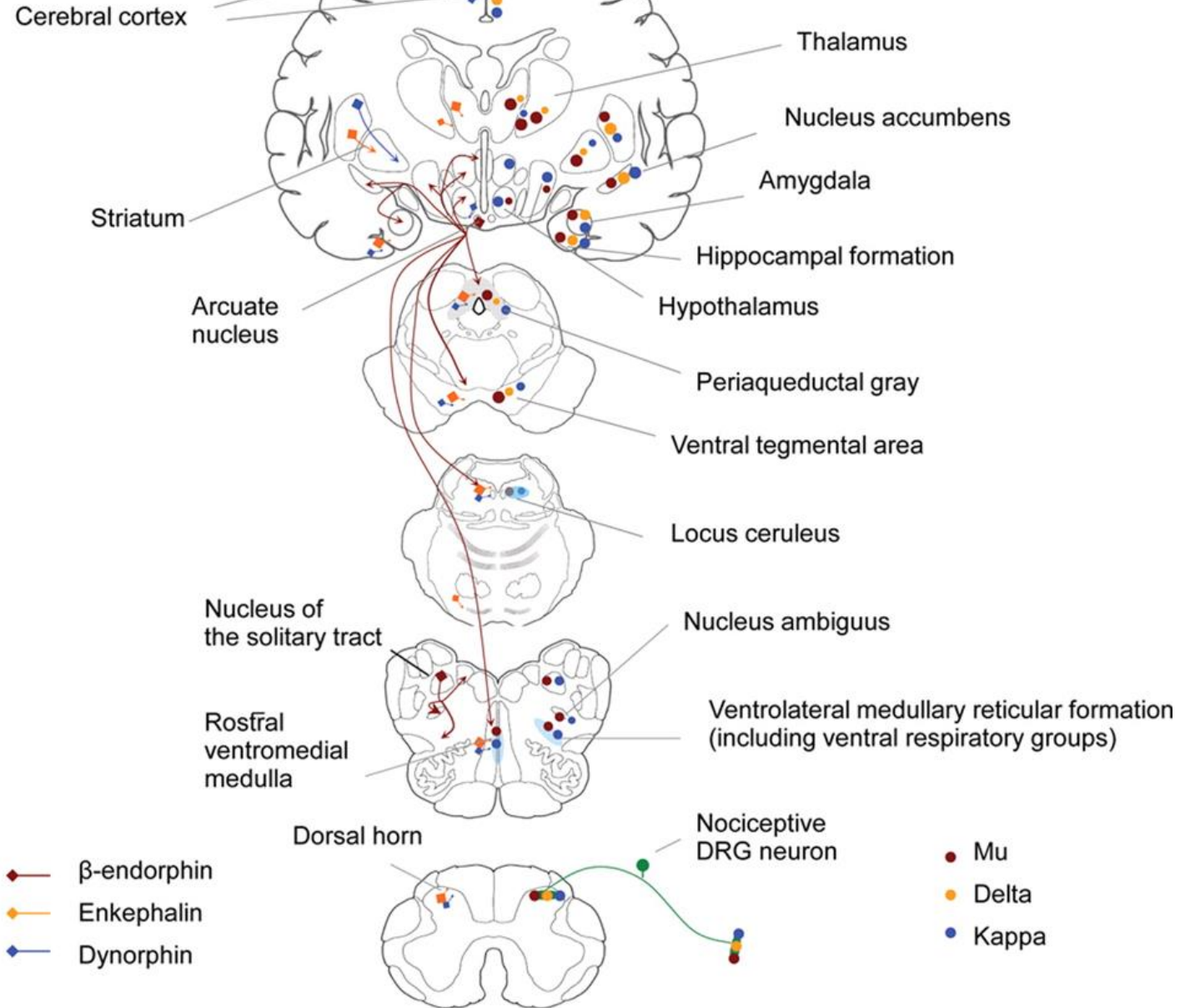


Endogenous opioid system

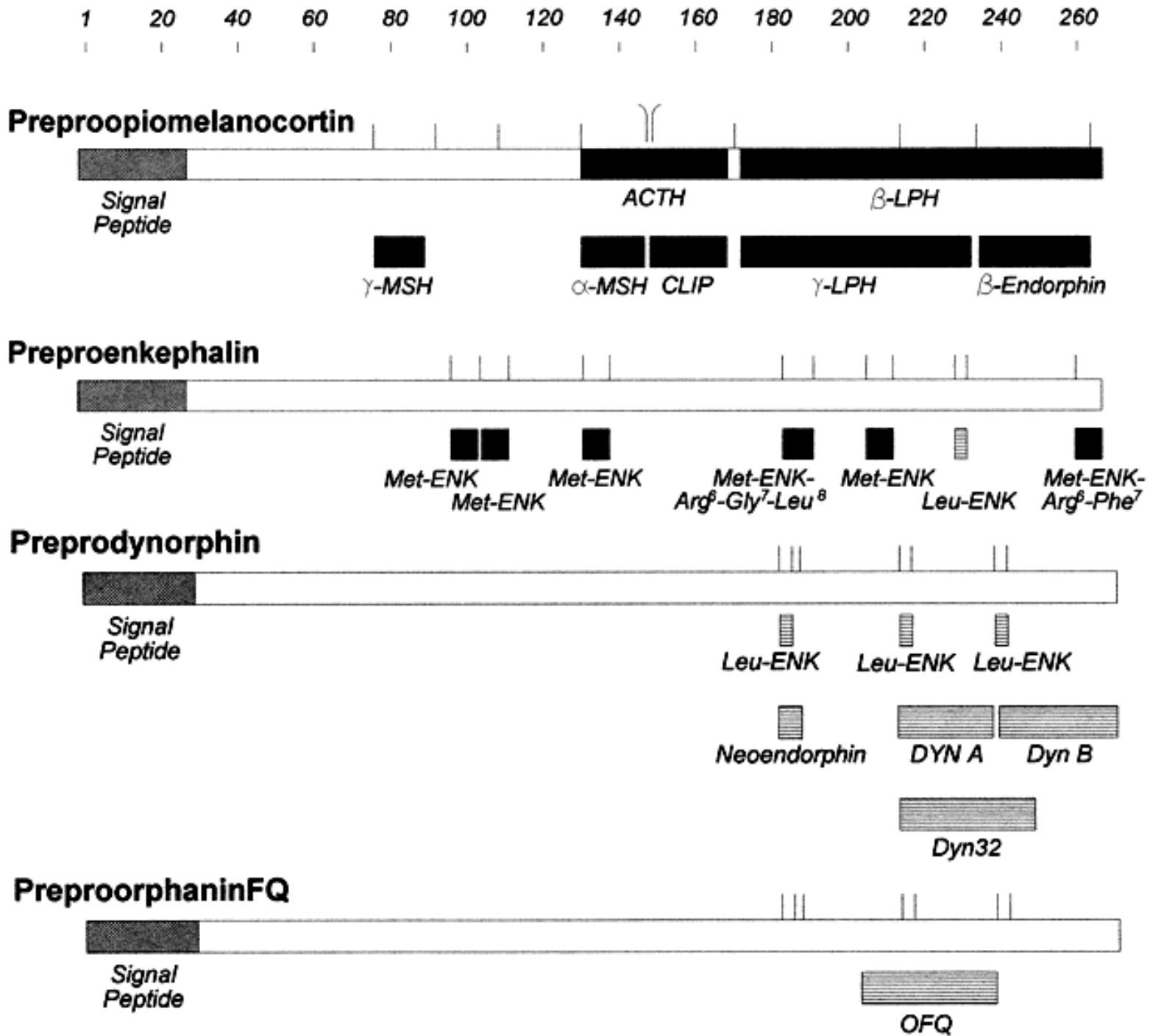
# Opioid-synthesizing neurons

# Opioid receptors



# Opioid motif

## Tyr-Gly-Gly-Phe-(Met/Leu)



- DOR –  $\delta$  opioid receptor

-MOR –  $\mu$  opioid receptor

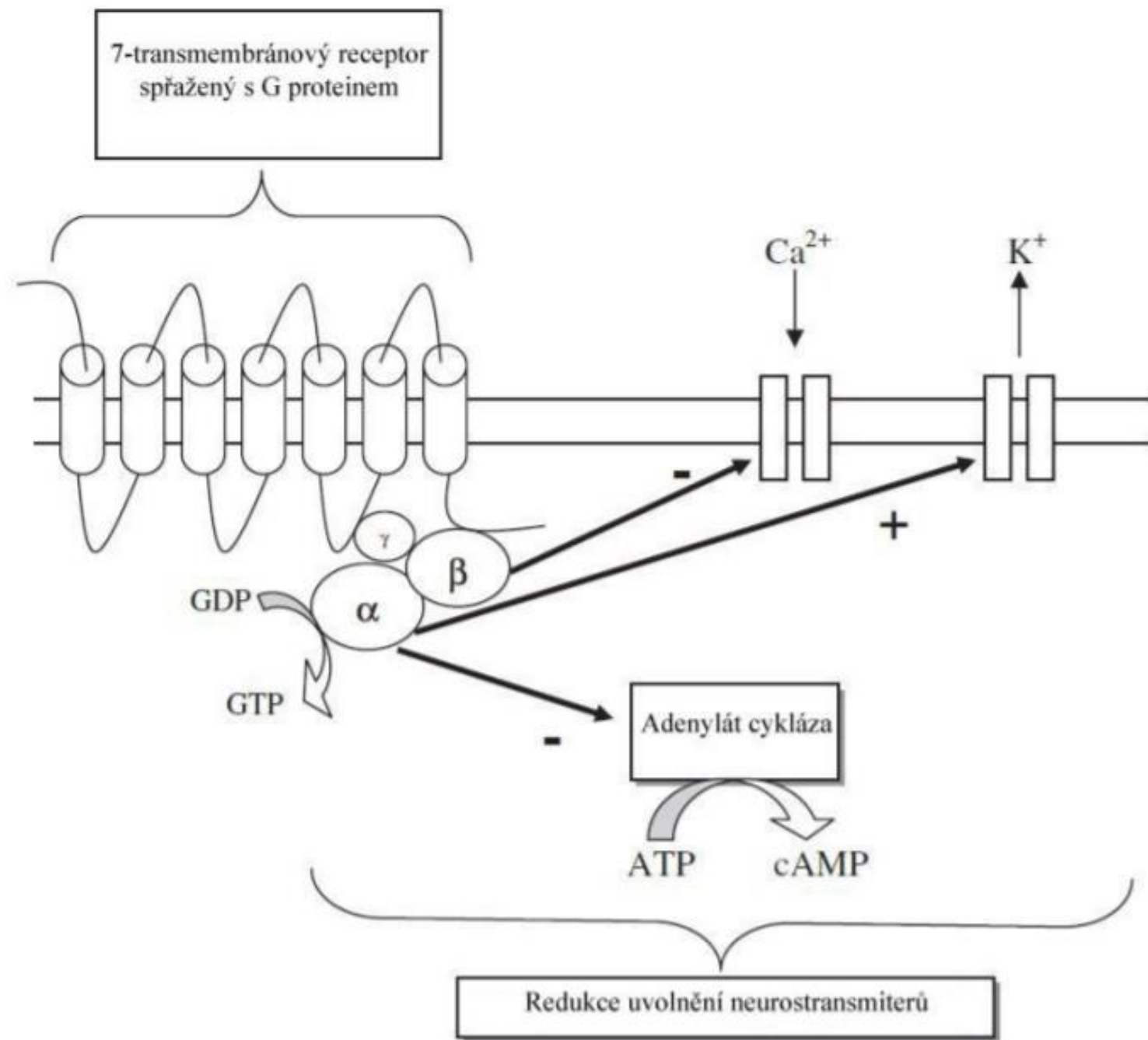
- KOR –  $\kappa$  opioid receptor

-NOR – N/OFQ opioid receptor

Table 1: Opioid receptors location and responses mediated by them

Receptor	CNS Location	Response on activation
$\mu$	Brain (laminae III and IV of the cortex, thalamus, periaqueductal gray), spinal cord (substantia gelatinosa)	$\mu_1$ -supraspinal analgesia, physical dependence; $\mu_2$ -Respiratory depression, miosis, euphoria, reduced gastrointestinal motility, physical dependence
$\kappa$	Brain (hypothalamus, peri-aqueductal gray, claustrum), spinal cord (substantia gelatinosa)	Spinal analgesia, sedation, miosis, inhibition of antidiuretic hormone release
$\delta$	Brain (pontine nucleus, amygdala, olfactory bulbs, deep cortex)	Analgesia, euphoria, physical dependence

