



Centrum pro výzkum
toxických látek
v prostředí

BIOMARKERS AND TOXICITY MECHANISMS

08 – Toxicity mechanisms at cell level

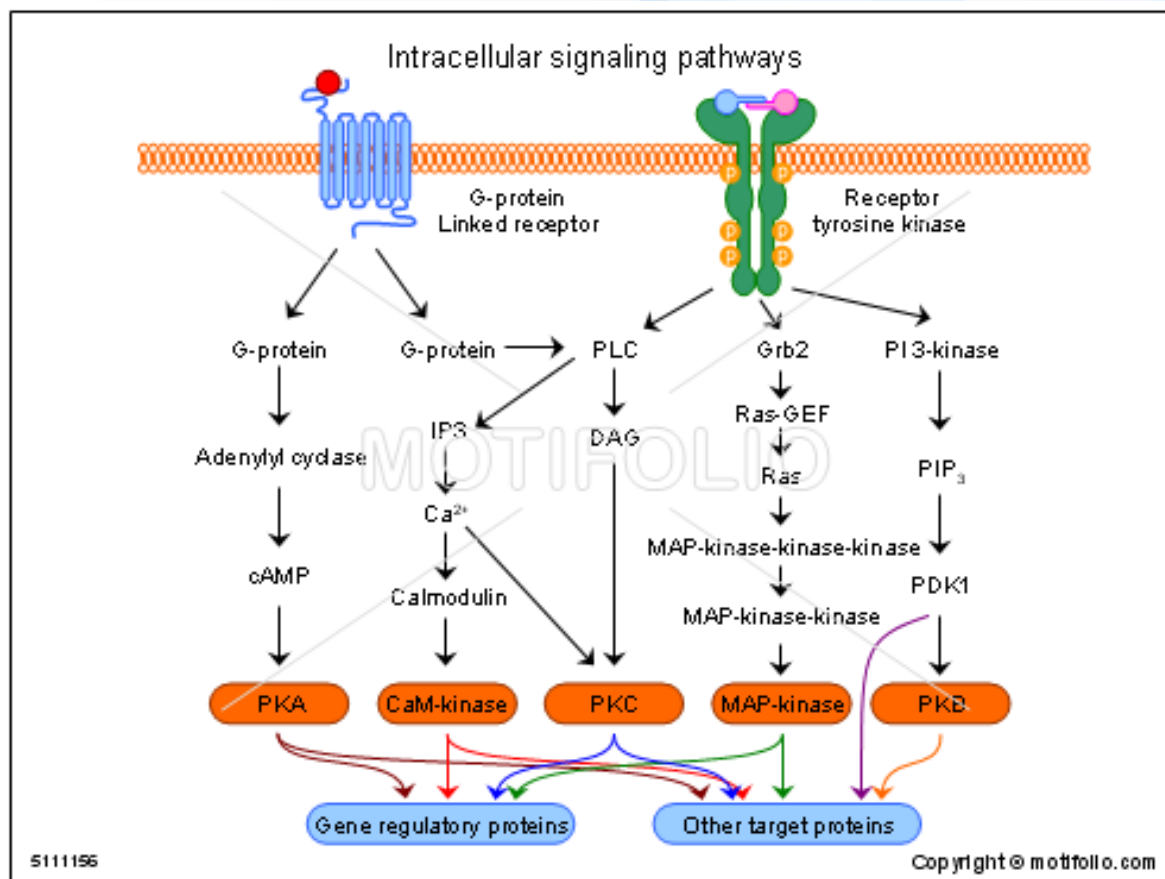
Luděk Bláha, PŘF MU, RECETOX
www.recetox.cz

Tento projekt je spolufinancován Evropským sociálním fondem a státním rozpočtem České republiky.



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

INTRACELLULAR signals as target to toxicants



Intracellular signal transduction: target of toxicants

- Regulation controlled by complex signalling

- "network" of general pathways
- similar in all cells / different cell-specific effects

- Consequences of signalling disruption

- unwanted changes in „homeostatic“ rates among proliferation / differentiation / apoptosis

→ cell transformation (carcinogenicity)

→ embryotoxicity

→ immunotoxicity

→ reproduction toxicity

.... and other chronic types of toxicity



Signal transduction - principles

Two major intracellular signalling processes

- **protein-(de)phosphorylation**

ProteinKinases - PKs, ProteinPhosphatases - PPases

- **secondary messengers**

cAMP / IP3, PIP2, DAG, Ca²⁺, AA

Three major types of signalling

1: Membrane receptors - G-proteins / kinases

→ activation of protein kinase A (PKA):

major messenger: cAMP

2: Membrane receptors

→ activation of membrane lipases → and later proteinkinase C

IP3, PIP2, DAG, Ca²⁺, AA

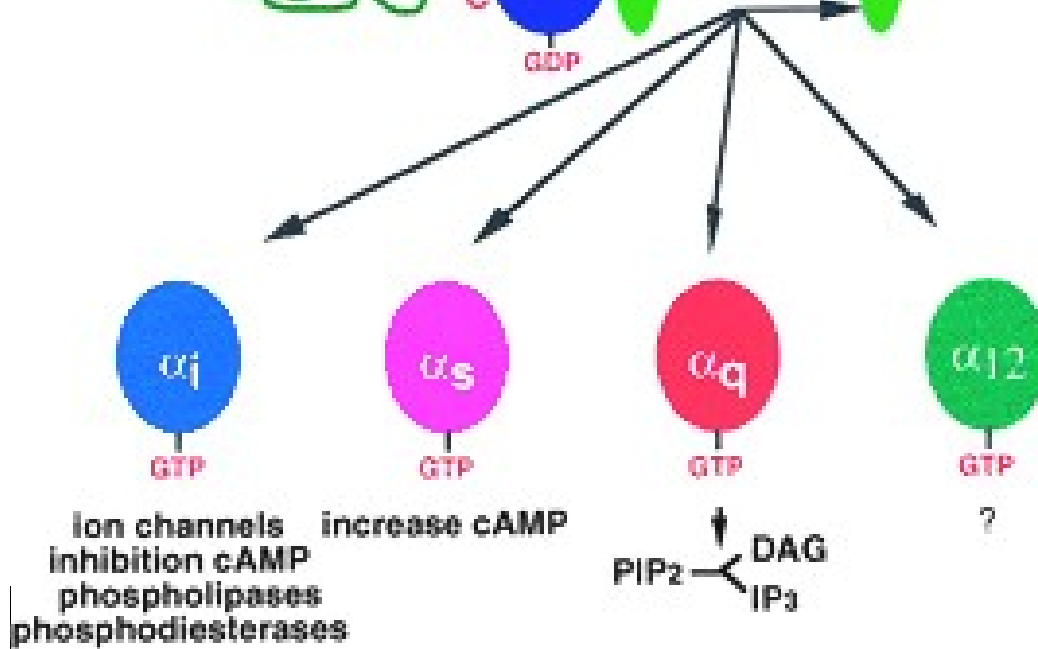
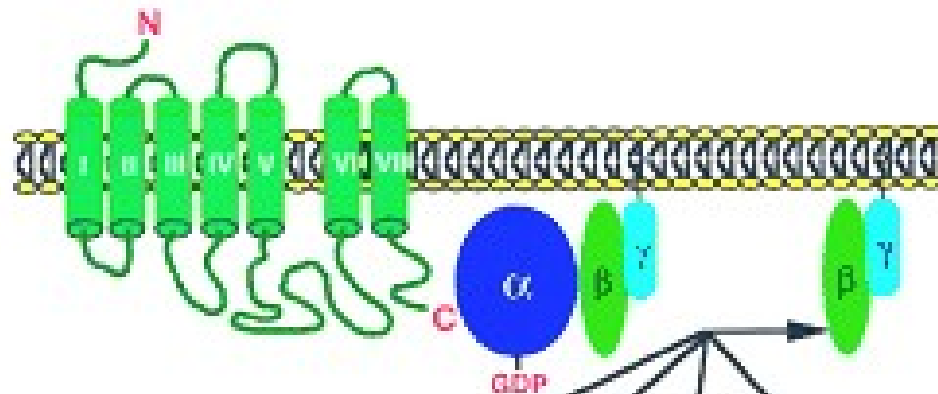
3: **Cytoplasmic (nuclear) receptors** (discussed in detail in other sections)



