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# Vigor

3-tiered sustained mood state characterized by physical energy, mental acuity, and emotional well-being



Qi  
Life Force  
Vigor

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Air / Breath

+

Rice / Food

=

Attitude / Morale







# Prevalence of Chronic Stress

- Studies show that 50-60% of all lost working days are related to stress
- **Work-related stress costs the EU more than 265 billion Euros annually**
- Chronic stress is a determinant of Depression, Heart Disease, Diabetes, & Syndrome X
- **Stress contributes to half of all illnesses in the United States**
- 70-80% of all doctor visits are for stress-related illnesses
- **More than half of all deaths before age 65 result from stressful lifestyles**
- Generalized anxiety disorder affects ~183 million people worldwide
- **People with high anxiety are 4.5x more likely to die of a heart attack or stroke**
- 80% of workers report feeling stress on the job (only 13% are “engaged” with work)
- **65% = American Psychological Association**
- **70-80% = World Health Organization (WHO) & Centers for Disease Control (CDC)**
- **90% = American Institute of Stress (AIS)**

Sources: Working on Stress - European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (<http://agency.osha.eu.int>)

U.S. Center for Disease Control

World Health Organization; [www.whmc.af.mil](http://www.whmc.af.mil)

2000 Gallup Poll “Attitudes in the American Workplace”

# Stress-Related Conditions

## **Metabolic and Long-Term Health Effects of Elevated Stress** (Cortisol Overexposure/Metabolic Imbalance)

- Increased appetite, Accelerated muscle catabolism, Suppressed fat oxidation, Enhanced fat storage (**Obesity - 2,694**)
- Elevated cholesterol and triglyceride levels; Elevated blood pressure (**Heart disease - 4,604**)
- Alterations in brain neurochemistry [dopamine/serotonin/norepinephrine] (**Depression/Anxiety/ADHD - 22,491**)
- Physical atrophy of brain cells (**Memory problems/Dementia - 3,169**)
- Insulin resistance and elevated blood-sugar levels (**Diabetes - 1,203**)
- Accelerated bone resorption (**Osteoporosis - 2,675**)
- Reduced levels of testosterone (**Suppressed libido - 1,439**)
- Suppression of immune-cell number/activity (**Frequent Colds/Flu/infection; Increased Cancer risk - 9,651**)



# Causes of “Imbalance” (Stress)

- Emotional stress (deadlines, bills, traffic...)
- Physical stress (aging, sleep deprivation, exercise...)
- Environmental stress (air/water pollution, heat, cold...)
- Non-Optimal Diet (processed foods, inadequate nutrients/phytonutrients...)
- Sources of Imbalance (stress) are:
  - Internal
  - External
  - Everywhere!
  - Unavoidable!!
- Athletes / Dieters / Short-Sleepers / Stressed
  - Share the SAME *biochemical* disruptions
  - Share the SAME *psychological* outcomes
  - Exhibit the SAME benefits to *restored biochem*





Tired, Stressed, Depressed

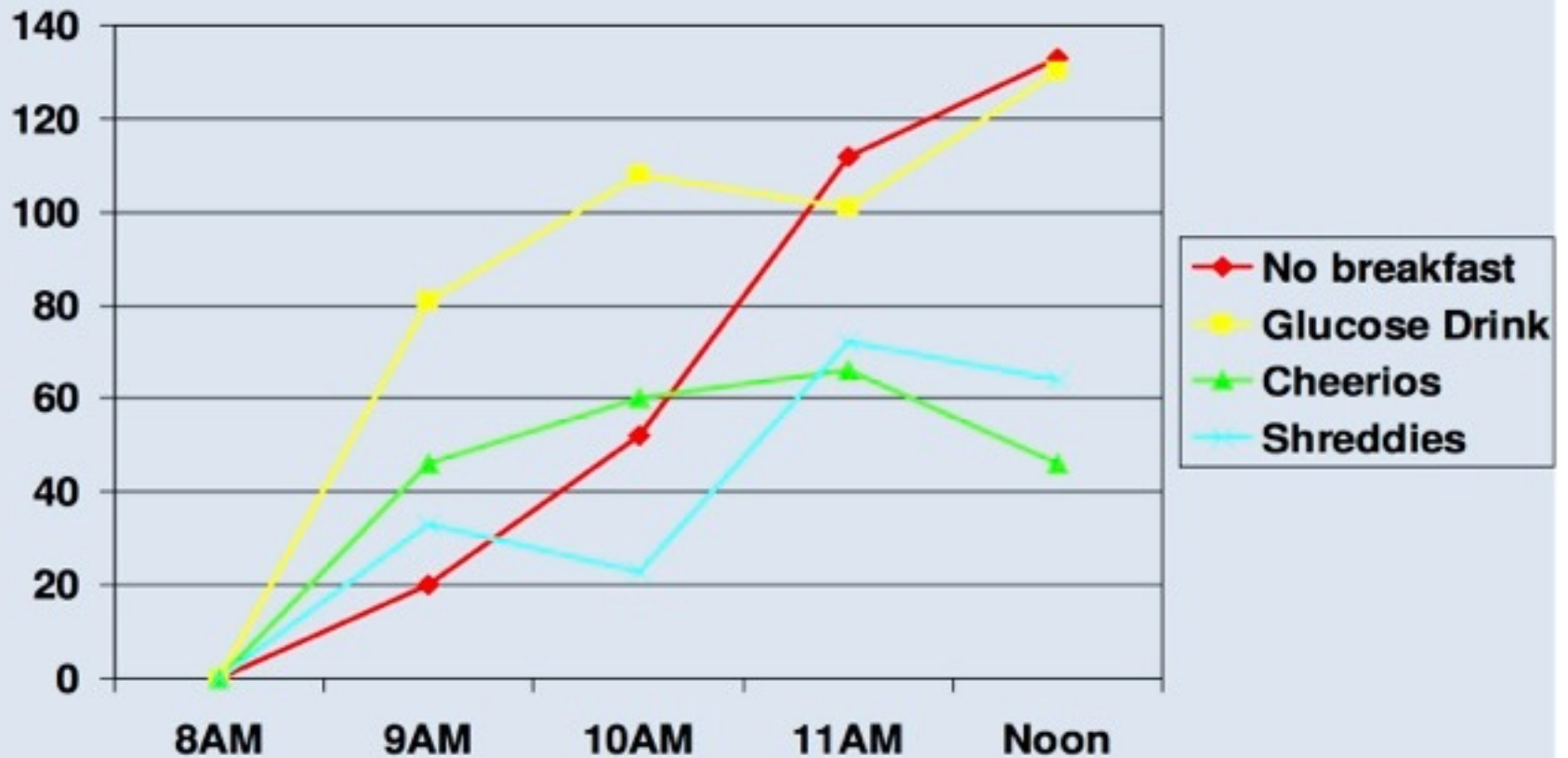


# Diet / Vigor Relationship

- Mediterranean diet = Improved QOL
  - Henriquez-Sanchez et al. *Eur J Clin Nutr* 66(3): 360-8, 2012
- Omega3s = Reduced ADHD Sx / Improved QOL (cancer)
  - Van der Meij et al. *Eur J Clin Nutr* 66, 399-404, 2012
- Multivitamin = Increased Attention, Mood, Vigor
  - Kennedy et al. *Psychopharmacology* 211:55-68, 2010
- Overall Diet Quality = Reduced Depression / Improved QOL
  - Kuczmarski et al. *J Am Diet Assoc.* 110(3): 383-389, 2010
- Low Fat Diet (20%) = Lower Anxiety/Depression / Higher Vigor
  - Torres & Nowson CA. *Nutrition.* Sep;28(9):896-900. 2012
- Fast Food / Commercial baked Goods = Higher Depression Risk
  - Sanchez-Vilegas et al. *Public Health Nutr* 15(3), 424-432, 2011
- Diet/Exercise - 10% weight loss (overweight) = Increased Vitality
  - Imayama et al. *Int J Behav Nutr & Phys Activity* 8:18, 2011
- Food restriction (lightweight athletes) = Reduced Vigor
  - Filaire et al. *Int J Sports Med.* Aug;22(6):454-9. 2001
- Bonito (tuna) Broth (EAAs) = Reduced Fatigue / Improved Vigor
  - Kuroda & Nozawa. *Biomed Res* 29(4), 175-179, 2008
- Depressed Patients (cancer) = Lower use of CAM
  - Stein et al. *Cancer* Sept 15, pp 4397-4408, 2009
- Positive Psychological Well-Being = longer survival (healthy/diseased)
  - Chida & Steptoe. *Psychosomatic Med* 70:741-756, 2008