CNS-Central nervous system



# Endorphins

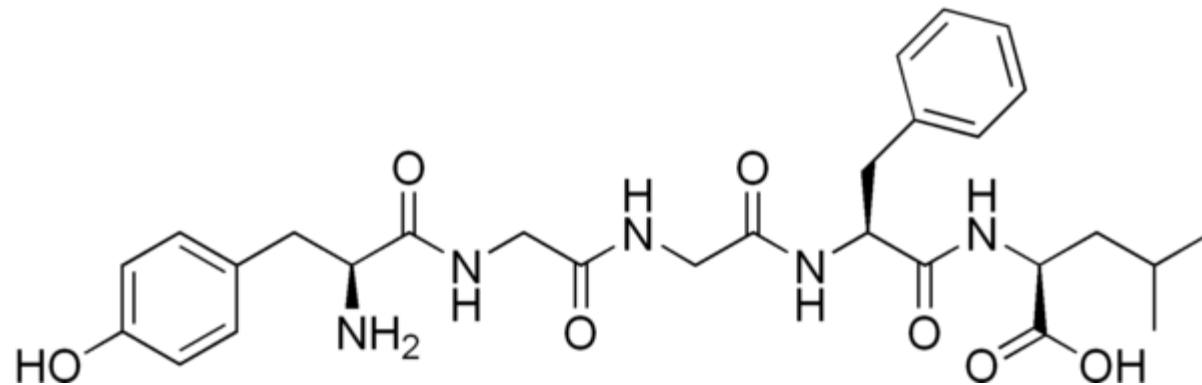
μ / δ

- Alpha, beta, gamma and delta
- hypophysis / hypothalamus and elsewhere
- Strenuous exercise / physical activity, pain, orgasm
- Analgesia and feelings of "well-being,,
- Immune system mobilization?
- Creating emotional connections
- Food intake
- The same effect for pain but different for stress

# Enkephalins

$\mu / \delta$

- Met-/Leu-
- CNS sites associated with pain perception, behavior, motor control, and neuroendocrine function
- T cells, macrophages, mast cells
- Excitement, physical activity, sexual activity, fear

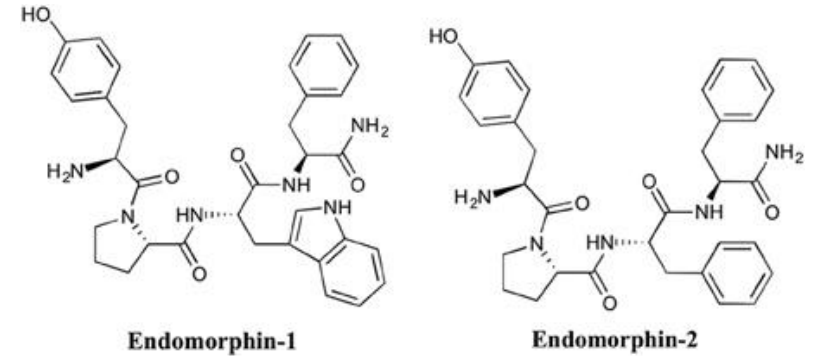






# Endomorphins

- 1 and 2
- Heterogeneous distribution in the CNS
- Antinociceptive function
- NO-mediated vasodilation



$\mu$

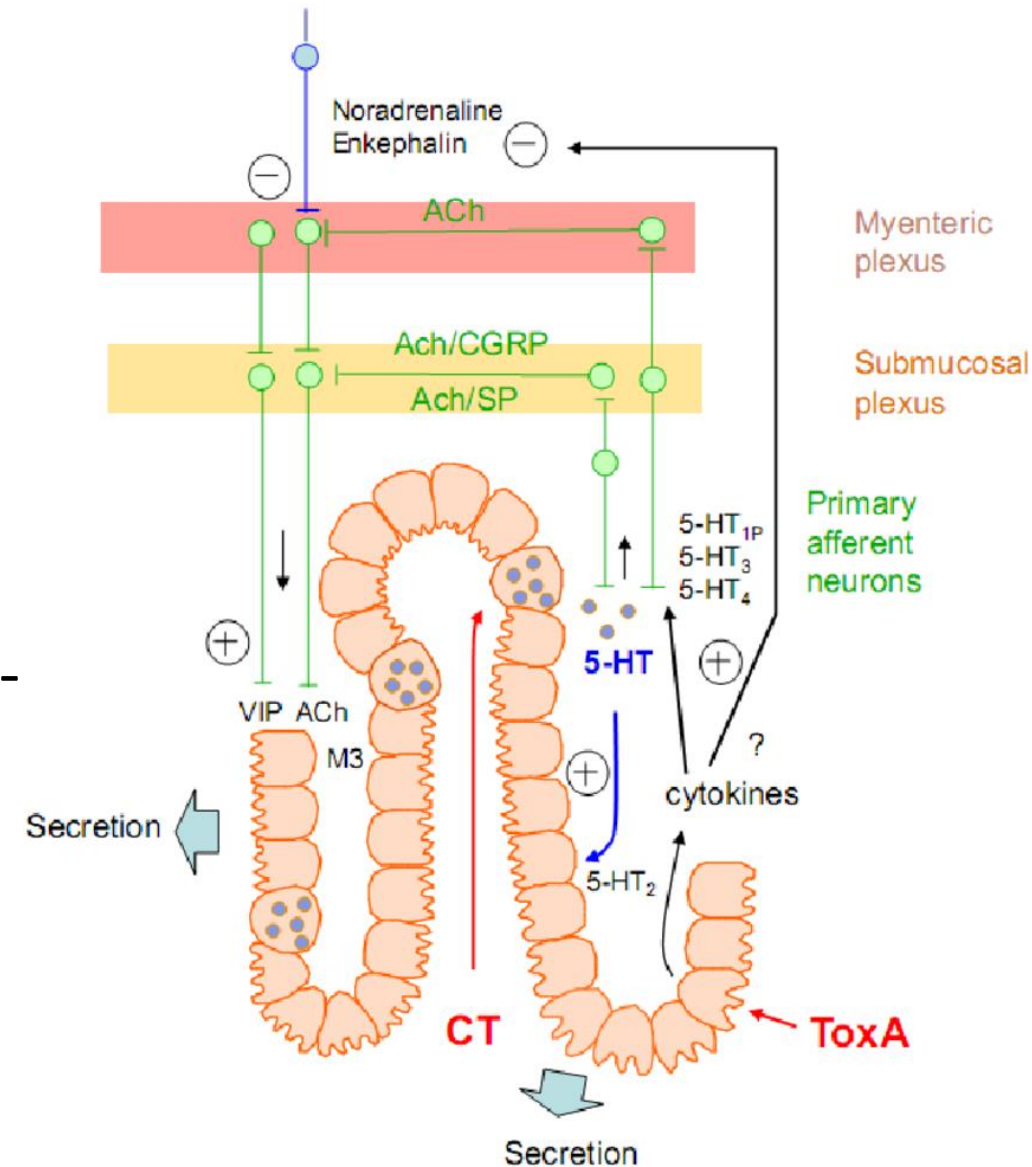
# Nociceptin/orphanin FQ

- Hippocampus, cerebral cortex, spinal cord
- It triggers hyperalgesia and allodynia by reversing opioid-induced analgesia
- Behavior, drug addiction
- Cardiovascular system - hypotension / bradycardia

