



Paris  
NASH  
Meeting

September 7 & 8, 2023

9<sup>th</sup> edition

# The central role of mitochondrion in the metabolic health of the hepatocyte

**Bernard Fromenty**

**Inserm U1317 (NuMeCan), Rennes, France**





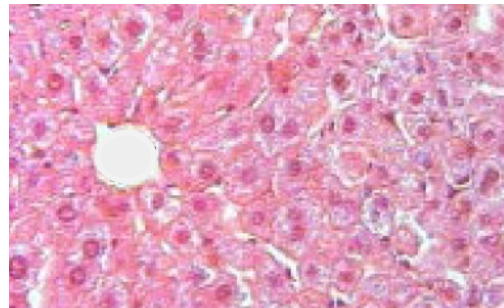
Paris  
NASH  
Meeting

# Conflict of interest disclosure

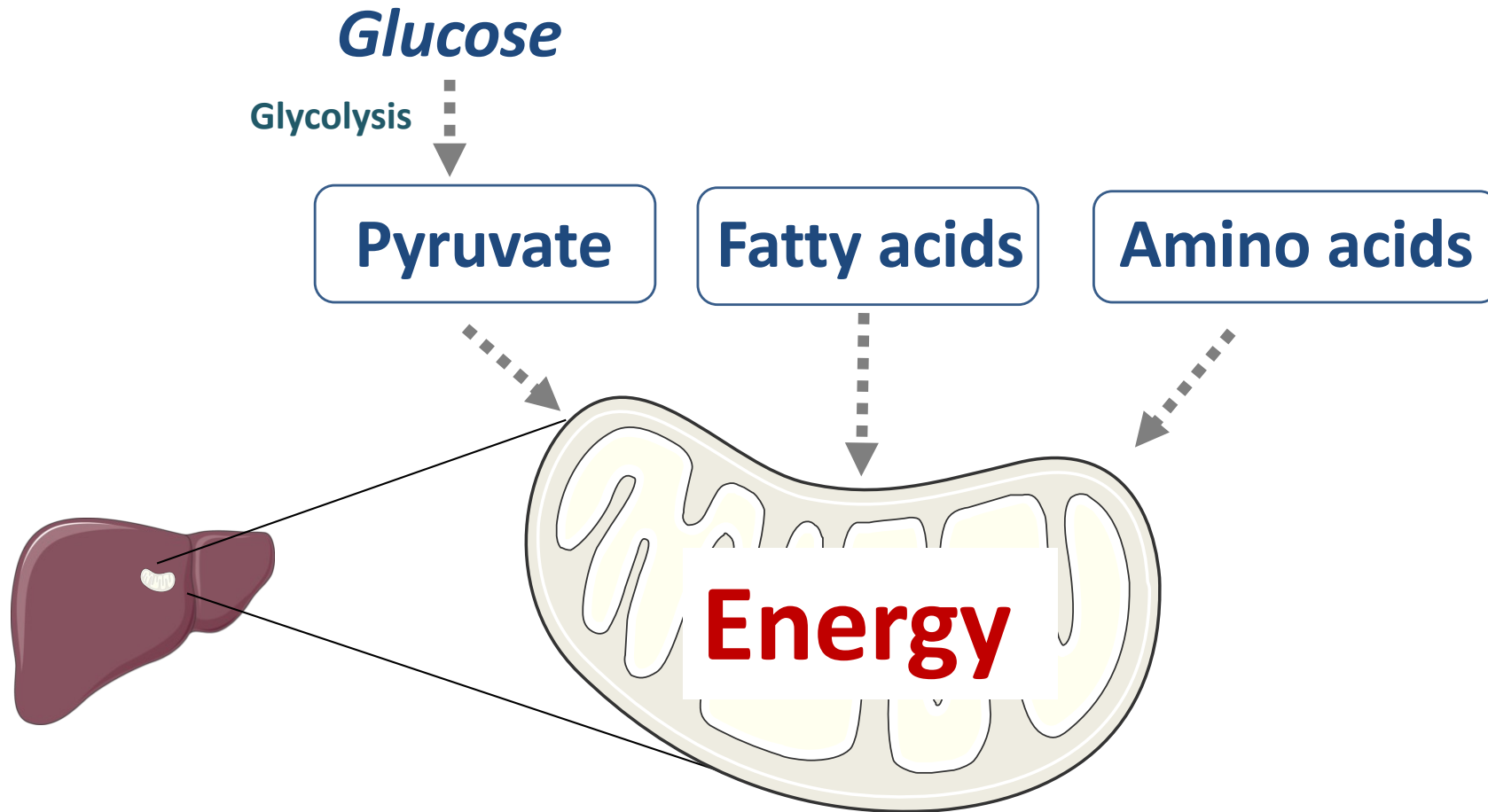
**I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this presentation.**



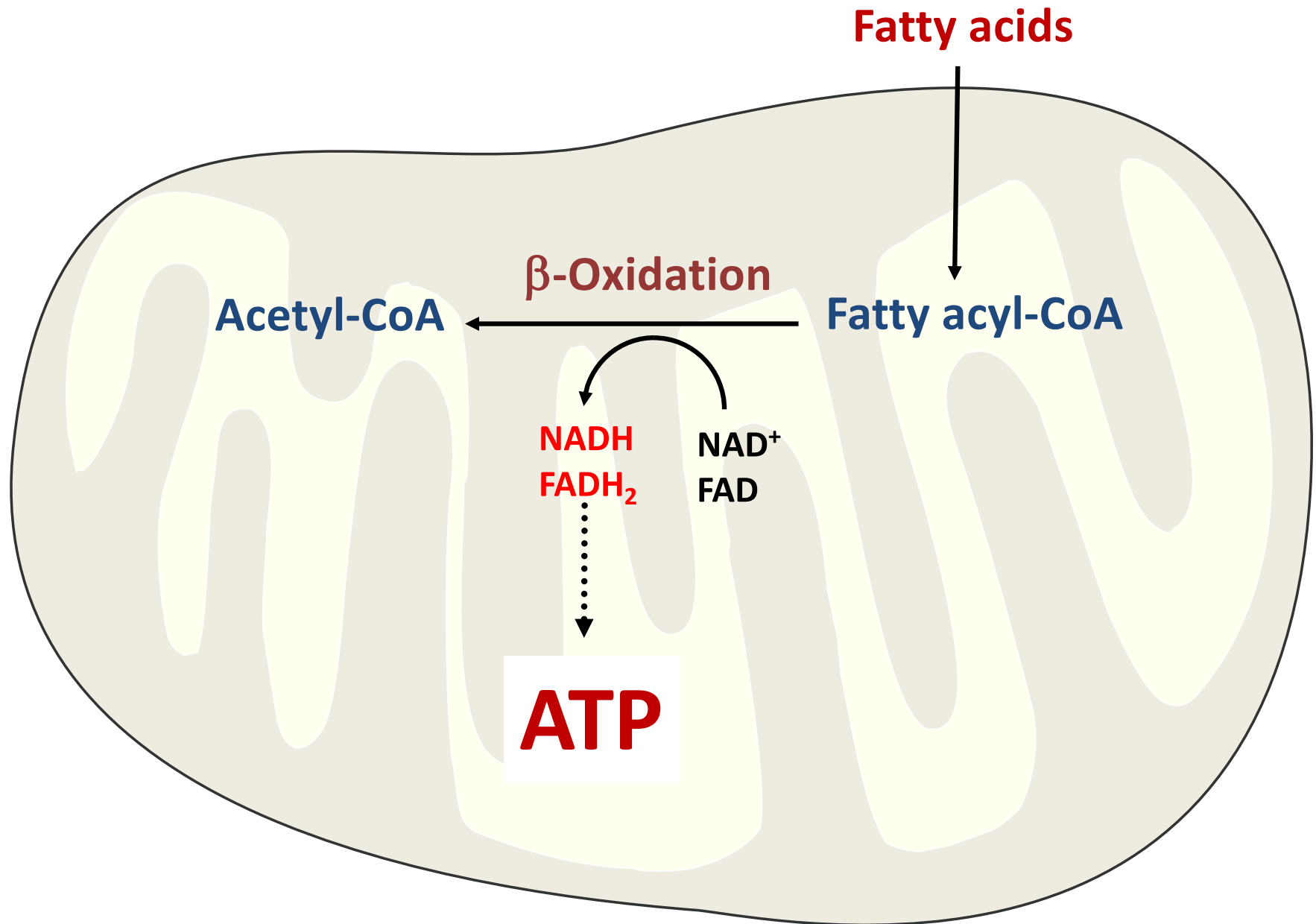
# Main mitochondrial functions in healthy hepatocytes



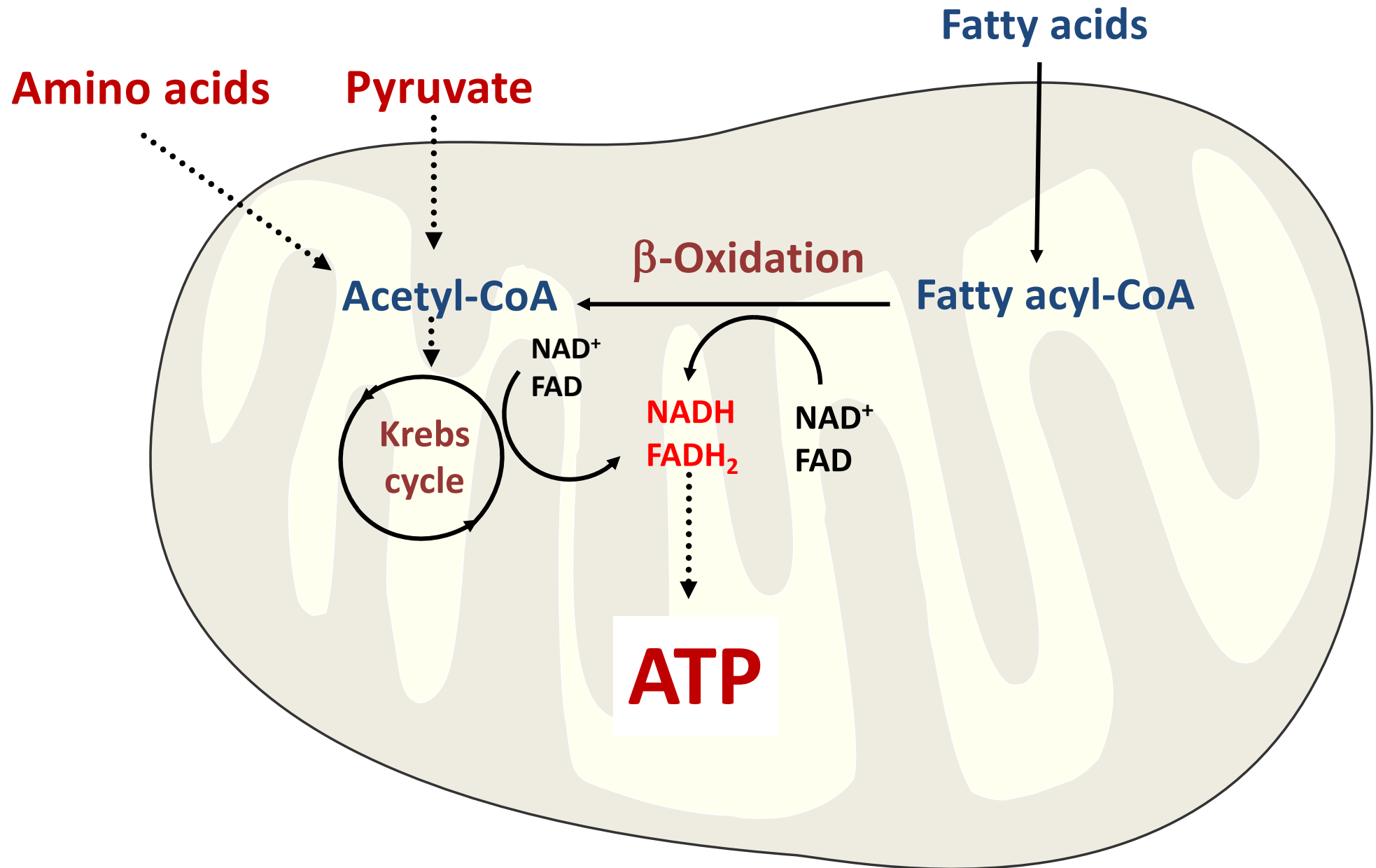
# Liver mitochondria need fuel to produce energy



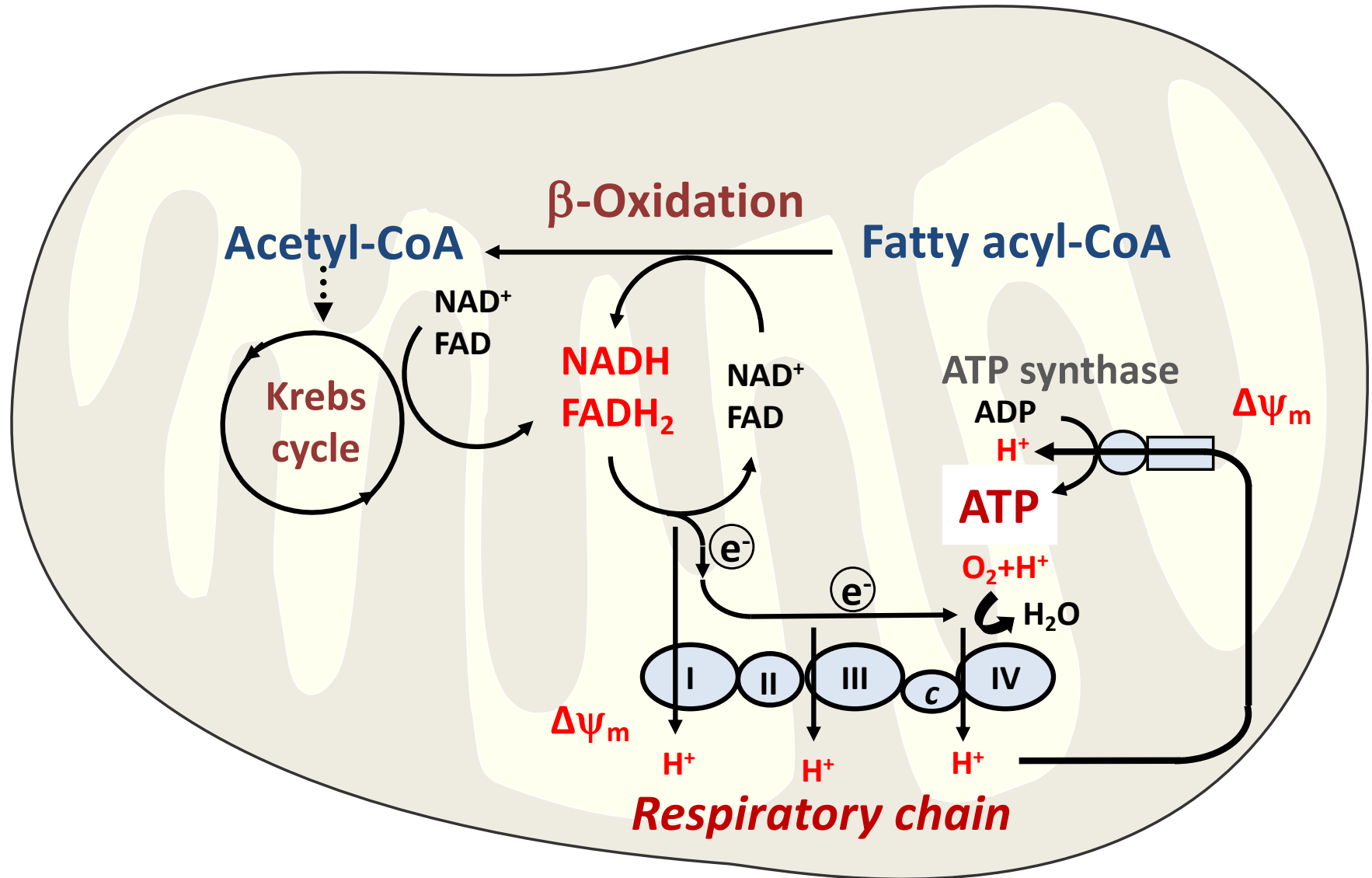
**Fuel oxidation provides the reducing equivalents  
NADH and FADH<sub>2</sub>**



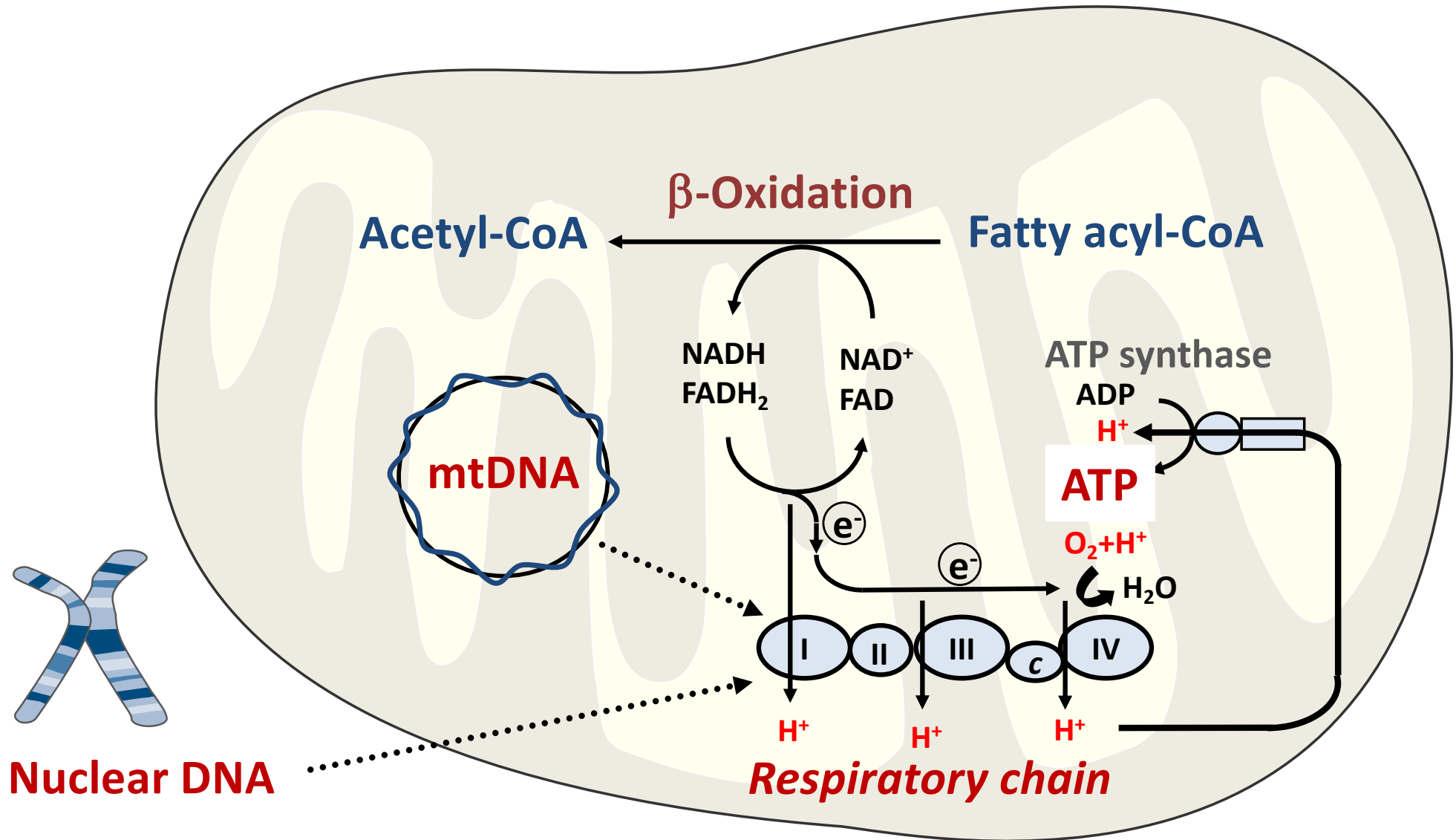
# Fuel oxidation provides the reducing equivalents NADH and FADH<sub>2</sub>



