

Psychiatric Disorders in Mitochondrial Diseases; Mitochondrial Dysregulation in Psychiatric Disorders

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Outline

- Mitochondria and the brain
- Psychiatric Disorders in Mitochondrial Diseases
- Mitochondrial Dysregulation in Psychiatric Disorders



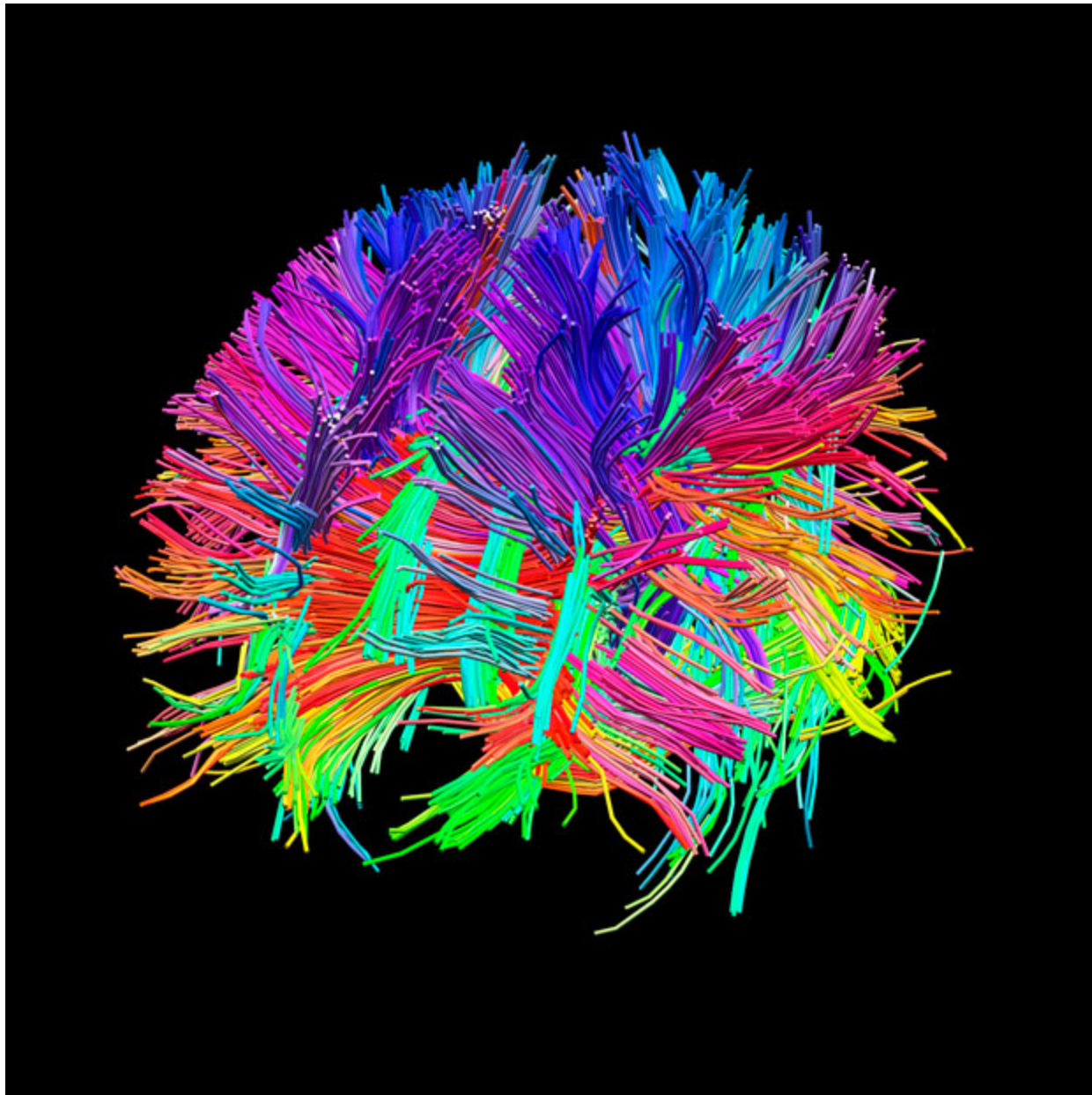
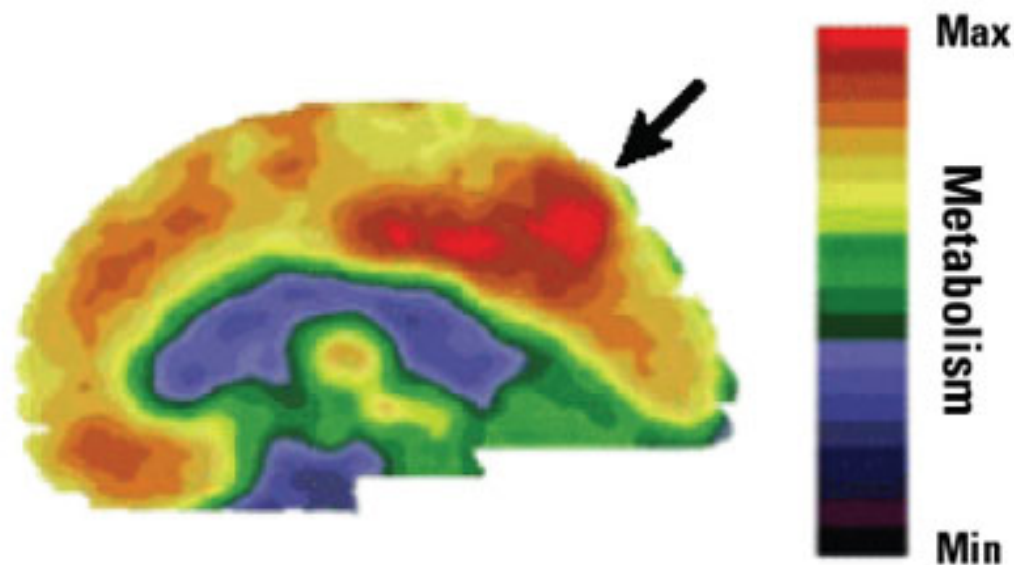


FIGURE 2.

The cortical areas associated with the highest resting metabolic rates in the conscious resting state are located in the posteromedial parietal cortex (posterior cingulate cortex and precuneus, arrow)¹⁶

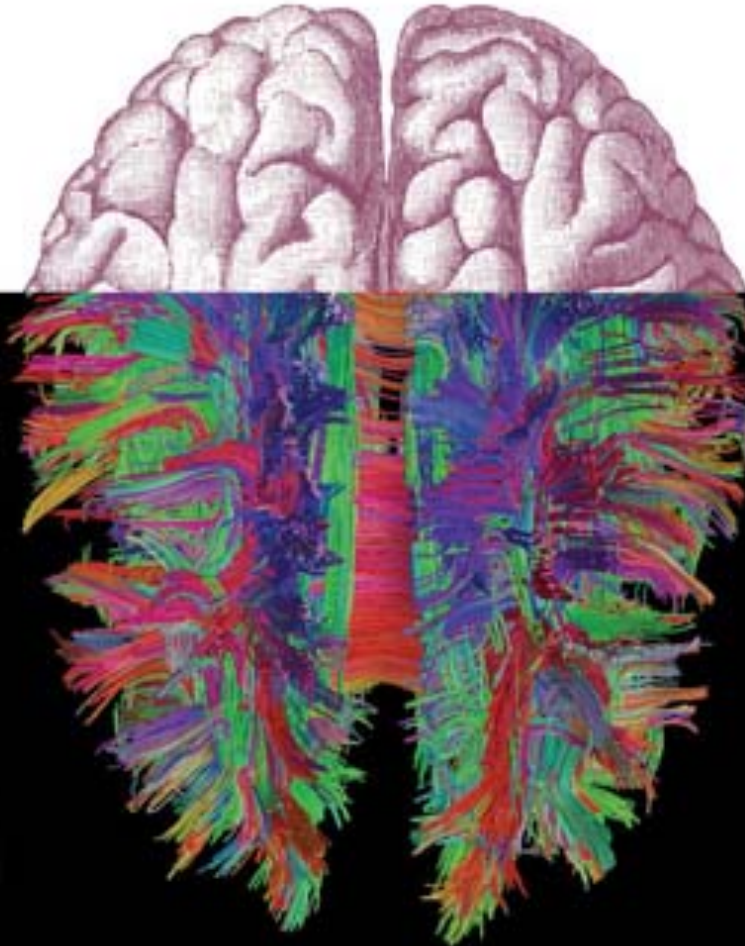


Gusnard DA, Raichle ME, Raichle ME. Searching for a baseline: functional imaging and the resting human brain. *Nat Rev Neurosci.* 2001;2:685-694. Reprinted with permission.

Max=maximum; Min=minimum.

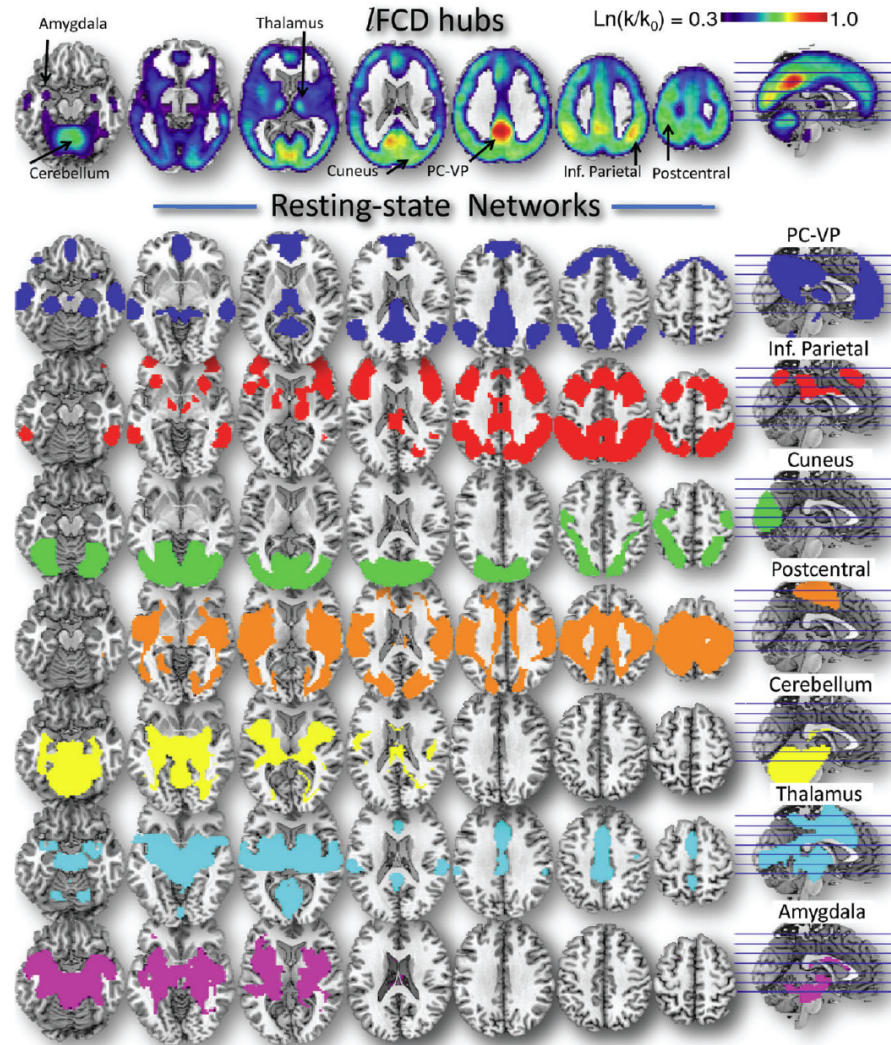
Cavanna AE. *CNS Spectr.* Vol 12, No 7. 2007.