# Breakfast Experiment

## Attention Deterioration from 8 AM (Higher Score Worse) --Normal Kids





PROZAC



Lexapro 

Folgers 

Celexa 



Lunesta 

Zoloft

\$80B+

PAX

Red Bull 

Wellbutrin XL 

AMBIEN

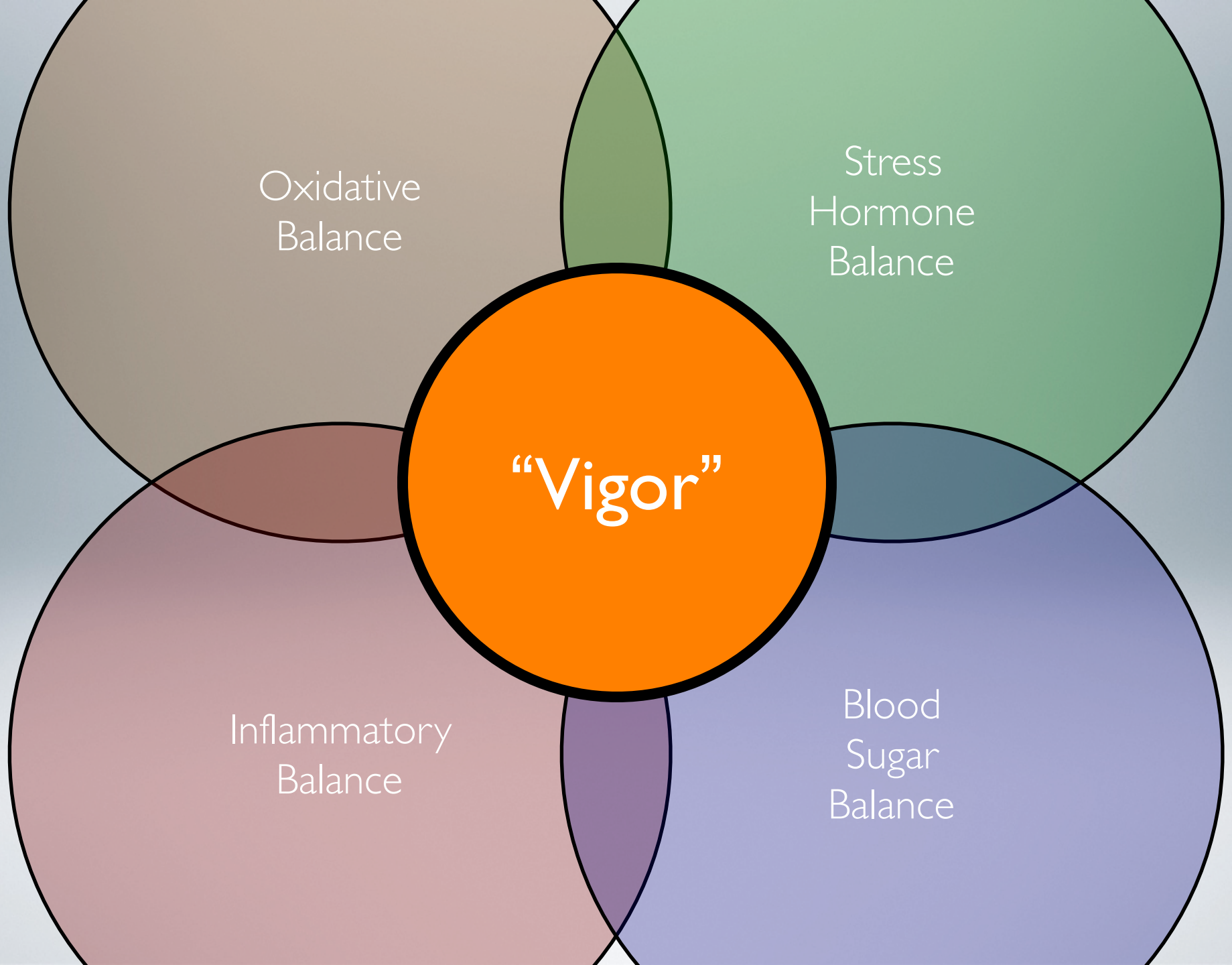


EFFEXOR XR

LUVOX

 Cymbalta

  
Peet's Coffee & Tea



Oxidative  
Balance

Stress  
Hormone  
Balance

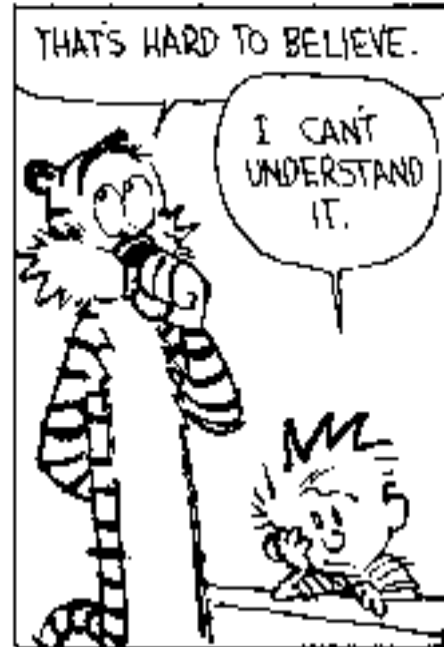
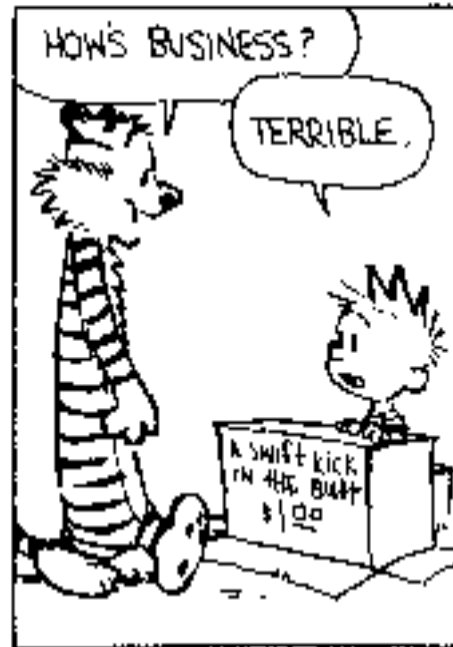
“Vigor”

Inflammatory  
Balance

Blood  
Sugar  
Balance





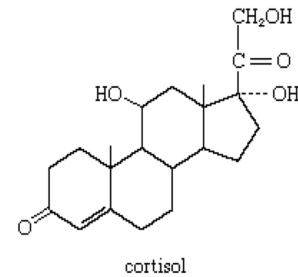



People will pay for what they want, but not for what they need.

Everyone living in the 21st century needs cortisol control!



# What is Cortisol?



- **Cortisol is the body's primary stress hormone**
  - "Fight-or-Flight" response
  - Regulates inflammation, carbohydrate metabolism, blood pressure, cardiovascular function, etc...
- BUT  **too much** cortisol for **too long** leads to problems

## Analogy...

- Cholesterol: hormone synthesis and cell membrane structure
- **Too much** cholesterol: leads to arterial plaque and heart disease (bad)
- Solution: control cholesterol (reduce it, don't obliterate it)



# STRESS

## ACUTE STRESS

- brief
- normal circadian rhythm
- adaptive

## CHRONIC STRESS

- prolonged & repeated
- disrupted circadian rhythm
- maladaptive



# Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers...

