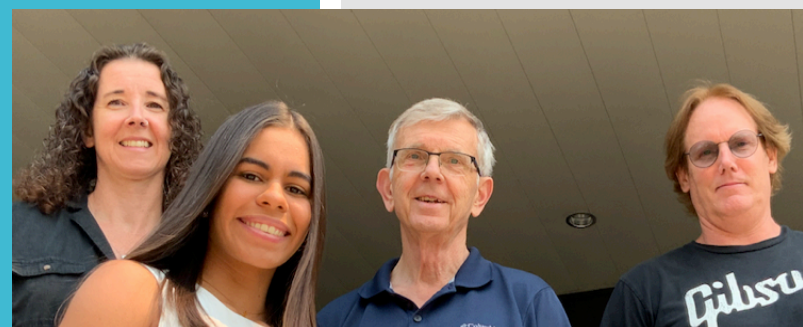


# Developing Therapeutics for the Prevention of Crystalline Silica-Induced Inflammation by Anti-Depressant Drugs



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# SILICA

Crystalline silica is a common mineral found in the earth's crust.

## Materials that contain silica

Sand  
Stone  
Concrete

## Symptoms

Fever  
Fatigue  
Chest Pain  
Respiratory  
Failure

## At-risk occupations

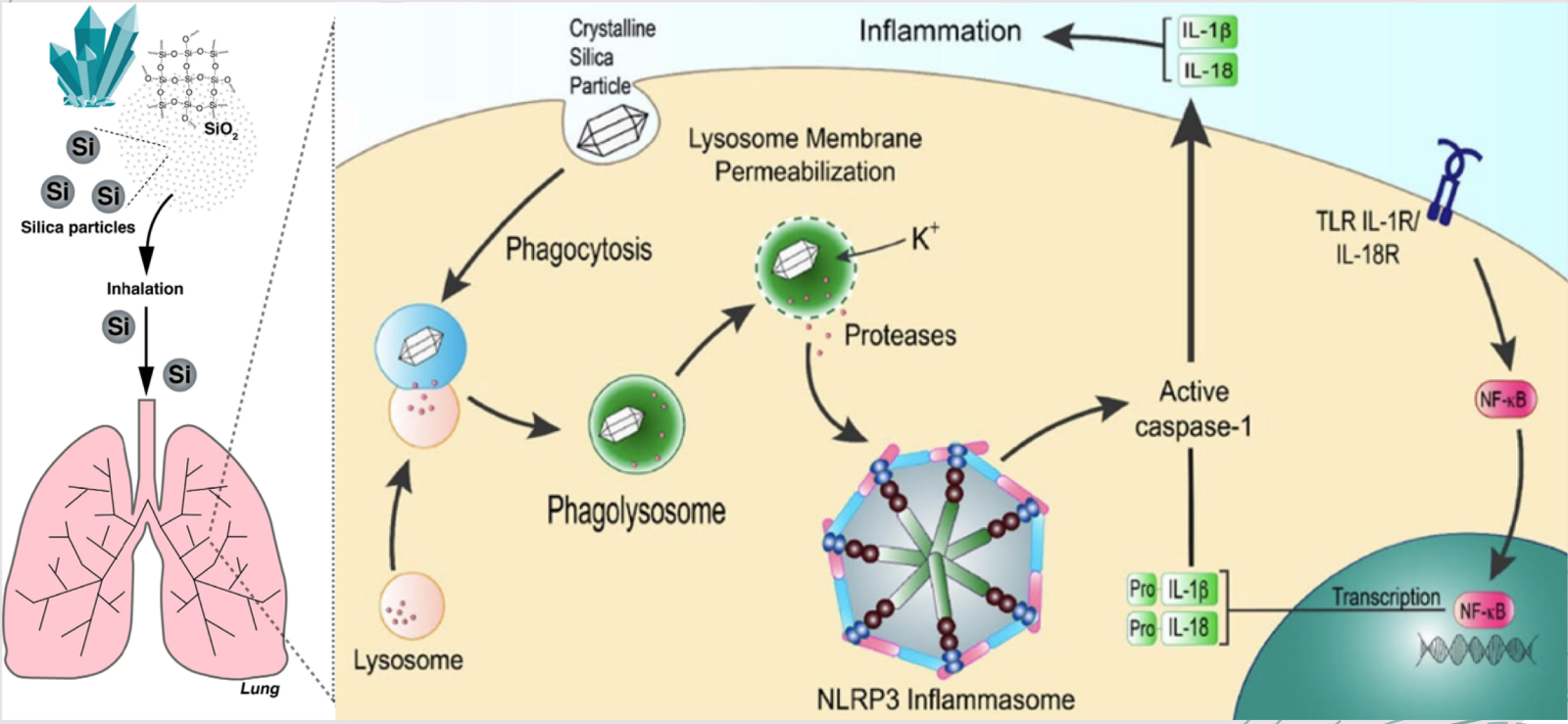
Construction  
Mining  
Sandblasting  
Demolition  
Plumbing  
Painting  
Manufacturing  
of glass &  
metal products

## Diseases

Silicosis  
Chronic obstructive  
pulmonary disease  
(COPD)  
Kidney disease  
Lung cancer



