

Methyl Cycle Nutrigenomics

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Other: None

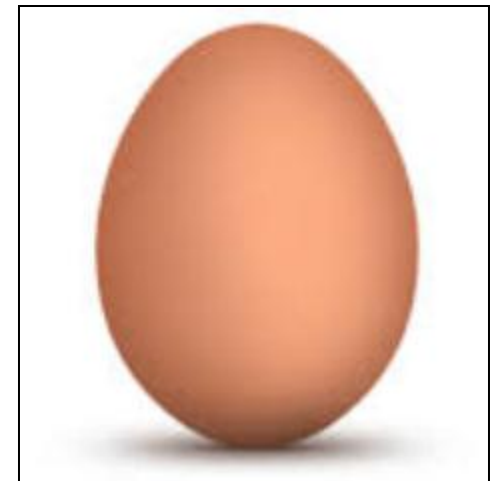
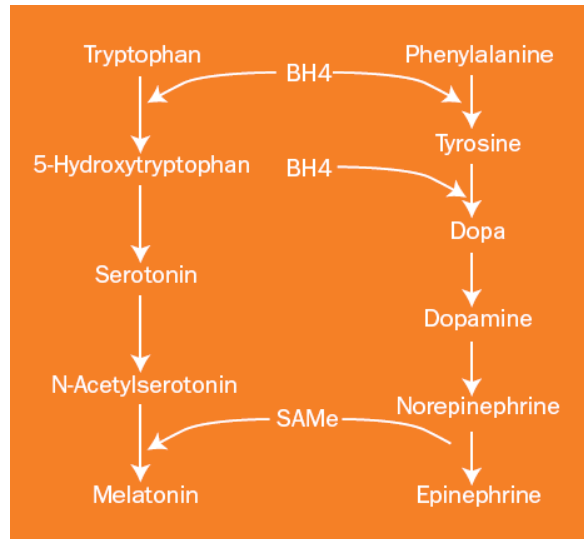
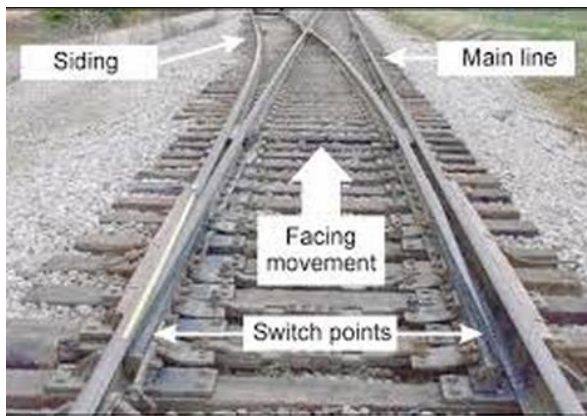
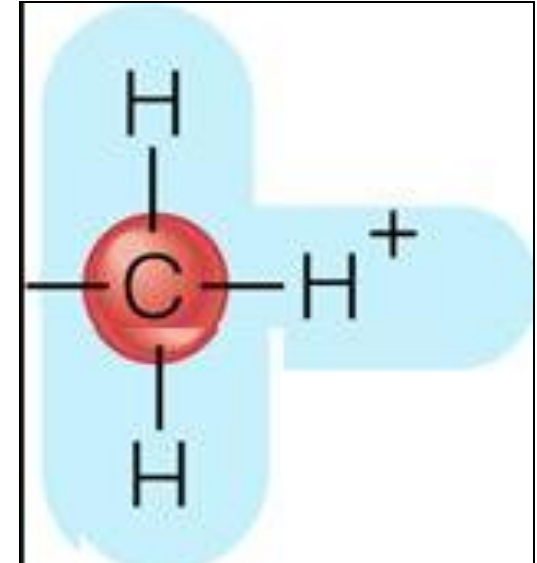
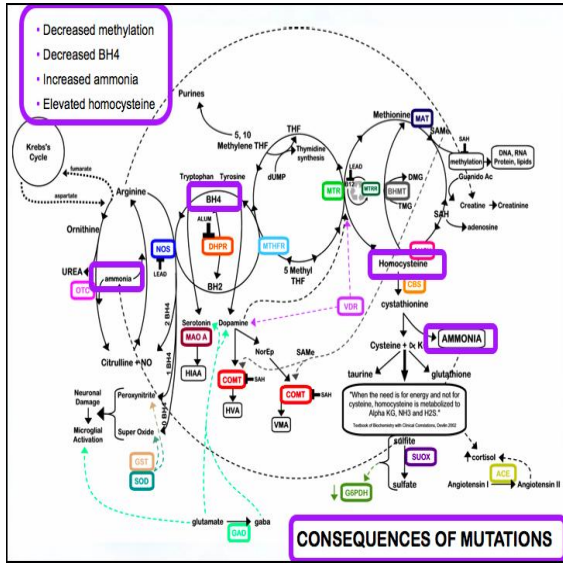
Status of FDA devices used for the material being presented

NA/Non-Clinical

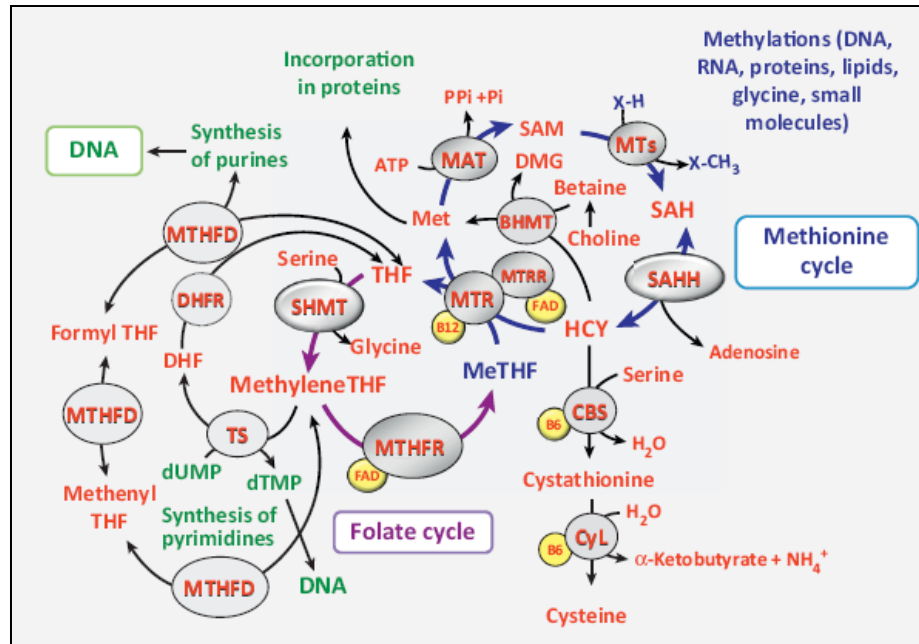
**Status of off-label use of devices, drugs or other materials that constitute
the subject of this presentation**

NA/Non-clinical

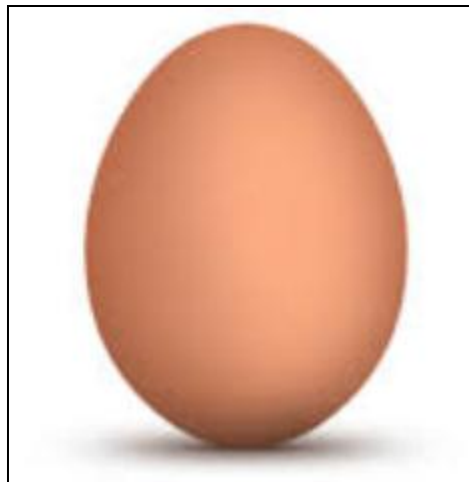
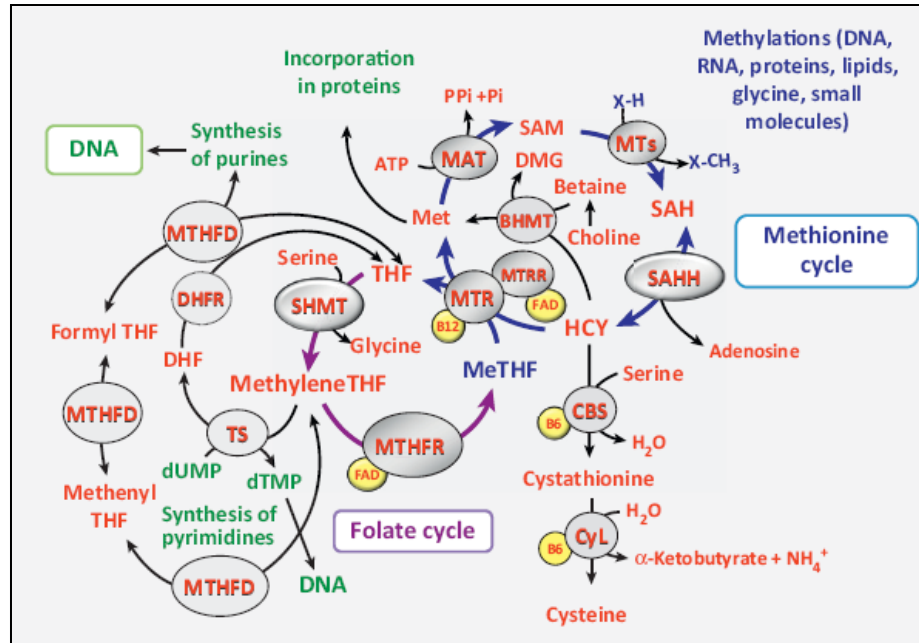
METHYL CYCLE NUTRGENOMICS



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FETAL HYPERTENSIVE PROGRAMMING

♥ Female Wistar Rats



Mate with genomically normal male rats

Between conception and weaning of pups, place dams on:

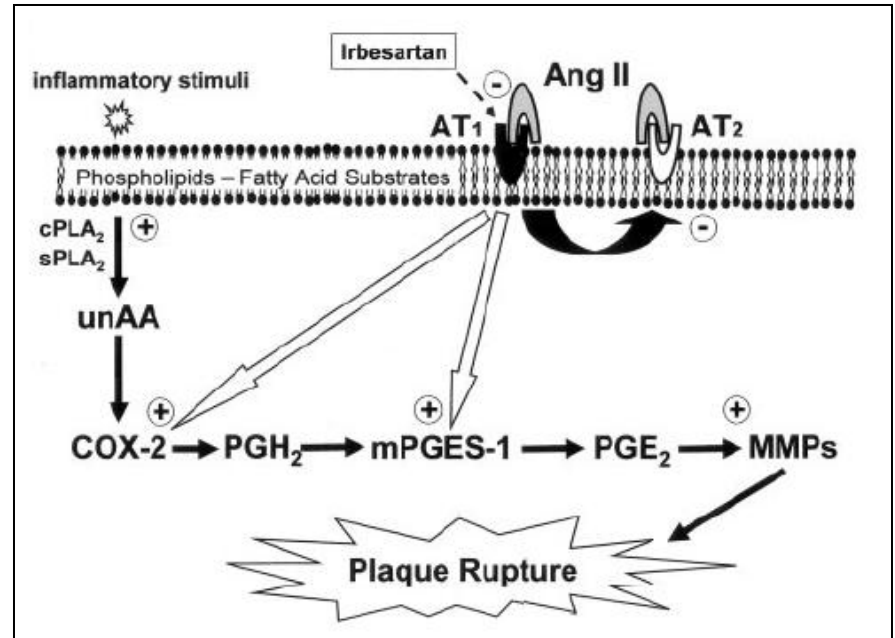
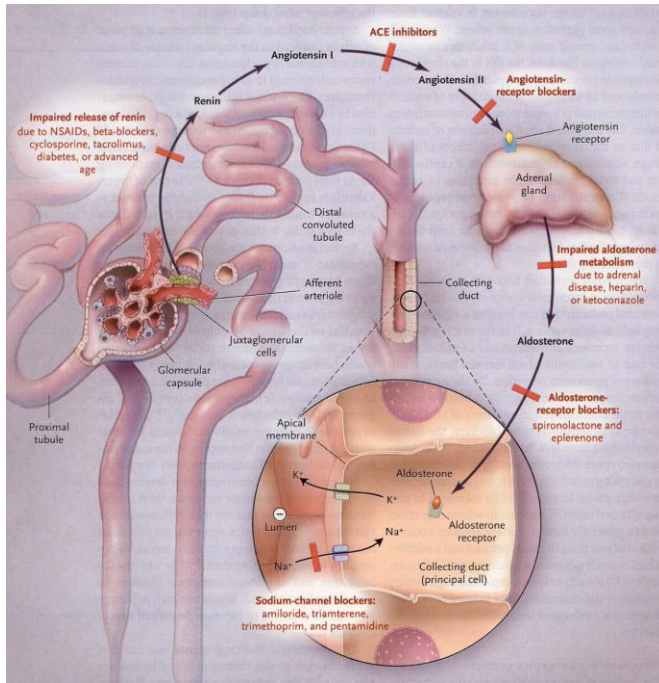
- Standard rat chow (20% protein)
- Low protein (8%) chow (extra calories as carbohydrate)

At three weeks pups weaned to standard 20% protein diet

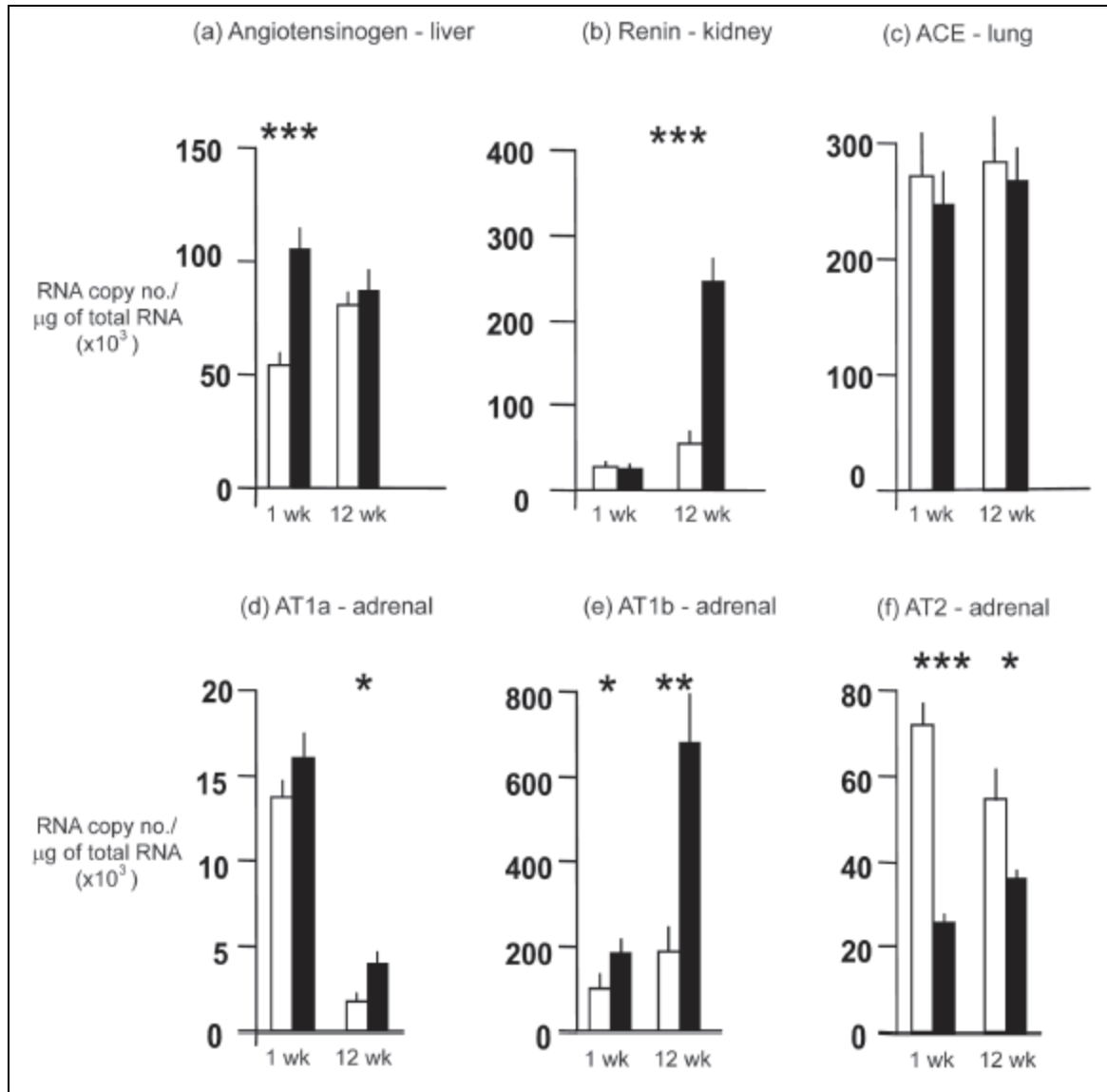
At one or twelve weeks sacrifice pups and evaluate mRNA of RAS proteins:

- Angiotensinogen
- ACE
- Renin
- AT1 and AT2 receptor

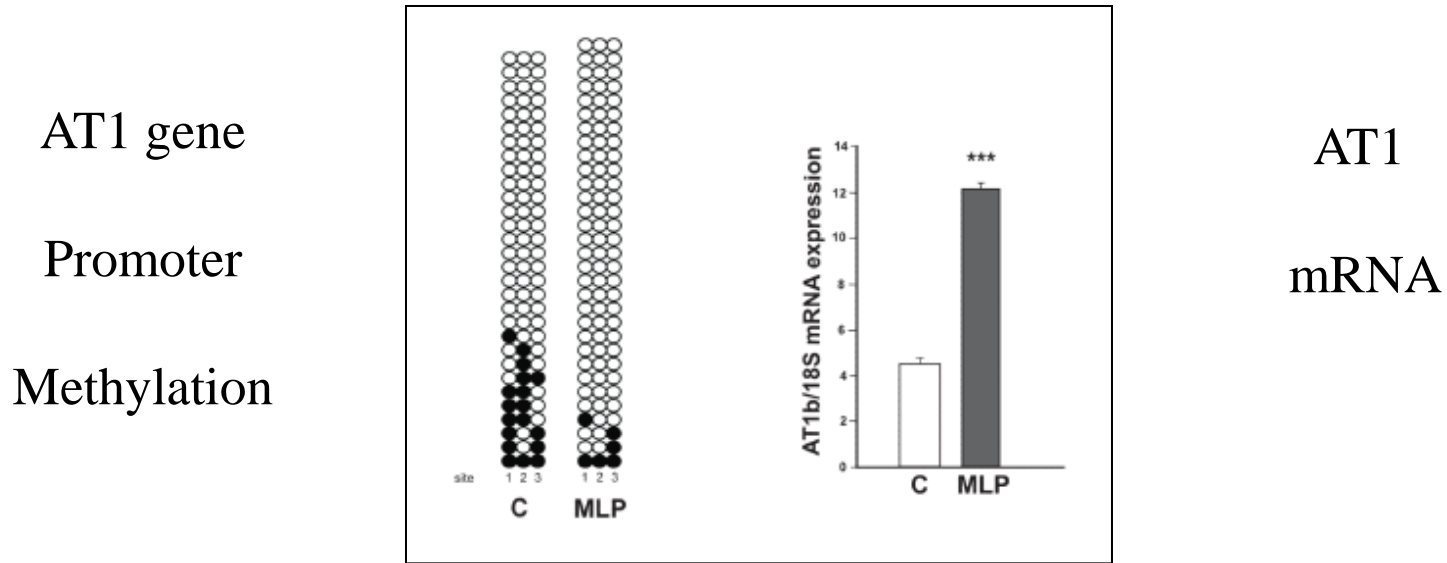
FETAL HYPERTENSIVE PROGRAMMING



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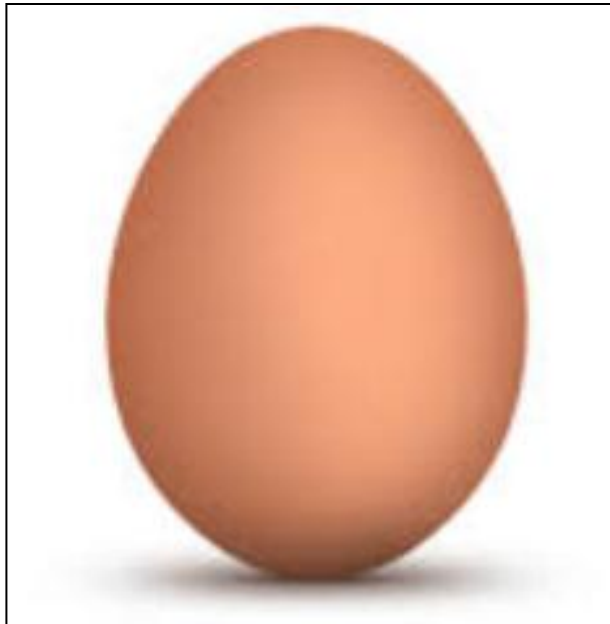
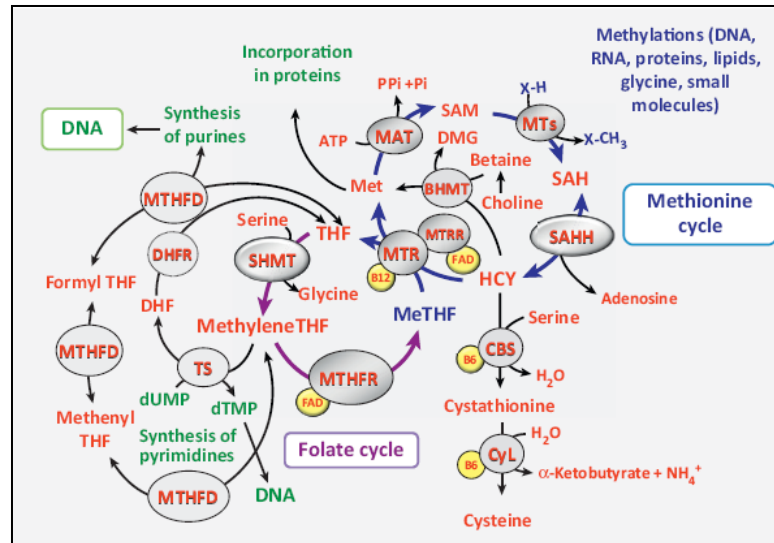
Maternal protein insufficiency →

Reduced methylation of RAS gene promoter sites →

Increased transcription of RAS proteins →

Hypertensive phenotype

METHYL CYCLE NUTRGENOMICS

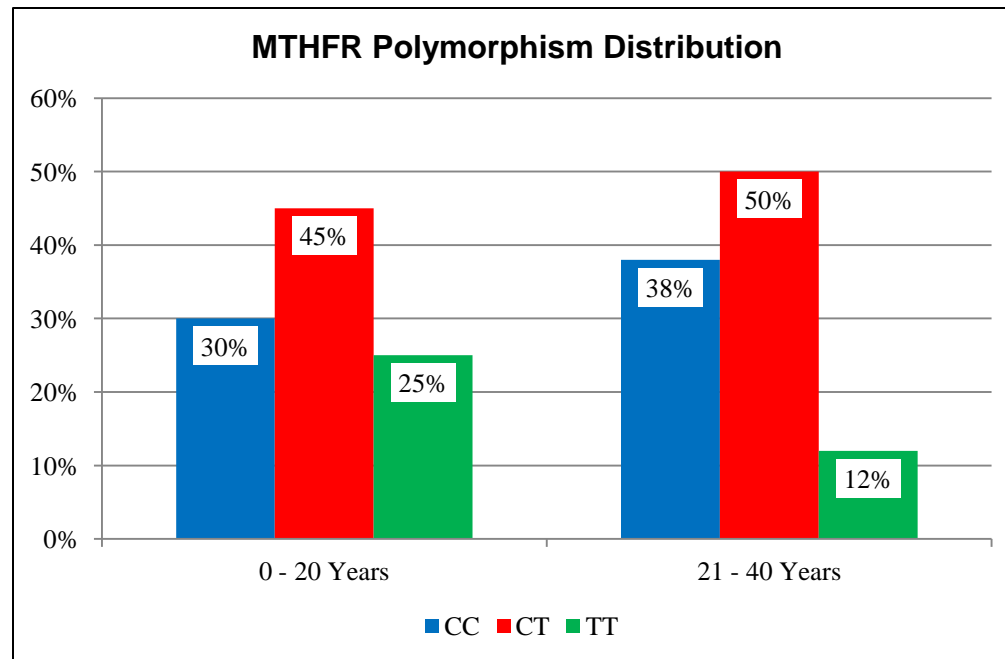


Nutrient (unit)	Whole Egg
Weight	60g
Water (percentage)	65-68.5
Calories (kcal)	70
Protein (g)	6.3
Carbohydrate (g)	0.36
Total fat (g)	4.8
Polyunsaturated fat (g)	1
Monounsaturated fat (g)	1.8
Saturated fat (g)	1.6
Cholesterol (mg)	185
Choline (mg)	126
Vitamin A (IU)	270
Vitamin D (IU)	41
Vitamin E (mg)	0.5

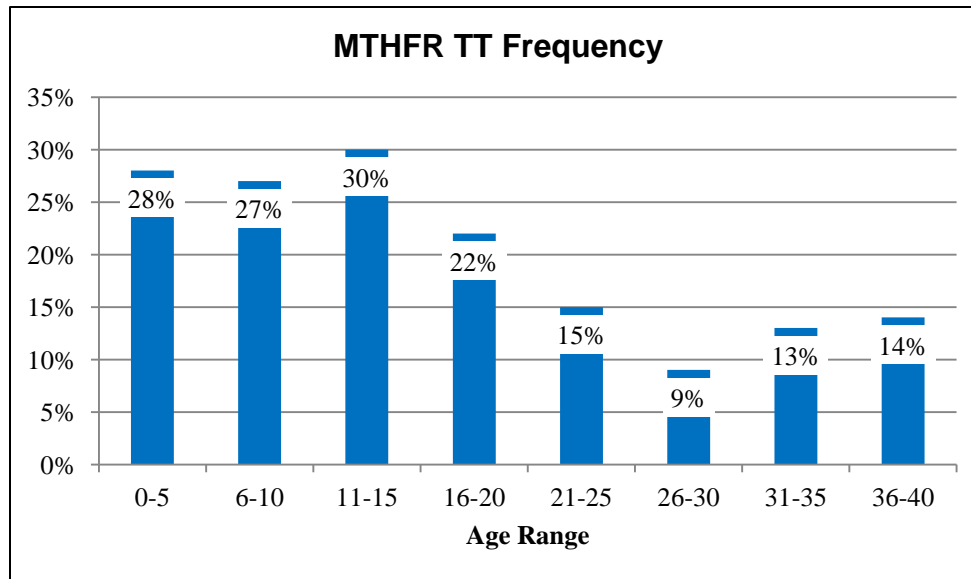
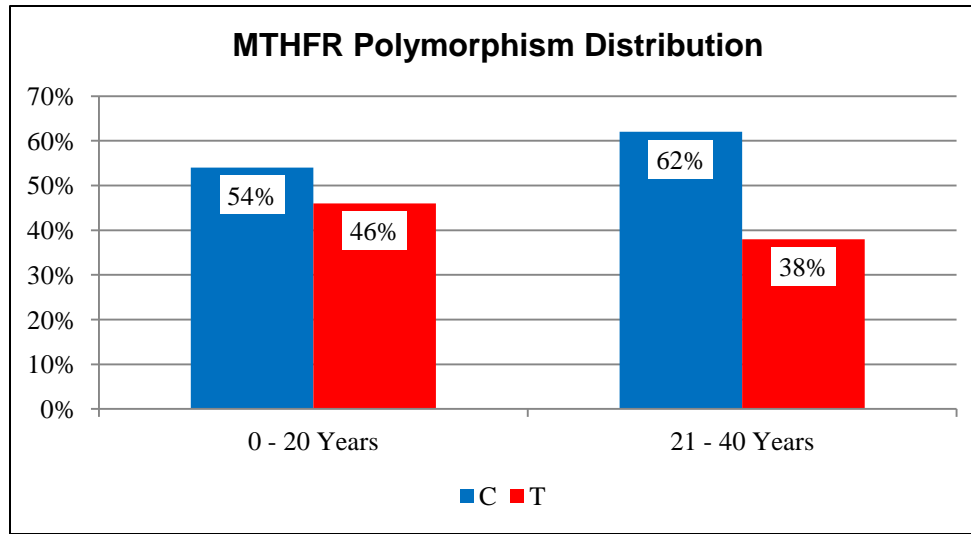
MTHFR 677C→T POLYMORPHISM

♥ Genotype 695 Spaniards

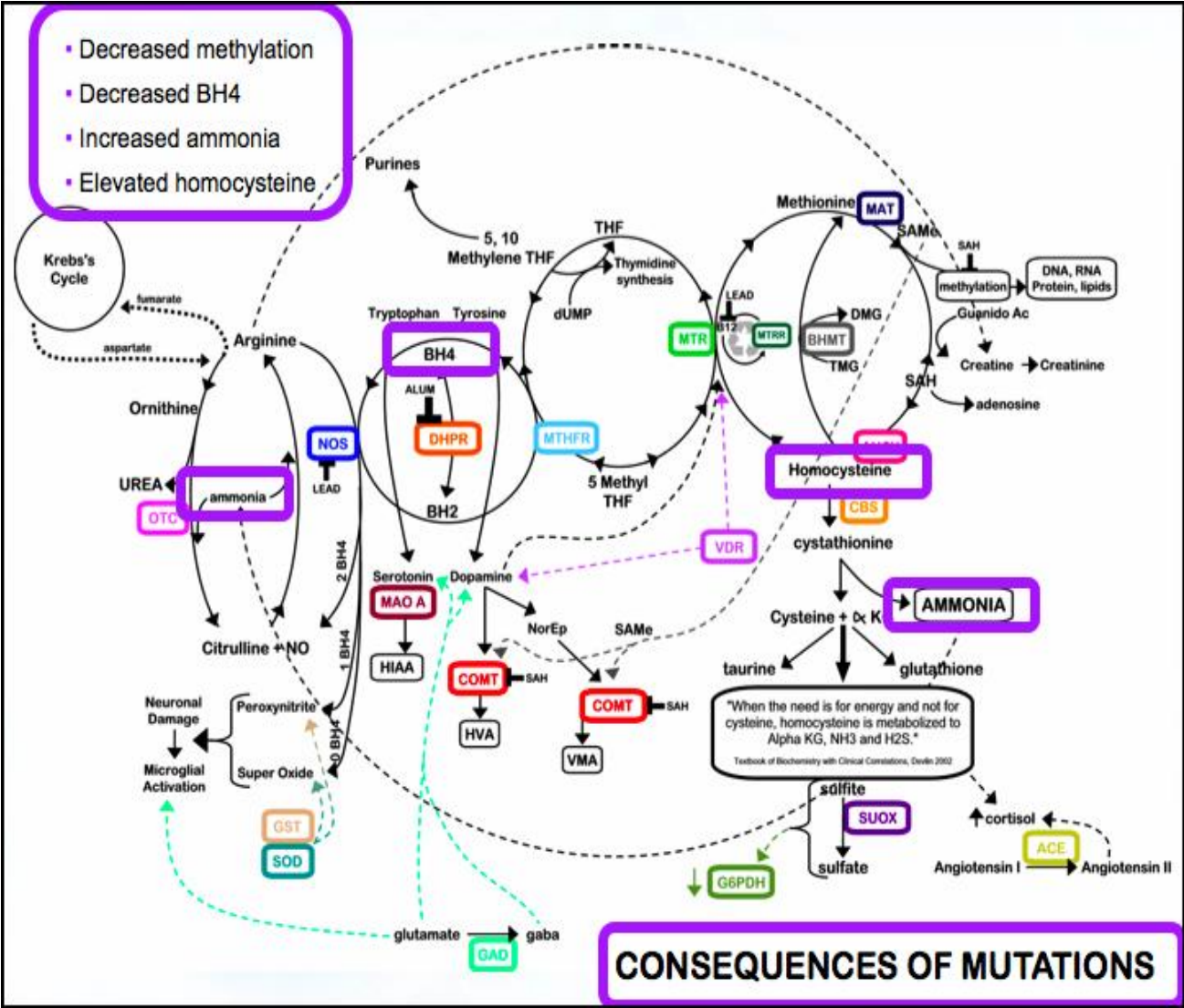
- All ≤ 40 years of age
- No migration in or out of area
 - ◆ ACE I/D – Stable over all age ranges
 - ◆ MTHFR 677C→T (Val→Met)



MTHFR 677C→T POLYMORPHISM

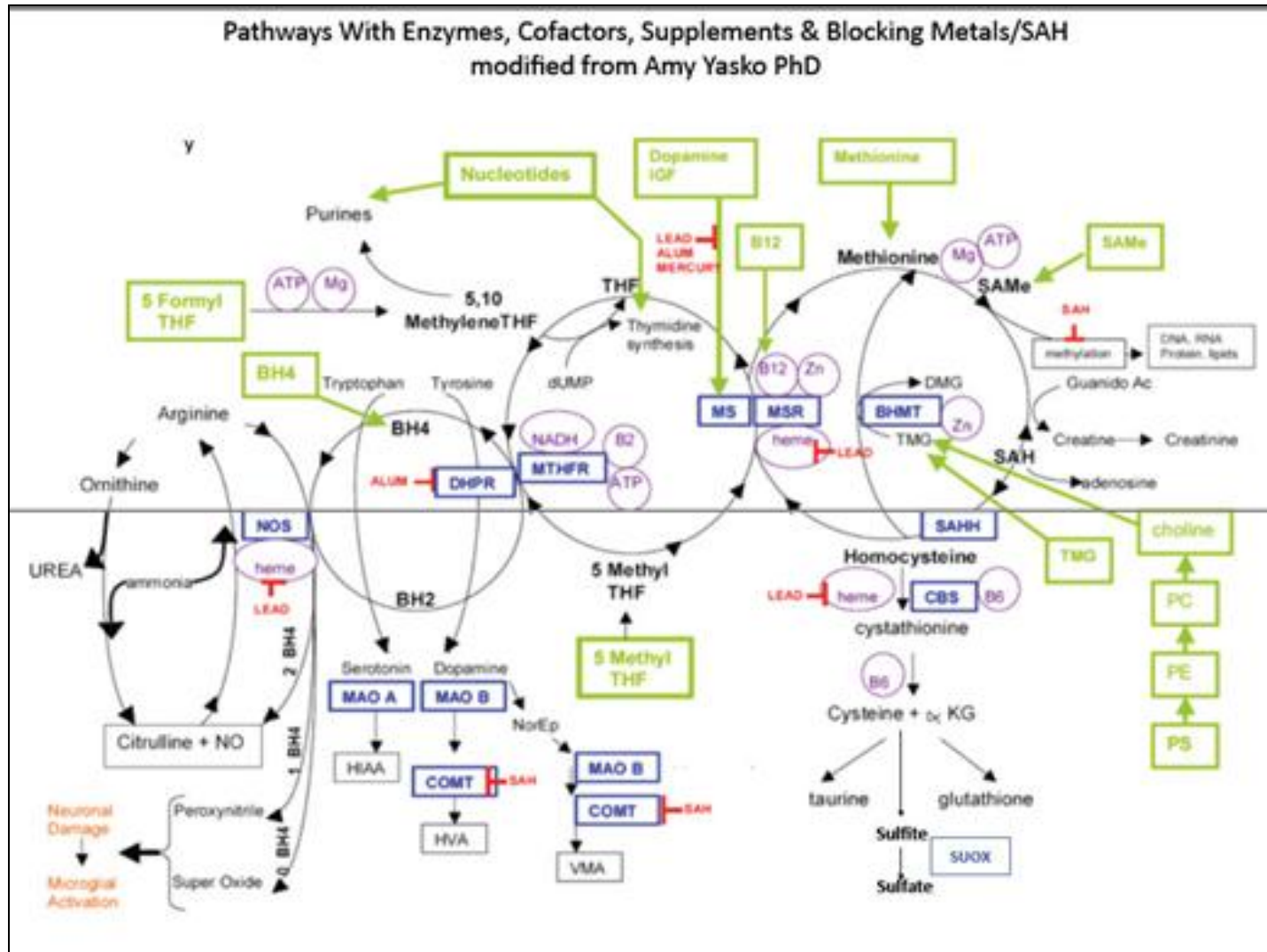


METHYL CYCLE NUTRGENOMICS



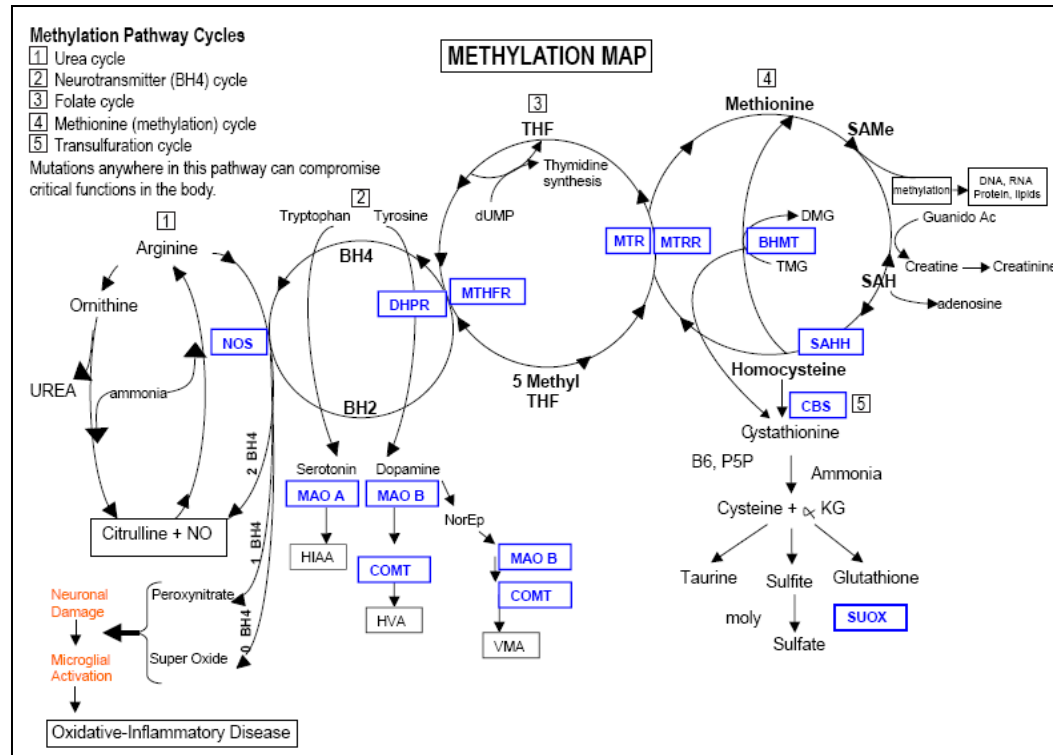
Thanks to Amy Yasko PhD.

METHYL CYCLE NUTRGENOMICS



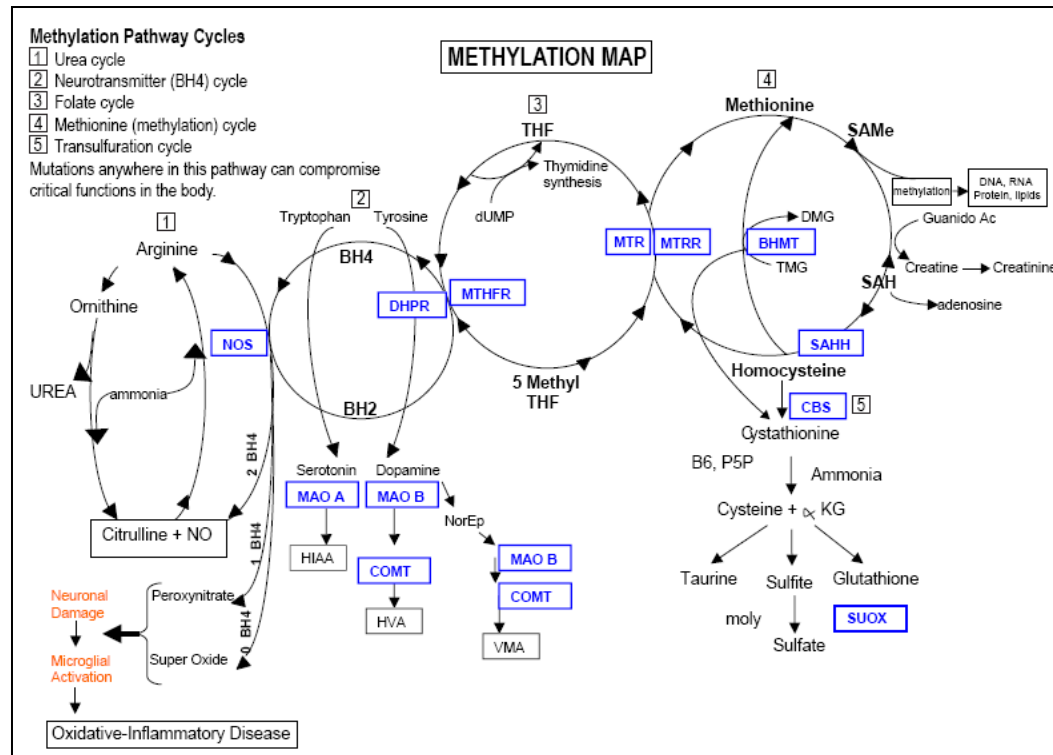
Genomic – Nutritional – Toxicity Interaction \Rightarrow Phenotype and Overall Health

CAVEATS to METHYL CYCLE NUTRIGENOMIC DISCUSSION



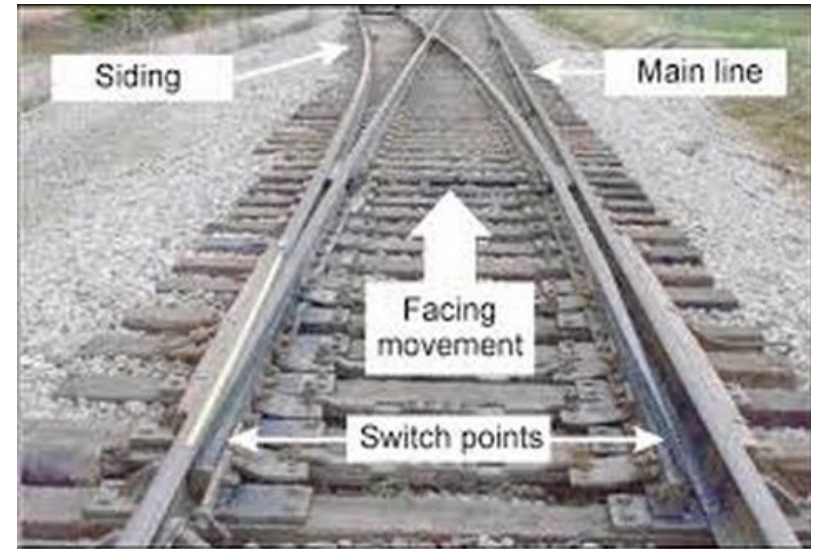
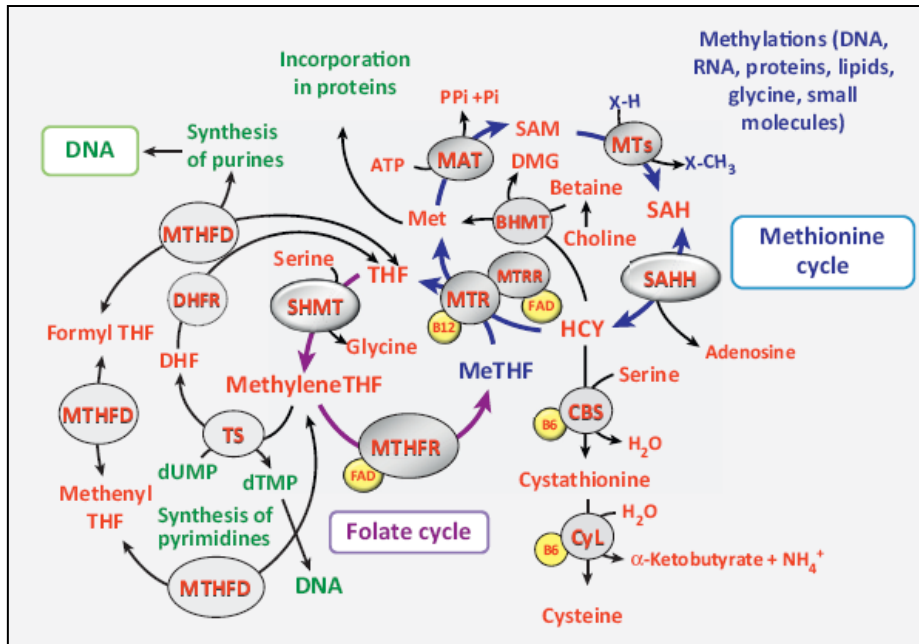
1. Unsettled science (application of clinical experience to basic science)
2. Dr. Yasko's work focuses on kids with autism
 - Pediatric recs often inappropriate for adults with acquired disease states
3. Genotype does not always determine phenotype
4. Acquired factors (toxicity, new health challenge) “brings out” genomic weakness
5. Methyl Cycle Genomic Status is not the sole determinant of health

UNDERSTANDING the METHYL CYCLE



1. No need to memorize
2. Methyl Cycle is a perfect system
 - Creation vs. Darwinian Evolution
3. “Defects” response to altered nutrient availability (time period or location)
4. Understand the purpose of “Defect” → Neutralize adverse effects on individual
5. All this must make sense (or its probably wrong)

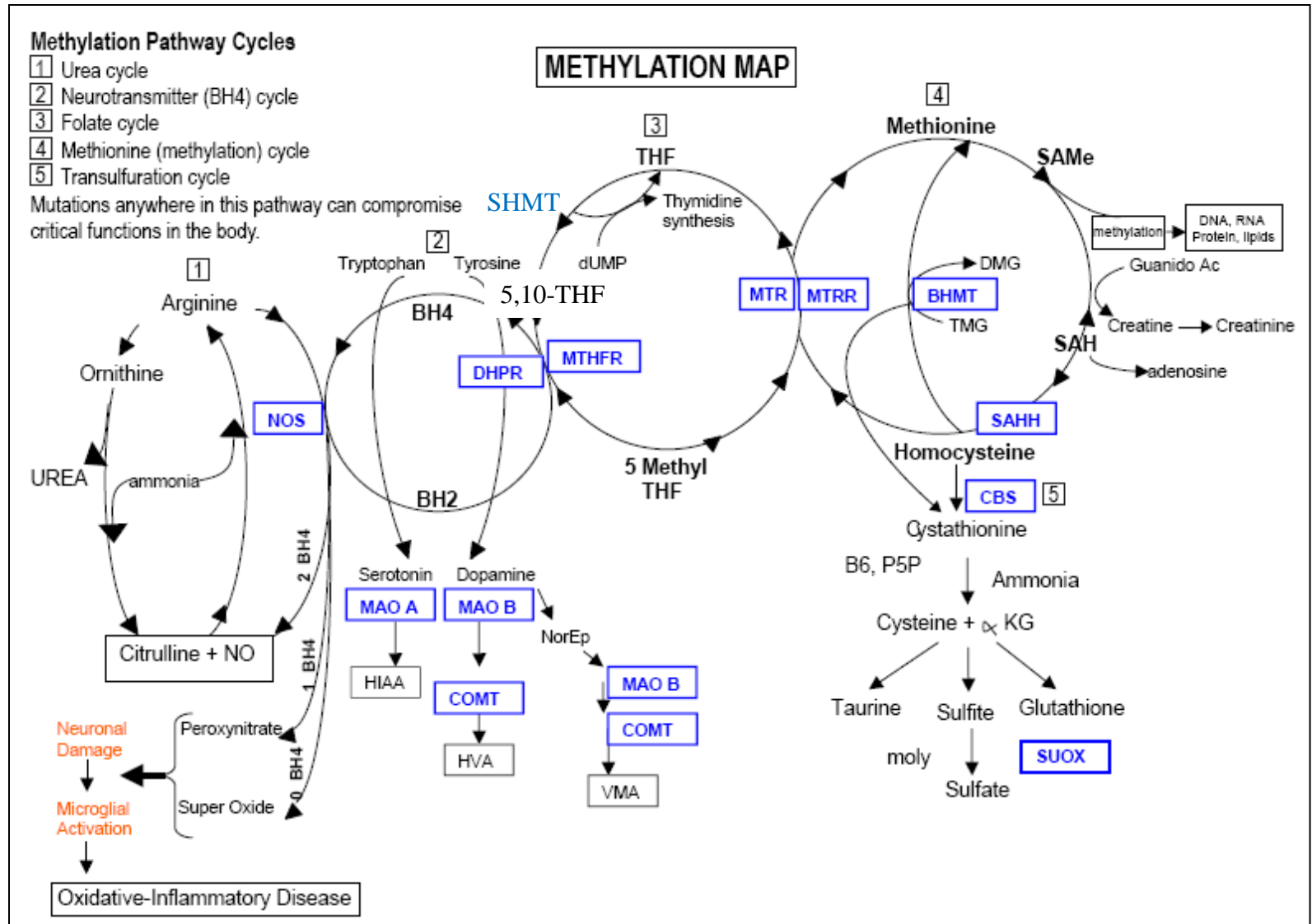
UNDERSTANDING the METHYL CYCLE



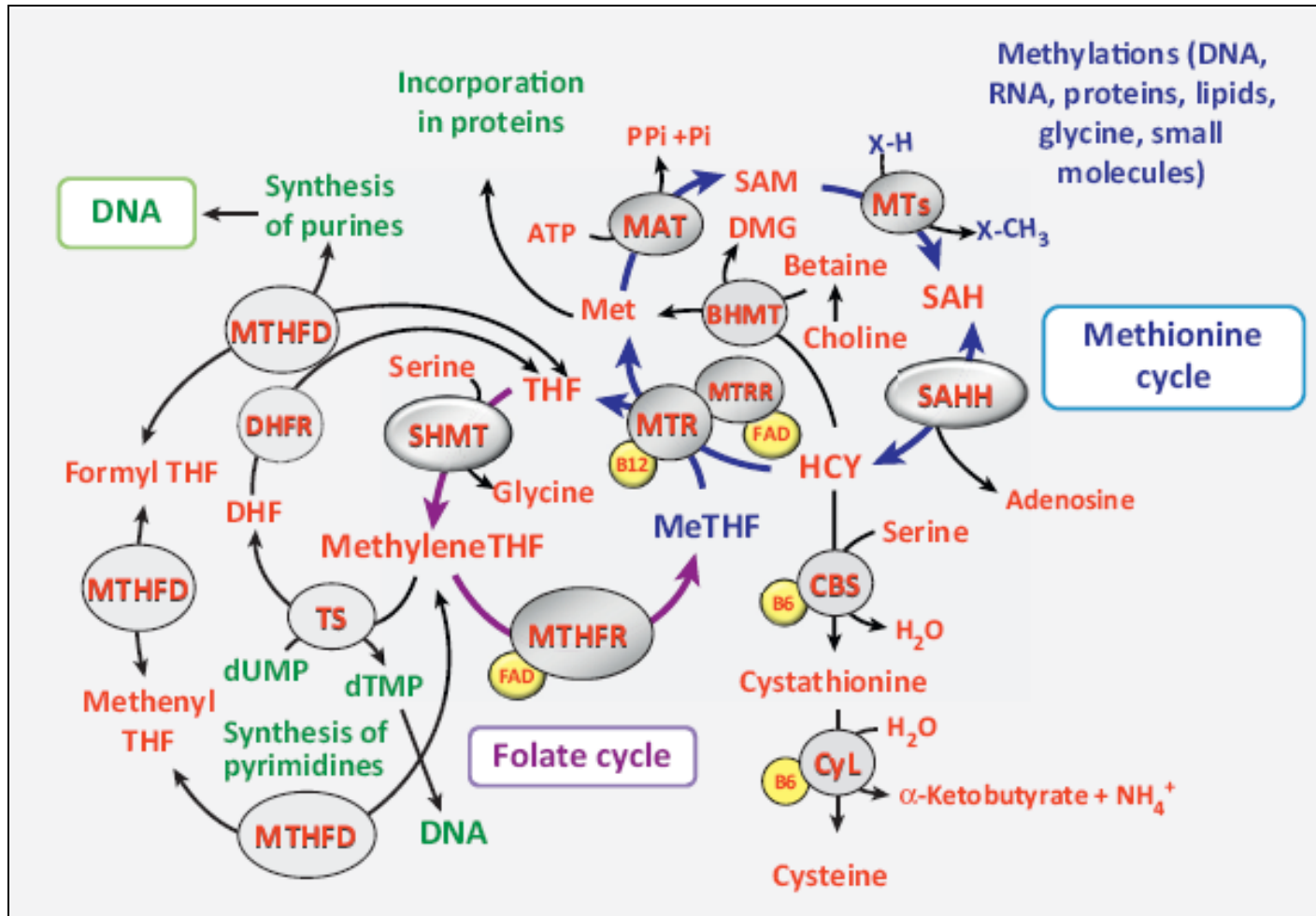
MTHFR C677T:

