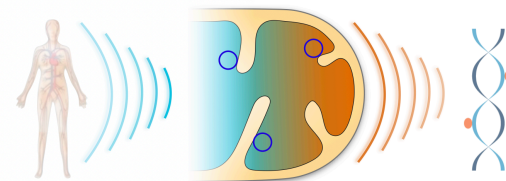


The **B**rain-**B**ody **E**nergy **C**onservation Model of Aging

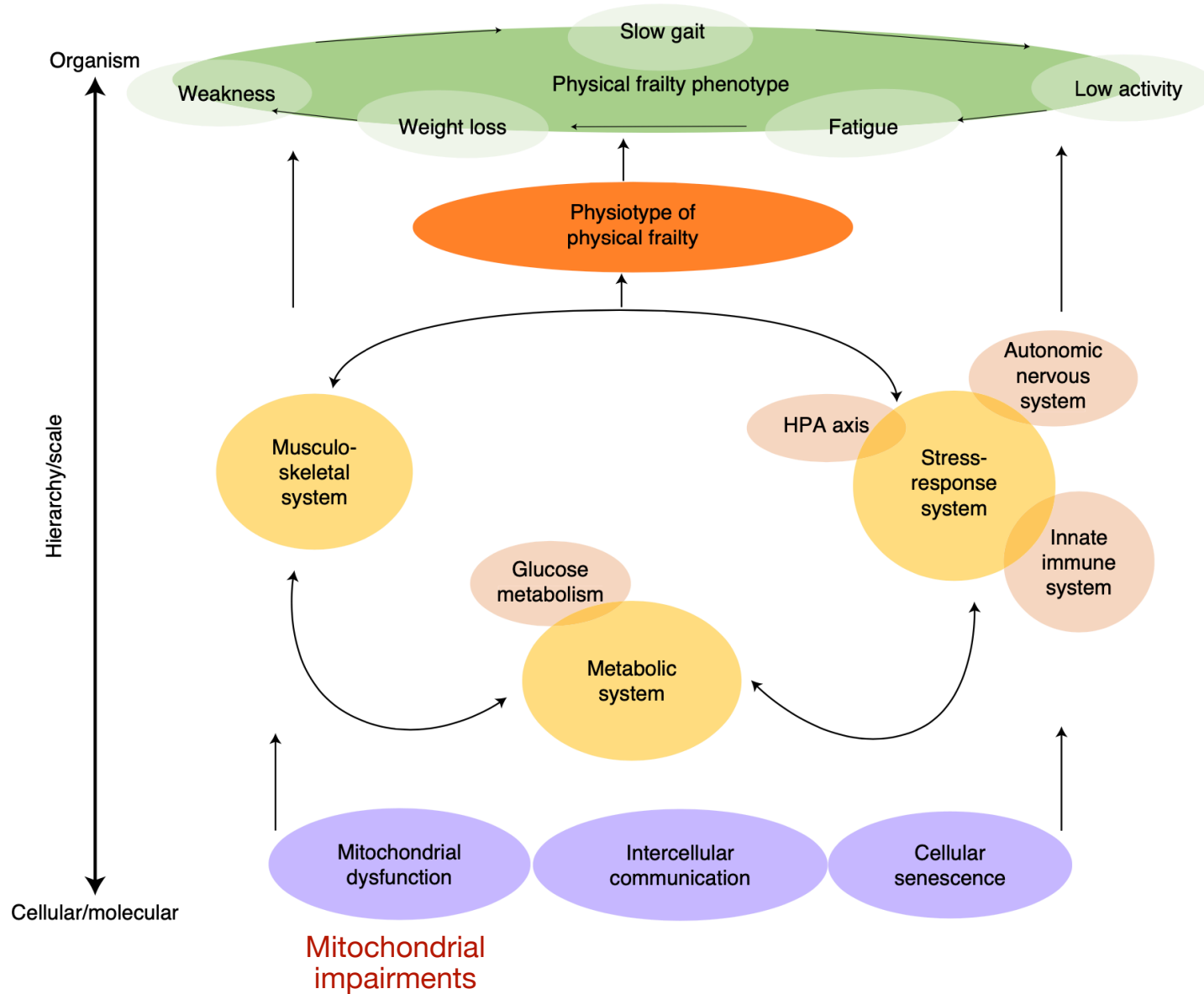


Martin Picard, Ph.D.
Robert N Butler Columbia Aging Center
Department of Psychiatry, Division of Behavioral Medicine
Department of Neurology, H. Houston Merritt Center
New York State Psychiatric Institute (NYSPI)

 **COLUMBIA**
COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
IRVING MEDICAL CENTER

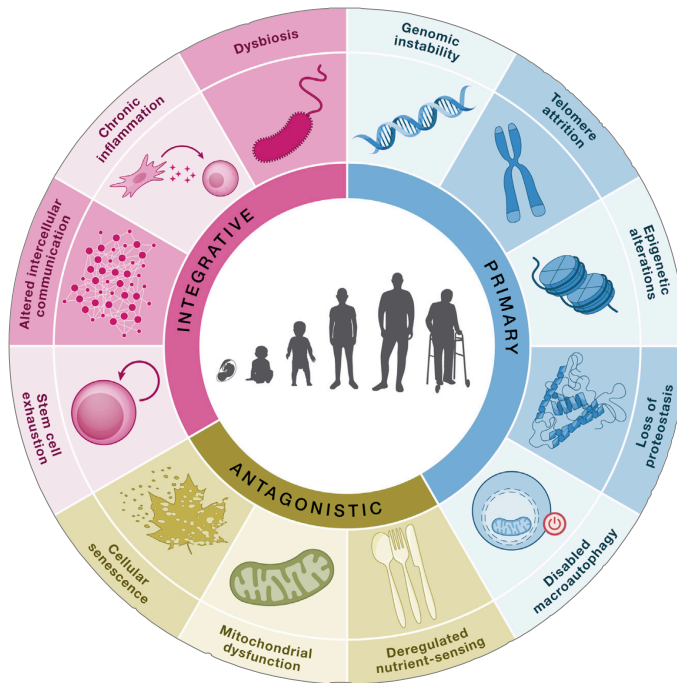
 **NEW YORK**
STATE OF
OPPORTUNITY. | **New York State**
Psychiatric Institute

Energy and Aging

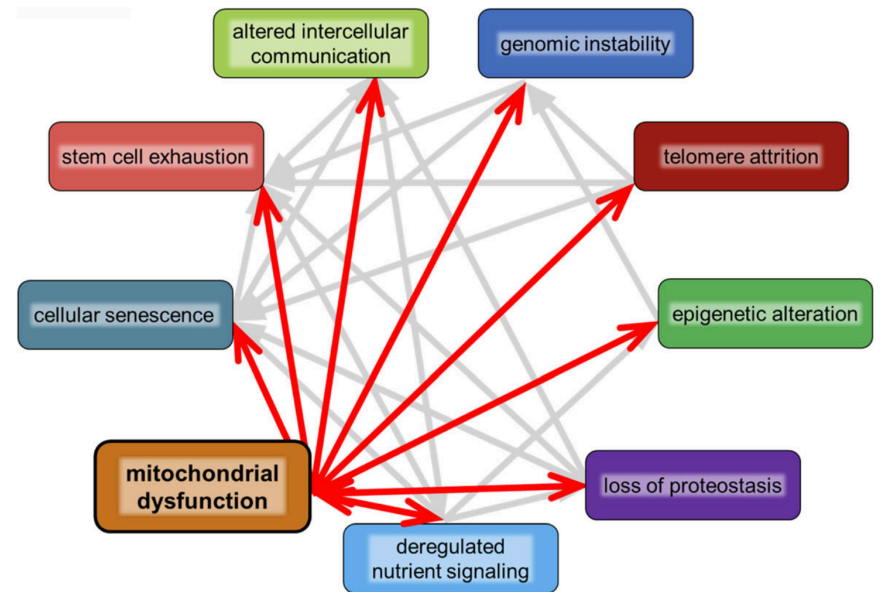


An energetics perspective on geroscience: mitochondrial protonmotive force and aging

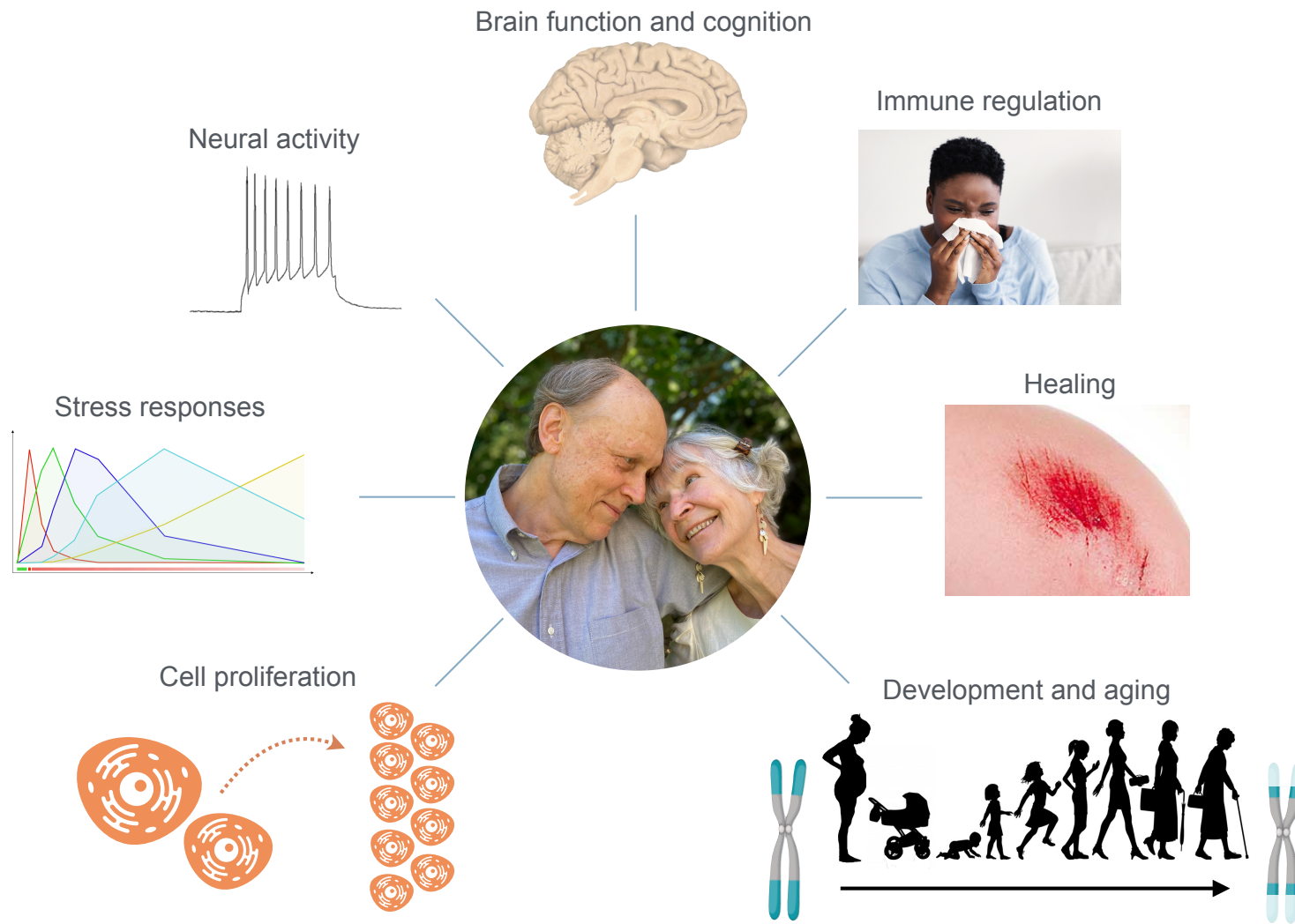
Brandon J. Berry • Matt Kaerberlein 



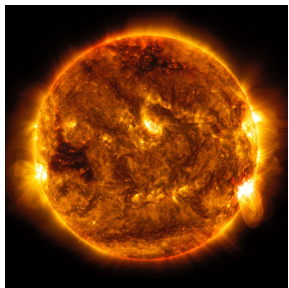
Lopez-Otin et al. *Cell* 2023



Berry and Kaerberlein. *GeroScience* 2021

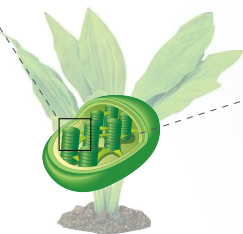
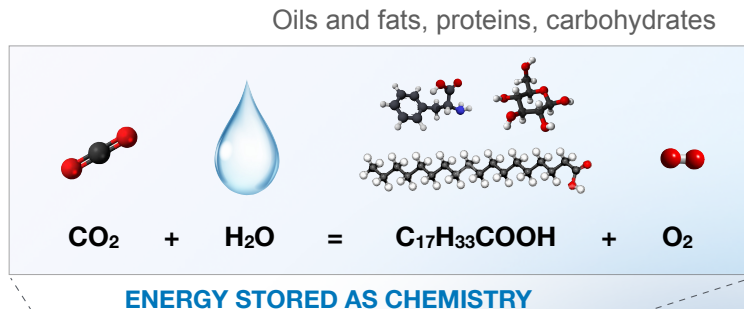


BIOLOGY, PHYSIOLOGY, CONSCIOUSNESS, AGING
 PSYCHOBIOLOGICAL ALLOSTATIC PROCESSES

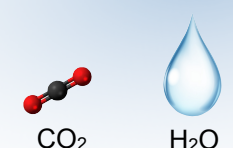
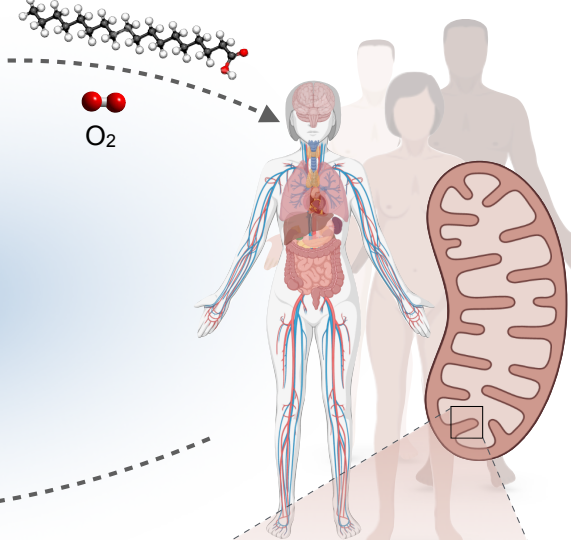