Membrane receptors acting as Protein Kinases

G-proteins & G-protein coupled receptors - GPCRs

G PROTEIN- COUPLED RECEPTORS

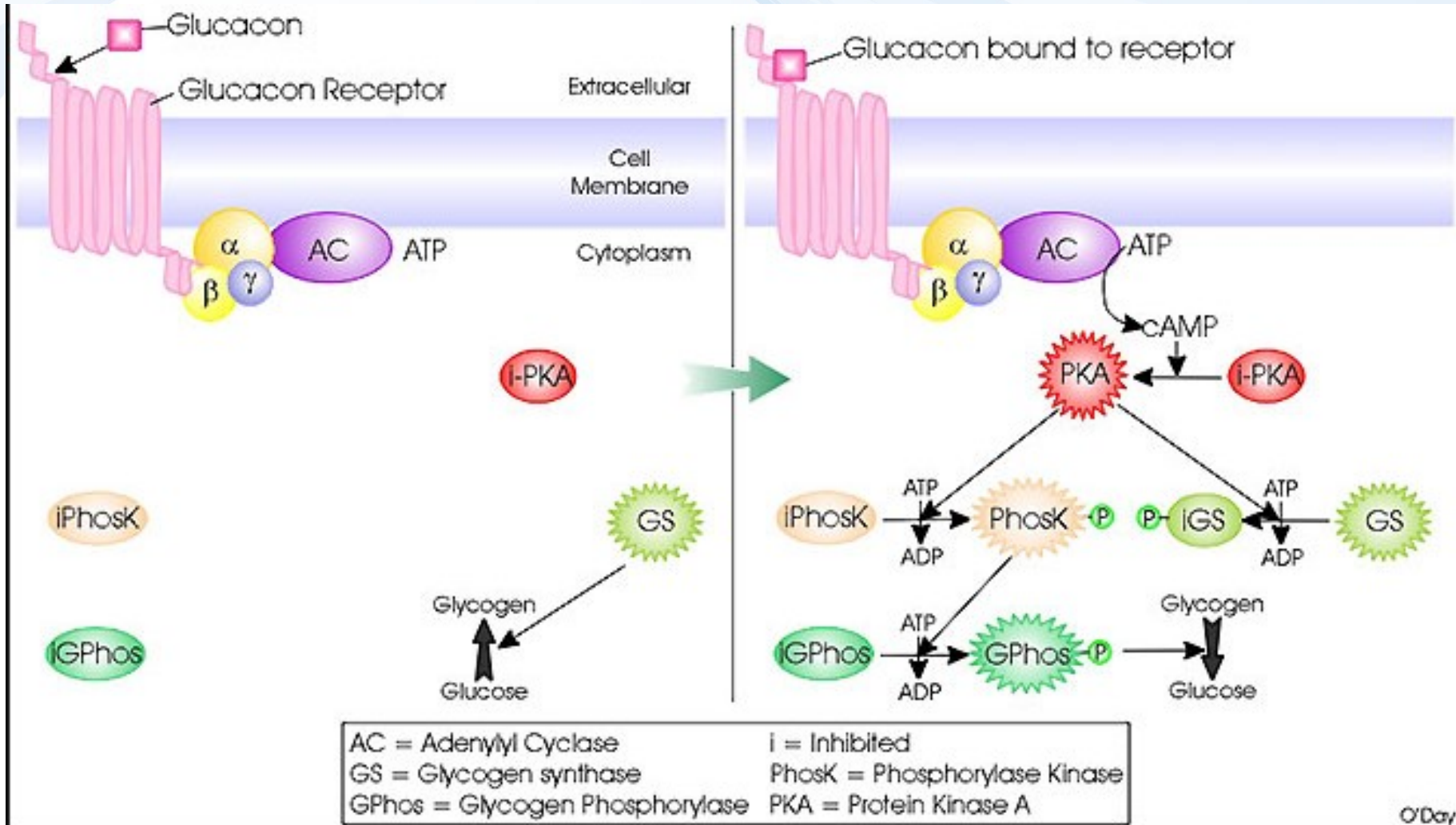


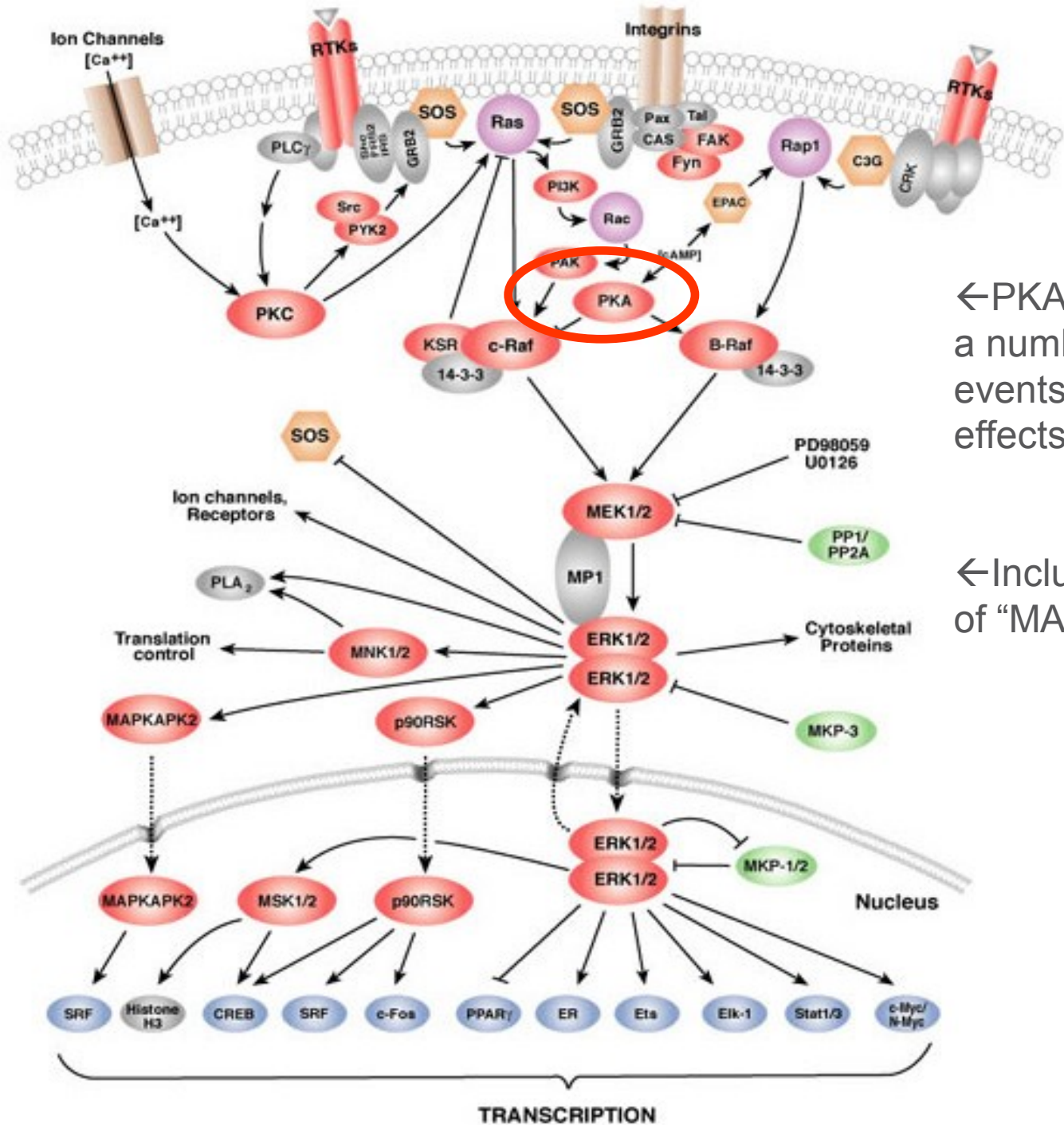
Biological functions

- smell and taste
- (~1000 types of receptors)
- perception of light
- neurotransmission
- function of endocrine and exocrine glands
- chemotaxis
- exocytosis
- control of blood pressure
- embryogenesis
- development
- cell growth and differentiation
- HIV infection
- oncogenesis