- Not a health challenge (if diet is adequate in ***** and *****)
- Decreases risk of certain cancers
- Shunts Methyl Groups towards DNA synthesis
 - ◆ Prevalence of MTHFR 677C→T increasing

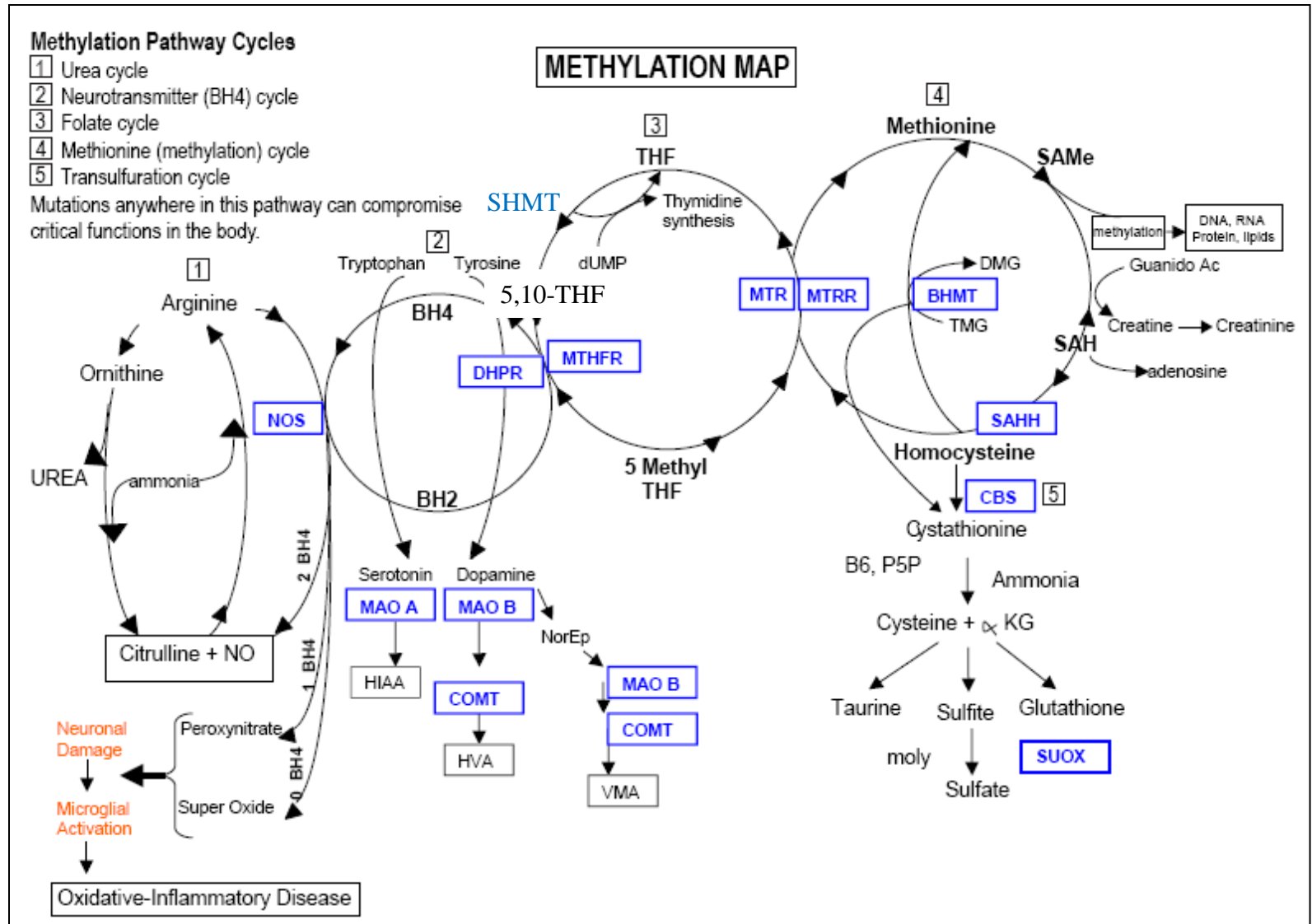
OVERVIEW of the METHYL CYCLE



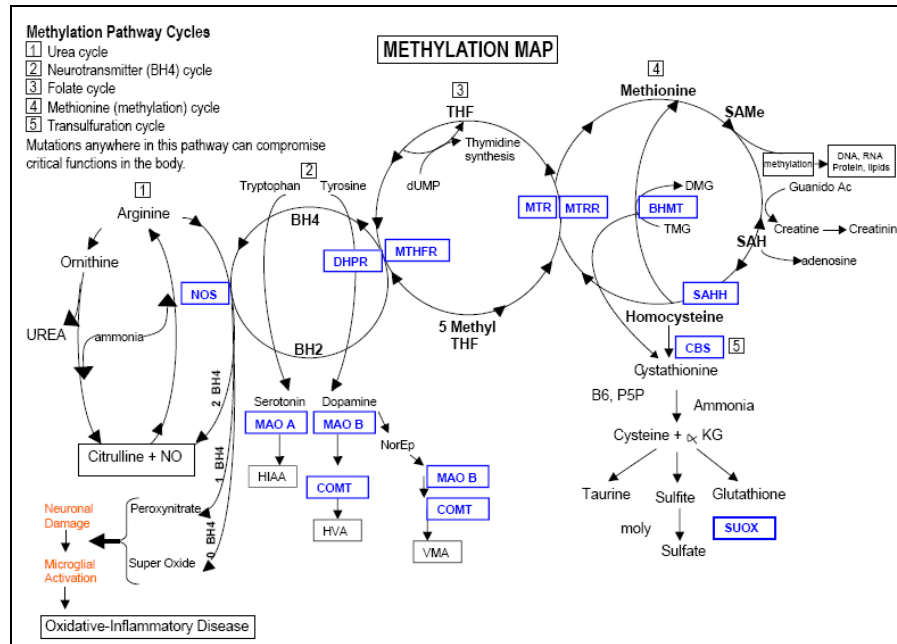
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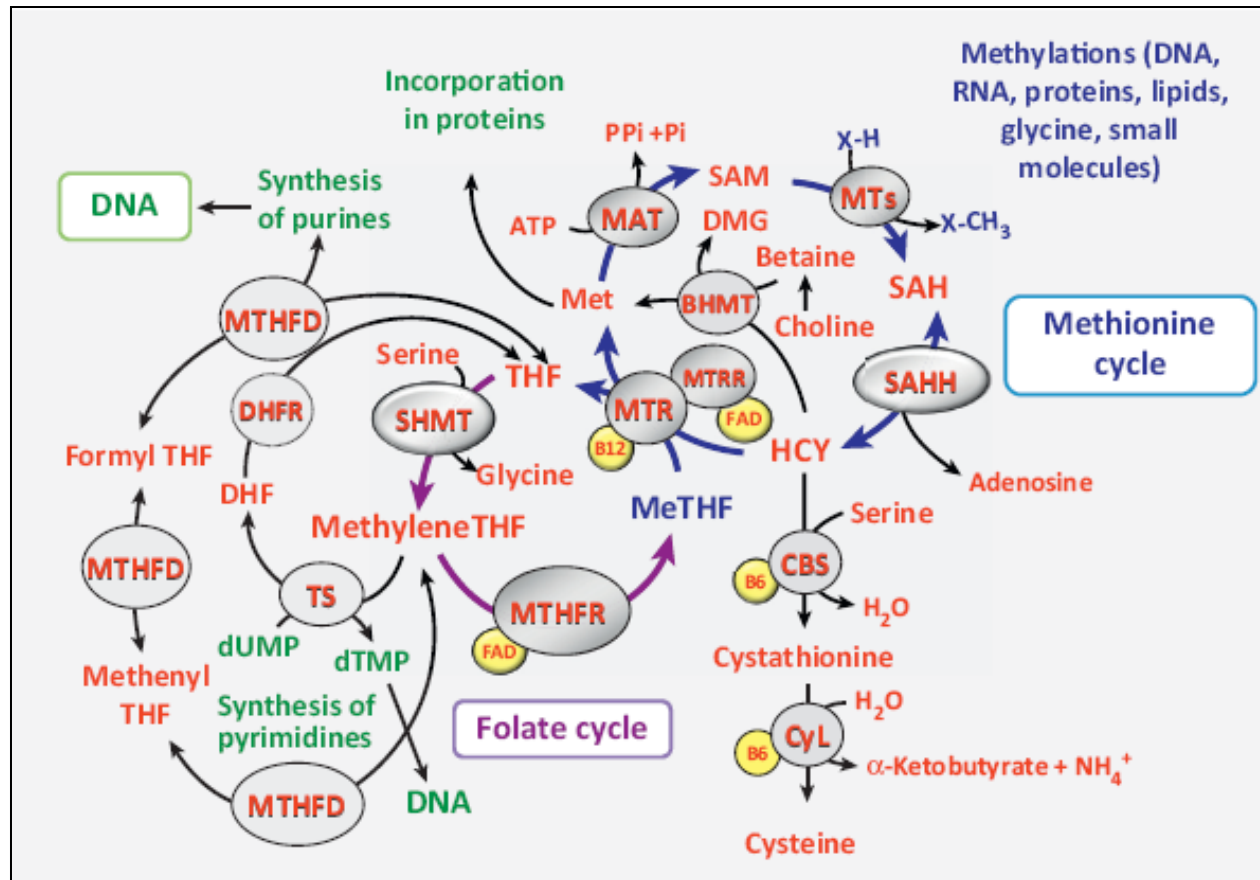
FUNCTIONS of the METHYL CYCLE



Maintain (current health status) appropriate levels of:

- Pyrimidine and purine bases for DNA and RNA synthesis
- Antioxidant/Detox molecules glutathione, cysteine, taurine, & sulfate
- BH4 (tetrahydrobiopterin)
- Transferable methyl groups \approx High SAME:SAH

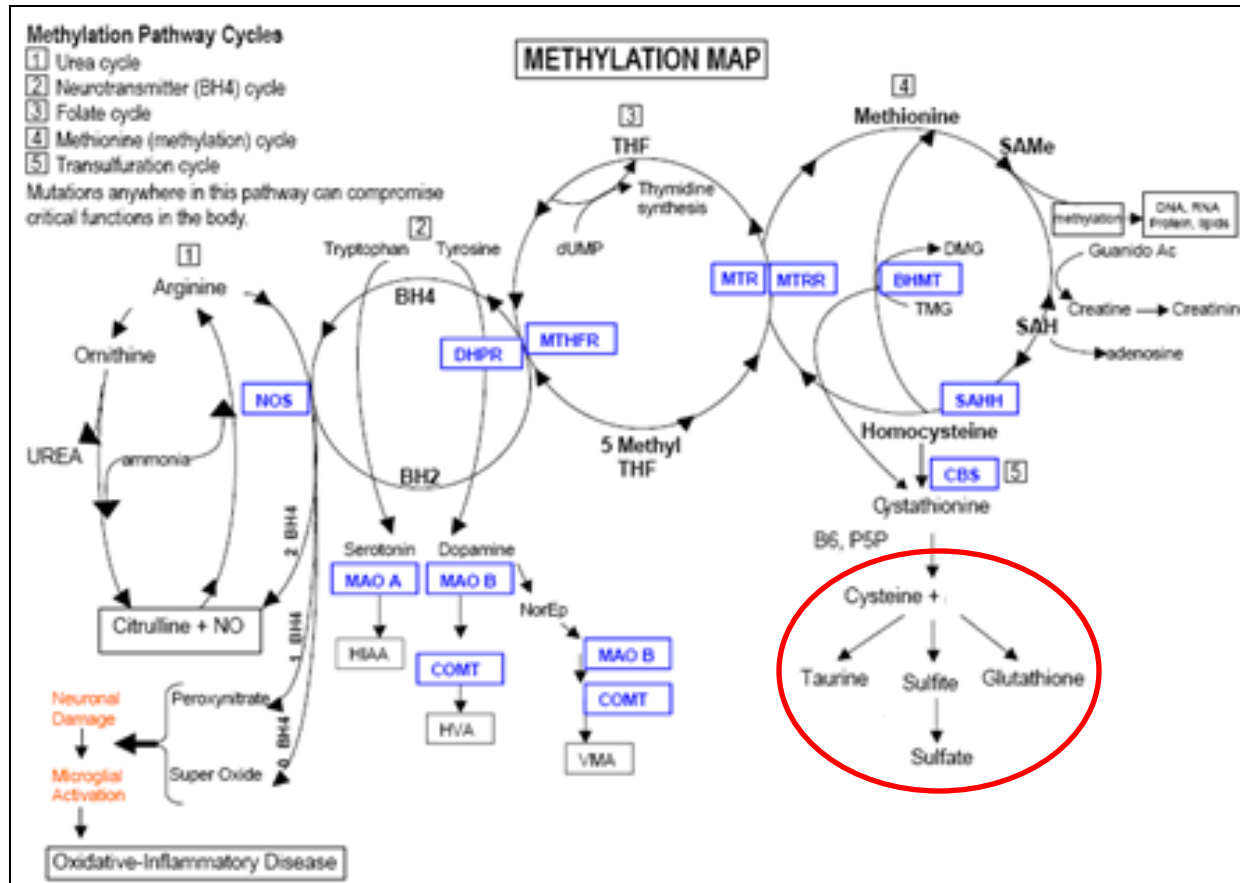
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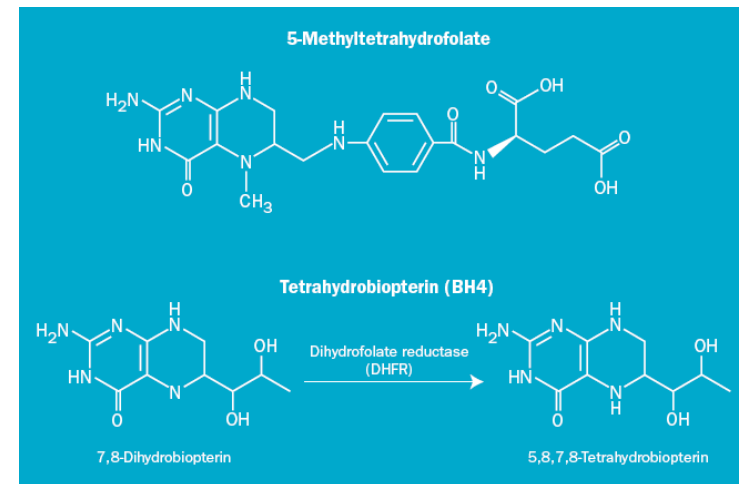
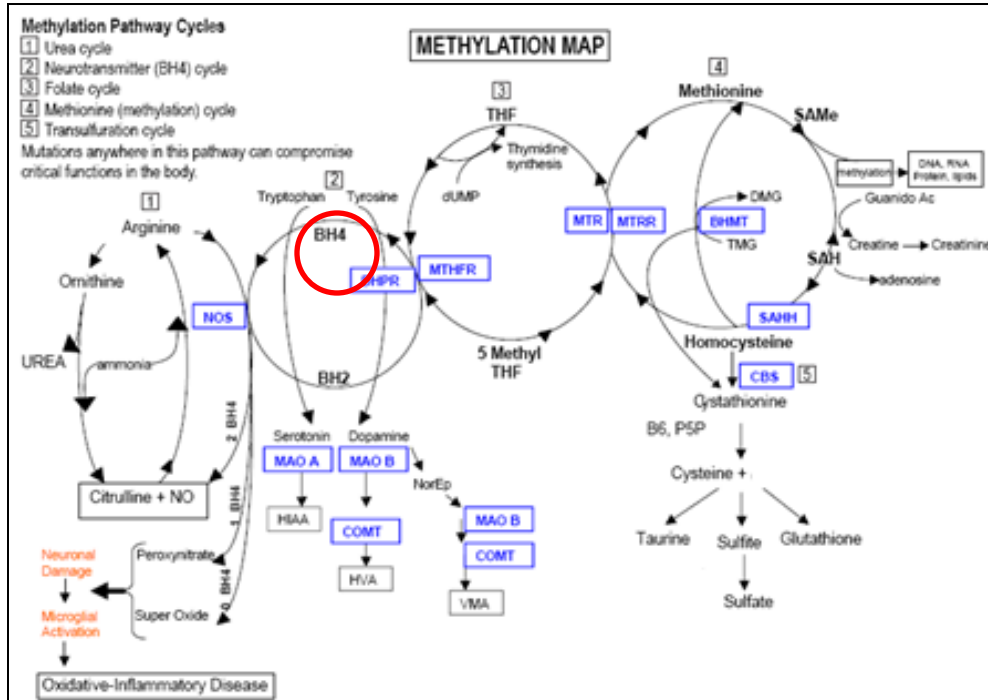
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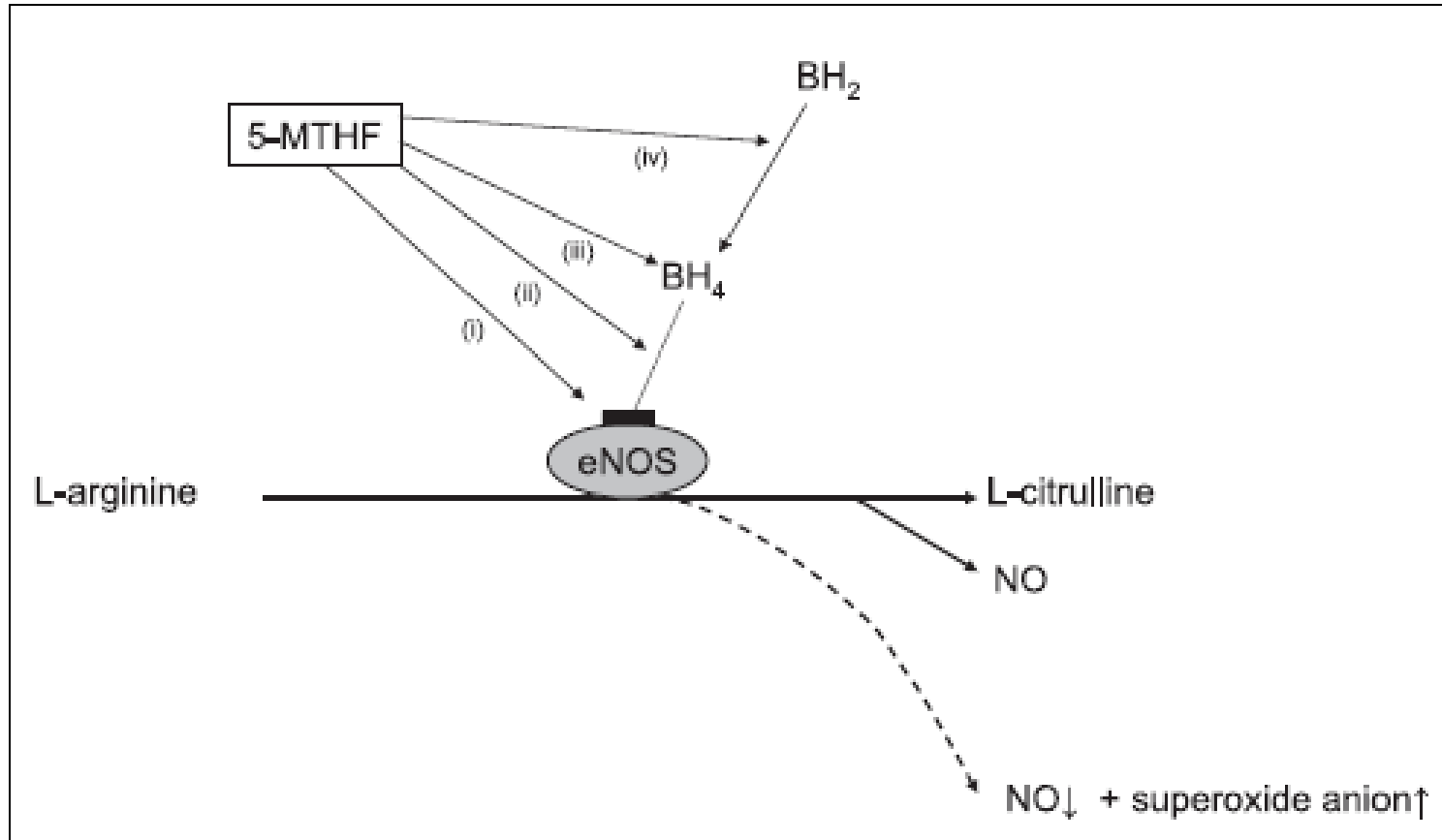
FUNCTIONS of the METHYL CYCLE



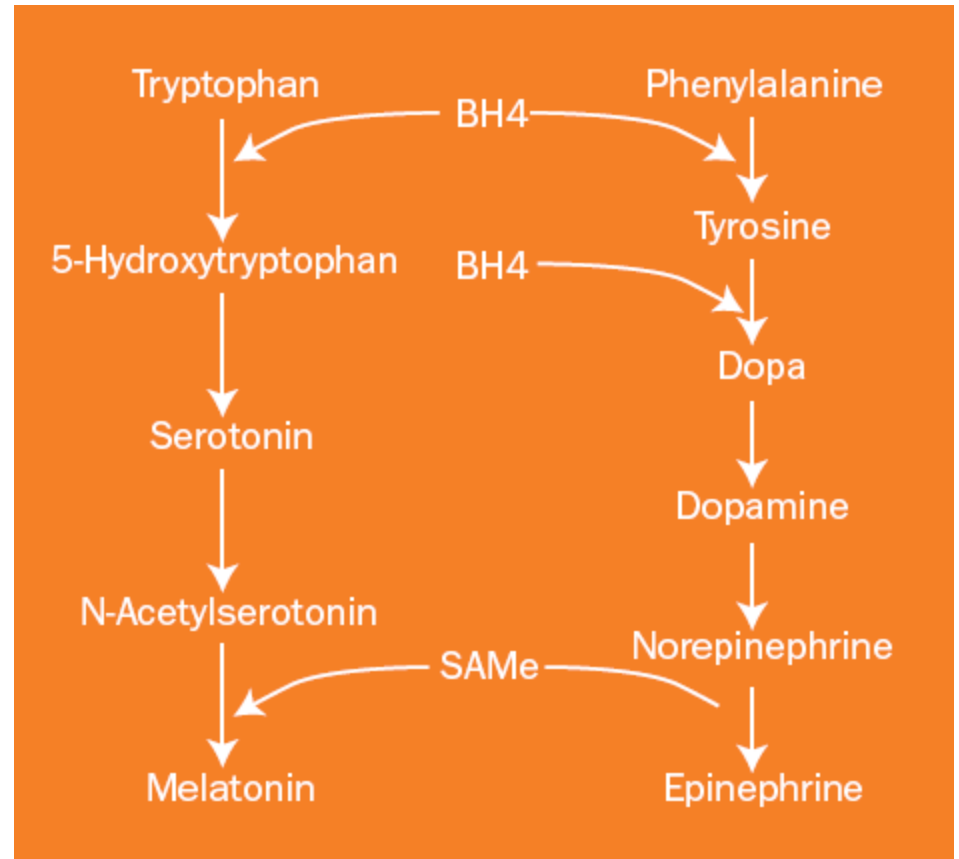
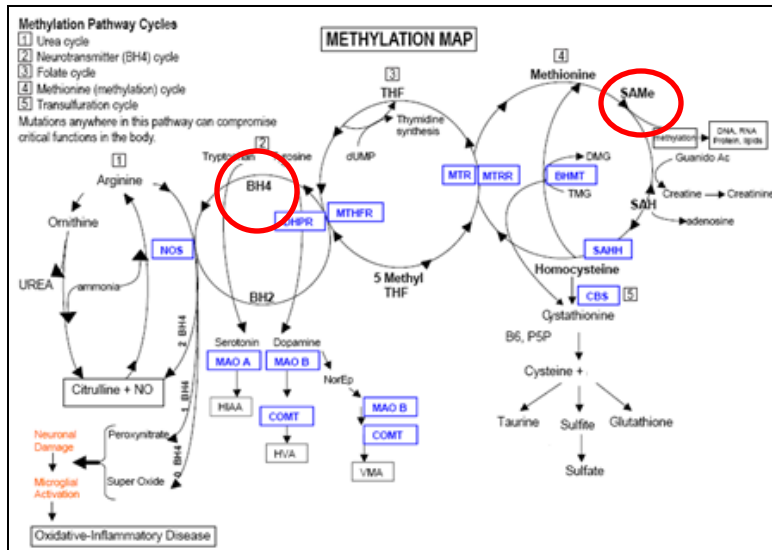
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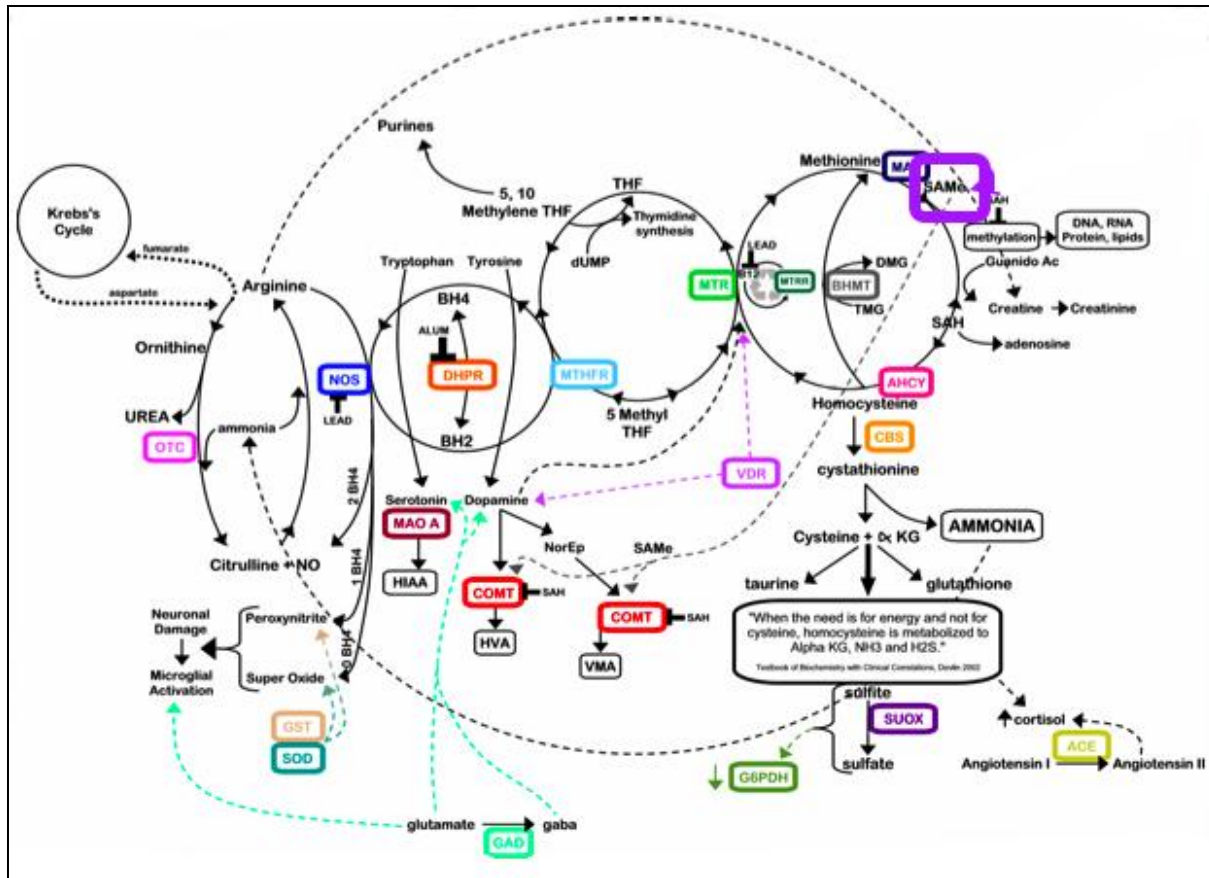
FOLATES (5-METHYL FOLATE) SUPPORT BH4



FOLATES (5-METHYL FOLATE) SUPPORT BH4 and SAMe



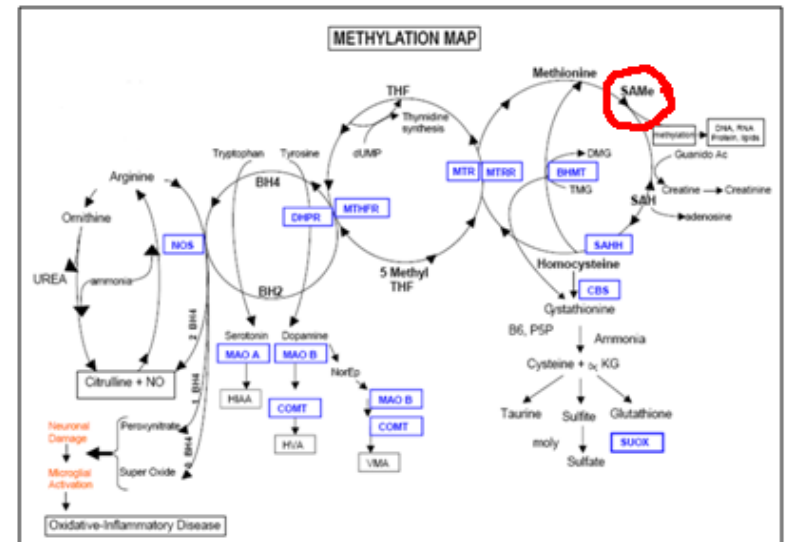
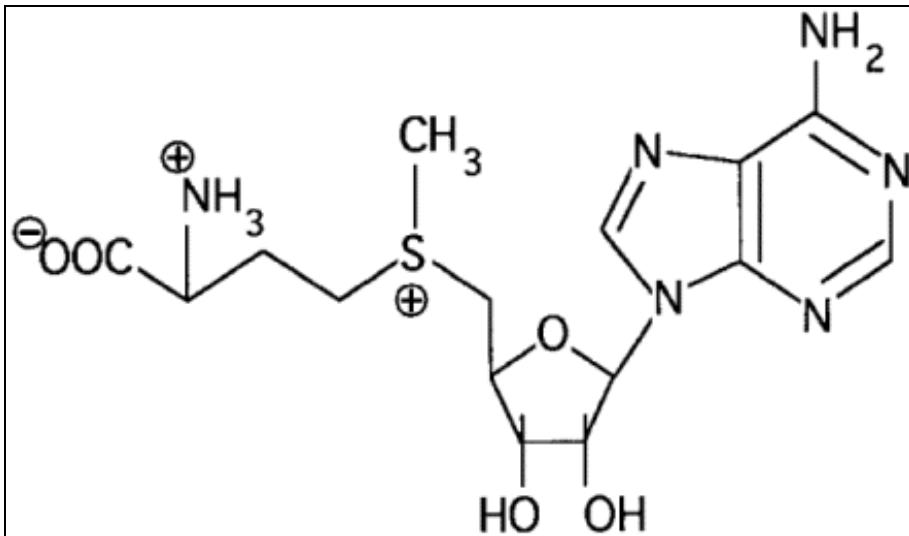
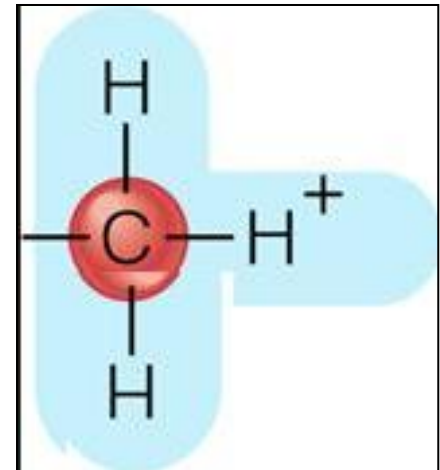
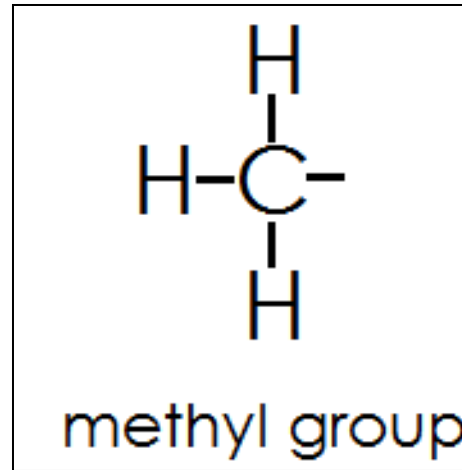
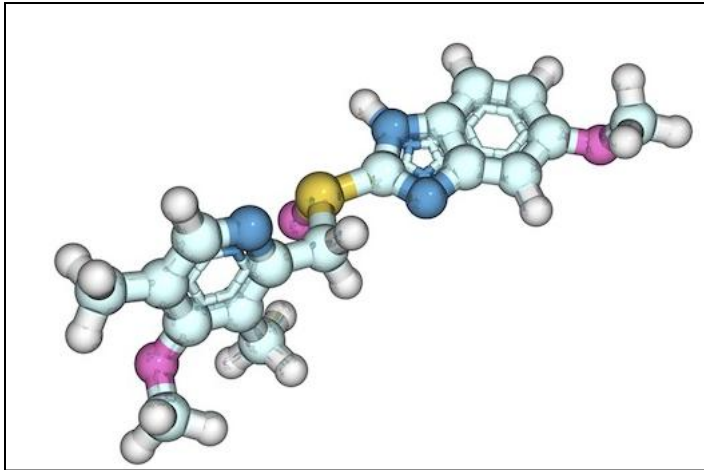
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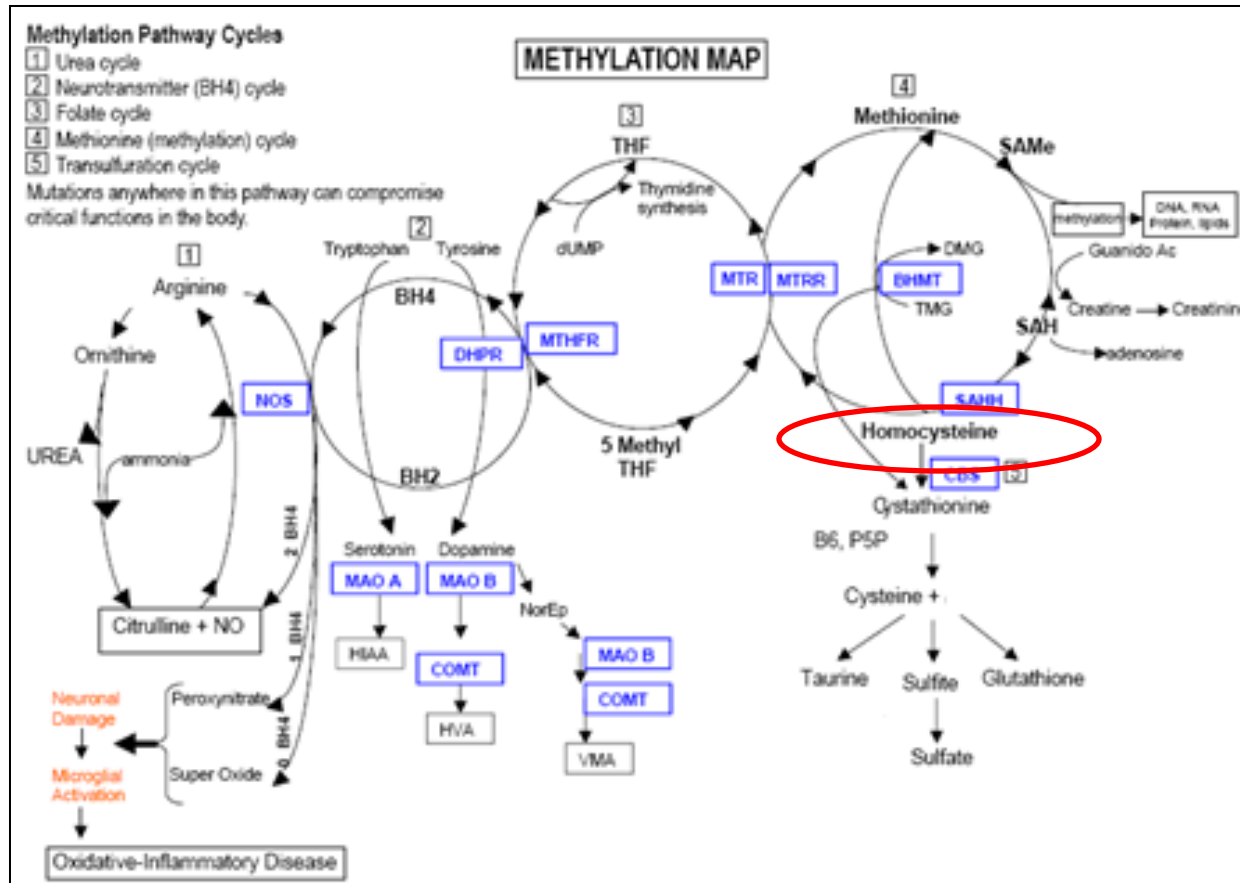
TRANSFERABLE METHYL GROUPS



SAMe METHYL TRANSFER REACTIONS

Enzyme	Substrate and Effect
DNA Methyl Transferases	Alters DNA Transcription (Bookmarking)
Synthetic Reactions	Generation of Carnitine
Protein Methyl Transferases (PRMT)	Alters Enzyme Activity (PGC-1 α \rightarrow PPAR α \rightarrow FA Oxidation)
Catechol- <i>O</i> -Methyl Transferase COMT	Inactivates Catecholamines
	Methylates 2-OH and 4-OH Estrogens
	Metabolizes Bioflavonoids
PEMT Phosphatidylethanolamine N-Methyl Transferase	Generation of Phosphatidylcholine
GAMT Guanidinoacetate N-Methyl Transferase	Generation of Creatine
GNMT Glycine-N-Methyl Transferase	SAMe \rightarrow 5,10-MethyleneTHF

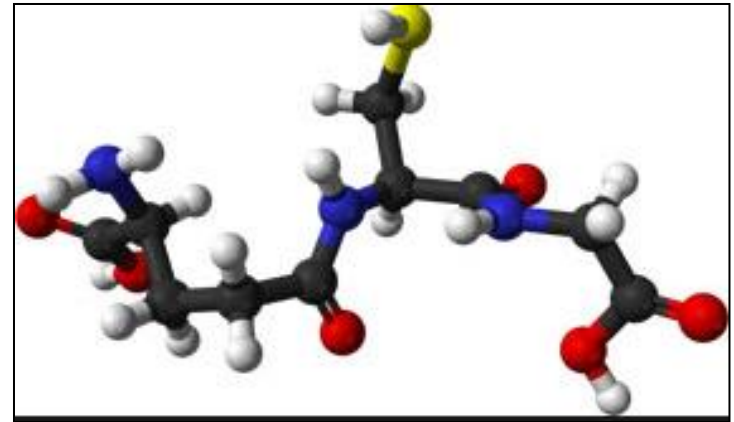
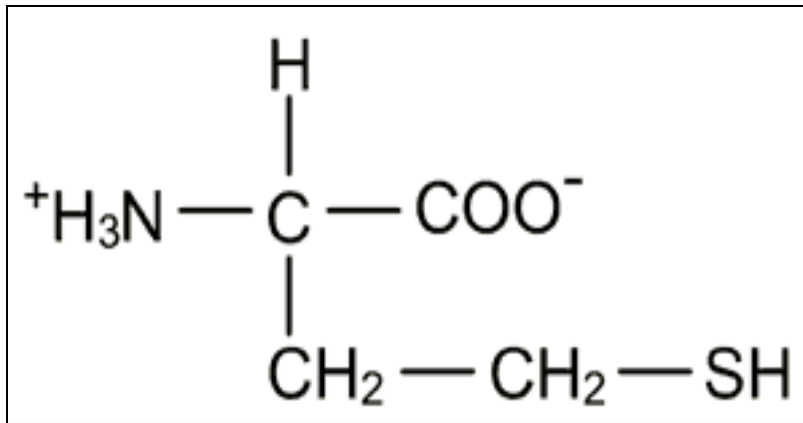
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HOMOCYSTEINE



Oxidative stress → NF-κB translocation, pAMPK → AMPK ⇒ HMG Co-A Reductase, endothelial dysfunction, mitochondrial failure → apoptosis

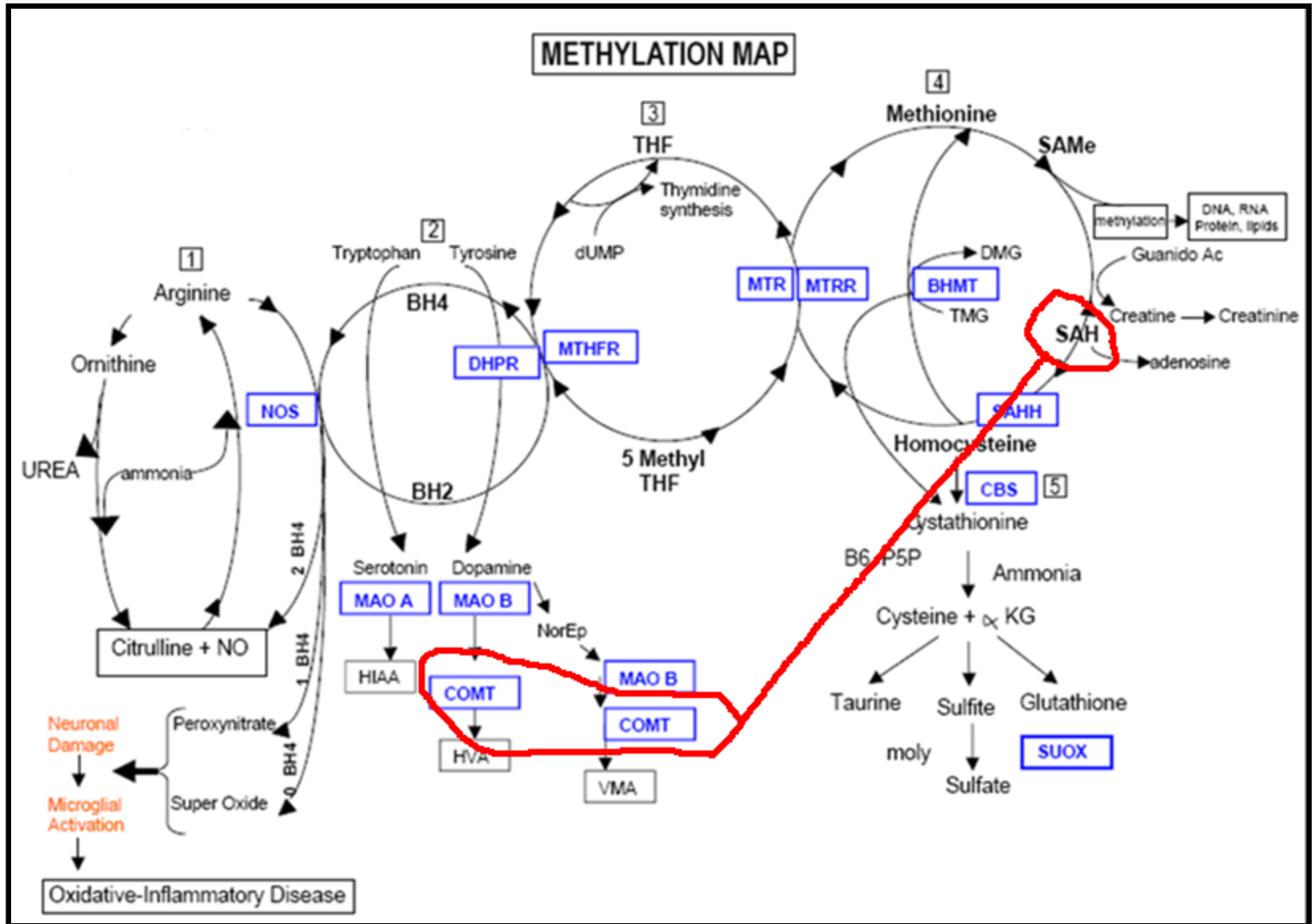
Homocysteine (Hcy) excess → build up of S-Adenosylhomocysteine (SAH)

SAH build up inhibits COMT → Impaired catecholamine and catechol estrogen metabolism

SAH build up inhibits DNMT → Accelerated aging and malignancy

Contributes to multiple disease states (Autism to Alzheimer's)

SAH INHIBITS COMT



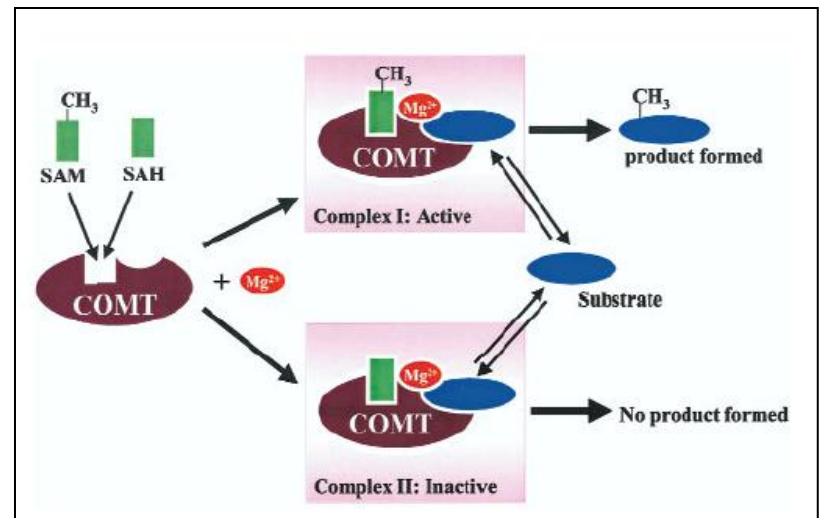
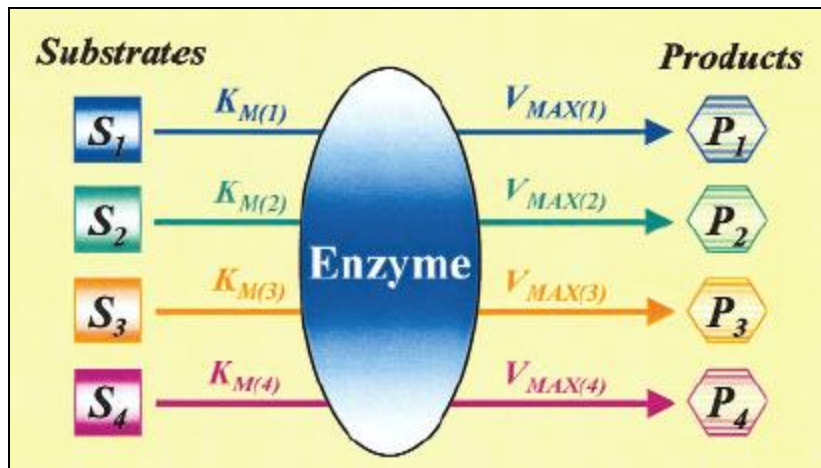
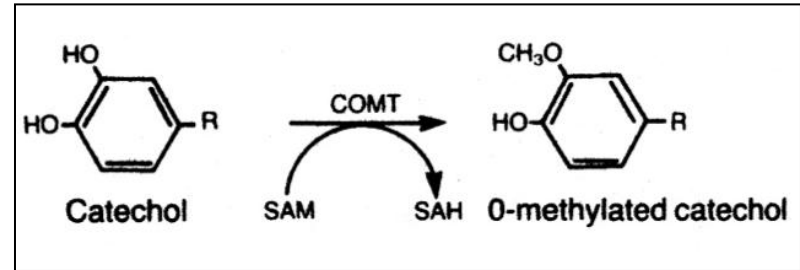
SAH INHIBITS COMT

COMT (Catechol-*O*-Methyl Transferase):

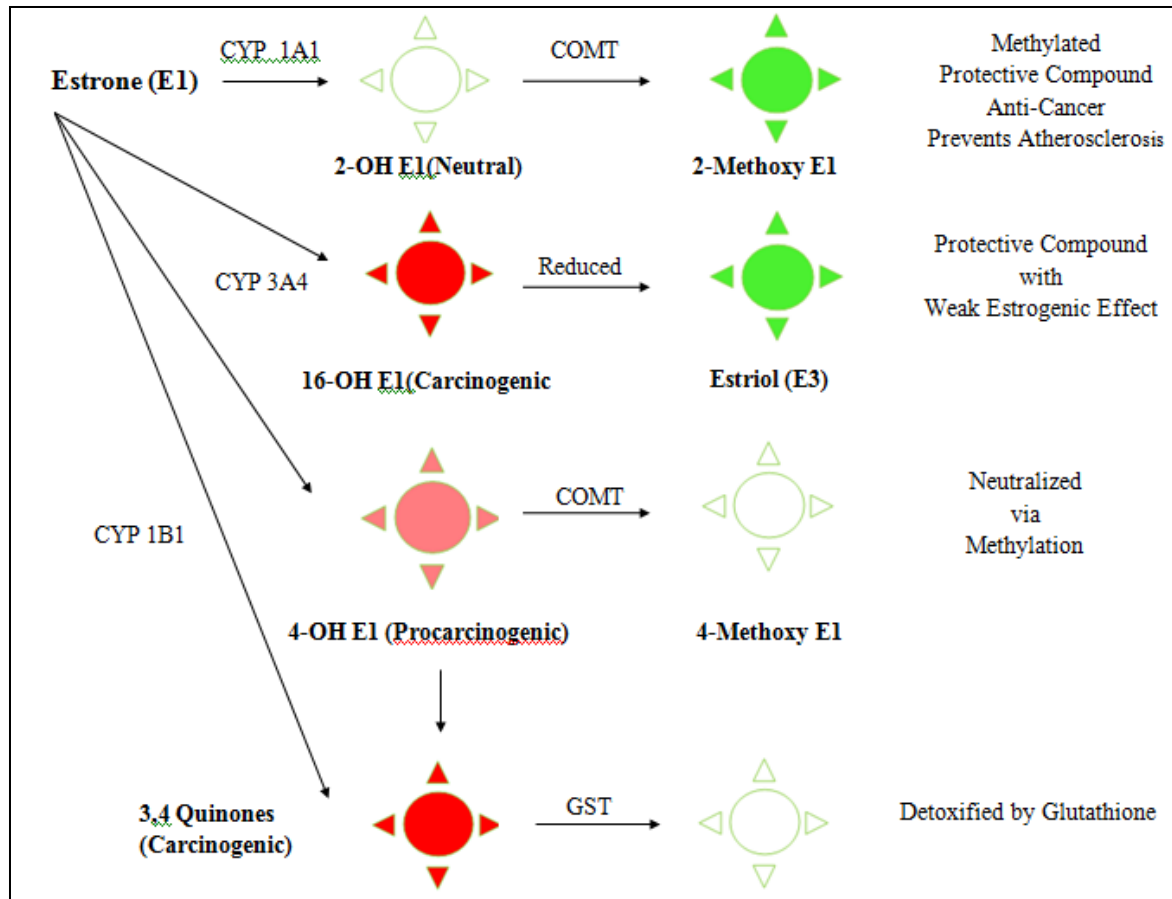
- High capacity
- Low specificity

COMT *O*-Methylates Catechols:

- Catecholamines
- Catechol (OH)-Estradiol and Estrone
- Catechol bearing Bioflavonoids (ECGC and Quercetin)



