

V International Congress  
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Orthomolecular Medicine

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## Adaptogenic plants for stress and ageing related disorders

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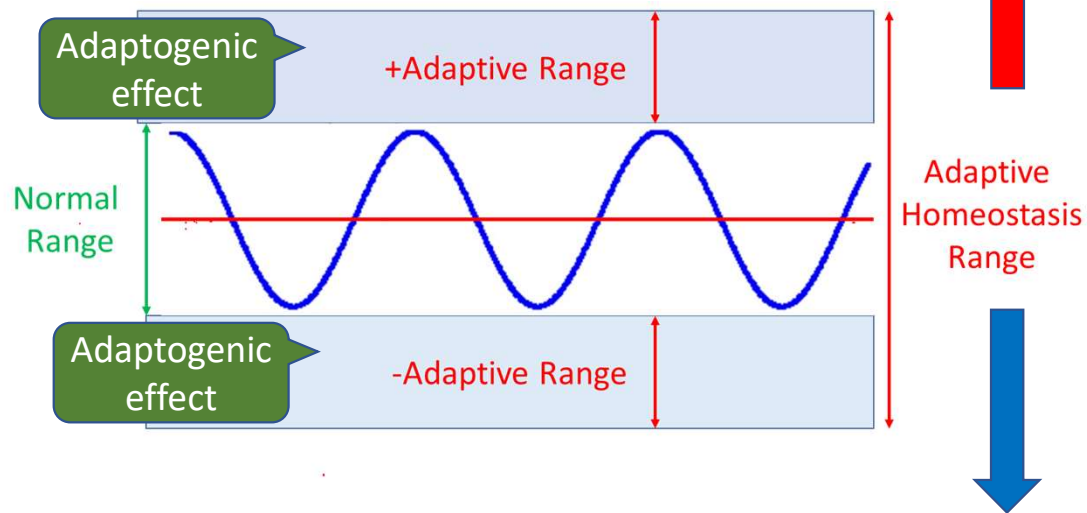


## Adaptogens: definitions

- *Adaptogens* are natural **stress-protective** compounds or plant extracts that increase **adaptability, resilience and survival** of organisms.
- *Adaptability* - ability of an organism to alter itself or its responses to the changed circumstances or environment.
- *Resilience* - ability to recover readily from illness, depression, adversity or difficulties.
- Adaptogens - compounds which could increase “**the state of non-specific resistance**” of organisms.
- “Shanghuo” – as a state of increased susceptibility to stress and progression of diseases.

# Adaptive homeostasis and homeostatic range

Any biological function, component, molecule, e.g. cortisol, CRH etc. oscillate around a mean or median, within a homeostatic range that is considered a 'normal'



Adaptive Homeostasis is the transient reversible adjustments of the homeostatic range in response to exposure to mild stressors ( e.g. exercise or **adaptogens**).

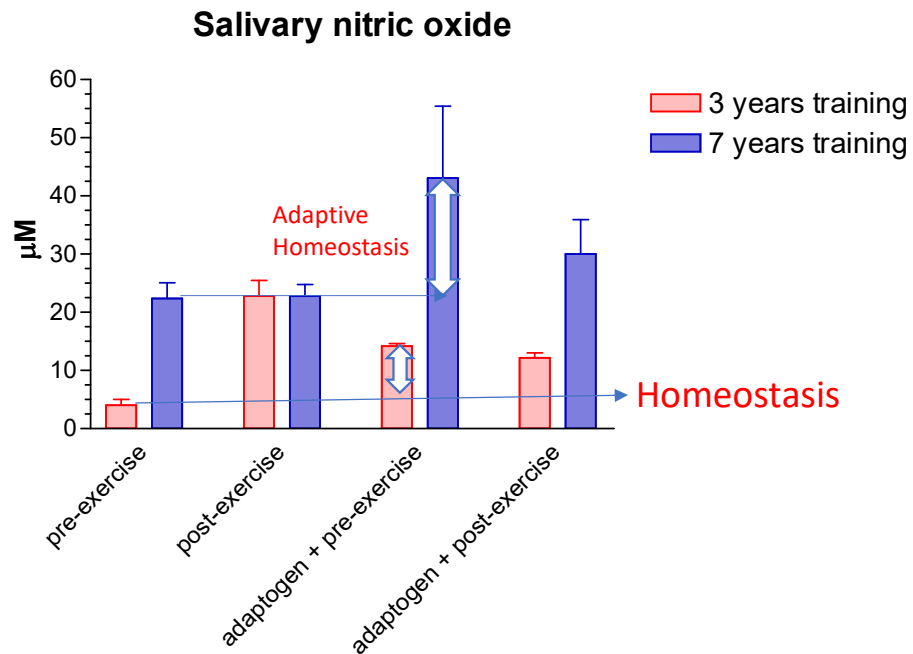
Chronically increased stress-responsive activity and increased CRH secretion is associated with:

- increased arousal or anxiety,
- increased blood pressure, tachycardia
- gastrointestinal dysfunction, immune suppression, melancholic depression, suppression of feeding (anorexia), loss of libido
- chronic active alcoholism, alcohol and narcotic withdrawal, excessive exercising and malnutrition,

Chronically decreased stress-responsive activity and decreased CRH secretion is associated with:

- decreased arousal and performance of task,
- the chronic fatigue,
- fibromyalgia syndromes,
- increase in appetite and weight gain,
- somnolence, etc.

## Adaptogens like physical exercise adjust the homeostatic range



Adaptogens are eustressors (“good stressors”) - mild stressors, stress-mimetics, or challengers ‘nonspecific stress- vaccines’, inducing **stimulating (stress-agonising)** and **stress-protective** effect against subsequent stress.

## The difference between stimulants and adaptogens

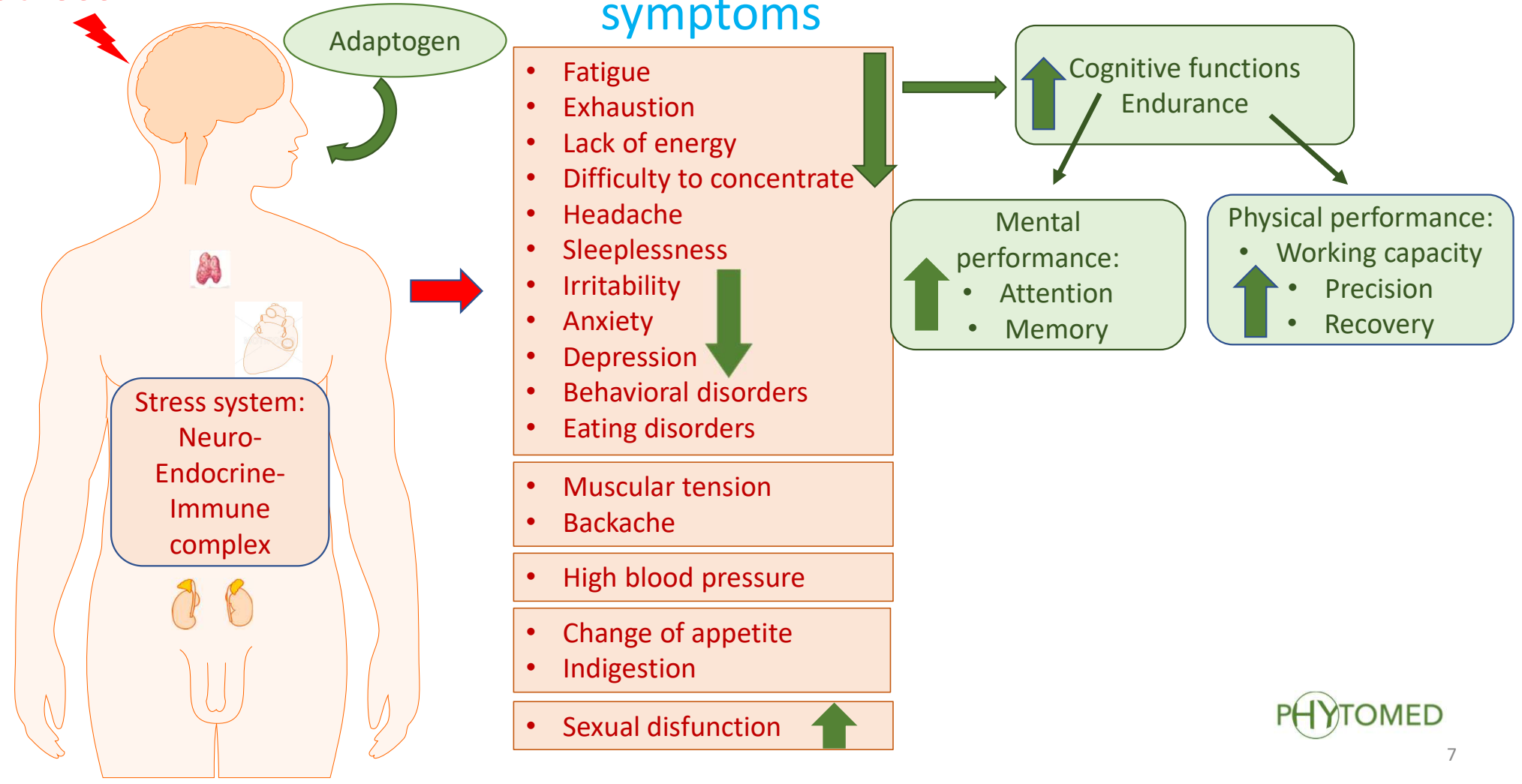
	Stimulants	Adaptogens
Stress protective (neuro-, hepato-, cardio-protective)	No	High
Recovery process after exhaustive physical load	Low	High
Energy depletion	Yes	No
Performance in stress	-	Increased
Survival in stress	-	Increased
Quality of arousal	Poor	Good
Addiction potential	Yes	No
Side effects	Yes	Rare
DNA/proteins synthesis	Decreased	Increased
NPY mediated activation of Hsp70	-	Increased

# Adaptogens

- *Pharmacological activity:* adaptogenic
- *Health claims and indications for use:*
  - stress-induced fatigue,
  - stress-induced mental and behavioral disorders,
  - aging associated diseases.

Stress

# Chronic stress induced symptoms



## Age related diseases are health problems in senescence due to decreased adaptability to stress and an ability to maintain homeostasis

- neurodegenerative diseases (Alzheimer's disease, etc.)
- atherosclerosis - thrombosis, infarction, stroke
- cardiovascular disease and hypertension
- cancer
- degenerative joint disease (osteoarthritis)
- type 2 diabetes, obesity
- muscle degeneration (sarcopenia)
- visual loss because of clouding of the lens (cataracts)

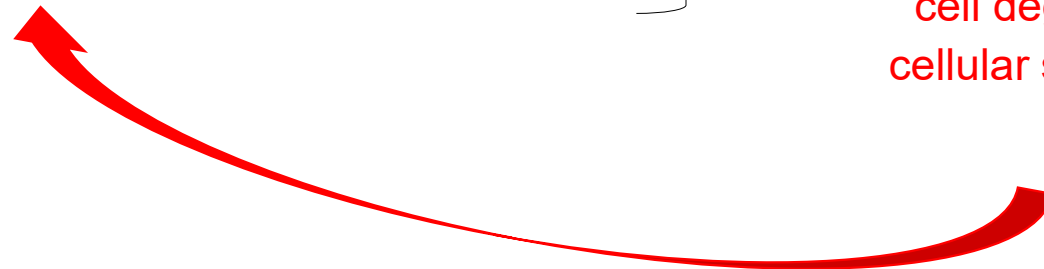
Stress



Low grade chronic systemic inflammation / Inflammaging

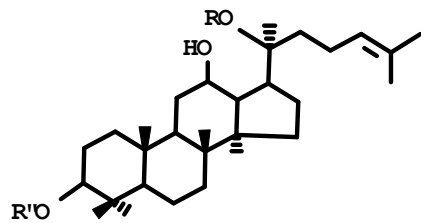
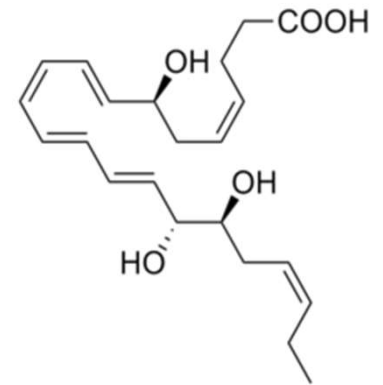
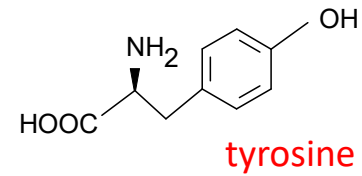
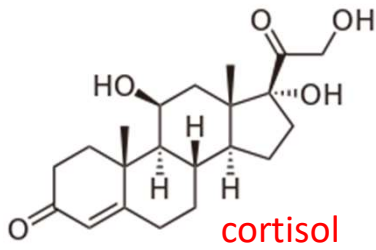


cell degeneration  
cellular senescence

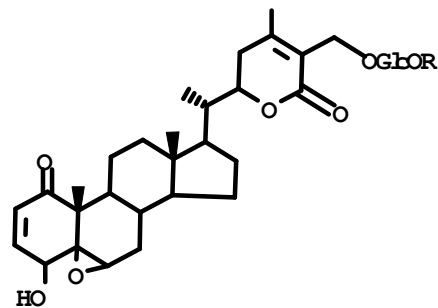
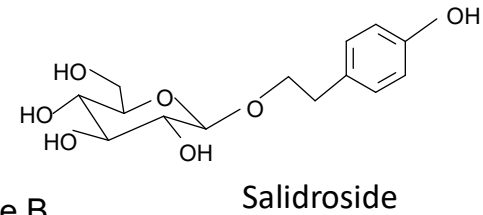
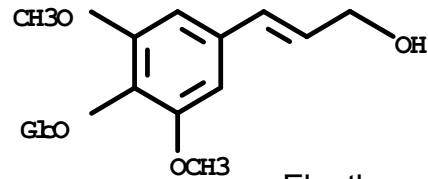




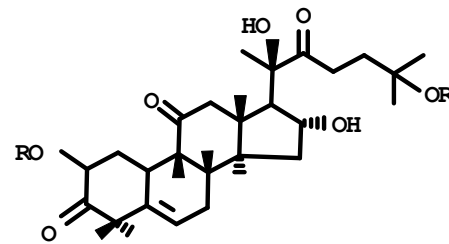
# Chemistry of adaptogens



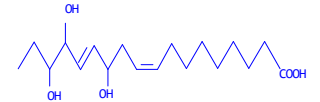
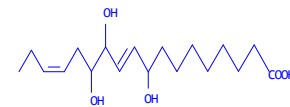
R- mono or disaccharide residue



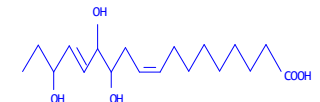
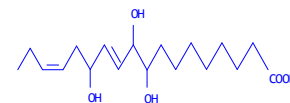
R - H, palmitoyl