Networks of the Brain

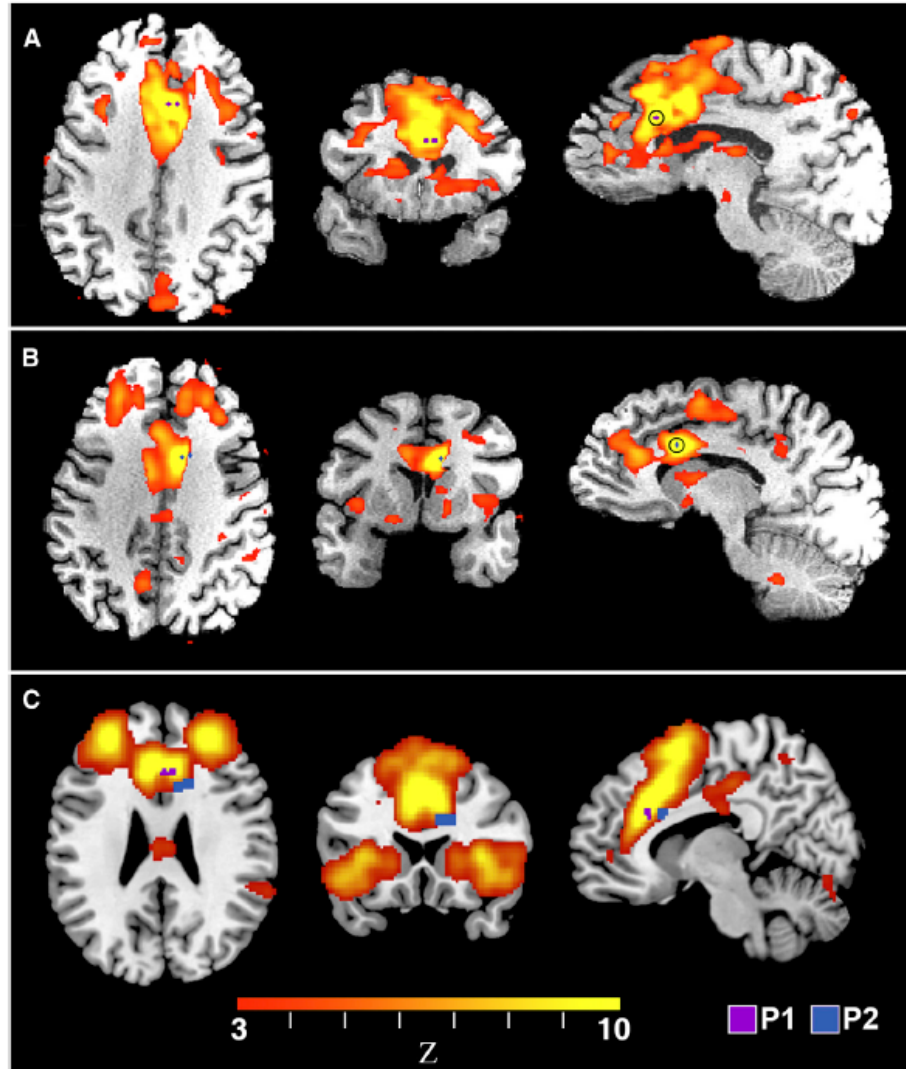


Olaf Sporns

Default Mode Network



Will to Persevere



Mitochondria Inner Structure

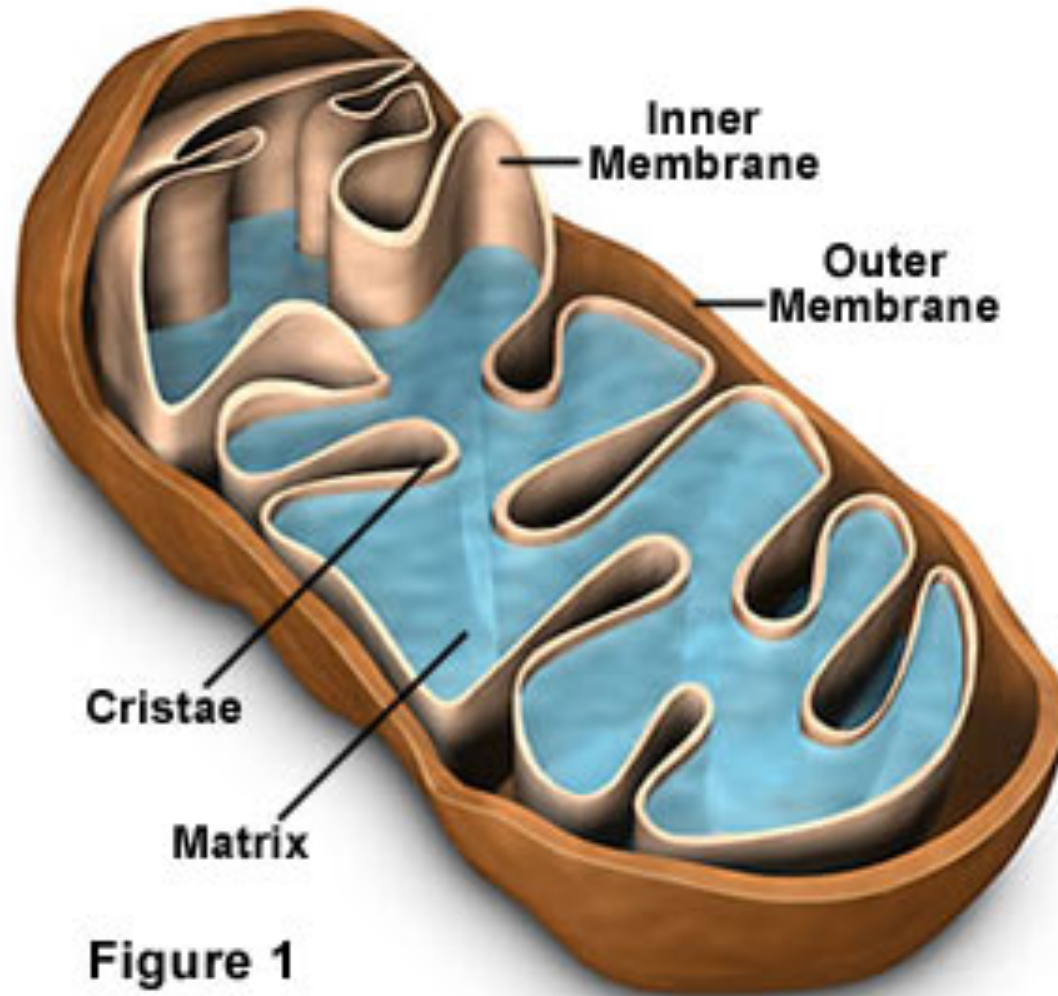
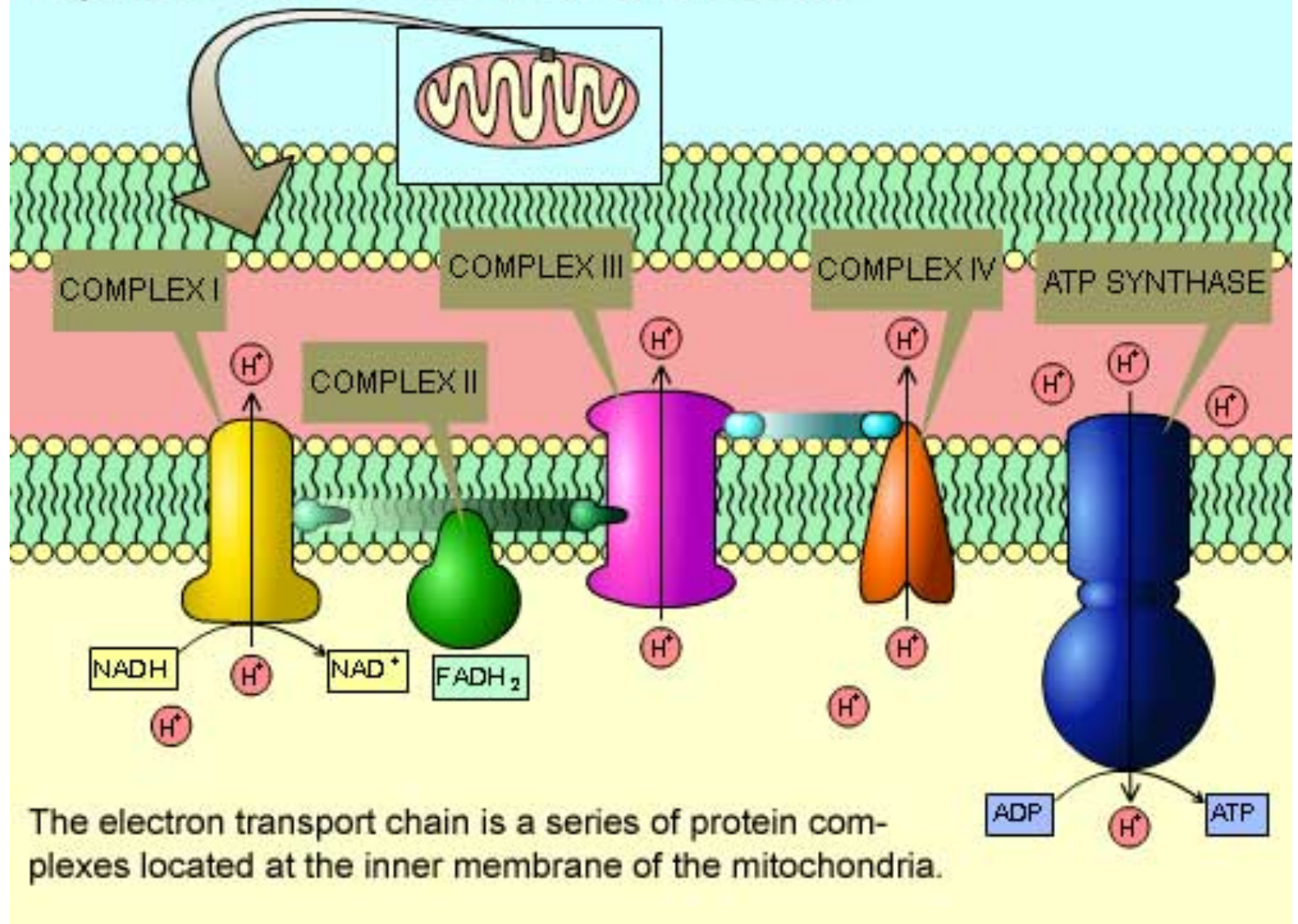
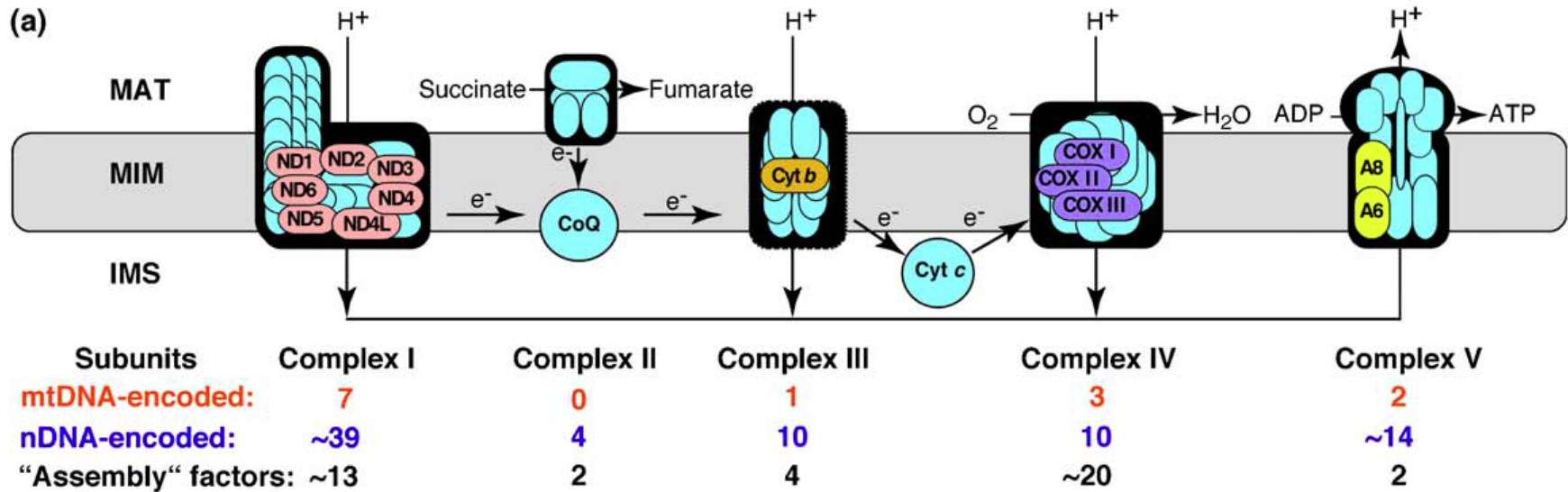


Figure J-13: Electron Transport Chain

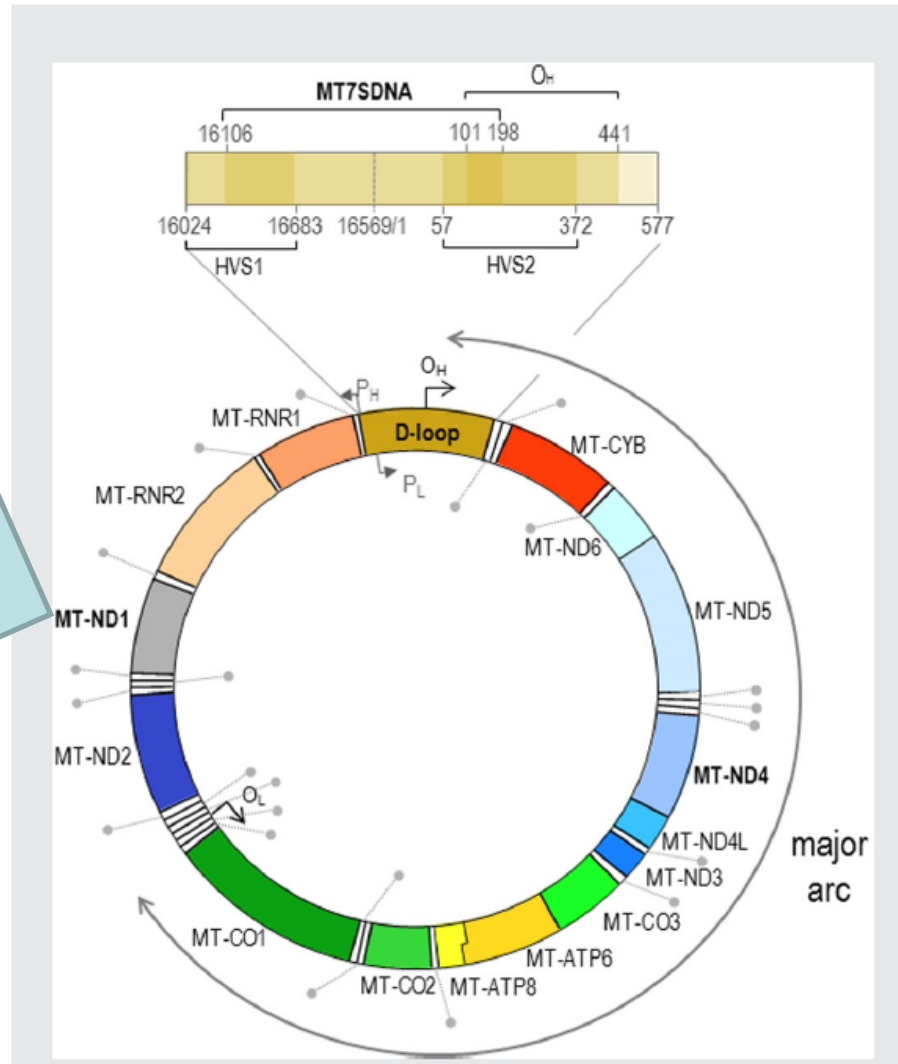


hopes.stanford.edu/treatmts/ebuffer/j1.html

Mito Architecture



Mito Genome



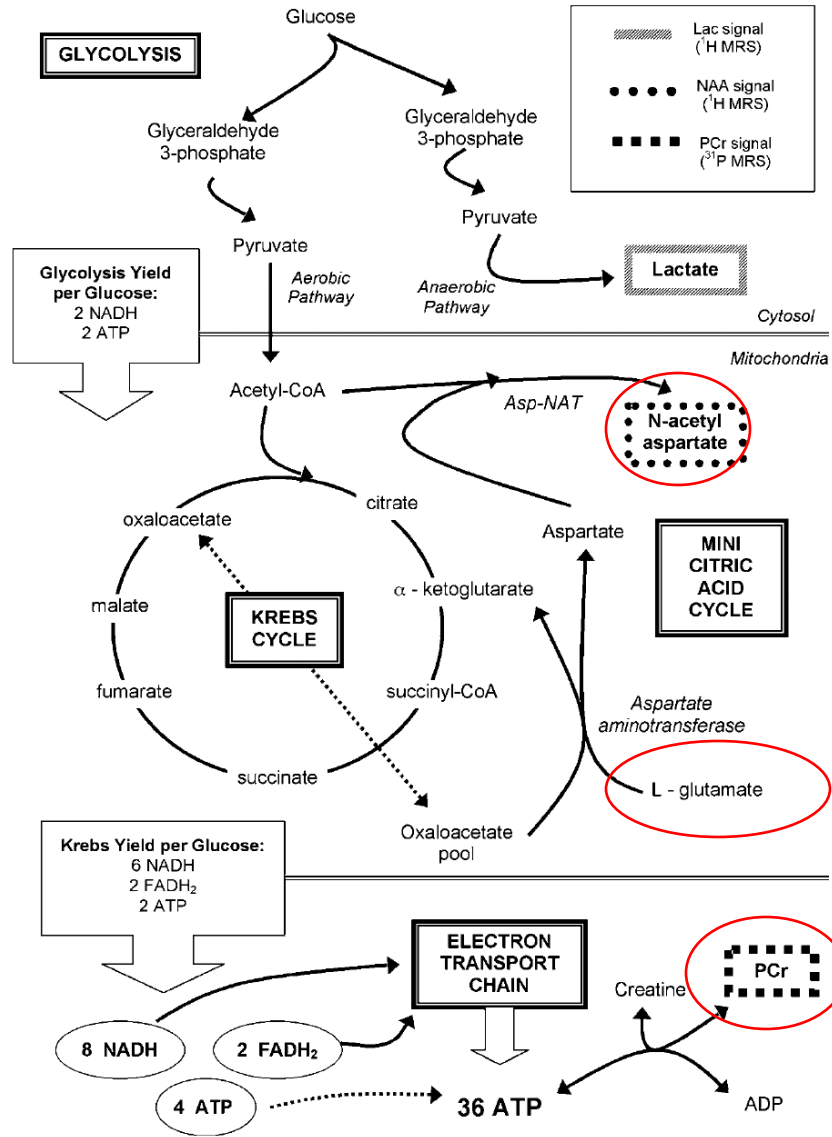
Torell et al. Am J Med Genet Part B 162B:213–223.

Mitochondria Energy Pathway

- Convert redox energy
 - from food into high energy phosphate bonds of ATP
- Reducing equivalents
 - donated to NADH
- Electron energy from NADH
 - donated to mitochondrial electron transport chain
- Generates proton gradient
 - transfer of energy to ATP

Mitochondria

- Provide energy
 - ATP
 - Reactive oxygen species (ROS)
 - Needed for proteins and membranes synthesis
- Neuronal plasticity
 - Neurogenesis, dendritogenesis, synaptogenesis
 - Regulates cell survival
 - Regulates apoptosis



Oxidative Stress

- Natural Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) from mitochondrial respiration
 - Superoxide anion
 - Nitric oxide
 - Hydrogen peroxide
- ROS can exceed metabolic capacity
 - Peroxynitrite
 - Hydroxy radical

Oxidative Stress

- Cellular dysfunction or death
- Non-physiologic ROS reactivity
 - Proteins
 - Nucleic acids
 - Carbohydrates
 - Lipids
- Due to dysfunctional electron flow in mitochondrial inner membrane

Oxidative Stress

- ROS damage mitochondria
- Decreased ATP
- Damaged membrane
- Abnormal calcium sequestration
- Apoptosis
- Neurons especially susceptible

Psychiatric Disorders in Mitochondrial Diseases

Lifetime Prevalence Psychiatric Disorders in Mito Disease

- 50% of children with depression
- 70% of adults with major psychiatric disorders
- Onset of psychiatric disorders averaged 13 years before diagnosis of mito disease
- Psychiatric disorders resistant to psychiatric medications

Psychiatric Presentations

- Major depressive disorder
- Bipolar disorder
- OCD
- Anorexia
- Bizarre hallucinations
- Anxiety disorders
- Substance abuse
- Borderline personality disorder, and catatonia.

