

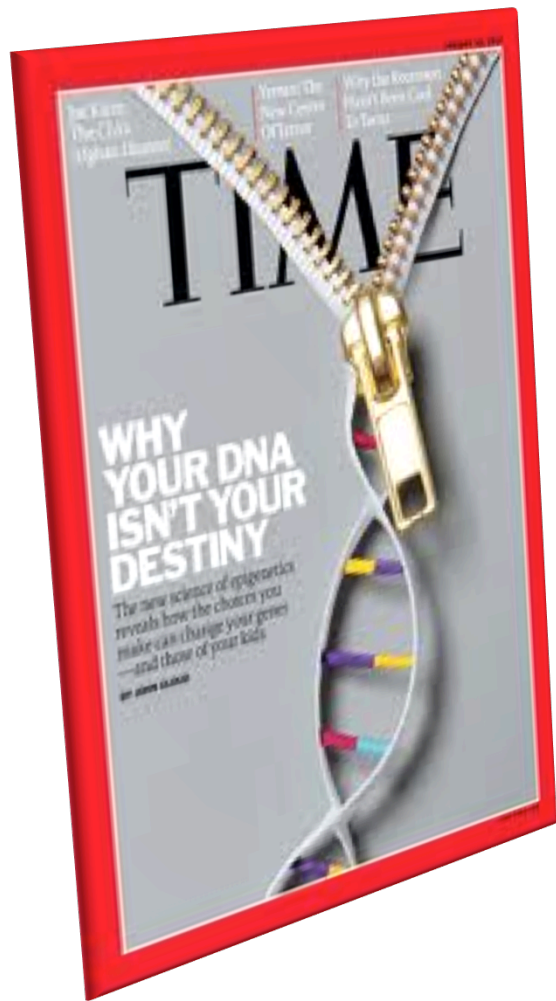


Epigenetica e salute umana



L. Stuppia, *Genetica Medica*
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stuppia@unich.it



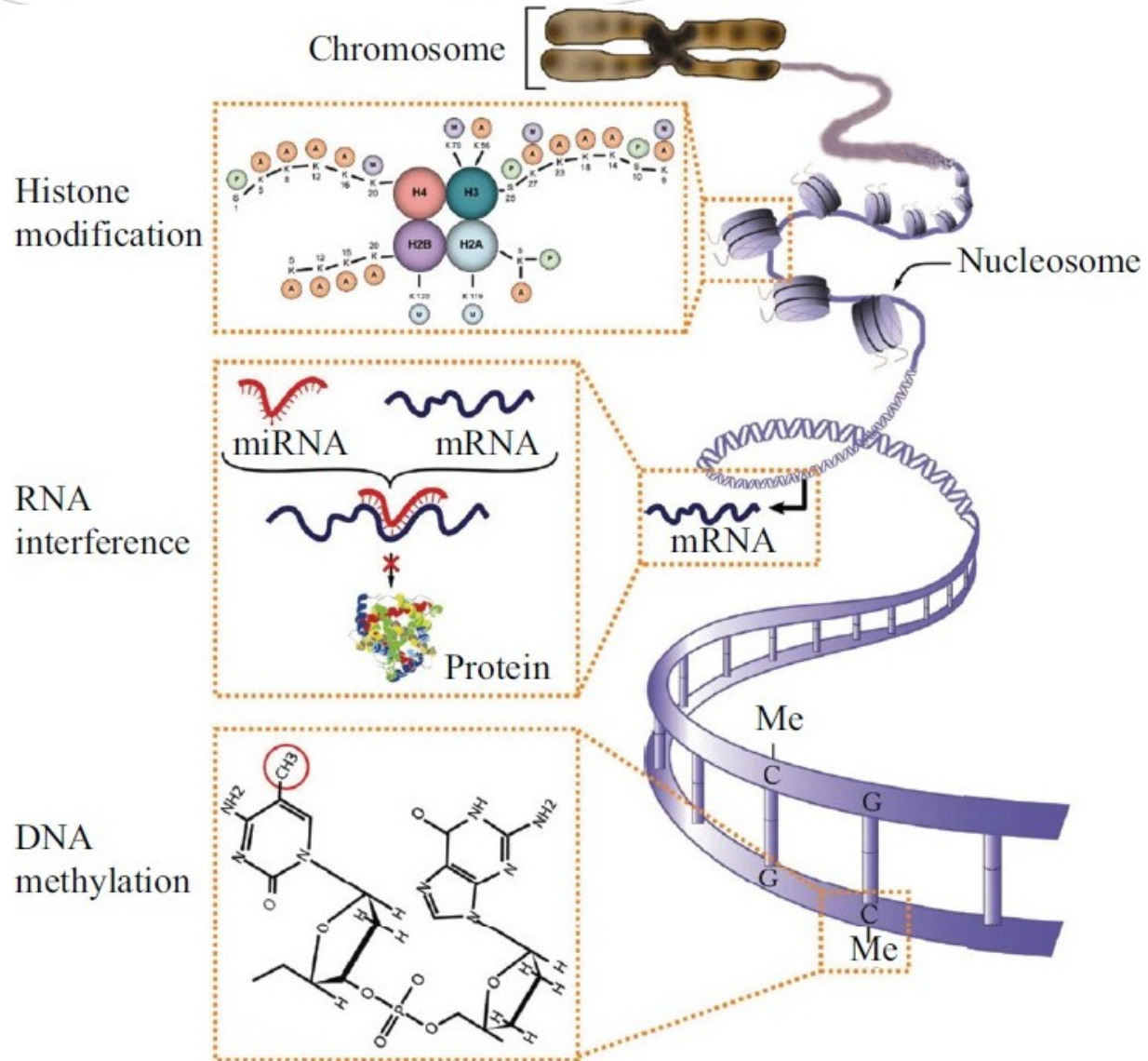


DNA IS NOT DESTINY

The new science of epigenetics rewrites the rules of disease, heredity, and identity

By Ethan Watters





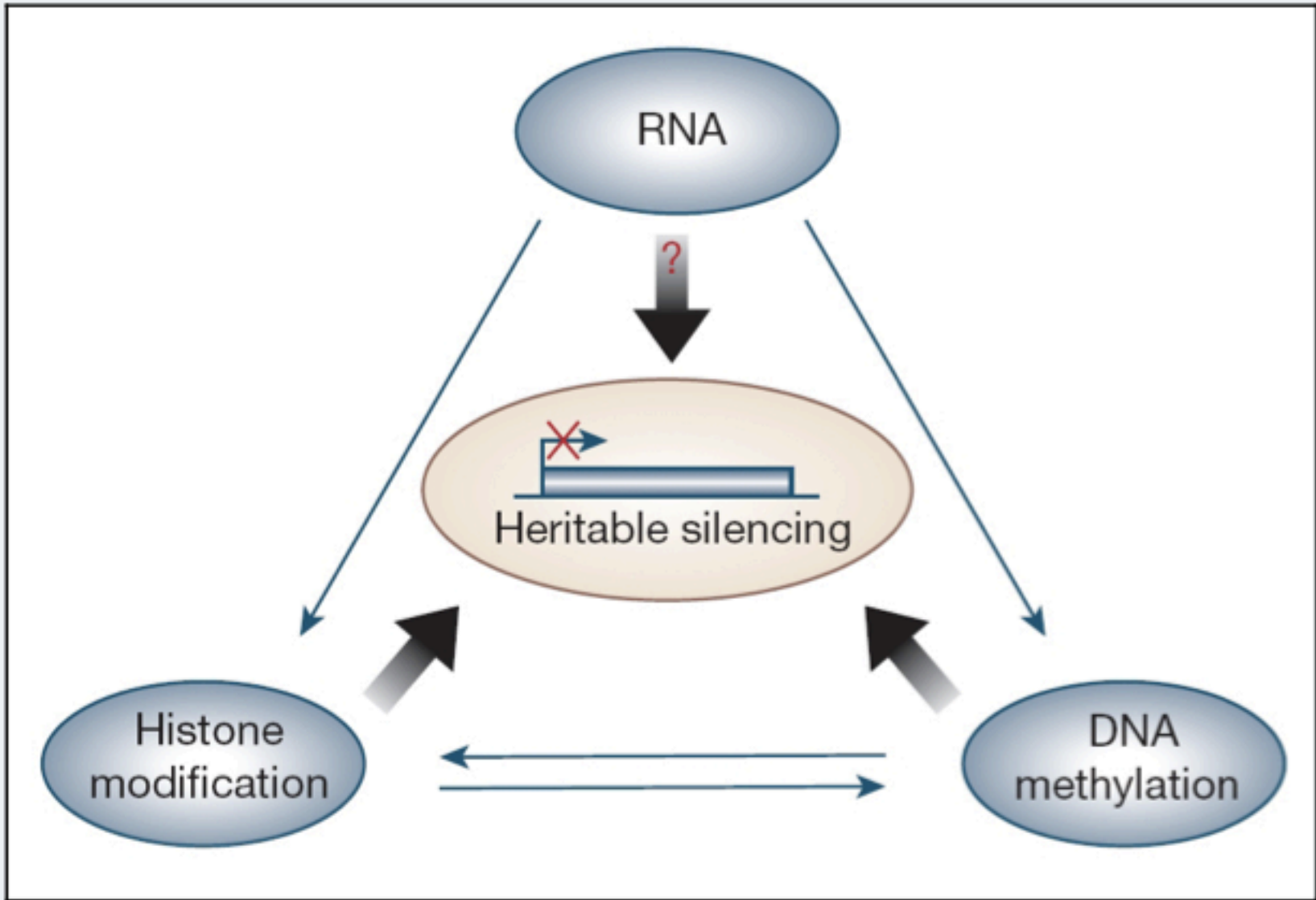


Figure 2. Three methods of Epigenetic silencing (Egger et al., 2004)

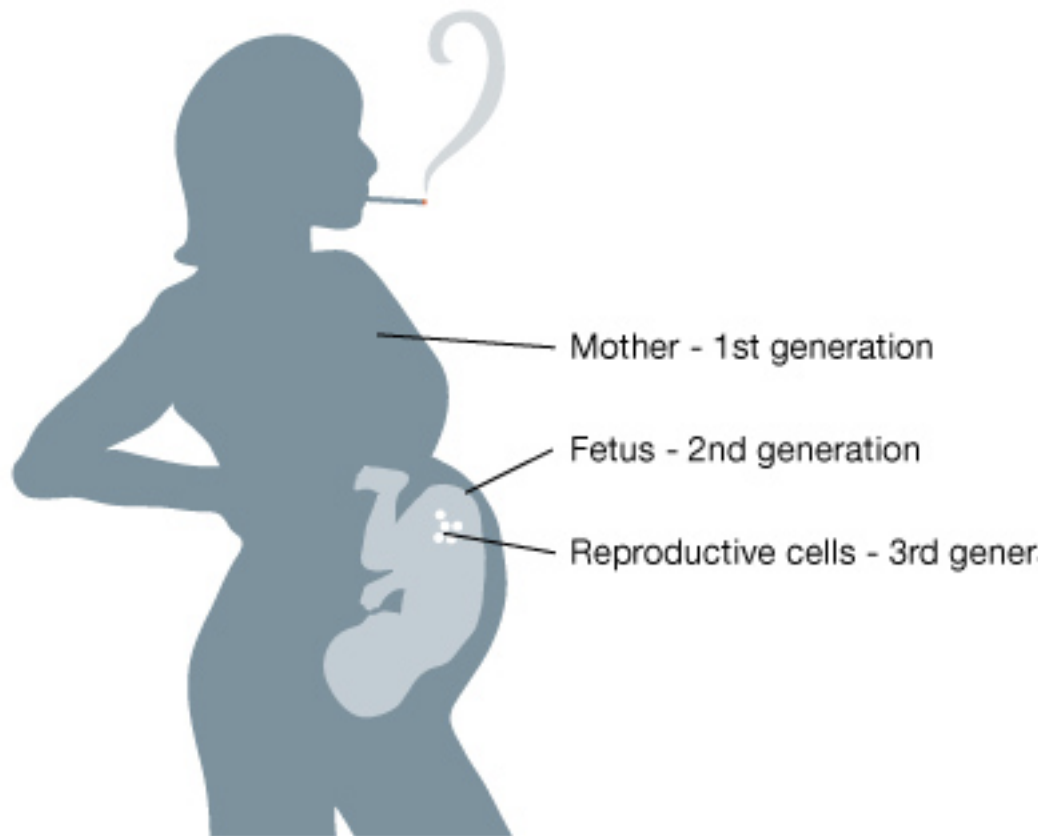


A phenomenon of methylation in plants.

