

# Cystic Lung Disease

**Elizabeth (Lisa) Petri Henske, MD**

Director, Center for LAM Research and Clinical Care, Brigham and  
Women's Hospital

Medical Oncologist, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School



# Elizabeth P Henske, MD

- Professor of Medicine, Harvard Medical School
- Director, Center for LAM Research and Clinical Care, Brigham and Women's Hospital
- Medical Oncologist, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
- Henske Laboratory:
  - Tuberous sclerosis complex, LAM, Birt Hogg-Dube



# Disclosure

No financial conflicts of interest

# Question #1

- All women with suspected LAM should have abdominal imaging because 50% have:
  - A) Hepatic angiomyolipomas
  - B) Renal angiomyolipomas
  - C) Ovarian cysts

## Question #2

Patients with Birt-Hogg-Dube should have abdominal imaging because 25% develop:

- A) Liver cysts
- B) Renal cell carcinoma
- C) Peritonitis

## Question #3

Proven effective therapy for Lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM):

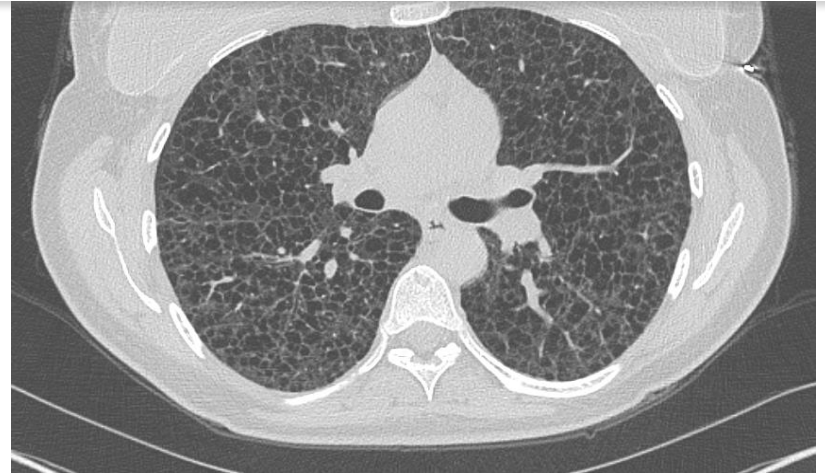
- A) VEGF inhibition
- B) mTOR inhibition
- C) Corticosteroids

# Learning Objectives

- Understand causes of cystic lung disease
- Identify cystic lung disease with specific genetic signatures:
  - Lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM)
  - Pulmonary Langerhans cell histiocytosis (PLCH)
  - Birt Hogg Dube syndrome (BHD)
- Recognize kidney tumors associated with cystic lung disease (LAM, BHD)
- Diagnose cystic lung disease with proven specific therapy (LAM)

# What is a cyst?

Gas-filled round or irregular low attenuating area with a thin wall (<3mm)





# Cystic lung diseases

**Lymphangiomyomatosis**

**Langerhans cell histiocytosis**

**Birt Hogg Dube syndrome**

Emphysema

Pulmonary metastasis

Subacute (?chronic) hypersensitivity pneumonitis

Desquamative interstitial pneumonia

Barotrauma/ ARDS

Pulmonary infection- pneumatoceles

Necrobiotic nodules

Light chain disease

Lymphoid interstitial pneumonia

# Case Study



- 34 year old
- Mother of 3
- Mountain bikes, works full time
- Progressive shortness of breath over 3 yrs
- “always feel tired”
- Severe episode shortness of breath while water skiing

# Case Study: 34 year old, progressive dyspnea for 3 years

Name: [REDACTED] Sex: F Age: 35 Race: W  
Ht: 65 in ( 165 cm ) Wt: 148 lb ( 67.0 Kg ) BMI: 24.7 Kg/mt<sup>2</sup> Diagnosis: 1: Clinical Research Trial Participant  
Location: Center for Chest Disease [REDACTED]  
Technician: DJ947 Attending: Po-Shun Lee, M.D. Referring: Hilary J. Goldberg, M.D.

