



**EPFL**

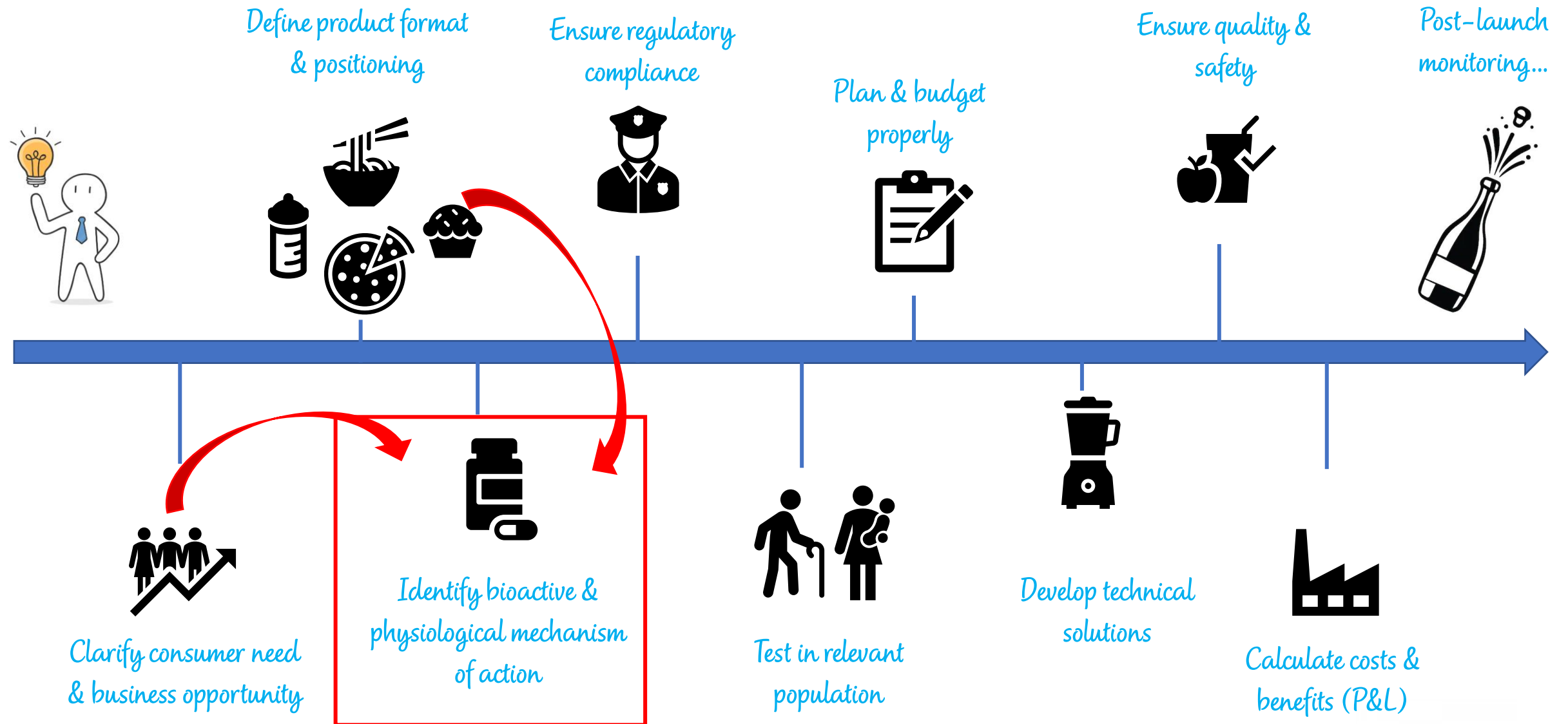
# **Entrepreneurship in Food & Nutrition Science**

## **Course 2 – Bioactives & pre/probiotics**

## Bioactives & pre/probiotics - Outline

- Natural bioactive food molecules
- Pre/Pro/Post-biotics that modulate the microbiome

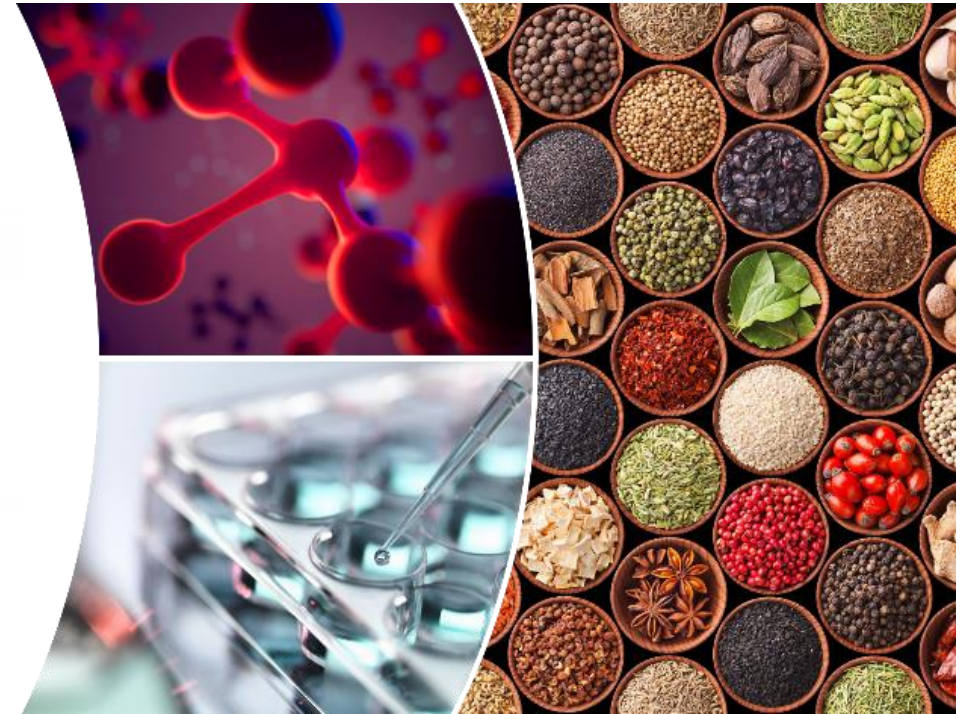
# Bioactive ingredients for health benefits can drive the product unique value proposition







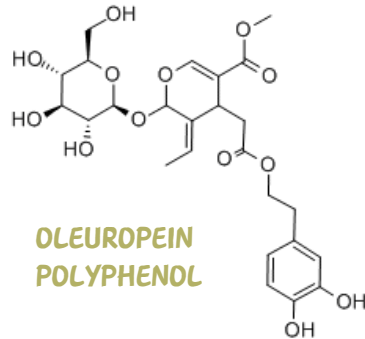
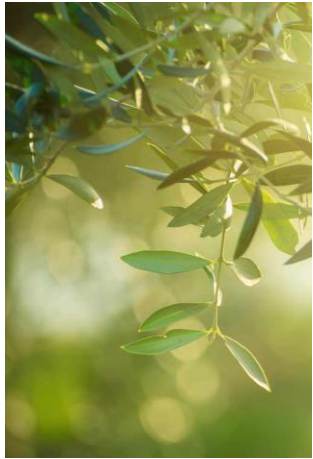
**EPFL**



**Example of olive leaf  
polyphenol for energy and  
endurance**

# What it looks like today

A science-rooted  
natural ingredient...



... to stimulate  
**mitochondria** to  
boost cellular ATP...



...and increase **muscle  
energy & sports  
performance**

Incubated for open innovation

## ACCELERATOR TEST LAUNCH FOR SPORTS ENERGY

**ENERGIZE**    
Powered by Nestlé R&D

- MVP «Minimal viable product»
- Consumer communication
- Shop test in Italy

Launched by a **start-up**



XTRACT

HOME SCIENCE BLOG REFER A FRIEND FAQ CONTACT US BUY NOW

**+6 HOURS OF  
ENDURANCE.**

The only pre-exercise supplement in the world with **OLE**, an active ingredient that ignites your mitochondria at a cellular level for enhanced endurance.

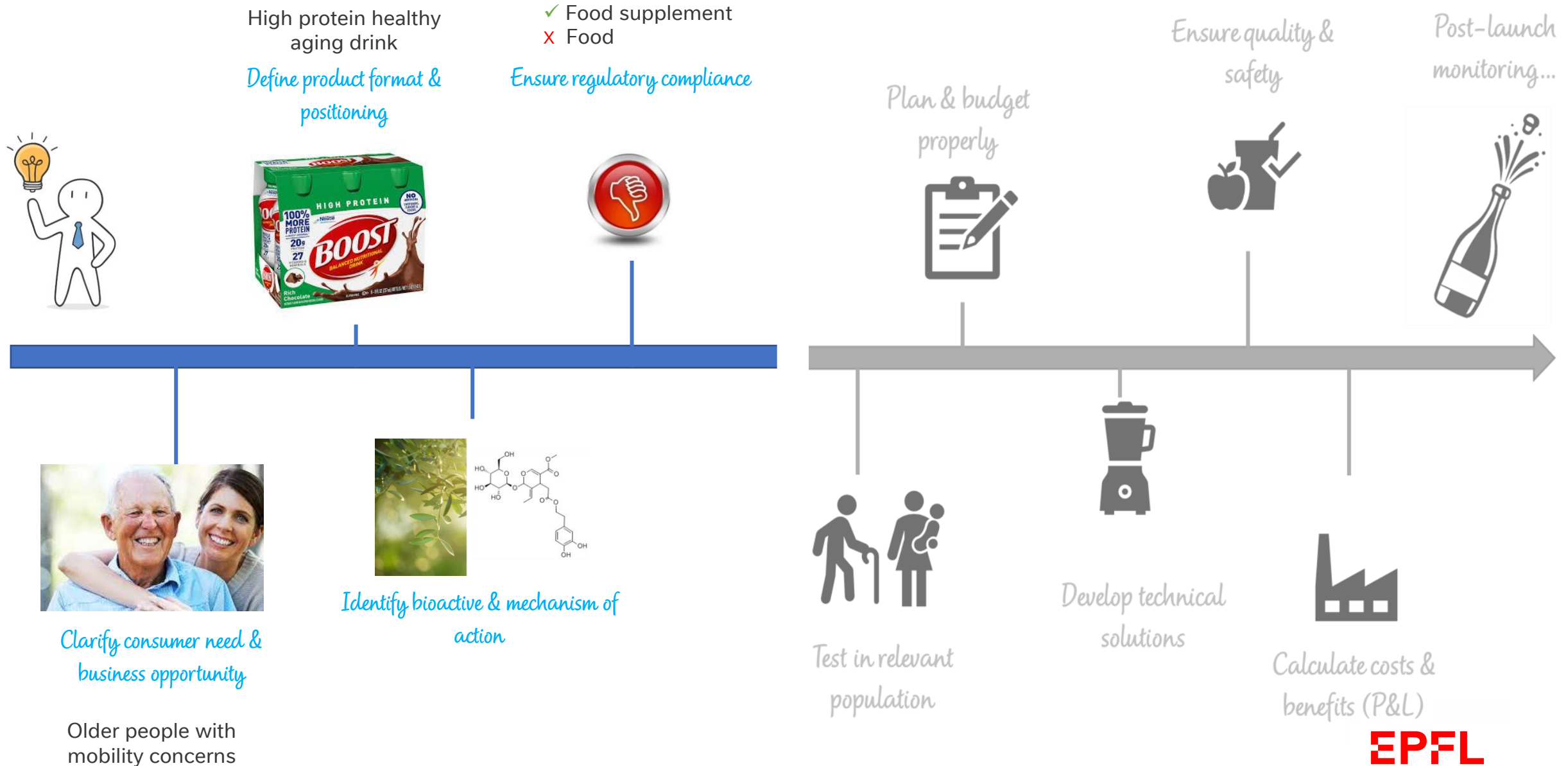
BUY NOW

**AWAKEN YOUR  
CELLS FROM  
WITHIN**

The result of +5 years research in Switzerland

<https://www.oleus.com>

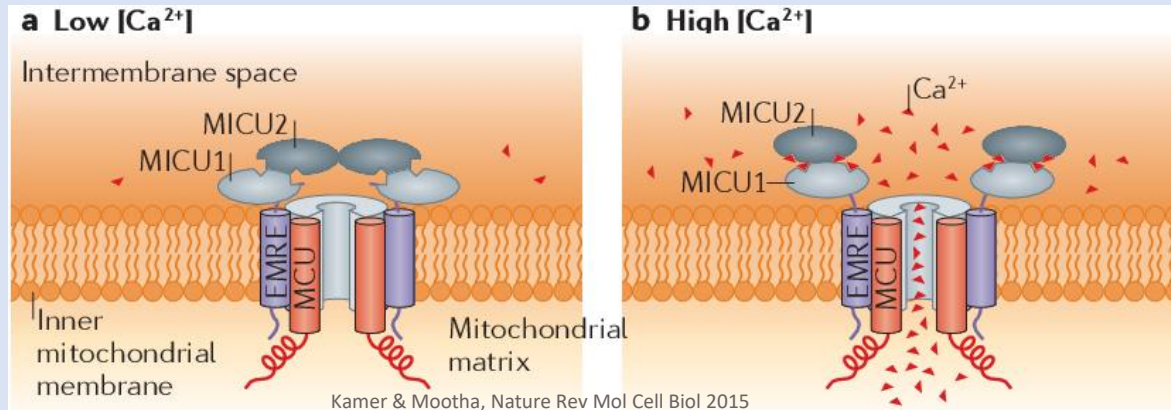
# From Idea to launch decision... and agility & entrepreneurship !





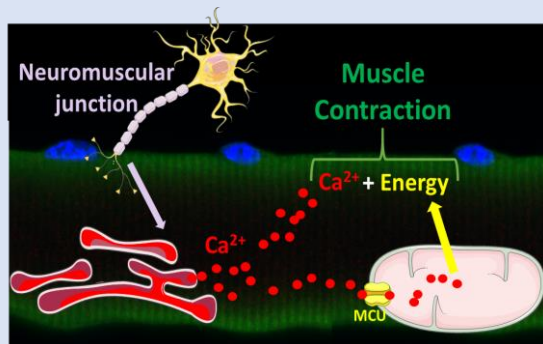
# Deep rooted in scientific discovery

## The MCU complex transports $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ in mitochondria



De Stefani et al, Nature, 2011 / Baughman et al, Nature, 2011

## Mito- $\text{Ca}$ controls muscle health via energy production

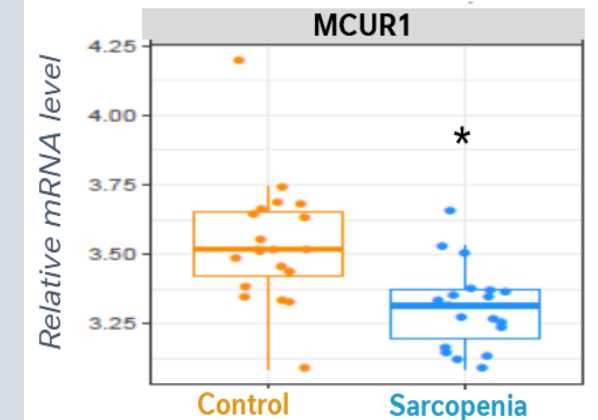
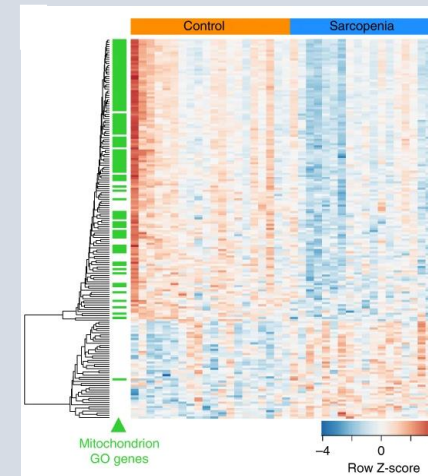


Logan C.V. et al, Nature Genetics, 2014  
Lewis-Smith D. et al, Neurology, 2016

Mammucari et al, Cell Reports 2015  
Debattisti et al, Cell Reports 2019

## Discovery in a human cohort of muscle aging

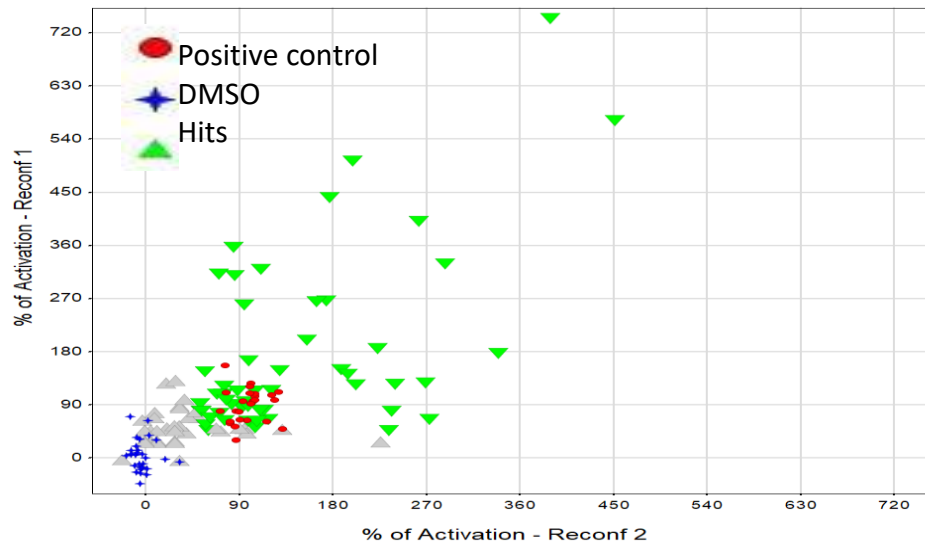
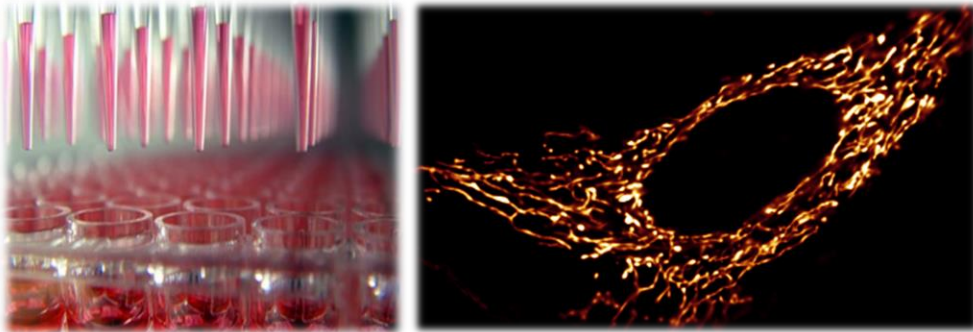
- **Mitochondrial dysfunction** is the major transcriptional signature of sarcopenia in human muscle biopsies.
- **Mitochondrial calcium import** is a downregulated pathway in the sarcopenia signature.



