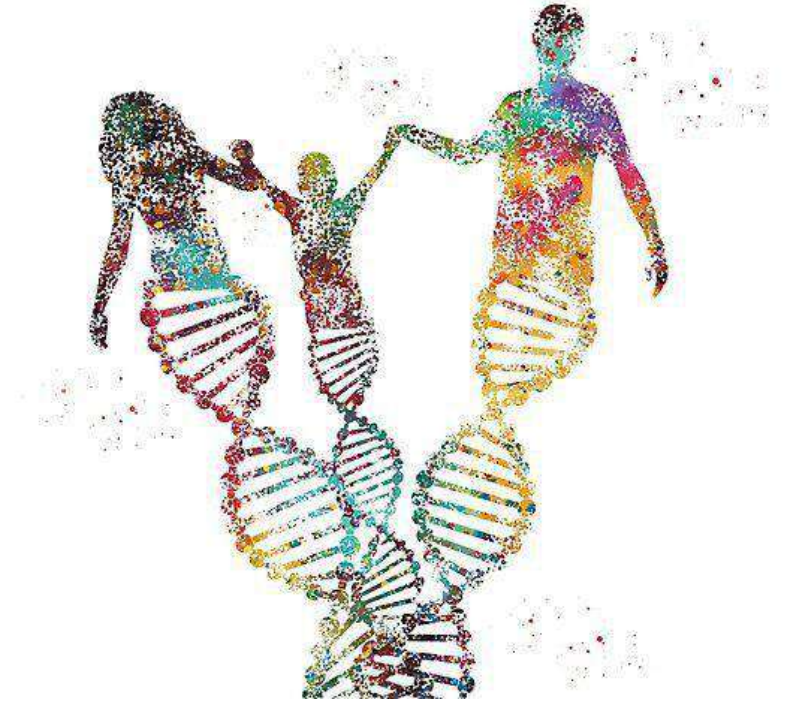
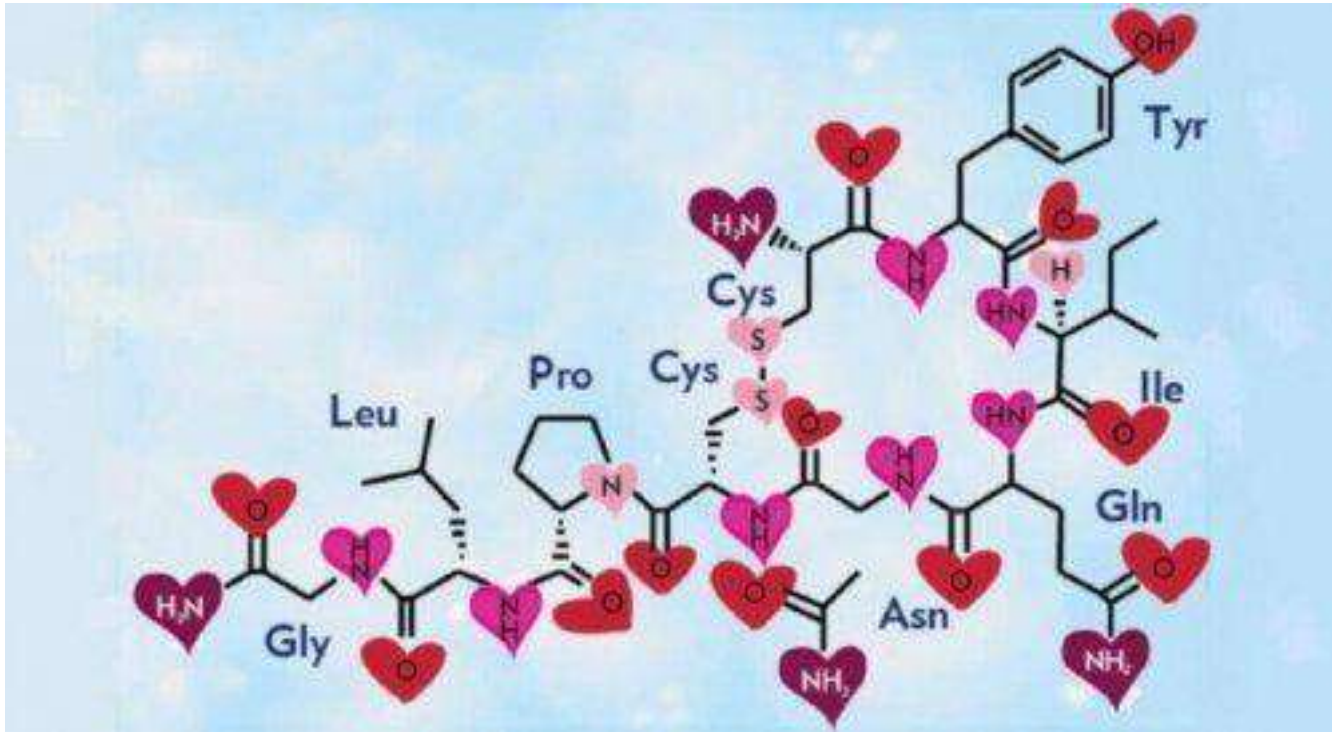


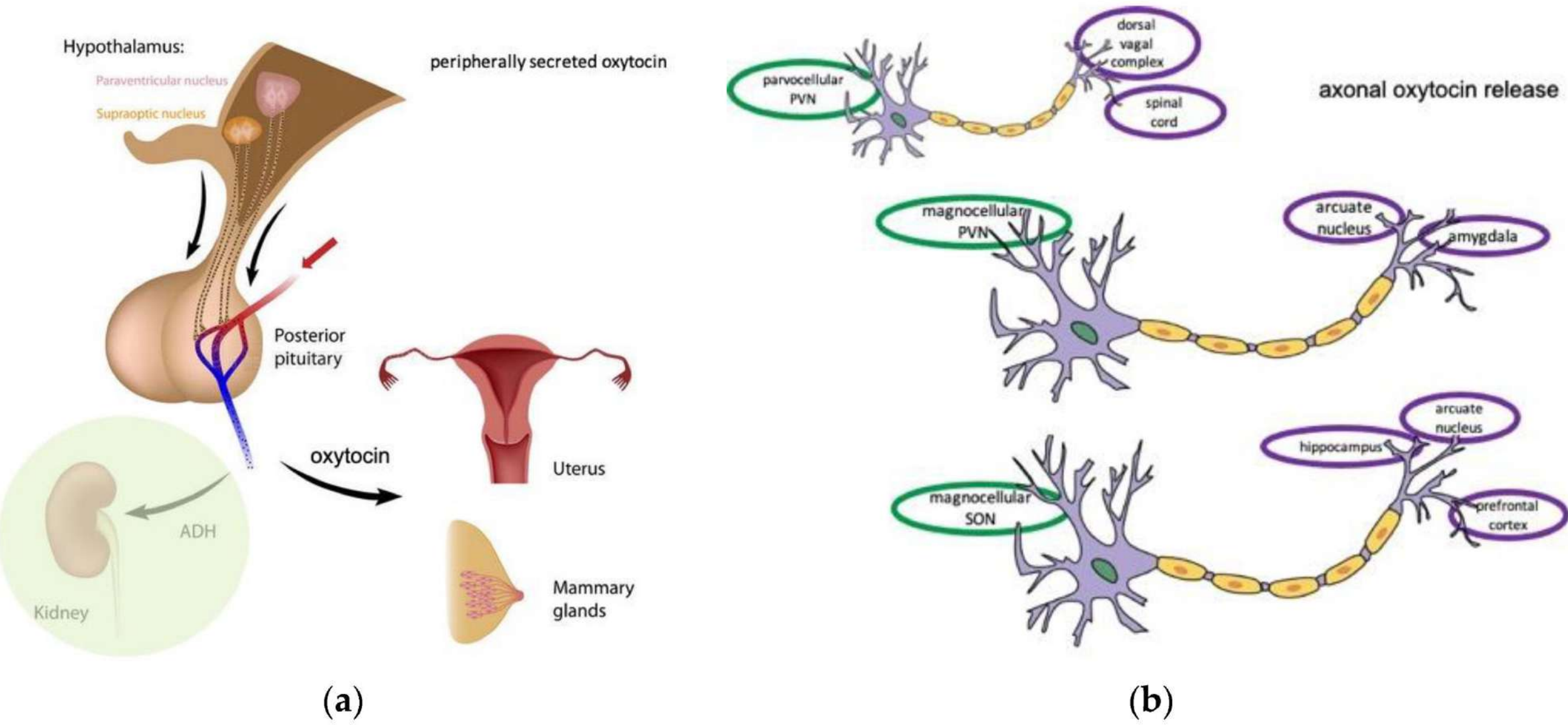
Oxytocin unexpected properties

Congrès 2026 de la Société Belge de Médecine Esthétique
vendredi 24 et samedi 25 avril 2026 à Bruxelles

Oxytocin (OXT) is a very abundant neuropeptide, exerting a wide spectrum of central and peripheral effects as a neurohormone, neurotransmitter or neuromodulator.



Oxytocin is a very abundant neuropeptide, exerting a wide spectrum of central and peripheral effects as a neurohormone, neurotransmitter or neuromodulator



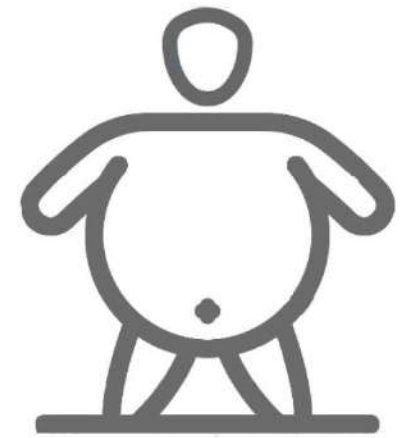
Seventy years of Oxytocin



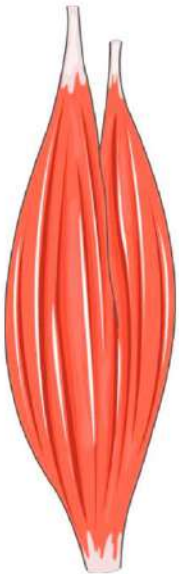
YEAR 1955: Uterous
Award of the Nobel prize
to Vincent du Vigneaud
for sequencing Oxytocin