Psychiatric Symptoms

Measured items	MT group		HN group	
	mean	SD	mean	SD
GSI	1.44	0.91	0.46	0.53
Somatization	1.77	1.10	0.98	0.83
Obsessive-compulsive	1.65	1.04	0.47	0.68
Interpersonal sensitivity	1.55	0.97	0.40	0.51
Depression	1.90	1.21	0.75	1.03
Anxiety	1.32	1.14	0.42	0.63
Hostility	1.26	1.00	0.48	0.50
Phobia	1.14	1.11	0.29	0.56
Paranoia	1.42	1.05	0.28	0.39
Psychoticism	0.92	0.60	0.13	0.24
Additional items	1.48	0.96	0.43	0.66
BDI-SF	12.85	8.33	4.40	5.36
HDRS	15.62	8.62	7.30	5.52
HAQ-DI	0.82	0.59	0.71	0.59

47 Reported Cases

- Depression with psychotic features
- Psychosis
- Cognitive deterioration
- Anxiety disorders
- Bipolar disorder
- Frontal lobe syndrome

Physical Manifestations

- Muscle weakness or atrophy
- seizure disorder
- migraine or headache
- hearing loss
- short stature
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus, severe constipation often with ileus, ataxia (N=6), dysarthria, strokes

fMRI

- White-matter lesions
- Cerebral or cerebellar atrophy
- Ischemia or an old infarct
- Basal ganglia calcifications or hyperintensities

Mito Neurologic Findings

- White matter deterioration.
- Underlying defect in the respiratory chain or concomitant oxidative stress
- Neuronal death
- Replacement of neurons by glial cells

Mito Mutations

- MELAS 3243 and 3271 mutations.
- MERRF (myoclonus epilepsy with ragged-red fibers) 8363 and 8344,
- CPEO with a 7.5 kb deletion and a 3.3 kb deletion
- MNGIE and two novel mutations.
- No clear genotype/psychiatric phenotype relationship

Physical Manifestations

- Wolf-Parkinson-White syndrome
- Ophthalmoplegia
- Ptosis
- Cardiomyopathy
- Cardiac conduction defect
- Abnormal movements

Deterioration on psychotropic medications

- Typical and atypical antipsychotics impair complex I
- SSRIs and tricyclic antidepressants inhibit the mitochondrial respiratory chain and oxidative phosphorylation
- Valproic acid induces carnitine deficiency

Treatment

- Coenzyme Q10,
- Creatine monohydrate
- Alpha lipoic acid
- Vitamin E, vitamin C, and riboflavin
- Antioxidant idebenone
- Reduction or discontinuation of psychotropic drugs

Mitochondrial Dysregulation in Psychiatric Disorders



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Genomics 84 (2004) 1041–1050

GENOMICS

www.elsevier.com/locate/ygeno

Mitochondrial DNA 3644T→C mutation associated with bipolar disorder

Kae Munakata^a, Masashi Tanaka^b, Kanako Mori^a, Shinsuke Washizuka^a, Makoto Yoneda^c,
Osamu Tajima^d, Tsuyoshi Akiyama^e, Shinichiro Nanko^f, Hiroshi Kunugi^g, Kazuyuki Tadokoro^g,
Norio Ozaki^h, Toshiya Inada^h, Kaoru Sakamotoⁱ, Takako Fukunagaⁱ, Yoshimi Iijima^j,
Nakao Iwata^k, Masahiko Tatsumi^l, Kazuo Yamada^m, Takeo Yoshikawa^m, Tadafumi Kato^{a,*}

Downregulation in components of the mitochondrial electron transport chain in the postmortem frontal cortex of subjects with bipolar disorder

**Xiujun Sun, MB, MSc; Jun-Feng Wang, MB, PhD; Michael Tseng, MD;
L. Trevor Young, MD, PhD**

J Psychiatry Neurosci 2006;31(3):189-96.

Mitochondrial Genes

Table 2: Summary of mitochondria-related gene candidates differentially expressed in the postmortem frontal cortex between control (CTL) subjects and subjects with bipolar disorder (BD)*

UniGene ID	Gene symbol	Ratio (BD/CTL)	<i>p</i> value	Gene name
Hs.115467	LOC90624	1.13	0.028	Hypothetical protein LOC90624
Hs.117747	MMAA	1.11	0.011	Methylmalonic aciduria type A
Hs.59889	HMGCS2	1.11	0.026	3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl-Coenzyme A synthase 2
Hs.94949	MCEE	1.10	0.006	Methylmalonyl CoA epimerase
Hs.113823	CLPX	1.09	0.009	Caseinolytic protease X homologue
Hs.180408	SLC25A16	0.90	0.018	Solute carrier family 25
Hs.351875	COX6C	0.90	0.012	Cytochrome c oxidase polypeptide Vic (complex IV)
Hs.433951	GPX4	0.90	0.010	Glutathione peroxidase 4
Hs.90443	NDUFS8	0.90	0.013	NADH-ubiquinone oxidoreductase 23-kd subunit (complex I)
Hs.115721	PRSS25	0.89	0.026	Protease, serine, 25
Hs.169611	DIABLO	0.89	0.025	Diablo homologue
Hs.248267	MPST	0.89	0.001	Mercaptopyruvate sulfurtransferase
Hs.211914	NDUFS7	0.89	0.012	NADH-ubiquinone oxidoreductase 20-kd subunit (complex I)
Hs.401903	COX5A	0.89	0.015	Cytochrome c oxidase polypeptide Va (complex IV)
Hs.155433	ATP5C1	0.89	0.034	ATP synthase gamma chain (complex V)
Hs.246310	ATP5J	0.89	0.017	ATP synthase coupling factor 6 (complex V)
Hs.461420	MSRB2	0.89	0.021	Methionine sulfoxide reductase B2
Hs.310542	TOMM40	0.88	0.014	Translocase of outer mitochondrial membrane 40 homologue
Hs.411125	MRPS12	0.86	0.040	Mitochondrial ribosomal protein S12
Hs.429	ATP5G3	0.83	0.007	ATP synthase lipid-binding protein (complex V)
Hs.47649	MCCC1	0.80	0.009	Methylcrotonoyl-Coenzyme A carboxylase 1 (α)
Hs.17355	UQCRC2	0.78	0.019	Ubiquinol-cytochrome C reductase complex core protein (complex III)
Hs.157113	COQ7	0.75	0.038	Coenzyme Q7 homologue, ubiquinone

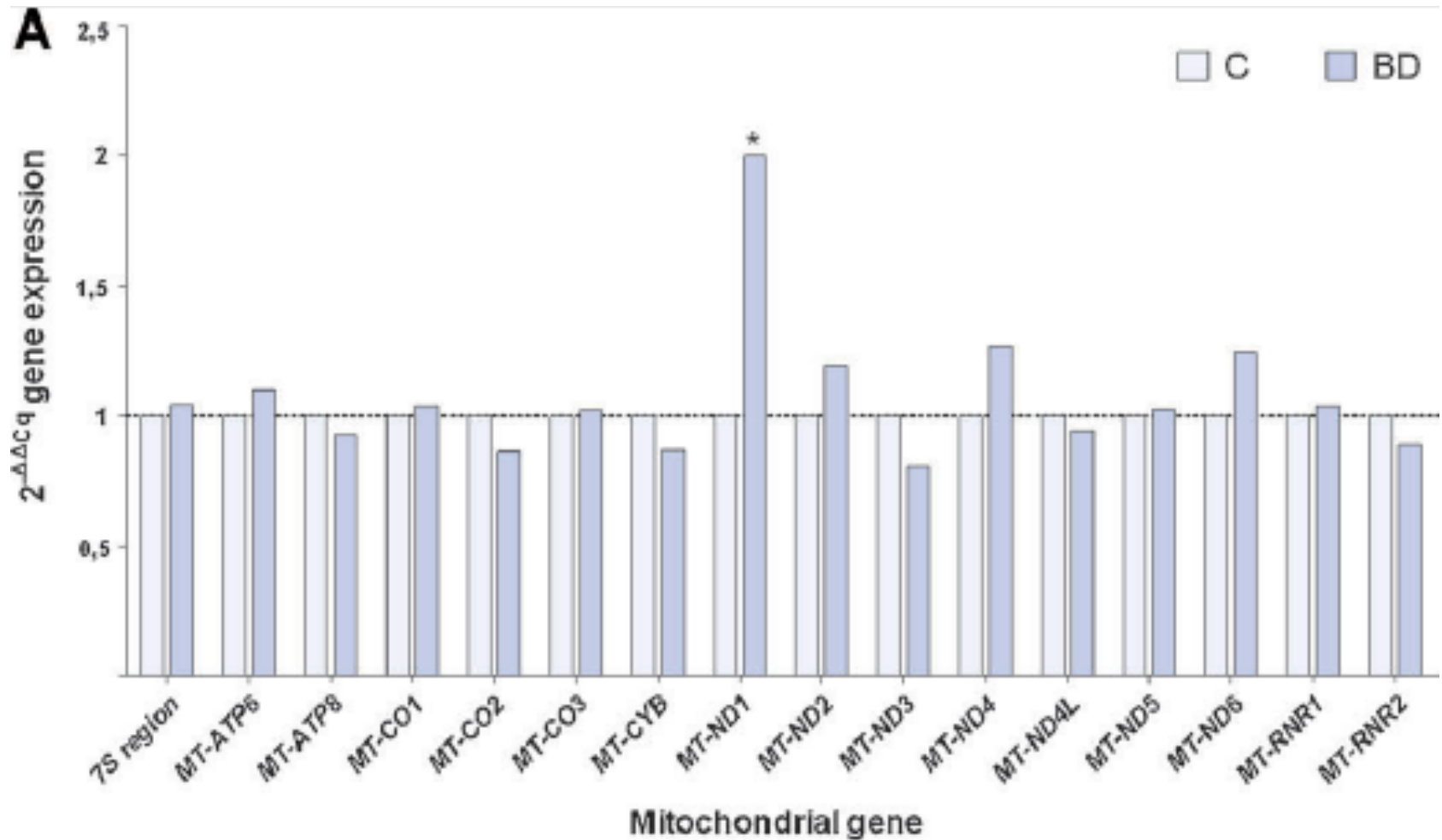
*Results were not corrected for multiple testing and are reported if they achieved a nominal $p < 0.05$.

Genes highlighted in bold are components of complexes I, III, IV or V of the mitochondrial electron transport chain.

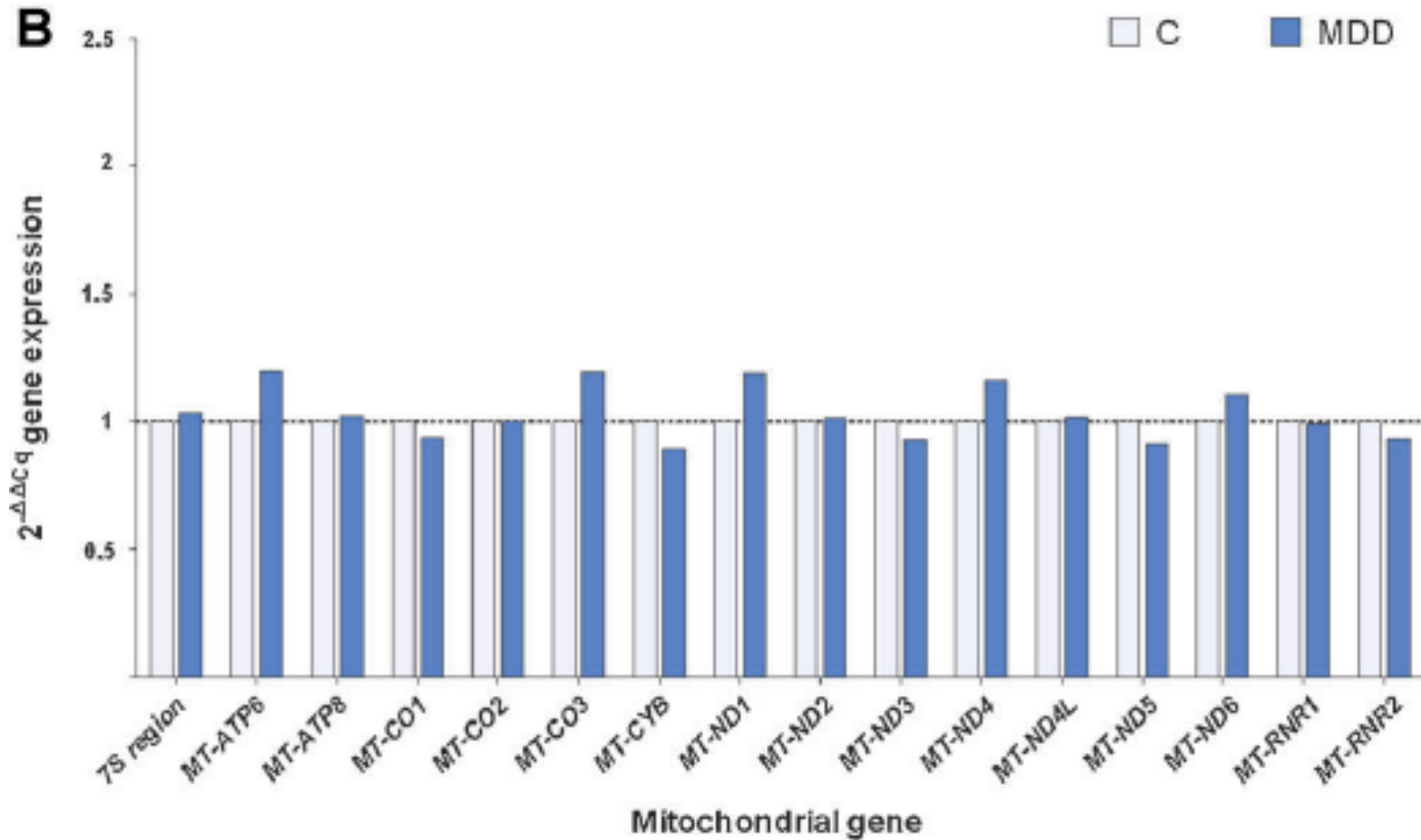
Downregulated Genes

- NADH ubiquinone oxidoreductase
 - Complex I
- Ubiquinol-cytochrome c reductase
 - Complex III
- Cytochrome c oxidase polypeptide
 - Complex IV
- ATP synthase
 - Complex V