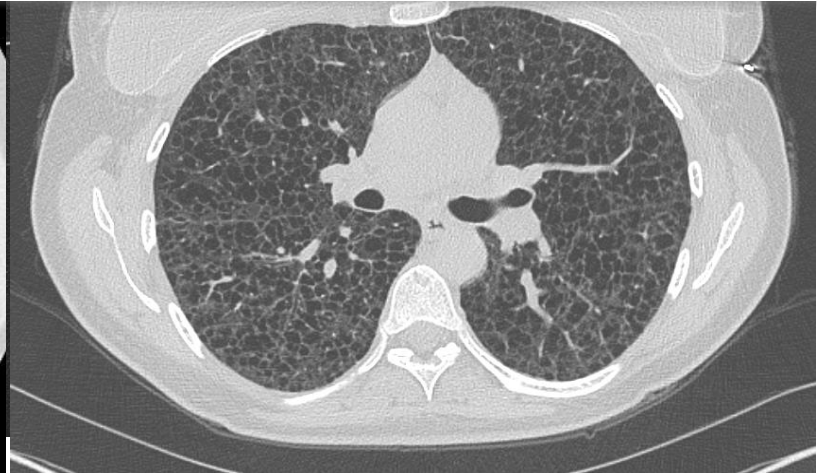
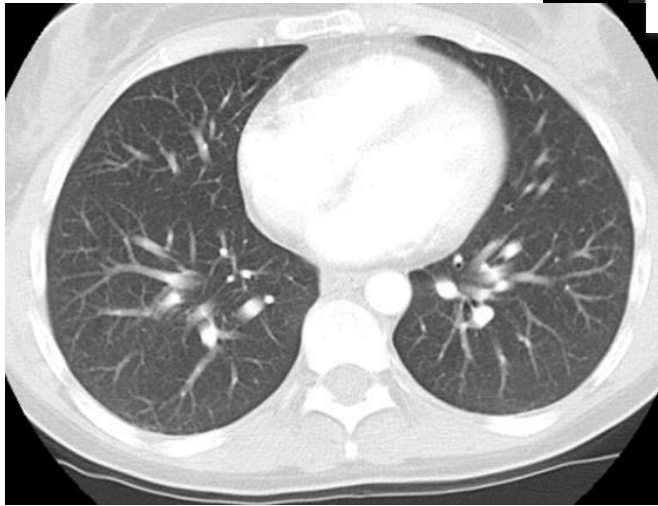
ATS compliant tests are indicated by a ✓: FVC ✓ FRC DLCO Raw

## Spirometry

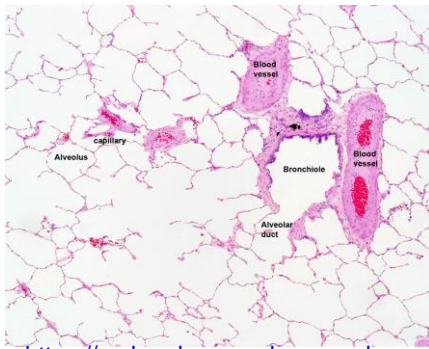
		Predicted Range		Pre Bronchodilator	
		Mean	95%	Actual	% Pred
FEV <sub>1</sub>	L	3.17	2.61	1.84	58
FVC	L	3.76	3.08	3.96	105
FEV <sub>1</sub> / FVC	%	84	75	46	55
FEV <sub>6</sub>	L	3.81	3.11	3.86	101
FEV <sub>1</sub> / FEV <sub>6</sub>	%	85	76	48	56
FEF <sub>25-75</sub>	L/s	3.61	2.25	0.88	24
PEFR	L/s	7.16	5.40	7.04	98

Obstructive or  
Restrictive?