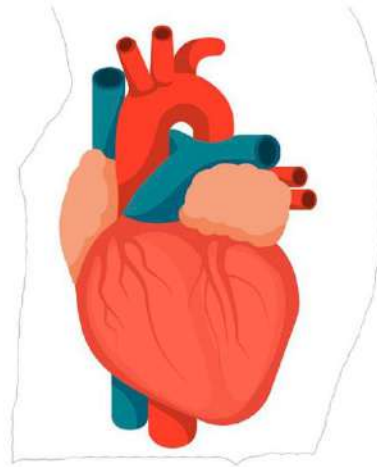
YEAR 2007: Oxytocin in bone



YEAR 2009: Oxytocin
in fat and metabolic
syndrome



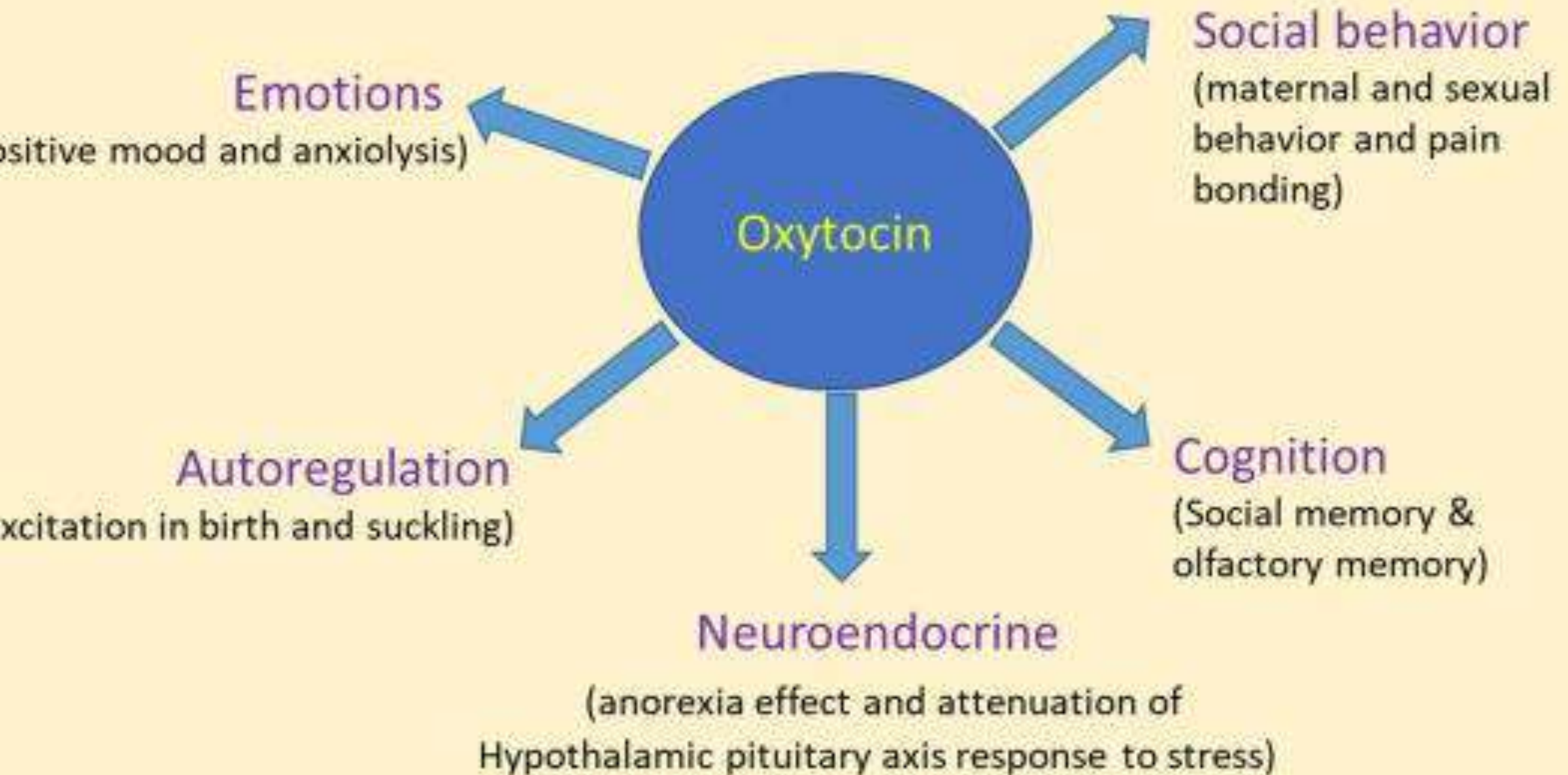
YEAR 2020: Oxytocin in
muscle and thermogenesis



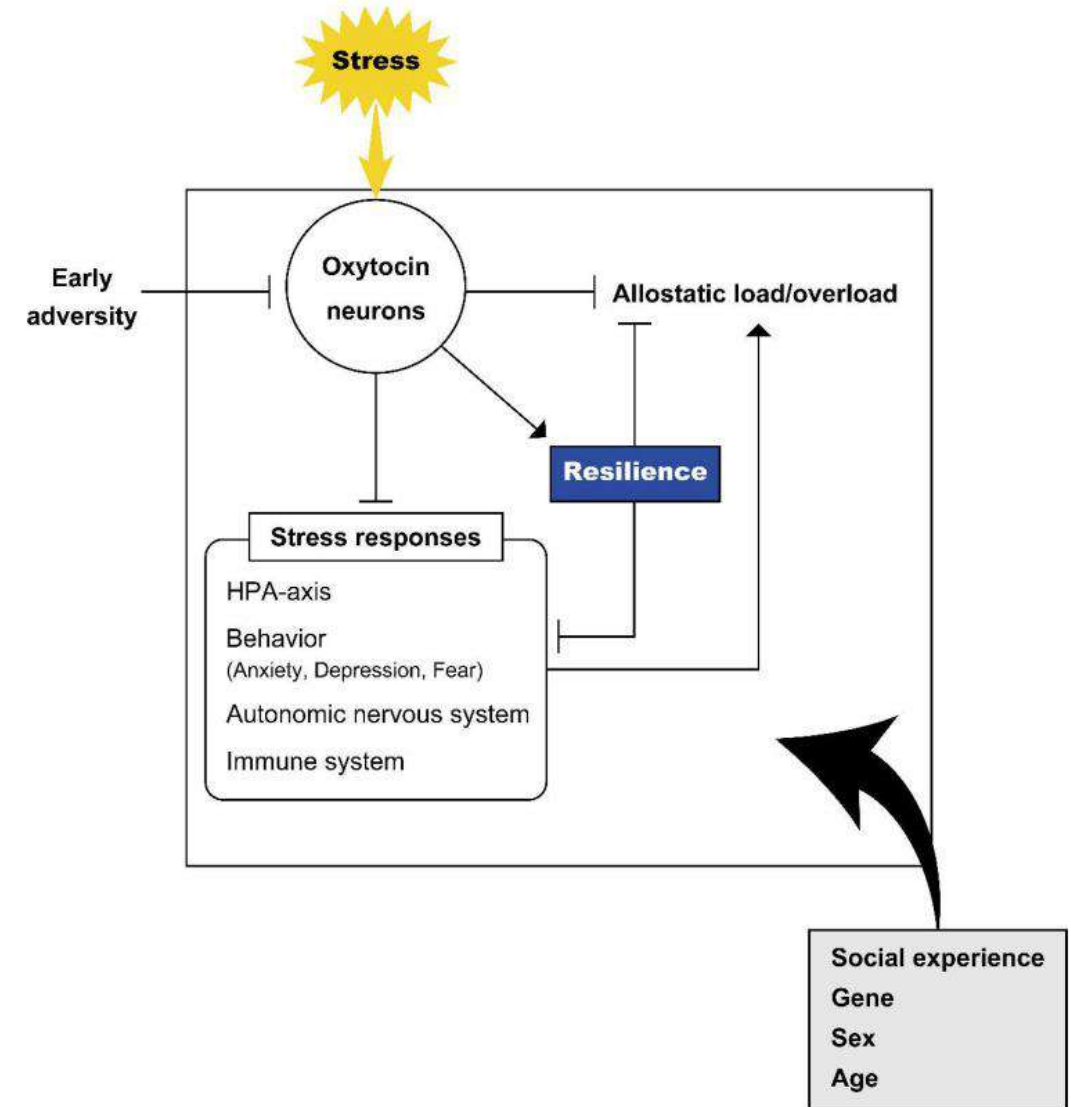
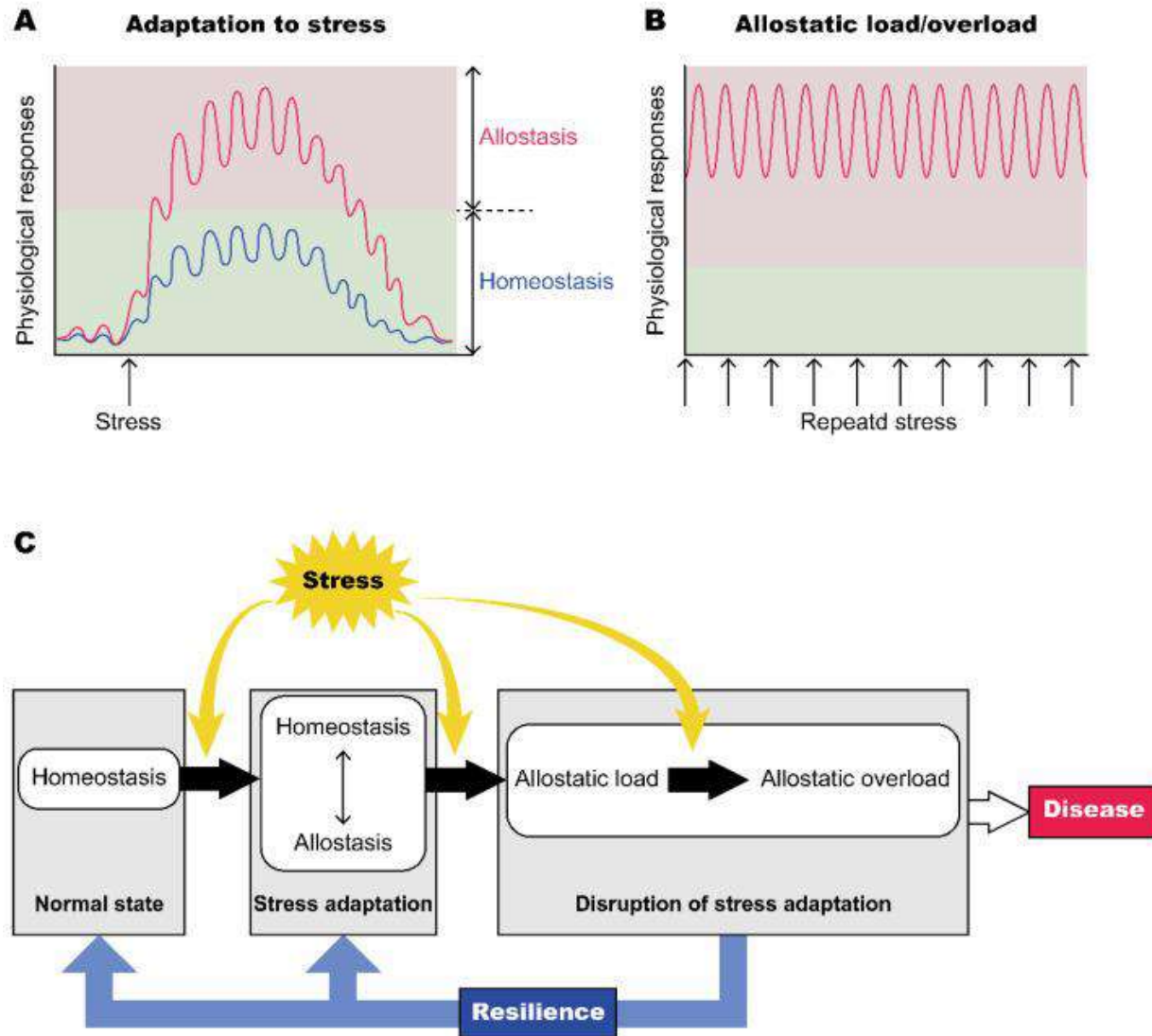
YEAR 2022: Oxytocin in
heart and thermogenesis



