

# **New Insights into the Mechanism of Action of Antioxidants**

**J. A. Milner**

**Milnerj@mail.nih.gov**

**Nutrition Science Research Group  
Division of Cancer Prevention,  
National Cancer Institute  
Bethesda, MD 20892**

# **Dietary Antioxidant**

**A substance in foods that significantly decreases the adverse effects of reactive species, such as reactive oxygen and nitrogen species, on normal physiological function in humans.**

**Dietary Reference Intakes, Foods and Nutrition Board  
2000 Natl Acad Press**

# Reactive Species

## Includes:

hydroxyl radicals ( $\cdot\text{OH}$ )

superoxide anions ( $\text{O}_2^-$ )

singlet oxygen ( $^1\text{O}_2$ )

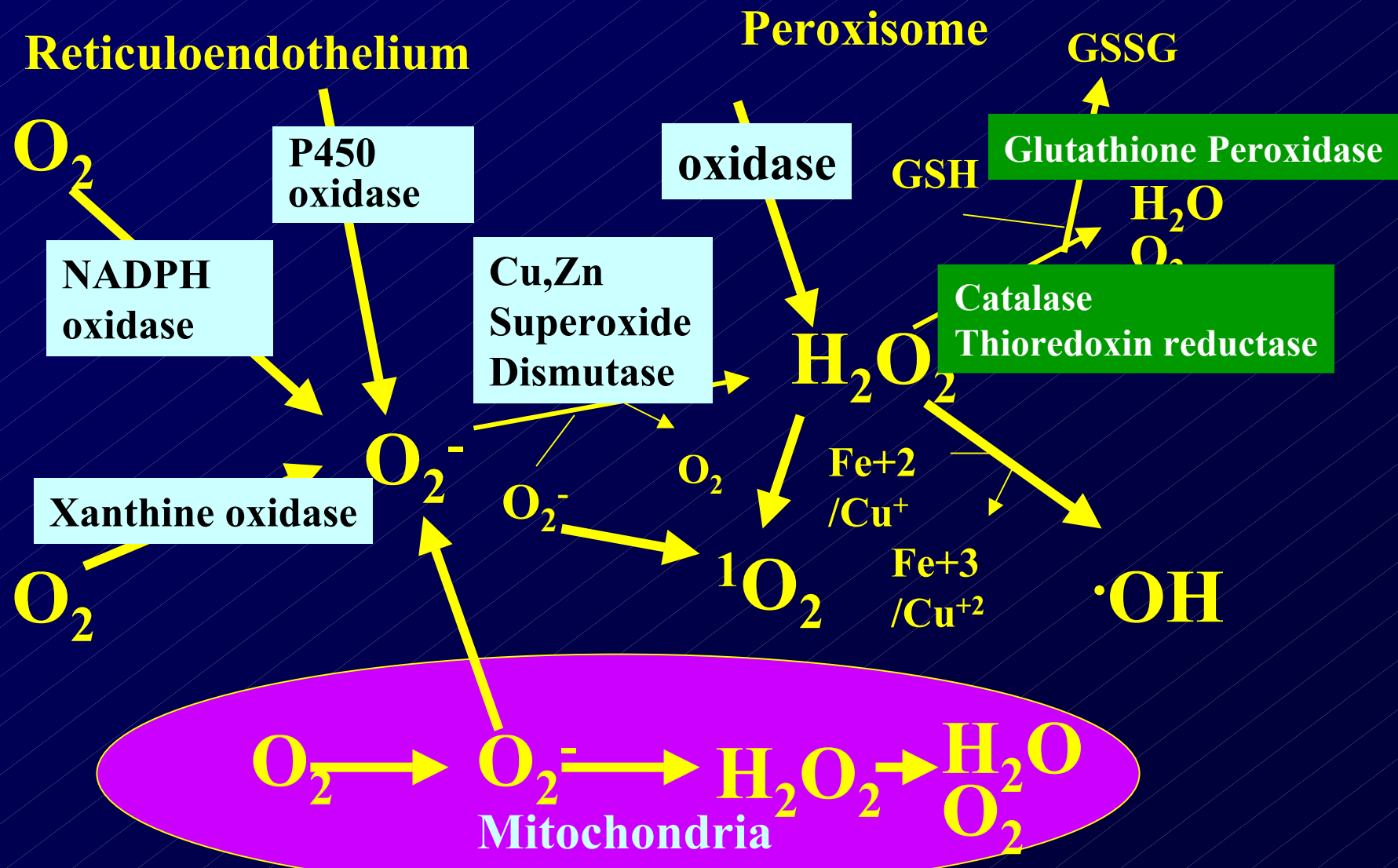
hydrogen peroxides ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ )

organic peroxides ( $\text{R-OOH}$ )