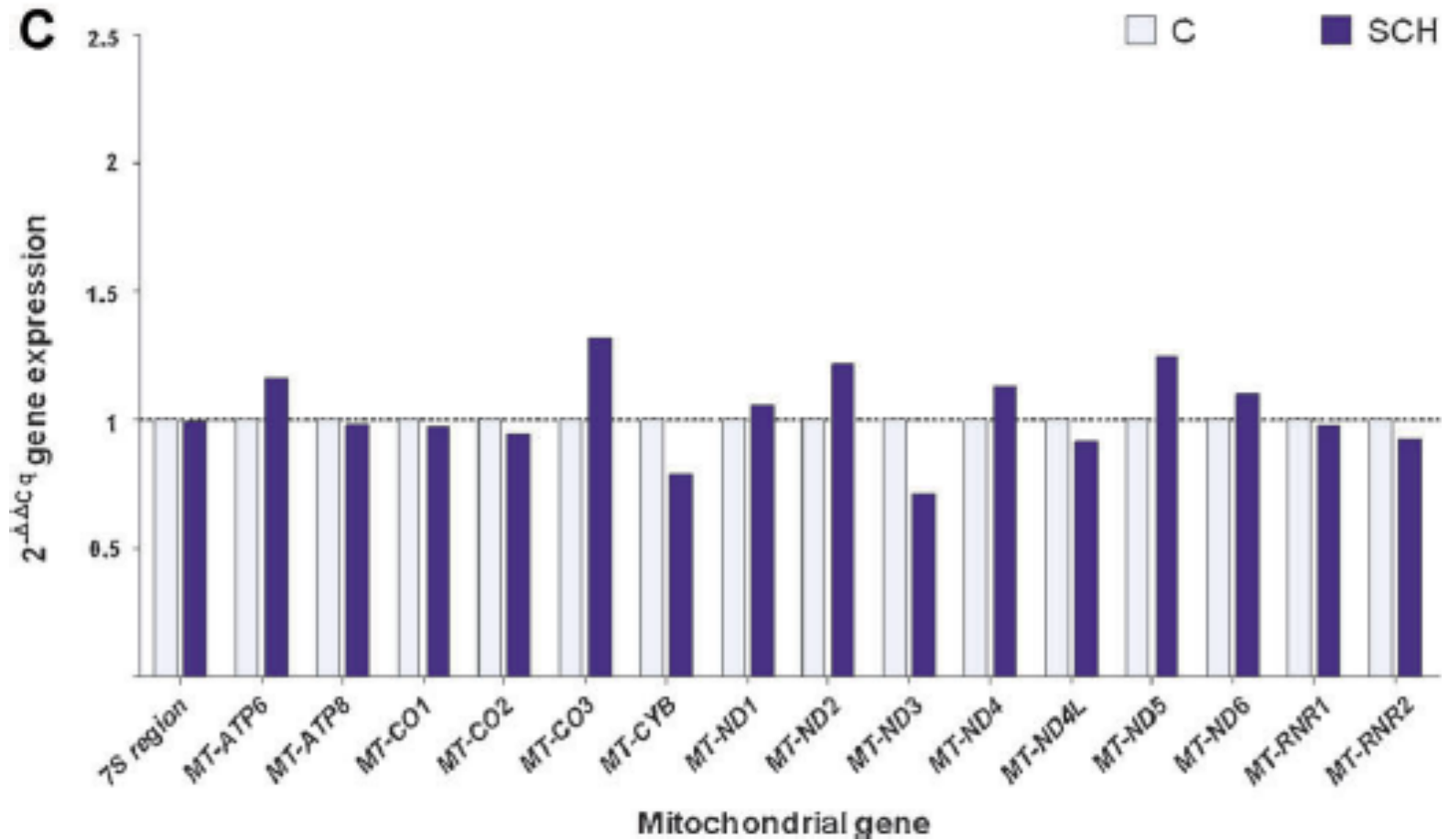
Bipolar Disorder

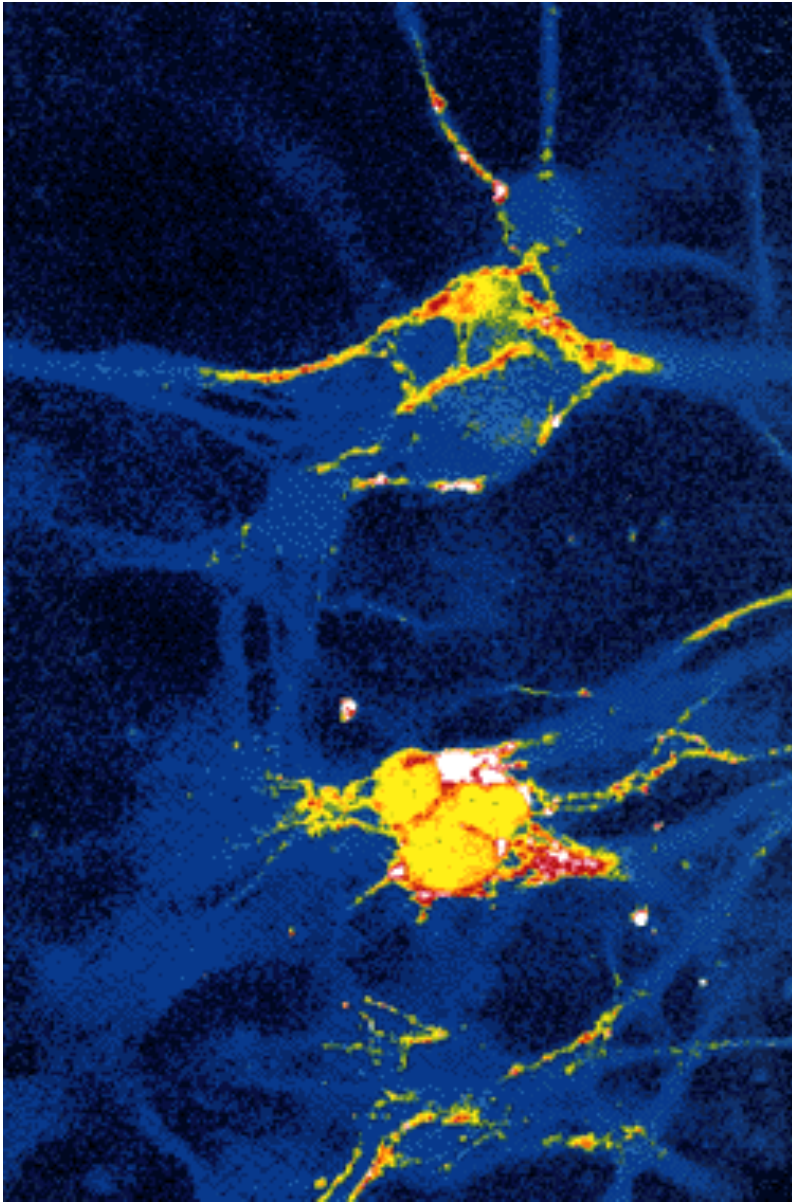


Major Depressive Disorder



Schizophrenia





**Free radical activity
increased in neurons
after decrease
in BDNF**

Eugene M. Johnson, PH.D, Washington University, and *Neuron*

Mitochondrial Abnormalities in Bipolar Disorder

- Altered mitochondrial gene expression
- Decreased brain energy metabolism
- Altered calcium metabolism
- Dysregulated calcium channel genes
- Decreased oxidative stress with lithium and valproate

Molecular Evidence for Mitochondrial Dysfunction in Bipolar Disorder

*Christine Konradi, PhD; Molly Eaton, BA; Matthew L. MacDonald, BS;
John Walsh, MS; Francine M. Benes, MD, PhD; Stephan Heckers, MD*

Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2004;61:300-308

Complex I

NADH-Ubiquinine Oxidoreductase (MWFE)	-1.33
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (B8)	-1.26
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (SGDH)	-1.32
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (75 kDa)	-1.26
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (51 kDa)	-1.25
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (49 kDa)	-1.21
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (39 kDa)	-1.20
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (13 kDa)	-1.38
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (30 kDa)	-1.34
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (23 kDa)	-1.09
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (Partial)	-1.16
NADH-Ubiquinone Oxidoreductase (9.6 kDa)	-1.45

Complex II

Succinate Dehydrogenase-Flavoprotein	-1.26
Succinate Dehydrogenase-Iron Sulfur	-1.23
Succinate Dehydrogenase, Subunit C	-1.08
Succinate Dehydrogenase, Subunit D	-1.11

Complex III

Ubiquinol-CytC Reductase-RISP	1.01
Ubiquinol-CytC Reductase, Subunit I	-1.42
Ubiquinol-CytC Reductase, Subunit II	-1.21
Cyt Reductase B5	-1.08
Ubiquinol-CytC Reductase-Binding Protein	-1.27
Ubiquinol-CytC Reductase, Subunit VII	-1.37
CytC Reductase, Subunit VIII	-1.37
Ubiquinol-CytC Reductase (6.4 kDa)	-1.19
Ubiquinol-CytC Reductase (6.4 kDa)	1.00
Cyt C1	-1.10

■ Up-regulated in Bipolar Disorder, $P \leq .02$
■ Up-regulated in Bipolar Disorder, $P \leq .05$
■ Down-regulated in Bipolar Disorder, $P \leq .02$
■ Down-regulated in Bipolar Disorder, $P \leq .05$
■ No Criteria Met
□ Not Found

Complex IV

Cyt C	-1.30
COX IV	-1.15
COX Va	-1.40
COX Vb	-1.28
COX VIa	-1.12
COX VIIb	-1.33
COX VIb-2	-1.01
COX VIc	-1.35
COX VIIa-1	-1.31
COX VIIa2-Liver	-1.41
COX VIIa-Related	-1.12
COX VIIb	-1.58
COX VIIc	-1.13
COX VIII	-1.22
COX 17 Homolog	-1.26

Complex V
F(0)

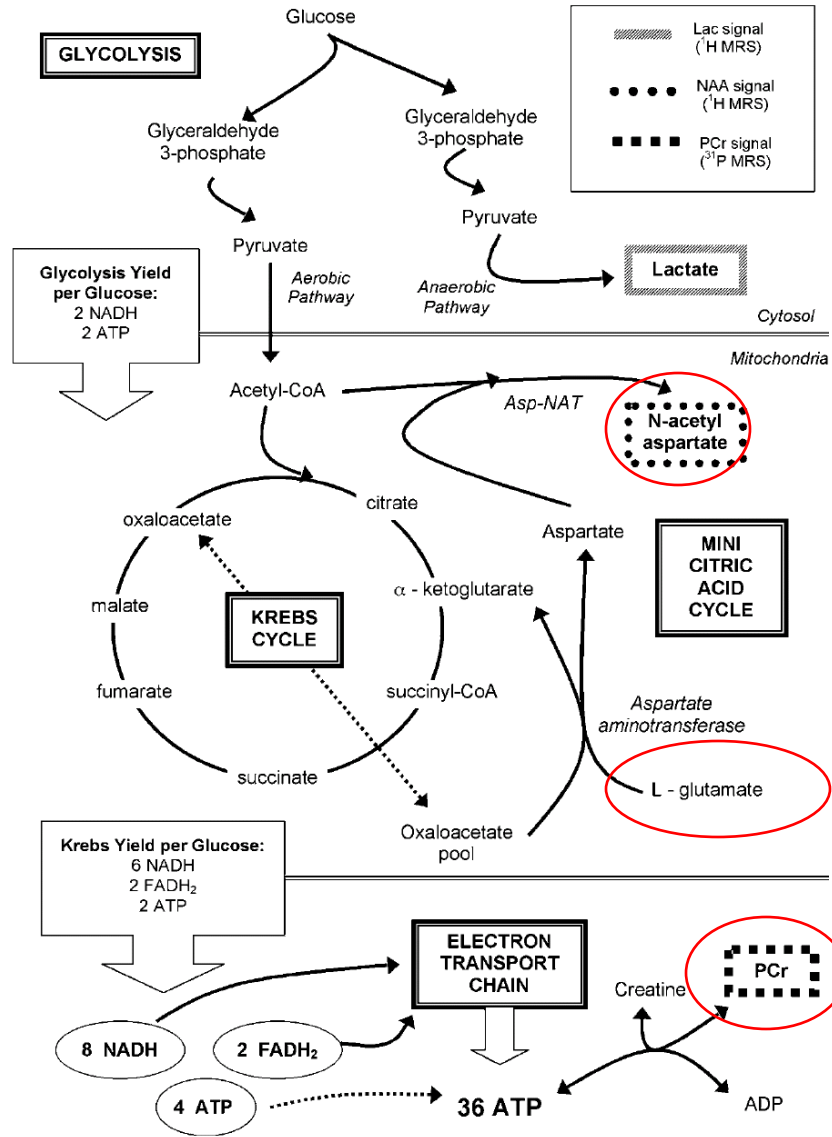
Subunit B	1.06
Subunit C1	-1.15
Subunit C3	-1.63
Subunit D	-1.69
Subunit E	-1.19
Subunit F	-1.48
Subunit F6	-1.40
Subunit G	-1.15

F(0) to F(1)

ATP Synthase (OSCP)	-1.53
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F(1)

α Chain	-1.38
γ Chain	-1.46
Δ Chain	-1.27



Differences in Lymphocyte Electron Transport Gene Expression Levels Between Subjects With Bipolar Disorder and Normal Controls in Response to Glucose Deprivation Stress

*Alipi V. Naydenov, BS; Matthew L. MacDonald, BS;
Dost Ongur, MD, PhD; Christine Konradi, PhD*

Arch Gen Psychiatry. 2007;64:555-564

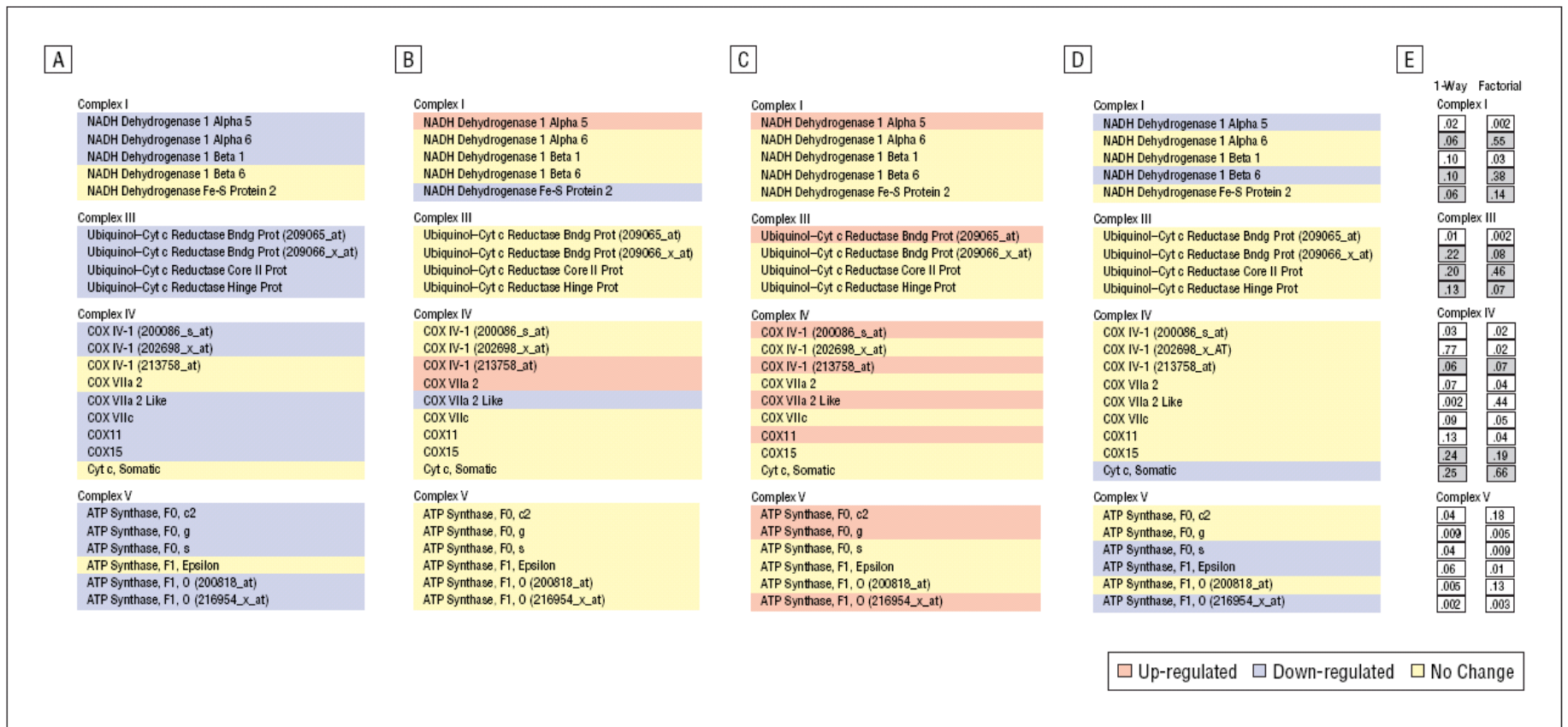


Figure 1. Probe sets of the electron transfer chain with $P < .05$ (t test) in low glucose for bipolar disorder lymphocytes over normal control lymphocytes (A), normal glucose for bipolar disorder lymphocytes over normal control lymphocytes (B), low over normal glucose for normal control lymphocytes (C), and low over normal glucose for bipolar disorder lymphocytes (D). NADH indicates reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide; Fe-S, iron-sulfur; cyt c, cytochrome c; bndg, binding; prot, protein; COX, cytochrome c oxidase; and ATP, adenosine triphosphate. E, P values of 1-way and factorial analyses of variance (glucose level \times treatment); shading indicates that the analysis of variance did not reach significance in both the 1-way and factorial analyses.

**Gene-expression differences in peripheral blood
between lithium responders and non-responders in the
“Lithium Treatment -Moderate dose Use Study” (LiTMUS).**

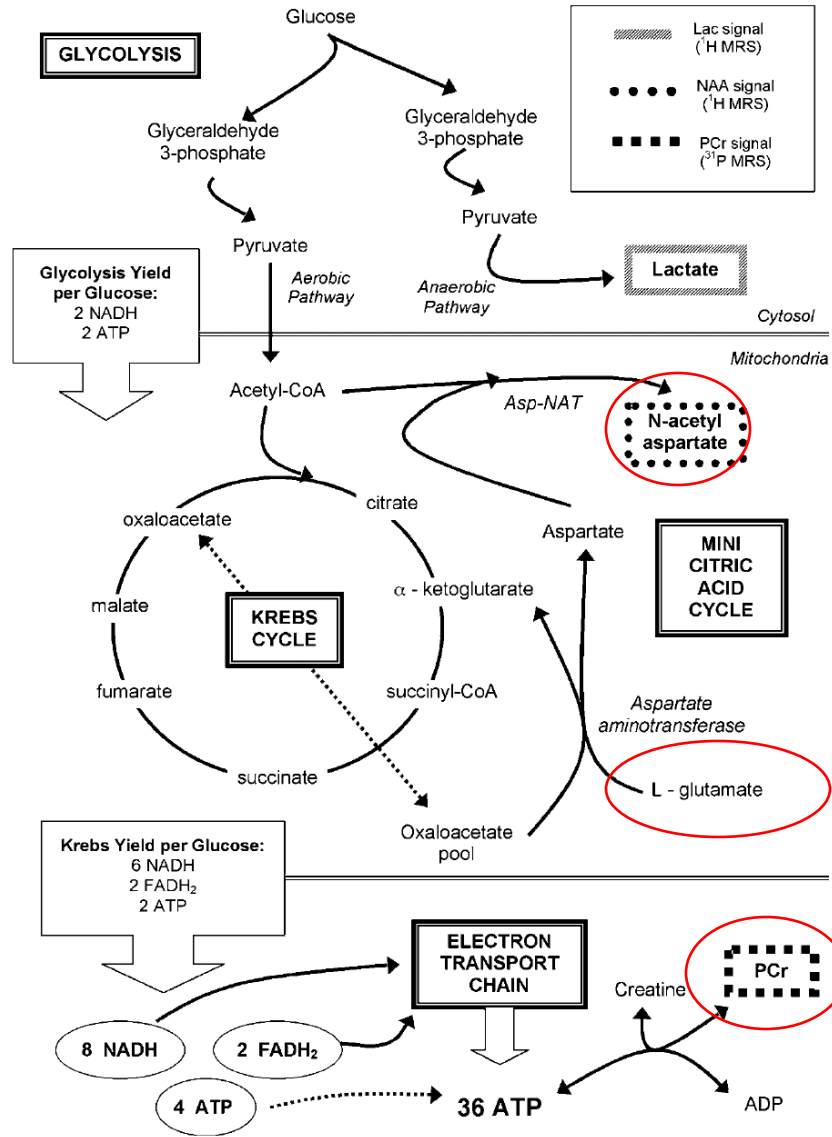
Robert D. Beech^{1*}, Janine J. Leffert¹, Aiping Lin², Louisa G. Sylvia³, Sheila Umlauf⁴, Shrikant Mane⁴, Hongyu Zhao⁵, Charles Bowden⁶, Joseph R. Calabrese⁷, Edward S. Friedman⁸, Terence Ketter⁹, Dan V Iosifescu¹⁰, Michael Thase¹¹, and Andrew Nierenberg³.

