



Welcome To Today's Webinar

Overtraining from a Functional Health Perspective

Presented by
Ian Craig

About today's webinar



Today's webinar is being produced jointly by the British Association of Sport and Exercise Sciences (BASES) and Human Kinetics.

It is scheduled to last for about an hour and will be recorded and made available for download and playback. You will receive an email containing a link to the recording when it is available.

All microphones and phone lines are muted so we ask that you submit questions by typing them into the question box located in the lower right corner of your screen and click "send."

We'll collect any questions sent throughout the presentation for Ian and he will answer as many as possible during the Q&A segment at the end.

Join the conversation through Twitter #OvertrainingWebinar

@ian_tNI

@HumanKineticsEU

@BASESUK



About today's presenter



Ian Craig is an exercise physiologist, nutritional therapist, NLP practitioner and an endurance coach.

He was a competitive middle-distance runner for 20 years and is now a more leisurely runner and cyclist.

Ian specialises in Functional and Integrative Sports Nutrition, a fast-evolving discipline that considers both health and performance of an athlete from an integrative health perspective.

He is the editor of *Functional Sports Nutrition* magazine and is conference leader of Sports Nutrition Live. Additionally, Ian runs a private nutritional therapy practice in Johannesburg, South Africa.



Overtraining from a Functional Health Perspective

Ian Craig



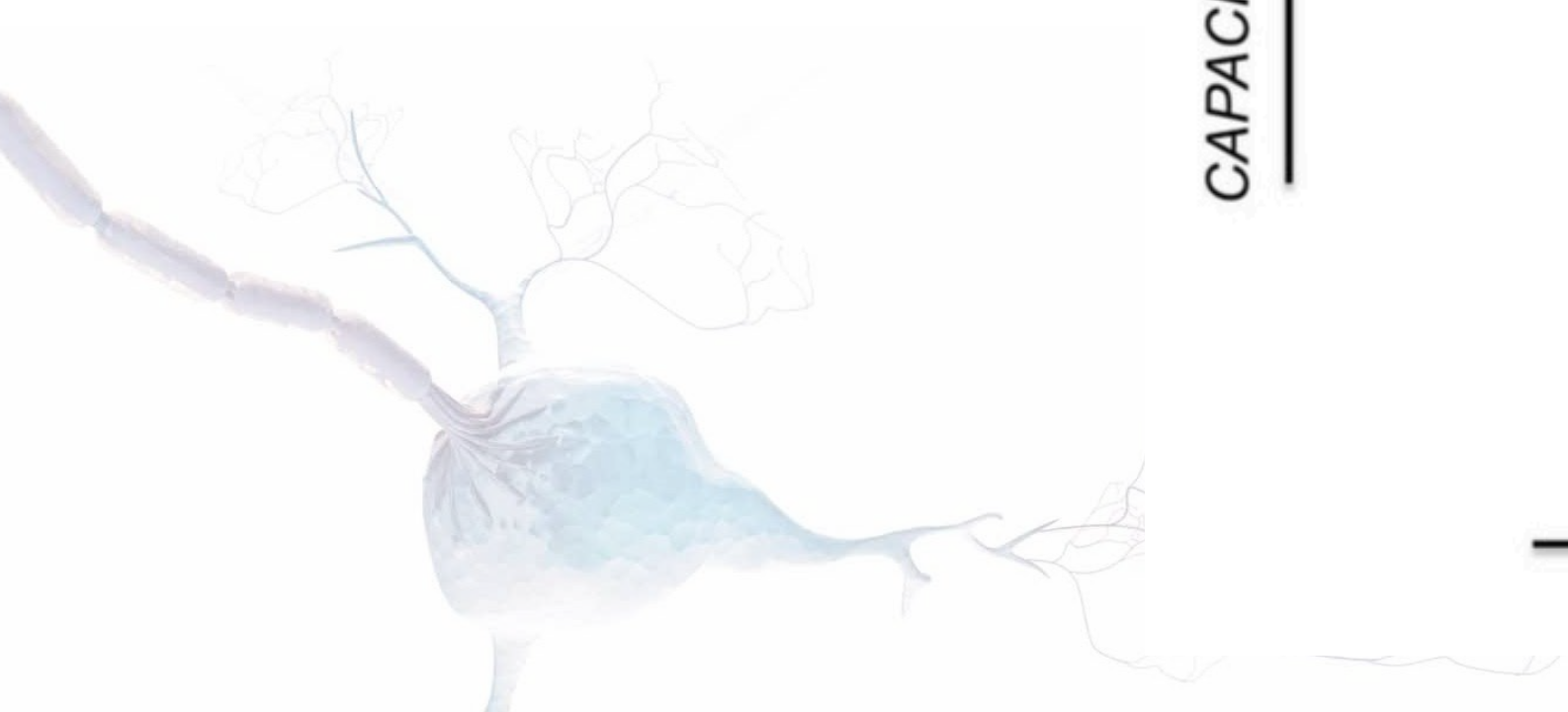
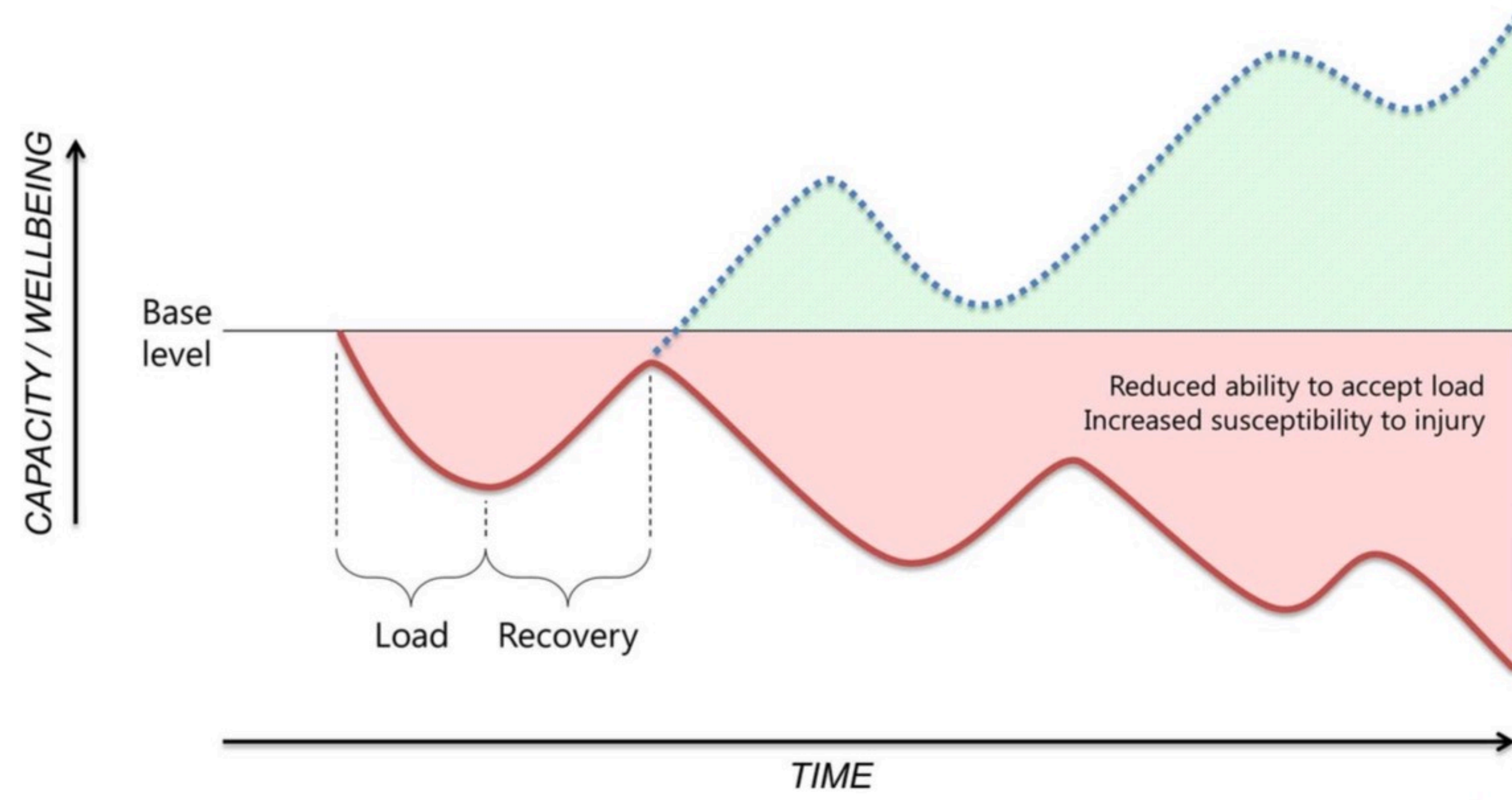
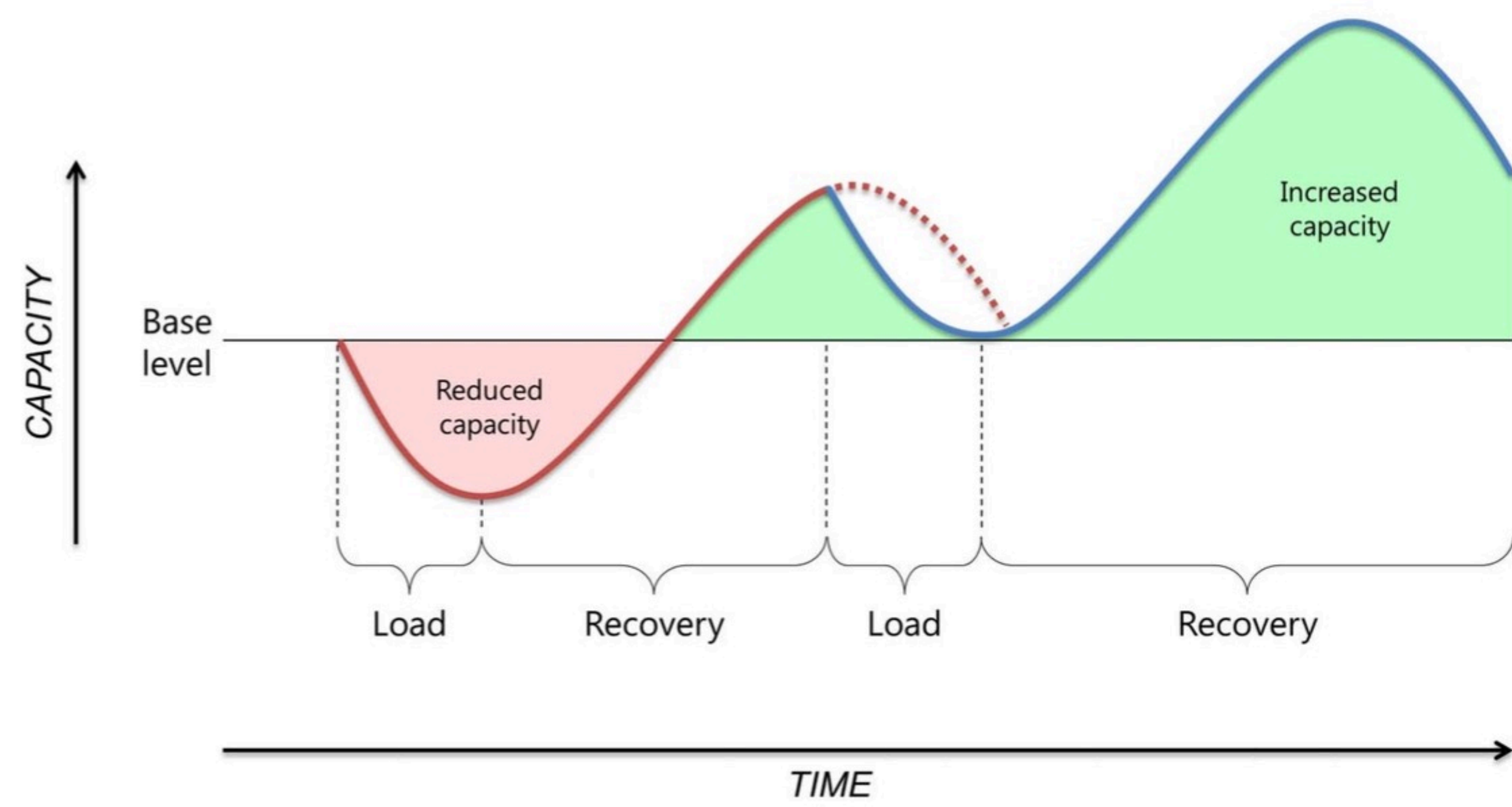


Overtraining syndrome -
what is it?

What is Overtraining?



- If an athlete is overstressed, physically or psychologically for a long time, adaptation starts to fail, leading to the signs of overtraining, which may be a protective mechanism against continued stress
- It occurs in highly motivated athletes, especially those who are training and racing frequently **without adequate rest** – travel, heat extremes, altitude and unfamiliar surrounding can compound the situation, along with unrealistic goals and high expectations of the coach



Soligard et al (2016) - adapted from Meeusen (2013)

Overreaching vs. Overtraining

| Condition | Definition | Performance Decrement |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| Functional overreaching | Increased training leading to a temporary performance decrement | Days to weeks |
| Nonfunctional overreaching | Intense training leading to a longer performance decrement (weeks to months) but with full recovery after rest. | Weeks to months |
| Overtraining syndrome | Consistent with extreme nonfunctional OR but with >2 month performance decrements, more severe symptomatology and maladapted physiology | Months |

Kreher (2016); ACSM (2012)

My elite triathlete

- 1st 2 mins of training - hypoxic
- Sugar cravings
- Regular bloating, cramps, diarrhoea
- Regular flus
- Allergic to chlorine, foods and pets
- Chronic Candidiasis
- Post-nasal drip
- Bad brain fog and anxiety
- Debilitating periods w/o contraceptive pill
- Energy 3 out of 10 on many days
- On a shopping bag full of supplements.....

Sympathetic or Parasympathetic?

Overtrained athletes can be sympathetically (Sym) or parasympathetically (Para) driven

- The Sym form is more often seen in team sports and sprint events (anaerobic), whereas the Para form is more seen in endurance athletes (aerobic)
- The Sym form may be associated with the early stages of overtraining, whereas in advanced overtraining, the Sym nervous system is inhibited

Signs and Symptoms

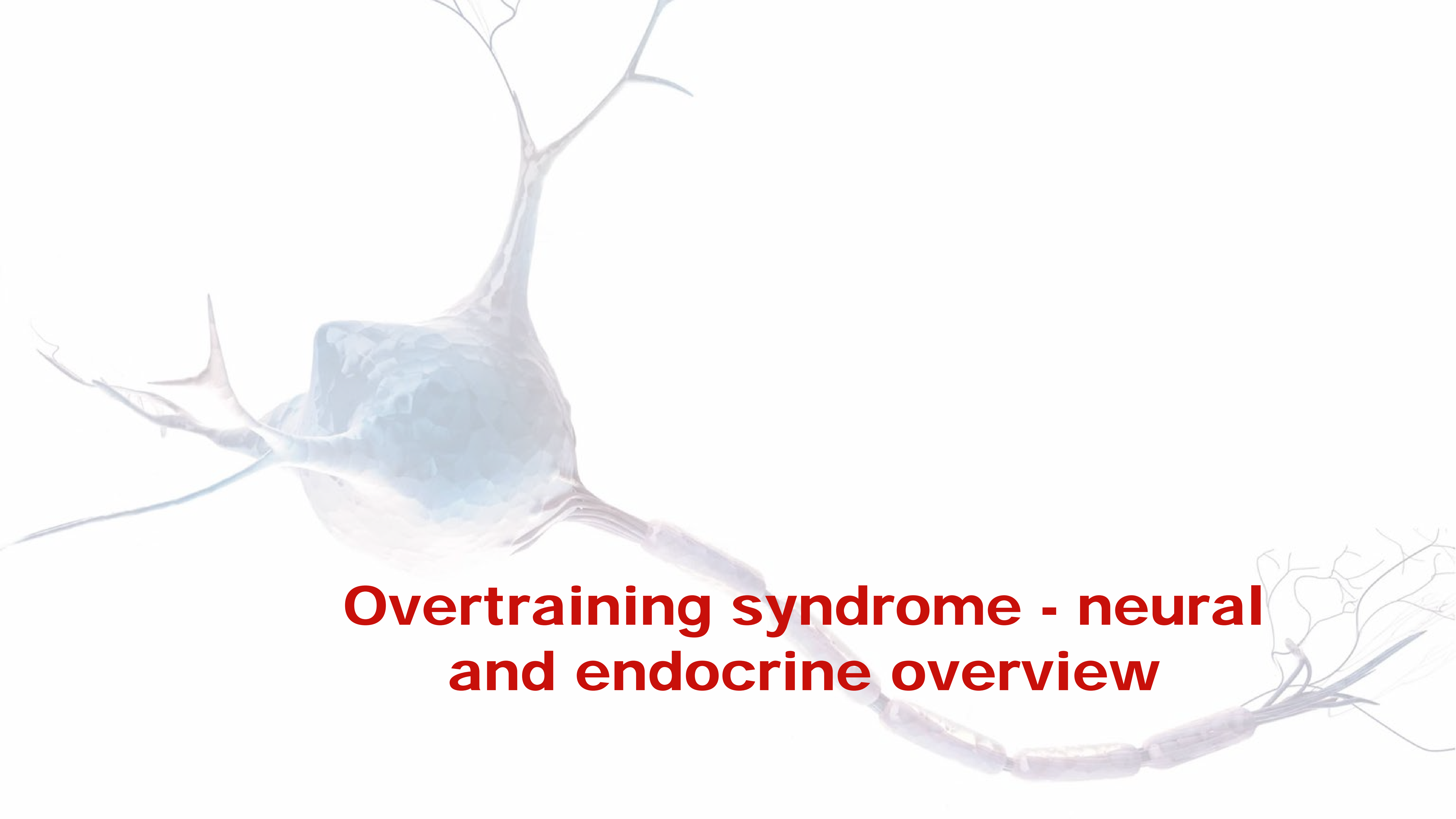


Sympathetic

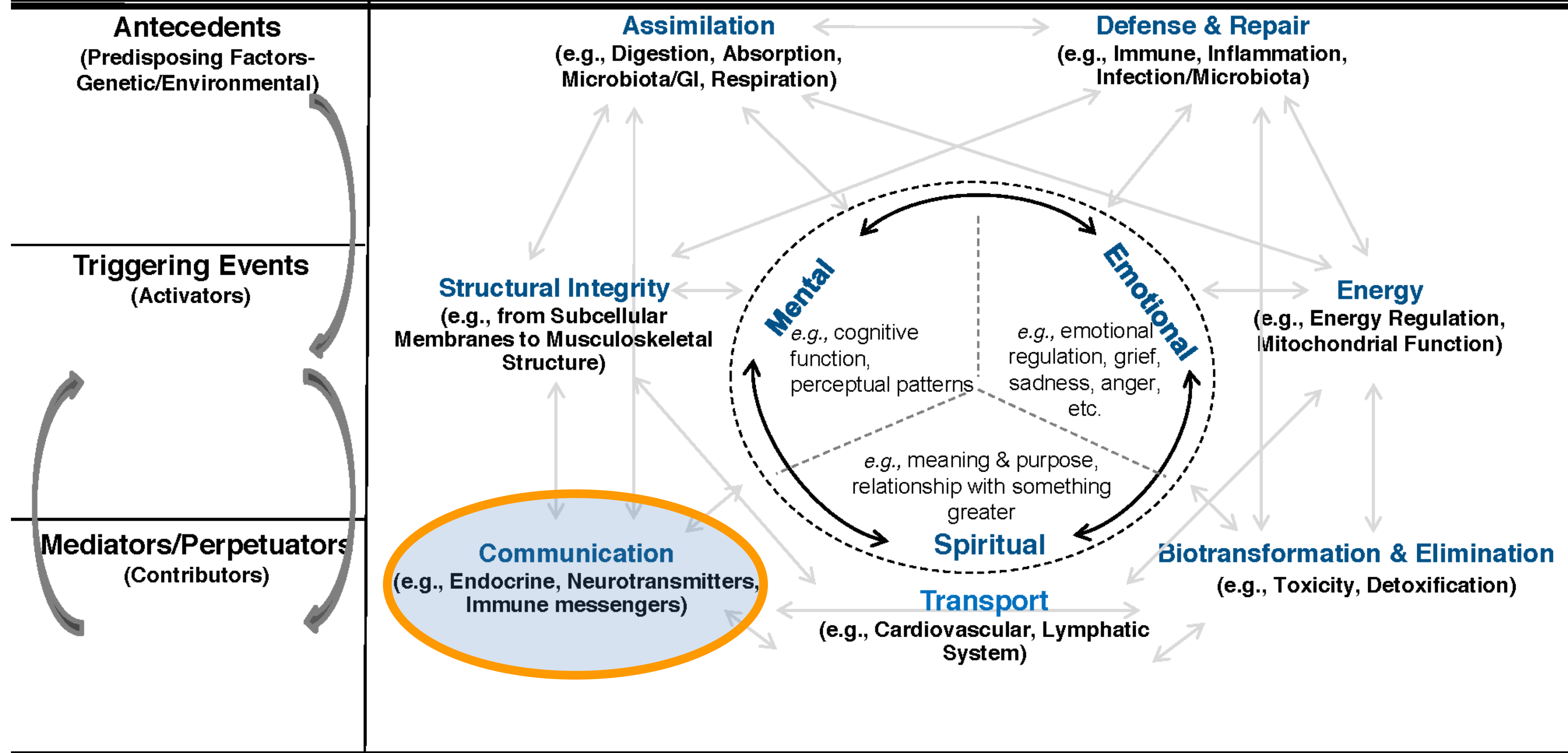
- Increased resting & exercising HR & BP
- Slow HR recovery after exercise
- Irritability and mood swings
- Menstrual irregularities
- Sleep disruption

