

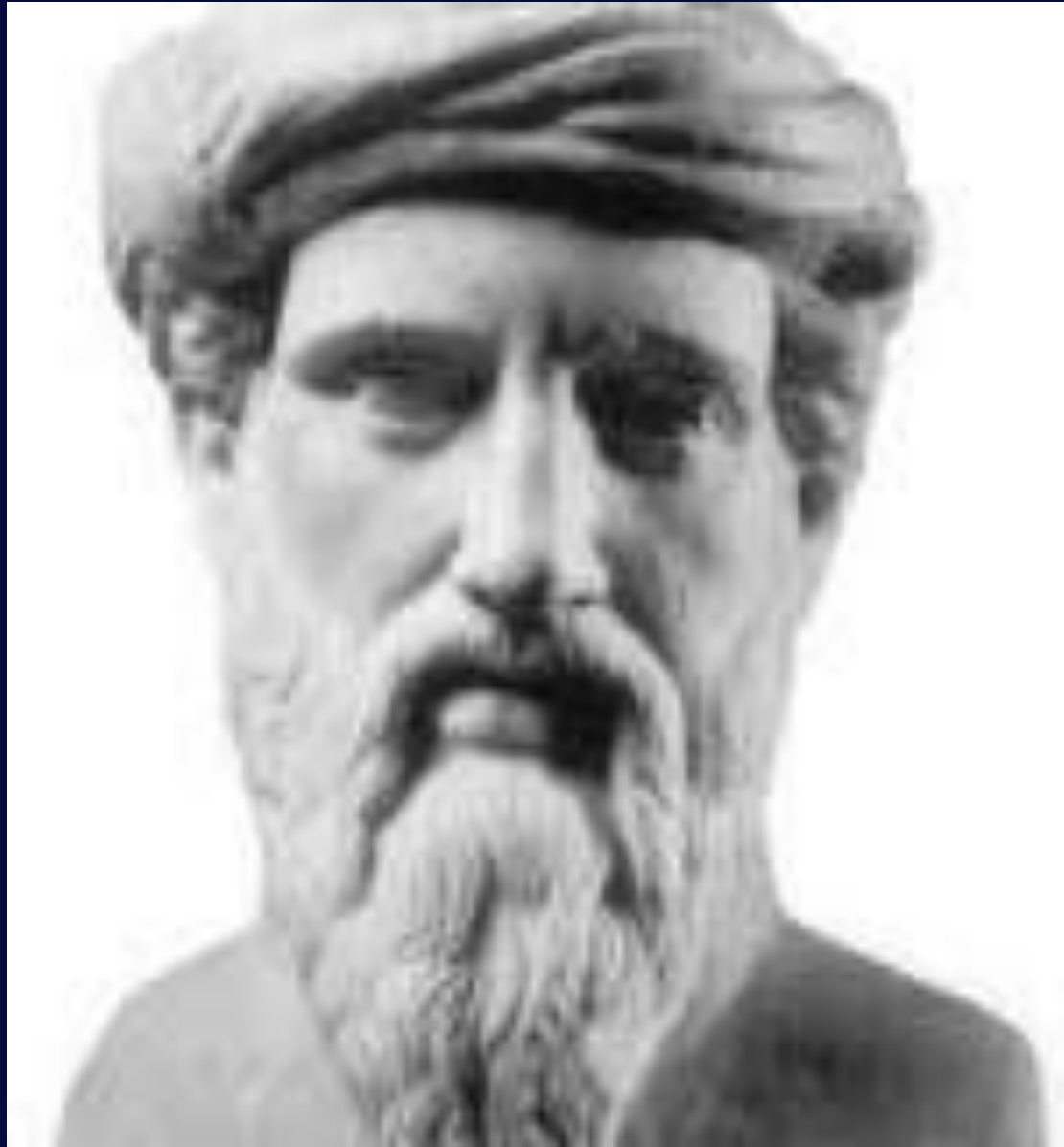
***Systems Biology and the Stress  
Response: From Pythagoras and the  
Epicurians to Modern Medicine***

**George P. Chrousos, MD,  
Athens University, Athens, Greece**

# Physical and Emotional Stress

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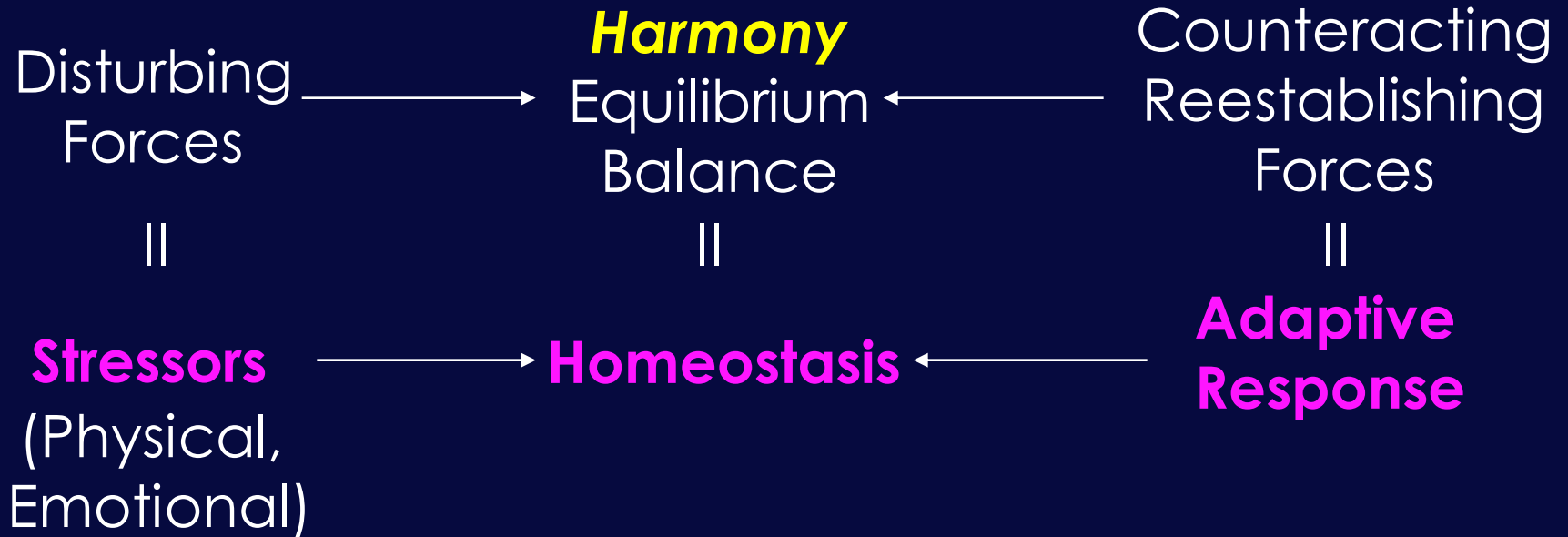
- **Stress Concepts**
  - **Stress Mechanisms**
  - **Effects of Stress on the Organism**
  - **Coping with Stress**
-



G.P. Chrousos

Pythagoras 6th century BCE

# Complex Systems Theory

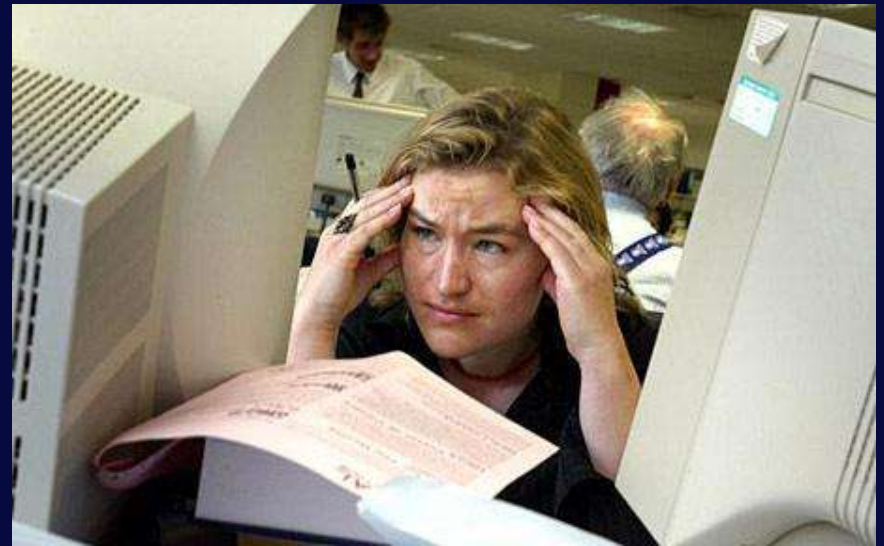


**Pythagoras= *Harmony***

**Alcmaeon= *Iso-nomia***

**Walter Cannon= *Homeostasis***

**Stress is the State of  
Threatened (or Perceived  
as Threatened)  
Homeostasis**

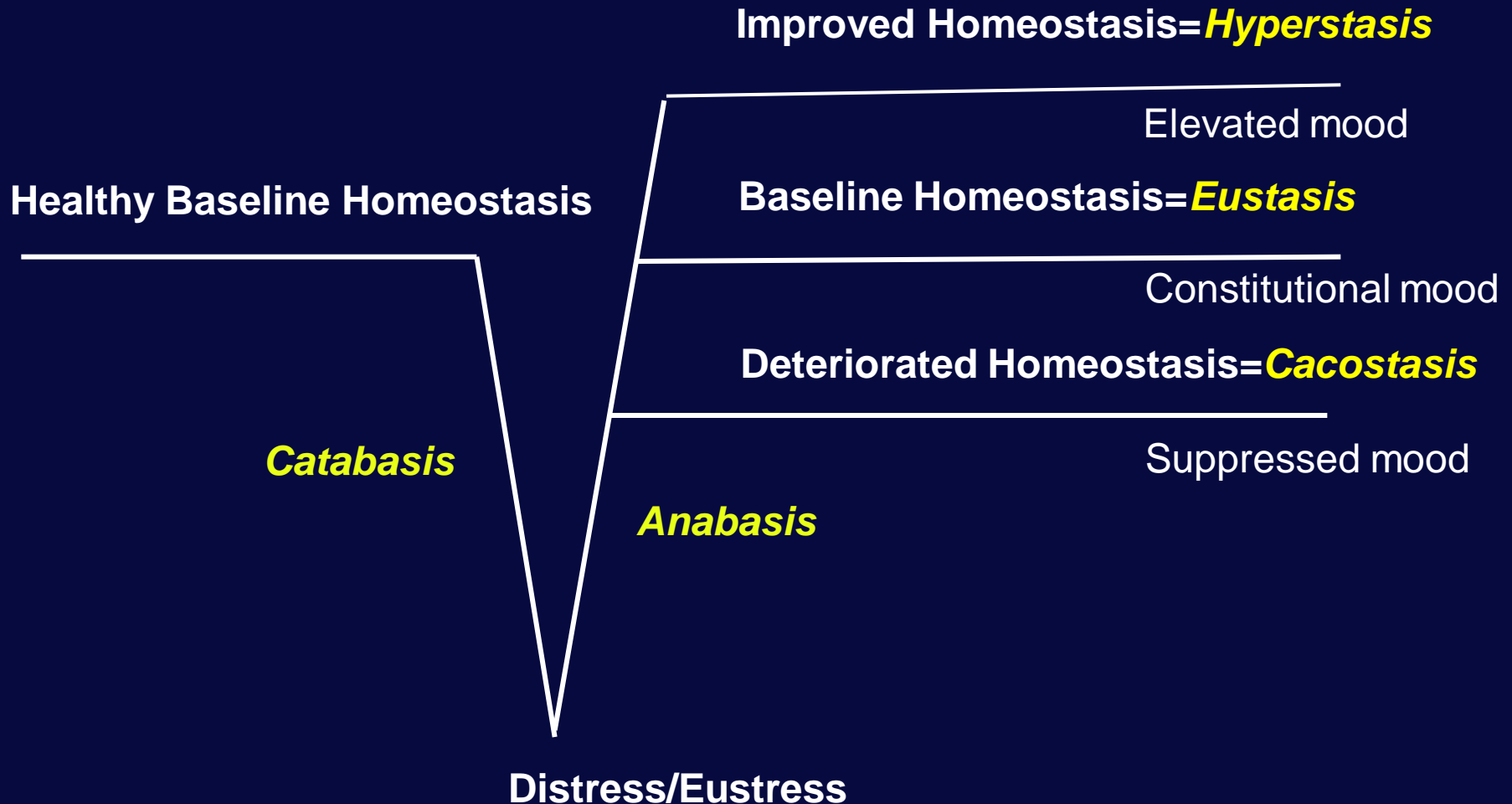


# STRESS CONCEPTS

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Pythagoras (580-489 BC)	The <b>Harmony</b> of the <i>Cosmos</i>
Alkmaion (c. 500 BC)	The intellect is based in the brain Health is the equipose of opposing forces: « <b>Isonomia</b> »
Empedocles (500-430 BC)	Matter consists of essential elements and qualities in opposition or alliance to one another
Hippocrates (460-375 BC)	A harmonious balance of the elements and qualities of life is health-Dysharmony is disease « <b>Nouson physeis iatroi = Vis medicatrix naturae</b> » “ <b>Eudaimonia</b> ”
Aristotle	
Stoics/Sceptics	<b>Ataraxia</b> (imperturbability of mind, equanimity)
Epicurus (341-270 BC)	<b>Ataraxia</b> (imperturbability of mind), <b>Aponia</b> (no pain) and “ <b>Hedone</b> ” (tranquil, non sensual pleasure) as desirable states « <b>Eustachius</b> » = <b>Good balance, Carpe diem= seize the day</b>
Thomas Sydenham (AD 1624-1689)	Symptoms and signs of a disease arise also from the reaction of the patients system
Claude Bernard (1813-1878)	The “ <b>milieu interieur</b> ”
Walter Cannon (1871-1945)	<b>Homeostasis/Stress</b> Bodily responses to emotions <b>Fight or flight (and freeze) reaction</b>
Hans Selye (1907-1982)	The general adaptation syndrome (the stress syndrome) <b>Diseases of adaptation, Distress vs. Eustress</b>

# Homeostasis over Time





# Homeostasis over Time

Improved Homeostasis = *Hyperstasis*

---

Elevated mood

Healthy Baseline Homeostasis = *Eustasis*

---

Constitutional mood

Deteriorated Homeostasis = *Cacostasis*

---

Suppressed mood

# Human Stressors

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**Daily hassles**

**Work stress (Effort Reward Imbalance,ERI)**

Life transitions

Natural and unnatural catastrophies

**Starvation, Excessive nutrition, Deficient exercise,  
Excessive exercise, Obesity**

**Socioeconomic status, Minority status (*Dignity*)**

Job loss, Downsizing, Loss of control

**Bereavement**

**Caretaking/ Pathologic empathy/*Unprincipled  
compassion***

Addictions/ Toxic substances

Inflammations (Traumatic, Infectious, Autoimmune, Allergic)

Anxiety, Depression, Personality disorder

Sleep deficiency

# **“CRITICAL” PERIODS OF LIFE**

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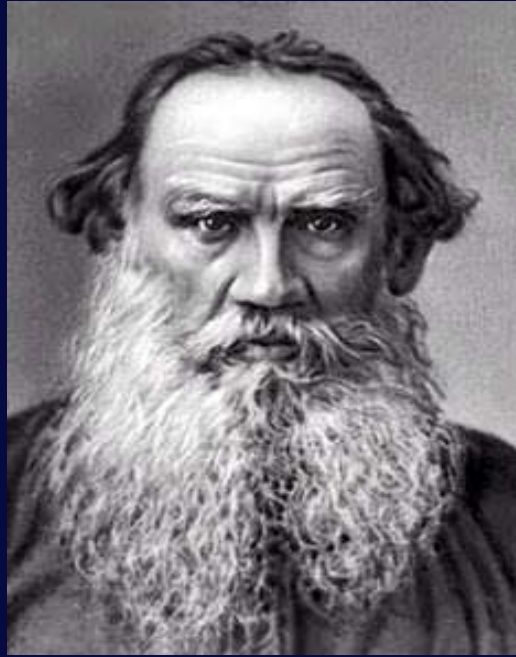
Prenatal, Early Childhood, Puberty  
(Human brain ontogeny complete at 25-27 y)



**Organizational Effects of Hormones**

**(CRH, glucocorticoids, sex steroids, cytokines)**

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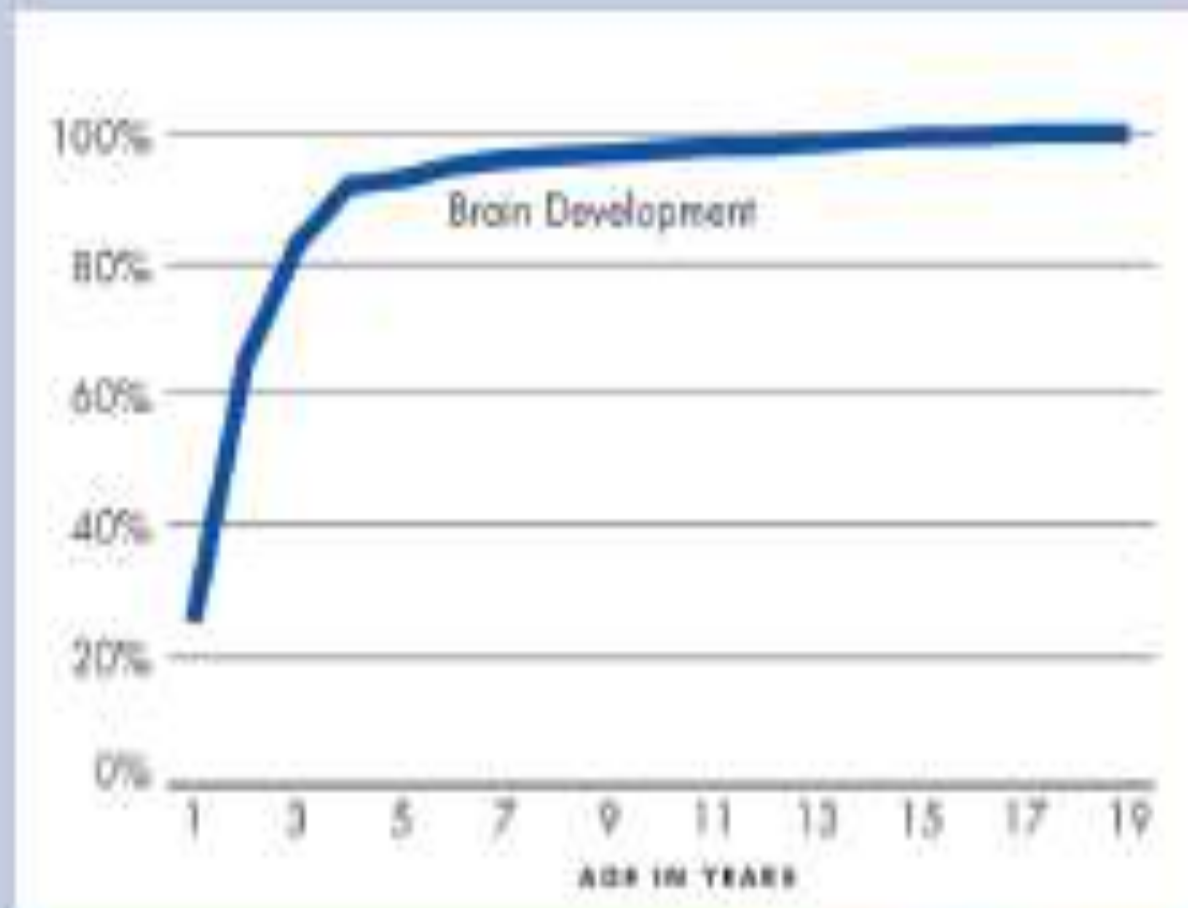
***“From the child of five to myself is but a step. But from the newborn baby to the child of five is an appalling distance”***

***Leon Tolstoy 19<sup>th</sup> century***

***"The past is never dead. It's not even past."***

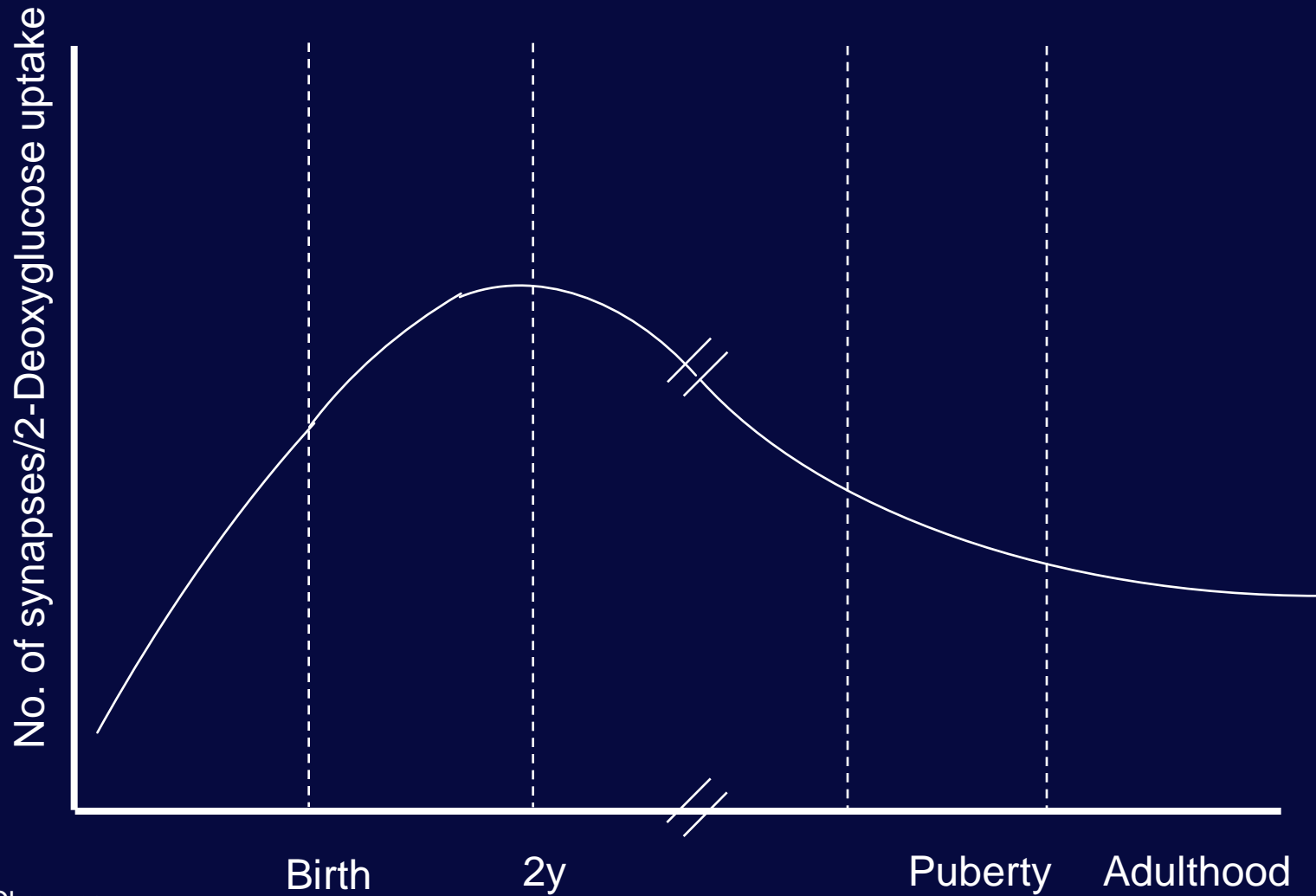
**William Faulkner 20<sup>th</sup> century**