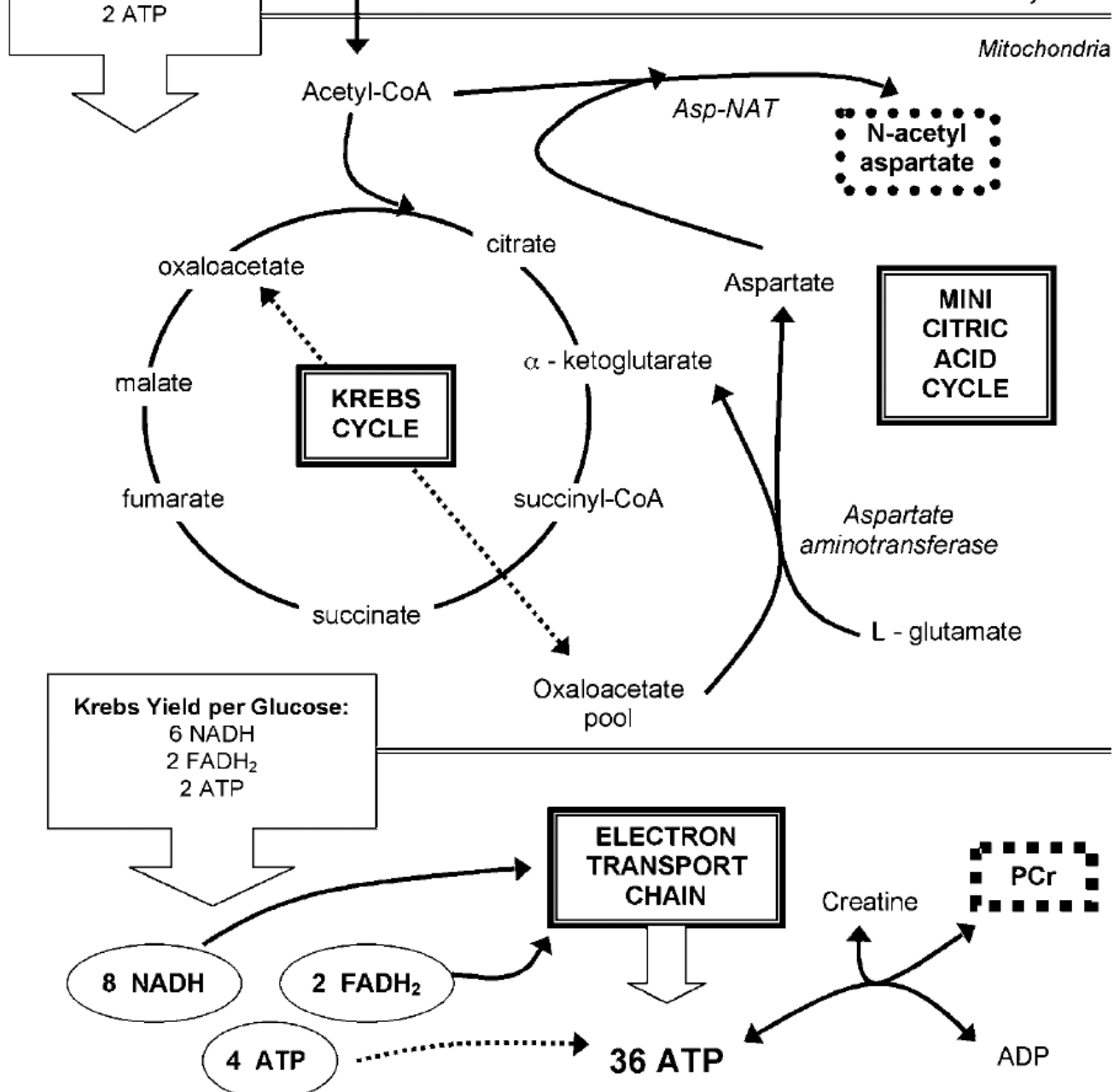
REFSEQ_ID	SYMBOL	Current Study: Li+OPT_R vs NR		Lowthert et al., 2012: Bipolar Depression_R vs NR	
		Fold-Difference	p-value	Fold-Difference	p-value
NM_138578.1	BCL2L1	1.63	0.01	1.35	0.37
NM_033480.2	FBXO9	1.47	0.02	1.42	0.07
NM_014632.2	MICAL2	1.45	0.01	1.56	0.03
NM_002756.3	MAP2K3	1.43	0.07	1.66	0.06
NR_002206.1	GTF2IP1	1.42	0.01	1.47	0.01
NM_002343.2	LTF	1.42	0.02	1.46	0.05
NM_001033056.1	GLUL	1.32	0.02	1.36	0.22
NM_002756.3	MAP2K3	1.32	0.04	1.66	0.06
NR_002139.1	HCG4	1.31	0.01	1.43	0.13
NM_001031617.2	COX19	-1.30	0.03	-1.41	0.01
NM_198795.1	TDRD1	-1.31	0.05	-1.37	0.08
NM_178231.1	ALS2CR14	-1.31	0.04	-1.56	0.05
XM_939697.1	C9orf130	-1.31	0.01	-1.66	0.03
NM_005317.2	GZMM	-1.32	0.05	-1.59	0.03
XM_936461.1	LOC647389	-1.32	0.02	-1.43	0.08
XM_930344.2	LOC644934	-1.33	0.02	-1.31	0.37
NM_198271.2	LMOD3	-1.36	0.02	-1.41	0.05
XM_940430.1	LOC648852	-1.43	0.01	-1.63	0.04
NM_018973.3	DPM3	-1.45	0.00	-1.73	0.00
NM_001004322.1	FLJ38717	-1.45	0.02	-1.49	0.02

Original Article

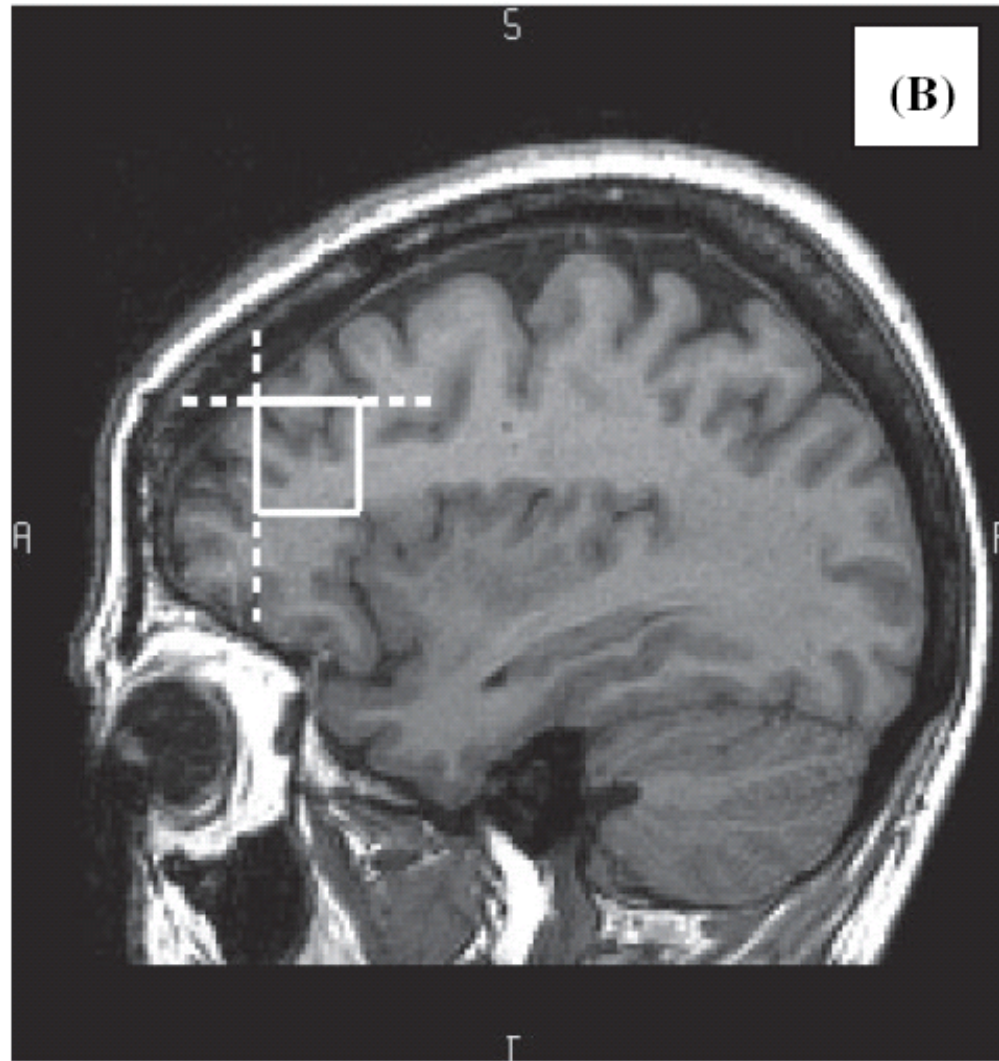
Abnormal cellular energy and phospholipid metabolism in the left dorsolateral prefrontal cortex of medication-free individuals with bipolar disorder: an *in vivo* ^1H MRS study

Benício N Frey^{a,b,c}, Jeffrey A Stanley^d, Fabiano G Nery^{a,e}, E Serap Monkul^{a,f}, Mark A Nicoletti^{a,g}, Hua-Hsuan Chen^h, John P Hatch^a, Sheila C Caetano^{a,d}, Oswaldo Ortiz^g, Flávio Kapczinski^{b,c} and Jair C Soares^{a,g,h}

