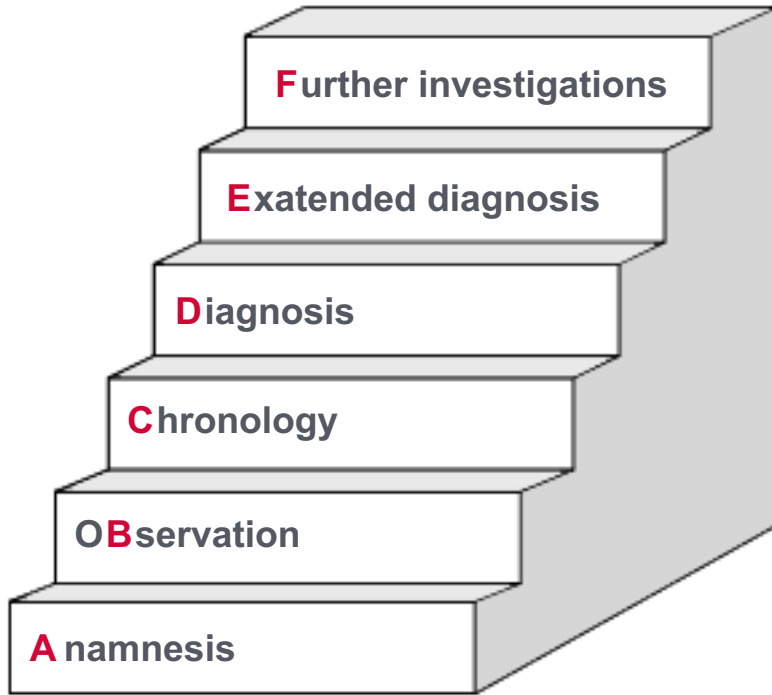


**University  
of Basel**

# **Diagnosis of drug hypersensitivities: a jigsaw puzzle**

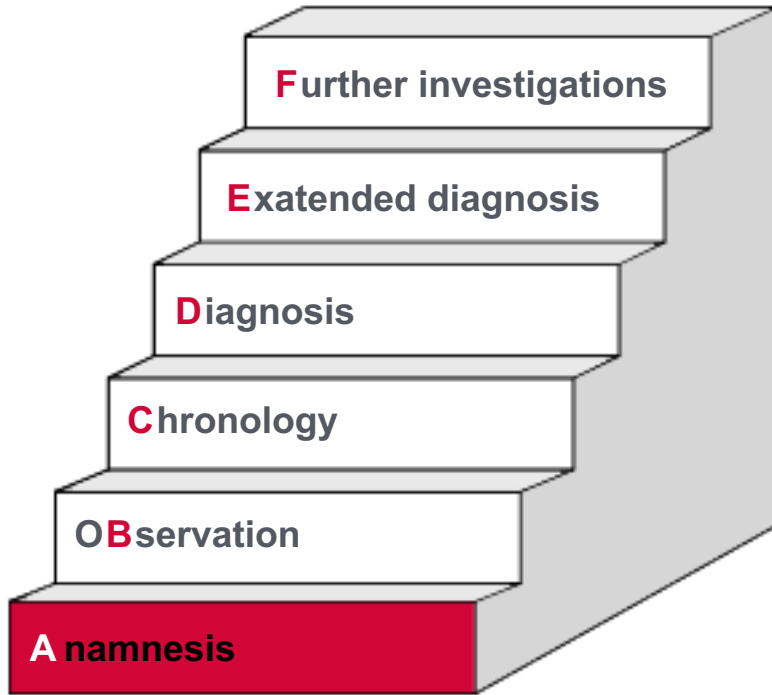
Prof. Andreas J. Bircher

# Diagnosis of drug hypersensitivities



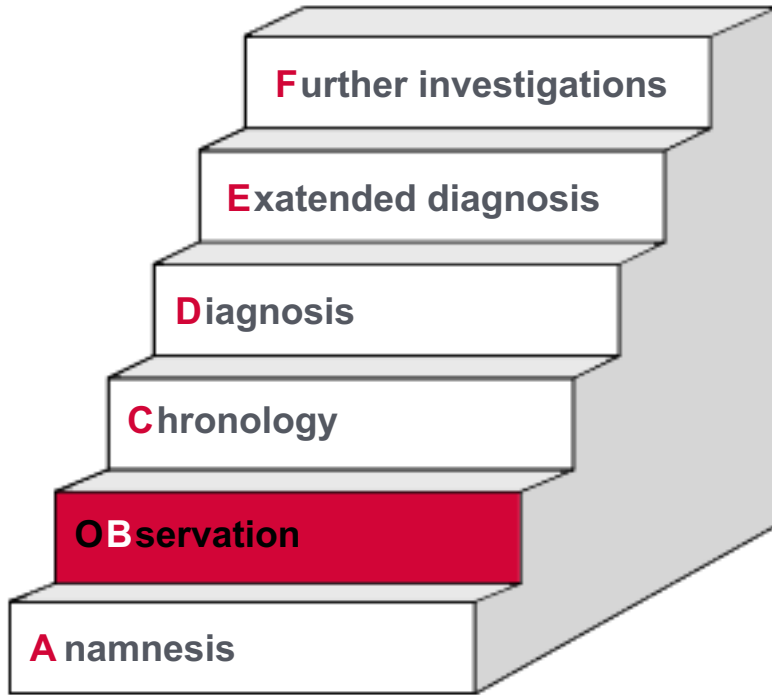
