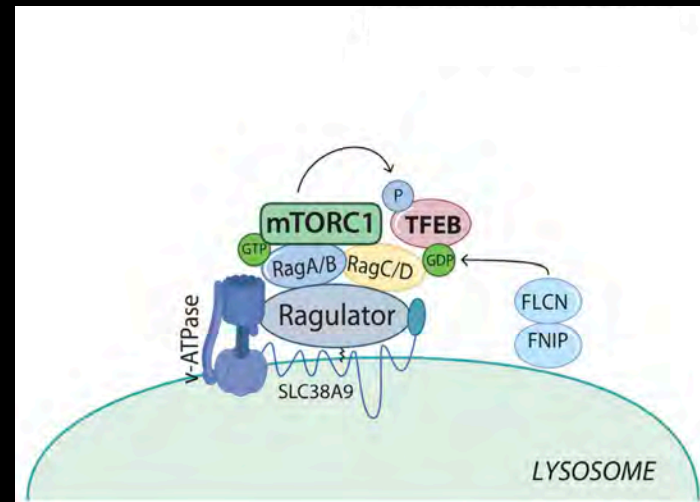


Gennaro Napolitano

canonical mTORC1



non-canonical mTORC1



# TFEB IN HUMAN DISEASES



Intracellular Clearance

Accelerated metabolism

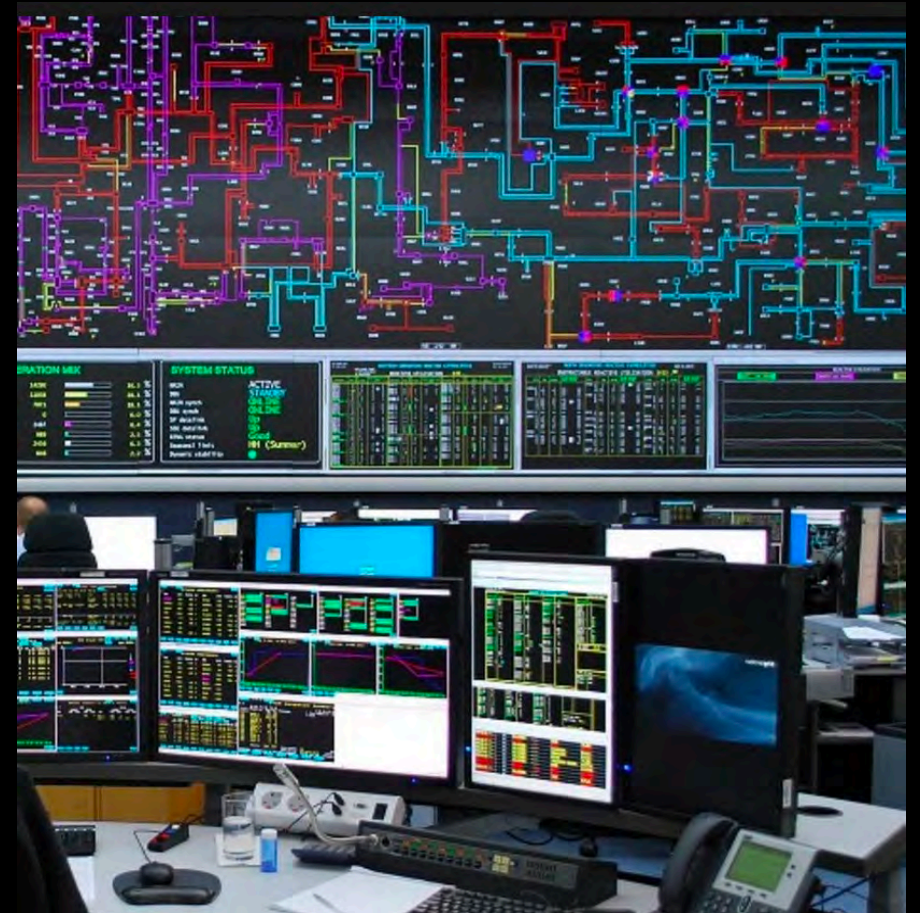
**Therapeutic effect:** on mouse models of diseases associated with accumulation of undegraded substrates (e. g Lysosomal Storage Diseases, common neurodegenerative diseases etc...).

**Cancer:** Pancreatic cancer, breast cancer, renal cell carcinoma, inherited cancer syndromes (e.g. Birth-Hogg-Dube' syndrome and Tuberous Sclerosis).

