



MICROBIOME  
Research Hub



# Dietary polyphenols in the prevention of cardiovascular diseases: facts, fiction and prospective mechanisms of action

Daniele Del Rio

*The Laboratory of Phytochemicals in Physiology  
&  
The Microbiome Research Hub*

*University of Parma, Italy*

*The Need for Nutrition Education/Innovation Programme (NNEdPro)*



WOLFSON COLLEGE  
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# Thanks to....



European Food Safety Authority



FONDAZIONI IN RETE  
PER LA RICERCA  
AGROALIMENTARE

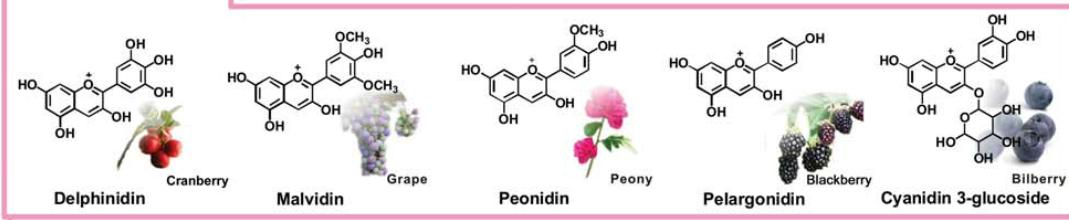
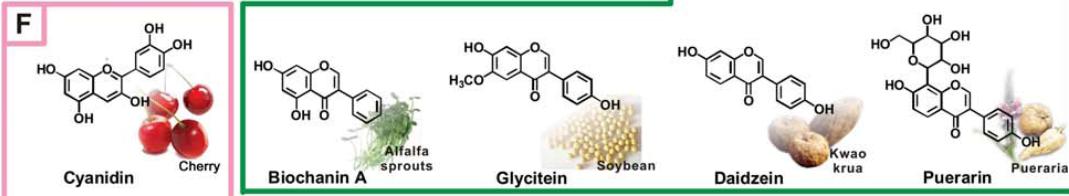
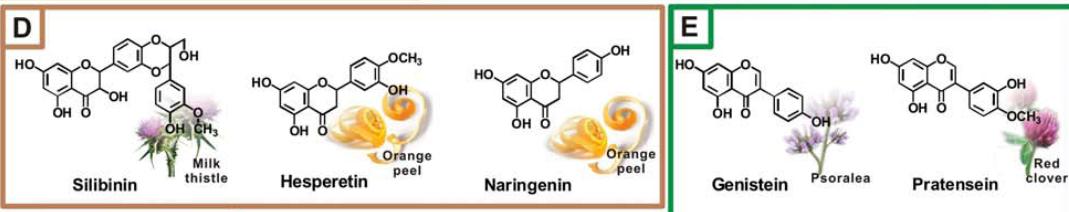
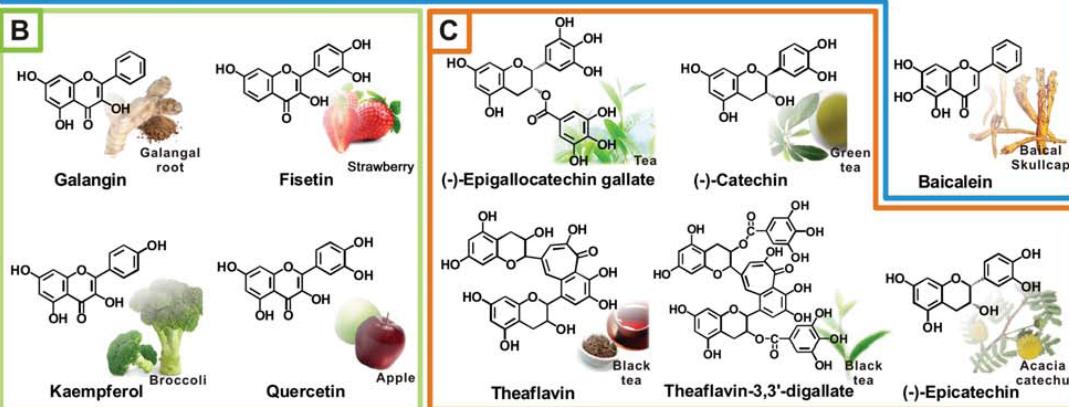
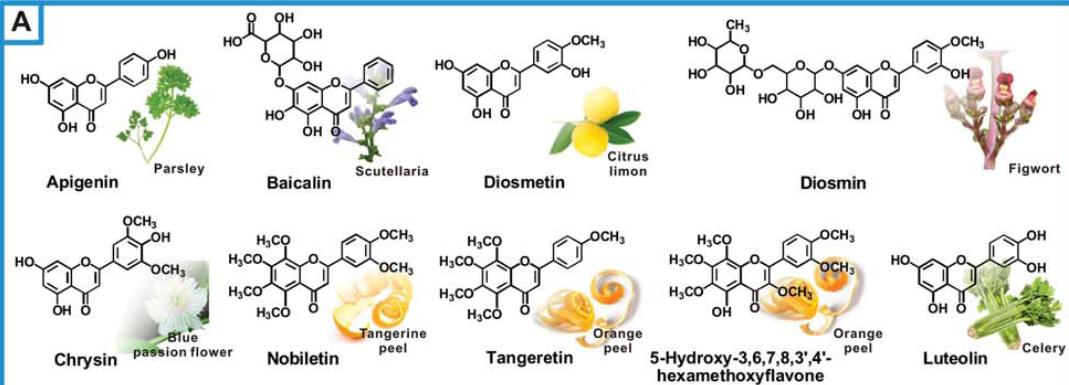
**FERRERO**

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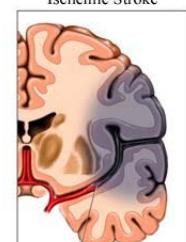
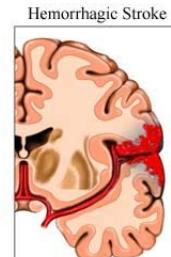
*Juice*  
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# They prevent!!?



Hemorrhage/blood leaks into brain tissue

Clot stops blood supply to an area of the brain

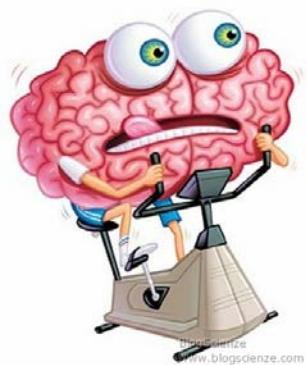
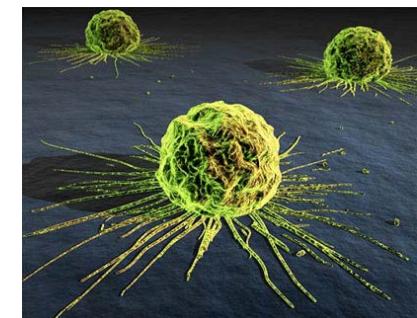
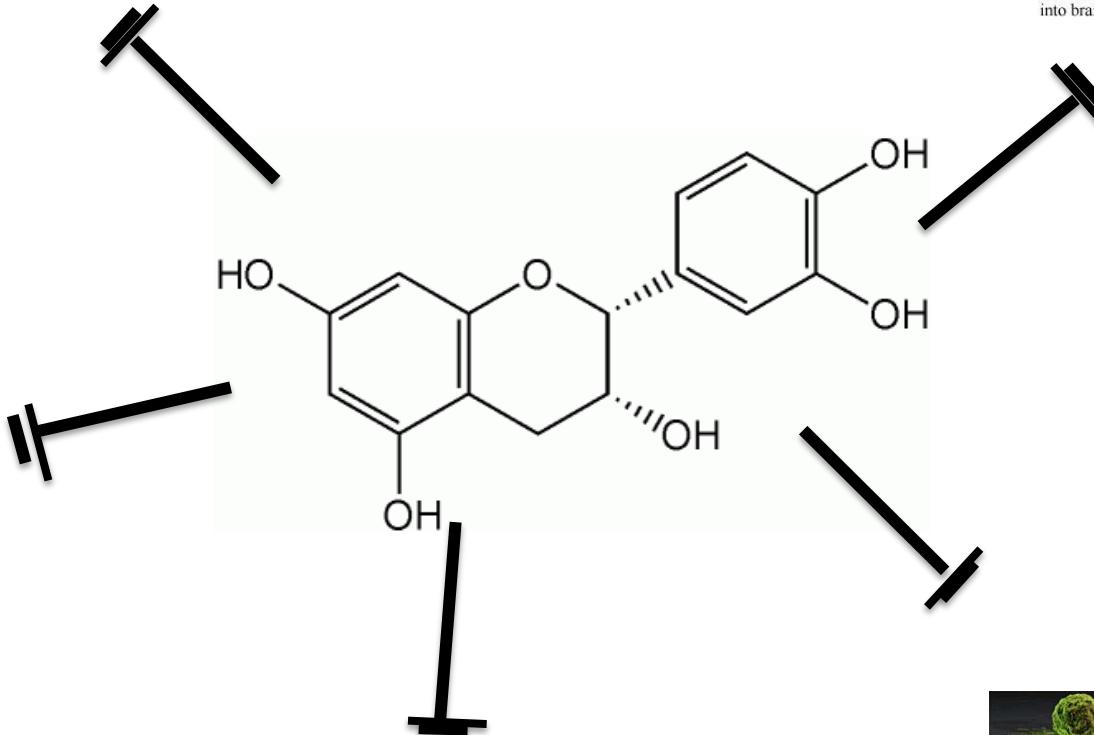


Illustration  
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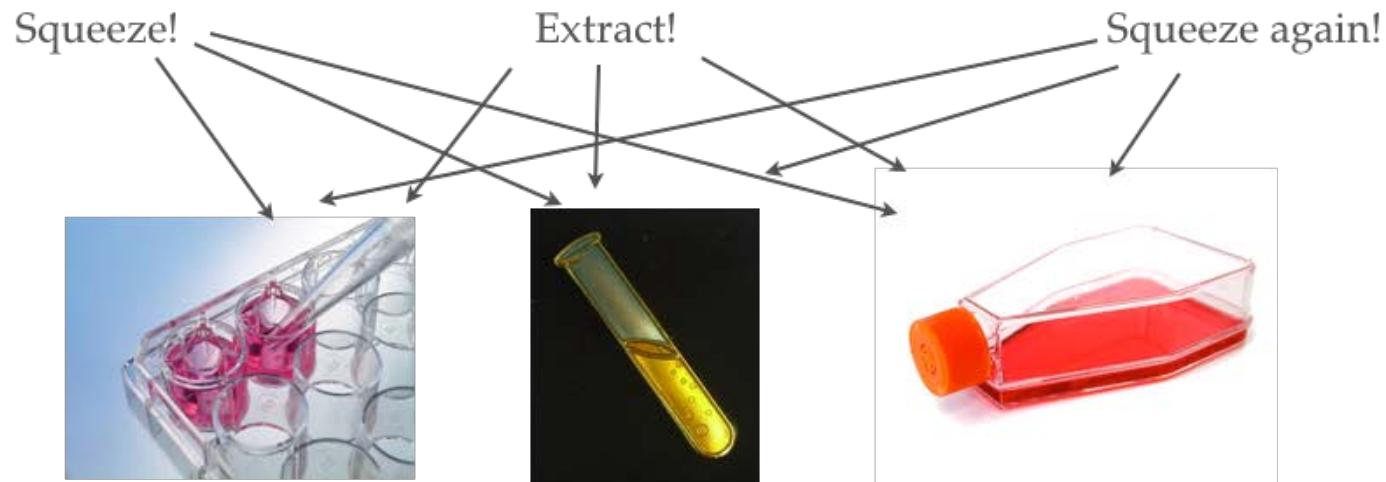
**But the best comes from Japan!**



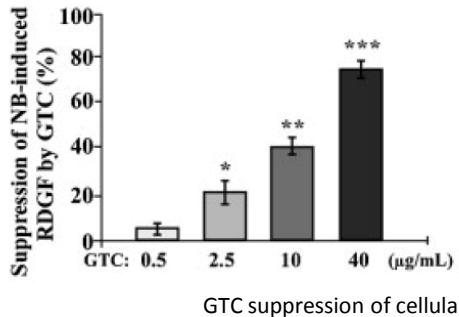


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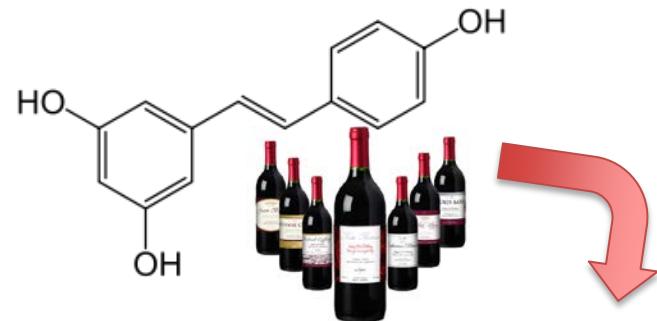
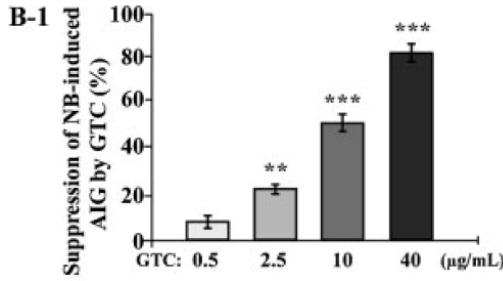
# Unfortunately...



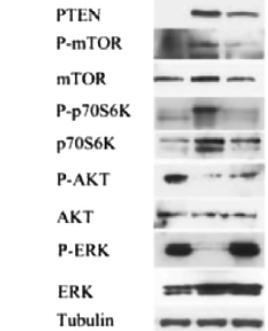
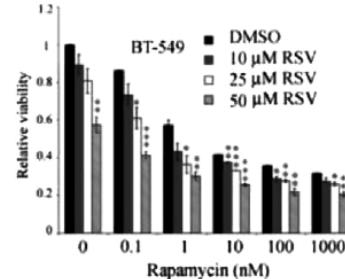
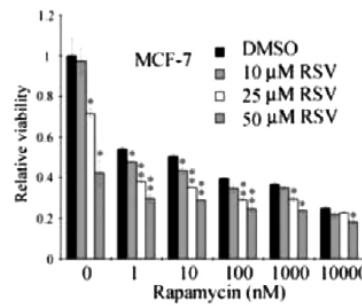
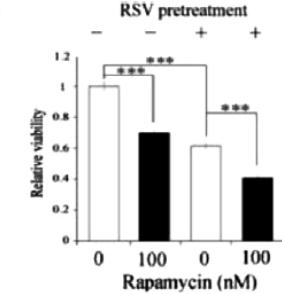
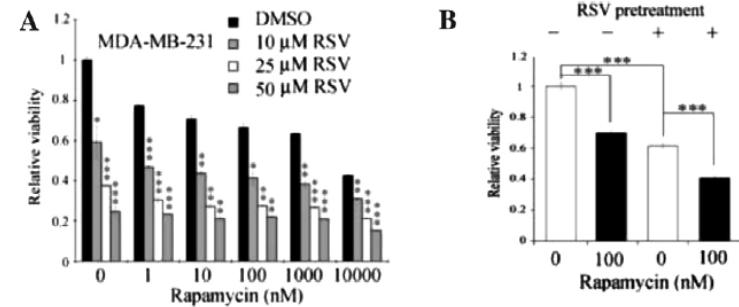
MOLECULAR CARCINOGENESIS 51:280–289 (2012)



GTC suppression of cellular carcinogenesis.

