

Casual Friday Series

# **Endocrine Expertise: Driving Adrenal Dysfunction**

A Biogenetix Clinical Presentation

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# Disclaimer

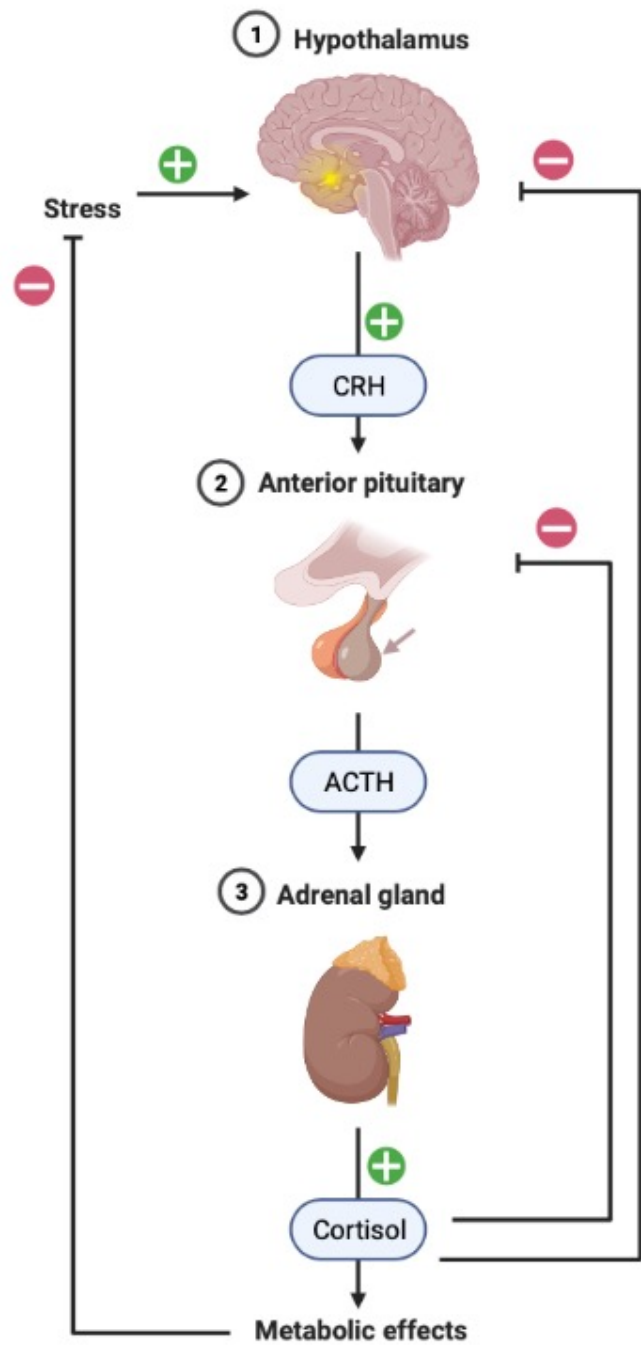
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- *The information provided in this presentation is for your consideration only as a practicing health care provider. Ultimately you are responsible for exercising professional judgment in the care of your own patients.*



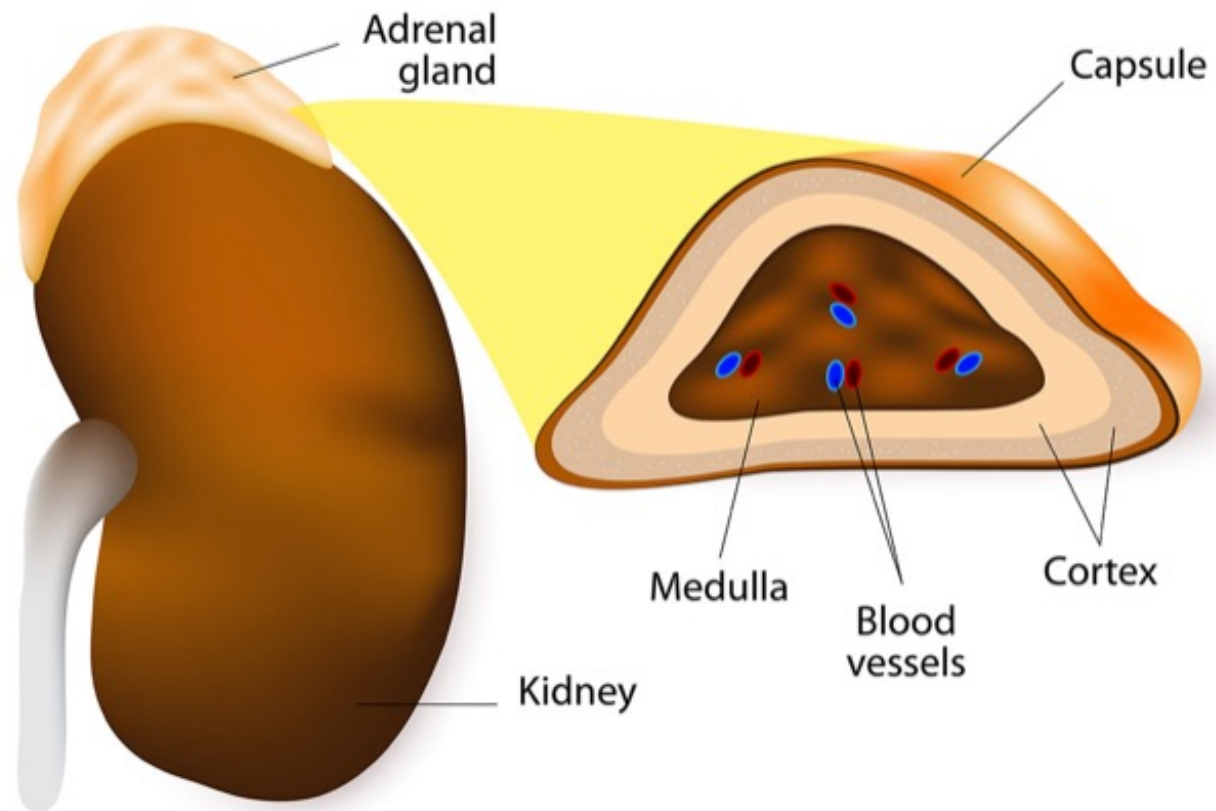


Lifestyle + Genetics = Chronic Health IMPROVEMENT





# ADRENAL GLAND



# Adrenal Notes

## Hormones Produced:

Cortisol

Aldosterone

DHEA and Androgenic Steroids

Epinephrine

Norepinephrine

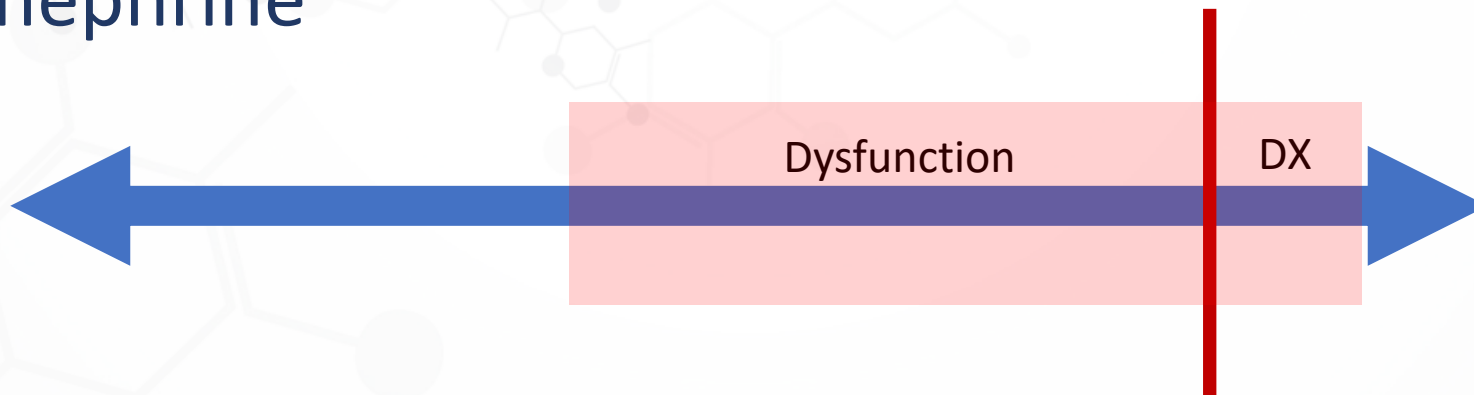
## Pathologies:

Addison's

Cushing's

Hyperaldosteronism

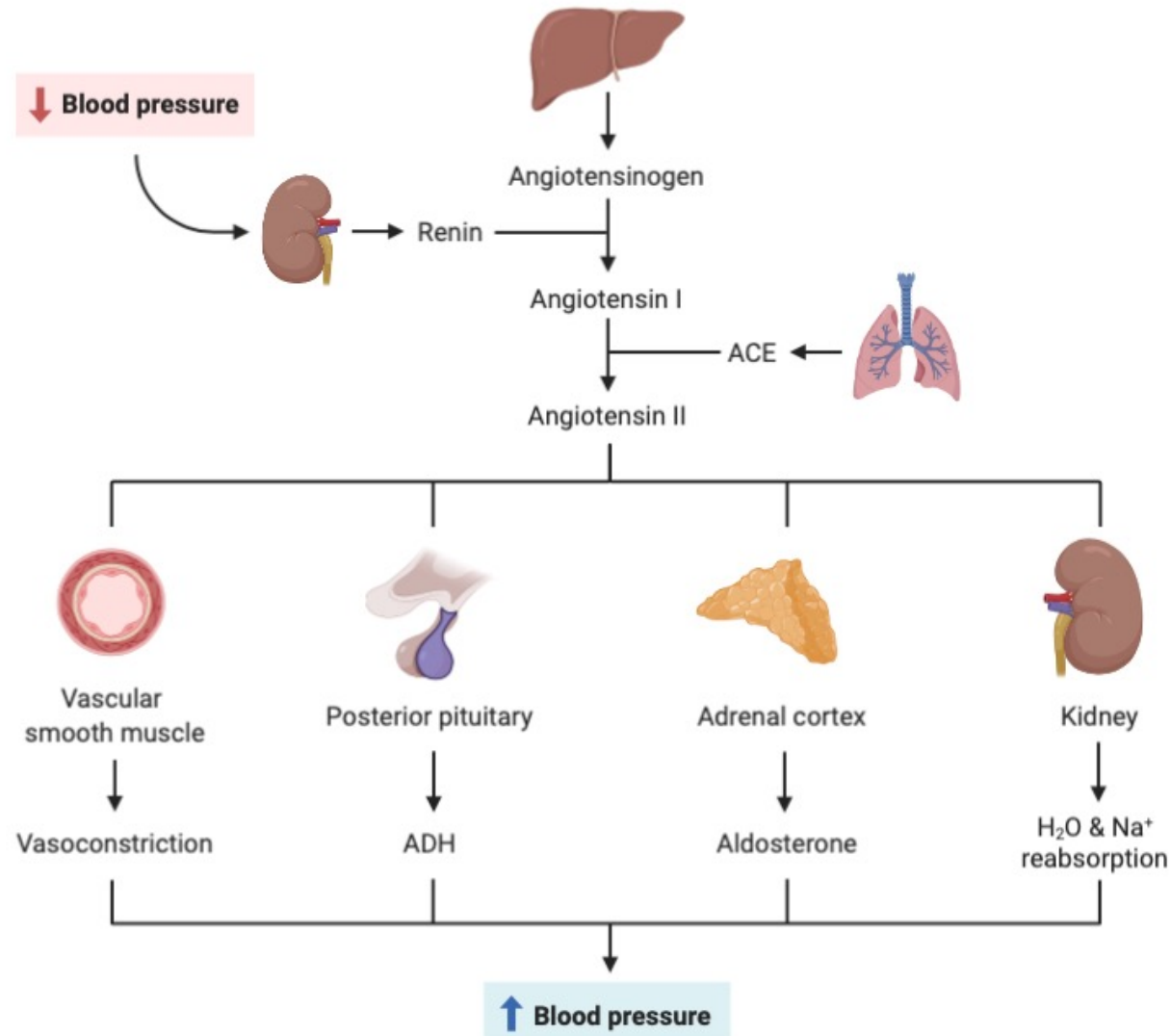
Pheochromocytoma



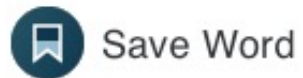


# Quick BP sidenote...

## Renin-Angiotensin System



# aldosterone noun



al·do·ste·rone | \ al-'dā-stə-rōn ; ,al-dō-'ster-ōn, -'stir- ; 'al-dō-stə-rōn \

## Definition of *aldosterone*

: a steroid hormone  $C_{21}H_{28}O_5$  of the adrenal cortex that functions in the regulation of the salt and water balance of the body





# What are the physiologic effects of aldosterone and how does dysfunction contribute to adrenal crisis?

Updated: Sep 01, 2020 | Author: Kevin M Klauer, DO, EJD, FACEP; Chief Editor: Romesh Khardori, MD, PhD, FACP [more...](#)

Aldosterone is produced by multiple hydroxylations of deoxycorticosterone and is normally 60% protein bound. The renin-angiotensin system stimulates aldosterone release. Increased potassium stimulates aldosterone production, and decreased potassium inhibits production. Chronic adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) deficiency may inhibit production.

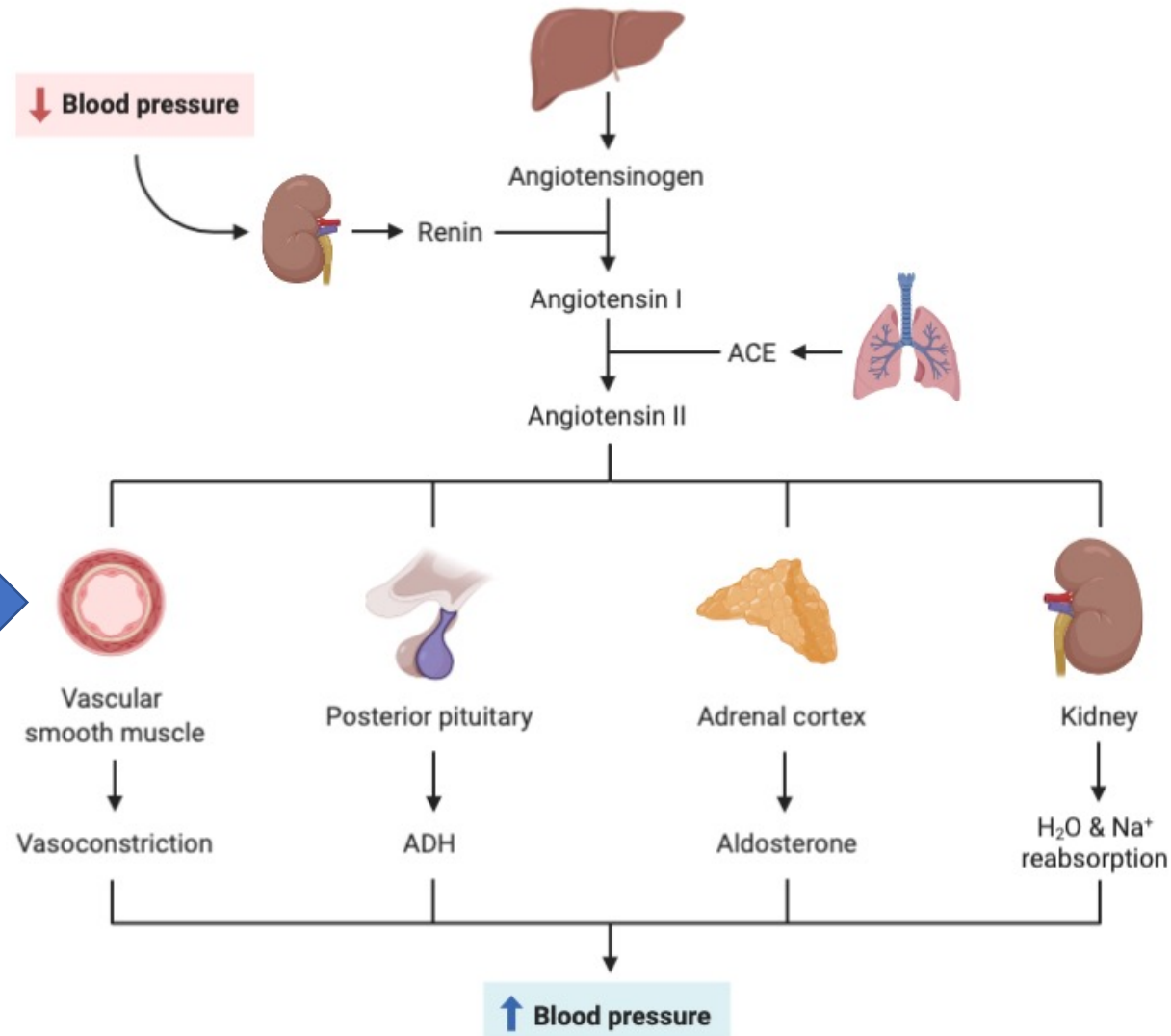
The primary actions of aldosterone cause the kidneys, gut, and salivary/sweat glands to affect electrolyte balance. The primary targets are the kidneys; where it stimulates reabsorption of sodium and secretion of potassium and hydrogen ions. The kidneys' effect on sodium and potassium depend on the intake of these cations (ie, increased sodium intake = increased potassium secretion). The effects on hydrogen probably can occur independently.

Persistent aldosterone excess results in atrial natriuretic factor release and renal hemodynamic changes for compensation. **Congestive heart failure (CHF)** and cirrhosis with ascites are exceptions that cause progressive sodium retention. Excess aldosterone results in sodium retention, **hypokalemia**, and alkalosis. Aldosterone deficiency results in sodium loss, hyperkalemia, and acidosis. Hyperkalemia stimulates aldosterone release to improve potassium excretion. Aldosterone is the first-line defense against hyperkalemia.