OLD

Lysosome

NEW







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THE TELETHON INSTITUTE OF GENETICS AND  
MEDICINE

**Quality research to  
understand the  
mechanisms  
behind rare  
genetic diseases**



# TFEB PROMOTES INTRACELLULAR CLEARANCE

## Lysosomal storage diseases

### Multiple sulfatase deficiency

Clearance of glycosaminoglycans

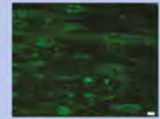
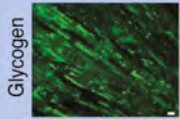


MSD

MSD+AAV-TFEB

### Pompe disease

Clearance of glycogen



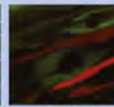
Glycogen

PD

PD+Ad-TFEB

### Batten disease

Clearance of lipofuscin



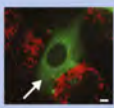
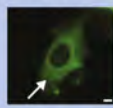
TFEB

Lipofuscin

Merge

### Cystinosis

Clearance of cystine



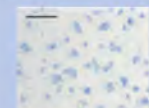
TFEB-GFP

LAMP1

merge

### Mucopolysaccharidosis Type 3A

Clearance of glycosaminoglycans



Untreated

+ TFEB

## Neurodegenerative diseases

### Parkinson's disease

Clearance of alpha-synuclein

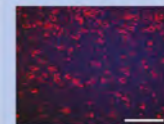


$\alpha$ -syn+GFP

$\alpha$ -syn+TFEB

### Alzheimer's disease

Clearance of Tau proteins



Tau

Tau+TFEB

### Huntington's disease

Clearance of mutant huntingtin



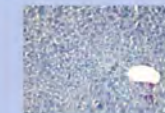
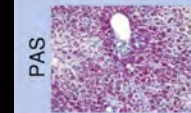
HTT

3xFLAG-TFEB

## Other diseases

### $\alpha$ -1-antitrypsin deficiency

Clearance of  $\alpha$ -1-antitrypsin



PAS

ATZ

HDAAd-AFP

HDAAd-TFEB

### Spinal-bulbar muscular atrophy

Autophagy rescue



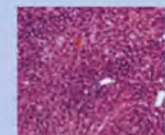
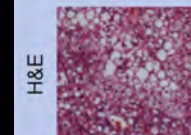
mCherry-EGFP-LC3