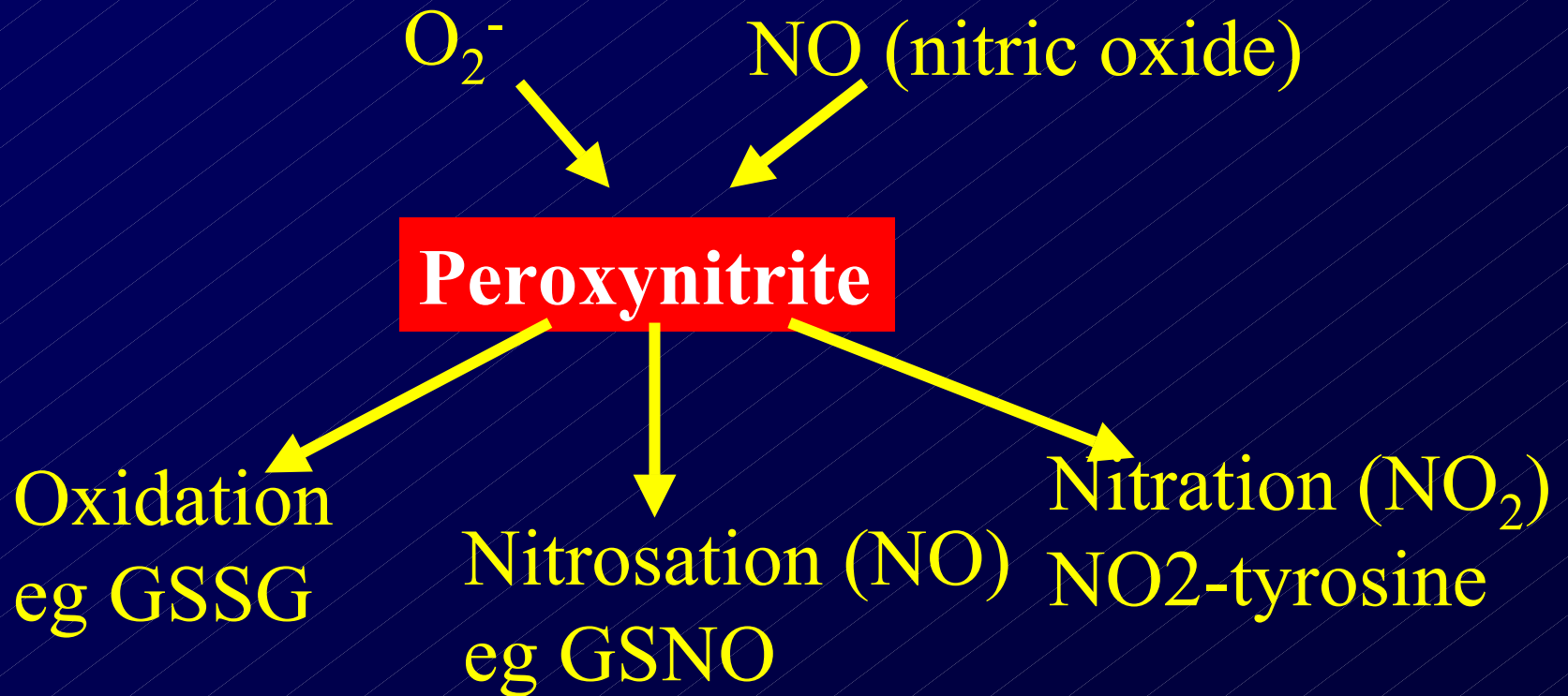
nitric oxide

peroxynitrite

# Generation of Reactive Oxygen Species



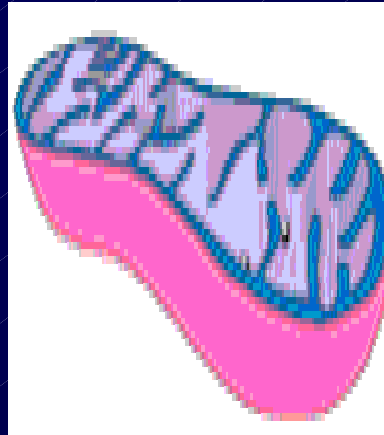
# Nitric Oxide Dependent Reactions



# Reactive Oxygen Species



**Endoplasmic  
Reticulum**



**Mitochondrion**



- **Damage DNA, RNA**
- **Oxidize Proteins (enzymes, histones)**
- **Oxidize Lipids**
- **Activate Cell Suicide**

# Diversity in Dietary Antioxidants

## Essential

Vitamin E (tocopherol)

Vitamin C (ascorbic acid)

Vitamin A (retinol and carotenoids)

Numerous minerals- Cu, Mn, Zn, Se, Fe

## Non-essential

glutathione, small peptides

host of phytochemicals (thousands in food supply)

# **In Vitro Measures of Antioxidant Capacity**

- **ABTS Assay for Antioxidant Activity** (Miller et al. 1997).
- **Total Peroxyl Radical-trapping Potential (TRAP) Assay.** (Wilson (2001).
- **FOX3 (Lipid Peroxidation) Assay.** (Hermes-Lima et al. 1995)
- **Total Phenolics.** (Spanos and Wrolstad, 1990).
- **ORAC** (Ou et al, 2001)



# Relative ORAC Efficacy (FL Units)

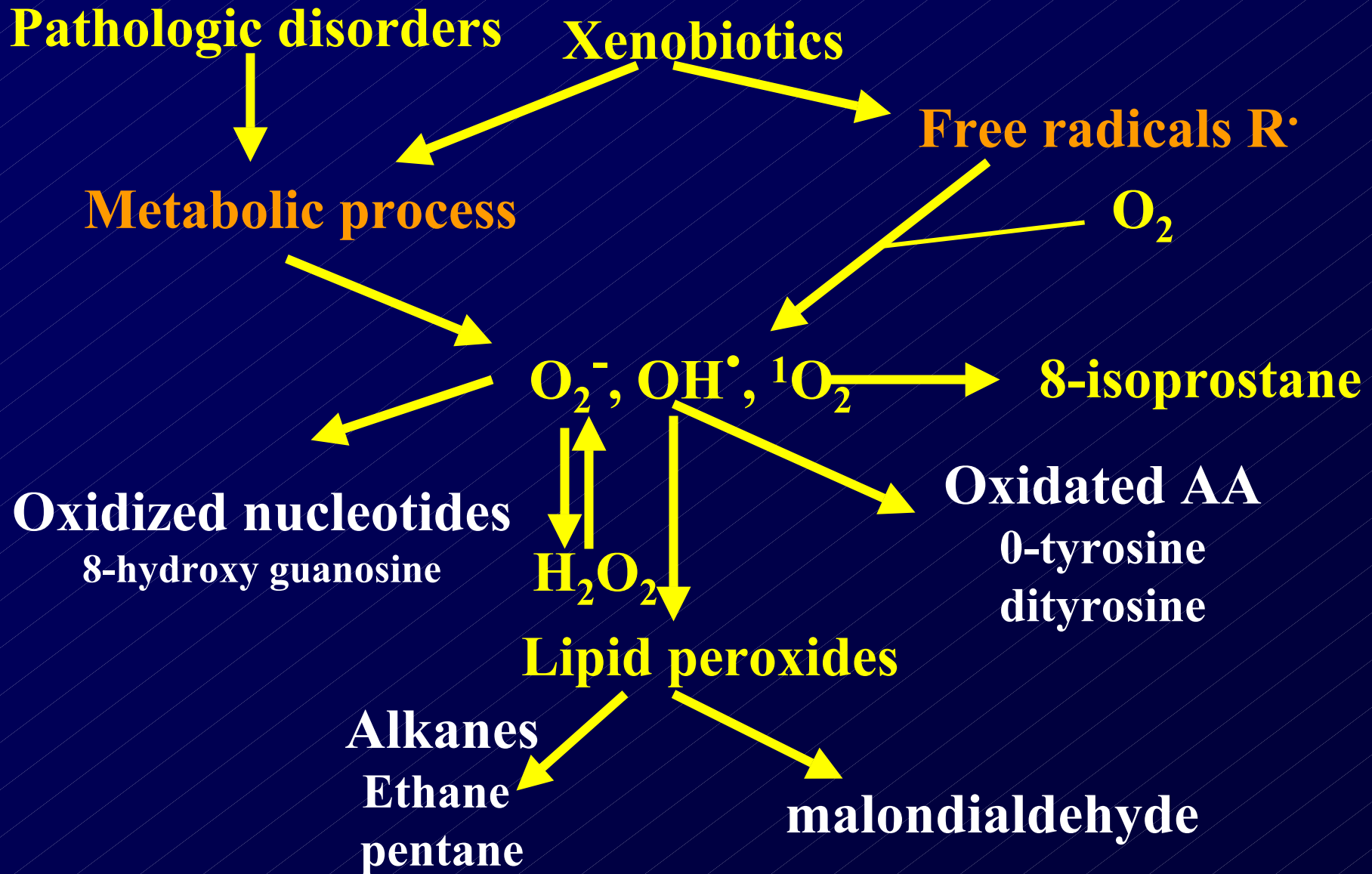
<b>Compound</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Fluids</b>	<b>Units</b>
Caffeic Acid	4.37	Serum	347
Quercetrin	7.28	Urine	1542
Genistein	5.93	Blueberry Juice	23748
Glutathione	0.62	Grape Juice	31441
Catechin	6.76	Raspberry Juice	54034
Vitamin C	0.95	Black Tea	17267