# Effects of Silica in Human Body



## Problem

Inadequate treatments for  
Chronic inflammatory diseases

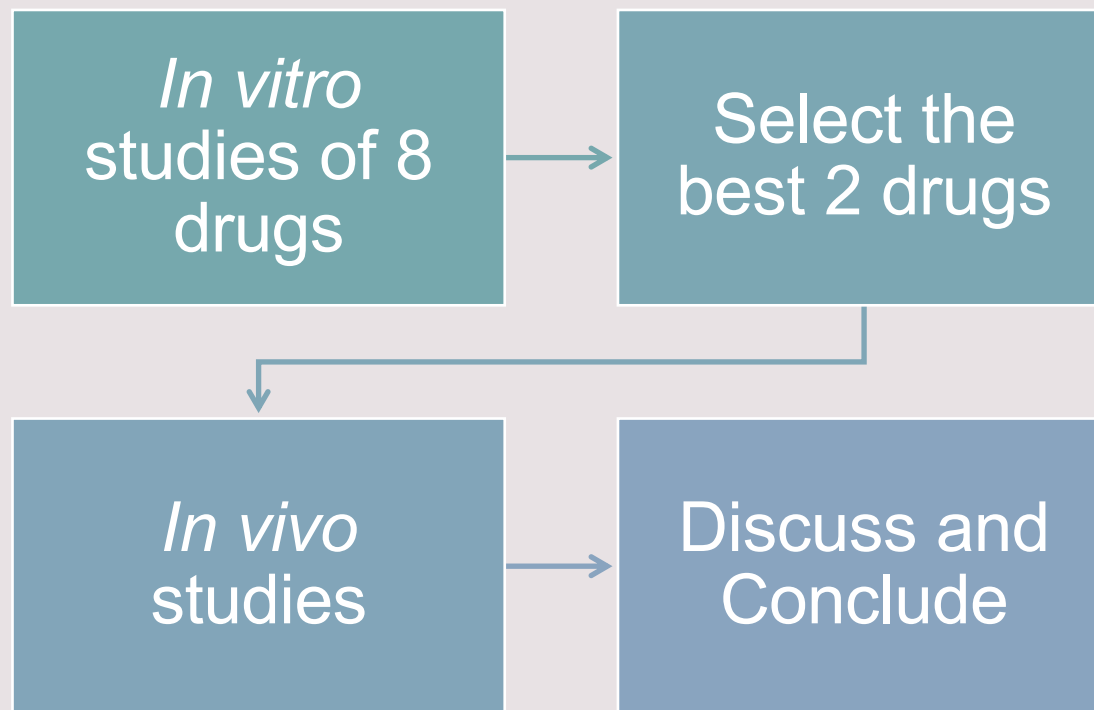
## Goal

Test novel therapeutics based  
on proposed mechanism





# Research



## *In vitro* studies of two drugs

BMdM

- Fluvoxamine
- Fluoxetine

AMs

- Fluvoxamine
- Fluoxetine

LDH

MTS

IL-1 $\beta$

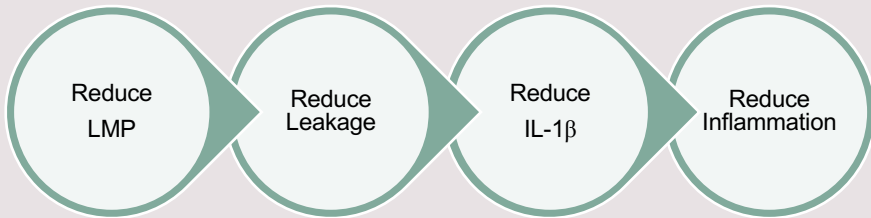
Statistical  
Analysis

# Hypothesis

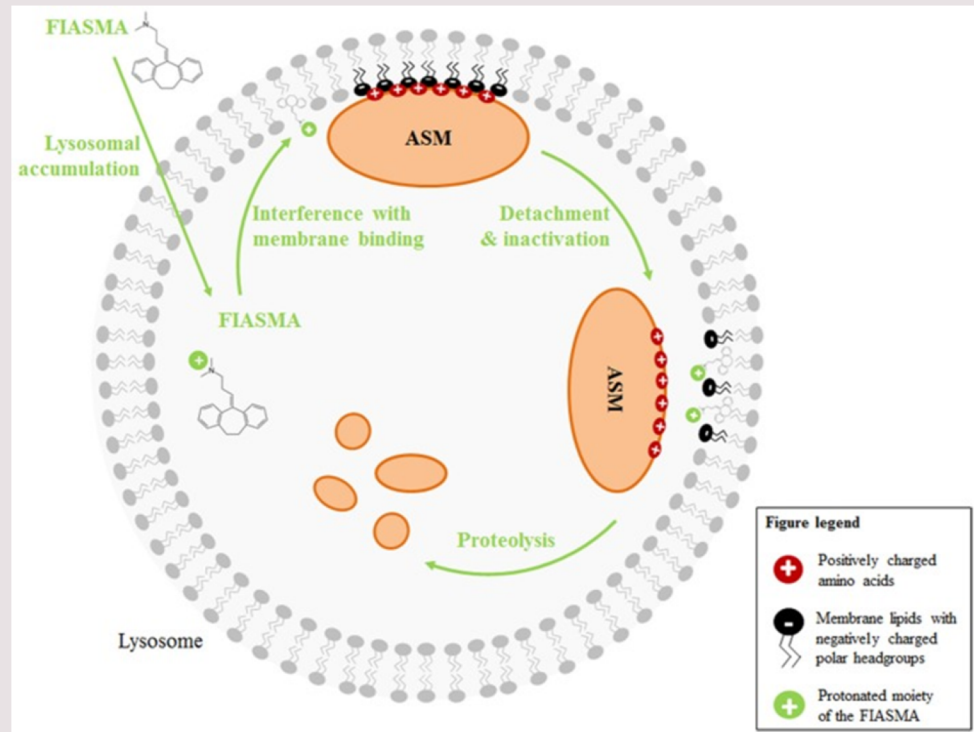


Antidepressant drugs will decrease the silica-induced inflammatory response in Murine Bone Marrow derived Macrophages (BMdM) and Alveolar Macrophages (AMs) with minimum cytotoxicity.

