

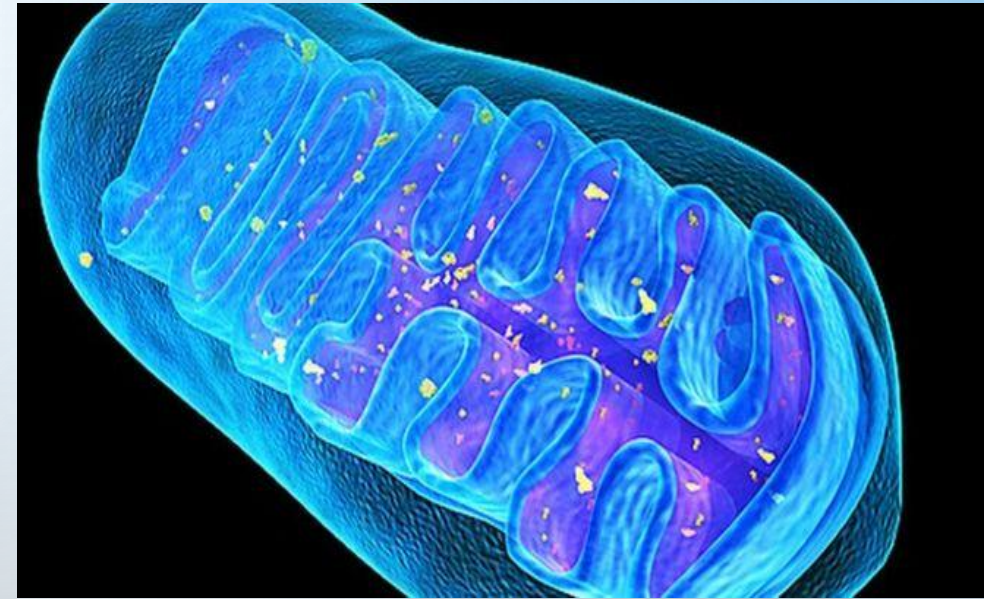
# MIGHTY MITOCHONDRIA: THE MUSCLE'S FORGOTTEN POWERHOUSE

TONY BOUTAGY & CLAIRE NORGATE

FILEX 2017

# SESSION FOCUS

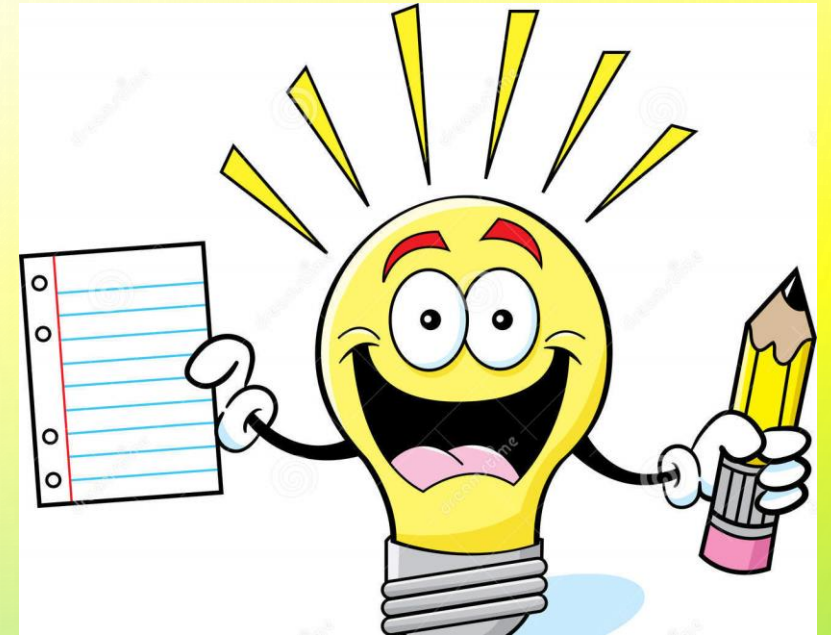
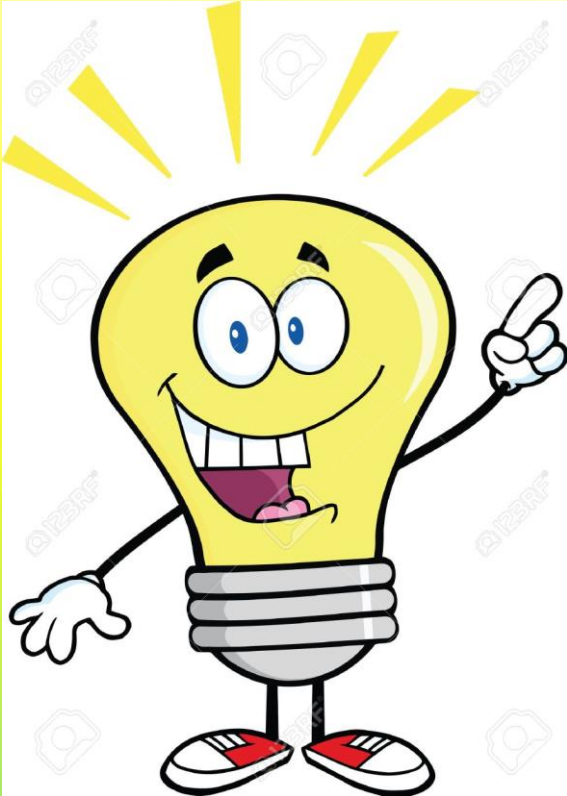
- ☐ Energy production
- ☐ What happens inside the cell?
- ☐ What are mitochondria?
- ☐ Physiology – a brief overview
- ☐ What regulates their growth?
- ☐ How does exercise affect mitochondria?
- ☐ Does nutrition impact mitochondria?
- ☐ Mitochondrial-boosting workouts





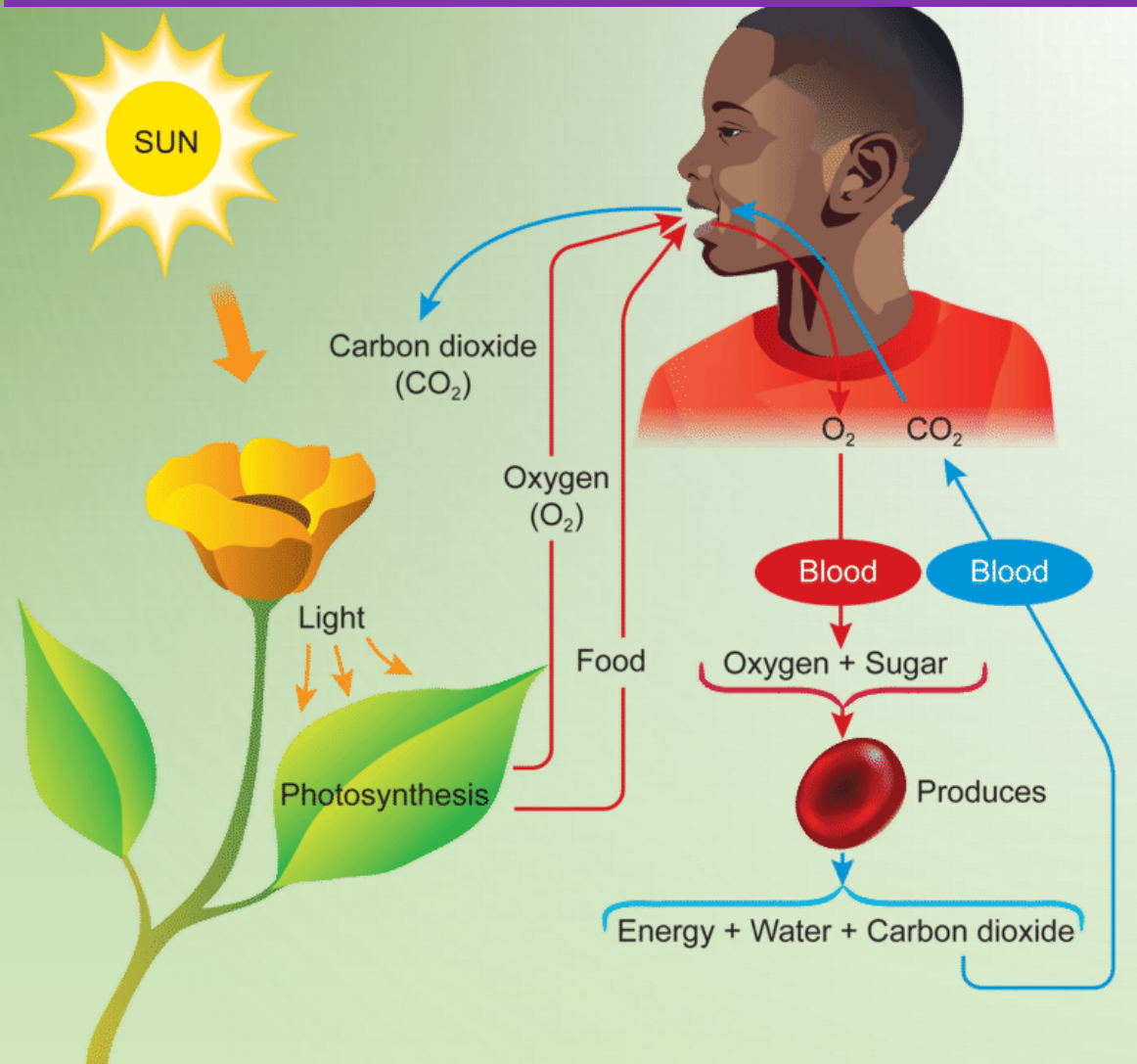
# WHAT IS ENERGY?