## Brain Growth and Child Age



Source: RAND Corporation

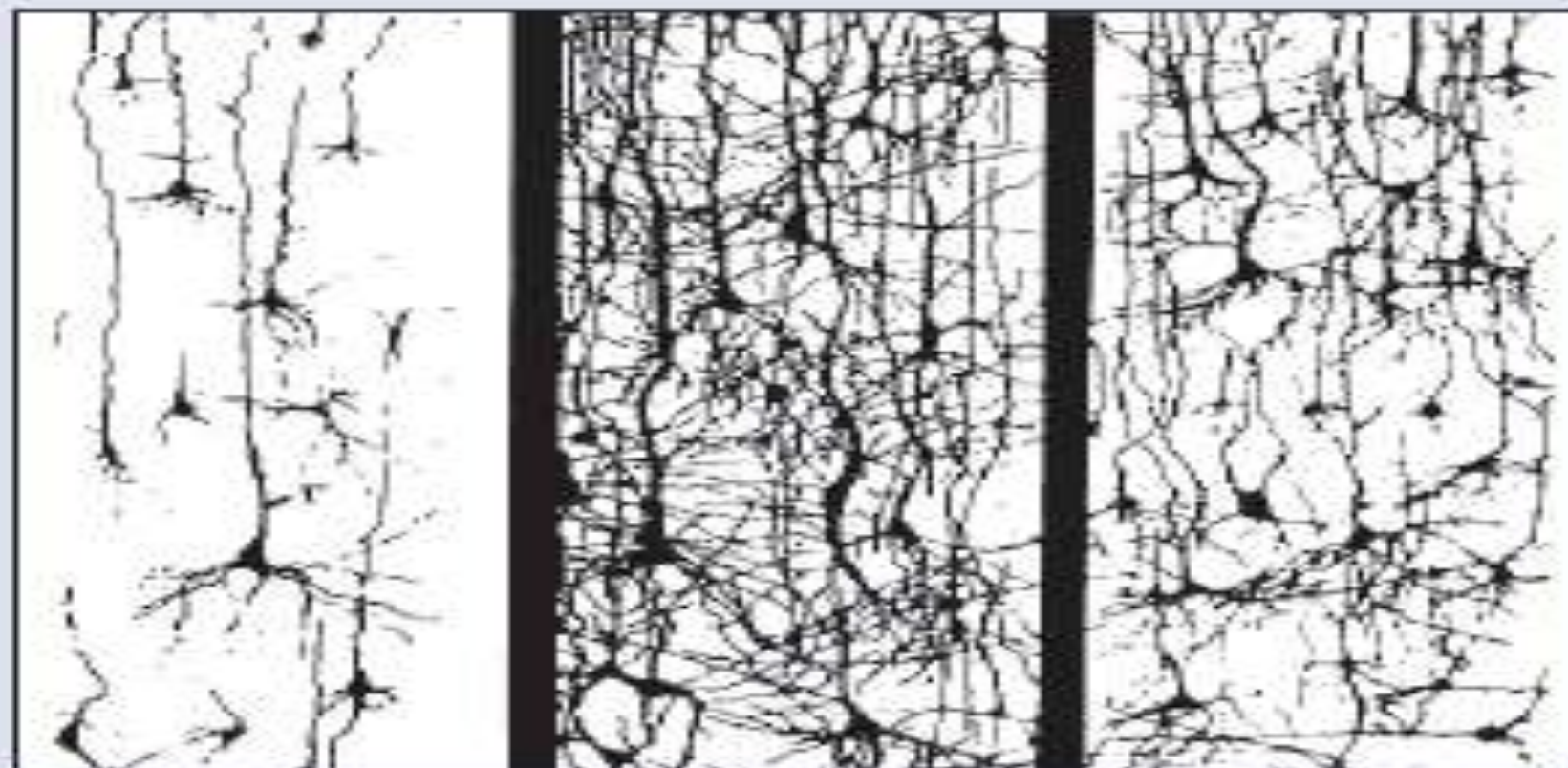
# THE DEVELOPING BRAIN



At Birth

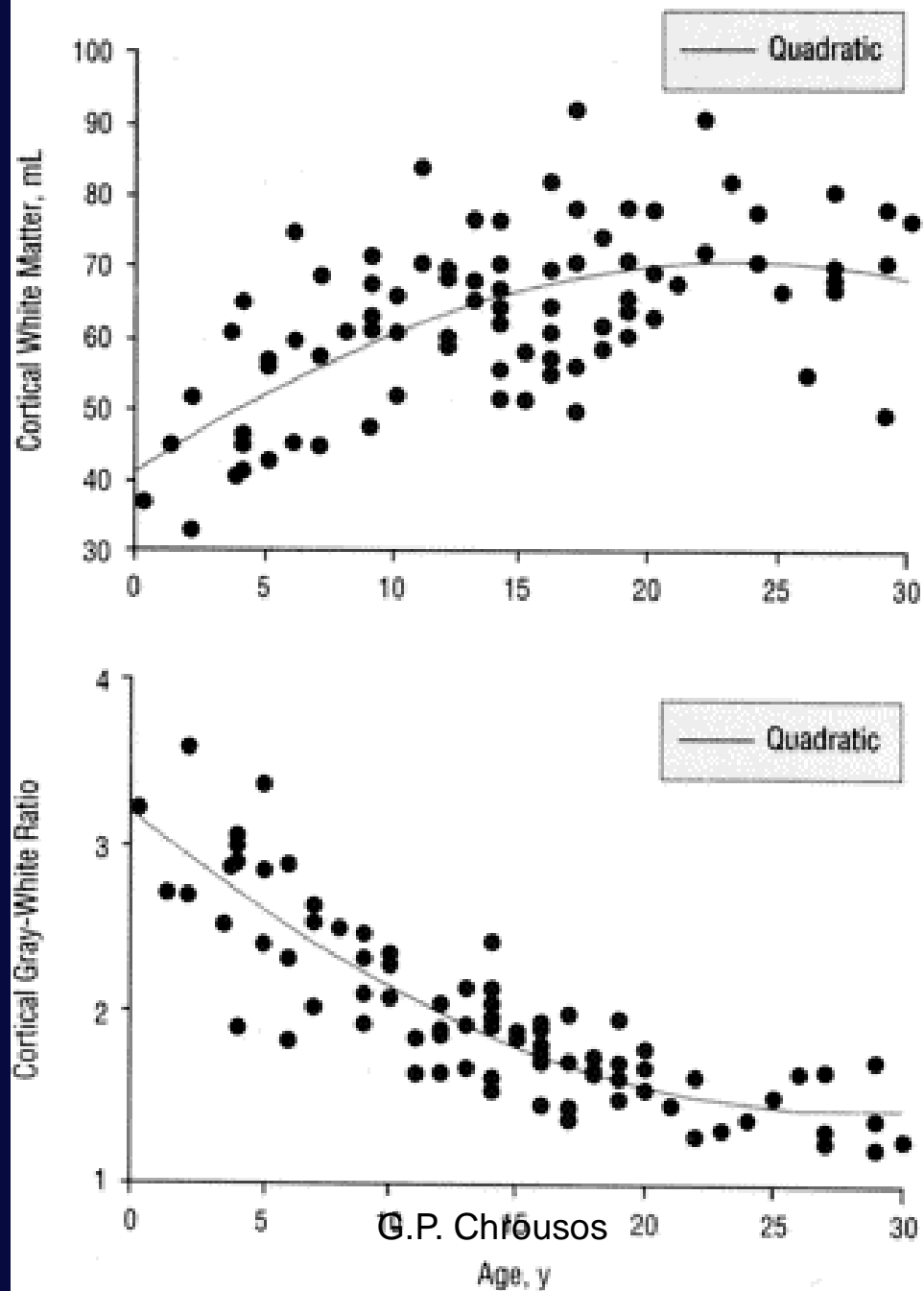
6 Years Old

14 Years Old

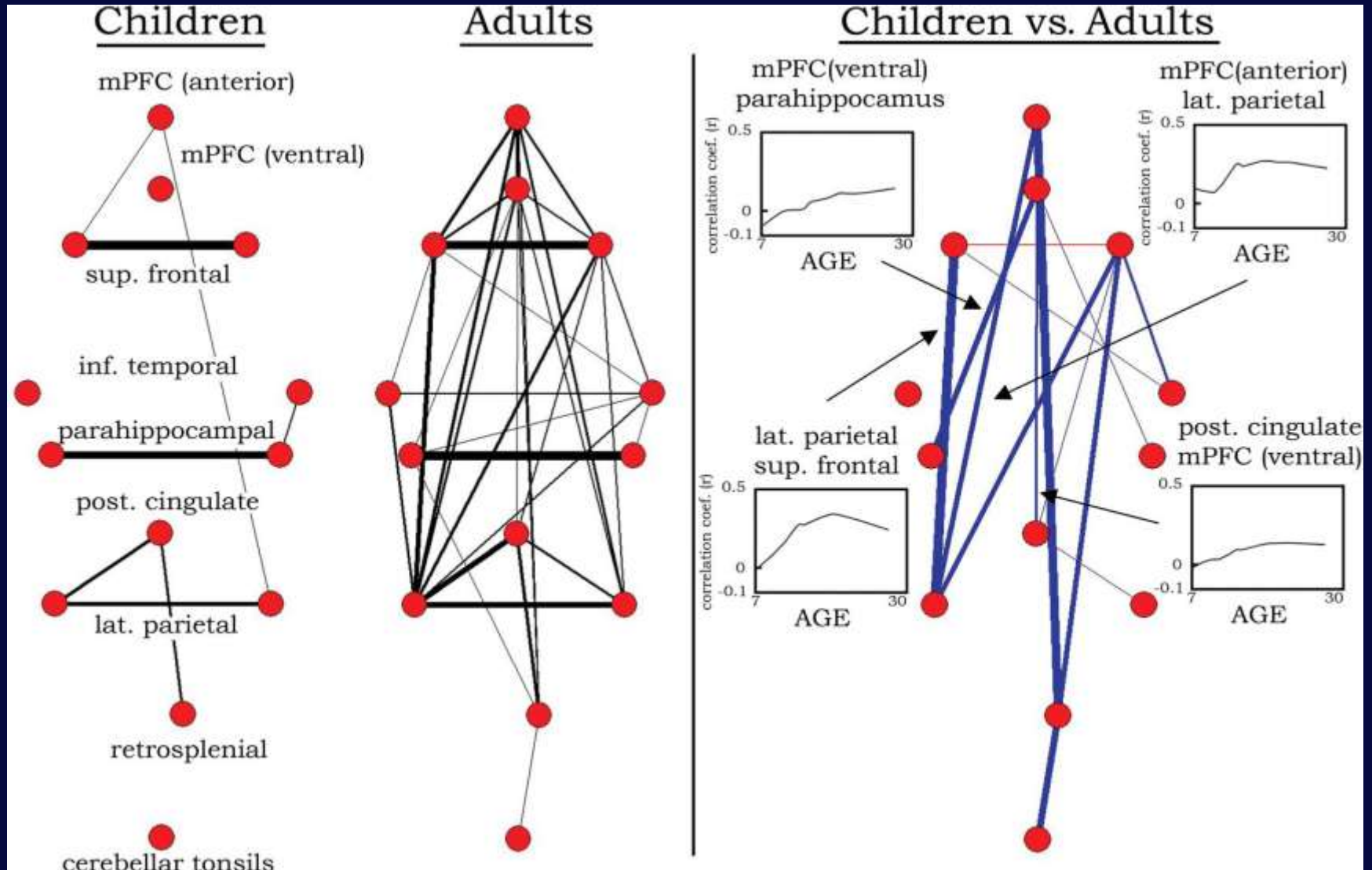


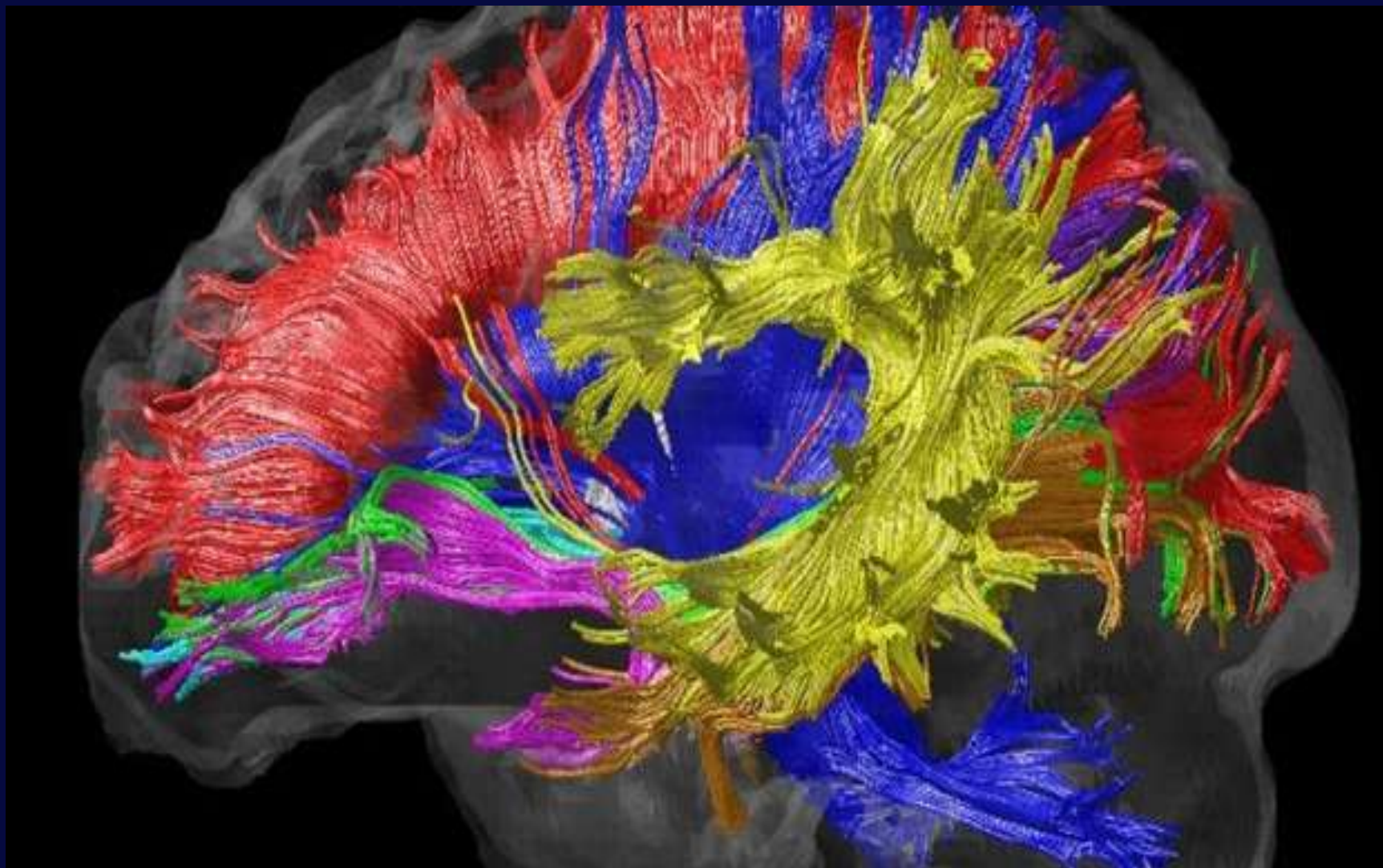
**SYNAPTIC DENSITY:** Synapses are created with astonishing speed in the first three years of life. For the rest of the first decade, children's brains have twice as many synapses as adults' brains.





# Default Mode Network





# Prefrontal/Frontal Lobe

## “Higher Functions”

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- Interpretation of the environment, social cues
  - Problem solving
  - Planning
  - Proper control of impulses
-

# HOMEOSTATIC SYSTEMS

---

## **Pre-/Frontal Lobe/Logos**

- Amygdala, fear/anger
- MCLS, reward/punishment
- **Stress - CRH/LC-NE**
- Cardiorespiratory
- **Metabolic**
- **Immune/Inflammatory**
- Fatigue - Pain
- Wakefulness/Sleep
- Clock

# Physical and Emotional Stress

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- **Stress Concepts**
  - **Stress Mechanisms**
  - **Effects of Stress on the Organism**
  - **Coping with Stress**
-

# What Mediates the Adaptive Response?

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## The Stress System

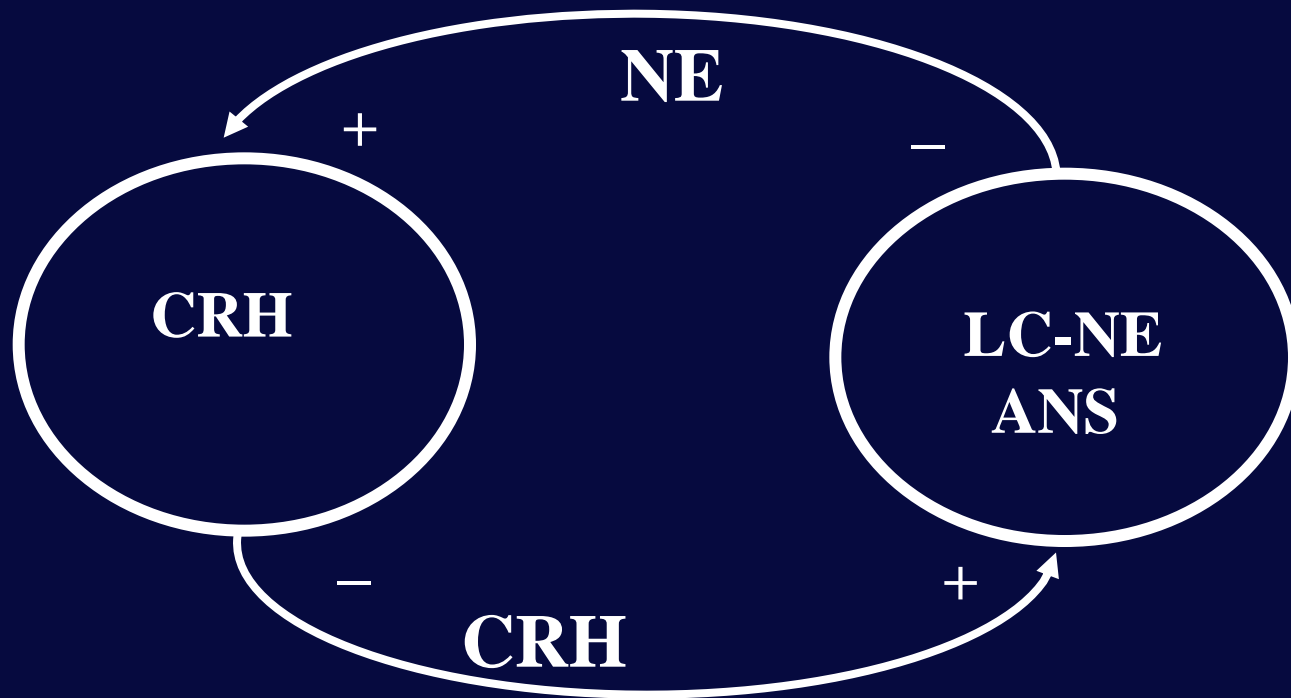
### a. CNS

1. CRH system
2. *Locus caeruleus* (LC)-norepinephrine (NE)/autonomic (sympathetic) systems

### b. Periphery

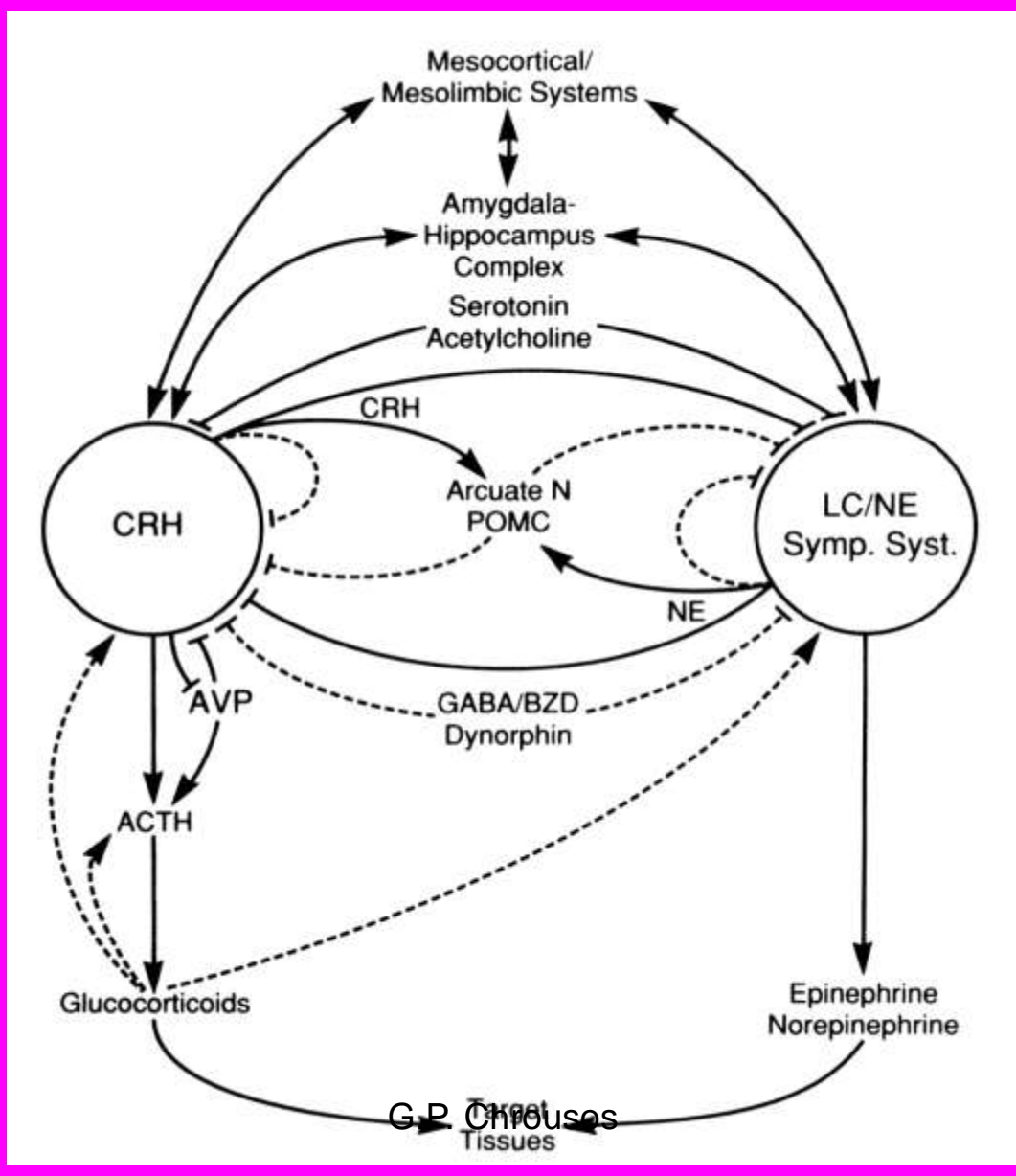
1. HPA axis
  2. Autonomic (sympathetic) systems
-