Nuclear fusion
Quantum electrodynamics

Photons and heat

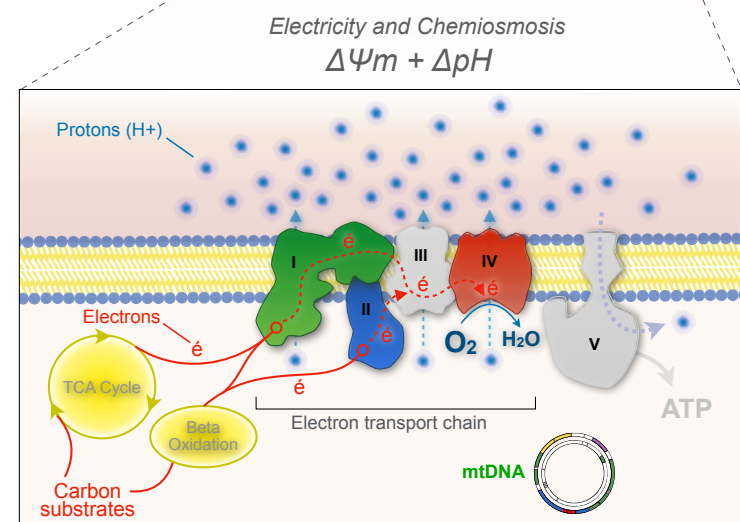


Food **EATING and BREATHING**

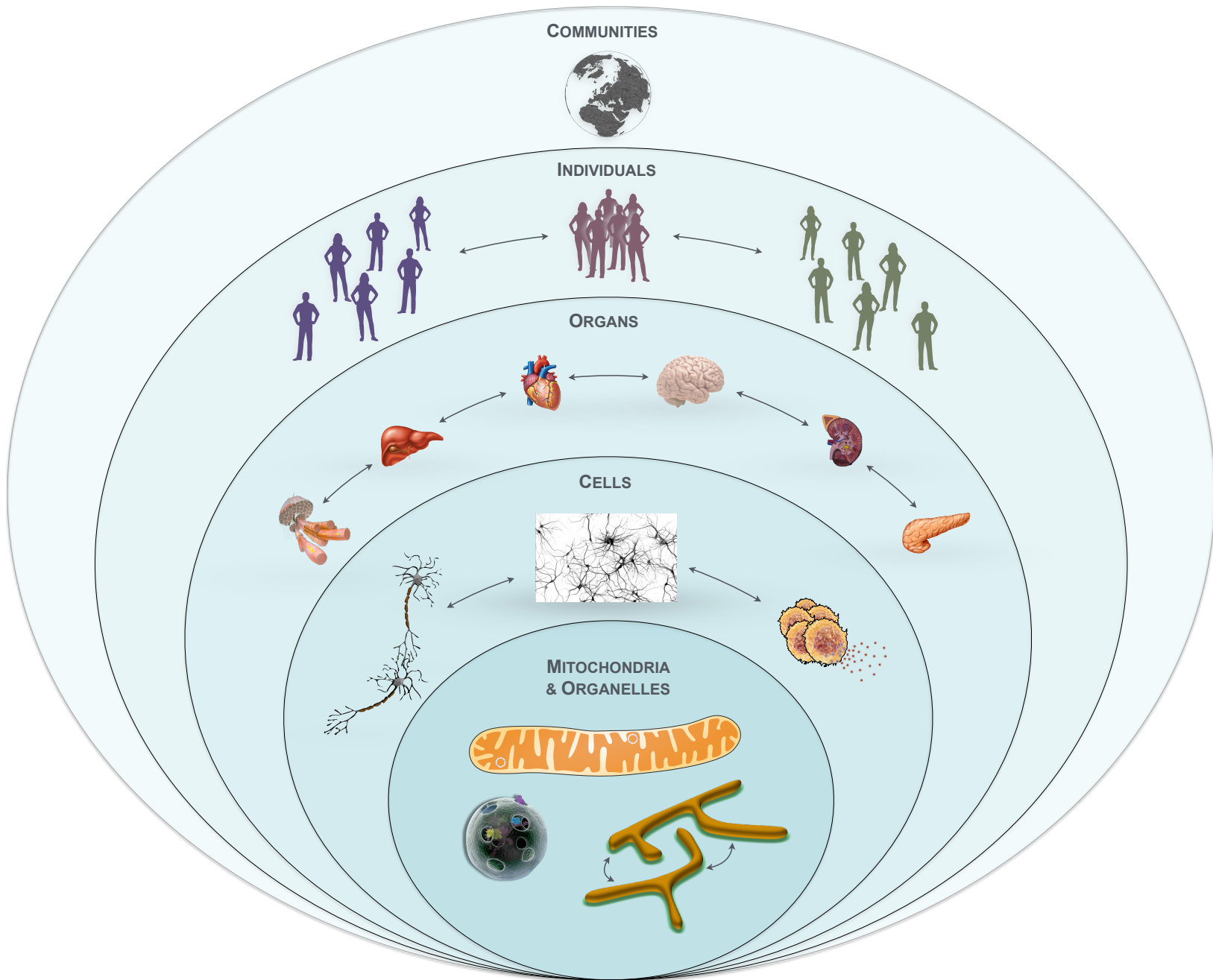


BIOLOGY, PHYSIOLOGY, CONSCIOUSNESS, AGING
PSYCHOBIOLOGICAL ALLOSTATIC PROCESSES

ENERGY
+ Body heat



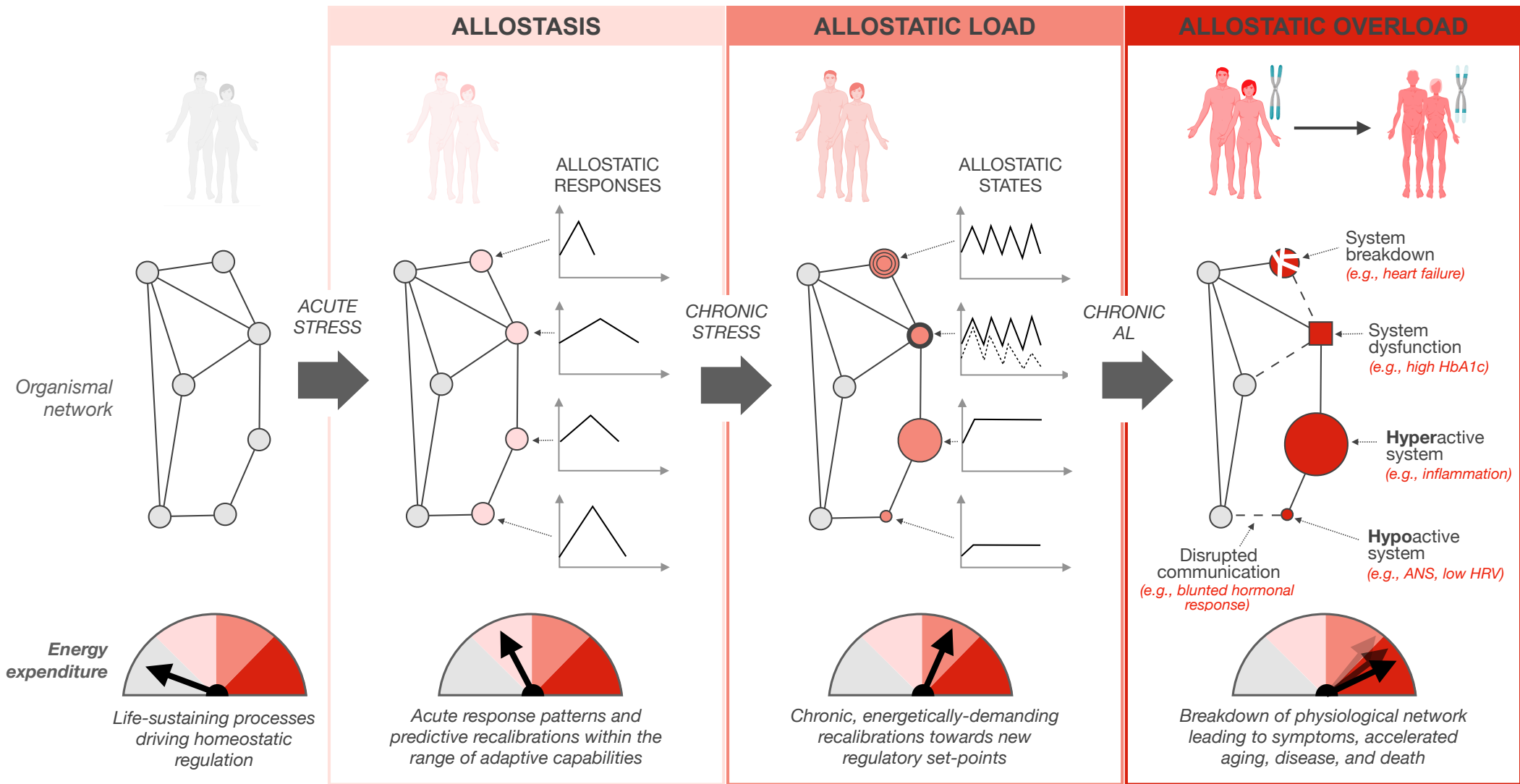
CHEMICAL ENERGY TRANSFORMED INTO ELECTROCHEMICAL FORCE



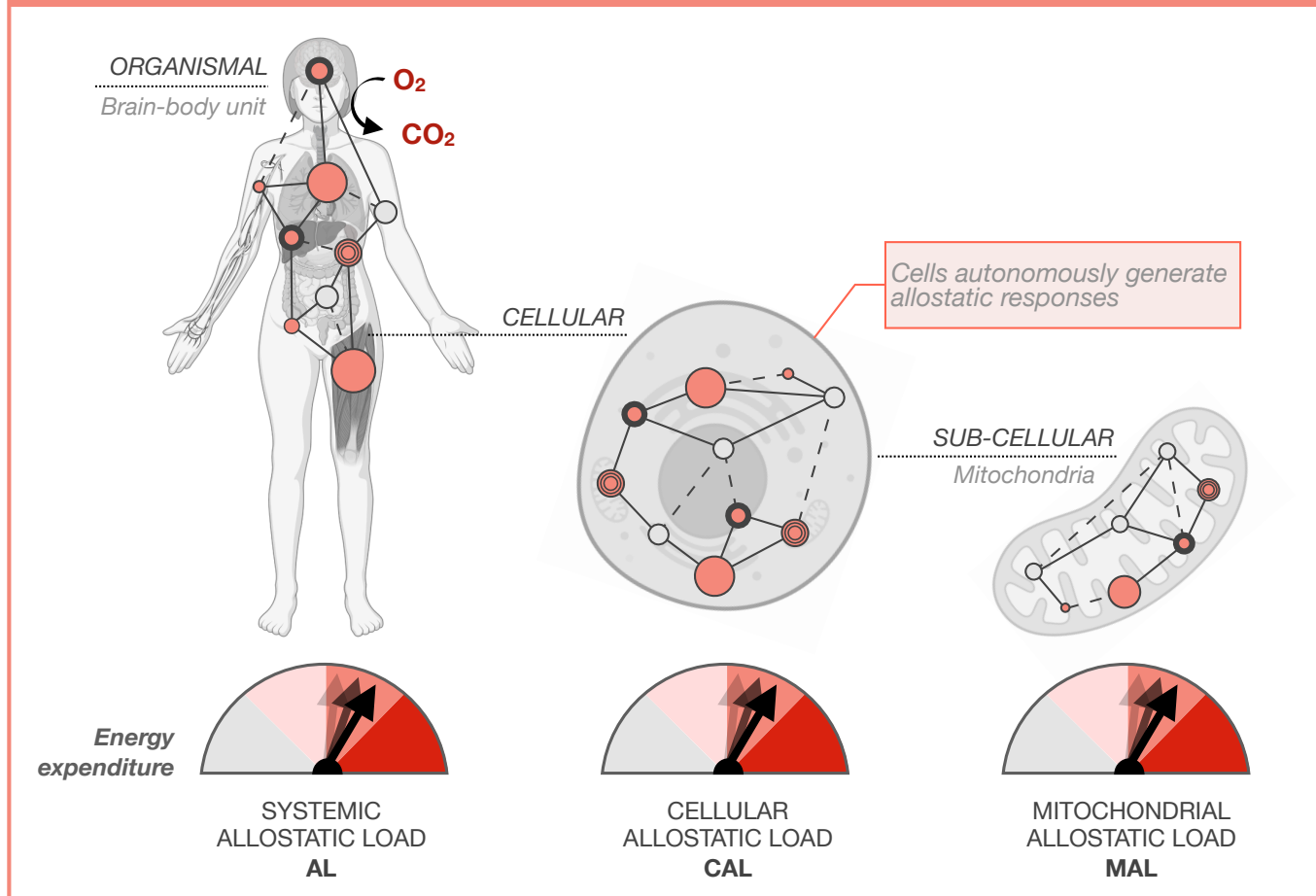
Energetic principles of human health

Energetic principles of human health

1. Energy distribution across physiological networks



ALLOSTATIC LOAD ACROSS LEVELS OF BIOLOGICAL COMPLEXITY



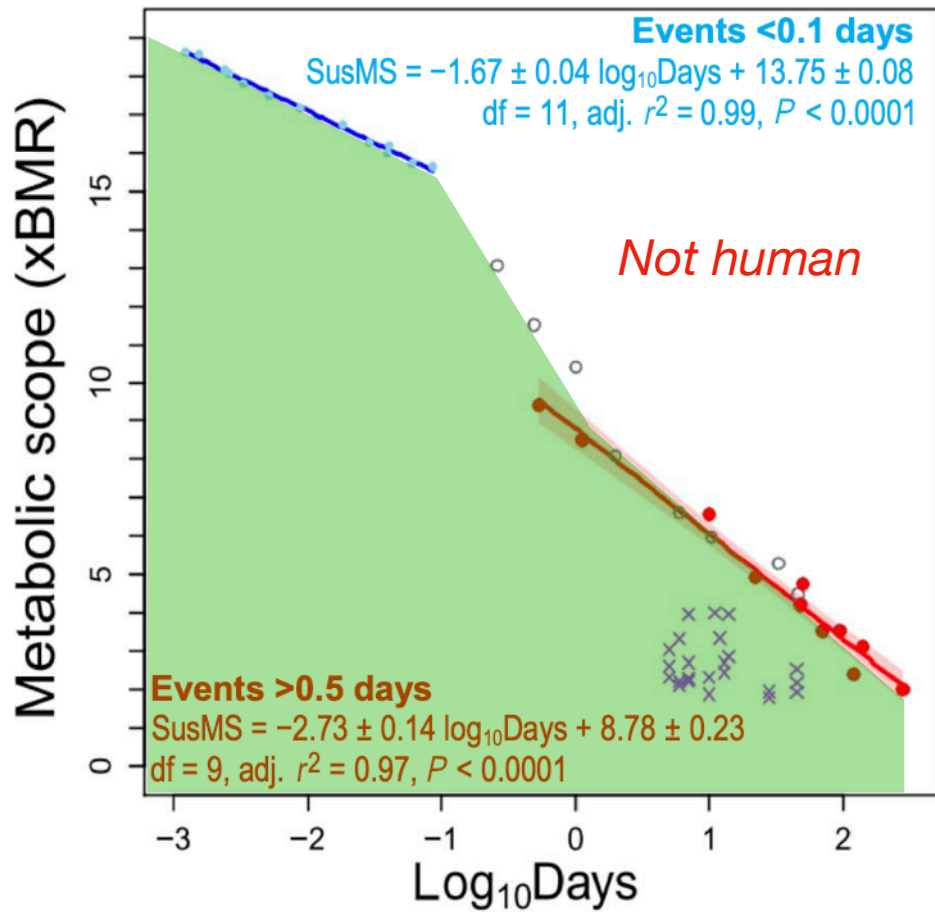
Energetic principles of human health

1. Energy is distributed across physiological networks

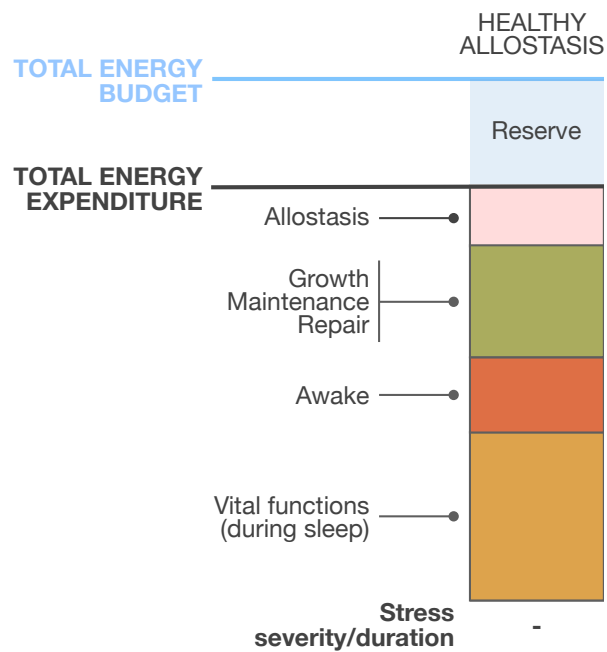
Energetic principles of human health

- 1. Energy is distributed** across physiological networks
- 2. Total energy transformation capacity is limited**

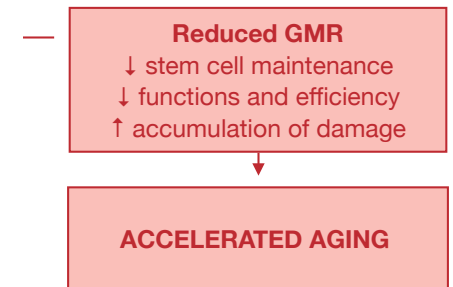
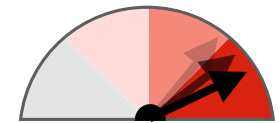
Limit to human energy transformation capacity



Partitioning of energetic resources in humans



$$\text{TOTAL ENERGY EXPENDITURE} = \text{TOTAL ENERGY BUDGET}$$



Bioenergetic principles of health

1. **Energy is distributed** across physiological networks
2. Total energy transformation **capacity is limited**
3. Sustained **hypermetabolism promotes damage**

Damage accumulation

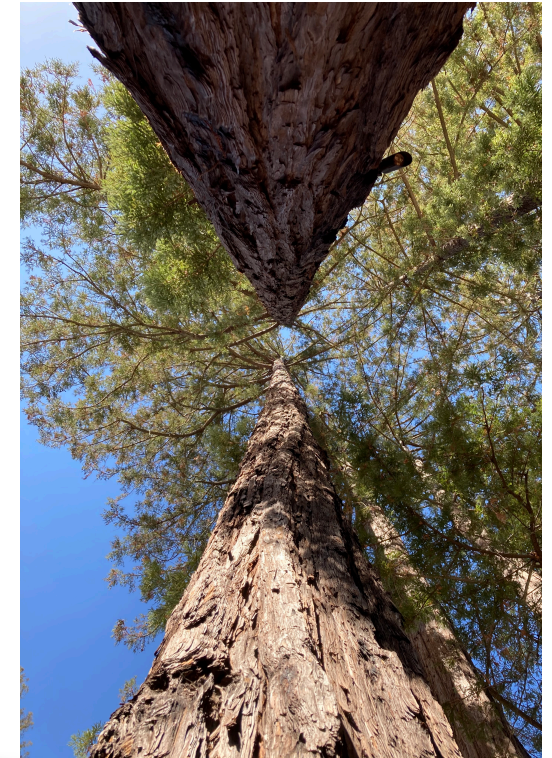
Energy flow → entropy production → decay and finite lifespan



Seconds



Years / Decades



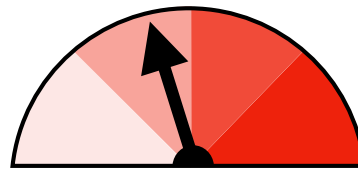
Centuries

Hypermetabolism is an increase in the amount of energy needed to sustain one's life over time

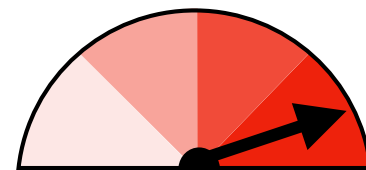
What happens to cellular energy demand/consumption with increasing cellular age?



HYPOmetabolism

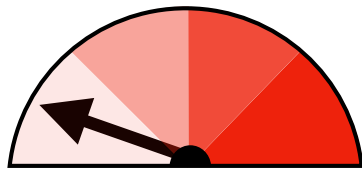


NORMOmetabolism

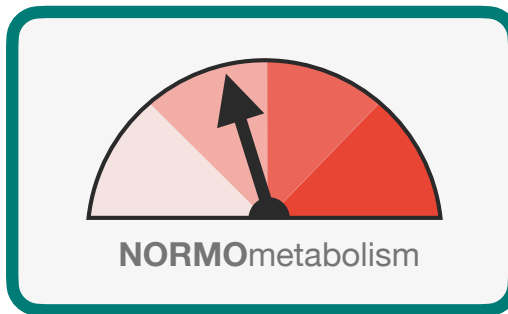


HYPERmetabolism

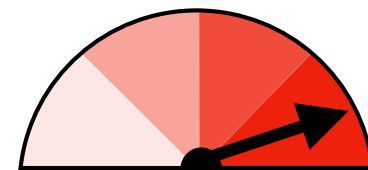
What happens to cellular energy demand/consumption with increasing cellular age?



HYPOMETABOLISM

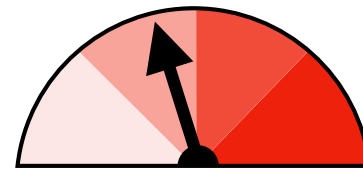
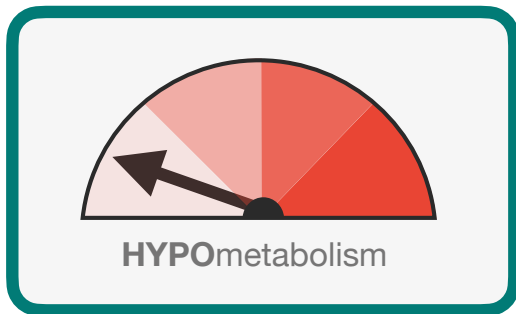


NORMOMETABOLISM

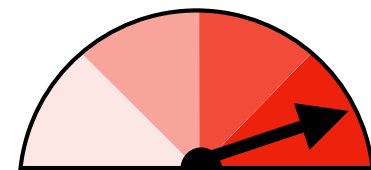


HYPERMETABOLISM

What happens to cellular energy demand/consumption with increasing cellular age?

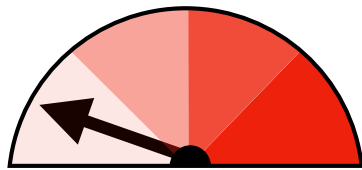


NORMOMETABOLISM

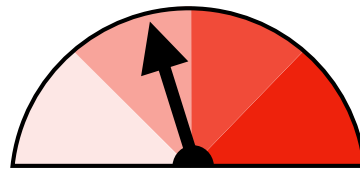


HYPERMETABOLISM

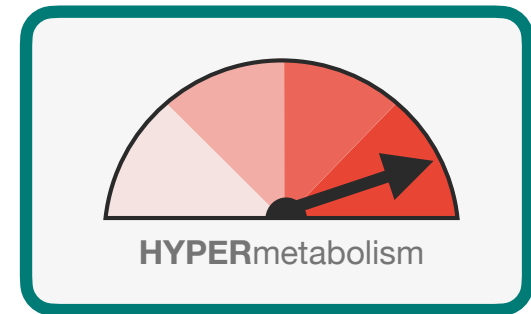
What happens to cellular energy demand/consumption with increasing cellular age?