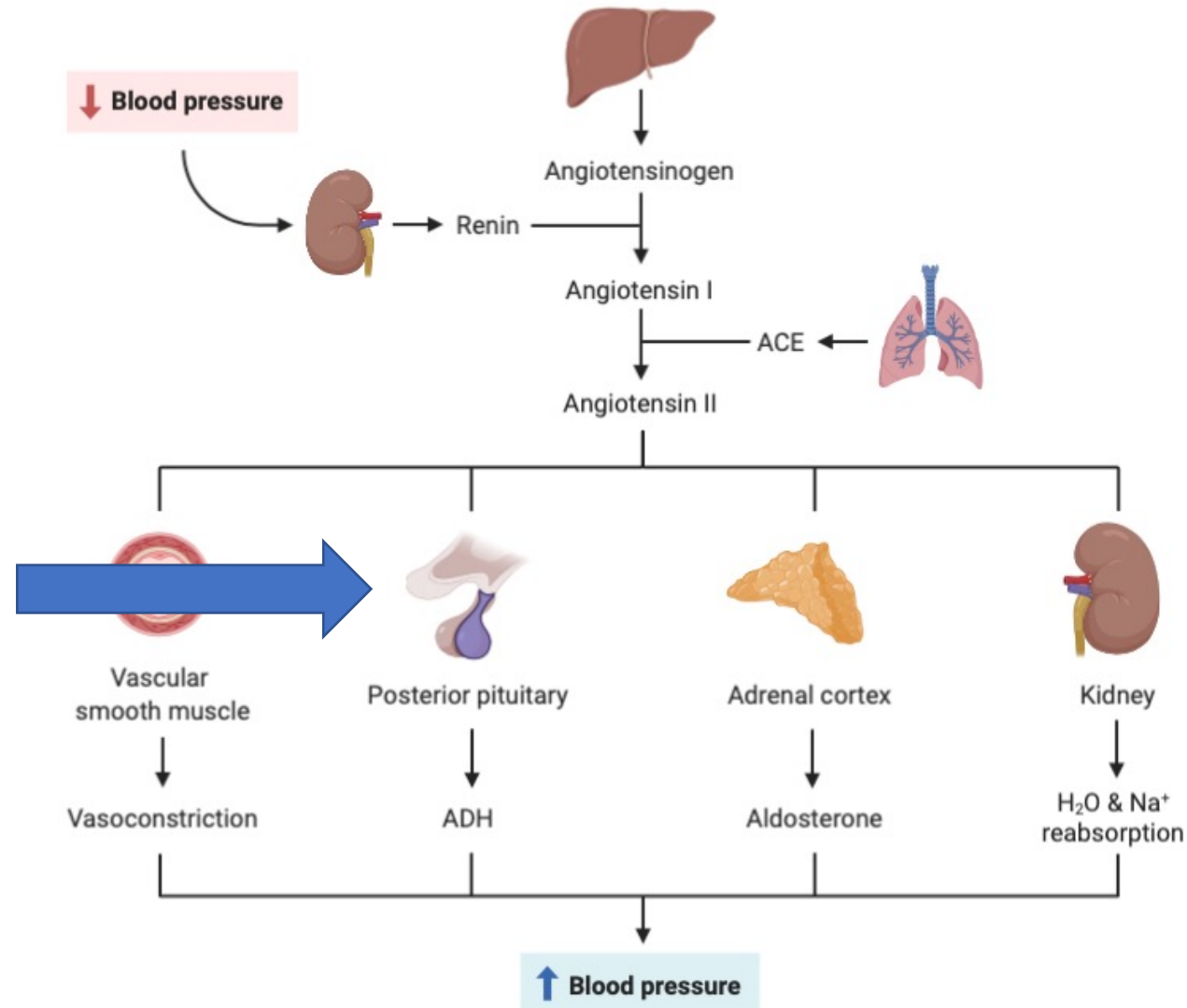
# Quick BP sidenote...

## Renin-Angiotensin System



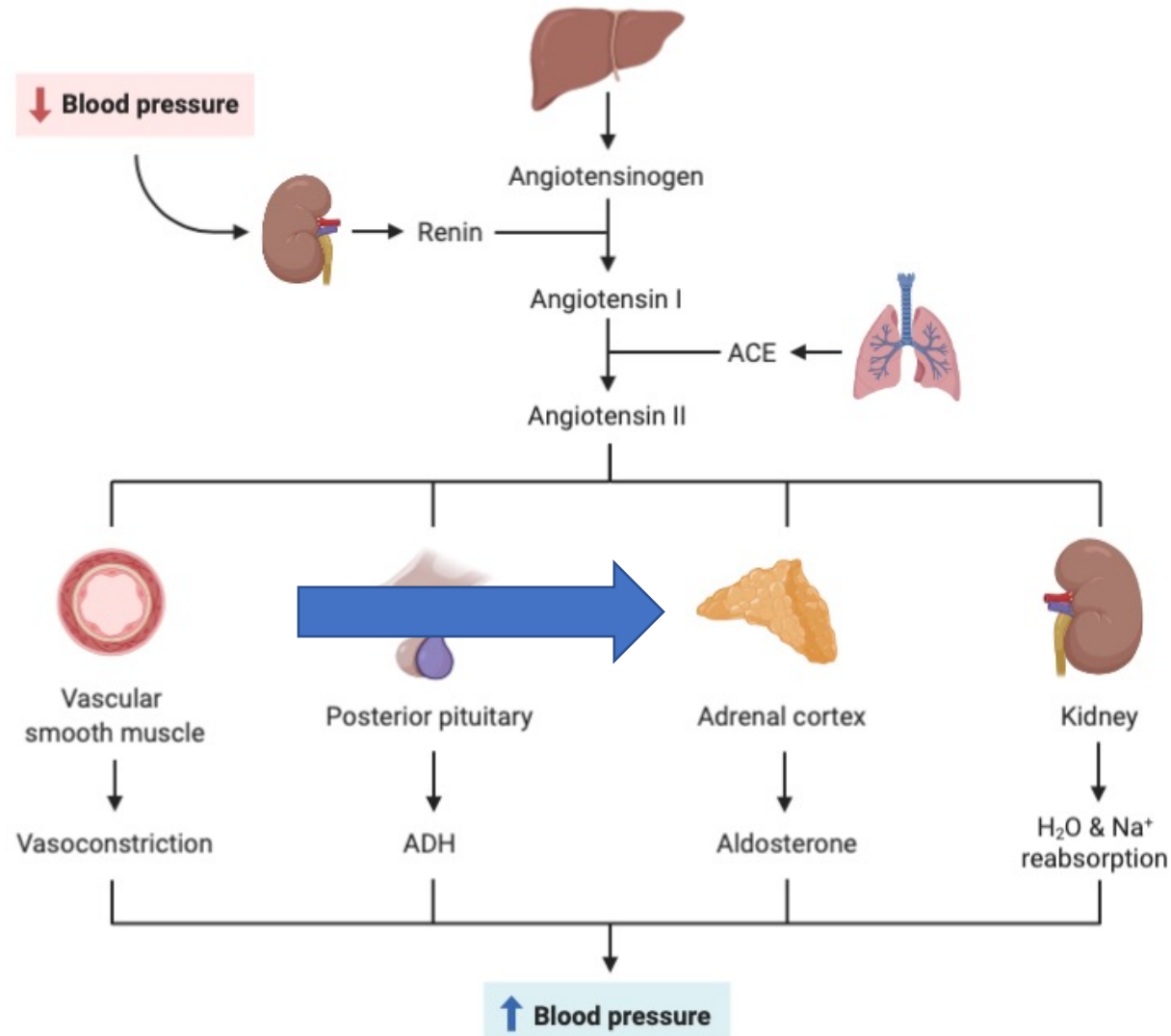
# Quick BP sidenote...

## Renin-Angiotensin System



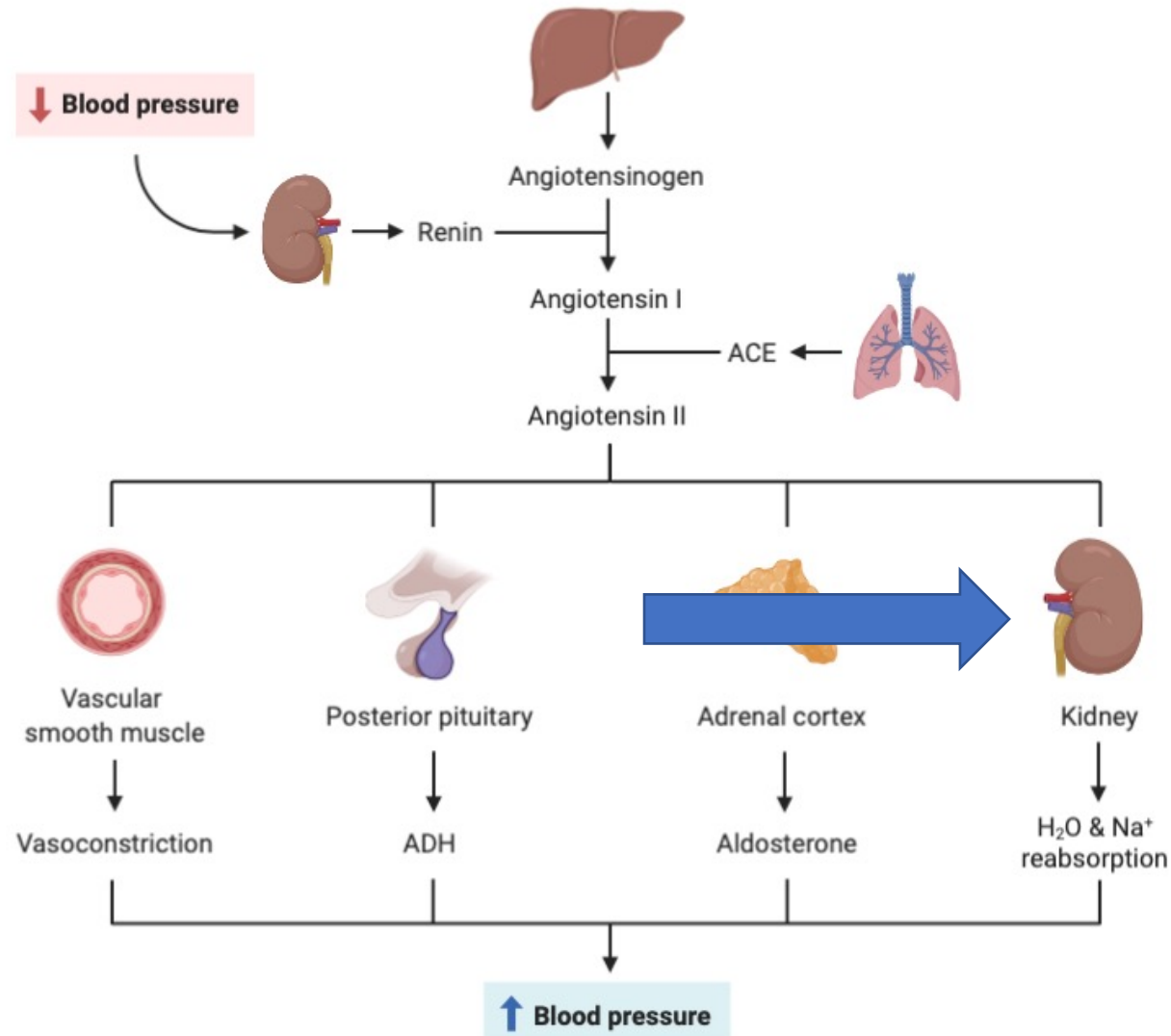
# Quick BP sidenote...

