

SLIM STRESS SOLUTIONS

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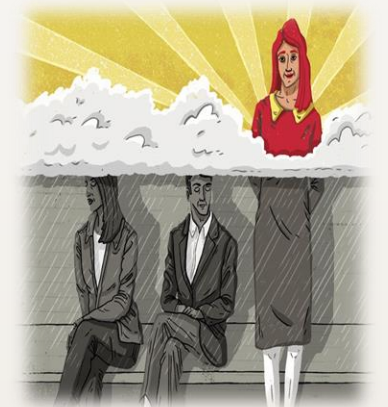
TYPES OF STRESS

We all experience stress at some point in our lives.

But whilst many people seem **debilitated** by stress, others seem to **thrive** on it!

EUSTRESS

- This type of **Positive Stress** produces maximum enthusiasm, creativity & performance = **CONSTRUCTIVE!!**



DISTRESS OR CHRONIC STRESS

- This type of **Negative Stress** *reduces* motivation, creativity and performance = **DESTRUCTIVE!!**
- Types of **DISTRESS** incl. **PHYSICAL**, **EMOTIONAL**, **ENVIRONMENTAL** (i.e. temperature changes, changes in altitude, noise variations, etc.), **METABOLIC**



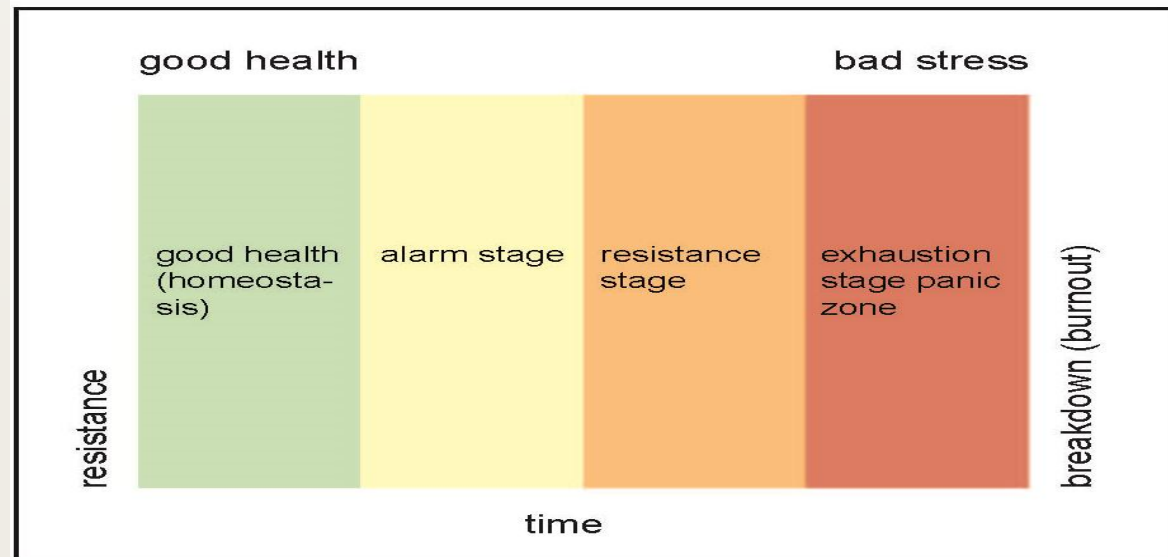
STRESS RESPONSE PATTERN

- Endocrinologist & “*Father of Stress Research*” **Hans Selye** observed that the **body responds to stress** with a ***Predictable Biological Pattern***, in an attempt to **restore** the body’s **Internal Balance/ Homeostasis**.
- He thus introduced the **General Adaptation Syndrome Model**
- The **response** to Stress is divided into **3 stages**:

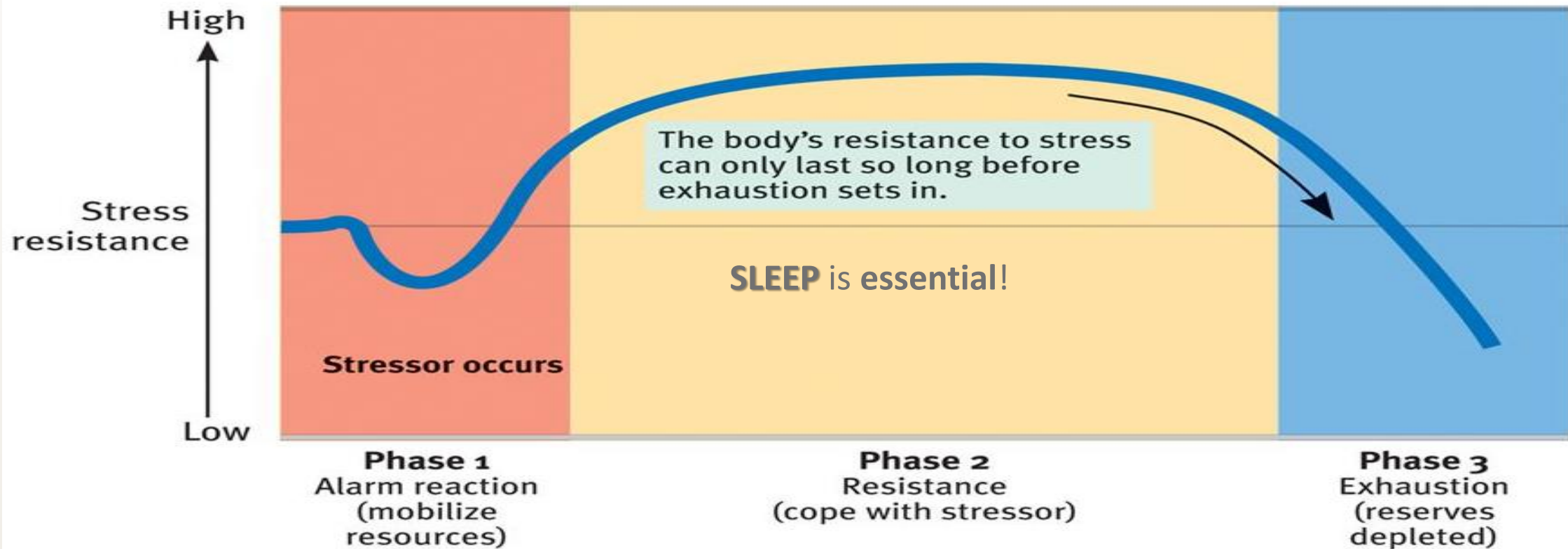
✓ **Alarm Stage**

✓ **Resistance Stage**

✓ **Exhaustion Stage**



General Adaptation Syndrome - GAS



- Going through the **Resistance Stage**, the body is continuously trying to regain **Homeostasis** i.e. **Stability & Balance**, returning systems to normal functioning. This should be a **period of Recovery, Repair & Renewal**.
- If this process/ **STRESS** is repeated too often, with little or **NO RECOVERY**, the body will then move into the **Exhaustion Stage**.

FOOTNOTES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

THE RESISTANCE STAGE

- Release of cortisol, increased blood sugar due to catabolism
- Release of aldosterone, retention of sodium and excretion of potassium to increase blood pressure
- The **source** of the stress may **now** have been **dealt with**
There may still be **increased** levels of **Cortisol**, but even if Stress Hormone levels return to normal, **Defences** and **Energy** levels may be **reduced/ lowered**.
The process of **Homeostasis begins** a **period** of **Recovery, Repair & Renewal** – **SLEEP** is **essential** at this stage!!

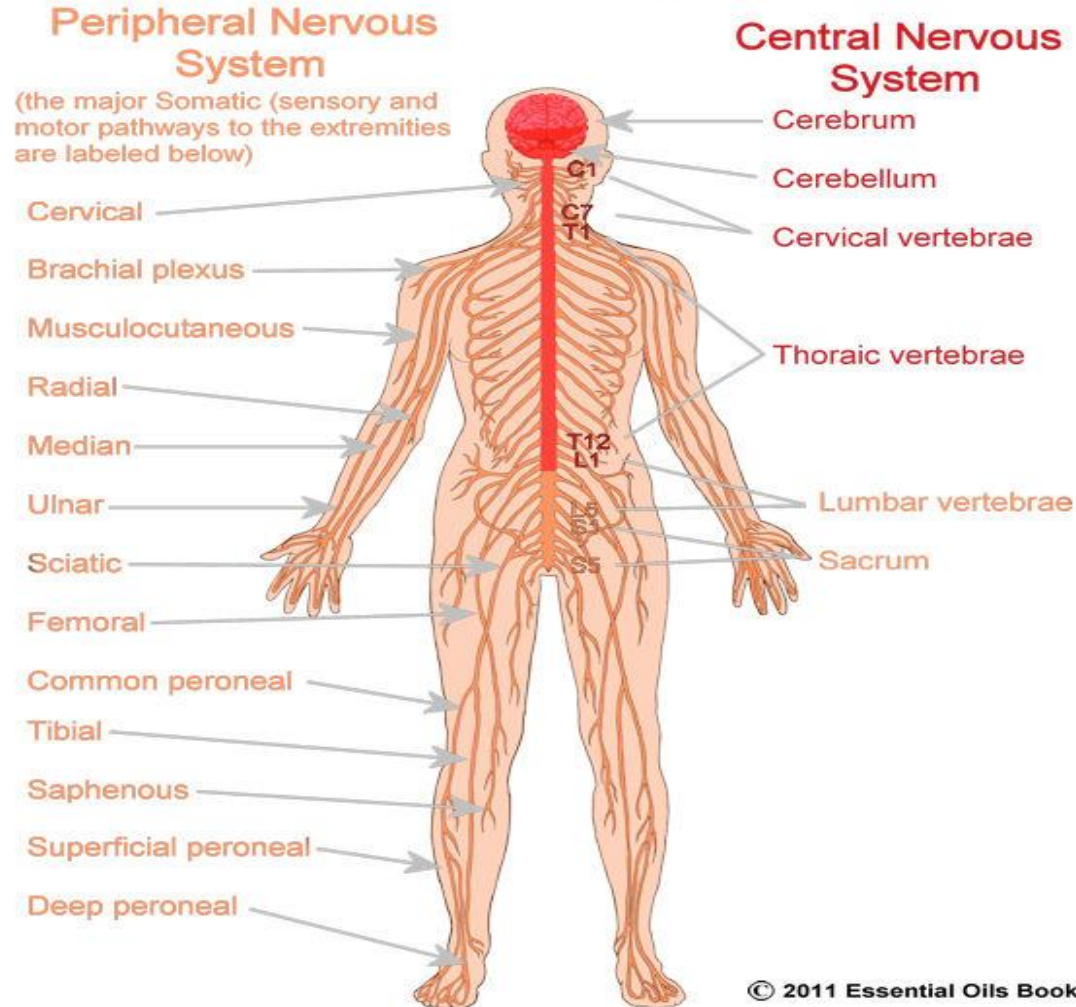
EXHAUSTION STAGE

- Depletion Of Adrenal Hormones
- Reduced Anti-stress Capabilities & Other Functions Dependent On Adrenal Hormones
- Depletion Of Neurotransmitters (E.G. Dopamine)
- Chronic Blood Sugar Depletion
- Chronic Fatigue
- General Physiological & Psychological Depression

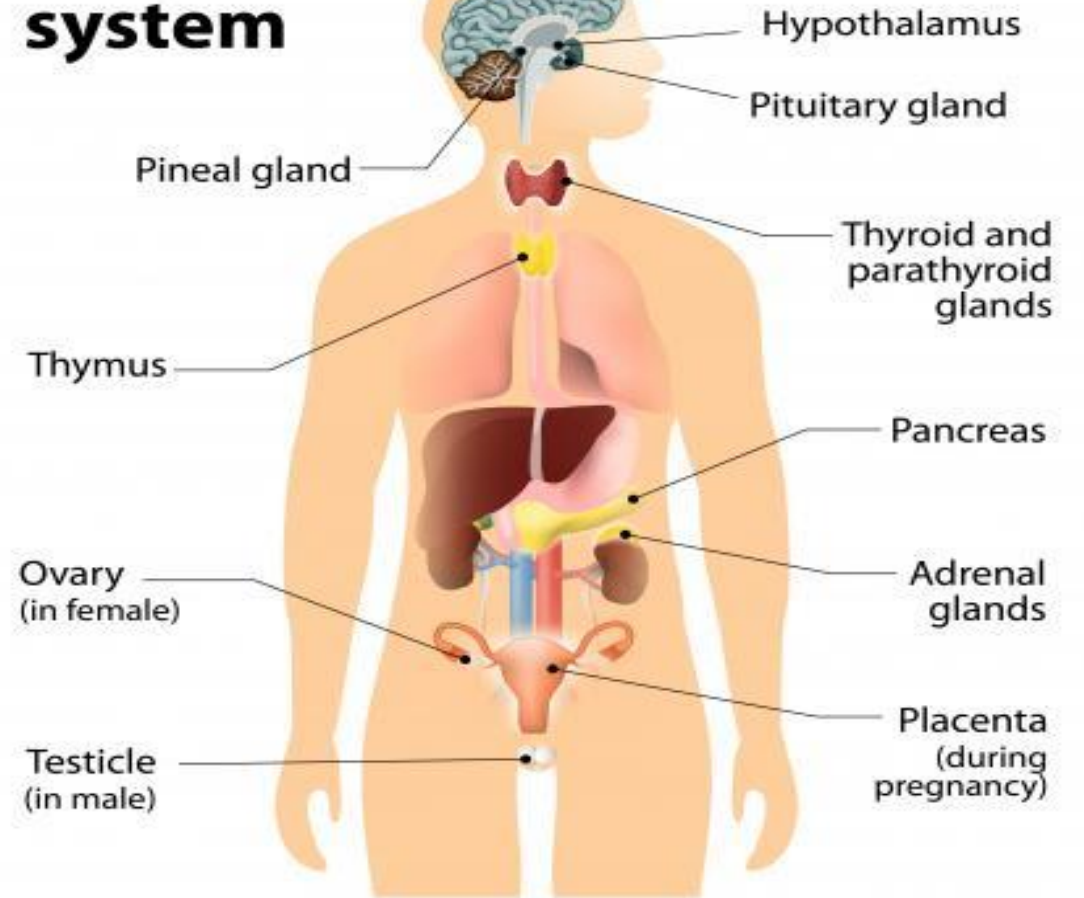
- WHAT IS GOING ON / HAPPENING IN OUR BODIES WHEN WE GO THROUGH THESE STAGES?
- WE ACTIVATE & USE BOTH THE NERVOUS & HORMONE SYSTEMS



The Nervous System



Endocrine system



FOOTNOTES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

The Nervous system uses electrical impulses to send *signals (Neurotransmitters)* through Neurones.

Transmission (Communication) is quick, effect **LOCALISED**, *short-lived* & reversible (*Temporary*) .

The hormonal system uses chemical messengers (Hormones) transported into Blood to target cells.

