



stressor=any factor deflecting body homeostasis stress response= body adaptation to homeostasis restoring

stress= the complexity of factors provoking
stress response

### HANS SELYE

\* A syndrome produced by diverse nocous agents, Nature 138, 32, 1936

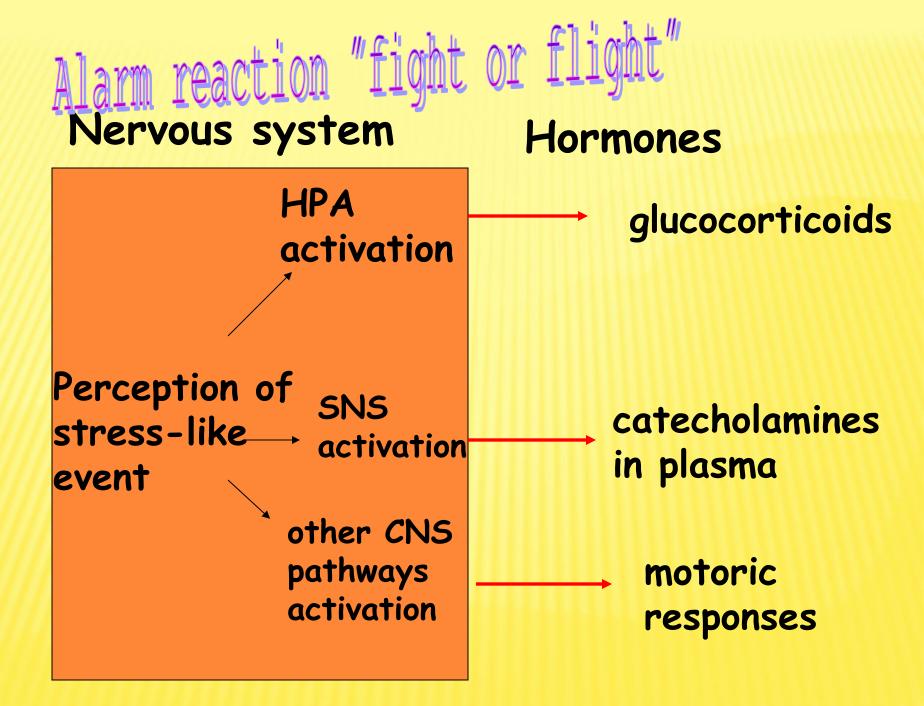
- Ceneral adaptation syndrome-stress reaction of organism:
- Experiments with animals showed that different toxic substances applied into the organisms led to stereotyped response explicable by suprarenal gland activation.

# Stages of stress

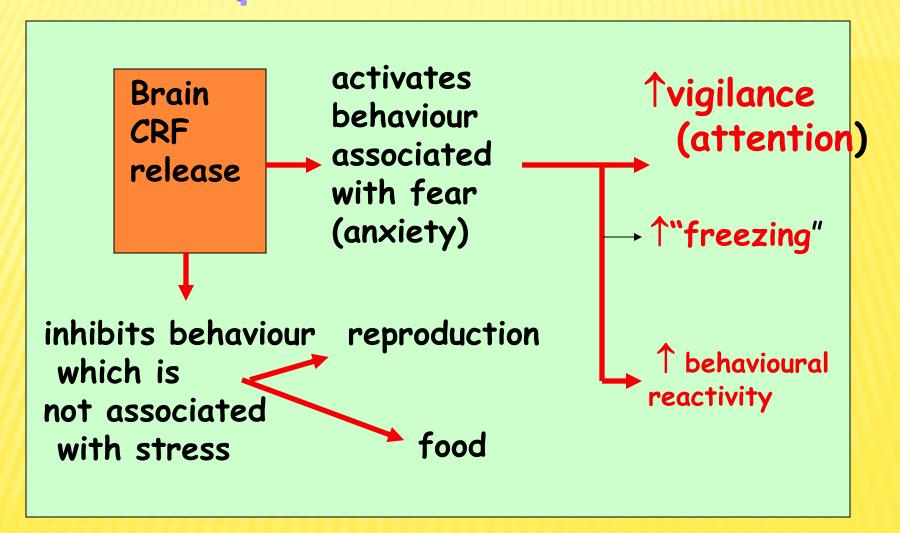
 alarm reaction ("fight and flight-Cannon's emergent reaction"): shock, contrashock
 stage of resistence

stage of exhaustion

- Eustress- increases possibilities of the organism, healthy and life motivation
- Distress- decreases possibilities, facilitates diseases development
- Stressors= stress causes (frustrations, conflicts)
- Factors influencing stress severity stressor characteristics subjective stress responsibility
- Reactions to acute and chronic stress: physical and psychological



# Acute stress response: behavioral alterations caused by CRF release



## Autonomic nervous system

Parasympathetic nervous system

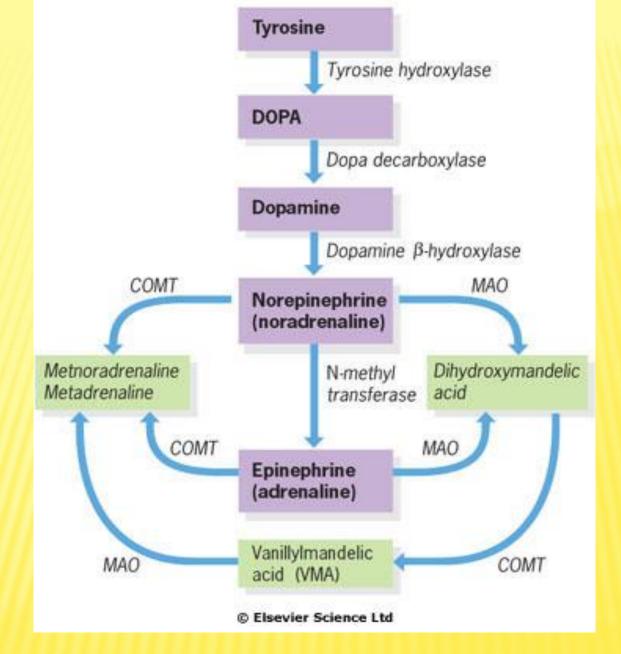
↑ digestion
↑ salivation
↓ heart rate
↑ intestine perfusion

