The Role of Nitric Oxide in Regenerative Medicine

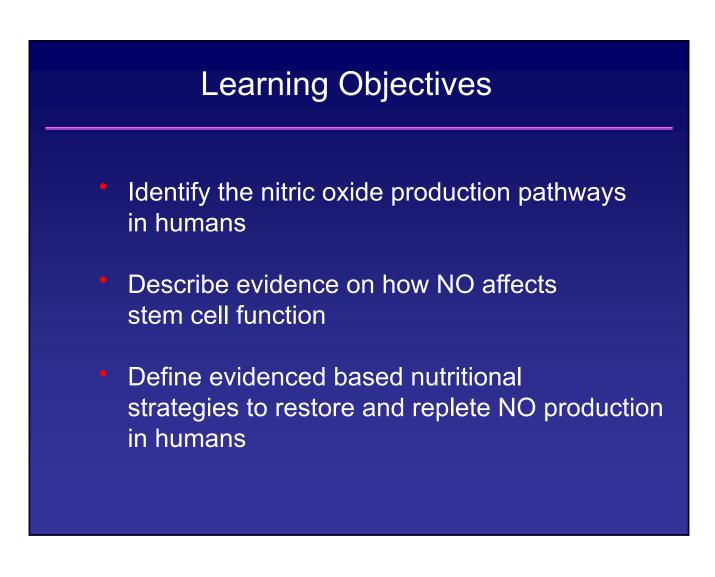
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Baylor College of Medicine

American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine Dec 14-17, 2017 Las Vegas, NV



"Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought"

Albert Szent-Gyorgyi 1937 Nobel Prize for Medicine Well vascularized tissues are more resistant to infections and capable of localizing/containing offending agents. By contrast, poorly vascularized tissues are relatively inefficient in responding to inflammatory stimuli.

Robbins Pathology book page 58

What's the Problem?

Heart Disease – 1 in every 4 death 610,000 die of heart disease every year Every 42 seconds someone has a heart attack Each minute someone dies from a heart disease related event

The amount of people dying from cardiovascular disease is equivalent to 4 jumbo jets crashing and killing everyone on board every single hour of every single day each year

What Causes Heart Disease?

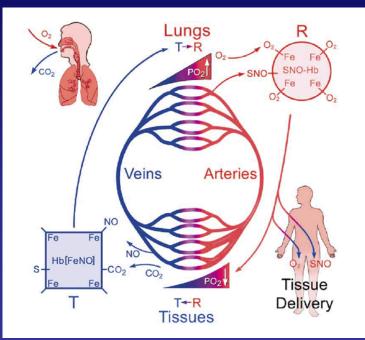
Cholesterol? No chance Smoking? Yes Poor diet? Yes Poor oral hygiene/oral infections? Yes Sedentary lifestyle? Yes Inflammation? Yes Drug therapy? Yes

What is the common denominator?

Nitric Oxide

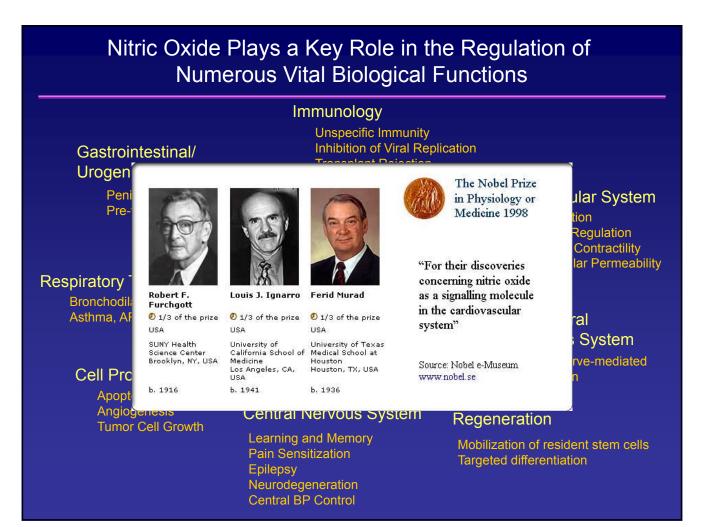
N: O

Nitric oxide is required for red blood cell delivery of oxygen from the lungs to tissue.



Zhang et al Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2015 May 19;112(20):6425-30

Prof. Stamler says "blood flow to tissues is actually more important in most circumstances than how much oxygen is carried by hemoglobin. The respiratory cycle is actually a three-gas system."

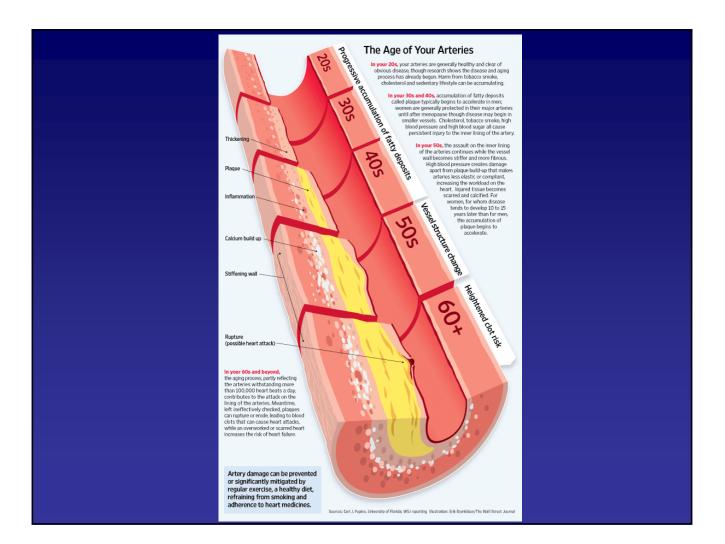


Who Needs Nitric Oxide?

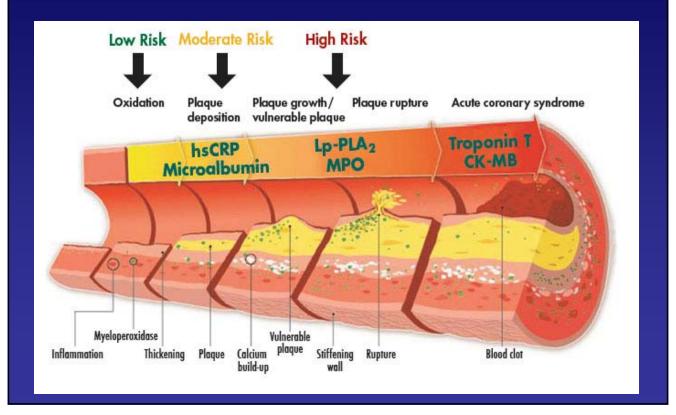
Anyone who is aging Anyone over the age of 40 People with circulation issues Diabetics People with low energy People with sexual dysfunction or who desire improved performance in bedroom Anyone on antacids Anyone interested in disease prevention Anyone getting stem cell therapy

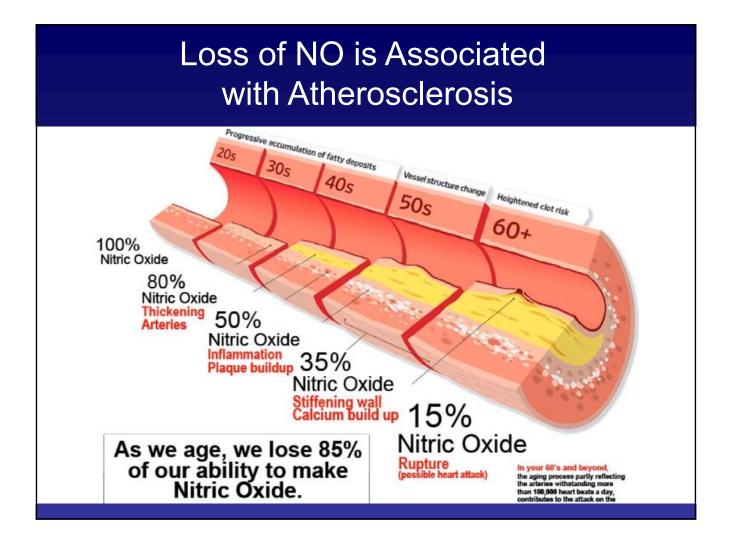
"A man is as old as his arteries."