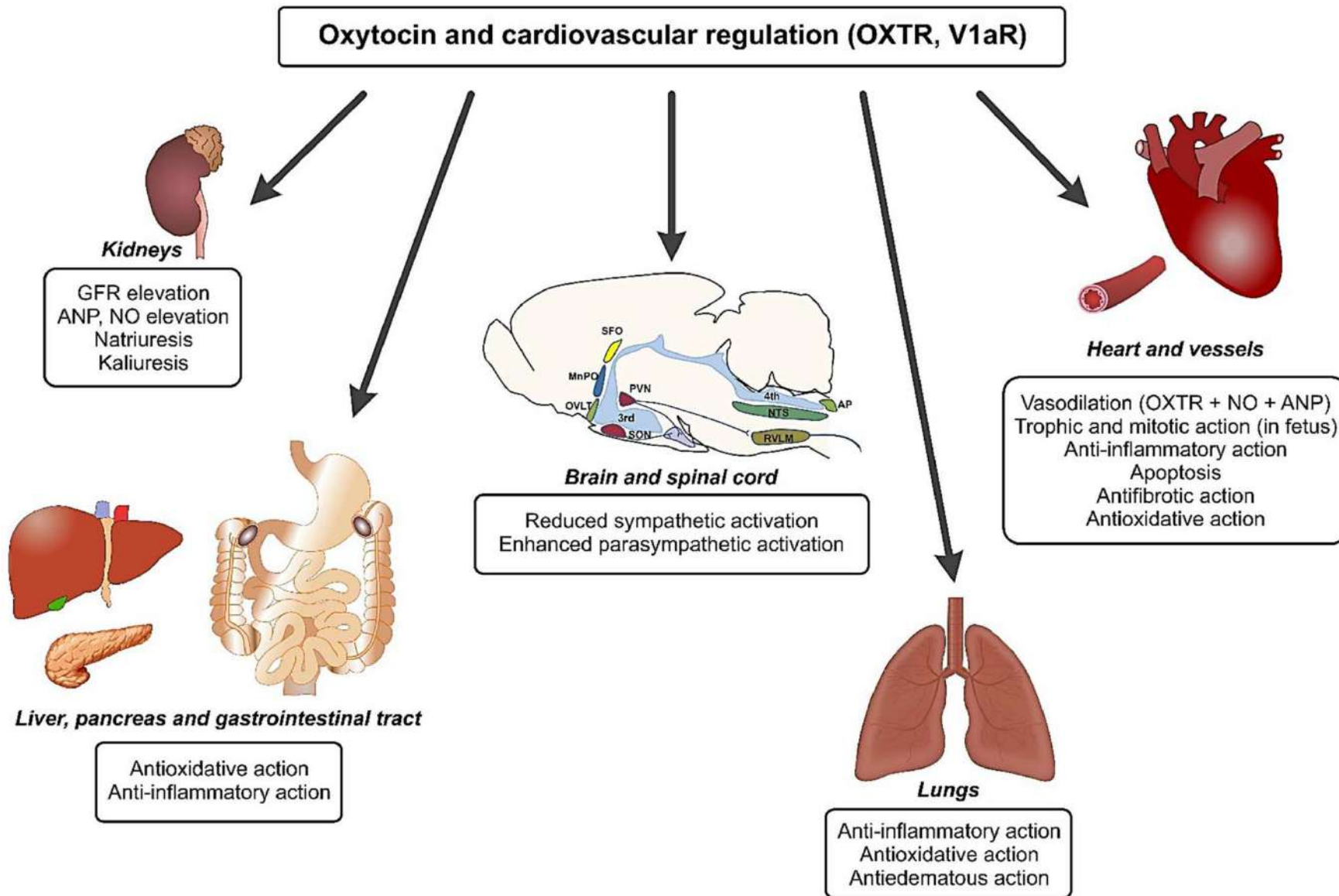
YEAR 2025: the therapeutic
Promise of Oxytocin
and Prader - Willi syndrome



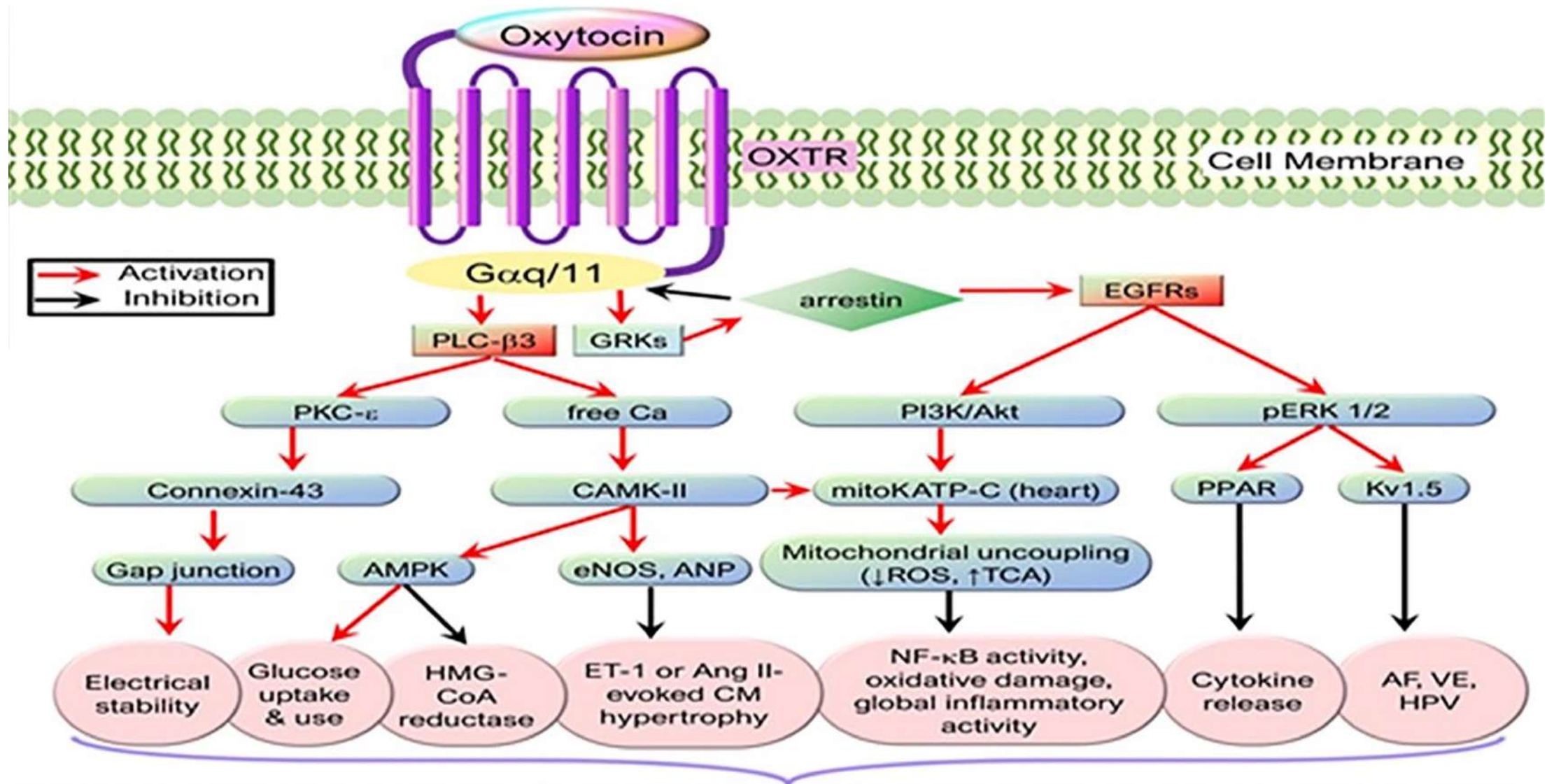
Roles of Oxytocin in Stress Responses, Allostasis and Resilience