Robert Sapolsky, PhD  
Stanford University  
Stress Physiology

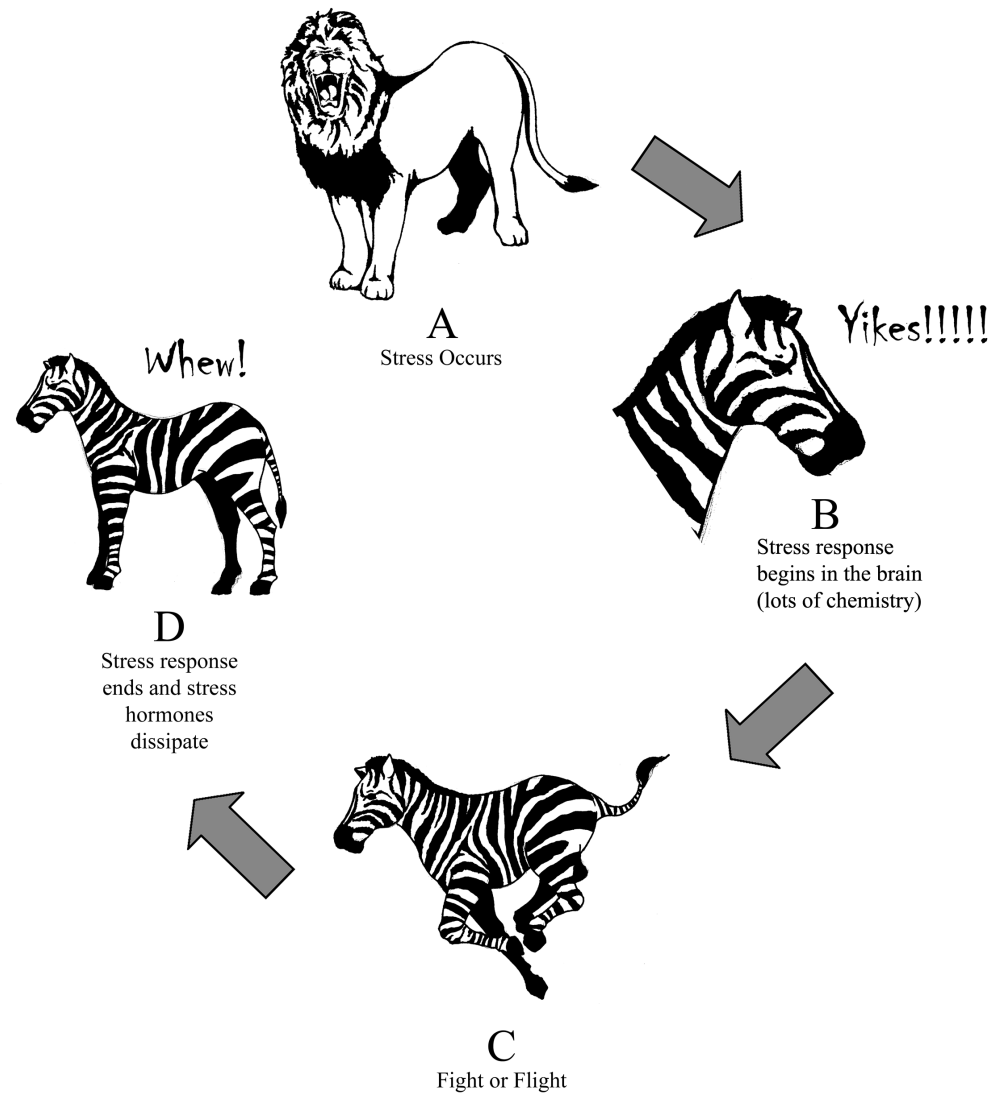


Figure 1.1  
The "normal" stress response

# Humans are *not* Zebras...

...and are not meant to harbor *chronic* stress

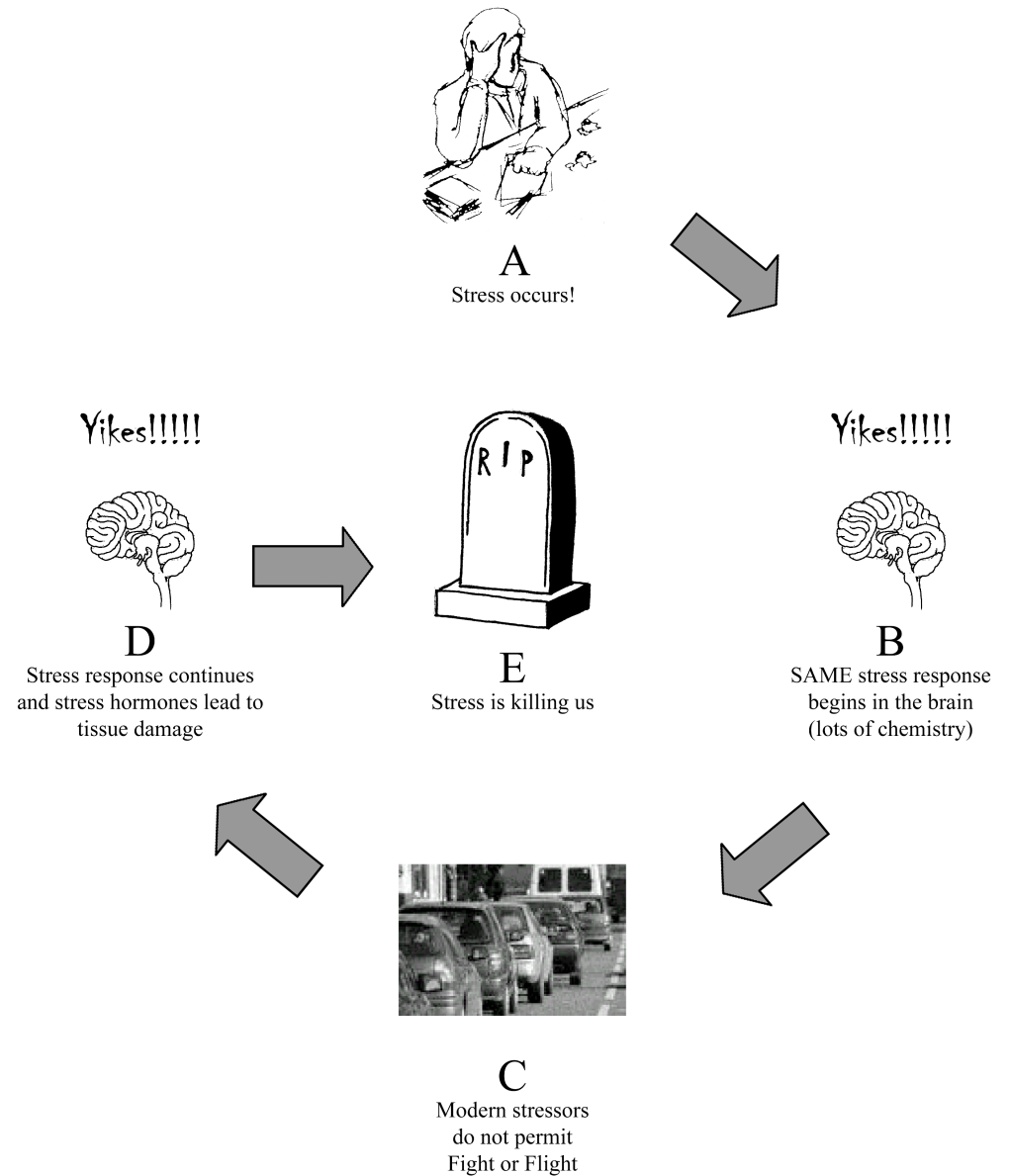
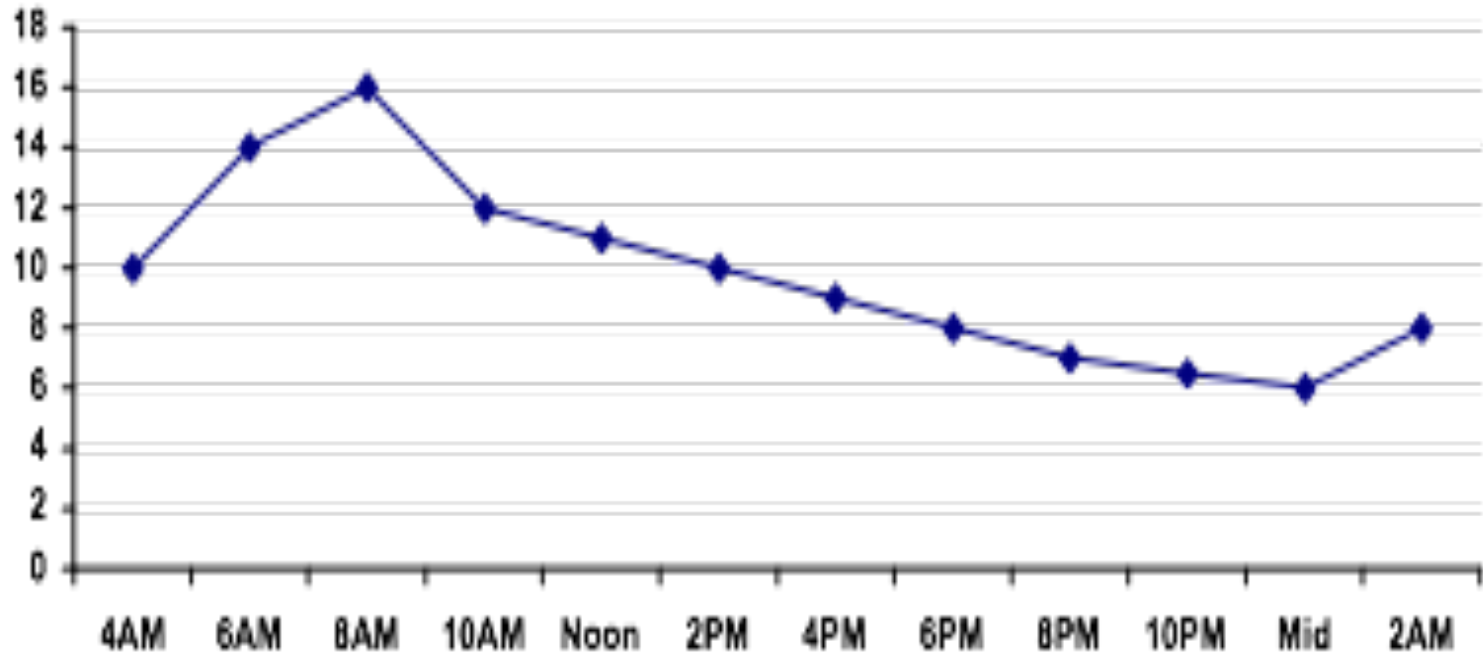


Figure 1.2  
The "Type C" personality (The HUMAN stress response)

