

# Gene-guided Nutrition Interventions

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# Steven Zeisel Disclosures

## AFFILIATION/FINANCIAL INTERESTS      CORPORATE ORGANIZATION

**Grants/Research Support:**

**NIH, USDA, Balchem**

**Scientific Advisory Board/Consultant:**

**Metabolon, CFEN, SNPitty, Enzymotec, Ingenuity Foods, Second Science**

**Speakers' Support/Honorarium:**

**Balchem, Nutrpharma**

**Stock Shareholder:**

**Zthera**

**Other Financial or Material Support/Honorarium:**

**None**



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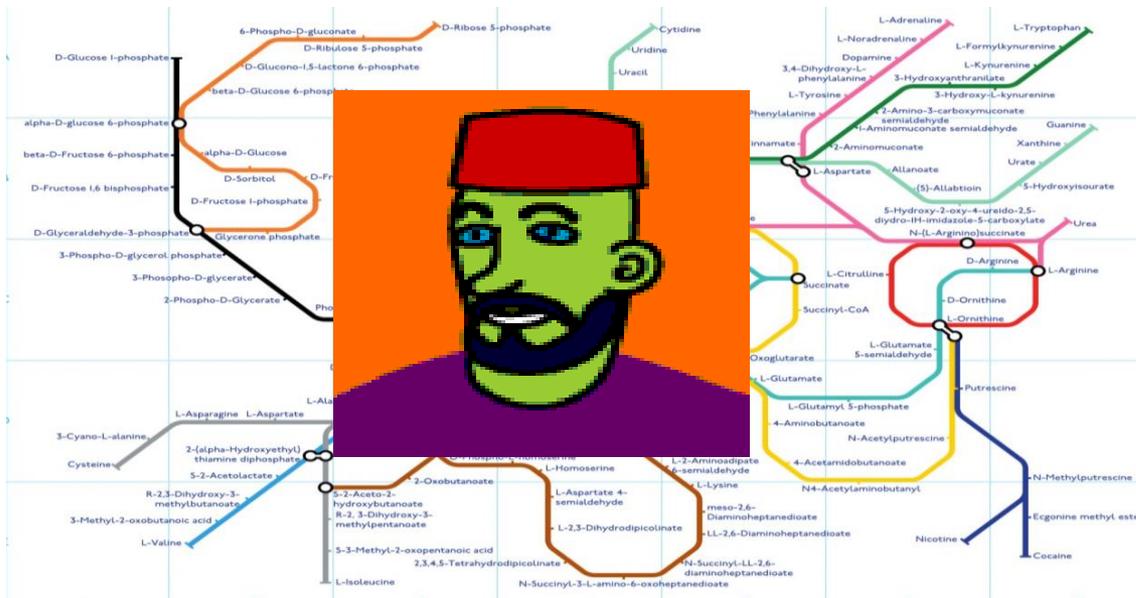
*Gene-guided medical foods*  
[www.zthera.com](http://www.zthera.com)

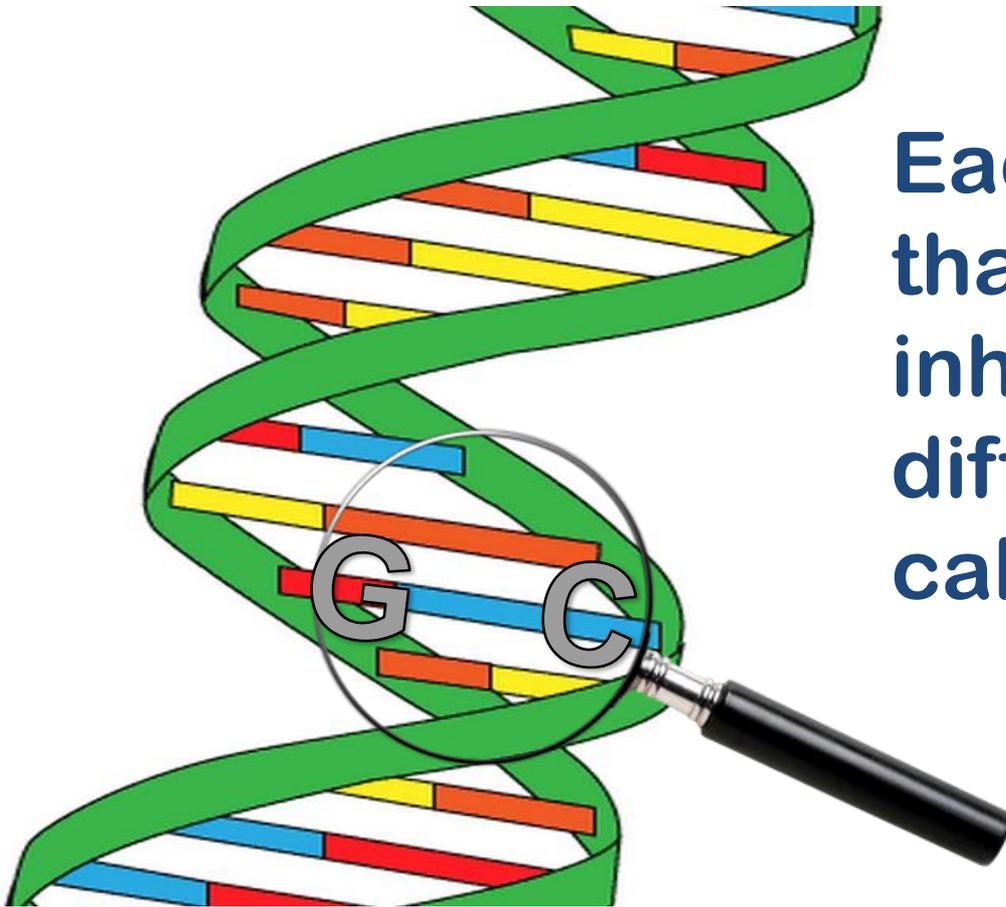
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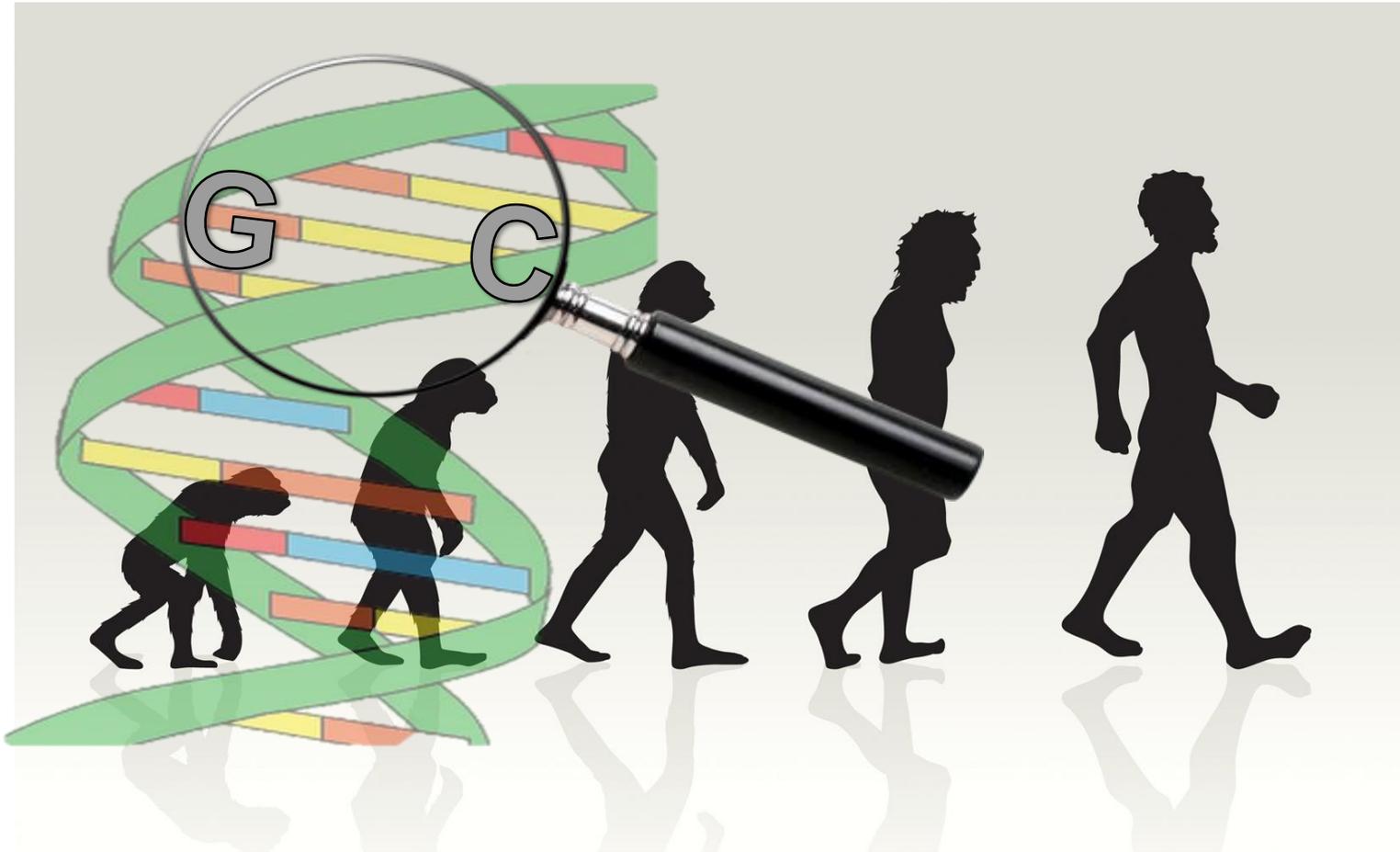
# Modern science tells us that people are metabolically different





Each of us has more than 50,000 common, inherited “spelling” differences in our genes called SNPs.

# We inherited them from our ancestors.



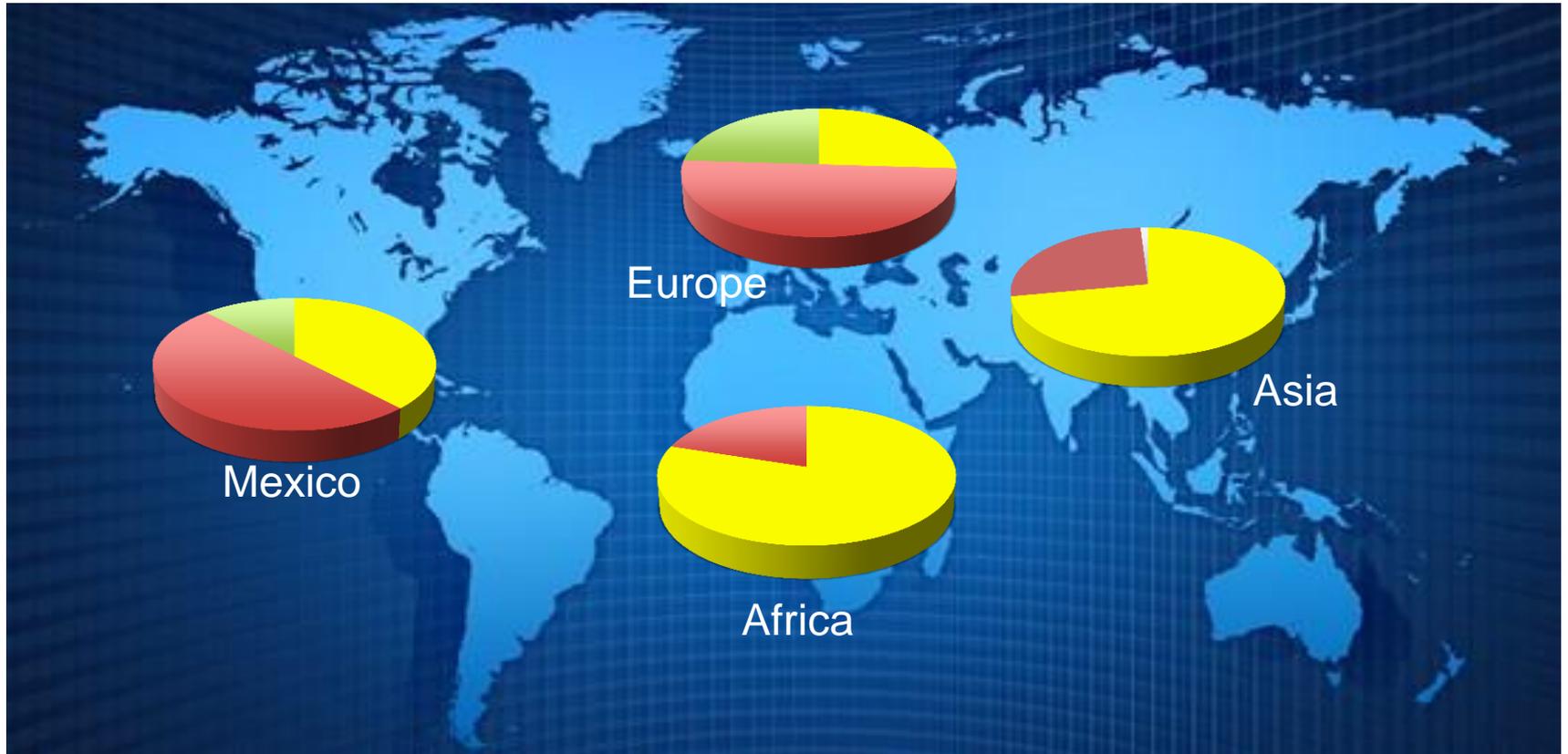
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# Populations differ in distribution of many SNPS