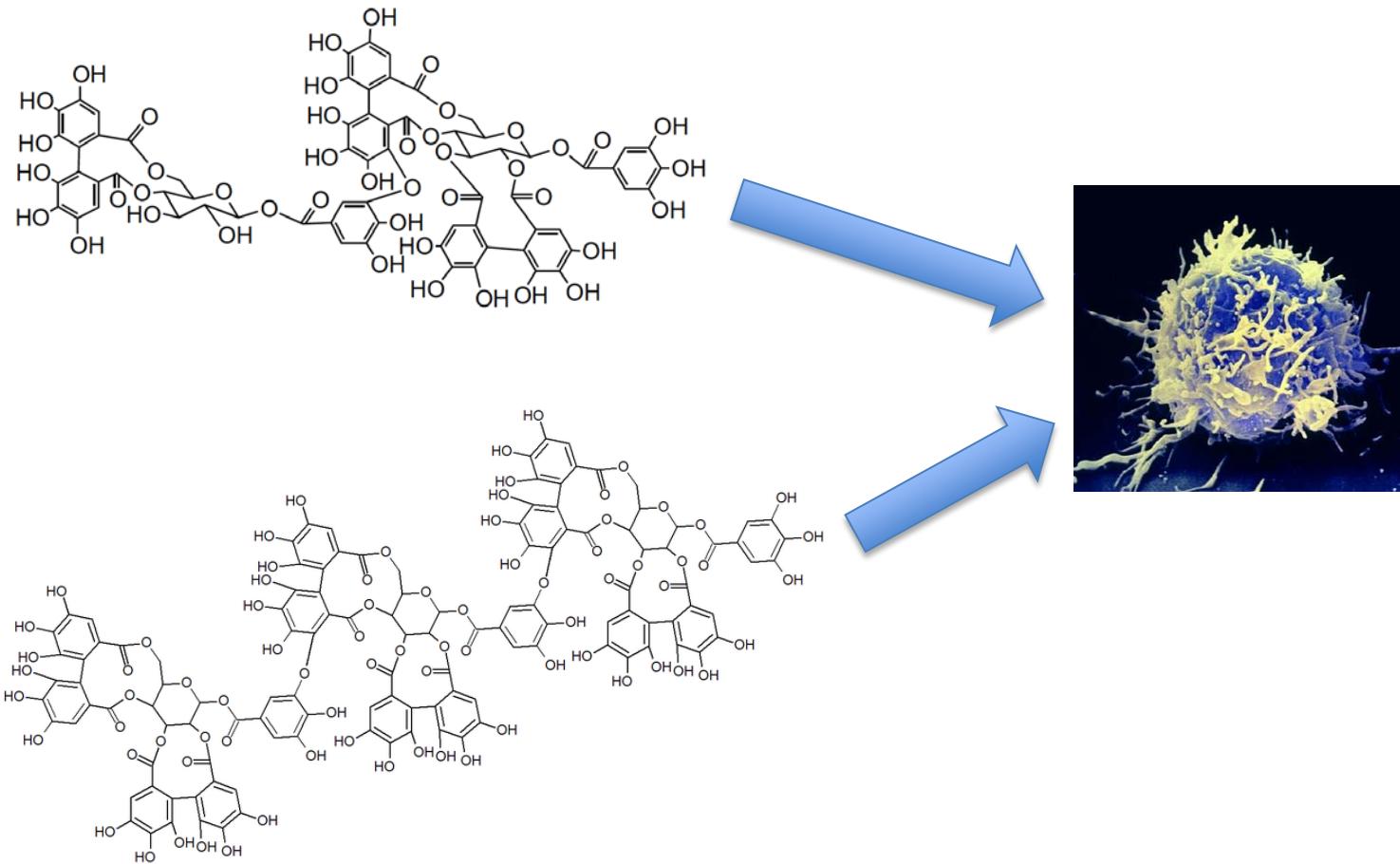


X. He et al./Cancer Letters 301 (2011) 168–176

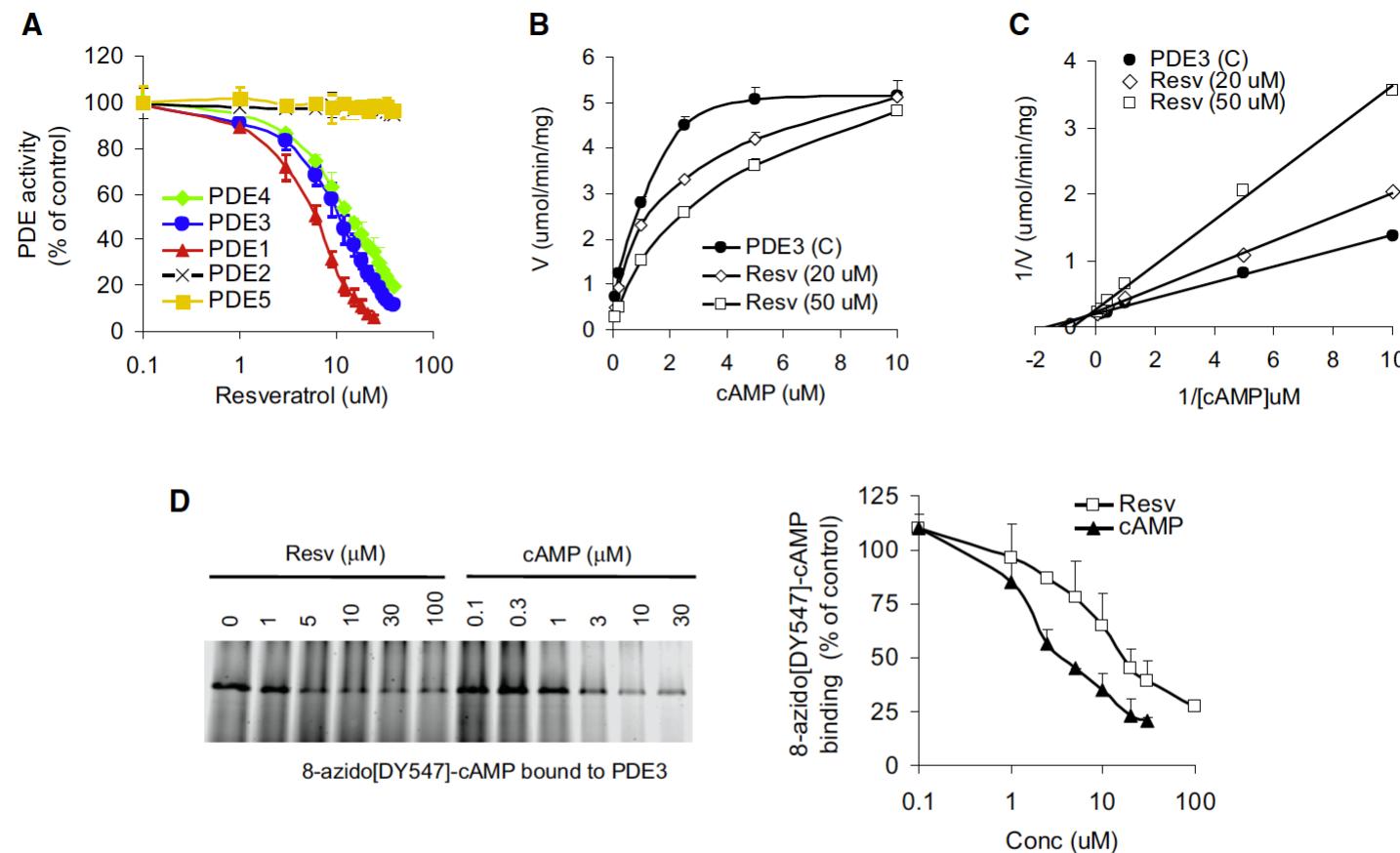


# Blackberry Seed Extracts and Isolated Polyphenolic Compounds Showing Protective Effect on Human Lymphocytes DNA

Dejan Gođevac, Vele Tešević, Vlatka Vajs, Slobodan Milosavljević, and Miroslava Stanković



At low concentrations ( $< 50 \mu\text{M}$ ), resveratrol appears to activate AMPK without decreasing energy (Dasgupta and Milbrandt, 2007; Suchankova et al., 2009)



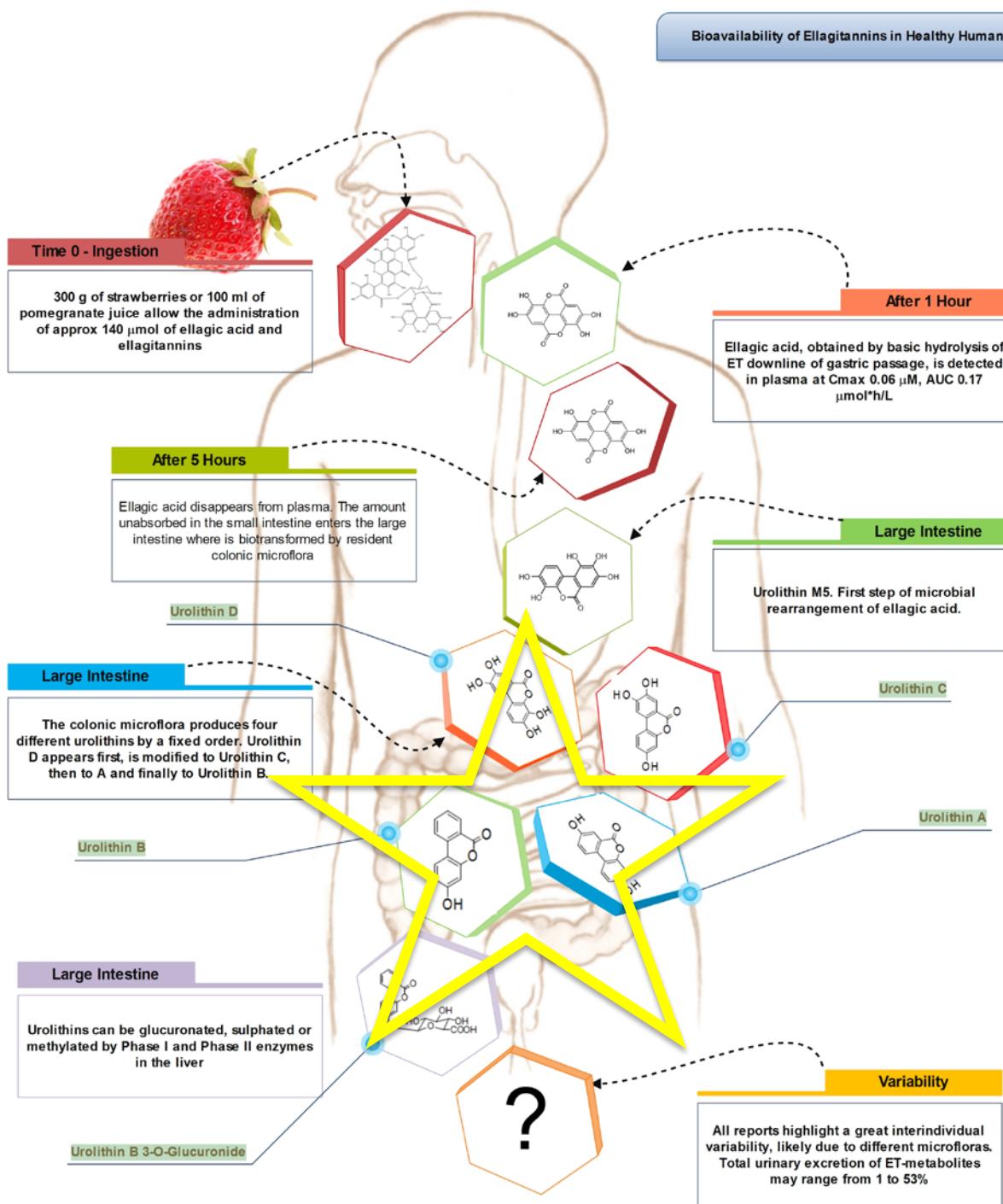
**Figure 4. Resveratrol Is a PDE Inhibitor**

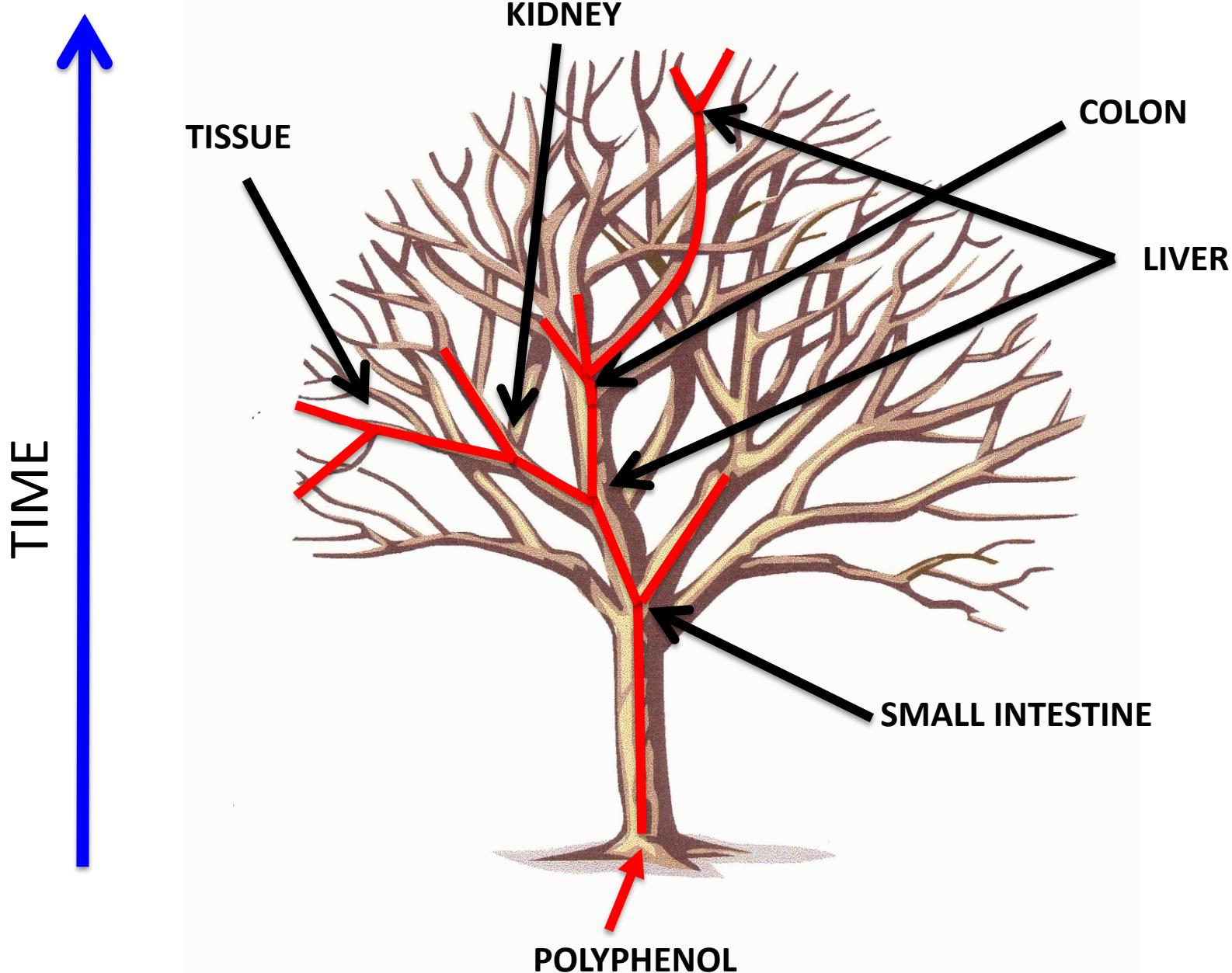
- (A) The effect of resveratrol on the activities of recombinant PDEs 1–5.
- (B) Velocity of recombinant PDE3 activity as a function of cAMP and resveratrol concentration.
- (C) Lineweaver-Burk plot of (B).
- (D) Recombinant PDE3 was photoaffinity labeled with the fluorescent cAMP analog 8-azido-[DY-547]-cAMP in the presence of resveratrol or cAMP. 8-azido-[DY-547]-cAMP bound to PDE3 was visualized by fluorescence imaging (left). Quantification of 8-azido-[DY-547]-cAMP binding is shown in the right panel ( $n = 3$ ).