Migliavacca, ... & Feige, Nature Comms 2019  
Gherardi et al, Cell Metab 2024

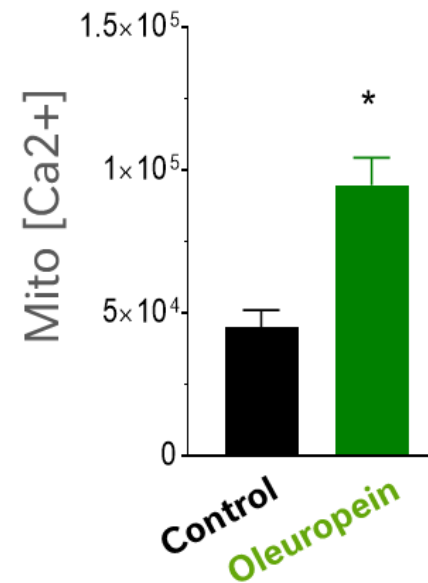
# Enabled by experimental biology

## SCREENING OF 5000 BIOACTIVES WITH MITOCHONDRIAL CALCIUM REPORTER

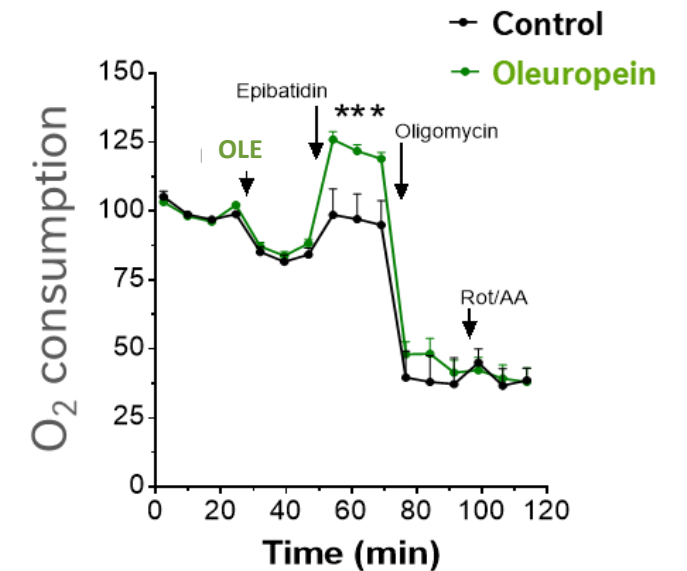


## COUNTER-SCREEN & CELLULAR VALIDATION

### Mitochondrial $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ import



### Mitochondrial respiration

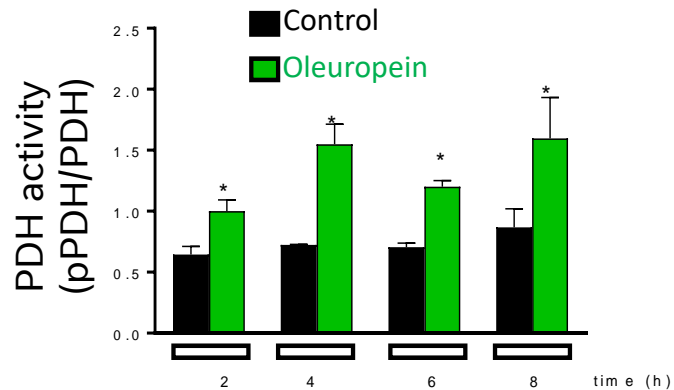
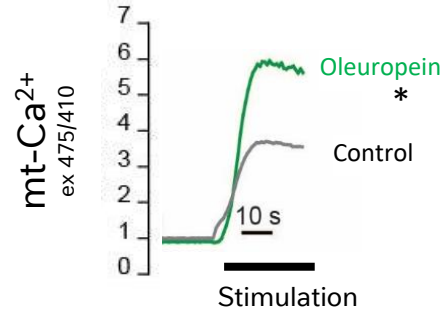


-- Active at  $5\mu\text{M}$  in 5min --

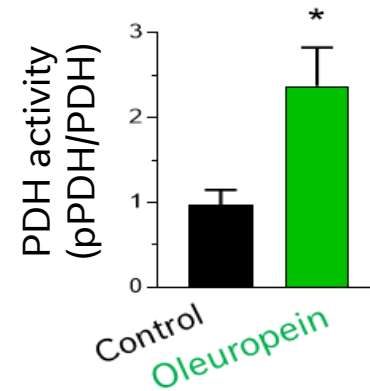
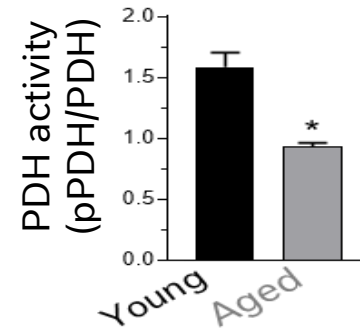


# Guided by physiology in model organisms

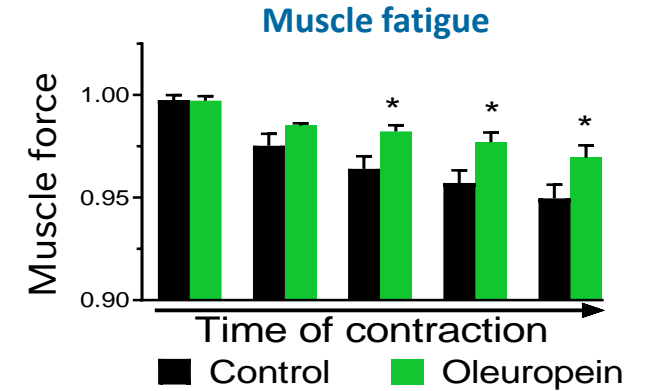
## Enhances muscle bioenergetics acutely



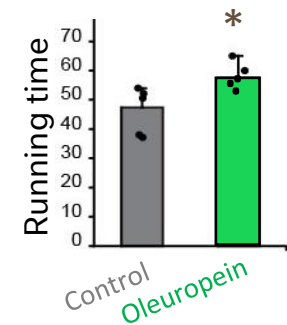
## Restores bioenergetic defects during aging



## Prevents muscle fatigue



## Endurance on treadmill



STIMULATES MUSCLE  
ENERGY ACUTELY

PREVENTS LOW MUSCLE  
ENERGY DURING AGING

ENDURE FOR LONGER

# Repurposed via open innovation

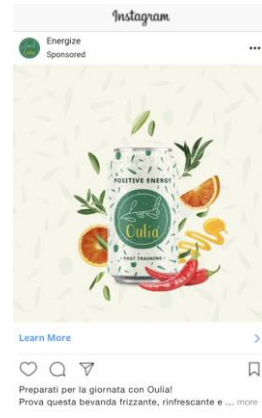
## The accelerator : translating innovation into a test launch in 6 months



Scientific discovery



Growth hacking & concept  
prioritization



Sensory optimization



Optimize taste, color,  
solubility & stability

Communication strategy



A natural plant-based  
drink to wake up your  
body to its full energy  
potential

Test launch



# Food metabolites constitute and regulate our cells and organs



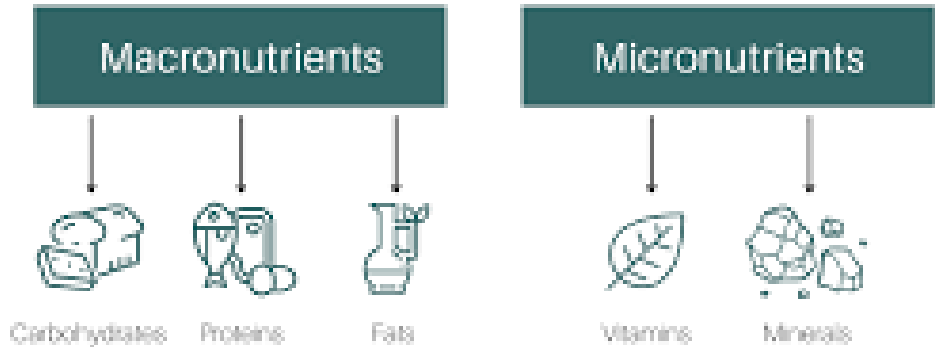
**“WE ARE WHAT  
WE EAT”**

Ludwig Feuerbach, 1848



June 25, 2007

## NUTRIENTS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR LIFE



**FOOD BIOACTIVES ARE  
PHYSIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE  
(BUT NOT ESSENTIAL)**

Examples ?



# Examples of food bioactives



Bioactive compounds typically occur in small quantities in foods and can be beneficial for health.\*

Bioactive compounds are not essential for life but are widely studied for possible health effects.

Compounds	Found in	Function
Polyphenols, flavonoids	All plant foods; studied extensively in cereals, nuts legumes, fruits, vegetables, olive oil, tea, red wine	Anti-oxidant
Phytoestrogens	Soy, flaxseed oil, whole grains	Anti-oxidant, CVD risk
Resveratrol	Red wine, nuts	Anti-oxidant, anti-inflammation
Lycopene	Tomatoes, other fruits	Anti-oxidant
Organosulfur compounds	Garlic, onions	Cardio-protective effects
Epicatechins	Cocoa, tea, apple	Stimulates blood flow

\*EUFIC.org

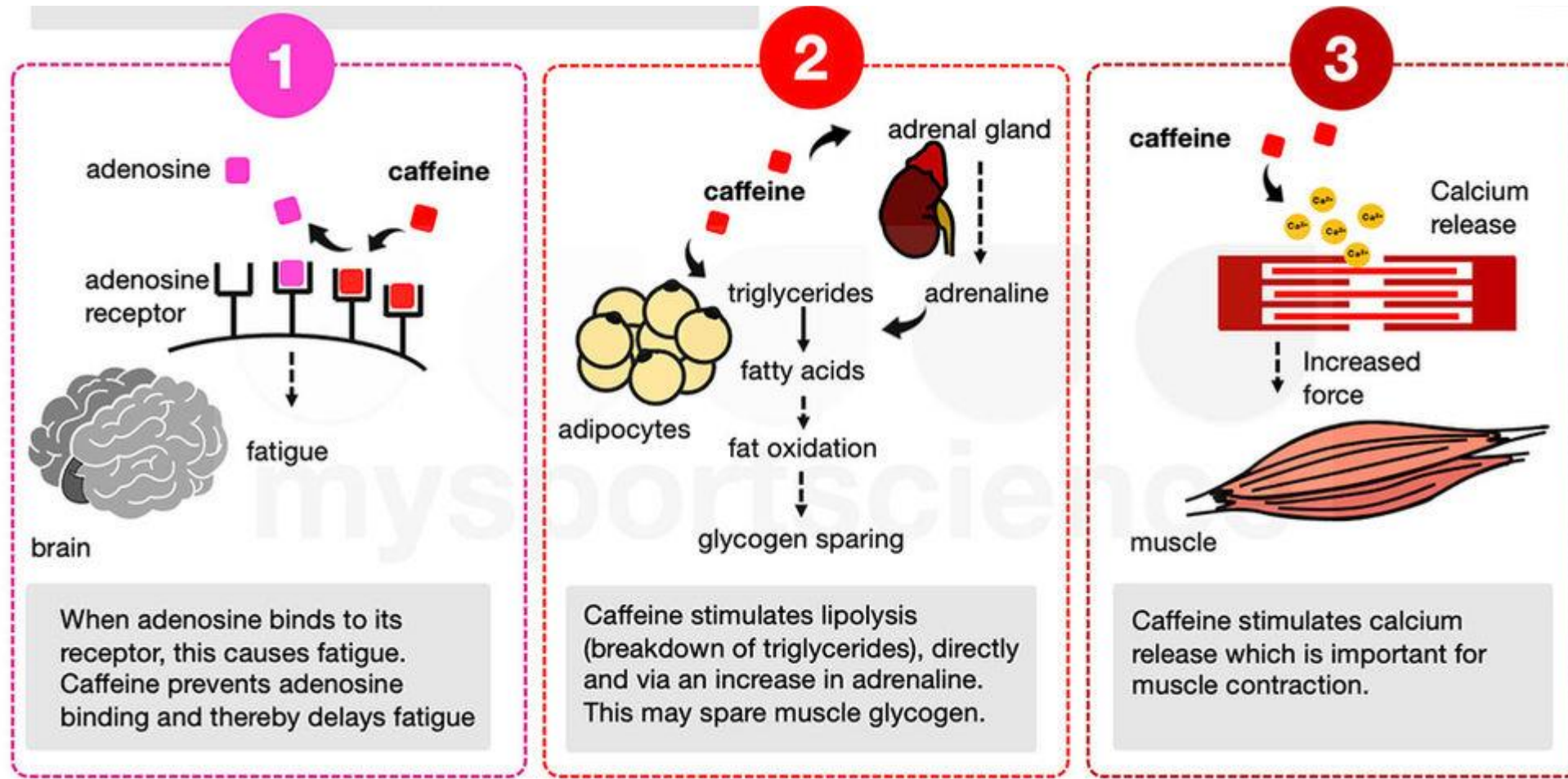


Caffeine is a  
potent  
physiological  
stimulator

---



# Mechanism of action of caffeine



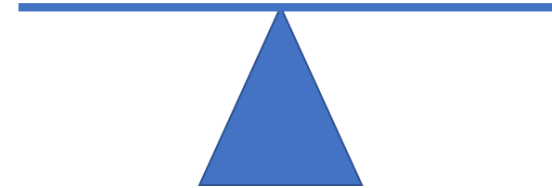
# Bioactivity can have detrimental effects



Up to 5 cups  
per day

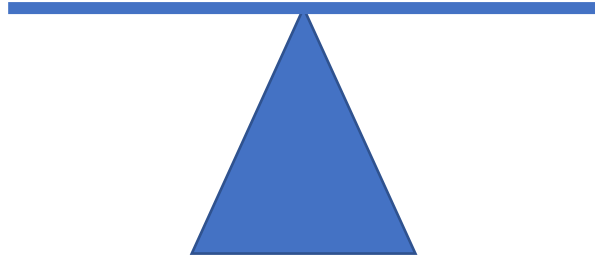
BIOACTIVITY

SAFETY



BIOACTIVITY

SAFETY



**APPROVAL OF NOVEL INGREDIENTS IS HIGHLY REGULATED  
TO ENSURE CONSUMER PROTECTION**



The use of a food substance may be **Generally Recognized as Safe (GRAS)** either through scientific procedures or, for a substance used in food before 1958



The authorisation and use of novel foods and food ingredients is governed by regulation EC 258/1997



# Bioactivity can have detrimental effects



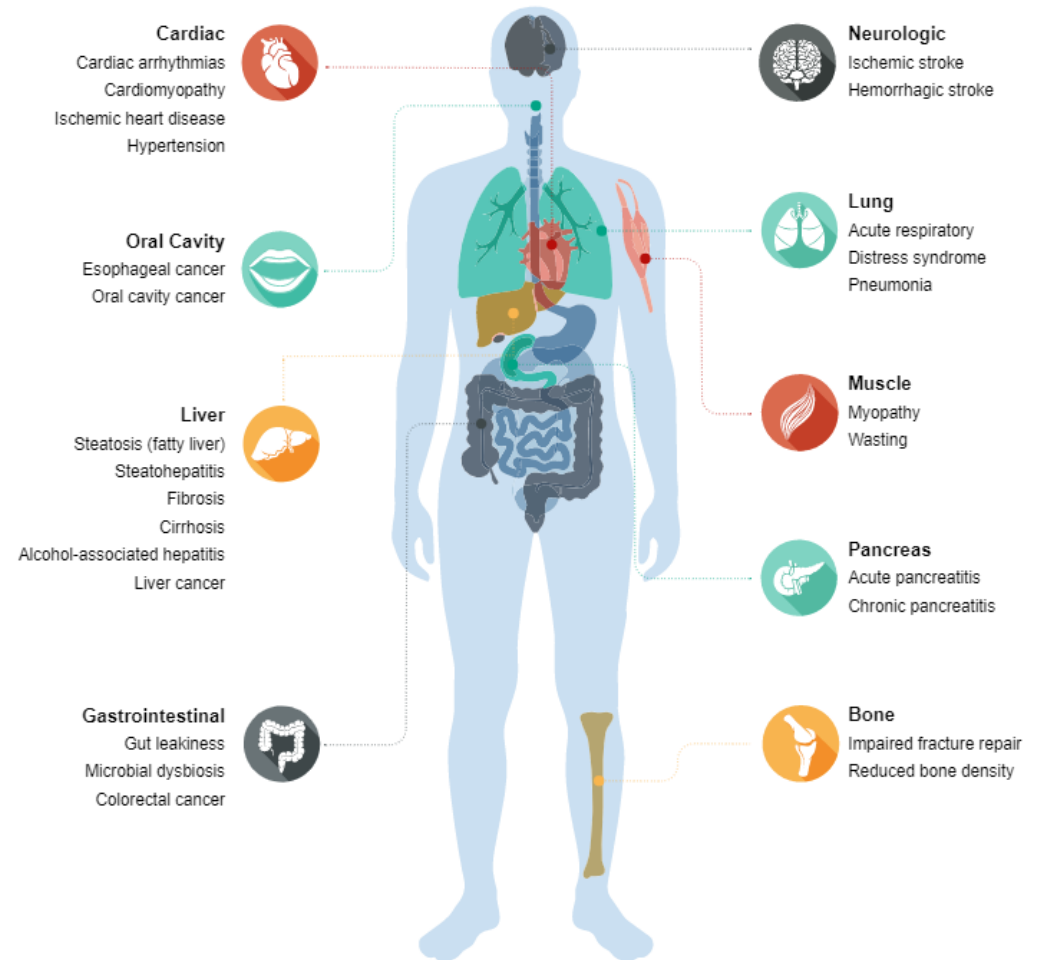
**NATURAL  $\neq$  SAFE**

**APPROVED  $\neq$  HEALTHY**

(PUBLIC HEALTH PREVENTION)