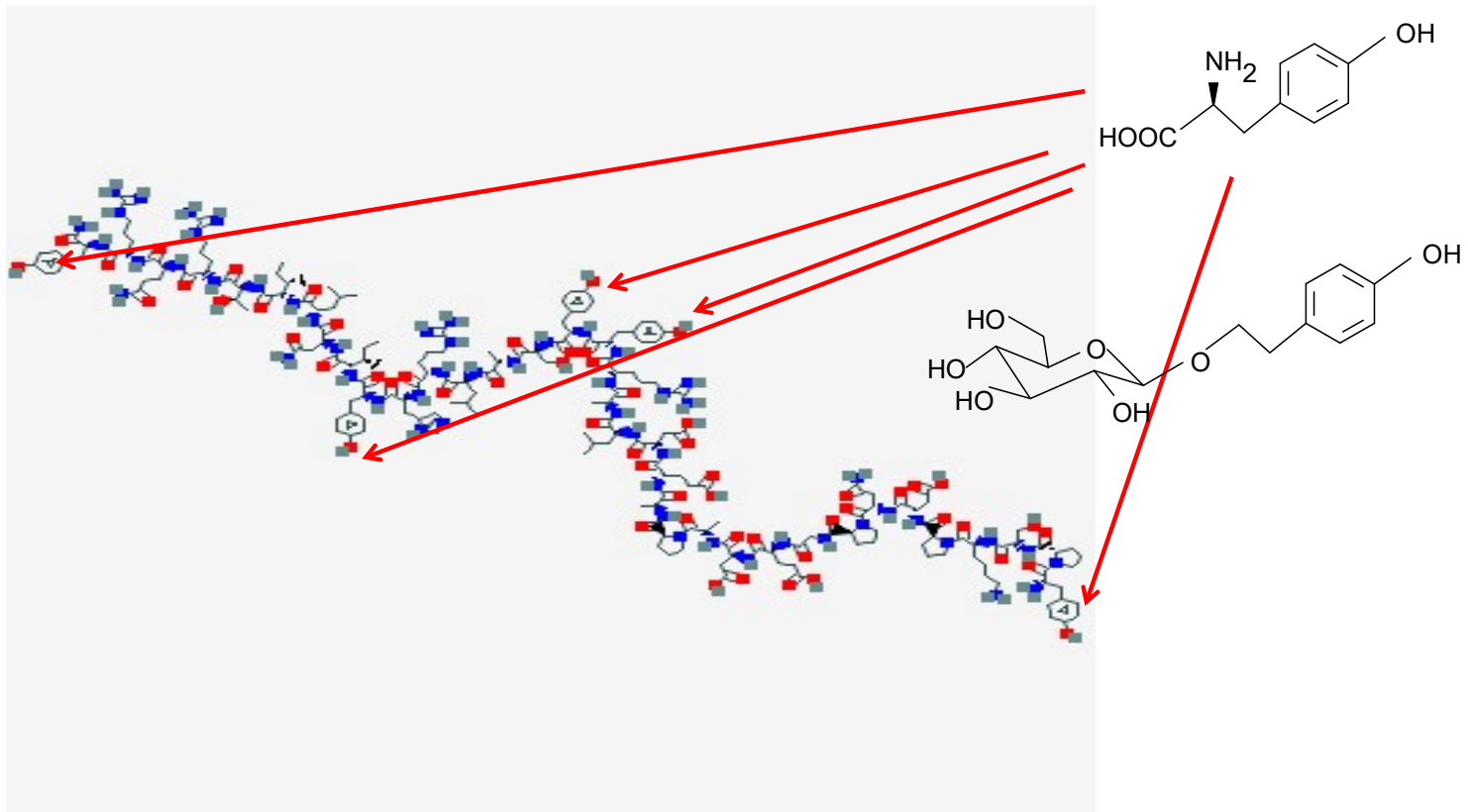
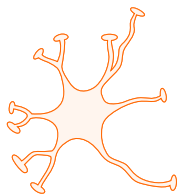
R - Glc



Oxylin



## Effect of salidroside on expression of NPY in neuroglia cells



# Plants reported in literature as adaptogenic and antistressor

1968 - 12

Name of plant
<i>Acanthopanax sessiliflorum</i> Rupr.et Maxim.
<i>Aralia manshurica</i> Rupr.et Maxim
<i>Aralia cordata</i> Thunb
<i>Aralia cordata</i> var. <i>sachalinensis</i> (Regel) Nakai
<i>Carlina biebersteinii</i> Bernh
<i>Echinopanax elatum</i> Nakai
<i>Eleutherococcus senticosus</i> Maxim.,*
<i>Kalopanax septemlobus</i> (Thunb.) Koidz.
<i>Panax ginseng</i> C.A. Meyer
<i>Rhaponticum carthamoides</i> (Willd).Iljin,
<i>Rhodiola rosea</i> L.*,
<i>Schizandra chinensis</i> (Turcz.) Bail.*,

2003 - 34

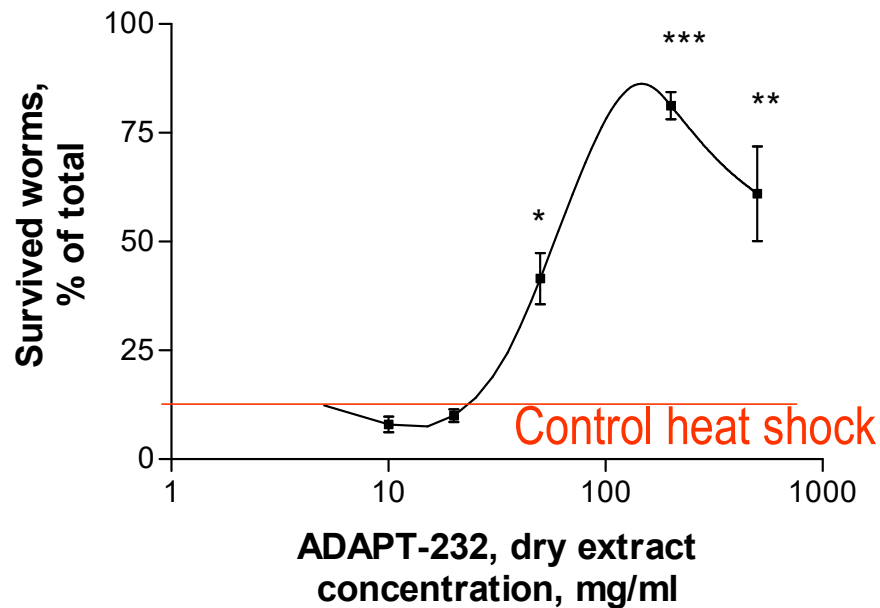
Name of plant	Family	Authors, year
<i>Acanthopanax sessiliflorum</i> Rupr.et Maxim.	Araliaceae	Brekhman and Dardimov, 1969
<i>Albizia julibrissin</i> Durazz.	Fabaceae	Kinjo et al., 1991
<i>Aralia elata</i> (Miq) Seem.	Araliaceae	Hernandez et al., 1988
<i>Aralia manshurica</i> Rupr.et Maxim	Araliaceae	Baranov, 1982
<i>Aralia schmidtii</i>	Araliaceae	Baranov, 1982
<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> ,	Liliaceae	Rege et al., 1999
<i>Atragene sibirica</i> L.	Ranunculaceae	Shilova et al., 2001
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (Al, Neem),	Melaceae	Koner et al., 1997
<i>Bergenia crassifolia</i> (Fritsch),	Saxifragaceae	Suslov et al., 2002
<i>Bryonia alba</i> L.,*	Cucurbitaceae	Panossian et al., 1995
<i>Cicer arietinum</i> L.	Fabiaceae	Singh et al., 1983
<i>Codonopsis pilosula</i> (Franch.)Nannf.	Campanulaceae	Lin, 1991
<i>Cordyceps sinensis</i> (Berk.)	Pyrenomycetales	
<i>Echinopanax elatum</i> Nakai	Araliaceae	Baranov, 1982
<i>Eleutherococcus senticosus</i> Maxim.,*	Araliaceae	Brekhman and Dardimov,
<i>Emblica officinalis</i> ,( <i>Phyllanthus emblica</i> L)	Euphorbiaceae	Xia et al., 1997; Rege et al., 1999
<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i> Oliver	Eucommiaceae	Oshima et al., 1988
<i>Hopaea dichoroma</i> Wild.	Gentianaceae	Ghosal et al., 1985
<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> L.	Lamiaceae	Bhargava and Singh, 1981
<i>Panax ginseng</i> C.A. Meyer	Araliaceae	Brekhman and Dardimov,
<i>Pfaffia paniculata</i> (Marius)Kuntze	Amarantaceae	De Oliveira, 1986
<i>Rhaponticum carthamoides</i> (Willd).Iljin,	Asteraceae	Brekhman and Dardimov, 1969
<i>Rhodiola crenulaya</i> (Hook, f. et Thoms) H.Ohba	Crassulaceae	Wang and Wang, 1992
<i>Rhodiola rosea</i> L.*,	Crassulaceae	Saratikov et al., 1968
<i>Scutellaria baicalensis</i> (Georgi) .	Lamiaceae	Suslov et al., 2002
<i>Schizandra chinensis</i> (Turcz.) Bail.*,	Magnoliaceae	Brekhman, 1980
<i>Sterculia plantanifolia</i> L.	Streculiaceae	Brekhman, 1980
<i>Terminalia chebula</i>	Combretaceae	Rege et al., 1999
<i>Tinospora cordiflora</i> Miers	Menispermaceae	Parel et al., 1978; Rege et al., 1999
<i>Trichopus zeylanicus</i> Gaerten.	Trichopodaceae	Singh et al., 2001
<i>Withania somnifera</i> L.	Solanaceae	Singh et al., 1982

# 2019: 111 plants reported in literature as adaptogenic

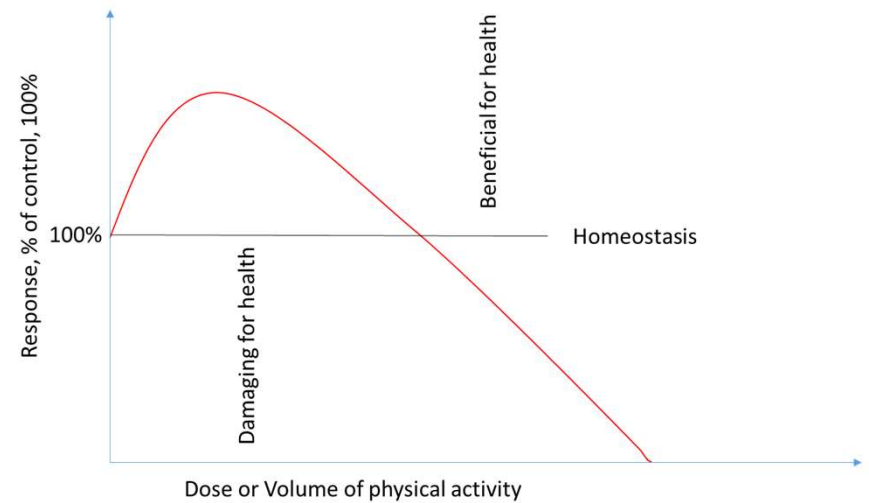
<i>Acanthopanax sessiliflorum</i> Rupr. et Maxim.	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (Al, Neem),	Curcumin from Turmeric ( <i>Curcuma longa</i> )	<i>Heteropterys aphrodisiaca</i> Machado	<i>Mussanenda frondosa</i>	<i>Ptychopetalum olacoides</i> Benth.	<i>Solanum torvum</i> SW.
<i>Aegle marmelos</i>	<i>Bacopa monnieri</i> (L.) Wettst	<i>Dioscorea deltoidea</i> Wall. ex Griseb.	<i>Hibiscus cannabinus</i>	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i> Gaertn.	<i>Pueiaria tuberosa</i> Roxb	<i>Sterculia plantanifolia</i> L.
<i>Ajuga turkestanica</i> (Regel) Briq.	<i>Bergenia crassifolia</i> (L.) Fritsch	<i>Diospyros peregrina</i> gurke	<i>Hippophae rhamnoides</i> L.	<i>Nigella sativa</i>	<i>Rhaponticum carthamoides</i> (Willd.) Iljin	<i>Sutherlandia frutescens</i> (L.) R.Br.
<i>Albizzia julibrissin</i> Durazz.	<i>Boerhaavia diffusa</i>	<i>Drypetes roxburghii</i> (Wall.) Hurus.	<i>Holoptelea integrifolia</i> Planch	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> L.	<i>Rhodiola crenulaya</i> (Hook, f. et Thoms) H.Ohba	<i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz.
<i>Alstonia scholaris</i> (L.) R. Br.	<i>Bryonia alba</i> L.	<i>Echinopanax elatum</i> Nakai	<i>Hoppea dichotoma</i> Willd.	<i>Oplopanax elatus</i> (Nakai) Nakai	<i>Rhodiola heterodonta</i> (Hook. f. & Thomson) Boriss.	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> (Willd.) Miers
<i>Allium sativum</i>	<i>Butea monosperma</i>	<i>Eleutherococcus senticosus</i> (Rupr. & Maxim.) Maxim.	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i> L.	<i>Panax ginseng</i> C.A.Meyer.	<i>Rhodiola imbricata</i>	<i>Tinospora malabarica</i>
<i>Anacyclus pyrethrum</i> (L.) Lag.	<i>Caesalpinia bonduc</i> (L.) Roxb	<i>Eleutherococcus sessiliflorus</i> (Rupr. & Maxim.) S.Y.Hu	<i>Labisia pumila</i>	<i>Panax notoginseng</i> (Burk.) FH Chen	<i>Rhodiola rosea</i> L.	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>
<i>Andrographis paniculata</i> (Burm.f.) Nees	<i>Carum carvi</i>	<i>Emblica officinalis</i> Gaertn.	<i>Lagenaria siceraria</i>	<i>Panax pseudoginseng</i> Wall.	<i>Rostellularia diffusa</i> (Willd.) Nees .	<i>Trichilia catigua</i> A.Juss.
<i>Annona muricata</i>	<i>Centella asiatica</i> (L.) Urb.	<i>Eucommia ulmoides</i> Oliv.	<i>Lepidium peruvianum/</i> <i>Lepidium meyenii</i> Walp.	<i>Pandanus odoratissimus</i> L.f.	<i>Rubia cordifolia</i>	<i>Trichopus zeylanicus</i> Gaertn.
<i>Aralia elata</i> (Miq) Seem.	<i>Chlorophytum borivilianum</i> Santapau & R.R.Fern.	<i>Eugenia caryaphyllus</i>	<i>Ligusticum striatum</i> DC.	<i>Paullinia cupana</i> Kunth	<i>Salvia miltiorrhiza</i> Bunge	<i>Trigonella foenum graecum</i>
<i>Aralia mandshurica</i> Rupr. & Maxim	<i>Chrysactinia mexicana</i> A. Gray	<i>Evolvulus alsinoides</i> (L.) L.	<i>Melilotus officinalis</i> (L.) Pall.	<i>Pfaffia paniculata</i> (Mart.) Kuntze	<i>Schisandra chinensis</i> (Turcz.) Baill.	<i>Tylophora indica</i>
<i>Aralia schmidtii</i>	<i>Cicer arietinum</i> L.	<i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i>	<i>Mitragyna africanus</i>	<i>Piper longum</i> L.	<i>Scutellaria baicalensis</i> Georgi	<i>Turnera diffusa</i> Willd. ex Schult.
<i>Argyrea nervosa</i> (Burm. f.) Bojer	<i>Cnestis ferruginea</i>	<i>Firmiana simplex</i> (L.) W.Wight	<i>Momordica charantia</i>	<i>Polyalthia cerasoids</i>	<i>Serratula inermis</i>	<i>Vitis vinifera</i> L.
<i>Argyrea speciosa</i> (L. f.) Sweet	<i>Codonopsis pilosula</i> (Franch.) Nannf.	<i>Gentiana pedicellata</i> (D.Don) Wall	<i>Morus alba</i> L.	<i>Potentilla alba</i> L.	<i>Sida cordifolia</i> L.	<i>Withania somnifera</i> (L.) Dunal
<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> Wild	<i>Convolvulus prostratus</i> Forssk.	<i>Ginkgo biloba</i>	<i>Mucuna pruriens</i> (L.) DC.	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>	<i>Silene italica</i> (L.) Pers.	<i>Zingiber officinale</i>
<i>Atragene sibirica</i> L	<i>Curculigo orchioidea</i> Gaertn.	<i>Glycyrrhiza glabra</i> L.	<i>Murraya koenigii</i> (Rutaceae)	<i>Psidium guajava</i>	<i>Sinomenium acutum</i> (Thunb.) Rehder & E.H.Wilson	

# Stress-protective effect of ADAPT-232 in *C.elegans*

ADAPT-232 **increases survival** of *C. elegans* treated with **heat shock** at the seventh day of their life span in a dose dependent manner



Adaptive (hormetic) stress response



This phenomenon has been commonly observed in biology and medicine, and has been described as adaptive stress response, preconditioning, 'hormesis' or adaptive homeostasis

## Key points in understanding adaptogenic activity

- Evolutionary, adaptogens together with other plant secondary metabolites play a role in defense and adaptive response against various environmental stressors including physical (e.g., intense sunlight, UV, darkness, heat, cold), chemical, and biological (e.g., microorganisms, insects and other pests) .
- At the relatively small doses these natural compounds are not toxic in humans, but still induce mild cellular stress responses.
- One basic mechanism of action of adaptogens that is that they activate adaptive stress response in humans .
- Adaptogens trigger adaptive stress response by stimulating cellular and organismal defense systems, activating intracellular and extracellular adaptive signaling pathways, expression of stress-activated proteins, resulting in transient change in protection or repair capacity and increased of non-specific resistance and adaptation to stress.