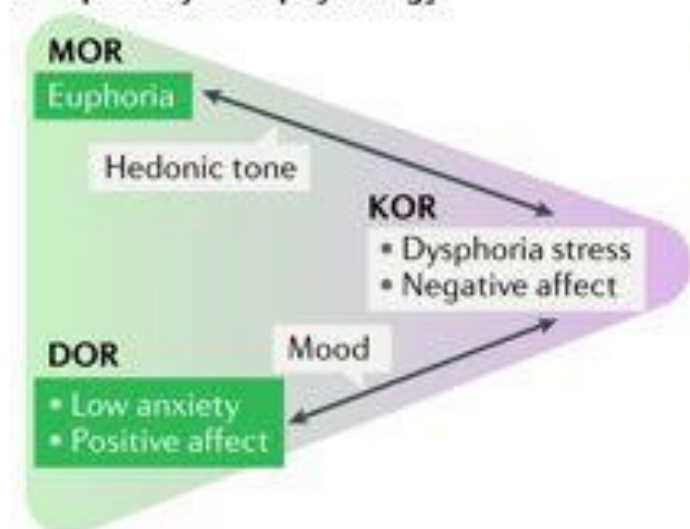
**NOP**

# Physiological functions

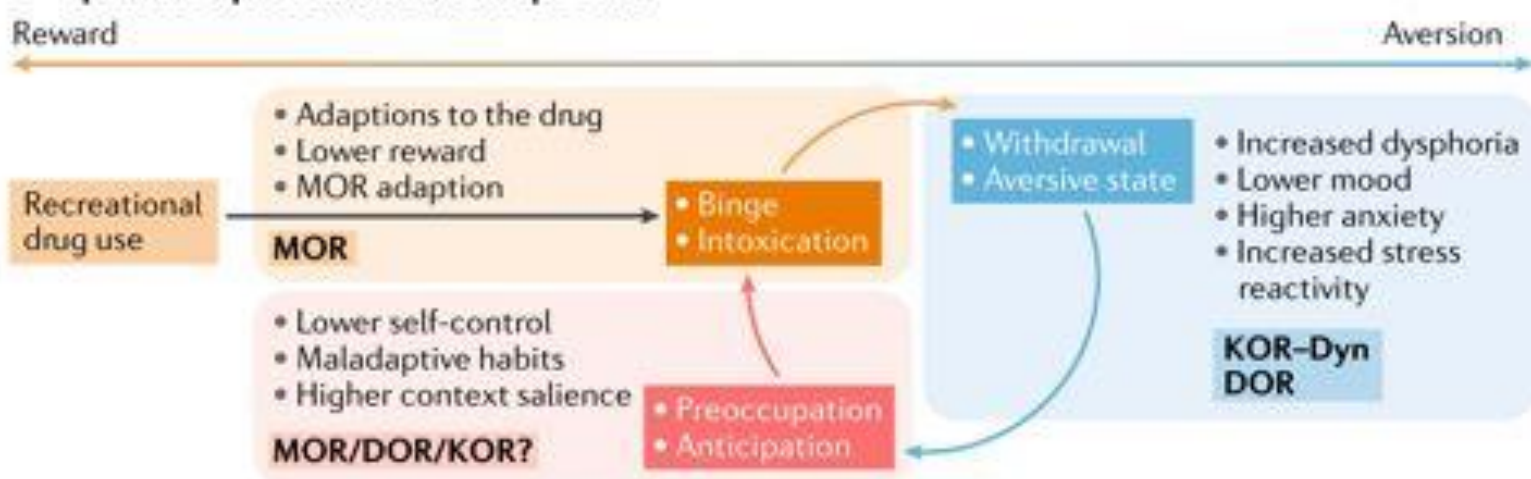
- Stress – connection between  $\beta$ -endorphin and ACTH
- (+) food intake, effect on food "palatability"
- (-)/(+) concentration-dependent fluid intake
- GIT – inhibition of neurotransmitter release - constipation / reduction of motility
- Renal functions (-) – inhibition of diuresis ( $\mu$ ), (-)-resorption of water( $\kappa$ )
- memory
- Emotions, mood (+) euphoric effect
- Sexual behaviour – rather (-), (-) socio-sexual interactions BUT increase sexual arousal and motivation
- Parturition?



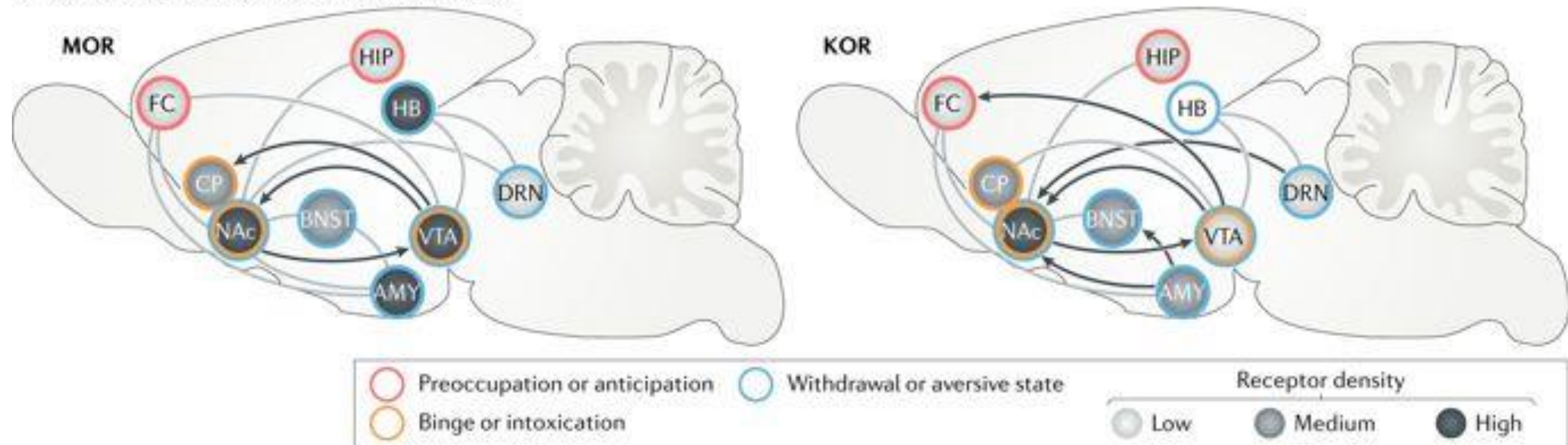
### a Opioid system physiology



### b Opioid receptors in the disease process



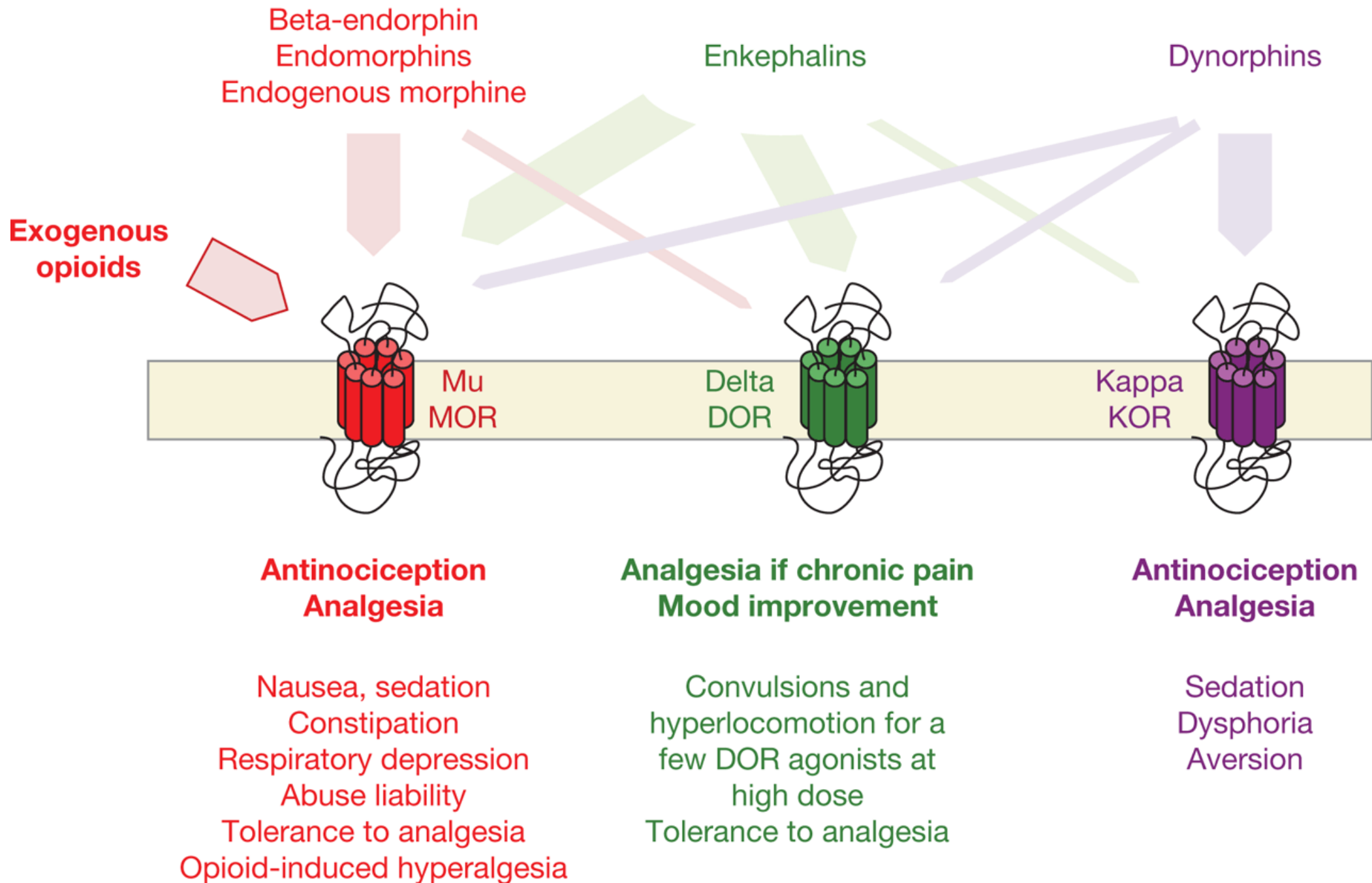
### c Opioid receptor function in addiction circuits