# NADH and FADH<sub>2</sub> provide electrons and protons to the respiratory chain for ATP synthesis

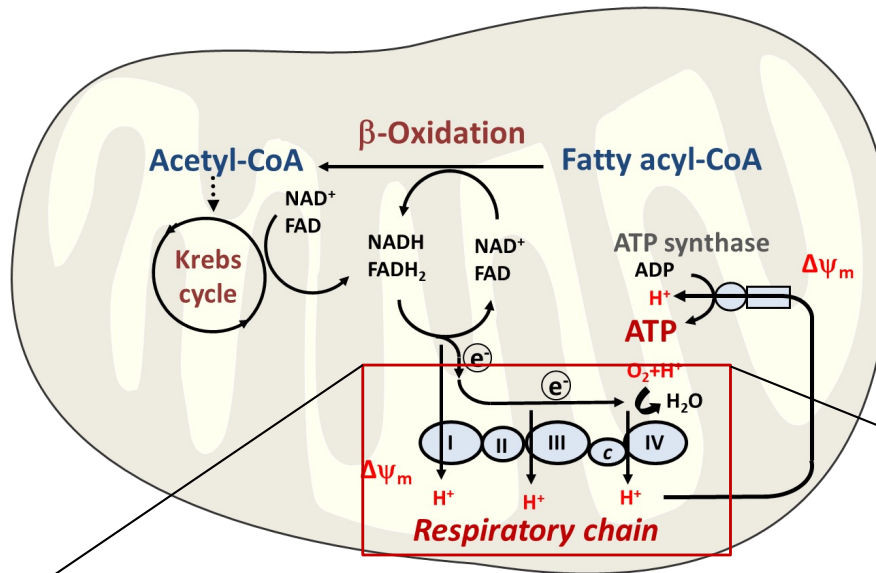


# The respiratory chain requires two genomes

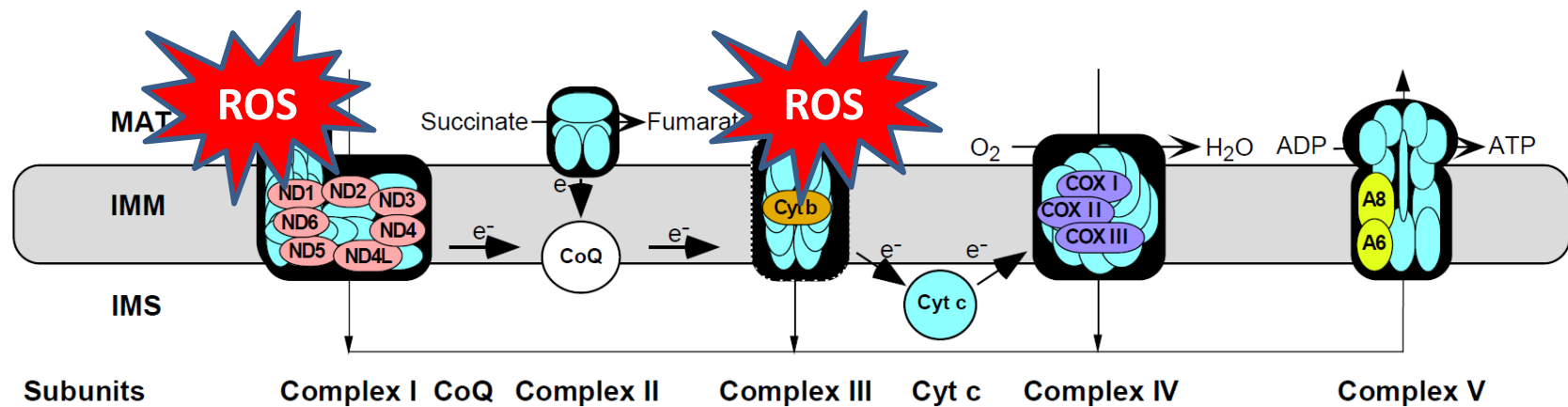




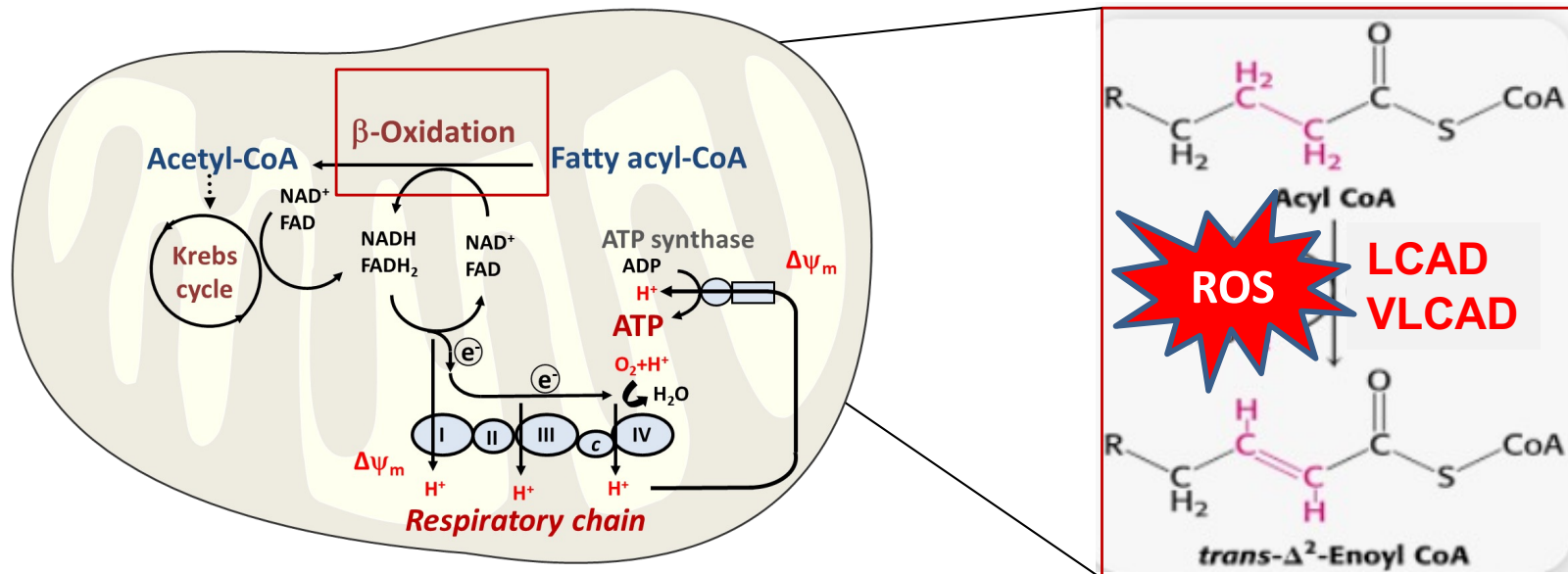
# The respiratory chain constantly produces ROS



**Leakage of electrons within complexes I and III with generation of superoxide anion (O<sub>2</sub><sup>-</sup>)**



# Mitochondrial fatty acid oxidation also produces ROS



## Redox Biology 4 (2015)

H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> release from the very long chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase

Pâmela A.H.B. Kakimoto, Fábio K. Tamaki, Ariel R. Cardoso, Sandro R. Marana, Alicia J. Kowaltowski\*

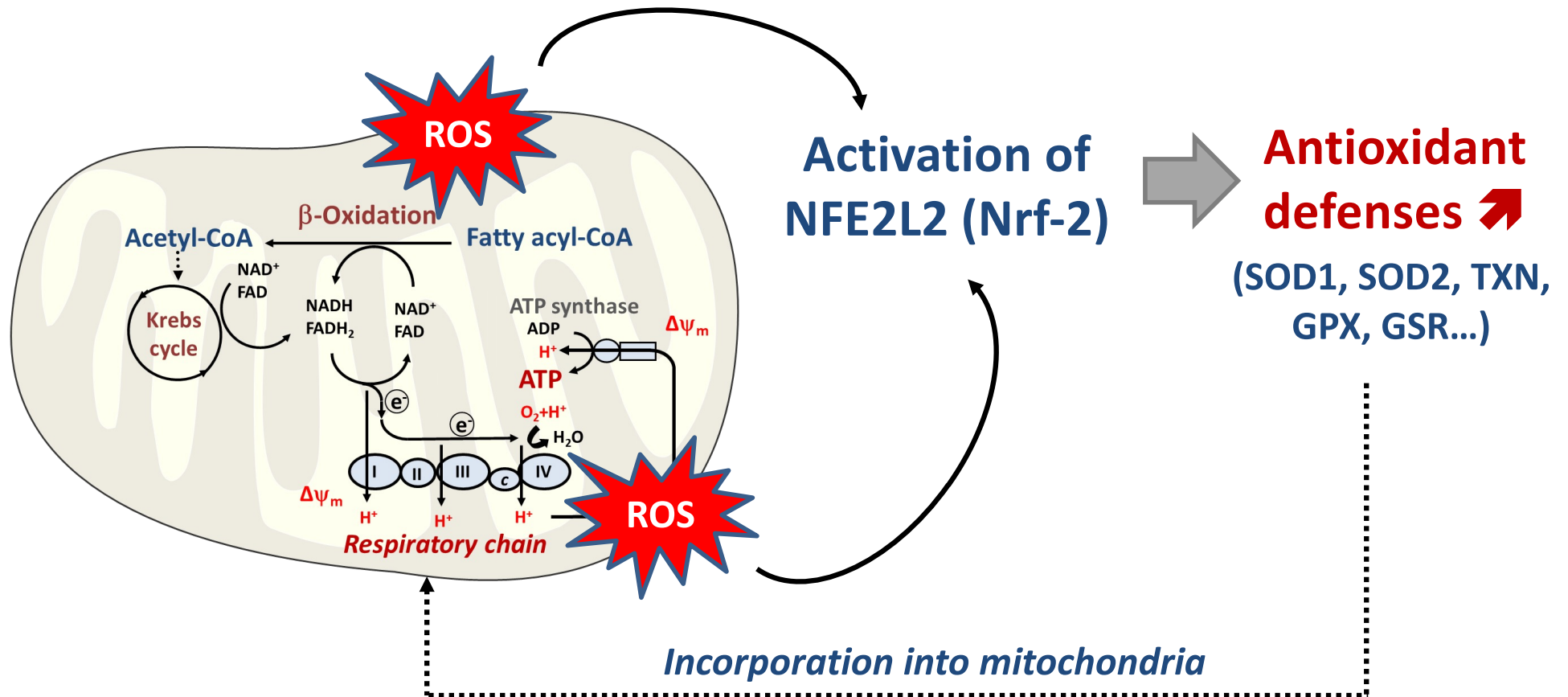
## Redox Biology 26 (2019)

The fatty acid oxidation enzyme long-chain acyl-CoA dehydrogenase can be a source of mitochondrial hydrogen peroxide

Yuxun Zhang, Sivakama S. Bharathi, Megan E. Beck, Eric S. Goetzman\*



# Physiological role of mitochondrial ROS



NFE2L2: NFE2 like bZIP transcription factor 2

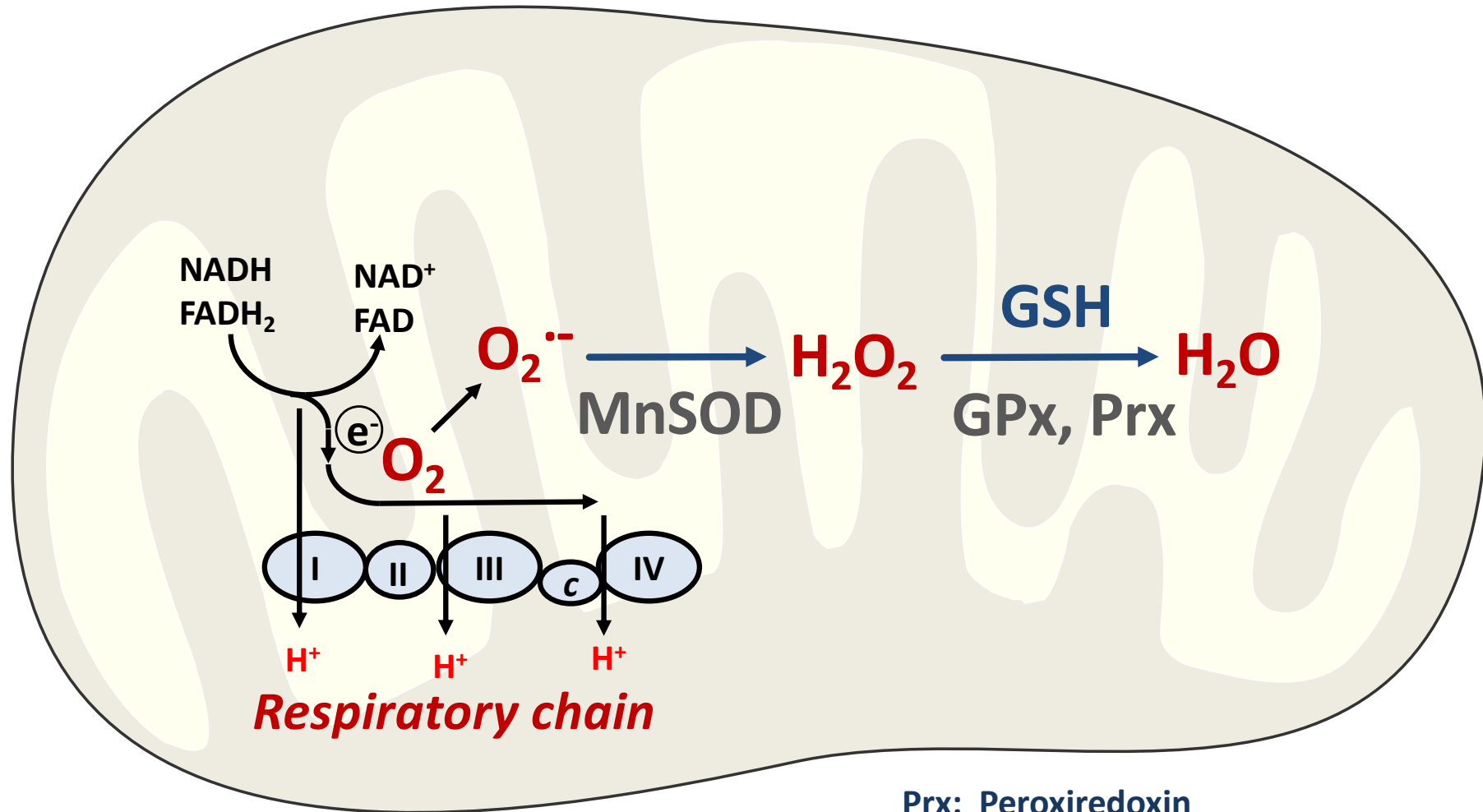
SOD: superoxide dismutase

TXN: Thioredoxin

GPX: Glutathione peroxidase

GSR: Glutathione-disulfide reductase

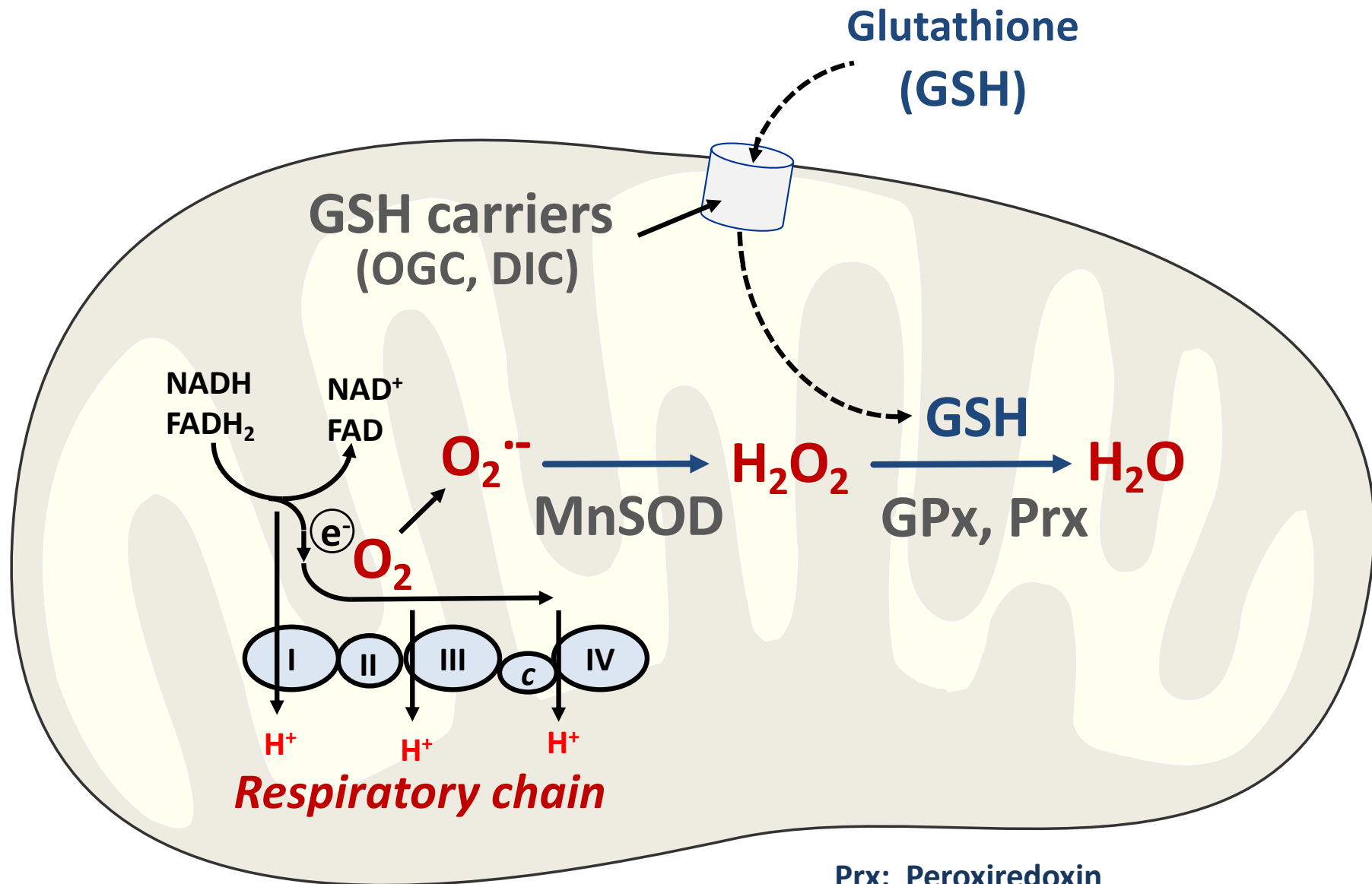
# Mitochondrial antioxidant defenses



OGC: Oxoglutarate carrier  
DIC: Dicarboxylate carrier

Prx: Peroxiredoxin  
GPx: Glutathione peroxidase  
MnSOD (SOD2): Mn superoxide dismutase

