

The kidney and hypertension

*Eberhard Ritz
Heidelberg (Germany)*



The “epidemic” of hypertension in the USA

**Hypertensives
(% of population throughout the 20th century)**

1939: 10.0%

1975: 25.3%

1990: 28.9%

2000: 31.3%

Causal factors in the genesis of hypertension

- **Genetic** factors
(Lifton)
- **Congenital** factors (e.g. low birth weight)
(Barter and Brenner)
- **Acquired** factors
(Goldblatt, Tracy, Johnson)

R E P O R T S

OF

M E D I C A L C A S E S ,

SELECTED

WITH A VIEW OF ILLUSTRATING

THE SYMPTOMS AND CURE OF DISEASES

BY A REFERENCE TO

M O R B I D A N A T O M Y .

By **RICHARD BRIGHT, M.D. F.R.S. &c.**

LECTURER ON THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE,

AND ONE OF THE PHYSICIANS TO

GUY'S HOSPITAL.

L O N D O N :

PRINTED BY RICHARD TAYLOR, RED LION COURT, FLEET STREET.

PUBLISHED BY LONGMAN, REES, ORME, BROWN, AND GREEN.

1827.

Hypertension: The kidney is the culprit even in the absence of kidney disease

Kidney International (2007) **71**, 371–372. doi:10.1038/sj.ki.5002142

Why is World Kidney Day an occasion to raise the issue of whether or not the kidney is involved in the genesis of high blood pressure? High blood pressure affects approximately 30% of the adult population in Western countries,¹ tendency rising, and even 80% of people older than 80 years, so that a cynic stated, “The only safeguard against hypertension is to die early.” The burden of high blood pressure is a major, if not *the* major, public health problem.²

a polygenic disorder that is dependent on the interaction among several genetic defects, all rare monogenic forms of hereditary hypertension have one common denominator: increased sodium reabsorption by the kidney at different sites and by different mechanisms along the tubules.⁹

Recently, more insight into the link between a kidney abnormality and hypertension in ‘run-of-the-mill’ essential hypertension has been provided by anatomical studies of the kidney. The number of glomeruli, and, by implication, of tubules, in

Ritz, Kidn.Internat.(2007) 71: 371



The kidney and hypertension

1. The kidney – cause of hypertension
2. Prenatal programming and adult hypertension
3. The renal mechanisms leading to hypertension
4. Salt sensitivity in renal hypertension
5. Hormonal mediation of salt effects

High urinary **albumin** excretion **precedes** onset of overt **hypertension**

- Brantsma A.H. et al
*Urinary albumin excretion as a **predictor** of the development of **hypertension***
J.Am.Soc.Nephrol.(2006) 17:331
- Wang T.J. et al.
*Low-grade albuminuria and the risks of **hypertension** and **blood pressure progression***
Circulation (2005) 111: 1370

Albuminuria in the normoalbuminuric range predicts future hypertension

(postmenopausal, Nurses Health study)

**quartiles of albumin/creatinine ratio
(mg/g)
median and range**

1.0 **2.2** **3.4** **6.5**
(0-1.7) (1.7-2.7) (2.7-4.3) (4.3-24.2)

risk of incident hypertension

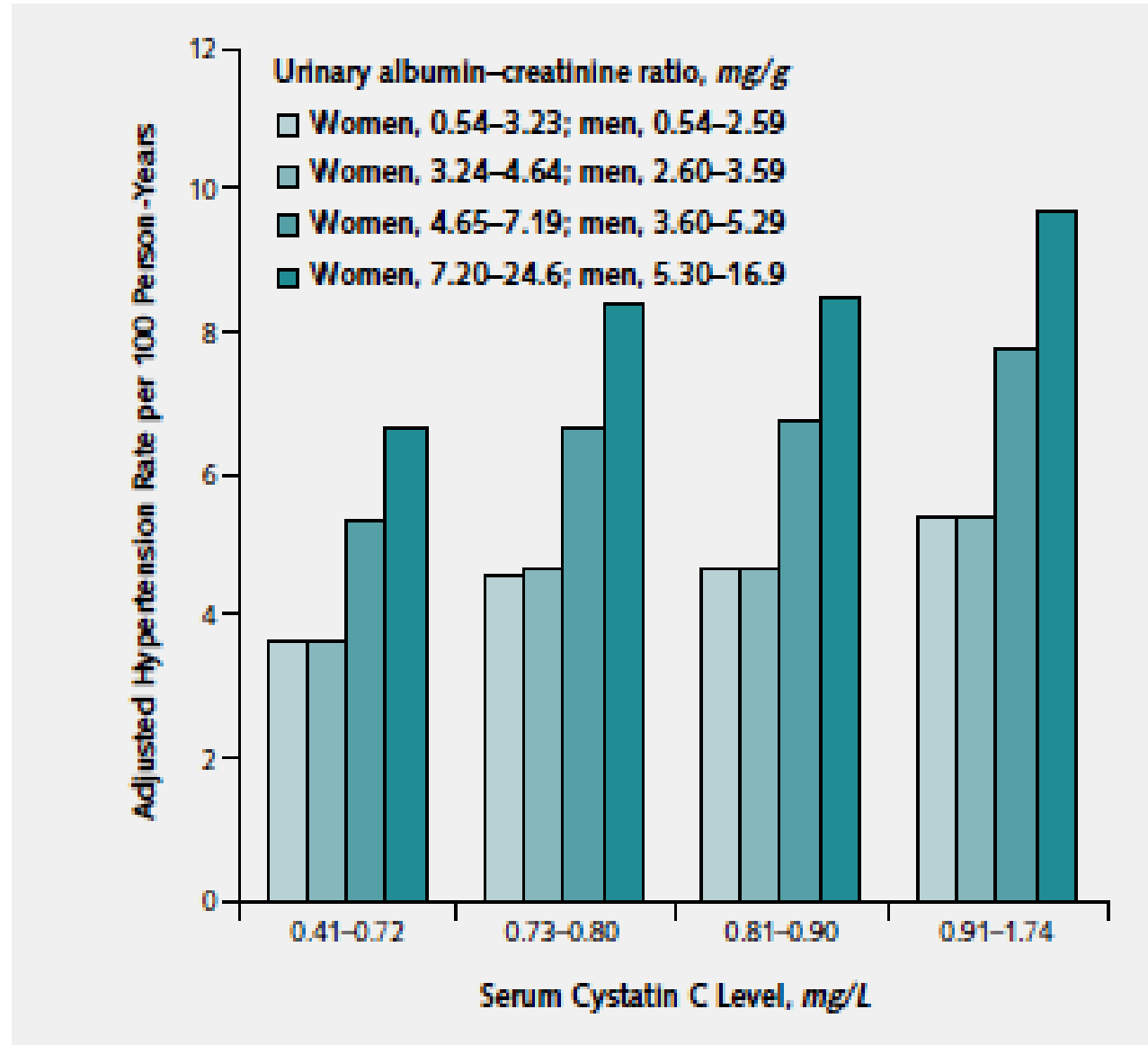
1.1 **2.0** **2.9** **5.4**
(0-1.6) (1.6-2.4) (2.4-3.7) (3.7-23.8)

$p_{\text{trend}} < 0.004$

Forman, J.Am.Soc.Nephrol.(2008) 19:1983

Higher serum **cystatin C** as well as higher urinary **albumin** precede the onset of hypertension

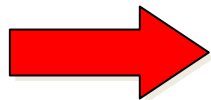
MESA study
(*multiethnic study of atherosclerosis*)



Kestenbaum, Ann.Int.Med.(2008) 148:501

**Animal experiments:
blood pressure
*“goes with the kidney”***

***kidney genetically programmed for
hypertension,
transplanted into a normotensive recipient
animal with no immunerejection***



persistent hypertension

Rettig R, Am J Physiol (1980) 258, F606

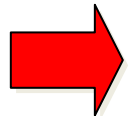
Persistent normotension after kidney graft from normotensive donor

6 black patients

dialysis dependent because of “essential hypertension”

nephrosclerosis by histology

kidney graft from normotensive donor



after 4.5 years follow-up

all **normotensive**

normal BP response to Na loading /
deprivation

Curtis, New Engl J Med (1983) 309, 1009



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**Pregnancy and early childhood –
critical periods for cardiovascular and renal risk in
adult life ?**



Prenatal programming

Epigenetics :

nutritional deprivation, placental malfunction, hyperglycemia, smoking...
in pregnancy



hypertension
renal disease
metabolic syndrome

Barker, Nat.Clin.Pract.Nephrol.(2006) 2: 700

Abnormalities of kidney structure (“*nephron underdosing*”)

hypertension

susceptibility to renal damage

Brenner, Am J Hypert (1988) 1, 335

Initiation of hypertension in utero and its amplification throughout life

C M Law, M de Swiet, C Osmond, P M Fayers, DJP Barker, AM Cruddas, CHD Fall

Abstract

Objective—To determine whether the relation between high blood pressure and low birth weight is initiated in utero or during infancy, and whether it changes with age.

Design—A longitudinal study of children and three follow up studies of adults.

Setting—Farnborough, Preston, and Hertfordshire, England, and a national sample in Britain.

Subjects—1895 children aged 0-10 years, 3240 men and women aged 36 years, 459 men and women aged 46-54 years, and 1231 men and women aged 59-71 years. The birth weight of all subjects had been recorded.

Main outcome measure—Systolic blood pressure.

Results—At all ages beyond infancy people who had lower birth weight had higher systolic blood pressure. Systolic blood pressure was not related to growth during infancy independently of birth weight. The relation between systolic pressure and birth

sion can persist even after the primary cause, the tumour or stenosis, has been removed.^{2,3}

Recent work has shown that raised blood pressure in adults is associated with reduced growth in early life.^{4,5} Mean systolic and diastolic pressures of men and women in middle and late life fall progressively from those with the lowest birth weights to those with the highest. Blood pressure is also higher in those whose birth weights were low in relation to that expected from their placental weights.⁴ Children show similar relations.⁶ These findings could indicate that high adult blood pressure is initiated in utero. Alternatively, healthy infants of low birth weight may have accelerated growth, so called catch up growth, during the first six months of life.^{7,8} If this accelerated early growth were accompanied by an accelerated rise in blood pressure, then the values would be set on a higher than expected plane when tracking of blood pressure becomes established after 6 months of age.^{9,10}

We examined the timing of initiation of high blood

“Nephron underdosing”

(*less nephrons*)

→ *developmental plasticity : same genes,
different phenotypes*

- *In early life humans are “plastic”, moulded by their environment*
- *The critical periods mostly coincide with periods of rapid cell division*
- *For final nephron number the critical period is 34-36 weeks –
later nephrons are no longer formed*
- *frequently associated with insulin resistance, cardiovascular risk,
propensity to renal damage*

Barker, Nature Clin.Pract. Nephrology (2006) 12: 2

	hypertensive individuals (n=10)	normotensive individuals (n=10)
number of glomeruli	890,869 ± 158,110	1,666,805 ± 411,690 p < 0.001
volume of glomeruli	5.67 ± 0.85	2.41 ± 0.71 p < 0.001

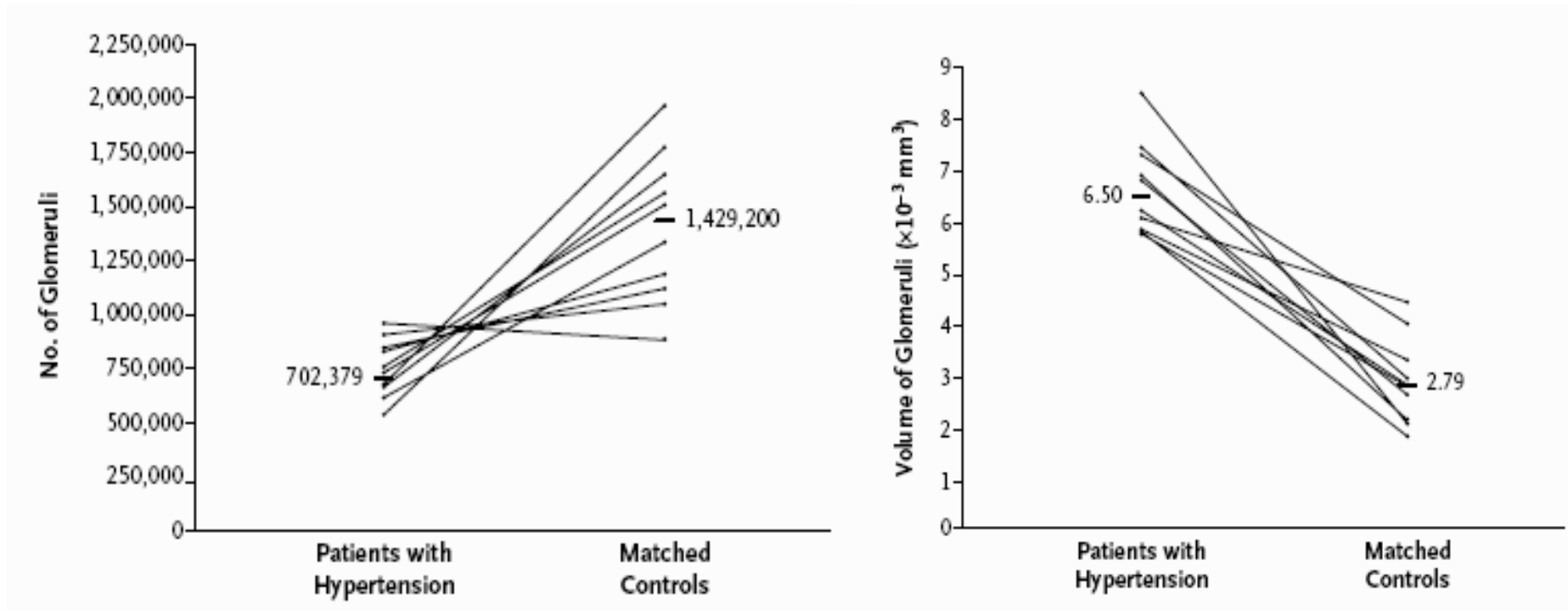
► **no evidence of obsolescent glomeruli as evidence of hypertension induced *loss of glomeruli***

Keller , New Engl J Med (2003) 348: 101

“Oligomeganephrony”

