

# **General patho-physiology: stress, neural and other control, autonomous nervous system, hormonal control, system approach...**

**Petr Maršálek**

<https://dec52.lf1.cuni.cz/~pmar/ftp/PPT-PATF/>

Seminar circa 50 slides,  
Topic code SY

# Stress

# Stress

## Stress, stress syndrome

= neurohumoral defense reaction

= universal response to different external or internal changes and stimuli –  
stressors

### Definition:

The state of threatened homeostasis or disharmony that is counteracted by a complex of physiologic and behavioral responses that reestablish homeostasis

# **Stress**

## **Stressor**

= factor, any adverse change of outer or inner conditions

- physical
- chemical
- biological
- psychosocial

(trauma, surgery, infection, intoxication, pain, working overload, intensive emotion ...)

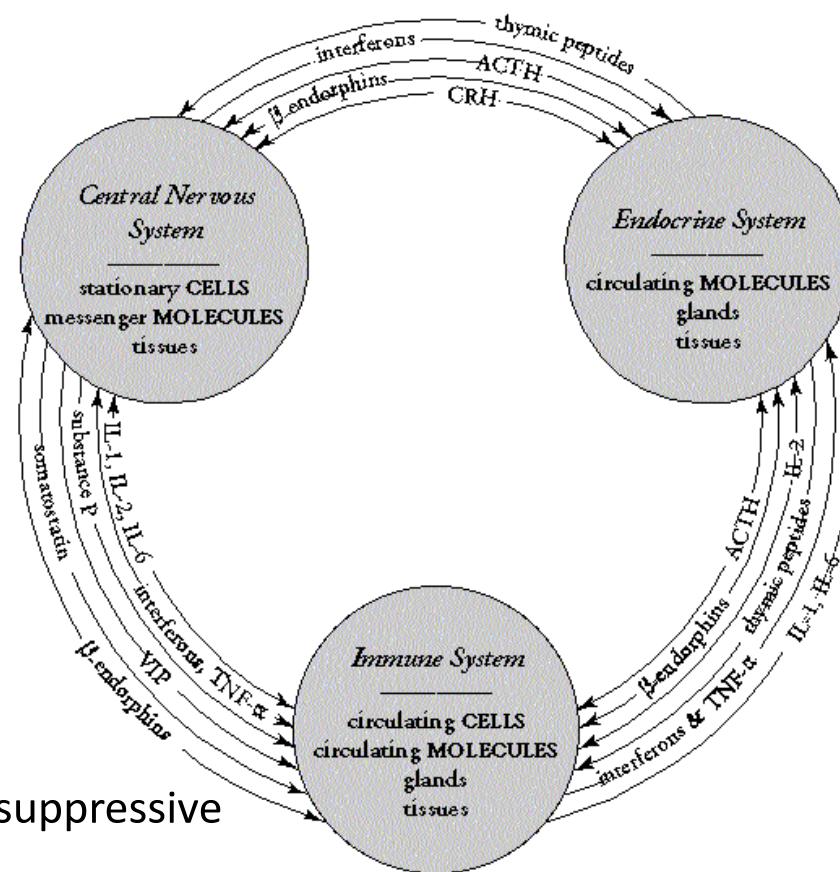
# Stress

## "Common adaptive syndrome"

= Neurohumoral reaction, response to stressor  
mechanisms of stress activation

## Stress and Inflammation

Stress with cortisol acts against immune reaction, it is immuno-suppressive



# **Stress and Inflammation**

## **Stress reaction**

- Generalized reaction
- Activation and coordination from CNS (hypothalamus)
- Universal (non-specific) character

## **Inflammation**

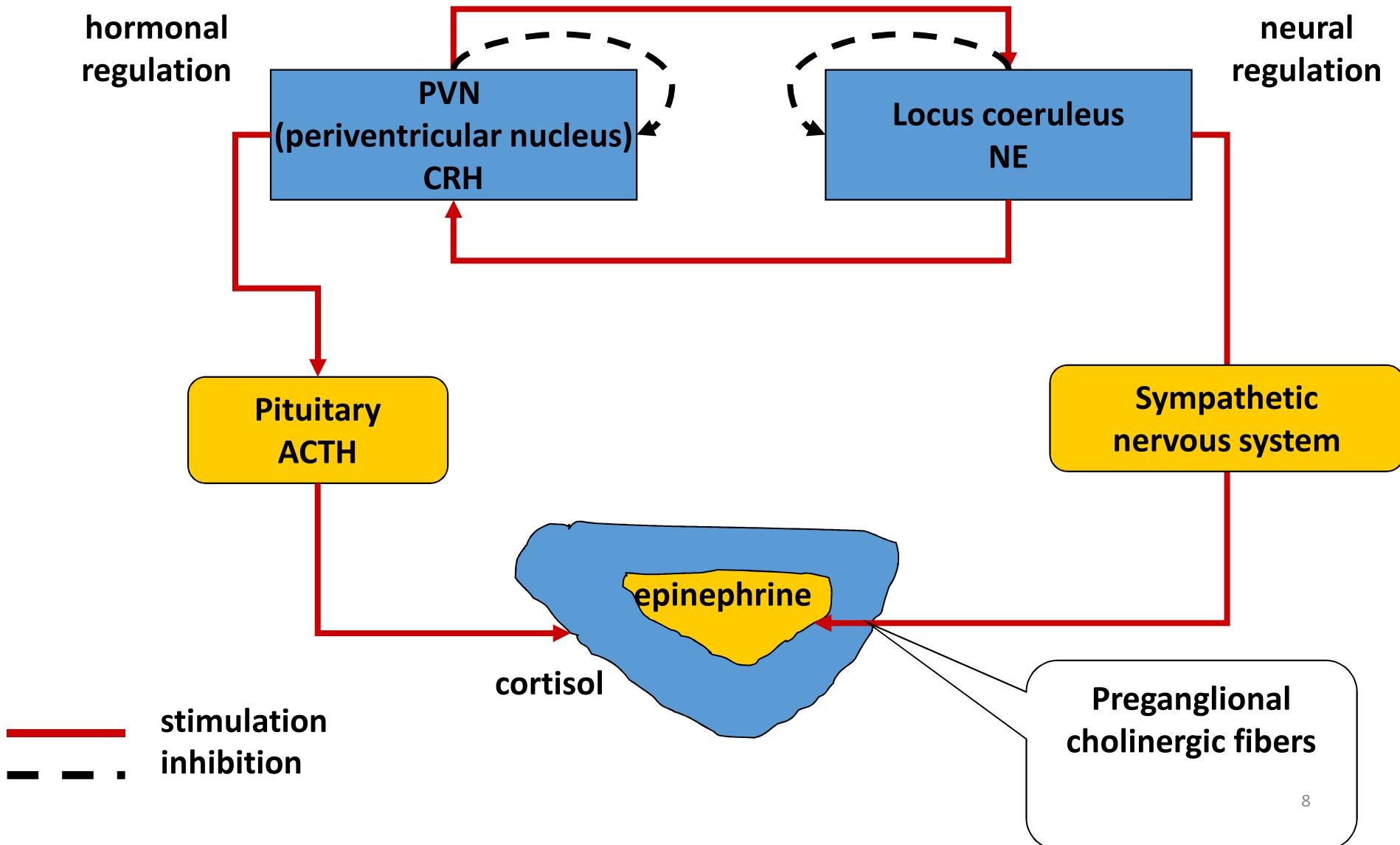
- Primarily local reaction (→ generalization)
- Reaction of vascularized tissues
- Specific response – targeting against initial stimulus

# Stress reaction - phases

(Hans (Janos) Selye, 1907 - 1982)

Phase	Mediators	Dominant changes
Alarm	catecholamines gluco-corticoids (=gcc), growth hormone, melano-cortin (=gcc+acth)	CNS activation
Resistance	gcc	hypothalamus cardiovascular effects glycogenosynthesis proteocatabolism gluconeogenesis proteocatabolism anti-inflammat. effects ↓ Lymphocytes Na + water retention
Exhaustion	gcc	energetic depletion ↓Glc metabolic acidosis

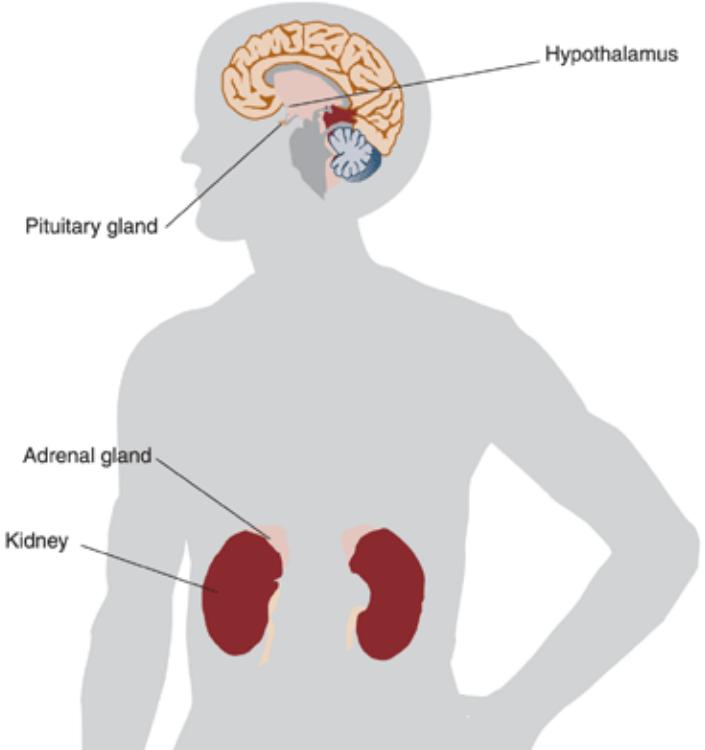
# Stress axes



# Stress system

## Mechanisms of stress activation:

1. Activation of cerebral cortex
2. Activation of hypothalamus
3. Neuro-humoral response  
(sympatho - adrenal axis, pituitary - adrenal axis)
4. Peripheral actions  
(metabolic, cardiovascular, immune system...)



# Hypothalamus

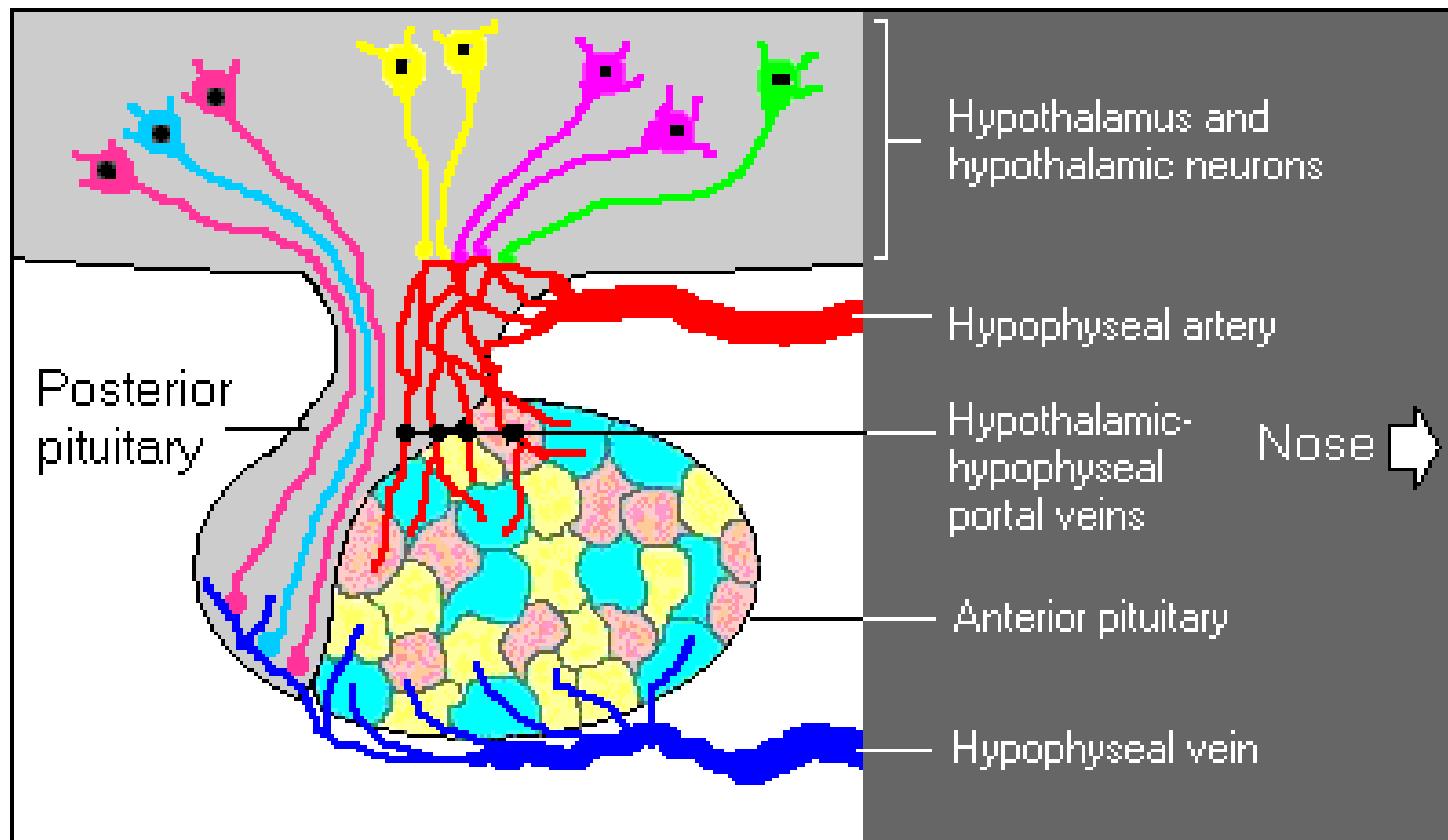
↑ epinephrine  
↓ norepinephrine  
(↑ ratio E / NE)



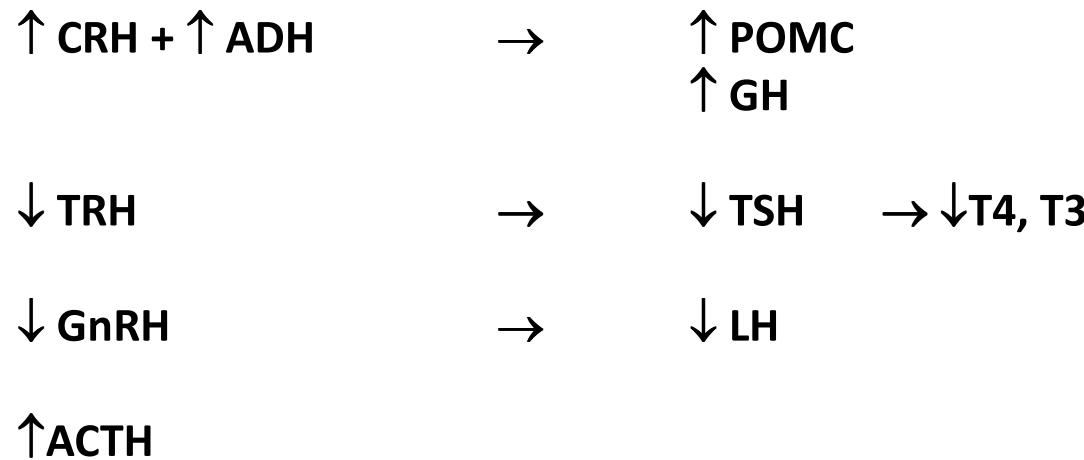
↑ CRH production in mediobasal centers  
↑ ADH production in preoptical part of  
hypothalamus  
↓ inhibition of TRH release  
activation of sympathetic - adrenal axis

# Pituitary gland

## Hypothalamo - hypophyseal axis



# Pituitary gland



# Pituitary - adrenal axis

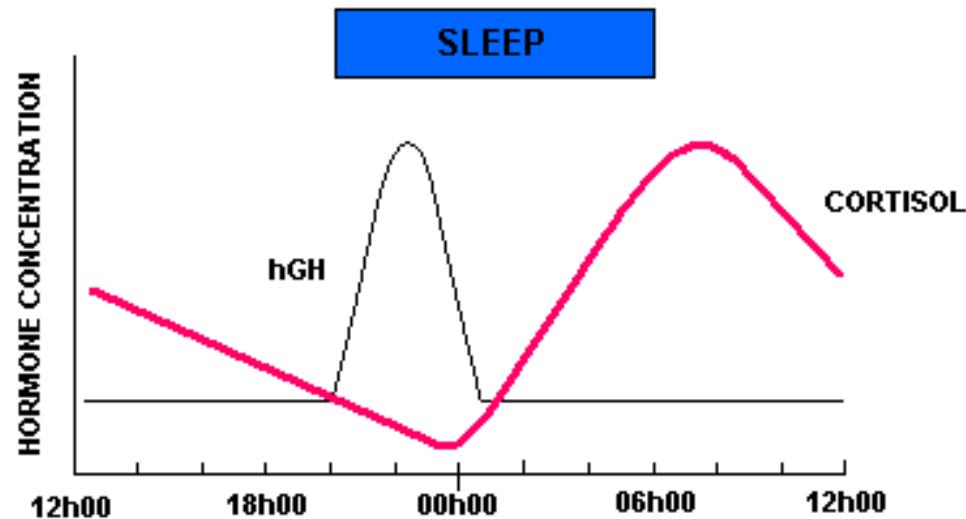
↑CRH → stimulator of POMC in adenohypophysis

↑ACTH → activation of adrenal cortex  
(↑cortisol, ↑ aldost.)