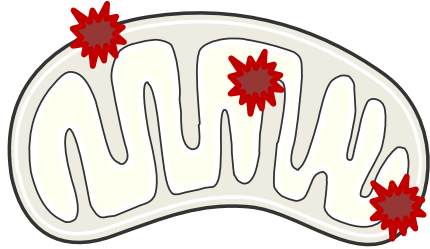
# Mitochondrial antioxidant defenses



OGC: Oxoglutarate carrier  
DIC: Dicarboxylate carrier

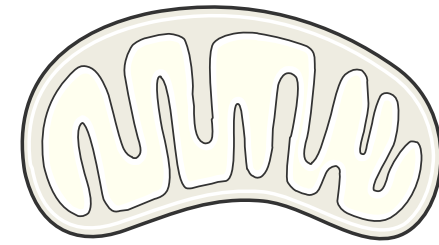
Prx: Peroxiredoxin  
GPx: Glutathione peroxidase  
MnSOD (SOD2): Mn superoxide dismutase

# Systems of mitochondrial quality control

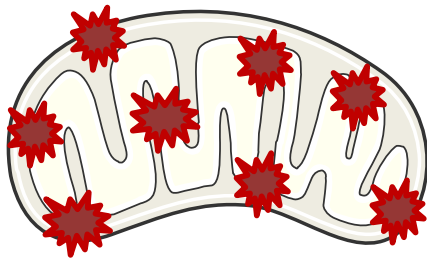


Few oxidative damages

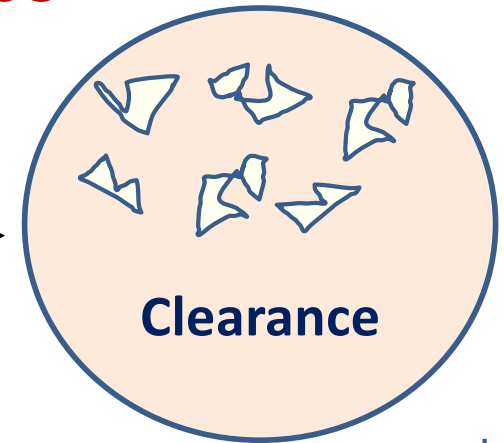
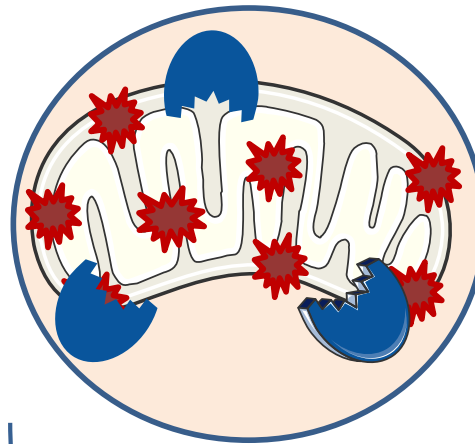
Repair (or degradation) of the altered components



Lysosomes



Too many oxidative damages  
(dysfunctional mitochondria)

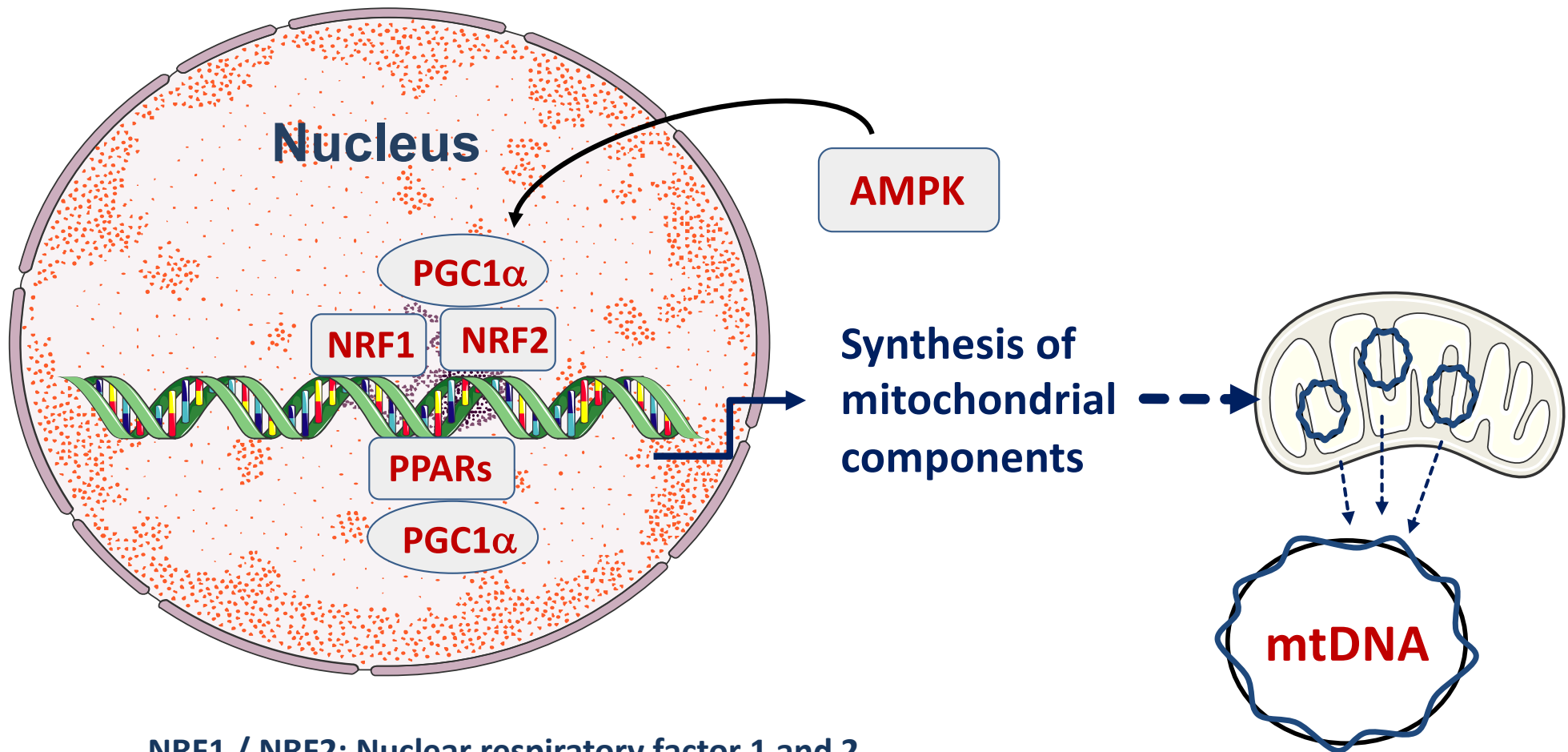


Clearance

Mitophagy

# Regulation of mitochondrial biogenesis

When cells require new (healthy) mitochondria



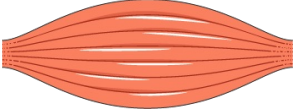
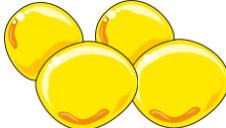
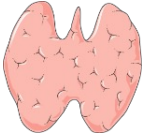
NRF1 / NRF2: Nuclear respiratory factor 1 and 2

AMPK: AMP-activated protein kinase

PPARs: Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors

PGC1 $\alpha$ : Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor- $\gamma$  coactivator 1 $\alpha$

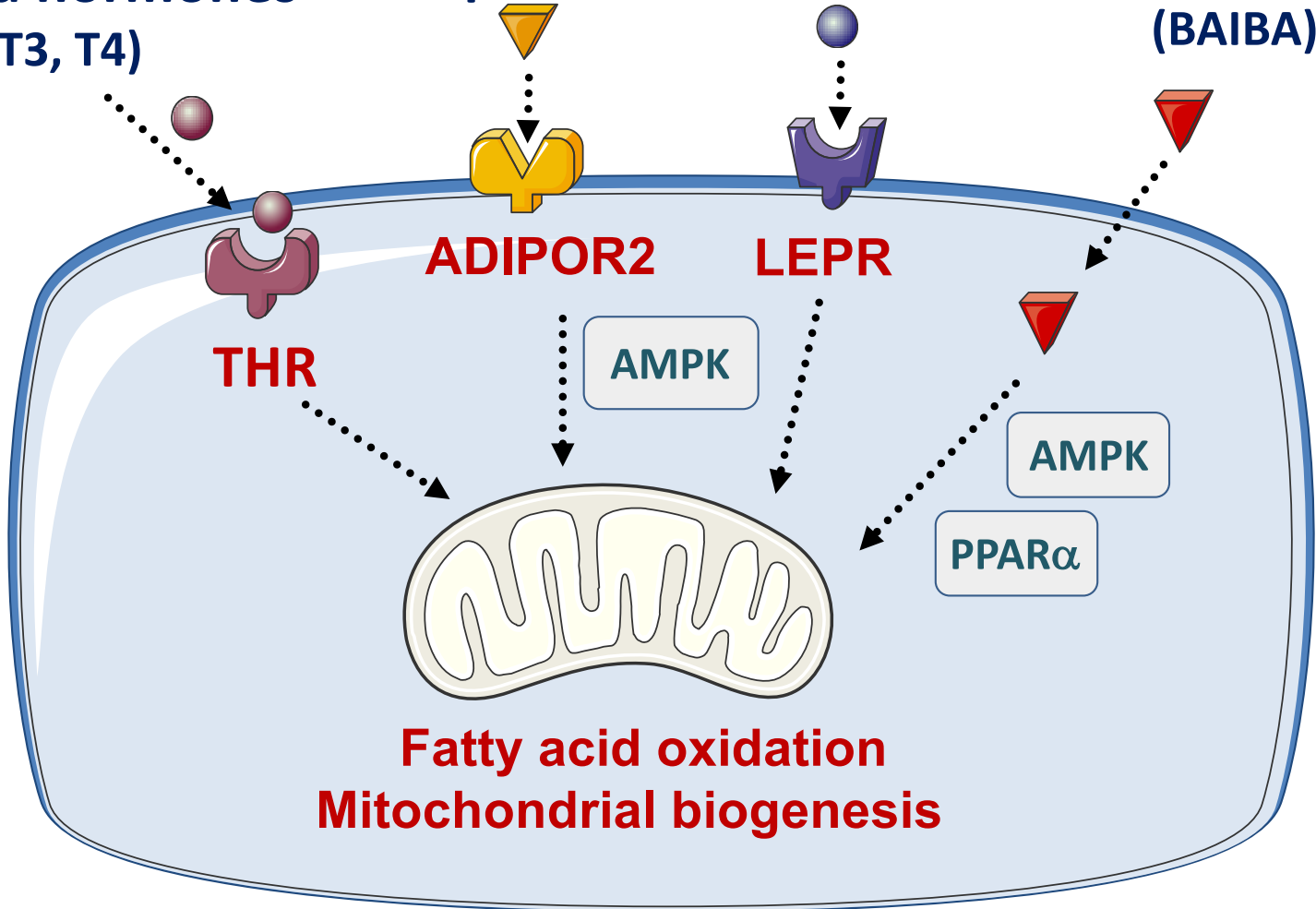
# Control of mitochondrial function in hepatocytes by circulating factors



Thyroid hormones  
(T3, T4)

Adiponectin    Leptin

$\beta$ -Aminoisobutyric acid  
(BAIBA)