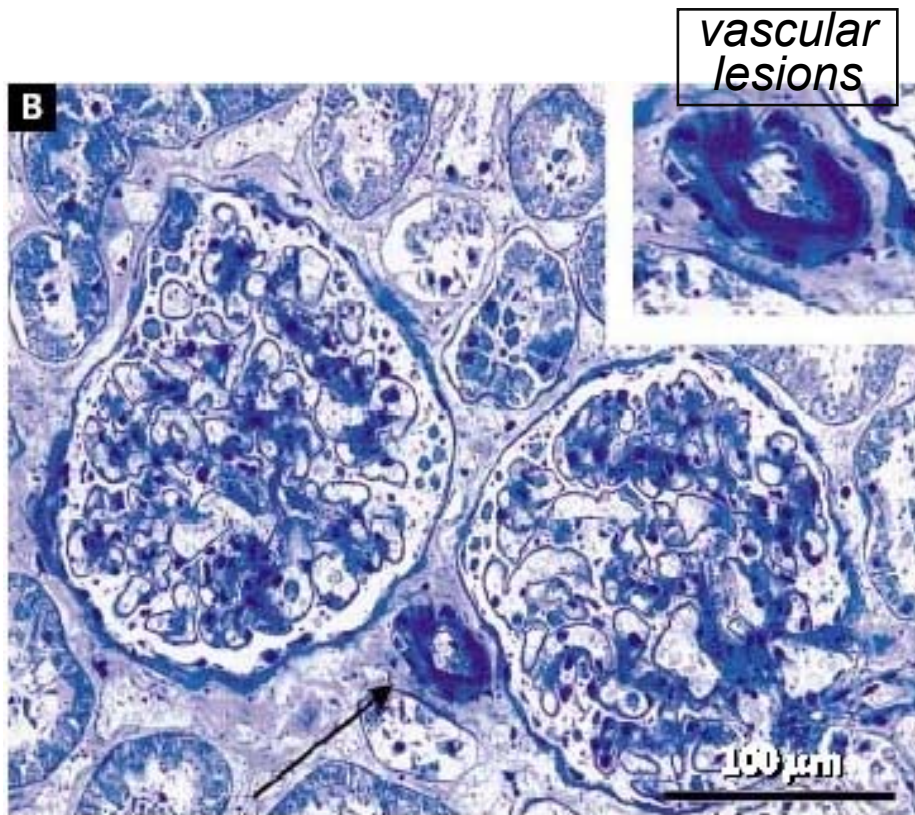
number

volume

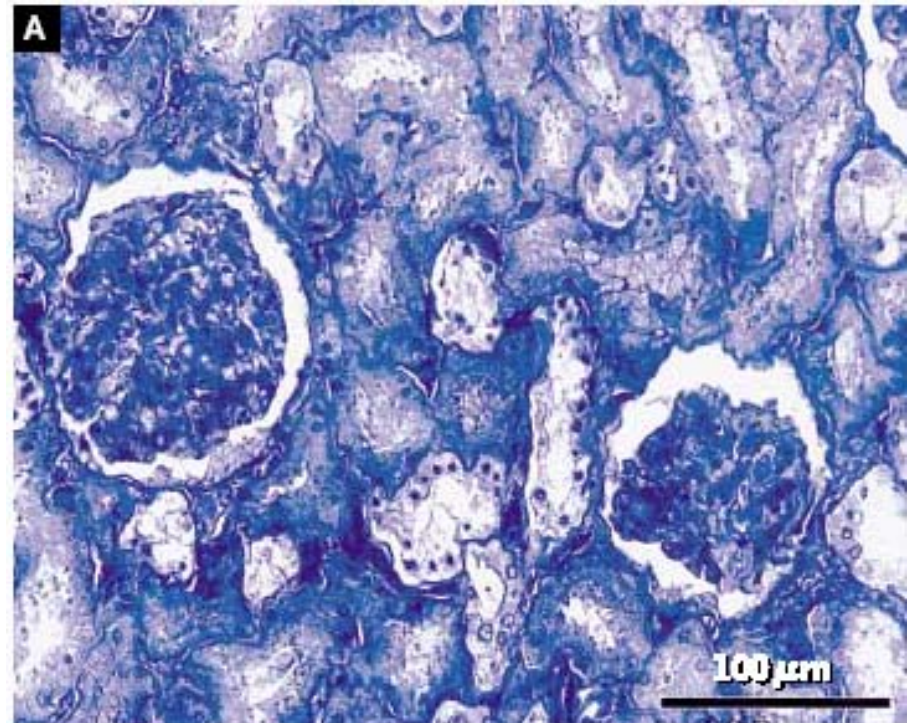


Keller , New Engl J Med (2003) 348: 101

hypertension



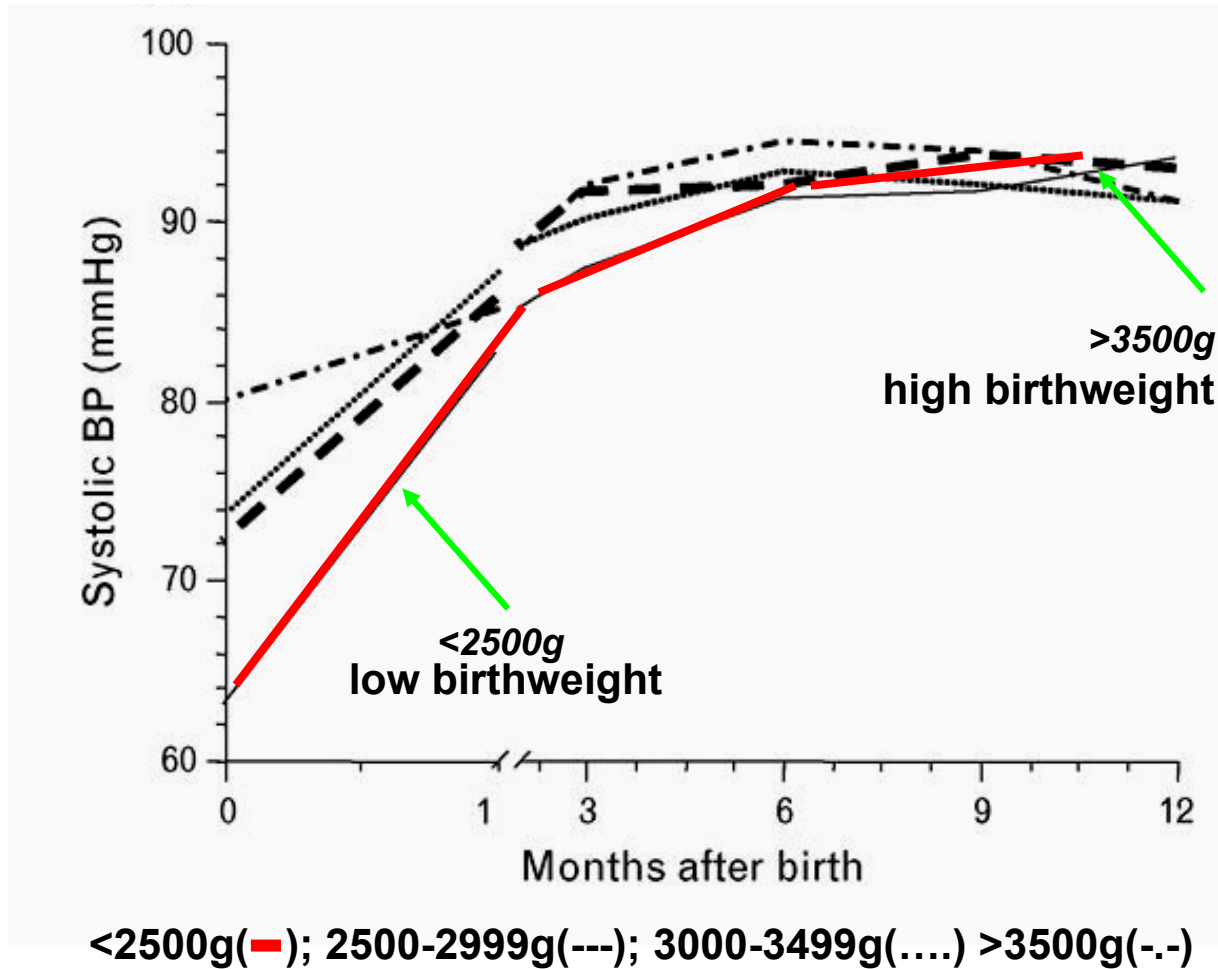
normotension



Keller, New Engl.J.Med.(2003)348:101

Low birthweight —

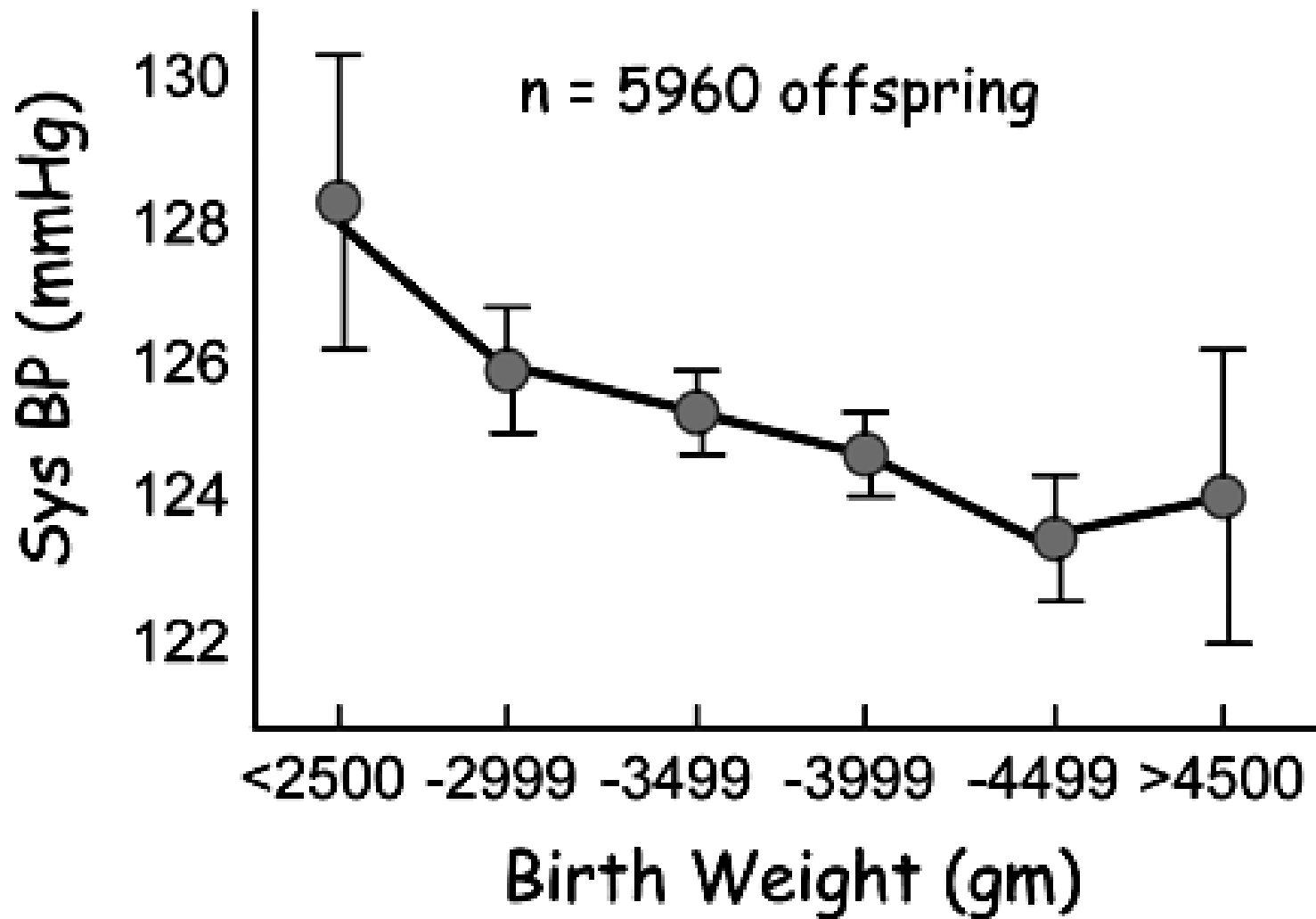
lower blood pressure at birth →
more rapid increase during 1st year !



Lurbe, J. Hypertens. (2007) 25:81

Inverse correlation between birthweight and **systolic blood pressure**

(with and without adjustment for current weight)



Järvelin, Hypertension (2004) 44:838

Less and bigger **nephrons** in kidneys of low **birthweight** newborns

- 35 neonates
- coronal sections of renal cortex

	birth weight	
	low	high
glomeruli per 0.6 mm ²	92.9 ± 4.85	106 ± 3.91
glomerular volume (μ ³ x10 ⁻³)	529 ± 188	158 ± 50

correlation between birthweight and :

glomerular numbers (r=0.87) and volume (r= - 0.821)

Mañalich, Kid.Intern (2000) 58:770

In vivo evaluation of kidney growth

- low birth weight → low kidney volume

Silver, Am.J.Obstetr.Gynecol.(2003) 188:1320

- smaller kidneys in fetuses with intrauterine growth retardation

Spencer, Am.J.Kidn.Dis. (2001) 37:915

- “sausage shaped” of fetal kidneys –
evidence of impaired cell/tissue migration

Konje, Ultrasound Obstet Gynecol. (1997) 10: 22

Low birth weight ⇨

higher adolescent blood pressure (2~3mmHg)

Rotterdam study :Uiterwaal, Hypertension (1997) 30:267

ALSPAC study :Fattal-Valevski ,Isr.Med.Ass. (2001) 153:779

Israel study :Whincup, Am.J.Epidemiol (1999) 149:730

Higher catch up growth ⇨ **adult fatness**

⇨ **obesity related blood pressure**

Horta, J.Epidemiol.Community Health (2003) 57: 226

Huxley, J.Hypertens. (2000) 18:815

Birth weight is inversely correlated with adult systolic blood pressure and pulse pressure in **type 1 diabetes**

*Finnish diabetic nephropathy study
1225 patients born at term,
birth weight records*

*age-and sex adjusted regression coefficients for
systolic BP*

in males : - 1.90 mmHg/kg (-3.71 to -0.09)

in females : - 3.34 mmHg/kg (-6.06to-0.62)

Fagerudd, Hypertension (2004) 44:832

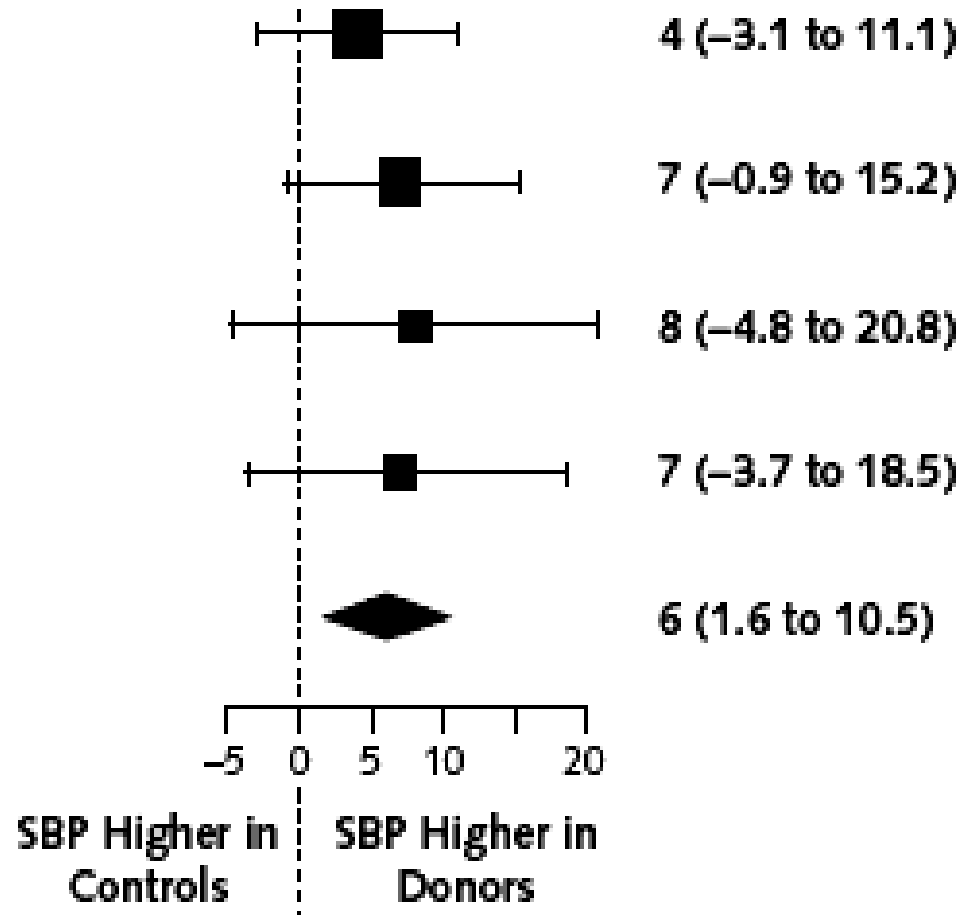
No gross excess hypertension in live kidney donors

- *402 alive kidney donors 1964-1995*
- *proteinuria 12 %*
- *hypertension 38% -*
→ *not exceeding rate in matched
background population*

Fehrman-Ekholm, Transplantation(2001) 72:444

Metaanalysis –

only slightly higher risk of hypertension in living kidney donors



less glomeruli, but glomeruli bigger
calculated index of filtration surface was normal

Hypothesis

- *high blood pressure **not** result of low **glomerular number** per se*
(*less, but bigger glomeruli → normal filtration surface*)
- ***but** result of developmental changes in **postglomerular** segments*
(*→ higher sodium reabsorption*)

Main mechanisms contributing to hypertension from prenatal programming

- *upregulation of sodium channels*
- *upregulation of RAS (AT1-R)*
- *cortisol (11β HSD2↓) → mineralocorticoid receptor*
- *sympathetic overactivity*

Outcome after unilateral renal agenesis (pre/perinatal)

- 157 patients with unilateral agenesis and normal contralateral kidney
- mean age 37 years

proteinuria 150 mg/day 19%

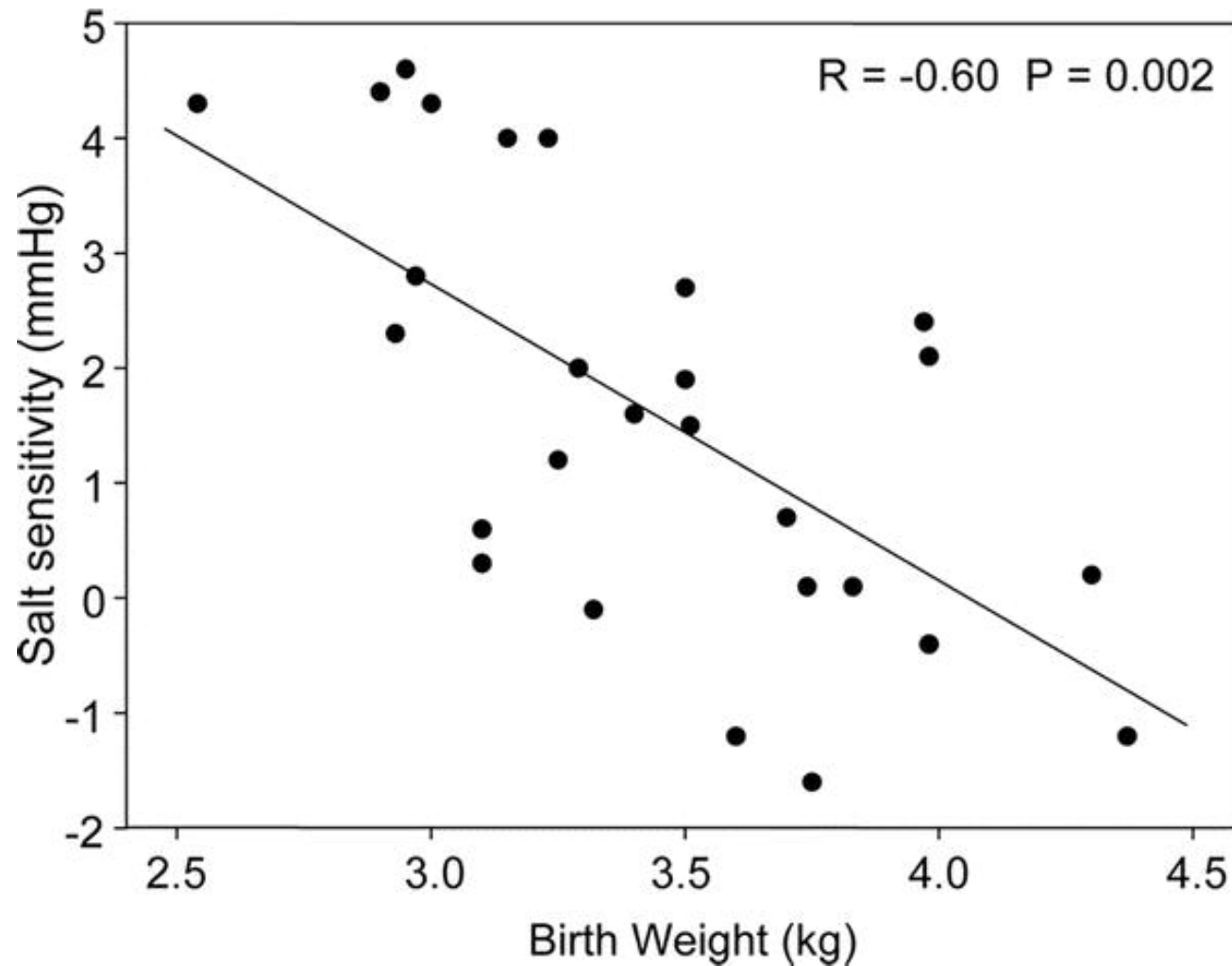
high blood pressure 47%

reduced renal function 13%

6 deaths from renal failure

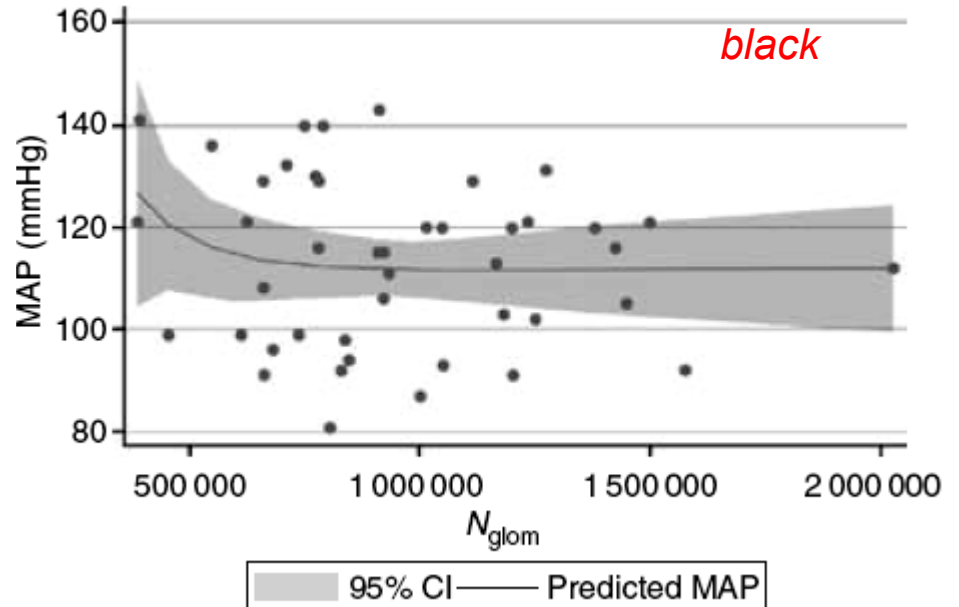
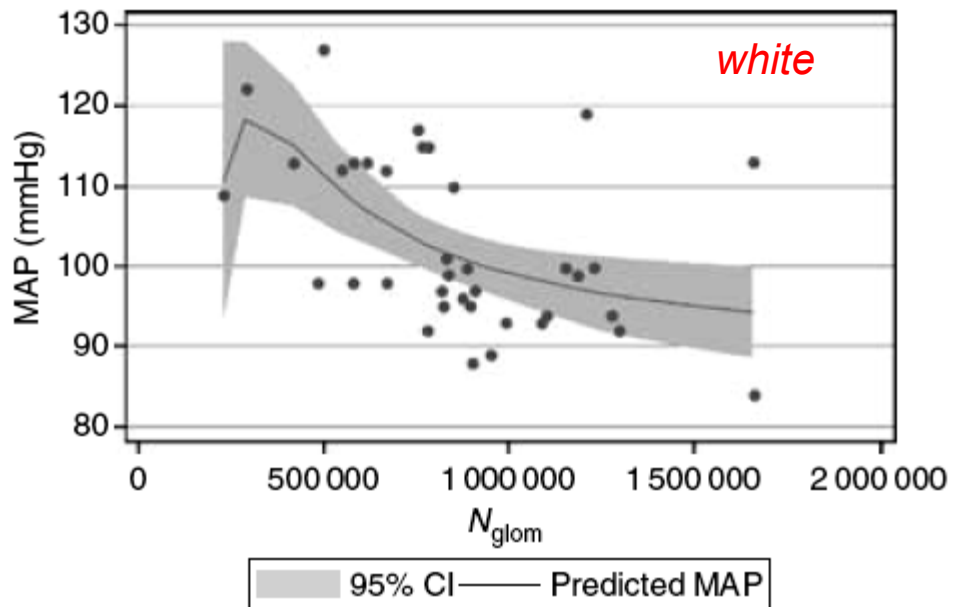
Argueso, Ped.Nephrology (1992) 6:412

**Low birth weight –
salt sensitivity of blood pressure in healthy adults**



de Boer, Hypertension (2008) 51: 928

Hypertension and low number of glomeruli – in whites, but not in blacks



Hughson, Kidn.Intern.(2006) 69:671

Causes of reduced glomerular numbers in animal experiments—

maternal pathology → impaired nephrogenesis of offspring

- **low protein intake**

Woods, Pediatr.Res.(2001) 49:460

- **uterine underperfusion**

Wlodek, Kidn.Intern.(2008) 74:187

- **maternal hyperglycemia**

Amri.Diabetes (2001) 50:1069

- **maternal hyperinsulinemia**

Bursztyn, Hypertension (2006) 48:717

- **high and low maternal salt intake**

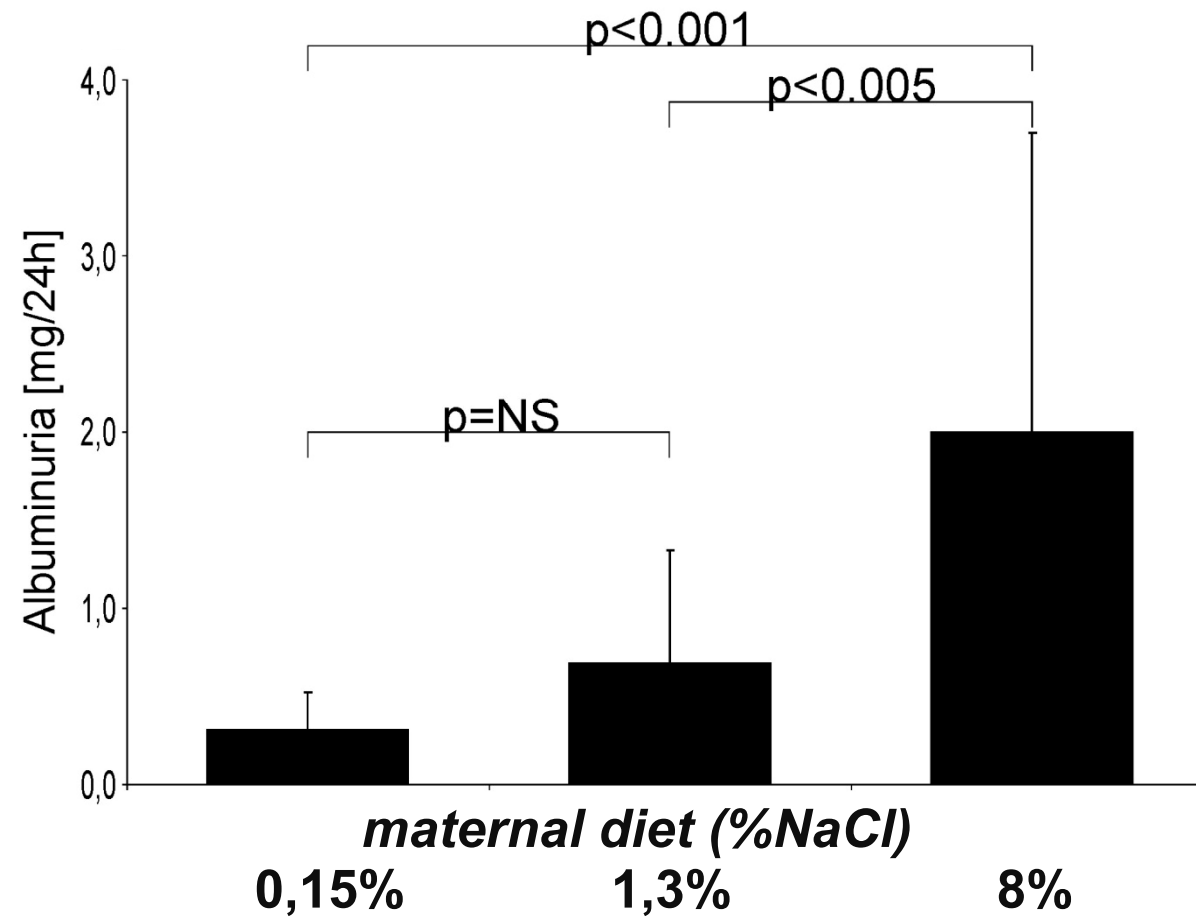
Balbi, Pediatr.Nephrol (2004) 19:1212

- **corticosteroids**

Woods, Am.J.Physiol. (2005) 289:R955

one example :

High salt diet in pregnant rats
→ high **albuminuria** in offspring



Kollagenova, Piecha, Ritz, Gross

High salt diet in pregnant rats

→ lower number and greater volume of *glomeruli* in offspring

		NaCl content of maternal diet (%)			
		0.15%	1.3%	8%	
<u>Glomeruli</u>	number	17,159 ±2,632	22,760 ±8,827	14,310 ±2,573	↓
	volume ($\mu^3 \times 10^6$)	2.59 ±0.43	4.10 ±1.62	4.83↑ ±1.19	↑
<u>kidney</u>	weight (g)	2.34 ±0.22	2.33 ±0.24	2.66↑ ±0.45	↑

Piecha, Koleganova, Ritz, Gross

High salt diet in pregnant rats (8%)

→ despite low salt diet for offspring after weaning and independent of blood pressure in offspring by telemetry

Cardiovascular abnormalities in offspring

increased **wall thickness** :

aorta

carotis

mesenteric

intrapulmonary

**central
arteries**

**muscular
arteries**

- eNOS ↓

- ADMA ↑

- oxidative stress (8-isoprostane ↑)

- endothelial cell proliferation ↑)

....