## Alcohol-Associated Organ Damage

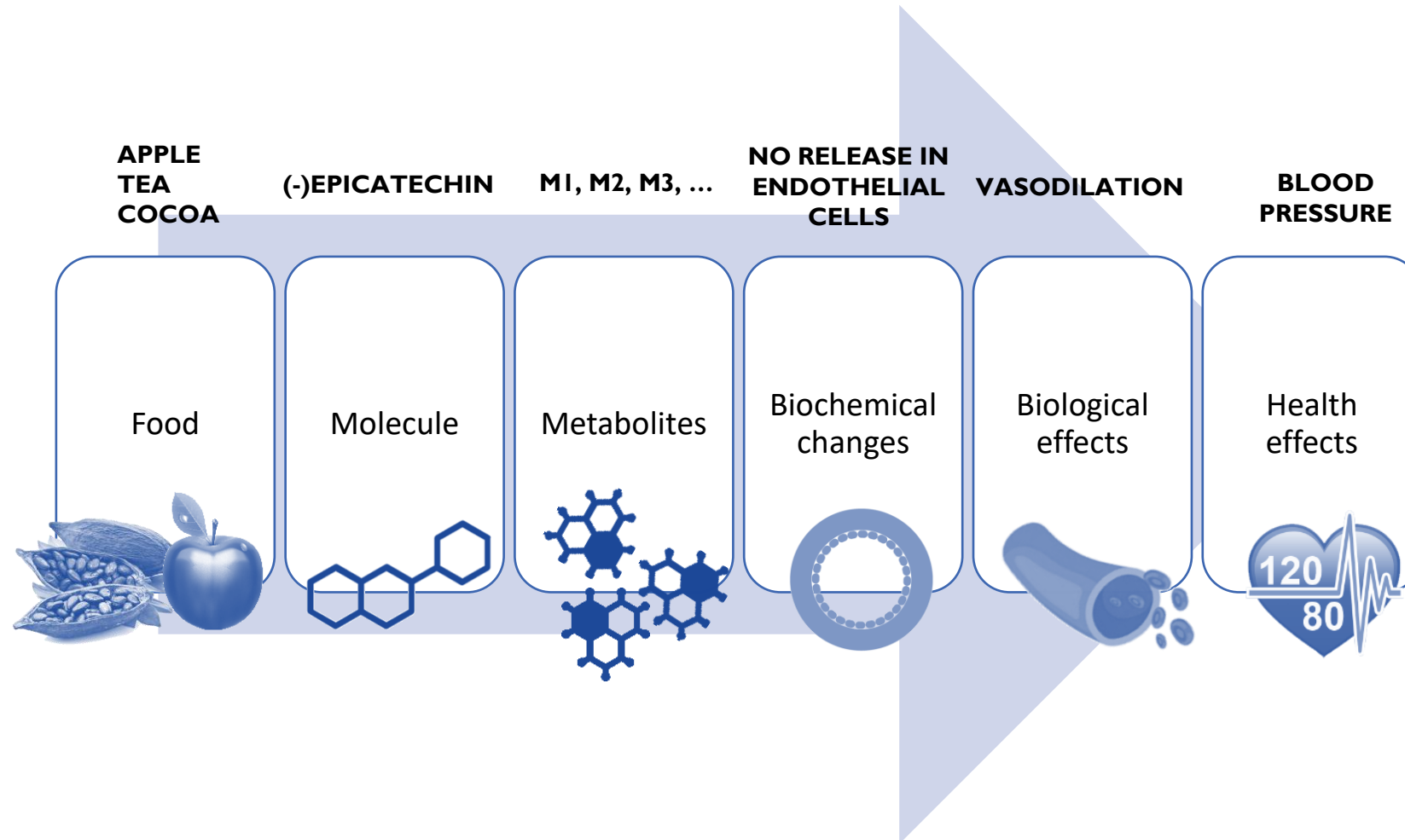


<https://www.niaaa.nih.gov/alcohols-effects-health/alcohols-effects-body>



# FROM DIETARY EXPOSURE TO HEALTH BENEFITS

Example of epicatechin from tea & fruits...



# Health benefits of bioactives discovered via food epidemiology

## TEA & COCOA CONSUMPTION IS ASSOCIATED WITH A LOWER RISK OF CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE (CVD)

- **HIGHER TEA CONSUMPTION ASSOCIATED WITH LOWER CHD RISK**

Elderly men who drank  $\geq 4$  cups/day had a 60% lower risk of fatal CHD when compared to those who drank  $< 2$  cups/day.

*Hertog et al. Lancet 1993;342:1007-12*

- **HIGHER TEA CONSUMPTION ASSOCIATED WITH LOWER RISK OF STROKE**

Middle-aged men who drank on average  $\geq 5$  cups/day had a 3 times lower stroke incidence (fatal & non-fatal) than those who drank  $< 2.5$  cups/day.

*Keli et al. Arch Intern Med 1996;156:637-42*

- **HIGHER COCOA CONSUMPTION ASSOCIATED WITH LOWER CVD RISK**

in elderly men, Intake of approximately **4.2g cocoa/day** (~10g dark chocolate) was associated with a 50% lower CVD mortality compared to **no cocoa intake**.

*Buijsse et al. Arch Intern Med 2006;116:411-7*

# Health benefits of bioactives discovered via nutrient epidemiology

## HIGHER INTAKES OF FLAVAN-3-OLS & EPICATECHIN (KEY POLYPHENOLIC COMPOUNDS IN TEA & COCOA) WERE ASSOCIATED WITH A LOWER RISK OF CORONARY HEART DISEASE (CHD)

- **HIGHER FLAVAN-3-OLS INTAKE ASSOCIATED WITH LOWER CHD RISK**

In elderly men, higher intake of flavan-3-ols (mean intake **124 mg/day** vs. **25 mg/day**) was associated with a 50% lower risk of fatal CHD.

*Arts et al. Am J Clin Nutr 2001;74:227-32*

- **HIGHER EPICATECHIN INTAKE WAS ASSOCIATED WITH LOWER CHD RISK**

In elderly men, higher intake of epicatechin (mean **intake 21.9 mg/day** vs. **7.9 mg/day**) was associated with a 38% lower risk of fatal CHD.

*Dower et al. Am J Clin Nutr 2016;104:58-64*

# The hype of nutraceuticals

**NUTRACEUTICAL (NUTRIENT + PHARMACEUTICAL)  
IS NOT AN APPROVED TERM**

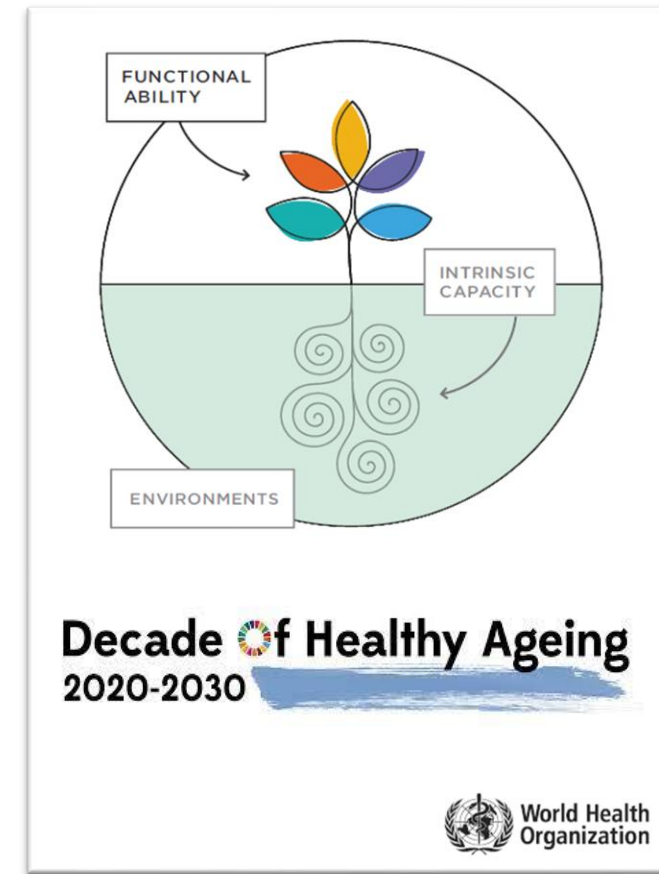


**A NATURAL BIOACTIVE IS EITHER:**

- Food  
Regular consumption
- Food supplement  
Proactive health management for specific use
- Medical food (FSMP EU)  
Dietary management of a medical condition
- Drug  
Treatment of disease



# Example of bioactives that slow down aging



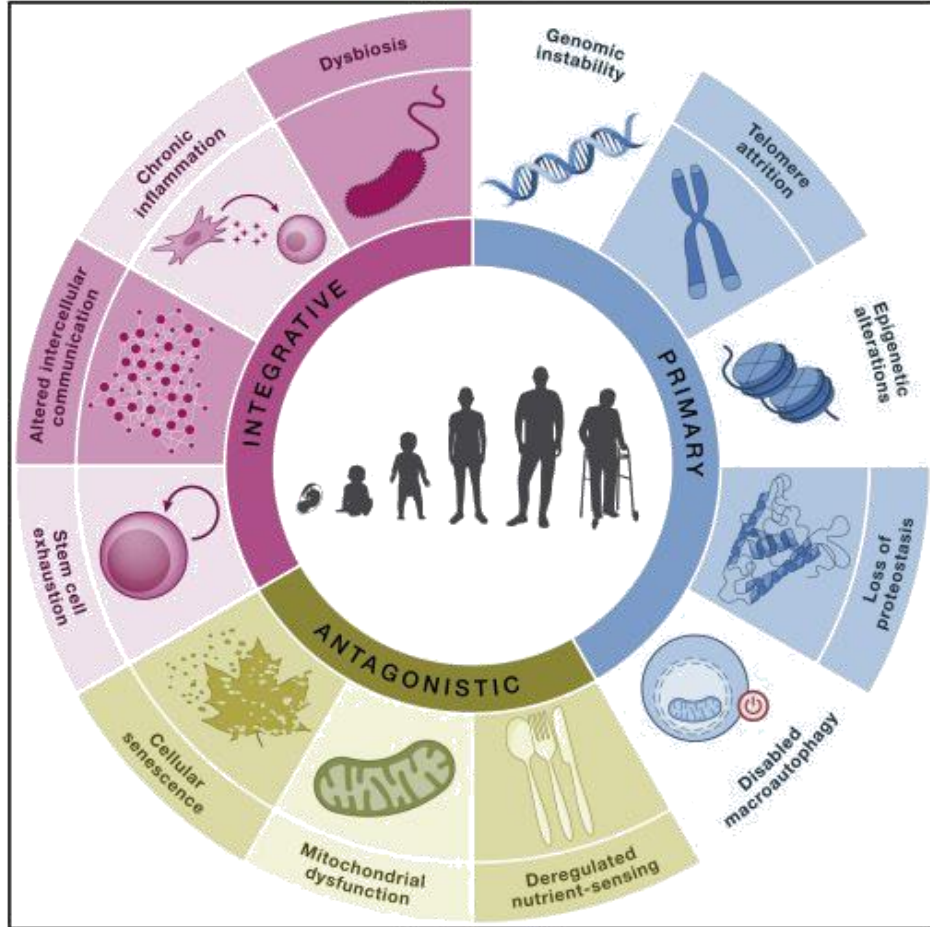
Silver economy is **\$7 trillion** with equal split US-EU-CN and expected to **double by 2032**

65+ concentrate **50% of health care costs**

Source: Scott AJ, Lancet 2021 / Li et al, Risk Manag Health Polic 2020

# Discovery of healthy aging bioactives via biological mechanisms

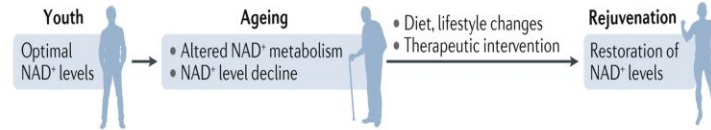
## HALLMARKS OF AGING



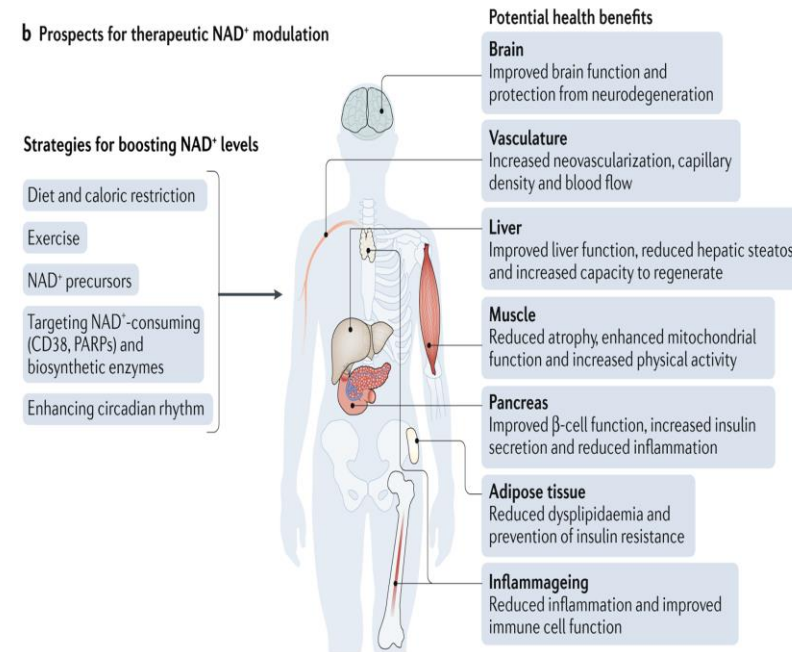
Lopez-Otin et al, Cell 2013 / Lopez-Otin et al, Cell 2023

## EPFL RESEARCH ON HALLMARKS OF AGING WITH BIOACTIVES (EXAMPLE OF NAD<sup>+</sup> PRECURSORS)

### a NAD<sup>+</sup> levels in ageing



### b Prospects for therapeutic NAD<sup>+</sup> modulation



Covarrubias et al, Nature Reviews 2021

EPFL NEWS

### A vitamin that stops the aging process of organs



<https://actu.epfl.ch/news/a-vitamin-that-stops-the-aging-process-of-organs/>

AGING

Science

**NAD<sup>+</sup> repletion improves mitochondrial and stem cell function and enhances life span in mice**

Zhang et al, Science 2016

EPFL



# Example of Urolithin A

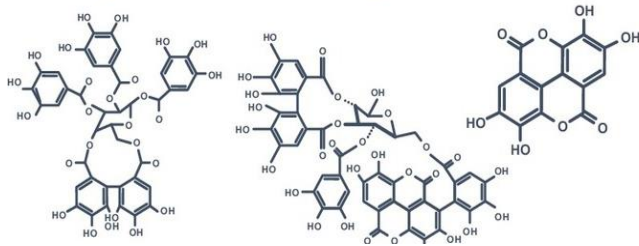


**nature  
medicine**

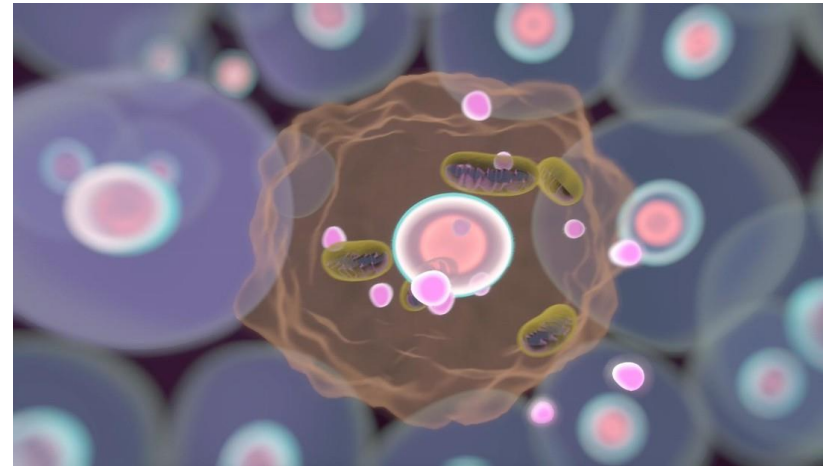
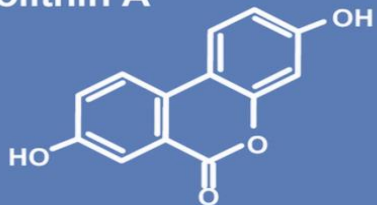
## Urolithin A induces mitophagy and prolongs lifespan in *C. elegans* and increases muscle function in rodents