The role of oxytocin in cardiovascular regulation

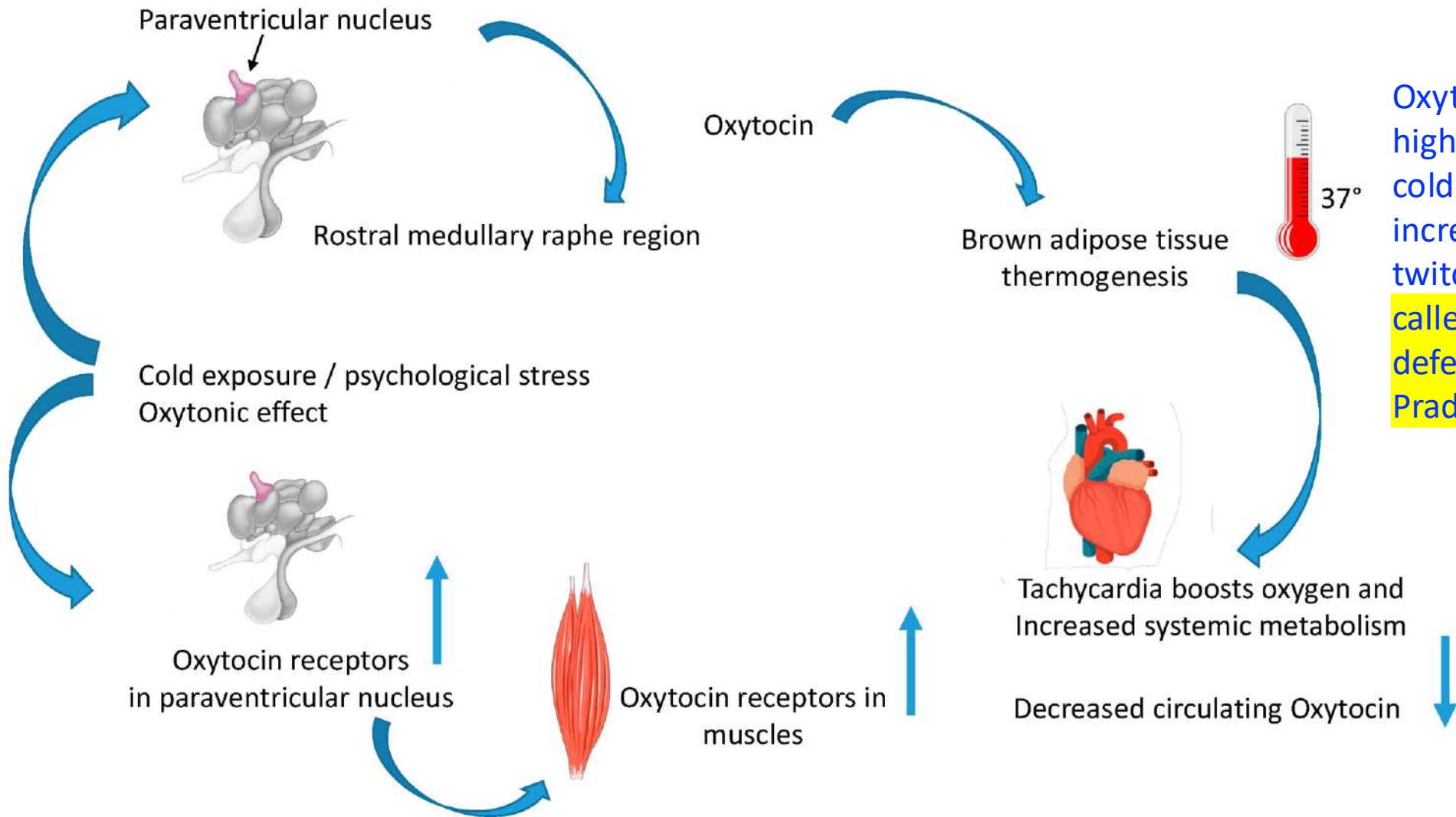


Simplified cardioprotective signaling pathways of oxytocin



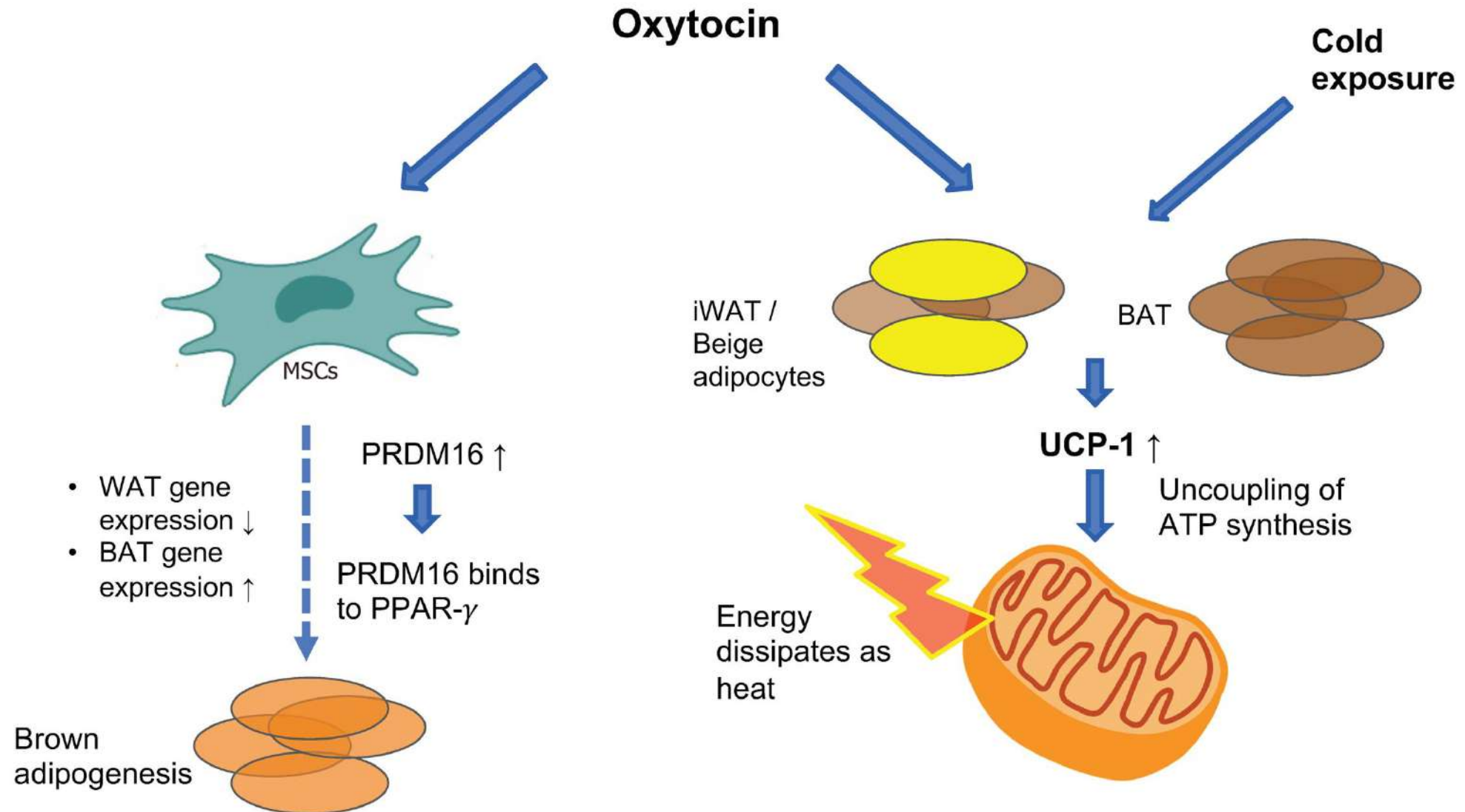
↓ atherosclerotic plaque formation and progression, ↓ risk for coronary artery disease, ↓ post-myocardial ischemic damage, ↓ risk for arrhythmias, ↓ oxidative vascular damage and inflammation, ↓ blood pressure, improve blood lipid profile, improve insulin sensitivity.

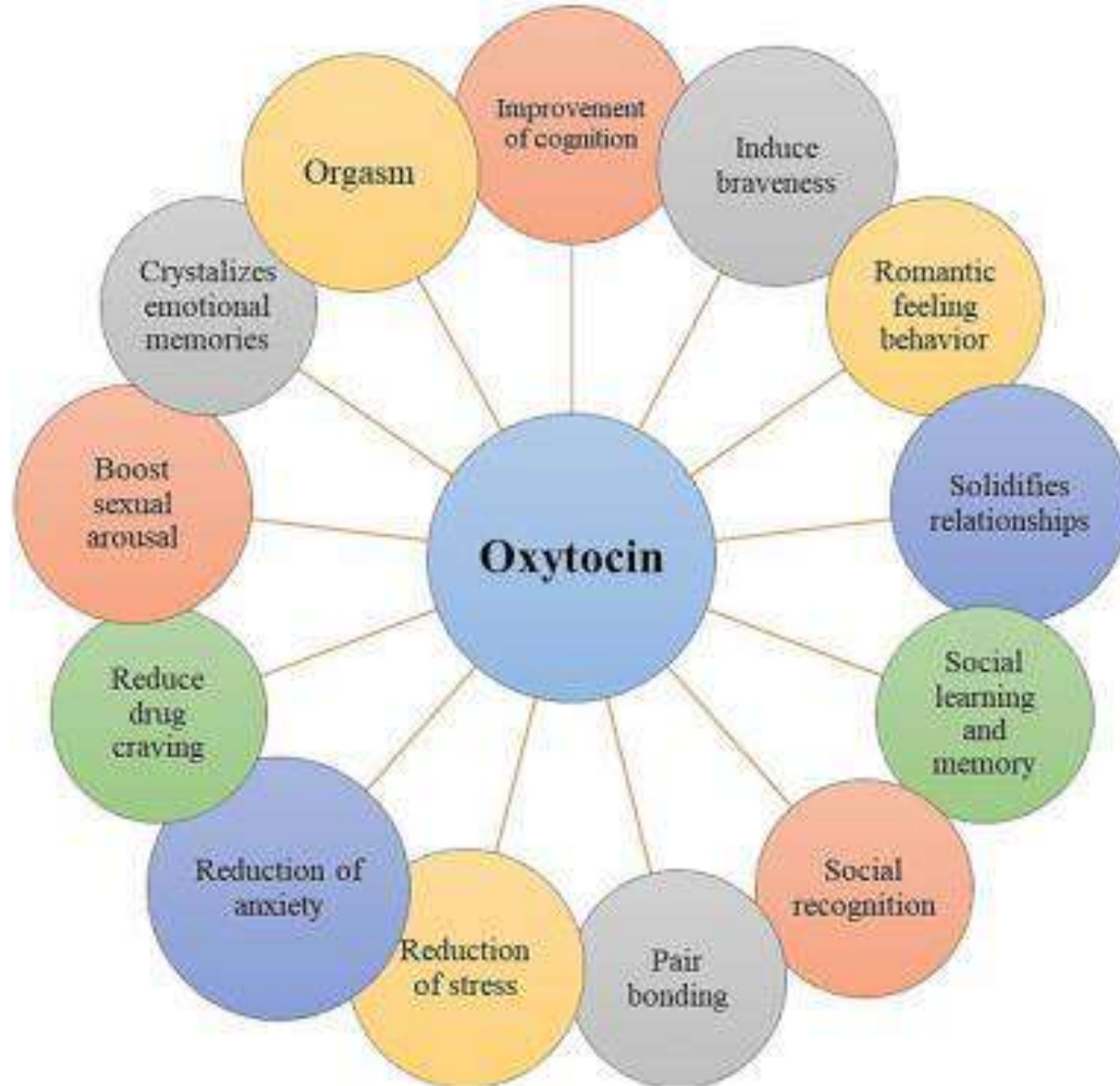
Oxytocin increases thermogenesis in muscles and heart



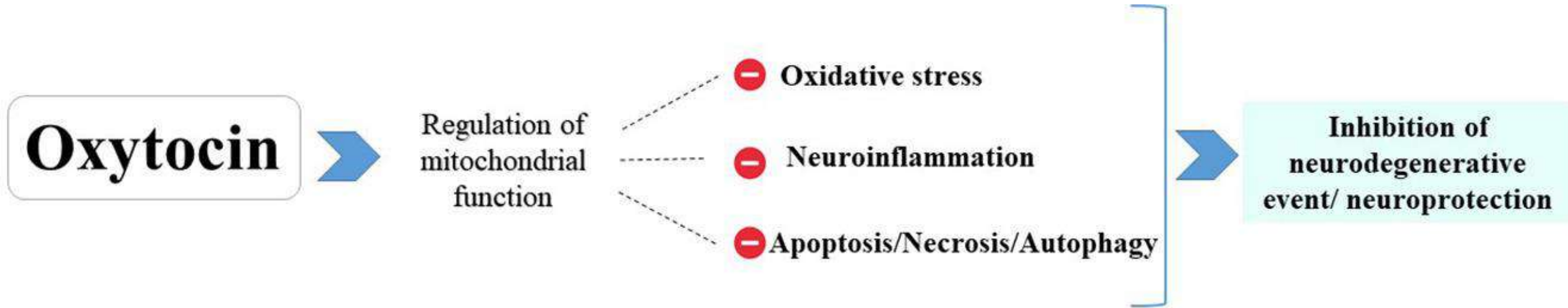
Oxytocin receptor mRNA is also higher in the slow-twitch muscle of cold-stressed mice, leading to increased tonicity of the slow-twitch muscles. This pathway was called the “oxytonic effect”, and its defects may cause obesity and Prader–Willi syndrome.