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*“There is no hypervolemia in essential hypertension,
so there is no rationale to study tubular sodium transport”*

Lifton
NIH grant application,
1978

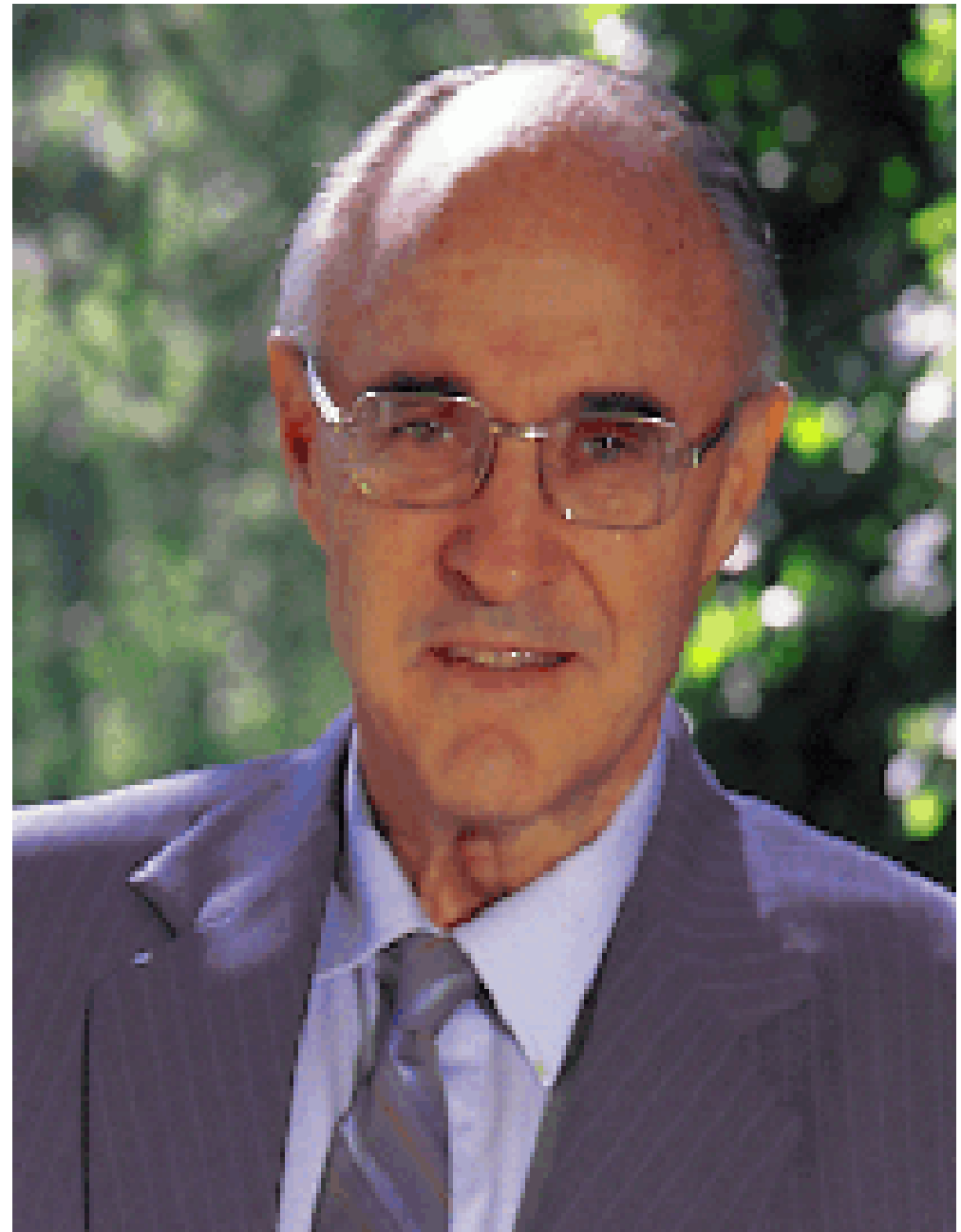
Monogenic (Mendelian) forms of human hypertension
→ increased renal sodium reabsorption
→ **salt-sensitivity**

- *Glucocorticoid remediable aldosteronism - excess production of aldosterone under ACTH control*
- *Apparent mineralocorticoid excess (11 β -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase-2 deficiency)*
- *Gain of function mutations of mineralocorticoid receptors*
- *Excess ENaC activity (e.g. Liddle's syndrome)*

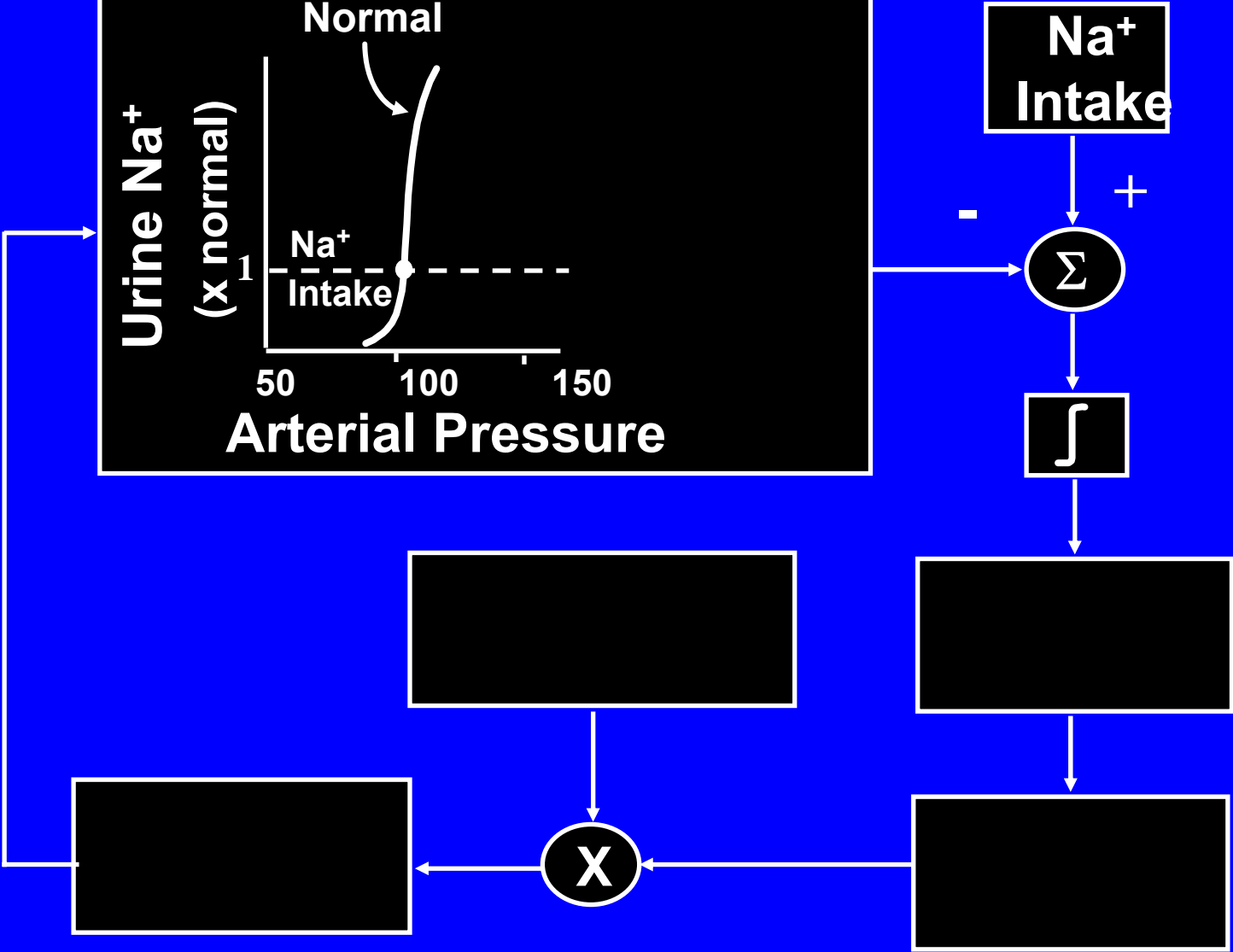
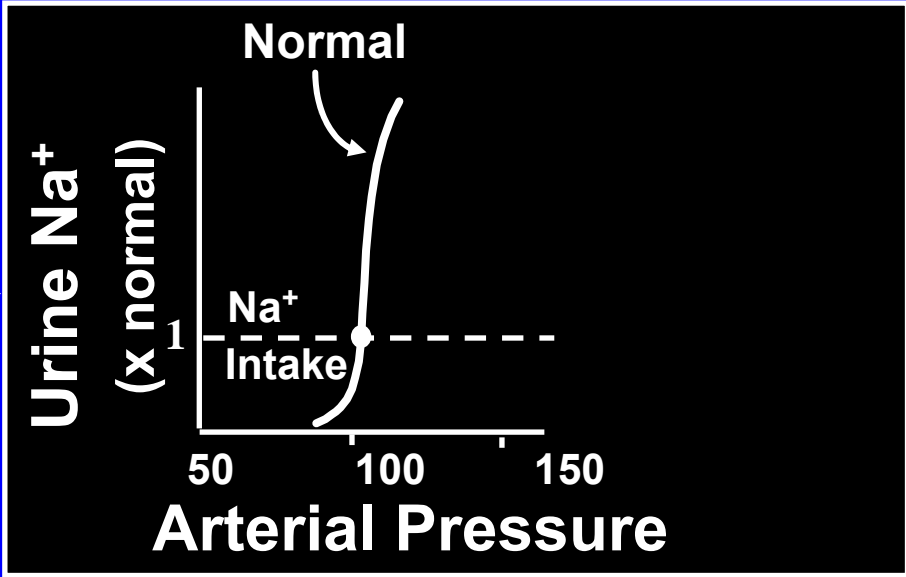
*The kidney is involved in
the genesis of any type of
hypertension*

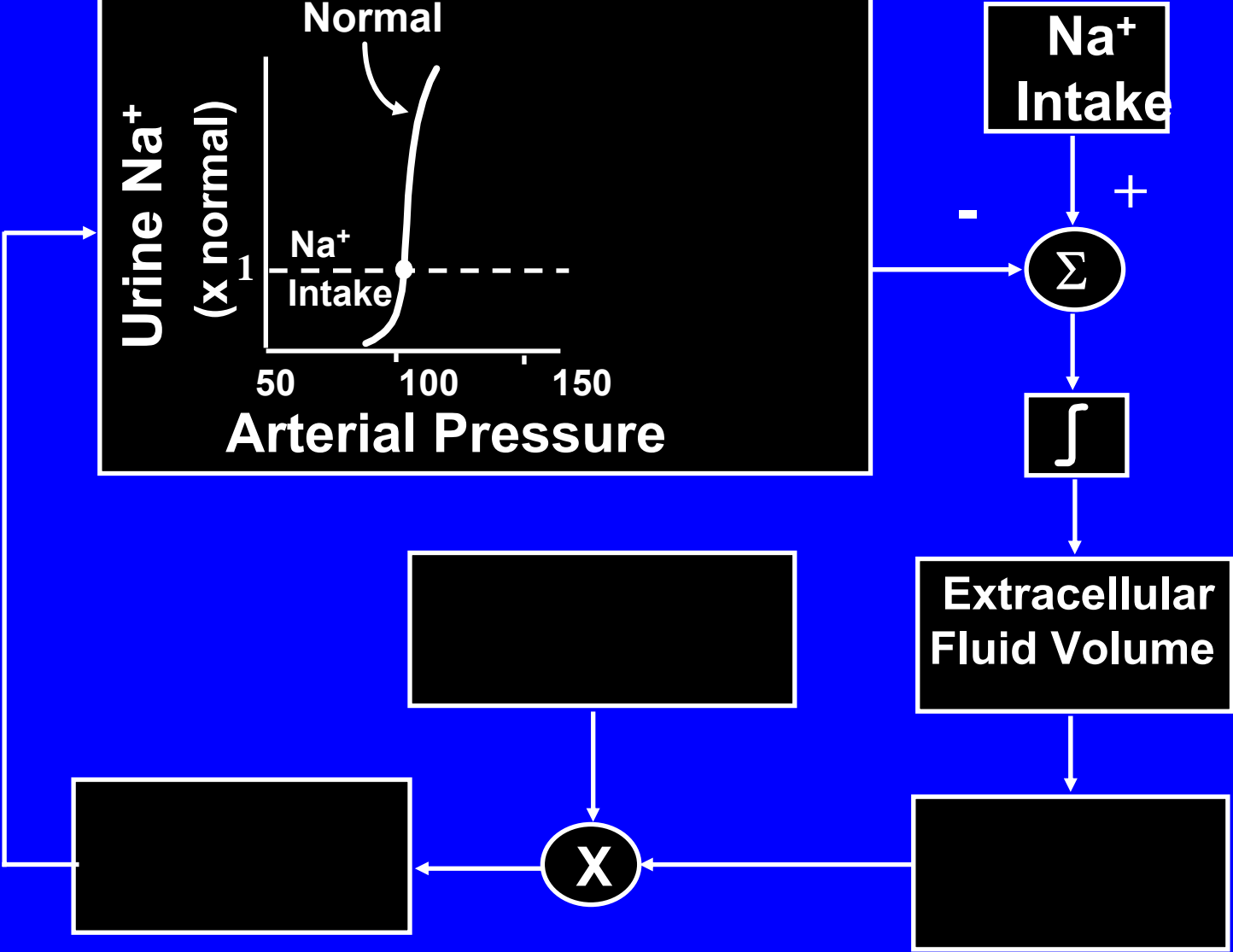
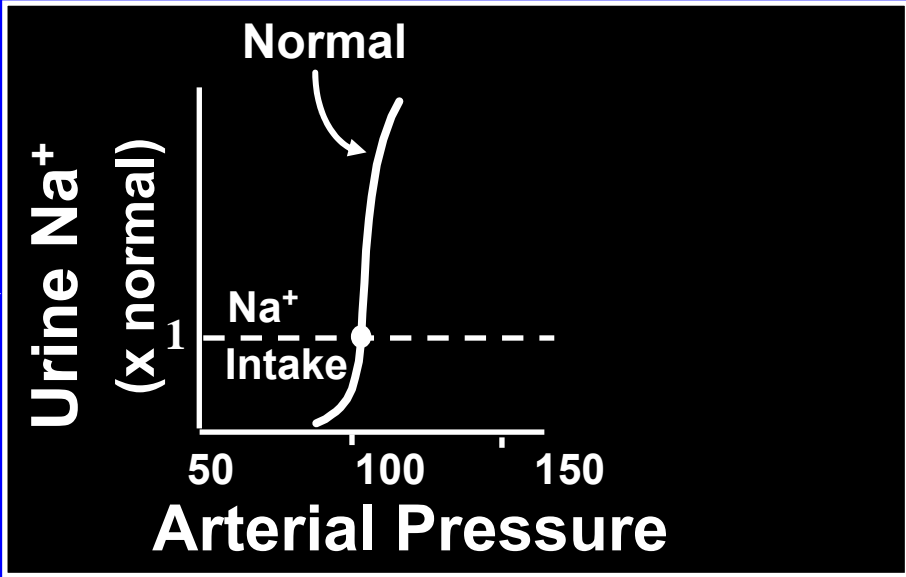
*All forms of hypertension
are ultimately the
consequence of resetting
of the*

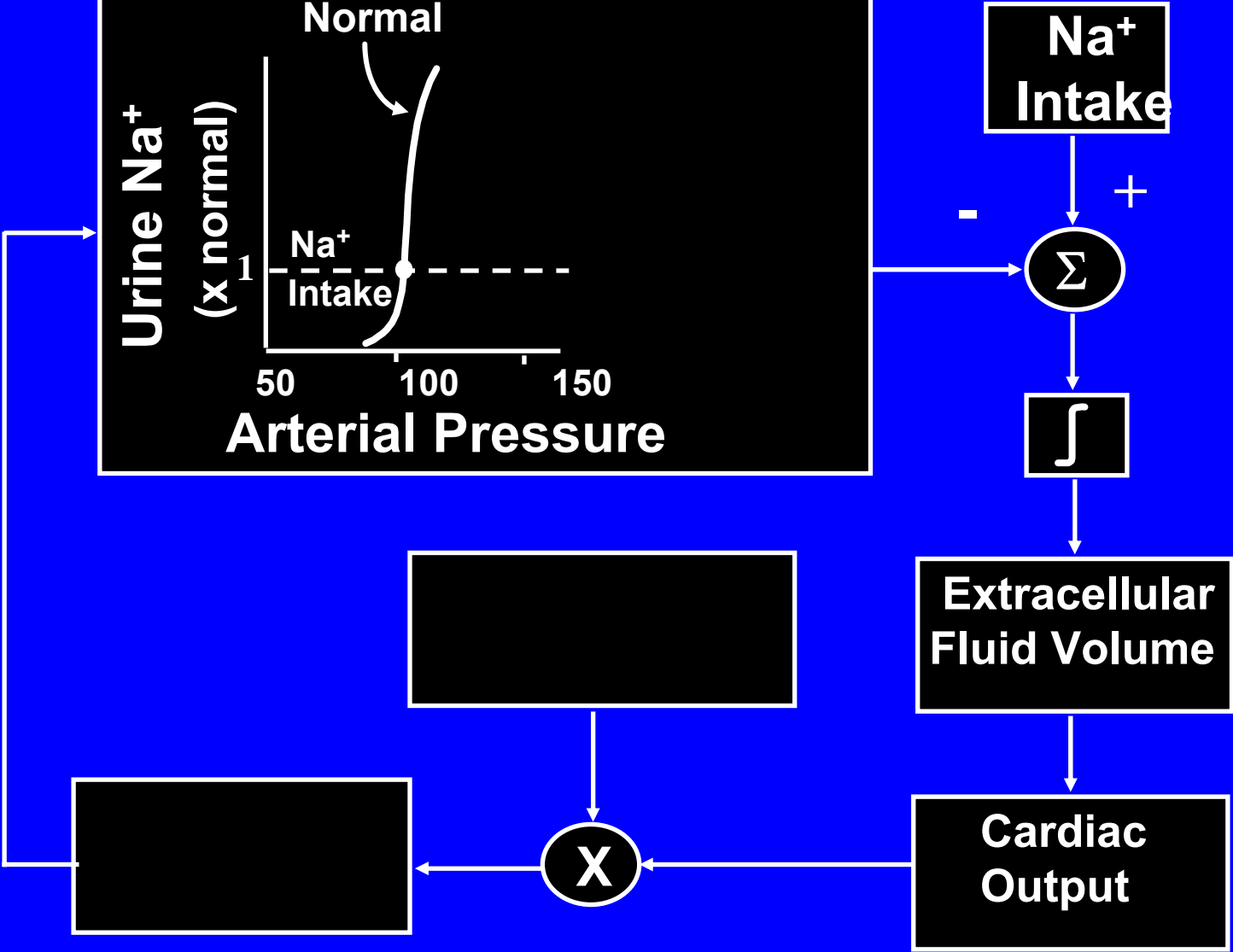
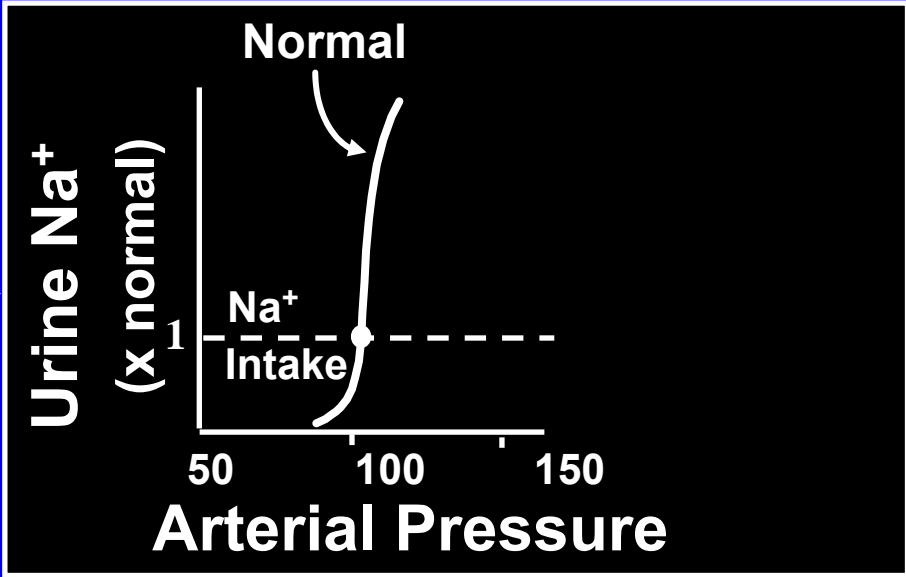
***pressure natriuresis
relationship***