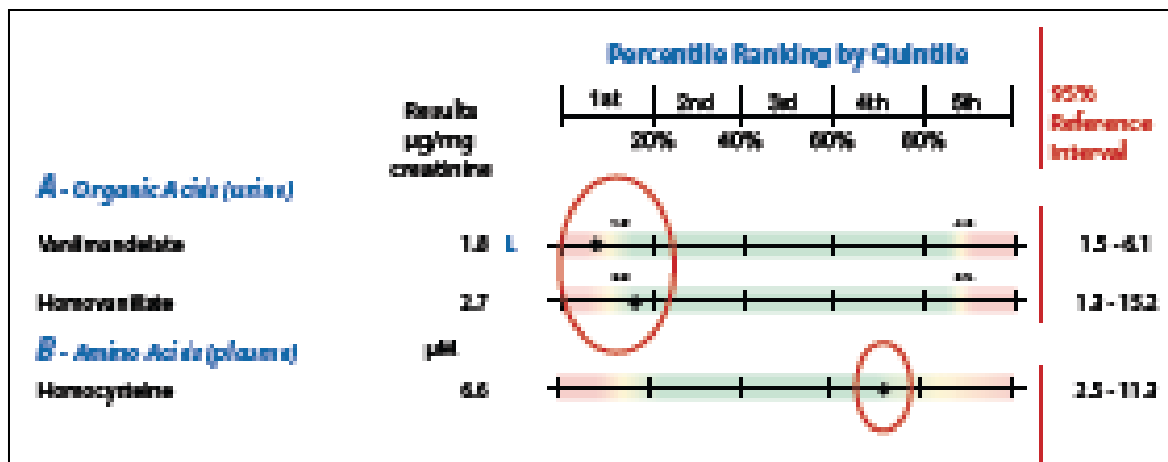
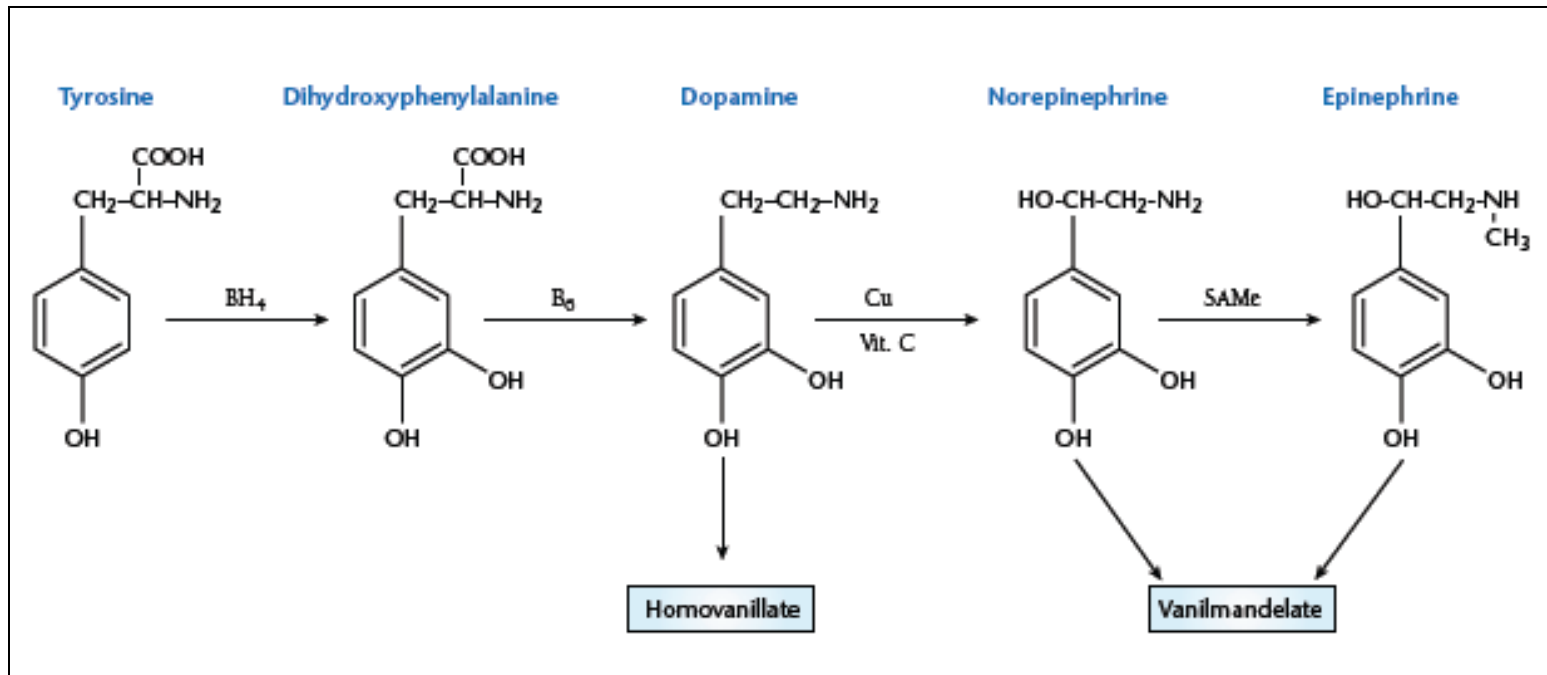
IMPAIRED ESTROGEN METABOLISM



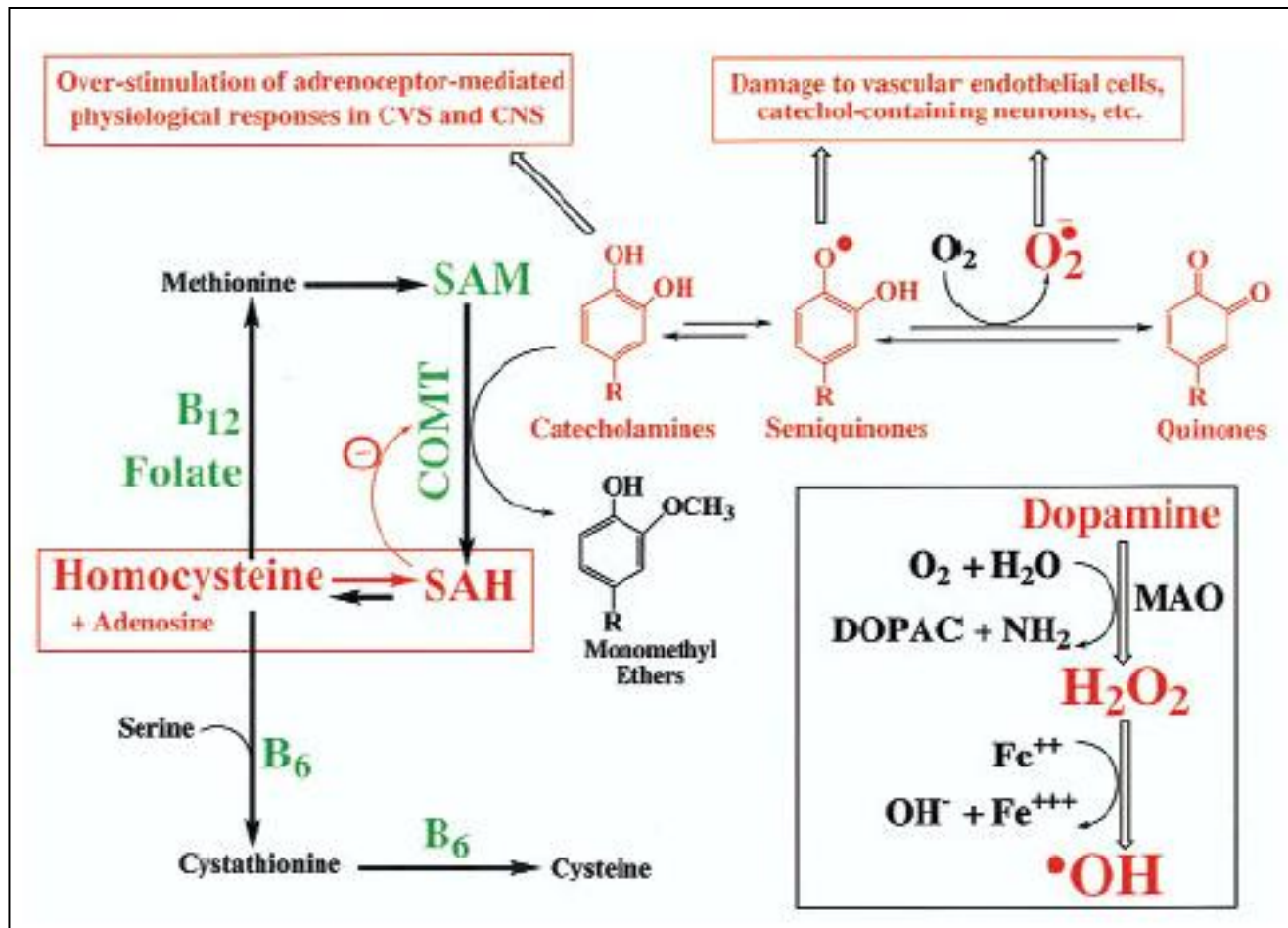
Impaired conversion of 2 and 4-OH into Methoxy Estrogens

(Impaired neutralization of 16-OH and 3,4 Quinones)

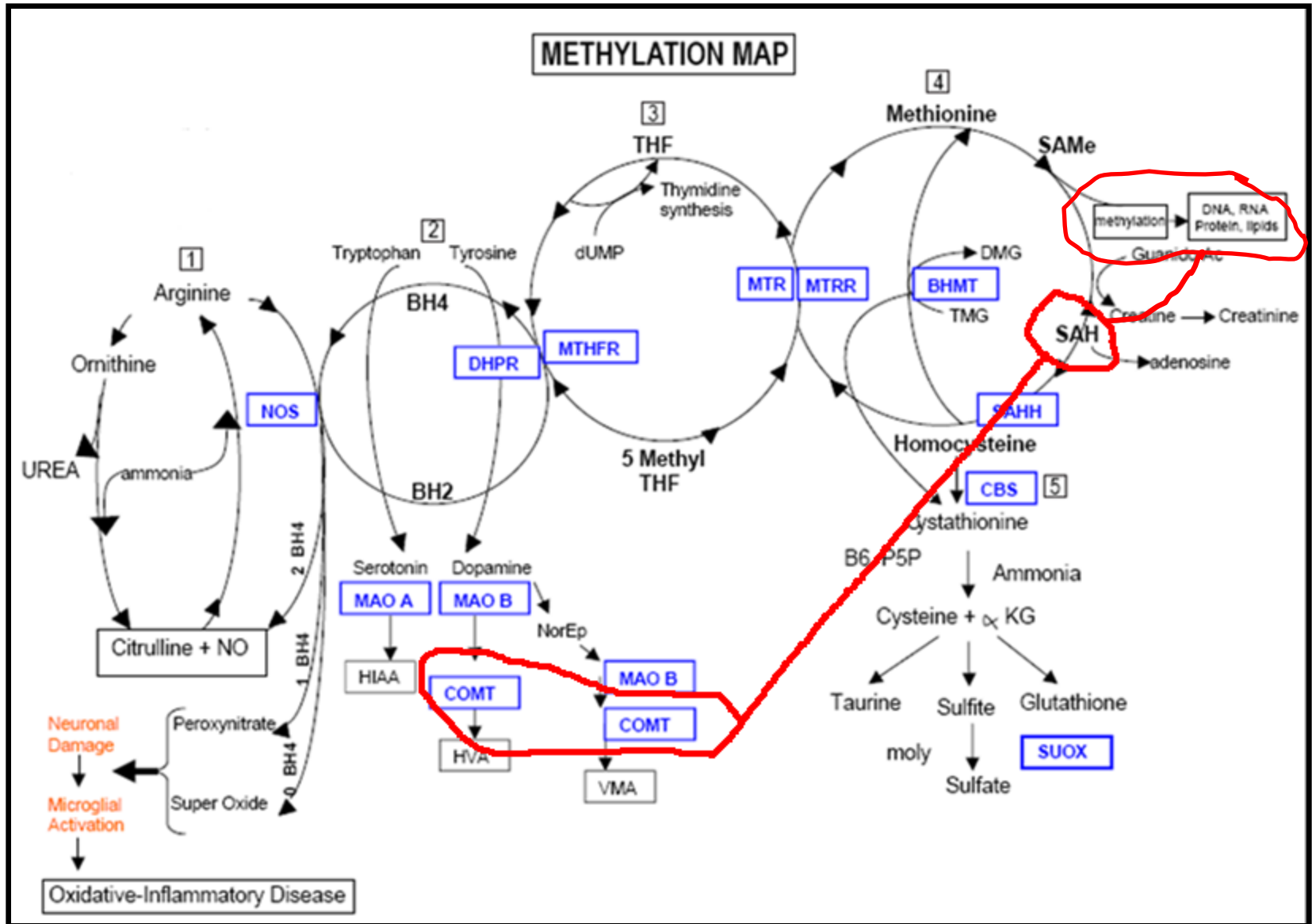
IMPAIRED CATECHOLAMINE BREAKDOWN



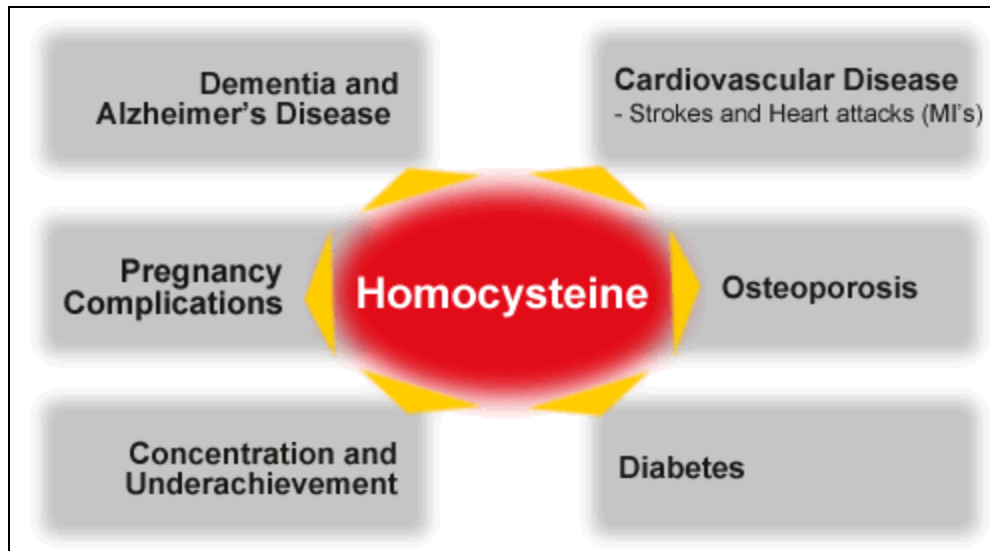
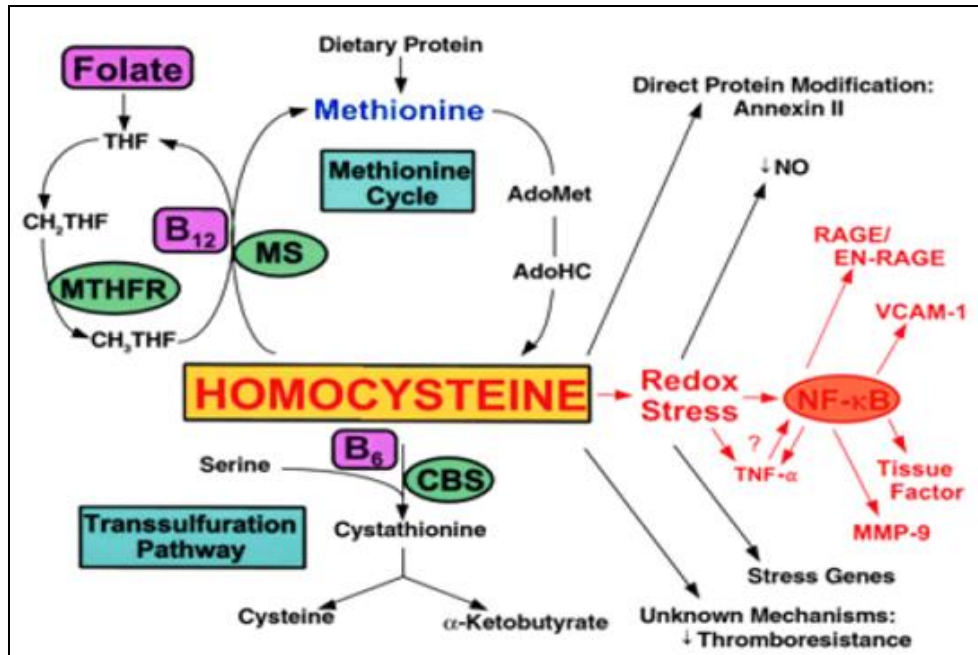
IMPAIRED CATECHOLAMINE BREAKDOWN



SAH INHIBITS METHYL TRANSFER BIOLOGY



HOMOCYSTEINE



METHYL CYCLE INTERMEDIATES and PRODUCTS

Methyl Donors	Methyl Taxis	Co-Factors	Products
Serine (Glycine)	THF	P-5-P	SAMe
Methionine	5,10-THF (CH ₂)	Riboflavin	Glutathione
TMG (Choline)	5-Methyl-THF (CH ₃)	Methyl-B12	Taurine
	Methenyl-THF (=CH)	Zinc	Cysteine
	Formyl-THF (CHO)		BH ₄
			DNA

Modifying Factors:

- Oxidative stress
- Inflammatory stress
- Renal status
- Nutritional status

ELEVATED HOMOCYSTEINE

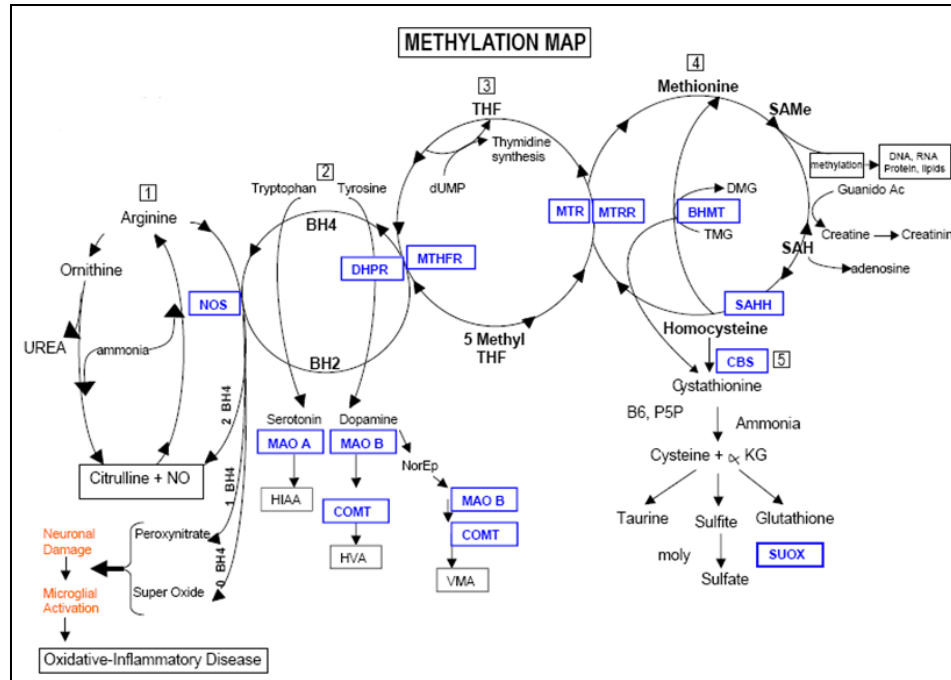


TABLE 6.7 — DIFFERENTIATING B₁₂, FOLATE, AND B₆ DEFICIENCY

Scenario	Markers	Potential Deficiency
1	Homocysteine ↑ with no other test result	Either B ₁₂ , folate or B ₆ , or methyl donor compounds
2	Methylmalonate ↑ with Homocysteine and FIGLU normal	B ₁₂
3	Homocysteine ↑ with normal methylmalonate	B ₆ or folate
4	Both Homocysteine ↑ and methylmalonate ↑	B ₁₂ , folate, and B ₆
5	Homocysteine ↑ with MMA and FIGLU normal	B ₆ and possible methyl donor compounds
6	HCys, MMA and FIGLU all ↑	B ₆ , B ₁₂ , folate and methyl donor compounds

Oxidative and Inflammatory Stress – Cause and Consequence
Renal Insufficiency

HOMOCYSTEINE REDUCTION TRIALS

Reduction in Hcy achieved but no beneficial effect on outcome

Large populations vs. subgroups with higher Hcy values

Folic Acid (less effective vs. methyl-folate if MTHFR CT/TT); riboflavin ignored

B12 low dose (less effective if MTRR +/- and ineffective if +/+) → Methyl-B12

B6 low dose (Pyridoxal-5 Phosphate, P-5-P, more effective)

BHMT pathway ignored (Zinc and TMG or Phosphatidylcholine)

Genomic variants not considered

Methyl thieving drug therapy not considered

Methionine intake not considered

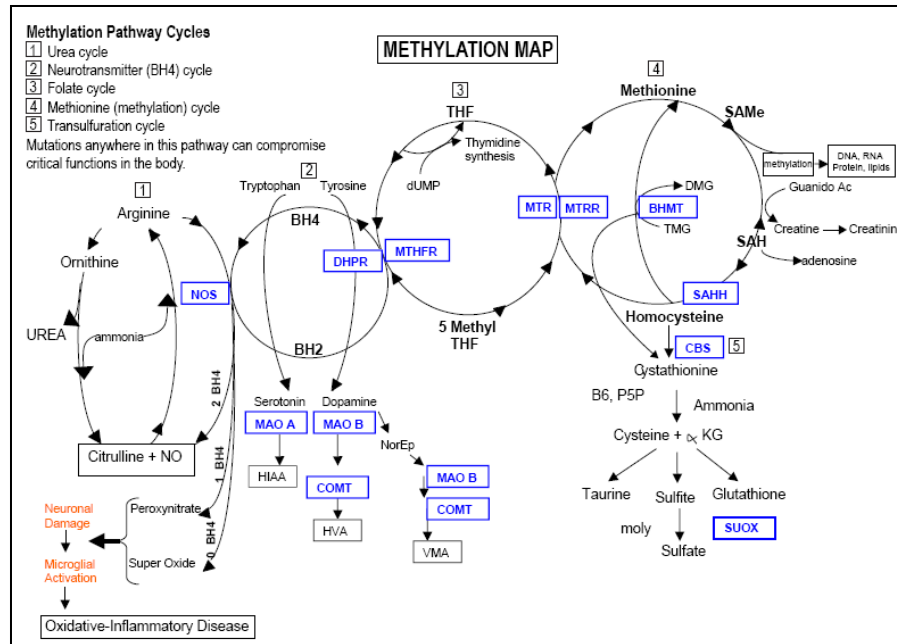
Oxidative and inflammatory stress not considered

No attempt to decrease Hcy production (Creatine and Phosphatidylcholine)

Consequences of high Hcy not measured, such as impaired/low:

- S_{AMe}:S_{AH}
- Glutathione
- DNA Methylation
- Methylation of catecholamine and estrogen molecules
- BH₄

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◆ Genomic – Nutritional – Toxicity Interaction

HOMOCYSTEINE vs. S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE

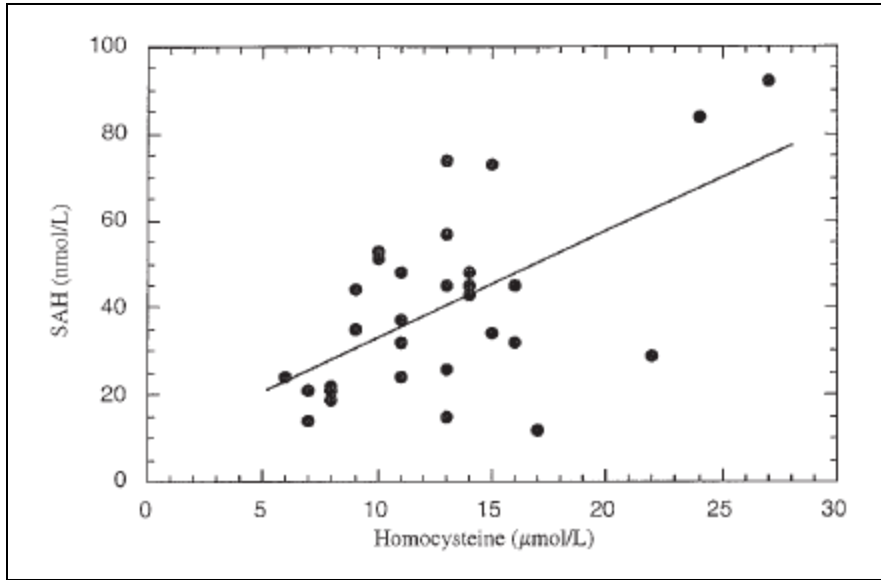
♥ 60 subjects:

- 30 with known CADz (15 s/p MI and 21 s/p revascularization)
- 30 age and gender matched healthy controls

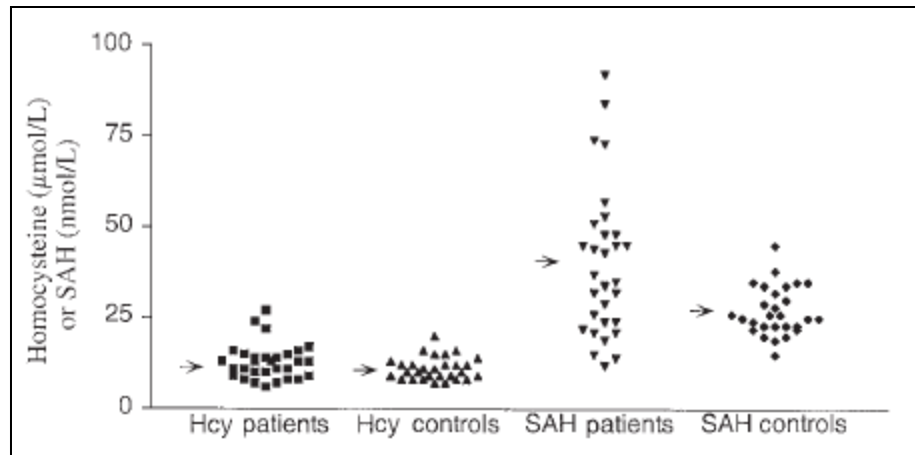
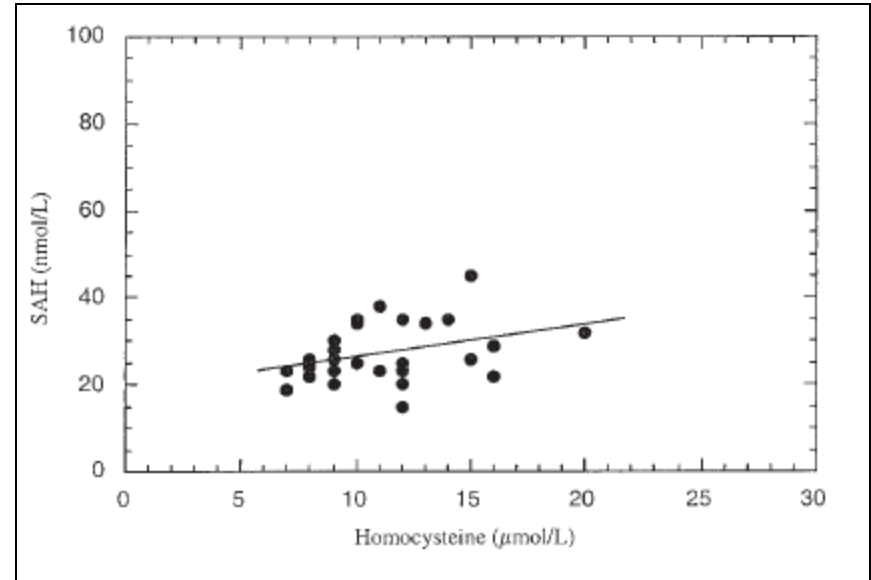
	CADz	Control Subjects	Units
Age	64	61	Years
Folate	34.9	32.4	nmol/l (10^{-9})
B12	292	310	pmol/l (10^{-12})
Homocysteine	12.8	11.0	umol/l (10^{-6})
SAMe	122	104	nmol/l (10^{-9})
SAH	43	27	nmol/l (10^{-9})
SAMe:SAH	2.8	3.9	
Creatinine	110	97	umol/l (10^{-6})
Creatinine	1.24	1.1	mg/dl

HOMOCYSTEINE VS. S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE

Coronary Disease Patients

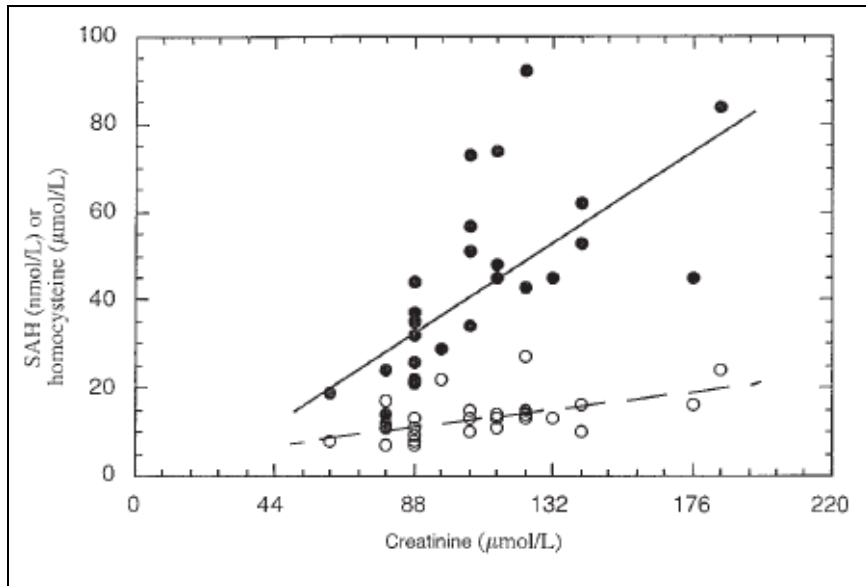


Healthy Controls

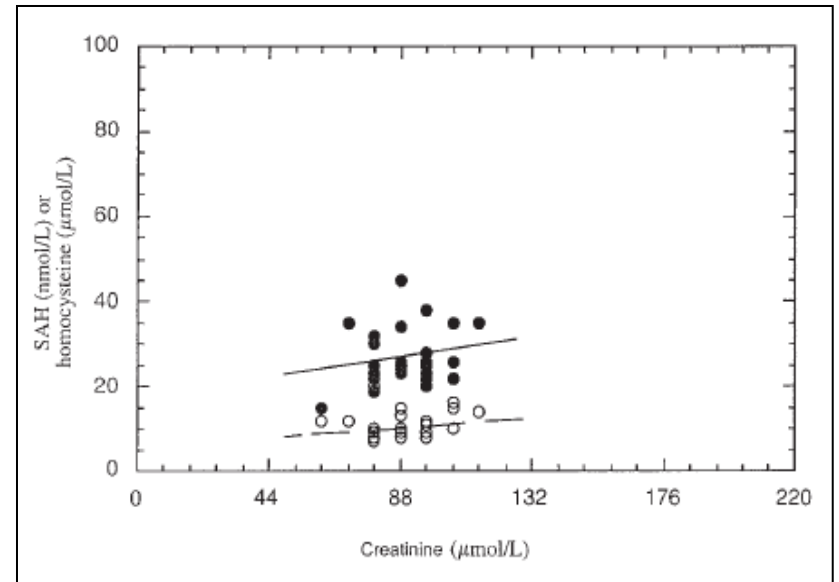


HOMOCYSTEINE VS. S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE

Coronary Disease Patients



Healthy Controls



HOMOCYSTEINE VS. S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE

	CADz	Control Subjects
Homocysteine	12.8	11.0
SAM	122	104
SAH	43	27
Creatinine	1.24	1.1

	ACEI		β -Blocker		Diuretic	
	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No
Creatinine	1.35	1.24	1.24	1.35	1.35	1.24
Hcy	14.0	11.8	11.6	13.8	14.7	12.4
SAH	46	35	36	43	47	38

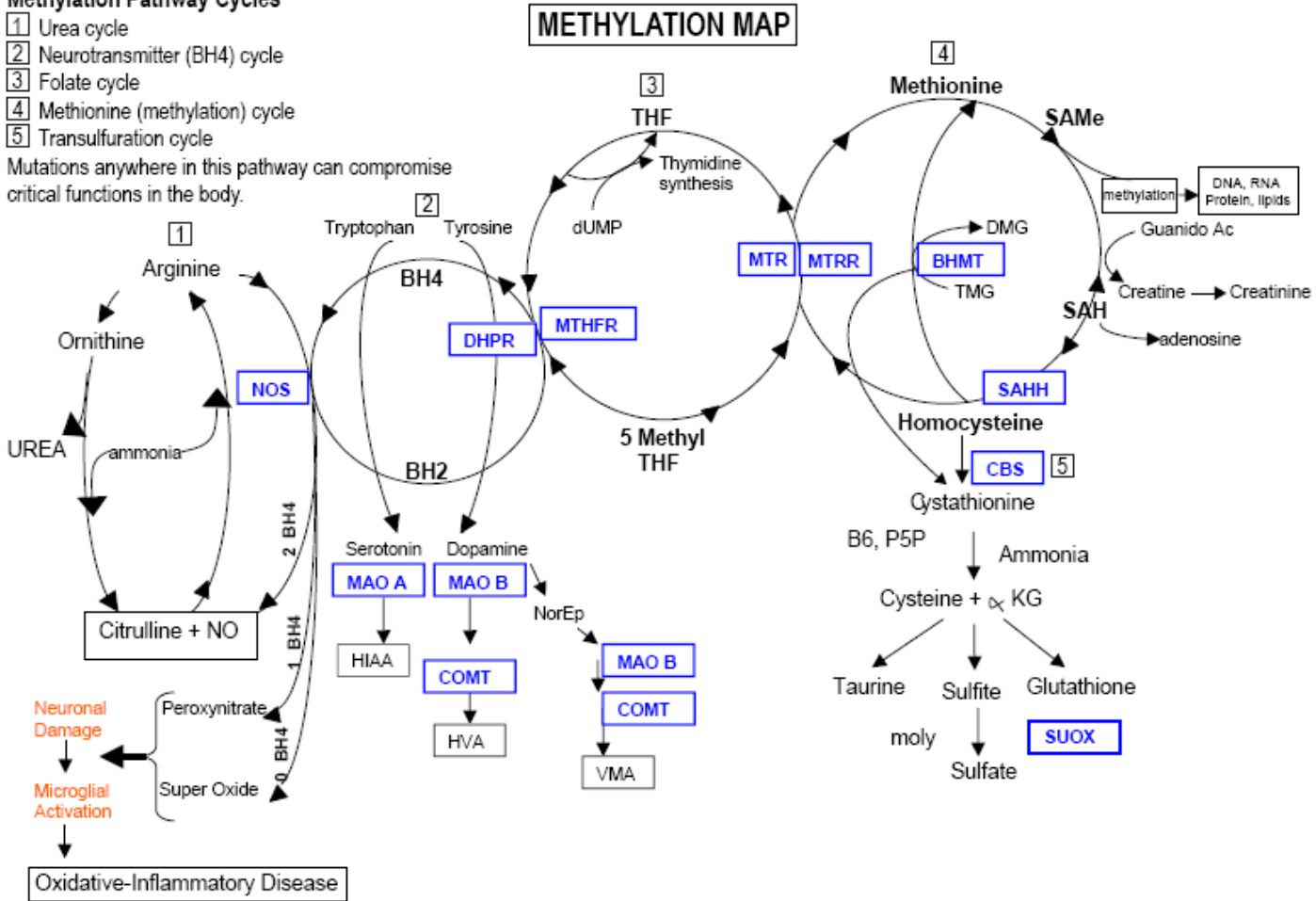
Nutrigenomic Report for an 53 Year Old Marathon Runner		
Methylation Panel Abnormalities for Genes with Characterized SNPs		
Gene Name	Variation	Finding
COMT	V158M	OK
COMT	H62H	OK
COMT	61	OK
VDR	Tag	Homozygous (++)
VDR	Fok	OK
MAO A	R297R	OK
ACAT	102	OK
ACE	Del16	Homozygous (++)
MTHFR	C677T	Homozygous (++)
MTHFR	3	OK
MTHFR	A1298C	OK
MTR	A2756G	OK
MTRR	A66G	Heterozygous (+/-)
MTRR	H595Y	OK
MTRR	K350A	OK
MTRR	R415T	OK
MTRR	S257T	OK
MTRR	11	Heterozygous (+/-)
BHMT	1	OK
BHMT	2	Heterozygous (+/-)
BHMT	4	Heterozygous (+/-)
BHMT	8	Heterozygous (+/-)
AHCY	1	OK
AHCY	2	OK
AHCY	19	OK
CBS	C699T	OK
CBS	A360A	Heterozygous (+/-)
SUOX	S370S	Heterozygous (+/-)
SHMT	C1420T	OK
NOS	D298E	Heterozygous (+/-)

Methyl Cycle with analysis (\$550)
Multiple Genes without analysis (\$98)

Methylation Pathway Cycles

- 1 Urea cycle
- 2 Neurotransmitter (BH4) cycle
- 3 Folate cycle
- 4 Methionine (methylation) cycle
- 5 Transulfuration cycle

Mutations anywhere in this pathway can compromise critical functions in the body.



VDR Taq

SHMT

DHFR

ACAT

CYP1A2

GSTP1

VDR Bsm

AHCY

GNMT

ACE

CYP1B1

PON1

MTHFD

FOLR

PEMT

MTHFS

SOD

GAD1

HELP with UNDERSTANDING and INTERPRETATION

Multiple Genes without analysis result →

Report generator website

- Yasko Methylation Report
- Detoxification Enzyme report

Support website

- Entire (Multiple Genes without analysis) report

Hack the genes website

- Brief functional significance of variant alleles

Initial website (Methyl Cycle with analysis)

Website of Fellowship instructor

HELP with UNDERSTANDING and INTERPRETATION

Organic Acid Analysis (\$170 with commercial insurance and covered by Medicare)

- AAs, B Vitamins, FAs, and RBC Minerals
- Oxidative Stress and Inflammatory markers
- Glucose, Fatty acid, and Krebs Cycle function
- RBC metals and 2 Organic Pollutant markers ⇒

24 hour urine nutritional minerals (\$65)

Eastern Labs Methyl Cycle Intermediates (\$350)

- SAME, SAH, THF, methyl-folate, folinic acid,
- Oxidized and reduced glutathione

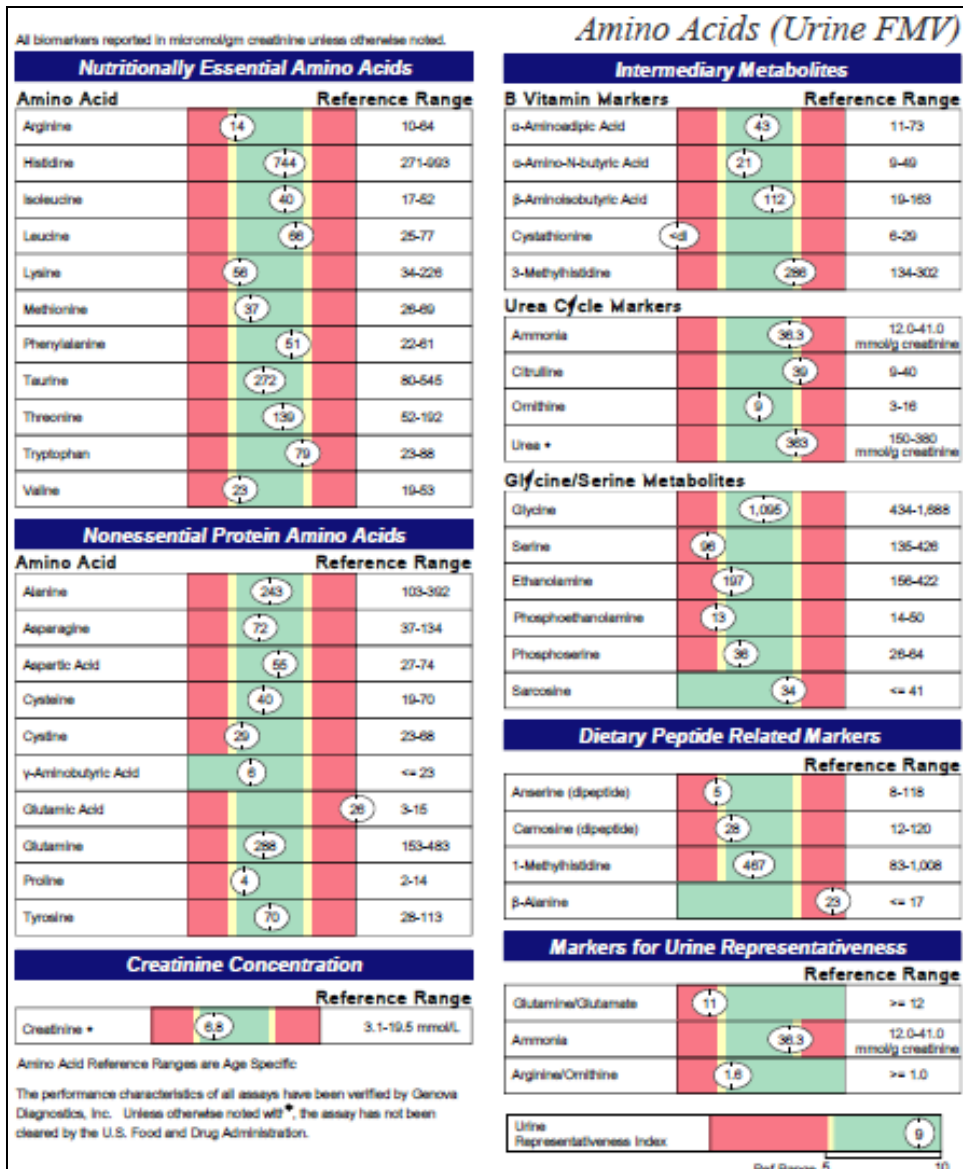
Central Labs Methyl Cycle (\$155)

- SAME, SAH, Hcy, methionine, cystathionine, cysteine

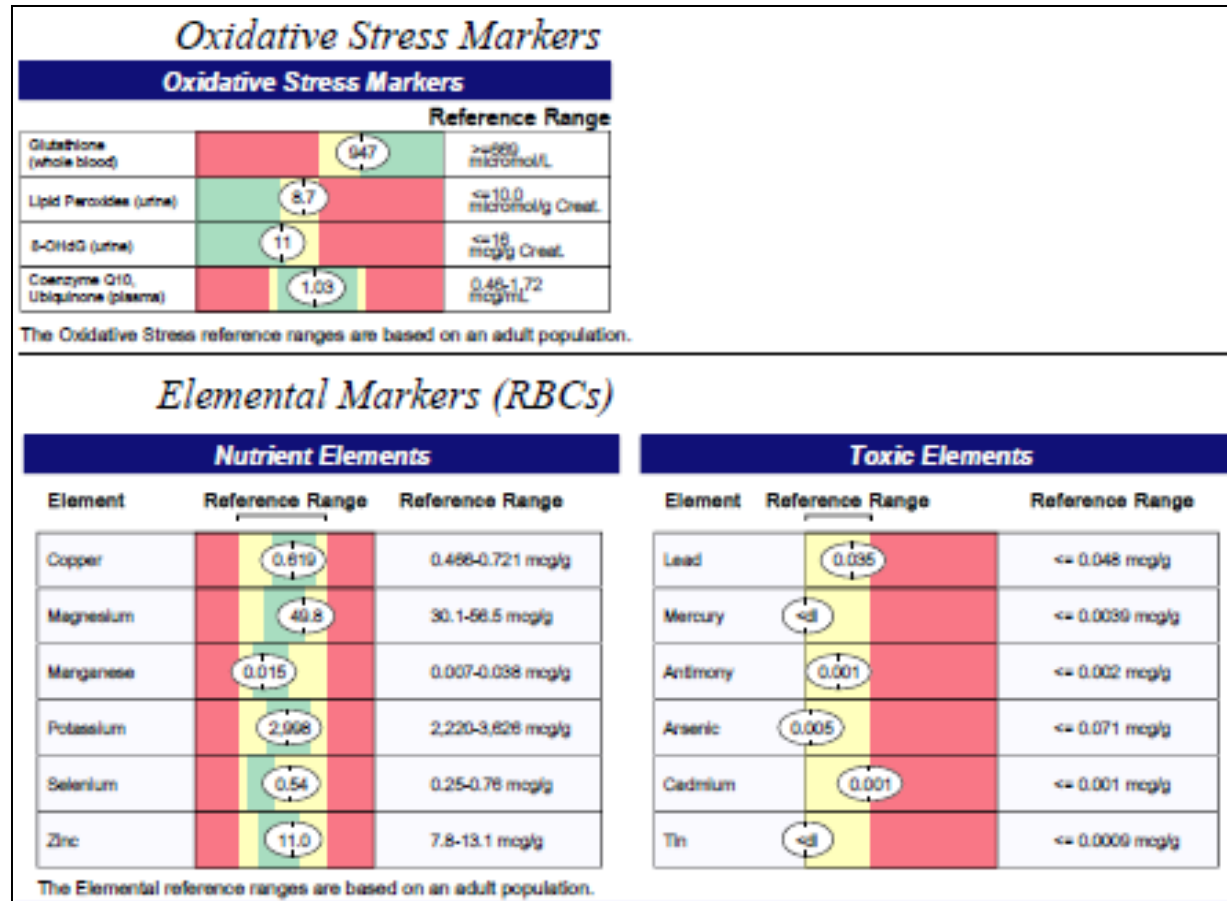
Southern Labs (\$95)

- Four point salivary cortisol and morning DHEAs
- Urine neurotransmitters

NUTRIGENOMIC ANALYSIS



NUTRIGENOMIC ANALYSIS



Metals - Provocative challenge +/- porphyrin analysis

Organic Pollutants - Urine levels of major pollutants (\$126)

Reproductive hormone analysis

HELP with UNDERSTANDING and INTERPRETATION

Genomic data

Nutritional adequacy

Toxic burden

Hormone status

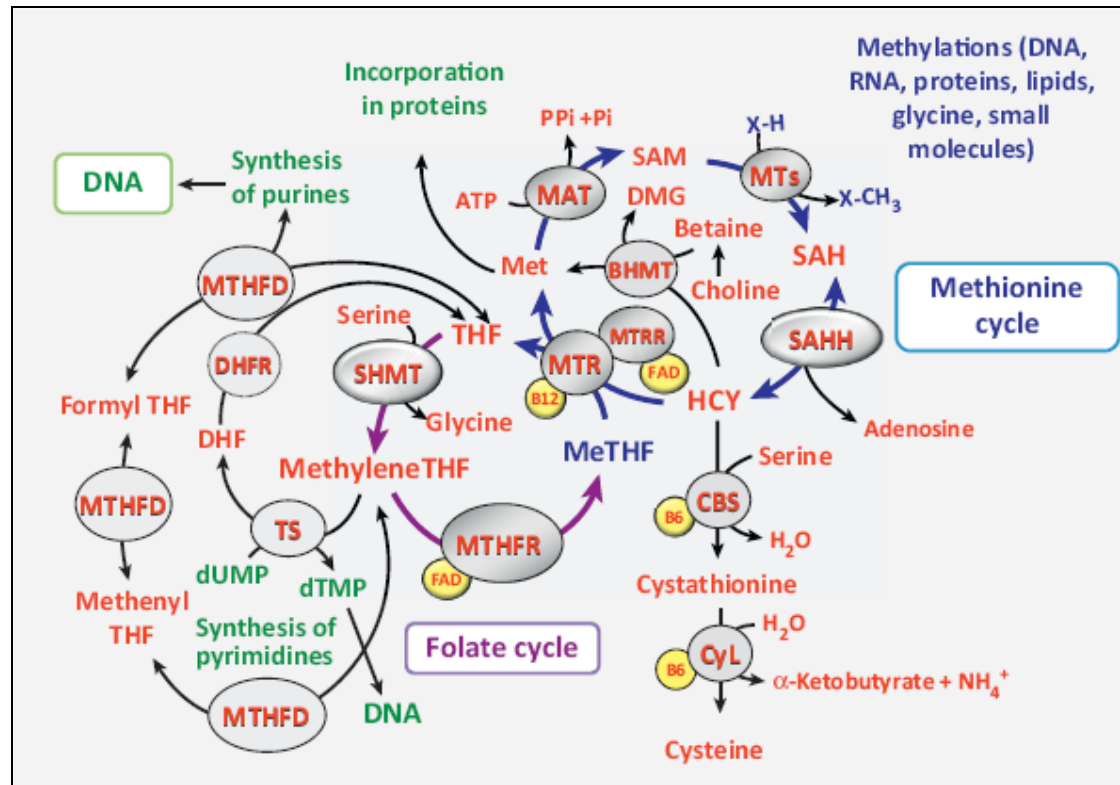
Effects on Methyl Cycle performance

- S_AMe:SAH
- Glutathione, taurine, cysteine – overall redox status
- Neurotransmitter levels
- Estradiol/Estrone methylation
- BH₄
- DNA Methylation

⇒ Study the individual genes

MTHFR

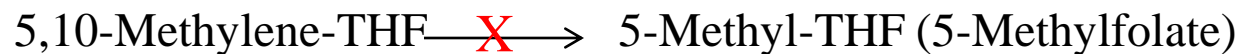
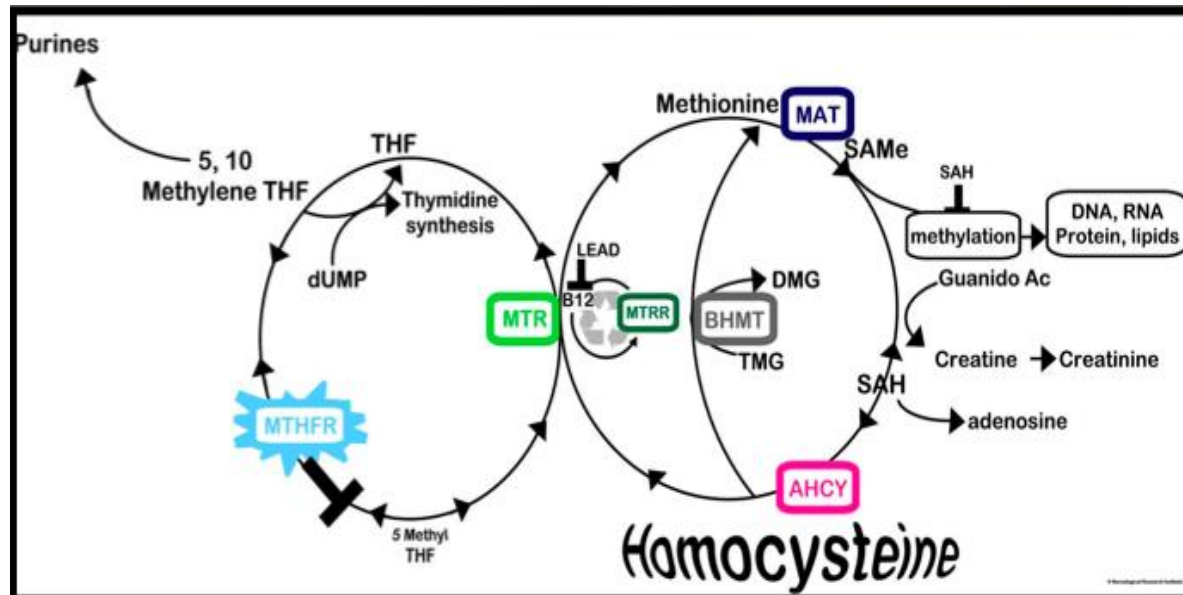
5,10-Methylene Tetrahydrofolate Reductase



Shunts CH_3 :

- Away from DNA synthesis
- Towards DNA Methylation, Methylation, & Antioxidant/Detox molecule synthesis

5,10-METHYLENE TETRAHYDROFOLATE REDUCTASE (MTHFR 677C→T)

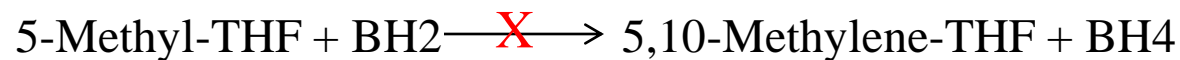
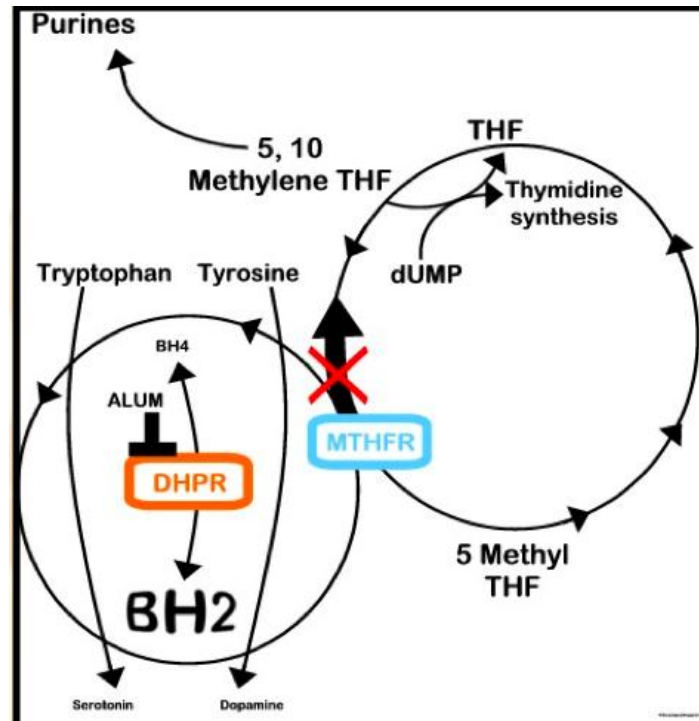