ENERGY IS THE ABILITY TO DO WORK



or . . . POWER DERIVED FROM THE UTILISATION OF PHYSICAL  
OR CHEMICAL RESOURCES

# ENERGY PRODUCTION STARTS WITH **BREATHING & DIGESTING FOOD**

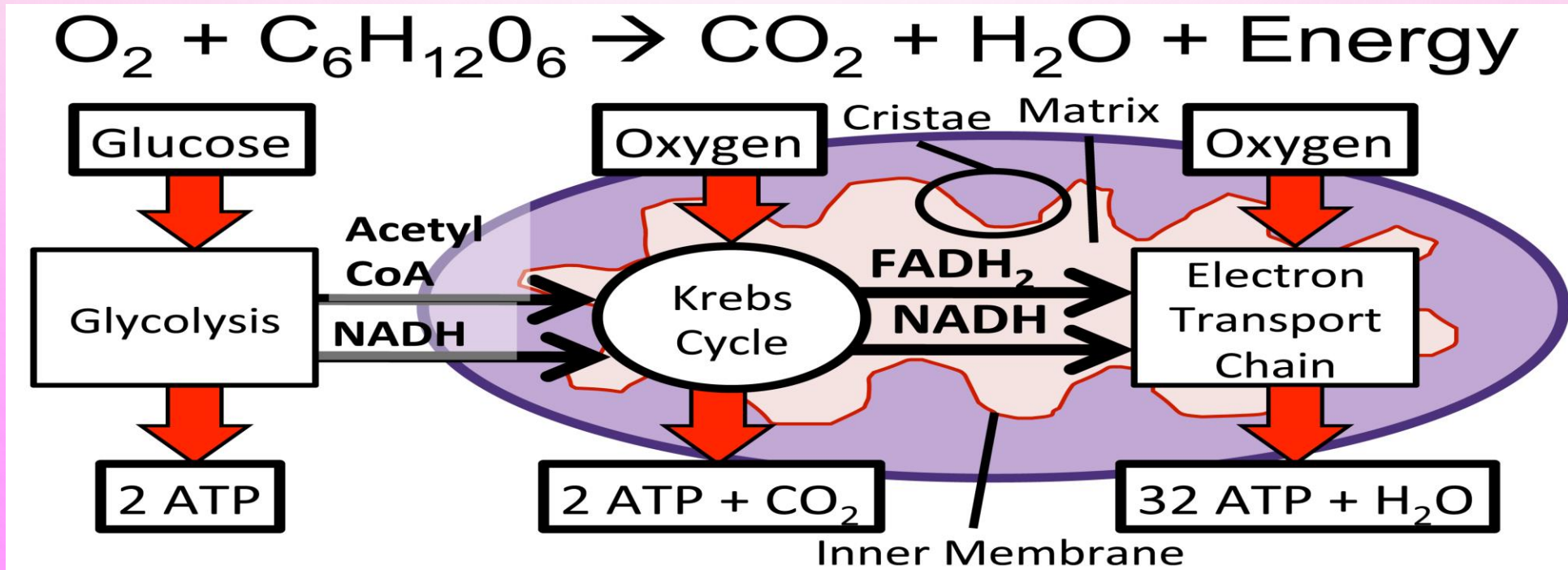
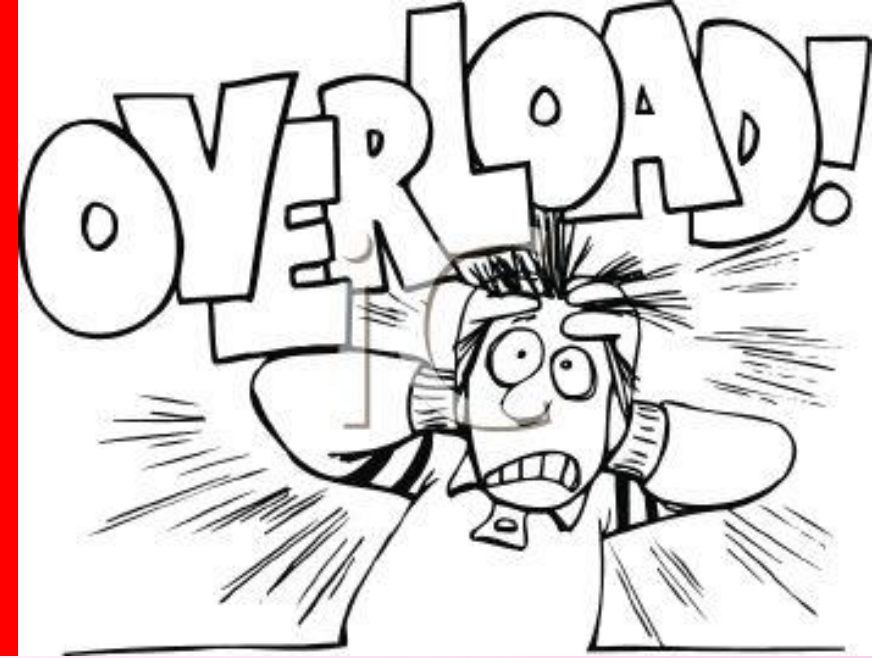


**THIS PROVIDES OXYGEN AND  
GLUCOSE TO ACT AS FUEL**

**THIS FUEL IS USED IN  
OUR CELLS TO PRODUCE  
WORK ENERGY**

ENERGY PRODUCTION IN THE CELL IS CALLED  
**CELLULAR/INTERNAL RESPIRATION**

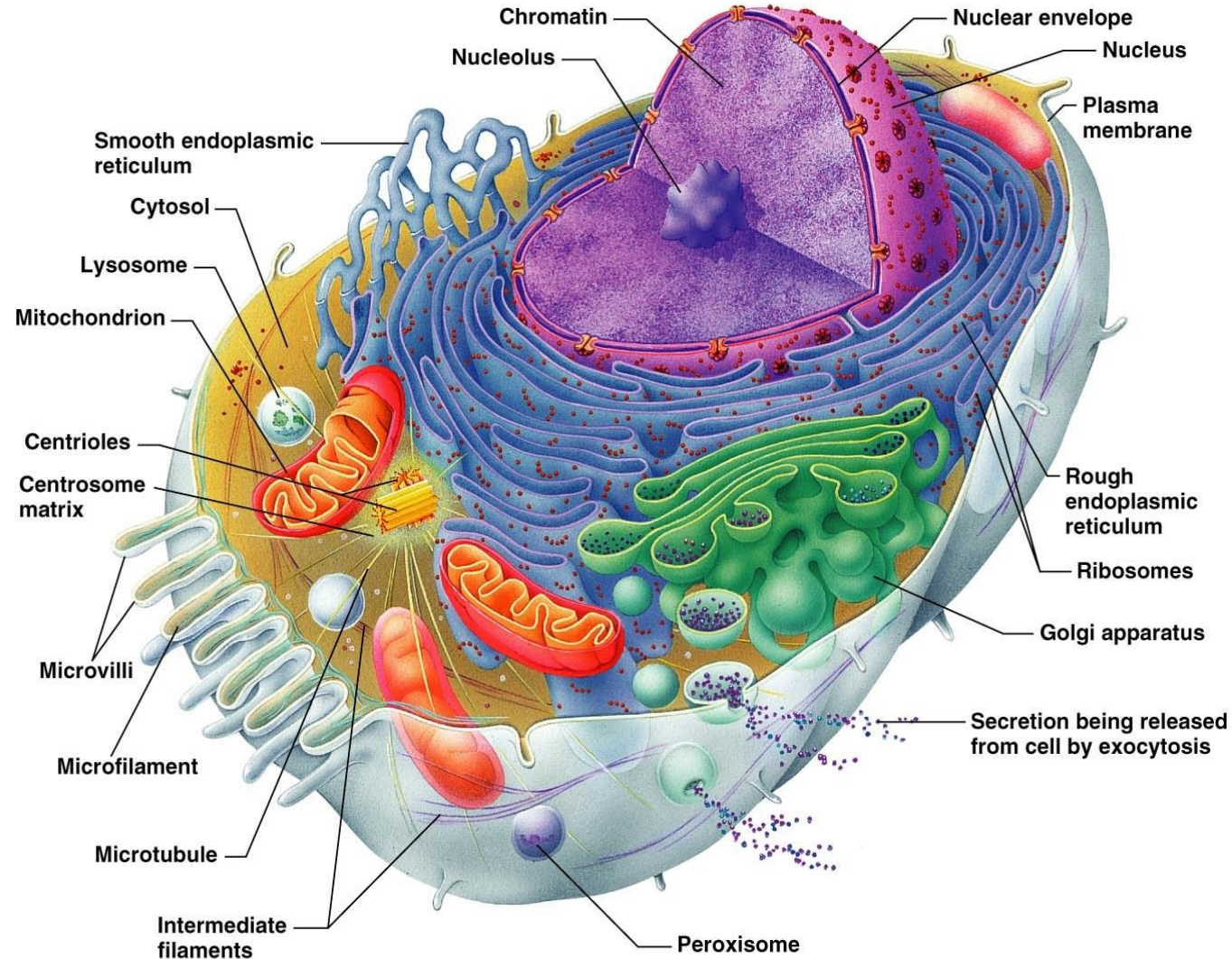
IT TAKES PLACE IN THE CYTOSOL &  
**MITOCHONDRIA** OF THE CELL