# Stress System



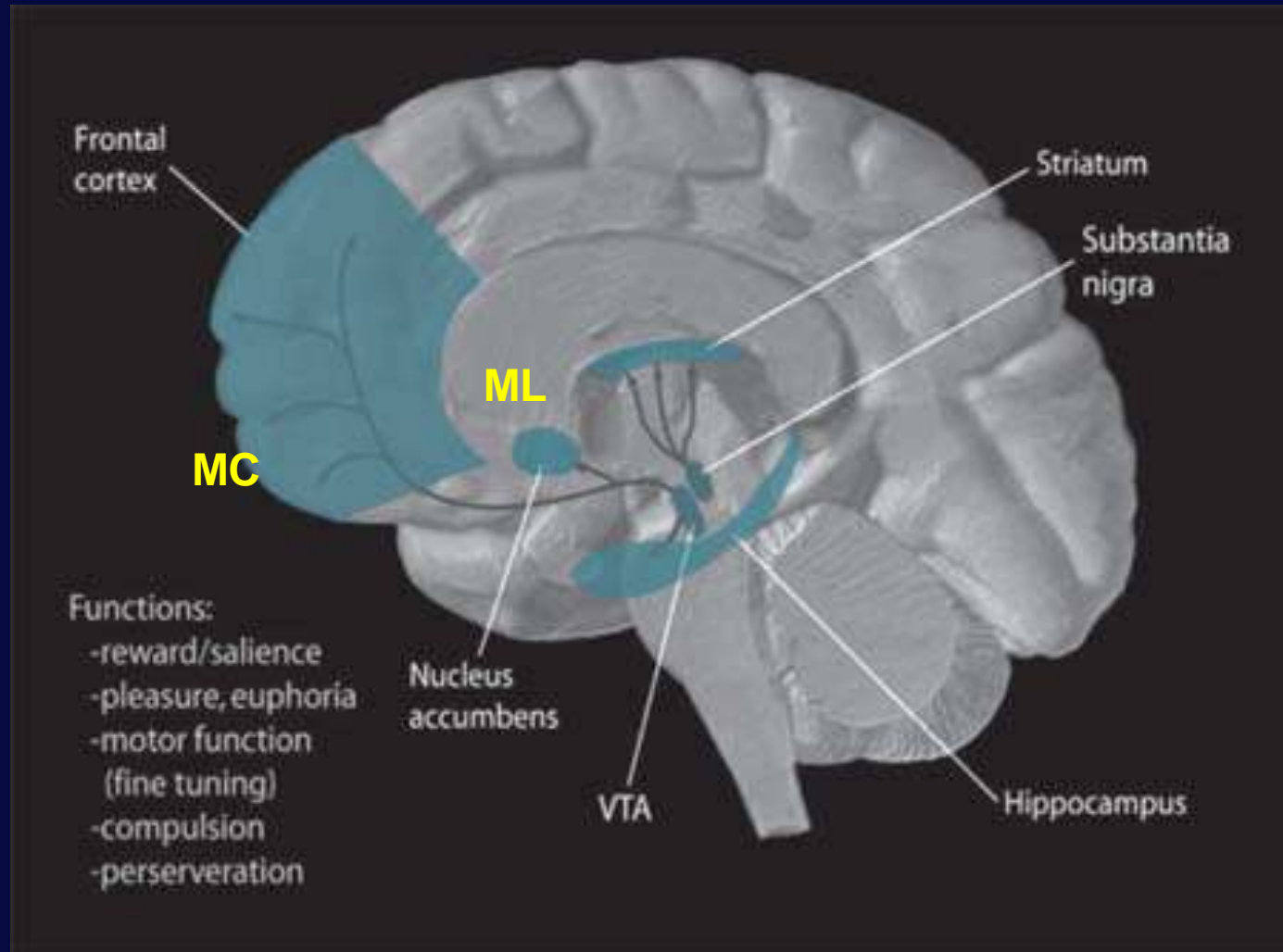


# Stress System

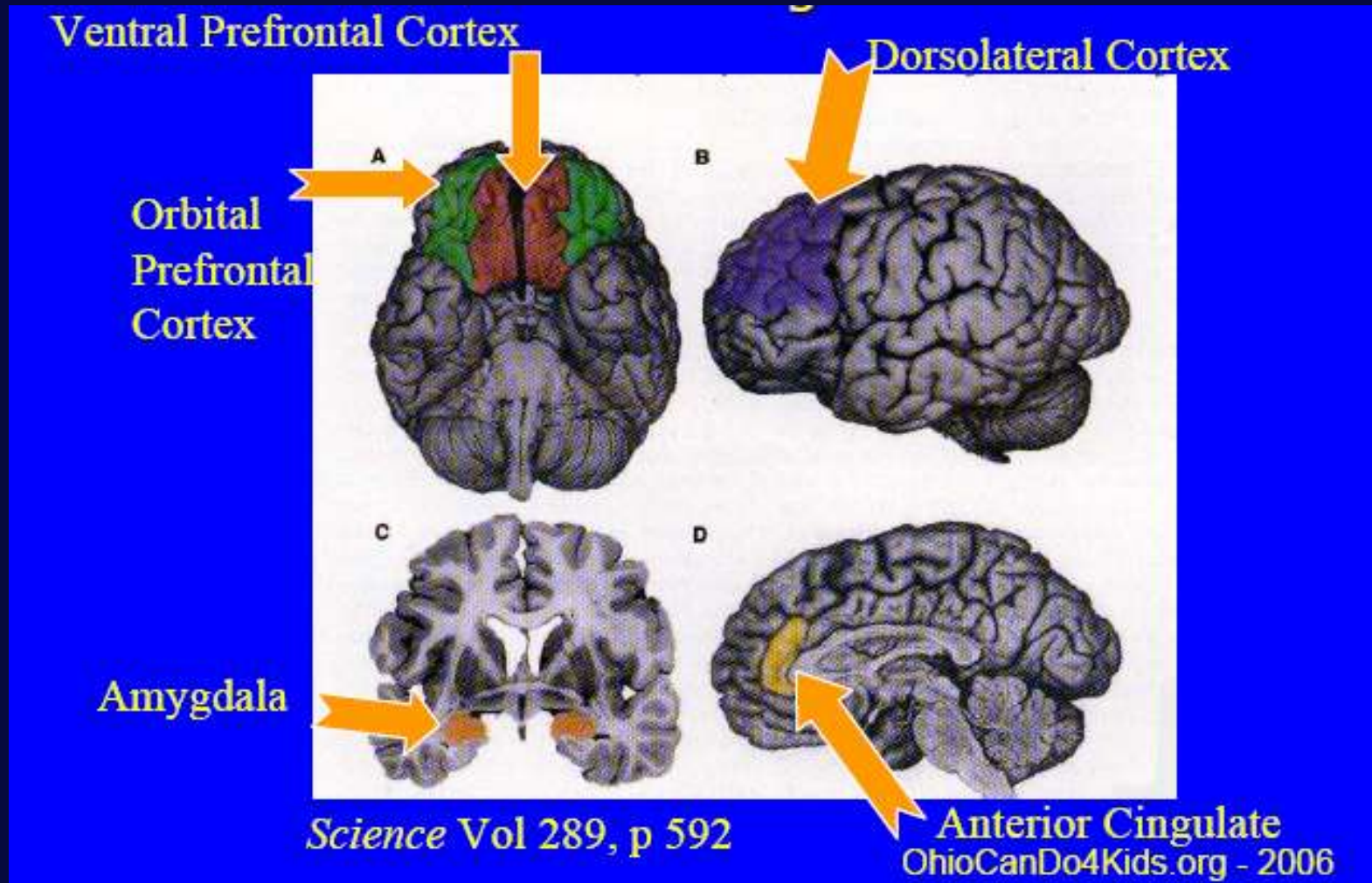


Chrousos  
JAMA 1992

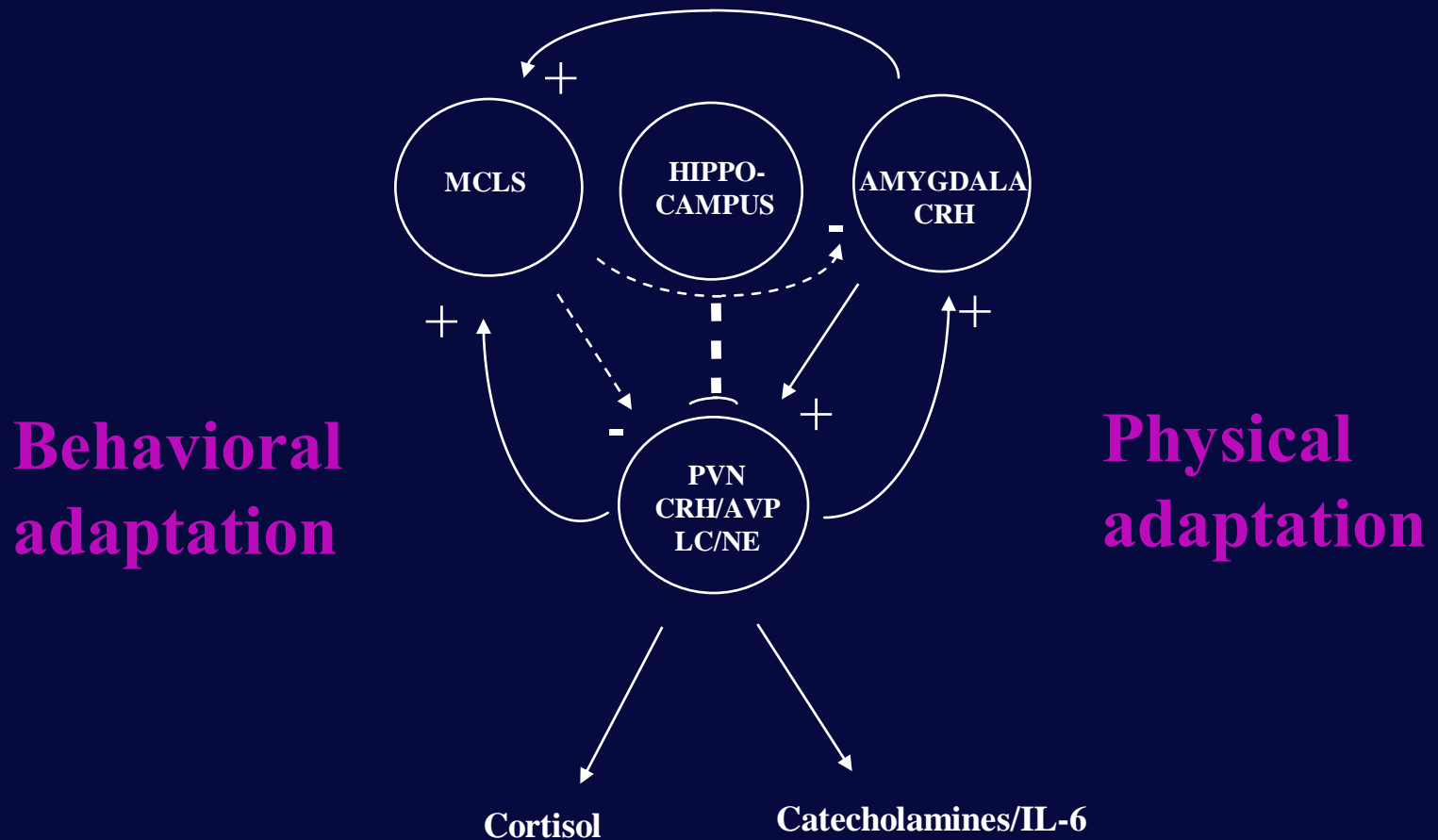
# The Reward System

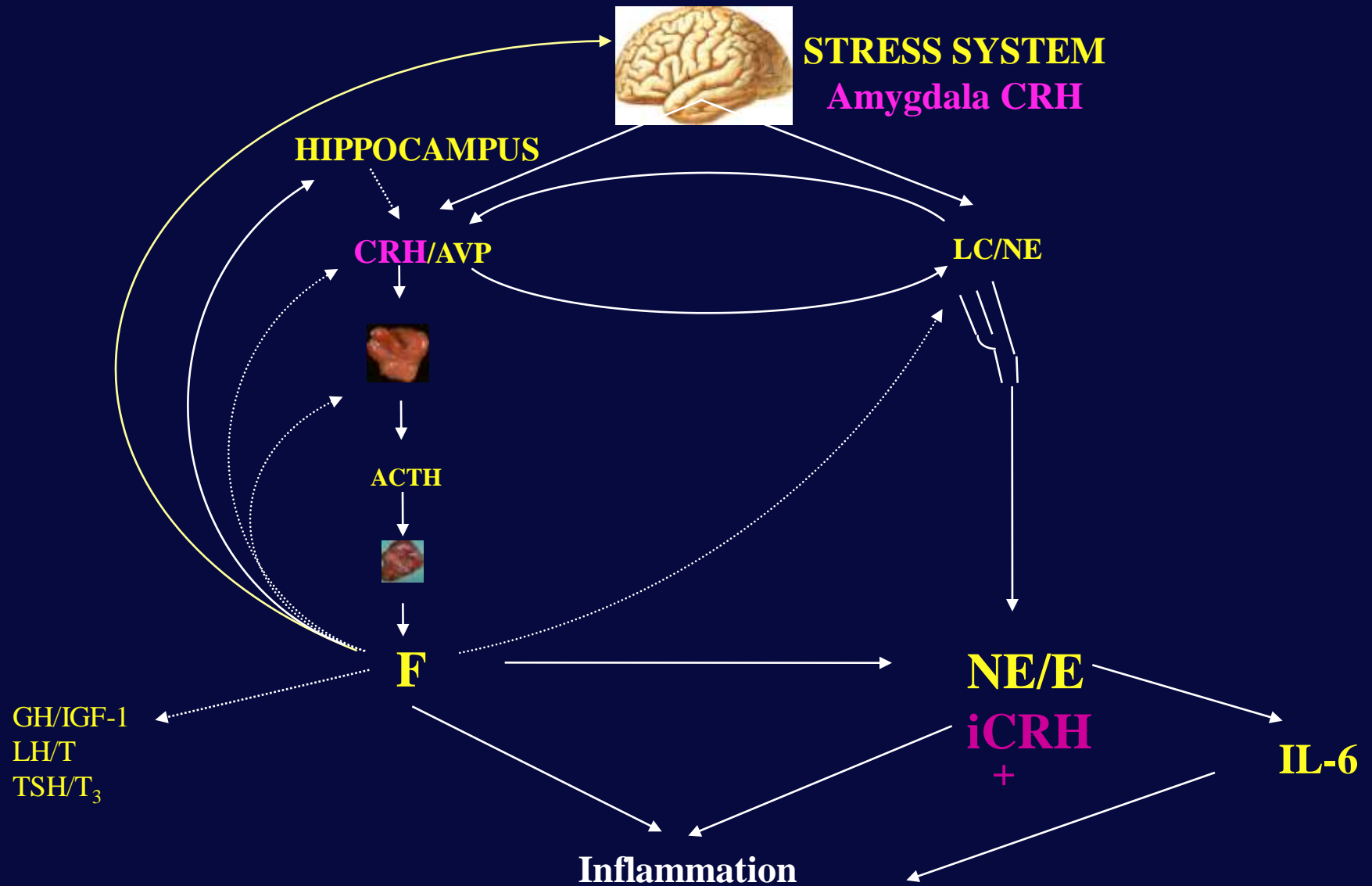


# Structures related to emotional regulation

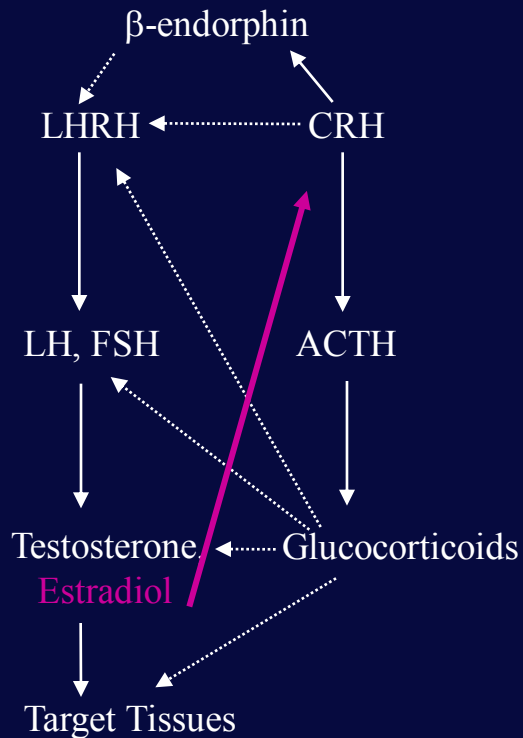


# Acute Stress

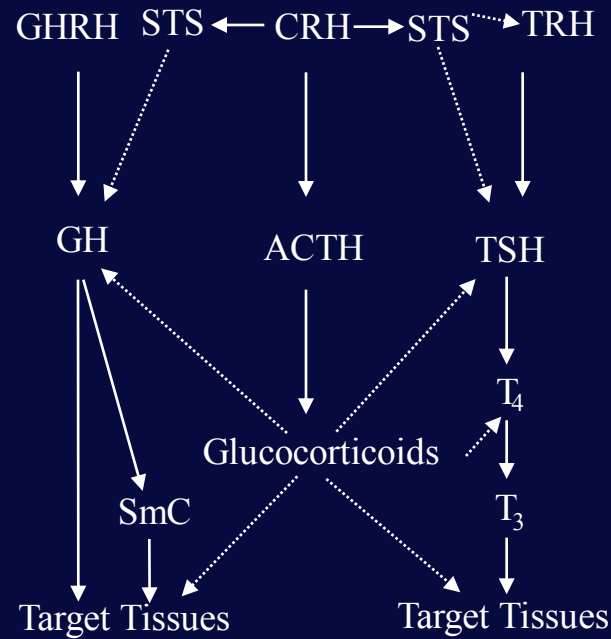




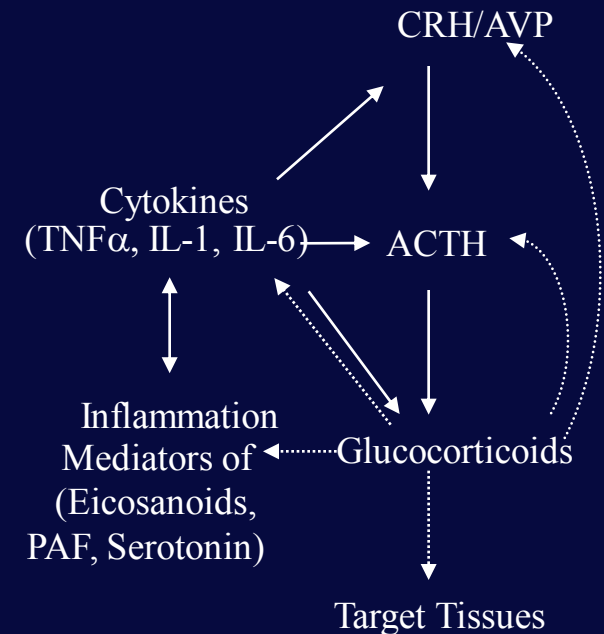
## Reproduction



## Growth and Thyroid Function



## Immune Function



# SICKNESS SYNDROME

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ANOREXIA/NAUSEA

FATIGUE AND/OR DEPRESSED AFFECT

SOMNOLENCE

HYPERALGESIA  $\pm$  HEADACHE

ELEVATED TEMPERATURE/ FEVER

INCREASED METABOLIC RATE

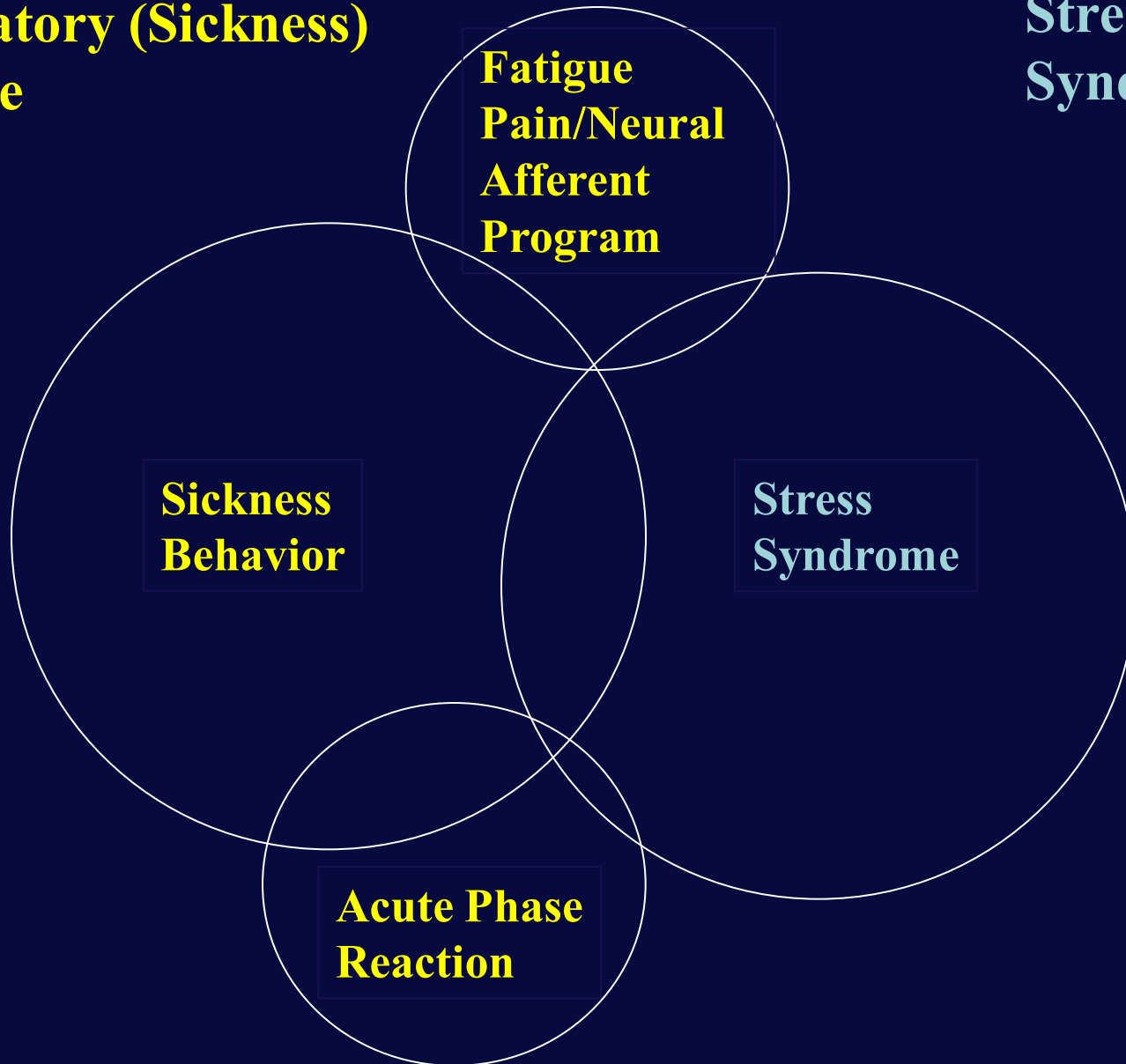
## MOLECULAR EFFECTORS

INFLAMMATORY CYTOKINES/MEDIATORS

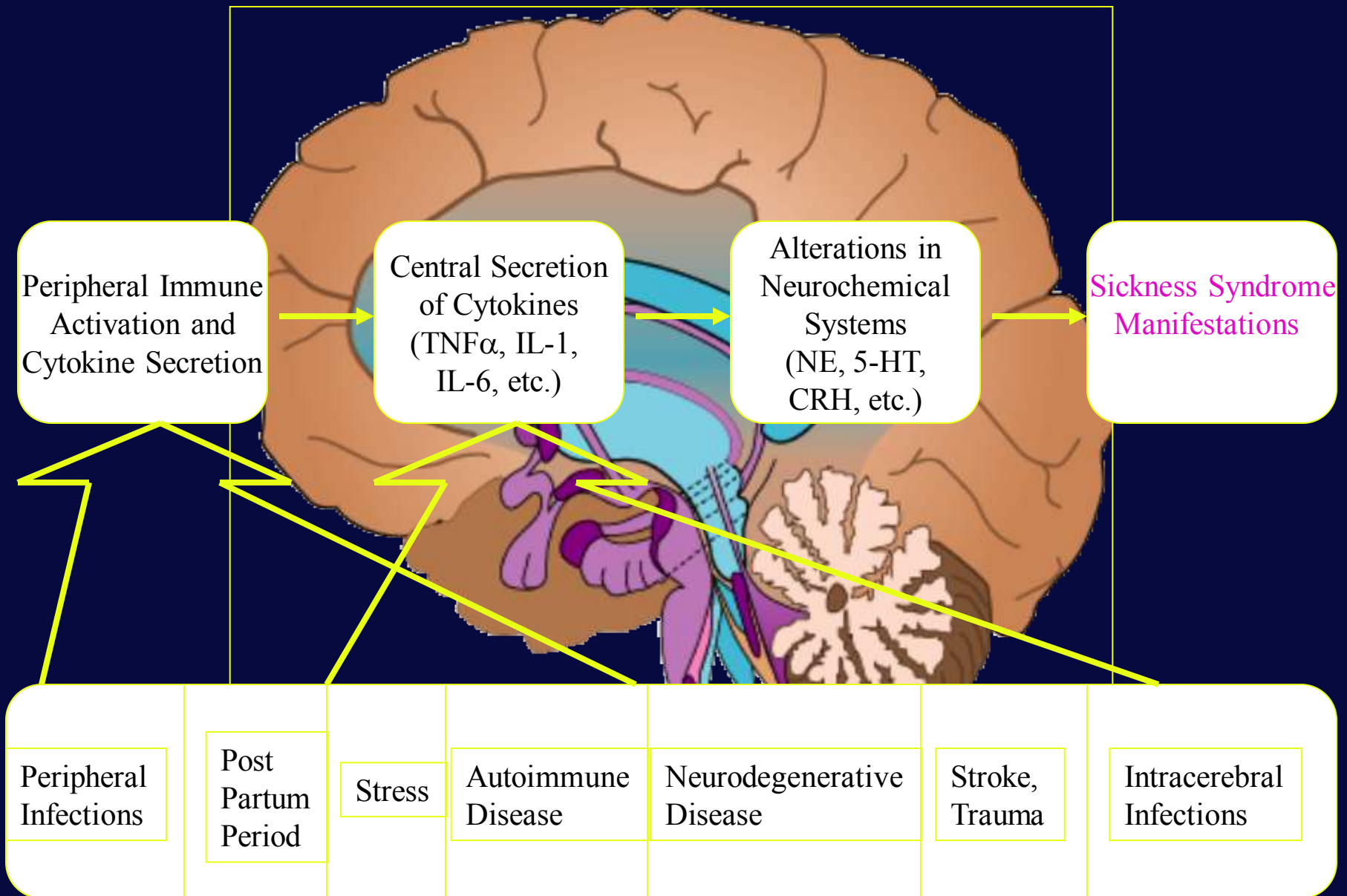
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# Inflammatory (Sickness) Syndrome

# Stress Syndrome







# Physical and Emotional Stress

---

- **Stress Concepts**
  - **Stress Mechanisms**
  - **Effects Stress on the Organism**
  - **Coping with Stress**
-

# Physical and Emotional Stress

---

- **Timing** (Critical periods=prenatal, first 5 y and adolescence)
  - **Acuity**
  - **Chronicity**
-

# ***THE STRESS SYSTEM***

## **Pathophysiology**

---

### **Acuity vs. Chronicity of Stress System Activation**

---

# ***THE STRESS SYSTEM***

## **Pathophysiology**

---

### **Acute effects of stress system activation**

- **Asthma, eczema, urticaria**
- **Migraine and tension headache**
- **Gastrointestinal pain**
- **Hypertensive episode, CVA, death (compromised host)**
- **Panic attack**
- **Cardiac ischemia, MI, Arrhythmia, death (compromised host)**
- **Psychotic episode**

# ***THE STRESS SYSTEM***

## **Pathophysiology**

---

### **Chronic effects of stress system malfunction**

- **Behavioral**
  - Logos & Self-regulation (early effects)***
  - Fear/Anger**
  - Reward/Punishment**
- **Cardiovascular**
- **Metabolic**
- **Immune**
- **Pain and Fatigue**
- **Sleep**

# THE STRESS SYSTEM

## Pathophysiology

---

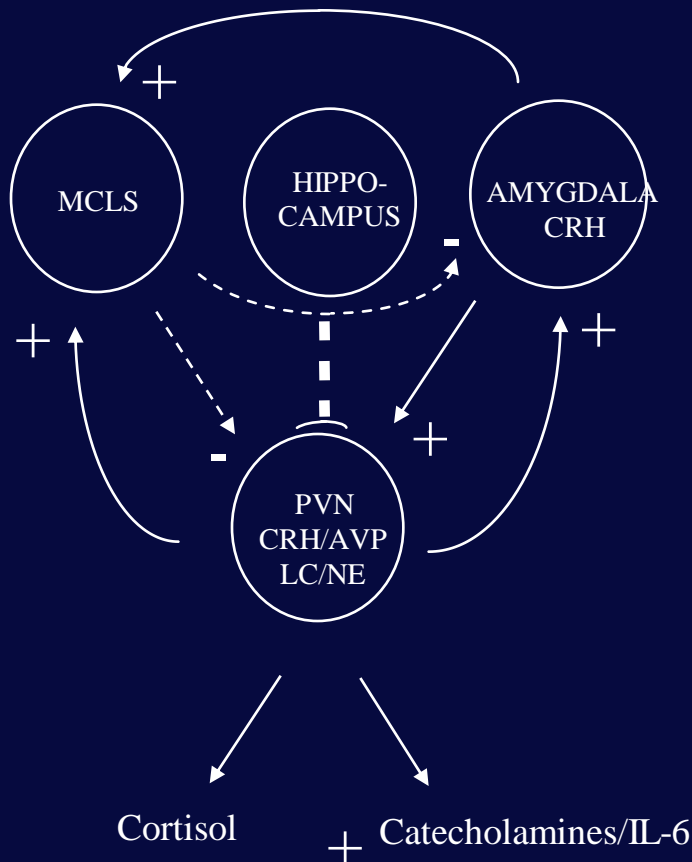
### Chronic effects of stress system activation:

- Anxiety, depression, addiction, anti-social behavior, psychosomatic disorders, fatigue, pain
- Loss of weight, poor growth, obesity, metabolic syndrome, smoldering inflammation, Immune dysfunction, atherosclerosis, CVD
- Osteoporosis
- Premature aging of all vulnerable organs, including the brain (neurodegeneration) and the skin
- Vulnerability to infections and cancer



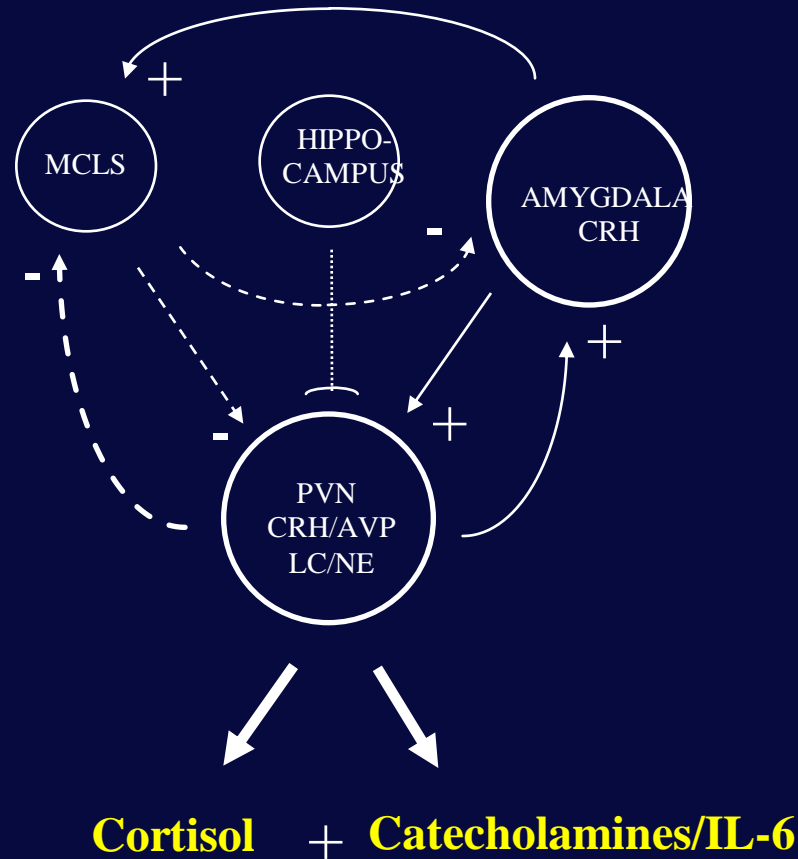
**CHRONIC NONCOMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

## Acute Stress



**Adjustment vs.  
Maladjustment**

## Stress Hyper-responsive Child/Adult



**Behavioral consequences** + **Somatic consequences**  
 Maladjustment disorders      Growth retardation  
 Anxiety, Depression          Metabolic syndrome X  
 Personality disorders        Cardiovascular disease  
 Addiction, Psychosomatics   Osteoporosis