**Ou et al, J Agric Food Chem 2001;49:4619-26**

# **In Vitro Antioxidants Measurement Interpretation**

- Different assays measure the effects of different radical species
- Not clear how to integrate test results for meaningful reflection of in vivo status
- Lack of correlation between assays and oxidative endpoints in vivo (**van den Berg et al J Nutr 2001 Jun;131(6):1714-22** ).

# Biomarkers

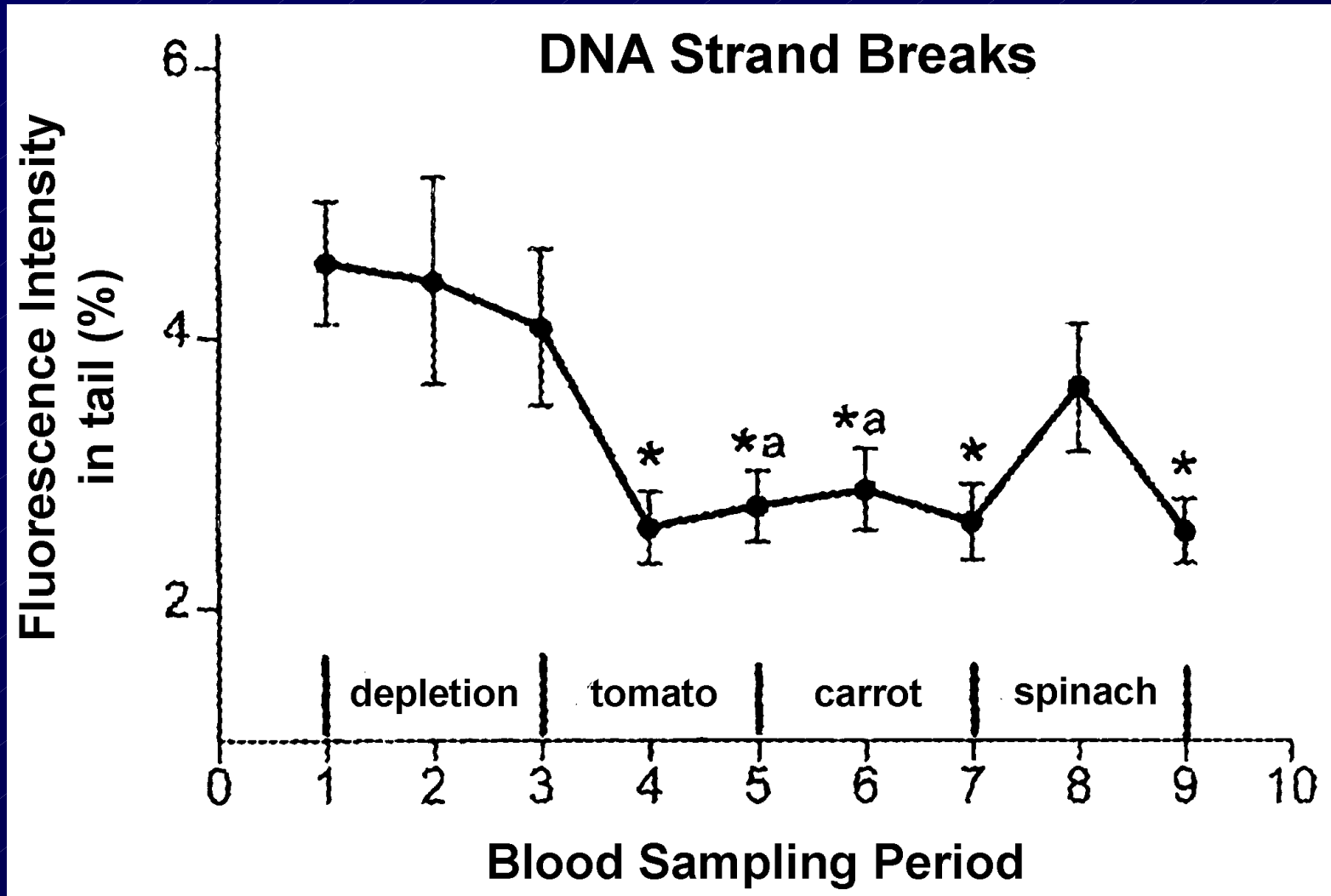


# Low or High VF Diets and 8-OHdG in Lymphocyte DNA

<b>Diet<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Pre- Intervention residues/ 10<sup>6</sup>dG</b>	<b>Post- Intervention</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Low VF <sup>1</sup>	10.1 $\pm$ 1.0 (8.4)	10.0 $\pm$ 0.9 (9.4)	-0.5
High VF	9.7 $\pm$ 1.2 (7.8)	8.1 $\pm$ 1.0* (5.2)	-16.5

5.8 servings vs 12 for 14 d. Urinary MDA minimal affected  
Thompson et al. Carcinogenesis 1999;20:2261.