Dongryeol Ryu<sup>1,5</sup>, Laurent Mouchiroud<sup>1,5</sup>, Pénélope A Andreux<sup>1,2,5</sup>, Elena Katsyuba<sup>1</sup>, Norman Moullan<sup>1</sup>, Amandine A Nicolet-dit-Félix<sup>1</sup>, Evan G Williams<sup>1</sup>, Pooja Jha<sup>1</sup>, Giuseppe Lo Sasso<sup>1</sup>, Damien Huzard<sup>3</sup>, Patrick Aebischer<sup>4</sup>, Carmen Sandi<sup>3</sup>, Chris Rinsch<sup>2</sup> & Johan Auwerx<sup>1</sup>✉

### Ellagitannins and ellagic acid



### Urolithin A



**MITOPHAGY IS THE  
CELLULAR RECYCLING  
OF DAMAGED  
MITOCHONDRIA**

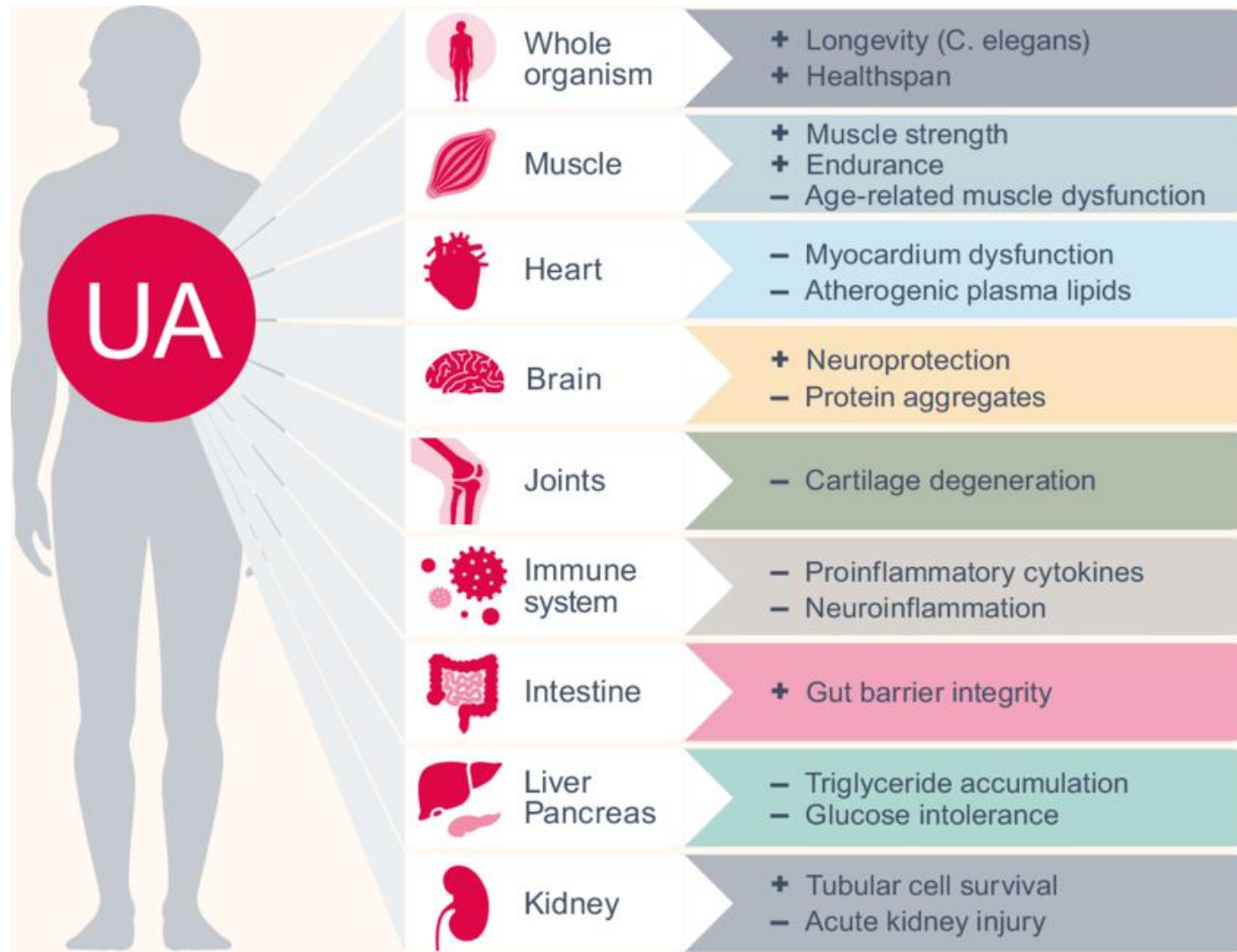
# Urolithin A: discovered & explained from EPFL



<https://youtu.be/Lf1vCyfaosE>



# Urolithin A has broad health benefits



# Urolithin A is beneficial for cellular & muscle health during aging in humans



## Energy

Induces a signature of improved mitochondria\*



## Strength

Muscle strength increases by up to 21% after 16 weeks\*



## Endurance

Muscle endurance increases by up to 15% after 8 weeks\*



## Optimal levels

Mitopure unlocks 6x more Urolithin A than diet alone\*

<https://www.timelinenutrition.com/science/body>

## nature metabolism

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[nature](#) > [nature metabolism](#) > [letters](#) > [article](#)

Letter | [Published: 14 June 2019](#)

### The mitophagy activator urolithin A is safe and induces a molecular signature of improved mitochondrial and cellular health in humans

[Pénélope A. Andreux](#), [William Blanco-Rose](#), [Dongyeol Ryu](#), [Frédéric Burdet](#), [Mark Ibberson](#), [Patrick Aebischer](#), [Johan Auwerx](#), [Anurag Singh](#) & [Chris Rinsch](#)

[Nature Metabolism](#) **1**, 595–603 (2019) | [Cite this article](#)



Original Investigation | Nutrition, Obesity, and Exercise

### Effect of Urolithin A Supplementation on Muscle Endurance and Mitochondrial Health in Older Adults: A Randomized Clinical Trial

[Sophia Liu](#), PhD; [Davide D'Amico](#), PhD; [Eric Shankland](#), PhD; [Saakshi Bhayana](#), BS; [Jose M. Garcia](#), MD, PhD; [Patrick Aebischer](#), MD; [Chris Rinsch](#), PhD; [Anurag Singh](#), MD, PhD; [David J. Marcinek](#), PhD

## Cell Reports Medicine

[Open access](#)

ARTICLE | VOLUME 3, ISSUE 5, 100633, MAY 17, 2022

Urolithin A improves muscle strength, exercise performance, and biomarkers of mitochondrial health in a randomized trial in middle-aged adults

[Anurag Singh](#) [Davide D'Amico](#) [Pénélope A. Andreux](#) ... [Patrick Aebischer](#) [Johan Auwerx](#) [Chris Rinsch](#) • [Show all authors](#) • [Show footnotes](#)

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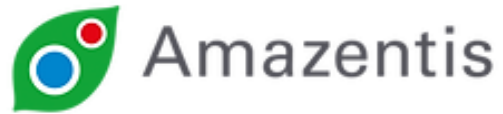
Nutrition and Health (including climate and ecological aspects)

**Direct supplementation with Urolithin A overcomes limitations of dietary exposure and gut microbiome variability in healthy adults to achieve consistent levels across the population**

[Anurag Singh](#) [Davide D'Amico](#) [Pénélope A. Andreux](#) [Gillian Dunngalvin](#) [Timo Kern](#) [William Blanco-Rose](#) [Johan Auwerx](#) [Patrick Aebischer](#) & [Chris Rinsch](#)

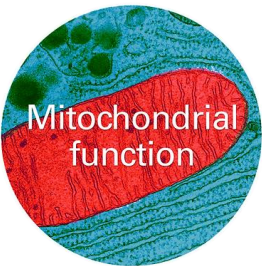
<https://actu.epfl.ch/news/compound-with-anti-aging-effects-passes-human-tria/>

# Urolithin A was valorized in a local start-up

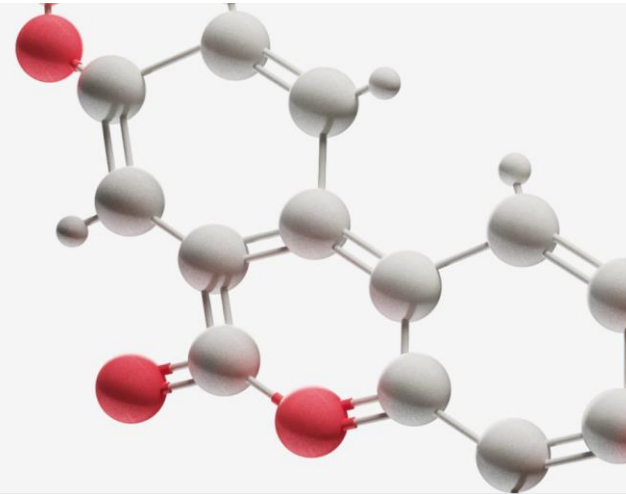


EPFL Innovation Park

Amazentis is an innovative life science company dedicated to employing breakthrough research and clinical science to bring advanced therapeutic nutrition products to life.



Meet Mitopure®  
The first clinically tested  
Urolithin A supplement



## Mitopure® energizes cells

Mitochondria, our cellular powerhouses, are constantly renewed to fulfill the vast energy demands of cells. As we age, mitochondrial function declines – starting as early as in our 30s. Mitopure stimulates the mitochondrial renewal process to protect cells from age-associated decline.

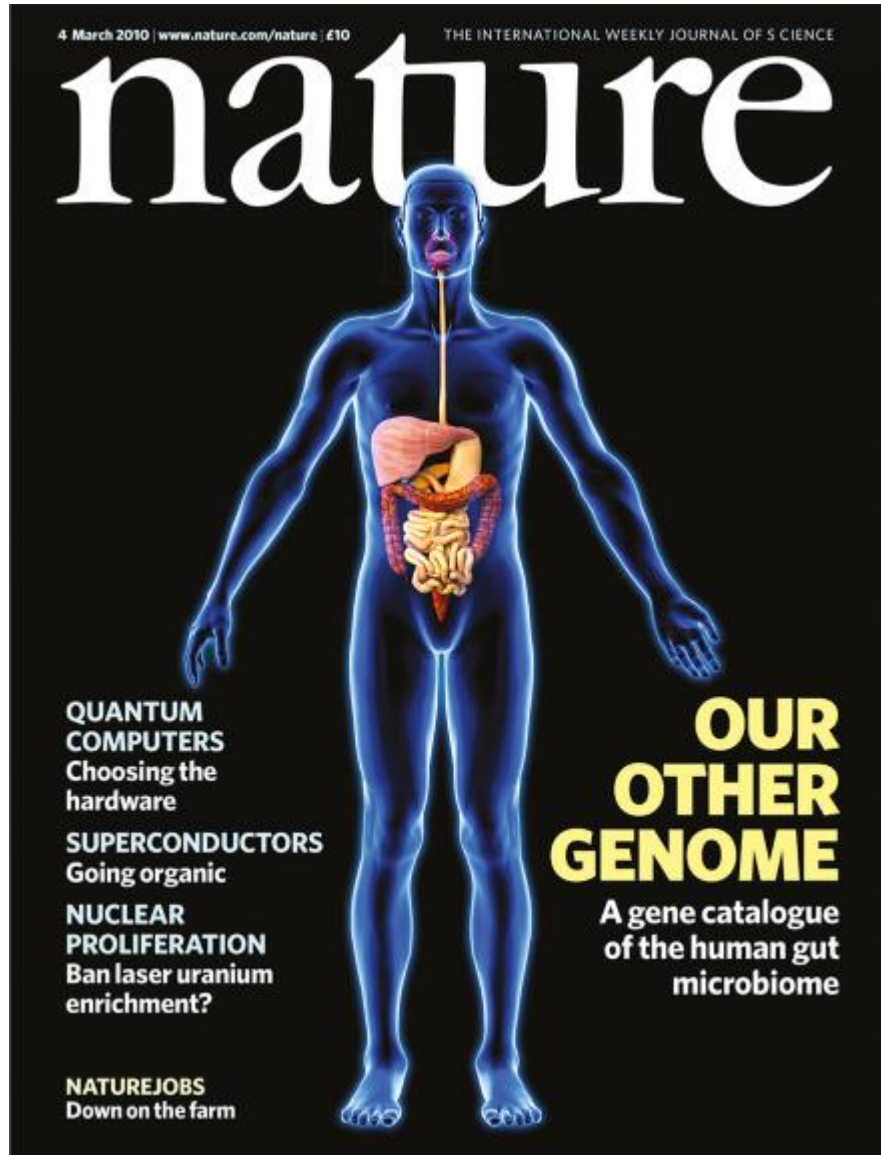


<https://www.amazentis.com/>

<https://www.mitopure.com/>  
<https://www.timelinenutrition.com/>

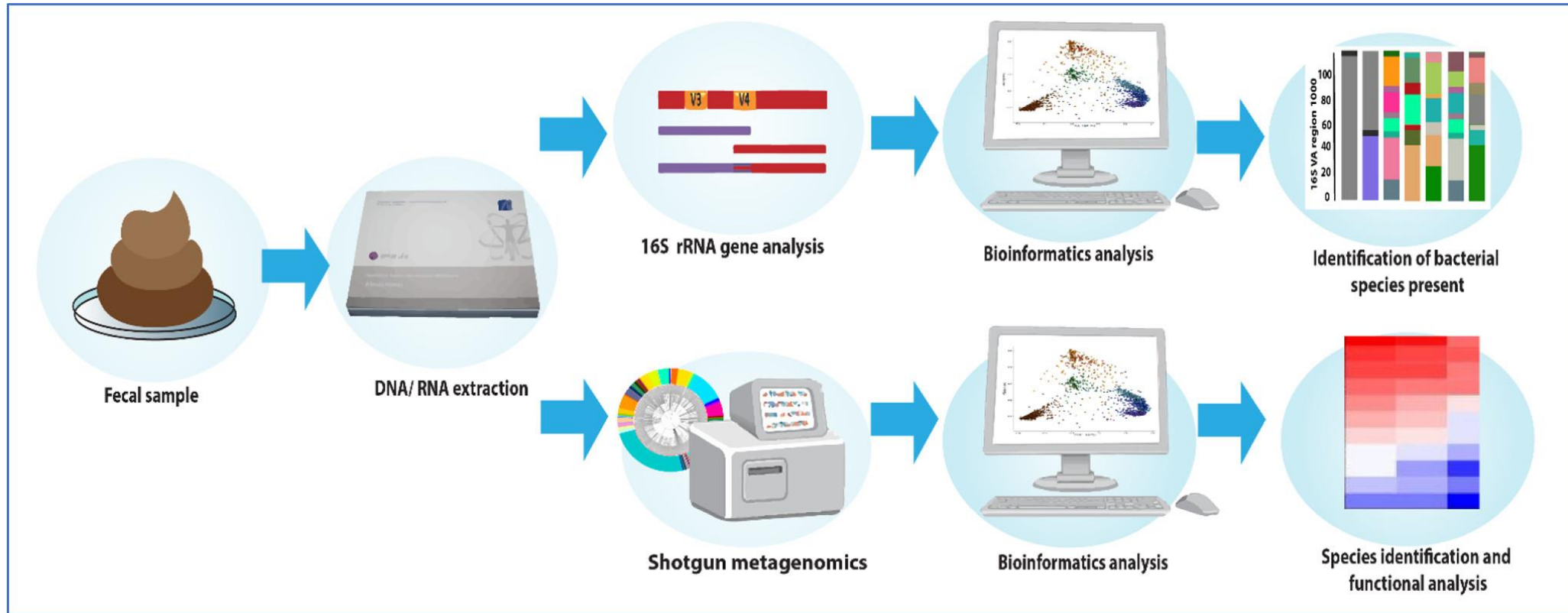
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# The gut microbiome





