

# Sportomics, Metabolic Health, and Utilization of Functional Medicine Testing



## Sportomics, Metabolic Health, and Utilization of Functional Medicine Testing

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**Wellstead, LLC CMO and Co-Founder**

Integrative Functional and Lifestyle Medicine, IFM Certified

Sports Medicine, Physical Activity and Exercise Specialist

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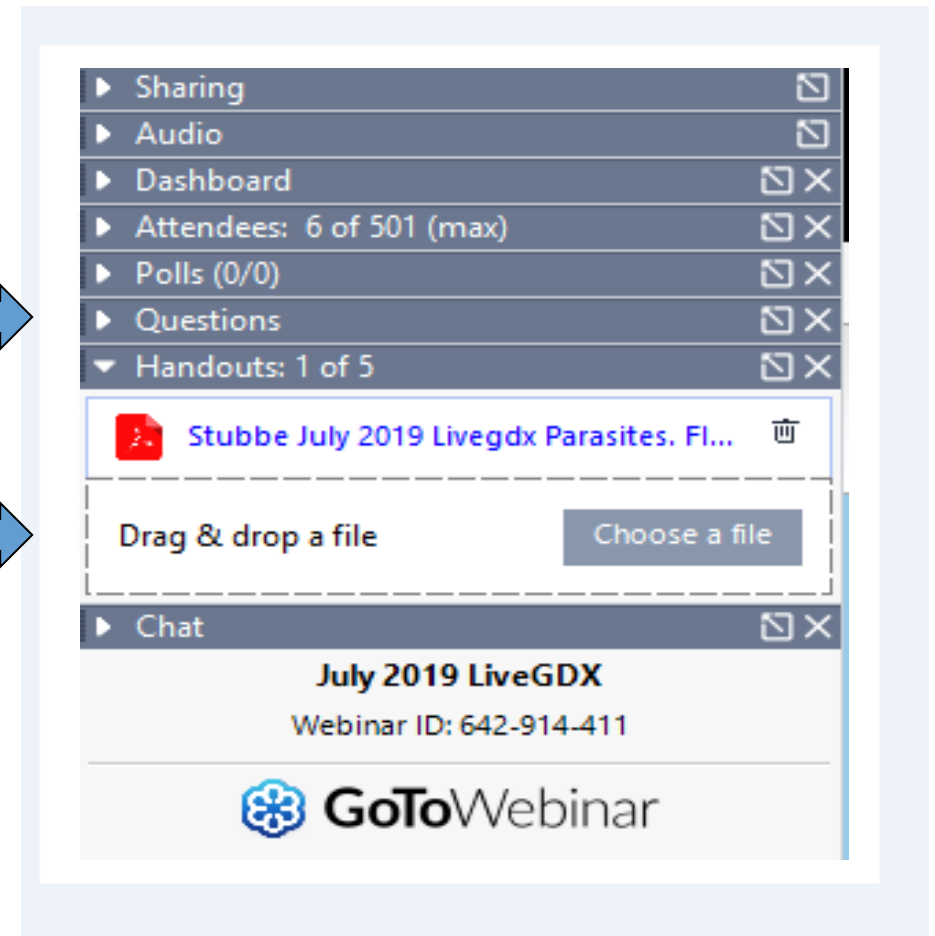
Certificate of Added Qualification in Primary Care Sports Medicine



# Technical Issues & Clinical Questions

Please type any technical issue or clinical question into either the “Chat” or “Questions” boxes, making sure to send them to “Organizer” at any time during the webinar.

We will be compiling your clinical questions and answering as many as we can the final 15 minutes of the webinar.



DISCLAIMER: Please note that any and all emails provided may be used for follow up correspondence and/or for further communication.





# Need More Resources?

Explore  
**WWW.GDX.NET**  
 for more information and educational resources, including...

**LEARN GDX** – Brief video modules  
**LIVE GDX** – Previous webinar recordings  
**GI University** – Focused learning modules

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**MY GDX** – Order materials and get results

The screenshot shows the Genova Diagnostics website. At the top, there are social media icons (Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, Facebook) and navigation links for Payments, About, Contact, Search, myGDX, and Region. The main header includes the Genova Diagnostics logo and navigation for HOME, CLINICIANS, and PATIENTS. The breadcrumb trail reads Home / Clinicians / Medical Education. The page title is 'Medical Education'. Below the title is a paragraph describing Genova Diagnostics' commitment to professional standards and educational support. The page features six resource categories: Medical Conferences, Webinars (circled in red), LearnGDX, Educational Modules, Bookstore, and Consultations. Each category includes a brief description and a 'More' link. At the bottom, there are logos for GLfx, NutrEval, and DON, along with a quote from Genova Diagnostics: 'Providing comprehensive and innovative clinical laboratory services for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of complex chronic disease...'



# Patient Dropship/Online Registration

<https://youtu.be/YHd0ID9GVG4>

## Genova Diagnostics' Patient Dropship/Online Registration

**Practitioner Version**

Our online test requisition offers practitioners a number of features to assist with the requisition process including:

- Improved accuracy/less errors
- Auto-complete information (Practitioner & Patient)

Please follow these steps to try out our new online requisition process. If you have questions, please contact us via the information on the back page.

**1** If the patient won't be logging into PRC to complete the online process, please make sure to have them sign the paper copy of the requisition and include it with their sample submission.

**1** Select the **Complete Online Requisition** button on the myGDX landing page.

**2** Click **Start** button to begin GEAR, or click **History** to view past orders.  
URL to access page after logging into myGDX portal: [gdx.net/ereq](http://gdx.net/ereq) or click on GEAR button from portal landing page

**3** Select the appropriate **GDX Practitioner Account** for the clinician completing the request.

**4** Select option to **Register a Requisition** (if patient has kit in office - enter Req #) **OR Ship pack to new patient** (type Panel Name - list will filter based on text - or select from drop down menu. After choosing panel, the test selection for the requisition displays below that menu for clin to select testing option(s)).

**5** Pick the **Billing Option** that is applicable for the test.

**6** Select or add the appropriate **ICD 10 diagnosis code(s)**.  
If using Medicare please make sure to review the Definition of Medical Necessity

**7** A practitioner may now **enter Patient Instructions** to be included on requisition for Patient dropship orders.  
If registering/ordering multiple kits, additional requisitions will be added on this step by clicking **Add Another Test**.

## Genova Diagnostics Online Test Requisition

**8** Supply patient information needed for the test to be processed.  
*Patient, Insurance/Payment steps may be skipped if this is not a dropship order. See the skip button at the top of each page. Skipping pages results in GEAR emailing the patient reminding them to complete information.*

**9** Patient Insurance Information  
Provide your patient's insurance information. If insurance information was found for your patient, you may auto-fill it by selecting their insurance from the provided list. You may also upload a copy of the patient's insurance card (front & back) and their driver's license (front & back).

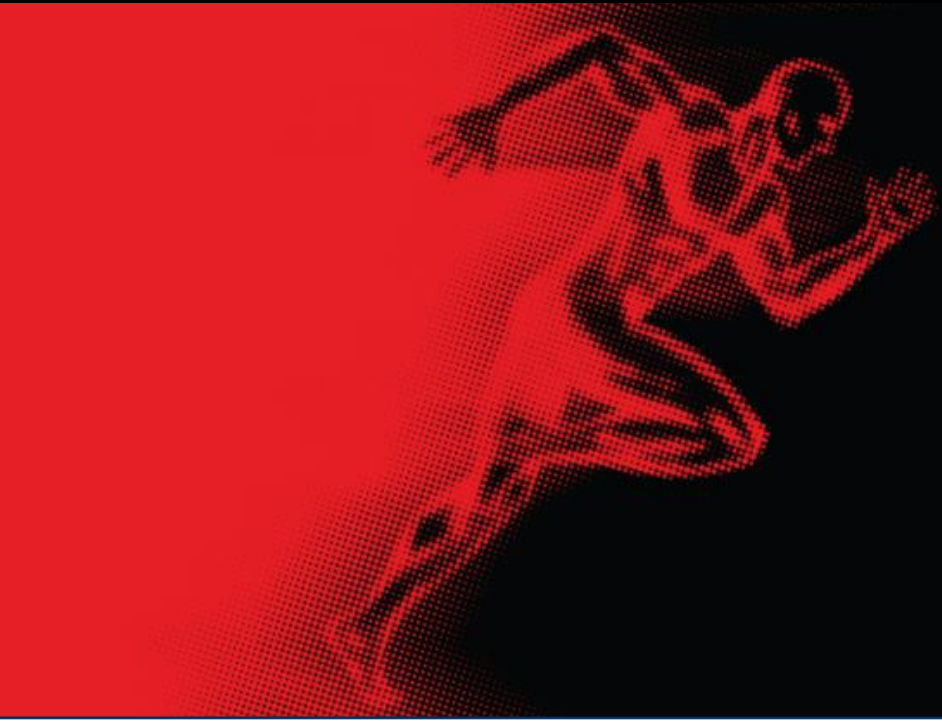
**10** Practitioner Confirmation  
Please confirm that the data entered is accurate and ready to be submitted. You may return and enter any missing information or invite the patient to complete the registration at Step 12.

**11** Payment Page  
If the billing option you chose in Step 4 requires an upfront payment either you or the patient may pay securely.

**12** Patient Completion (Optional)  
If there's any missing information you'd like to have the patient complete, provide their name, DOB, and email to send them an invitation to complete the missing information using Genova Diagnostics' Patient Resource Center.

**13** Submission Finalization  
The final confirmation that the requisition has been completed and is being processed.  
If patient is not logging into PRC to complete information, make sure to have them sign the paper requisition and submit it with their collection pack to Genova.

Please send all questions, comments (positive or negative), and concerns to [info@gdx.net](mailto:info@gdx.net). Thank you.



# Sportomics, Metabolic Health, and Utilization of Functional Medicine Testing



## Sportomics, Metabolic Health, and Utilization of Functional Medicine Testing

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# Objectives for This Presentation

- At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to:
  - Define Sportomics and its application to Exercise Performance and Metabolic Health
  - Identify and understand changes in metabolome and microbiome associated with exercise
  - Apply metabolomic and microbiome Functional Medicine testing to inform recommendations for improved exercise performance and metabolic health

OBJECTIVE





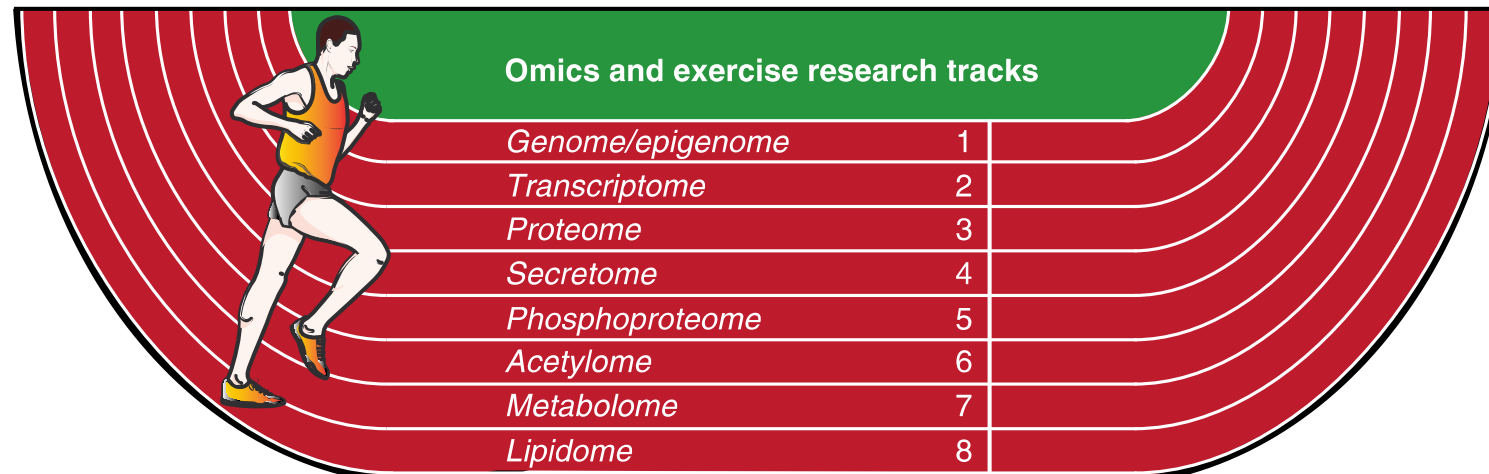
# OUTLINE

- Introduction to “SPORTOMICS”
- Exercise and Metabolome
- Exercise and Microbiome
- Sportomics and Exercise Performance
  - Role of functional medicine testing
- Sportomics and Metabolic Health
  - Role of functional medicine testing