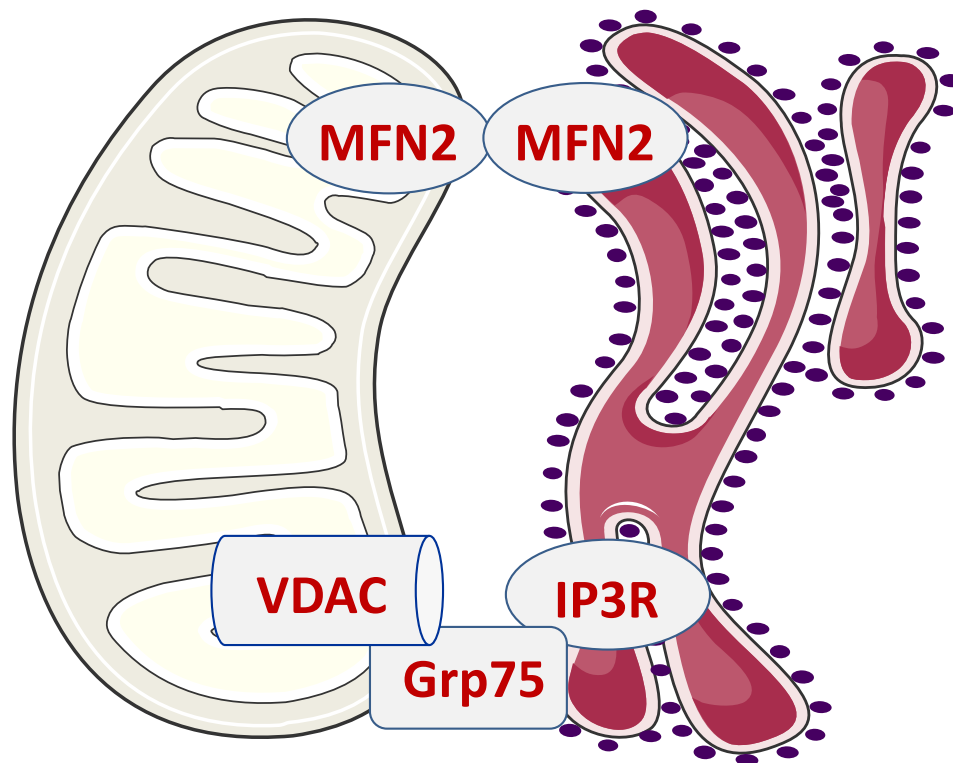


**Fatty acid oxidation**  
**Mitochondrial biogenesis**



# Interactions between mitochondria and endoplasmic reticulum

## Mitochondria-associated ER membranes (MAMs)



**MFN2:** Mitofusin 2

**VDAC:** Voltage-dependent anion channel

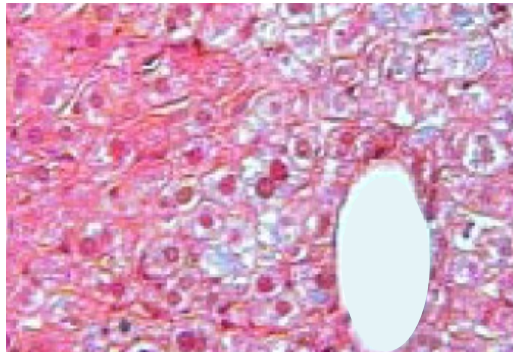
**Grp75:** Glucose-related protein 75

**IP3R :** Inositol triphosphate receptor

### Physiological roles in:

- Exchange of calcium
- Lipid and glucose homeostasis
- Insulin signaling

# Origins of mitochondrial alterations in NAFLD

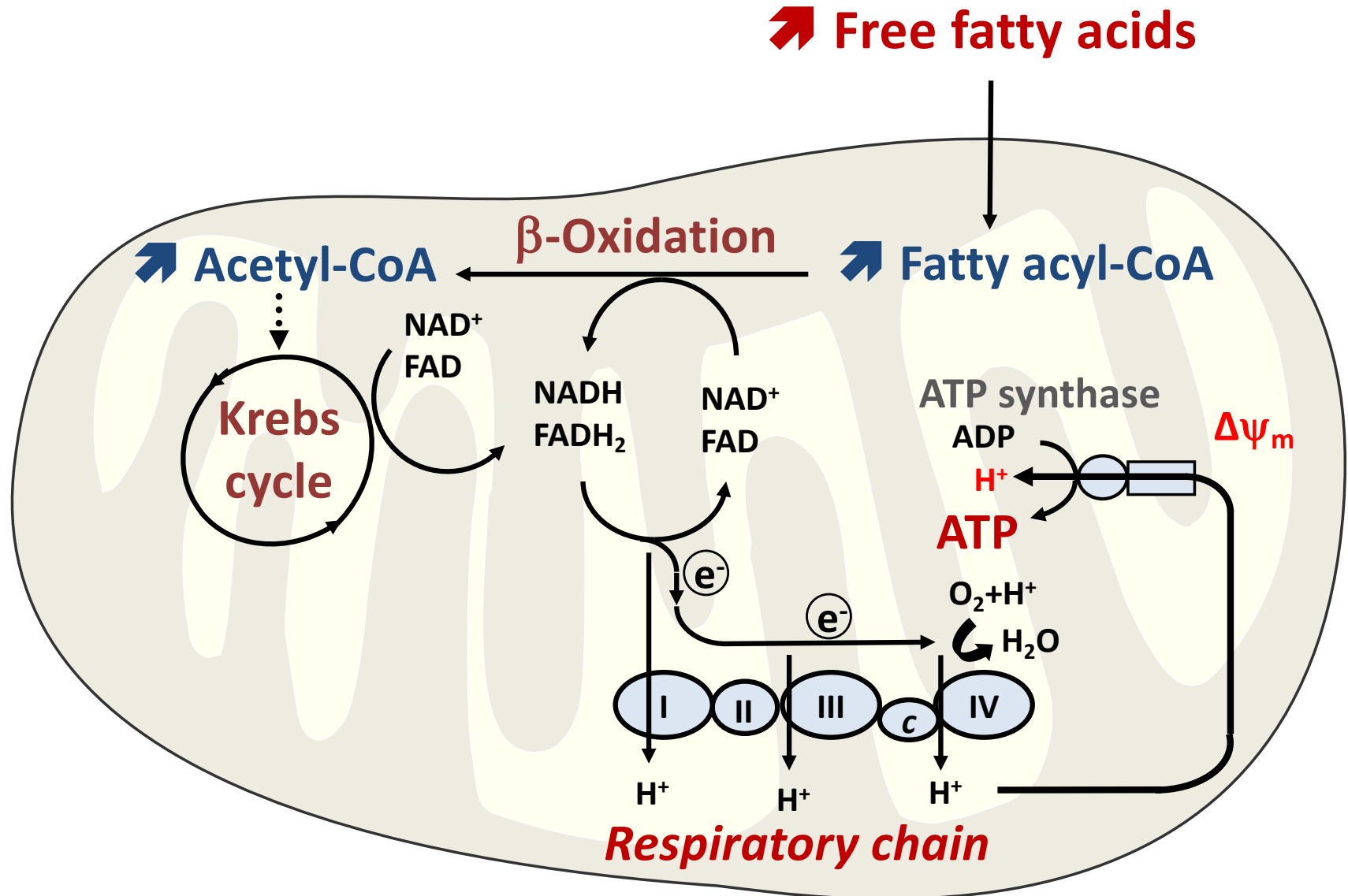


- ☑ Experimental studies + + +
- ☑ Clinical investigations +

# NAFL is associated with increased mitochondrial oxidative metabolism

Sunny *et al.*, Trends Endocrinol Metab 2017

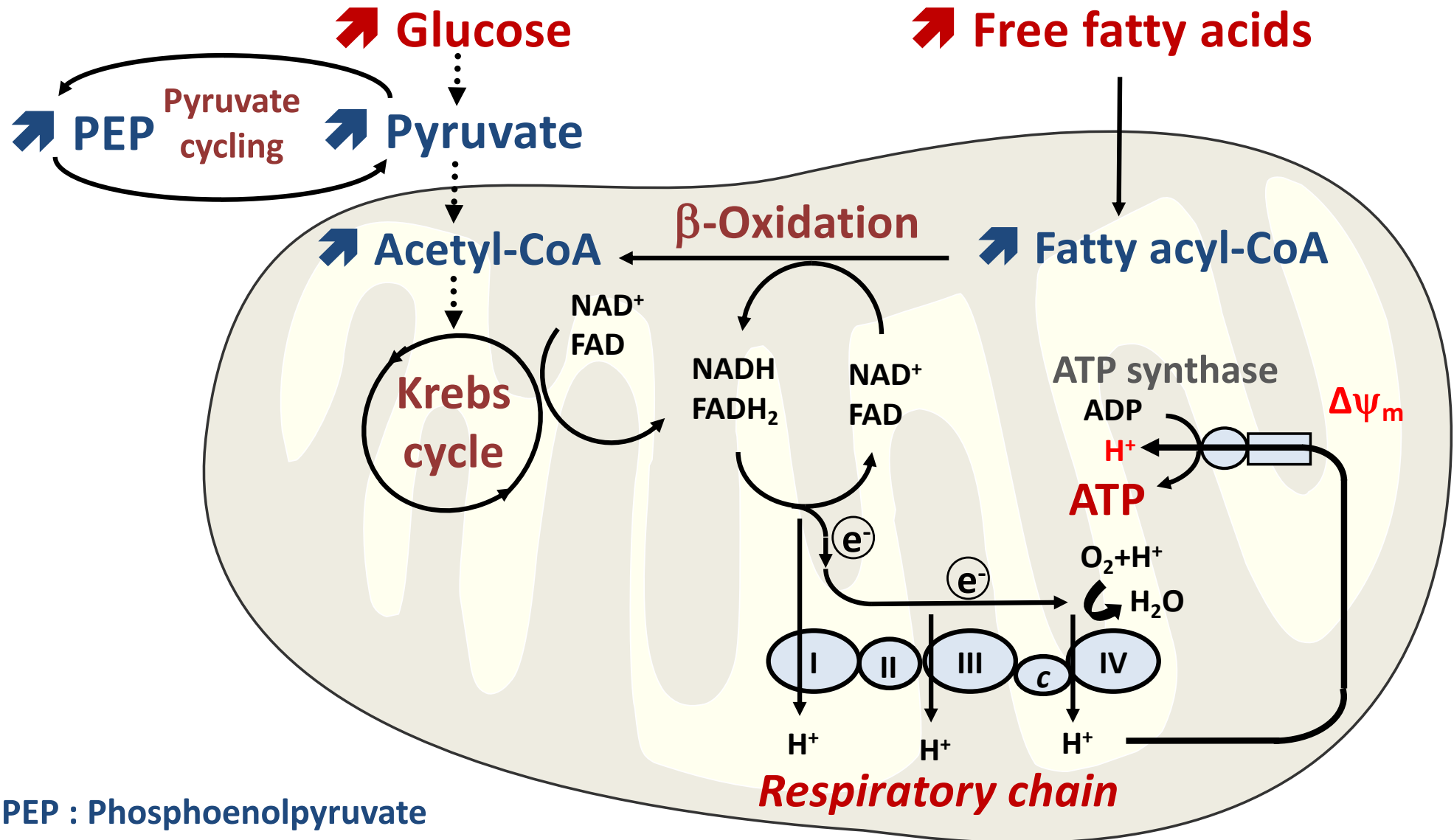
Fromenty & Roden, J Hepatol 2023



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Sunny *et al.*, Trends Endocrinol Metab 2017

Fromenty & Roden, J Hepatol 2023

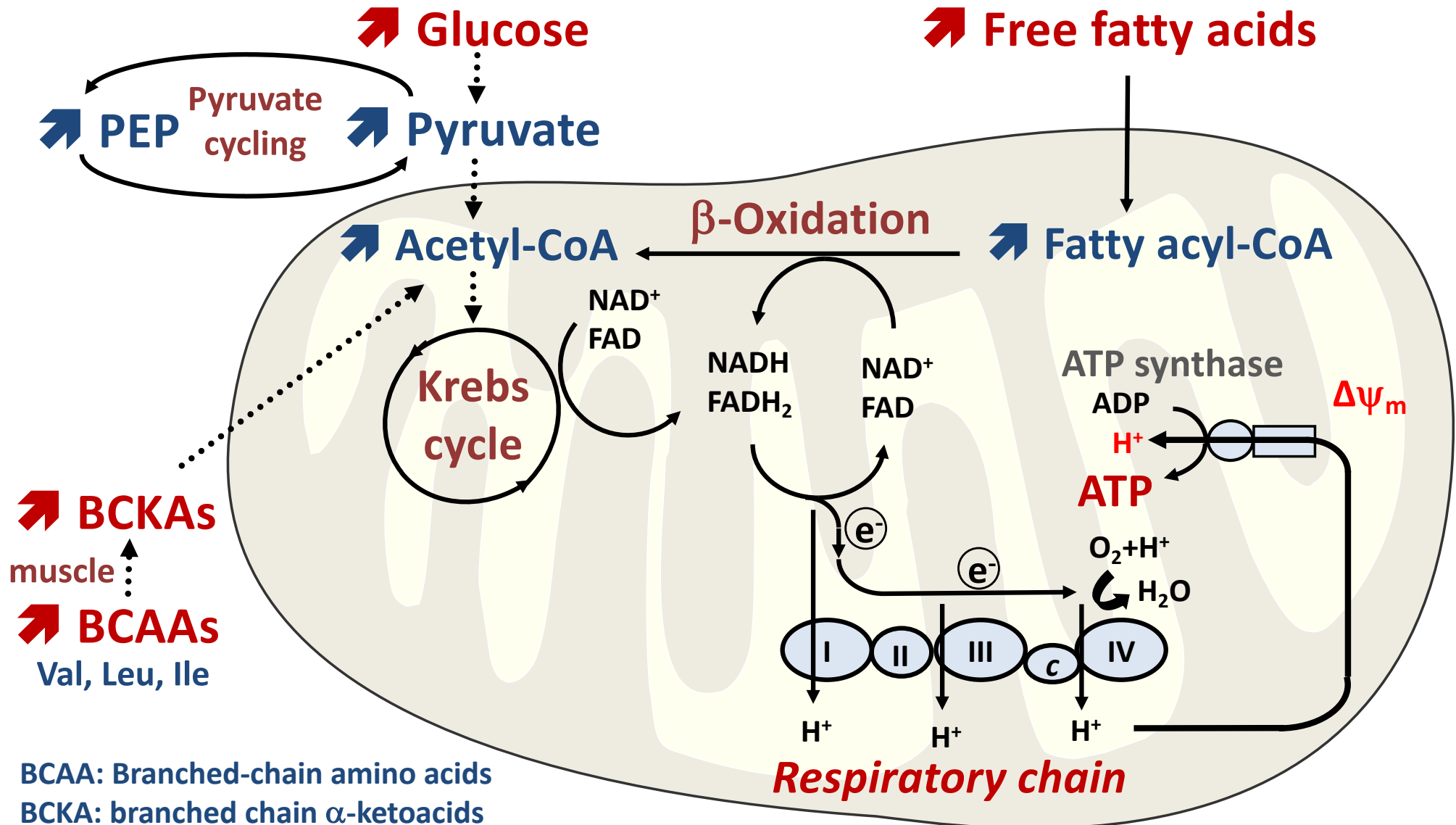


PEP : Phosphoenolpyruvate

# NAFL is associated with increased mitochondrial oxidative metabolism

Sunny *et al.*, Trends Endocrinol Metab 2017

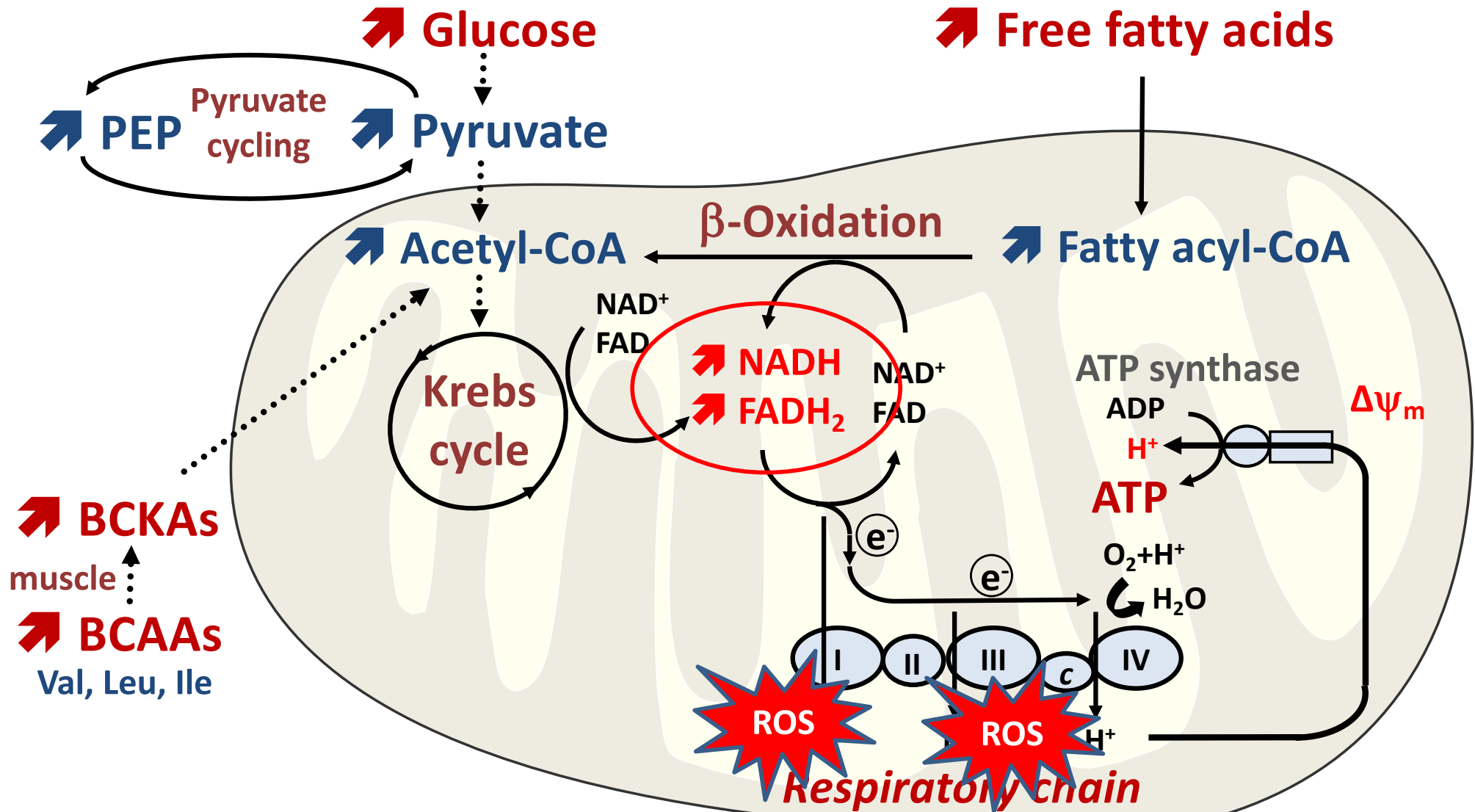
Fromenty & Roden, J Hepatol 2023



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Sunny *et al.*, Trends Endocrinol Metab 2017