#### rest state

Sympathetic nervous system

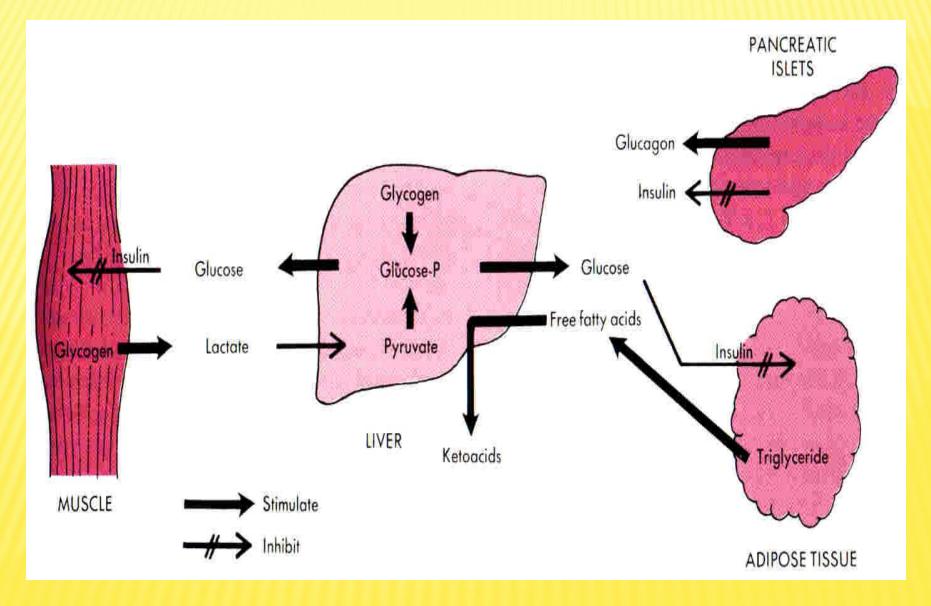
"F& F" response

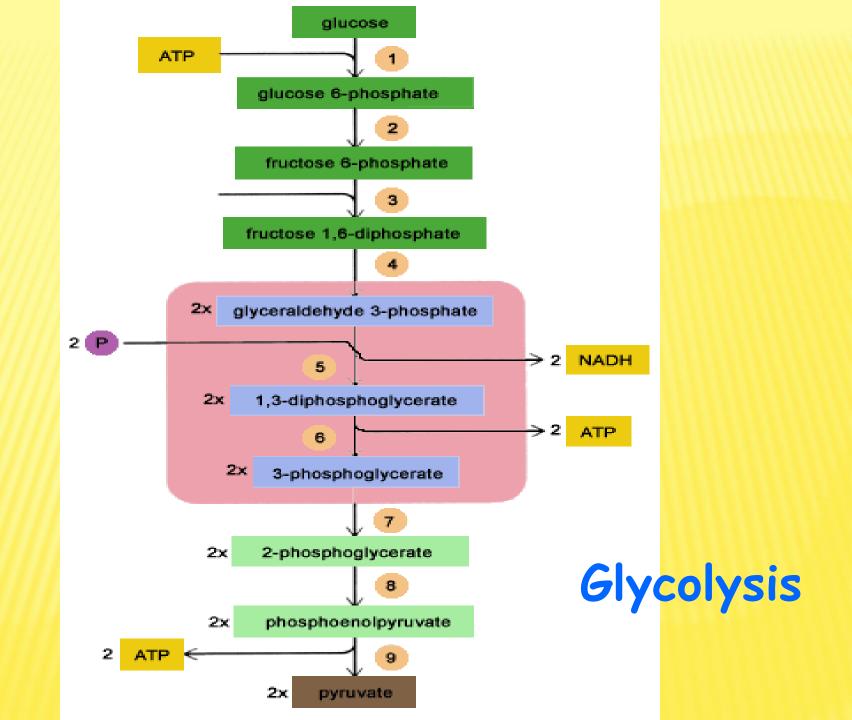
**↓**digestion  $\downarrow$  salivation ↑ heart rate ↑ respiration √blood redistribution from intestine to muscles, brain and heart  $\checkmark$  increased activity and vigilance

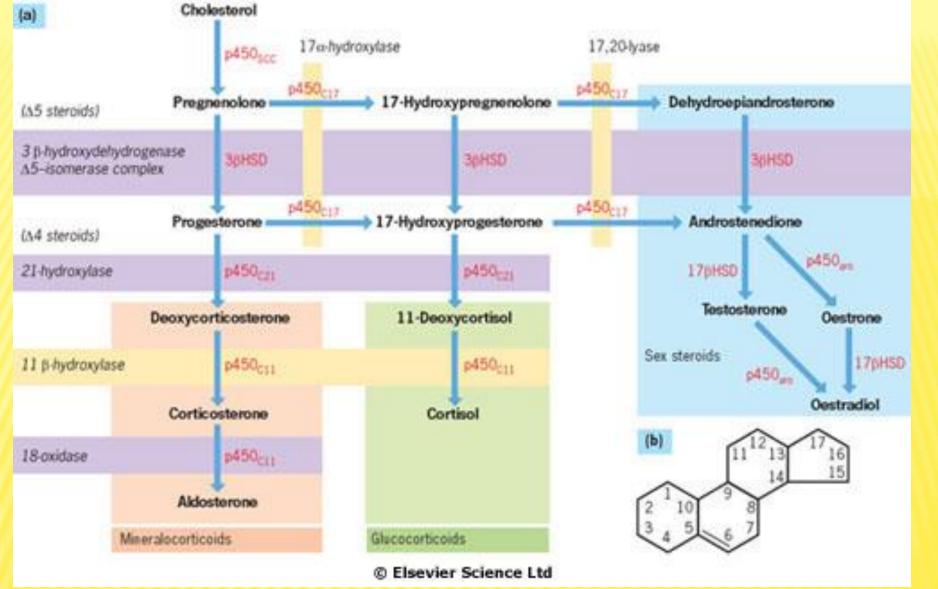


Catecholamines synthesis and metabolism

## Metabolic effects of epinephrine







(a) The major steroid biosynthetic pathways. Enzymes catalysing reactions are in red: p450 enzymes are in mitochondria and each catalyses several reaction steps;
 3βHSD (hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase) is in cytoplasm, bound to endoplasmic reticulum; 17βHSD and p450<sub>aro</sub> are found mainly in gonads. (b) The steroid molecule.