GG GC CC

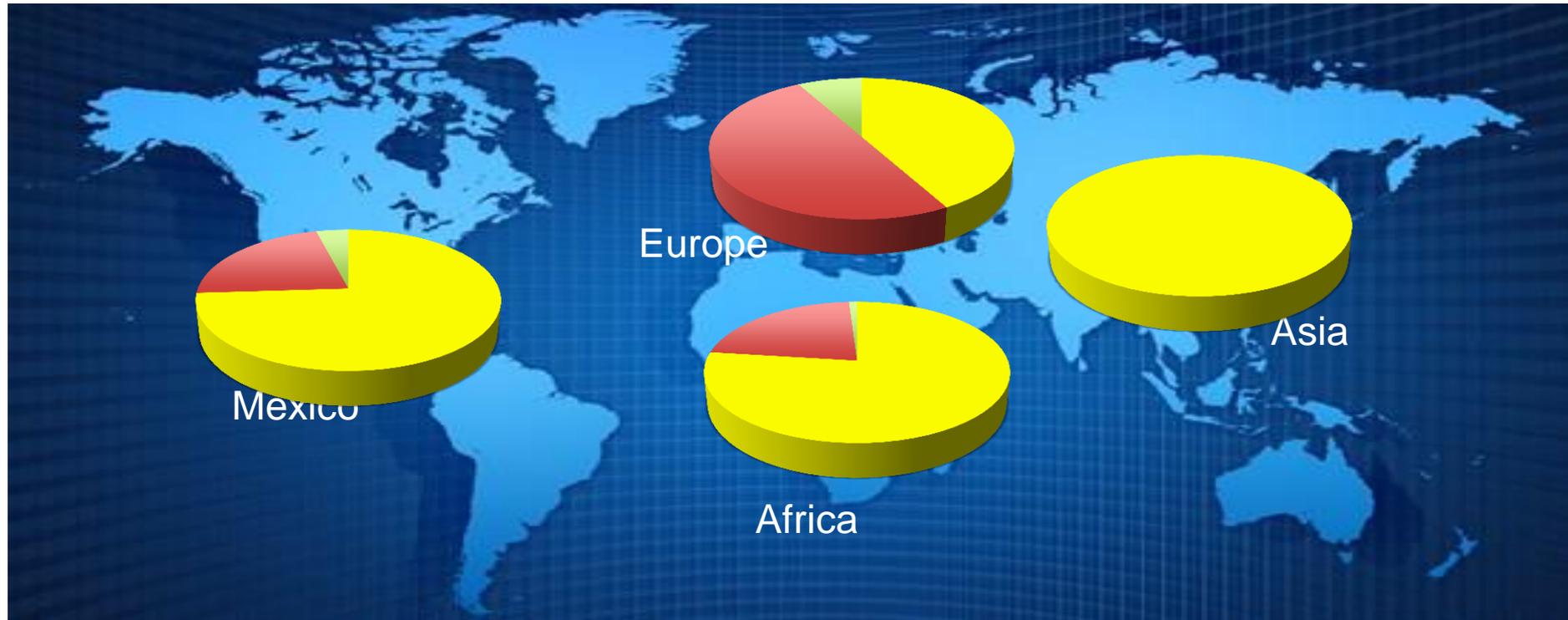
Need more choline

rs12325817

PEMT G→C



# Populations differ in distribution of many SNPS



**Populations differ in distribution of many SNPS**

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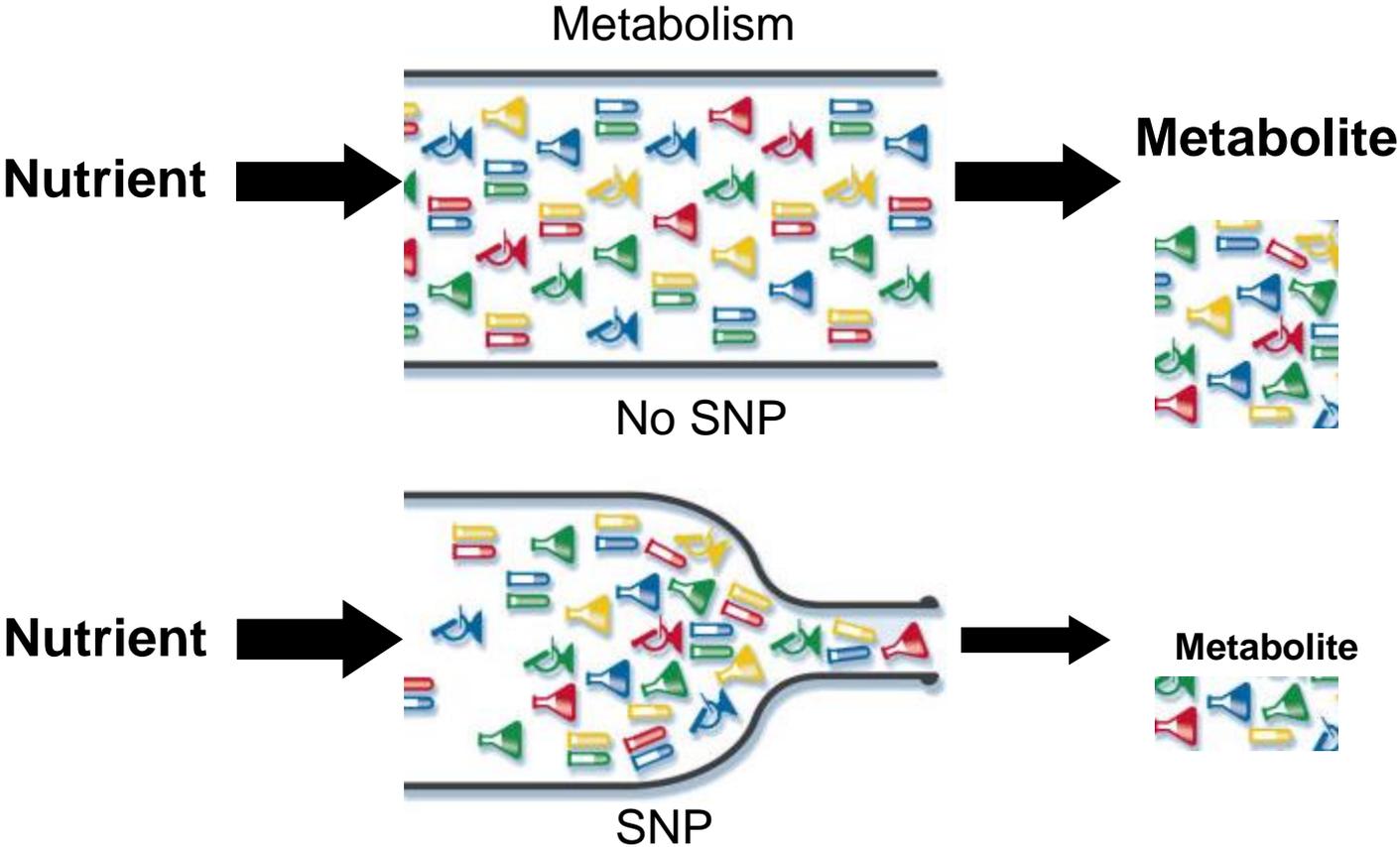
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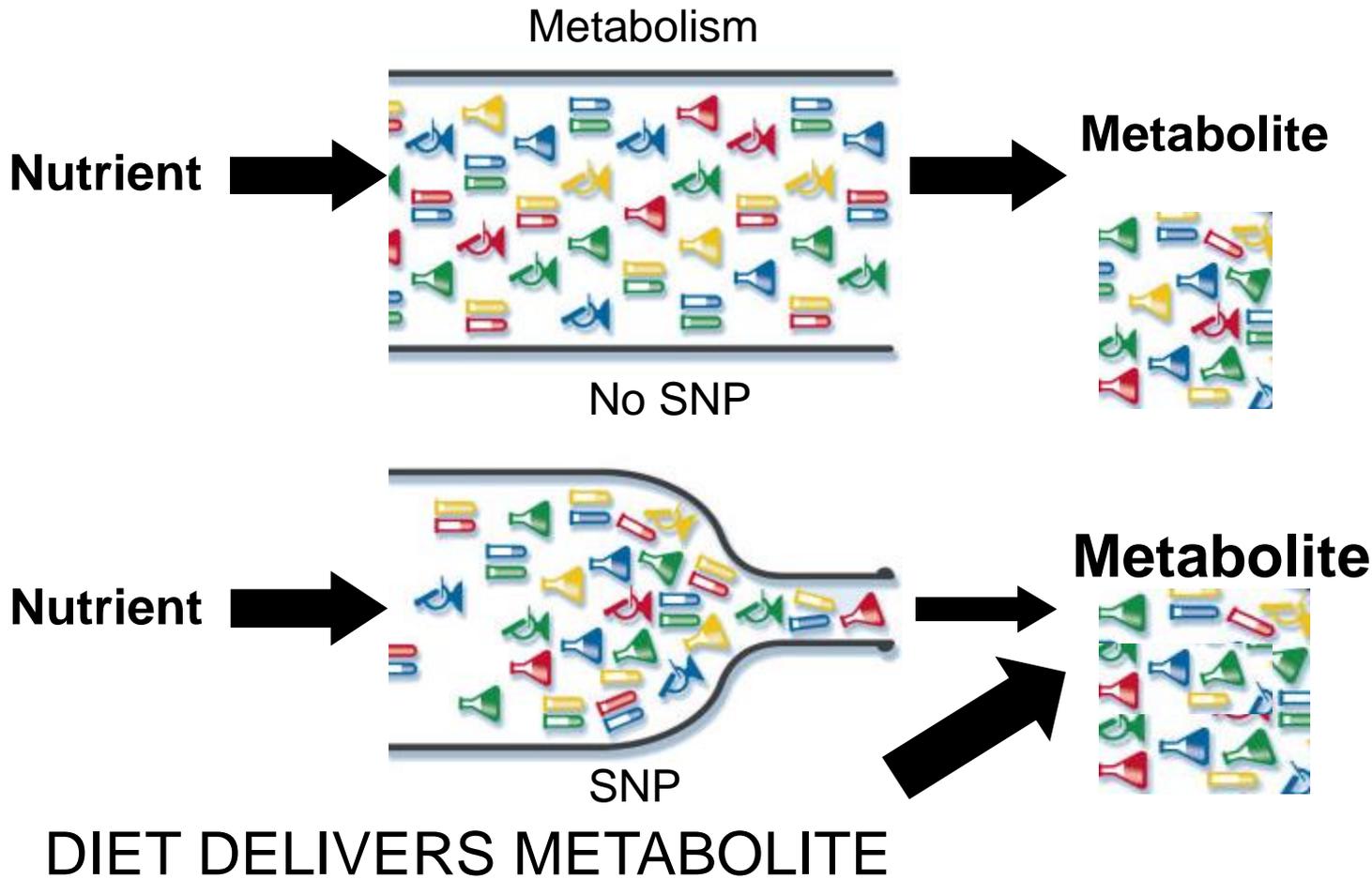




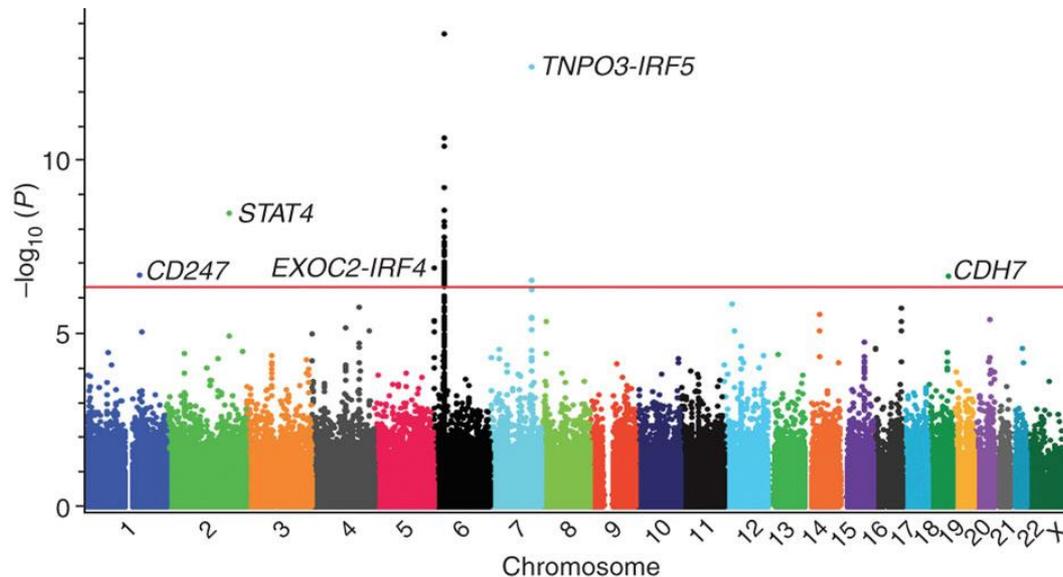
# These genetic roadblocks can make metabolism inefficient



# Diet may bypass roadblock caused by SNP



# Diet intake is often missing in GWAS studies

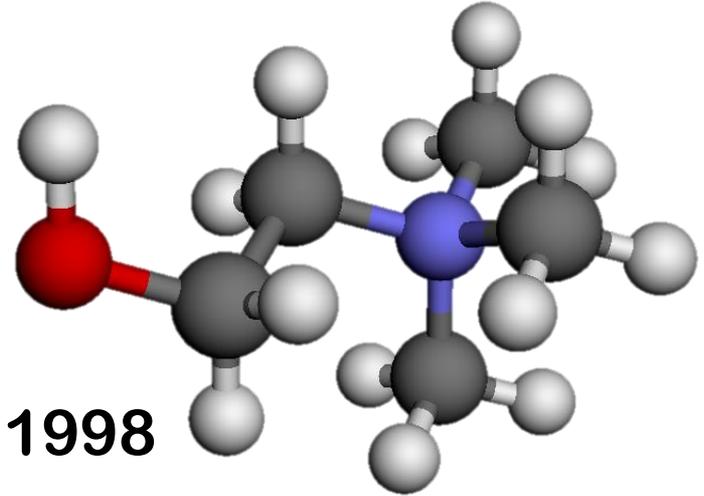


Thus, **GWAS studies miss important nutrition SNPs because high-diet nonresponders cancel out low-diet responders.**

Need to look at people **challenged by low or high intake.**

# Our work on expanding the catalog of metabolically important SNPs

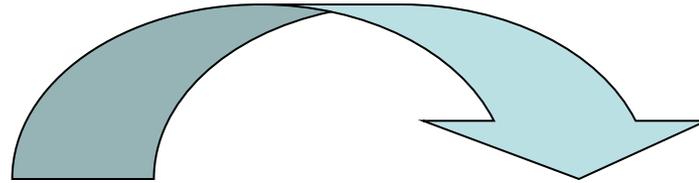
## CHOLINE



- IOM AI diet recommendation 1998
- FDA DRI 2016, good source labeling
- AMA 2016 recommends inclusion in prenatals
- Important for liver and muscle
- Critical for fetal development
- Human requirements vary by genotype