# Case Study: Chest CT



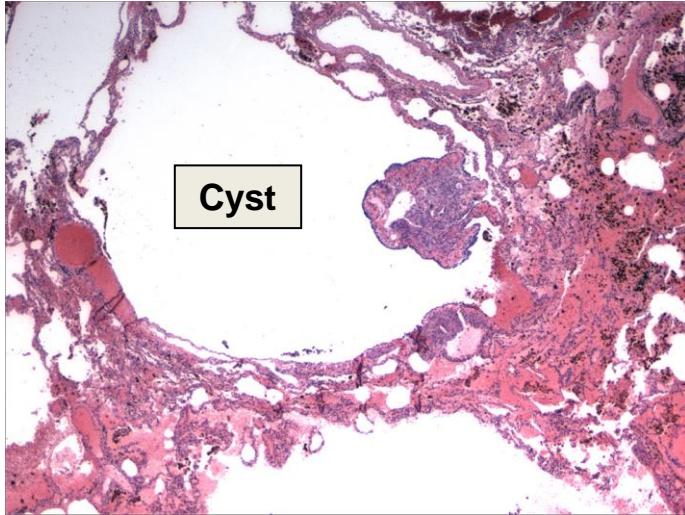
Normal Chest CT



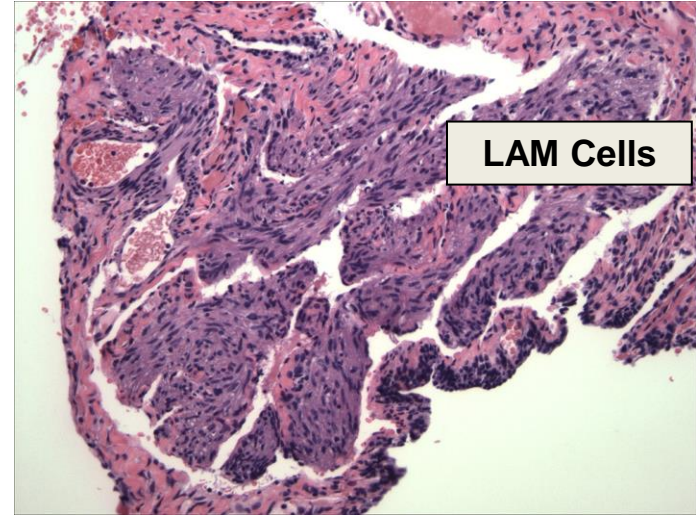
<https://embryology.med.unsw.edu.au/>

## Case Study: Diagnostic Lung Biopsy

Lung transplant, died at age 37

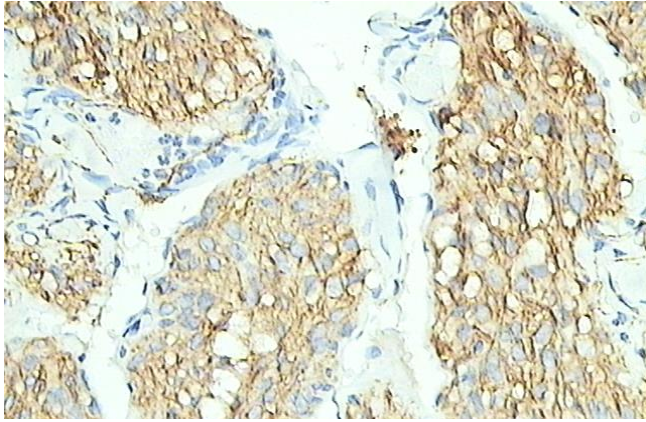


**Lung destruction/cysts**



**Higher power: smooth muscle-like LAM Cells**





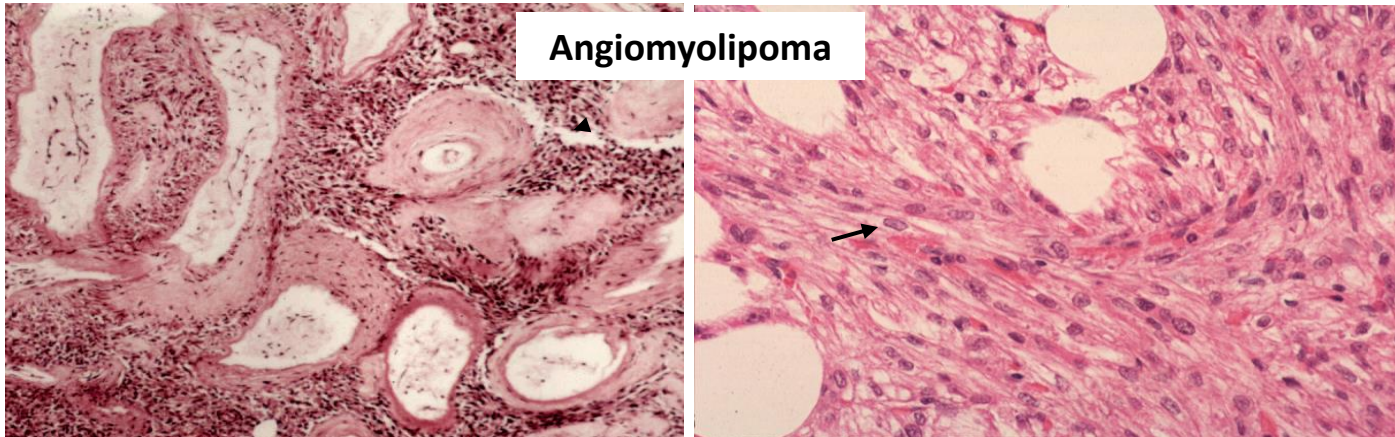
LAM cells in lymph node, muscle actin stain