Signalling mechanism 1

→ Activation of adenylate cyclase → cAMP → PKA





← PKA is central to a number of signalling events and following effects

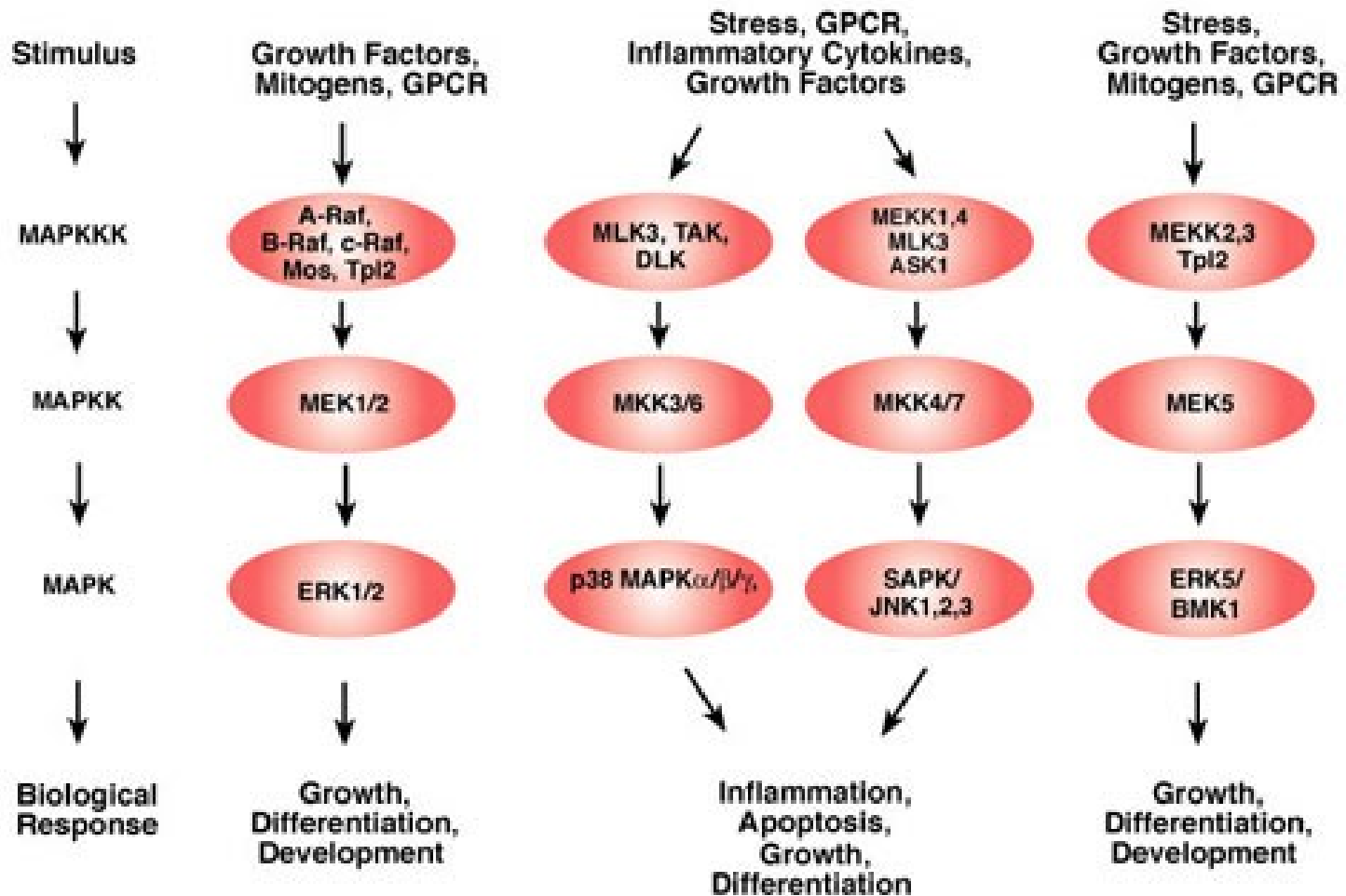
← Including modulation of “MAPKs”

TRANSCRIPTION



Mitogen Activated Protein Kinases (MAPKs) & dependent effects

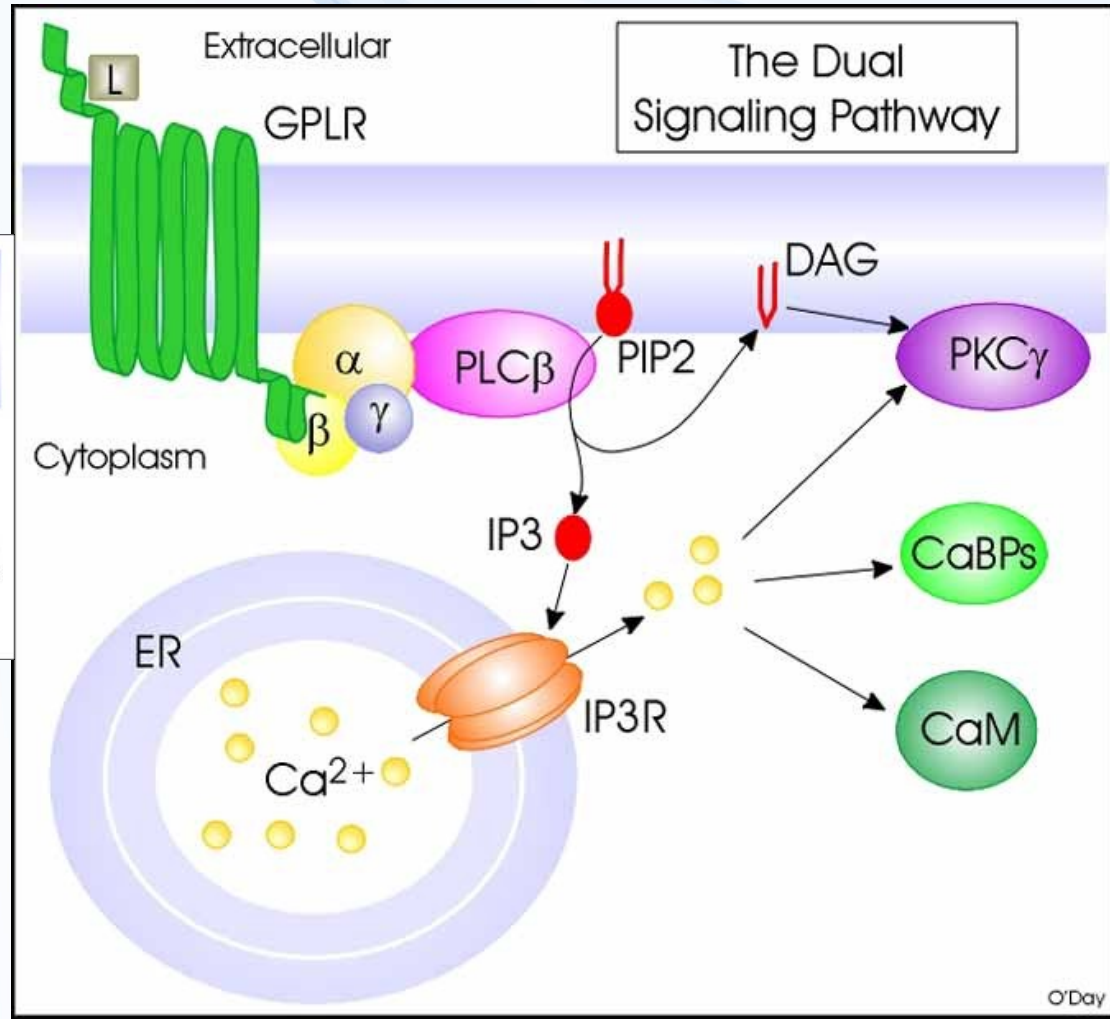
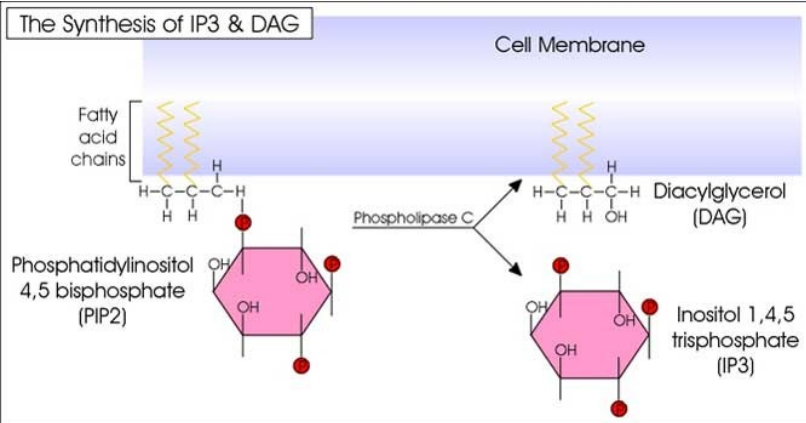
MAPK signaling cascades