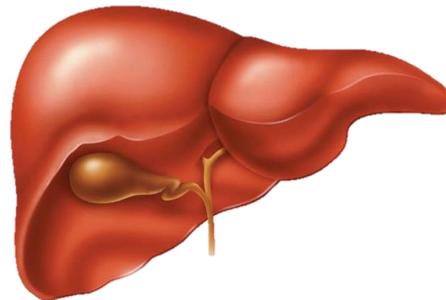
# Endogenous synthesis of choline

Phosphatidylethanolamine – *N*-methyltransferase  
**(PEMT)**



**3 S-adenosylmethionine +  
phosphatidylethanolamine**

**phosphatidyl**choline



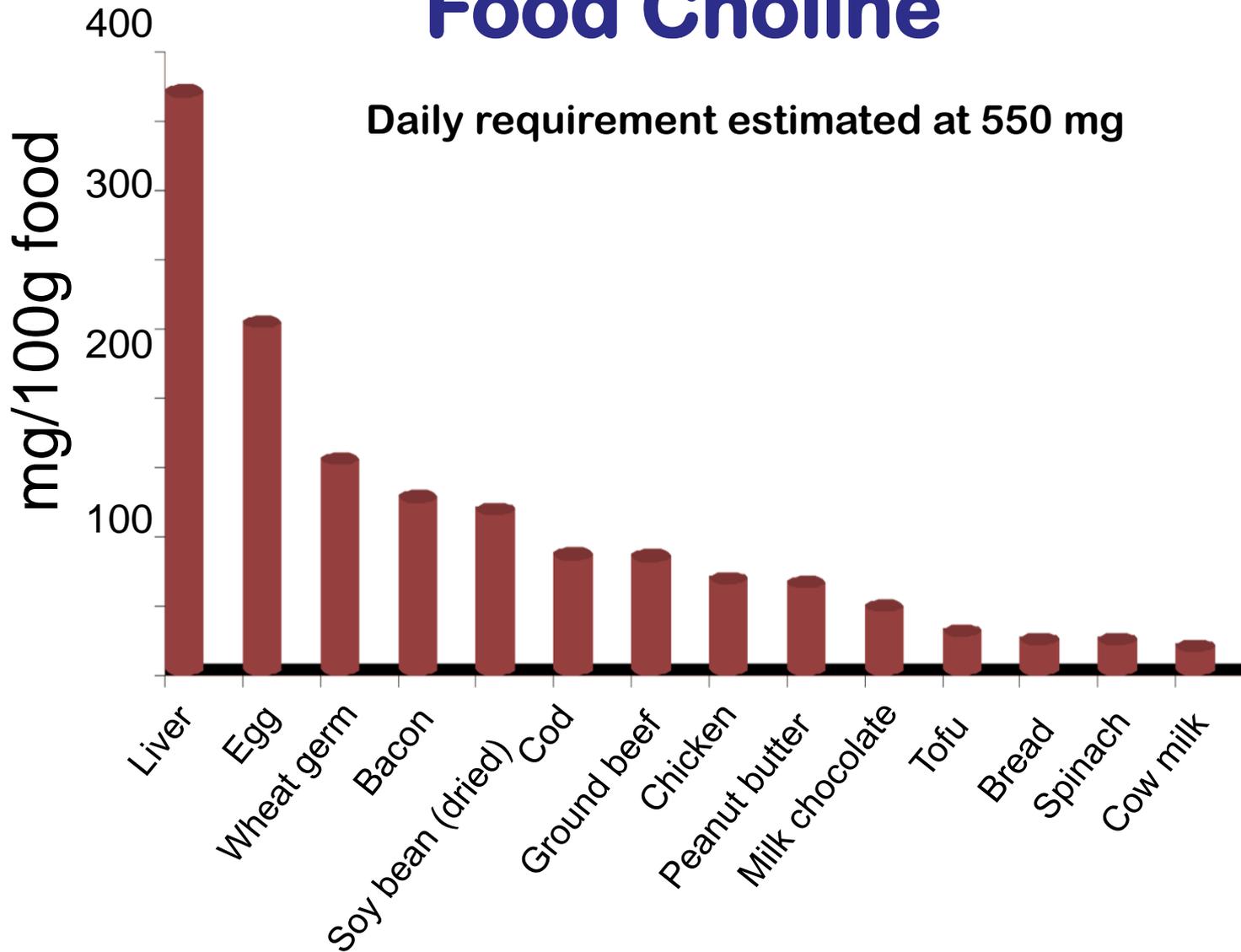
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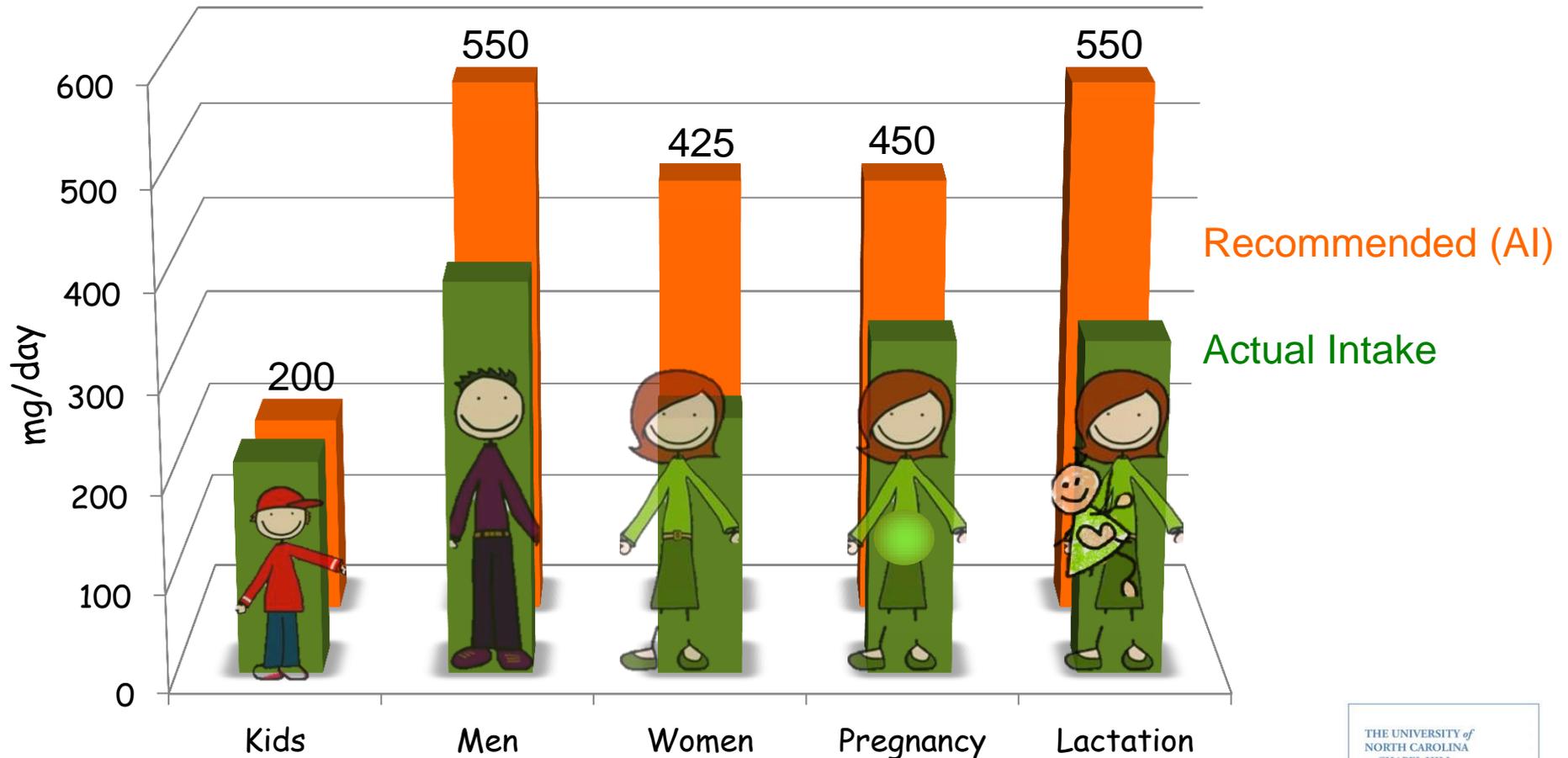
# Food Choline

Daily requirement estimated at 550 mg



From <http://www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=6232>

# Most Americans do not achieve Adequate Intake for choline.



NHANES 2009-2014

## US Recommendations for choline

Population and Age	Adequate Intake	Tolerable Upper Limit (UL)
Infants, mo		
0–6	125 mg/d, 18 mg/kg	Not possible to establish
6–12	150 mg/d	Not possible to establish
Children, y		
1–3	200 mg/d	1,000 mg/d
4–8	250 mg/d	1,000 mg/d
9–13	375 mg/d	2,000 mg/d
Men, y		
14–18	550 mg/d	3,000 mg/d
≥19	550 mg/d	3,500 mg/d
Women, y		
14–18	400 mg/d	3,000 mg/d
≥19	425 mg/d	3,500 mg/d
Pregnant	450 mg/d	Age-appropriate UL
Lactating	550 mg/d	Age-appropriate UL

Data from the Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences.<sup>11</sup>

**DRI**

**DIETARY REFERENCE INTAKES**

FOR

*Thiamin, Riboflavin,  
Niacin, Vitamin B<sub>6</sub>,  
Folate, Vitamin B<sub>12</sub>,  
Pantothenic Acid,  
Biotin, and Choline*

A Report of the  
Standing Committee on the Scientific Evaluation  
of Dietary Reference Intakes and its  
Panel on Folate, Other B Vitamins, and Choline and  
Subcommittee on Upper Reference Levels of Nutrients  
Food and Nutrition Board  
Institute of Medicine

NATIONAL ACADEMY PRESS  
Washington, D.C.

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# Most humans required dietary choline

Dietary requirement differs by gender



77%



80%



44%

developed fatty liver, liver damage or muscle damage associated with choline deficiency.

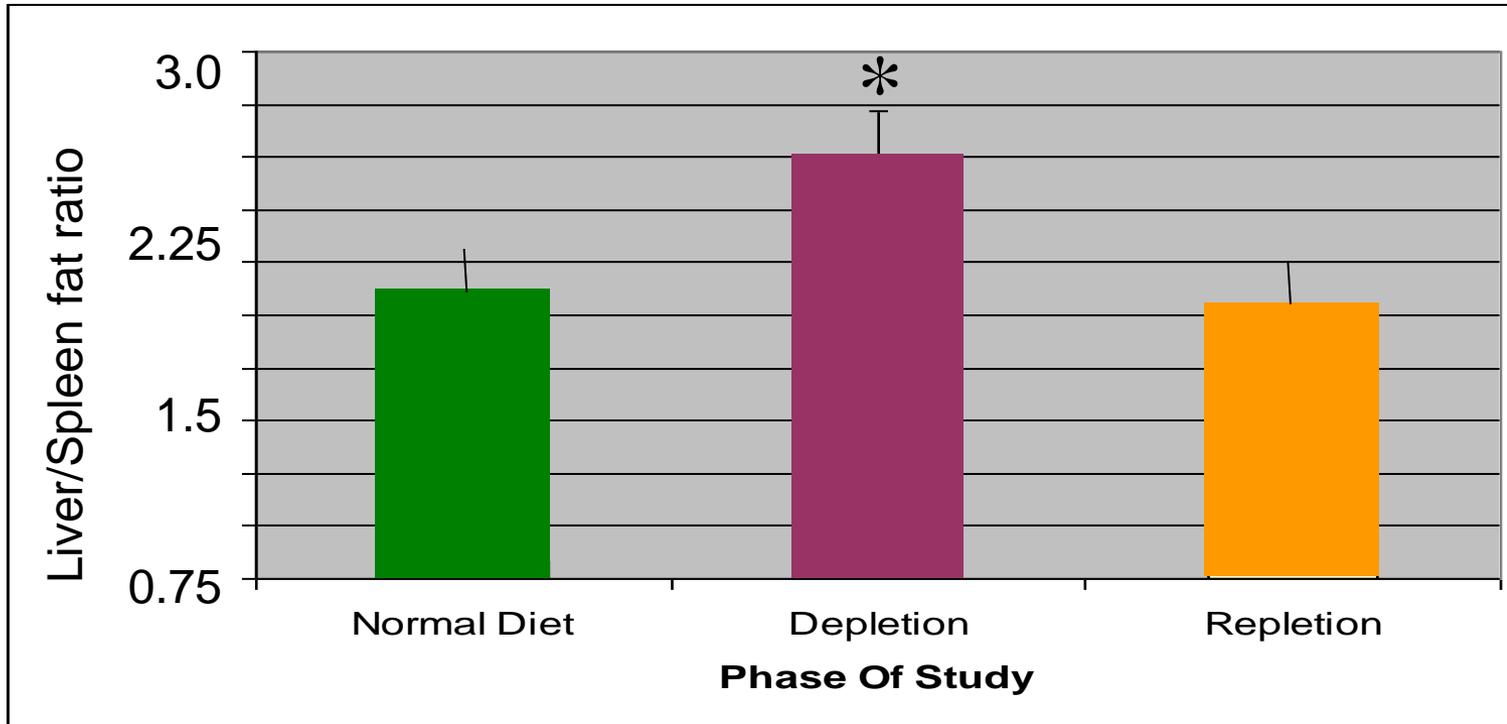
*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 85(5):1275-85 , 2007

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# Liver fat increases



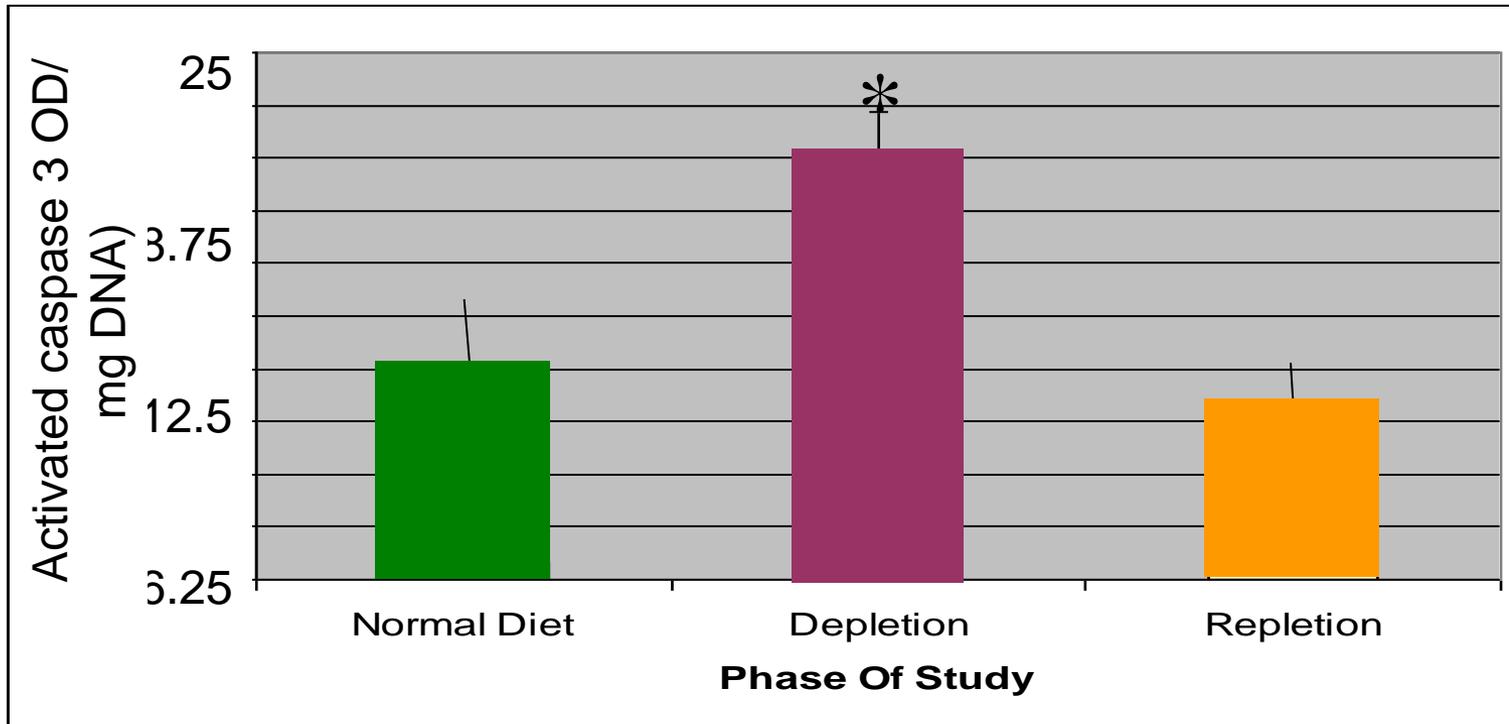
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# Cell suicide (apoptosis) activated in lymphocytes