## LAM is a multi-system disease

Renal angiomyolipomas: 60%

Lymph nodes: 70%

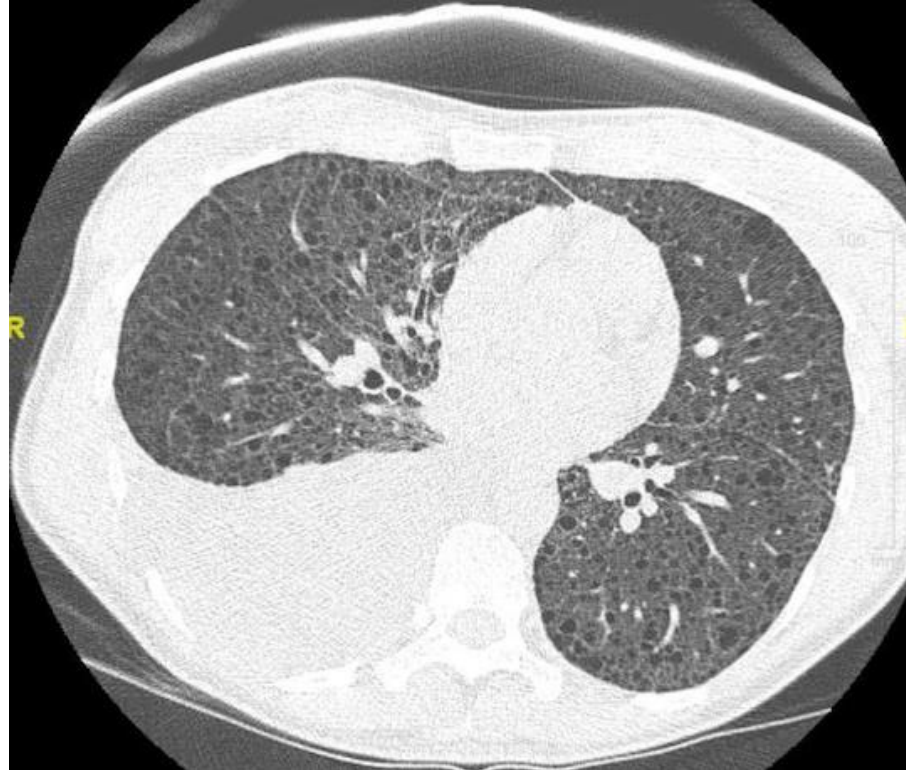
Chylous pleural effusions: <10%



# LAM-associated chylous effusion

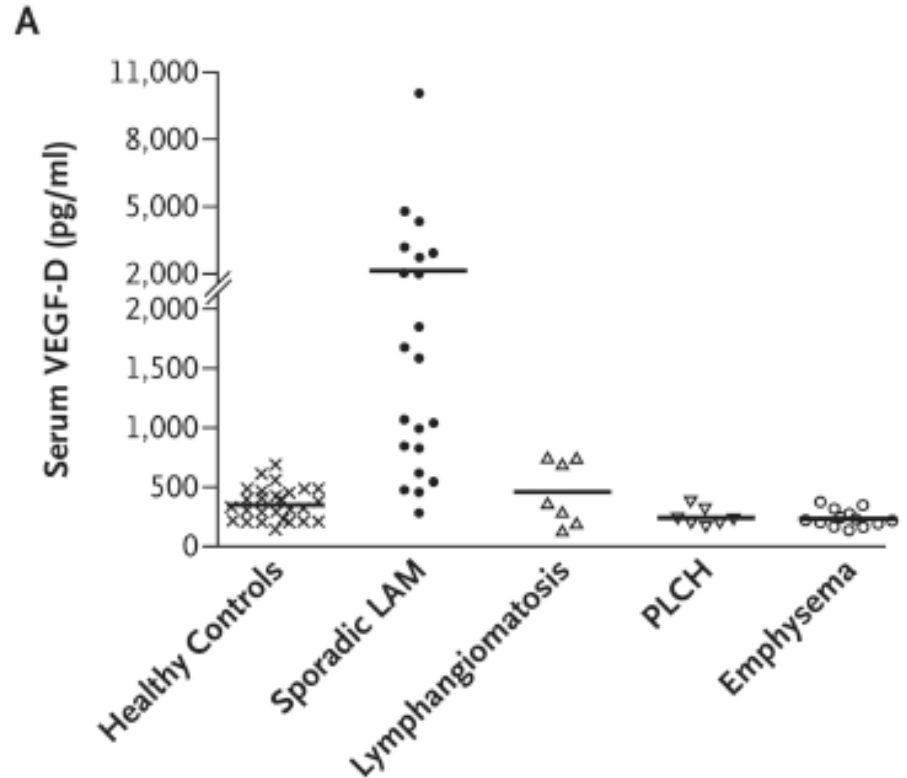
30 year old