Fromenty & Roden, J Hepatol 2023

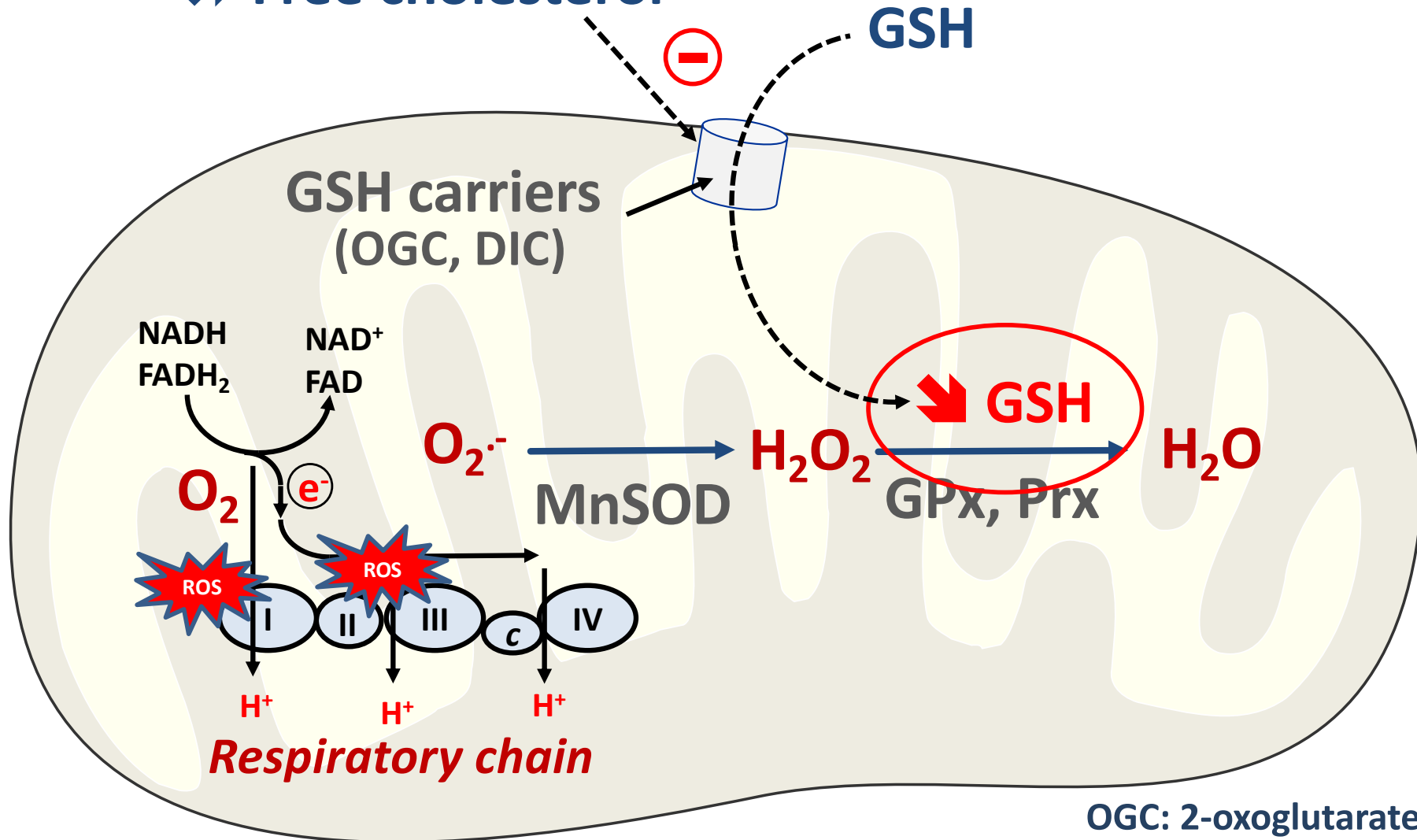


# NAFL can be associated with reduced mitochondrial glutathione levels

Mari *et al.*, Antioxidants 2020

Horn *et al.*, Hepatol Commun 2022

➔ Free cholesterol



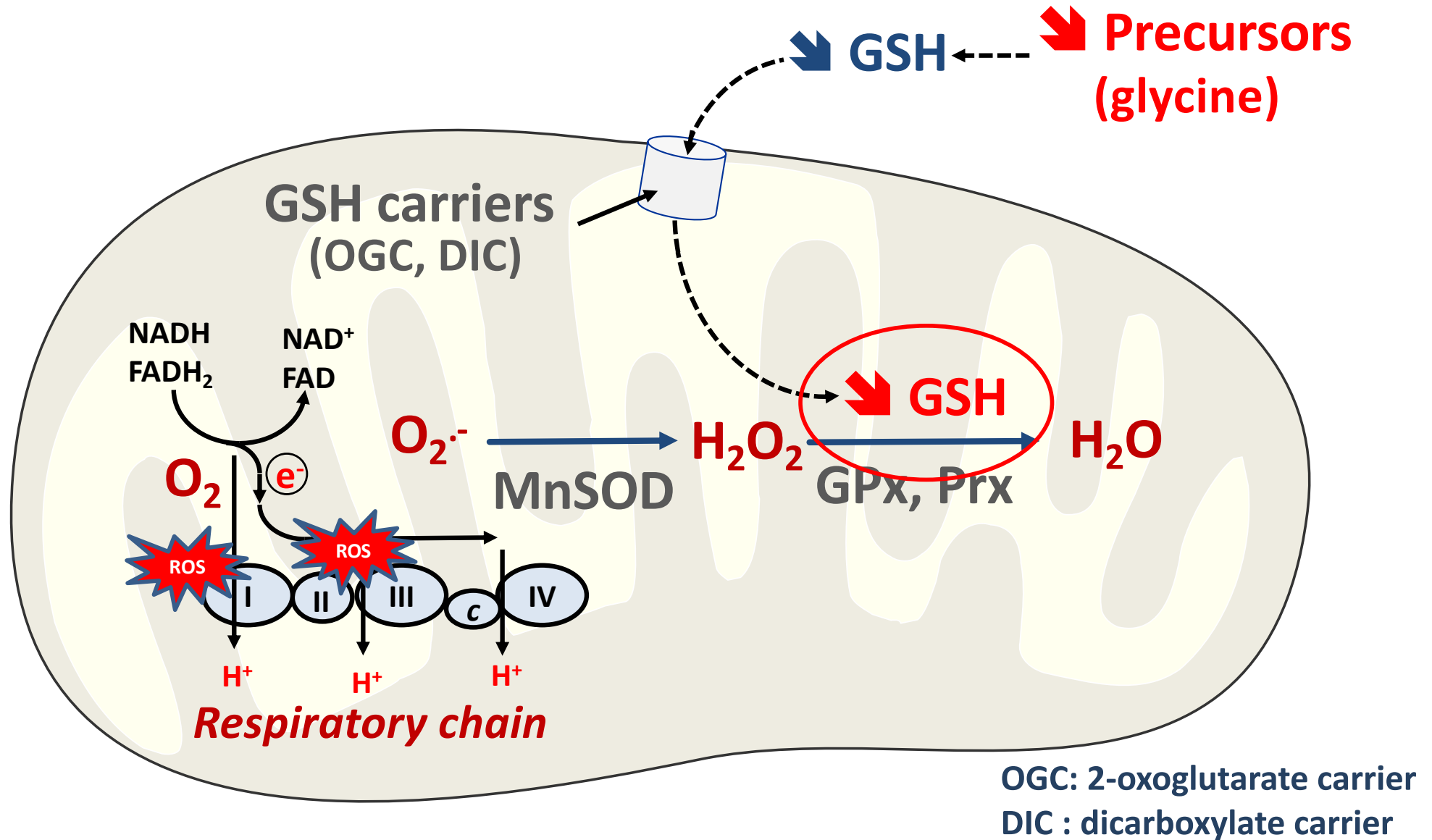
OGC: 2-oxoglutarate carrier  
DIC : dicarboxylate carrier

• 2020

# NAFL can be associated with reduced mitochondrial glutathione levels

Rom *et al.*, Sci Transl Med 2020

Ghrayeb *et al.*, bioRxiv 2023

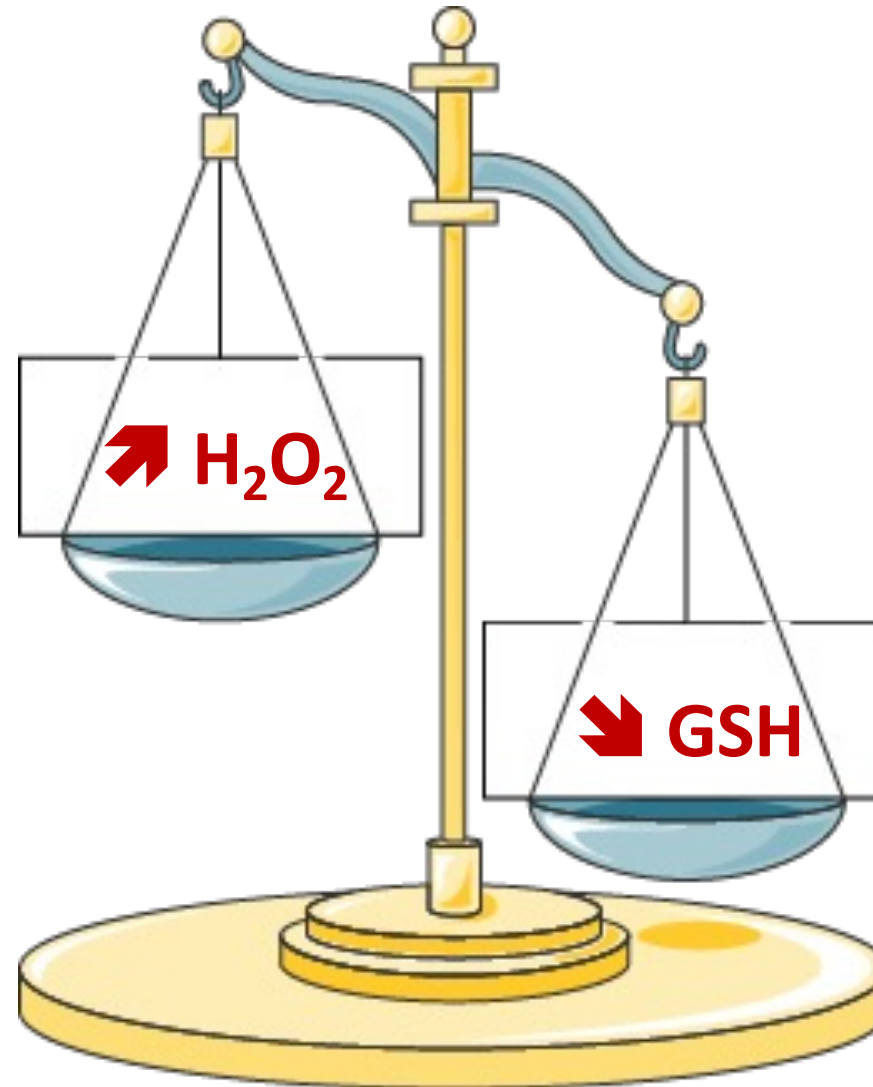




# Unbalance between ROS production and GSH levels

Seika *et al.*, Cell Mol Gastroenterol Hepatol 2022

Podszun *et al.*, J Histochem Cytochem 2020



# NAFL and impairment of antioxidant defenses

Yang *et al.*, Arch Biochem Biophys 2000

Lazarin *et al.*, Exp Mol Pathol 2011

Nadal-Casellas *et al.*, Cell Physiol Biochem 2010

Videla *et al.*, Clin Sci 2004

Robin *et al.*, Hepatology 2005

Besse-Patin *et al.*, Gastroenterology 2017

NAFL can also be associated with reduced expression and activity of different antioxidant enzymes (\*mitochondrial):

☒ Cu/Zn superoxide dismutase (SOD1)

☒ Mn superoxide dismutase (SOD2)\*

☒ Glutathione peroxidase (GPx)\*

☒ Glutathione S-transferase (GST)\*

# NAFL and impairment of antioxidant defenses

Li *et al.*, *Oxid Med Cell Longev* 2016

Wang *et al.*, *Can J Physiol Pharmacol* 2017

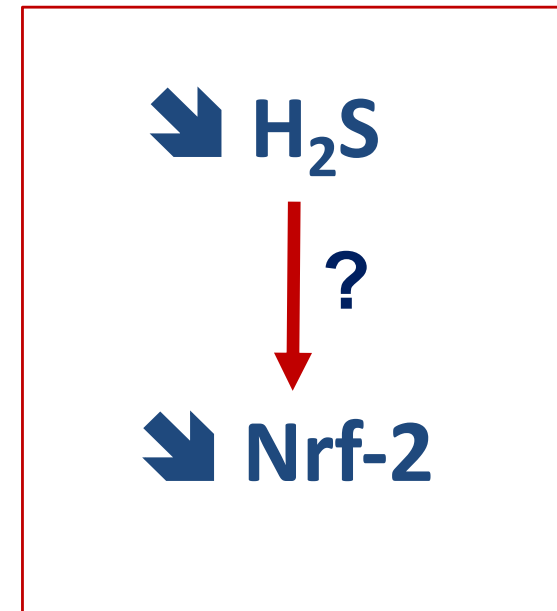
Yang *et al.*, *Food Funct* 2019

Piñeiro-Ramil *et al.*, *Antioxidants* 2022

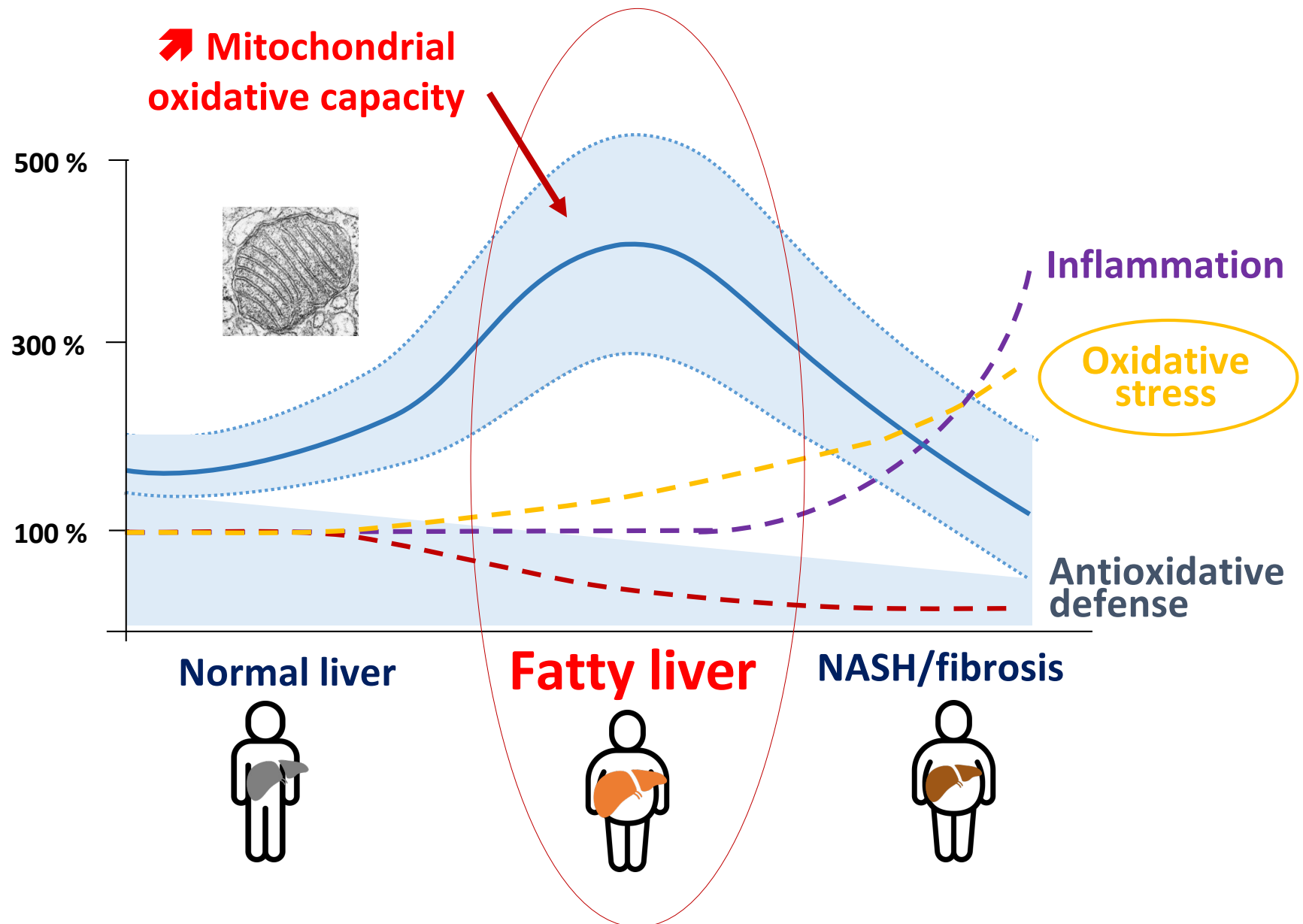
Mateus & Prip-Buus, *Eur J Clin Invest* 2022

NAFL can also be associated with reduced expression and activity of **different antioxidant enzymes (\*mitochondrial)**:

- ☒ Cu/Zn superoxide dismutase (SOD1)
- ☒ Mn superoxide dismutase (SOD2)\*
- ☒ Glutathione peroxidase (GPx)\*
- ☒ Glutathione S-transferase (GST)\*



# Mitochondrial oxidative capacity during NAFLD



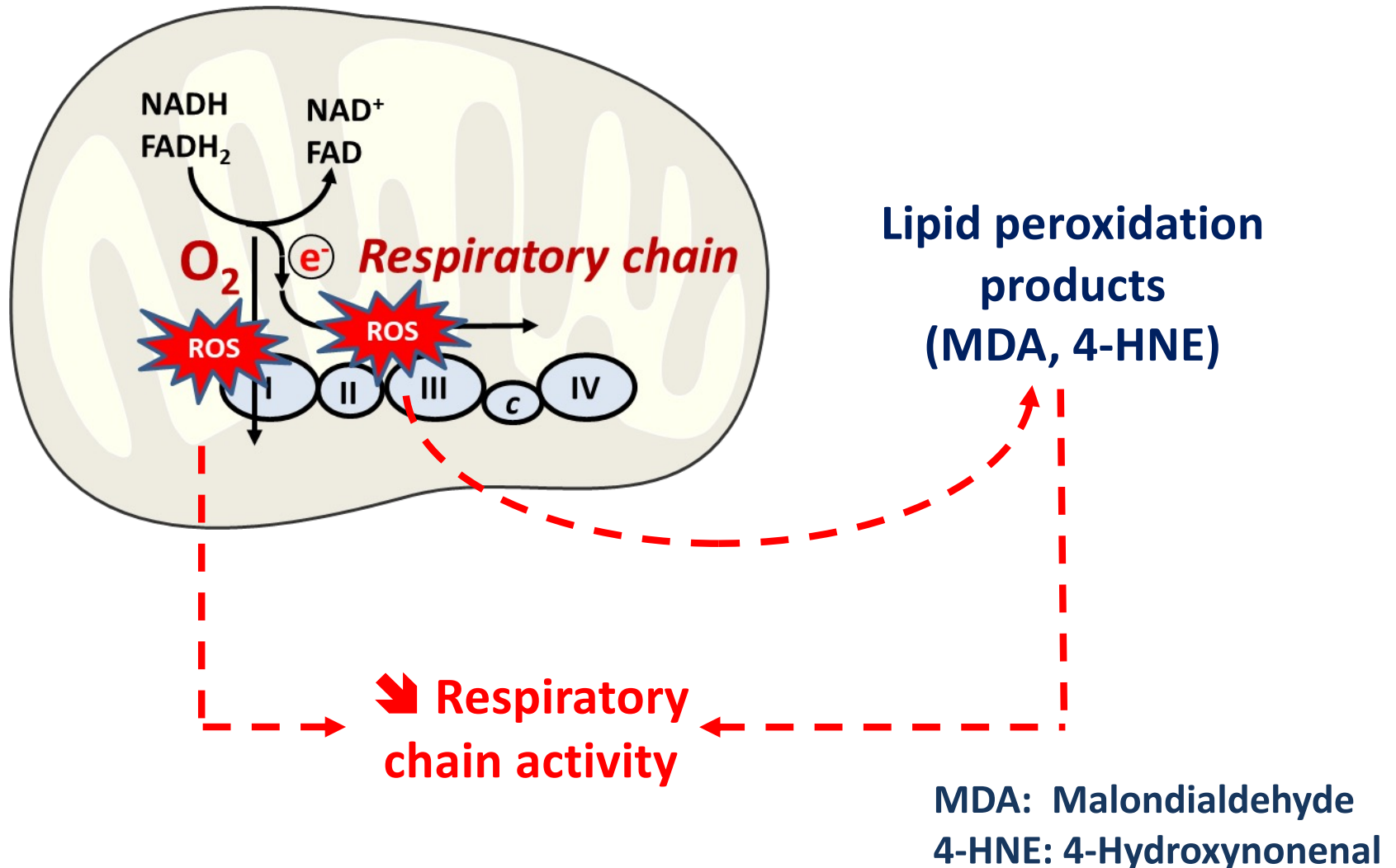
Adapted from Fromenty and Roden, J Hepatol 2023

