## Neurologic Complications of Diabetes

- Define complications
- Glucose mediated oxidative stress produces complications
- Peripheral neuropathy
- EDIC results: ? Metabolic memory
- Cardiac autonomic neuropathy
- Surrogate markers: sera, urine, skin biopsies
- New NIH initiative: AMDCC

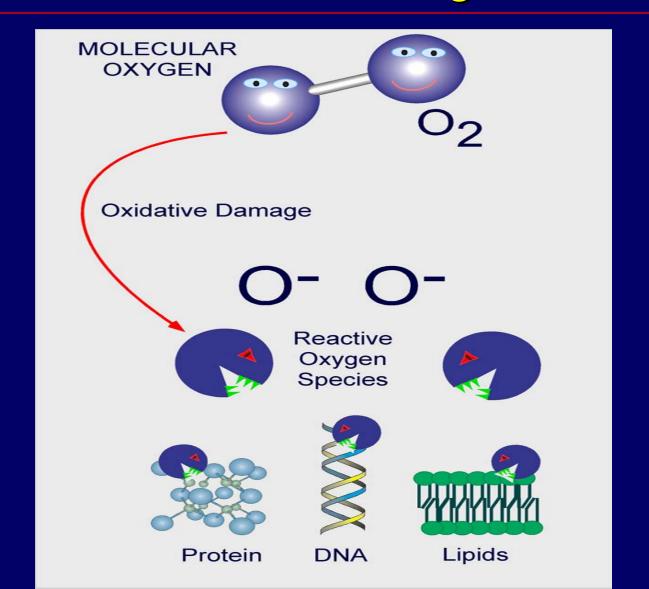
## Neurologic Complications of Diabetes

- Macrovascular
  - Large vessel disease: stroke, large vessel ischemia
- Microvascular
  - Peripheral Neuropathy
  - Autonomic Neuropathy
  - These complications also occur in patients with IGT (Pre-diabetes)
  - Unique to diabetes

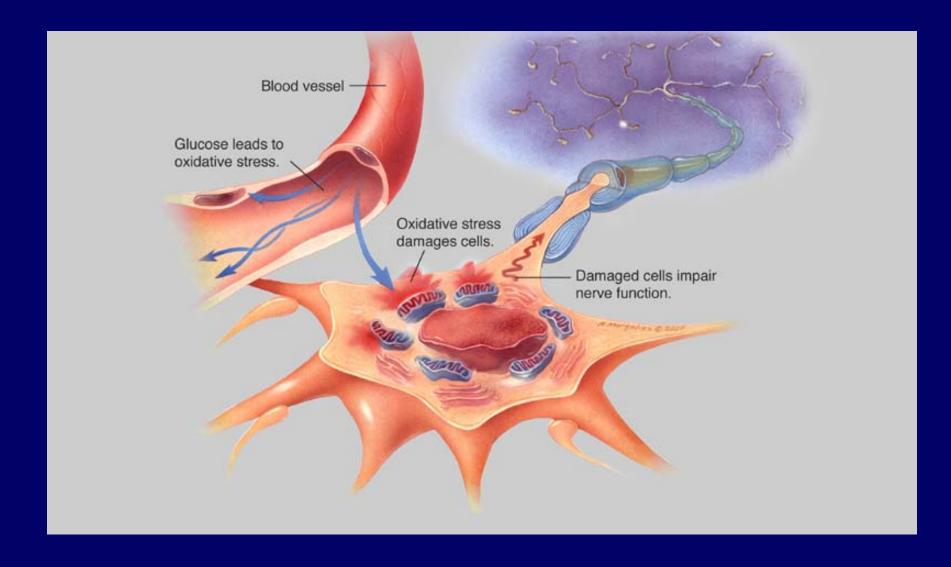
### Why Are the Peripheral and Autonomic Nervous Systems Damaged in Diabetes?