↓ role of negative feedback of corticoids

# Pituitary - adrenal axis

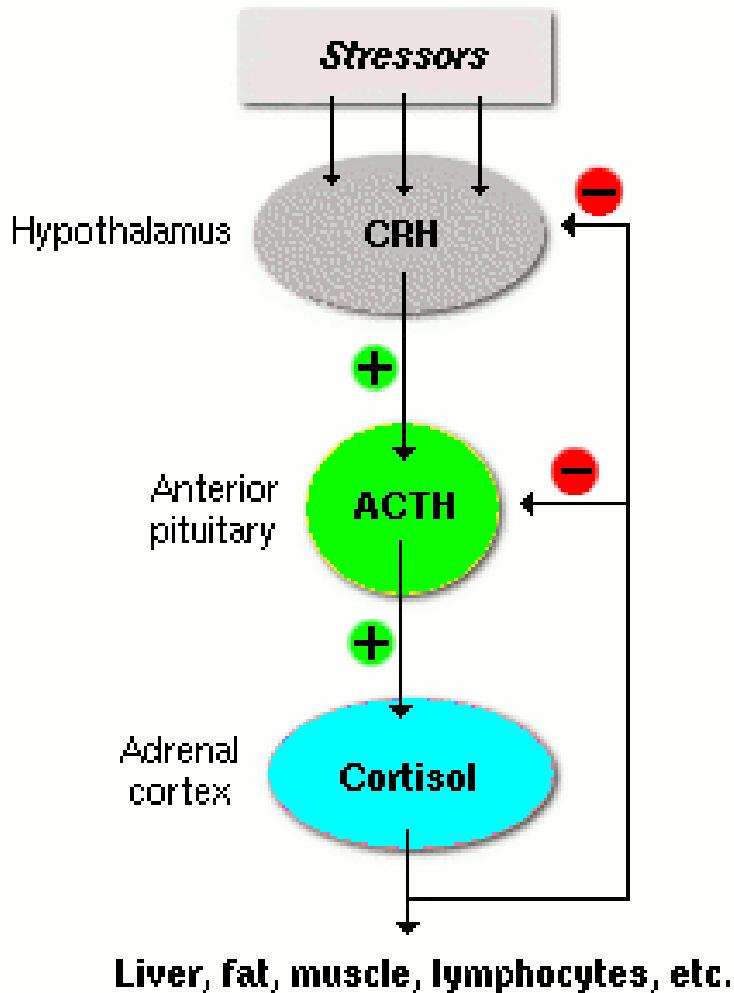
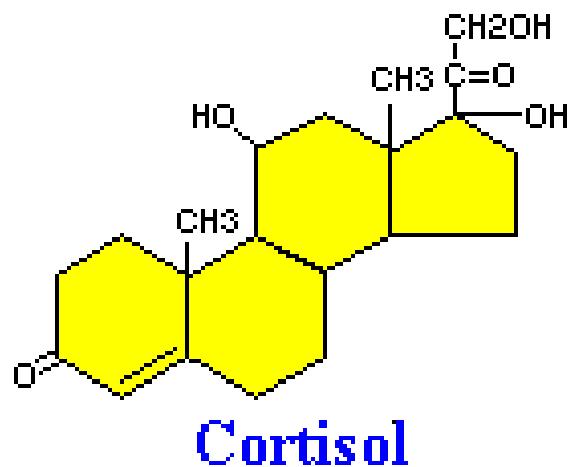
Secretion



- **Ultradian rhythm** (short periods, episodic, pulsatile)
- **Circadian rhythm** (24 h periods)  
maximal secretion at 8-10 a.m.  
minimal secretion at 11 p.m.

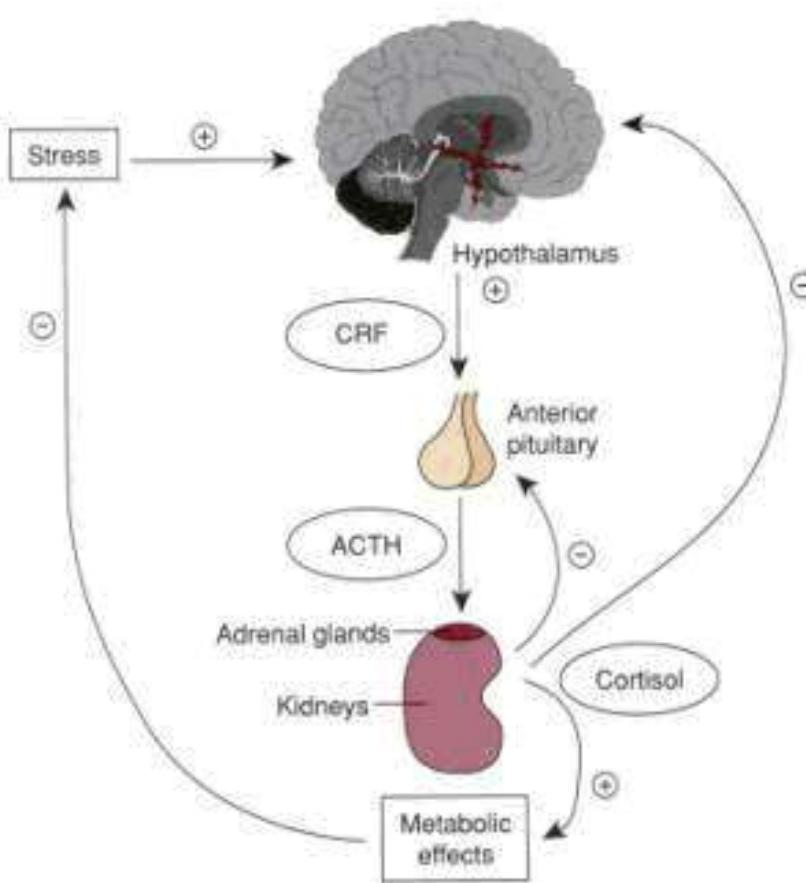


# Pituitary - adrenal axis



# Cortisol secretion control

## Negative feedback regulation



# General control concepts, control theory

In contrast to description of cellular and molecular response stands a systemic description of homeostasis and its disturbances as interplay of control (sub)systems.

# Control system: Negative feed-back

$y$ ...controlled variable, I/O

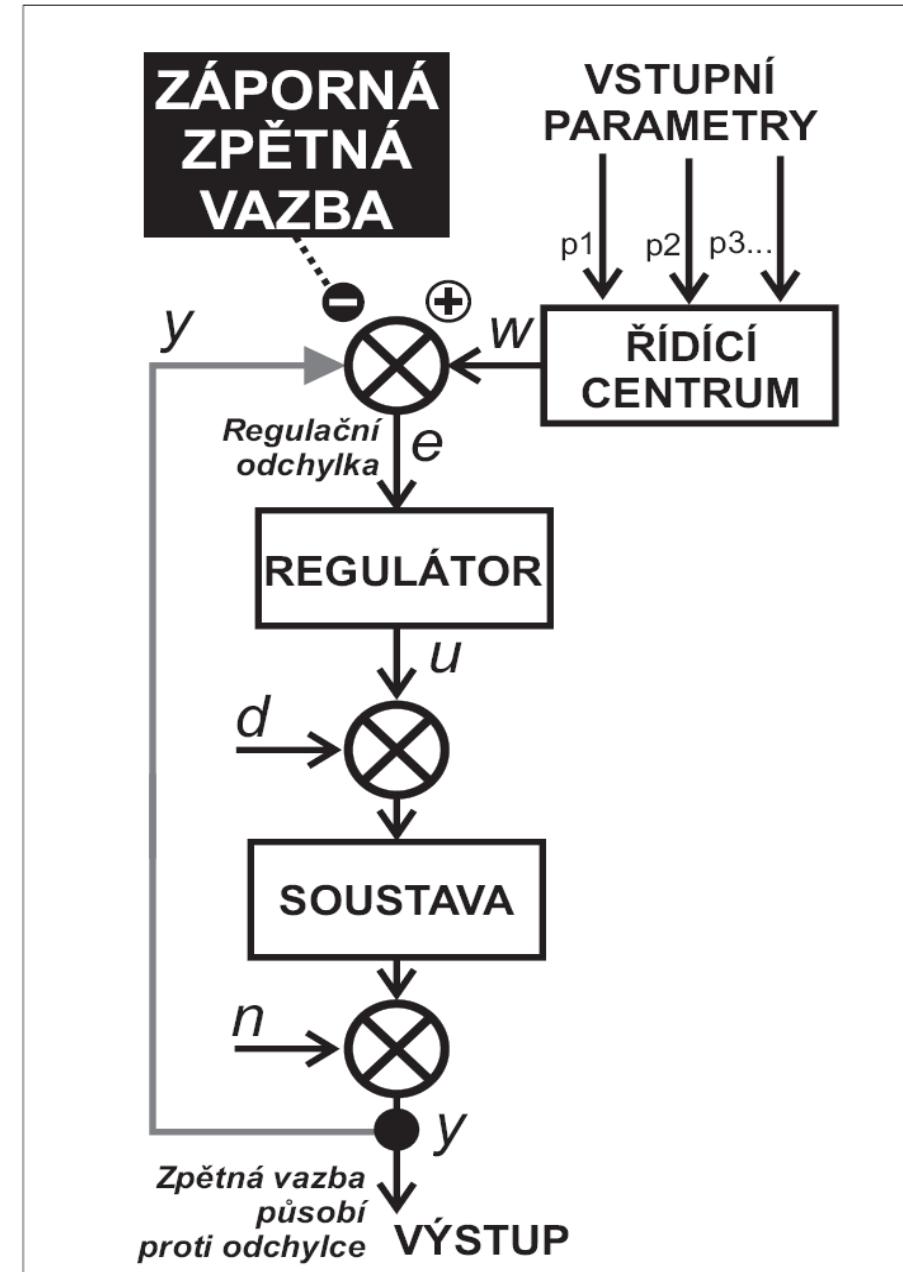
$w$ ...pre-set value

$e$ ...error signal

$u$ ...actuating variable

$d, n$ ...disturbance variables

In **negative** feed-back, error signal  $e$  used for control is obtained by **subtraction** of the controlled variable ( $-y$ ) from the pre-set value ( $+w$ ),  $e = w - y$ .

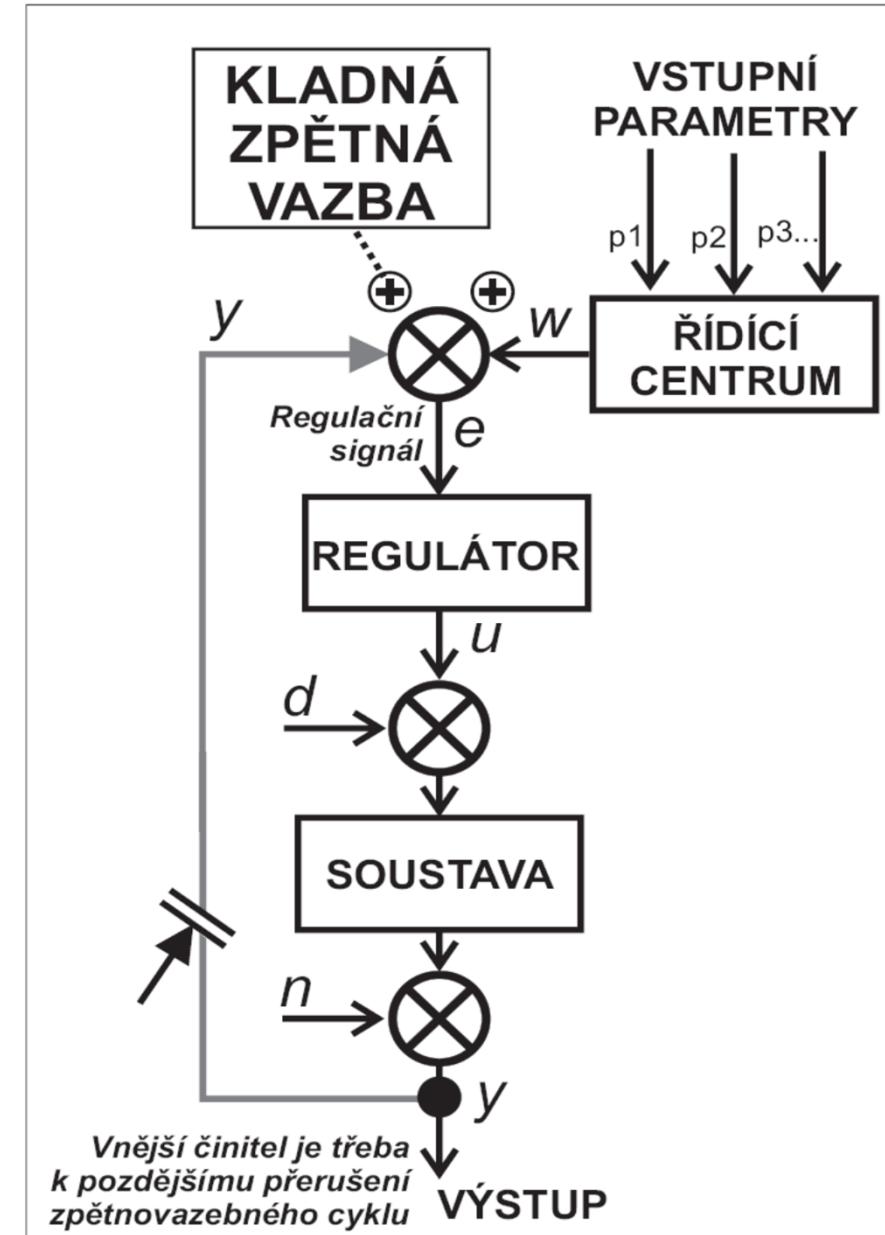


# Control system: Positive feed-back

$y$ ...controlled variable, i/o  
 $w$ ...pre-set value  
 $e$ ...error signal  
 $u$ ...actuating variable  
 $d, n$ ...disturbance variables

In **positive** feed-back, error signal  $e$  used for control results from **addition** of the controlled variable ( $+y$ ) to the pre-set value ( $+w$ ),  
 $e = w + y$ .

Outer factor is needed to disconnect feedback cycle at the point from output back



# Examples – negative and positive feed-back

Negative feed-back – easy, almost everything is controlled this way:  
blood pressure, temperature, glycemia, ...  
in general – homeostasis...

positive feedback – fewer examples, more difficult:

1) in physiology/ patho-physiology:

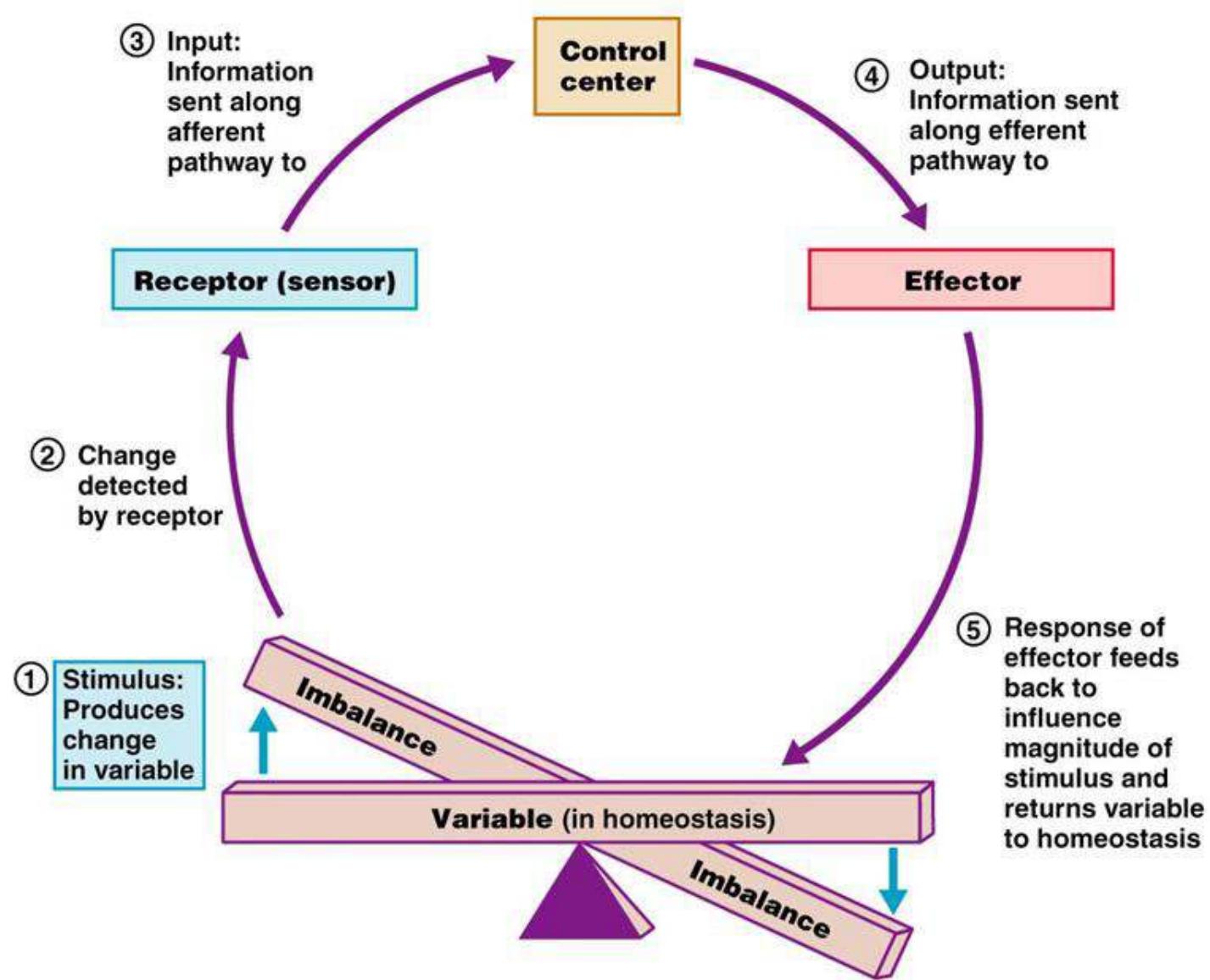
Fever onset, ovulation, production of sex hormones in large,  
„avalanche-like“ trigger reactions:  
hemocoagulation, division of lymphocytes  
during the immune reaction (e.g. the pneumonia crisis)

2) Pathology (pathologic values of variables, vicious circles, failures).