Parasympathetic

- Low or normal resting & exercising HR & BP
- Fast HR recovery after exercise
- Fatigue, depression
- Good appetite
- Hypoglycaemia during exercise
- Normal or deep sleep
- Loss of motivation



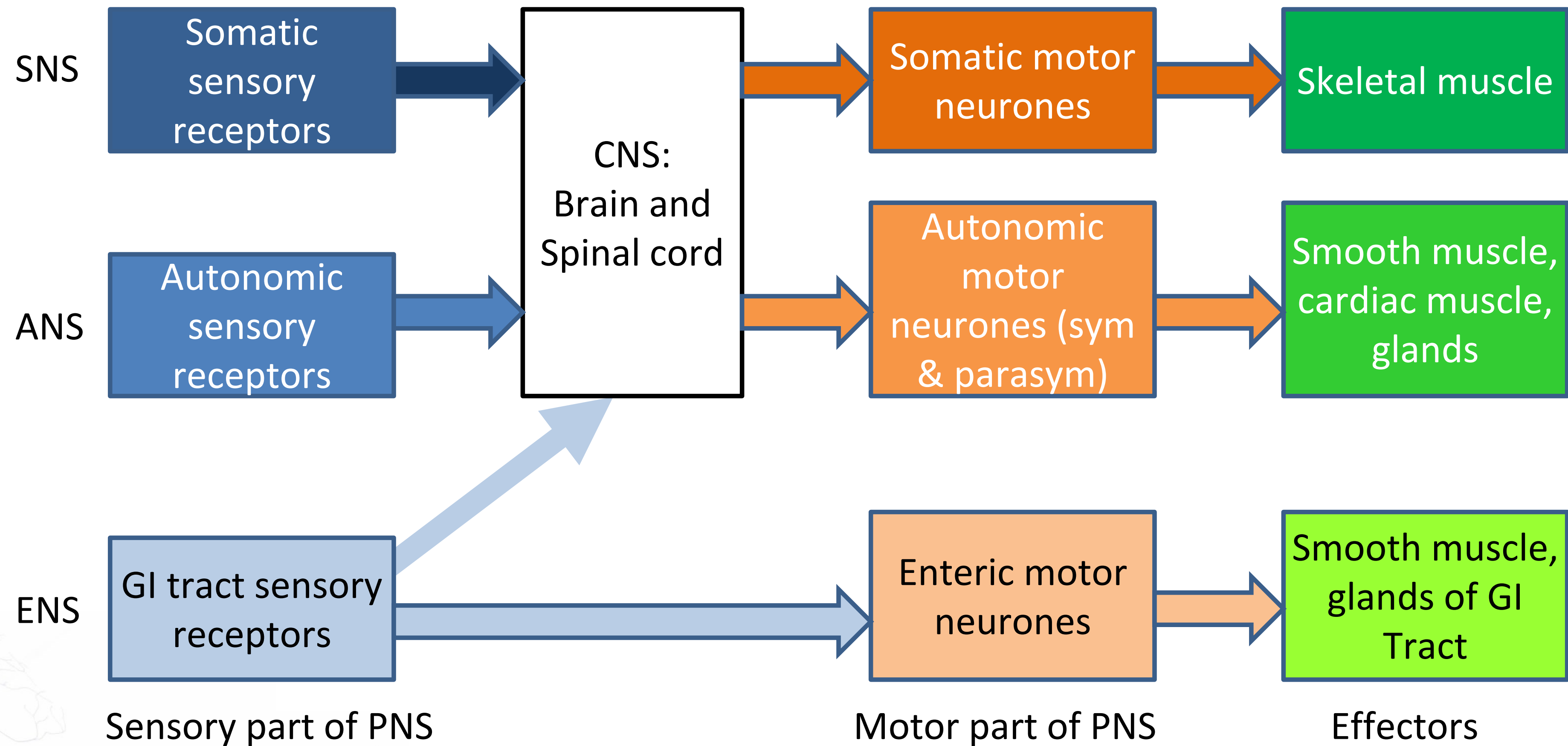
Overtraining syndrome - neural
and endocrine overview



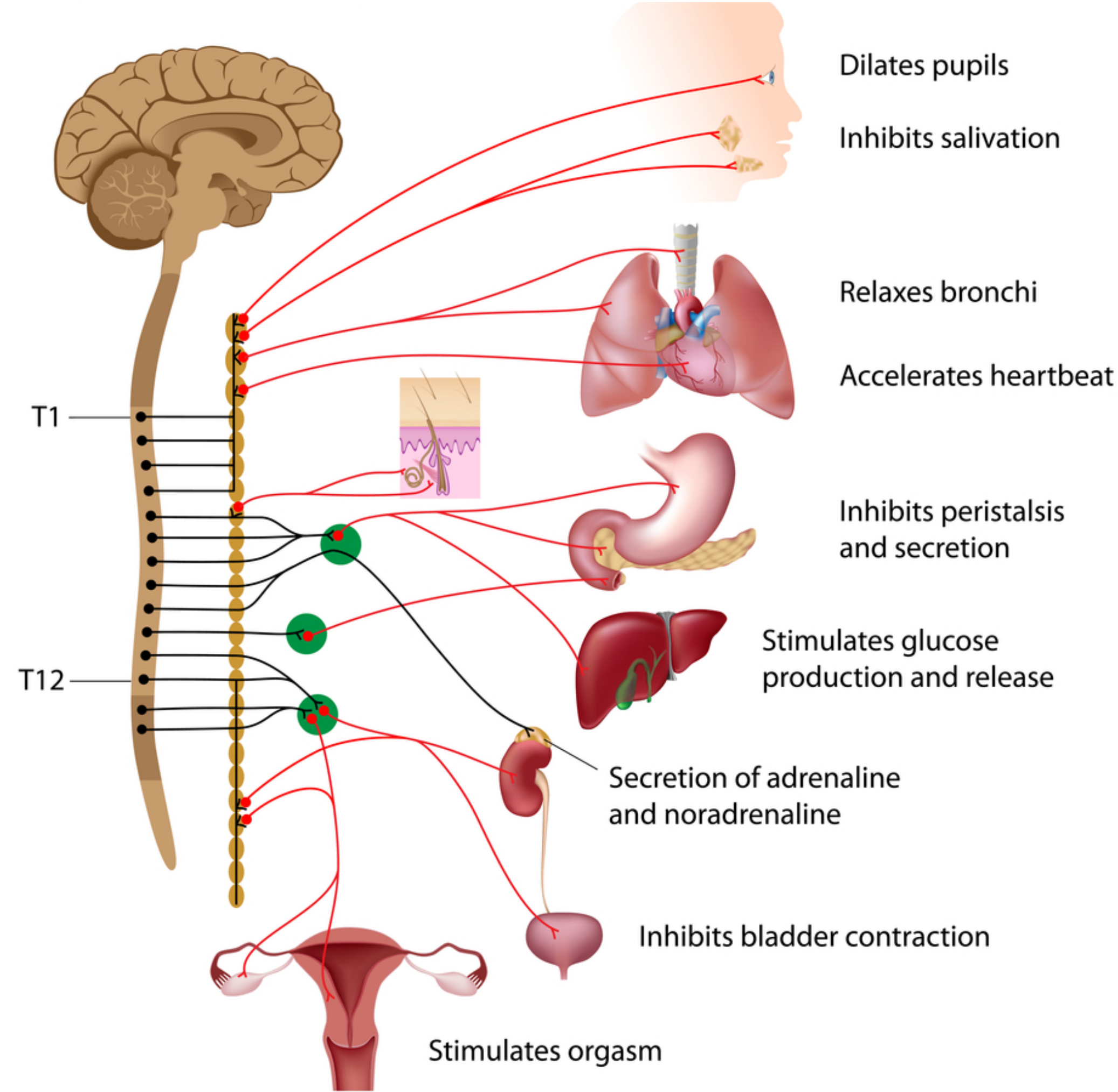
Fundamental Lifestyle Factors

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Sleep & Relaxation | Exercise & Movement | Nutrition & Hydration | Stress & Resilience | Relationships & Networks |
|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|

Organisation of the Nervous System

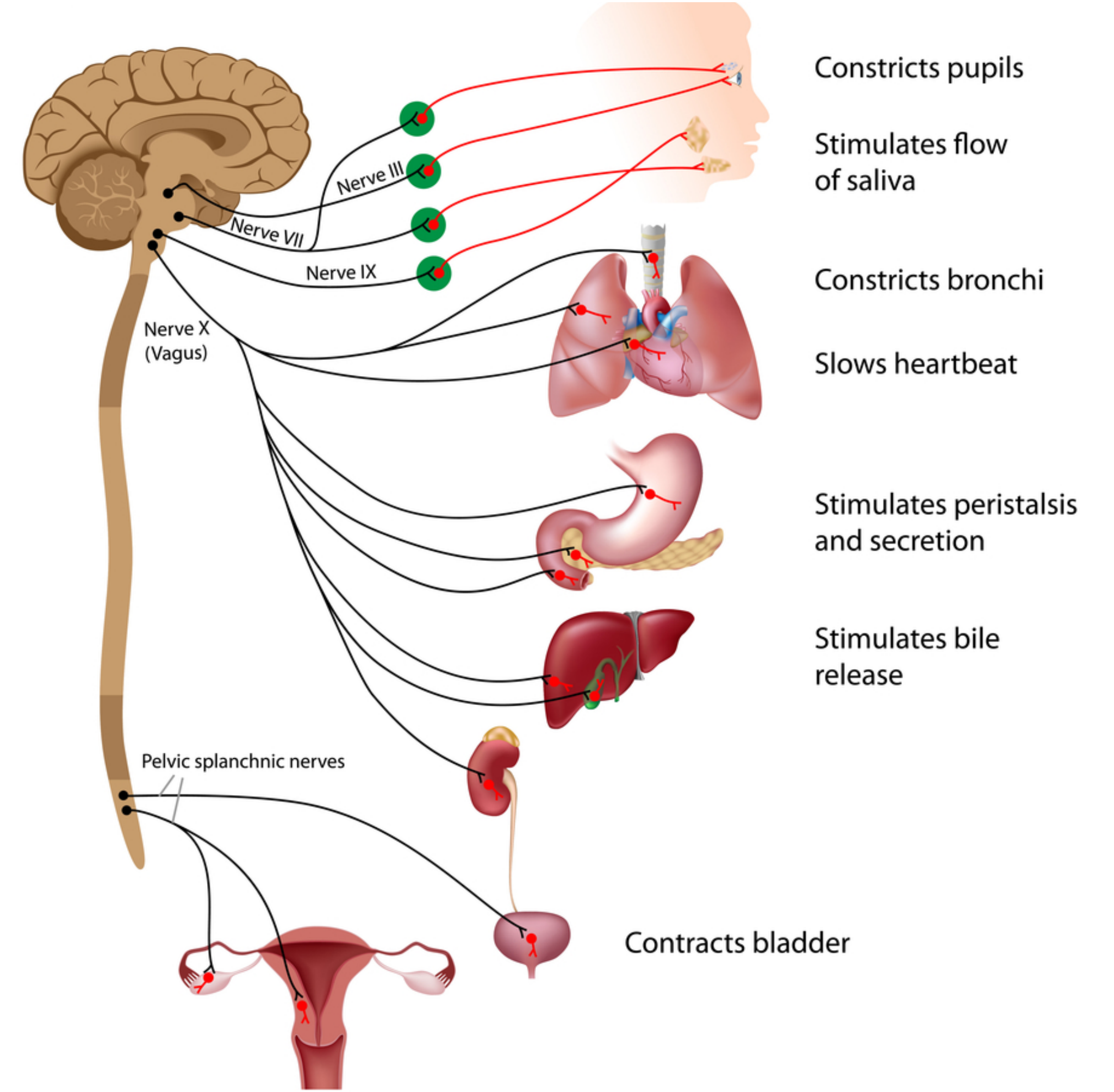


Sympathetic Nervous System



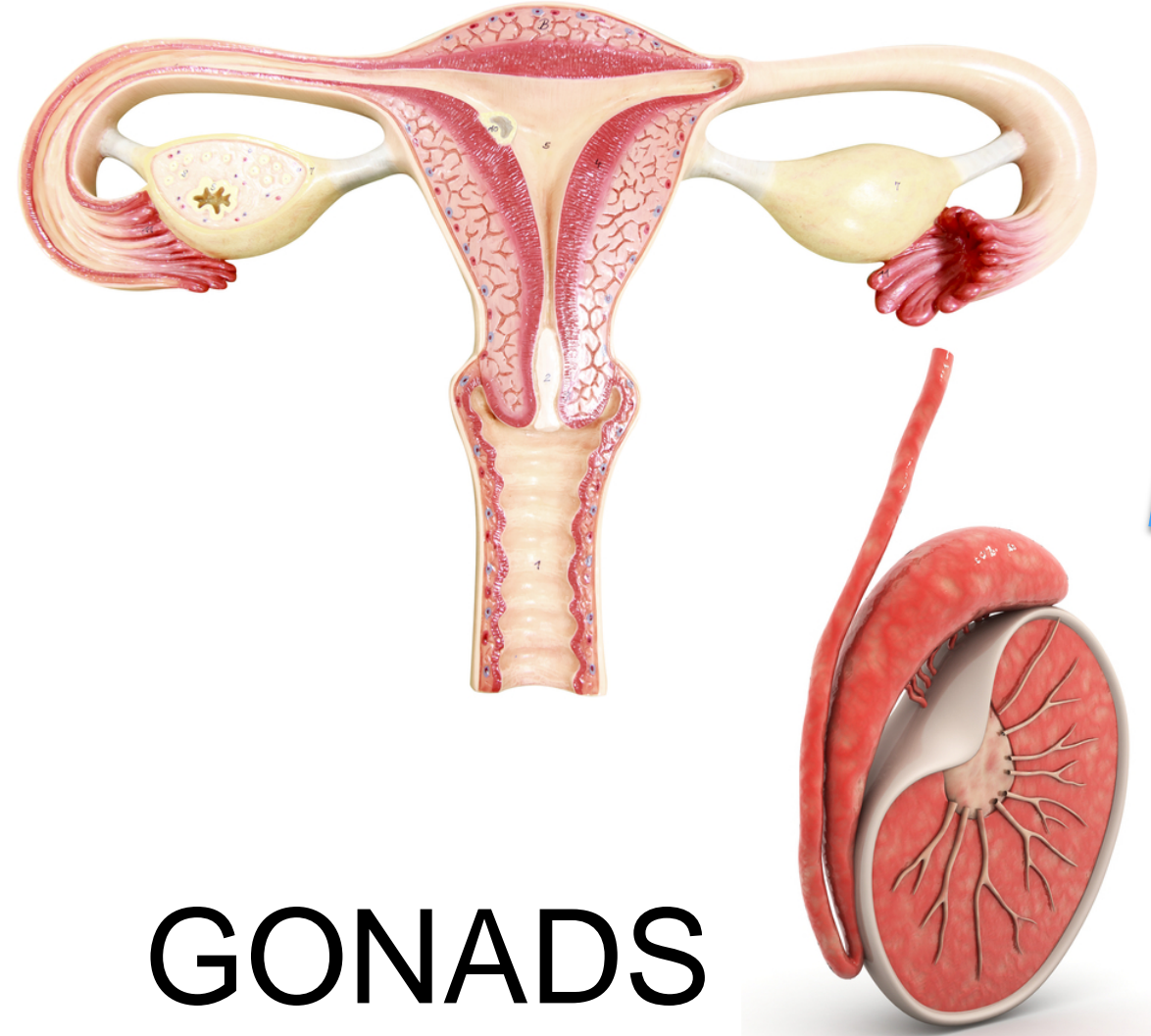
“Fight or Flight”

Parasympathetic Nervous System

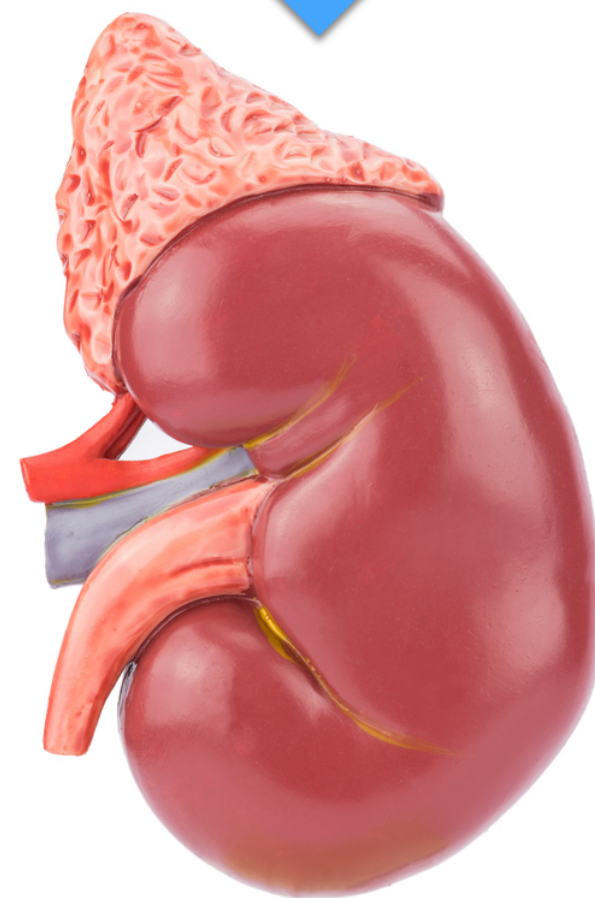


“Relax or Repair”
“Rest and Digest”

