

## Theories of Aging and Strategies to promote Healthy Aging



Christiaan Leeuwenburgh, Ph.D.  
Biochemistry of Aging Laboratory  
Web Page: <http://grove.ufl.edu/~cleeuwen/>  
University of Florida

Seminar for Vermont Medical College 2003  
Naomi K. Fukagawa, M.D., Ph.D.  
*Why do we age? What are good anti-aging interventions?*

## Maximum Life-span Mean Life-Span

- Mean life-span (MLS) is the average life-span age of a cohort studied. Often influenced by the environment, disease, and life-style
- Maximum life-span potential is the maximum age of one individual within a cohort studied. Mostly genetically determined (MLSP)

## What is Aging?



### Human Aging



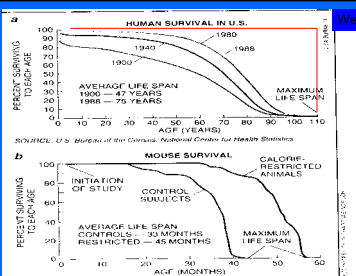
Wallace DC



- Aging:**  
Progressive  
Universal  
Post-maturation  
Irreversible?
- Senescence:**  
Deleterious  
Aging
- Age-related diseases:** are the clinical manifestations of senescence

## General Objectives

- What is the objective of The National Institute on Aging and various groups investigating mechanisms of aging and strategies for healthy aging.
- Improved understanding of the mechanisms of longevity can be used to fight age-related diseases and disabilities to ensure a healthy, active, and independent life well into very old age



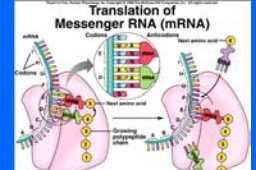
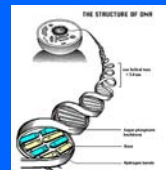
Weindruch

### Leading Causes of Death

- |                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>1900;</b>               | <b>2003;</b>                  |
| 1) pneumonia, tuberculosis | 1) heart disease              |
| 2) GI infections, diarrhea | 2) cancer                     |
| 3) heart disease           | 3) neurodegenerative diseases |
|                            | 4) sarcopenia related injury  |

## Molecular Gene Theories

- Codon restriction - Fidelity/accuracy of mRNA translation is impaired due to inability to **decode codons** in mRNA.
- Error catastrophe - Fidelity of **gene expression** declines with age, resulting in increased fraction of **abnormal proteins**.
- Somatic mutation - Accumulation of **molecular damage**, primarily to DNA/genetic material.
- Dysdifferentiation - Gradual accumulation of **random molecular damage** impairs regulation of gene expression.
- Gene regulation - Aging caused by **changes in gene expression** regulating both aging and development. Gene expression protein folding and activity





## Opossums

- Mainland Opossums
- - ~80% die from predators in the first year; typically reproduce only once; Age very rapidly
- Sapelo Island Opossums
- - out in daylight (no predators)
- - reproduce twice (fewer offspring/litter)
- - longer average life span
- \*Sapelo Island opossums live longer because they age more slowly than mainland opossums. Demonstrated by reduced levels of collagen cross-linking in Sapelo Island opossums when compared to mainland opossums. (Collagen X-linking measures the amount of molecular damage accumulated over time)

## Very Long-lived Species; Maximum Life-span, Mean Life-span, Species-Specific Differences

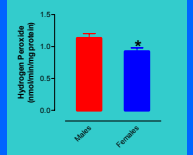


Humans (~77-M ~80-F years) Maximum ~122y

Moreover most centenarians are females!!!!



Elephants  
70 Years in the wild (~10y Zoo)



## There are clear Species-Specific Differences in Maximum Life-span.

### Short-lived Species



*Caenorhabditis*

*Elegans*

(14-21 Days)

*Drosophila*  
*Melanogaster*

(1-3 Months)



*Rattus* (2-3 Years)

Fischer-344



Jeanne Calment 122 Years February 21, 1875 August 4, 1997

**Jeanne Louise Calment** was born in Arles, France on February 21, 1875. She once met Vincent Van Gogh in her father's shop. Her genes may have contributed to her longevity as **her father lived to the age of 94** and **her mother to the age of 86**. She married a distant cousin at the age of 21. Her only grandson died in 1963. **She rode a bicycle to the age of 100.**

## Long-lived Species; Maximum Life-span, Mean Life-span, Species-Specific Differences.



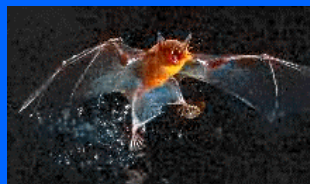
Monkeys

(20-30 years)

Homology 98.7%

Is the difference in the 1.3%?

Bats (10-30 years) High Metabolism, but long life-span and maybe a reduced radical production?



## Proteomics; Protein Expression and Folding:

W. Enard et al., "Intra- and interspecific variation in primate gene expression patterns," *Science*, 296:340-3, April 2002.