Epigenetics Warning:
**What You Eat Today Could Harm
The Health of Your Children
and Grandchildren**

DNA

AncestralChef.com



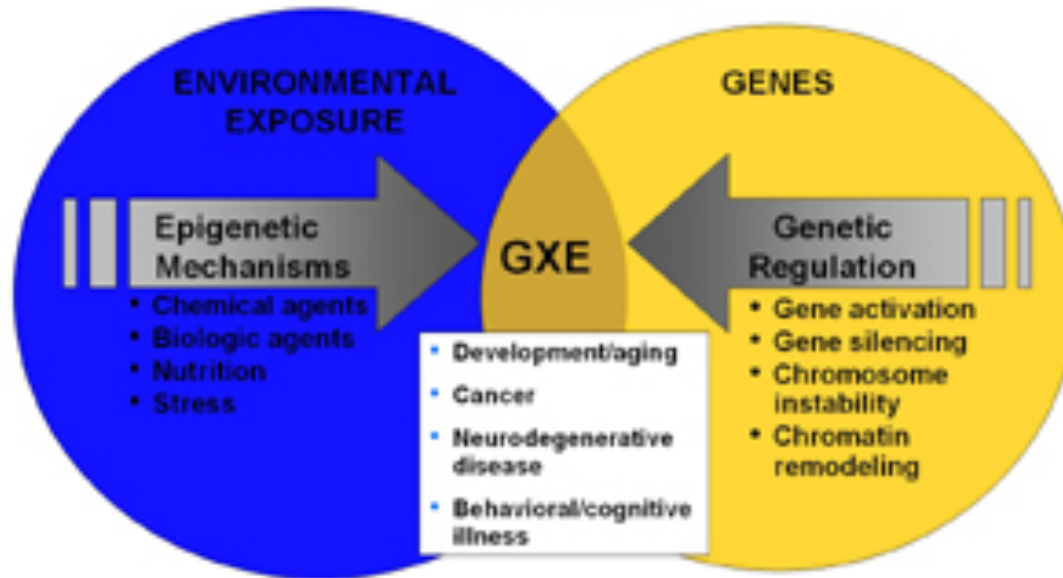
Mother - 1st generation

Fetus - 2nd generation

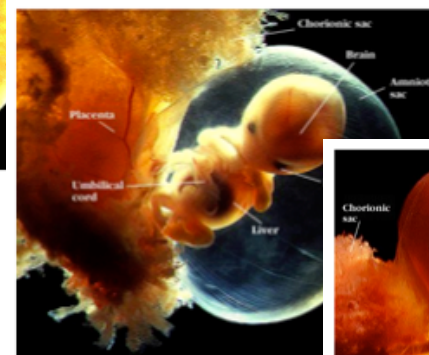
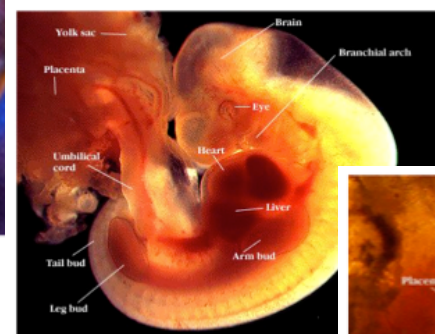
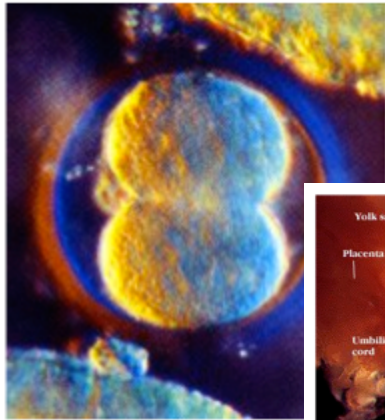
Reproductive cells - 3rd gener

Epigenomica e salute umana

Epigenetic Mechanisms in Human Health and Disease

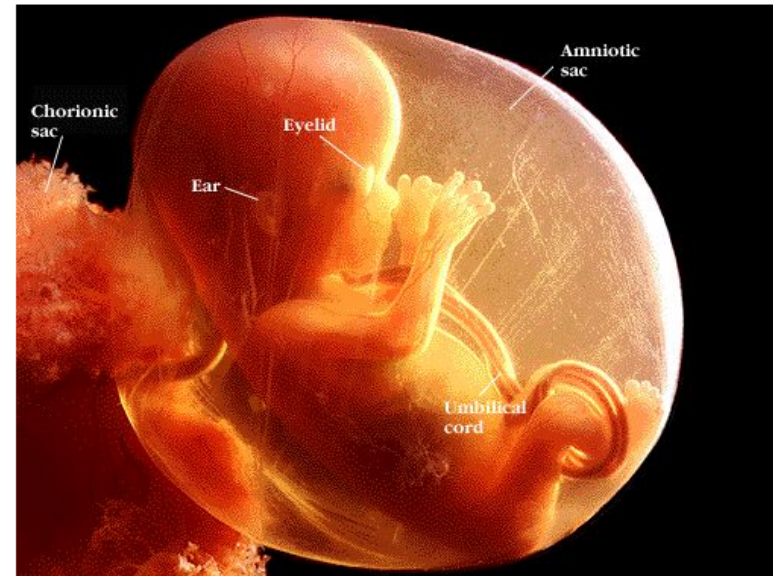
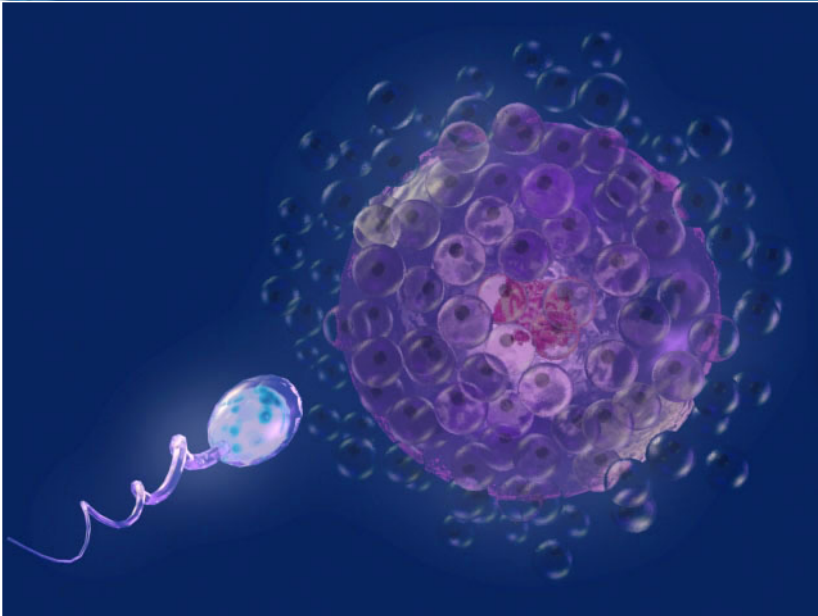


Epigenetica e sviluppo embrionale



Riproduzione sessuata: la visione genetica

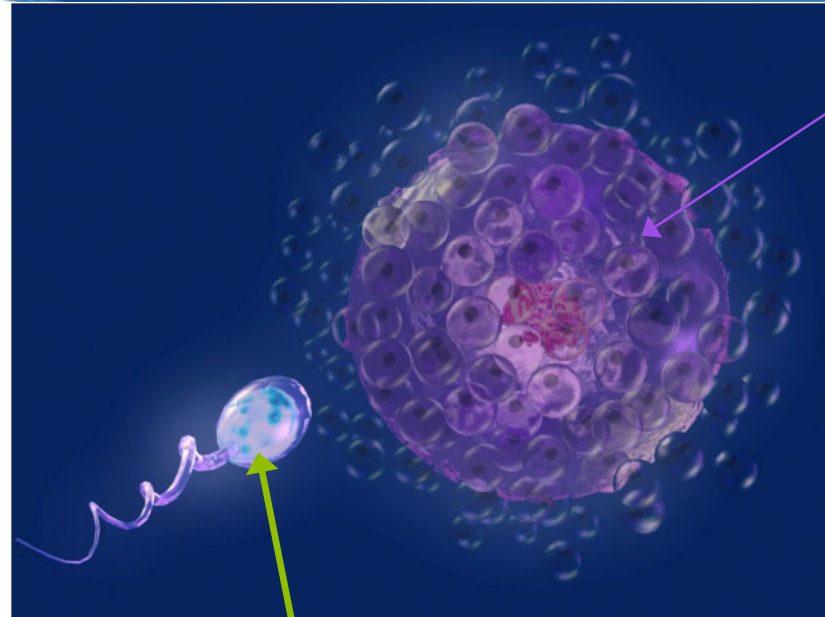
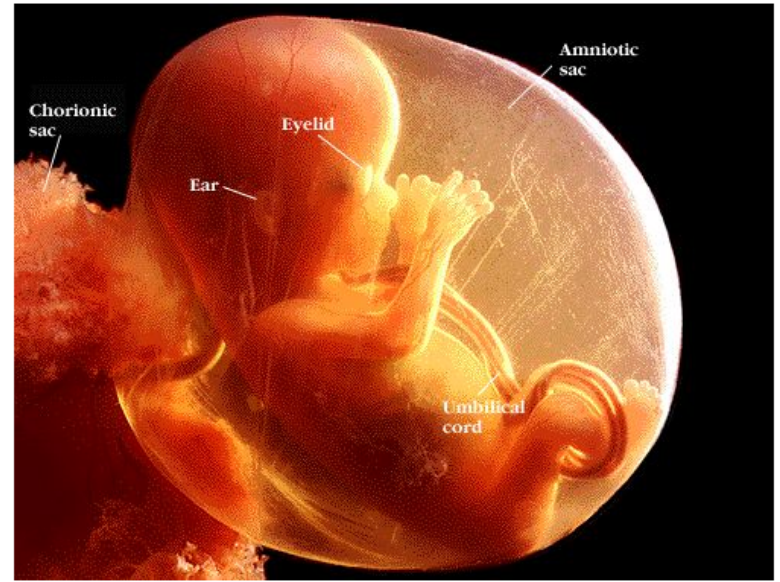
$$23+23=46$$