HYPOMETABOLISM

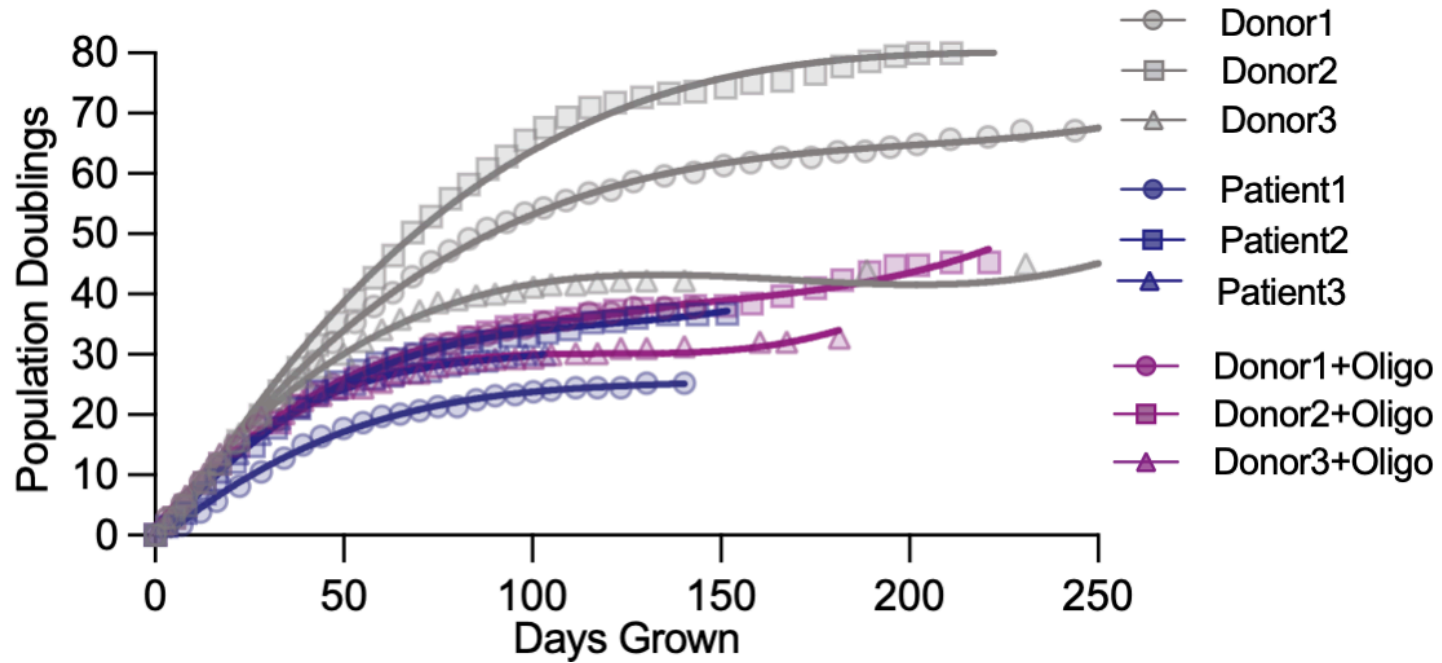


NORMOMETABOLISM

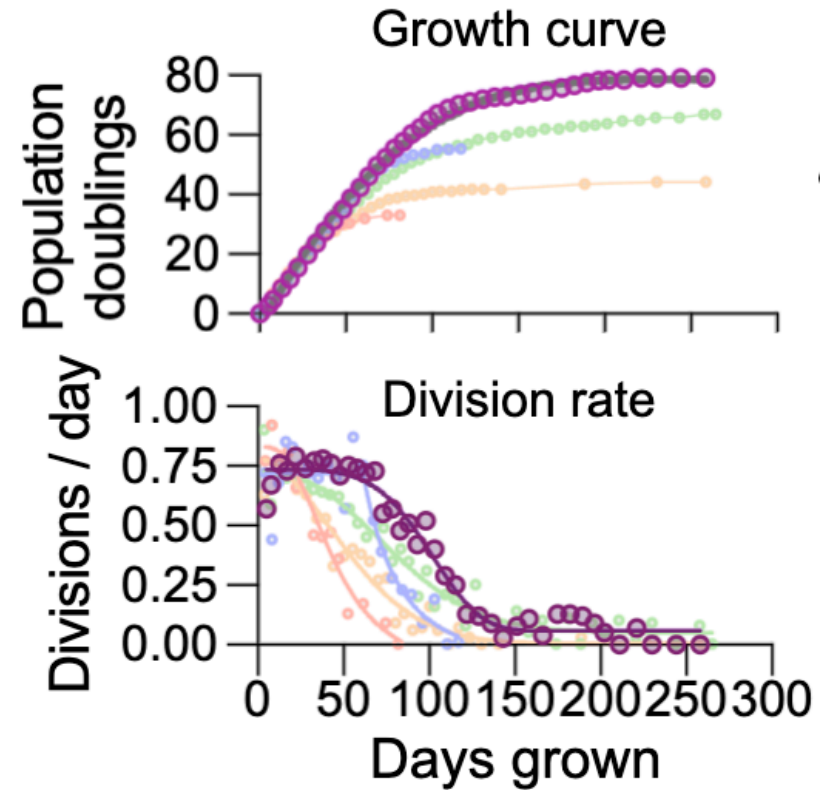
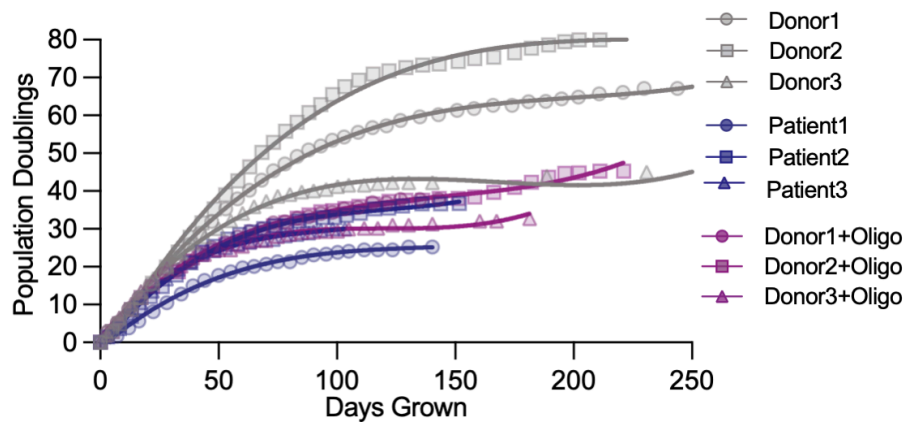


HYPERMETABOLISM

Cellular quiescence/senescence decrease division rate by >90-95%

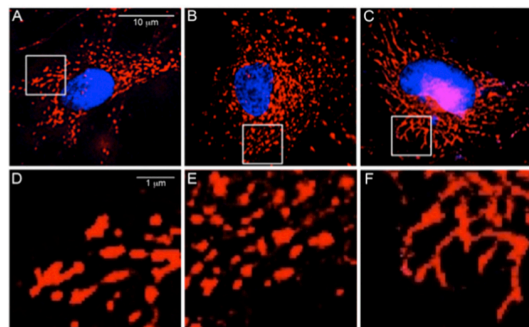
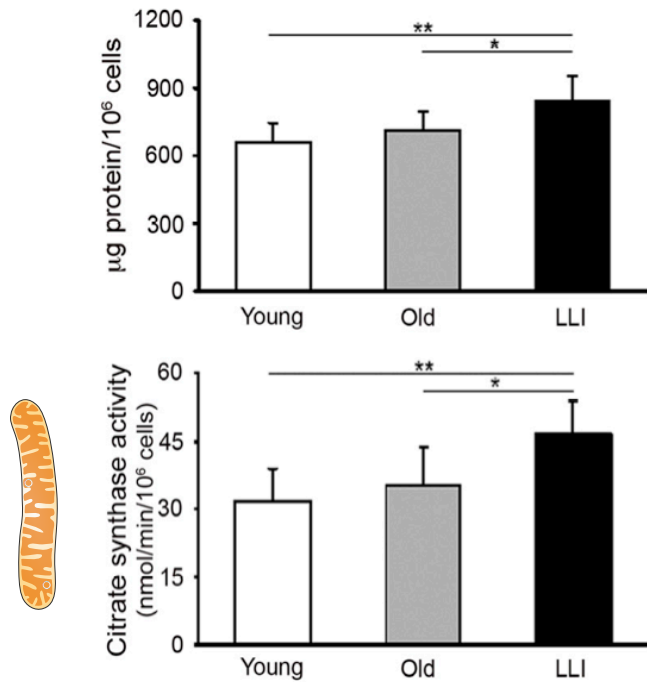


Cellular quiescence/senescence decrease division rate by >90-95%



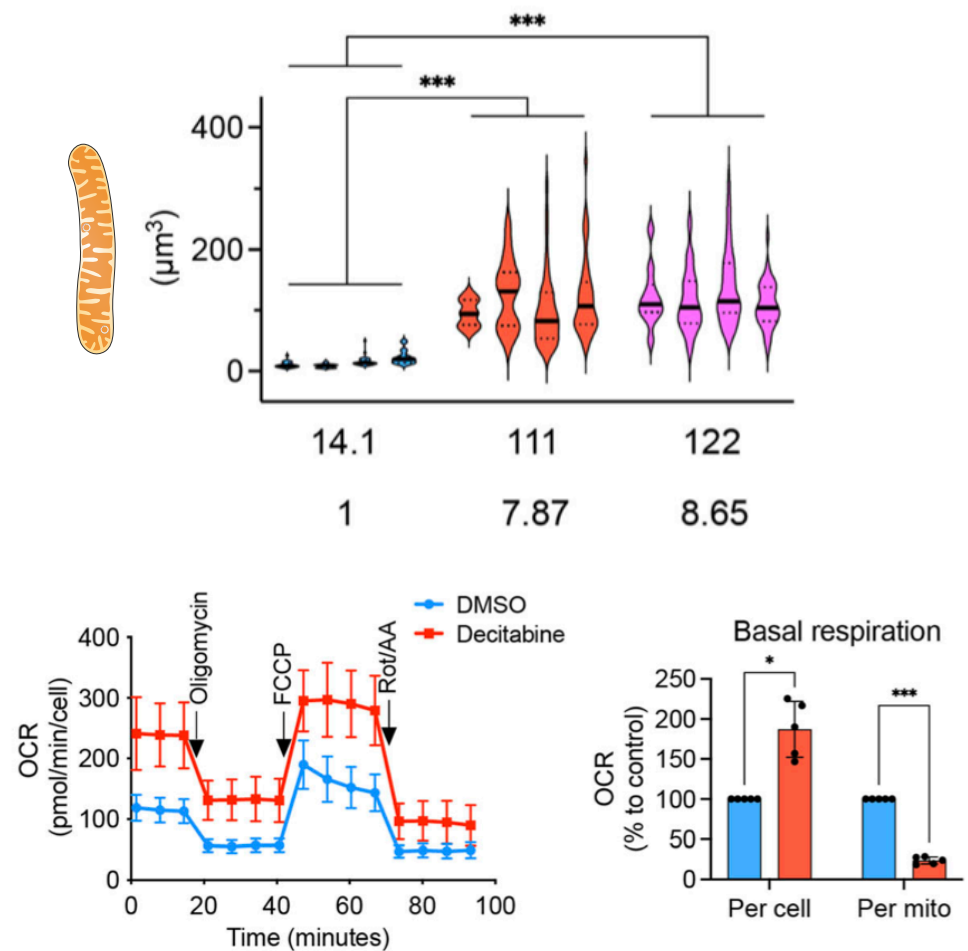
Slower division = less DNA replication, less protein synthesis, less telomerase activity, less mitochondrial biogenesis, ... **ENERGY SAVINGS?**

More proteins, and more hyperfused mitochondria in fibroblasts from old individuals



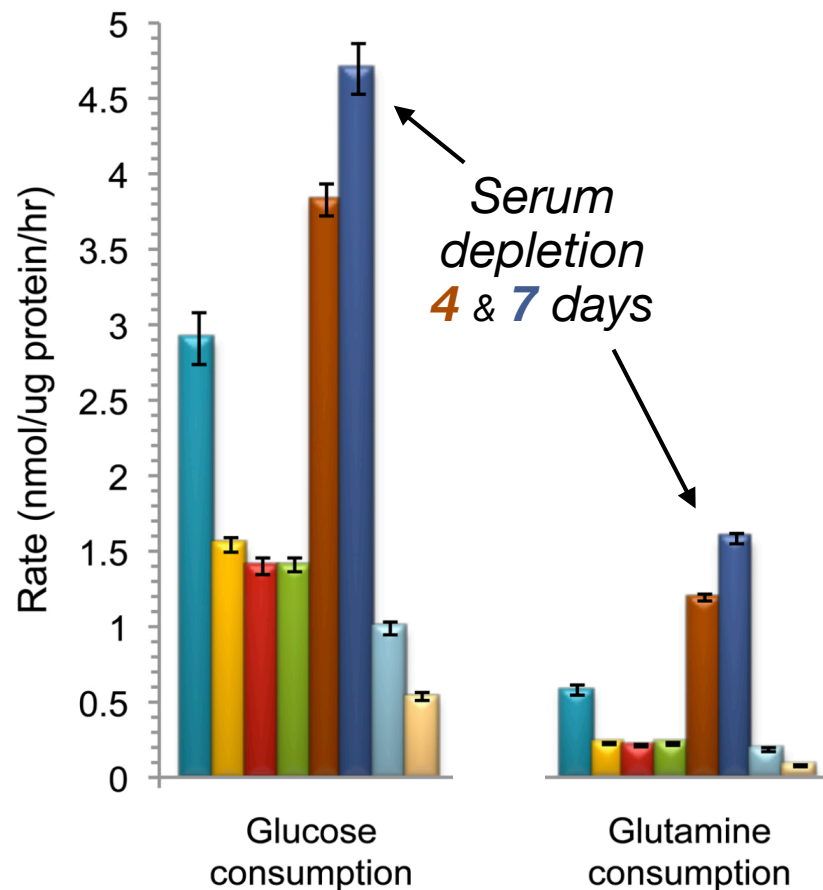
Sgarbi et al. *Aging* 2014

Increased mitochondrial mass, mtDNAcn, and basal respiration in senescent fibroblasts



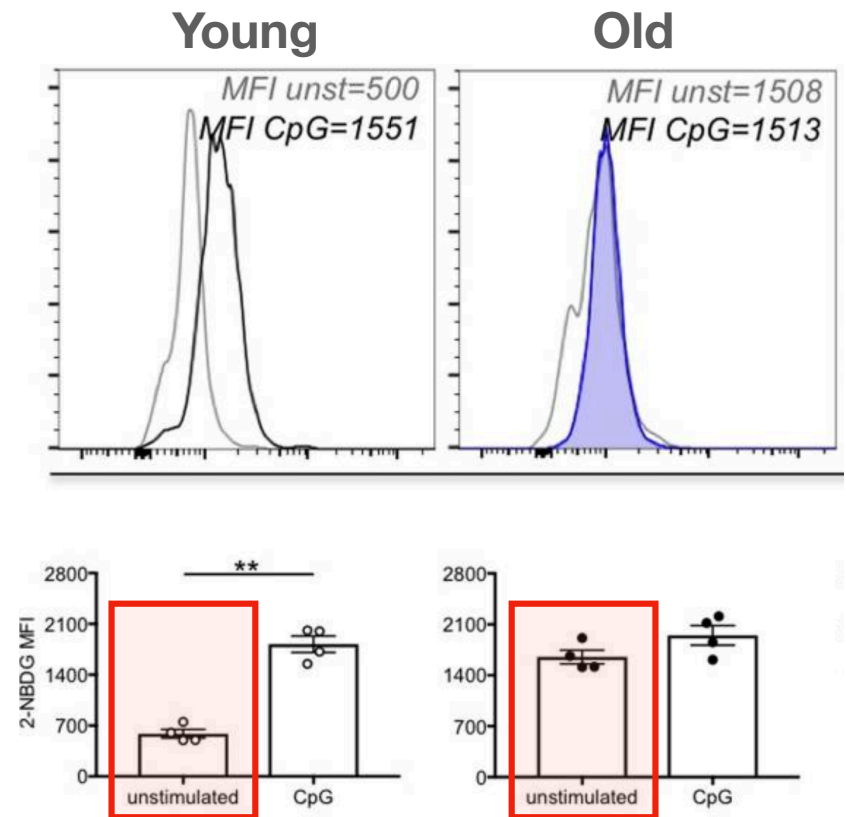
Kim et al. *Life Sci Alli* 2023

Increased glucose and glutamine consumption in quiescent fibroblasts

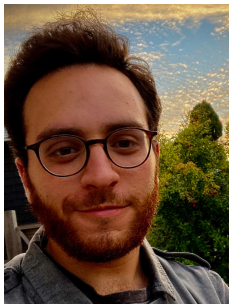
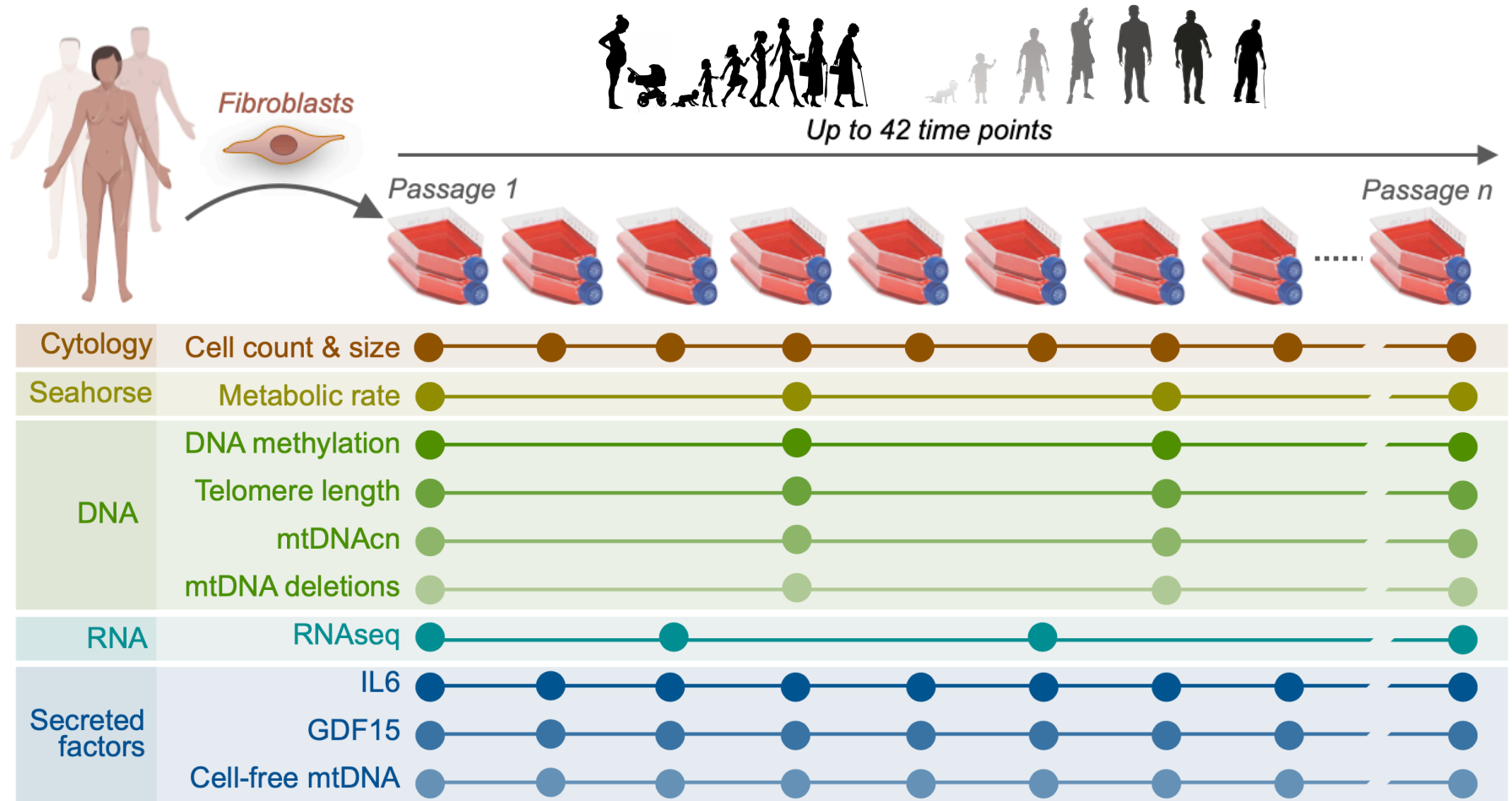