# How to analyse the microbiome

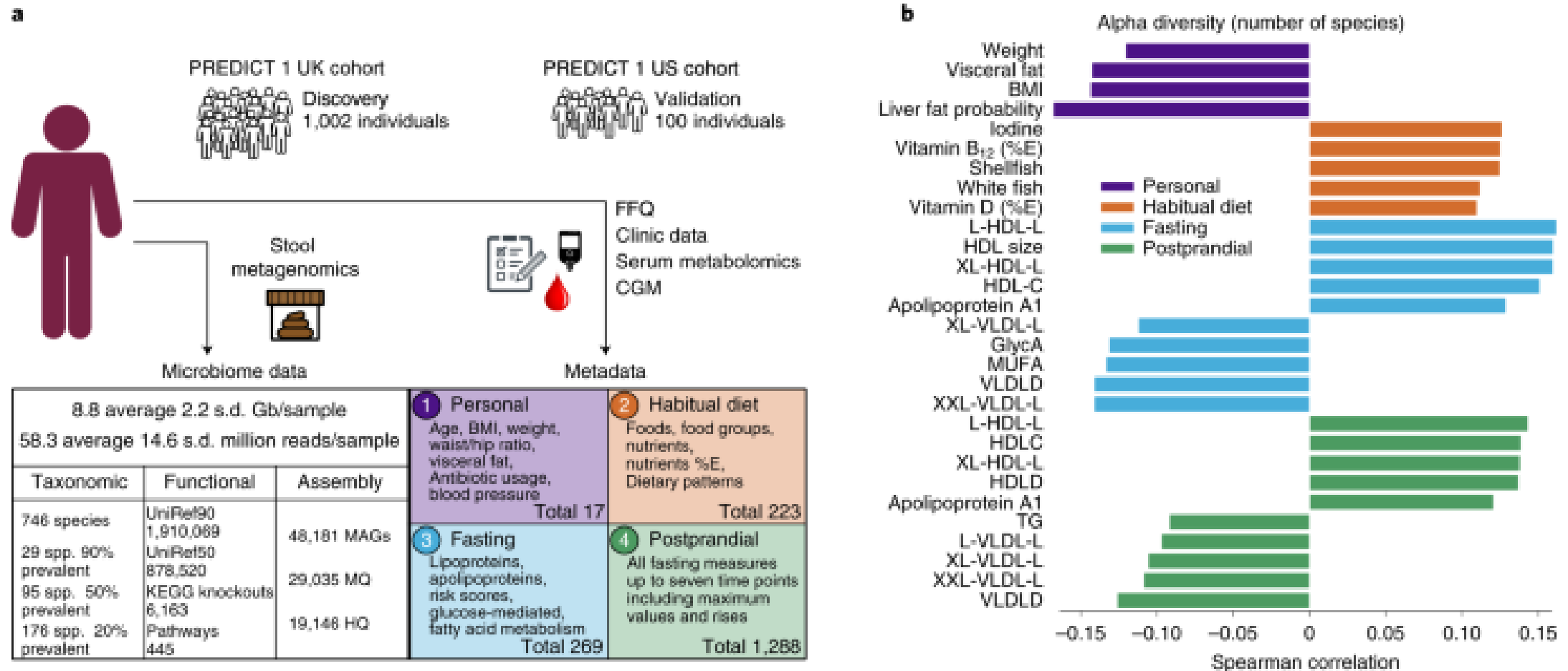


# Challenges of gut microbiome analyses

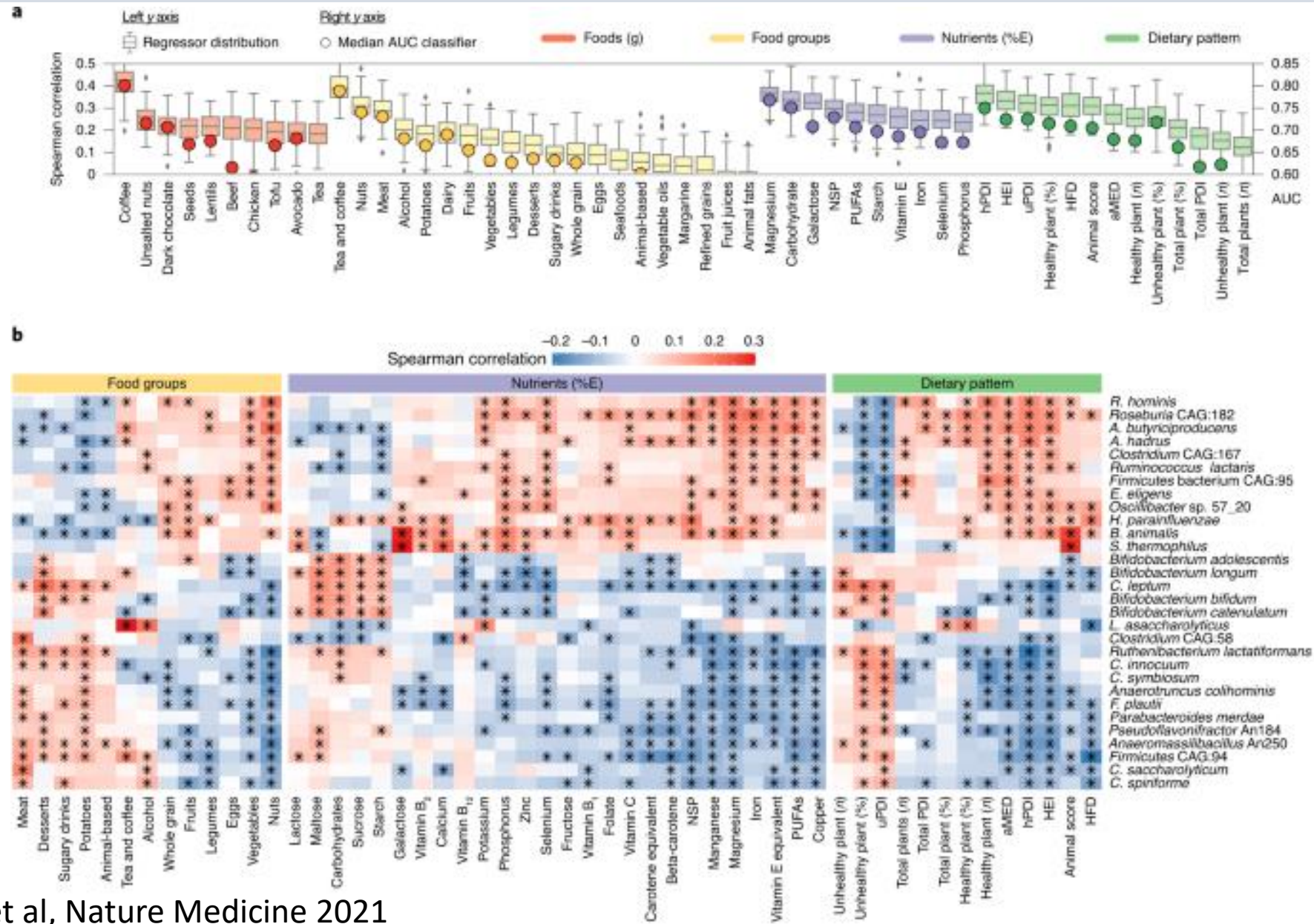
- Bioinformatic deconvolution of a highly complex ecosystem
- Genome annotations are based on known species
- Functional gene annotations suffer from experimental culture basis (anaerobic bacteria more challenging to study)
- Human analyses from stools are delayed spatially and temporally

# The diversity of the gut microbiome associates with health

## Example of cardiometabolic health in adults



# Food feeds and shapes the gut microbiome





# How is the gut microbiome modulated for health benefits ?



## Probiotics

'Live microorganisms that confer a health benefit on the host when administered in adequate amounts.'



## Prebiotics

'Substrates that are selectively utilised by host microorganisms, conferring a health benefit.'



## Synbiotics

'Combination of both probiotics and prebiotics.'



## Postbiotics

'Compounds produced by microorganisms, released from food components or microbial constituents, including non-viable cells that, when administered in adequate amounts, promote health and well-being.'

## Prebiotics

### What are prebiotics?

Substrates that are selectively utilized by host microorganisms conferring a health benefit. Simply put, they are food for beneficial microbes that live on or in us.



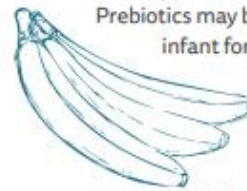
### What do you look for on the label?

The word 'prebiotic' is seldom used on the label. Look for:

- Galactooligosaccharides (GOS)
- Fructooligosaccharides (FOS)
- Oligofructose (OF)
- Chicory fiber
- Inulin

### Prebiotics in food

Some prebiotics (oligofructose and inulin) can be found in onions, garlic, bananas, chicory root, Jerusalem artichokes, but typically are present at low levels. To increase your daily intake, include prebiotic supplements or foods with added prebiotics as part of your diet.



Prebiotics may be added to yogurts, infant formula, cereals, breads, biscuits/cookies, desserts or drinks.

Try to get at least 5 grams of prebiotics in your diet every day. Eating whole grains, fruits and vegetables, and other fiber-rich foods can help.

### Prebiotics in mother's milk

Human milk provides a rich source of prebiotics to the nursing baby. They support infant's health by encouraging beneficial gut microbes.

# What are probiotics?

- Live microorganisms which ☒
- when administered in **adequate amounts** ☒
- confer a **health benefit** on the host. ☒



# How do probiotics work ?

## PROBIOTICS INTERACT WITH...

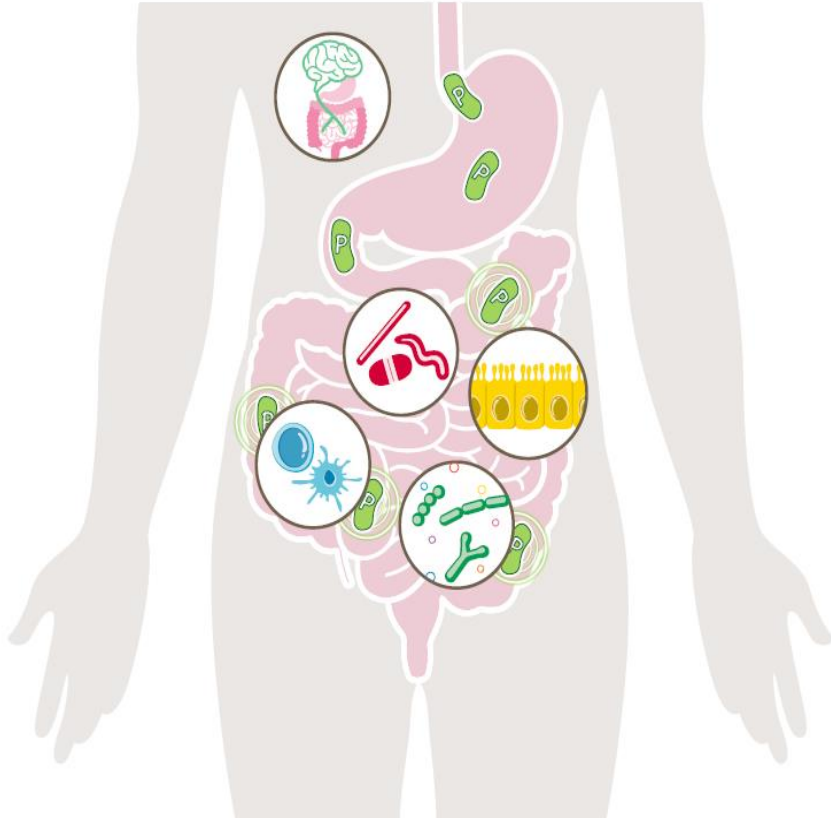
Brain through  
the vagus nerve

Pathogens

Gut cells

Immune cells

Microbiome



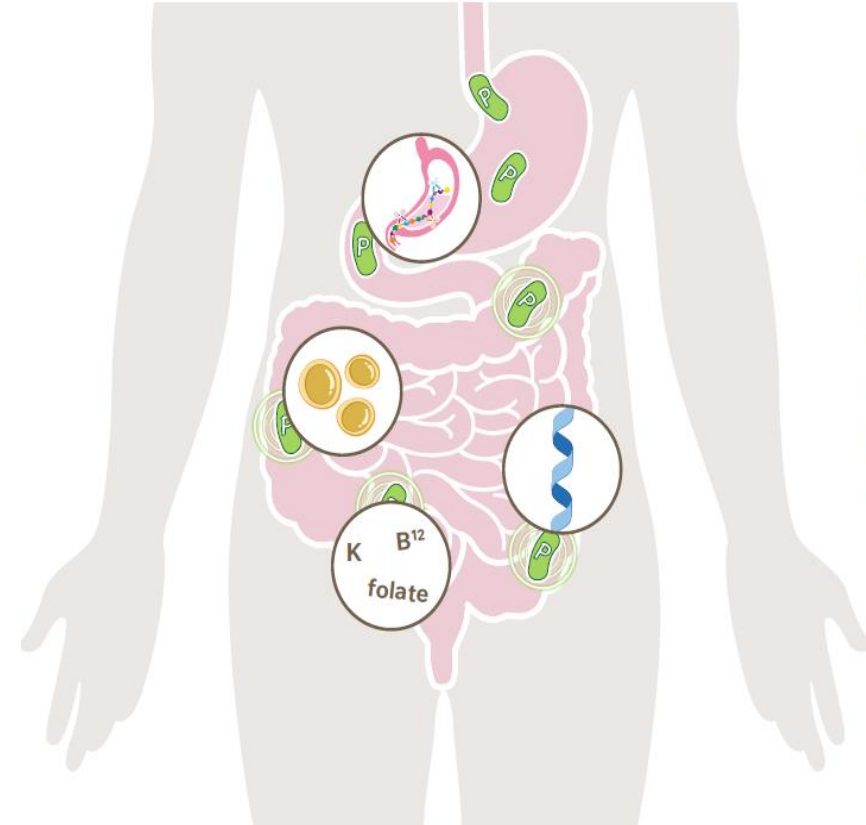
## ... AND PRODUCE POSTBIOTICS LIKE:

Digestive  
enzymes

Short Chain Fatty  
Acids

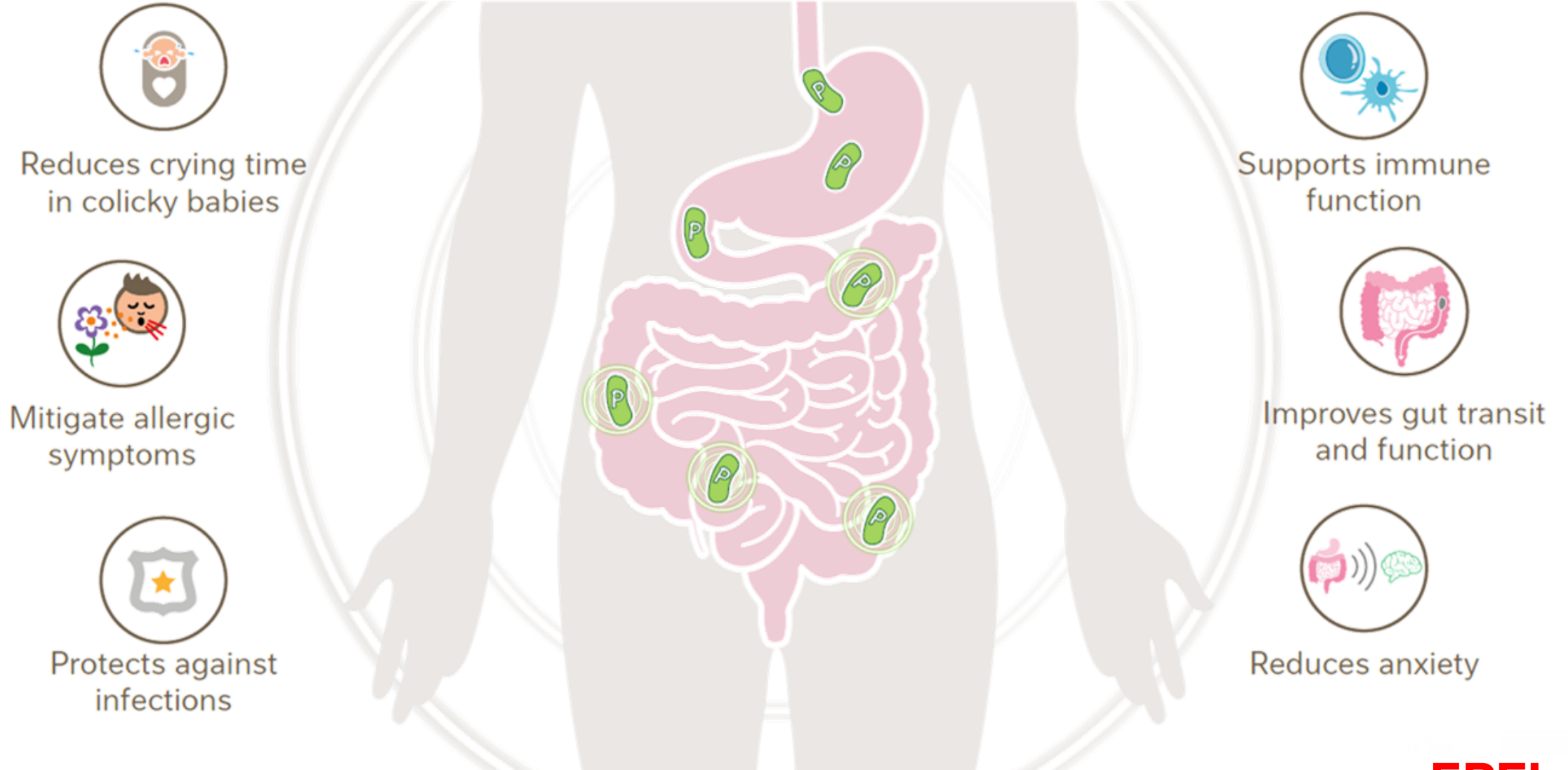
Anti-microbial  
peptides

Vitamins





# Examples of health benefits delivered by probiotics



# A probiotic links a bacterial strain to a health benefit

EACH PROBIOTIC IS UNIQUELY IDENTIFIED...

