

Aging Exercise and Mitochondrial Disease

MitoAction 2023.



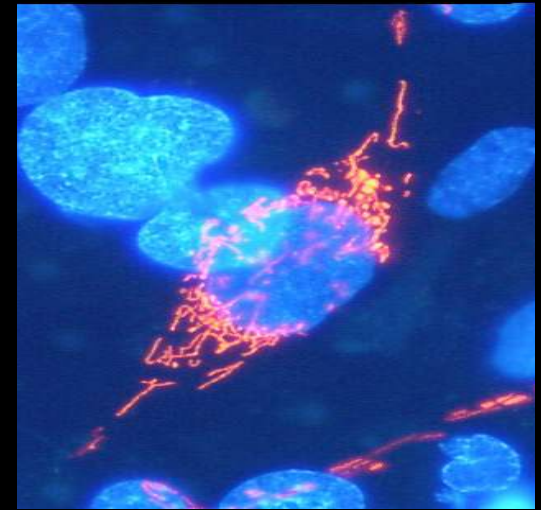
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Disclosures

- Sanofi/Genzyme – speaker honorarium 2009, 2010-21.
- Ultragenyx – GNE study 2016-2018.
- Amicus Therapeutics – clinical trial 2019-2022.
- Janssen - speaker honoraria 2017.
- Genzyme - research funding, 2011; clinical trial 2019-2022, speaker honoraria 2017-22, Ad Board, 2021-22.
- **Founder and CEO of Exerkine Corporation/Stayabove Nutrition.**

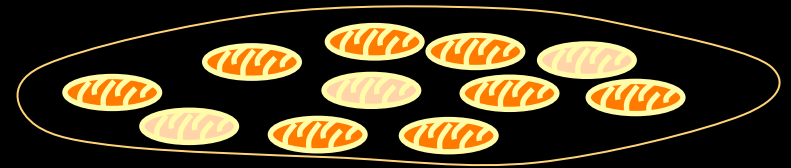
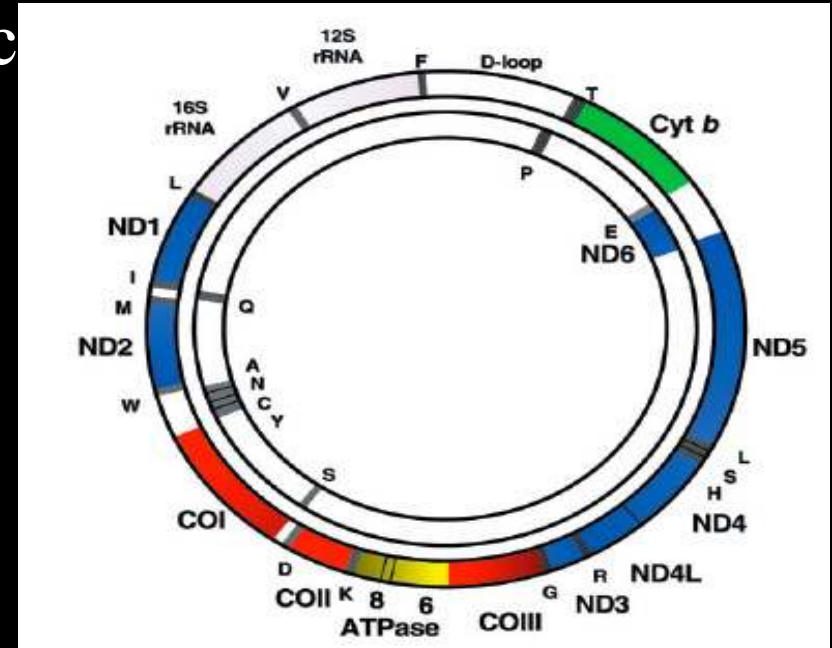
Summary

- ◆ Human aging/sarcopenia.
- ◆ Endurance exercise in human aging.
- ◆ Resistance exercise in human aging.
- ◆ Nutritional Supplementation for Sarcopenic Obesity.



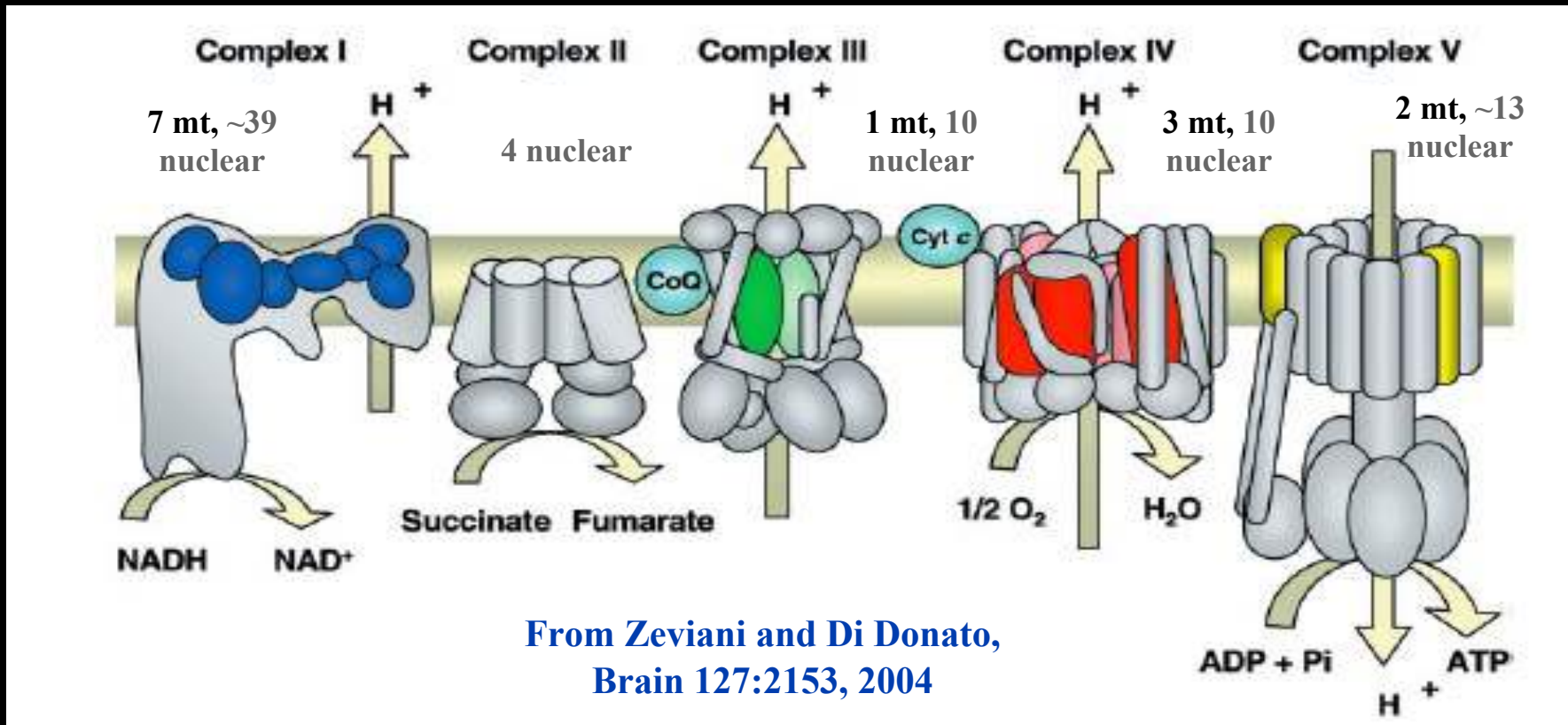
Mitochondrial Disorders – Review.

- 2 billion y ago – purple photosynthetic bacteria.
- Has its own mtDNA (37 genes) - + 38 (MOTS-c).
- Most proteins encoded by nDNA - ~ 1,300 total.
- Maternal inheritance.
- Heteroplasmy, replicative segregation.
- Mostly exons.
- Less effective DNA repair:
 - ~ 13 fold more mutations.

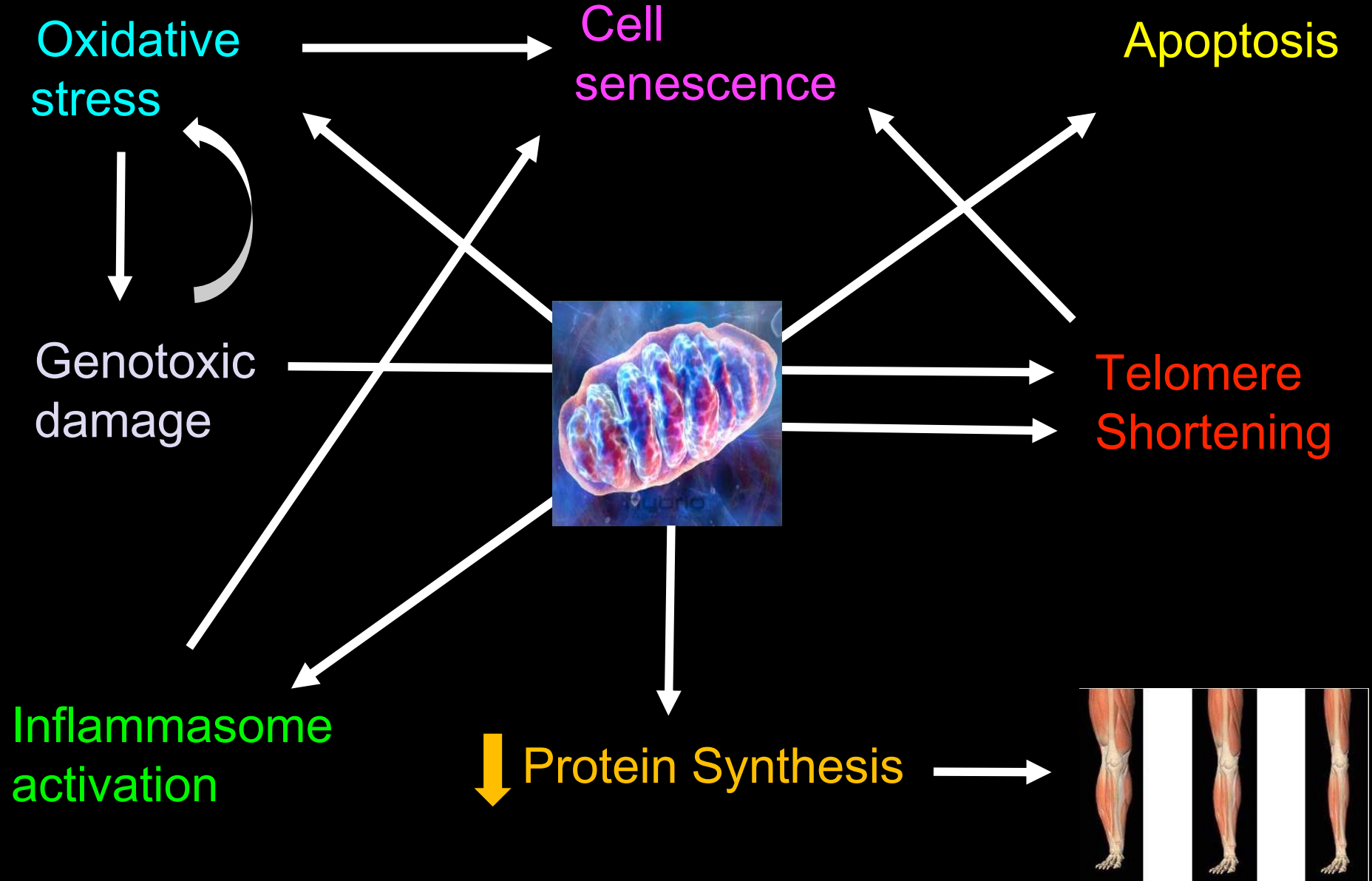


Electron Transport Chain

- Formation ETC under dual genomic control.
- Series circuit I>III>IV and V conserved in vertebrates (13 sub-units).



AGING/SARCOPENIA - Lopez-Otin, et al, *Cell*, 153:1194, 2013

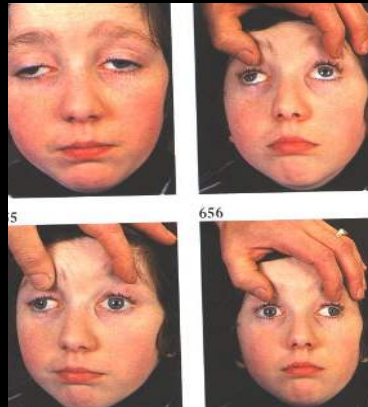
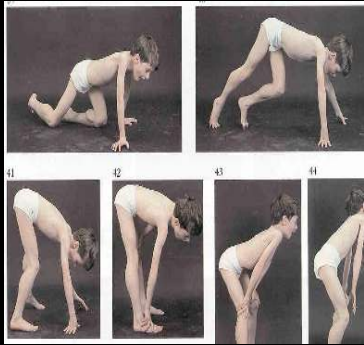


Pathological Disorders

Physiological Adaptation

Atrophy

Hypertrophy



Mitochondrial Dysfunction



Mitochondrial Biogenesis

obesity, T2DM,
mitochondrial disease,
immobilization,
neuropathy
sarcopenia/aging,
cancer,
statin myopathy,
corticosteroids



nutrition, drugs,
exercise

FSHD



sIBM



DM1



HUMAN
AGING



Mitochondrial
Dysfunction/
Disease



nutrition, drugs,
exercise



Oxidative
stress

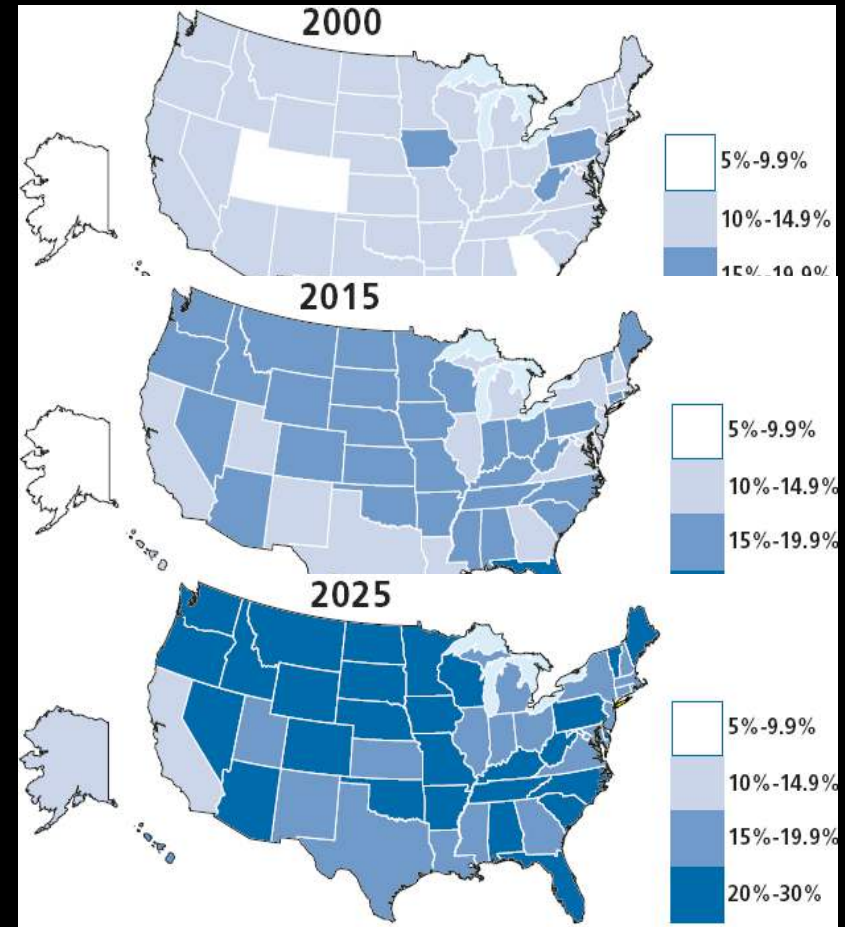
↓ PRO SYN

Inflammation

Stem (satellite) cell
exhaustion/dysfunction

What is Sarcopenia of aging?