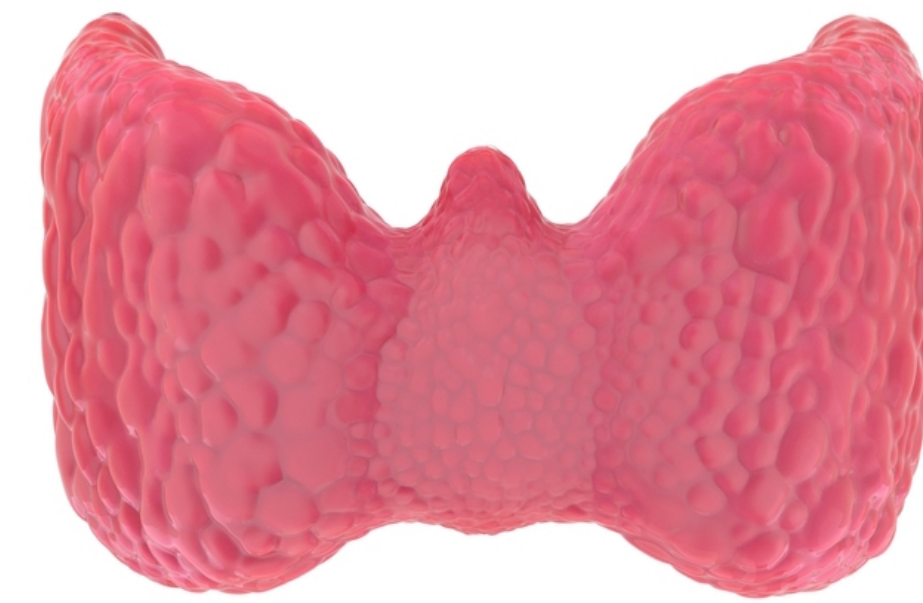
HYPOTHALAMUS & PITUITARY



GONADS



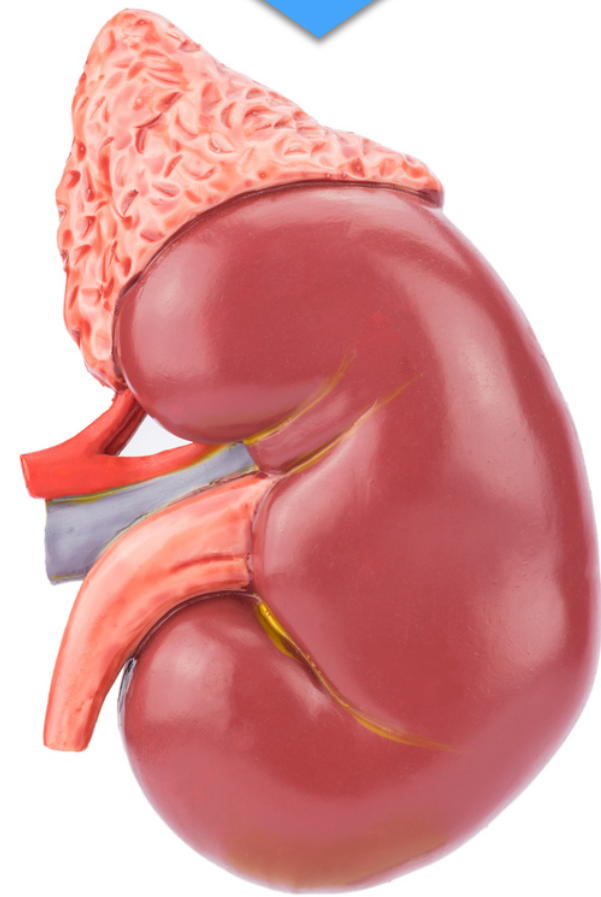
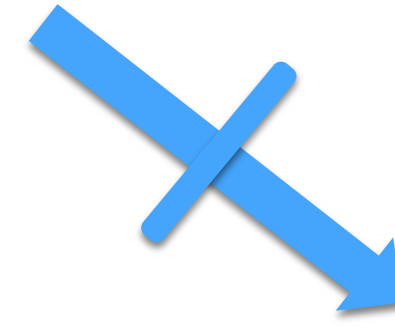
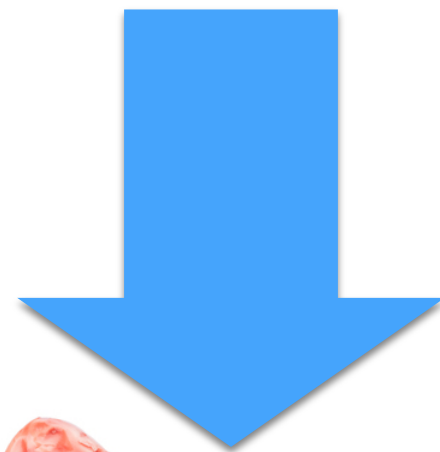
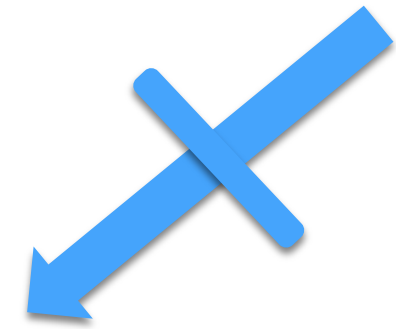
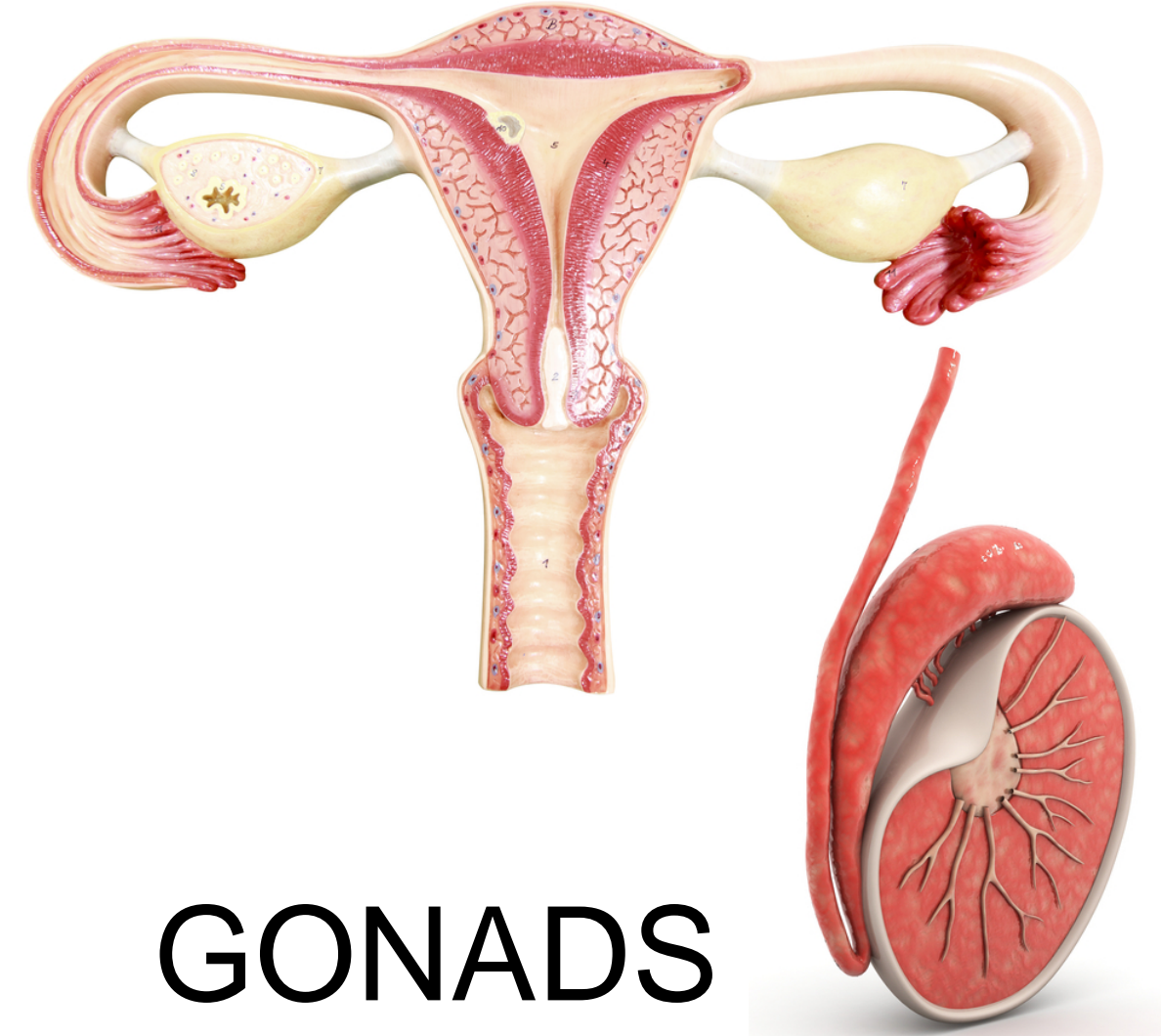
ADRENALS



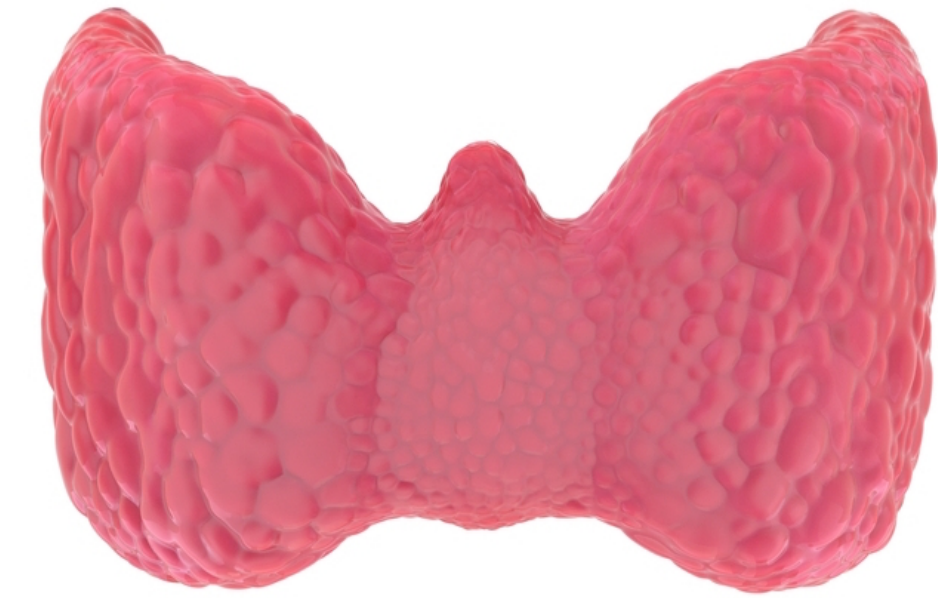
THYROID



HYPOTHALAMUS & PITUITARY

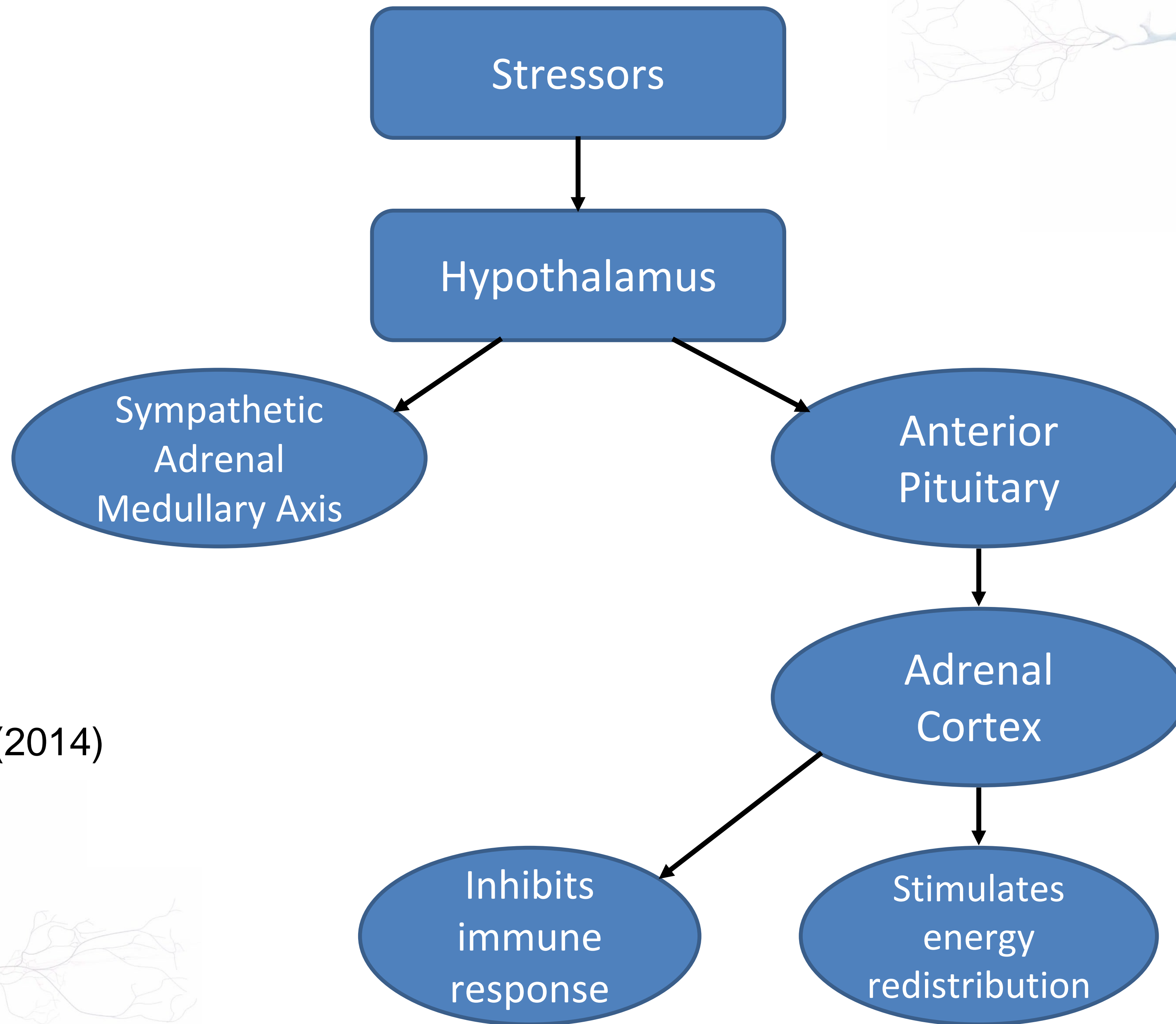


ADRENALS



THYROID



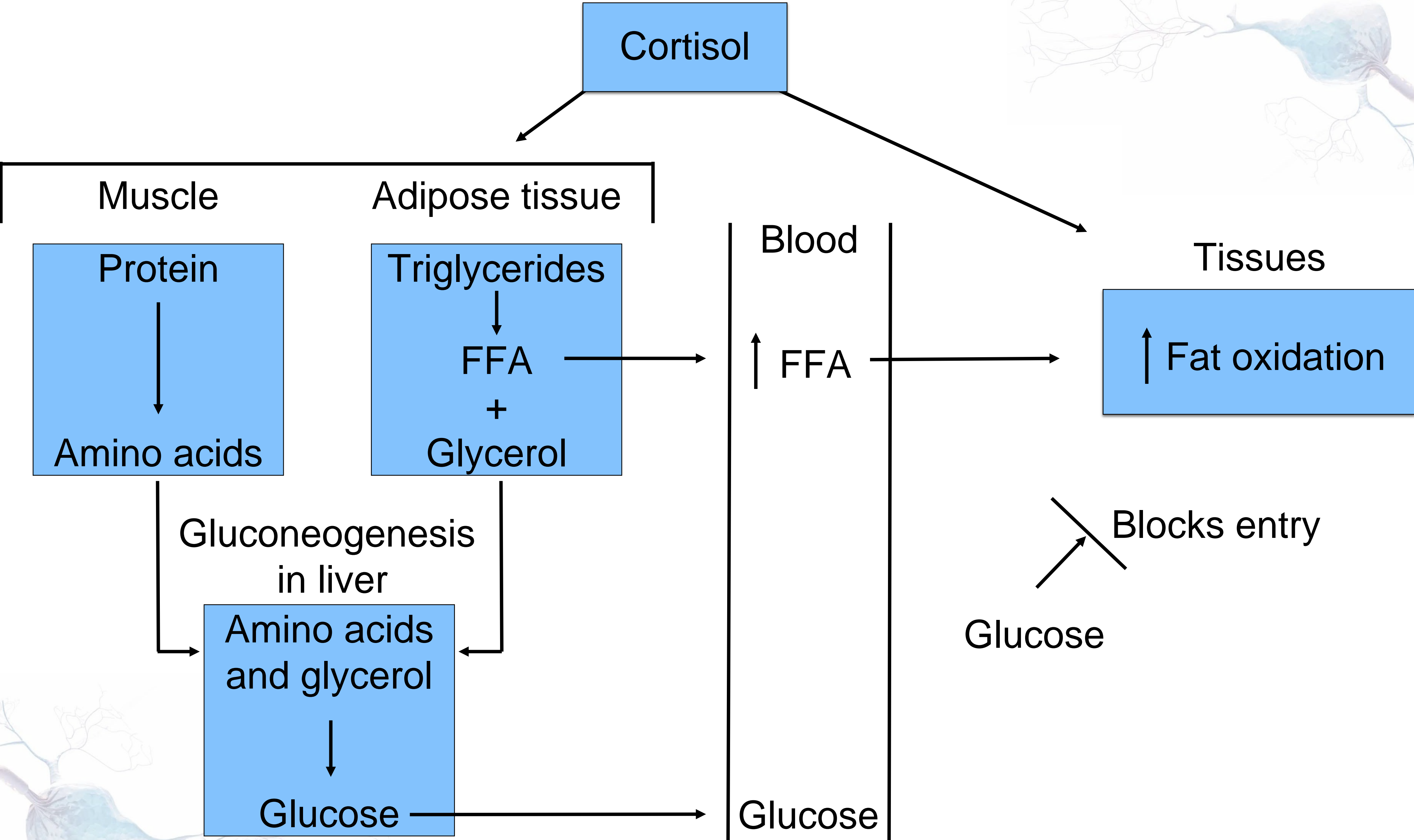


Carfagno & Hendrix (2014)

Cortisol during exercise

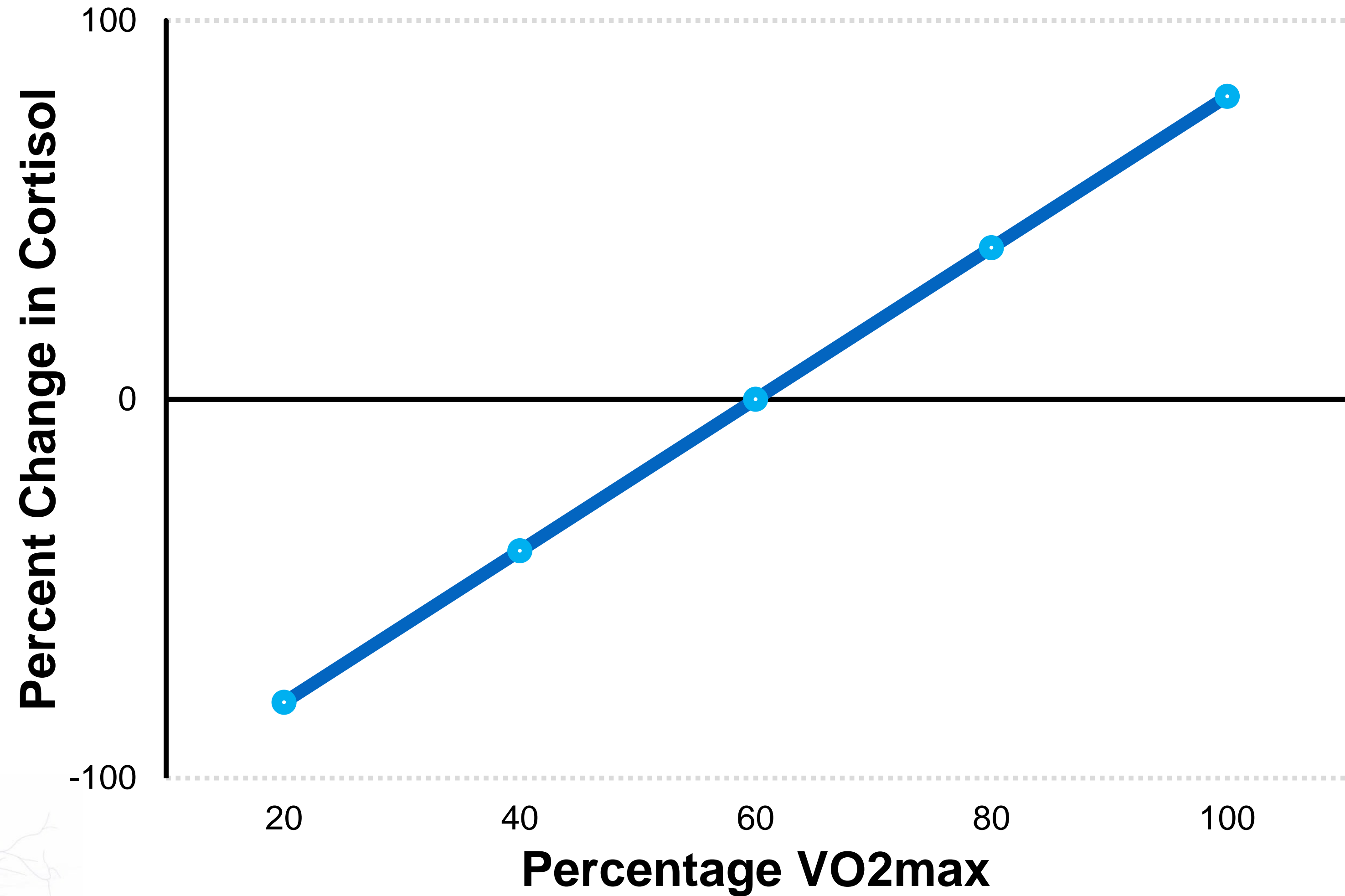
| Action | Exercise Effect |
|--|---|
| Stimulates FFA mobilisation from adipose tissue; mobilises tissue protein to yield AA's for gluconeogenesis; decreases use of glucose by cells | ↑ Heavy exercise ↓ Light exercise |
| Subjects who ran at 7.5mph for 10 or 30mins only showed an increase in urinary cortisol excretion after the 30min bout | The cortisol effect of exercise increases with time |

Bonen (1976); Guyton (1986); Powers & Howley (1990)




%age change in cortisol levels with increasing exercise intensity

Exercise for 1 hour at 40, 60 or 80% VO_2max showed a decrease in cortisol at low intensities and an increase at high intensities




Cortisol - in summary

A decorative illustration of a neuron with a blue nucleus and branching dendrites, located in the top right corner of the slide.