Proposed mechanism for the effects of oxytocin on thermogenesis and brown adipogenesis.





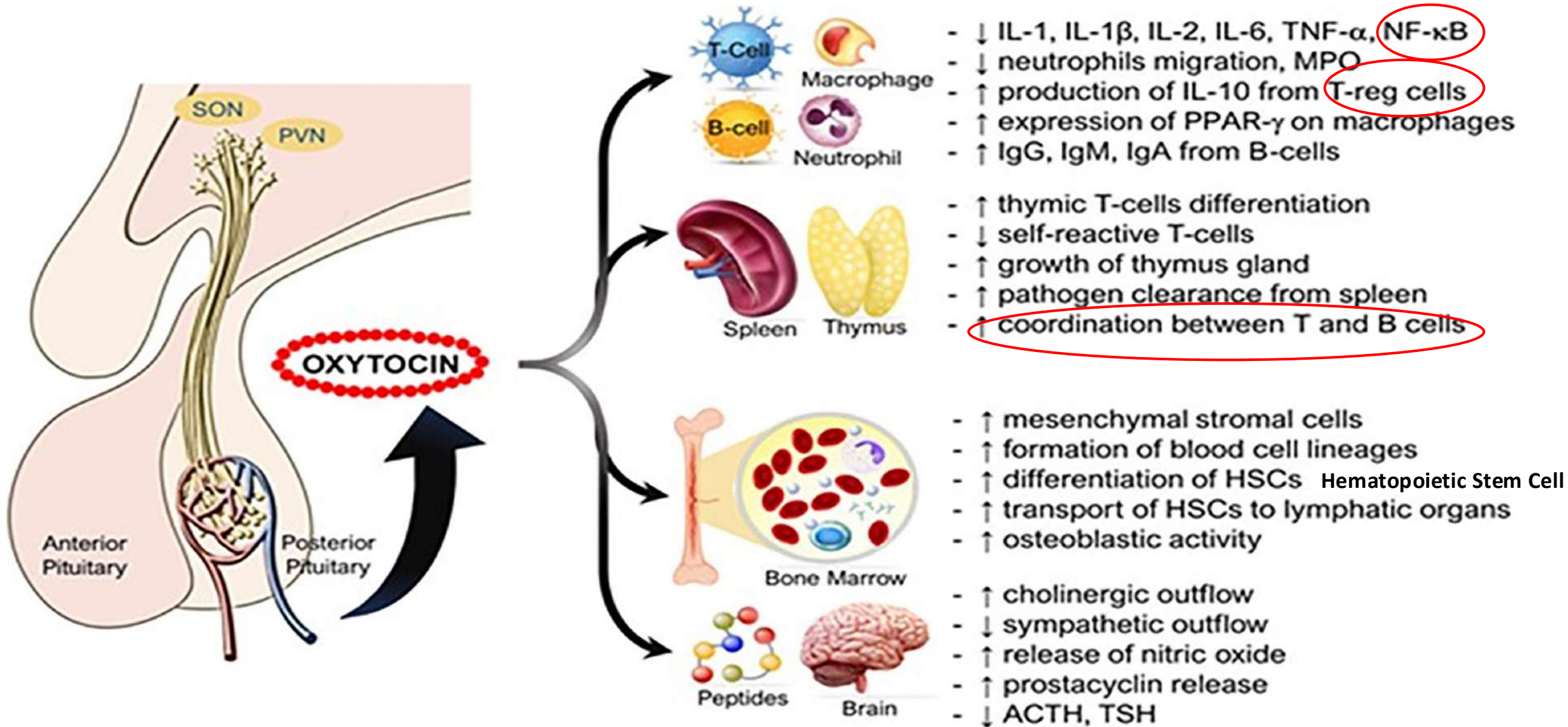
Oxytocin as neuro-hormone and neuro-regulator exert neuroprotective properties: A mechanistic graphical review



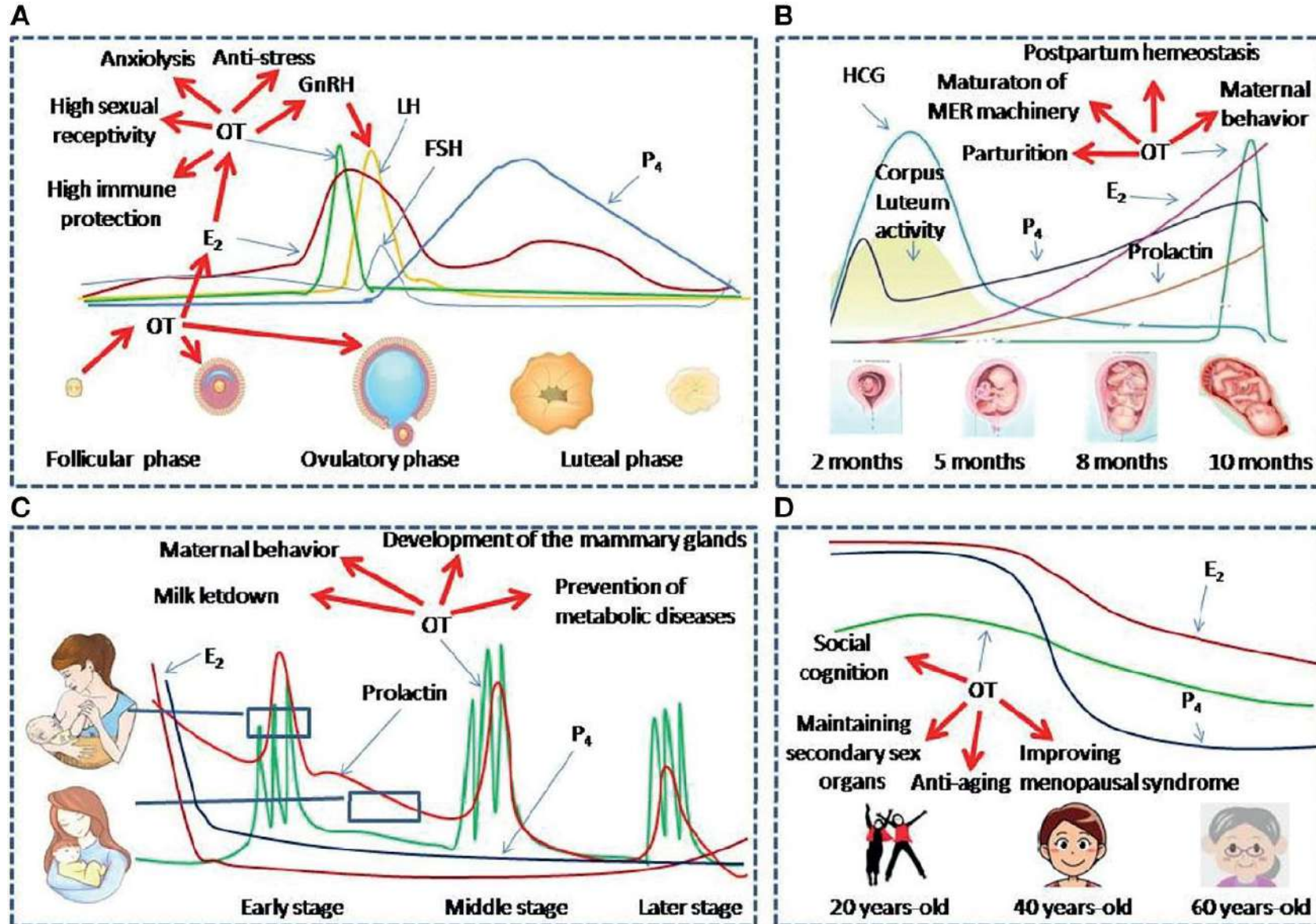
The neuroprotective effects of oxytocin appears to be mediated by its anti-inflammatory properties :

- inhibition of neuro inflammation,
- activation of several antioxidant enzymes,
- inhibition of oxidative stress and free radical formation,
- activation of free radical scavengers,
- prevent of mitochondrial dysfunction,
- and inhibition of apoptosis.