- **ABCDEF** rule allows to diagnose drug hypersensitivities

# Anamnesis



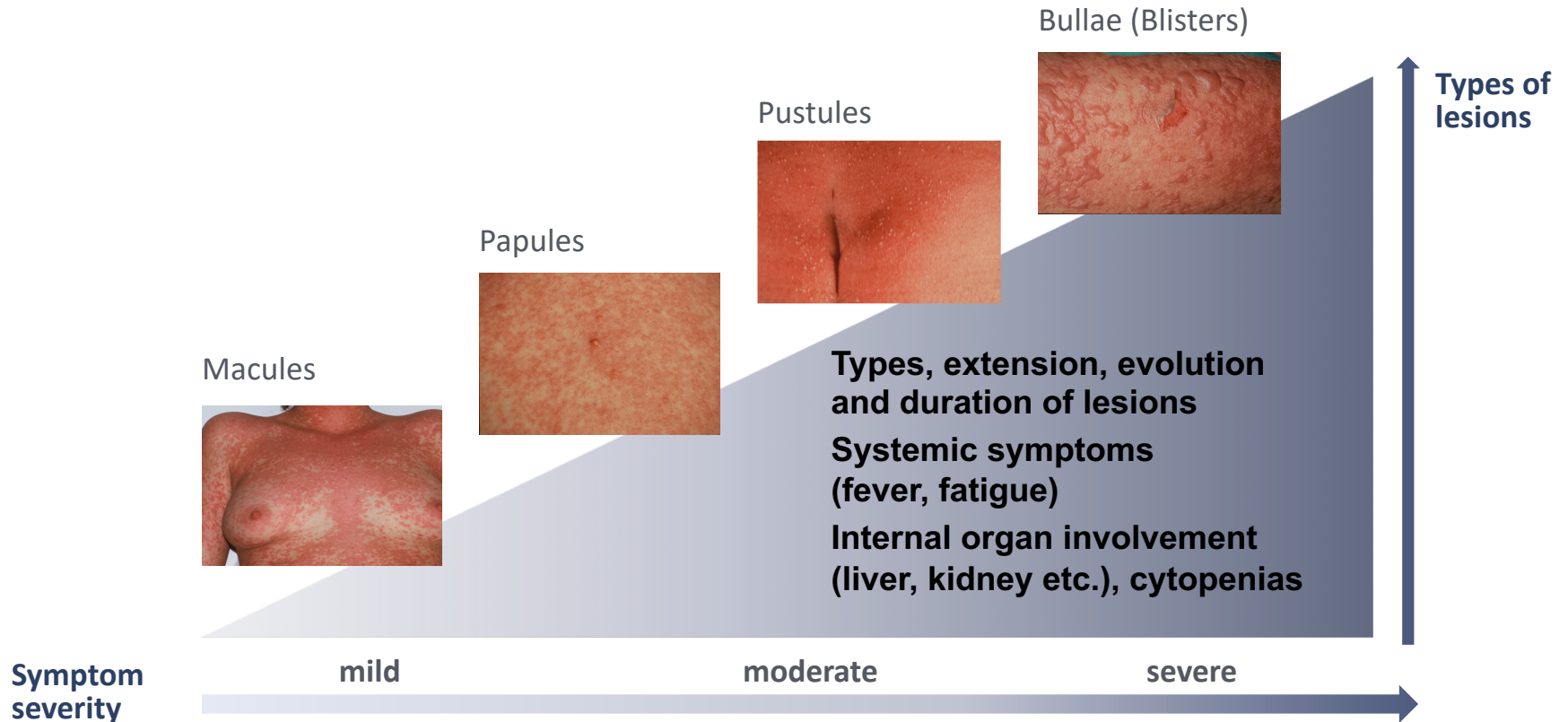
- Detailed history
- Dose and duration of medication
- Onset and evolution of reaction, reaction to previous/later intake
- Known (confirmed) allergies