## Renin-Angiotensin System



# Quick BP sidenote...

## Renin-Angiotensin System



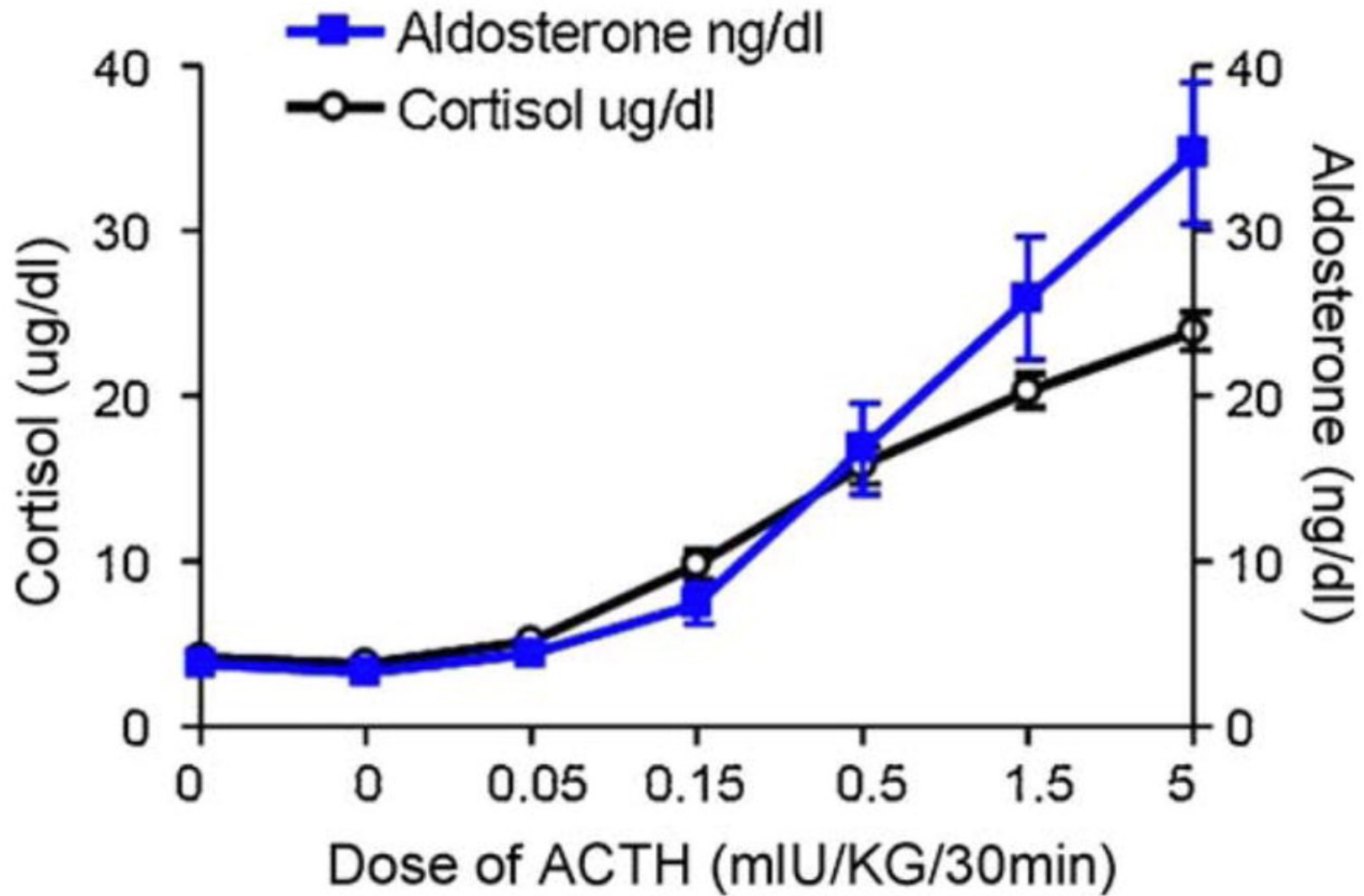


## **Aldosterone: A forgotten mediator of the relationship between psychological stress and heart disease**

Few studies have directly addressed the mechanisms for the observed associations between psychological stress, HPA axis activation and CVD ([Girod and Brotman, 2004](#)). Building on emerging findings that excess activation of MR plays a key pathophysiologic role in the development of CVD, and the potential relationship between stress, negative affective states, and increased production of adrenal glucocorticoid and mineralocorticoid, we propose MR activation by adrenal steroids, in particular aldosterone, as a relevant mediator in the link between psychological stress and CVD. Current evidence for the link between aldosterone, MR activation, and increased risk of CVD is strong ([Yoshimoto and Hirata, 2007](#); [Garg and Adler, 2009](#)), and work on the relation between aldosterone and psychological stress is promising. Important next steps will include experimental research to determine the link between high levels of psychological stress, aldosterone, and cardiovascular reactivity, epidemiologic studies considering aldosterone as a mediator of the observed relationship between chronic negative affect and development of CVD, and the relation of chronic negative affect and aldosterone with pre-disease markers of CVD, and the molecular mechanisms linking chronic negative affect to aldosterone. With this work, new insight may be gained into how psychological stress may impair cardiovascular health.







## Adrenal Insufficiency

Martin R. Huecker; Beenish S. Bhutta; Elvita Dominique.

### ▼ Author Information

#### Authors

Martin R. Huecker<sup>1</sup>; Beenish S. Bhutta<sup>2</sup>; Elvita Dominique<sup>3</sup>.

#### Affiliations

<sup>1</sup> University of Louisville

<sup>2</sup> Sheikh Zayed Hospital, Lahore

<sup>3</sup> Wyckoff Heights Medical Center

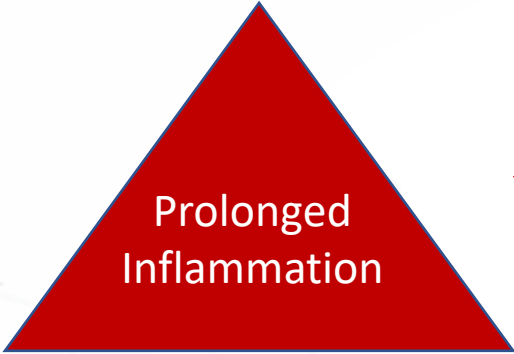


<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK441832/>

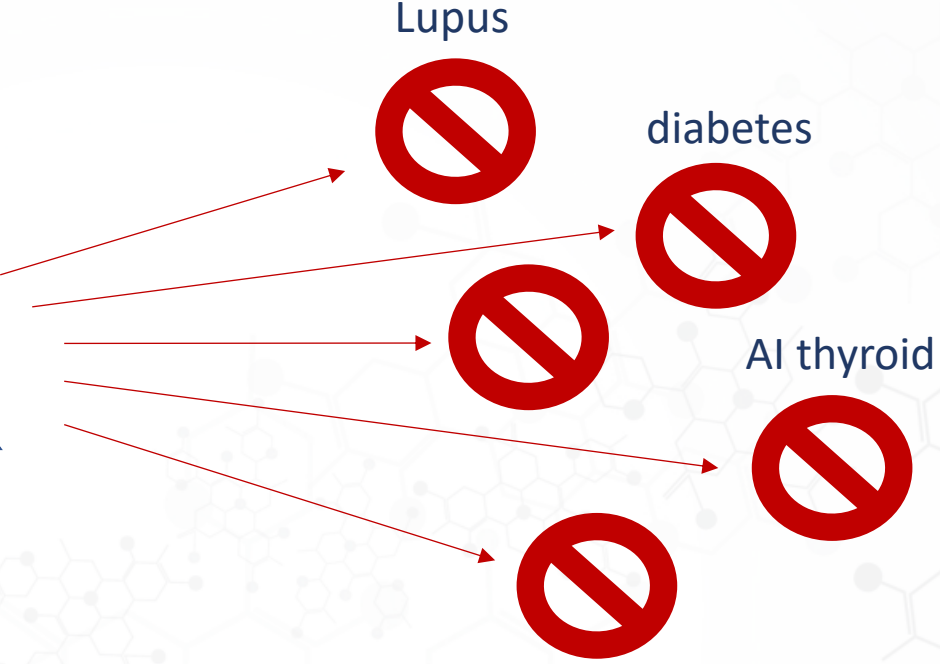
Primary adrenal insufficiency is characterized by decreased aldosterone and cortisol production due to diminished gland function. It can either present acutely, which may present as an adrenal crisis, or it can be chronic, which is called Addison disease.

The most common cause of primary adrenal insufficiency/Addison disease relates to the autoimmune destruction of the adrenal cortex. Antibodies form against the steroid 21-hydroxylase enzyme in approximately 90% of patients.





- Lifestyle:
- Food allergies
- mold
- LPS
- Blood Sugar Balance
- Alcohol
- Infections, etc.