- High glucose results in oxidative stress
- Oxidative Stress: energy depletion and free radicals
- Oxidative stress results in the break down of energy stores, genetic material, proteins and lipids
- End Result: Cellular dysfunction that underlies neurologic diabetic complications

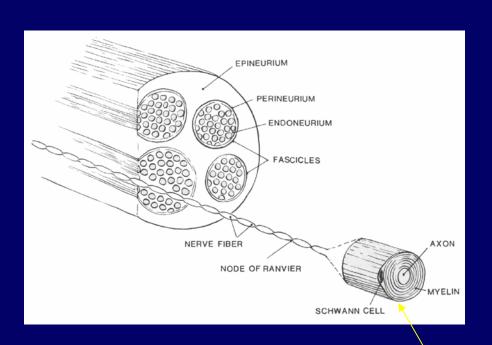
### Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) Mediate Cellular Damage and Death

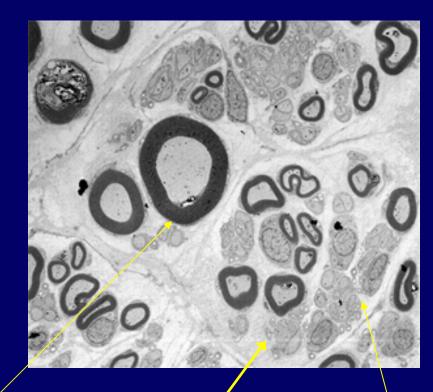


### Diabetic Peripheral and Autonomic Neuropathy



### Nerve Fiber Types



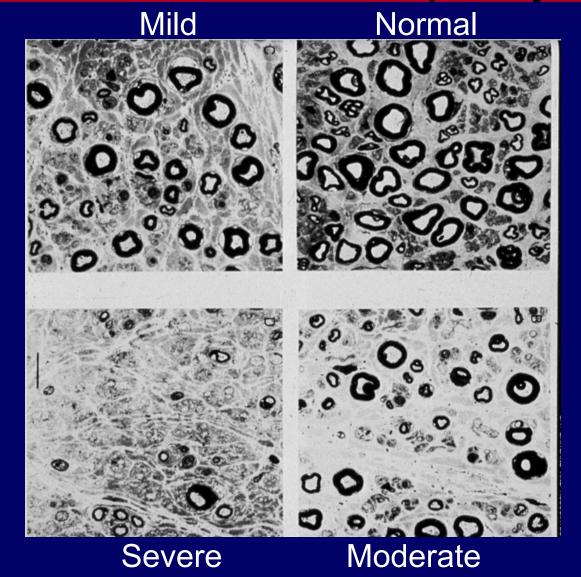


fiber

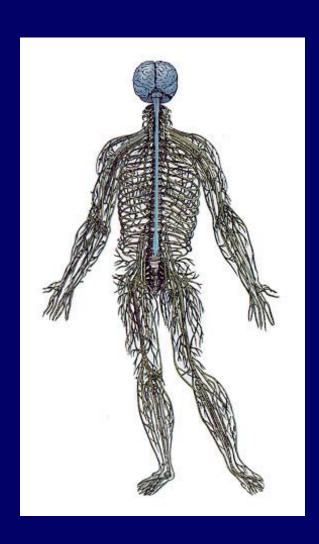
Large myelinated fibers

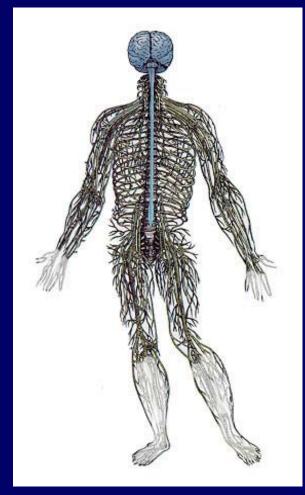
Unmyelinated fibers
Small myelinated

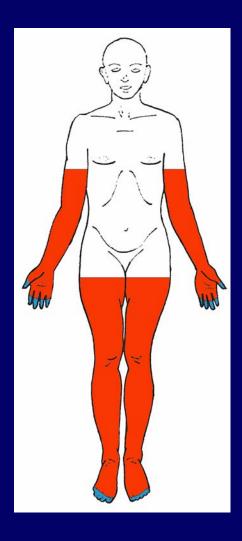
## Progressive Axonal Loss in Diabetic Neuropathy