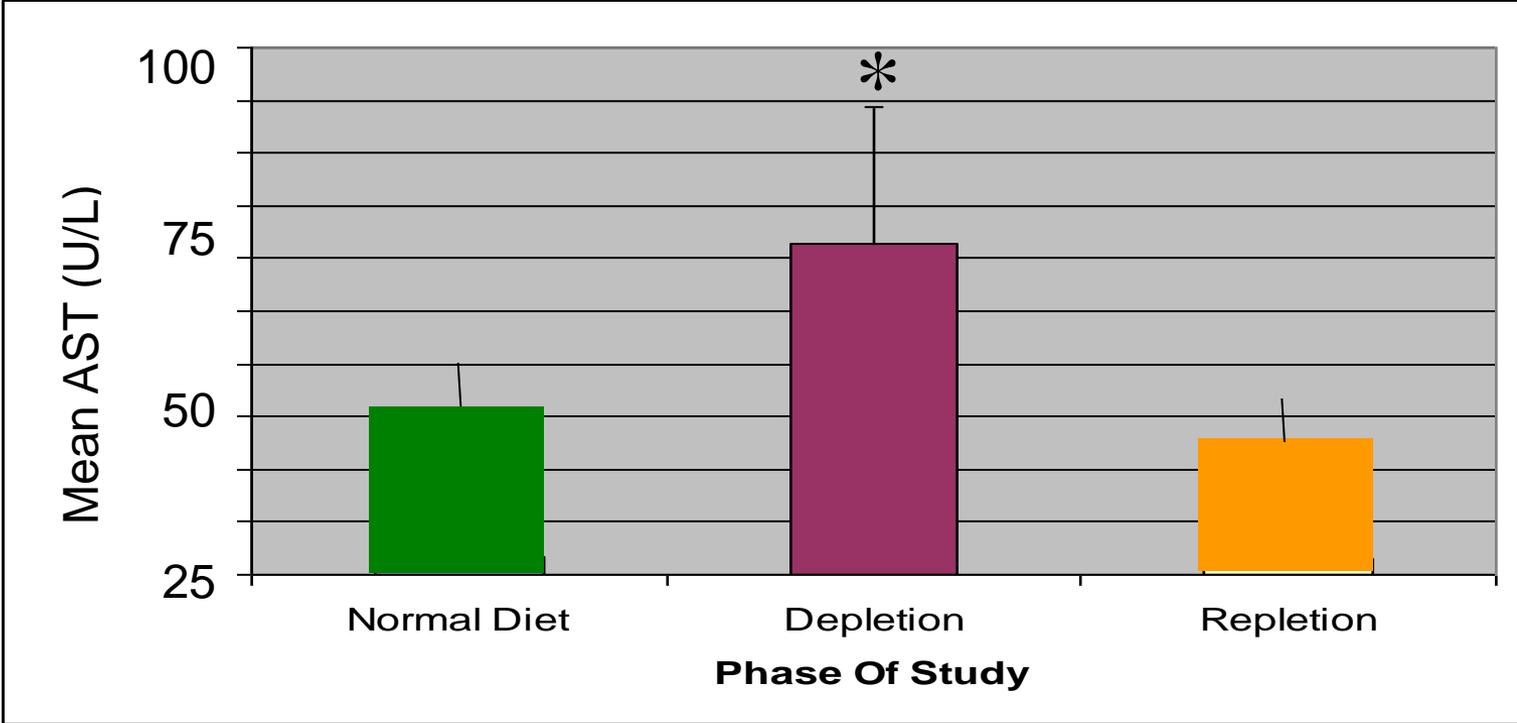


*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 85(5):1275-85 , 2007

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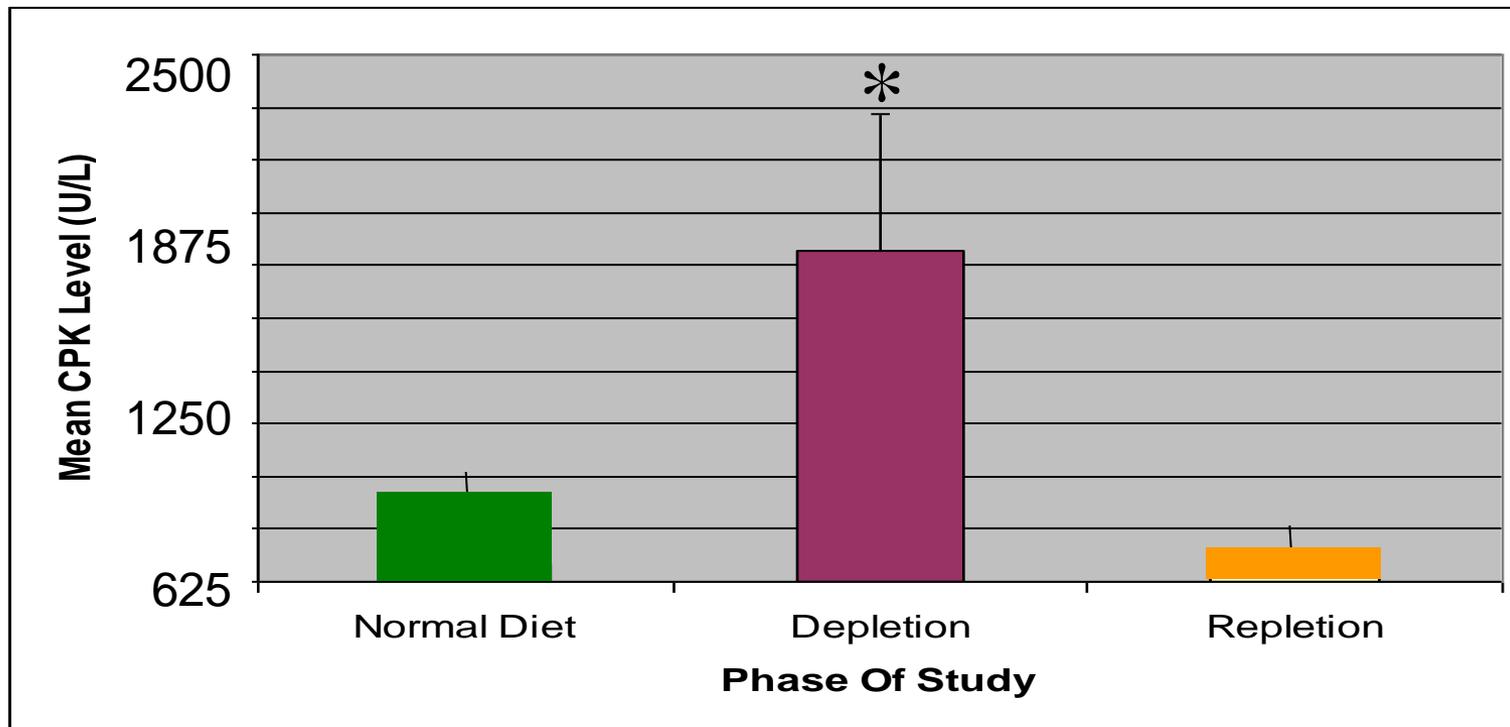
# Liver cells damaged



*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 85(5):1275-85 , 2007



# Muscle cells damaged



*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 85(5):1275-85, 2007

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# Why do some premenopausal women require less dietary choline?



23%



20%



56%

Did not need to eat choline for 42 days.

*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition* 85(5):1275-85 , 2007

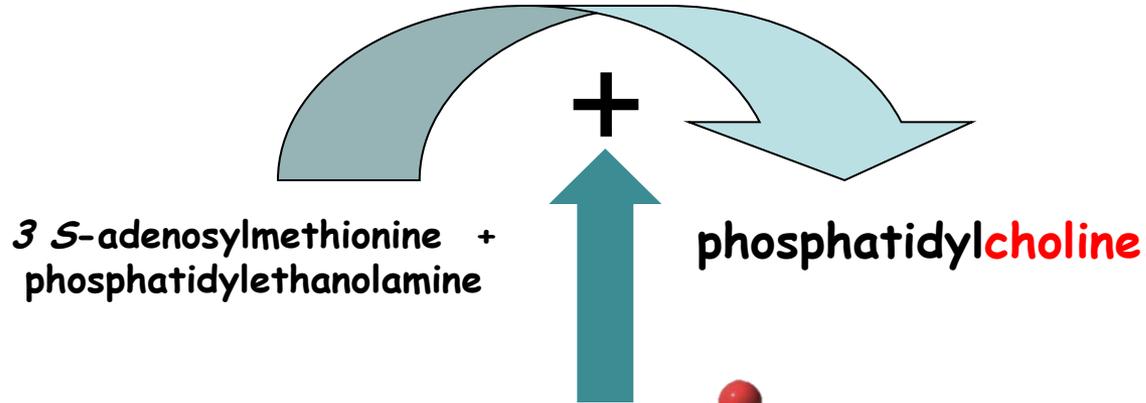
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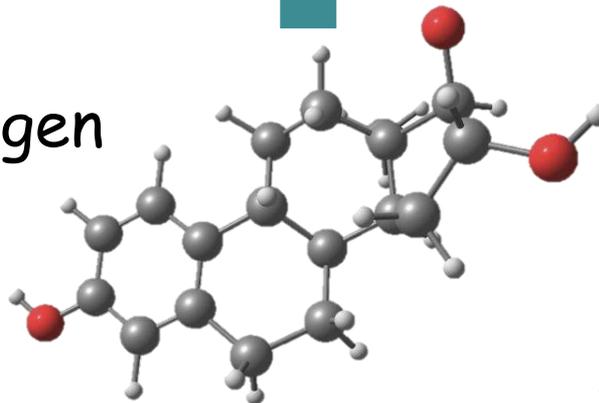
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# Endogenous synthesis of choline induced by estrogen

Phosphatidylethanolamine - *N*-methyltransferase  
(PEMT)

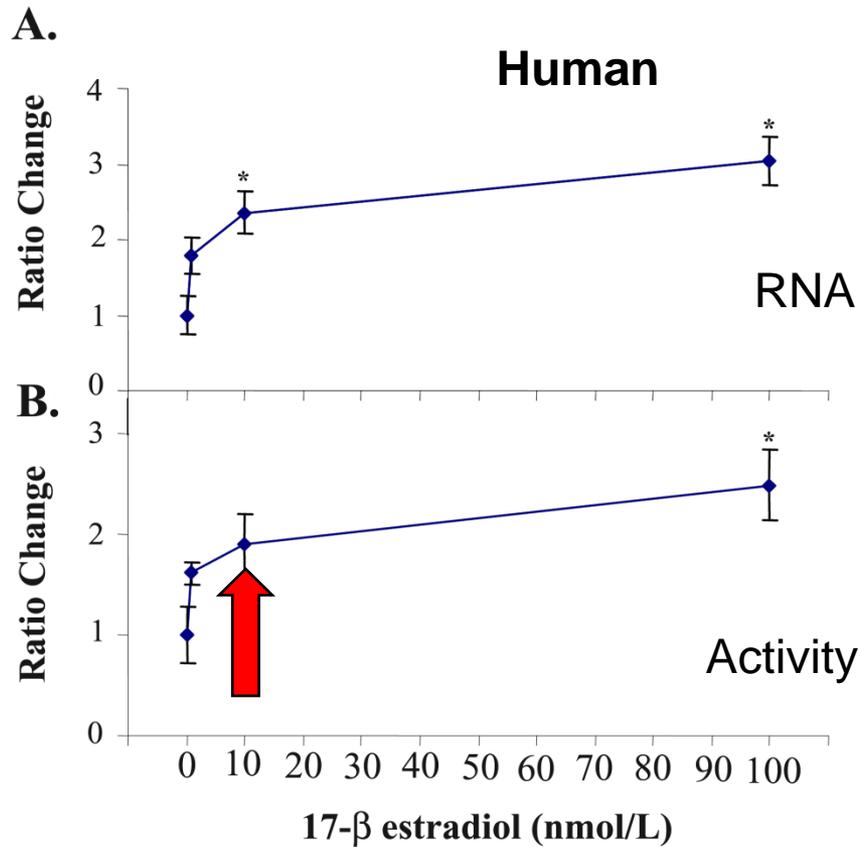
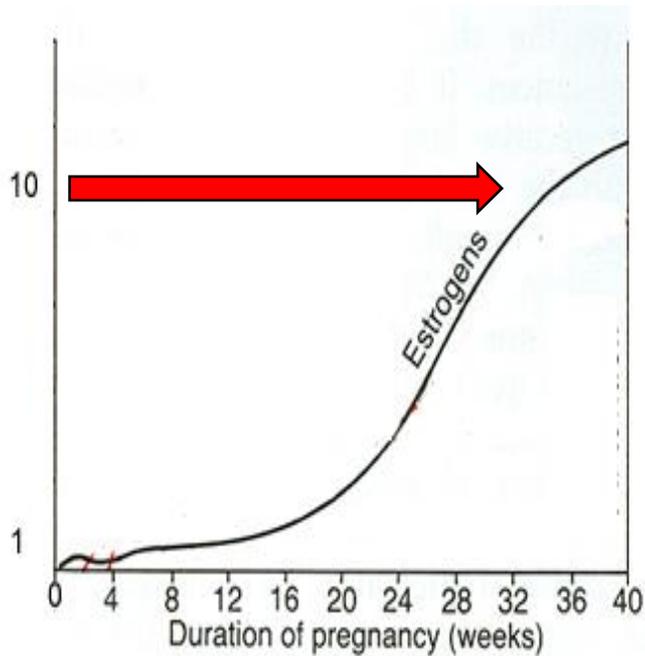


Estrogen



FASEB J 2007;21:2622-2632

# PEMT induced by estrogen



FASEB J 2007;21:2622-2632

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# Why do some premenopausal women still need dietary choline?



**44%**

**need to eat choline or they develop fatty liver and liver damage.**

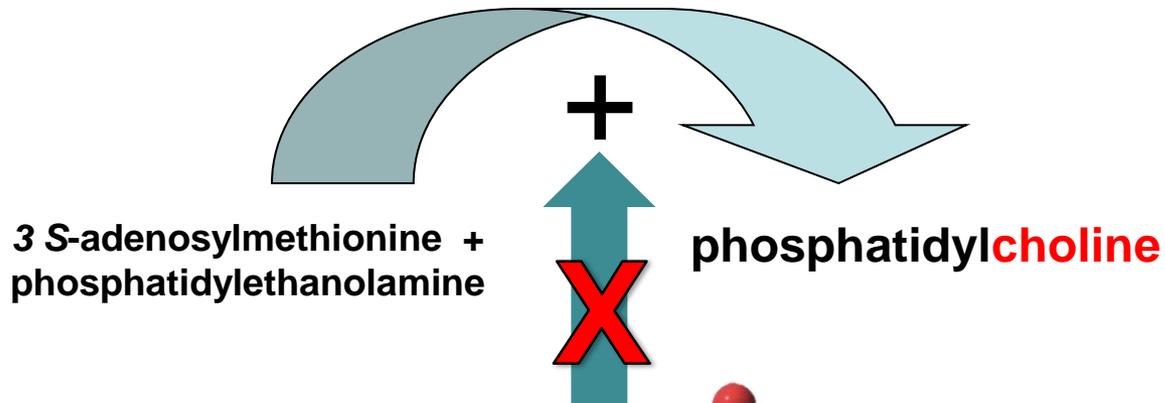
*American Journal of Clinical Nutrition 85(5):1275-85 , 2007*



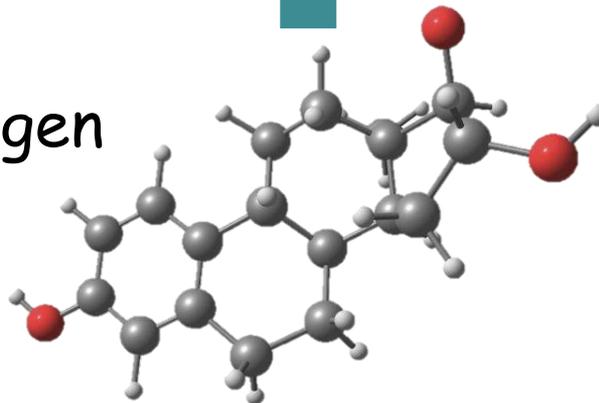
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# PEMT SNP rs12325817 prevents induction by estrogen

Phosphatidylethanolamine – N- methyltransferase  
(PEMT)

