



Therapeutic strategies in Inborn Errors of Metabolism (IEM)

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When to think at an Inborn Error of Metabolism (IEM) ?



- IEM are congenital and genetic disorders of biochemistry
(or the impossibility to convert food into energy)
- IEM can present at any age from fetal life to old age
(for the same enzymatic defect : neonatal symptoms / late onset/ asymptomatic)
- Acute neonatal symptoms /symptoms after « free interval » without symptoms
(from days to years)
- Chronic/progressive symptoms (failure to thrive, neurologic deterioration, ..)
- Specific symptoms (eyes, skin, liver, heart, kidney,..)
- Persistent and unexplained symptoms after initial treatment.
- Although most IEM are autosomal recessive disorders, majority of cases appear to be sporadic in a family.



DON'T MISS A TREATABLE disorder !



Neonatal screening in IEM on Dried Blood Spot



Day 3-5 of life (heel prick)



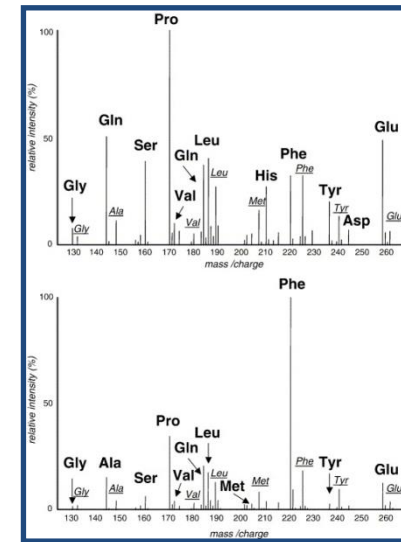
Dried blood spot (DBS) on filter paper



Neonatal Screening Laboratory

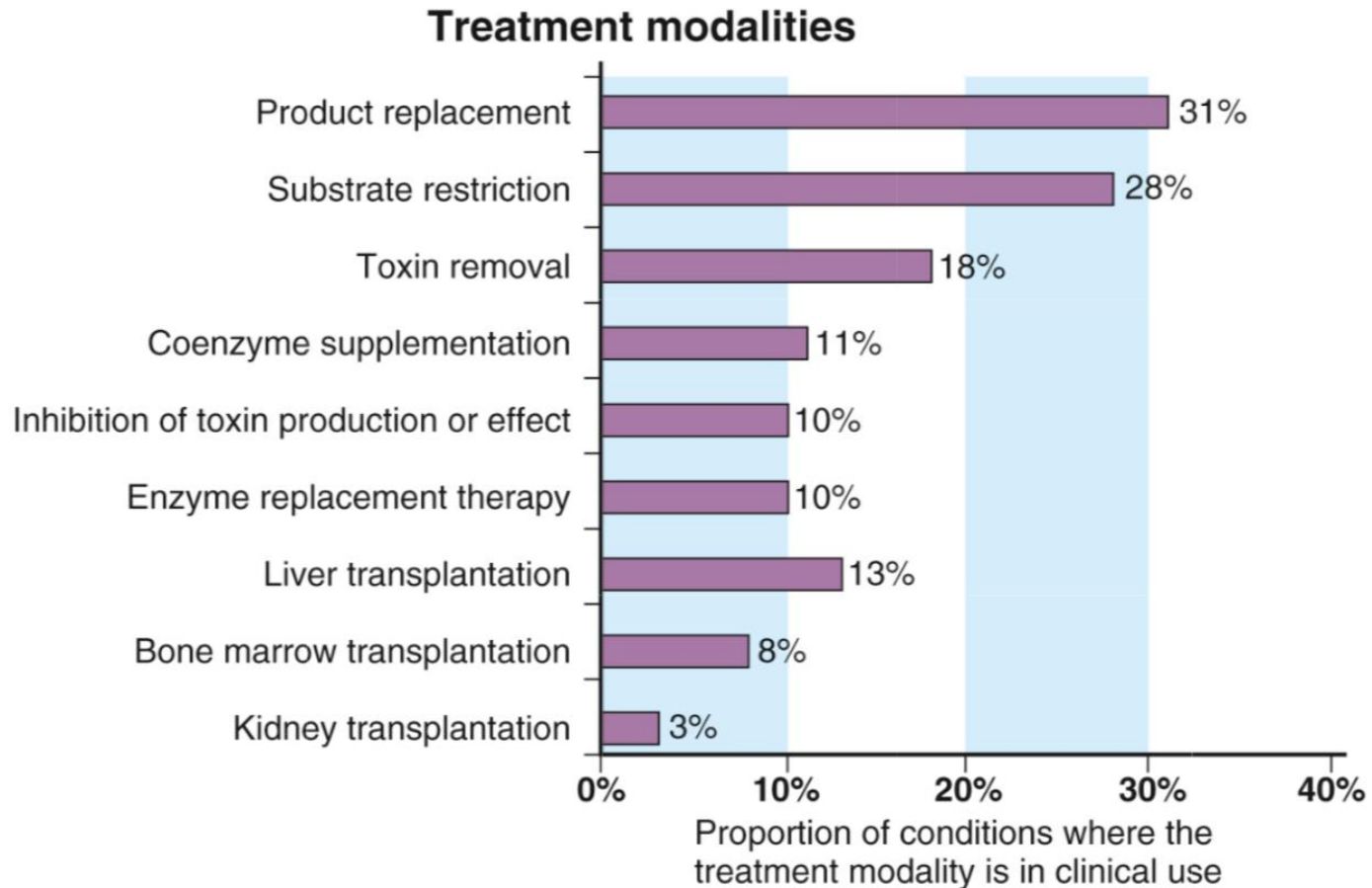


With Tandem Mass Spectrometry (MS/MS)



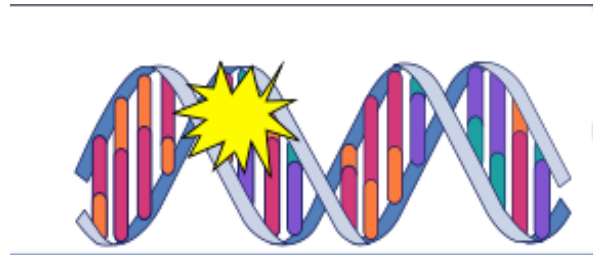
- > 40 metabolites analyzed (amino acids, acylcarnitines, ..)
- > 30 Inborn Errors of Metabolism screened after birth

Lets talk ... about Treatment modalities



Consequences of protein/enzyme deficiency

> 5000 genes that
encode enzymes



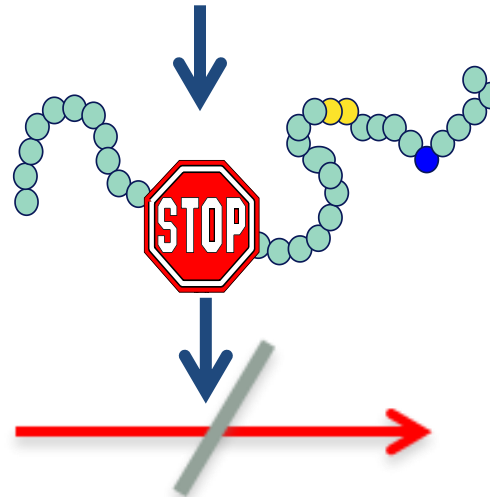
DNA mutation

Non functional/Absent
of
mutant protein/enzyme



A

Toxic compounds
Accumulation



B

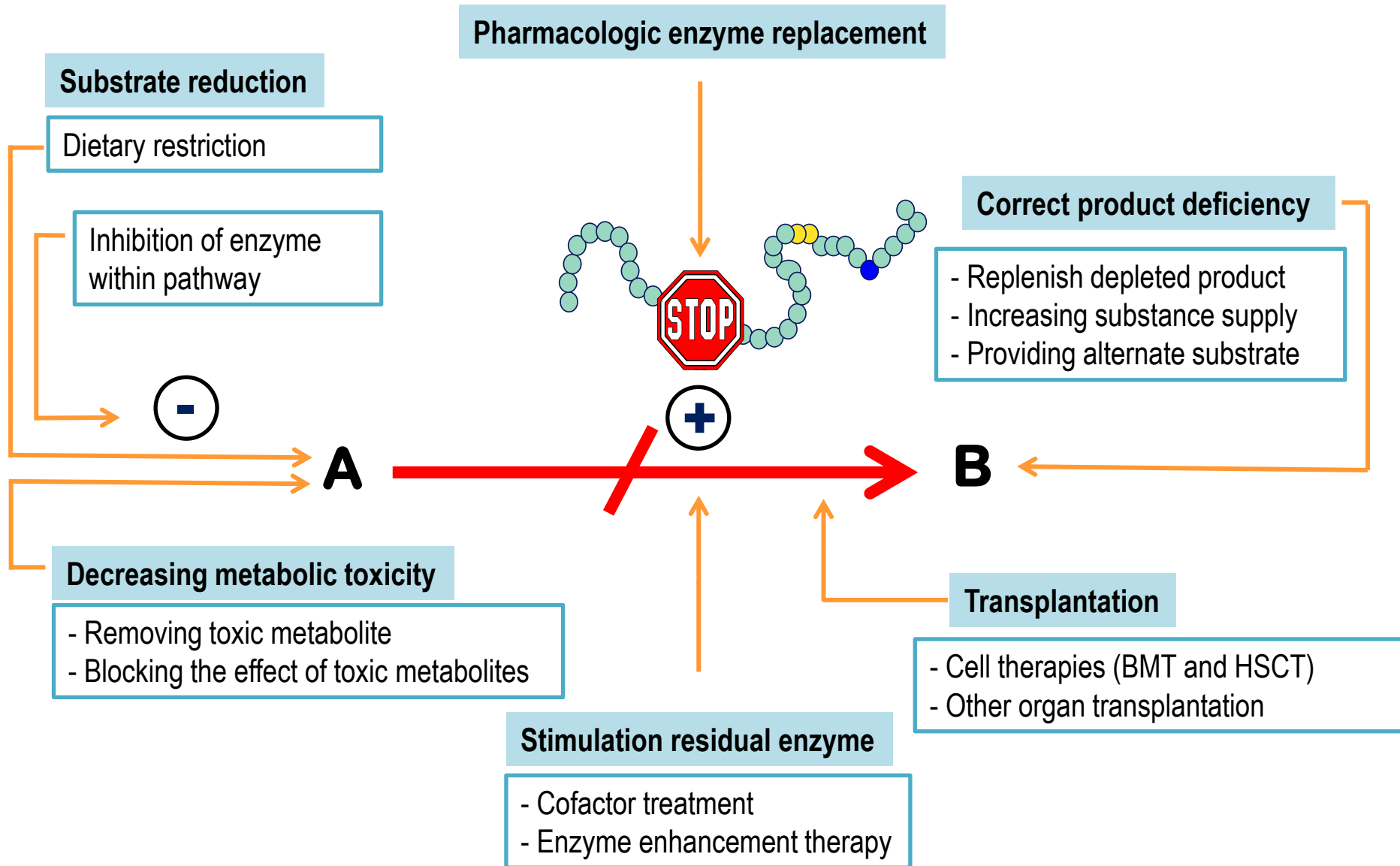
Substrate
Deficiency



Absence of protein/mutant protein with no residual activity → **Severe phenotype**

Mutant protein with residual activity → **Milder phenotype**
Treatment will try to increase the residual function of the enzyme

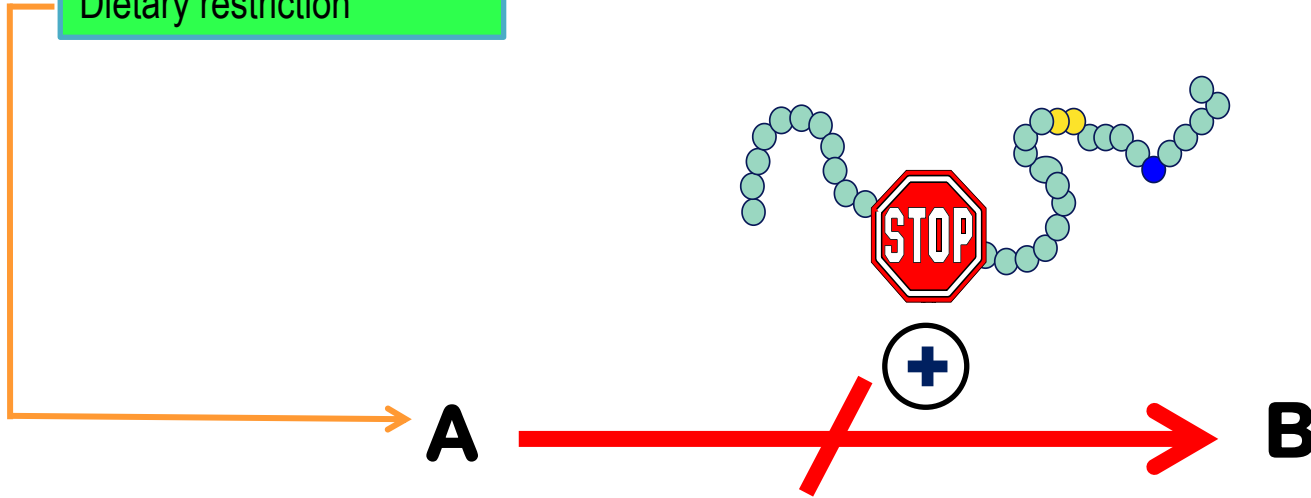
Therapeutic strategies



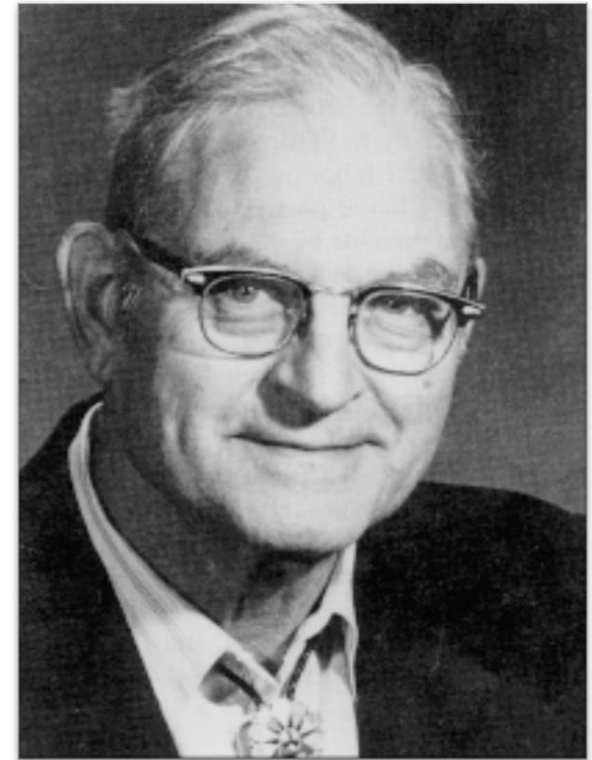
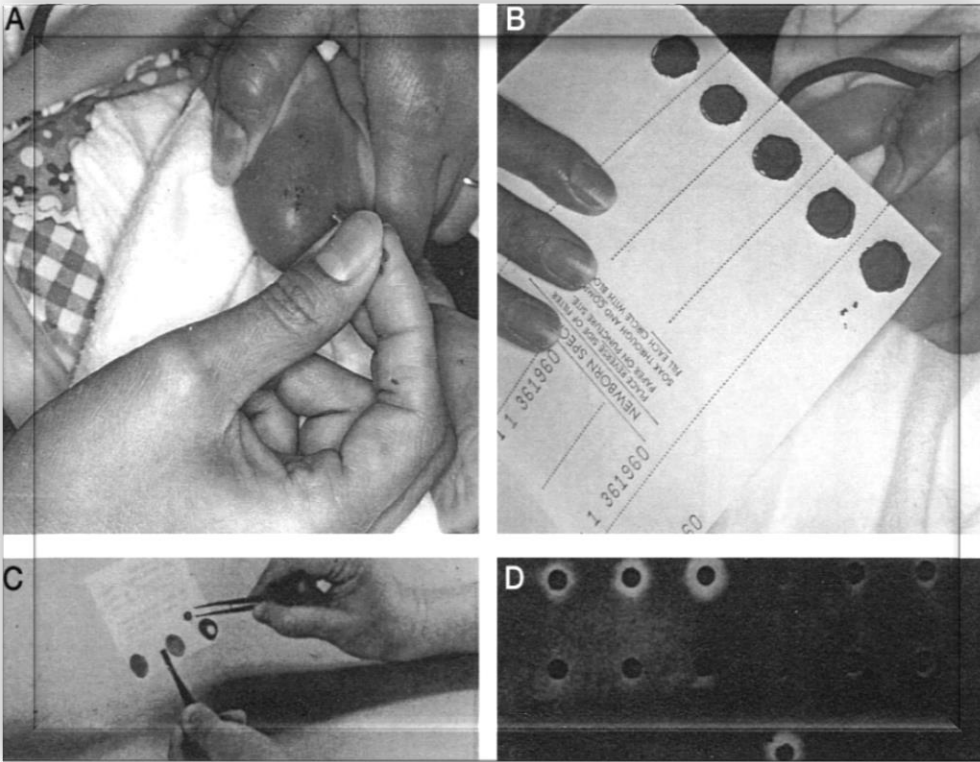
Therapeutic strategies

Substrate reduction

Dietary restriction



Phenylketonuria = first metabolic disease detected through Neonatal Screening



Dried blood spot on filter paper : Guthrie card

Robert Guthrie in early 1960s

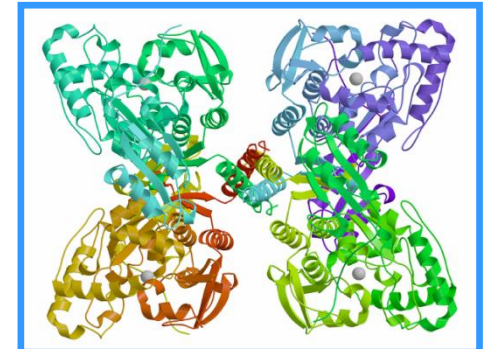
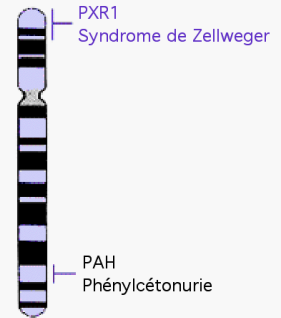
Bacterial inhibition assay : the amount of bacterial growth is measured as the diameter of the colony and is roughly proportional to the amount of Phenylalanine in the serum

Substrate reduction - Dietary restriction

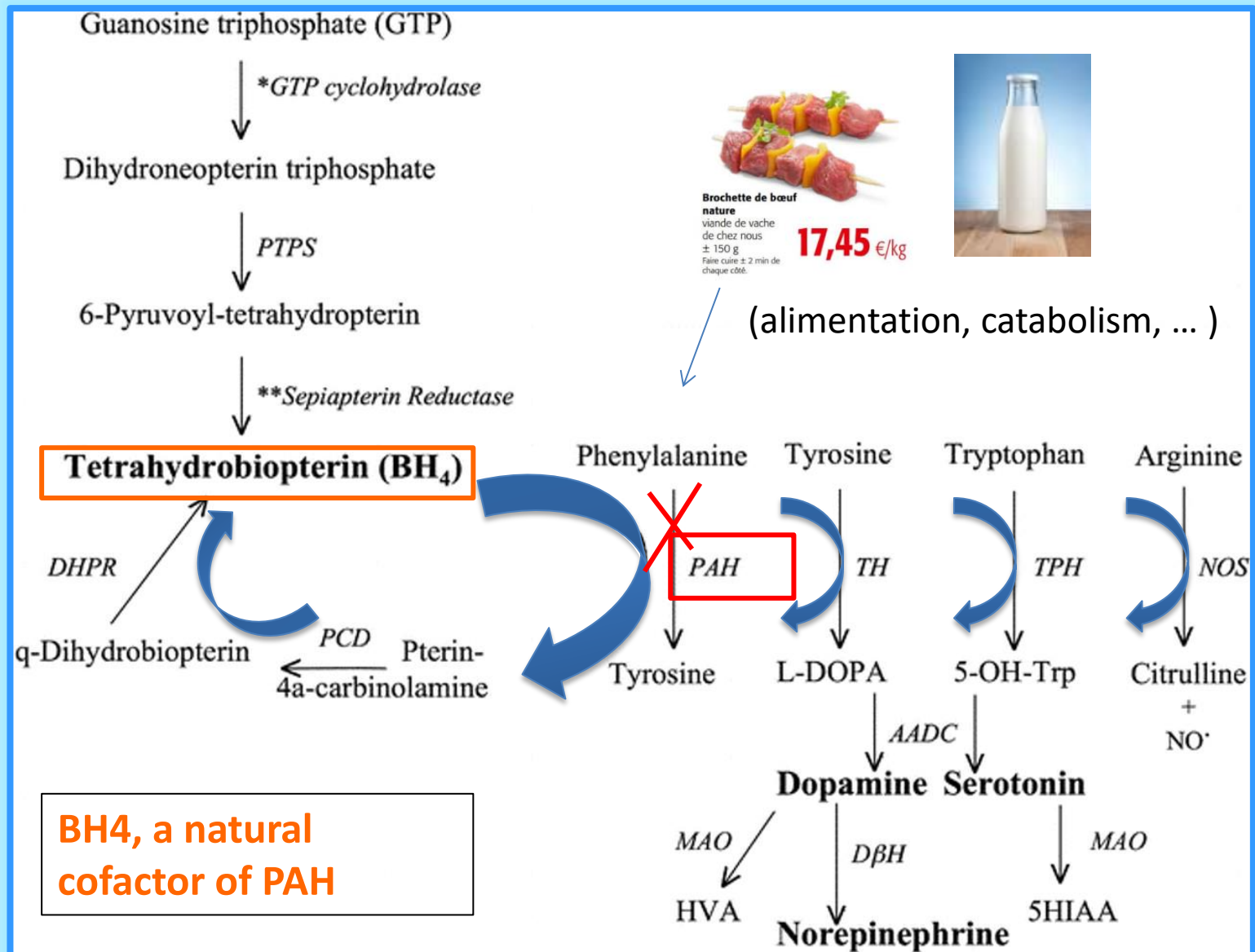
Phenylketonuria (PKU)