## Mediators and effectors of adaptive stress response signaling system regulated by adaptogens

### ADAPTIVE STRESS RESPONSE FACTORS

- exercise
- dietary energy restriction
- **nutrition and medications, adaptogens**
- cognitive stimulation / emotions
- toxins
- radiation
- temperature

### MEDIATORS OF CELL ADAPTIVE STRESS RESPONSE SIGNALING SYSTEM

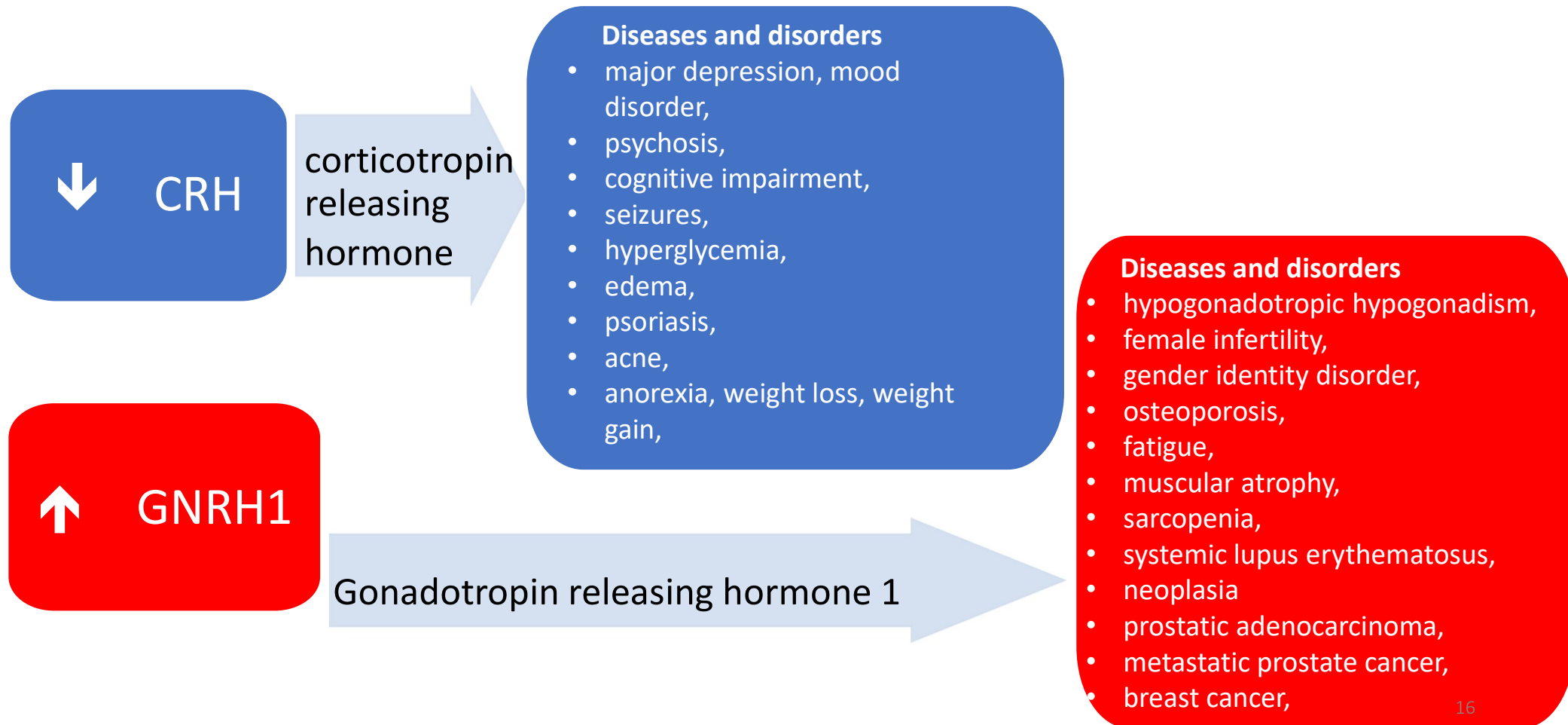
- Hormones: CRH, UCN, GNRH1
- Receptors: GPCR (CHRM4, VIPR2), TLR9, PRLR, CHNRE, RORA
- Ion channels: Ca<sup>2+</sup> and K<sup>+</sup> voltage-gated channels proteins, etc.
- Enzymes (PLC, AC, GC) and second messengers (IP3, DAG, cAMP)
- Kinases: PKC, PI3K, MAPK10, MAPK13, PRKCH
- Phosphatases: PTPRD, PTPRR
- Transcription and nuclear factors: STAT5A, FOS, **FOXO**, SCX, **Nrf-2**, CREB, NF-kB, Zinc finger proteins

### ADAPTIVE STRESS RESPONSE EFFECTORS

**Antioxidant enzymatic system:** superoxide dismutase, catalase, glutathione peroxidase

**Protein chaperones, growth factors and defense response proteins:** HSP-70, HSPA6, STIP1, PDE9A, PDE3B, GUCY1A2, LDHD, CEL, AOC3, LIPE, etc.

# Effect of adaptogens on HPA axis hormones encoding genes expression





# Transmembrane receptors

**TLR9** ↑

Toll-like receptor

## Diseases and disorders

- hyperprolactinemia,
- cancer,
- ulceration,
- insulin resistance,
- impaired glucose tolerance,
- hyperleptinemia,
- hyperglycemia,
- hypoglycemia,
- hypocalcemia,
- hypoinsulinemia,
- obesity.

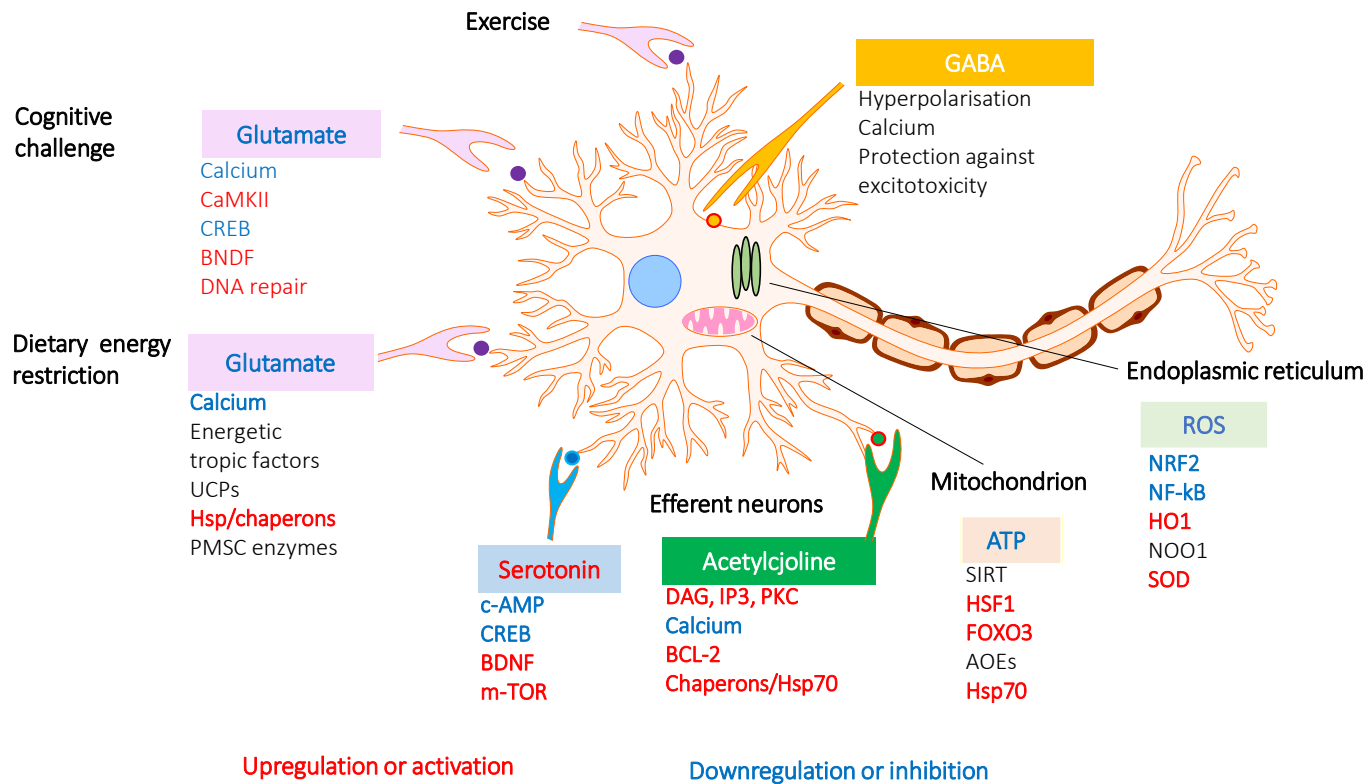
## Biological processes

- pathogen recognition
- activation of innate immunity
- defense response to bacteria and viruses;
- inflammatory response;
- maintenance of gastrointestinal epithelium;
- male gonad development;
- microglial cell activation and axonogenesis;

prolactin receptor

**PRLR** ↓

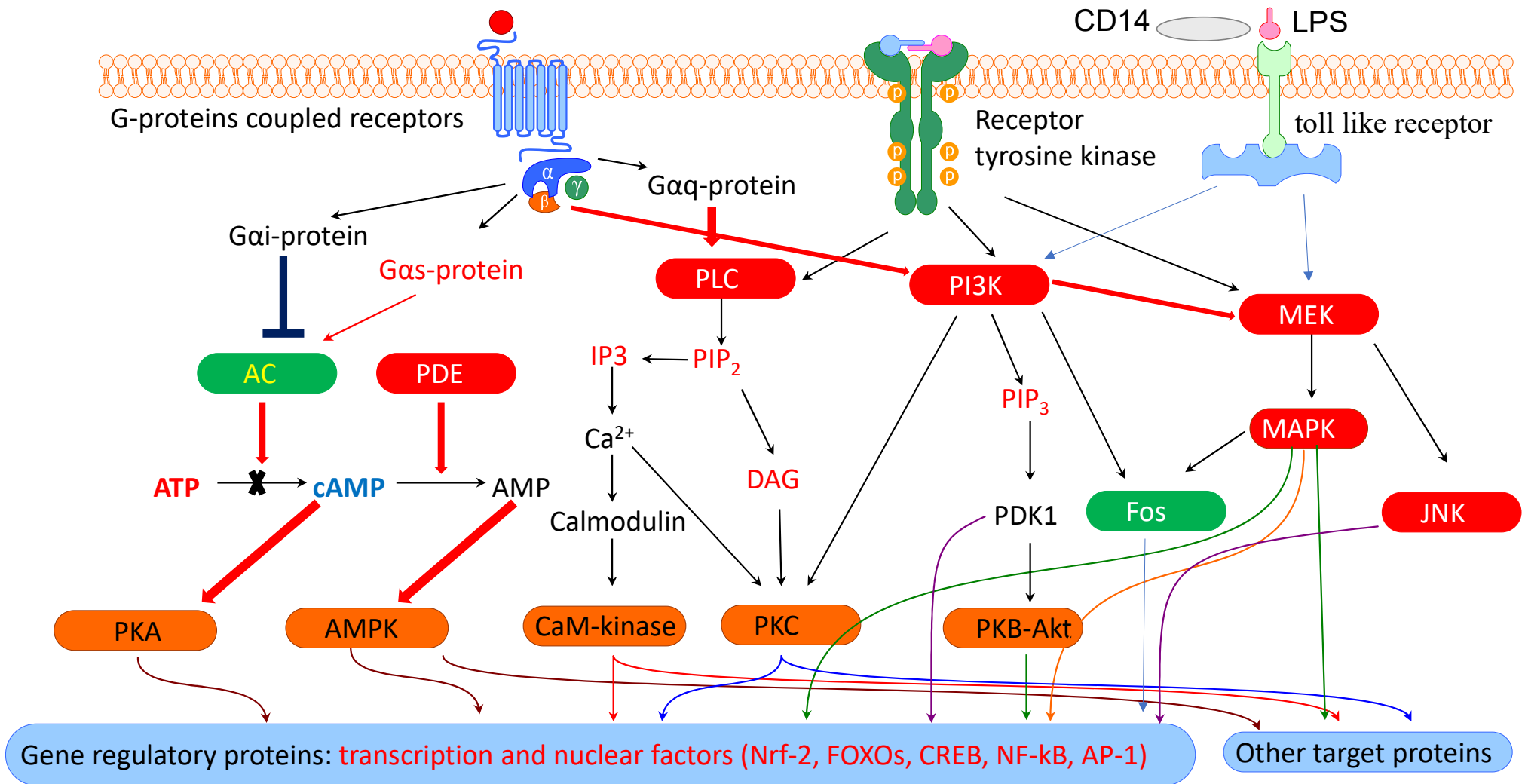
# Effects of adaptogens on adaptive stress response signaling pathways that protect neurons against degeneration and promote synaptic plasticity.