... AND PROVIDES SPECIFIC BENEFITS

*Lactobacillus*

*johnsonii*

La1

Genus

Species

Strain



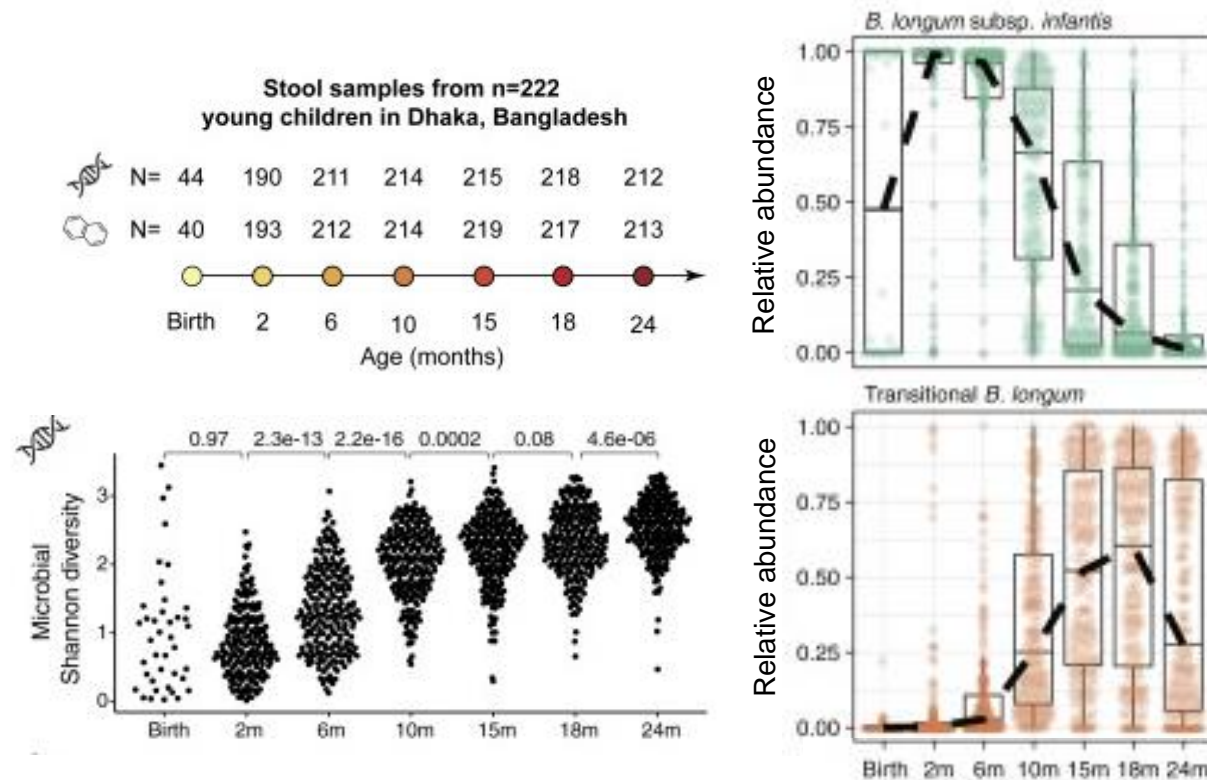
*Lactobacillus johnsonii* La1



Improves digestive health

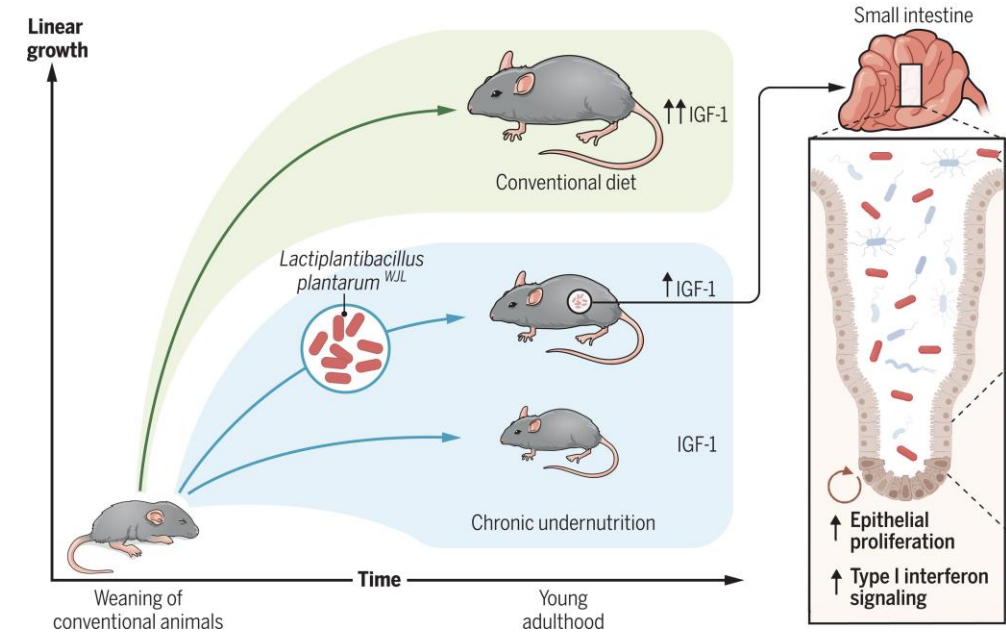
# Examples of discovery of novel probiotics

Discovery of a transitional strain that supports the milk to solid food diversification in infants



Vatanen et al, Cell 2022

Discovery of a strain that stimulates faltered growth



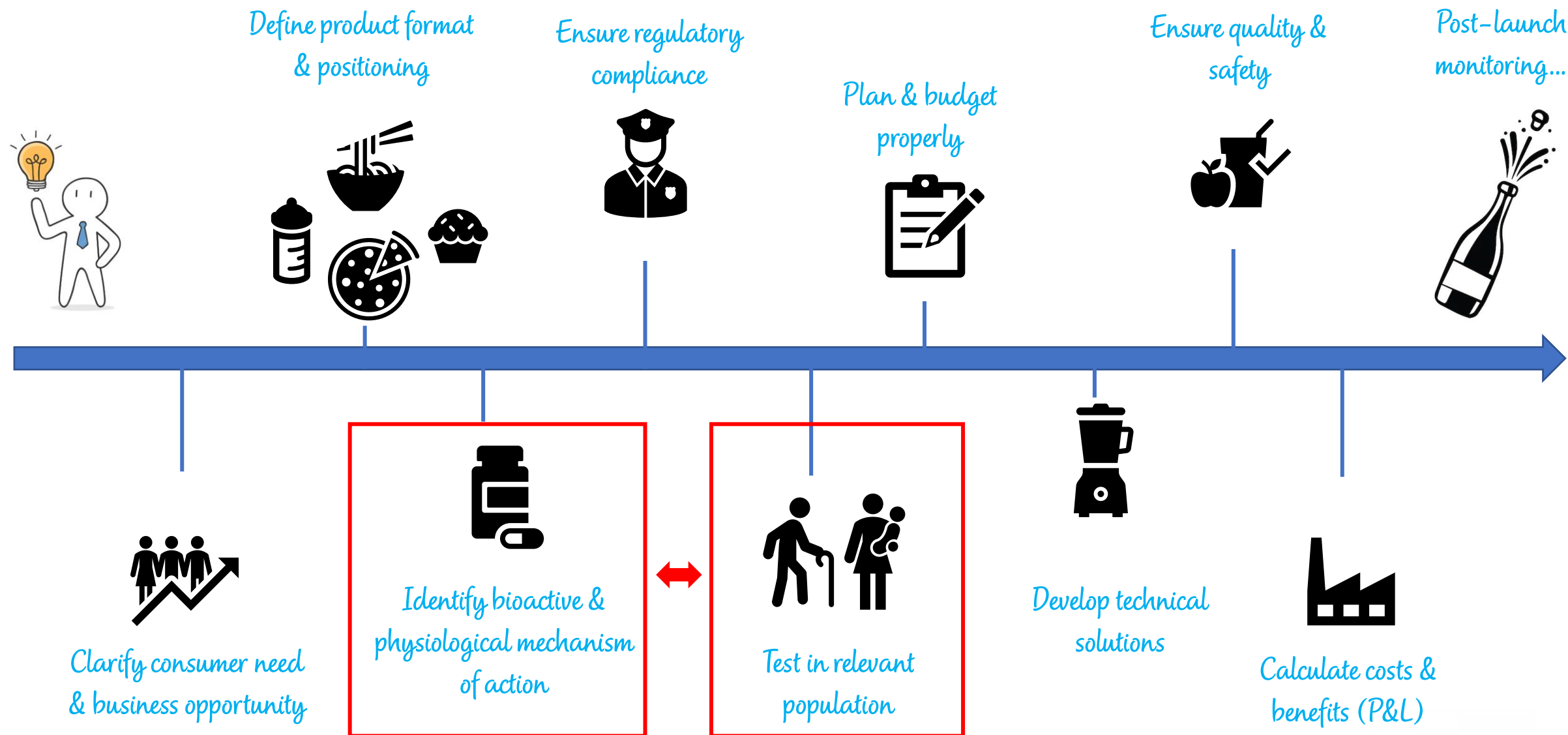
Schwarzer et al, Science 2023

## Materials for project work

- Reason to believe
- Preclinical assays



# Mechanism of action is the pillar of differentiation and population selection



# Is novelty an advantage ?

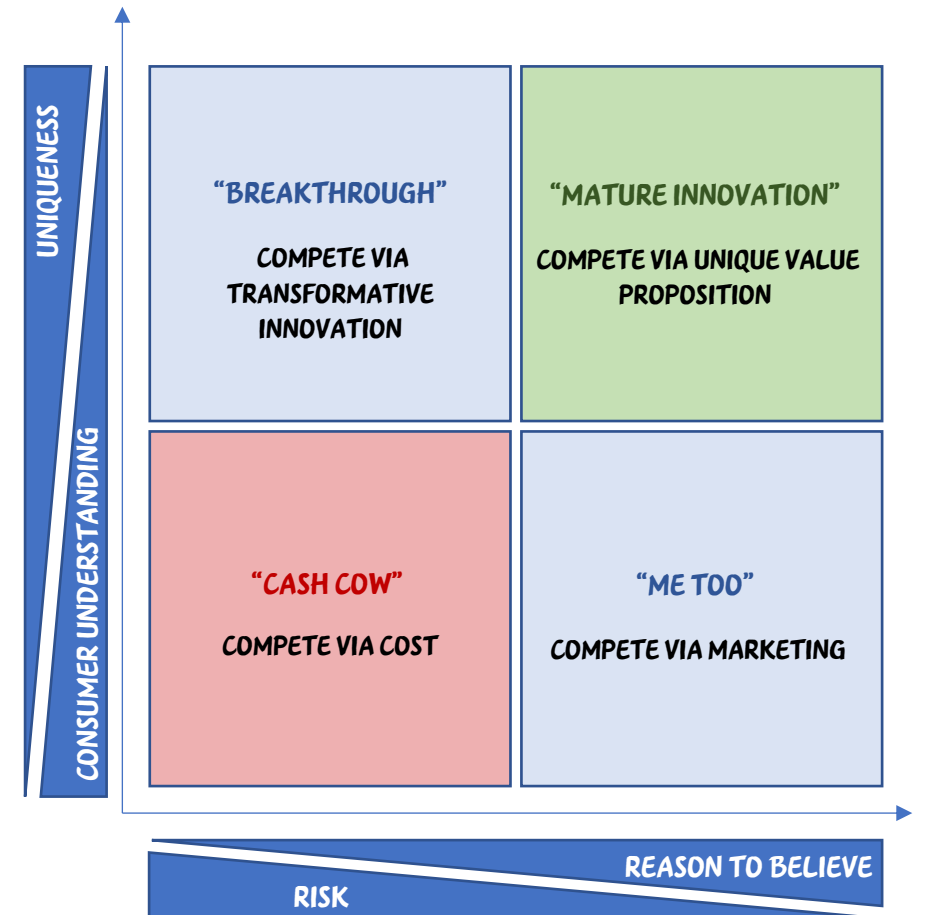


Is the technology mature?

Are consumers ready (know & trust)?

Is the price acceptable?

# Innovation balance: uniqueness vs risk



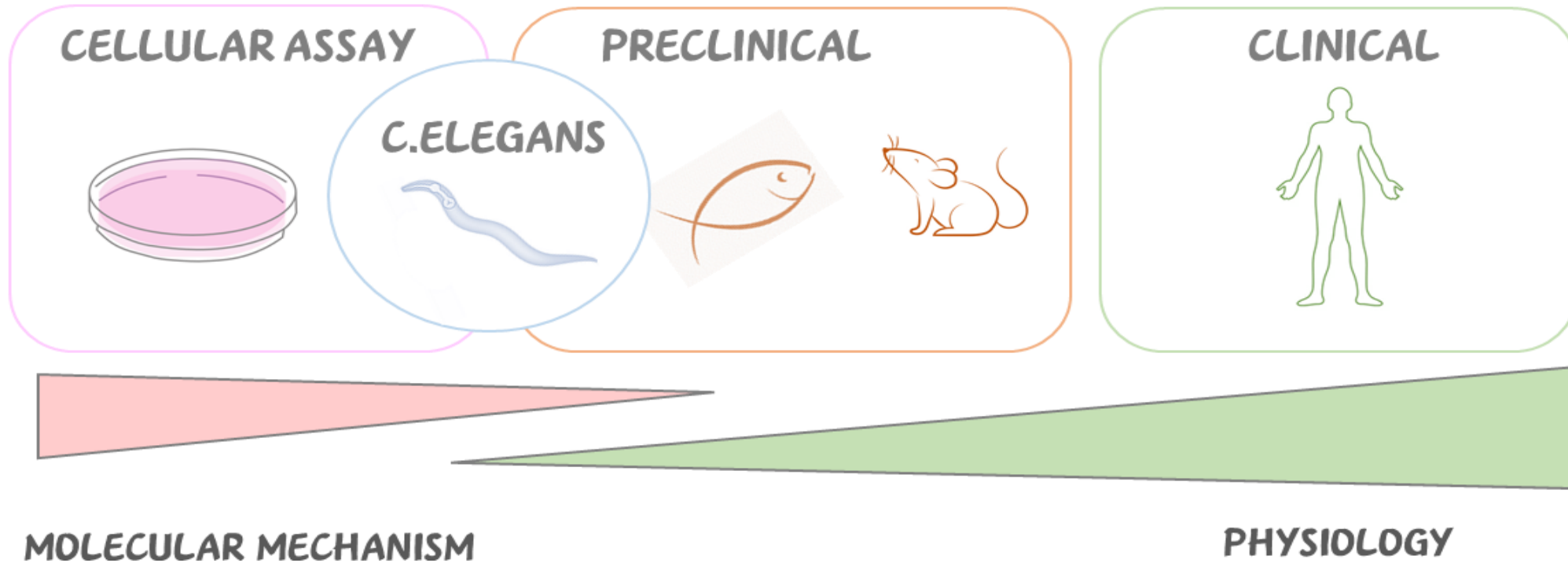
# What are strong reasons to believe for nutrition & health

- Existing **interventional clinical trials**:
  - With ingredient in same population
  - With ingredient in a different population
  - With different ingredient targeting similar mechanism
- **Observational clinical trial or epidemiology** linking the ingredient to a health benefit
- Existing **preclinical science** on ingredient or mechanism of action:
  - Ingredient  $\Rightarrow$  health benefit
  - Ingredient  $\Rightarrow$  mechanism & mechanism  $\Rightarrow$  health benefit
- **Human genetics** (+ mouse genetics if translation of model well validated)



# How to chose a preclinical model

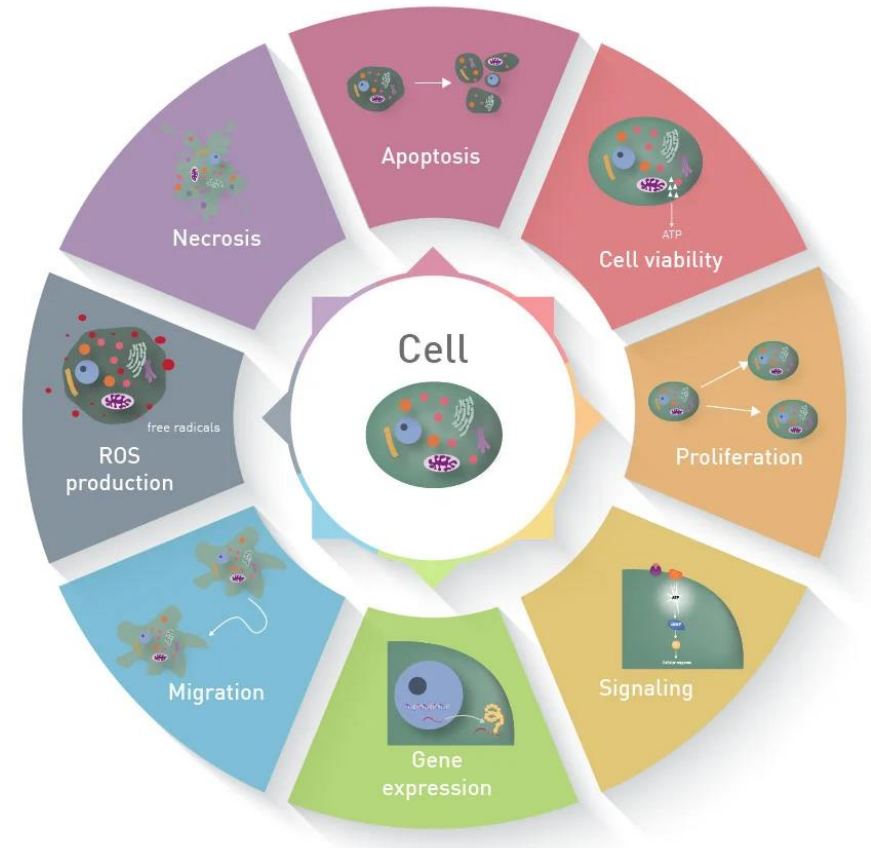
## RELEVANCE & TRANSLATABILITY vs SPEED & COST



There is no perfect model: need to understand if the model predicts well the final physiology

# Biochemical & cellular assays

	Biochemical Assays	Cell Based Assays
DEFINITION	Biological assays are target based in-vitro biochemical tools for analyzing biomolecules quantitatively or qualitatively	Cell based assays are physiology-based assays that allow the detection of the response of biological organisms to a particular substance or biomolecule
SIGNIFICANCE	Target-based	Physiology-based
PURPOSE	Detect and quantify the activity of biomolecules/drugs	Allow the detection of the response of biological organisms/ systems to a particular substance