-Although humans and chimpanzees are 98.7% genetically similar.....

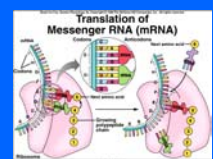
-Investigators have taken genomics one step further by using DNA microarrays to measure the expression levels (that is, mRNA levels) in the liver and brain of humans and chimpanzee.

-The distance between one of the human samples and the others is greater than the overall distance between humans and chimpanzees,.....

Altered gene expression could explain the genetic difference between human and chimp and could therefore provide and alternative explanation for life-expectancy differences within humans and between primates and humans.



Monkeys (20-30 years)  
Homology 98.7% with Humans  
Is the difference in the 1.3%?



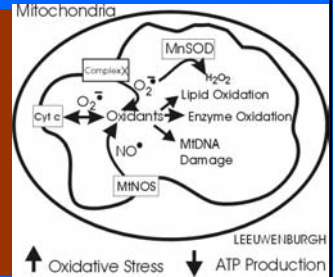
## The Free Radical Theory of Aging

Oxygen free radicals generated cause cumulative oxidative damage, resulting in structural degeneration (extra cellular material, protein aggregation, apoptosis, etc.) functional decline, and age-related diseases.

Some believe that oxidative stress is the predominant cause of age-associated degenerative change.

## Mitochondrial Dysfunction and Aging Mitochondrial Theory of Aging

- ↑ Oxidative stress
- ↑ mt-DNA damage
- ↑ mt-DNA deletions
- ↑ Oxidized proteins
- ↑ Lipid peroxidation
- ↑ Lipid-adduct formation
- ↓ Decrease in repair systems



### •First some basic questions?

- What are free radicals or better named oxidants?
- Where are these oxidants produced?
- What type of oxidants are produced?

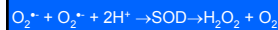
## Radical Reactions



Equation 1



Equation 2



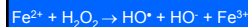
Equation 3



Equation 4



Equation 5



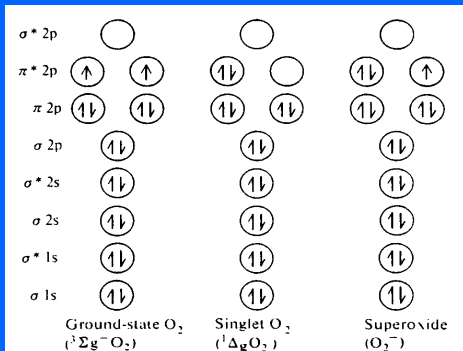
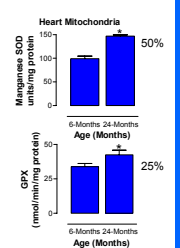
Equation 6



Equation 7



Equation 8



- **Aging** selectively decreases the rate of oxidative phosphorylation in the **interfibrillar** population of cardiac mitochondria (IFM) located among the myofibers, whereas **subsarcolemmal mitochondria** (SSM) located beneath the plasma membrane remain unaffected. Lesnfsky EJ, Gudz TI, Moghaddas S, Migita CT, Ikeda-Saito M, Turkaly PJ, Hoppe CL. *Mol Cell Cardiol.* 2001 Jan;33(1):37-47



Electron micrograph of the swimming muscle (longissimus dorsi) of a Harbor seal; white lines denote the cell membrane or the sarcolemma of three different muscle cells; the yellow arrows point at subsarcolemmal mitochondria; the white arrows point at the interfibrillar mitochondria and the blue arrows show a lipid droplet.

# Long-Lived Organisms Produce Less Reactive Oxygen Species

## Animals and MLSP

- Mouse 3.5 years
- Hamster 4 years
- Rat 4.5 years
- guinea pig 7.5 years
- Rabbit 18 years
- Pig 27 years
- Cow 30 years

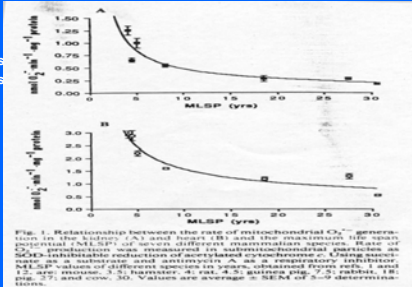
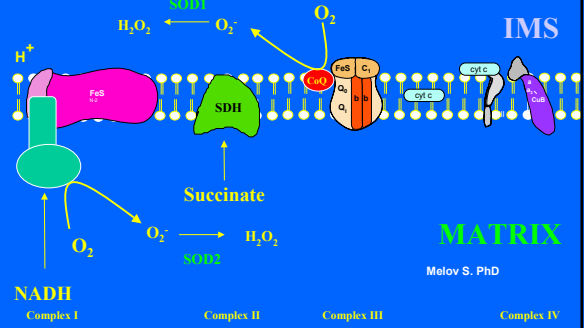


Fig. 1. Relationship between the rate of superoxide ( $O_2^{\cdot -}$ ) generation in the heart of 12 animal species and their maximum life span potential (MLSP) and mean life span. The species are: mouse (3.5 years), hamster (4 years), rat (4.5 years), guinea pig (7.5 years), rabbit (18 years), pig (27 years), and cow (30 years). The data are from Ku et al. (1993).