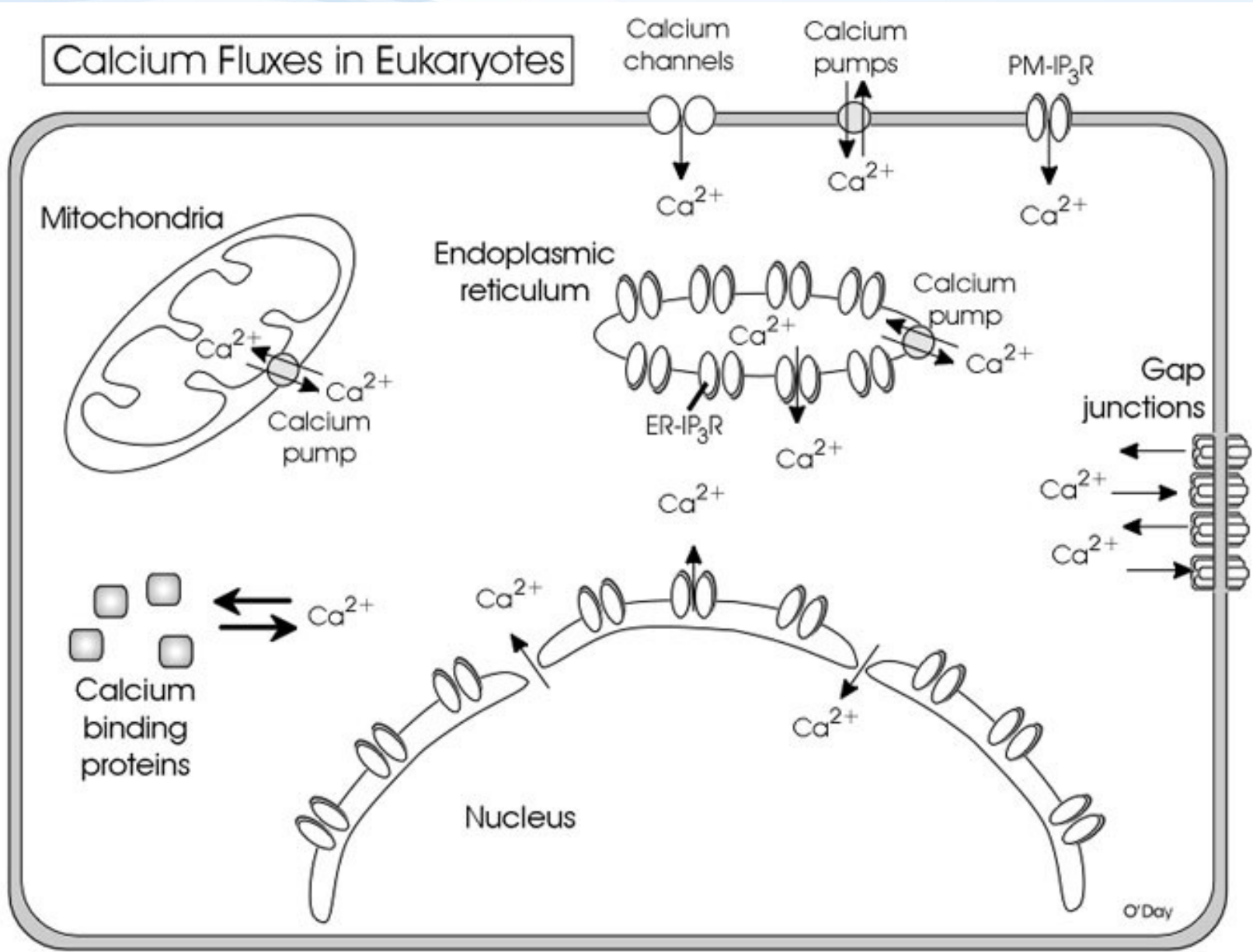
Signalling mechanism 2

Activation of Phospholipase C

→ release of PIPs → DAG → PKC / arachidonic acid
+ IP3 → activation of Ca²⁺ signalling