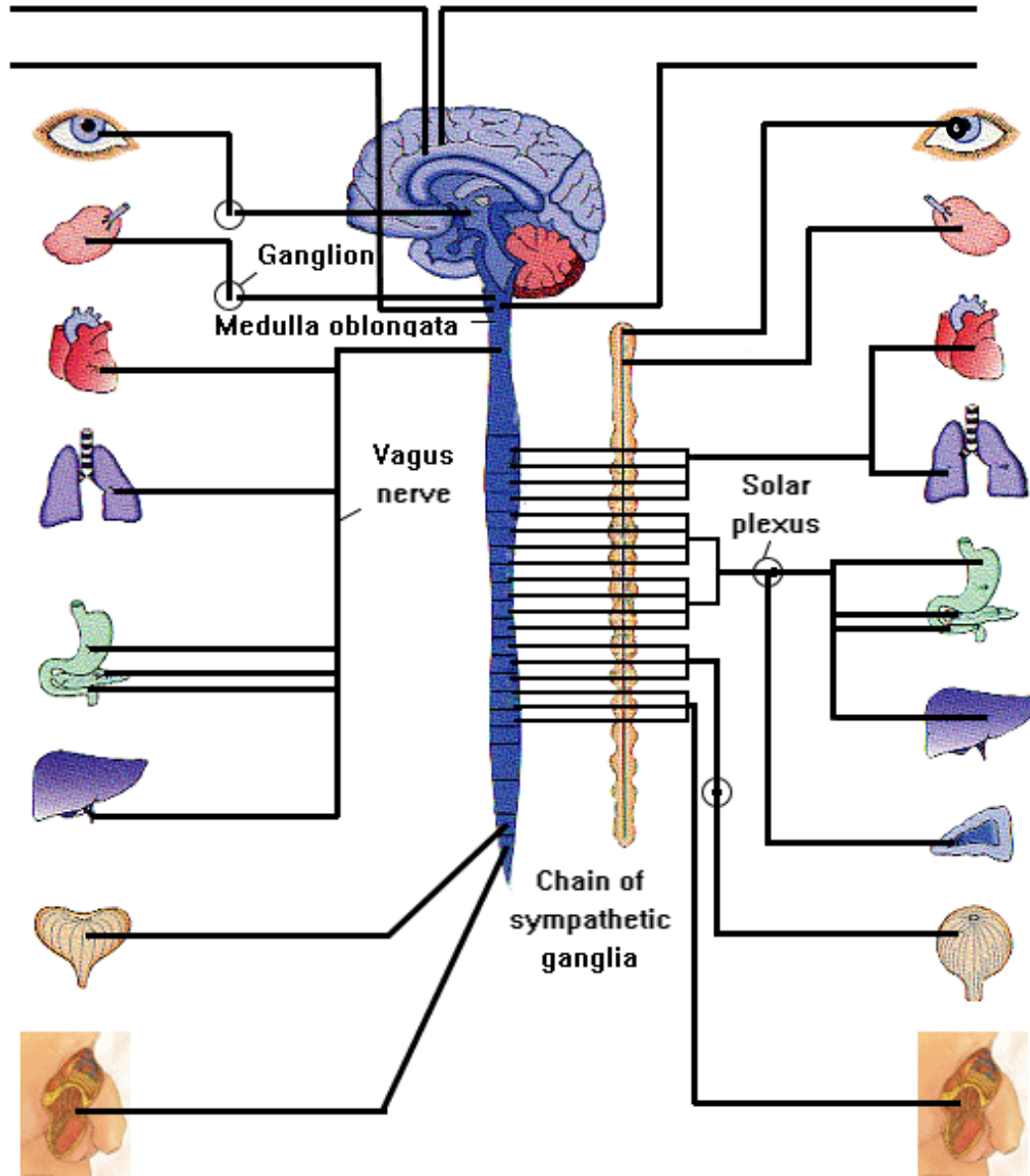
Transmission (Communication) takes longer , effect **WIDESPREAD** and *long-lasting*, therefore often permanent.

Parasympathetic

Sympathetic

MODE

- Brain activity decrease
- Metabolic rate decrease
- Stimulates flow of saliva
- Slows heartbeat
- Constricts bronchi
- Stimulates peristalsis and secretion
- Stimulates release of bile
- Contracts bladder
- Stimulates sexual arousal, erection of genital

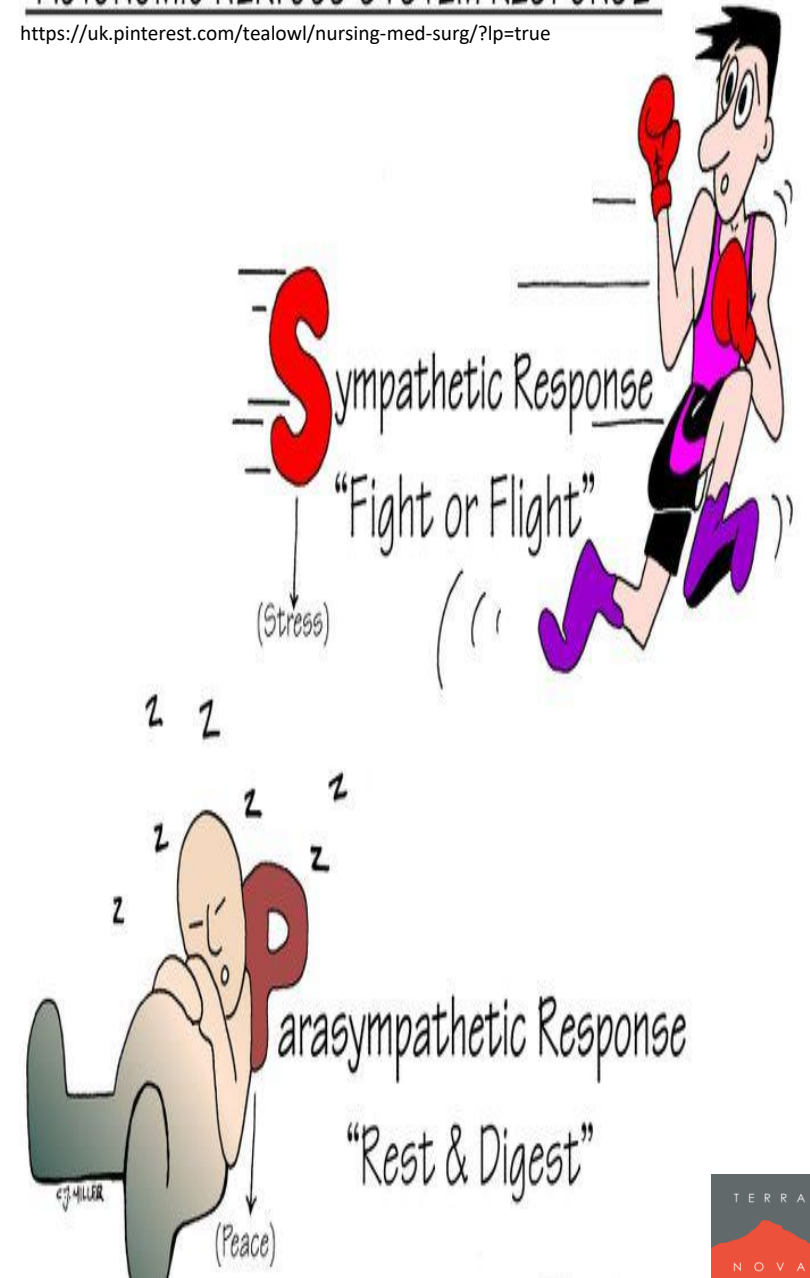


- Brain activity increase
- Metabolic rate increase
- Dilates pupil
- Inhibits flow of saliva
- Accelerates heartbeat
- Dilates bronchi
- Inhibits peristalsis and secretion
- Conversion of glycogen to glucose
- Secretion of adrenaline and noradrenaline
- Inhibits bladder contraction
- Stimulates orgasm, ejaculation

<http://www.sunscientific.com/What-is-ANS.html>

"AUTONOMIC NERVOUS SYSTEM RESPONSE"

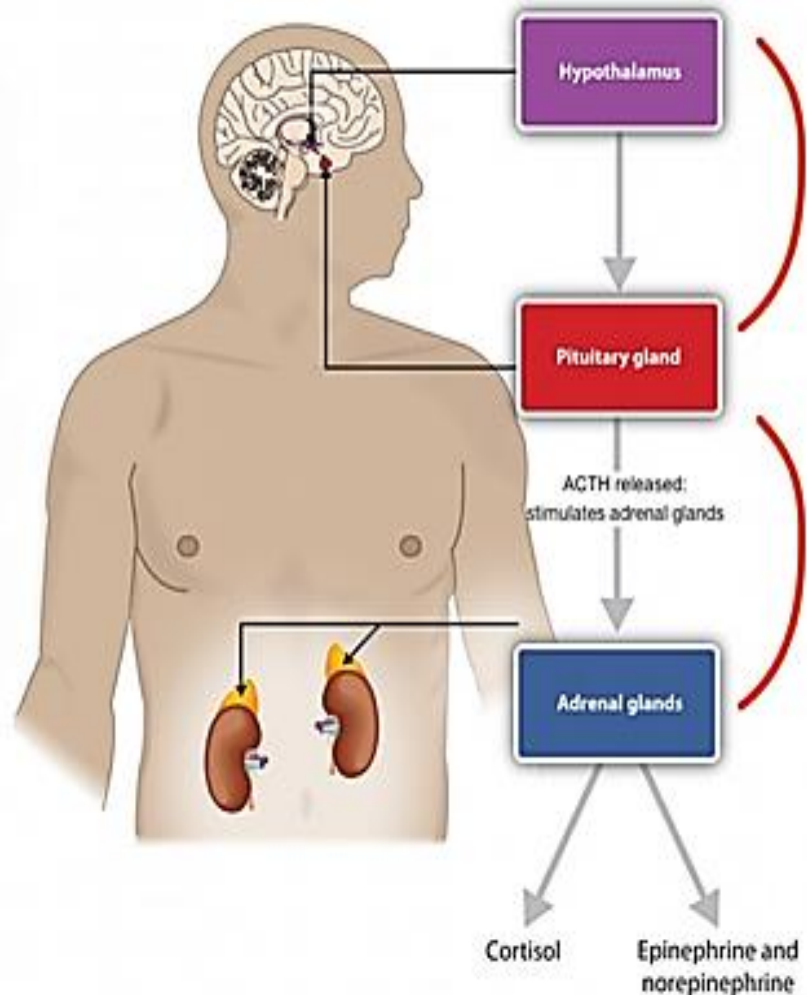
<https://uk.pinterest.com/tealowl/nursing-med-surg/?lp=true>



COMMON NERVE MESSENGERS / NEUROTRANSMITTERS

NEUROTRANSMITTER	ACTION
ACETYLCHOLINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Muscle MOVEMENT in Peripheral NS• MEMORY, Learning, Attention, Alertness & REM Sleep in the CNS• 1 ° neurotransmitter of PSNS & ANTAGONISTIC to Adrenaline
DOPAMINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• MOTIVATION, DRIVE & feelings of Pleasure• SMOOTH & COORDINATED MUSCLE MOVEMENT
NORADRENALINE & ADRENALINE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NEURO-HORMONES• FIGHT /FLIGHT- Involved in Acute Stress & Energy responses
GABA	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• INHIBITORY & Calming - Mind & Muscles
GLUTAMATE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• STIMULATORY- Assists with Intellectual Performance, Attentiveness, Eliminating Brain Fog & Cloudiness.
SEROTONIN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Regulates Mood, Appetite, Sleep, Pain perception, Intestinal Movement

HPA-Axis Feedback Loop



ADRENAL CORTEX releases:

glucocorticoids

e.g. cortisol

mineralocorticoids

e.g. aldosterone

sex hormones

e.g. testosterone


ADRENAL MEDULLA releases:

epinephrine

norepinephrine

kidney



	HORMONE RELEASED	PRIMARY ACTION	
ADRENAL CORTEX	<p>GLUCOCORTICOIDS (Mainly CORTISOL)</p> <p>RAISE BLOOD GLUCOSE</p>	 <p>↑ Blood Glucose ↑ Blood Pressure (↑ H₂O Retention) ↓ Inflammation & ↓ Immunity (<i>at high doses</i>) ↑ Glycogenolysis ↑ Lipolysis ↑ Proteolysis } Gluconeogenesis</p>	
	<p>MINERALOCORTICOIDS (Mainly ALDOSTERONE)</p> <p>REGULATE MINERAL & WATER CONTENT</p>		<p>↑ Sodium & Water Retention (Raises Blood Pressure) ↑ Excretion of K⁺ ↑ Reabsorption of Na⁺</p>
	<p>SEX HORMONES (Mainly ANDROGENS as DHEA)</p>		<p>Sex Hormone Precursor</p>
ADRENAL MEDULLA	<p>ADRENALINE / EPINEPHRINE (80%) NORADRENALINE/ NOREPINEPHRINE (20%)</p> <p>NEUROHORMONES working within the AUTONOMIC Nervous System</p>	<p>Intensify the SYMPATHETIC response ADRENALINE has greater influence on the Heart. NORADRENALINE affects Blood vessels</p>	



SAM

ACUTE

DUAL STRESS RESPONSE

CHRONIC

HPA

Autonomic Nervous System
(Involuntary movements of non-skeletal muscles e. g. heart)

FAST Higher brain centres once stress is perceived (Hypothalamus) **SLOW**

Activate

Stimulates

Sympathetic Nervous system
(activated in situations needing energy and arousal)

Endocrine System
Releases
Corticotrophin releasing factor (CRF)

Anterior Pituitary gland
Releases

Activates
Adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH)

Adrenal Medulla

ADRENAL GLAND

Adrenal cortex
Activates

ALARM STAGE

RESISTANCE STAGE

Releases
Adrenaline

Noradrenaline

Releases
Cortisol (a glucocorticoid)
"STRESS HORMONE"

Arouses sympathetic ganglia

MINERAL-OCORTICOCIDS

GLUCOCORTICOCIDS

- ↑ Sodium & H2O Retention
- ↑ Blood Volume & Pressure

- ↑ Blood Glucose
- ↑ Glycogenolysis
- ↑ Gluconeogenesis
- ↑ Blood Volume & Pressure
- ↓ Inflammation & Immunity

- ↑ Heart Rate & ↑ Blood Pressure
- ↑ Liver conversion of Glycogen to Glucose
- ↑ Blood Sugar
- ↑ Blood Flow to Muscles & Heart with ↓ Blood flow to Digestive & Urinary System
- ↑ Metabolic Rate



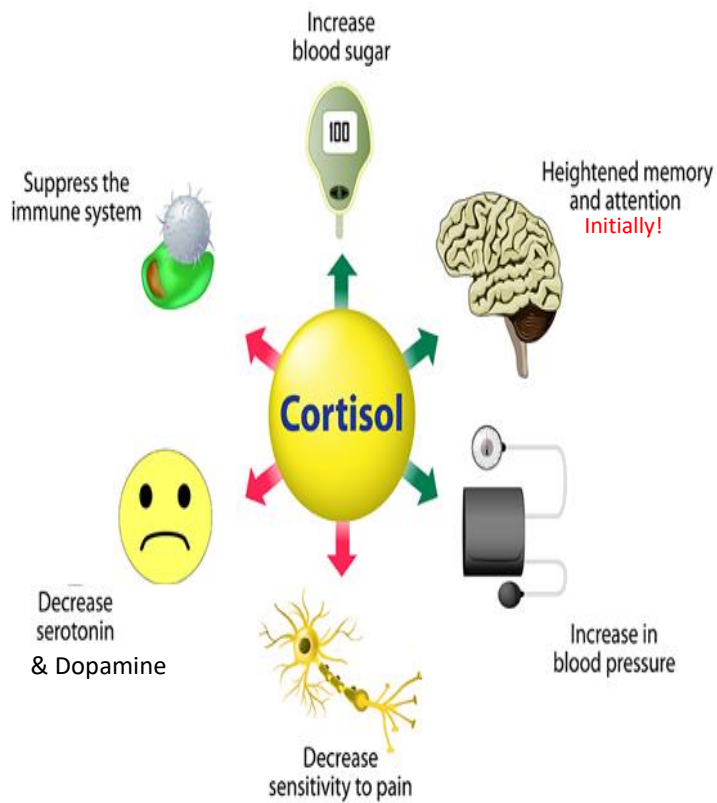
FOOTNOTES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

Every stress you experience triggers a **dual** chain reaction that prepares you to physically respond to the stressor.