BFP

BFP+TFEB

### Diet-induced obesity

Clearance of lipid droplets



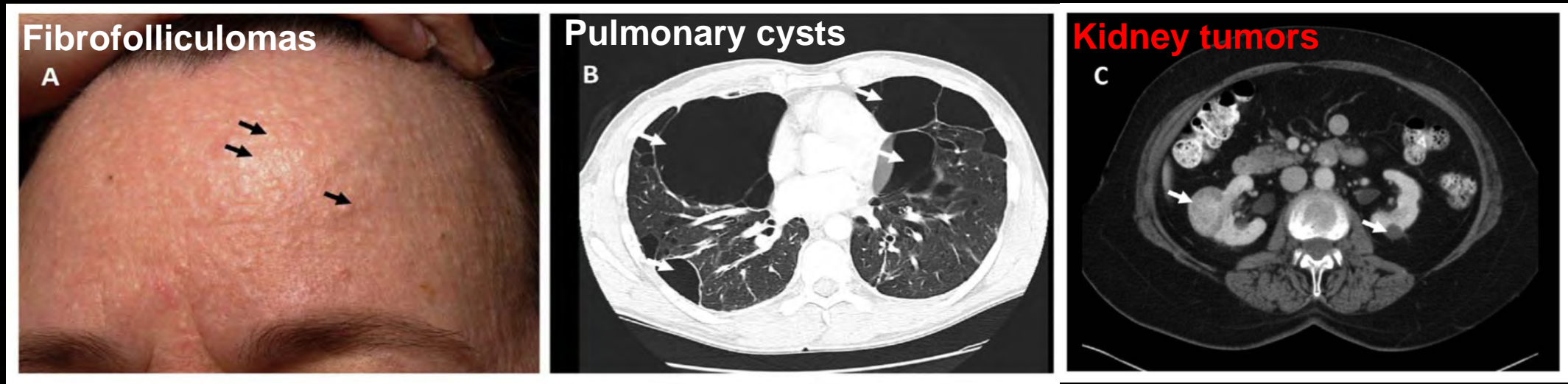
H&E

Oil Red O

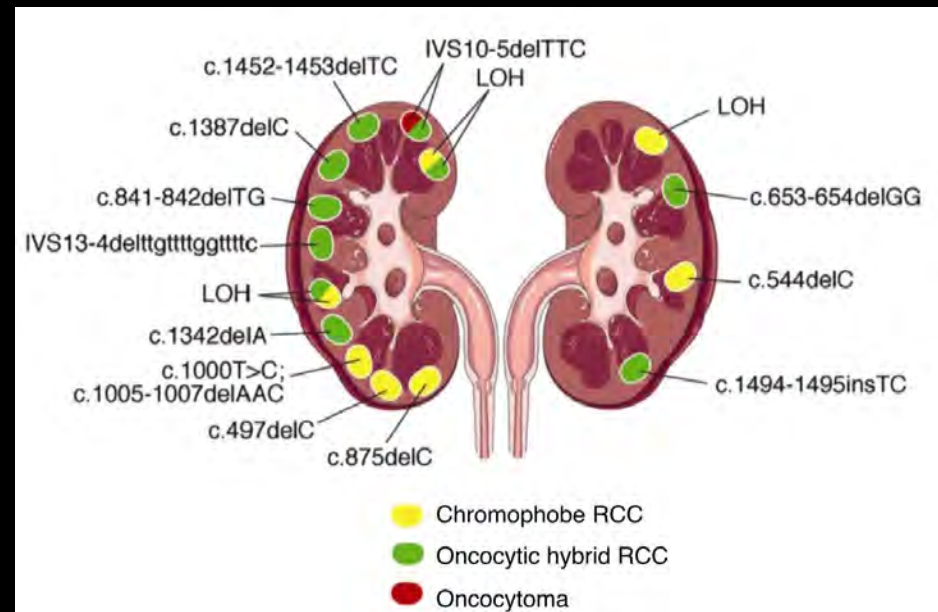
Control

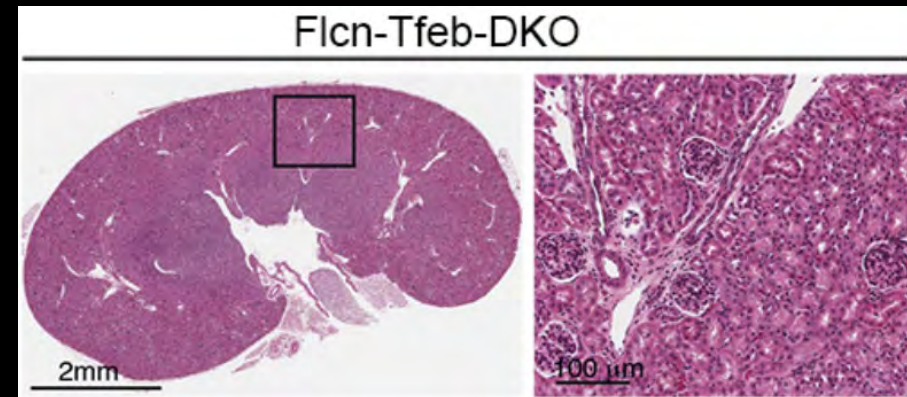
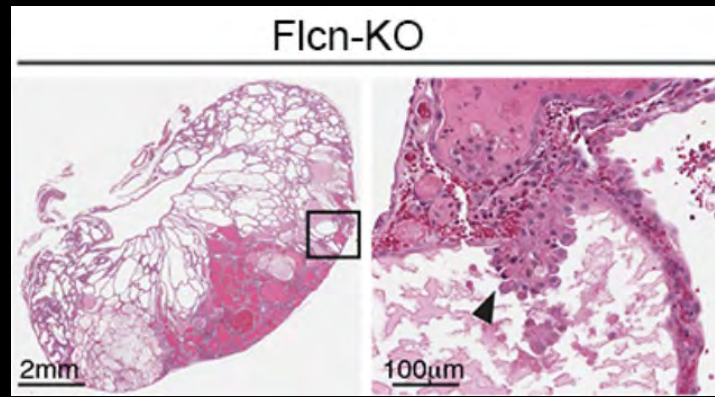
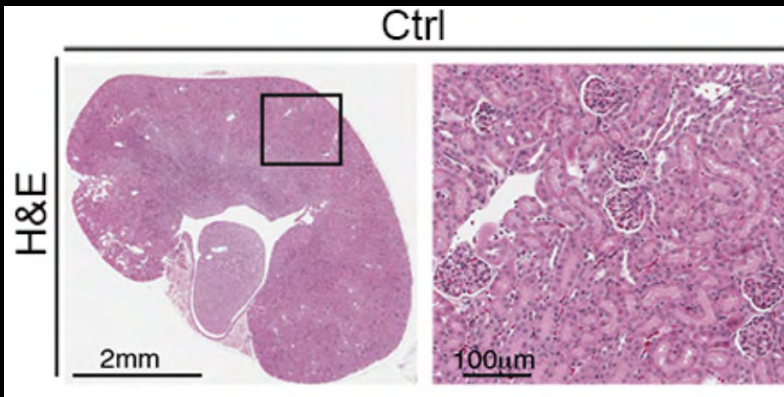
HDAAd-TFEB