- Autosomal recessive disease
- 1 / 10 000 birth
- PAH gene (chromosome 12)
- Classic PKU is caused by a complete (or near-complete) phenylalanine hydroxylase activity (PAH) deficiency in liver.
- PAH has a tetrameric structure
- PAH deficiency results in intolerance to dietary intake of phenylalanine (an essential amino acid)

Chromosome 12

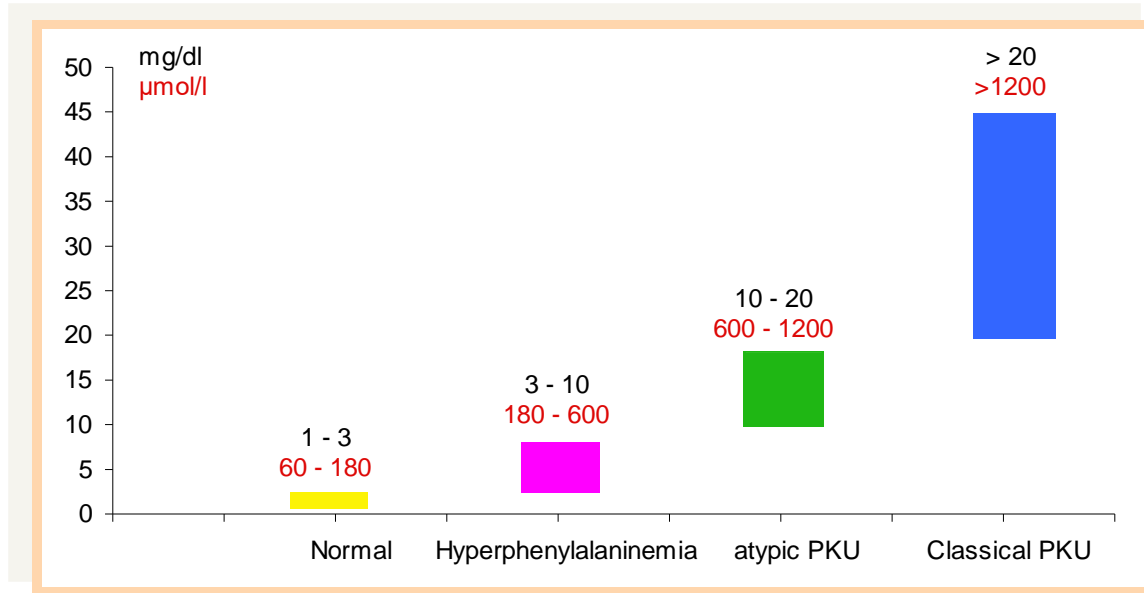


Phenylketonuria and the Phenylalanine Hydroxylase (PAH) system



Phenylalanine plasmatic levels and PKU classification

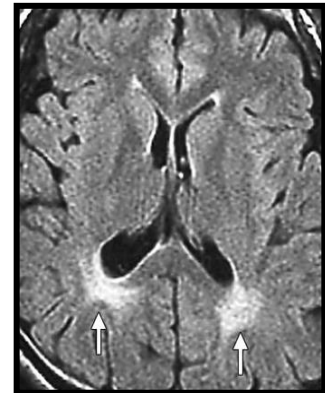
Phenylalanine
(PHE)



	PAH activity	PHE level without treatment	Daily PHE tolerance in food
Classical PKU	0-1 %	> 20 mg/dl > 1200 μmol/l	200 – 350 mg
Variant PKU or Atypical PKU	1-3 %	10 - 20 mg/dl 600-1200 μmol/l	350 - 850 mg
Non-PKU Hyperphenylalaninemia	3 - 5 %	3 – 10 mg/dl 180-600 μmol/l	> 850 mg

Untreated classical PKU

- Mild to severe mental retardation
- Neurologic symptoms
 - Microcephaly
 - Gait instability, tremor
 - Epilepsy
 - Autistic behavior
 - Auto and hetero aggressivity
- Structural brain changes on MRI (white matter abnormalities)
- Decreased skin and hair pigmentation (Blond hair, blue eyes)
- Eczema/prurigo
- Musty body odor (typical)



First dietetic treatment for an IEM

Horst Bickel (1953)

Influence of phenylalanine (PHE) intake on phenylketonuria

Phenylketonuria can be treated with a phenylalanine restricted diet



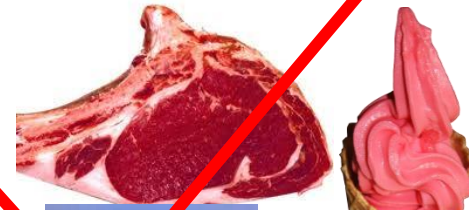
Principle of a phenylalanine restricted diet

- Control of natural protein intake according to patient's PHE tolerance
- Avoidance of high protein food
(milk, dairy products, meat, fish, chicken, eggs, beans and nuts,...)
- Phenylalanine-free formula (amino acids mixture with vitamins and oligoelements)
- Low protein food (manufactured hypoproteic bread, pasta, biscuits, ...)
- But No control of 'protein-free' food





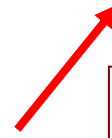
**+ PHE-free Amino acid supplements
+ Hypoproteic food**



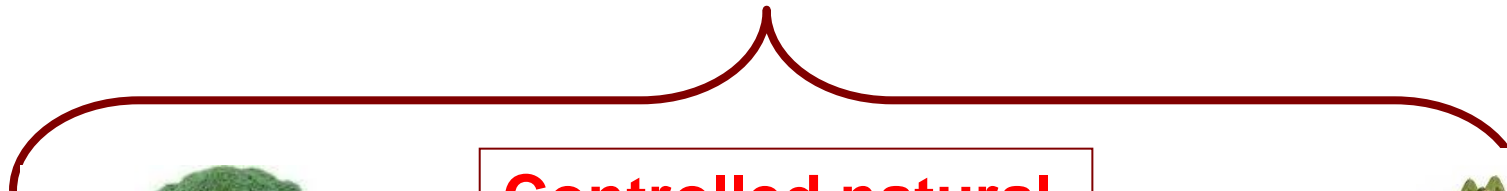
Allowed



Forbidden



PKU Phe-restricted diet



**Controlled natural
Protein intake**



Correlation between Phe metabolic control and IQ

Meta-analyses of within-study correlations: intelligence quotient (IQ) and concurrent^a blood phenylalanine (Phe) level

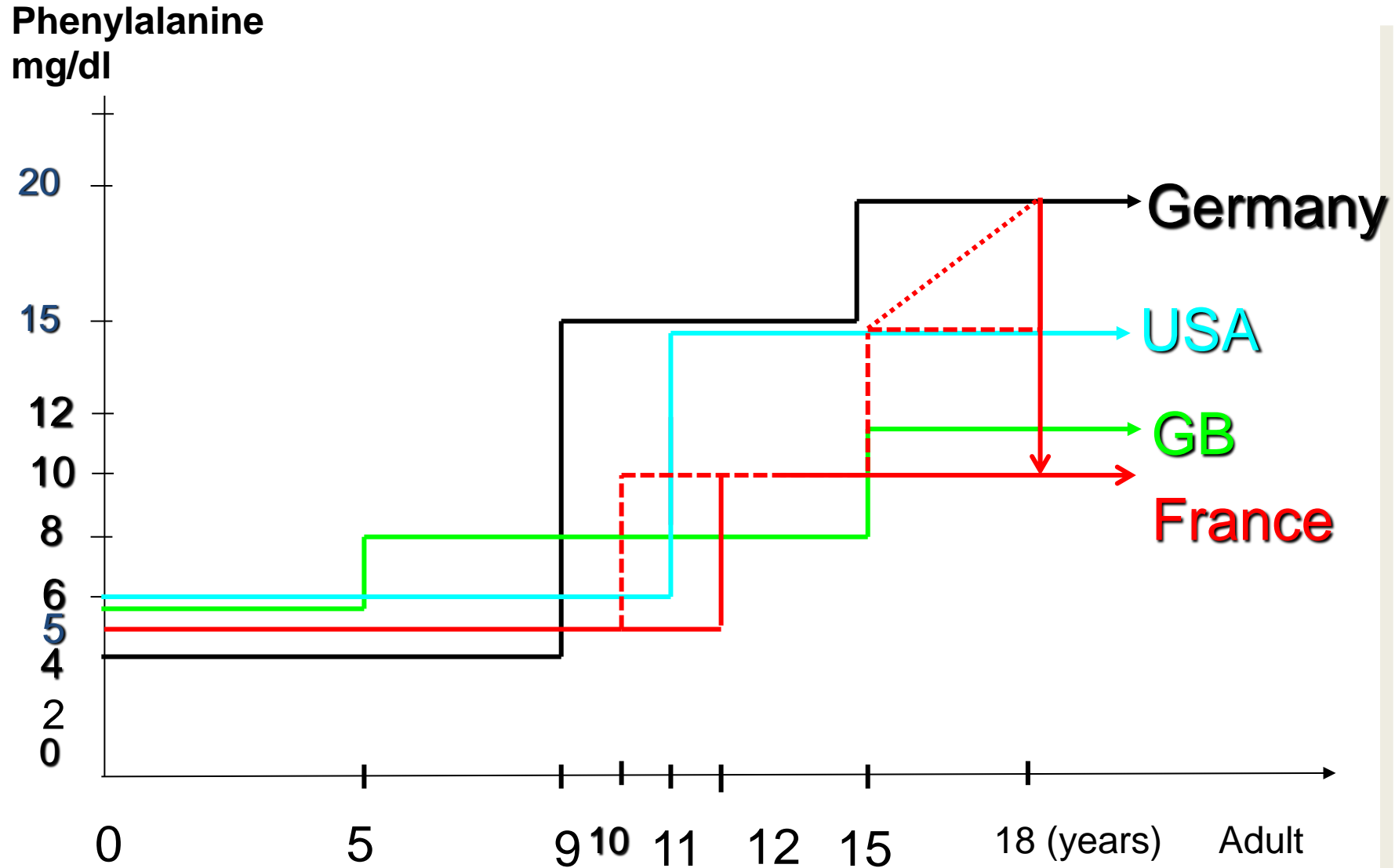
PKU population	<i>t</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>r</i> (95% CI) ^b
Early treated	29	666	-0.31 (-0.41, -0.20)*
Classic			
Total	23	499	-0.23 (-0.32, -0.14)
Early treated	21	473	-0.25 (-0.34, -0.15)
Mixed treatment history	3	32	0.04 (-0.35, 0.42)
Mixed/unspecified			
Total	14	310	-0.29 (-0.48, -0.07)*
Early treated	9	219	-0.42 (-0.60, -0.19)*
Mixed treatment history	5	91	0.02 (-0.27, 0.31)
Mild	1	8	-0.28 (-0.82, 0.53)
Hyperphenylalaninemia	1	16	-0.08 (-0.55, 0.43)

0-12 years : Each 100 $\mu\text{mol/l}$ Phe increase predicted a **1.3 to 3.1 IQ** point reduction

→PHE level is a predictive IQ indicator

Stronger association was observed between Phe levels during early childhood and later IQ.

International recommendations for PHE control according to age and country - no universal consensus



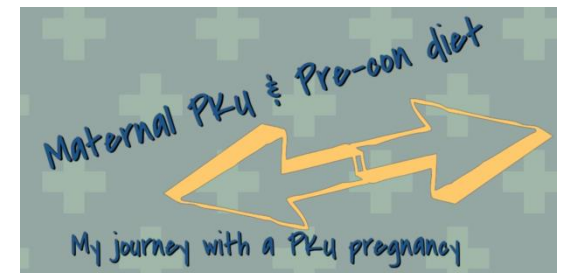


- **Lifelong low phenylalanine diet** (in males and females) to prevent : decreased IQ scores, eczema, behavioral problems, seizures, decreased executive functioning, depression, irritability, headaches, impairment of short term memory,
- Important **in Females** who are willing to be pregnant, keep them on a **controlled diet**
- Recommendation to start a strict low PHE diet at least **3 months before planned conception**



and

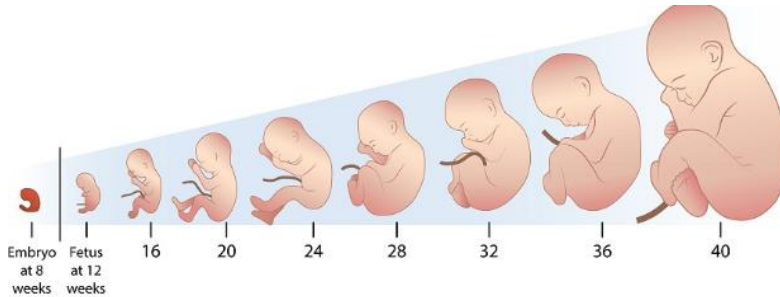
throughout pregnancy because of teratogenic effects of Phenylalanine



Maternal Phenylketonuria

The toxic effects of Phenylalanine on fetus

MATERNAL PKU : RISKS TO FETUS

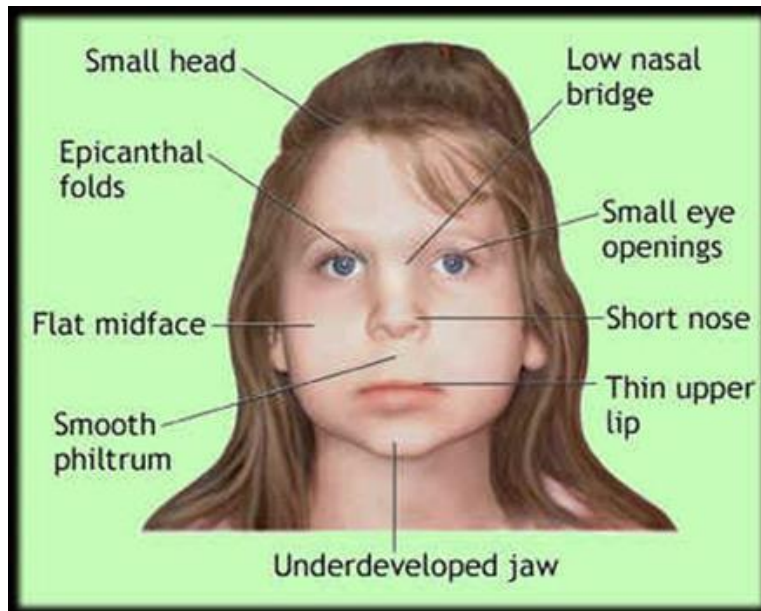


**LACK OF
DIET OR
POOR DIET
CONTROL**

May cause in fetus



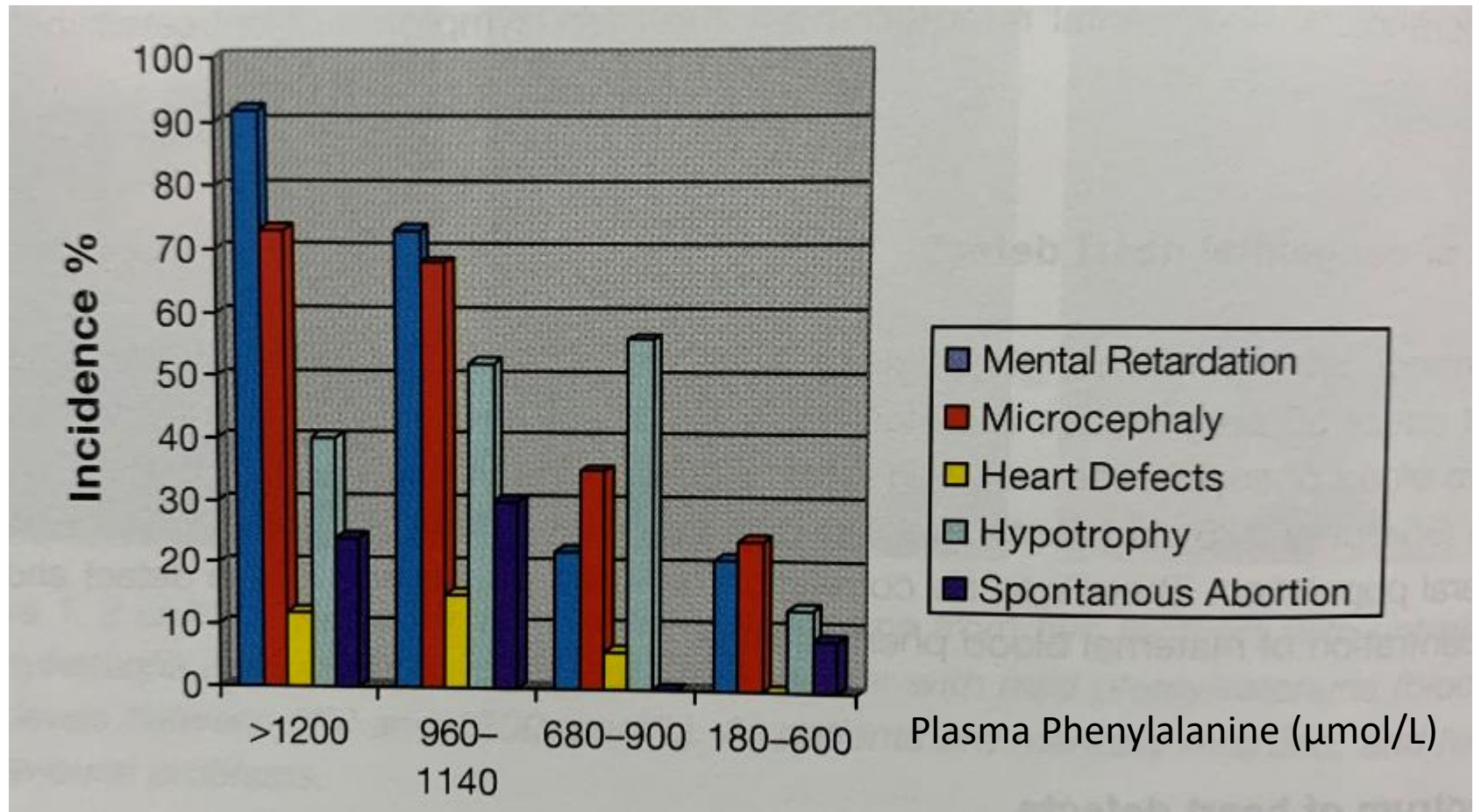
- Congenital heart disease
- Microcephaly (small head size)
- Low birthweight
- Mental retardation
- Slow development
- Language deficit



Maternal PKU Syndrome after birth :

- Dysmorphism
- Microcephaly 73 %
- Developmental delay 92 %
- Mental retardation 75-90 %
- Congenital hart disease 12 %
- Low birth weight 40 %