First noted dyspnea about 6 months post-partum



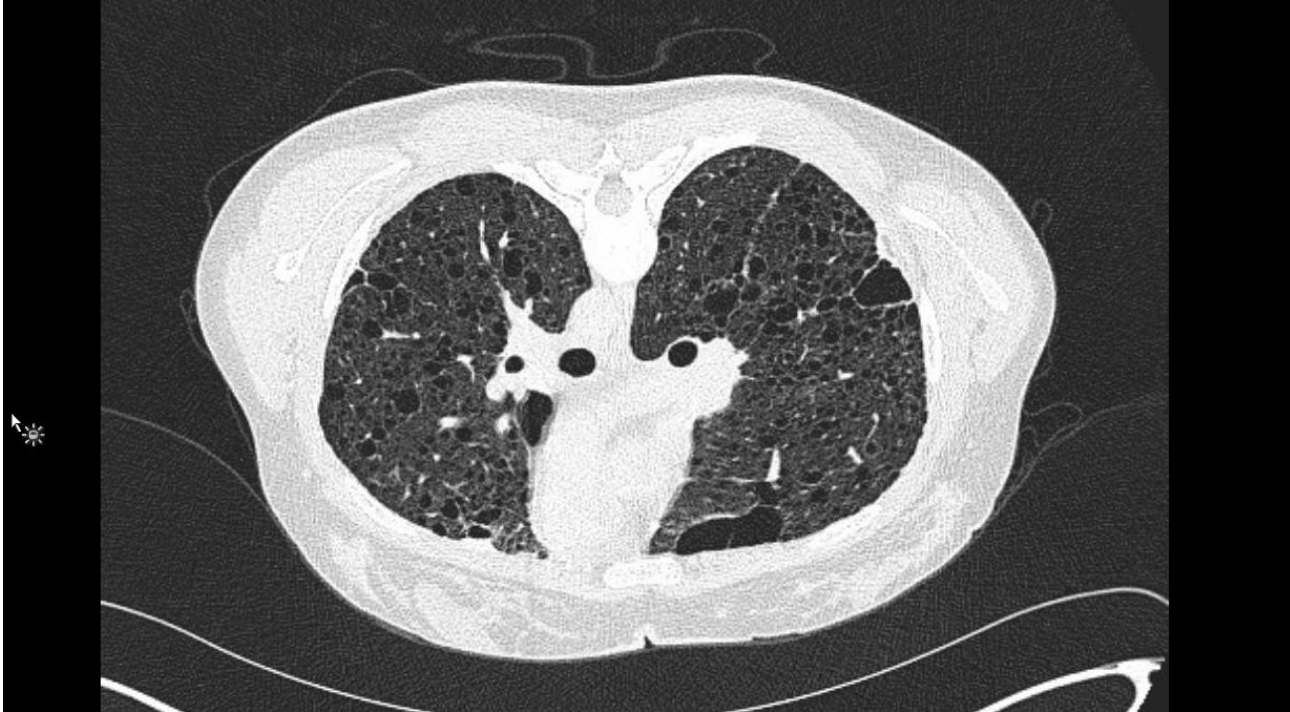
# Diagnosis of LAM: VEGF-D Serum Biomarker

- Typical cystic changes plus
- Renal angiomyolipoma or
- Chylous effusion or
- VEGF-D >800pg/ml