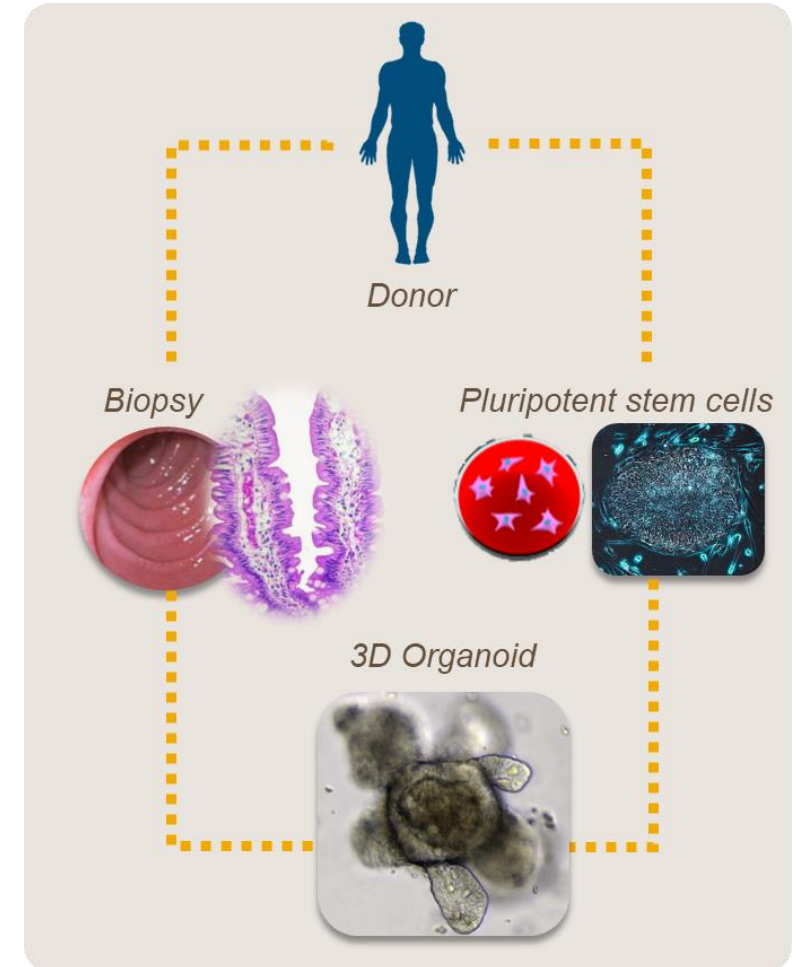
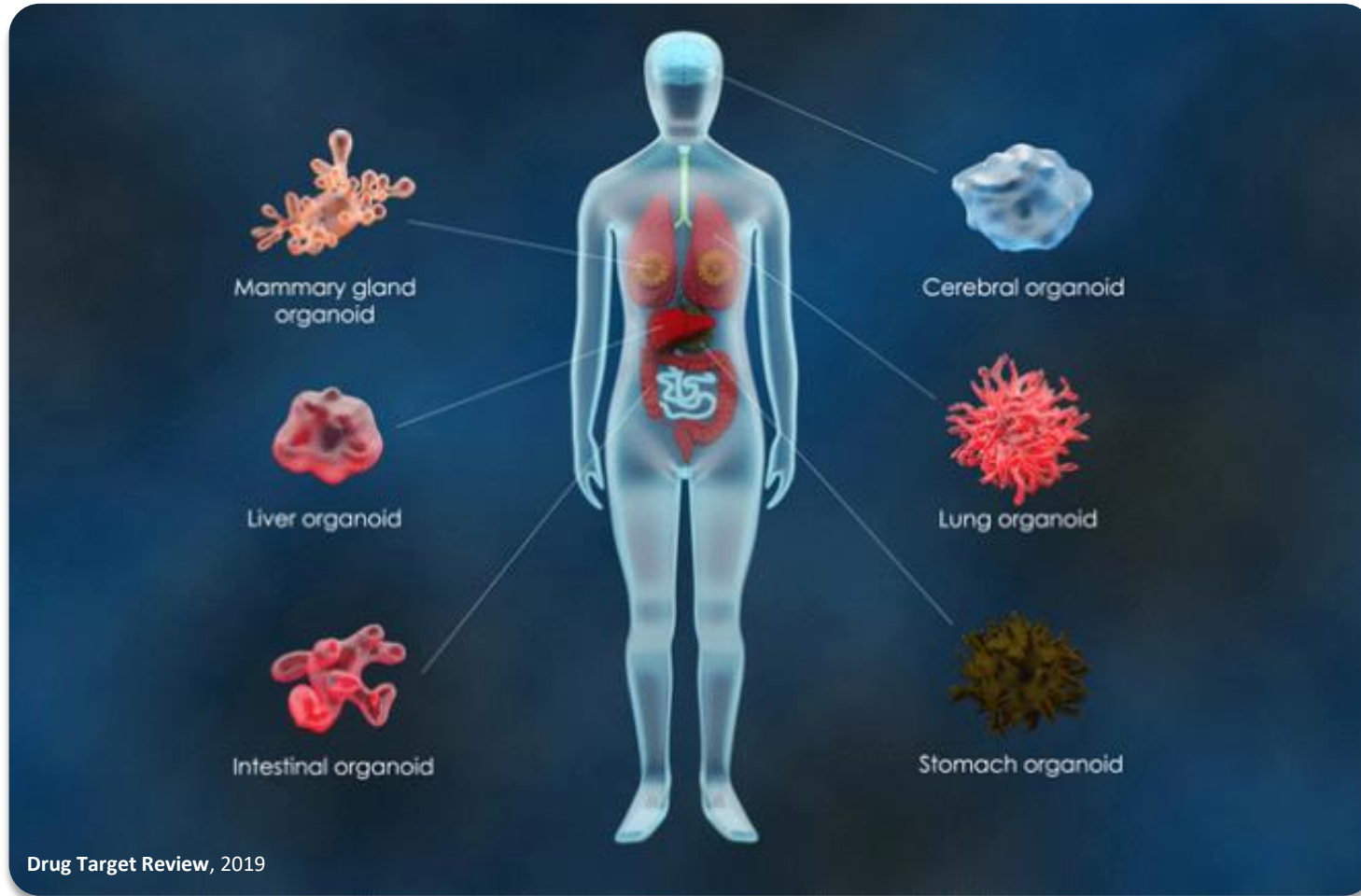


Does the nutrient reach the circulation?

Does the nutrient enter cells?

# Organoids

## A 3D non-animal *ex-vivo* approach to study human organ function



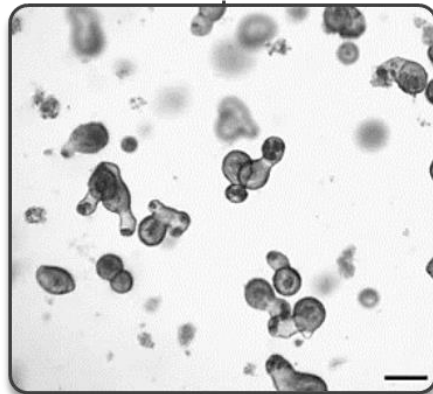
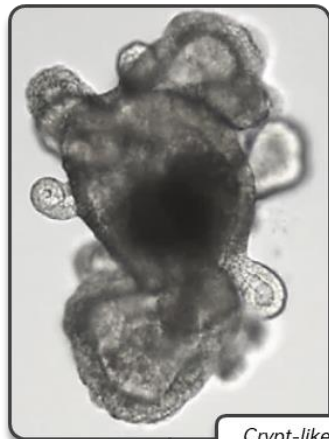
Advantages: 3D organization / specialization & communication of  $\neq$  cell types / simplified physiological function  
Limitations: doesn't model nutrient absorption & organ cross-talk



# Example of intestinal organoids

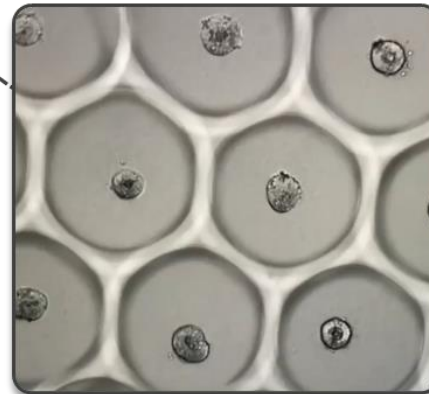
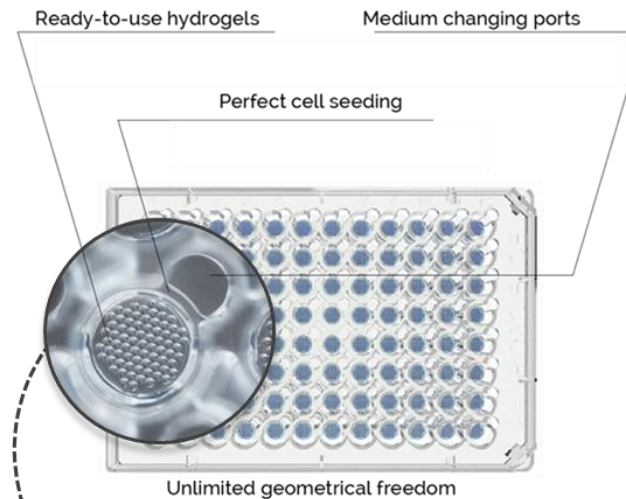
## Towards modelling diet–microbiome–host interactions

**1<sup>st</sup> Gen:** Self-organizing biopsy-derived mini-gut organoids



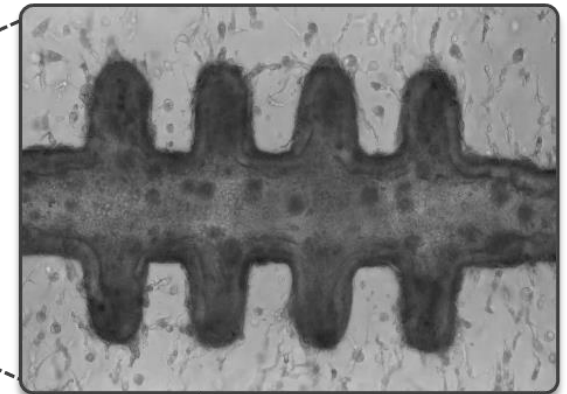
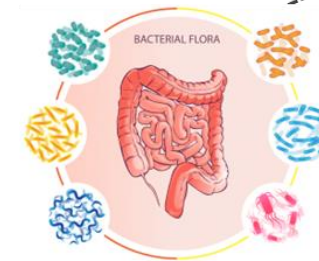
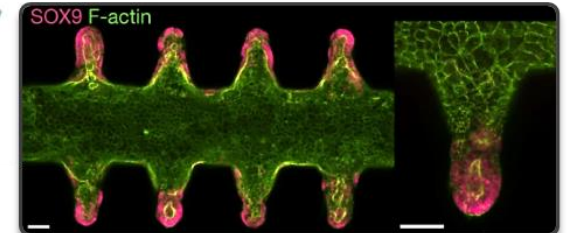
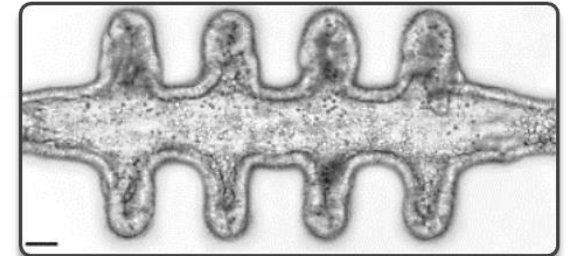
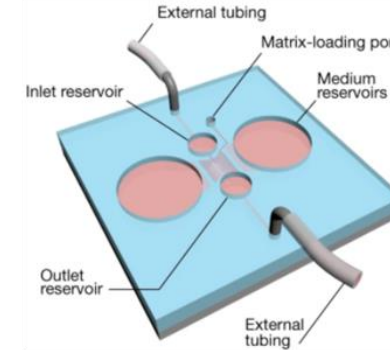
T. Sato et al. *Nature* (2009)

**2<sup>nd</sup> Gen:** High-throughput automated organoid culture in microcavity arrays



N. Brandenburg, S. Hoehnel, F. Kuttler et al. *Nat. Biomed. Eng.* (2020)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Gen:** Tube-shaped mini-guts using organoids-on-a-chip platform



SUNBIOSCIENCE

M. Nikolaev et al. *Nature* (2020)

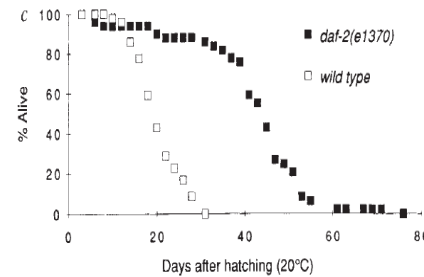


# C. elegans: A simple living organism to study complex biology

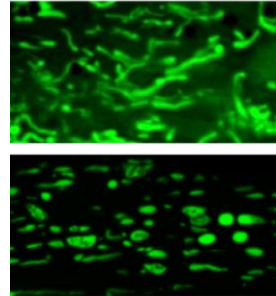


- ✓ Eukaryotic nematode
- ✓ Multicellular and multi-tissular
- ✓ Short-lived
- ✓ Easy to manipulate genetically
- ✓ No ethics approval

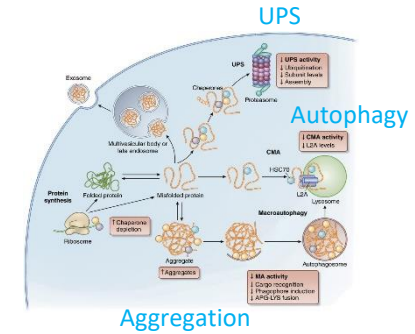
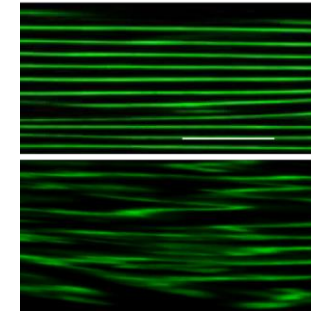
## Lifespan studies



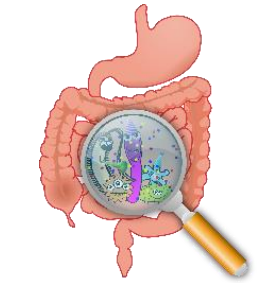
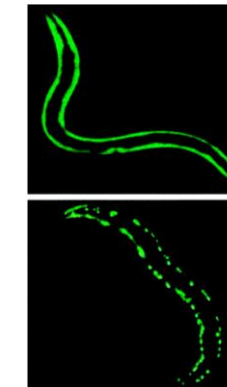
## Mitochondrial interventions



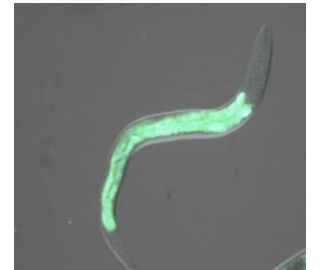
## Muscle homeostasis



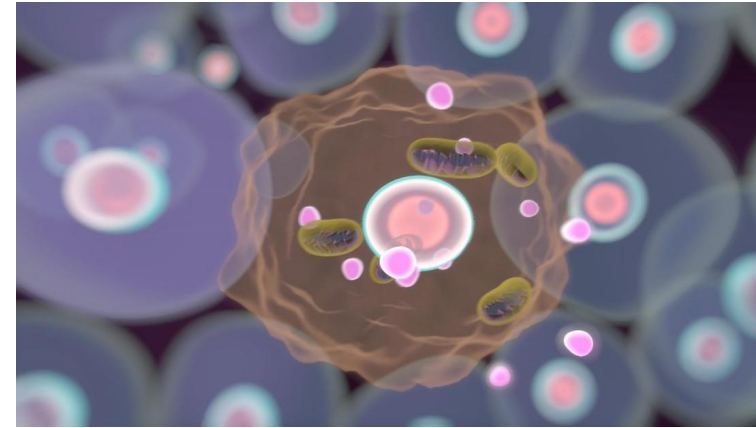
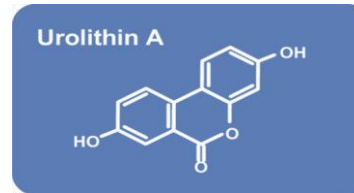
## Proteostasis/aggregation