~ Thomas Sydenham, English physician, 1624-1689



Inflammatory Biomarkers Diagnostic For Different Stages of Vascular Disease





What causes aging and is involved In regenerative medicine?

Three main hypotheses:

- 1. Telomere shortening
- 2. Mitochondrial dysfunction
- 3. Loss of stem cell function and repair

Unified Theory of Aging

Nitric Oxide controls and regulates

- 1. Telomerase activity
- 2. Mitochondrial biogenesis and function
- 3. Mobilization of resident stem cells

Nitric Oxide is the requisite signal for stem cell mobilization and differentiation into target cell types

The bioavailability of NO in patients may predict stem cell therapy success or failure

Essential role of endothelial nitric oxide synthase for mobilization of stem and progenitor cells Aicher et al Nature Medicine 9, 1370 - 1376 (2003)

Nitric oxide-cyclic GMP signaling in stem cell differentiation. Free Radic Biol Med. 2011 Dec 15;51(12):2150-7 Role of nitric oxide signaling components in differentiation of embryonic stem cells into myocardial cells.

Mujoo K, Sharin VG, **Bryan NS**, Krumenacker JS, Sloan C, Parveen S, Nikonoff LE, Kots AY, Murad F.

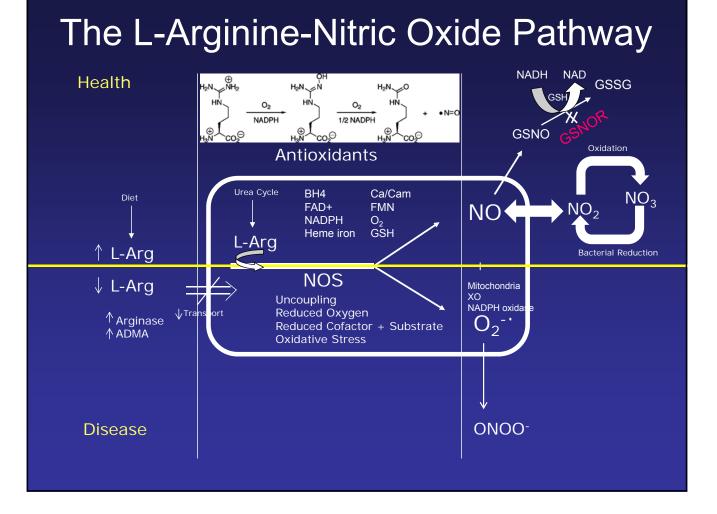
Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. 2008 Dec 2;105(48):18924-9

How do we control and regulate NO production?

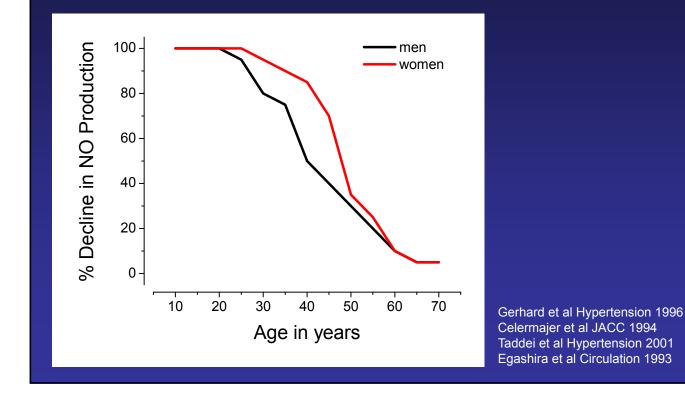
Two NO Production Pathways

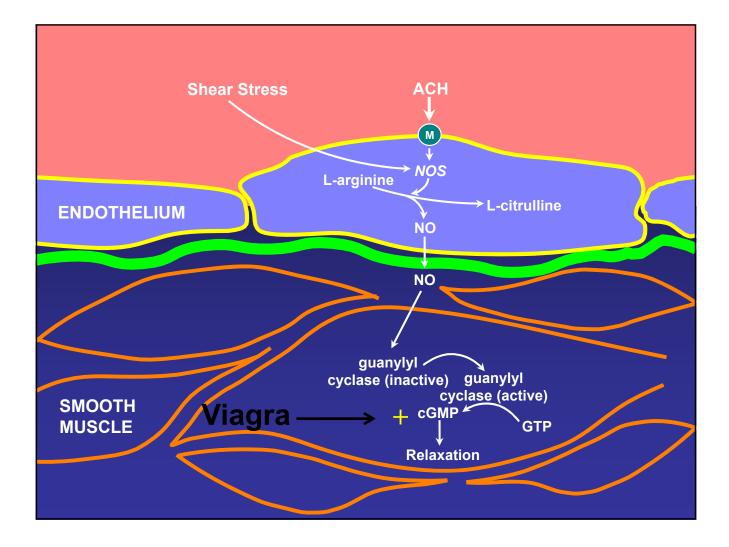
Oxidation of L-arginine (NOS)
Nitrate-Nitrite-Nitric Oxide

Each pathway provides about 50% of total body NO production

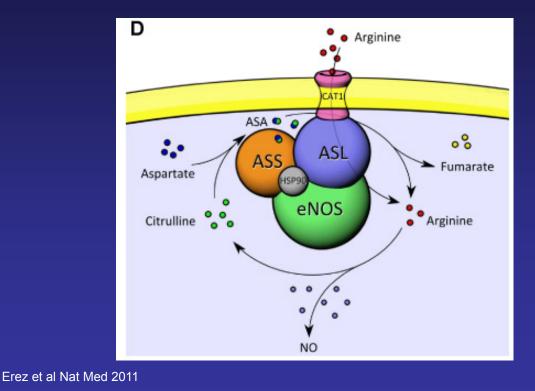


Endothelial Production of NO Declines with Age

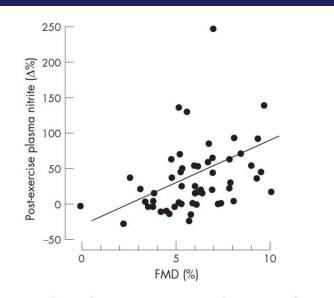


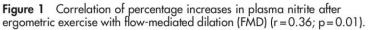


NOS Utilizes Intracellular L-Arginine from L-citrulline for NO Production



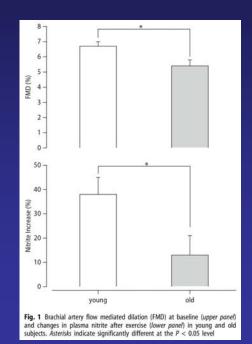
Nitric oxide synthase-derived plasma nitrite predicts exercise capacity





Rassaf T, et al Br J Sports Med 2007;41:669–673

Age-dependent endothelial dysfunction is associated with failure to increase plasma nitrite in response to exercise



Lauer et al Basic Res Cardiol 103:291–297 (2008) L-arginine utilization is controlled by the enzymatic function of nitric oxide synthase

Dietary nitrate utilization is controlled by amount of nitrate consumed and the oral nitrate reducing bacteria

Important Considerations for L-Arginine/L-Citrulline-Based Technologies

- 1. Must have a functional NOS
 - most NO-deficient patients have dysfunctional NOS
 - must also have supporting co-factors to recouple NOS
- 2. L-arginine can activate Herpes virus
- 3. High dose L-arginine can do more harm than good
 - VINTAGE trial (Schulman JAMA 2006)
 - PAD trial (Wilson Circulation 2007)
- 4. There is not a single human disease caused by L-arginine deficiency

Important Considerations for Nitrate-Based Technologies

- 1. All beets/vegetables are not created equal
 - growth conditions
 - time of harvest
 - processing, heat, packaging, etc.
- 2. Liquid products can de-stabilize NO
 - pH < 3 (acid labile components)
- 3. More is not better
 - safety first
- 4. Patients/consumers must have oral nitrate-reducing bacteria
- 5. Patients/consumers using PPI and antiseptic mouthwash will not respond

Reduced NO availability is a hallmark of a number of cardiovascular disorders.