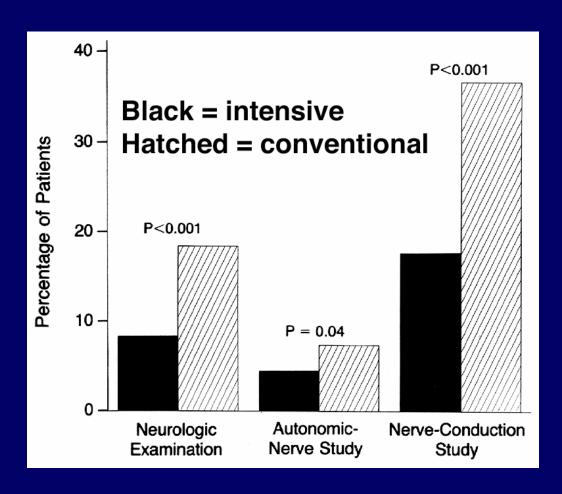
#### Peripheral Neuropathy







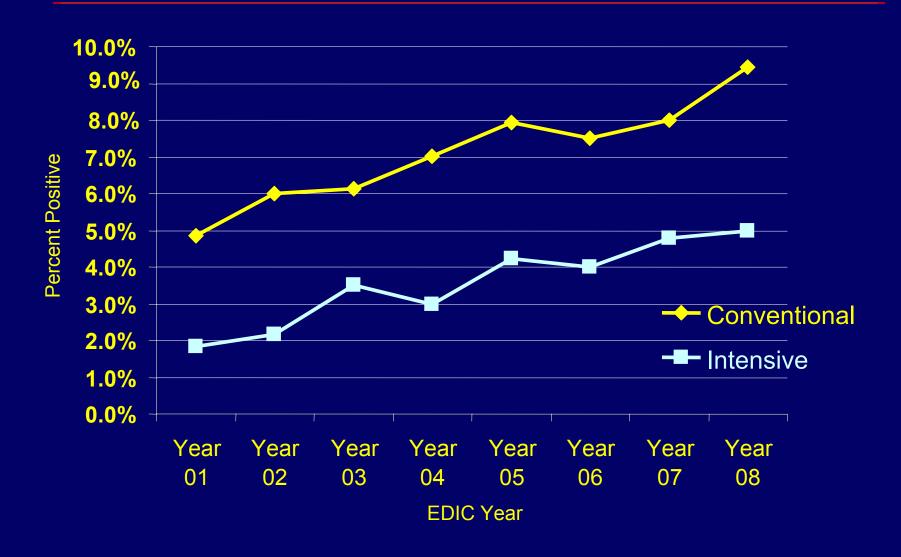
#### DCCT Neurological Outcome



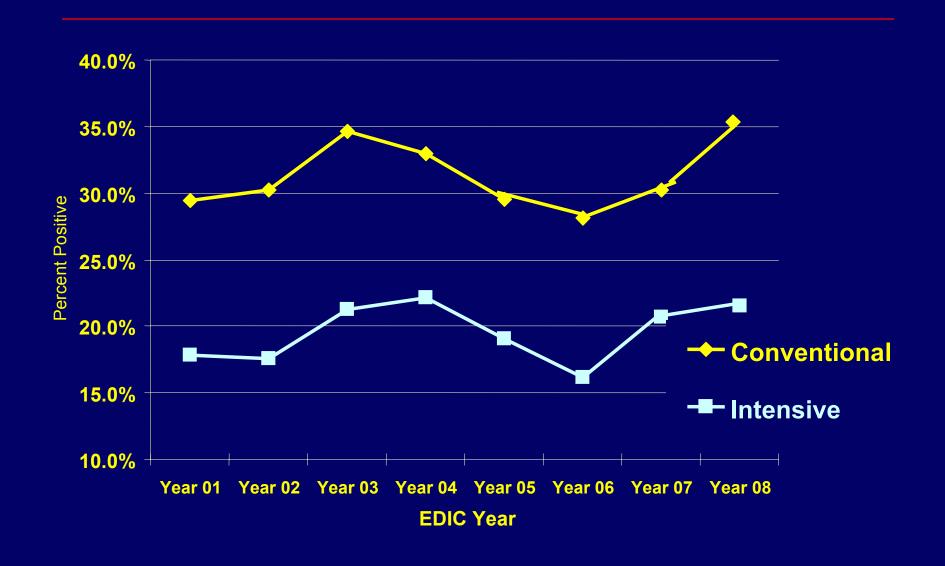
#### **EDIC Design: MNSI**

- DPN: Clinical symptoms and exam
- Completed by study coordinators
- Symptoms: simple questions
- Clinical exam [inspection, sensation (vibration, monofilament), reflexes]
- efeldman@umich.edu

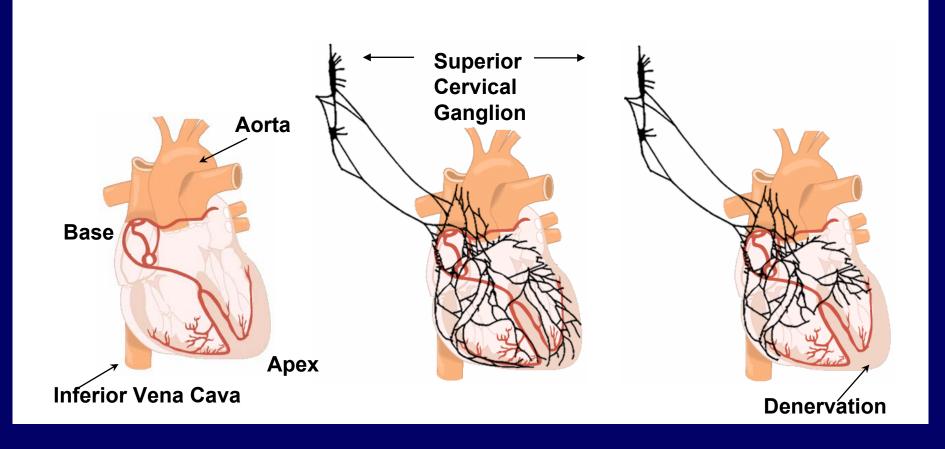
### Neuropathy by Symptoms in EDIC Years 1-8



#### Neuropathy by Exam in EDIC Years 1-8



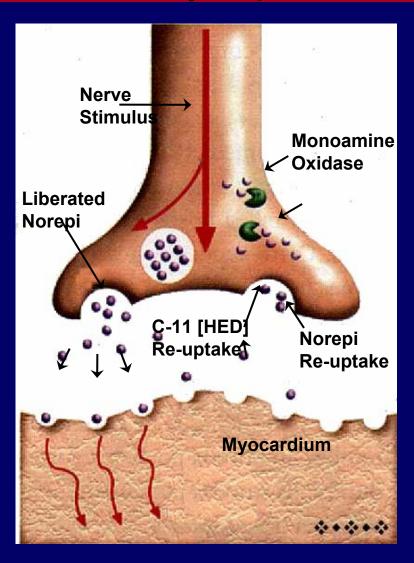
### Cardiac Diabetic Autonomic Neuropathy



# Positron Emission Tomography (PET) Scanning Measures Heart Function and Diabetic Autonomic Neuropathy

- PET scans visualize the blood flow to the heart using an ammonia (N-13) tracer
- PET scans visualize the sympathetic nerve innvervation of the heart using hydroxyephedrine (C-11 HED) as a tracer
- Looking at both tracers together allows a comparison of heart blood flow with heart innervation

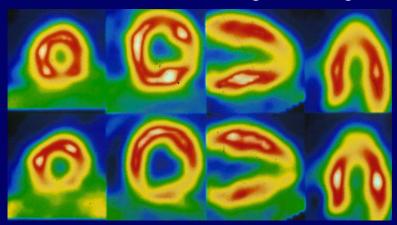
### The Sympathetic Nerve Myocardial Synapse