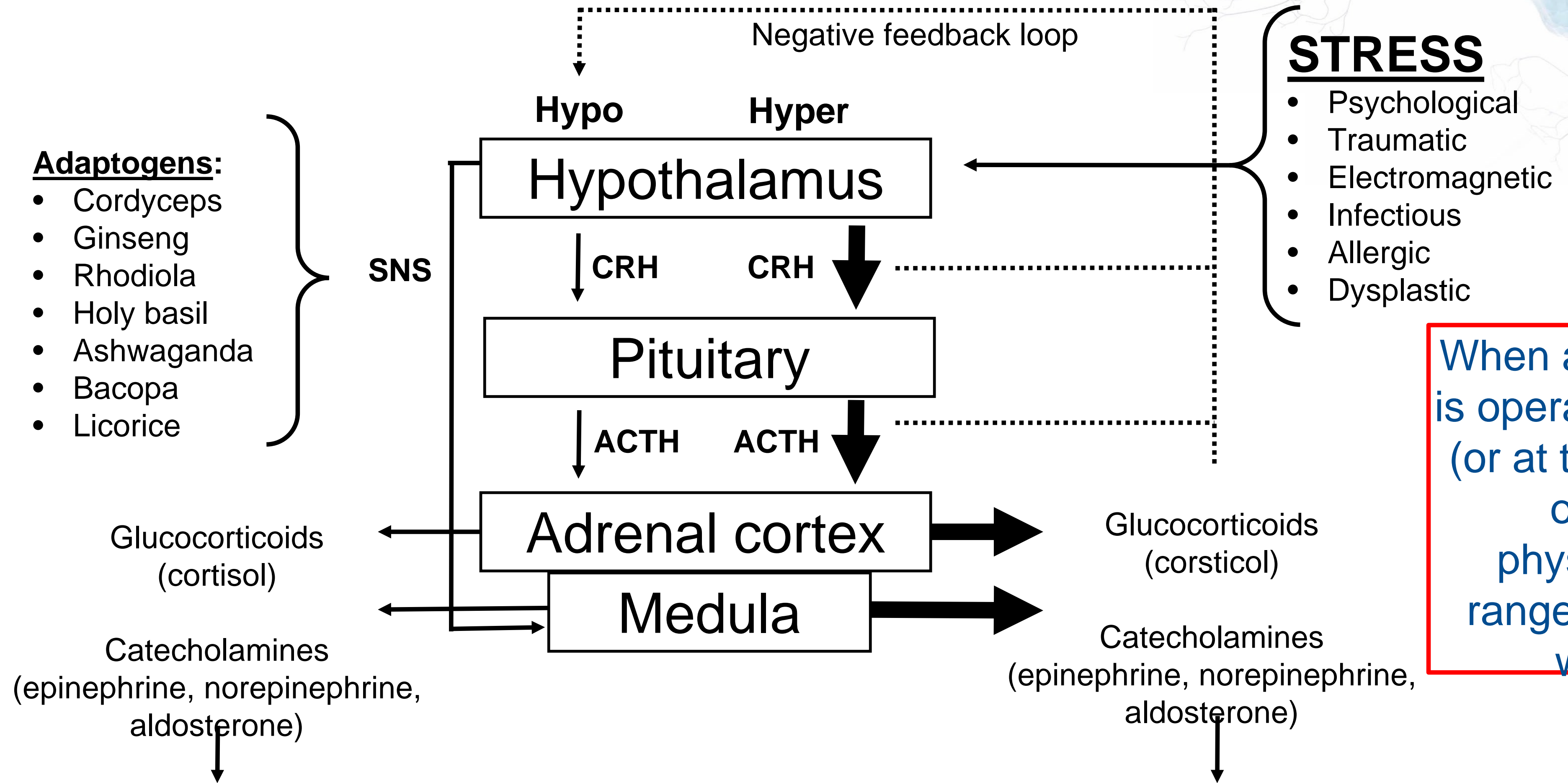
- In its normal function, cortisol helps us adapt to challenges by converting proteins and fats into energy, releasing glycogen and counteracting inflammation
 - But sustained high cortisol levels slowly break-down healthy muscle and bone, slow healing, impair digestion, interfere with endocrine function, weaken immune system and disrupts emotional wellbeing
- 
- A decorative illustration of a neuron with a blue nucleus and branching dendrites, located in the bottom left corner of the slide.

HPA Axis

A decorative illustration of a neuron with a cell body and branching dendrites, rendered in a light blue and white color scheme, positioned in the top right corner of the slide.

- Gradually increasing training loads have been shown to increase the stability of the pituitary adrenocortical system: a 7 wk training programme of 30-50 min/day (cycling or running) resulted in a decreased catecholamine response to exercise and a lowered resting heart rate
- But, excessive stress can lead to imbalances in the neuroendocrine axis and contribute to symptoms of overtraining: in overtrained individuals, the hypothalamus was less sensitive to insulin-induced hypoglycaemia – ACTH, cortisol, GH and prolactin responses were lower than normal

HPA axis



Adaptogens:

- Cordyceps
- Ginseng
- Rhodiola
- Holy basil
- Ashwaganda
- Bacopa
- Licorice

STRESS

- Psychological
- Traumatic
- Electromagnetic
- Infectious
- Allergic
- Dysplastic

When an individual is operating outside (or at the limits of) optimal physiological range, things go wrong!

Symptoms and conditions associated with *hypoactivation*:

- Fatigue/malaise
- Risk of inflammatory conditions
- Risk of autoimmune disease
- Myocardial infarction
- Unable to perform routine tasks
- Allergies
- Apathy
- Weight loss/Anorexia
- Restless sleep
- Chronic pain
- Reduced libido

Symptoms and conditions associated with *hyperactivation*:

- Anxiety
- Agitation/Irritability
- Increased cholesterol and triglycerides
- Increased blood pressure
- Reduced libido
- Neurological disorders
- Depression
- Fatigue
- Impaired memory
- Gastrointestinal disorders
- Central obesity
- Loss of muscle tone

DHEA

- DHEA, produced by the adrenals, is a precursor to oestrogen and testosterone
- During stress, adrenaline and cortisol production takes priority – chronic stress may mean a drop in DHEA
- Insufficient DHEA contributes to **fatigue, bone loss, loss of muscle mass, depression, aching joints, decreased sex drive, and impaired immune function**

Cortisol: 

DHEA: 

Alarm Stage: (short term)

Cortisol: 

DHEA: 

Resistance Stage 1: (mid to long term)

Cortisol: 

DHEA: 

Resistance Stage 2: (longer term)

Cortisol: 

DHEA: 

Resistance Stage 3: (long term)

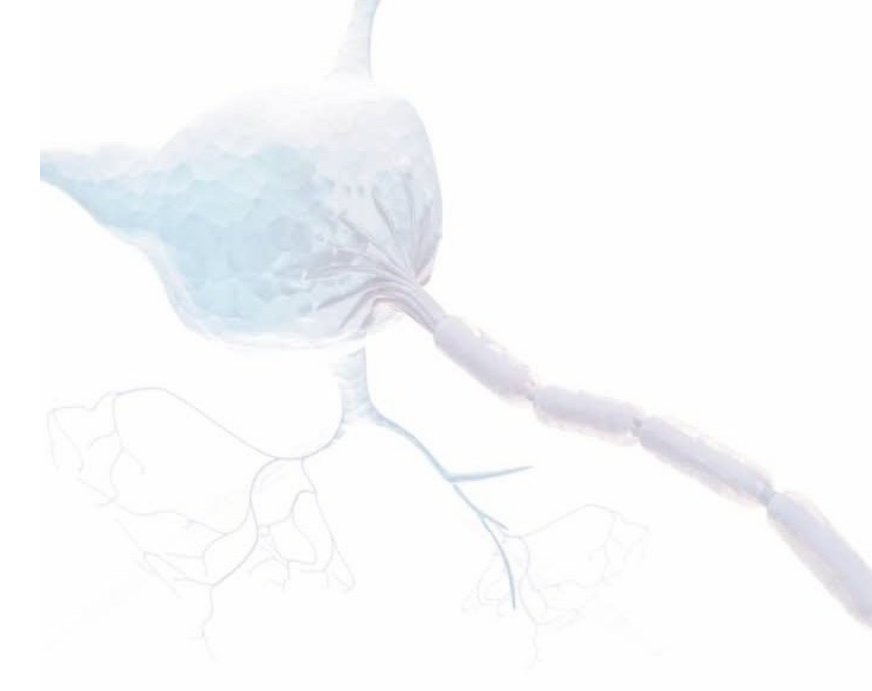
Cortisol: 

DHEA: 

Exhaustion Stage:

Cortisol: 

DHEA: 



Selye (1978)

Anabolic vs Catabolic

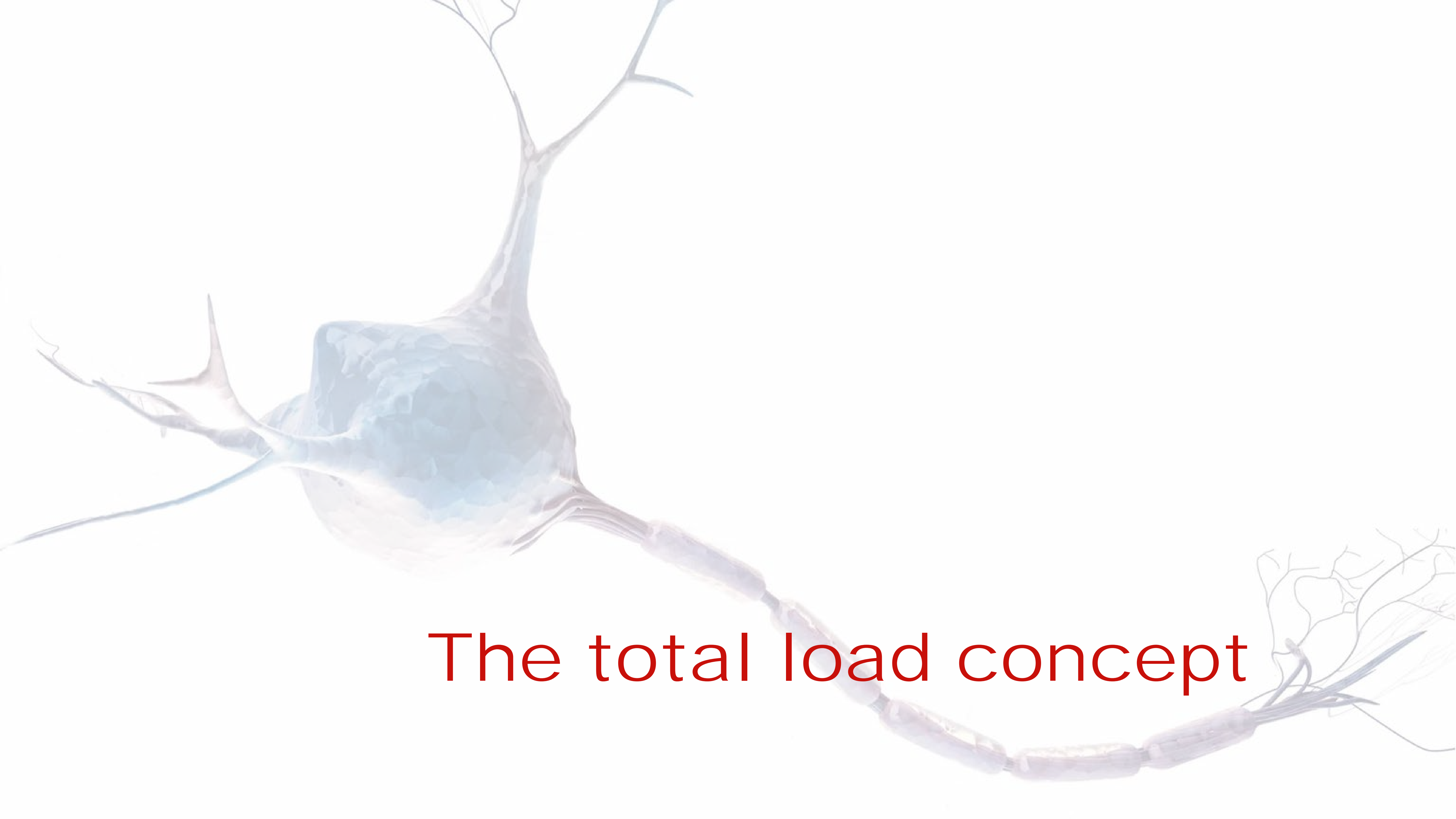


Anabolic

- Increased skeletal muscle blood flow
- Increased anabolic hormone release: GH, testosterone, IGF-1
- Increased insulin concentrations

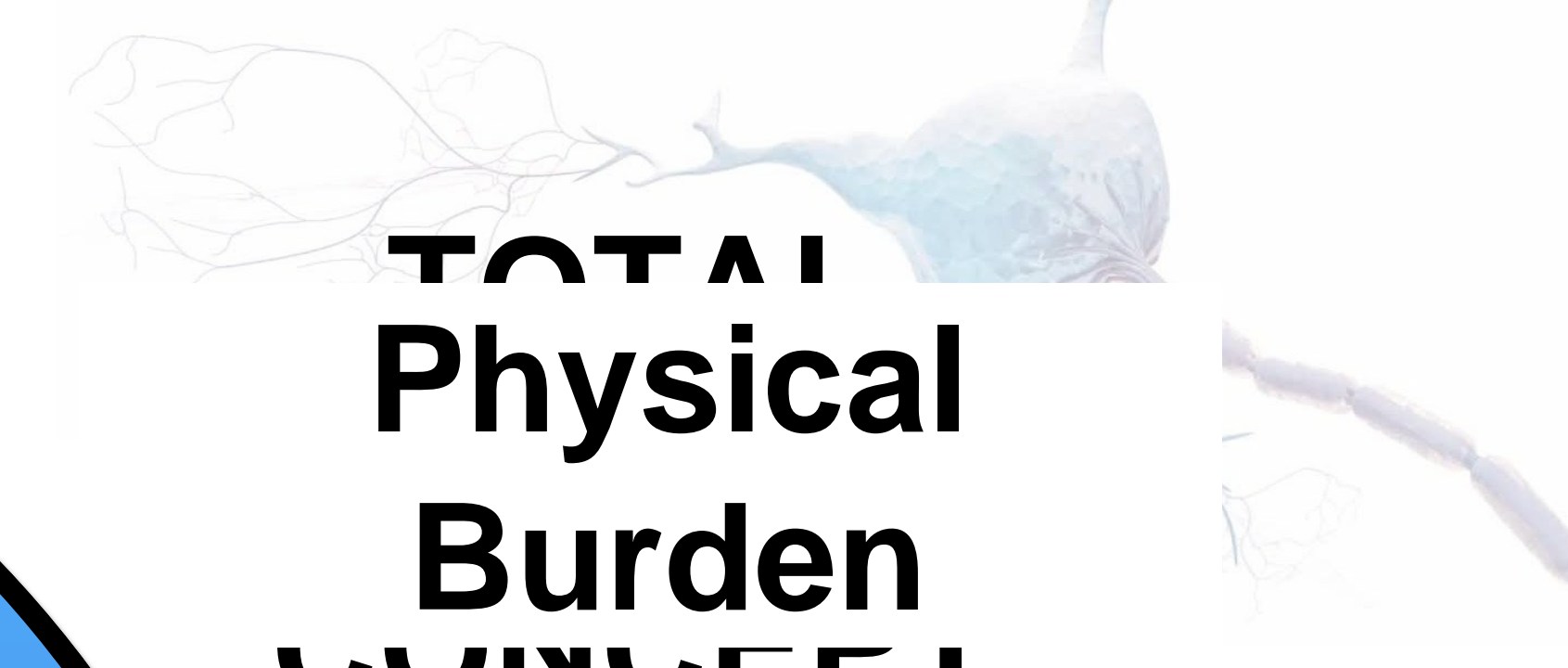
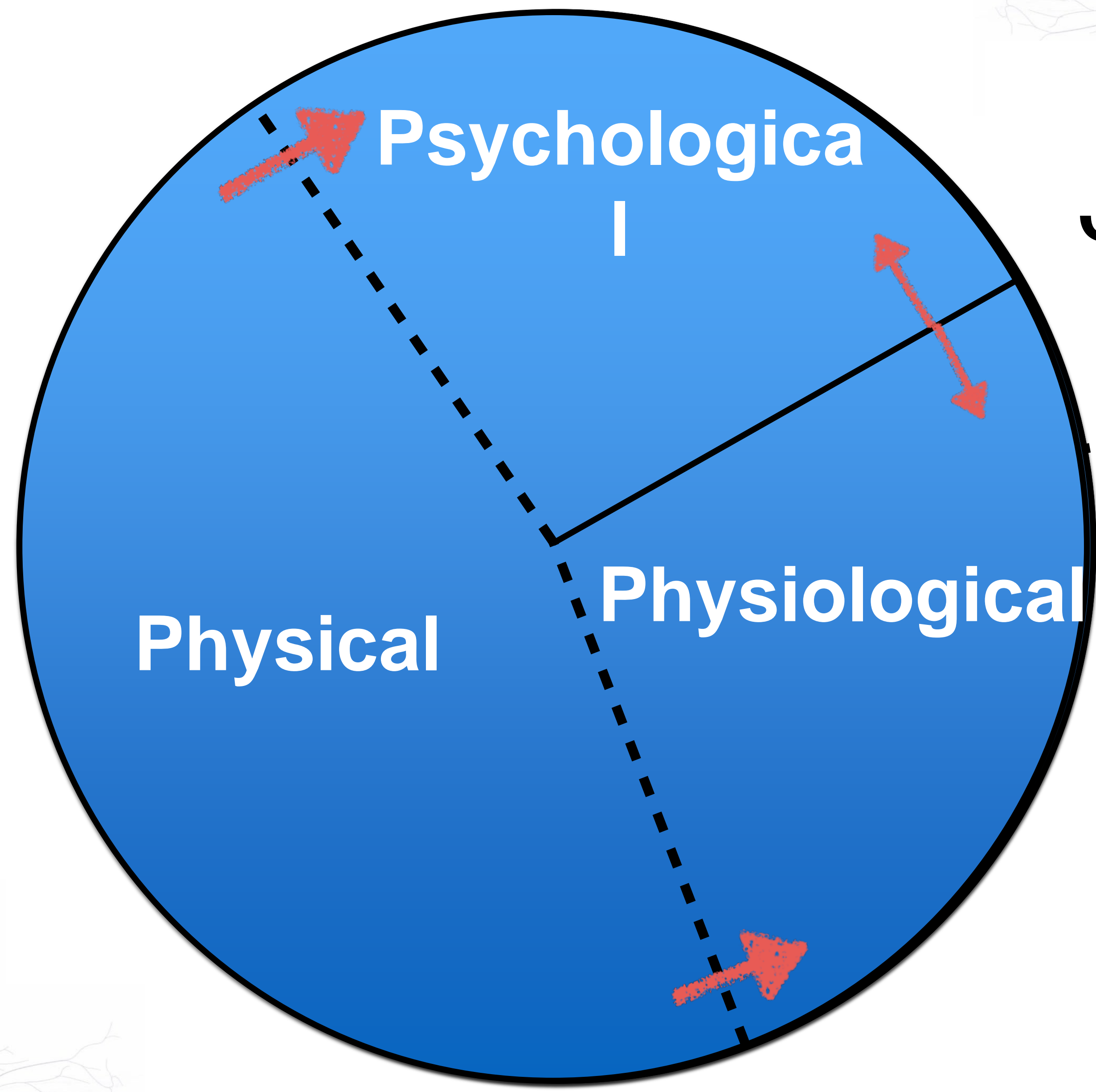
Catabolic