MTHFR TT enzyme efficiency 25% MTHFR CC

Indirect Remethylation of Homocysteine Compromised → Elevated Homocysteine & SAH

- Reduced Regeneration of S-AdoMet, decrease in S-AdoMet:SAH → Impaired Methylation
- Reduced Generation of Detox/Antioxidant Molecules
- Reduced Recycling of BH4

5,10-METHYLENE TETRAHYDROFOLATE REDUCTASE (MTHFR 1298A→C)

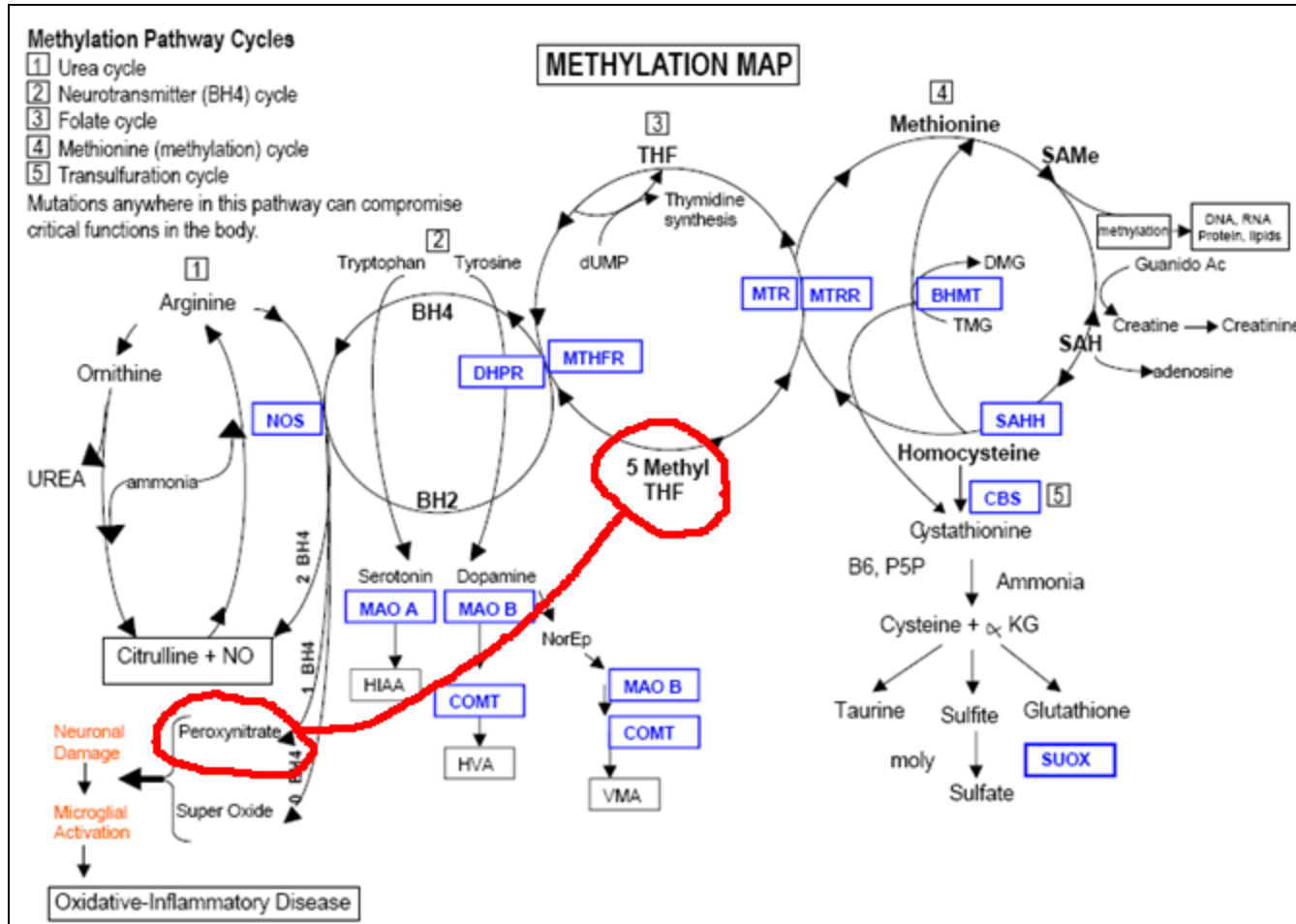


Mild impairment in 5-Methyl-THF production

Reduced Recycling of BH4

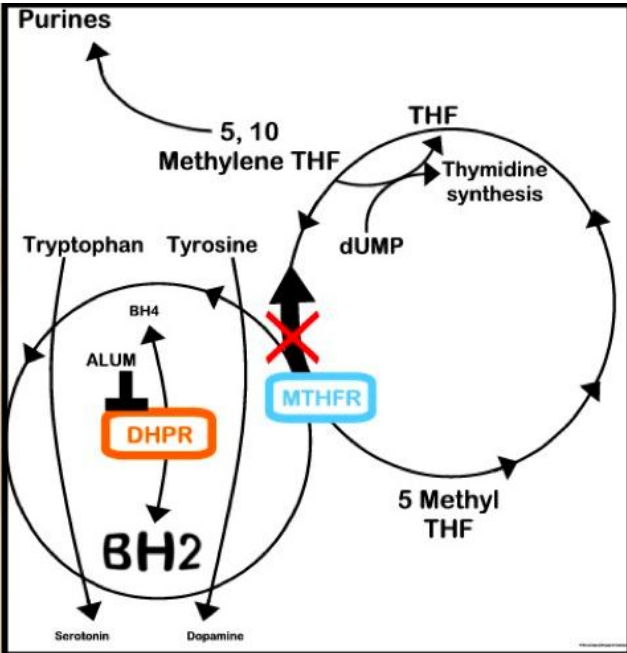
- Direct effect (Dr. Yasko)
- Indirect effect
- Reduced neutralization of Peroxynitrite

5-METHYL FOLATE



5-Methyl Folate Neutralizes Peroxynitrite

5,10-METHYLENE TETRAHYDROFOLATE REDUCTASE (A1298C)



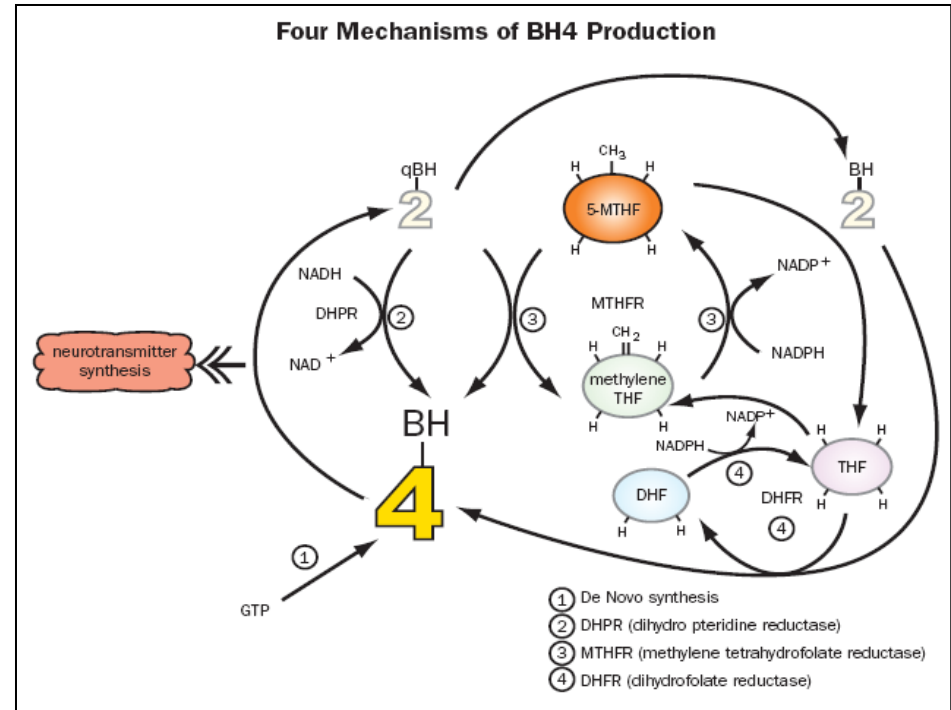
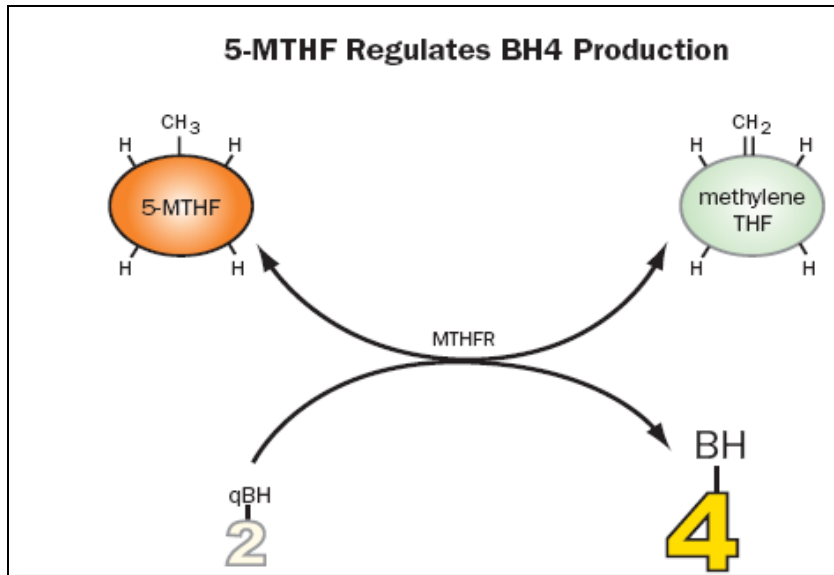
Compromises “backward” conversion of

5-Methyl Folate (5-Methyl THF) \longrightarrow 5,10-Methylene Tetrahydrofolate
MTHFR

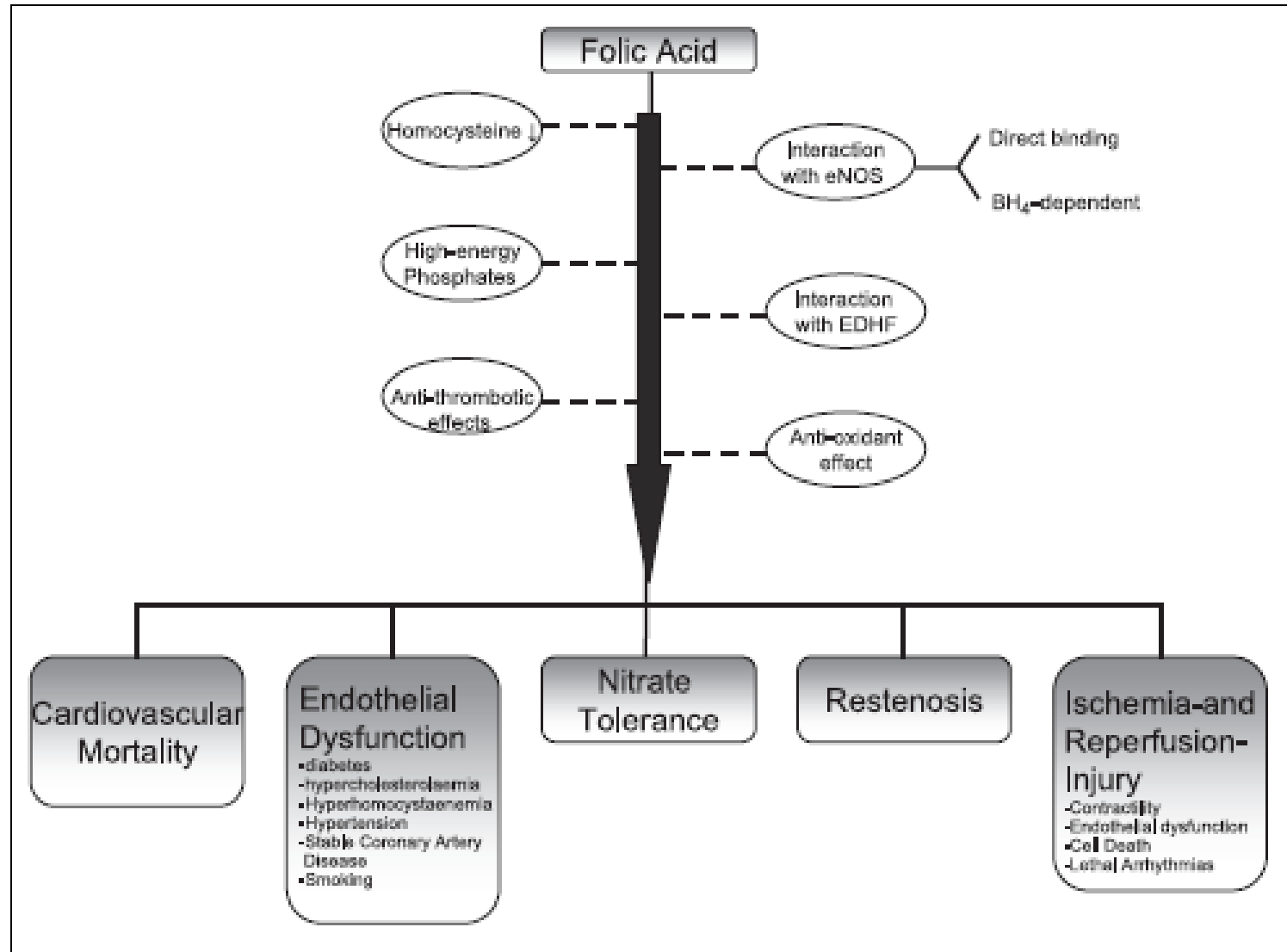
5-Methyl Folate + BH2 \longrightarrow 5,10-Methylene THF + BH4

(MTHFR A1298C aggravates CBS up regulation induced BH4 depletion)

MTHFR and BH4 REGENERATION



METHYL-FOLATE SUPPORT BH4 (TETRAHYDROBIOPTERIN)

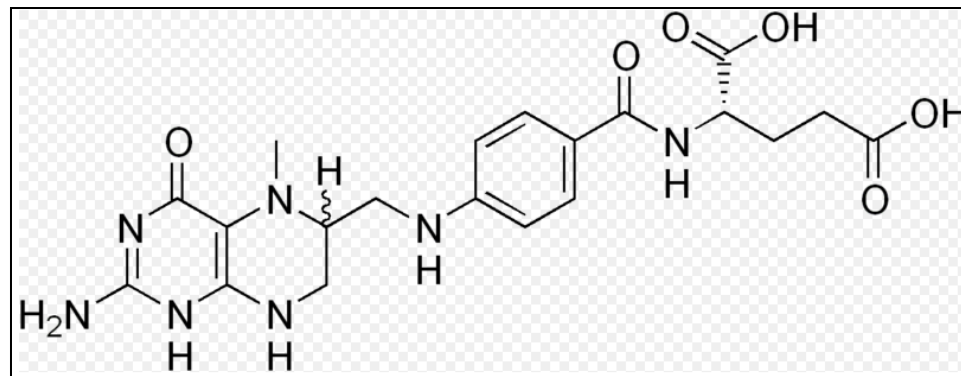


FOLATES SUPPORT BH4 (TETRAHYDROBIOPTERIN)

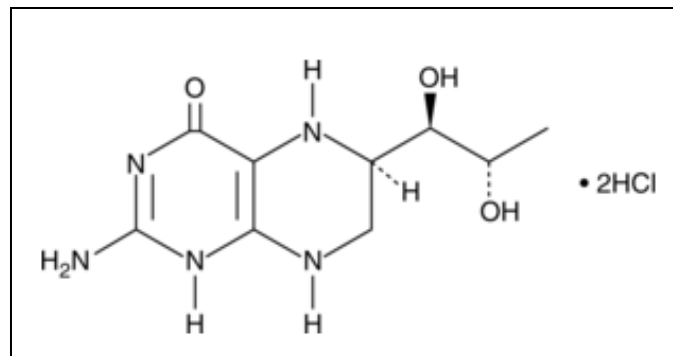
Folic Acid



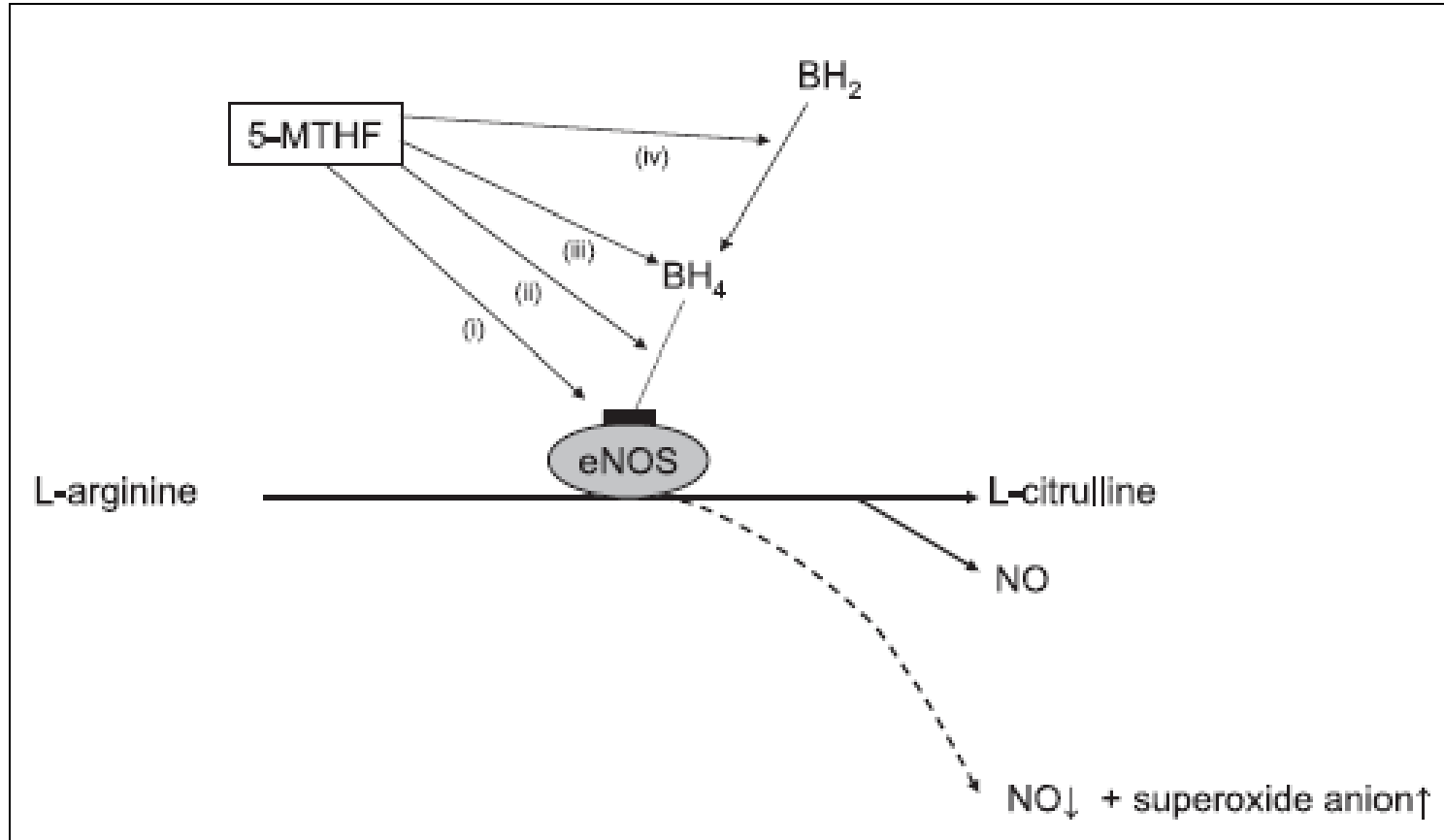
Methyl Folate



BH4



METHYL-FOLATE SUPPORT BH4



MTHFR and the RDA for FOLATE

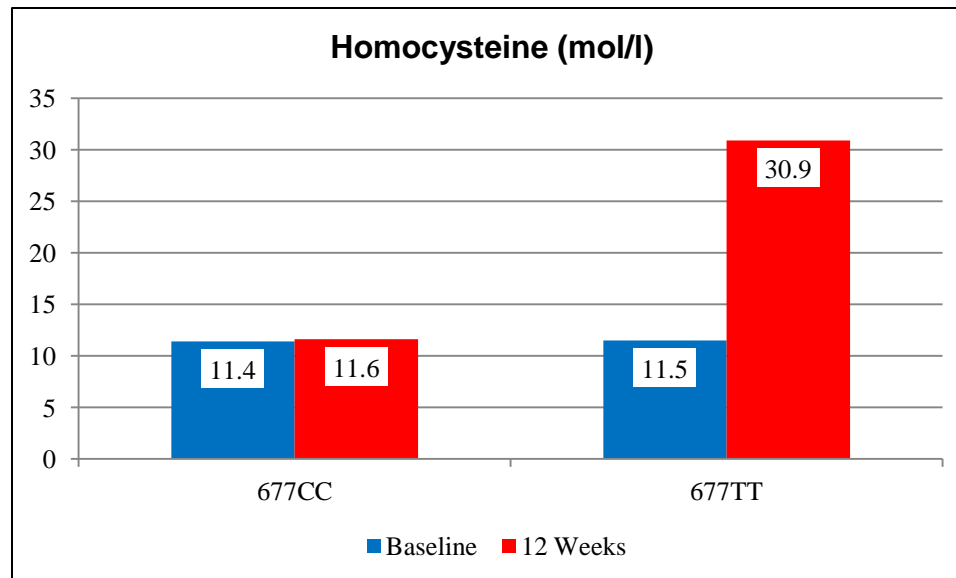
♥ 60 healthy 18-55 year old Mexican-American men:

- ½ MTHFR CC
- ½ MTHFR TT

Baseline measurements

Usual diet → Diet with RDA (438 mcg/day) folic acid

Repeat studies at 12 weeks



RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE MTHFR INTERACTION

♥ 126 healthy 20-63 year old residents of South Wales

• 1/3rd MTHFR CC

• 1/3rd MTHFR CT

• 1/3rd MTHFR TT

Table 1. Riboflavin status, homocysteine, and folate in all participants at baseline, stratified by genotype.^a

	MTHFR genotype				P
	All participants	CC	CT	TT	
Plasma riboflavin, nmol/L	10.9 (7.4)	11.4 (7.2)	11.5 (8.5)	9.9 (6.4)	0.80
Plasma FMN, nmol/L	4.9 (3.0)	4.6 (2.4)	5.1 (3.2)	4.9 (3.4)	0.83
Plasma FAD, nmol/L	30.9 (5.3)	31.6 (5.1)	31.4 (4.7)	29.7 (5.9)	0.24
EGRAC ^b	1.44 (0.18)	1.41 (0.17)	1.47 (0.21)	1.43 (0.15)	0.36
Plasma tHcy, μ mol/L	10.2 (4.2)	8.8 (2.4)	9.3 (2.5)	12.5 (5.7)	0.001
Plasma folate, nmol/L	17.7 (7.7)	20.6 (8.0)	17.2 (6.9)	15.2 (7.4)	0.004
Plasma B ₁₂ , nmol/L	266 (104)	281 (113)	262 (100)	256 (101)	0.58
Plasma B ₆ , nmol/L	40.9 (18.3)	39.7 (17.1)	42.2 (19.0)	40.9 (19.2)	0.88

^a Data are presented as the mean (SD).

^b Lower EGRAC values are indicative of better riboflavin status.

EGRAC - Erythrocyte glutathione reductase activation coefficient

- Glutathione reductase is FAD dependent
- Record any increase in enzyme activity with exogenous riboflavin
- High value reflects riboflavin insufficiency
- EGRAC > 1.4 \approx biochemical ariboflavinosis
- 52% suboptimal riboflavin nutriture

RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE MTHFR INTERACTION

♥ 126 healthy 20-63 year old residents of South Wales:

Table 3. Pearson correlation coefficients for measures of riboflavin status at baseline.

	Log riboflavin	Log FMN	FAD	Log EGRAC
Log plasma FMN	0.30 ^a			
Plasma FAD	-0.08	0.04		
Log EGRAC	-0.48 ^a	-0.14	-0.11	
Log plasma tHcy	-0.21 ^b	-0.03	-0.10	0.36 ^a
Plasma folate	0.27 ^c	0.18	0.06	-0.39 ^a
Age	0.31 ^a	-0.12	0.00	-0.46 ^a
Creatinine	0.07	0.02	-0.08	-0.07
Log vitamin B ₁₂	0.18 ^b	-0.07	0.13	-0.38 ^a
Log vitamin B ₆	0.15	0.14	0.08	-0.16

^{a-c} Significant: ^a P <0.001; ^b P <0.05; ^c P <0.01.

Low riboflavin (high EGRAC) ≈ Higher homocysteine values

- Homocysteine 2.6 umol/l > in 1st vs. 4th riboflavin quartile
- Homocysteine 4.2 umol/l > in 4th vs. 1st EGRAC quartile
- Linkage confined to CT and TT genotypes

Low riboflavin ≈ Higher homocysteine values (in TTs more than CTs)

RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE MTHFR INTERACTION

♥ 126 healthy (20-63) year old residents of South Wales:

- 1/3rd MTHFR CC
- 1/3rd MTHFR CT
- 1/3rd MTHFR TT

Baseline measurements

Randomize to receive over four months:

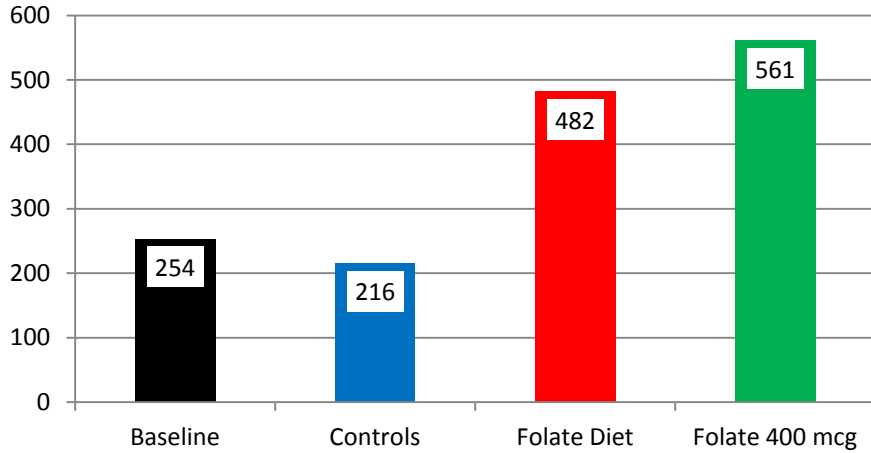
- Usual diet (avoid folate fortified foods) + placebo
- Usual diet (encourage folate rich foods \approx 400 mcg folate/day)
- Usual diet (avoid folate fortified foods) + 400 mcg/day folic acid

Repeat baseline measurements

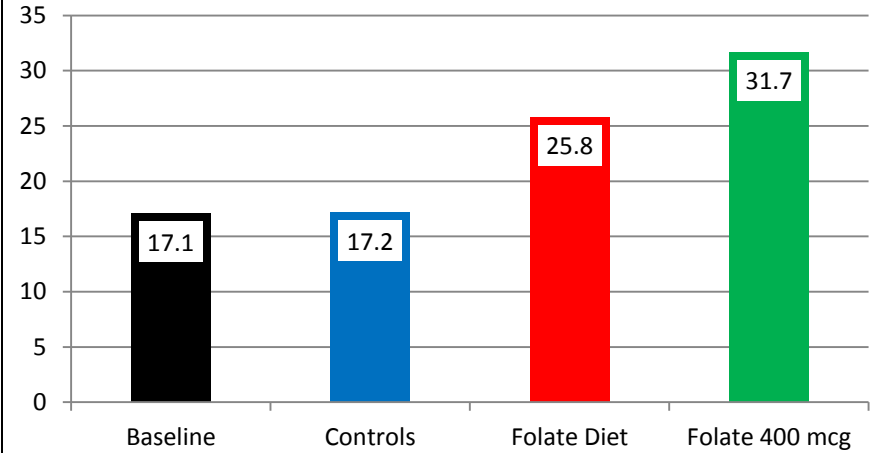
Groups one and three double-blind

RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE MTHFR INTERACTION

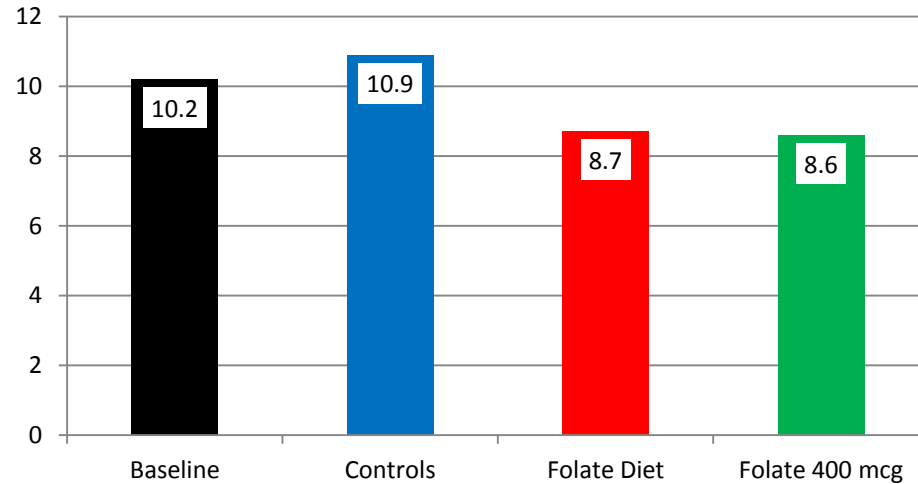
Estimated Folate Intake (mcg)



Serum Folate (nmol/l)

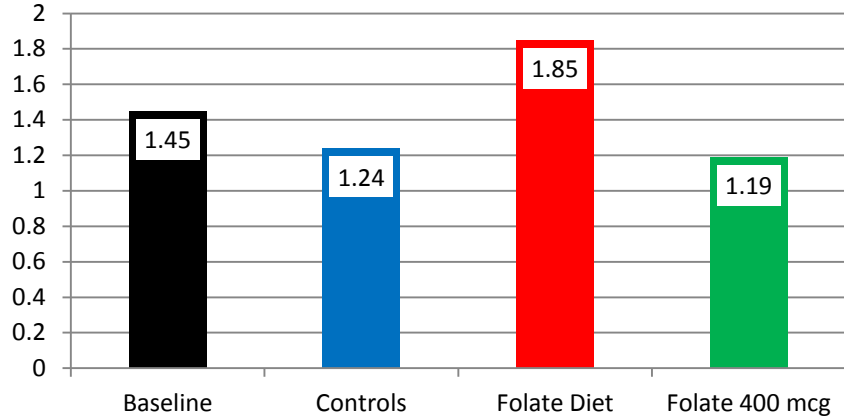


Serum Homocysteine (umol/l)

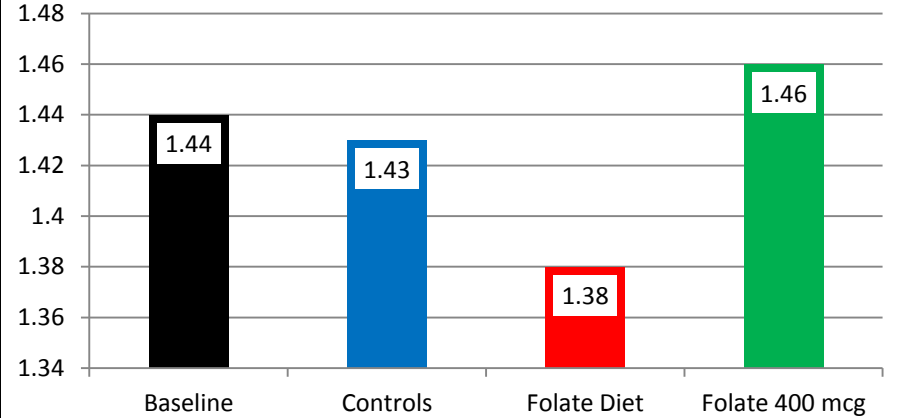


RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE MTHFR INTERACTION

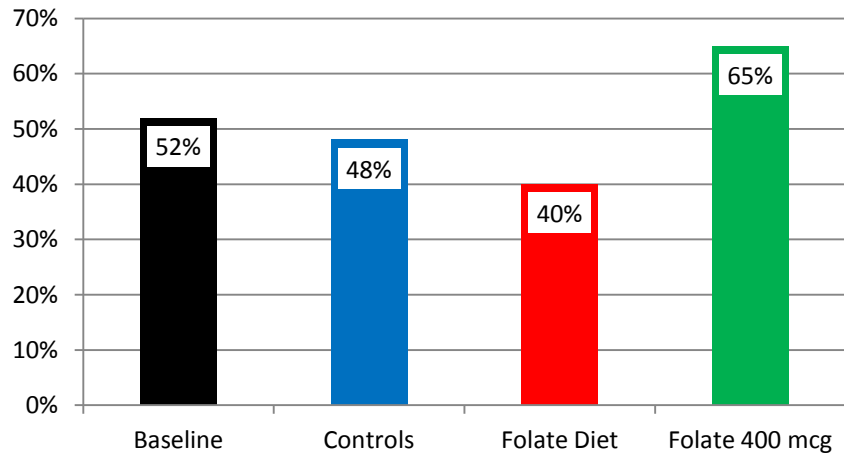
Estimated Riboflavin Intake (mg)



EGRAC

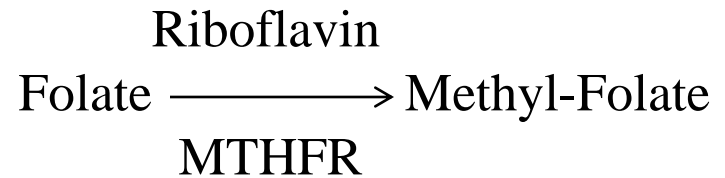


EGRAC > 1.4 (%)

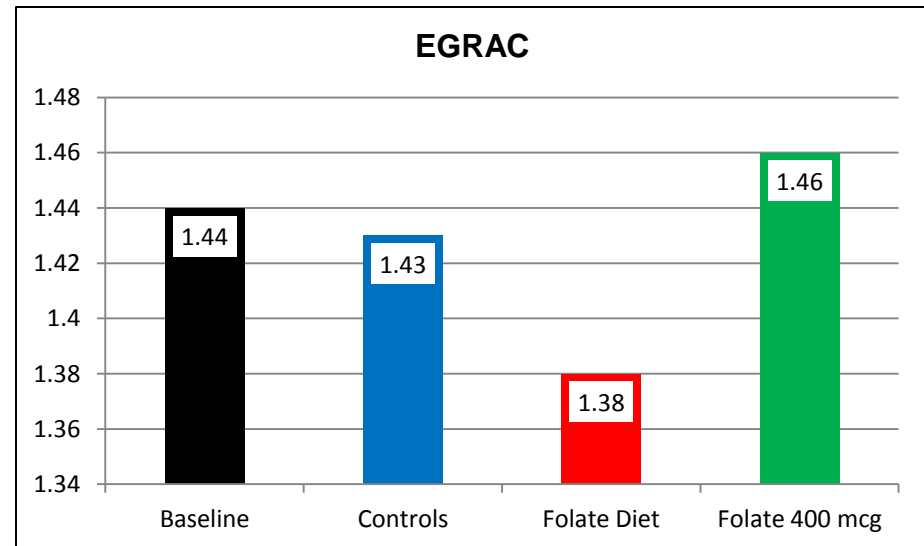
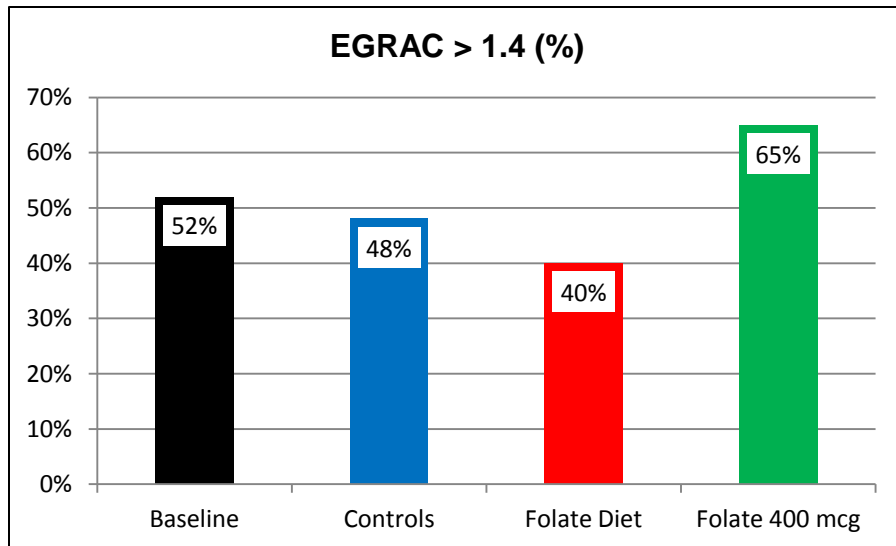
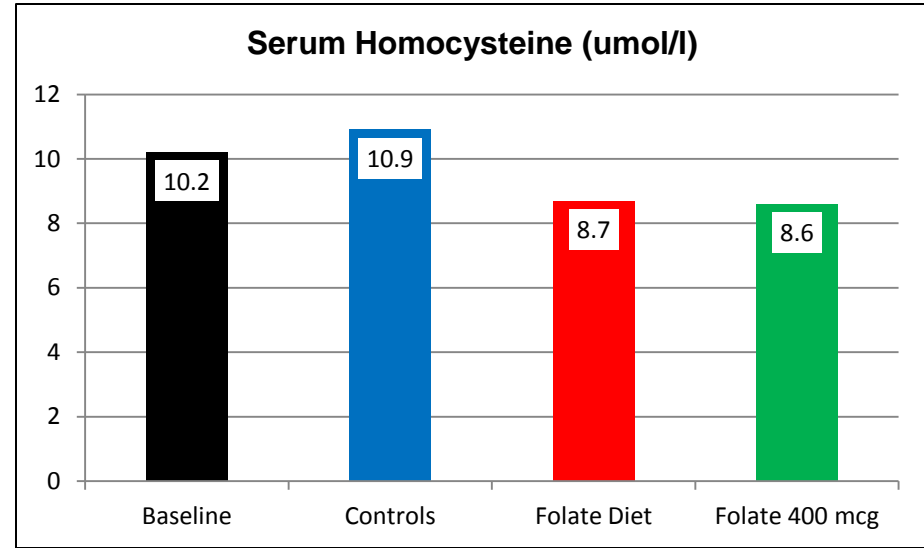
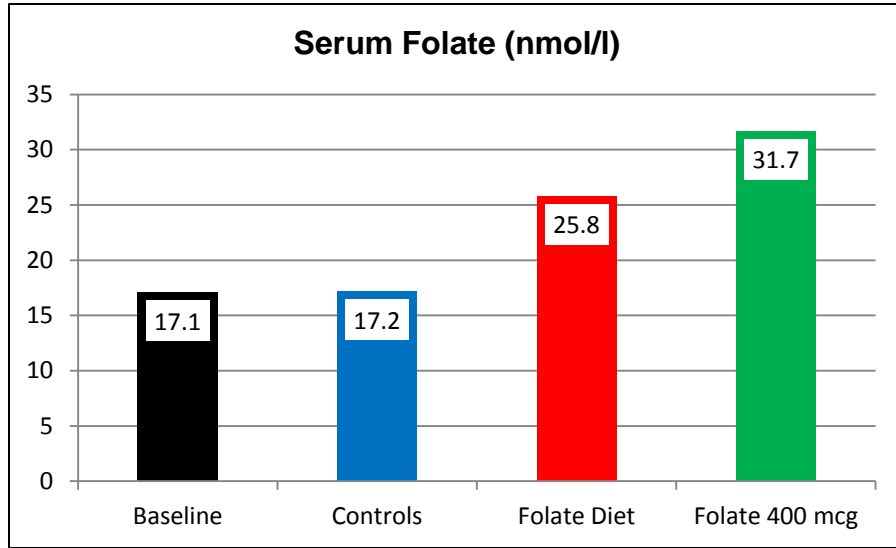


Low folate diet \approx low riboflavin diet

Folate alone “drains” riboflavin



RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE MTHFR INTERACTION



RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE INTERACTION in IRELAND

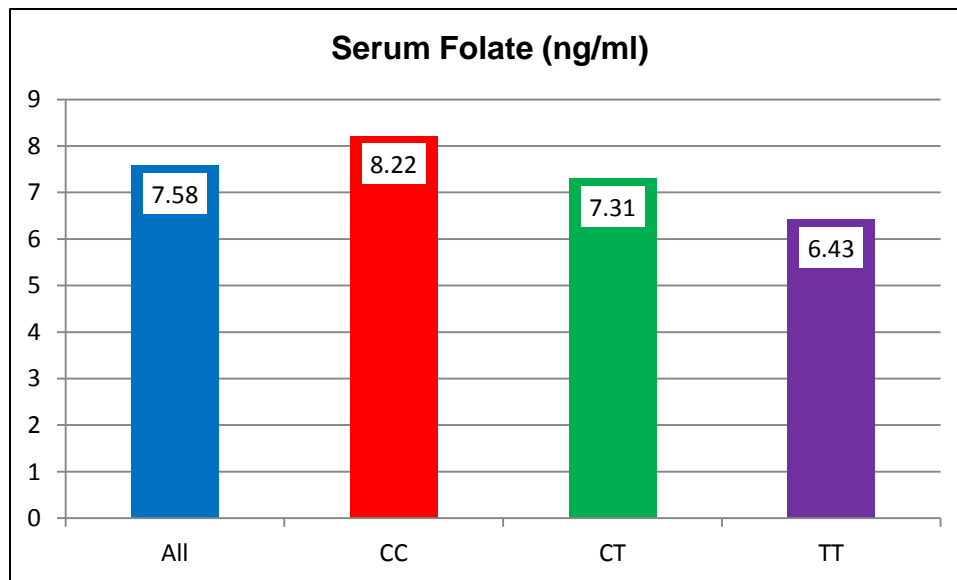
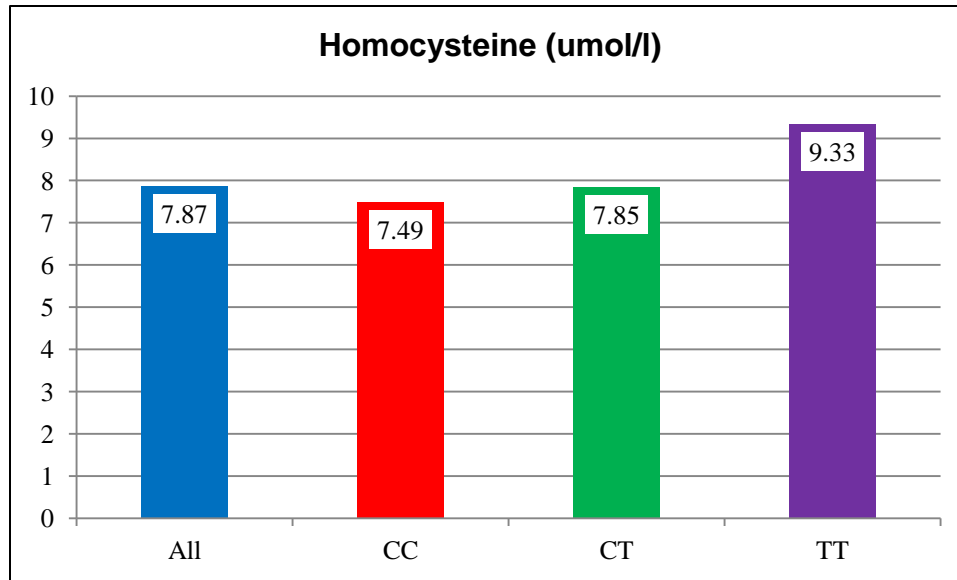
♥ 286 healthy (16-63) year old residents of Ireland:

- 43% MTHFR CC
- 45% MTHFR CT
- 12% MTHFR TT

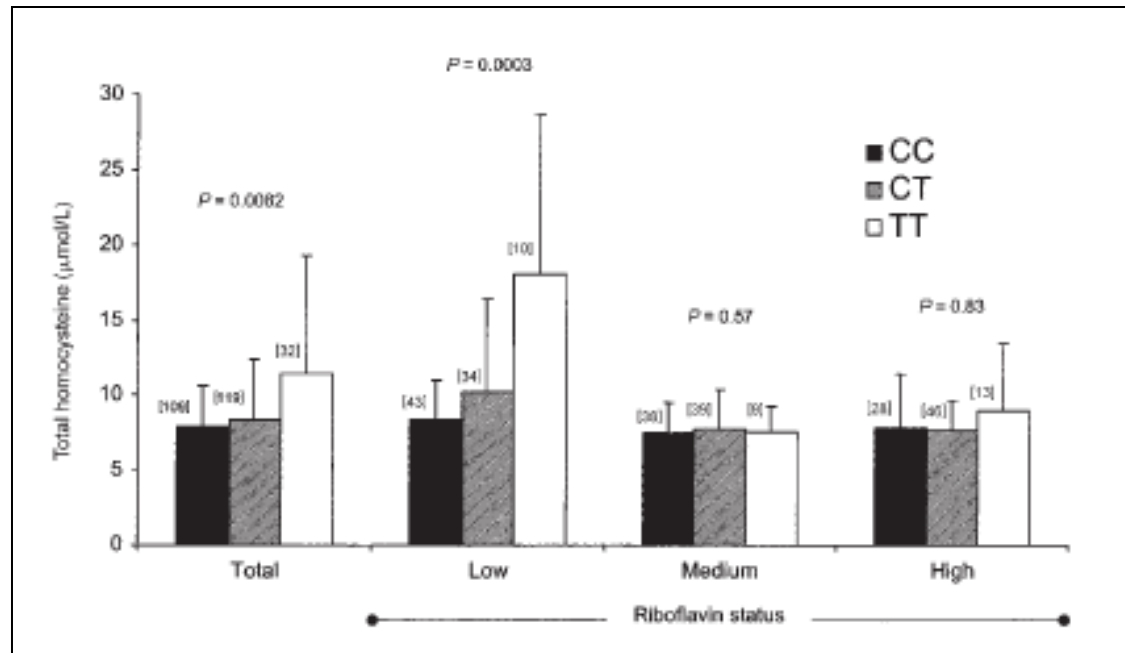
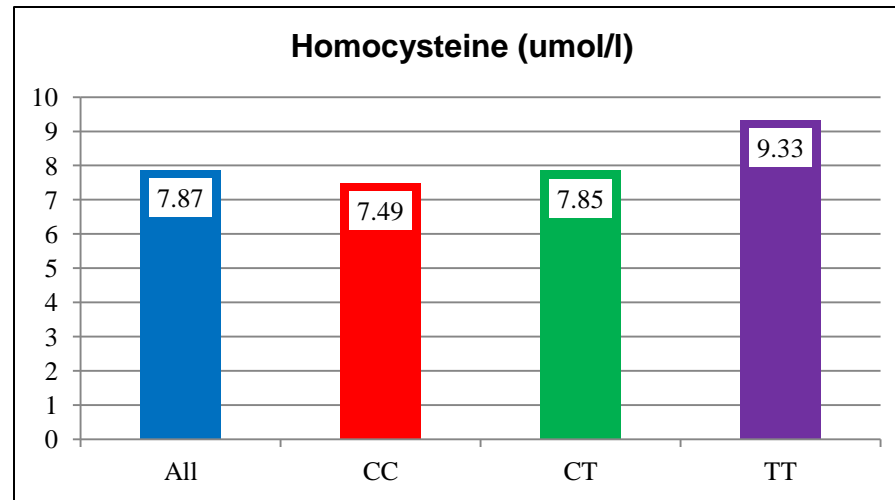
Similar levels of riboflavin, B12, and B6 within all three groups

28% subjects riboflavin deficient

RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE INTERACTION in IRELAND



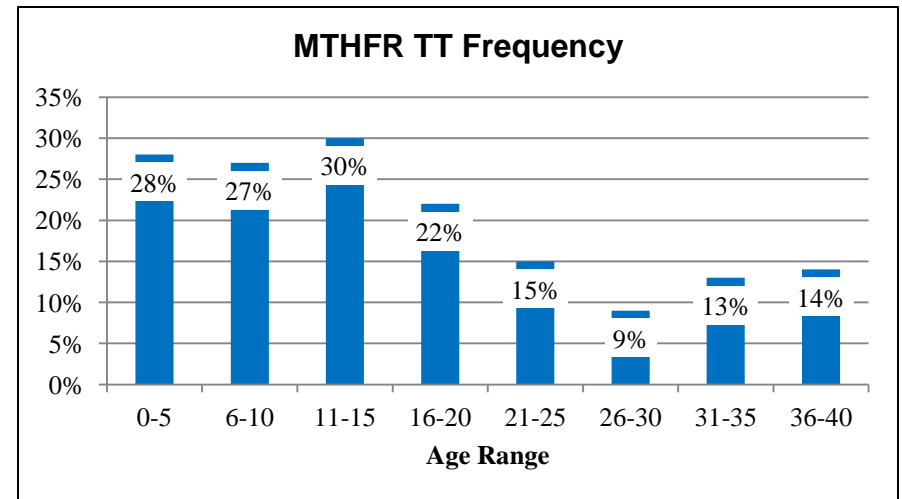
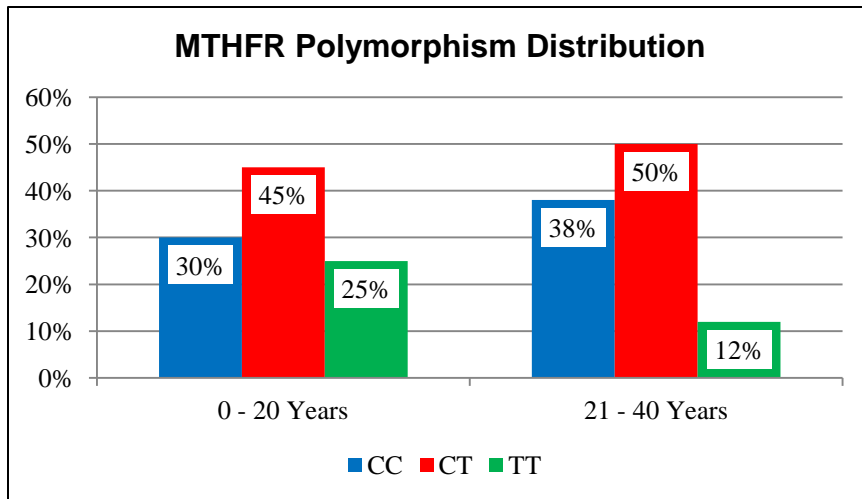
RIBOFLAVIN – FOLATE INTERACTION in IRELAND



MTHFR 677C→T POLYMORPHISM

♥ Genotype 695 Spaniards

- All ≤ 40 years of age
- No migration in or out of area
 - ◆ ACE I/D – Stable over all age ranges
 - ◆ MTHFR 677C→T



MTHFR 677C→T and MISCARRIAGE

♥ 35 y/o healthy Spanish woman

- Two stillbirths (28 and 26 weeks)
- Three miscarriages (9, 10, and 11 weeks)

Metabolic and thrombophilia work up negative (nl insulin, CRP, and fibrinogen)

Impaired fibrinolytic response (10 min. venous occlusion test)

- ♣ No shortening of the euglobulin clot lysis time
- ♣ Abnormally high PAI-1 (plasminogen activator inhibitor-1) activity

B12 wnl but folate 4.3 (5-28) and MTHFR TT → Homocysteine 46 umol/l

Treat with 15 mg folate and 500 mg B6 500 mg for four weeks:

- Homocysteine falls to 9 with normalized fibrinolytic response

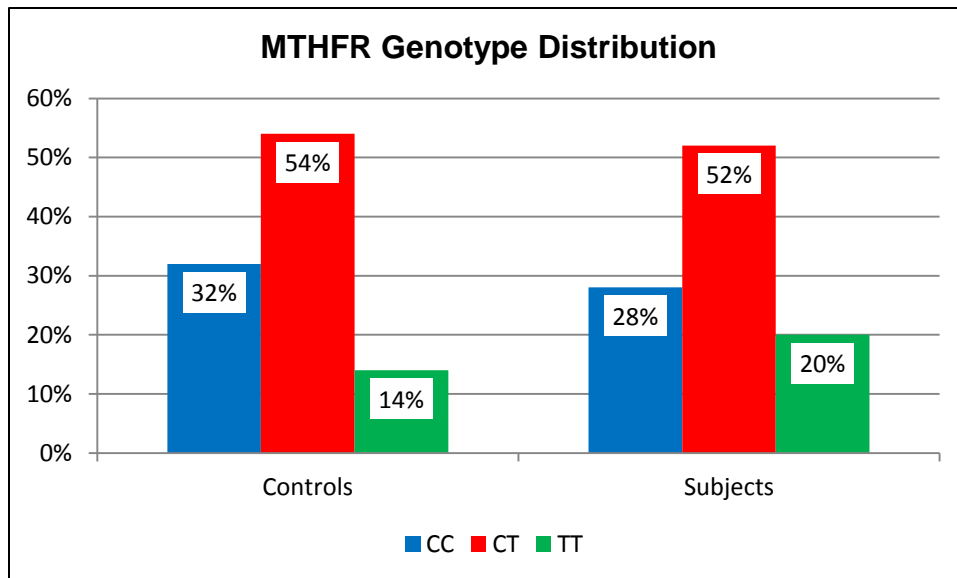
Conceives, B vits continued ⇒ Delivery at 32 weeks (C-section d/t metrorrhagia)