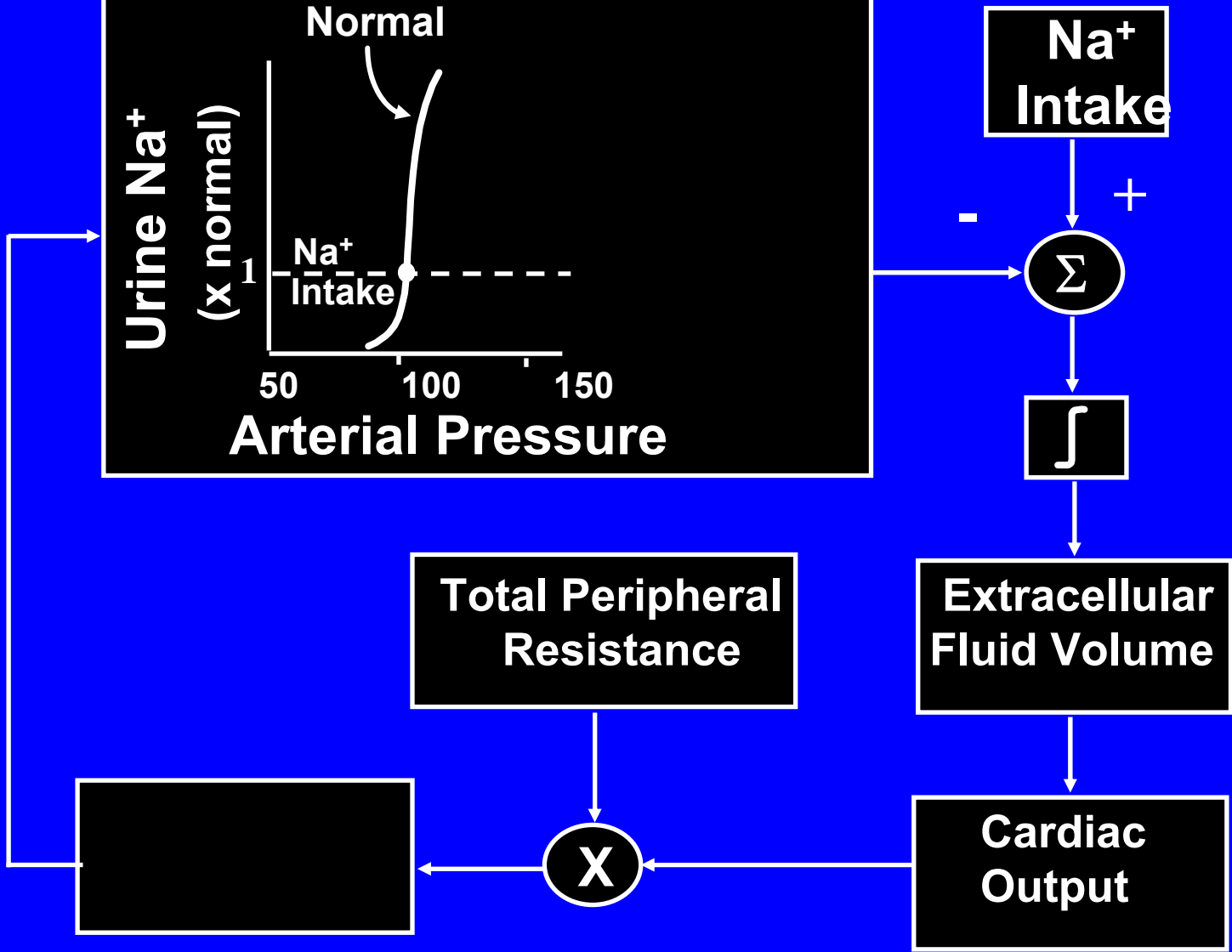
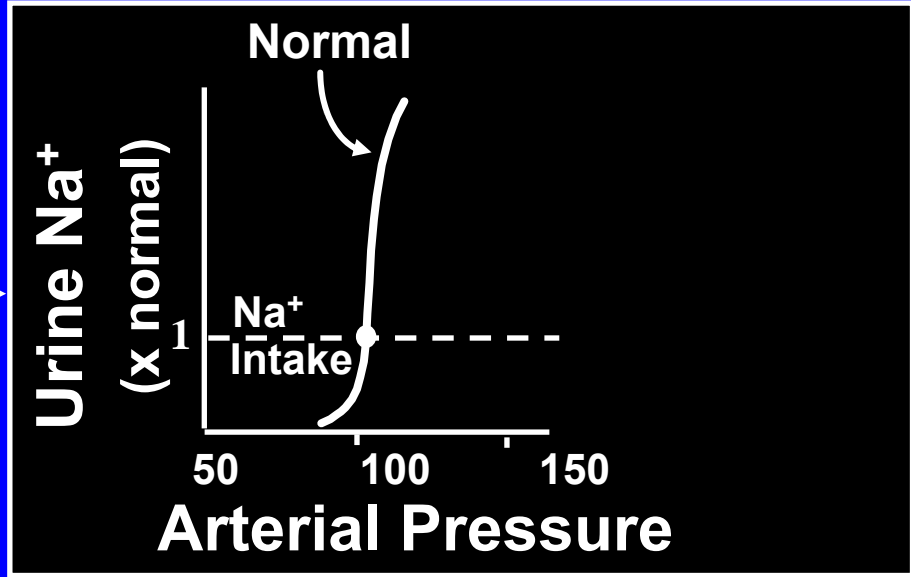


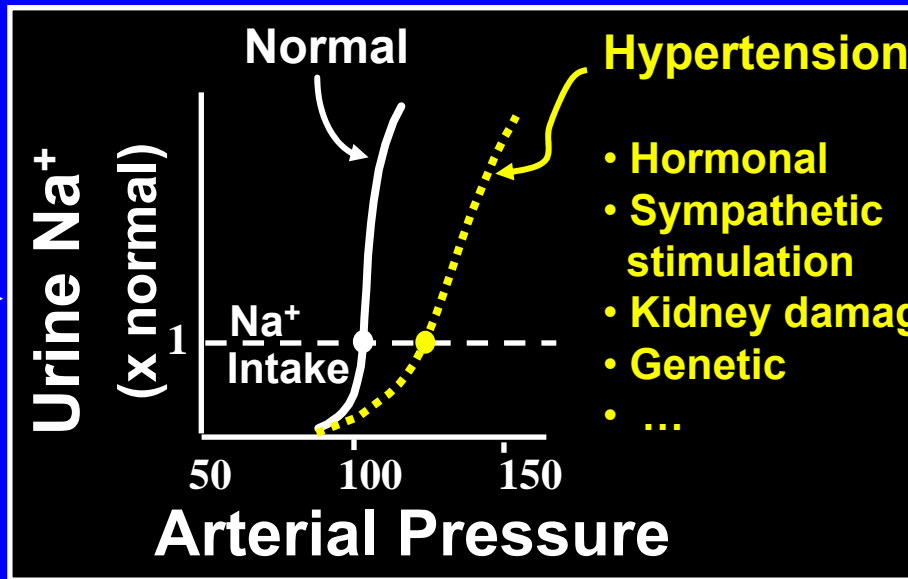
Arthur C. Guyton
1919 - 2003



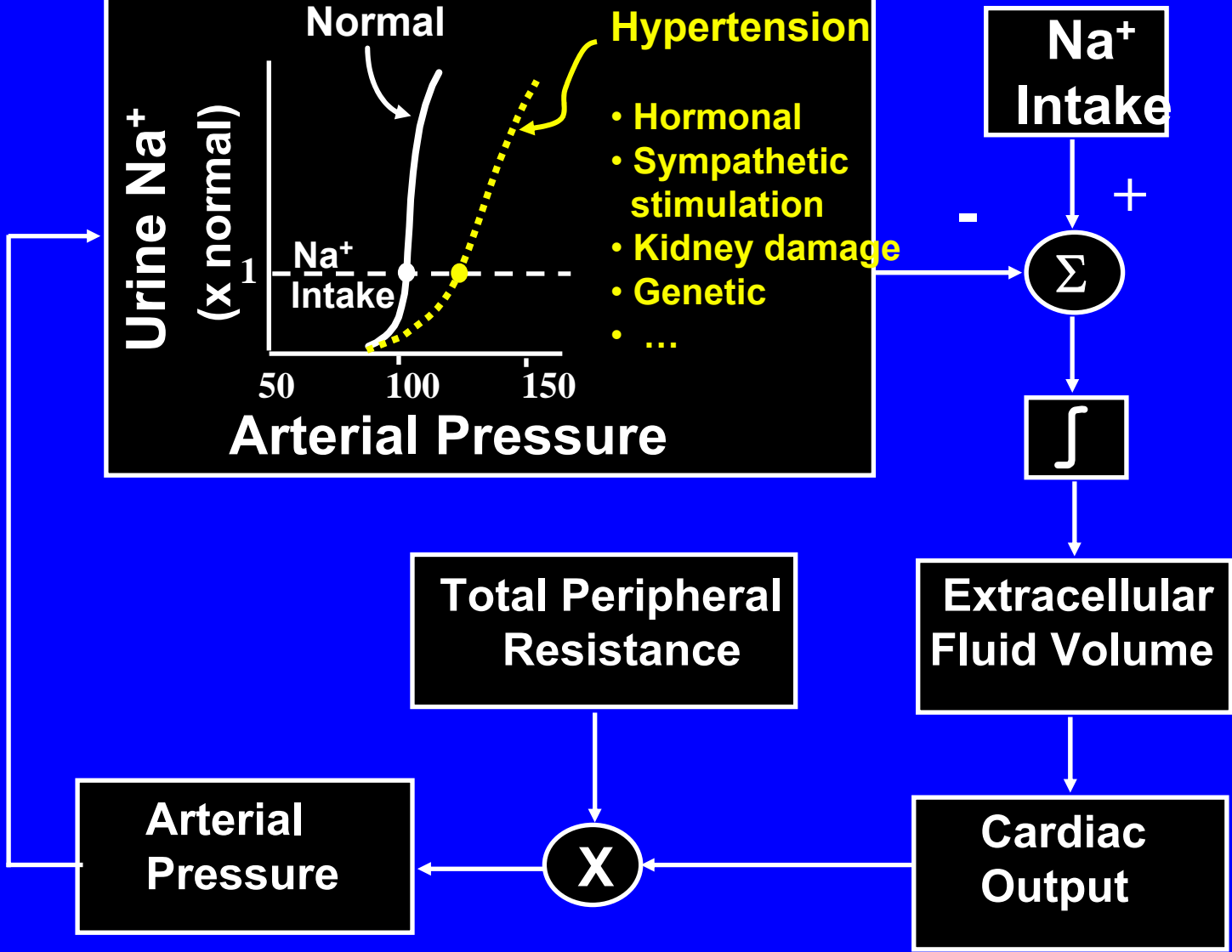


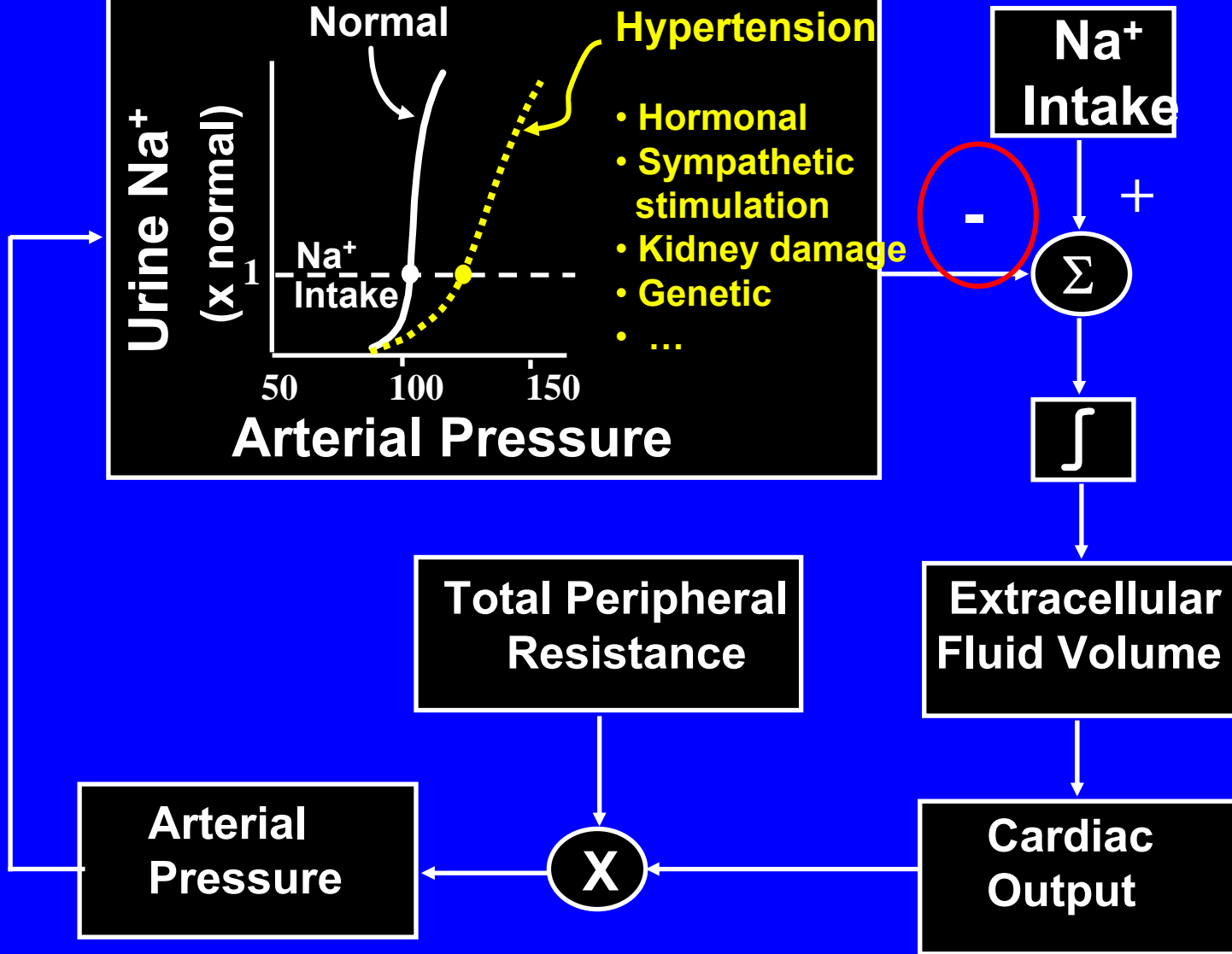
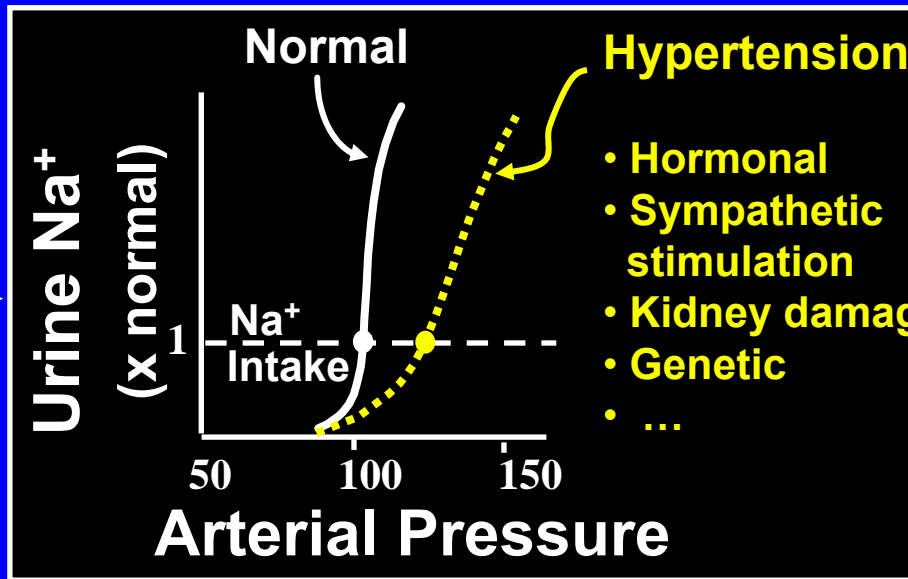


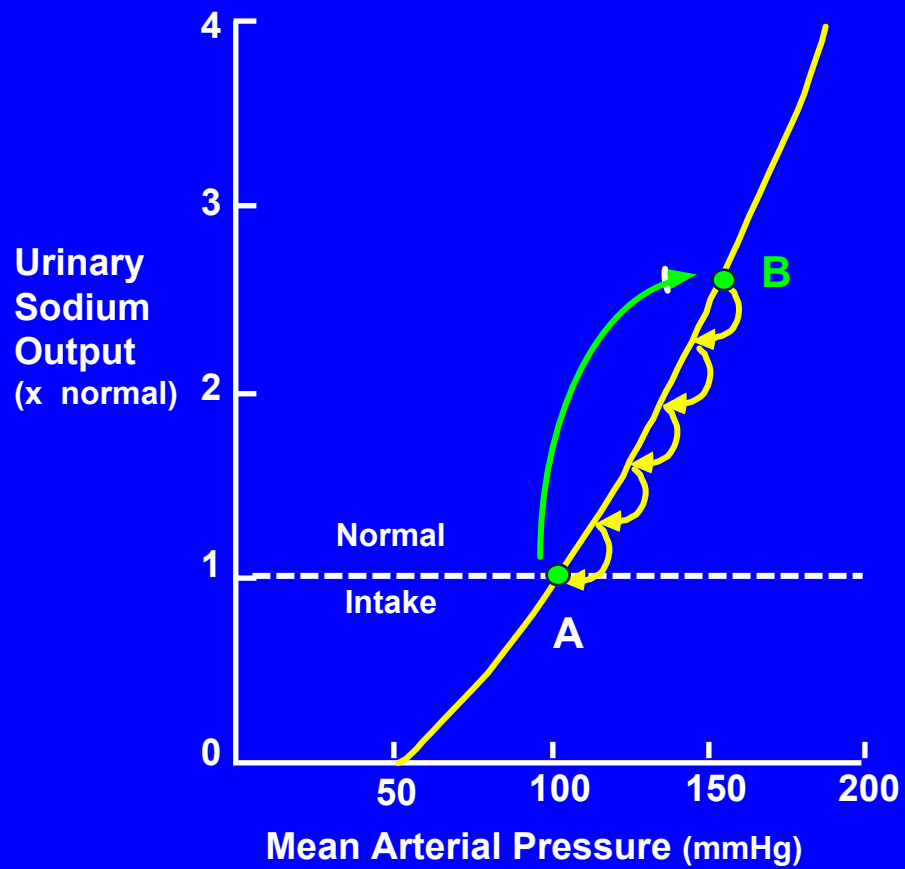




- Hormonal
- Sympathetic stimulation
- Kidney damage
- Genetic
- ...



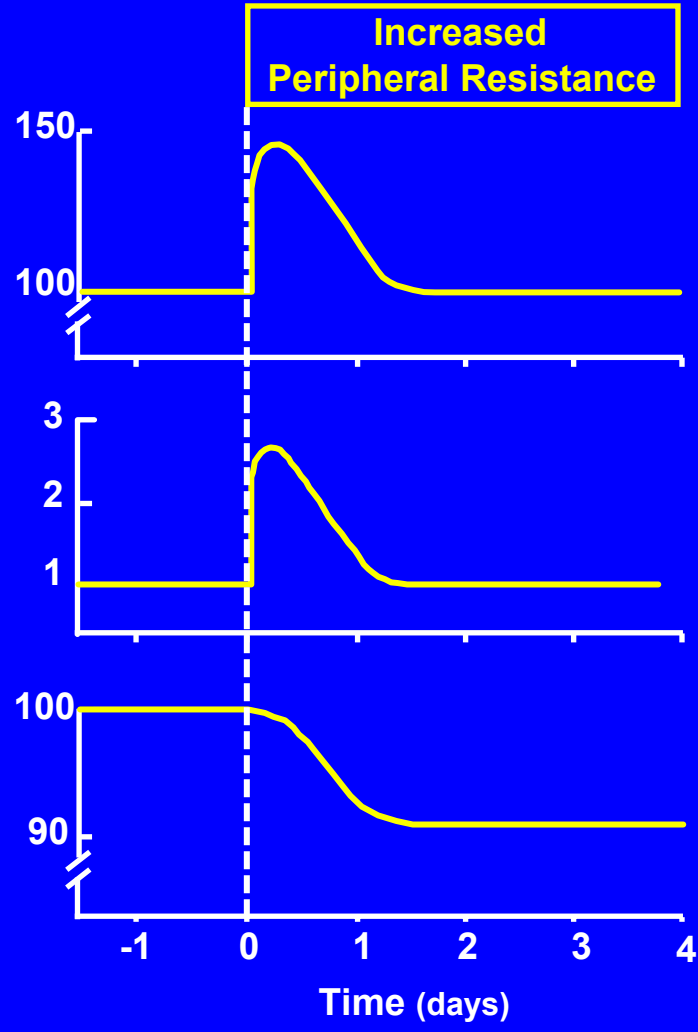




Mean Arterial Pressure (mmHg)

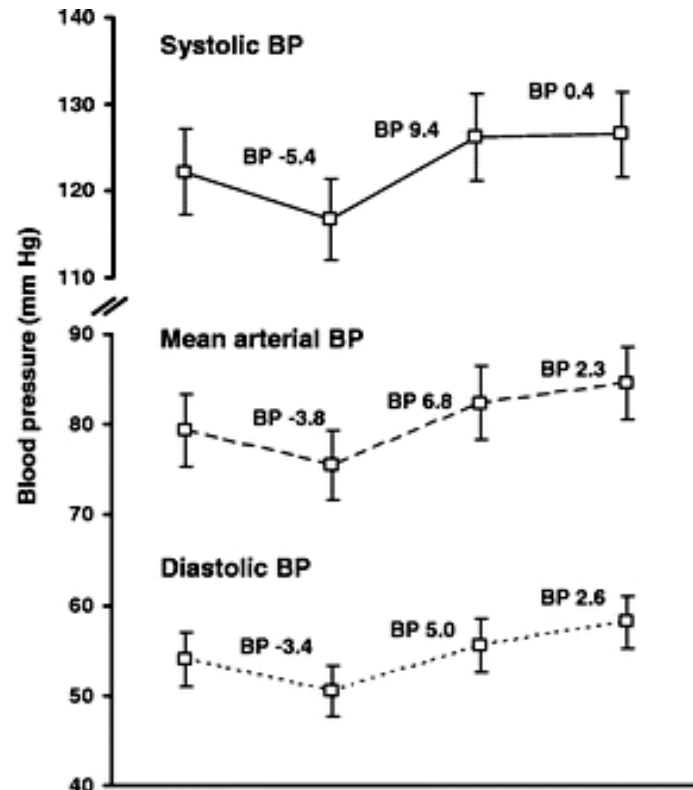
Urinary Sodium Output (x normal)

Extra-cellular Fluid Volume (% normal)