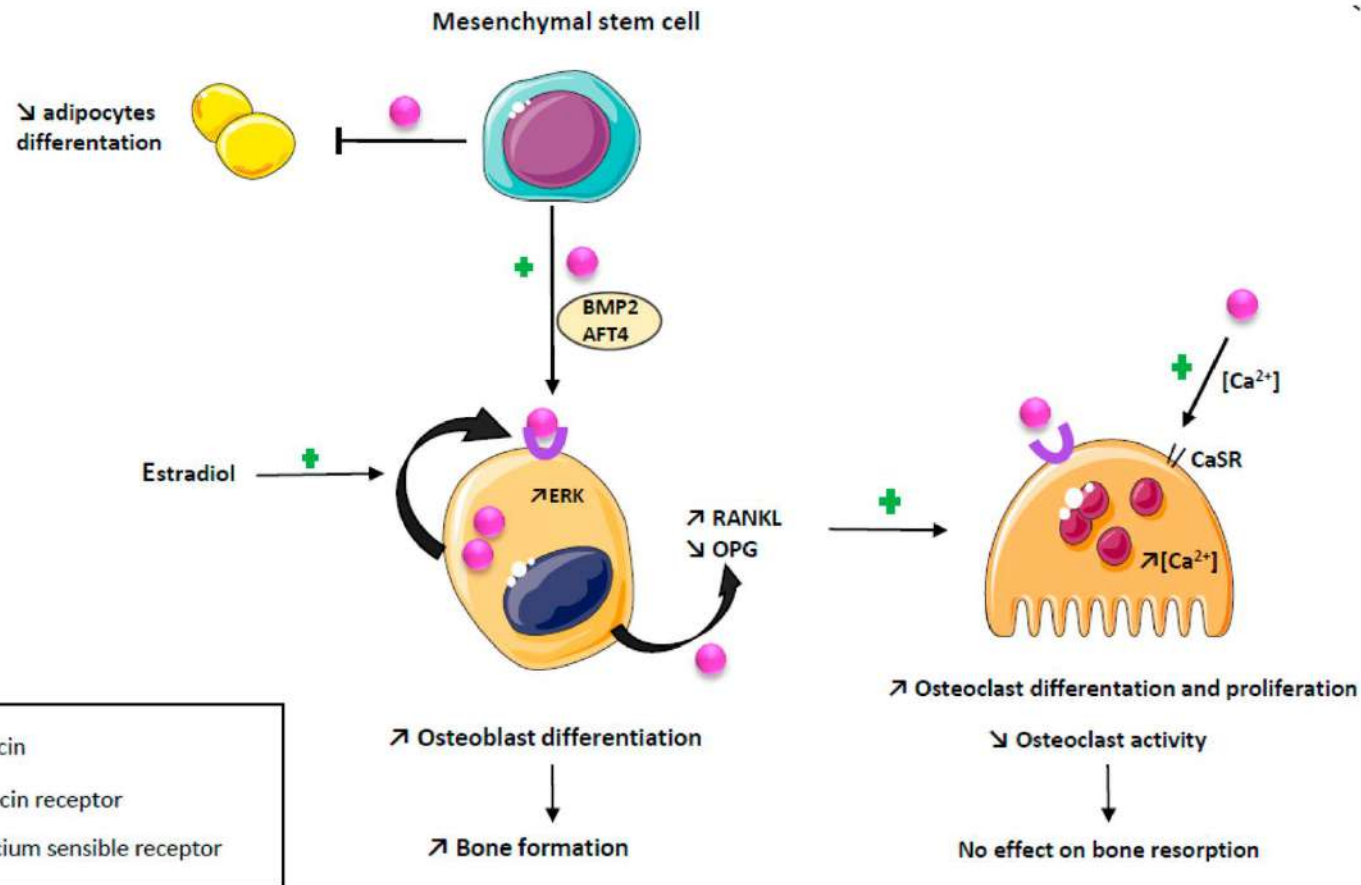
Immune functions of oxytocin



Oxytocin functions at different reproductive stages of women



Effects of oxytocin on bone cells



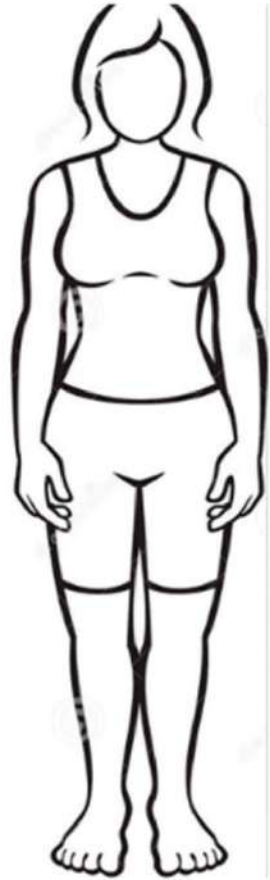
Oxytocin has an anabolic action promoting osteoblast differentiation and function by an upregulation of BMP2 and AFT4 pathways,

Reducing adipogenesis.

Estradiol positively stimulate oxytocin production by osteoblast through an activation of the MAP kinase/ERK pathway and oxytocin receptor expression, synergistic with a local feed-forward loop.

Oxytocin has a paradoxical effect on osteoclast resulting in no effect on bone resorption: osteoclast number is increased by promoting RANKL expression and decreasing OPG expression; mature osteoclast resorption is decreased by supporting intracellular calcium concentration.

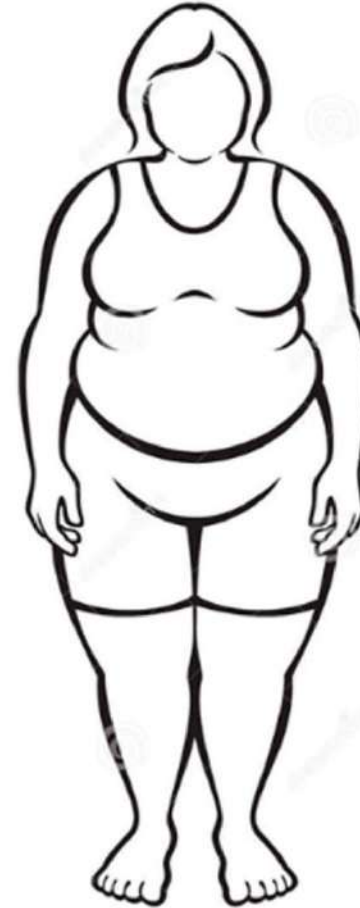
Menopause



Sleep disorder
Anxiety - Depression
Decline in cognitive function

Alteration of the energy
Homeostasis

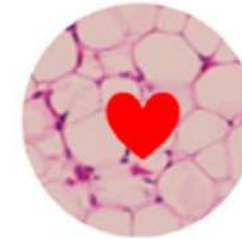
Bone loss



Potential Oxytocin targets



Sleep disorder
Anxiety - Mood
Dementia



Metabolic syndrom
Cardiovascular
diseases
Diabetes

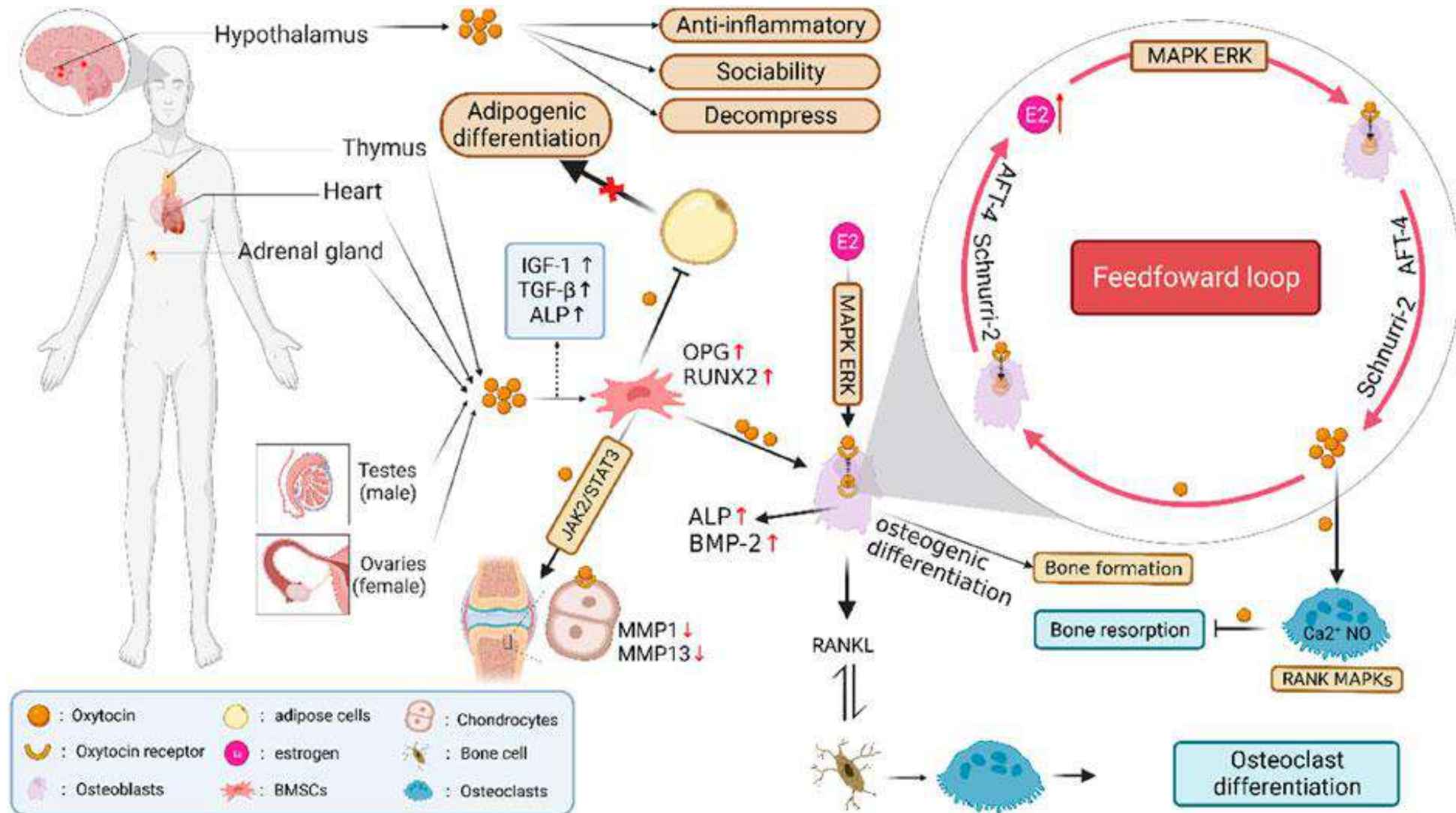


Osteoporosis

Estrogen and Oxytocin serum levels

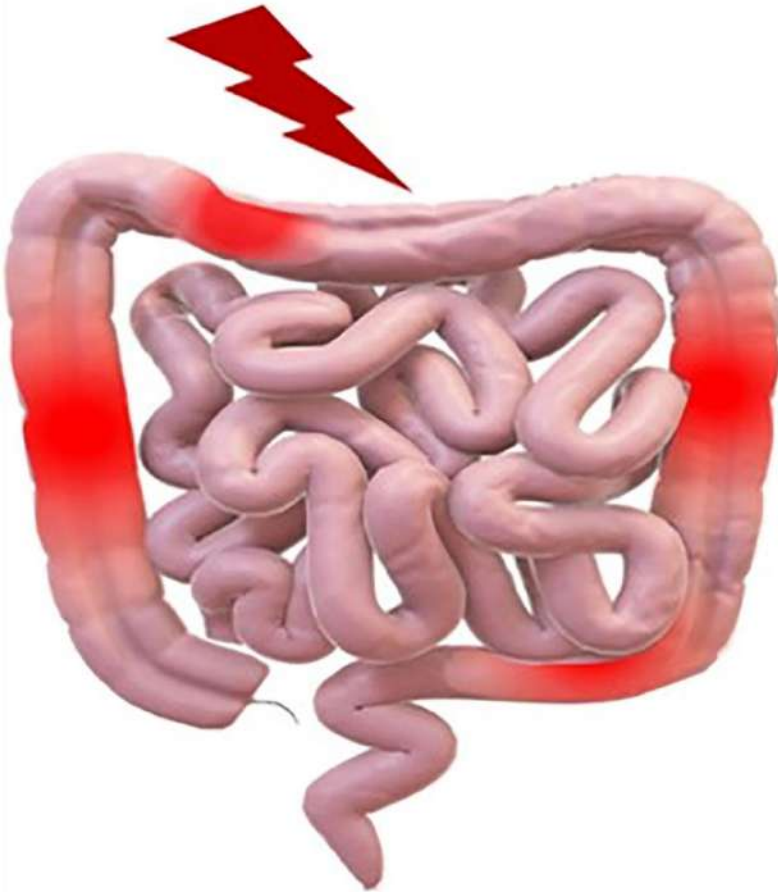
Ageing

The mechanism of oxytocin and its receptors in regulating cells in bone metabolism