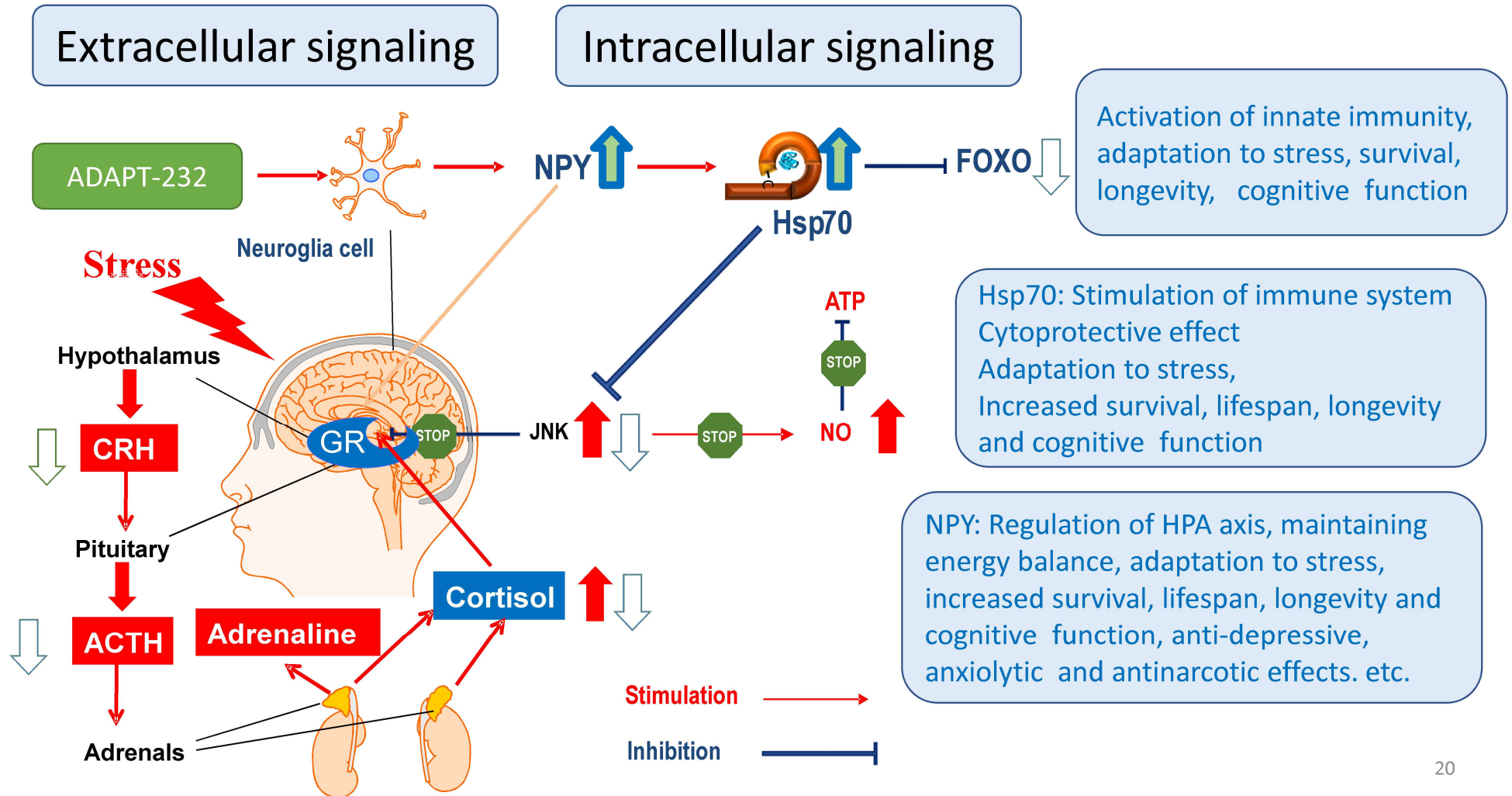
Stranahan, A.M. & M.P. Mattson. 2012. Recruiting adaptive cellular stress responses for successful brain ageing. *Nat. Rev. Neurosci.* **13**: 209–216.

Panosian A.G. 2017. Understanding adaptogenic activity: specificity of the pharmacological action of adaptogens and other phytochemicals. *Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci.* **1401**(1):49–64.

# The effect of adaptogens on adaptive stress response signaling pathways



# Effects of adaptogens on adaptive stress response in HPA axis



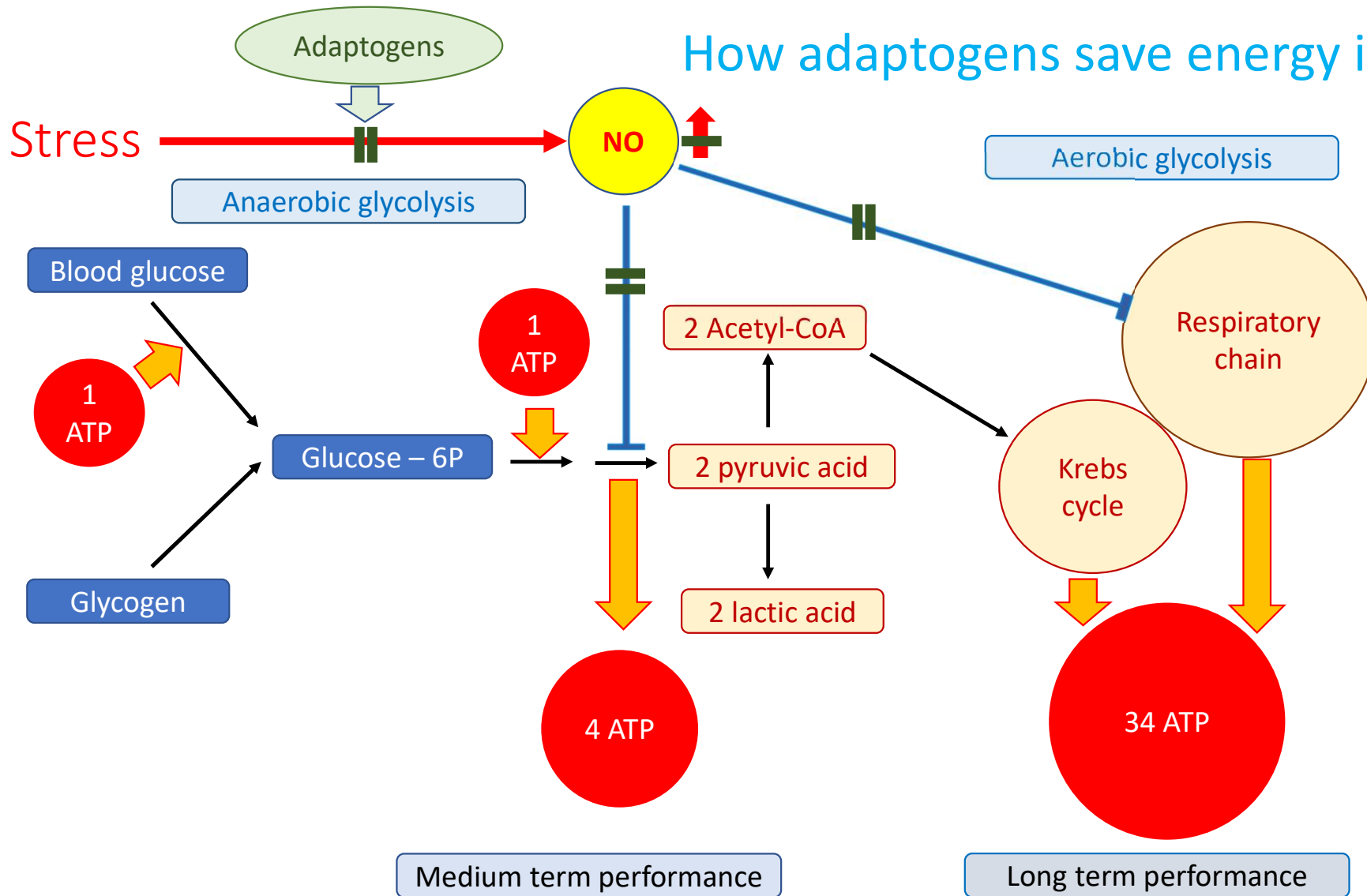
# Definition based on the mechanisms of action

## *Criteria of adaptogenic activity*

- *Mechanism of action.* Multitarget effect on neuroendocrine-immune system including:
  - triggering of intracellular and extracellular adaptive signaling pathways that promote cell survival and organismal resilience in stress
  - regulation of metabolism and homeostasis via effects on expression of stress hormones (corticotropin and gonadotropin releasing hormones, urocortin, cortisol, neuropeptide Y, heat shock proteins Hsp70) and their receptors.

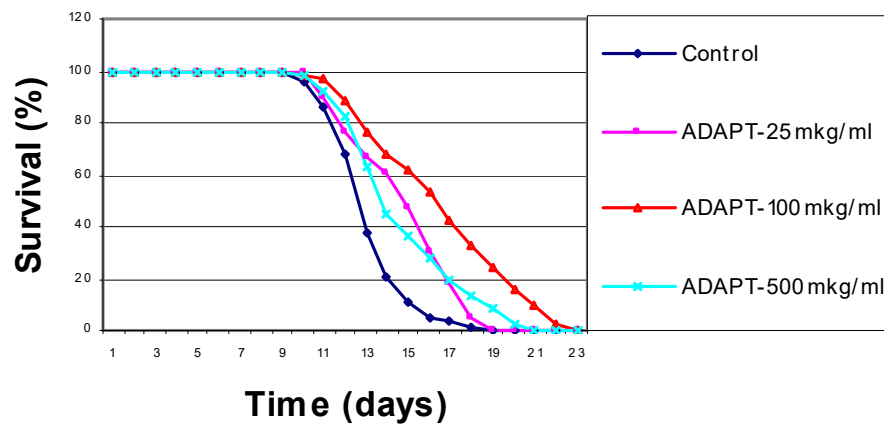
Panossian A, Seo EJ, Efferth T. Novel molecular mechanisms for the adaptogenic effects of herbal extracts on isolated brain cells using systems biology. *Phytomedicine*, 50 (2018) 257-284. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.phymed.2018.09.204>  
<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0944711318304835?via%3Dihub>

## How adaptogens save energy in stress?

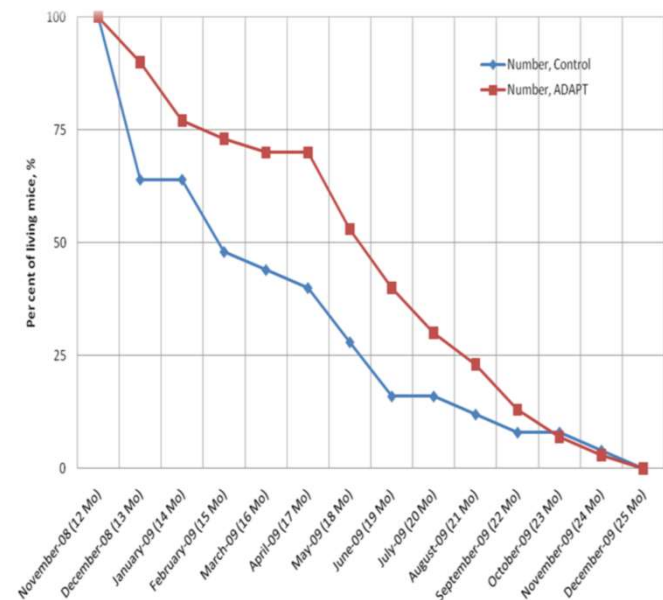


# Why adaptogens are useful in ageing?

## Effect of ADAPT-232 on the lifespan of *C.elegans*



## Effect of ADAPT on the lifespan of mice in stressful environment



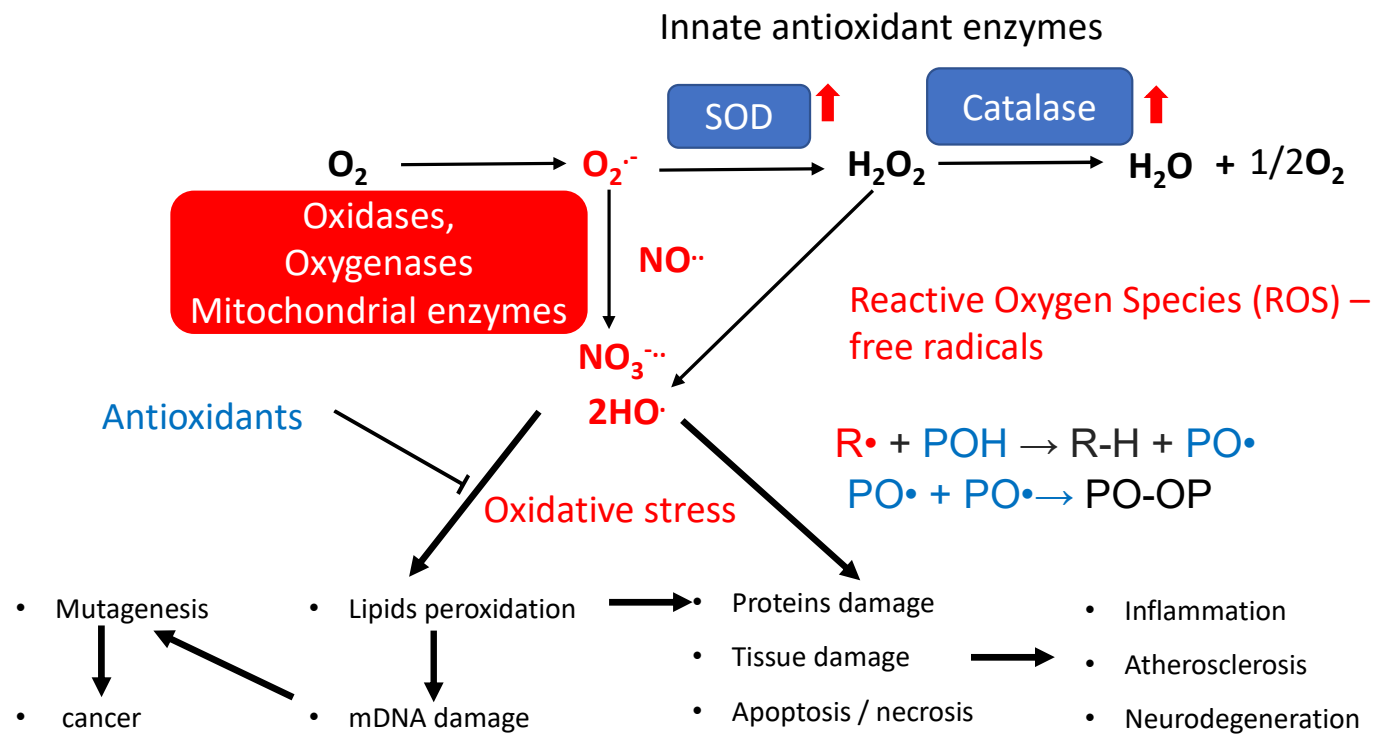
## Effect of ADAPT on ageing related disorders in two years old rats

A 4 months treatment of 2 years old rats showed that in comparison with the control group the ADAPT-232 group showed:

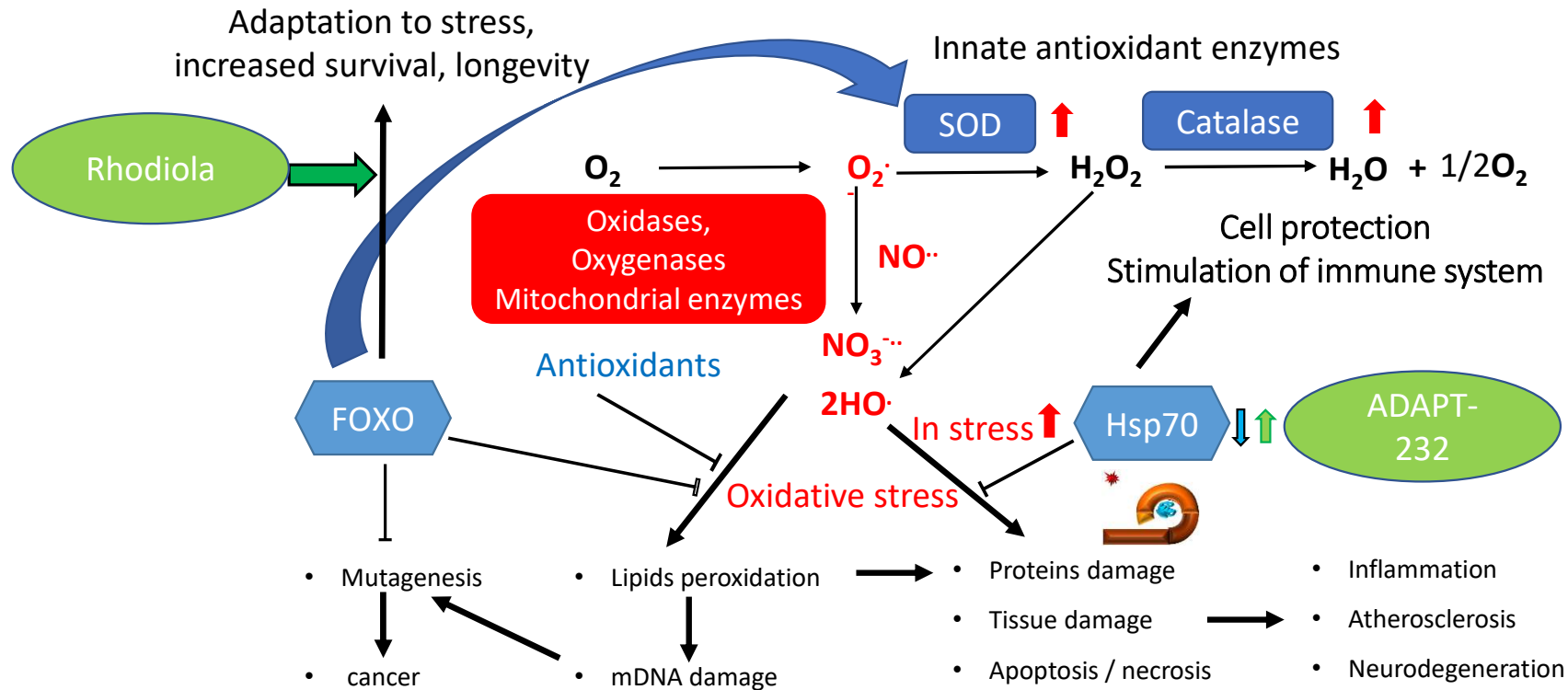
- no development and progression of **cardiac insufficiency and hypercholesterolemia**,
- better CNS functioning (**prevention of losses of memory and learning ability**),
- normal **protein synthesis** and **activity of hormonal system**,
- less **stress sensitivity** (hypodynamia induced damages in stomach and adrenals),
- better **endurance** at physical load,
- better **liver detoxifying** function,
- no impaired **apoptosis**,
- no **spontaneous tumorigenesis**.