### Table 18.27 The major actions of glucocorticoids

## Increased or stimulated

- Gluconeogenesis Glycogen deposition Protein catabolism Fat deposition Sodium retention Potassium loss Free water clearance Uric acid production
- Circulating neutrophils

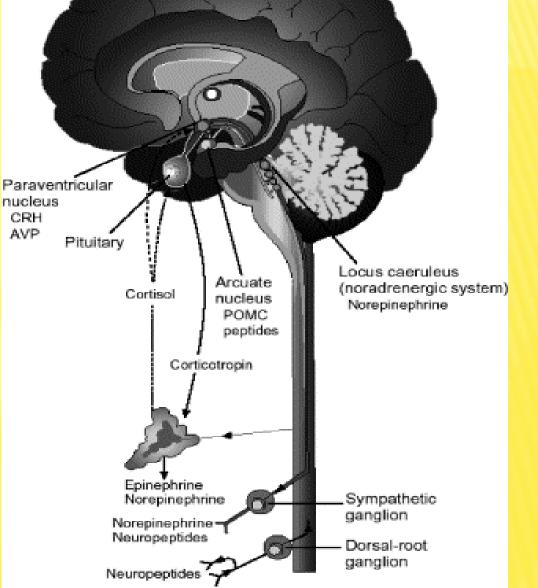
#### Decreased or inhibited

Protein synthesis Host response to infection Lymphocyte transformation Delayed hypersensitivity Circulating lymphocytes Circulating eosinophils

Stress System Stimulated by cholinergic and serolonergic neurotransmitters

Inhibited by GABA-benzodiazepine and POMC peptides

#### Classic stress components of the CNS systems.

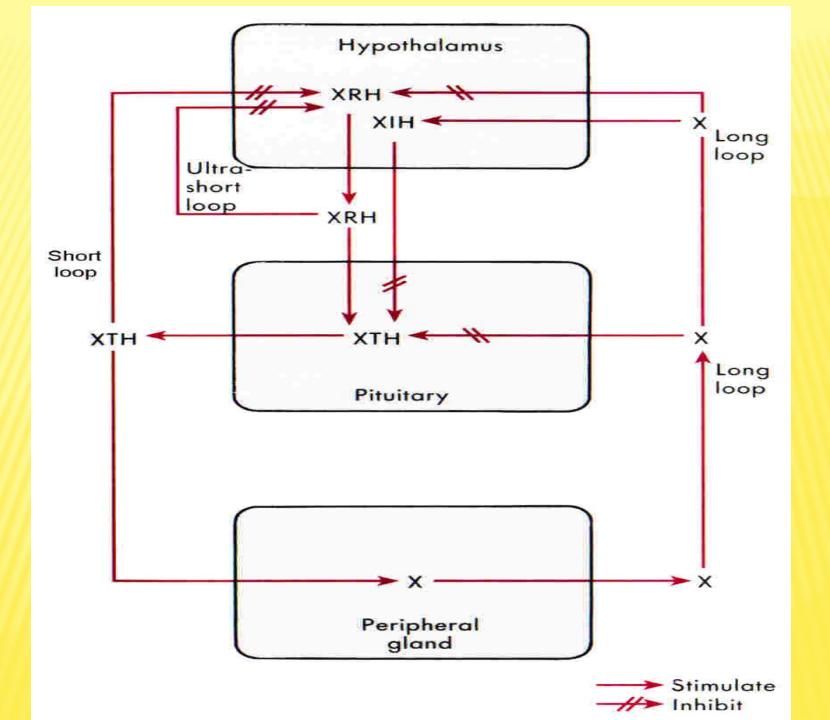


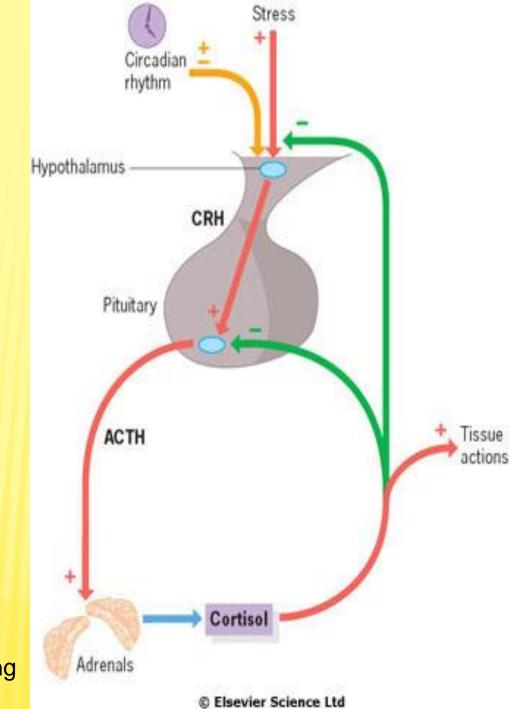
#### TO THE PREVIOUS PICTURE: THE HPA DOCTRINE

- × (A) Classic components of the HPA-CNS-immune systems.
- \* (B) Neurons of the hypothalamus that synthesize CRF and vasopressin (VP) are found in the paraventricular nucleus (PVN). These cell bodies send axons to the median eminence; here, peptides are released from the nerve terminals and are transported through vessels of the portal system. When they reach the anterior pituitary, these peptides act on their respective receptors, thereby stimulating ACTH secretion.
- \* (C) Following its release into the general circulation, ACTH acts on the cortex of the adrenal glands, which manufacture and secrete glucocorticoids (cortisol in humans). These glucocorticoids exert a classical negative feedback influence on the pituitary, where they inhibit the effect of CRF and VP, and on the PVN, where they inhibit the synthesis of CRF. Thus, after a stimulus stimulates CRF and ACTH release, the production of glucocorticoids will eventually terminate this release, thereby ensuring the maintenance of homeostasis.