# “Normal” Diurnal Cortisol Rhythm

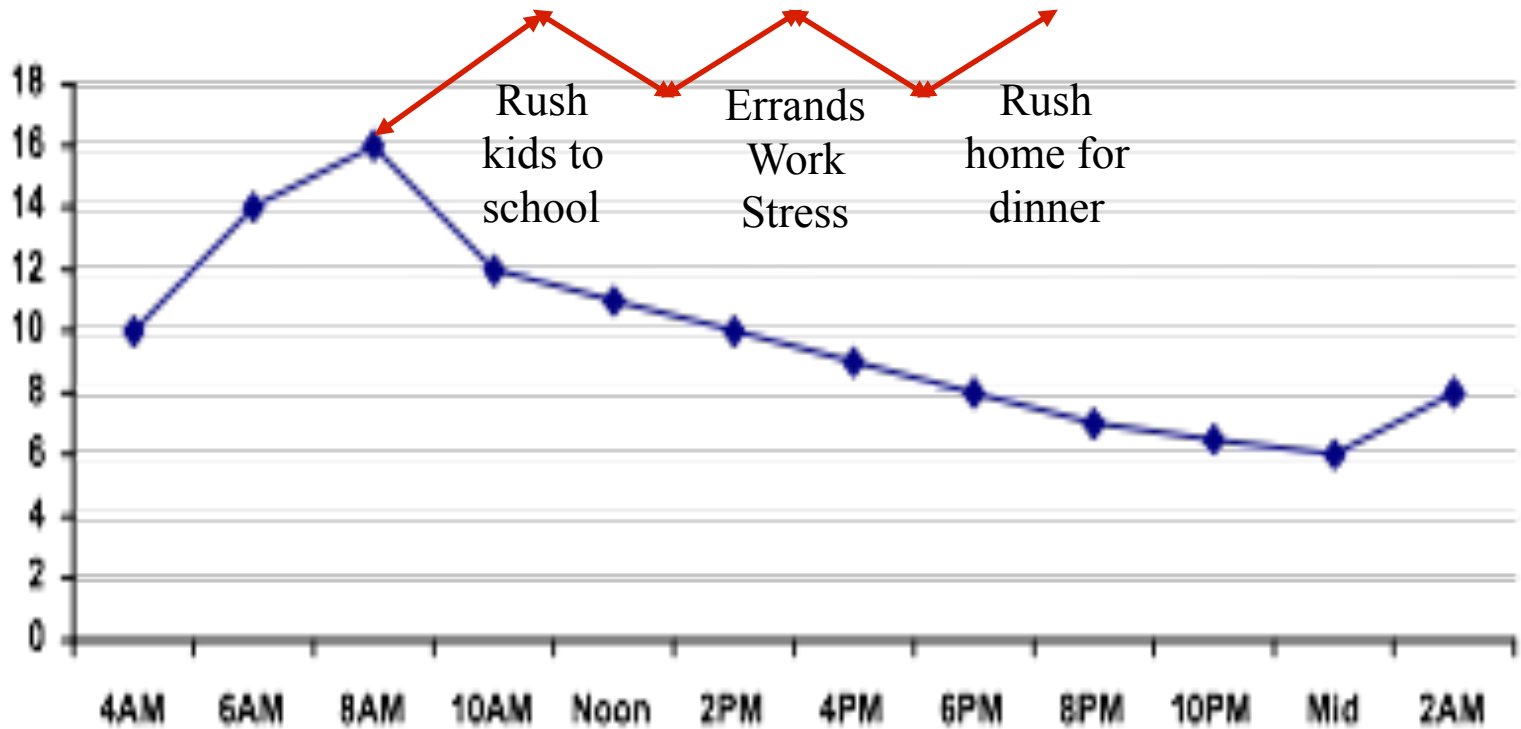
Cortisol Levels Throughout the Day



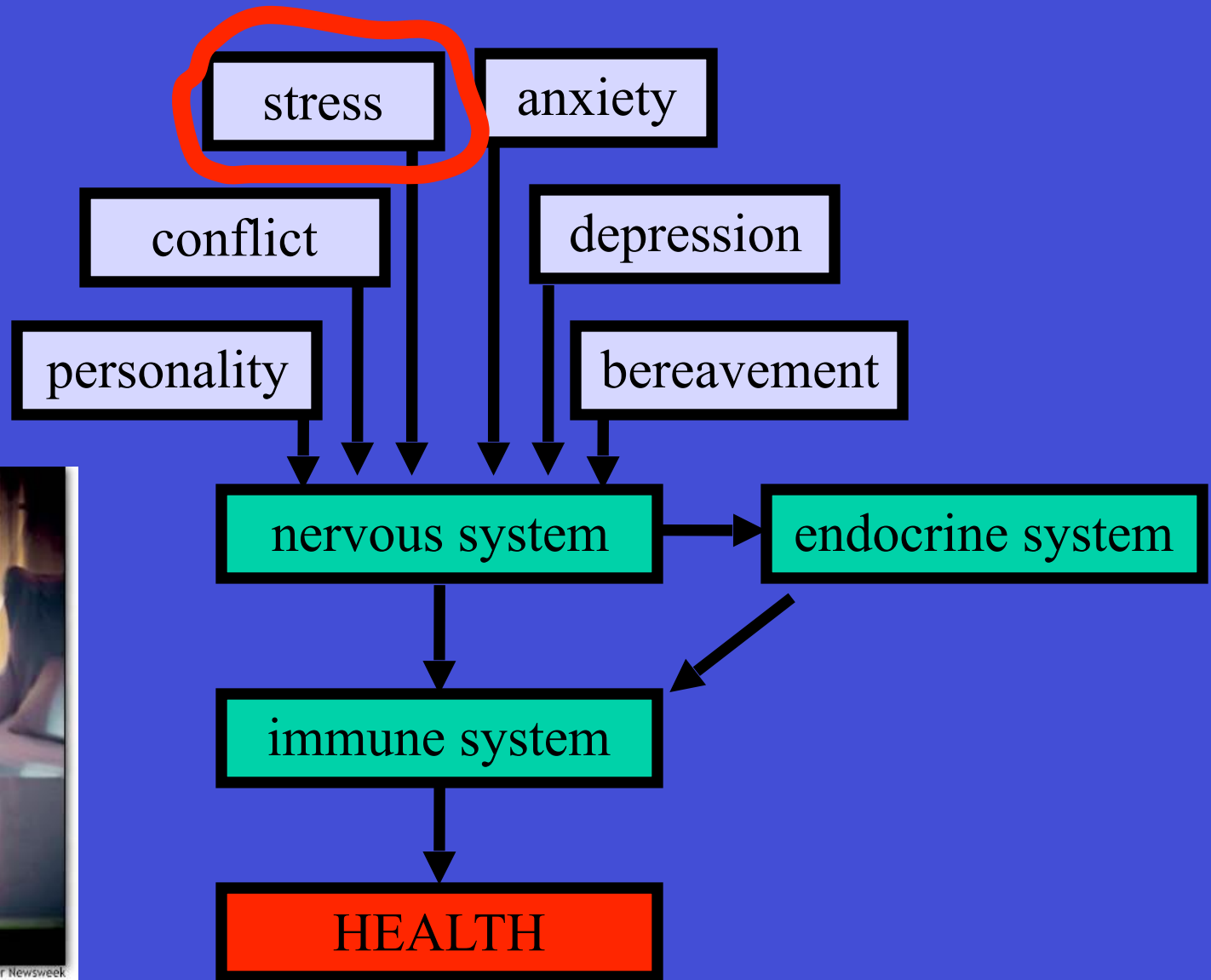


# “Modern” Cortisol Rhythm

Cortisol Levels Throughout the Day



# Psycho-Neuro-Immunology



# Conditions Linked to Cortisol Dysregulation

**Obesity**

**Appetite Regulation**

**Diabetes/Metabolic Syndrome X**

**Cardiovascular Dysfunction**

**Hypertension**

**Impaired Immune Response**

**Premenstrual Syndrome**

**Menopausal Symptoms**

**Osteoporosis**

**Depression (some)**

**Anxiety disorders (some)**

**Memory/Learning Impairment**

**Mania**

**Acne/Skin Wrinkling**

**Sleep deprivation**

**Chronic migraine headaches**

**Cushing's syndrome**

**Hyperthyroidism**

**Atypical seasonal depression**

**Chronic fatigue syndrome**

**Fibromyalgia**

**Hypothyroidism**

**Nicotine withdrawal**

**Rheumatoid arthritis**

*Based on data from G. Chrousos and P. Gold, NIH, and B. McEwen, Rockefeller*



# Elevated Cortisol and Appetite

- Women with **high cortisol response**
  - (compared to a low cortisol response):
    - consumed more calories
    - ate significantly more sweet foods
    - had more negative moods
- High **dietary restraint** is associated with high urinary cortisol excretion
  - **Dietary Restraint** = Consciously trying to limit food intake to achieve or maintain a desired body weight



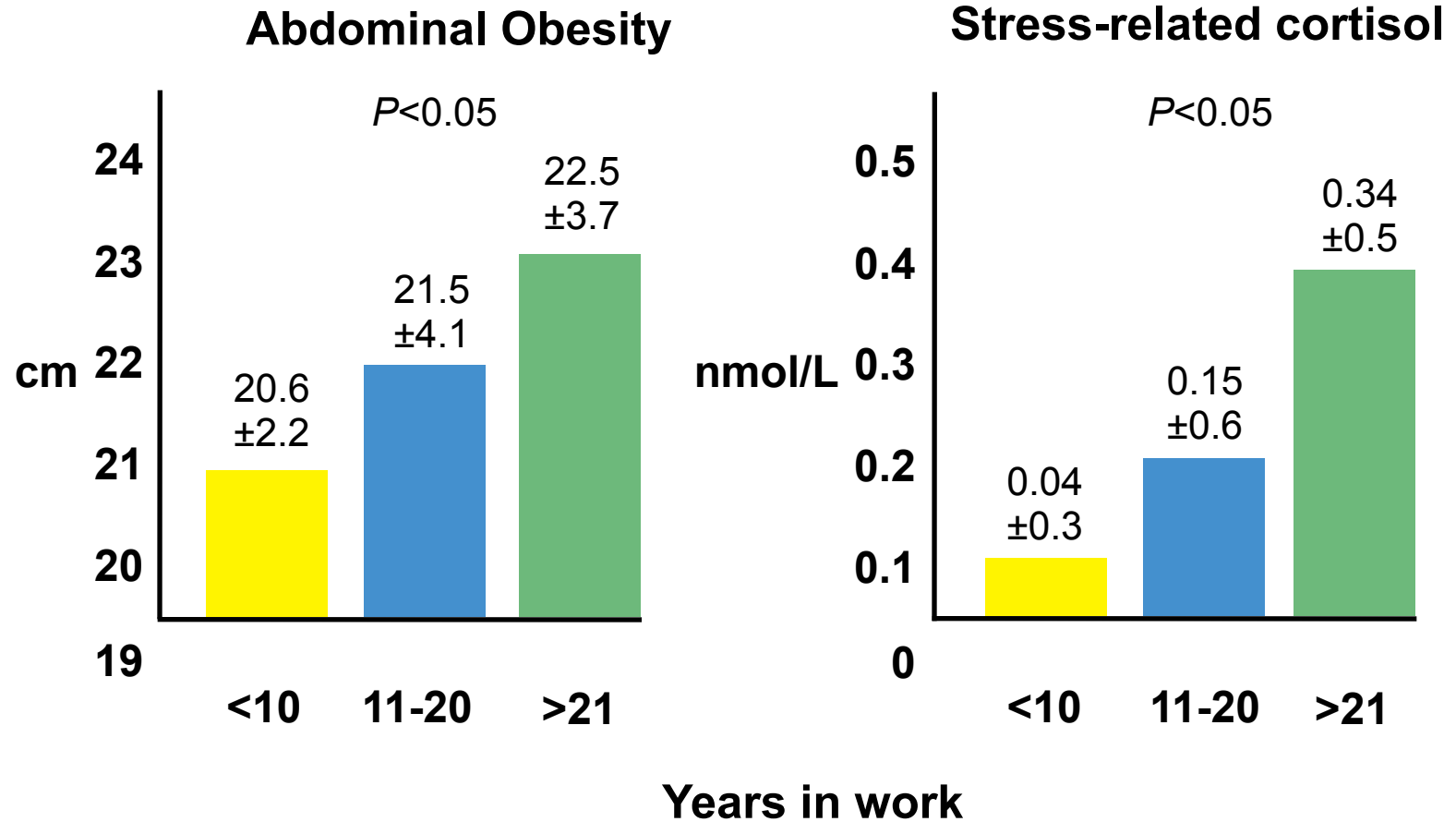
# Elevated Cortisol, Obesity & Metabolic Syndrome

- High cortisol secretion is associated with **abdominal fat**
- **Abdominal fat** is most highly associated with illness and death from:
  - cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and metabolic syndrome, including hypertension, hyperlipidemia, hyperinsulinemia, and insulin resistance<sup>1</sup>
- High cortisol secretion may be a contributing factor to the **abnormal metabolism** often seen in abdominal obesity<sup>2</sup>

*1. Peeke PM, Chrousos GP. Ann NY Acad Sci 1995;771:665-76.*

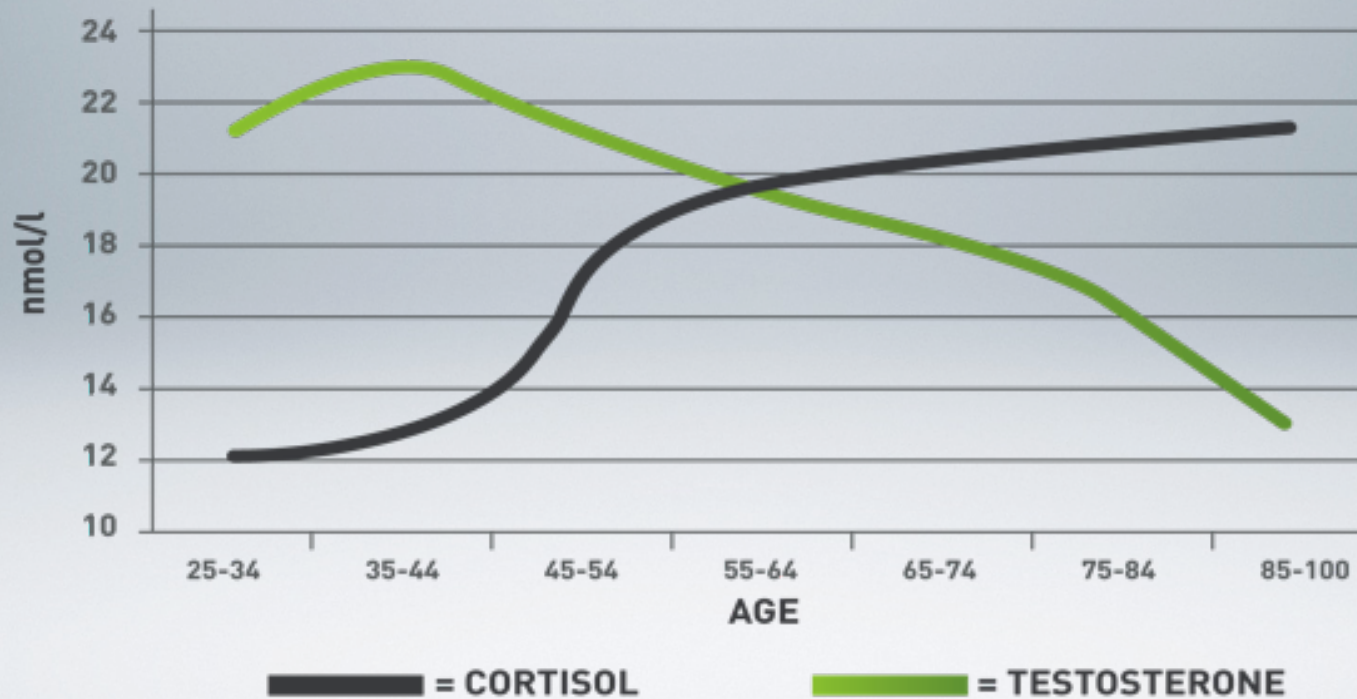
*2. Bjorntorp P, Rosmond R. Nutrition 2000;16(10):924-36.*

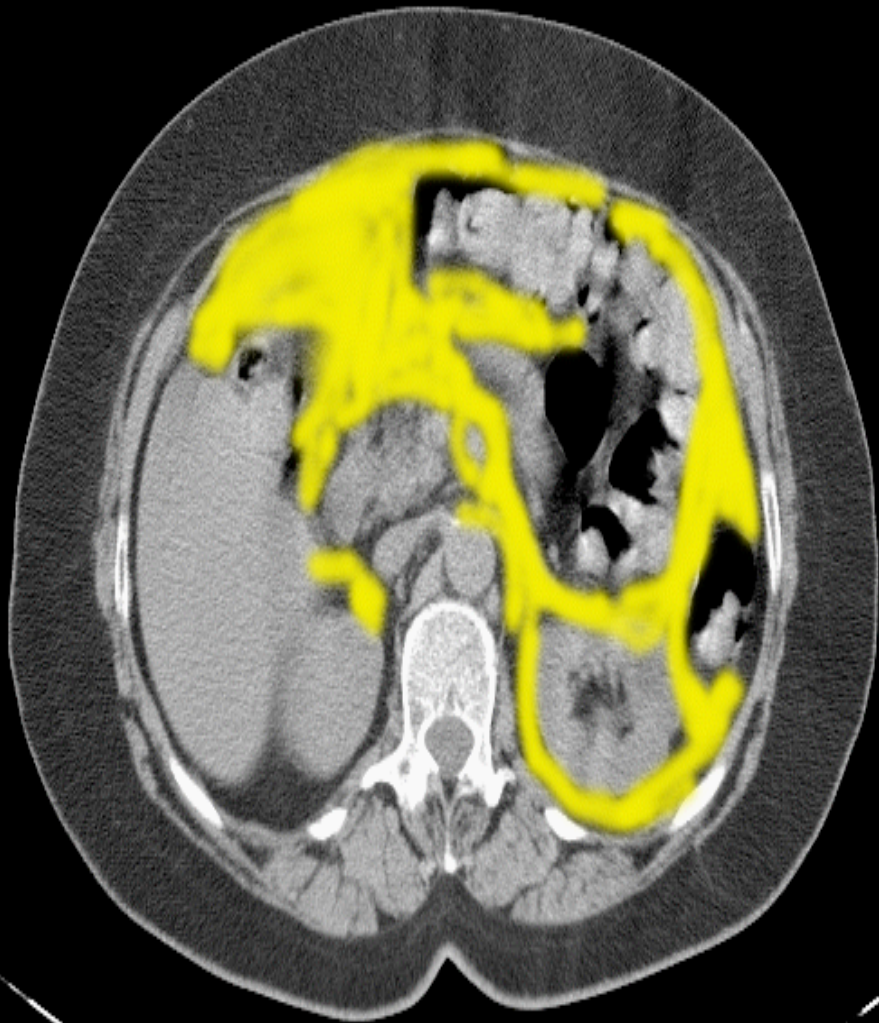
# Abdominal Obesity & Stress-Related Cortisol