**Sickness s.**



# HYPERCYTOKINEMIA

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TRAUMA/ BURNS

INFECTIOUS ILLNESSES

AUTOIMMUNE INFLAMMATORY DISEASES

ALLERGIC INFLAMMATIONS

CNS INFLAMMATIONS

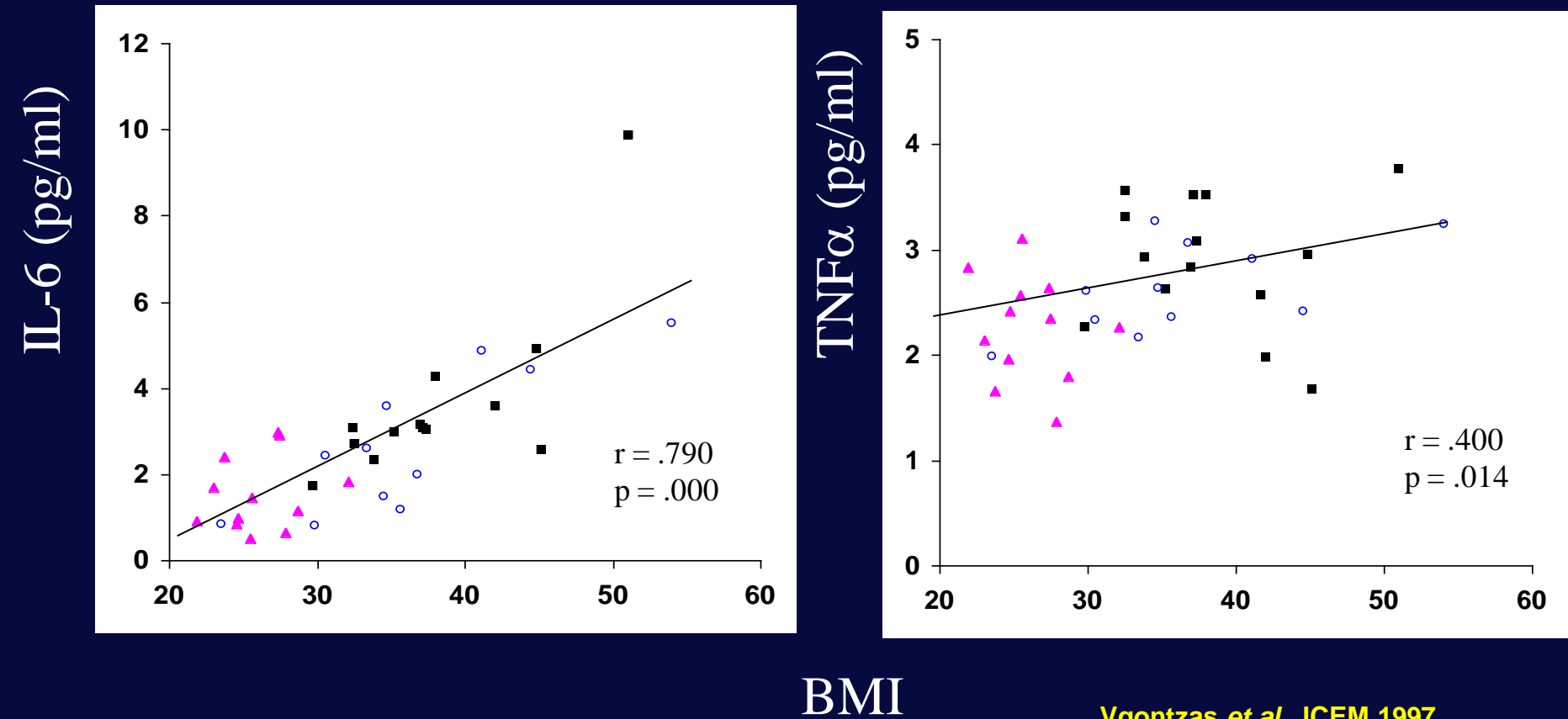
NONINFLAMMATORY STRESS

OBESITY/VISCERAL OBESITY

AGING

---

## Both IL-6 and TNF $\alpha$ correlate with BMI



Vgontzas *et al.* JCEM 1997

## DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY

## GENETIC VARIATION

## STRESS

Real or perceived

## NUTRITION

## AGING



**Stress system**  
CRH/AVP-LC/NE

**HPA axis**

**Systemic Sympathetic  
Adrenomedullary Systems**

↓ GH/IGF-1  
↓ LH, T, E2  
↓ TSH, T<sub>3</sub>

↑ Cortisol

**Target Tissues**

NE, E, IL-6 ↑

**Sickness  
Syndrome**

**PCOS**

**Endothelial Dysfunction/Inflammation**

**Atherosclerosis  
Cardiovascular Disease**

Insulin resistance  
Visceral Obesity/Sarcopenia  
= Metabolic  
Syndrome, DM type2

↑ TG  
↑ LDL  
↓ HDL

**ABP** ↑

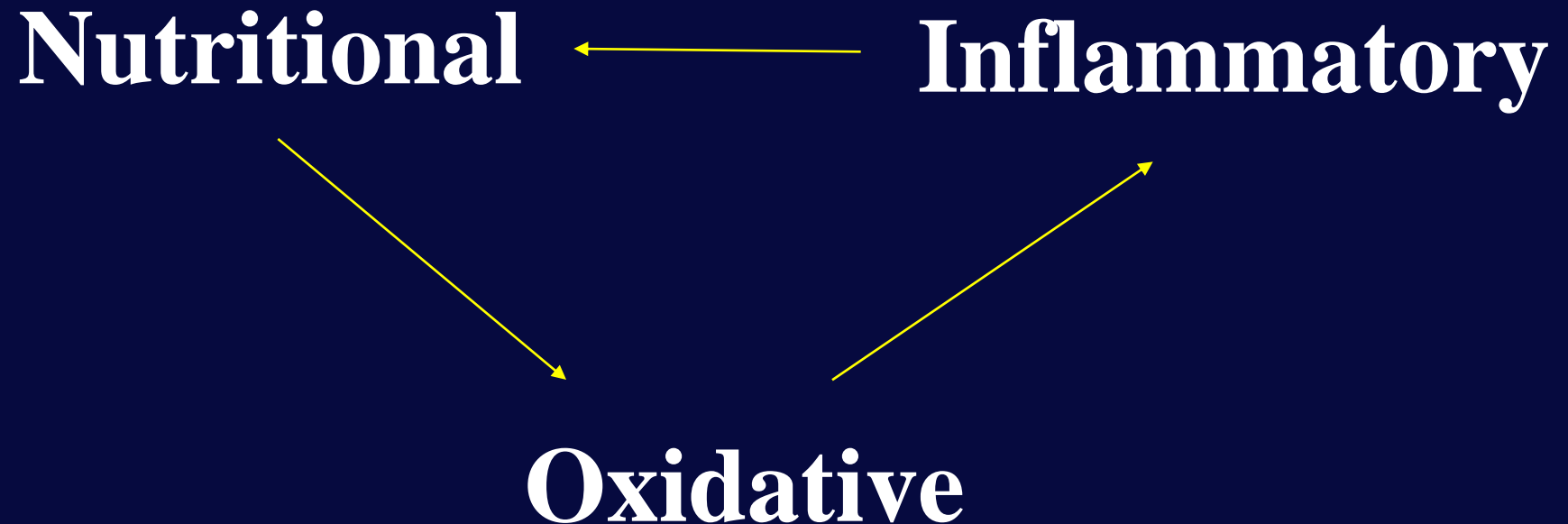
**APR** ↑  
Cytokines ↑

Dyscoagulation

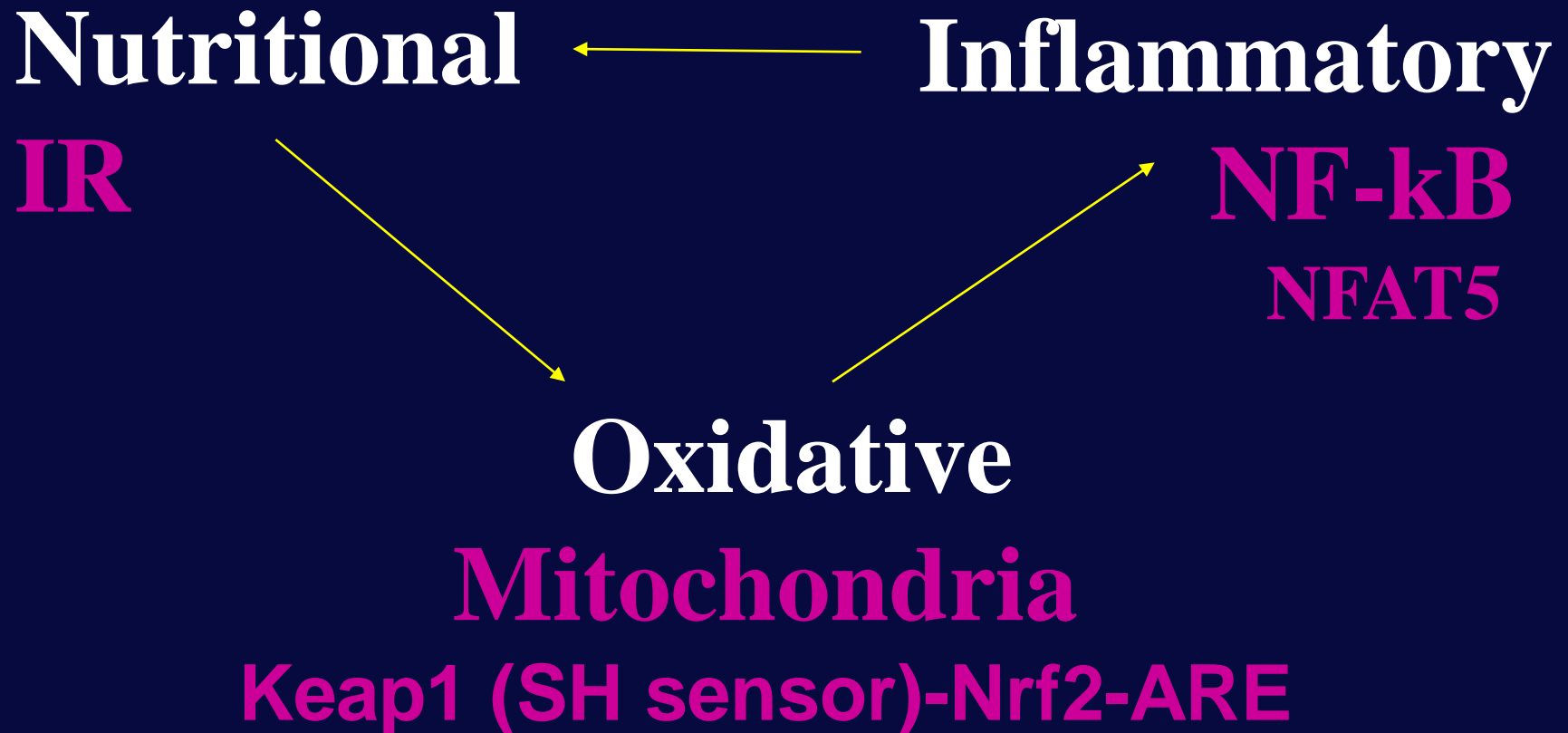
**Sleep Apnea**

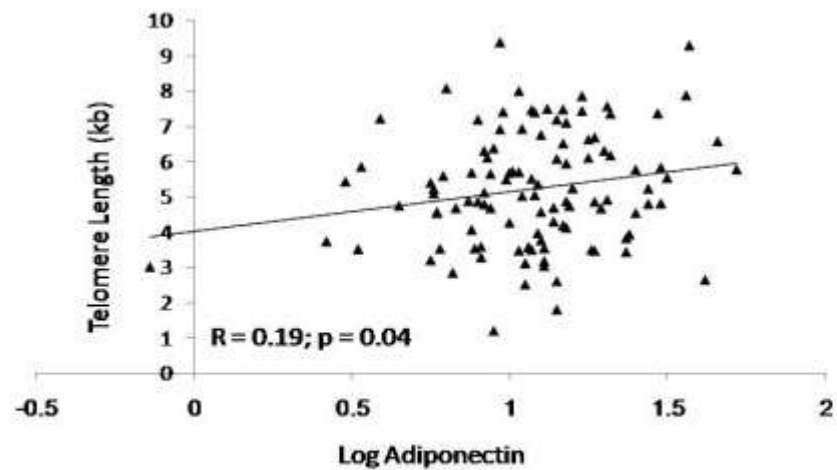
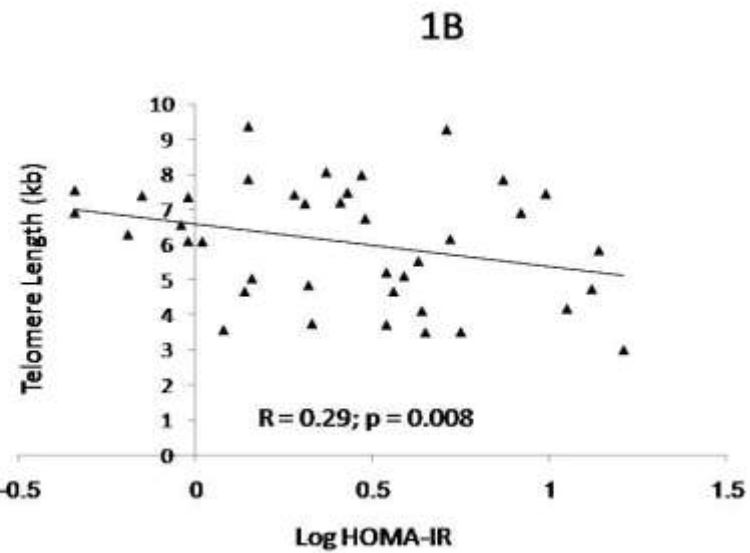
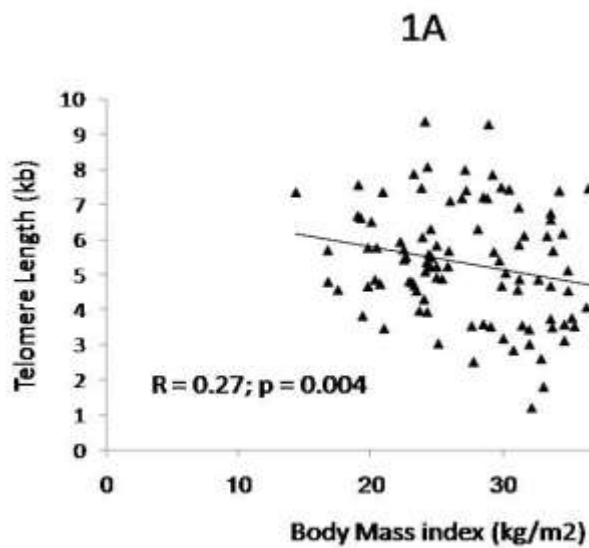
**Osteoporosis**

# Cellular Stress



# Cellular Stress





1C

*“Grief and fear when lingering provoke melancholia”*

Hippocrates 460-479 BCE

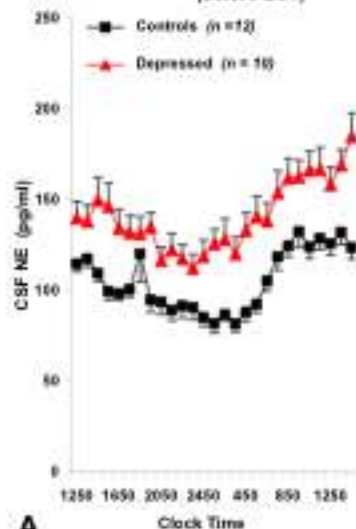
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# **STRESS SYSTEM HYPERACTIVITY AND PARADOXIC OBESITY IN DEPRESSION**

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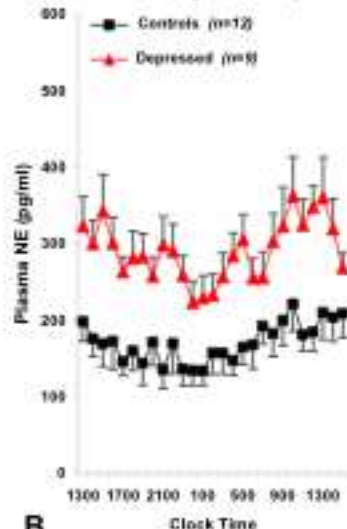


**Diurnal Variations in CSF NE in Controls and Depressed Patients (before ECT)**



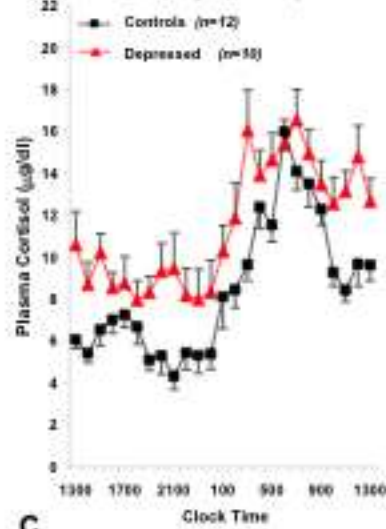
**A**

**Diurnal Variations in plasma NE in Controls and Depressed Patients (before ECT)**



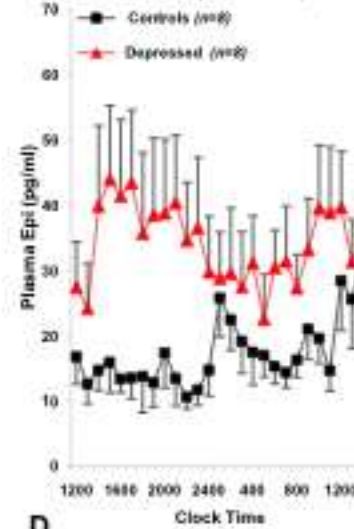
**B**

**Diurnal Variations in plasma Cortisol in Controls and Depressed Patients (before ECT)**



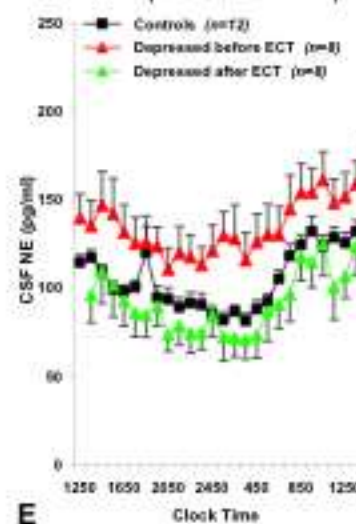
**C**

**Diurnal variations in plasma Epi in Controls and Depressed Patients (before ECT)**



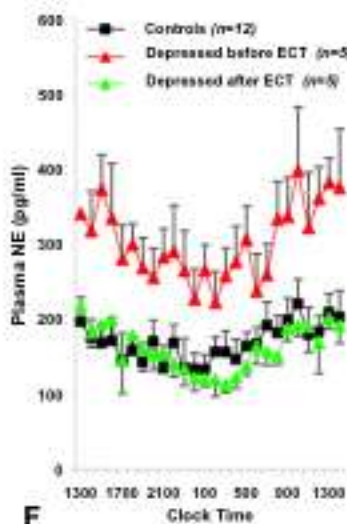
**D**

**Diurnal Variations in CSF NE in Controls and Depressed Patients (before and after ECT)**



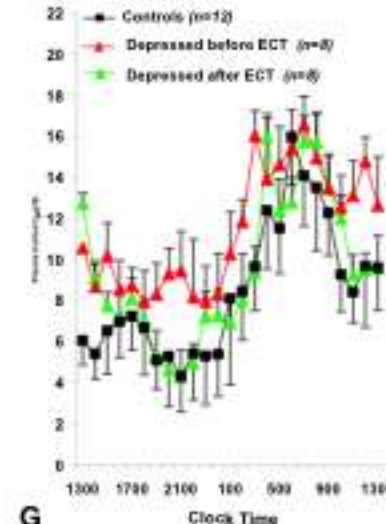
**E**

**Diurnal Variations in Plasma NE in Controls and Depressed Patients (before and after ECT)**



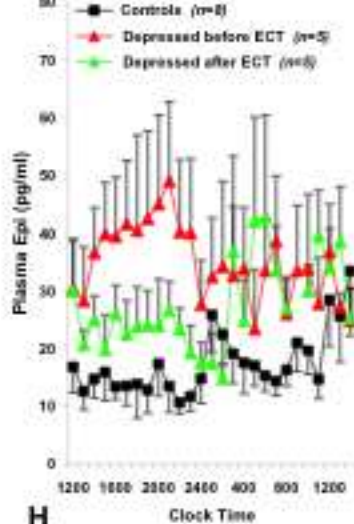
**F**

**Diurnal Variations in Plasma Cortisol in Controls and Depressed Patients (before and after ECT)**



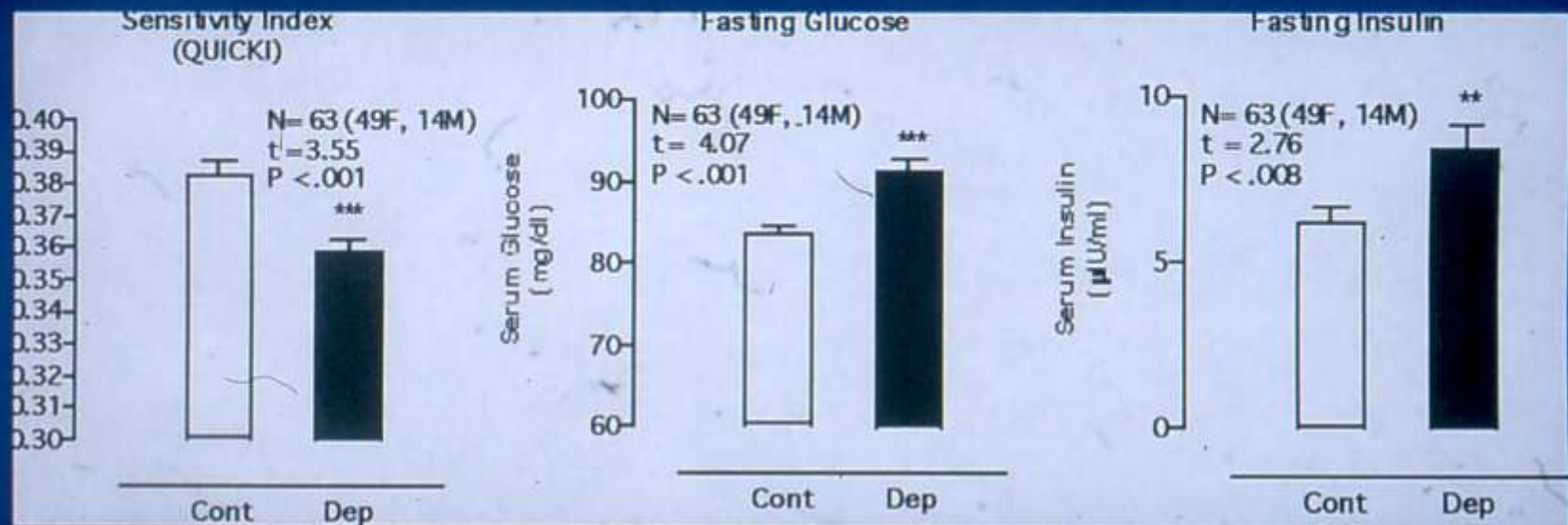
**G**

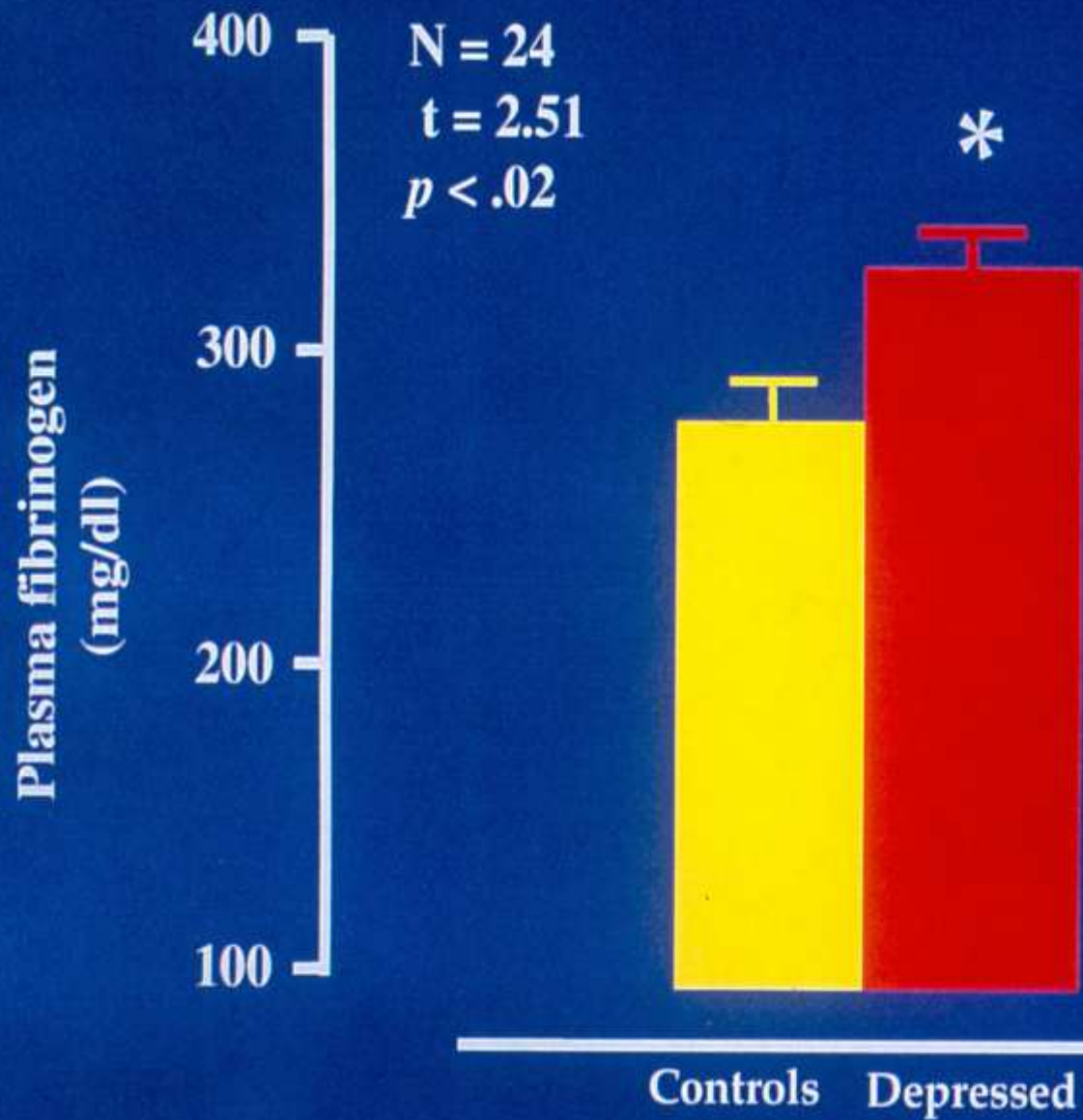
**Diurnal variations in plasma Epi in Controls and Depressed Patients (before and after ECT)**

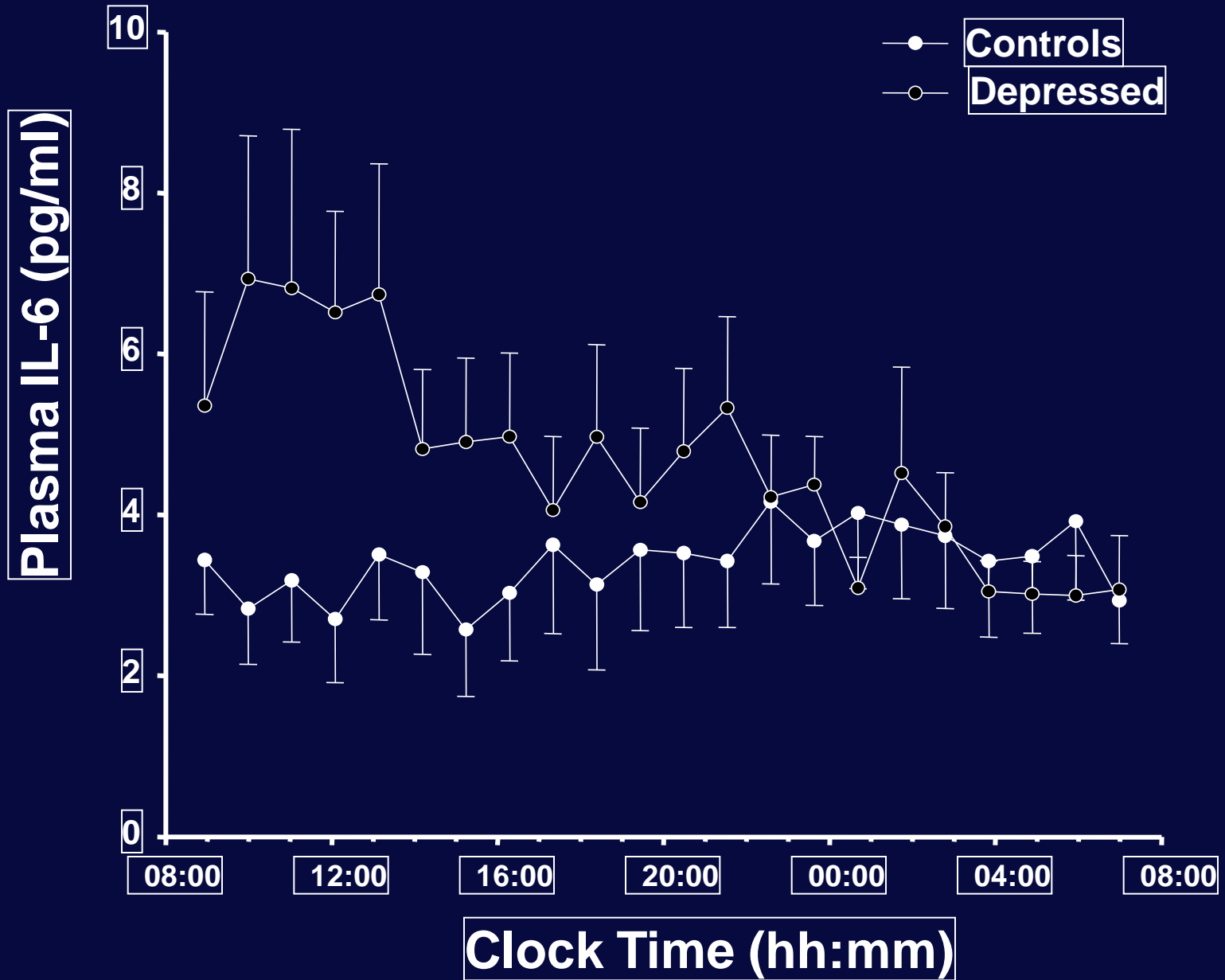


**H**

	Age	BMI	Fasting Serum Insulin	Fasting Serum Glucose	Insulin Sensitivity
Depressed	39.016 ± 1.218	24.6 ± 0.5	8.43 ± 0.71	91.16 ± 1.491	0.354 ± .004
Controls	38.079 ± 1.222	24.4 ± 0.4	6.21 ± .49	83.54 ± 1.1	0.381 ± .006
<i>p</i> value			<i>p</i> = .008	<i>p</i> = .0001	<i>p</i> < .0008