# How drugs help reduce inflammation?

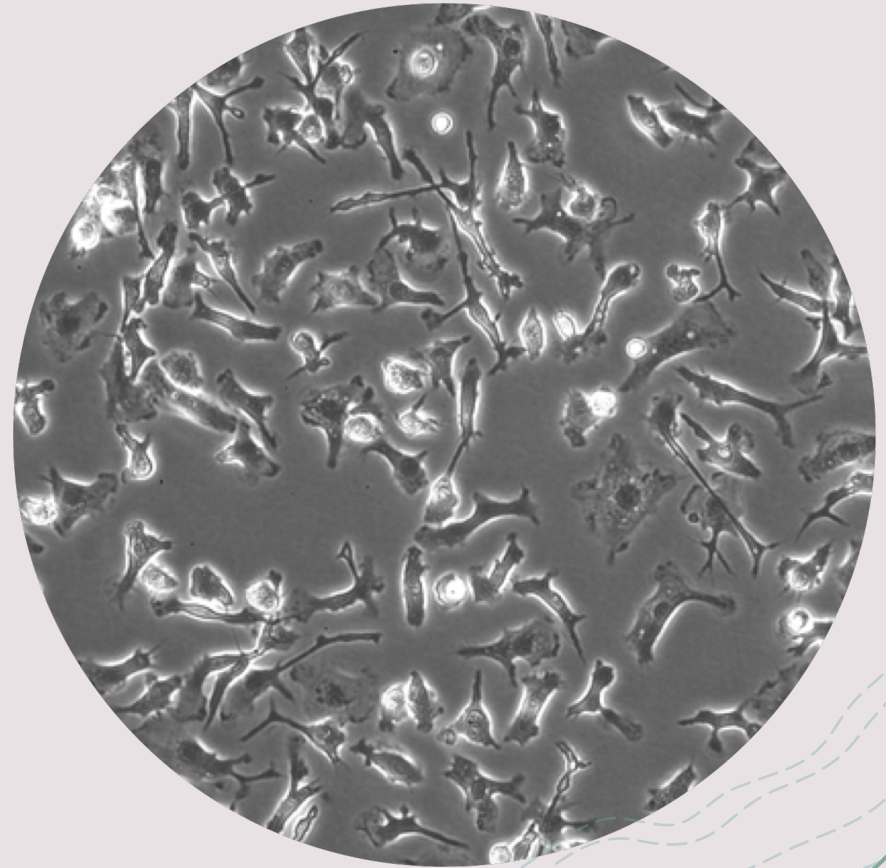


## Functional Inhibitors of Acid Sphingomyelinase (FIASMA)

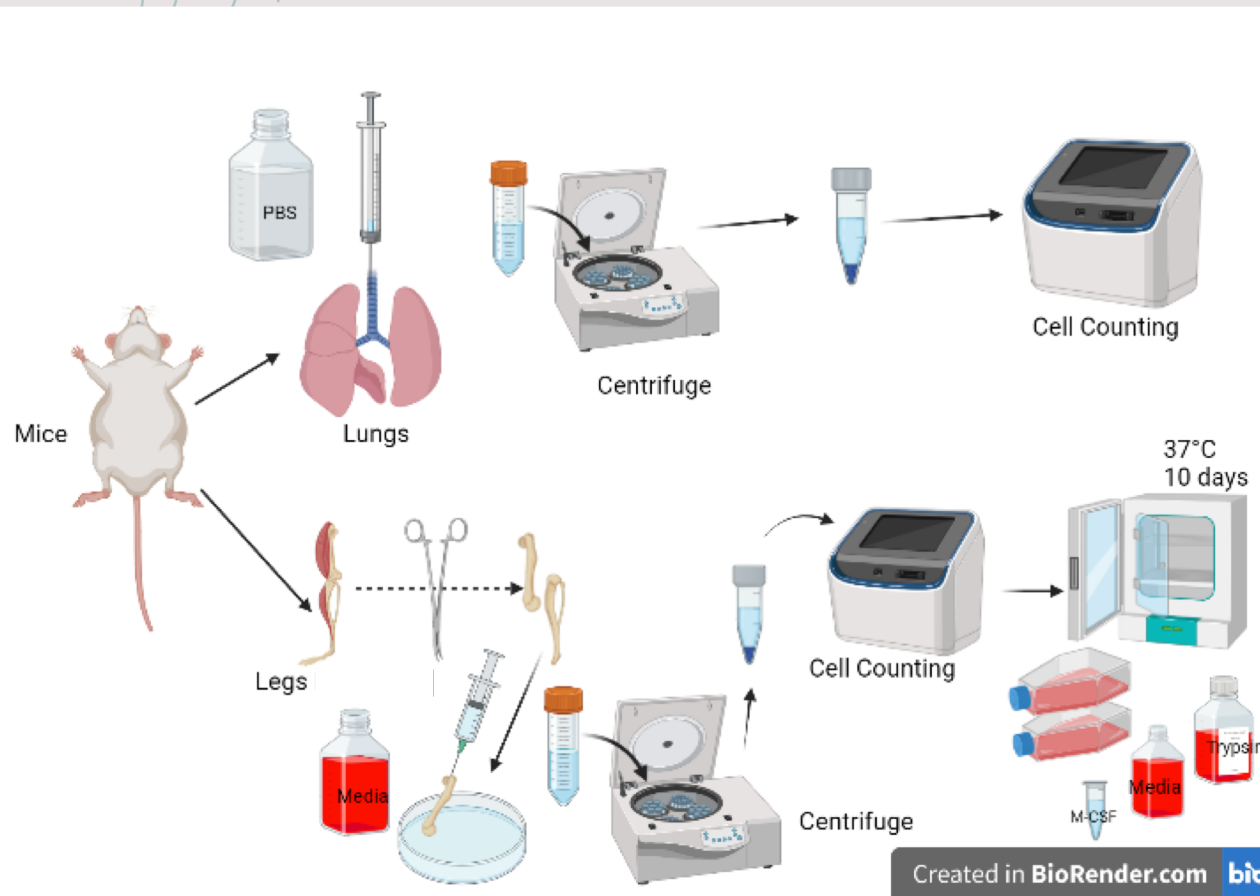


# Methods

- + Isolation and culture of bone marrow derived macrophages
- + Isolation and culture of alveolar macrophages
- + Cell treatments
- + *In vitro* assays