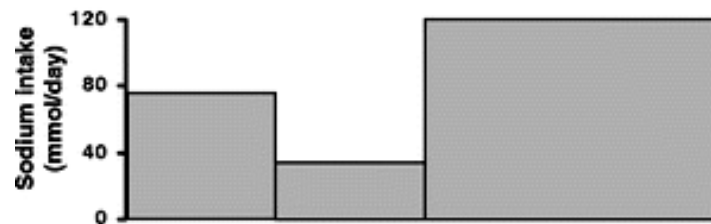


Variation of blood pressure in Chimpanzees with changes in salt intake corresponding to human intakes

blood pressure reaction



sodium intake

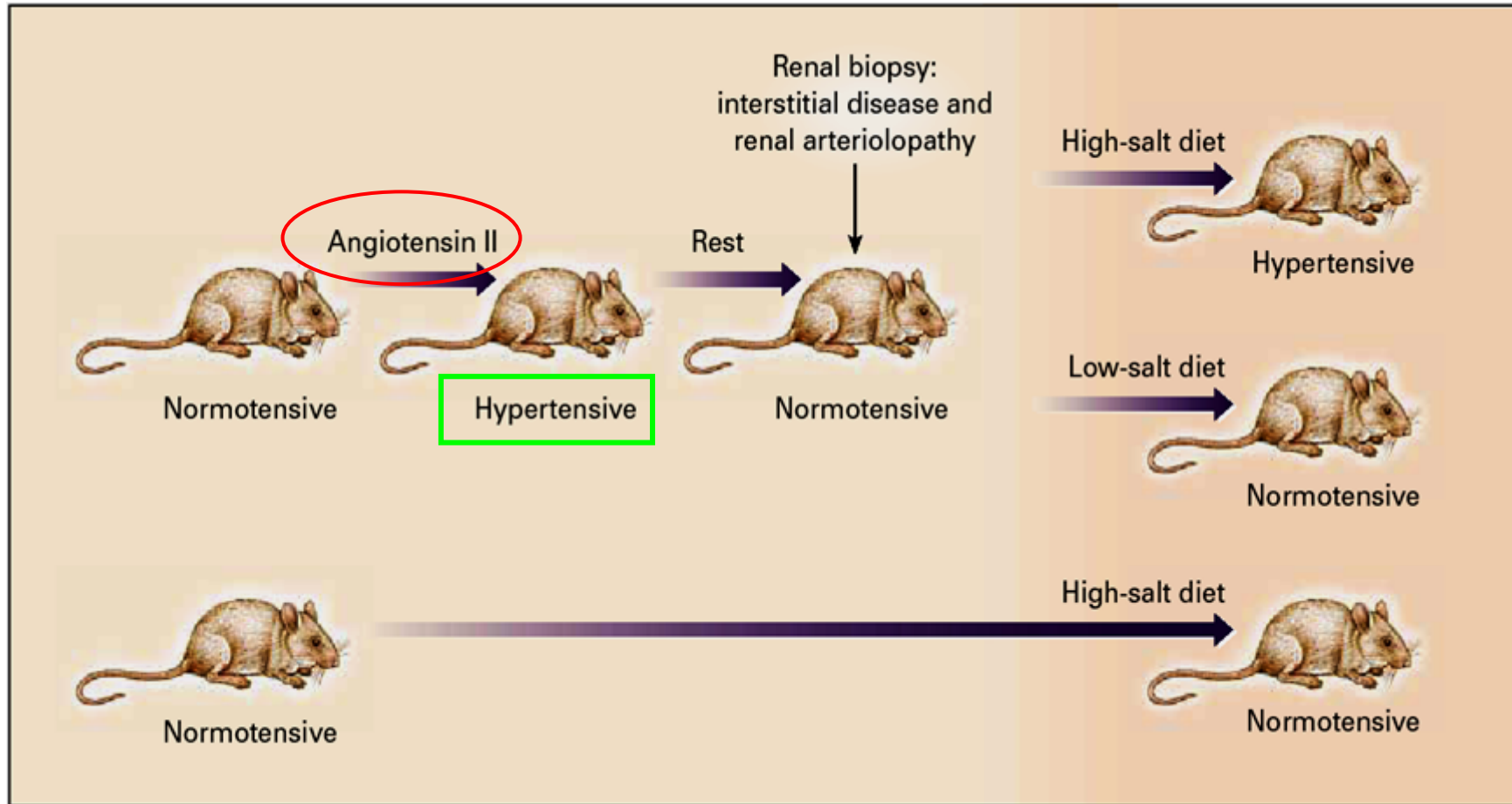


Elliott, Circulation (2007) 116:1563

Causes of salt-sensitive blood pressure

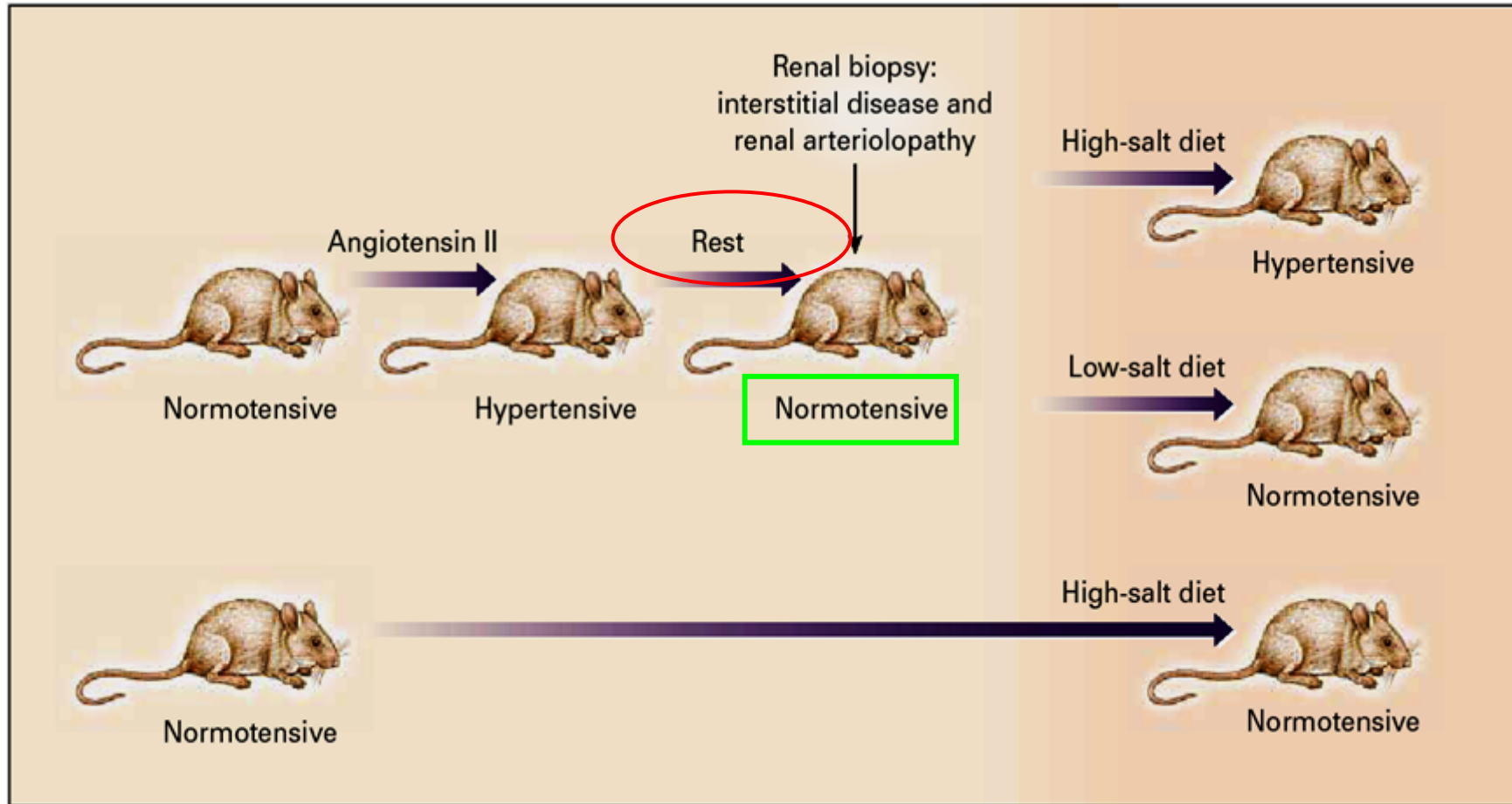
- *low birth weight (nephron underdosing)*
- *primary glomerular diseases*
- *aging*
- *obesity*
- *diabetes mellitus*
- ***consequence*** of hypertension

Development of salt-sensitive hypertension in rats after exposure to angiotensin II



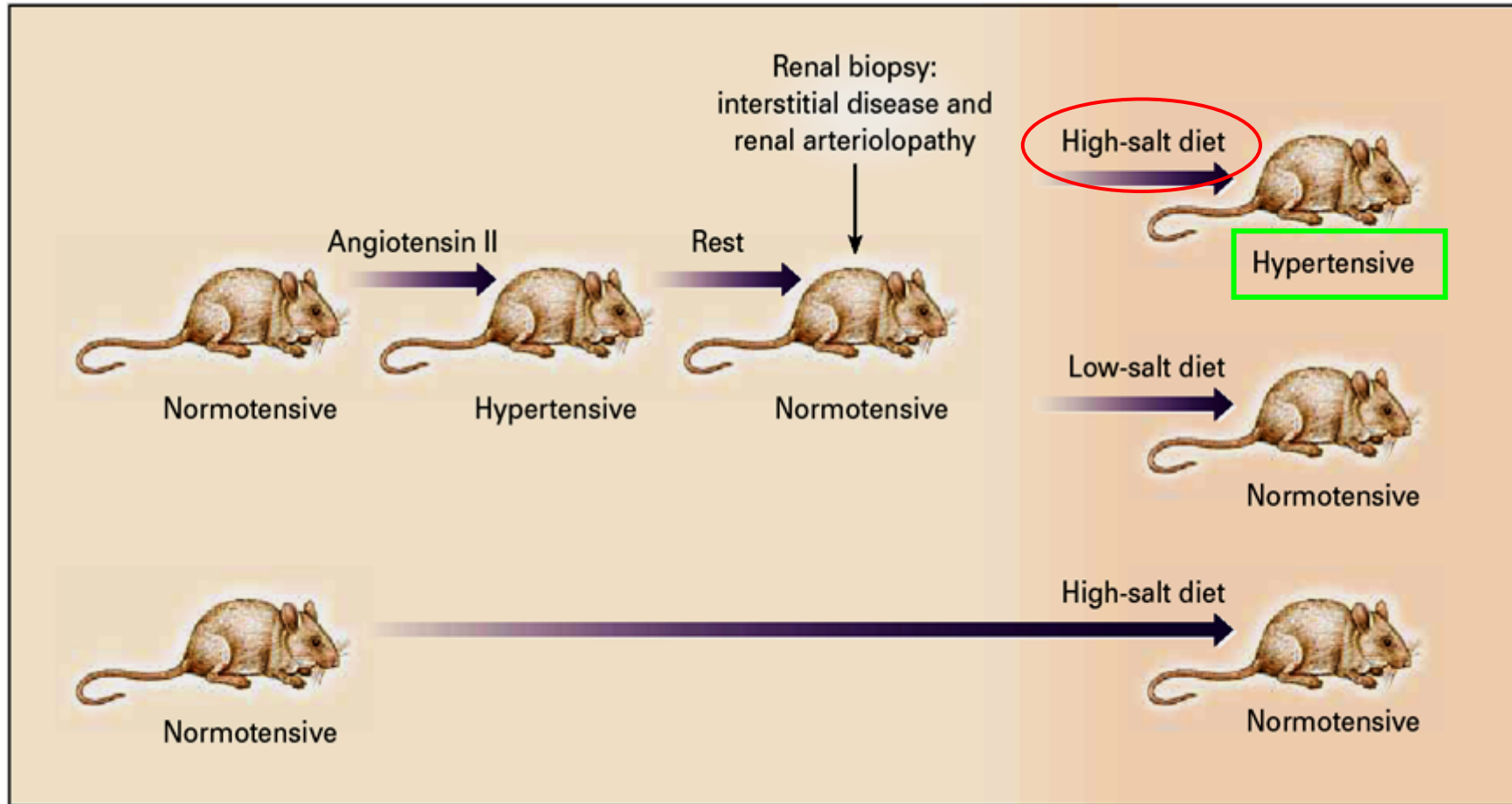
Johnson, New Engl.J.Med.(2002) 346:913

Development of salt-sensitive hypertension in rats after exposure to angiotensin II



Johnson, New Engl.J.Med.(2002) 346:913

Development of salt-sensitive hypertension in rats after exposure to angiotensin II



Johnson, New Engl.J.Med.(2002) 346:913

Sea water comparison – *salt content in 1 g food vs 1 ml Atlantic water*

Smoked fish	190%
Sweet pickle	170%
Processed cheese	130%
Tomato Ketchup	110%
Cornflakes	100%
Lasagne	40%

....

⇒ *Pastrami, chicken soup, pickles ...
excellent if you happen to have Addison's disease
bad if you have hypertension or renal disease*

Sources of salt in food

- **table salt** **10%**
 - **salt added during cooking** **5%**
 - **salt contained in commercial food items** **85%**
- } under direct control of patient

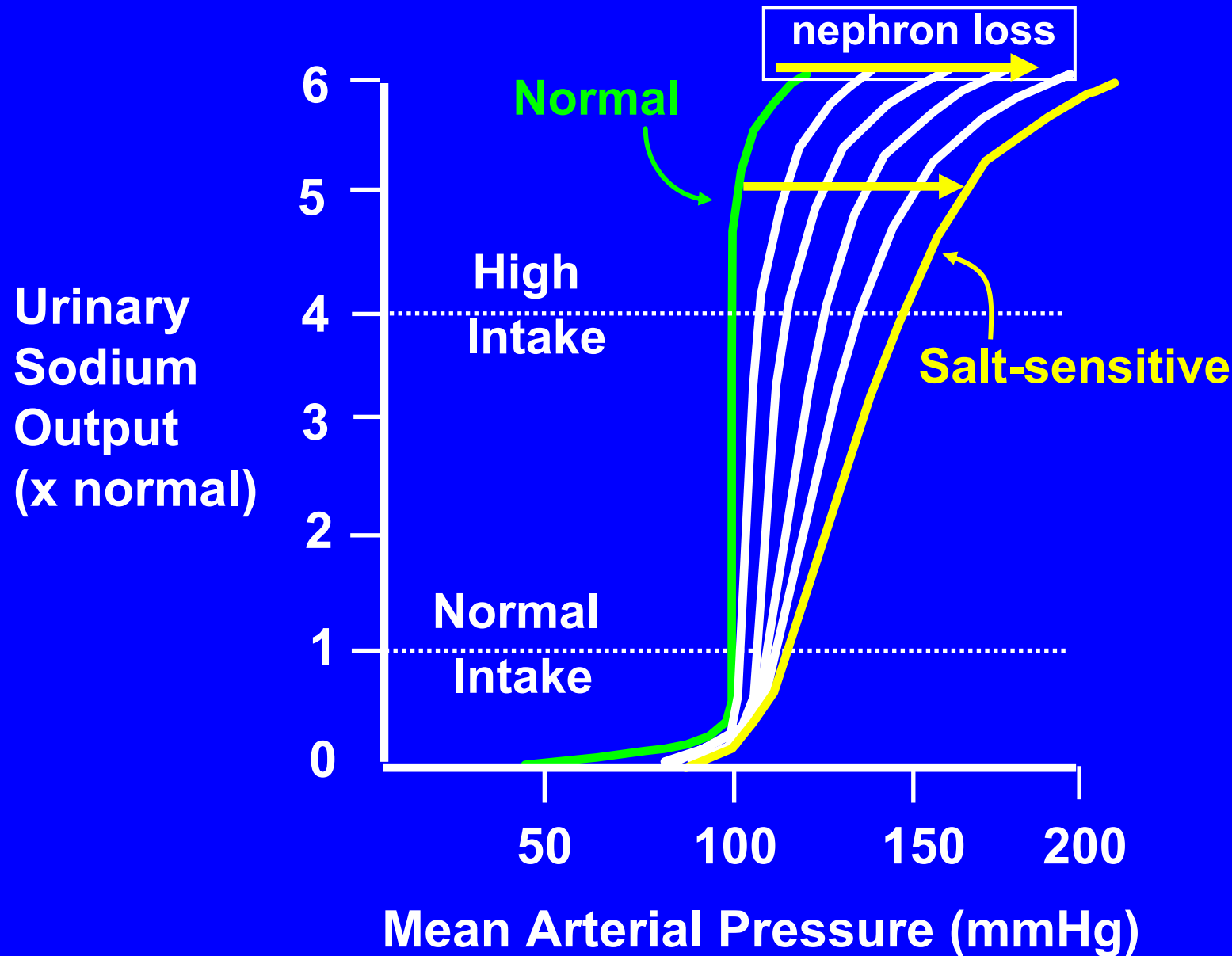
Sanchez-Castillo, Clin.Sci.(London) (1987) 72:95



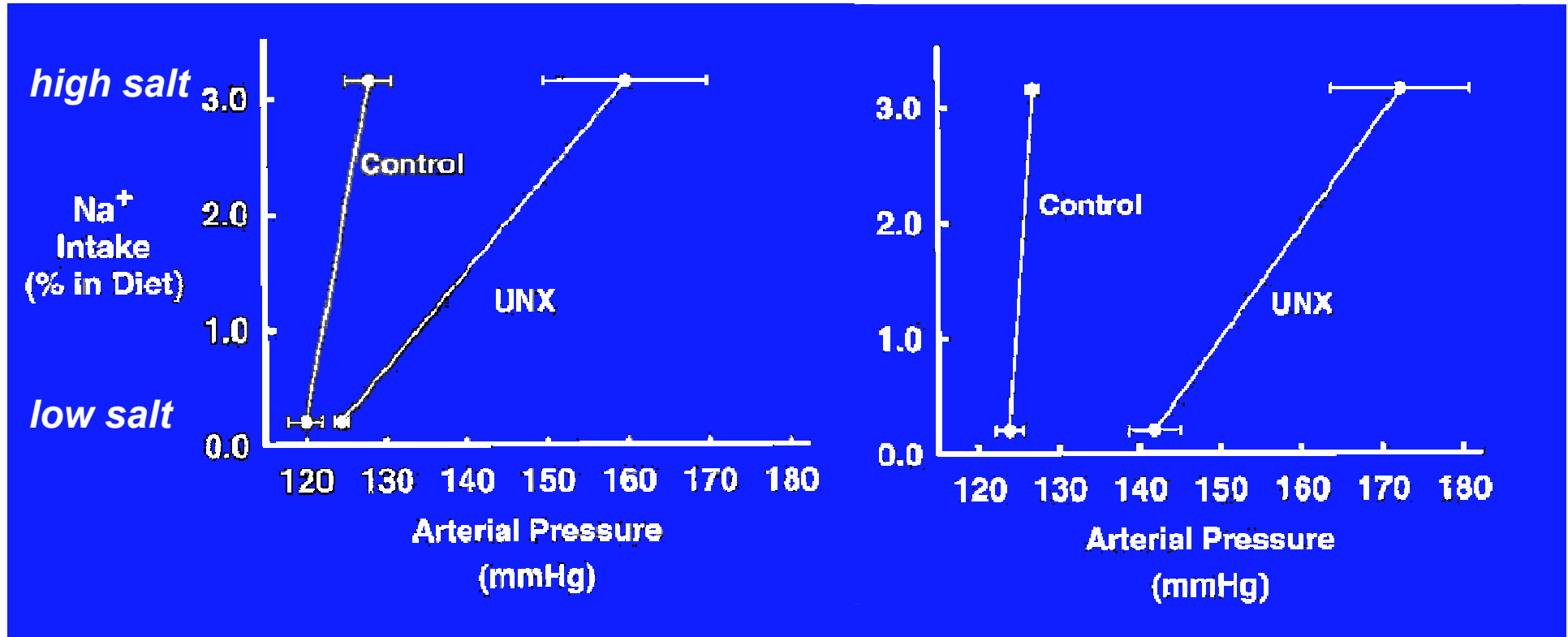
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Decreased nephron number shifts pressure natriuresis relationship to the right