- **Endothelial dysfunction** is a physiological dysfunction of normal biochemical processes carried out by the endothelium, the cells that line the inner surface of all blood vessels including arteries and veins (as well as the innermost lining of the heart and lymphatics).

- Loss of endothelial NO function is associated with several cardiovascular disorders, including atherosclerosis, which is due either to decreased production or to increased degradation of NO (Davignon and Ganz 2004).

- Experimental and clinical studies provide evidence that defects of endothelial NO function, referred to as endothelial dysfunction, is not only associated with all major cardiovascular risk factors, such as hyperlipidemia, diabetes, hypertension, smoking and severity of atherosclerosis, but also has a profound predictive value for the future atherosclerotic disease progression (Schachinger, Britten et al. 2000; Halcox, Schenke et al. 2002; Bugiardini, Manfrini et al. 2004; Lerman and Zeiher 2005).

- The dysfunctional eNOS/NO pathway is considered as an early marker or a common mechanism for various cardiovascular disorders. Over the last two decades, it has become evident that decreased bioavailability of endothelial NO, produced from endothelial NO synthase (eNOS), plays a crucial role in the development and progression of atherosclerosis.

FACTS

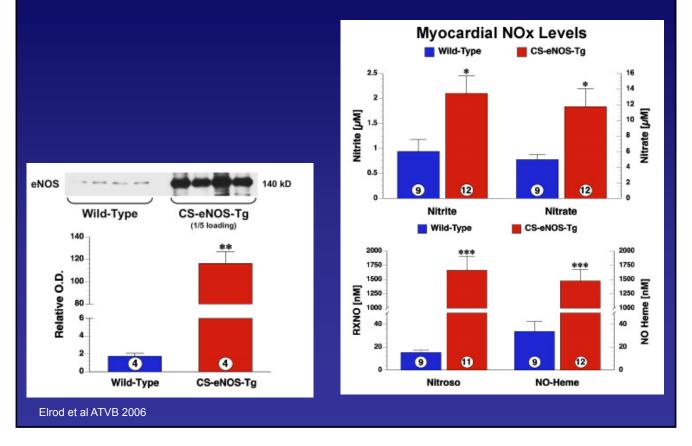
Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the number one killer of both men and women in the U.S. Close to 1 million people die each year and more than 6 million are hospitalized due to CVD. The cost of CVD, in terms of health care and lost productivity, is over \$270 billion and increasing as the baby boom population ages.

Ischemic heart disease, including myocardial infarction, remains the leading cause of morbidity and mortality in all industrialized nations

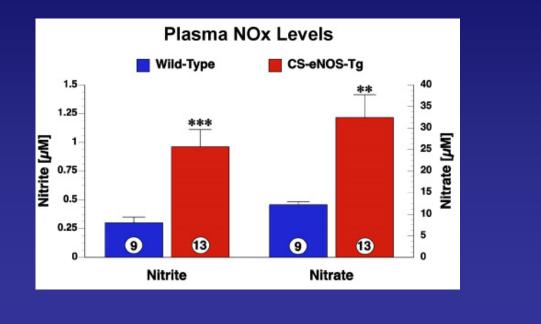
What is the physiological consequence of enhanced NO production in Ischemia-reperfusion injury?

Can we trace the phenotype biochemically?

Cardiac Specific Overexpression of eNOS results in Increased Cardiac NO Production and Protects from I/R Injury

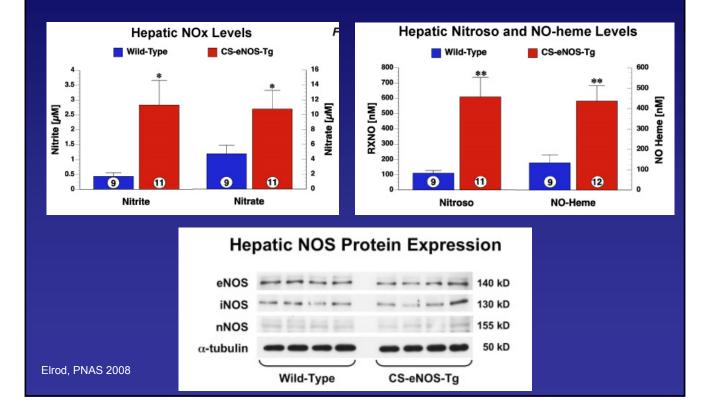




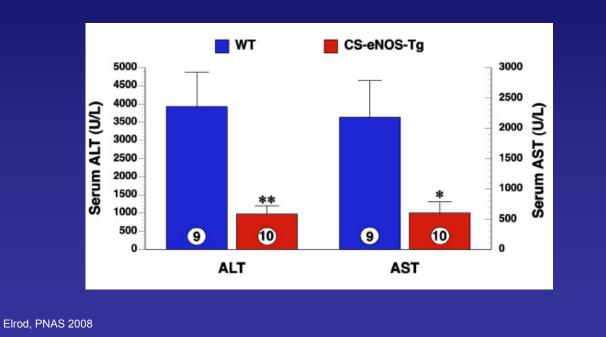


Elrod, PNAS 2008

Local NO Production in the Heart Results in Accumulation of NO Products in the Liver



Cardiac Derived NO Promotes Distant Organ Protection: Evidence for an Endocrine Role of Nitrite and GSNO



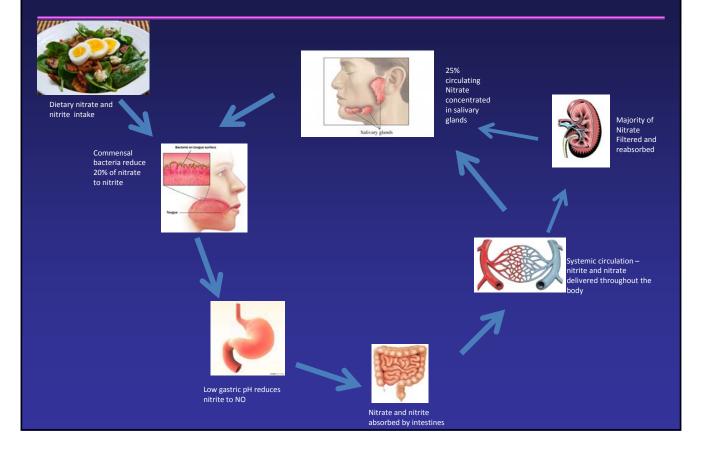
Can proper nutrition, food or Supplements provide NO support?

Atmospheric Nitrogen Cycle

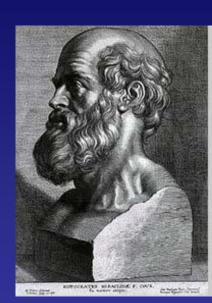
The store of nitrogen found in the atmosphere, where it exists as a gas (mainly N2), plays an important role for life. Most plants can only take up nitrogen in two solid forms: ammonium ion (NH4+) and the nitrate ion (NO3-). Most plants obtain the nitrogen they need as nitrate from the soil. When released, most of the ammonium is often chemically altered by a specific type of bacteria (genus Nitrosomonas) into nitrite (NO2-). Further modification by another type of bacteria (genus Nitrobacter) converts the nitrite to nitrate. All nitrogen obtained by animals can be traced back to the eating of plants at some stage of the food chain.