# DNA Strand Breaks



Pool-Zobel et al. Carcinogenesis 1997;18:1847-50

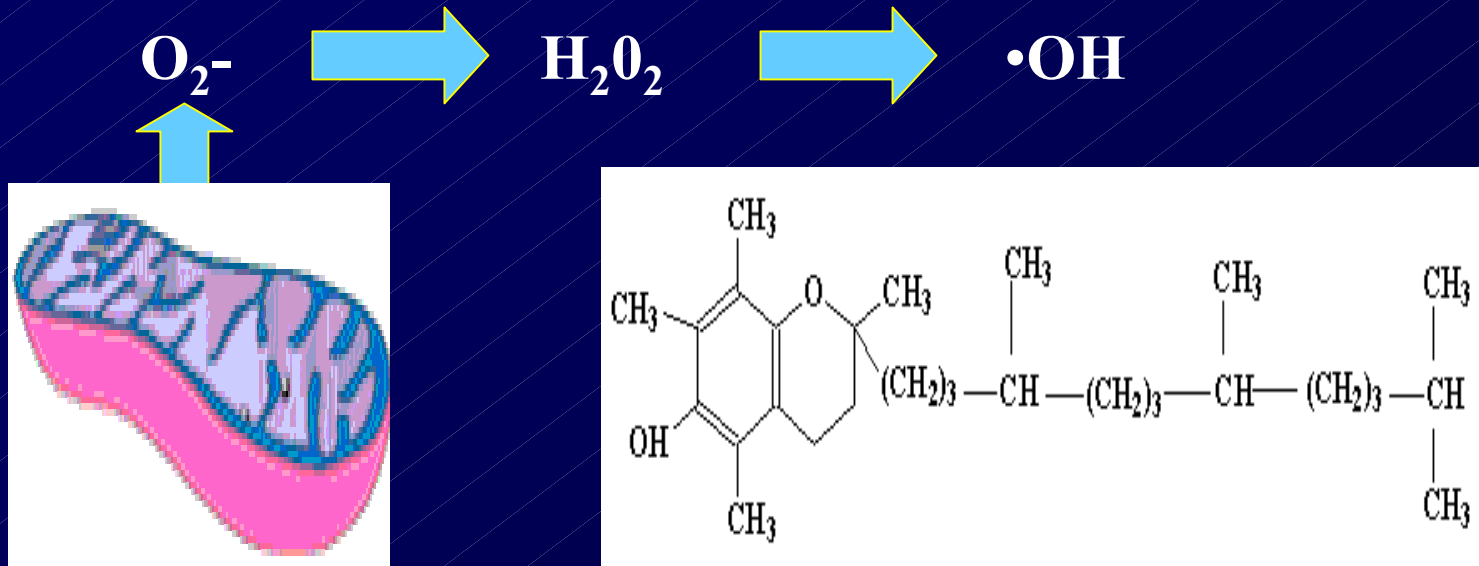
# Low or High VF Diets and Urinary 8-EPG

<b>Diet<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Pre- Intervention</b>	<b>Post- Intervention</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	ng/mg creatinine		
Low VF <sup>1</sup>	4.2 ± 0.3 (3.9)	3.7 ± 0.3 (3.81)	-10.9
High VF	3.7 ± 0.2 (3.3)	2.5 ± 0.1* (2.3)	-30.7

5.8 vs 12 servings.

Thompson et al. Carcinogenesis 1999;20:2261.

# Vitamin E



• **tocopherol a free radical (peroxyl) scavenger within membranes**

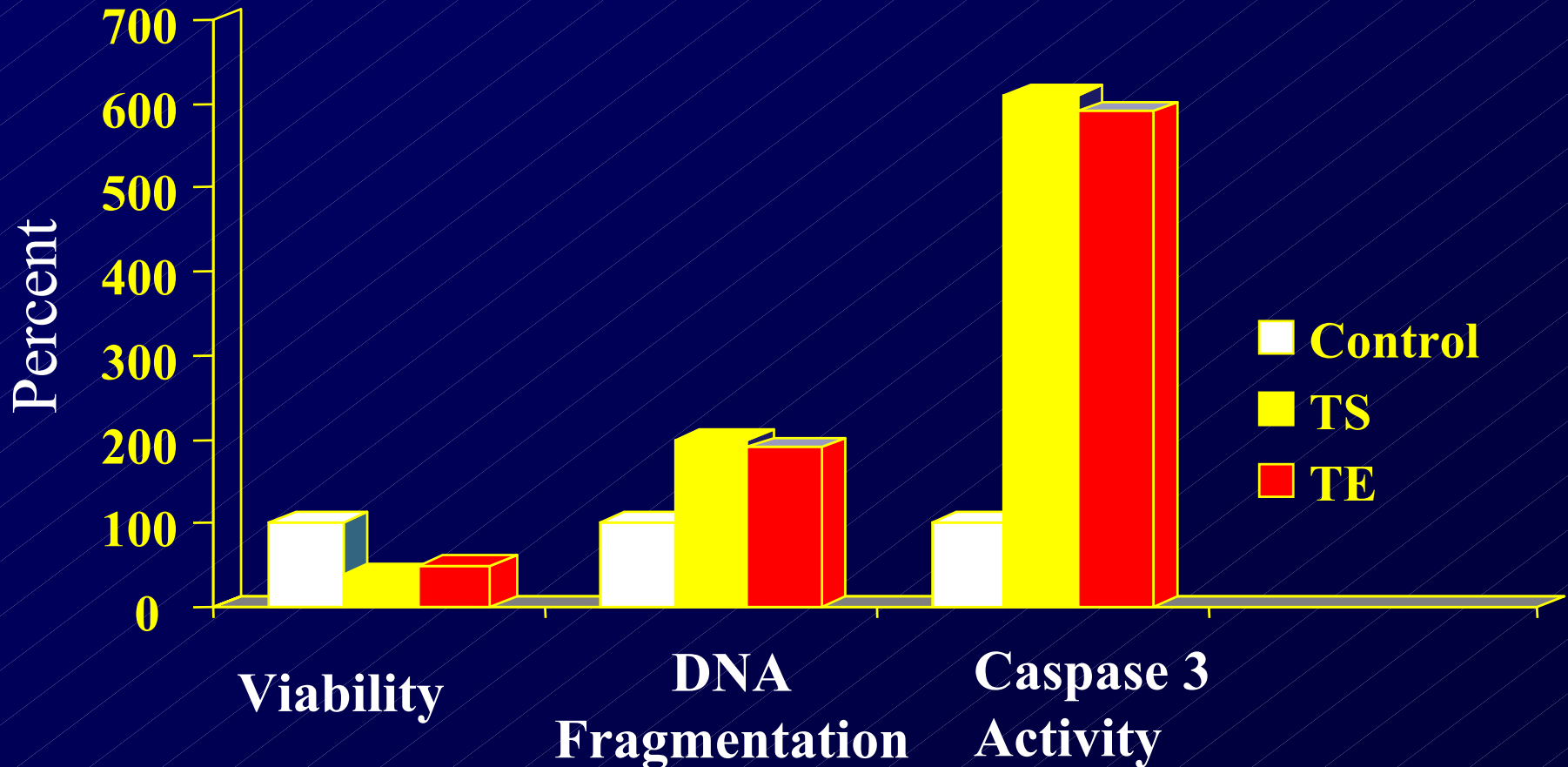


# Effects of Dietary Supplements on Oxidative Damage Markers

- In several studies, vitamin E and diet supplement mixtures have been shown to favorably influence indicators of oxidative status, such as susceptibility of LDL to oxidation
- Randomized clinical trials have generally not confirmed a beneficial effect of supplements (e.g., vitamin E) on disease risk or outcome (Blumberg Nutr Clin Care 2002;5:50-5 )