## Gut function



# Example of *C. elegans* application for the health benefits of Urolithin A

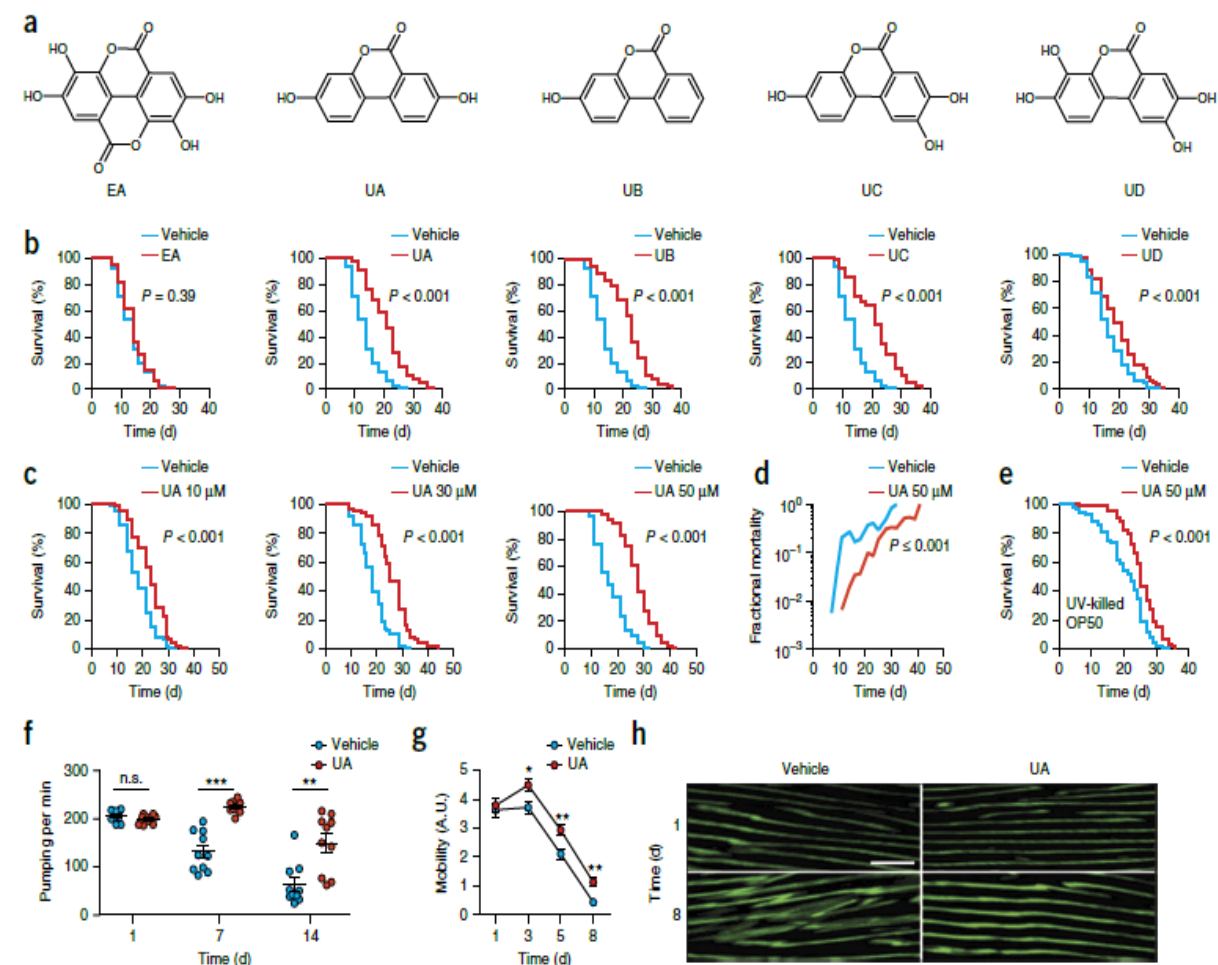


**nature  
medicine**

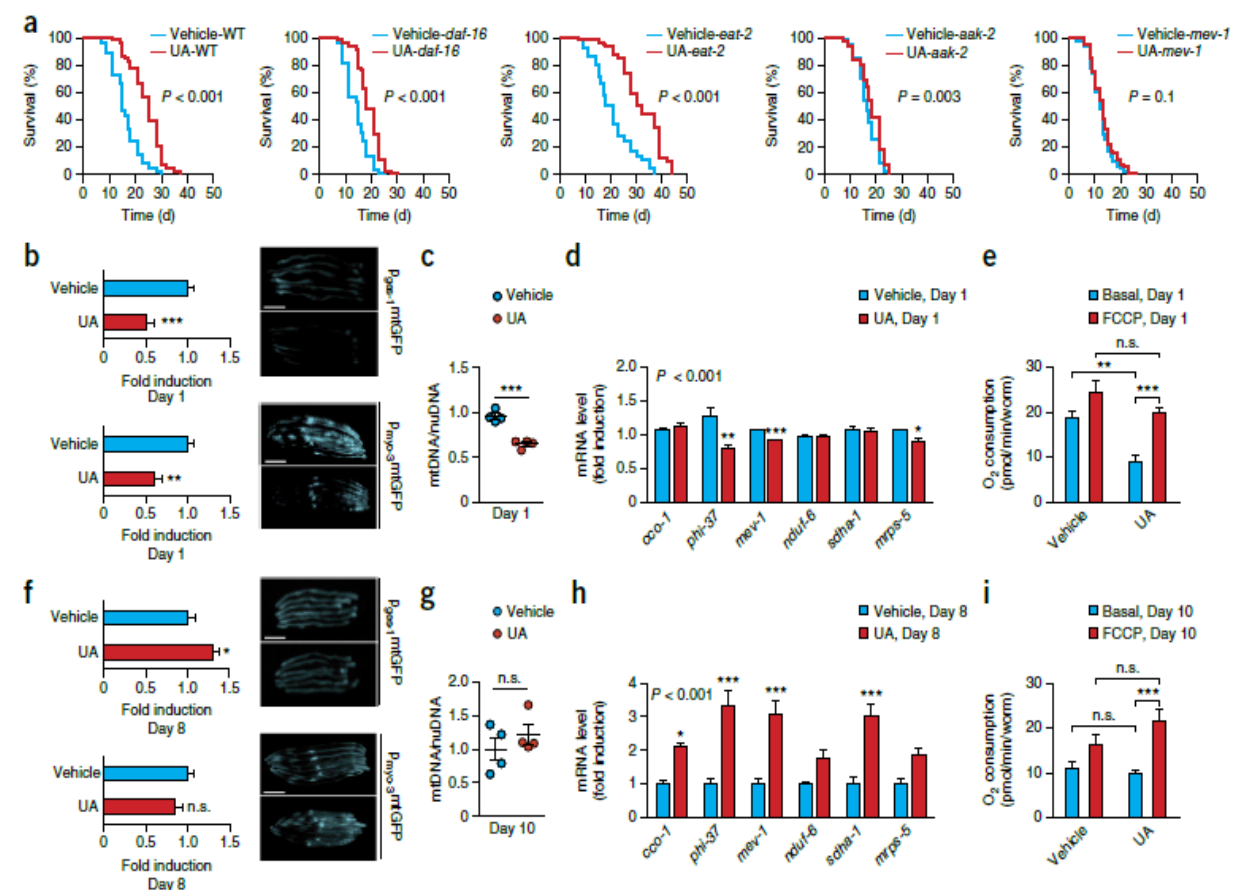
Urolithin A induces mitophagy and prolongs lifespan in *C. elegans* and increases muscle function in rodents

Dongryeol Ryu<sup>1,5</sup>, Laurent Mouchiroud<sup>1,5</sup>, Pénélope A Andreux<sup>1,2,5</sup>, Elena Katsyuba<sup>1</sup>, Norman Moullan<sup>1</sup>, Amandine A Nicolet-dit-Félix<sup>1</sup>, Evan G Williams<sup>1</sup>, Pooja Jha<sup>1</sup>, Giuseppe Lo Sasso<sup>1</sup>, Damien Huzard<sup>3</sup>, Patrick Aebischer<sup>4</sup>, Carmen Sandi<sup>3</sup>, Chris Rinsch<sup>2</sup> & Johan Auwerx<sup>1</sup>\*

# Example of c. elegans application for the health benefits of Urolithin A



**Figure 1** UA improves fitness and extends lifespan. (a) Chemical structures of EA and its derived metabolites UA, UB, UC and UD. (b) Lifespan of worms treated with 50  $\mu$ M EA, UA, UB, UC or UD, or with vehicle (1% DMSO). (c) Lifespan of worms treated with 10, 30 or 50  $\mu$ M UA, or the corresponding concentration of vehicle. (d) Mortality rate in worms treated with 50  $\mu$ M UA or vehicle. (e) Lifespan of worms maintained on UV-killed OP50 bacteria treated with 50  $\mu$ M UA or vehicle. For **b,c,e**,  $P$  values represent comparison with vehicle calculated using log rank test. (f) Pharyngeal pumping at days 1, 7 and 14 of adulthood in worms treated with 50  $\mu$ M UA or vehicle ( $n = 10$ ). Values are mean  $\pm$  s.e.m.  $n.s.$ , not significant;  $**P \leq 0.01$ ,  $***P \leq 0.001$  by unpaired  $t$  test. (g) Mobility of worms in arbitrary units (A.U.) at days 1, 3, 5 and 8 of adulthood in worms treated with 50  $\mu$ M UA or vehicle ( $n = 10$ ). Values are mean  $\pm$  s.e.m.  $*P \leq 0.05$ ,  $**P \leq 0.01$ ; by two-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Bonferroni post-tests. (h) Representative images ( $n = 5$  images per group) of muscle morphology at days 1 and 8 of adulthood of  $p_{myo-3}::GFP$  worms treated with 50  $\mu$ M UA or vehicle. Scale bar, 8  $\mu$ m. Data are representative of at least two independent experiments. See also **Supplementary Figures 1–3** and **Supplementary Tables 1 and 2**.



**Figure 2** UA alters mitochondrial functions in *C. elegans*. (a) Lifespan of wild-type, *daf-16(mu86)*, *eat-2(ad465)*, *aak-2(ok524)* and *mev-1(kn1)* mutants treated with UA or vehicle.  $P$  values compared with vehicle calculated using log-rank test. (b) Representative images (right,  $n = 3$ ) and GFP quantification (left,  $n = 8$ ) of mitochondrial content at day 1 of adulthood in intestinal ( $p_{ges-1}mtGFP$ ; top) and muscle ( $p_{myo-3}mtGFP$ ; bottom) mito::GFP reporter strains treated with UA or vehicle. (c) mtDNA/nuDNA ratio at day 1 of adulthood in wild-type worms treated with UA or vehicle ( $n = 4$ ). For **b,c**,  $**P \leq 0.01$ ,  $***P \leq 0.001$ ; by unpaired  $t$  test. (d) Gene expression at day 1 of adulthood in wild-type worms treated with UA or vehicle ( $n = 5$ ).  $*P \leq 0.05$ ,  $**P \leq 0.01$ ,  $***P \leq 0.001$ ; by one-way ANOVA. (e) Respiration at basal level and after short-term incubation with 10  $\mu$ M FCCP on day 1 of adulthood in wild-type worms treated with UA or vehicle ( $n = 5$ ).  $**P \leq 0.01$ ,  $***P \leq 0.001$ ;  $n.s.$ , not significant; by two-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni post-tests. (f) Representative images (right,  $n = 3$ ) and GFP quantification (left,  $n = 8$ ) of mitochondrial content at day 8 of adulthood in intestinal ( $p_{ges-1}mtGFP$ ; top) and muscle ( $p_{myo-3}mtGFP$ ; bottom) mito::GFP reporter strains treated with UA or vehicle ( $n = 8$ ). (g) mtDNA/nuDNA ratio on day 10 of adulthood in wild-type worms treated with UA or vehicle ( $n = 4$ ). For **f,g**,  $*P \leq 0.05$ ;  $n.s.$ , not significant; by unpaired  $t$ -test. (h) Gene expression on day 8 of adulthood in wild-type worms treated with UA or vehicle ( $n = 5$ ).  $*P \leq 0.05$ ,  $***P \leq 0.001$ ; by one-way ANOVA. (i) Respiration at basal level and after short-term incubation with 10  $\mu$ M FCCP on day 10 of adulthood in wild-type worms treated with UA or vehicle ( $n = 5$ ).  $***P \leq 0.001$ ;  $n.s.$ , not significant; by two-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni post-tests. For **b,f**, scale bars, 250  $\mu$ m. UA was used at 50  $\mu$ M. Values are mean  $\pm$  s.e.m. Data are representative of at least two independent experiments. See also **Supplementary Figure 3** and **Supplementary Table 1**.



# Animal models for nutrition science

# RATS



## MICE



Genetically identical

Environmental  
conditions  
controlled

### Applications:

## Safety

## Genetic modifications

## Diet-induced phenotypes

## FARM ANIMALS

**(VERY RARE, FOR COMPLEX PHYSIOLOGY)**



## Metabolic and Cardiovascular Disease Animal Models

[illegible]

**Animal Model Evaluation Program**  
Assess the quality of your animal models at no cost and no commitment. Visit us at [www.ahpbc.com/maee](http://www.ahpbc.com/maee)



<https://www.criver.com/user/login?destination=/info-pi-rm-resources-metabolic-cardiovascular-disease-animal-models-na>



## Normal diet

High fat diet  
(12 weeks)



db/db mice  
Leptin receptor mutant

**EPFL**

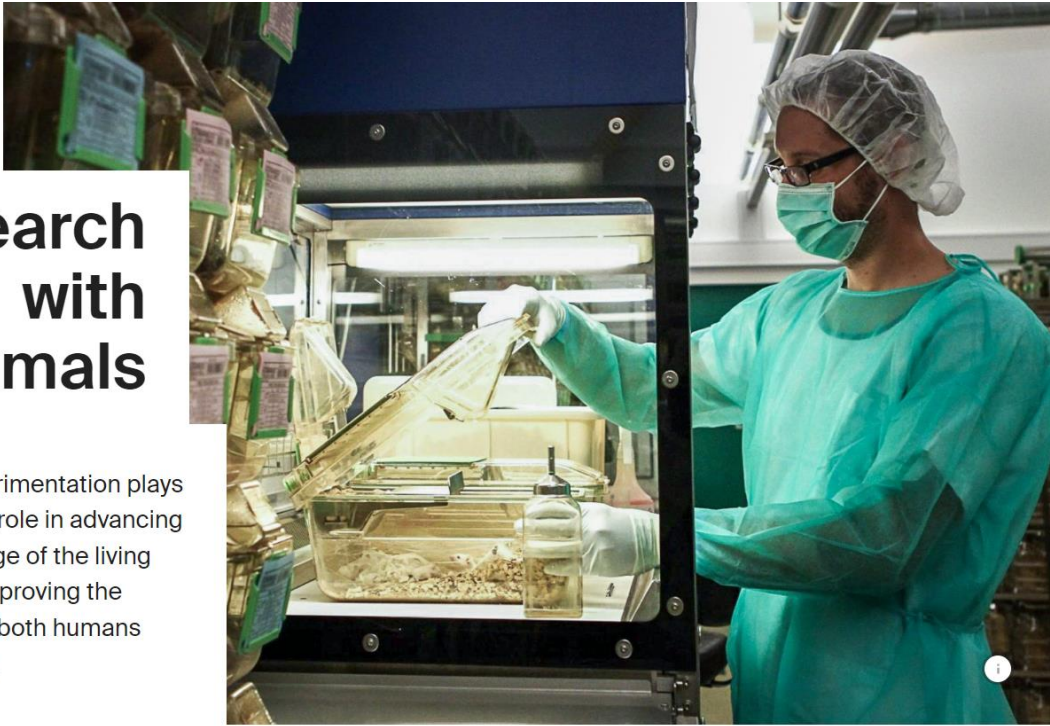


# Animal research at EPFL

<https://www.epfl.ch/research/experimentation-research-with-animals/>

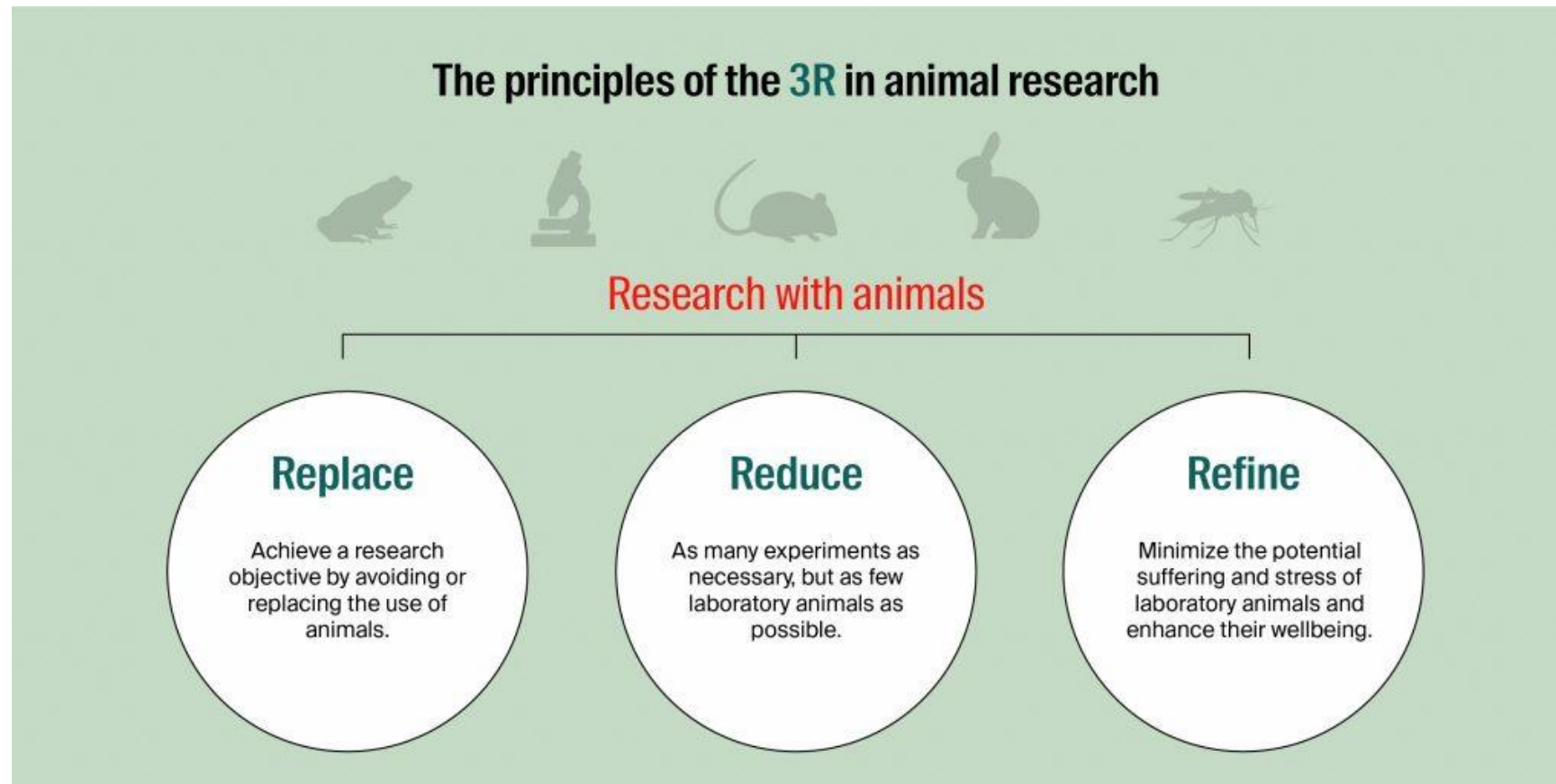
## Research with animals

Animal experimentation plays a significant role in advancing our knowledge of the living world and improving the wellbeing of both humans and animals.



Animal research is regulated in Switzerland (project approval & training of researchers)

<https://www.blv.admin.ch/blv/en/home/tiere/tierversuche.html>



<https://swiss3rcc.org/>