Lemons et al. *Plos Biol* 2010

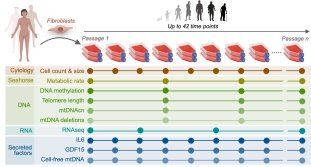
Increased glucose consumption in human B cells from aged individuals



Frasca et al. *Plos One* 2019

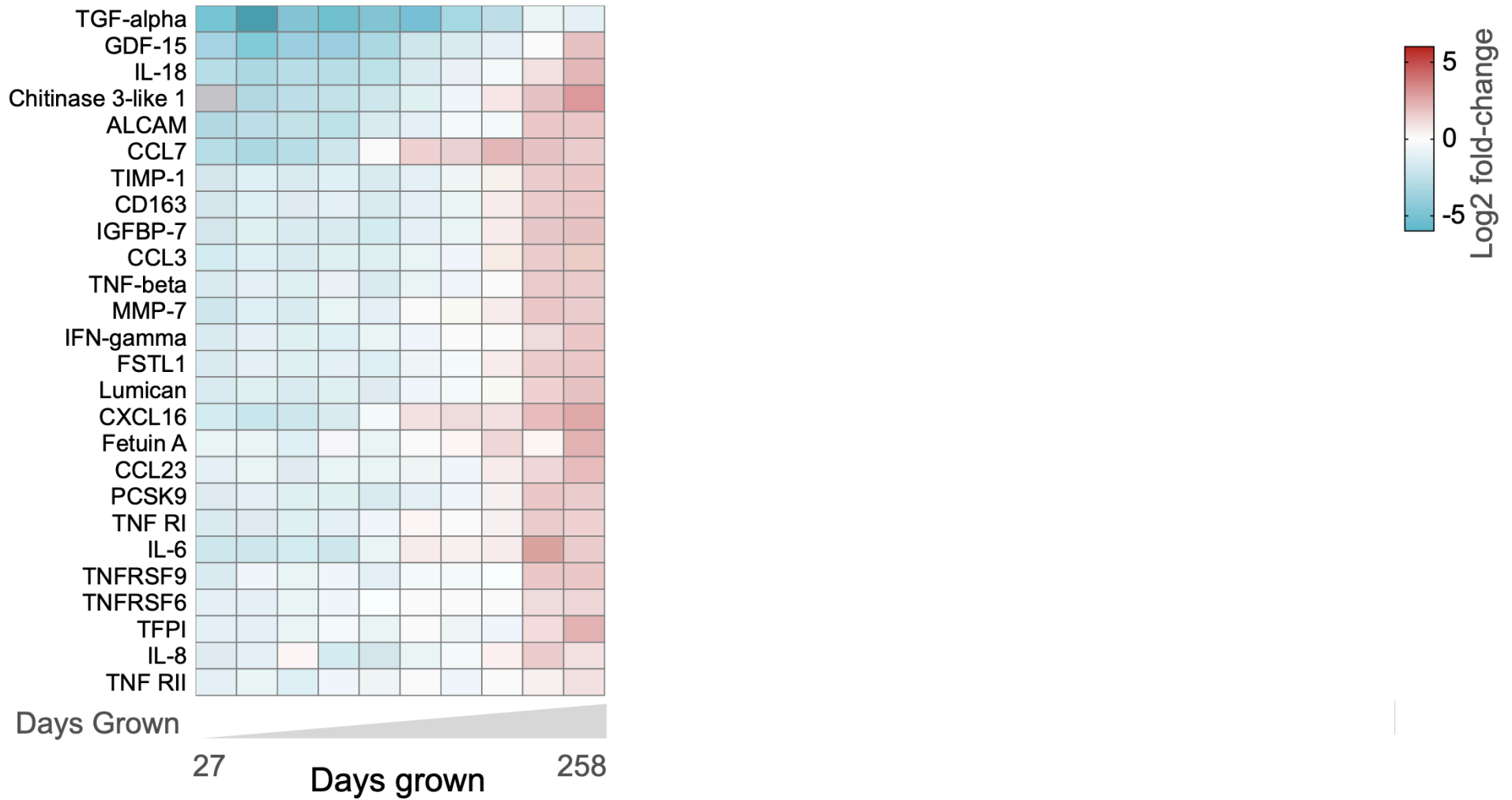


Gabriel Sturm

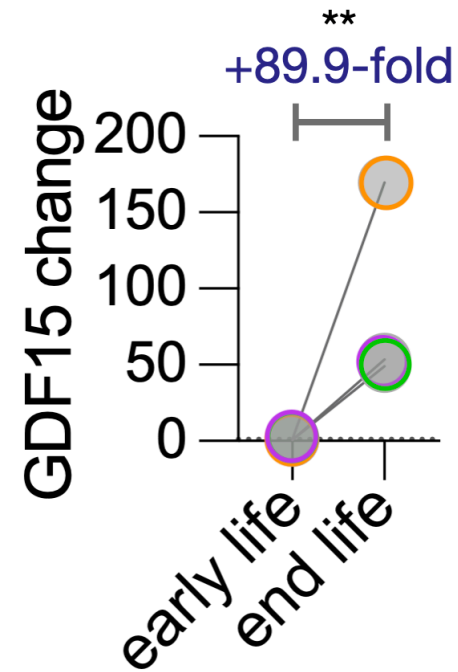
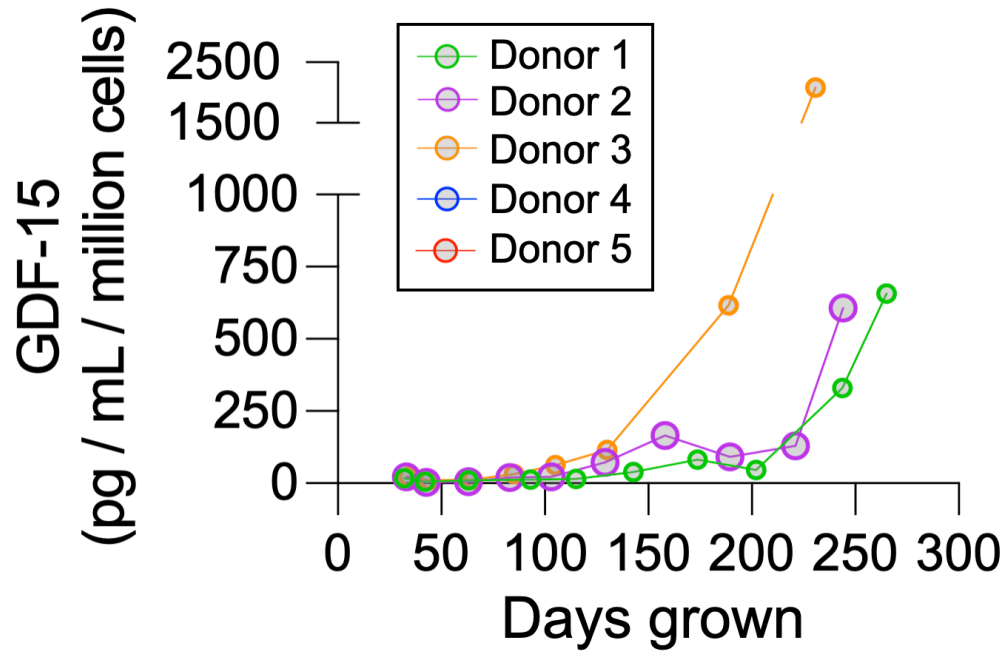
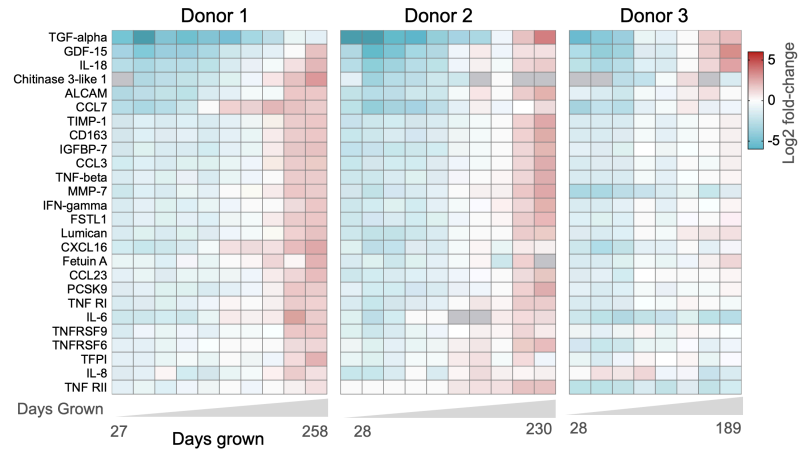
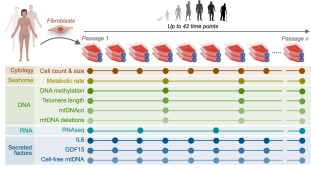


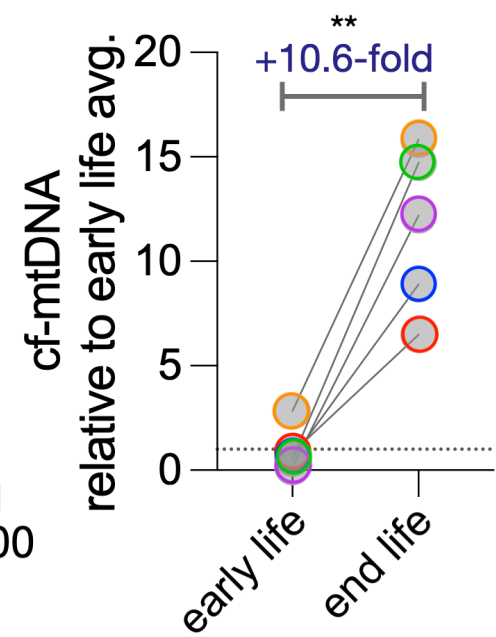
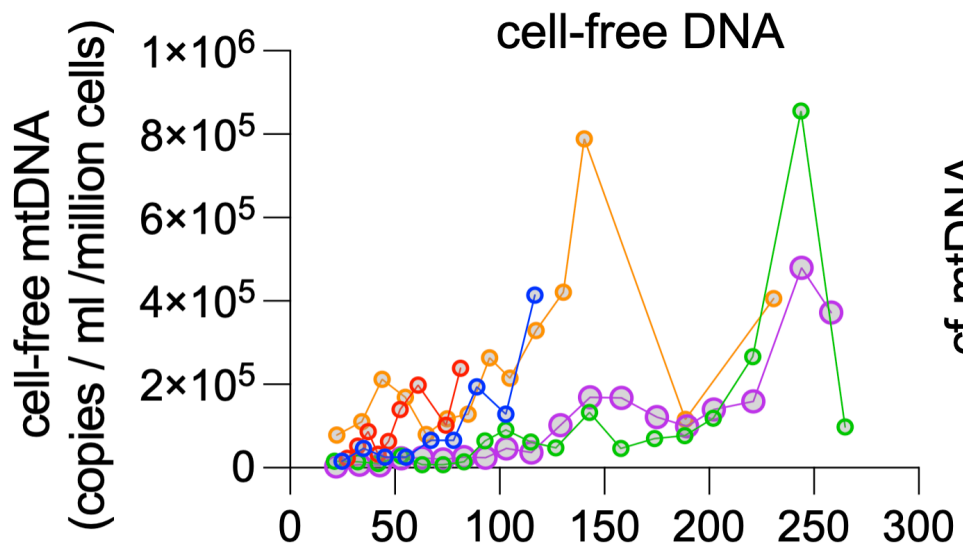
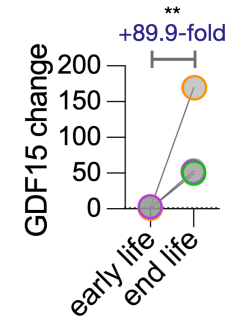
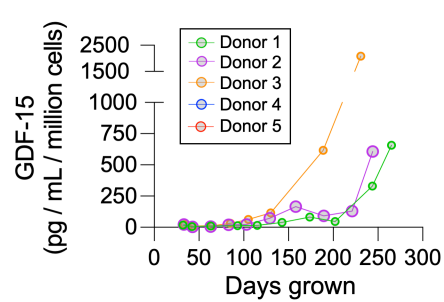
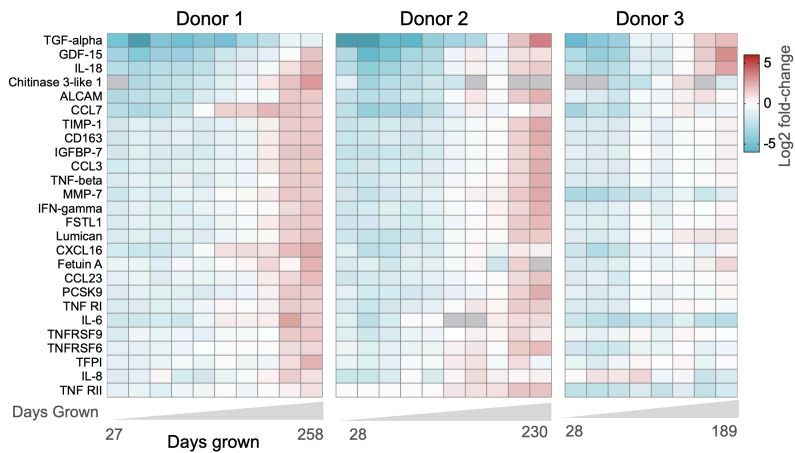
Increased protein secretion (SASP)

Donor 1



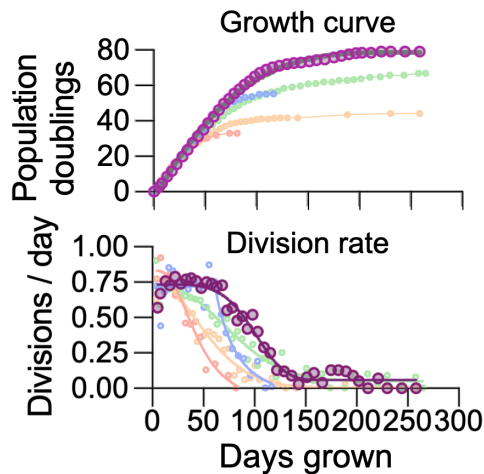
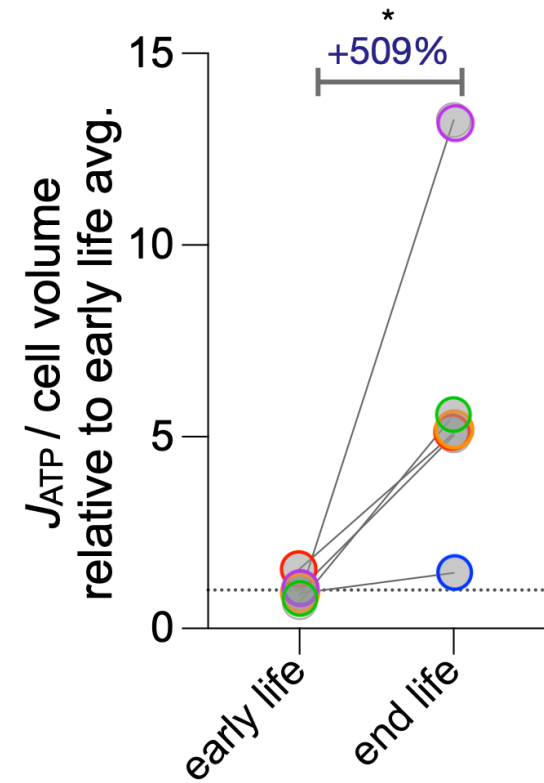
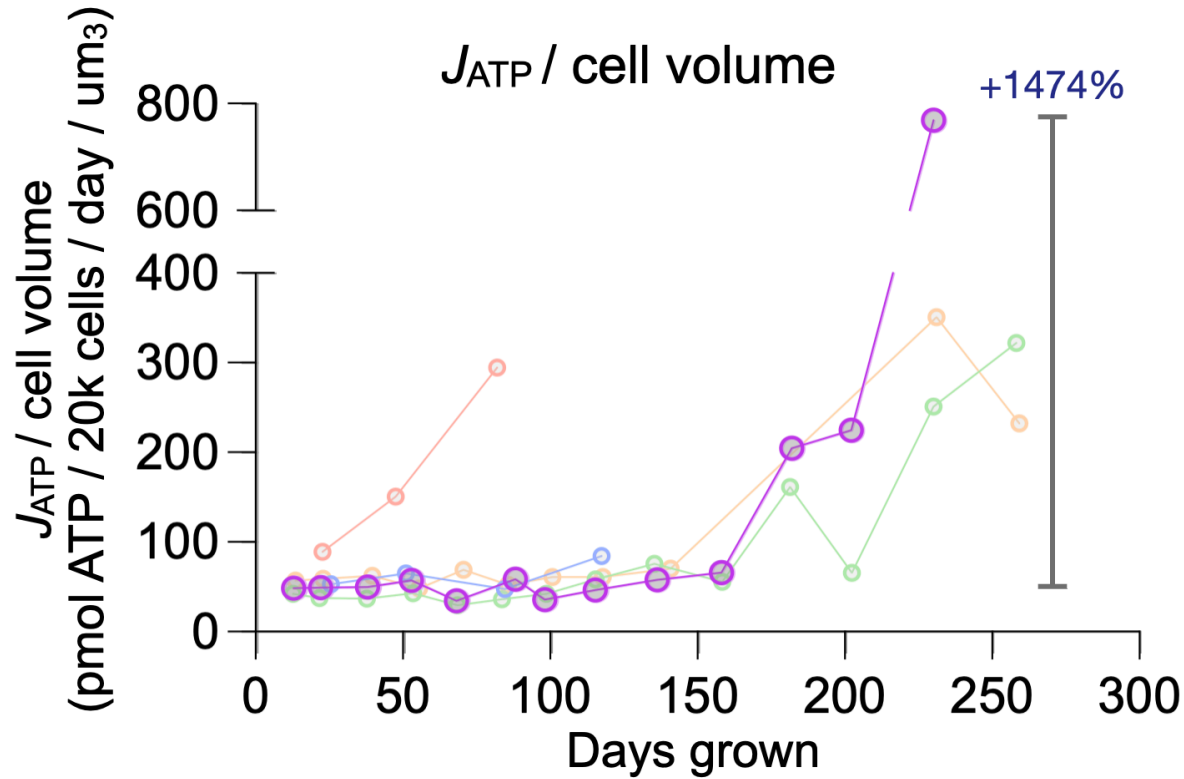
Protein concentration ↑ >30-fold