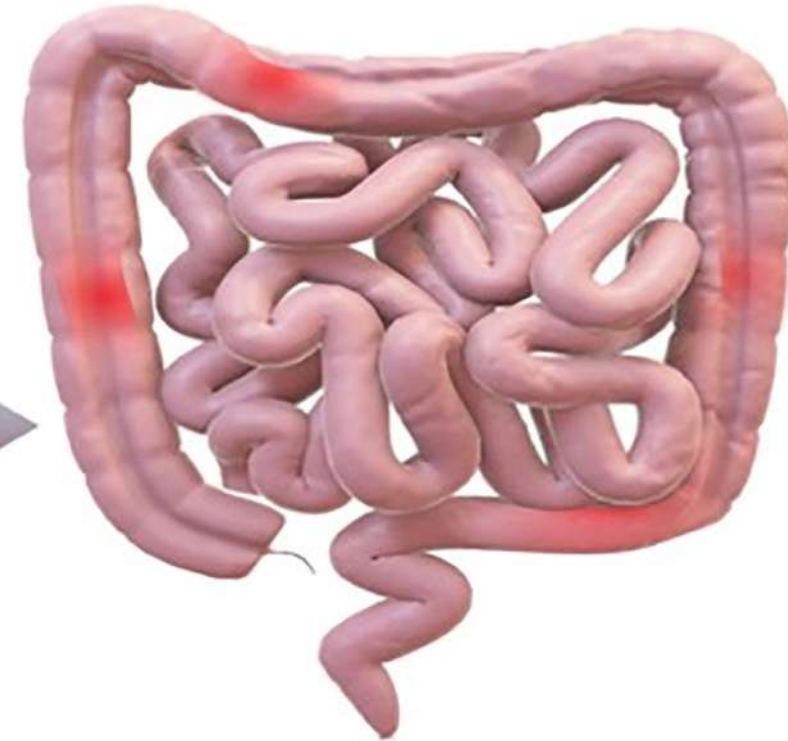
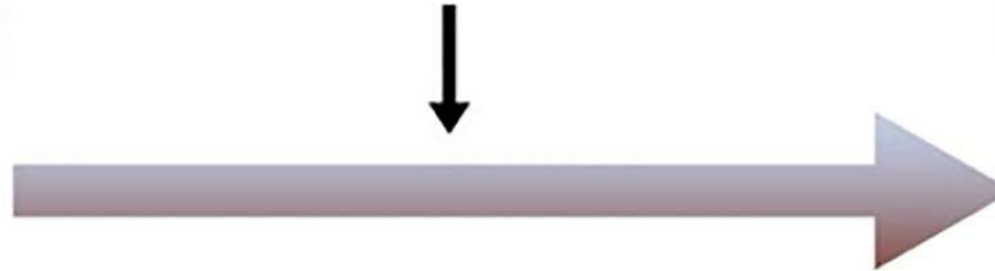
Oxytocin

stress, thermal damage
dextran sodium sulphate

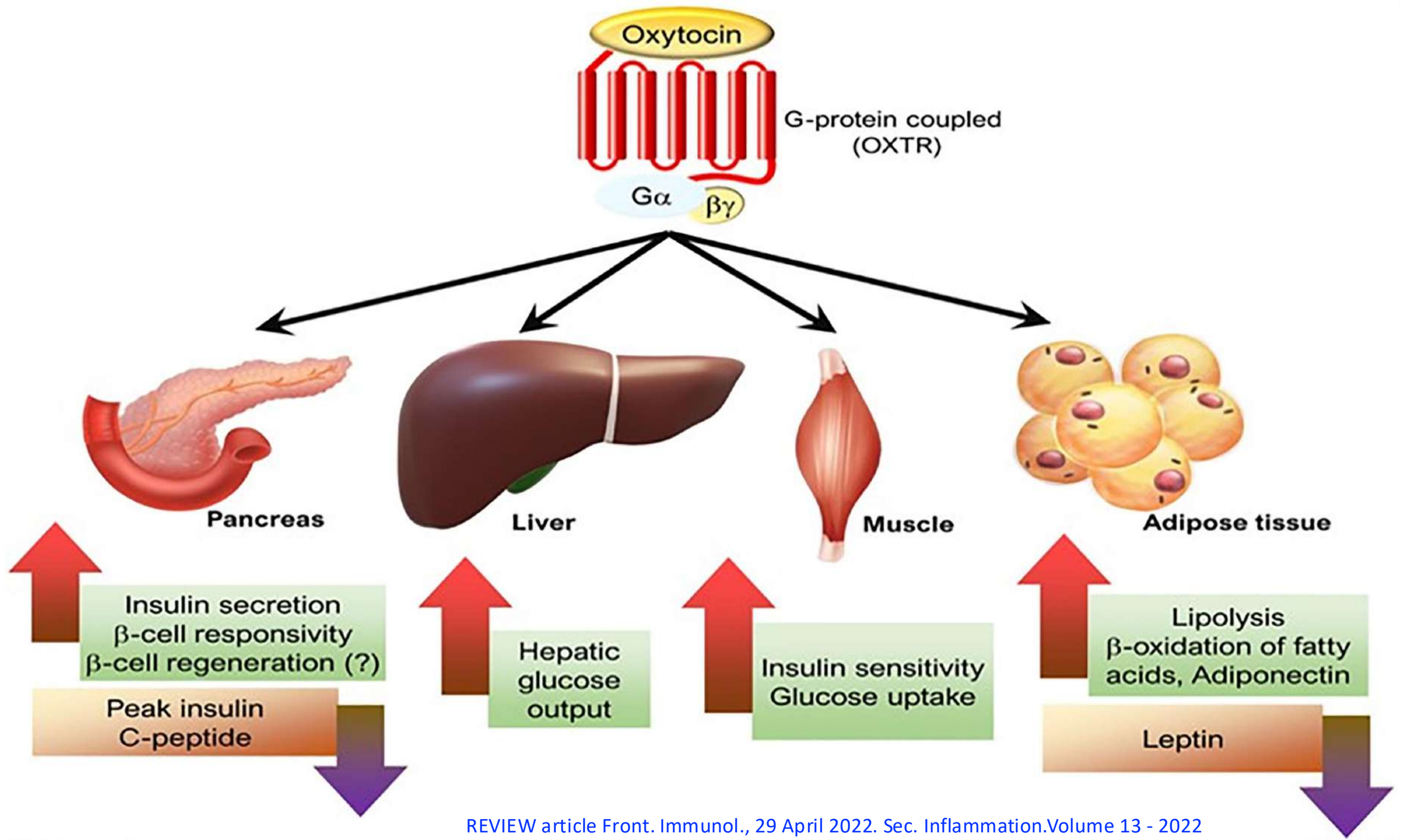


**UNTREATED
COLITIS**

- ↓ NF- κ B signaling
- ↓ TNF- α , MPO, MDA, LDH
- ↓ Inflammatory cells (e.g., PMNs)
- ↑ GSH levels
- ↑ M2 type of cells
- ↓ Anxiety-like behavior



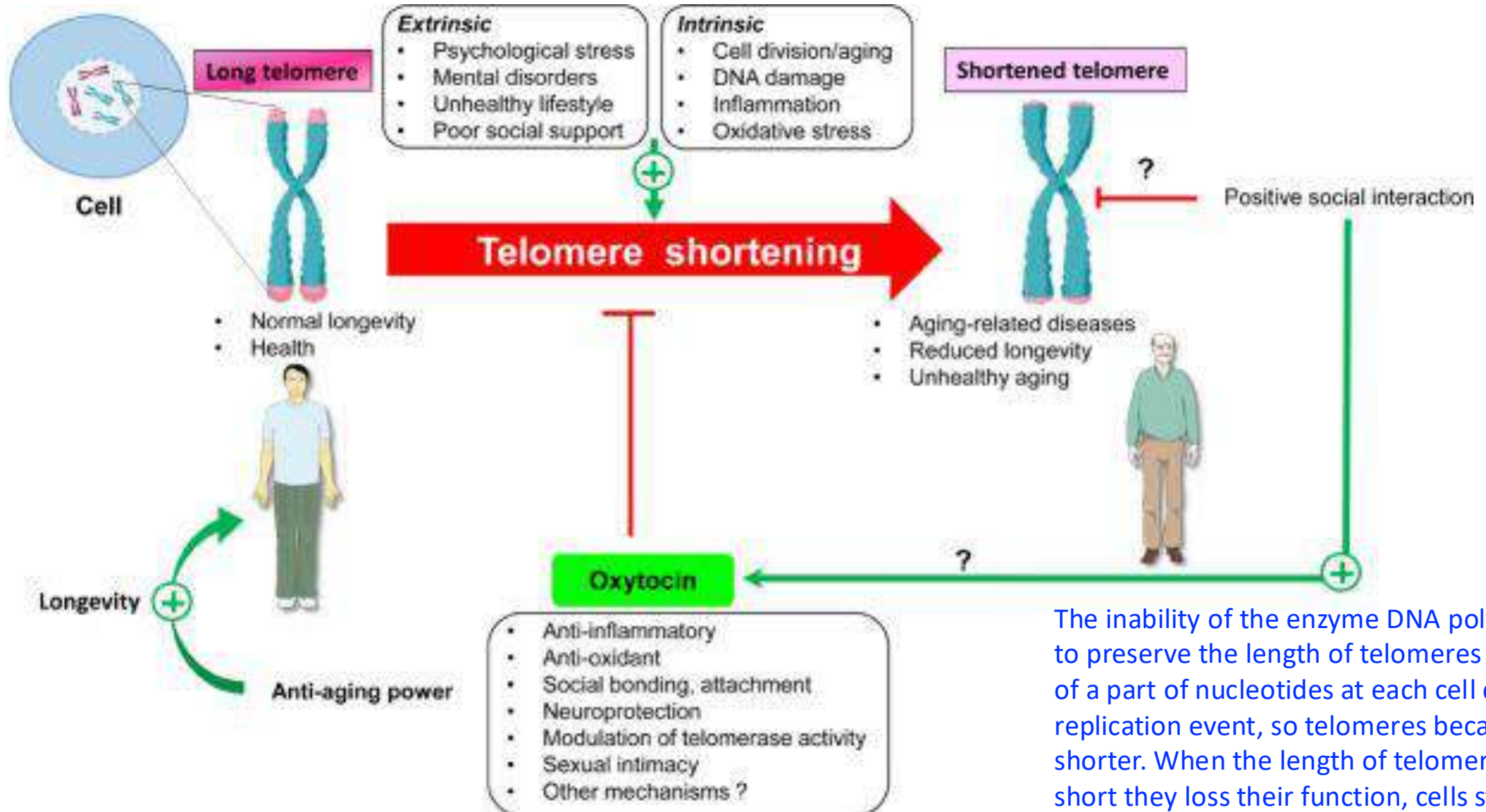
**TREATED
COLITIS**



Oxytocin as a Therapeutic Agent in Obesity and Metabolic Syndrome— Promise, Fundamental Challenges and Future Directions