Riproduzione sessuata: la visione epigenetica

**Stile di vita ed esposizioni
ambientali materni**

*Variabile suscettibilità a patologie dell'
infanzia o della età adulta*



**Stile di vita ed esposizioni
ambientali paterni**

Review

Developmental origins of metabolic disease: life course and intergenerational perspectives

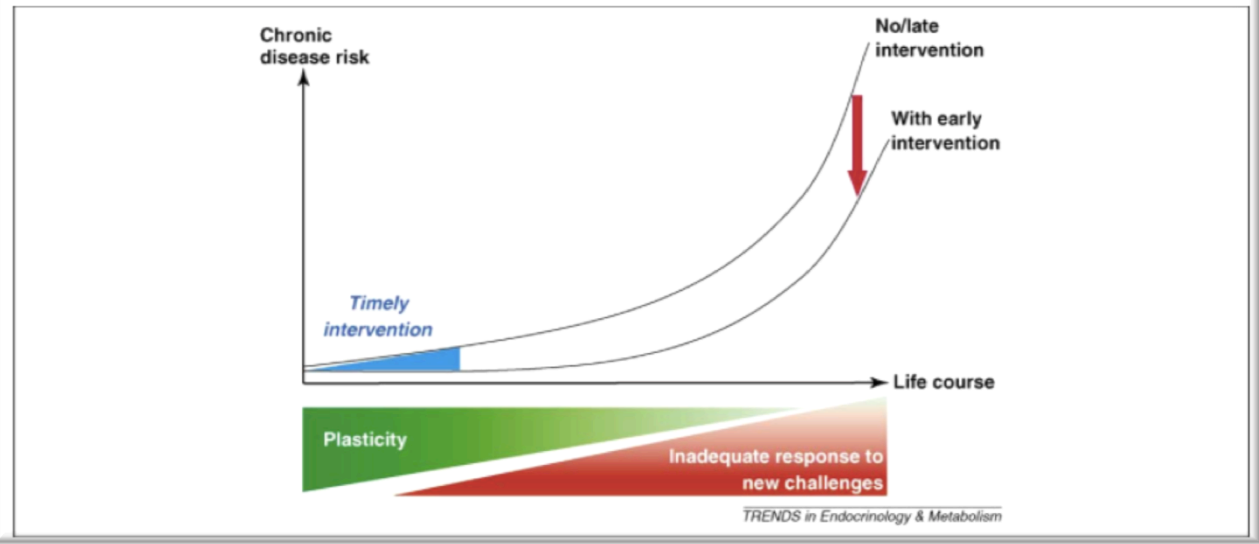
Keith M. Godfrey^{1,2,3}, Peter D. Gluckman^{4,5} and Mark A. Hanson^{1,2}

¹ University of Southampton School of Medicine, Southampton, UK
² NIHR Biomedical Research Unit in Nutrition, Diet & Lifestyle
³ MRC Epidemiology Resource Centre, Southampton, UK
⁴ Liggins Institute, University of Auckland, NZ
⁵ Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, Singapore

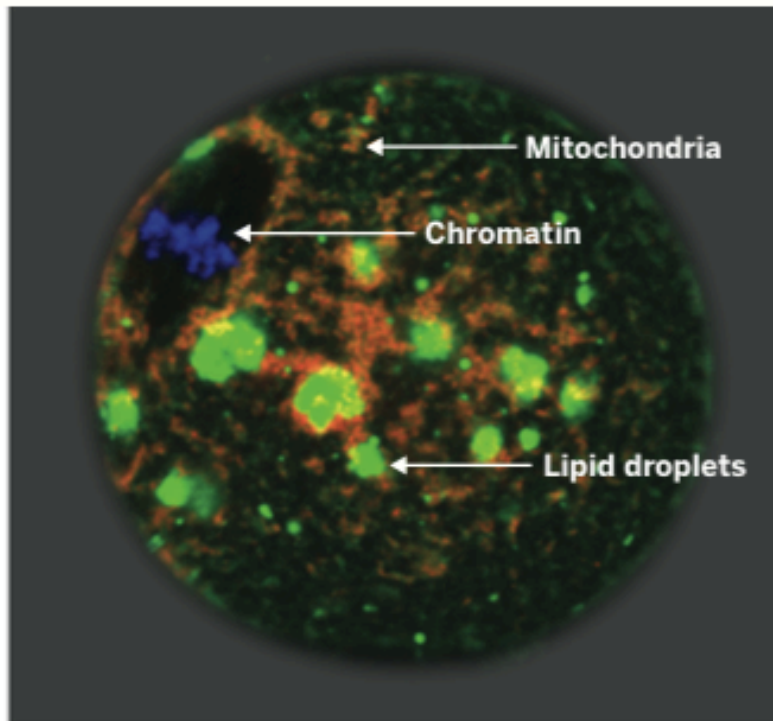
Although the greatest increase occurs in adult life, the trajectory is set much earlier, being influenced by factors such as the mother's diet and body composition before and during pregnancy, and fetal, infant and childhood nutrition and development

Review

Trends in Endocrinology and Metabolism Vol.21 No.4

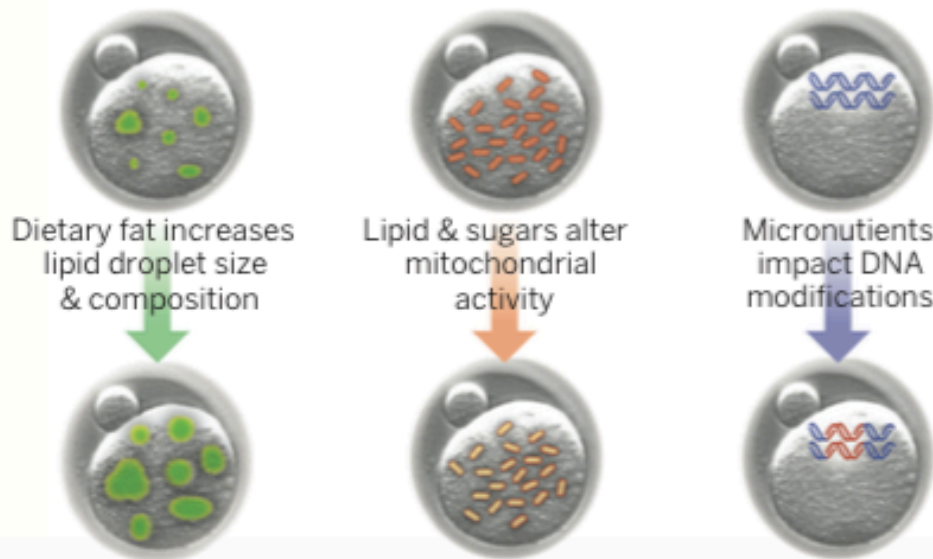


A



B

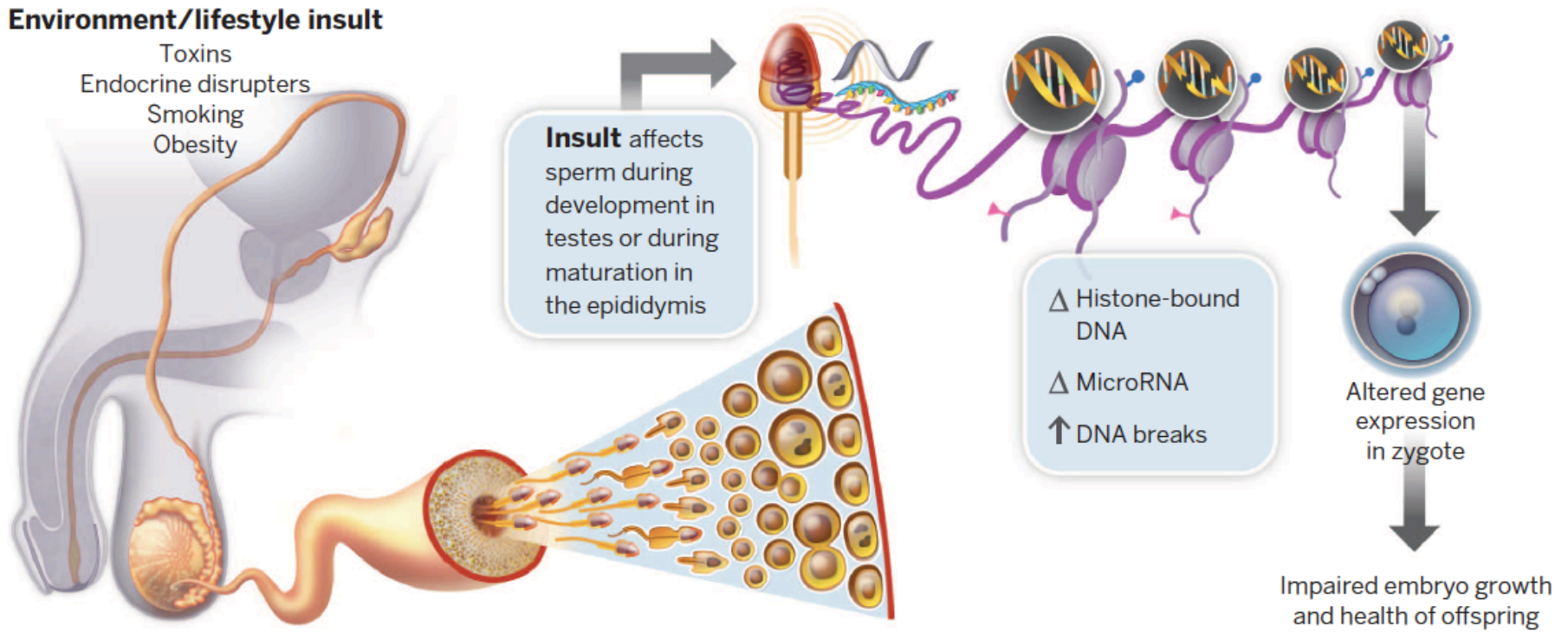
Altered diet, inflammation, toxins



Lane et al.,
Science 2014

Environment/lifestyle insult

Toxins
Endocrine disruptors
Smoking
Obesity



Insult affects sperm during development in testes or during maturation in the epididymis