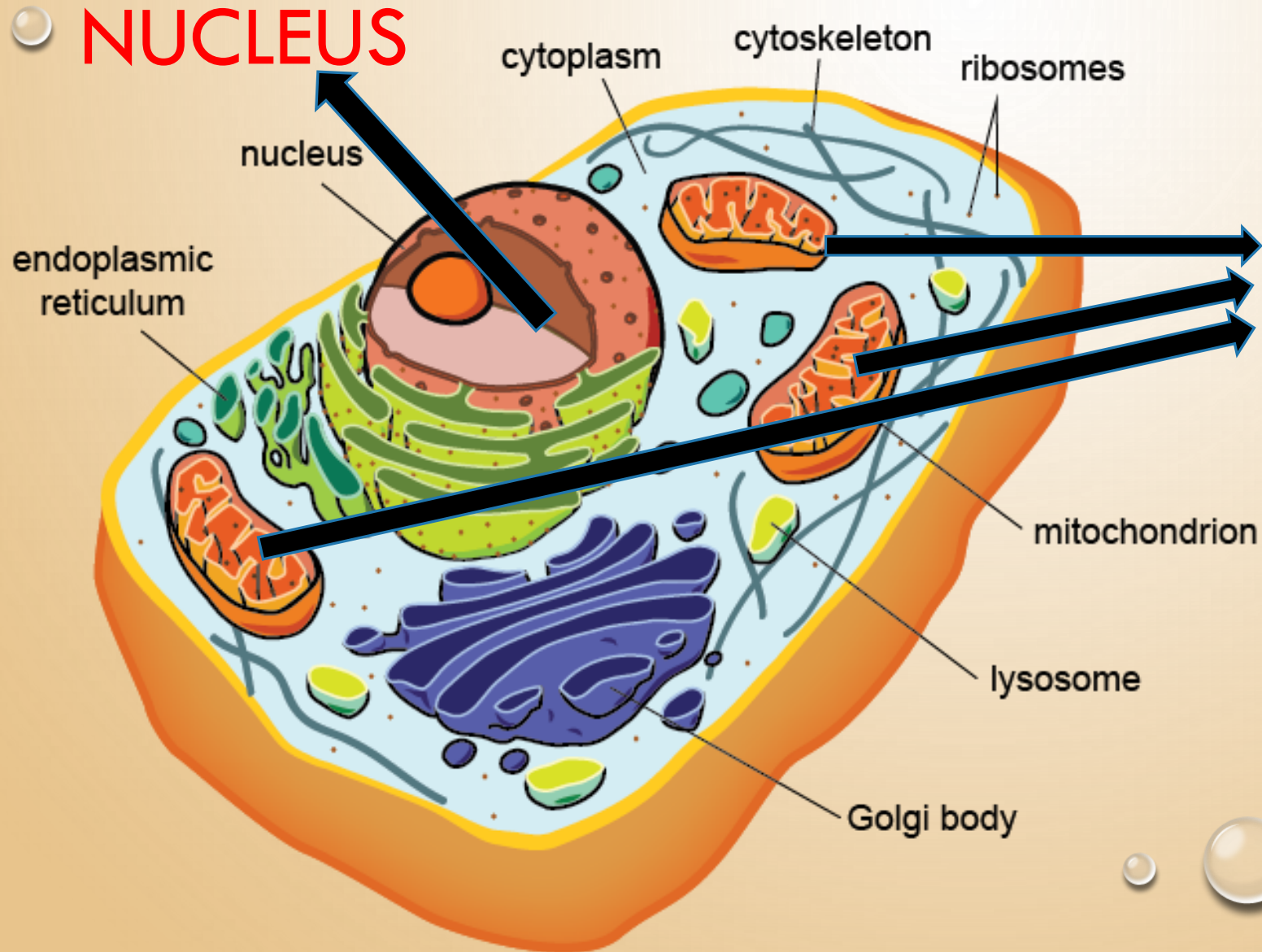


# THE BASICS: Lots of mitochondria = lots of energy

## Healthy mitochondria contribute to a healthy body



# WHAT ARE MITOCHONDRIA?



**MITOCHONDRIA  
ARE ORGANELLES  
(OR PART OF  
A CELL)**



# A CLOSER LOOK

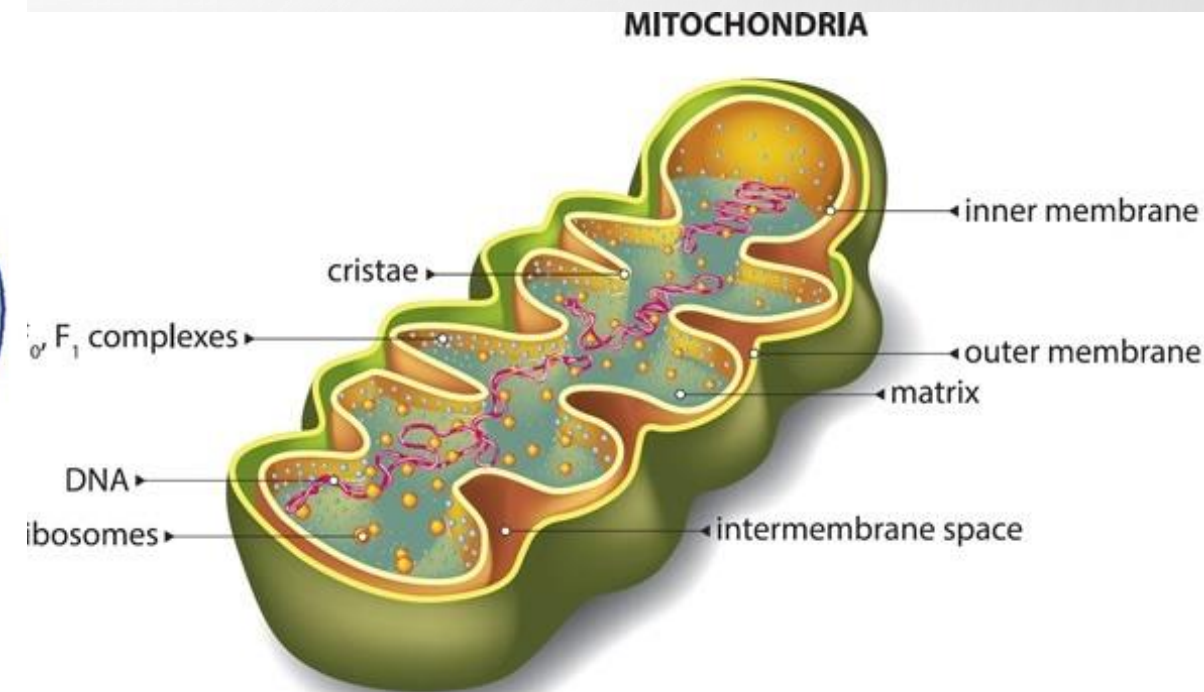
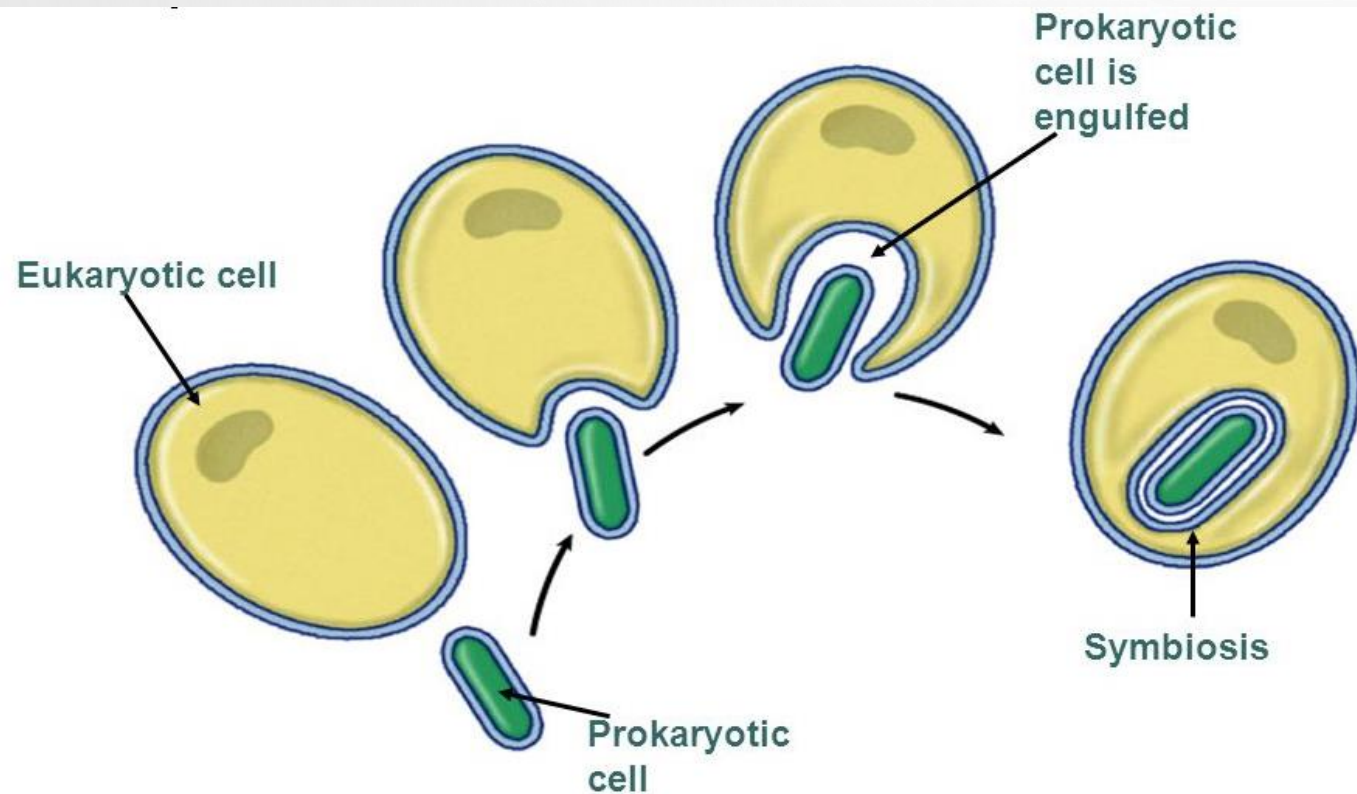
They are AMAZING and pre-date human life.

They're considered a prokaryotic cell (no nucleus)

Symbiotic relationship developed

The larger cell swallowed the smaller cell without digesting it!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f2rX-nWDqoU>



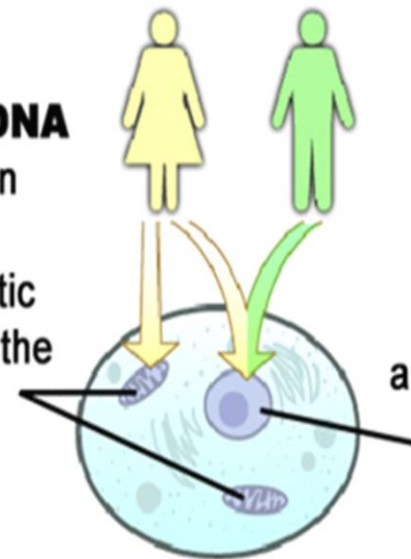




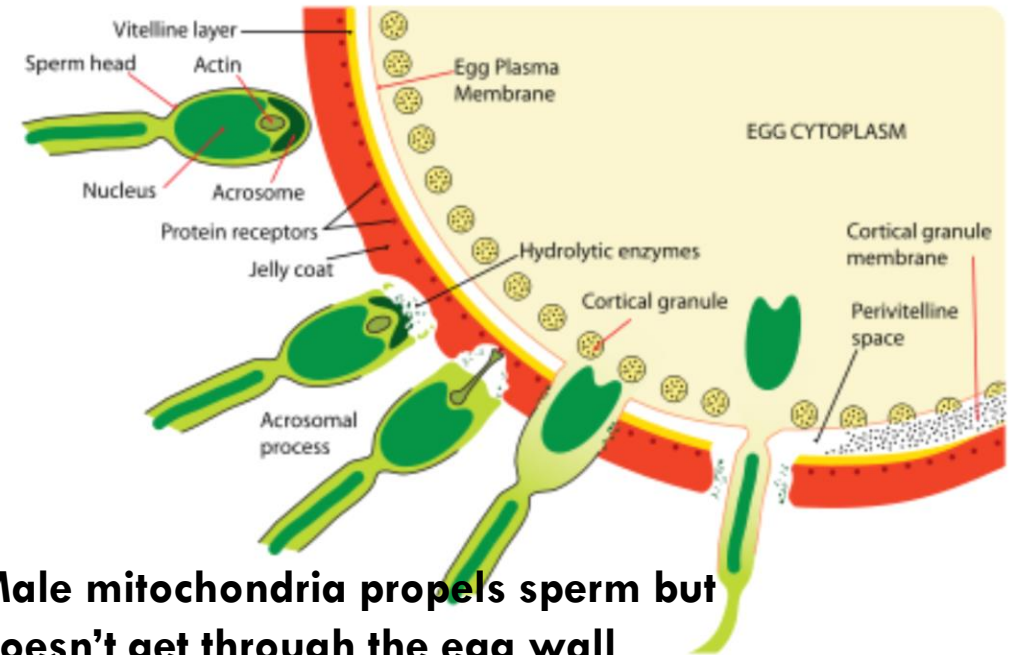
# AMAZING MITOCHONDRIA

- HAVE THEIR OWN CHROMOSOMES
- HAVE THEIR OWN DNA
- MAKE THEIR OWN PROTEINS
- BEHAVE LIKE BACTERIA
- CAN BE DAMAGED BY ANTIBIOTICS
- ARE INHERITED FROM MATERNAL SIDE
- ARE IN MOST CELLS IN THE BODY
- IMMUNE FUNCTION
- PRODUCE ENERGY VIA AEROBIC METABOLISM