The **INITIAL & (Acute) Alarm Reaction ACTIVATES** your Brain & Sympathetic Nervous System, which stimulate your Adrenal glands to produce epinephrine (adrenaline) to prepare your body for immediate “fight or flight”.

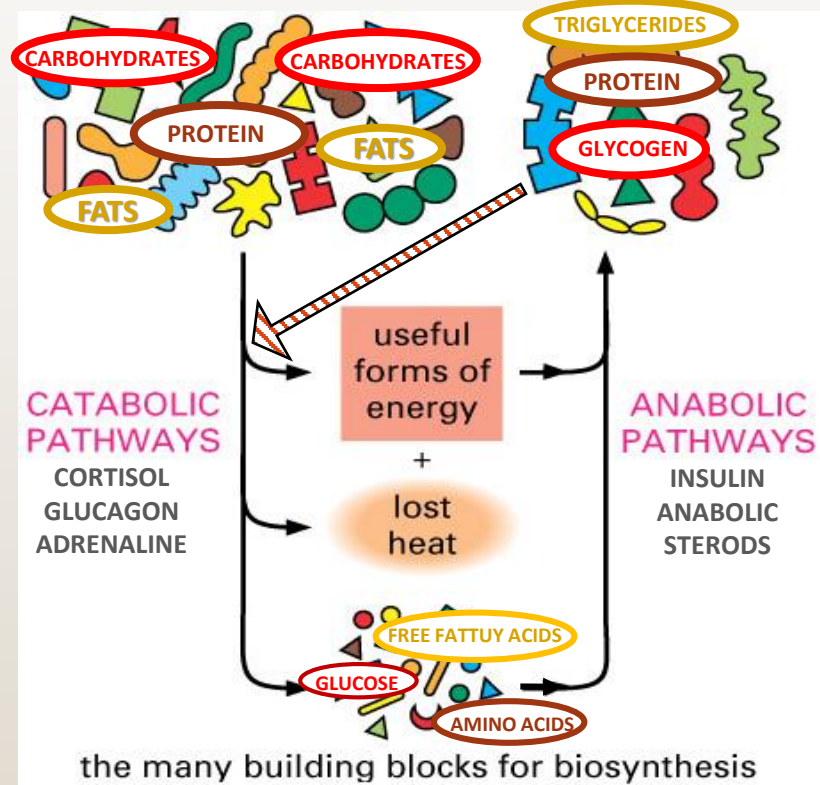
This is then **followed by a stress response regulated through** your **Hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis**.

It begins with a message from the hypothalamus in your brain and **leads to the secretion of adrenal stress hormones** that **SUSTAIN** the “fight or flight” as **long** as necessary.



SOURCE: <http://www.smartshape.com.au/a/987.html>

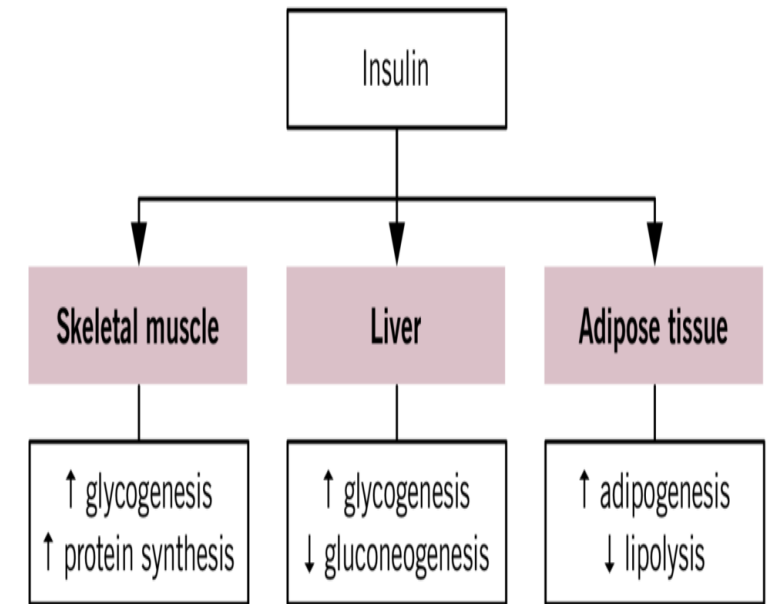
FOOD MACROMOLECULES STORED MOLECULES IN CELLS & TISSUES



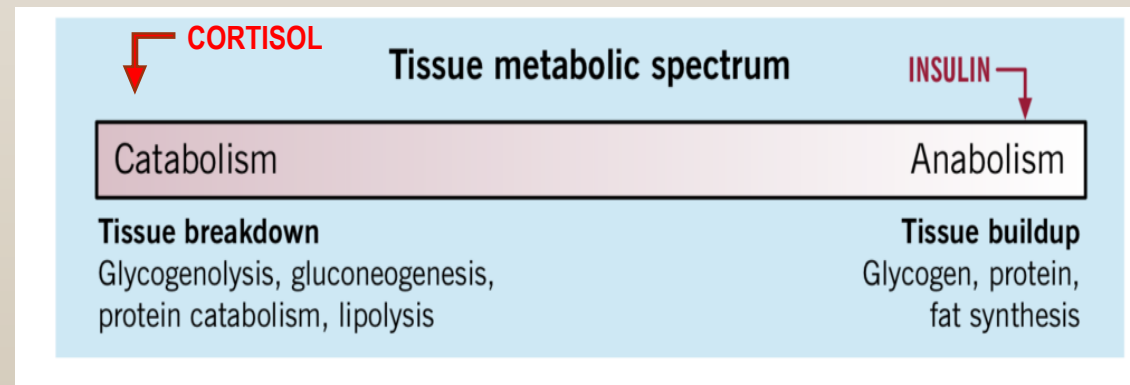
SOURCE: <http://www.donnieyance.com/anabolic-nutrients-the-key-to-optimal-health-and-fitness/>

Anabolic effects of insulin

Sultan Chaudhry



SOURCE: <http://www.pathophys.org/hyperglycemic-emergencies-diabetic-ketoacidosis-and-hyperosmolar-hyperglycemia-state/>