# SPORTOMICS . . .

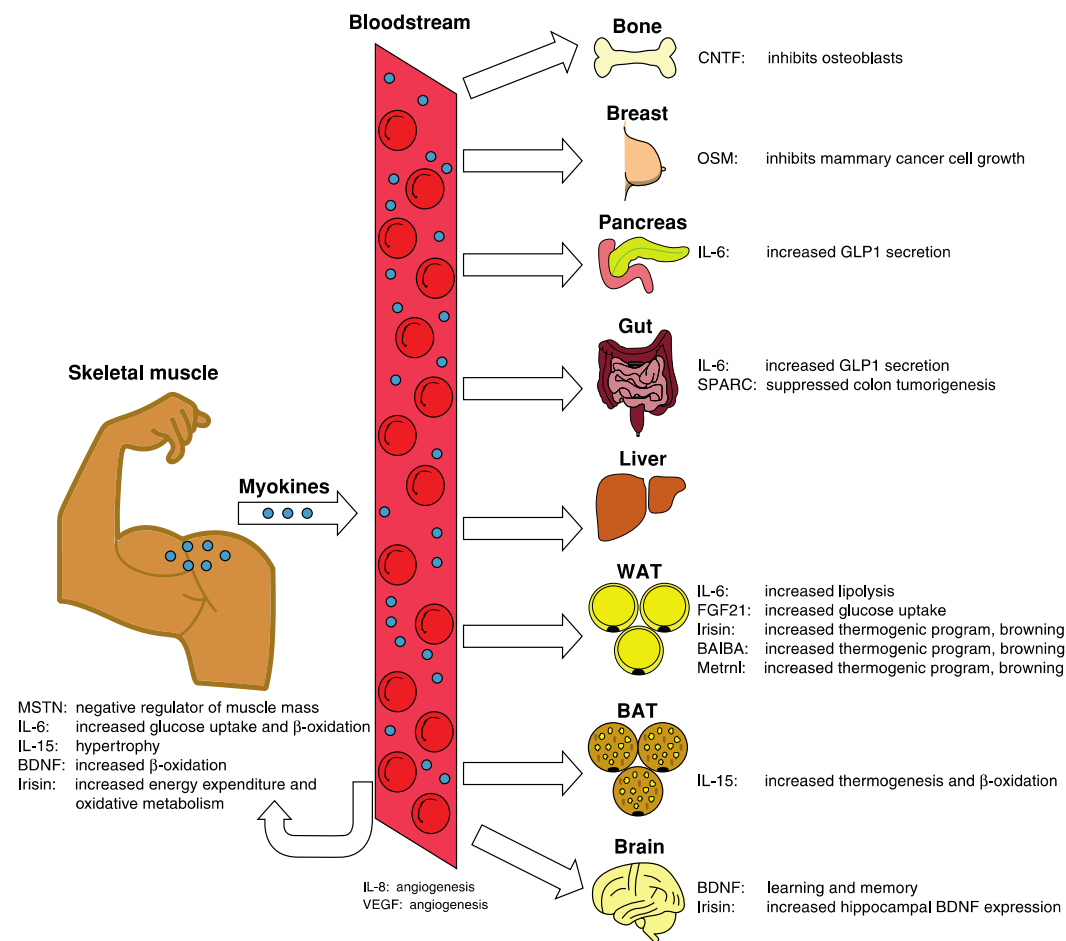
- Applies metabolomics to investigate the metabolic effects of physical exercise on individuals
- Works to advance knowledge in integrative physiology and the systems biology of movement with a goal to translate markers associated with metabolic challenges of training, or competition, to similar stresses of disease settings





# SPORTOMICS: CLINICAL RELEVANCE

- EXERCISE = Medicine
  - With a great “benefit to risk” profile
  - Three major clinically relevant questions:
    - What is “TIPPING POINT”?
      - Where/When/How does exercise become less health promoting?
    - Who are the “RESPONDERS” vs. “NON-RESPONDERS”?
    - How do you make a “NON-RESPONDER” a “RESPONDER”?
- EXERCISE = INVESTIGATIVE TOOL as a STRESSOR to systems biology and integrative physiology



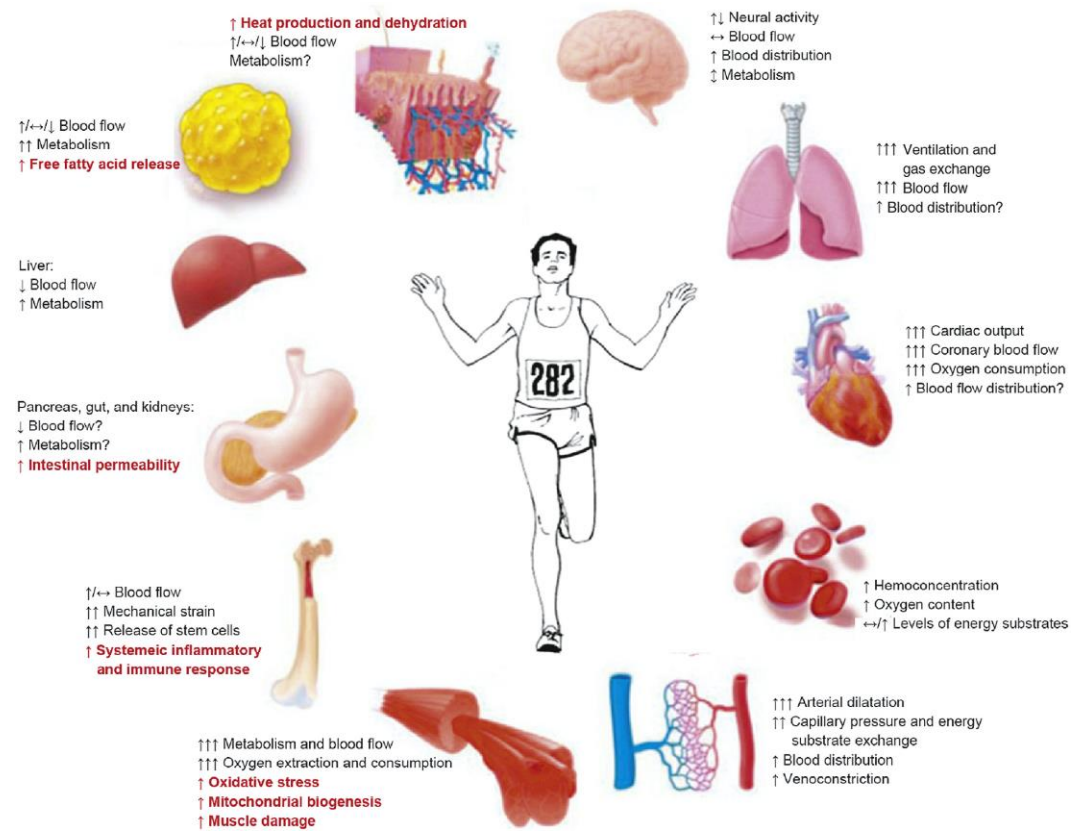
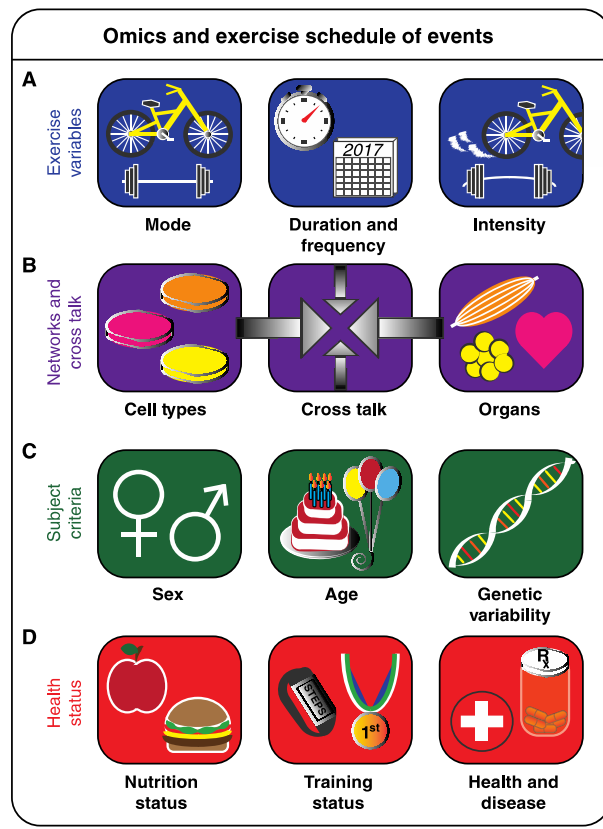




# SPORTOMICS

## MULTI-VARIATE

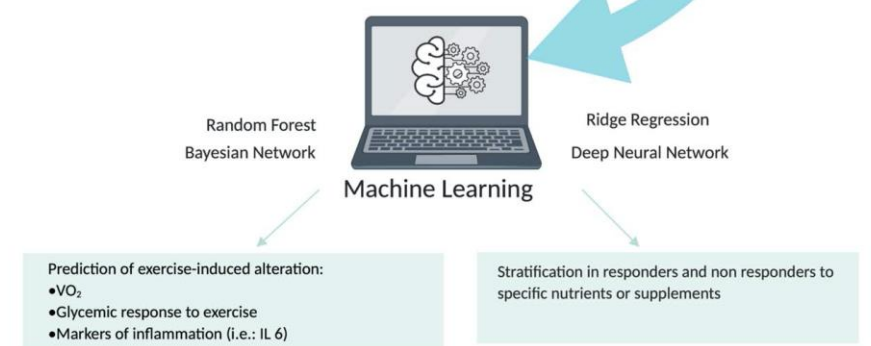
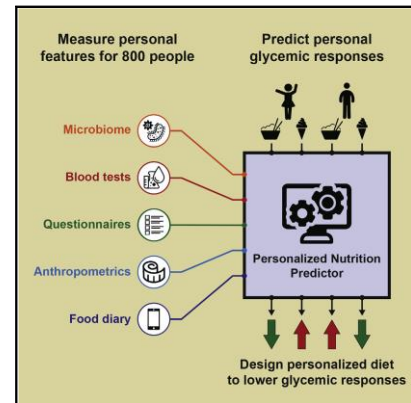
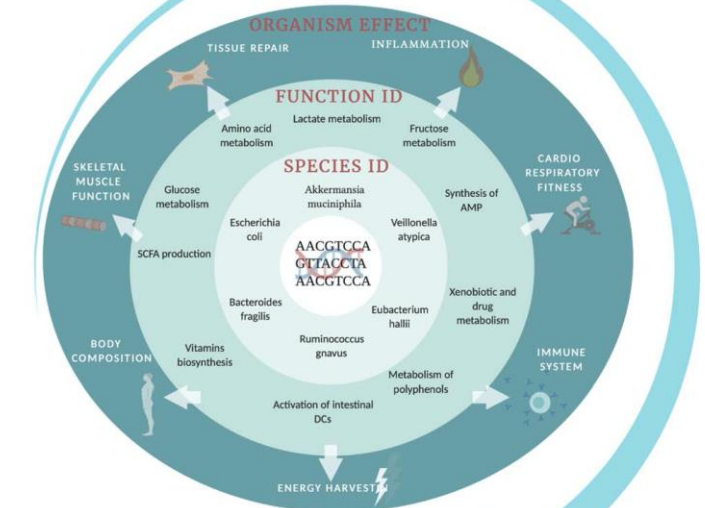
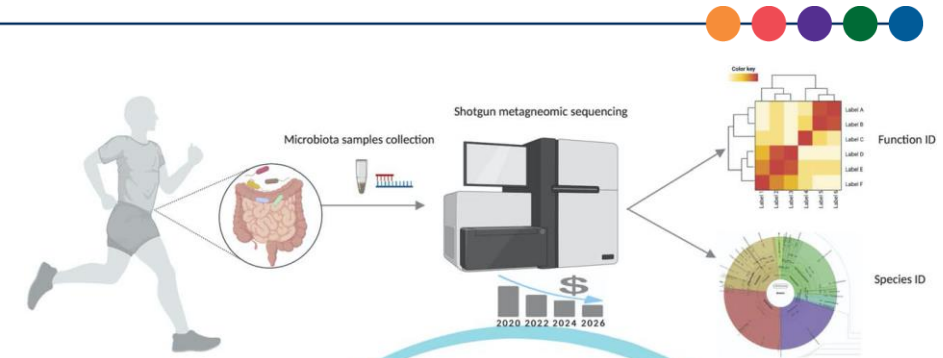
## SYSTEMS BIOLOGY





# SPORTOMICS

- Must go beyond correlation/association studies
- Meta-omics and computational tools
- Potential for machine learning to predict exercise-induced alteration and performance measures to distinguish responders and non responders
  - by Zeevi et al



# SPORTOMICS: METABOLOME

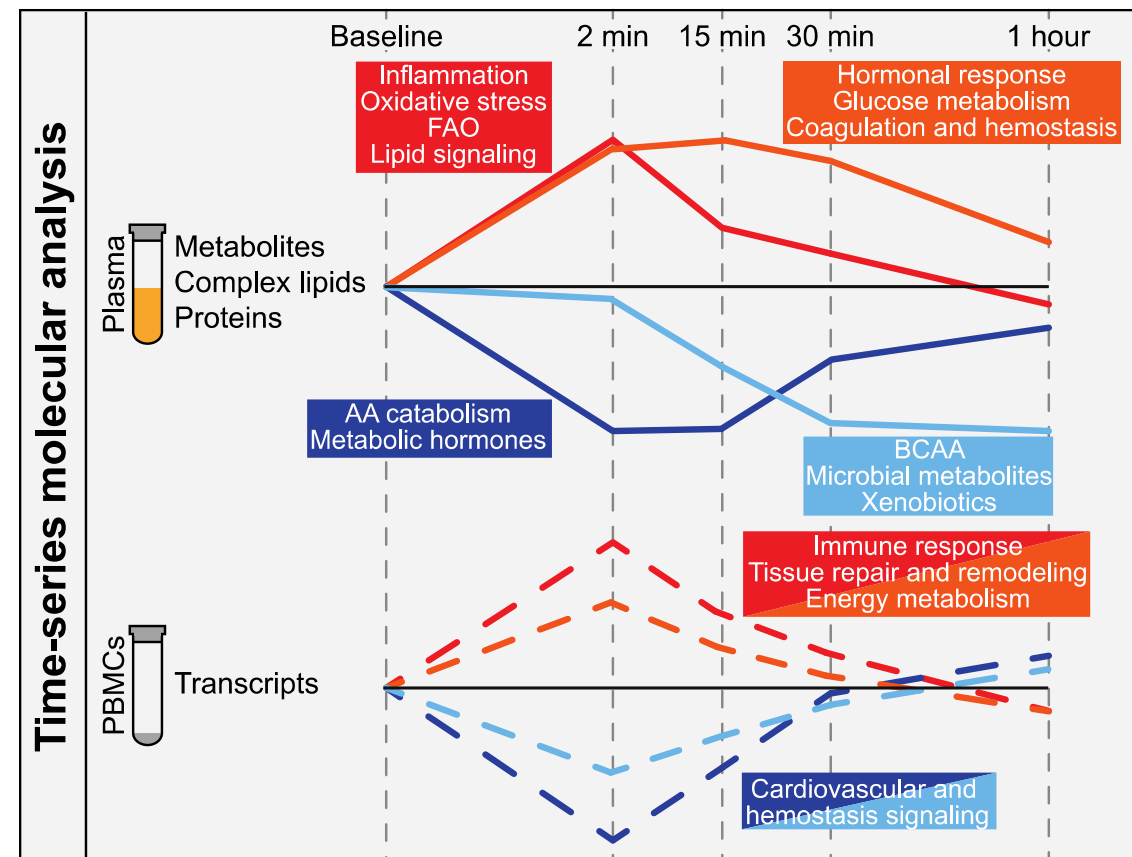
- SUMMARY:
  - Substantial heterogeneity of studies
  - Volume was biggest driver of changes
  - Generally short-lived response to acute exercise
  - However, changes are apparent in consistent movers
  - Multifactorial dose response relationship