**Mitochondrial DNA** (mtDNA) is found in cell mitochondria and contains genetic material only from the **mother**.



**Nuclear DNA** (nuDNA) is found in the cell nucleus and contains genetic material from **both parents**.

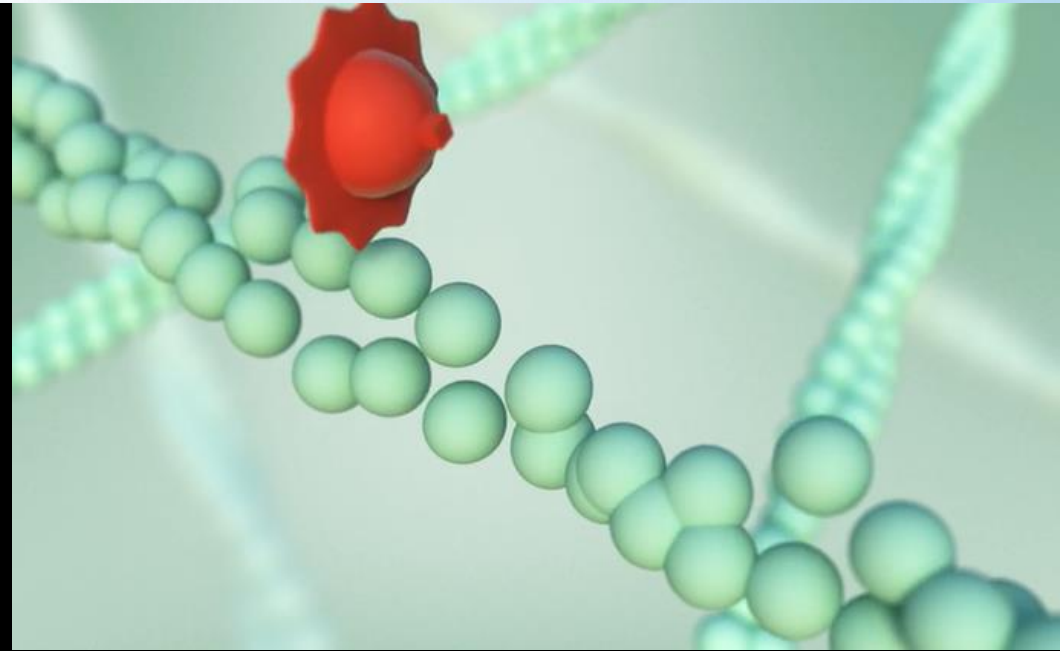


**Male mitochondria propels sperm but doesn't get through the egg wall**



# WHERE ARE THEY FOUND?: IN CELLS USING O<sub>2</sub>

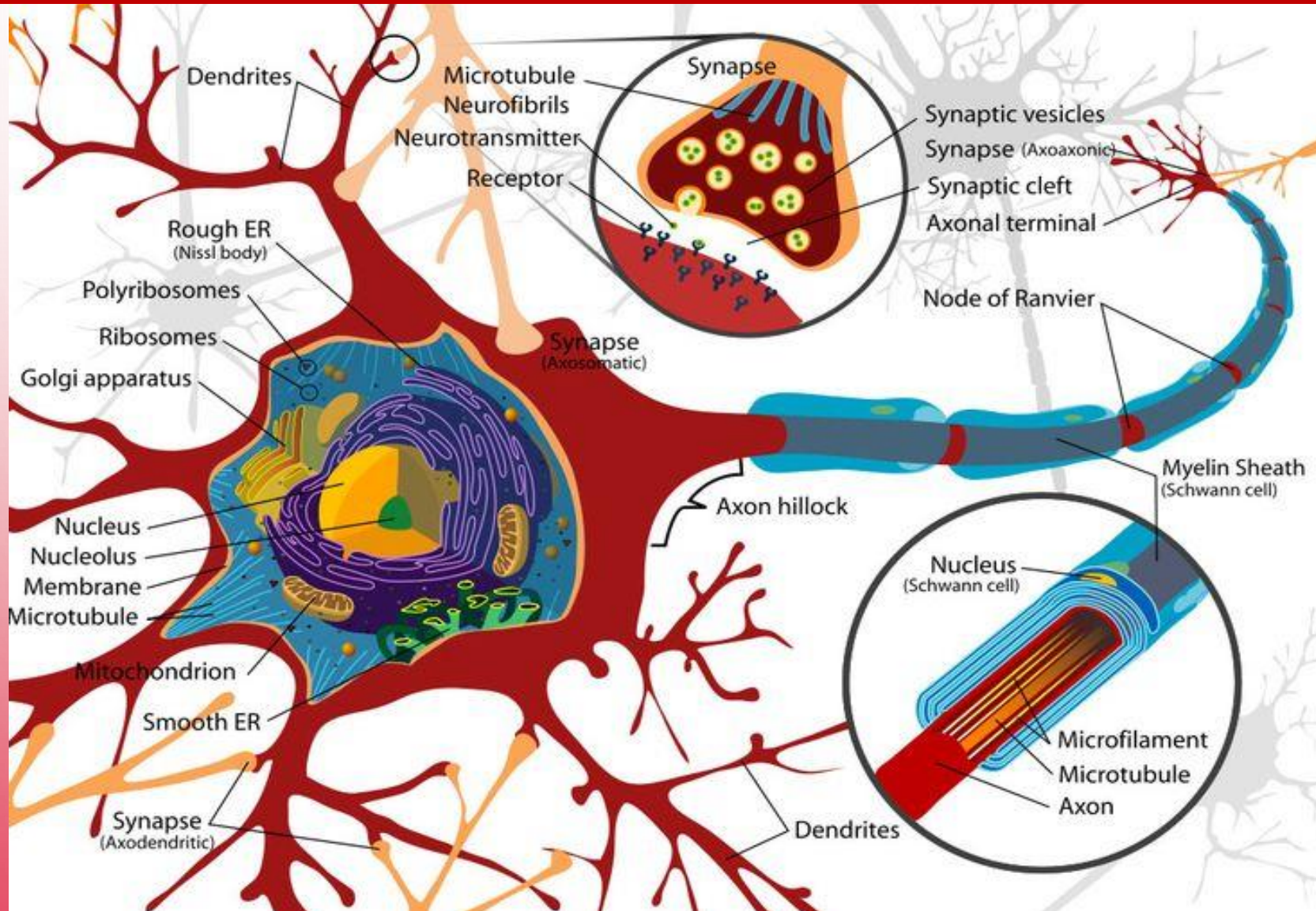
- IN MOST CELLS IN THE BODY
- NOT IN RBC
- LOTS IN LIVER, BRAIN AND MUSCLES
- THEY MULTIPLY ACCORDING TO DEMAND



MITOCHONDRIA PERFORM TWO FUNCTIONS:

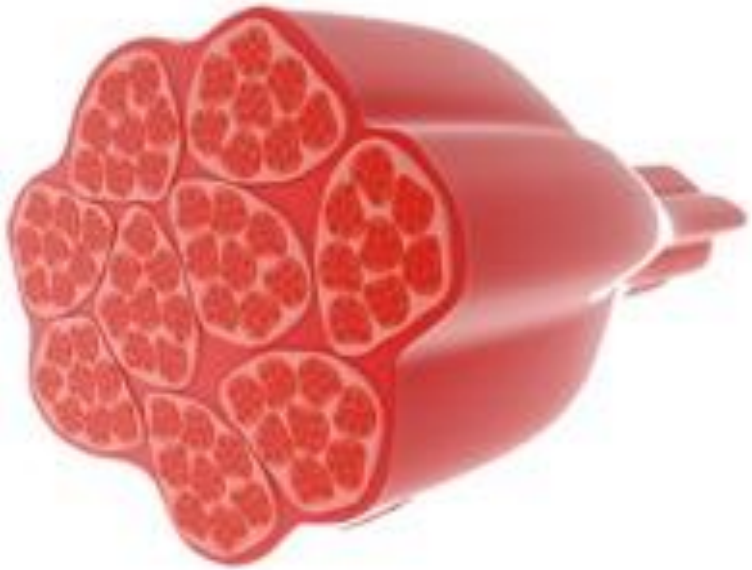
1. THEY ARE THE PRIMARY SITES FOR **ATP** SYNTHESIS IN THE CELL – HENCE CALLED THE **POWERHOUSE OF THE CELL**
2. THEY HAVE A KEY ROLE IN APOPTOSIS – PROGRAMMED CELL DEATH – INTRINSIC PATHWAY – CANCER LINK

# MITOCHONDRIA IN NERVE CELLS





# MITOCHONDRIA IN MUSCLE FIBRES



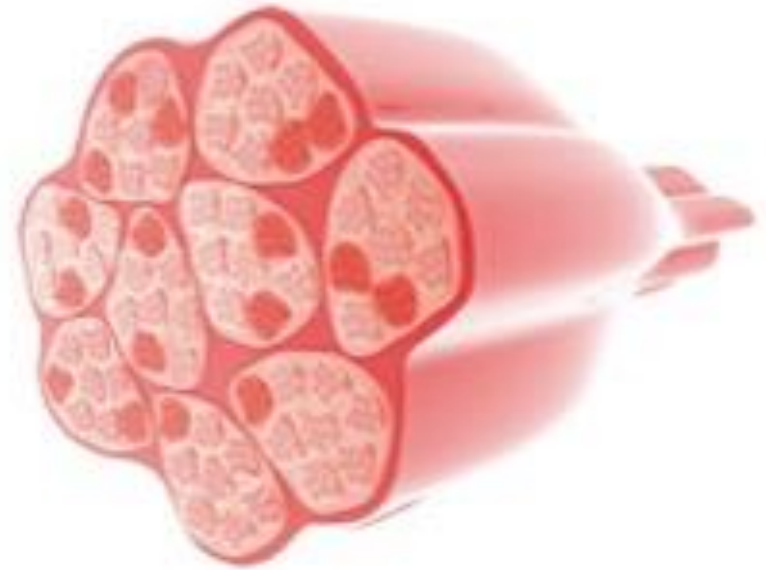
**RED MUSCLE**

high mitochondrial content



**MIXED MUSCLE**

medium mitochondrial content

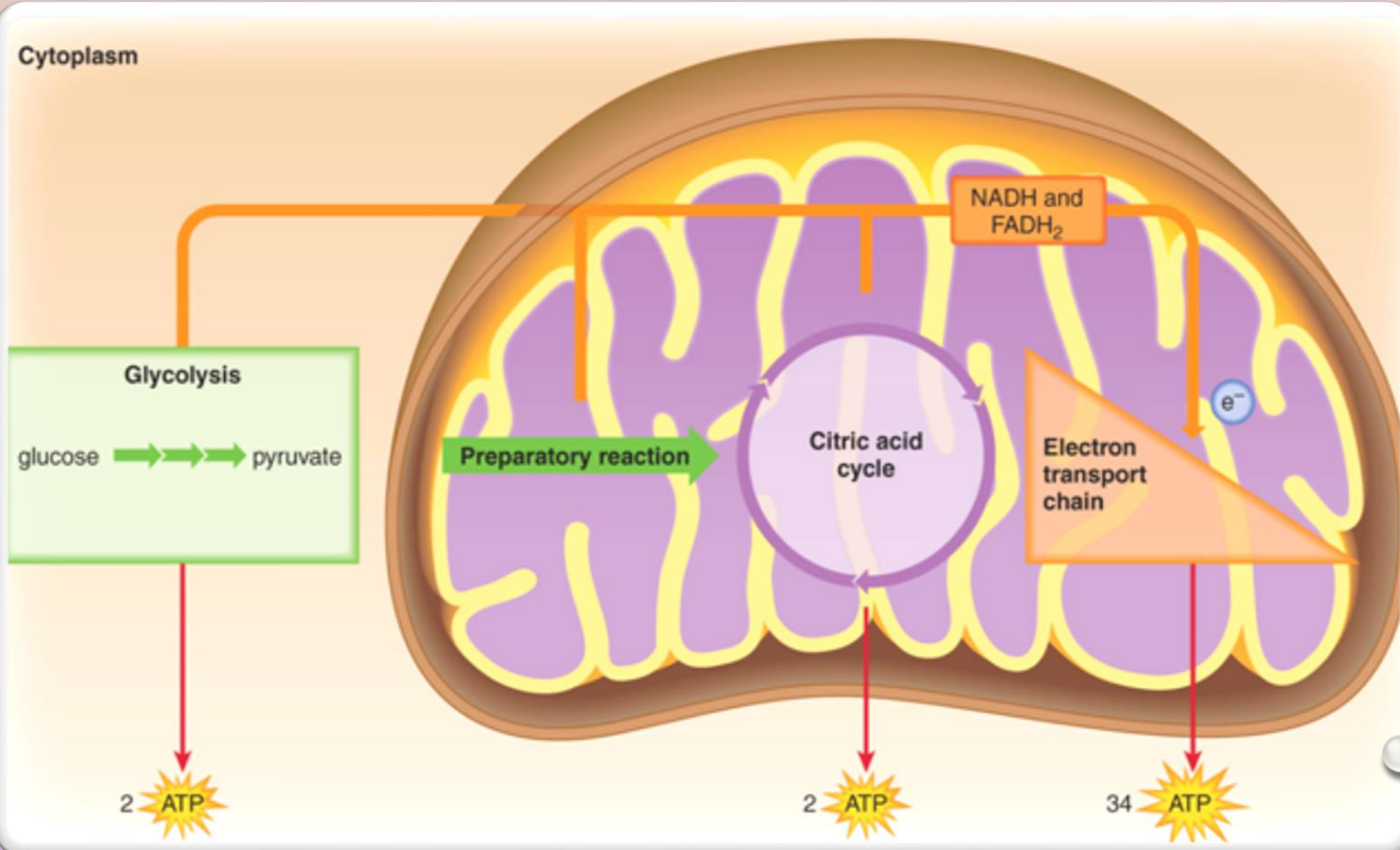


**WHITE MUSCLE**

low mitochondrial content

# HOW DO CELLS MAKE ENERGY?

1. Glucose via the digestive system into cytosol
2. O<sub>2</sub> via lungs into mitochondria together called **CELLULAR RESPIRATION**



## CELLULAR RESPIRATION STEPS:

1. GLYCOLYSIS – IN CYTOSOL – **GLUCOSE** (FOOD)
2. KREBS CYCLE – IN MITOCHONDRIA USING **OXYGEN**
3. ELECTRON TRANSPORT CHAIN – IN MITOCHONDRIA USING **OXYGEN**