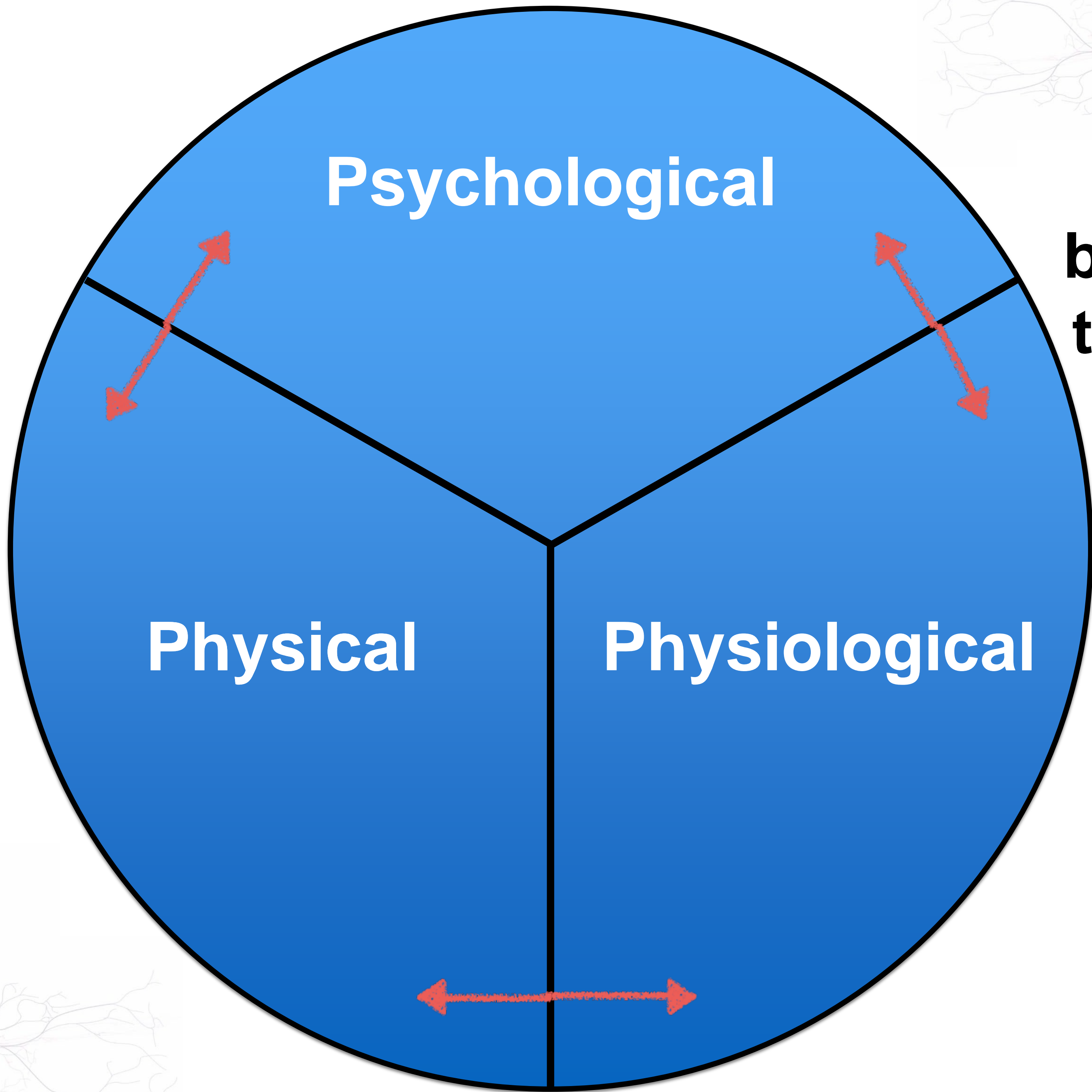
- Glycogen depletion
- Decreased net protein balance
- Increased cortisol concentrations
- Decreased insulin concentrations
- Increased metabolic rate
- Dehydration



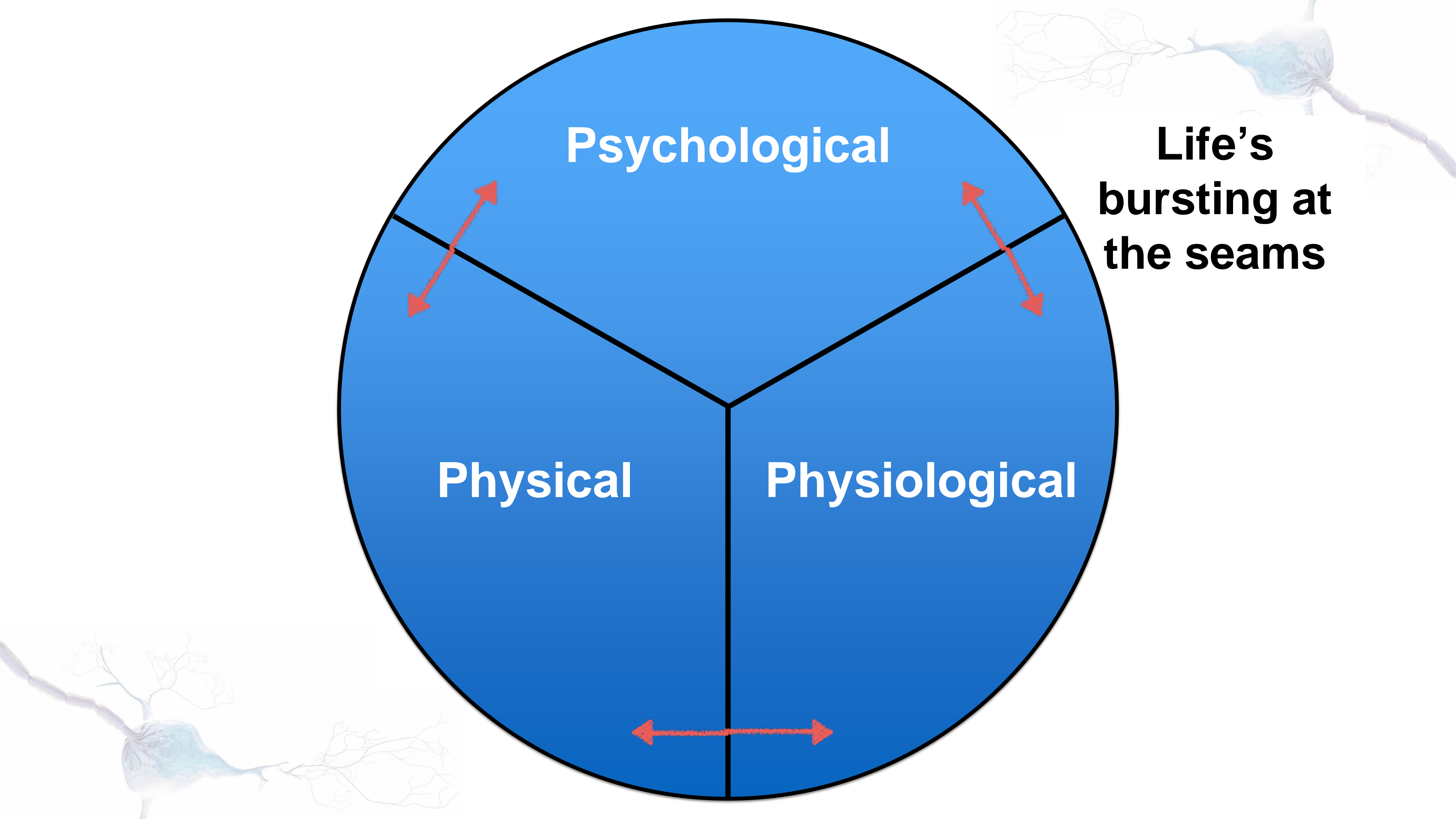
The total load concept

**TOTAL
Physical
Burden
CANCER |**





**Life's
bursting at
the seams**





Overtraining syndrome - monitoring and testing

Monitoring for Overtraining



- Resting morning HR
- Regular field or lab testing
- Monitor dietary intake (sufficient macro and micronutrient needs for training loads)
- Use of a training log – record resting HR, body weight and symptoms
- Profile of Mood States (POMS) – measure mood, tension, depression, anger, vigour, fatigue and confusion

IOC - OT monitoring tools


| Load type | Examples of measurements |
|---------------|--|
| External load | <p>Training or competition time (seconds, minutes, hours or days)³⁶</p> <p>Training or competition frequency (eg, sessions or competitions per day, week, month)³⁷</p> <p>Type of training or competition³⁸</p> <p>Time-motion analysis (eg, global positioning system analysis)³⁹</p> <p>Power output, speed, acceleration⁴⁰</p> <p>Neuromuscular function (eg, jump test, isokinetic dynamometry and plyometric push-up)⁴¹</p> <p>Movement repetition counts (eg, pitches, throws, bowls, serves and jumps)^{42 43}</p> <p>Distance (eg, kilometres run, cycled or swam)⁴⁴</p> <p>Acute:chronic load ratio⁴⁵</p> |
| Internal load | <p>Perception of effort (eg, rating of perceived exertion and RPE)⁴⁶</p> <p>Session rating of perceived effort (eg, session duration (min)×RPE)²⁸</p> <p>Psychological inventories (eg, profile of mood states (POMS),⁴⁷ recovery-stress questionnaire for athletes (REST-Q-Sport),⁴⁸ daily analysis of life demands for athletes (DALDA),⁴⁹ total recovery scale (TQR),¹⁷ life events survey for collegiate athletes (LESCA),⁵⁰ multicomponent training distress scale (MTDS),⁵¹ the hassle and uplift scale,⁵² brief COPE,⁵³ the Swedish universities scales of personality (SSP),⁵⁴ state trait anxiety inventory (STAI),⁵⁵ sport anxiety scale (SAS),⁵⁶ athletic coping skills inventory-28 (ACSI-28),⁵⁷ body consciousness scale,⁵⁸ perceived motivational climate in sport questionnaire (PMCSQ)⁵⁹ and commitment to exercise scale (CtES))⁶⁰</p> <p>Sleep (eg, sleep quality and sleep duration)⁶¹</p> <p>Biochemical/hormonal/immunological assessments^{18 26}</p> <p>Psychomotor speed⁶²</p> <p>HR⁶³</p> <p>HR to RPE ratio⁶⁴</p> <p>HR recovery (HRR)⁶⁵</p> <p>HR variability (HRV)⁶⁶</p> <p>Training impulse (TRIMP)⁶⁷</p> <p>Blood lactate concentrations⁶⁸</p> <p>Blood lactate to RPE ratio⁶⁹</p> |

Soligard et al (2016)

Lab Testing



- **Adlercreutz et al (1986)** - decrease in the plasma-free testosterone to cortisone ratio of >30% combined with a high SHBG
- **ACSM (2012)** - the resting plasma testosterone/cortisol ratio was considered as an indicator of the overtrained state, but this ratio indicates only the actual physiological strain of training
- **Hecksteden et al (2016)** - changes in urea and IGF-1 for endurance athletes and CK for HIIT and strength training



Adlercreutz et al (1986), cited in O'Brien (1988); ACSM 2012, Hecksteden et al (2016)


OTS Diagnosis



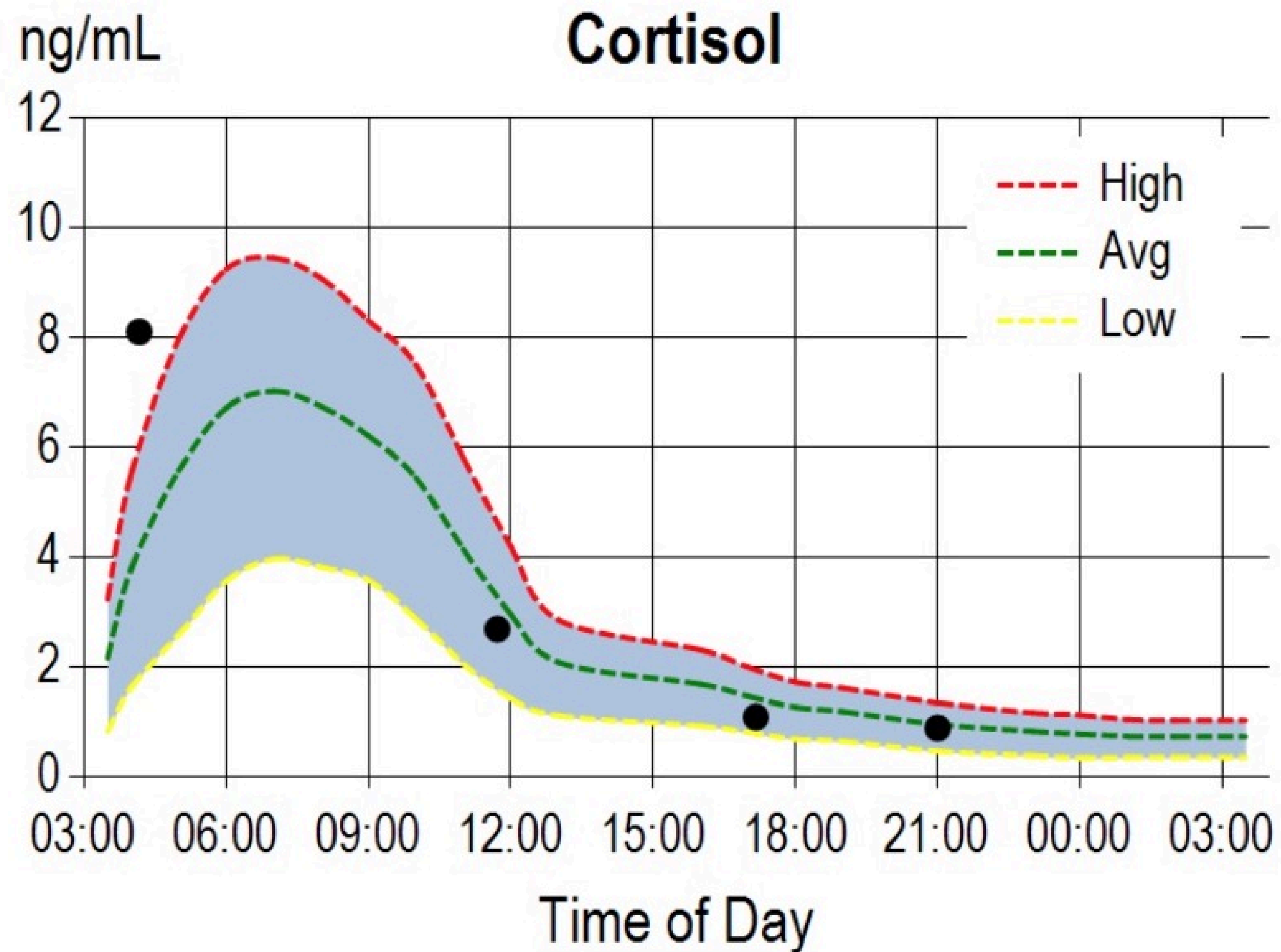
“As we have seen, the diagnosis of OTS is a complicated clinical endeavour. Therefore, much of the prevention of OTS is simply education of risk factors and ways to prevent excessive stress.”

“Because the manifestation of OTS can vary greatly in individuals, treatment must be appropriate for the specific cluster of symptoms in each person.”

“The interindividual variability of measured values and fatigue induced changes is considerable, pointing to the potential value of an individualised interpretation.”



Adrenal Stress Index



“DHEAS is very low (lower than all observed age ranges), suggesting adrenal fatigue”

Nordic Laboratories

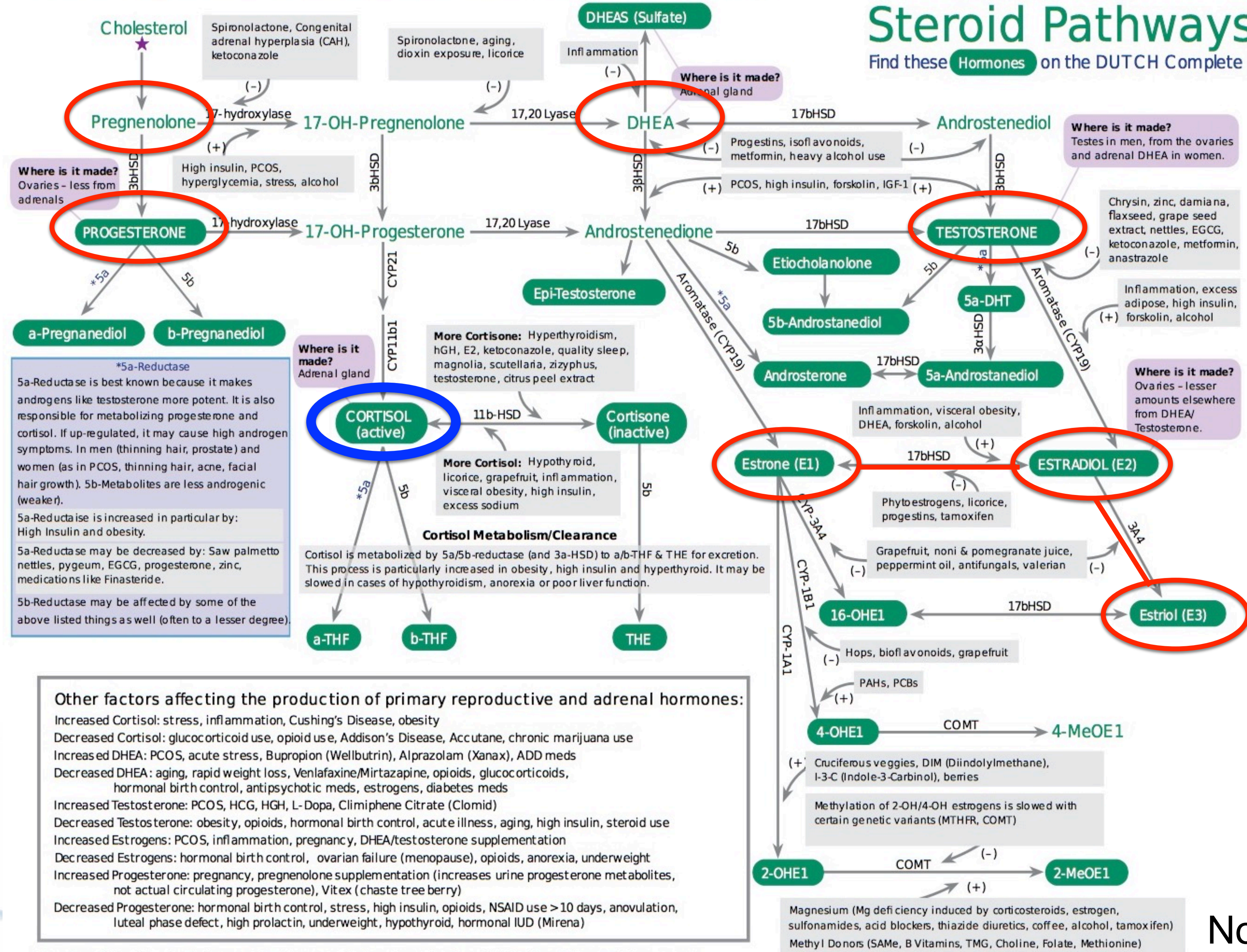
| Test Name | Result | Units | Range |
|-------------------|--------|---------|----------------------|
| DHEAS (Saliva) | 1.9 | L ng/mL | 2-23 (Age Dependent) |
| Cortisol (Saliva) | 8.1 | ng/mL | 3.7-9.5 (morning) |
| Cortisol (Saliva) | 2.7 | ng/mL | 1.2-3.0 (noon) |
| Cortisol (Saliva) | 1.1 | ng/mL | 0.6-1.9 (evening) |
| Cortisol (Saliva) | 0.9 | ng/mL | 0.4-1.0 (night) |

Primary hormones (in CAPS) are made by organs by taking up cholesterol ★ and converting it locally to, for example, progesterone. Much less is made from circulating precursors like pregnenolone. For example, taking DHEA can create testosterone and estrogen, but far less than is made by the testes or ovaries, respectively.