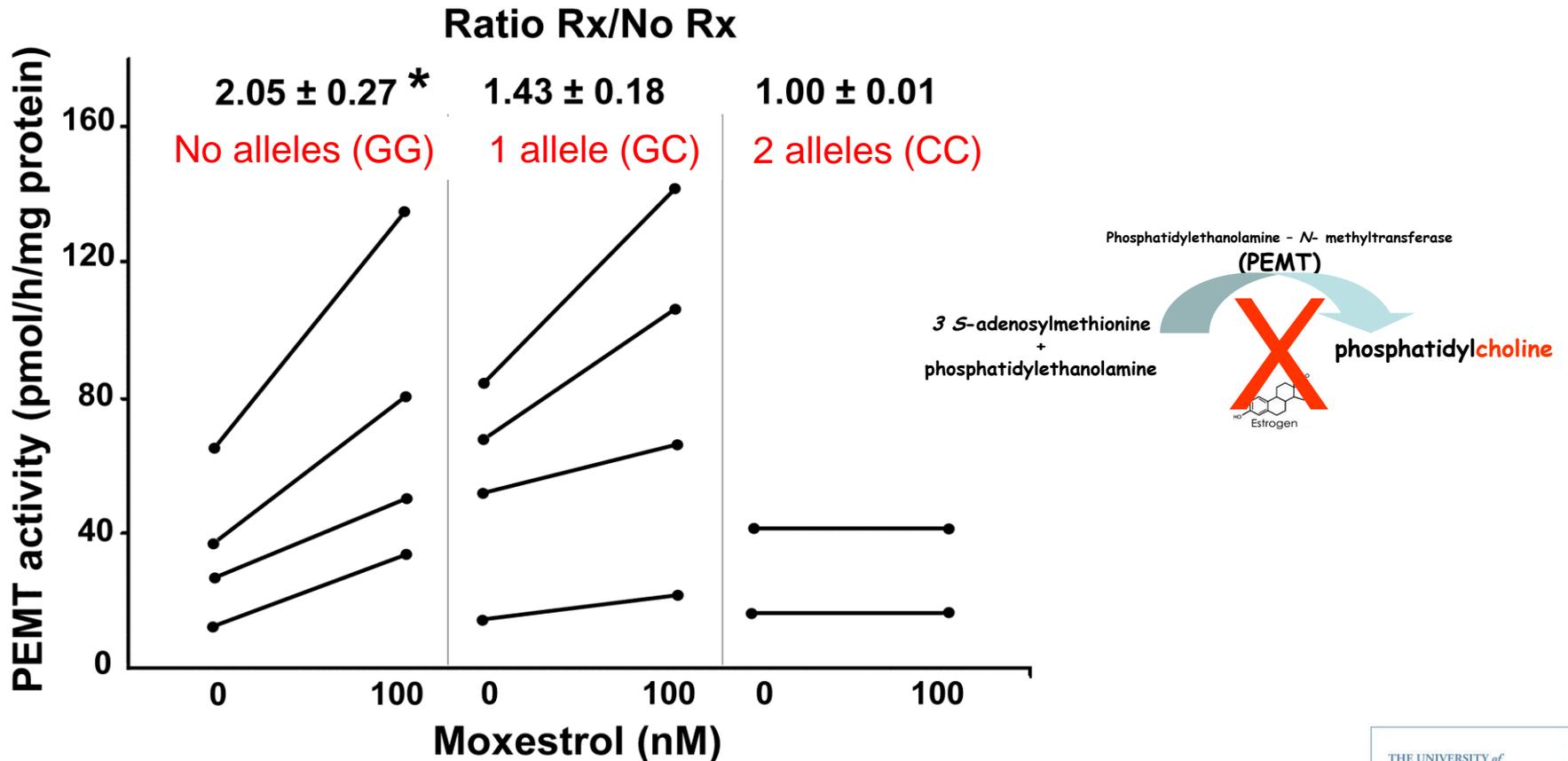


Estrogen



*J. Biol. Chem.* 2011;286:1649-1658

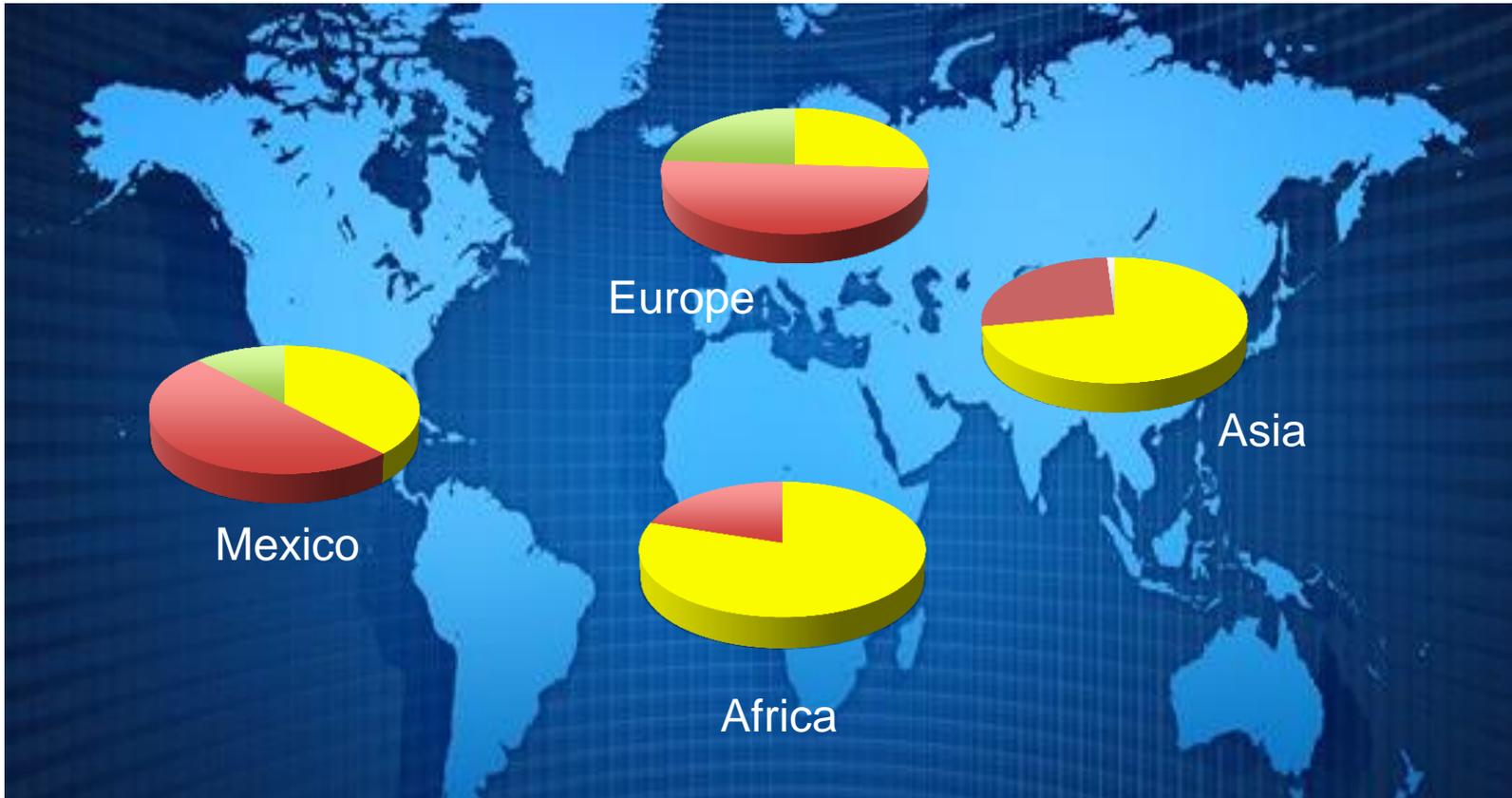
# PEMT rs12325817 results in no response to estrogen



Primary human hepatocytes. Rs12325817; Rx moxesterol for 24 h.

*J. Biol. Chem.* 2011;286:1649-1658

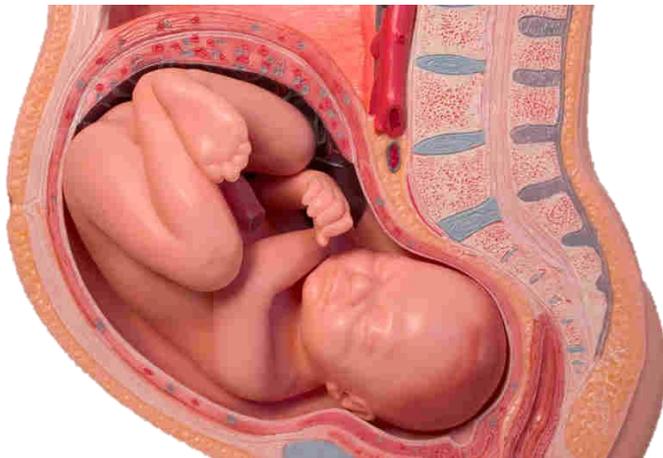
# PEMT rs12325817 frequency



Need more choline

rs12325817      *PEMT* G→C

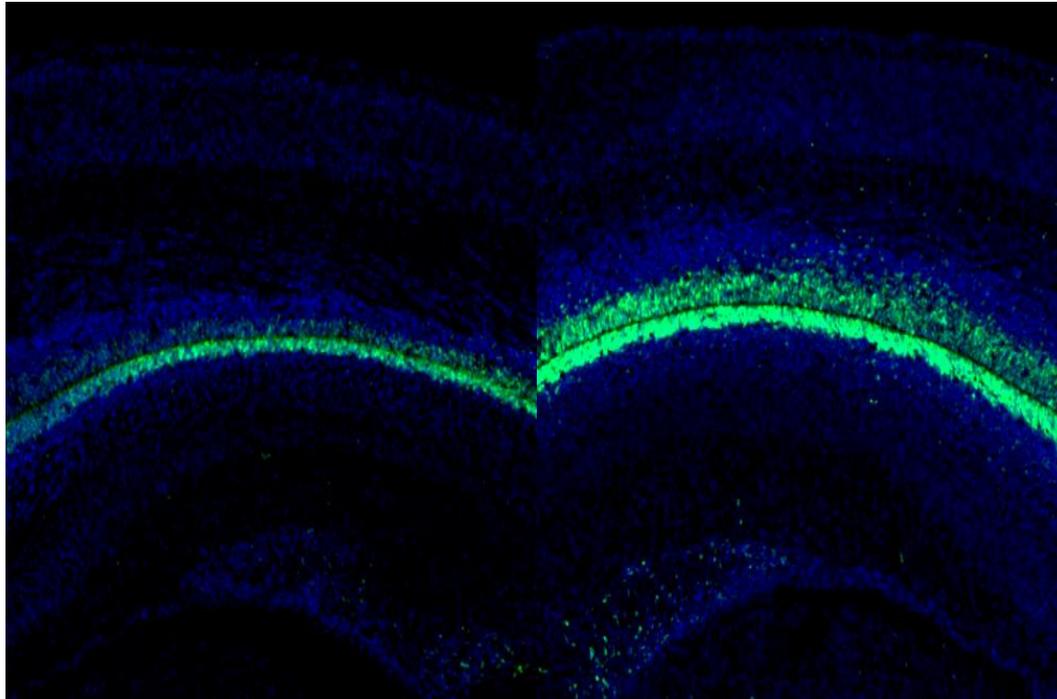
# Women are special because the fetus & infant need this nutrient



**..... And many women are sensitive to dietary choline intake because they have SNPs**

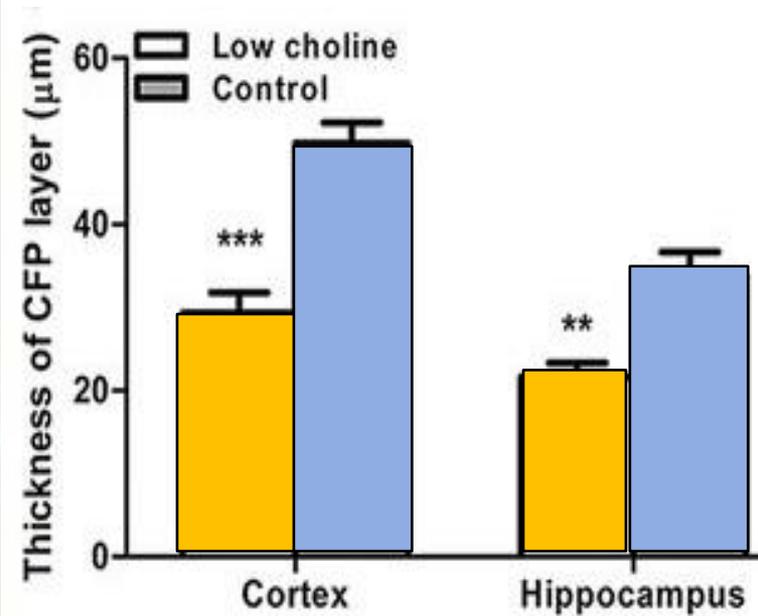
# Fewer neural progenitor cells in low choline

Nestin-CFPnuc mouse E17

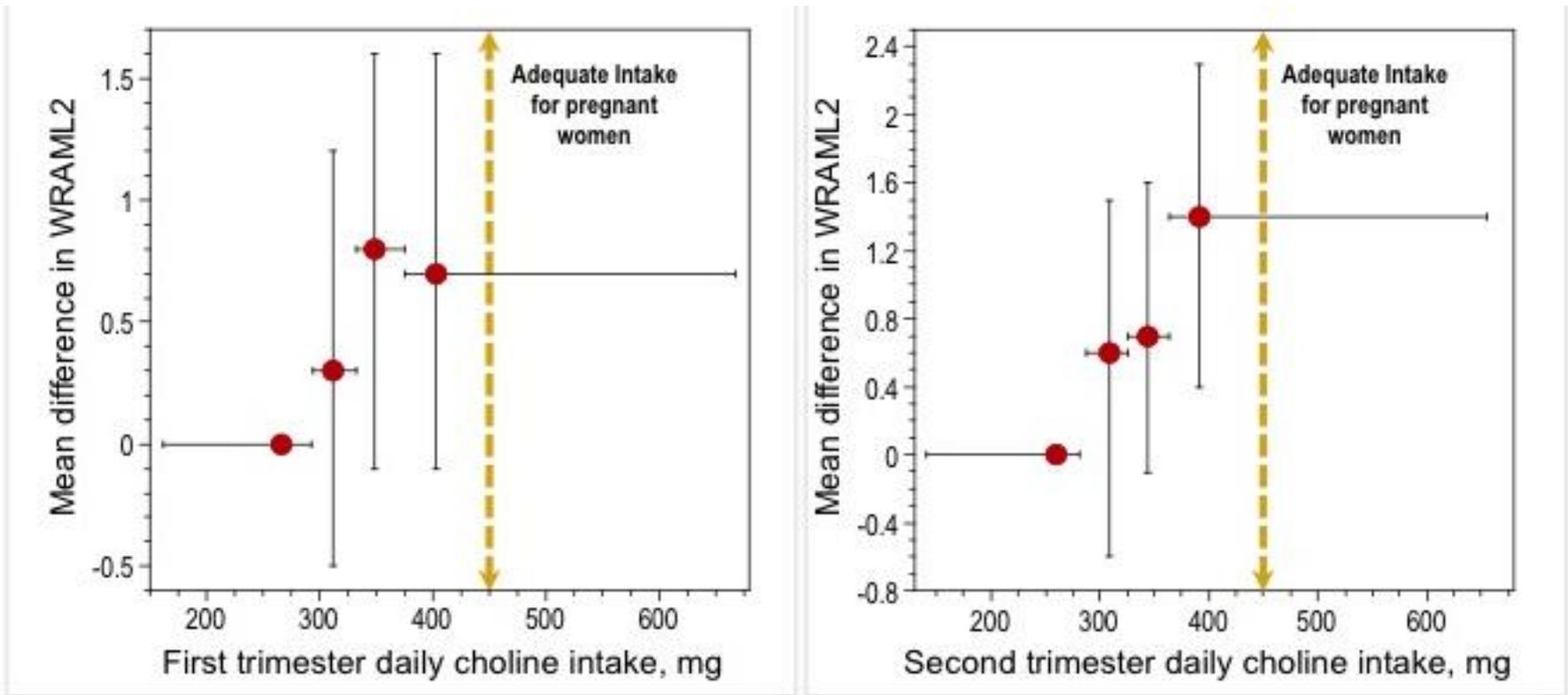


Low choline

Normal choline



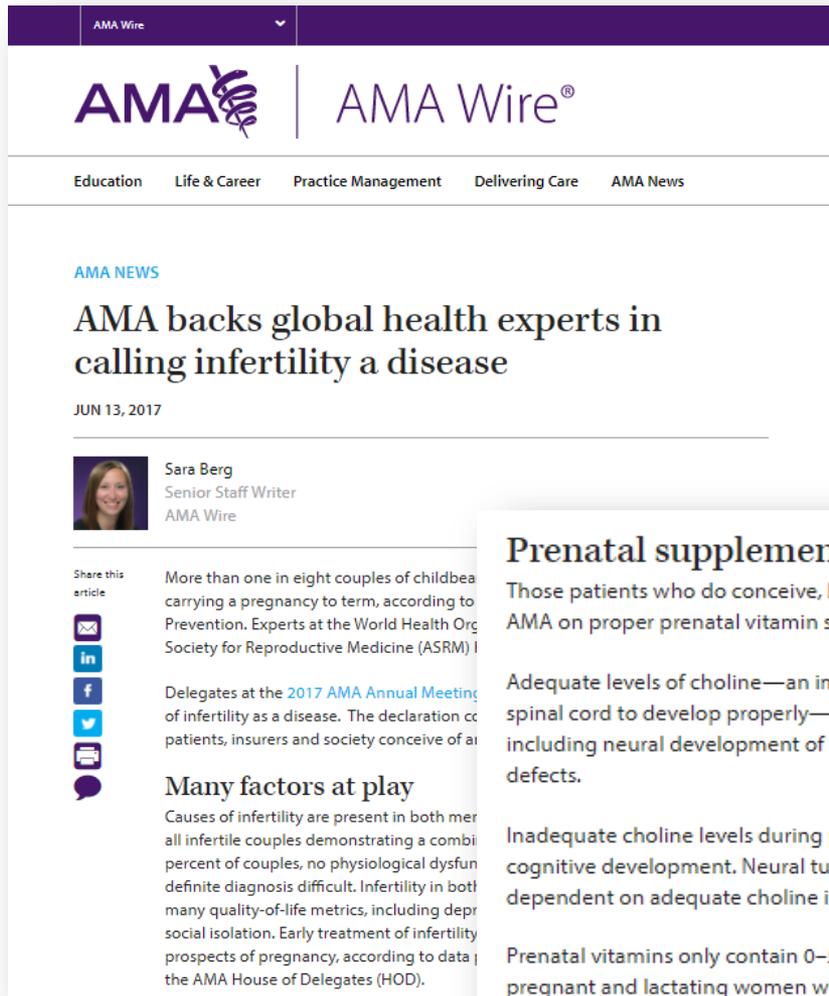
# 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester maternal choline intake predicts memory in child at 7 yr



Wide Range Assessment of Memory and Learning, Second Edition (WRAML2), Design and Picture Memory subtests at age 7 y among 890 mother-child pairs in Project Viva, eastern Massachusetts, 1999–2002 to 2008–2011.