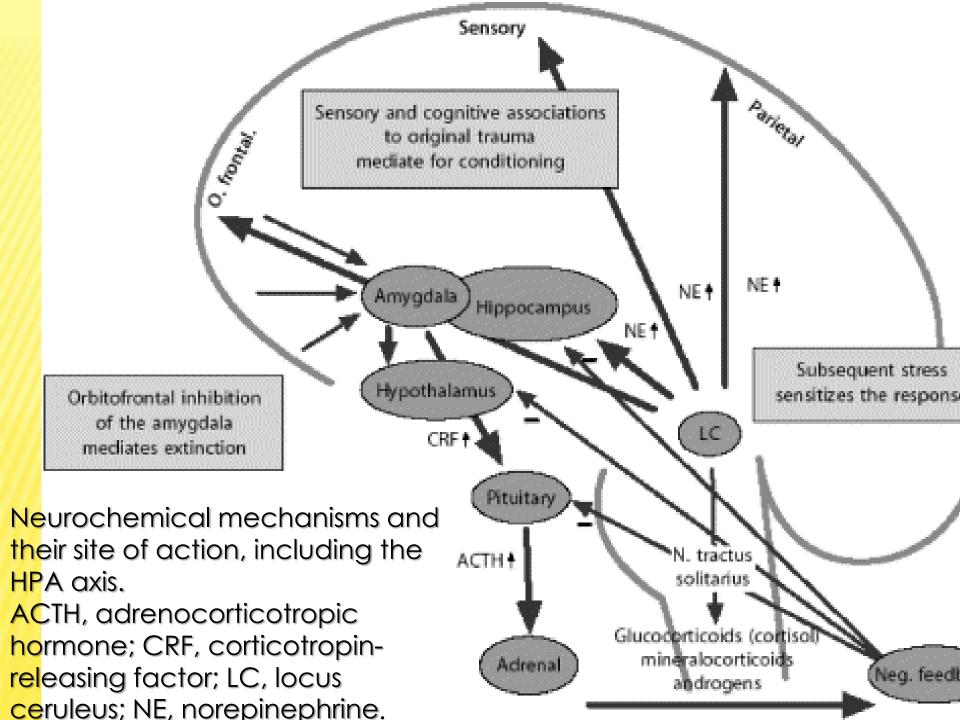
#### STIMULI TRIGGERING 'REACTIVE' VS. 'ANTICIPATORY' HPA STRESS RESPONSES

'Reactive' responses	'Anticipatory' responses
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Pain	Innate Programs
Visceral	Predators
Somatic	Unfamiliar environments/situations
Neuronal homeostatic sig-	Social challenges
nals	
Chemoreceptor stimula-	<ul> <li>Species-specific threats (e.g., illuminated spaces for rodents, dark spaces for humans)</li> </ul>
tion	
Baroreceptor stimula-	
tion	
'Osmoreceptor' stimu-	
lation	
Humoral homeostatic sig-	Memory programs
nals	
Glucose	Classically conditioned stimuli
Leptin	Contextually conditioned stimuli
Insulin	Negative reinforcement/frustration
Renin-angiotensin	0
Atrial natriuretic peptide	
Others	
Humoral inflammatory sig-	
nals	
IL-1	
IL-6	
TNF-a	
Others	