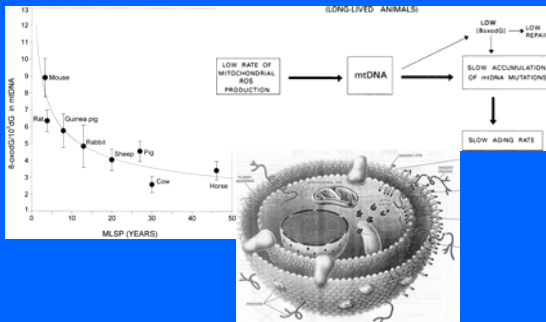
There is an inverse relationship between superoxide production and longevity in both insects and mammals (Ku et al. 1993)

# Reactive Oxygen species and the Respiratory Chain



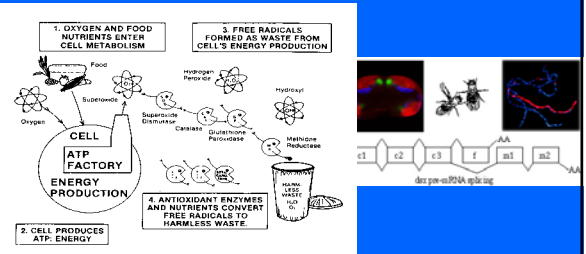
MATRIX  
Melov S. PhD

# Oxidative damage to mitochondrial DNA is inversely related to maximum life span in the heart and brain of mammals



The FASEB Journal, 2000;14:312-318. 2000 FASEB Oxidative damage to mitochondrial DNA is inversely related to maximum life span in the heart and brain of mammals GUSTAVO BARJA and ASUNCION HERRERO

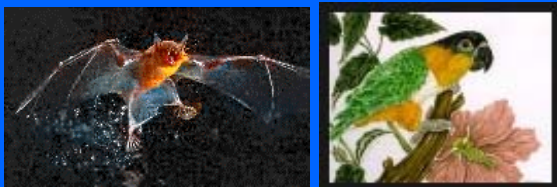
# Engineering of Genes to increase Antioxidant Defenses



-Fruit flies that over-express copper-zinc superoxide dismutase (SOD2) and catalase (the first line of defense against oxidative damage) show less oxidative damage to DNA and protein and live up to 34% longer than controls (Orr and Sohal, Science 1994)

# Long-lived Species: Maximum Life-span, Mean Life-span, Species-Specific Differences.

Bats (10-30 years) and Birds (30-100) have a high metabolism (similar to rats (2-4 years), but are long lived! A reduced radical production has been detected in these long-lived species. ("life fast die young")



What is important is the production of mitochondrial oxidants (ROS) and not  $O_2$  consumption. (In general it correlates negatively with MLSP).

# Genetic Engineering has not worked in Longer-lived species

Journal of Gerontology: BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
2004, Vol. 59, No. 3, 305-309  
Copyright 2004 by the Gerontological Society of America  
**Ubiquitous Overexpression of CuZn Superoxide Dismutase Does Not Extend Life Span in Mice**  
Ting-Ting Huang, Elaine J. Carlson, Anne Marie Gillespie, Yurping Shi, and Charles J. Epstein



## Oxidative Stress and Aging

- What happens when oxidant production is greater than antioxidant defenses?
  - **Oxidative Stress**
    - DNA damage
    - Protein damage
    - Lipid Damage

## Increasing life-span in *C. Elegans* and *Drosophila Melanogaster*

Studies in invertebrates have led to the identification of a number of genes that regulate lifespan, some of which encode components of the insulin or insulin-like signaling pathways.

Examples include the related tyrosine kinase receptors InR (*Drosophila melanogaster*) and DAF-2 (*Caenorhabditis elegans*) that are homologues of the mammalian insulin-like growth factor type 1 receptor (IGF-1R).

### Increased Life-Span of *age-1* Mutants in *Caenorhabditis elegans* and Lower Gompertz Rate of Aging

THOMAS E. JOHNSON  
vol 1990 SCIENCE, VOL. 249

Mutations in certain genes in the *C. elegans* can also increase life span. For example *daf-2* controls *dauer* formation, a metabolic slowed, non-aging state. This occurs naturally when food is limited or there is overcrowding.

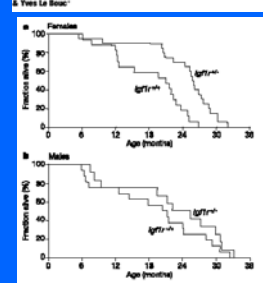
Mutations cause an 3-4-fold increases of life span.

