**Majority of circulating monocytes**
- Less mature phenotype
- Levels correlate with poor outcome in acute myocardial infarction and stroke
- Better antimicrobial capacity
- Increased skin-homing potential
- Increased production of reactive oxygen species in response to bacteria

**Minority of circulating monocytes**
- More mature phenotype
- Expanded in inflammatory and neoplastic diseases
- Better Fc mediated phagocytosis
- Increased gut-homing potential
- Increased expression of pro-inflammatory genes, co-stimulatory molecules and cytokine secretion