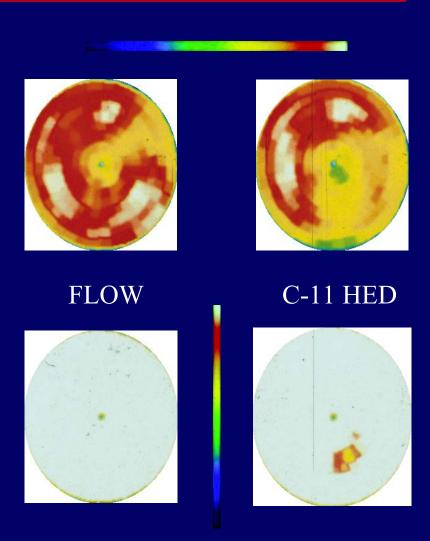
### Early Cardiac Sympathetic Denervation in Diabetes

N-13 Ammonia Blood Flow

Distal Proximal Vertical Horizontal Short Axis Short Axis Long AxisLong Axis



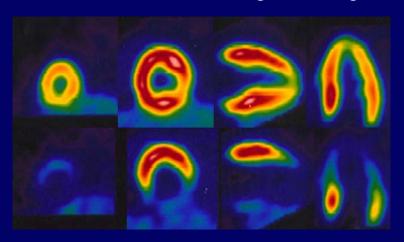
C-11 HED



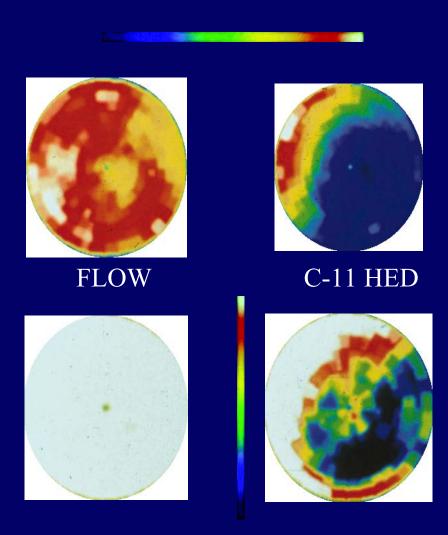
### Advanced Cardiac Sympathetic Denervation in Diabetes

N-13 Ammonia Blood Flow

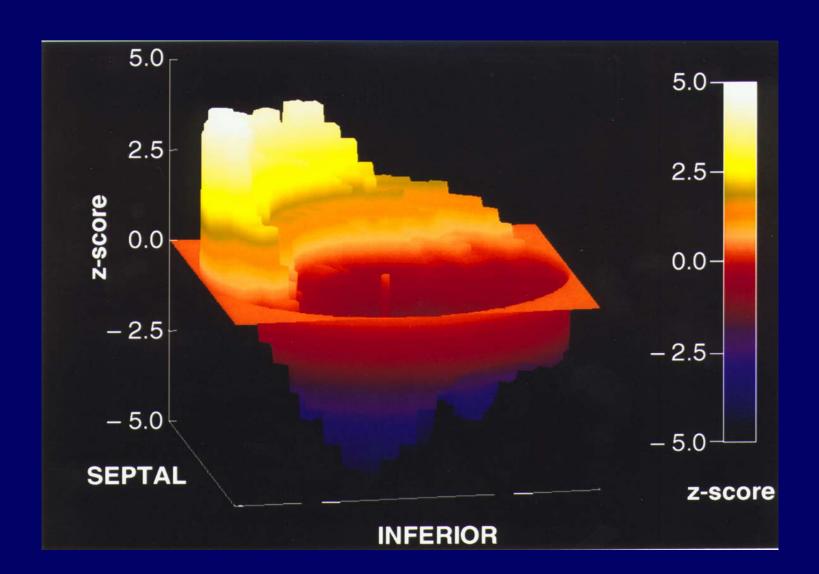
Distal Proximal Vertical Horizontal Short Axis Short Axis Long Axis Long Axis