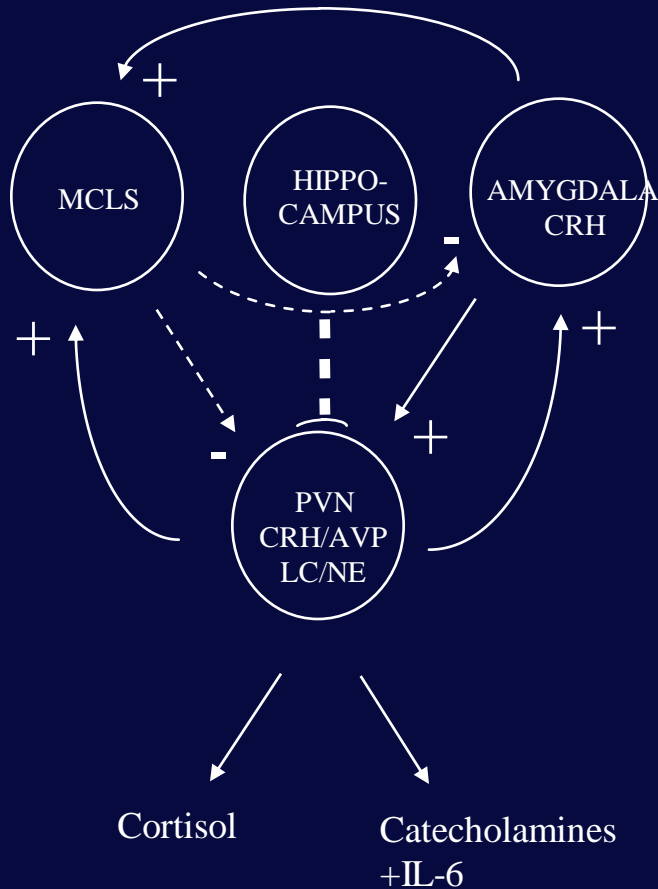




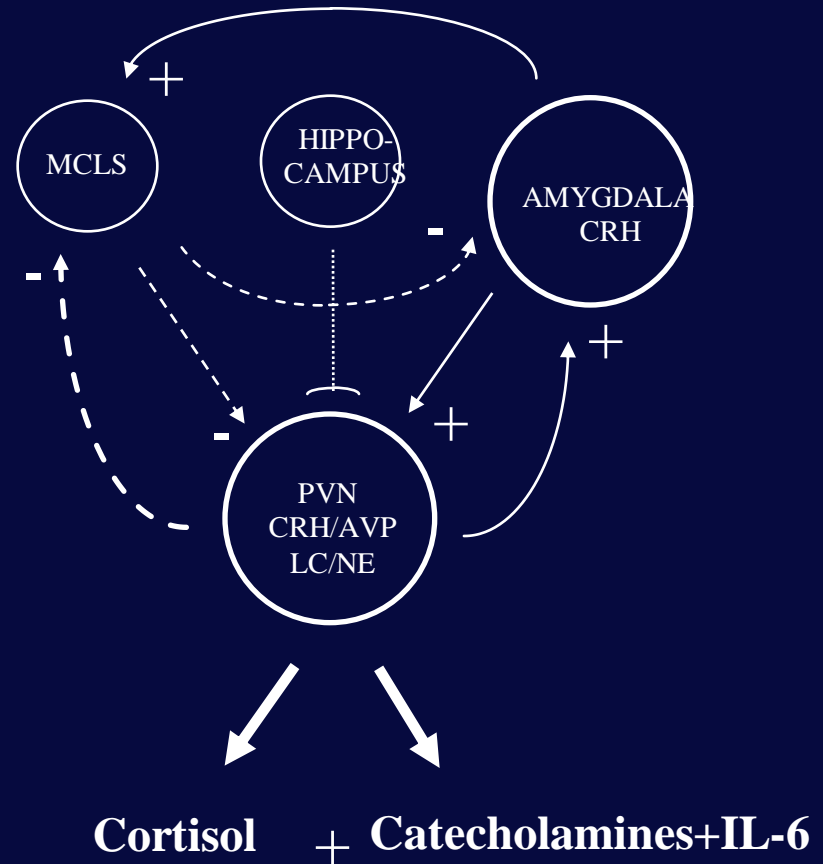




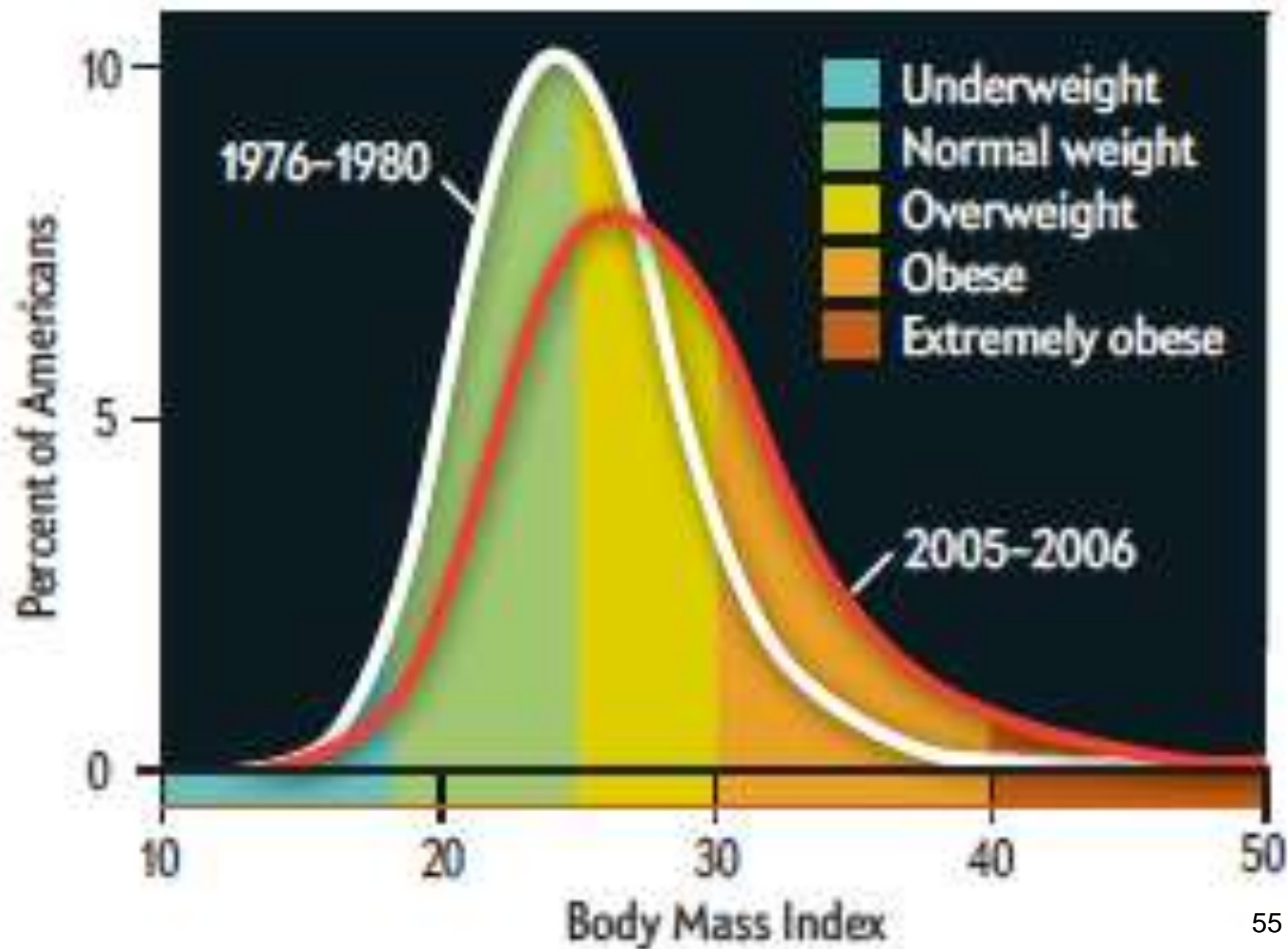
## Acute Stress

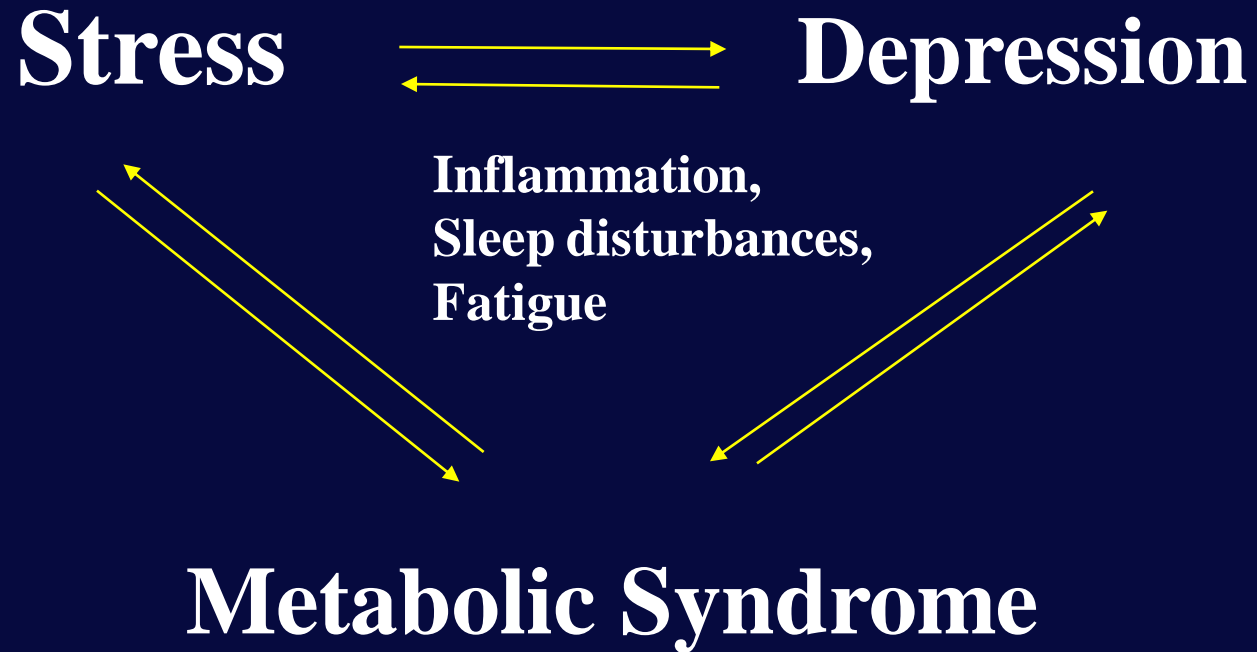


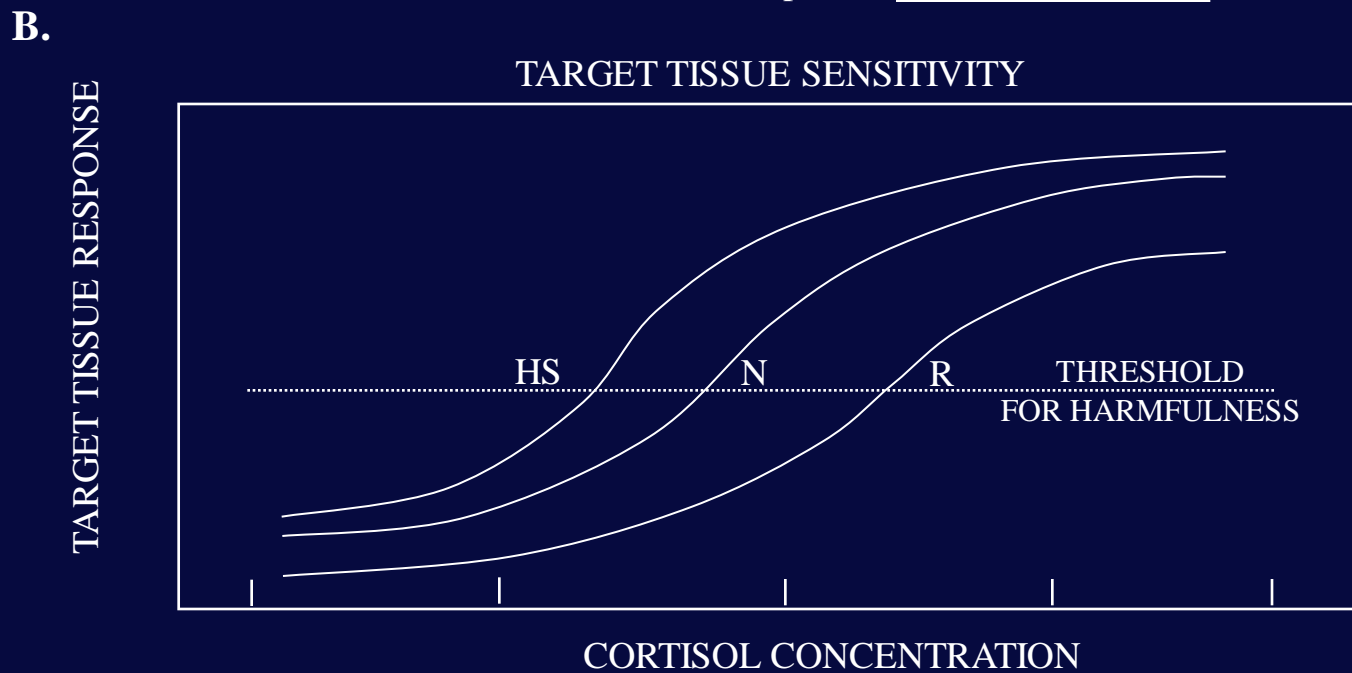
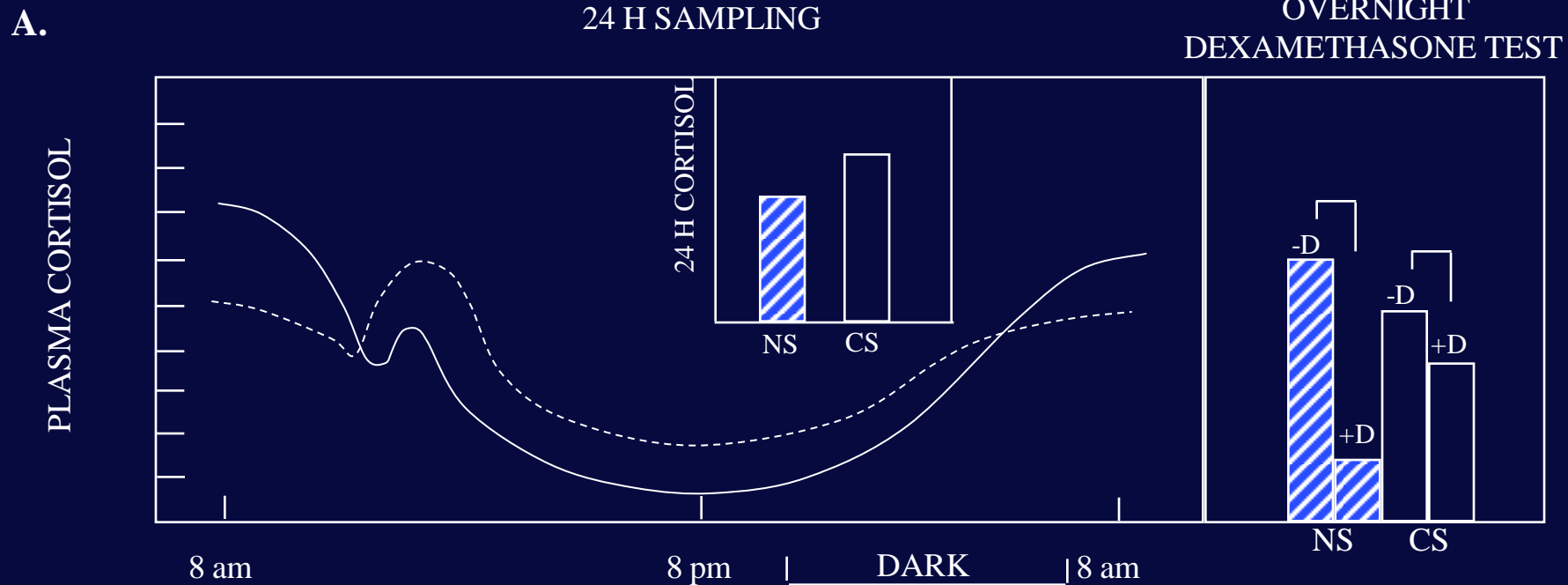
# Melancholic Depression



<u>Behavioral consequences</u>	+	<u>Somatic consequences</u>
Anhedonia, Fatigue,		<b>Metabolic syndrome X</b>
Insomnia, Anorexia.		Cardiovascular disease
Loss of libido		Osteoporosis
<b>Sickness syndrome</b>		