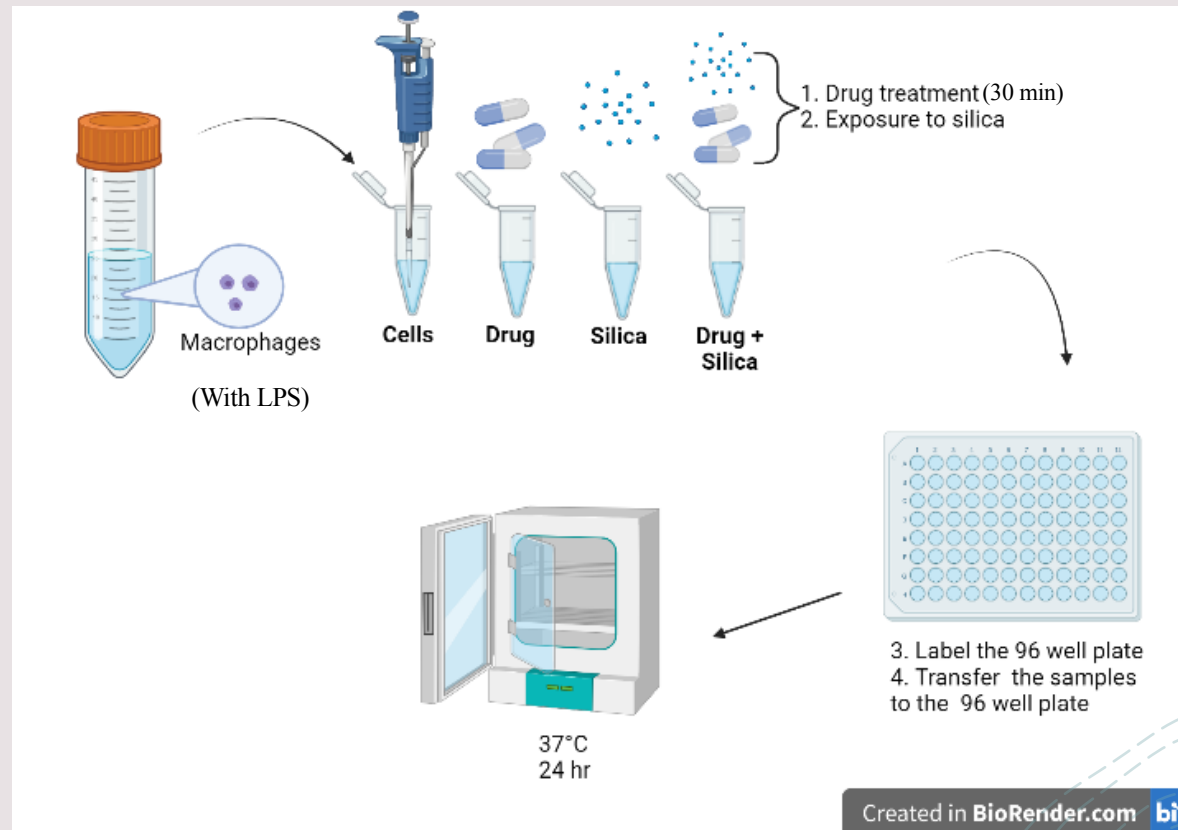






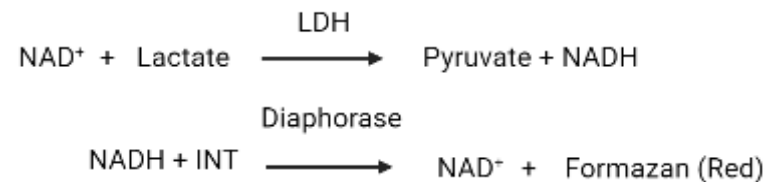
# Isolation and culture of BMdM and AMs

# Cell Treatments

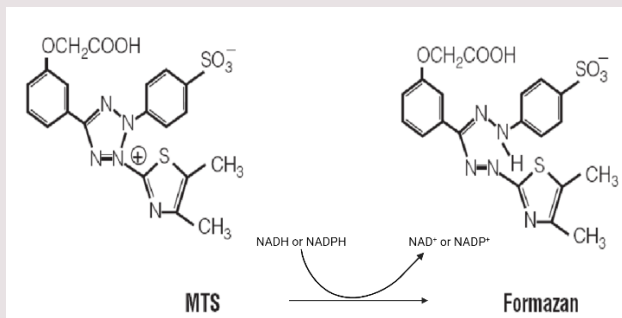


# Lactate Dehydrogenase (LDH) Assay

- + Quantitatively measures lactate dehydrogenase (LDH)
- + LDH is a stable cytosolic enzyme that is released upon cell lysis.
- + Results in the conversion of tetrazolium salt (INT) into red formazan.
- + The amount of color formed is proportional to the number of lysed cells.



# MTS Assay



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3-(4,5-dimethylthiazol-2-yl)-5-(3-carboxymethoxyphenyl)-2-(4-sulfophenyl)-2H-tetrazolium, inner salt (MTS)

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MTS tetrazolium compound is bio-reduced by cells into colored formazan product.