## Free Radical Theory

- Oxidative metabolism produces highly reactive free radicals that subsequently damage protein and DNA.
- Evidence from model organisms...
  - Superoxide dismutase (SOD) transgenes can extend the life span of *Drosophila*.
  - Chemicals that mimic catalase (peroxidase) activity can extend *C. elegans* life span.
  - Long-lived mutants are typically stress resistant, including resistant to drugs (i.e. paraquat stress, which induces increases in free radicals)
  - Life span extension by insulin-like signaling mutants in *C. elegans* requires catalase activity.

### IGF-1 receptor regulates lifespan and resistance to oxidative stress in mice

Martin Holzenberger<sup>1</sup>, Julie Dupont<sup>1</sup>, Bertrand Ducos<sup>1</sup>, Patricia Lemaire<sup>1</sup>, Alain Goloen<sup>1</sup>, Patrick C. Even<sup>1</sup>, Pascale Cervera<sup>1</sup> & Yves Le Bouc<sup>1</sup>



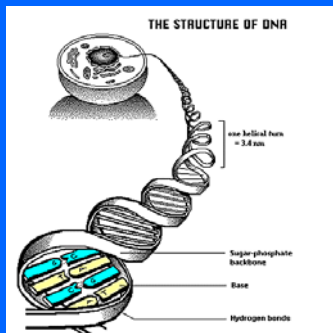
Holzenberger, M., Dupont, J., Ducos, B., Lemaire, P., Goloen, A., Even, P. C., Cervera, P., and Le Bouc, Y. (2003) IGF-1 receptor regulates lifespan and resistance to oxidative stress in mice. *Nature* 421, 182-187

-To investigate whether IGF-1R also controls longevity in mammals, these scientist inactivated the IGF-1R gene in mice (*Igf1r*).

-Here, using heterozygous knockout mice because null mutants are not viable, we report that *Igf1r*<sup>1/2</sup> mice live on average 26% longer than their wild-type littermates ( $P < 0.02$ ).

-The increase in life-span was only significant in the Females

## There are “Age” Genes



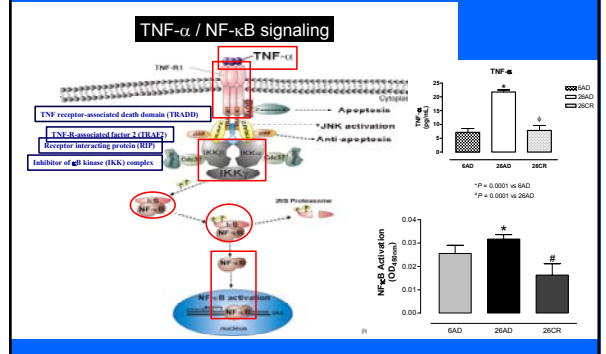
## Insulin-like signaling in *C. elegans*

- -Evidence for genetic regulation of life span.
- 1- Mutations that reduce insulin-like signaling can extend *C. elegans* lifespan - significantly.
- 2- A conserved transcription factor is required for life span extension, indicating a regulated genetic response to reduced insulin-like signaling.
- 3- Conserved in *Drosophila* and mouse.
  - Insulin levels rise when we consume food, and drop in the absence of food, because reducing insulin-like signaling in *C. elegans* extends life span scientist are investigating if calorie restriction extends life span by reducing insulin-like signaling, does it?

## Wear and tear - Accumulation of "normal" injury

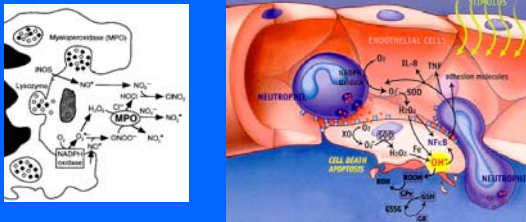
- Inflammation Theory of Aging
- Glycooxidation Theory of Aging (products from glucose with proteins + oxidation; AGE (advanced glycation End-products)

## The effects of age and calorie restriction on TNF- $\alpha$ / NF- $\kappa$ B signaling in skeletal muscle



## Sources of Oxidants

Chronic Inflammation and Oxidant Stress



## Inflammation theory of aging

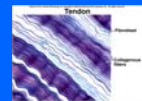
- The Molecular inflammation hypothesis of aging is based on specific anti-aging mechanism of calorie restriction, such as the reduction in TNF- $\alpha$  / NF- $\kappa$ B signaling

## Inflammation theory of aging

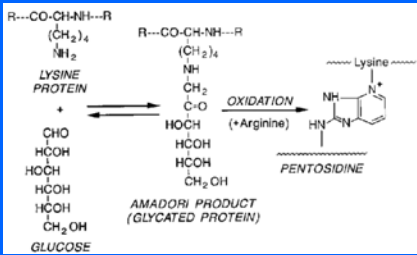
- The inflammation theory of aging goes hand-in-hand with the free radical theory of aging and the glycooxidation theory of aging