BP response to Na⁺ loading after neonatal uninephrectomy

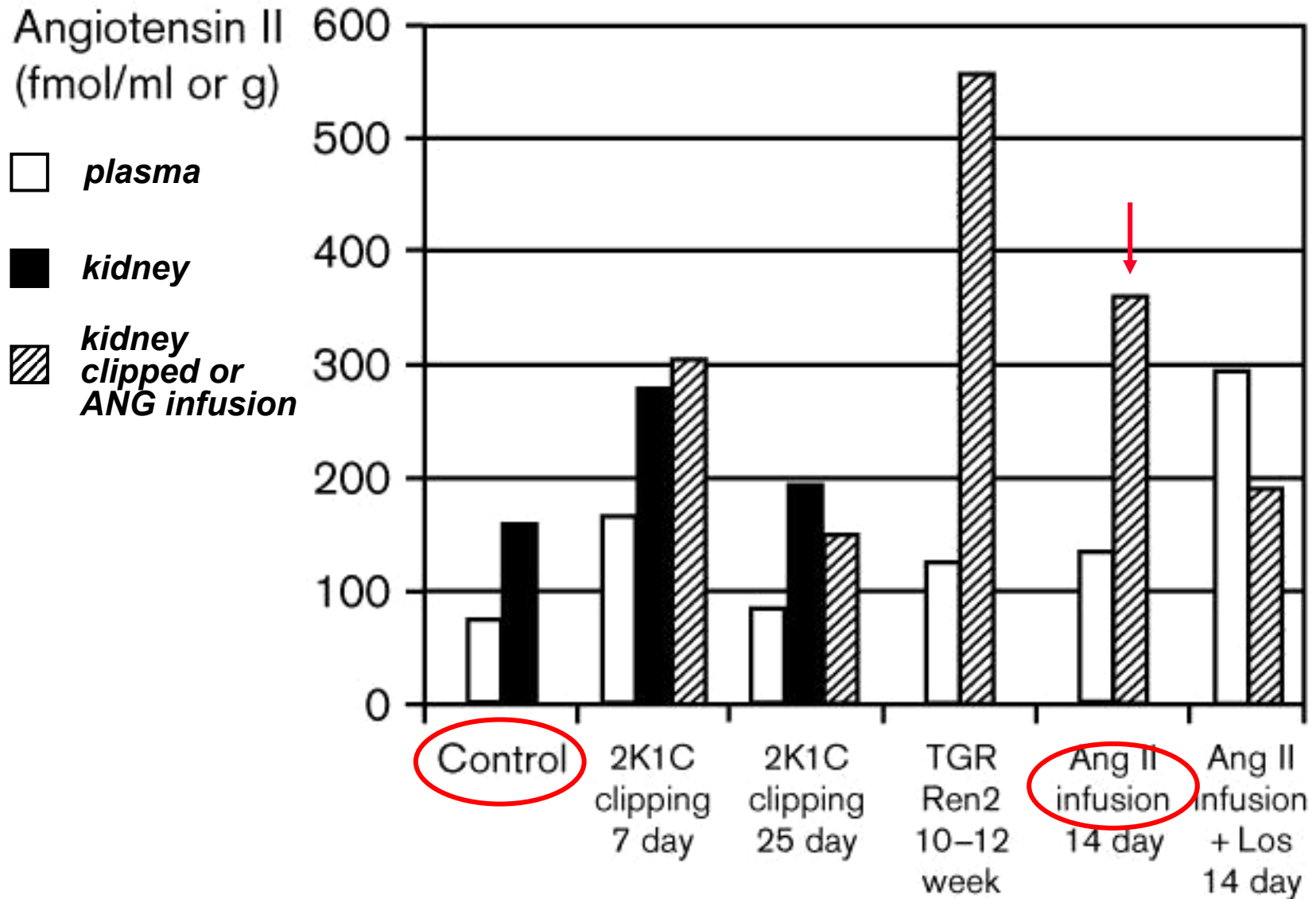


8 weeks

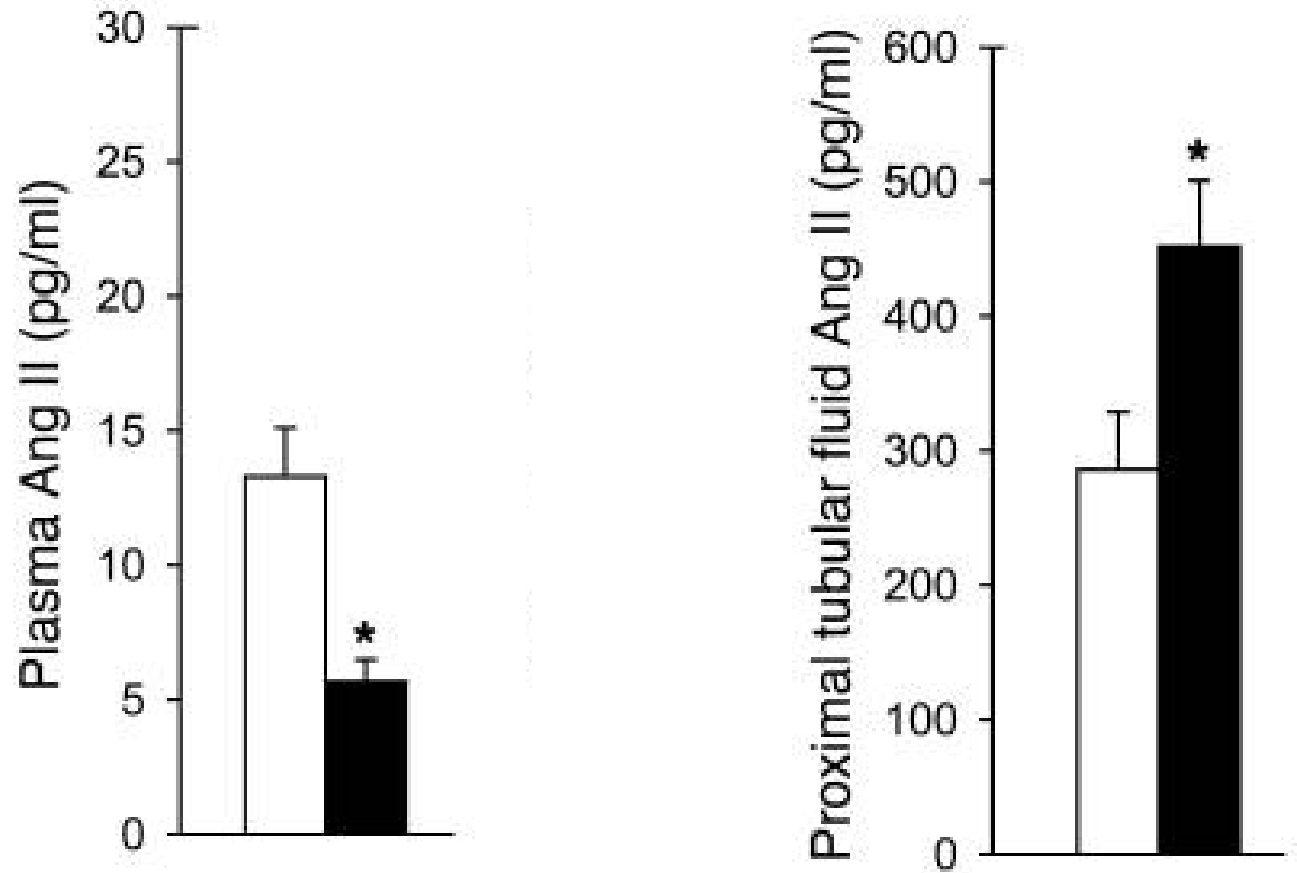
20 weeks

Woods, Hypertension (2001) 38: 337

Discrepancy between plasma ANG II and renal interstitial ANG II



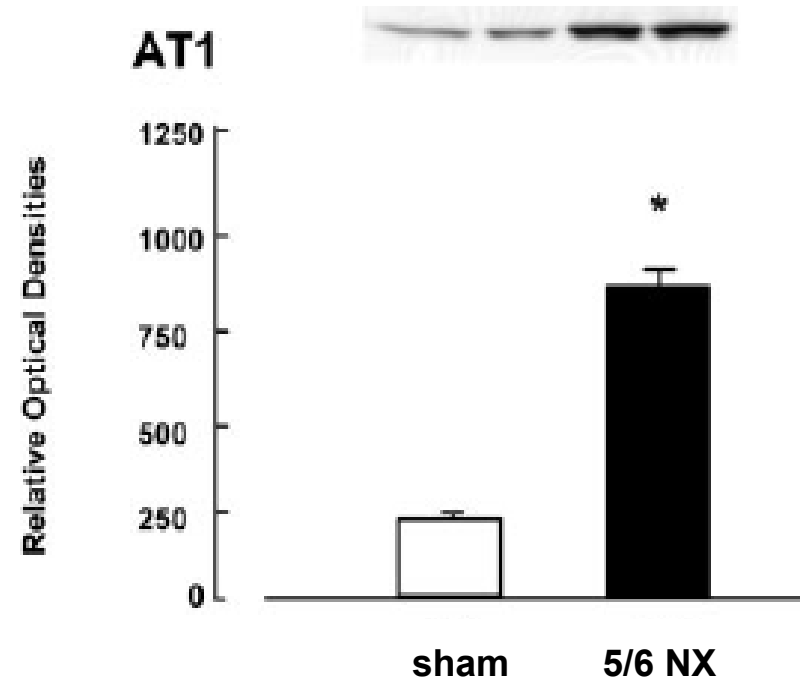
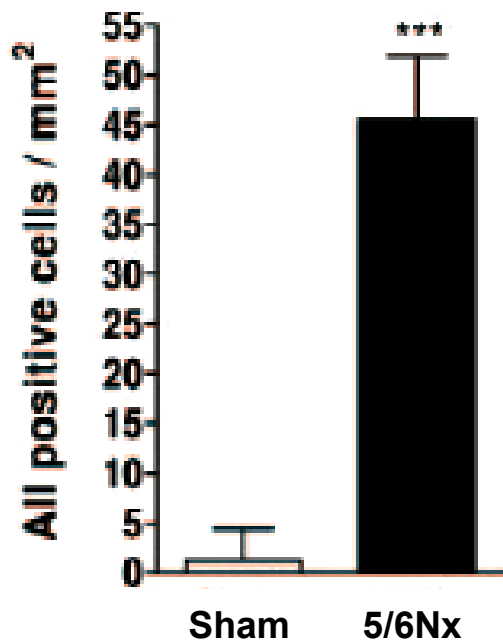
Paradoxical increase of tubular fluid ANGII on high salt



□ low salt
■ high salt

Thomson, J Clin Invest (2006) 116:1110

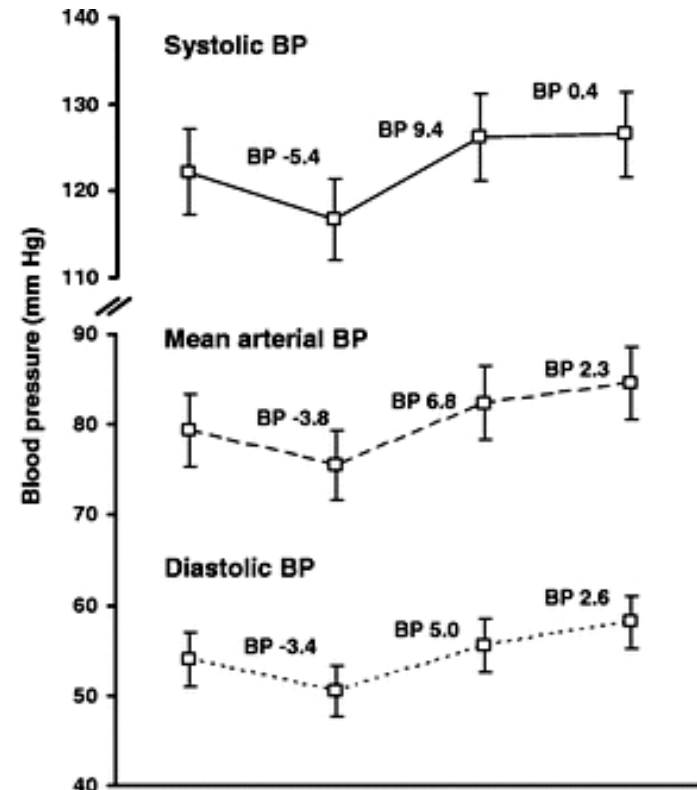
ANG II positive cells and upregulation of AT1 receptor in kidney after subtotal nephrectomy – *local intrarenal RAS*



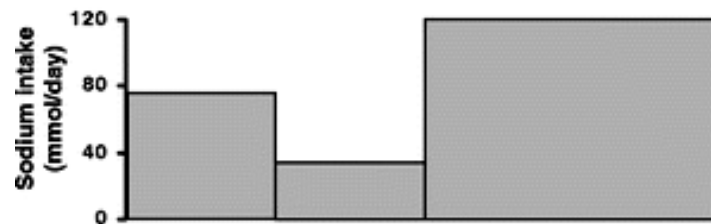
Vaziri, *J.Pharmacol.Exp.Ther.*(2007) 323:85

Variation of **blood pressure** in Chimpanzees with changes in **salt intake** corresponding to human intakes

blood pressure
reaction



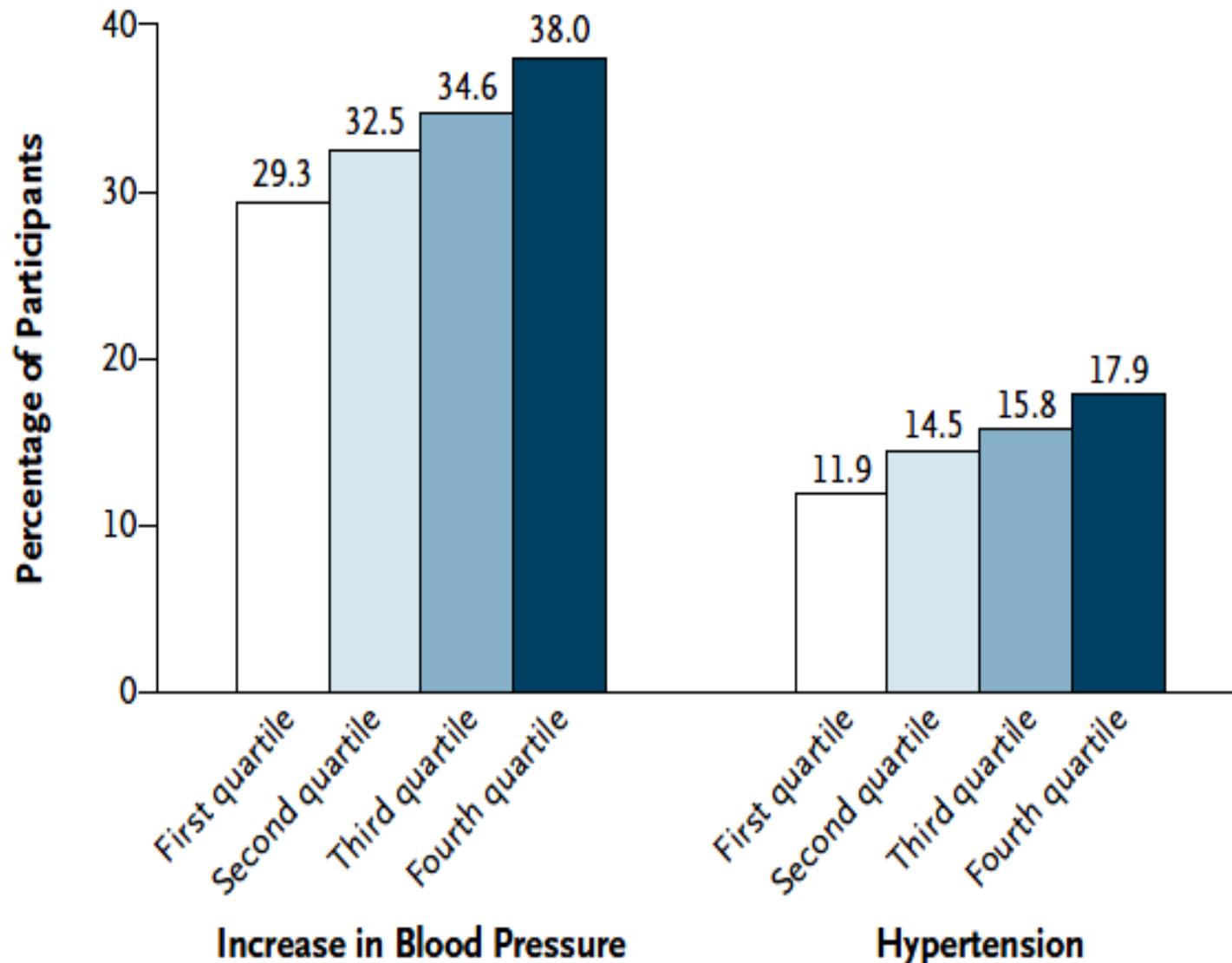
sodium intake



Elliott, Circulation (2007) 116:1563

Blood pressure and prevalence of hypertension increase stepwise with S-aldosterone concentration

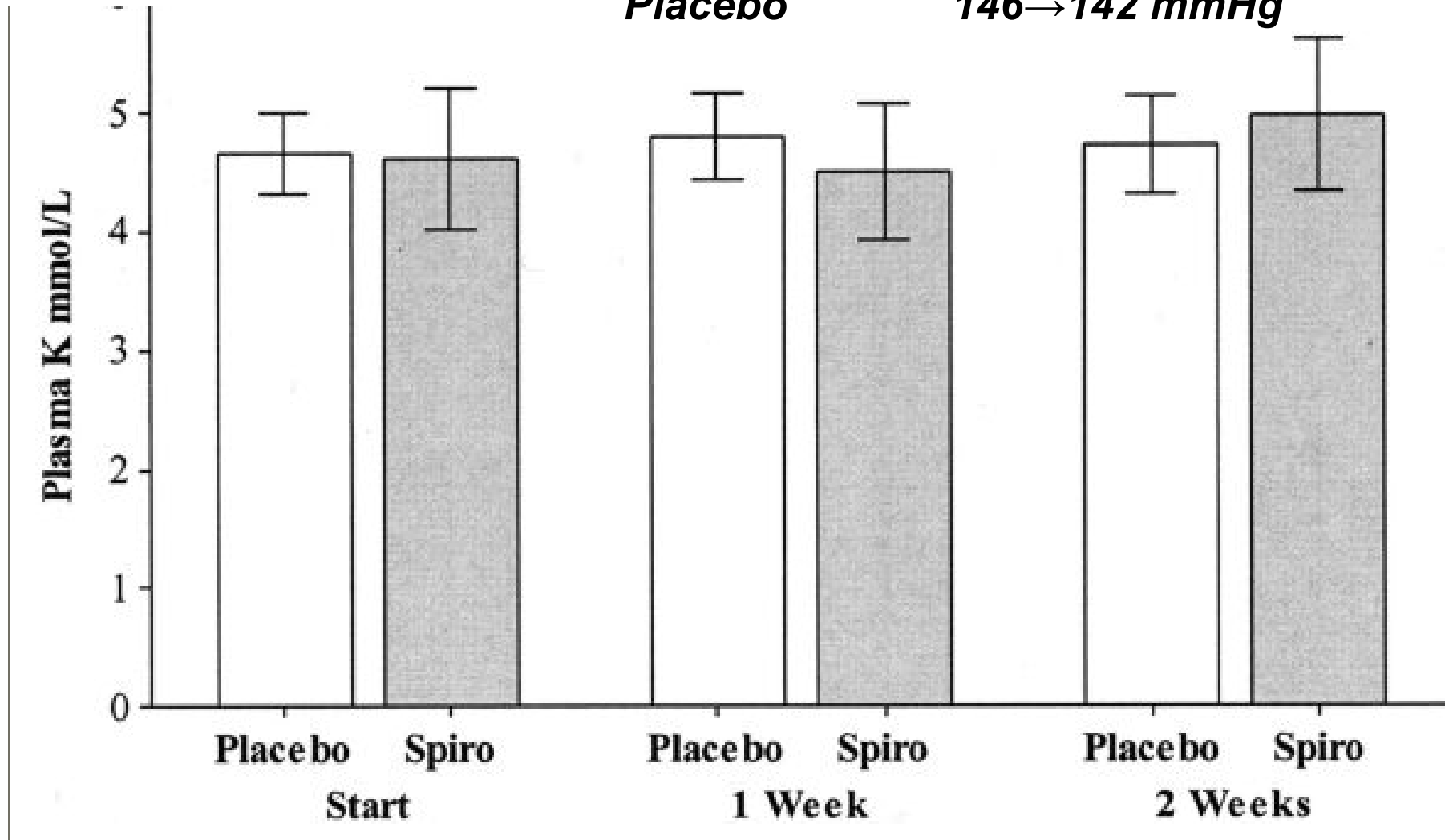
Framingham study

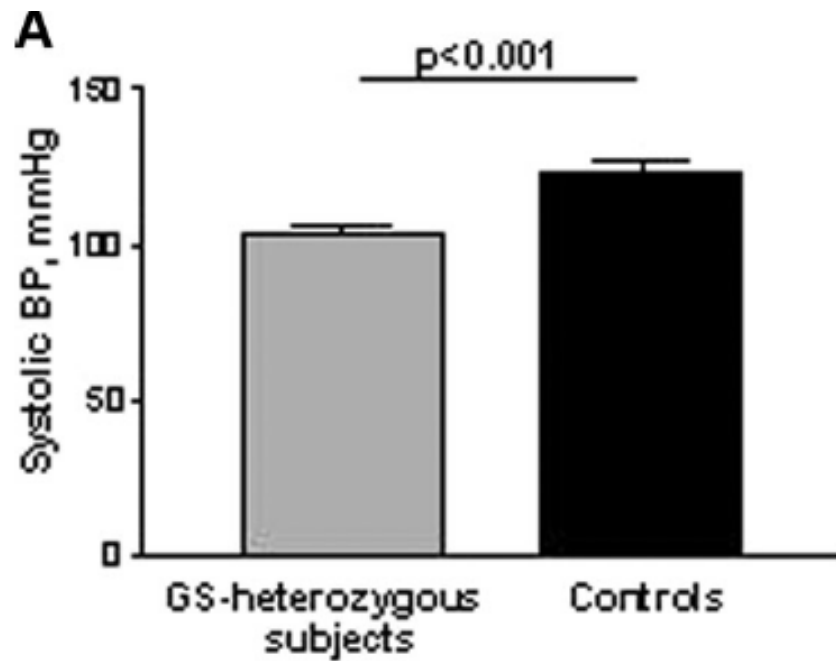


Vasan, New Engl.J.Med.(2004) 350:655

Lowering of BP by 50 mg Spironolactone in anuric hemodialysis patients – no change in S-K+

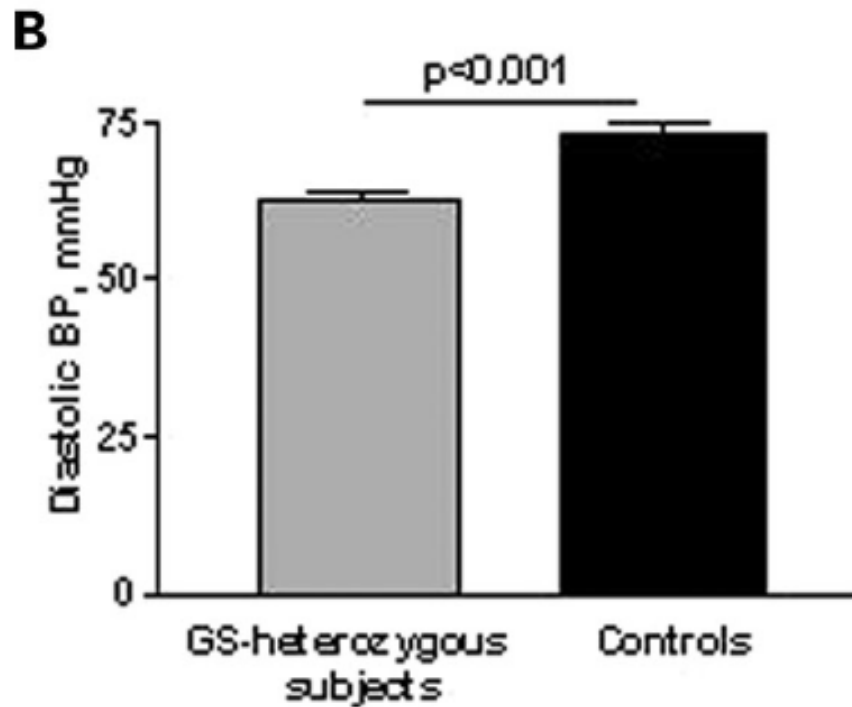
**Blood pressure : Spironolactone 142→131 mmHg
Placebo 146→142 mmHg**





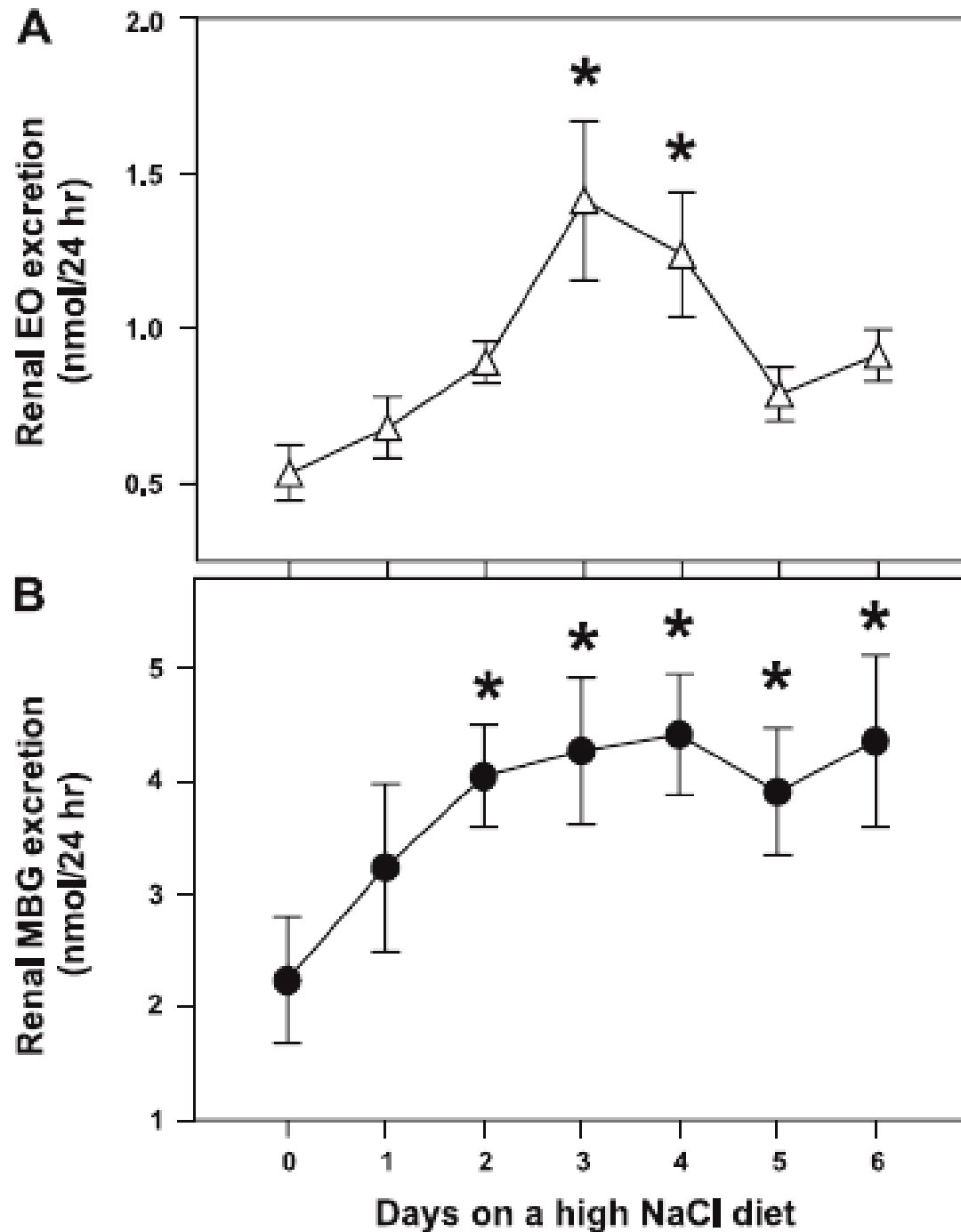
Lower blood pressure in heterozygote carriers of the Gitelman mutation