# SPORTOMICS: METABOLOME

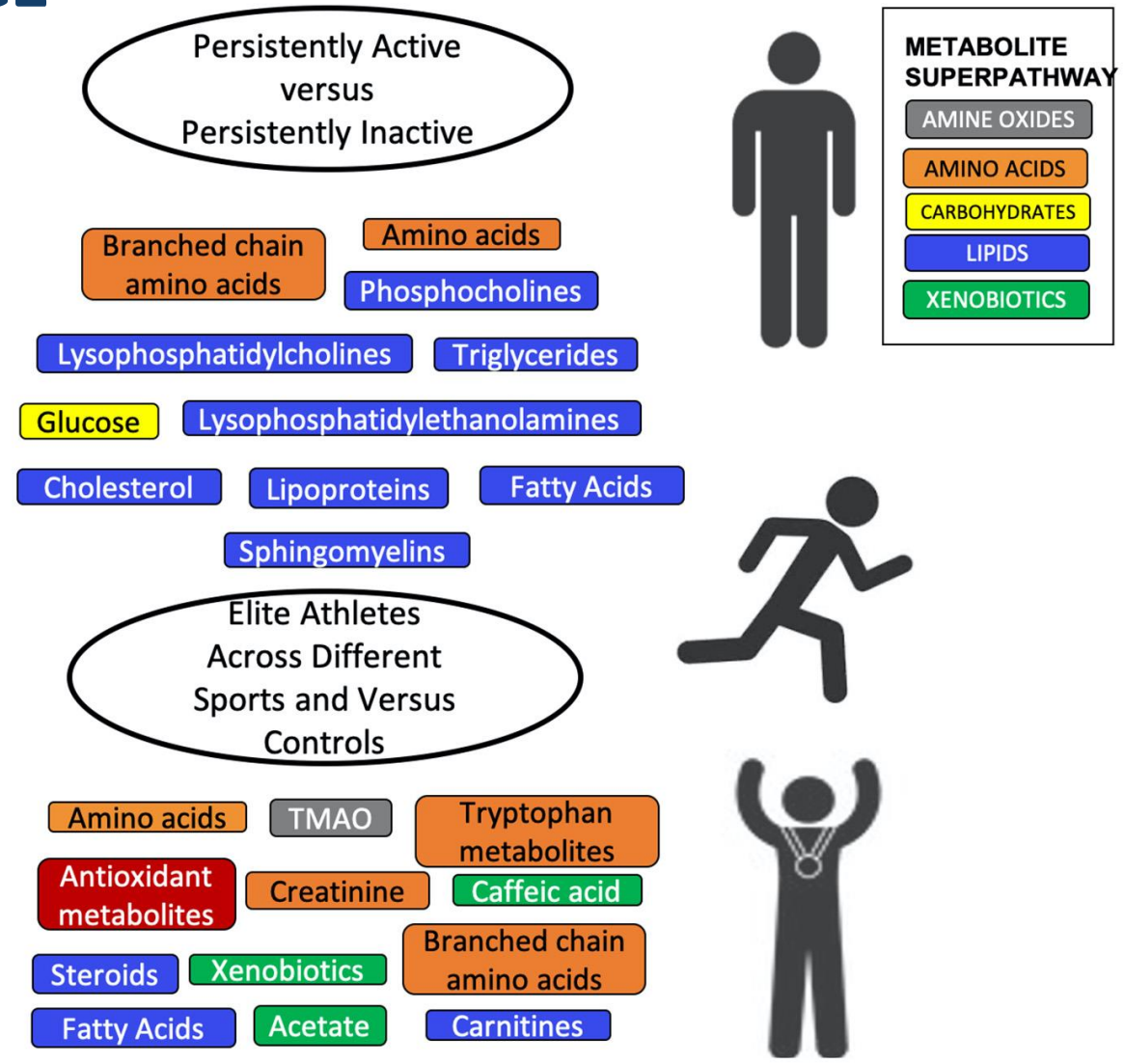
- ACUTE EXERCISE:
  - Responses resolved minutes to hours later
  - Greater changes in less trained in response to marathon <sup>1</sup>
  - INCREASE:
    - Lactate, pyruvate, TCA intermediates, fatty acids, acyl-carnitines, ketone bodies <sup>2</sup>
  - DECREASE:
    - Bile acids <sup>2</sup>





# SPORTOMICS: METABOLOME & PERFORMANCE

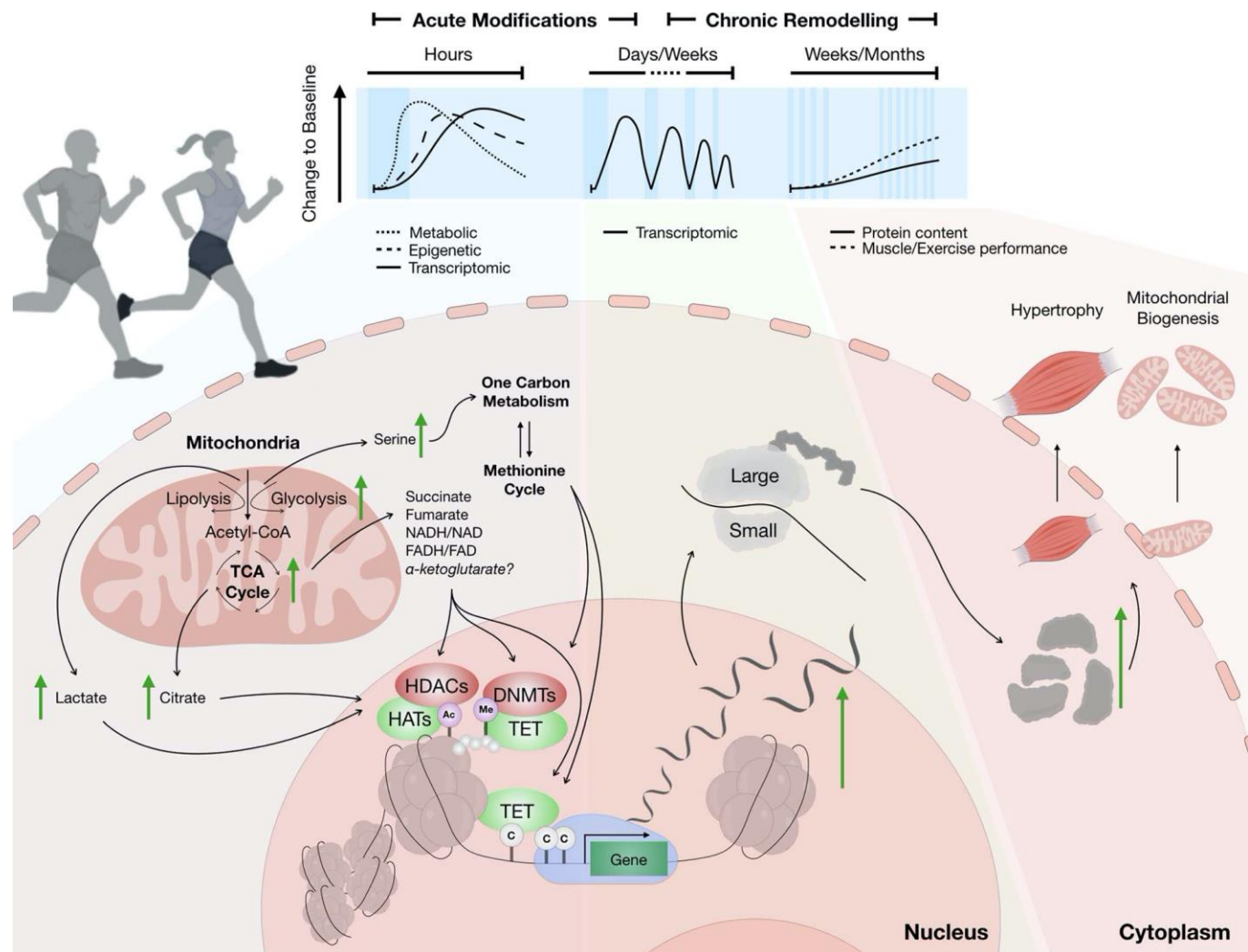
- CHRONIC EXERCISE:
  - “Coherently healthier metabolic profile”
    - Lower amino acids (especially isoleucine)
    - Changes in several lipid metabolites
      - Saturated → polyunsaturated profile
      - Lower VLDL & TG and Higher HDL
  - Difference in intermediary metabolism, fuel substrate utilization, glucose transport, fatty acid oxidation, oxidative stress, steroid biosynthesis, insulin signaling
  - Epigenomic, Transcriptomic, & Proteomic studies are fewer but confirm gene changes







# SPORTOMICS: METABOLOME





# SPORTOMICS: METABOLOME & PERFORMANCE & FUNCTIONAL TESTING

- 38yo year-round athlete
- In winter with significant XC and downhill skiing routine

Nutritionally Essential Amino Acids		
Amino Acid	Value	Reference Range
Arginine	8	3-43
Histidine	212	124-894
Isoleucine	7	3-28
Leucine	15	4-46
Lysine	30	11-175
Methionine	4	2-18
Phenylalanine	21	8-71
Taurine	590	21-424
Threonine	51	17-135
Tryptophan	23	5-53
Valine	19	7-49

Nonessential Protein Amino Acids		
Amino Acid	Value	Reference Range
Alanine	77	63-356
Asparagine	38	25-166
Aspartic Acid	<dl	<= 14
Cysteine	21	8-74
Cystine	21	10-104
γ-Aminobutyric Acid	1	<= 5
Glutamic Acid	10	4-27
Glutamine	153	110-632
Proline	2	1-13
Tyrosine	27	11-135

Creatinine Concentration		
Value	Reference Range	
Creatinine •	12.6 (3.1-19.5 mmol/L)	

Intermediary Metabolites		
B Vitamin Markers	Value	Reference Range
α-Amino adipic Acid	12	2-47
α-Amino-N-butyric Acid	10	2-25
β-Aminoisobutyric Acid	217	11-160
Cystathionine	18	2-68
3-Methylhistidine	95	44-281

Urea Cycle Markers		
Value	Reference Range	
Citrulline	2.3 (0.6-3.9)	
Ornithine	5 (2-21)	
Urea •	236 (168-465 mmol/g creatinine)	

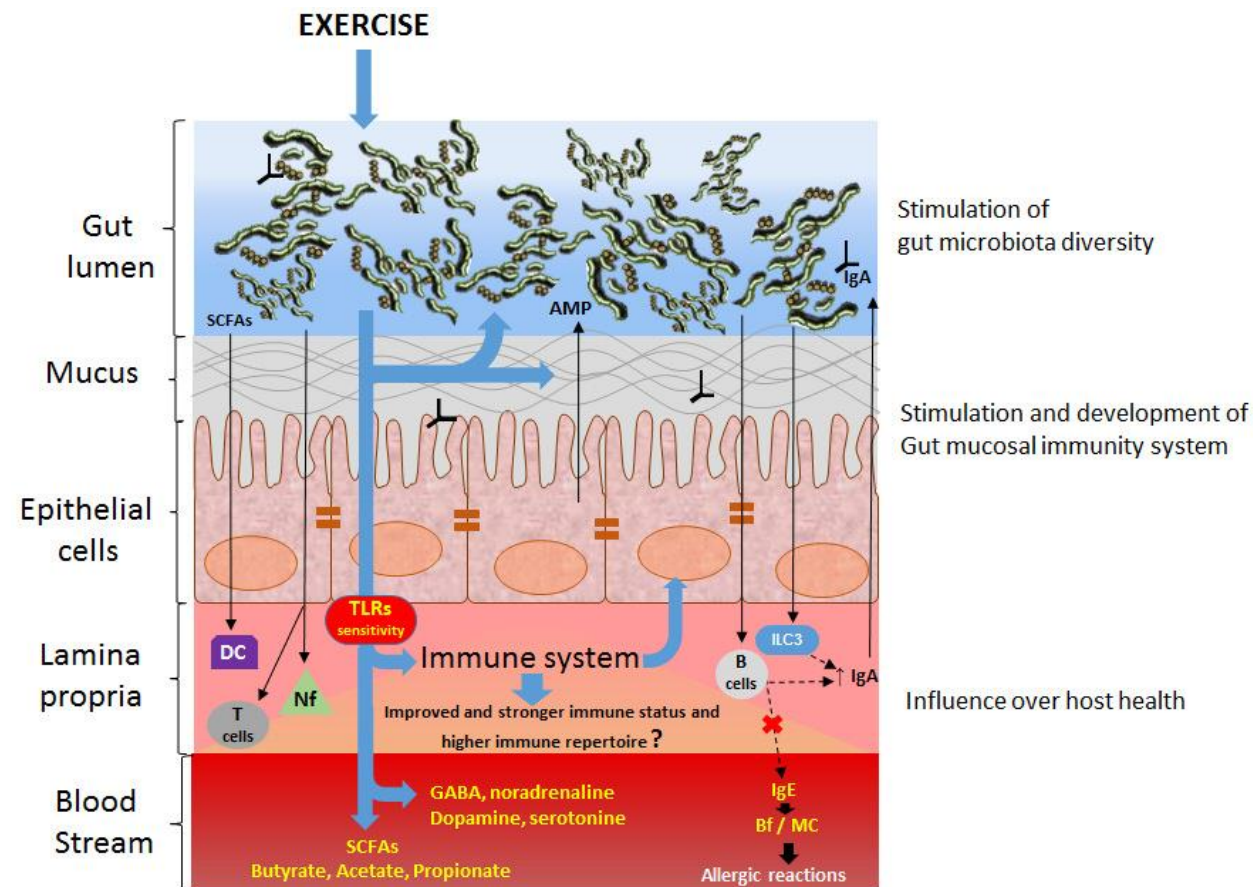
Glycine/Serine Metabolites		
Value	Reference Range	
Glycine	139 (95-683)	
Serine	140 (40-163)	
Ethanolamine	182 (50-235)	
Phosphoethanolamine	6 (1-13)	
Phosphoserine	<dl (3-13)	
Sarcosine	0.5 (<= 1.1)	