## Glycooxidation Theory of Aging

- Cooking and Browning Reaction
  - Cooking of foods accelerates the Browning or Maillard reaction
  - The toxic substances formed can lead to mutations and cancer



## Advanced Glycosylation End products (AGEs)

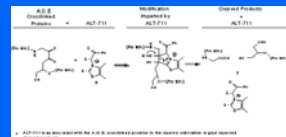
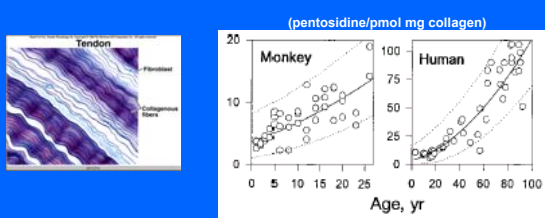


- The Glycosylation (oxidation). Theory of Aging suggests that cross-links generated in proteins and nucleic acids by nonenzymatic glycosylation may contribute to age-related declines in the functioning of cells and tissues.
- Non-enzymatic addition of glucose to proteins may gradually slow down the protein function.
- Non-enzymatic addition of glucose to nucleic acids may gradually damage DNA.

## Hormone Theories Decline in Estrogen and Testosterone

- **DHEA** dehydroepiandrosterone is secreted by the adrenal glands and called a master hormone because it is converted into many other hormones involved in growth and strength.
- Supplements of DHEA, which declines with age in both men and women, have been shown in animal studies to reverse many debilitating signs of aging
- Risks of cancer with long term use and risk for prostate cancer etc. unknown

Longevity and the genetic determination of collagen glycoxidation kinetics in mammalian senescence. Sell et al. *PNAS*, 93, 485-490, 1996



ALT-711 = 3-phenacyl-4,5-dimethylthiazolium chloride  
Melton. Age breakers. Rupturing the body's sugar-protein bonds might turn back the clock. *Sci Am*. 2000 Jul;283(1):16.  
Kass et al. Improved arterial compliance by a novel advanced glycation end-product cross-link breaker. *Circulation* 2001 25;104(13):1464-70

## Immunological Theory of Aging (Decline in Function Resistance to Stress)

- In general, humoral immunity declines with age, and the onset can occur as early as when an individual reaches sexual maturity
- Aging appears to effect T cell number/function
- Decline could lead to increase in risk to viral infections and cancer.
- Cell loss (Apoptosis), shift in the proportion of sub-populations, and qualitative cellular changes have all been detected

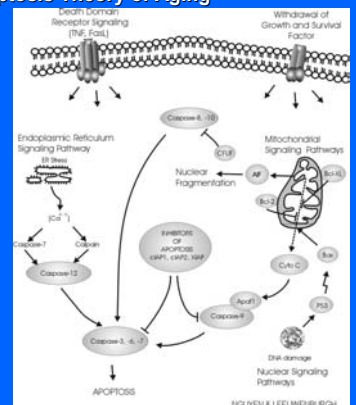
## Summary Glycooxidation

- Cross-linking sugar related to the aging process? Yes
- Thus the aging process is also governed by certain chemical molecules and structure formations that are likely to participate in reactions to "slow you down", which are not intended by genes

## Apoptosis Theory of Aging

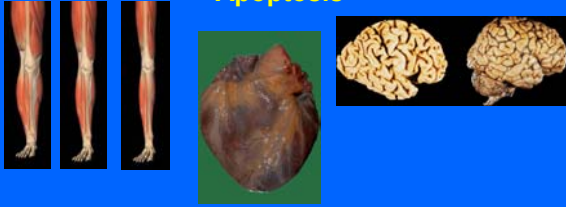
-Apoptosis (programmed cell death) could be activated "prematurely" in post-mitotic cells and contribute to the aging process.

-What is the mechanism with age and what mechanisms can life-long exercise prevents the age-related loss in post-mitotic cells





## Myocardial Aging, Sarcopenia, Neurodegeneration, Oxidative Stress and Apoptosis



- ↓ in total number of skeletal and heart myocytes as well as neurons with age
- May lead to accelerated decline in cardiac functional capacity, sarcopenia, neurodegenerative diseases
- Oxidative Stress and Apoptosis may be one major factor

**HUMAN**  
Normal Diet  
Average life span: 75 years  
Maximum life span: 120 years  
(with a few outliers beyond)

Caloric Restriction  
Average life span: 93.7  
Maximum life span: 120

**Reduction in Caloric Intake (~30-50%) without malnutrition Increases Mean and Maximum Life-span. Reduces tumors, renal disease and cardiomyopathy**