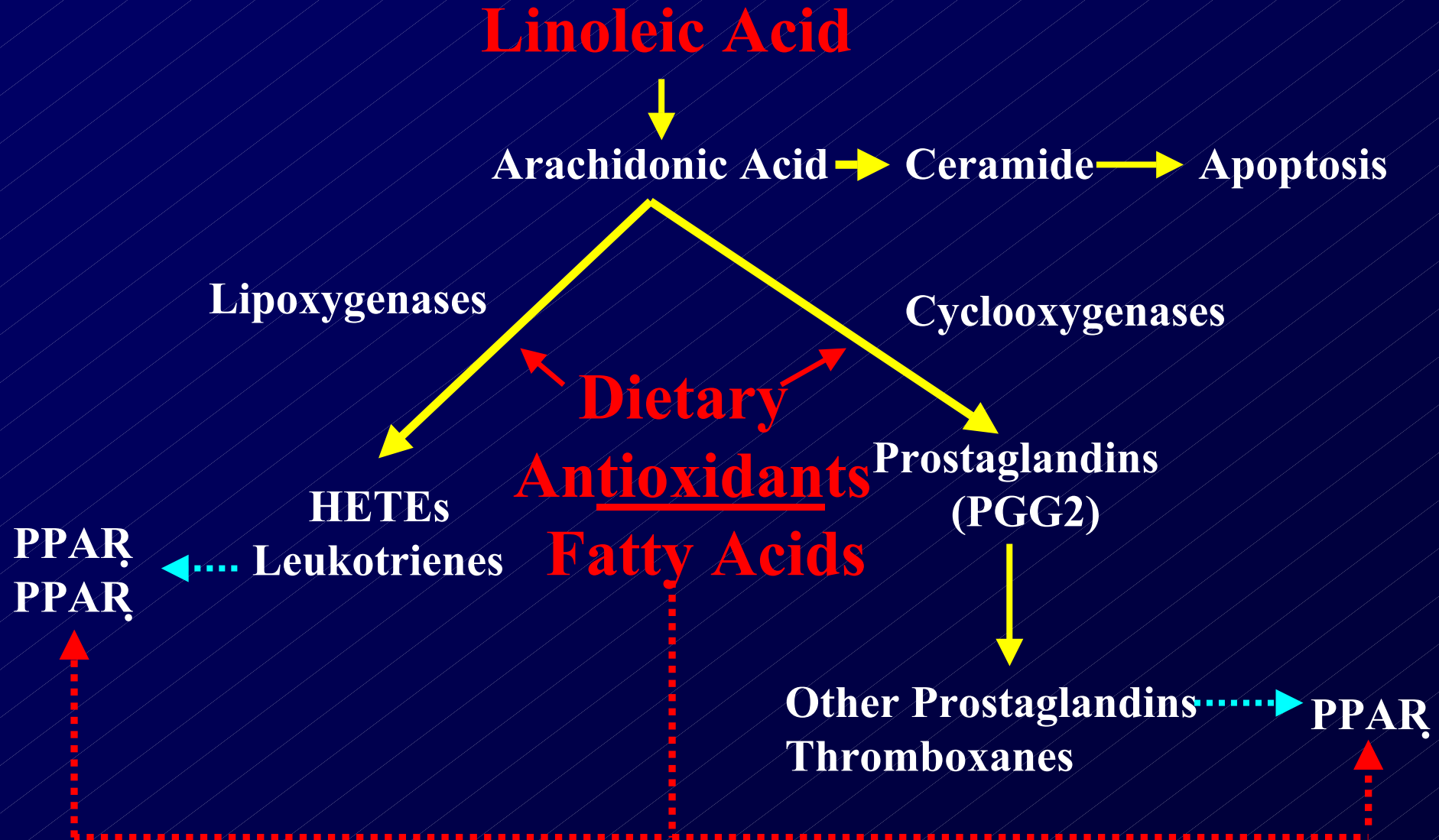


# $\alpha$ -tocopheryloxybutyric Acid (TE) and Cell Apoptosis (% Control)



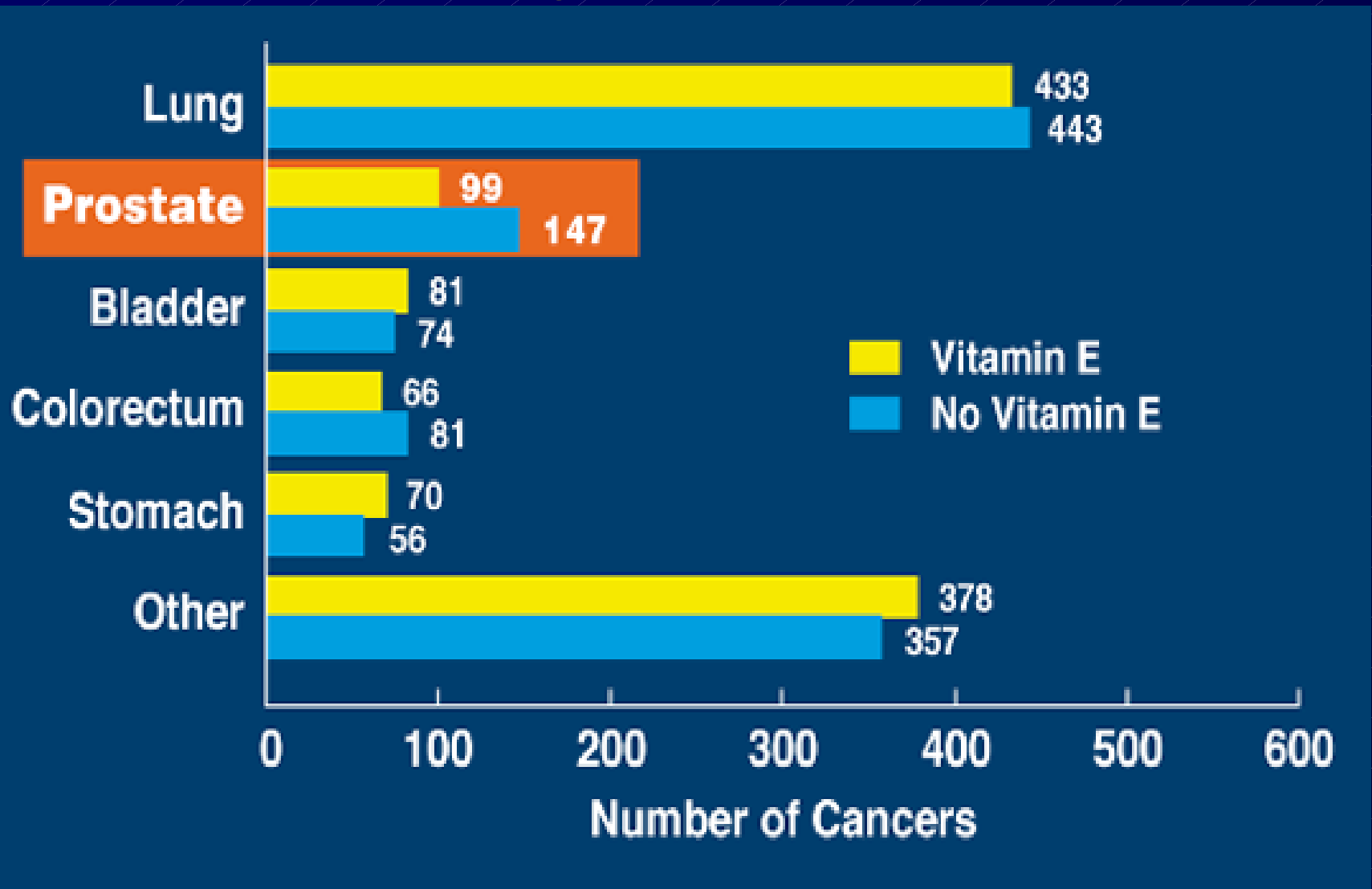
TE = modified vitamin E with no antioxidant properties