Replotted from:

Boeke C E et al. Am. J. Epidemiol. 2013;177:1338-1347



*The American Medical Association (AMA) recently announced it will support actions to boost choline amounts in prenatal vitamins!*

### Prenatal supplementation

Those patients who do conceive, by any method, now have new advice from the AMA on proper prenatal vitamin supplementation.

Adequate levels of choline—an important nutrient that helps a baby’s brain and spinal cord to develop properly—are necessary to maintain normal pregnancy including neural development of the fetus and reducing the incidence of birth defects.

Inadequate choline levels during pregnancy are thought to negatively affect cognitive development. Neural tube and hippocampus development also are dependent on adequate choline intake.

Prenatal vitamins only contain 0–55 mg of choline, leaving the majority of pregnant and lactating women without enough dietary choline to protect the health and development of their babies, according to data cited in a resolution adopted by the HOD.

Delegates voted to support evidence-based amounts of choline in all prenatal vitamins.

Read more [news coverage](#) from the 2017 AMA Annual Meeting.

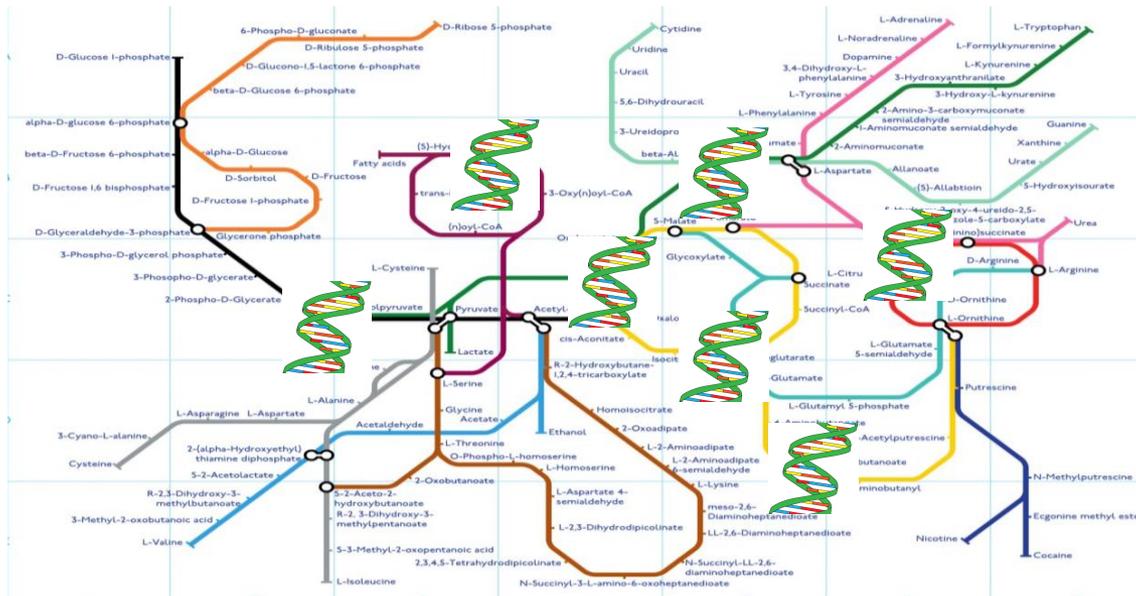


# Gene-guided Intervention

**Problem: Women who depend on dietary choline supply because of SNPs that make them require more choline.**

**Intervention: Gene test and prenatal vitamin mix containing adequate choline supply.**

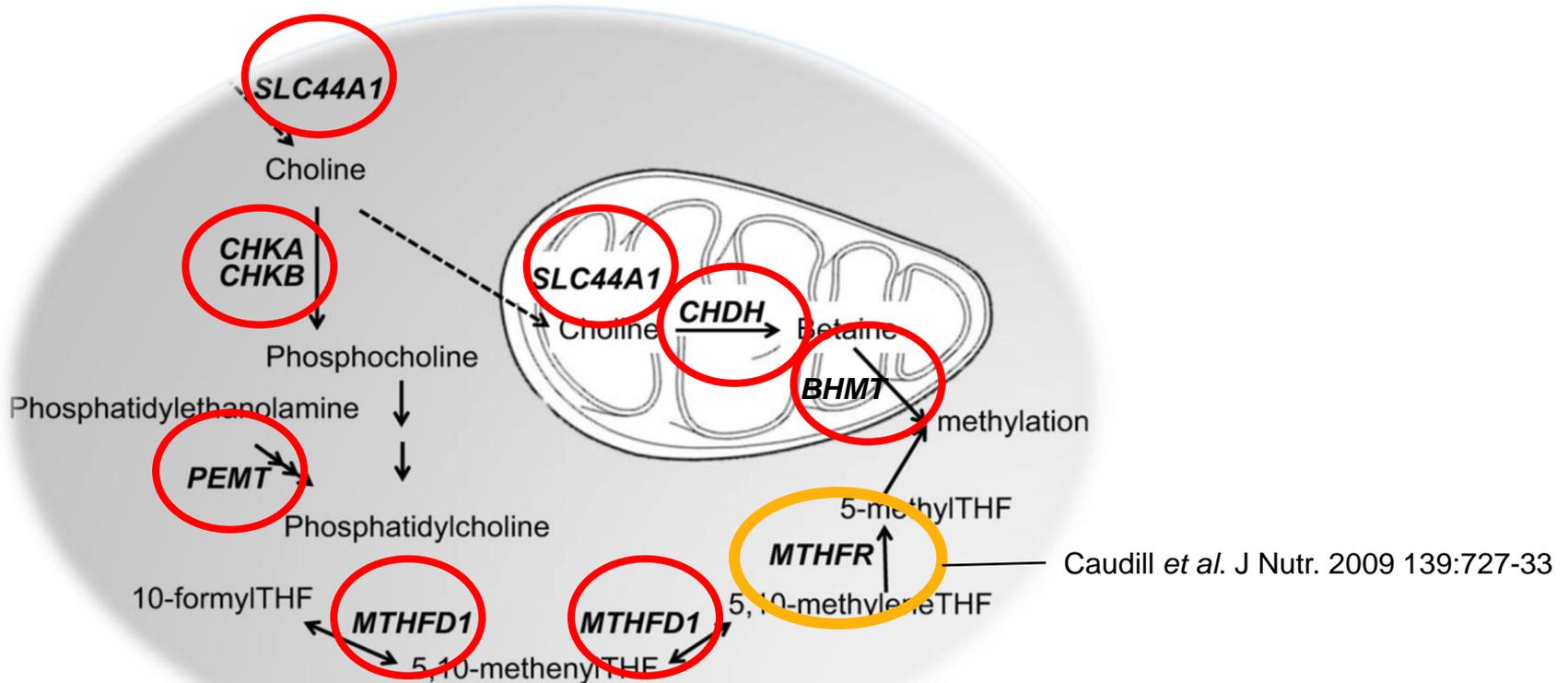
# Moving from one SNP to complex multiple SNPs involved in metabolic pathways.



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# Common SNPS alter sensitivity to low choline



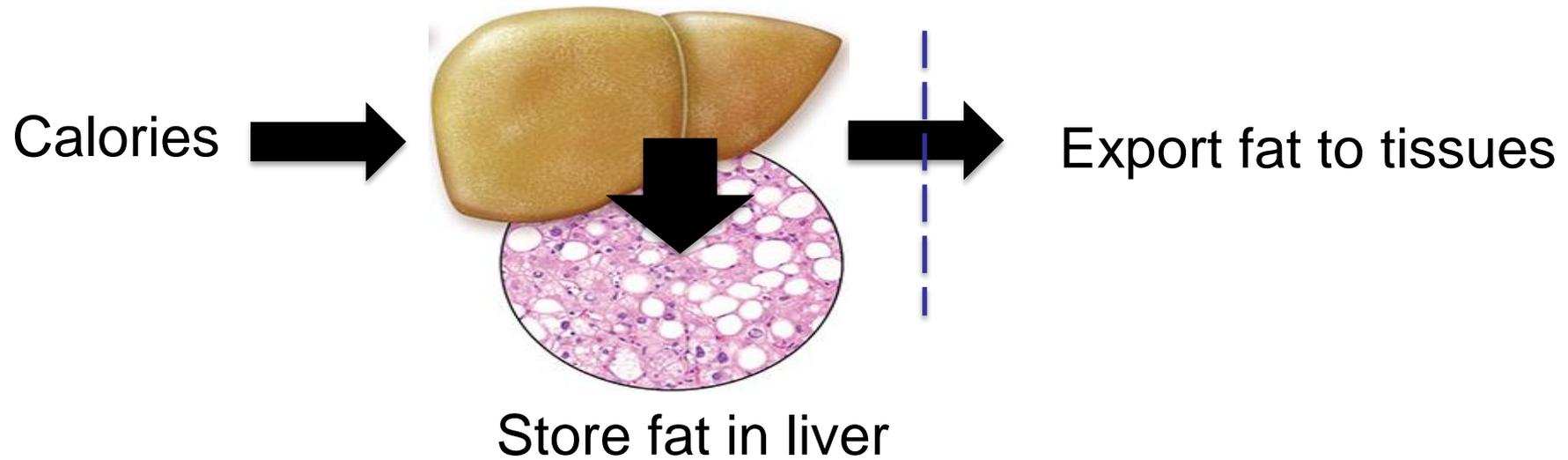
FASEB J. 2006;20, 1336–1344; 2014;28:2970-2978  
 Proc.Nat.Acad.Sci. USA 2005; 102: 16025-16030

# Choline deficiency presents differently – Why?



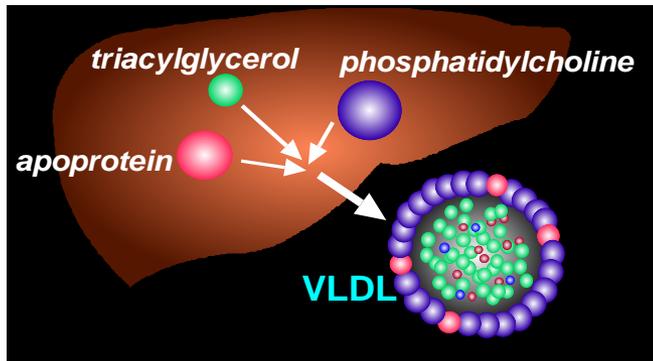
Of people who develop organ dysfunction

- **90% develop fatty liver**
- **10% develop muscle damage**

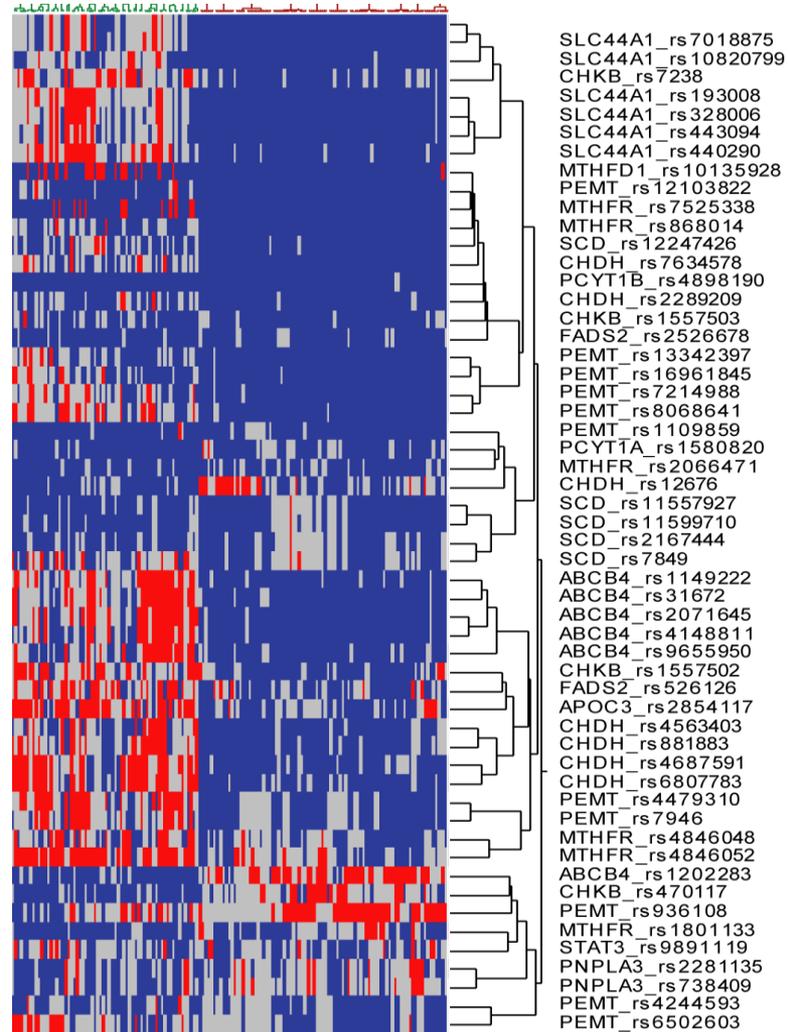


**Choline needed for exporting fat from liver.**

# NAFLD predicted by choline SNPs



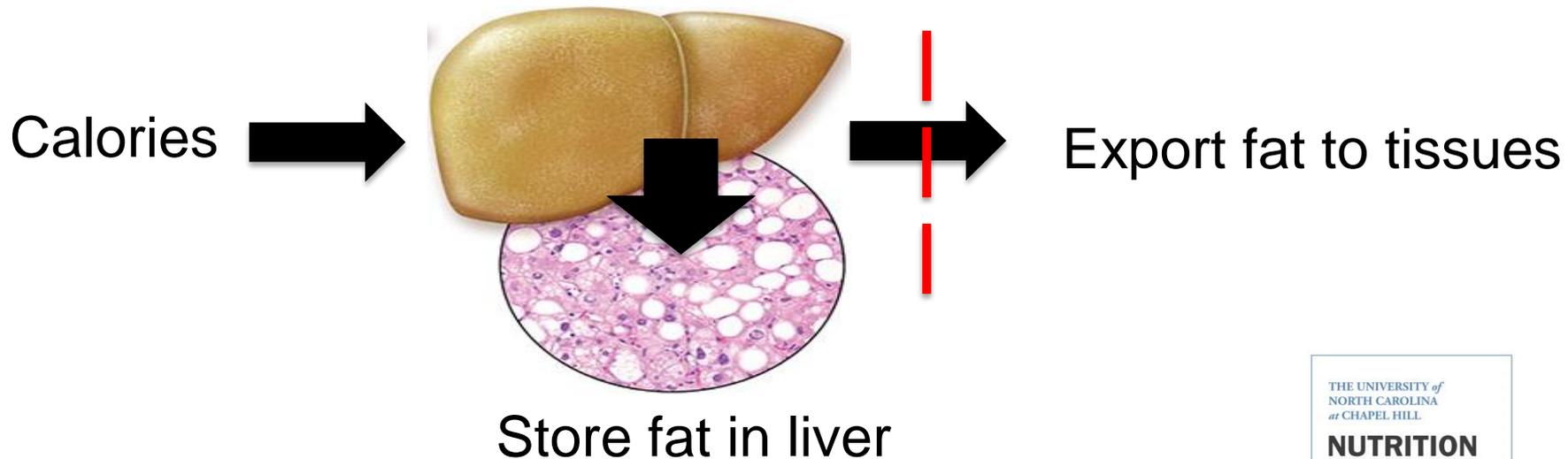
Fatty liver  
 Lowest Group      Highest Group



# More than just choline

SNPs in pathways of choline, folate, fatty acid transport and metabolism.