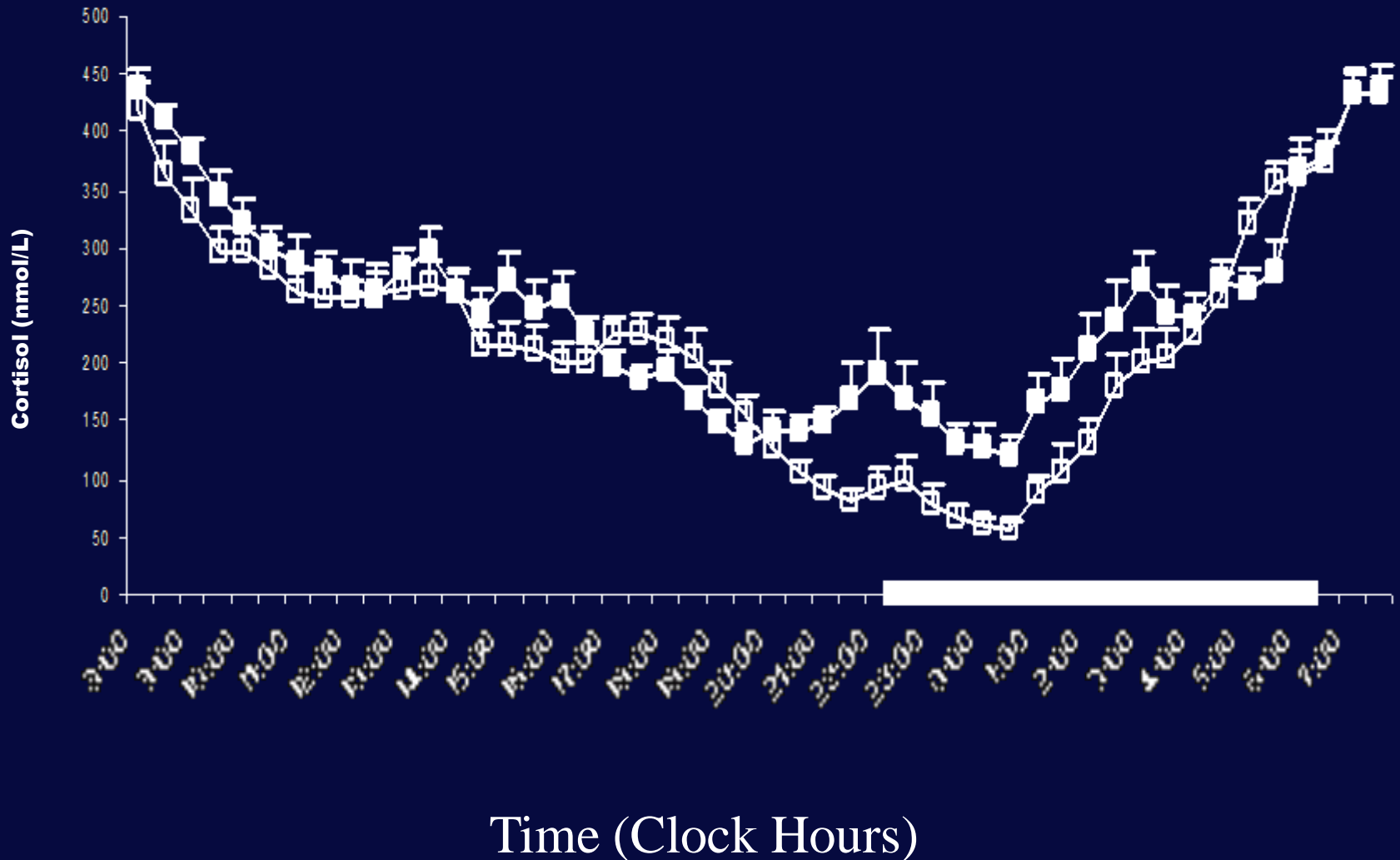




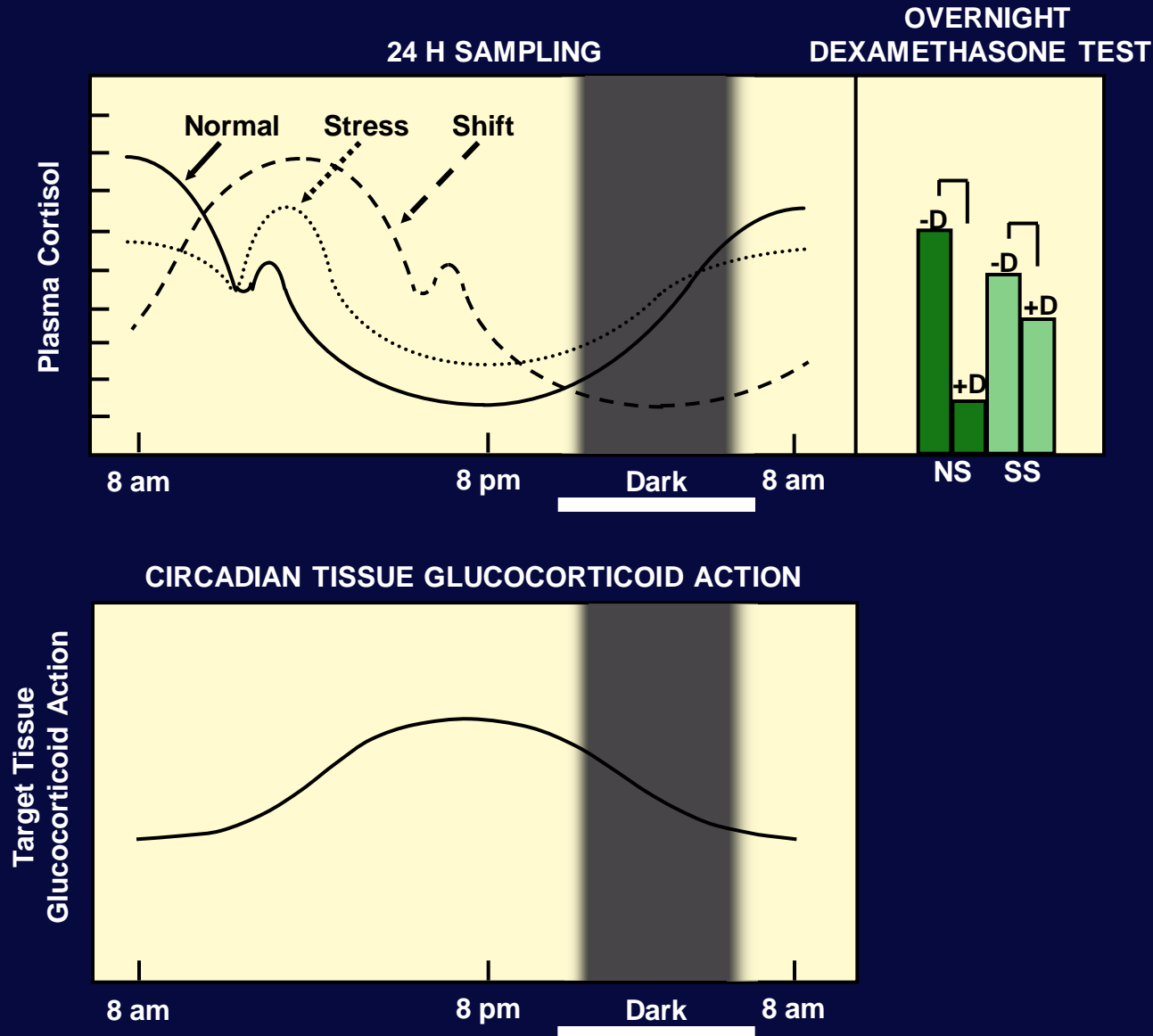




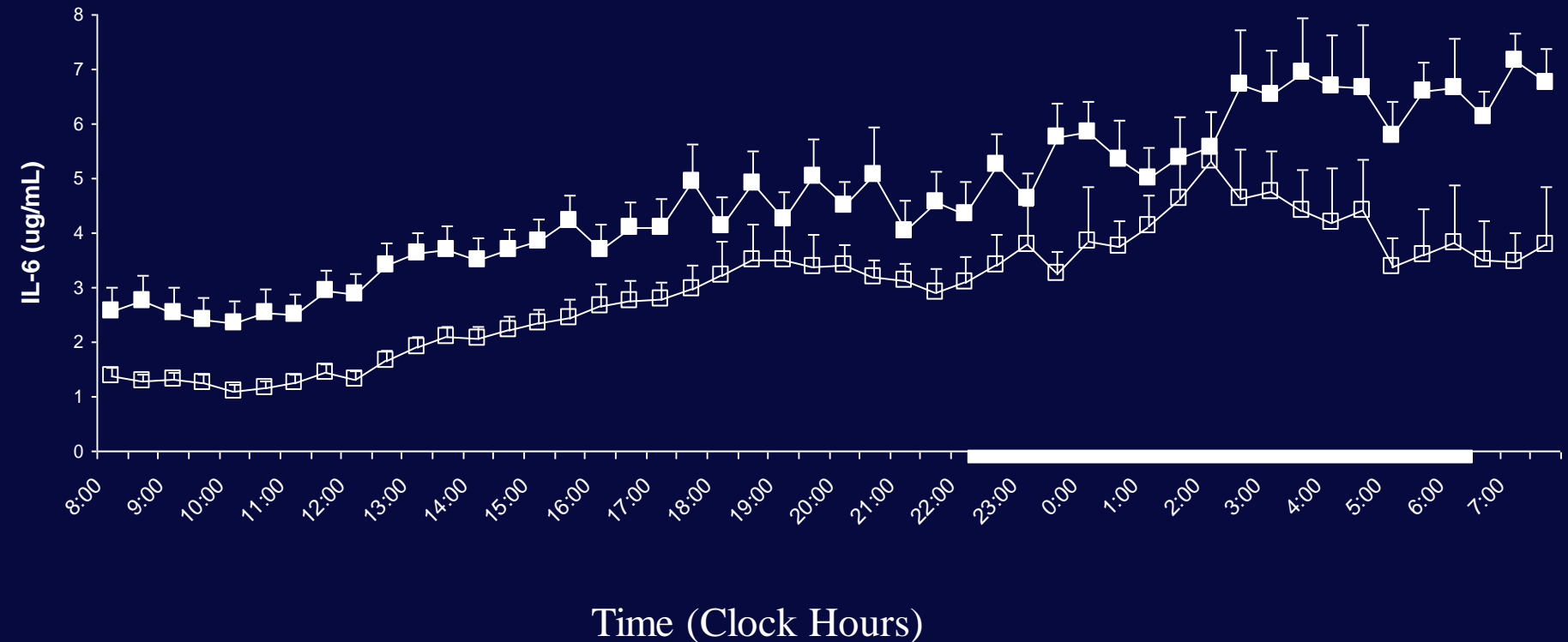
# HPA axis and old age



# Uncoupling between Circadian Rhythm of Circulating Cortisol and Tissue Glucocorticoid Sensitivity



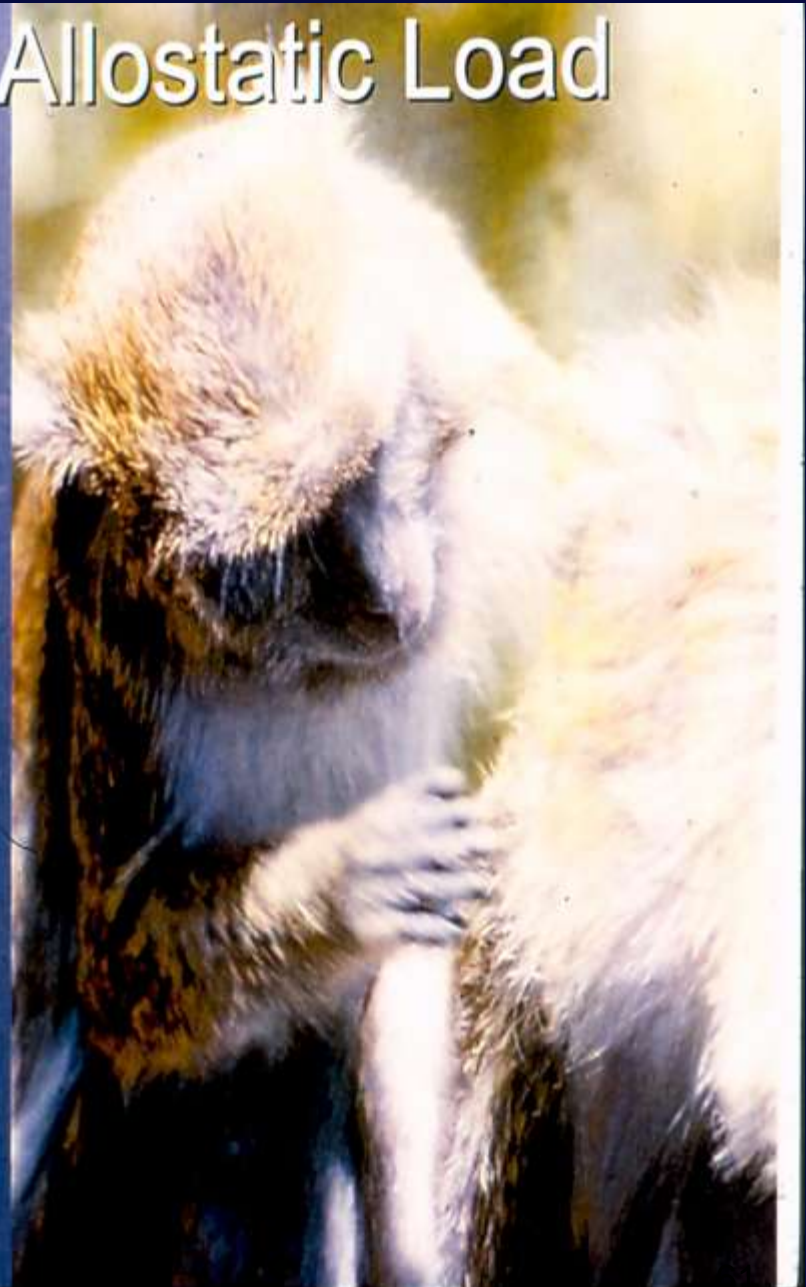
# Cytokines and old age



Vgontzas *et al.* JCEM 2003

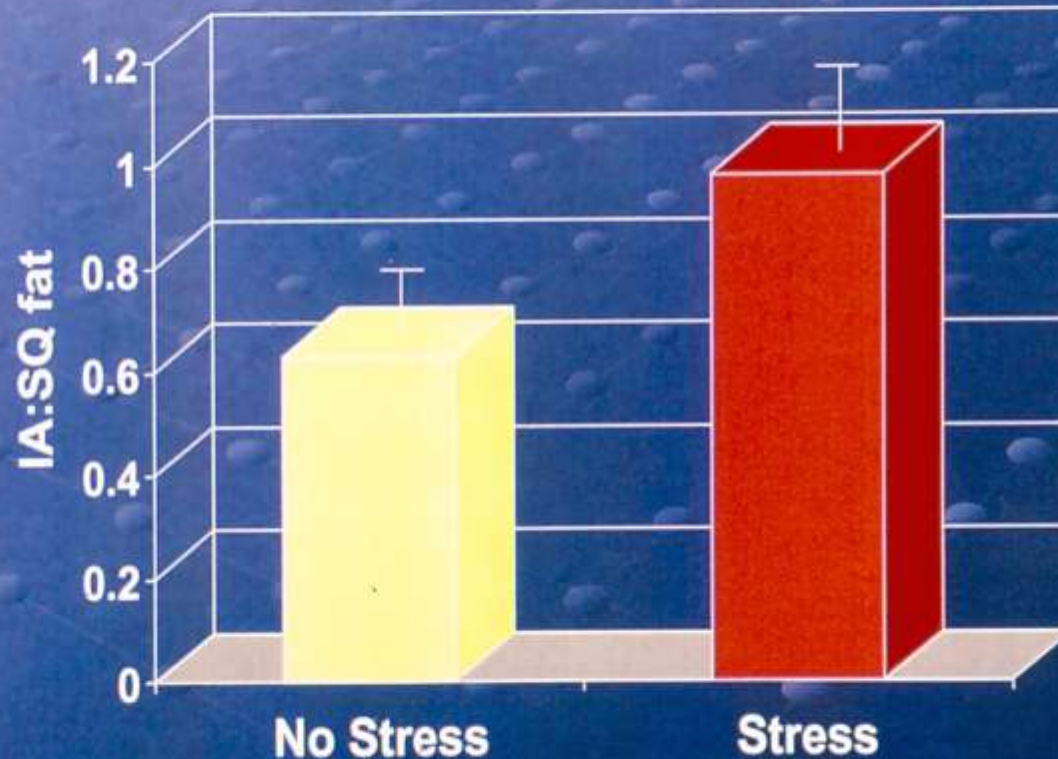
# Animal Models of Allostatic Load

- Mild, Chronic (1000 days), Social Stress
- Atherogenic Diet
- Multiple System Measurements of Wear & Tear
- Morbidity/Mortality Endpoints



# Social Stress Causes Visceral Fat Deposition

- Males
- Social reorg stress
- N=40



Jayo et al., 1993



# THE STRESS SYSTEM AND THE METABOLIC SYNDROME

**Cushing Syndrome**

**Pseudocushing Syndrome**

**Chronic Active Alcoholism**

**Melancholic Depression**

**Metabolic Syndrome**

**“Benign” Premature Adrenarche**

**Post Long Periods of Stress**

**Linkage Studies with GR**

**AIDS-related insulin resistance/lipodystrophy**

**Monkey Studies**

**Seasonal Depression**

**Atypical Depression**

# **THE STRESS SYSTEM AND THE METABOLIC SYNDROME**

## **Post Long Periods of Stress**

**Neoplasia Rx**

**Anorexia Nervosa**

**Malnutrition**

**Extreme Athleticism**

**Addictions**

# Disease and Disadvantage in the United States and in England

James Banks, PhD; Michael Marmot, MD; Zoe Oldfield, MSc;  
James P. Smith, PhD

***JAMA. 2006;295:2037-2045.***

**Context** The United States spends considerably more money on health care than the United Kingdom, but whether that translates to better health outcomes is unknown.

**Objective** To assess the relative health status of older individuals in England and the United States, especially how their health status varies by important indicators of socioeconomic position.



# **Disease and Disadvantage in the United States and in England**

**James Banks, PhD; Michael Marmot, MD; Zoe Oldfield, MSc;  
James P. Smith, PhD**

***JAMA.* 2006;295:2037-2045.**

**Americans:**

**CRP 20% higher**

**HDL 14 % lower**

# America's Sick Society

Paul Krugman

Editorial, Herald Tribune, 6 May 2006

—Being American seems to damage your health regardless of race and class.

—The richest third of Americans is in worse health than the poorest third of the English

—Bad habits do not explain the difference



Americans experience too much stress

# **Excess Deaths Associated with Underweight, Overweight, and Obesity**

**Flegal KM, Graubard BI, Williamson DF, Gail MH**

***JAMA.* 2005;293:1861-1867.**

**Risk of mortality is improving from NHANES I to NHANES II to NHANES III**

# Anti-stress and nutritional and other potential life extenders

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**ANTI-STRESS-** Beta-blockers, Anti-depressants, CEI, AT2-blockers

**ANTI-INFLAMMATION-**  $\omega$ 3 Fatty Acids, Unsaturated Fatty Acids, Statins, PPAR- $\gamma$  agonists

**ANTI-OXIDATION-** Phytoestrogens, sulforafane

**INSULIN SENSITIZATION-** Diet, Exercise, Metformin, PPAR- $\gamma$  agonists

**ANTI-COAGULATION-** Anti-platelet agents

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# The Economist

DECEMBER 13TH-19TH 2003

www.economist.com

Gore anoints Dean

PAGES 12 AND 33

America's Taiwan test

PAGES 12 AND 29

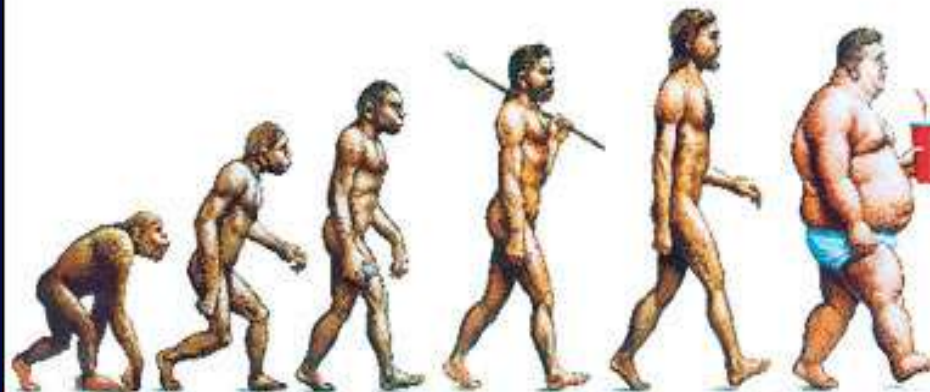
The future of flight

PAGES 79-81

**A SURVEY OF FOOD**

AFTER PAGE 52

## The shape of things to come



US\$4.95 • C\$5.95



Argentina \$4.00  
Australia \$4.00  
Brazil \$4.00  
Canada \$4.00  
France \$4.00  
Germany \$4.00  
India \$4.00  
Japan \$4.00  
Mexico \$4.00  
New Zealand \$4.00  
Norway \$4.00  
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South Africa \$4.00  
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Russia \$4.00  
South Africa \$4.00  
Spain \$4.00  
Sweden \$4.00  
Switzerland \$4.00  
Taiwan \$4.00  
UK \$4.00  
USA \$4.00

## Selections of **Genetic** and **Epigenetic** Networks Participating in Functions Important for Human Survival and Species Preservation

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<b>RESPONSE TO SURVIVAL THREAT</b>	<b>SELECTIVE ADVANTAGE</b>	<b>CONTEMPORARY DISEASE</b>
<i>Combat starvation</i>	Energy conservation	Obesity
<i>Combat dehydration</i>	Fluid and electrolyte conservation	Hypertension
<i>Combat infectious diseases</i>	Potent immune reaction	Autoimmunity/Allergy
<i>Anticipate adversaries</i>	Arousal/fear	Anxiety/insomnia
<i>Minimize exposure to danger</i>	Withdrawal	Depression
<i>Prevent tissue strain/damage</i>	Retain tissue integrity	Pain and fatigue syndromes

---

Chrousos, Amer J Med 2004

# ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS

Starvation  
Dehydration  
Injurious agents-inflammations  
Adversaries-anticipation  
Adversaries-avoidance  
Injury-minimization

Species

vs.

Individual

*Evolution*

*Genetics*

*CNS complexity*

Genotype

*Development*

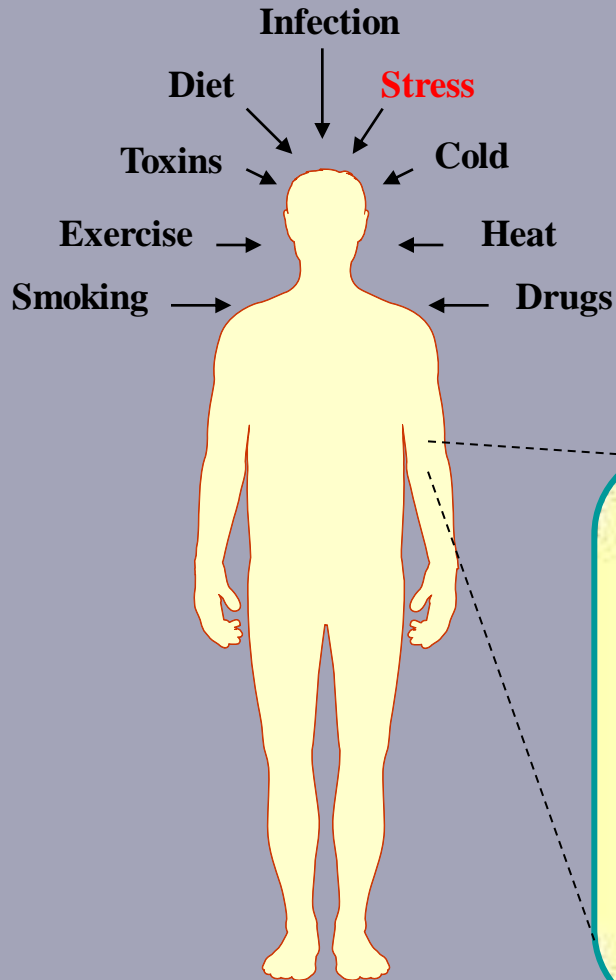
*Epigenetics*

*CNS plasticity*

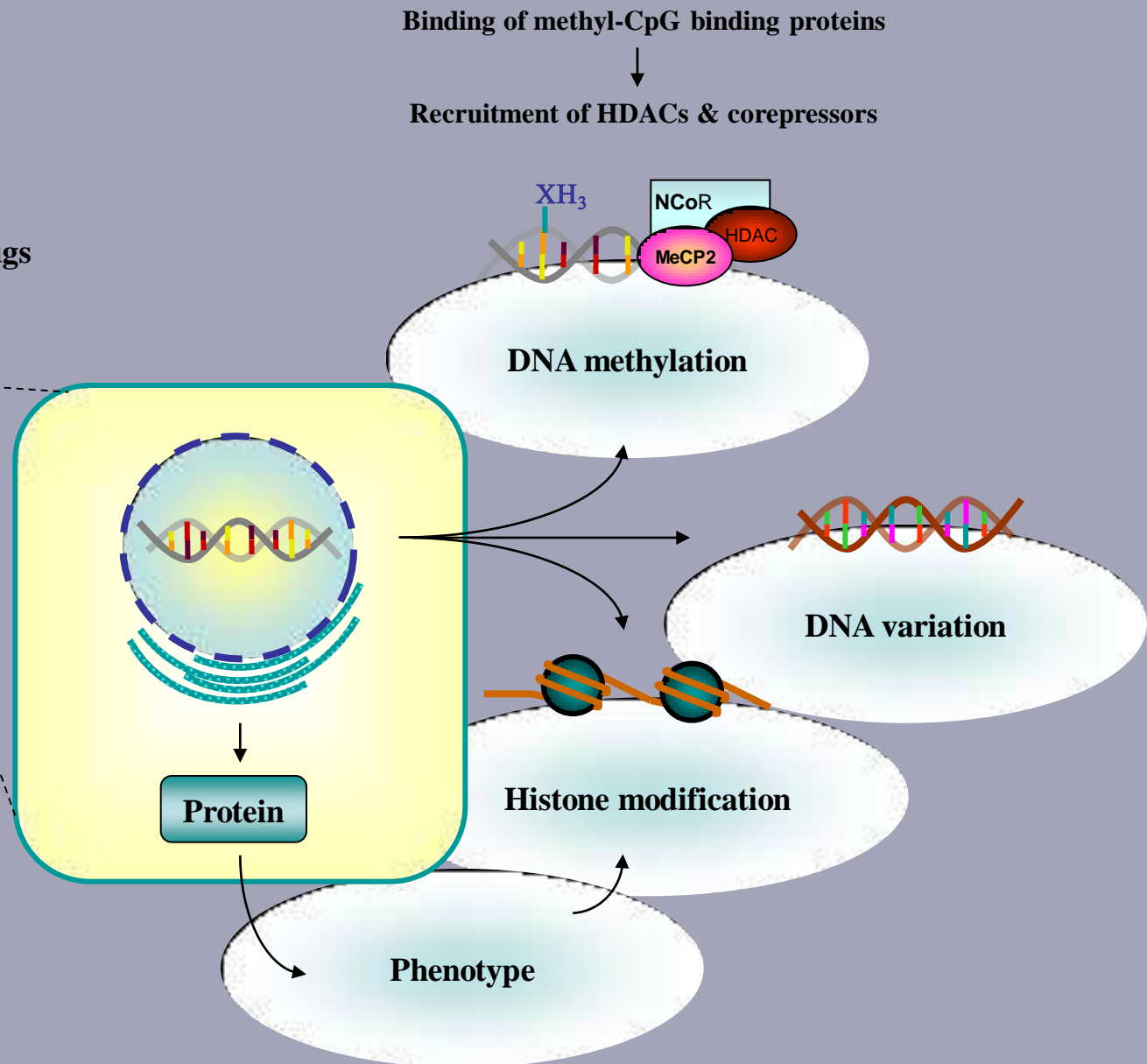
Epigenotype

Phenotype

## ENVIRONMENTAL TRIGGERS



## GENETIC MACHINERY





# ***THE STRESS SYSTEM***

## **Chronic Pathophysiology**

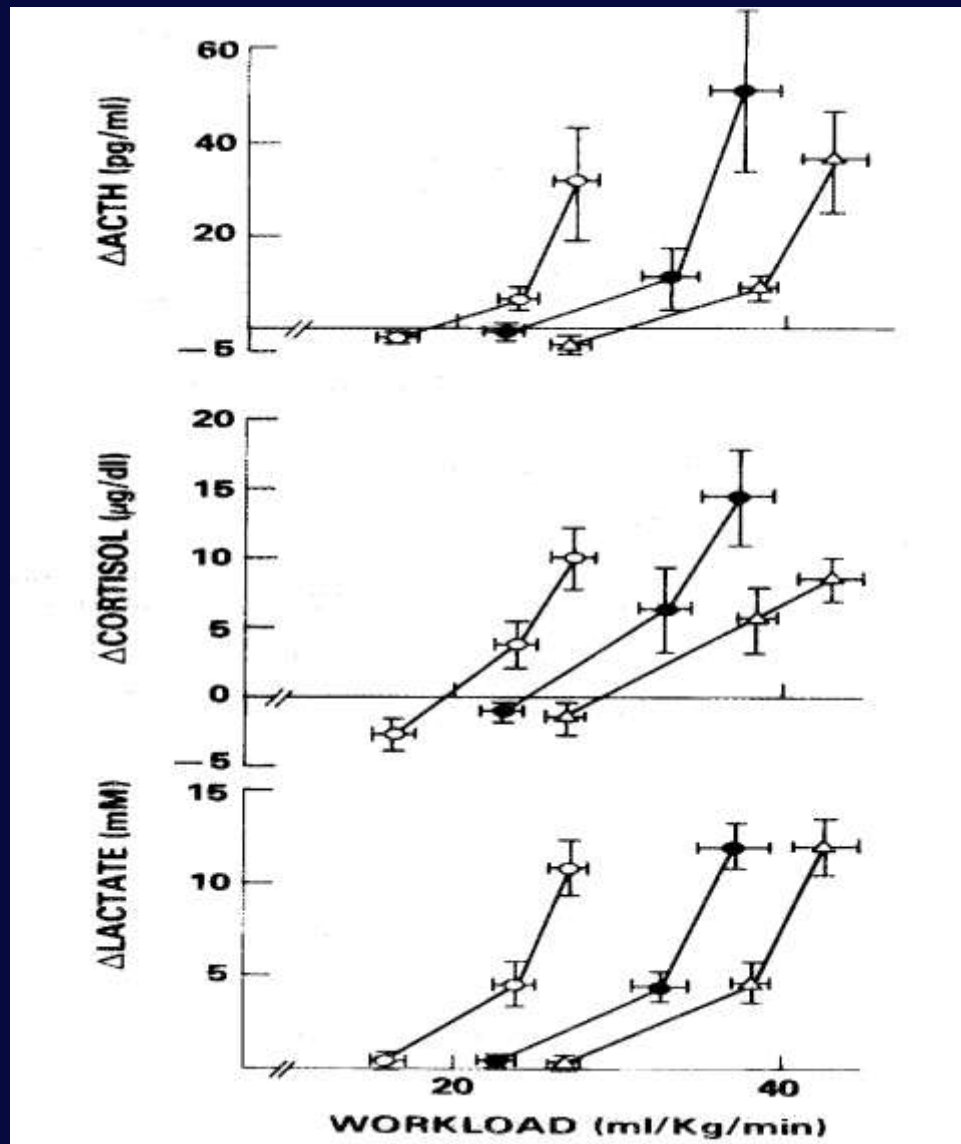
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**Chronic intermittent exercise  
bouts as a chronic stressor  
Moderate vs. Excessive**