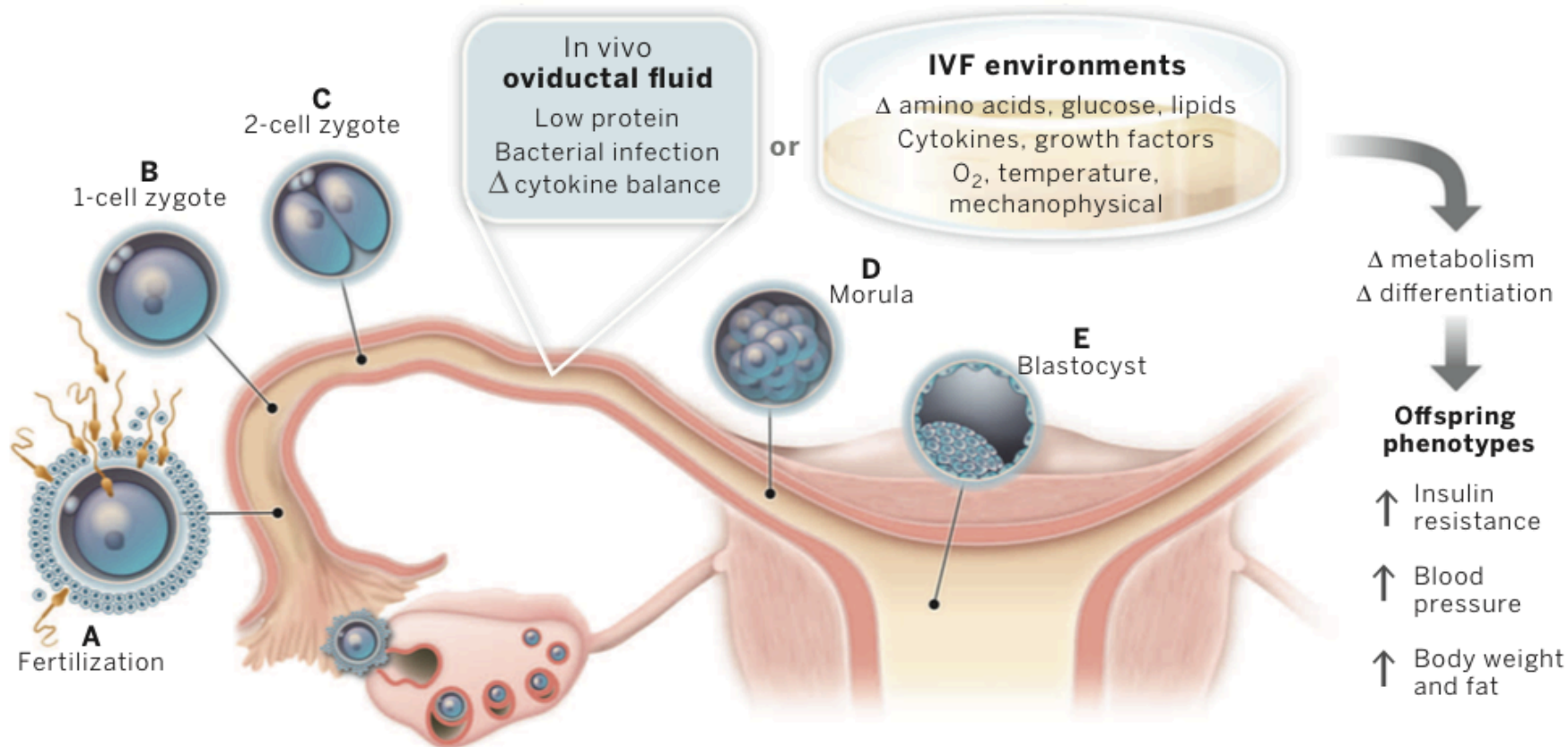
Δ Histone-bound DNA
Δ MicroRNA
↑ DNA breaks

Altered gene expression in zygote

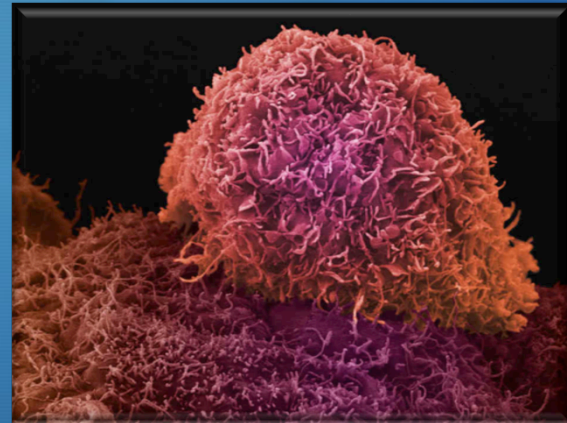
Impaired embryo growth and health of offspring

Parenting from before conception

Michelle Lane, Rebecca L. Robker, Sarah A. Robertson*

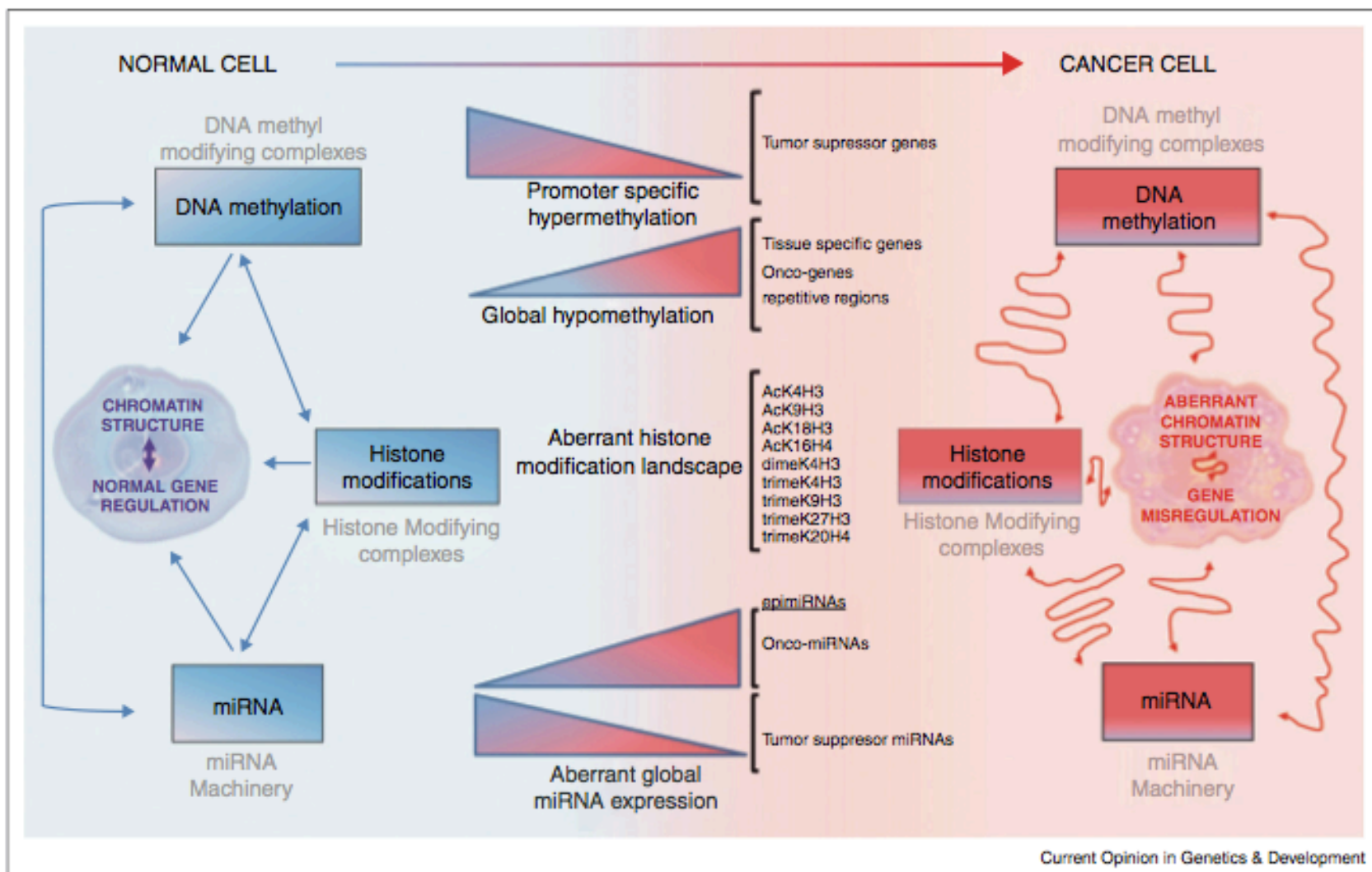


Epigenetica e cancro



Cancer epigenomics: beyond genomics

Juan Sandoval¹ and Manel Esteller^{1,2,3}



The Epigenomics of Cancer

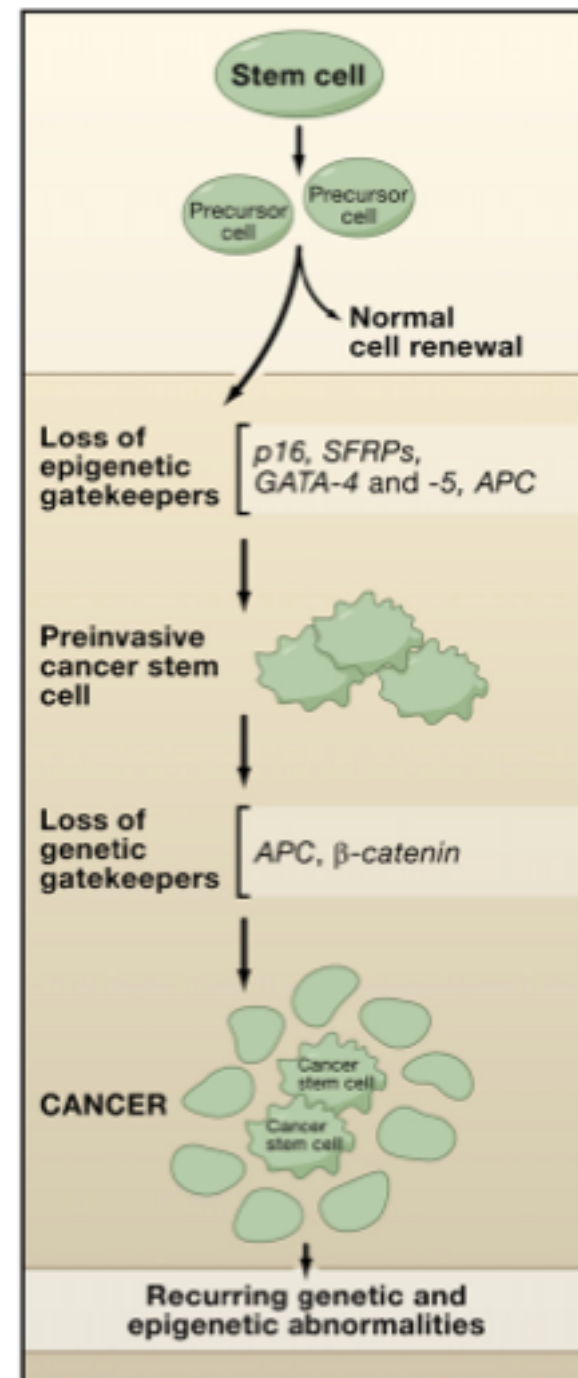
Peter A. Jones^{1,*} and Stephen B. Baylin^{2,*}