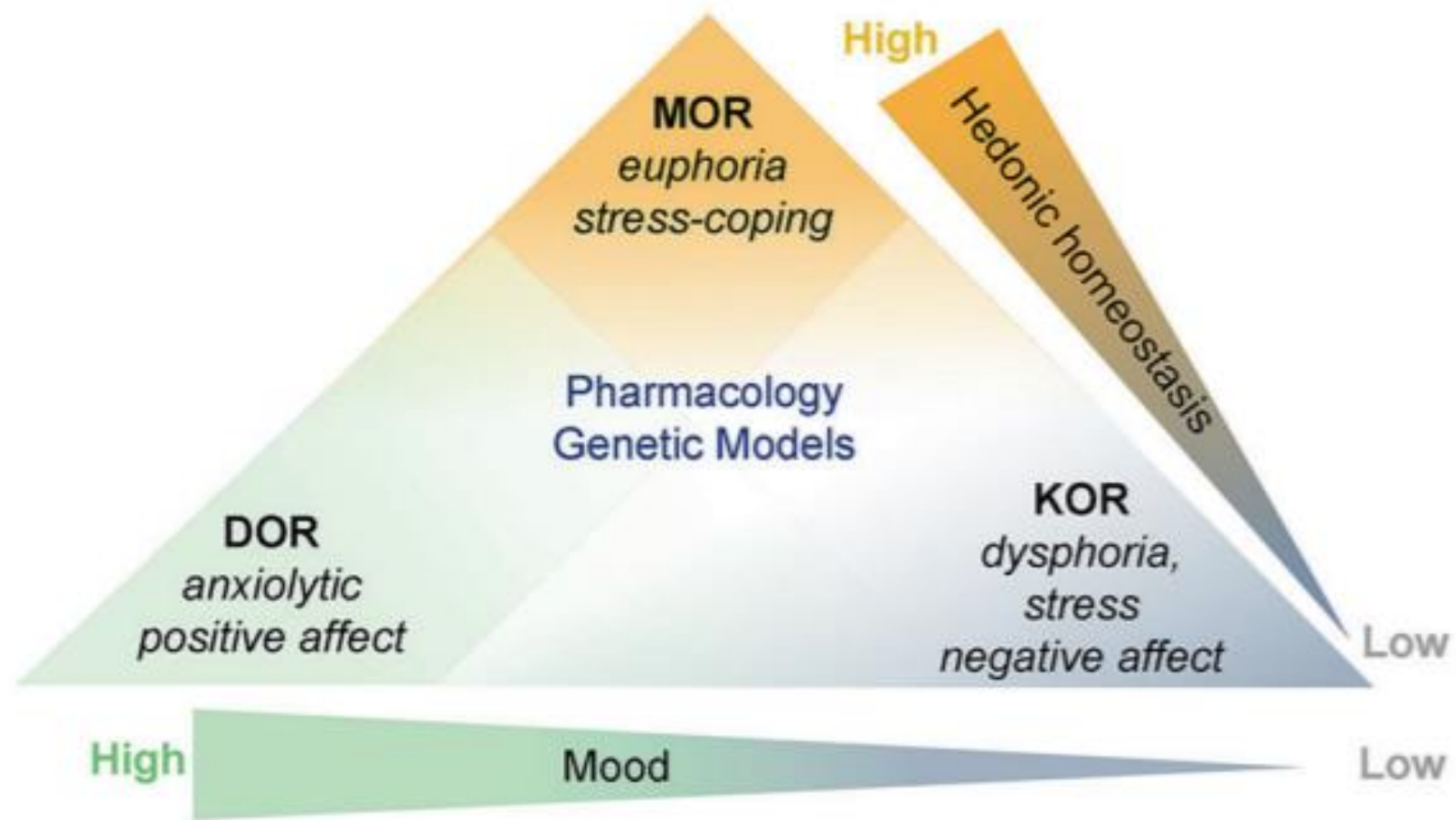
# Physiological functions

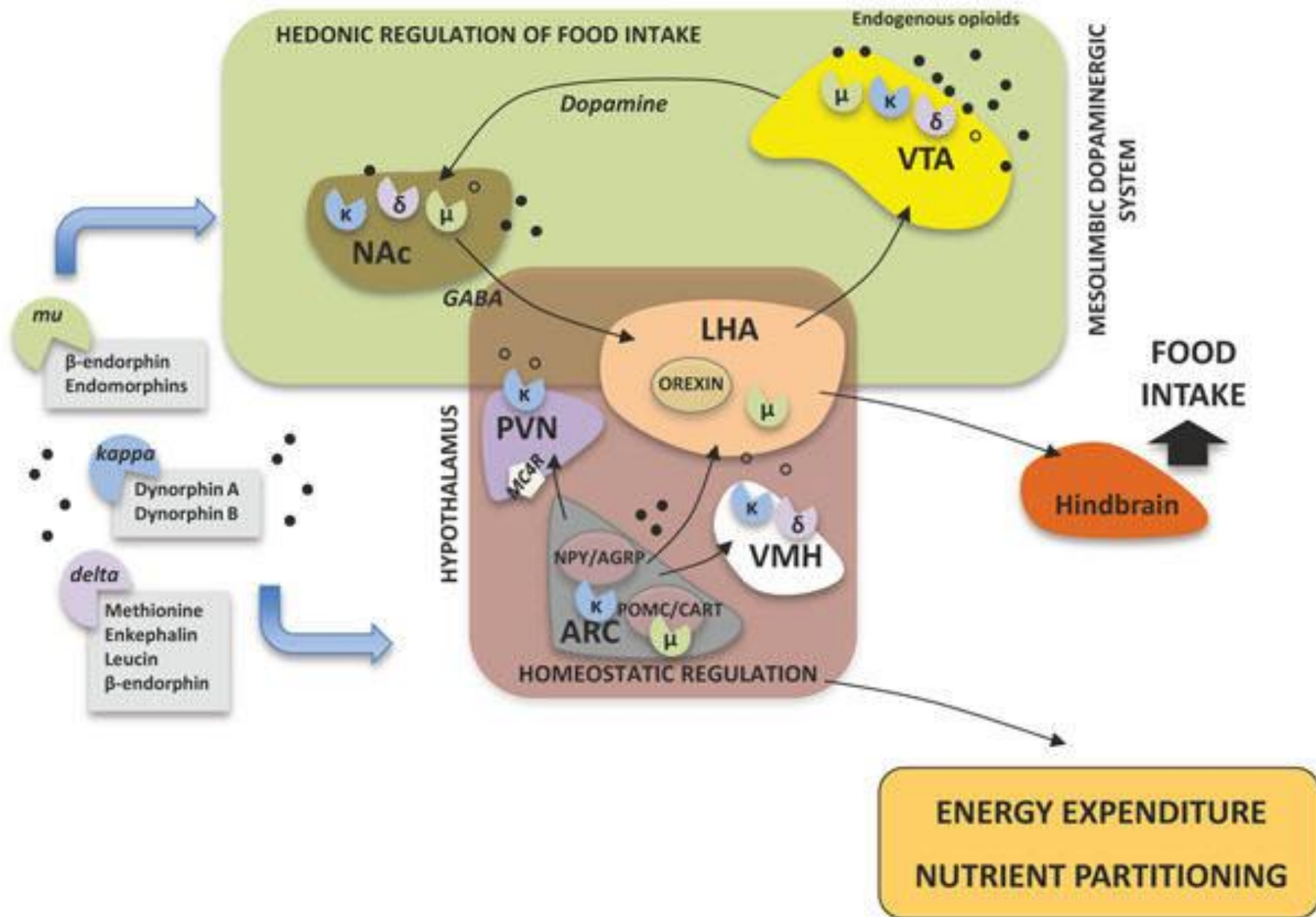
- Respiration
  - Suppression of respiratory neuron activity - bradypnoea?
  - Respiration in stress conditions, protective functions in hypoxia and hypercapnia
- Cardiovascular functions
  - inhibitory
  - They reduce HF and BP BUT it depends on the situation!
- Immune functions
  - Dual effect depending on a number of factors
  - Possible protection against cancer?