Building up of a new, pathologic equilibrium, example: adaptation to the  
lower PO<sub>2</sub>

failure of blood pressure control -> shock, hypo-perfusion, hypoxia...

# Homeostasis, control circuit simplified



# Adrenal glands

## Glucocorticoids

- essential for an adequate course of stress reaction
- permissive effect on catecholamine action
- domination in 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of stress response (st. of resistance)

### Effects:

- glycids ... gluconeogenesis
- proteins ... proteocatabolism (neg. N balance)
- lipids
- hematopoiesis ( $\uparrow$ Neu,  $\downarrow$ Eos,  $\downarrow$ Ly,  $\uparrow$ Plt)
- anti-inflammatory effects ... cytokines, APP
- circulatory changes ( $\uparrow$ BP, Na and water retention)

# Adrenal glands

## Glucocorticoids

### Glucose

1. Gluconeogenesis stimulation in liver (6-10x)
2. Activity of enzymes for AA conversion to Glc
3. Mobilization of AA from tissues (x liver)
4. Elevation of hepatic glycogen
5. Decrease of Glc utilization in cells

# Adrenal glands

## Glucocorticoids

### Proteins

1. Proteocatabolic effect in all tissues excepting liver
2. Low protein synthesis
3. Low AA transport into cells (muscles, lymphoid t.)
4. Proteoanabolic effect in liver (APP)

# Adrenal glands

## Glucocorticoids

### Lipids

1. Mobilization of fatty acids from adipose t.
2. High oxidation of fatty acids (low utilization of Glc  
- energy from fatty acids)

# Adrenal glands

## Glucocorticoids

### Anti / inflammatory effects

1. The release of proteolytic enzymes, histamin, bradykinin  
x cortisol - stabilisation lysosomal membrane
2. Vasodilation in inflammatory tissue  
x cortisol - vasoconstrictory effect
3. High permeability  
x cortisol - decreased capillary permeability
4. Leucocyte infiltration  
x cortisol - inhibition of Leu migration
5. Cortisol - immunosuppressive effect (decrease of T Ly)
6. APP synthesis

# Sympathetic - adrenal axis

Hypothalamus



- Medulla oblongata
- Medulla spinalis
- Adrenal medulla + sympathetic ganglia

Metabolic and cardiovascular responses

# Adrenal medulla

## Catecholamine synthesis

**Norepinephrine** 20% 1.2 - 3.4 nmol/l

5-6 x elevation ... biological effects

**Epinephrine** 80% 0.1 - 0.8 nmol/l

2 x elevation ... biological effects

# Adrenal medulla

## Catecholamines (adrenomedullar system)

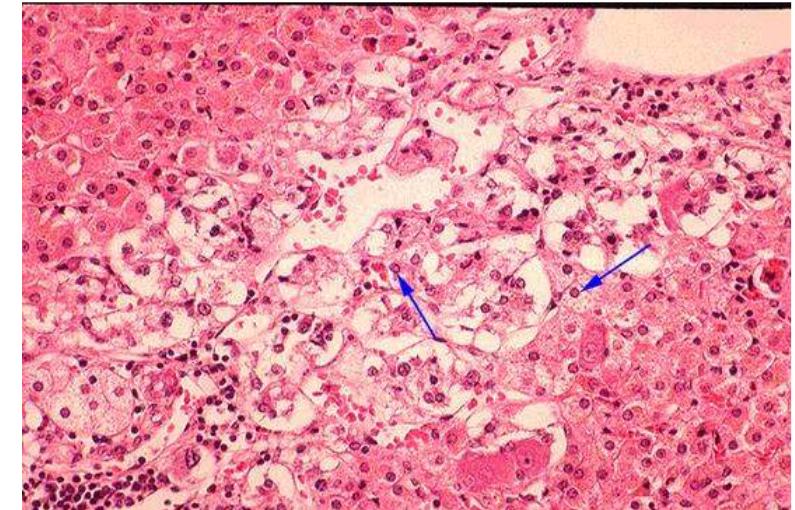
- rapid activation (sec...min.), rapid degradation
- crucial in an initial (alarm) phase of stress response

## Effects

- cardiovascular (chrono, ino, bathmo, dromo-tropic)  $\uparrow$ CO,  $\uparrow$ BP
- metabolic ... hepatic glycogenolysis
  - $\uparrow$  intestinal resorption of glc.
  - $\downarrow$  insulin production
  - lipolysis,  $\uparrow$ FFA

# Adrenal medulla

**Chromaffine cells = pheochromocytes**  
**Axons of preganglionic sympathetic nerves**



## Catecholamines:

- Norepinephrine ... adrenal medulla + CNS + PNS
- Epinephrine ... adrenal medulla
- Dopamine ... precursor of NE, adrenal medulla + noradrenergic neurons

## Receptors:

$\alpha$  ... vasoconstriction, sweating, GIT

$\beta$  ... vasodilatation, GIT, catabolism, bronchodilation

# **Psycho - social stress**

= Emotional activation of stress response

**The role of paleocortical region (limbic cortex, neocortical region)**

**Activating (stressogenic) pathway**

nc. amygdalae → mediobasal hypothalamus

**Inhibiting (anti-stressogenic) pathway**

fornix, gyrus hippocampi → corpora mamillaria of posterior hypothalamus

... protracted activation of sympathoadrenal + adrenocortical axis  
without psychological benefit

... risk factor of psycho-somatic disorders

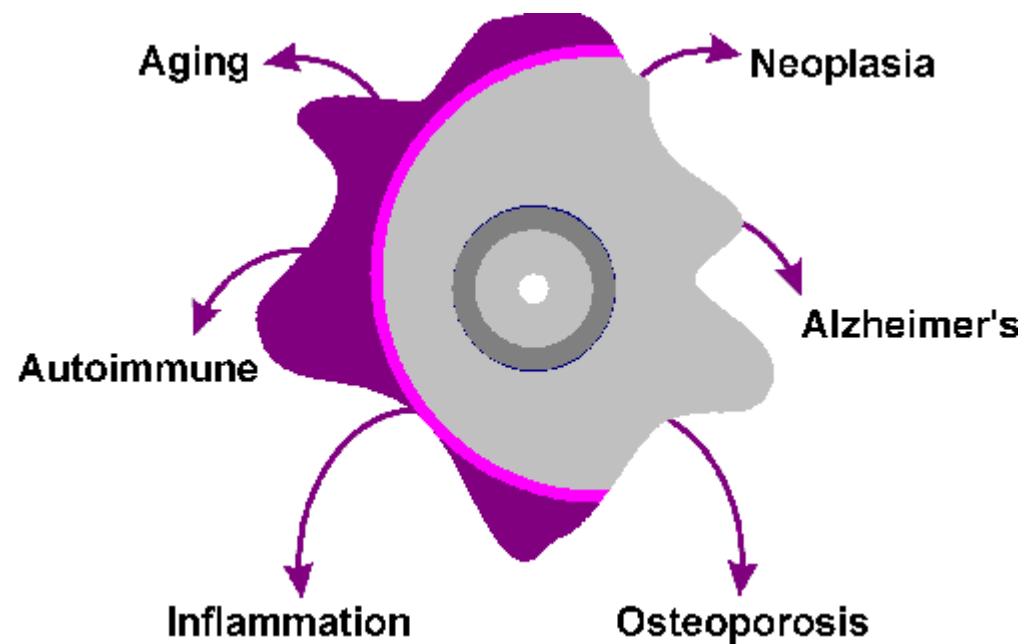
# Stress and somatic disorders

Alterations of the ability to respond to stressors, as for example inadequate, excessive and/ or prolonged reactions, may lead to disease.

Moreover, excessive and/ or chronically imposed stressors may have adverse impact on a variety of physiologic functions, such as growth, reproduction, metabolism and the immunity, as well as on development and behavior.

Prenatal life, infancy, childhood and adolescence are critical periods characterized by increased vulnerability to stressors.

# Stress and somatic disorders



# **Stress and somatic disorders**

**Atherosclerosis**

**Hemoconcentration**

**Heart ischemic dis.**

**Myocardial infarction**

**Stroke**

**Metabolic (Reaven) syndrome (insulinoresistance,  
hyperinsulinaemia, hypertension, hyperlipidaemia,  
hyperurikaemia...)**

**↑ sensitivity to infection**

**Malignancies ?**

**Gastric ulcer (Cushing syndrome ulcer)**

**Graves-Basedow disease**

**Psoriasis**

**... Psychosomatic medicine**

# Autonomous nervous system

This is a major control system. Often, in pathological physiology studies of nervous system it is forgotten. Because of: central nervous system, humoral control (hormones), immune system, etc.

# Neurotransmitter examples

Autonomic/ Vegetative nervous system

- sympathetic and parasympathetic,
- receptors (alpha- and beta- adrenergic, nicotinic and muscarinic cholinergic)
- mediators (adrenaline, noradrenaline (norepinephrine), acetylcholine)
- mediator synthesis (= biogenic amines)
- cleavage (choline-esterase, mono-amino-oxidase, and re-uptake)
- anatomic connections (segmental, versus head a torso, pre- and post- ganglionic fibers), urination, defecation, erection, ejaculation,  
eye focusing = accomodation, pupil sphincter = adaptation,
- balancing sympathetic and parasympathetic effects

# Plants and mushrooms with effect on the cholinergic synapse

## nicotinic and muscarinic cholinergic receptors



*Clitocybe dealbata*,

or sweating mushroom

Deadly poisonous mushroom,

poison: muscarine,  
antidotum: atropine

*Clitocybe odora*,

Edible mushroom

*Nicotiana tabacum*,

Tobacco plant,

Deadly poisonous plant



*Amanita muscaria*,

or fly agaric

Mildly poisonous

mushroom, poison:  
muscimol



# Neural pathways/ neural control

CZ

Hledání účelnosti ve fyziologických reakcích. (Imunosupresivní léčba některých nemocí občas ukazuje, že patogenetický proces vůbec neprobíhá účelně.)

Nervový signál přenáší jen reprezentaci veličiny s kladným znaménkem, proto se často vyskytuje dualita současného řízení excitačními a inhibičními neurony

V případě vegetativního NS je to také dualita **sympatiku** a **parasympatiku**

Thermoregulation:

kožní vasokonstrikce/ vasodilatace  
potní žlázy - sympathicus  
výjimka v inervaci: cholinergní

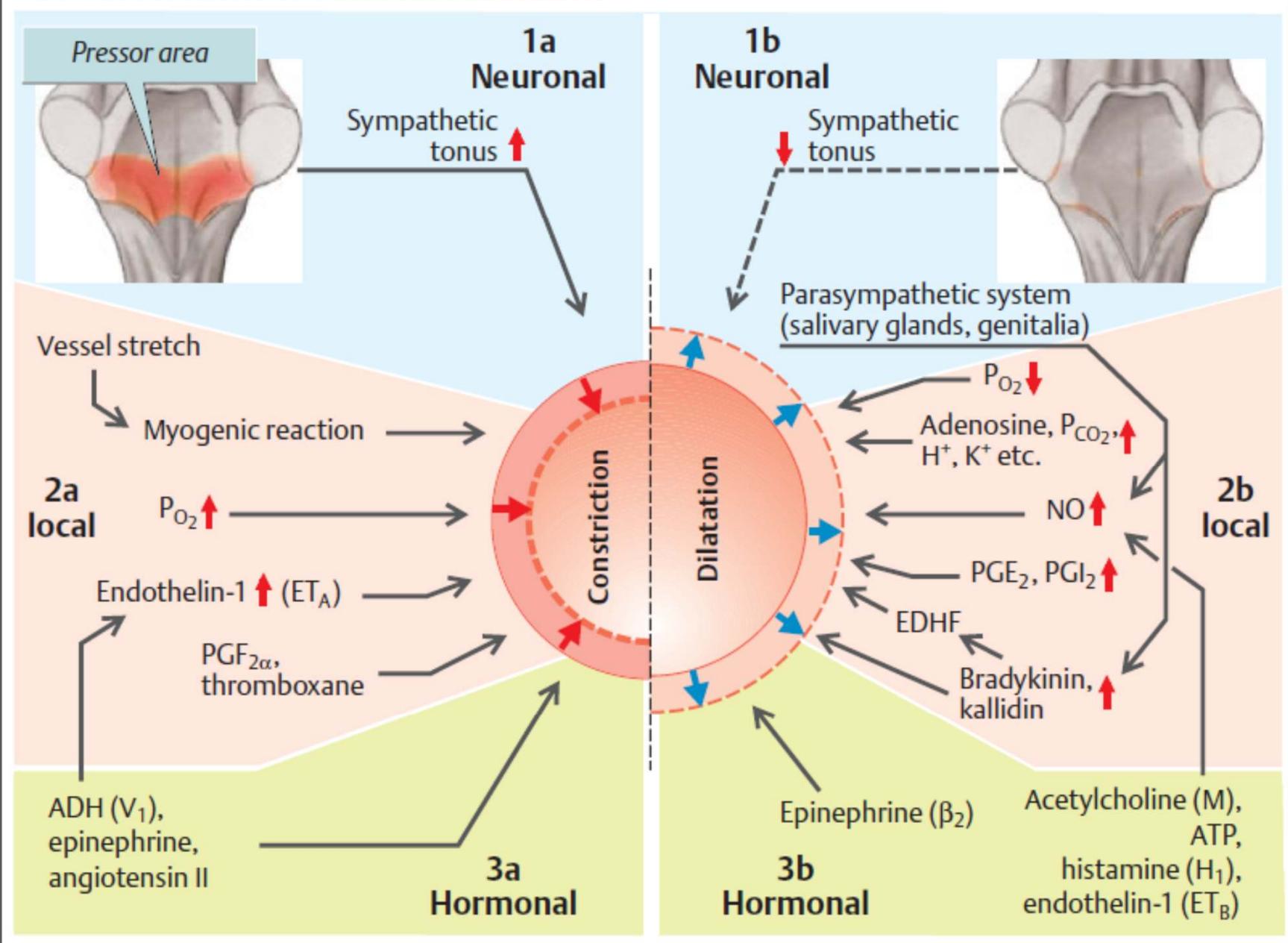
Baroreflex:

vybalancování  
účinků sympatiku a parasympatiku  
Zvýšení a snížení krevního tlaku:  
(-press.=> +symp.-parasymp.  
mimo jiné např.: orthostatický reflex)  
(+press.=> -symp.+parasymp.)