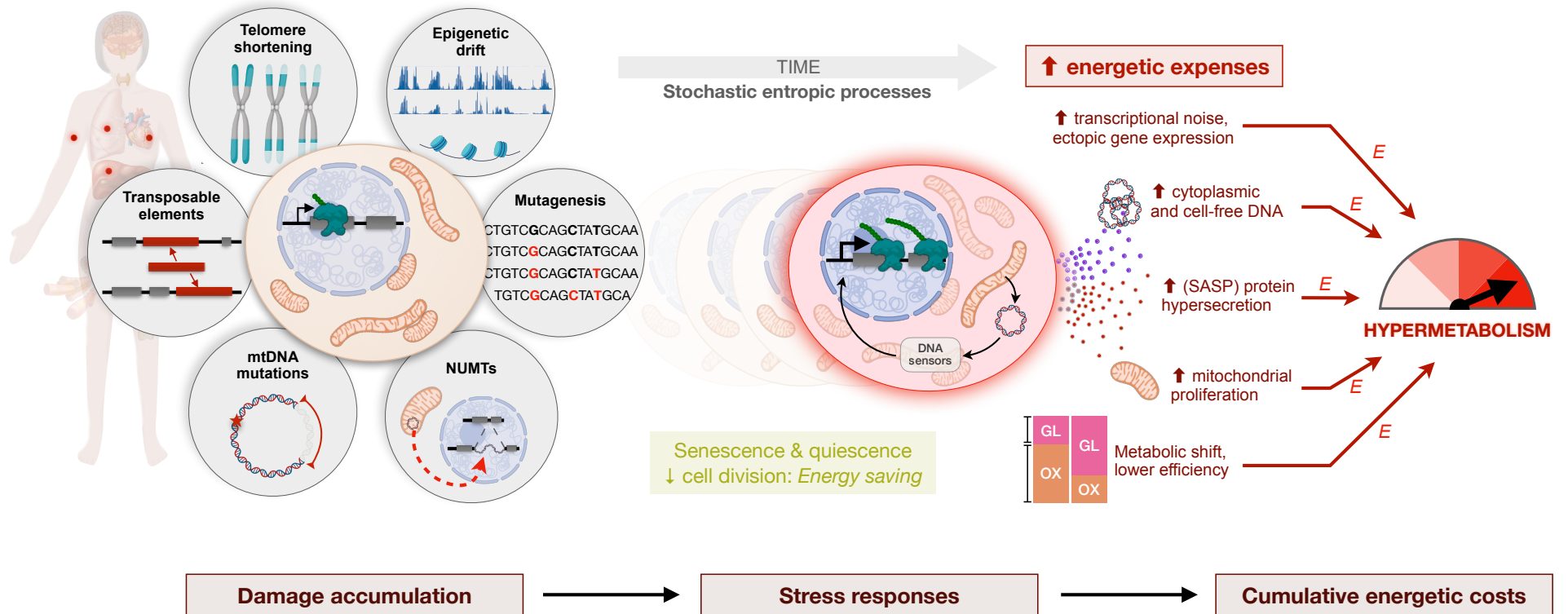


Secretion of protein & DNA ↑ >10-90-fold

Aging human fibroblasts are HYPERmetabolic



**Senescence costs
(a lot of) energy**

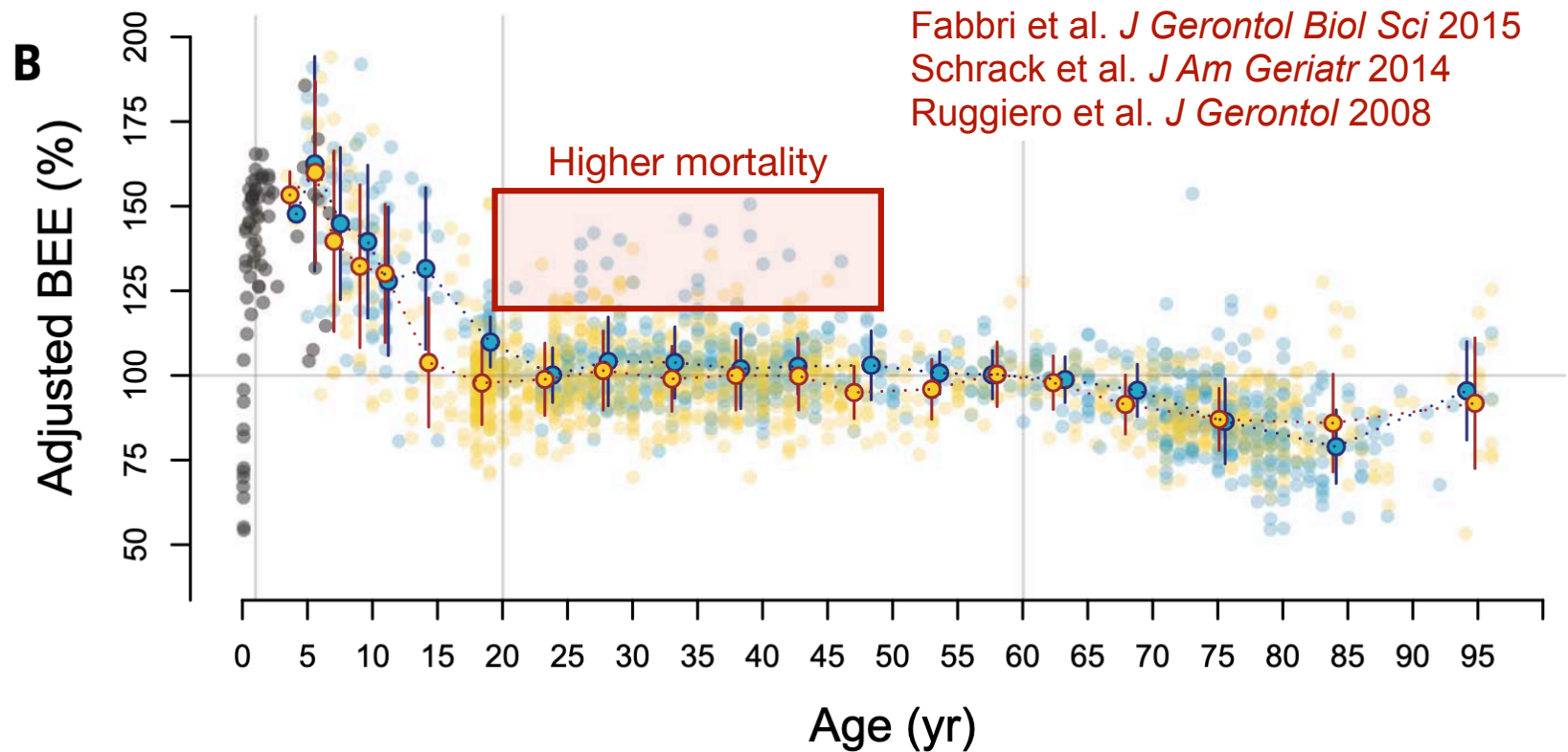


Aging (senescent) cells become hypermetabolic

Aging (senescent) cells become **hypermetabolic**

But the whole body does not

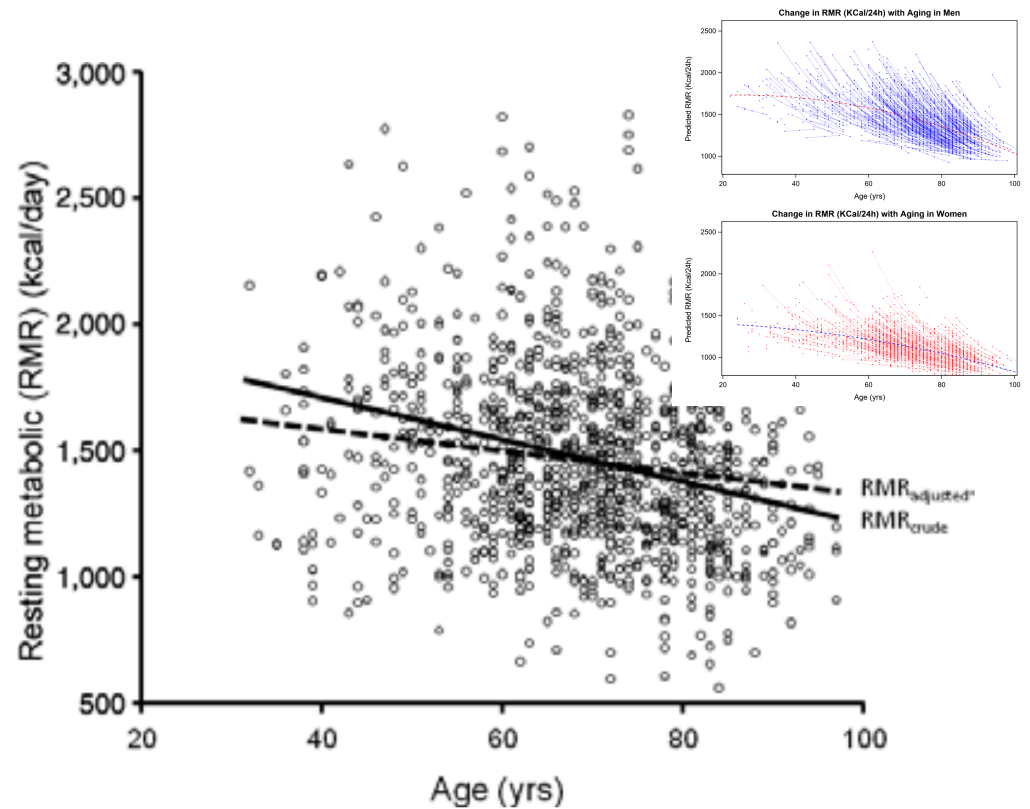
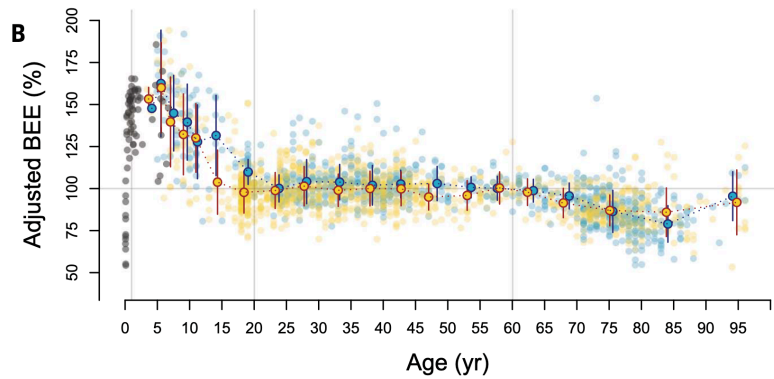
In fact, whole body energy expenditure **declines with age**



Aging (senescent) cells become **hypermetabolic**

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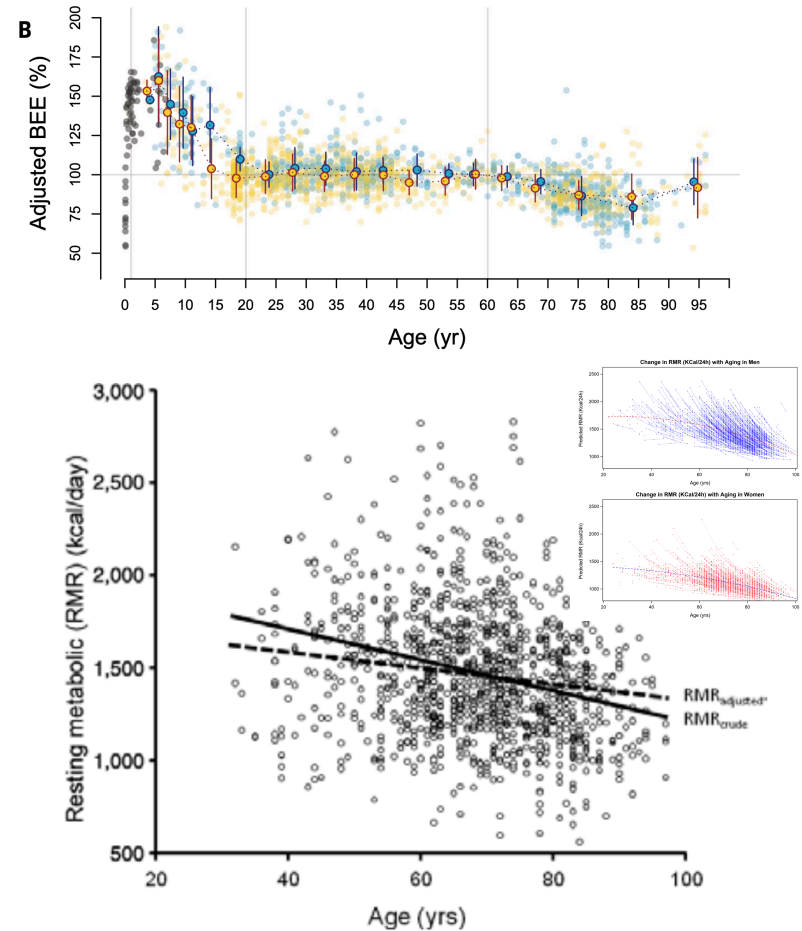
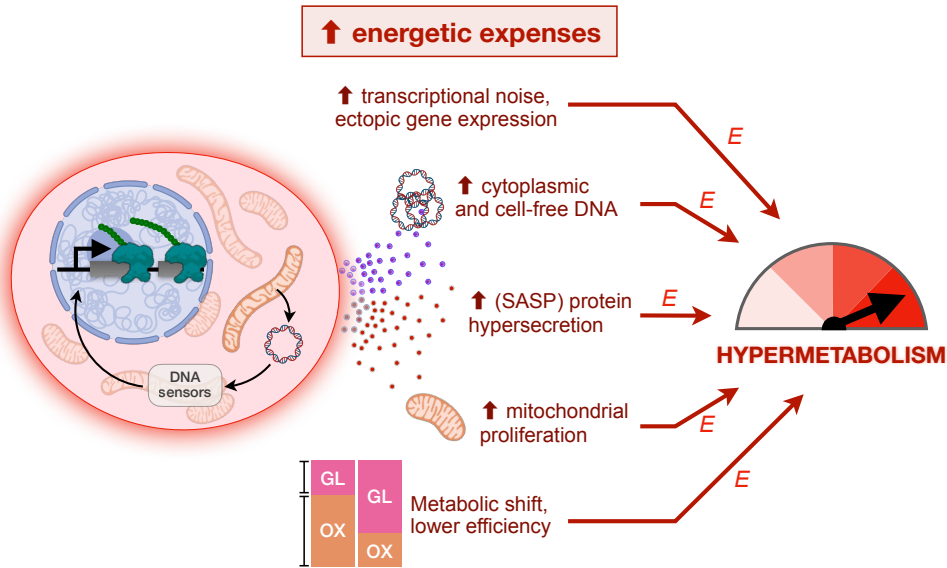
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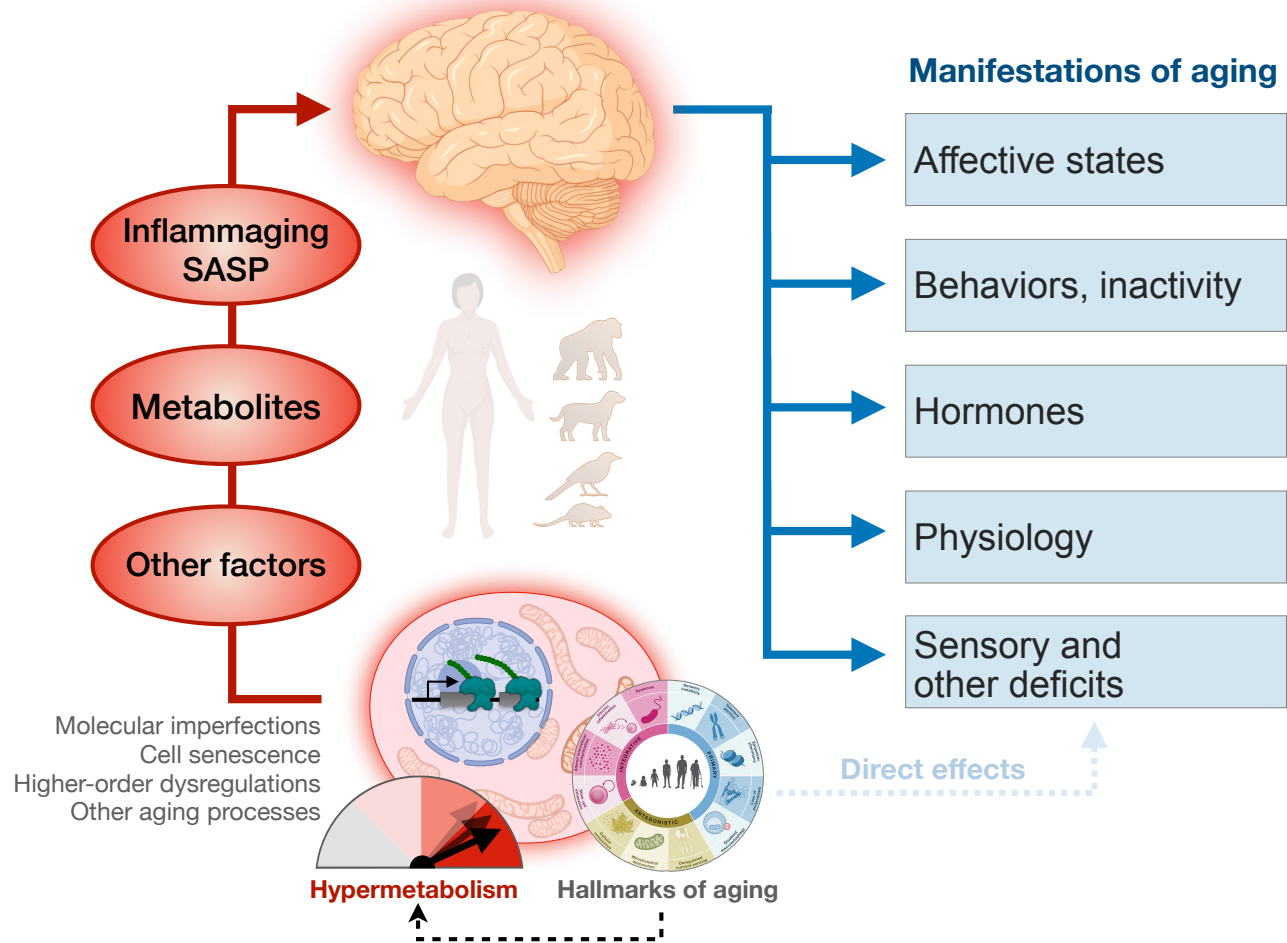
Energetic paradox ?