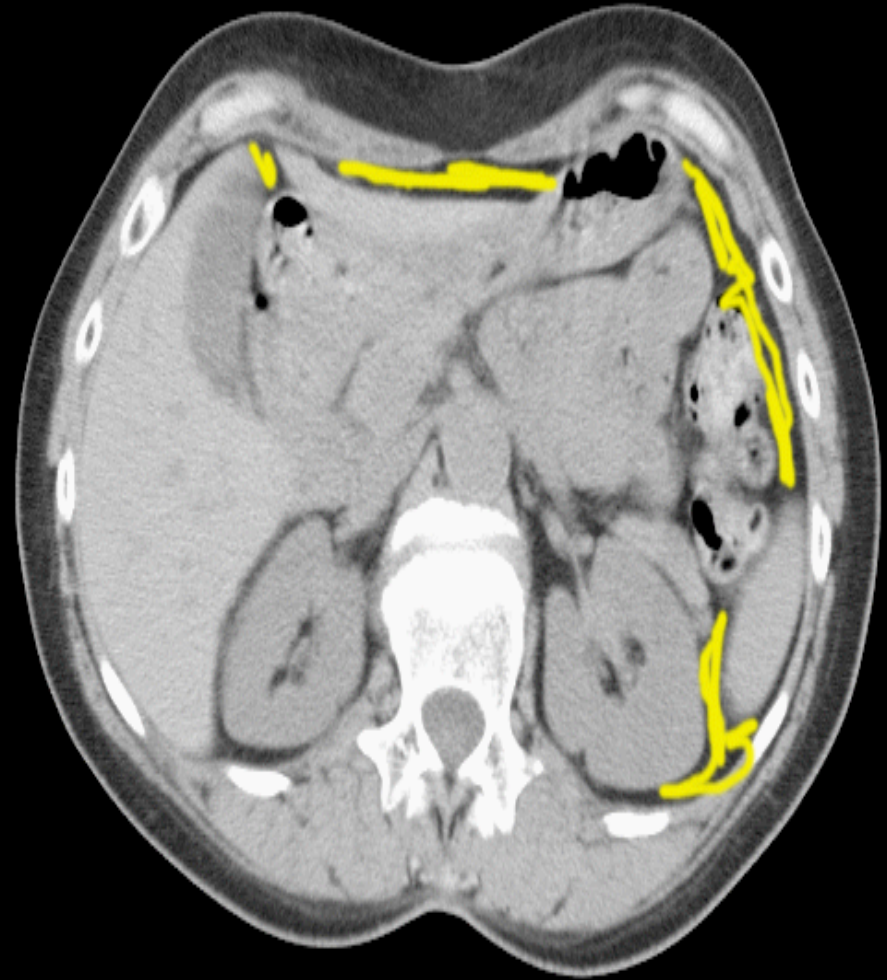


# Effects of Aging





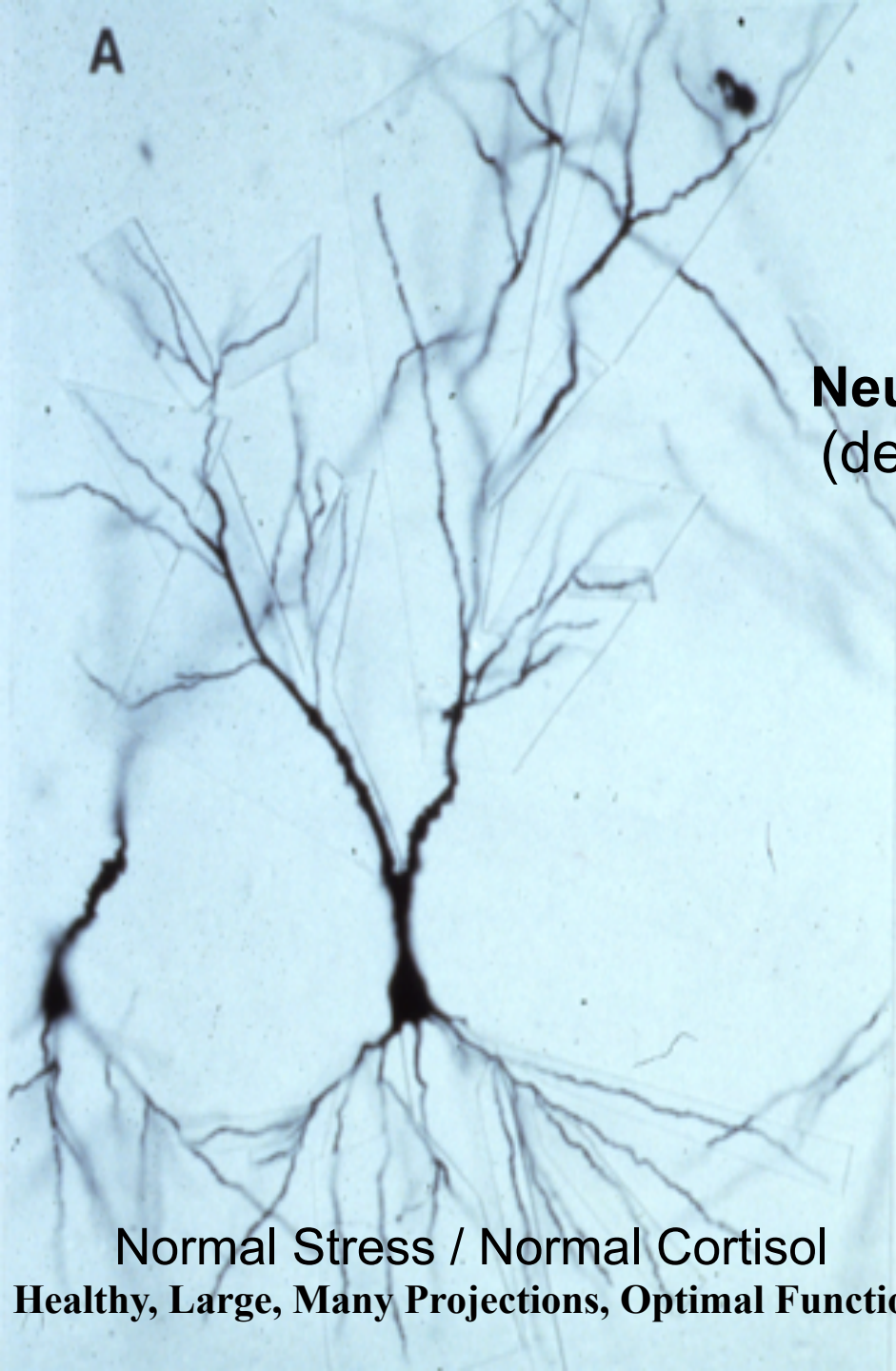
High Stress / High Cortisol



Normal Stress / Normal Cortisol

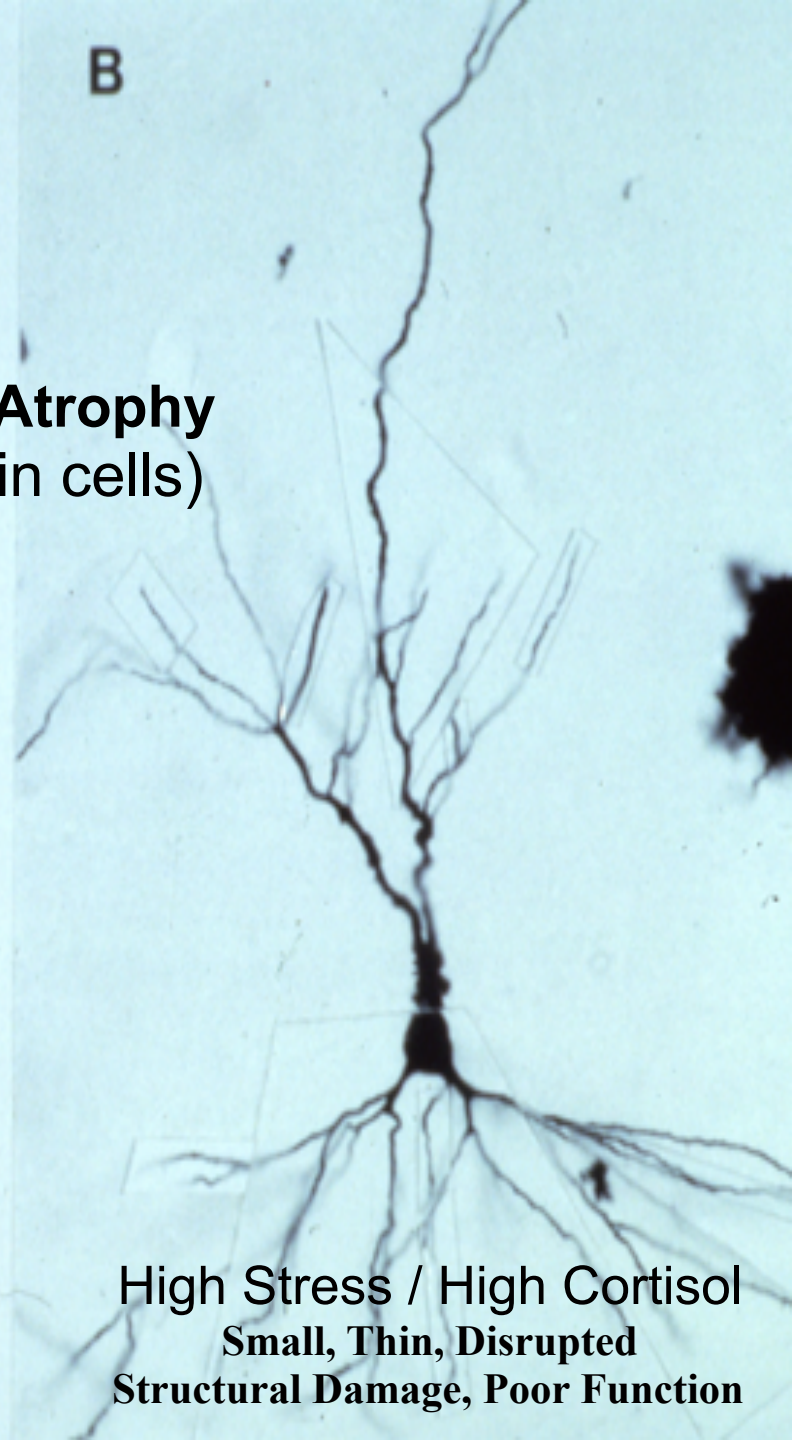


**A**



**Neuronal Atrophy**  
(dead brain cells)

**B**



**Normal Stress / Normal Cortisol**  
**Healthy, Large, Many Projections, Optimal Function**

**High Stress / High Cortisol**  
**Small, Thin, Disrupted**  
**Structural Damage, Poor Function**



# Cortisol Levels Are Elevated In...

- **Chronic Stress**
- **Aging**
- **Dieting / Restrained Eating**
- **Sleep Deprivation**



## The Link Between Cortisol and Blood Sugar

- Controlling your cortisol levels is important at *all* times
- Control of blood-sugar levels at *specific* times (few hours following each meal)

## Sleep deprivation and elevated cortisol levels

American Diabetes Association (2001) / University of Chicago sleep researchers...