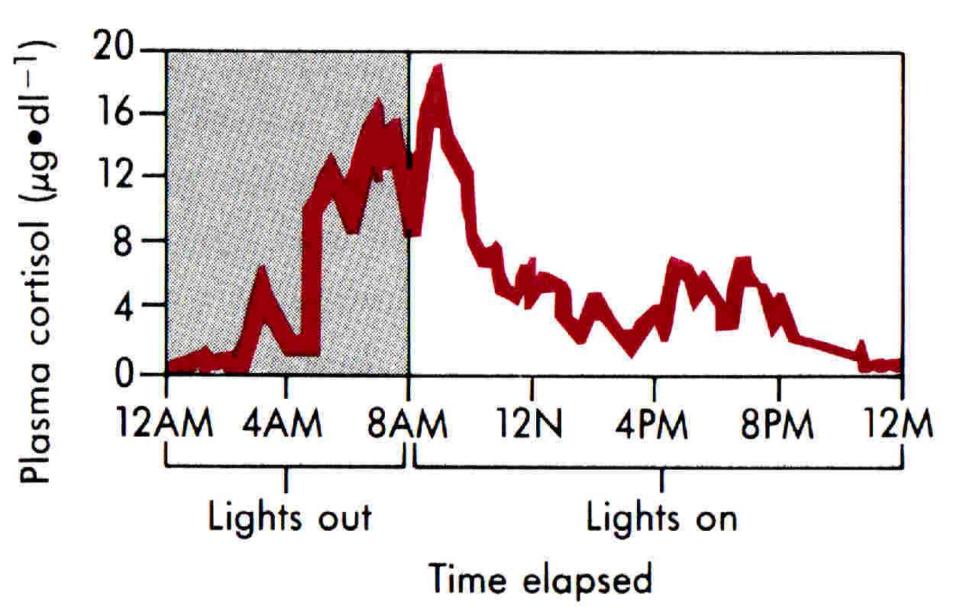


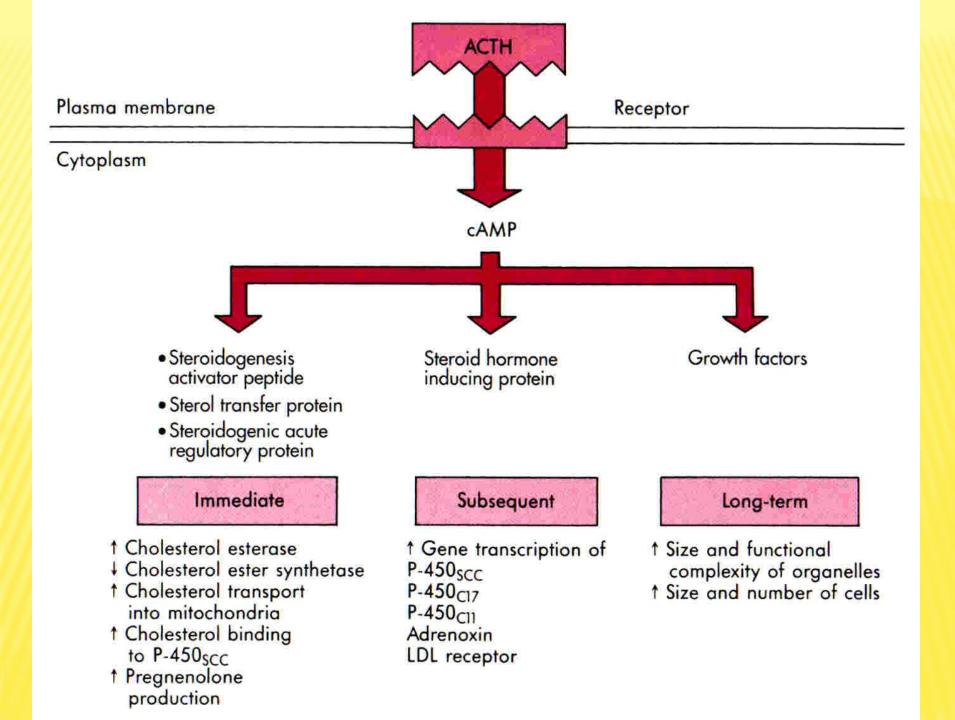


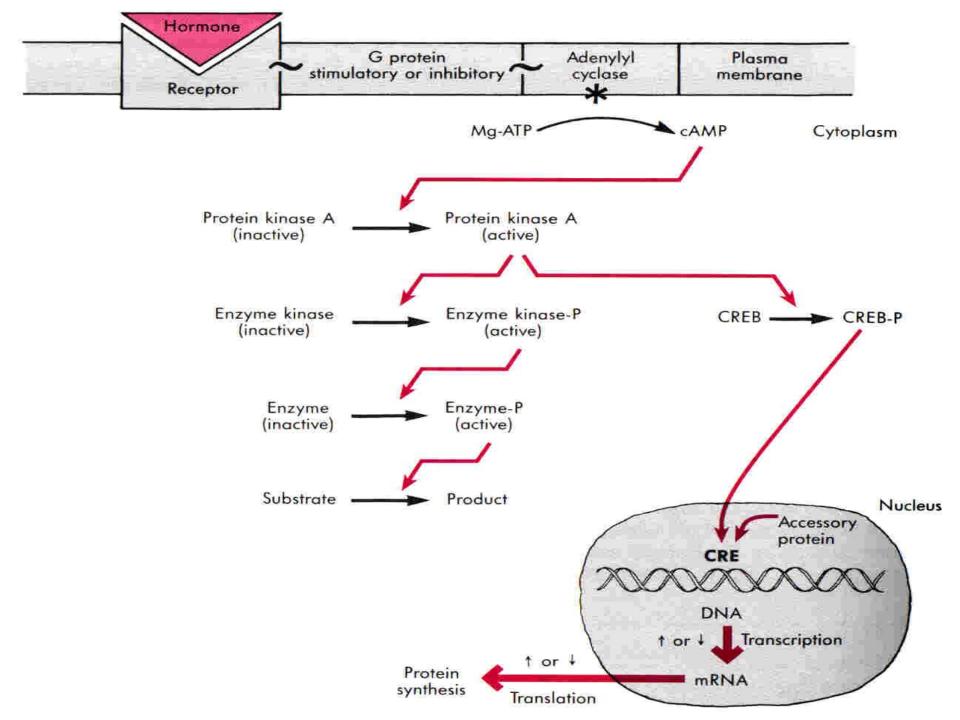
Control of the hypothalamic-pituitary adrenal axis. CRH, corticotropin-releasing hormone.

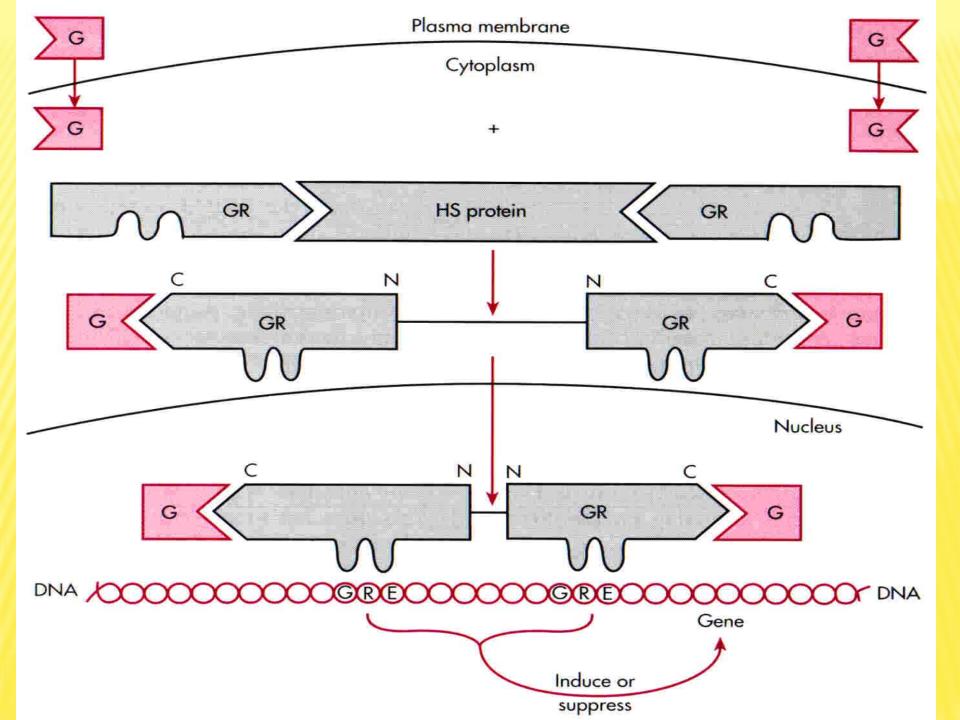


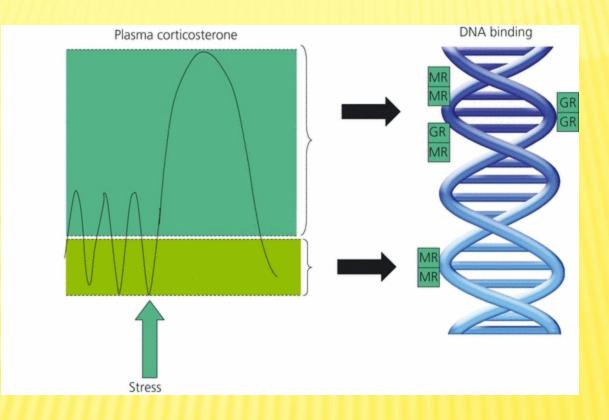
## Pulsatile and diurnal character of glucocorticoid secretion