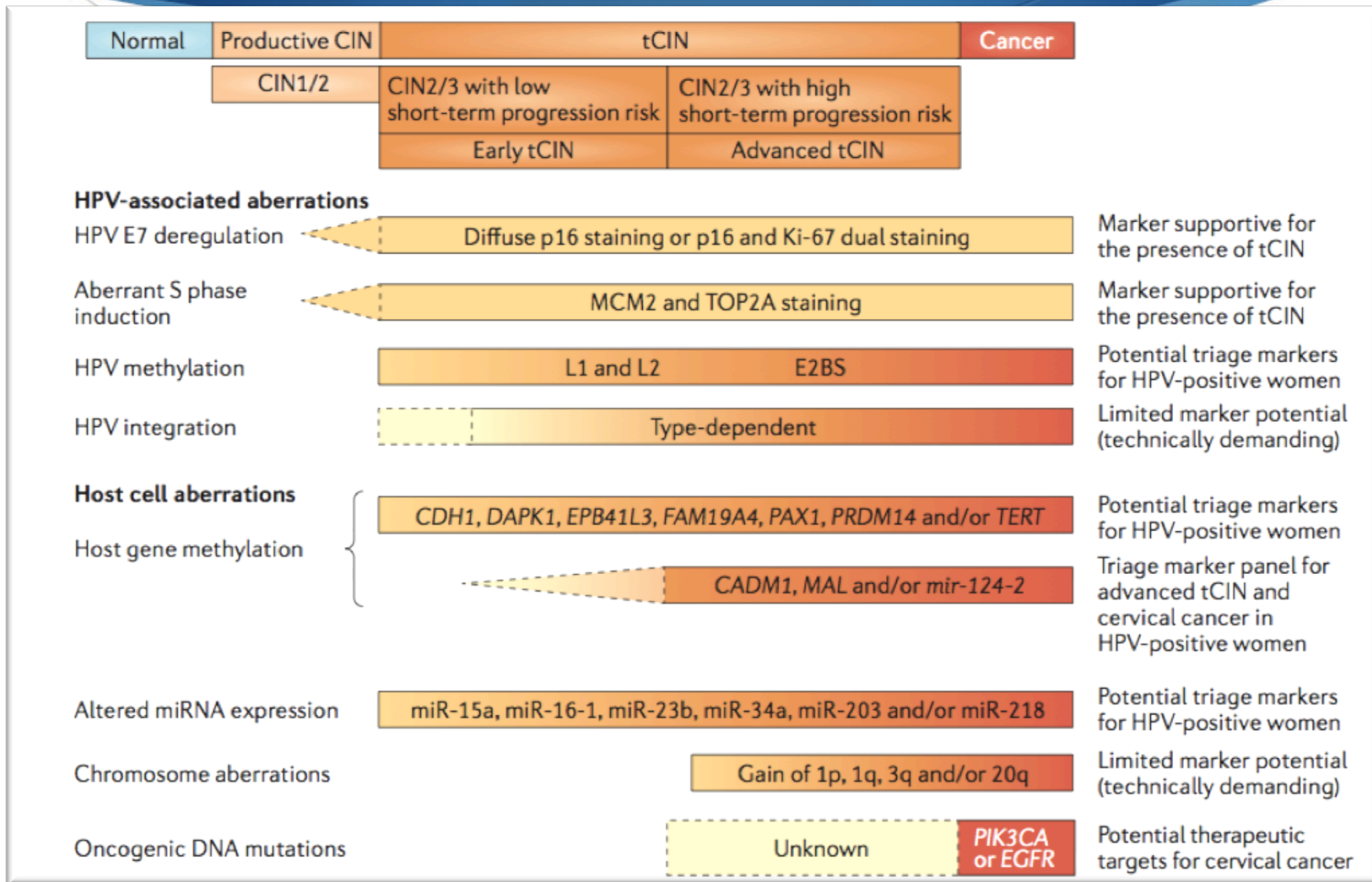
¹Department of Urology, Biochemistry, and Molecular Biology, USC/Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA 90089, USA

²Cancer Biology Program, The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center, Johns Hopkins Medical Institutions, Baltimore, MD 21231, USA

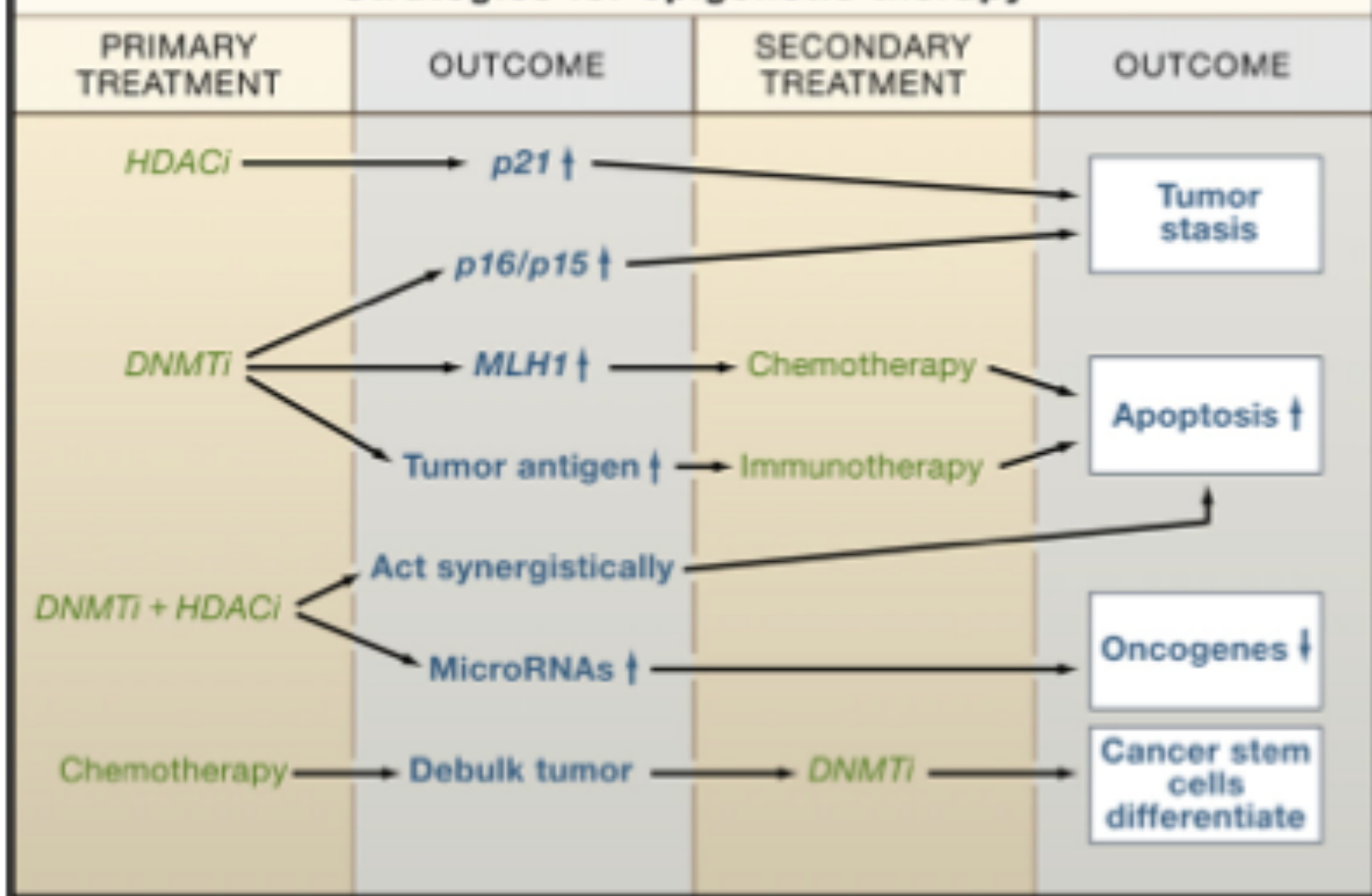
*Correspondence: jones_p@ccnt.usc.edu (P.A.J.), sbaylin@jhmi.edu (S.B.B.)

DOI 10.1016/j.cell.2007.01.029





Strategies for epigenetic therapy



Epigenomics: Therapeutic Market Growth

The large-scale release of epimutagens into the environment may already be resulting in substantial damage to human and animal health. This represents a huge potential market for epigenomics drugs and diagnostics. Epigenetic diagnostics, therapeutics, and the tool-based technologies that supply these fields are expected to grow into a large market.

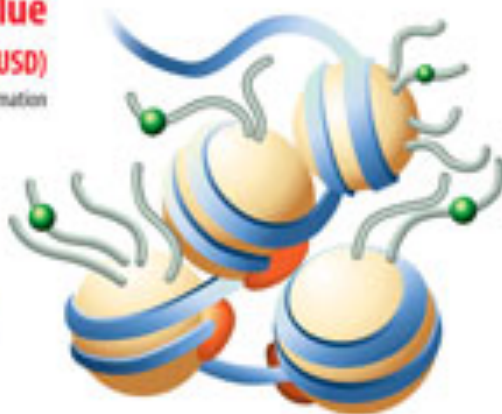
Projected Epigenomics Therapeutic Market Value

(millions USD)

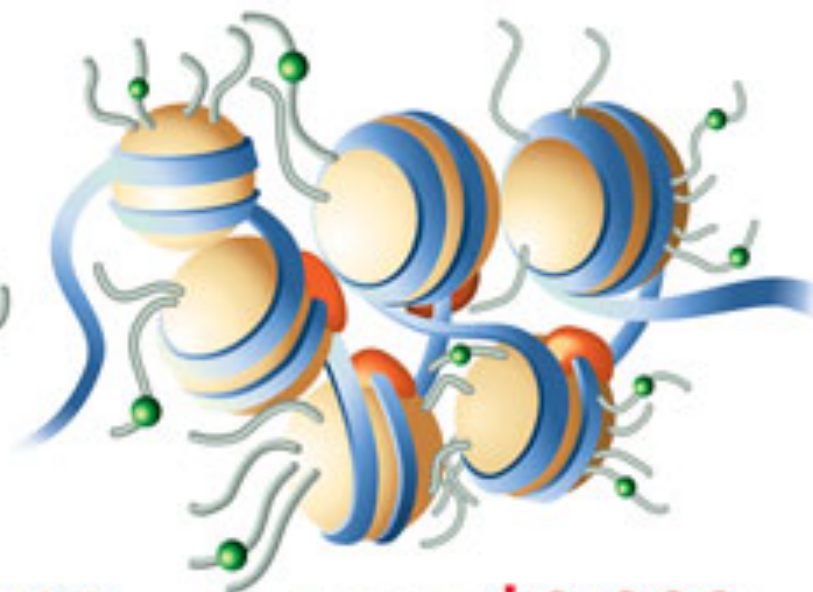
Source: Kalorama Information



2011 **\$800**



2013 **\$1,000**



2017 **\$8,000**



Prader Willi Syndrome



Angelman Syndrome

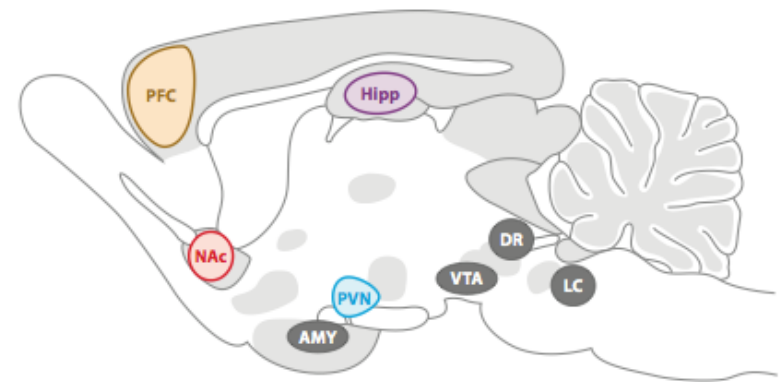
Stressful situation activates neuronal circuits, such as the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) axis, the locus coeruleus, and the autonomic noradrenergic centers in the brain stem.