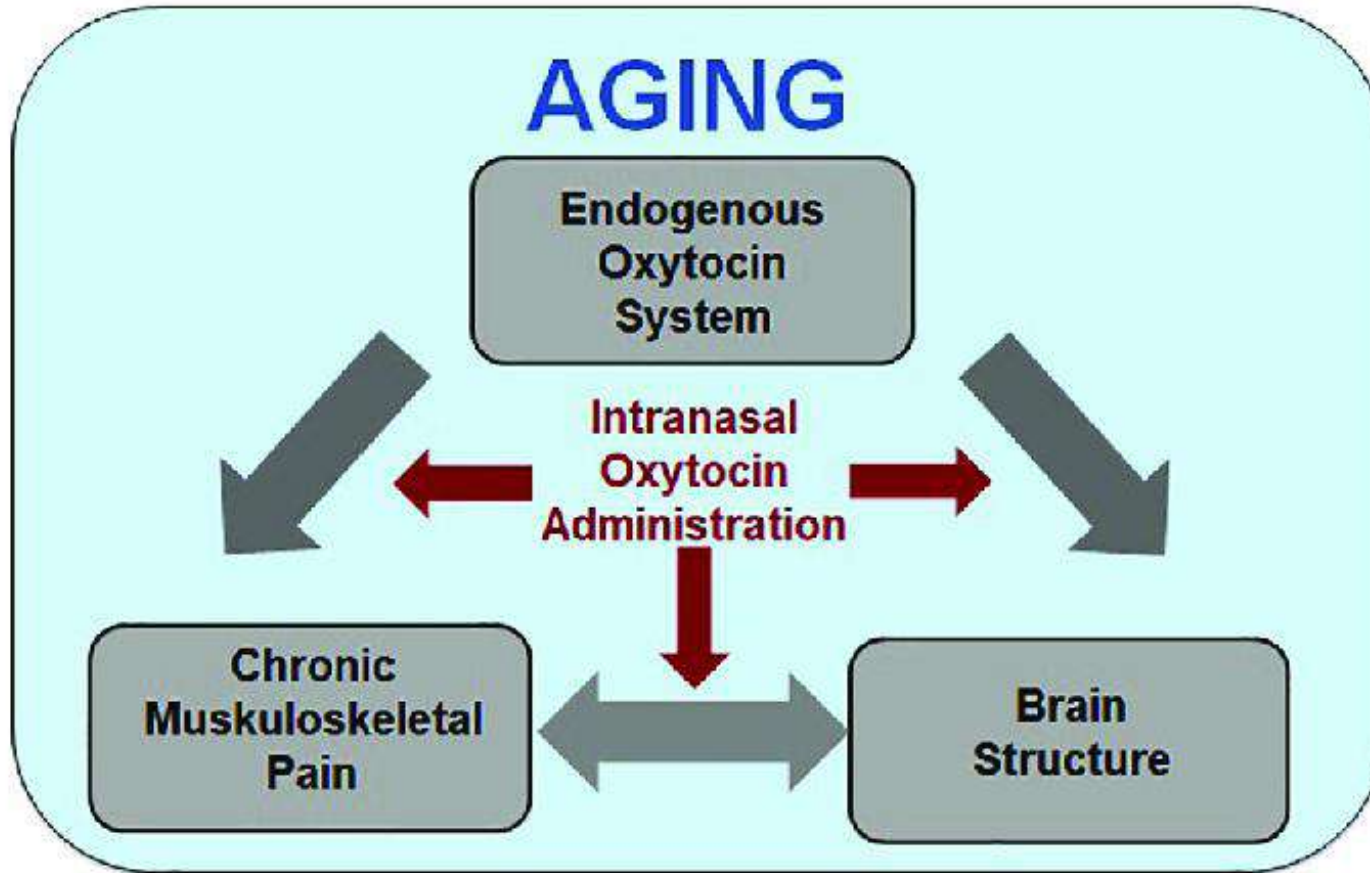
- There is increasing evidence that oxytocin participates in the regulation of eating behavior, energy balance, and metabolism
- Animal studies strongly support the weight-reducing properties of oxytocin, via **suppression of food intake**, particularly reward-driven eating, and **increase in thermogenesis and energy expenditure**
- The OXTR has an important role in the musculoskeletal system. It is needed for muscle maintenance and regeneration, to promote bone mineralization and to minimize adipose tissue generation from mesenchymal stem cells, thus overall **exerting beneficial effects on body composition.**

The antiaging role of oxytocin



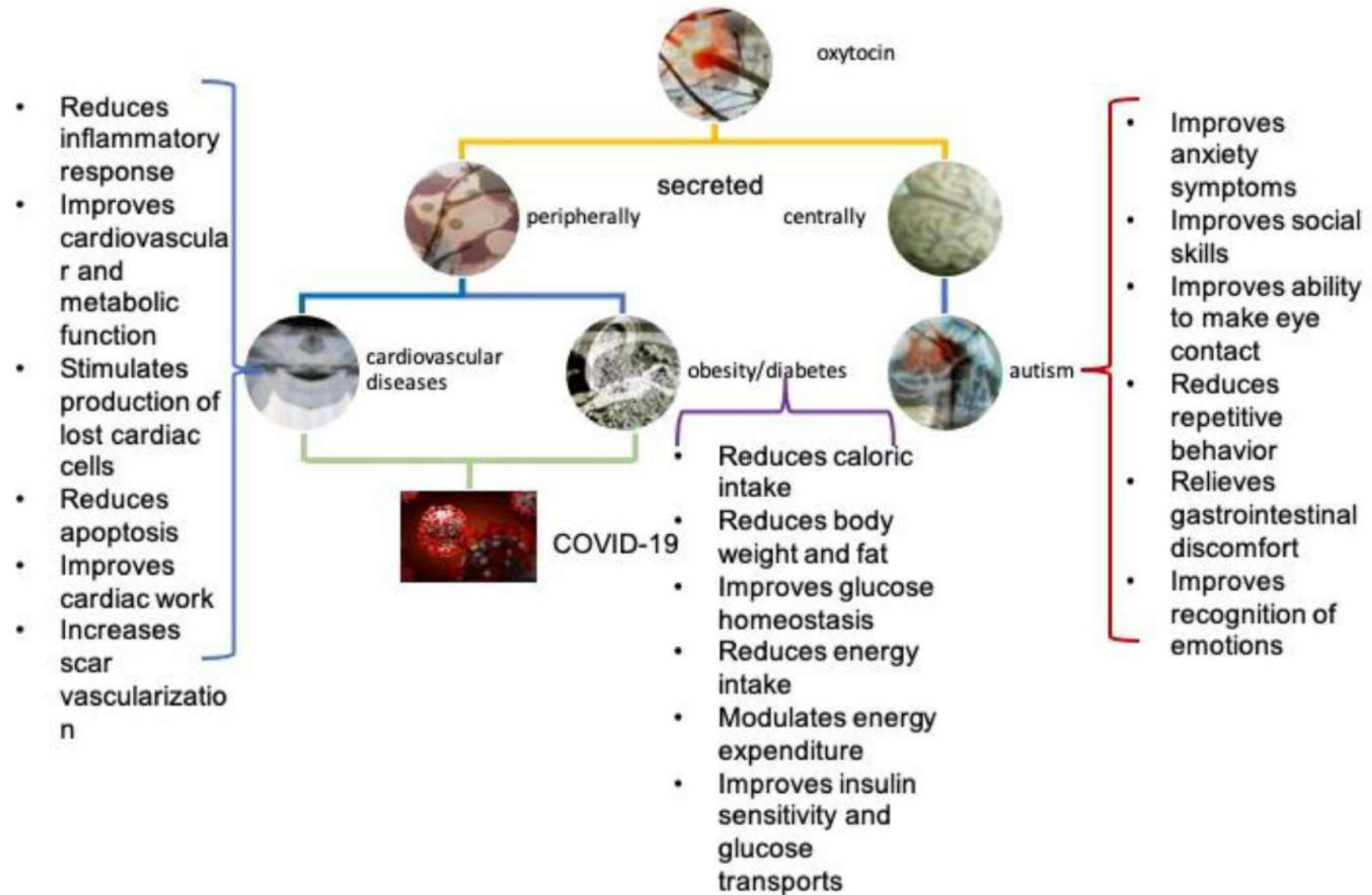
The inability of the enzyme DNA polymerase to preserve the length of telomeres cause loss of a part of nucleotides at each cell division or replication event, so telomeres became shorter. When the length of telomeres is too short they loss their function, cells stop to divide and become senescent.

Musculoskeletal Pain and Brain Morphology: Oxytocin's Potential as a Treatment for Chronic Pain in Aging



Increased age is associated with increased incidence of susceptibility for the development of chronic pain, alterations in brain morphology in regions associated with pain processing, and potential changes to the endogenous oxytocin (OT) system.

Oxytocin: A Multi-Functional Biomolecule with Potential Actions in Dysfunctional Conditions; From Animal Studies and Beyond



Oxytocin

GI system

- Alleviates colitis
- Lowers inflammatory bowel disease
- Modulate gastric ulcer

Cardiovascula

- ↓ Atherosclerosis plaque formation
 - ↓ Blood pressure
 - ↓ Sympathetic activity
 - Regulation of arrhythmia
 - ↓ Vascular oxidative stress
- ↓ Ischemia –reperfusion inflammation

Nervous system

- ↓ Proinflammatory cytokines
- ↓ Microglial inflammation
 - ↓ Neurotoxicity
- ↓ Neurodegeneration

Renal system

- ↓ Inflammation/oxidative damages
- ↓ Regulation nephron performance

Respiratory system

- Protect against acute and chronic lung injury
- Maintains lung integrity

Immune system

- Blocks activation of inflammatory pathway
 - ↓ NADPH oxidase
 - ↓ ROS/RNS production
 - ↓ NF- κ B, COX, NOS-NO

Musculoskeletal system

- ↓ Inflammation/oxidative damages in muscle ischemia-reperfusion
- ↑ Regulation of chondrocytes and osteoblast performances
 - ↑ Muscle mass

Metabolic system

- ↓ Inflammation/oxidative damages in endocrine system
 - ↓ Diabetic and thyroid complication
- Mediates anorexigenic effects of leptin

IMMUNE SYSTEM

- Blocks activation of inflammatory cells
- ↓ NADPH oxidase
- ↓ ROS production
- ↓ NF- κ B

NERVOUS SYSTEM

- ↓ Proinflammatory cytokines
- ↓ Microglial inflammation
- ↓ Neurotoxicity

RESPIRATORY SYSTEM

- Protects against LPS-induced acute lung injury
- Maintains lung integrity

CARDIOVASCULAR

- ↓ atherosclerotic plaque formation
- ↓ sympathetic activity
- ↓ vascular oxidative stress
- ↓ ischemia-reperfusion inflammation

METABOLIC SYSTEM

- ↓ Inflammation in adipocytes
- ↑ beta-cell responsiveness
- ↓ diabetic complications
- Mediates anorexigenic effects of leptin

GI SYSTEM

- Alleviates colitis
- Lowers inflammatory cytokines (TNF- α)

RENAL SYSTEM

- ↑ glutathione levels
- ↓ inflammation in pyelonephritis

MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM

- ↓ Inflammation in muscle ischemia-reperfusion
- ↑ formation of osteoblasts (osteoporosis)
- ↑ formation of chondrocytes (osteoarthritis)
- ↑ muscle mass