MTHFR 677C→T and MISCARRIAGE

- ♥ 100 consecutive nulliparous with recurrent early miscarriages
 - \geq three episode of fetal loss
 - Unknown etiology (1998)
 - ♦ Age-matched healthy controls without history of fetal loss

Homocysteine levels:

- Median levels similar
- Greater range (5th-95th percentile) of 3-29 subjects vs. 3-12 controls
- Folate low in 15% subjects



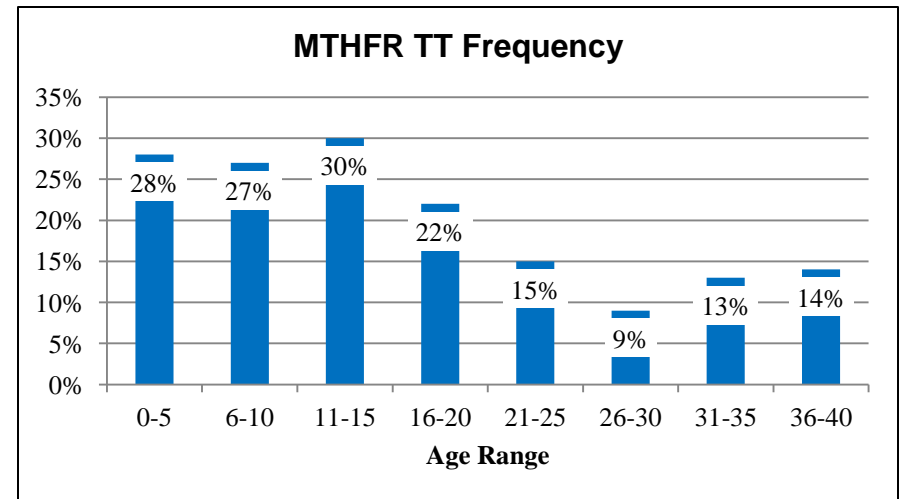
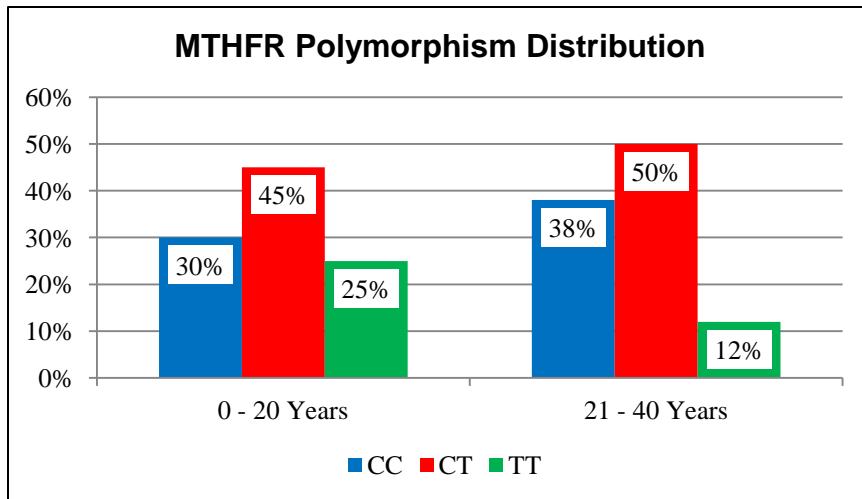
Highest homocysteine values:

- Low folate
- MTHFR TT

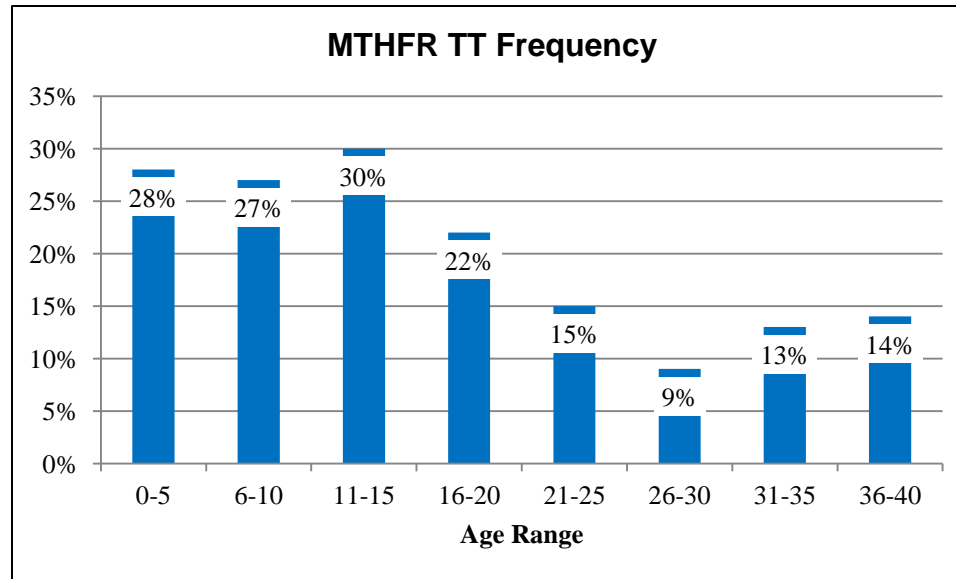
MTHFR 677C→T POLYMORPHISM

♥ Genotype 695 Spaniards

- All ≤ 40 years of age
- No migration in or out of area
 - ◆ ACE I/D – Stable over all age ranges
 - ◆ MTHFR 677C→T



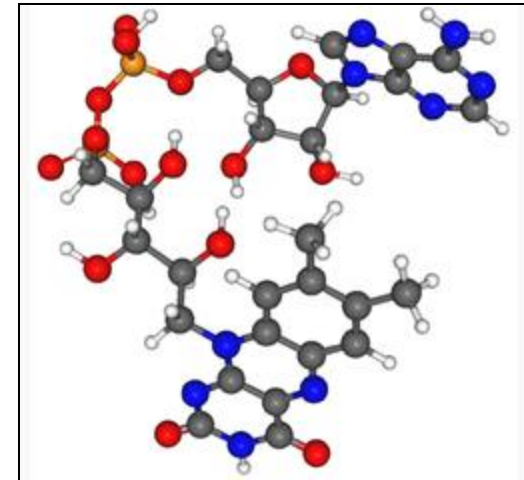
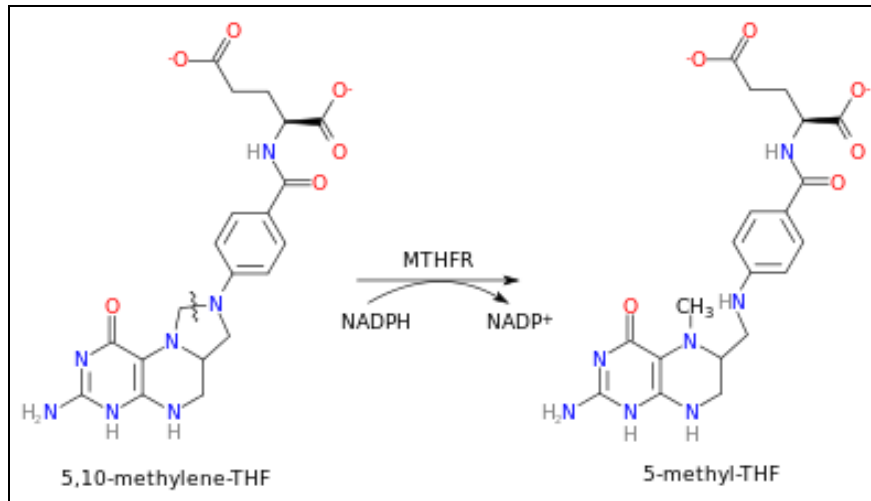
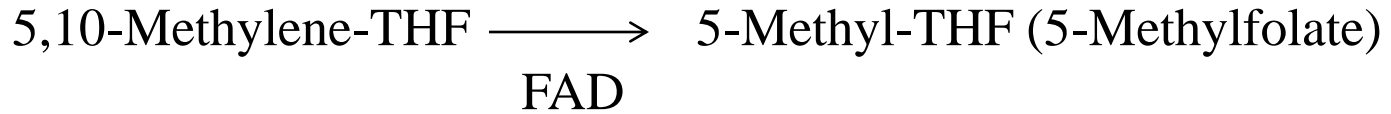
MTHFR 677C→T POLYMORPHISM



Folate Supplementation During Pregnancy (%)

1976	3%
1977	10%
1982	35%
1986	55%

MTHFR C677T POLYMORPHISM

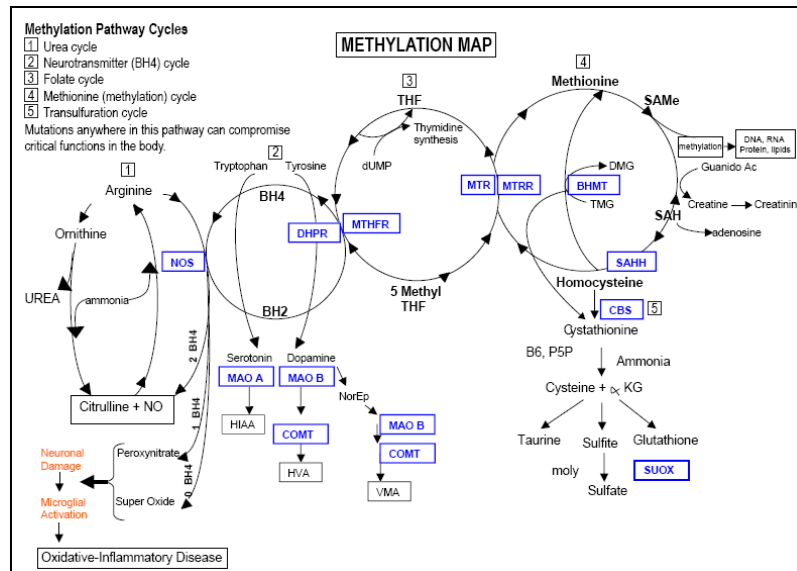
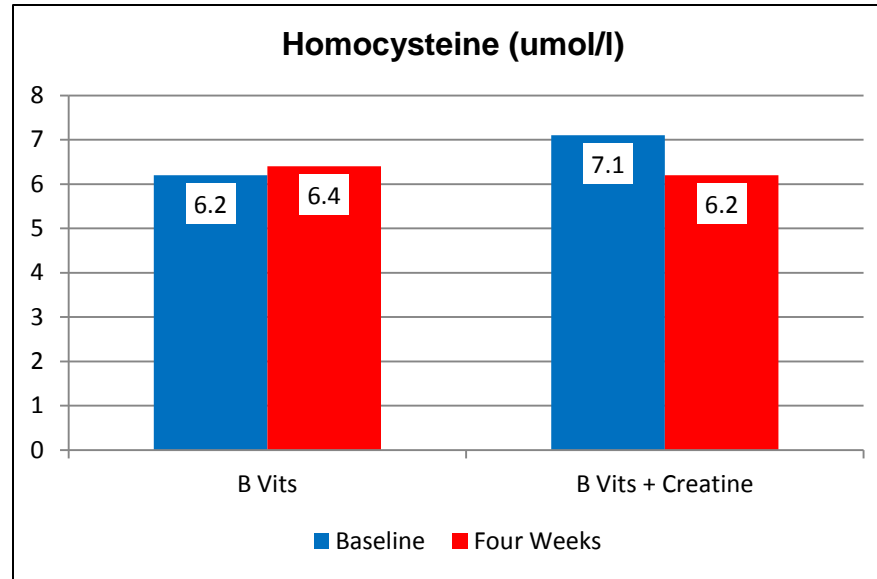


Impaired binding of MTHFR to FAD (Flavin Adenine Dinucleotide):

Conditionally increased requirement for:

- Riboflavin
- Folate \rightarrow 5,10-Methylene-THF
- Bypass C677T with 5-Methylfolate

CREATINE to DECREASE HOMOCYSTEINE



MTHFR C677T and COLORECTAL MALIGNANCY

- ♥ 18,025 US Health Professionals (lab analysis in '93-'94)
 - 144 with colorectal malignancy dxed ('86-'94)
 - 627 control participants

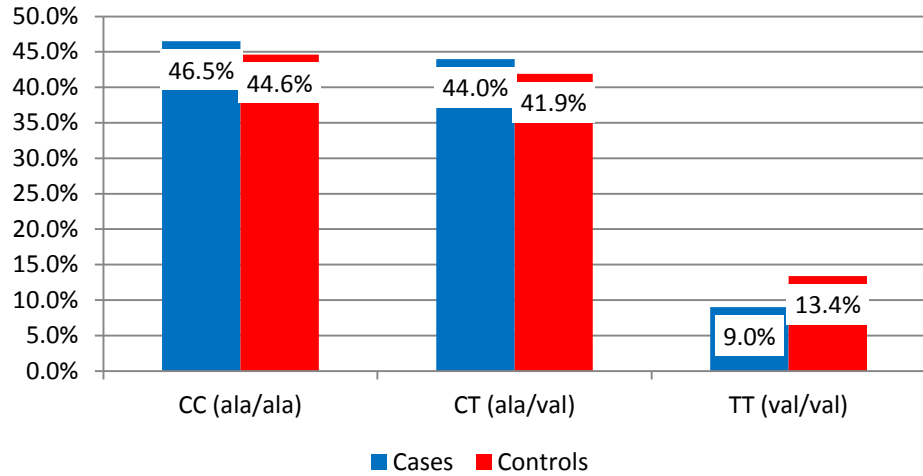
Record:

- MTHFR genomic status
 - ♥ 677CC (ala/ala)
 - ♦ 677CT (ala/val)
 - ♣ 677TT (val/val)
- Dietary folate and methionine intake
- Alcohol intake

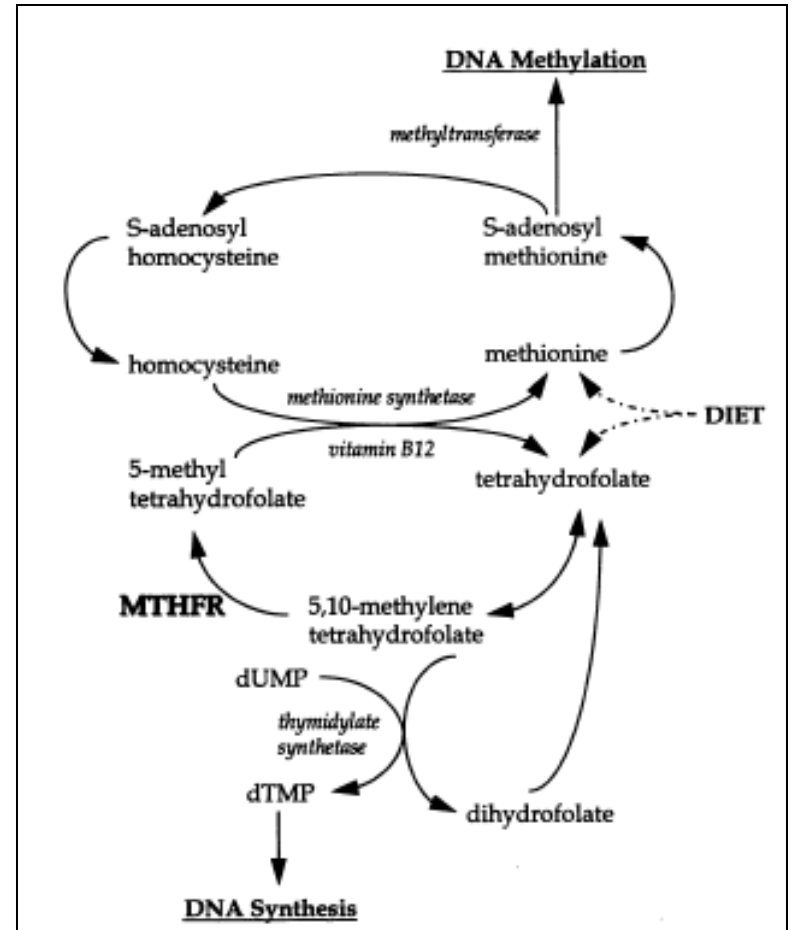
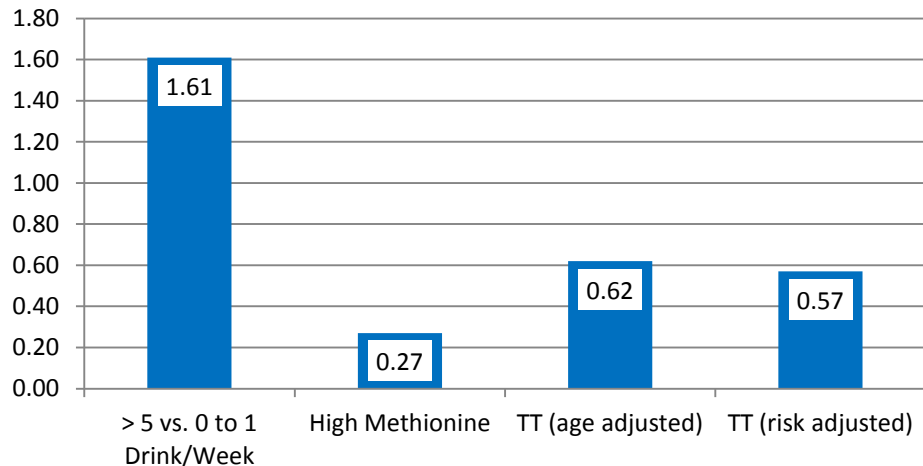
Correlate with risk of colorectal malignancy

MTHFR C677T and COLORECTAL MALIGNANCY

MTHFR Genotype (%)

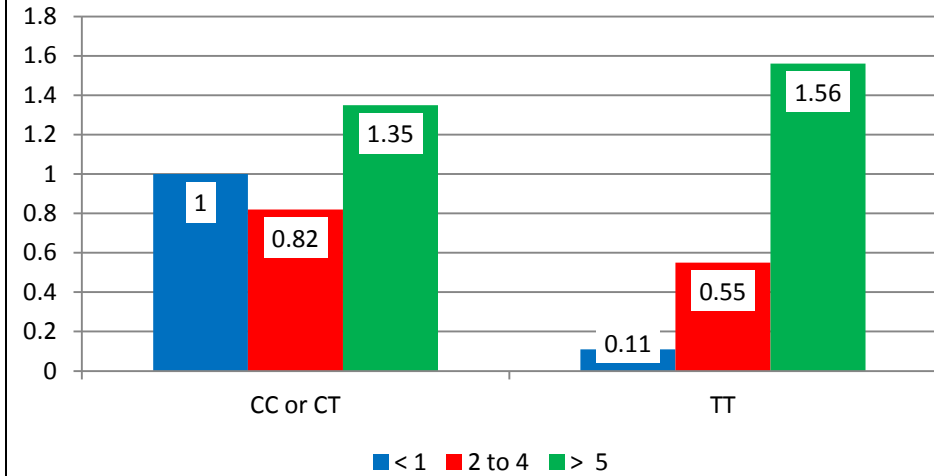


Relative Risk of Colorectal Malignancy

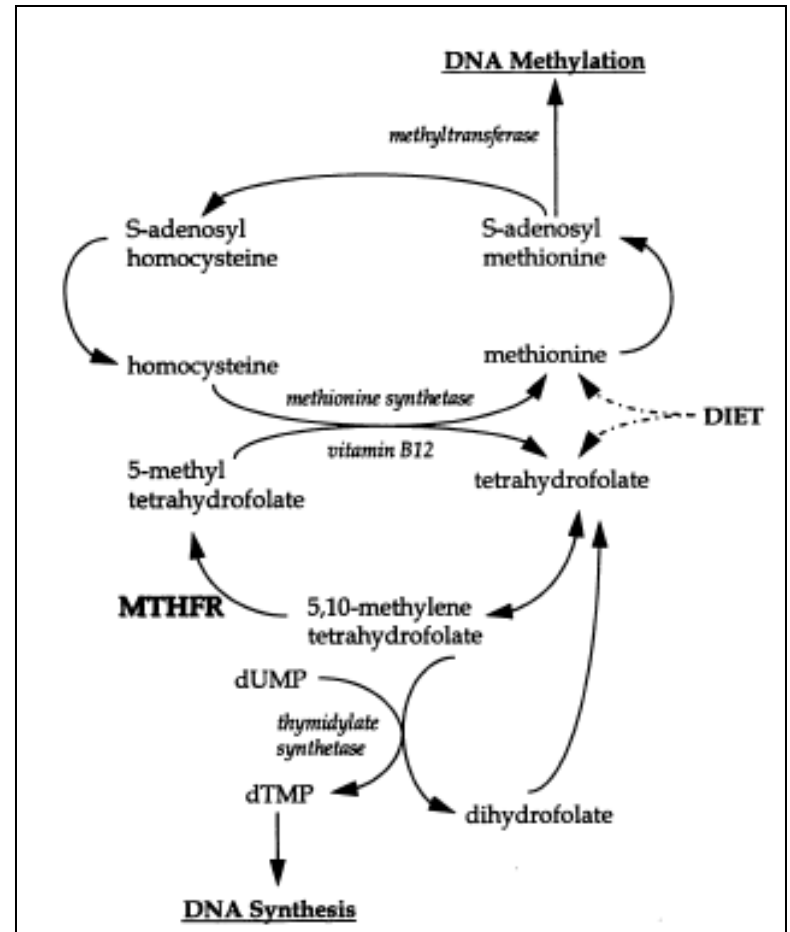
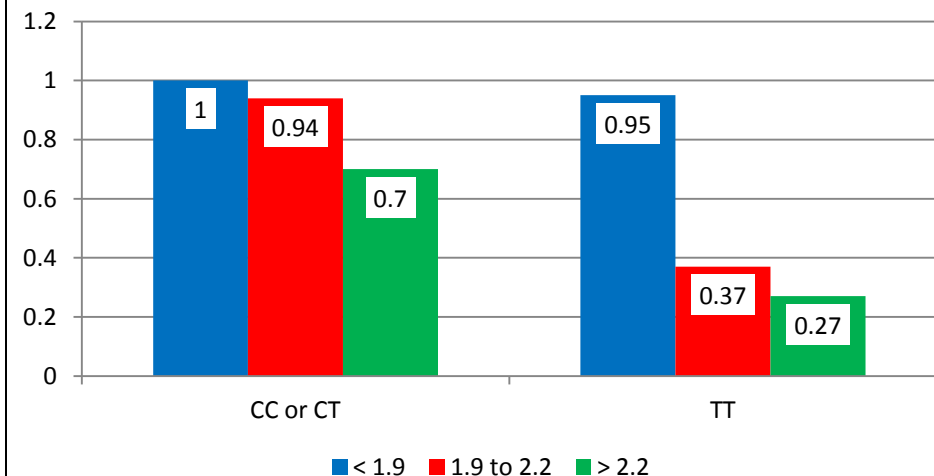


MTHFR C677T and COLORECTAL MALIGNANCY

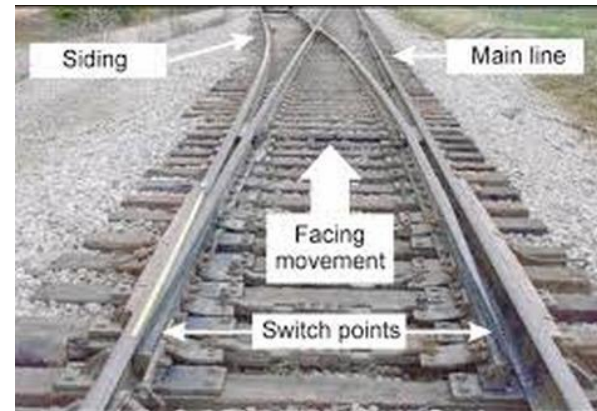
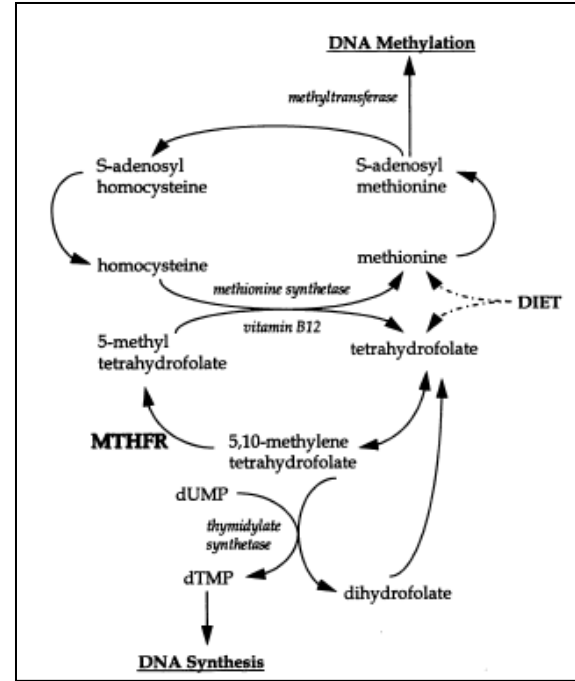
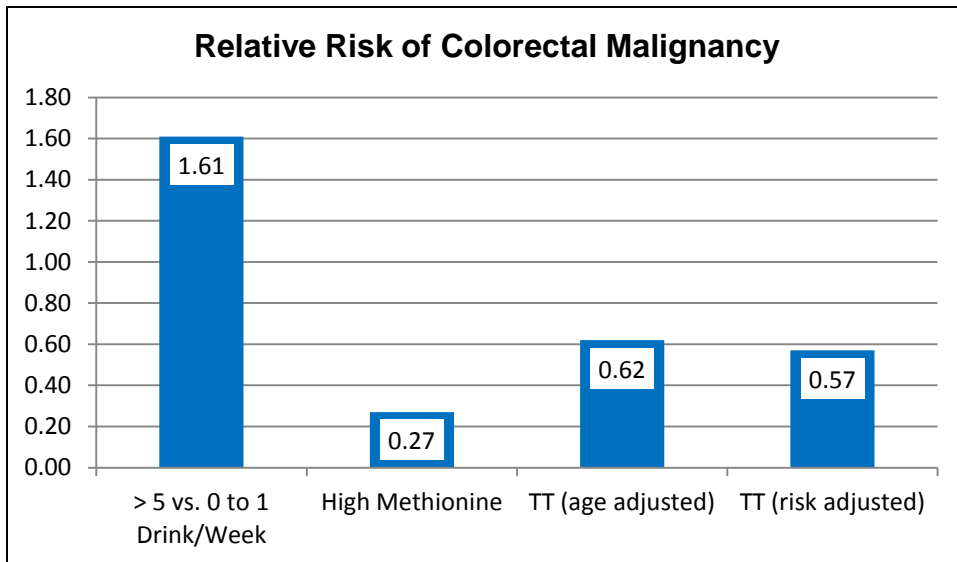
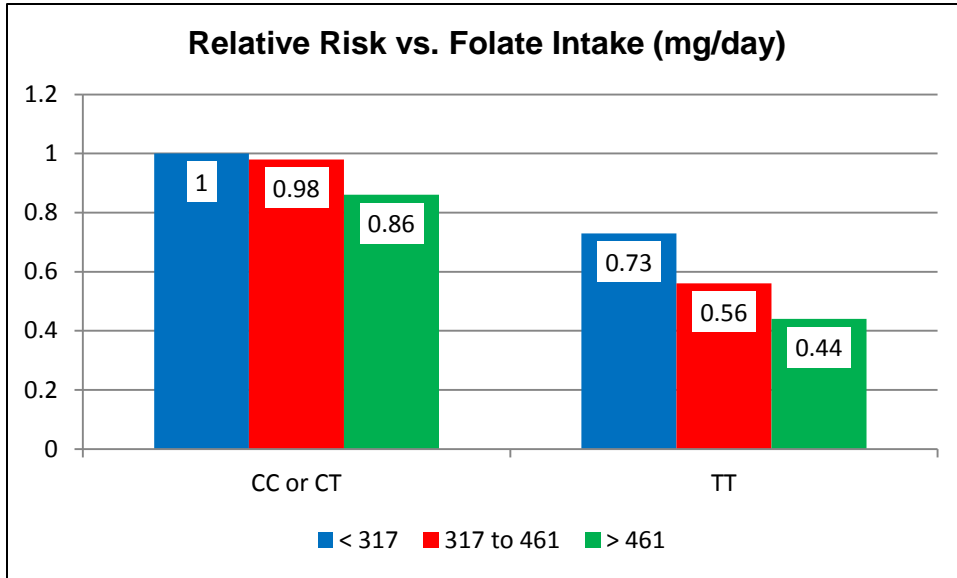
Relative Risk vs. Drinks per Week



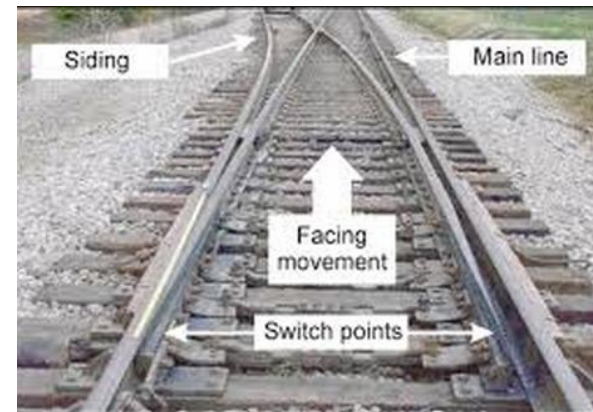
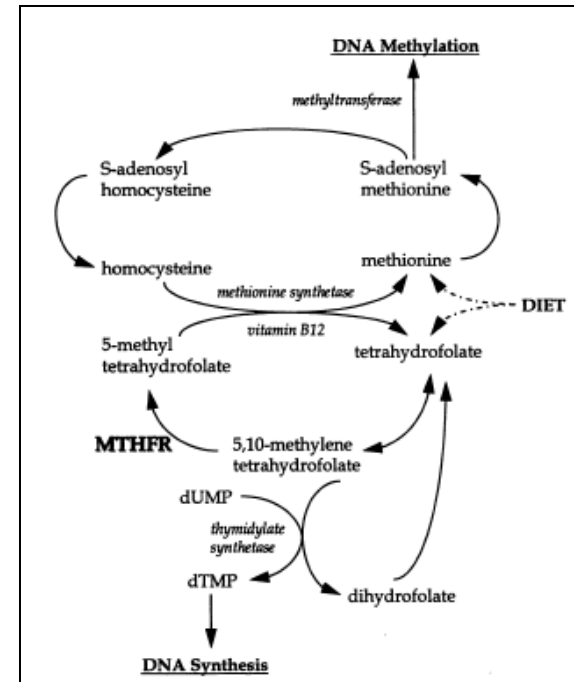
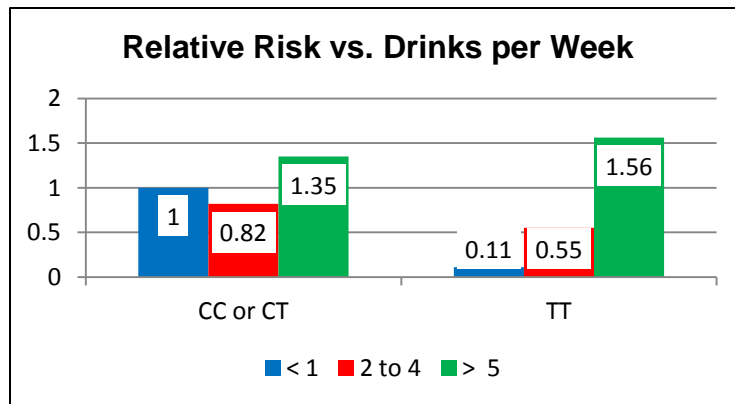
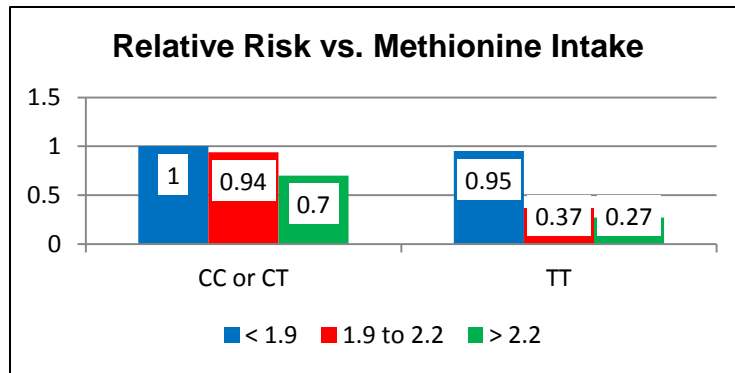
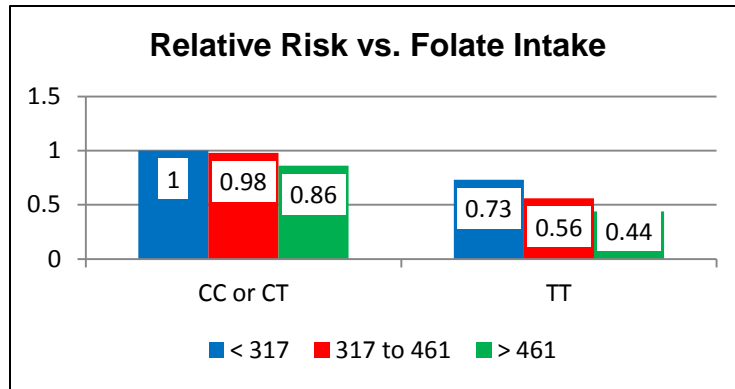
Relative Risk vs. Methionine Intake (gm/day)



MTHFR C677T and COLORECTAL MALIGNANCY



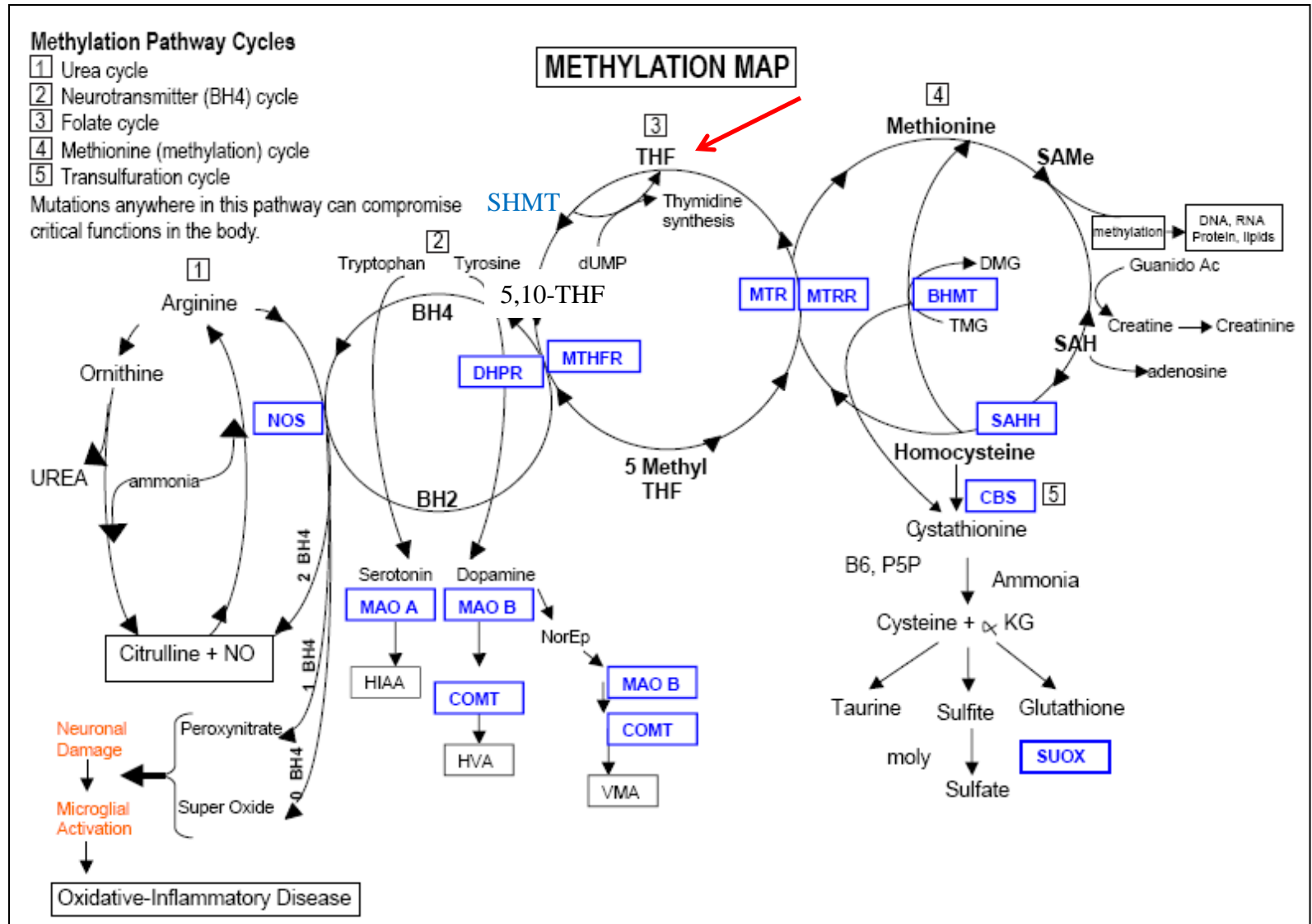
MTHFR C677T and COLORECTAL MALIGNANCY



MTHFR C677T and COLORECTAL MALIGNANCY

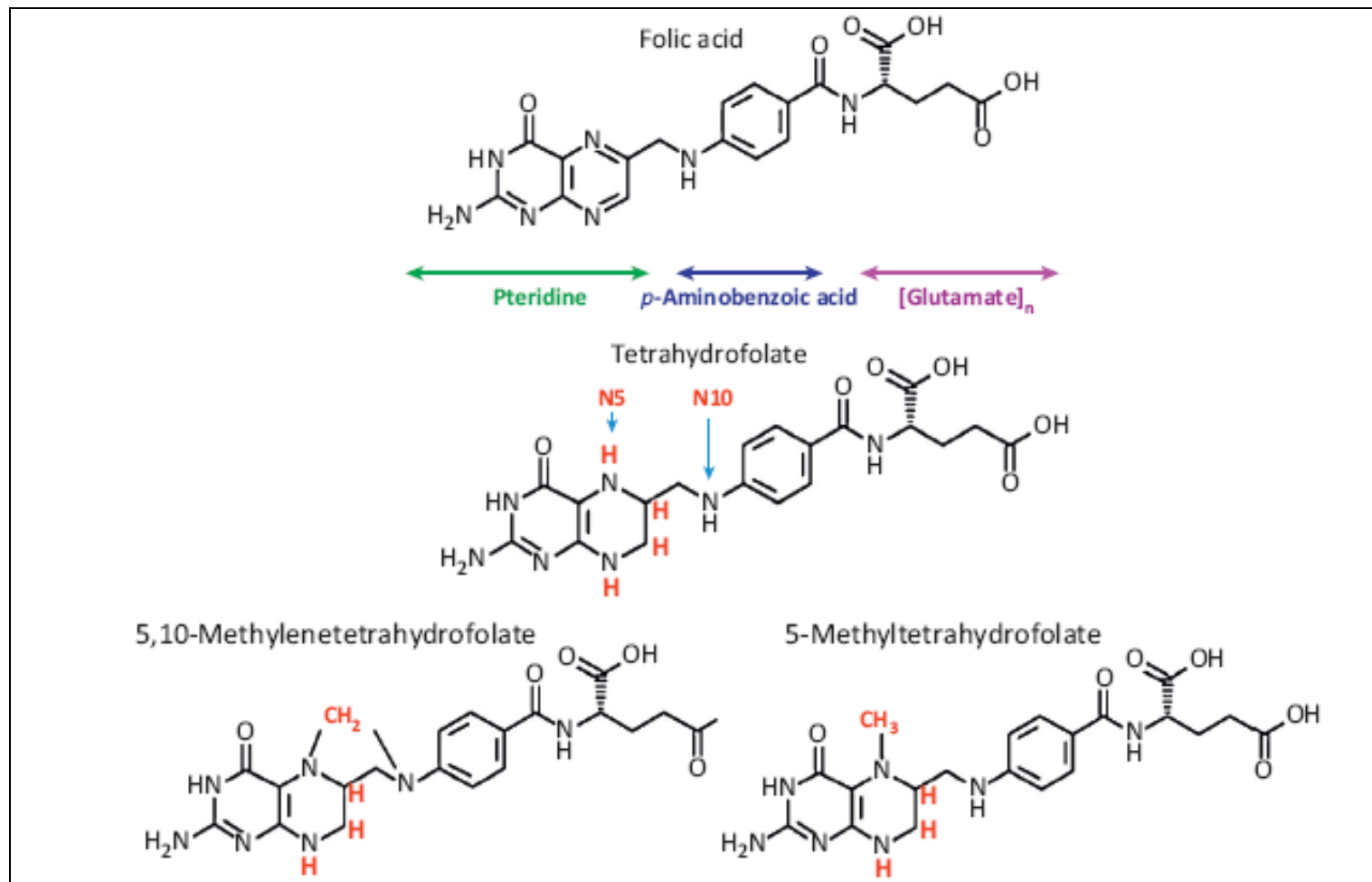


PRIMING the METHYL CYCLE





REDUCED FOLATES



FOLATE ABSORPTION

Dietary folate is a polyglutamate

FPG \longrightarrow FMG

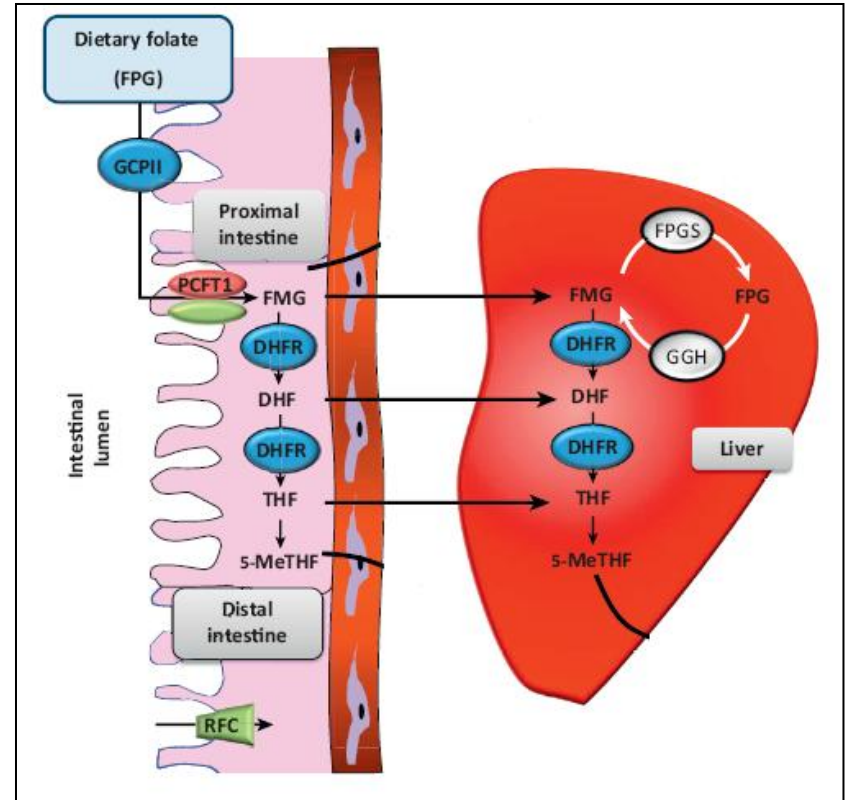
Glutamate carboxypeptidase II (GCP II)

FMG \longrightarrow FMG

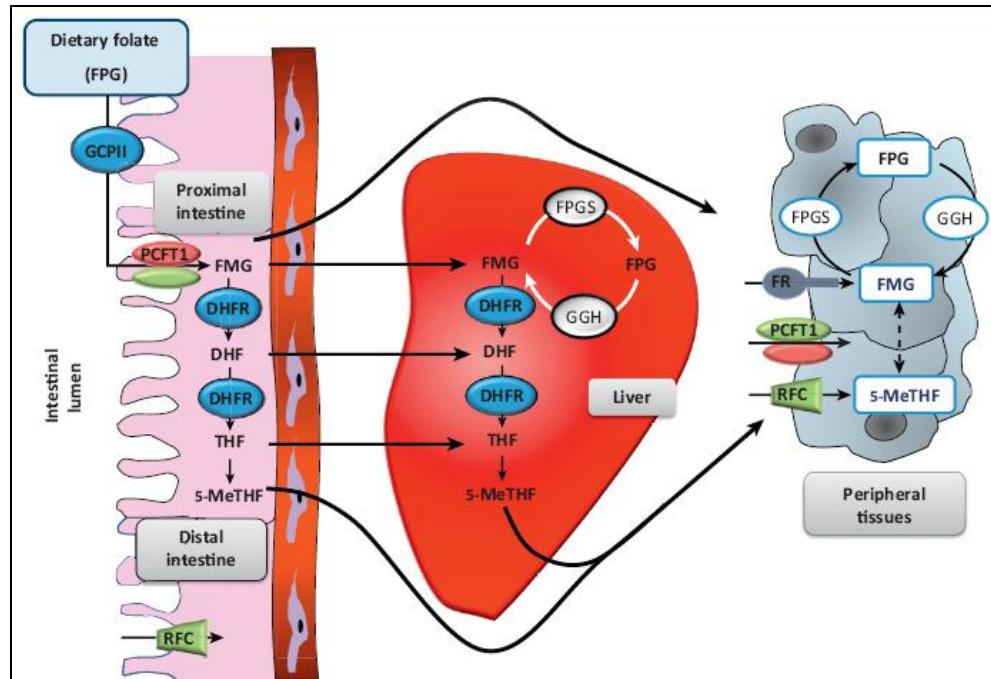
Proton-coupled folate transporter (PCFT1)
acidic pH

FMG \longrightarrow FMG

Reduced folate carrier (RFC)
neutral pH of distal GI tract



FOLATE STORAGE and TRANSPORT

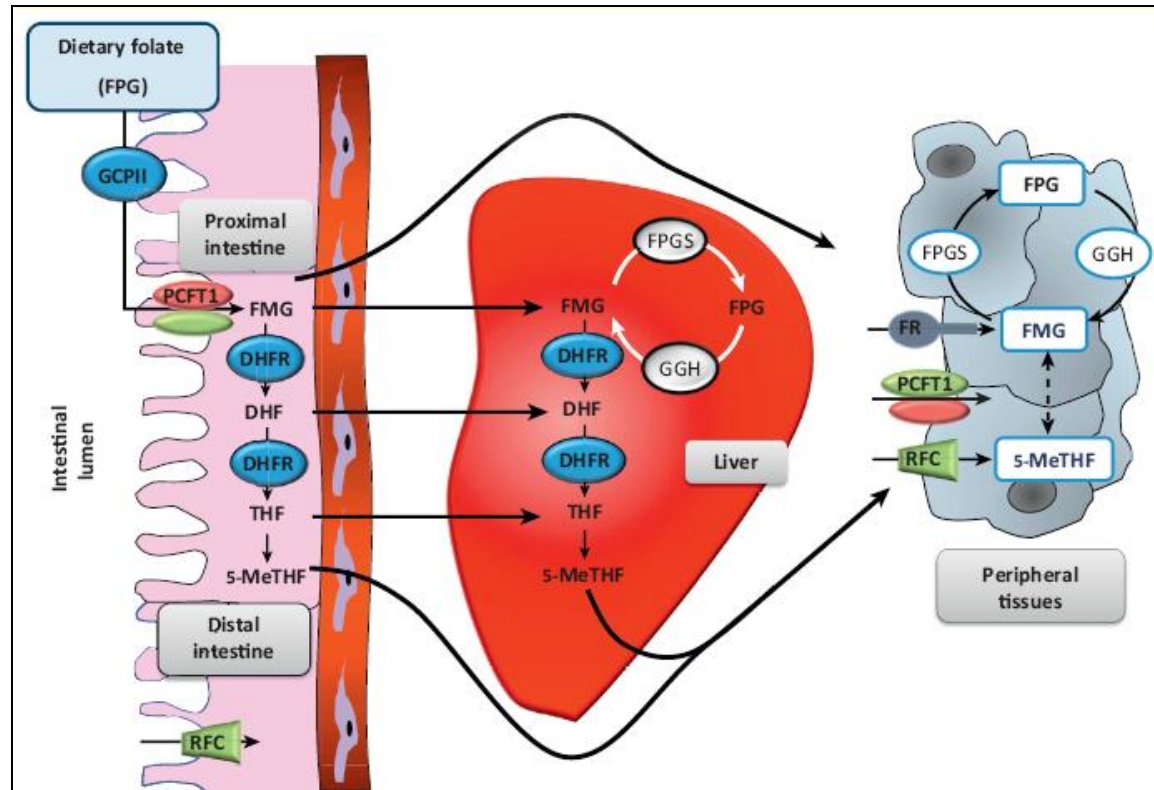


Folate stored (primarily In liver) as FPG

FMG $\xrightarrow{\text{FPGS}}$ FPG
 Folylpoly-gamma-glutamyl synthetase (FPGS)

FPG $\xrightarrow{\text{GGH}}$ FMG
 Gamma-glutamyl hydrolase (GGH)

PERIPHERAL FOLATE UPTAKE

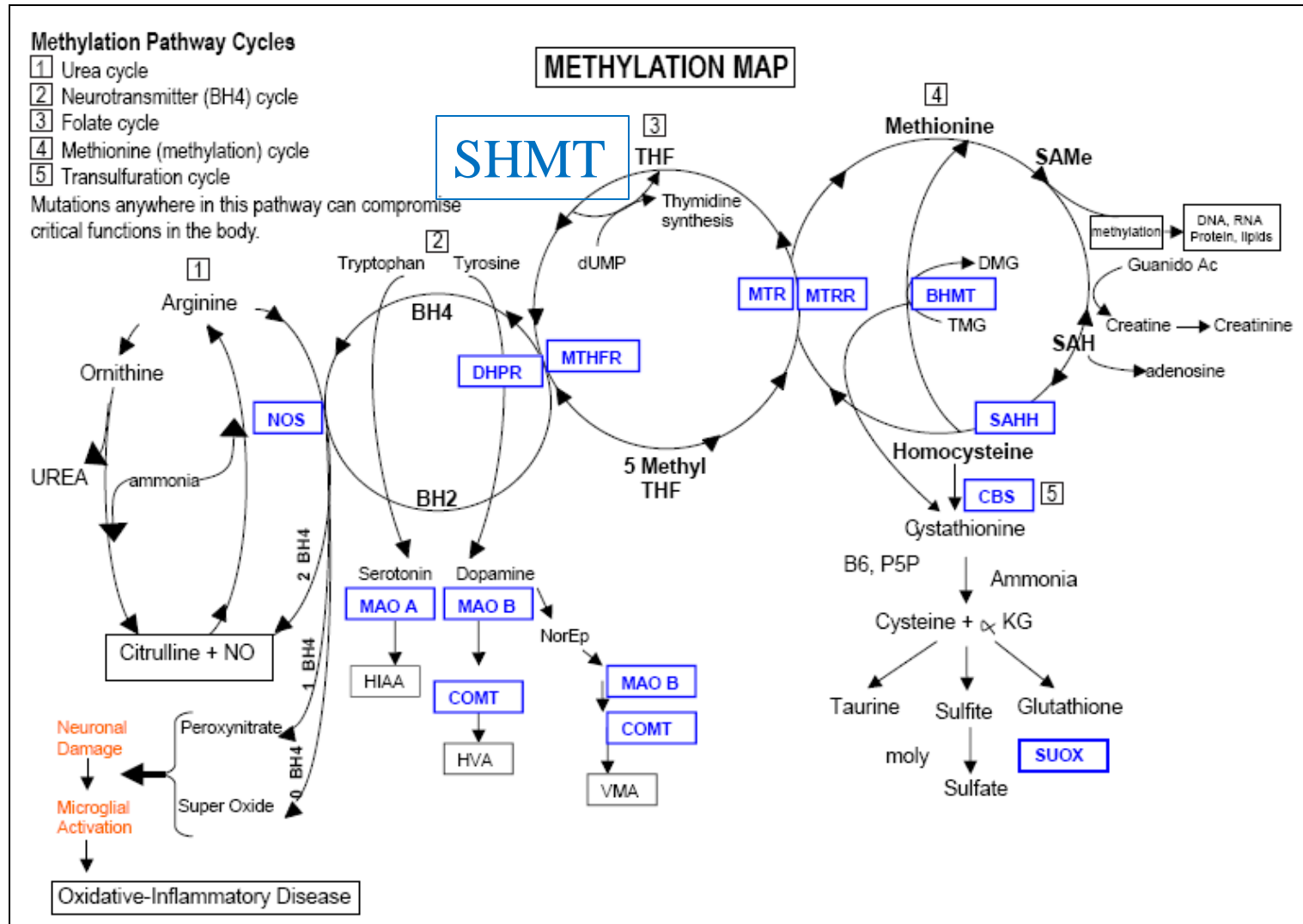


Reduced folate receptor

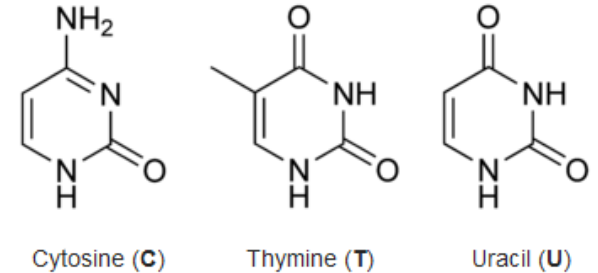
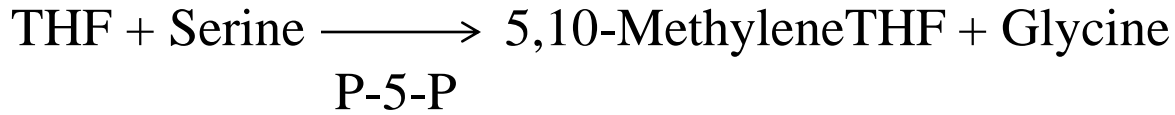
Folate receptors α , β , and γ