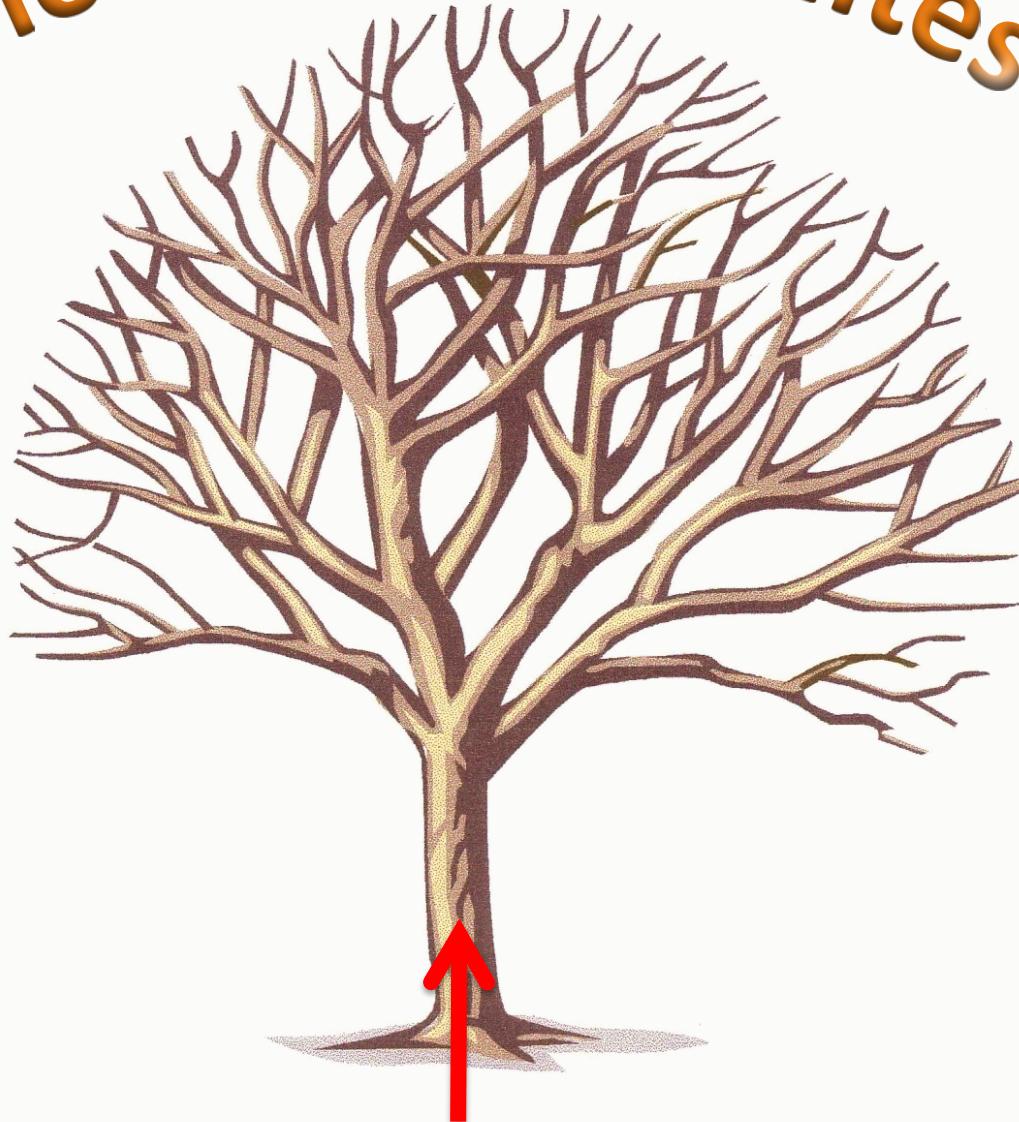
# Work out more physiological models!