- ◆ “paucity of flesh”.
- ◆ Muscle atrophy and weakness (2 SD < age normal).
- ◆ Functional impairment.
- ◆ Cost of sarcopenia = \$ 40 billion/y in USA - 2019.
- ◆ ~ 10 % over age 70;
~ 30 % over age 80.



Causes of Aging/Sarcopenia

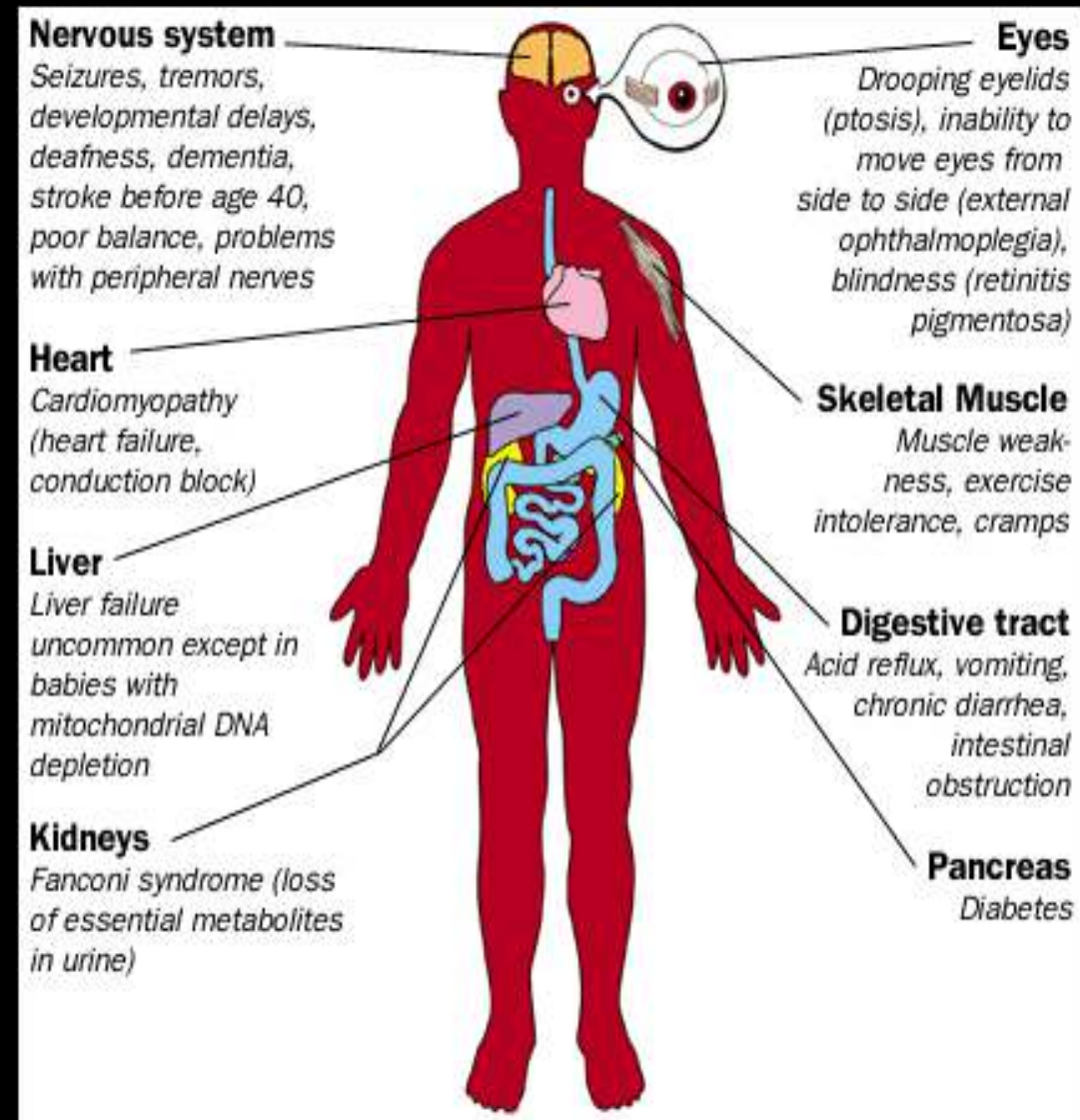
Lopez-Otin, et al, *Cell*, 153:1194, 2013

- Denervation (α -motor neuron loss).
- Telomere shortening.
- Loss of proteostasis (↓ SYN/DEG).
- Genotoxic damage.
- Dys. nutrient sensing (anabolic resistance).
- Stem cell exhaustion/dysfunction.
- Oxidative stress.
- Altered inter-cellular communication.
- Chronic inflammation (Inflammaging).
- **Mitochondrial dysfunction.**



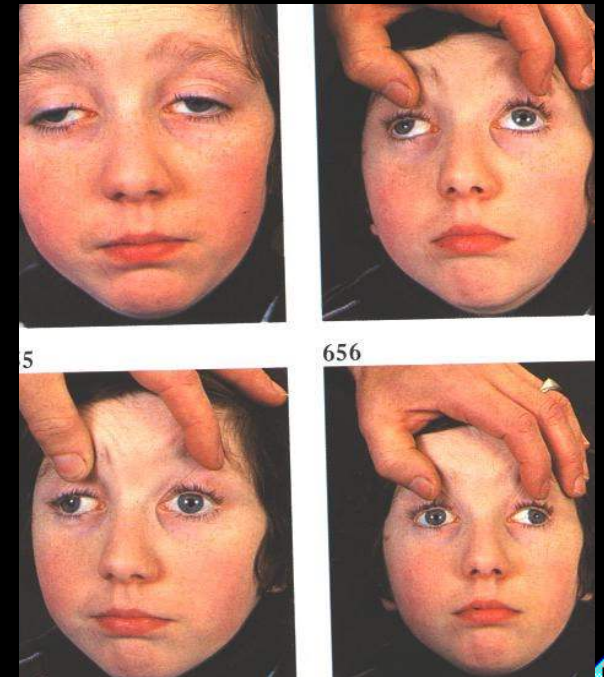
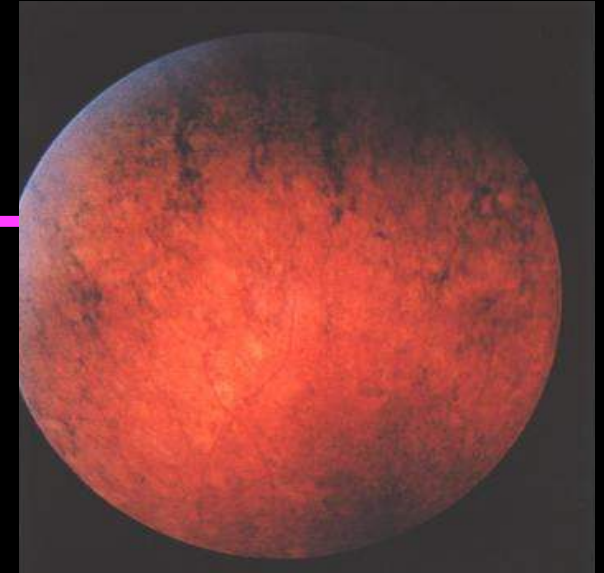
Mitochondrial Disorders

- Usually refers to disorders affecting the ETC.
- First mutations were discovered in the mtDNA as deletions (KSS) and LHON (11778) and MELAS (3243) in 1988.
- There are now > 200 known mtDNA mutations and an increasing number of nDNA mutations.



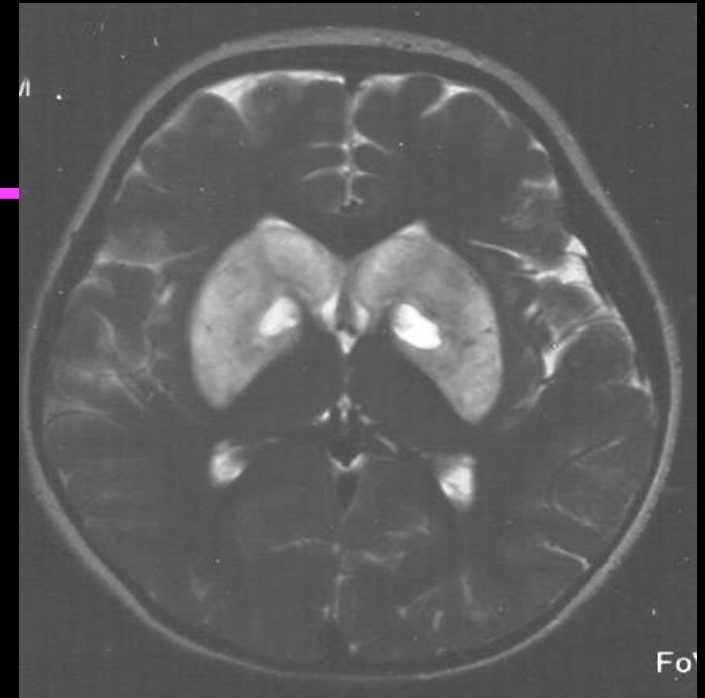
CLINICAL FEATURES

- **Eyes/Hearing:** Optic atrophy, PEO, retinitis pigmentosa/hypoacusis.
- **Brain:** Seizures, encephalopathy, dementia.
- **Heart:** Cardiomyopathy (hypertrophic, dilated, non-compaction).
- **GI tract:** Constipation, abdominal pain, pseudo-obstruction, hepatic failure.
- **Renal:** Renal tubular acidosis.
- **Endocrine:** Type 2 diabetes.
- **Muscle:** Weakness, exercise intolerance.



Mitochondrial Diagnosis

- Multi-system history.
- Family history (maternal – rule IN) .
- Lactate (SEN = 0.65; SPEC = >0.90).
- Urine – organic acids (ethylmalonic, 3-methylglutaconic, lactate, TCAi).
- Plasma amino acids (alanine).
- MRI/MRS/Exercise testing.
- Plasma GDF-15.
- Muscle histology/EM.
- Muscle enzymology.
- Specific point mutations.



•**Definite**

•**Probable**

•**Possible**

•**Unlikely**

Mitochondrial Disease R_x Strategies

General Issues

1. Avoid stressors (heat, dehydration, prolonged fasting, excessive exercise, etc.).
2. Check sleep (abnormal delta waves, apnea, no stage 3 or 4, nocturnal myoclonus, Sz, RLS) – melatonin (0.1 mg/kg/d).
3. Check for contractures, treat spasticity, AFOs for DF weakness.
4. Pain – not common – identify the generator (Neurogenic = TCAs, gabapentin, etc.; don't forget about MSK).
5. Optimize nutrition for growth – G-tube is often very beneficial if sub-optimal intake is present (also allows for optimal delivery of supplements and medications).

Habitual Diet – General suggestions – Continued.

Avoid fasting for prolonged periods (> 10 h).

More frequent meals.

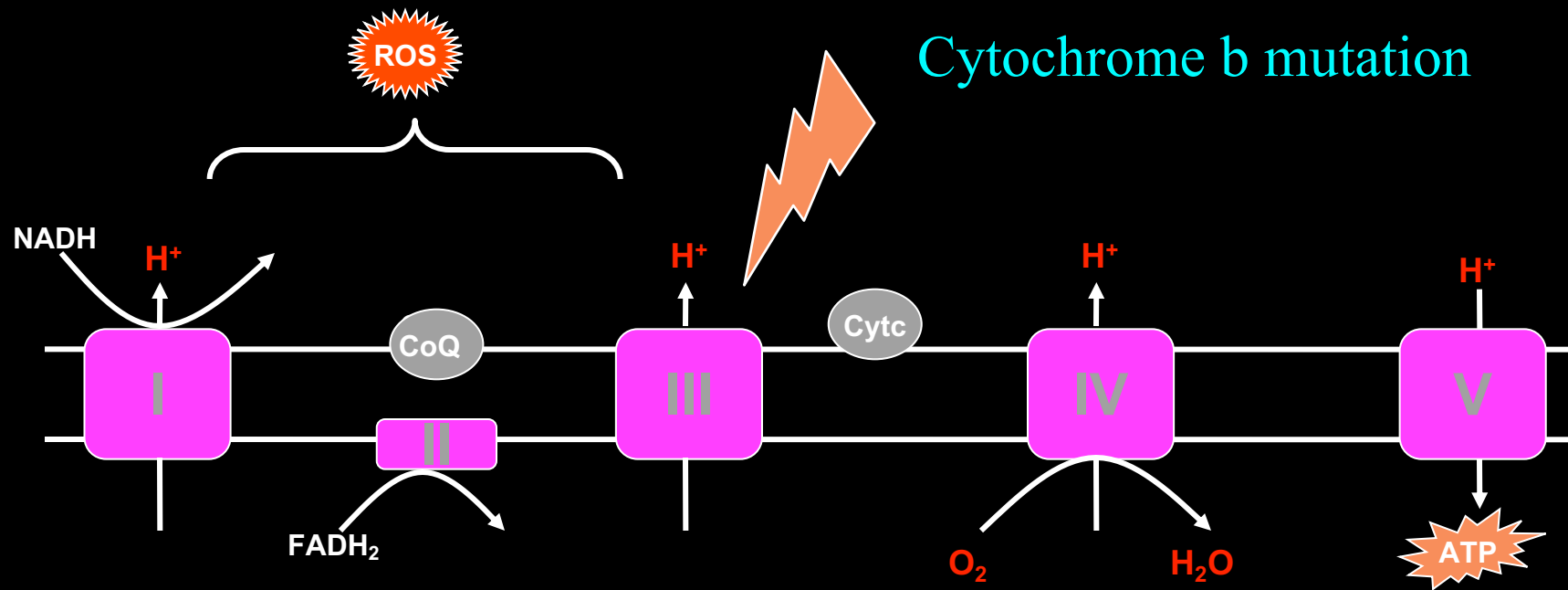
Consider high fat in complex I with seizures or PDH deficiency.