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This conversion is presumably accomplished by NADPH or NADH

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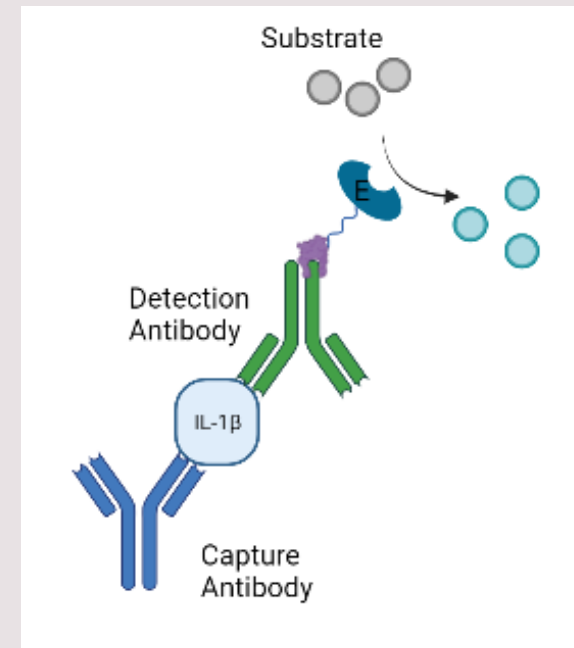
This is produced by dehydrogenase enzymes in metabolically active cells (mitochondria).

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The quantity of formazan product is directly proportional to the number of living cells in culture (Cells viability).

# Enzyme-Linked ImmunoSorbent assay (ELISA) technique for IL-1 $\beta$

- + Immobilized antigen is detected by an antibody bound to an enzyme capable of generating a color change
- + A sandwich ELISA measures antigen between two layers of antibodies
- + Streptavidin- HRP
- + Enzyme = Horseradish Peroxidase (HPR)

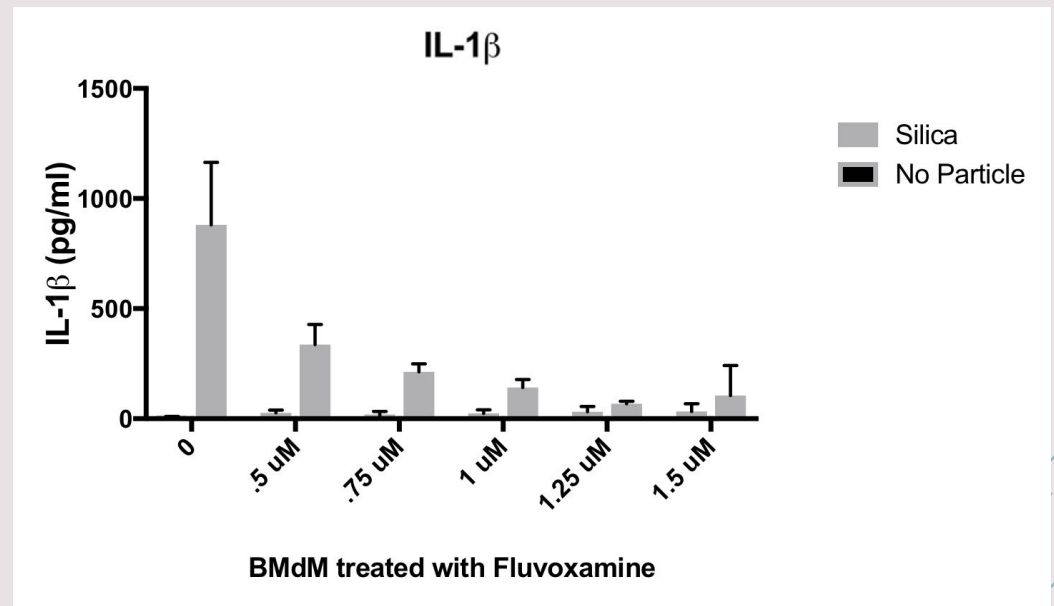
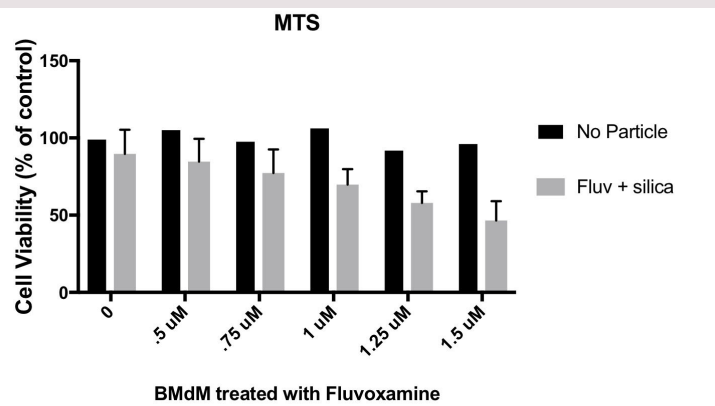
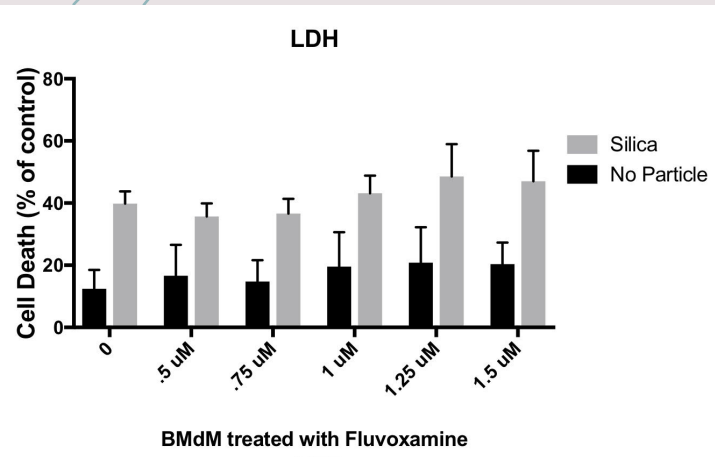