5-methyl folate > reduced folates > folic acid

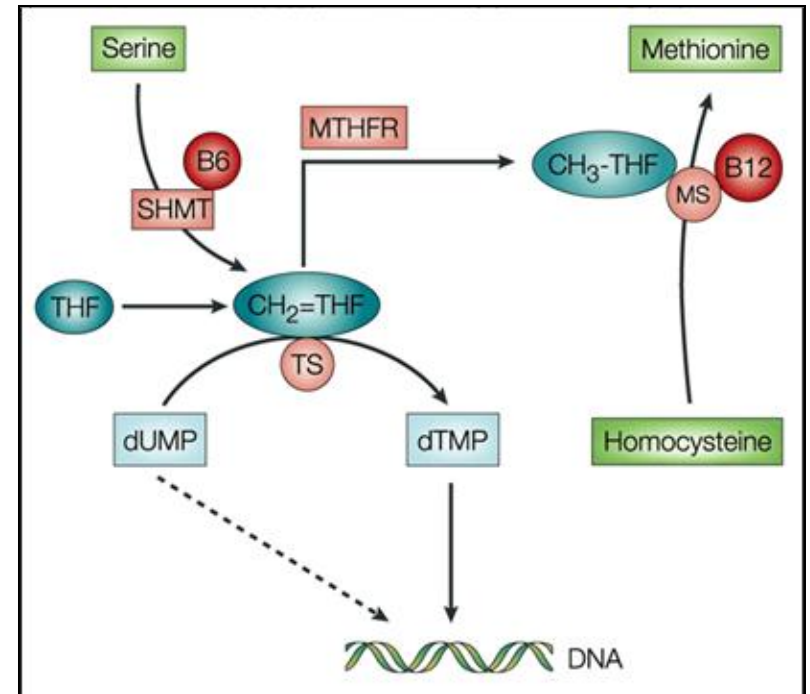
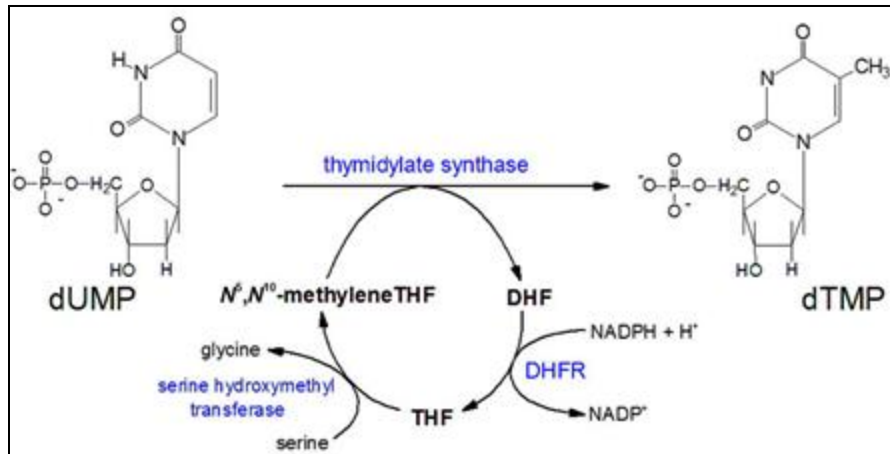
SERINE HYDROXY METHYL TRANSFERASE (SHMT)



SERINE HYDROXY METHYL TRANSFERASE (SHMT)

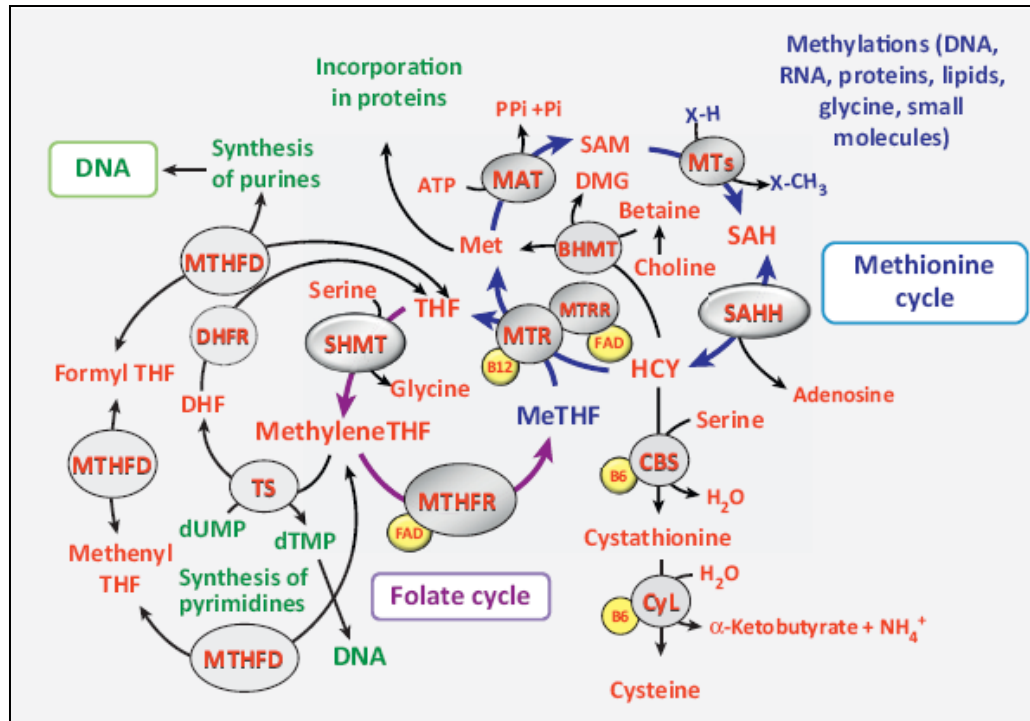


SHMT C1420T \approx Down regulation



Treatment: Folinic Acid 4-800 mcg/day
Methyl Folate 4-800 mcg/day

DNA SYNTHESIS



THF → 5,10-MethyleneTHF → Pyrimidines → DHF → THF
 SHMT Thymidine Synthase

THF → 5,10-MethyleneTHF → Methenyl THF → Formyl THF → Purines + THF
 SHMT MTHFD MTHFD

THF → 5,10-MethyleneTHF → 5-Methyl THF
 SHMT MTHFR

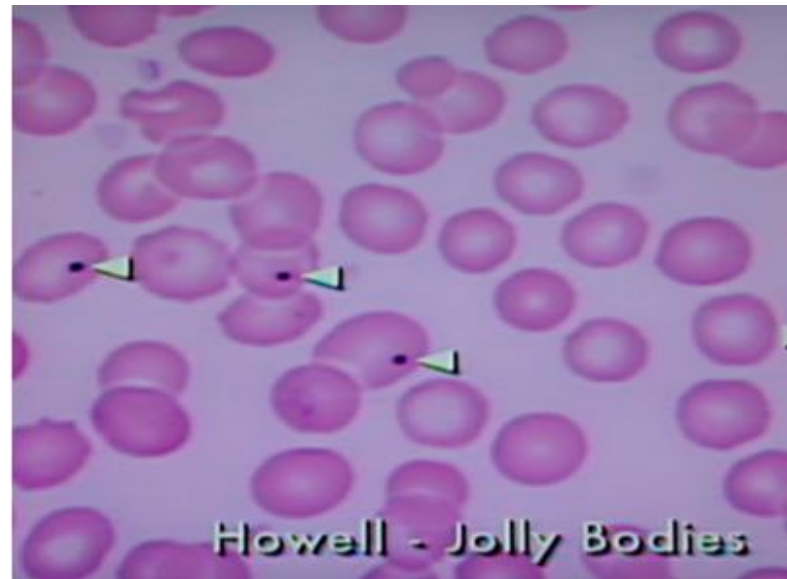
SPONTANEOUS DNA DAMAGE and FOLATE STATUS

♥ 122 subjects s/p splenectomy (not for malignancy)

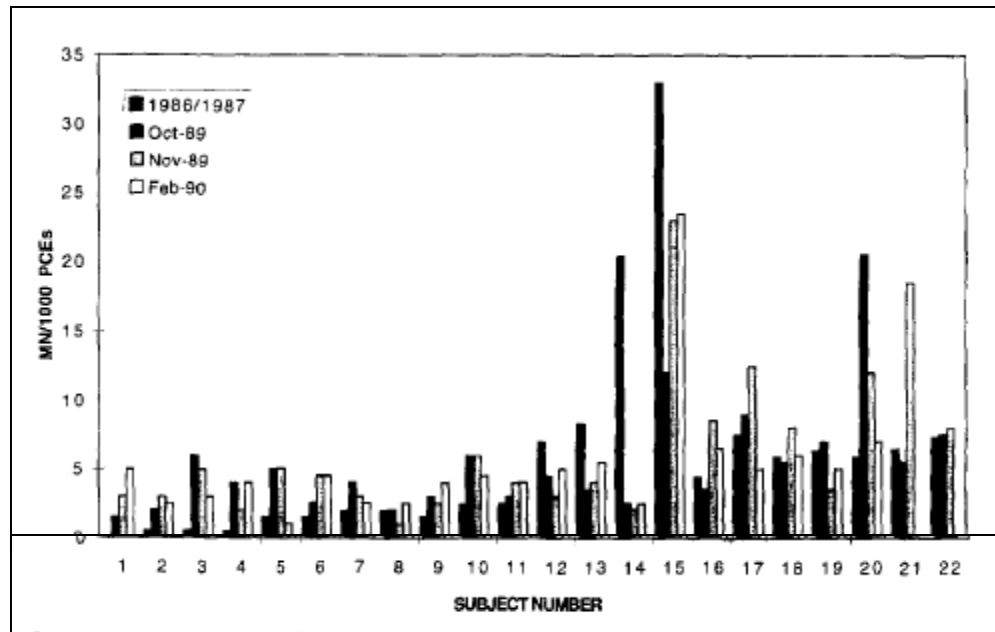
Select 22 with highest and lowest values for micronucleated RBCs

Repeat assessment over time
(‘87 – ’90)

Correlate with nutritional status



SPONTANEOUS DNA DAMAGE and FOLATE STATUS



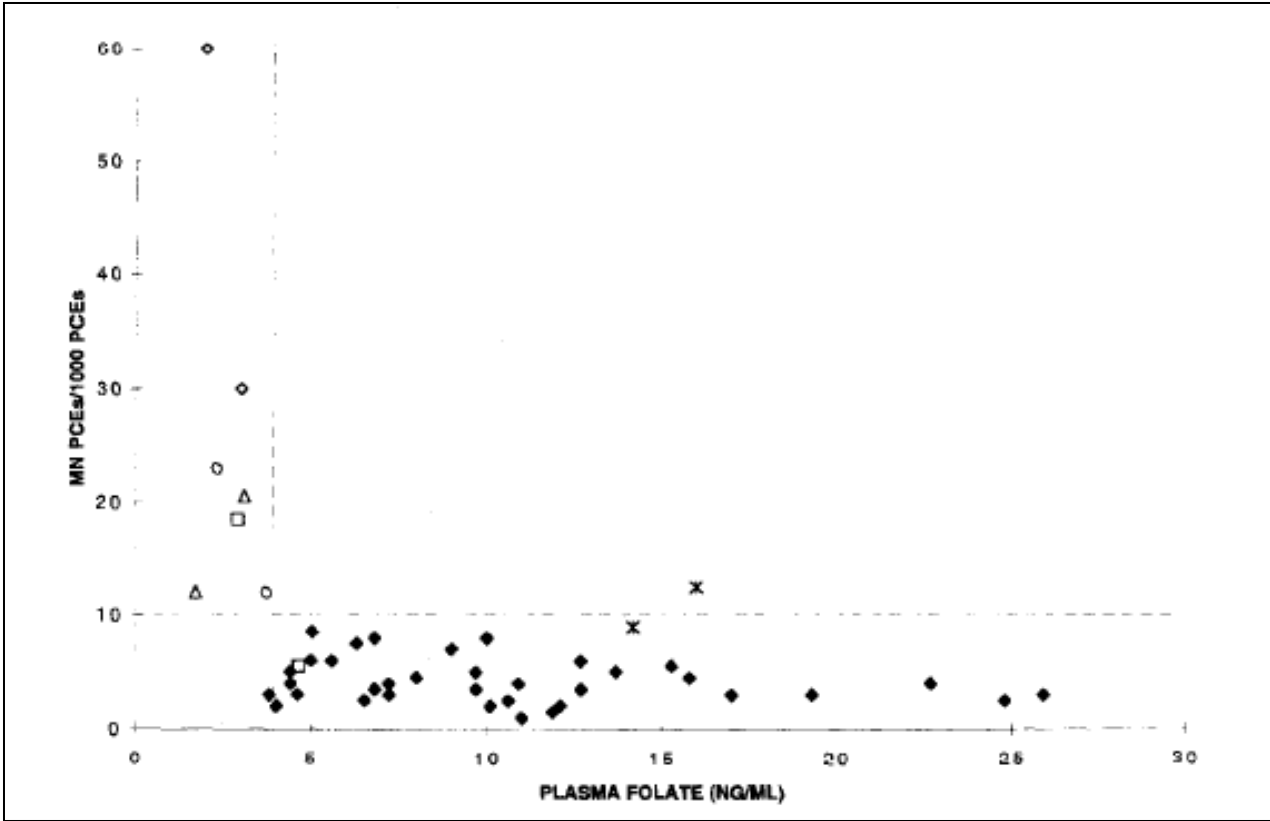
Individuals with low micronucleus formation stayed low

High micronucleus formation showed greatest variability

Cause is not genomic and Cause is not a constant

Micronucleus formation inversely related to folate and B12 status

SPONATANEOUS DNA DAMAGE and FOLATE STATUS



URACIL DNA MISINCORPORATION

♥ 122 subjects s/p splenectomy (not for malignancy)

Select 22 with highest and lowest values for micronucleated RBCs

Measure at baseline:

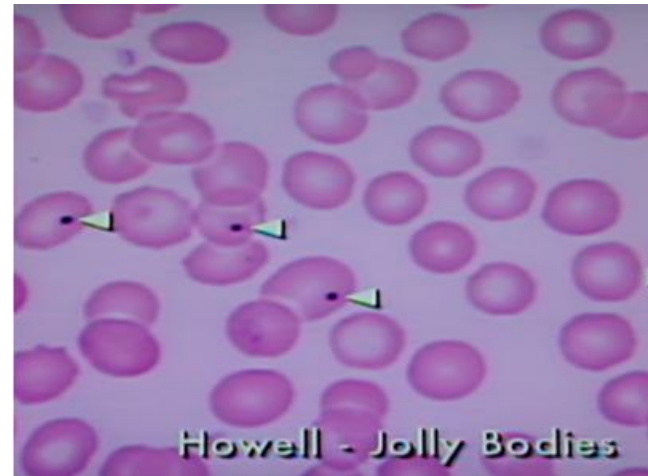
- RBC and plasma folate
- Uracil in DNA
- Micronucleated RBCs

Treat all with 5 mg/day folic acid

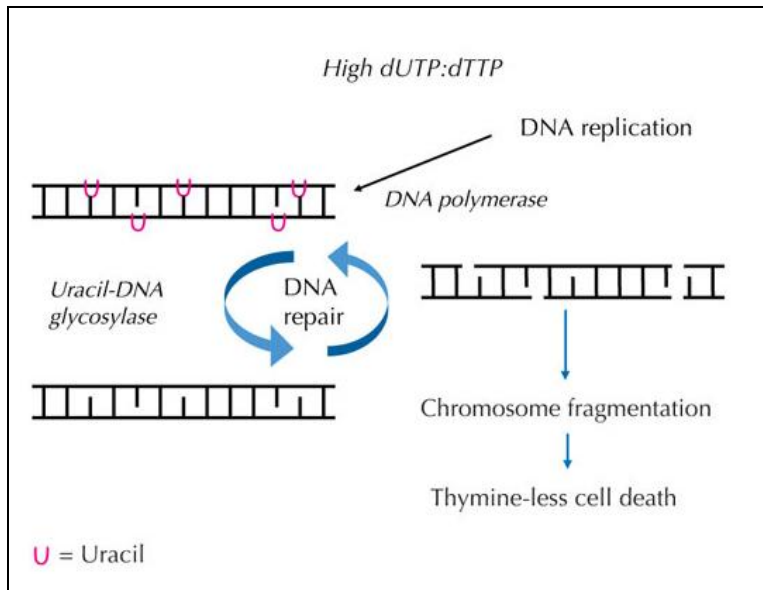
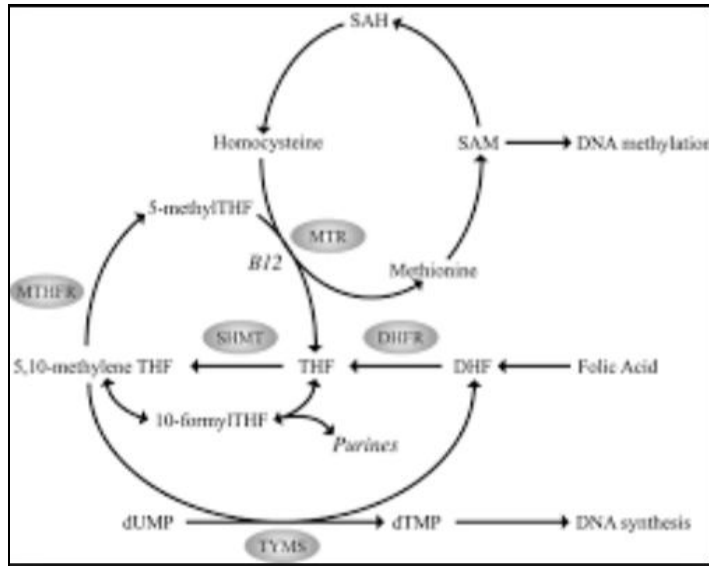
Repeat baseline measures at one week

♥ Crohn's Disease patient s/p splenectomy

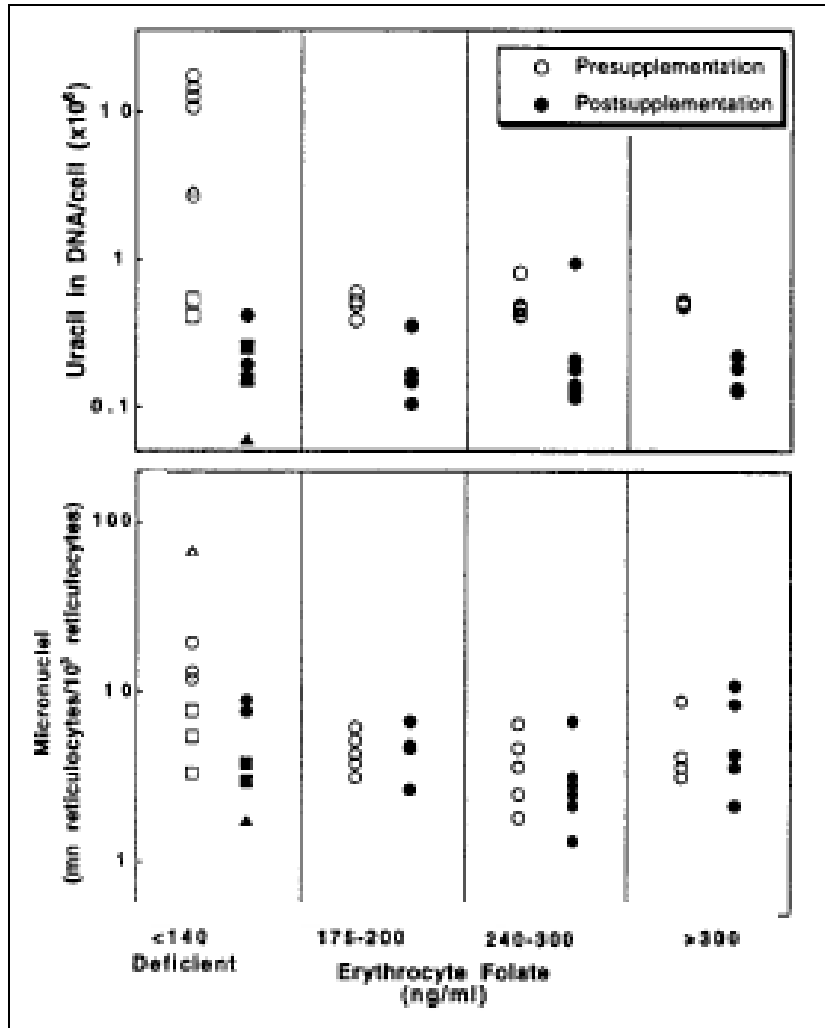
Treat with folinic acid 25 mg/day followed by folic acid at 5 mg/day



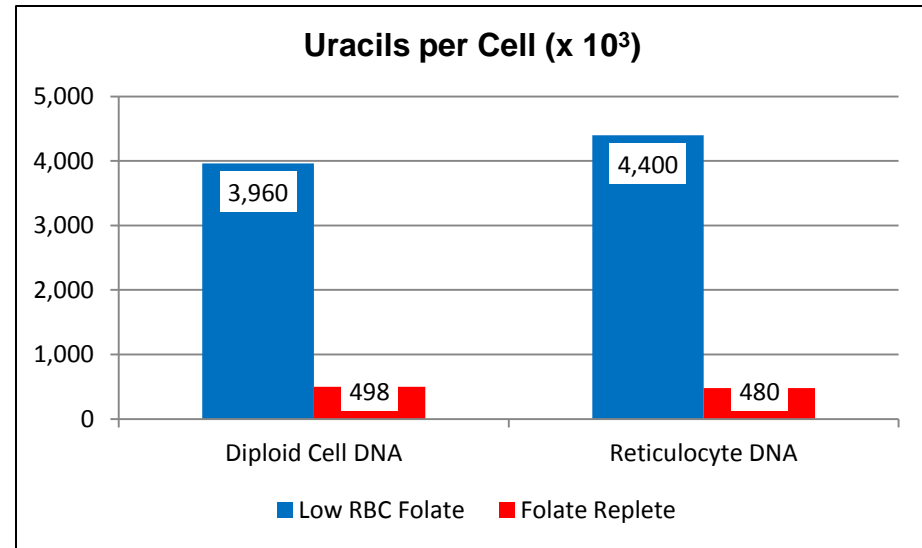
URACIL DNA MISINCORPORATION



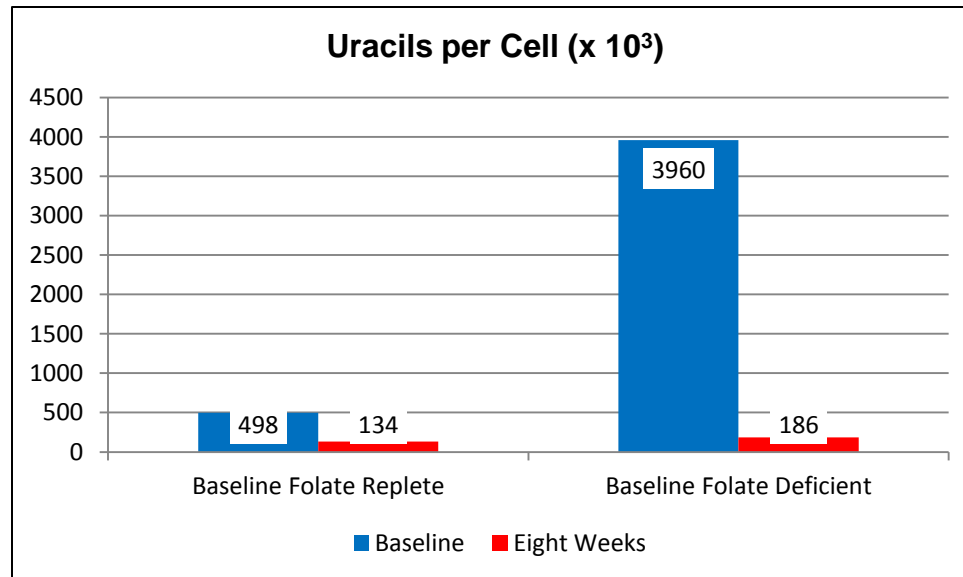
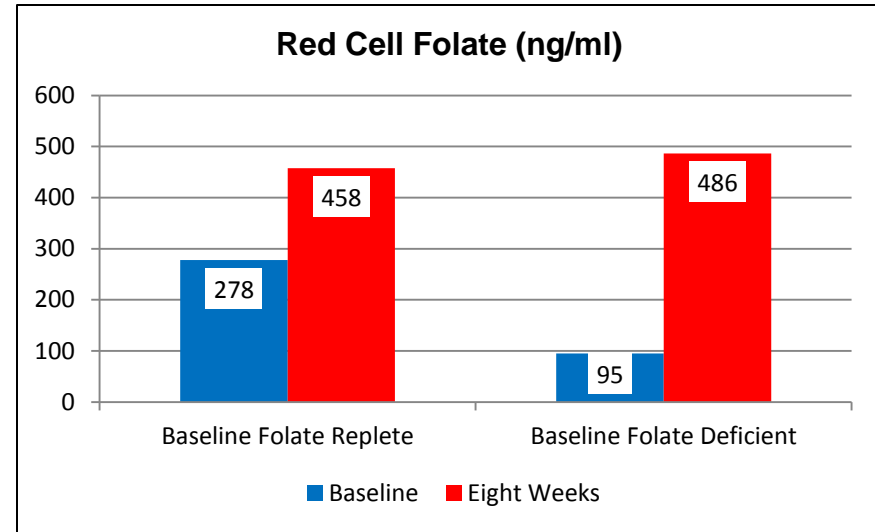
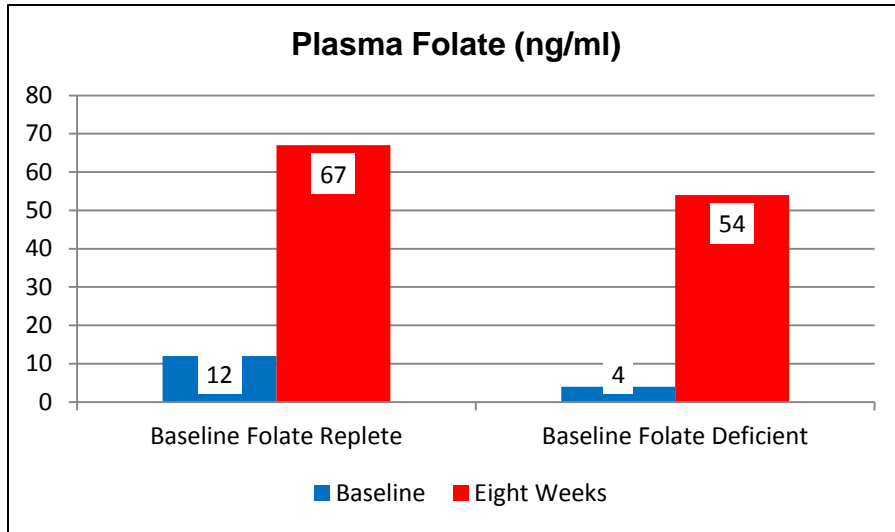
URACIL DNA MISINCORPORATION



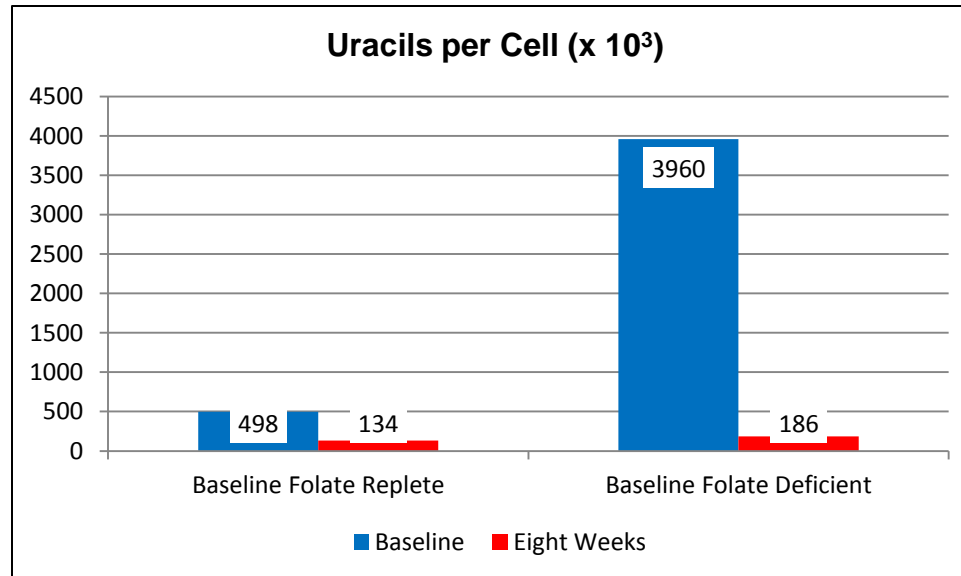
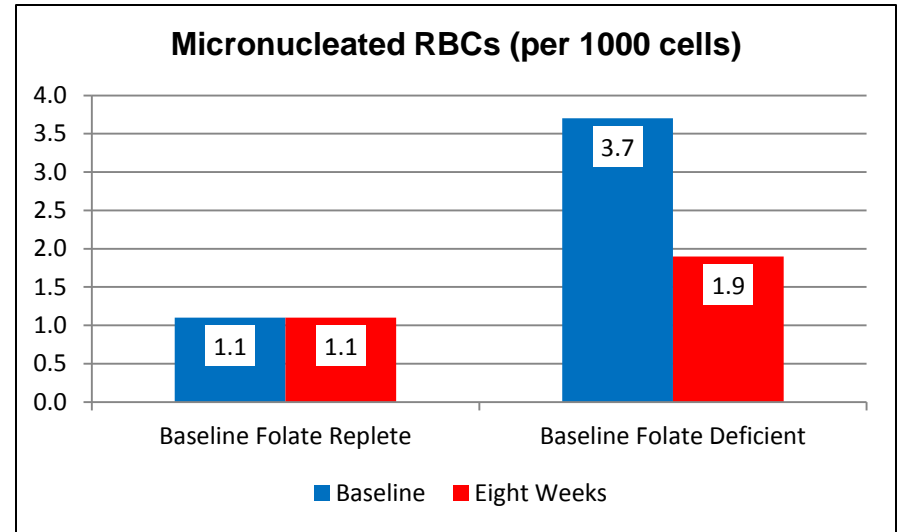
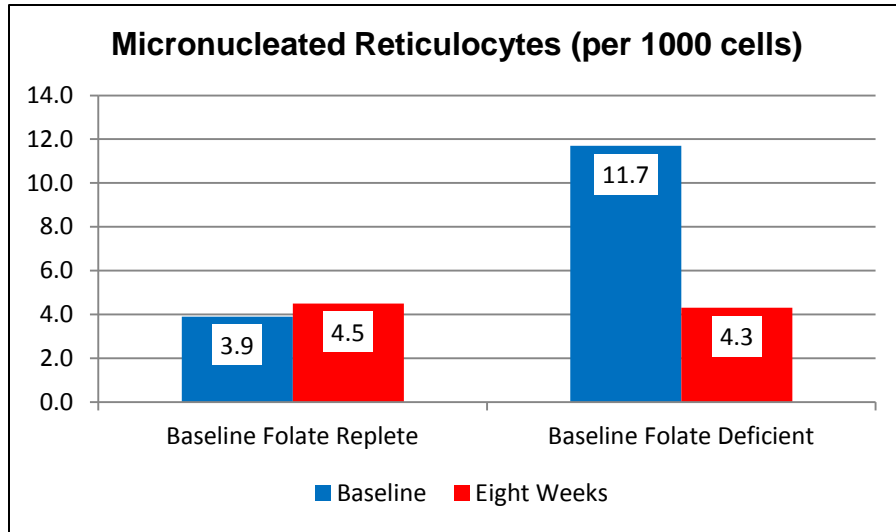
- RBC Folate
- Low RBC, Borderline Plasma
- △ Crohn's Patient



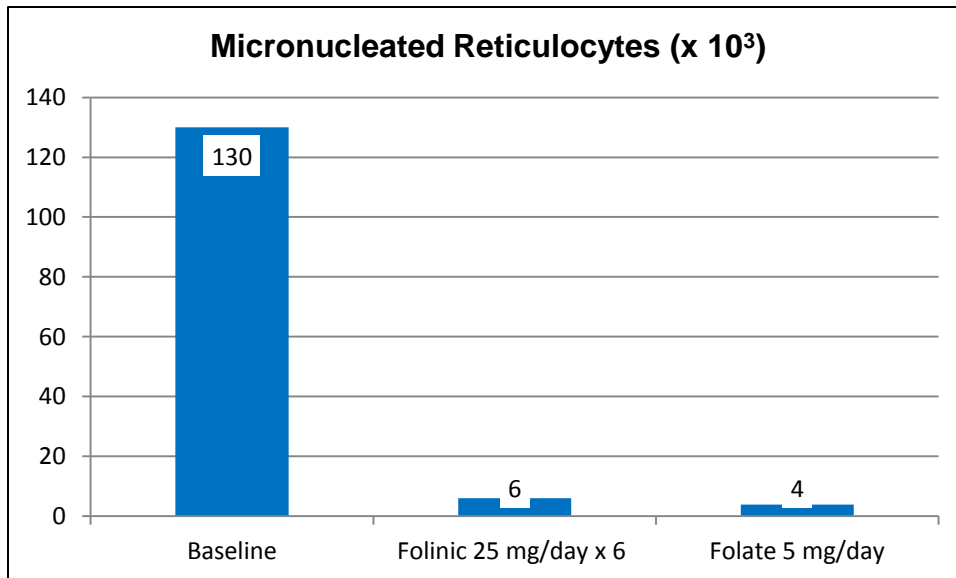
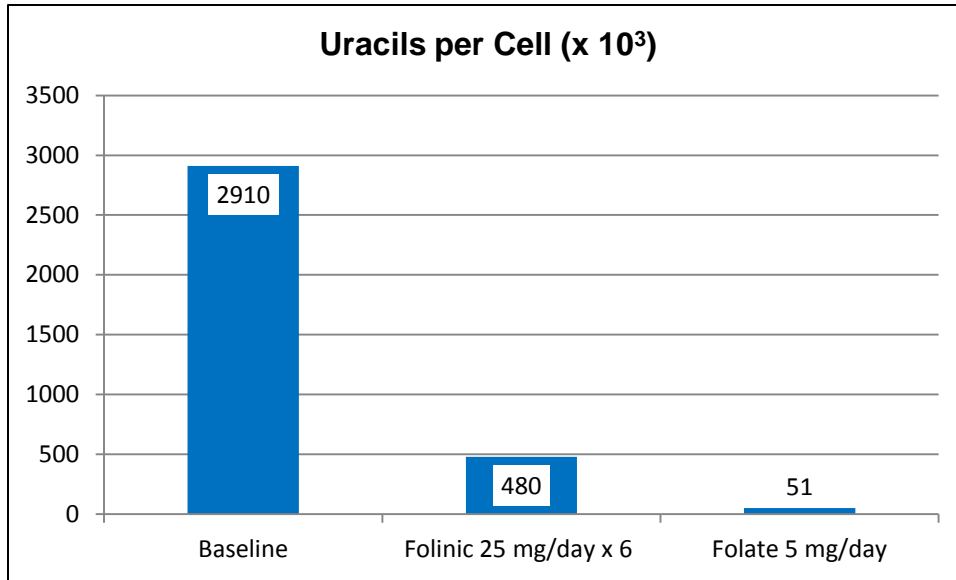
URACIL DNA MISINCORPORATION



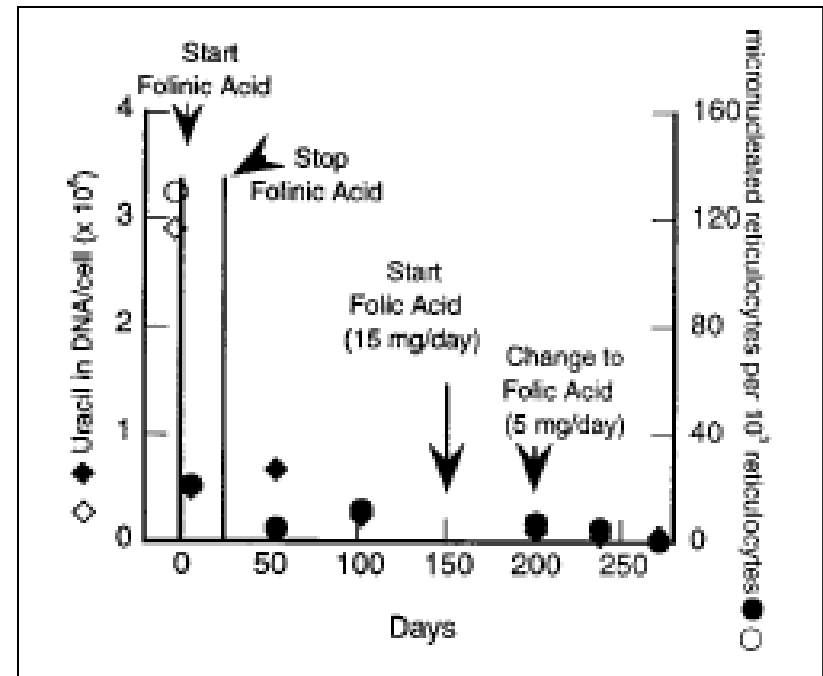
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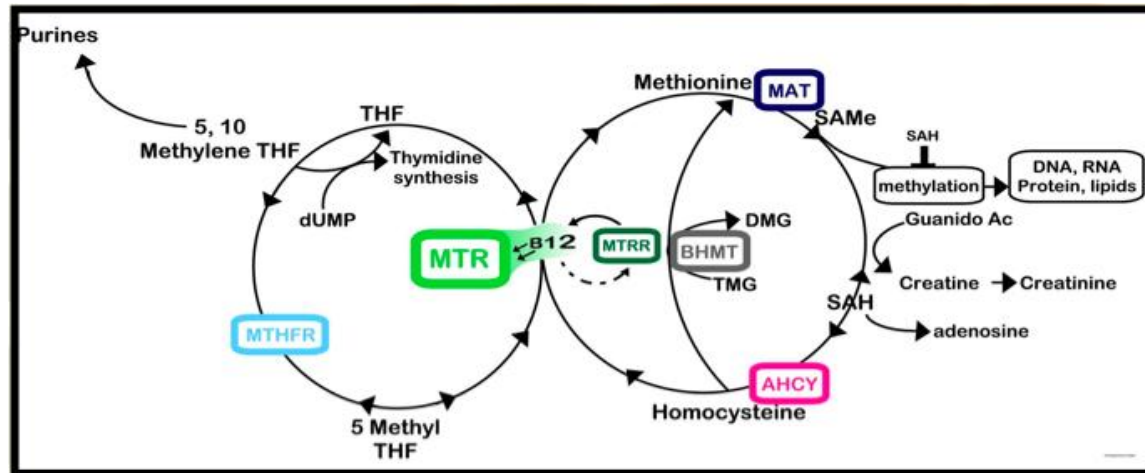
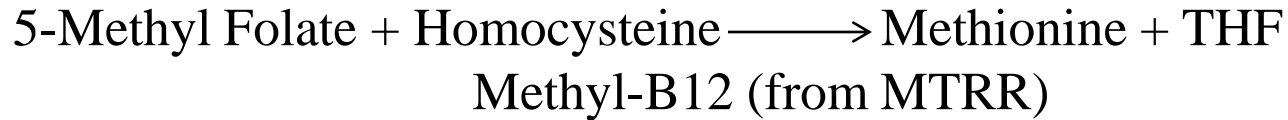
URACIL DNA MISINCORPORATION



Crohn's Disease Patient



METHIONINE SYNTHASE (MTR)



Alcohol and Mercury inhibit MTR → Low S-AdoMet:

- Low Phosphatidylcholine → Membrane dysfunction
- Impaired fatty acid oxidation (PGC1-alpha)
- Oxidative stress
- Oncogene activation

Treatment

- Methyl-Folate and Methyl-B12
- S-AdoMet (and/or other measures to ↑ S-AdoMet:SAH)

MERCURY and AUTONOMIC DYSFUNCTION

♥ 11 year old girl presents with:

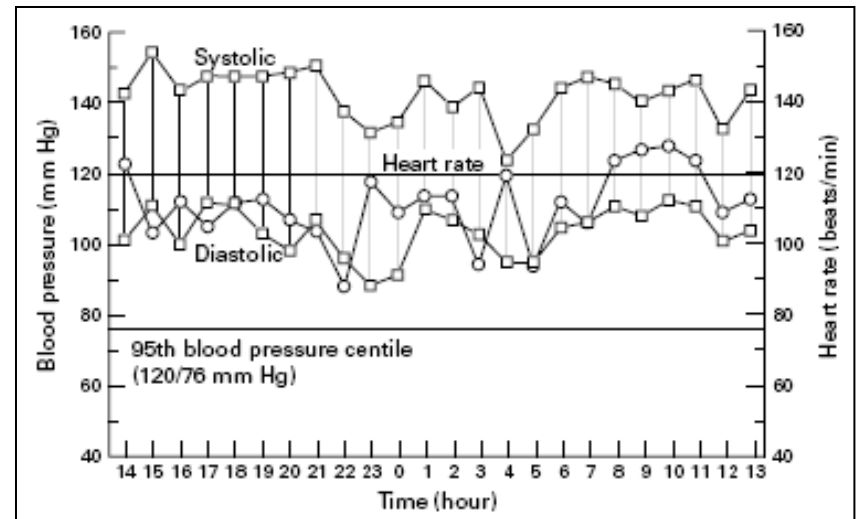
- ◆ Irritability, weakness, and ataxia
- ◆ BP 160/120 and HR 120 BPM

Thyroid chemistries normal

Negative toxin screen

Renal function normal

Catecholamine levels elevated - but no adrenal mass by CT

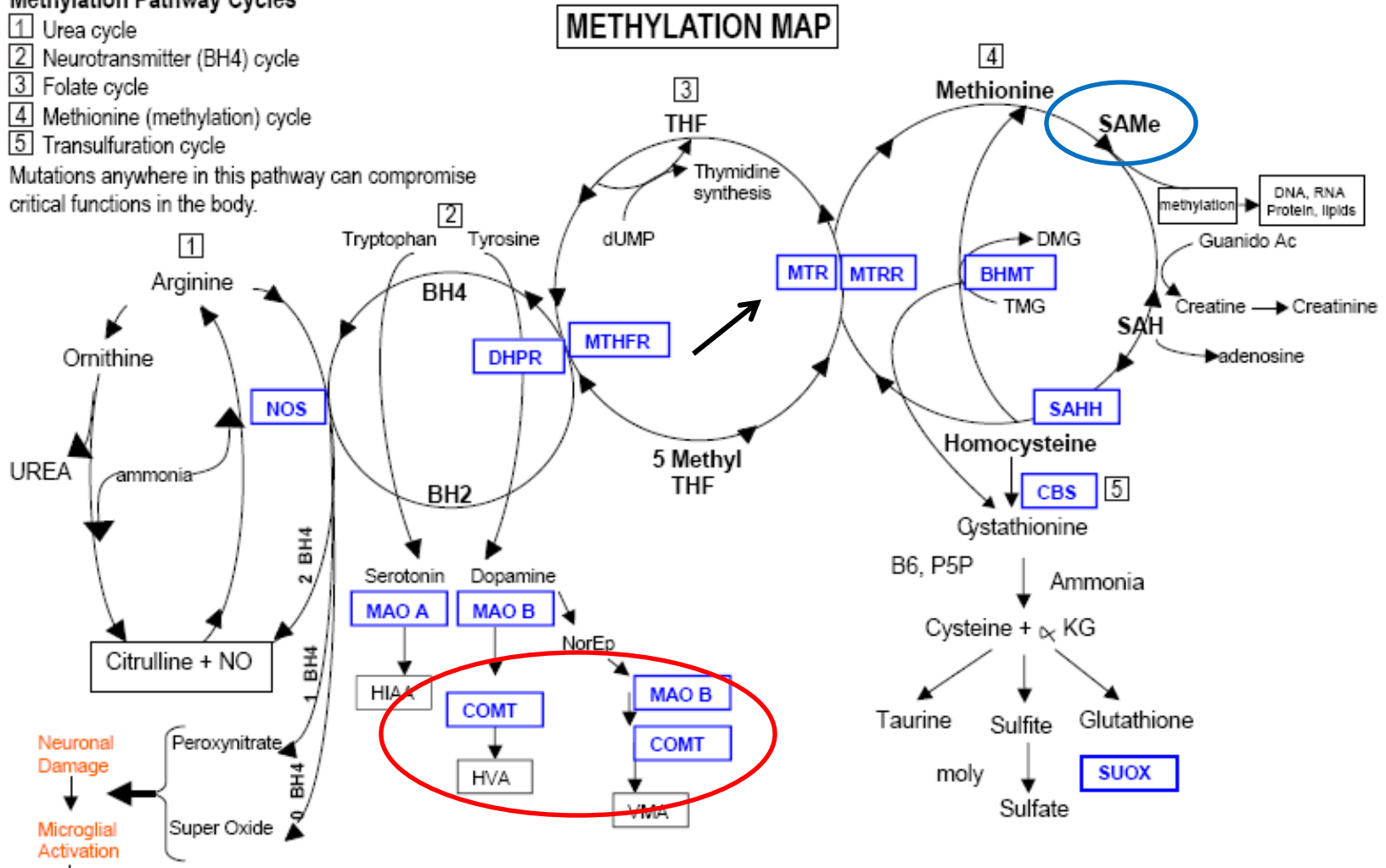


- Blood and urine Hg levels elevated
- Full resolution of signs and symptoms with Penicillamine Hg chelation

Methylation Pathway Cycles

- 1 Urea cycle
- 2 Neurotransmitter (BH4) cycle
- 3 Folate cycle
- 4 Methionine (methylation) cycle
- 5 Transsulfuration cycle

Mutations anywhere in this pathway can compromise critical functions in the body.



VDR Taq

ACE

AHCY

VDR Fok

SHMT

ACAT

MERCURY and AUTONOMIC DYSFUNCTION

COMT (Catecholamine-O-Methyl Transferase) metabolizes catecholamines

SAMe (S-Adenosyl-Methionine), a cofactor for COMT, is generated via MTR

Mercury inhibits MTR (Methionine Synthase)

COMT function is compromised

Catecholamines accumulate and cause CV signs and symptoms and oxidative stress

Acrodynia, or “pink disease” includes mental changes such as insomnia and irritability, pain in the extremities, skin lesions, profuse sweating, anorexia, hypertension, tachycardia.