- Inadequate sleep leads to:
  - Increased cortisol levels
  - Insulin resistance
  - Higher blood-sugar levels
  - Elevated appetite
  - Weight gain
- “normal” sleepers (averaging 7.5 to 8.5 hours of sleep per night)
- “short” sleepers (averaging less than 6.5 hours of sleep per night)
  - 50 percent more cortisol and insulin
  - 40 percent less sensitive to the effects of insulin



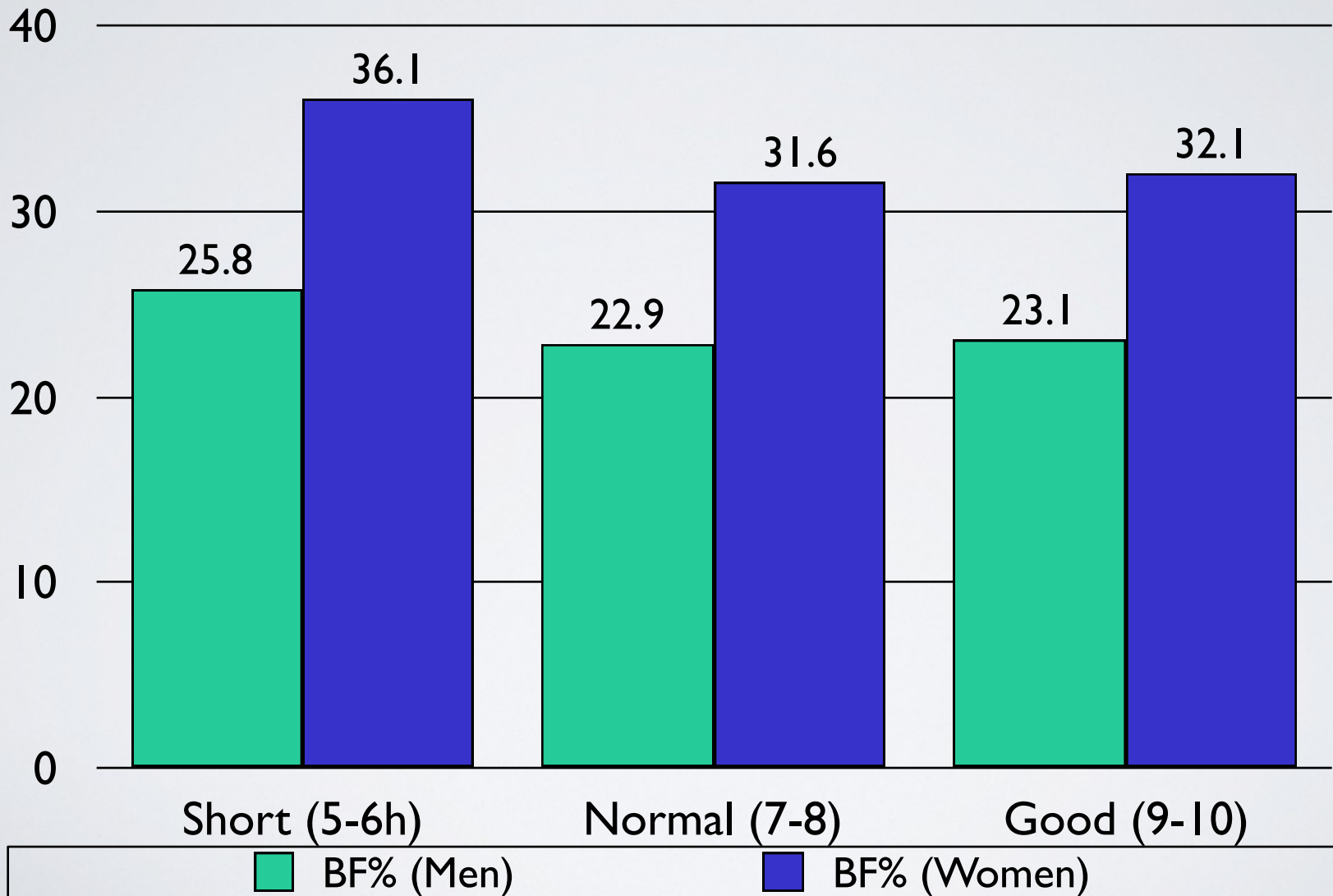
# Sleep Loss = Fat Gain



- In the last 40 years - daily sleep duration in the USA has fallen by 1-2 hrs
- Proportion of adults sleeping < 7 hours/night has more than doubled
  - 1960 = 15%
  - 2002 = 37%
  - 2013 = 40%
  - (National Sleep Foundation & Gallup)
- Archive of Internal Medicine (Sept 2006)
  - Direct relationship between higher BMI (weight/height) and sleep loss (990 adults)
  - **Each 1-hour decrease in sleep = 3 pounds gain**
- Obesity (Jan 2007)
  - 740 adults, aged 21-64 years
  - Normal sleepers (7-8 hours)
  - “Short” sleepers (5-6 hours)
  - “Good” sleepers (9-10 hours)