Calcium Fluxes in Eukaryotes



O'Day



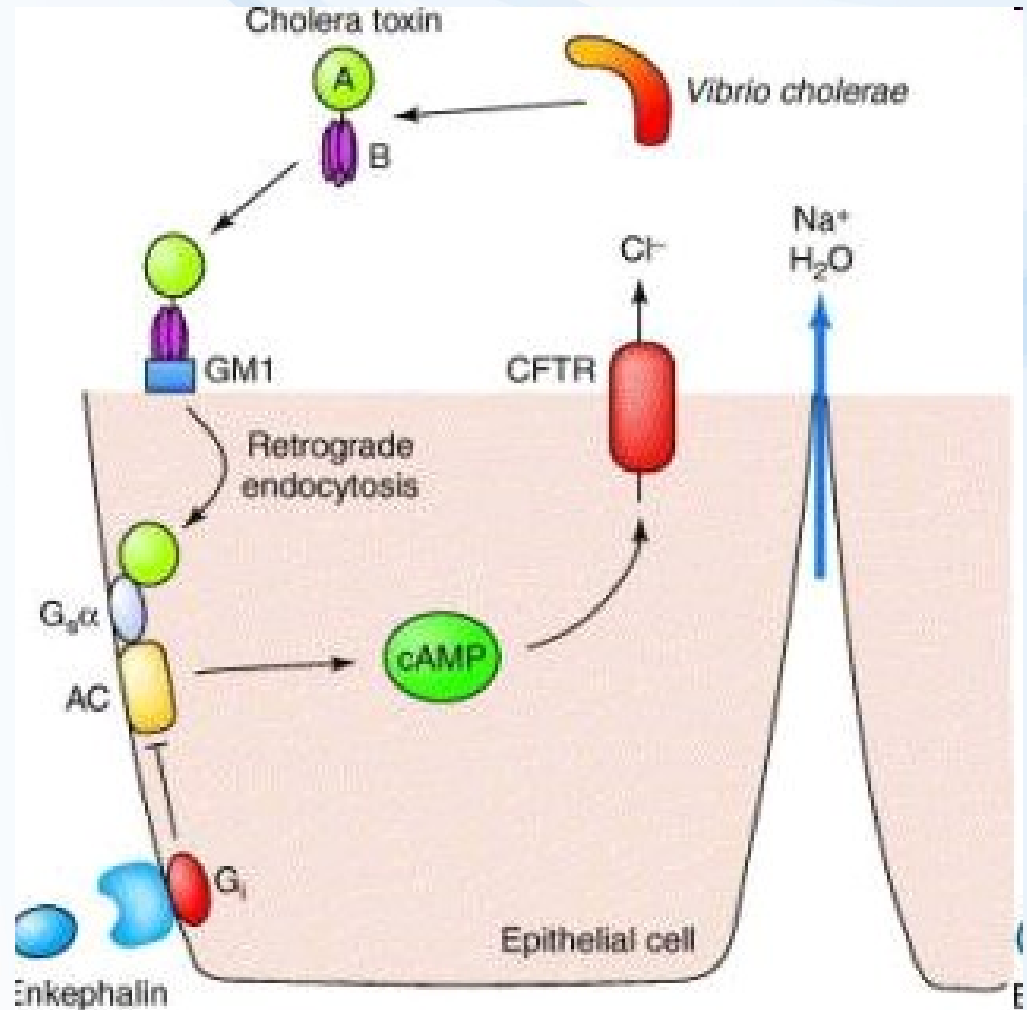
Disruption of intracellular signaling - EXAMPLES

Cholera toxin

CT acts as **adenylate cyclase** enzyme

→ increasing cAMP levels

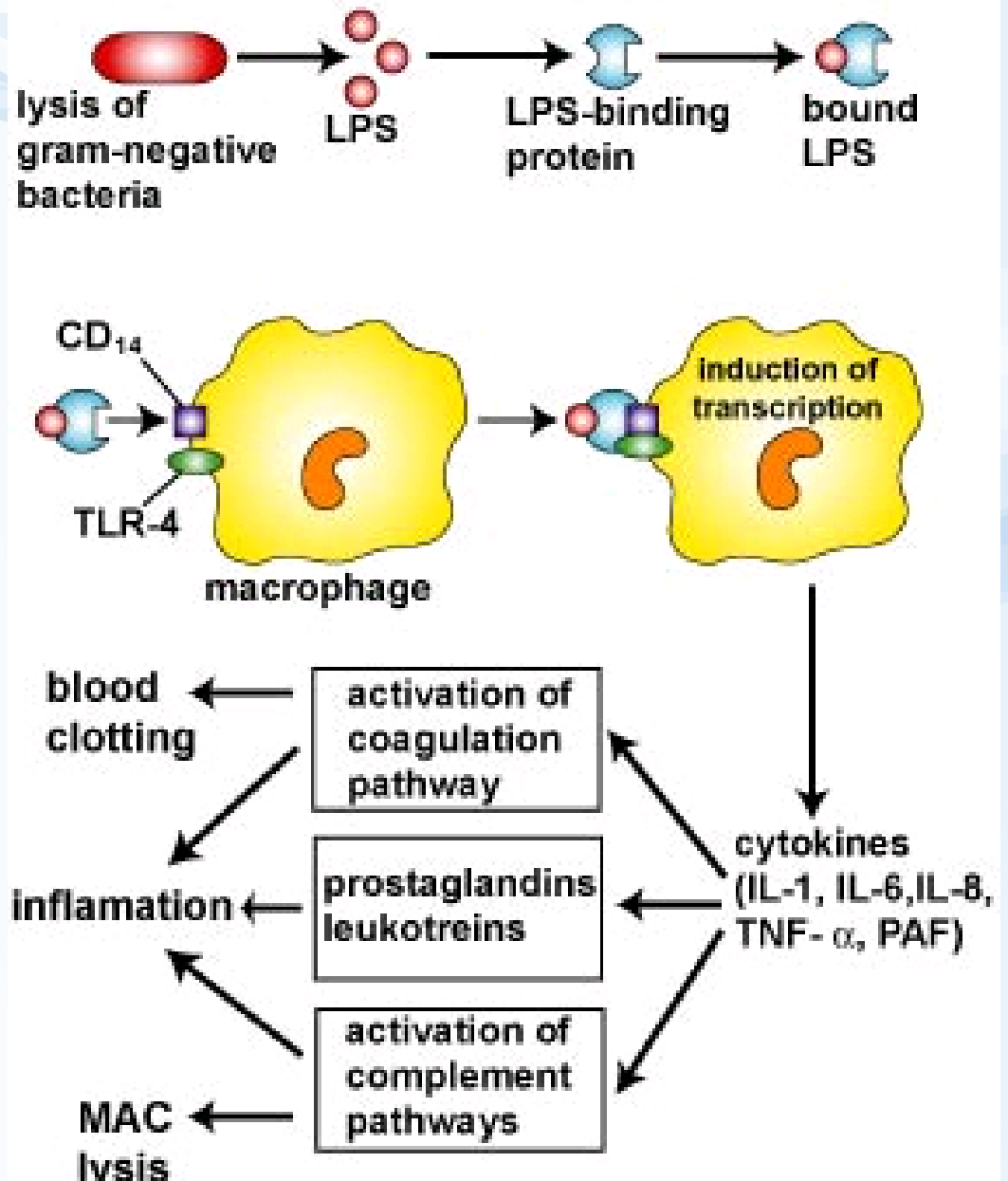
→ TOXICITY



Example:

Lipopolysaccharides (LPS) from cell walls

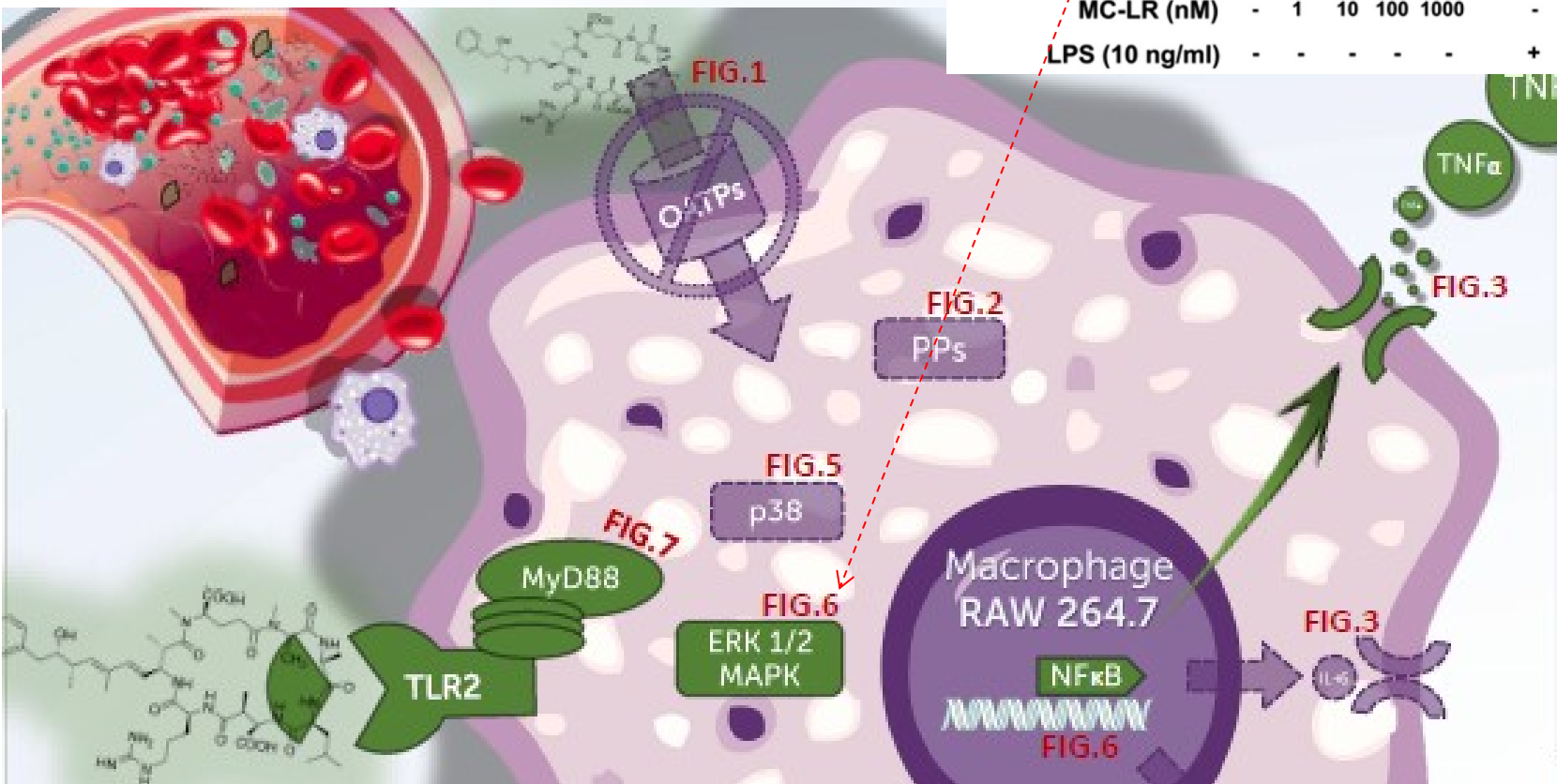
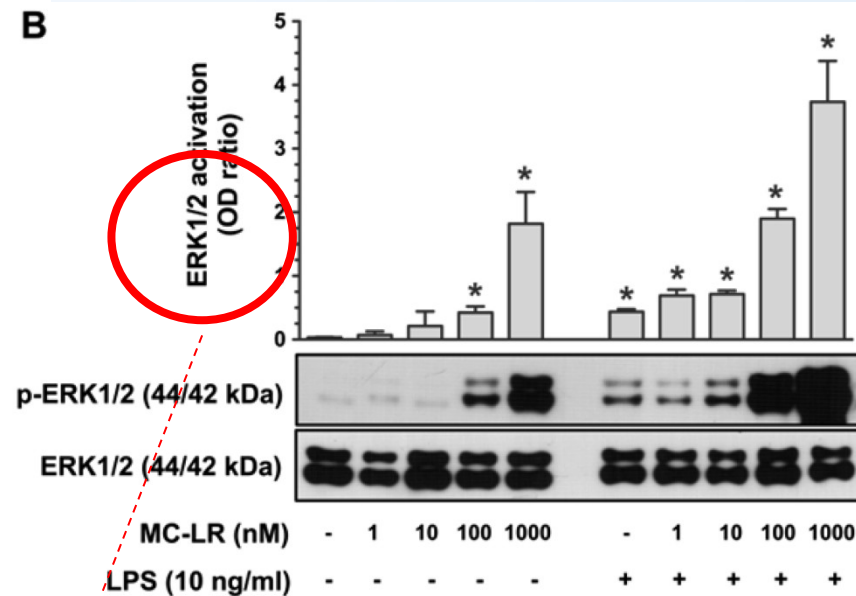
→ hyperactivation of intracellular signals → immunotoxicity



Immunomodulatory Potency of Microcystin, an Important Water-Polluting Cyanobacterial Toxin

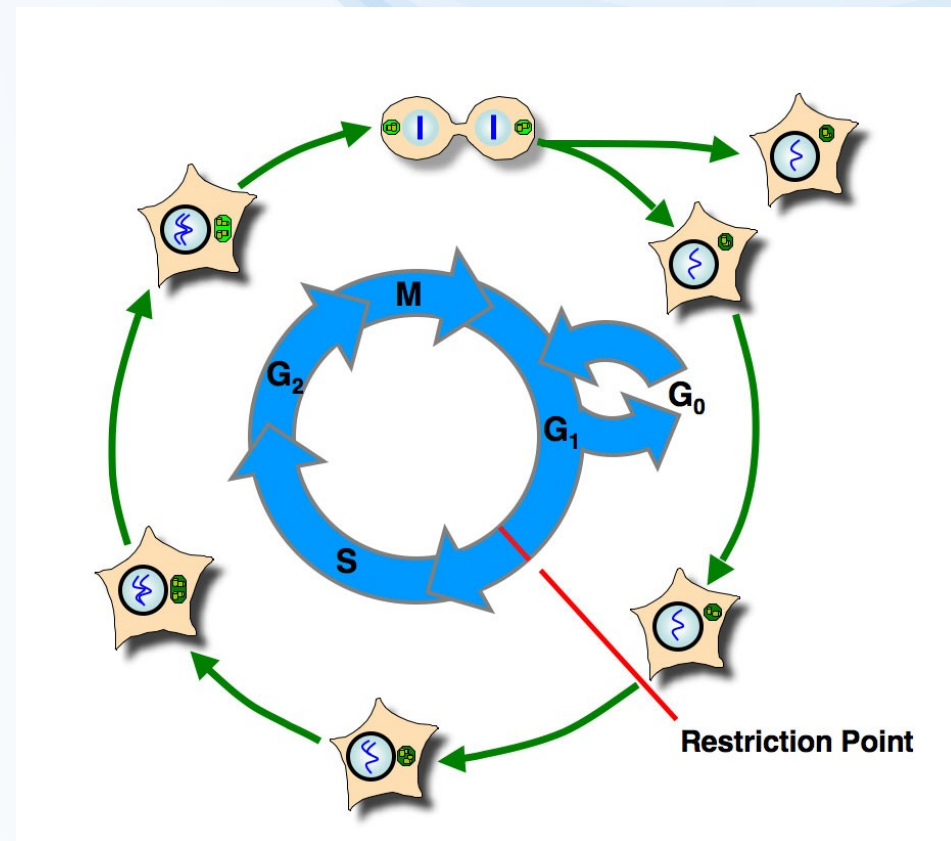
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B



Cell and its basic functions and life trajectories

- Metabolism
- Proliferation (cell division) – cell cycle
- Differentiation
- Senescence
- Cell death
 - Apoptosis
 - Necroptosis
 - Necrosis



Influence of toxicity mechanisms on cellular life trajectories

- **Various toxicity mechanisms / modes of action**
 - i.e. those discussed previously
 - PROTEINS – enzyme inhibitions, protein damage/oxidation
 - DNA damage
 - MEMBRANE disruption
 - as well as others
 - **including mainly INTRACELLULAR signalling disruptions**
- **... affect the cell fate, and propagate to systemic effects:** *...examples...*
 - **Disruption of metabolism**
 - Acute → (cell) death (CO, CN- → effects on mitochondria/haeme)
 - Chronic → various diseases (e.g. diabetes)
 - **Effects on proliferation (cell division) – cell cycle**
 - Tumor growth, carcinogenesis, effects on immune system / haemopoiesis
 - **Diferentiation**
 - Developmental toxicity, embryotoxicity, teratogenicity, immune system effects
 - **Senescence** (Usually not adverse or toxic)
 - **Cell death**
 - NECROSES (e.g. after irradiation)
 - APOPTOSES (bone marrow – haemopoetic effects; effects on tumors)