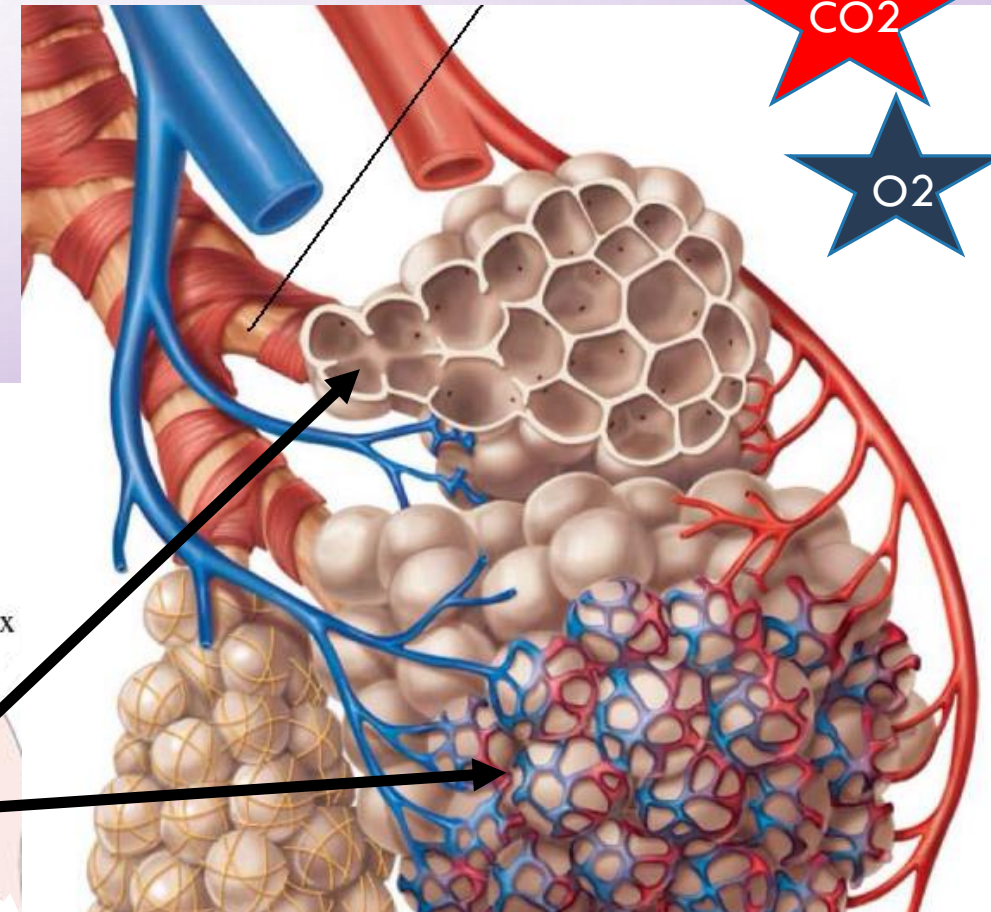
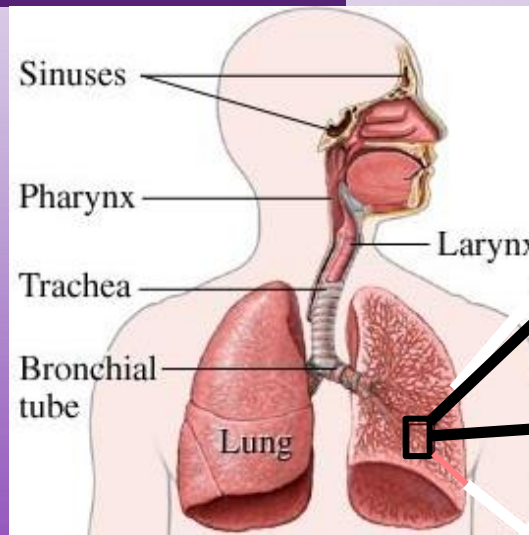


# THE MITOCHONDRIA ENERGY CONNECTION

## STEP 1

### External respiration

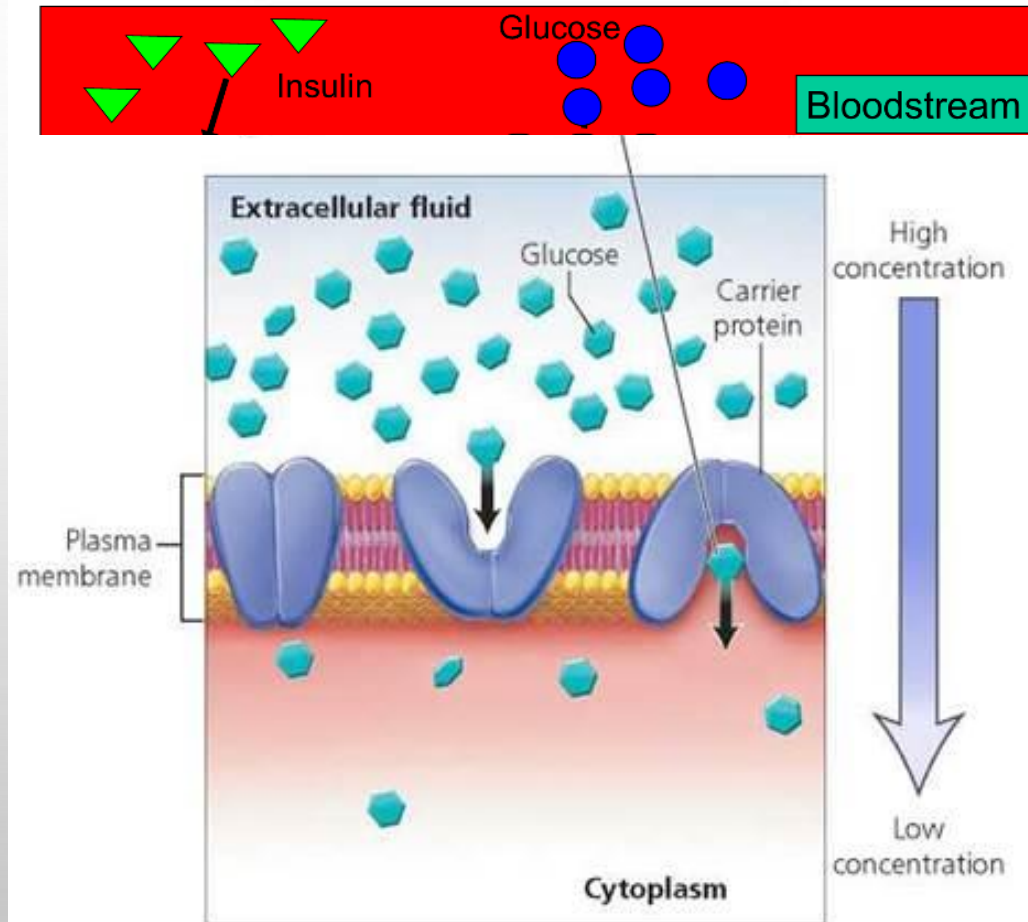
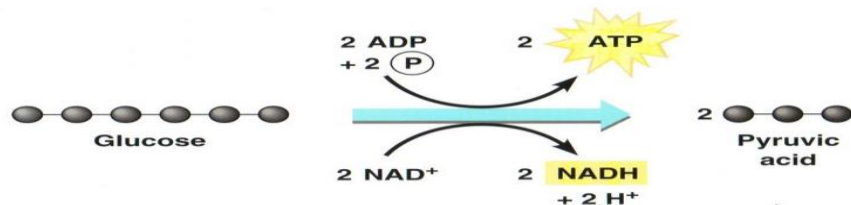
O<sub>2</sub> movement from environment  
to the blood



# THE MITOCHONDRIA ENERGY CONNECTION

## STEP 2

**Cellular respiration**  
Movement of glucose  
from blood to cell  
cytosol  
**GLYCOLYSIS** to feed  
the mitochondria