1+



# Addison's Disease

- Fatigue
- Body aches
- Unexplained weight loss
- Low blood pressure
- Lightheadedness
- Loss of body hair
- Skin discoloration (hyperpigmentation)
- Shaking
- Tremors
- Depression

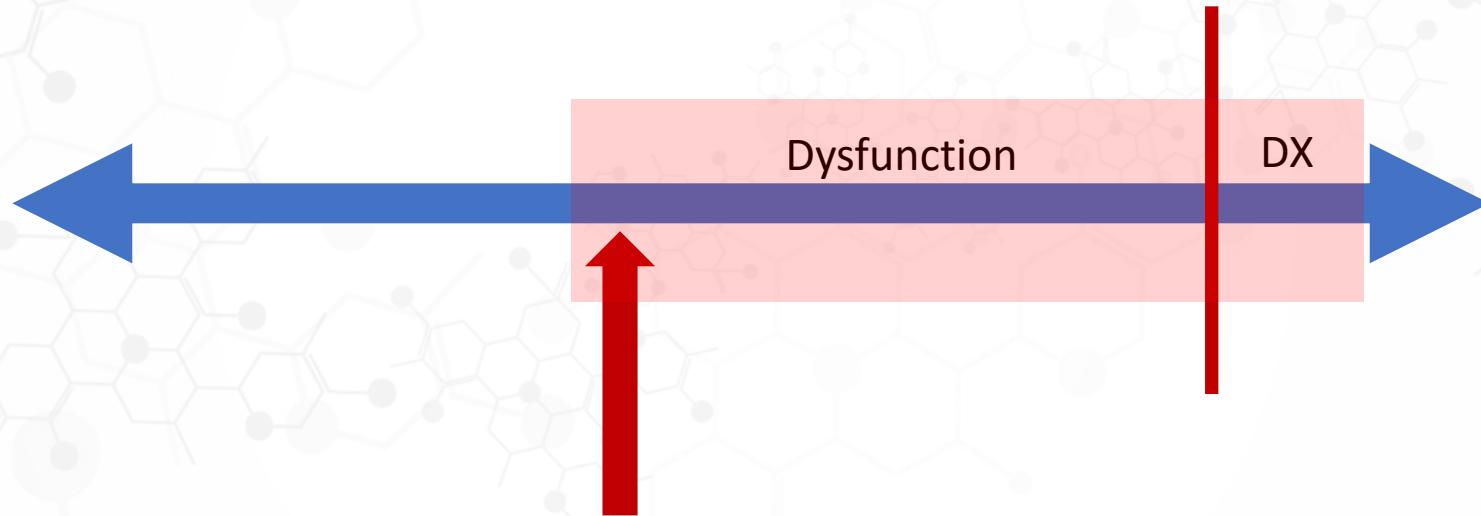


# Cushing's Disease

- Weight gain
  - Fatty tissue deposits
  - Pink or purple stretch marks
  - Bruise easily
  - Slow wound healing
  - Acne
  - Hirsutism (thicker, more visible body hair)
  - Irregular or absent menstrual periods
  - Decreased libido, fertility, ED
- + all of the symptoms associated with Addison's

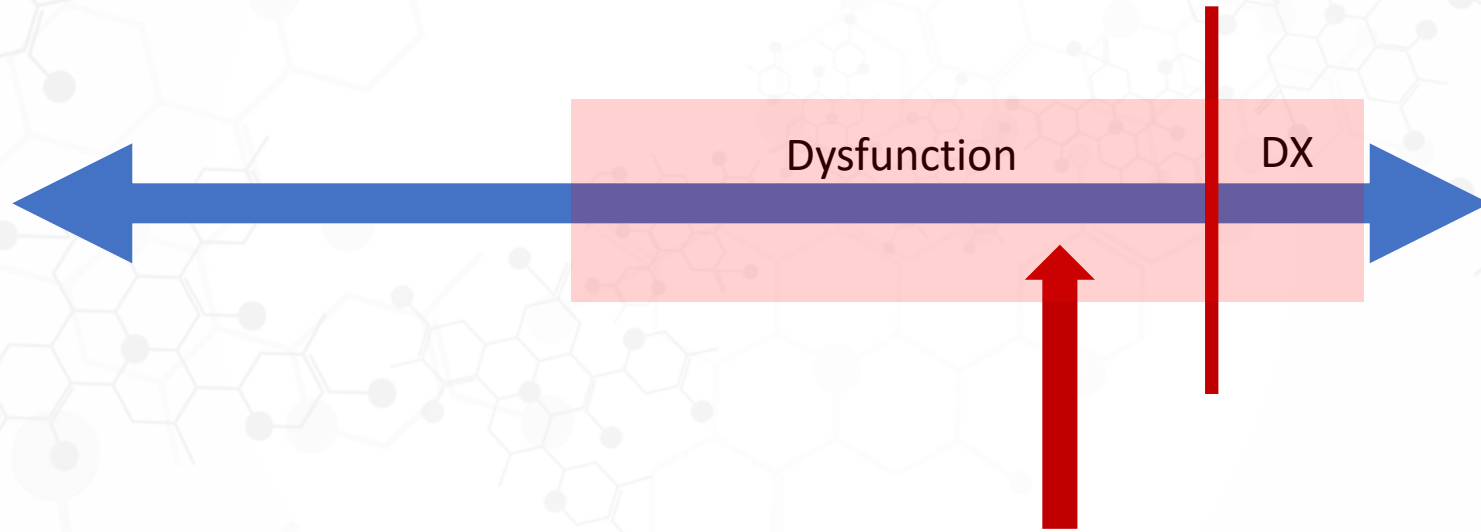


# Adrenal Assessment Measures

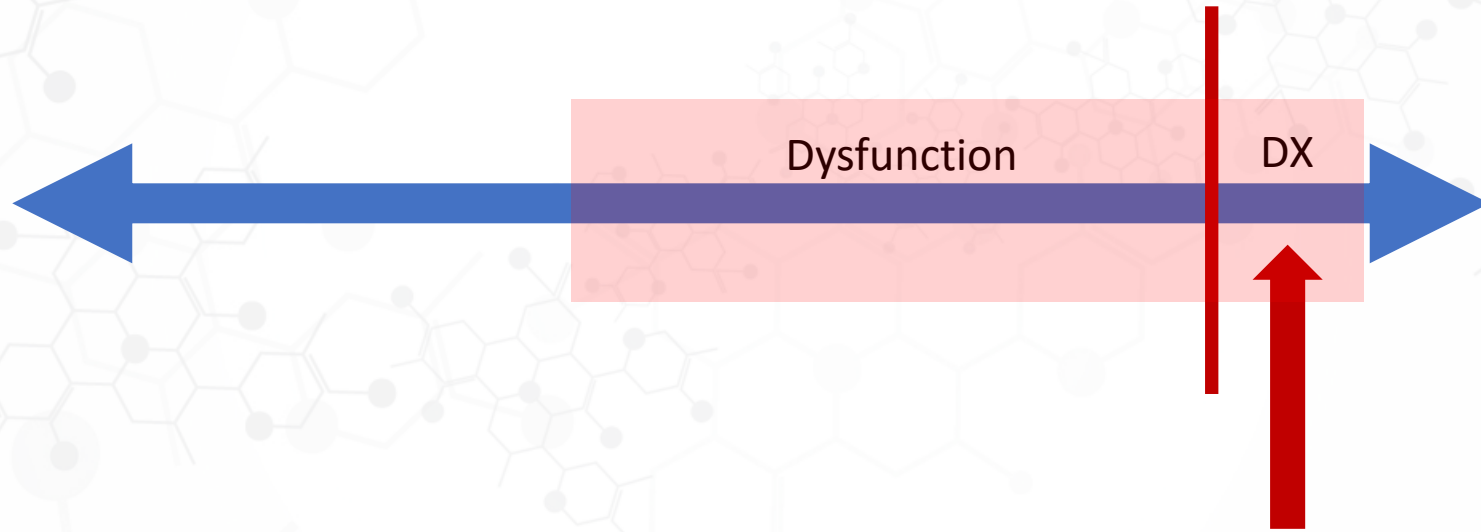




# Adrenal Assessment Measures



# Adrenal Assessment Measures



# Adrenal Notes

## Hormones Produced:

Cortisol

Aldosterone

DHEA and Androgenic Steroids

Epinephrine

Norepinephrine



# Adrenal Notes

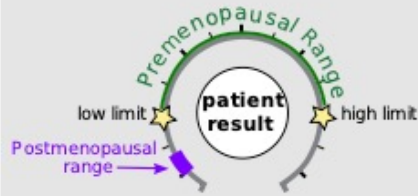
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- DHEA and Androgenic Steroids
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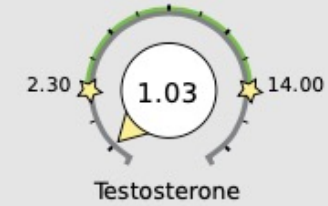
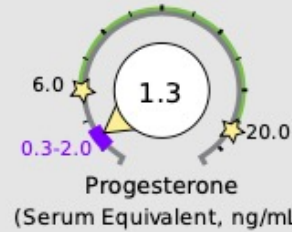
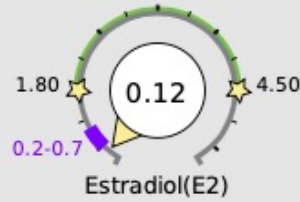


# Hormone Testing Summary

## Key (how to read the results):

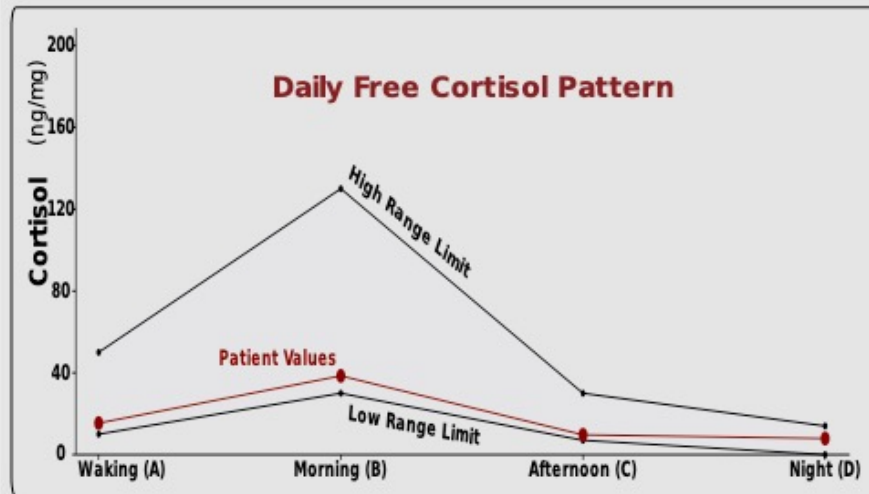


## Sex Hormones See Pages 2 and 3 for a thorough breakdown of sex hormone metabolites



Progesterone Serum Equivalent is a calculated value based on urine pregnanediol.

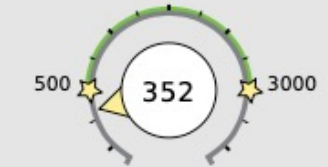
## Adrenal Hormones See pages 4 and 5 for a more complete breakdown of adrenal hormones



Free cortisol best reflects tissue levels. Metabolized cortisol best reflects total cortisol production.