**(NaCl cotransporter)
~ thiazides**

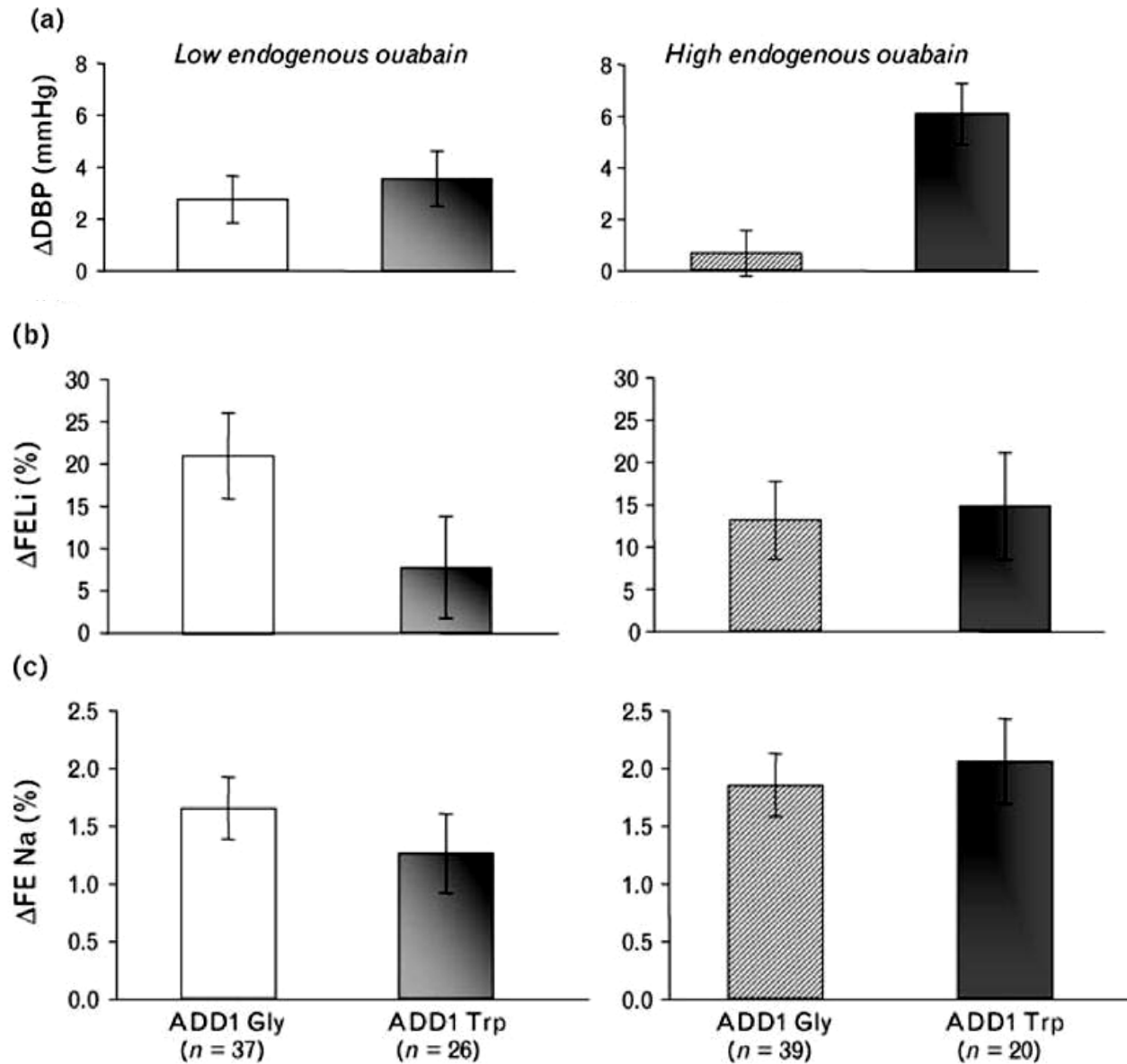


Fava, Hum.Mol.Gen. (2008) 17:413

Increase of endogenous cardiotoxic steroids with salt load



David,
Am.J.Physiol.Regul.Comp.
(2008) 294:1248



Acute Na⁺ load –

amplified blood pressure response

to Na⁺ load if:

- high plasma ouabain
- high tubular Na⁺ reabsorption

(*Trp adducin mutant*)

Manunta, J.Hypertens. (2008) 26:914



The kidney and hypertension

1. The kidney – cause of hypertension
2. Prenatal programming and adult hypertension
3. The renal mechanisms leading to hypertension
4. Salt sensitivity in renal hypertension
5. **Hormonal mediation of salt effects**

- **triggering signal**

- **plasma (cerebrospinal) sodium concentration**

- de Wardener, Kidn.Intern.(2004) 66:2454*

- Lichtstein, Neurochem.Res.(2001)26:971*

- **sodium balance or extracellular volume**

- Hamlyn, Am.J.Physiol.(1986) 252:F563*

- Titze, Am.J.Physiol.(2004) 287:H203*

- **potassium – modulating sodium effect**

- Adrogué, New Engl J.med.(2007) 356: 1966*

- **mediator(s)**

- **sodium per se (via ADMA and other mechanisms)**

- Fujiwara, Circulation (2000)101:856*

- **hormonal signals (RAS,aldosteron)**

- cardiotonic steroids**

- Siani, Ann.Int.Med. (1991)115:753*

- Ferrari,Am.J.Physiol.(RICP)(2006)290:R529*



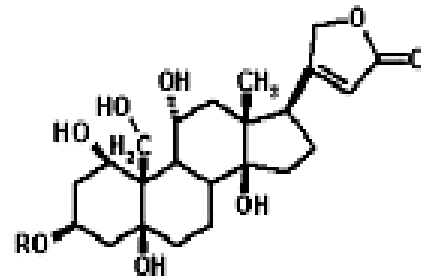
Sir William Withering
1741 – 1790

*An account of the foxglove
and some of its medical uses*
1785

WILLIAM WITHERING M.D. F. R.S. &c. &c.

Cardiotonic steroids in mammalian tissues

Cardenoloids

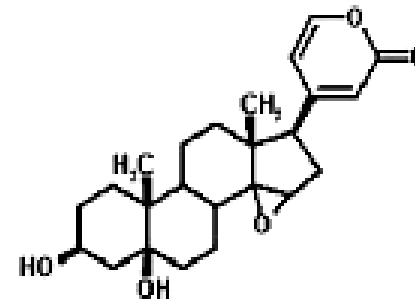


QUABAIN

R = Rhamnose

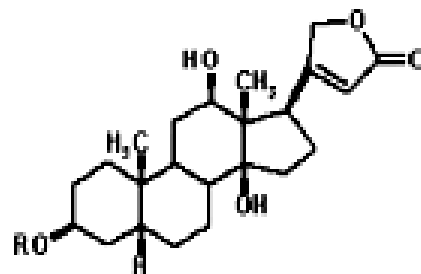
blood pressure raising

Bufadenoloids



MARINOBUFAGENIN

*natriuretic
blood pressure raising*



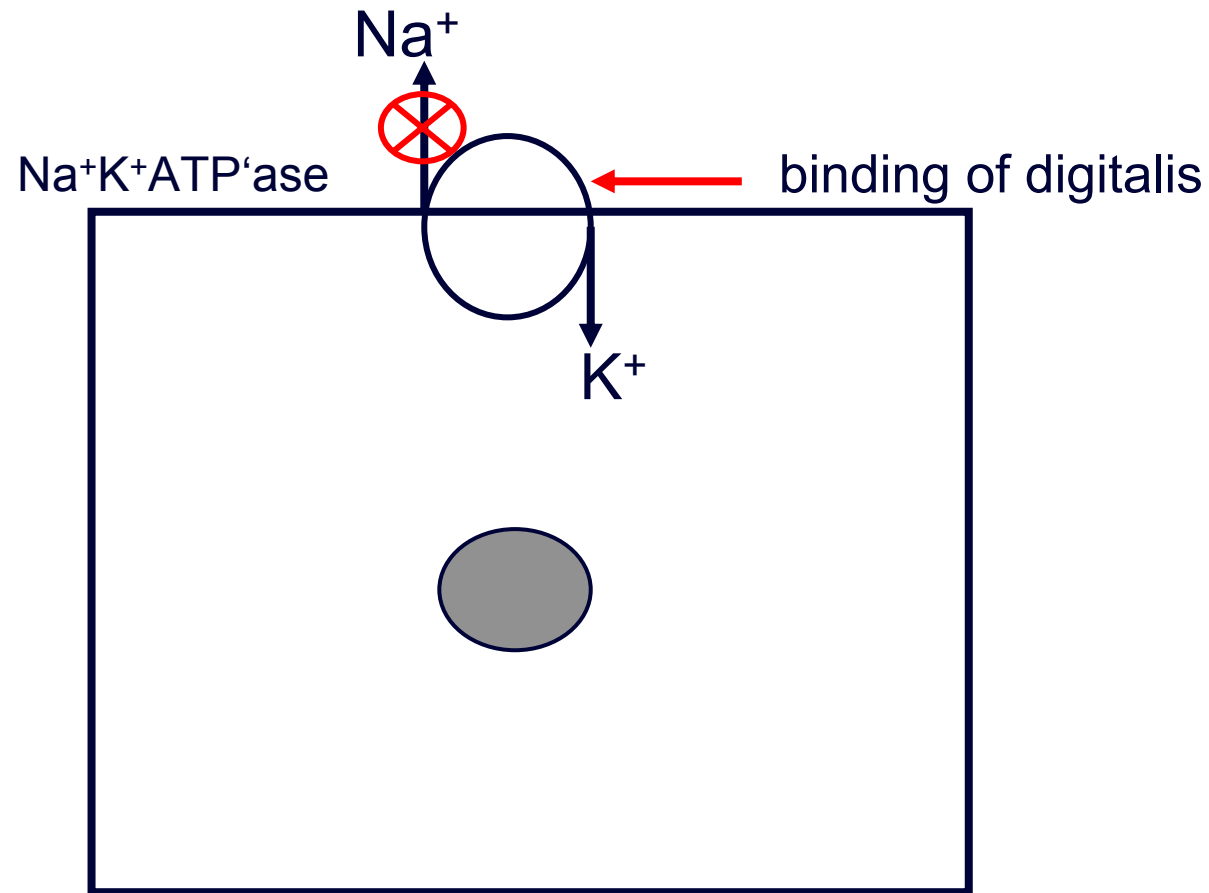
DIGOXIN

R = 3 Digitoxosyl

blood presssure lowering

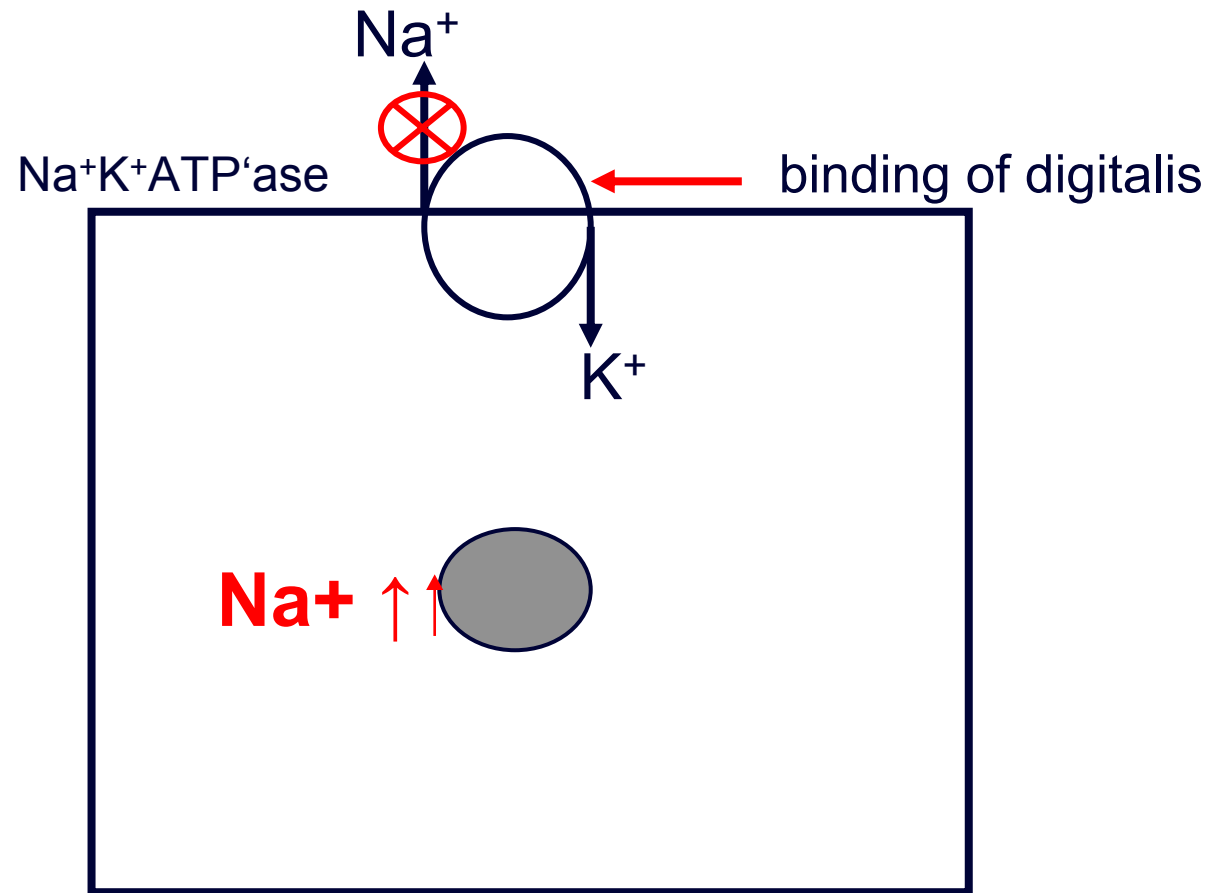
Classical view : inhibition of enzymatic activity of $\text{Na}^+\text{K}^+\text{ATP}'\text{ase}$

reduced Na^+ extrusion \rightarrow



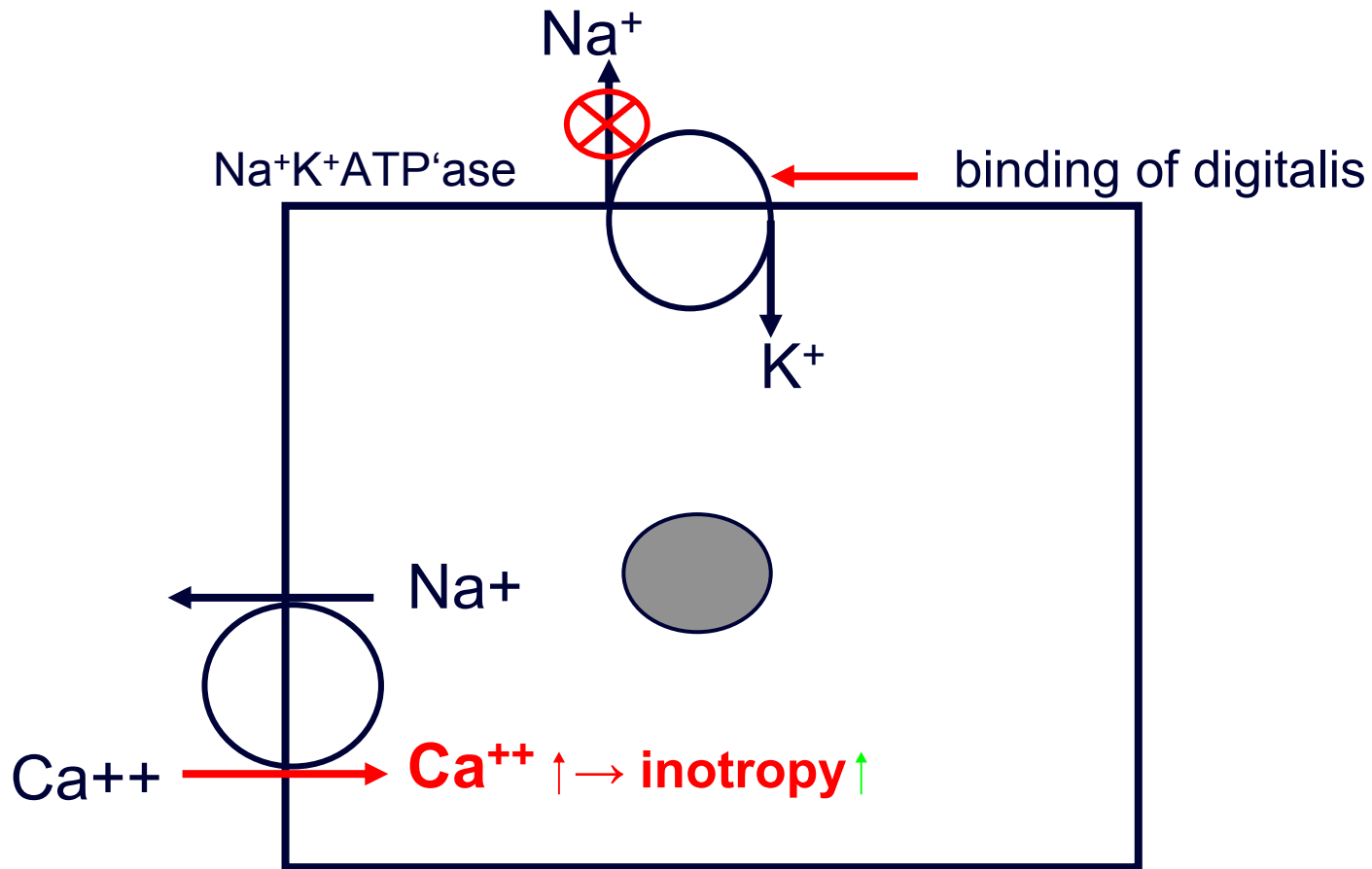
Classical view : inhibition of enzymatic activity of $\text{Na}^+\text{K}^+\text{ATP}^{\text{ase}}$

reduced Na^+ extrusion \rightarrow **ICC Na^+ cumulation** \rightarrow

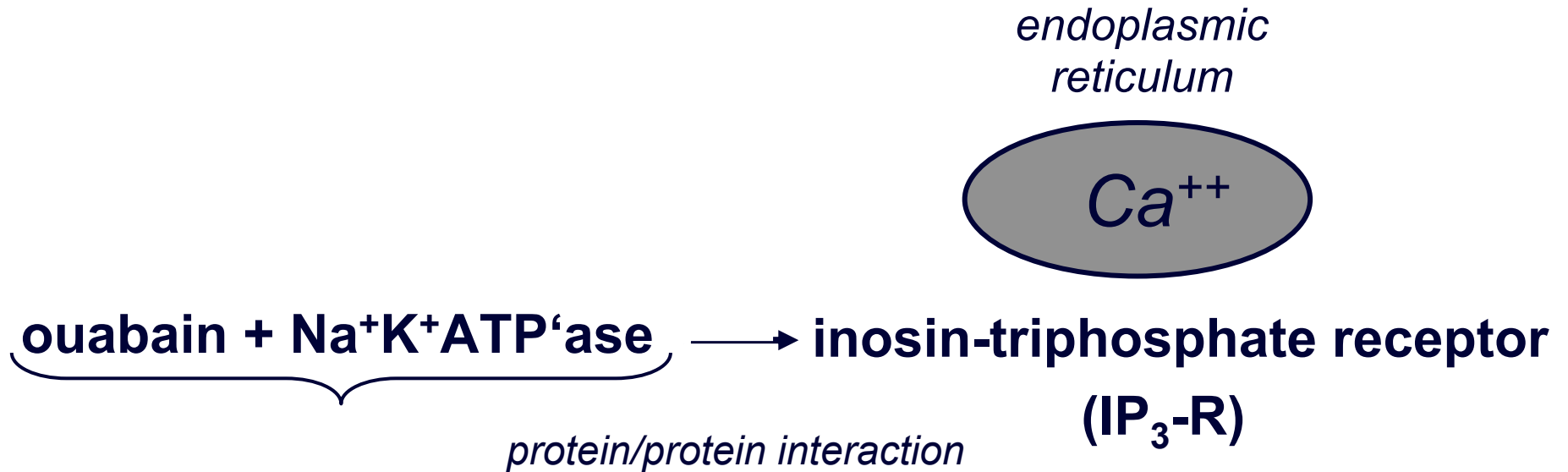


Classical view : inhibition of enzymatic activity of $\text{Na}^+\text{K}^+\text{ATP}'\text{ase}$

reduced Na^+ extrusion \rightarrow *ICC Na^+ cumulation* \rightarrow **Na^+ Ca^{++} exchanger running backward** \rightarrow **increased intracellular Ca^{++}**