New Paradigm - Human Nitrogen Cycle



50% or more of NO bioactivity is determined and dictated by foods and diets containing nitrite and nitrate and oral bacteria



"Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food" – Hippocrates

PALE?SPIRIT C?M

How much nitrate do we need?

300-400 mg nitrate necessary to see changes in blood pressure or improvement in exercise capacity

Estimated that US population consumes ~150 mg nitrate per day (over 2-3 meals)

We are a Nitrate Deficient Population

Nitrate Comparison Between Beet Root Powders

We have analyzed over 30 different beet root powders, both from ingredient companies and from beet root powder purchased at retail

There is much as a 500 fold difference in nitrate content of beet root powder from one supplier to the next (we use several of these as a placebo in our clinical trials)

Many companies use beet root powder as window dressing

A Survey of Nitrate and Nitrite Concentrations in Conventional and Organic-Labeled Raw Vegetables at Retail

Regional and Category Differences In Vegetable Nitrate Values

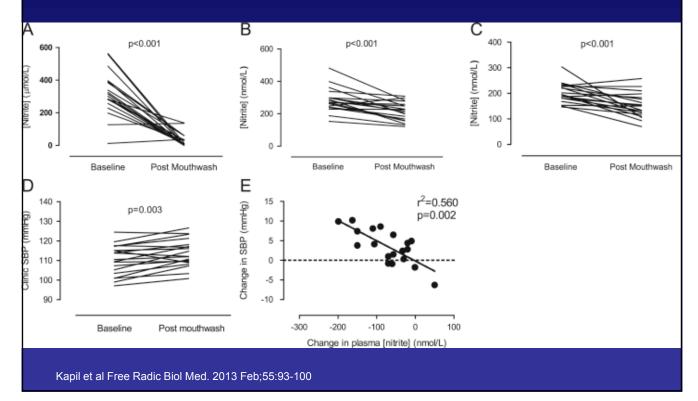
Product category	Chicago	Dallas	Los Angeles	New York	Raleigh
Broccoli	271 ± 89	357 ± 50	512 ± 85	279 ± 80	553 ± 28
	(61-822)	(165-664)	(164-1140)	(29-1009)	(374-680)
Cabbage	475 ± 46	256 ± 33	800 ± 142	193 ± 28	364 ± 79
	(256-670)	(63-434)	(275-1831)	(37-283)	(72-882)
Celery	230 ± 19	2052 ± 156	2651 ± 339	88 ± 17	2201 ± 112
	(147-359)	(918-2973)	(608-4269)	(20-157)	(1397-2727)
Lettuce	207 ± 32	1370 ± 93	1051 ± 122	568 ± 93	986 ± 185
	(79-425)	(870-1909)	(422-1495)	(321-970)	(450-2171)
Spinach	647 ± 69	4923 ± 327	4138 ± 451	564 ± 174	3155 ± 145
	(162-875)	(2377-6473)	(2141-8000)	(65-1545)	(2478-4168)

Table 2. Mean nitrate (NO₃?) concentrations^a (ppm)^b of raw vegetables classified as conventional from each city

^aMean value with standard error; minimum and maximum nitrate values in parentheses. ^bmg/ kg of fresh weight.

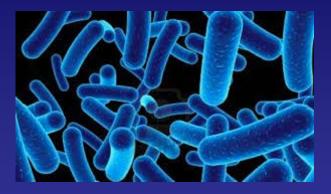
Nitrate is inert in Humans. Nitrate must be reduced to nitrite by commensal bacteria