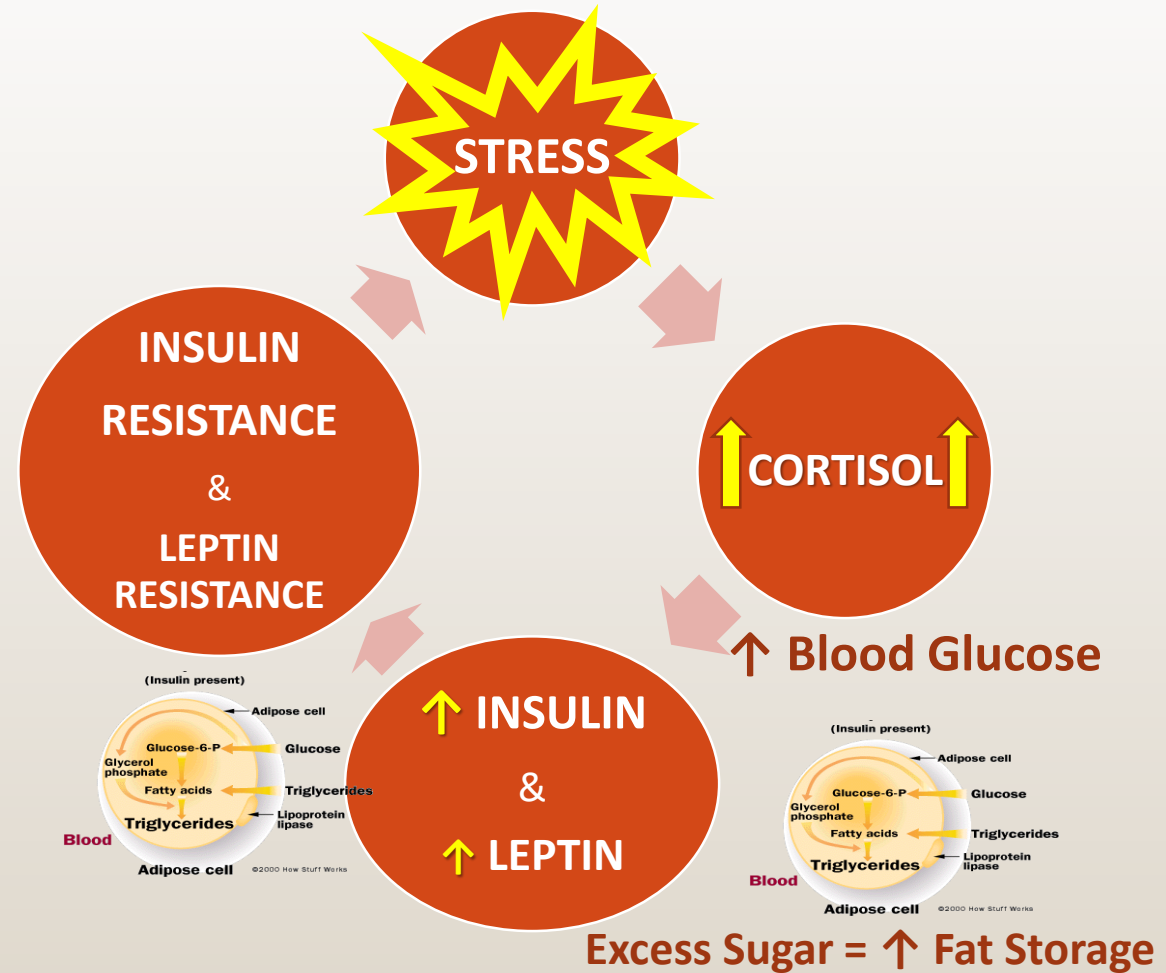
THE VICIOUS CYCLE

OF STIMULANTS, STRESS AND SUGAR



SarahRamsden.com

<http://www.sarahramsdend.com/why-coffee-might-be-stressing-you-out/>

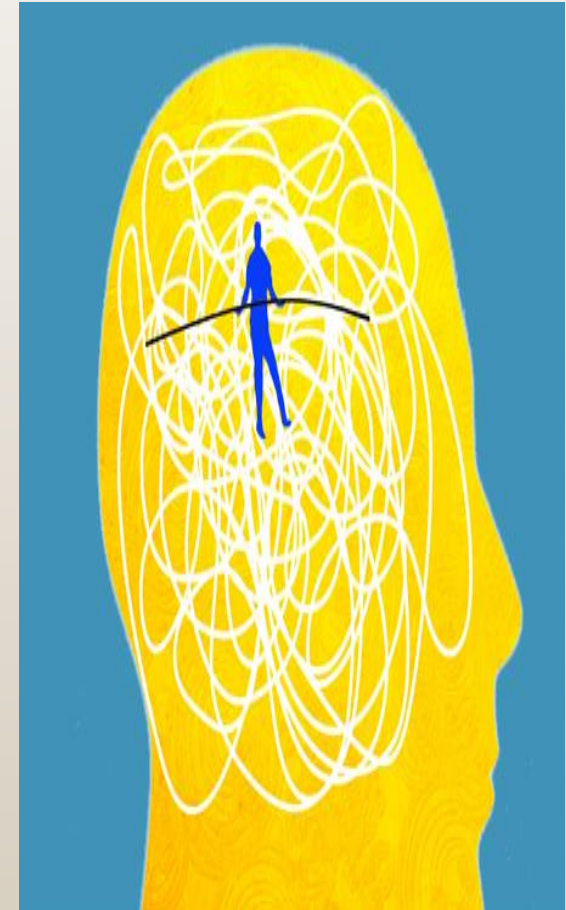


Excess Insulin = Insulin Resistance & ↑ Fat Storage = Leptin Resistance

This leads to Metabolic Stress/ Dysfunction = ↑ Cortisol = Vicious Cycle

GLUCOCORTICOID- EFFECT ON MIND & MOOD

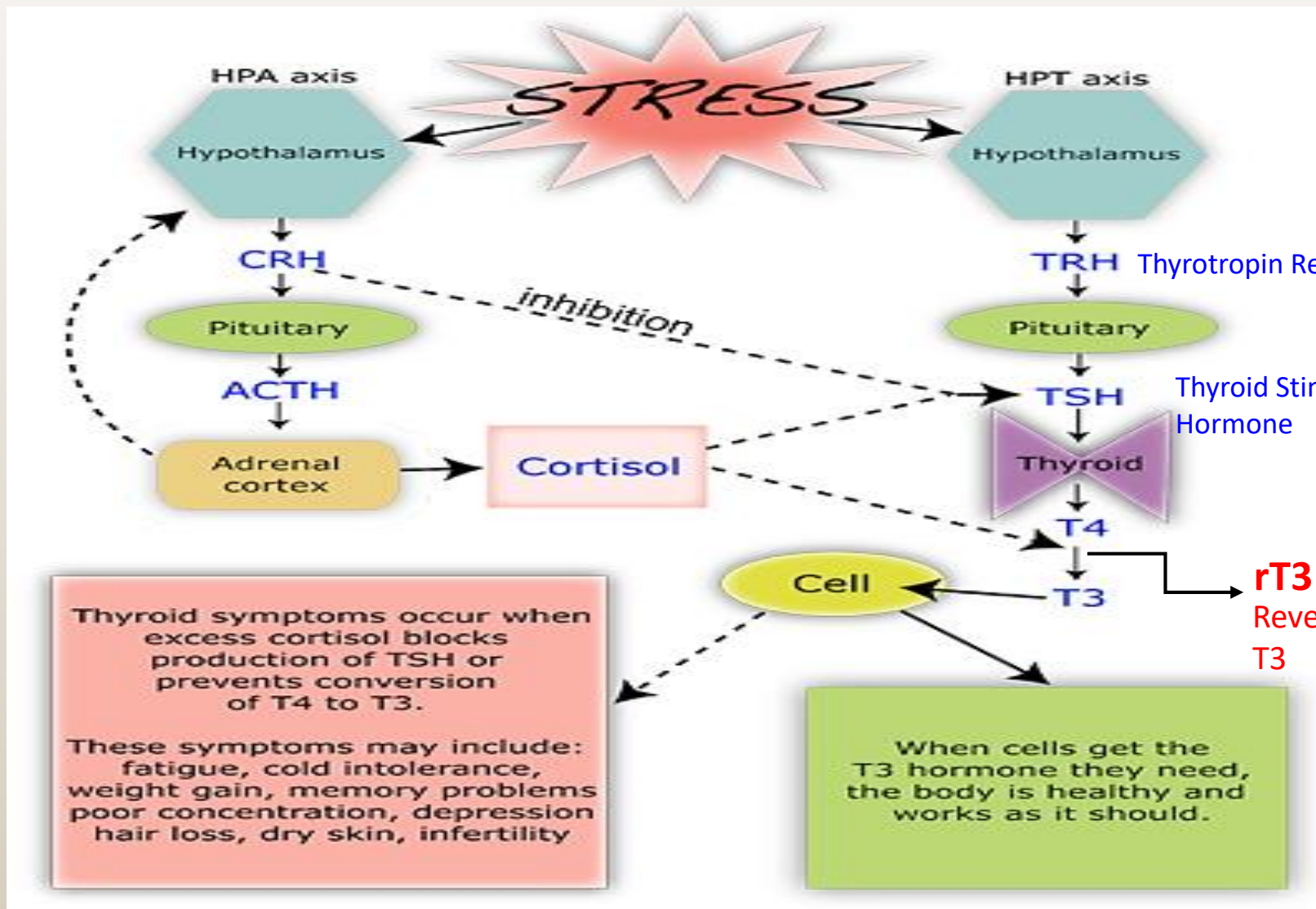
- **GLUCOCORTICOIDS** cause Biochemical imbalances in the Brain by disrupting Serotonin, Dopamine, Norepinephrine, as well as **Glutamate** and *other* Brain Chemicals.^{1,2}
- This interferes with Mood, Memory & Learning.³⁻⁶
- Ultimately **Glucocorticoids** can even cause the Brain to Shrink.^{7,8}



REFERENCES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

1. Price LH, Cappiello A, Malison RT, et al. (1997). **Effects of anti-glucocorticoid treatment on 5-HT1A function in depressed patients and healthy subjects.** Neuropsychopharmacology. Oct;17(4):246-57.
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4. Ou XM, Storrington JM, Kushwaha N, Albert PR. (2001) **Heterodimerization of mineralocorticoid and glucocorticoid receptors at a novel negative response element of the 5-HT1A receptor gene.** J Biol Chem. 276(17):14299-307.
5. Bhatia V, Tandon RK. (2005). **Stress and the gastrointestinal tract.** J Gastroenterol Hepatol. Mar;20(3):332-9.
6. Schleimer RP, Jacques A, Shin HS, Lichtenstein LM, Plaut M. **Inhibition of T cell-mediated cytotoxicity by anti-inflammatory steroids.** J Immunol. 1984 Jan;132(1):266-71.
7. McEwen BS.(2005). **Glucocorticoids, depression, and mood disorders: structural remodelling in the brain.** Metabolism. 54(5 Suppl 1):20-3.
8. Sapolsky RM. (2000). **Glucocorticoids and hippocampal atrophy in neuropsychiatric disorders.** Arch Gen Psychiatry. 57(10):925-35.

THYROID RESPONSE TO STRESS

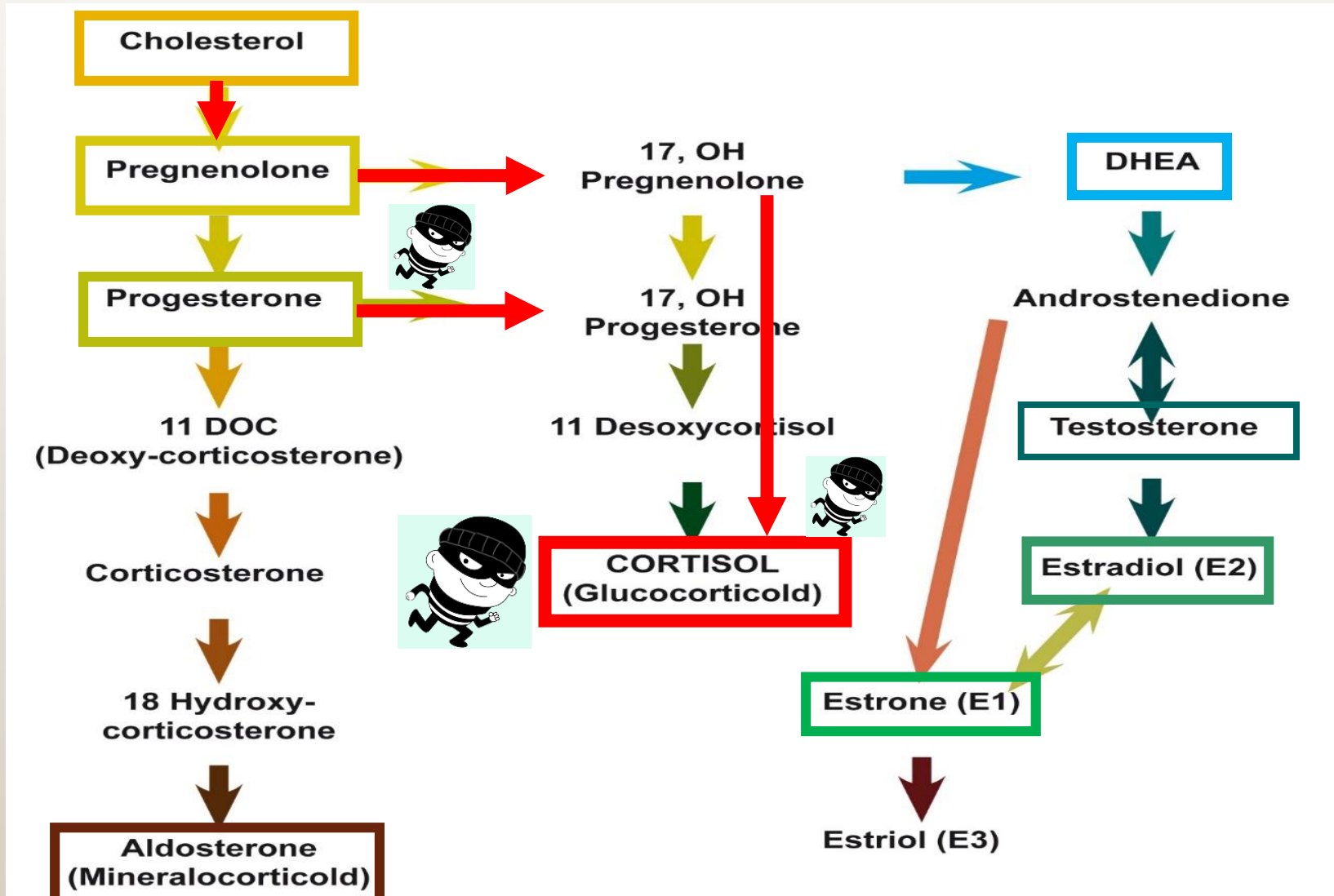


- Factors that increase conversion of T4 to RT3
- Stress
 - Trauma
 - Low-calorie diet
 - Inflammation
 - Toxins
 - Infections
 - Liver/kidney dysfunction
 - Certain medications e.g.

STERIODS



PREGNENOLONE STEAL



SOURCE: <http://naturesmedicine.com.au/adrenal-fatigue-do-you-have-it/>

FOOTNOTES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

In chronic stress situations, the **constant need for Cortisol** by the body can start to **impact on the *manufacture of other hormones***.

This is because **both the SEX hormones and CORTISOL are made from the same precursor substance called PREGNENOLONE.**

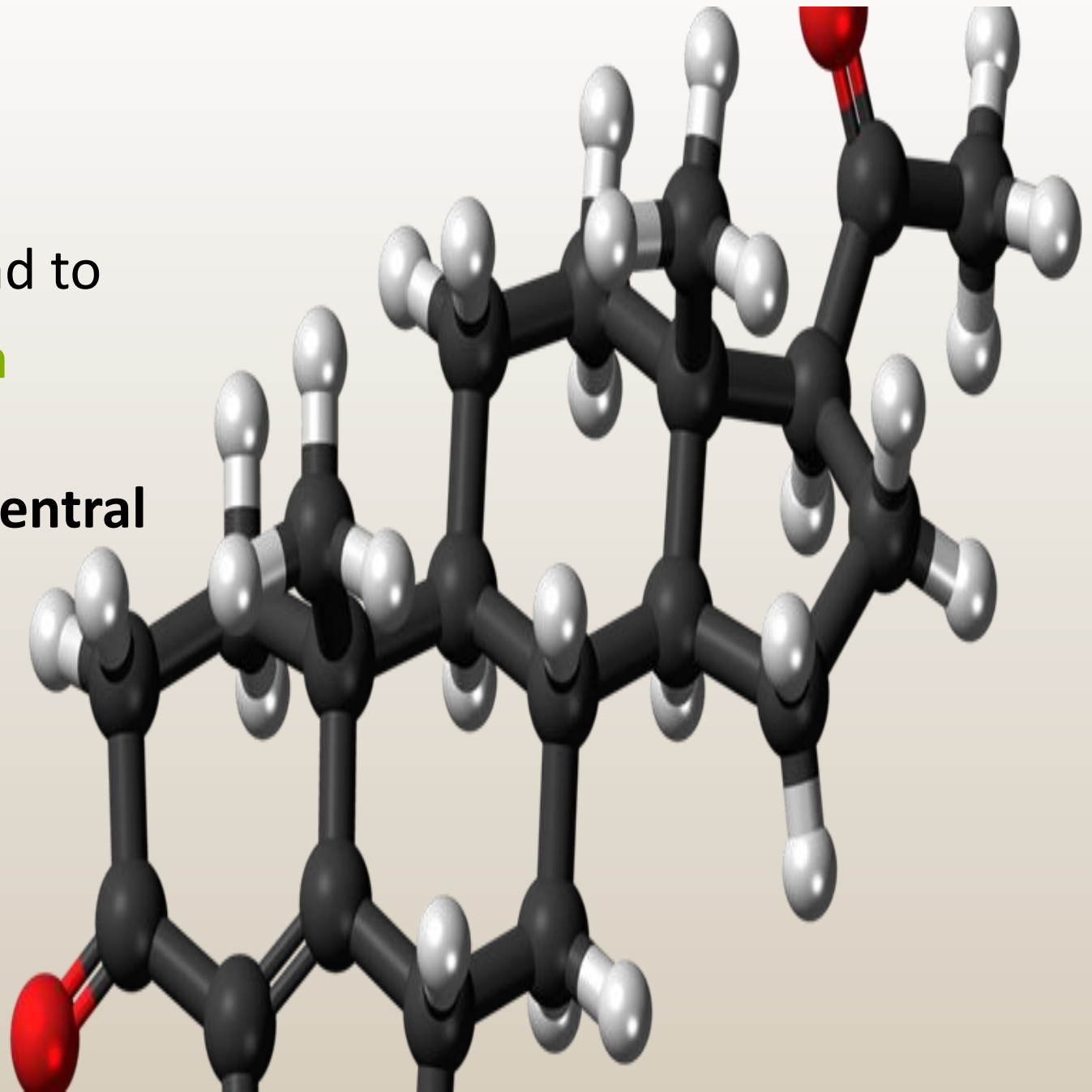
PREGNENOLONE is the precursor for 3 hormones.

It can be converted into Progesterone and then on into other adrenal hormones; it can be converted into Cortisol when a stress response is needed and it can be converted into the hormone DHEA, from which oestrogen is made.

In prolonged stressful situations, the body's demand for cortisol (and other adrenal hormones) is high. As a result, the **body uses pregnenolone predominantly to support the production of stress hormones, at the expense of making progesterone, DHEA and oestrogen.** This can lead to an imbalance between progesterone, testosterone and oestrogen at menopause.

PROGESTERONE

- **Low Progesterone** can in turn lead to **↓ Thyroid Hormone production**
- **Low Progesterone** can lead to **Oestrogen Dominance** which is **central** to many **female conditions** such as **PCOS, Fibroids** and **Endometriosis** - All of which are associated with **Blood Sugar Imbalance** & Promoting **Insulin Resistance**

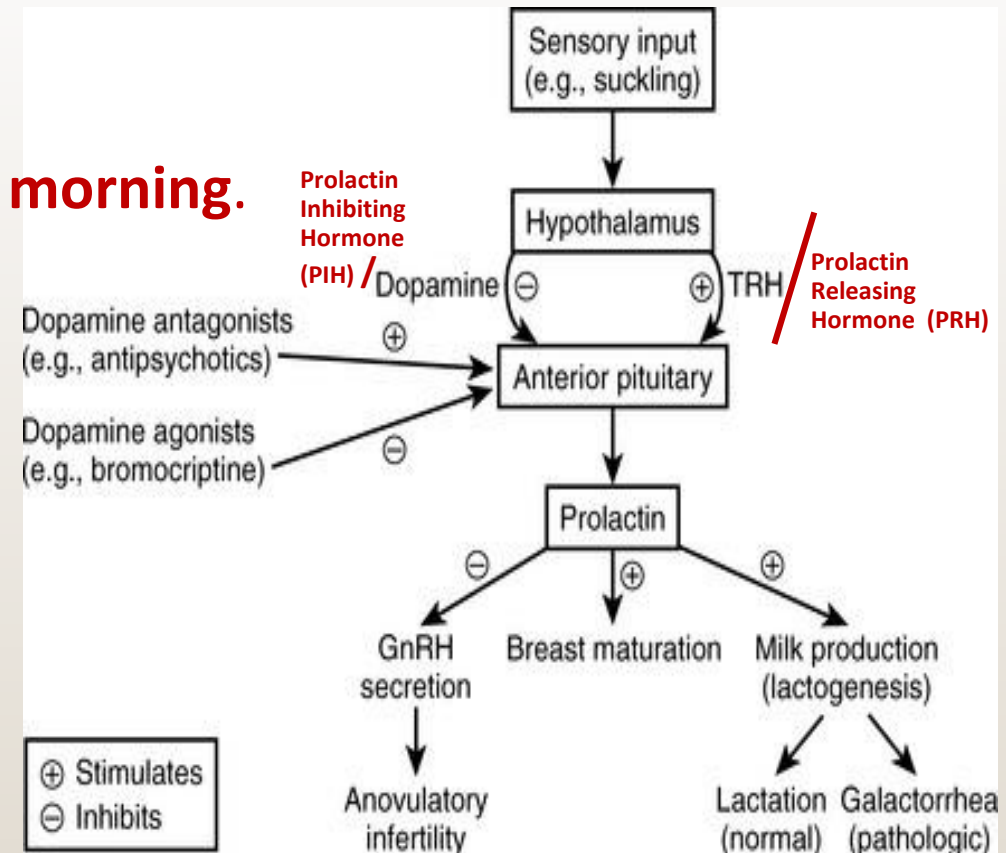


PROLACTIN

Prolactin levels **peak** during **REM sleep** & in the **early morning**.