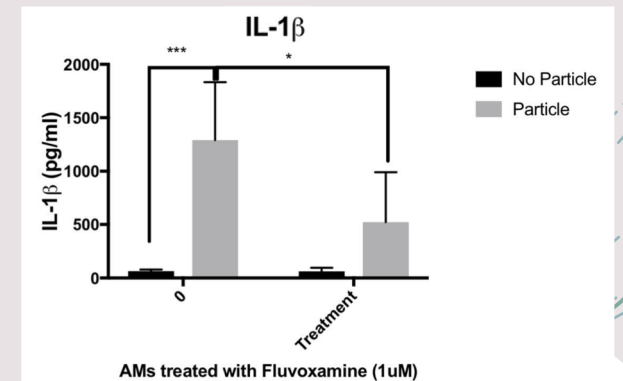
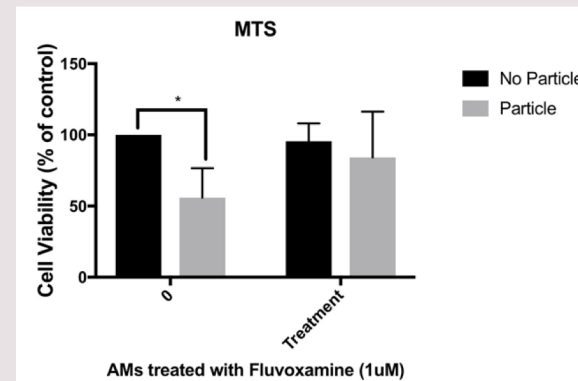
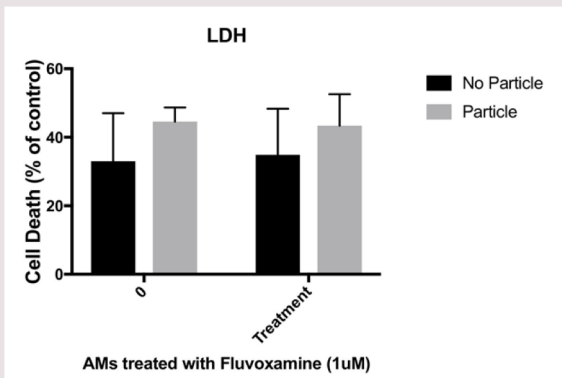
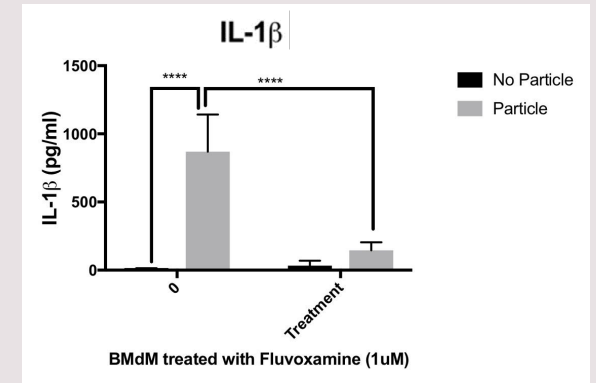
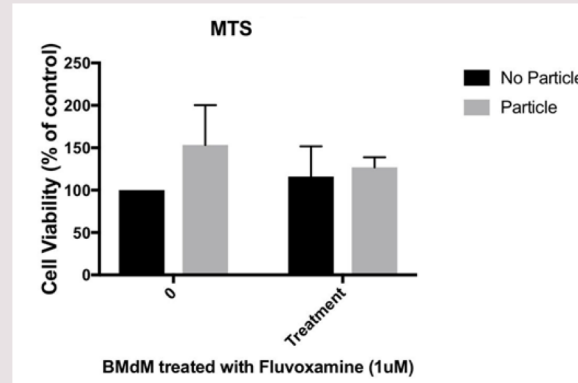
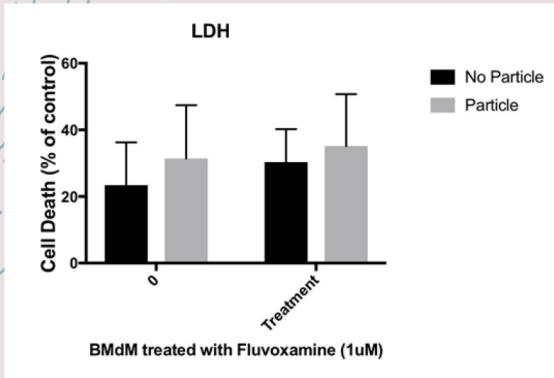
Results