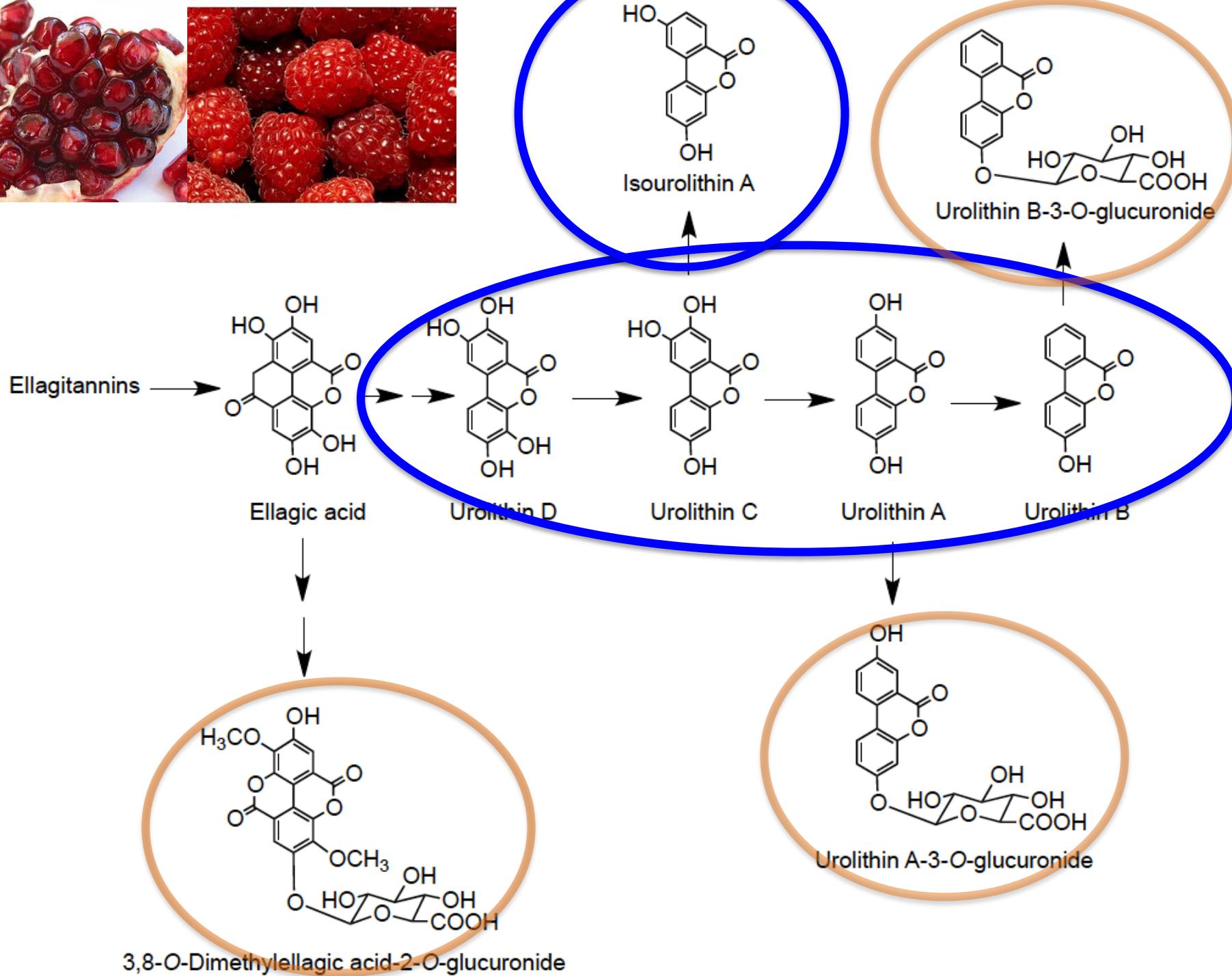


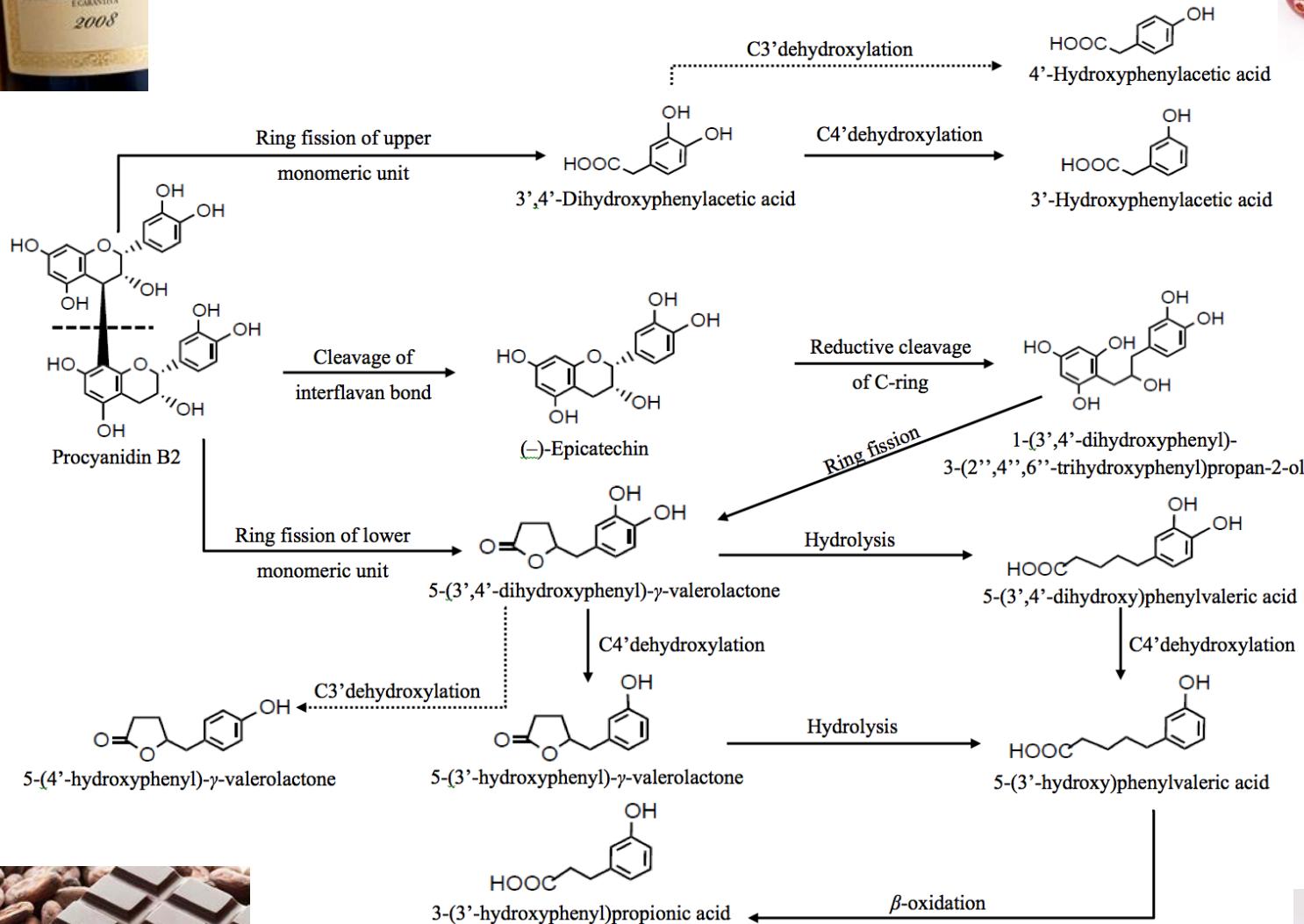


A lot of metabolites

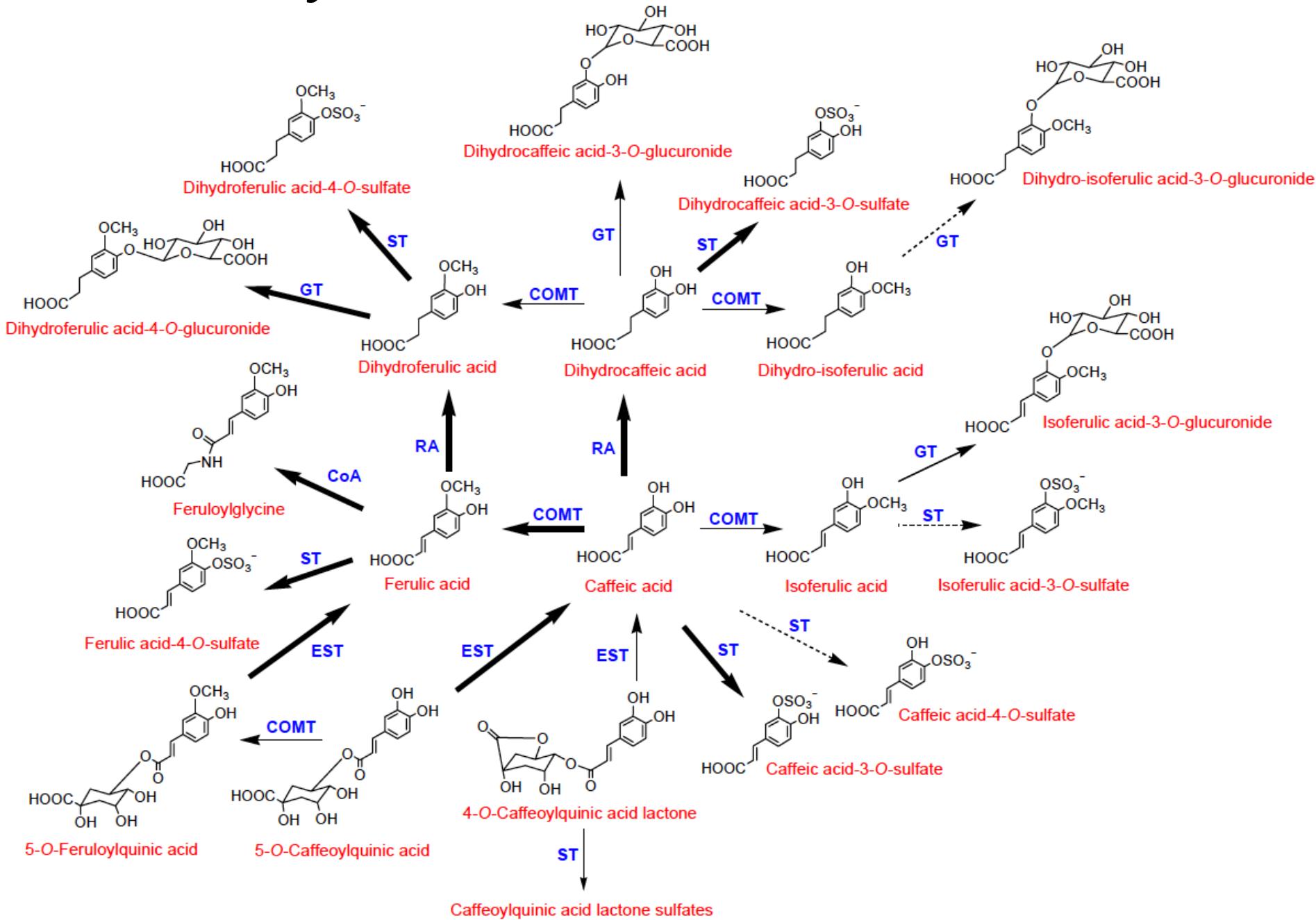


A FEW PLANT POLYPHENOLS

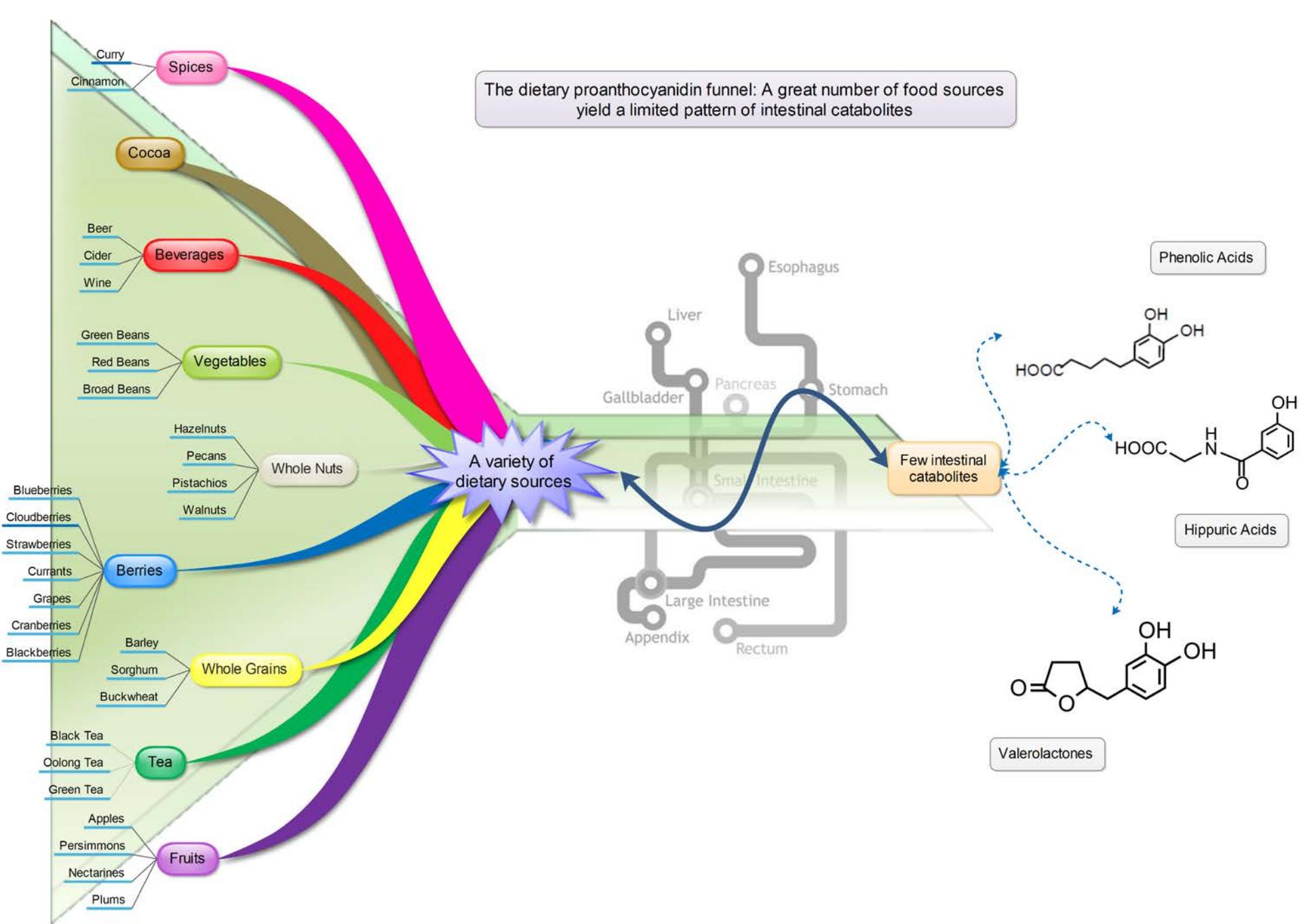




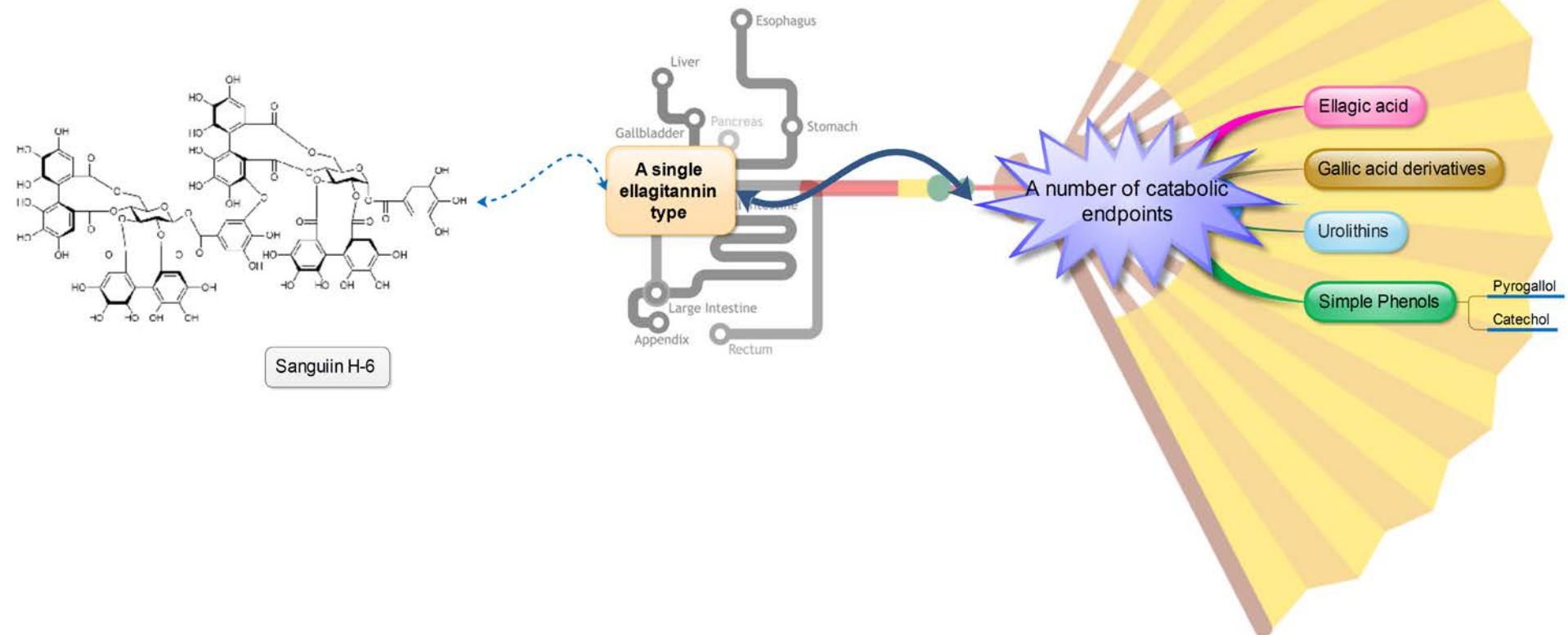
# You fancy a coffee?

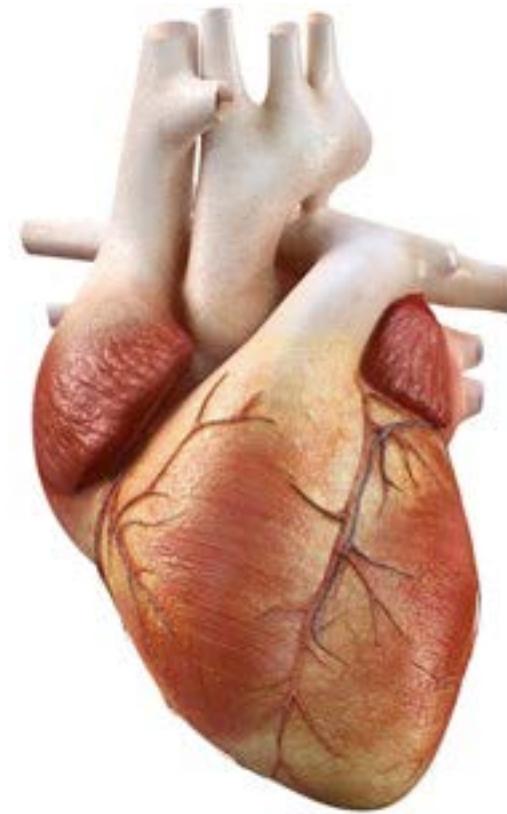
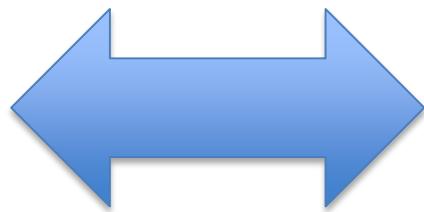
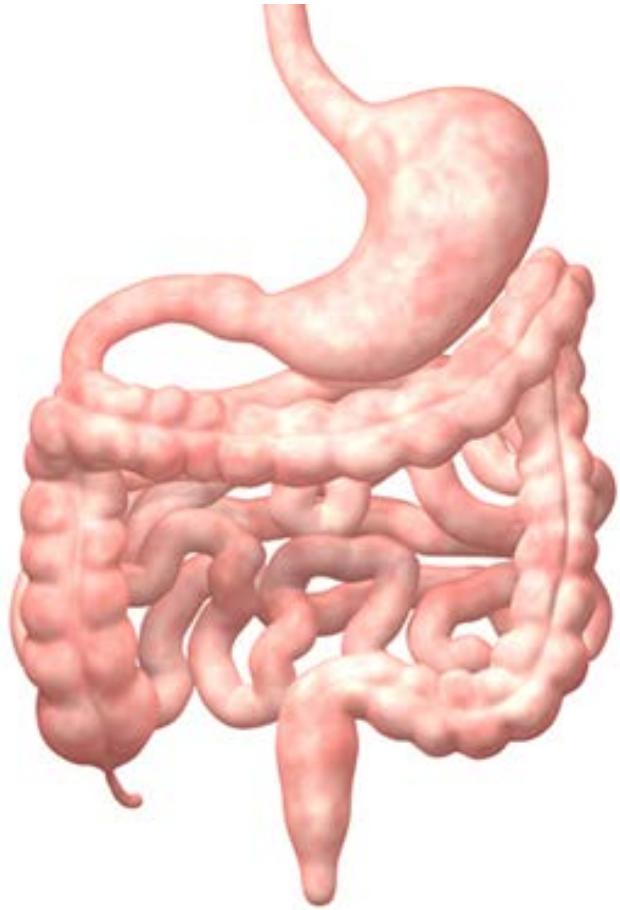


The dietary proanthocyanidin funnel: A great number of food sources yield a limited pattern of intestinal catabolites



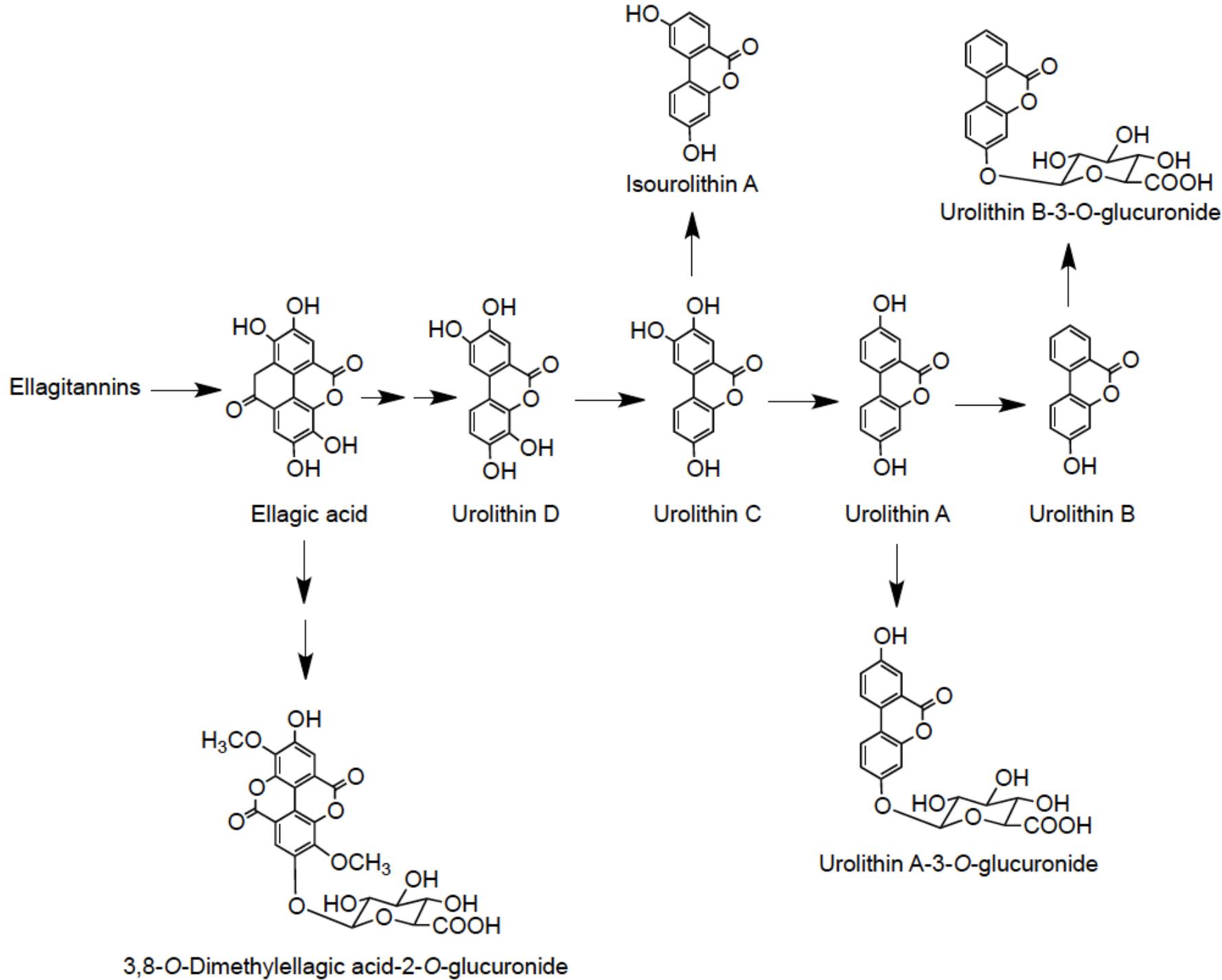
The phytochemical fan of ellagitannins: A single molecule yields a wide range of intestinal catabolites