Dietary Peptide Related Markers		
Value	Reference Range	
Anserine (dipeptide)	15.5 (0.4-105.1)	
Carnosine (dipeptide)	8 (1-28)	
1-Methylhistidine	1,377 (38-988)	
β-Alanine	13 (<= 22)	



# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME

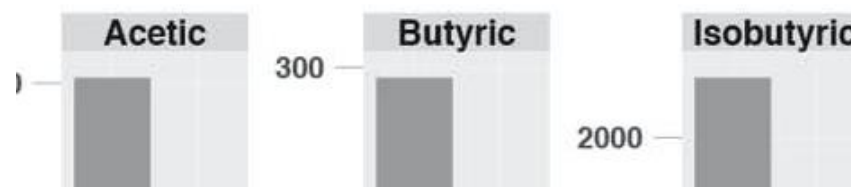
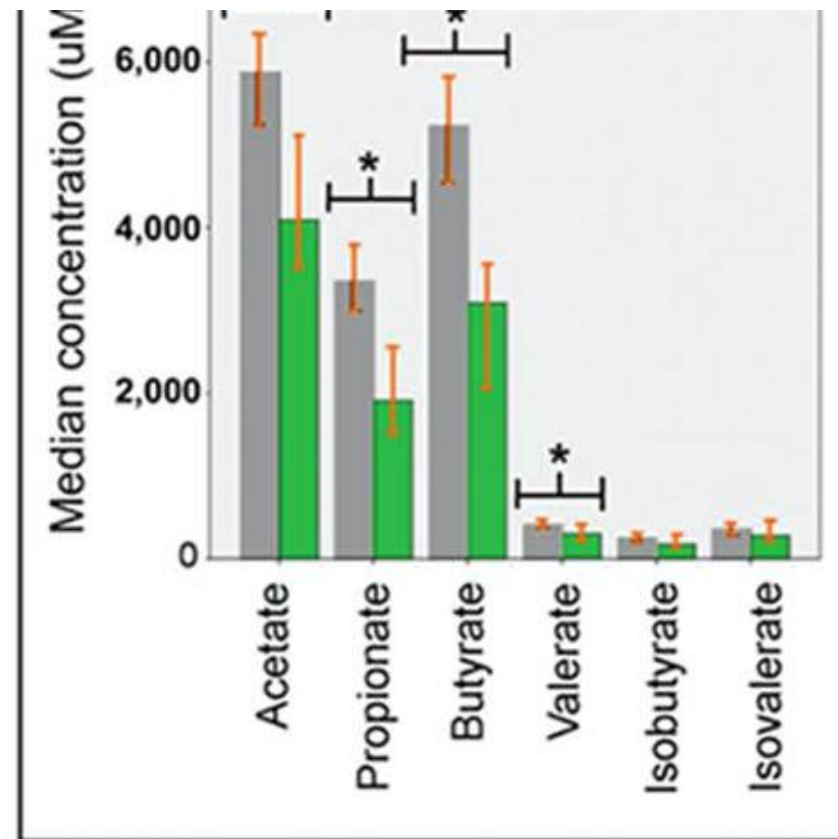
- 2014: 1<sup>st</sup> report of exercise increasing gut microbial diversity in humans
- Low BMI control and athletes with high BMI significantly higher proportions of *Akkermansia muciniphila*
- Greater microbiome diversity
  - HOWEVER, suggestion that exercise and protein intake were drivers of diversity





# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME

- Greater diversity compared to nonathletes <sup>1,2</sup>
- Greater growth of certain species such as *Akkermansia muciniphila* <sup>1,3,4</sup>
- Relative increase in SCFA <sup>2,5</sup>
- Direct association between VO<sub>2</sub>max and F/B ratio <sup>6</sup>



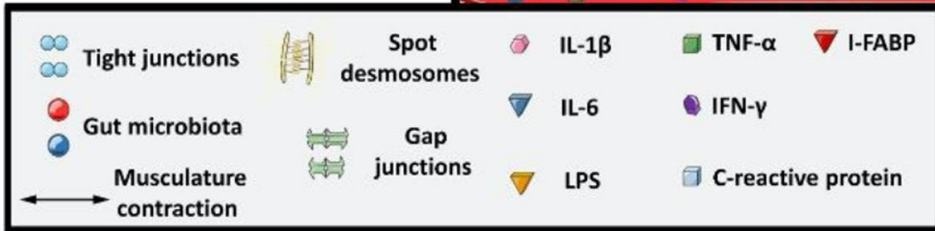
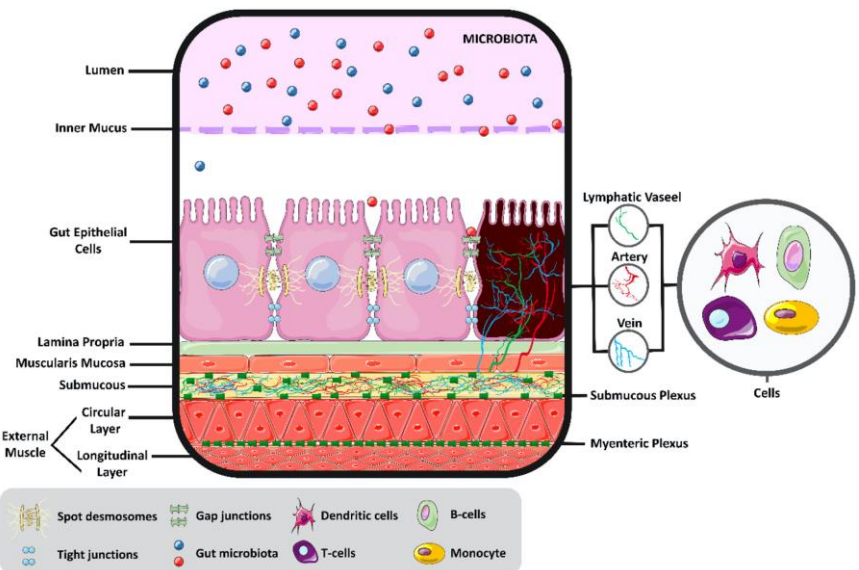
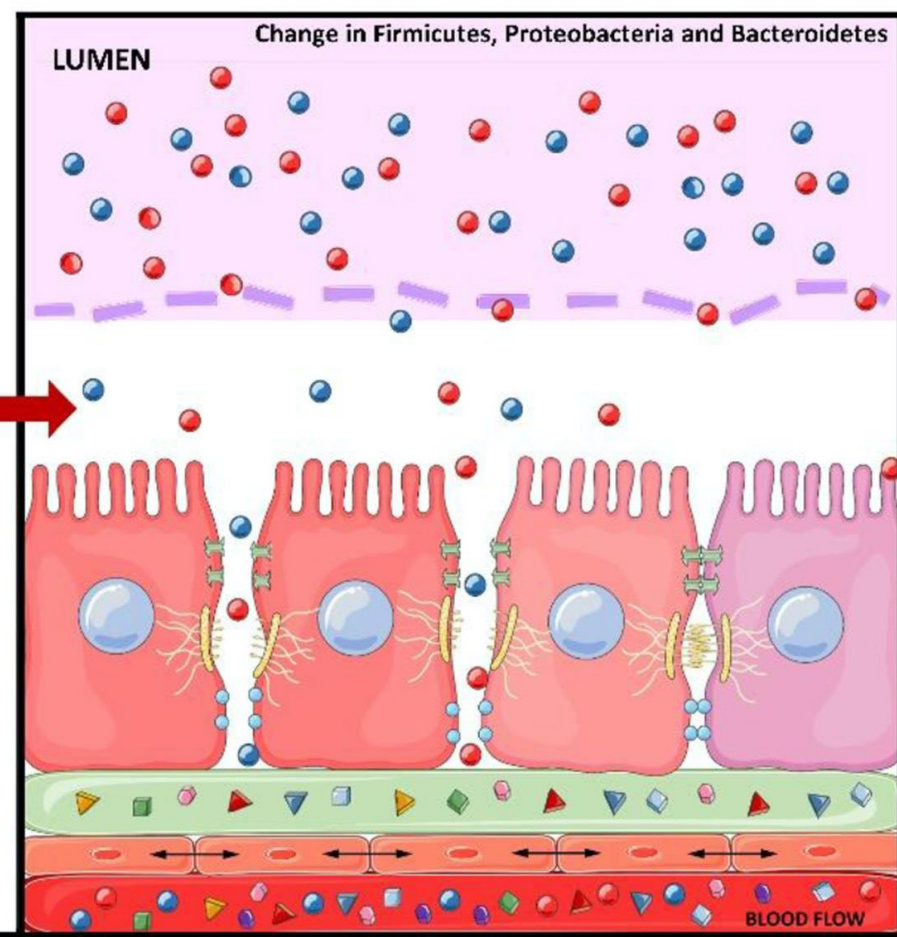
1. Clarke SF, et al. *Gut*. 2014;63:1913-20.
2. Barton W, et al. *Gut*. 2018;67(4):625-633.
3. Munukka E, et al. *Front Microbiol*. 2018;9:2323.
4. Bressa C, et al. *PLoS One*. 2017;12(2):e0171352.
5. Estaki M, et al. *Microbiome*. 2016;4(1):42.
6. Durk RP, et al. *Int J Sport Nutr Exerc Metab*. 2019;29(3):249-53.





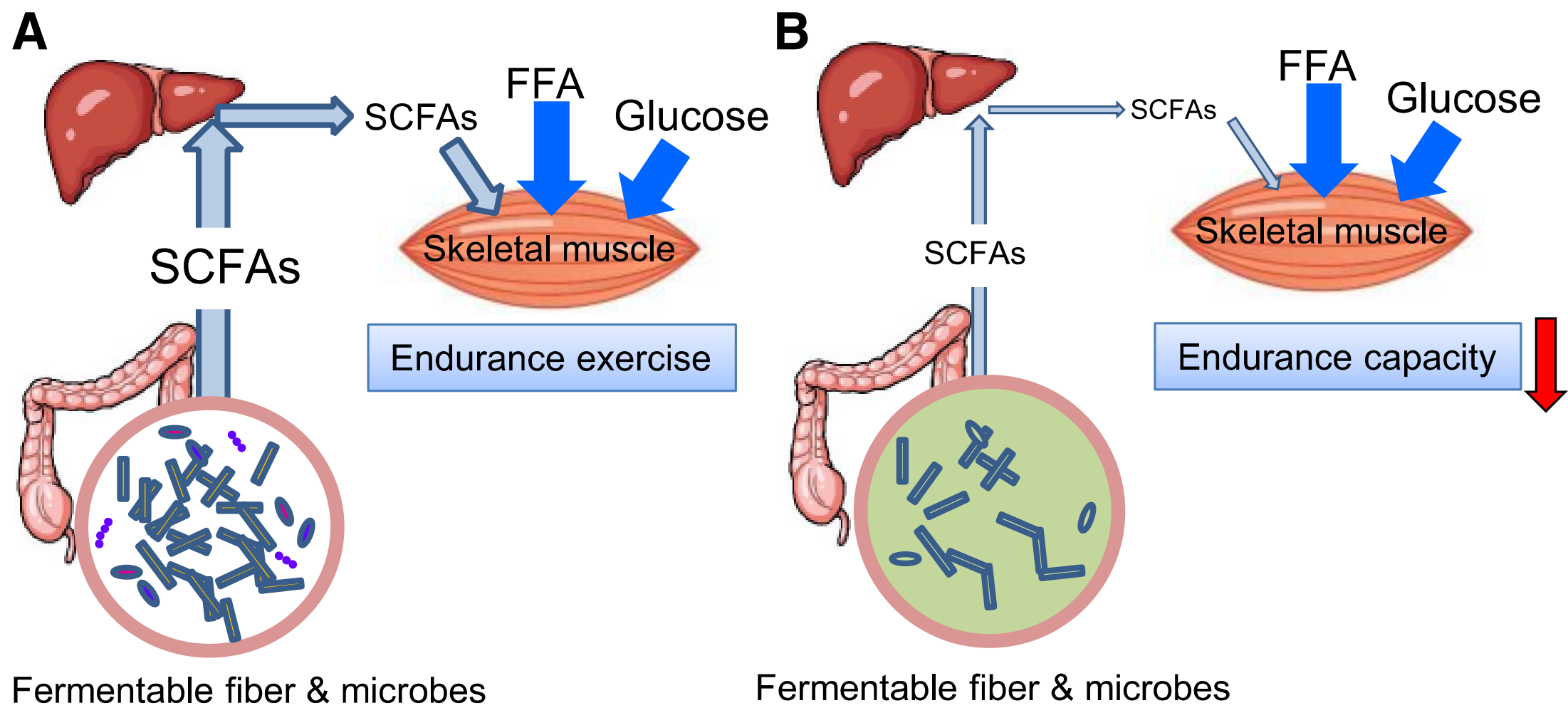
# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME

EXERCISE



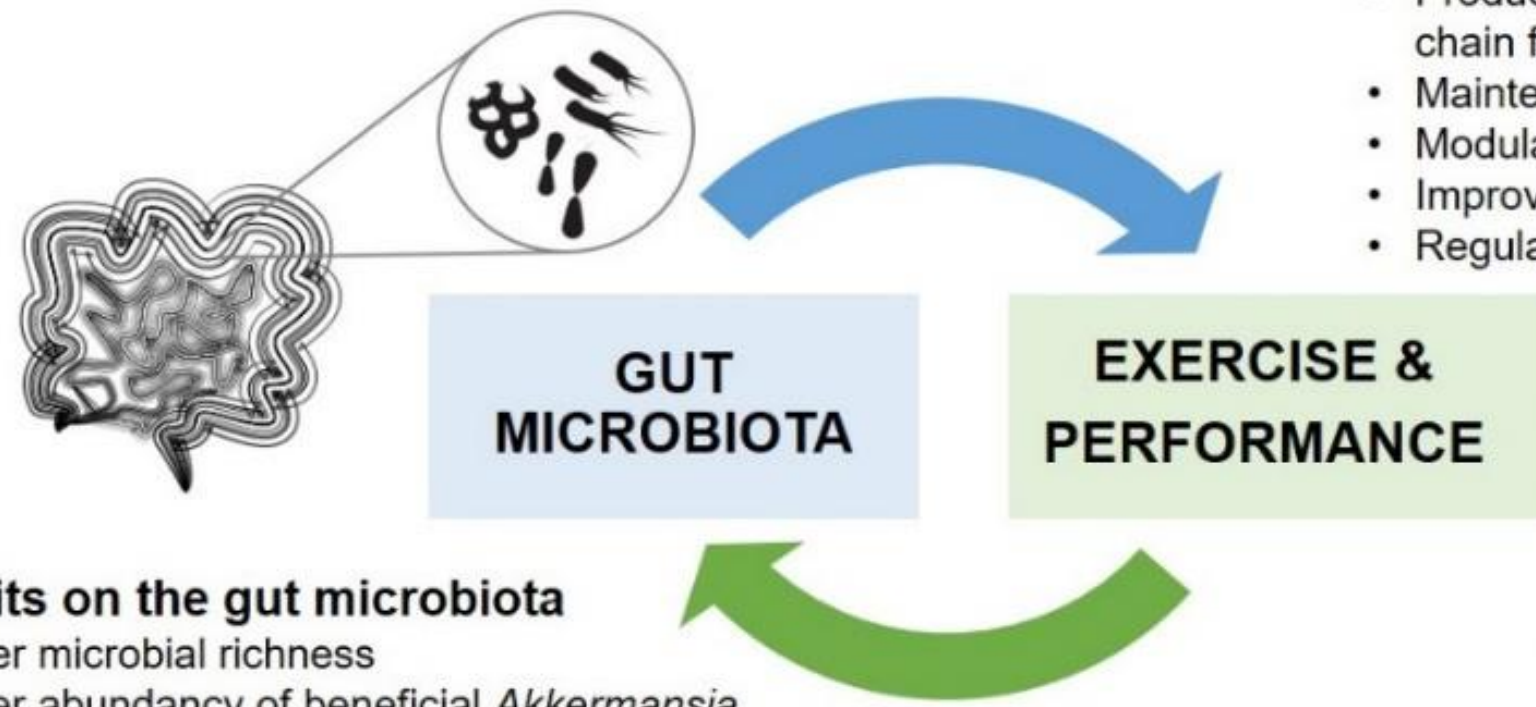


# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME & PERFORMANCE





# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME & PERFORMANCE



## Benefits for the athlete

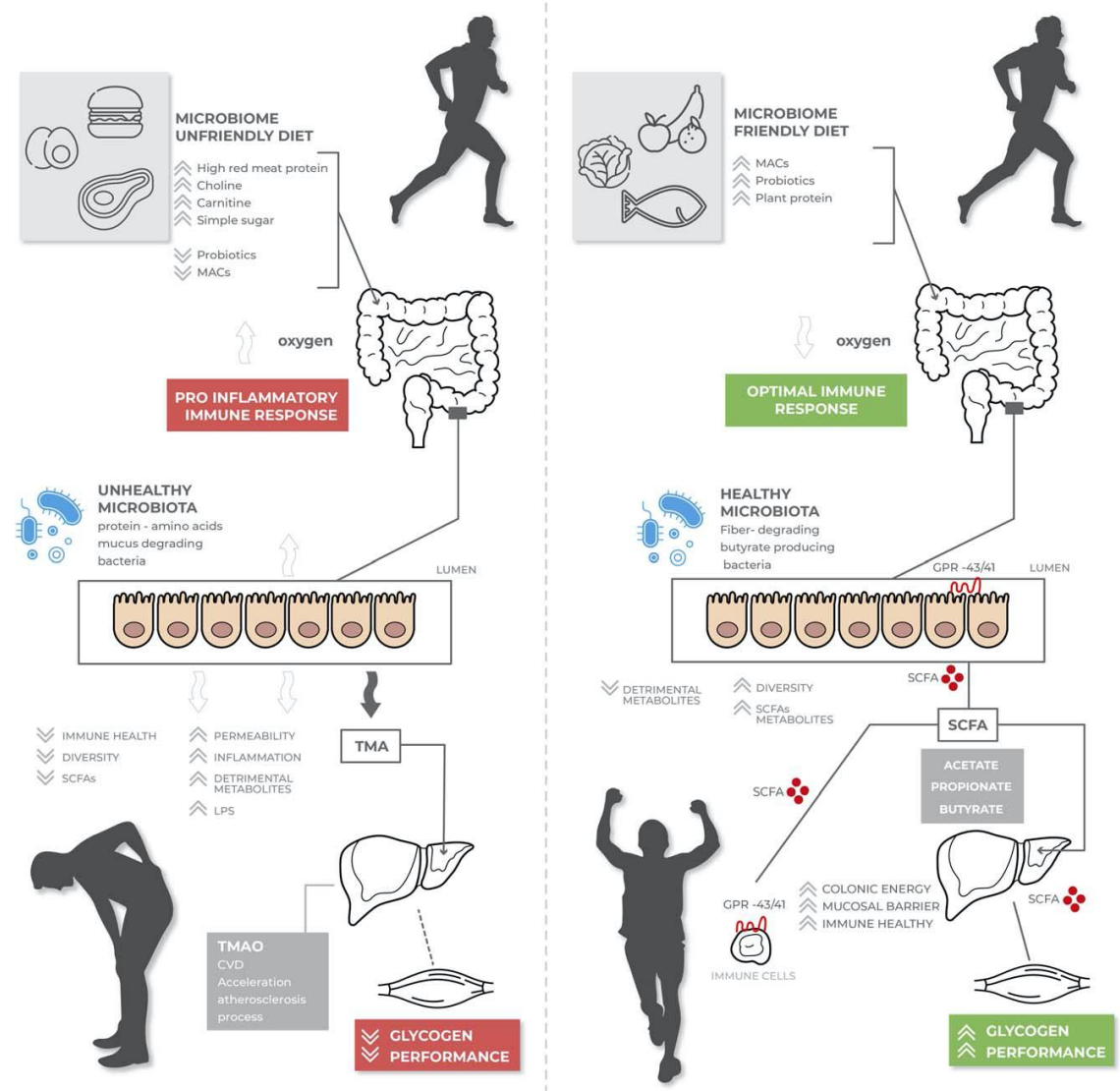
- Production of bioactive metabolites (i.e. short chain fatty acids, neurotransmitters)
- Maintenance of intestinal barrier function
- Modulation of immune system
- Improved energy harvest and utilization
- Regulation of muscle metabolism

## Benefits on the gut microbiota

- Higher microbial richness
- Higher abundance of beneficial *Akkermansia*, *Veillonella*, *Prevotella*
- Selection advantage for lactate-utilizing bacteria



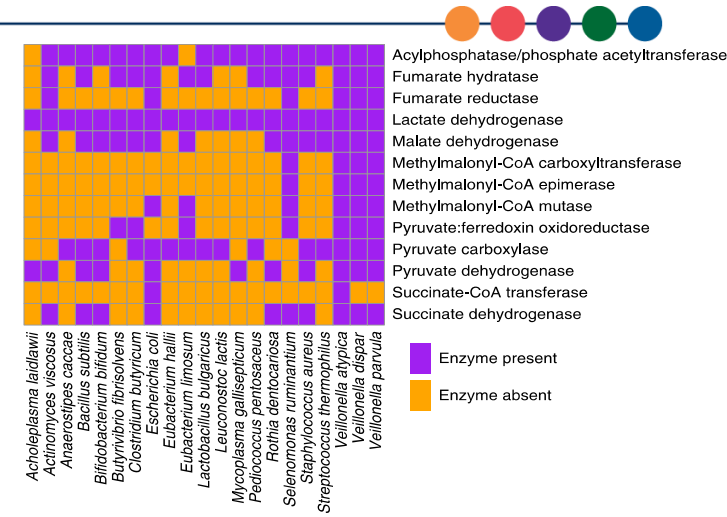
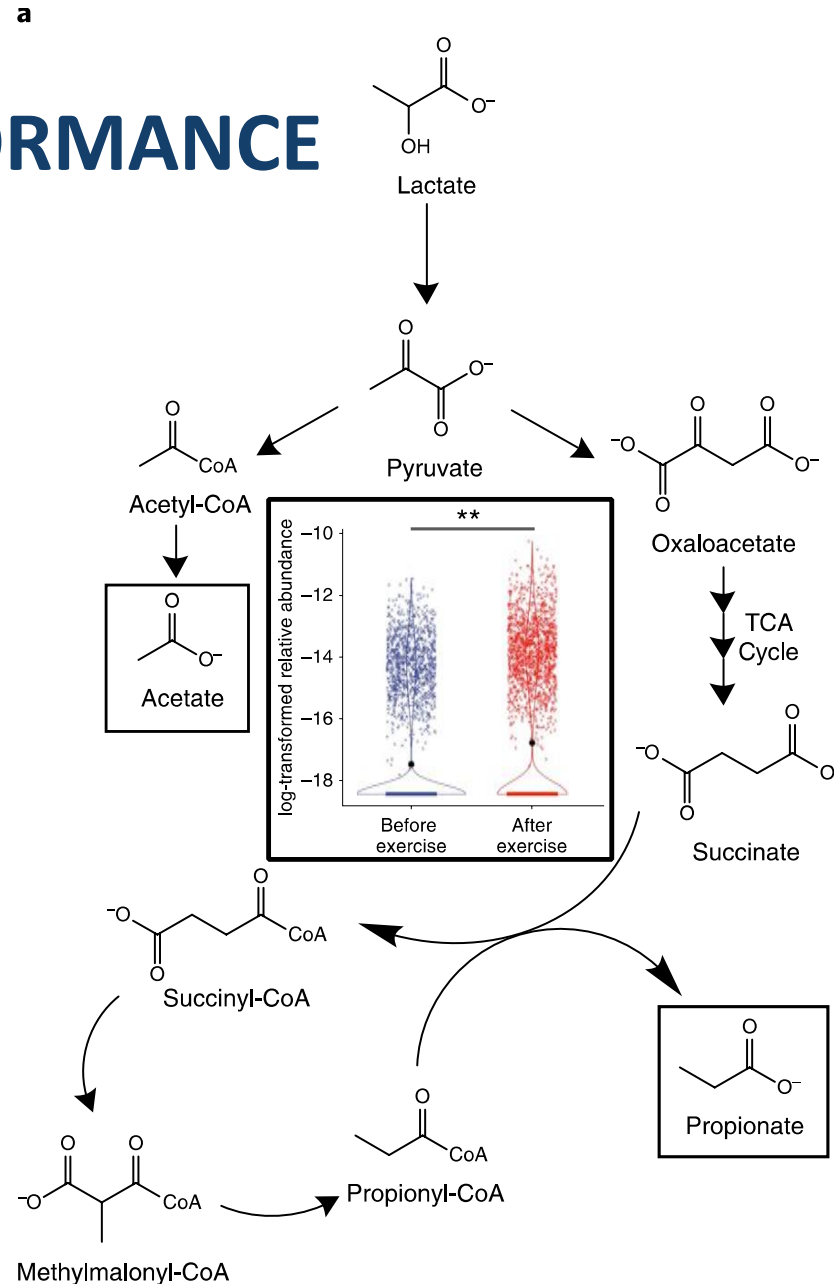
# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME & PERFORMANCE





# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME & PERFORMANCE

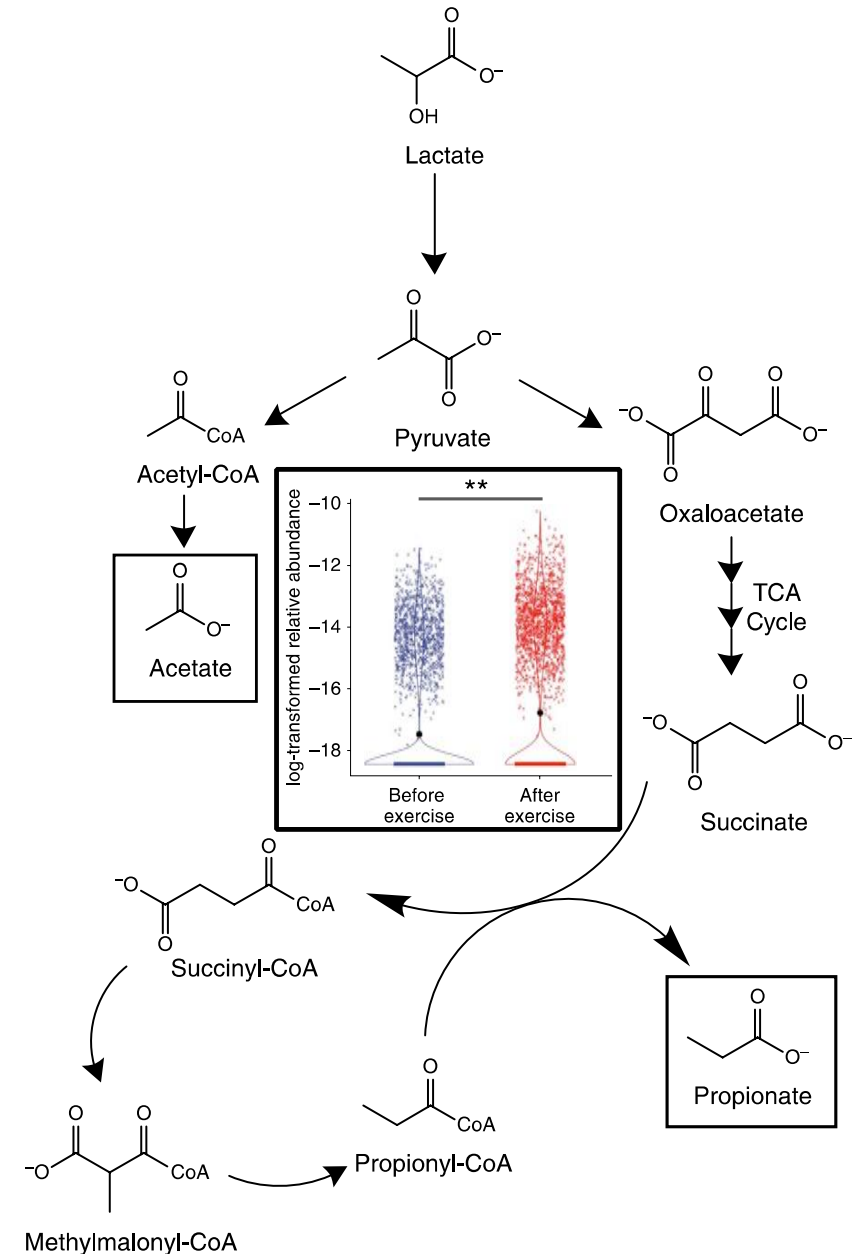
- INCREASED *Veillonella* spp (esp. *Veillonella atypica*) post marathon
- *Veillonella atypica* gavage → increased exercise performance in mice



# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME & PERFORMANCE

- IMPROVED EXERCISE PERFORMANCE in mice with *Veillonella atypica* gavage
  - PROPOSED MECHANISM OF ACTION:
    - LACTATE production and conversion into propionate

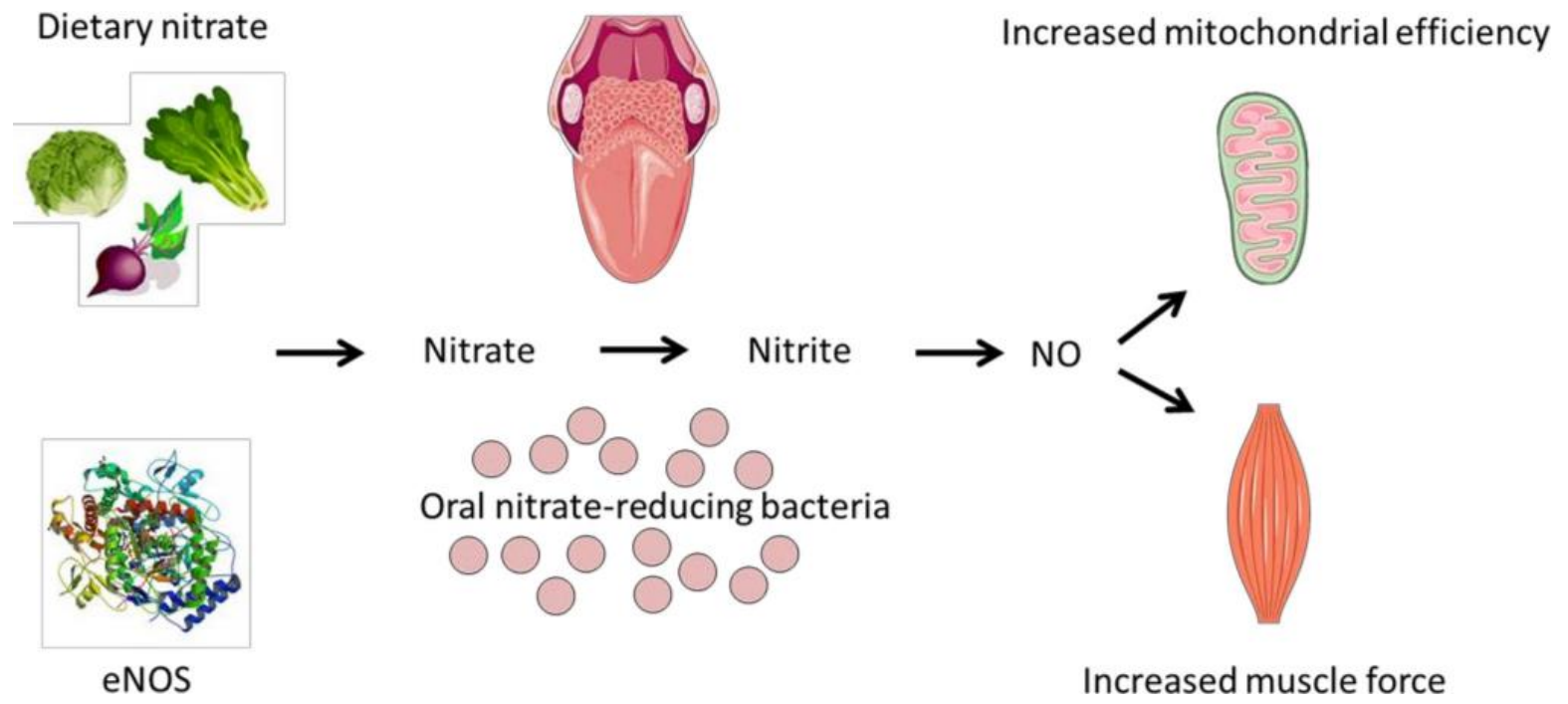
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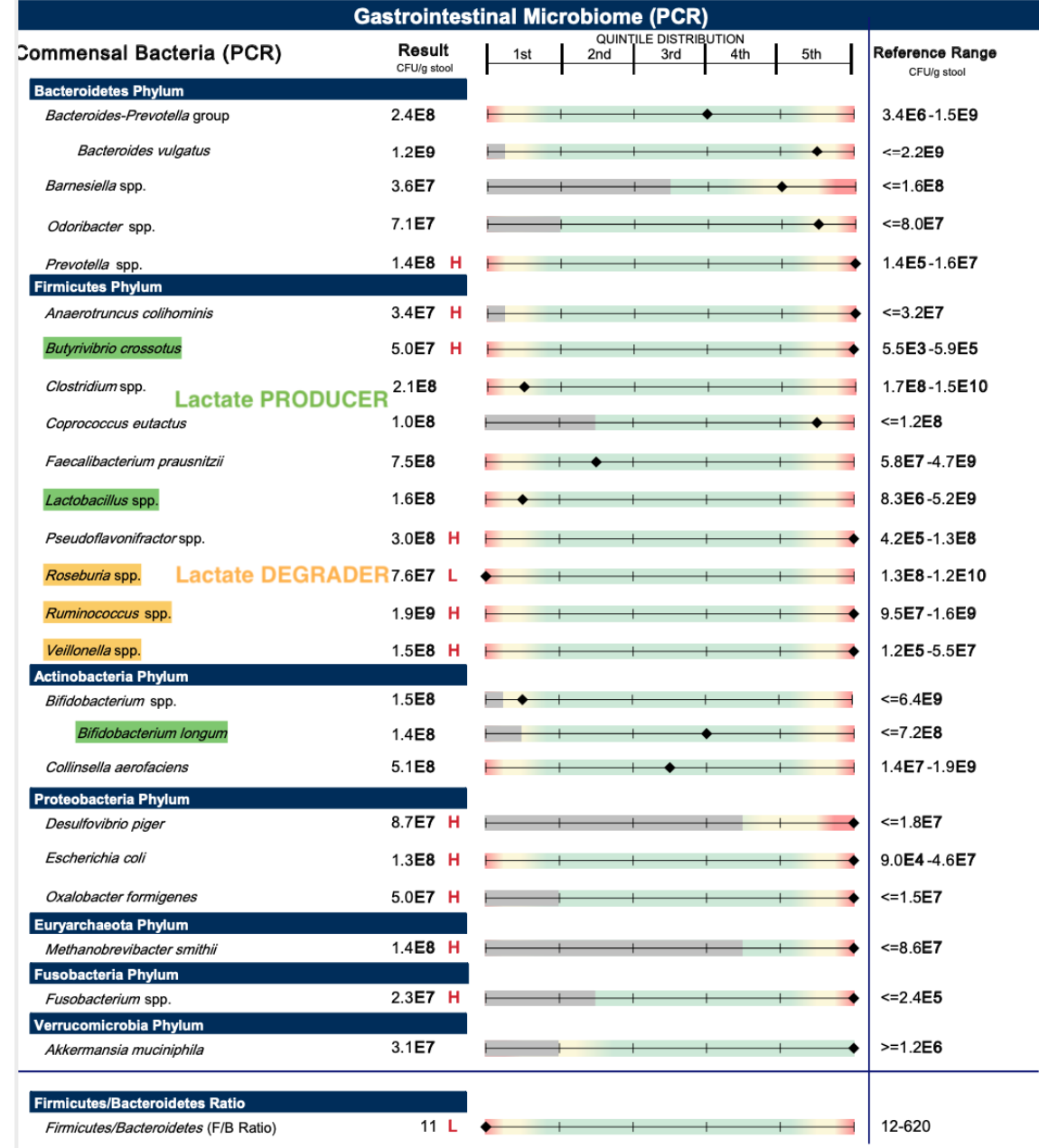
# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME & PERFORMANCE

- *Veillonella* spp. = oral nitrate-reducing bacteria
  - ADDITIONAL PROPOSED MECHANISM OF ACTION: Nitric oxide (NO) production by the oral microbiome



# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME & PERFORMANCE & FUNCTIONAL TESTING

Methodology: DNA by PCR



Lactate PRODUCER

Lactate DEGRADER





# SPORTOMICS: MICROBIOME & PERFORMANCE & FUNCTIONAL TESTING

- 40yo with chronic fatigue syndrome, pain amplification syndrome and exercise intolerance – previously failed graded exercise program

Gut Microbiome Metabolites		
Metabolic		
Short-Chain Fatty Acids (SCFA) (Total*) (Acetate, n-Butyrate, Propionate)	3.1 L	>=23.3 micromol/g
n-Butyrate Concentration	1.2 L	>=3.6 micromol/g
n-Butyrate %	38.7 H	11.8-33.3 %
Acetate %	<DL L	48.1-69.2 %
Propionate %	60.8 H	<=29.3 %
Beta-glucuronidase	1,063	368-6,266 U/g

Gastrointestinal Microbiome (PCR)**							
Commensal Bacteria (PCR)	Result CFU/g stool	QUINTILE DISTRIBUTION					Reference Range CFU/g stool
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	
<b>Bacteroidetes Phylum</b>							
<i>Bacteroides-Prevotella</i> group	1.3E8						3.4E6-1.5E9
<i>Bacteroides vulgatus</i>	2.4E7						<=2.2E9
<i>Barnesiella</i> spp.	1.2E7						<=1.6E8
<i>Odoribacter</i> spp.	7.2E6						<=8.0E7
<i>Prevotella</i> spp.	4.8E6						1.4E5-1.6E7
<b>Firmicutes Phylum</b>							
<i>Anaerotruncus colihominis</i>	9.4E5						<=3.2E7
<i>Butyrivibrio crossotus</i>	<DL L						5.5E3-5.9E5
<i>Clostridium</i> spp.	6.8E8						1.7E8-1.5E10
<i>Coprococcus eutactus</i>	3.8E5						<=1.2E8
<i>Faecalibacterium prausnitzii</i>	6.0E7						5.8E7-4.7E9
<i>Lactobacillus</i> spp.	1.6E8						8.3E6-5.2E9
<i>Pseudoflavonifractor</i> spp.	2.3E7						4.2E5-1.3E8
<i>Roseburia</i> spp.	3.3E7 L						1.3E8-1.2E10
<i>Ruminococcus</i> spp.	5.2E7 L						9.5E7-1.6E9
<i>Veillonella</i> spp.	<DL L						1.2E5-5.5E7
<b>Actinobacteria Phylum</b>							
<i>Bifidobacterium</i> spp.	2.1E7						<=6.4E9
<i>Bifidobacterium longum</i>	<DL						<=7.2E8
<i>Collinsella aerofaciens</i>	1.7E8						1.4E7-1.9E9
<b>Proteobacteria Phylum</b>							
<i>Desulfovibrio piger</i>	8.6E5						<=1.8E7
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	<DL L						9.0E4-4.6E7
<i>Oxalobacter formigenes</i>	1.9E6						<=1.5E7
<b>Euryarchaeota Phylum</b>							
<i>Methanobrevibacter smithii</i>	6.4E6						<=8.6E7
<b>Fusobacteria Phylum</b>							
<i>Fusobacterium</i> spp.	1.1E4						<=2.4E5
<b>Verrucomicrobia Phylum</b>							
<i>Akkermansia muciniphila</i>	1.4E7						>=1.2E6
<b>Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes Ratio</b>							
<i>Firmicutes/Bacteroidetes</i> (F/B Ratio)	7 L						12-620



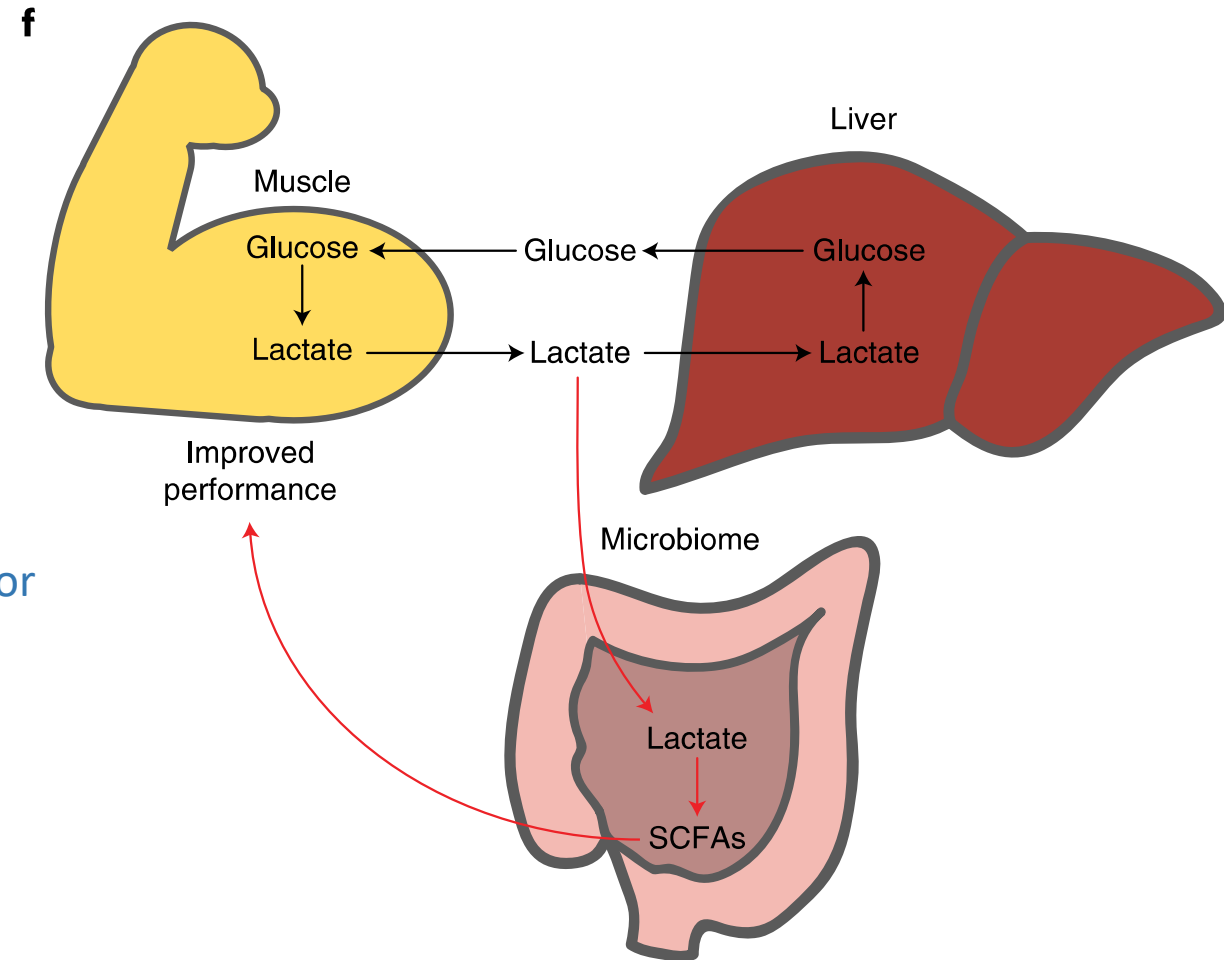
# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH

- LOW cardiorespiratory fitness independent predictor of cardiometabolic disease and mortality <sup>1</sup>
- Exercise capacity more powerful predictor of mortality from cardiometabolic disease than other established risk factors <sup>2</sup>
- VO2max is highly correlated with skeletal muscle mitochondrial capacity <sup>3</sup>



# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH

- METABOLIC FLEXIBILITY
  - Ability to appropriately adjust substrate oxidation relative to substrate availability
- LACTATE SHUTTLE:
  - Lactate = gluconeogenic precursor
    - Increased with increased energy expenditure or reduction in energy from aerobic oxidation

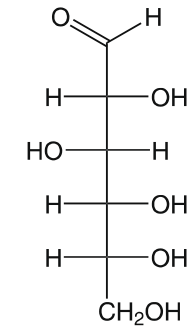


# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH

## • LACTATE

### – Glucose as specific fuel and lactate as universal fuel <sup>1</sup>

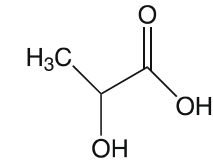
- Lactate as a substrate for generating fuel
- Radiolabeled lactate → labeling of TCA intermediates greater than radiolabeled glucose <sup>2</sup>



Glucose

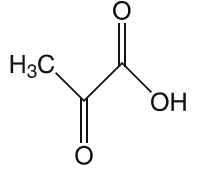
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H

6  
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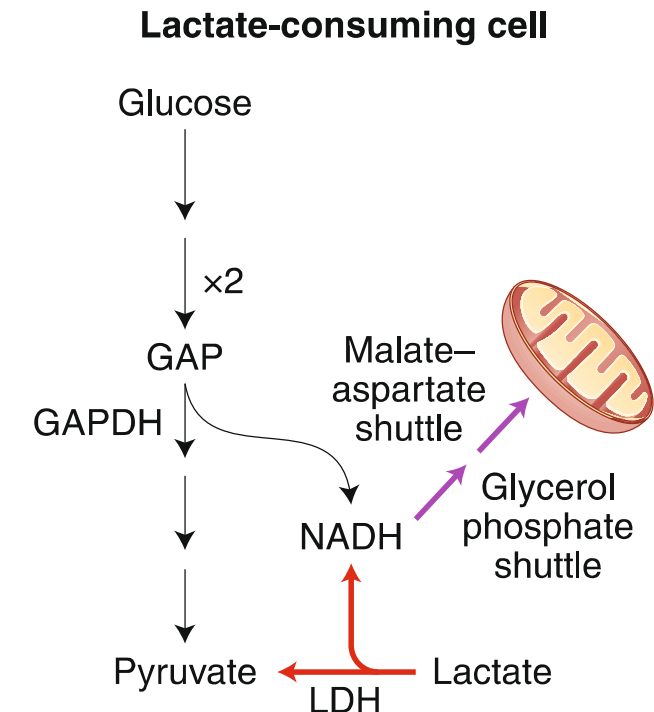
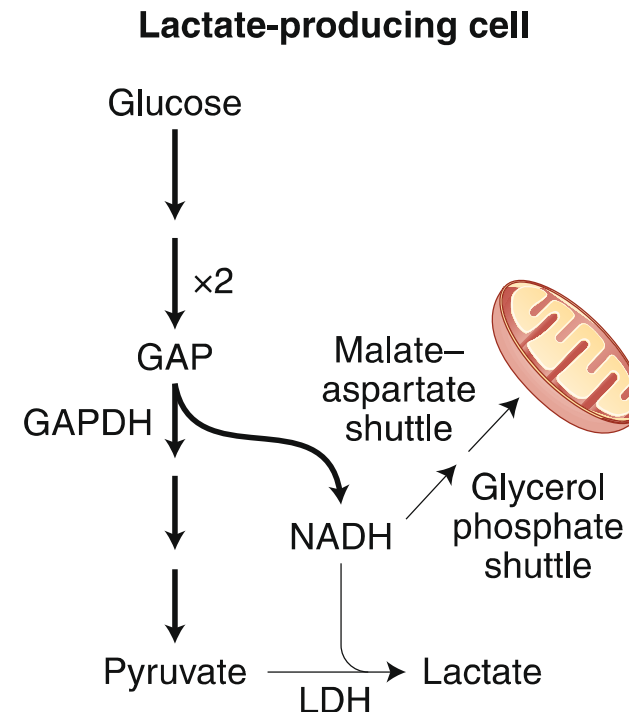
2 Lactic acids

6  
12



2 Pyruvic acids

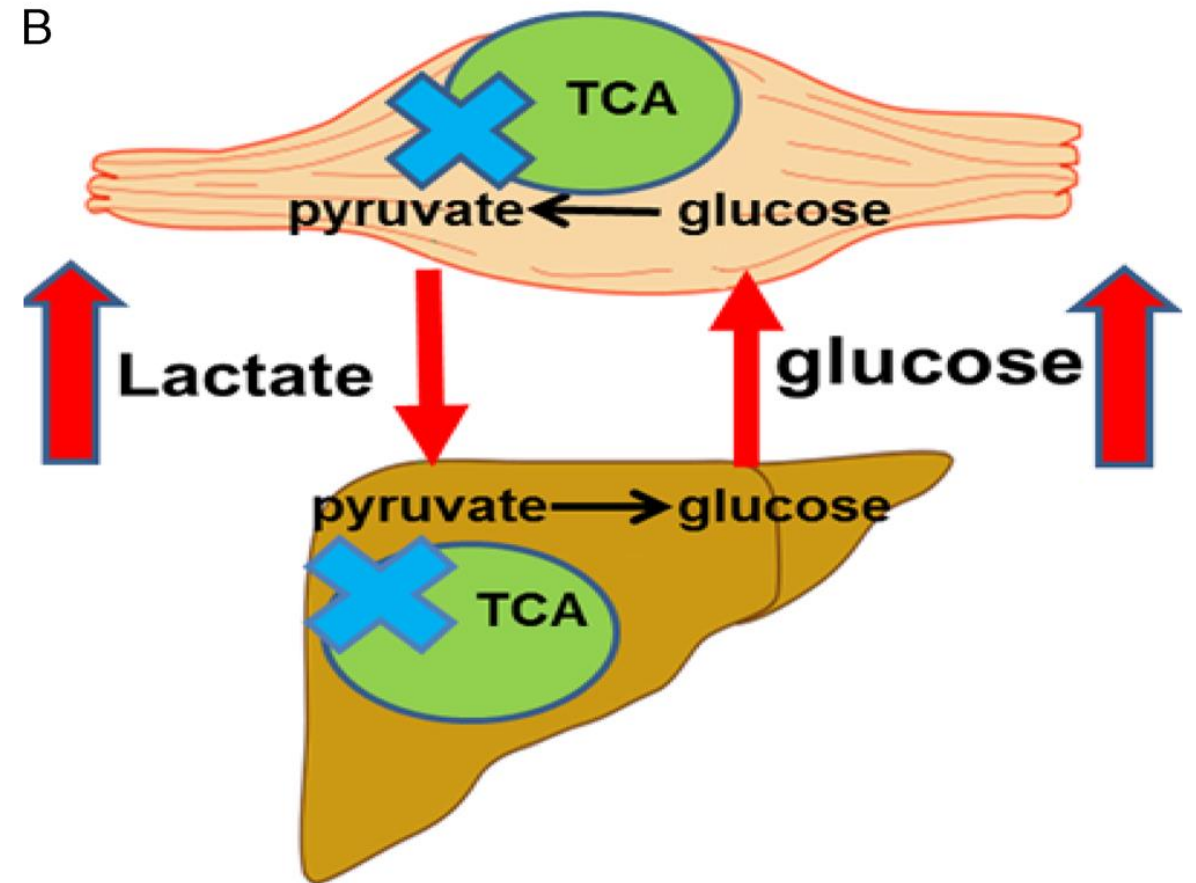
6  
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# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH

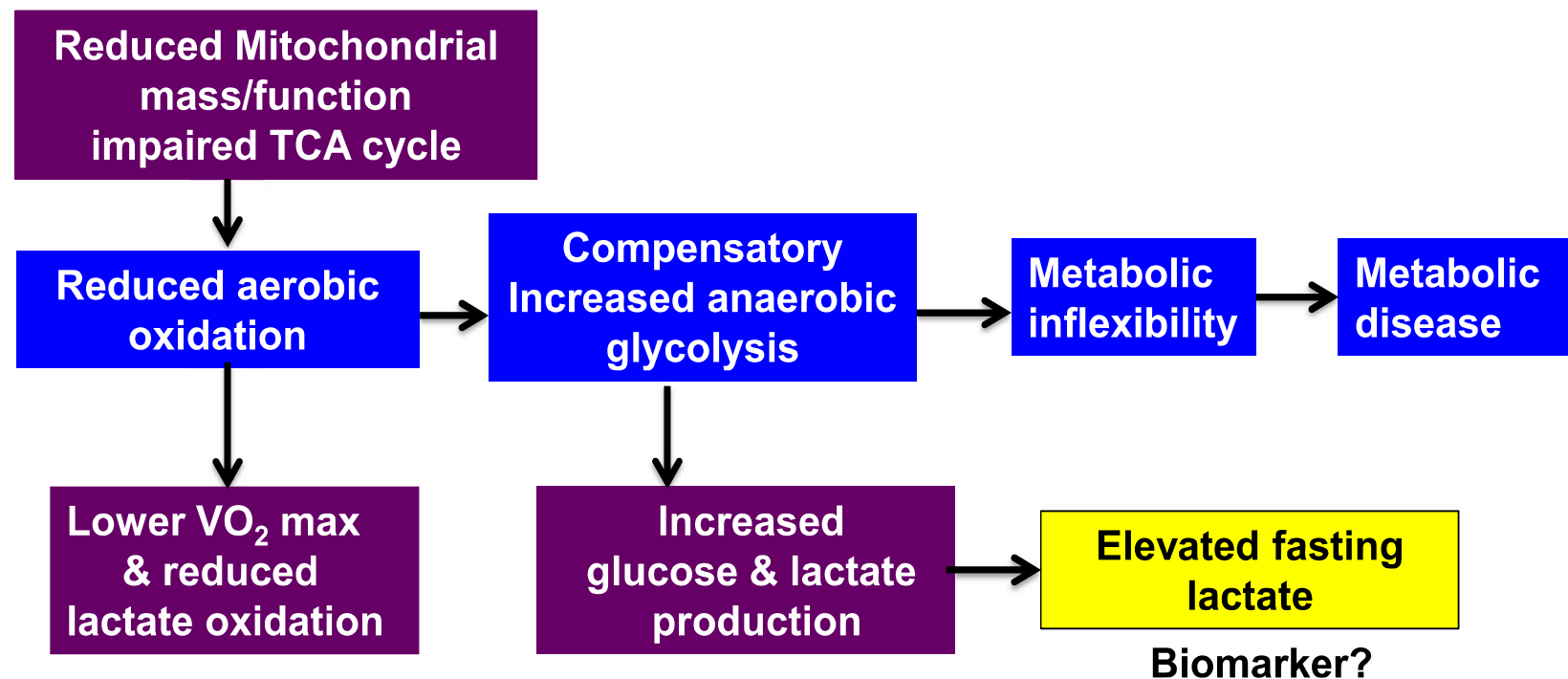
- Metabolic Disease
- Obesity
- Insulin Resistance
  - With OBESITY/INCREASED VAT:
    - Skeletal muscle tissue minimally increases glucose oxidation with insulin and preferentially partitions it with net lactate release <sup>1</sup>
  - “VISCIOUS CORI CYCLE” <sup>2</sup>
    - Due to impaired pyruvate oxidation





# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH

- Metabolic Disease
- Obesity
- Insulin Resistance





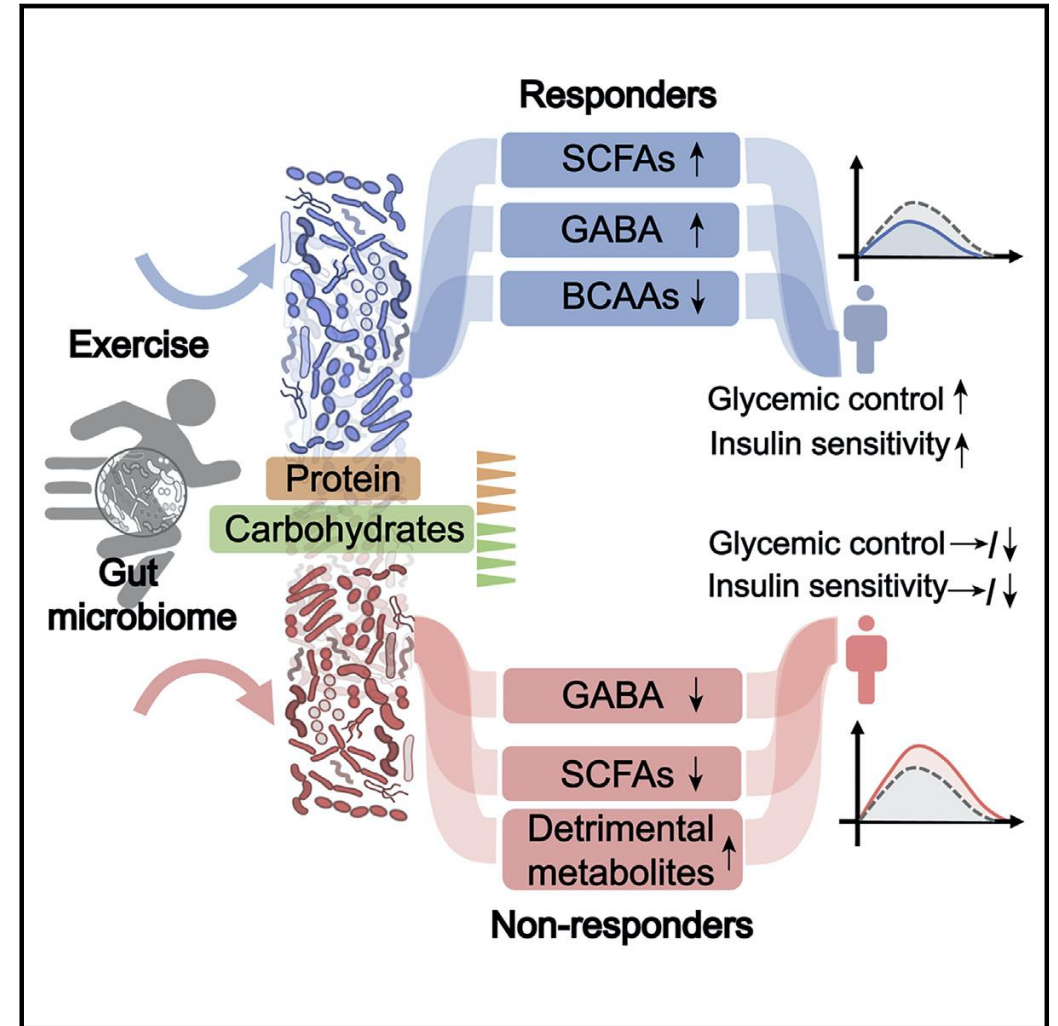
# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH & FUNCTIONAL TESTING

- EVIDENCE of “Vicious Cori Cycle” and impaired metabolic health
  - ELEVATED Lactic Acid  
(especially relative to Pyruvic Acid)
  - LOW Citric acid
    - Often seen in severe obesity
  - LOWER TCA intermediates <sup>1</sup>
    - Labeled by some as “hypometabolic state” or “mitochondria retraction”
  - +/- HIGHER Malic Acid/Succinic Acid



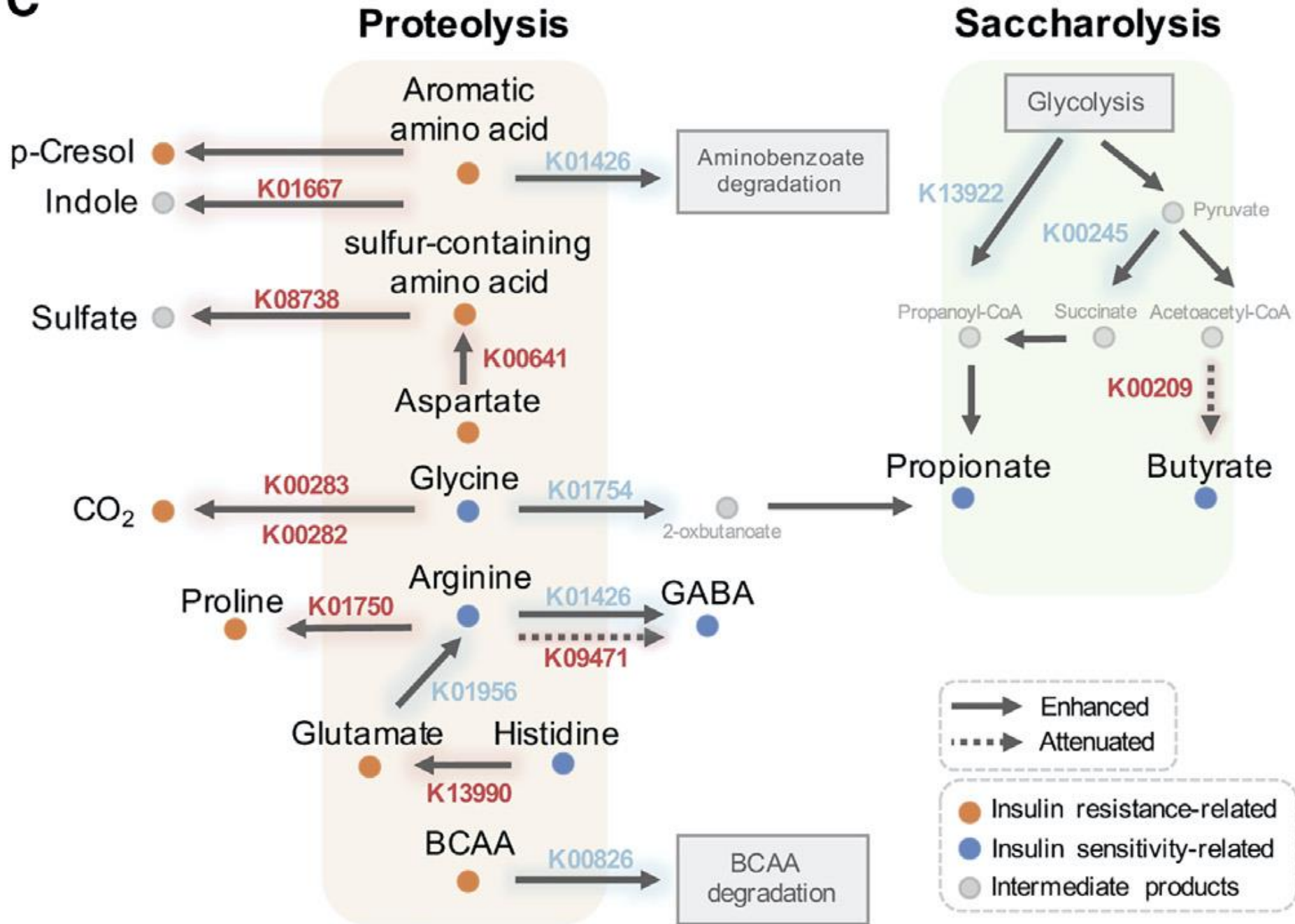
# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH

- EXERCISE & DIABETES PREVENTION
  - Overweight, prediabetic treatment-naïve males
    - Identified responders to exercise intervention (improved glucose metabolism & insulin resistance)
      - Increased capacity for increased SCFA synthesis
      - Increased capacity for BCAA catabolism
    - FMT of responders improved mice response to exercise
    - Through machine learning then predicted glycemic response to exercise in additional 30 subjects





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# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH & FUNCTIONAL TESTING

- ASSOCIATED w/INSULIN RESISTANCE
  - LOW butyrate (GI Effects)
  - ELEVATED aromatic amino acids (tryptophan, tyrosine, phenylalanine)
  - ELEVATED sulfur-containing amino acids (cysteine, methionine) & aspartate
  - ELEVATED branched chain amino acids (isoleucine, leucine, valine)
  - ELEVATED glutamate with LOWER GABA

Amino Acids (Plasma)			
Nutritionally Essential Amino Acids		Reference Range	Intermediate B-Vitamin Metabolites
Amino Acid			
Arginine	7.5	6.0-17.5	α-Amino adipic Acid
Histidine	9.1	6.5-13.3	α-Amino-N-butyrac A
Isoleucine	9.43	5.79-18.69	β-Aminoisobutyric A
Leucine	18.8	12.1-36.1	Cystathionine
Lysine	23.3	13.7-34.7	<b>Urea Cycle M</b>
Methionine	4.5	2.3-6.5	Citrulline
Phenylalanine	9.39	6.07-17.46	Ornithine
Taurine	5.85	4.41-10.99	Urea ♦
Threonine	15.22	6.42-16.32	<b>Glycine/Serine</b>
Tryptophan	5.66	2.65-6.67	Glycine
Valine	32.9	18.3-42.6	Serine
Nonessential Protein Amino Acids		Reference Range	
Amino Acid			
Alanine	28	23-62	Ethanolamine
Asparagine	8.3	3.5-11.6	Phosphoethanolam
Aspartic Acid	<DL	<= 0.67	Phosphoserine
Cyst(e)ine	9.3	5.9-19.9	Sarcosine
γ-Aminobutyric Acid	<DL	<= 0.06	<b>Dietary Pep</b>
Glutamic Acid	3.1	2.0-14.5	1-Methylhistidine
Glutamine	64	44-111	3-Methylhistidine
Proline	32	15-57	β-Alanine
Tyrosine	9.8	6.2-18.5	



# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH & FUNCTIONAL TESTING

- ASSOCIATED w/INSULIN SENSITIVITY
  - ELEVATED SCFAs (GI Effects)
  - ELEVATED histidine, arginine, GABA
  - LOWER branched chain amino acids (isoleucine, leucine, valine)

Amino Acids (Plasma)		
Nutritionally Essential Amino Acids		Intermediate
Amino Acid	Reference Range	B-Vitamin Metabolites
Arginine	7.5	α-Amino adipic Acid
Histidine	9.1	α-Amino-N-butyrac A
Isoleucine	9.43	β-Aminoisobutyric A
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Lysine	23.3	<b>Urea Cycle M</b>
Methionine	4.5	Citrulline
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Taurine	5.85	Urea ♦
Threonine	15.22	<b>Glycine/Seri</b>
Tryptophan	5.66	Glycine
Valine	32.9	Serine
Nonessential Protein Amino Acids		Ethanolamine
Amino Acid	Reference Range	Phosphoethanolam
Alanine	28	Phosphoserine
Asparagine	8.3	Sarcosine
Aspartic Acid	<DL	<b>Dietary Pep</b>
Cyst(e)ine	9.3	1-Methylhistidine
γ-Aminobutyric Acid	<DL	3-Methylhistidine
Glutamic Acid	3.1	β-Alanine
Glutamine	64	
Proline	32	
Tyrosine	9.8	





# SPORTOMICS: METABOLIC HEALTH & FUNCTIONAL TESTING

- FUNCTIONAL MEDICINE TESTING INFORMED RECOMMENDATIONS for metabolic health & insulin resistance
  - IF EXERCISING & METABOLIC DISEASE
    - POTENTIAL NON-RESPONDER WITH ...
      - Elevated BCAAs and AAAs; Elevated glutamate and Decreased GABA; Elevated cysteine & methionine
    - PROBABLE RESPONDER WITH ...
      - Increased Firmicutes & SCFAs; Increased lactate utilizers // (absence of non-responder characteristics)
  - IF NOT EXERCISING & AT RISK FOR METABOLIC DISEASE
    - POTENTIAL RESPONDER WITH ...
      - Elevated Bacteroides // Elevated GABA
  - IF NON-RESPONDER OR POTENTIAL NON-RESPONDER
    - Work to elevate SCFAs (fiber, resistant starches, fermented foods/probiotics, butyrate)
    - Decrease exercise volume/intensity



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION

Jeffrey B. Kreher, MD, FAAP, IFMCP

CMO and Co-Founder

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*We look forward to  
hearing from you!*

***Questions?***



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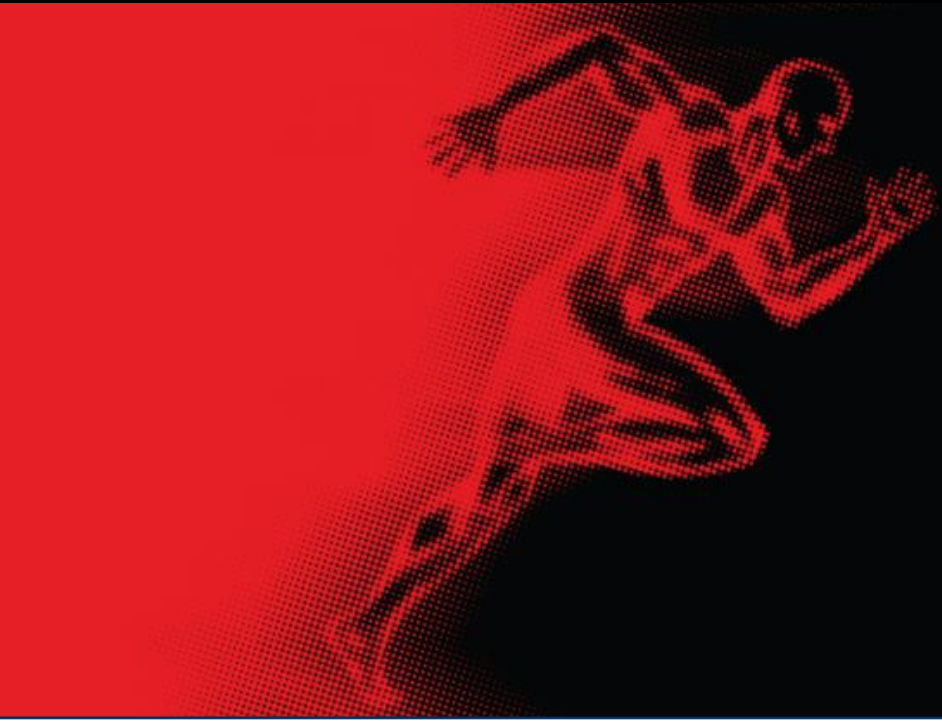
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# Sportomics, Metabolic Health, and Utilization of Functional Medicine Testing



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