Physiological Role for Nitrate-Reducing Oral Bacteria in Blood Pressure Control



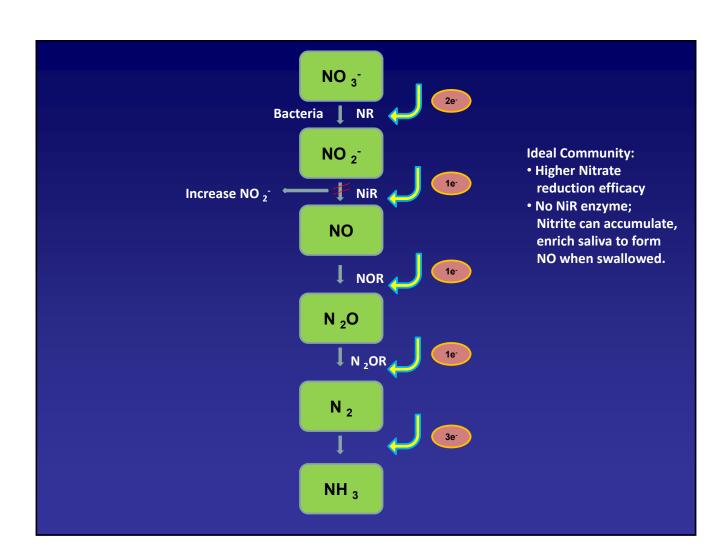
Genetic Diversity

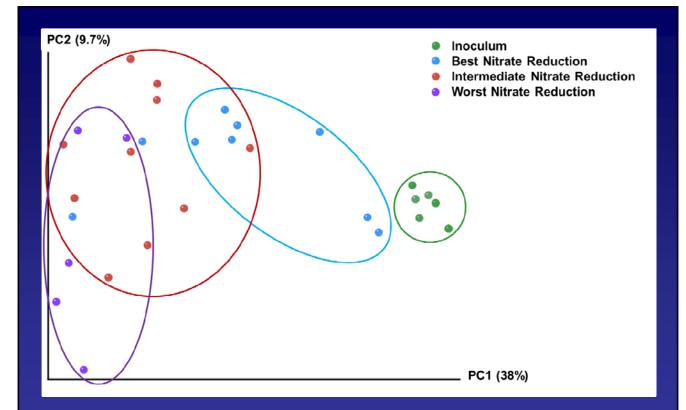




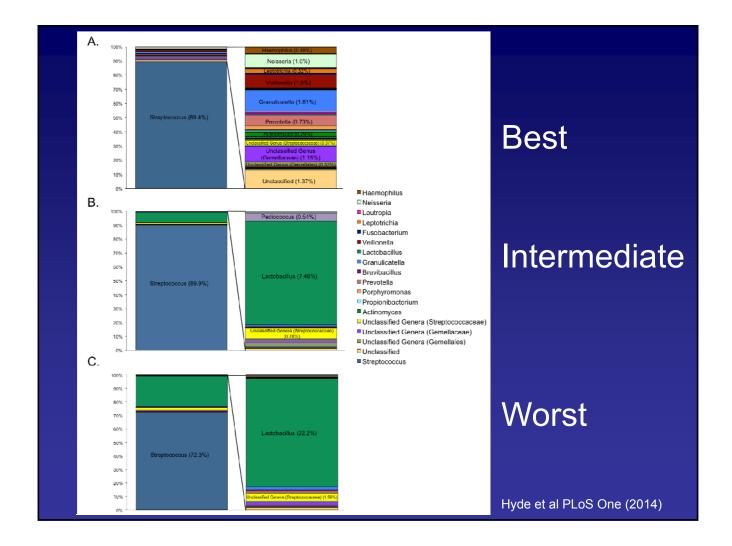
23,000 genes

3,000,000 genes

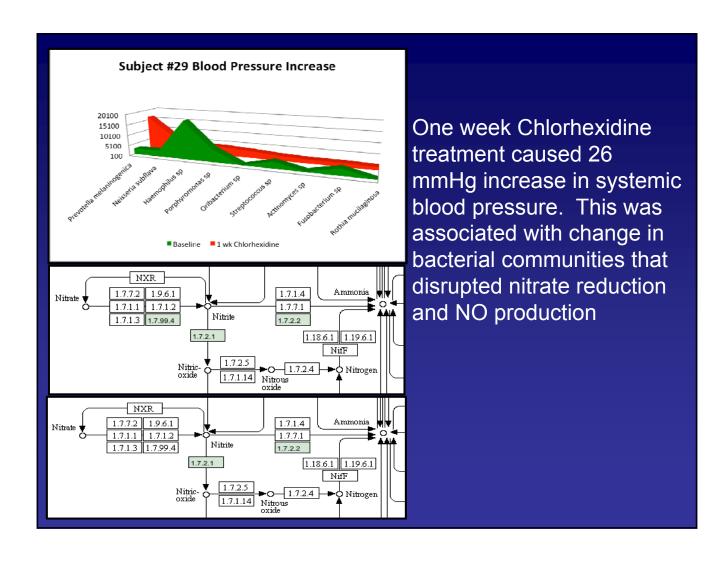




The microbial community structure changes as nitrate reduction decreases. Unweighted UniFrac-based Principal Coordinate Analysis (PCoA) illustrates the first two principal coordinates (PCs) for inocula, best reduction, intermediate reduction, and worst reduction groups. Unweighted UniFrac is a phylogenetic-tree based method that determines the similarity of two microbial communities based on the amount of shared branch length; thus, similar communities cluster closely on PCoA. Each dot represents a single sample and the amount of variance explained by each PC is indicated in parenthesis next to each axis.

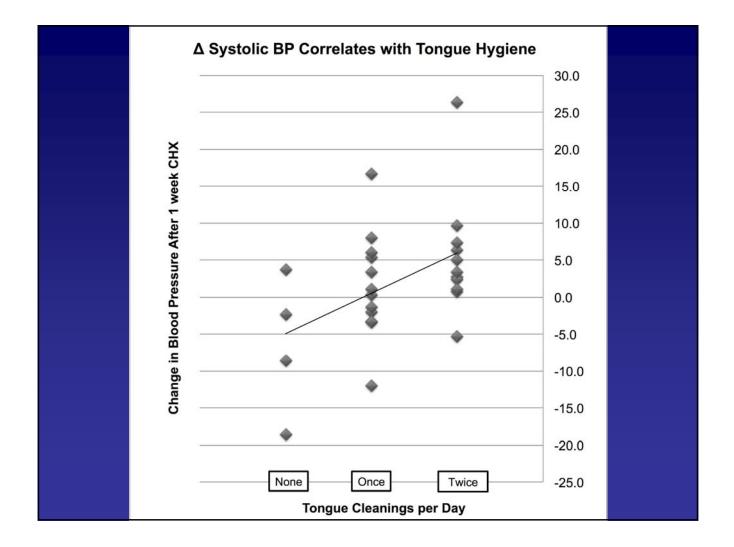


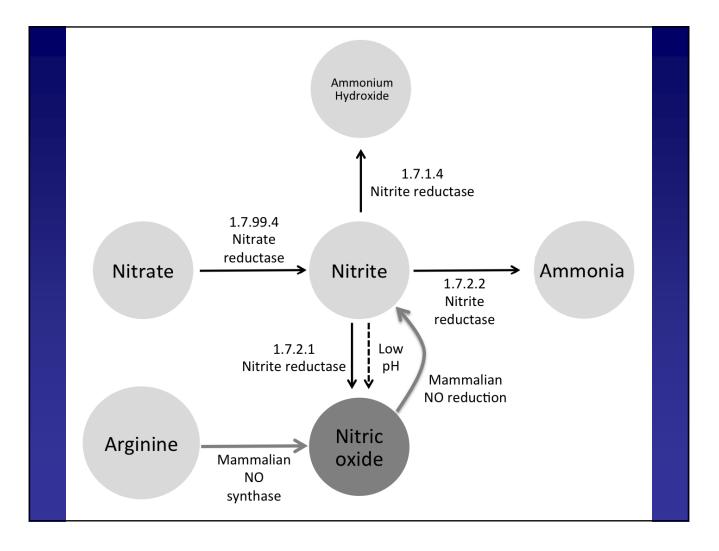
How Does Chlorhexidine Treatment Affect Diversity of Oral Microbiome And Nitrate Reduction in Healthy Subjects and what Effect Does this have on Systemic Blood Pressure?

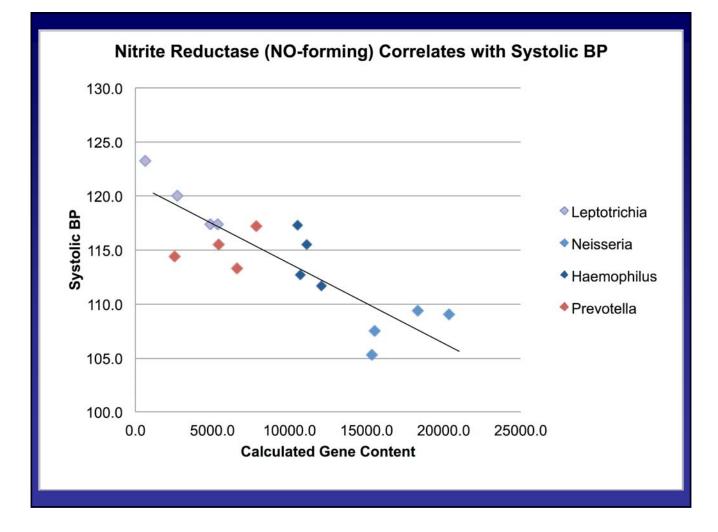


Oral Hygeine Survey

Brush teeth	Count	Percent	Mouthwash use	Count	Percent
twice a day	22	81%	As needed	5	19%
three times a day	5	19%	Once a day	16	59%
			Twice a day	6	22%
Floss	Count	Percent	Mouthwash ingredient	Count	Percent
several times per month	1	4%	Essential oils	11	41%
several times per week	8	30%	Cetylpyridinium chloride	10	37%
once a day	16	67%	No response	6	22%
twice a day	2	7%			
Clean tongue	Count	Percent	Type of Toothbrush	Count	Percent
Less than once a week	4	15%	Manual	10	37%
Once a day	13	48%	Electric	12	44%
Twice a day or more	10	37%	Both manual and electric	5	19%
			Visits to dentist per year	Count	Percent
			None	1	4%
			Once	12	44%
			Twice or more	14	52%







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Disruption of Nitrate-Nitrite-NO Pathway

1.	Insufficient dietary intake of nitrate/nitrite rich foods
	(green leafy vegetables, beets, etc)
2.	Problems with nitrate uptake in duodenum
	(sialin (SLC17A5) transporter mutations – Salla Disease)
3.	Insufficient saliva production
	(Sjogrens syndrome)
4.	Lack of oral commensal bacteria to reduce nitrate to nitrite
	(use of antibiotics/antiseptic mouthwash, poor oral hygeine)
5.	Insufficient stomach acid production – Achlorhydria

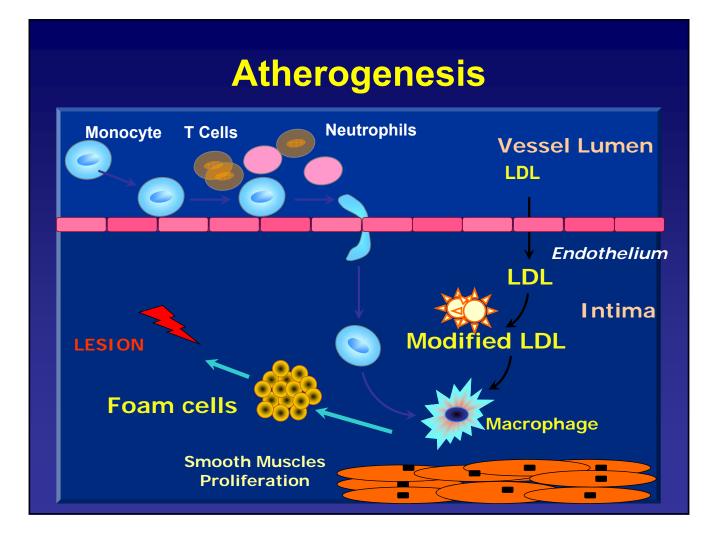
(use of PPI's, H. Pylori infection, iron overload)

6. Increased oxidative stress that scavenges NO

What might this mean?