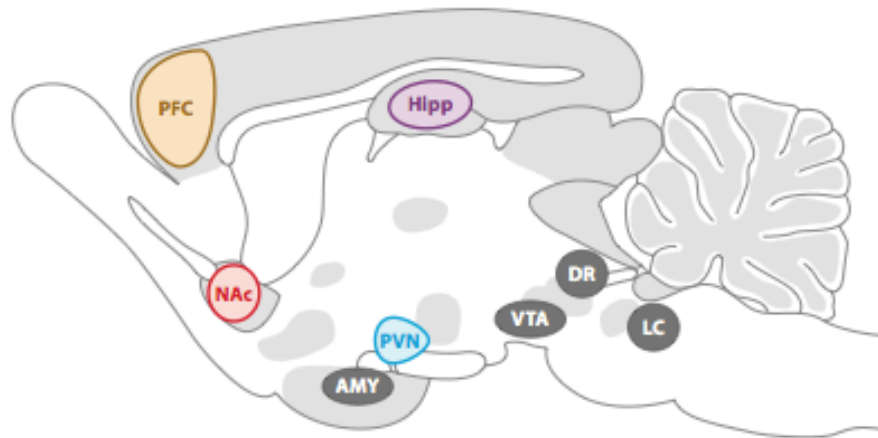
Stress targets numerous limbic brain regions, such as the prefrontal cortex, hippocampus, amygdala, and ventral striatum.

These changes in the central nervous system directly affect learning and memory, alertness, arousal, and perhaps basal anxiety, and they promote adaptive behavioral responses to subsequent stresses.

Epigenetic Mechanisms of Depression and Antidepressant Action

Vincent Vialou, Jian Feng, Alfred J. Robison, and Eric J. Nestler



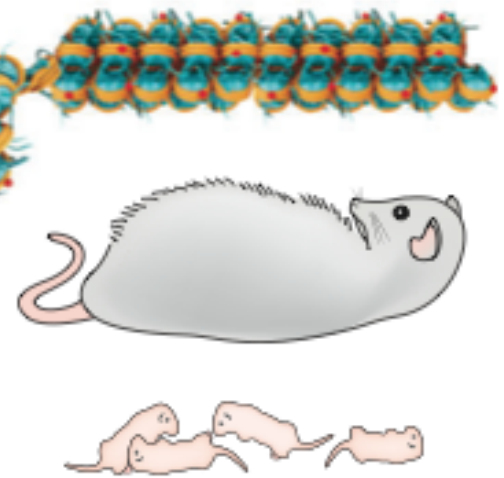


Gene	Region	MeDNA	Associated mechanisms	Behavioral paradigm
<i>BDNF</i> ↓	Hipp	↑		Predator stress ¹⁰⁵
<i>BDNF</i> ↓	PFC	↑		Early-life stress ¹⁴⁶
<i>CRF</i> ↓ ↑	PVN	↑ ↓		Chronic mild stress (females) ¹⁰³ Social defeat (reversed by imipramine) ³¹
<i>P11</i> ↓ ↑	PFC	↑ ↓		FSL depression model ¹¹⁰ FSL with escitalopram ¹¹⁰
<i>GDNF</i> ↓ ↑	NAc	↑	↑ MeCP2/HDAC2 ↑ MeCP2/CREB	Social defeat – sus and res ¹⁰⁸ Social defeat – sus only ¹⁰⁸ Social defeat – res only ¹⁰⁸
<i>AVP</i> ↑	PVN		↓ MeCP2	Maternal separation ¹⁴⁴
<i>GR</i> ↑	Hipp	↓		High LG (maternal attention) ¹⁵¹

Attentive mothering causes methyl marks to be removed



Inattentive mothering causes methyl marks to be added



Early life
Prenatal stress, differential levels of maternal care, and early-life stress alter brain development and have long-term effects on stress reactivity and cognition



Adult

Exposure to stressful events alters chromatin composition in neurons, thus affecting neuronal function
Possible influence on germ cells, although the mediator of such effects remains unknown

Gametes and zygote

Possible inheritance of epigenetic modifications through ncRNAs, DNA methylation, and histone modification





Commentary

Role of epigenetics in pharmacotherapy, psychotherapy and nutritional management of mental disorders

J. Peedicayil MD

Department of Pharmacology and Clinical Pharmacology, Christian Medical College, Vellore, India

Received 2 January 2012, Accepted 23 February 2012

Keywords: epigenetics, mental disorders, nutrition, pharmacotherapy, psychotherapy

Epigenetica e disturbi del SNC





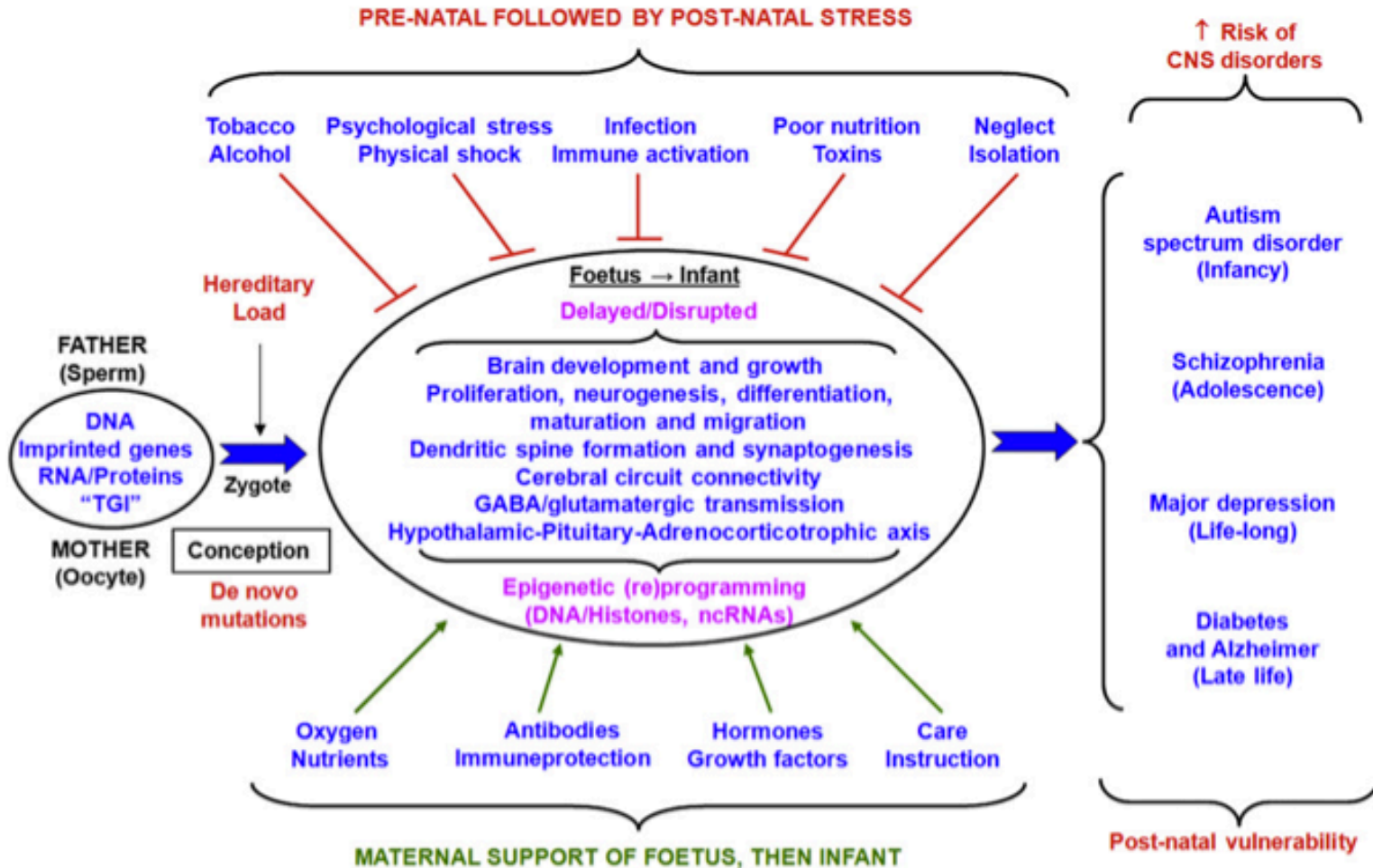
Invited review

An epigenetic framework for neurodevelopmental disorders: From pathogenesis to potential therapy