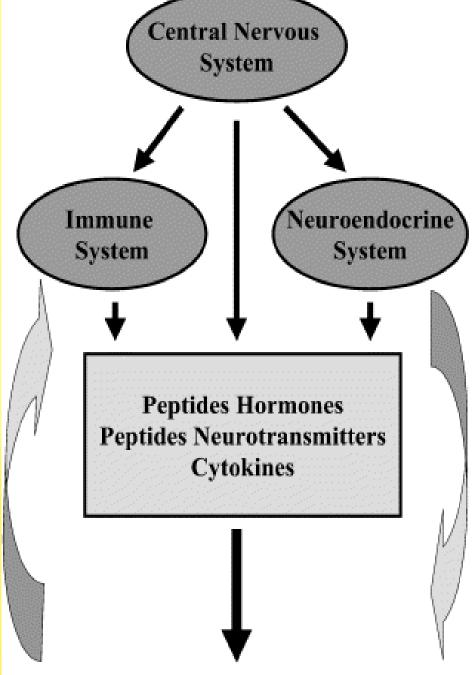




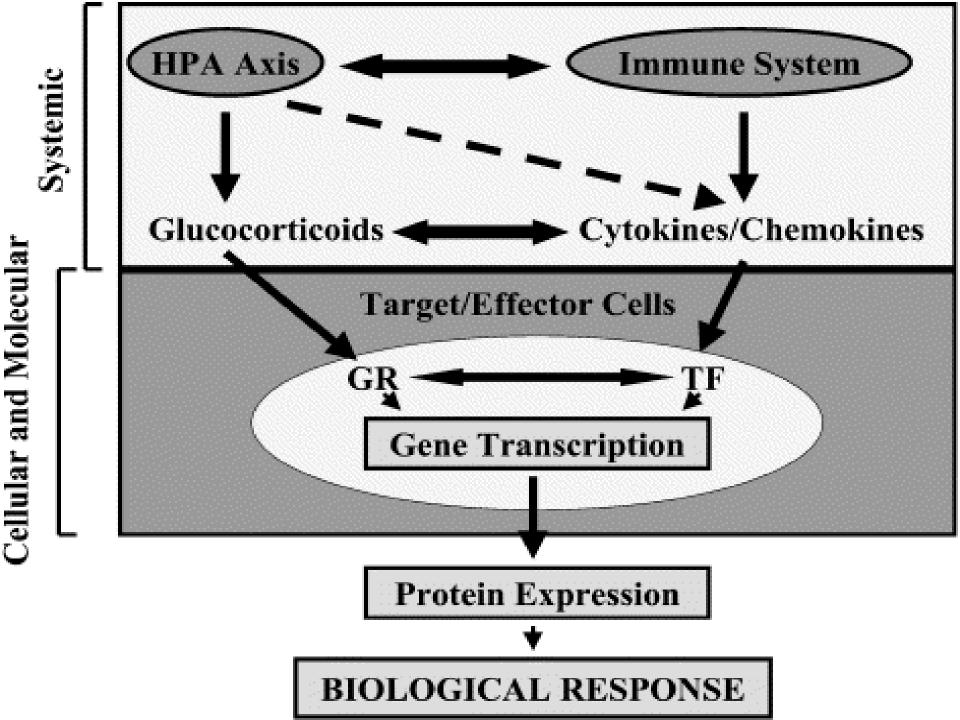


The effect of glucocorticoid pulses and an acute stressor on glucocorticoid responsive genes. Note that, at nadir levels of corticosterone, there is only mineralocorticoid receptor (MR) binding to DNA but that, at peak and stress levels, there is both glucocorticoid receptor and MR binding.

Scheme for molecular communications circuits existing between the immune and neuroendocrine systems and involving shared ligands and receptors