# Birt-Hogg-Dubé (BHD) syndrome is due to germline mutations in *FLCN* gene



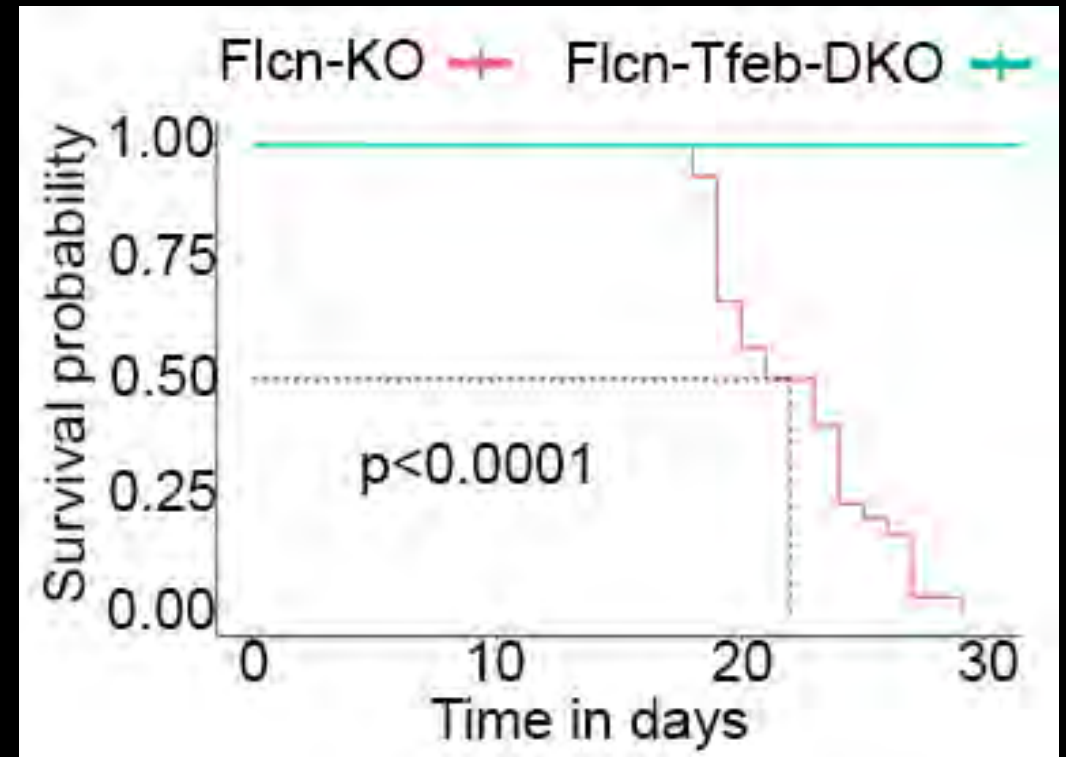
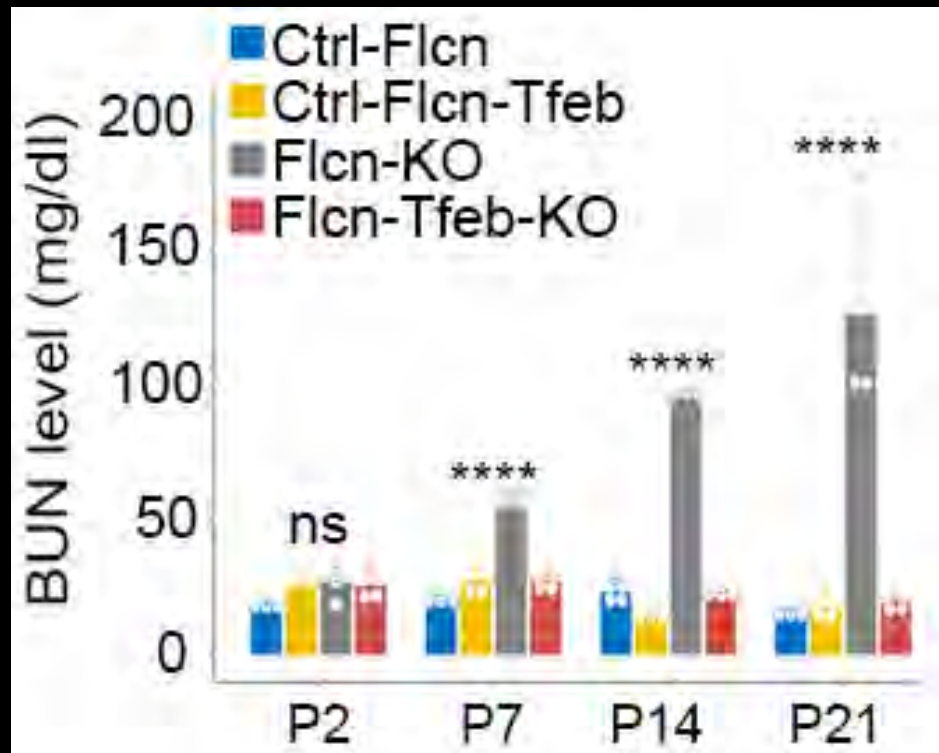
Schimdt et al.,  
*Gene* 2018