**WHITE RAT**  
Normal Diet  
Average life span: 23 months  
Maximum life span: 33 months

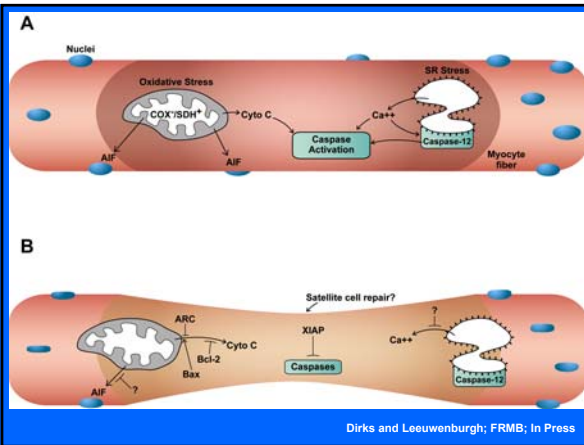
Caloric Restriction  
Average life span: 33 months  
Maximum life span: 47 months

**WATER FLEA**  
Normal Diet  
Average life span: 18 days  
Maximum life span: 30 days

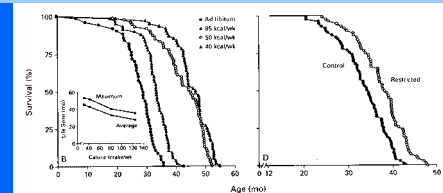
Caloric Restriction  
Average life span: 28 days  
Maximum life span: 38 days

**WORM AND DOLY SPIDER**  
Normal Diet  
Average life span: 10 days  
Maximum life span: 100 days

Caloric Restriction  
Average life span: 100 days  
Maximum life span: 100 days



**Aging and Caloric Restriction: Reduction in caloric intake (~30-50%) without malnutrition increases mean and maximum life-span, reduces sarcopenia (skeletal muscle atrophy and cell number) and improves neuronal function.**



Weindruch, N Engl J Med 1997; 337:986-994, Oct 2, 1997.

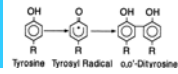
## Therapies-Strategies to promote Healthy Aging and to Prolong Life

- Interventions that may promote health and prolong maximum life-span:
  - Life-Long-Caloric Restriction
  - Life-Long-Exercises
  - Anti-inflammatory Compounds (Aspirin)
  - Antioxidant Therapies (flavonoids, etc)
- \*Genetic Engineering and Organ Transplant\*

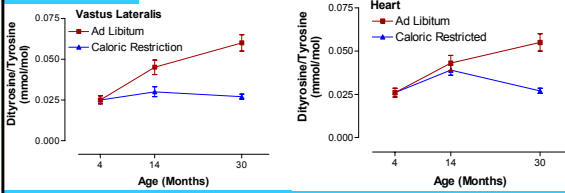
## Caloric Restriction

- Reduces oxidant
- Reduces cytokines
- Reduces glycoxidation
- Reduces Pathology

**Oxidative Damage in Skeletal Muscle is still increased with Aging and is Reduced by Caloric Restriction**



**Oxidative Stress**



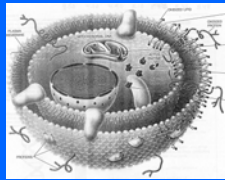
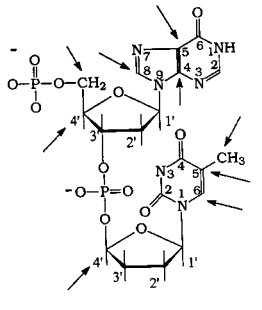
Leeuwenburgh, C., Wagner, P., Holbary, J.O., Sahai, R.S., and Heinecke, J.W. 1997. Caloric restriction attenuates dityrosine cross-linking of cardiac and skeletal muscle proteins in aging mice. *Arch Biochem Biophys* 346:74-80.

**Reduction of the Incidence of tumors following restriction of food intake**

Treatment	Rodents	Rodents with Tumors	%
Control	89	43	48
Food Restricted	77	0	0
Control/Radiated	102	91	89
Restricted/Radiated	128	29	23

From: Gross L, Dreyfuss Y. Prevention of spontaneous and radiation-induced tumors in rats by reduction of food intake. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A*. 1990 Sep;87(17):6795-7. B. YU. Aging and oxidative stress: modulation by dietary restriction. *Free Radic Biol Med*. 1996;21(5):651-68.