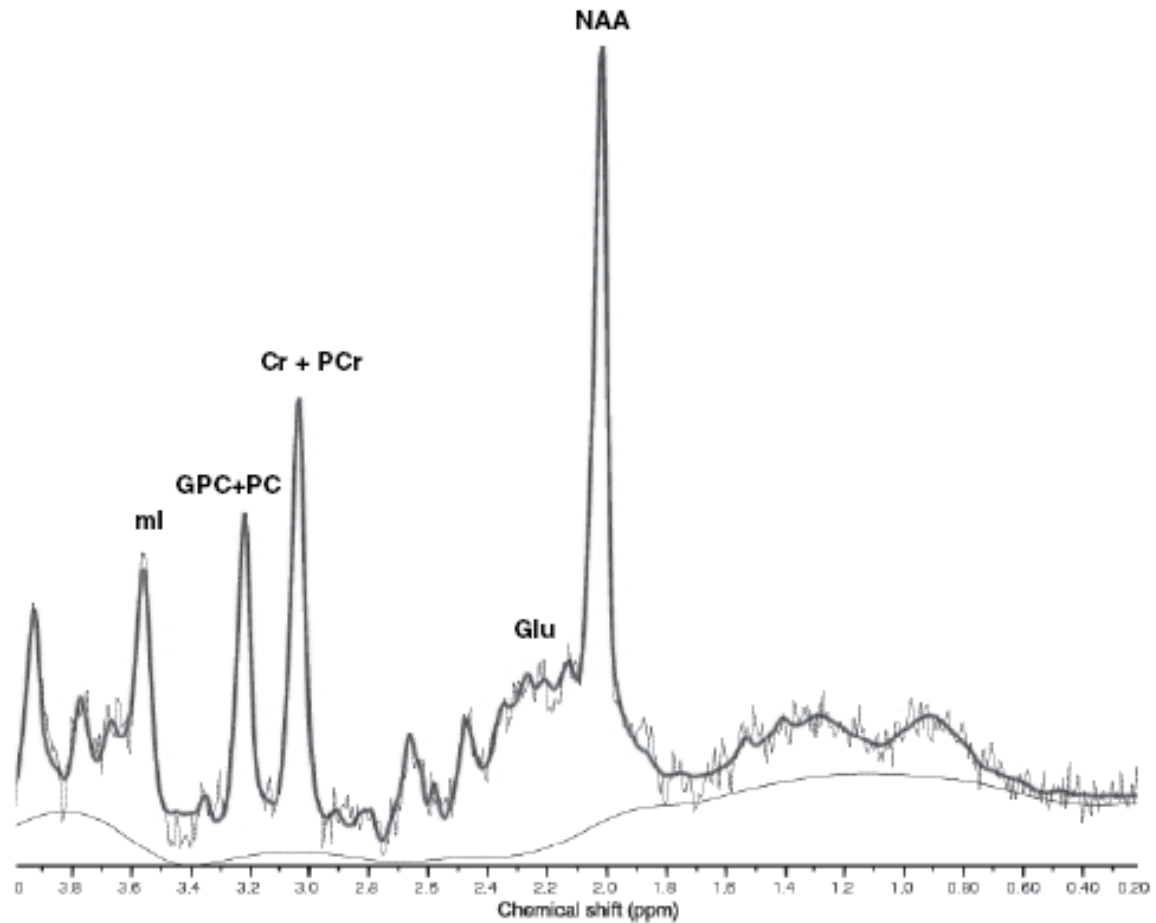




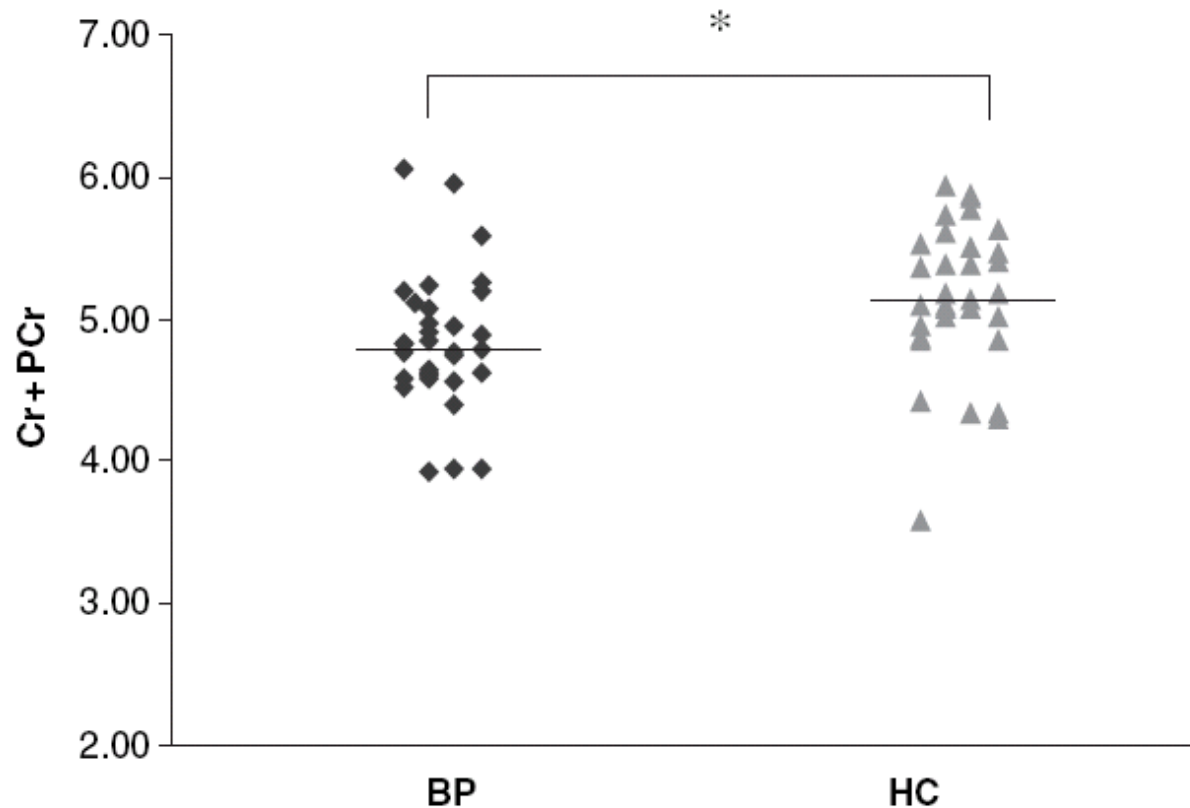
Prefrontal Cortex



MRS: Metabolic Metabolites



Lower Levels of Creatine and Phosphocreatine in Bipolar Disorder



Lower Levels Choline containing compounds in Bipolar Disorder

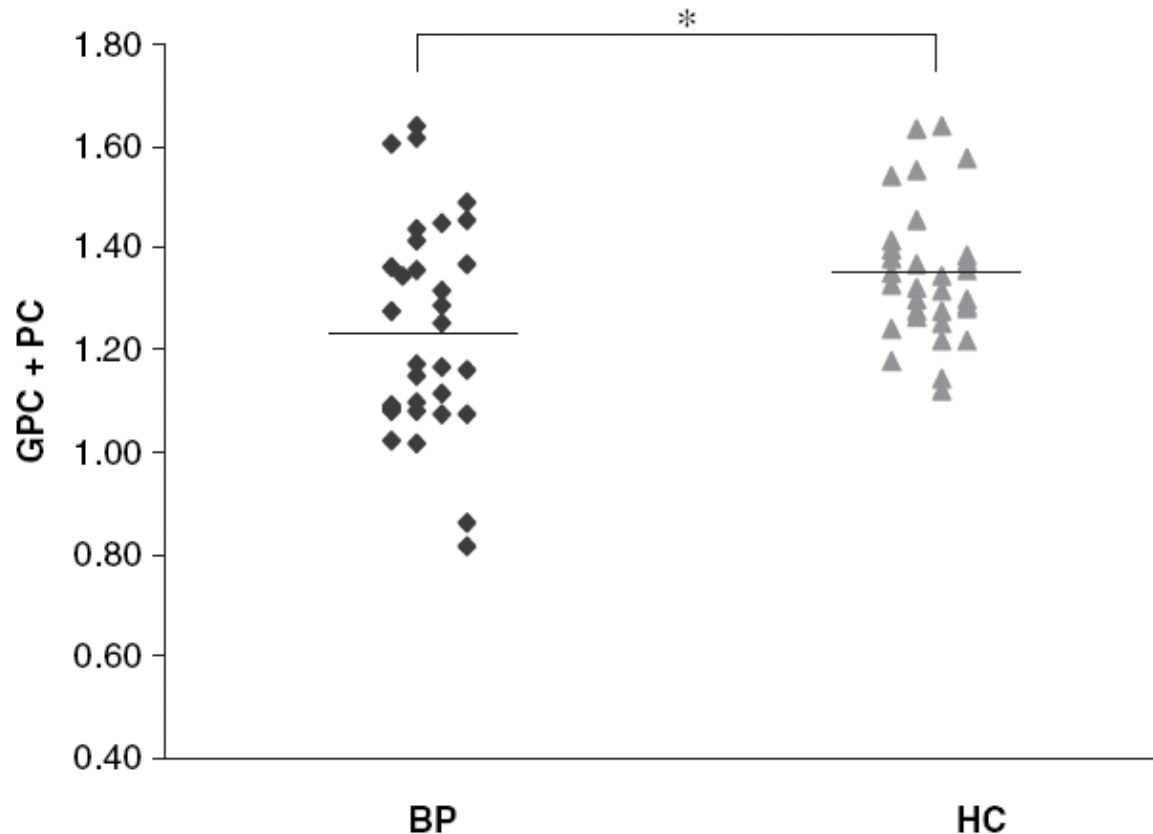
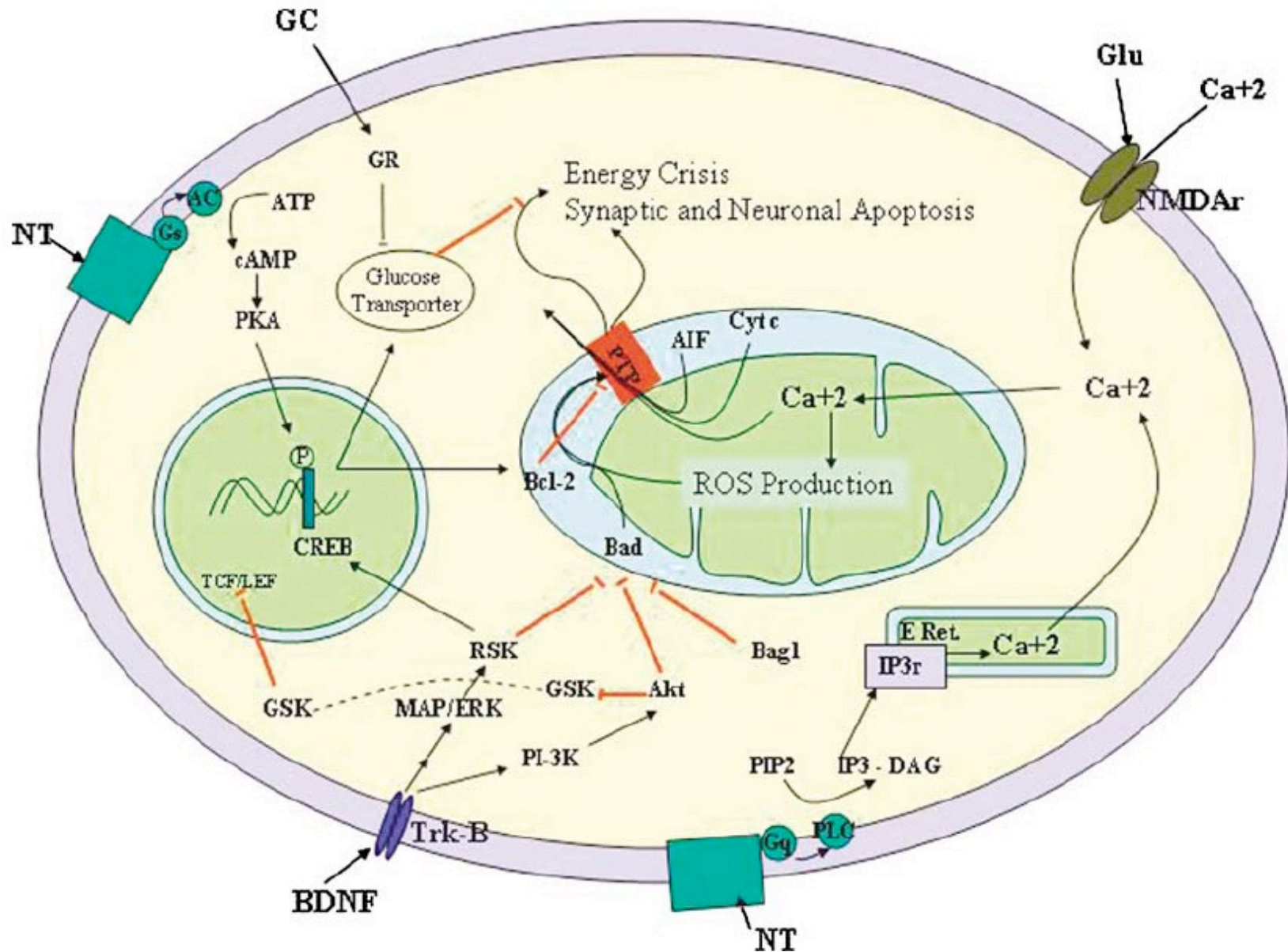


Fig. 4. GPC + PC levels in bipolar subjects and healthy controls. GPC + PC = choline-containing compounds; BP = bipolar subjects; HC = healthy controls. * $p = 0.019$.



Peripheral Markers of Oxidative Stress

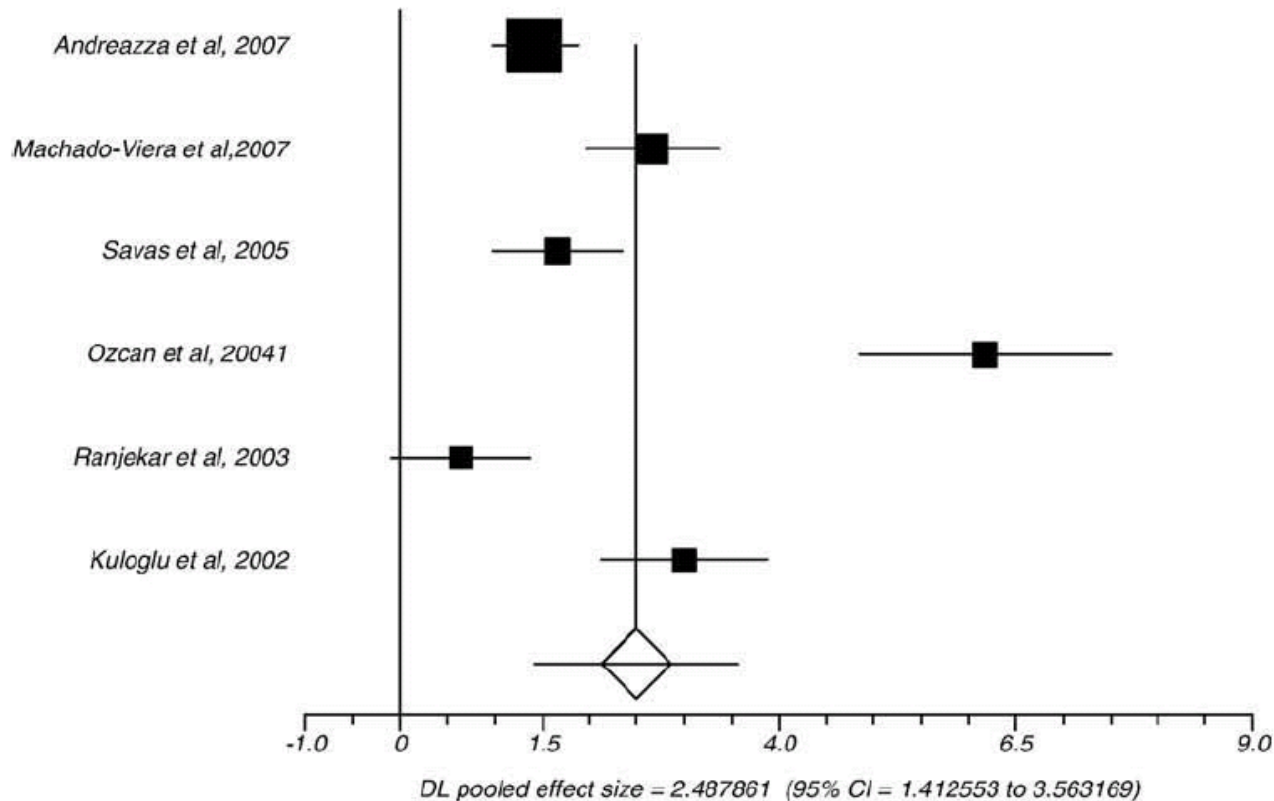
Peripheral Markers of Oxidative Stress

- Thiobarbituric acidic reactive substances (TBARS)
- Superoxide dismutase (SOD)
- Catalase
- Glutathione
- Nitric oxide

TBARS Meta-analysis

A

Effect size meta-analysis plot [random effects]

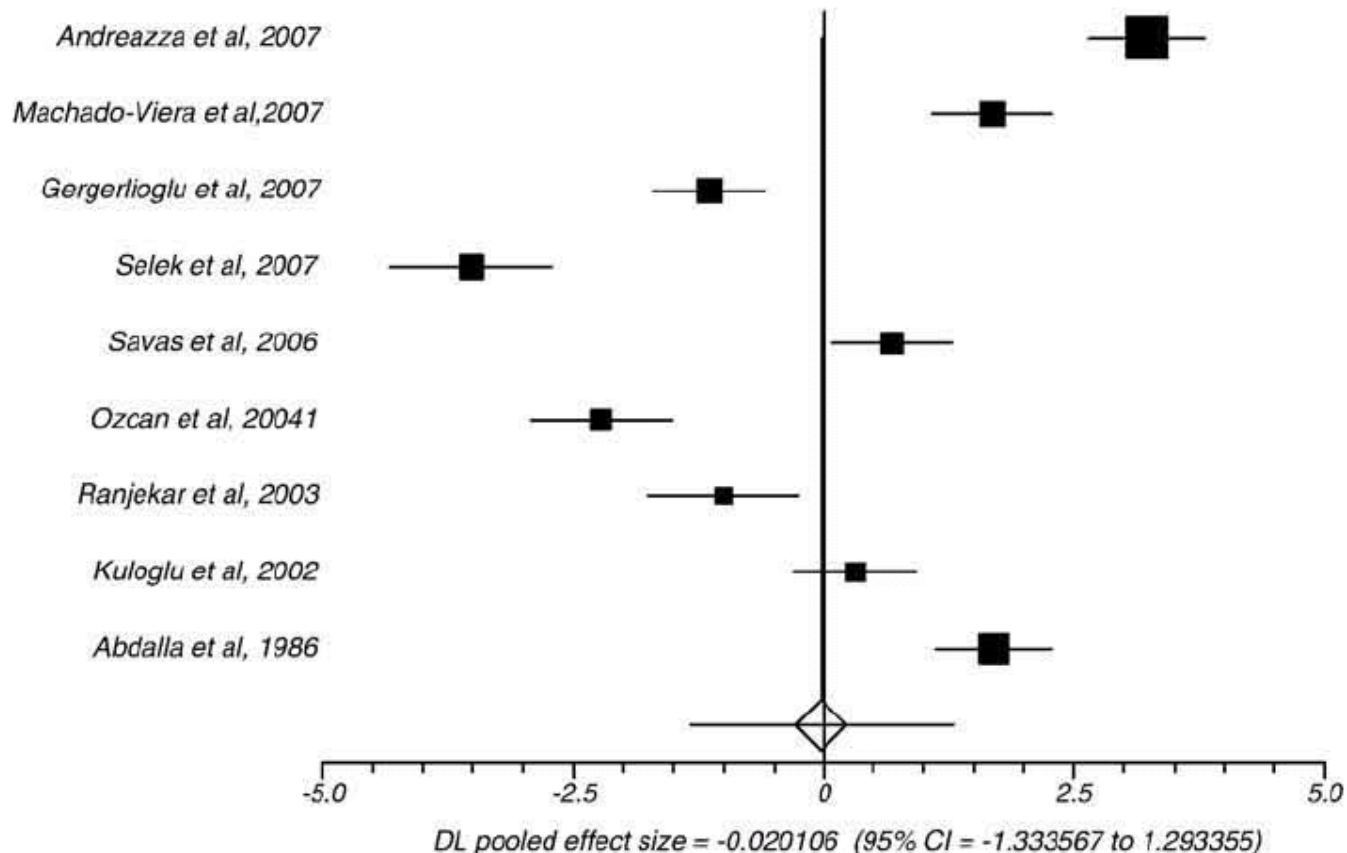


Andreazza, A.C., et al., Oxidative stress markers in bipolar disorder: A meta-analysis, *J. Affect. Disord.* (2008), doi:10.1016/j.jad.2008.04.013

Cu Zn Super Oxide Dismutase Meta-analysis

A

Effect size meta-analysis plot [random effects]

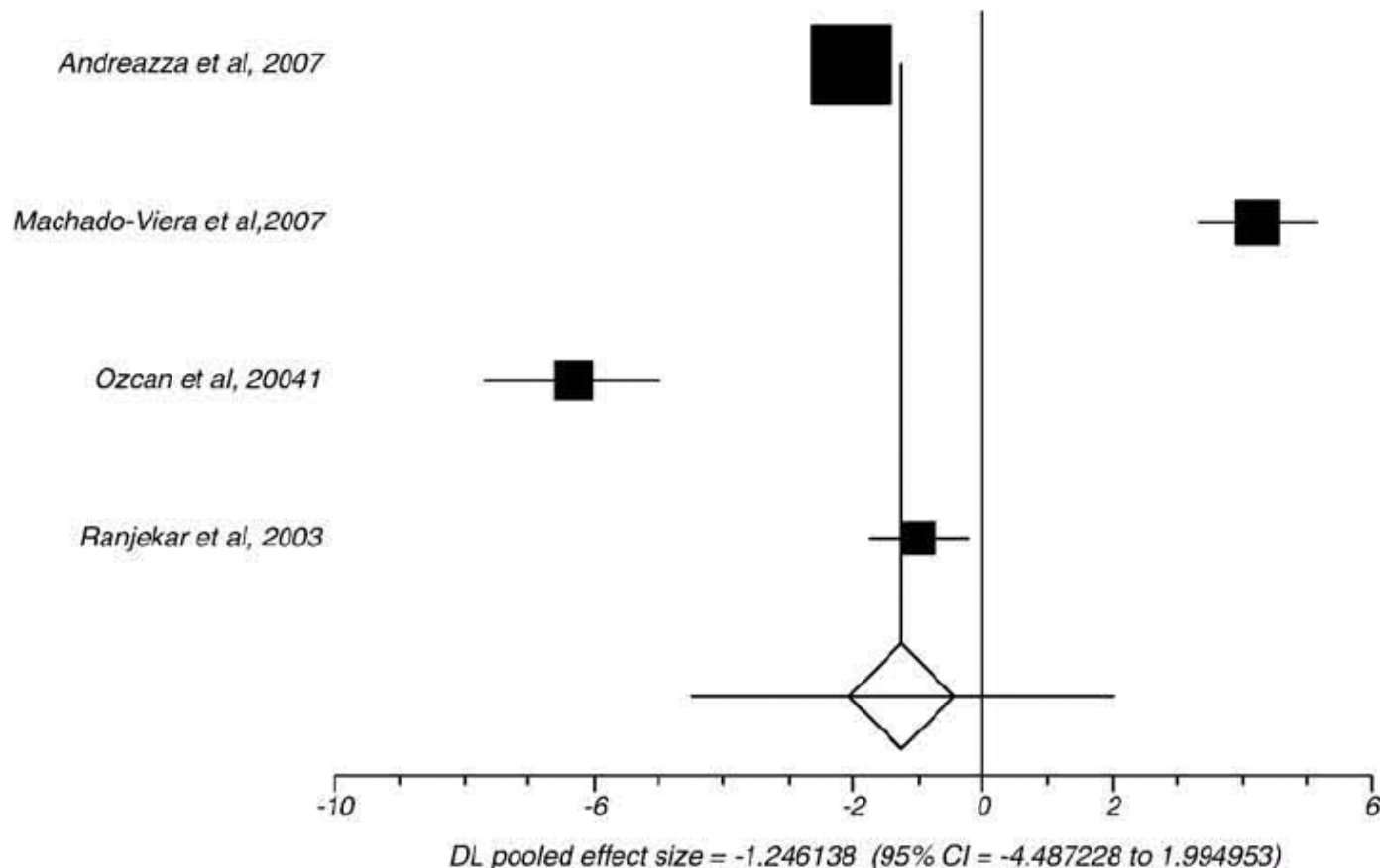


Andreazza, A.C., et al., Oxidative stress markers in bipolar disorder: A meta-analysis, J. Affect. Disord. (2008), doi:10.1016/j.jad.2008.04.013