# Mitochondrial alterations in the NAFL to NASH transition: the vicious circle hypothesis

Begrache *et al.*, Hepatology 2013

Dornas & Schuppan, Am J Physiol 2020

Mansouri *et al.*, Gastroenterology 2018

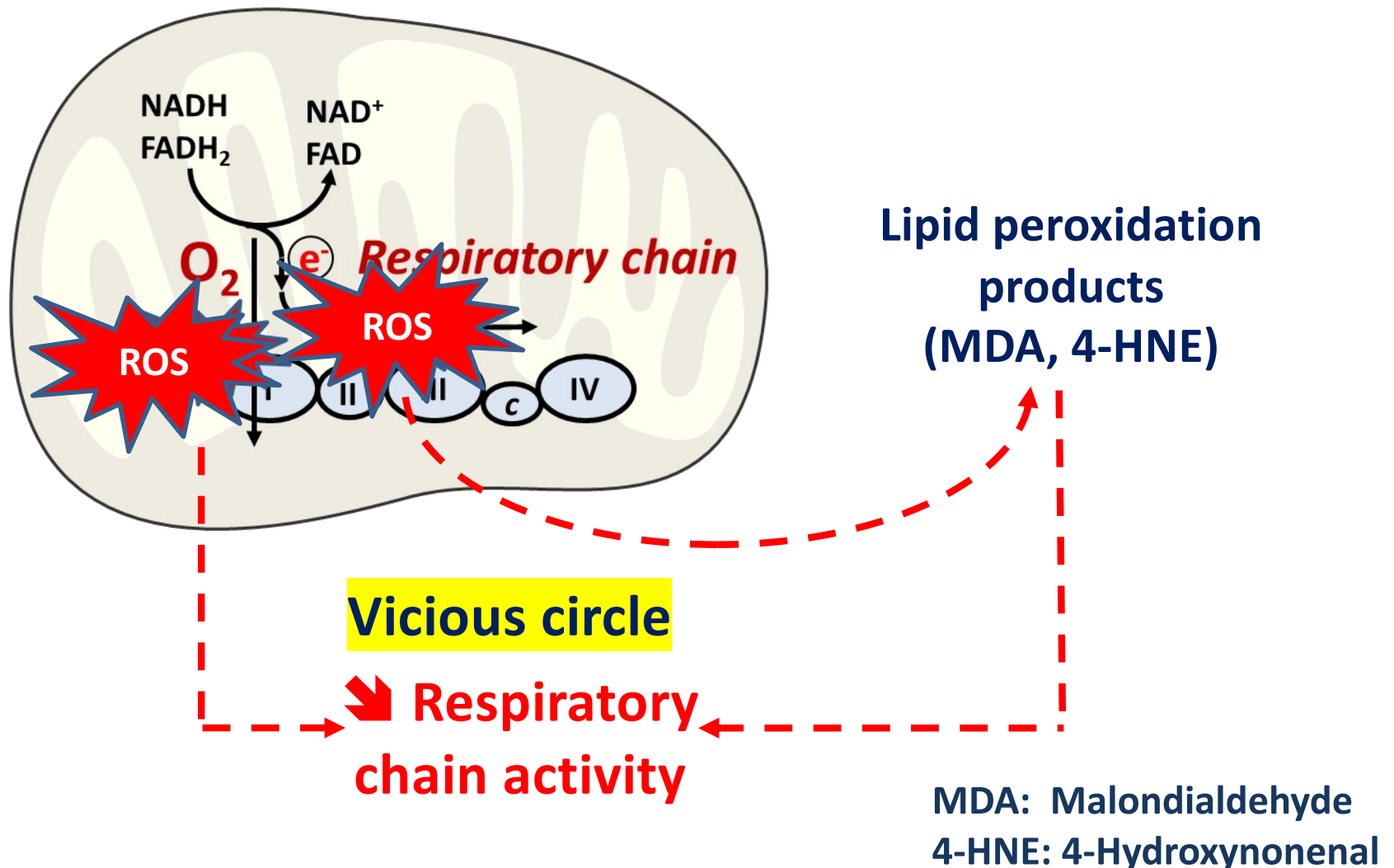


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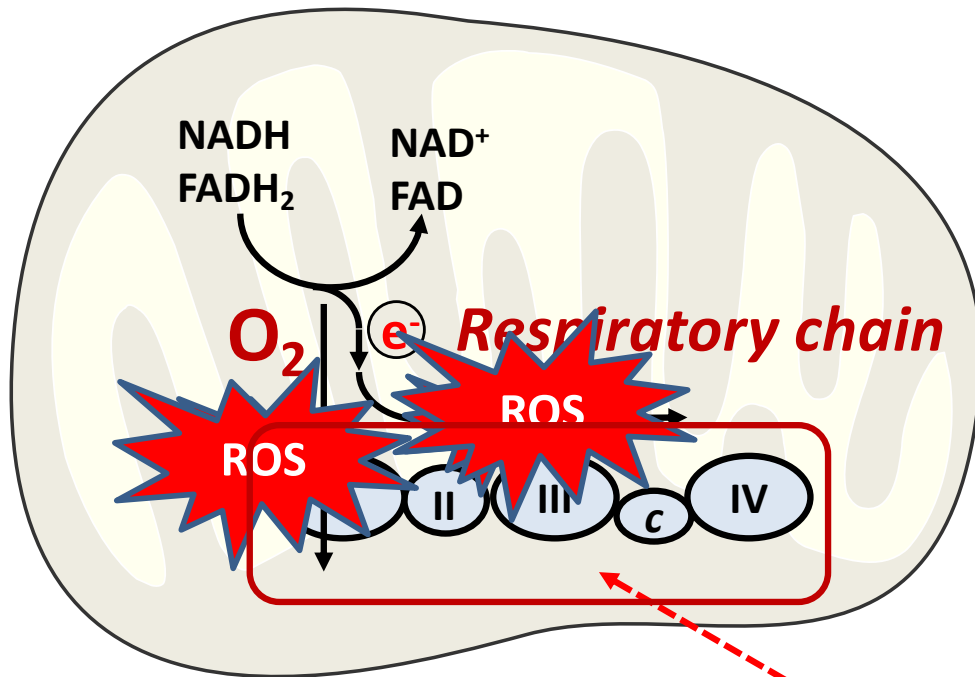


# Mitochondrial alterations in the NAFL to NASH transition: the vicious circle hypothesis

Begrache *et al.*, Hepatology 2013

Dornas & Schuppan, Am J Physiol 2020

Mansouri *et al.*, Gastroenterology 2018



**ROS and lipid peroxidation  
products**

- ☑ Direct oxidative inactivation of respiratory chain complexes (Fe-S)
- ☑ Oxidative damages to mtDNA (mutations, deletions)

# Other causes of mitochondrial alterations in NAFL/NASH

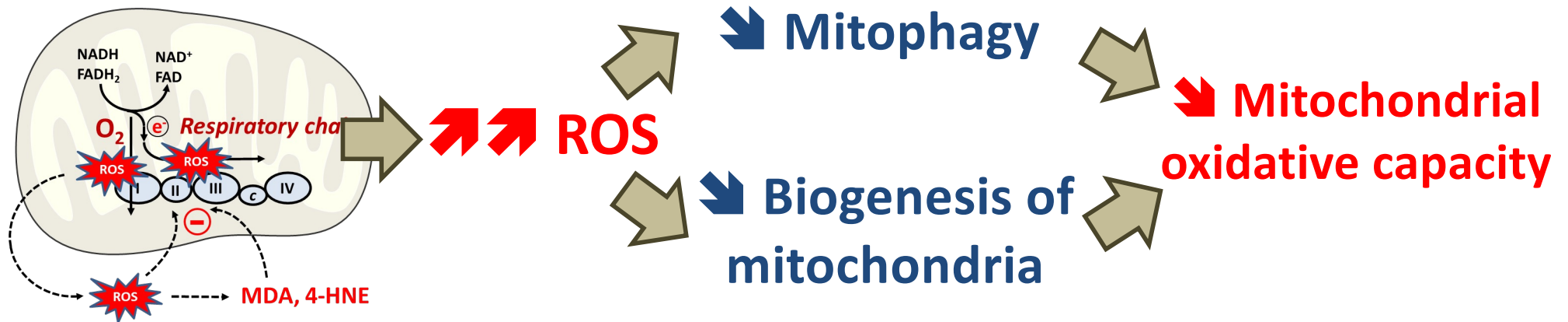
Koliaki *et al.*, Cell Metab 2015

Moore *et al.*, Hepatology 2022

Fromenty & Roden, J Hepatol 2023

Undamatla *et al.*, Sci Rep 2023

Jin *et al.*, J Hepatol 2023



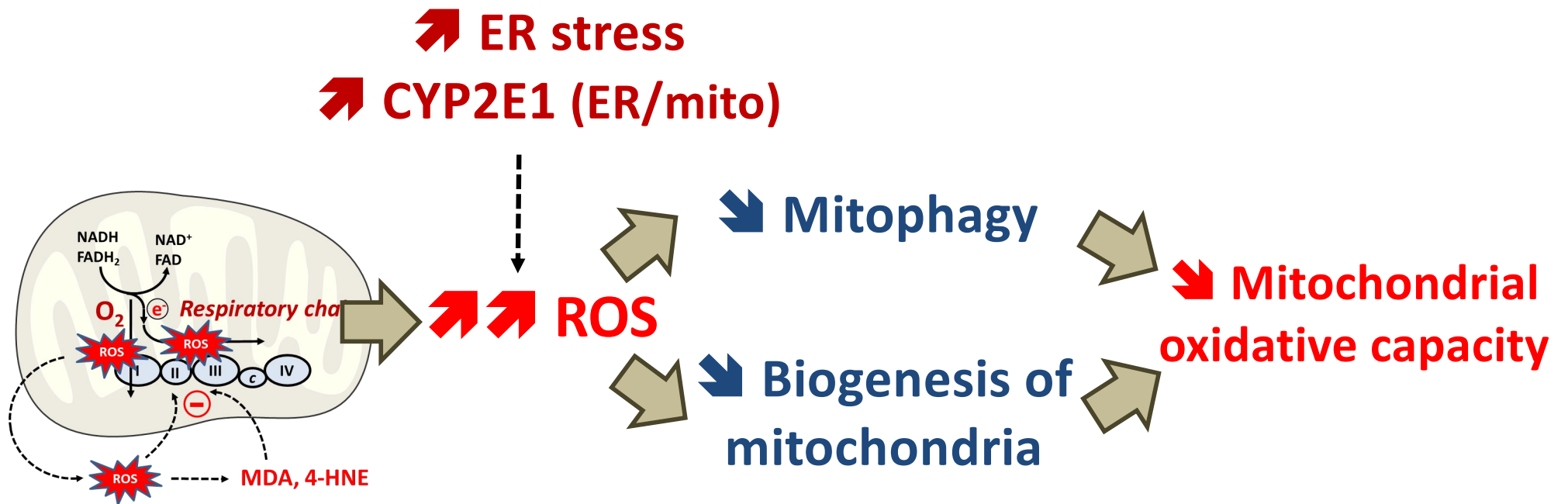


# Other causes of mitochondrial alterations in NAFL/NASH

Wang *et al.*, Lipids Health Dis. 2020

Correia & Kwon, Biology 2020

Massart *et al.*, Cells 2022



ER: endoplasmic reticulum

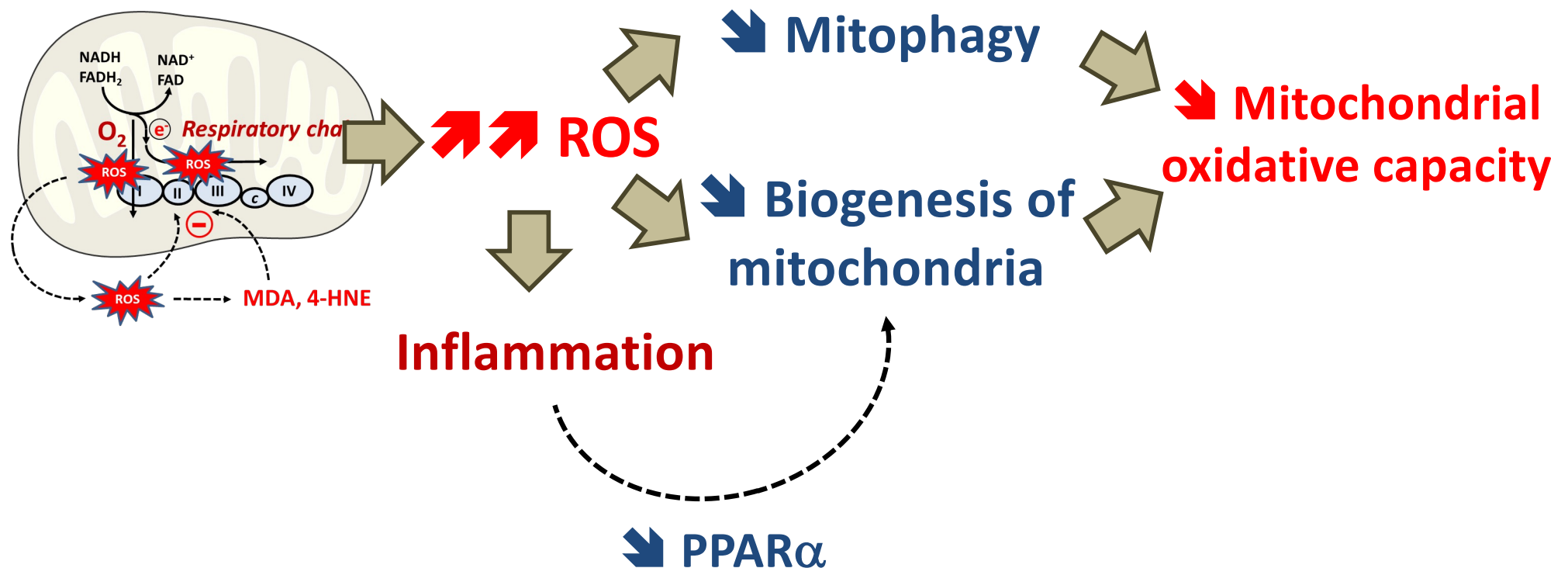
CYP2E1 : cytochrome P450 2E1

# Other causes of mitochondrial alterations in NAFL/NASH

Koliaki *et al.*, Cell Metab 2015    Moore *et al.*, Hepatology 2022    Fromenty & Roden, J Hepatol 2023