# OBservation

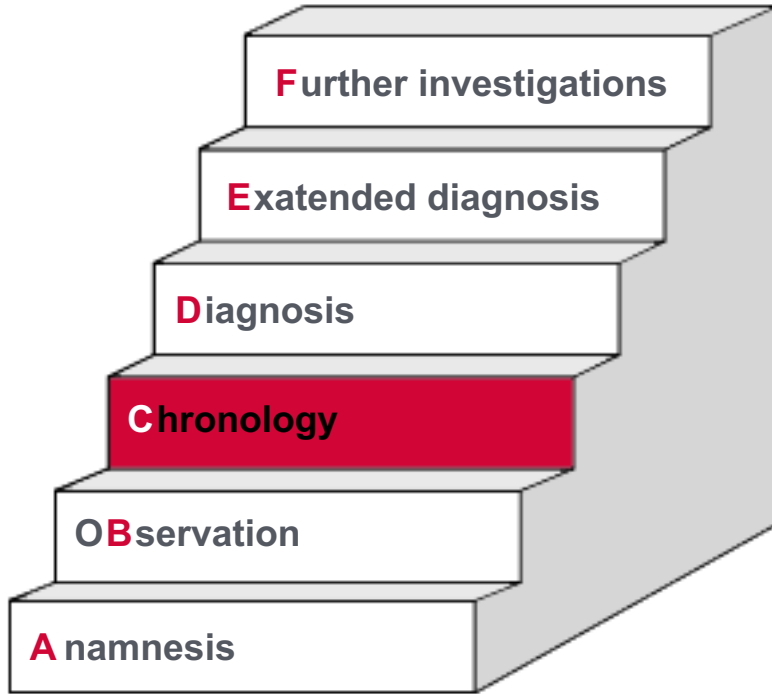


- Detailed description of clinical manifestations
- Type, extension, evolution and duration of lesions
- Systemic symptoms
- Internal organ involvement