Maternal Clinical picture in untreated maternal Phenylketonuria

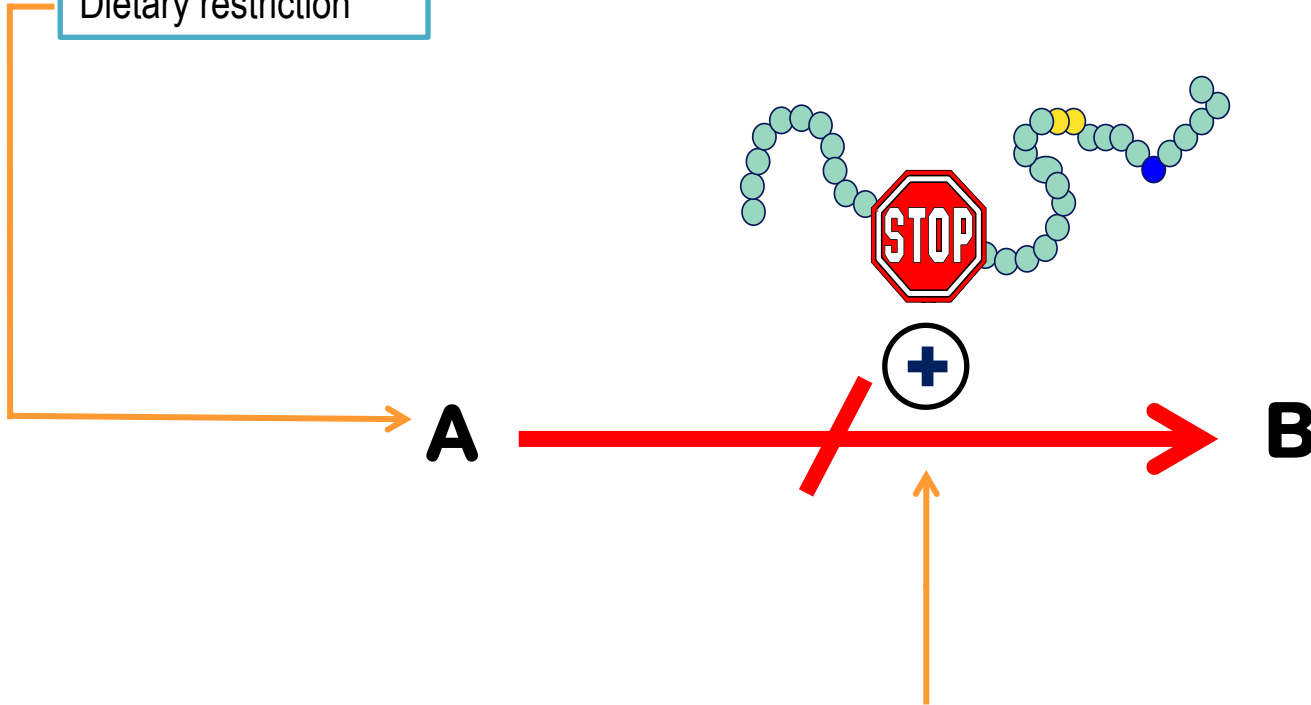


Clinical consequences at different phenylalanine levels

Therapeutic strategies

Substrate reduction

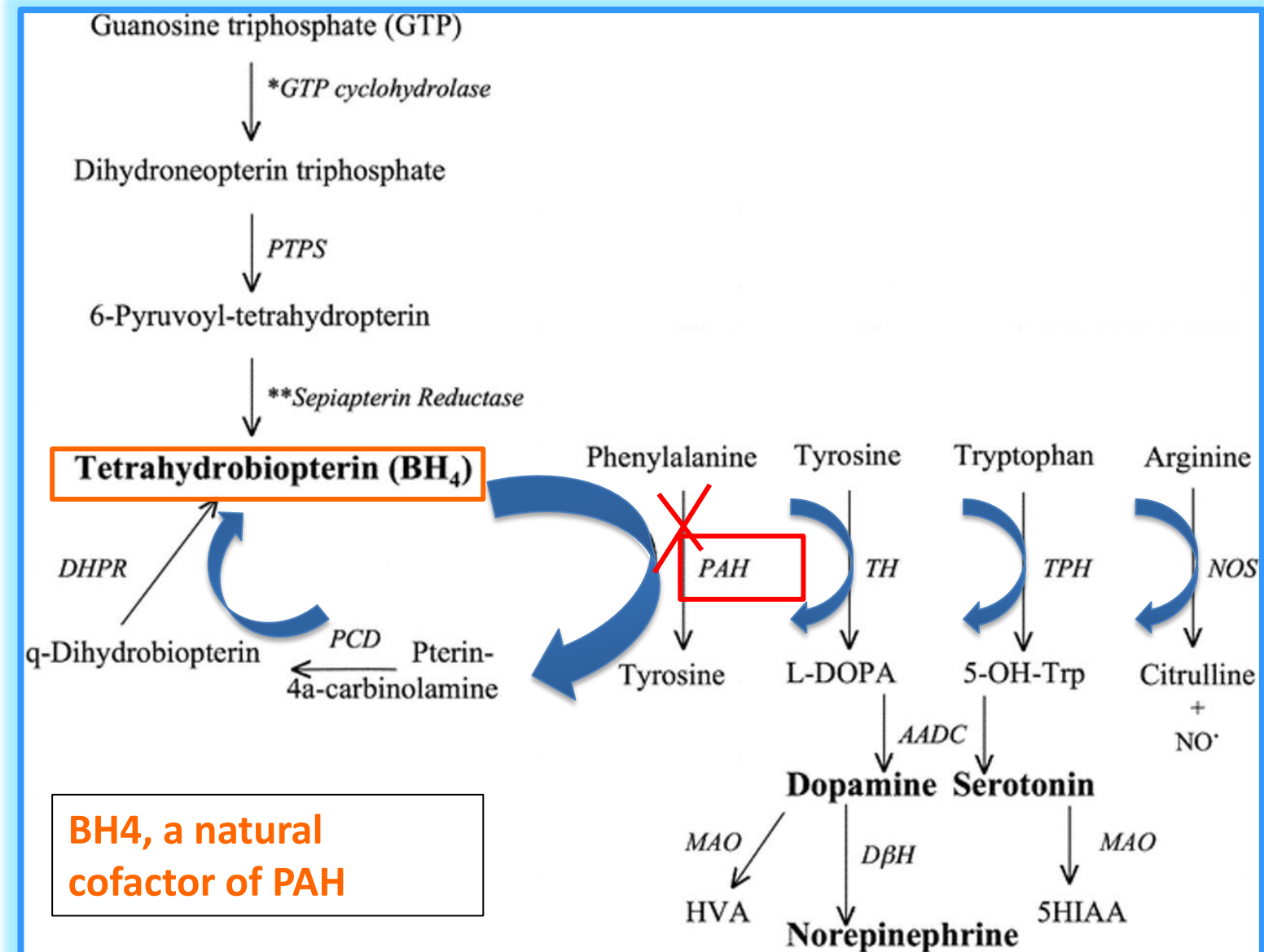
Dietary restriction



Stimulation residual enzyme

- Co-enzyme treatment
- Enzyme enhancement therapy or « chaperone therapy »

Phenylketonuria and the Phenylalanine Hydroxylase (PAH) system



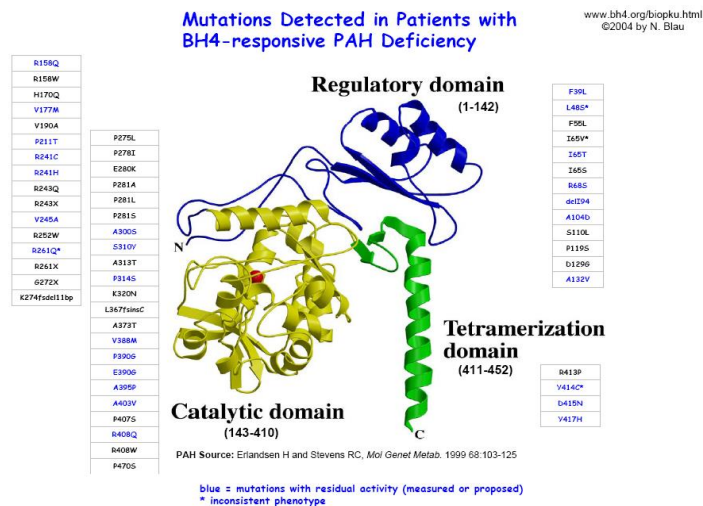
PAH gene - Importance of missense mutations

~ 500 mutations worldwide

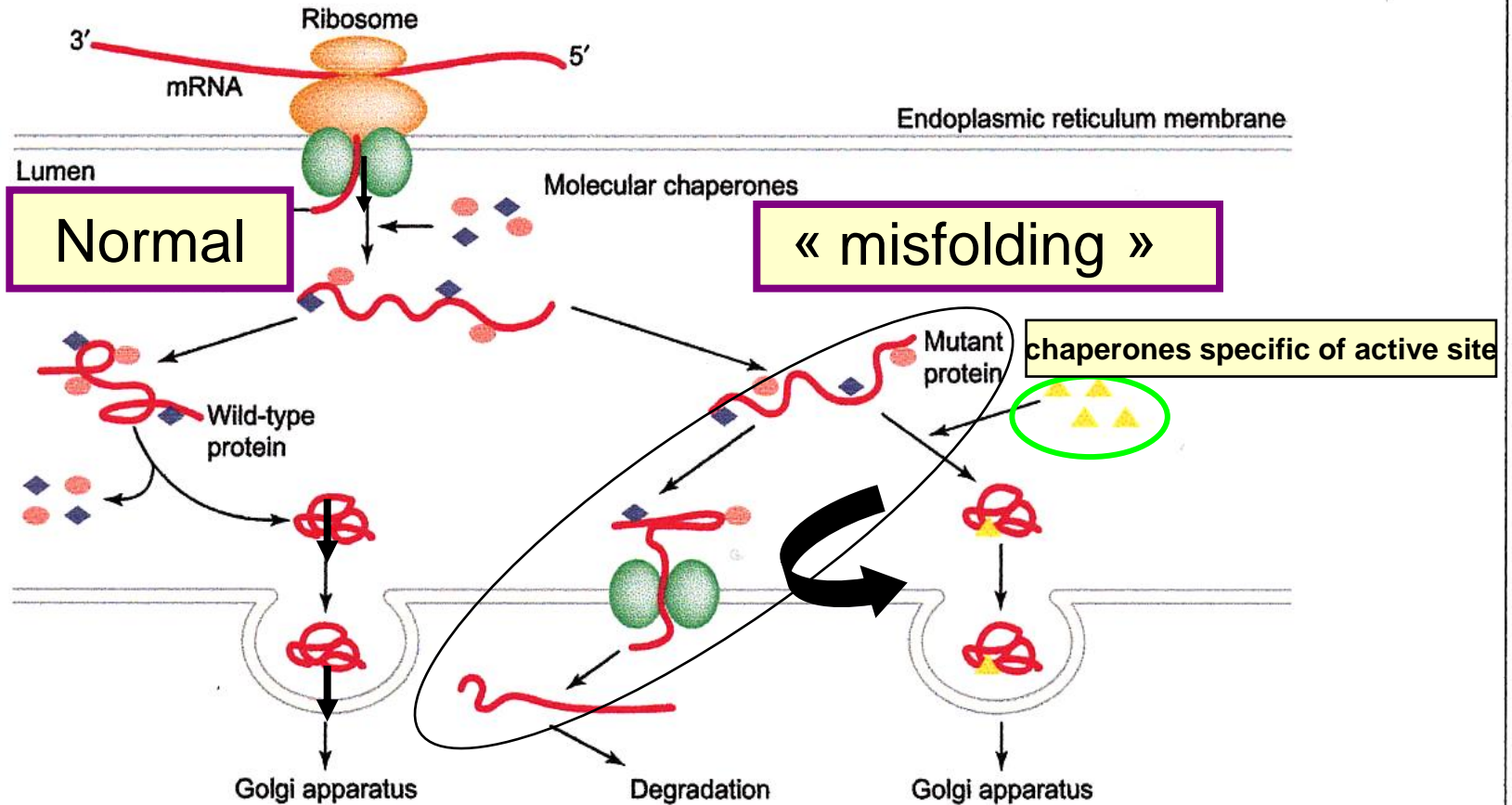
Mutation Type	N°	Graph	
<u>Missense</u>	308		61,85 %
<u>Deletion</u>	66		13,25 %
<u>Splice</u>	52		10,44 %
<u>Silent</u>	30		6,02 %
<u>Nonsense</u>	26		5,22 %
<u>Insertion</u>	8		1,61 %
<u>Sil./Splice</u>	3		0,60 %
<u>Splicing</u>	2		0,40 %
<u>Silent ?</u>	1		0,20 %
<u>Unknown</u>	1		0,20 %
Total	498		

- Enzyme is synthesized but activity is null or decreased
- PKU as a model of « misfolding » enzyme ++

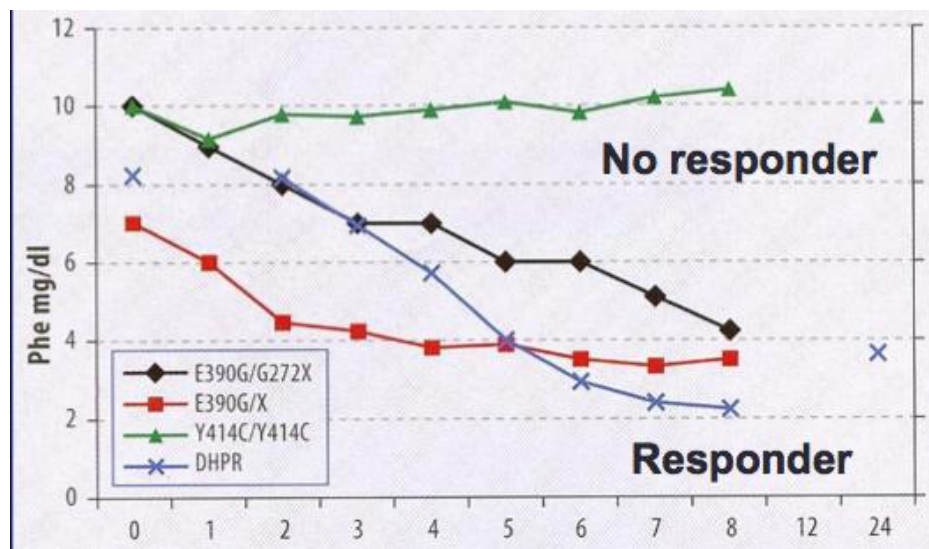
- BH4 = Natural cofactor of aromatic amino acid hydroxylases
- Sapropterin (6R-BH4) synthetic form of tetrahydrobiopterin
- Orphan drug (FDA and EMEA)
- Stabilization of the active tetramer forms of the mutant protein
- Protection from inactivation
- Acts as a « chemical chaperone », preventing misfolding



Enzyme Enhancement Therapy or pharmacological «chaperone»

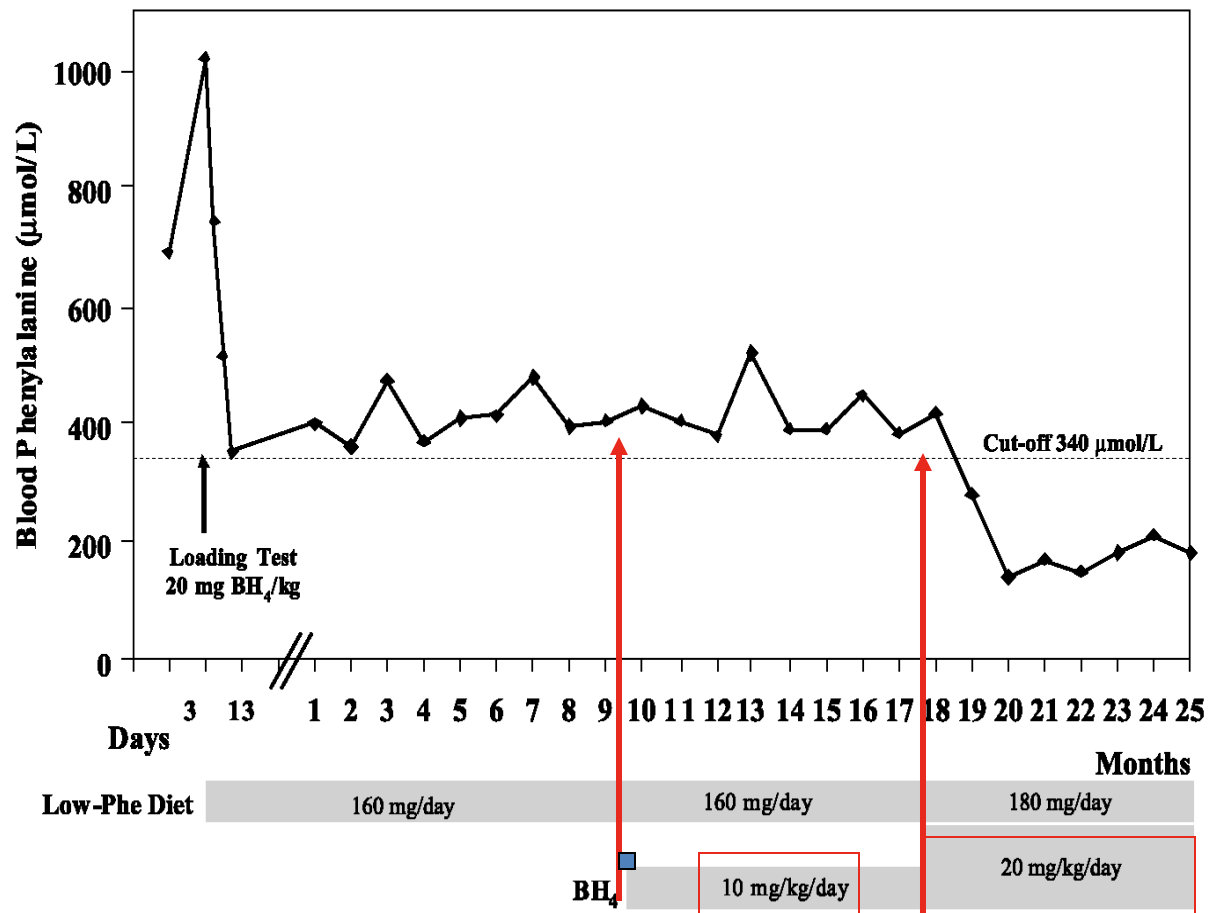


Different responses to oral BH4 loading test (20mg/kg) according to genotype in PKU patients

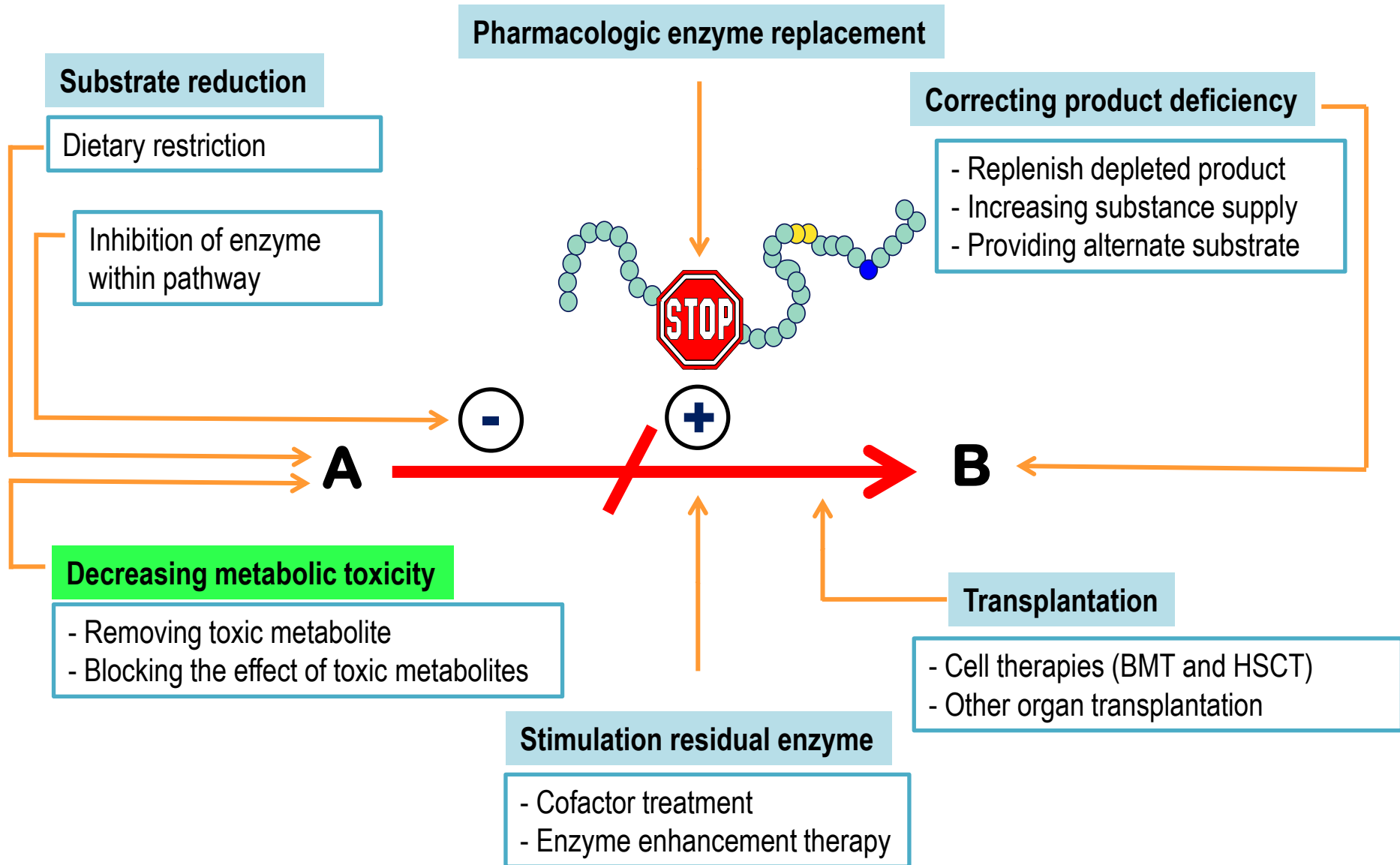


- About **70** % of mild HPA and mild PKU patients proved to respond to BH4 therapy (reduced Phe level after loading test > 30 %).
- About **10** % of classical PKU patient respond to BH4 (more severe mutations, null mutations)
- In PKU patients responsive to BH4, oral treatment could be used **in addition** to a restrictive low-phenylalanine diet to reduce blood phenylalanine and increase PHE tolerance, and might even replace the diet in some instances.