Levels can **↑↑↑ rise ↑↑↑** :

- **PREGNANCY**
- With **Physical** or **Emotional STRESS**. After **EXERCISE** & **High-protein Meals**
- **Sexual Intercourse**
- Medications that **reduce DOPAMINE** action in the body
- Following **Epileptic Seizures**
- **HYPOTHYROIDISM** (underactivity)
- **Benign Pituitary Tumours** (known as Prolactinomas).

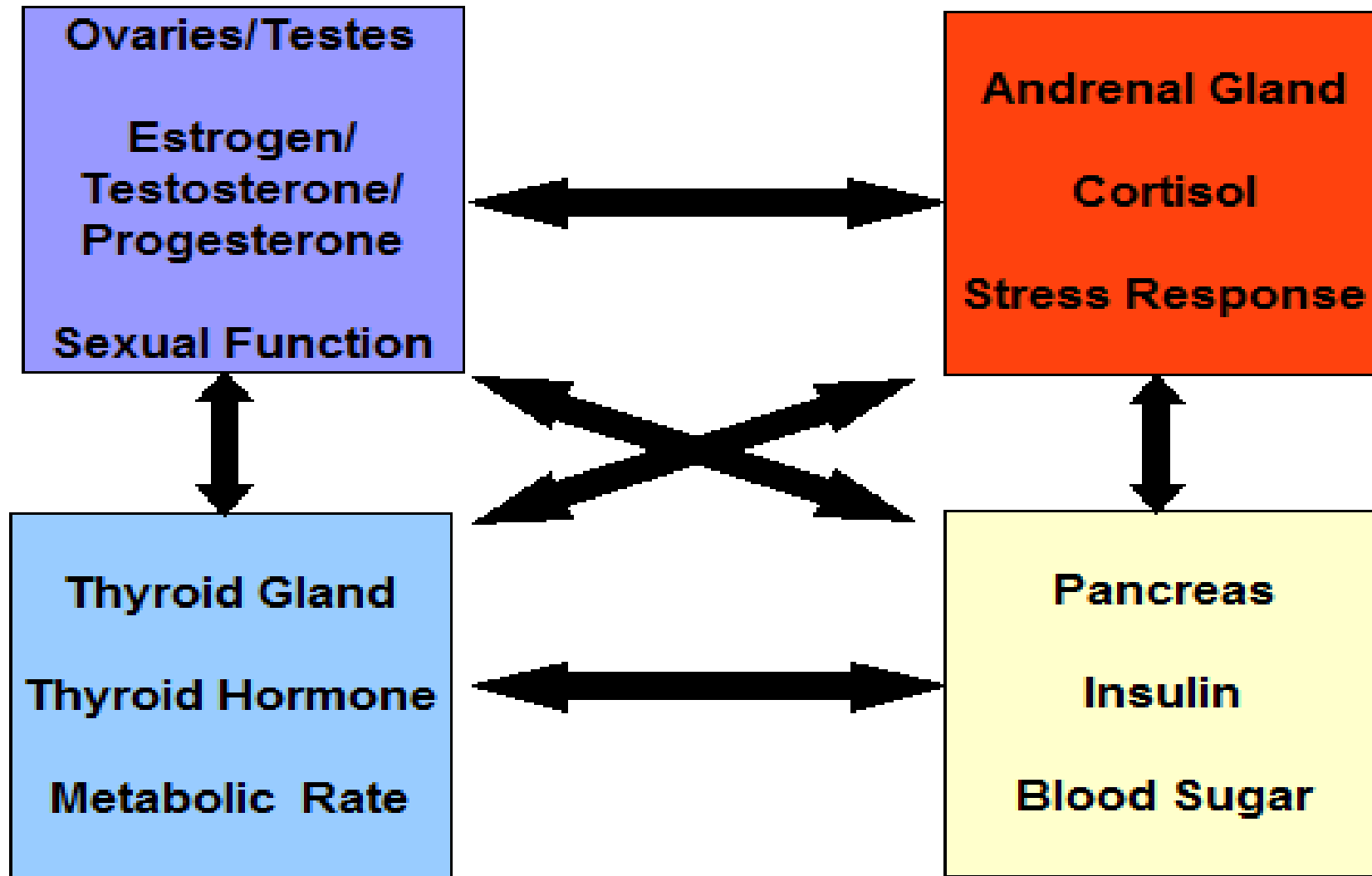


SOURCE: <https://nursekey.com/endocrinology-2/>

Prolactin promotes more than **300 Reproductive, Metabolic, Immune** & other functions :

- It stimulates the **Mammary glands** to produce **Milk (Lactation)**
- **Highly elevated** levels of **Prolactin** ↓ levels of **Oestrogen** in women and **Testosterone** in men.
- Can act as a weak **Gonadotropin**, ultimately **decreasing** the secretion of **FSH** and **LH**, disrupting the **Ovulatory Cycle** & **Fertility**.

Hormonal Balance



THE 4 FACES OF STRESS



“Wired for Sound”

High Cortisol
High Neurotransmitters

SuperNova
Diva Soon
to Burnout



“Wired and Tired”

High Cortisol
Low Neurotransmitters

Allergic and
Infected
Hypersensitive



“Wired and Tired”

Low Cortisol
High Neurotransmitters

Inflamed
and in Pain

Anxious & Irritable



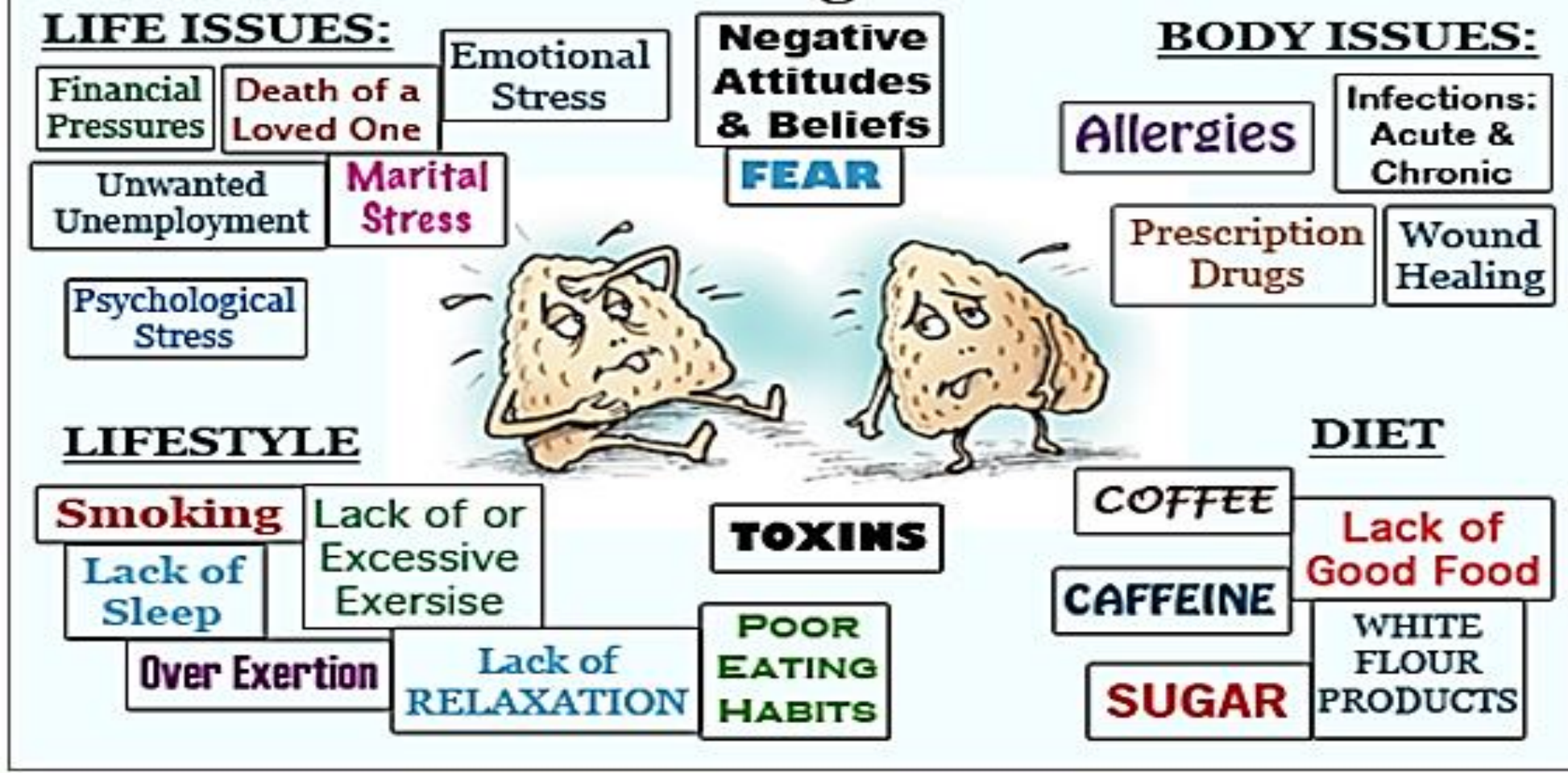
“Just Plain Tired”

Low Cortisol
Low Neurotransmitters

Situation
Critical

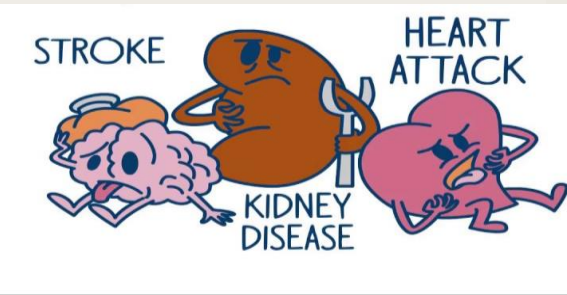
STIMULANTS

Factors Affecting the Adrenals



With **CONTINUED STRESS** and with the very **MANY FACTORS** forcing the Adrenals to **WORK CONSTANTLY!!** It's no surprise they can **'BURN OUT!'**

Decreased Defences,
Increased risk of Infection,
Delayed Healing



Lowered Immunity
Increased Inflammation
Muscle Tension
Aches & Pains
Decreased mental acuity

Poor Memory & Concentration,
Anxiety, Depression,
INSOMNIA,
Irritability & Mood Swings
↓ Libido

↑ / ↓ B.P. ★
Increased heart rate

STRESS

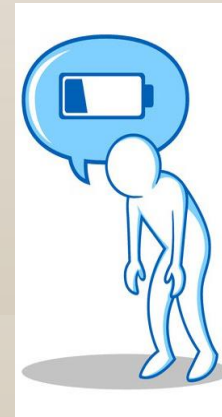
Digestive system shuts down

HAIR LOSS
Brittle Hair/ Nails
Dry Skin, Acne
HIVES,
Skin INFECTION,
Delayed Healing



Peripheral blood vessels constrict
blood flow

Energy stores broken down and sent to muscles and heart
Blood Glucose HIGH = Insulin resistance =
↑ WEIGHT

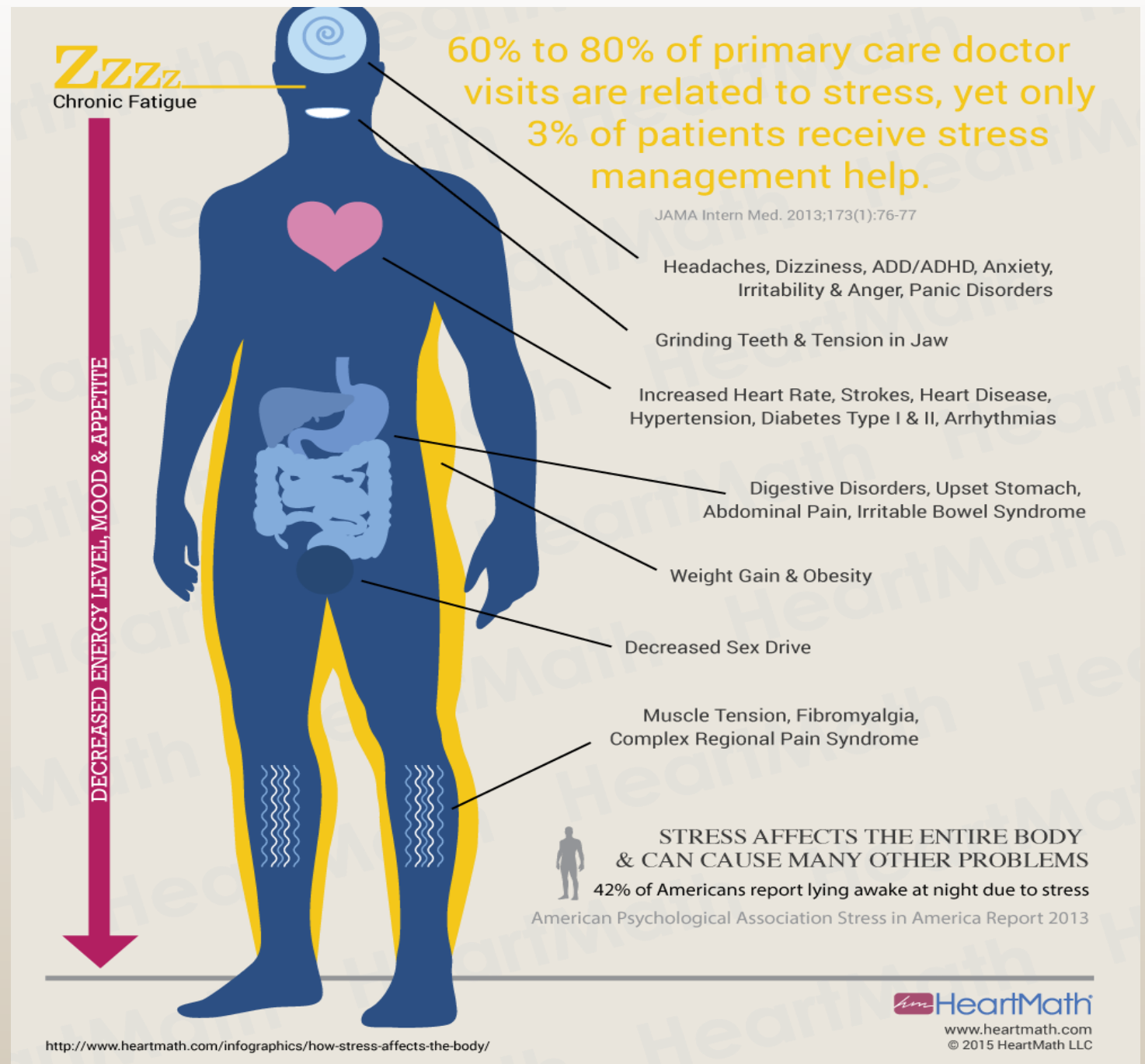


Poor Nutrient
↓ Absorption
Diarrhoea #
Constipation
Indigestion
Bloating



↓ ENERGY = ↑ SUGAR / STIMULANT/ SALT CRAVINGS

- Stress is currently **recognised** as one of the **leading causes of Disease**
- The **AMA** has **acknowledged** that **Stress** is now the **basic cause of over 60% of all Human Illness & Disease**



Sometimes following
your heart means
losing your mind.