Undamatla *et al.*, Sci Rep 2023

Jin *et al.*, J Hepatol 2023

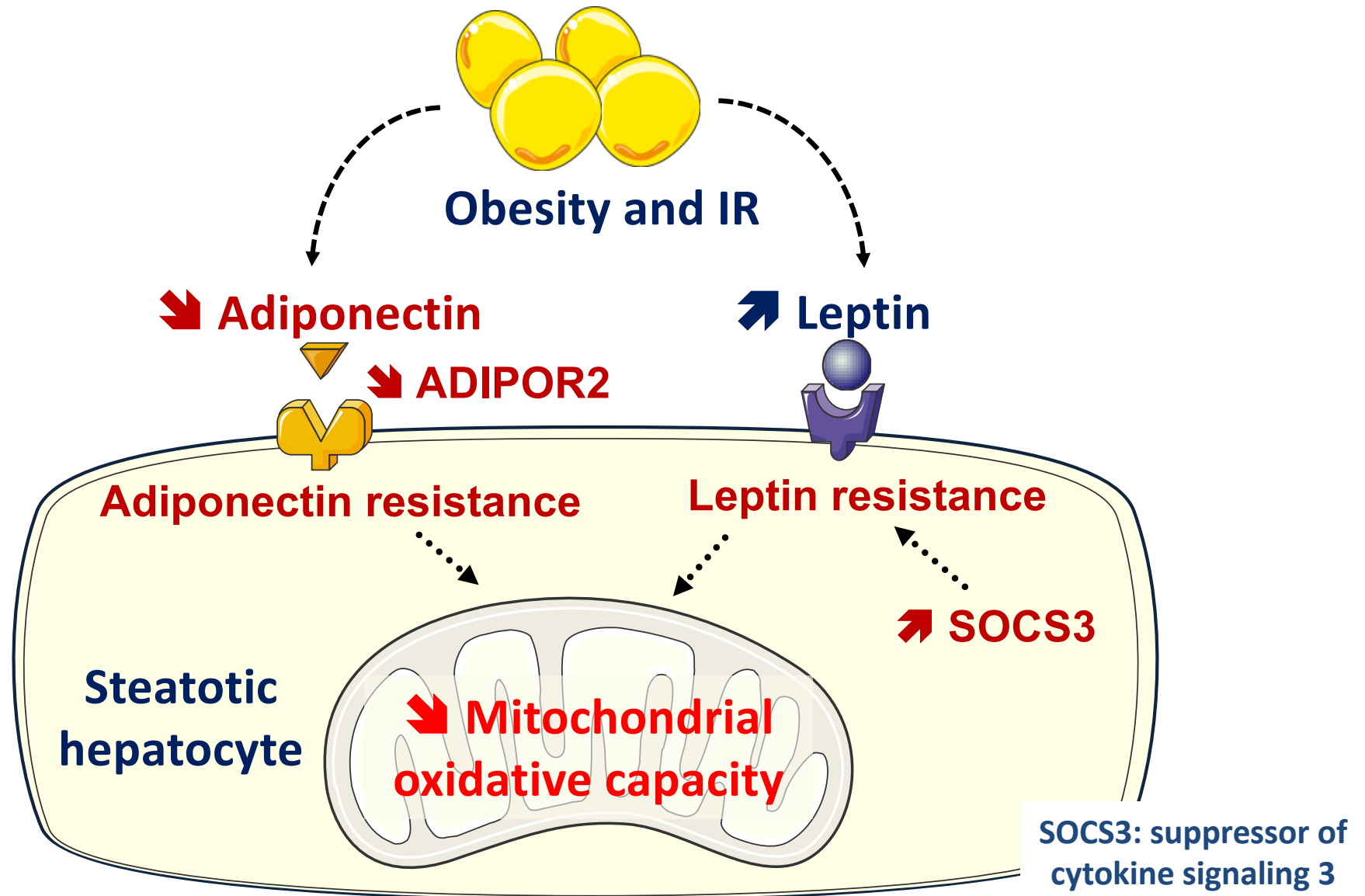


PPARα: peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor-alpha

# Other causes of mitochondrial alterations in NAFL/NASH

Moschen *et al.*, Current Med Chem 2012  
Francisco *et al.*, Biology 2022

Sangüesa *et al.*, Mol Nutr Food Res 2018  
Zhang *et al.*, Plos One 2015

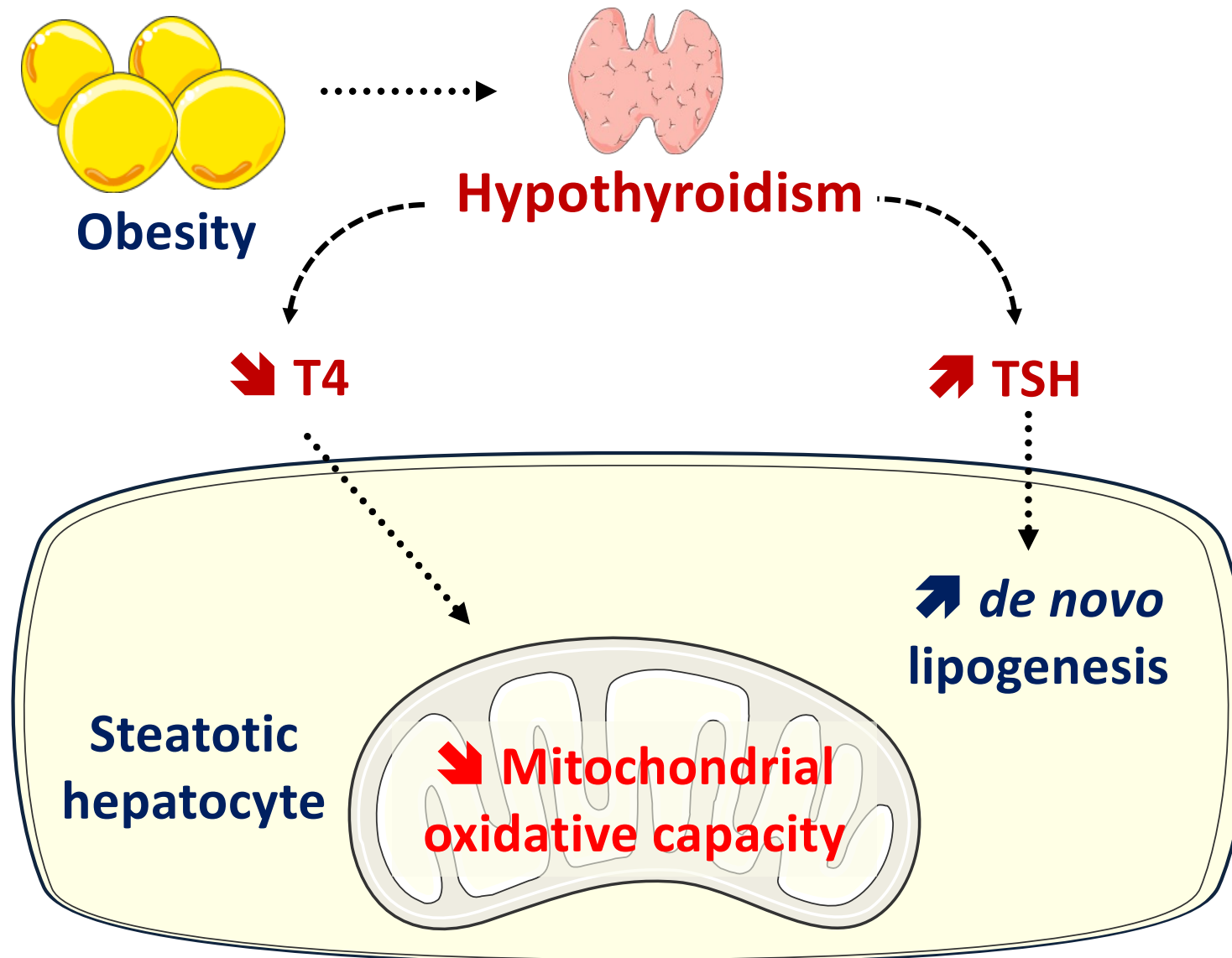


# Other causes of mitochondrial alterations in NAFL/NASH

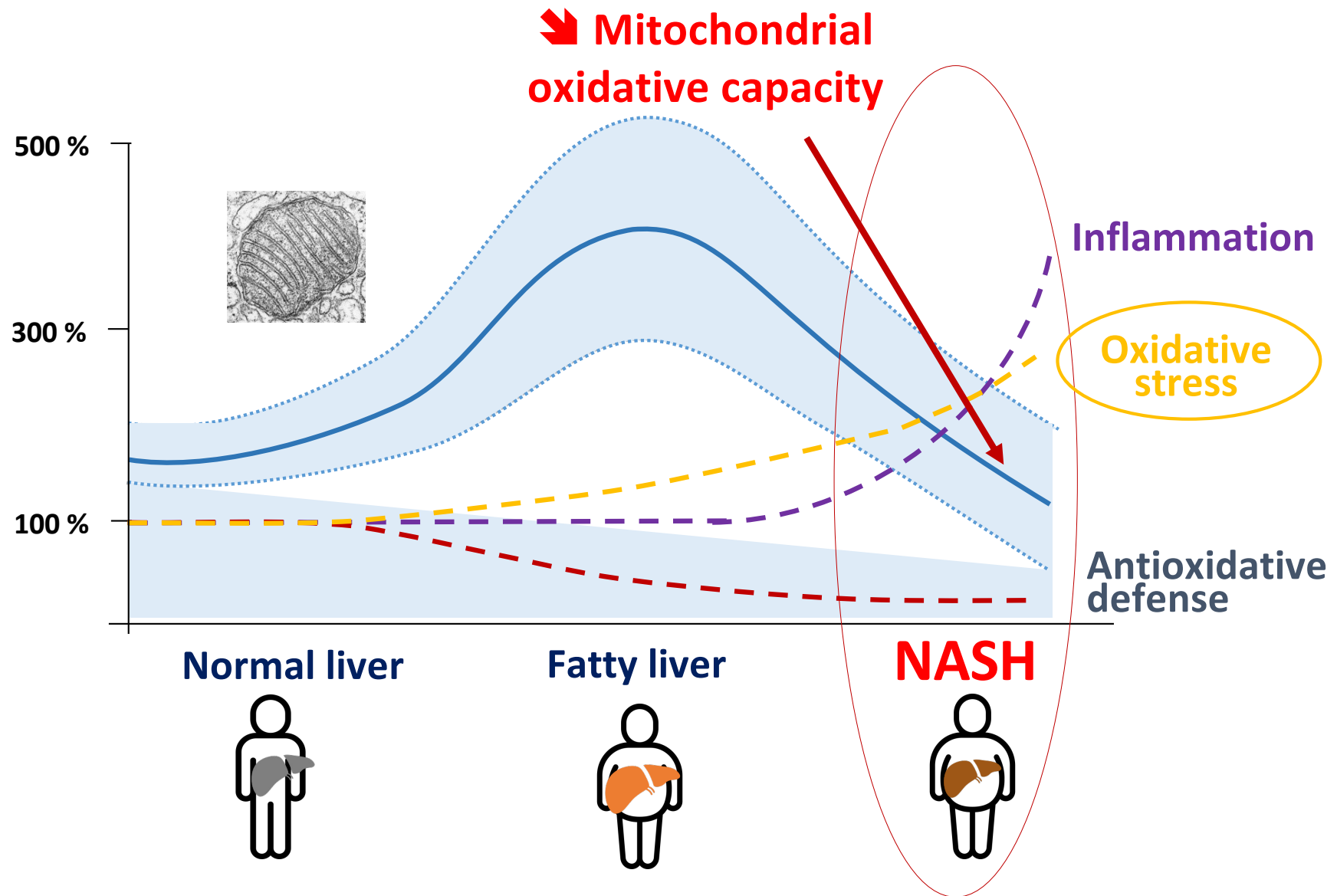
Song *et al.*, Front Immunol 2019

Hatziagelaki *et al.*, Trends Endocr Metab 2022

Zeng *et al.*, Medicine 2021

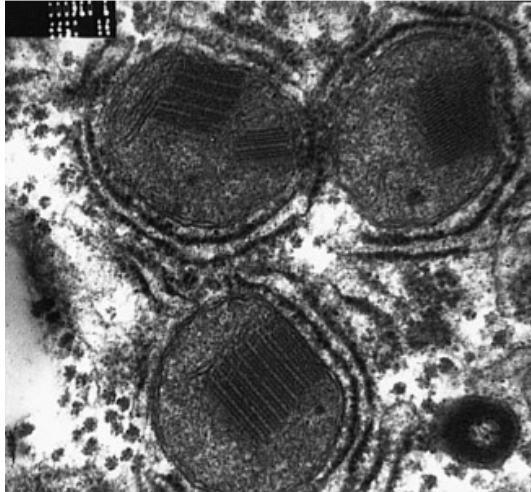


# Mitochondrial oxidative capacity during NAFLD



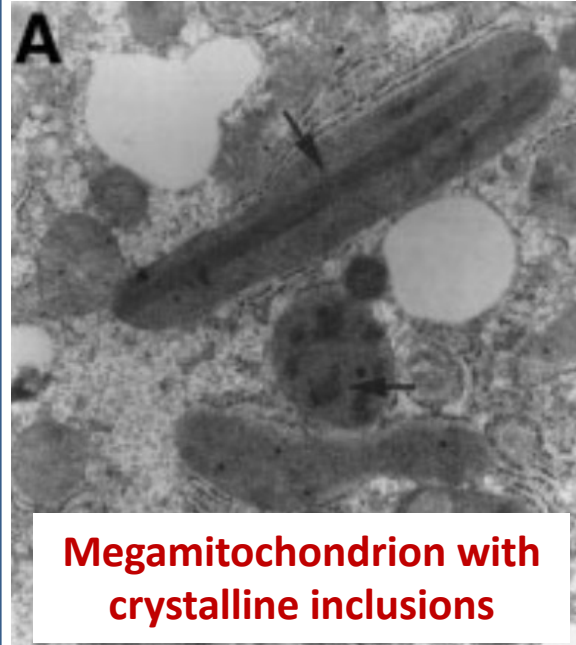
Adapted from Fromenty and Roden, J. Hepatol. 2023

**Sanyal *et al.*,  
Gastroenterology 2001**



**Swollen mitochondria with  
multi-lamellar membranes**

**Le *et al.*, Hepatology 2004**

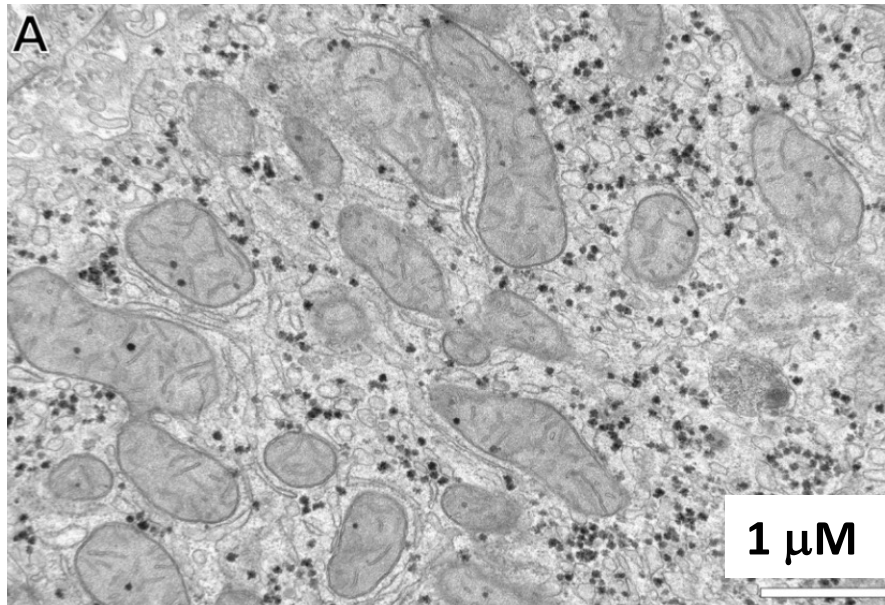


**Megamitochondrion with  
crystalline inclusions**

**Shami *et al.*, Sci Rep 2021**



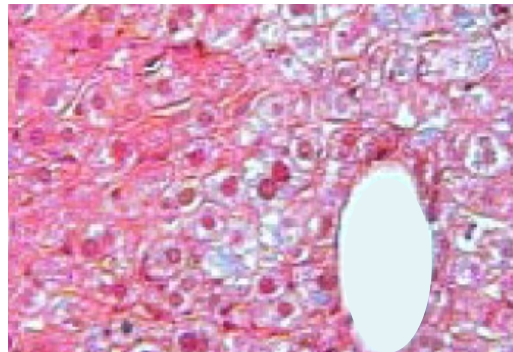
**Giant mitochondrion  
with disrupted cristae**



**Shami *et al.*, Sci Rep 2021**

**Liver mitochondria from  
a healthy individual**

# Consequences of mitochondrial dysfunction in NAFLD



# Hepatocellular consequences of mitochondrial alterations

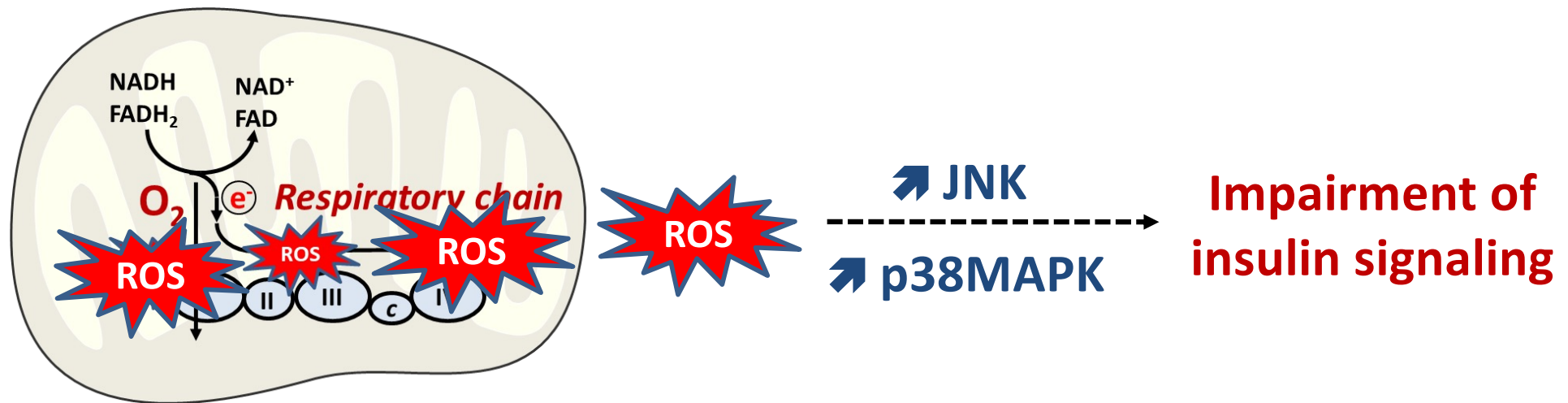
Lim *et al.*, Cell Signal 2009

Rieusset, Cell Death Dis 2018

Guan *et al.*, Exp Gerontol 2013

Guo *et al.*, J Cell Mol Med 2018

## Mitochondrial alterations



JNK : c-Jun N-terminal kinase

MAPK: mitogen activated protein kinase



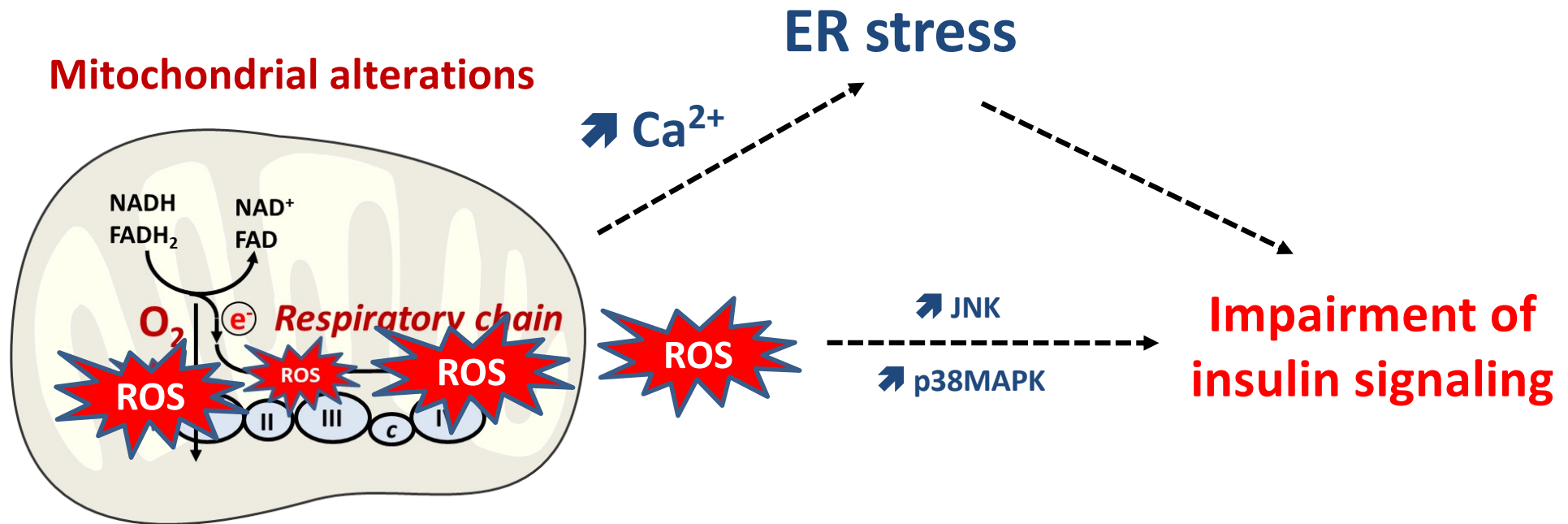
# Hepatocellular consequences of mitochondrial alterations

Lim *et al.*, Cell Signal 2009

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Guan *et al.*, Exp Gerontol 2013

Guo *et al.*, J Cell Mol Med 2018



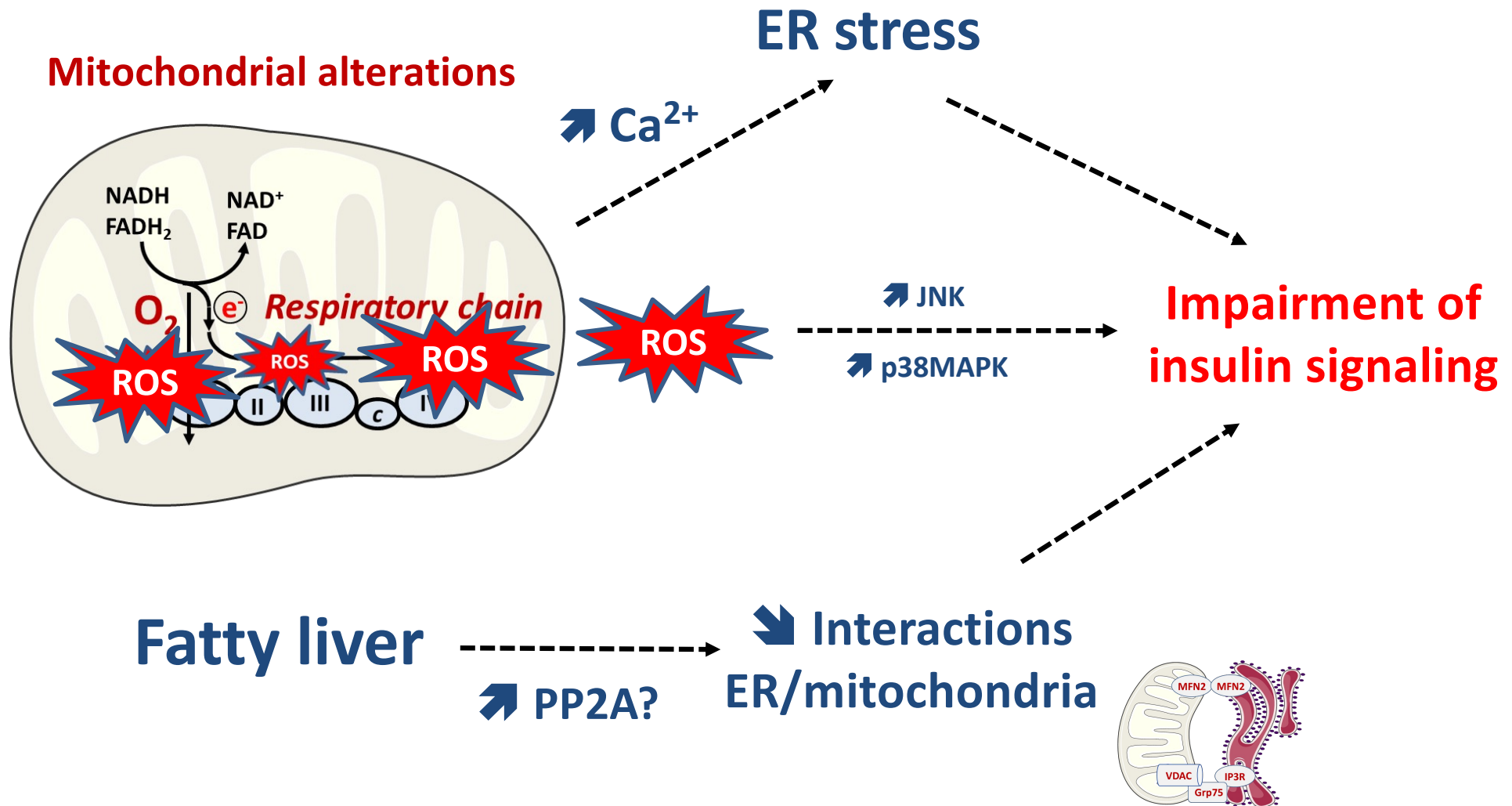
# Hepatocellular consequences of mitochondrial alterations