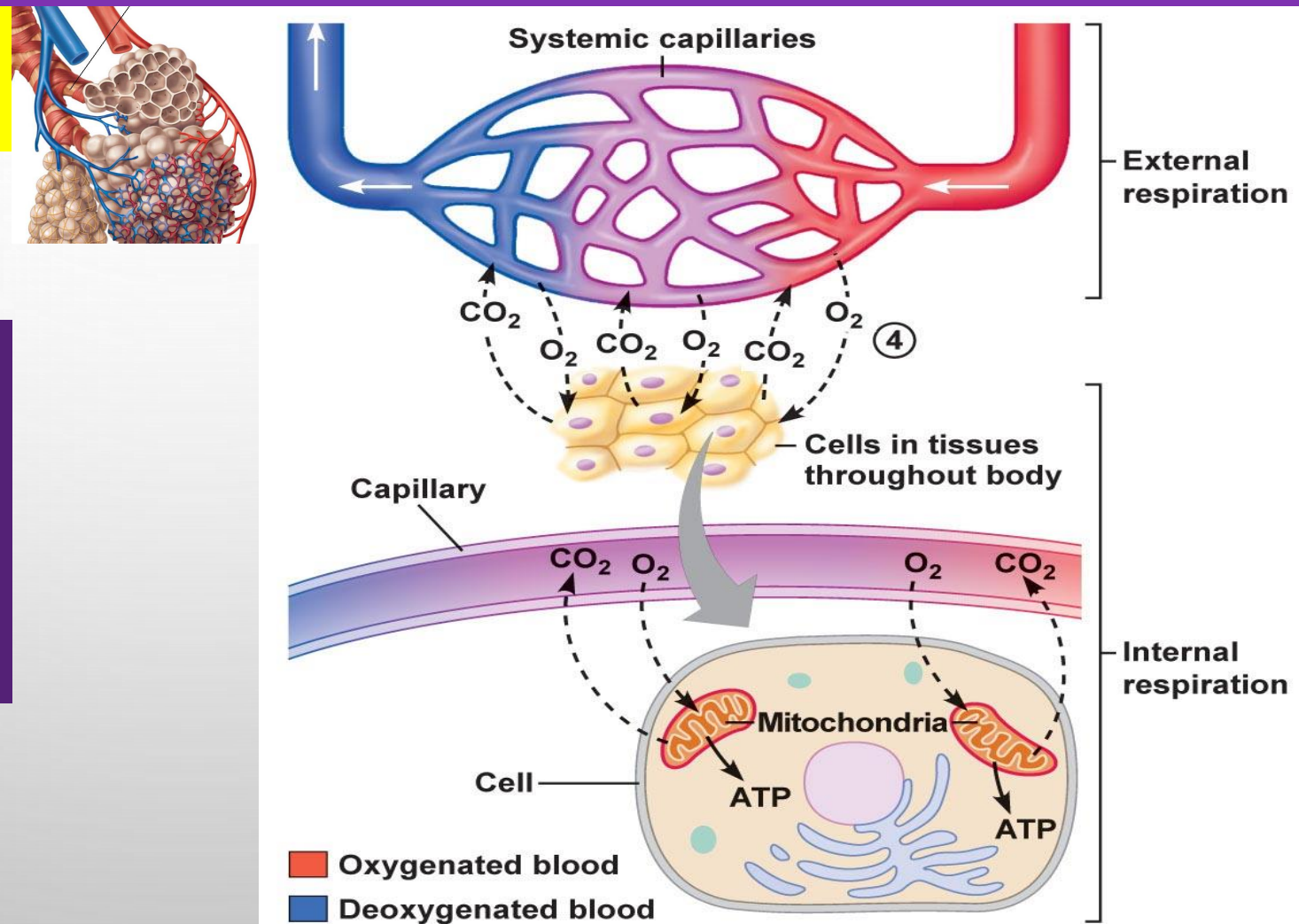


# THE MITOCHONDRIA ENERGY CONNECTION

## STEP 3

### Cellular Respiration

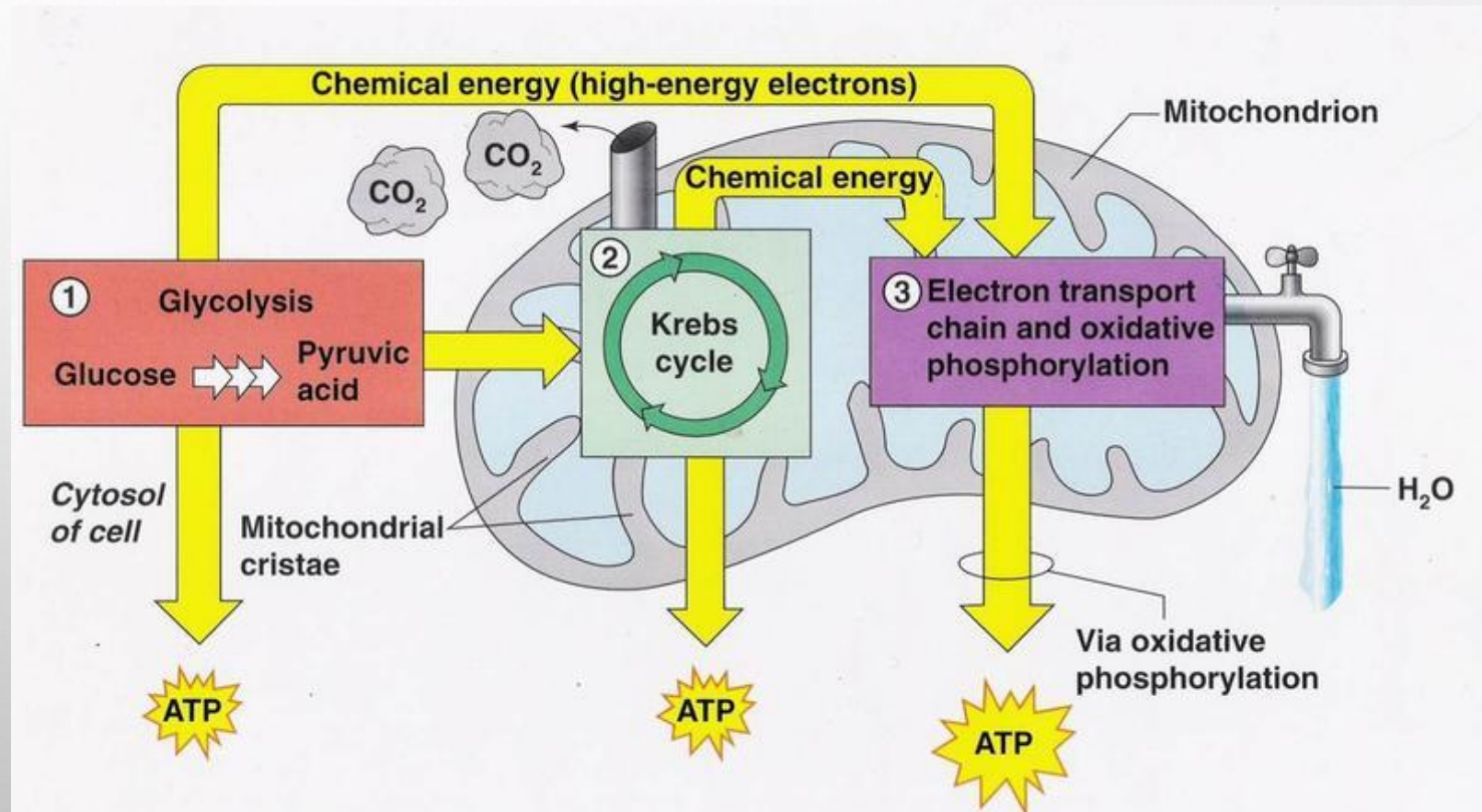
O<sub>2</sub> movement from blood into the cell mitochondria in the body's tissues



# THE MITOCHONDRIA ENERGY CONNECTION

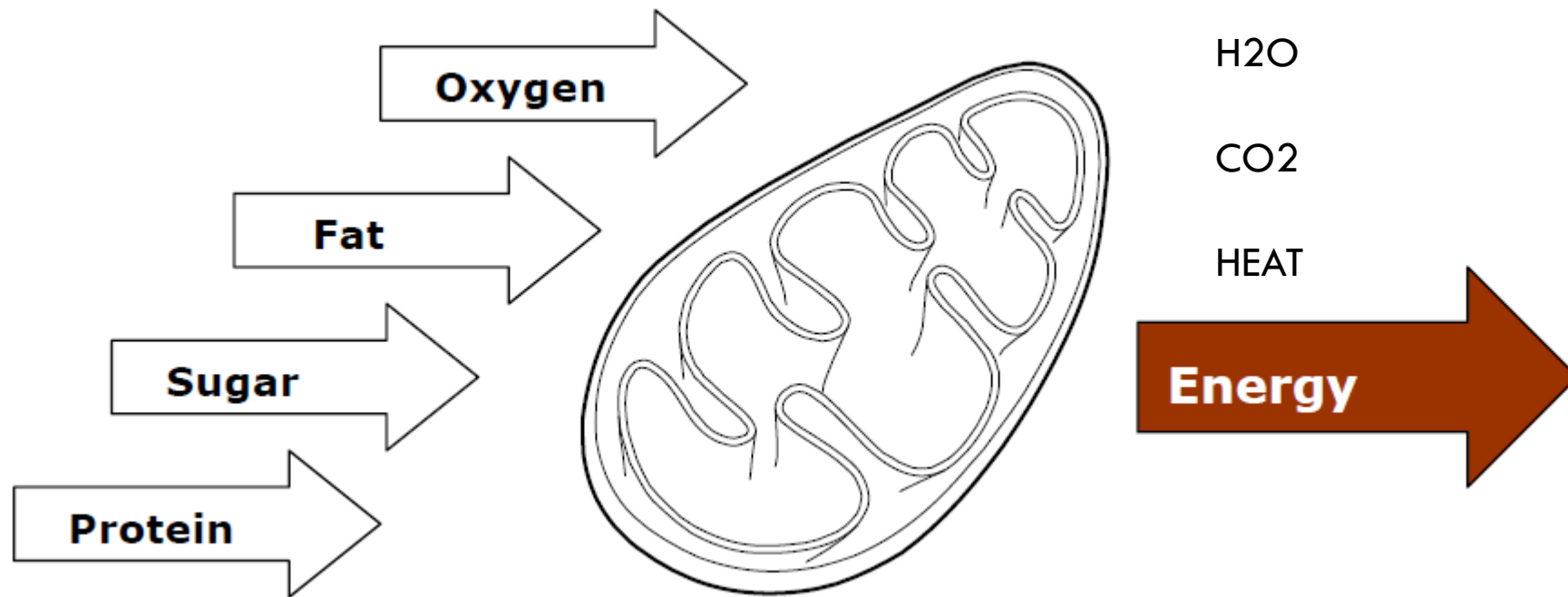
## STEP 4

Cellular respiration using energy from glycolysis and oxygen to fuel mitochondria to create energy in form of ATP





# MITOCHONDRIA TRANSFORM ENERGETIC SUBSTRATES. EG, GLUCOSE AND OXYGEN INTO ENERGY



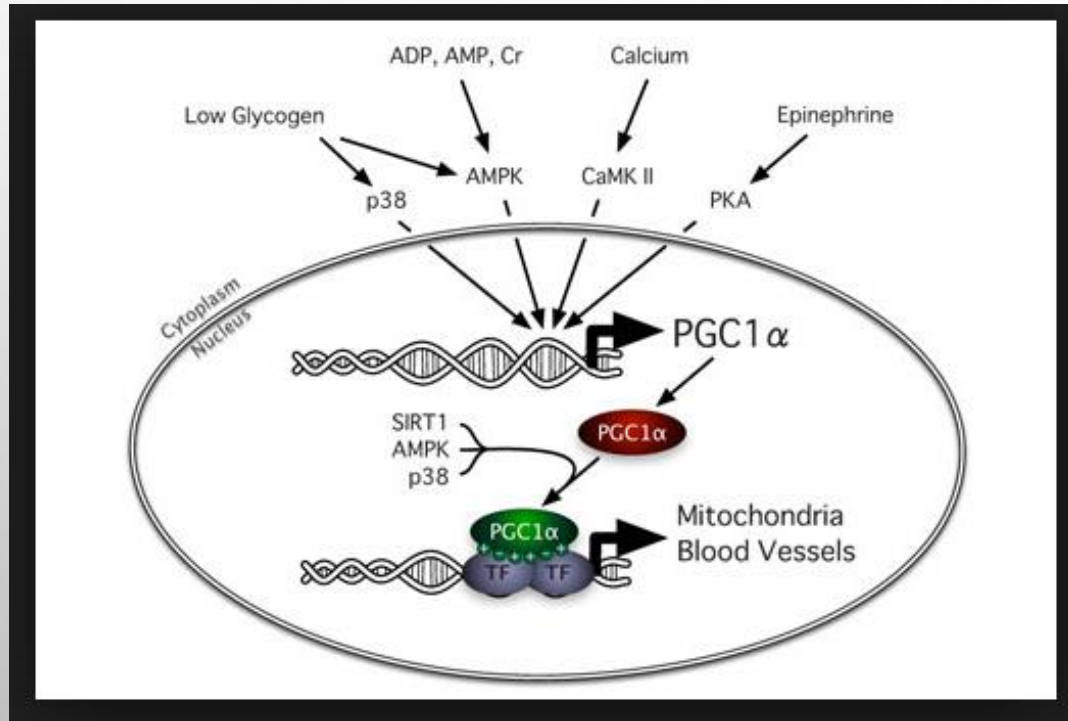
# MITOCHONDRIAL DISEASE

- MITOCHONDRIAL DISEASES RANGE IN SEVERITY FROM ASYMPTOMATIC TO FATAL
- BECAUSE CELLS HAVE MULTIPLE MITOCHONDRIA, DIFFERENT MITOCHONDRIA IN THE SAME CELL CAN HAVE DIFFERENT VARIATIONS OF THE MTDNA
- WHEN A CERTAIN TISSUE REACHES A CERTAIN RATIO OF MUTANT VERSUS WILDTYPE MITOCHONDRIA, A DISEASE WILL PRESENT ITSELF.
- DIABETES MELLITUS, FORMS OF CANCER AND CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE, LACTIC ACIDOSIS, SPECIFIC FORMS OF MYOPATHY, OSTEOPOROSIS, ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE, PARKINSONS'S DISEASE, STROKE, MALE INFERTILITY
- STATINS MAY BE LINKED TO MITOCHONDRIA DYSFUNCTION
- NUTRIENTS CAN PROTECT AGAINST OXIDATIVE DAMAGE TO MITOCHONDRIA. THESE NUTRIENTS INCLUDE  $\Omega$ 3 FATTY ACIDS, ANTIOXIDANTS (VITAMIN C AND ZINC), MEMBERS OF THE VITAMIN B FAMILY (VITAMIN B12 AND FOLIC ACID) AND MAGNESIUM.





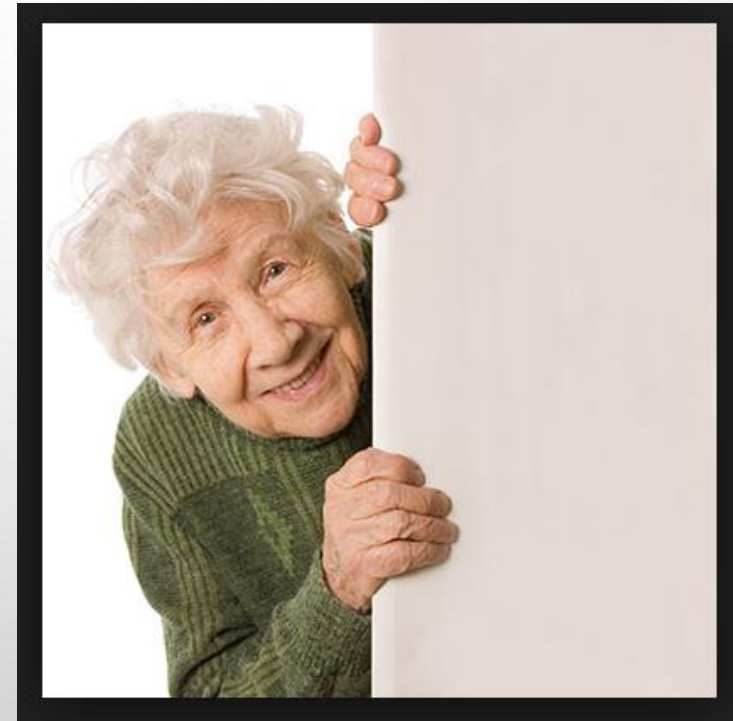
# WHAT REGULATES MITOCHONDRIAL GROWTH?