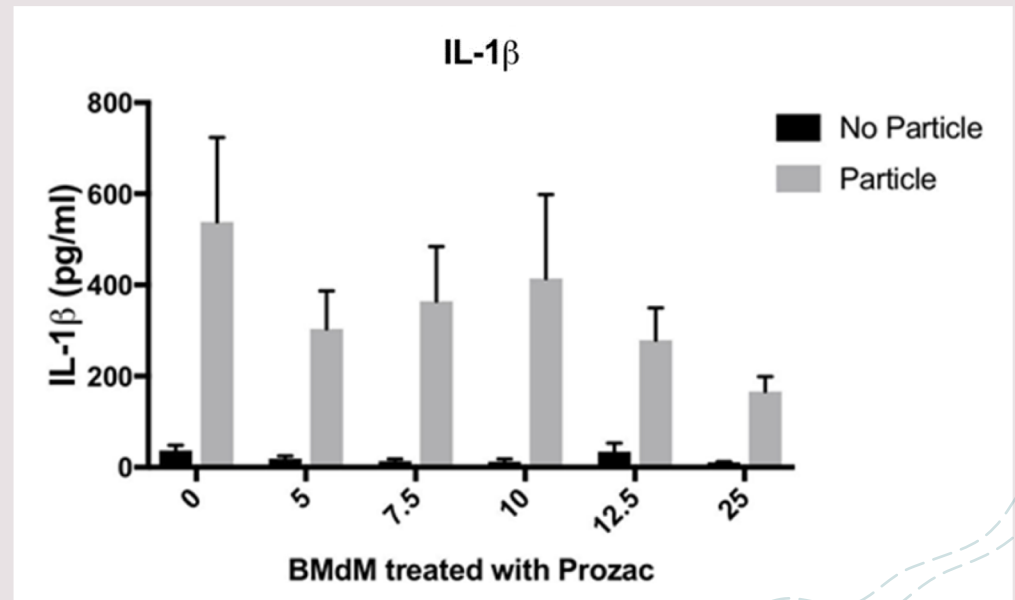
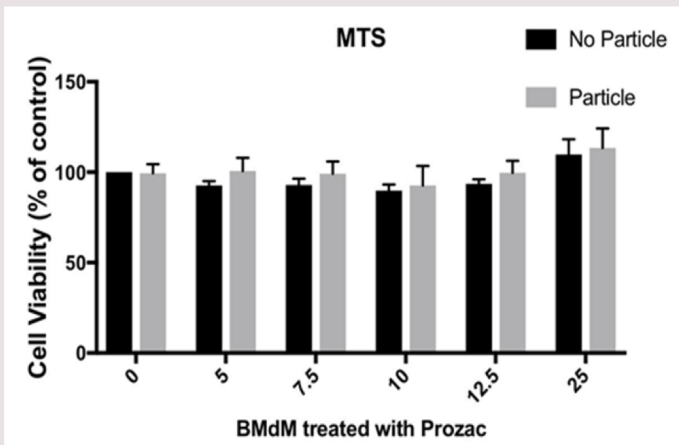
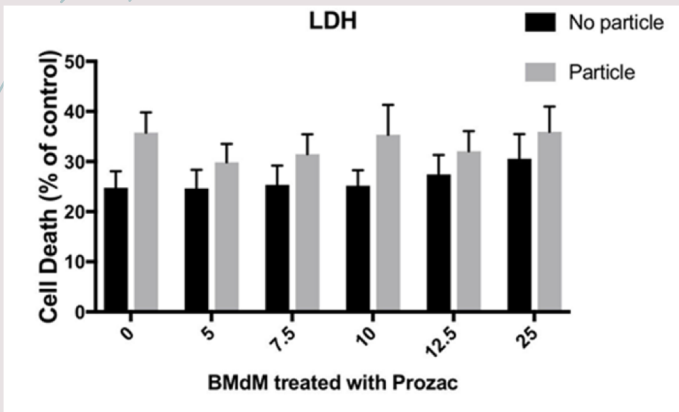
# BMdM Fluvoxamine Dose Response



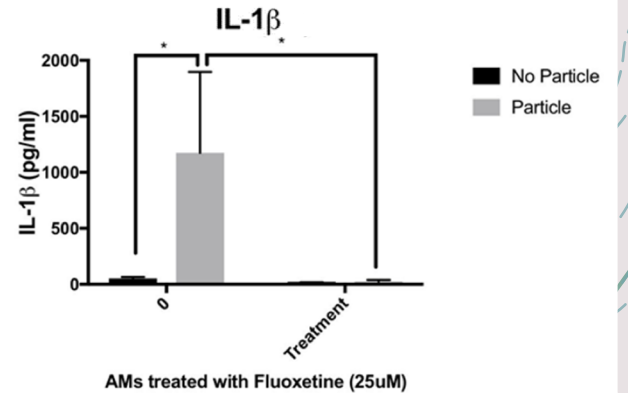
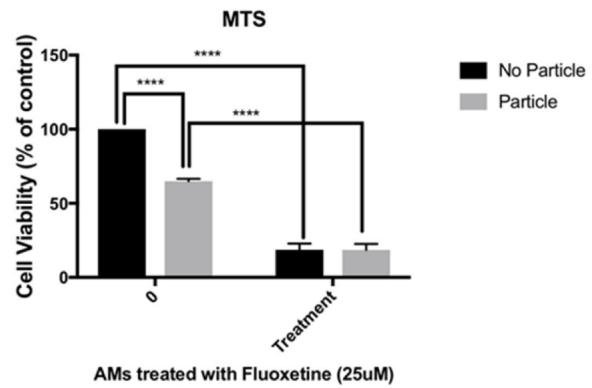
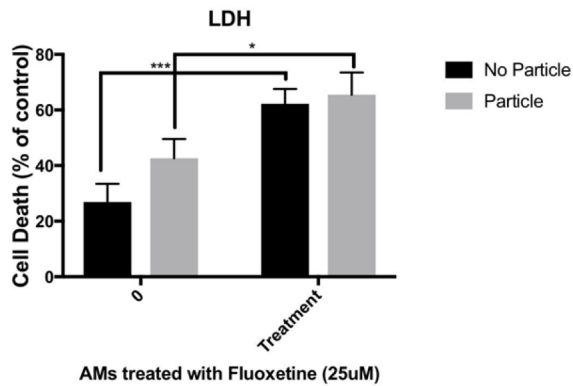
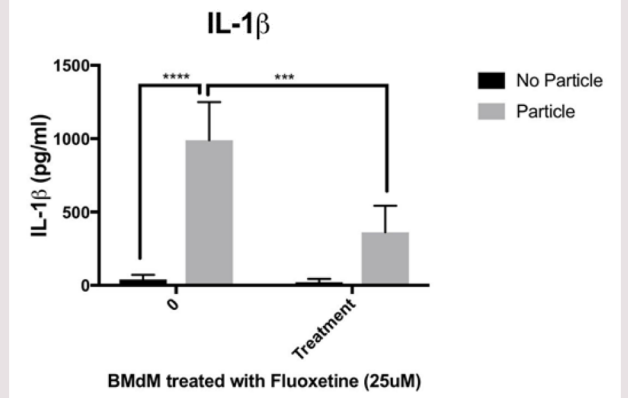
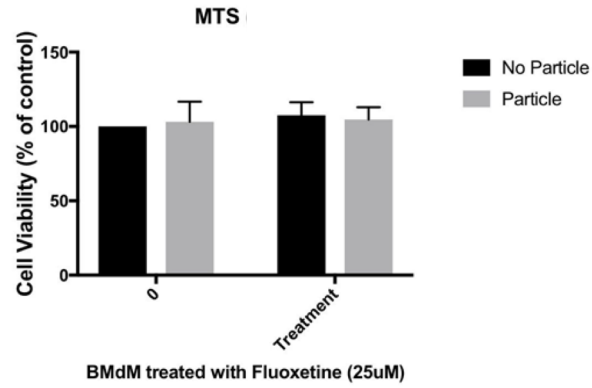
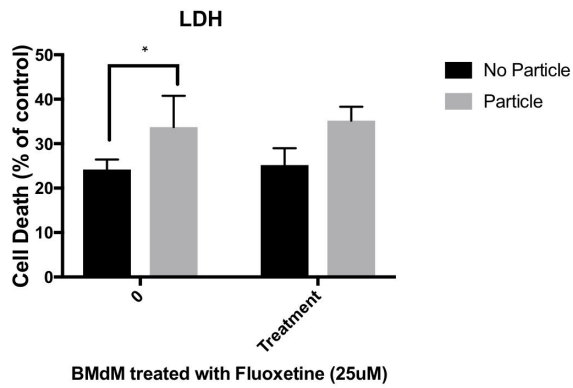
# BMdM & AMs Fluvoxamine (1 $\mu$ M)