Napolitano\*, Di Malta\* et al., Nature, 585: 597-602, 2020

# TFEB DEPLETION RESCUES KIDNEY DYSFUNCTION AND LETHALITY IN FLCN KO MICE

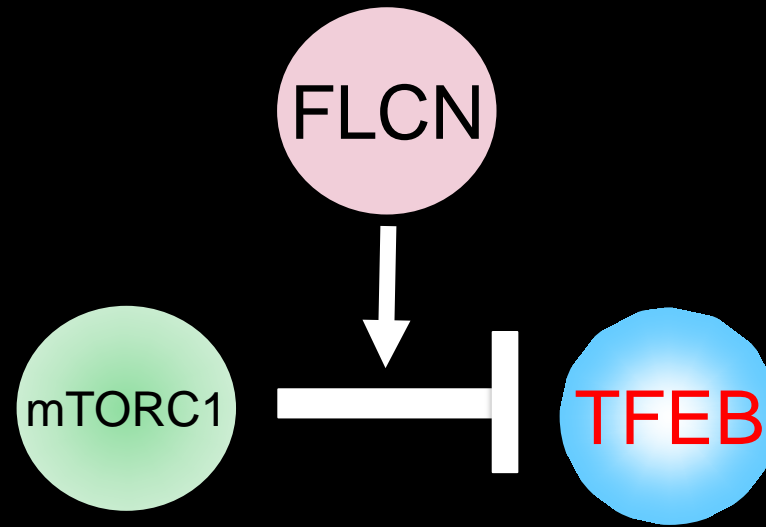


Napolitano\*, Di Malta\* et al., Nature, 585: 597-602, 2020





# FLCN is a negative regulator of TFEB



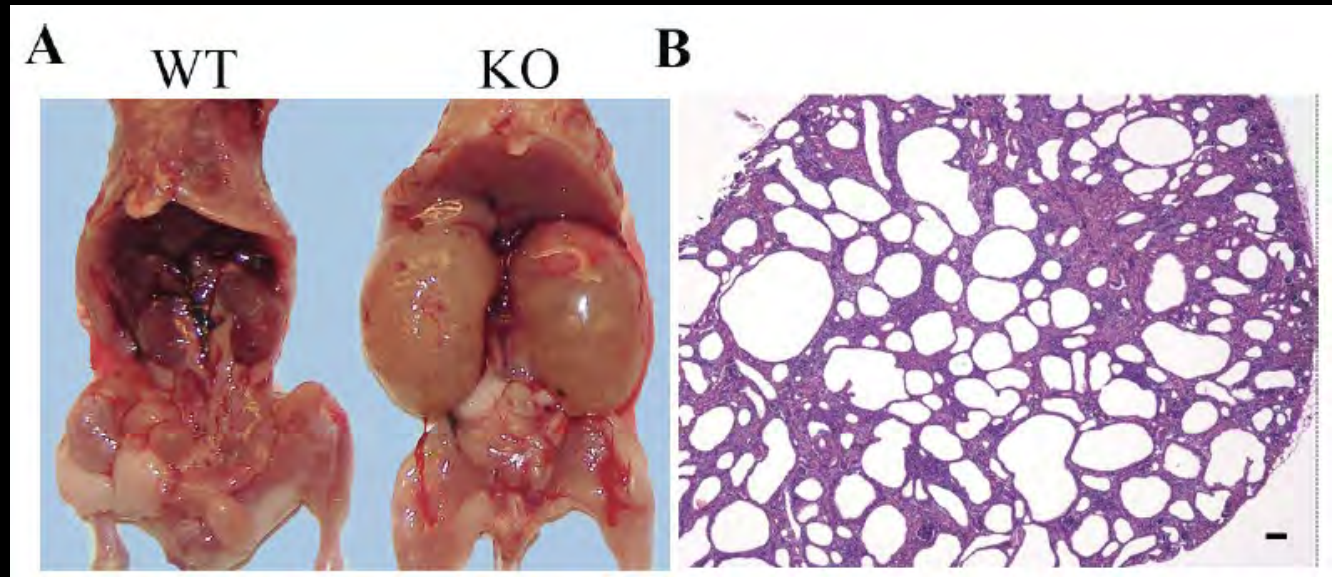
Is TFEB activation involved  
in BHD syndrome?