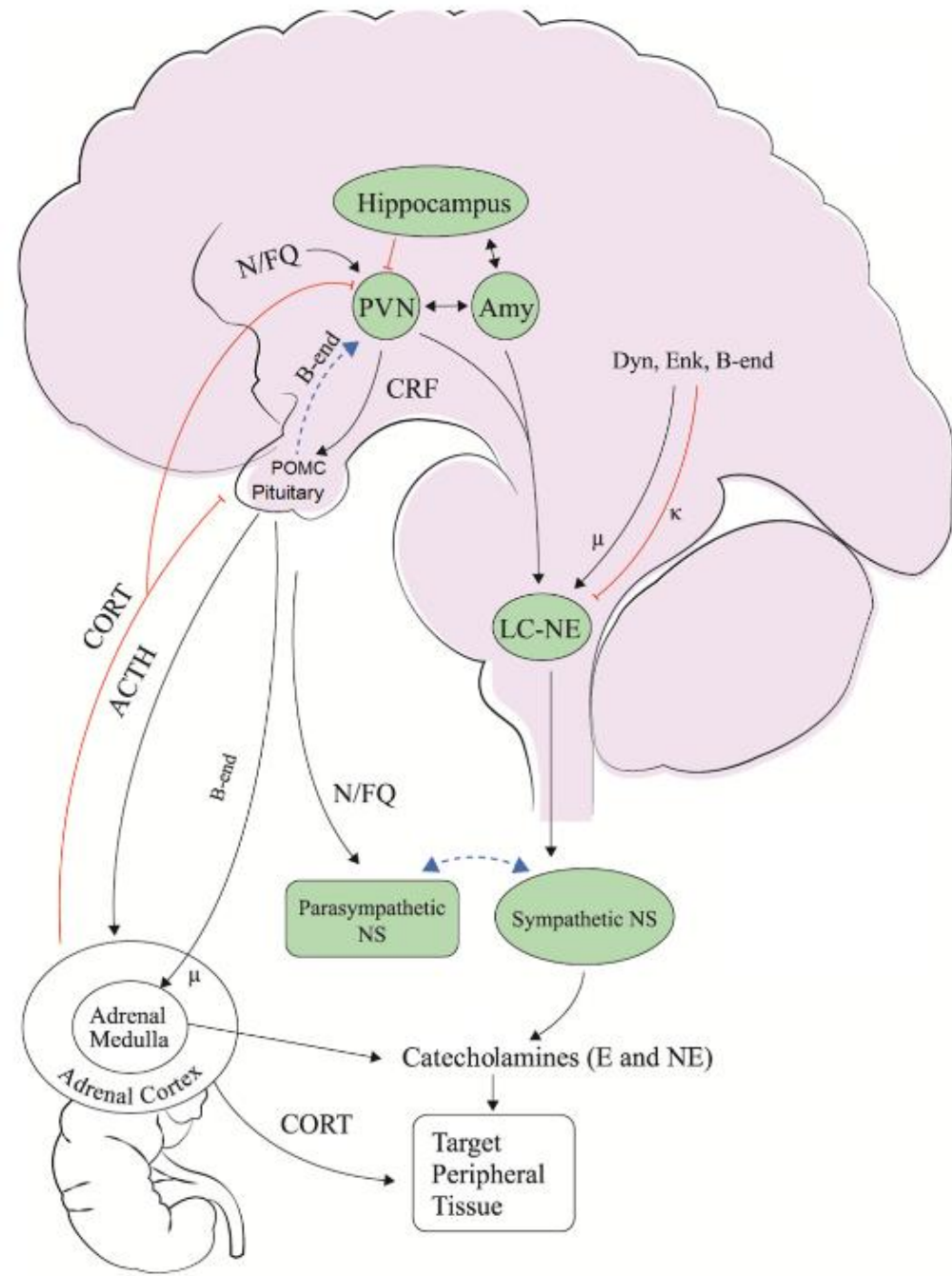
# Endogenous opioids











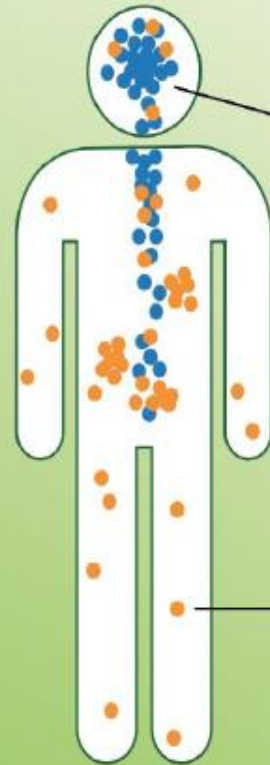


# Endocannabinoid system

# The Human Endocannabinoid System

The endocannabinoid system (ECS) consists of cannabinoid receptors, endocannabinoids and their metabolic enzymes. Two major cannabinoid receptors, CB1 and CB2, and two main endocannabinoids, anandamide (AEA) and 2-arachidonoyl-glycerol (2-AG), have been identified. Human endocannabinoids and plant cannabinoids, such as THC and CBD, bind to cannabinoid receptors with great specificity, much like a lock and key. Activation of the cannabinoid receptors inhibits the release of neurotransmitters. The ECS plays a key role in homeostasis and regulates many physiological processes such as inflammation and pain perception, immunity, neuropathy and metabolism.

Cannabinoid receptors are widely distributed throughout the human body



## Receptors

CB1 receptors are mainly located in the brain and central nervous system but are also found in other tissues.

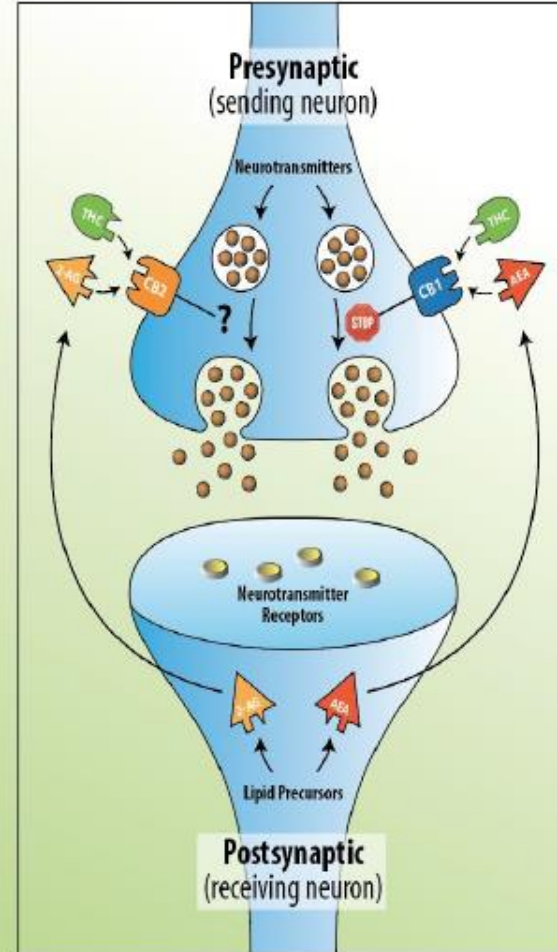


CB2 receptors are most densely found in immunological tissues and modulate cell fate.

## Ligands

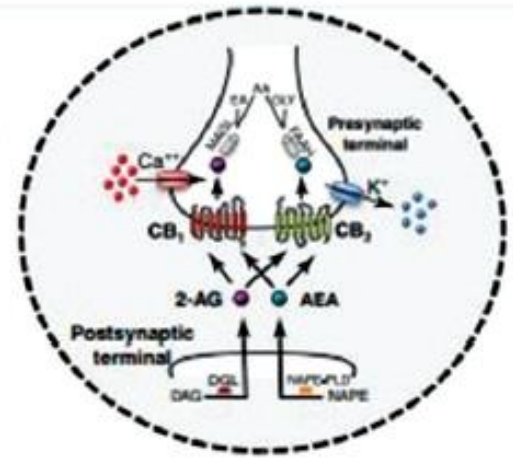
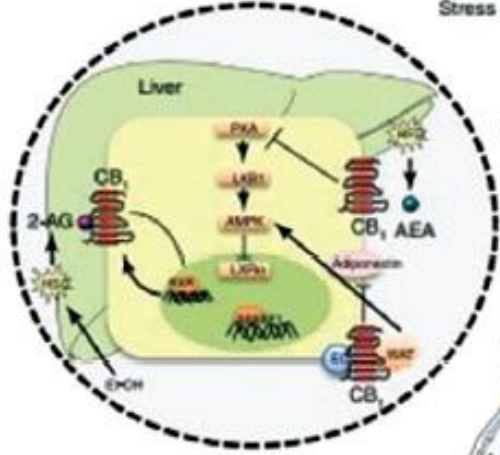


AEA binds to the CB1 receptor with greater affinity than CB2 whereas 2-AG binds both receptors with equal affinity. THC binds the CB1 receptor with greater affinity than the CB2 receptor and it has been suggested that binding effects of THC mimic AEA. CBD has low affinity for both receptors but interacts at low concentrations. It has been proposed that binding effects of CBD are mimetic to 2-AG.