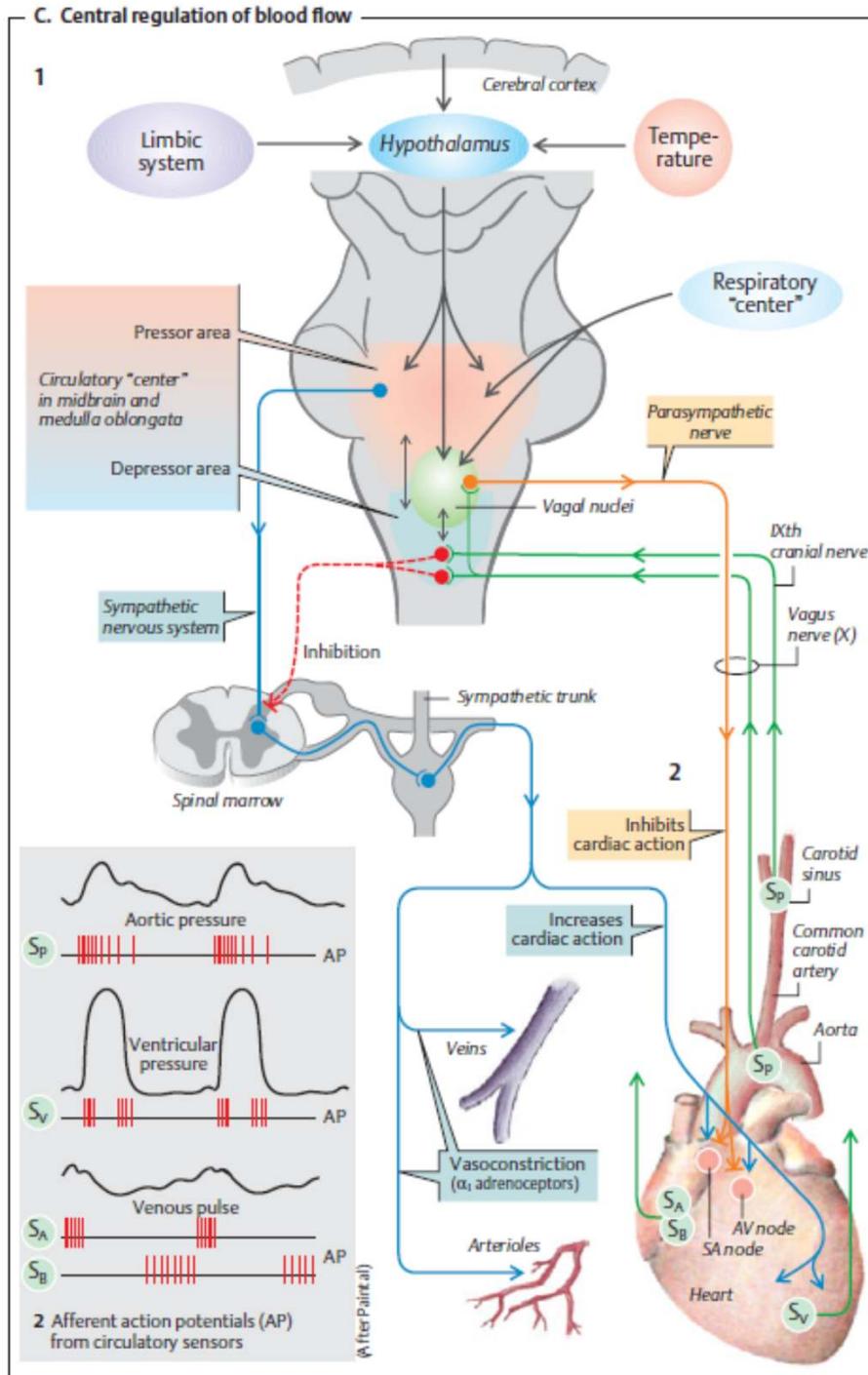
# Circulation and vaso-motor control

Failure of circulatory control  
is manifested as shock  
(defined as) such a drop of the systemic  
blood pressure, which cannot sustain  
oxygenation reserve in functioning of organs  
with vital importance  
(heart, brain, respiratory muscles)

## B. Vasoconstriction and vasodilatation



# Baroreflex



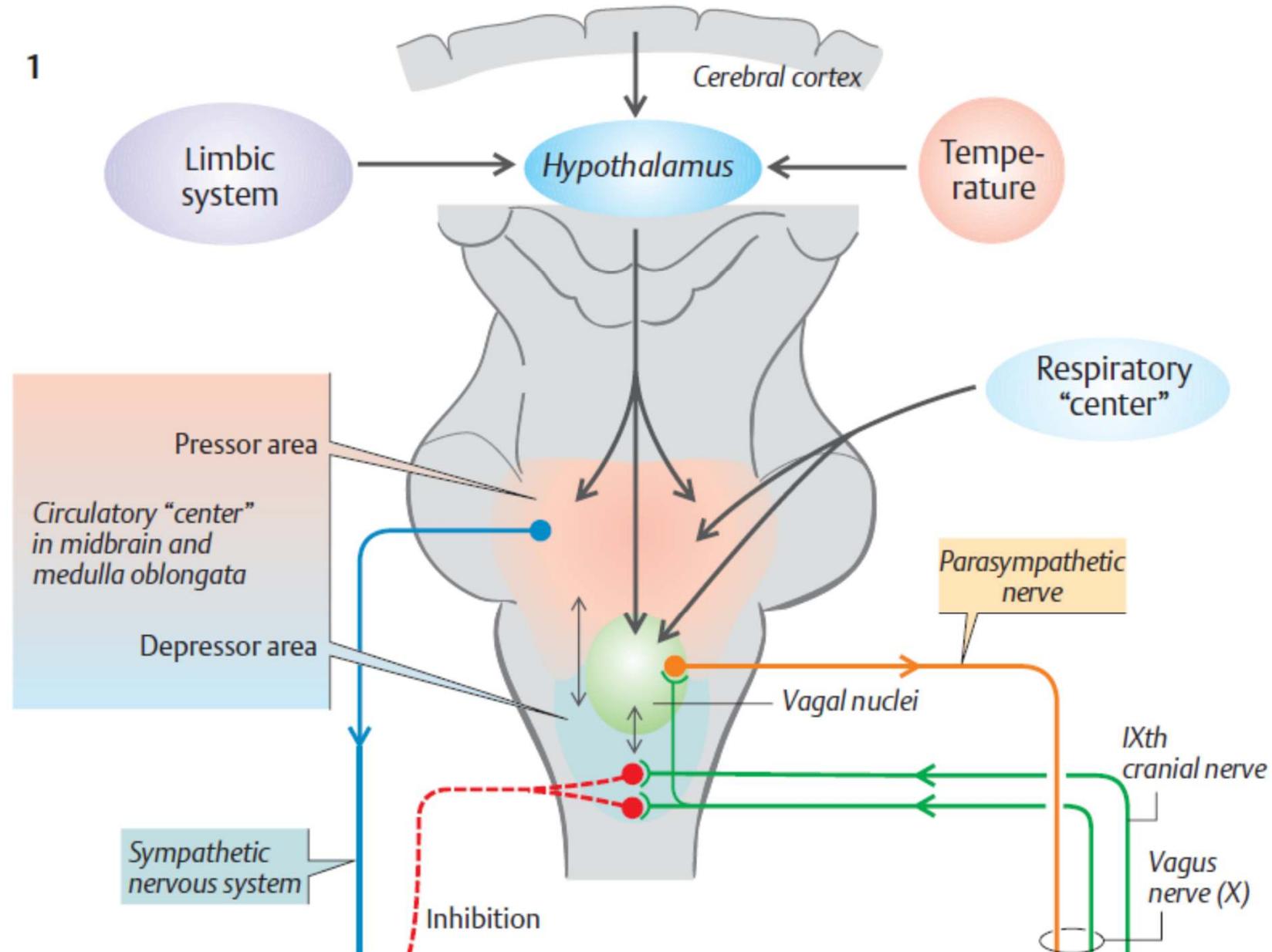
CZ

**Baroreflex:**  
vybalancování  
účinků sympatiku a parasympatiku  
Zvýšení a snížení krevního tlaku:  
(-press.=> +symp.-parasymp.  
mimo jiné: orthostatický reflex)  
(+press.=> -symp.+parasymp.)

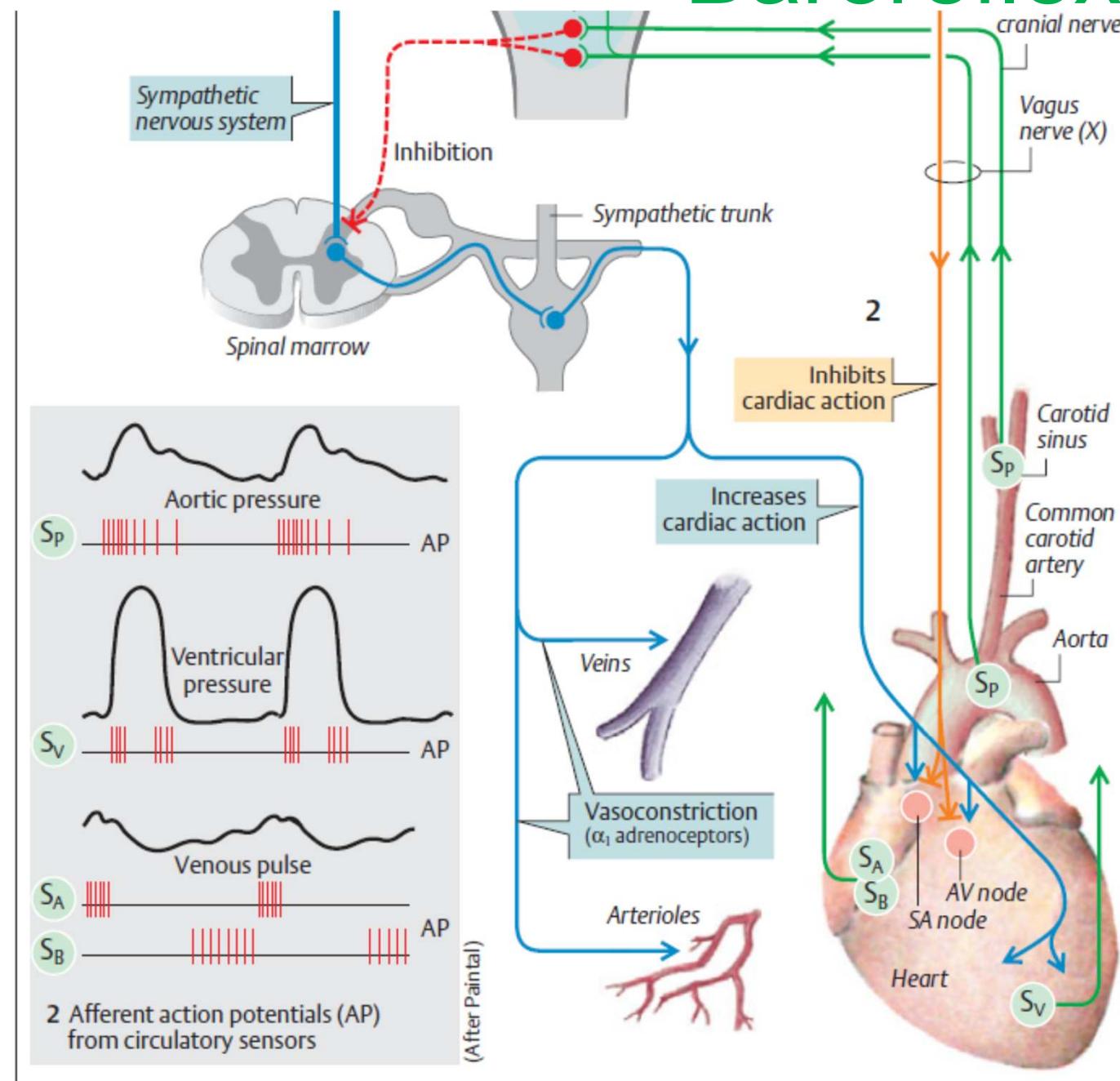
# Baroreflex

## C. Central regulation of blood flow

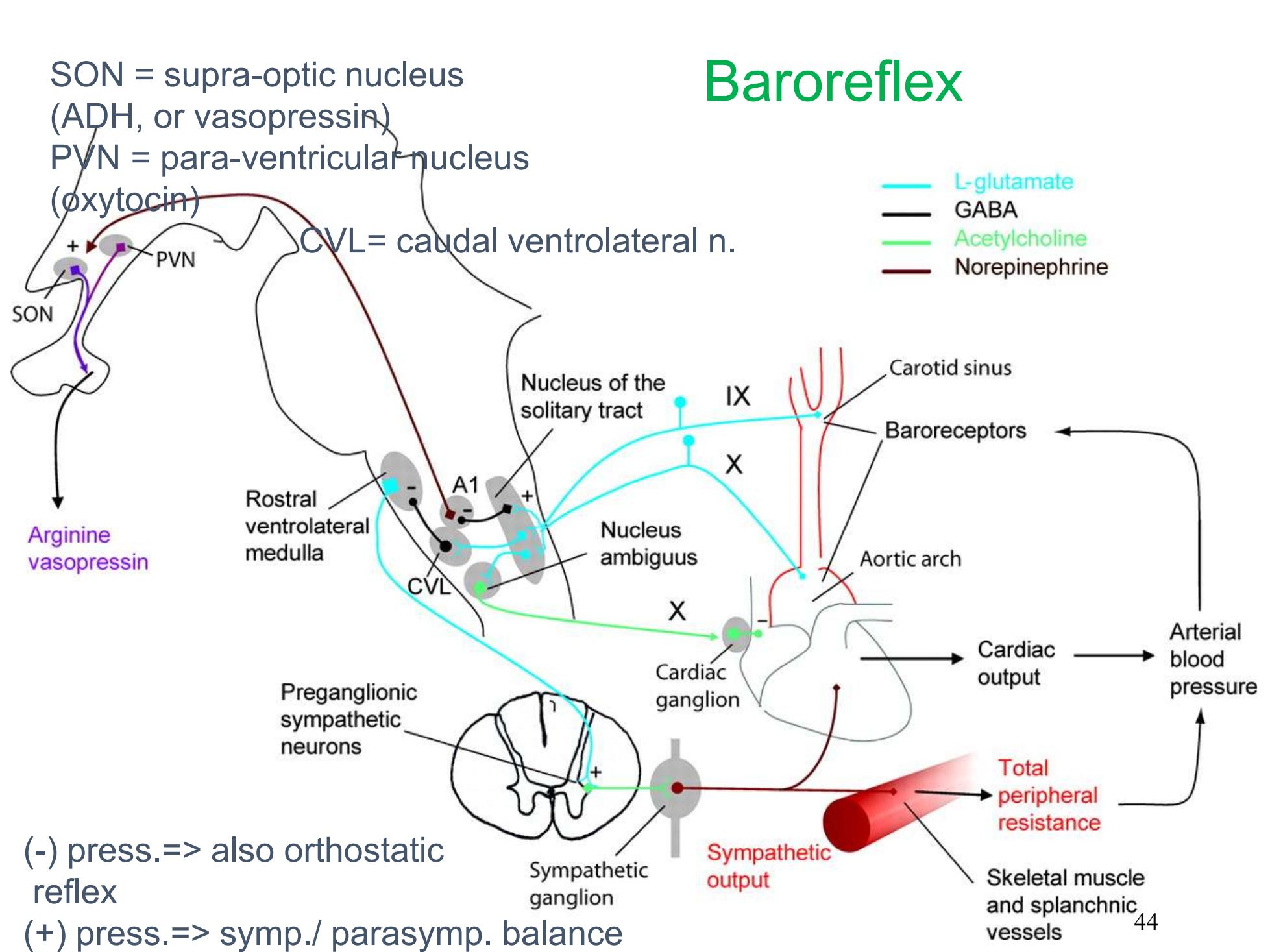
1



# Baroreflex



# Baroreflex



## Autonomous nervous system,

And its polarity, (or duality):

**Parasympathetic** versus **sympathetic**.

Fight and/ or flight versus relaxation/ regeneration

Sometimes more than 2 alternatives: vasomotor control can be:

1 alpha and 2 beta adrenergic and 3 cholinergic

### Cholinoreceptors

Nicotinic receptors:

- All postganglionic, autonomic ganglia cells and dendrites
- Adrenal medulla

Muscarinic receptors:

- All target organs innervated by postganglionic parasympathetic nerve fibers (and sweat glands innervated by sympathetic fibers)