## Total DHEA Production

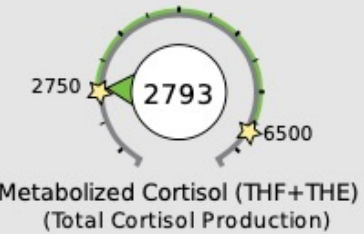
Age	Range
20-39	1300-3000
40-60	750-2000
>60	500-1200



Total DHEA Production (DHEAS + Etiocholanolone + Androsterone)



cortisol metabolism



65-year-old female, hashimoto's.  
Symptoms: fatigue, dizziness, craving salty foods





Category	Test		Result	Units	Normal Range
<b>Nutritional Organic Acids</b>					
Vitamin B12 Marker (may be deficient if high) - (Urine)					
	Methylmalonate (MMA)	High end of range	1.9	ug/mg	0 - 2.2
Vitamin B6 Markers (may be deficient if high) - (Urine)					
	Xanthurenate	Within range	0.8	ug/mg	0 - 1.4
	Kynurenate	High end of range	5.9	ug/mg	0 - 7.3
Glutathione Marker (may be deficient if low or high) - (Urine)					
	Pyroglutamate	Low end of range	32.7	ug/mg	32 - 60
<b>Neurotransmitter Metabolites</b>					
Dopamine Metabolite - (Urine)					
	Homovanillate (HVA)	Low end of range	5.3	ug/mg	4 - 13
Norepinephrine/Epinephrine Metabolite - (Urine)					
	Vanilmandelate (VMA)	Within range	3.3	ug/mg	2.4 - 6.4
Melatonin (*measured as 6-OH-Melatonin-Sulfate) - (Urine)					
	Melatonin* (Waking)	Below range	4.1	ng/mg	10 - 85
Oxidative Stress / DNA Damage, measured as 8-Hydroxy-2-deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) - (Urine)					
	8-OHdG (Waking)	Within range	2.2	ng/mg	0 - 5.2

65-year-old female, hashimoto's.  
Symptoms: fatigue, dizziness, craving salty foods





# Hormone Testing Summary

**Key (how to read the results):**

**Sex Hormones**

Estradiol(E2)

Testosterone

**Testosterone**

Age	Range
18-25	50-115
26-40	40-95
41-60	30-80
>60	25-60

**Adrenal Hormones** See pages 4 and 5 for a more complete breakdown of adrenal hormones

**Daily Free Cortisol Pattern**

Cortisol (ng/mg)

Waking (A) Morning (B) Afternoon (C) Night (D)

**Total DHEA Production**

Age	Range
20-39	3000-5500
40-60	2000-4000
>60	1000-2500

Total DHEA Production (DHEAS + Etiocholanolone + Androsterone)

24hr Free Cortisol (A+B+C+D)

→ cortisol metabolism

Metabolized Cortisol (THF+THE) (Total Cortisol Production)

Free cortisol best reflects tissue levels. Metabolized cortisol best reflects total cortisol production.

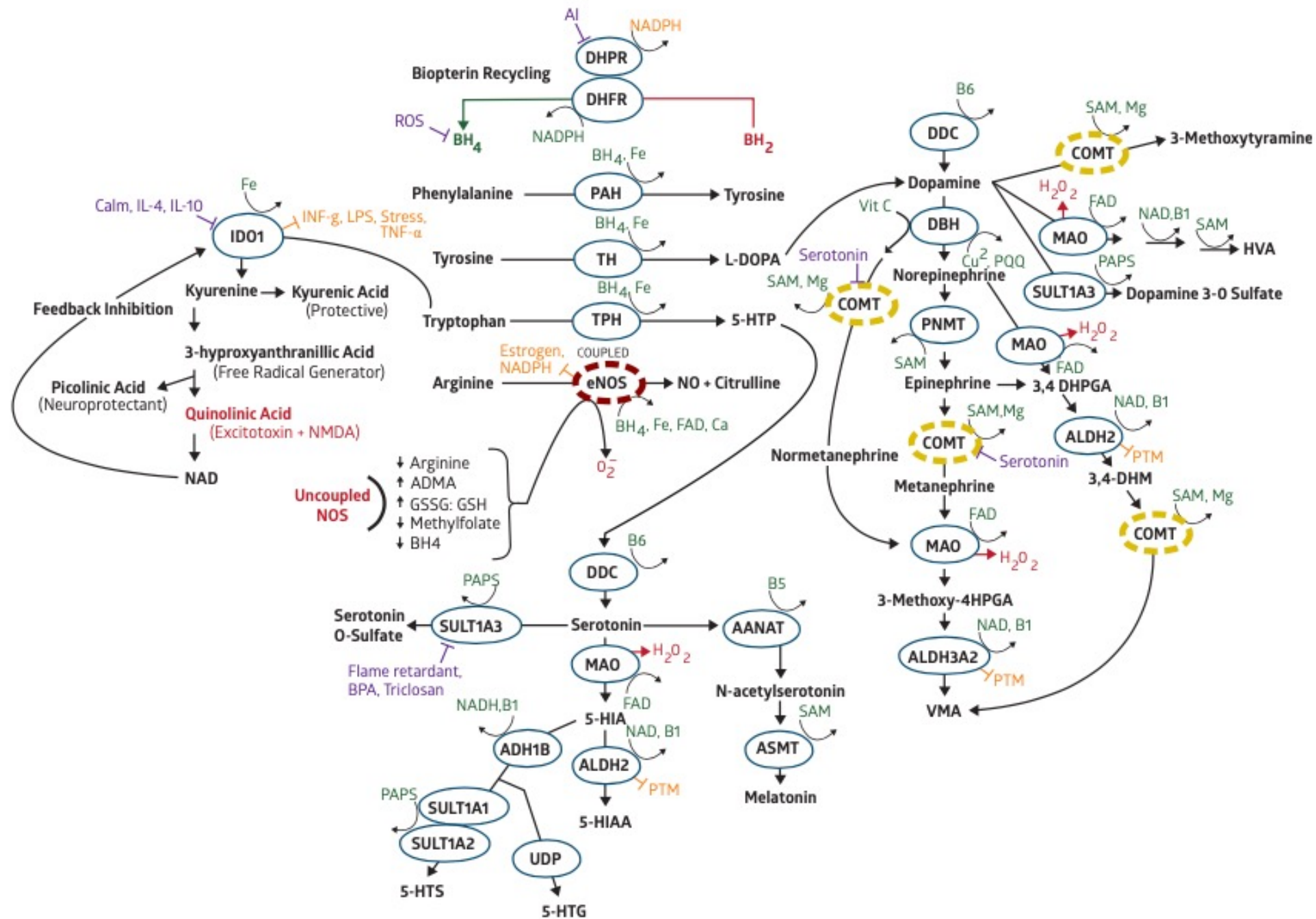
64-year-old male, diabetes, hbp, obesity, ED.  
Symptoms: fatigue, weight gain, decreased libido.



Category	Test		Result	Units	Normal Range
<b>Nutritional Organic Acids</b>					
Vitamin B12 Marker (may be deficient if high) - (Urine)					
	Methylmalonate (MMA)	Above range	5.3	ug/mg	0 - 3
Vitamin B6 Markers (may be deficient if high) - (Urine)					
	Xanthurenate	High end of range	1.7	ug/mg	0 - 2.1
	Kynurenate	High end of range	8.7	ug/mg	0 - 9.3
Glutathione Marker (may be deficient if low or high) - (Urine)					
	Pyroglutamate	High end of range	78.0	ug/mg	43 - 85
<b>Neurotransmitter Metabolites</b>					
Dopamine Metabolite - (Urine)					
	Homovanillate (HVA)	Low end of range	5.6	ug/mg	4.8 - 19
Norepinephrine/Epinephrine Metabolite - (Urine)					
	Vanilmandelate (VMA)	Within range	5.4	ug/mg	2.8 - 8
Serotonin Metabolite - (Urine)					
	5-Hydroxyindoleacetate (5HIAA)	Within range	7.3	ug/mg	3 - 10
Melatonin (*measured as 6-OH-Melatonin-Sulfate) - (Urine)					
	Melatonin* (Waking)	Low end of range	11.5	ng/mg	10 - 85
Oxidative Stress / DNA Damage, measured as 8-Hydroxy-2-deoxyguanosine (8-OHdG) - (Urine)					
	8-OHdG (Waking)	Within range	4.7	ng/mg	0 - 8.8