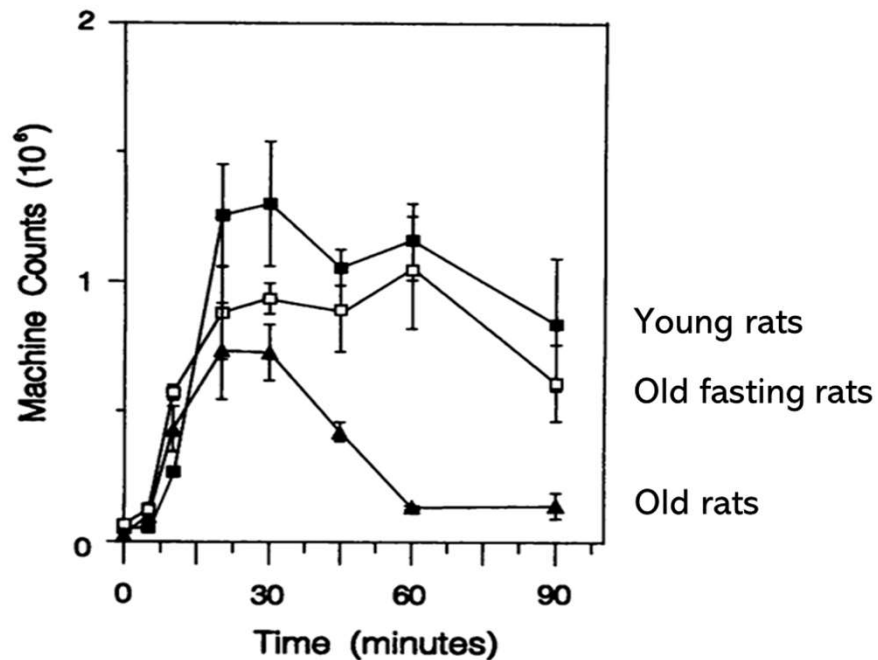


# Current theory of ageing



# The role of Hsp70 and FOXO in current theory of ageing





Hsp70. Heydari, et al., 1998;

- Characteristic feature of aging cell is a significantly reduced expression of Hsp70
- Dramatic reduction of expression of inducible Hsp70 correlates with a decrease in the ability of cells to cope with stress.
- Malfunction in expression of hsp70 in response to stress is a common phenomenon underlying the senescence and aging progression
- Hsp70 and FOXO are considered as pharmacological targets for antiaging therapies

- Cytoprotective and effect of Hsp70 is not the only beneficial effect of this molecular chaperone in aging and longevity.
- Hsp70 plays an important role in regulation of apoptosis and longevity by inhibition of stress activated JNK-mediated apoptosis signaling pathway.

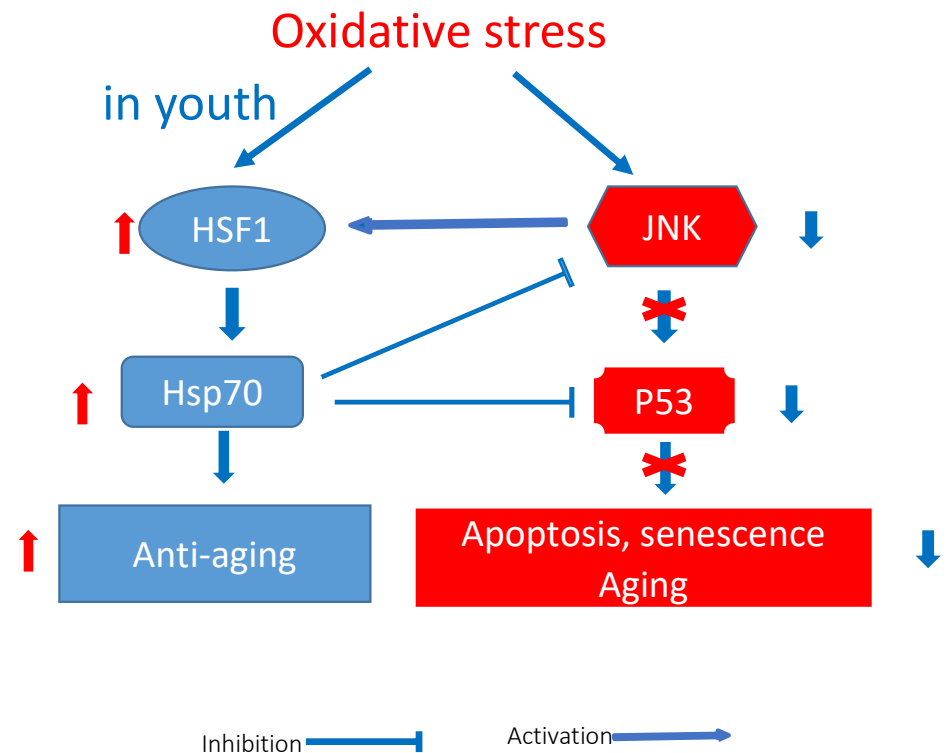
# Ageing and antiaging programs

When cells are exposed to protein damage, HSF1 initiates the production of Hsp70, which repairs proteins, increases adaptability and lifespan.

Oxidative stress can trigger two signaling pathways through the activation of JNK kinase:

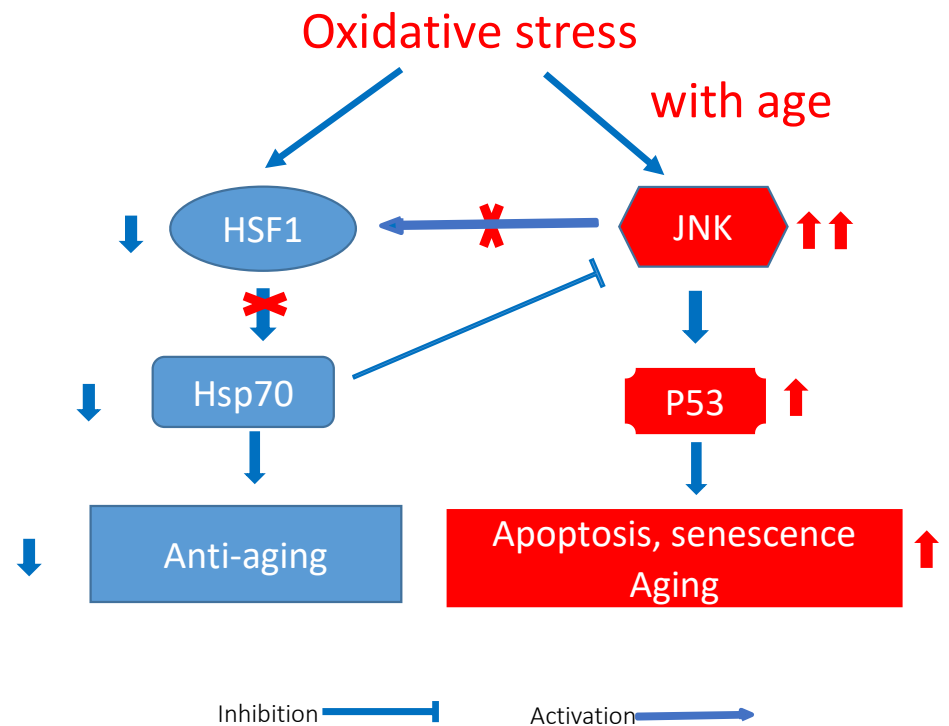
- the aging program by up-regulation of p-53 transcription factor and
- the anti-aging program, which is Hsp70-dependent.

At young ages, activation of HSF1-Hsp70 inhibits JNK-mediated aging, senescence, and apoptosis pathway



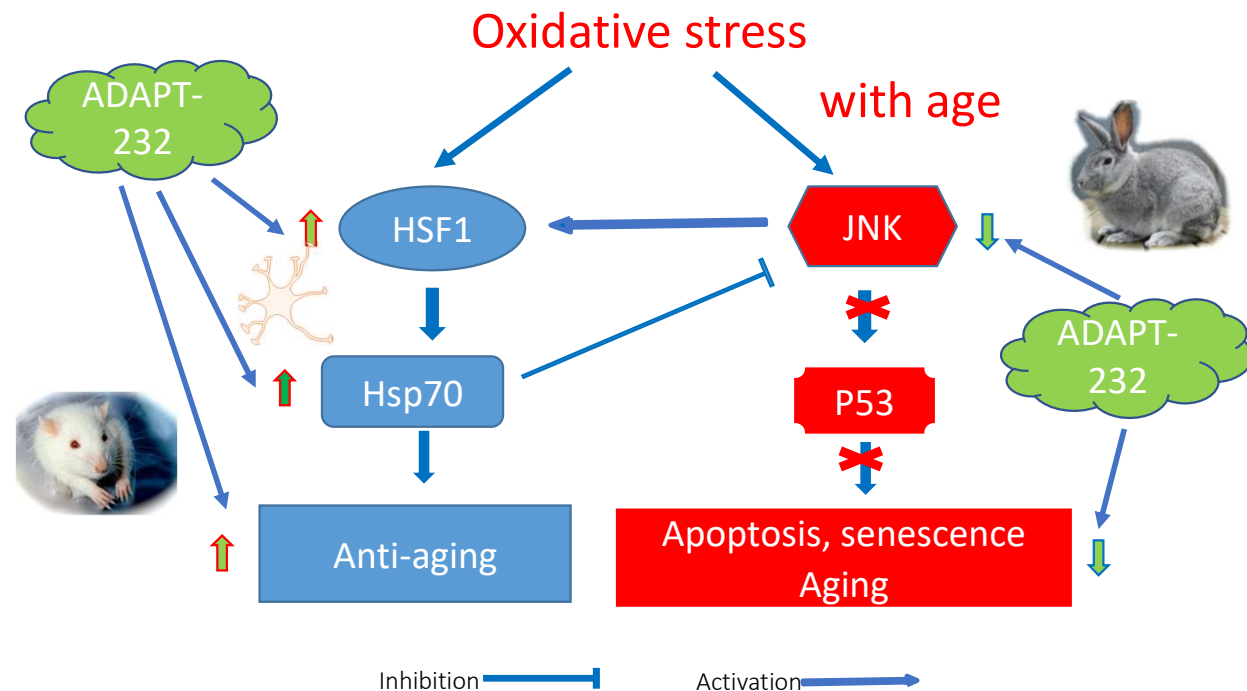
# Ageing and antiaging programs

- With aging, induction of Hsp70 is depressed, and the balance shifts in favor of the aging and apoptosis programs. Consequently, even weak oxidative stress can induce the degeneration of neuronal cells and the progression of aging-related diseases
- In aging cells, significantly reduced expression of heat shock protein Hsp70 and its precursor, heat shock transcription factor HSF1, correlates with a decreased ability to cope with stress.
- In most humans, decline in induction of Hsp70 by stress is associated with aging and age-related disease .
- Hsp70 does not decrease with age in some individuals who live more than 100 years.
- In brain cells, the inhibition of HSF1 and Hsp70 expression occurs in Alzheimer's disease.
- Age-related decline of hepatic Hsp70 expression contributes to reduced liver detoxification.
- Attenuation of Hsp70 is associated with up-regulation of stress-activated protein kinase (JNK) dependent apoptosis and progression of cancer.



# Effects of ADAPT on key regulators of aging

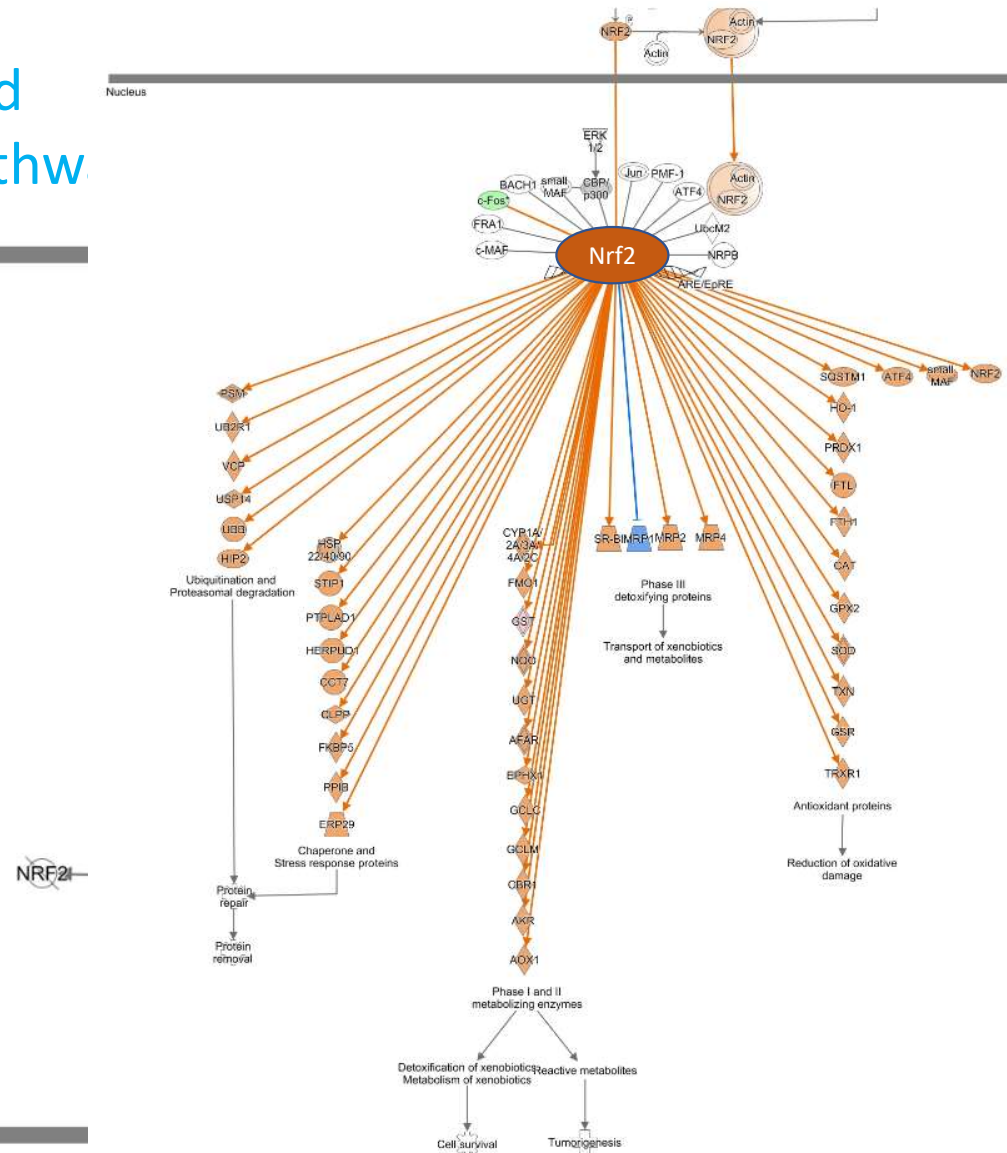
- ADAPT-232 upregulates HSF1-Hsp70 in vitro and Hsp70 in vivo;
- ADAPT-232 down-regulates JNK in vivo;
- ADAPT-232 inhibits aging, senescence, and apoptosis in vivo.
- Exercise can also up-regulate Hsp70 contributing to maintenance of muscle fiber integrity, regeneration and recovery.
- Conversely, Hsp70 expression is reduced during muscle inactivity and aging.
- Malfunction of HSP70 generation may drive muscle atrophy, contractile dysfunction, and reduced regeneration.