# Arachidonic Acid Metabolic Pathway



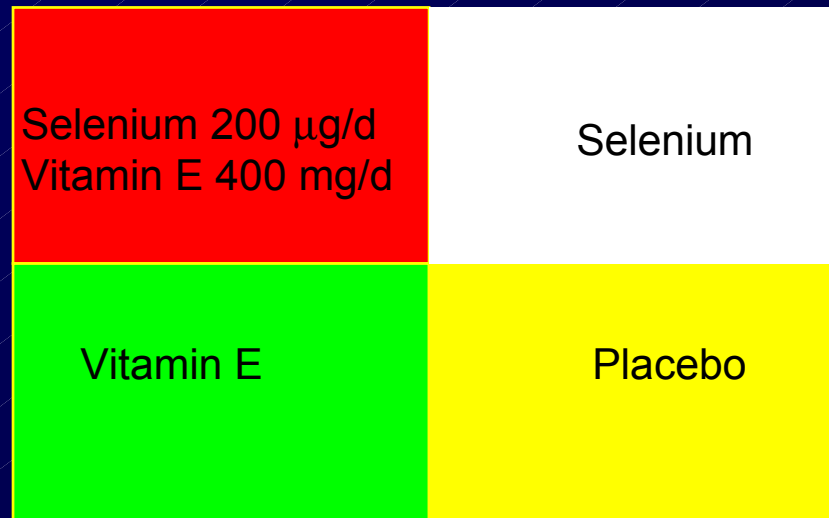
# ATBC Study

## Cancers According to Vitamin E Treatment



# Prostate Cancer Prevention Selenium and Vitamin E Cancer Prevention Trail (SELECT) (\$175M)

32,000 men, age  $\geq 55$  ( $\geq 50$  for Black Men)