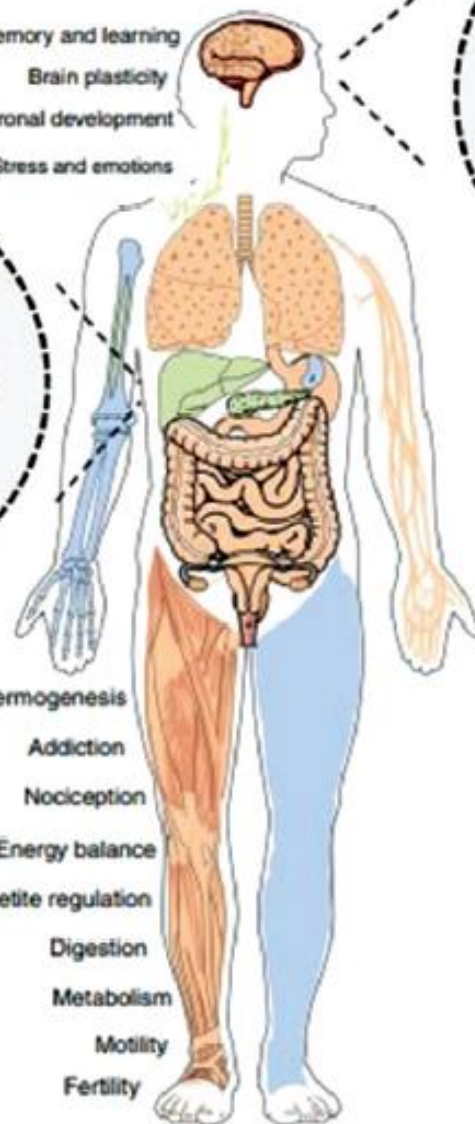


- CB<sub>1</sub> Brain; Lungs; Gastrointestinal tract; Reproductive system; Muscle; cardiovascular system
- CB<sub>2</sub> Bones; spleen; skin
- CB<sub>1</sub> + CB<sub>2</sub> Immune system; Liver Pancreas; Bone marrow

Memory and learning  
Brain plasticity  
Neuronal development  
Stress and emotions



Thermogenesis  
Addiction  
Nociception  
Energy balance  
Appetite regulation  
Digestion  
Metabolism  
Motility  
Fertility

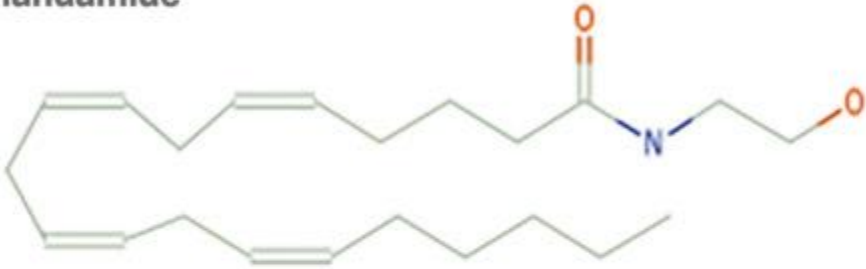


- Receptors**
- CBRs: CB<sub>1</sub>; CB<sub>2</sub>
  - TRPs: TRPV<sub>1</sub>; TRPV<sub>2</sub>; TRPV<sub>3</sub>; TRPV<sub>4</sub>; TRPA<sub>1</sub>; TRPM<sub>8</sub>
  - Orphan: GPRs5; GPR119; GPR118; GPR30
  - EMT
- Endocannabinoids**
- THC; 2-AG; AEA; OEA; PEA
- Channels**
- Ca<sup>2+</sup> channels: L-type; N-type; P/Q-type; T-type
  - Na<sup>+</sup> channels: Nav1.1; NAV1.2; Nav1.5
  - K<sup>+</sup> channels: K-ATP; TASK-1; TASK3; TREK-1; kv1.2; kv1.5; kv3.1; kv4.3
- Enzymes**
- Biosynthetic enzymes of AEA:
    - NAT; NAPE-PLD; ABHD4; PTPN22; GDE1
  - Degrading enzymes of AEA:
    - FAAH; NAAA
  - Biosynthetic enzymes of 2-AG:
    - DAGLα; DAGLβ
  - Degrading enzymes of 2-AG:
    - MAGL; ABHD6; ABD12
  - Oxidative enzymes of 2-AG and 2-AG:
    - COX-2; LOXs; CYPs

## ENDOCANNABINOIDS

cannabis-like cannabinoids manufactured internally by the body

### Anandamide



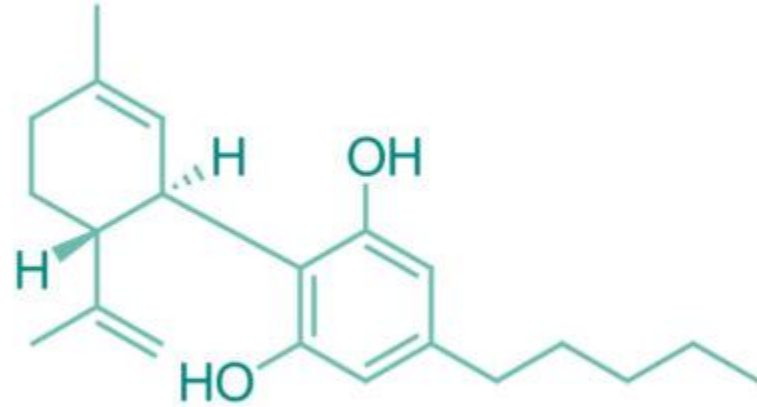
### 2-Arachidonoylglycerol (2-AG)



## PHYTOCANNABINOIDS

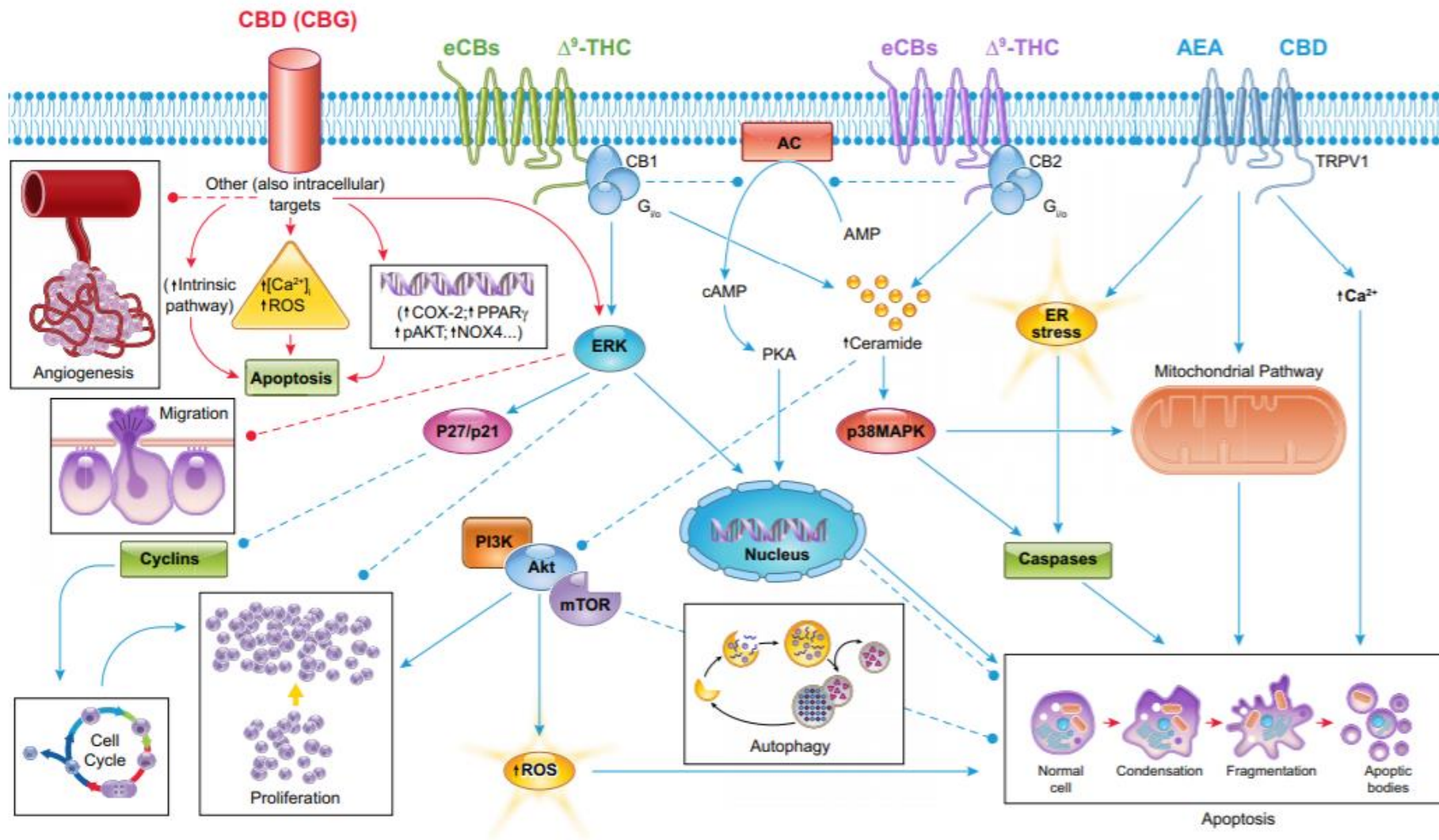
cannabinoids found in cannabis plant and agricultural hemp