Panossian A, Gerbarg P. 2016. "Potential Use of Plant Adaptogens in Age-related Disorders". Complementary, Alternative, and Integrative Interventions in Mental Health and Aging. H. Lavretsky, M. Sajatovic & C.F. Reynolds III, Eds.: 197-211. New York: Oxford University Press.

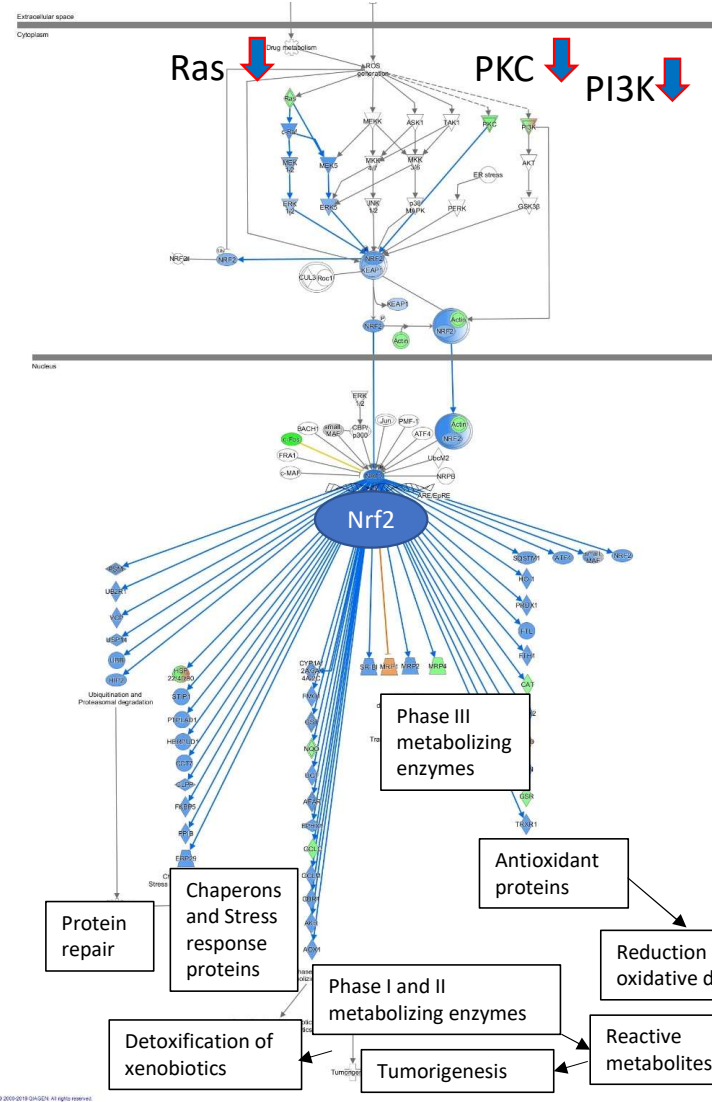
## Effect of adaptogens on NRF2-mediated Oxidative Stress Response Signaling Pathway

- Oxidative stress is increasing in Alzheimer disease and aging related diseases and disorders.
- The feedback cellular response is associated with activation of defense mechanisms including induction of antioxidant and detoxifying enzymes and molecular chaperons.
- Nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2 (Nrf2) is a principal regulator of the redox homeostasis normally retained in the cytoplasm, where it is associated Keap1 protein.
- Upon exposure of cells to oxidative stress, Nrf2-Keap complex dissociates and Nrf2 translocate to the nucleus where it triggers expression of antioxidant and detoxifying genes including, superoxide dismutase (SOD), glutathione S-transferase (GST), NAD(P)H quinone oxidoreductase 1 (NQO1) and heme oxygenase 1 (HO1).
- Thus, activation of Nrf2 translocation or upregulation of genes expression resulting in activation of Nrf2 signaling pathway is the key mechanism of cellular defense associated with antioxidant effects of medicinal plants and particularly of adaptogenic plants, which are useful in stress and aging related diseases.

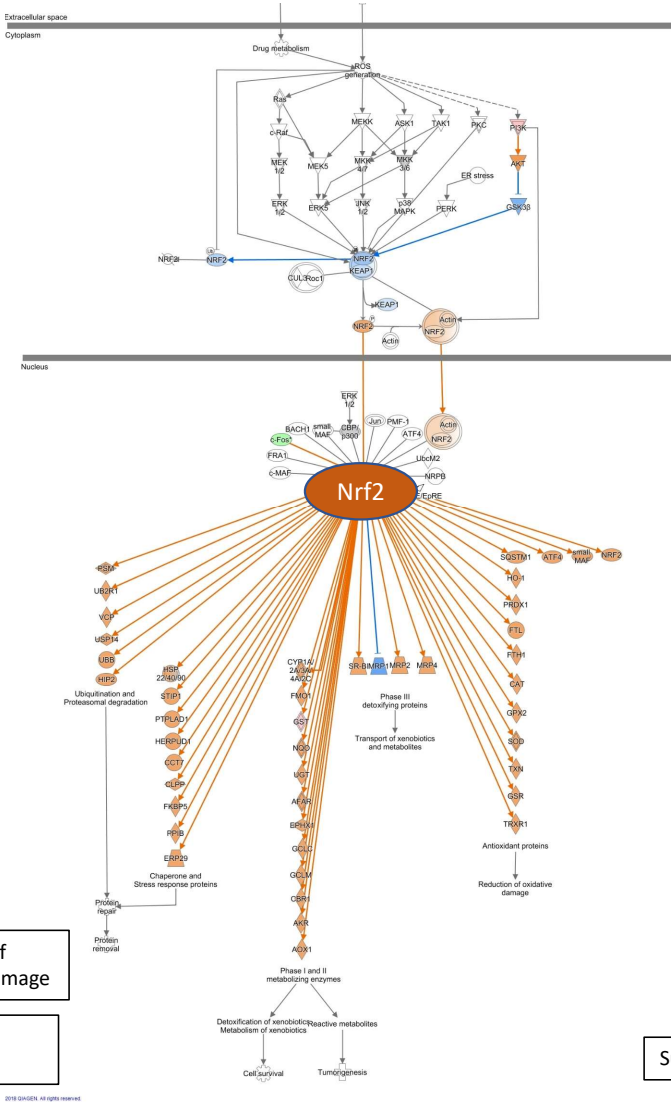




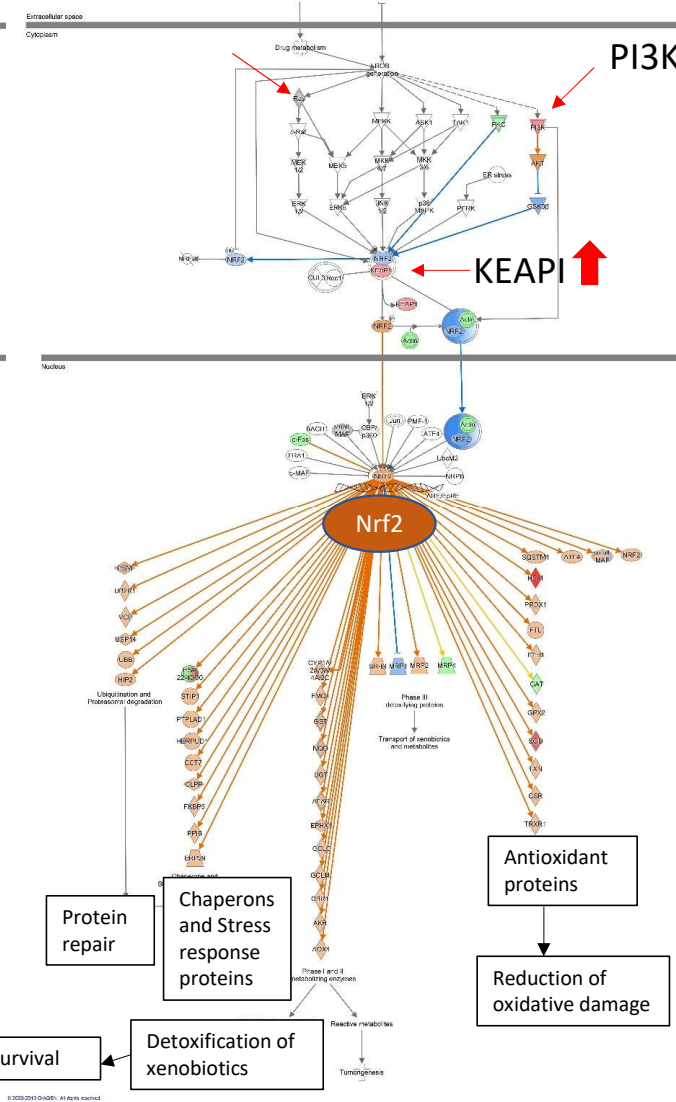
# 5-fluorouracil + epirubicin + cyclophosphamide=FEC



# FEC+ES

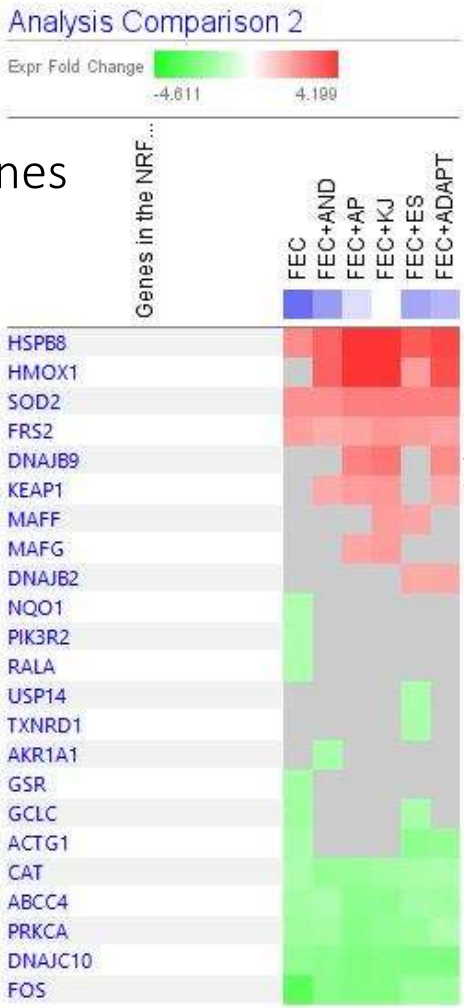


# FEC+ADAPT

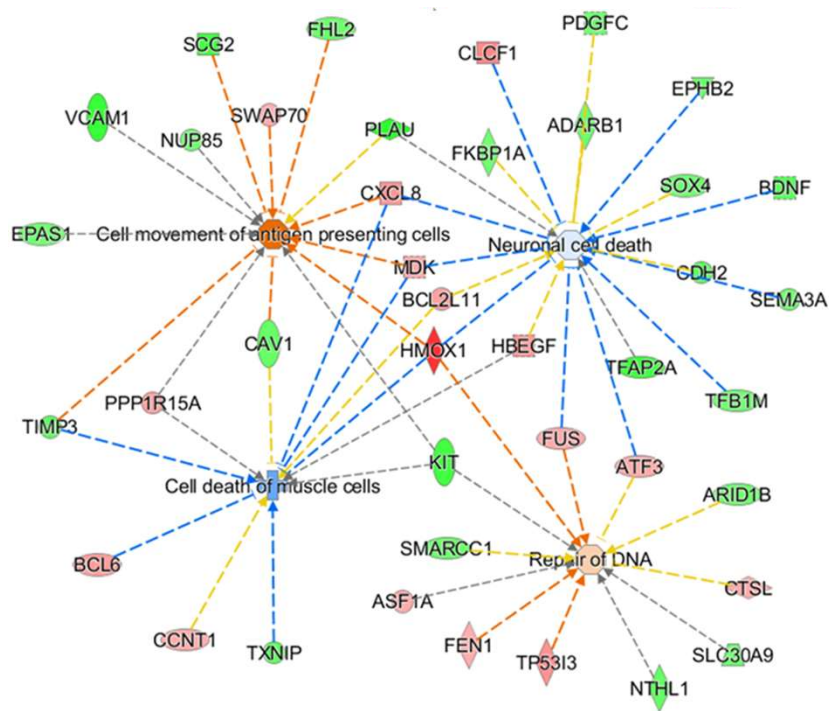


Adaptogens **prevent** chemotherapeutics-induced **downregulation** of genes activating production of antioxidant and detoxifying proteins and **upregulate** genes Involved in reduction of oxidation damage

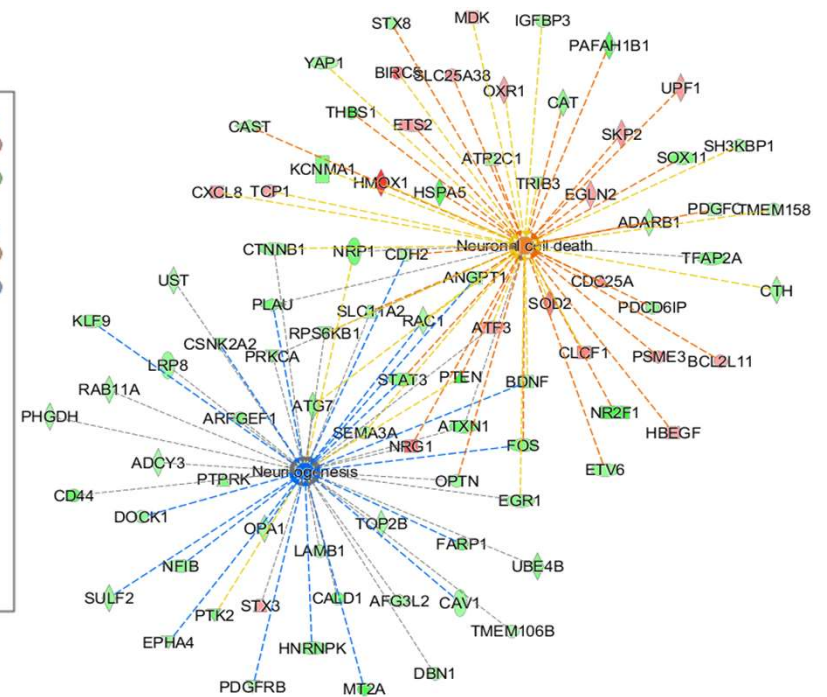
Symbol	Entrez Gene Name	FEC	FEC+AND	FEC+AP	FEC+KJ	FEC+EI	FEC+ADAPT
GSR	glutathione-disulfide reductase	-1.85					
GCLC	glutamate-cysteine ligase catalytic subunit	-1.93				-1.77	
NQO1	NAD(P)H quinone dehydrogenase 1	-1.63					
PIK3R2	phosphoinositide-3-kinase regulatory subunit 2	-1.66					
RALA	Ras-related protein Ral-A	-1.67					
ACTG1	actin gamma 1	-1.75				-2.22	-2.11
HMOX1	heme oxygenase 1		3.23	4.76	5.70	2.01	3.62
KEAP1	kelch like ECH associated protein 1		1.72	2.04	2.11		1.75
MAFF	MAF bZIP transcription factor F				1.98	1.84	
MAFG	MAF bZIP transcription factor G			1.82	1.98		
DNAJB2	DnaJ heat shock protein family (Hsp40) member B2					1.74	1.78
DNAJB9	DnaJ heat shock protein family (Hsp40) member B9			2.54	2.81		2.39



Co-incubation of AP with FEC activates genes involved in DNA repair, movement of antigen presenting cells, and inhibition of neuronal cells death in human T98G neuroglia cell culture.