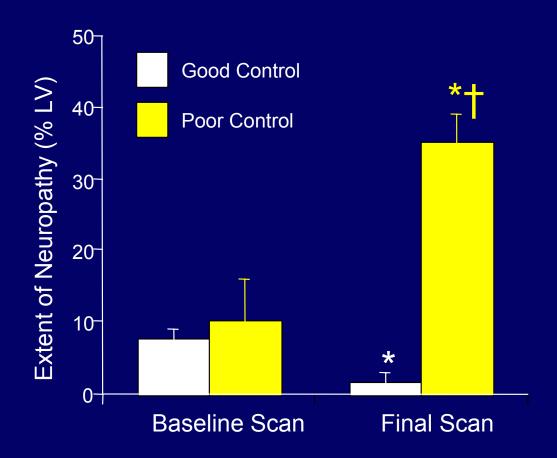
C-11 HED



## Increased Sympathetic Nerve Fiber Density in the Proximal Left Ventricle Contrasts with Loss of Distal Nerve Fibers in Cardiovascular Autonomic Neuropathy



# PET-HED Can Detect Progression and Regression of Cardiovascular Autonomic Neuropathy Over 3 Years in Type 1 Diabetes



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### In Diabetic Neuropathy the Balance Favors Oxidative Stress

Oxidative Stress

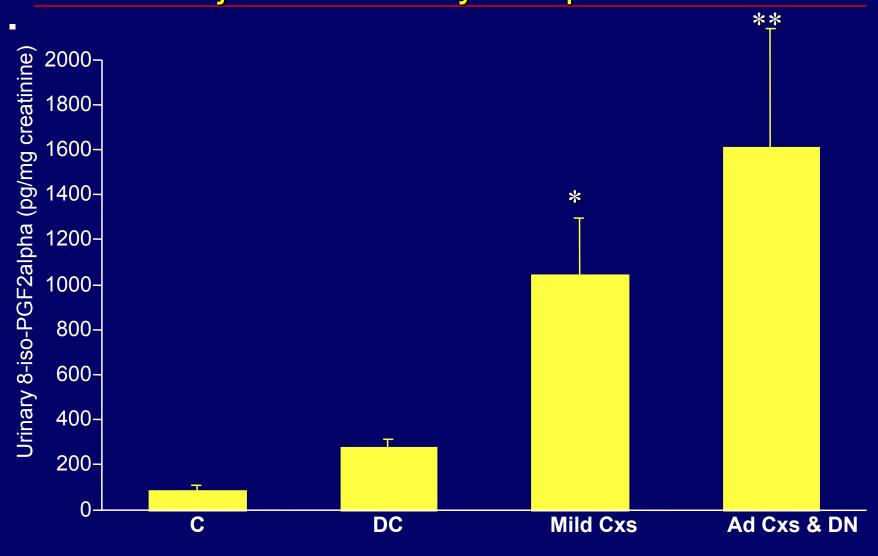
• F2 isoprostanes

Antioxidant Capacity

• TRAP

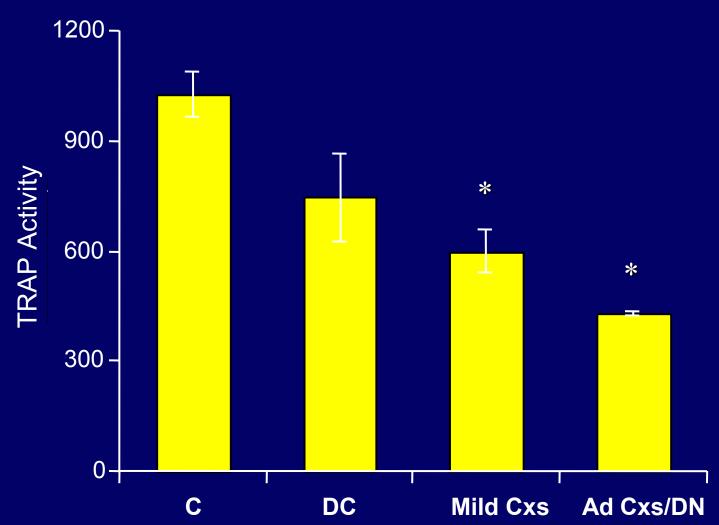
TRAP = Total Radical Trapping Antioxidant Parameter