Long term treatment with oral BH₄ increase in Phe tolerance

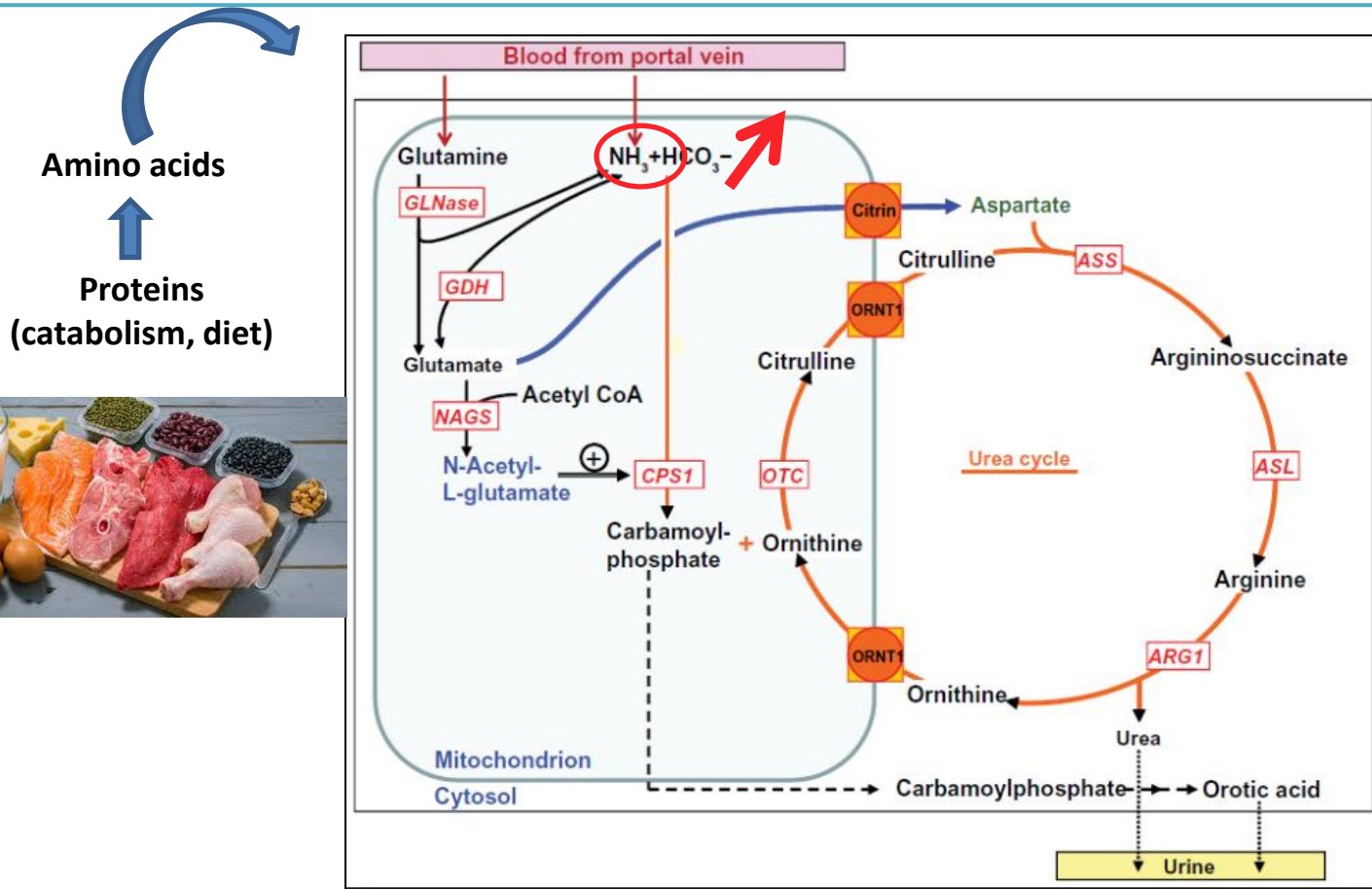


Therapeutic strategies



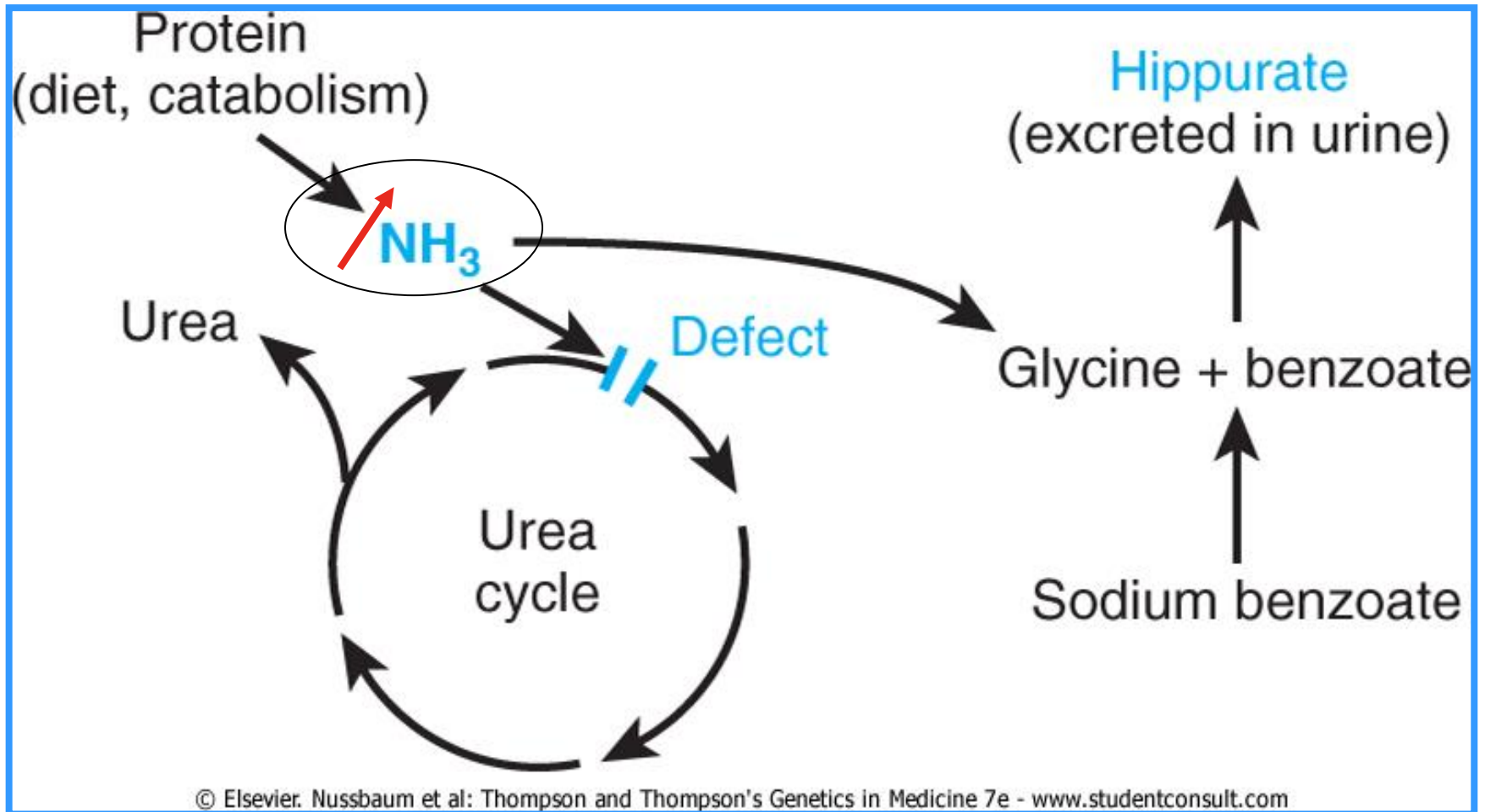
Removing toxic metabolite

Urea cycle defect (UCD)



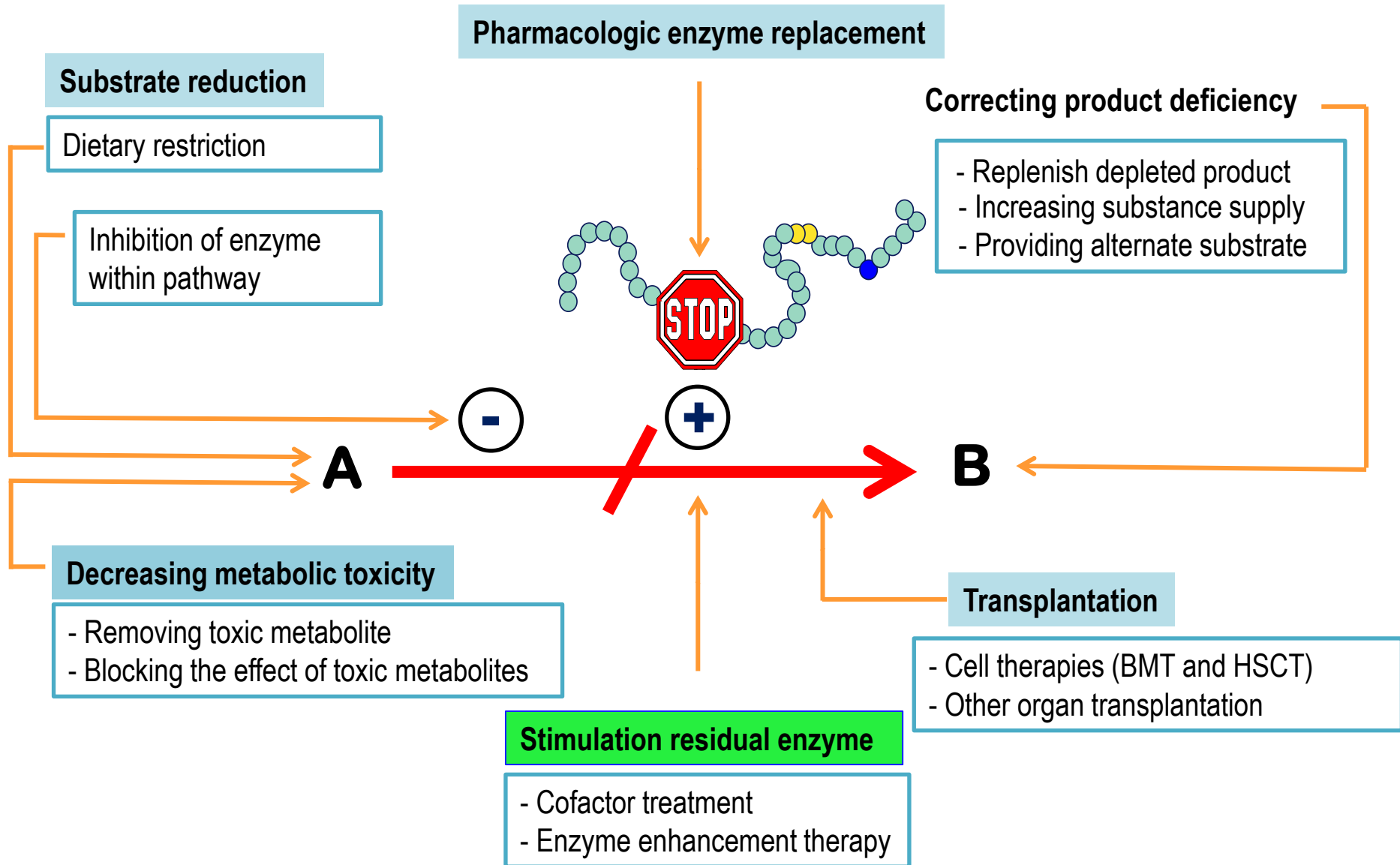
Hyperammonemia is the hallmark of Urea Cycle Defect and responsible for severe brain damage

UCD and nitrogen scavengers

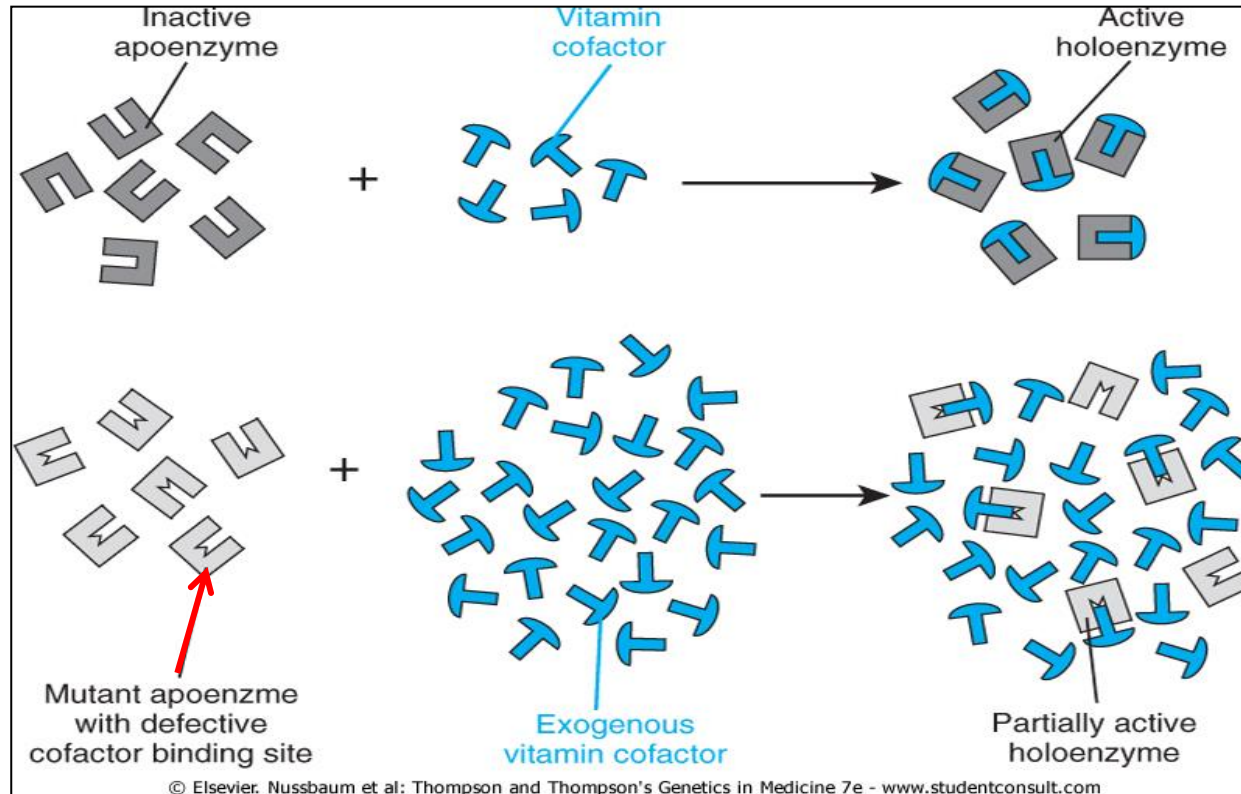


Administration of sodium benzoate diverts ammonia to glycine synthesis, and the nitrogen moiety is subsequently excreted as hippurate in urine (non toxic compound)

Therapeutic strategies

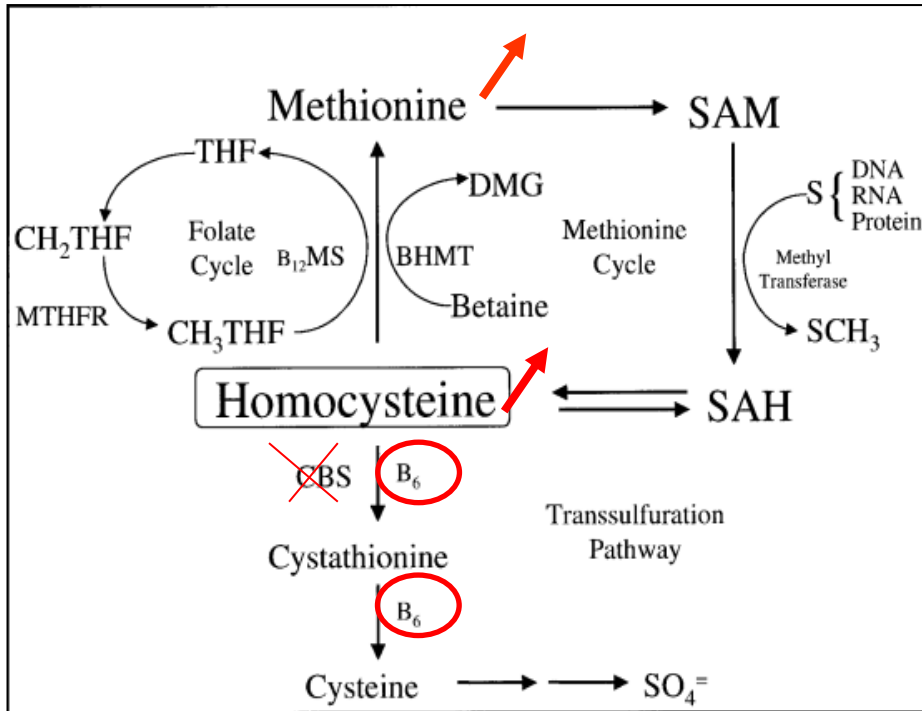


Effects of High dose Cofactors or Vitamin-responsive effect

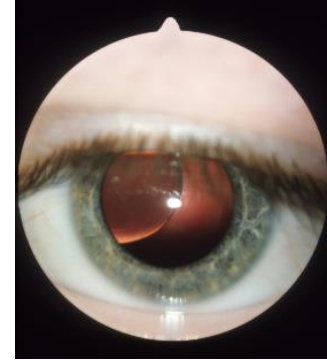


- Vitamin-responsive enzyme defects are often due to mutations that reduce the normal affinity of the enzyme for the cofactor needed to activation

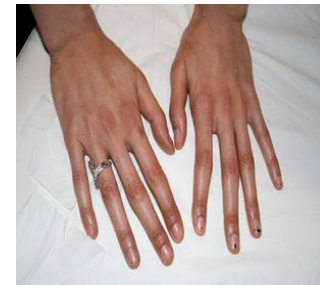
Classical Homocystinuria Cystathionine-β-synthase (CBS) deficiency



- High Homocysteine increases thromboembolic risks (stroke, myocardial infarctions), especially after 20 years



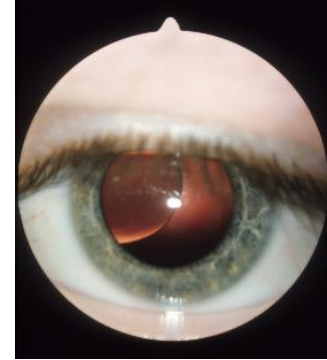
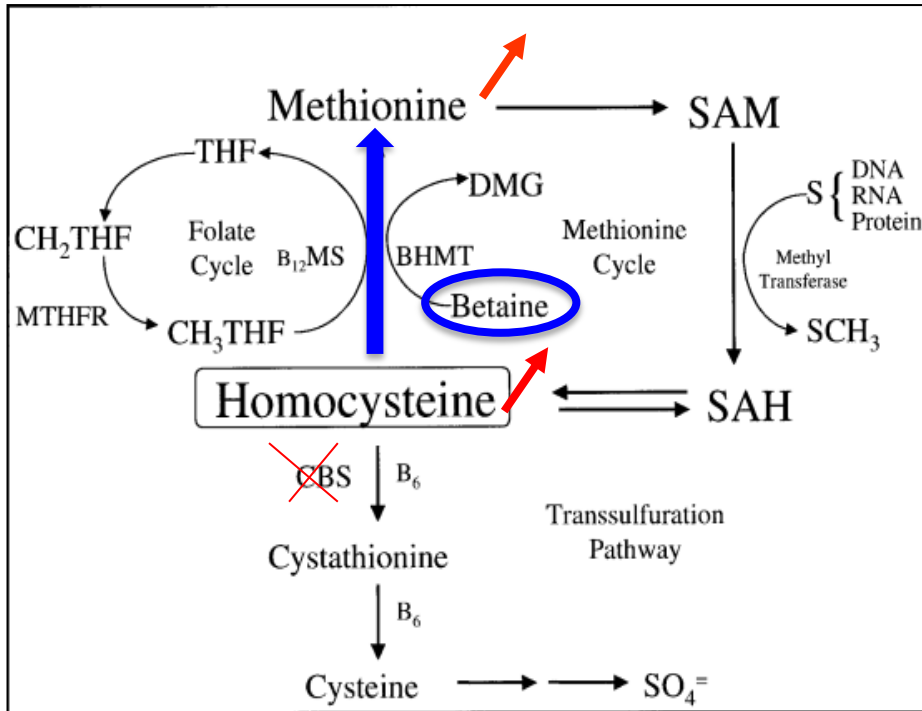
- Ectopia Lentis