### Cannabidiol (CBD)

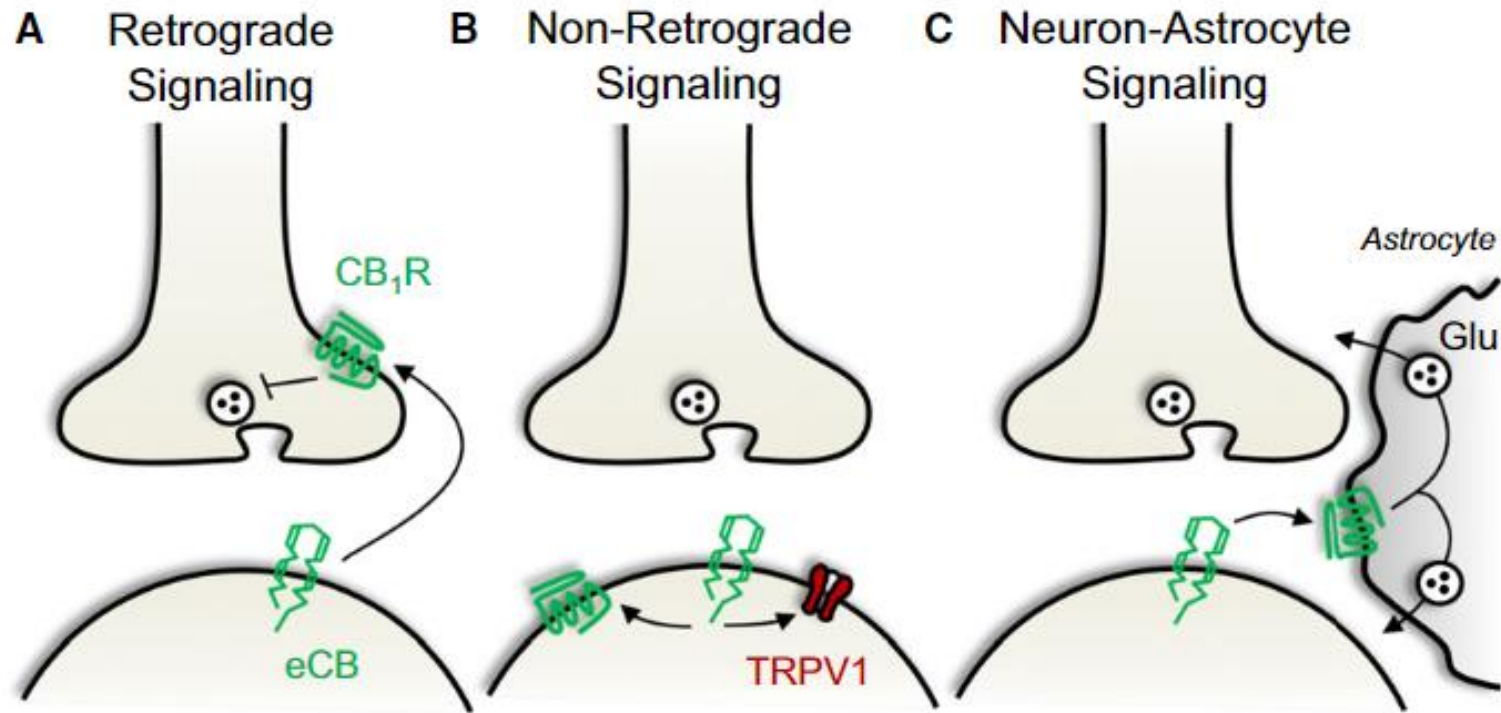


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**FIGURE 1.** Schematic representation of the main signaling pathways through which (endo)cannabinoids impact proliferation, apoptosis, migration, and angiogenesis in cancer. Blue arrows indicate pathways initiated by cannabinoid/vanilloid receptor-mediated mechanisms, and red arrows indicate non-cannabinoid/vanilloid receptor-mediated mechanisms. Continuous lines indicate stimulation, and dotted lines indicate inhibition. AC, adenylyl cyclase; CBD, cannabidiol; CBG, cannabigerol; eCBs, endocannabinoids; ER, endoplasmic reticulum;  $\Delta^9$ -THC,  $\Delta^9$ -tetrahydrocannabinol; PKA, protein kinase A; AKT, protein kinase B; PI3K, phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase; ERK, extracellular regulated kinase; MAPK, mitogen-activated protein kinase; mTOR, mammalian target of rapamycin; ROS, reactive oxygen species; p27/p21, cyclin-dependent kinase inhibitor proteins.



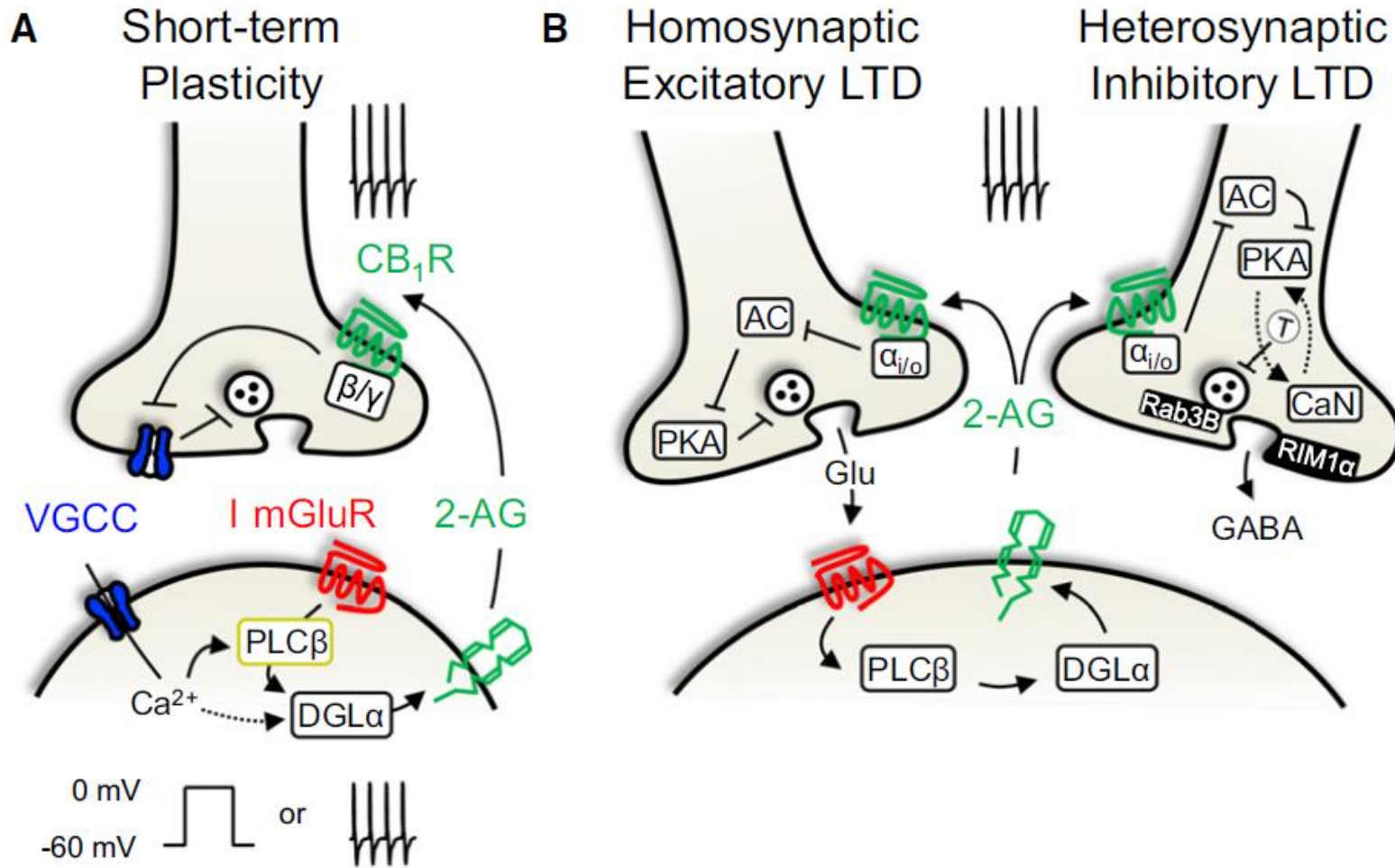
**Figure 1. Endocannabinoid Signaling at the Synapse**

(A) Retrograde endocannabinoid (eCB) signaling. eCBs are mobilized from postsynaptic neurons and target presynaptic cannabinoid type 1 receptors (CB<sub>1</sub>Rs) to suppress neurotransmitter release.

(B) Nonretrograde eCB signaling. eCBs produced in postsynaptic neurons activate postsynaptic CB<sub>1</sub>Rs or transient receptor potential vanilloid type 1 (TRPV1) channels.

(C) Neuron-astrocyte eCB signaling. eCBs released from postsynaptic neurons stimulate astrocytic CB<sub>1</sub>Rs, thereby triggering gliotransmission. Glu, glutamate.