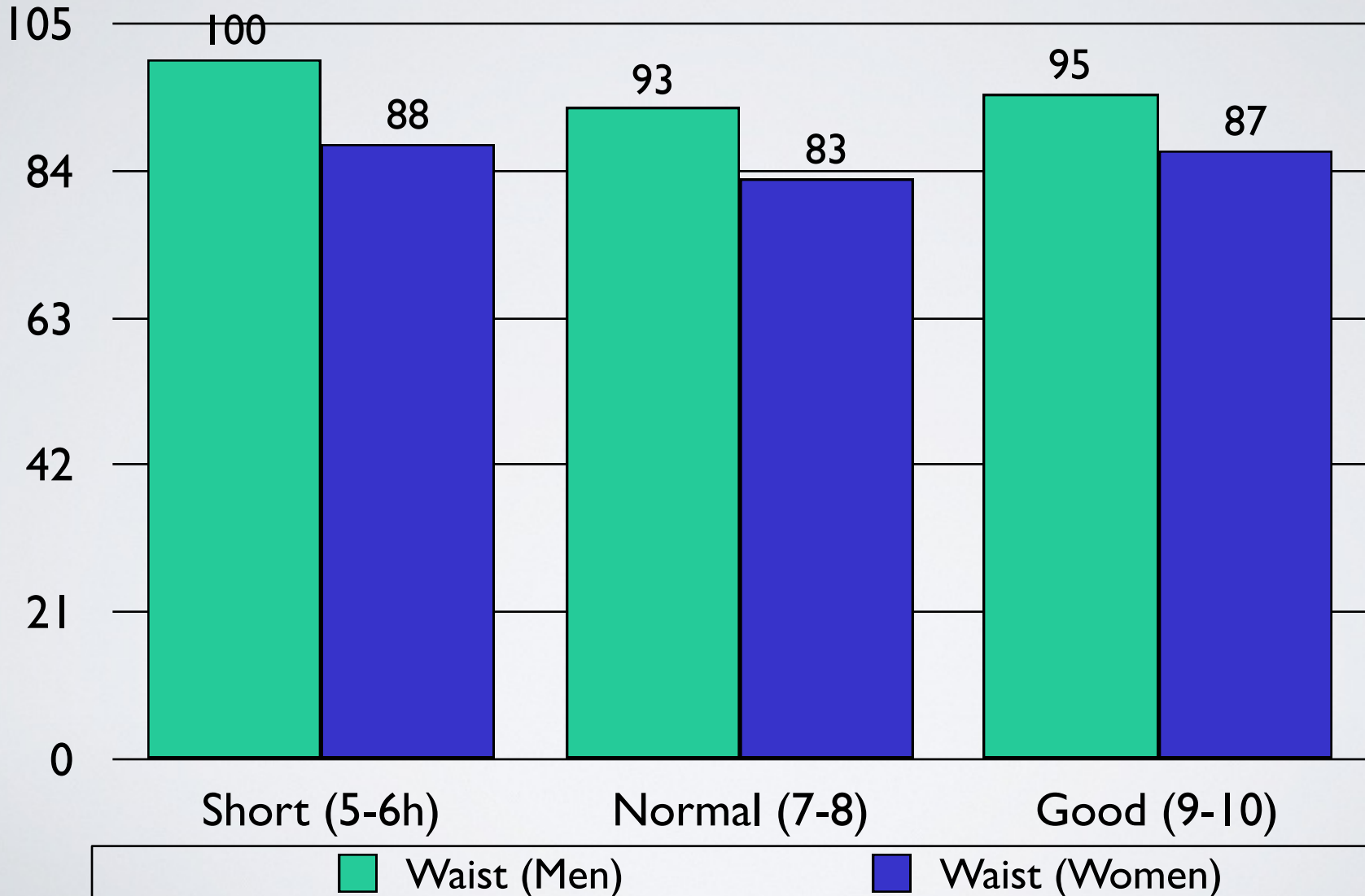


# Body Fat % and Sleep

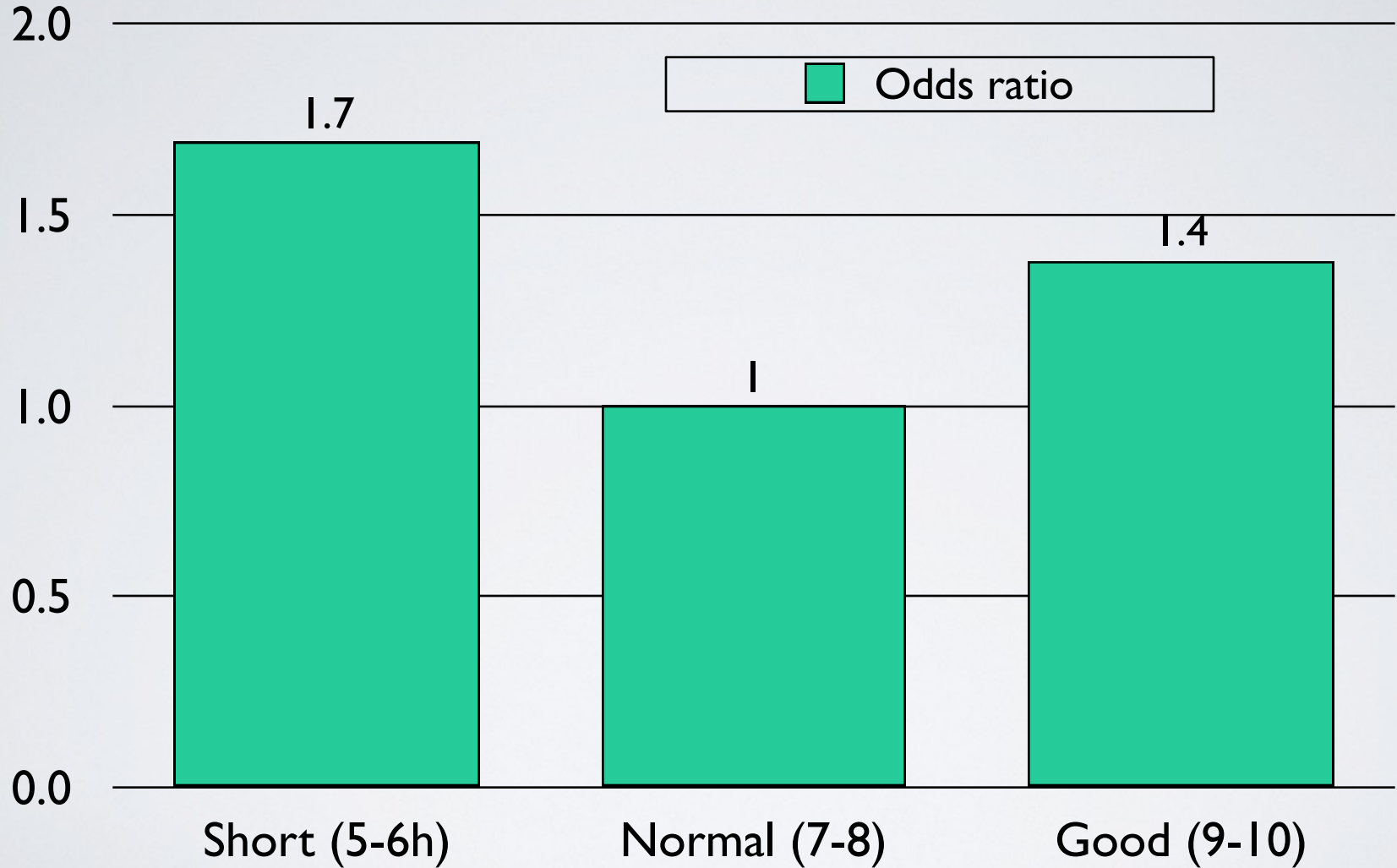




# Waist Girth (cm) and Sleep

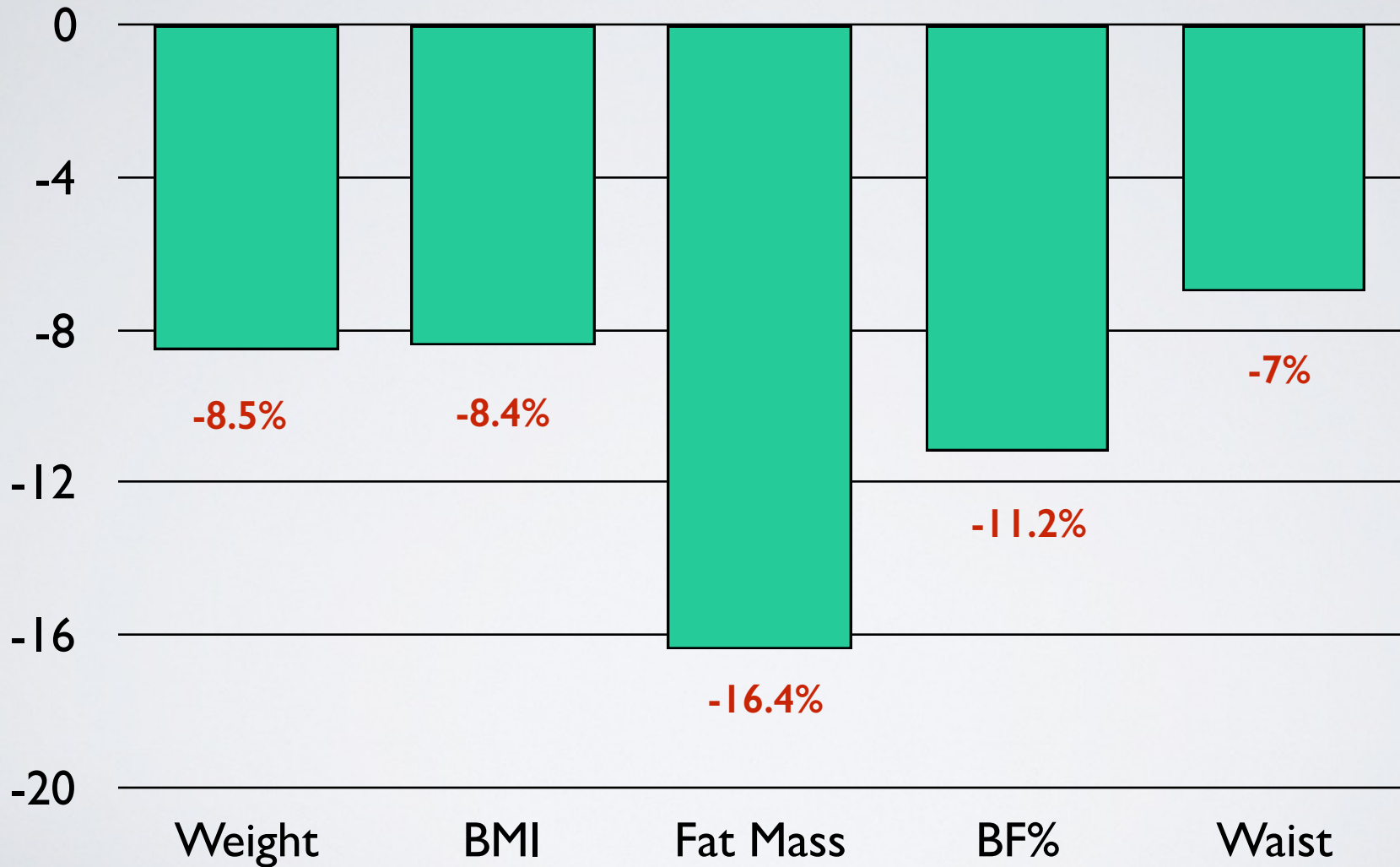


# Sleep and Risk of Weight Gain

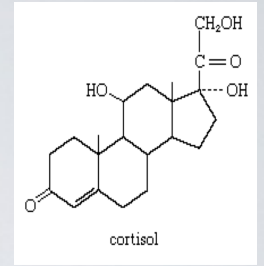


# Sleep Yourself Thin?

Normal Sleepers Compared to Short Sleepers



# Conclusion



There is a strong scientific association between chronically elevated cortisol levels and stress-related diseases.

Therefore, ***cortisol management*** is important for long-term health and well-being.





# Scientific Sessions

**Series of research studies over the past decade...**

**All geared toward = “Improving Mood State & Metabolic Parameters in Stressed Subjects”**



Experimental Biology: 2006, 2007, 2009



American College of Nutrition: 2005, 2007, 2009, 2010



American College of Sports Medicine: 2006, 2007



International Society for Sports Nutrition: 2006



The Obesity Society: 2006



tress Management



xercise



utrition

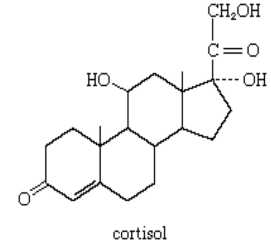


upplementation



valuation

# You can control cortisol levels via:



## **S**tress Management Techniques

- Meditation, Coping strategies, etc...

## **E**xercise

- Daily, moderate aerobic and strength training

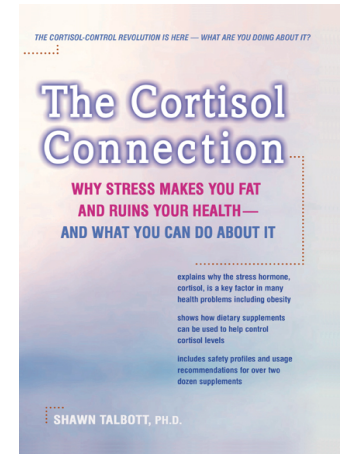
## **N**utrition

- Balance carbohydrates with protein
- Maintain adequate hydration
- Avoid “too much” caffeine

## **S**upplements

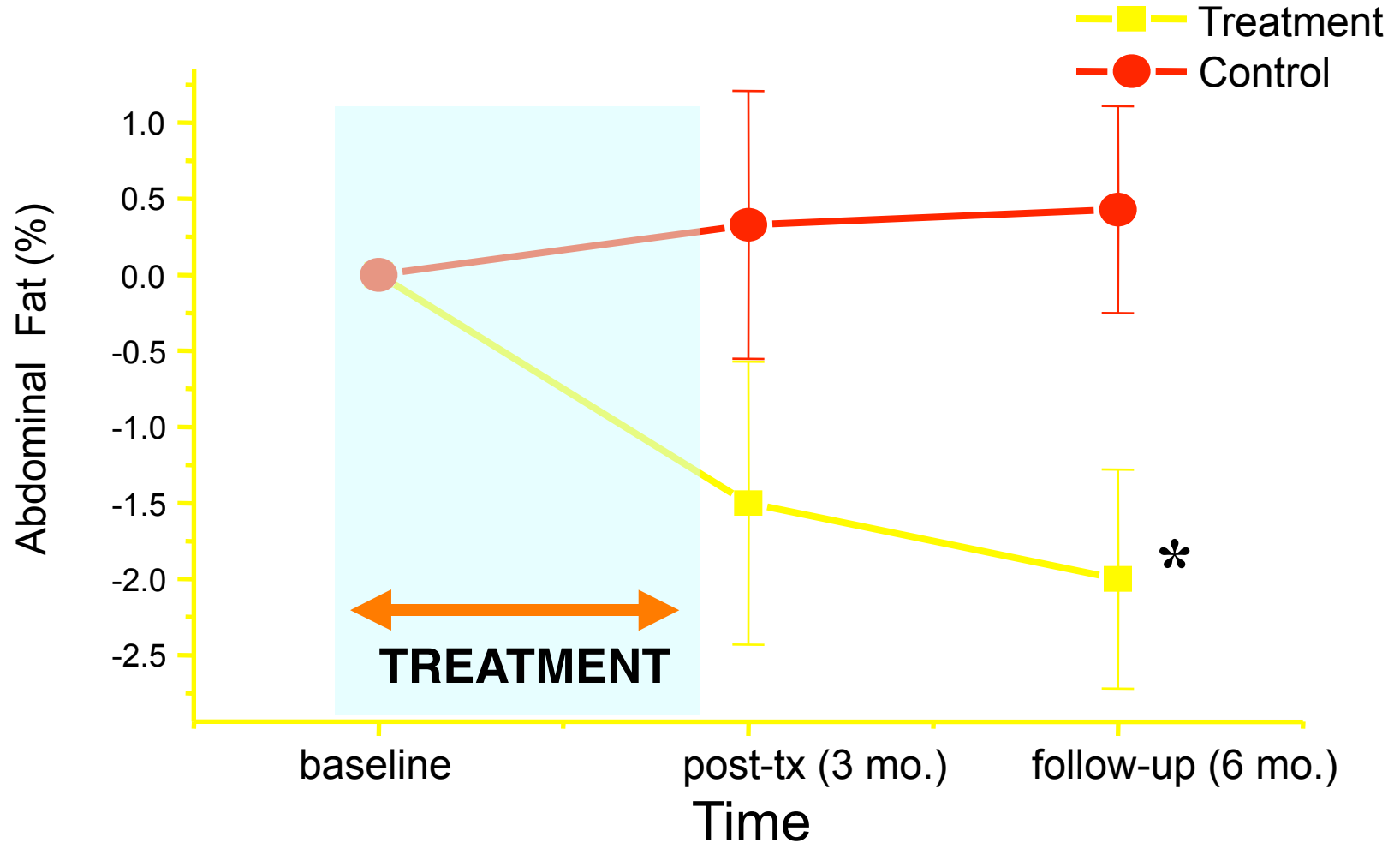
- Cortisol-controlling supplements (Calcium, **PMFs**, **Eurycoma**...)
- Relaxation supplements (Magnolia bark, **Theanine**, Ashwagandha...)