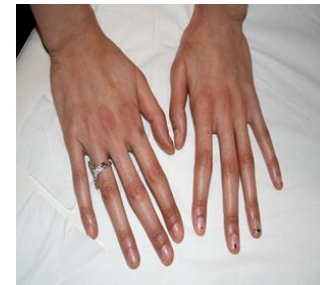
- Marfanoid Habitus
- Arachnodactyly

50 % of patients with CBS deficiency are pyridoxine (vitamine B6) - responsive

Classical Homocystinuria Cystathionine-β-synthase (CBS) deficiency



▪ Ectopia Lentis



▪ Marfanoid Habitus

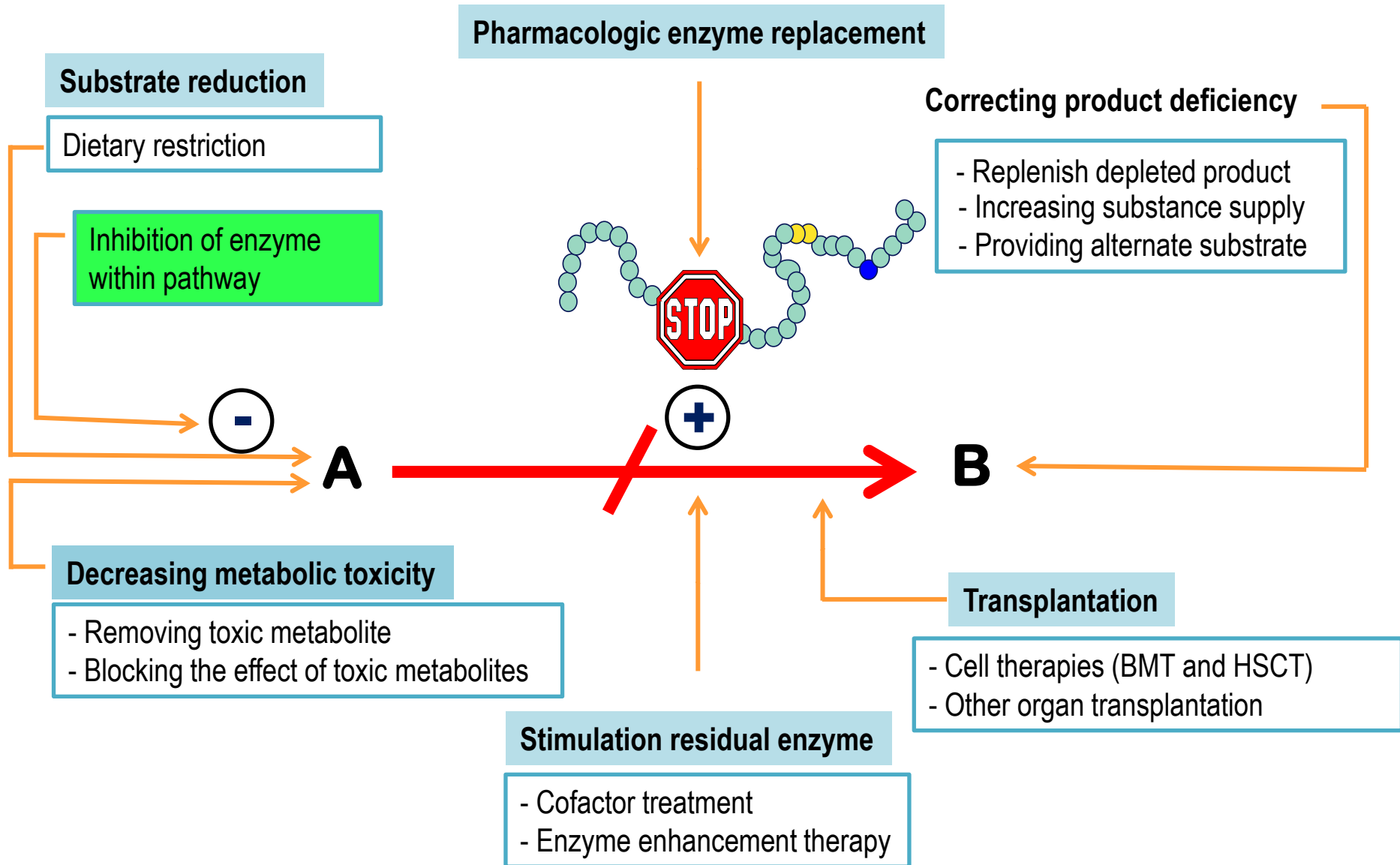
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50 % of patients with CBS deficiency are pyridoxine (vitamine B6) - responsive

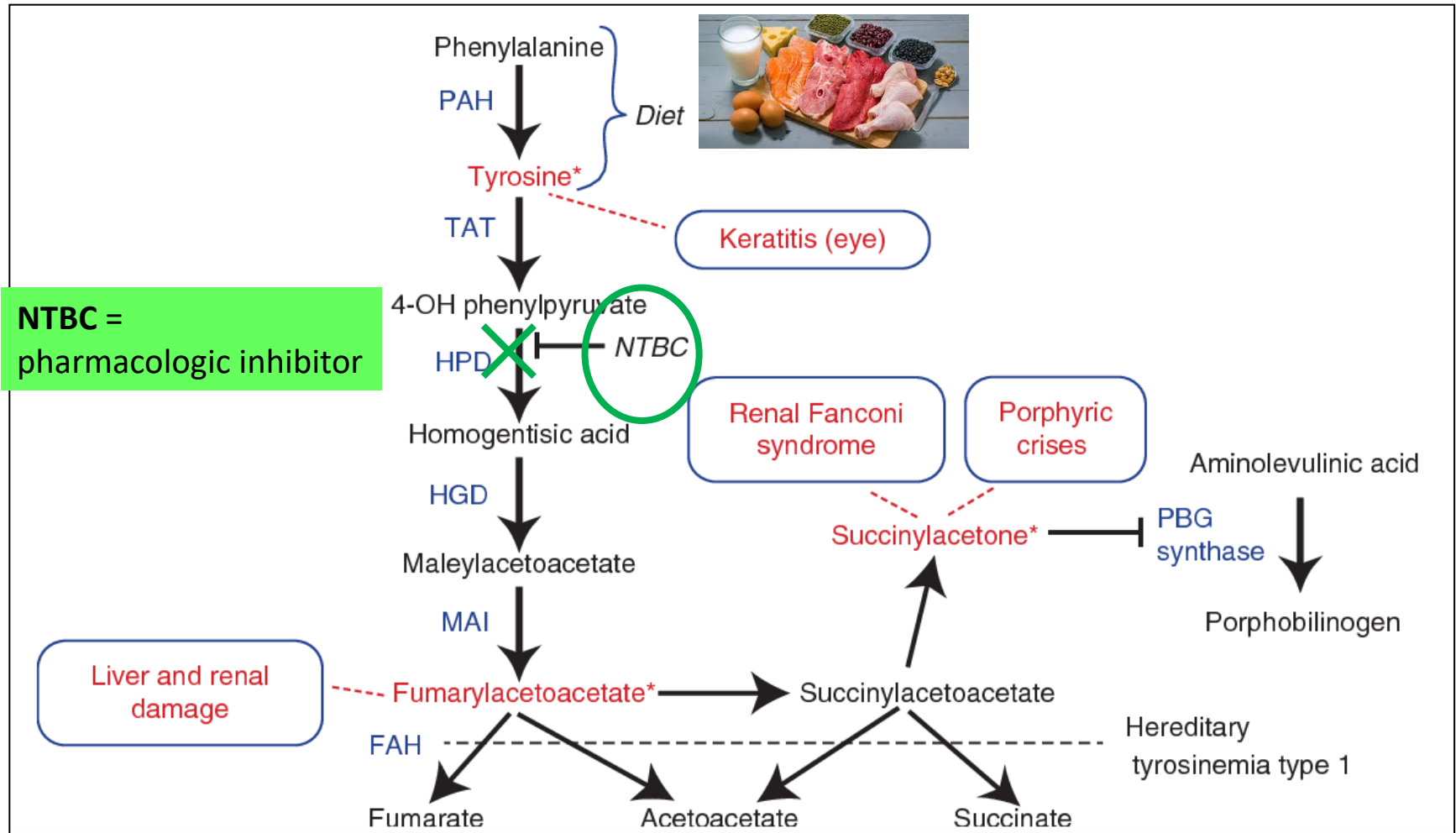
In B6 non-responsive patients, Betaine decreases Homocysteine levels

Therapeutic strategies



Inhibition of enzyme within pathway

How to transform a severe disease into a milder disease ?



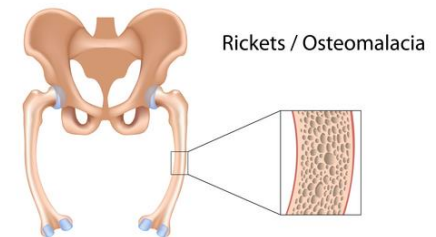
Reducing the accumulation of toxic compounds, to transform a **severe disease (Tyrosinemia type I)** into a **mild disease (Tyrosinemia type II)**

Inhibition of an enzyme within a pathway

Tyrosinemia Type 1 = severe disease

- Autosomal recessive disorder, Europe 1/100.000 ; Quebec 1/1800
- Detected through Newborn screening on DBS (tyrosine level on DBS)

- Hepatic disease : Chronic hepatic insufficiency
→ cirrhosis
→ Hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC)
- Kidney disease :
Tubulopathy → Hypophosphatemic rickets

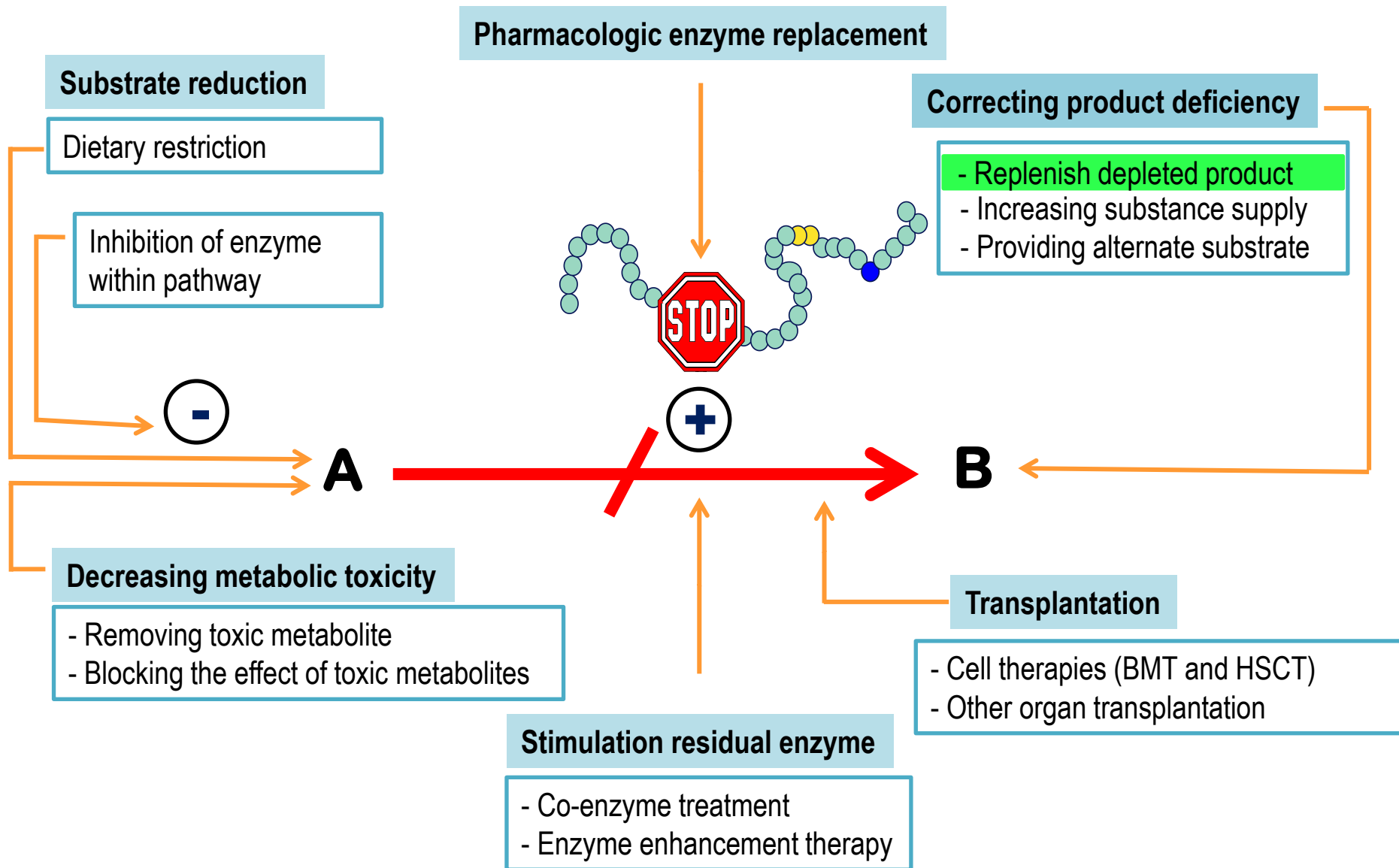


Tyrosinemia Type 2 = milder disease

- Palmoplantar keratoderma, hyperhidrosis
- Corneal opacities
- Improved with a low phenylalanine and tyrosine diet
- Intellectual disability
- No liver or kidney disease

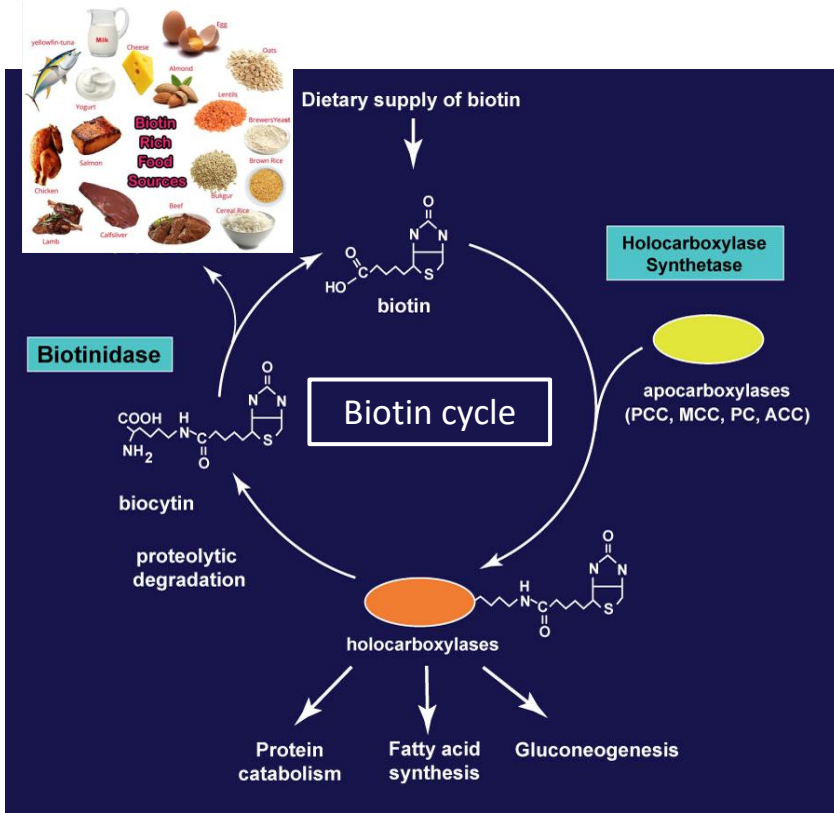


Therapeutic strategies



Correcting product deficiency

Multiple Carboxylase Deficiency (Biotinidase, Holocarboxylase synthetase)



- ❖ Free biotine (B vitamine) is needed by biotine dependant carboxylases
- ❖ Profound biotinidase deficiency :
< 10 % normal activity
- ❖ Partial biotinidase deficiency
10-30 % normal activity
- ❖ *BTB* mutation causes Biotinidase deficiency must be ruled out in every child with unexplained neurologic symptoms even in absence of cutaneous or laboratory symptoms
- ❖ Improvement of most symptoms with treatment

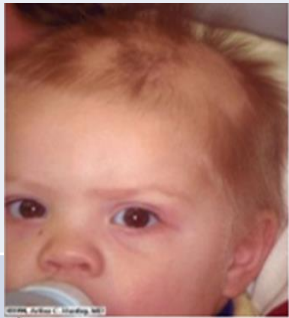
TREATMENT :

- Biotinidase deficiency : Biotin 5-10 mg/day (oral)
- HLCS : Biotin 10-20 (-40) mg/day

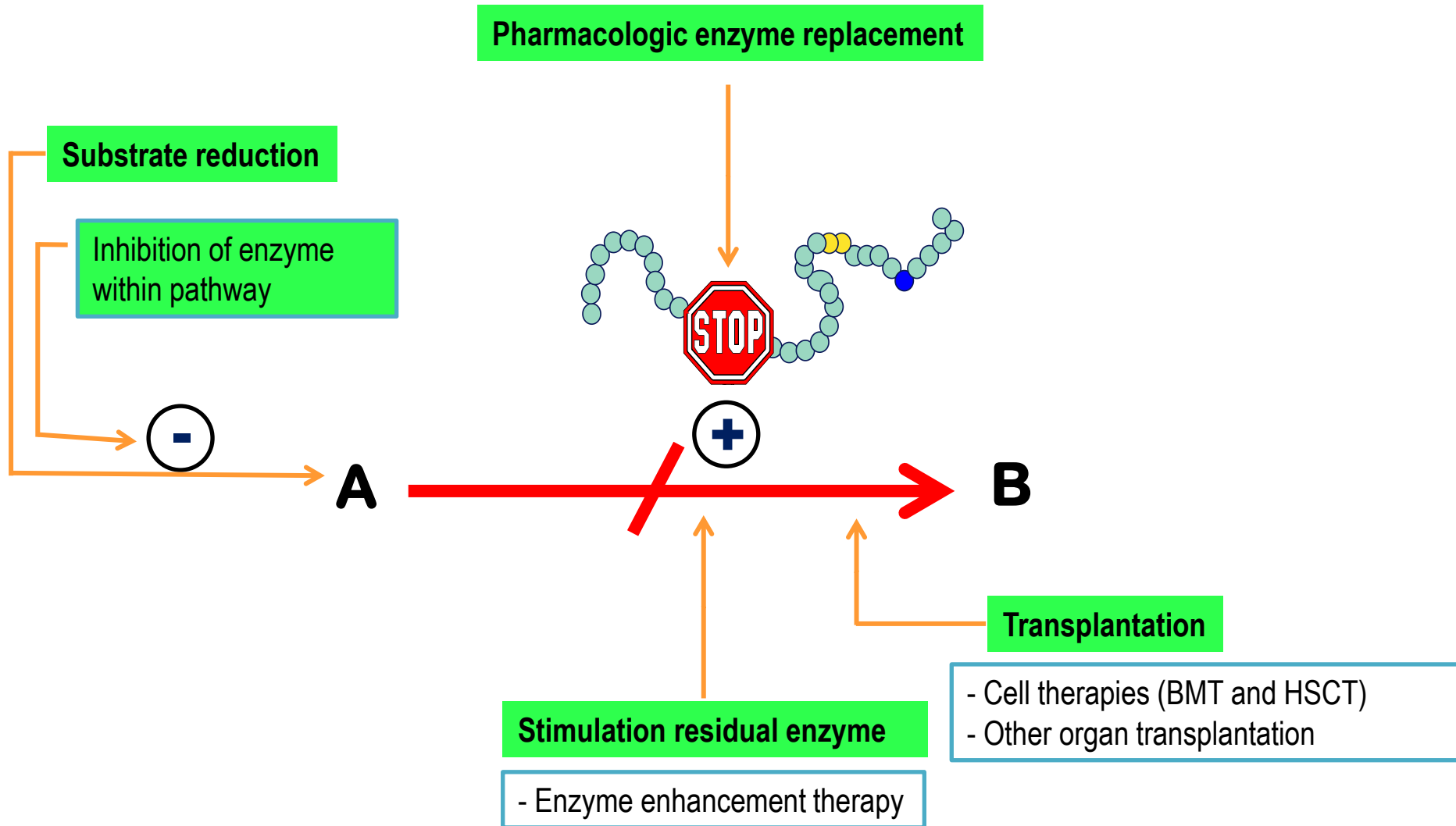
Correcting product deficiency

Multiple Carboxylase Deficiency (Biotinidase, Holocarboxylase synthetase)

	Holocarboxylase synthetase (HCLS)	Biotinidase
First symptoms	First days of life	1week till 10 years
	Hypotonia, coma, Seizures , hypothermia	Hypotonia, ataxia, Seizures
Cutaneous symptoms	Alopecia, skin rash	Alopecia, scaly perioral/facial rash Periorifacial eczema pigmentation deficit (loss of hair color)
Complications		Deafness and optic atrophy Periventricular leucodystrophy Or thalami abnormalities (MRI) Spinal cord and progressive spastic paresis Intellectual disability and developmental delay Recurrent viral or fungal infections < immune dysfunction
	Severe metabolic acidosis	Metabolic ketoacidosis Organic aciduria : propionylglycine, tiglylglycine, methylcitrate, 3-hydroxypropionique, 3-methylcrotonylglycine, 3-hydroxyisovalérique
Enzyme activity	Fibroblasts, lymphocytes	DBS or plasma



Therapeutic strategies in Lysosomal Storage Disease



Treatment according to clinical phenotype in MPS I

SEVERE FORM

ATTENUATED FORM



HURLER

HURLER-SCHEIE

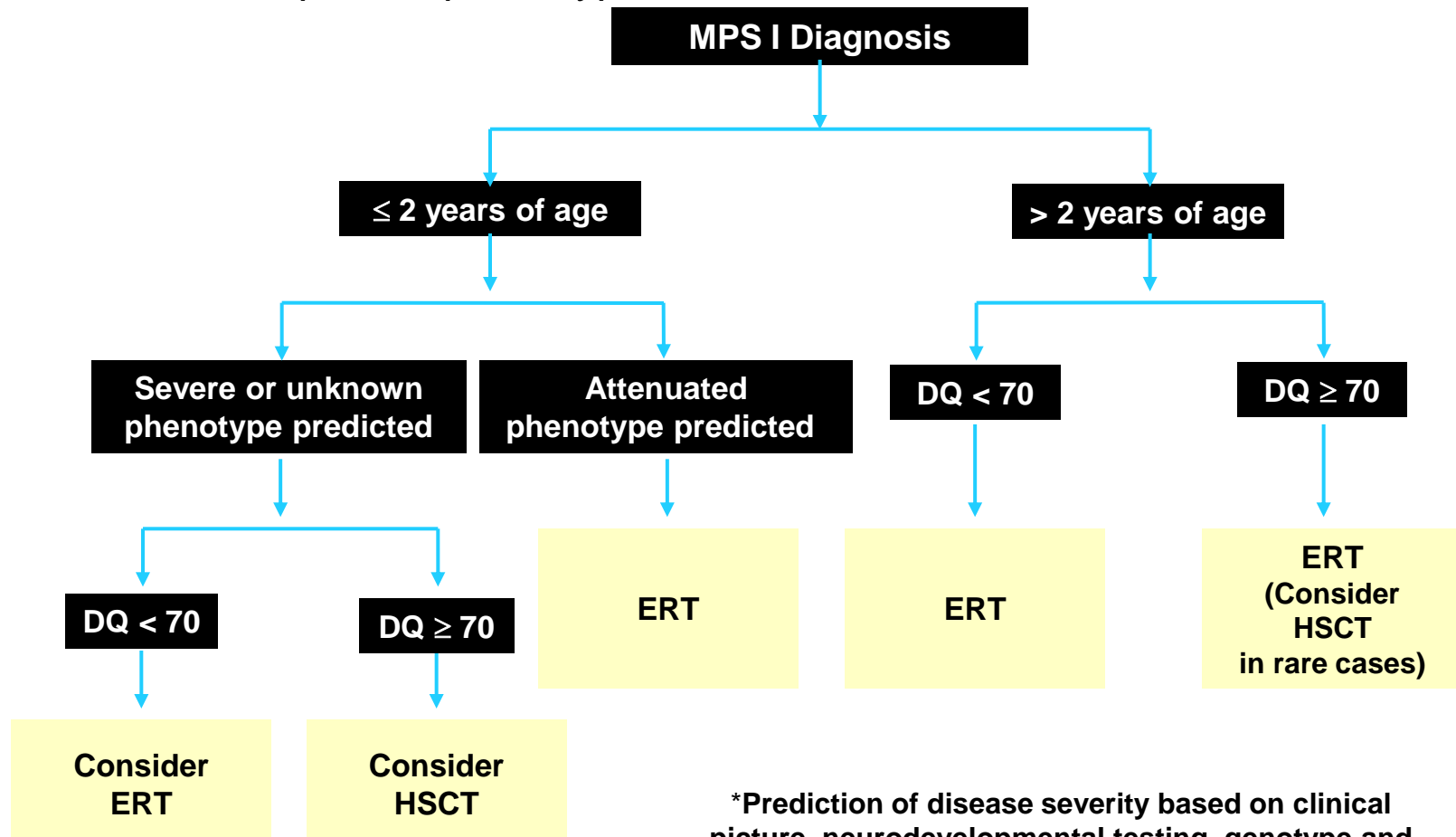
SCHEIE

Age at diagnosis	0.2–7 years	0.2–36 years	2–54 years
Effect on cognition	Pronounced mental delay with loss of acquired skills	No/mild mental delay; learning disabilities	No impairment
Mean life expectancy (untreated)	7 years	Approximately 20 years	Adulthood
Phenotype distribution*	~65%	~25%	~10%