Treat iron, vitamin D, vitamin B12, folate, vitamin E, and copper deficiency (ferritin > 50).

Avoid alcohol > 2 drinks/day maximum.

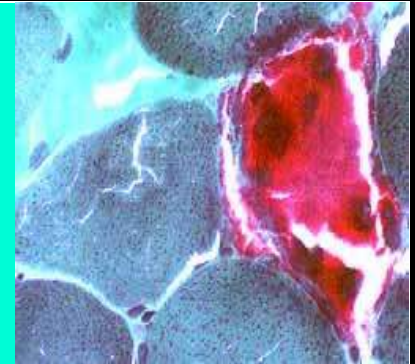
Avoid MSG and other migraine triggers (red wine, aged cheese, etc.) in MELAS patients with migraines.

Mitochondrial Dysfunction



↓ ATP
↓ Alt. E. Source
↑ ROS (free radicals)
↑ Lactate

↑ Mito proliferation
↑ Apoptosis
↑ Anti-oxidant enzyme



Mitochondrial Disease R_x Strategies

- **Bypass Defect** (CoQ₁₀, succinate, riboflavin).
- **Reduce Lactate** (Dichloroacetate, thiamine)
- **Anti-Oxidants** (Vit E, lipoic acid)
- **Alternative Energy** (Creatine monohydrate)
- **Exercise training** (Aerobic vs strength)
- **Vasodilatation** (L-arginine)
- **Folate deficiency** (folate, folinic acid)
- **Nucleotide precursors** (triacetyluridine)

BENEFICIAL EFFECTS OF CREATINE, CoQ₁₀, AND LIPOIC ACID IN MITOCHONDRIAL DISORDERS

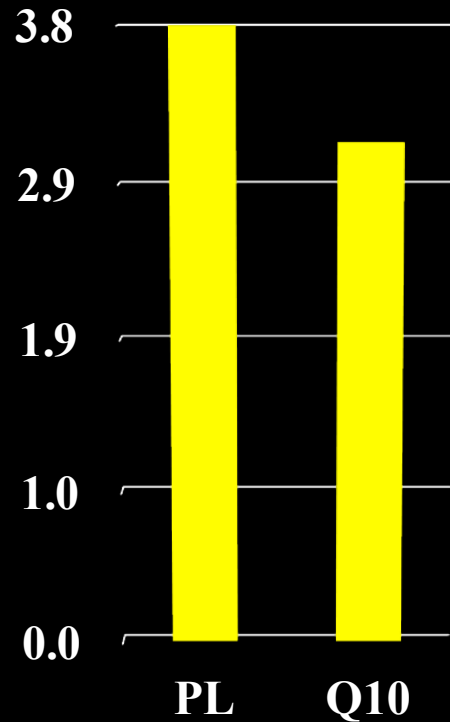
M. CHRISTINE RODRIGUEZ, BSc,¹ JAY R. MACDONALD, MD, PhD,² DOUGLAS J. MAHONEY, PhD,²
GIANNI PARISE, PhD,¹ M. FLINT BEAL, MD,³ and MARK A. TARNOPOLSKY, MD, PhD⁴

Rodriguez, et al., *Muscle and Nerve*, 35:235-, 2007.

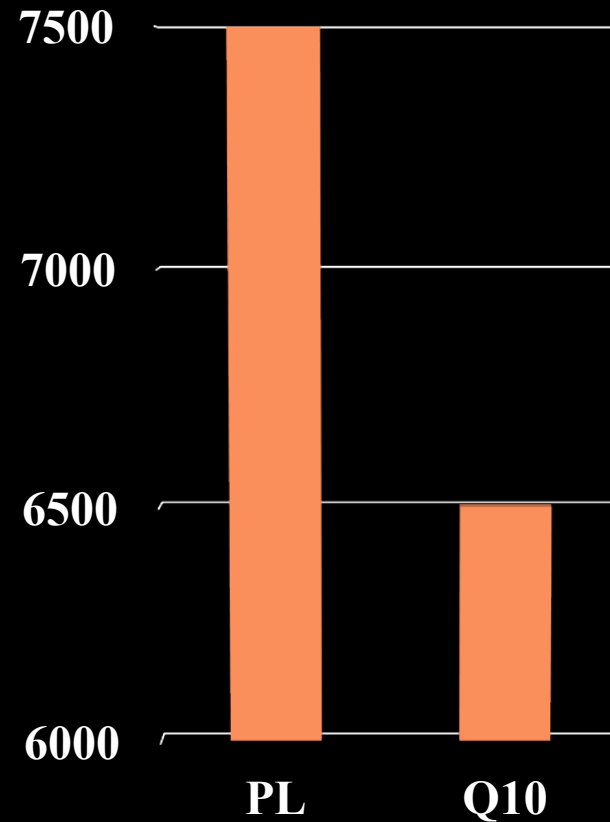
- 2 month RCT, 2 month W/O, cross-over.
- CoQ10 120 mg bid + 150 mg Vit E.
- Creatine 3 g/d.
- **Alpha lipoic acid** 300 mg bid
- N = 16 patients with definite mitochondrial disease (MELAS, MERRF, KSS, CPEO, LHON, Misc. (i.e., m.9035T>C)).



Mitochondrial Cocktail



Lactate (mmol/L), $P < 0.05$

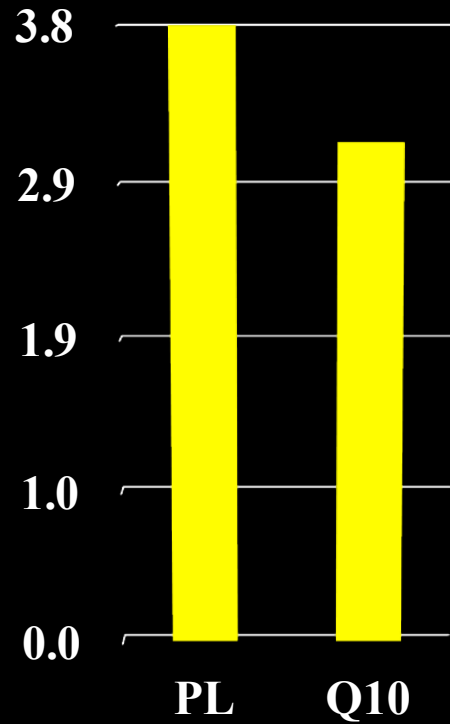


8-isoprostanes (umol/g creatinine), $P < 0.05$

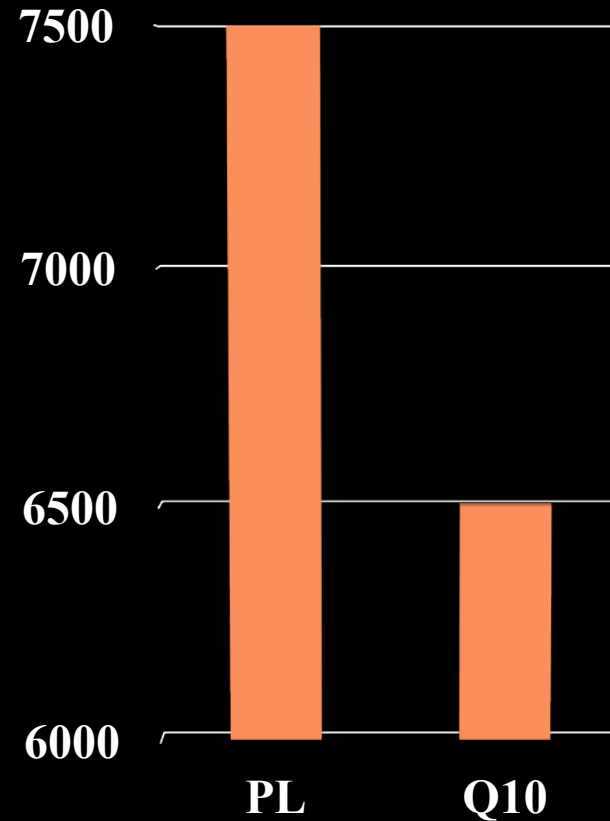
Rodriguez, et al., *Muscle and Nerve*, 35:235-, 2007.



Mitochondrial Cocktail



Lactate (mmol/L), $P < 0.05$

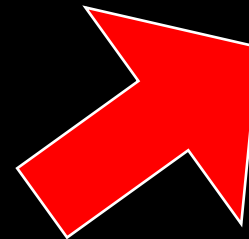


8-isoprostanes (umol/g creatinine), $P < 0.05$

Rodriguez, et al., *Muscle and Nerve*, 35:235-, 2007.

60 mins/day, 3/week, 4 months

ENDURANCE EXERCISE



RESISTANCE EXERCISE

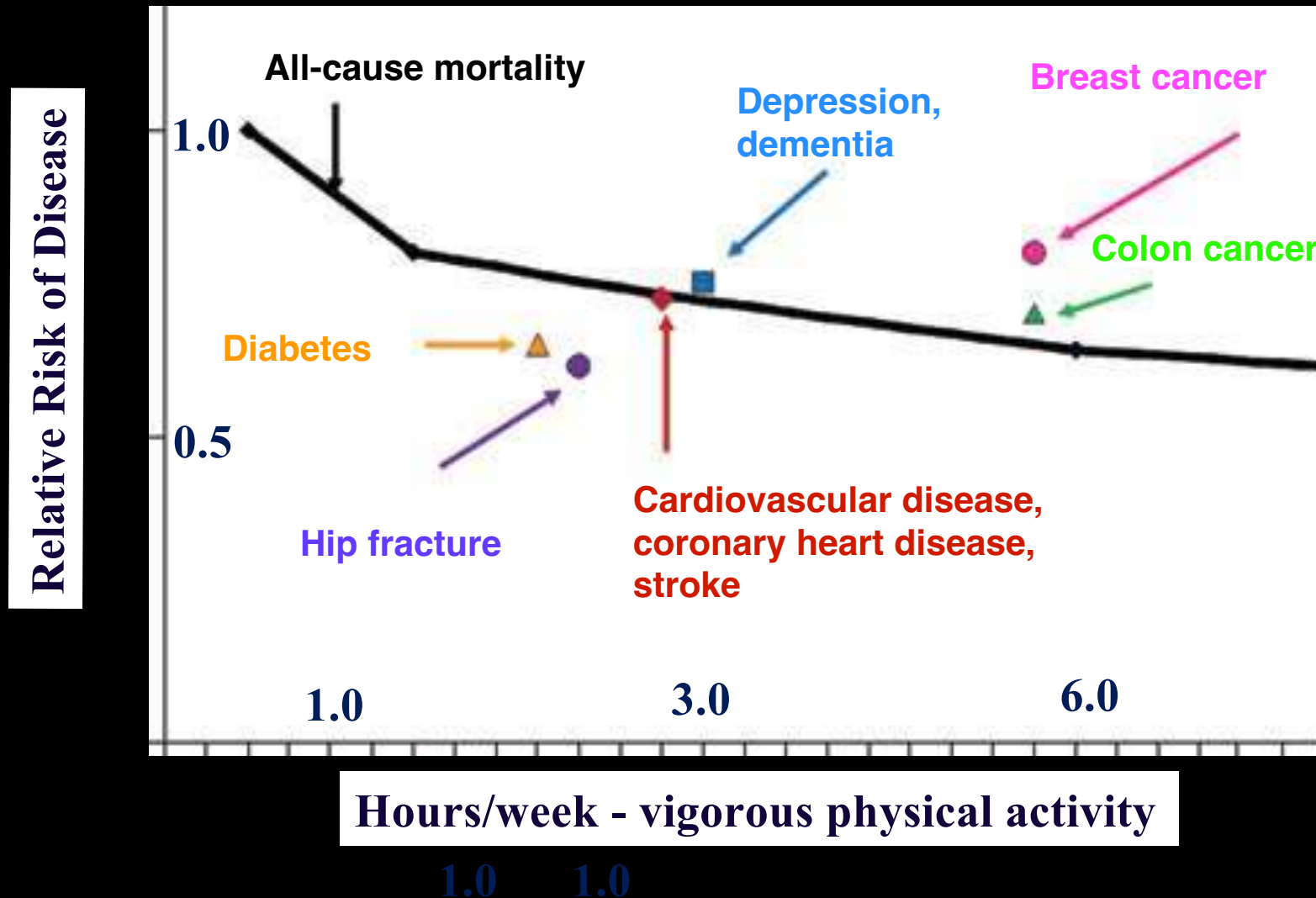


10 reps x 3 sets, 3/week, 4 months

Contractile Activity Determines Phenotype

Physical Activity for Health

Powell, Paluch, Blair, SN. *Ann Rev Public Health*. 32:349-, 2011.



Aging, acute and chronic endurance exercise – metabolomic analysis.

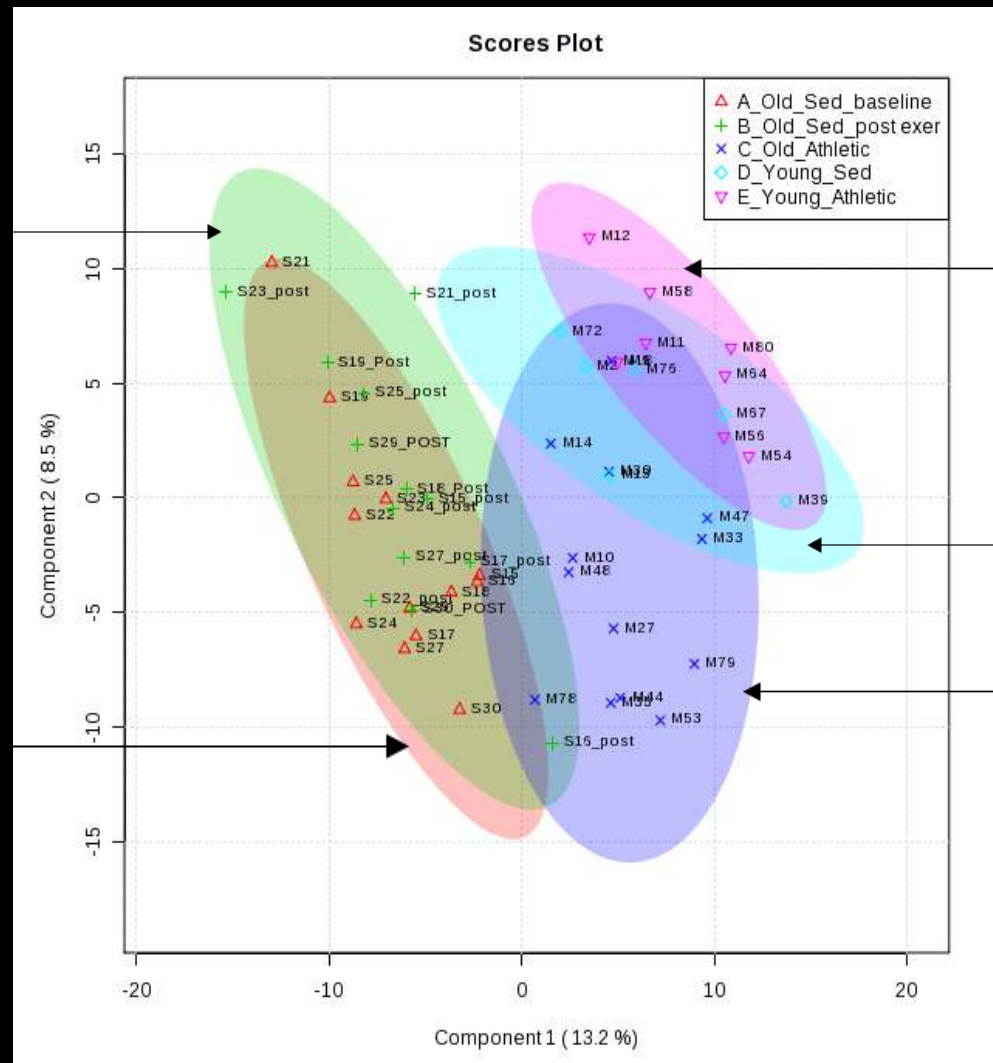
Experimental Design:

- Young (20-40) Sedentary: N=6
- Young (20-40) Athletic: N=8
- Old (65+) Athletic: N=13
- Old (60+) Sedentary-baseline: N=14
- Old (60+) Sedentary-post END exercise: N=14

LC-MS/MS analysis:

- LC-MS/MS on an ABSCIEX 5500 triple quadrupole mass spectrometer according to published methods ([Naviaux, et al. 2016. PMID: 27573827](#)).
- 612 metabolites were targeted and 477 metabolites were above the LLOQ

Aging, acute and chronic endurance exercise – metabolomic analysis.