## **E**valuation (periodically to see how you are doing - weekly/monthly)





# % Change in Abdominal Fat After CBSM



$F=9.7, p < .008$

*Epel et al. Psychosom Med 2000;62(5):623-32.*

# Hormone Balance Supplements



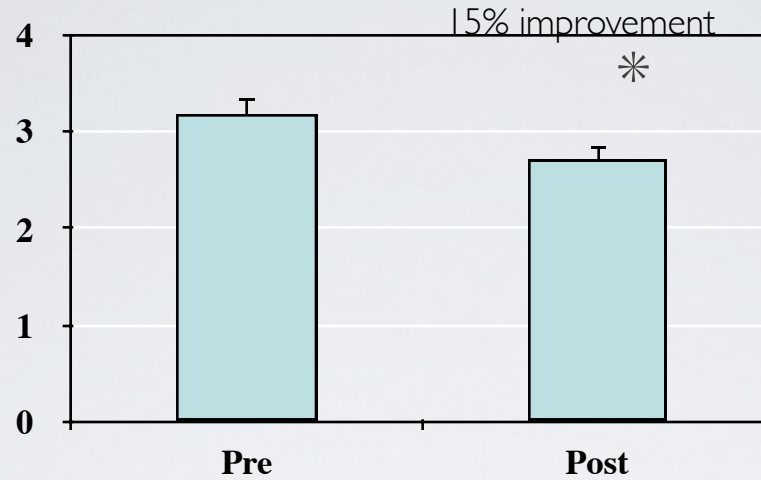
- *Eurycoma longifolia* root extract (Eurypeptides)
  - *Citrus sinensis* peel extract (PMFs)
  - *Camellia sinensis* leaf extract (Catechins)
  - L-Theanine (pure amino acid)
  - *Cordyceps sinensis* mycelia extract (Cordycepic acid)
  - *Rhodiola rosea* root extract (Rosavin)
  - *Eleutherococcus senticosus* root extract (Eleutherosides)
  - *Withania somnifera* root extract (Withanolides)
- 
- Intended to:
    - Maintain “Metabolic Hormone Balance”
      - Cortisol:Testosterone
      - Dopamine:Norepinephrine
      - HSD
    - Deliver Healthy Energy (VIGOR)
    - Enhance Mood

# “Healthy-Stressed” Subjects

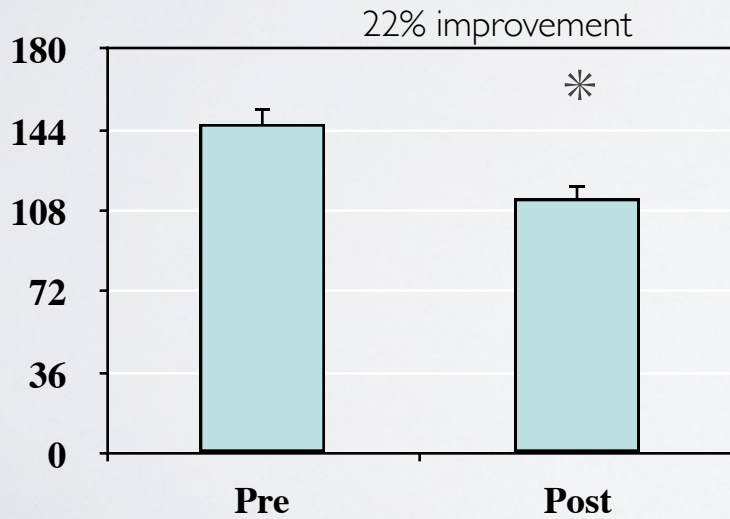
- N=50 (8 men, 42 women)
- Screened for “moderate” levels of psychological stress
- Followed for 8 weeks...
  - **S**tress Management
  - **E**xercise
  - **N**utrition
  - **S**upplementation
  - **E**valuation



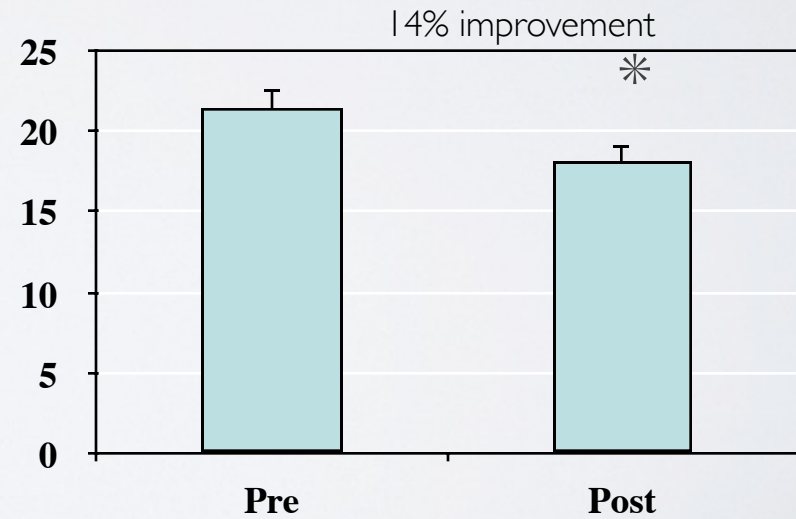
## C:T Ratio (x1000)



## Global Mood State (POMS)



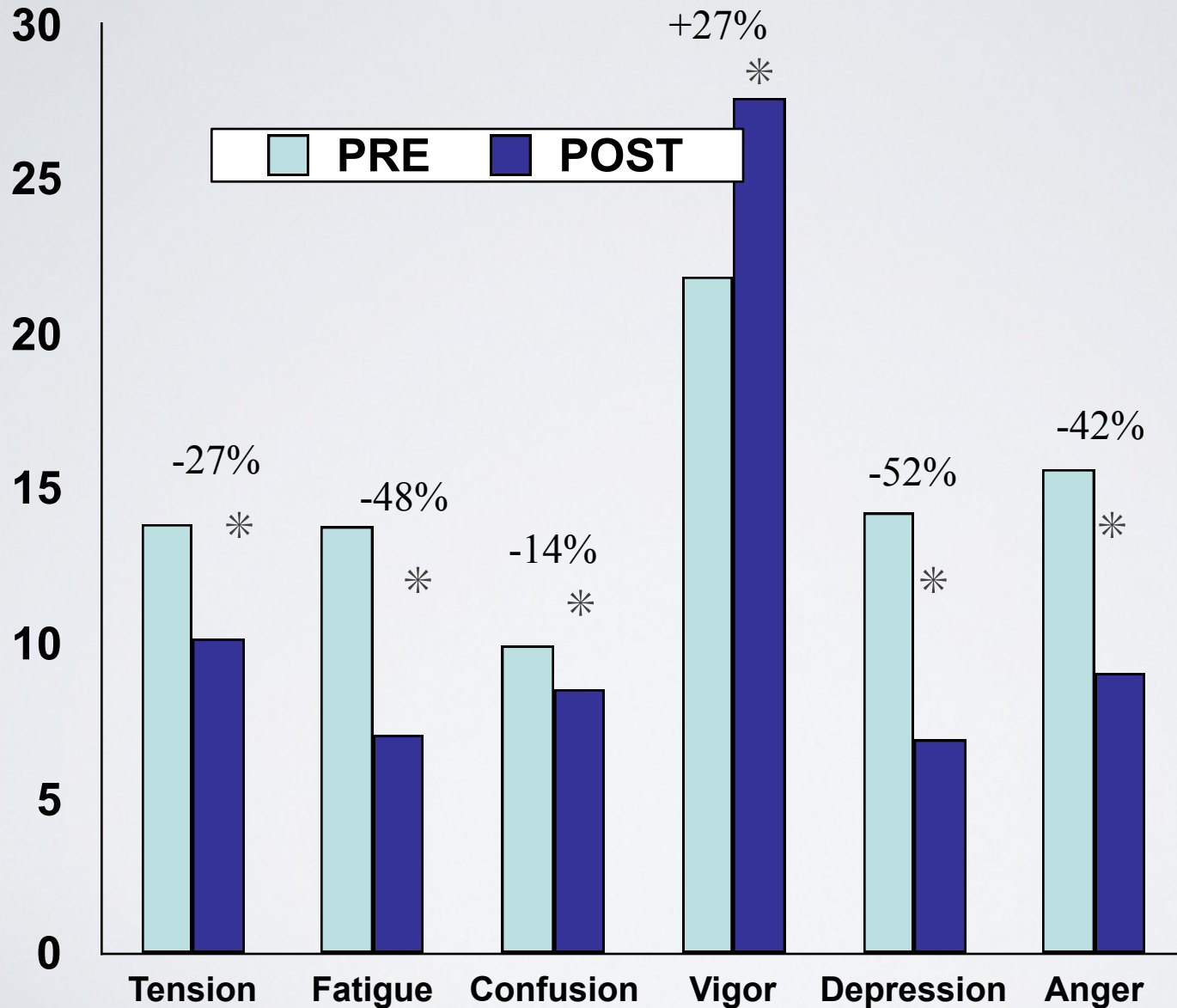
## Subjective Stress



All,  $p \leq 0.05$  compared to pre value



# Profile of Mood States (POMS)



All,  $p \leq 0.05$  compared to pre value

# Conclusions

- Top reasons for primary care visits involve Stress, Fatigue, Depression
- The *magnitude* of overall effect (~20% Global Mood State) is roughly equivalent to:
  - Pharmaceutical treatment (Prozac, Zoloft, Celexa, etc)
  - CBSM (cognitive behavioral stress management)
- A balanced program of Exercise, Nutrition, and Supplementation is effective in maintaining Vigor, Mood, & Hormone Balance...
  - In humans...
  - At recommended usage levels...
  - Under conditions of elevated physical & psychological stress...

**GOOD  
HEALTH!**