Co-incubation of T98G neuroglial cells with AP suppresses FEC-induced deregulation of large number of genes involved in predicted activating neuronal death and inhibiting neurogenesis

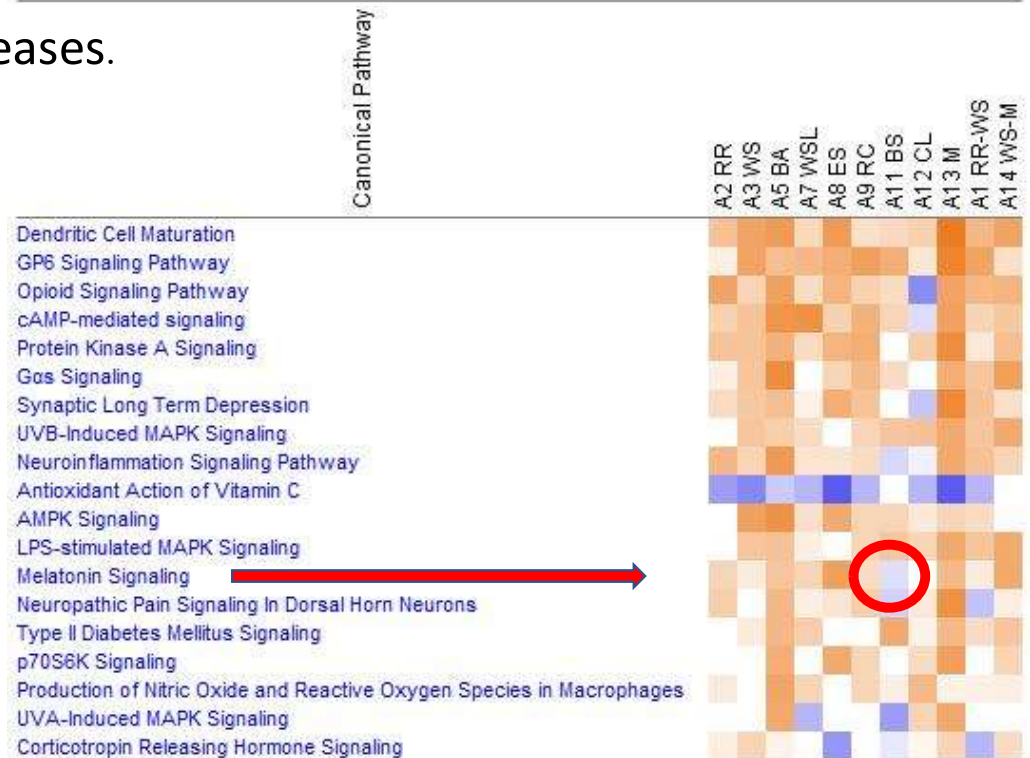
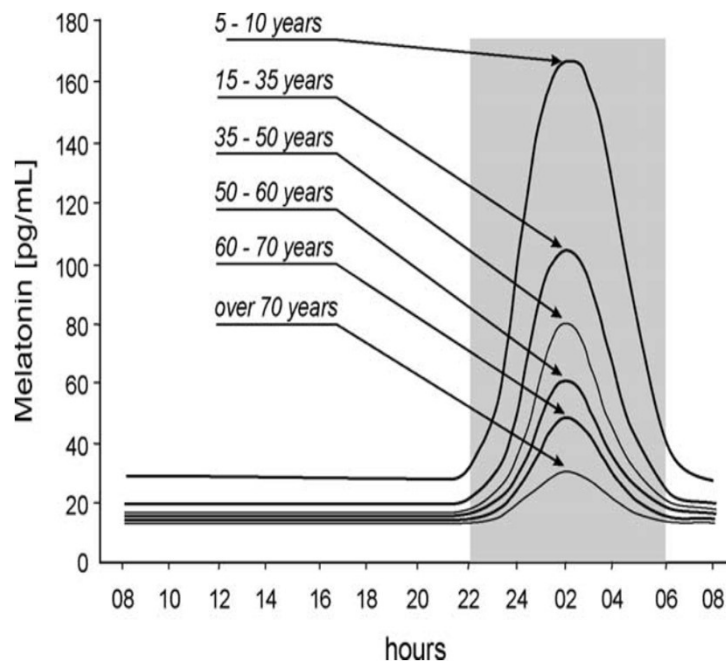


# Adaptogens activate melatonin signaling pathway, therefore should be beneficial in sleep disorders and mild cognitive impairment in ageing

Comparison of adaptogenic plants



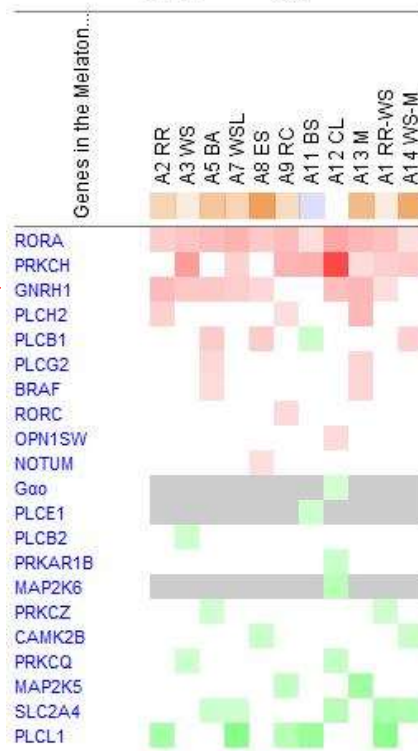
With age, the level of night melatonin decreases.



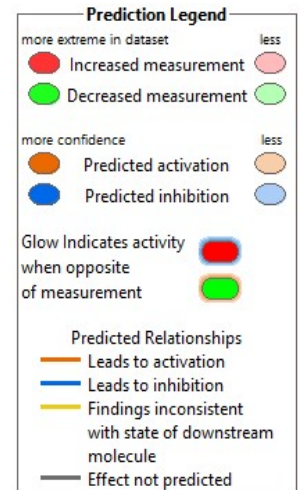
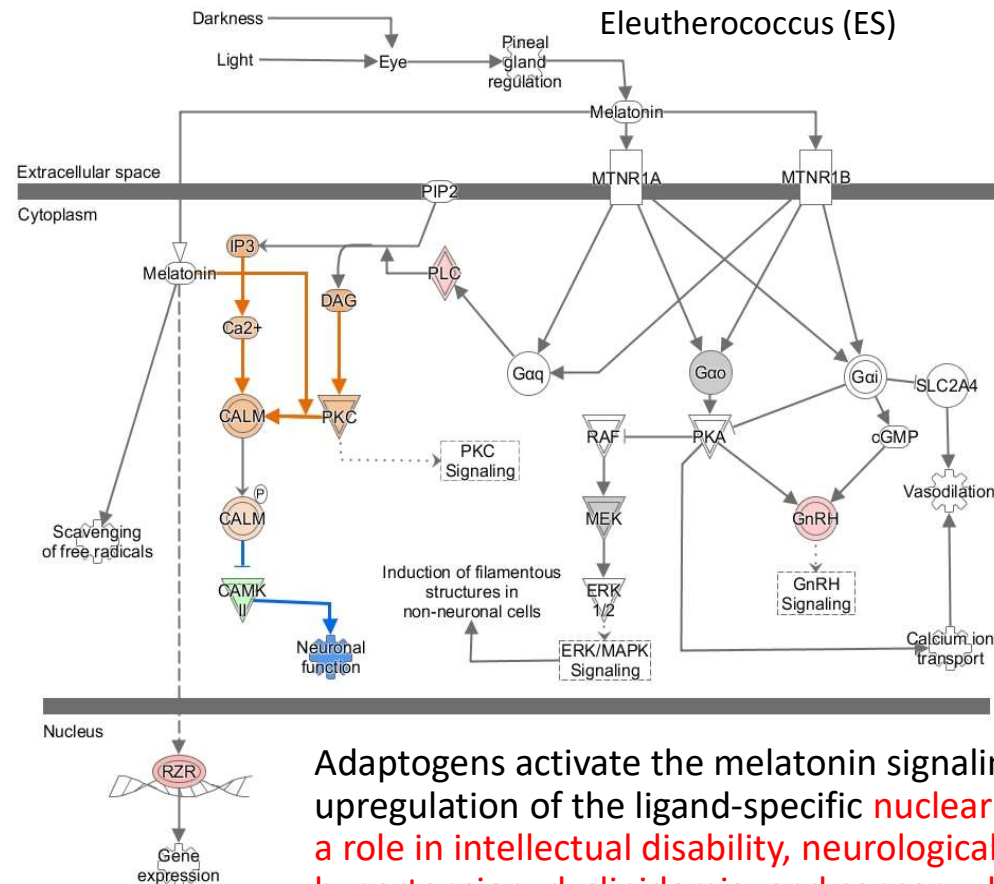