Old_Sed_Post

Young Athletic

Young Sedentary

Old Athletic

Old_Sed_Baseline

Aging, acute and chronic endurance exercise – metabolomic analysis.

Main pathways affected with aging *per se*:

1.  deoxyguanosine nucleotides (dGUOK pathway).
MITOCHONDRIAL DYSFUNCTION
2.  medium and long chain acyl-carnitine species
MITOCHONDRIAL FAO DYSFUNCTION
3.  sphingomyelin species, eg. SM(d18:1/24:0)
EXOSOME MARKER
4.  specific phosphatidyl choline species, eg PC(16:0/18:1)
5.  free 7-methylguanosine (7mG capping to activate mRNA)
REDUCED PRO SYNTHESIS.

Sphingolipids are the top distinguishing pathway with chronic training and 3 months of exercise training.

No.	Pathway Name	Measured Metabolites in the Pathway (N)	Expected Pathway Proportion (P = N/612)	Expected Hits in Sample of 70 (P * 70)	Observed Hits in the Top 70 Metabolites	Fold Enrichment (Obs/Exp)	Impact (Sum VIP Score)	Fraction of Impact (VIP) Explained (% Increased (Athl/Sed>1) Decreased (Athl/Sed<1))	Increased (Athl/Sed>1)	Decreased (Athl/Sed<1)
1	Sphingolipid Metabolism	73	0.119	8.3	24	2.9	44.2	33.9%	24	0
2	Phospholipid Metabolism	98	0.160	11.2	12	1.1	22.5	17.3%	12	0
3	Purine Metabolism	37	0.060	4.2	5	1.2	11.8	9.0%	5	0
4	Cholesterol, Cortisol, Non-Gonadal Steroid Metabolism	22	0.036	2.5	6	2.4	11.3	8.7%	6	0
5	Glycolysis and Gluconeogenesis	14	0.023	1.6	3	1.9	5.4	4.1%	0	3
6	Microbiome Metabolism	31	0.051	3.5	3	0.8	5.3	4.0%	3	0
7	Eicosanoid and Resolvin Metabolism	29	0.047	3.3	2	0.6	3.4	2.6%	0	2
8	Ganglioside Metabolism	17	0.028	1.9	2	1.0	3.3	2.5%	2	0
9	Fatty Acid Oxidation and Synthesis	38	0.062	4.3	2	0.5	3.3	2.5%	2	0
10	Tyrosine and Phenylalanine Metabolism	4	0.007	0.5	1	2.2	2.1	1.6%	1	0
11	Vitamin D (Calciferol) Metabolism	3	0.005	0.3	1	2.9	2.0	1.5%	1	0
12	Vitamin E (Tocopherol) Metabolism	1	0.002	0.1	1	8.7	2.0	1.5%	1	0
13	Vitamin C (Ascorbate) Metabolism	3	0.005	0.3	1	2.9	1.9	1.4%	0	1
14	Oxalate, Glyoxylate Metabolism	3	0.005	0.3	1	2.9	1.9	1.4%	0	1
15	1-Carbon, Folate, Formate, Glycine, Ser	7	0.011	0.8	1	1.2	1.8	1.4%	1	0
16	Cardiolipin Metabolism	8	0.013	0.9	1	1.1	1.7	1.3%	1	0
17	Phytanic, Branch, Odd Chain Fatty Acid	1	0.002	0.1	1	8.7	1.7	1.3%	0	1
18	Vitamin B3 (Niacin, NAD+) Metabolism	8	0.013	0.9	1	1.1	1.6	1.2%	0	1
19	Vitamin B2 (Riboflavin) Metabolism	3	0.005	0.3	1	2.9	1.6	1.2%	1	0
20	Bioamines and Neurotransmitter	13	0.021	1.5	1	0.7	1.5	1.2%	0	1

Endurance exercise in mito. disease

A low $\text{VO}_{2\text{max}}$ is a hallmark of mitochondrial disorders (+/- deconditioning).

14 d of immobilization of leg = coordinate down-regulation of over 50 mRNA species coding for mitochondrial components (Abadi, A., et al, *PLoS ONE*, 2009).

Exercise can increase ETC enzyme activity and whole body $\text{VO}_{2\text{max}}$ in healthy people.

Even if O_2 extraction is not altered, an increase in DO_2 will increase $\text{VO}_{2\text{max}}$.

Endurance exercise training

- N = 20 MITO (14 point mutations in mtDNA; N = 16 healthy controls).
- 12 week cycle @ 70 % $\text{VO}_{2\text{peak}}$, 4 X/week.
-  CS (67 %);  $\text{VO}_{2\text{peak}}$ (67 %); (same in controls).
- No increase in CK or muscle morphology.

Jeppesen T., et al., Brain 129:3402-, 2006

Endurance exercise training

- N = 8 MITO (single deletions).
- 14 weeks cycle training.
- 14 weeks of deconditioning.
- ↑ sub-max work rate; O₂ extraction; SF-36 (QOL).
- Returned to baseline after 14 weeks.



Many questions remain regarding exercise and MD



Phenotype
Molecular

Variable	AGING	MITO	FSD	DM1	sIBM
Strength	↑	↑	→	→	↑
Endurance	↑	↑	↑	↑	→
QOL	↑	↑	+,-	?	?
Body Composition Index (lean/fat)	↑	↑	?	↑	?
Mitochondrial Function	↑	↑	?	?	?
Oxidative stress	↓	?	?	?	?
Inflammation	↓	?	?	?	?

Aerobic exercise elicits clinical adaptations in myotonic dystrophy type 1 patients independently of pathophysiological changes

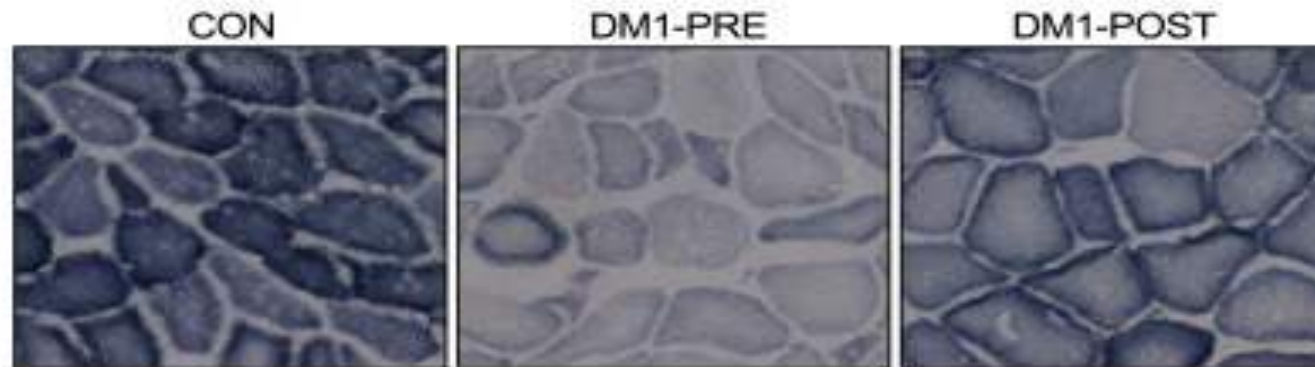
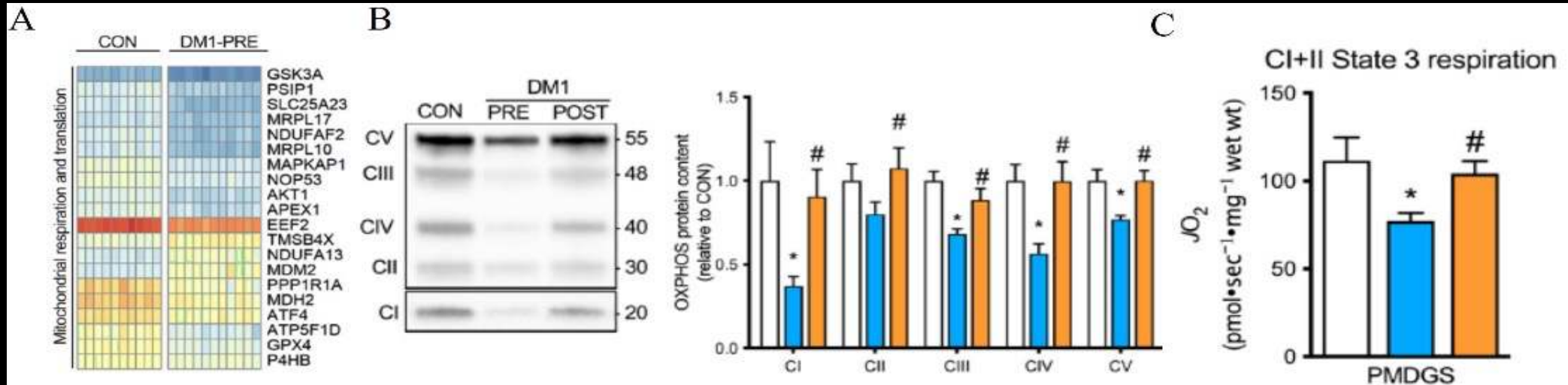
Andrew I. Mikhail,¹ Peter L. Nagy,² Katherine Manta,³ Nicholas Rouse,² Alexander Manta,¹ Sean Y. Ng,¹ Michael F. Nagy,² Paul Smith,² Jian-Qiang Lu,⁴ Joshua P. Nederveen,³ Vladimir Ljubcic,¹ and Mark A. Tarnopolsky^{3,5}

¹Department of Kinesiology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. ²Praxis Genomics LLC, Atlanta, Georgia, USA. ³Department of Pediatrics, McMaster University Children's Hospital, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. ⁴Department of Pathology and Molecular Medicine/Neuropathology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. ⁵Exerkine Corp., McMaster University Medical Center, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.

- ◆ DM1 is a CTG trinucleotide spliceopathy that affects most tissues and leads to muscle weakness disability and death – therapy is supportive.
- ◆ N – 11 DM1 vs age and sex matched controls.
- ◆ 3 months cycling, 3 times a week at 65 % VO₂ peak for 35 min.



Exercise can reverse mitochondrial dysfunction in Myotonic MD Type 1.



Exercise can improve function in Myotonic MD Type 1.

Mikhail, et al., *J.Clin.Invest.*, 132 (10), 2022.

- ◆ Safe – histopathology, CK, cardiac, joint.
- ◆ Increase function (6MWT – 47 m, TUG, 5XSTS).
- ◆ ~ 30 % $\text{VO}_{2\text{peak}}$.
- ◆ 1.6 kg (4.3 %) LBM.

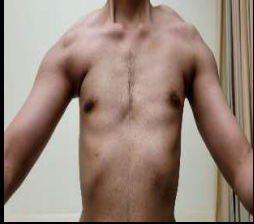


Impact of Habitual Exercise on the Strength of Individuals with Myotonic Dystrophy Type 1

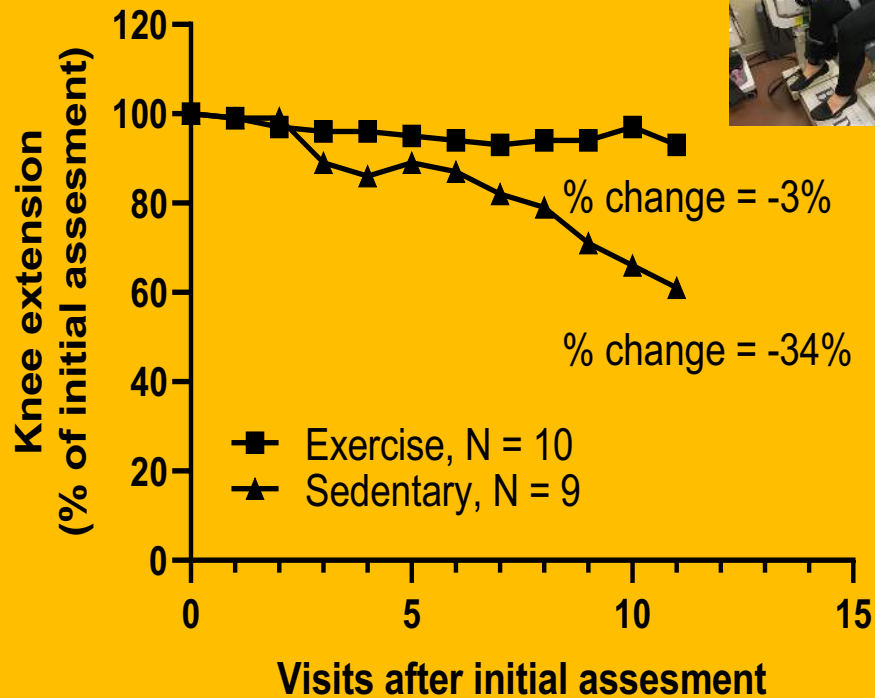
ABSTRACT

Brady LI, MacNeil LG, Tarnopolsky MA: Impact of habitual exercise on the strength of individuals with myotonic dystrophy type 1. *Am J Phys Med Rehabil* 2014;93:739–750.