- Absence of these select bacteria a new risk factor for cardiovascular disease.
- Patients with periodontal disease, affecting the NO producing communities - possibly linking oral health to cardiovascular disease risk by disruption of NO production
- Use of antiseptic mouthwash or overuse antibiotics can disrupt nitrate reducing communities
- Patients taking proton pump inhibitors to suppress stomach acid production
- Develop this pathway as a primary therapeutic target to affect NO production

Can we overcome variability in nitrate reduction based on differences in oral bacteria?



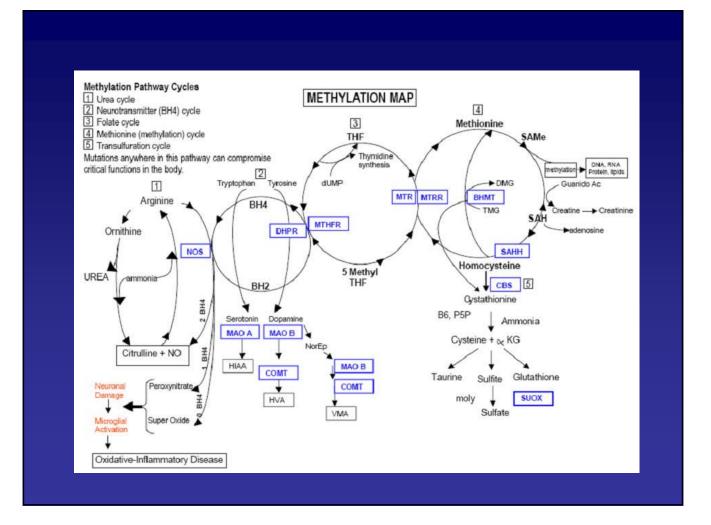
Atherogenic Diet



Atherogenic Diet + Nitrite

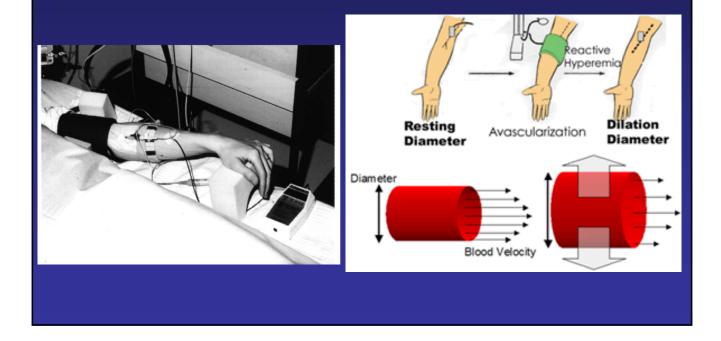


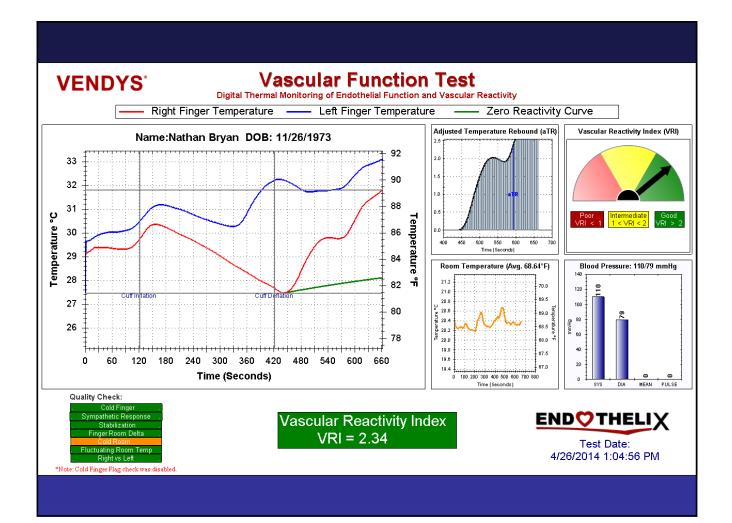
What about Genetic Testing? Do Specific SNPs Affect NO Production



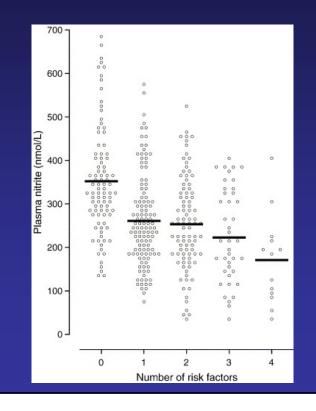
NO Diagnostics

Flow Mediated Dilatation for Endothelial Function



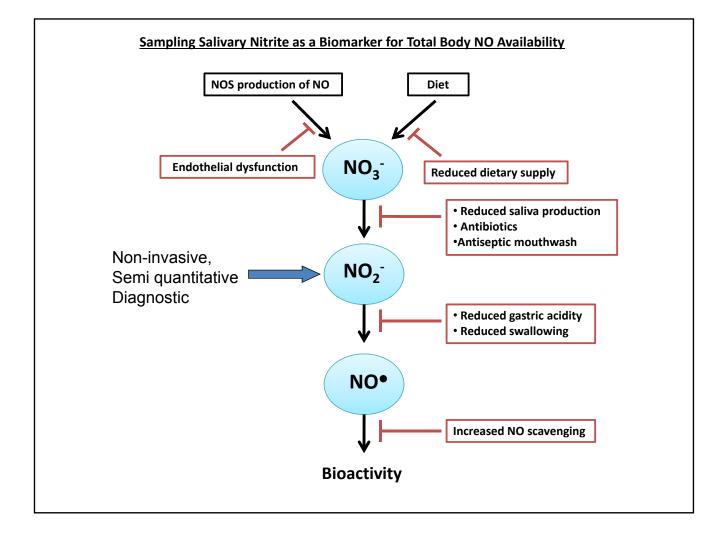


Plasma nitrite concentrations reflect the degree of endothelial dysfunction in humans.



RISK FACTORS Hyperlipidemia Arterial hypertension Smoking Age (45 males: 55 females)

Kleinbongard et al FRBM 2006



The First and Only Non-invasive NO Diagnostic



NO Controls Stem Cell Mobilization And Differentiation

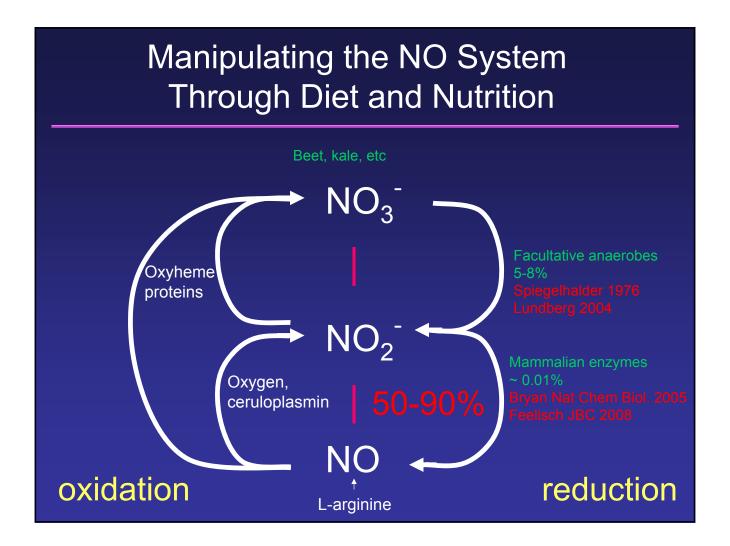
Sick patients have insufficient NO and dysfunctional cells

How do we make these cells more functional prior to isolation and deployment?