Lim *et al.*, Cell Signal 2009

Rieusset, Cell Death Dis 2018

Guan *et al.*, Exp Gerontol 2013

Guo *et al.*, J Cell Mol Med 2018

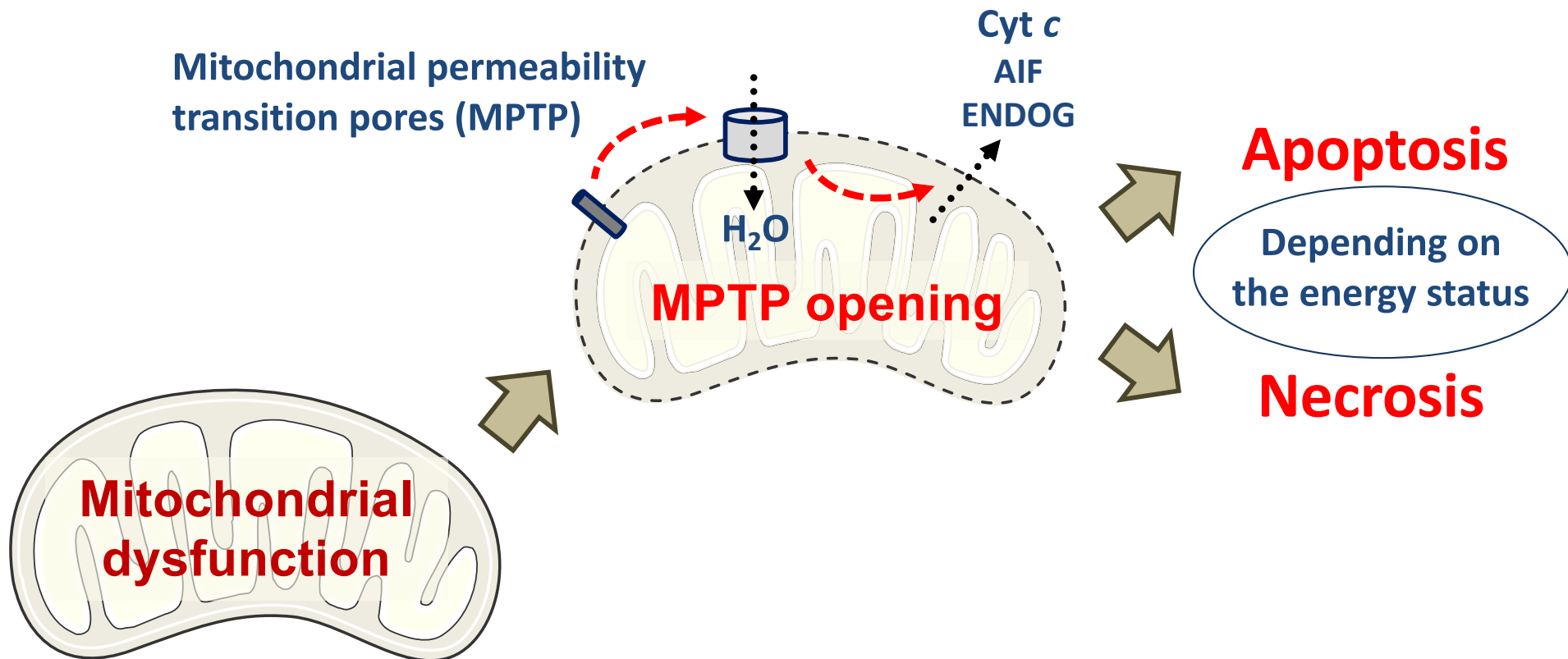


PP2A: protein phosphatase 2A

# Hepatocellular consequences of mitochondrial alterations

Bonora *et al.*, Oncogene 2015

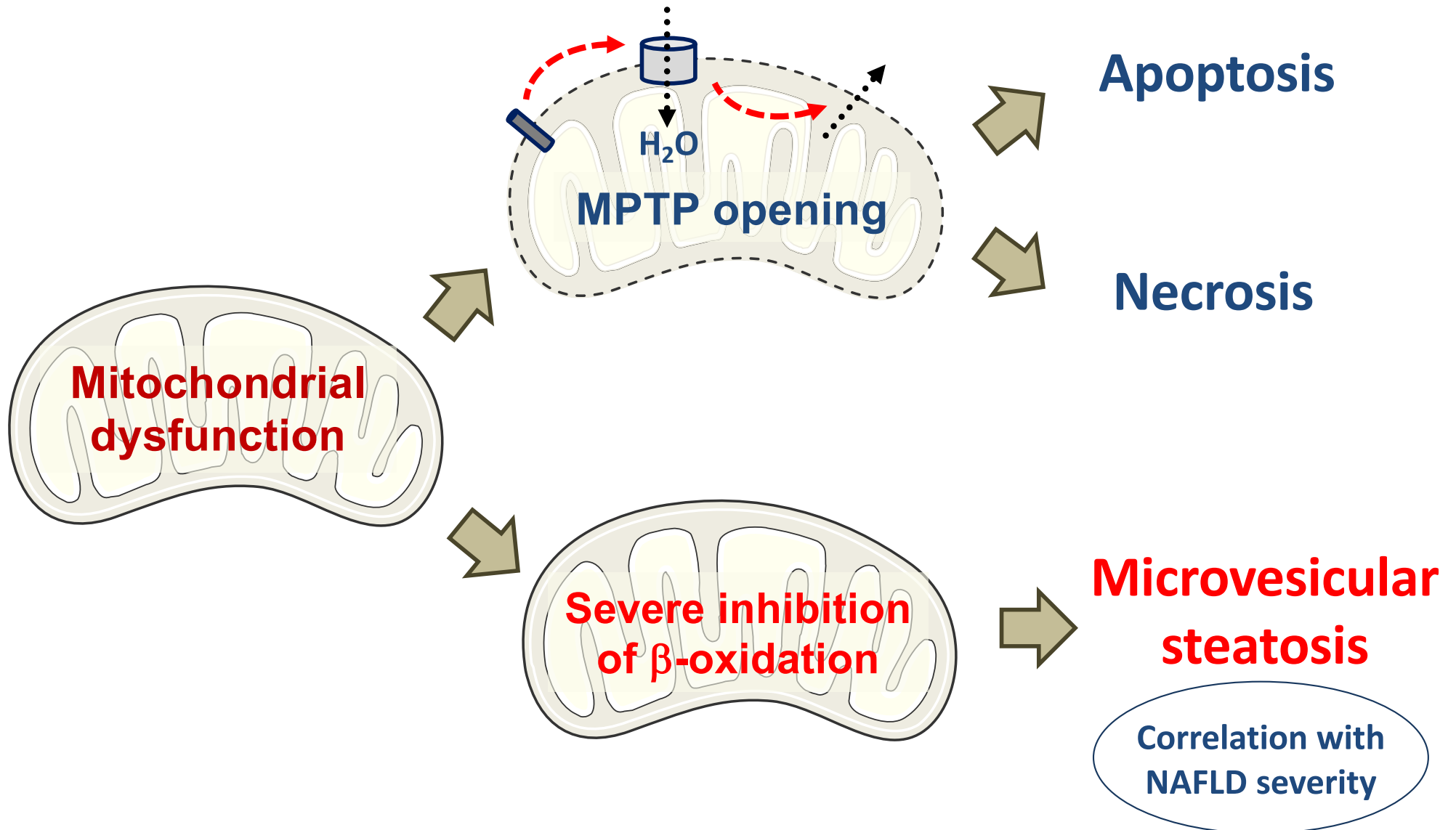
Morciano *et al.*, Biological Reviews 2021



# Hepatocellular consequences of mitochondrial alterations

Trak-Smayra *et al.*, Int J Exp Pathol 2011  
Tandra *et al.*, J Hepatol 2011

Celebi *et al.*, Acta Gastroenterol Belg 2020  
Germano *et al.*, Obes Surg 2023



# Mitochondrial alterations in hepatocytes and fibrosis

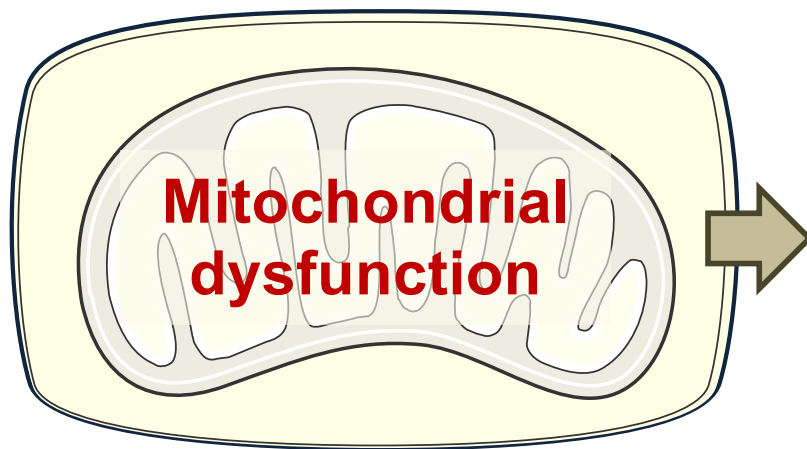
Bedossa *et al.*, Hepatology 1994

Nieto *et al.*, J Biol Chem 2002

Mitchell *et al.*, Am J Pathol 2009

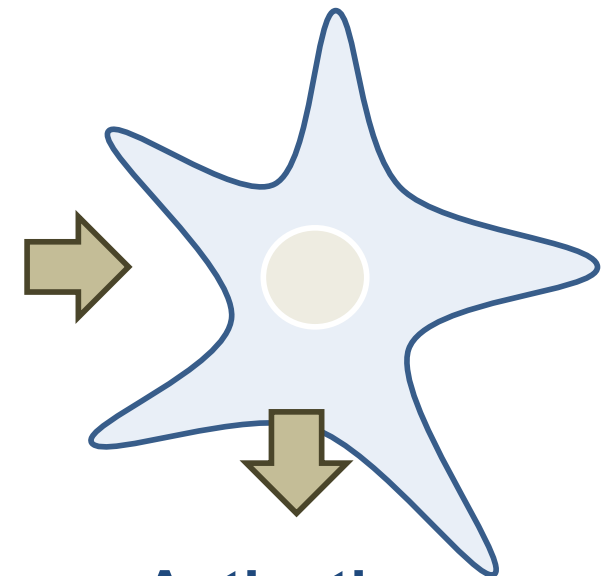
Das *et al.*, J Pineal Res 2017

## Hepatocytes



**Diffusible ROS and  
lipid peroxidation  
products**

## Stellate cells



**Activation**

**Fibrosis**

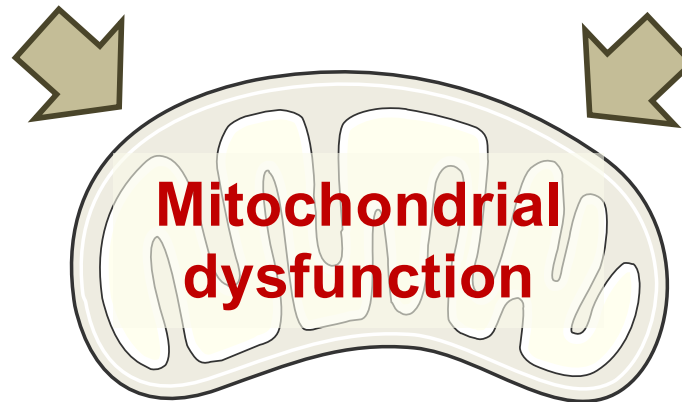
# Mitochondrial dysfunction induced by alcohol and drugs

Fromenty & Pessayre, Pharmacol Ther 1995  
Porceddu *et al.*, Tox Sci 2012

Ramachandran *et al.*, J Clin Transl Res 2018  
Fromenty, Food Chem Toxicol 2020

**Alcohol abuse**

**Pharmaceuticals**

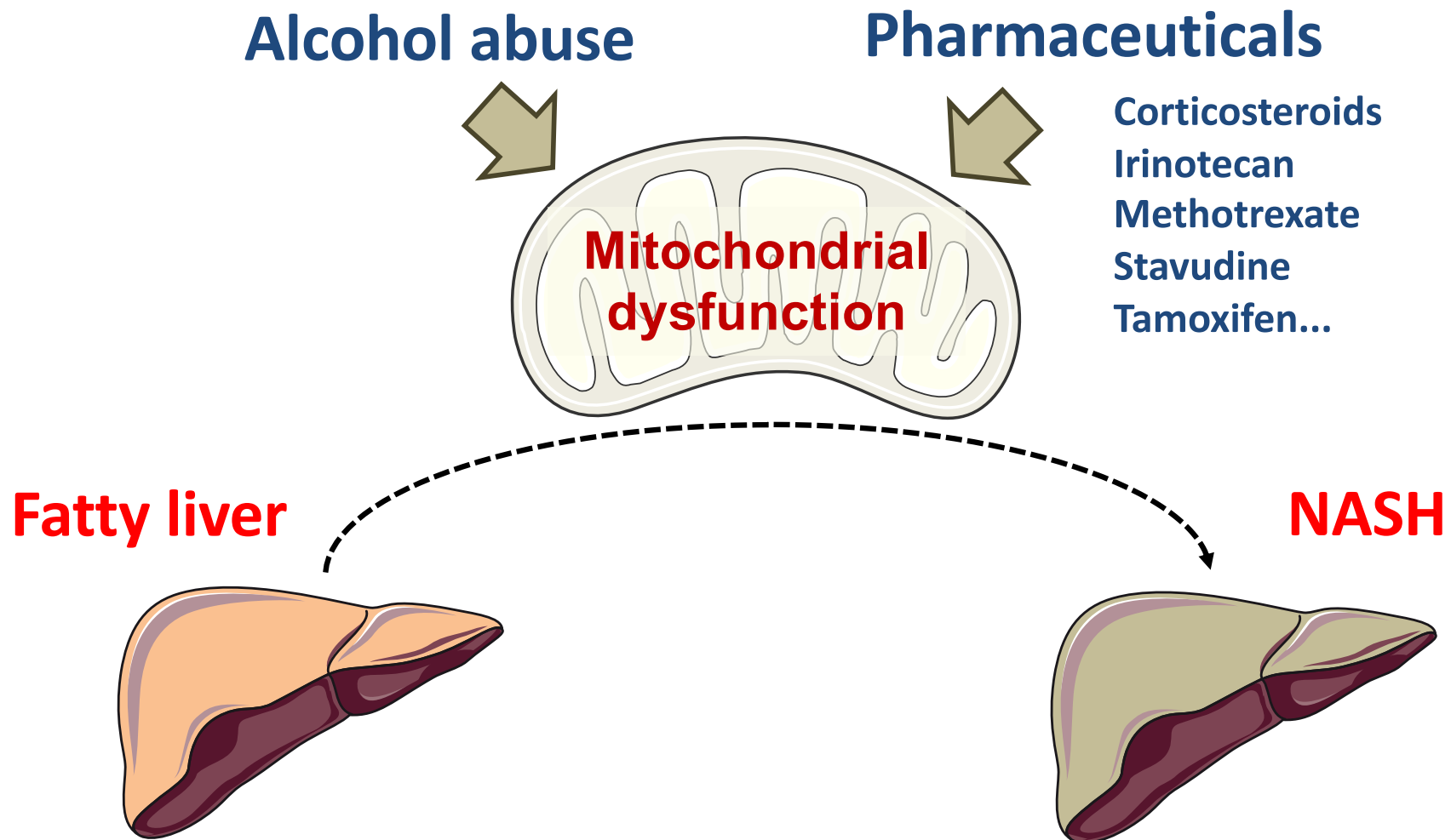


- ↘ Fatty acid oxidation
- ↘ Respiratory chain
- ↘ Mitochondrial DNA
- ↘ Mitochondrial biogenesis
- Activation of MPTP opening

# Role of alcohol abuse and drugs in NAFLD aggravation

Larrain & Rinell, Clin Liver Dis 2012  
Allard *et al.*, Adv Pharmacol 2019

Massart *et al.*, Int J Mol Sci 2022  
Fromenty & Roden, J Hepatol 2023



# Thank you for your attention !!

**Karima Begriche  
Julie Massart  
Jacinthe Aubert  
Simon Bucher  
Dounia Le Guillou  
Anaïs Michaut**



**NuMeCan, Equipe EXPRES, Rennes**

**Clémence Penhoat  
Grégory Pinon  
Thomas Gicquel  
Anne Corlu  
Pierre-Jean Ferron  
(réseau PREVITOX)**

**Dominique Pessayre and other former colleagues in Paris,  
M.A. Robin, A. Mansouri, A. Berson, P. Lettéron, E. Fréneaux...**