Catalase Meta-analysis

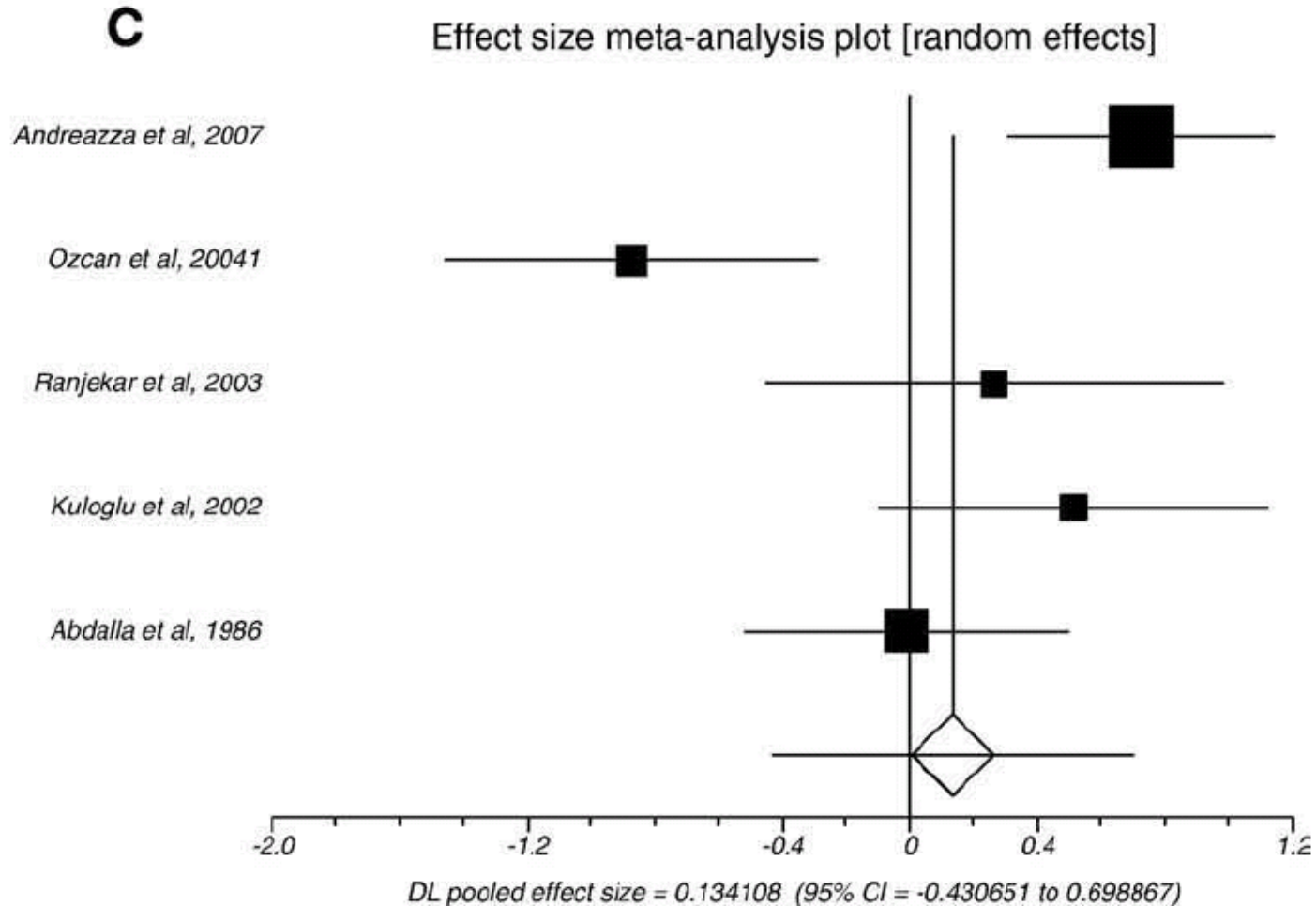
B

Effect size meta-analysis plot [random effects]



Andreazza, A.C., et al., Oxidative stress markers in bipolar disorder: A meta-analysis, *J. Affect. Disord.* (2008), doi:10.1016/j.jad.2008.04.013

Glutathione Peroxidase Activity Meta-analysis

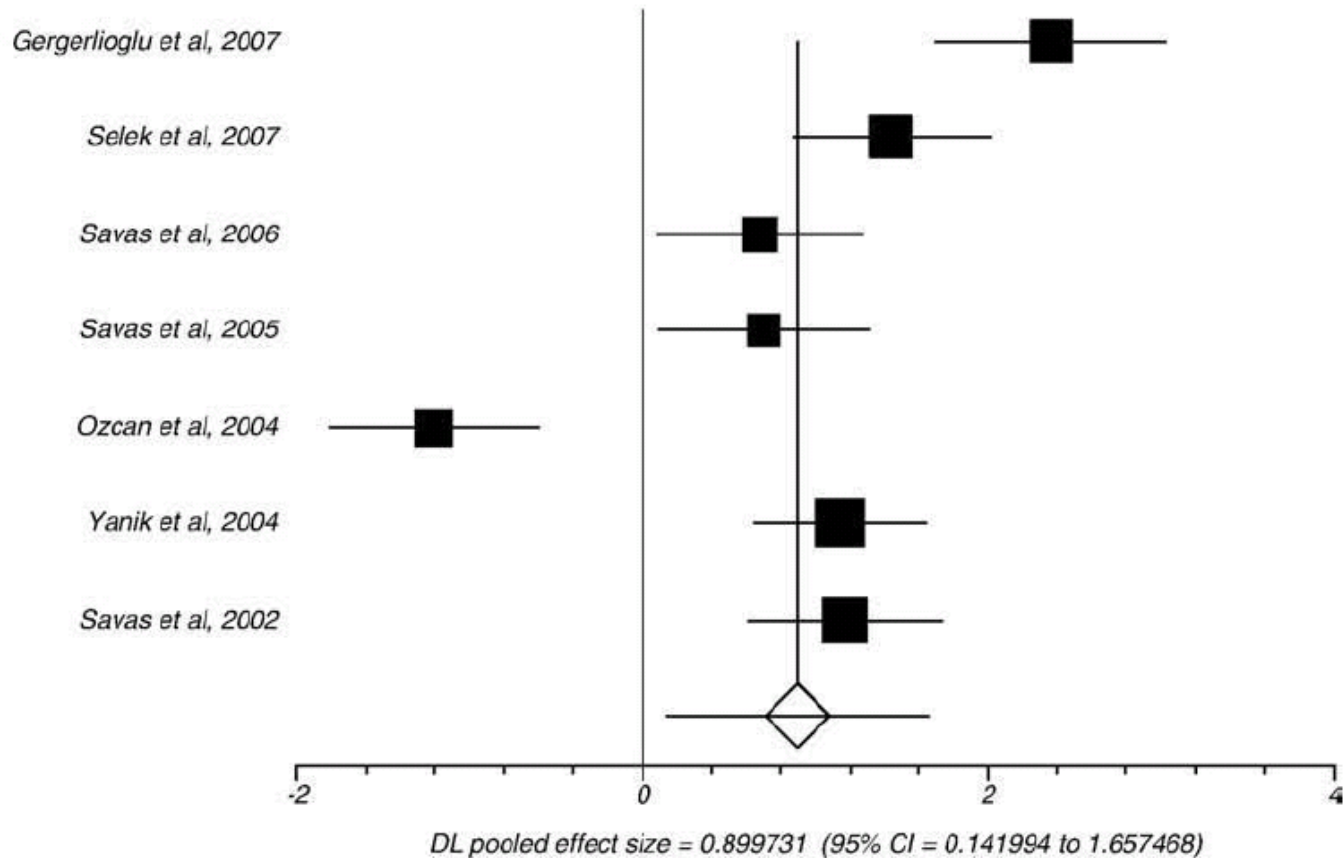


Andrezza, A.C., et al., Oxidative stress markers in bipolar disorder: A meta-analysis, *J. Affect. Disord.* (2008), doi:10.1016/j.jad.2008.04.013

Nitric Oxide Meta-analysis

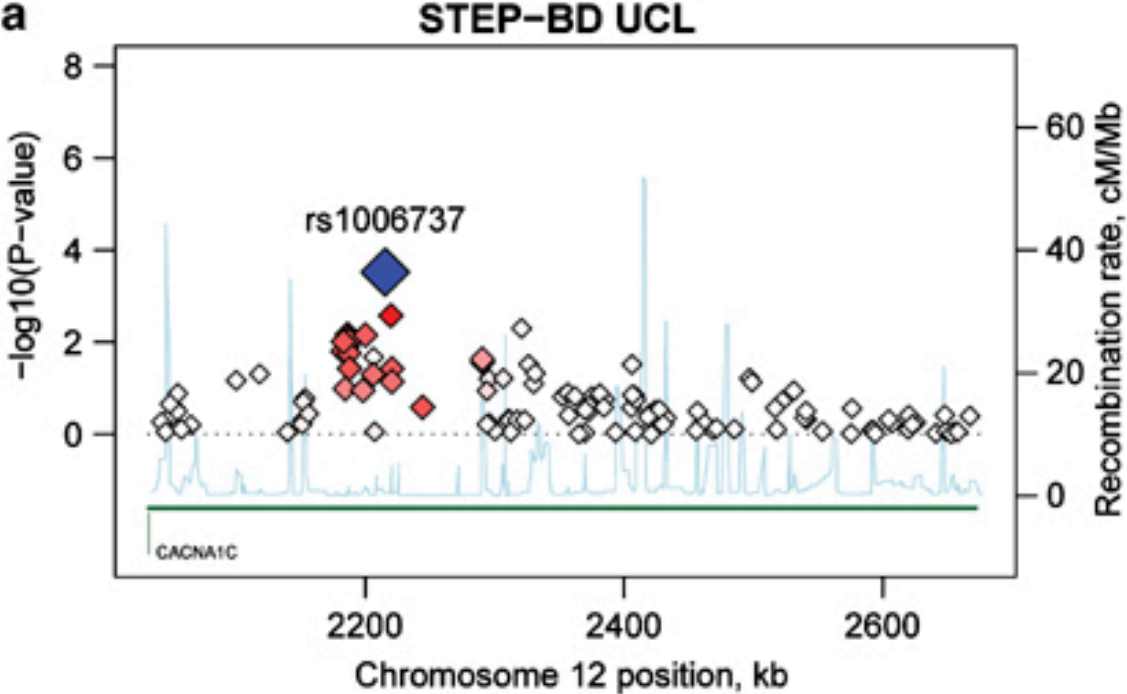
B

Effect size meta-analysis plot [random effects]



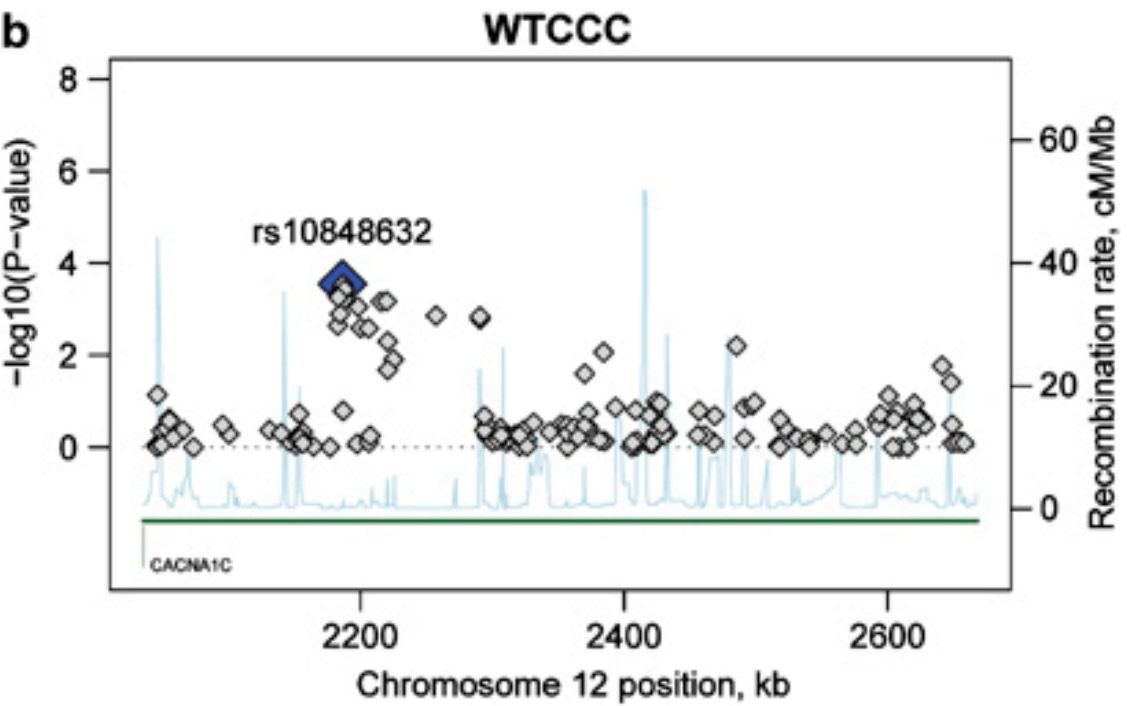
Andreazza, A.C., et al., Oxidative stress markers in bipolar disorder: A meta-analysis, *J. Affect. Disord.* (2008), doi:10.1016/j.jad.2008.04.013

Calcium Channel Genes



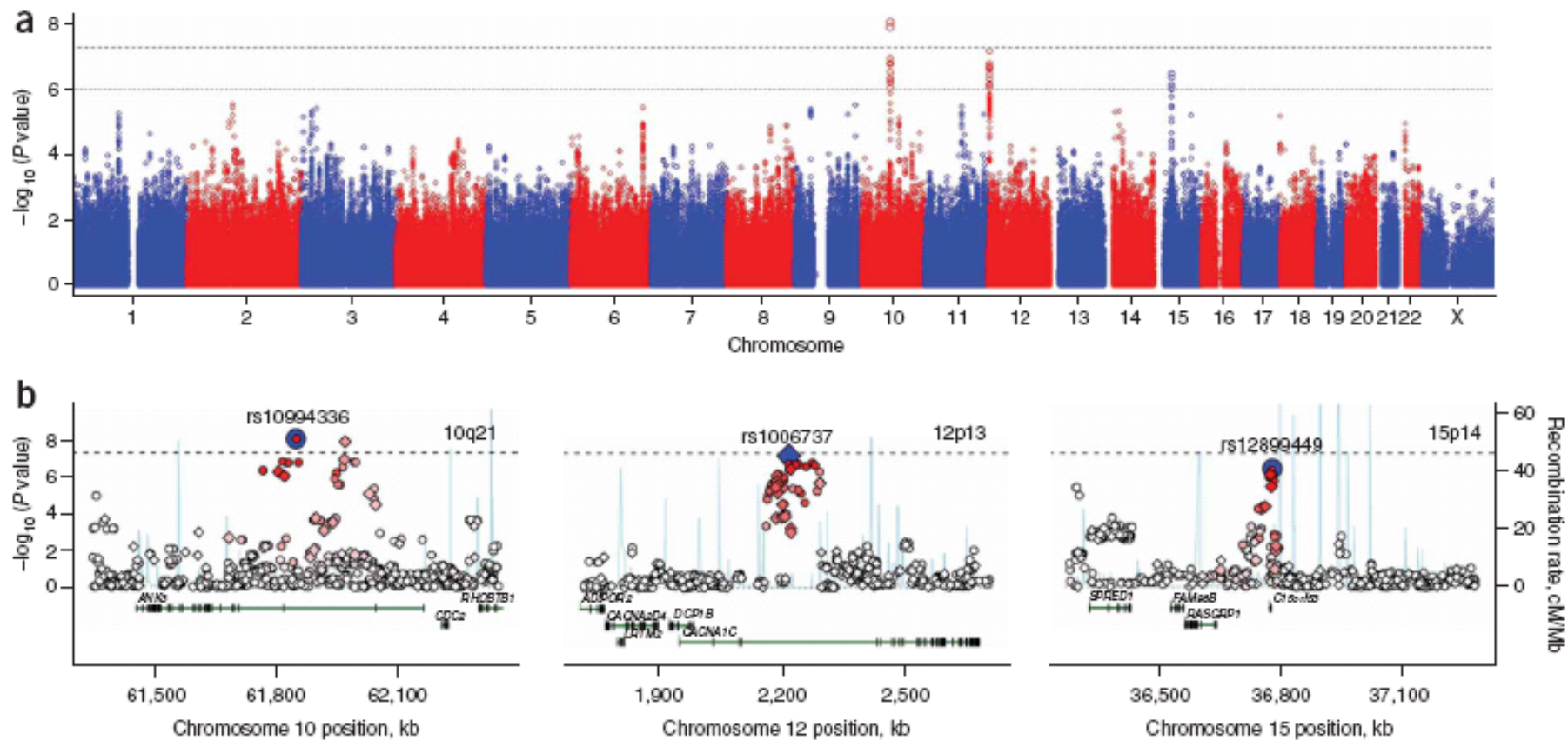
CACNA1C

**Alpha subunit L-type
Calcium channel**



Sklar et al. *Molecular Psych*
2008;13;558

Ankyrin 3 and alpha subunit of L-type Calcium Channel



Ferriera et al. Nature Genetics 2008;40:1056

Table 2 Summarizing studies of neuroprotection against oxidative damage by mood-stabilizing drugs