## Urine F2-Isoprostanes (a Marker of Systemic Oxidative Stress) are Increased in Diabetic Subjects With Early Complications



\* p<0.05, \*\* p<0.01 vs C & DC

# TRAP Activity (a Measure of Oxidative Stress Buffering Capacity) is Decreased in Patients With Diabetes and Complications.



#### The Skin Biopsy Technique I

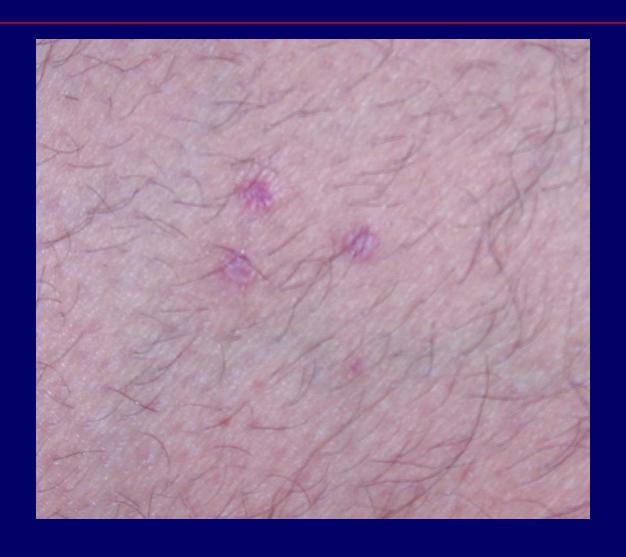


#### The Skin Biopsy Technique II



### The Skin Biopsy Technique III

HEALED SITE: 2 months



#### The Skin Biopsy Technique V



#### The Skin Biopsy Technique VI



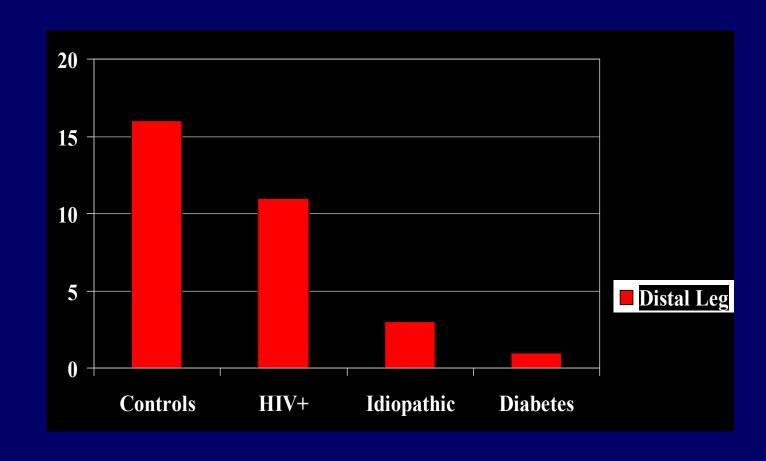
#### The Skin Biopsy Technique VII



#### Normal Cutaneous Innervation Assessed with Skin Biopsy



## Epidermal Nerve Fiber Densities



JHU Polydefkis
<a href="Cutaneous Nerve Lab">Cutaneous Nerve Lab</a>

### Strategy: Regeneration in EDIC: Correlation with Neurologic and Urologic Status?

- Epidermal nerves are attractive
  - Easily accessible
  - Biopsied in a relatively non invasive procedure
  - Re-biopsied
  - Available 'chemical' insult: capsaicin
  - Can assess regenerative capacity



#### JDRF Center University of Michigan





Diabetes Research Foundation International



#### **Michael Polydefkis**

**Diabetic Neuropathy Group** 

JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

#### Capsaicin Model