*based on Moore et al. *Orphanet J Rare Dis* 2008;3:24 and MPS I Registry data

Treatment algorithm in MPS I

Treatment is adapted to phenotype



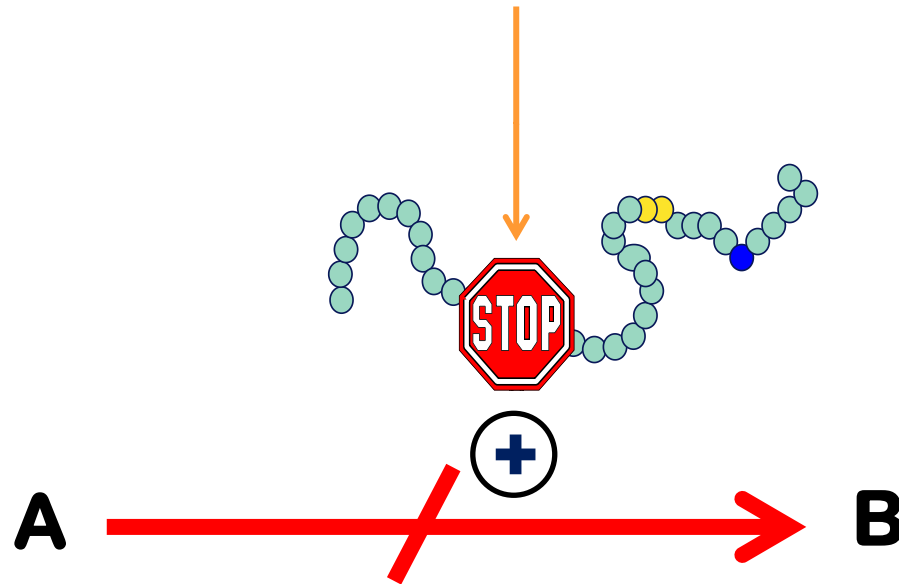
*Prediction of disease severity based on clinical picture, neurodevelopmental testing, genotype and other relevant information

DQ = Developmental quotient

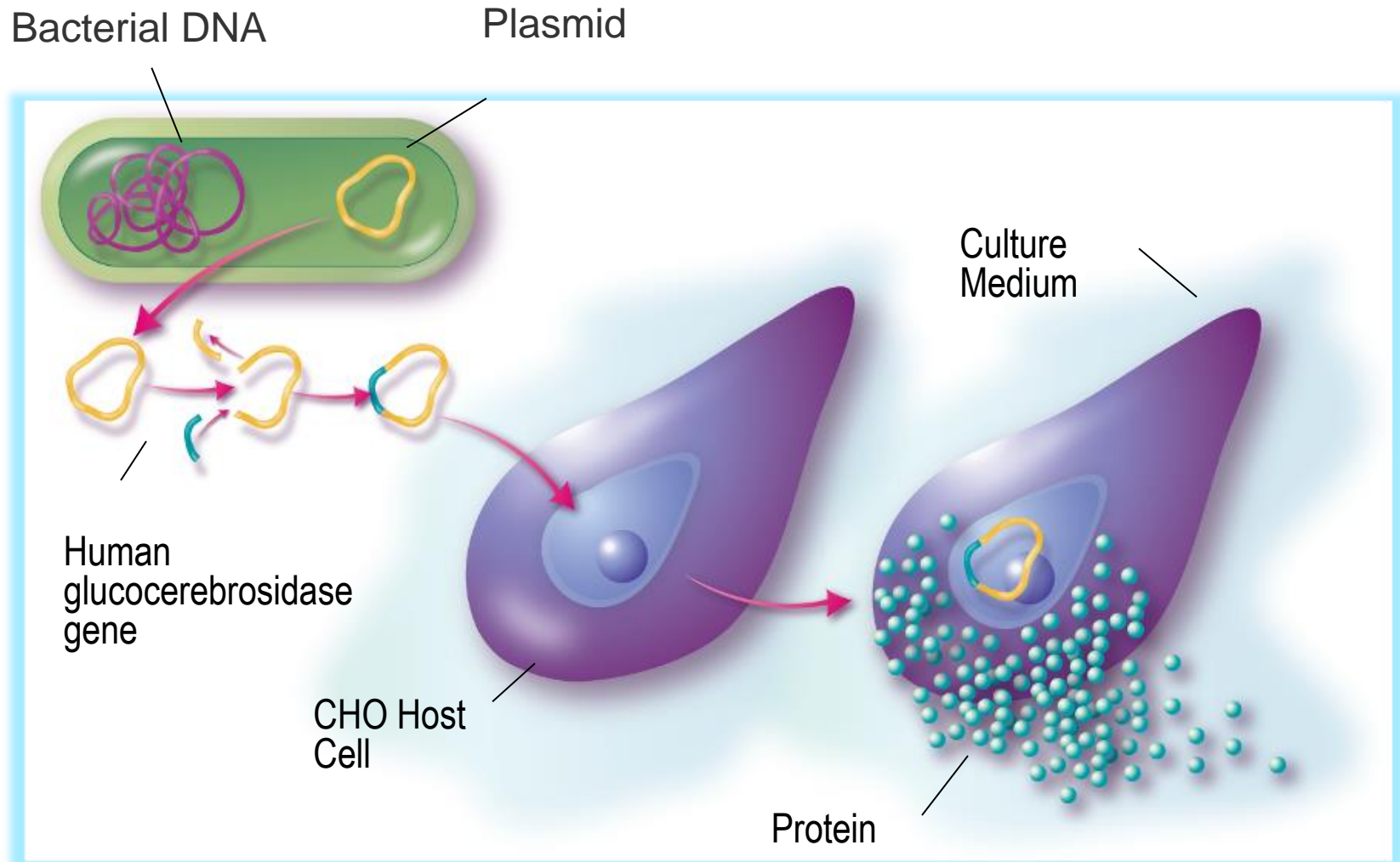
HSCT = Hematopoietic stem cell transplant

Therapeutic strategies to IEM

Pharmacologic Enzyme Replacement Therapy (ERT)



Recombinant DNA technology to manufacture ERT



CHO : Chinese Hamster Ovary

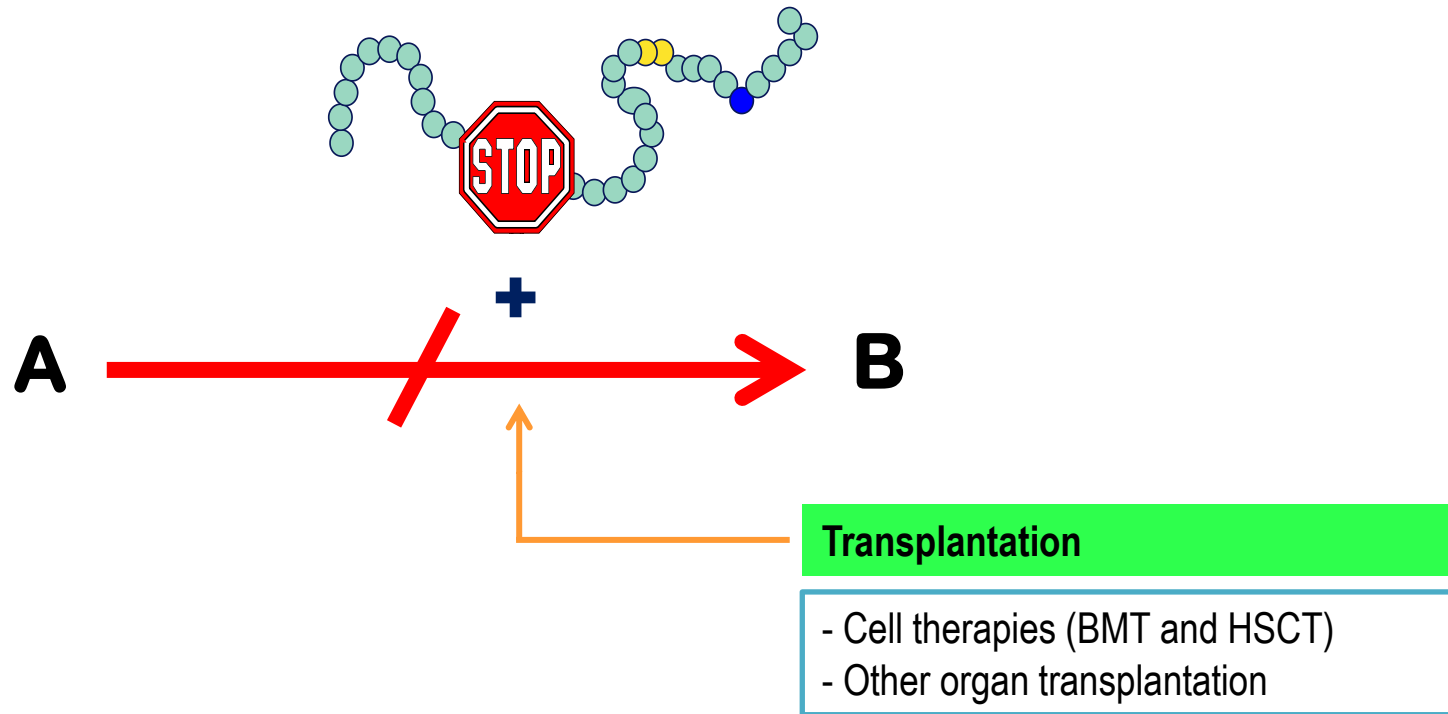
ERT - Frequent immune response

Disease	rh-enz	Nbr	% Ab	% patients with reactions
Gaucher	Cerezyme	1322	15 %	13,8 %
MPS I	Aldurazyme	55	91%	32 %
MPS II	Elaprase		11%	55 %
MPS VI	Naglazyme	10	100 %	5 %
Fabry	Fabrazyme	58	89 %	52 %
	Replagal	55	55 %	10 %
Pompe	Myozyme	3	66 %	66 %



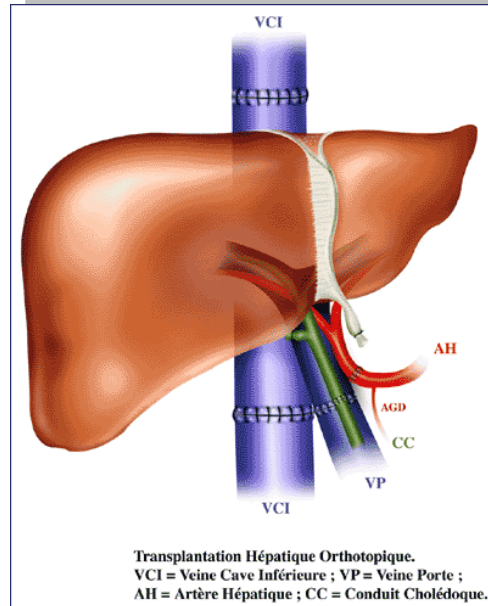
- Infusing a **foreign protein/enzyme** not synthesized by the mutant DNA bears the risk of immune reactions and/or enzyme activity inactivation
- **Increased IgG antibody** levels were detected during most treatments, but without correlation between the occurrence of severity of adverse events and the presence of high antibody titers
- **Neutralizing antibodies** were (most of the time) not associated with a reduction in efficacy of the enzyme preparation (or transient)
- Most **infusion-related reactions are mild** (fever, flush, tachycardia, ..)
- Hypersensitivity/anaphylactic reaction against the infused enzyme can be treated by slowing down the infusion rates and premedication with antihistamines and/or corticosteroids
- In an ongoing strong immune response, **tolerance induction by drugs** such as methotrexate or rituximab may become necessary (e.g. CRIM negative Pompe patients)

Therapeutic strategies

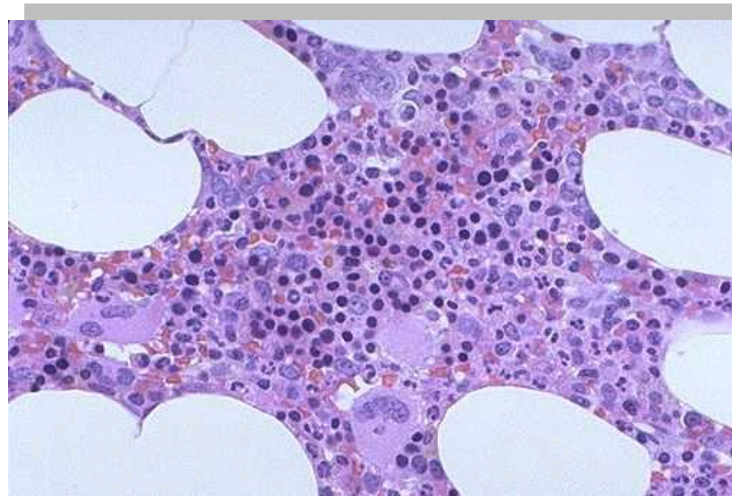


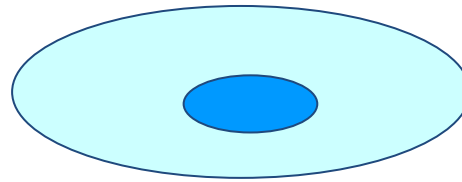
Modification of the somatic genome by transplantation

- Organs

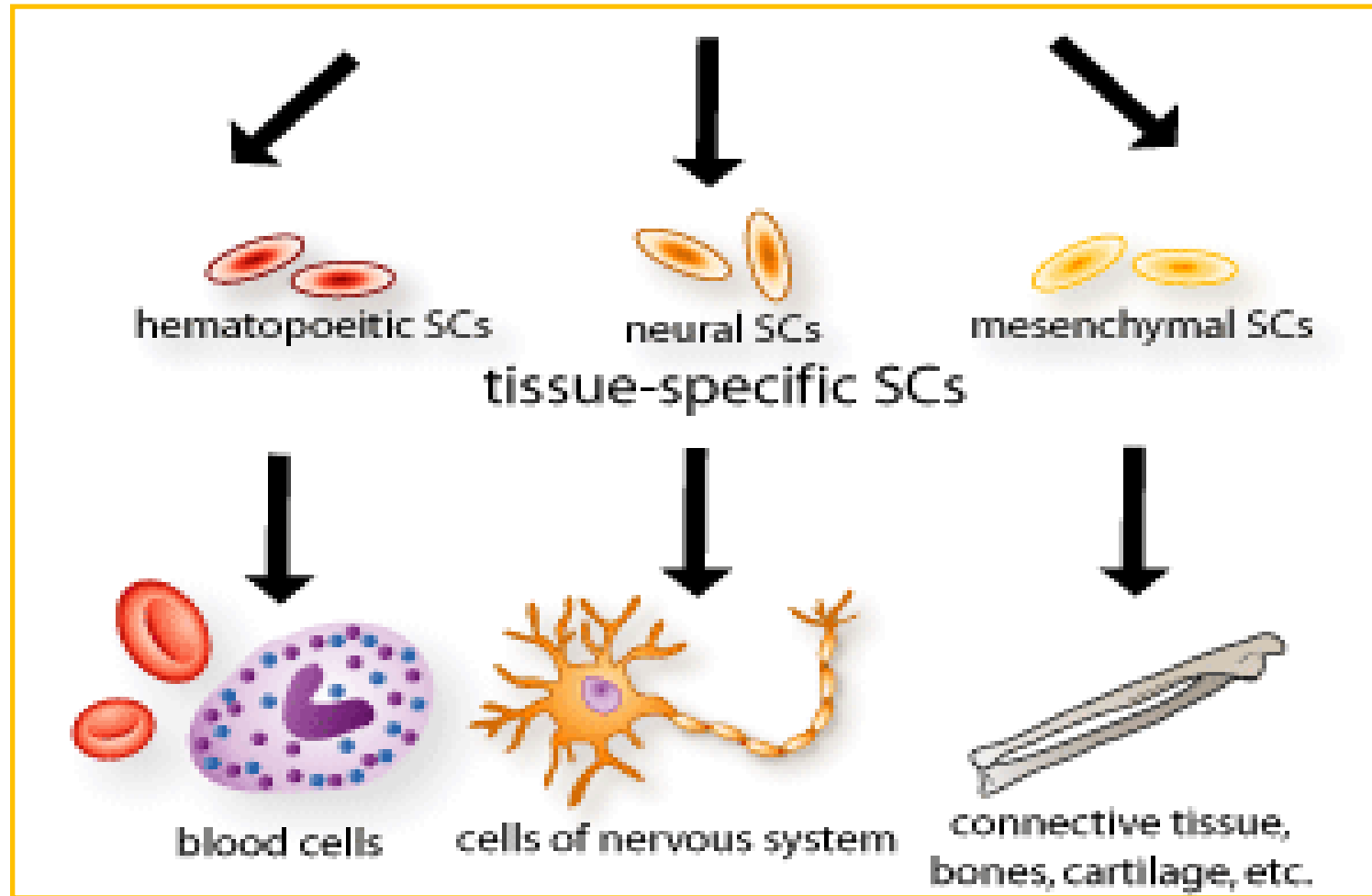


- Cells





Stem cell

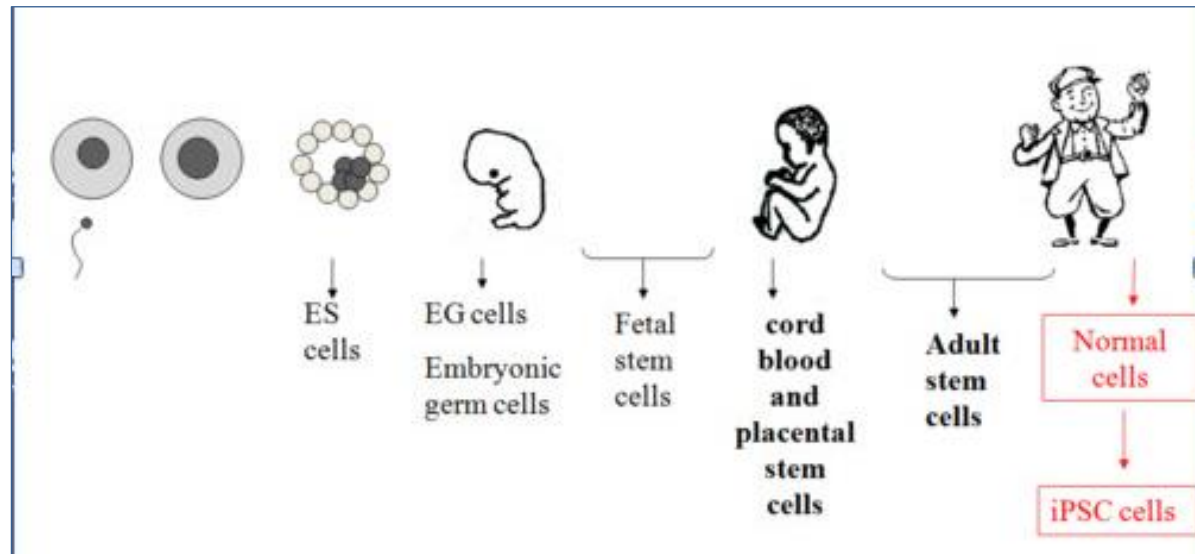


Stem cell transplantation

Stem cells are self-renewing cells defined by 2 properties :