Chiara Di Malta

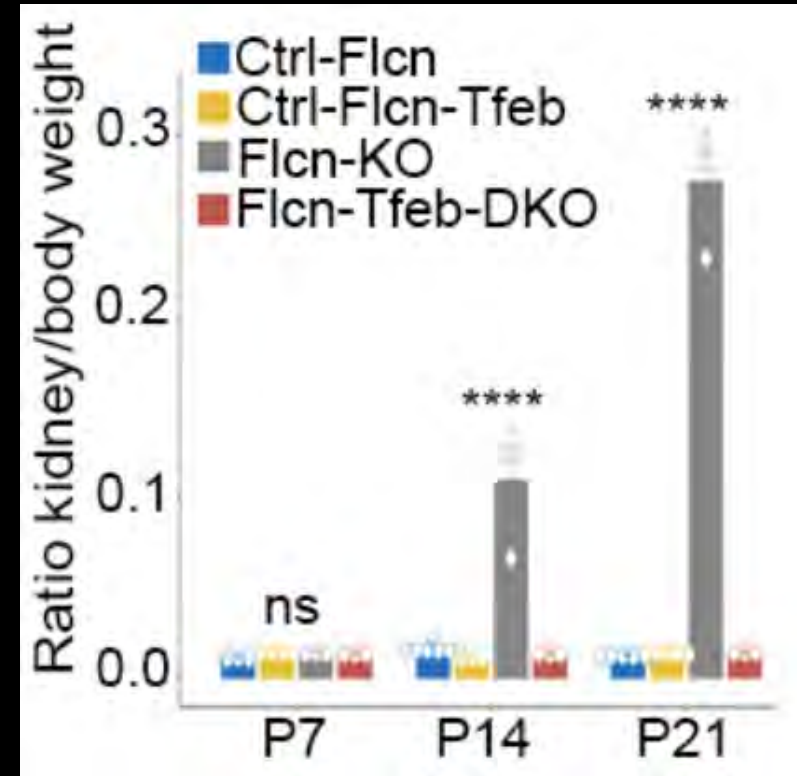
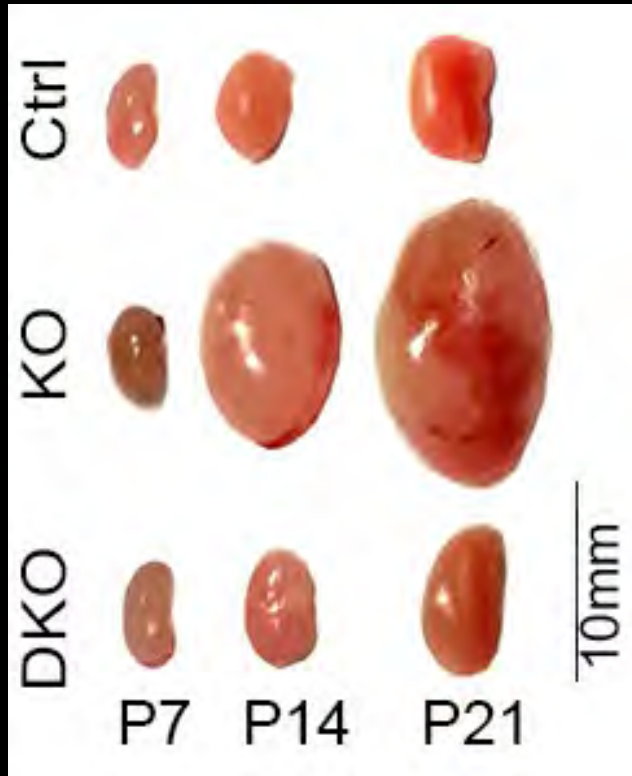
# A mouse model of BHD syndrome