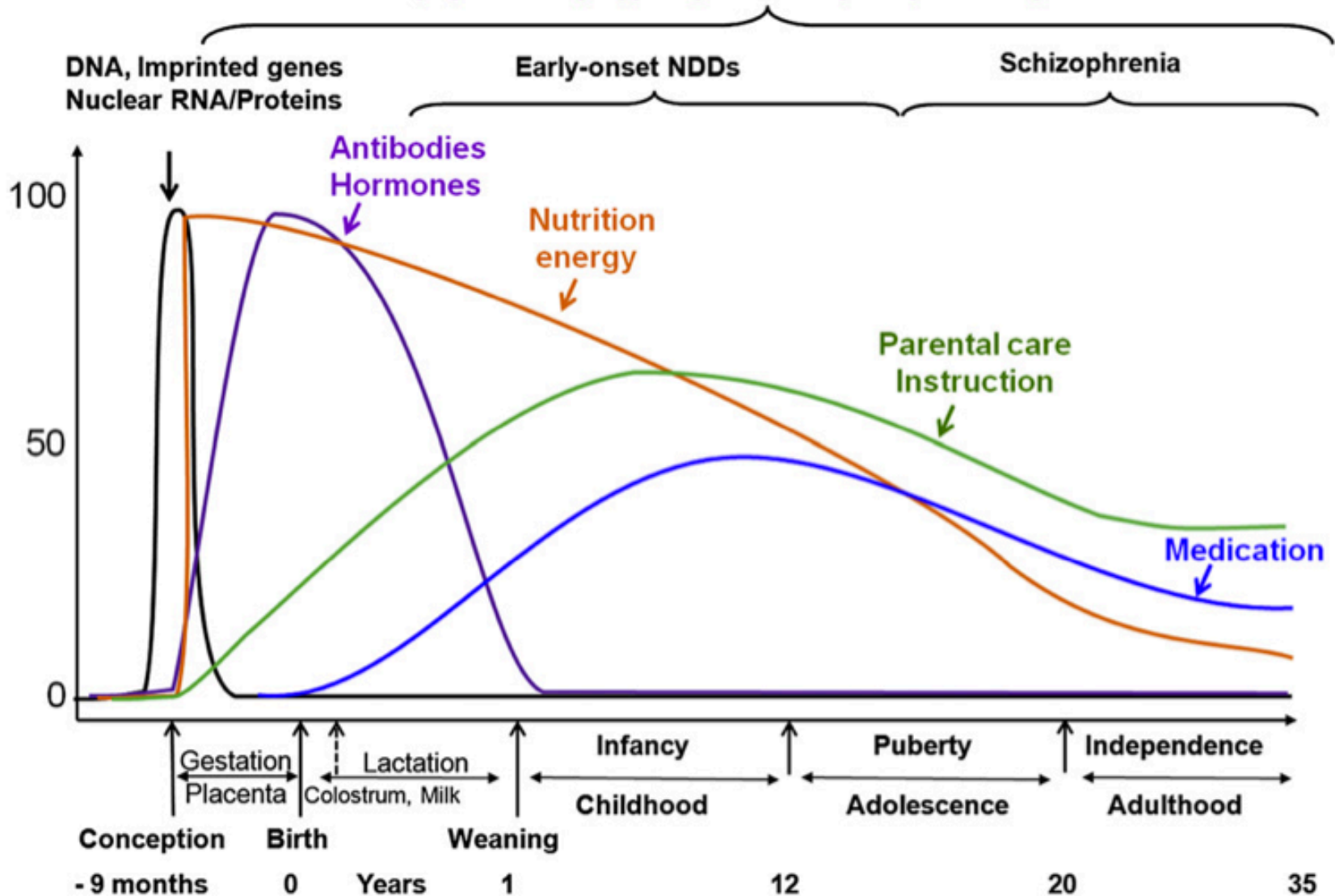
Mark J. Millan*

Unit for Research and Discovery in Neuroscience, IDR Servier, 125 chemin de ronde, 78290 Croissy sur Seine, Paris, France

M.J. Millan / Neuropharmacology 68 (2013) 2–82



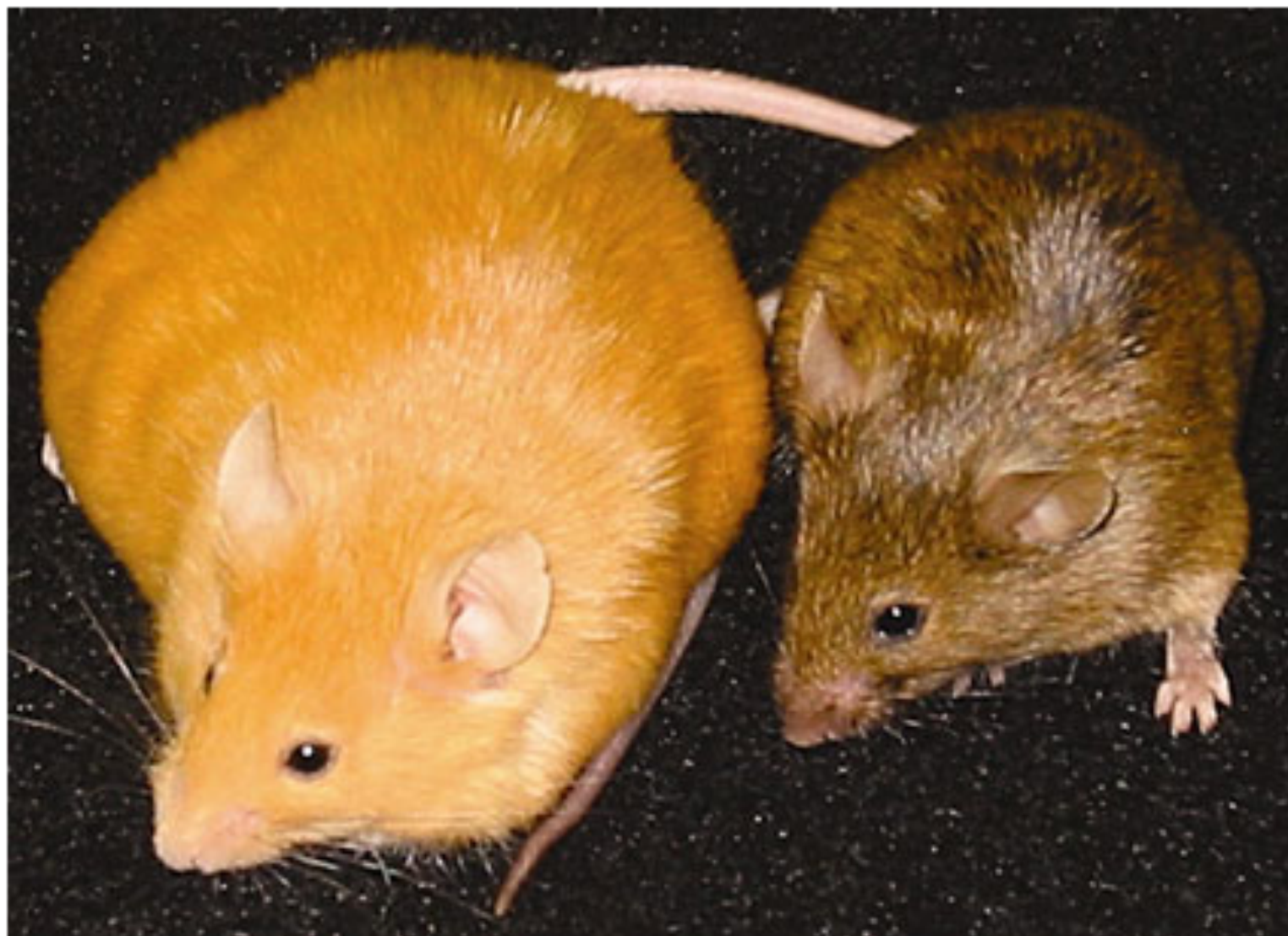
Epigenetic (re)programming of gene expression





Modificazioni epigenetiche: quali fattori ambientali?





Ricerca Da guerre e carestie la scoperta che sul nascituro influisce anche la dieta dell'uomo

Il cibo del padre ricade sulla salute del figlio

Un'alimentazione più o meno ricca addirittura durante la pubertà modifica le capacità "espressive" del **Dna**. Modifiche trasmesse poi alla prole

di **Franca Porciani**

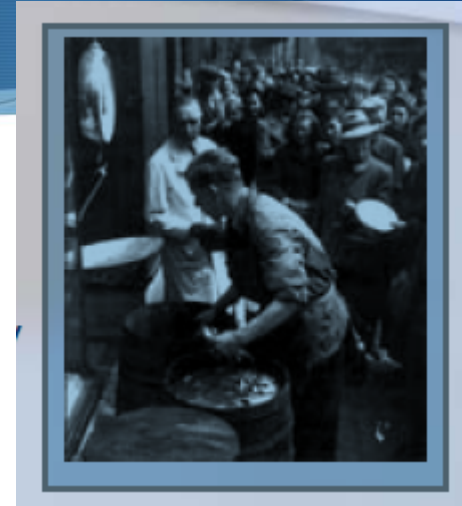
Non c'erano contatti con il mondo esterno nei rigidi mesi d'inverno a Overkalix a quei tempi. Se il raccolto era stato abbondante, si mangiava a sufficienza, se era stato scarso, un po' di fame era inevitabile. È stato così fino agli inizi del Novecento in questo paese di 4.000 anime nel cuore della Lapponia svedese, la regione più a nord a ridosso del Circolo Polare Artico, vicino al fiume Kalix, famoso per la pesca al salmone. Quando era chiusa nella morsa del mar Baltico ghiacciato, diventava irraggiungibile. Una situazione eccezionale che ha stimolato l'attenzione di un genetista svedese, Lars Olov Bygren, che insieme al collega inglese Marcus Pembrey ha correlato i certificati di nascita e di morte della popolazione (li ha trovati a partire dal lontano 1799) con l'andamento dei raccolti, di conseguenza con la disponibilità di cibo durante l'inverno.

Effetti impreveduti. Il risultato? I due ricercatori hanno scoperto che quando i ragazzi fra i nove e i dodici anni, epoca cruciale



Tre generazioni. Il genetista svedese Lars Olov Bygren, autore dello studio su Overkalix, che ha scoperto l'influenza della dieta dell'uomo sulla prole, con il figlio Magnus e il nipote Ludvig nella sua casa a Stoccolma.

di ricerche, quello sull'epigenetica (epi, sopra, in greco, e genetica) ovvero quanto gli stimoli ambientali possono modificare le capacità "espressive" del nostro Dna, senza arrivare a intaccarne la composizione. È una sorta di nuova scienza, in gran parte da esplorare, che dimostra come sia forte l'ambiente: i geni non si autocontrollano, ma sono controllati dall'ambiente, da quanto e come mangiamo prima di tutto», spiega Liborio Stuppia, professore di genetica medica alla facoltà di psicologia dell'università di Chieti, uno dei primi ad interessarsi in Italia di questa nuova branca. Ma oltre agli inverni lapponi, una vicenda a noi più vicina ci fa capire l'importanza dell'epigenetica: la carestia olandese dell'inverno '44-'45 quando il Paese, già vittima dell'occupazione nazista, restò prigioniero dell'embargo sul trasporto di cibo voluto da Hitler, che lo costrinse all'inverno "della fame". *Hongerwinter* in fiammingo; mesi in cui la gente, ridotta alla stremosa, si nutrì di gatti, ratti, alla fine di bulbi di tulipano.



L'embargo nazista sulla Olanda occidentale alla fine della II Guerra Mondiale causò 30.000 morti per malnutrizione...