AMPK  
↓  
PGC-1A  
↓  
NRF 1/2  
↓  
MITOCHONDRIA

# CAN MITOCHONDRIA WASTE?

AMPK ACTIVITY HAS BEEN SHOWN TO DECREASE WITH AGE AND SEDENTARY LIFESTYLES, WHICH MAY CONTRIBUTE TO DECREASED MITOCHONDRIAL BIOGENESIS AND FUNCTION WITH AGING AND DISUSE.





# HOW DOES EXERCISE EFFECT MITOCHONDRIA?

MUSCLE CONTRACTION  
INCREASES THE ACTIVITY OF  
AMPK (WHICH DETECTS FALLING  
ENERGY AVAILABILITY IN THE  
MUSCLE), WHICH INCREASES THE  
EXPRESSION OF PGC-1A &  
SIGNALS THE GROWTH &  
PROLIFERATION OF  
MITOCHONDRIA.



# DOES ALL TYPES OF EXERCISE EFFECT MITOCHONDRIAL EQUALLY?

AEROBIC EXERCISE THAT  
EMPHASIZES VOLUME IS THE  
MOST POTENT CONTROLLER OF  
MITOCHONDRIAL GROWTH.

AEROBIC EXERCISE THAT  
EMPHASIZES INTENSITY  
REGULATES THE FUNCTION OF  
MITOCHONDRIA.





# RESISTANCE TRAINING & MITOCHONDRIA?

MUCH LESS IS KNOWN ABOUT  
THE EFFECT OF LIFTING WEIGHTS  
ON MITOCHONDRIA.

AVAILABLE EVIDENCE SUGGESTS  
A ROLE AT INCREASING THE  
FUNCTION OF MITOCHONDRIA



# HOW DOES NUTRITION IMPACT MITOCHONDRIA?

- MACRONUTRIENTS?
- FOOD COMPONENTS?
- TIMING OF MEALS IN THE DAY?
- TIMING OF NUTRITION IN RELATION TO EXERCISE?



# HOW DO MACRONUTRIENTS IMPACT MITOCHONDRIA?

DIETS WITH LOW GLYCEMIC  
RESPONSE, HIGH FIBRE WITH  
MODERATE PROTEIN INTAKE AND HIGH  
PLANT VARIETY (MEDITERRANEAN DIET)  
HAVE BEEN SHOWN TO PROMOTE  
HEALTHY MITOCHONDRIA





# FOOD COMPONENTS & MITOCHONDRIA?

GREEN TEA EXTRACTS,  
SODIUM BICARBONATE,  
CAFFEINE,  
COCOA,  
RESVERATROL,  
QUERCETIN.



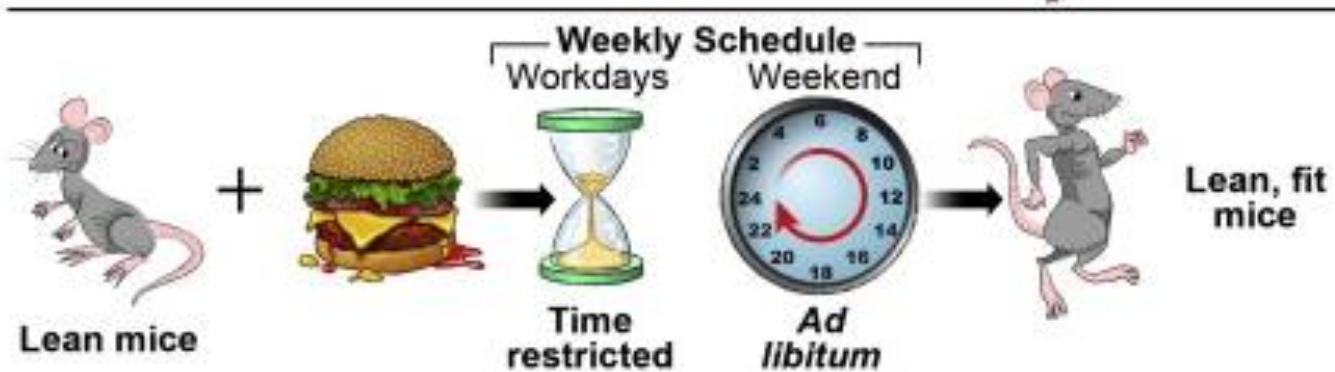
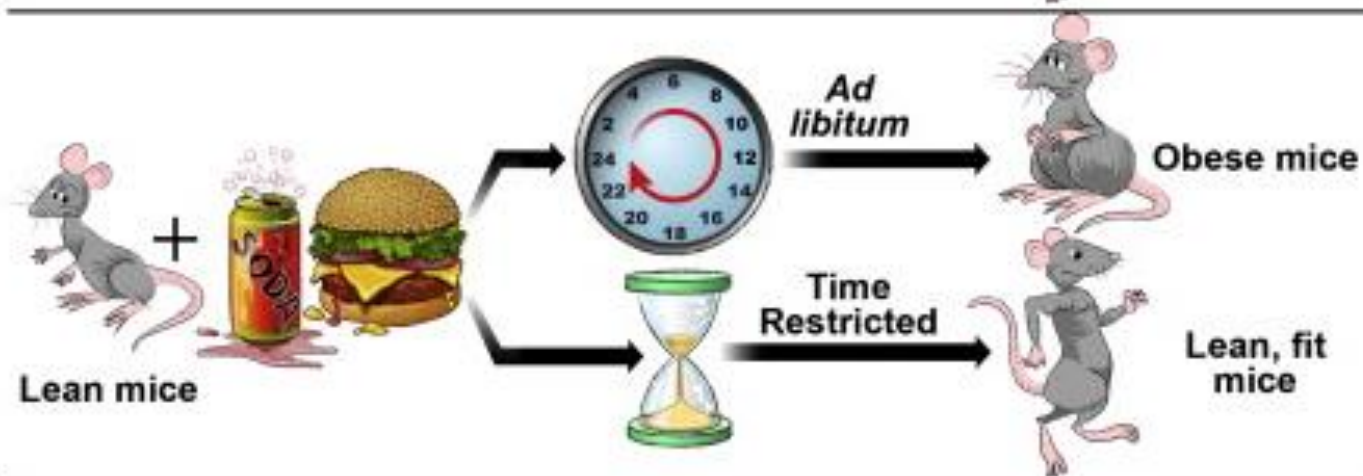
# **TIMING OF MEALS & MITOCHONDRIA?**

**FASTING MIMICKING DIETS**

**KETOSIS**

**TIME-RESTRICTED FEEDING**







# SUPPLEMENTS & MITOCHONDRIA

CREATINE, L-CARNITINE, A-LIPOIC ACID,  
COENZYME Q<sub>10</sub>, REDUCED  
NICOTINAMIDE ADENINE  
DINUCLEOTIDE (NADH).

SUPPLEMENTS CONTAINING  
NICOTINAMIDE RIBOSIDE APPEAR TO  
HAVE THE MOST LIKELIHOOD AT  
HAVING A POSITIVE EFFECT ON  
MITOCHONDRIA



# NUTRIENT TIMING INTERACTIONS WITH MITOCHONDRIAL PERFORMING EXERCISE OR RECOVERING FROM EXERCISE WITHOUT THE PROVISION OF CARBOHYDRATE HAS A FAVOURABLE EFFECT OF MITOCHONDRIAL ADAPTATION.

Sports Med (2017) 47 (Suppl 1):S51–S63  
DOI 10.1007/s40279-017-0694-2



## REVIEW ARTICLE

### Periodized Nutrition for Athletes

Asker E. Jeukendrup<sup>1</sup>

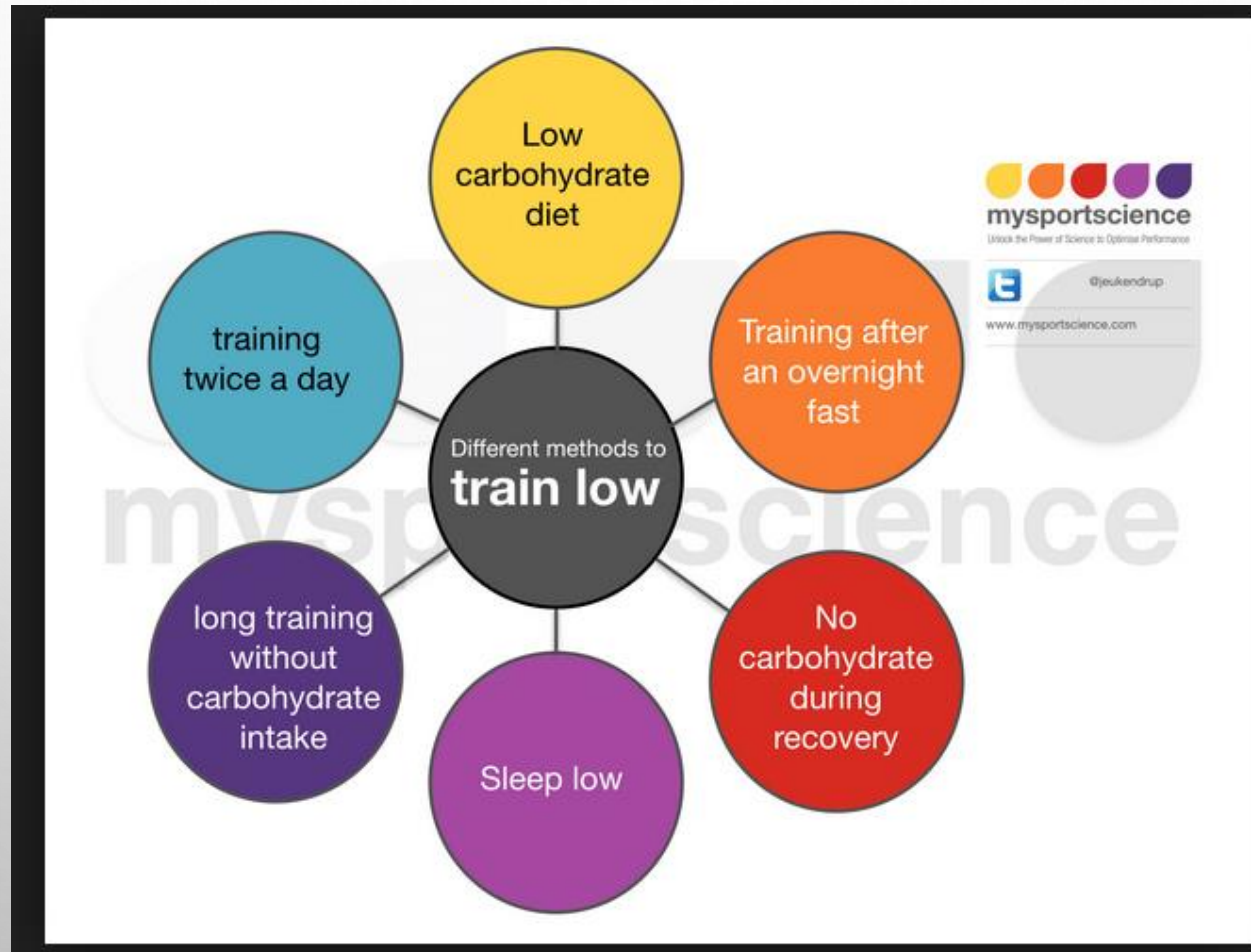
Published online: 22 March 2017  
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**Abstract** It is becoming increasingly clear that adaptations, initiated by exercise, can be amplified or reduced by nutrition. Various methods have been discussed to optimize training adaptations and some of these methods have been subject to extensive study. To date, most methods have focused on skeletal muscle, but it is important to note that training effects also include adaptations in other tissues (e.g., brain, vasculature), improvements in the absorptive capacity of the intestine, increases in tolerance to dehydration, and other effects that have received less attention in the literature. The purpose of this review is to define the concept of periodized nutrition (also referred to as nutritional training) and summarize the wide variety of methods available to athletes. The reader is referred to several other recent review articles that have discussed aspects of periodized nutrition in much more detail with primarily a focus on adaptations in the muscle. The purpose of this review is not to discuss the literature in great detail but to clearly define the concept and to give a complete overview of the methods available, with an emphasis on adaptations that are not in the muscle. Whilst there is good evidence for some methods, other proposed methods are mere theories that remain to be tested. 'Periodized nutrition' refers to the strategic combined use of exercise training and nutrition, or nutrition only, with the overall aim to obtain adaptations that support exercise performance. The term nutritional training is sometimes used to describe the same methods and these terms can be used interchangeably. In this