*FASEB J.* 2013 27:1674-89





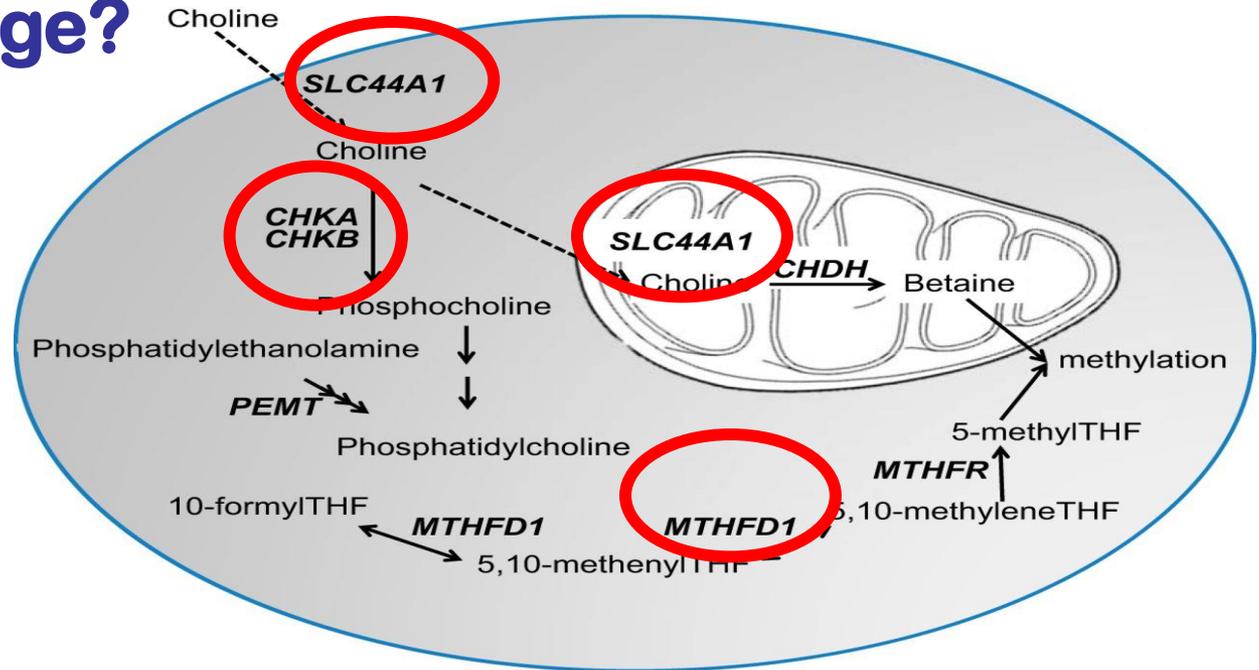
# Choline deficiency presents differently – Why?



Of people who develop organ dysfunction

- **90% develop fatty liver**
- **10% develop muscle damage**

# Why low choline in 10% of people results in muscle damage?



## Rhabdomyolysis

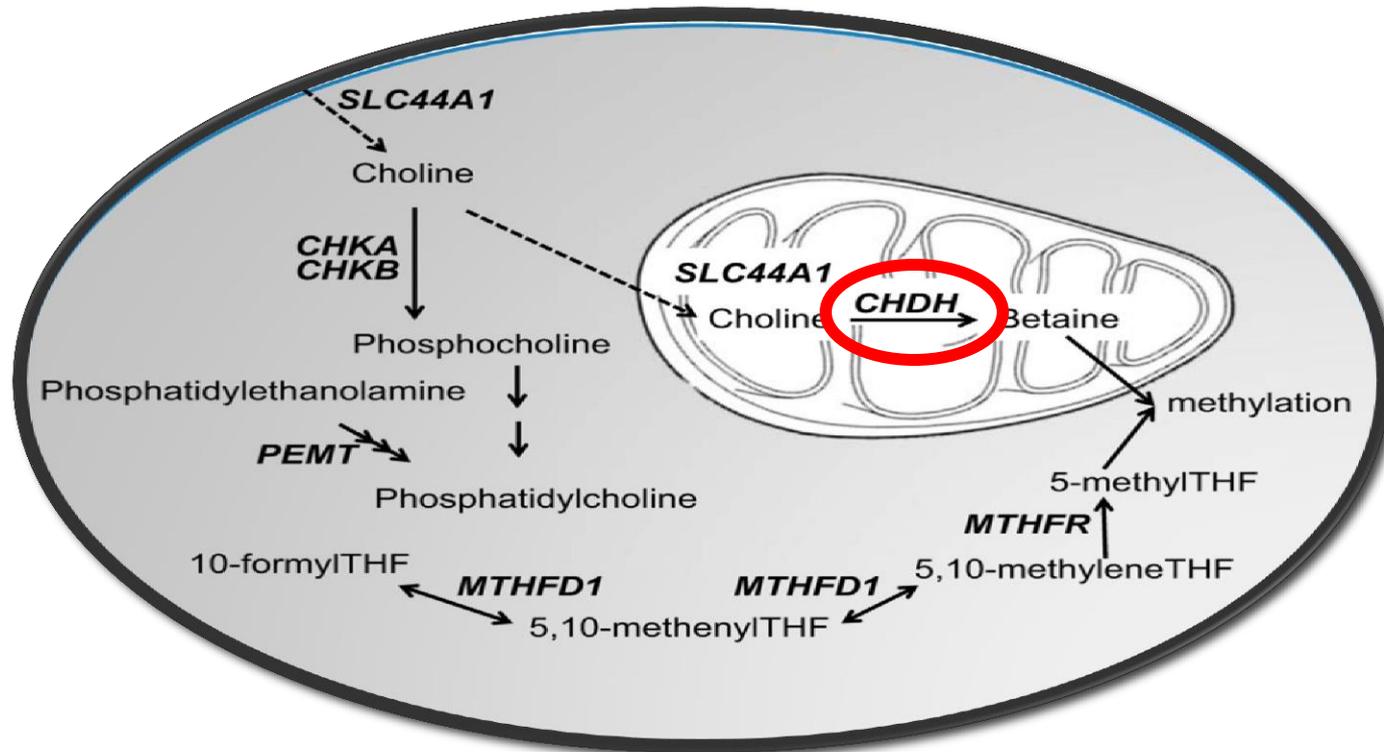
SLC44A1 rs440290-rs2771040 T-G haplotype were **12x** as likely to have rhabdomyolysis.

**9 of 10** people affected had both *SLC44A1* rs2771040 (G) and *CHKB* rs1557502 (A) ( $p < 0.0001$ )

Marine officer candidates with high serum CK levels more often had the *MTHFD1* rs2236225 A allele than did men with normal CK levels (odds ratio 2.84,  $p = 0.05$ ).

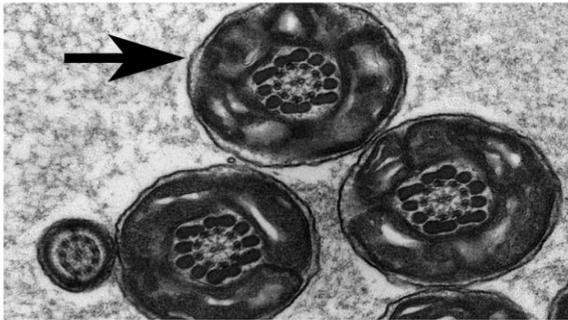


# SNPS and sperm dysfunction

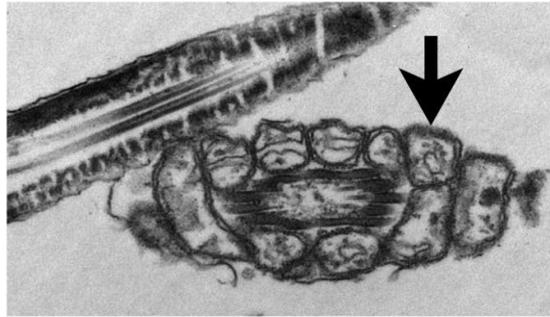


FASEB J. 2014 28:2970-8.

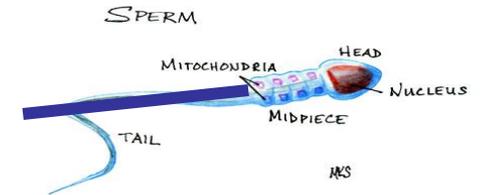
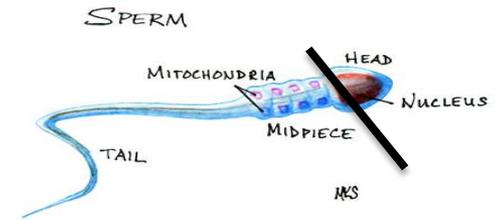
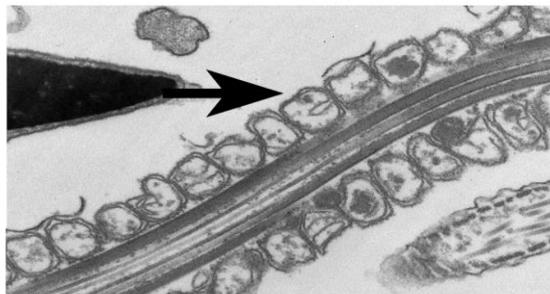
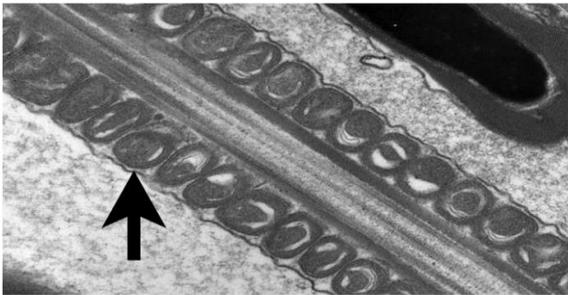
# Deletion of *Chdh* results in dysmorphic mitochondria



+/+

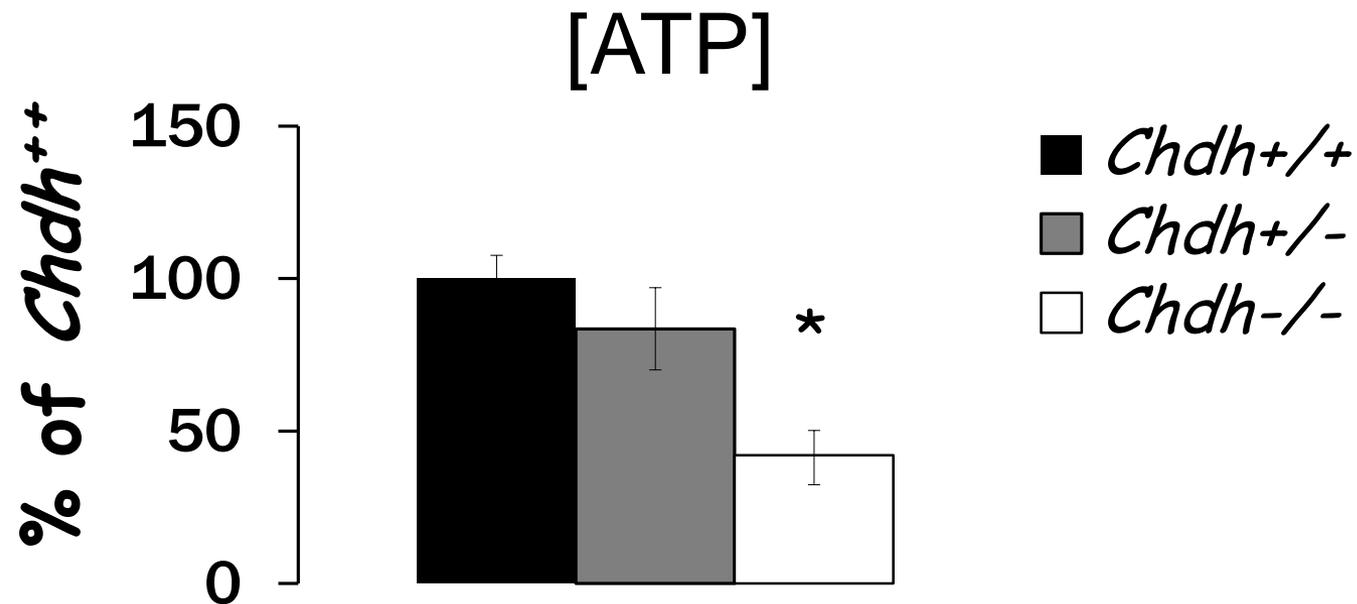


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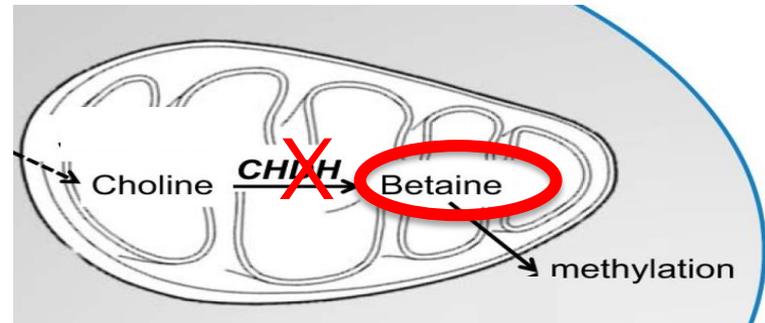
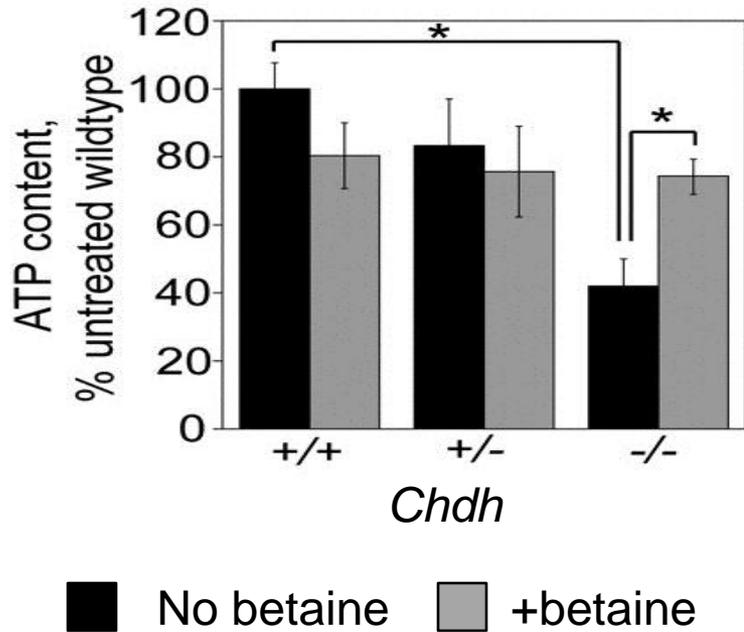
FASEB J. 2010;24:2752-2761