Exercise is Medicine!



FSHD – demethylation of DUX4 = oxidative stress and **MITOCHONDRIAL DYSFUNCTION**



A

ENDURANCE EXERCISE

60 mins/day, 3/week, 4 months

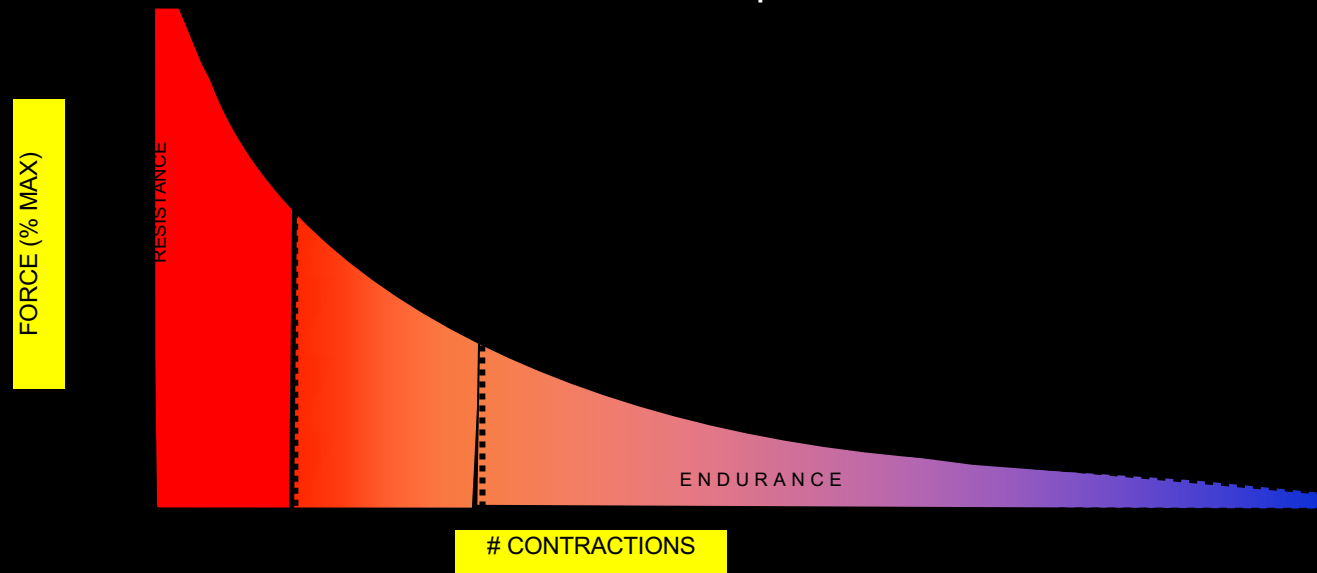


RESISTANCE EXERCISE



B

10 reps x 3 sets, 3/week, 4 months



Mitochondrial Adaptation and Exercise in Older Adults:



70 ± 5 y

♀ = ♂

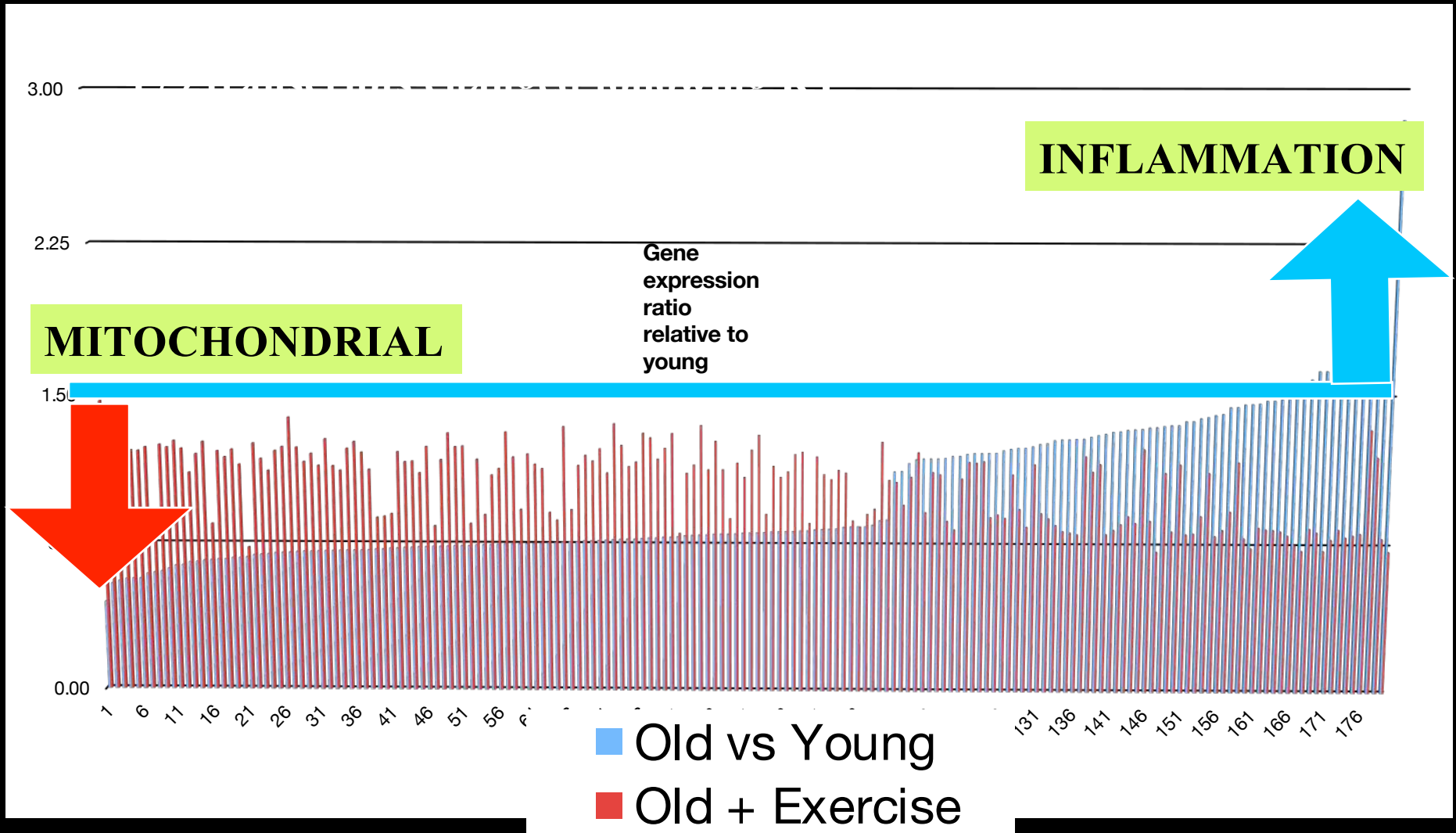
- 6 months of whole-body
RESISTANCE exercise training
- ➔
- 2x per week of supervised sessions
 - One set (50% of 1 RM) to three sets (75% of NEW 1 RM)



- **Muscle biopsies** – taken from the *vastus lateralis* in the post-absorptive state – PRE and POST training.

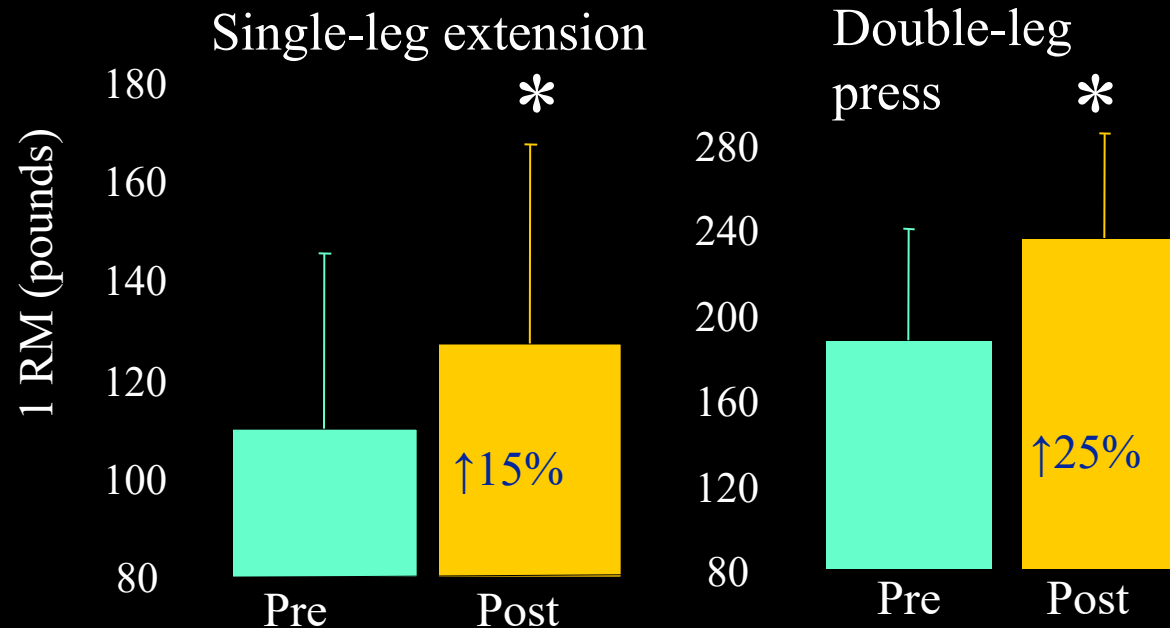
Tarnopolsky et al., *PLoS ONE*, 2007

Exercise reverses aging.



Resistance training in Mitochondrial myopathy

- Group of 8 patients: (39 ± 9 y) with single large-scale deletions.
- Training Protocol
 - Bilateral leg extension/flexion, leg press
 - 12 weeks, 3 x per week at 80-85% 1RM (6 sets, 6-8 reps)



CK pre: 187 ± 115 U/L
CK post: 166 ± 159 U/L

Taivassalo, Gardner, Haller
and Turnbull, Brain, 2009.

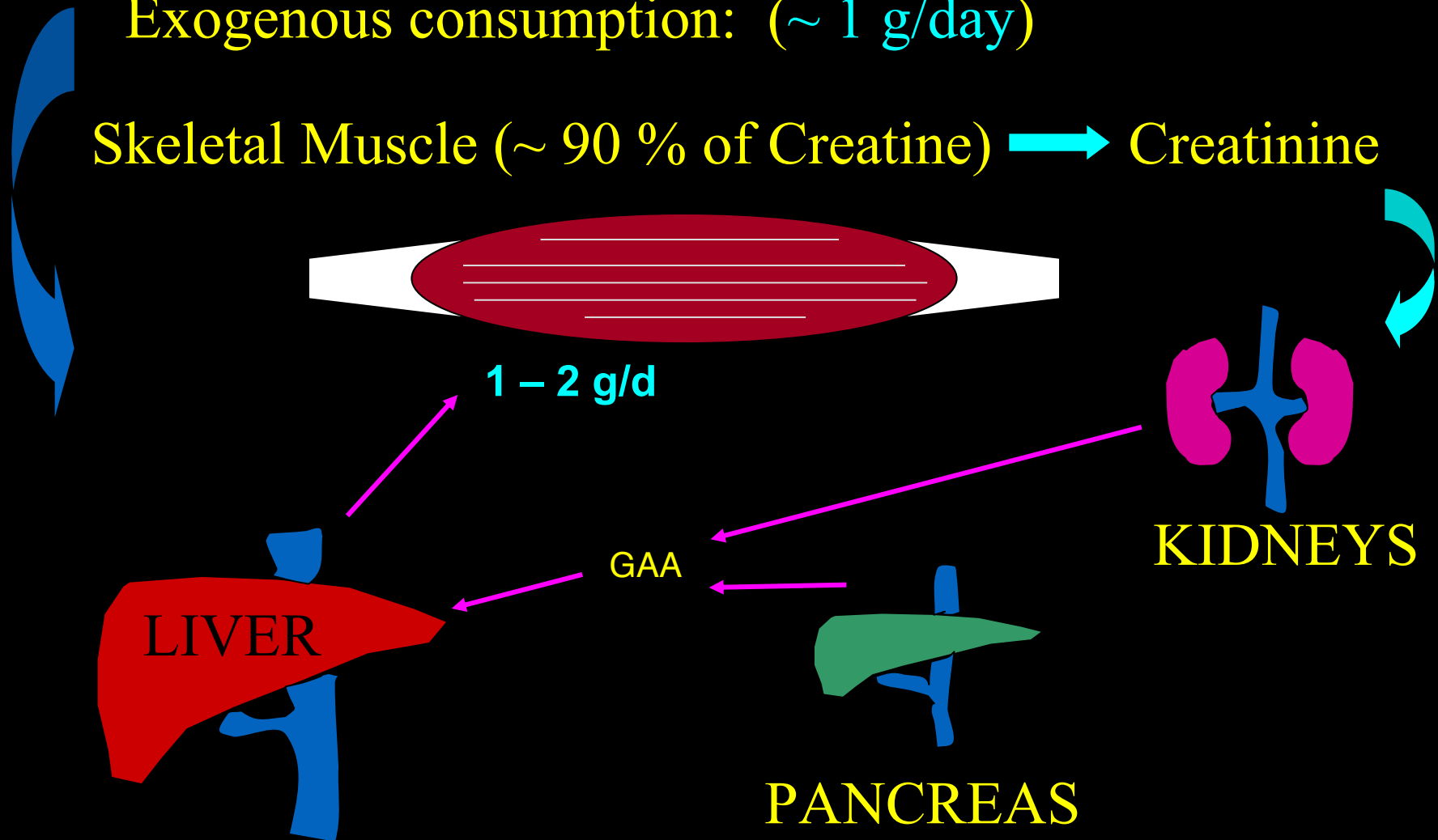
Can supplements enhance exercise Benefits?

- Creatine and aging.
- Protein and aging.
- Sarcopenic obesity.