### Adrenoceptors:

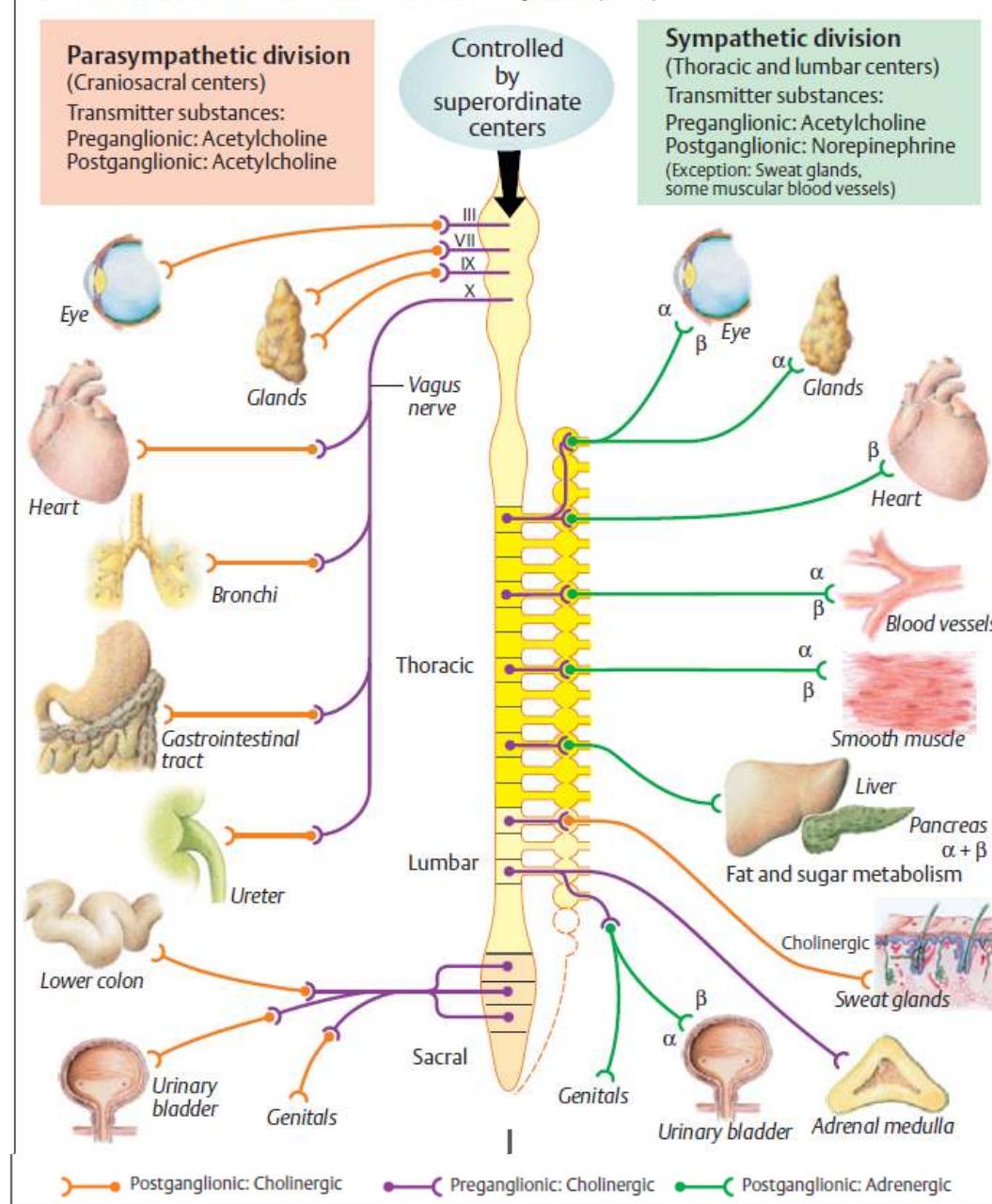
$\alpha$  Usually excitatory (except in GI tract, where they are indirect relaxants)

$\beta$  Usually inhibitory (except in heart, where they are excitatory)

$\beta_1$  mainly in heart

$\beta_2$  in bronchi, urinary bladder, uterus, gastrointestinal tract, etc.

A. Schematic view of autonomic nervous system (ANS)

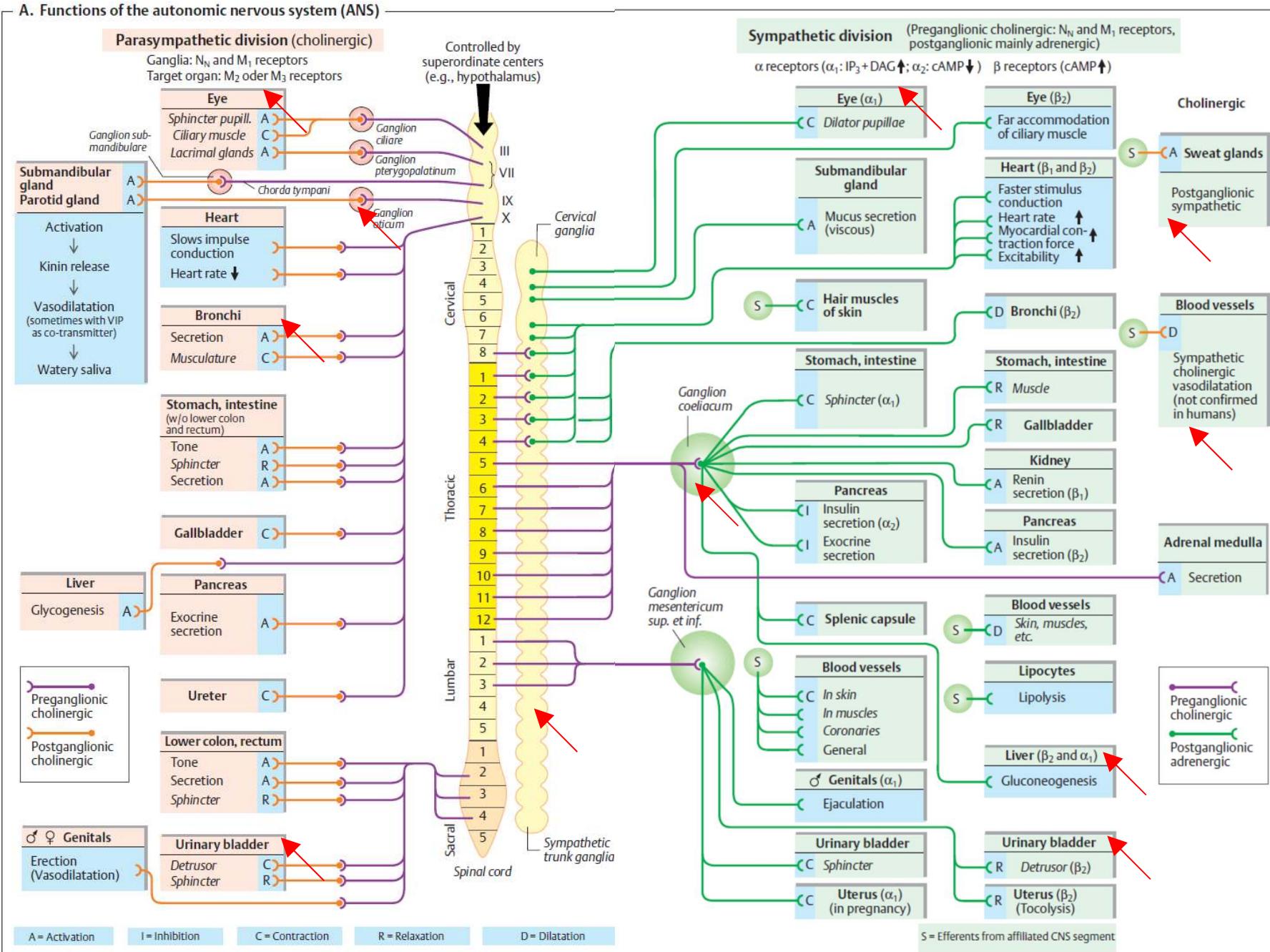


CZ

## Oko a vegetativní systém

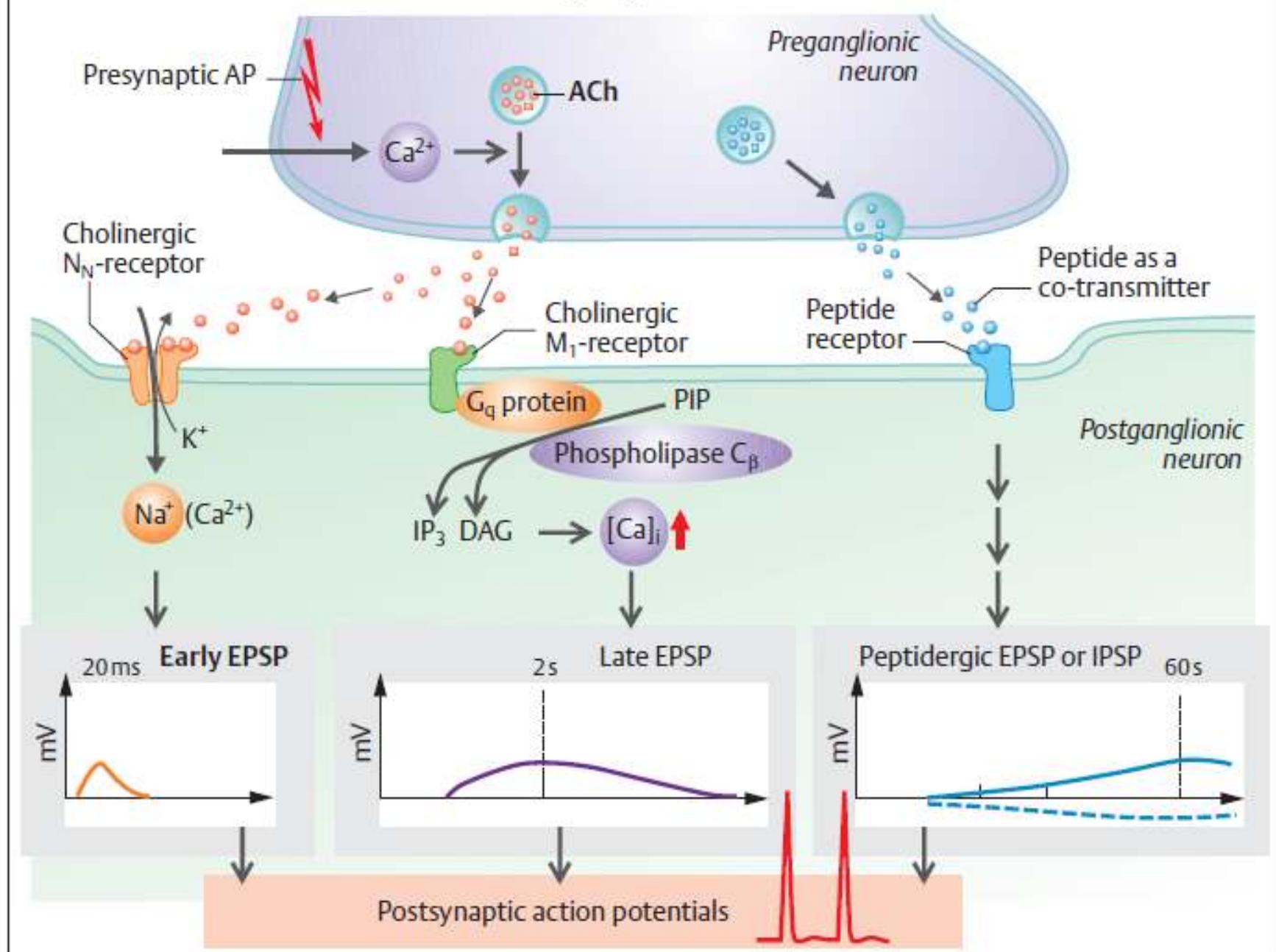
uvnitř jsou jen hladké svaly,  
mióza – paras., cholinergní,  
mydriáza – symp., alfa1 adren;  
akomodace, m. ciliaris,  
do dálky – symp. beta2,  
na blízko – paras.;  
slzné žlázy - paras.;