Restore body's own ability to make NO

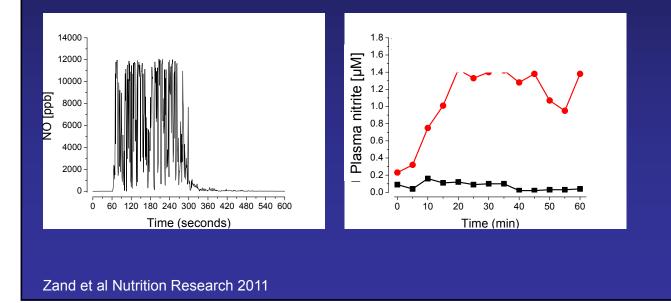
Development of Safe and Effective NO-based Technology

- 1. Provide an exogenous source of NO
- 2. Promote endogenous endothelial production of NO
- 3. Account for differences in non-responders to nitrate therapy and L-arginine
- 4. Plant-based natural product chemistry (clean and testable)
- 5. Clear product experience
- 6. Strong and sound basic science behind technology
- 7. Clinically proven in peer-reviewed, placebo-controlled trials
- 8. Intellectual Property for protection



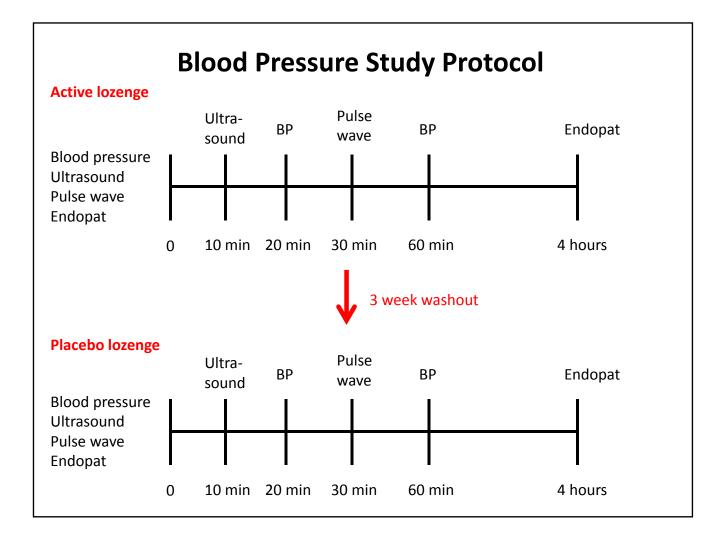
NO Clinical Trial Results

Strong & sustained Nitric Oxide activity

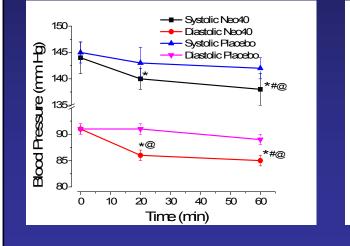


There are over 400 risk factors or markers for CVD

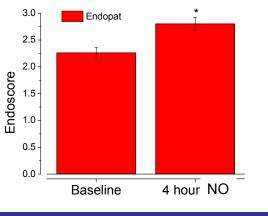
Most if not all can be corrected by restoring NO production



NO Supports Healthy Blood Pressure And Improves Endothelial Function



Houston, Hays JCH 2014



Flow mediated dilation

Representative Ultrasound Before and 10 minutes after NO Lozenge



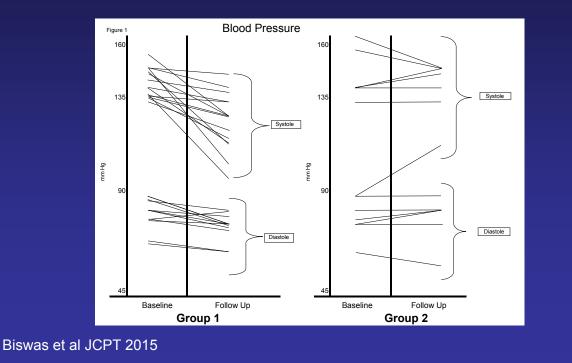
13% increase in vessel diameter causes a 34% increase in blood flow

Average Changes in 10 subjects After 30 minutes

	AVG % Chg 7min
Systole	-8.29%
Diastole	-8.15%
MAP	-7.91%
Heart Rate	-1.09%
Central Systolic Pressure	-7.25%
Central Diastolic Pressure	-8.84%
Cardiac Output	5.31%
Total Vascular Resistance	-12.72%
Augmentation Pressure	-46.76%
Aug. Index@75 [90% C]	-60.37%
Pulse Wave Velocity [90% C]	-1.96%

Pre-hypertension trial Cedars Sinai Medical Center PI: Ernst Schwarz MD, PhD

Pre-Hypertension Trial – Cedars Sinai School of Medicine



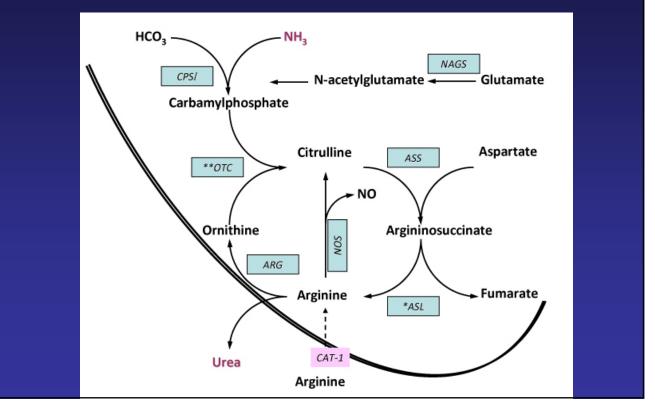
30 Day Placebo controlled Trial

	Group 1 (mean ± SD)			Group 2 (mean ± SD)			Baseline: NO vs	Follow- Up: NO vs
	Baseline	Follow-Up	Δ	Baseline	Follow-Up	Δ	placebo (p-value)	placebo (p-value)
BP (mmHg, systole; diastole)	138±12; 84±5	126±12; 78±4	12; 6 reduction (p<0.001)	138±21; 80±8	135±17; 82±8	N.S.	0.19; 0.012	0.26; 0.25
Heart Rate (bpm)	75±9	76±8	N.S.	80±10	79±8	N.S.	0.14	0.33
6-Minute Walk Test (meters)	596±214	650±197	55 improvement (p<0.005)	590±8	606±225	N.S.	0.25	0.35
SF-36v2 (PCS; MCS)	48±10; 40±9	50±8; 45±7	p<0.05	43±10; 37±9	37±11; 37±7	significant worsening (p<0.05)	0.08; 0.06	0.08; 0.03

Biswas et al JCPT 2015

NO Lozenge Rescues Inborn Error in Metabolism

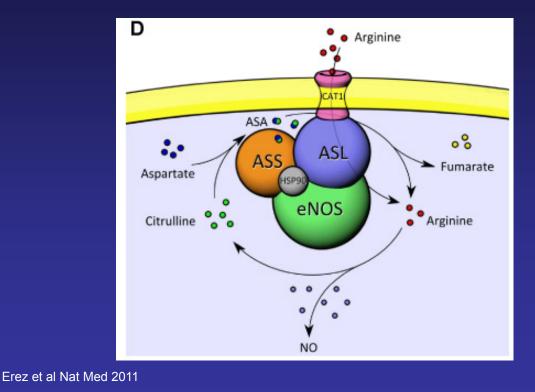
The Urea Cycle converts ammonia to urea for excretion