---

## Exercise Stress: Three Fitness Groups

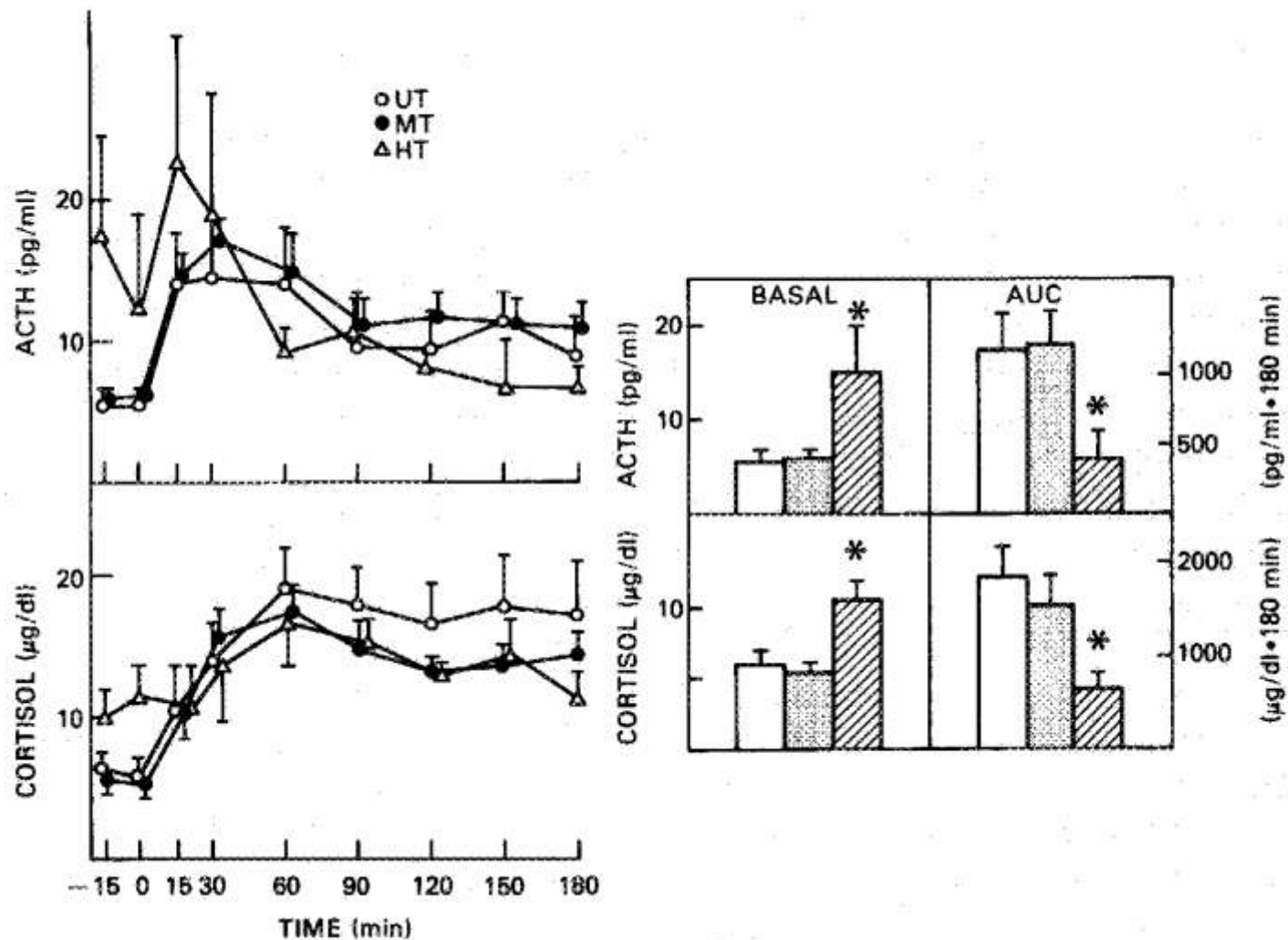
### ACTH and Cortisol Responses



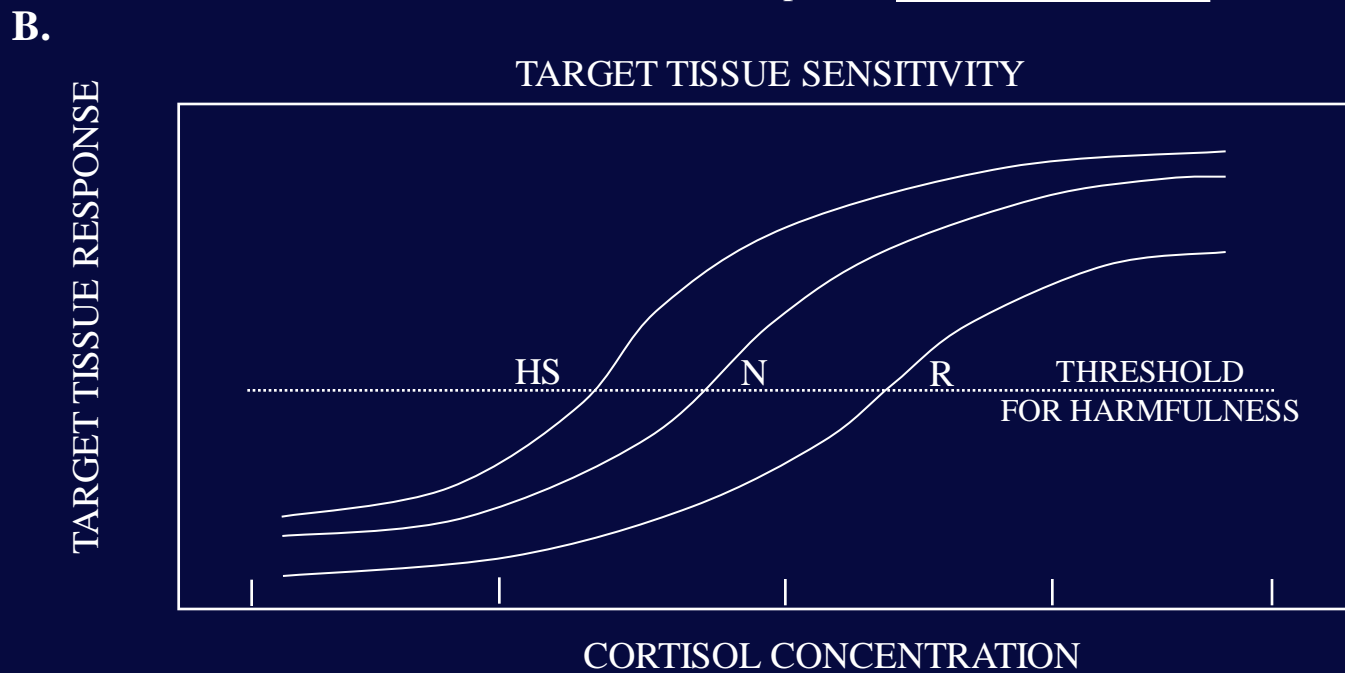
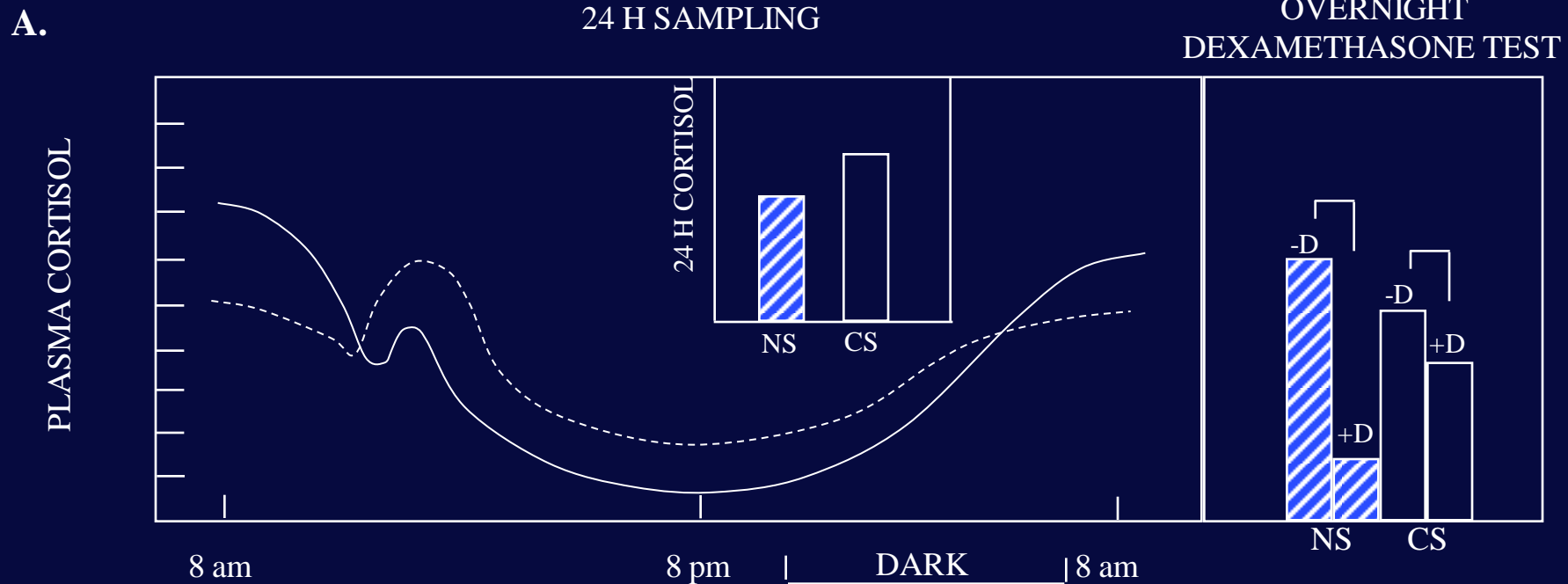
Luger *et al.* NEJM 1987

## CRH Stimulation : Three Fitness Groups

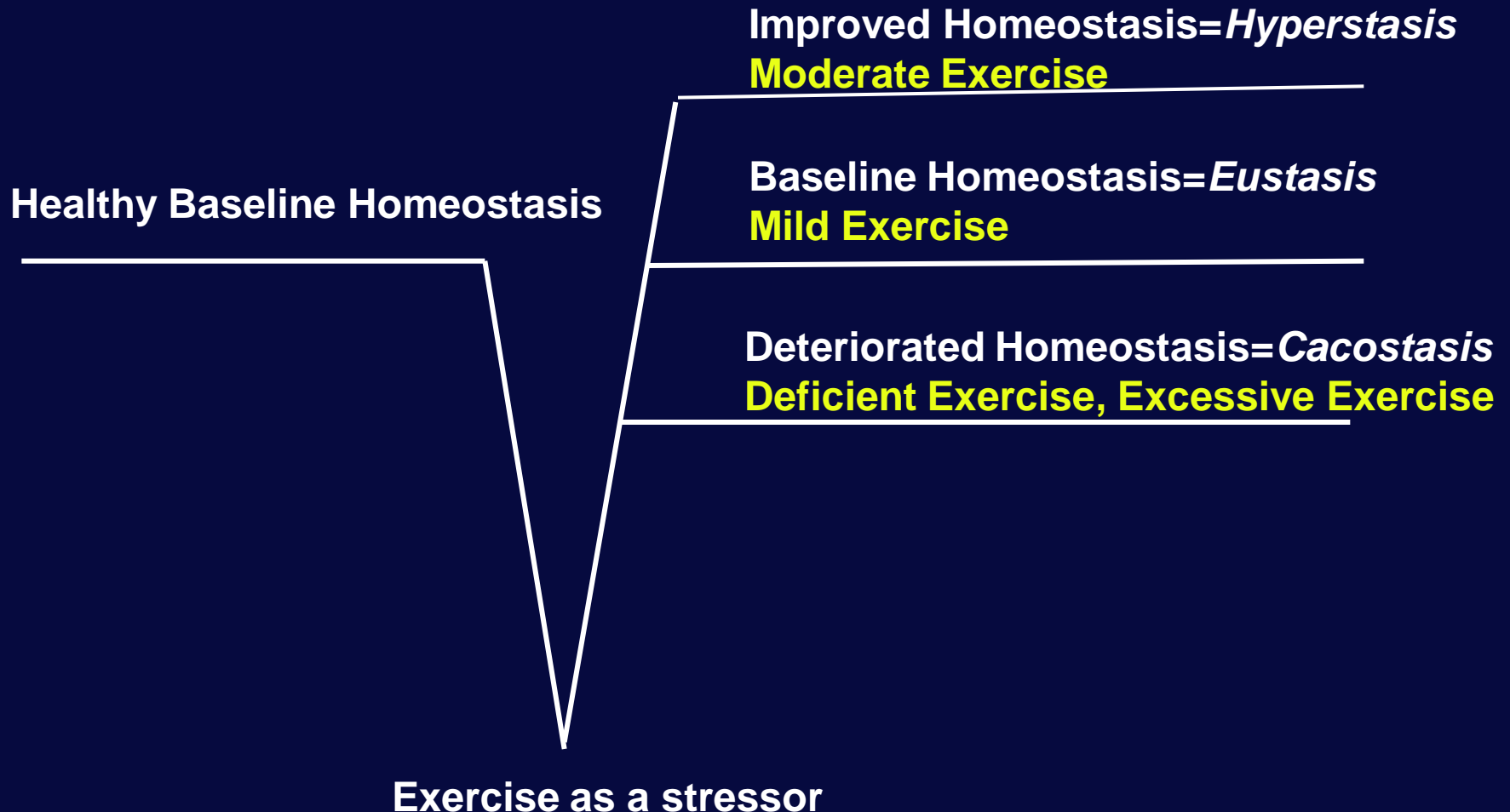
### ACTH and Cortisol Responses



Luger *et al.* NEJM 1987



# Exercise over Time



# Physical and Emotional Stress

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- **Stress Concepts**
  - **Stress Mechanisms**
  - **Effects of Stress on the Organism**
  - **Coping with Stress**
-

The constituents of Man:

**“Φύσις, Εθος, Λόγος”**

***“Physis, Ethos, Logos”***

*Aristotle*

*4<sup>th</sup> Century BCE*

# Dealing with Stress:

- **Alleviate/Eliminate Stressors**
- **Improve Coping**



# **Stress Coping- Management**

# What can we do about stress?

---

- **Social prerequisites**
  - **Nutrition**
  - **Exercise**
  - **Sleep**
  - **Timing regularity**
  - **Experiencing “*Flow*”**
-

# Basic Social Prerequisites

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- **Safety, Security**
  - **Social Integration**
  - **Competence**
  - **Authenticity**
  - **Autonomy**
-

# The Epicurian *Tetrapharmacon* Prescription

---

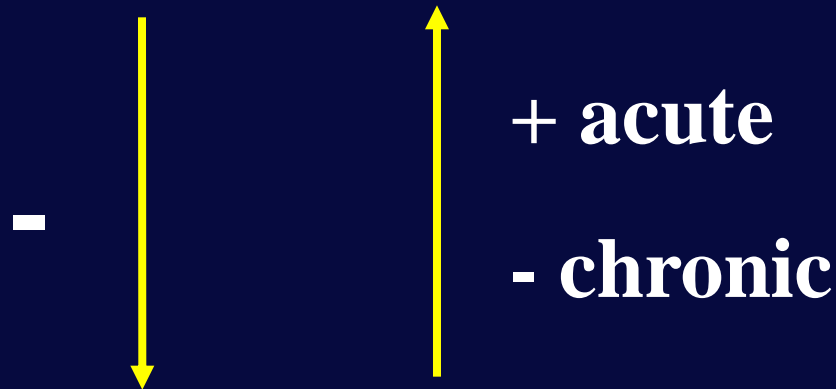
- *We are not threatened by divine power*
  - *There is no life after death*
  - *It is easy to acquire what we need to be happy*
  - *It is easy to endure what makes us suffer*
-



**Marcus Aurelius**  
**(Meditations)**  
**167 CE**

***“If you are distressed by anything external or internal,  
the pain is not due to the thing itself, but to your estimate of  
it; and this you have the power to revoke at any moment.”***

# MC/ML System Tone



# Stress System Tone

Placebo,  
Positive thinking,  
“Flow”

+

Nocebo,  
Negative thinking

-

**MC/ML System Tone**

-

+ acute/- chronic

**Stress System Tone**

Placebo,  
Positive thinking  
“Flow”

+

Nocebo,  
Negative thinking

-

**MC/ML System Tone**

-

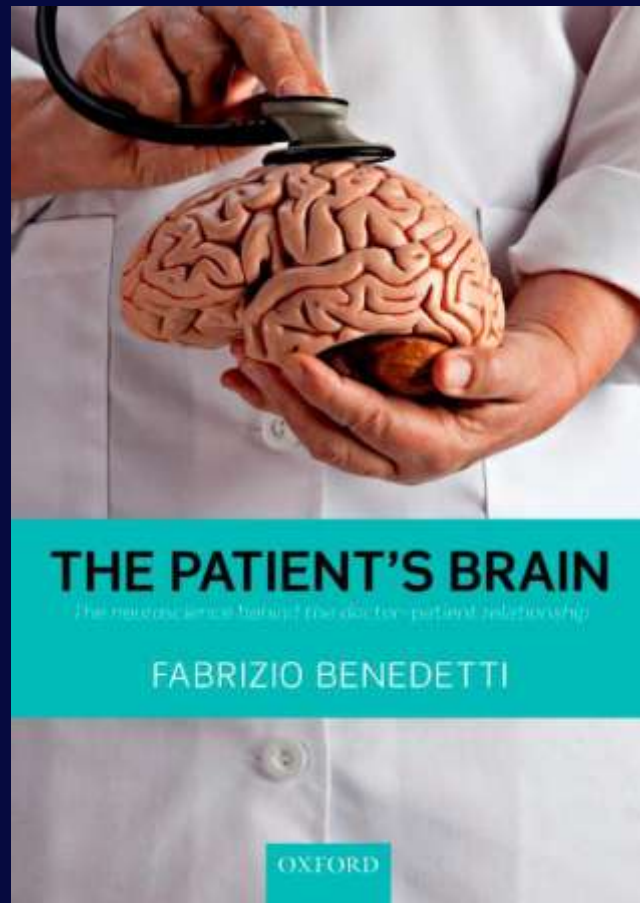
**+ acute/- chronic**

**Stress System Tone**

**Stress-related Component of Disease**



# Patient-doctor Relationship= A Strong Predictor of Response to any Therapy



# **Maintaining a Young Mind: A Prerequisite for Eulongevity**

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**Young Mind= Exploration ??**

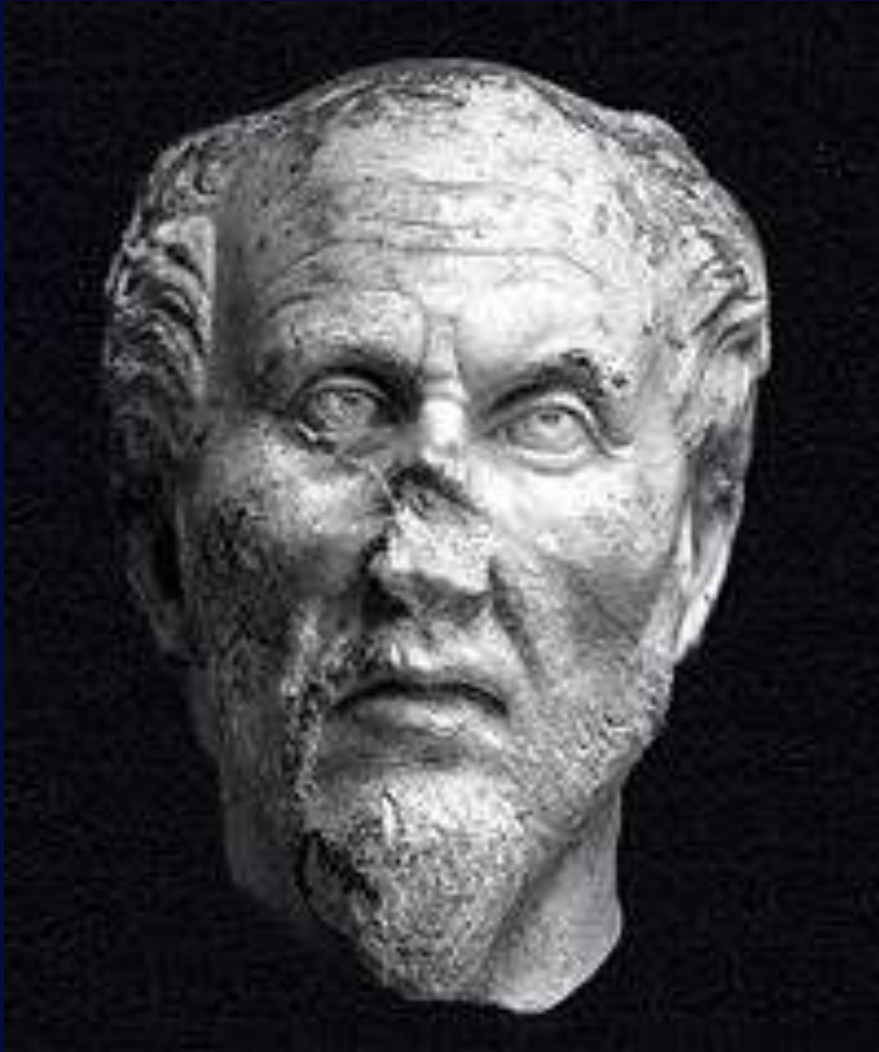
**Eulongevity =Good and long  
living**

---

# Increasing level of happiness: (+MC/ML System Tone)

- **Exploration**
- **“Flow” , Noopaedia**





***Plotinos of Lycopolis, Egypt (ca. CE 204/5–270)***

*“You ask, how can we know the Infinite? I answer, not by reason. It is the office of reason to distinguish and define. The Infinite, therefore, cannot be ranked among its objects. You can only apprehend the Infinite by a faculty superior to reason, by entering into a state in which you are your finite self no longer—in which the divine essence is communicated to you. **This is ecstasy.** It is the liberation of your mind from its finite consciousness. Like only can apprehend like; when you thus cease to be finite, you become one with the Infinite. In the reduction of your soul to its simplest self, its divine essence, you realize this union—this identity”.*

***Ancient Greek sage Plotinos (ca. CE 204/5–270) in a letter to Flaccus.***

**«....έδειξε με τις πράξεις του και την μέθοδο της λογικής του ότι για να είναι κάποιος ευτυχής πρέπει να είναι καλός.....»**

***“....he showed with his deeds and the method of his logic that for somebody to be happy one has to be good...”***

***Αριστοτέλης, Επικήδειος στον Πλάτωνα  
Aristotle, Eulogy to Plato 4cent BCE***

***“Aristotelian Eudaimonia”***

# 4 Qualities of Mind that Alleviate Suffering

---

- *Metta* = loving kindness
  - *Karuna* = compassion
  - *Mudita* = feeling the joy of others
  - *Upekkha* = ataraxia, equanimity
-



# *Upekkha=Ataraxia*

---

An equanimous mind holds all things in an ease-filled balance. From this place of equanimity, when we see people going about their everyday lives, friendliness (*metta*) is our natural response. When we see someone suffering, compassion (*karuna*) is our natural response. When we see someone who's happy, joy in their joy (*mudita*) is our natural response.

---

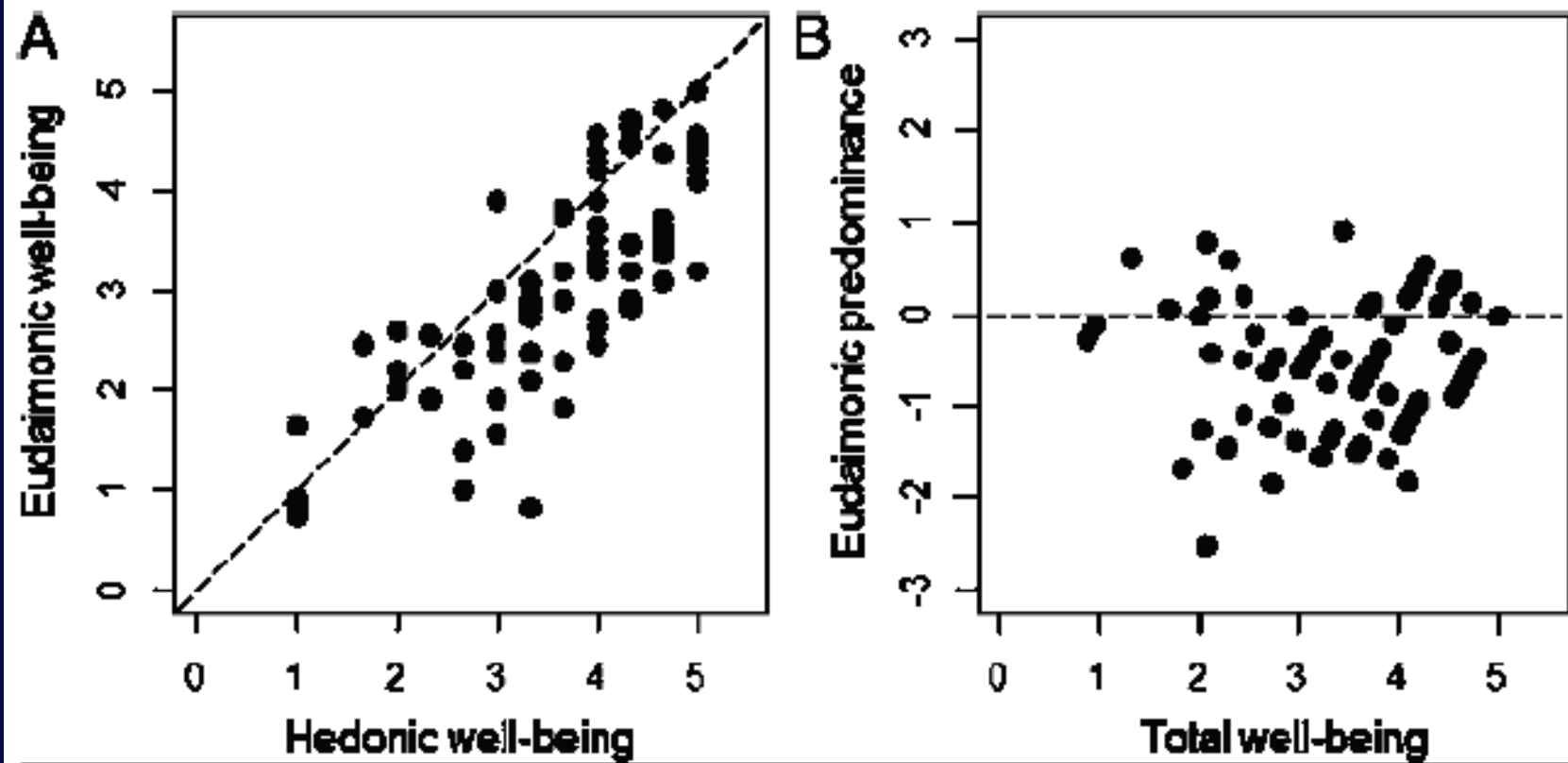
Sylvia Boorstein, *It is easier than you think*, 1995

*ΑΤΥΧΟΥΝΤΙ ΣΥΝΑΧΘΟΝ*

*Show compassion to the unfortunate.*

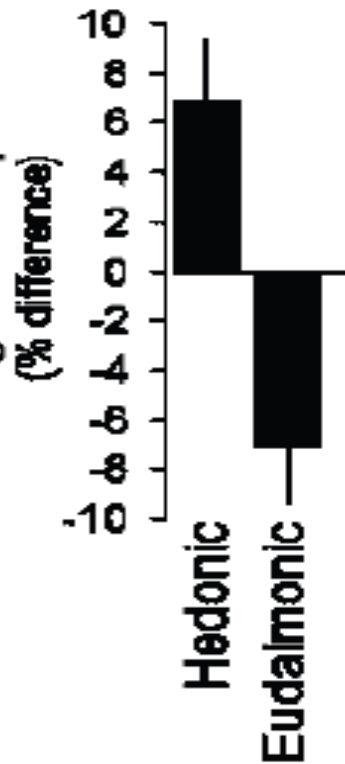
*Those only are happy, who have their minds fixed on some object other than their own happiness; on the happiness of others, on the improvement of mankind, even on some art or pursuit, followed not as a means, but as itself an ideal end. Aiming thus at something else, they find happiness by the way..*

*J. Mill 19<sup>th</sup> C CE*



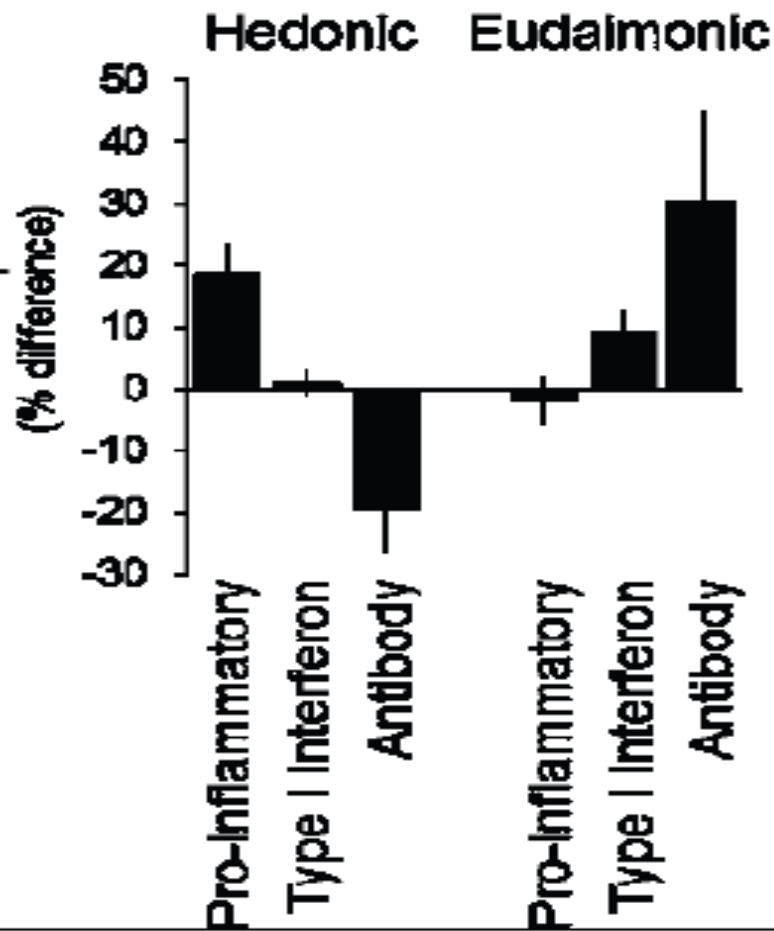
### A

CTRA gene composite



### B

Gene composite



# What can we do about stress?

---

- **Social prerequisites**
- **Nutrition**
- **Exercise**
- **Sleep**
- **Timing regularity**
- **Experiencing “*Flow*”**
- **Be good-do good**
- **Have a sustained purpose beyond one’s self (“*transcendence*”)**