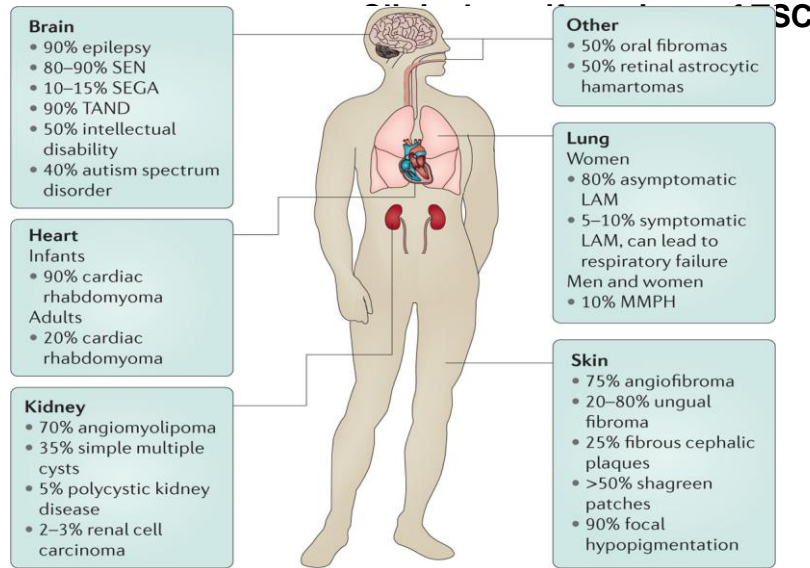


**Lymphangioliomyomatosis (LAM): Occurs in women with Tuberous Sclerosis Complex (TSC)**



**FEV1 fell from 77% to 50% in 2 years**

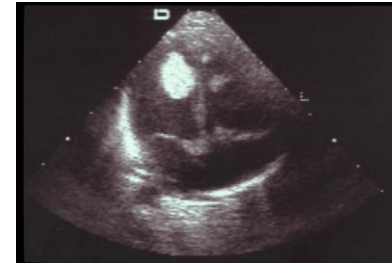
# Tuberous Sclerosis Complex is a Cause of Lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM)



Nature Reviews | Disease Primers



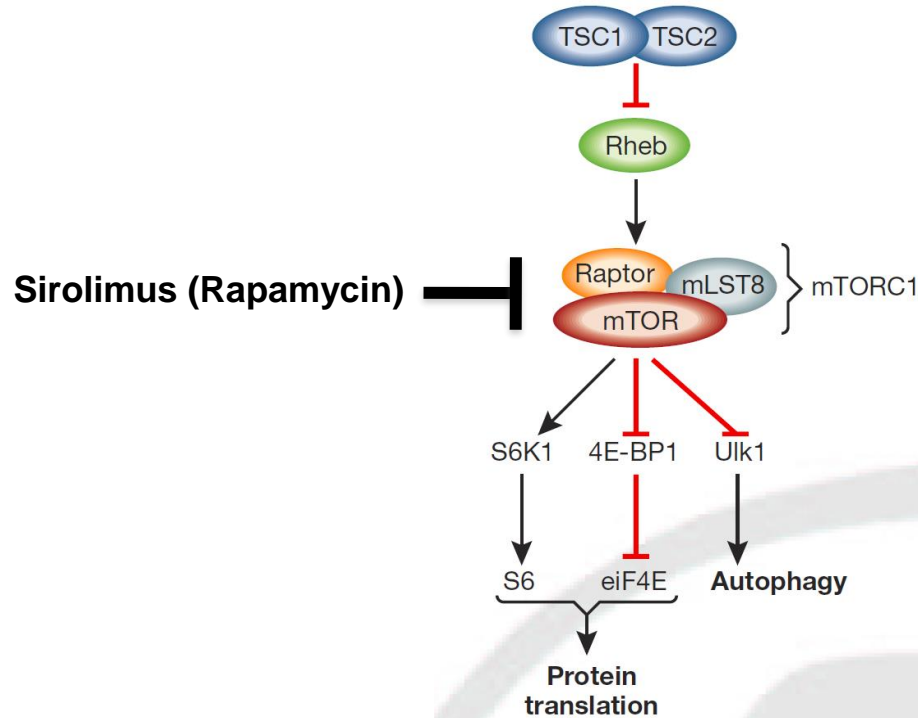
Cerebral Cortical Tuber



Cardiac Rhabdomyoma (prenatal)

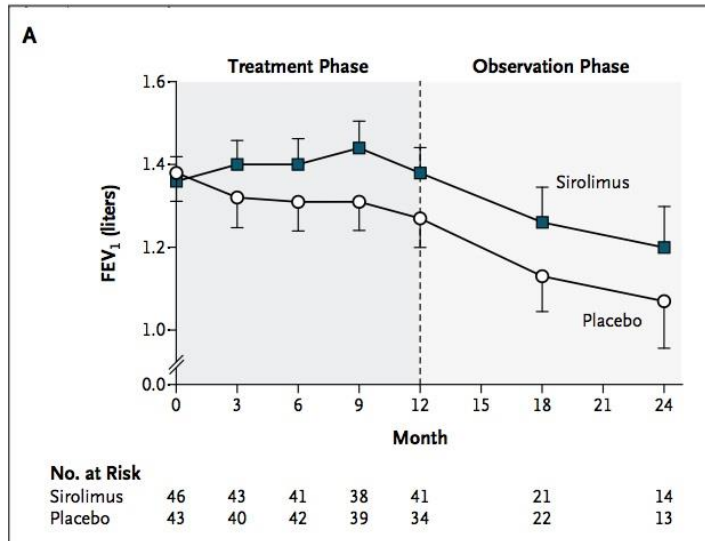
Henske, EP et al., Nat Reviews Disease Primers, 2016