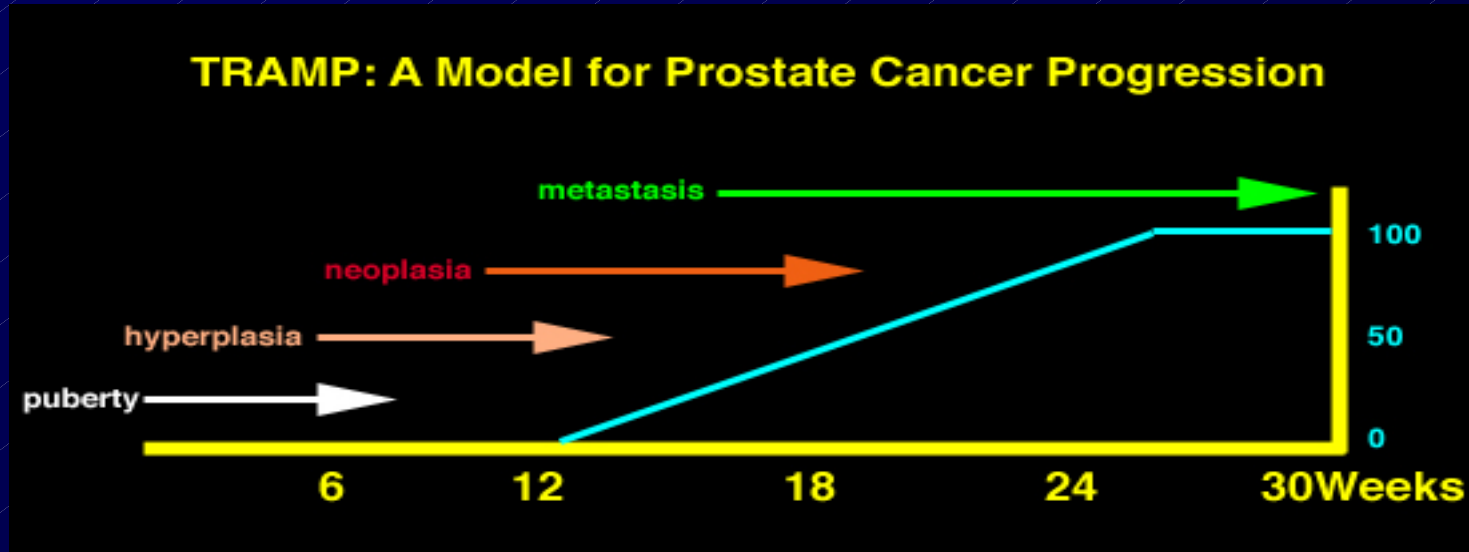


7 + Years Treatment

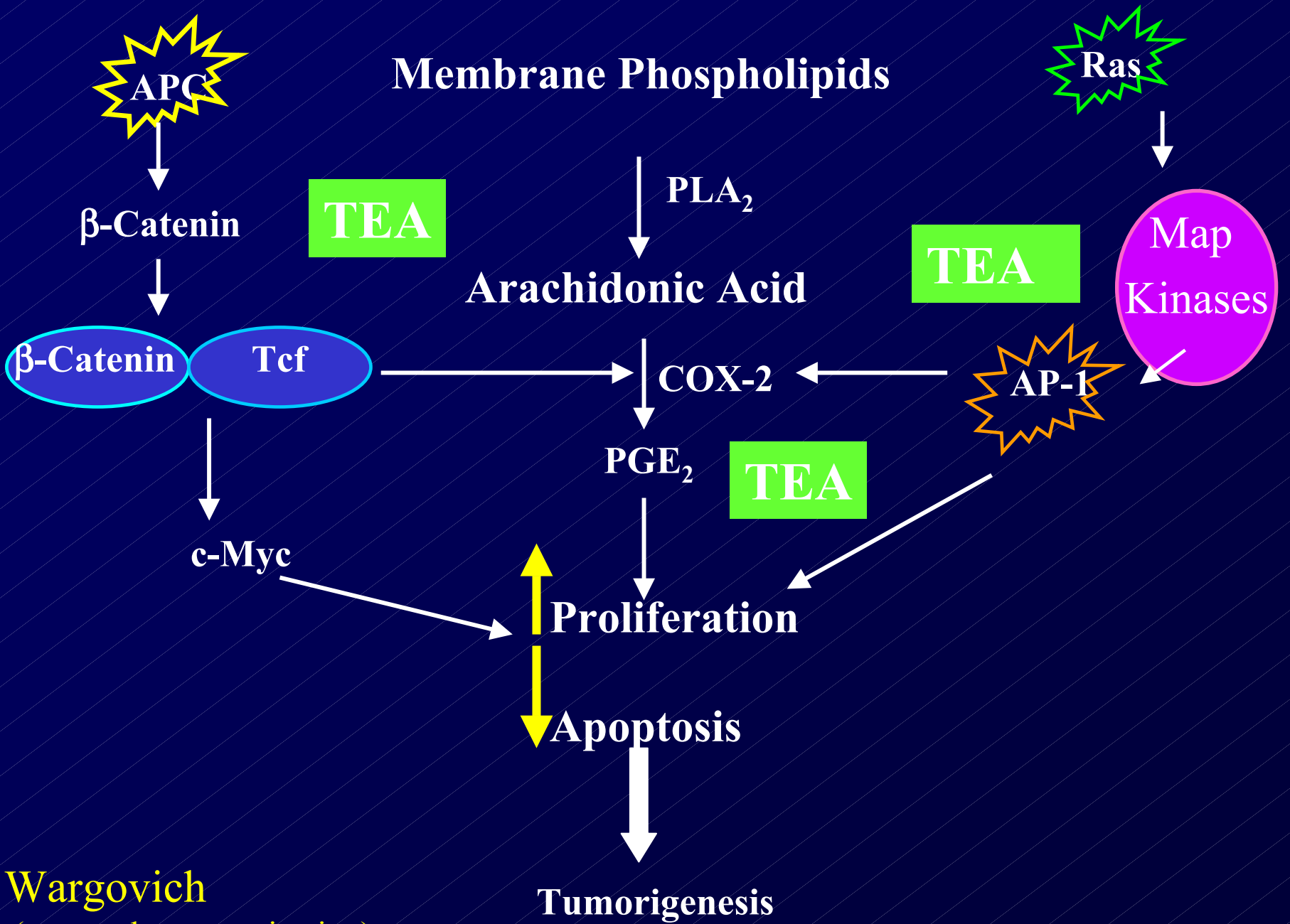
Endpoint Prostate Cancer Incidence

# The TRAMP Mouse

- **Transgenic Adenocarcinoma of Mouse Prostate (TRAMP) animal model that expresses the oncogene SV40 T antigen specifically in the epithelium of the prostate.**
- **Gupta et al. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A 2001;98(18):10350-10355. Inhibition of prostate carcinogenesis in TRAMP mice by oral infusion of green tea polyphenols.**



Greenberg et al. (Found on TRAMP webpage)



Wargovich  
(personal communication)

# Candidate Genes Responsive to (-) Epigallocatechin-3-Gallate in Human Prostate Cancer (LNCaP) Cells

## GENES INDUCED

- Tyrosine receptor kinase type E mRNA
- Phosphoglycerate kinase
- Adenylate kinase 2A
- CDK8 protein kinase
- Putative serine/threonine protein kinase
- Ribosomal protein kinase B
- Mevalonate kinase
- Protein tyrosine phosphatase
- Prostatic acid phosphatase
- Receptor-type protein tyrosine phosphatase  $\gamma$
- Protein tyrosine phosphatase IC
- STE-20 related kinase SPAK
- IAR/receptor-like protein tyrosine phosphatase
- Pyrroline 5-carboxylate synthase
- Glomerular epithelial protein 1
- Platelet-derived growth factor A type receptor

## GENES REPRESSED

- Protein kinase C- $\alpha$
- 41 kDa protein kinase related to rat ERK2
- Type 1b cGMP-dependent protein kinase
- Adenosine kinase short form
- Phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase homolog
- Protein tyrosine phosphatase PIR1
- Protein tyrosine phosphatase zeta
- KIAA0369 gene
- Leukocyte common antigen T200

# Protein Oxidation

- Proteins are major targets for ROS (Davies et al Free Rad Biol Med 1999)
  - Long half lives, a cumulative indicator
- Measurements:
  - Protein carbonyls: general marker of oxidation in vivo (Stadtman and Berlett Drug Metabol Rev, 1998)
  - Specific Protein Oxidation Products
    - Ease of oxidation of aromatic side-chains
      - Formation of o-Tyr, m-Tyr, di-tyrosine:
  - Protein inactivation (MnSOD)



# Protein Oxidation

Amyloid beta-peptide (Abeta) is a 42-43 amino acid peptide known to accumulate in Alzheimer's disease (AD) brain. The neurotoxicity caused by Abeta is a result of its associated free radicals, which can play an important role in generating oxidative stress. Increased protein oxidation, reactive oxygen species (ROS) formation, and neurotoxicity induced by Abeta(1-42) in primary rat embryonic hippocampal neuronal culture are prevented by the free radical scavenger and antioxidant vitamin E.