Kawasaki Syndrome – SNIP in IP₃R (Inositol 1,4,5 triphosphate receptor)

Mercury associated with hypertension, arrhythmia, autonomic dysfunction, and CV Dz

B VITAMINS and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE

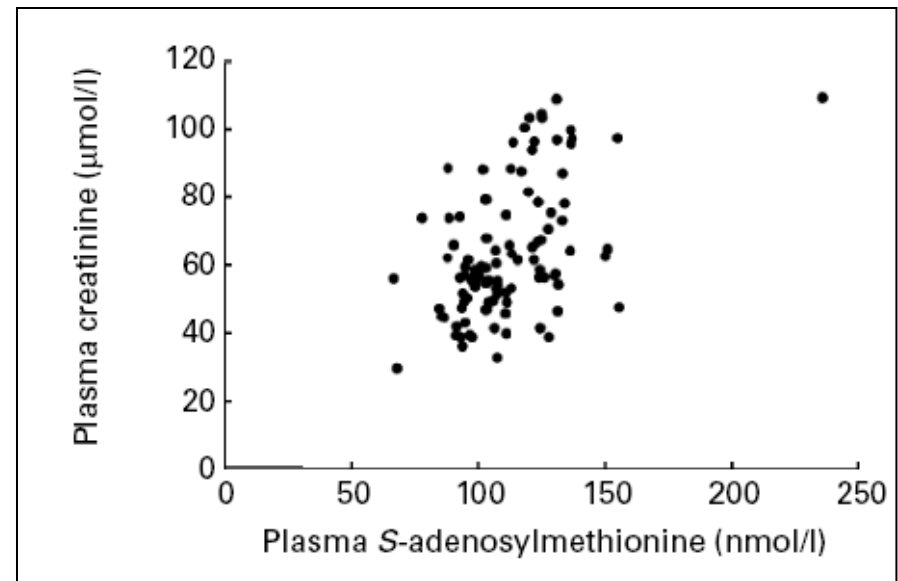
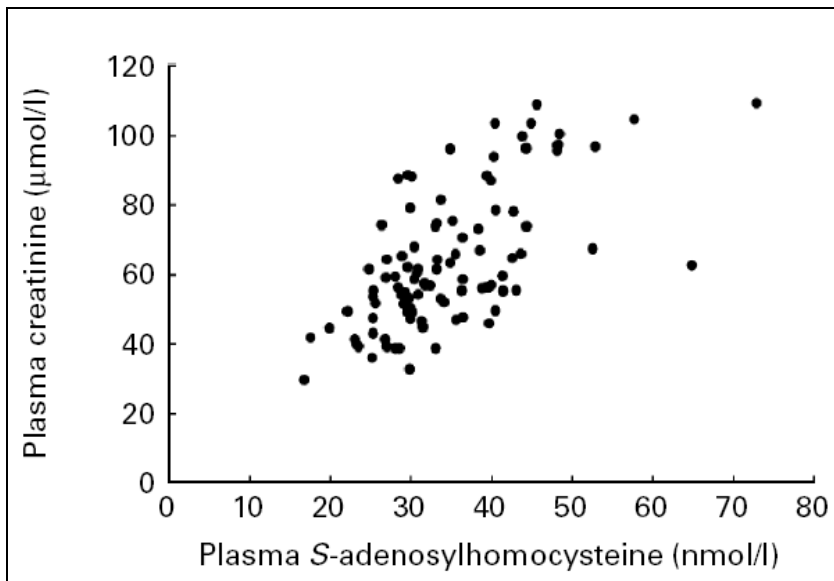
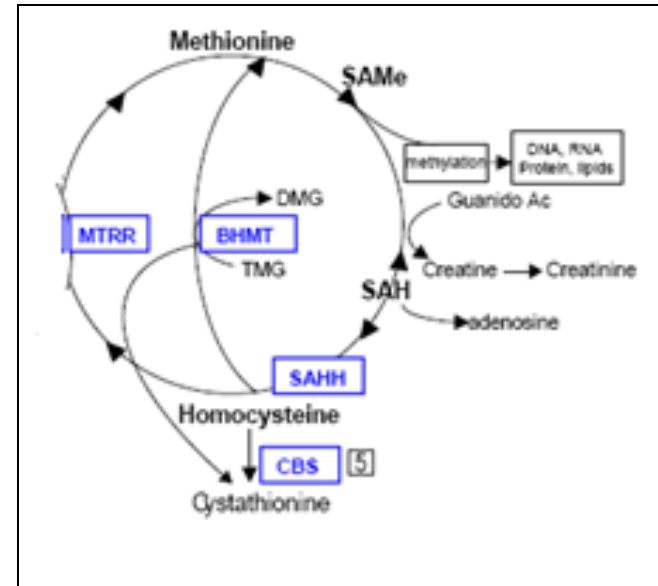
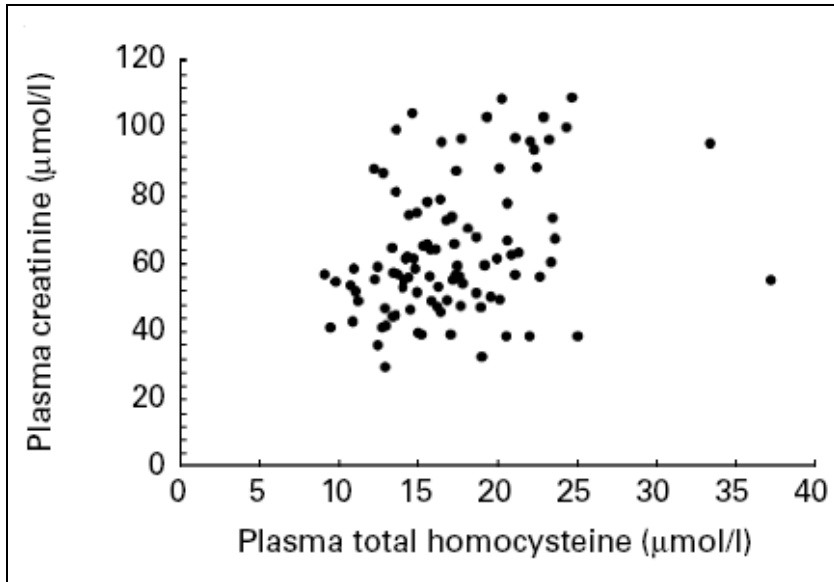
♥ 276 mature (≥ 65 years) New Zealanders

- Overall good health
- None with CV disease
- Homocysteine > 13 $\mu\text{mol/l}$

Evaluate relationships between:

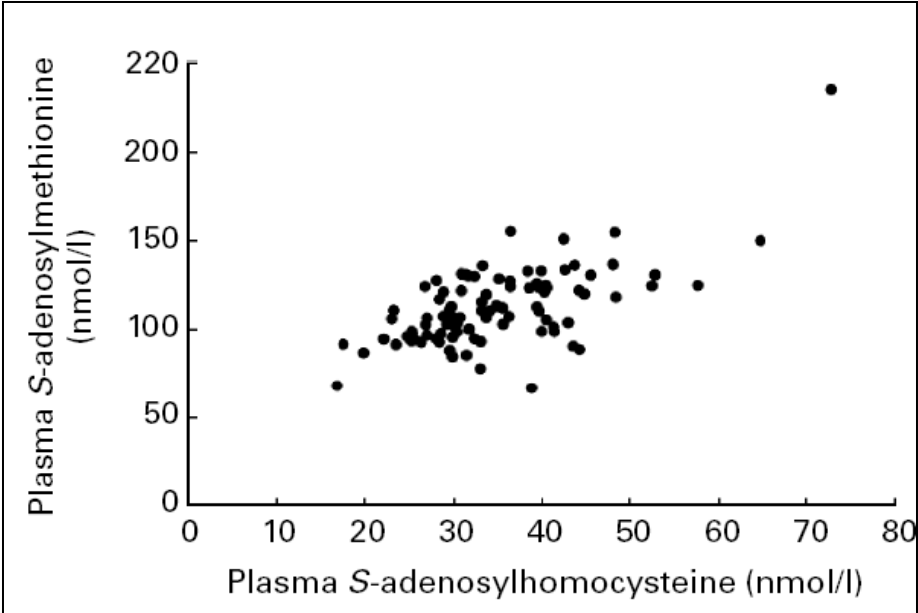
- Homocysteine
- Creatinine
- Folic acid
- S-Adenosylmethionine (SAME)
- S-Adenosylhomocysteine (SAH)

B VITAMINS and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE



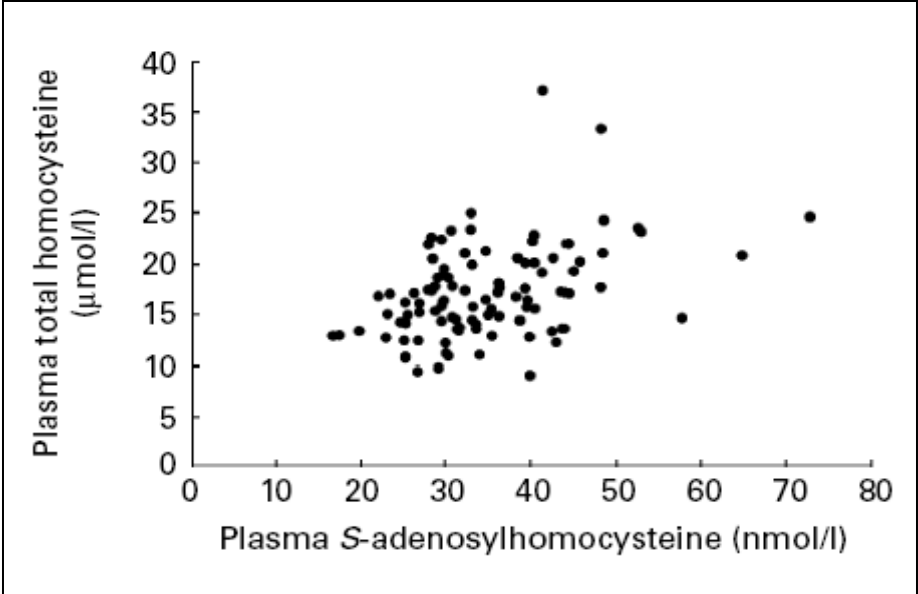
B VITAMINS and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE

SAMe



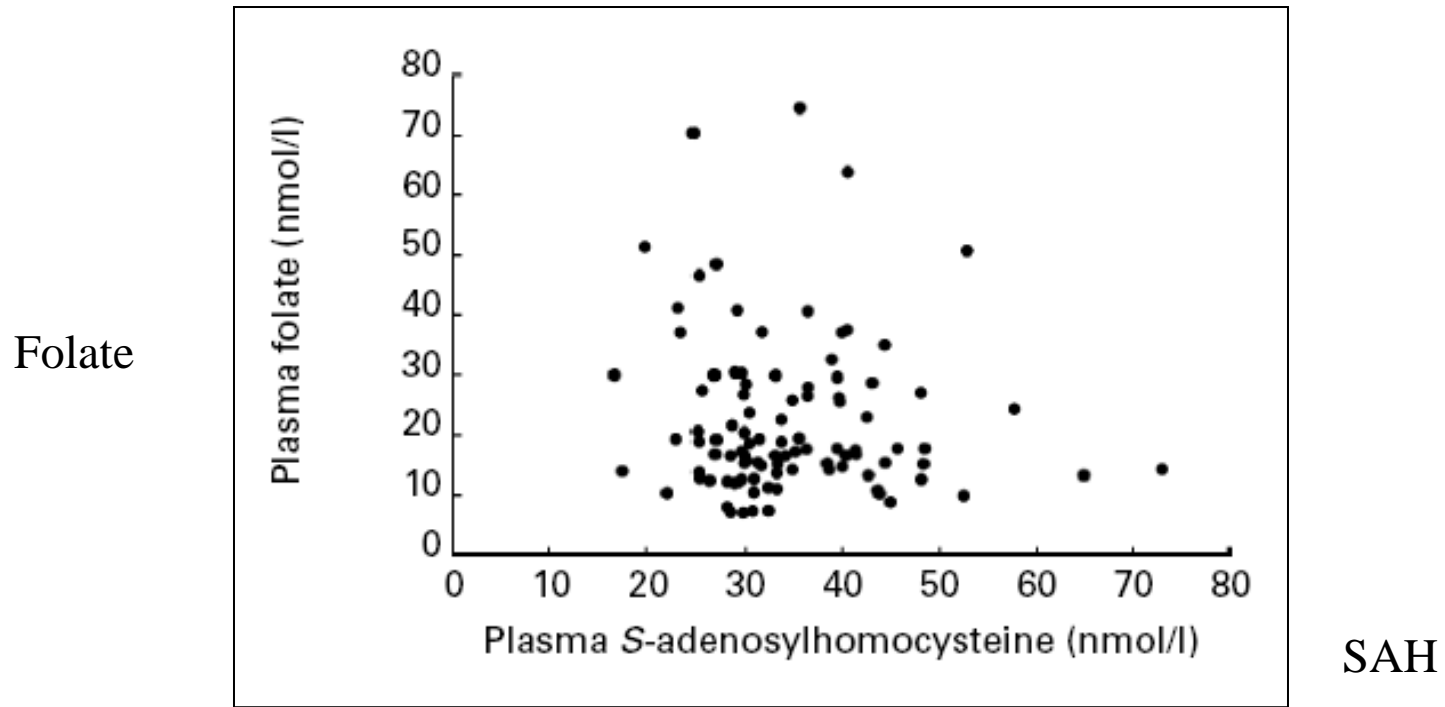
SAH

Hcy
($\mu\text{mol/l}$)



SAH
(nmol/l)

B VITAMINS and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE



- Homocysteine inversely related to serum Folate
- S-Adenosylhomocysteine not related to Folate

B VITAMINS and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE

♥ 276 mature (≥ 65 years) New Zealanders

- Overall good health
- None with CV disease
- Homocysteine > 13 $\mu\text{mol/l}$

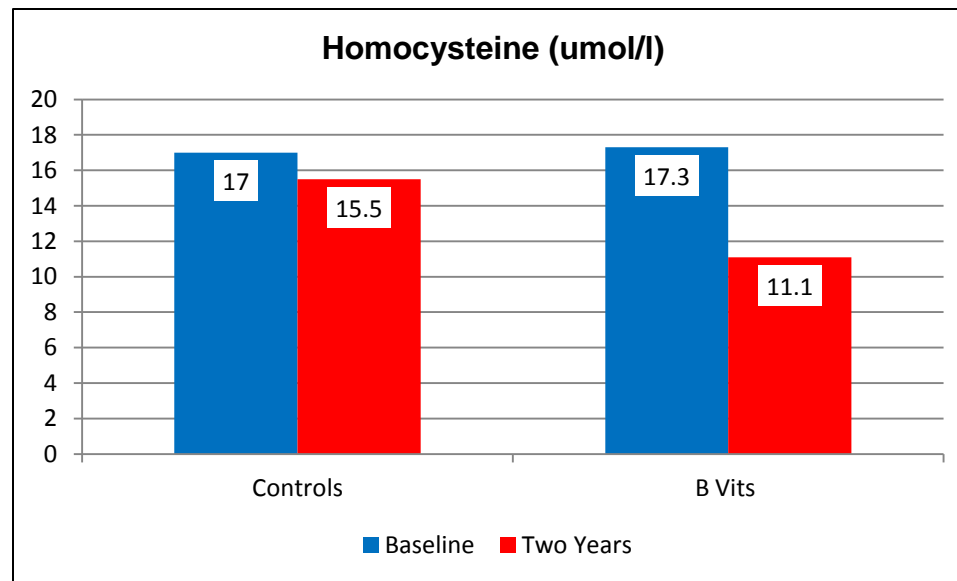
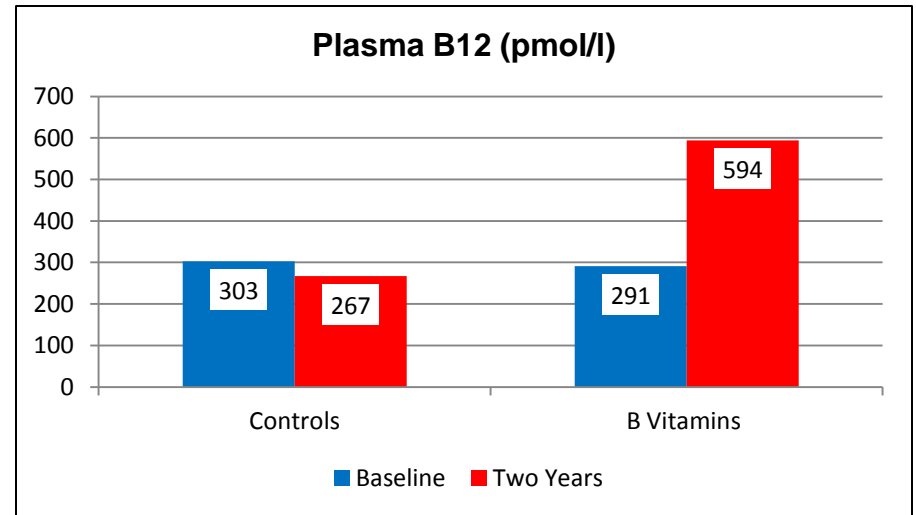
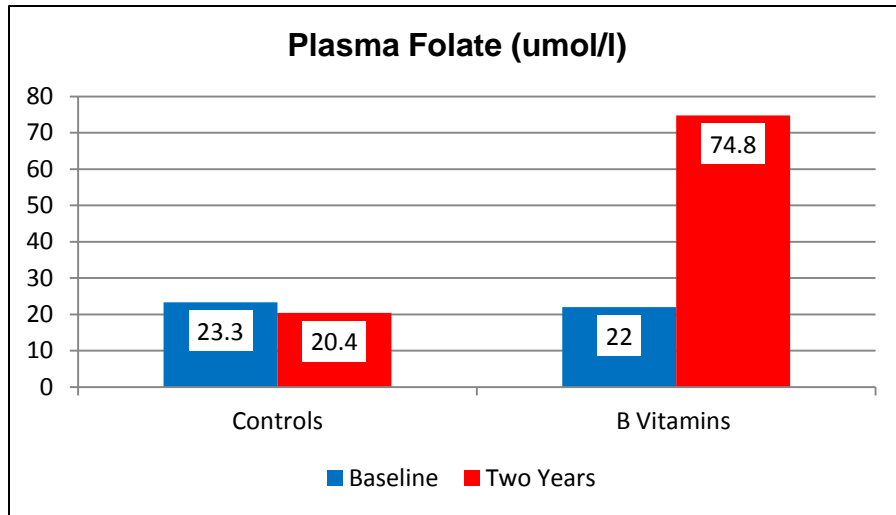
Baseline measurements

Randomize to receive over two years:

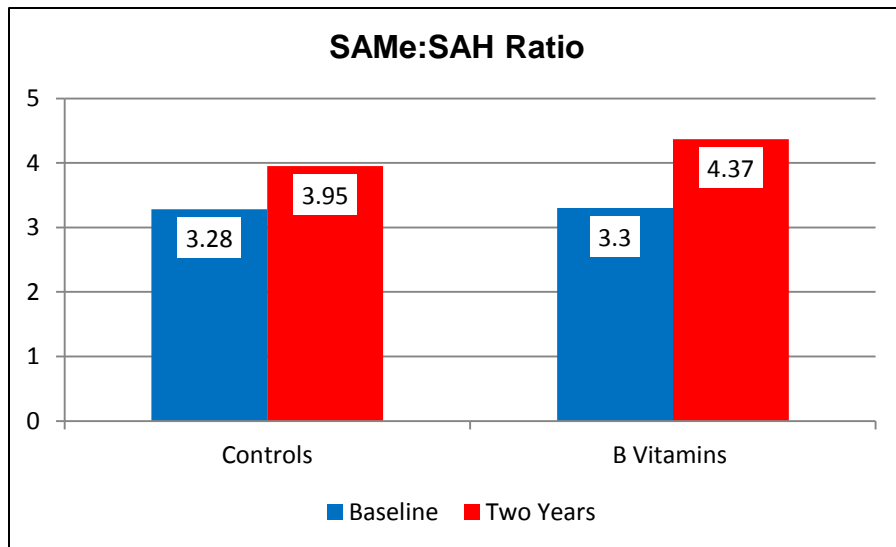
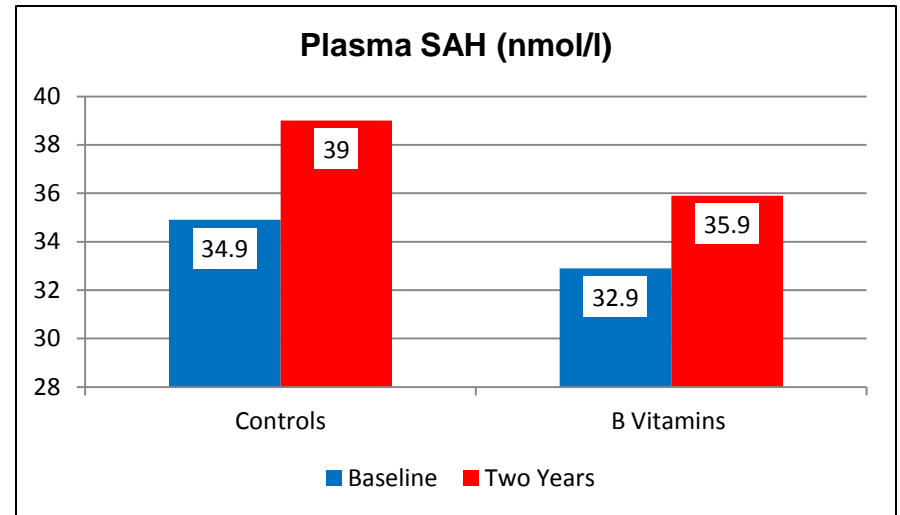
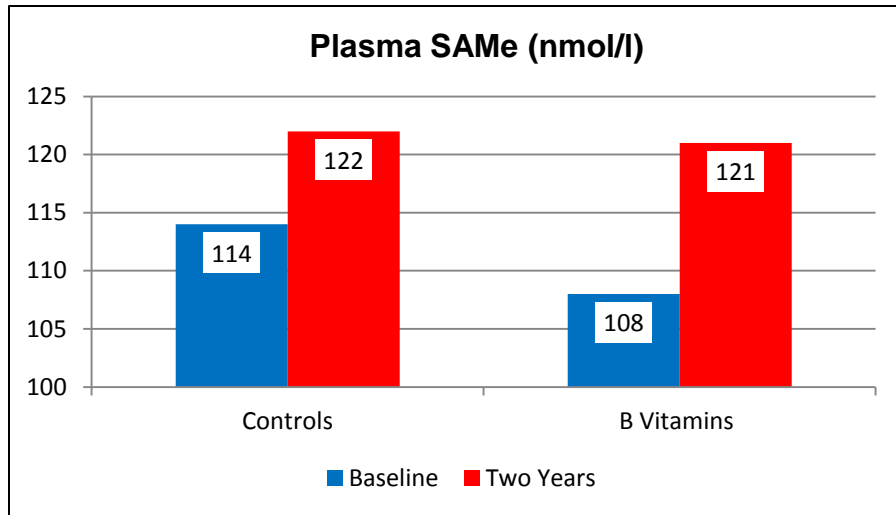
- Methyl-Folate 1 mg, B12 500 mcg, and B6 10 mg
- Placebo

Repeat baseline measurements

B VITAMINS and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE



B VITAMINS and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE



Homocysteine Reduction
(Folate, B12, and B6 alone)

Not sufficient to

Lower S-Adenosylhomocysteine

Increase SAmE:SAH

B 12 and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE CONTROL

♥ 149 elderly (mean age 76 years) Americans

- Overall good health
- None with diagnosed B12 deficiency
- None on IM or high dose oral B12 (lower dose or multi OK)

Factor	Mean	Abnormal	% Abnormal
Folic Acid	46.3 nmol/l	< 13.6 nmol/l	2%
B12	365 pmol/l	< 258 pmol/l	26%
MMA	272 nmol/l	> 271 nmol/l	30%
Creatinine	1.1 mg/dl	> 1.23	21%
Hcy	10.7 umol/l	> 13.7 umol/l	13%
SAH	35 nmol/l	> 26 nmol/l	64%
SAM	118 nmol/l	71 – 168 nmol/l	10% high 10% low
SAMe:SAH	4.0	< 4.4	68%

B 12 and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE CONTROL

♥ 149 elderly (mean age 76 years) Americans

◆ 45/149 with MMA > 271 nmol/l → B12 1000mcg/day (cyanocobalamin)

◆ 104/149 with MMA ≤ 271 randomized to receive:

- B12 25 mcg/day
- B12 100 mcg/day
- Placebo

Repeat baseline measurements at three months

1000 mcg/day – open format

Lower doses – double blind format

B 12 and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE CONTROL

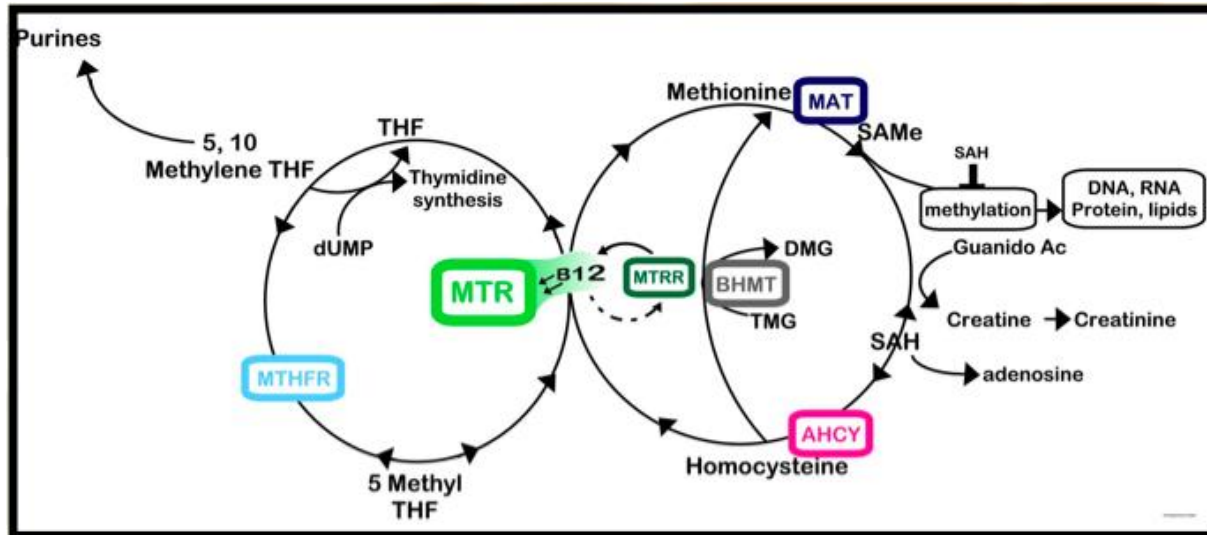
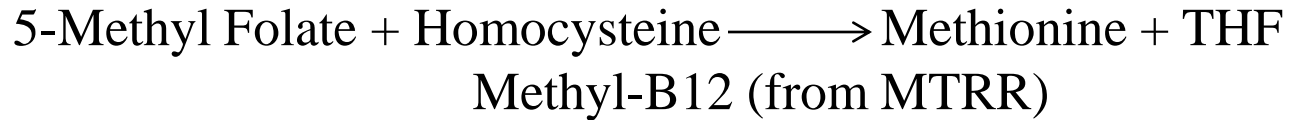
Factor	100 mcg/day			1000 mcg/day	
	Baseline	3 Months		Baseline	3 Months
B12 (>258)	364	424		312	831
MMA (< 271)	199	187		434	240
Hcy (< 13.9)	9.0	8.2		12.7	9.6
SAMe	95	113		153	159
SAH (< 26)	28	28		43	37
SAMe:SAH	4.9	5.3		4.1	5.1

B 12 and S-ADENOSYLHOMOCYSTEINE CONTROL

Subjects receiving 1000 mcg/day B12

Factor	Creatinine > 1.2 mg/dl		Creatine ≤ 1.2 mg/dl	
No. (mean)	21/45 (mean 1.8)		24/45 (mean 0.98)	
	Baseline	3 Months	Baseline	3 Months
B12 (>258)	326	926	300	756
MMA (< 271)	458	256	443	227
Hcy (< 13.9)	16.4	11.4	11.4	8.3
SAmE	189	176	119	146
SAH (< 26)	63	46	36	29
SAmE:SAH	3.4	4.1	3.9	5.8

METHIONINE SYNTHASE (MTR)

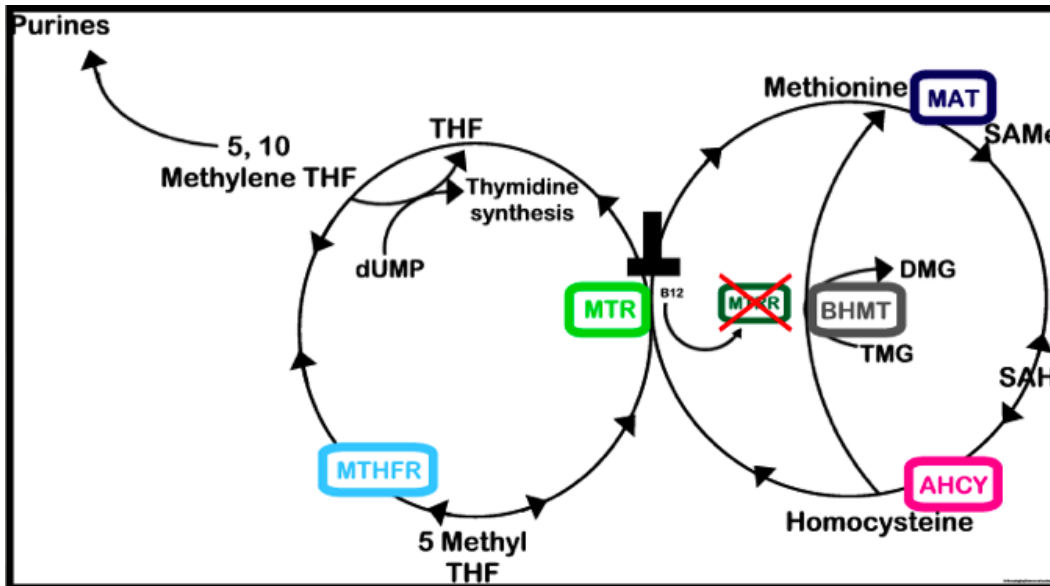
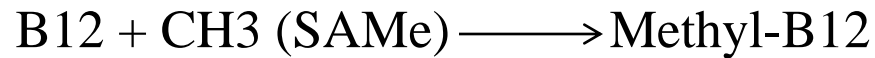


Function Dependent on Methyl-Folate and Methyl-B12

MTR sensitive to Mercury and Alcohol

Inhibited by SAMe and Oxidative Stress

METHIONINE SYNTHASE REDUCTASE (MTRR)



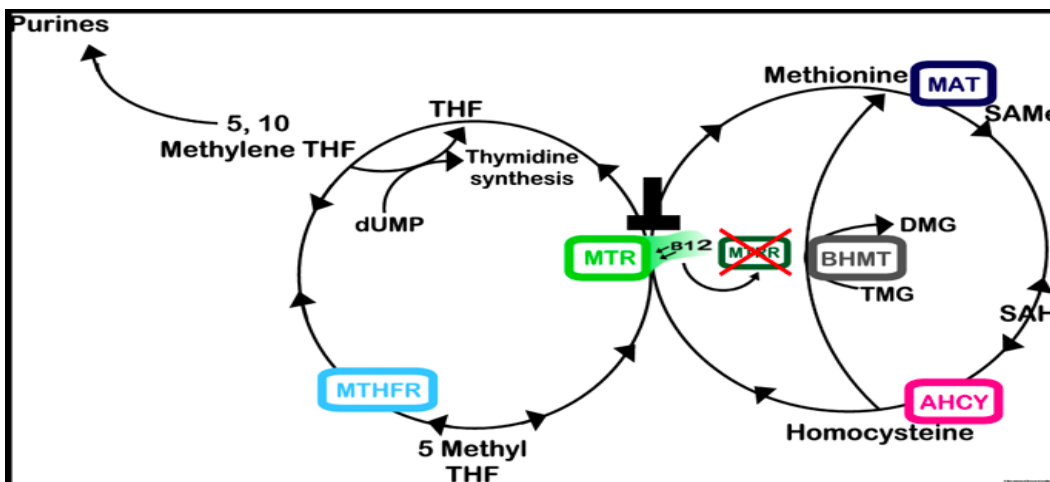
MTRR abnormalities
are all
Down Regulations

Treatment:

- High Dose B12
- Methyl-B12

Caveats:

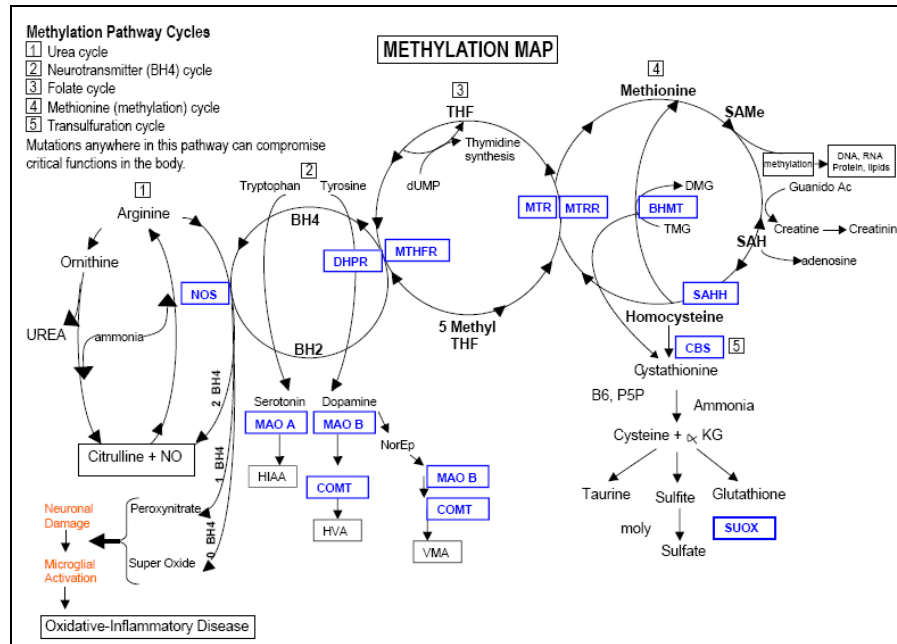
- CBS/BHMT
- COMT



MTR Up Regulation
MTRR Down Regulation

→ Pronounced
Methyl-B12 Deficiency

FUNCTIONS of the METHYL CYCLE



Maintain (current health status) appropriate levels of:

- Pyrimidine and purine bases for DNA and RNA synthesis
- Antioxidant and detox molecules glutathione, cysteine, and taurine
- BH4 (tetrahydrobiopterin) ⇒
- **Transferable methyl groups** ≈ **High SAME:SAH**

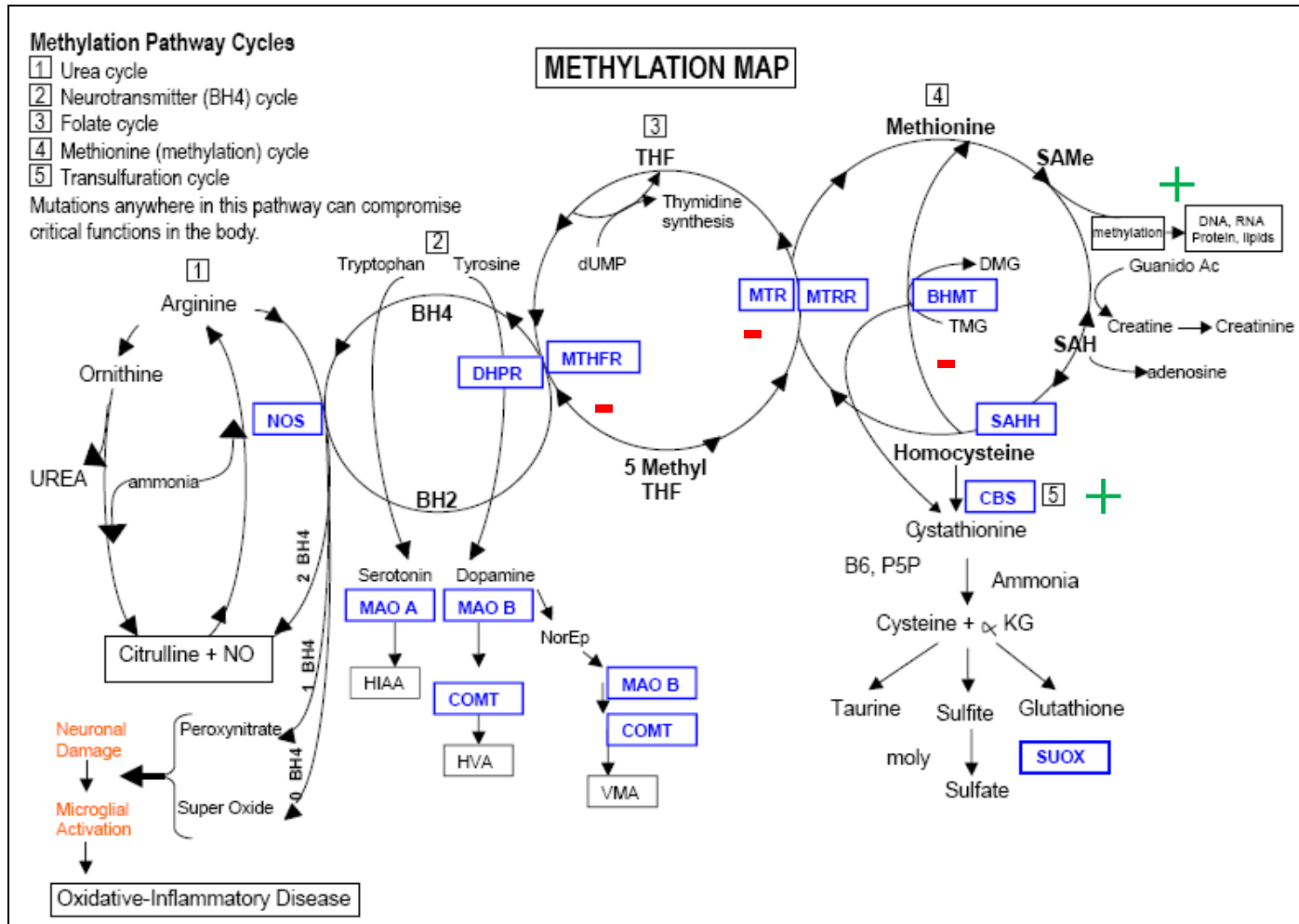
SAMe METHYL TRANSFER REACTIONS

Enzyme	Substrate and Effect
DNA Methyl Transferases	Alters DNA Transcription (Bookmarking)
Synthetic Reactions	Generation of Carnitine
Protein Methyl Transferases (PRMT)	Alters Enzyme Activity (PGC-1 α \rightarrow PPAR α \rightarrow FA Oxidation)
Catechol- <i>O</i> -Methyl Transferase COMT	Inactivates Catecholamines
	Methylates 2-OH and 4-OH Estrogens
	Metabolizes Bioflavonoids
PEMT Phosphatidylethanolamine N-Methyl Transferase	Generation of Phosphatidylcholine
GAMT Guanidinacetate N-Methyl Transferase	Generation of Creatine
GNMT Glycine-N-Methyl Transferase	SAMe \rightarrow 5,10-MethyleneTHF

S-ADENOSYL METHIONINE (S_AMe)

Enzyme	Substrate and Effect
DNA Methyl Transferases	Alters DNA Transcription (Bookmarking)
Synthetic Reactions	Generation of Carnitine
Protein Methyl Transferases (PRMT)	Alters Enzyme Activity (PGC-1 α \rightarrow PPAR α \rightarrow FA Oxidation)
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\uparrow Cystathione β Synthase (CBS)	Hcy \rightarrow Glutathione and \notin S _A Me
\downarrow BetaineHcy MethylTransferase	Hcy \rightarrow Glutathione \notin S _A Me
\downarrow Methionine Synthase (MTR)	Hcy \rightarrow Glutathione and \notin S _A Me
\downarrow MTHFR	THF \rightarrow DNA and \notin Methyl-Folate

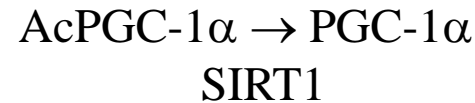
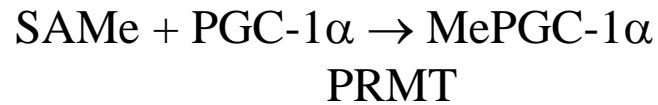
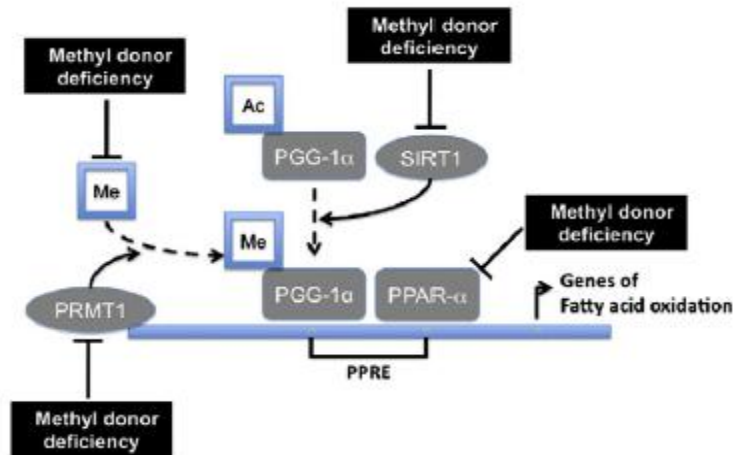
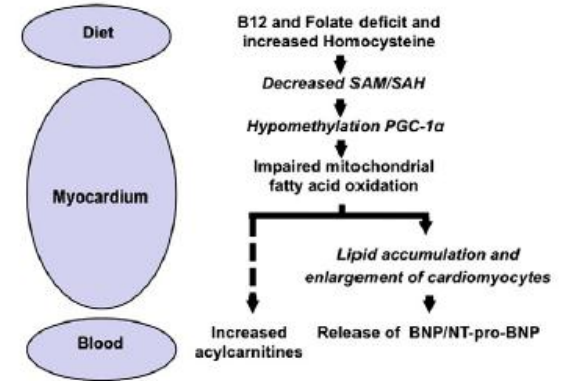
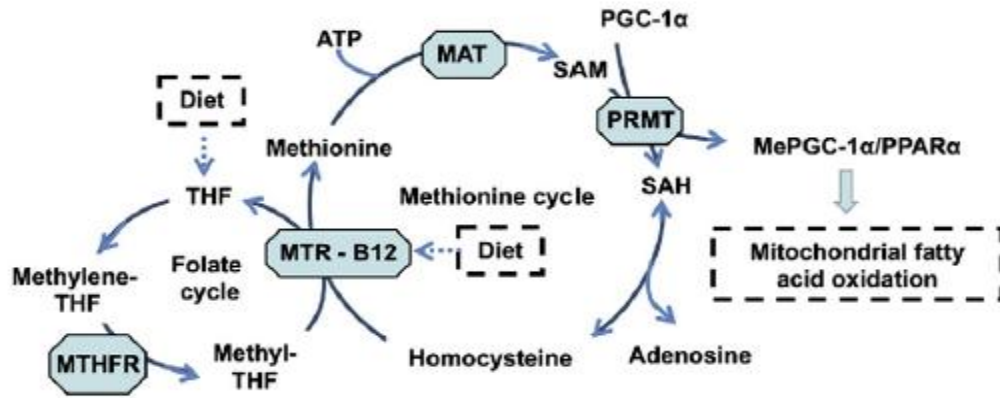
SAMe and METHYL CYCLE ENZYME KINETICS



SAMe METHYL TRANSFER REACTIONS

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SAMe and POST-TRANSLATIONAL ENZYME MODIFICATION



Protein Arginine Methyl Transferase
 Histone Deacetylase
 Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptor-Gamma Co-Activator-1

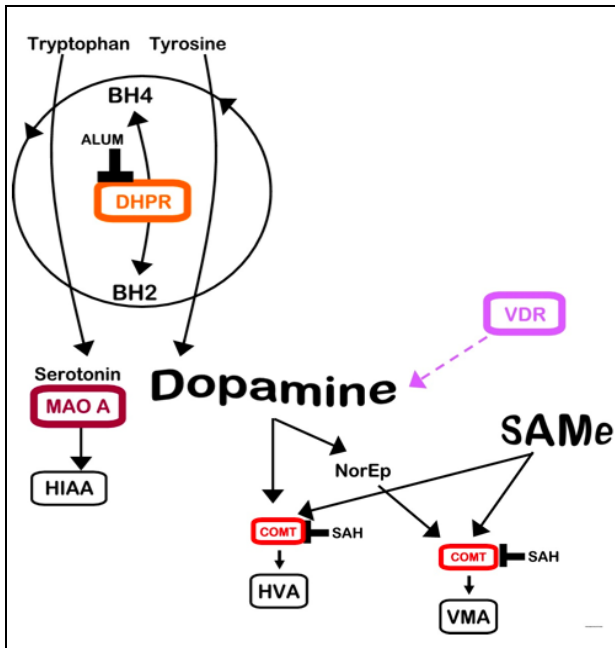
→ Fatty Acid Oxidation ⇒ ATP

S-ADENOSYL METHIONINE (S_AMe)

Enzyme	Substrate and Effect
DNA Methyl Transferases	Alters DNA Transcription (Bookmarking)
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\downarrow MTHFR	THF \rightarrow DNA and \notin Methyl-Folate

CATECHOL-O-METHYL TRANSFERASE (COMT)

Substrate + CH₃ → Methylated Substrate



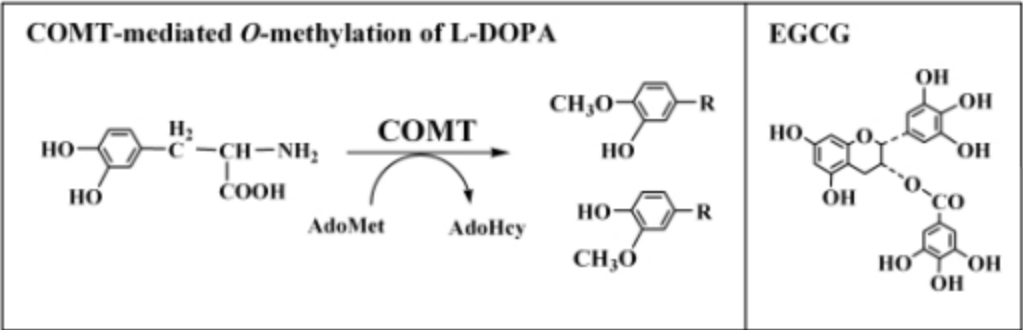
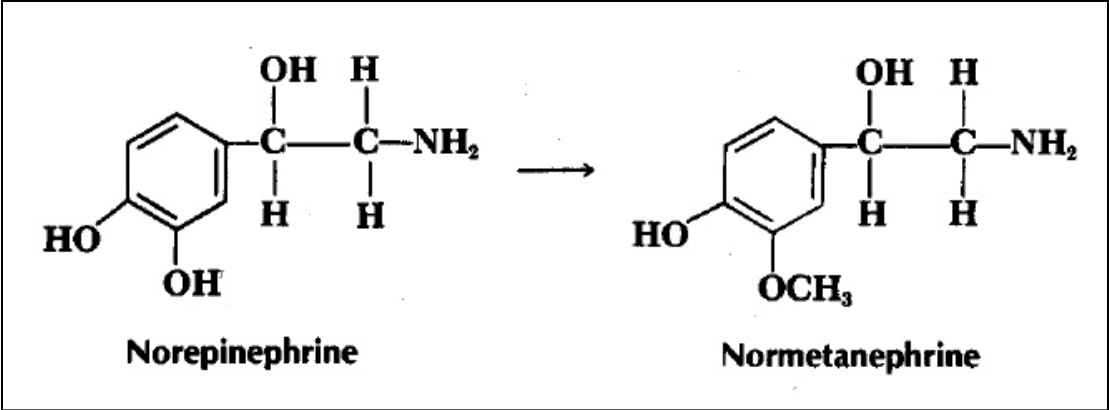
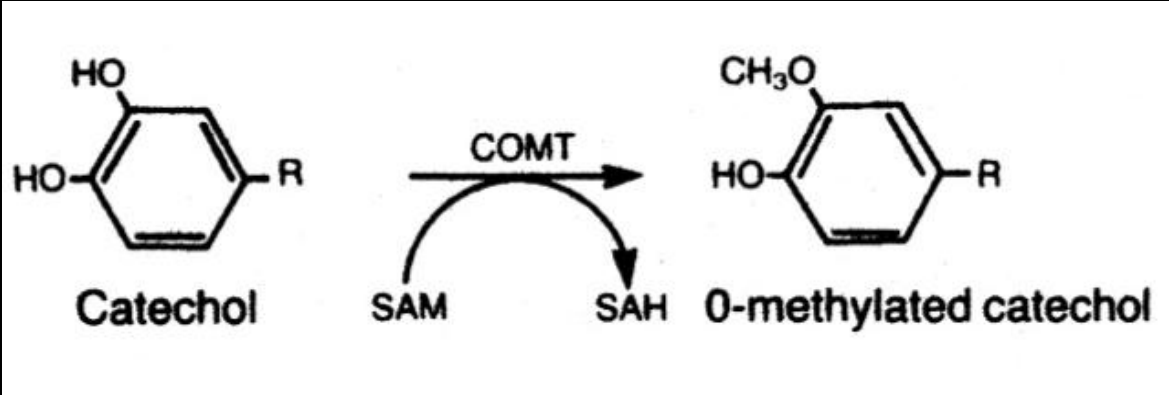
COMT V158M and COMT H62H
are
Down Regulations

Catecholamine and Catechol Estrogen Metabolism
Compromised vs. Wild Type

COMT 61 is an Up Regulation
Catechol Metabolism is Increased vs. Wild Type

COMT V158M (+/+)	Highest catecholamine levels
COMT H62H (+/+)	Lower tolerance to methyl group donors
COMT 61 (-/-)	Greatest susceptibility to mood swings
COMT V158M (-/-)	Lowest catecholamine levels
COMT H62H (-/-)	Greater tolerance to methyl group donors
COMT 61 (+/+)	Lower susceptibility to mood swings

CATECHOL-O-METHYL TRANSFERASE (COMT)



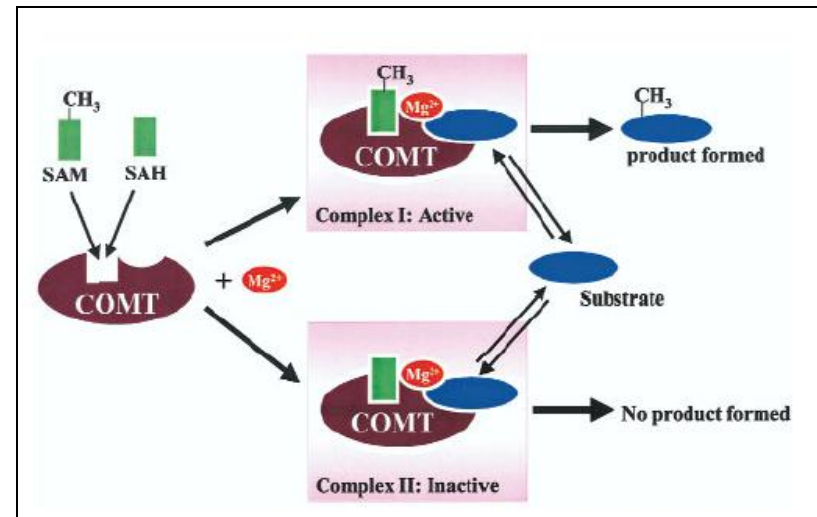
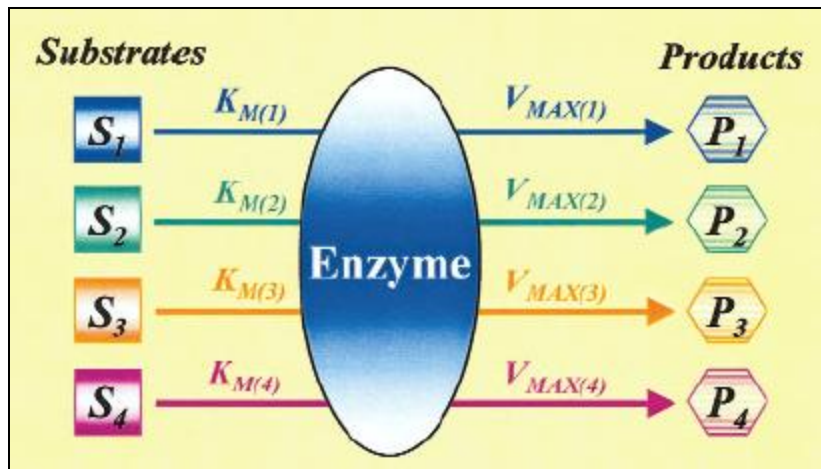
SAH NON-COMPETITIVELY INHIBITS COMT

COMT (Catechol-*O*-Methyl Transferase):

- High capacity
- Low specificity

COMT *O*-Methylates Catechols:

- Catecholamines
- Catechol (OH)-Estradiol and Estrone
- Catechol bearing Bioflavonoids (ECGC and Quercetin)

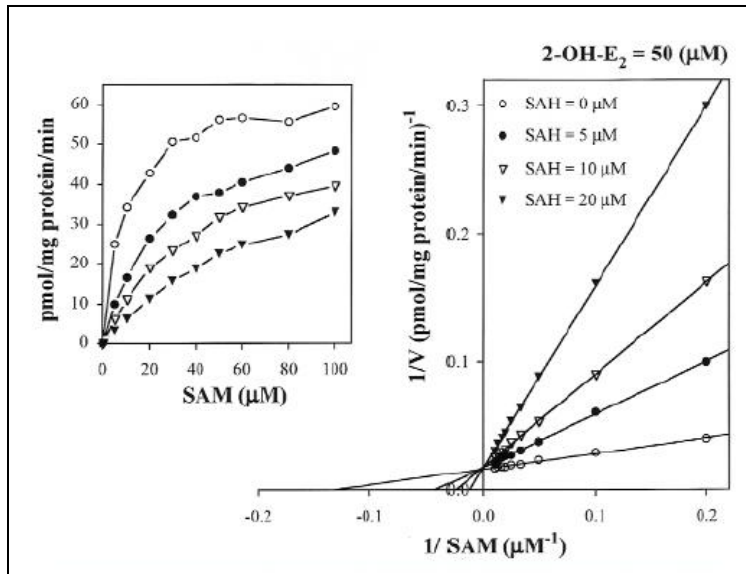


K_M for SAM for COMT (24 μ M)

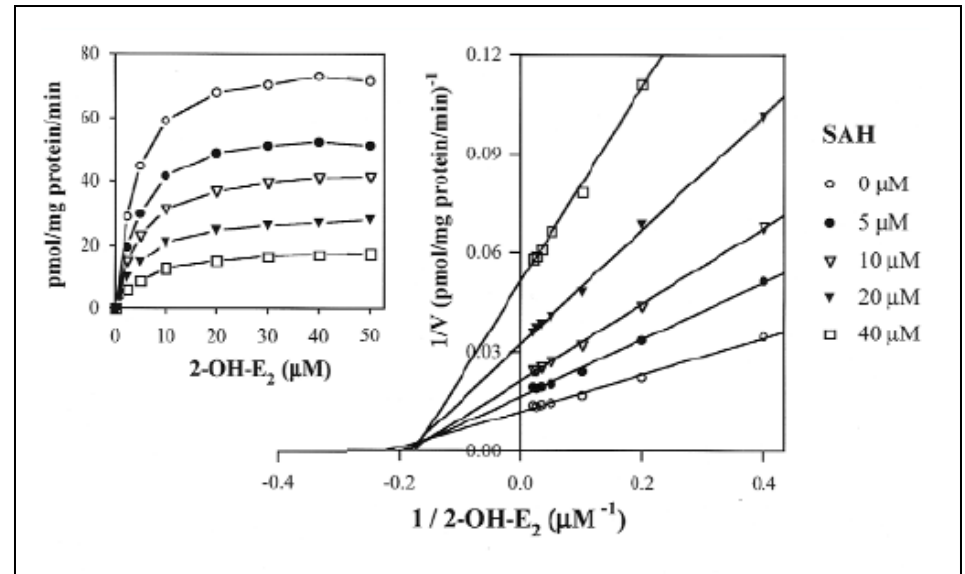
K_I for SAH (4 μ M)