Kidney-specific  
(Cdh16 CRE)  
**FLCN KO** mice

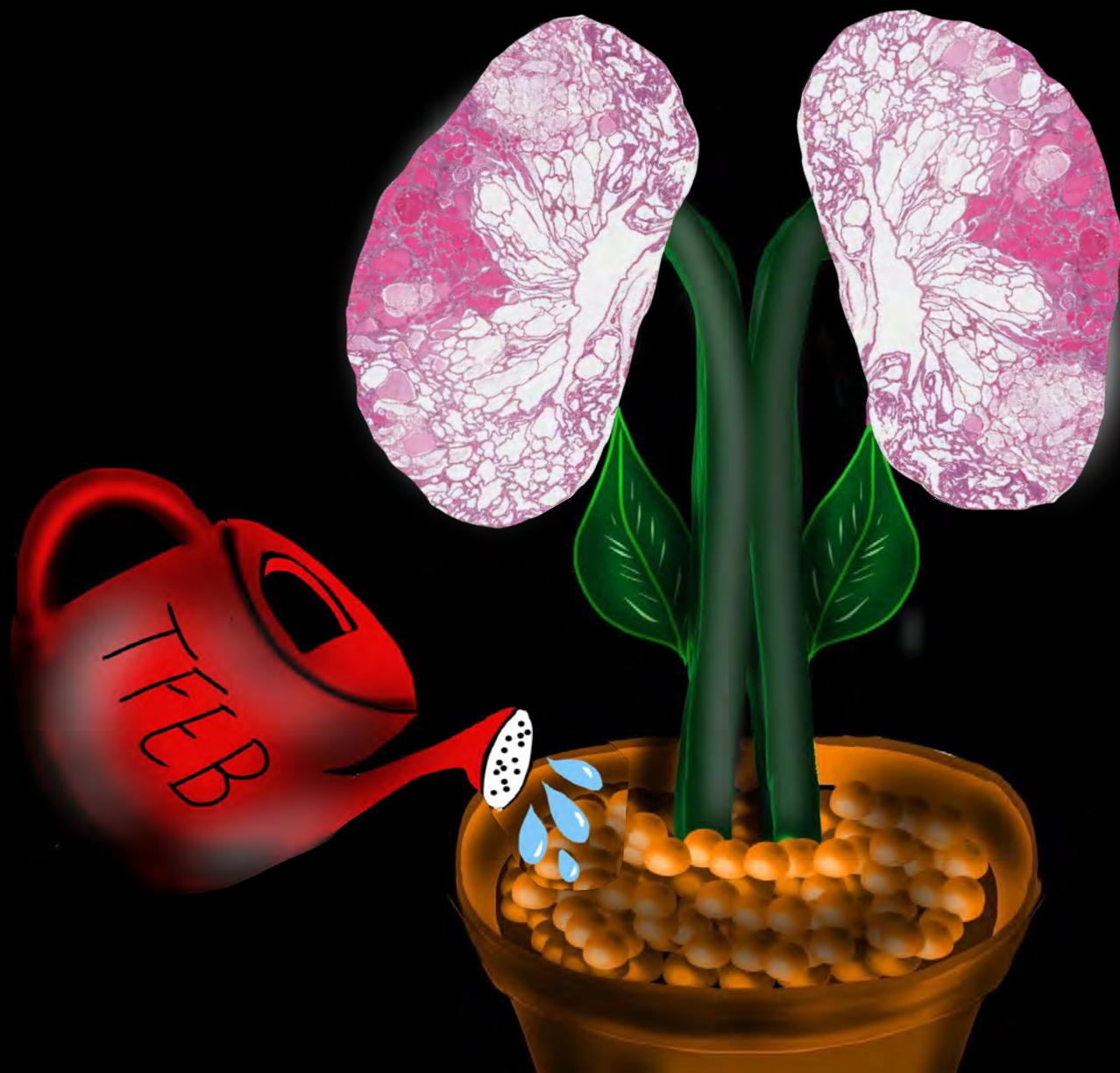


*Wu M. et al. Oncotarget. 2015; 6: 32761-32773.*

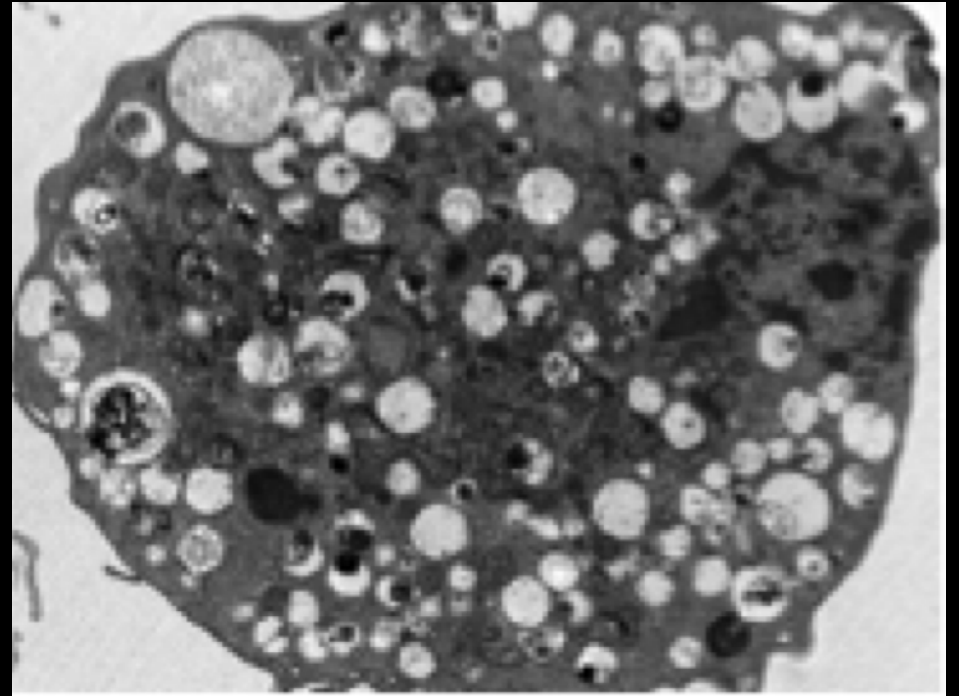
# TFEB DEPLETION RESCUES THE KIDNEY PHENOTYPE OF FLCN KO MICE



# TFEB drives renal cystogenesis and tumorigenesis



**anche le cellule devono smaltire i rifiuti...**



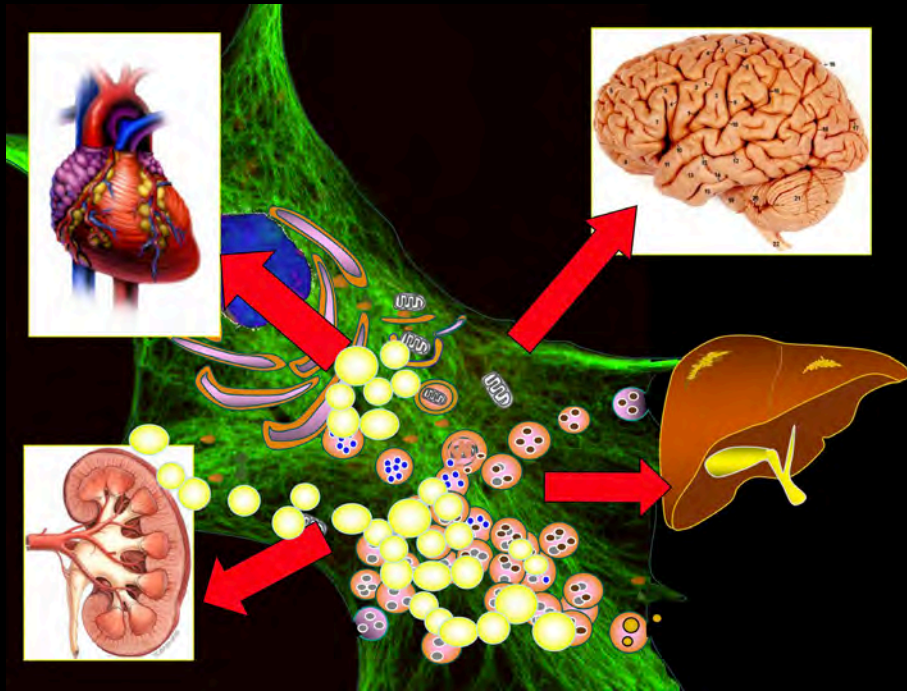
# Malattie associate a difetti del processo di smaltimento dei rifiuti cellulari

DIVERSI TIPI DI MALATTIE **GENETICHE** RARE

MALATTIE **NEURODEGENERATIVE**  
(ALZHEIMER, PARKINSON ETC...)

MALATTIE **METABOLICHE**  
(OBESITA', DIABETE ETC...)

DIVERSI TIPI DI **CANCRO**



# LYSOSOMES AND DISEASE

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## IMPAIRED LYSOSOMAL FUNCTION

### **Lysosomal storage diseases**

(e.g. Mucopolysaccharidoses,  
Sphingolipidoses, Ceroid  
lipofuscinoses etc..)

### **Common neurodegenerative diseases**

(e.g. Alzheimer's, Parkinson's,  
Huntington's)

### **Others**

(e.g. metabolic diseases,  
infections,.....aging)

## INCREASED LYSOSOMAL FUNCTION

### **CANCER**

# TFEB subcellular localization is regulated by phosphorylation of specific serine residues