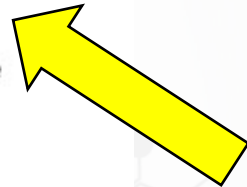
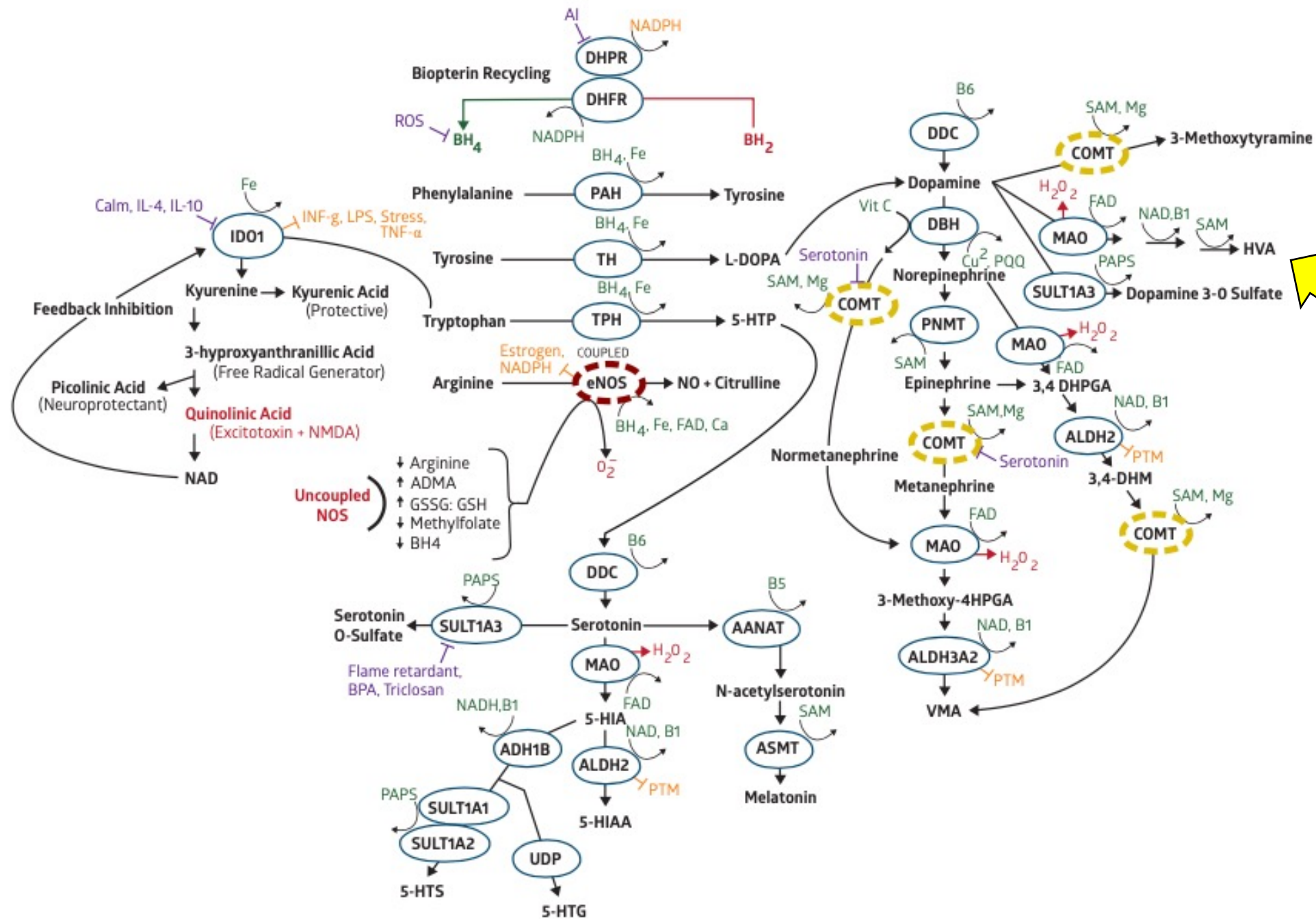
64-year-old male, diabetes, hbp, obesity, ED.  
Symptoms: fatigue, weight gain, decreased libido.