# **ROS and Apoptosis**

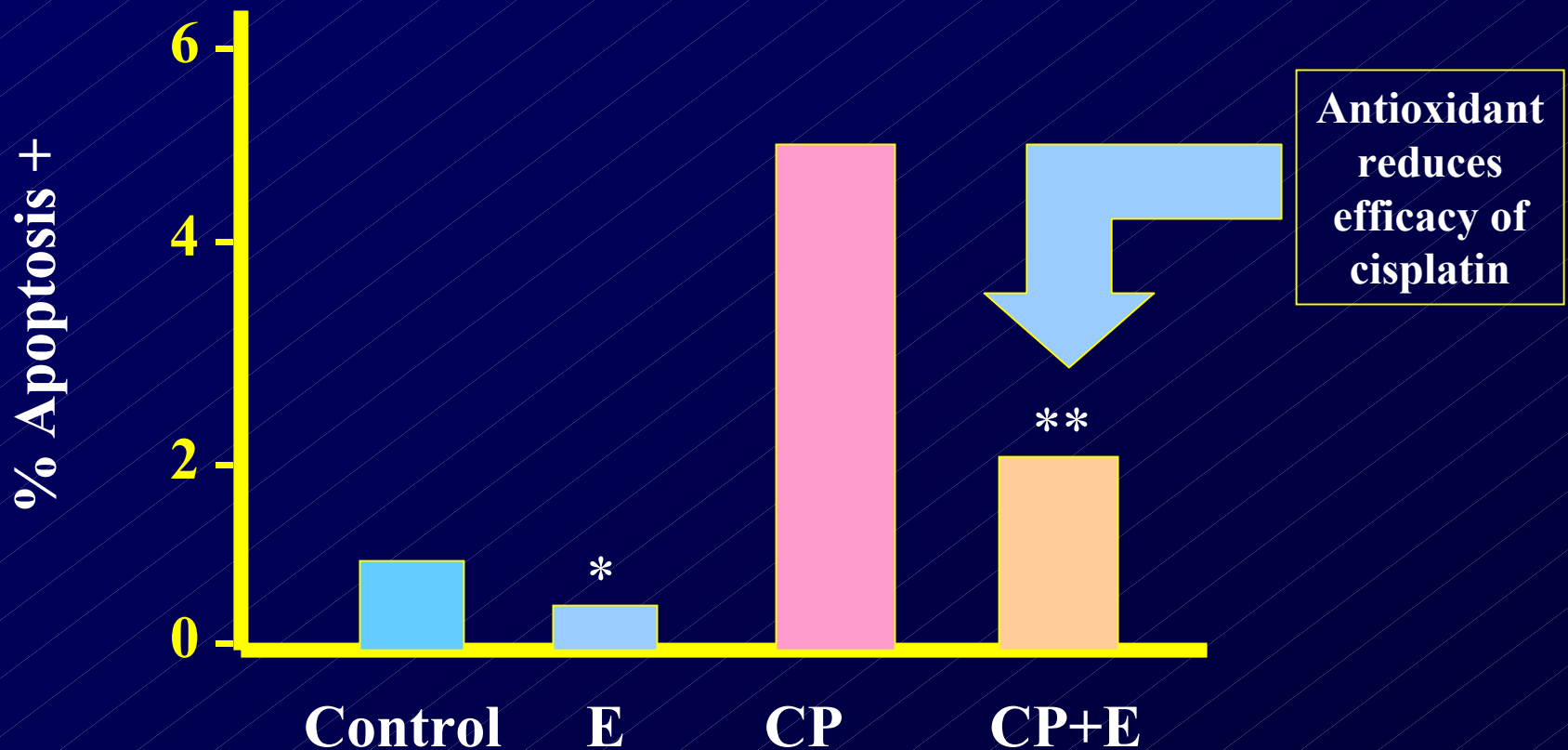
**There is a growing body of evidence that ROS may not only regulate apoptotic signal transduction, but also activate apoptotic death pathways.**

**Slater et al. Biochem. Biophys. Acta 1271:59, 1995.**

**Johnson et al. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 93: 11848, 1996.**

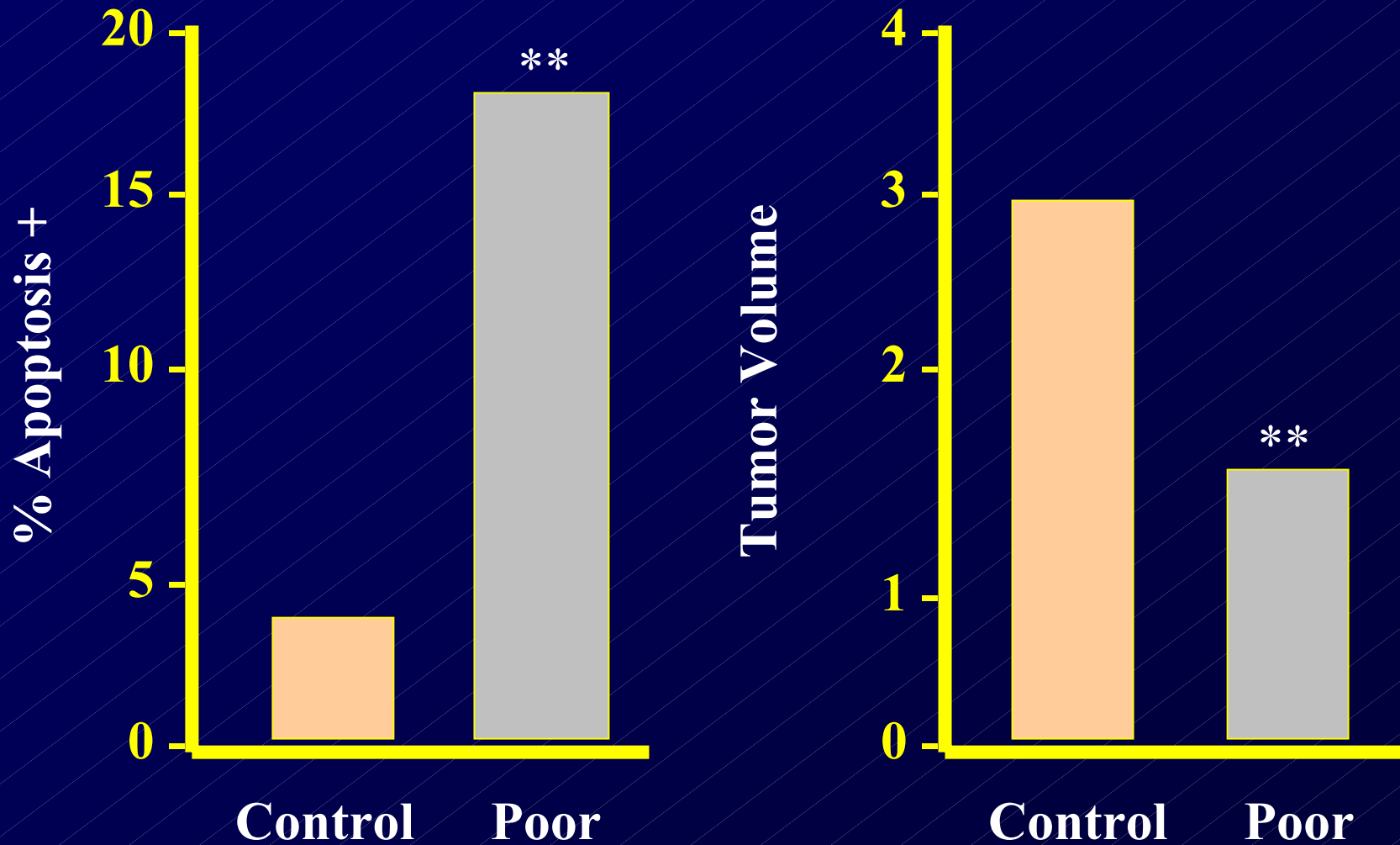
**Jabs, T. Biochem. Pharmacol. 57:231, 1998.**

# Vitamin E Inhibits Cisplatin-Induced Apoptosis in MCF-7 Breast Cancer Cells.



*Salganik, et al. Carcinogenesis 21: 909, 2000.*

# Antioxidant Depletion Inhibits Brain Tumor Growth.



Salganik, et al. Carcinogenesis 21: 909, 2000.

viewimages



**One Size Does Not Fit All!**

**Just when I knew all of life's answers,  
they changed all the questions.**