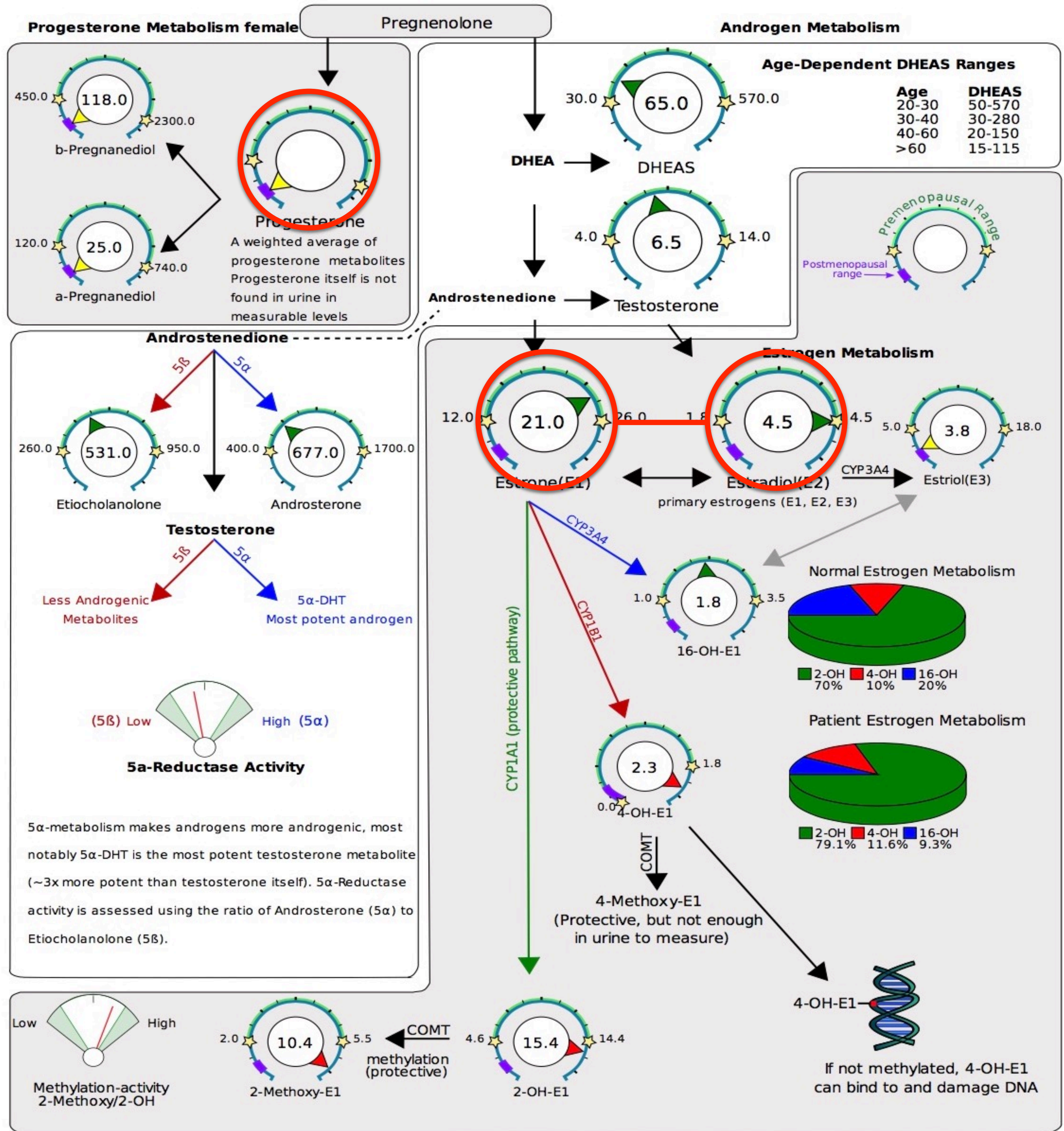


Steroid Pathways

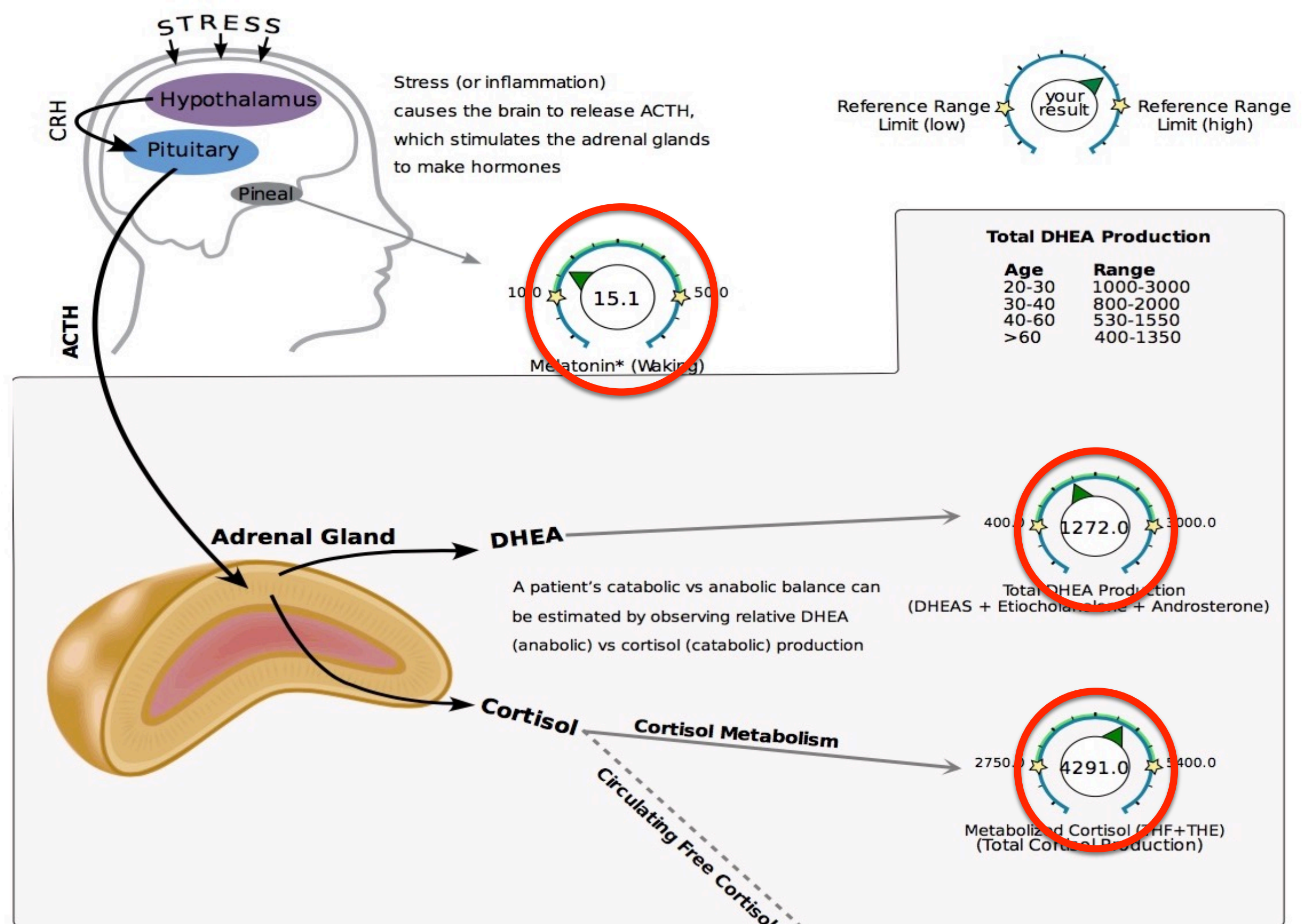
Find these **Hormones** on the DUTCH Complete



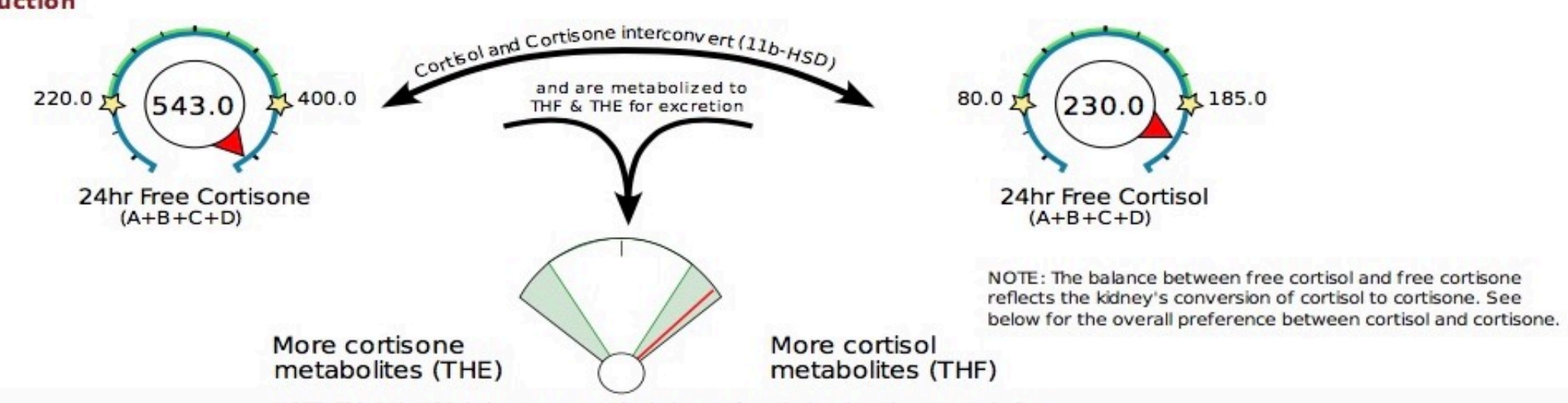
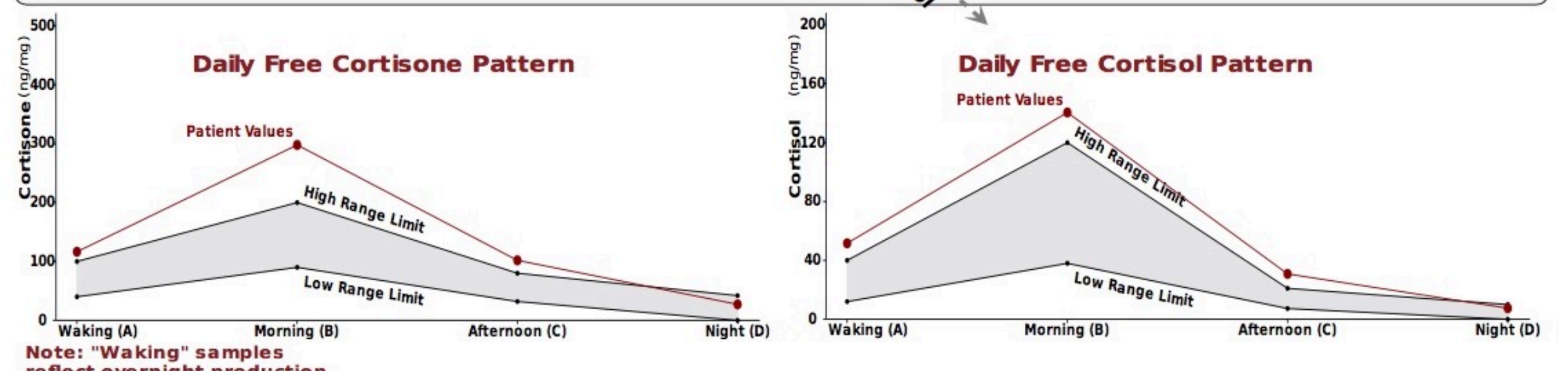
Information on this chart is for educational purposes only and is not a suggestion for supplementation with any of the listed items. References available upon request.



Low Progesterone:
 menstrual irregularities,
 polycystic ovarian syndrome,
 menstrual cramping, infertility, acne,
 brittle nails, dry cracked skin,
 depression, anxiety, mood swings,
 low libido, fatigue, foggy thinking,
 slow metabolism, central weight gain,
 sugar cravings, migraines, headaches,
 joint pain and allergy symptoms



**Think:
Catabolic**



Heart rate variability (HRV)

Heart Rate Variability is strongly related to parasympathetic nervous activation (Goldberger 2001)

Iellamo et al demonstrated a decrease in HRV and increase in RHR during peak training in Junior national rowers

ATHLETE REPORTS GROUP ANALYSIS ATHLETE ANALYSIS

Group:

Select ...

Coach:

Select ...

Athlete:

Athlete 1

CREATE NEW ATHLETE

Testing Date:

Thu Aug 28 2008

2:07 AM

COLLECT DATA

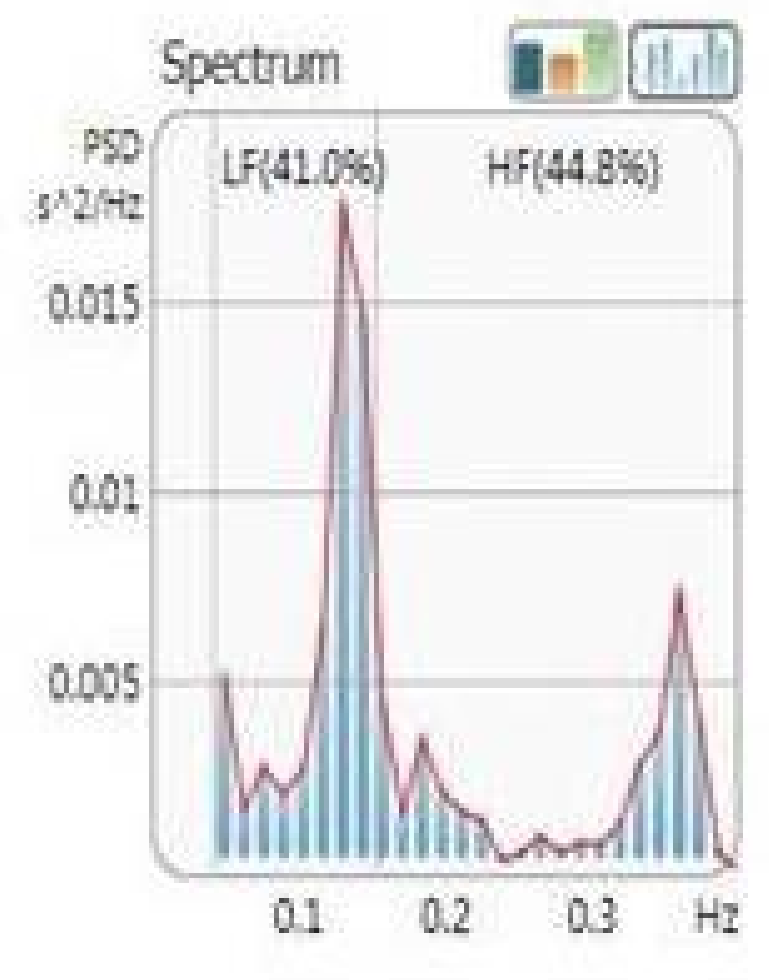
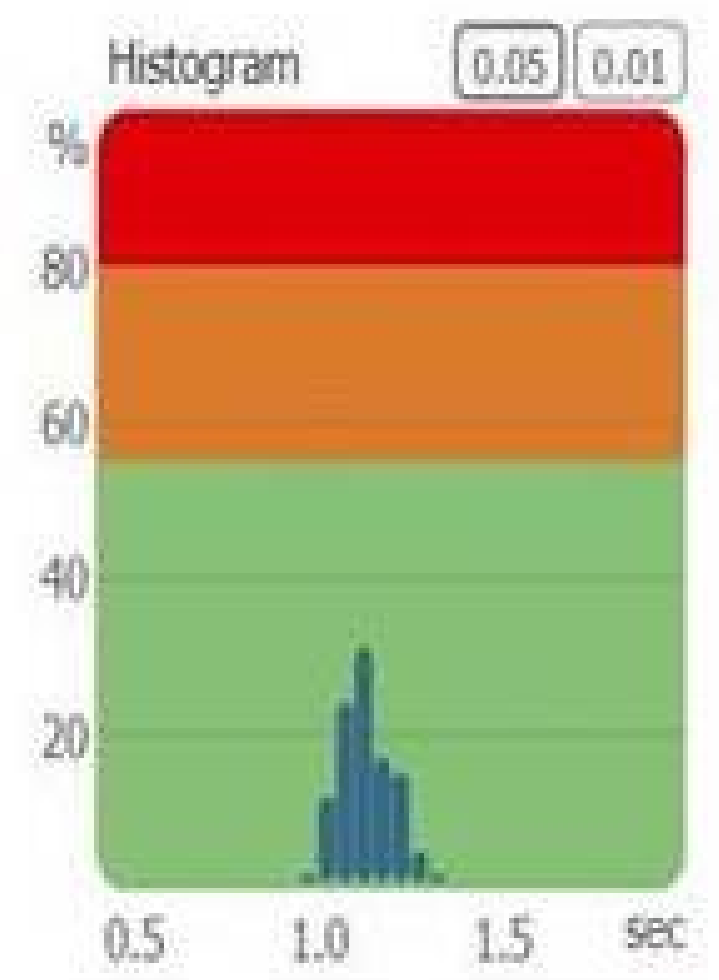
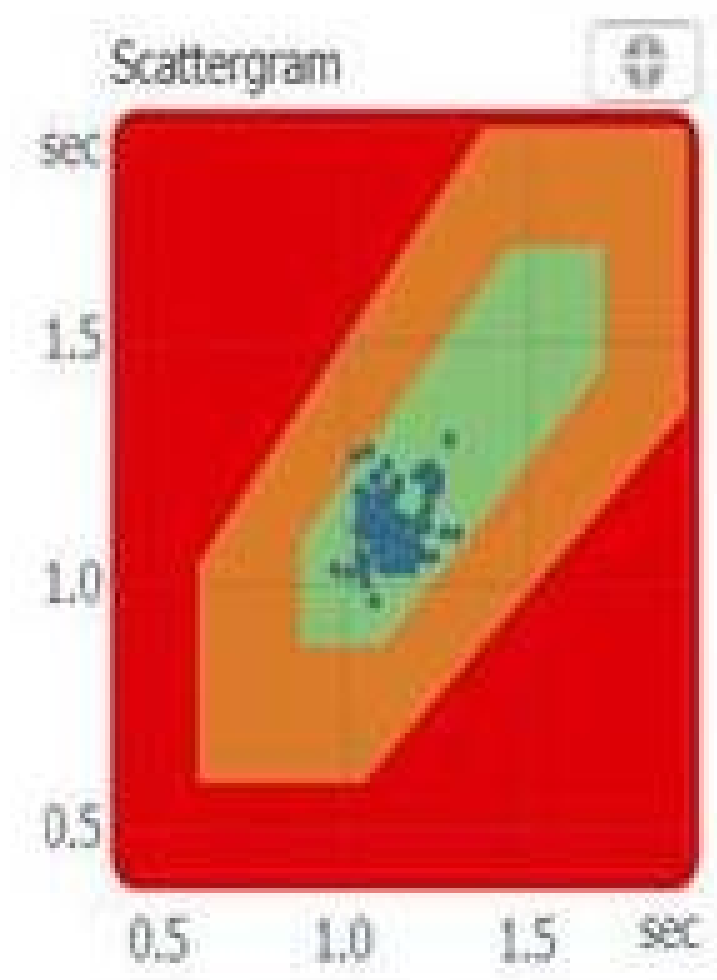
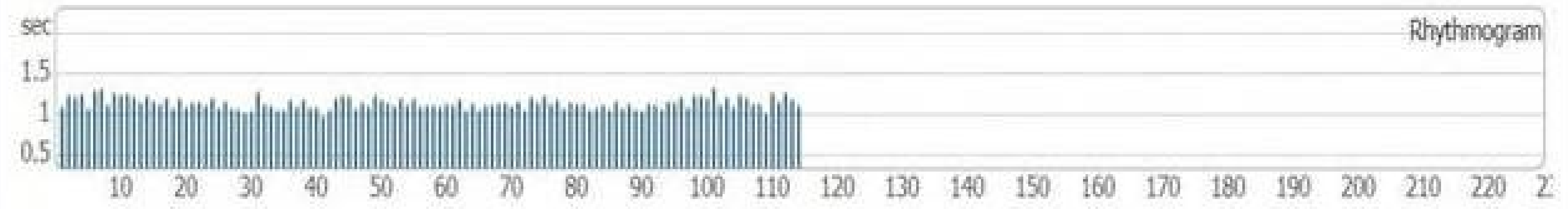
SEND & RECEIVE