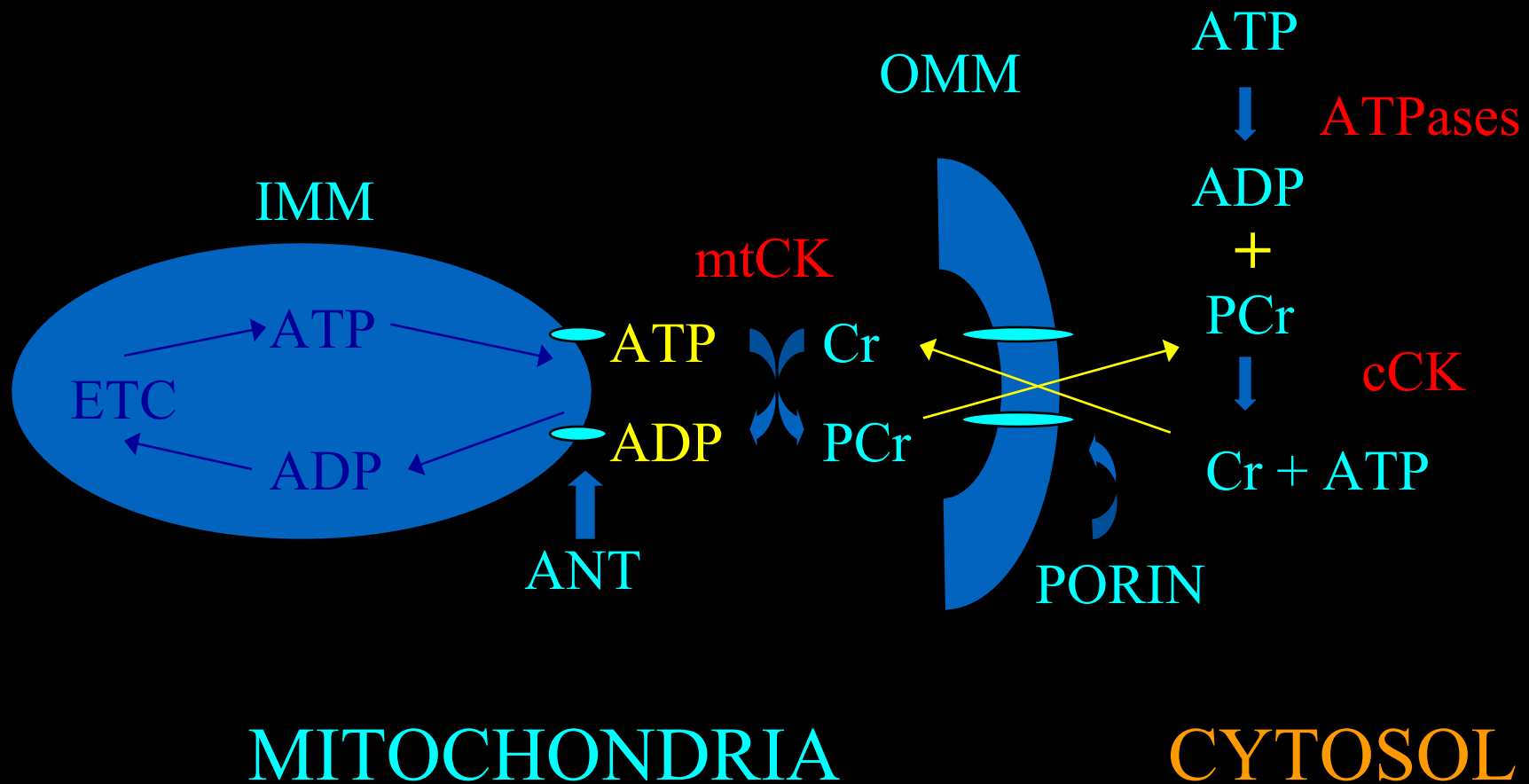
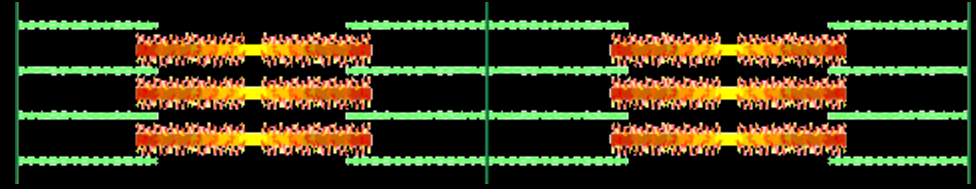
Creatine in the body:

Exogenous consumption: (~ 1 g/day)

Skeletal Muscle ($\sim 90\%$ of Creatine) $\rightarrow$ Creatinine



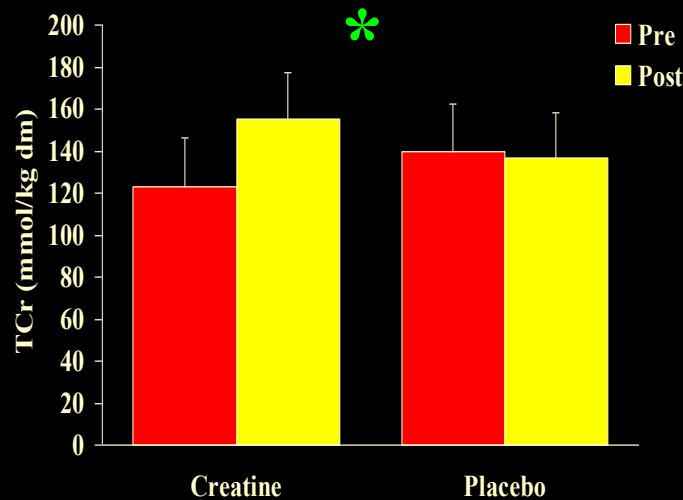
Cr-PCr Metabolism



RT and CrM in older adults

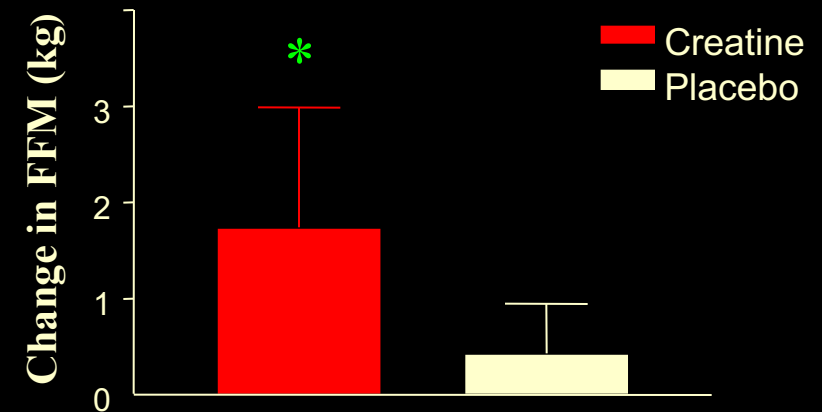
15 men (68 y); 15 women (69 y)

14 weeks RT program (3X/wk)

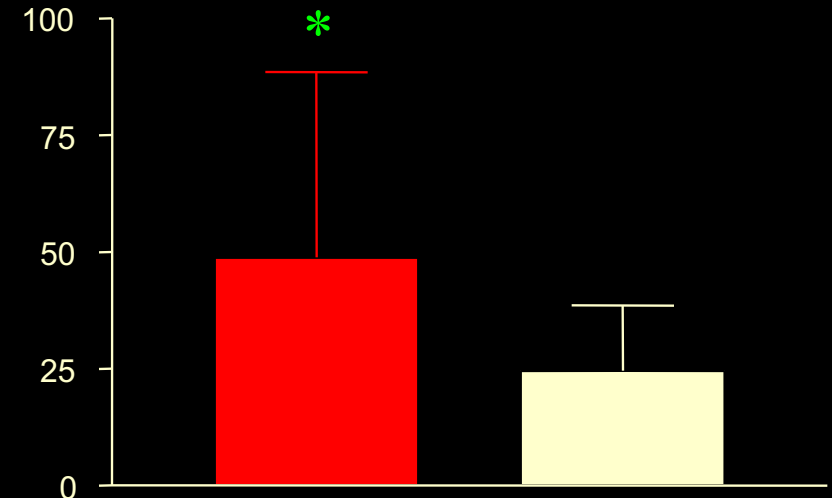


No effect at all on % BF.

No side effects noted

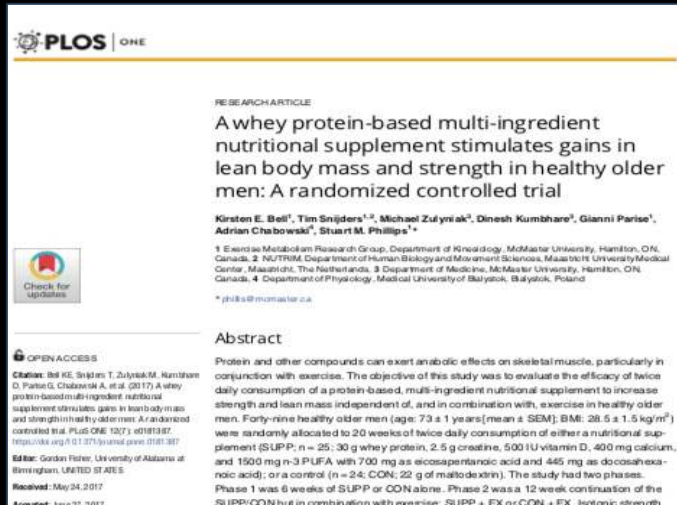


Change in Knee Extensor Strength (Nm)



Brose, A, et al., *J. Gerontol.*, 58:11-19, 2003

Multi-ingredient nutritional supplement (Muscle5)

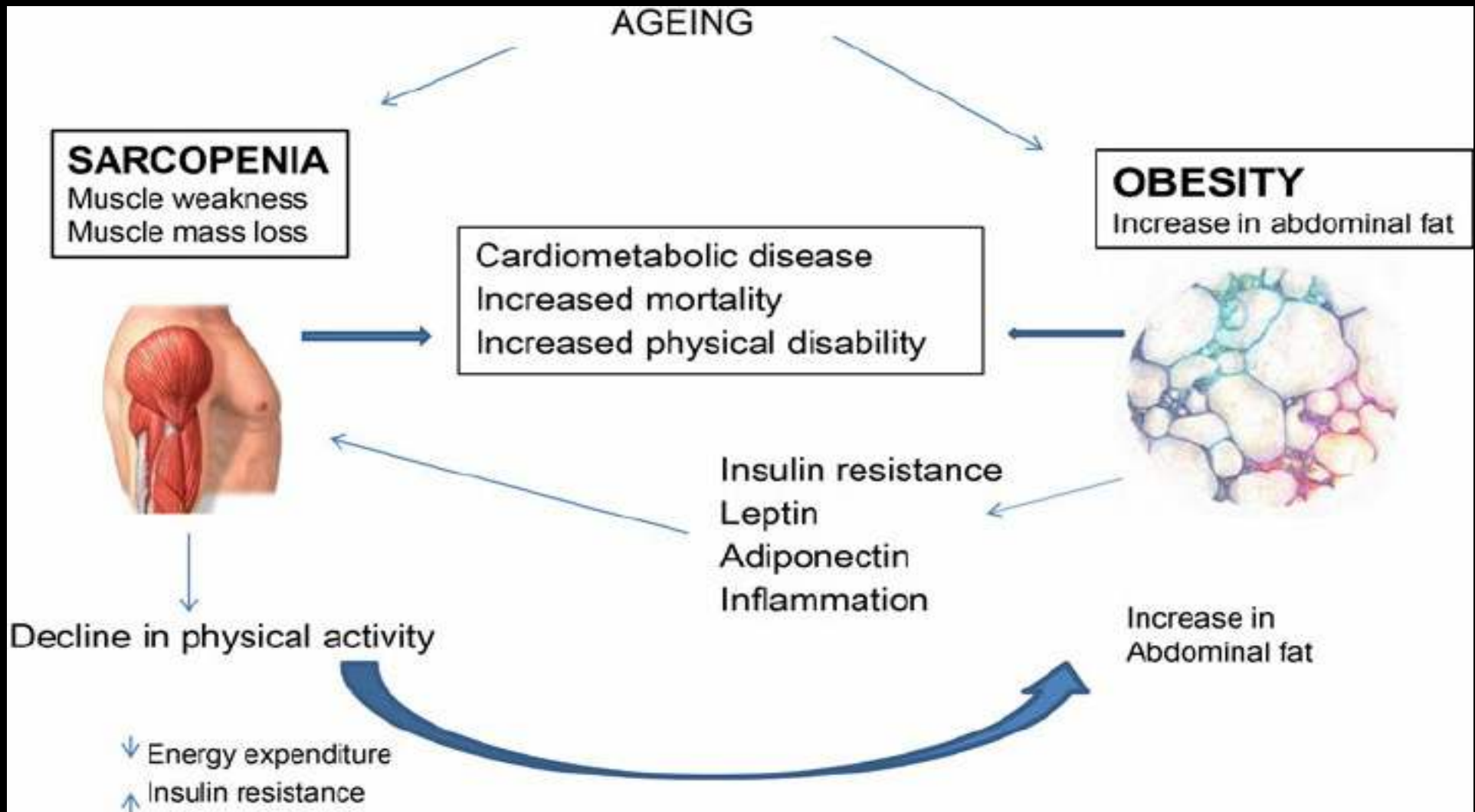


- ◆ Whey + calcium + vitamin D + creatine + omega 3 (fish oil) vs collagen placebo.
- ◆ ↑ - strength, LBM, composite cognition.
- ◆ ↓ - TGs and inflammation (TNF, IL-6, CRP).
 - *Front Aging Neurosci.* 2019 May 9;11:107;
 - *Appl Physiol Nutr Metab.* 2018 Mar;43(3):299-302

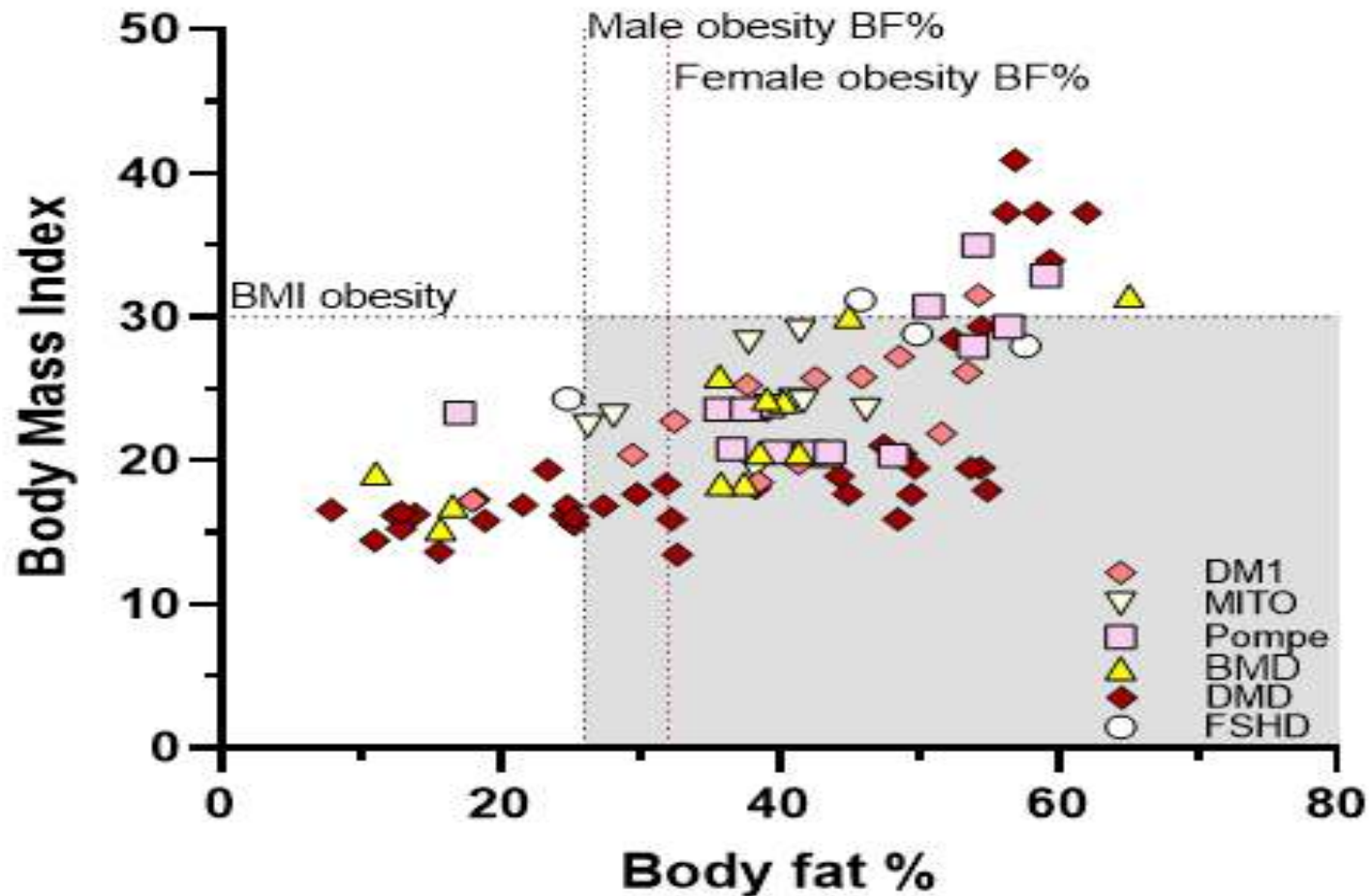


- ◆ Whey + casein (Ca) + vit. D + creatine + omega 3 (fish oil) vs collagen placebo.
- ◆ ↑ - LBM, LBM/fat ratio, strength, 5- time sit-to stand.
 - Nilsson et al, *Nutrients* 2020, 12, 2391.