# Gene maps of melatonin signaling pathway

## Comparison of adaptogenic plants

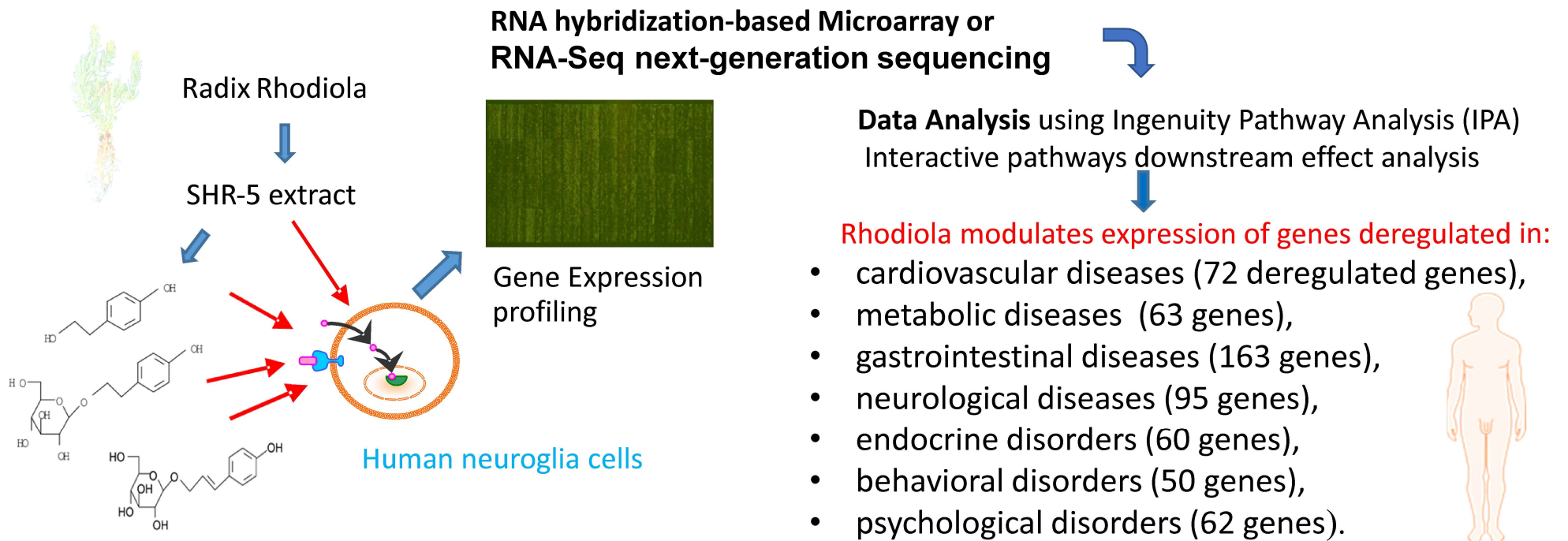


## Melatonin Signaling : Adaptogens Dataset 2FC : Expr Fold Change



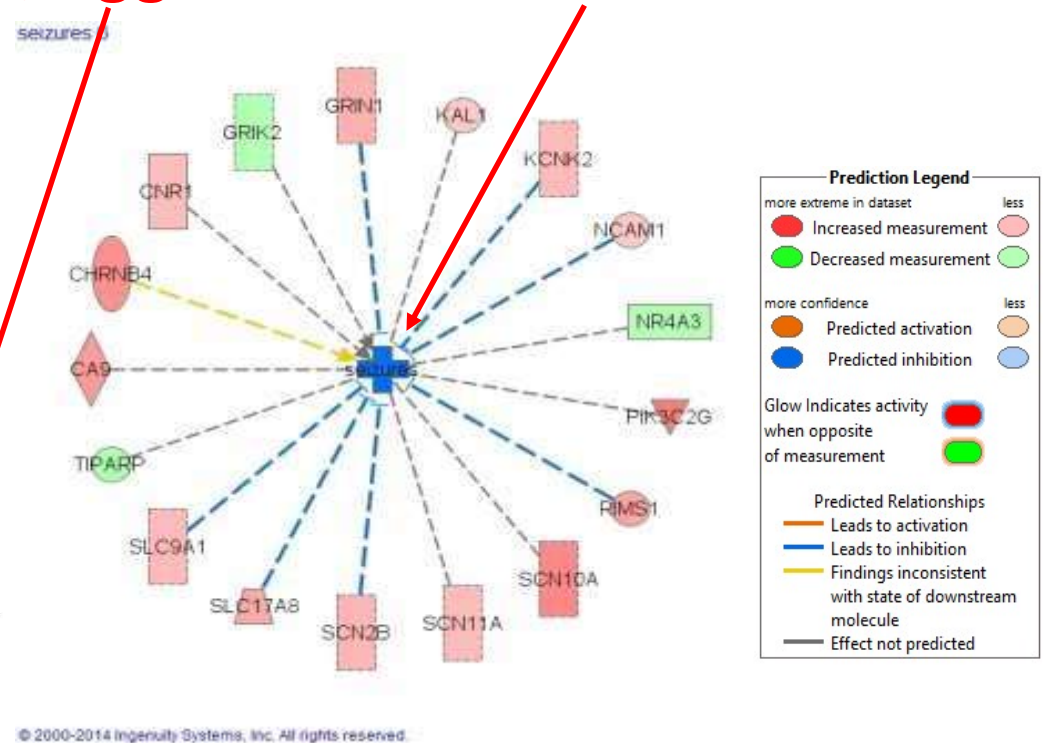
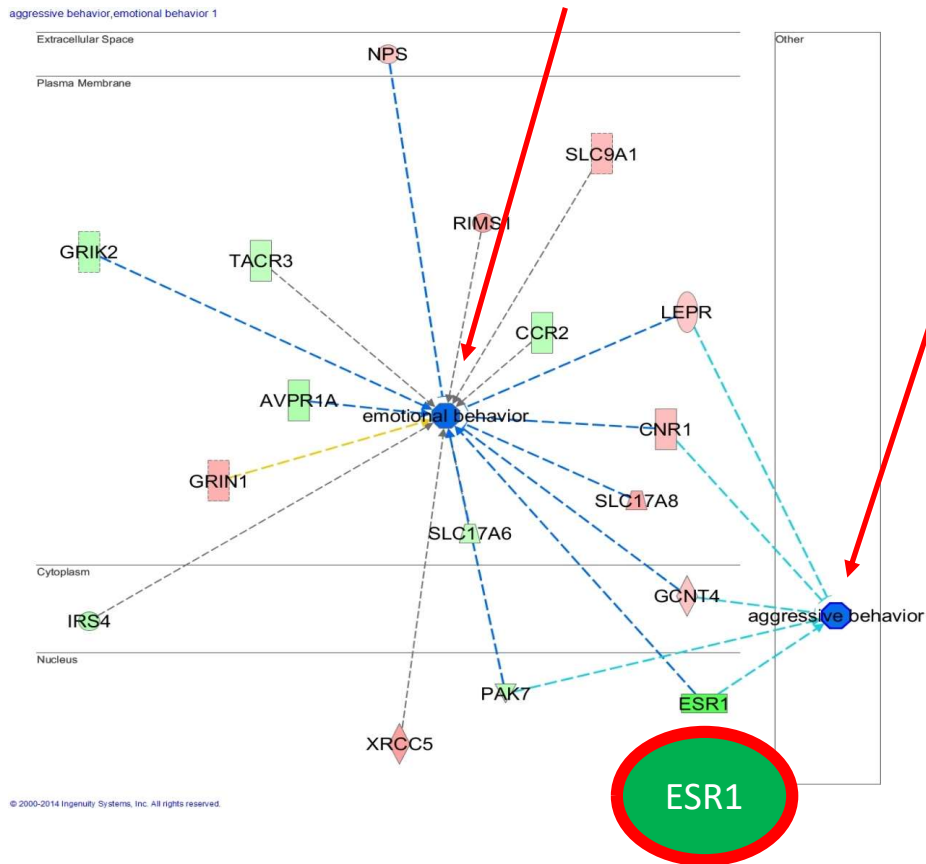
Adaptogens activate the melatonin signaling pathway mainly by upregulation of the ligand-specific **nuclear receptor RORA**, which plays a role in intellectual disability, neurological disorders, retinopathy, hypertension, dyslipidemia, and cancer, which are common in aging.

# Assessment of adaptogens using systems pharmacology approach, molecular biology technologies and in silico models



IPA software (QIAGEN Bioinformatics), performs different calculations on transcriptomic datasets based on the Ingenuity Knowledge Base, containing approximately 5 Mio findings manually curated from the biomedical literature or integrated from third-party databases.

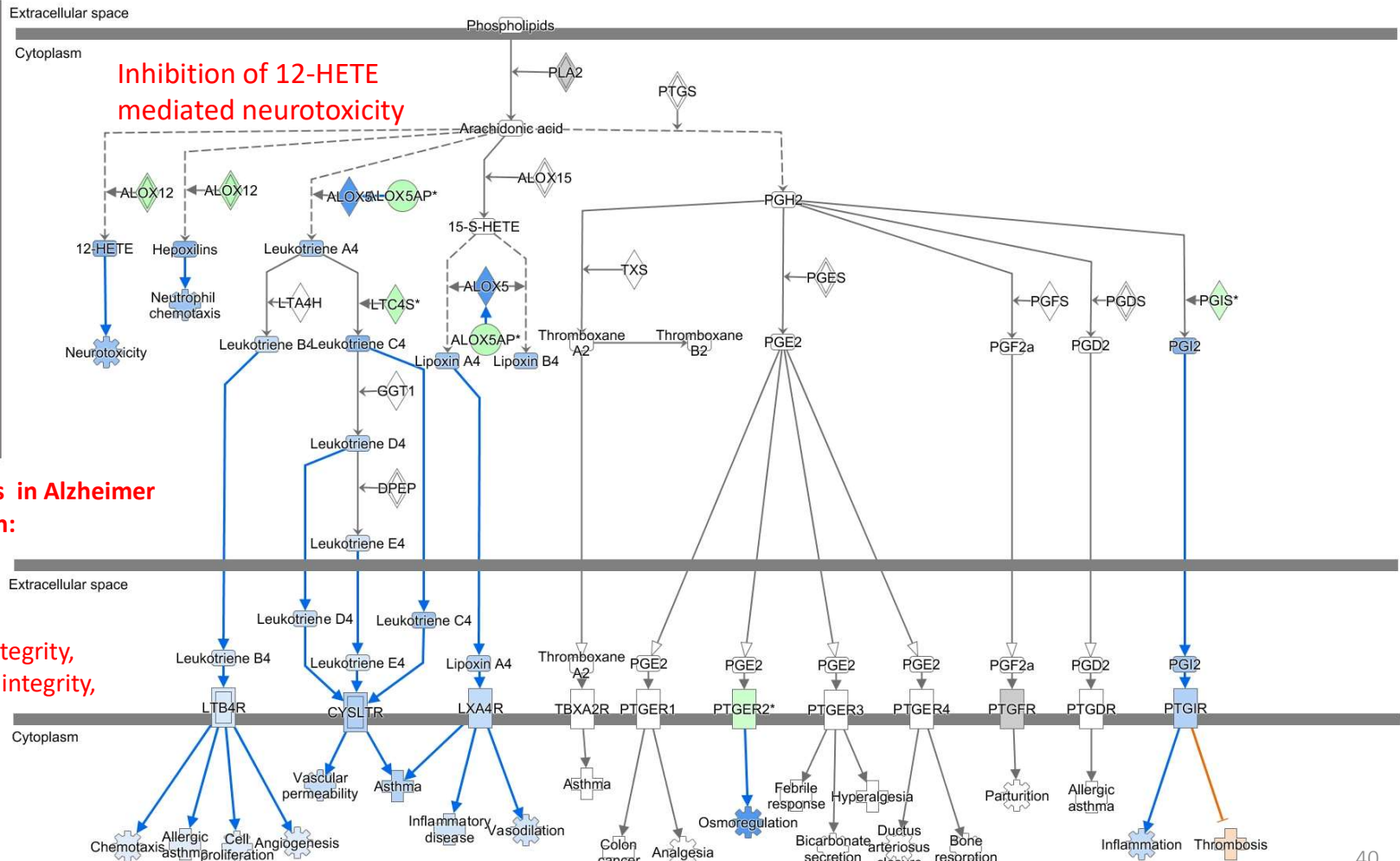
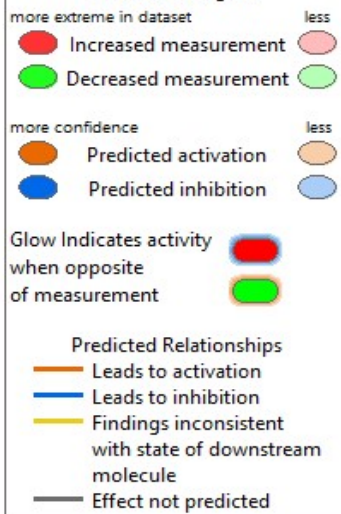
# The effects of Rhodiola on molecular network associated with emotional behavior, aggression and seizures



# Effect of Rhodiola on eicosanoids signaling pathways

Firoos

## Prediction Legend





Main biochemical processes most influenced (in terms of altered gene activity) by Rhodiola, Eleutherococcus, and Schisandra.

	Genes
➤ catabolism of cyclic AMP and metabolism of cyclic GMP	AICDA,
➤ conversion of leukotriene A4 and lipoxin A4	AIPL1,
➤ oxygenation of docosahexaenoic acid	AKR1D1,
➤ synthesis of synthesis of steroid and bile acid	ALOX12,
➤ translocation, exchange and redistribution of cholesterol ester and triacylglycerol	APOBEC2,
➤ transmission of triacylglycerol and phosphatidylcholine	CETP,
➤ inactivation of glucocorticoid	ESR1,
➤ efficacy of beta-estradiol	GADL1,
➤ decarboxylation of beta-alanine and L-aspartic acid	NR4A3,
➤ deamination of cytidine	PDE11A,
➤ removal of hypoxanthine	PDE3A,
	PDE4D,
	PFKFB1,
	SERPINA1,
	SLC27A2

## Main cellular functions most influenced (in terms of altered gene activity) by Rhodiola, Eleutherococcus, and Schisandra.

Cellular function	Genes
<b>Cellular Compromise:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– oxidative stress response of blood cells</li> <li>– degranulation of beta islet cells</li> <li>– damage of mitochondria</li> <li>– degeneration of hepatocytes</li> <li>– cytotoxicity of cytotoxic T cells</li> <li>– fragmentation of photoreceptor outer segments</li> <li>– degeneration of retinal cone cells</li> </ul>	AIPL1, ALOX12, CDHR1, NGB3, GNLY, HLA-B, NCAM1, SERPINA1, ULBP3,XRCC5,
<b>Cell Signalling</b>	PDE3A, MUC20, PDE4D, PDE11A, ESR1, CCKBR
<b>DNA Replication, Recombination, and Repair</b>	PARPBP, PDE3A, APLF, PDE4D ,PDE11A, XRCC5, AICDA
<b>Nucleic Acid Metabolism</b>	PFKFB1,MTNR1A,PDE3A,APOBEC2,TAAR1,PDE4D,PDE11A,AIPL1,ESR1,AICDA
<b>Lipid Metabolism</b>	NR4A3,RGS3,SLC27A2,AKR1D1,TNXB,SERPINA1,ALOX12,ESR1,CCKBR,CETP,NCAM1

Panossian 2017, Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 1401(1):49-64.

The most significantly affected **canonical pathways** and **gene targets** that are responsive (in-vitro) to adaptogen therapy .

Canonical Pathways	Genes
tRNA Splicing	PDE3A,PDE4D,PDE11A
Protein Kinase A Signaling	PDE3A,HIST1H1T,CNGB3,PDE4D,PDE11A,PLCD4,DUSP21,TCF7L2
<b>G-Protein Coupled Receptor Signaling</b>	PDE3A,TAAR1,PIK3C2G,PDE4D,PDE11A,AVPR1A
Leptin Signaling in Obesity	PDE3A,PIK3C2G,PLCD4
Cardiac $\beta$ -adrenergic Signaling	PPP1R1A,PDE3A,PDE4D,PDE11A
Relaxin Signaling	PDE3A,PIK3C2G,PDE4D,PDE11A
cAMP-mediated signaling	PDE3A,TAAR1,CNGB3,PDE4D,PDE11A
Salvage Pathways of Pyrimidine Nucleotides	APOBEC2,AK9,AICDA
Colorectal Cancer Metastasis Signaling	MMP8,TLR8,PIK3C2G,WNT16,TCF7L2
Inositol Pyrophosphates Biosynthesis	PPIP5K1
Airway Pathology in Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease	MMP8
Axonal Guidance Signaling	NTNG1,EPHB1,RGS3,MMP8,PIK3C2G,WNT16,PLCD4
Superpathway of Inositol Phosphate Compounds	PPP1R1A,PIK3C2G,PPIP5K1,PLCD4
Sperm Motility	CNGB3,PDE4D,PLCD4
<b>Telomere Extension by Telomerase</b>	XRCC5
<b>Melatonin Signalling and degradation</b>	MTNR1A,PLCD4, UGT2A3,CYP4X1
Role of Osteoblasts, Osteoclasts and Chondrocytes in Rheumatoid Arthritis	MMP8,PIK3C2G,WNT16,TCF7L2
<b>eNOS Signalling</b>	PIK3C2G,CNGB3,ESR1

Panossian 2017, Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 1401(1):49-64.

Age associated disease, and the genes involved in their pathogenesis and progression, that are significantly deregulated by adaptogens

Category	Diseases	Genes affected by adaptogens
Organismal Injury and Abnormalities	physical disability degeneration of retinal cone cells - inhibition atrophy of gastric mucosa hypoestrogenism postmenopausal vulvar atrophy nociception cone dystrophy pelvic organ prolapse	PDE11A,PDE3A,PDE4D - all upregulated AIPL1- down regulated,CNGB3 upregulated CCKBR- down regulated ESR1- down regulated ESR16 MTNR1A - down regulated, KCNK10, PDE11A,PDE3A,PDE4D,SCN2B - all upregulated CDHR1- down regulated,CNGB3 - upregulated ESR1 - down regulated, SERPINA1 - - upregulated
Inflammatory and Pulmonary Disease	pulmonary emphysema- inhibition bronchiectasis chronic bronchitis chronic obstructive pulmonary disease-inhibition	PDE11A,PDE3A,PDE4D,SERPINA1- all upregulated PDE11A,PDE3A,PDE4D - all upregulated MMP8,MTNR1A – both down regulated PDE11A,PDE3A,PDE4D,SERPINA1- all upregulated
Neurological and psychological Disease	non 24 hour sleep-wake disorder sleep-wake schedule disorder	MTNR1A - down regulated PDE3A- upregulated
Cardiovascular Disease	ischemic cardiomyopathy cholesteryl ester transfer protein deficiency angina pectoris cerebral small vessel disease	PDE11A,PDE3A,PDE4D,PPP1R1A - all upregulated CETP - down regulated PDE11A,PDE3A,PDE4D – all upregulated PDE3A - unregulated
Skeletal and Connective Tissue	osteochondrodysplasia	COL9A1 - down regulated, PDE4D -up regulated
Metabolic Disease	estrogen resistance	ESR1 – down regulated

Panossian 2017, Ann. N.Y. Acad. Sci. 1401(1):49-64.

## The effects of Rhodiola on genes involved in regulating age-associated disorders

### **Inflammation – atherosclerosis –**

- Down regulation of CETP,
- Deregulation of GPCR,

### **Neurodegeneration – impaired cognitive functions (learning, memory, abstract thinking, planning)**

- Down regulation of cAMP
- Down regulation of ESR1
- Upregulation of serpine
- Deregulation of GPCR,

### **Impaired apoptosis – Cancer –**

- Down regulation of ESR1, OLFM
- Up regulation of IP3, PLC, DAG, PI3K, NFkB
- Deregulation of GPCR

### **Metabolic disorders and energy metabolism**

- Down regulation of cAMP
- Inhibition of ATP metabolism

## Conclusions

- Stress response and adaptation to environmental challenge are multistep processes that involve intracellular and extracellular signaling pathways at all levels of stress regulation.
- Adaptogens are stress-response modifiers and have many molecular targets.
- Adaptogens exert a polyvalent biological activity and provoke multiple effects at all levels of regulation of cellular metabolism and homeostasis.
- Therefore, adaptogens have pharmacologically pleiotropic effects, which explain their traditional use for a wide range of conditions.