IMPAIRED ESTROGEN METABOLISM

Measure 2-OH → 2-Methoxy Estradiol conversion by COMT

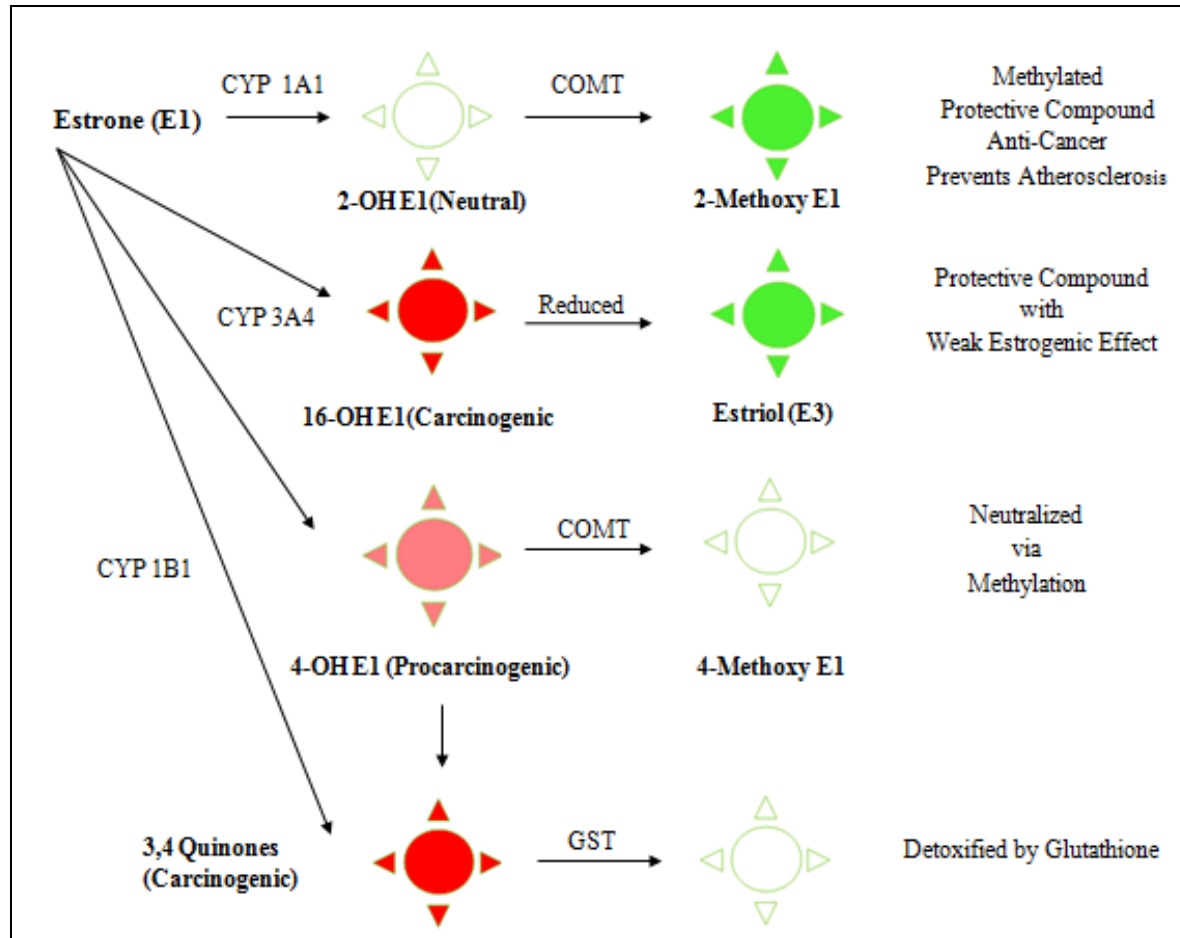


Fixed [Estradiol]
Increasing [SAmE]
Increasing [SAH]



Fixed [SAmE]
Increasing [Estradiol]
Increasing [SAH]

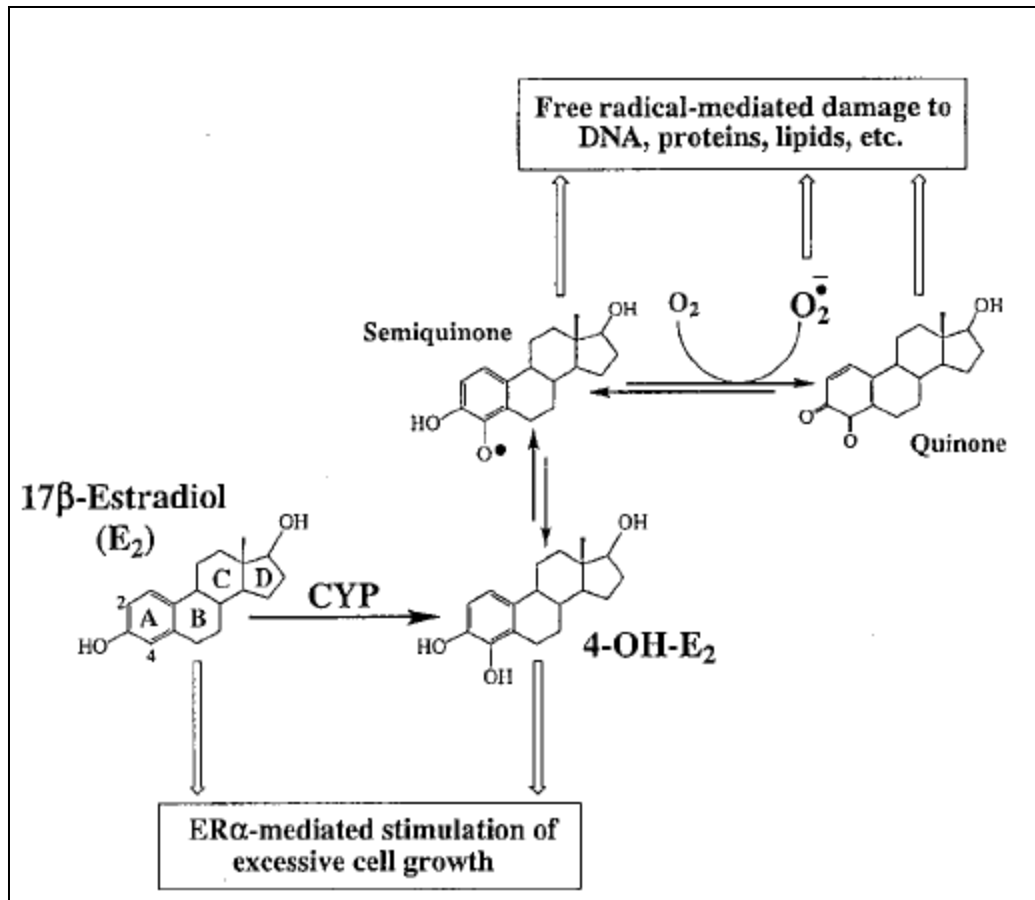
IMPAIRED ESTROGEN METABOLISM



Impaired conversion of 2 and 4-OH into 2 and 4-Methoxy Estrogens

Impaired neutralization of 16-OH and 3,4 Quinone Estrogens

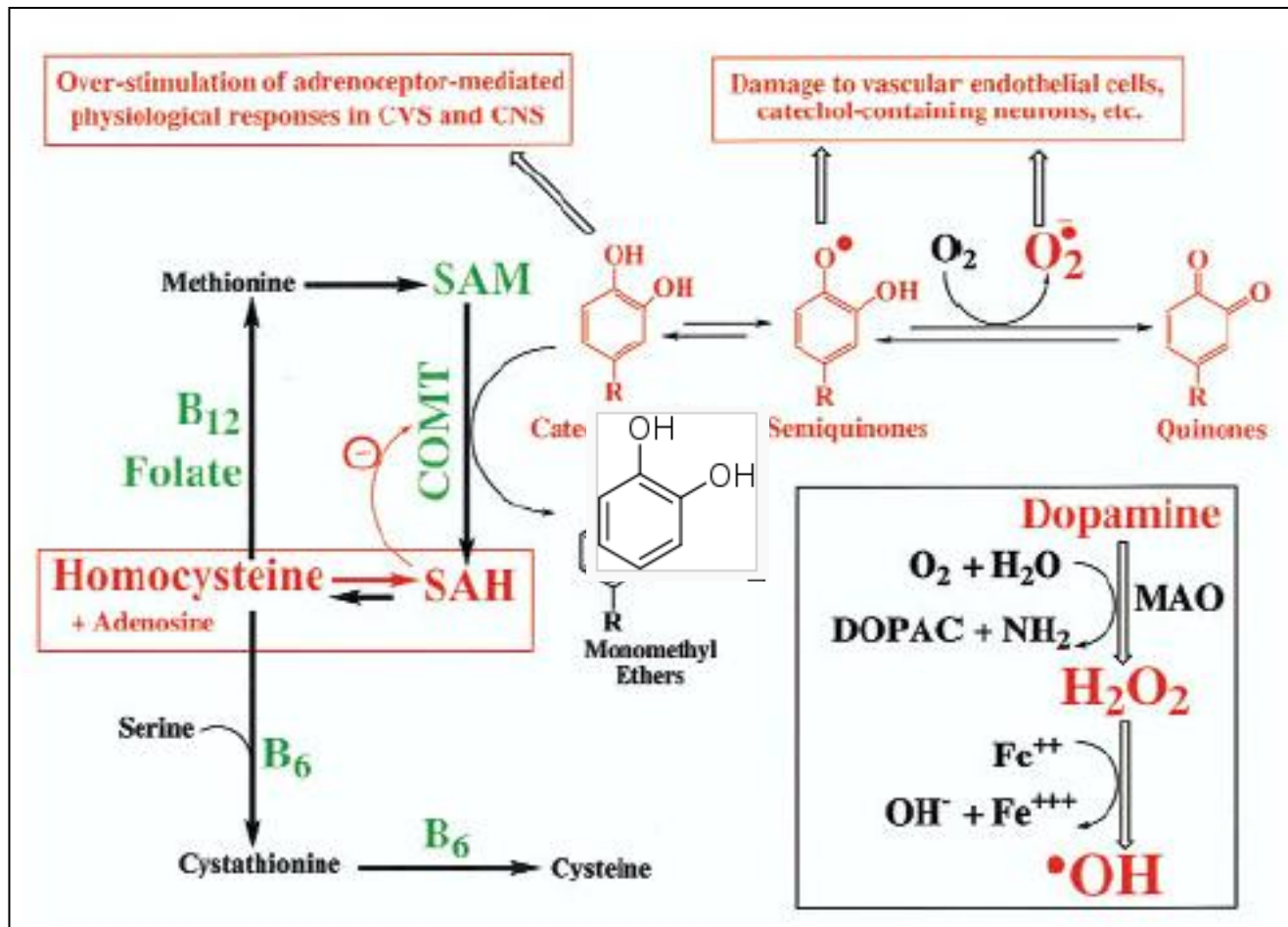
IMPAIRED ESTROGEN METABOLISM



4-OH Estrogen Redox Cycling

Oxidized 4-OH species form adducts with DNA

IMPAIRED CATECHOLAMINE BREAKDOWN



COMT and CV SURGERY RISK

♥ 260 subjects undergoing CABG

Genotype for COMT:

- 28% wild type VV (HH)
- 47% VM (HL)
- 25% MM (LL)

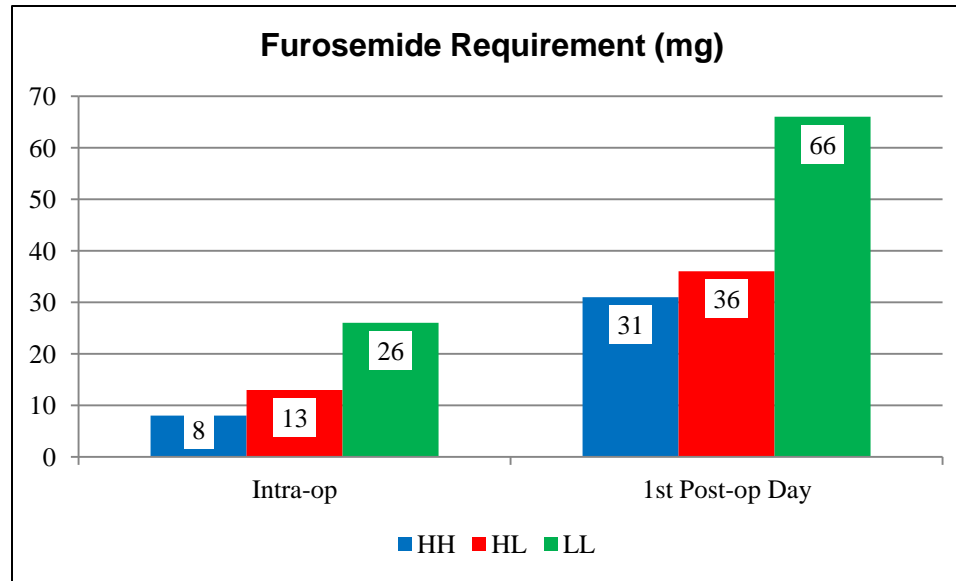
No significant differences in:

- Prior CV history
- Risk factors
- Pre-op meds

Carry out CABG; no difference in:

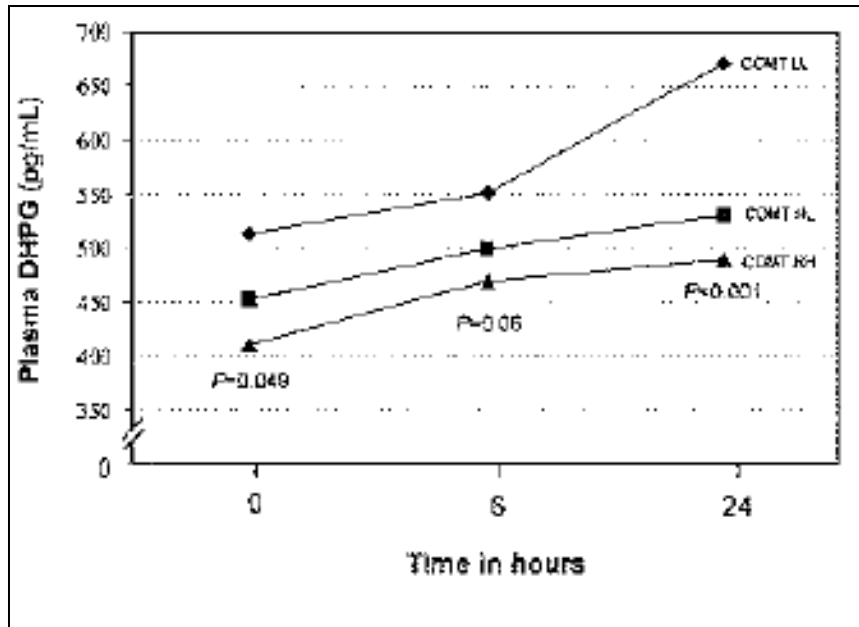
- Length of surgery
- Intra-op and peri-op treatments (except furosemide requirement)

COMT and CV SURGERY RISK



Increased diuretic need with COMT low function

COMT and CV SURGERY RISK



LL

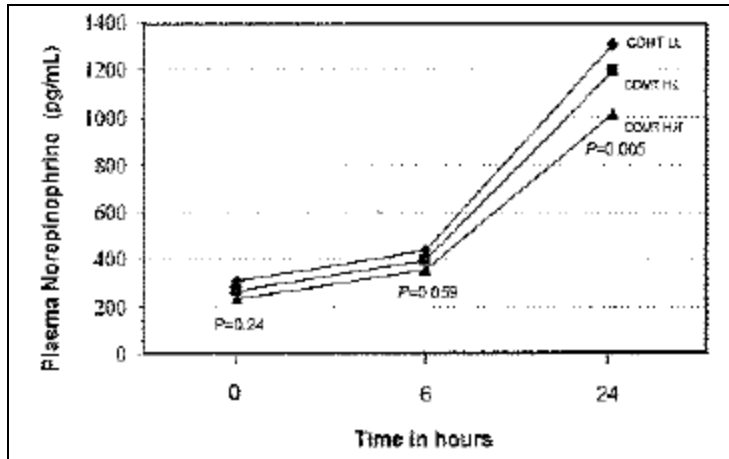
HL

HH

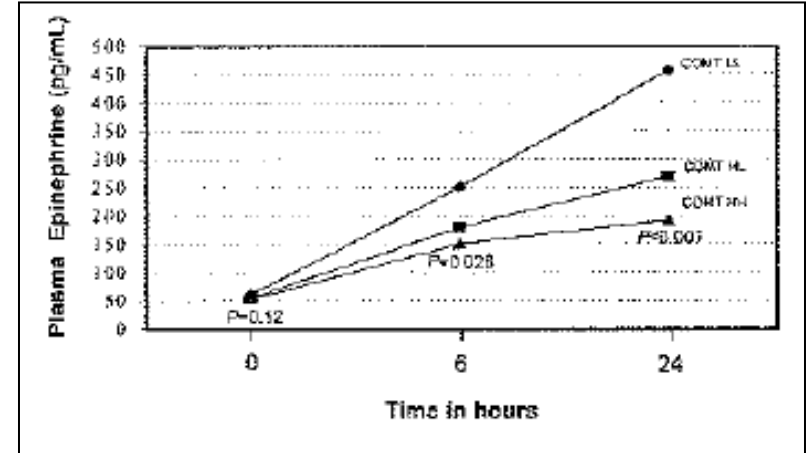
DHPG (3,4-dihydroxyphenylglycol)

Formed by deamination of epinephrine and norepinephrine by MAO

COMT and CV SURGERY RISK



LL
HL
HH



Norepinephrine (endogenous)

Epinephrine (endogenous)

CABG → Sympathetic outpouring

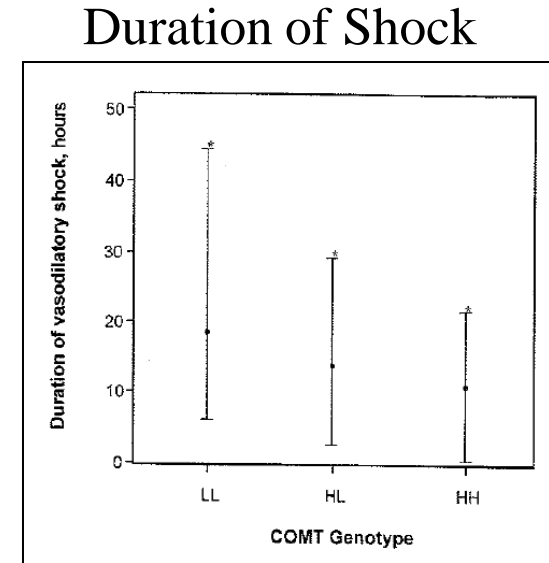
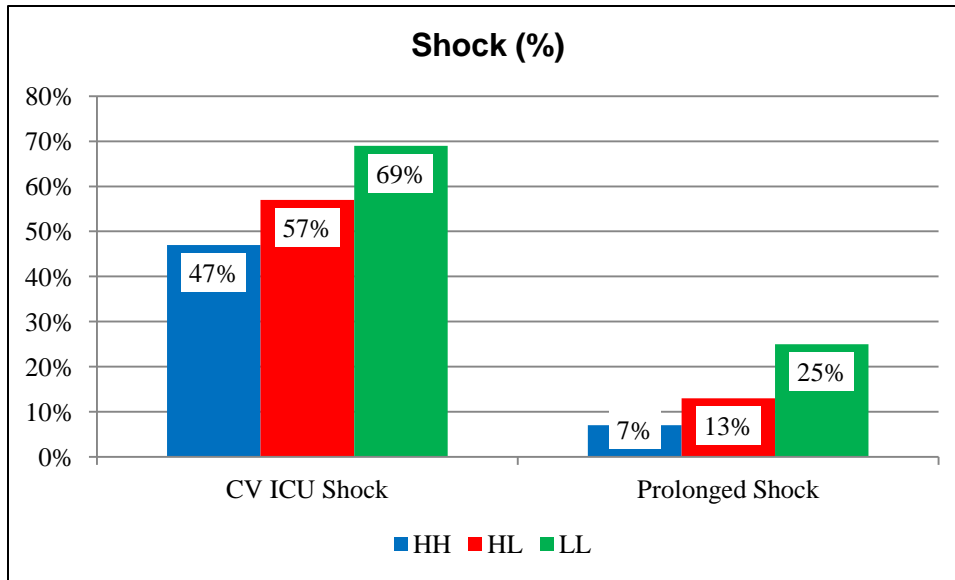
Dysfunctional COMT → Persistent high catecholamine levels →

Desensitization of alpha-adrenergic receptors:

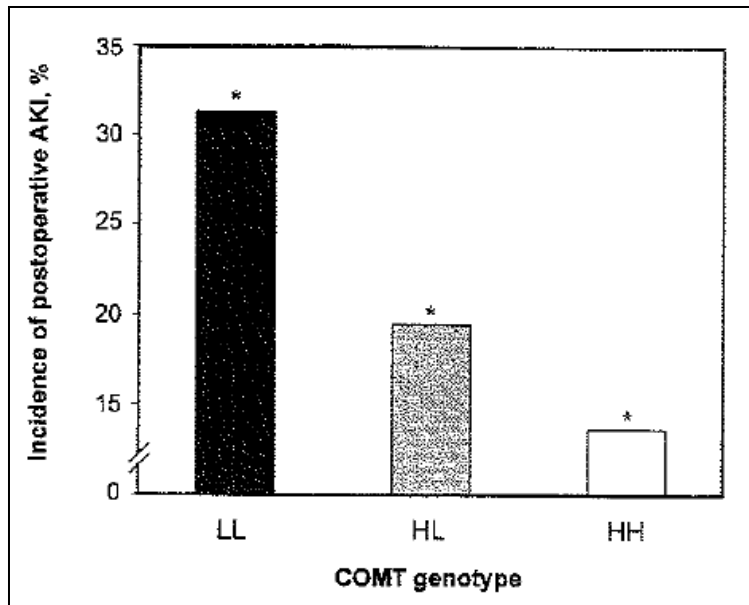
- Vascular wall

- Kidney

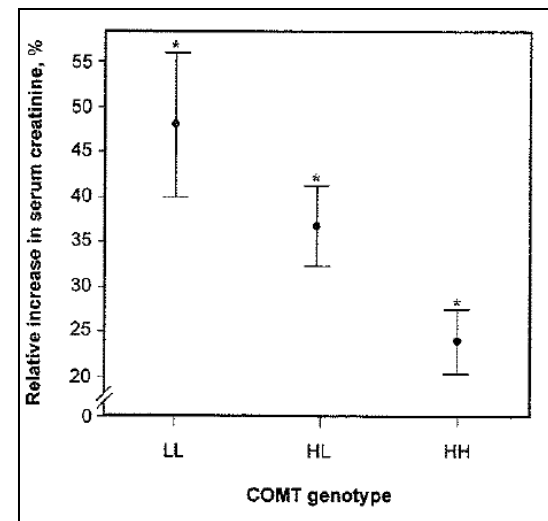
COMT and CV SURGERY RISK



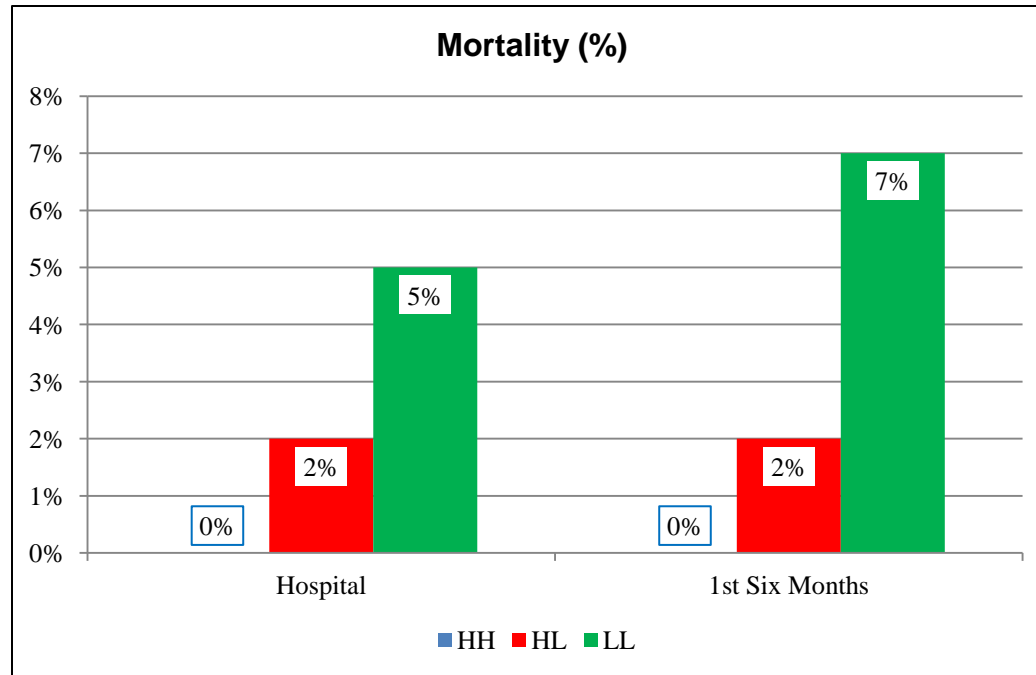
Post-op
AKI



Relative Increase in Creatinine



COMT and CV SURGERY RISK



COMT and FUTURE CORONARY RISK

♥ 792 Finnish men (45-64 year-old) in overall good health

Genotype for COMT:

- 28% wild type VV (HH)
- 47% VM (HL)
- 25% MM (LL)

Measure Homocysteine

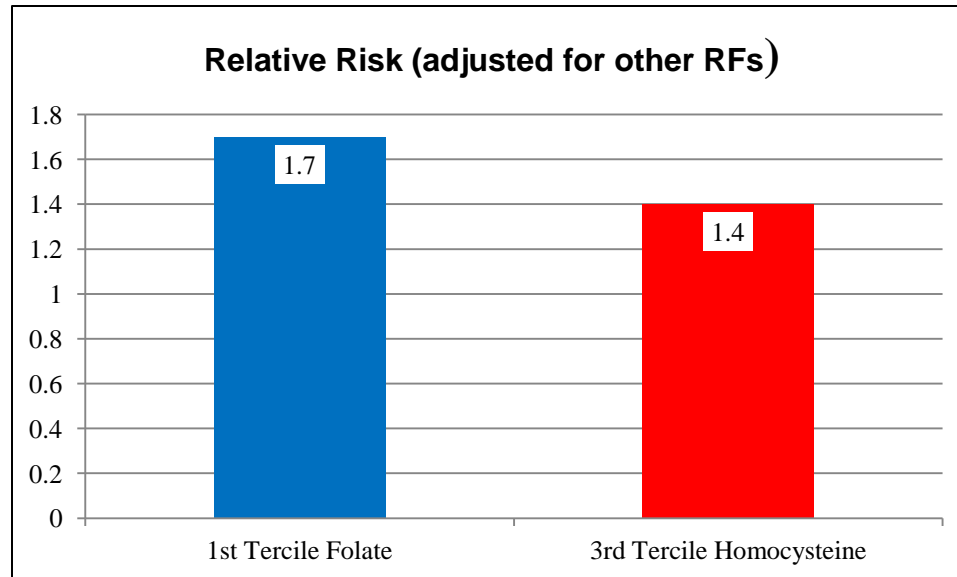
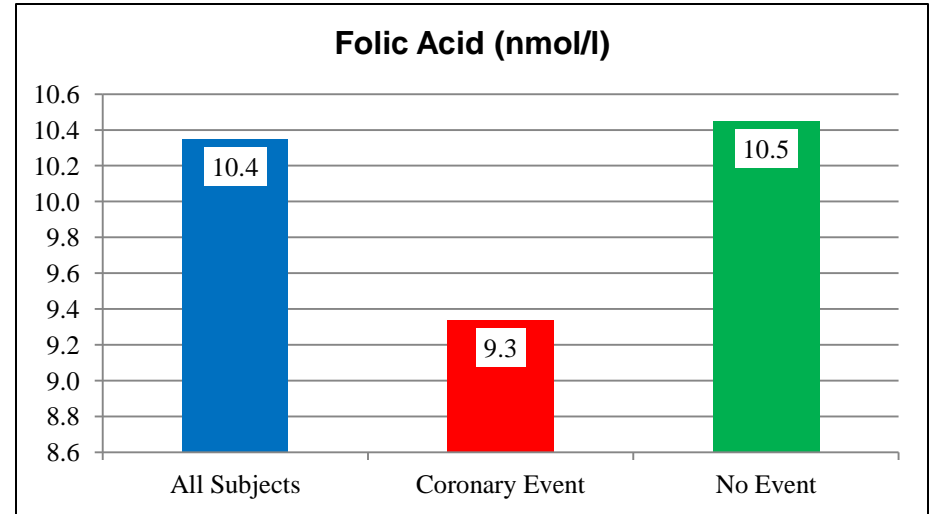
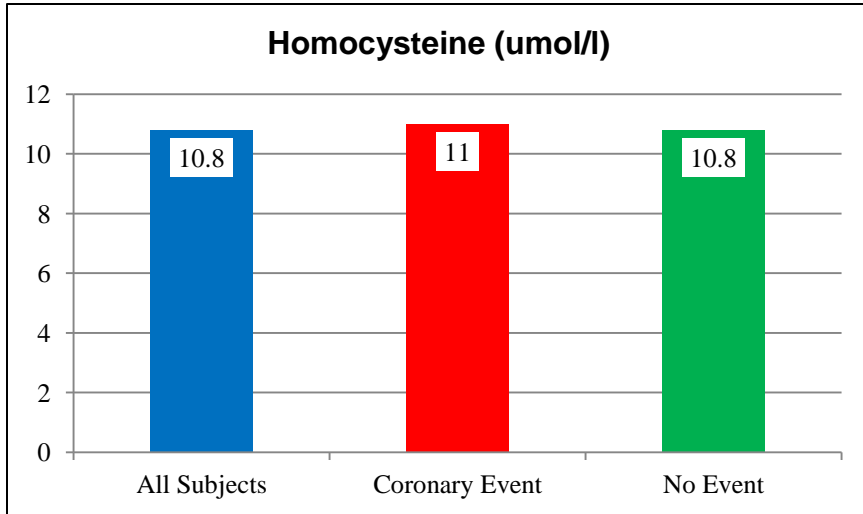
Record coronary events over 9.3 year follow-up period

- 69 event
- 43 infarctions
- 17 possible infarctions
- 9 unstable angina

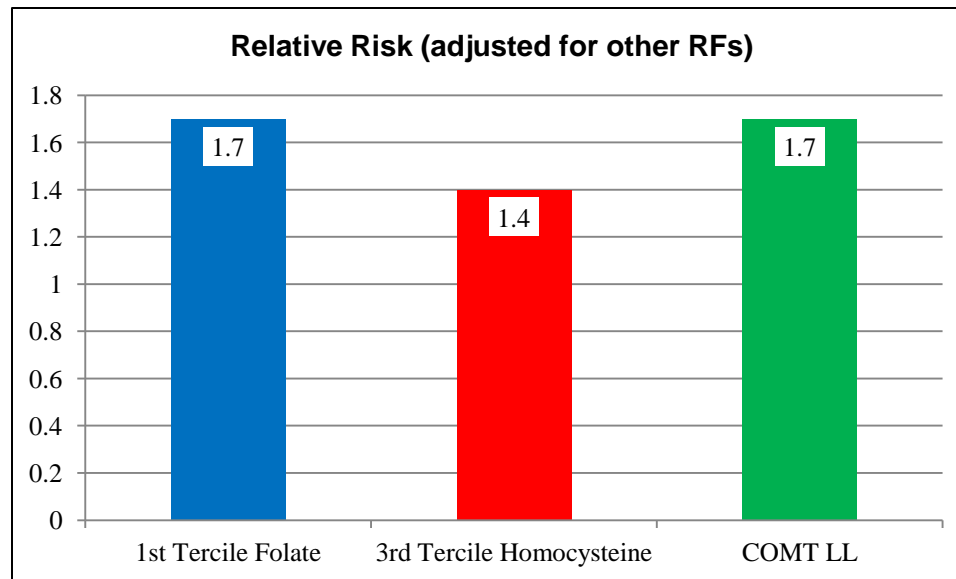
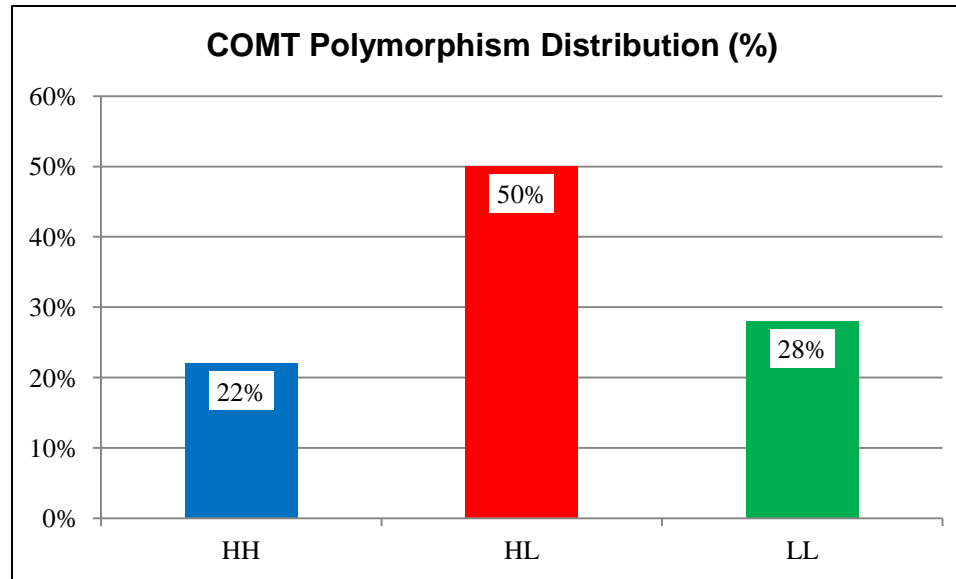
CV risk increased in relation to SBP, lipids, and FMH CADz

Look at CV risk in relation to Homocystine, Folate, and COMT Genotype

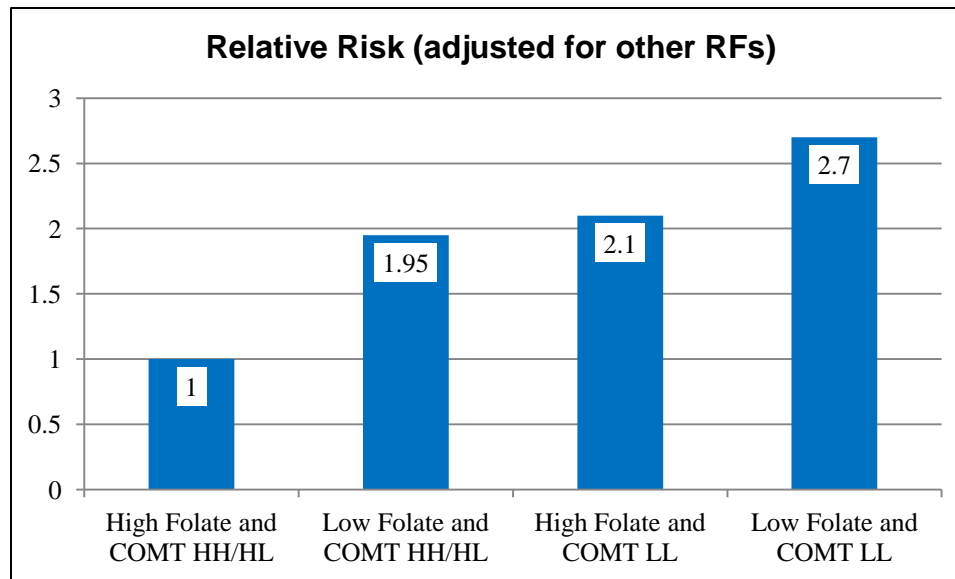
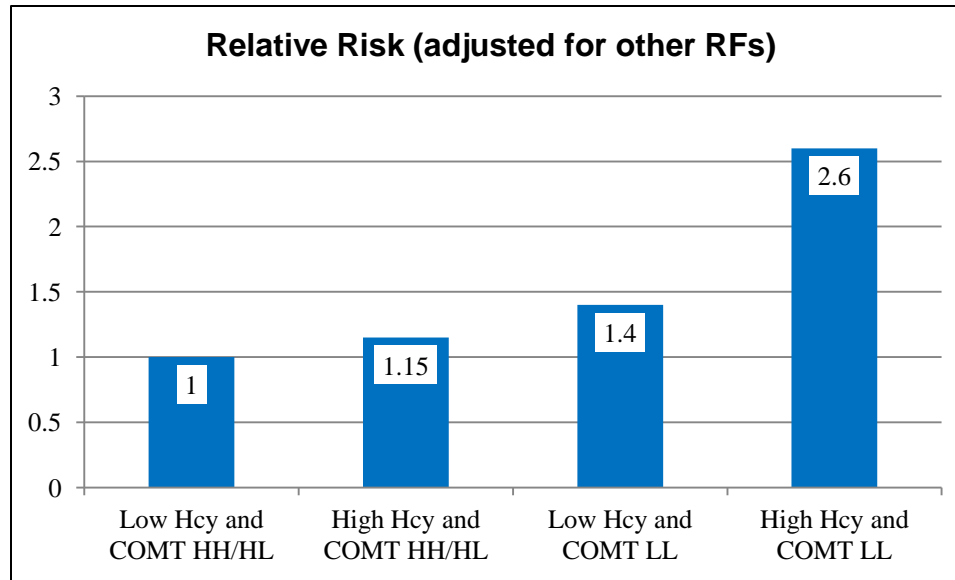
COMT and FUTURE CORONARY RISK



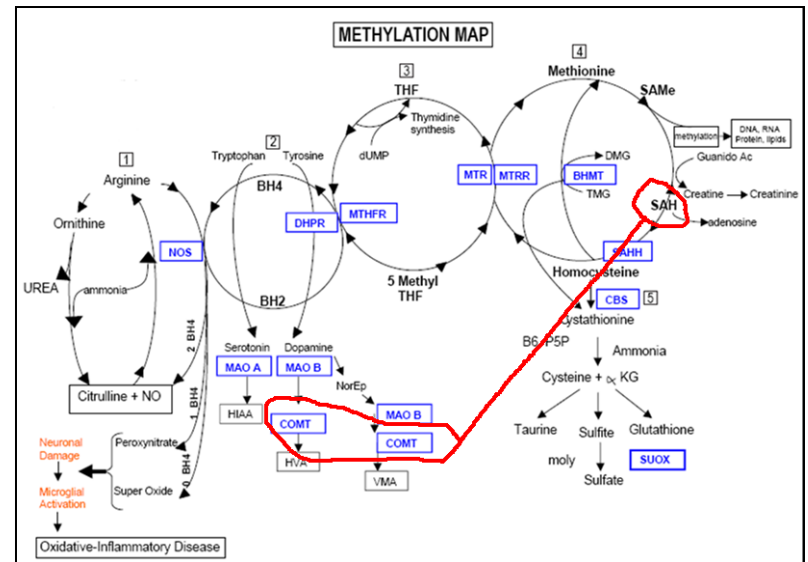
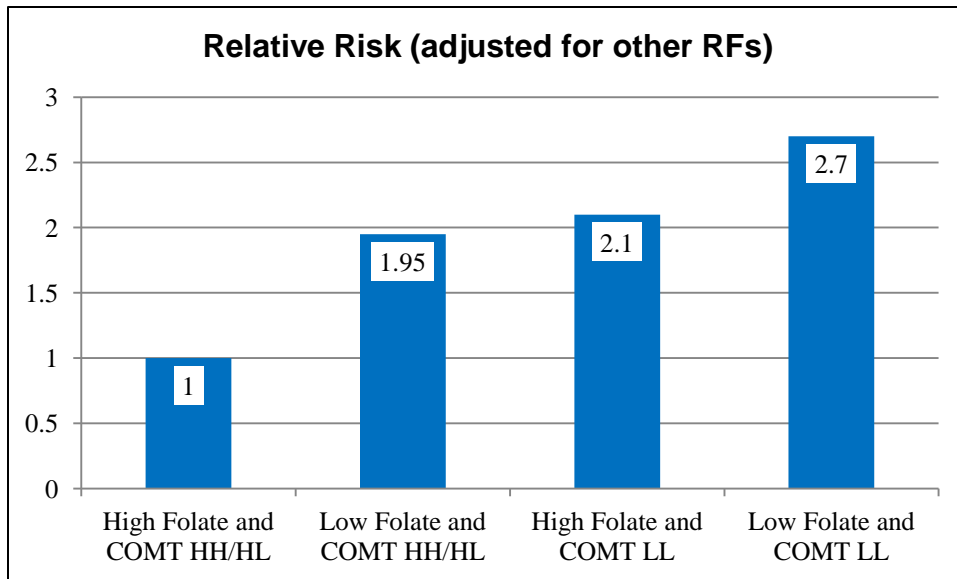
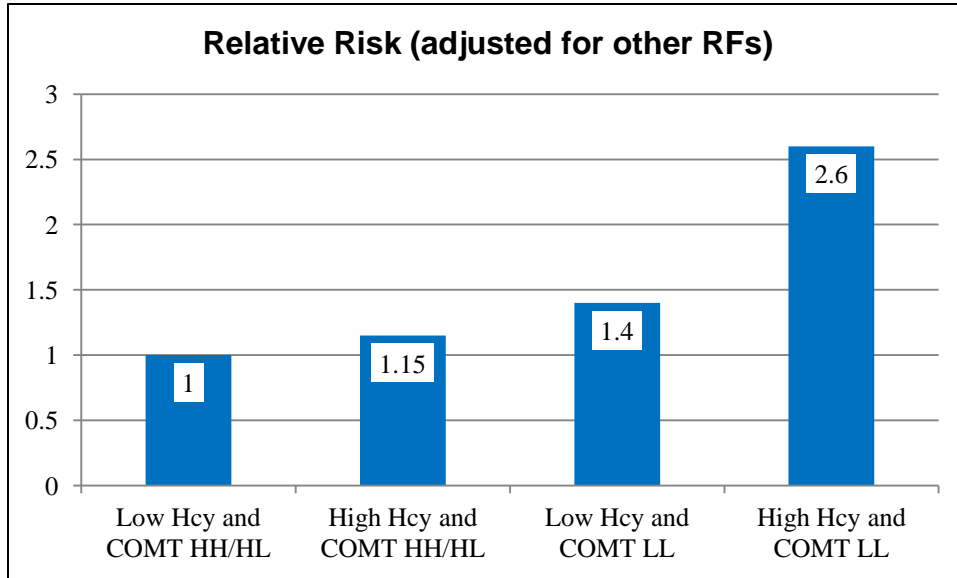
COMT and FUTURE CORONARY RISK



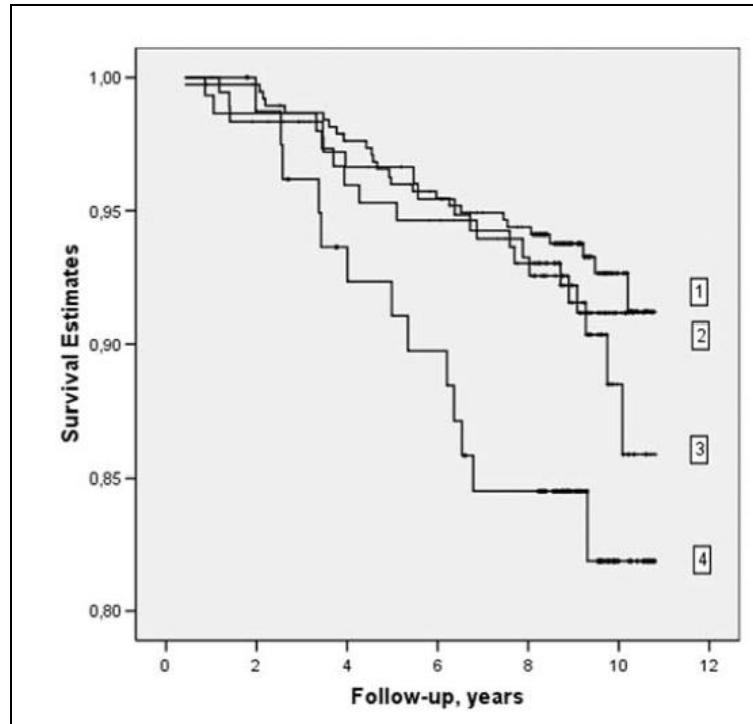
COMT and FUTURE CORONARY RISK



COMT and FUTURE CORONARY RISK



COMT and FUTURE CORONARY RISK



Five Year Survival

Low Hcy (<11.3) and COMT HH/HL
High Hcy (≥11.3) and COMT HH/HL

Low Hcy and COMT LL

High Hcy and COMT LL

Low folate → High homocysteine → High SAH → COMT Inhibition

Low folate → Lower risk if COMT functional

Low folate → Major risk if COMT dysfunctional

COMT and COFFEE CV RISK

♥ 773 (42-60) year-old Finnish men in overall good health

Genotype for COMT:

- 22% wild type VV (HH)
- 49% VM (HL)
- 29% MM (LL)

Record standard risk factors

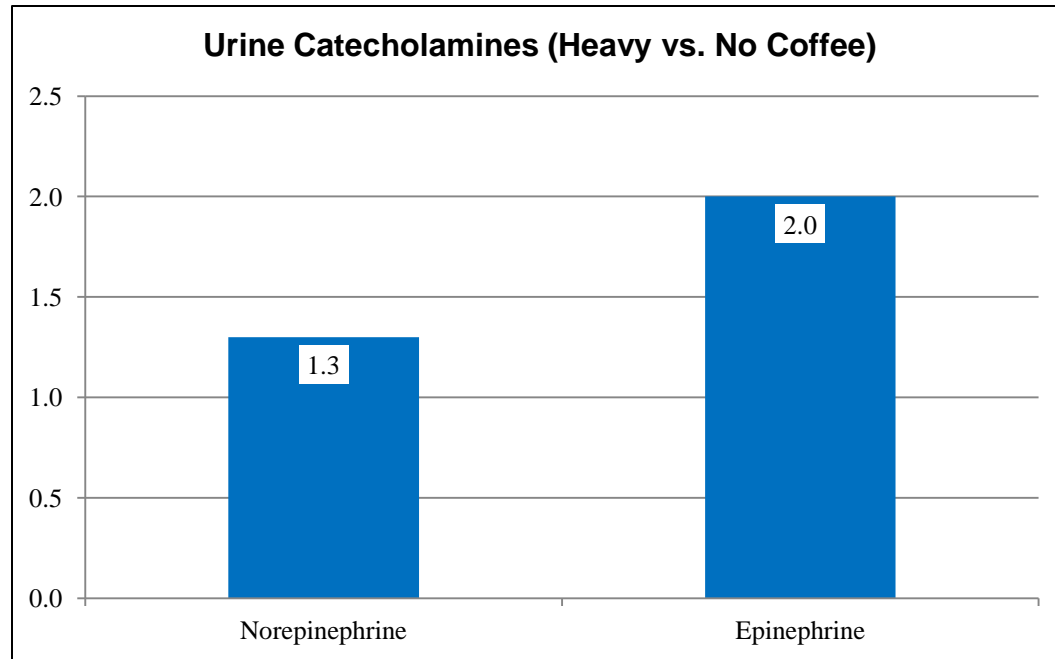
Assess coffee consumption

Record coronary events over 13 year follow-up period

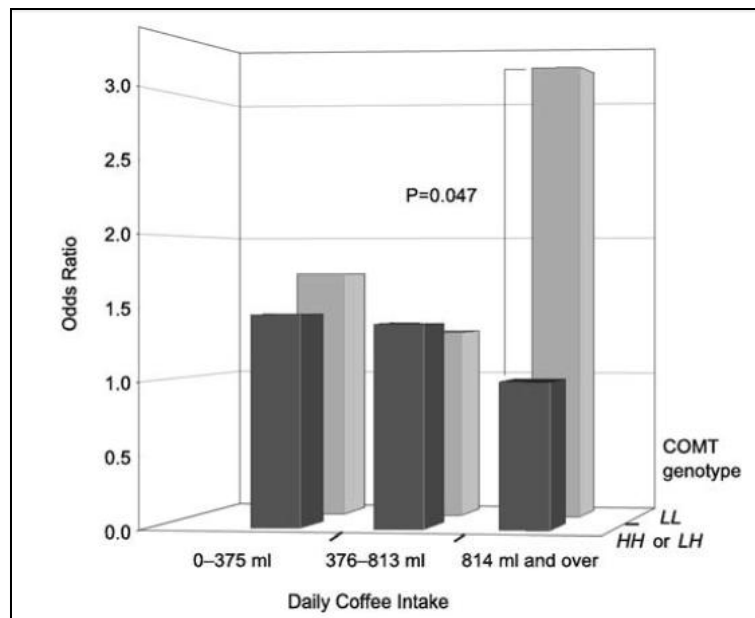
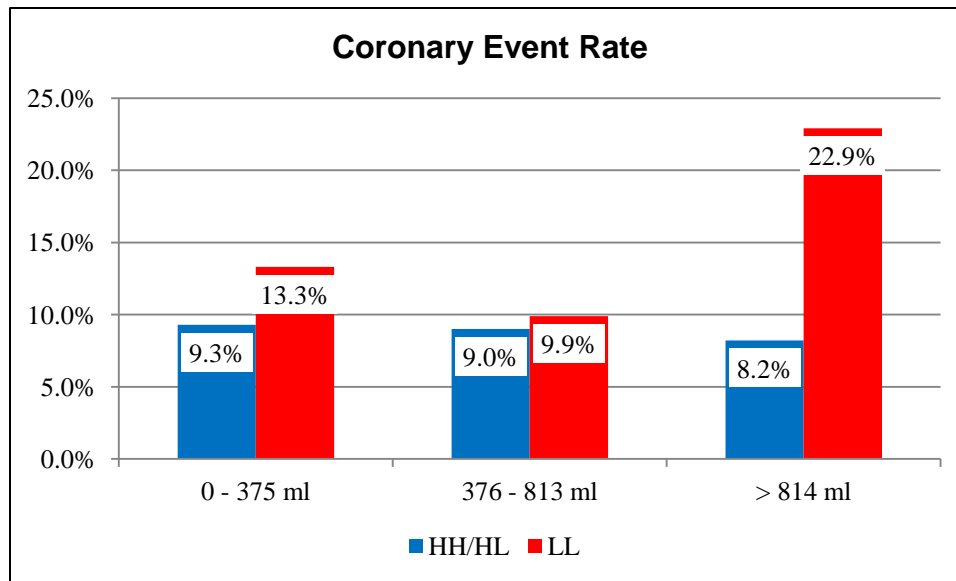
- 78 events

Relate coffee associated risk (RF adjusted) with COMT status

COMT and COFFEE CV RISK



COMT and COFFEE CV RISK



COFFEE and CV RISK

Coffee provides bioflavonoids and caffeine

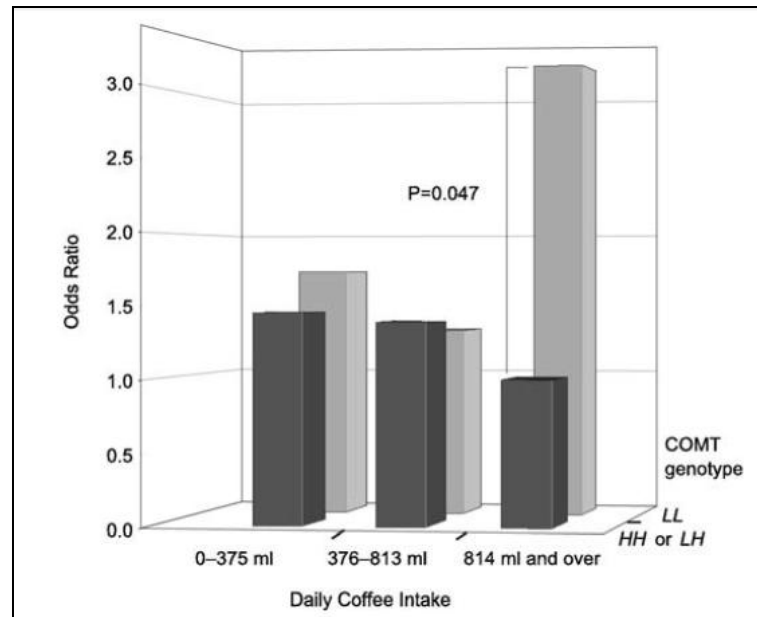
Caffeine → Norepinephrine and epinephrine → Methylated by COMT → SAH

Caffeic acid → Methylated by COMT → SAH

Caffeine inhibits adenosine metabolism → SAH

Not a major issue if COMT functional (COMT HH/HL and/or SAH (Hcy) low)

Major issue if COMT dysfunctional (COMT LL, high SAH, high substrate burden)



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