Athlete Readiness Training Zones EnMet HRV1 HRV2 DiffECG ECG Omega Jump J10 J60 Sensorimotor PWC

HRV

1 Athlete (17) Football (soccer) Coach1
Thursday, August 28, 2008 2:07:53 AM



SNS +ve PNS +ve

- where we want to be on a regular basis

SNS -ve PNS +ve

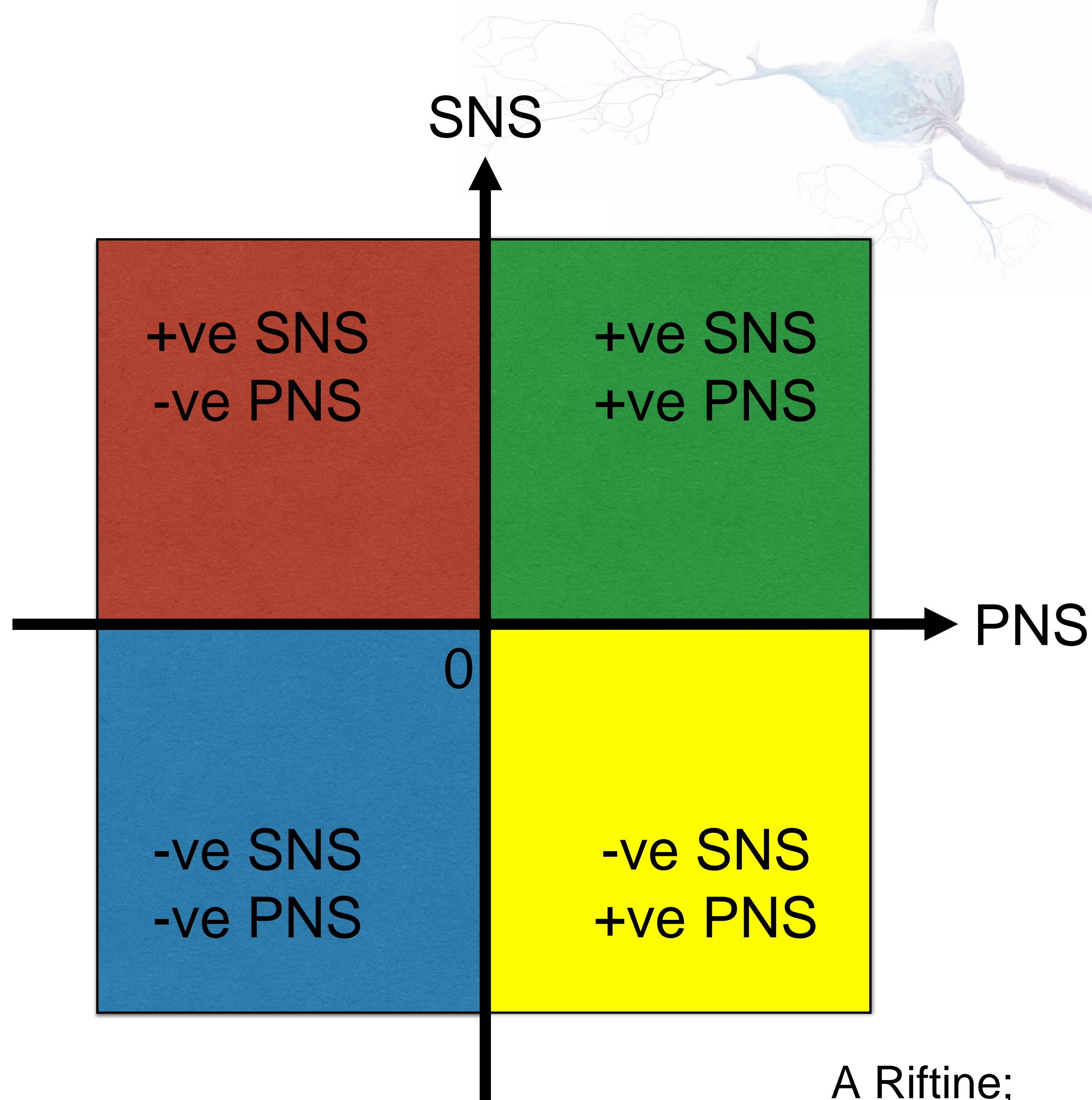
- active healing

SNS +ve PNS -ve

- the stress of western societies and diseases that go with that

SNS -ve PNS -ve

- the lack of the will to live, chronic stable illness



Chronic fatigue



overtraining syndrome

overreaching

adrenal fatigue

fibromyalgia

overtraining

etc....

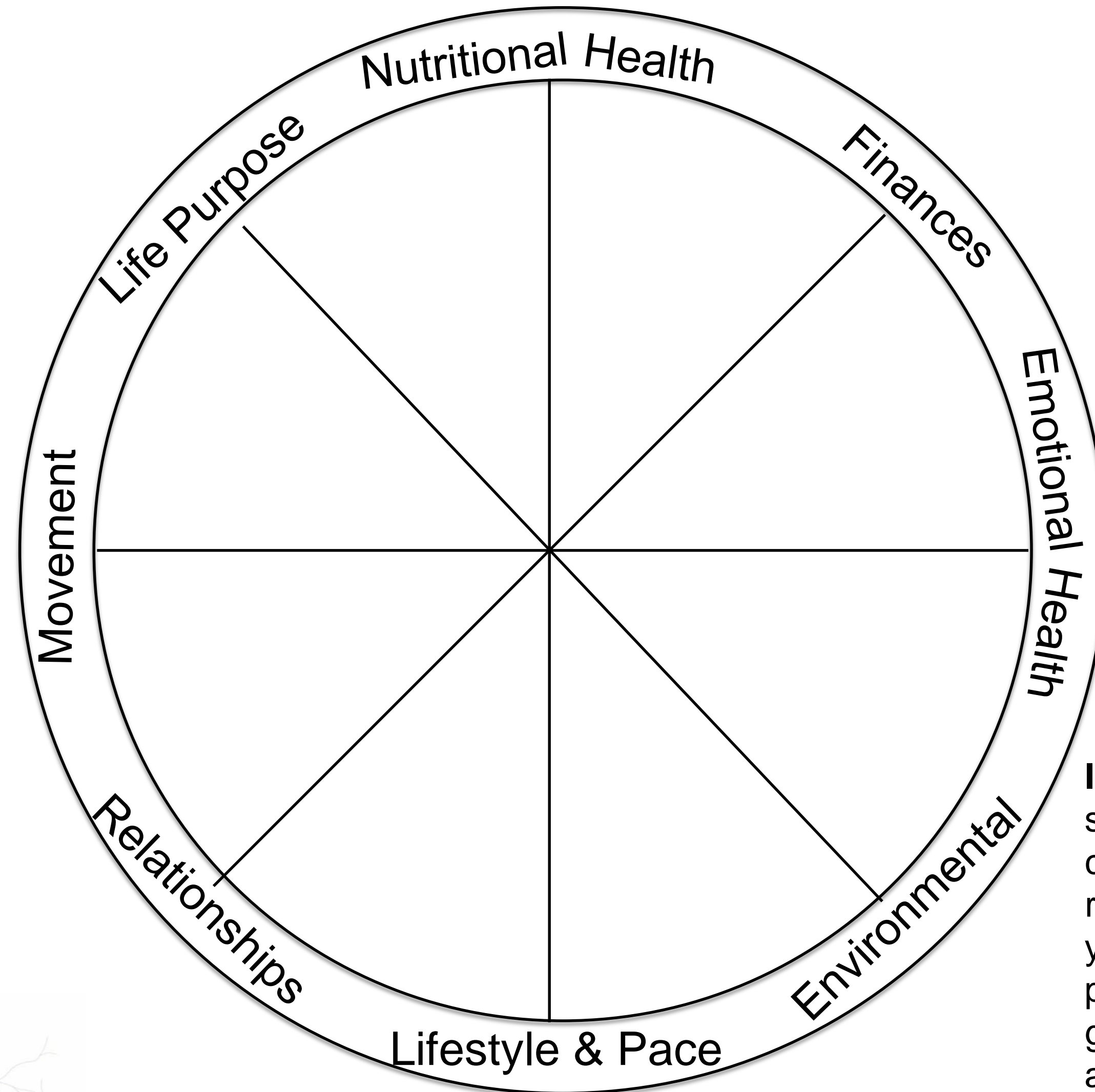
chronic fatigue

Where does one stop and the other begin?



8-elements wheel

A tool for chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia and related disorders



Instructions: for each segment, the middle of the circle is 0 and the outer ring represents 10. Score yourself for how well this part of your life is going. Use gut instinct to come up with a figure from 0 to 10. Continue until you've scored all segments of the circle.

Training Wellbeing Quiz

Anderson (2007)

- Question #1
I slept really well last night.
- Question #2
I am looking forward to today's workout.
- Question #3
I am optimistic about my future performance(s).
- Question #4
I feel vigorous and energetic.
- Question #5
My appetite is great.
- Question #6
I have very little muscle soreness.

Each question is scored:

- Strongly Disagree - 1
- Disagree - 2
- Neutral - 3
- Agree - 4
- Strongly Agree - 5

Subjective measures respond to training-induced changes in athlete well-being, except during acute increases in training load and with a chronic training load (Saw et al 2015).



Metrics

Weight: lbs

Sleep Quality: ▾

Sleep Hours: hrs

Overall Feeling: ▾

Water Percent: %

Muscle Mass: lbs

Steps:

Note:

Delete

Cancel

OK

ACSM exclusion list

Is the athlete experiencing the following:

- Unexplainable underperformance
- Persistent fatigue
- Increased sense of effort in training
- Sleep disorders

...

Exclusion criteria

Are there confounding diseases?

- Anemia
- Epstein–Barr virus
- Other infectious diseases
- Muscle damage (high CK)
- Lyme disease
- Endocrinological diseases (diabetes, thyroid, adrenal gland, ...)
- Major disorders of eating behavior
- Biological abnormalities (increased erythrocyte sedimentation rate, C-reactive protein, creatinine, or liver enzymes, decreased ferritin, ...)
- Injury (musculoskeletal system)
- Cardiological symptoms
- Adult-onset asthma
- Allergies

...

Are there training errors?

- Training volume increased (>5%) ($\text{h}\cdot\text{wk}^{-1}$, $\text{km}\cdot\text{wk}^{-1}$)
- Training intensity increased significantly
- Training monotony present
- High number of competitions
- In endurance athletes : decreased performance at "anaerobic" threshold
- Exposure to environmental stressors (altitude, heat, cold, ...)

...

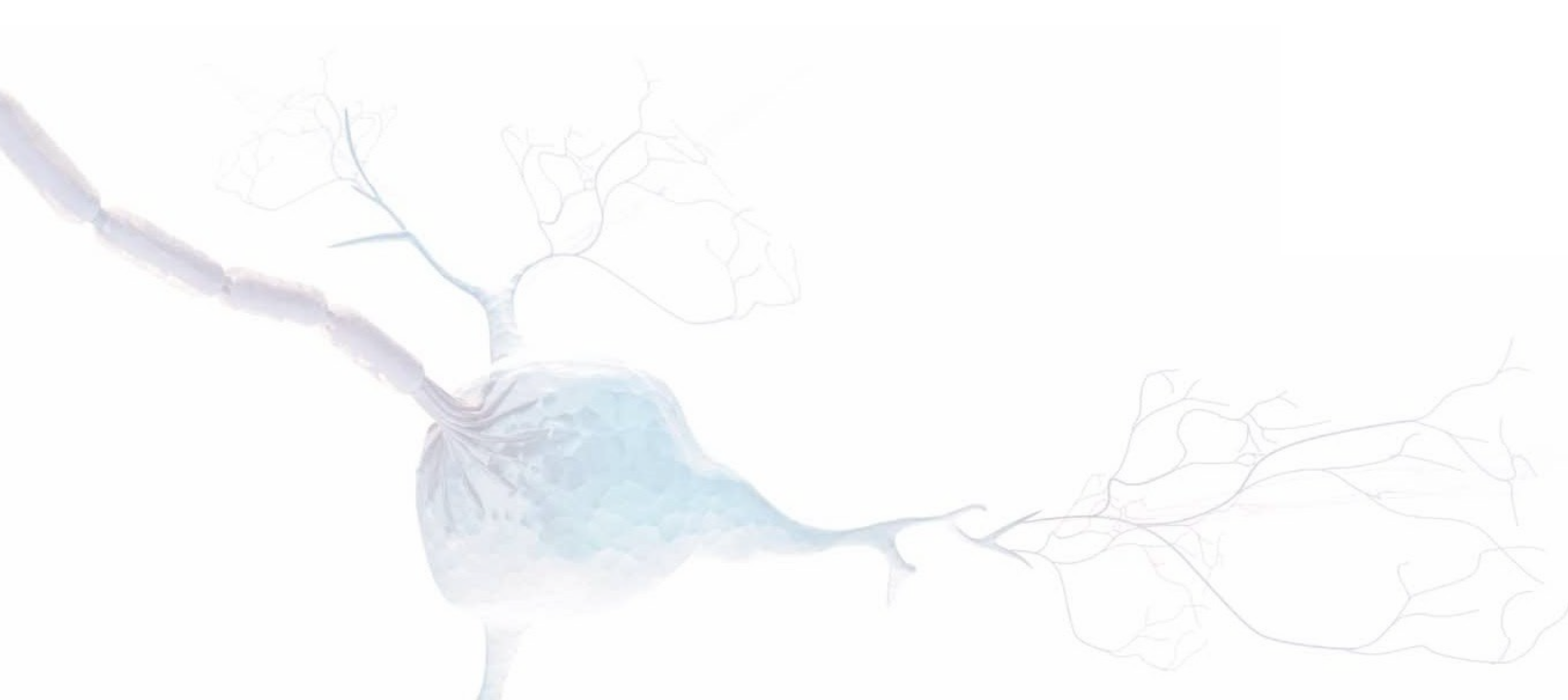
Other confounding factors:

- Psychological signs and symptoms (disturbed POMS, RESTQ-Sport, RPE, ...)
- Social factors (family, relationships, financial, work, coach, team, ...)
- Recent or multiple time zone travel

...

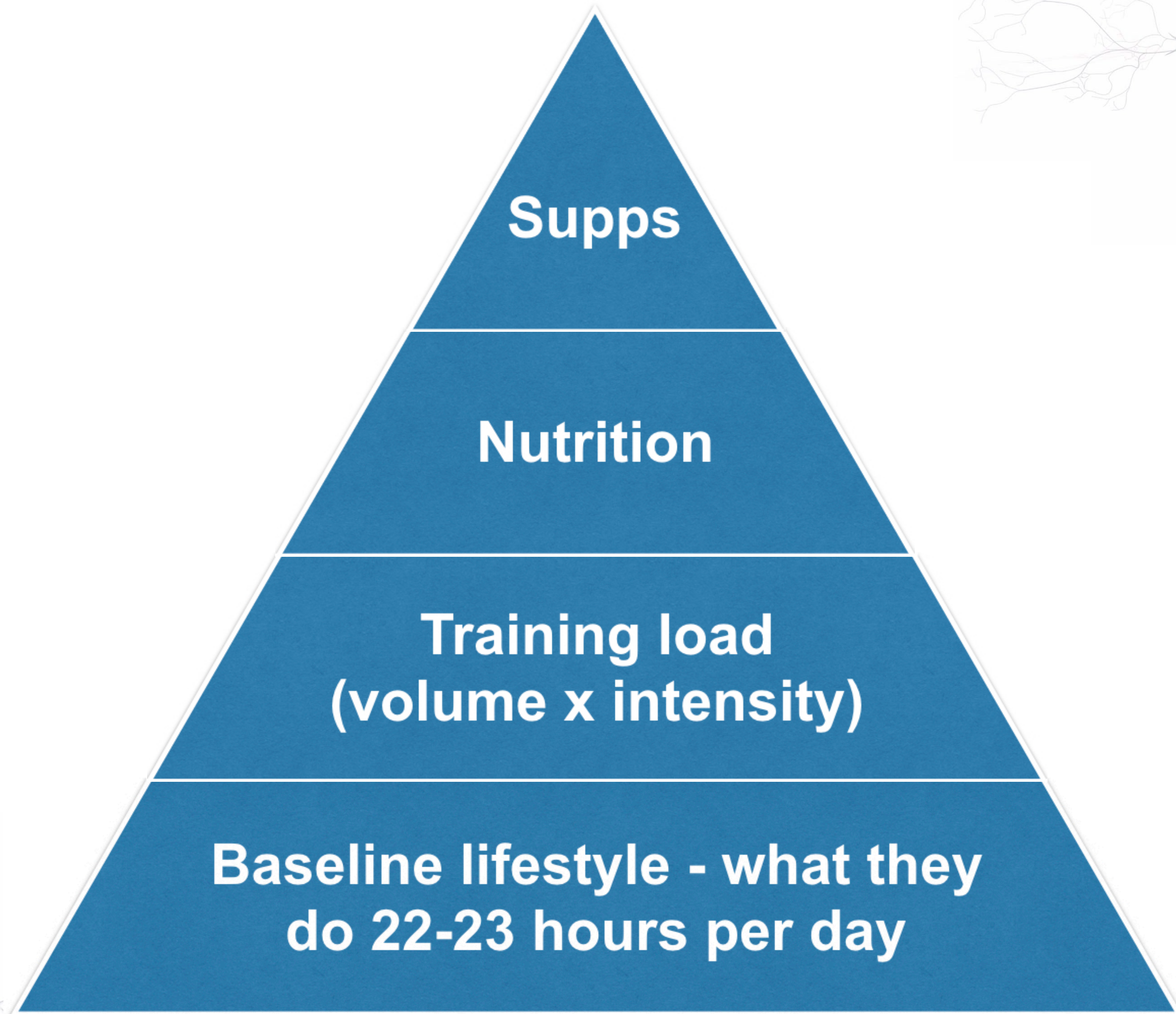
Exercise test

- Are there baseline values to compare with? (performance, heart rate, hormonal, lactate, ...)
- Maximal exercise test performance
- Submaximal or sport-specific test performance
- Multiple performance tests