#### Activation via Receptor Molecules

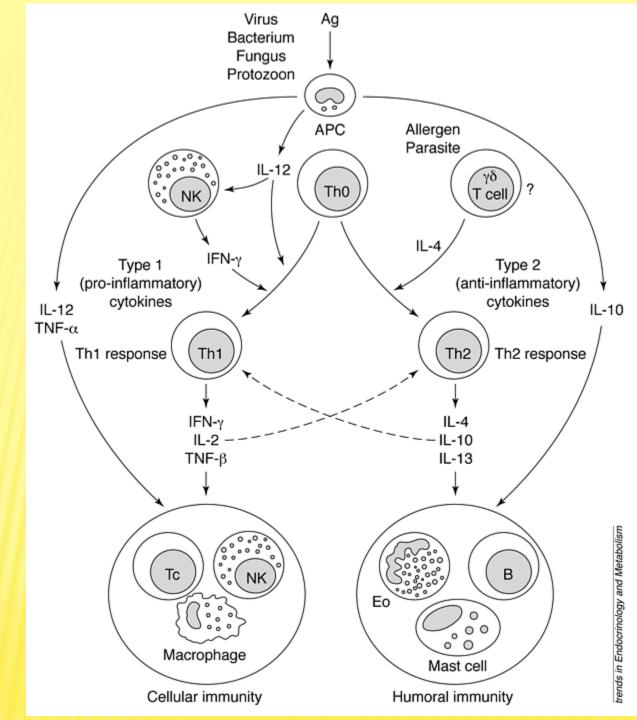


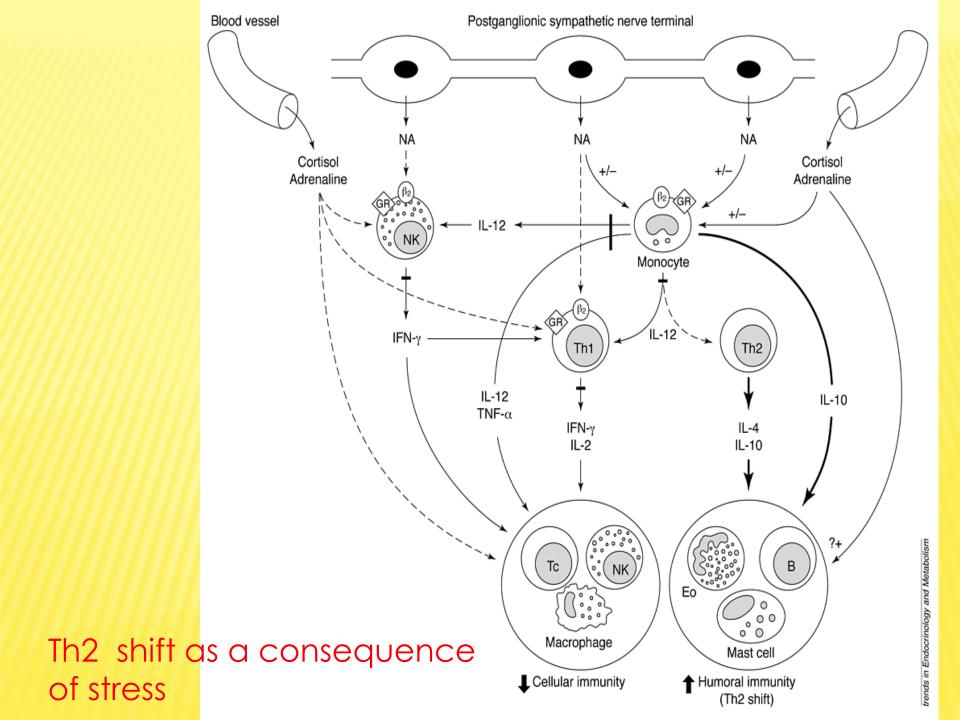
### TO THE PREVIOUS FIGURE:

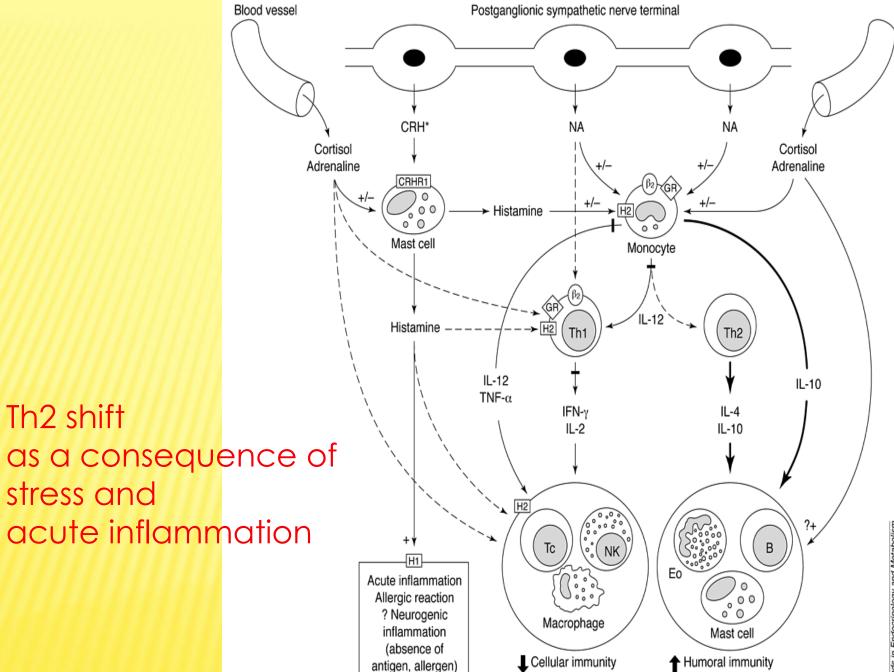
Scheme depicting systemic and cellular/molecular interplay between the HPA axis and the immune system in the regulation of glucocorticoid/cytokine secretion and gene expression.

\* Abbreviations: GR, glucocorticoid receptor; TF, transcription factors.

#### Balance of Th1/Th2 immune resposes



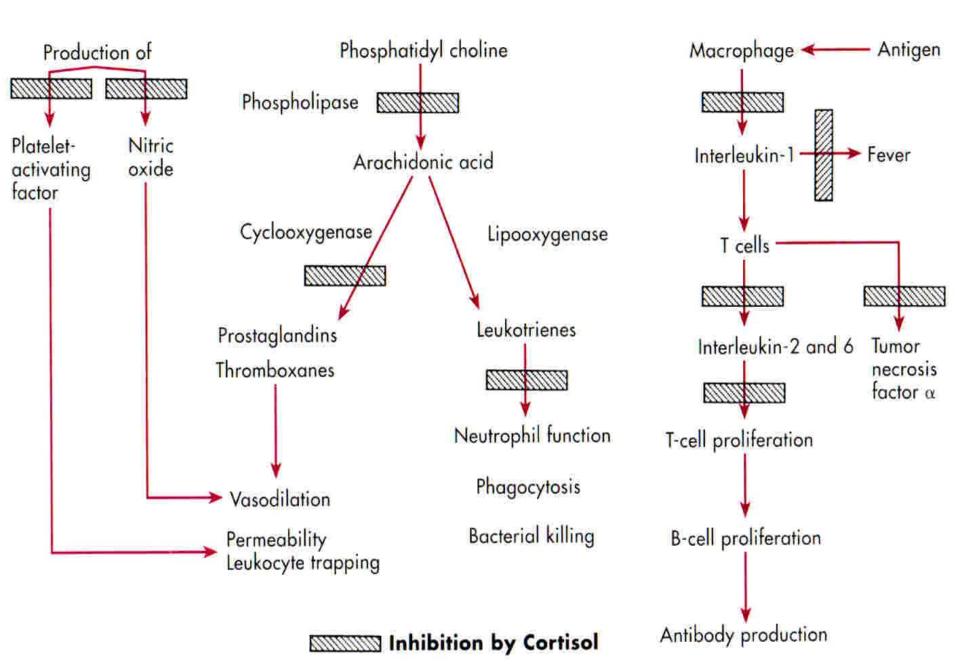




(Th2 shift)