**Hot spots for free radical attack:**



**typical meal**



- sparkling water 8 ounces
- salad with lettuce 1/2 head
- apple strudel 1 piece
- carrots 1 cup
- baked potato 7 ounces
- peas 1/2 cup
- sour cream 1 tablespoon
- beef sirloin 6 ounces (before broiling)
- french bread 2 slices
- butter 1 1/2 tablespoons

**calories: 1,268**  
 From fat: 33%  
 From protein: 22%  
 From carbohydrates: 45%

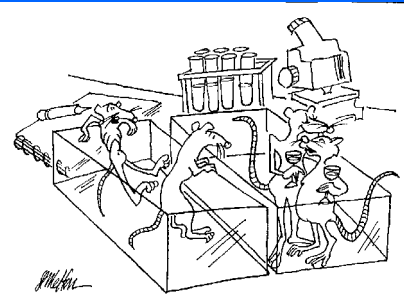
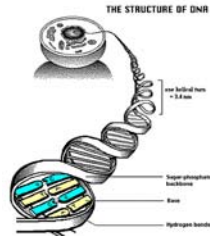
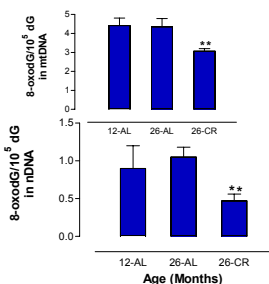
**restricted meal**

- skim milk 1 cup
- dates 5 pieces
- oat bran muffin 1 piece
- steamed spinach 1 cup
- baked potato 7 ounces
- chicken breast 3 ounces

**calories: 750**  
 From fat: 10%  
 From protein: 29%  
 From carbohydrates: 61%

Drew, B., Phaneuf, S., Dirks, A., Selman, C., Gredilla, R., Lezza, A., Barja, G., and Leeuwenburgh, C. (2002) Effects of aging and caloric restriction on mitochondrial energy production in gastrocnemius muscle and heart. *Am J Physiol*.

**Oxidative DNA damage in the Mitochondria and Nucleus**



"Man, some rats have all the luck. Here we are in a nutritional deficiency study and Herb's doing the effects of alcohol on the bibdo!"

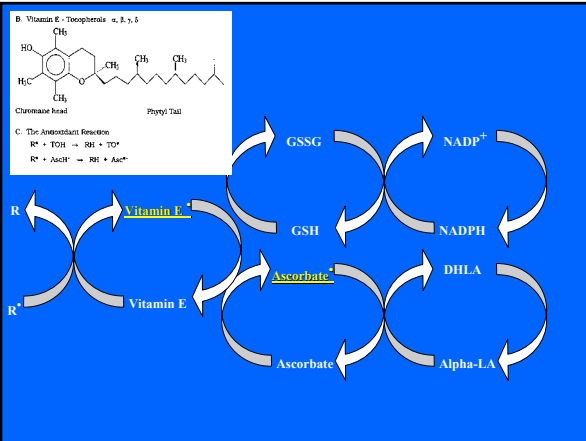
# Antioxidant Supplementation

- Is there evidence that antioxidant supplementation prolongs maximal life-span?
- We would all like a pill to live longer....., but

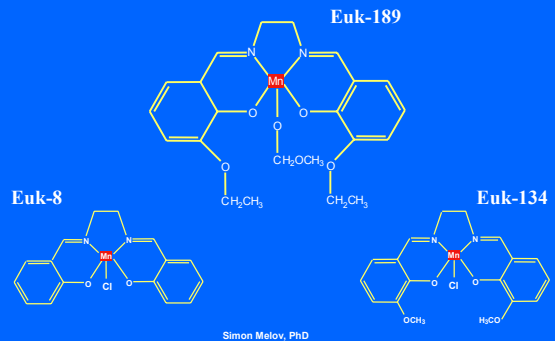


The effect of antioxidant supplementation mean and maximum life-span

<u>SHORT-LIVED-SPECIES</u>	(Mean)	(Max)	
Tocopherol- <i>p</i> -chloro-phenoxyacetate	(13.0)	(13.0)	<i>Drosophila</i>
<i>d</i> -Tocopherol	(31.4)	(23.2)	Nematodes
Vitamin E	(16.8)	(15.4)	Rotifer
Sulfhydryl agent	(28.0)		Rotifer
N-acetylcysteine	(26.6)		<i>Drosophila</i>
SOD – Mimetics	(30-40)	(30)	<i>C. Elegans</i>
<u>LONGER-LIVED-SPECIES</u>			
Mercaptoethylamine 0.05%	(12.8)	(0)	Mice
Mercaptoethylamine 1.00%	(29.2)	(0)	Mice
Santoquin (0.5%)	(18.1)	(0)	Mice
Vitamin E, Vitamin C, b-carotene	(0)	(0)	Rats

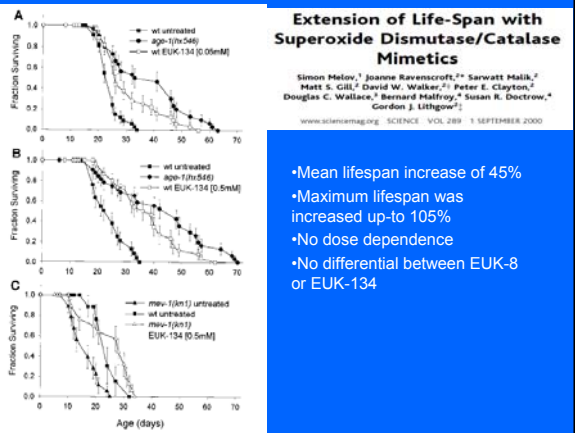


# Catalytic antioxidants tested in *Sod2*-/- mice, and in aging paradigms



# What is a good Antioxidant?

- What is an antioxidant?
- A substance when present in trace (small) amounts inhibits the oxidation of the bulk
- What are considered good antioxidants ?
  - Relatively un-reactive (antioxidant\*)
  - Repaired Rapidly
  - Decays to harmless products