# BMdM Fluoxetine Dose Response

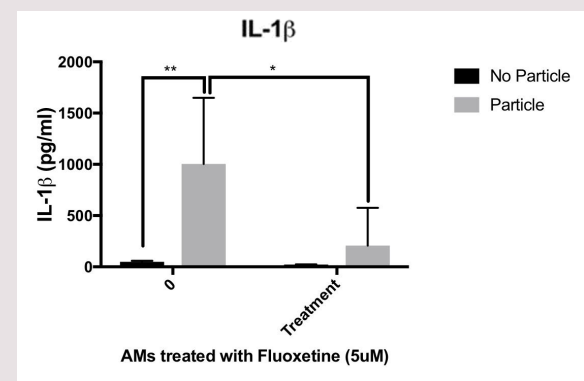
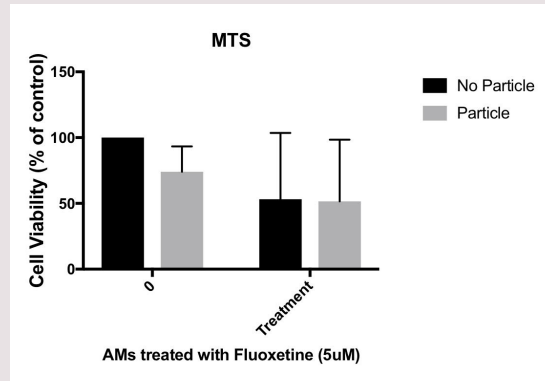
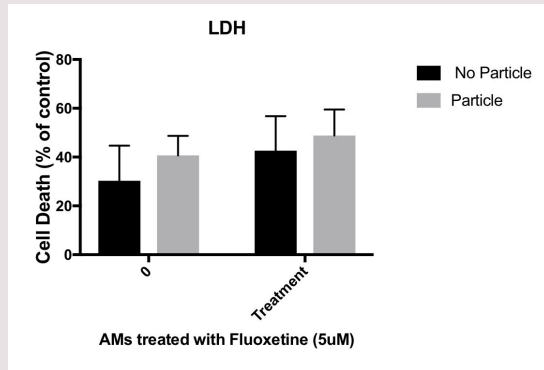
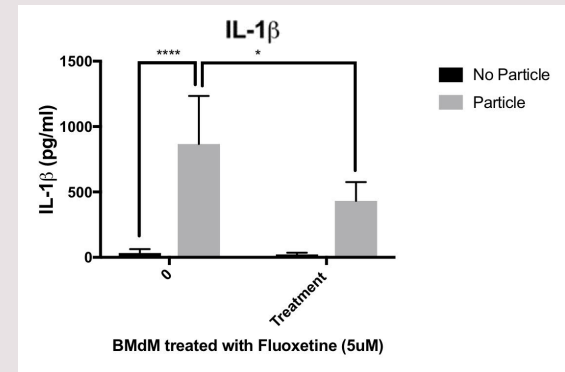
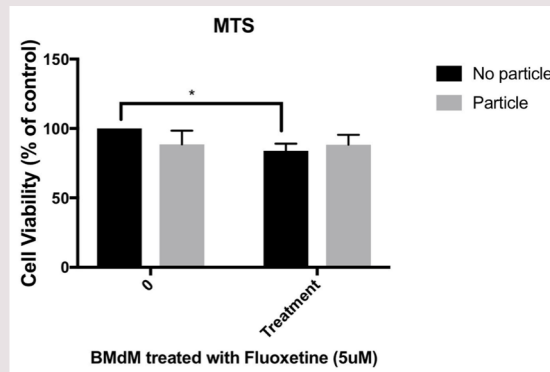
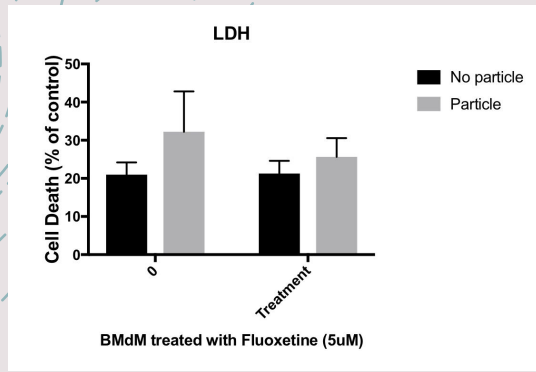


# BMdM & AMs Fluoxetine 25 $\mu$ M





# BMdM & AMs Fluoxetine 5 $\mu$ M



# Conclusions

- + Both treatments reduced crystalline silica-induced inflammation in mice immune cells without greatly increasing cytotoxicity
- + BMdM and AMs are different
- + The FDA approved drugs could be repurposed as a treatment for chronic inflammatory diseases
- + Additional studies were needed to make sure that the proposed mechanism of the drugs is directly reducing the LMP
- + Human immune cells



# Acknowledgement

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