CELLULAR HYPERMETABOLISM

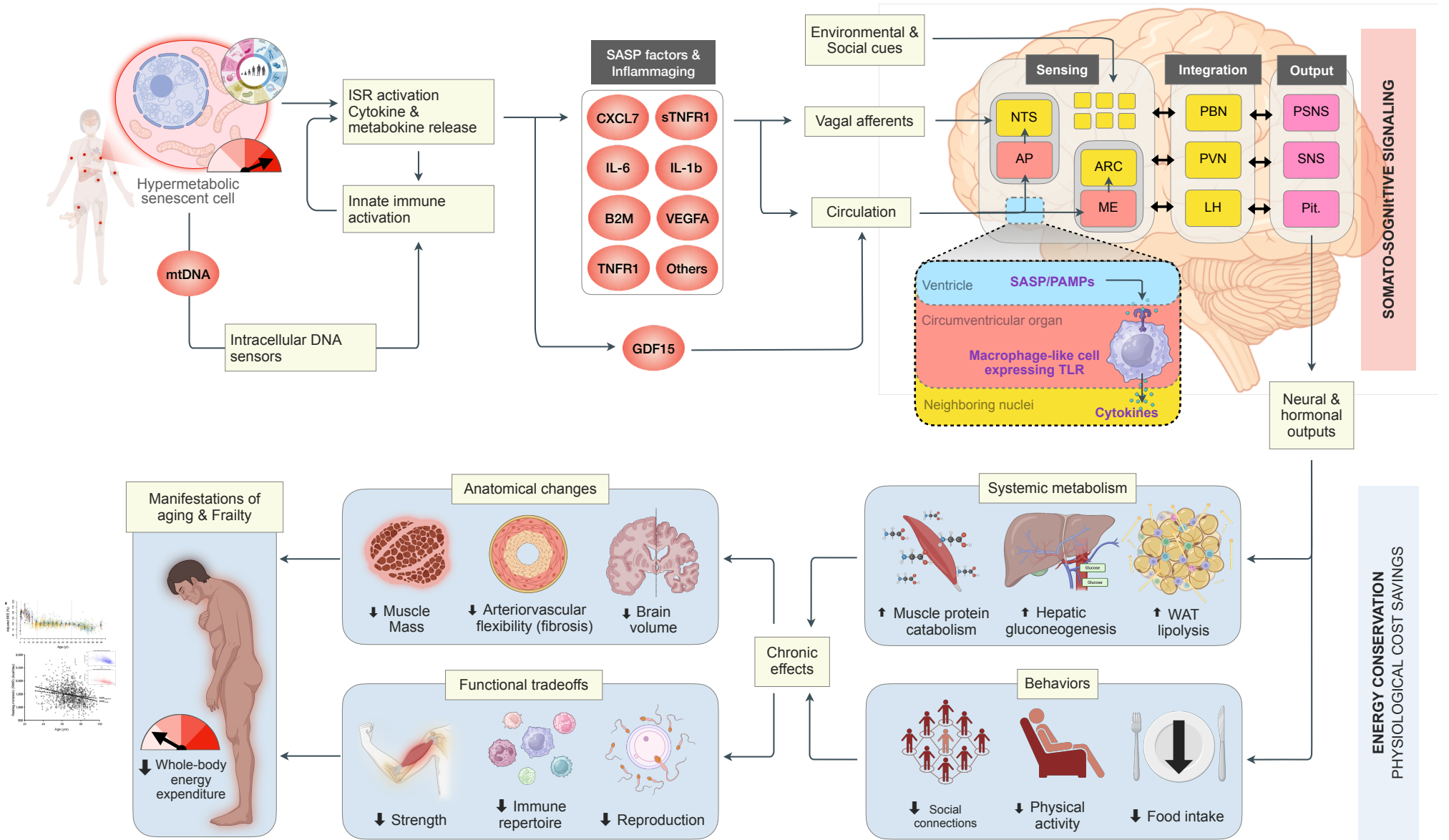
WHOLE-BODY HYPOMETABOLISM



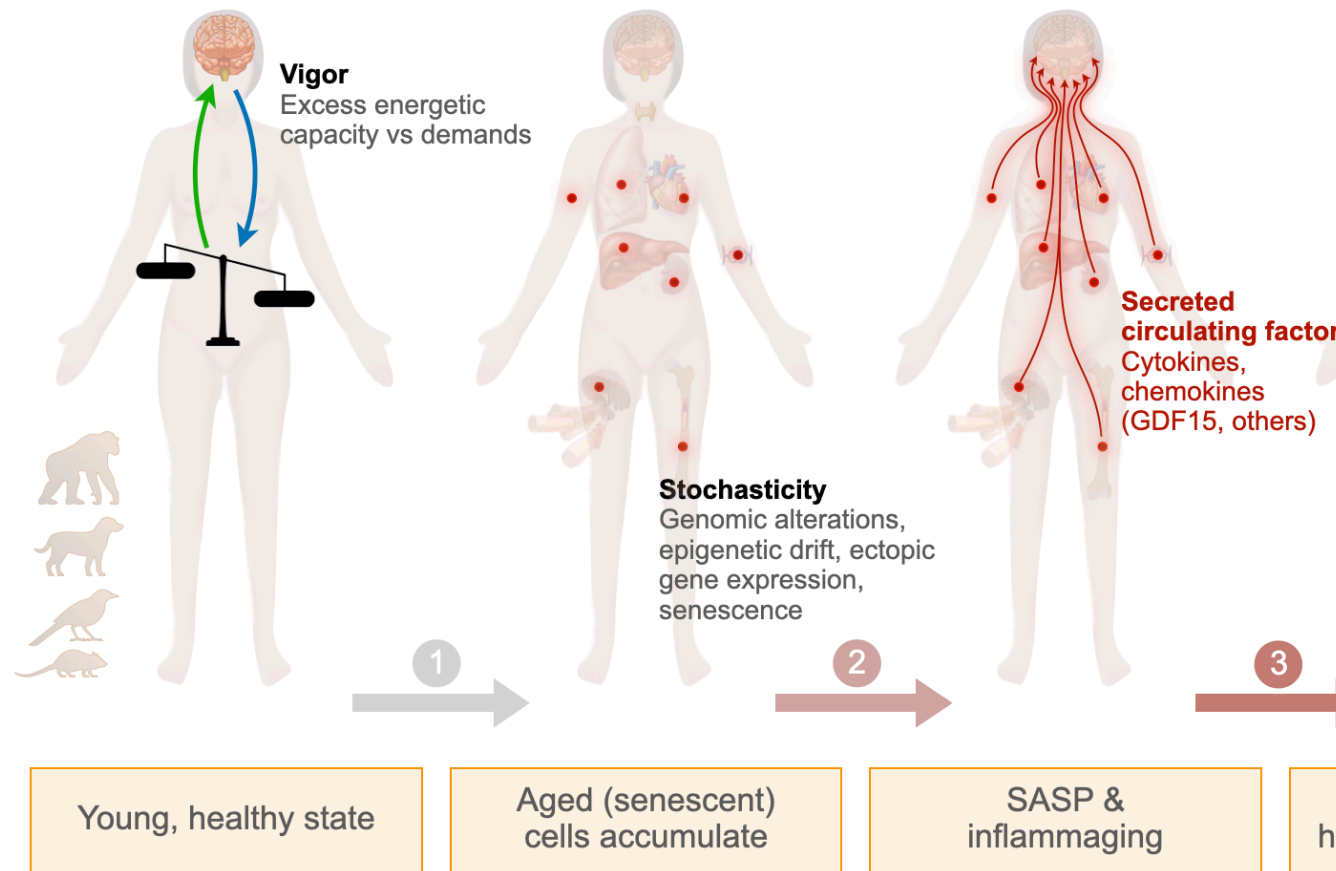
Brain-body Energy Conservation (BEC)



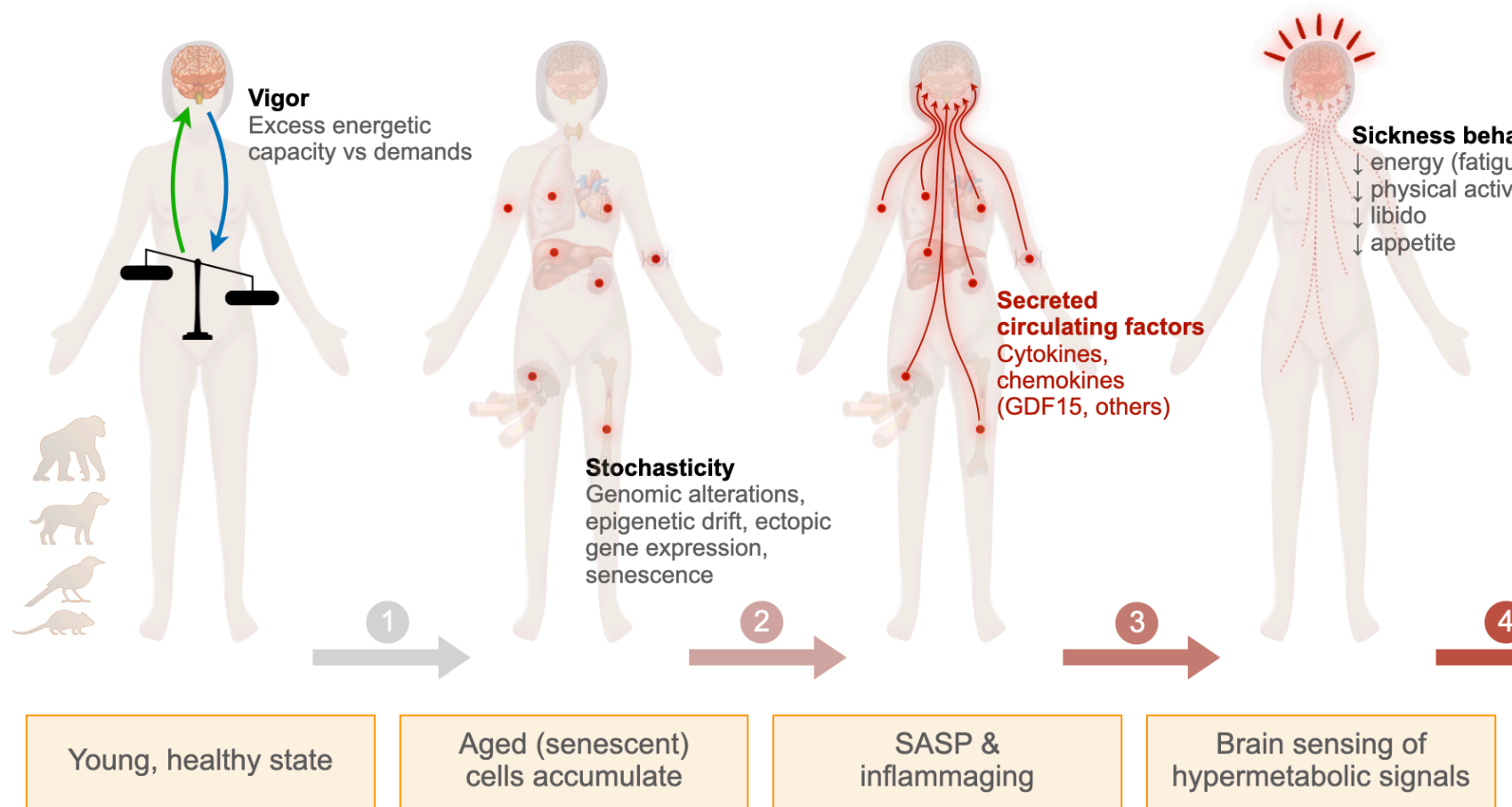
Brain-body energy conservation (BEC)



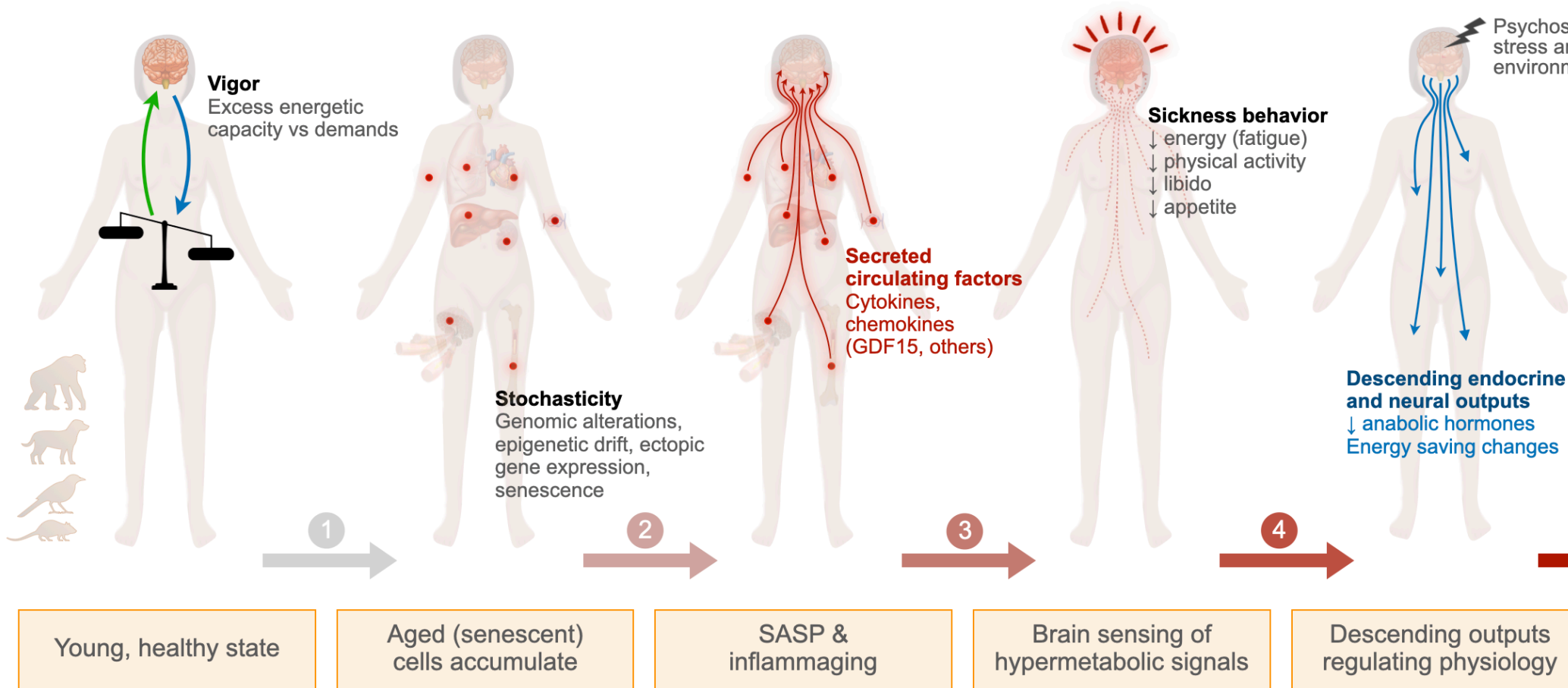
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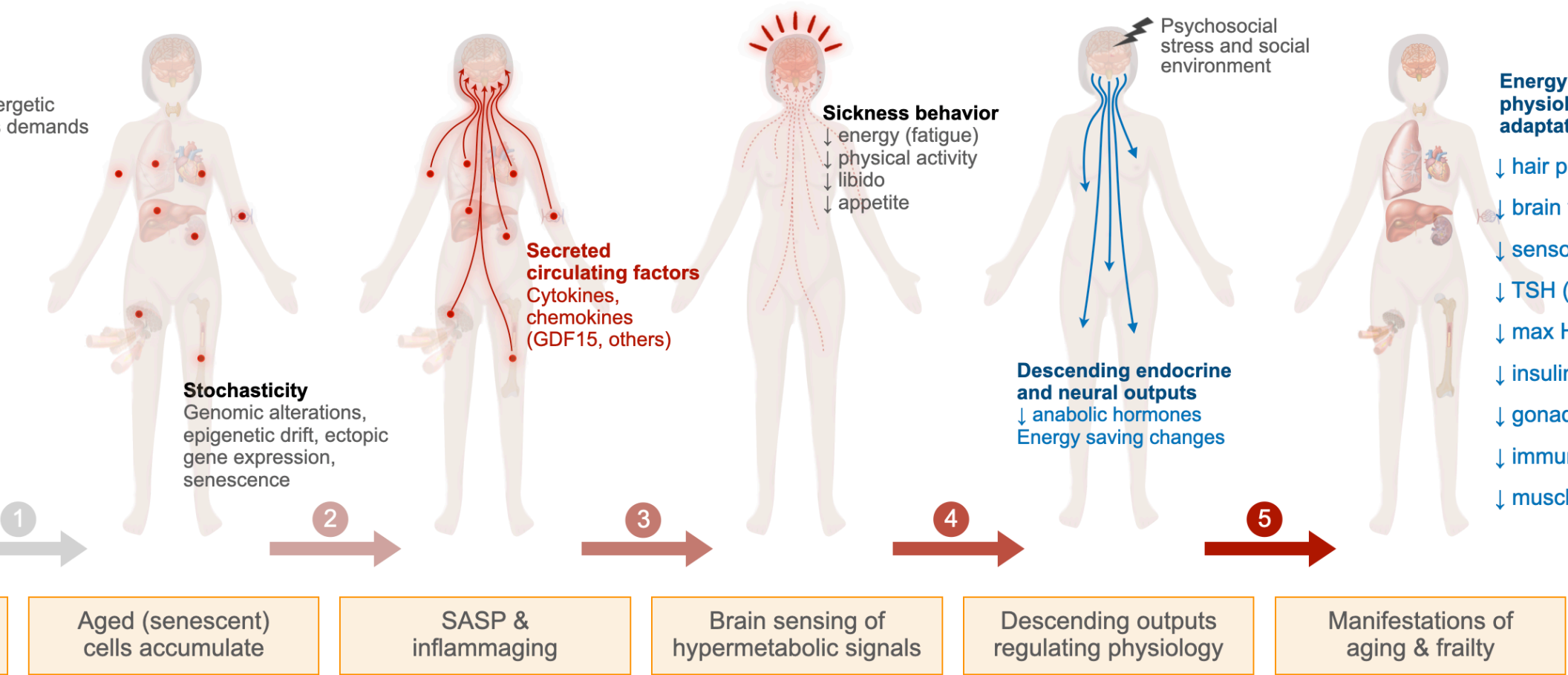
Brain-body Energy Conservation (BEC)