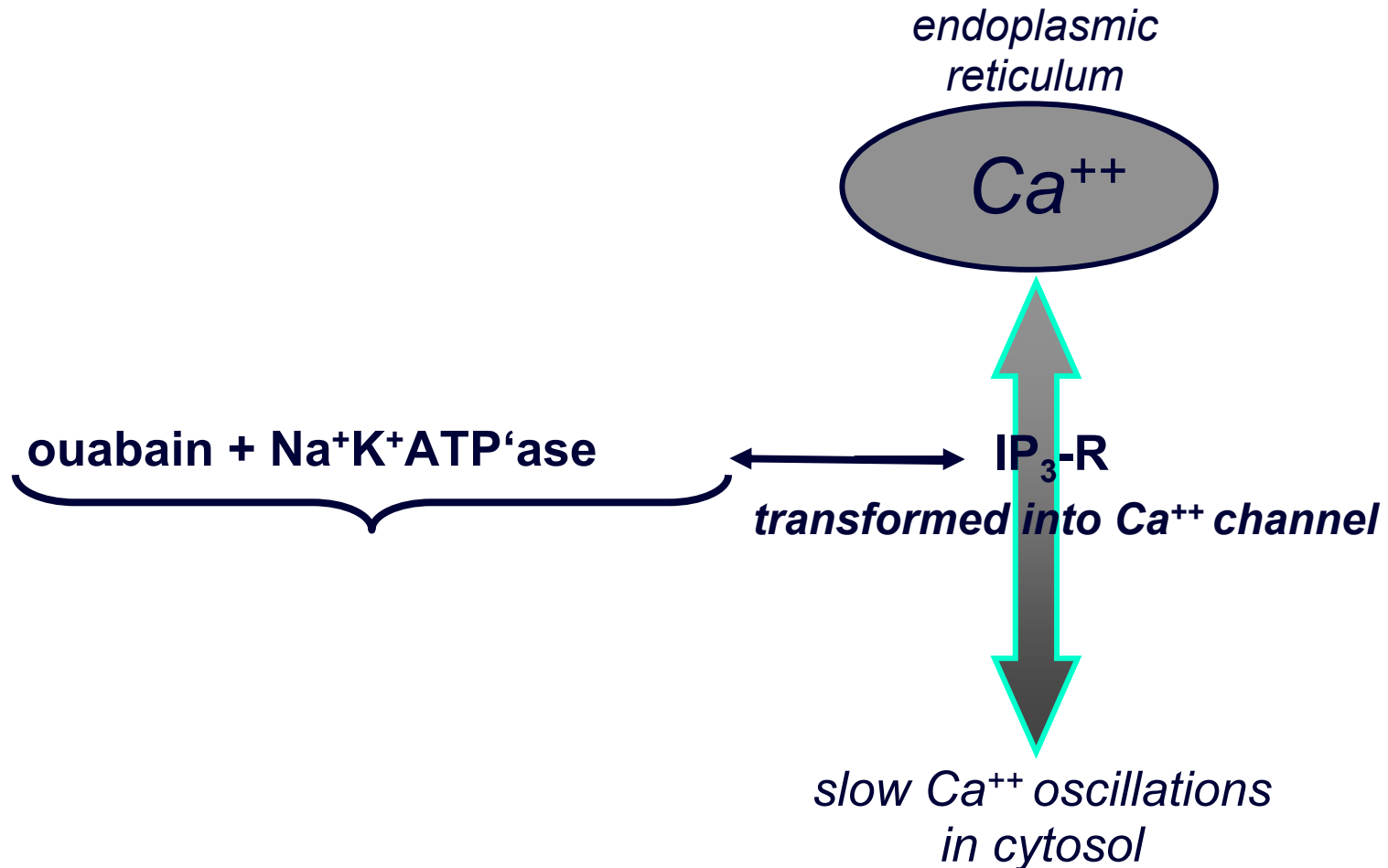


Cardiotonic steroids – *signal transducers*



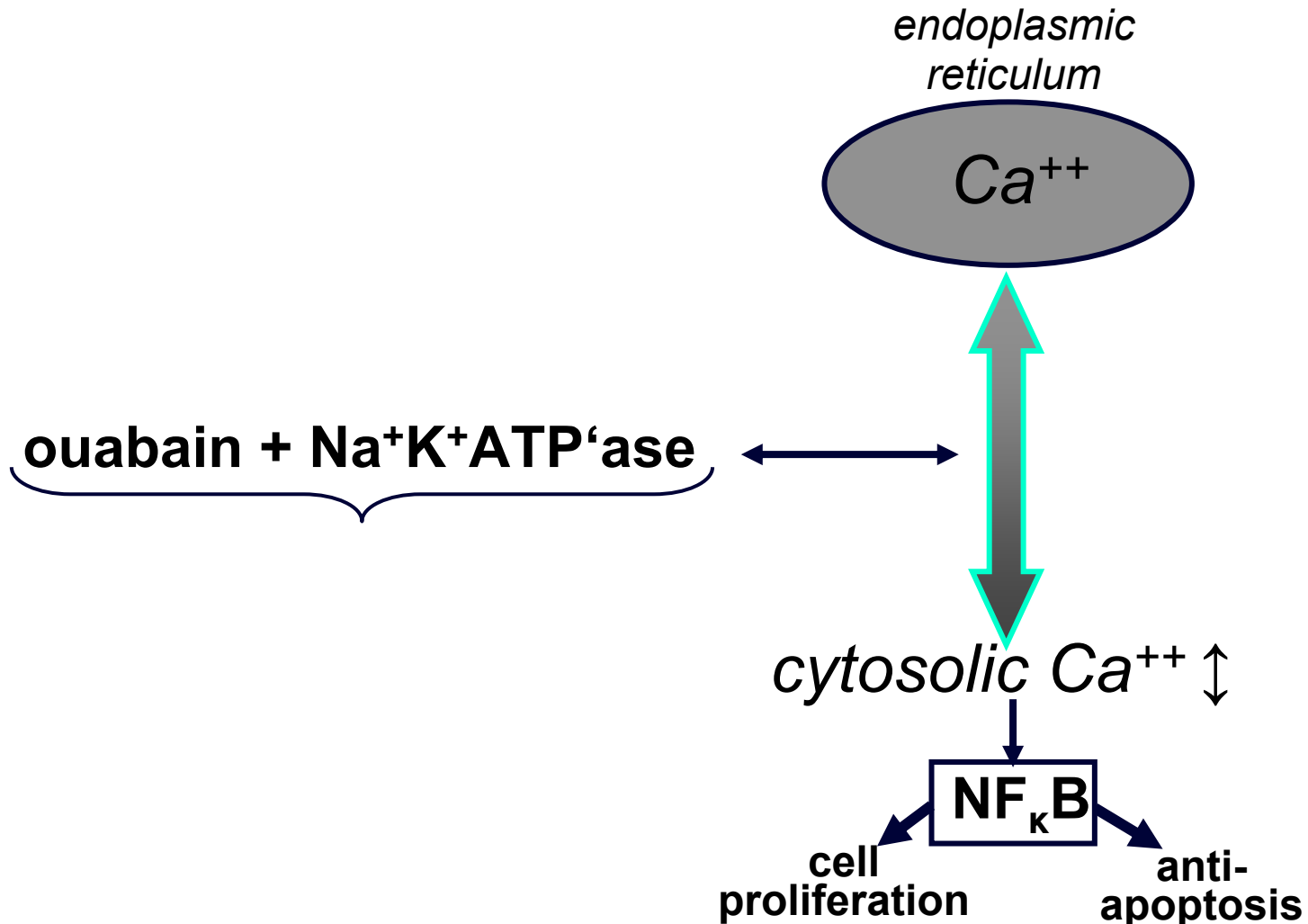
Schoner, *Am.J.Physiol.*(2007) 293:C509
Aperia, *J.Intern.Med.*(2007) 261:44

Cardiotonic steroids – signalling pathways

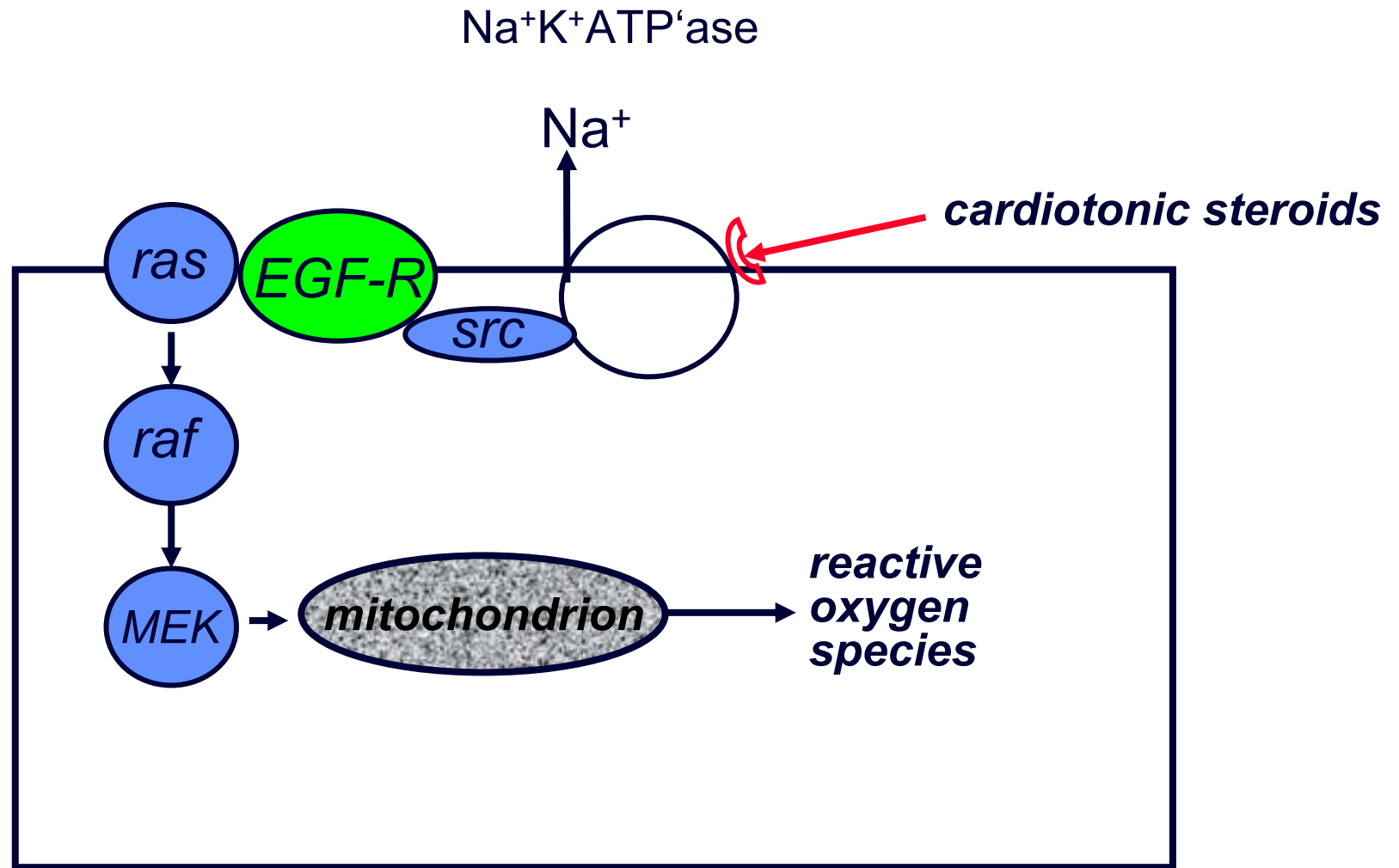


Schoner, *Am.J.Physiol.*(2007) 293:C509

Cardiotonic steroids – signalling pathways

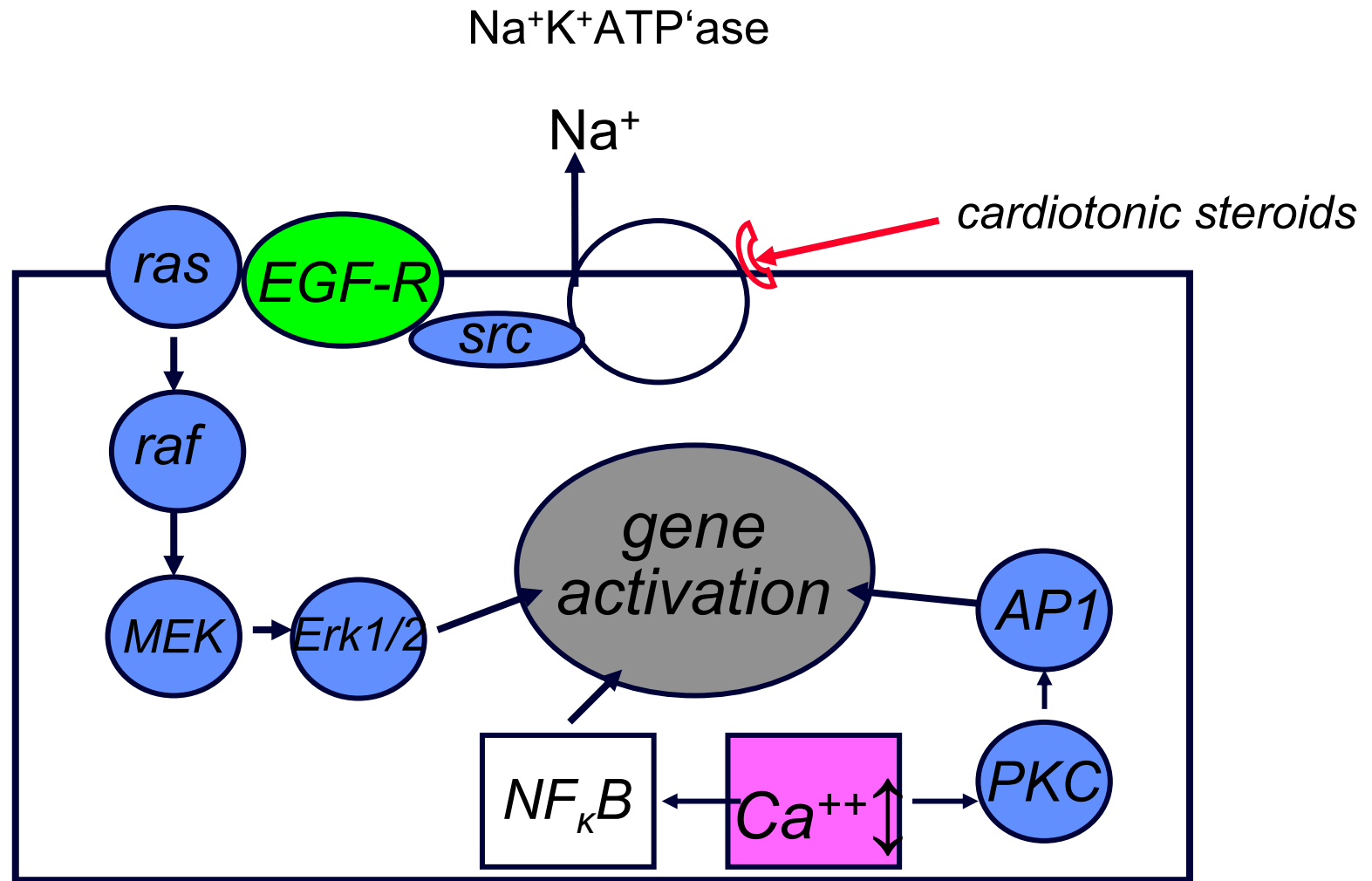


Activation via *src* and EGF-R → *mitochondrial ROS* + nuclear gene programmes

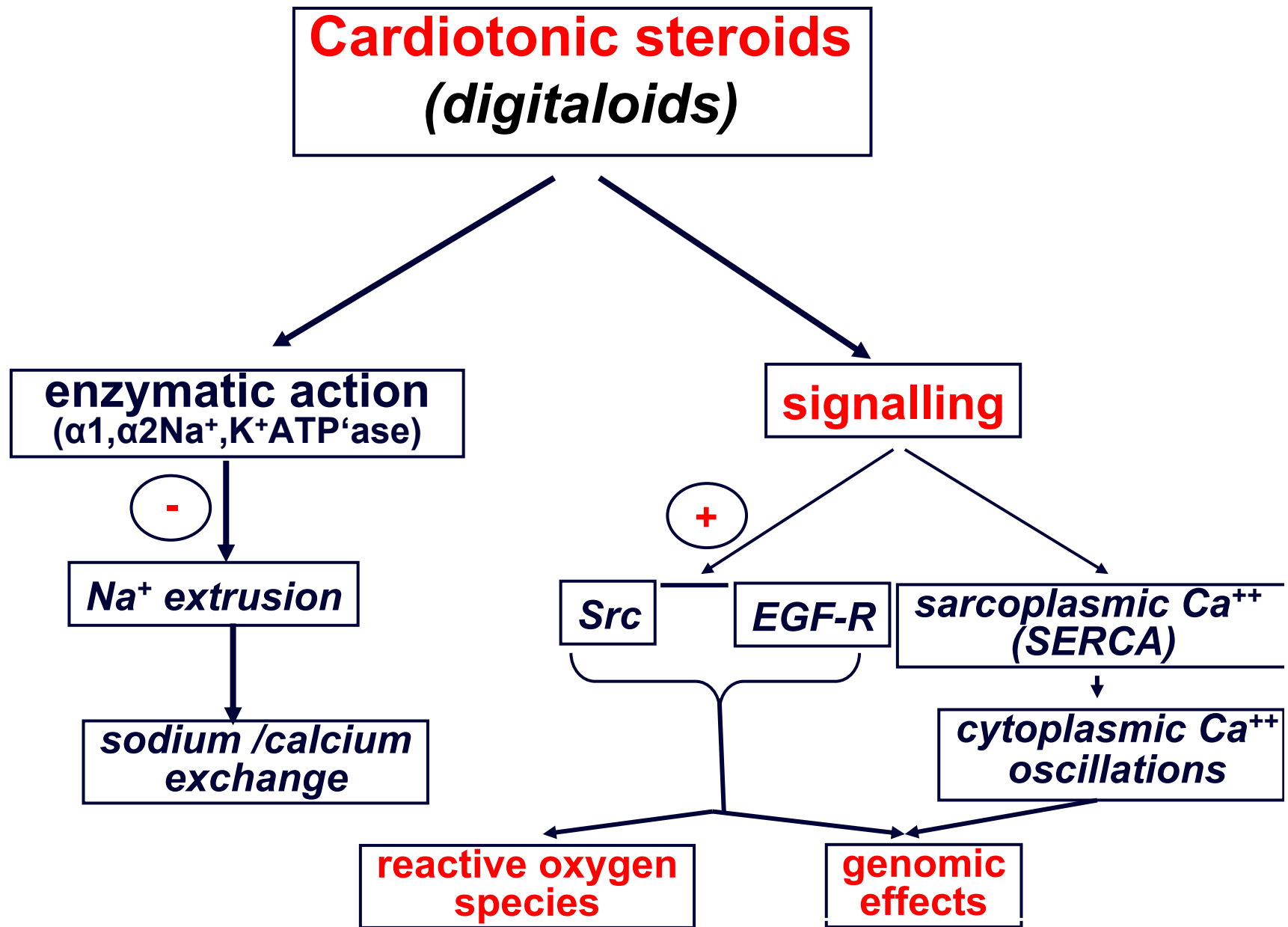


Schoner, *Am.J.Physiol.*(2007) 293:C509
Aperia, *J.Intern.Med.*(2007) 261:44

Activation via *src* and EGF-R → mitochondrial ROS + nuclear gene programmes



Schoner, Am.J.Physiol.(2007) 293:C509
Aperia, J.Intern.Med.(2007) 261:44

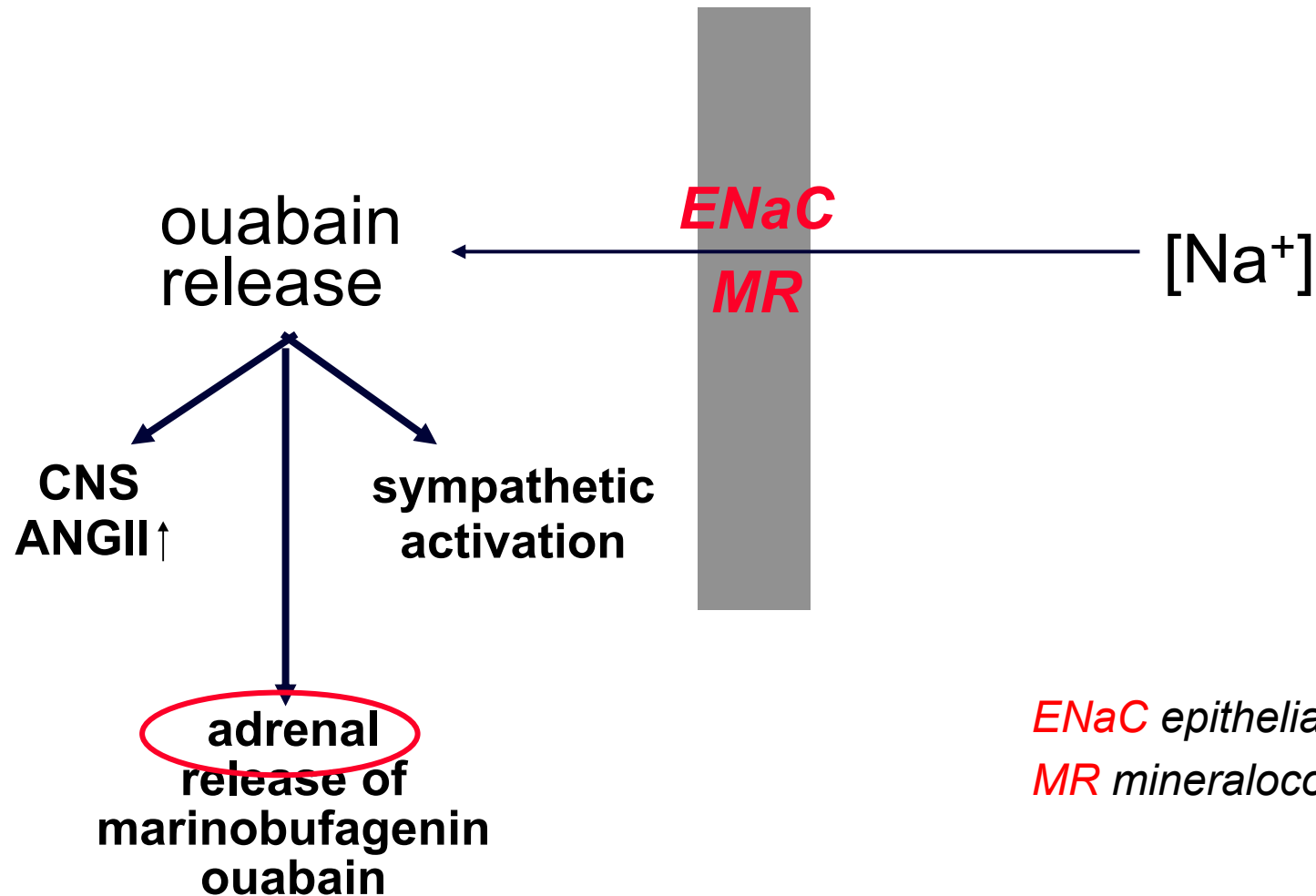


Schoner, Am.J.Physiol.(2007) 293:C509
 Aperia, J.Intern.Med.(2007) 261:44

*ependyme/
hypothalamic cell*

*cell
membrane*

*cerebrospinal
fluid*



ENaC epithelial Na⁺ channel
MR mineralocorticoid receptor

Marinobufagenin

- *vasoconstriction*

Lopatin, J.Hypertens.(1999) 117:1179

- *affinity $\alpha 1 > \alpha 3$ isoform $\text{Na}^+\text{K}^+\text{ATP}'\text{ase}$*

Fedorova, Circulation (2000) 102:3009

- *excretion via urine*

Fedorova, Hypertension (2001) 37:462

- *increased after volume expansion*

Bagrov, Cardiovasc.Res. (1996) 31:296

- *increased in pathological states of volume expansion, e.g. uremia and preeclampsia*

Gonick, Clin.Exp.Hypertens.(1998) 20:617

Lopatin, J.Hypertens.(1999) 17:1179



Thank you for your attention