- ✓ NUTRIENTS TO NOURISH THE NERVES
- ✓ NUTRIENTS TO MAINTAIN OR RESTORE NEUROTRANSMITTER ACTIVITY
- ✓ NUTRIENTS TO HELP LOWER / MODULATE CORTISOL ACTIVITY
- ✓ NUTRIENTS TO ENHANCE PRODUCTION OF ADRENAL HORMONES

- ✓ **B vitamins esp.**
 - B5 (Pantothenic Acid)
 - B6 (P-5-P)
 - B9 Methylfolate
 - B12 Methylcobalamin
- ✓ **CHOLINE**
- ✓ **Vitamin C**
- ✓ **MAGNESIUM**
- ✓ **CALCIUM**
- ✓ **ZINC**
- ✓ **ESSENTIAL FATTY ACIDS**
esp. Ω 3

B VITAMINS

- **Water Soluble** – must be replaced **every day**
- **Help to produce ENERGY & set it FREE** when your body needs it.
- Involved in **making Red Blood Cells** thus helping to **carry OXYGEN** and **ENERGY** to the brain.
- **Nourish** & help regulate **Nerve** and **Adrenal Function**
- **Co-factors** for **NEUROTRANSMITTER** production

SOURCE: <http://www.healthtipsever.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Vitamin-B-infographics-Source-Function-Dose.jpg>

VITAMIN B NUTRITION INFOGRAPHIC



RDA

Vitamin B1 • Men 1000 mcg • Women 800 mcg	Vitamin B2 • Men 1300 mcg • Women 1100 mcg
Vitamin B3 • Men 17000 mcg • Women 13000 mcg	Vitamin B6 • Men 1400 mcg • Women 1200 mcg
Vitamin B9 • Men 200 mcg • Women 200 mcg	Vitamin B12 • Men 15 mcg • Women 15 mcg

Function

- Generate energy from food
- Make red blood cells
- Healthy nervous system
- Healthy skin
- Prevent birth defects

Facts

- 3.2% of persons over 50 years suffer from vitamin B12 deficiency
- 20% of adults may have borderline B12 deficiency



www.HealthTipsEver.com

Sources

- Eggs
- Milk
- Fish
- Chicken
- Liver
- Milk
- Yogurt
- Lamb
- Beef
- Wholegrain bread



Vitamin C

- Highly concentrated in the Adrenal glands and quickly used up under Stress where it protects the Adrenals from the high levels of Free Radicals (*metabolic by-products*) produced in times of Stress ¹⁻³
- Doses of 1500-3000mg/ day have been shown to reduce Cortisol levels and protect against some of the detrimental effects of a Chronic Resistance Phase ⁴

SOURCE: <http://www.healthtipsever.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/08/Vitamin-C-infographics-Source-Function-Dose.jpg>

VITAMIN C NUTRITION INFOGRAPHIC

Function

- Healthy skin
- Helps wounds heal
- Healthy immune system
- Increases iron absorption
- Prevent premature aging

Facts

- 5%-17% vitamin C deficient
- 13%-23% vitamin C depleted



www.HealthTipsEver.com



RDA

- Men 90 mg
- Women 75 mg
- Children 40-45 mg

Sources

- Bell peppers
- Guavas
- Dark leafy greens (kale)
- Kiwifruit
- Strawberries
- Tomatoes
- Broccoli
- Red cabbage
- Banana
- Orange



BROCCOLI
89 mg per 100 grams



CABBAGE
56 mg per 100 grams



BANANA
9 mg per 100 grams



ORANGE
53 mg per 100 grams

REFERENCES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

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MAGNESIUM

- 4th most abundant Mineral in the Body
- Involved in over 300 Metabolic reactions, especially within the Adrenals and Brain
- Can only be acquired through Diet/Supplementation
- Food Sources:
 - Dark, Leafy Greens, Avocados,
 - Cocoa, Nuts & Seeds
 - Fish, Tofu
 - Beans, Whole Grains
 - Yogurt
 - Bananas, Dried Fruit
- Adults require between 300mg- 600mg daily



Supplement Your Magnesium With Food

EXCELLENT SOURCES

- Spinach
- Swiss Chard
- Beet Greens

VERY GOOD SOURCES

- Pumpkin Seeds
- Summer Squash
- Turnip Greens

GOOD SOURCES

facebook.com/healingwp

A collage of various vegetables. On the left, there's a bunch of spinach, a bunch of Swiss chard, and a bunch of beet greens. In the center, there's a pile of pumpkin seeds. On the right, there's a bunch of summer squash and a bunch of turnip greens. The text is arranged to the right of the images.

MAGNESIUM

Magnesium is **essential** for the:

1. **Muscle Relaxation & GABA enhancement-** Magnesium supplementation has been reported to **reduce insomnia** and support uninterrupted sleep.⁴
2. **CARDIOVASCULAR Support**
3. **Metabolism of Carbohydrates to produce ENERGY** →
4. **Glucose Transportation between Membranes & INSULIN ACTION-** A number of studies have **linked low Magnesium status with Obesity, Insulin Resistance & Metabolic Syndrome.** ¹⁻³
5. **Production of NEUROTRANSMITTERS – Acetylcholine, Serotonin & Dopamine.** So it may become depleted in times of Stress
6. **Conduction of NERVE SIGNALS**
7. **ADRENAL HORMONE Production**
8. **pH BALANCE**

**FACT: For EVERY
MOLECULE OF SUGAR
you consume, it takes**

**FIFTY-FOUR
MOLECULES OF
MAGNESIUM
for your body to
PROCESS IT.**

-FoodForThought

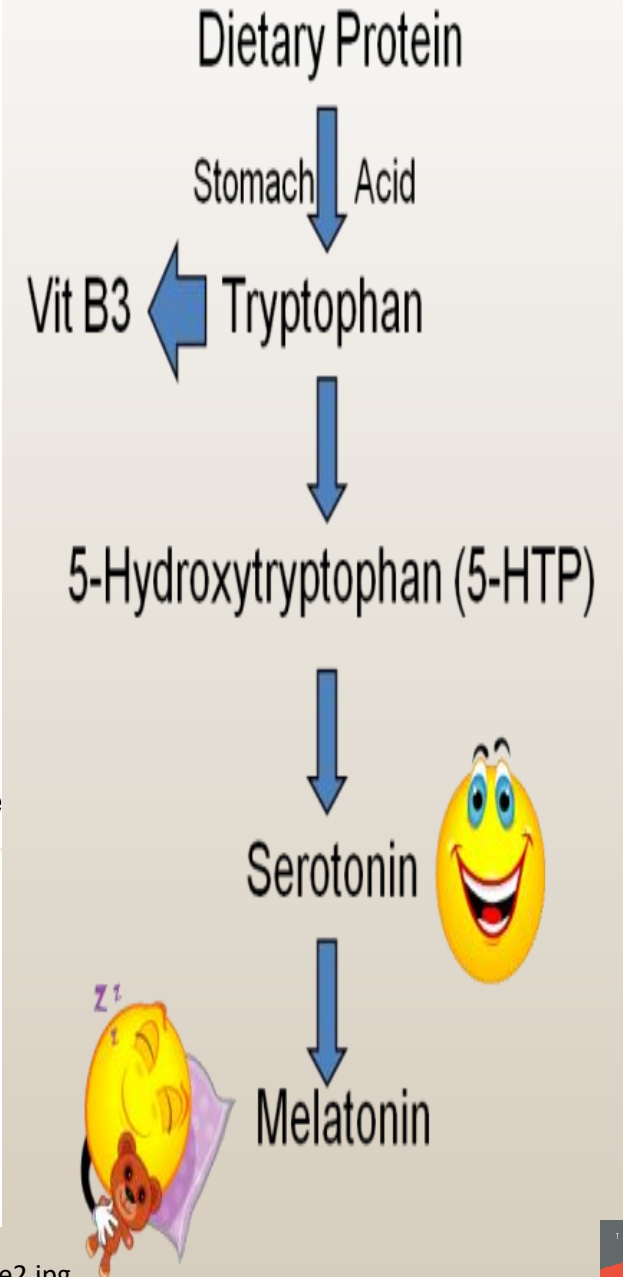
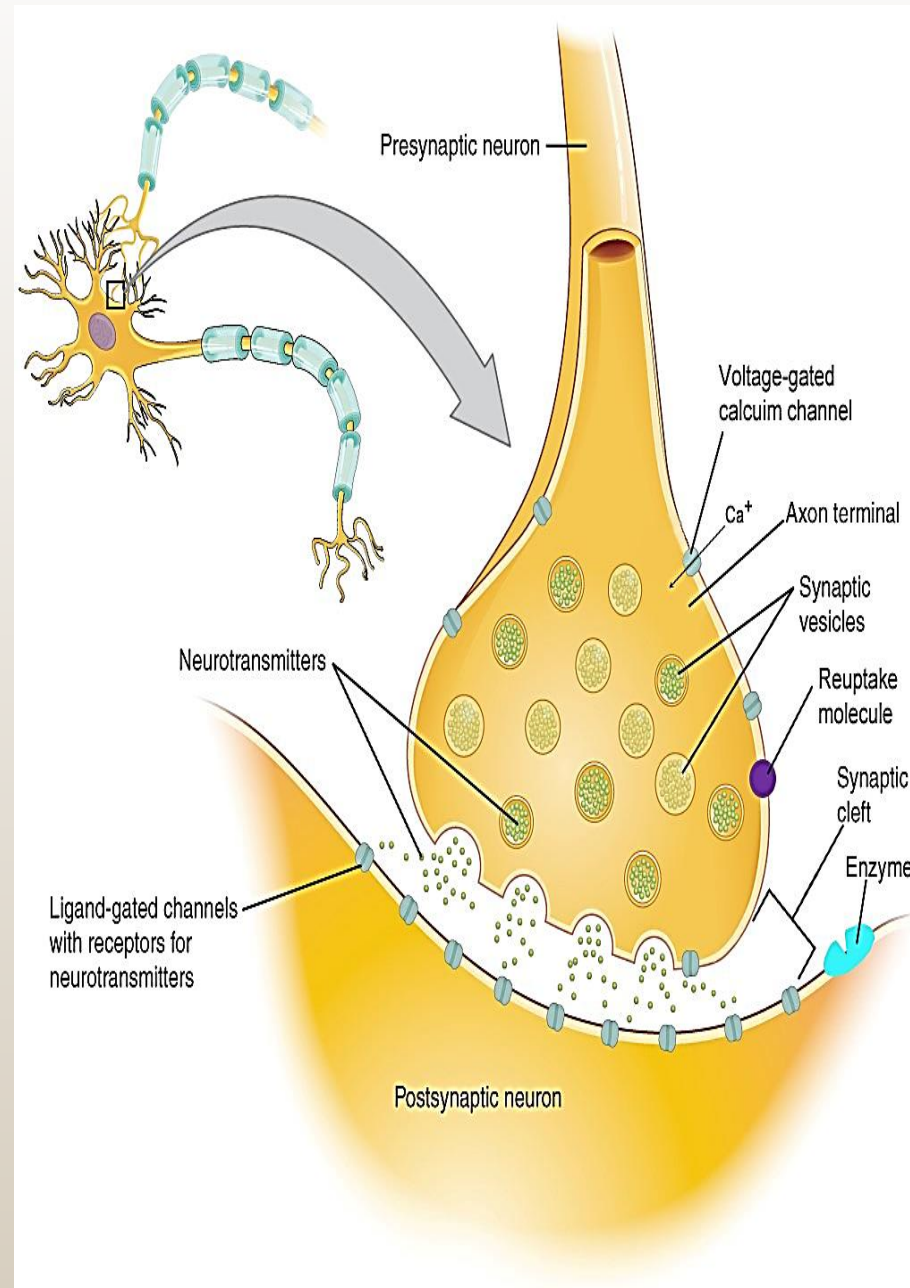
RawForBeauty.com

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CALCIUM

- Calcium is an integral mineral **involved in Nerve Signalling**
- Calcium **helps the Brain use Tryptophan to manufacture Melatonin** by activating Tryptophan Hydroxylase
- A dose of **500-1000mg before bed can aid induction of sleep**



ZINC

12 Foods High In Zinc



Oysters



Chicken



Cheddar Cheese



Cashews



Watermelon Seed



Almonds



Milk



Red Meat



Yoghurt



Pumpkin Seed



Salmon



Cacao/Cocoa
Dark Choc

- Zinc is an **essential mineral** for the **functioning of ENZYMES, HORMONES & the IMMUNE System**
- Zinc is **easily lost through sweat!!**
- Zinc **aids in the production of vital hormones** such as **PROGESTERONE, CORTISOL, ALDOSTERONE & T4.**
- Zinc is also **essential** for the proper **formation** and **secretion** of **INSULIN**, therefore a **higher Zinc intake** may be **associated with** a slightly **lower risk** of **Type 2 Diabetes** and **Insulin Resistance.**¹

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ESSENTIAL FATTY ACIDS

★ The Neurons and the **100 billion cells** that make up the **Brain** are insulated by a **protective FATTY Membrane** called the **Myelin Sheath**.

★ This sheath is made of **FATTY molecules** called **PHOSPHOLIPIDS** which are made up of:

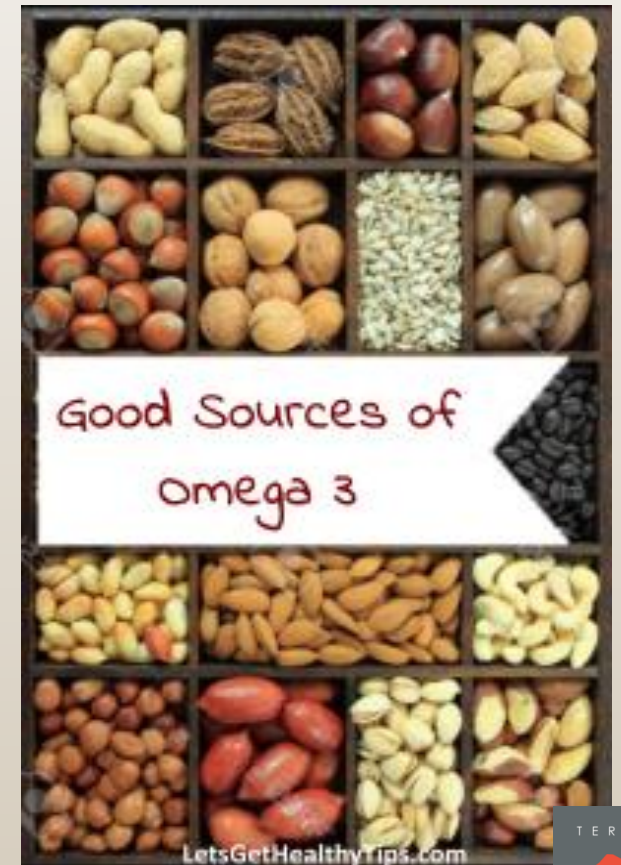
✓ **SATURATED FATTY ACIDS**

✓ **UNSATURATED FATTY ACIDS - AA (Ω 6) & DHA (Ω 3)**

✓ **PHOSPHATIDYLSERINE**

- Arachidonic Acid (**AA**) is derived from **Omega 6**.
 - Found in **Meat, Animal Fats, Dairy, Nuts & Seeds, EPO & Borage/Starflower Oil**.
- Docosahexaenoic acid (**DHA**) is derived from **Omega 3**.
 - Found in **Oily fish, Breast Milk, Algae & Flax or Hemp Seed**.