### **– A. Functions of the autonomic nervous system (ANS)**



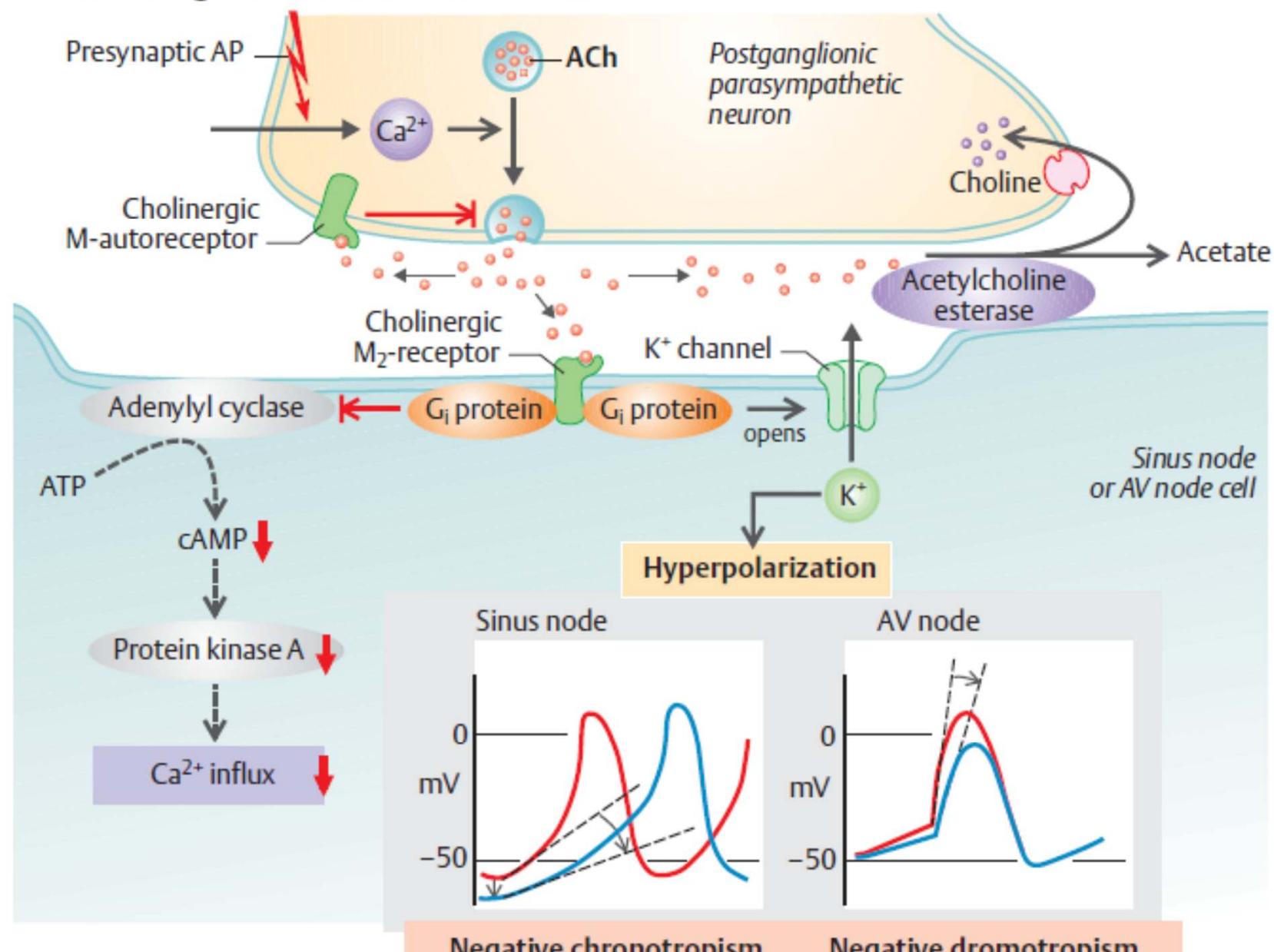
# Cholinergic receptors

## A. Neurotransmission in autonomic ganglia

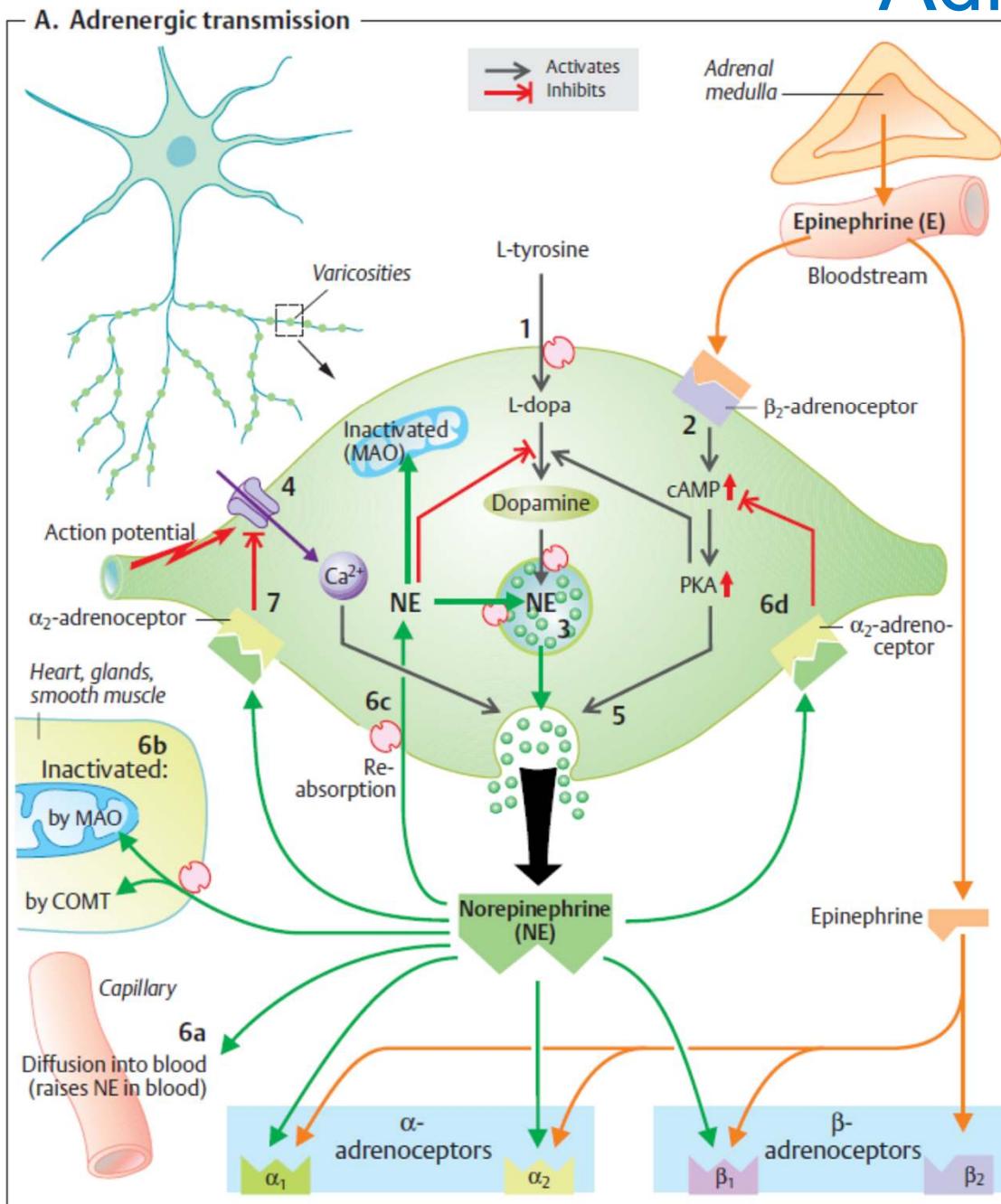


# Cholinergic receptors

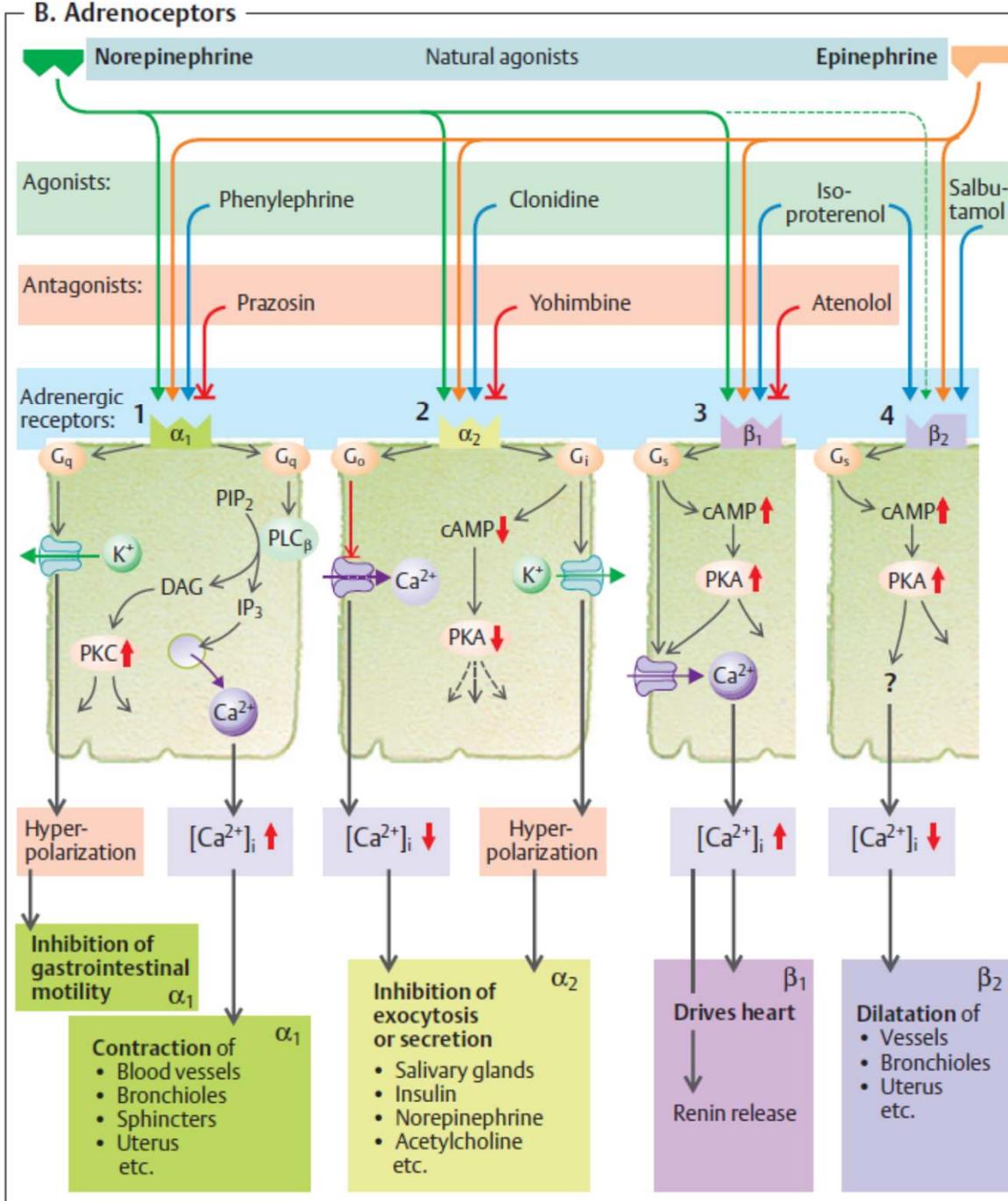
## B. Cholinergic transmission in the heart



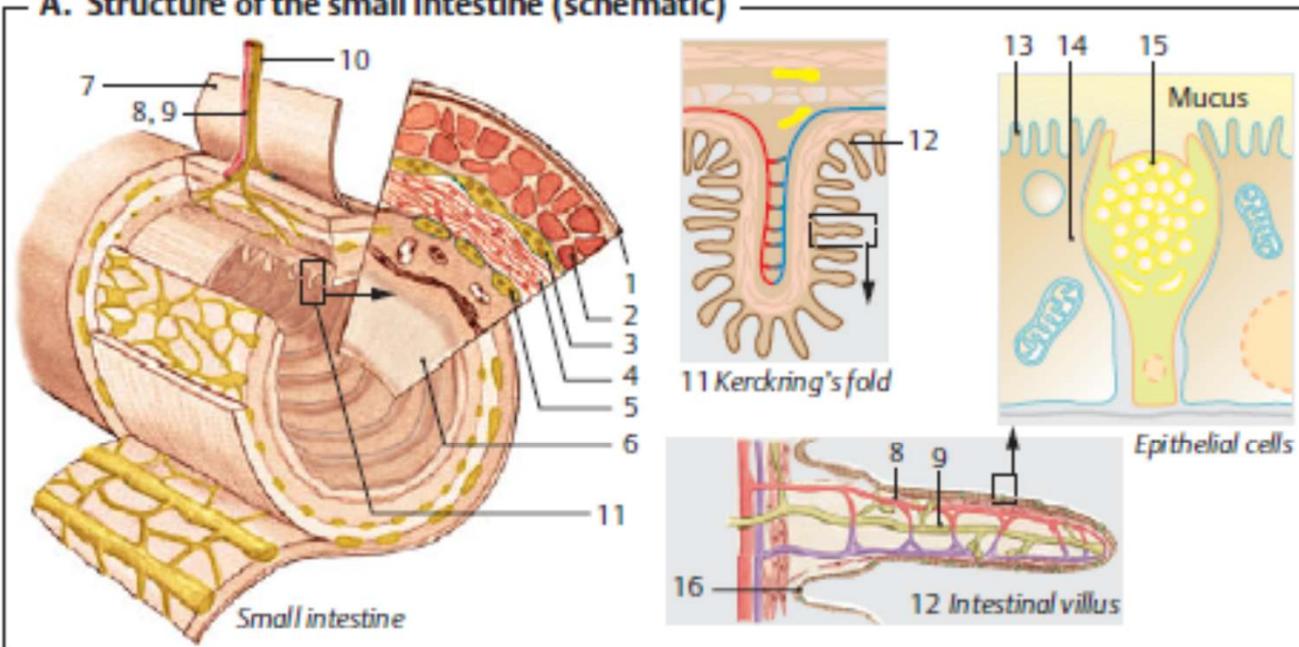
# Adrenergic receptors



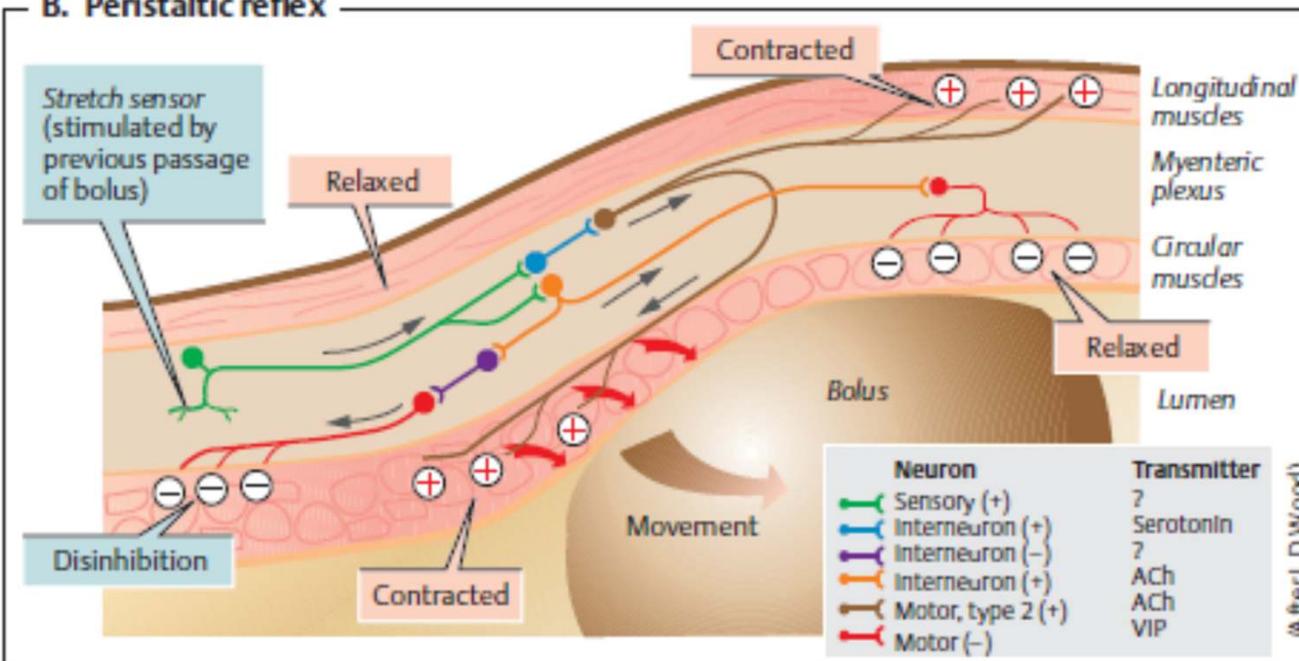
# Adrenergic receptors



A. Structure of the small intestine (schematic)



B. Peristaltic reflex



Další N.S.:

Enterický

**CZ**

nervový

systém,

myenterický a

submukósni

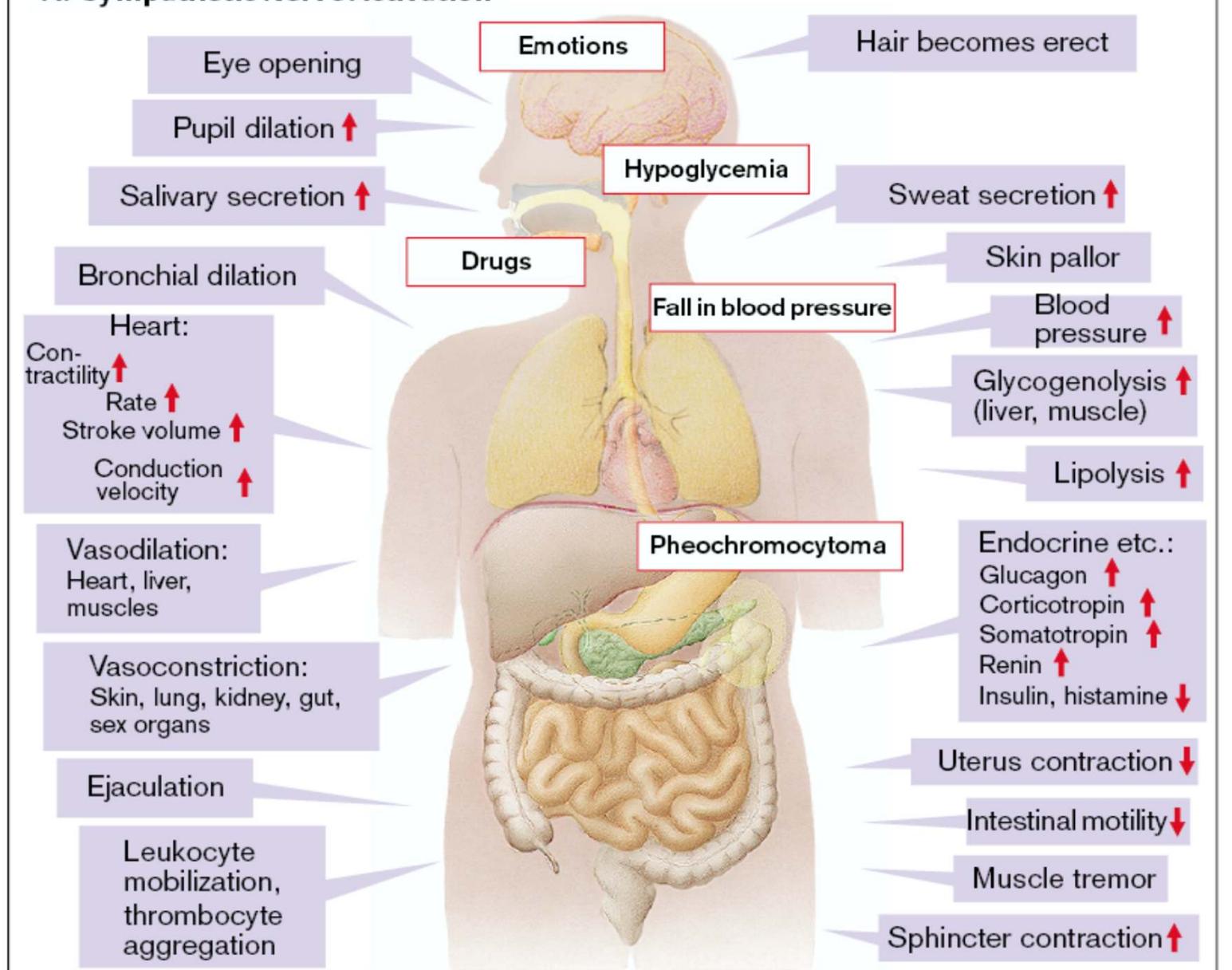
plexus,

atd, atd

Je modulován hormony i vegetativním NS, ale peristaltika může probíhat i nezávisle na obou vlivech. Po laparotomii, či jiném inzultu nastává většinou přechodná paralýza, potom se opět restartuje.