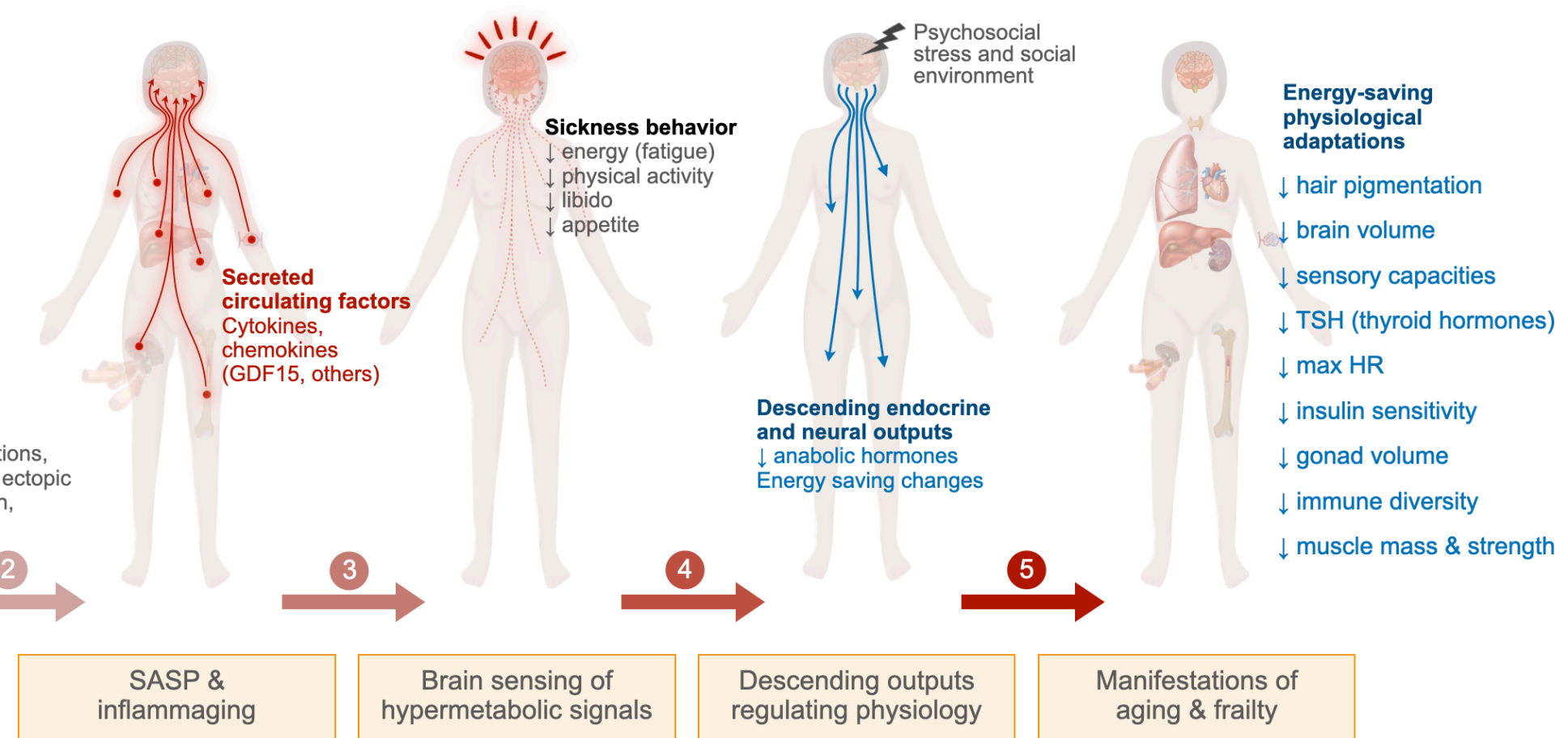
Brain-body Energy Conservation (BEC)



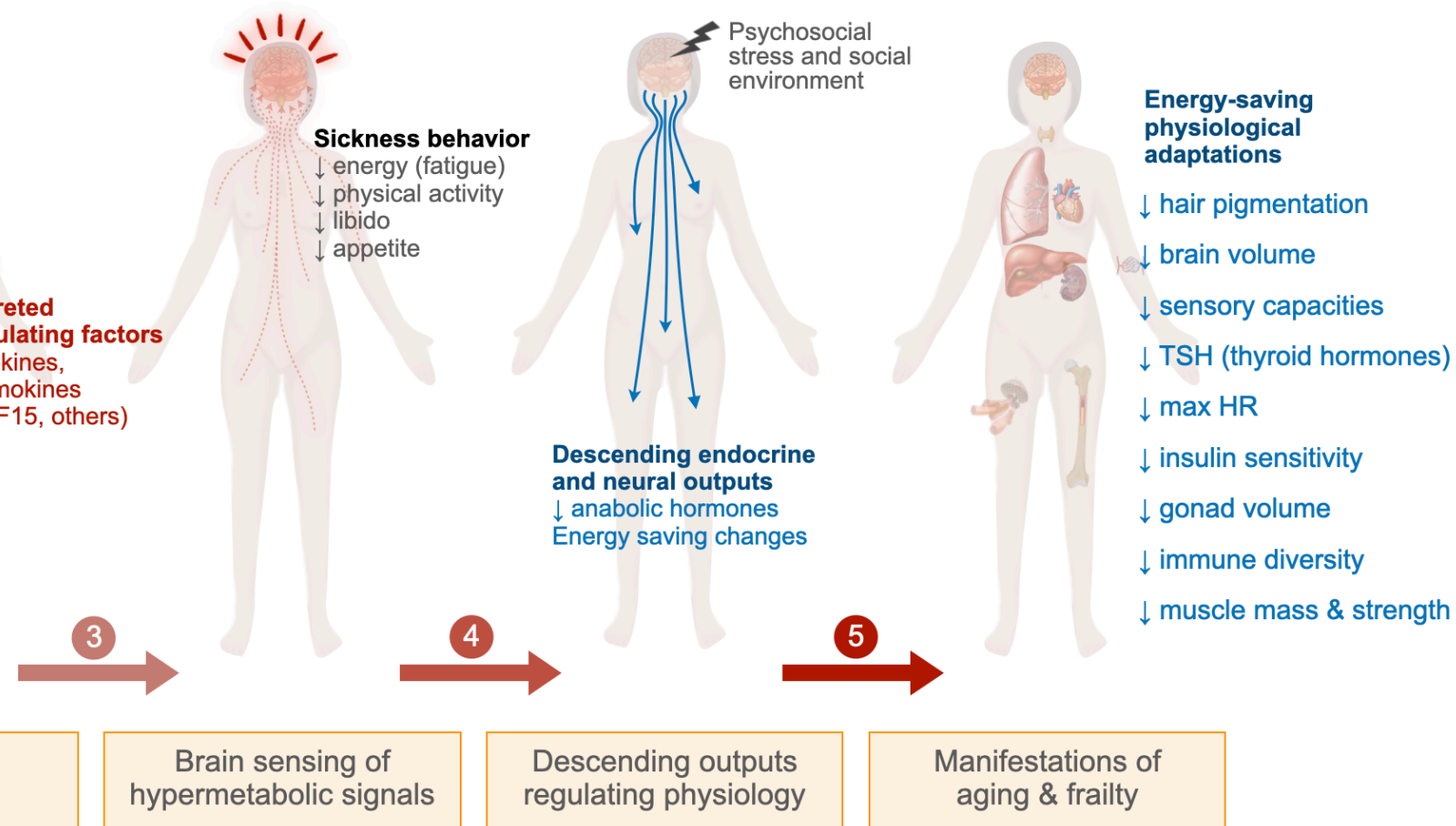
Brain-body Energy Conservation (BEC)



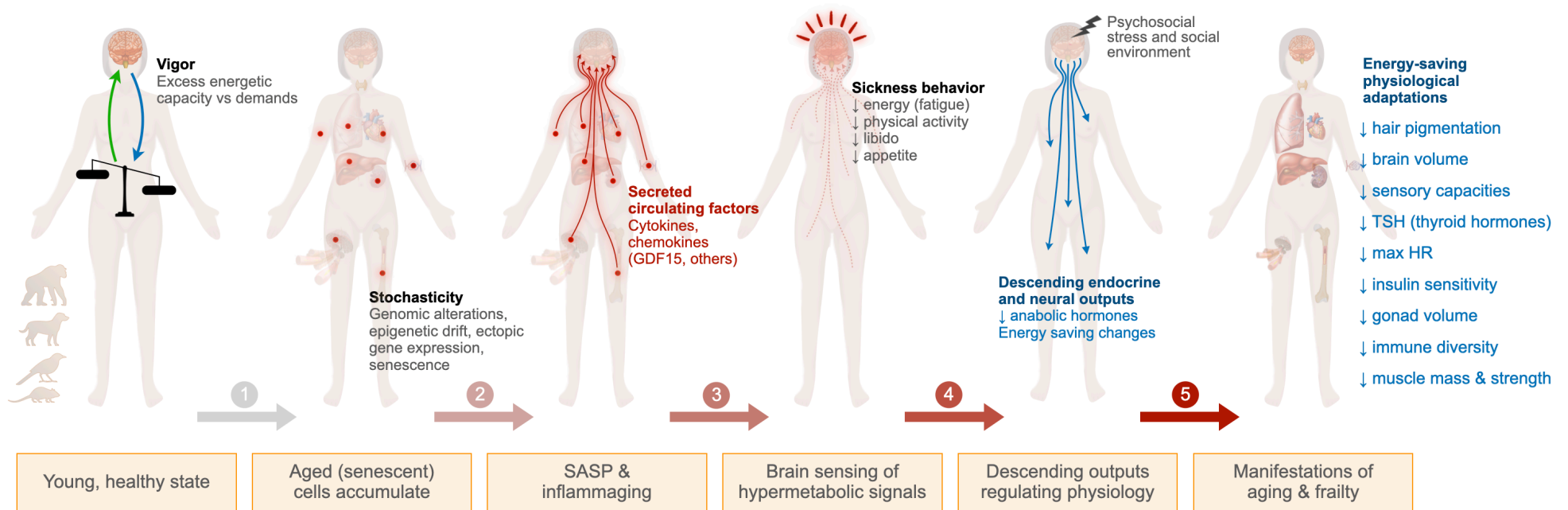
Brain-body Energy Conservation (BEC)



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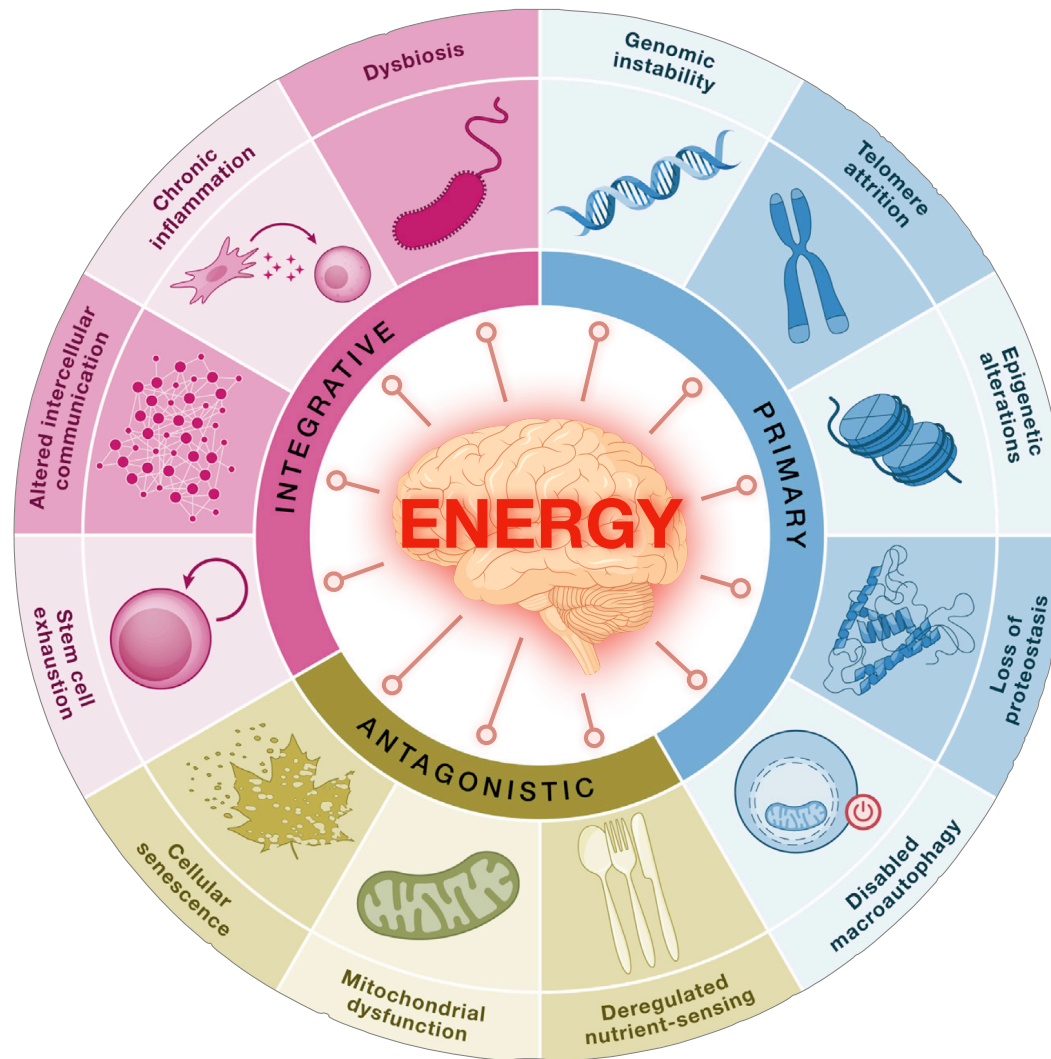


Brain-body Energy Conservation (BEC)



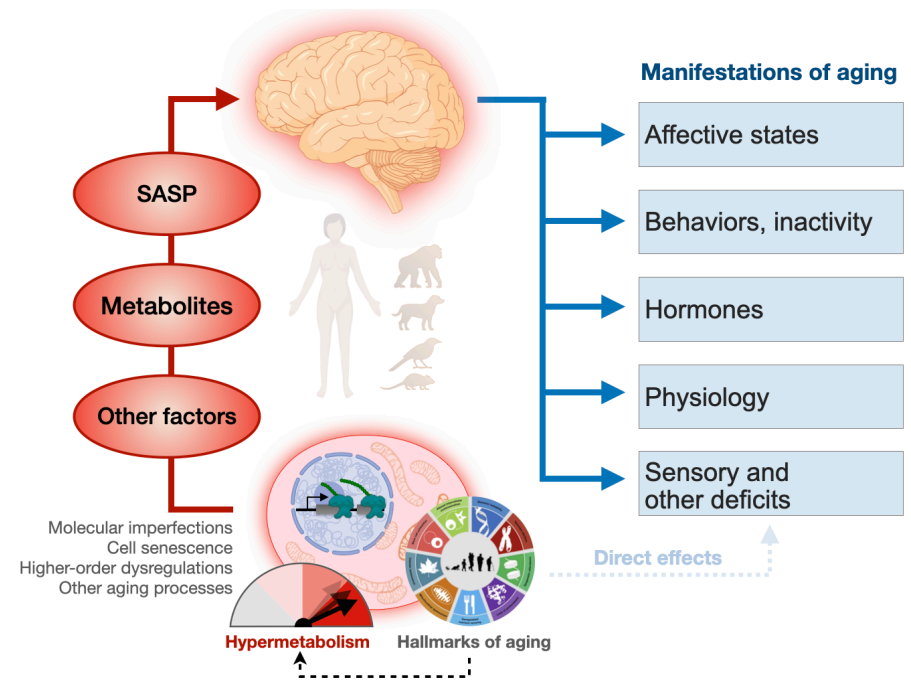
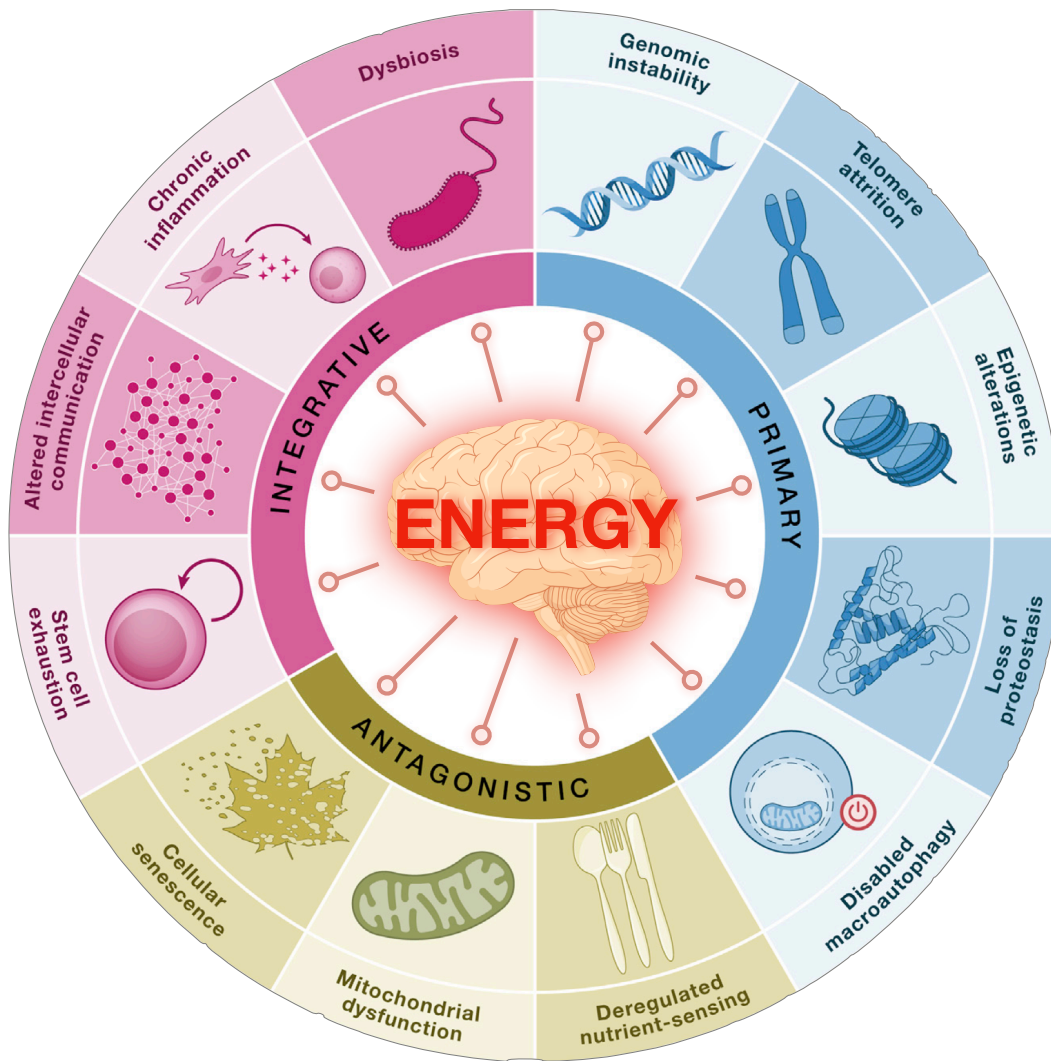
Organelle-to-organism bioenergetic principles of human aging can inform holistic health-promoting interventions

Is the common factor or intersection point **ENERGY** ?
Do the hallmarks physically intersect in the **BRAIN** ?