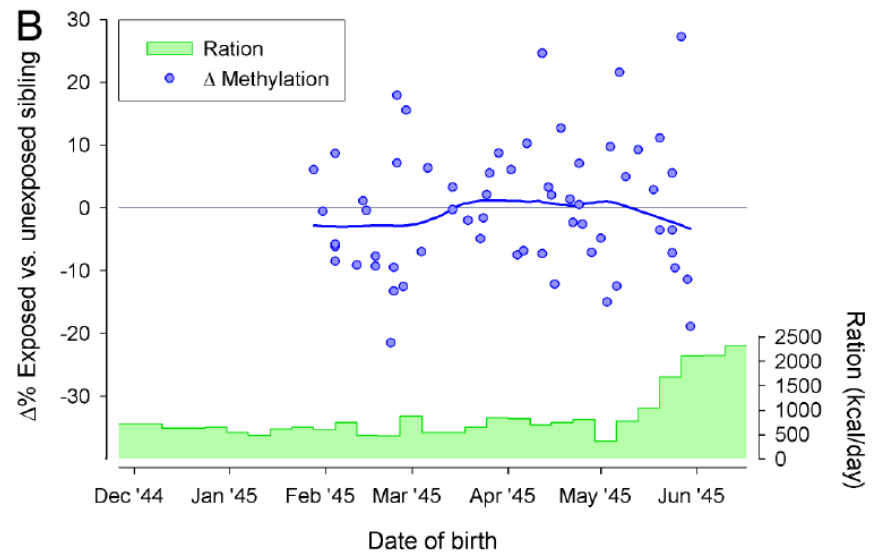
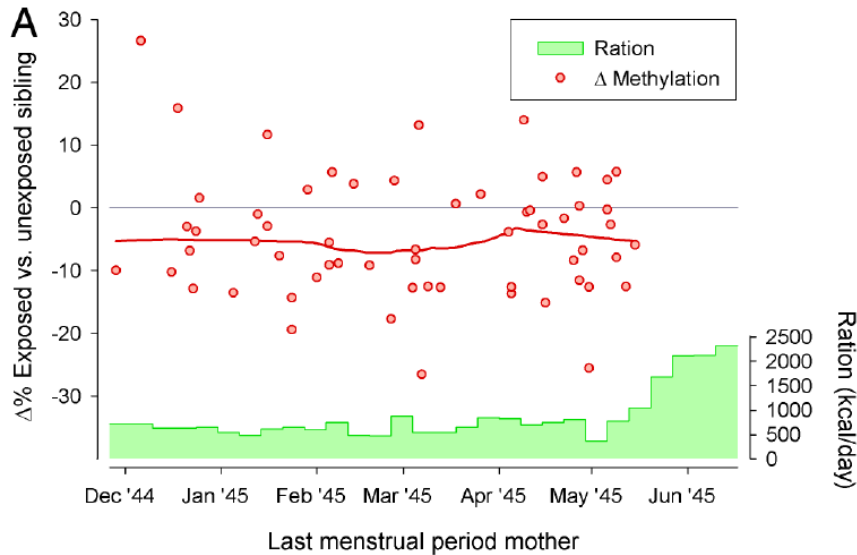
60 anni dopo....

Persistent epigenetic differences associated with prenatal exposure to famine in humans

Bastiaan T. Heijmans^{a,1,2}, Elmar W. Tobin^{a,2}, Aryeh D. Stein^b, Hein Putter^c, Gerard J. Blauw^d, Ezra S. Susser^{e,f}, P. Eline Slagboom^a, and L. H. Lumey^{a,1}

Departments of ^aMolecular Epidemiology, ^cMedical Statistics, and ^dGerontology and Geriatrics, Leiden University Medical Center, Leiden, The Netherlands; ^bHubert Department of Global Health, Rollins School of Public Health, Emory University Atlanta, GA 30322; ^eDepartment of Epidemiology, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, New York, NY 10032; and ^fNew York State Psychiatric Institute, New York, NY 10032

Edited by Charles R. Cantor, Sequenom Inc., San Diego, CA, and approved September 17, 2008 (received for review July 7, 2008)



Ridotta metilazione del gene IGF2 negli individui concepiti durante la carestia

Epigenomics. 2011 June ; 3(3): 267–277.

FOOD

- Folate
- EGCG from green tea
- Selenium

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

TOBACCO SMOKE

INTRAUTERINE LIFE

- Maternal diet
- Tobacco smoke

ALCOHOL

- High intake

POLLUTANTS

- Arsenic
- Chromate
- PM
- Benzene
- PAHs
- POPs

AGING

STRESS CONDITIONS

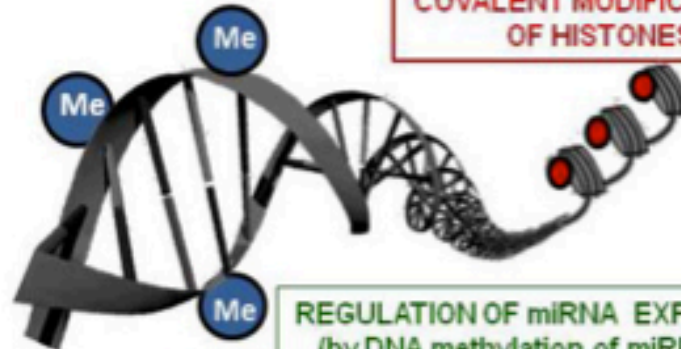
SHIFTWORK

↑ silencing ↑ expression
 ↑ HYPER ↑ HYPO
 gene expression regulation

DNA METHYLATION

↑ relaxed/compact chromatin structure associated with differential transcriptional activity

COVALENT MODIFICATIONS OF HISTONES



REGULATION OF miRNA EXPRESSION (by DNA methylation of miRNAs loci)

↓ traslational repression or transcript degradation

FOOD

- Polyphenols from vegetables
- Selenium

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

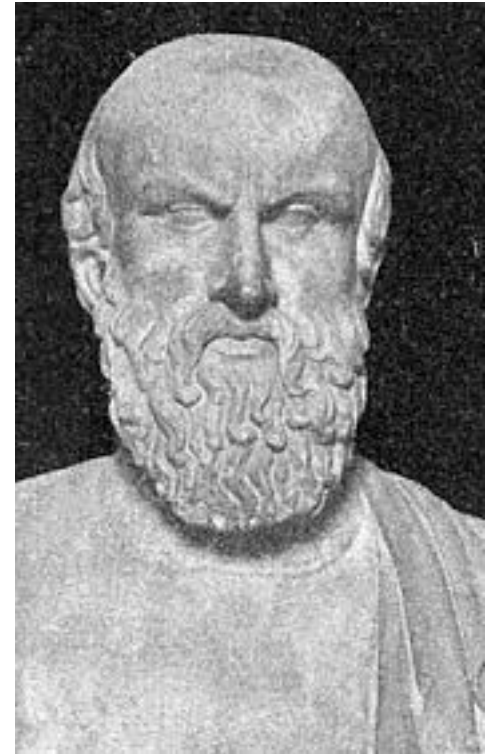
PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

CIGARETTE SMOKE

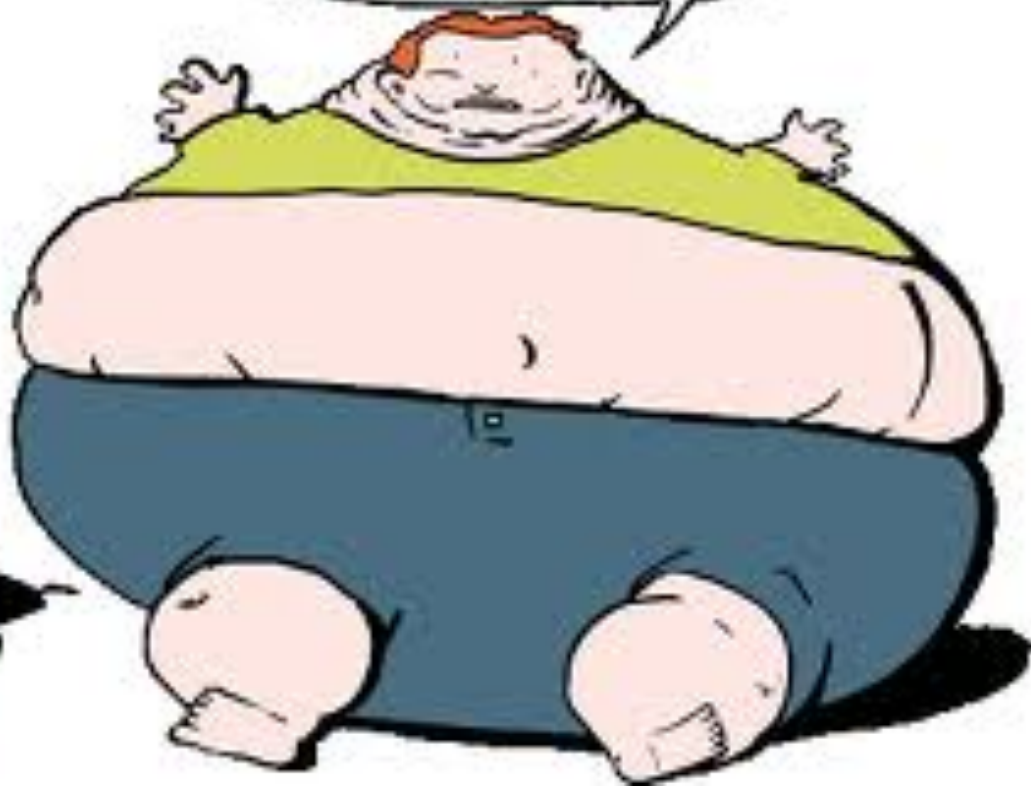
INTRAUTERINE LIFE

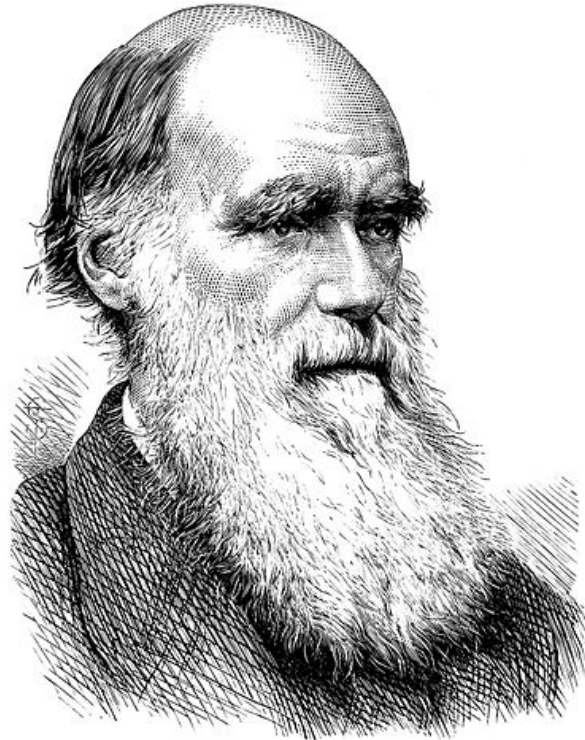
- Tobacco smoke

**L'uomo non deve essere ὑβριστής –
ubristès – “smodato/tracotante”, perché
questo è un atteggiamento che dispiace
molto agli dèi, i quali puniscono tale uomo,
e può passare anche molto tempo, prima
che giunga la punizione, ma bisogna tenere
sempre ben presente che “Zeus punisce,
anche se tardi”. Per questo motivo le colpe
dei padri ricadono sui figli.**



DAMN YOU, EPIGENOME.





Charles Robert Darwin (1809 – 1882)



Jean Baptiste de Lamarck (1744-1829)