**GUT – CV AXIS**





ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

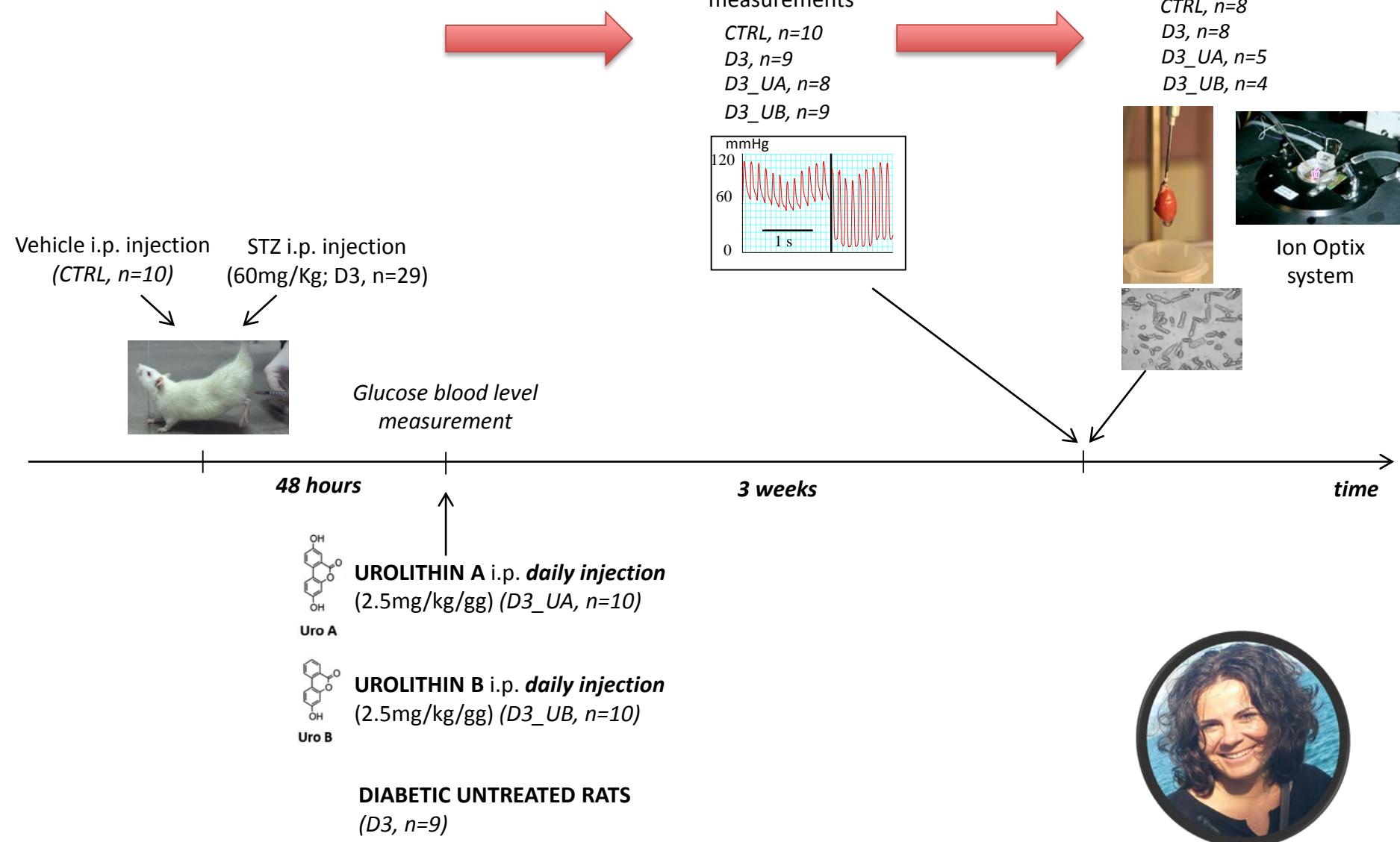
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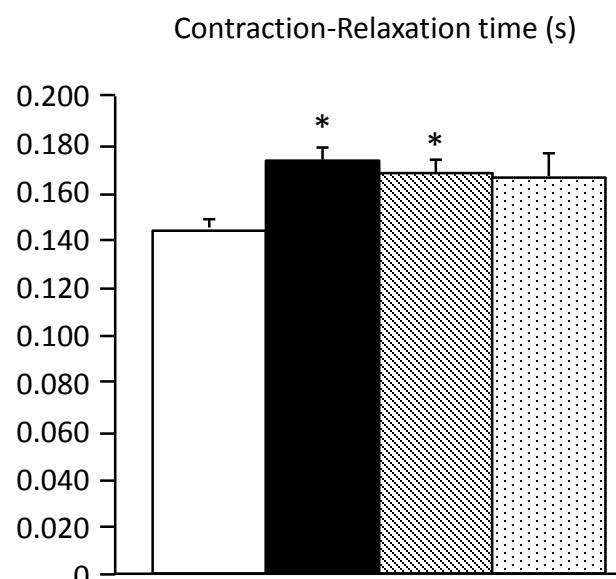
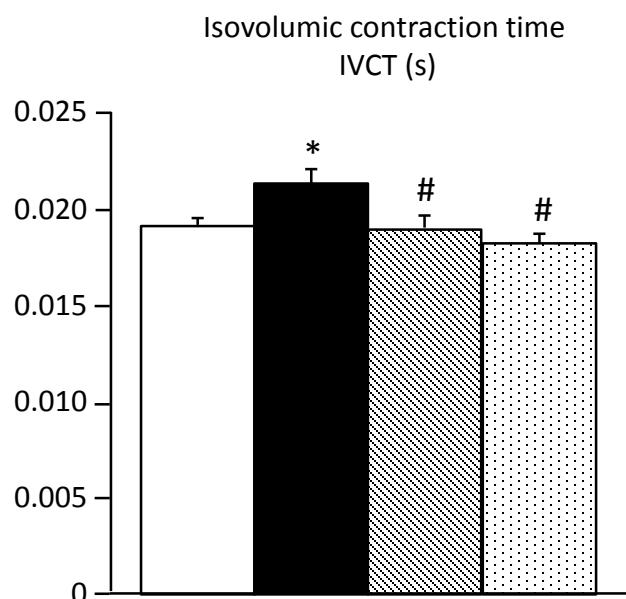
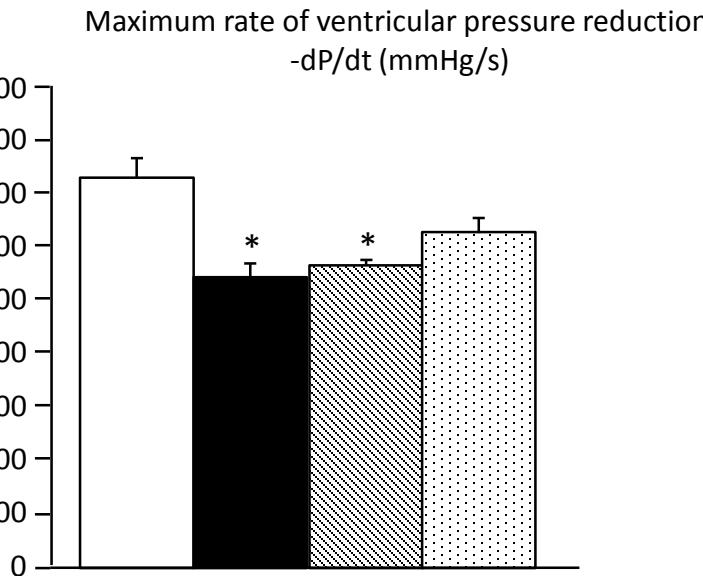
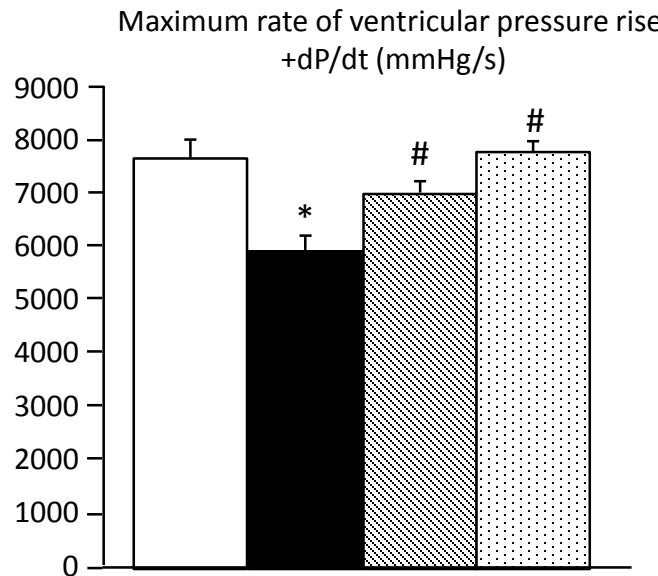
# In vivo administration of urolithin A and B prevents the occurrence of cardiac dysfunction in streptozotocin-induced diabetic rats

Monia Savi<sup>1,2†</sup>, Leonardo Bocchi<sup>2†</sup>, Pedro Mena<sup>1†</sup>, Margherita Dall'Asta<sup>1</sup>, Alan Crozier<sup>3</sup>, Furio Brighenti<sup>1</sup>,  
Donatella Stilli<sup>2\*</sup> and Daniele Del Rio<sup>1\*</sup> 

# EXPERIMENTAL PROTOCOL



# Results: Hemodynamic measurements (Contraction rate)



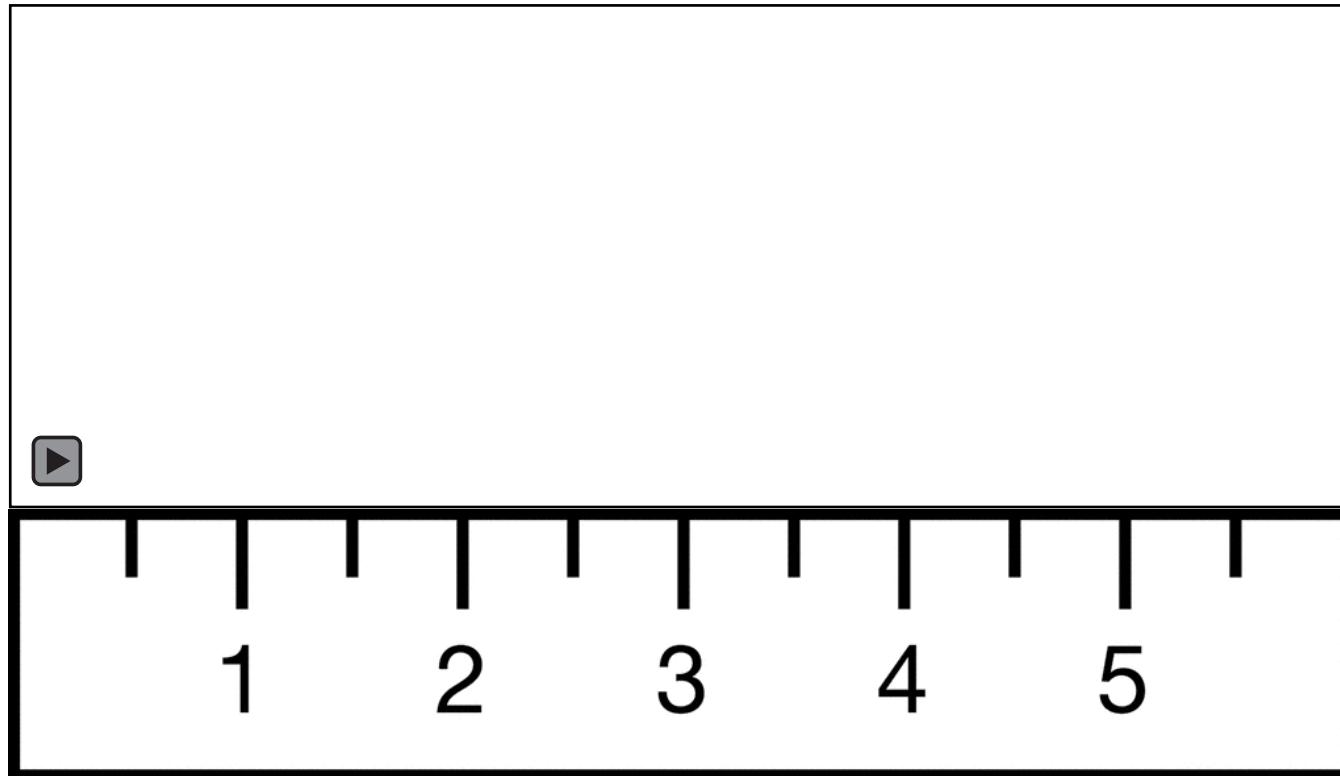
Legend:

- CTRL (n=10)
- D3 (n=9)
- D3\_UA (n=8)
- D3\_UB (n=9)

\* p<0.05 vs CTRL

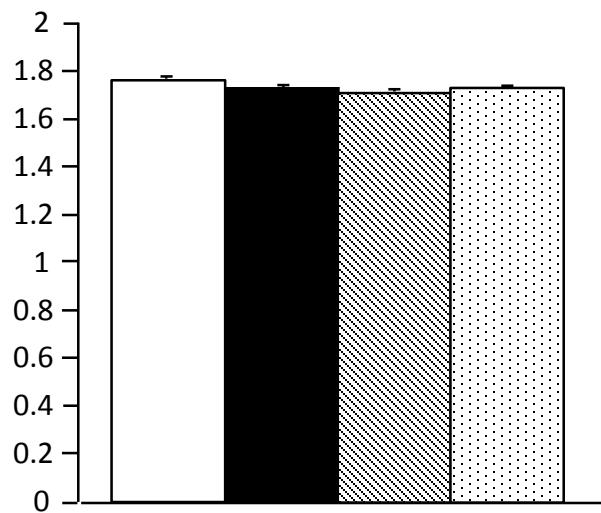
# p<0.05 vs D3

# Cardiomyocytes isolation, cell mechanics

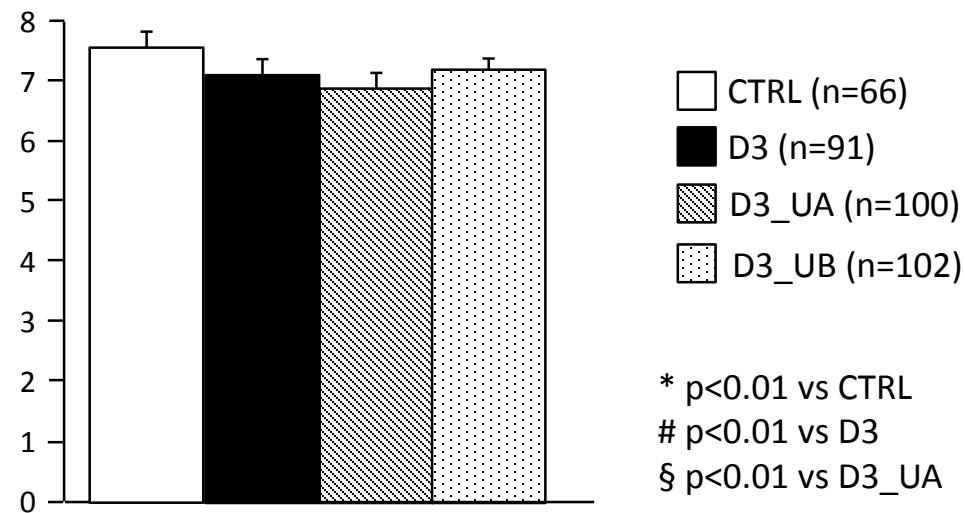


# Results: Cell mechanics

Mean diastolic sarcomere length ( $\mu\text{m}$ )



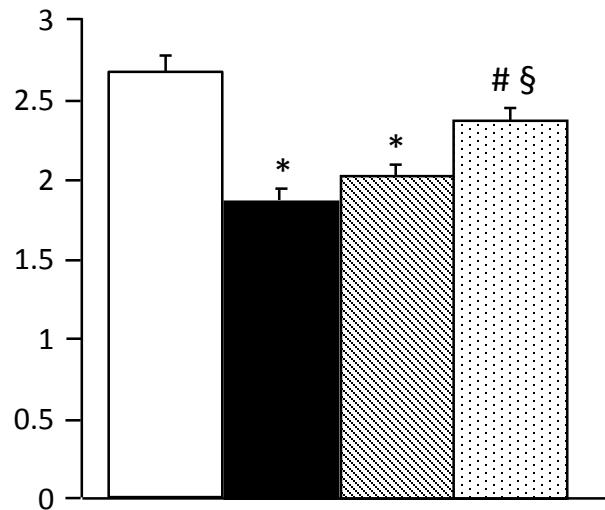
Fraction of Shortening (%)



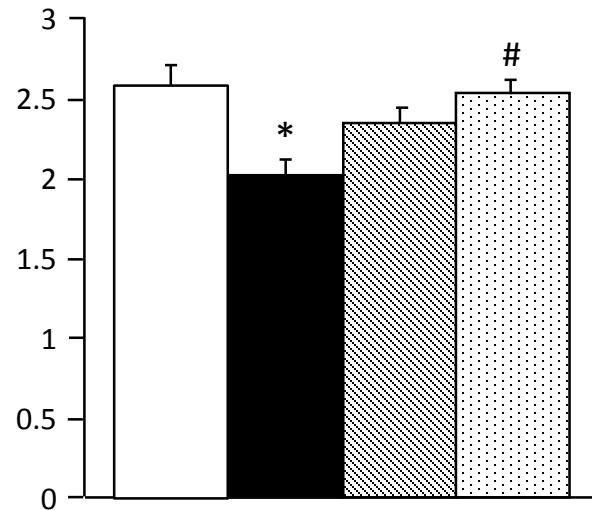
Legend:  
□ CTRL (n=66)  
■ D3 (n=91)  
▨ D3\_UA (n=100)  
▨ D3\_UB (n=102)

\* p<0.01 vs CTRL  
# p<0.01 vs D3  
§ p<0.01 vs D3\_UA

-dL/dt ( $\mu\text{m/s}$ ) (MAX RATE OF SHORTENING)