★ The **BALANCE** of these **two Fatty Acids** is **critical** for the healthy **structure & functioning** of the **whole Nervous System**



TRANS FATTY ACIDS

- ❌ Trans-Fatty Acids (TFAs) & Hydrogenated Vegetable Oils, found in deep *Fried Food* & *Margarines* & most *Refined Confectionaries*, **affect our ability to convert & use EFA.**
- ❌ The TFAs **OCCUPY** the **position** of **DHA** in the **nerve cells**, thereby **BLOCKING** the uptake of DHA.
- ❌ Fried foods also create Free-radicals, **OXIDISING** the Fatty Acids.
- ❌ Pollution, Smoke & Radiation, also oxidise fats, further **DAMAGING Phospholipid structures.**
- ★ This may all be avoided/ reduced through **Diet, Antioxidant supplementation** & maintaining a **high ratio of EFA.**





But its not just about
VITAMINS, MINERALS & FATS

NATURE has generously provided us with
incredible **PLANTS, HERBS & MUSHROOMS**
that have all been used for **Centuries**
to help us **ADAPT!**



ADAPTOGENIC HERBS

The term '*Adaptogenic*' was coined by Dr. Nikolai Lazarev, a noted Russian Pharmacologist, who used the term to **describe** and **classify ~ 25 Herbs which provide the body with the ability to *adapt* to particular Stress conditions.**¹




To be **classified** as an **Adaptogen**, herbs must possess the following **three qualities:** ²⁻⁴

1. They must **be non-toxic** and **allow for normal physiological functioning** - no toxicity associated with them & *do not force or block any processes*.
2. They must have a **Modulating, Balancing / "Normalizing" ability**- should normalise body functions, irrespective of existing pathological condition (i.e. the same dose can *raise* or *lower* physiologic properties),
3. The **mechanisms** by which the herbs carry out their **effects** must be **due to more than one physiologic or pharmacologic mechanism**.

Adaptogens therefore, **positively condition your body to react well to Stress.**

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4. Saleeby, Y., **Wonder Herbs: A guide to three adaptogens,** Xlibris 2006.

	KOREAN / ASIAN GINSENG (Panax Ginseng)	AMERICAN GINSENG (Panax Quinquefolius)	SIBERIAN GINSENG Eleutherococcus Senticosus
TRADITIONAL USE	Also known as ' <i>True Ginseng</i> '- This ginseng has been used in China for 4000 years. 	Native Americans traditionally used this member of the Ivy Family to help with Nausea & Libido. 	NOT a true Ginseng, although it is related to Korean & American Ginsengs and acts in a similar way. 
MAIN ACTIVE PART	<i>Ginsenosides.</i>	<i>Ginsenosides.</i> **	<i>Eleutherosides</i>
	<i>Panax = Panacea (Cure -All) in Greek</i>	Works similarly to <i>Korean Ginseng</i> , but more subtly	An ADAPTOGEN
ADRENAL SUPPORT	✓ Especially when challenged	✓ Especially when challenged	✓ Increases production of Catecholamines
MOOD, ENERGY, STAMINA, MENTAL PERFORMANCE.	✓ Enhances ALL	Enhances ALL ** esp. ACTH release from pituitary = ↑ Corticosterone from Adrenals	✓ Enhances ALL , including Memory
LIBIDO	✓ Improves Libido	NUEROPROTECTIVE	✓ Promotes healthy Reproductive System Function - incl. Libido
IMMUNITY	✓ Supports natural Immunity	✓ Supports Immunity	✓ Promotes Healthy Immune Function
BLOOD SUGAR LEVELS	✓ Helps regulate Blood Sugar Levels	✓ Helps Balance Blood Sugar Levels	✓ Helps Balance Blood Sugar Levels
BLOOD FLOW & PRESSURE	✓ Helps improve Blood Flow	✓ Helps Balance Blood Pressure ** ✨	✓ Helps Balance Blood Pr. ✨ ✓ Regulates Blood Flow to Brain
CHOLESTEROL	✓ Helps balance Cholesterol levels	✓ Helps balance Cholesterol levels	✓ Helps regulate Cholesterol
DIGESTION & APPETITE		✓ Enhances Digestive function and Appetite.	✓ Enhances Appetite

FOOTNOTES & REFERENCES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

** Research suggests that the **BALANCE** of **Ginsenosides** in **American Ginseng** favours a much **less Stimulating Influence** on the **NS** compared to Korean / Asian forms of Panax Ginseng.

American & Siberian Ginseng have a **COOLING** effect, compared to Korean/ Asian Ginseng which has a **WARMING** effect.

Dong Quai is another herb that is **NOT** a **TRUE Ginseng**, but **used in a similar manner**.

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3. Wang J, *et al.* (2010). **Antidepressant-like effects of the active acidic polysaccharide portion of ginseng in mice .** *J Ethnopharmacol.* 132(1):65-9.

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RHODIOLA ROSEA

- **AKA ARCTIC ROOT** because it **grows and thrives** in **dry ground** at **high altitudes** in **Arctic areas of Europe & Asia**.
- **2nd most popular Adaptogen**, second only to *Panax Ginseng*.
- Traditional Herb **revered** by Russian Scientists as a **powerful antidote to Stress!** ¹⁻³
- Rhodiola's **main mechanism of action** may be **related** to its **ability** to **aid Neurotransmitter transport** in the **BRAIN (Hypothalamic level)** and **reduce Catecholamine release**. ⁴⁻⁵
- **Many well-designed Research papers** have also **documented** its **efficacy** in **reducing fatigue** associated with **stress**.
- Rhodiola administered in dosages of either **340** or **680 mg/day**, over a **6-week period** has **also demonstrated anti-depressive potential** in patients with **mild to moderate Depression**. ⁶



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ASHWAGANDHA



- AKA *Withania somnifera*, has many uses in Ayurveda (*Traditional Indian Medicine*) including the management of Stress & Fatigue, Depression, Pain, Diabetes, Rheumatologic & GI Disorders. ¹
- **Scientists** have also **discovered** that **this adaptogenic herb prevents** Nerve Damage and **improves Neural Function** in times of Stress. ²⁻⁴
 - Data also suggests that Ashwagandha may help **reduce the effects of stress on Male Reproductive Capacity.** ⁵
 - Whilst certain Adaptogens may **possess a more stimulating influence** on the Nervous System, Ashwagandha has a **more calming, anxiolytic influence**, thus **reducing Cortisol**, whilst at the same time **supporting Energy Metabolism.**



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ashwagandha & Hypothyroidism

REDUCES BRAIN FOG



BRAIN FOG IS A TYPE OF MENTAL FATIGUE THAT COMES FROM THE BRAIN NOT HAVING ENOUGH ENERGY AND IS ALSO ESPECIALLY PREVALENT IN THOSE WITH LOW THYROID FUNCTION. THIS FOG COMES ON SUDDENLY, MAKING YOUR THINKING DULL AND CONFUSED, YOUR JUDGMENT IMPAIRED, YOUR MEMORY SHOT. SUPPLEMENTING WITH ASHWAGANDHA WILL NOT ONLY REDUCE YOUR BRAIN FOG, BUT BOOST YOUR ABILITY TO FOCUS AND IMPROVE YOUR MEMORY.

REDUCES CORTISOL

ELEVATED LEVELS OF CORTISOL ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PREMATURE AGING AND MANY MODERN "DISEASE" PROCESSES, INCLUDING LOW THYROID FUNCTION. ASHWAGANDHA REDUCES CORTISOL IN THE BODY AND REMEMBER: WHEN THE STRESS HORMONES ARE REDUCED, BOTH YOUR THYROID AND BRAIN FUNCTIONS IMPROVE!



INCREASES TESTOSTERONE



SINCE TESTOSTERONE IS RESPONSIBLE FOR FOCUS, IF THE HORMONE IS TOO LOW, YOU GET BRAIN FOG. ASHWAGANDHA STIMULATES TESTOSTERONE PRODUCTION AT THE BRAIN LEVEL. 7 DON'T WORRY—EVEN IF YOU ARE A WOMAN, YOU NEED TESTOSTERONE. IT WON'T MAKE YOU MORE MASCULINE, BUT YOU WILL GET YOUR BRAIN BACK!

IMPROVES PHYSICAL STRENGTH

ASHWAGANDHA IMPROVES MUSCLE MASS AND MUSCLE STRENGTH, SO YOU WILL GET LESS FATIGUED DURING THE DAY. YOUR BRAIN IS BENEFITTED FROM THIS EXTRA PHYSIOLOGICAL RESERVE OF ENERGY, SO YOU HAVE LESS BRAIN FOG (MENTAL FATIGUE).



HOLY BASIL / TULSI



Krishna Tulsi



- The use of Holy Basil dates back to **1500 BC** where it was considered to be a **Sacred Herb** and is highly regarded in **Ayurvedic Medicine** to this day.
- Modern research on this **adaptogenic** Herb confirms Tulsi's **ability to help *reduce* Stress- Related Anxiety & *enhance* Stamina** and **adaptability**.¹ **Relieve Inflammation, *improve* Digestion** and **provide a rich supply of Antioxidants & other Nutrients.**
- Tulsi has also proved to be especially effective in **helping to *control* Blood Sugar** ² and ***regulate* Diabetes mellitus** resulting from **Corticosteroid treatment.** ³

FOOTNOTES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

TYPES OF TULSI

The tulsi plant (*Ocimum sanctum L.* or *Ocimum tenuiflorum L.*) is a close relative of culinary basil (*Ocimum basilicum*), but it is differentiated by its medicinal properties and some physical characteristics. There are three main types of tulsi plants:

Rama Tulsi (also known as Green Leaf Tulsi) - A green tulsi with light purple flowers and an aromatic, clove-like scent (thanks to its chemical component of eugenol, which is the main aroma in cloves) and mellower flavor.

Krishna Tulsi (also known as Shyama Tulsi or Purple Leaf Tulsi) - A purple plant with a clove-like aroma and peppery flavor.

Vana Tulsi (or Wild Leaf Tulsi) - A bright, light green tulsi plant that grows wild and is indigenous to many areas of Asian and North/East Africa; it has a more lemony aroma and flavor.

Of the three types of tulsi, **Krishna Tulsi is often considered to be the most** beneficial to health, followed closely by Rama Tulsi. Vana Tulsi has less potency, but it is sometimes blended with other types of tulsi for a more pleasing flavor.

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MACA

- **ADAPTOGENIC** like **Ginseng** - often referred to as **PERUVIAN GINSENG**
- Rich in many different **Nutrients** esp. **Flavonoids**.
- The *exact mechanisms* behind Maca's ability to **INCREASE ENERGY & ENDURANCE** levels *remain unclear*, but it's been shown to:
 - ✓ **Help prevent BLOOD SUGAR imbalances**
 - ✓ **Offer NEUROPROTECTION**
 - ✓ **Maintain ADRENAL Health**



Helps regulates
Mood &
Energy through
out the day.

MACA

A number of studies have also associated Maca with **reduced Anxiety** and symptoms of **Depression**, particularly in **Menopausal women**.

The **anxiolytic effect** may be related to the fact that **certain “MACA compounds mimic the endogenous Endocannabinoid System. Thusacting on the Central Nervous System to provide **ANALGESIC, ANTI-INFLAMMATORY or NEUROPROTECTIVE effects, by modulating the release of Neurotransmitters.**”**¹



FOOTNOTES & REFERENCES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

The **anxiolytic** effect may be related to the fact that **certain** ‘MACA compounds mimic the endogenous endocannabinoid system i.e. MACA compounds serve as **Fatty acid amide hydrolase (FAAH) inhibitors**. Anandamide is degraded by FAAH, so inhibiting FAAH **prolongs the presence of Anandamide, the principal endogenous endocannabinoid**. FAAH inhibitors are known to “act on the central nervous system to provide analgesic, anti-inflammatory, or neuroprotective effects, by modulating the release of neurotransmitters.”

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MEDICINAL MUSHROOMS

Western Medicine's awareness of the **beneficial properties of Mushrooms** started with the **discovery of Penicillin** by Alexander Fleming in **1928**. Since then, Pharmacological research has **identified Antifungal, Antiviral & Antiprotozoal, isolates** from Fungi.