CELL CYCLE and its careful CONTROL - importance

- **GENERAL**

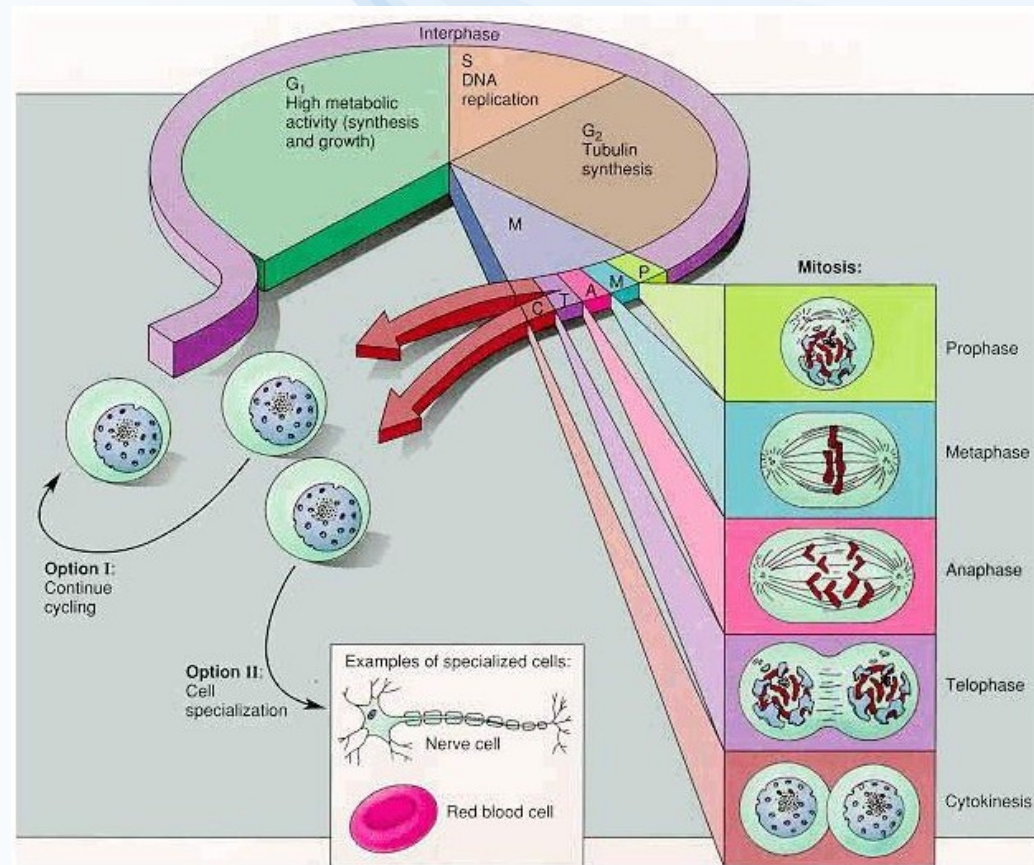
- Control of genetic material and information (including reparation)
- Proper distribution of genetic material into daughter cells

- **EARLY DEVELOPMENT**

- Regulation of development, embryo- and organogenesis

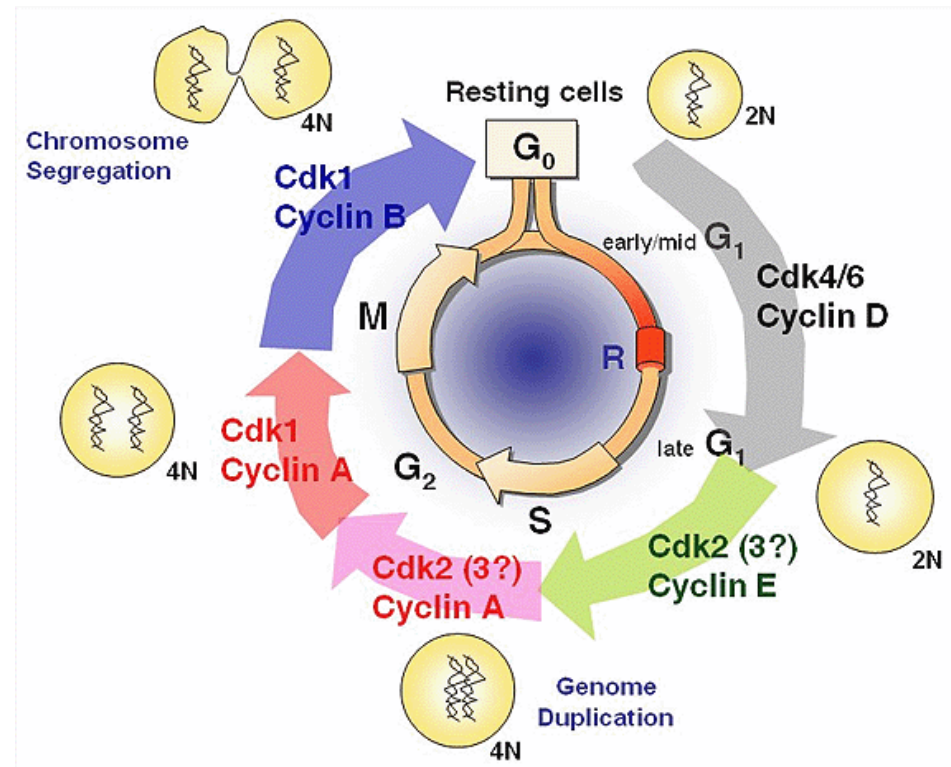
- **ADULTHOOD**

- Reconstruction and renewal of adult tissues
- Control of proliferation / tumor growth

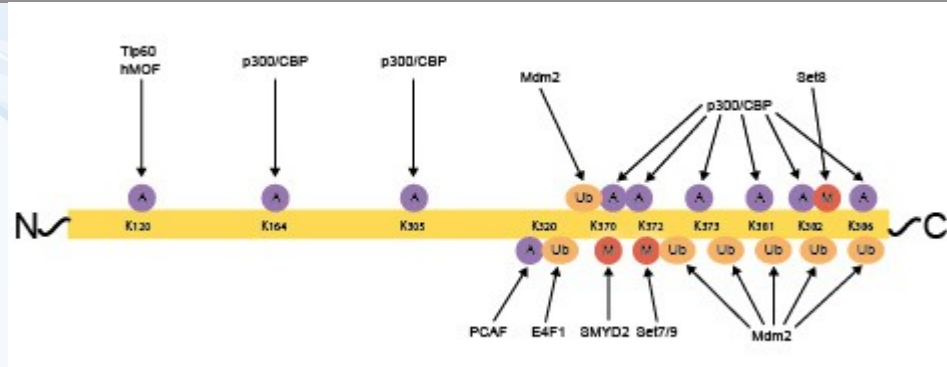
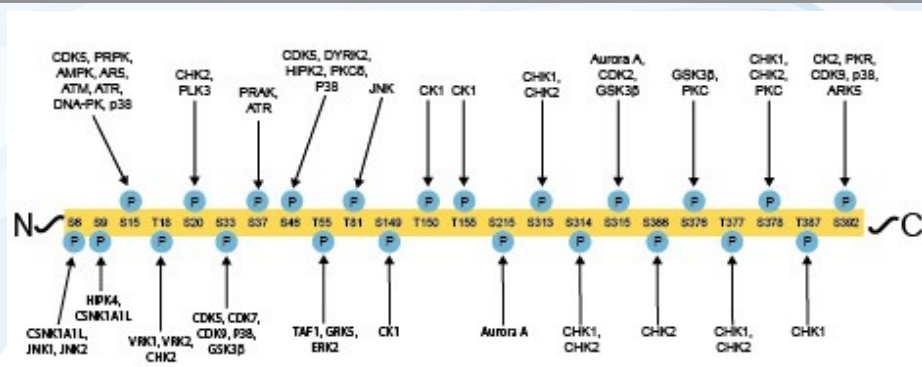