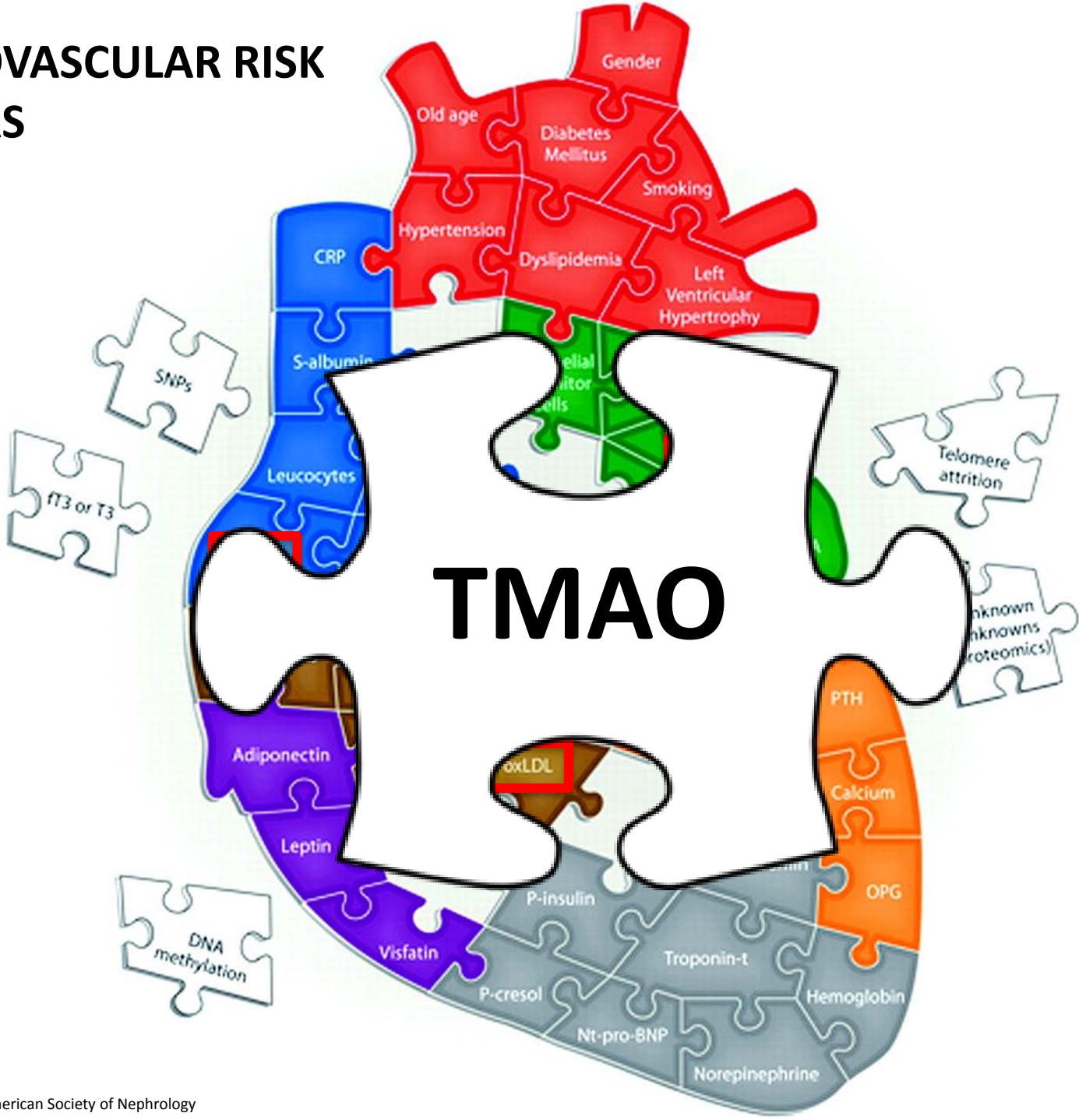
+dL/dt ( $\mu\text{m/s}$ ) (MAX RATE OF RE-LENGTHENING)

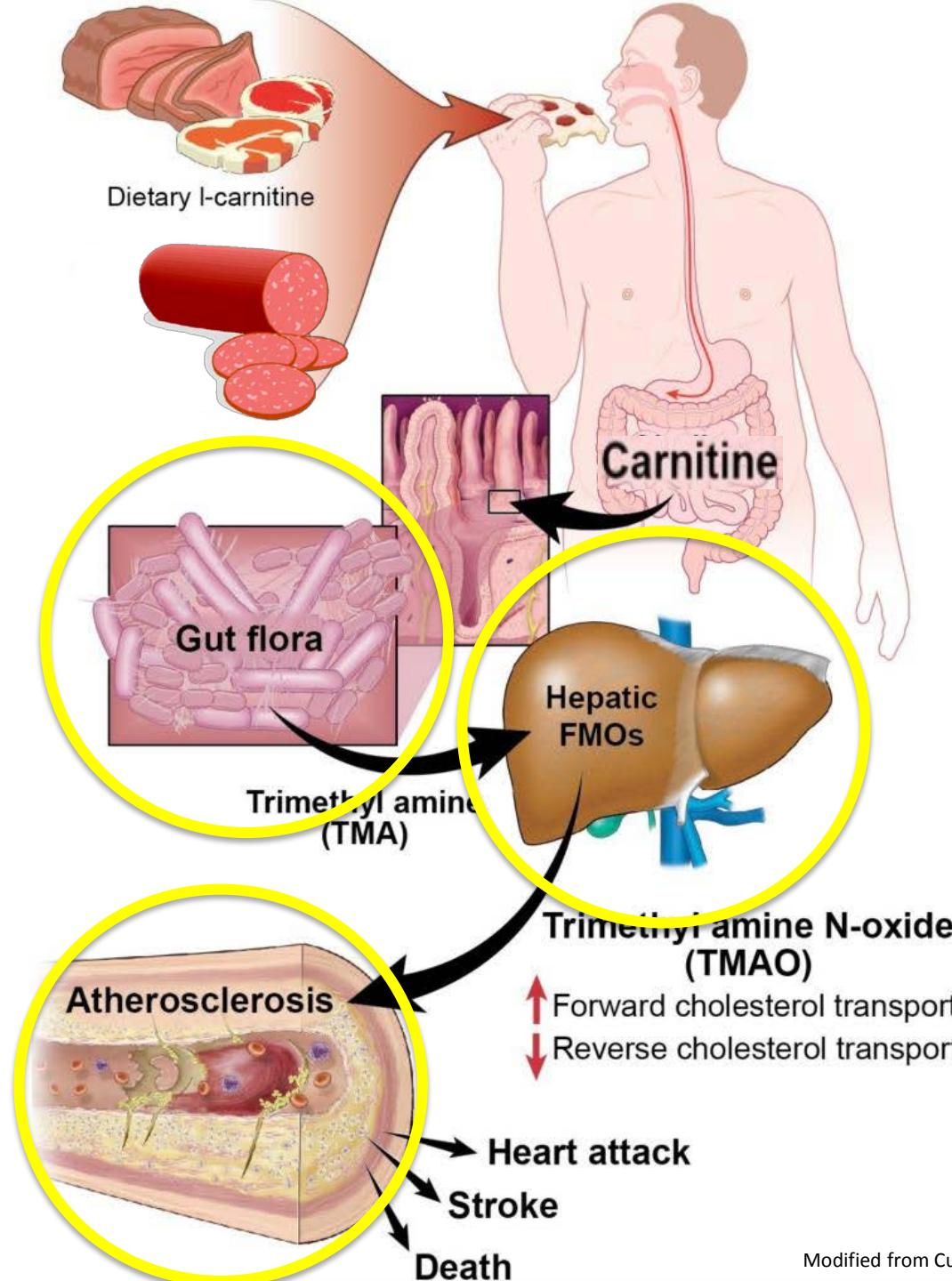


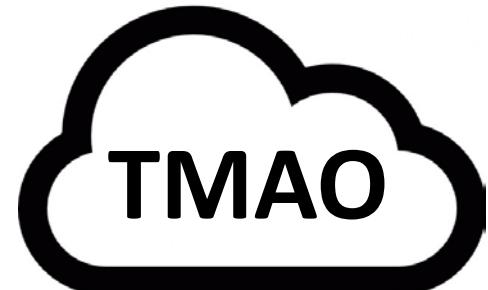
To sum up:

- Urolithin A and B contribute to a remarkable recovery of heart muscle function after DCM is induced.
  - This effect involves calcium transient (as expected)
- ....possibly through actions involving SERCA phosphorylation and PLB
- ....with inflammation potentially involved in the model (Fractalkine).

# CARDIOVASCULAR RISK FACTORS







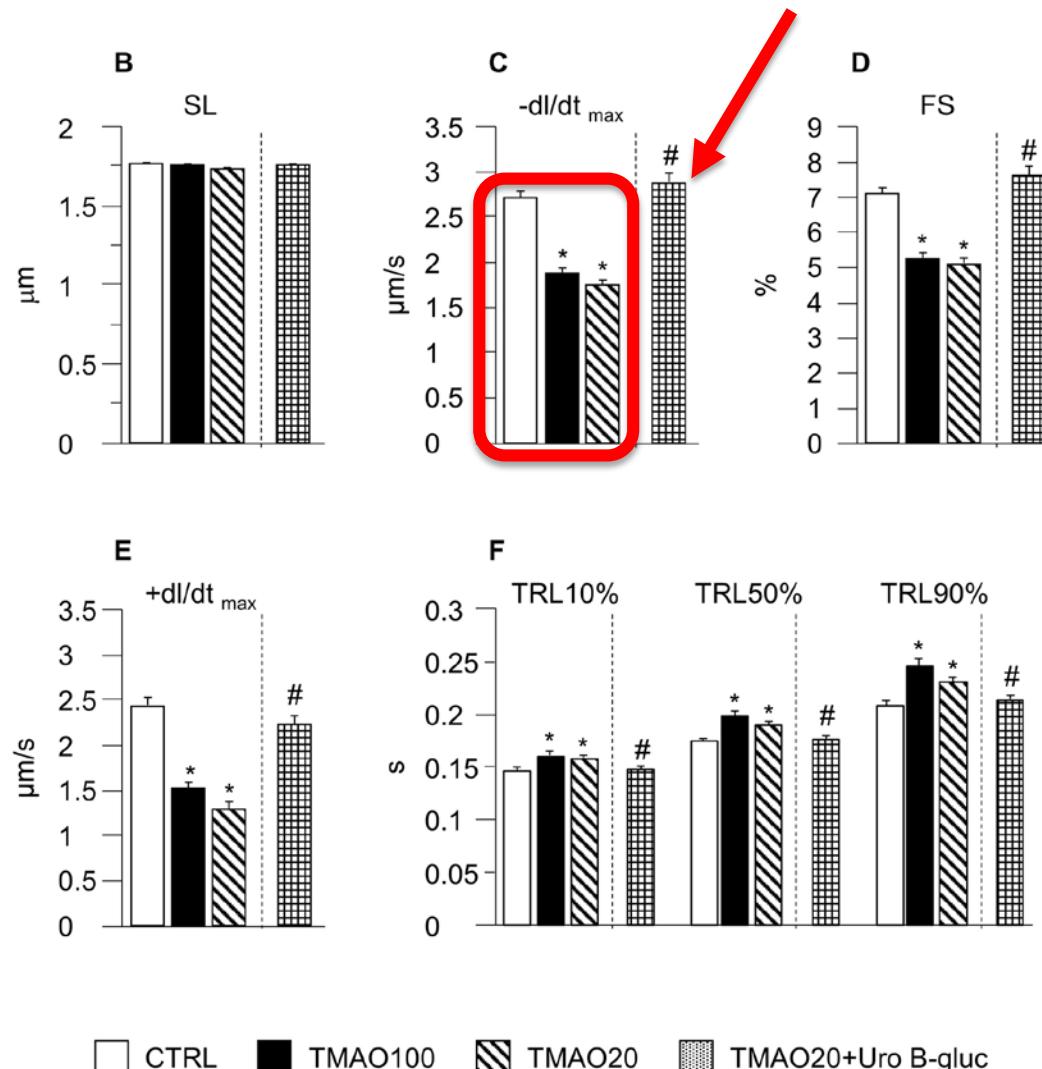
TMAO

POLYPHENOLS

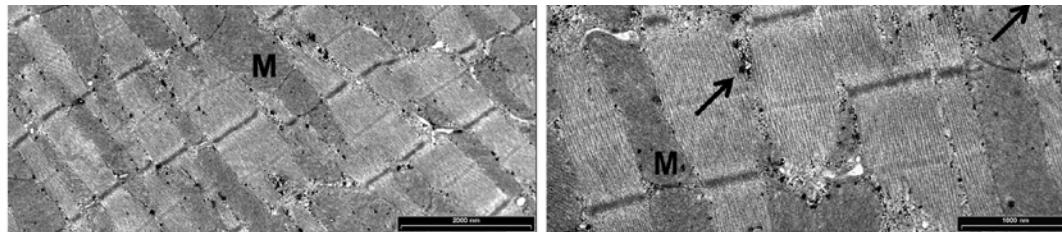
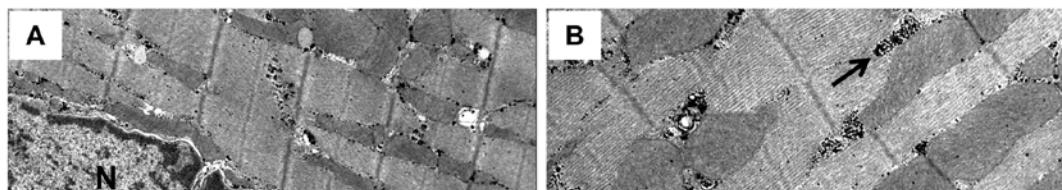


# Trimethylamine-N-oxide (TMAO)-induced impairment of cardiomyocyte function and the protective role of urolithin B-glucuronide

Monia Savi<sup>1,2‡</sup>, Leonardo Bocchi<sup>2,‡</sup>, Letizia Bresciani<sup>1</sup>, Angela Falco<sup>3</sup>, Federico Quaini<sup>3</sup>, Pedro Mena<sup>1</sup>, Furio Brighenti<sup>1</sup>, Alan Crozier<sup>4</sup>, Donatella Stilli<sup>2,\*</sup>, Daniele Del Rio<sup>1,\*</sup>



CTRL





## Publish houses of brick, not mansions of straw

*Papers need to include fewer claims and more proof to make the scientific literature more reliable, warns **William G. Kaelin Jr.***

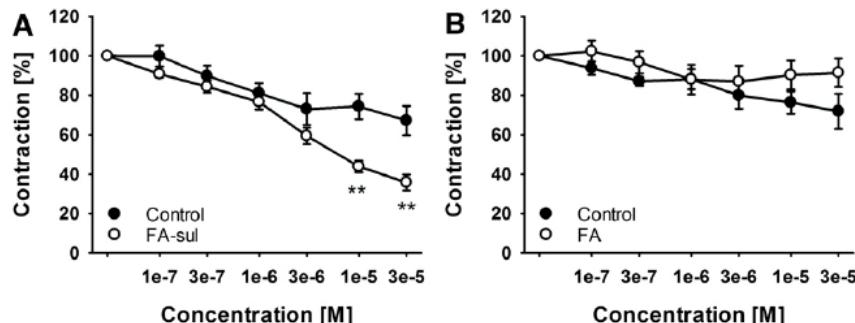
25 MAY 2017 | VOL 545 | NATURE | 387

*“the papers leading to [his] 2016 Lasker prize (with Gregg Semenza and Peter Ratcliffe, for discovering how cells sense oxygen) were published more than a decade ago. Most would be considered quaint, preliminary and barely publishable today. [...] Fortunately, an experienced editor intervened, arguing that publication would open the search for the enzyme to other groups; such reprieves seem less common today.”*