Sarcopenic Obesity - ? Treatment options

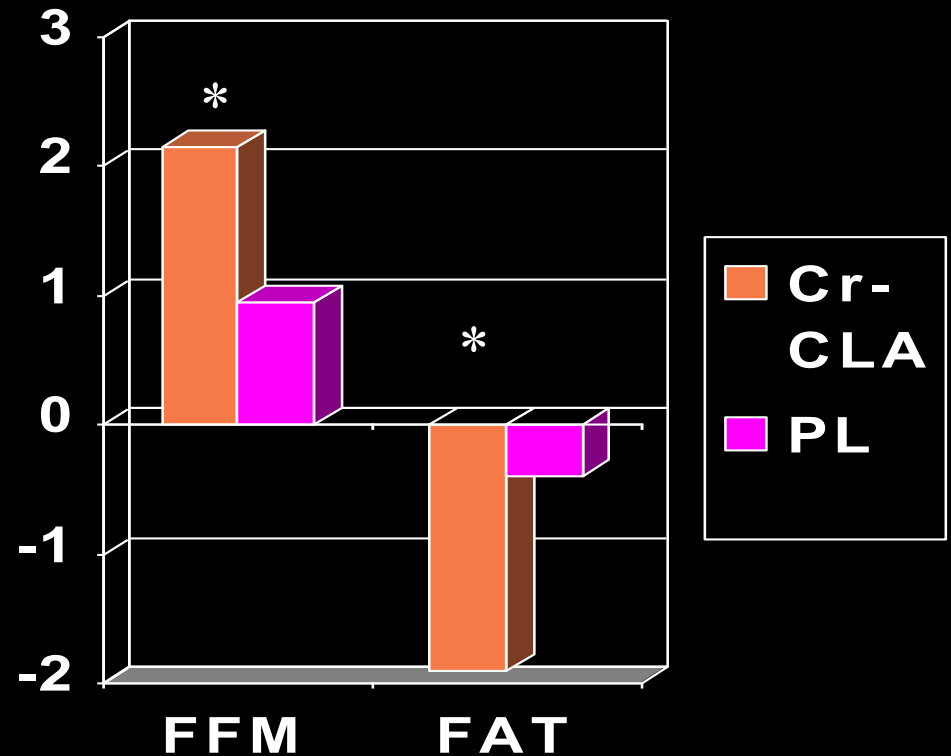


Sarcopenic Obesity – Aging and MD



RT, CrM/CLA in older adults (2005)

- ◆ N = 20 men (72 y).
- ◆ N = 20 women (69 y).
- ◆ CrM – 5 g + 2 g dextrose/d.
- ◆ CLA – 50:50 mix of c9, t11: t10, c12 @ 6 g/d.
- ◆ RCT:
 - 6 mo, 2 X/week supervised weight training.



Multi-nutrient supplement for obesity, NAFLD, T2DM – TRIM7/ME3.

- High fat fed vs. chow fed.
- 30 day intervention (+/- EX):
- EX = 3 X/wk @ 15 m/min.
- Wt. loss:
 - components (green tea and green coffee, forskolin).
- Mito. enhancer:
 - ALA, COQ10, vitamin E, + beet root (nitrates).

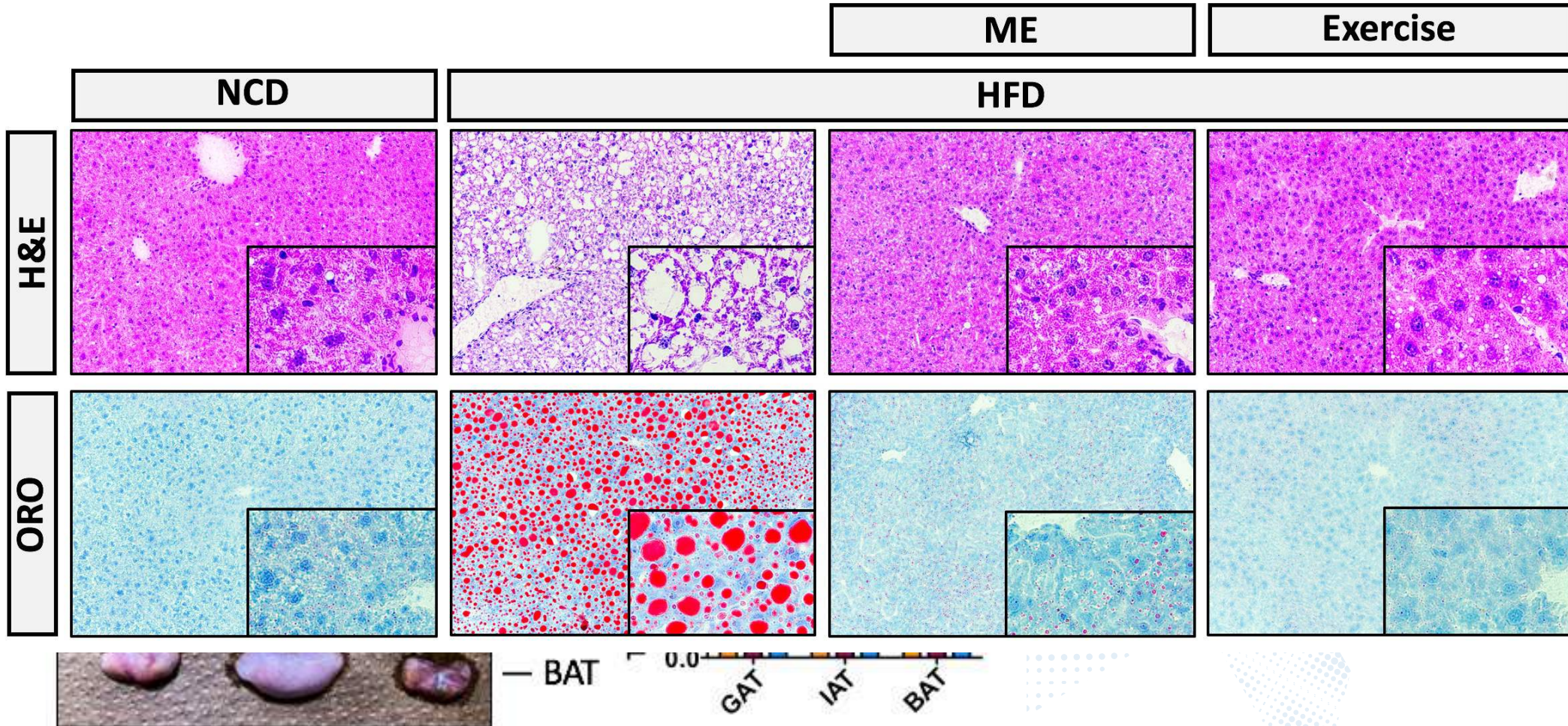


Nederveen, et al., *Nutrients*, 2021, 13, 3726.

TRIM7 – Metabolic Enhancer



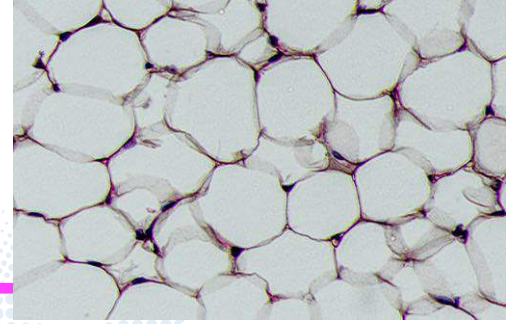
ME



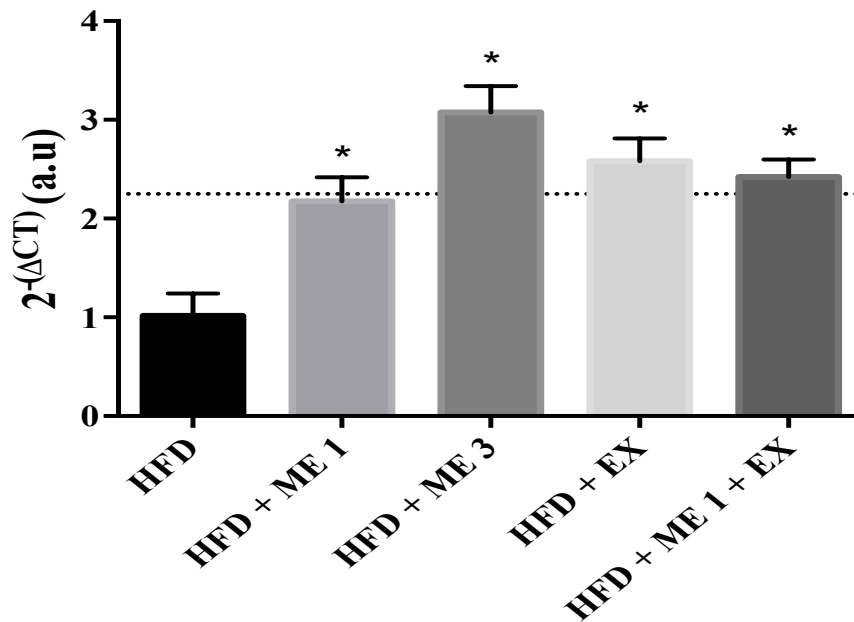
Nederveen, et al., *Nutrients*, 2021, 13, 3726.

Metabolic Enhancer - Browning

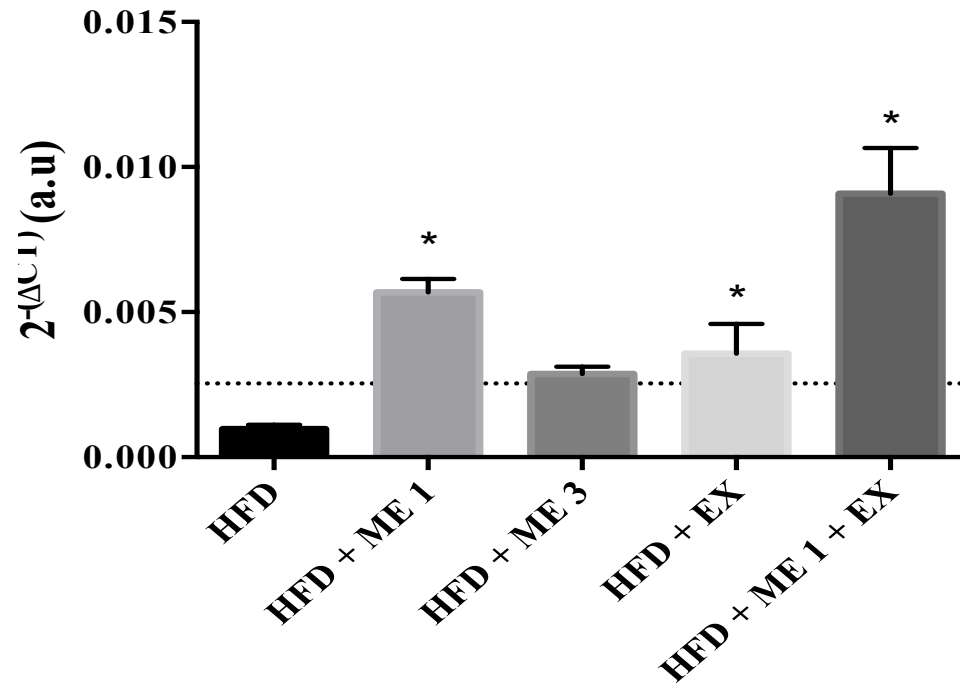
Mechanism = White adipose tissue browning