# mTOR Kinase is Activated in LAM Cells



# Efficacy and Safety of Sirolimus in Lymphangioliomyomatosis

**Francis X. McCormack**, M.D., Yoshikazu Inoue, M.D., Ph.D., Joel Moss, M.D., Ph.D., Lianne G. Singer, M.D., Charlie Strange, M.D., Koh Nakata, M.D., Ph.D., Alan F. Barker, M.D., Jeffrey T. Chapman, M.D., Mark L. Brantly, M.D., James M. Stocks, M.D., Kevin K. Brown, M.D., Joseph P. Lynch, III, M.D., Hilary J. Goldberg, M.D., Lisa R. Young, M.D., Brent W. Kinder, M.D., Gregory P. Downey, M.D., Eugene J. Sullivan, M.D., Thomas V. Colby, M.D., Roy T. McKay, Ph.D., Marsha M. Cohen, M.D., Leslie Korbee, B.S., Angelo M. Taveira-DaSilva, M.D., Ph.D., Hye-Seung Lee, Ph.D., Jeffrey P. Krischer, Ph.D., and Bruce C. Trapnell, M.D., for the National Institutes of Health Rare Lung Diseases Consortium and the MILES Trial Group\*

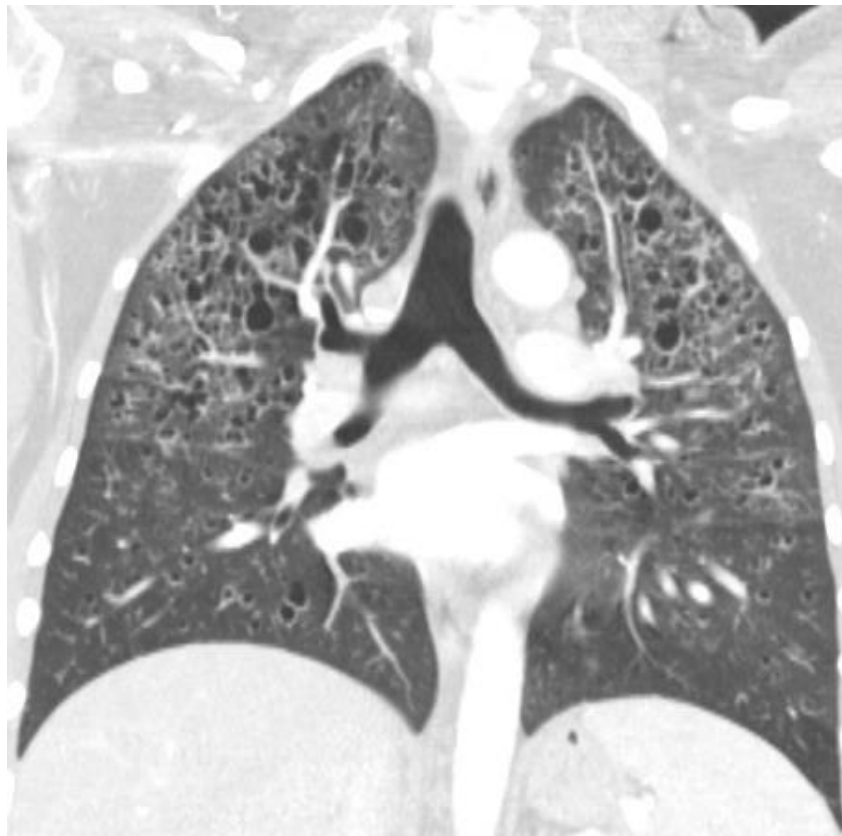


Double blind, placebo control  
Sirolimus n = 43  
Placebo n = 46

Moderate to severe LAM  
Mean FEV1: 1367 ml (48%)  
Mean age: 45 yrs  
34% postmenopausal