Cell cycle regulation and control

- Factors controlling proper cell cycle
 - Extracellular signals (hormones, neurotransmitters...)
 - Intracellular „stress sensors“ and signals
 - **p53 protein** among others
 - Correct sequence of individual events (phases)
 - Error-free events
- Controlling principles
 - **General:**
 - **Phosphorylation** (kinases) / **dephosphorylation** (phosphatases) of proteins
→ discussed further
 - **Such as ... for cell cycle:**
 - **cyclines** and **CDK** (cycline-dependent kinases)



Role and functions of p53



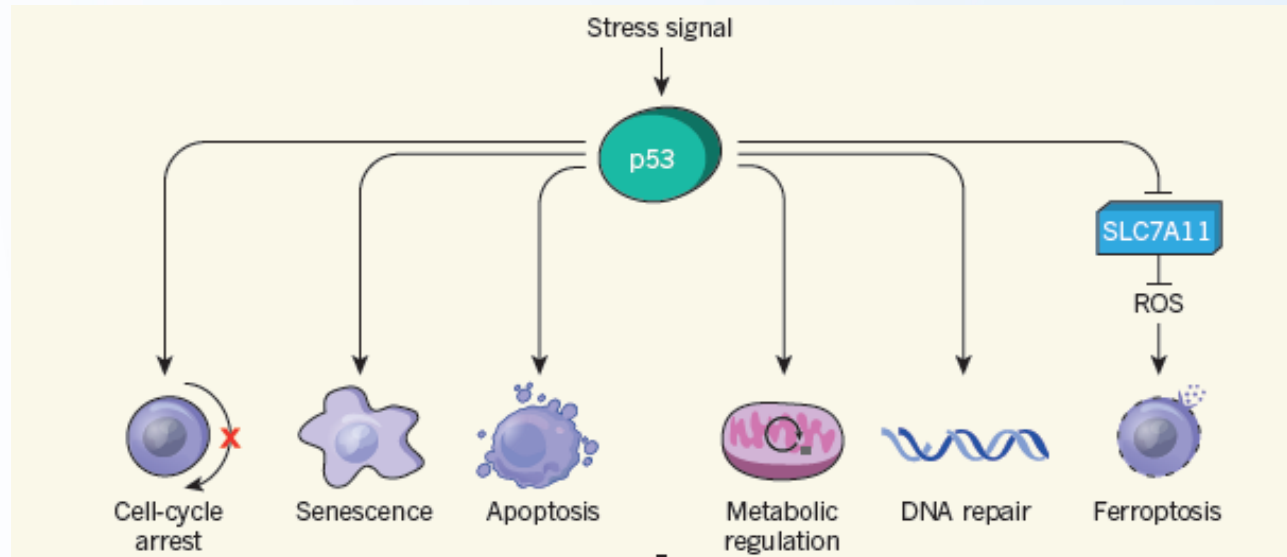
* Phosphorylation of p53

* as well as „mutations“ (SNPs) of p53

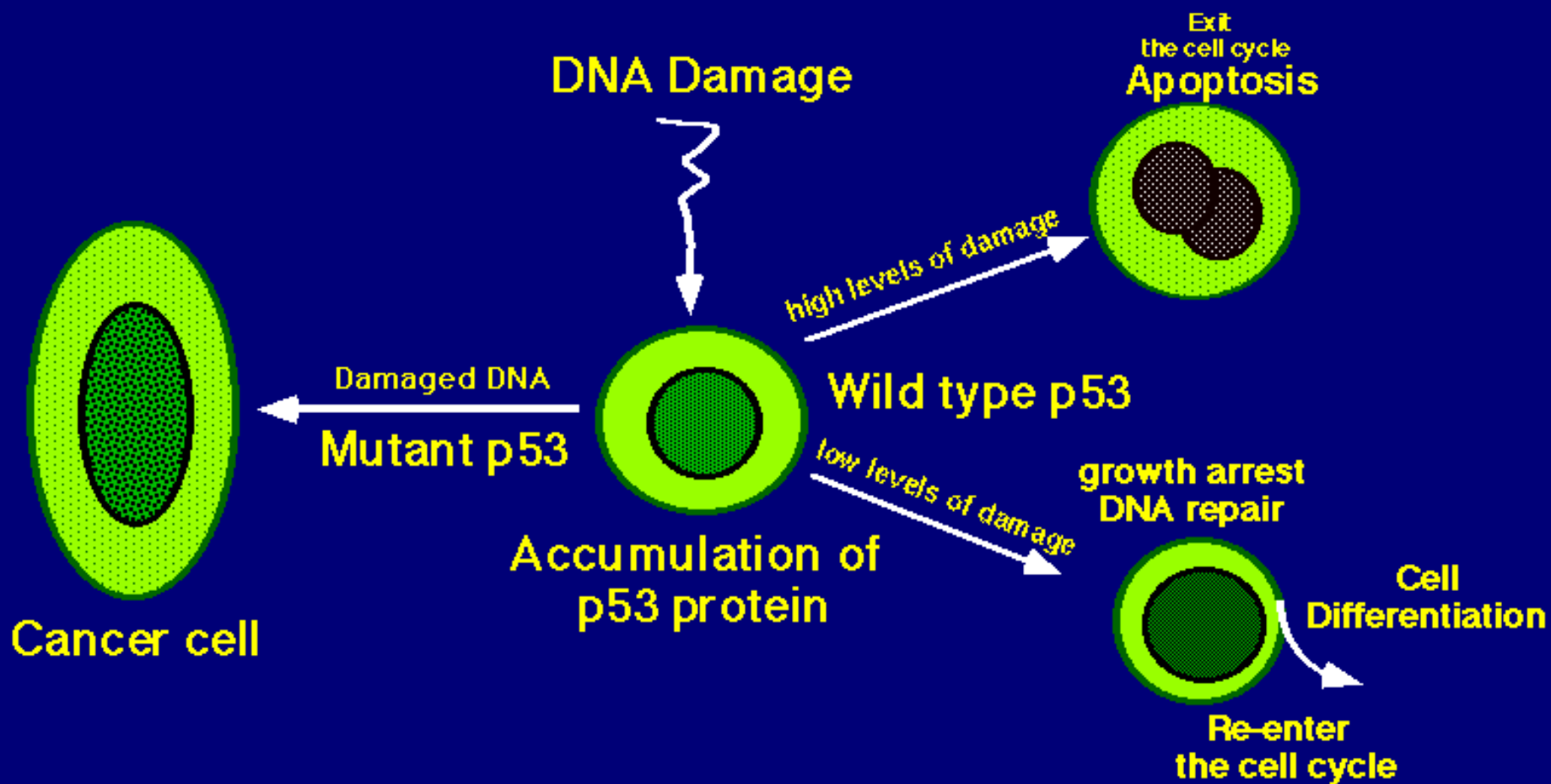
* acetylation (A), methylation (M)

* and ubiquitylation (Ub) of p53

→ Control and affect key cellular processes →



Example - p53 in control of intracellular stress / such as DNA damage



Necrosis

- Pathology
- Membrane damage
- Cell „explosion“/ lysis
- Chromatin disintegration

- → immune reaction (inflammation)
- „scars“ formation

Apoptosis

- Physiological
- Suicidal process (internal)
- Carefully controlled
- DNA fragmentation
- Membrane „blebbing“
- Apoptotic bodies → fagocytosis

Further cell death variants also recognized
(*different cell fate and control*)

- Necroptosis
- Ferroptosis