#### Inflammatory response

#### Immune response



### TREATMENT BY GLUCOCORTICOIDS

### Respiratory diseases

- Asthma
- Chronic obstructive
   pulmonary disease
- Sarcoidosis
- Prevention/treatment of ARDS \_

#### **Cardiac diseases**

 Post-myocardial infarction syndrome

#### **Renal diseases**

- Some nephrotic syndromes
- Some glomerulonephritides
- Gastrointestinal disease
- Ulcerative colitis
- Crohn's disease
- Autoimmune hepatitis

### TREATMENT BY GLUCOCORTICOIDS

#### Rheumatological diseases

- Systemic lupus erythematosus
- Polymyalgia rheumatica
- Cranial arteritis
- Juvenile idiopathic arthritis
- Vasculitides
- Rheumatoid arthritis

### Neurological diseases

Cerebral oedema

### Skin diseases

Pemphigus, eczema

#### Tumours

- Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Other lymphomas

## Transplantation Immunosuppression

#### MAJOR ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CORTICOSTEROIDS THERAPY

#### Physiological

- Adrenal and/or pituitary suppression
   Pathophysiological
   Cardiovascular
- Increased blood pressure
   Gastrointestinal
- Peptic ulceration exacerbation (possibly)
- Pancreatitis
   Renal
- Polyuria
- Nocturia

#### Central nervous

- Depression
- Euphoria
- Psychosis
- Insomnia
- Endocrine
- Weight gain
- Glycosuria/

hyperglycaemia/diabetes

- Impaired growth
- Amenorrhoea

#### MAJOR ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CORTICOSTEROID THERAPY

Bone and muscles

- Osteoporosis
- Proximal myopathy and wasting
- Aseptic necrosis of the hip
- Pathological fractures
   Skin
- Thinning
- Easy bruising
   Eyes
- Cataracts (including inhaled drug)

Increased susceptibility to infection

- (signs and fever are frequently masked)
- Septicaemia
- Reactivation of TB
- Skin (e.g. fungi)

### Table 18.32 Causes of Cushing's syndrome

#### **ACTH-dependent disease**

Pituitary-dependent (Cushing's disease) Ectopic ACTH-producing tumours ACTH administration

#### Non-ACTH-dependent causes

- Adrenal adenomas
- Adrenal carcinomas
- Glucocorticoid administration

#### Others

Alcohol-induced pseudo-Cushing's syndrome

#### Symptoms

Weight gain (central) Change of appearance Depression Insomnia Amenorrhoea/ oligomenorrhoea Poor libido Thin skin/easy bruising Hair growth/acne Muscular weakness Growth arrest in children Back pain Polyuria/polydipsia Psychosis

Old photographs may be useful





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#### Signs

Moon face Plethora Depression/psychosis Acne Hirsutism Frontal balding (female) Thin skin Bruising Poor wound healing Pigmentation Skin infections. Hypertension Osteoporosis Pathological fractures (especially vertebrae and ribs) Kyphosis 'Buffalo hump' (dorsal fat pad) Central obesity. Striae (purple or red ) **Rib fractures** 

Oedema Proximal myopathy Proximal muscle wasting Glycosuria

#### The symptoms and signs of Cushing's syndrome.

Bold type indicates signs of most value in discriminating Cushing's syndrome from simple obesity and hirsutism.

## Acute stress response

- adaptive, enabling surveillance
- although different reactions are used, the aim is always the same: = surveillance
- o metabolic: 1glycemia
- cardiovaskular/respiratory- glucose traffic to muscles, heart and brain
- o analgesia
- inhibition of processes decreasing surveillance chance (reproduction, food).

# Acute stress reaction-metabolic effects

- Purpose: to increase glycemia using catecholamines and glucocorticoids
- Glucose uptake is inhibited; proteins, fatty acids and glycogen synthesis is stopped. Lysis og lipids and proteins (immune systém is "sacrificed")
- Solve System System

Acute stress response-cardiovascular/ respiratory effects

- Purpose: to increase cardiovascular tonus for a quick transport of mobilized glucose to the tissues with the highest oxygen consumption.
- Solution State State

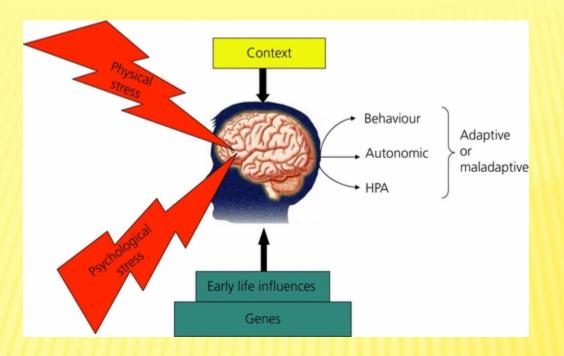
## Acute stress response-analgesia

- Purpose: to decrease pain perception
- Two forms of stress-induced analgesia can be distinguished (SIA)
- opiates-dependent
   SIA (enkephalins and β-endorphine)
- opiates independent SIA (glutamate)

Both SIA can combine one to another.

## Chronic stress response

 maladaptive = imparing effects Ochronic stress can contribute to development of diseases as peptic ulcer, visceral obesity, lower growth, higher risk of CAD Chronic stress influences
 behaviour: Inhibition of reproduction or depression, schizophrenia etc.



Physiological and pathological responses to stress. The resilience or vulnerability of any one individual to stressful situations in adulthood will depend upon that person's genetic inherence and early life experiences (+ epigenetics).

# Stress and multiplex factors role

- Opminant and subdominant primates (males):
- In stable conditions (no teritorial emergency), dominant males have lower glucocorticoids levels than subdominat ones.
- But, in unstable conditions, these levels in dominant males increase and they are the same or higher thain in subdominat males.
- "Personal power" of dominant male correlates with low GCs levels during rest conditions.

# Stress and multiplex factors role

- Good state of mind" is necessary !
- Social supporting groups formingf.e. non sexually based friendship between men and women in the team
- Training of ability to anticipate stressful event and undertake the control.
- Transformation of agresivity (sports)

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