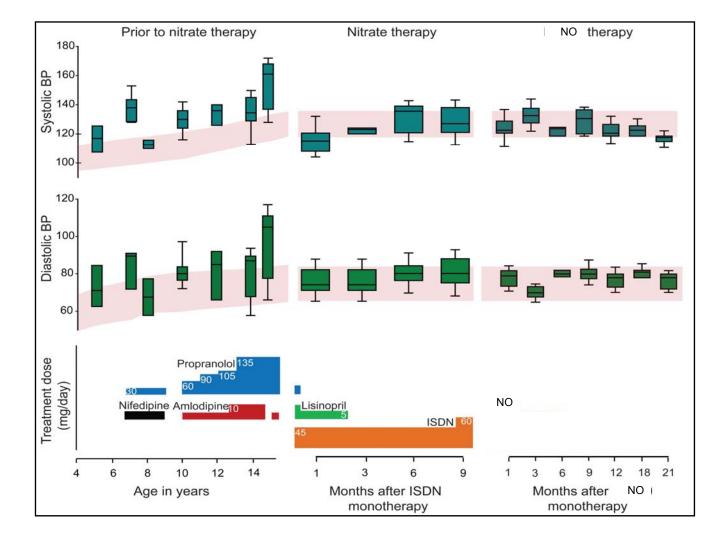


ASL deficiency is an Inborn error in metabolism

- Hyperammonemia
- In addition:
 - Progressive liver dysfunction and cirrhosis
 - Coagulopathy
 - Neurological dysfunction independent of recurrent hyperammonemia
 - Hypertension
 - Renal dysfunction
- More than hyperammonemia?

NOS Utilizes Intracellular L-Arginine from L-citrulline for NO Production



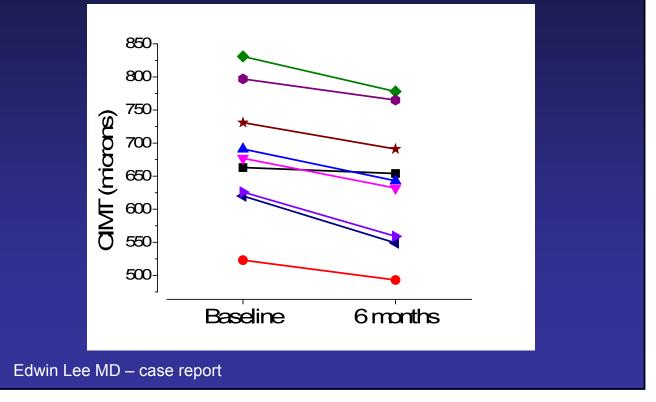


Echocardiogram measurements before and after initiation of NO supplementation.

Left ventricle (LV) parameters	Before NO supplementation (z- score)	After NO supplementation (z- score)
LV diastolic septal thickness	2.26	1.33
LV diastolic dimension	-2.10	-0.36
LV diastolic wall thickness	3.59	2.24
LV systolic septal thickness	4.08	1.94
LV systolic dimension	-2.08	-0.67
LV systolic wall thickness	3.01	1.53

Echocardiogram measurements of LV dimensions taken before and 5 months after initiation of NO supplementation. All parameters demonstrate normalization. Also increased the number of circulating endothelial progenitor cells

NO Supplement Leads to Plaque Regression



What are the Experts Saying?

Recently, the oxidative 'waste' products of nitric oxide, nitrite and nitrate, have been evaluated in a new context, due to their own ability form NO independent of nitric oxide synthase enzymes, through reductive electron exchanges.

Furthermore we may finally have an explanation for the many known and undisputed benefits of the Mediterranean diet. Perhaps now we should consider nitrite and nitrate as the bioactive food components that account for the protective phenotype of certain foods and diets...

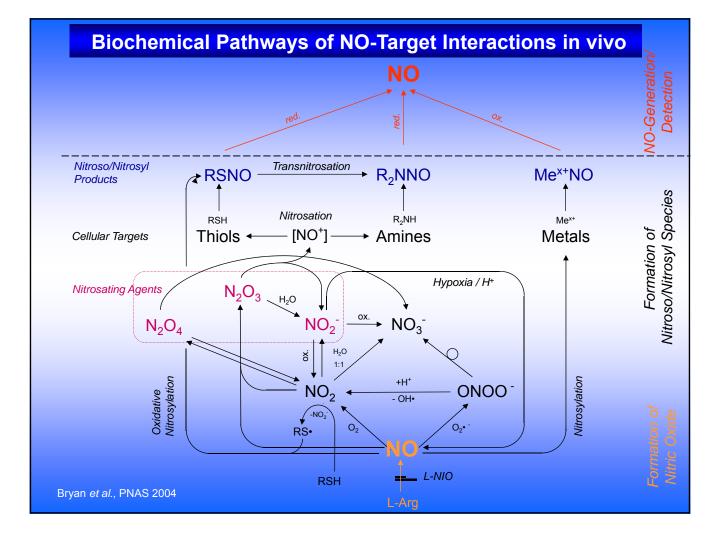
The future use of nitrite/nitrate in dietary considerations will likely have a significant impact on current public health policy.

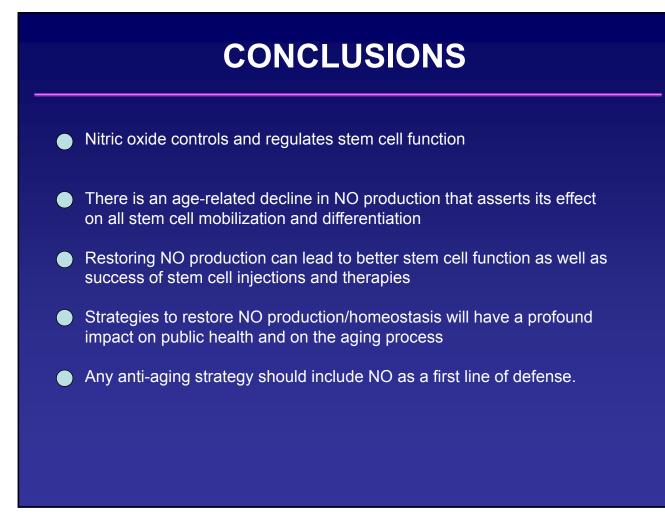
Louis J. Ignarro, Ph.D. 1998 Nobel Laureate in Medicine Foreword – Nitrite and Nitrate in Human Health and Disease; Springer Humana Press 2011

Beware of Pretenders!!!

- 1. Ask for clinical evidence that NO products work
- 2. Make them show you it works
- 3. Demand published research on the product

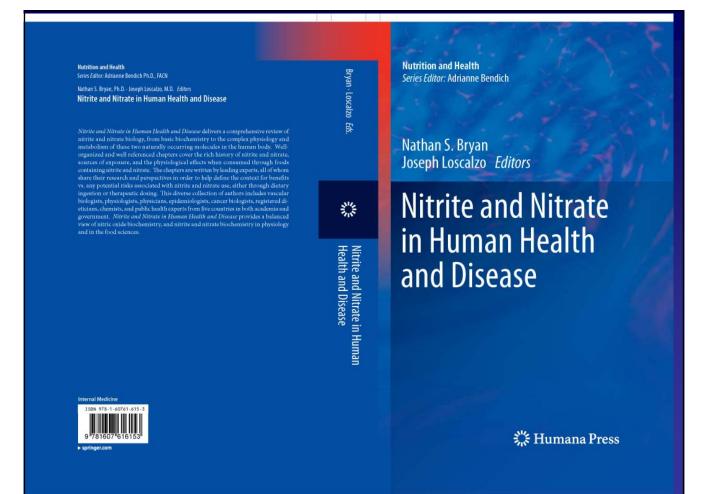
If they cannot provide you these 3 simple requests, then RUN





All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident.

Arthur Schopenhauer, German philosopher (1788 – 1860)



References cont.

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