ADIPOQ mRNA Expression

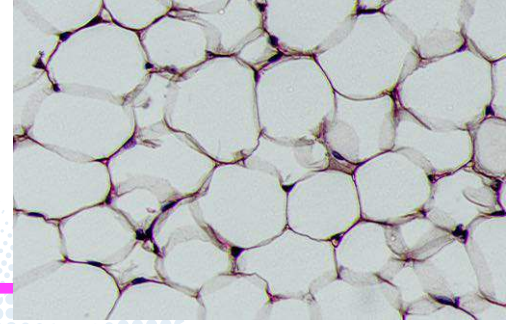


CIDEA mRNA Expression

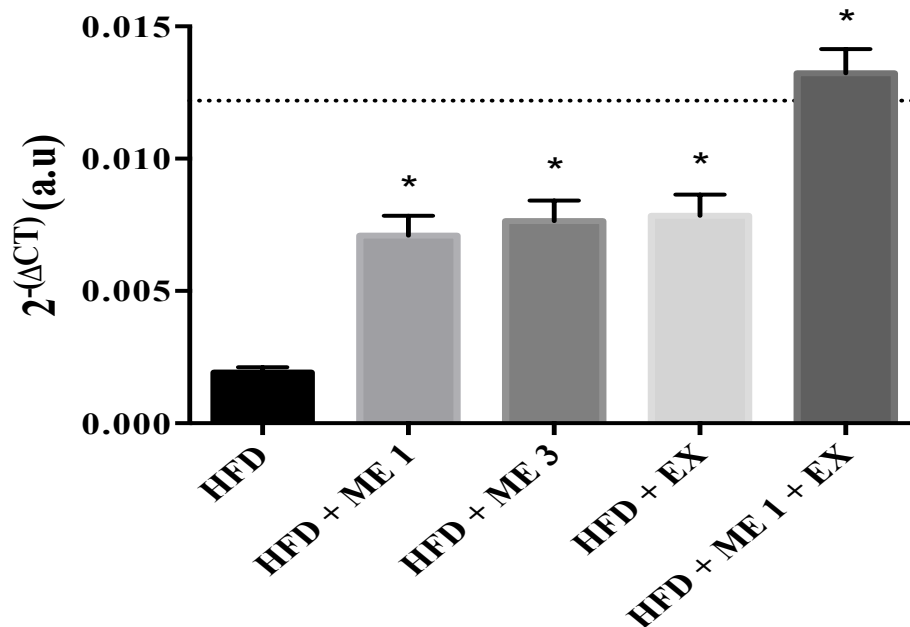


Metabolic Enhancer – Mitochondrial Biogenesis

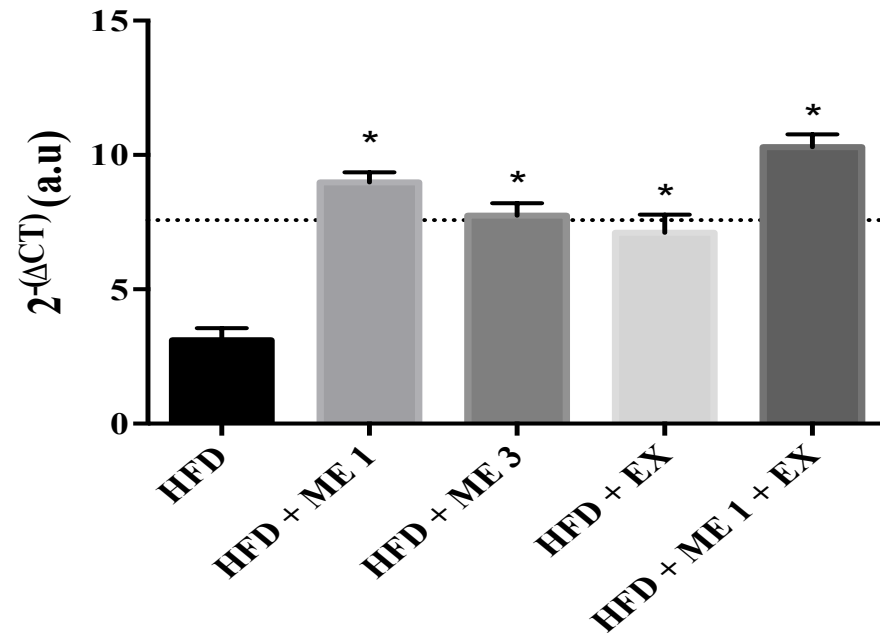
Mechanism = White adipose tissue browning

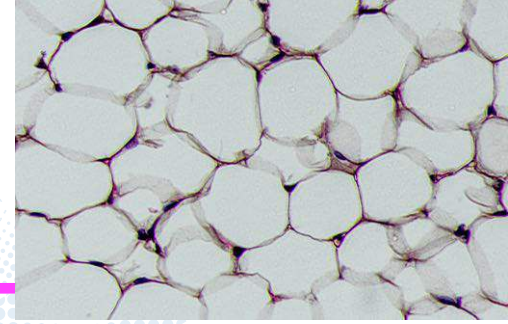


PGC-1 α mRNA Expression



COX2 mRNA Expression

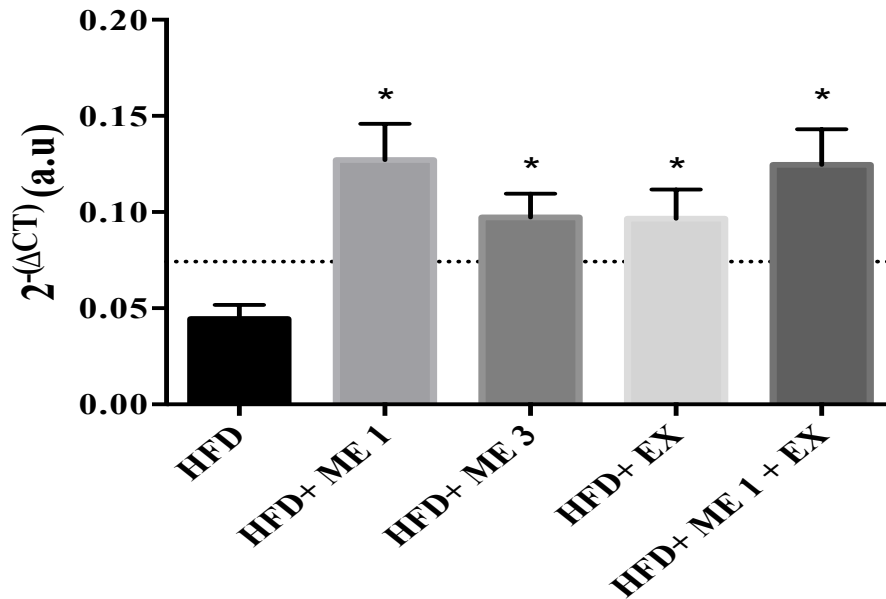




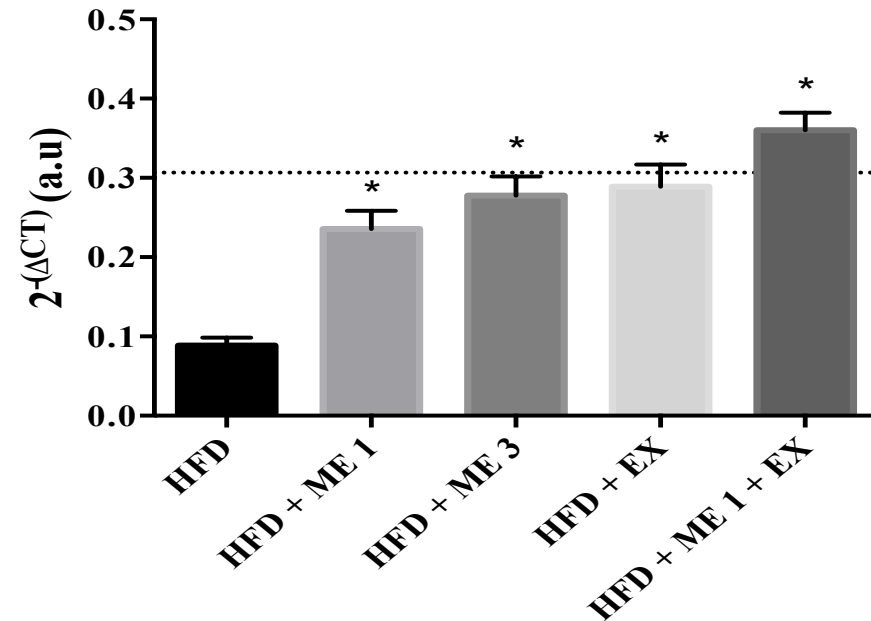
Metabolic Enhancer – Lipid Oxidation

Mechanism = White adipose tissue
browning

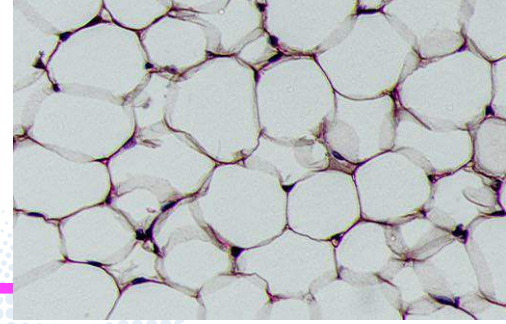
CPT2 mRNA Expression



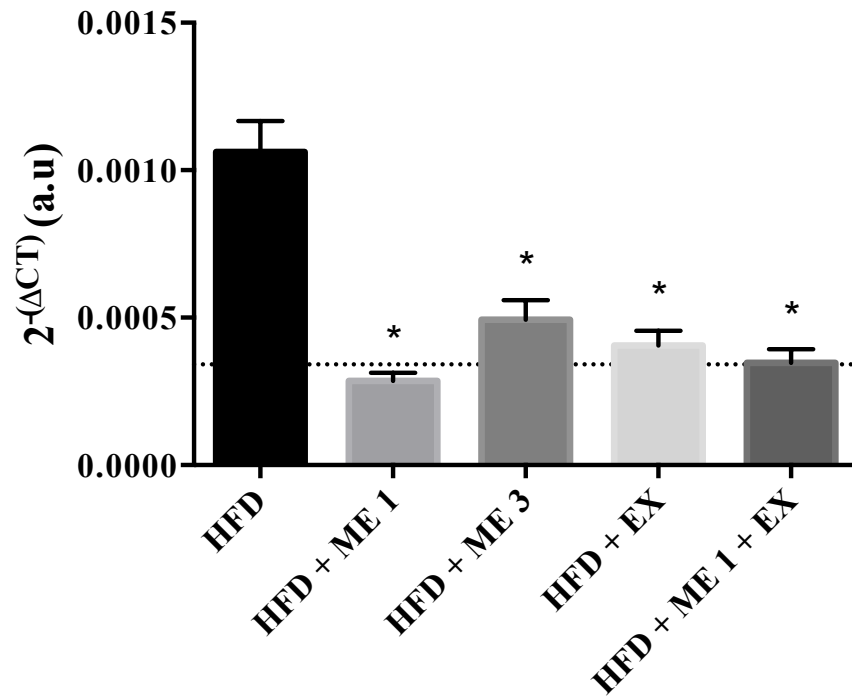
HSL mRNA Expression



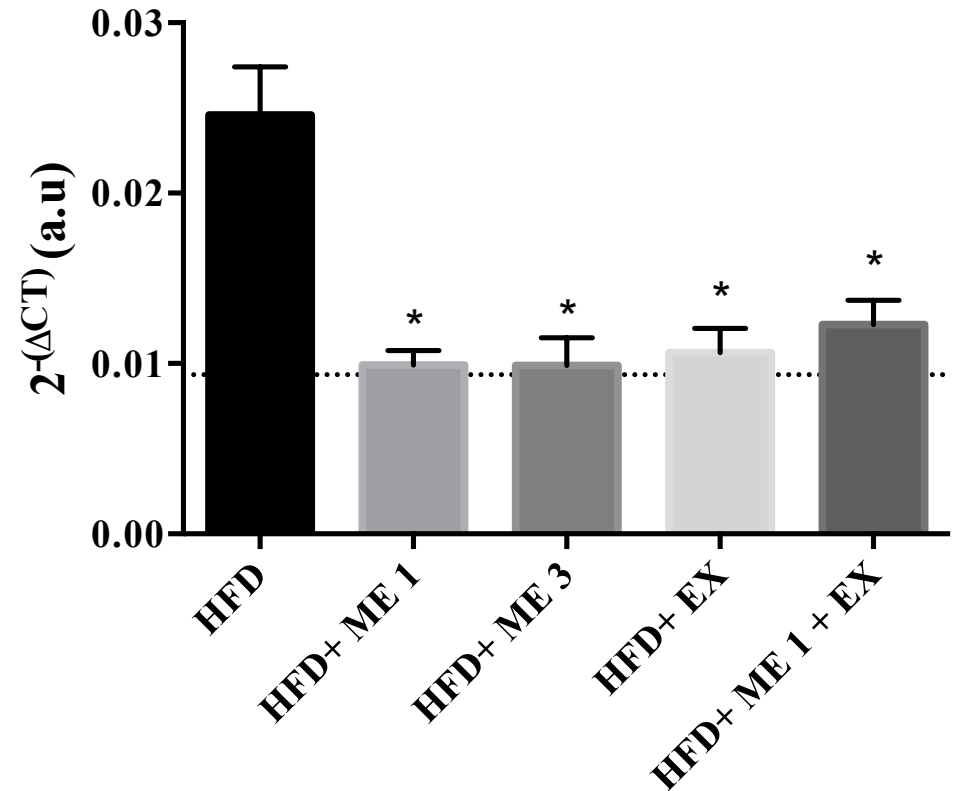
Metabolic Enhancer – Inflammation



TNF- α mRNA Expression



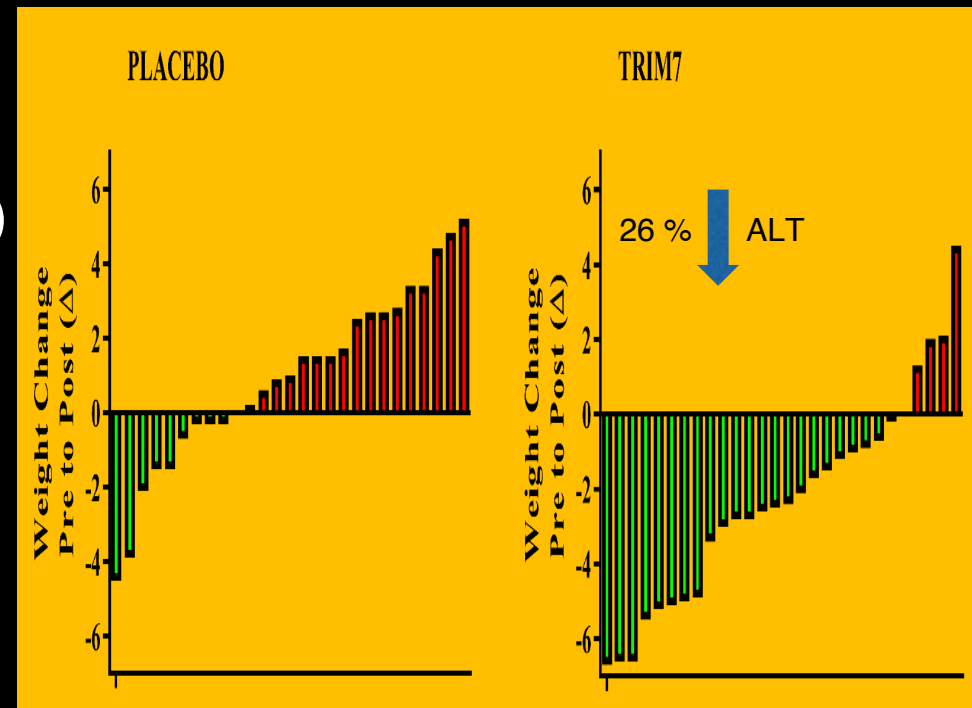
CASP1 mRNA Expression



TRIM7 – RCT



- ◆ N = 60 overweight and obese men and women (20 – 55 y).
- ◆ 3 months of supplement (Trim7) vs placebo.
- ◆ Primary endpoint = weight loss.
- ◆ Secondary = Body Composition Index (BCI) = muscle mass (kg)/adipose (kg) by DEXA.



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