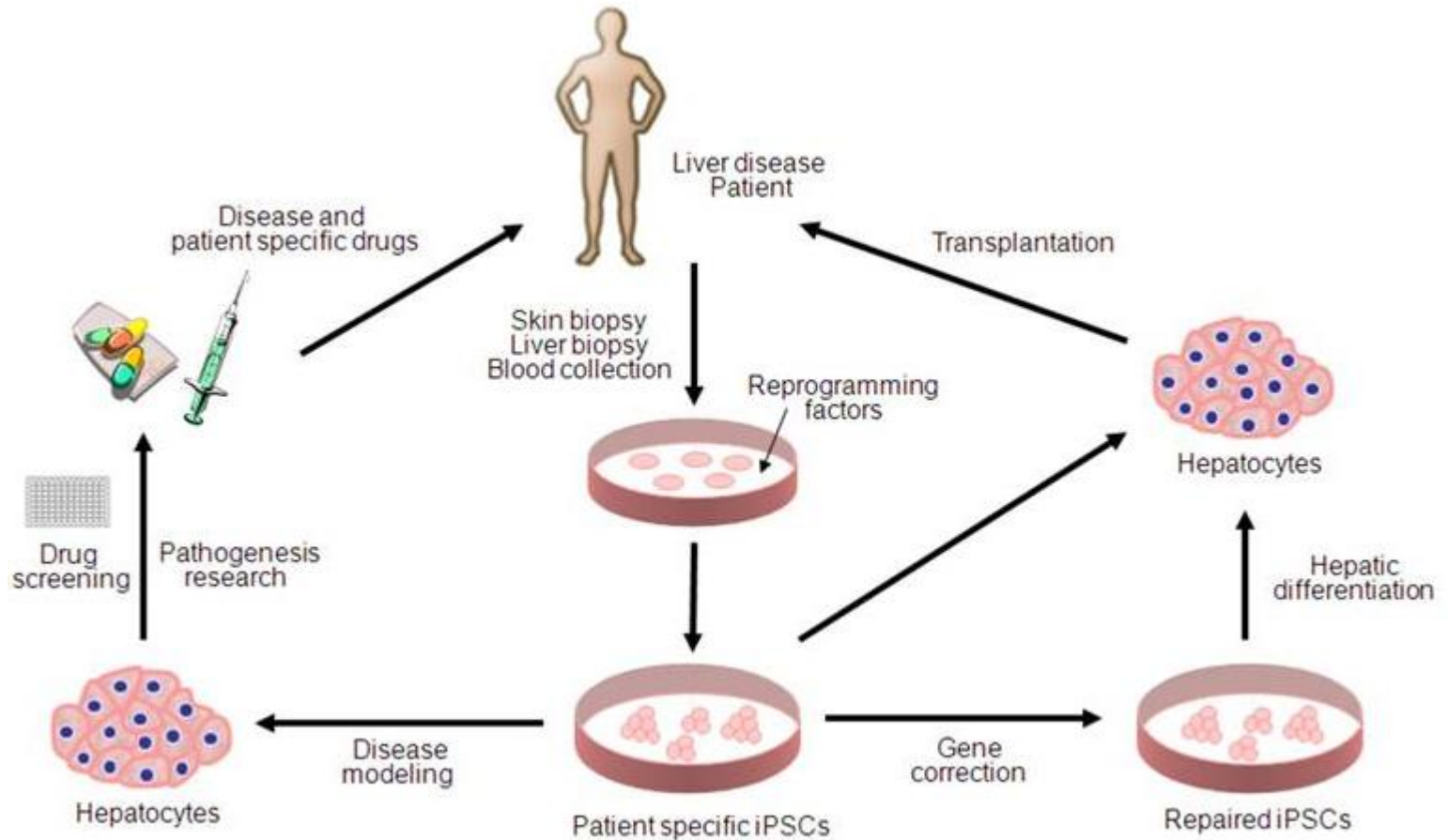
1. Ability to proliferate to form the differentiated cell types of a tissue in vivo
2. Ability to self-renew to form another stem cell

Origin : embryonic, fetal, cord blood, adult



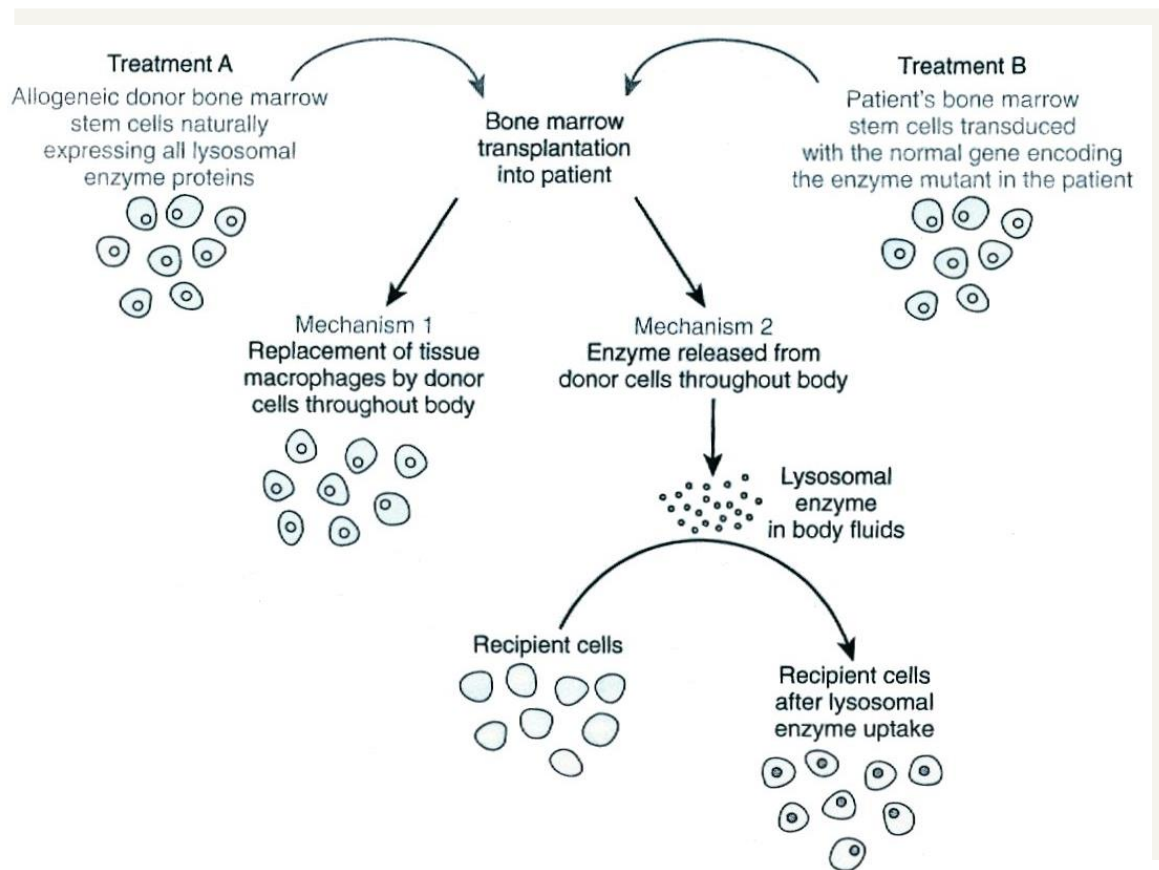
iPSC cells: Induced-pluripotent stem cells

Potential applications of human iPSCs for liver diseases



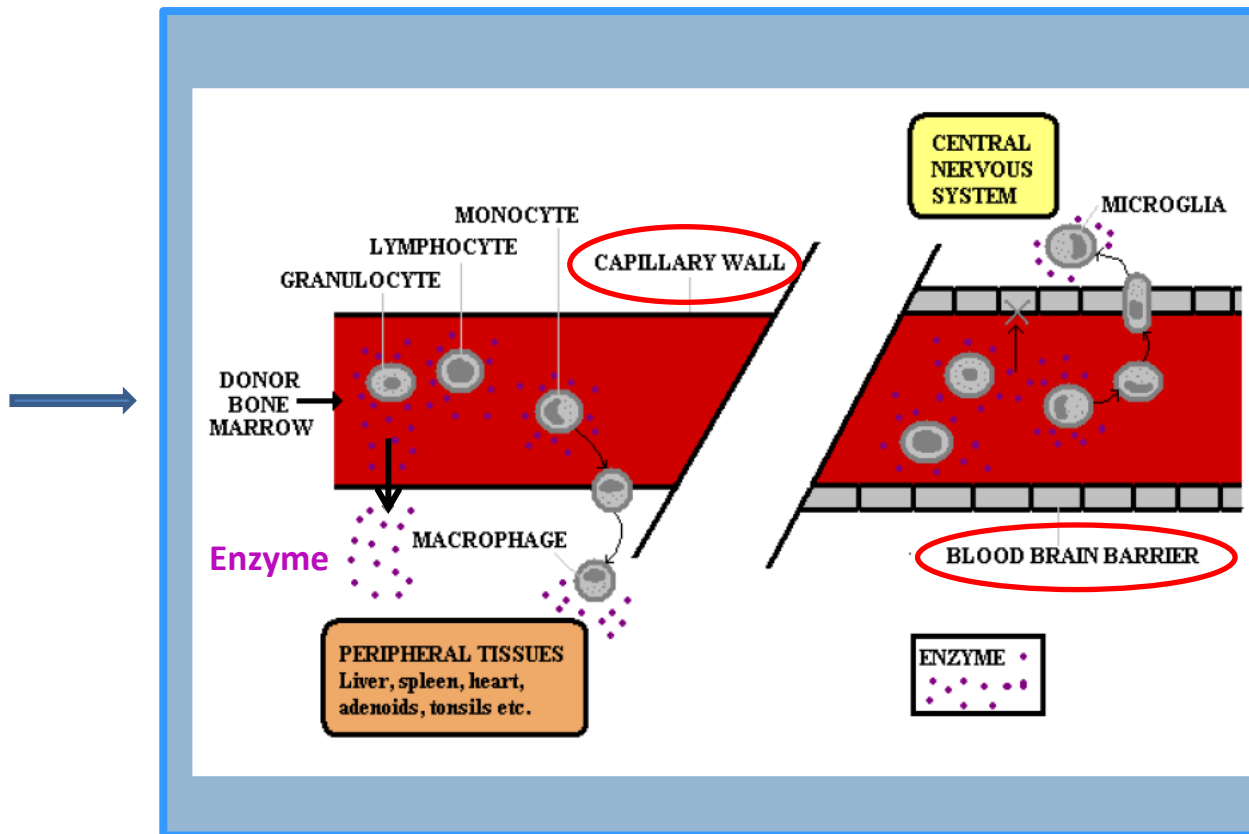
Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation (HSCT)-Principle

a. Hematopoietic stem cells from **bone marrow**



Two mechanisms by which bone marrow transplantation or gene transfer into bone marrow may reduce the substrate accumulation in LSD

Hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (HSCT)- principle



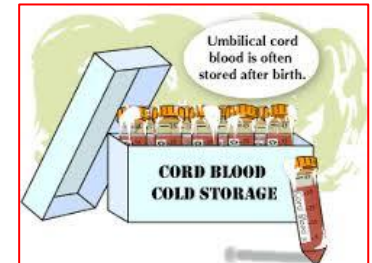
The goal of bone marrow or hematopoietic stem cell transplantation (BMT/HSCT) is to provide cells that produce the missing enzyme

- Enzyme deficiency corrected by donor cells
- Better response in some diseases

HSCT-Evolution and limitations

b. Hematopoietic stem cells from placental **cord blood**

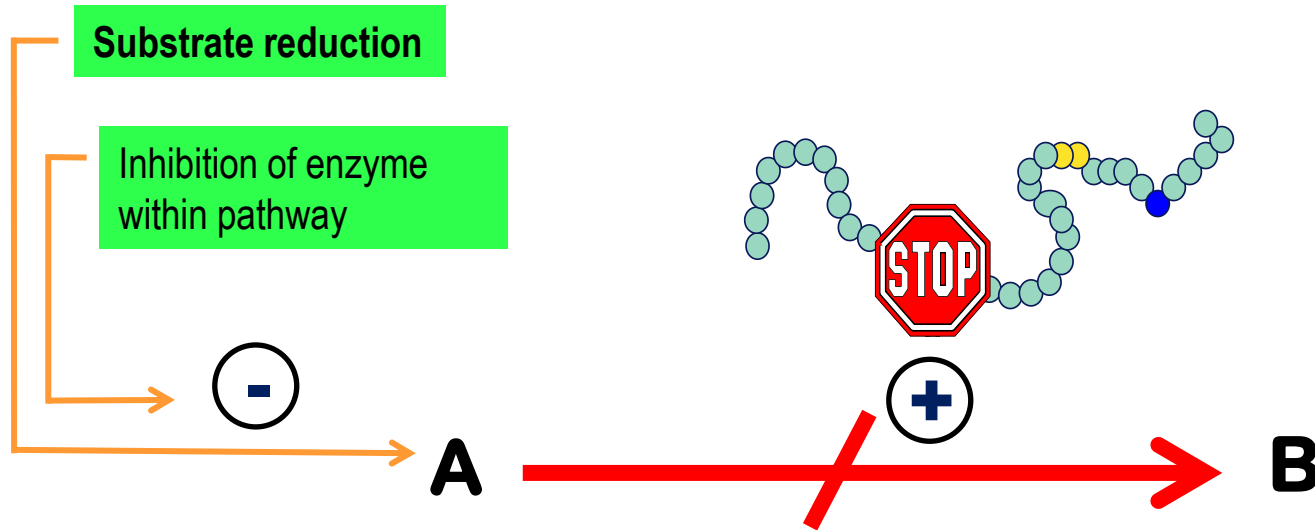
- Increased tolerance of histoincompatible donor cells
- Reduced risk of graft-versus host (GVH) disease
- Widely available (collected at birth in maternities)



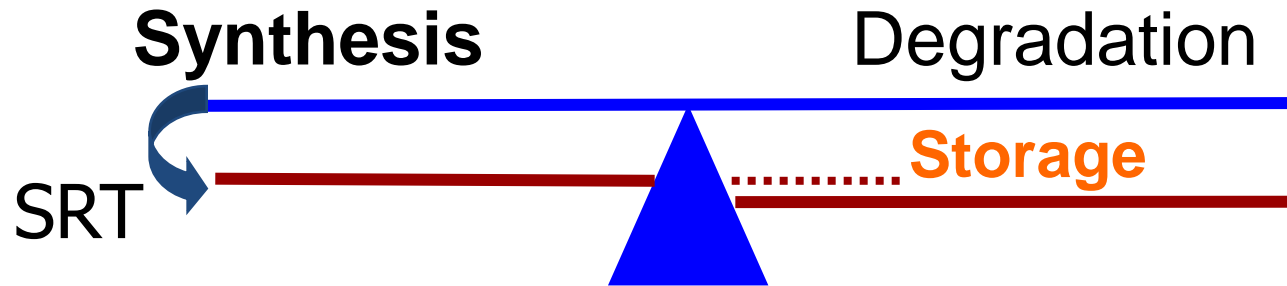
Limitations

- Need an early diagnosis (before irreversible brain damage)
- Need of a Matching Donor (BM or CB)
- Effective for a limited number of LSD (approved option for MPS I, MLD, Krabbe ..)
- Despite progress, still significant procedure-related mortality and morbidity
- Long term outcome might not be favourable or limited in subsets of patients
- Variable results on brain and bone
- **Do not cure the disease .. but changes the natural history**

Therapeutic strategies



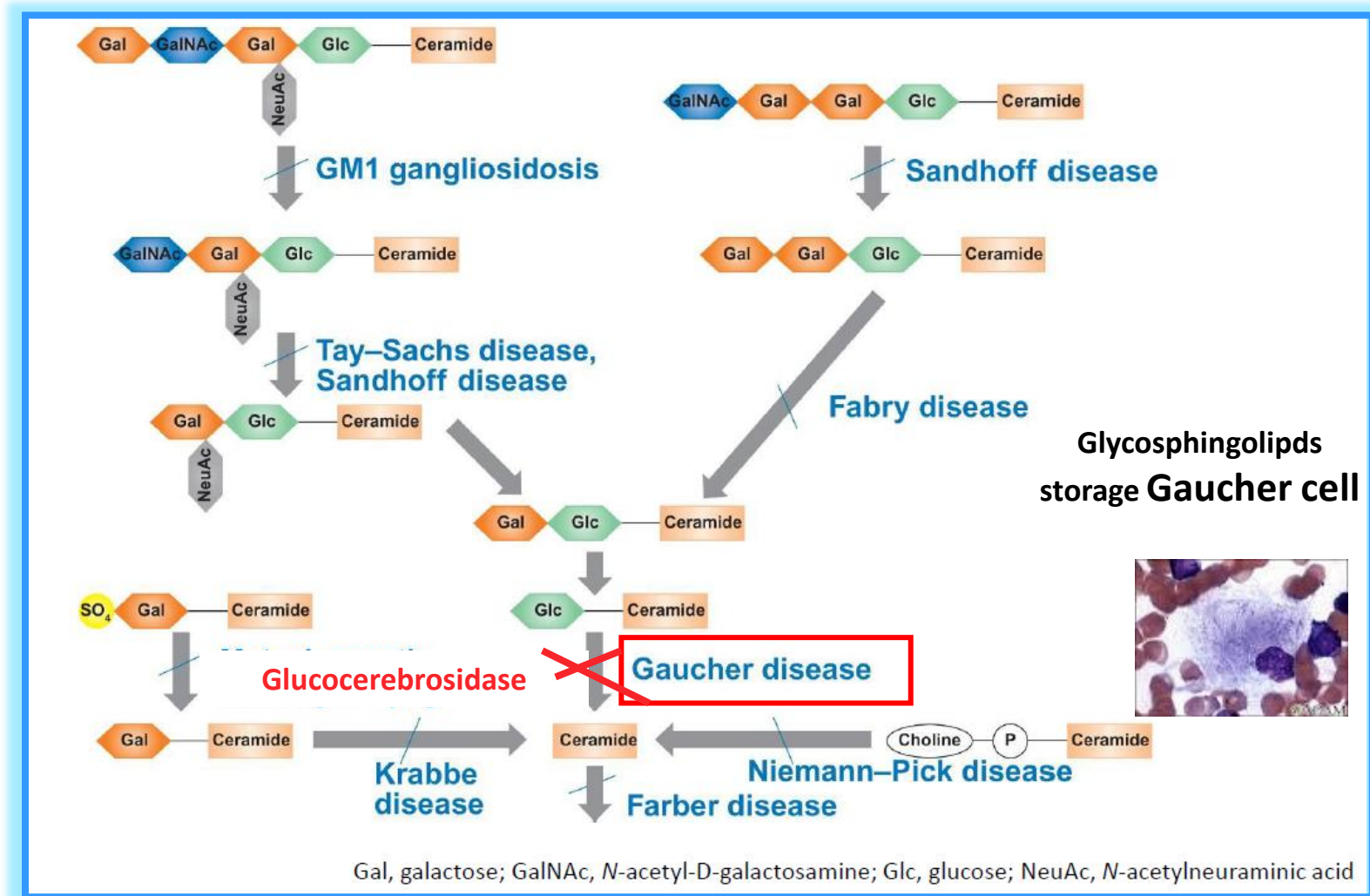
Substrate Reduction Therapy (SRT) in LSD - Principle



SRT are efficient if there is persistent residual degradation activity
to reduce residual storage

- Possible application on glycosphingolipids metabolism
- Application with Gaucher disease

Gaucher disease = Sphingolipidosis Glycosphingolipids Catabolism



Sphingolipidosis, an heterogeneous group of diseases

Multisystemic symptoms in Gaucher Disease

- Autosomal recessive LSD
- 1/450 Ashkenazi Jews
- 1/40.000 to 1/100.000 in other populations

Heterogeneity in clinical presentation

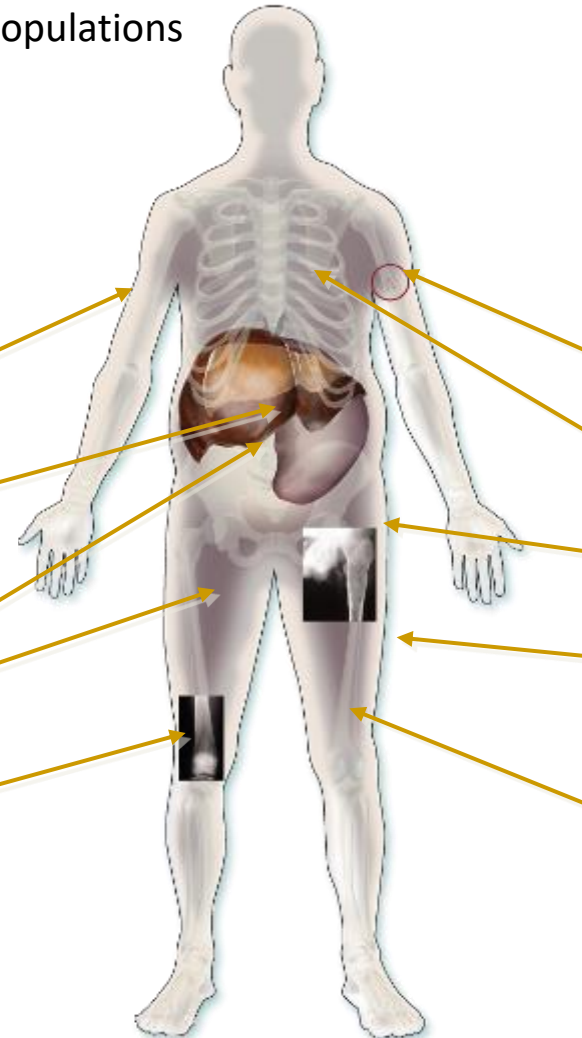
Clinical diagnosis at every age

Bone pain (63%)
Bone crisis (33%)

Hepatomegaly (79%)
Splenomegaly (87%)

Anemia (64%)
Thrombocytopenia (56%)