# Autonomous nervous system disorders

## A. Sympathetic Nerve Activation



## B. Loss of Parasympathetic Stimulation

### Anticholinergic drugs

Pupil dilation

Inhibition  
of sweating

Tachycardia

Decreased motility:  
Bronchi,  
gut, bladder  
(but not sphincters)

Decreased secretion:  
Tears, saliva,  
bronchi,  
gastrointestinal

No erection ♂  
No vasocongestion ♀

Influenced  
by various  
drugs

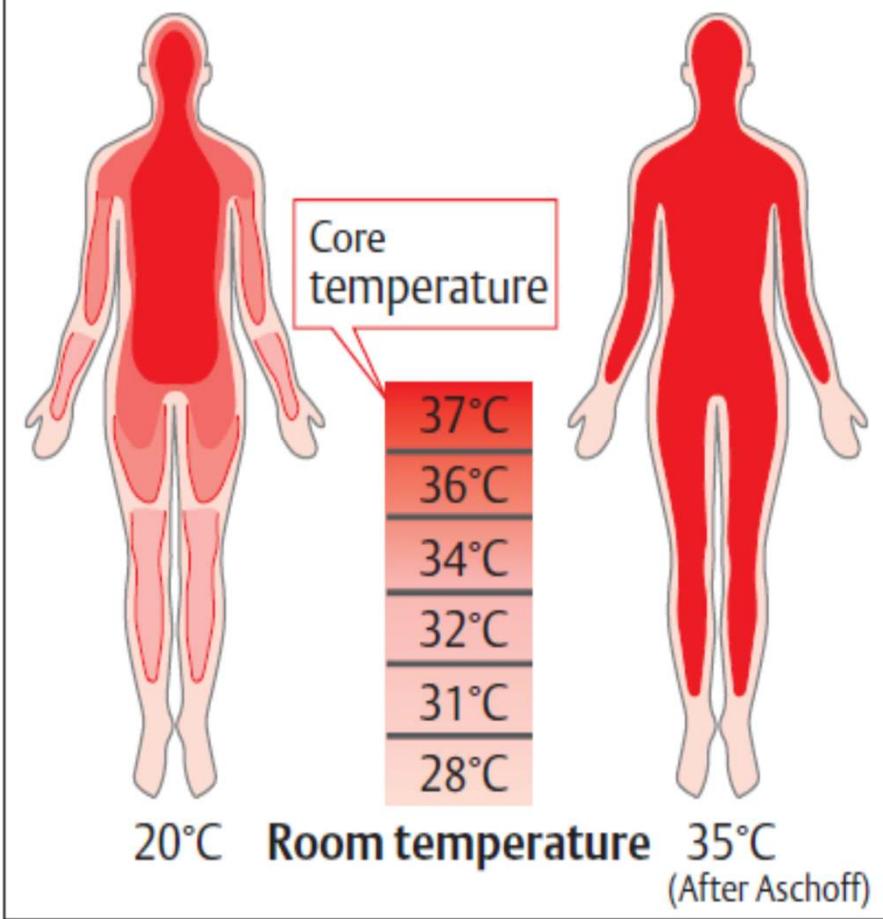


# Temperature control, fever, hypothermia

- homeostasis
- processes to save heat
- processes to eliminate heat

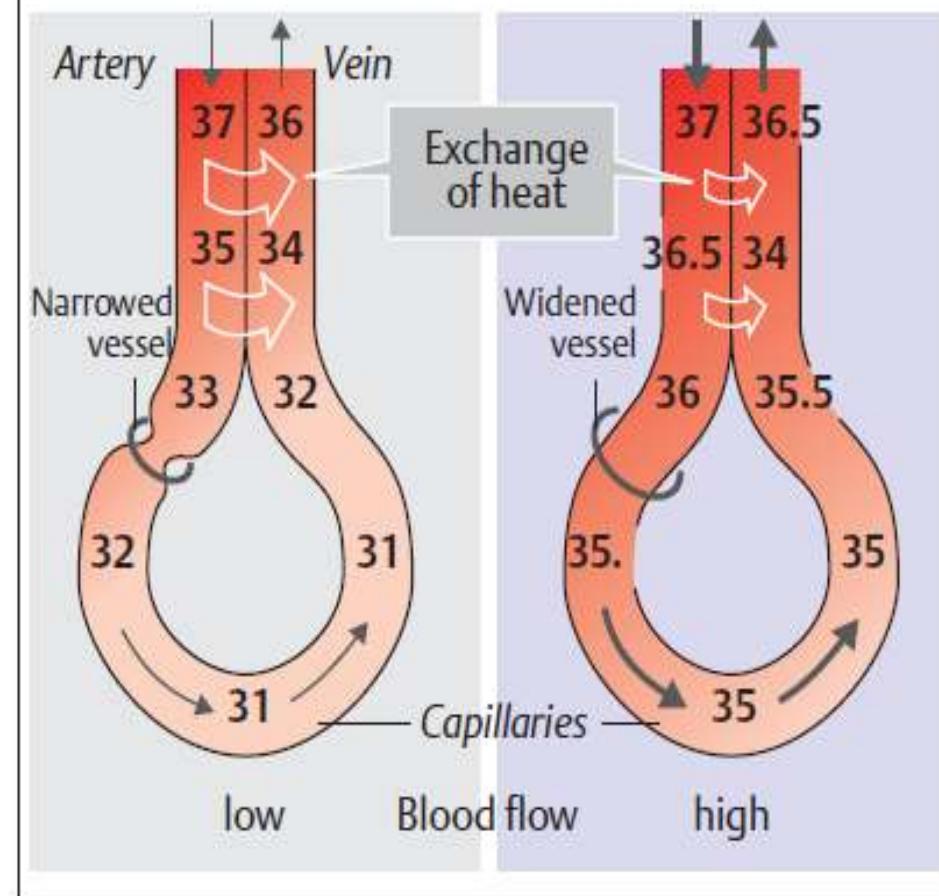
1 radiation, 2 conduction, 3 convection, 4 evaporation

### A. Temperature zones of the body



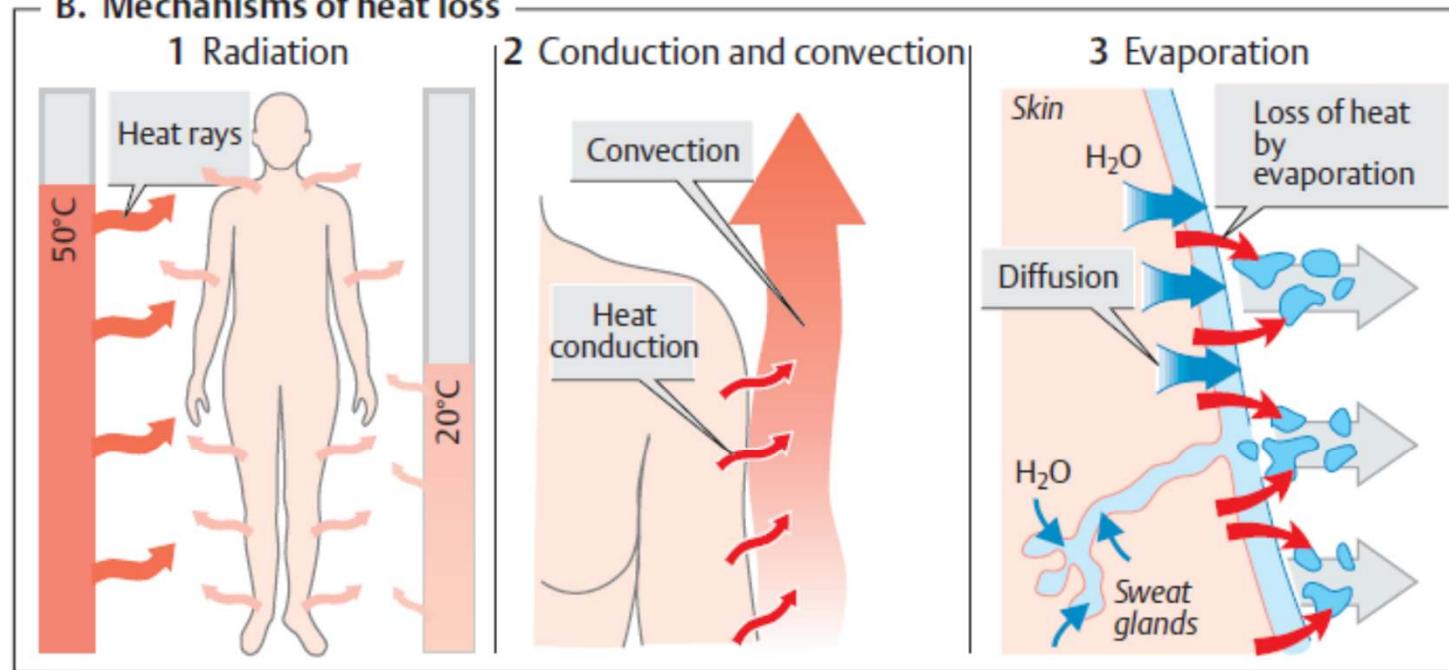
core and shell

### B. Arteriovenous exchange of heat



countercurrent  
systém

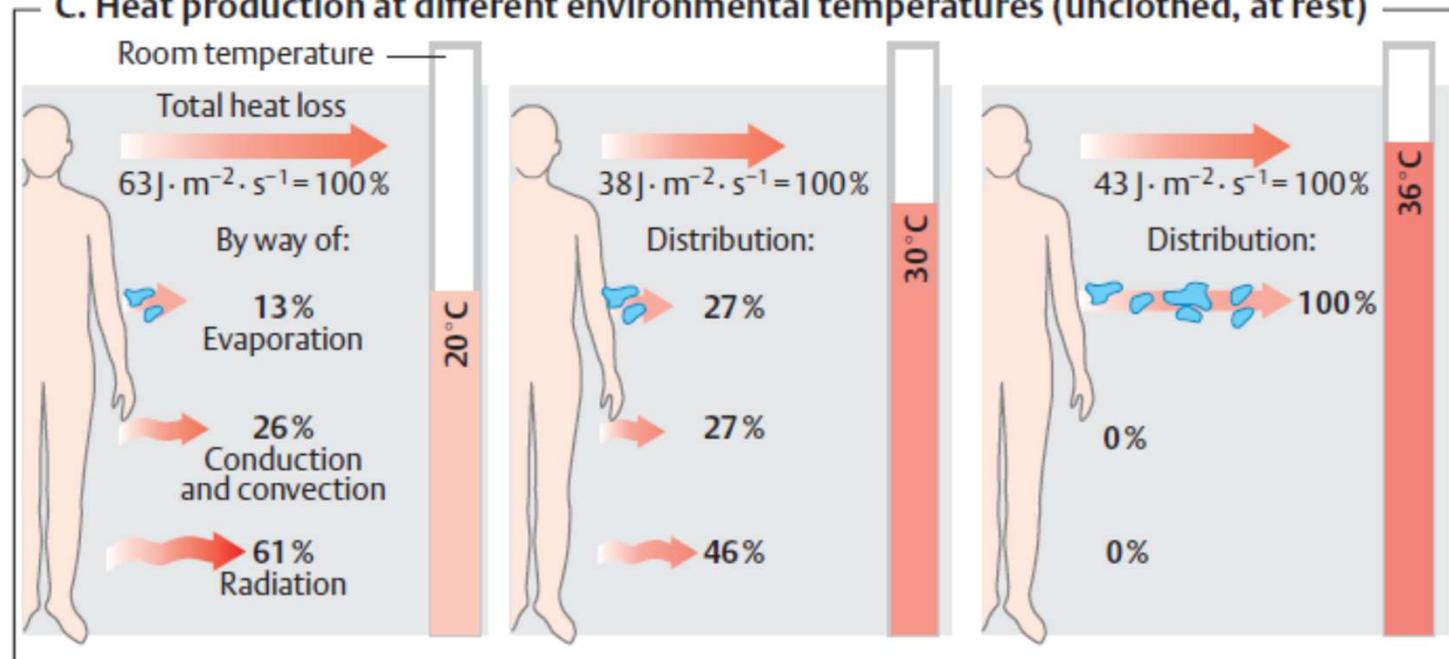
## B. Mechanisms of heat loss



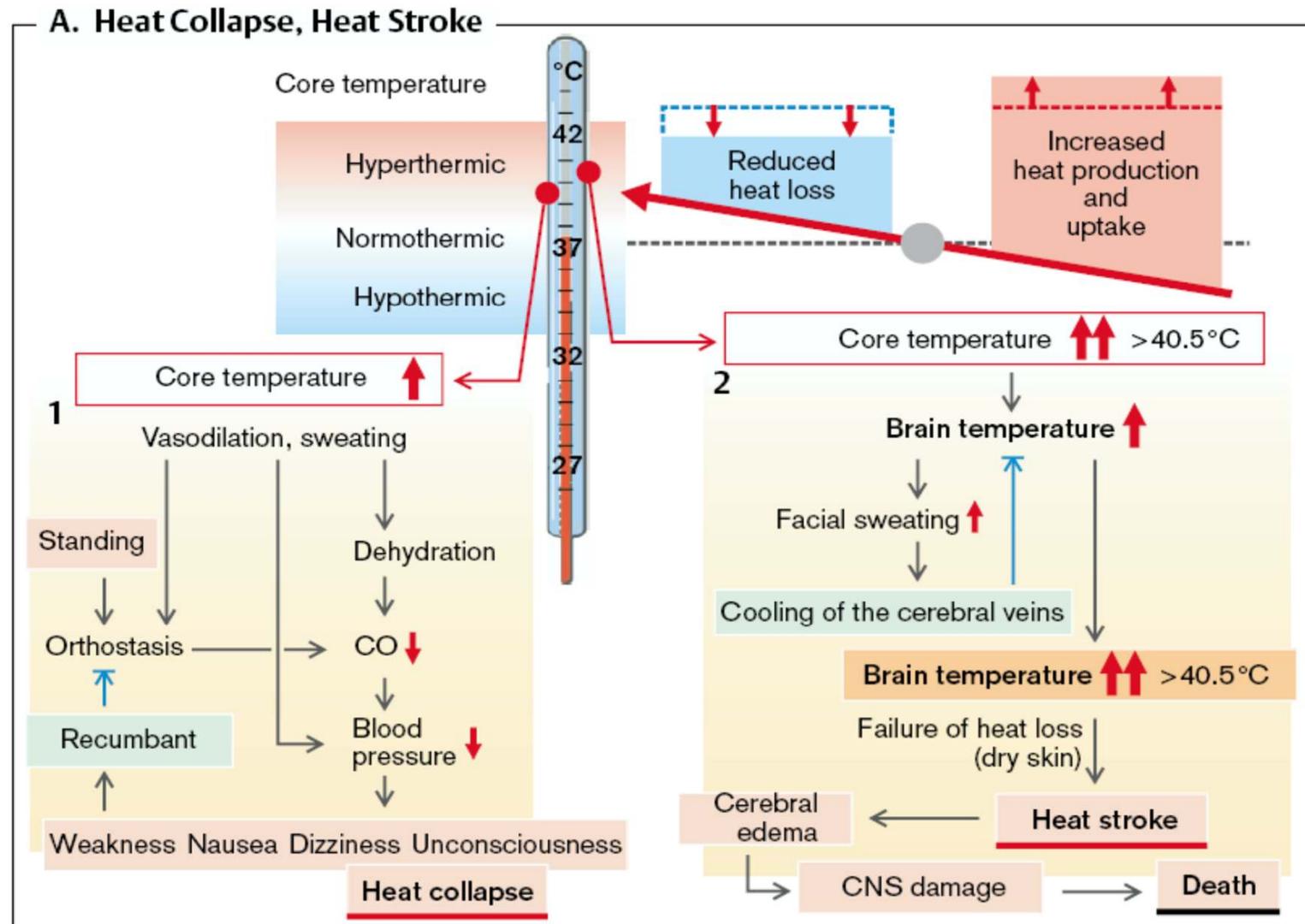
Heat transfer:

- 1** (radiation)
- 2** (conduction)
- 3** (convection)
- 4** (evaporation)

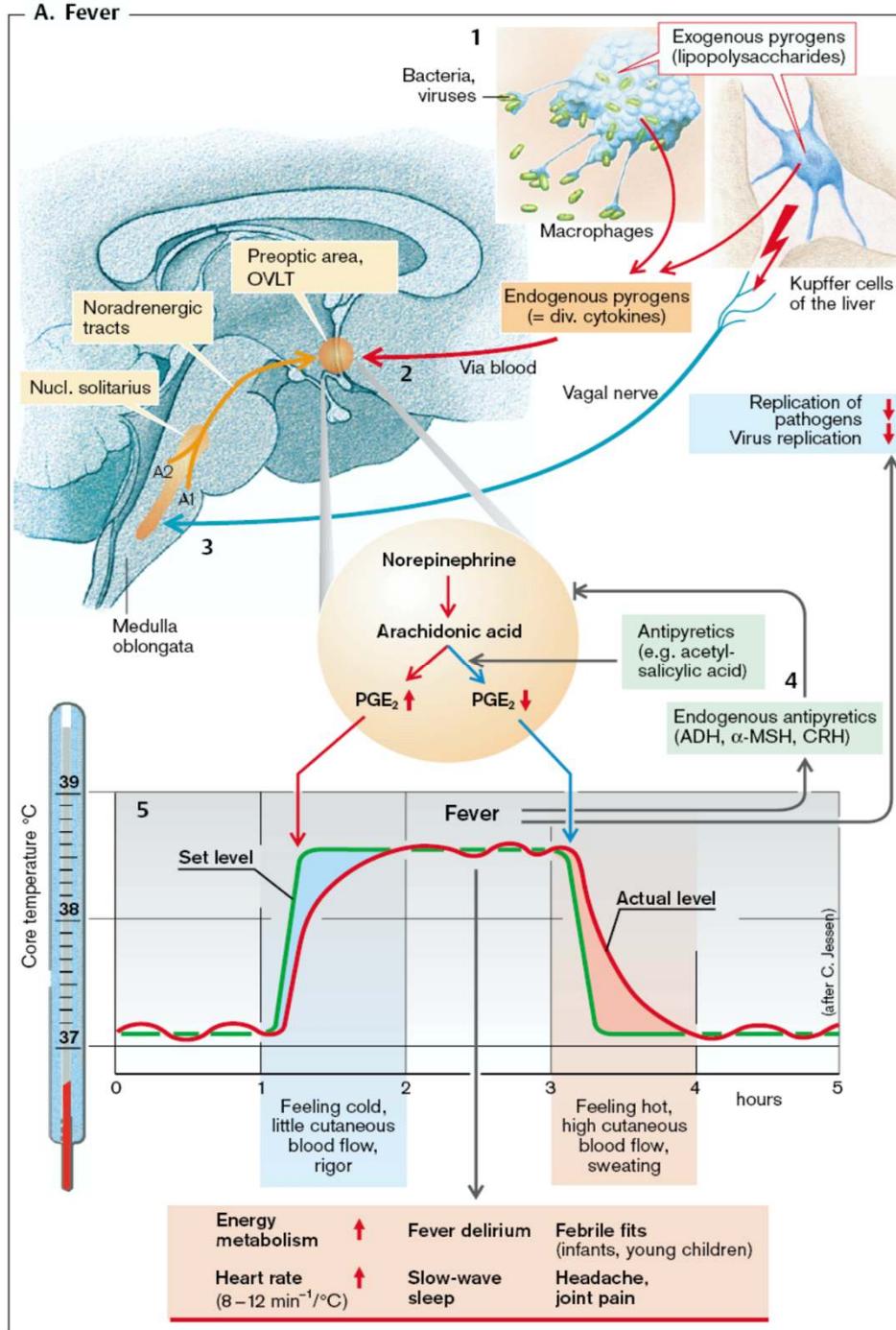
## C. Heat production at different environmental temperatures (unclothed, at rest)