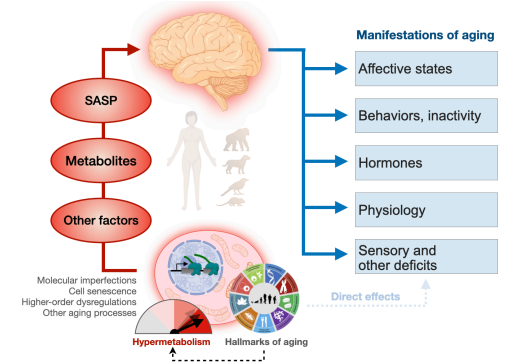


Modified from
Lopez-Otin et al. *Cell* 2023

Brain-body energy conservation (BEC)

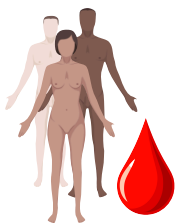
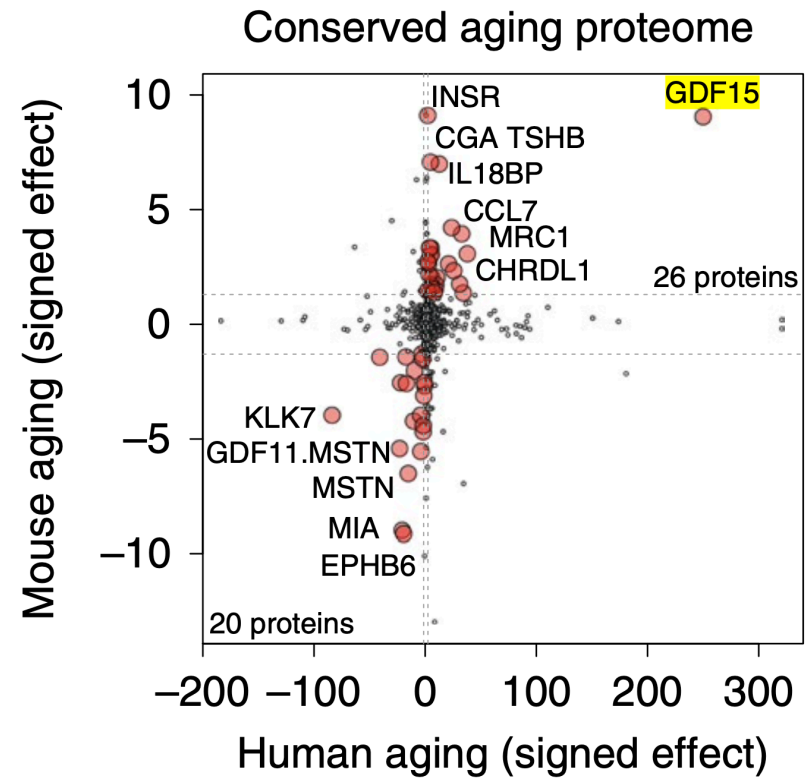
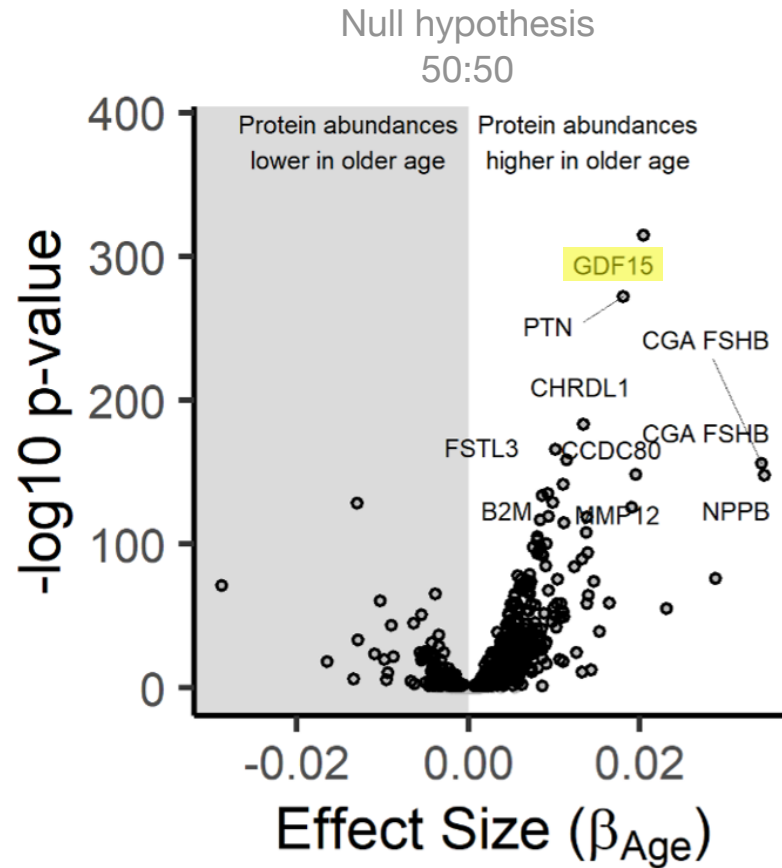


Predictions of the BEC model



1. Frailty (loss of functions) is a pro-survival strategy (cancer cachexia), so people who can develop/sustain frailty should live longer (women vs men)
2. Costly processing of sensory information may be down regulated to conserve energy (sensory deficits)
3. Torpor and energy conservation prolong healthspan/lifespan (Biorxiv 2024)
4. Chronic life stress and social isolation promotes cellular hypermetabolism, systemic signals of hypermetabolism (cytokines), and morbidity / accelerated physiological aging (Snyder Mackler et al. *Science* 2020)
5. Hormones should exist to convey somatic hypermetabolism to the brain (GDF15, other cytokines) (Monzel et al. *Life Metab* 2024)

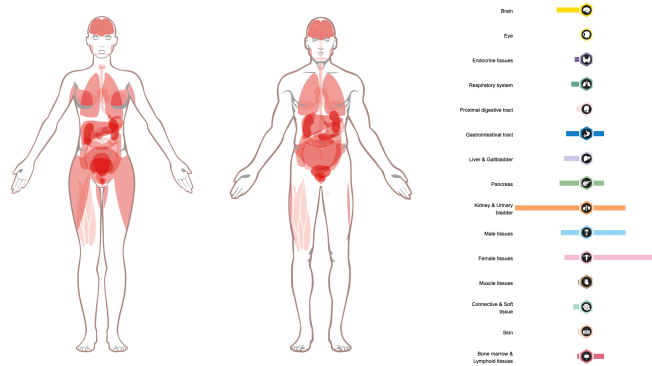
GDF15 is the most significantly upregulated protein in human aging



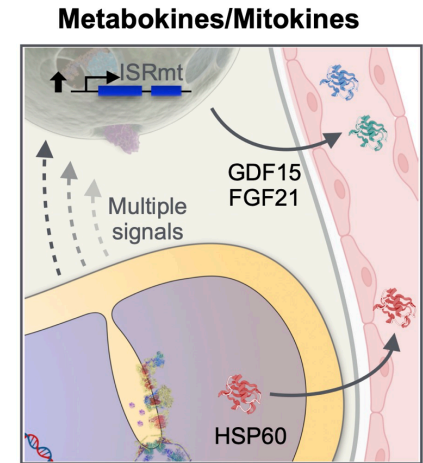
Tanaka et al. *Aging Cell* 2020

Lehallier et al. *Nature* 2019

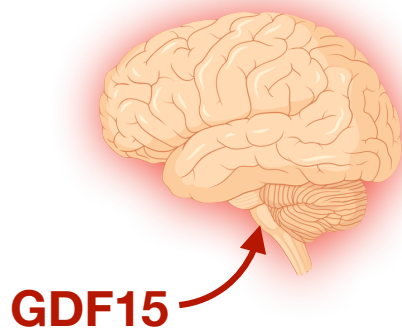
What does GDF15 mean to the organism?



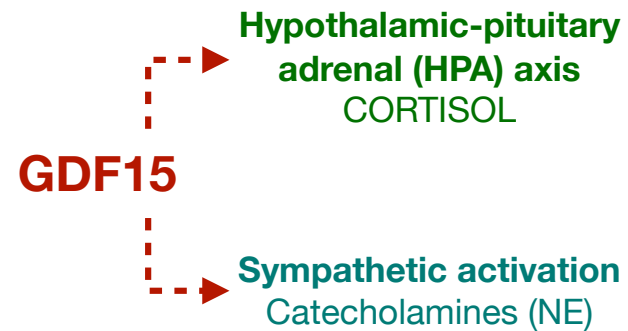
Expressed in >90% of somatic tissues



Triggered by mito OxPhos defects (ISR)

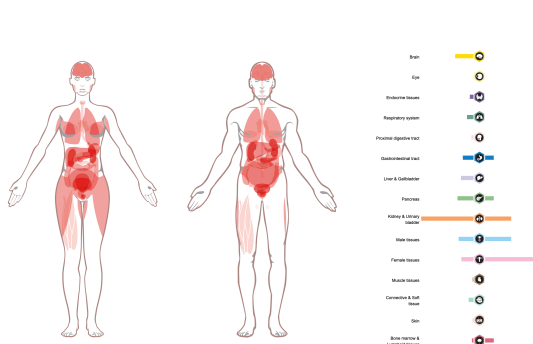


Signals on the brainstem, energy conservation

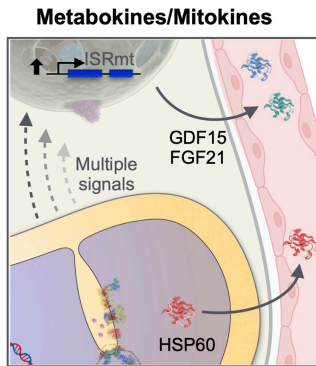


Activates canonical stress axes

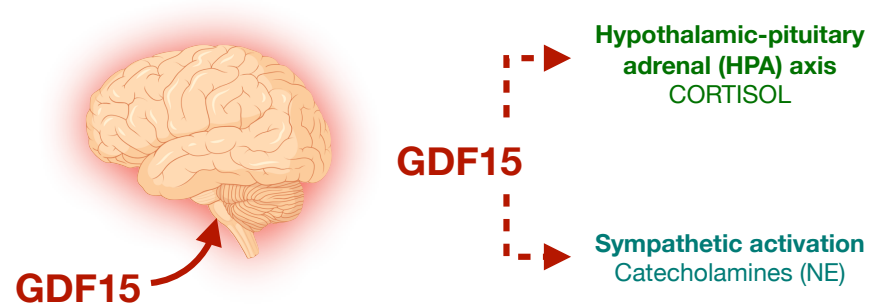
What does GDF15 mean to the organism?



Expressed in >50% somatic tissues



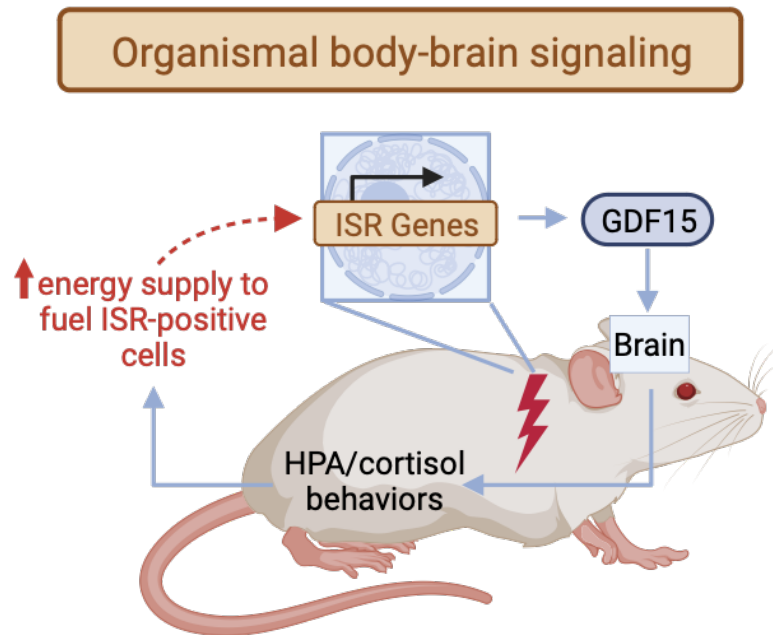
Triggered by cellular stressors (ISR)



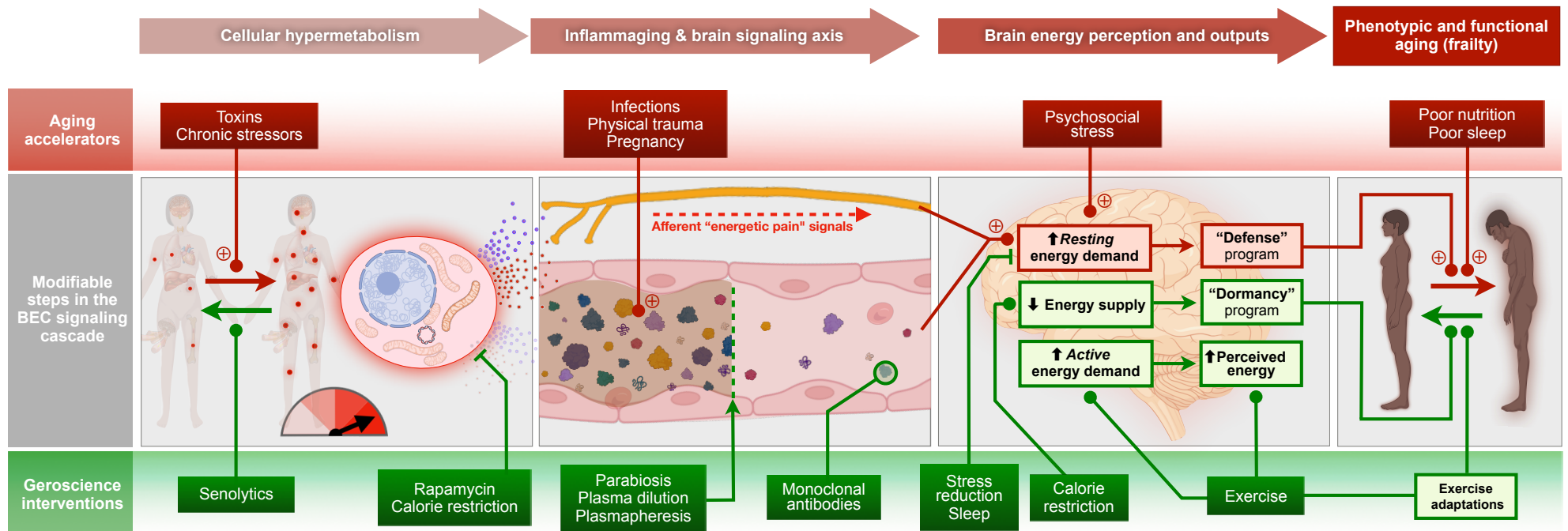
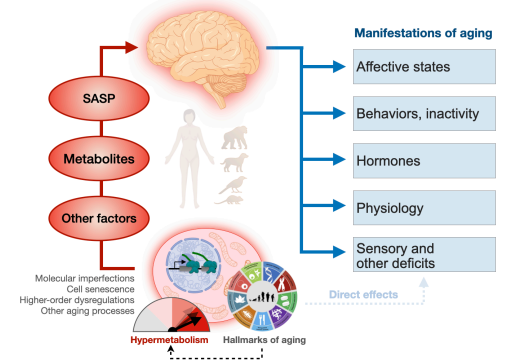
Signals on the brainstem, energy conservation

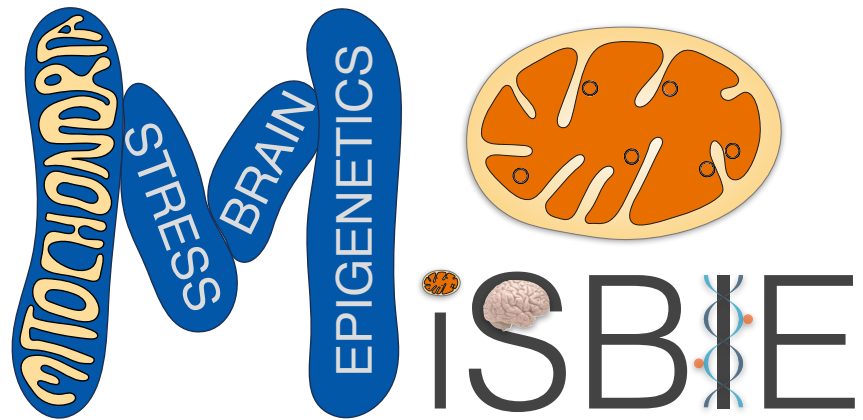
Activates canonical stress axes

Psychological stress transiently increases GDF15 in humans

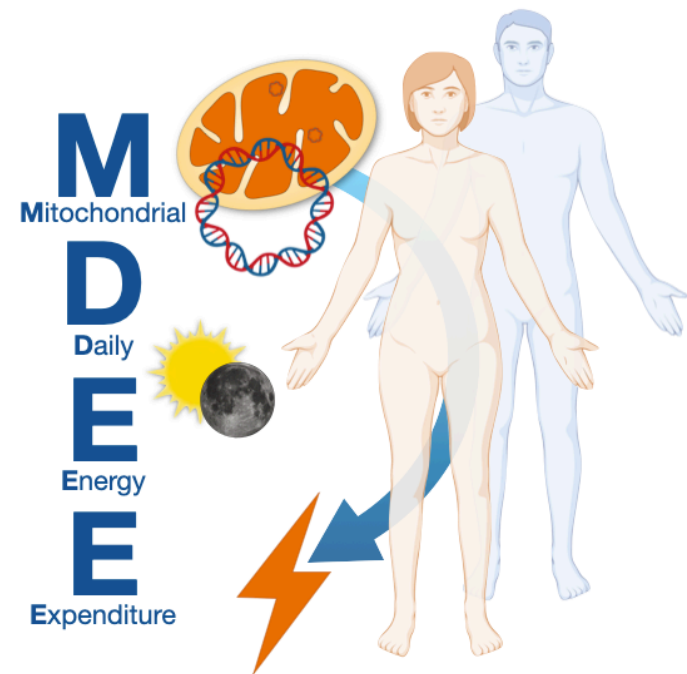


Predictions of the BEC model





Mitochondrial Stress, Brain Imaging,
and Epigenetics — **MiSBIE**



Mitochondrial Daily Energy
Expenditure — **MDEE**



Evan Shaulson



Alan Cohen

Brain-body energy conservation (BEC)

Feedback welcome

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Preprint: osf.io/zuey2

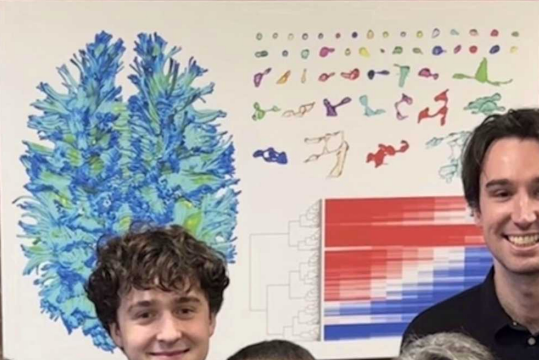
Mitochondrial PsychoBiology Lab

Linking molecular processes within mitochondria with the human experience

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Brain-body energy conservation (BEC)