# OBservation



# Chronology

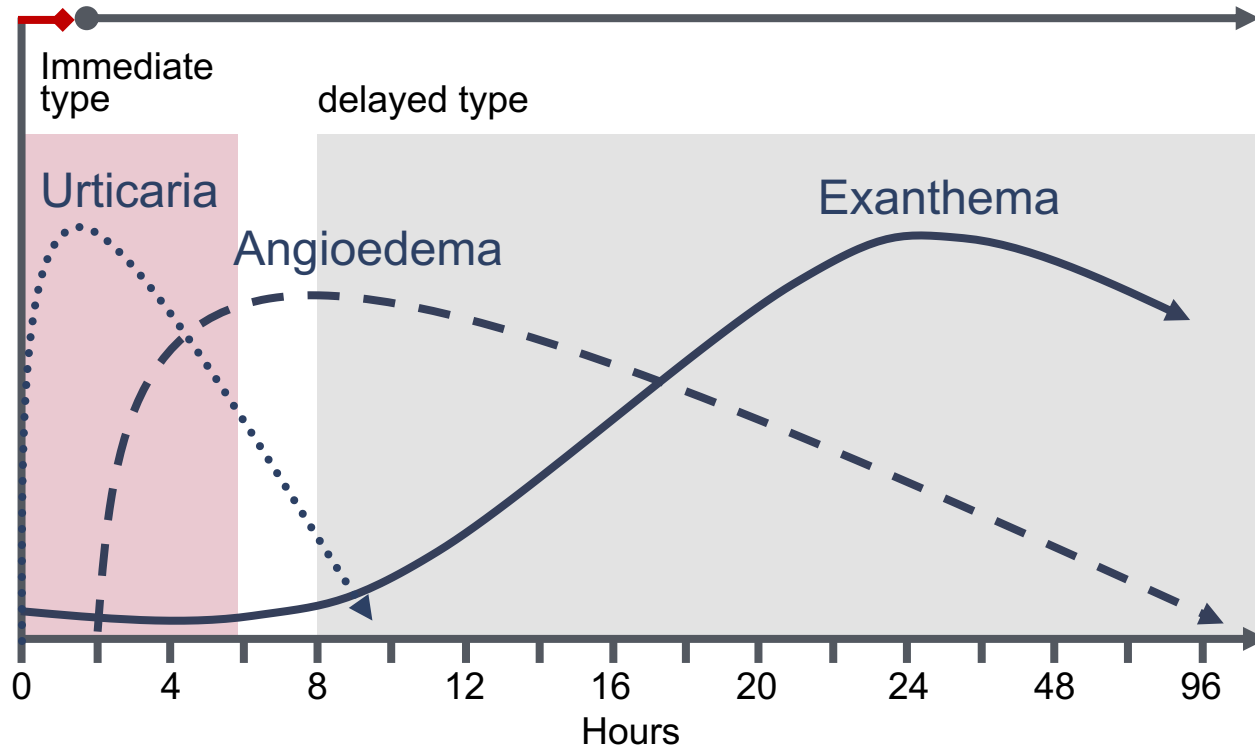


- Detailed description of chronology helps to identify possible mechanisms
- Type of drugs, how long and how were the drugs taken
- Onset and duration of reaction