# Deletion of *Chdh* results in low ATP



FASEB J.2010;24:2752-2761

# Betaine restores ATP

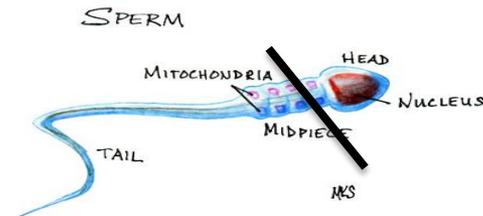
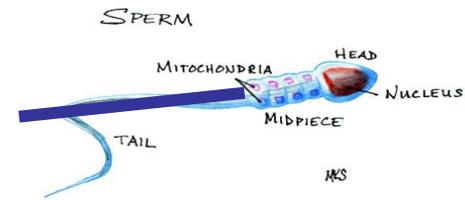
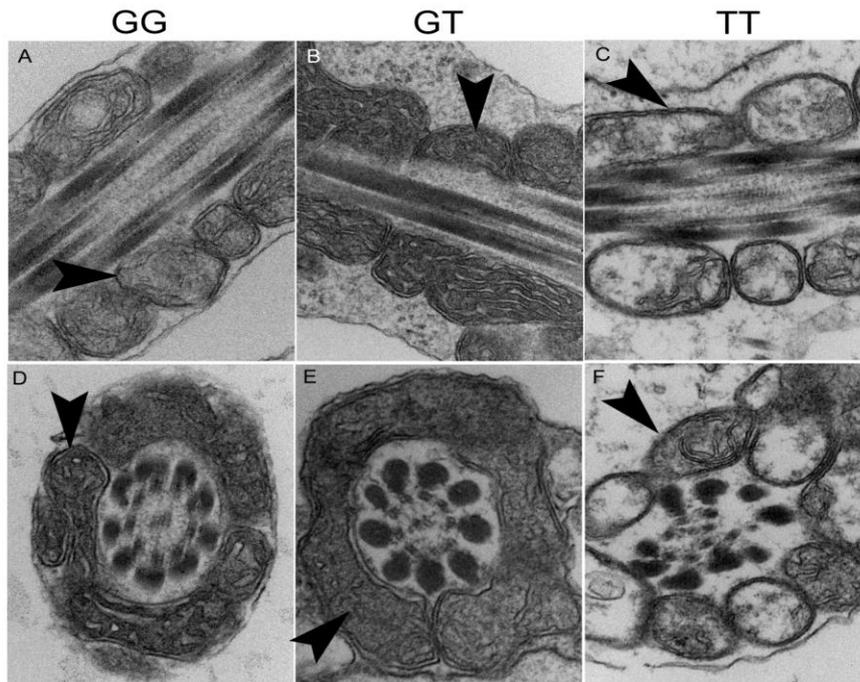


FASEB Journal 24:2752-2761, 2010

# Men with *CHDH*rs12676 G233T

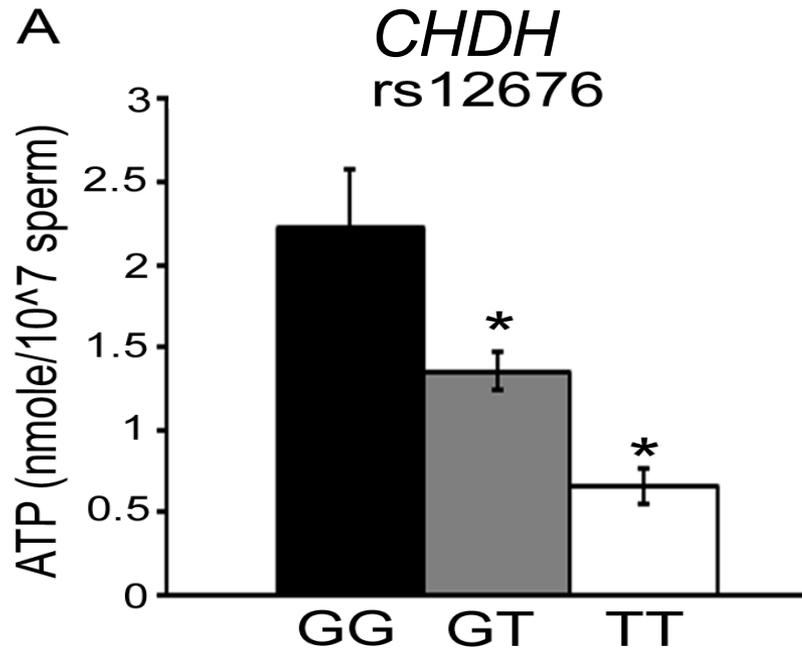


# *CHDH* rs12676 G233T have dysmorphic mitochondria



PLoS One. 2012;7::e36047. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0036047

# *CHDH* rs12676 G233T have low ATP



PLoS One. 2012;7:e36047. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0036047

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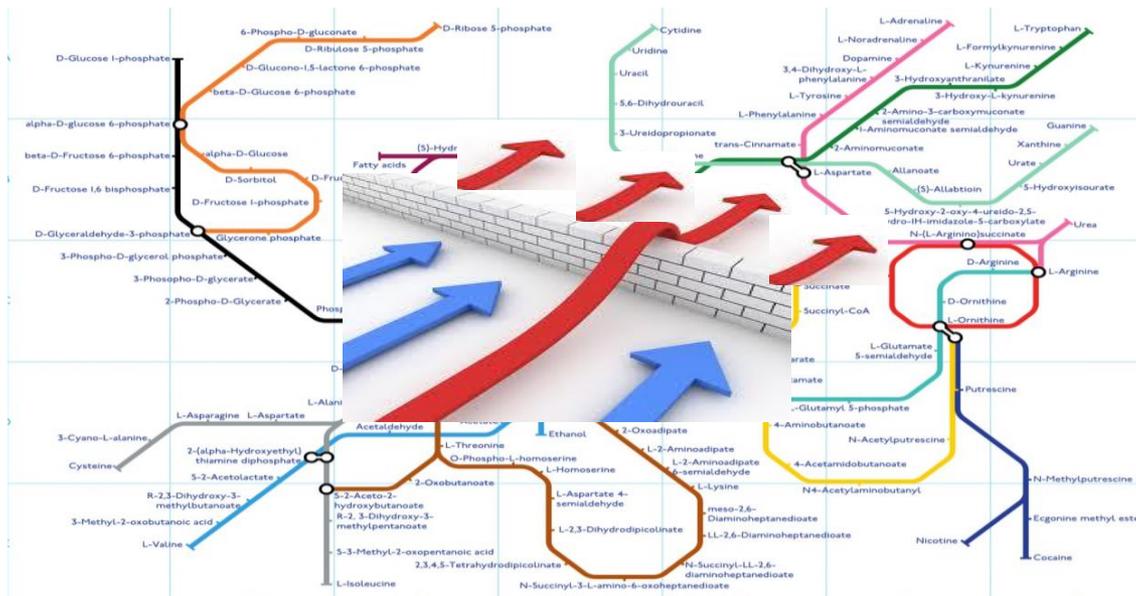
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# Gene-guided Intervention

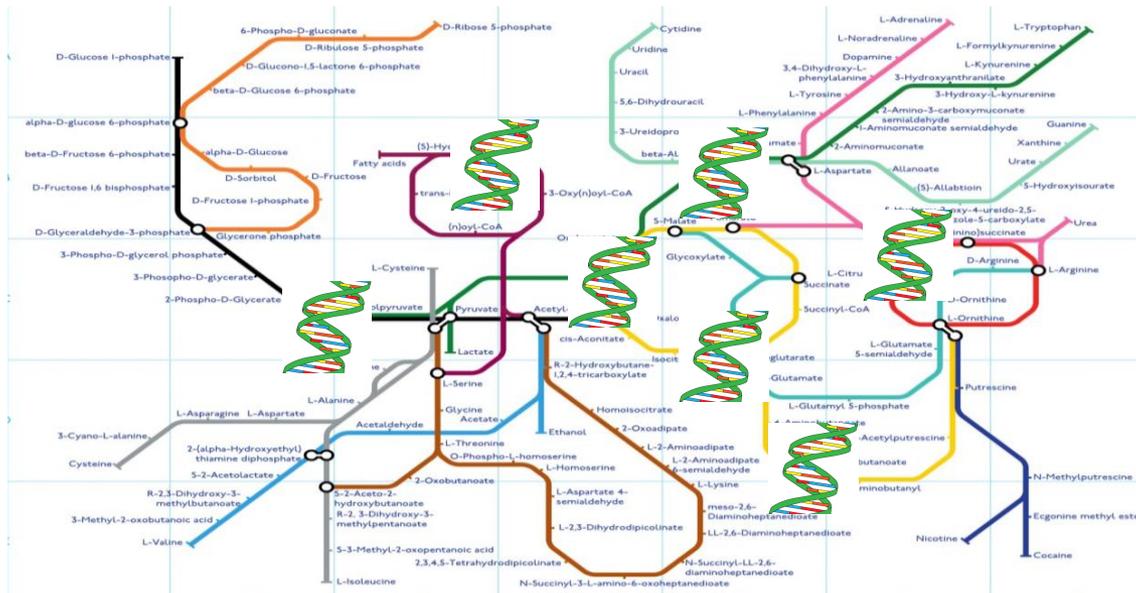
**Problem: Men with SNPs 1-carbon genes are at greater risk for developing low sperm ATP.**

**Intervention: Delivers metabolites that bypass blocks in these specific pathways.**

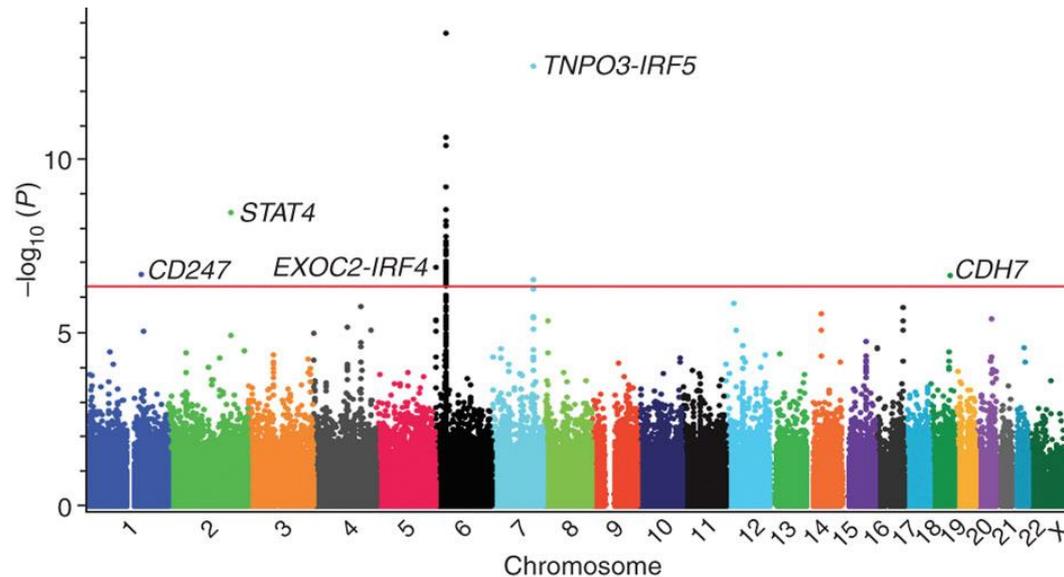


# Future developments:

Better methods for moving from one SNP analyses to complex multiple SNPs involved metabolic pathways.

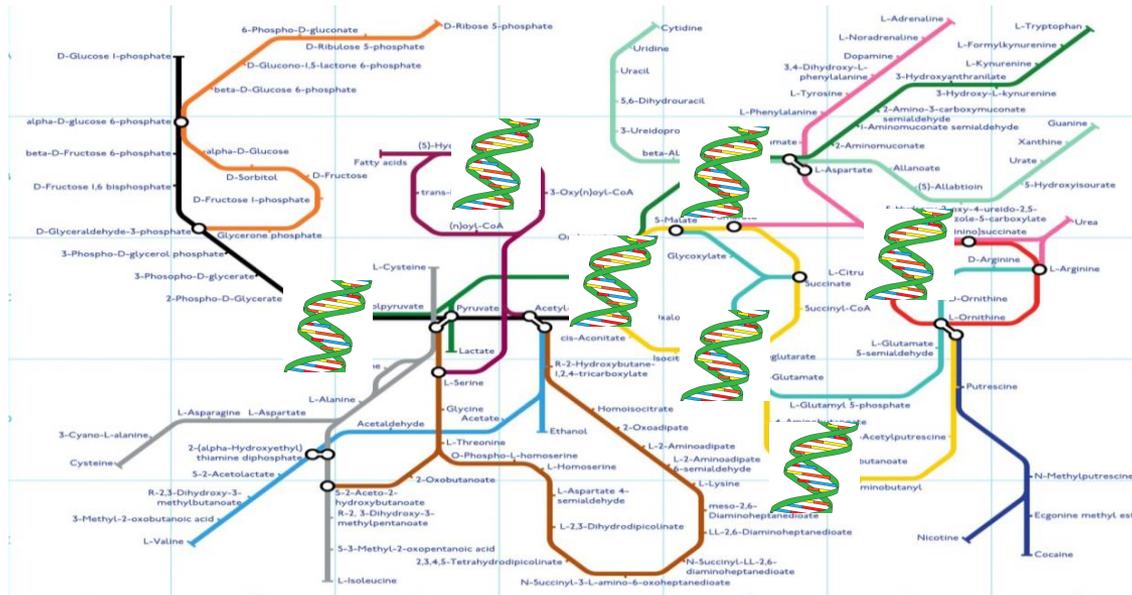


# Including Diet intake (diet challenges) in GWAS studies



Need to look at people **challenged by low or high intake.**

# Use of genetic information to identify people with genetically-caused inefficiencies in metabolism that cause health problems



Deliver metabolites that bypass these metabolic problems to manage health problem.



# Thank you



N. Surzenko



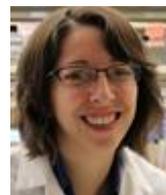
Y. Wang



I. Trujillo



E. Pjetri



J. Owen



S. Orena



C. Munson



W. Friday



A. Johnson



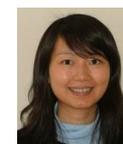
K-A. da Costa



M. Spencer



S. Goodson



W. Sha



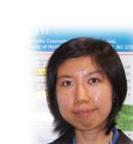
Y-W. Teng



L. Fischer



E. Yen



X. Zhu



D. Reed



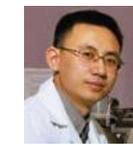
M. Niculescu



K. Corbin



C. Craciunescu



J. Song



T. Benton



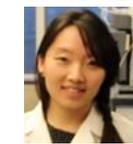
M. Mehedint



M. Resseguie



H-M. Hwang

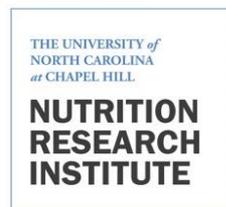


X. Zhou



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