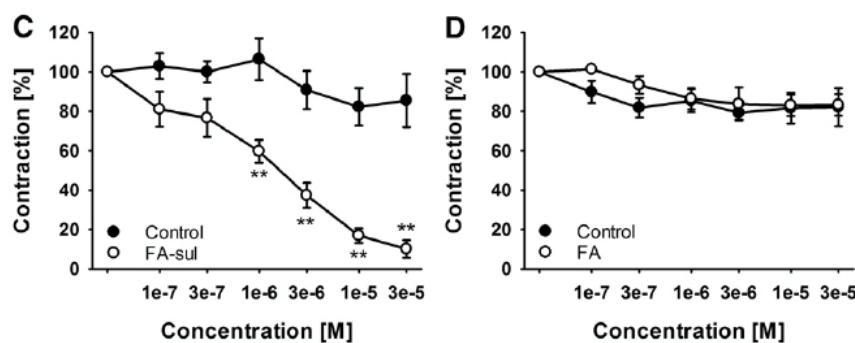
# Ferulic acid-4-O-sulfate rather than ferulic acid relaxes arteries and lowers blood pressure in mice<sup>☆,☆☆</sup>

Evelien Van Rymenant<sup>a</sup>, John Van Camp<sup>a</sup>, Bart Pauwels<sup>b</sup>, Charlotte Boydens<sup>b</sup>, Laura Vanden Daele<sup>b</sup>, Katrijn Beerens<sup>a</sup>, Peter Brouckaert<sup>c</sup>, Guy Smagghe<sup>d</sup>, Asimina Kerimi<sup>e</sup>, Gary Williamson<sup>e</sup>, Charlotte Grootaert<sup>a</sup>, Johan Van de Voorde<sup>b,\*</sup>

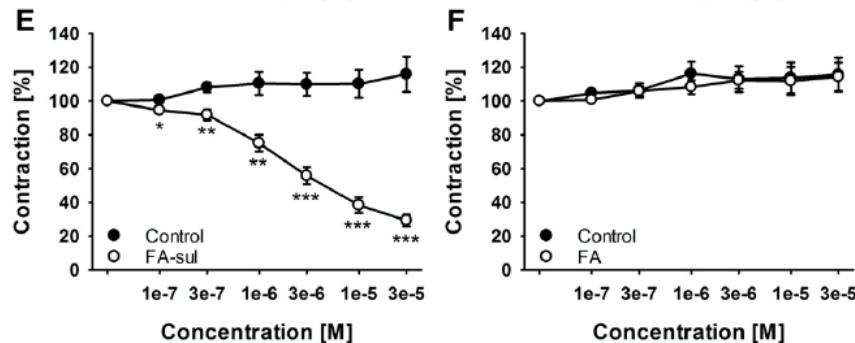
Journal of Nutritional Biochemistry 44 (2017) 44–51



Mouse saphenous artery



Mouse femoral artery



Mouse aorta

# *Human interventions...*

## Effects of Low Habitual Cocoa Intake on Blood Pressure and Bioactive Nitric Oxide A Randomized Controlled Trial

JAMA, July 4, 2007—Vol 298, No. 1

Dirk Taubert, MD, PhD

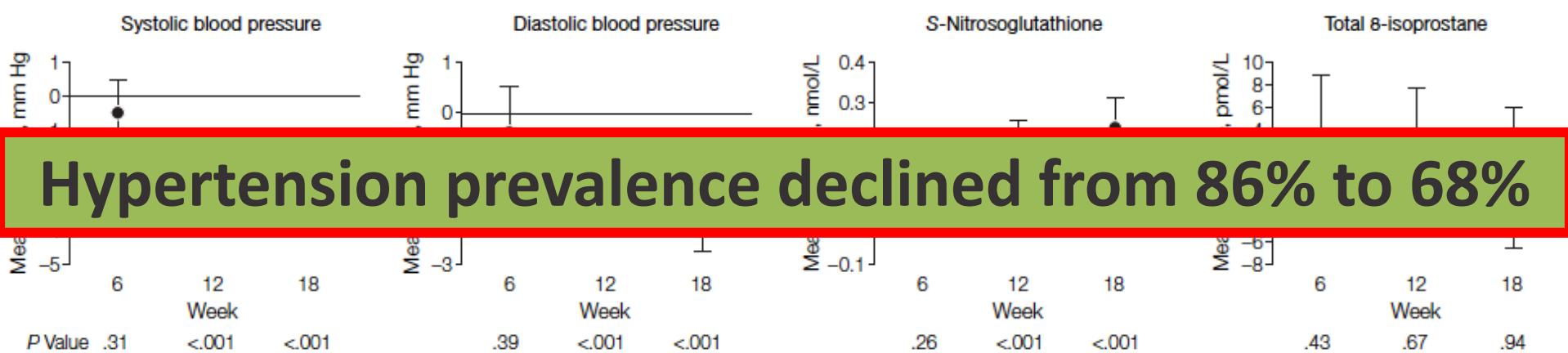
Renate Roesen, PhD

Clara Lehmann, MD

Norma Jung, MD

Edgar Schömig, MD

**Figure 3.** Between-Group Comparisons of Blood Pressure, S-Nitrosoglutathione, and Total 8-Isoprostanate Levels After Dark and White Chocolate



Hypertension prevalence declined from 86% to 68%

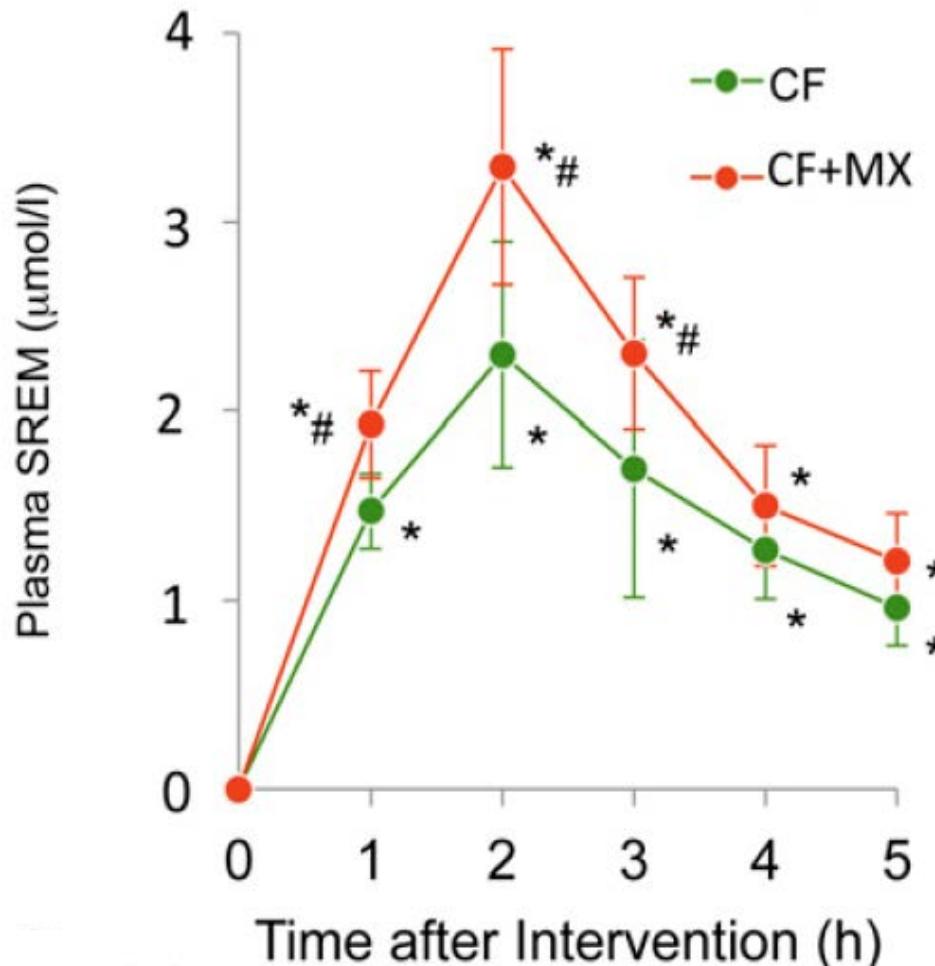
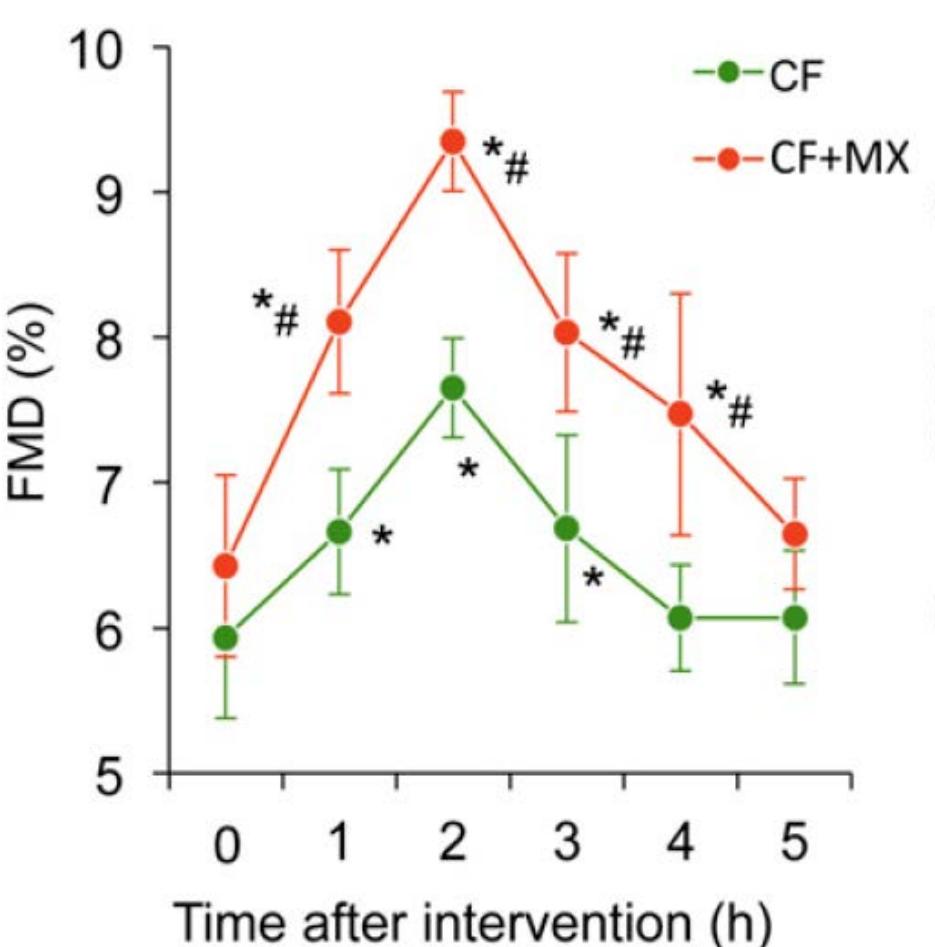
	Dark Chocolate Group (Mean Change)			White Chocolate Group (Mean Change)		
	Week 6	Week 12	Week 18	Week 6	Week 12	Week 18
P Value	.31	<.001	<.001	.39	<.001	<.001
Mean	-5	-3	-1	-0.1	0.26	<.001

Error bars indicate 95% confidence intervals of differences in mean change scores. Nominal P values were calculated for pairwise between-group differences in change by 2-tailed t test.

# Methylxanthines enhance the effects of cocoa flavanols on cardiovascular function: randomized, double-masked controlled studies<sup>1</sup>

Roberto Sansone,<sup>2</sup> Javier I Ottaviani,<sup>3</sup> Ana Rodriguez-Mateos,<sup>2,4</sup> Yvonne Heinen,<sup>2</sup> Dorina Noske,<sup>2</sup> Jeremy P Spencer,<sup>5</sup> Alan Crozier,<sup>6</sup> Marc W Merx,<sup>2</sup> Malte Kelm,<sup>2</sup> Hagen Schroeter,<sup>3</sup> and Christian Heiss<sup>2\*</sup>

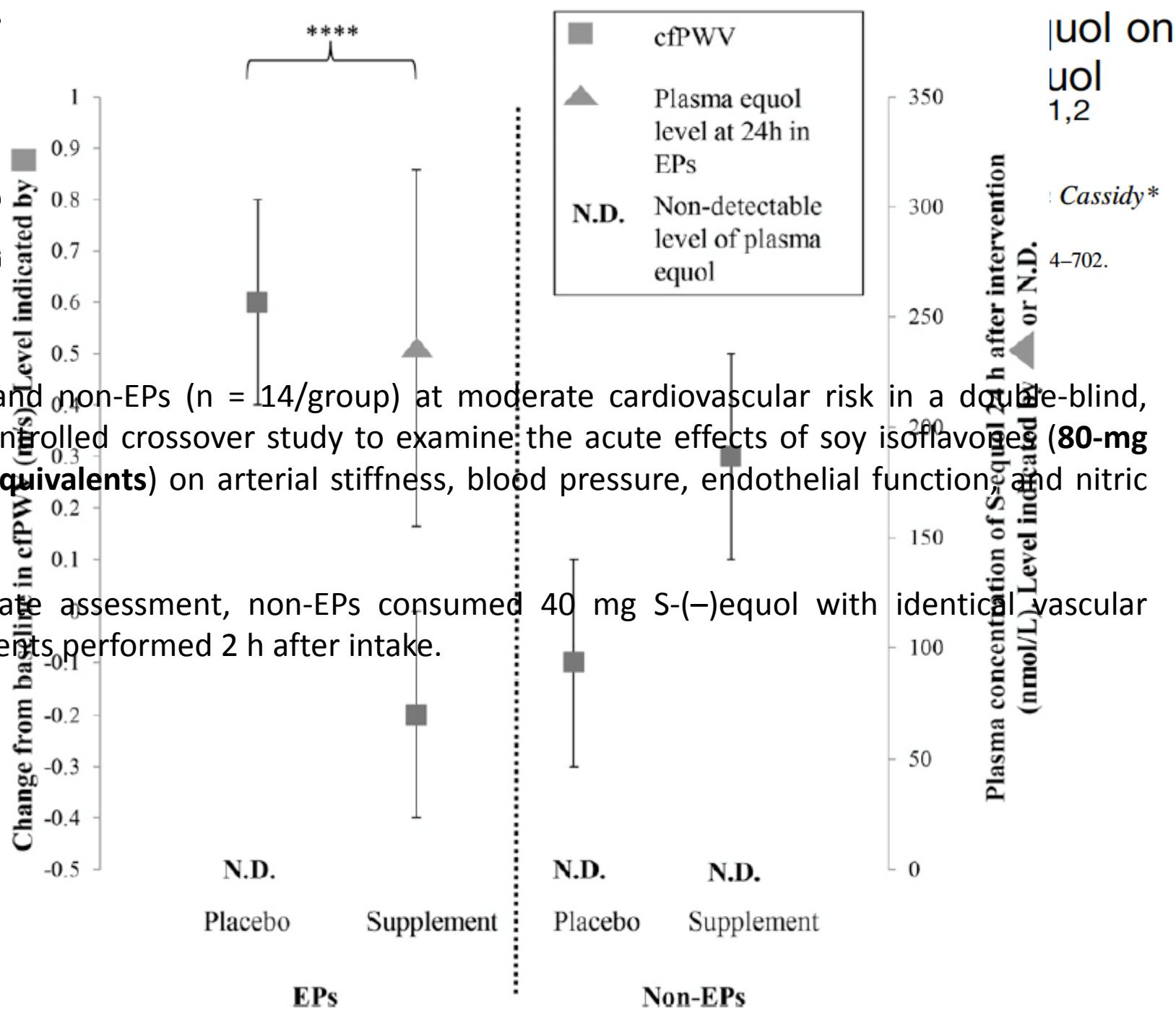
Am J Clin Nutr 2017;105:352–60.