# Chronology

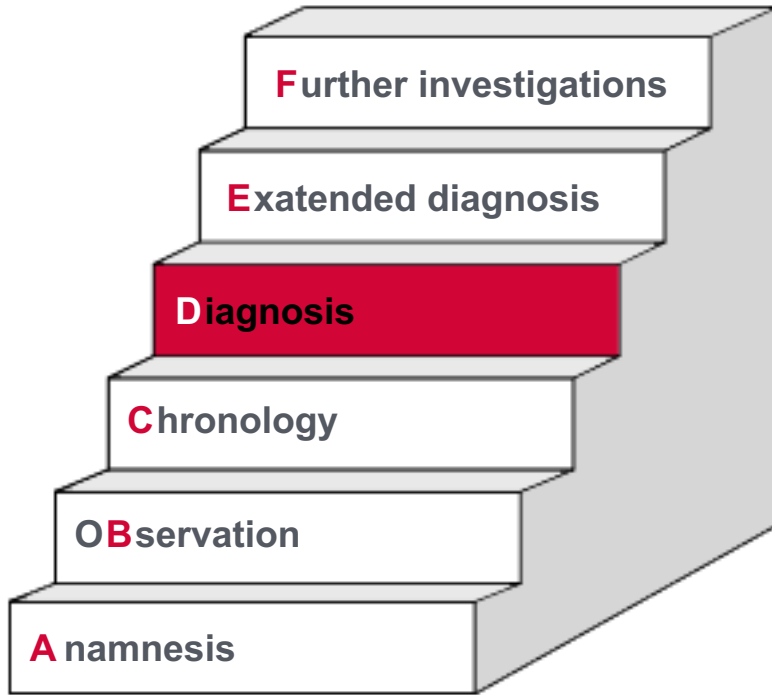
immediate

immediate



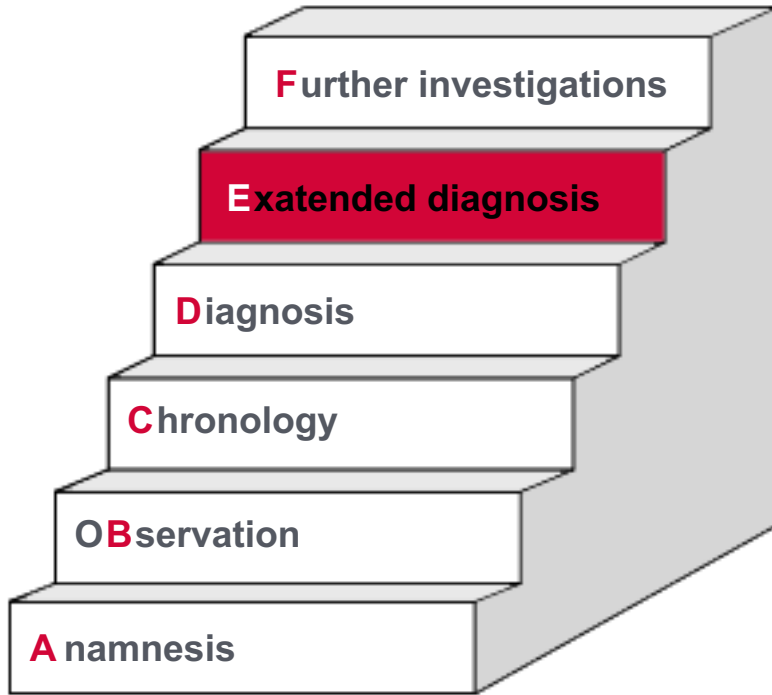


# Diagnosis and differential diagnosis



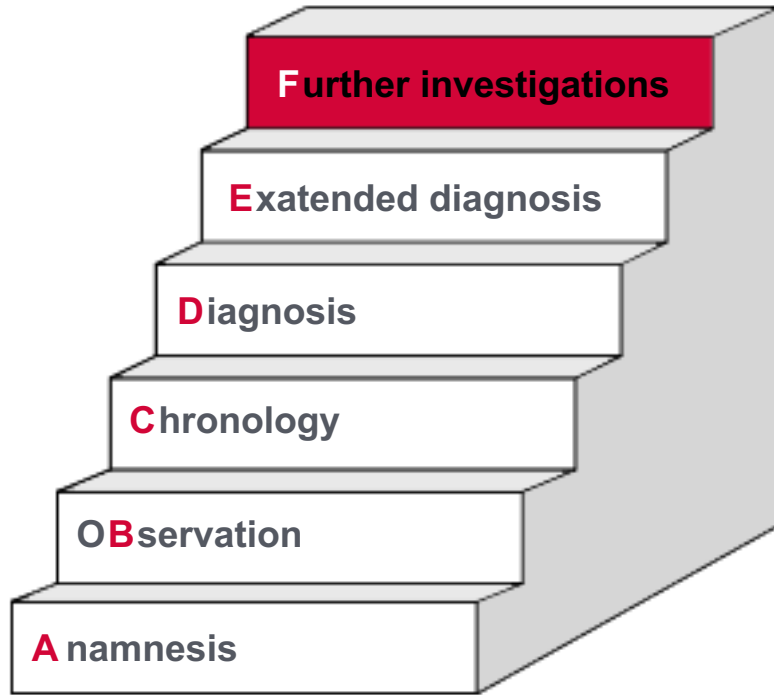
- Combine findings from anamnesis, observations and chronology
- Establish clinical diagnosis

# Extended diagnosis



- Recognize severe reactions or complications (eg SCARs, severe cutaneous adverse reactions)
- Check danger signs

# Further specialized investigations



- Identify sensitization to suspected drug allergen
- Done within approx. 1 year
- Patch test
- Skin tests (skin prick, intradermal)
- Blood tests
- Provocation tests

# Further specialized investigations



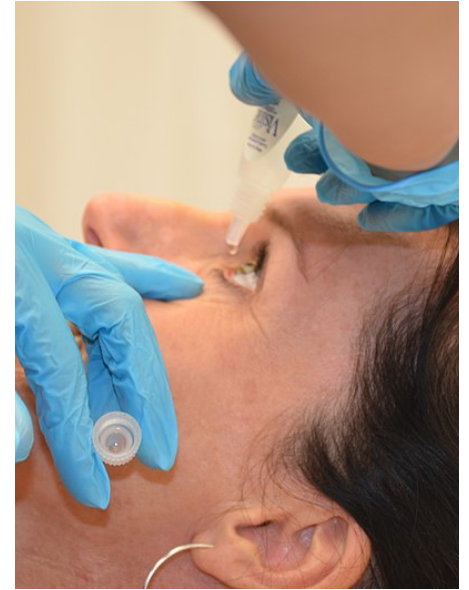
Patch test



Skin tests  
(eg intradermal test)



Blood tests  
(eg IgE determination)



Provocation test (eg  
Conjunctival provocation)

# Recommendations



- Inform patient and/or treating physician
- Allergy card or passport