review, an overview is given of some of the most common methods of periodized nutrition including 'training low' and 'training high', and training with low- and high-carbohydrate availability, respectively. 'Training low' in particular has received considerable attention and several variations of 'train low' have been proposed. 'Training-low' studies have generally shown beneficial effects in terms of signaling and transcription, but to date, few studies have been able to show any effects on performance. In addition to 'train low' and 'train high', methods have been developed to 'train the gut', train hypohydrated (to reduce the negative effects of dehydration), and train with various supplements that may increase the training adaptations longer term. Which of these methods should be used depends on the specific goals of the individual and there is no method (or diet) that will address all needs of an individual in all situations. Therefore, appropriate practical application lies in the optimal combination of different nutritional training methods. Some of these methods have already found their way into training practices of athletes, even though evidence for their efficacy is sometimes scarce at best. Many pragmatic questions remain unanswered and another goal of this review is to identify some of the remaining questions that may have great practical relevance and should be the focus of future research.

## 1 Introduction

# NUTRIENT TIMING INTERACTIONS WITH MITOCHONDRIAL





# HIT VS CONTINUOUS EXERCISE?

BOTH INTENSITY & VOLUME  
APPEAR TO EFFECT  
MITOCHONDRIA IN  
DIFFERENT WAYS  
(FUNCTION VS GROWTH)



# HIT VS CONTINUOUS EXERCISE?

WHEN MATCHED FOR TOTAL  
VOLUME,  
HIT APPEARS TO HAVE A  
SUPERIOR EFFECT.

Format: Abstract

Send to

*J Physiol.* 2017 May 1;595(9):2955-2968. doi: 10.1113/JP272570. Epub 2016 Aug 3.

## Superior mitochondrial adaptations in human skeletal muscle after interval compared to continuous single-leg cycling matched for total work.

MacInnis MJ<sup>1</sup>, Zacharewicz E<sup>2</sup>, Martin BJ<sup>1</sup>, Haikalis ME<sup>3</sup>, Skelly LE<sup>1</sup>, Tarnopolsky MA<sup>3</sup>, Murphy RM<sup>2</sup>, Gibala MJ<sup>1</sup>.

Author Information

### Abstract

**KEY POINTS:** A classic unresolved issue in human integrative physiology involves the role of exercise intensity, duration and volume in regulating skeletal muscle adaptations to training. We employed counterweighted single-leg cycling as a unique within-subject model to investigate the role of exercise intensity in promoting training-induced increases in skeletal muscle mitochondrial content. Six sessions of high-intensity interval training performed over 2 weeks elicited greater increases in citrate synthase maximal activity and mitochondrial respiration compared to moderate-intensity continuous training matched for total work and session duration. These data suggest that exercise intensity, and/or the pattern of contraction, is an important determinant of exercise-induced skeletal muscle remodelling in humans.

**ABSTRACT:** We employed counterweighted single-leg cycling as a unique model to investigate the role of exercise intensity in human skeletal muscle remodelling. Ten young active men performed unilateral graded-exercise tests to measure single-leg  $\dot{V}O_2$ , peak and peak power ( $W_{peak}$ ). Each leg was randomly assigned to complete six sessions of high-intensity interval training (HIIT) [4 × (5 min at 65%  $W_{peak}$  and 2.5 min at 20%  $W_{peak}$ )] or moderate-intensity continuous training (MICT) (30 min at 50%  $W_{peak}$ ), which were performed 10 min apart on each day, in an alternating order. The work performed per session was matched for MICT (143 ± 8.4 kJ) and HIIT (144 ± 8.5 kJ,  $P > 0.05$ ). Post-training, citrate synthase (CS) maximal activity (10.2 ± 0.8 vs. 8.4 ± 0.9 mmol kg protein<sup>-1</sup> min<sup>-1</sup>) and mass-specific [pmol O<sub>2</sub> · (s·mg wet weight)<sup>-1</sup>] oxidative phosphorylation capacities (complex I: 23.4 ± 3.2 vs. 17.1 ± 2.8; complexes I and II: 58.2 ± 7.5 vs. 42.2 ± 5.3) were greater in HIIT relative to MICT (interaction effects,  $P < 0.05$ ); however, mitochondrial function [i.e. pmol O<sub>2</sub> · (s·CS maximal activity)<sup>-1</sup>] measured under various conditions was unaffected by training ( $P > 0.05$ ). In whole muscle, the protein content of COXIV (24%), NDUFA9 (11%) and mitofusin 2 (MFN2) (16%) increased similarly across groups (training effects,  $P < 0.05$ ). Cytochrome c oxidase subunit IV (COXIV) and NADH:ubiquinone oxidoreductase subunit A9 (NDUFA9) were more abundant in type I than type II fibres ( $P < 0.05$ ) but training did not increase the content of COXIV, NDUFA9 or MFN2 in either fibre type ( $P > 0.05$ ). Single-leg  $\dot{V}O_2$ , peak was also unaffected by training ( $P > 0.05$ ). In summary, single-leg cycling performed in an interval compared to a continuous manner elicited superior mitochondrial adaptations in human skeletal muscle despite equal total work.

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**KEYWORDS:** exercise intensity; high-intensity interval training; muscle fibre

# WHY IS HIT SO EFFECTIVE?

BOTH HIGH-INTENSITY  
MUSCLE CONTRACTION

&

THE RATE AT WHICH  
SUBSTRATES ARE DEPLETED IN  
MUSCLE ACTIVATE AMPK  
SIGNIFICANTLY.

*The Journal of Physiology*

/ *Physiol* 000.00 (2016) pp 1–16

1

SYMPOSIUM REVIEW

## Physiological adaptations to interval training and the role of exercise intensity

Martin J. MacInnis and Martin J. Gibala

*Departments of Kinesiology, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada*

**Training variables**

Frequency

Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
X		X	X	X	X	
X		X	X	X	X	

Intensity

Duration

**Training format**

MICT

HIT

SIT

**Physiological adaptations**

Skeletal muscle

- Cellular stress
- Molecular responses
- Mitochondrial content
- Capillary density

Cardiovascular and integrative

- Maximum cardiac output
- Maximum stroke volume
- Blood volume
- $\dot{V}O_{2\max}$

*The Journal of Physiology*

**Abstract** Interval exercise typically involves repeated bouts of relatively intense exercise interspersed by short periods of recovery. A common classification scheme subdivides this method into high-intensity interval training (HIIT; 'near maximal' efforts) and sprint interval training (SIT; 'supramaximal' efforts). Both forms of interval training induce the classic physiological adaptations characteristic of moderate-intensity continuous training (MICT) such as increased aerobic capacity ( $\dot{V}O_{2\max}$ ) and mitochondrial content. This brief review considers the role of exercise intensity in mediating physiological adaptations to training, with a focus on the capacity for aerobic energy metabolism. With respect to skeletal muscle adaptations, cellular stress and the resultant metabolic signals for mitochondrial biogenesis depend largely on exercise intensity, with

Martin MacInnis is a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) Postdoctoral Fellow in the Department of Kinesiology at McMaster University. His research is focused on exercise and environmental physiology in humans, with a current emphasis on the molecular, metabolic and physiological mechanisms regulating adaptations to exercise. His other research interests include altitude acclimatization, nutrition, and exercise performance. Martin Gibala is Professor and Chair of the Department of Kinesiology at McMaster University. He studies the regulation of skeletal muscle-energy metabolism, including the impact of exercise and nutrition on human health and performance. A prominent focus of his current research programme is physiological adaptations to interval training in both healthy and diseased individuals. Both authors are members of McMaster's Exercise Metabolism Research Group.

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DOI: 10.1111/jphysiol.13196



# TONY'S FAVORITE MITOCHONDRIAL BOOSTING WORKOUTS



Olympic Gold Medalist Sir Chris Hoy falling off his bike in pain after an interval session

# CONTINUOUS ENDURANCE TRAINING

- 45+ MINUTES
- INTENSITY 180-AGE
- 3-7 DAYS PER WEEK
- USING SLEEP LOW AND FASTED STATE





# **SPRINT INTERVAL TRAINING**

**4-6 X 30 SECONDS 'ALL OUT' WITH 4.5 MINUTES EASY**

**4-6 X 20 SECONDS 'ALL OUT' WITH 2:10 MINUTES EASY**

**4-6 X 60 SECONDS 'BEST HARDEST PACE' WITH 4 MINUTES EASY**







# **CONTINUOUS HIGH-INTENSITY INTERVAL TRAINING**

60 SECONDS HARD WITH 60 SECONDS EASY REPEATED 10  
TIMES

4 MINUTES HARD WITH 1 MINUTE EASY REPEATED 4-6 TIMES

3 MINUTES HARD WITH 2 MINUTES EASY REPEATED 4-6 TIMES

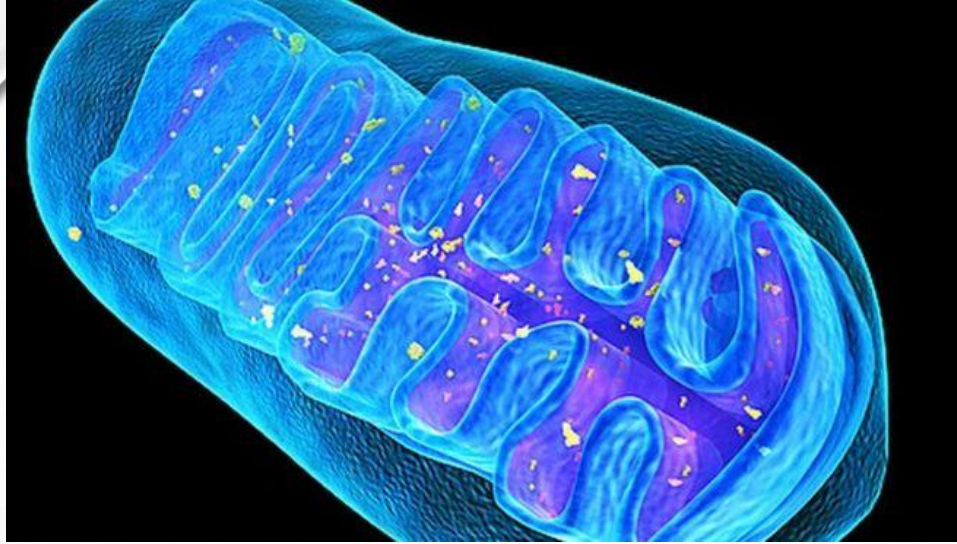


# **INTERMITTENT HIGH-INTENSITY INTERVAL TRAINING**

**(20S WITH 40S REST X 8, REST 2 MINUTES) X 3**

**(30S WITH 30S REST X 8, REST 2 MINUTES) X 3**

**(40S WITH 20S REST X 8, REST 2 MINUTES) X 3**



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