# Acute ber arterial sti producer

Sara Hazim,<sup>3</sup> Pet

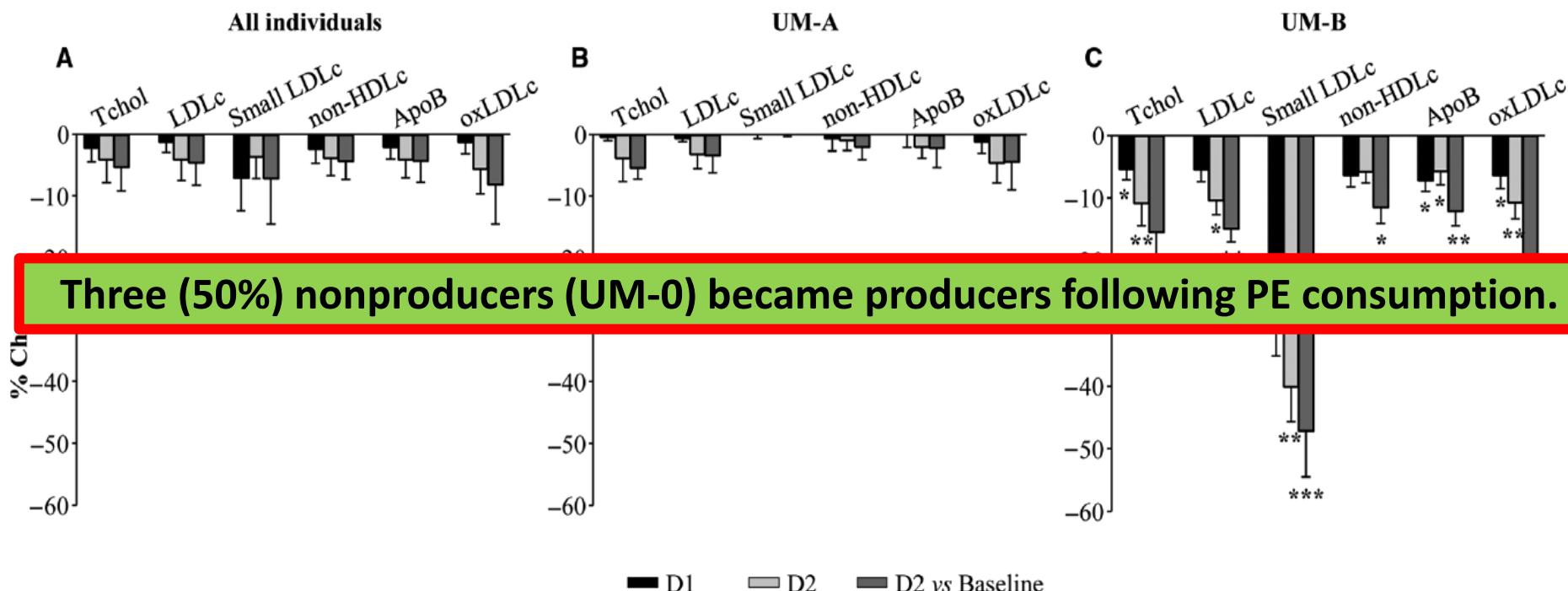
Department of Nutriti

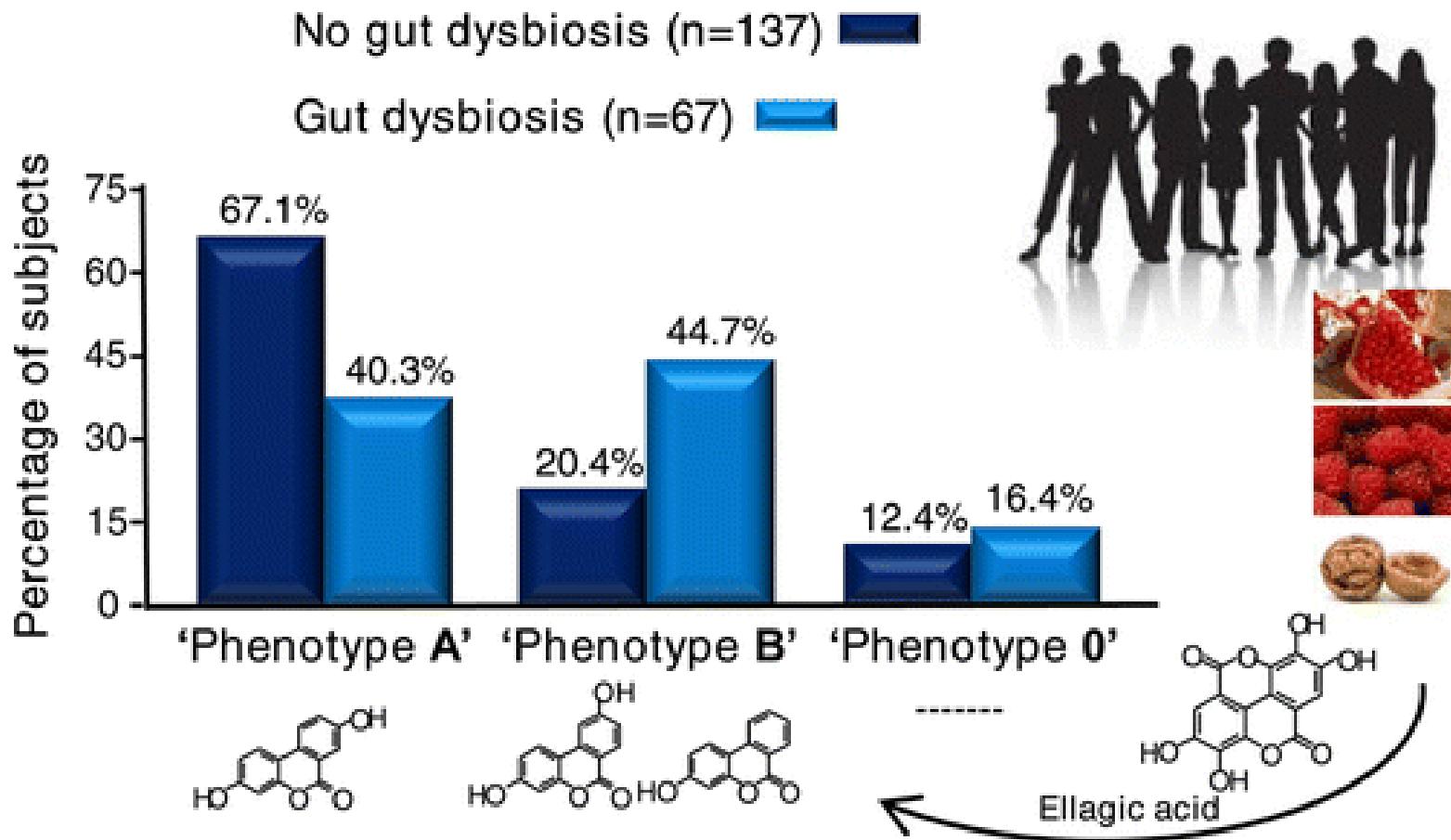


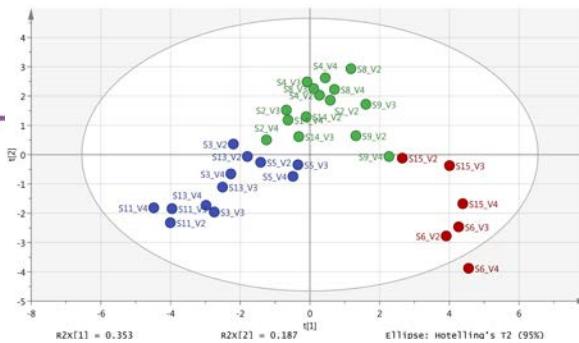
# Clustering according to urolithin metabotype explains the interindividual variability in the improvement of cardiovascular risk biomarkers in overweight-obese individuals consuming pomegranate: A randomized clinical trial

*Mol. Nutr. Food Res.* 61, 5, 2017, 1600830

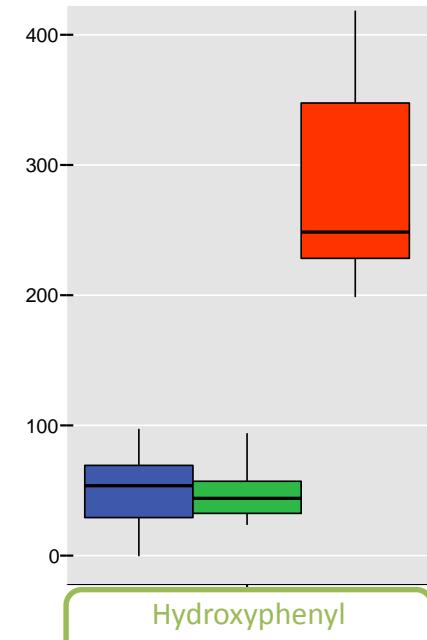
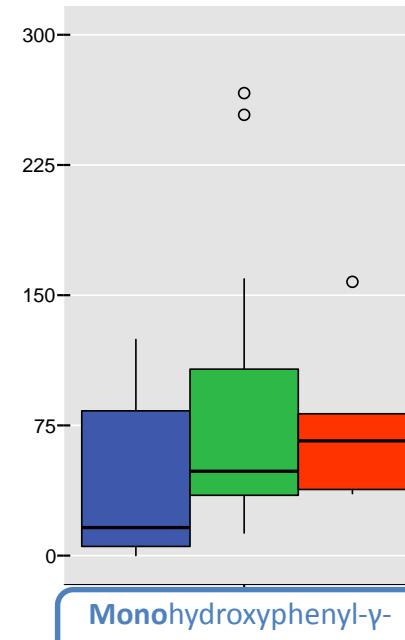
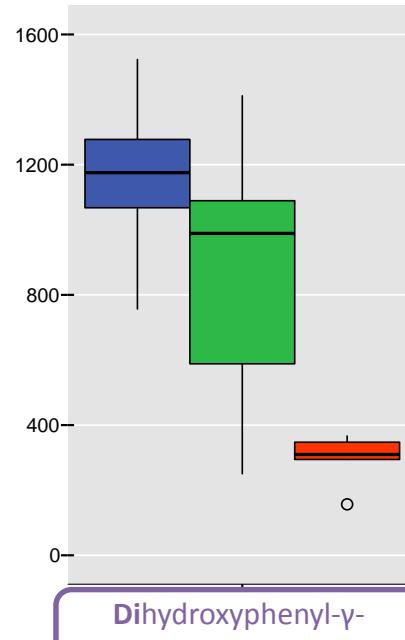
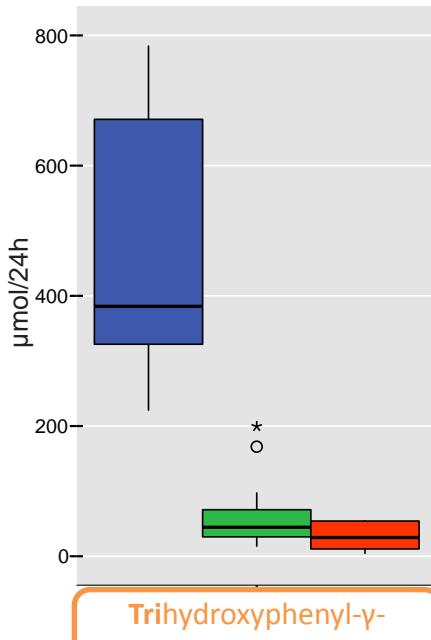
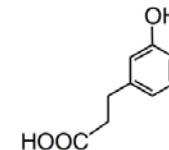
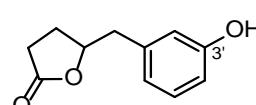
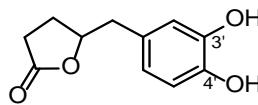
Antonio González-Sarriás<sup>1</sup>, Rocío García-Villalba<sup>1</sup>, María Romo-Vaquero<sup>1</sup>, Cesarettin Alasalvar<sup>2</sup>, Asim Örem<sup>3</sup>, Pilar Zafrilla<sup>4</sup>, Francisco A. Tomás-Barberán<sup>1</sup>, María V. Selma<sup>1</sup> and Juan Carlos Espín<sup>1</sup>







- Subjects 2, 4, 8, 9, & 14 (n=15)
- Subjects 3, 5, 11, & 13 (n=12)
- Subjects 6 & 15 (n=6)



-glucuronide  
-methyl-sulfate

-glucuronide  
-disulfate  
-sulfate-glucuronide

-glucuronide  
-sulfate

-sulfate

- *Plausible mechanisms of actions!*
- *Critical mass of observational results*
- *Well designed and well conducted intervention studies!*
- *Better understanding of the involvement of the gut microbiota*  
&
- *Interindividual variability clear in mind!!*



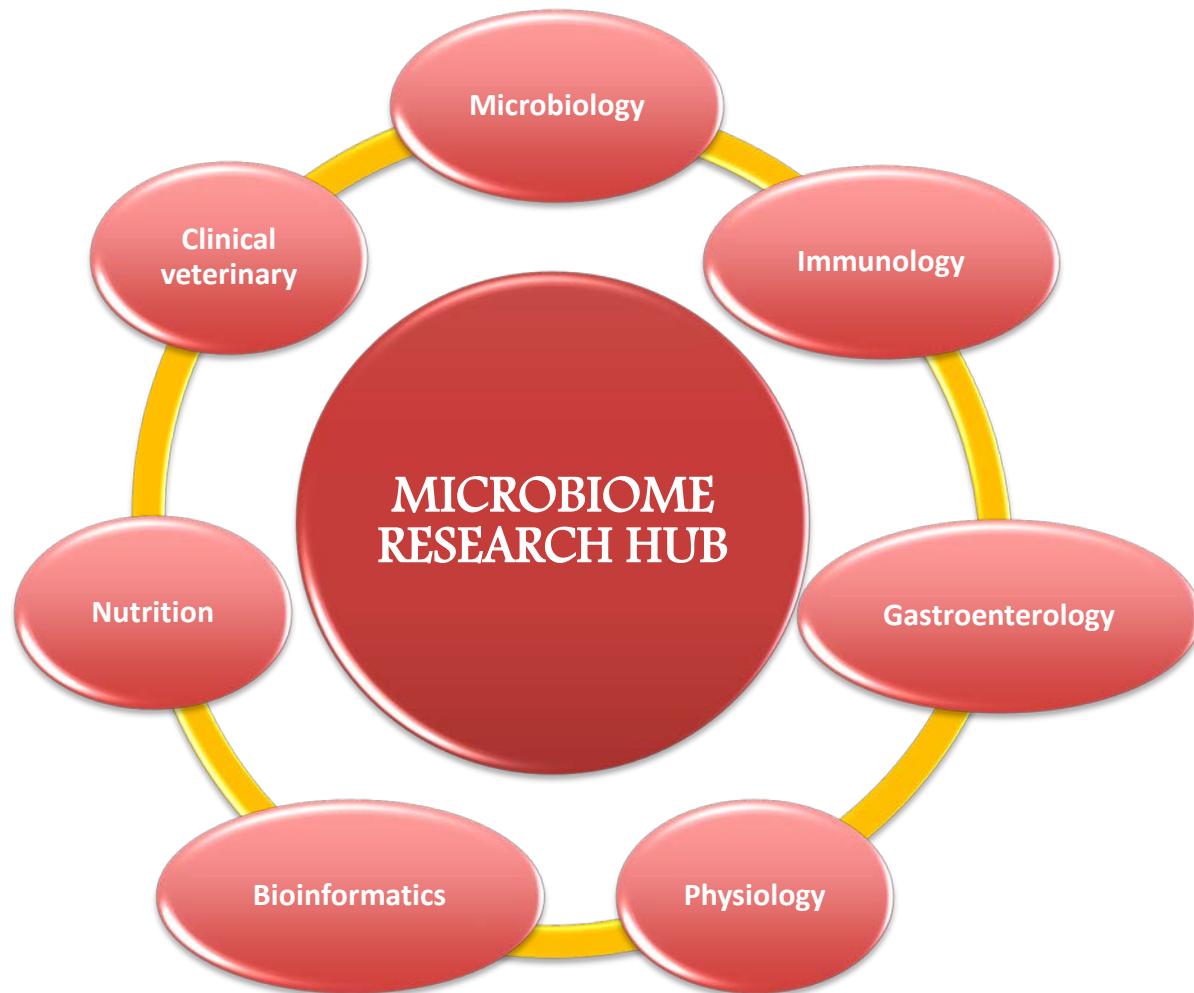
Despite the very bad science performed to date....

**It could work!**



# Microbiome Research Hub

A new Microbiome Research Centre at the University of Parma



# Thanks to....my personal microbiota!