# Přehřátí, úpal/ úžeh...



# Fever, temperature control



homo-io-termic organisms

# Fever

**Old defence reaction, well conserved in evolution**

**Correlation with better prognosis and duration of acute infection**

**Defense reaction → adverse environment for microbes, for their metabolism and proliferation.**

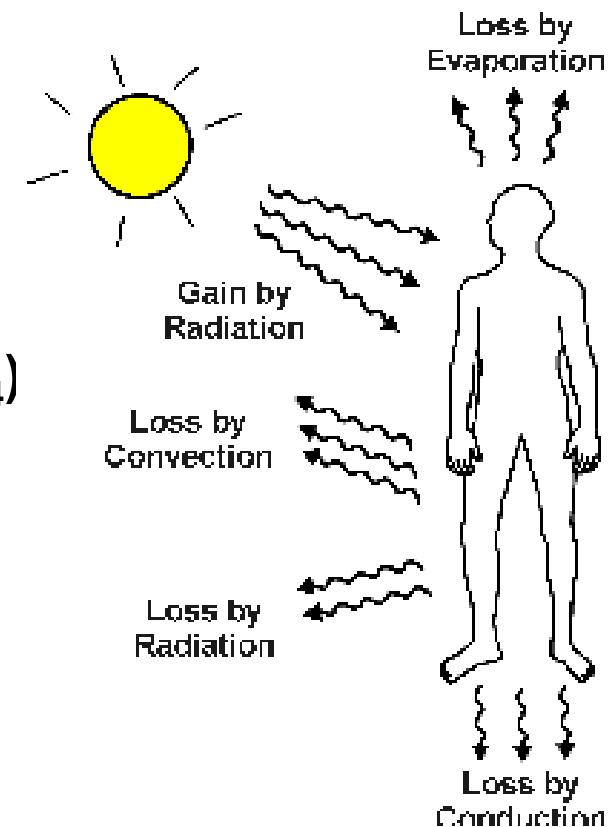
# Fever

## Regulation of temperature

heat production  
(intensity of metabolism – catecholamines,  $T_{3,4}$ )

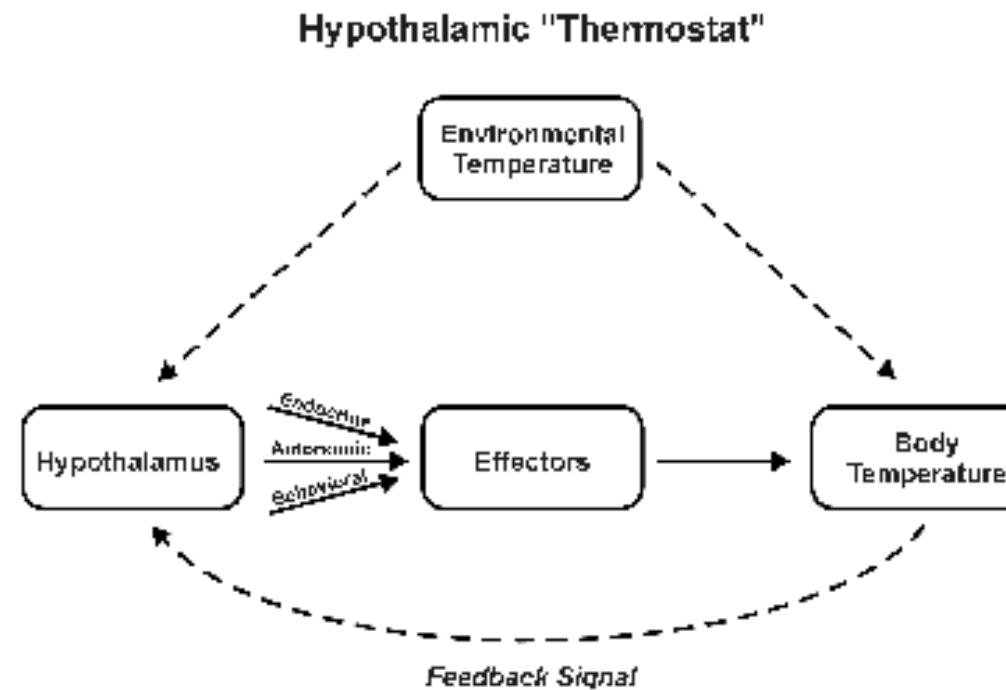
x

heat output



# Fever

Hypothalamic thermoregulatory center  
- „thermostat“



# Fever

**TNF, IL-1, IL-6 + microbial toxins + PG**



**stimulation / reset of hypothalamic center**

- **direct effect of mediators in hypothalamus**
- **indirect / afferent stimulation via n. vagus from periphery to hypothalamus**



• **peripheral vasoconstriction (cold skin, hypoperfusion)**

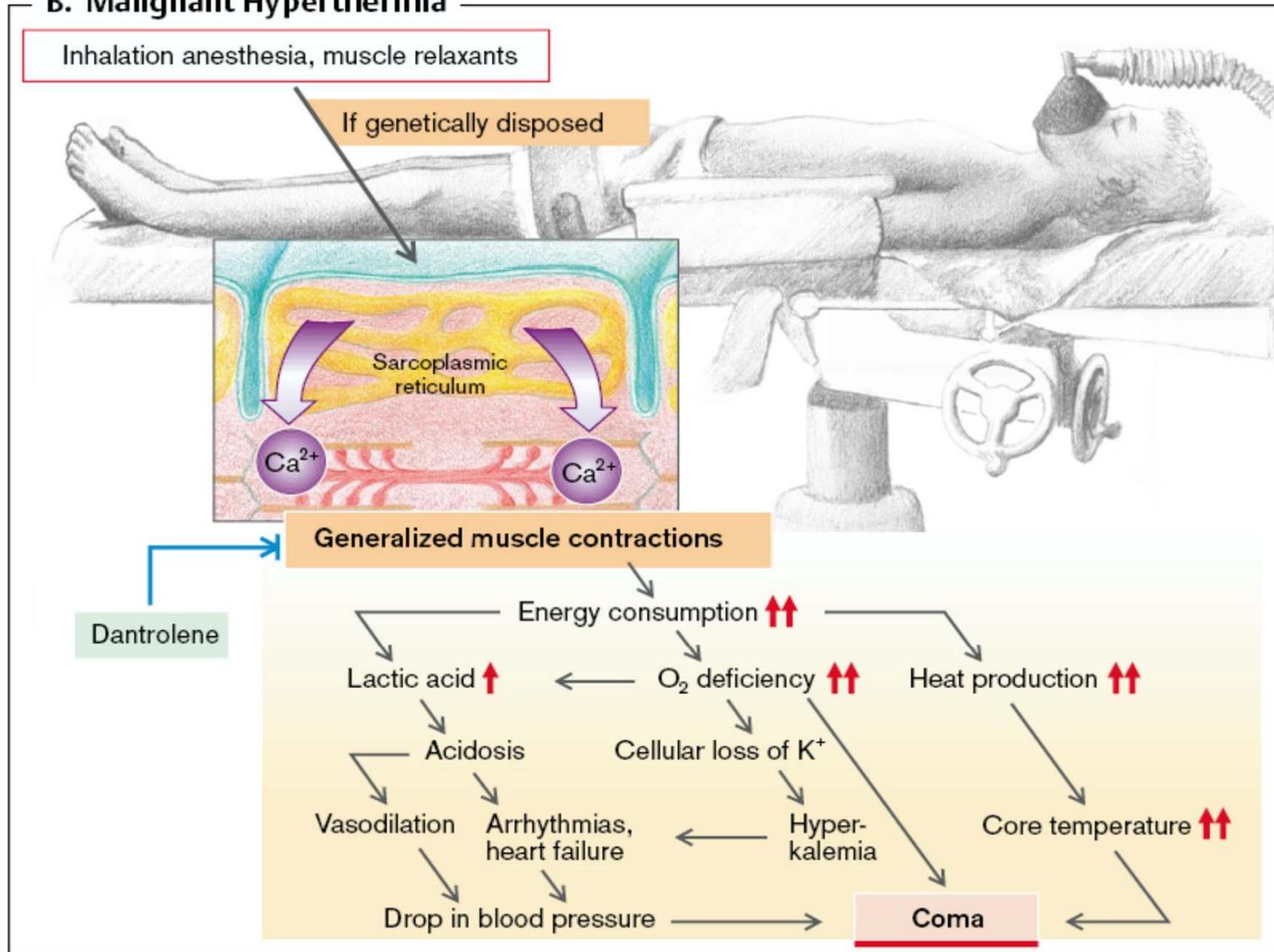
- **heat production (thermogenesis)**



**Restoration of initial status**

- **vasodilatation**
- **perspiration**

## B. Malignant Hyperthermia



# Hypothermia

## A. Hypothermia



### Predisposition:

#### Infant, young child

Helpless, unable to appreciate danger, large surface to mass ratio, low heat production at rest, thin subcutaneous tissue

#### In the elderly

Disorientation, narrow range of thermal regulation

### Not possible/insufficient:

Cold water (accident at sea, falling through ice), snow avalanche, fall into glacier crevasse, mountain accident

Sleeping rough, malnutrition

Shock, loss of consciousness, effect of alcohol or drugs, barbiturates (attempted suicide)

Psychiatric illness, hypothyroidism, Parkinson's disease

Accidental hypothermia					
Stage	Symptoms	Metabolism	Level of consciousness	Cardiovascular system, respiration	Rewarming
I Agitation	35 Cold tremors, pain (distal parts of limbs)	Metabolism ↑ Hyperglycemia $O_2$ consumption ↑	Wide awake and agitated ↓ Confused	Tachycardia, peripheral vasoconstriction Blood pressure ↑	Warm room, blankets
	33				
II Exhaustion	31 Muscle rigidity Pupillary reflex still active	Hypoglycemia Metabolism ↓	Hallucinations, somnolent ↓ Unconscious	Bradycardia Depressed breathing Arrhythmias ↓	Electric blanket, warm infusion, hemodialysis
	29				
III Paralysis	Wide, light insensitive pupils	Metabolism ↓	Coma	Ventricular fibrillation Asystole Apnea	Extracorporeal circulation
Core temperature					

# Inflammation

# Inflammation

= The complex system of defense reactions of vascularized tissues against pathogenic stimulus (insult) of different character

The aim of inflammation is:

- elimination of a cause,
- removal of an irreversibly damaged tissue,
- consecutive tissue regeneration or reparation, restoration of impaired both metabolism and function of organs, the return to dynamic balance status

Including other defense actions: coagulation, regeneration, vs. (connective) tissue reparation, wound healing, neuro-humoral responses

# Acid base balance

# Fyziologické regulace se uplatňují u patologických stavů, hranice mezi fyziologickým a patologickým je neostrá

CZ

- Patologické procesy a mechanismy se podílejí v patogenezi více onemocnění
- Fyziologické mechanismy zúčastňující se tzv. patogeneze: obranné a adaptivní mechanismy, zánět, horečka, hyper-termie, hypo-termie, šok, stres, edém, poruchy regulačních mechanismů (!, co to je?...), poruchy metabolismu, poškození genetické informace, atd. ....

CZ

Další téma obecné patofyziologie:

- aktivní transport, klidový (Nernstův) potenciál na membráně, akční potenciál, **membránové jevy** obecně
- nutrice
- růst a vývoj
- stres a jeho mechanismy

# **Acute phase proteins**

**Stimulatory effects of proinflamm. cytokines + corticoids ( + insulin) on hepatic proteosynthesis**

**An increase of expression of a group of important defense proteins + concurrent depression of both structural and transport protein synthesis**

**Acute phase proteins** = plasma proteins formed in liver; its synthesis is regulated both by proinflamm. cytokines and corticoids

**Due to dynamics of changes:**

- **positive APP (elevation of synthesis)**
- **negative APP (depression of synthesis).**

# Acute phase proteins

## Importance

1. **mediators and modulators** of inflamm. response - members of cytokine cascade (CRP, ...)
2. **inhibitors of leukocyte proteases** – limitation of a range of proteolytic tissue destruction ( $\alpha_1$ -antitrypsin,  $\alpha_2$ -macroglobulin)
3. **scavengers** – binding of both circulating or tissue fragments of damaged cells, hemoglobin fragments (haptoglobin, hemopexin) or free oxygen radicals (ceruloplasmin)
4. some **coagulation factors** (e.g. fibrinogen)
5. **reparatory proteins** – a stimulation of connective tissue proliferation ( $\alpha_1$ -acid glycoprotein) and angiogenesis (ceruloplasmin)
6. **transport proteins** - (x Cpl); a moiety of other transport proteins (albumin, transferrin) represent negative APP ... their plasma concentration decline during inflammation.

## **Disturbances of the growth**

- genetic factors
- action of the endocrine system
- function of the CNS
- nutrition
- genotype determines scheme of the growth, development, habit, prenatal period (development of CNS and endocrine glands)  
outstanding influence of thyroid hormones, GH, insulin  
T3, T4 - necessary for release of GH, for development of teeth germs, development of habit, ossification of the cartilages
  - growth after birth continues two steps of accelerated growth:  
till 3rd month
- puberty control and stop by influence of the sex hormones

## **Insufficient growth 1**

- influence of heredity

chondrodystrophy – disturbance of growth of long bones, skull base, vertebrae,

low production of the GH, thyroid hormones etc.

disturbance of the hypothalamus –

disturbed production GnRHs Fröhlich's syndrome,  
pubertas praecox

- neural influence, hypothalamic region

Fröhlich's syndrome

pubertas praecox

diabetes insipidus

disturbed control of body temperature

## **Insufficient growth 2**

- influence of the endocrine system

acquired diseases are manifested at hypophysis disturbance before puberty:

separate low production of GH

low production of further hormones

(e.g. hypothyroidism, insufficiency of the adrenal cortex, gonads etc)

- influence of the nutrition

lack of full-value proteins retarded growth, decreased synthesis  
of proteohormones

## **Excessive growth**

- influence of heredity

primordial gigantism

- endocrine system

a) insufficient production of sex hormones

primary hypogonadism (late closing of growth cartilages)

b) overproduction of the GH

before closing – gigantism

after acromegaly

## **Causes of the ageing**

- **influence of heredity**
- **defective protein synthesis** – accumulation of the defects, accumulation of the mutations
- **mutations in the immune system** – lasting accumulation of the mutations of immune-competent cells (lymphocytes, macrophages) higher frequency of the autoimmune disturbances in old age  
role of the cytokines in development of diseases – IL-1, IL-6, TNF, EGF, IGF-1, fFGF, PDGF  
decreased amount of heat-shock proteins (HSPs prevent protein from aggregation, from increase of the Ca<sup>2+</sup> in ICF; they lower the amount of the free radicals, prevent from DNA breaks and accelerate DNA repair)
- **pre-programmed life-span in cell populations** – interference by:
  - a) accumulation of free radicals
  - b) accumulation of the substances in ECF (Ca, lipofuscin, cholesterol)
  - c) cross-linkage of the macromolecules in ICS including DNA, RNA

## **Hypothermia in surgery**

decline of *core* temperature lowering of metabolism and oxygen uptake in tissues

controlled hypothermia is used prevalently in cardiosurgery and neurosurgery

programmed cooling of blood in extracorporeal circulation

temperatures  $32^{\circ}\text{C}$  -  $27^{\circ}\text{C}$  are commonly used

in long-term surgery – body temperature can be lowered less than  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$

after surgery – programmed relatively rapid blood rewarming

# Bazální metabolismus

Bazální metabolismus = klidový metabolický obrat  
hrubý odhad: asi 100 kJ na 1 kg za 1 den

- Mechanická energie: činnost srdce, plic, střevní peristaltika,...
- Transportní a osmotická práce: udržení rovnováhy na membránách
- Chemická energie: biosyntézy
- Tepelná energie: udržení tělesné teploty

# The END

Thanks for your attention

Warning: neither the PDF, nor the PPT, PPTX, etc.  
versions of this presentation are official study materials.  
For internal use only. Do not distribute.

Contact: Petr.Marsalek@LF1.CUNI.CZ

First Medical Faculty, Institute of Pathological Physiology