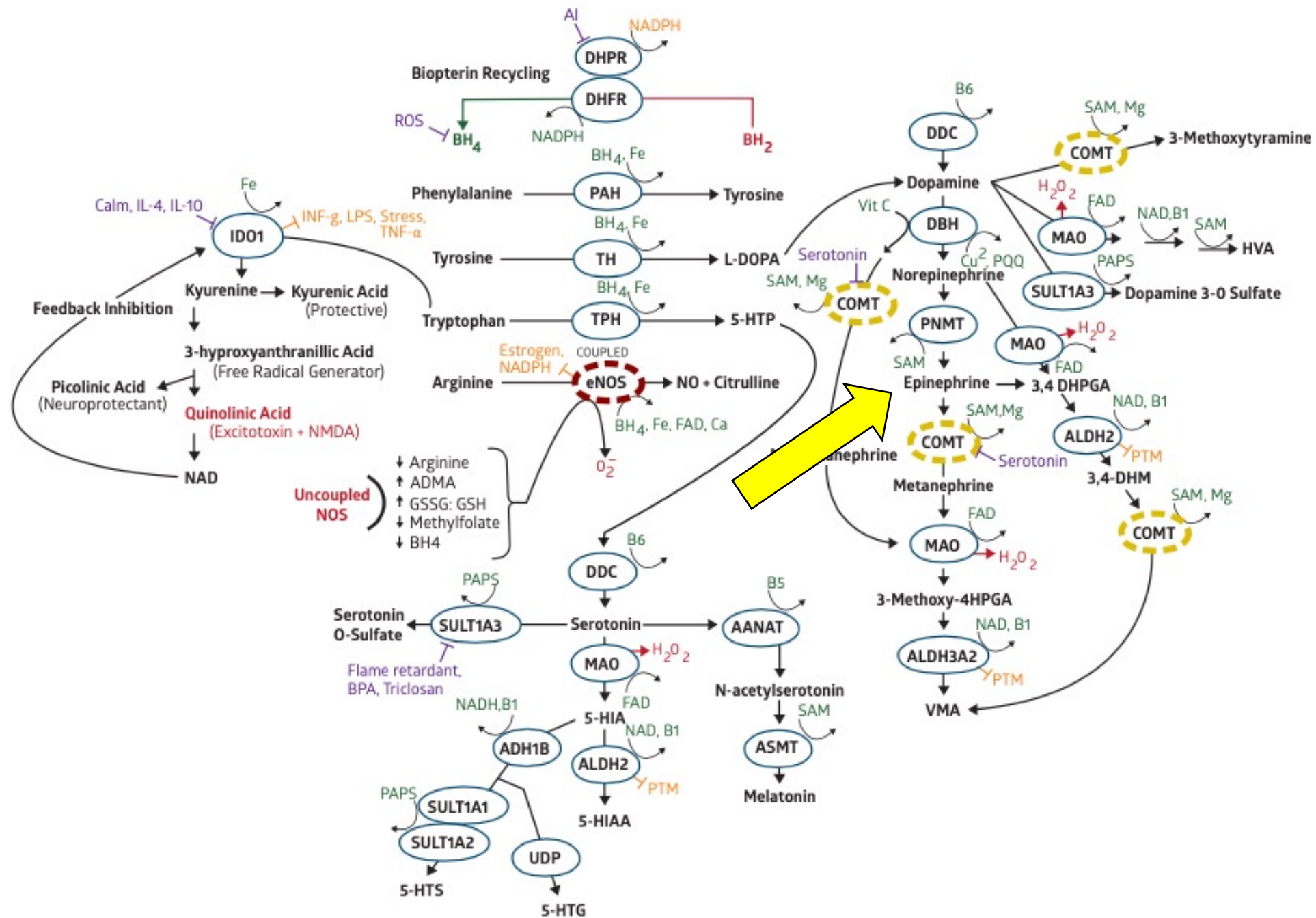








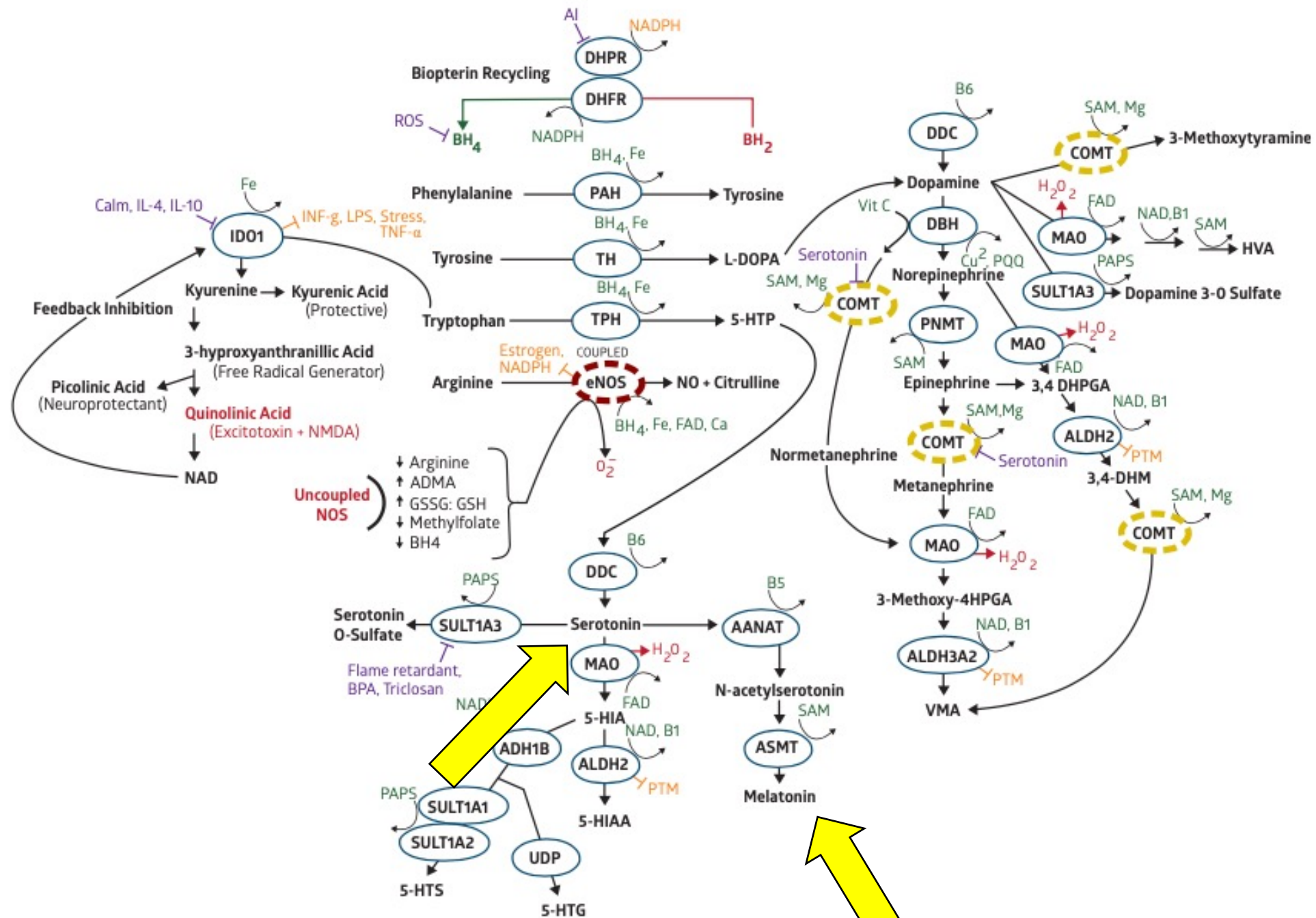






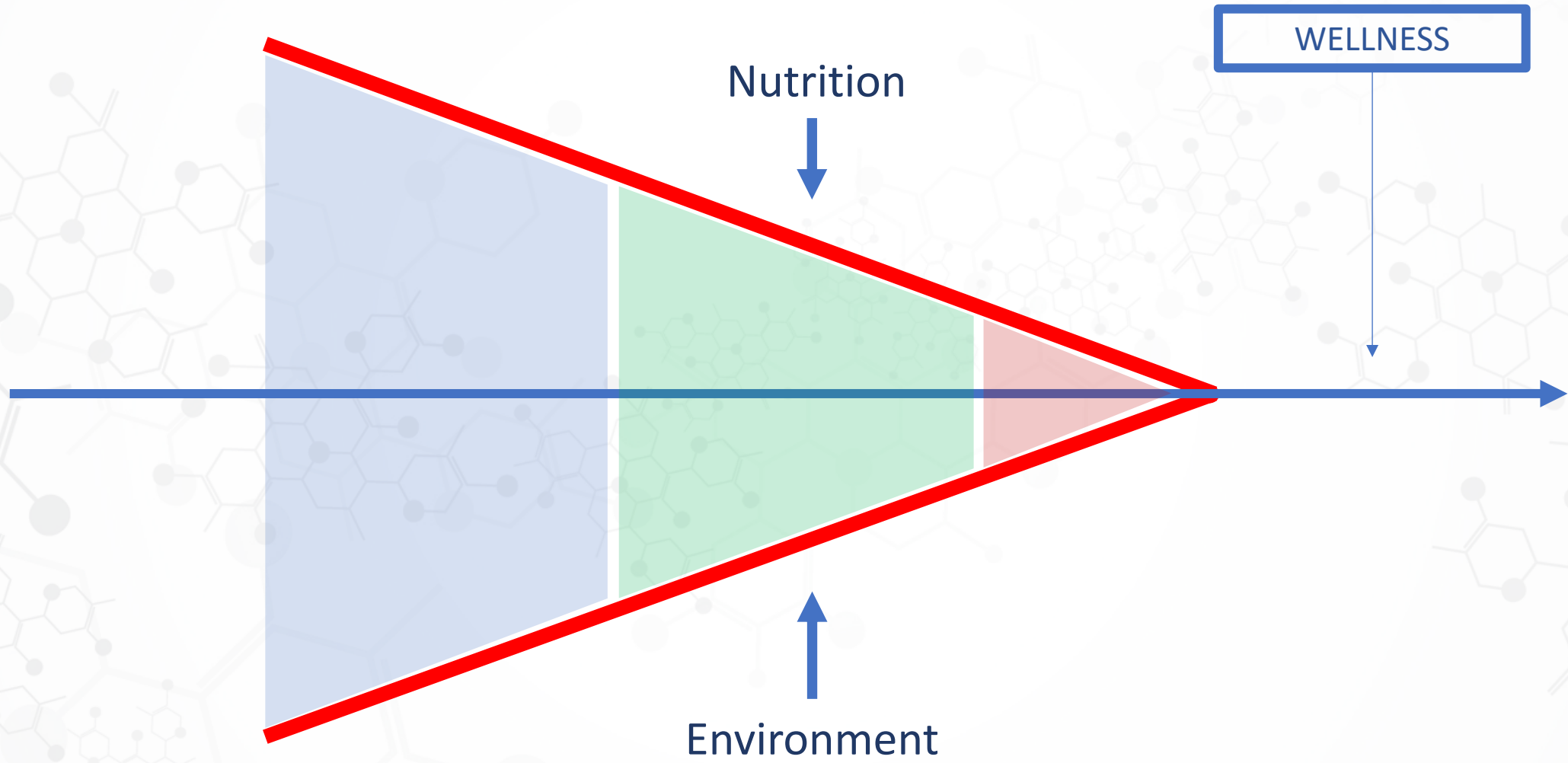








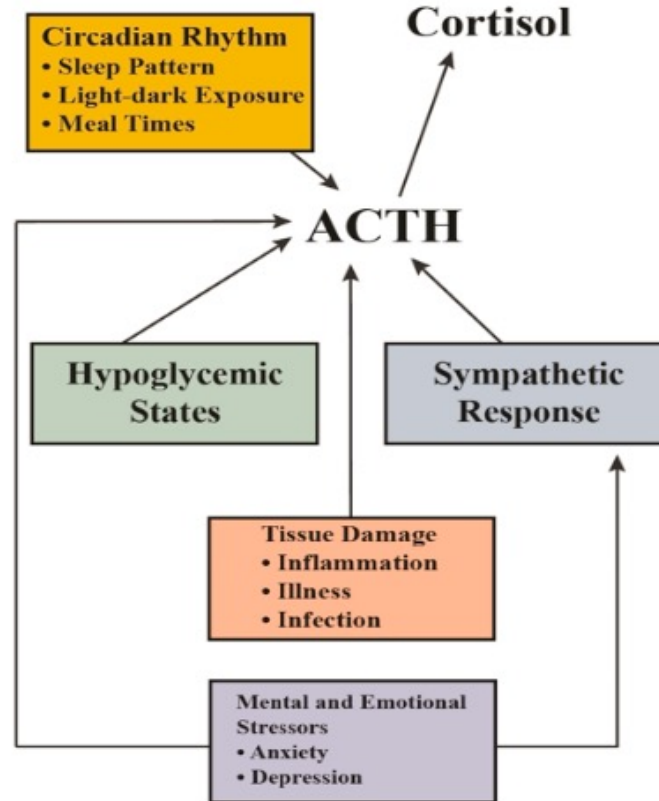
# Protocols



**Figure 1:**

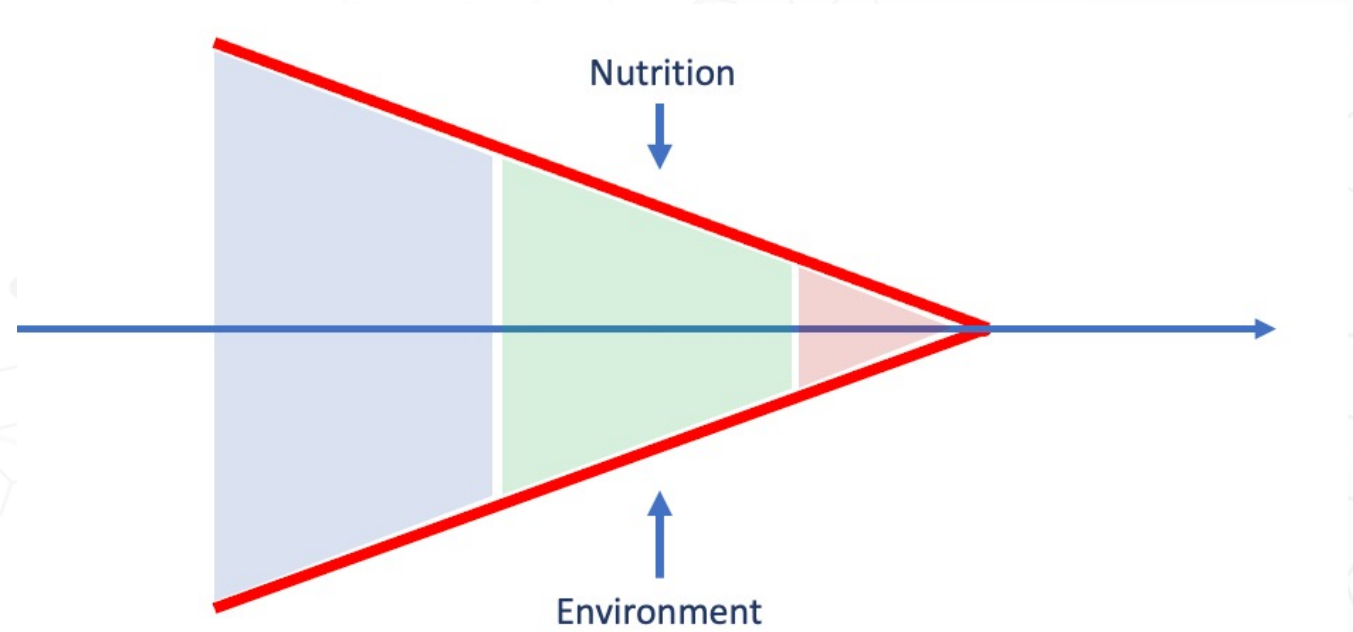
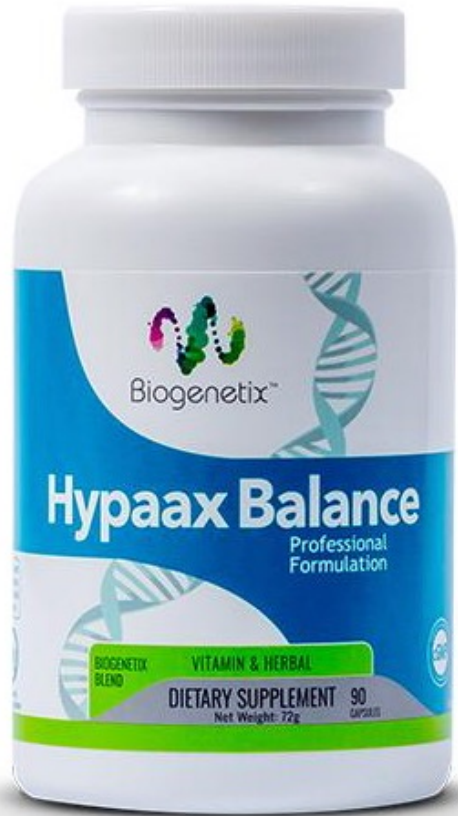
**Inducers of Cortisol Release**

Inducers below must be individually examined for successful restoration of adrenals.





# Hypaax Balance



# Biogenetix: 833-525-0001



[zeb@biogenetix.com](mailto:zeb@biogenetix.com)



[kim@biogenetix.com](mailto:kim@biogenetix.com)