Recuperation strategies



ACTIVE RESTORATION LIST

PHYSICAL

All types of Massage, Physiotherapy, Osteopathic, Acupuncture, TCM, physical contact, touch, flexibility, power napping, active recovery, hot/cold, breathing techniques, saunas

NUTRITIONAL

Macro, micro, herbal, ergogenic aids, fluids

PSYCHONEUROIMMUNOLOGY (PNI)

Personal time, positive self talk, self help improvement, meditation, visualisation, psychological life coaching, hypnotherapy, beliefs, positive values and goals, laughter, become an optimist, become aware of self talk, self-actualization, quiet mind

PSYCHO SOCIAL

Friends, socialising in like minded groups, children, laughter, music , religion, tears, social isolation, thoughts feelings, love

NATURAL WORLD/ PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

Being with nature, pets, outdoors, sunshine, minimising chemical toxic exposure, EMF, Radiation

Sleep



Sleeping less than six hours per day for a period of four days, had the following effects on performance:

- Impaired cognitive function and mood
- Disturbed glucose metabolism
- Negative consequences for appetite regulation
- Impacted negatively on immune function

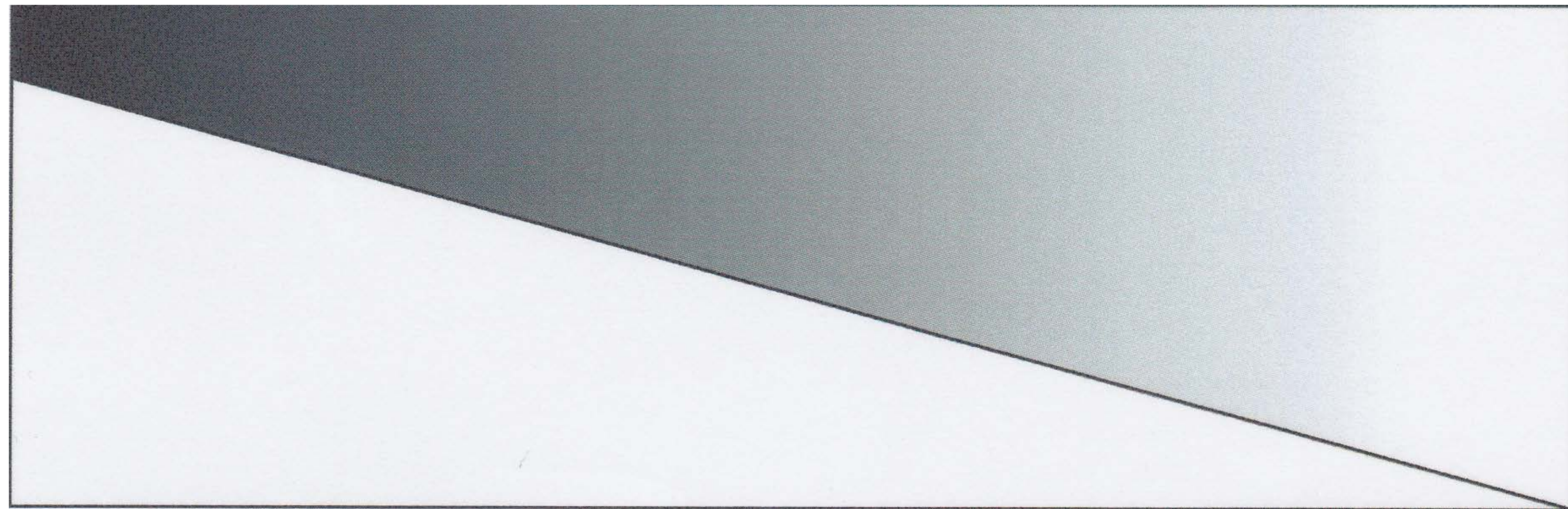
Training - Establish Balance

- Anabolic - Catabolic Balance
- Sympathetic – Parasympathetic Balance
- Ying – Yang Balance

Yin/Parasympathetic Training



More Mind →



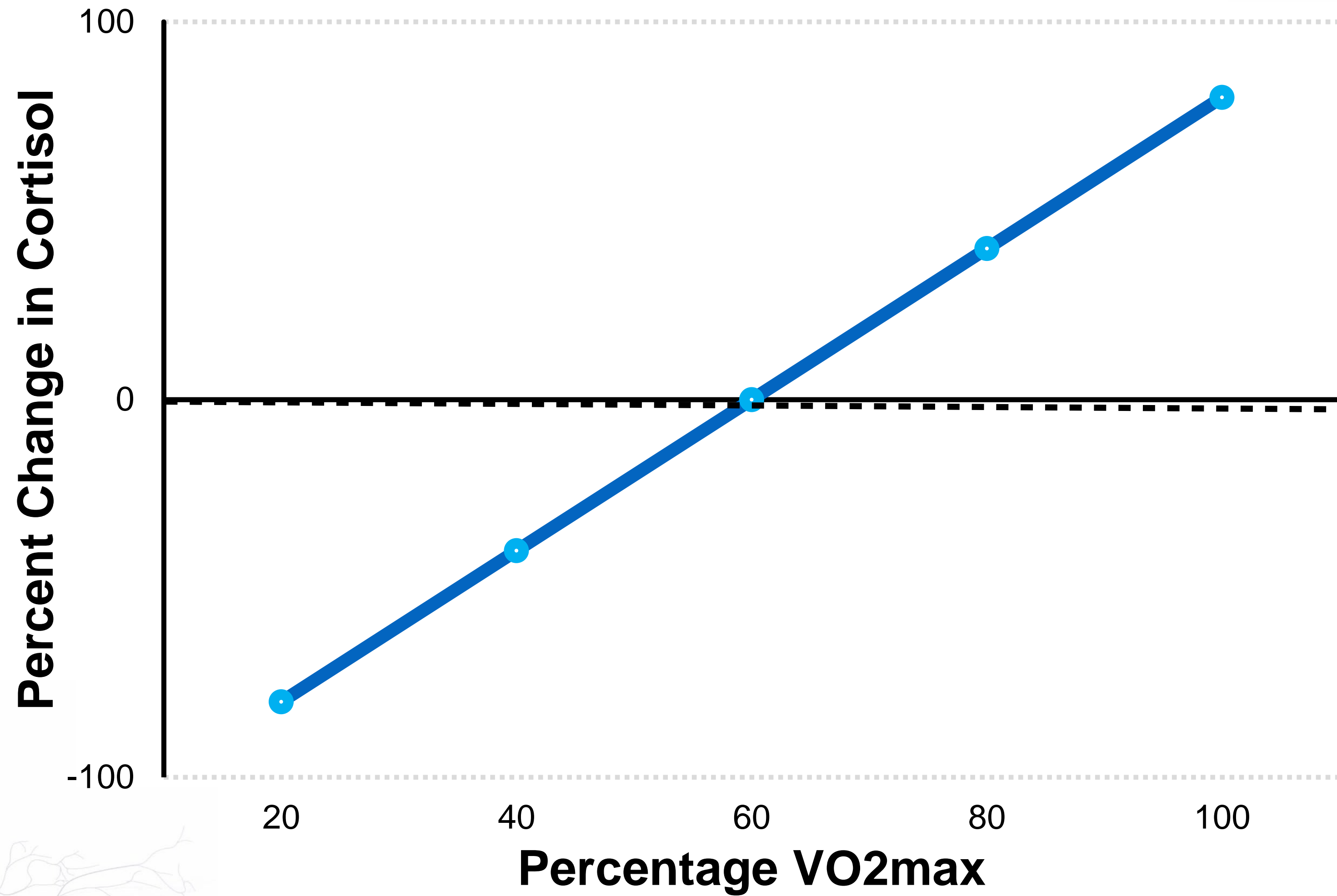
YANG

← More Body

YIN



How do you train below the 0% line?



Myeong Soo Lee et al, *Am. J. Chin. Med.* **30**, 463 (2002). DOI: 10.1142/S0192415X02000491

Effects of Qi-Training on Heart Rate Variability

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This study investigates changes in autonomic nervous function through Qi-training. The power spectrum of heart rate variability (HRV) was examined in 20 sedentary healthy subjects and 20 Qi-trainees. It was found that Qi-training in healthy young subjects during controlled respiration increases the high frequency (HF) power and decreases the low frequency / high frequency (LF/HF) power ratio of HRV. These results support the hypothesis that Qi-training increases cardiac parasympathetic tone. In addition, Qi-trainees were found to have higher parasympathetic heart modulation compared with their age-matched, sedentary counterparts. This augmented HRV in Qi-trainees provides further support for long-term Qi-training as a possible non-pharmacological cardio-protective maneuver. In conclusion, Qi-training may stabilize the autonomic nervous system by modulating the parasympathetic nervous system.

These results support the hypothesis that Qi-training increases cardiac parasympathetic tone. In addition, Qi-trainees were found to have higher parasympathetic heart modulation compared with their age-matched, sedentary counterparts.

Food and Supplements




Nervous System – top down

- Neuro-transmitter balancing

Endocrine – bottom up

- Adrenal
- Thyroid
- Gonadal

Mitochondria - energy

- Krebs Cycle & bioenergetic pathways
 - Antioxidant and detoxification support
- 

Base nutrition



Focus on

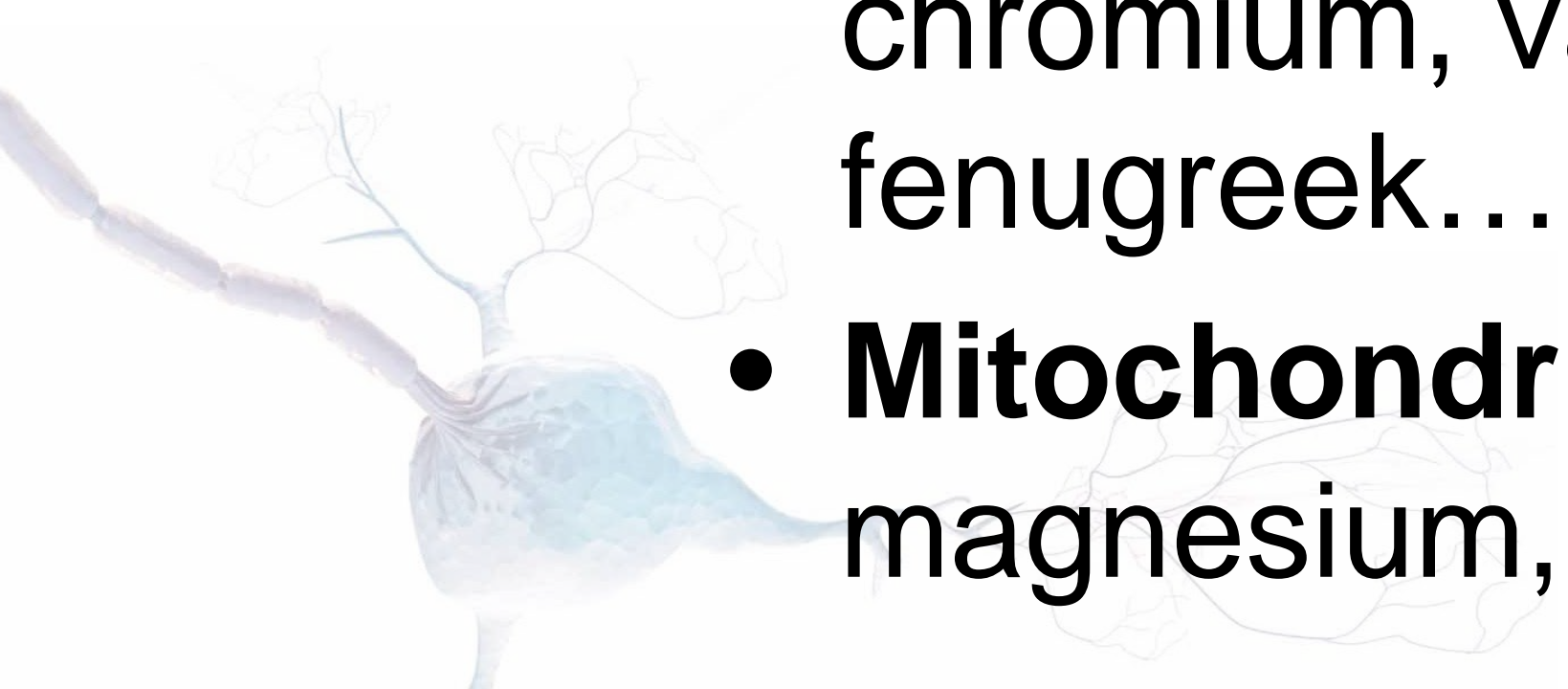
- **Proteins** – meat, poultry, fish, eggs, dairy, legumes, nuts, seeds, wholegrains
- **Carbs** – wholegrains, vegetables & fruit. Choose mostly low Glycaemic Index foods
- **Fats** – Monounsaturated (olive oil, avocado), Polyunsaturated (nuts, seeds, fish) and moderate Saturated (animal & dairy products)
- **Vegetables** – mixed colours & textures: raw or lightly cooked
- **Fruits** – in moderation
- **Salt** – Sea, Celtic or Himalayan in moderation

Avoid/limit

- Sugar
- Refined grains
- Chocolate
- Hydrogenated Oils
- Processed Oils
- Foods that you are allergic or sensitive to
- Alcohol
- Caffeine
- Soft Drinks
- Eating against your genotype

Nutrients & Supplements

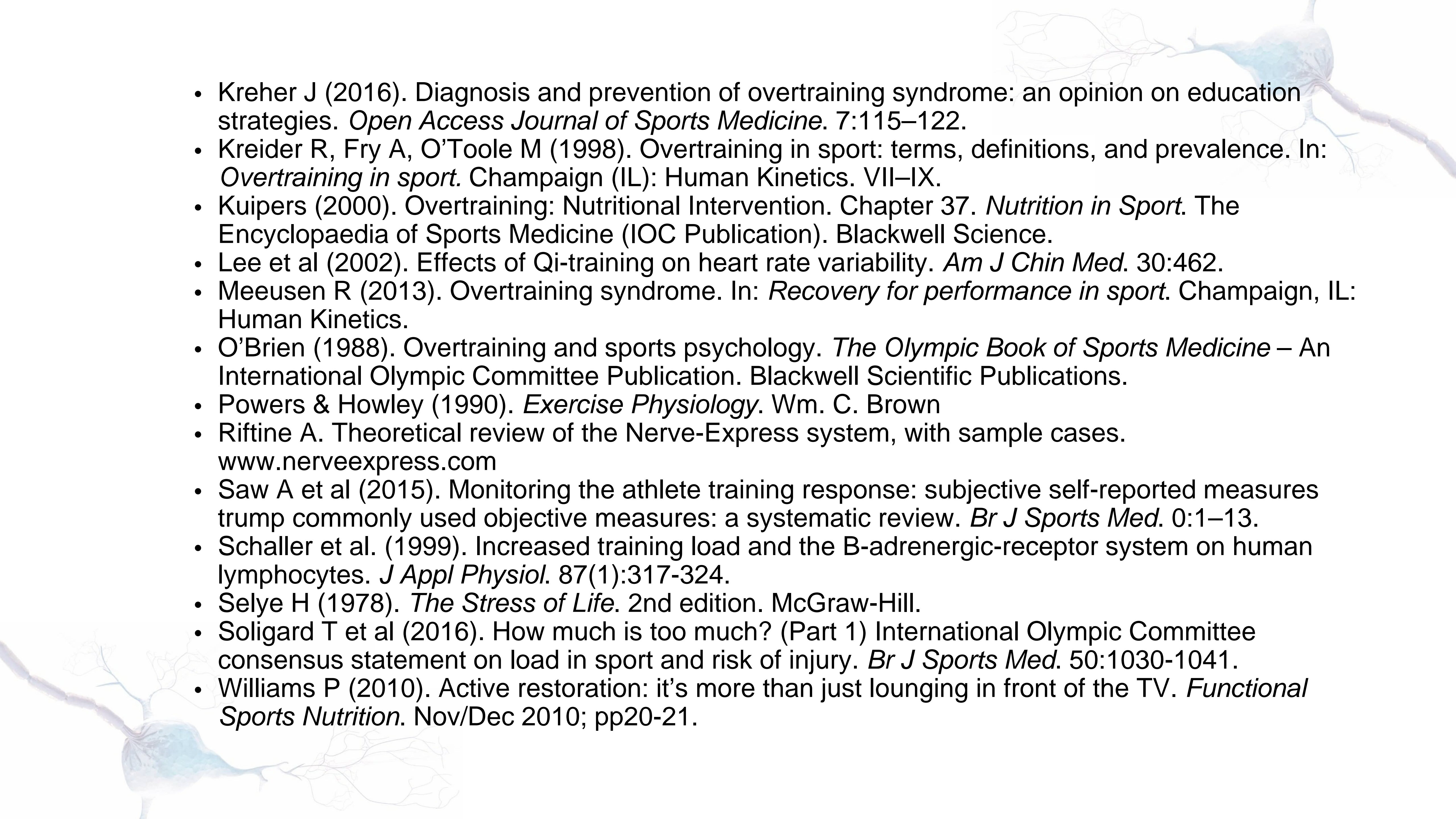


- **Adrenal support** - adaptogens, Vits B5, B6, B12 & C, zinc, magnesium, l-tyrosine, phenylalanine, cordyceps mushroom, liquorice, selenium, glandulars....
 - **Thyroid support** - adaptogens, iodine, zinc, selenium, rosemary, glandulars, desiccated thyroid....
 - **Calming HPA axis** - phosphatidyl serine, l-threonine, l-tyrosine, magnesium, calcium, inositol, GABA, ginger....
 - **Blood sugar balance** - adaptogens, B-vitamins, chromium, vanadium, cinnamon, alpha lipoid acid, fenugreek....
 - **Mitochondria** - B-vitamins, alpha lipoid acid, magnesium, manganese, l-cysteine, CoQ10....
- 

References

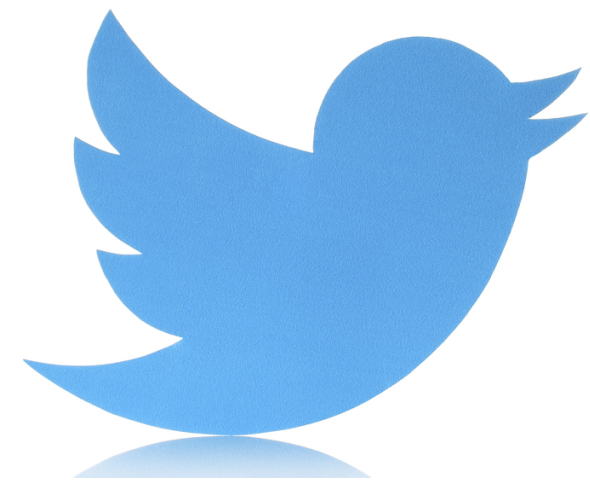


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Any Questions?



We have already received quite a number of questions and we will now try and answer as many as possible in the time remaining.

Any that remain unanswered will be forwarded to Ian and he'll try and email you a reply in due course.

Join Us Next Time



This was the second webinar of a 4 part series by Ian Craig

Join us for the 3rd part on Wednesday 22nd March 2017 for the next webinar:

“DIY sports drinks and gels that nourish, not deplete”

You can find details on the Human Kinetics website at:

www.humankinetics.com/webinars

Thank you for joining us



Thank you to everyone for joining us today and thanks also to Ian for such an interesting presentation.

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Thank you again for your participation, enjoy the rest of your day.