The fungus with the longest record of medicinal use is *Ganoderma lucidum* (**Red Reishi**)



NERVOUS & ENDOCRINE SUPPORT

CORDYCEPS (*Cordyceps militaris*): KNOWN FOR ITS Anti-oxidant, Anti-aging, **Immunomodulatory**, **Anti-inflammatory**, Antibacterial, Anti-viral, Anti-fungal, Anti-diabetic, **ADAPTOGENIC**, **Anti-fatigue**, **NEUROPROTECTIVE**, **Liver-protective** & Pro-sexual **PROPERTIES**



RED REISHI (*Lingzhi*): **SUPPORTS MENTAL, CARDIOVASCULAR & LIVER health. PROVIDES** Anti-oxidant/ Anti-aging, **ANTI- ALLERGY**, **Anti-inflammatory & IMMUNOMODULATORY SUPPORT**

PROBIOTICS & GBA

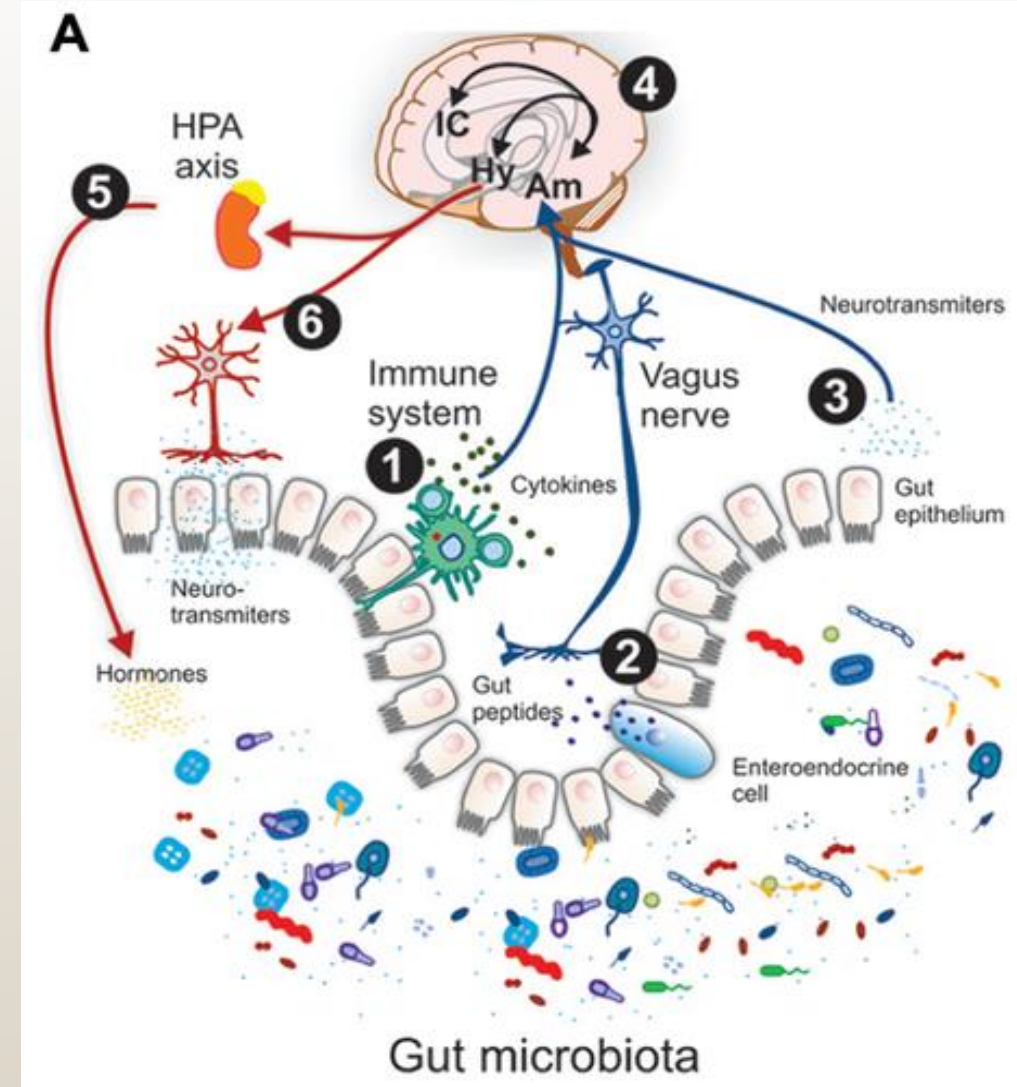
Gut- Microbiota Brain Axis (GBA) = *connection* between **Gut Microbes (Microbiome)** and the **Brain**.¹⁻⁵

There are several ways in which **Microbes** can **communicate** with the **Brain**. This includes:

1. **Vagal Nerve Activation**⁶⁻⁷

2. **Production of many Neurotransmitters & Neuromodulators**.⁽⁸⁻¹¹⁾ e.g.

- **Bacillus** produces **Dopamine**
- **Escherichia, Bacillus** and **Saccharomyces spp.** produce **Noradrenalin**
- **Lactobacillus** produces **Acetylcholine**.
- Certain **Lactobacillus & Bifidobacterium spp.** produce **GABA**
- **~ 90% Serotonin produced in the GIT.**



REFERENCES FOR PREVIOUS SLIDE:

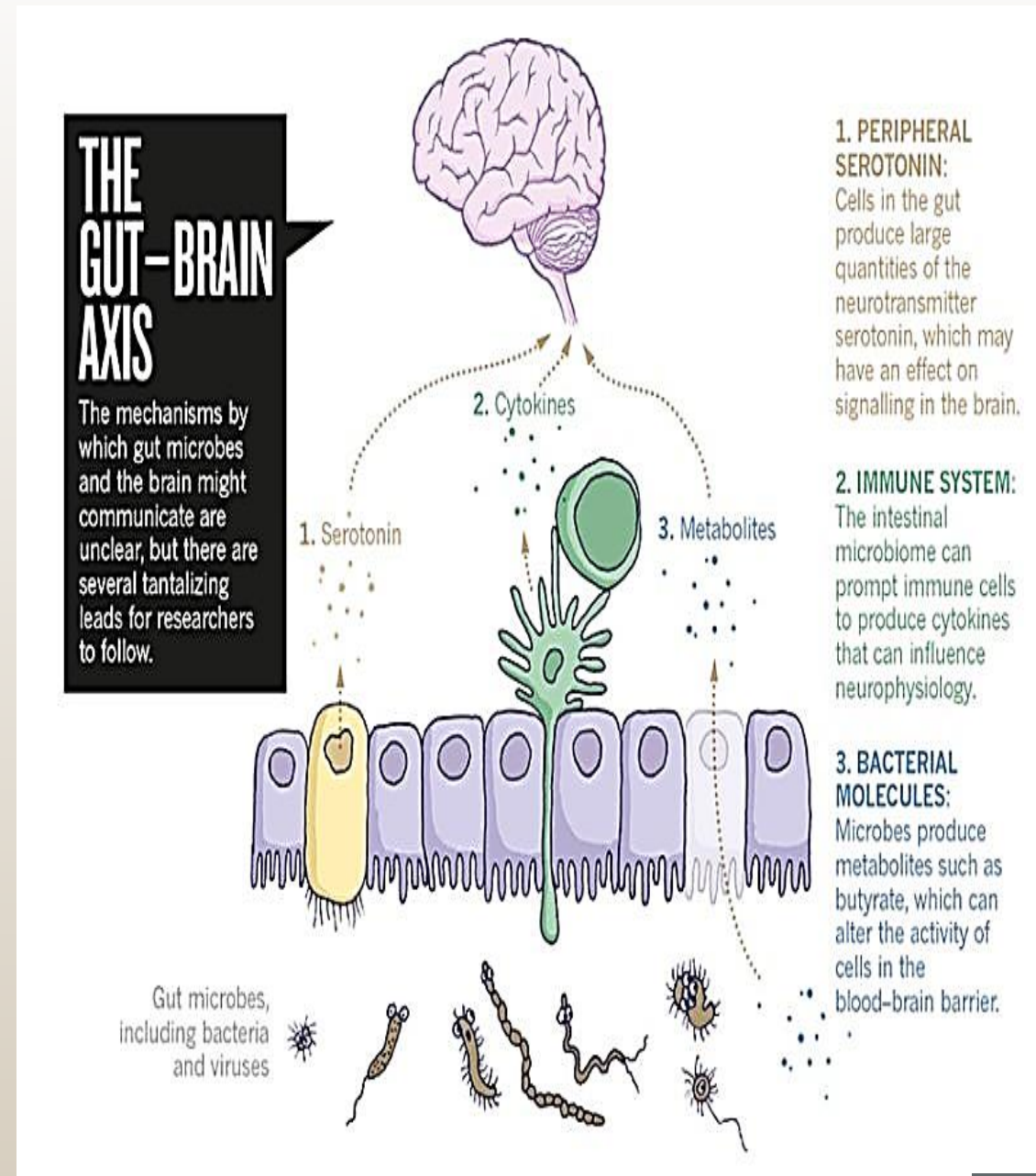
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PROBIOTICS & GBA

- An increasing number of **Studies** show that **Probiotics** are able to *modulate* the **Gut-Brain Axis**, thus helping to improve behaviours and symptoms of **Stress, Anxiety & Depression**.¹⁻³

e.g. Recent research demonstrated **Lactobacillus helveticus R0052** and **Bifidobacterium longum R0175** improved reaction to **Stress & Depression Symptoms**.

In fact, the **ability** of the **Probiotics** to **reduce stress-related behaviours** was **similar** to that of **Diazepam (Valium)**.³⁻⁴



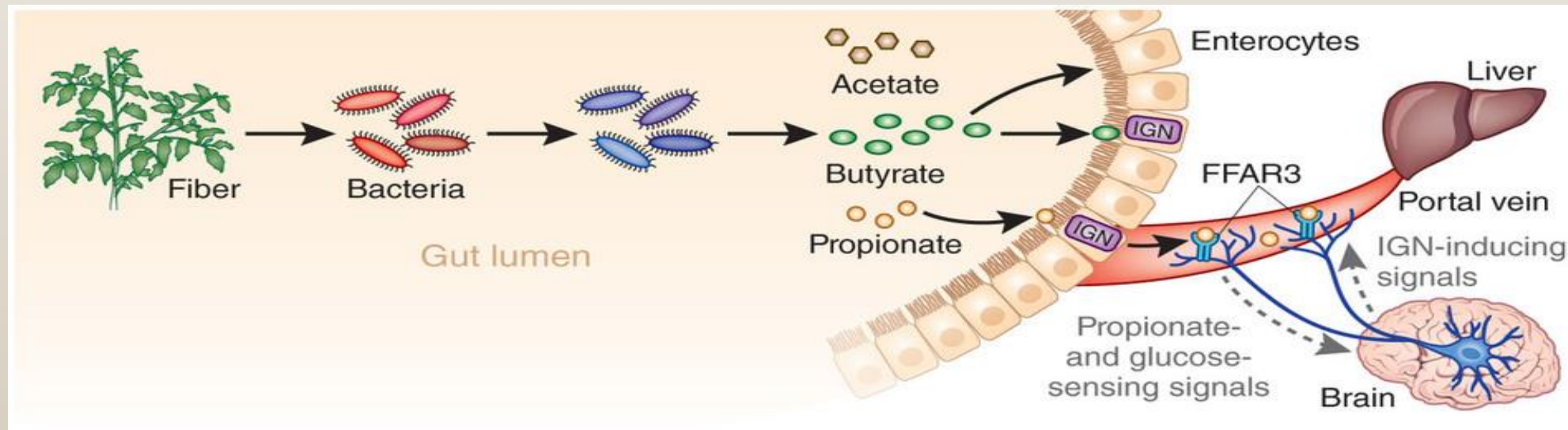
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PROBIOTICS & GBA

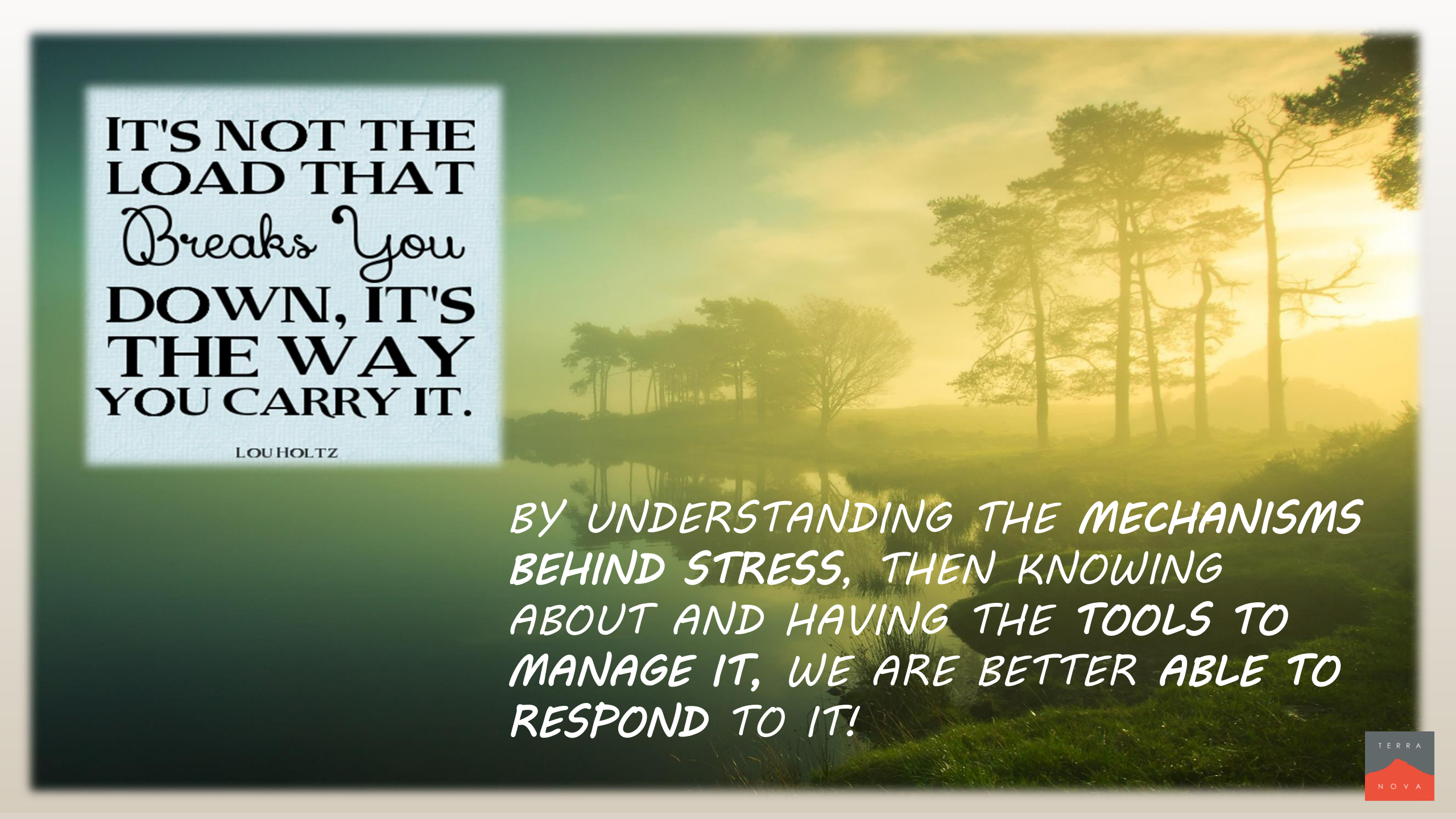
The Gut Microbes can also have an **impact on Innate / Basic IMMUNITY** by **altering circulating levels of Pro and Anti-inflammatory Cytokines** which in turn **influences the HPA- Axis** ¹.

Short Chain Fatty Acids (SCFAs) produced in the Gut when Bacteria Ferment Fibre, have been shown to **have Neuroactive Properties** ² as well as **Anti-inflammatory Properties**. ³



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3. Huuskonen, J., Suuronen, T., Nuutinen, T., Kyrylenko, S., & Salminen, A. (2004). **Regulation of microglial inflammatory response by sodium butyrate and short-chain fatty acids.** *British journal of pharmacology*, 141(5), 874-880.



IT'S NOT THE
LOAD THAT
Breaks You
DOWN, IT'S
THE WAY
YOU CARRY IT.

LOU HOLTZ

BY UNDERSTANDING THE MECHANISMS
BEHIND STRESS, THEN KNOWING
ABOUT AND HAVING THE TOOLS TO
MANAGE IT, WE ARE BETTER ABLE TO
RESPOND TO IT!