*EYTYXIAN EYXON*

*Search for happiness*

***“I decided to be happy because this improves my health”***

Voltaire 1694-1778



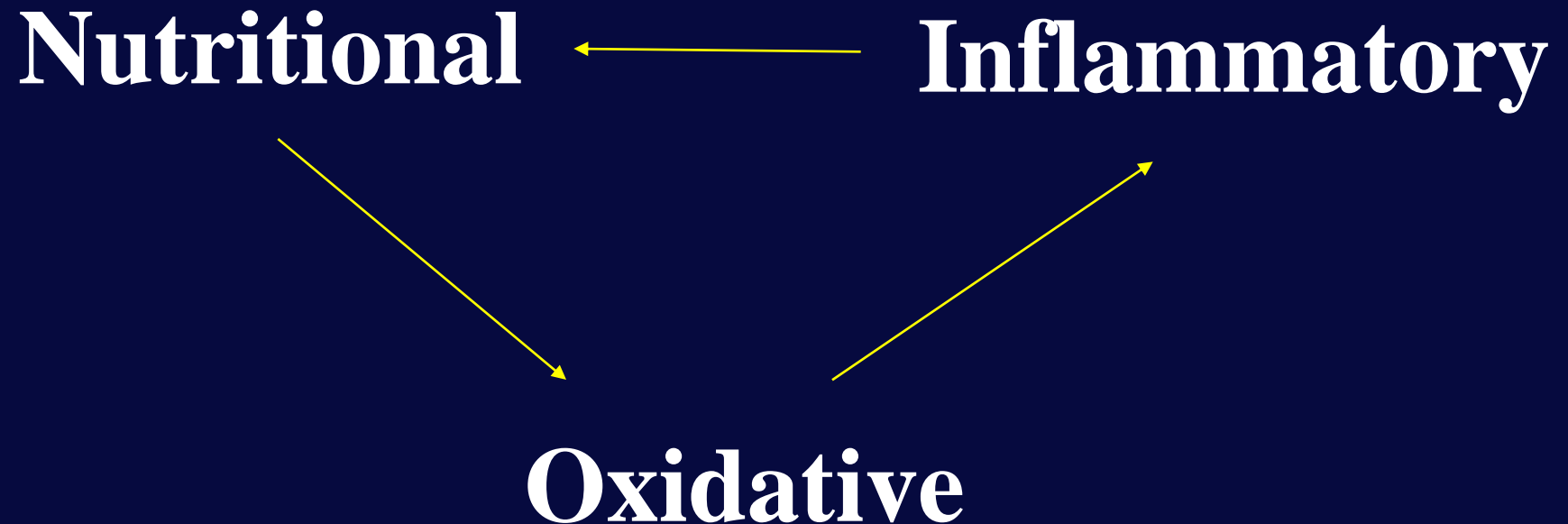
*Συμπάσχει η ψυχή τω σώματι νοσούντι και  
τεμνομένω, το δε σώμα τη ψυχή*

The soul suffers when the body is diseased  
or traumatized, while the body suffers when the  
soul is ailing

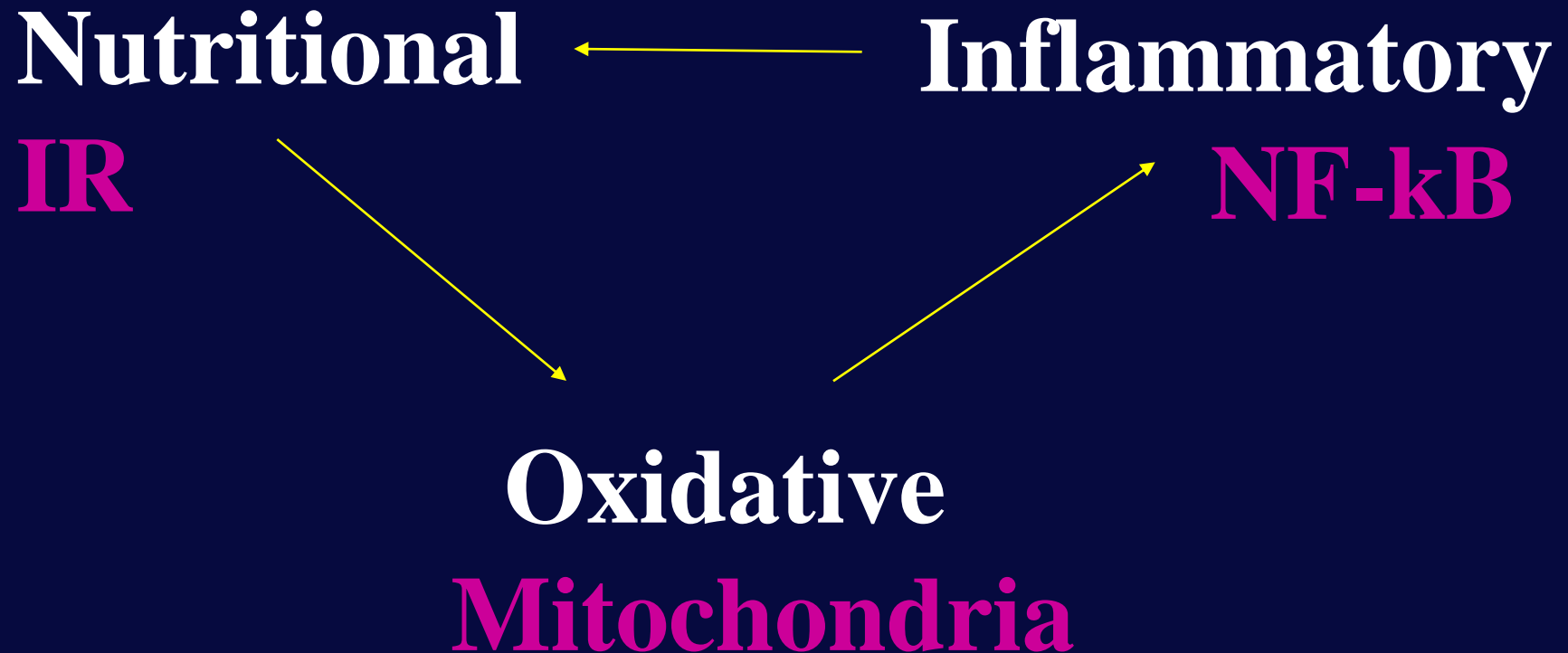
*Aristotle*



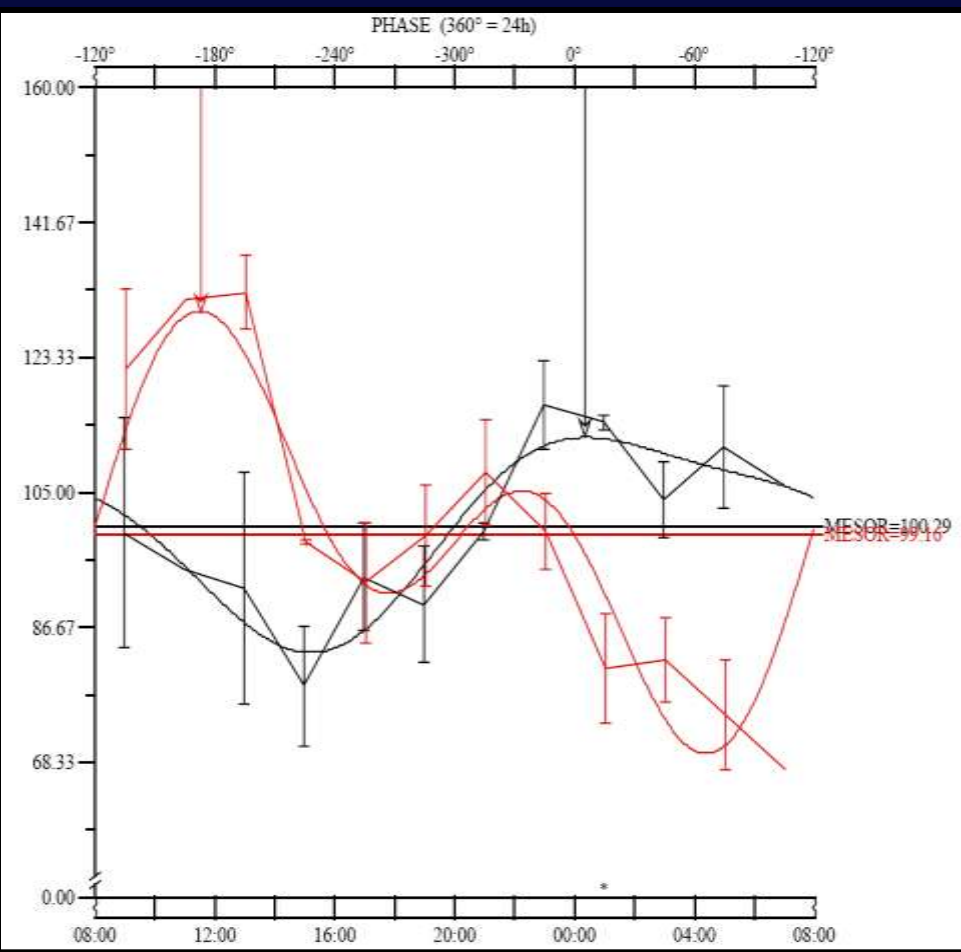
# Cellular Stress



# Cellular Stress

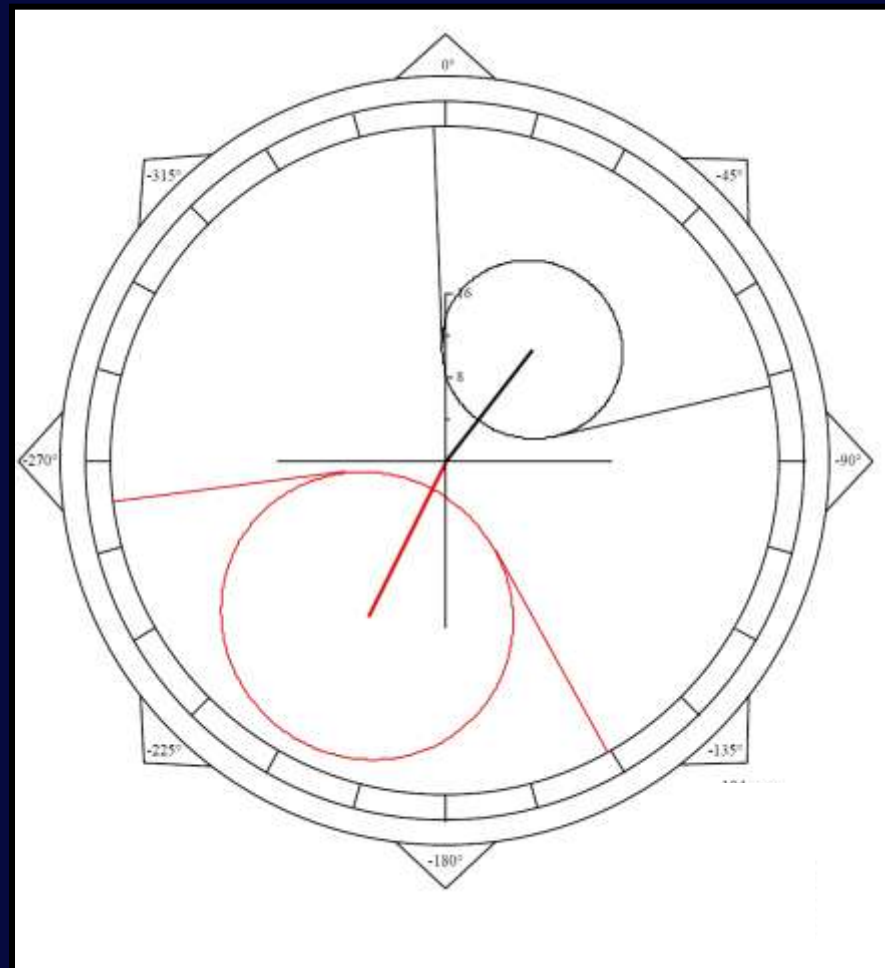






Clock time (hh:mm)

— Controls  
— Depressed



## Pearson' s correlations between mean 0800-2300 h plasma IL-6 levels and MVAS scores.

	Correlation coefficient	Probability value
<b>Appetite</b>	-0.61	0.07
<b>Concentration</b>	-0.64	0.05
<b>Craving</b>	-0.45	0.19
<b>Guilt</b>	-0.82	0.004*
<b>Physical discomfort</b>	-0.35	0.32
<b>Sadness</b>	-0.72	0.02
<b>Self-esteem</b>	-0.86	0.002*
<b>Suicidal thoughts</b>	-0.88	0.0007*
<b>Tiredness</b>	-0.75	0.02
<b>Withdrawal</b>	-0.21	0.56

Note: For each measure, a higher VAS score denoted better feelings.

\*Correlations of IL-6 with guilt, self-esteem and suicidal thoughts remained significant after Bonferroni correction.

Antidepressants

Peripheral Immune  
Activation and  
Cytokine Secretion

Central Secretion  
of Cytokines  
( $\text{TNF}\alpha$ , IL-1,  
IL-6, etc.)

Alterations in  
Neurochemical  
Systems  
(NE, 5-HT,  
CRH, etc.)

Sickness Behavior,  
Depression Equates  
an Inflammatory  
Condition?

Peripheral  
Infections

Post  
Partum  
Period

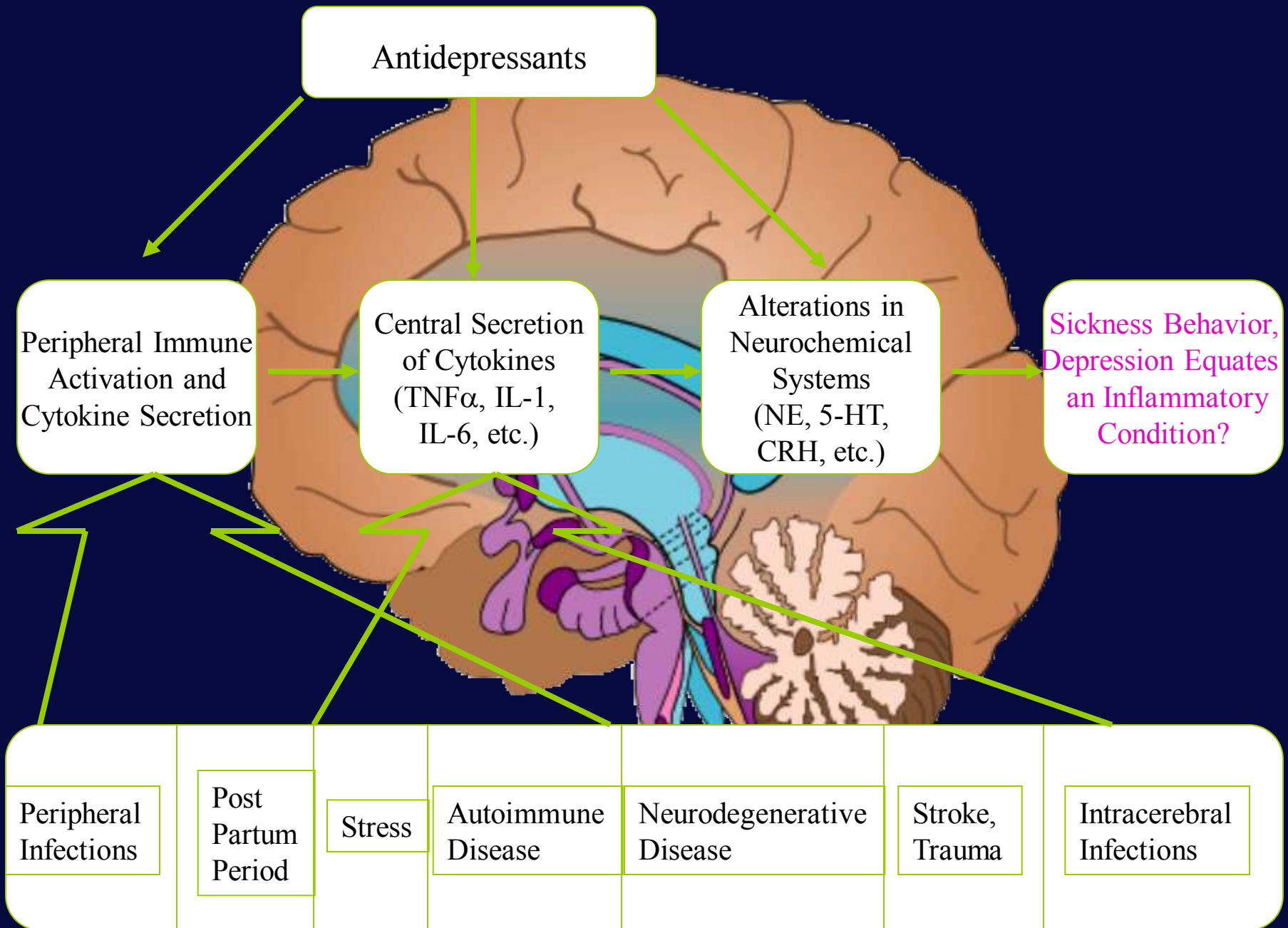
Stress

Autoimmune  
Disease

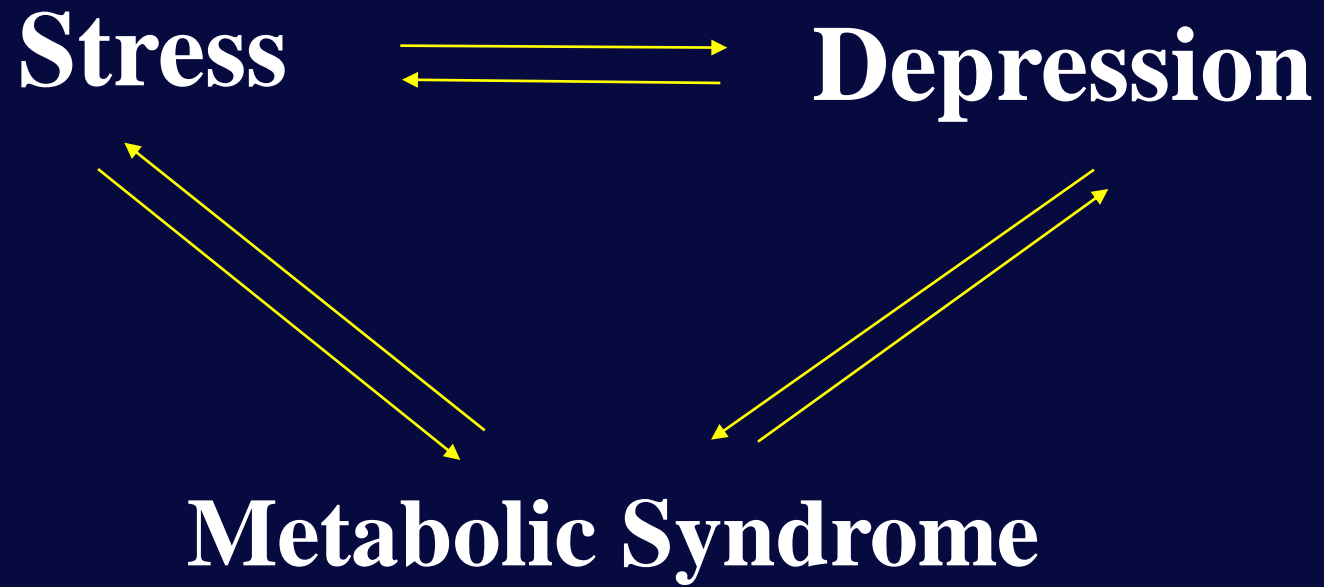
Neurodegenerative  
Disease

Stroke,  
Trauma

Intracerebral  
Infections







## **FAT MASS**

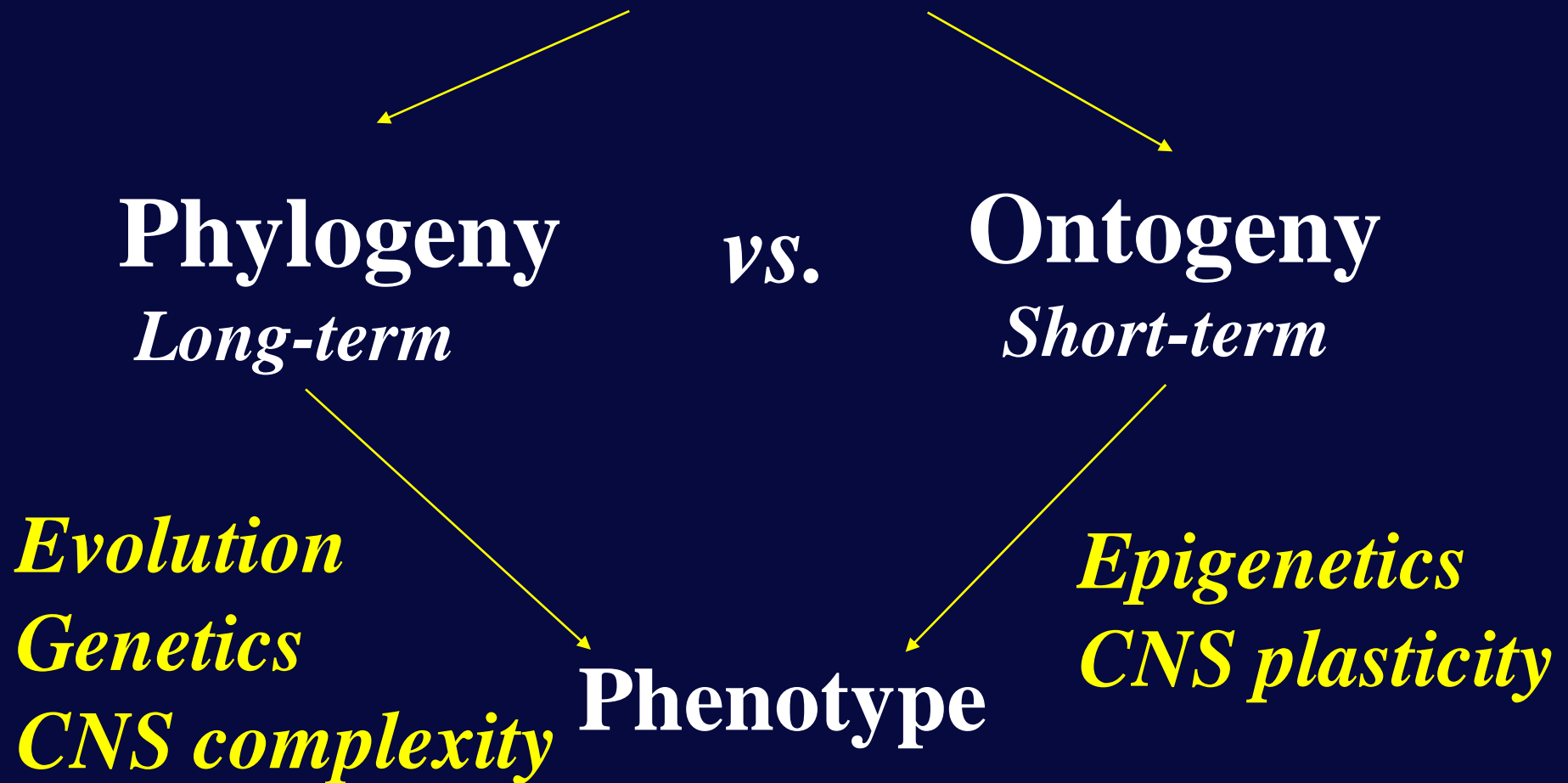
**VISCERAL FAT = ABDOMINAL ADIPOSE TISSUE**

**LEAN BODY MASS= SKELETAL MUSCLE MASS +BONE MASS**

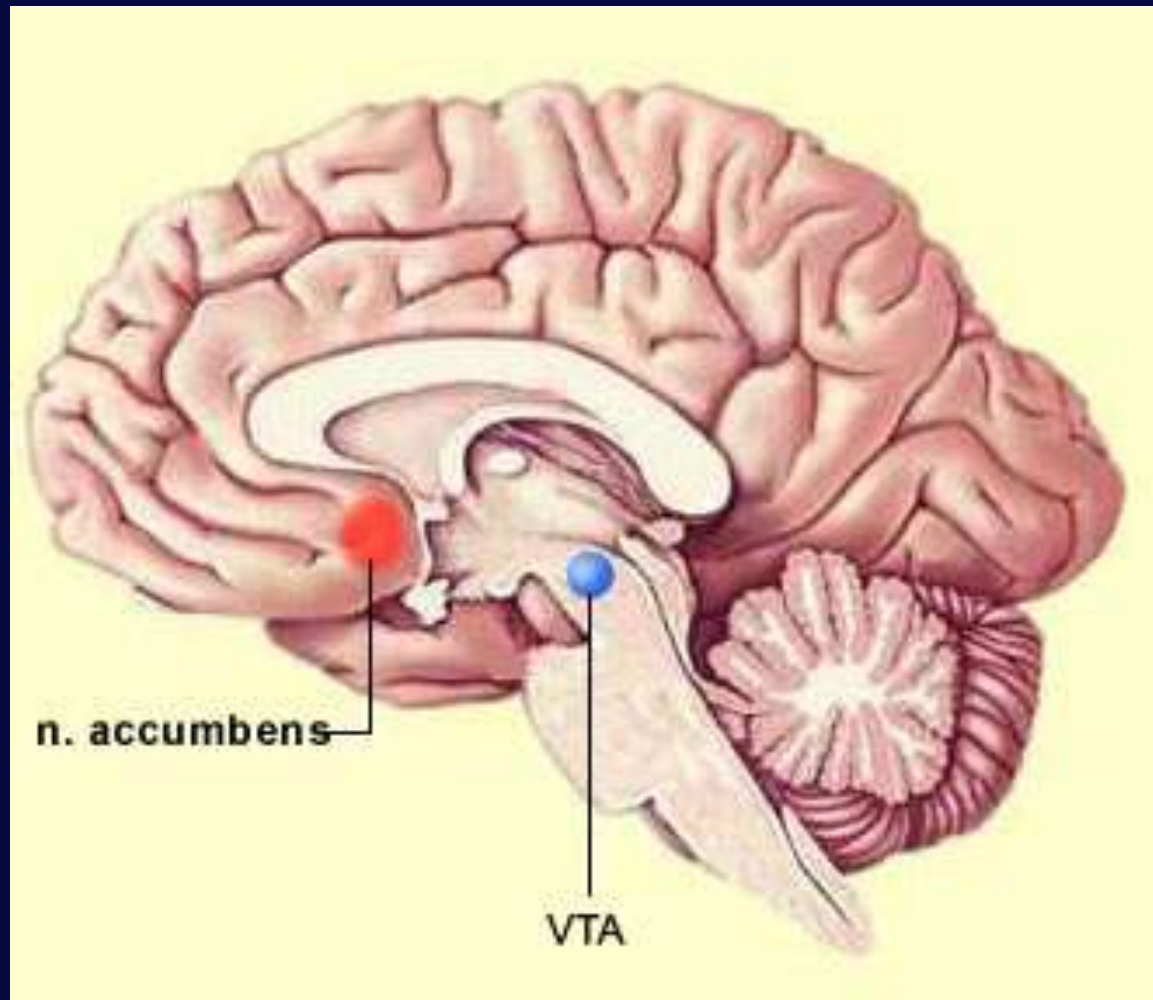
**SYSTEMIC INFLAMMATION= EXTRACELLULAR WATER**

**BRAIN OEDEMA= EXTRACELLULAR WATER BRAIN**

# ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS



# The Reward System



# The Reward System