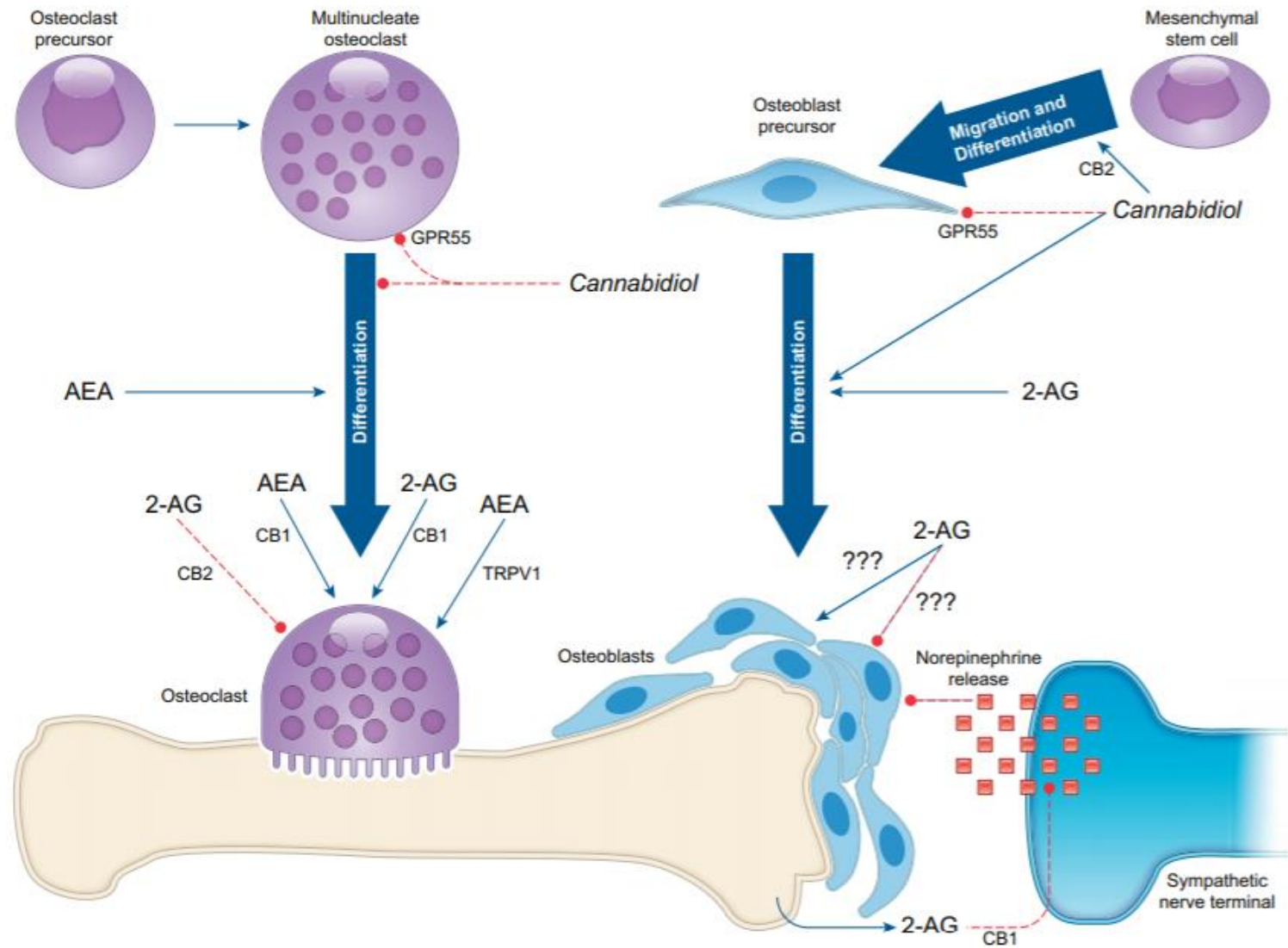


**Figure 2. Molecular Mechanisms Underlying Endocannabinoid-Mediated Short- and Long-Term Synaptic Plasticity**

(A) Short-term depression. Postsynaptic activity triggers  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  influx via voltage-gated  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  channels (VGCCs). Other  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  sources, like NMDARs and internal stores, may contribute.  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  promotes diacylglycerol lipase ( $\text{DGL}\alpha$ )-mediated eCB production by an unknown mechanism. Presynaptic activity can also lead to eCB mobilization by activating postsynaptic group I metabotropic glutamate receptors (I mGluRs). Phospholipase- $\text{C}\beta$  ( $\text{PLC}\beta$ ) can now act as a coincidence detector integrating pre- and postsynaptic activity.  $\text{DGL}\alpha$  promotes 2-arachidonoylglycerol (2-AG) release, which retrogradely targets presynaptic  $\text{CB}_1\text{Rs}$ , and the  $\beta\gamma$  subunits probably couple to presynaptic VGCCs to reduce neurotransmitter release.

(B) eCB-mediated excitatory long-term depression (LTD) and inhibitory LTD (iLTD). Patterned presynaptic stimulation releases glutamate (Glu), which activates postsynaptic mGluRs coupled to  $\text{PLC}\beta$  and  $\text{DGL}\alpha$ . 2-AG homosynaptically targets  $\text{CB}_1\text{Rs}$  localized to excitatory terminals and heterosynaptically engages  $\text{CB}_1\text{Rs}$  at inhibitory terminals.

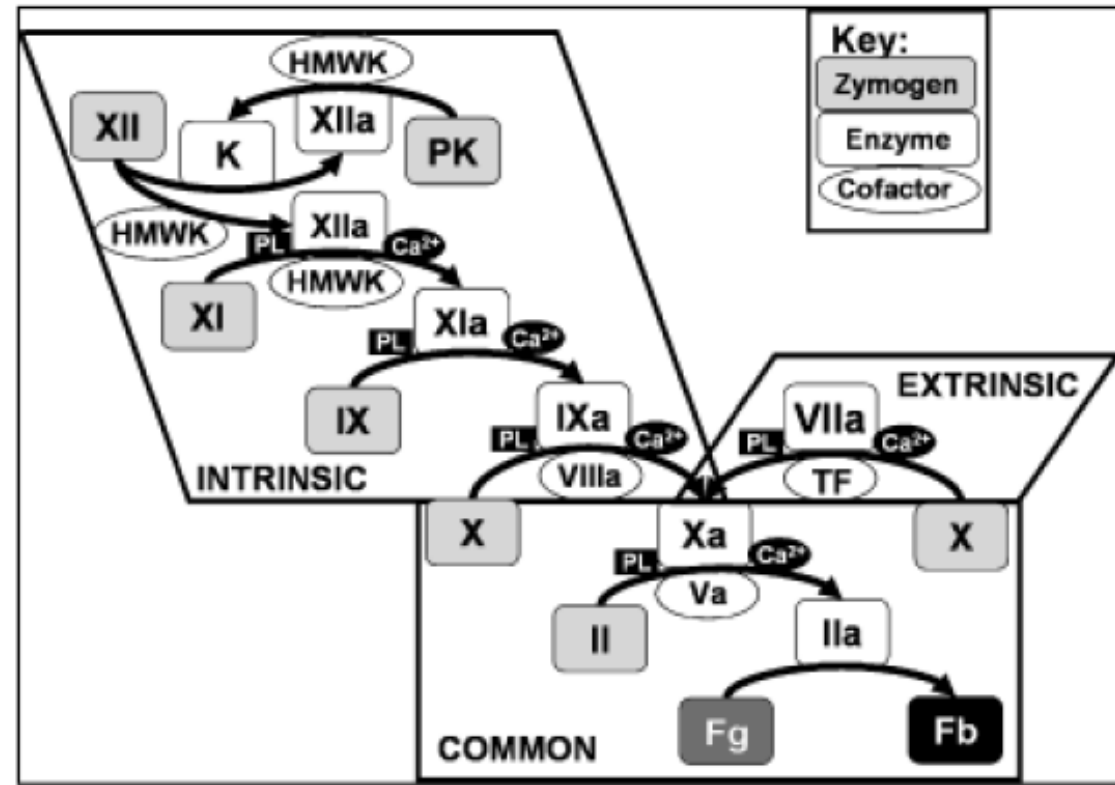
A  $\text{G}_{\alpha i/o}$ -dependent reduction in adenylyl cyclase (AC) and protein kinase A (PKA) activity suppresses transmitter release. At inhibitory synapses, decreased PKA activity, in conjunction with activation of the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ -sensitive phosphatase calcineurin (CaN), shifts the phosphorylation status of an unidentified presynaptic target (T) required for iLTD. The active zone protein  $\text{RIM1}\alpha$  and the vesicle-associated protein  $\text{Rab3B}$  are also necessary for iLTD. Induction of eCB-LTD may require presynaptic  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  rise through VGCCs, NMDARs, or internal stores (not shown). Dashed lines indicate putative pathways.



**FIGURE 3.** Endocannabinoid and phytocannabinoid modulation of bone formation and resorption. Blue arrows indicate stimulation, and red blunted arrows indicate inhibition. The molecular targets through which anandamide (AEA) and 2-arachidonoylglycerol (2-AG) seem to modulate osteoblast and osteoclast differentiation and activity are shown. Cannabidiol was suggested to inhibit osteoclast and stimulate osteoblast differentiation by blocking GPR55.



# Cell-based model of coagulation



**Figure 1:** The cascade model of fibrin formation. This model divides the coagulation system into separate redundant pathways (extrinsic and intrinsic) either of which can result in generation of FXa. The common pathway results in generation of thrombin and subsequent cleavage of fibrinogen to fibrin. Many of the enzymes and enzymatic complexes require calcium ( $Ca^{2+}$ ) and binding to active membrane surfaces (PL) for full activity. See Table 1 for abbreviations. For simplicity, feedback activation of procofactors to cofactors and the many inhibitors of the various enzymes have been omitted.