Erlenmeyer flask deformity (46%)



General symptoms

- Fatigue
- Easy bruising/bleeding
- Menorrhagia
- Decreased appetite
- Abdominal pain
- Growth retardation
- Slow pubertal development

Pathologic fracture (15%)

Interstitial Pulmonary fibrosis

Joint collapse (8%)

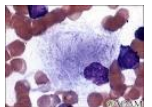
Osteonecrosis (25%)

Osteopenia (42%)

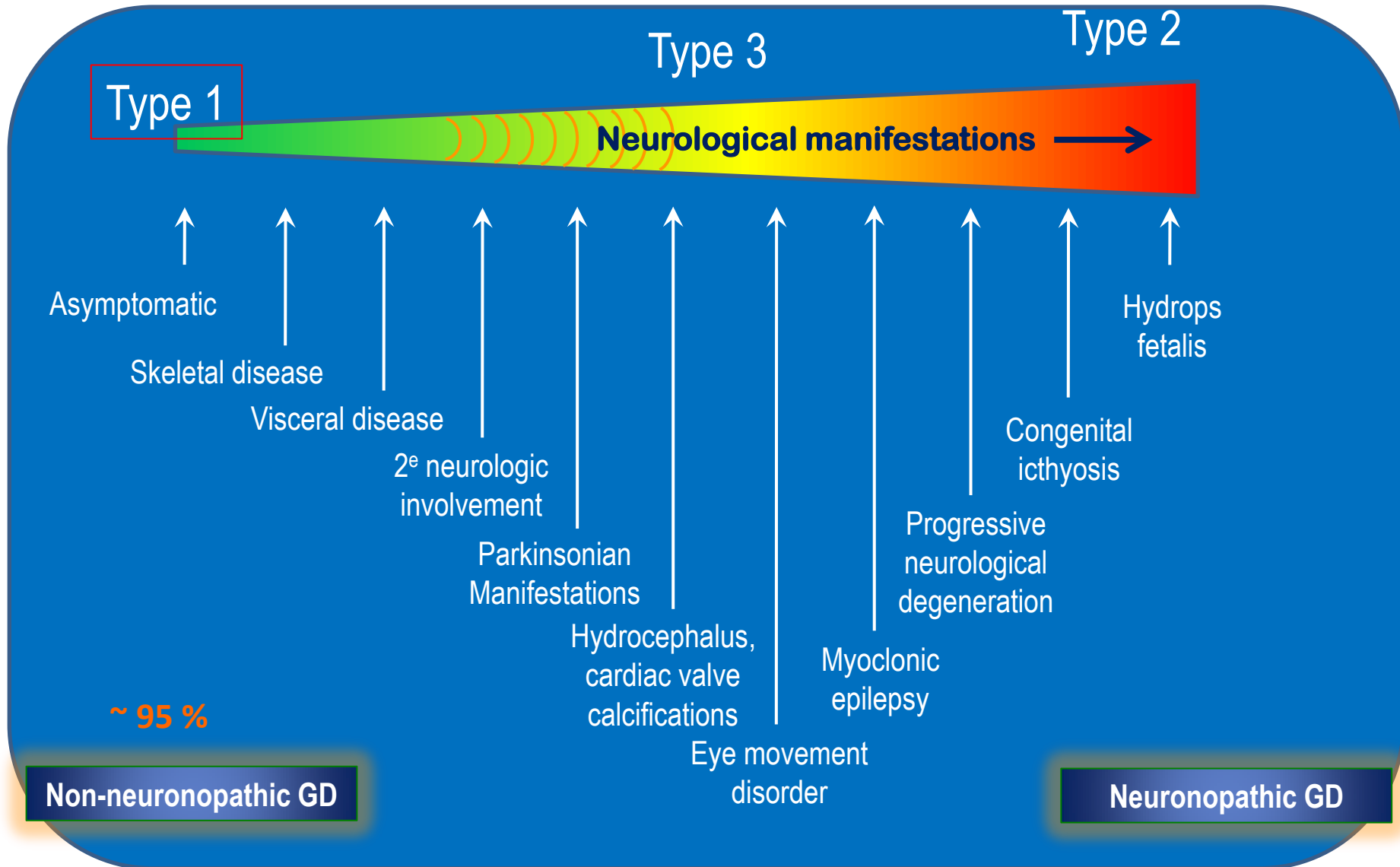
Bone marrow infiltration (40%) with

Gaucher cell

lipid laden macrophages



Phenotypic continuum in Gaucher Disease



Clinical Response to ERT in Gaucher Disease



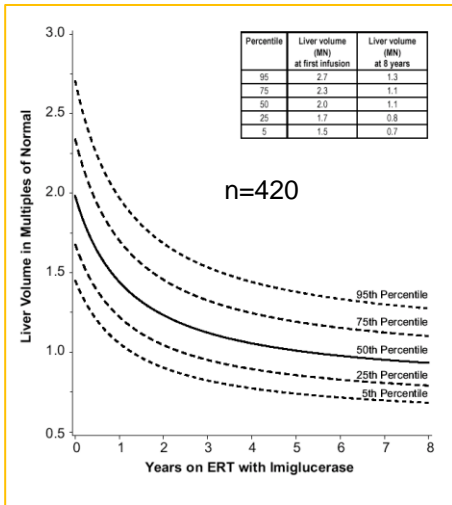
Before treatment
girl of 8 y and 8 months



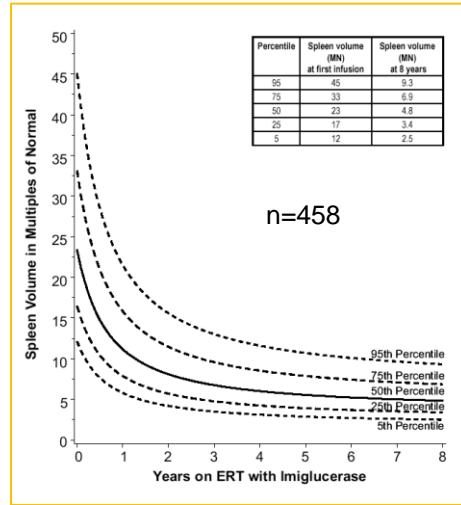
After treatment
Girl of 10 y and 10 months

Clinical Response to ERT in Gaucher Disease

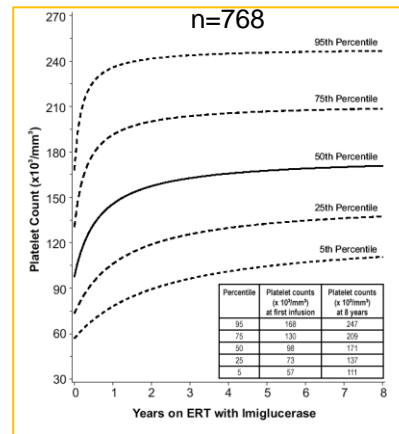
Liver Volume



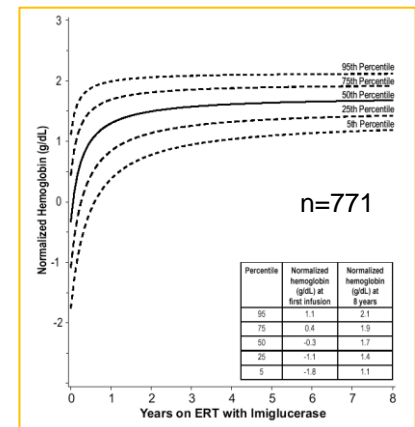
Spleen Volume



Platelet Count



Hemoglobin Level

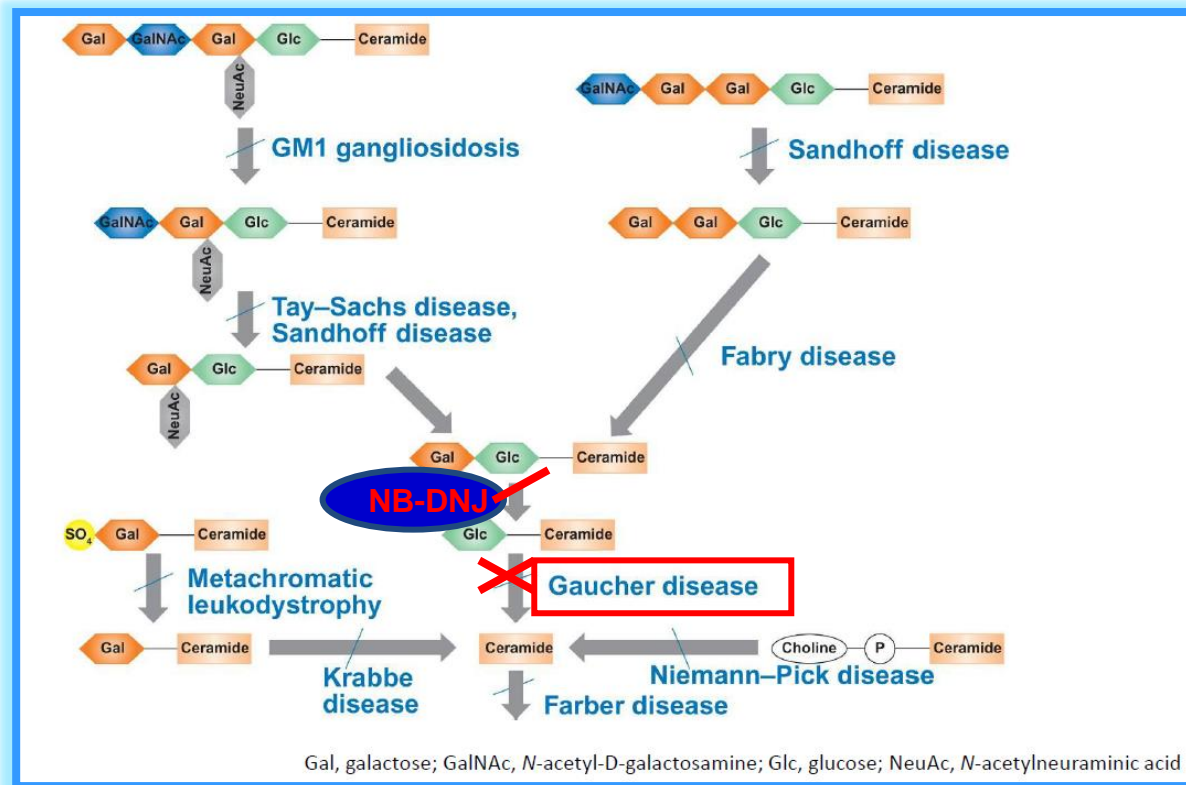


Visceral organ and hematologic responses to ERT treatment in children

Limitations of ERT

- Immune response
- No brain access - tried in Gaucher type II (neurologic form)
- Limited results on bone
- Intravenous infusion therapy

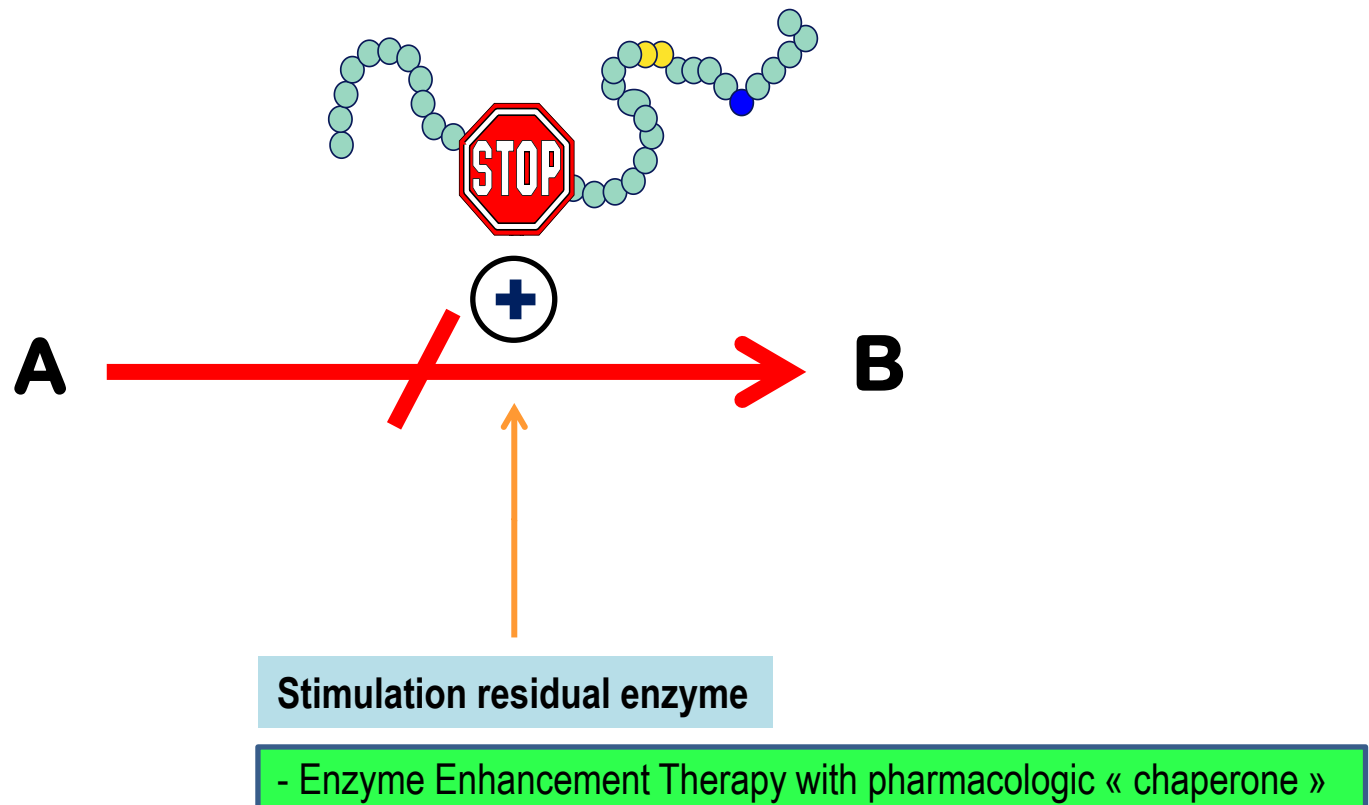
Substrate Reduction Therapy (SRT) in Gaucher Disease



MIGLUSTAT, an Imminosucre N- butyldesoxynojirimycine (NB-DNJ) (= analogue of glucose) inhibits the glucocerebroside synthase, the first committed step in glycolipid biosynthesis

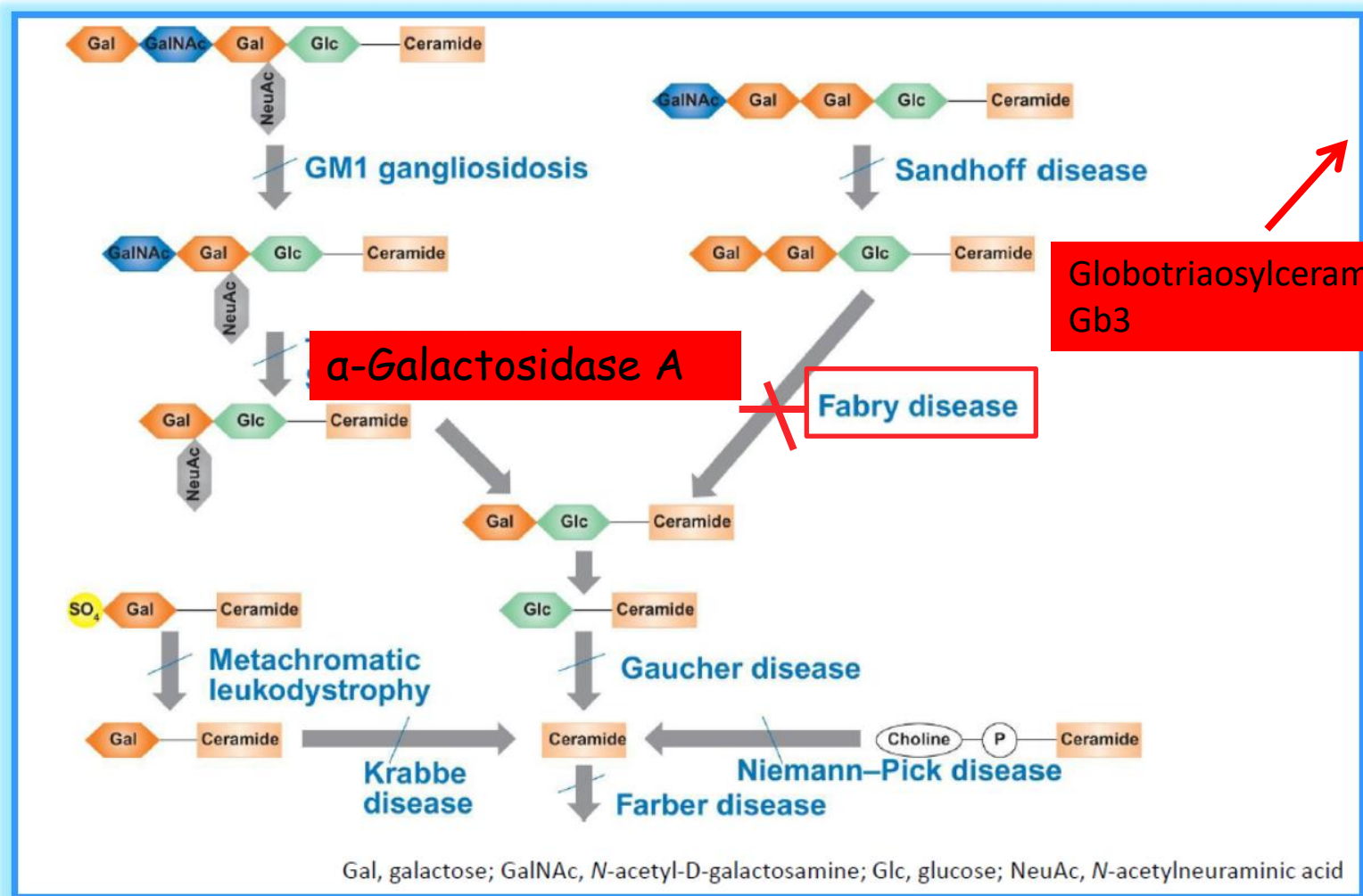
- Oral therapy
- Indicated in mild to moderate GD type I in case ERT is not an option
- Advantage : **Cross the blood-brain barrier**
- Intended to treat neuronopathic GD type III, but no effectiveness in clinical trials.
- Frequent side effects (gastrointestinal, neurologic)

Therapeutic strategies in LSD



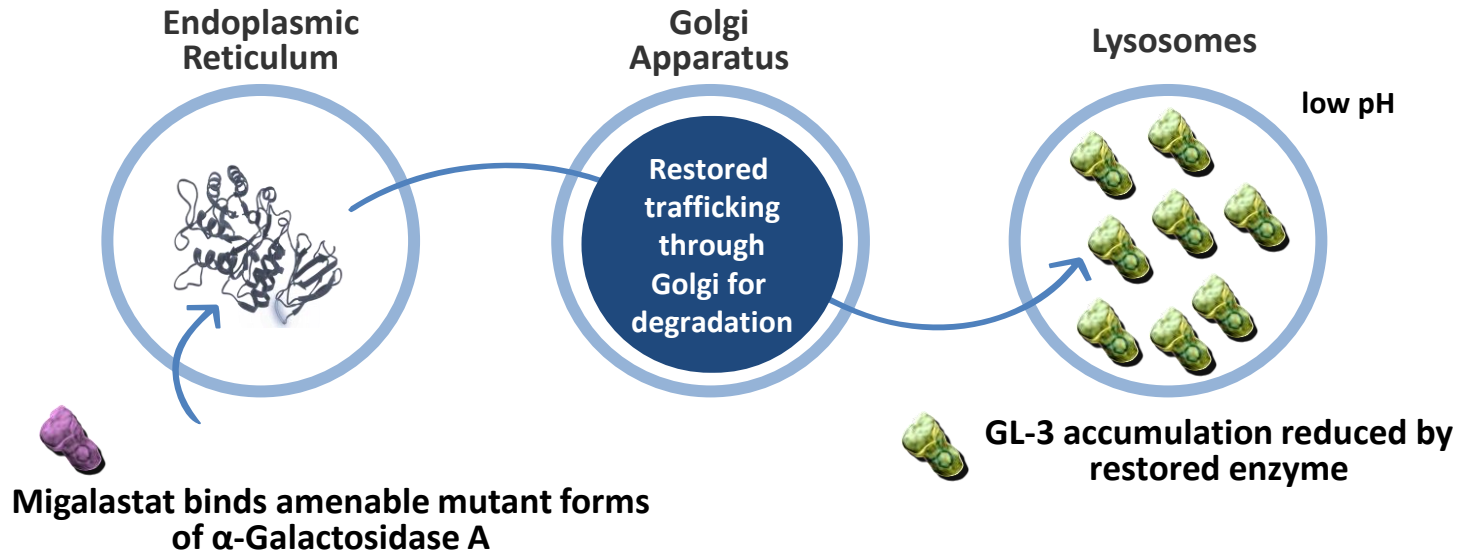
Pharmacologic chaperone restore the residual mutant enzyme activity

Fabry Disease



Pharmacologic chaperone restore the residual mutant enzyme activity in amenable mutant form

Mechanism



Migalastat

- Iminosugar
- High volume distribution
- Cross the Blood brain barrier
- No immunologic reaction

Warnock DG et al. PLoS One 2015;10:e0134341; Fan J-Q et al. Nat Med 1999;5:112–115;

Yam GH-F et al. FASEB J 2005;19:12–18; Ishii S et al. Biochem J 2007;406:285–295