*FDA-approved*

# Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis



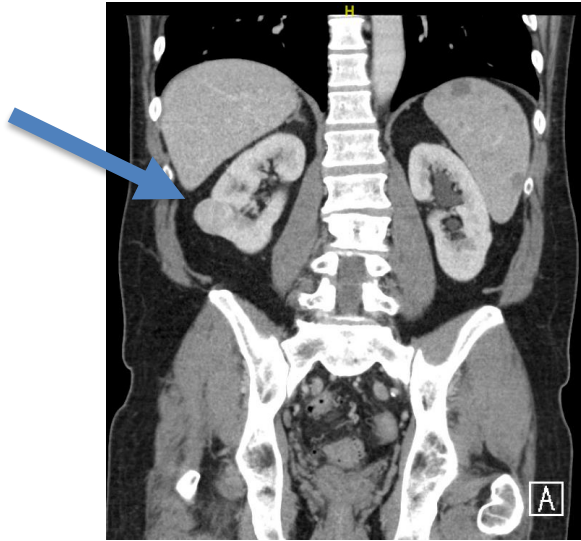
# Pulmonary Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis

- Inflammatory myeloid neoplasm, arising from dendritic cells of the monocyte-macrophage lineage that resemble Langerhans cells
- >90% cigarette smoke history
- Often present with incidentally detected cysts or pneumothorax; symptoms include cough, dyspnea , fatigue
  - 20% have extrapulmonary manifestations (cystic bone lesions, diabetes insipidus)
- Somatic mutations activating the MAPK pathway in almost all cases
  - BRAF V600E (50%); MAPK2K1 (25) plus others

# Pulmonary Langerhans Cell Histiocytosis: Treatment

- 40-50% spontaneous resolution with smoking cessation alone
- Steroids – limited responses
- Consider clinical trial for progressive disease (including trials of MAPK pathway inhibitors)

# Birt-Hogg-Dubé (BHD)



Renal Cell Carcinoma





# Birt Hogg Dube

- Autosomal dominant
  - Incidence around 1/3,500
- Lung cysts ~80% by age 50; ~40% pneumothorax
- Facial fibrofolliculomas (flesh colored)
- Kidney cancer in ~25%
- Mutations in the folliculin (FLCN) gene



# Cystic Lung Disease: Overview

	Lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM)	Pulmonary Langerhans	Birt-Hogg-Dube (BHD)
Lung cysts	Round, Thin-walled Diffuse	Irregular shapes, thin-walls Often upper zone predominant	Round or ellipse-shaped Often medial
Other features	Women-only Chylous effusion Renal angiomyolipoma VEGF-D > 800 pg/ml	Skin and bone lesions	Kidney cancer Skin lesions
Pneumothorax	60%	10-20%	40%
Genes	TSC1 or TSC2	BRAF, MAPK	FLCN
Targeted Therapy	mTOR inhibition (Rapamycin/Sirolimus)	Kinase Inhibitors?	

# Cystic Lung Disease: MOC Reflective Statement

- Many causes of cystic lung disease
- Three cystic lung disease have specific genetic signatures and non-pulmonary manifestations:
  - Lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM) (*TSC1/2*)
  - Pulmonary Langerhans cell histiocytosis (PLCH) (*B-RAF*)
  - Birt Hogg Dube syndrome (BHD) (*FLCN*)
- Kidney tumors in LAM (angiomyolipoma) and BHD (carcinoma)
- LAM has a specific, FDA-approved therapy: Rapamycin/sirolimus

# Question #1

- All women with suspected LAM should have abdominal imaging because 50% have:
  - A) Hepatic angiomyolipomas
  - B) Renal angiomyolipomas
  - C) Ovarian cysts

# Question #1

- All women with LAM should have abdominal imaging because 50% have:
  - A) Hepatic angiomyolipomas
  - B) Renal angiomyolipomas
  - C) Ovarian cysts

## Question #2

Patients with Birt-Hogg-Dube should have abdominal imaging because 25% develop:

- A) Liver cysts
- B) Renal cell carcinoma
- C) Peritonitis

## Question #2

Patients with Birt-Hogg-Dube should have abdominal imaging because of the risk of:

A) Liver cysts

B) Renal cell carcinoma

C) Peritonitis

## Question #3

Proven effective therapy for Lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM):

- A) VEGF inhibition
- B) mTOR inhibition
- C) Corticosteroids



## Question #3

Proven effective therapy for Lymphangioleiomyomatosis (LAM):

A) VEGF inhibition

B) mTOR inhibition (Rapamycin/Sirolimus)

C) Corticosteroids