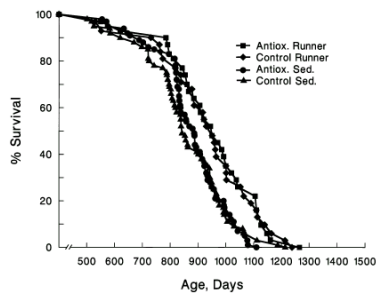


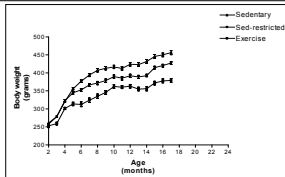
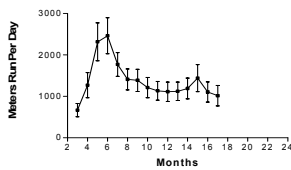
Fig. 3. Survival curves for the four groups. The survival curves for the runners are significantly different from those of the sedentary rats in both diet groups ( $P < 0.02$ ).

- Antioxidants have no effect on longevity
- Exercise increase mean life-span

## To Increase Maximum Life-Span...

- A key may be to... reduce **ENDOGENOUS chronic oxidant production**
- A key may be to... reduce **ENDOGENOUS levels of specific cytokines**
- A key may be to... reduce **ENDOGENOUS accumulation of protein aggregates and glycooxidation products**
- Reduce **mitochondrial and nuclear DNA damage** and/or increase repair

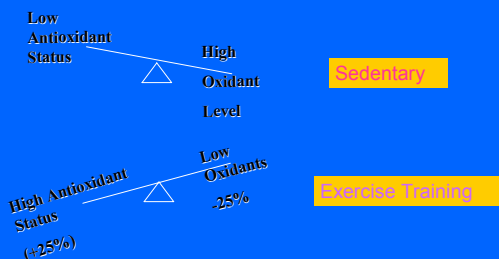
## What are the cellular adaptations of LIFE LONG EXERCISE to explain increase in mean life-span?



## Primary Interventions Could Effect Primary Aging

- Life-style
  - 1) Diet (Caloric Restriction)
    - Avoid Restaurants (a treat now and then is ok)
    - Learn how to cook healthy yourself
    - Shop Smart
    - "Empty refrigerator" before going to the store
    - Some evenings -just have a salad
    - Food actually taste better when you caloric restrict
    - You will not be miserable.... life is short and you want to stay away from the doctor during the last 15-20 years of your life-span
    - Comes down to how much discipline you have
  - 2) Moderate exercise ??? (mean life span)
    - increase daily activities and enjoy your exercise or walking program
  - 3) Take your antioxidants ??? (maybe mean live span)
    - Eat a diet high in fruits, veggies, and herbs

## We will investigate mitochondrial efficiency and deletions as well as oxidant and antioxidant balance?



## Secondary Interventions

May be beneficial if you first follow primary interventions and these will also prevent secondary aging

- Wine (1 serving) and Dark Beer (1 serving)
- Aspirin (COX, TNF- $\alpha$  / NF- $\kappa$ B inhibitor)
- AGE-breakers (amino guanidine)?
- ACE-inhibitors; reduces inflammation in patients with heart disease.
- Hormone therapy; DHEA after ~60years?? Estrogen is out-in?, Testosterone.... when levels decline??

## Why these?

- Currently we don't need a genetic miracle to prolong healthy life. Stop **smoking**, perform **regular** exercise, effective **stress** management, **stay lean** and provide yourself with a heart-healthy diet. This could increase your mean-life-span by:

20 to 25 HEALTHY years beyond the age of 70



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



### Biochemistry of Aging Lab:

Barry Drew, PhD (USA)  
Amie Dirks, PhD (USA)  
Sharon Phaneuf (USA)  
Suma K. PhD (India)  
Rajani Shelke, PhD (India)  
Colin Selman, PhD (Scotland)  
Tracey Phillips, (Scotland)  
Mina Hiona (Greece)  
Young Yang (Korea)  
Lori Armstrong (USA)



### Collaborators:

Gustavo Barja, PhD (Spain)  
Ricardo Gredilla (Spain)  
Steve Dodd, PhD (USA)  
Scott Powers, PhD (USA)  
Angela Lezza, PhD (Italy)  
Nicola Gadaleta, PhD (Italy)  
David Julian, PhD (USA)  
Tilman Grune, PhD (Germany)



### Funding Provided by:

National Institute of Health  
National Institute on Aging  
Society of Geriatric Cardiology