Mood stabilizers	Tissue	Results	References
VPA	Primary cultured rat cerebral cortical cells	↓ FeCl ₃ -induced oxidative damage to lipid and protein	Wang et al ⁷⁷
Li+, VPA	Primary cultured rat cerebral cortical cells	↓ Glutamate-induced oxidative damage to lipid and protein	Shao et al ⁷⁸
Li+, VPA	Human neuroblastoma SH-SY5Y cells	↓ Rotenone- and H ₂ O ₂ -induced cytochrome c release, caspase-3 activation and cell death.	Lai et al ⁷⁹
Li+	SH-SY5Y cells	↓ Rotenone- and H ₂ O ₂ -induced activation of caspase-2 and -3	King and Jope ⁸⁰
Li+, VPA	Primary cultured rat cerebral cortical cells	↑ GSH levels, ↑ GCL expression, ↓ H ₂ O ₂ -induced cell death	Cui et al ⁸¹
LTG, CMZ	SH-SY5Y cells	↑ GSH levels, ↑ GCL expression	Cui et al ⁸¹
Li+	Mouse hippocampal HT-22 cells	↓ H ₂ O ₂ - and glutamate-induced cell death	Schafer et al ⁸²
OLP	Rat Pheochromocytoma PC-12 cells	↓ β-amyloid-induced cell death, caspase-3 activation, ROS overproduction	Wang et al ⁸⁵
OLP	PC-12 cells	↓ H ₂ O ₂ -induced cell death, ↑ SOD enzyme activity	Wei et al ⁸⁴
Li+, VPA	Rat hippocampus	↓ Amphetamine-induced lipid peroxidation	Frey et al ⁸⁶
Li+, VPA	Primary cultured rat cerebral cortical cells	↑ GST-M1 and A4 expression, ↑ GST enzyme activity	Wang et al ^{87,88}
Li+	Rat brain	↑ SOD activity	Shukla ⁹⁰
Li+	Rat brain	↑ Total antioxidant reactivity levels, ↑ activities of SOD and GPx	De Vasconcellos et al ⁹¹
OLP	PC-12 cells	↑ SOD mRNA levels	Li et al ⁹²

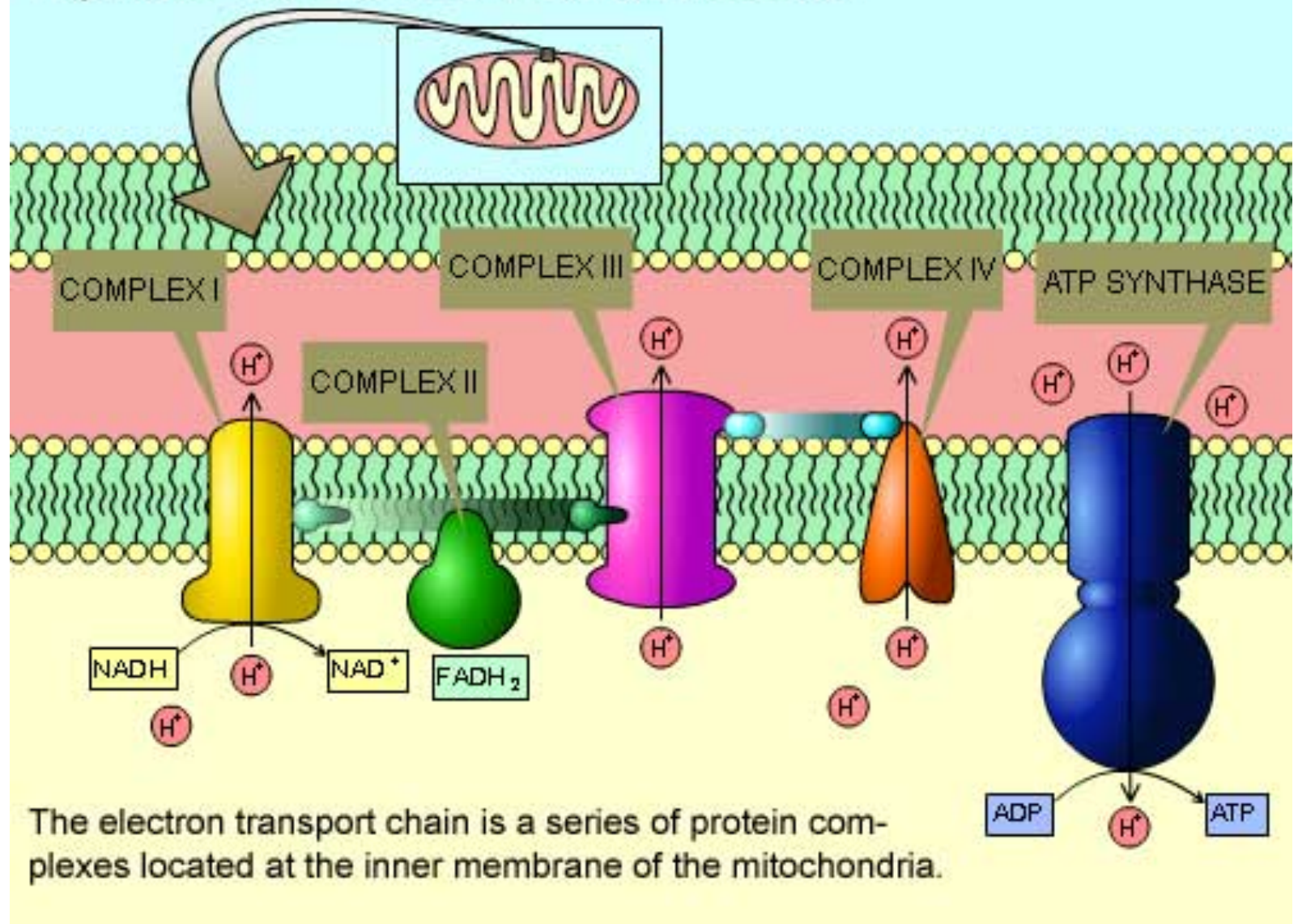
Li+ = lithium; VPA = valproate; OLP = olanzapine; LTG = lamotrigine; CMZ = carbamazepine; GSH = glutathione; GCL = glutamate-cysteine ligase; SOD = superoxide dismutase; GPx = glutathione peroxidase

Can bipolar relapse be
decreased by modulating
mitochondria?

Mitochondrial Modulators

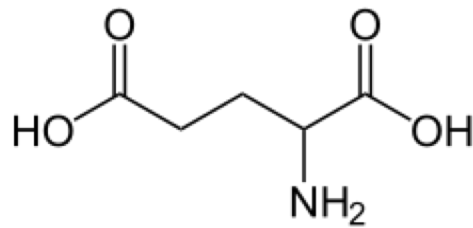
- N-acetyl-cysteine (NAC)
- Acetyl-L-carnitine (ALCAR)
- Alpha lipoic acid
- Coenzyme Q10
- S-adenosylmethionine (SAMe)

Figure J-13: Electron Transport Chain

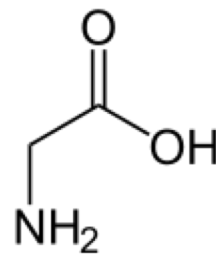


The electron transport chain is a series of protein complexes located at the inner membrane of the mitochondria.

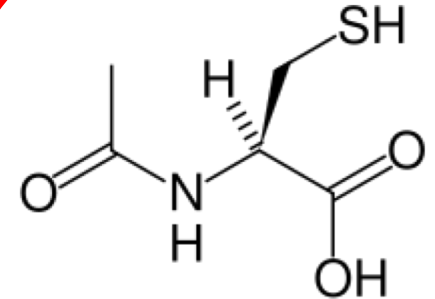
n-acetyl-cysteine (NAC)



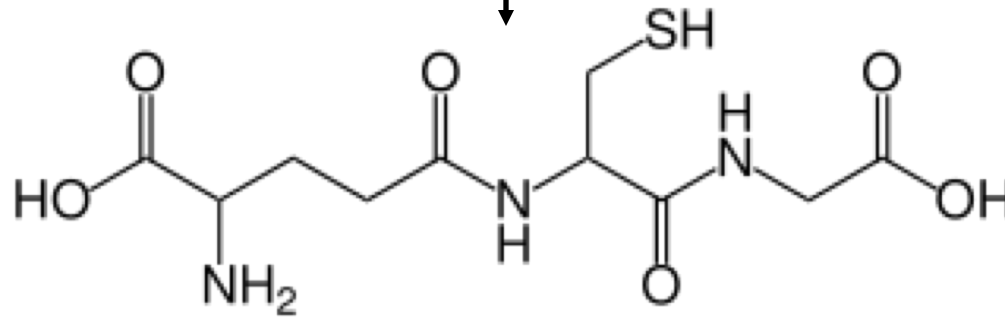
glutamate



glycine



cysteine



glutathione

NAC

- Increases synthesis of glutathione (GSH)
- GSH
 - reacts with hydrogen peroxide H_2O_2 to form H_2O
 - conjugates with oxidized products, catalyzed by glutathione-s-transferase (GST) to further reduce oxidative stress.
- Lithium and valproate neuroprotective effects
 - mediated by increasing GSH and glutamate-cysteine ligase levels
 - lithium increases gene expression of GST isoenzymes

Atkuri KR, et al. Current Opinion in Pharmacology 2007;7(4):355-359.

Shao L, et al. Neuroscience 2008;151(2):518-524.

NAC

- Neuroprotective
- Prevents oxidative damage in complex
- Broad efficacy
 - Bipolar depression
 - Schizophrenia
 - OCD spectrum
 - Autism
 - Cocaine, marijuana, smoking

Mayer M, Noble M. Proc Natl Acad Sci 1994;91:7496 -7500.

Nicoletti et al. Neurochemical Research 2005;30:737-752.

Grant JE, et al. Biological Psychiatry 2007;62(6):652-657.

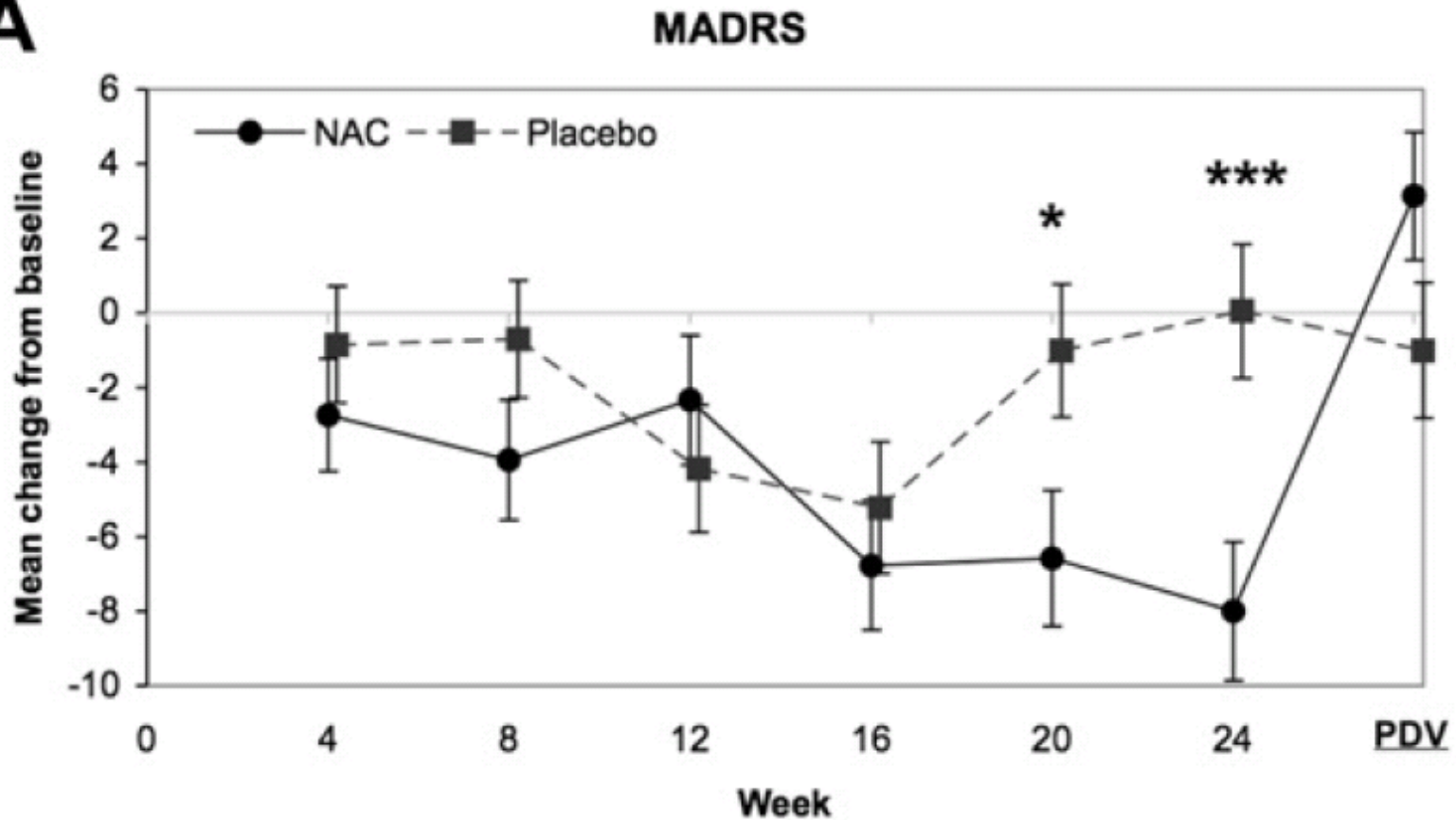
**N-Acetyl Cysteine for Depressive Symptoms
in Bipolar Disorder—A Double-Blind
Randomized
Placebo-Controlled Trial**

Michael Berk, David L. Copolov, Olivia Dean, Kristy Lu,
Sue Jeavons, Ian Schapkaitz,
Murray Anderson-Hunt, and Ashley I. Bush

Biological Psychiatry 2008

N-acetyl-cysteine RCT

A



Acetyl-L-Carnitine (ALCAR)

- Carnitines
 - transport fatty acids into mitochondria
 - beta-oxidation
 - energy generation
 - scavenge ROS
 - fatty acids
 - enter mitochondria as acyl-carnitines,
 - when oxidized, release energy
 - form acetyl-coenzyme a, which then enters the citric acid cycle

Hoppel C. American Journal of Kidney Diseases 2003;41(Supplement 4):S4-S12.
Al-Majed AA, et al. Clin Exp Pharmacol Physiology 2006;33(8):725-733.
Rebouche et al. Annals of the NY Academy of Sciences 2004;1033(1):30-41.

Acetyl-L-Carnitine (ALCAR)

- ALCAR absorbed better than L-carnitine
- able to cross the blood-brain barrier
- neuroprotective and antiapoptotic properties
- block glutamate-induced over-expression of glutamic acid decarboxylase GAD67
- reverse age-related degeneration in animal models
- decrease oxidative stress?
- may slow down or reverse age-related cognitive and motoric decline in rats
- reverse diminished reactivity to the environment

Acetyl-L-Carnitine (ALCAR)

- Alzheimer's Disease,
- ADHD inattentive type
- Fatigue and peripheral neuropathy
 - HIV infection
 - Chemotherapy,
 - Diabetic neuropathy
 - Fibromyalgia
 - may prevent or reverse valproate-induced hepatotoxicity
- equivalent to amisulpride for dysthymic disorder

Rossini M, et al. *Clinical and Experimental Rheumatology* 2007;25:182-188.
Elmslie JL et al. *Bipolar Disorders* 2006;8:503-507.

Alpha Lipoic Acid

- Cofactor for pyruvate dehydrogenase complex
- Increase cellular uptake of glucose
- Scavenge ROS

Summary

- Mitochondria and the brain
- Psychiatric Disorders in Mitochondrial Diseases
- Mitochondrial Dysregulation in Psychiatric Disorders