# Biomarkers of one-carbon metabolism and B-vitamin status

Targeted metabolomics in rats and humans exploring the effects of PPARα-activation and dietary composition



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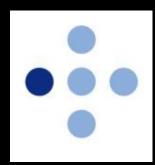
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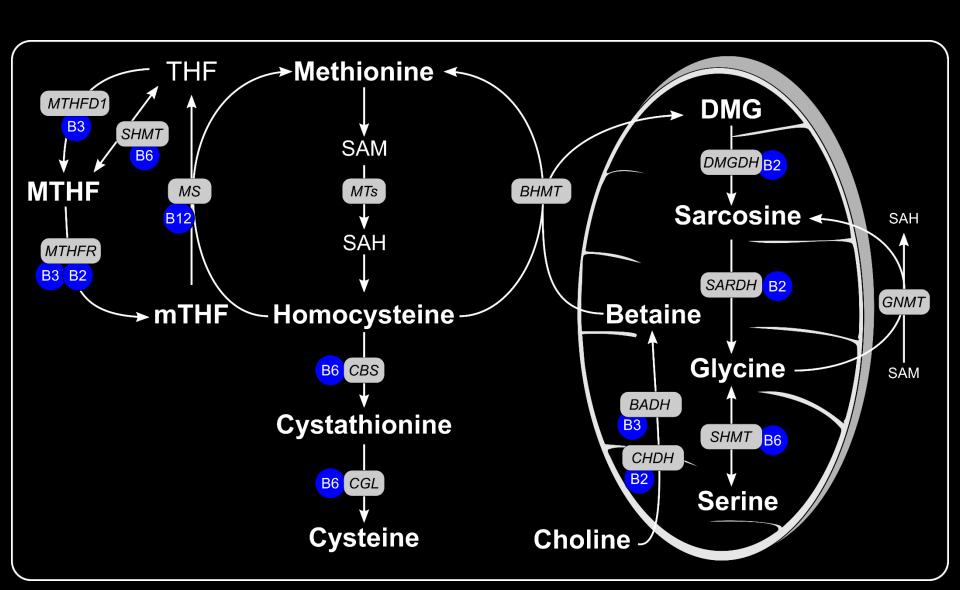






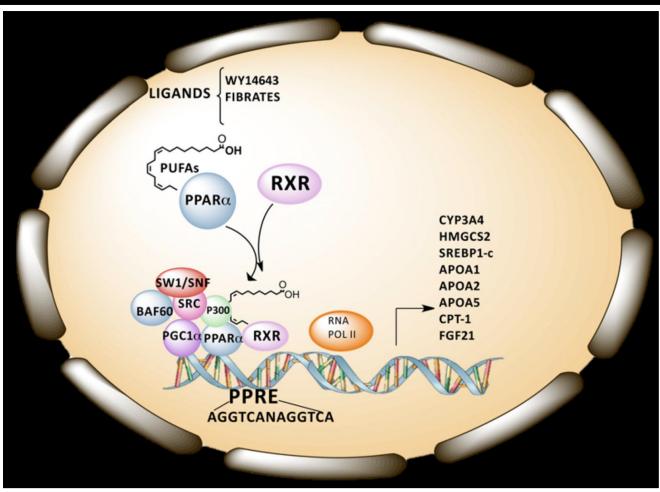


#### One-carbon metabolism



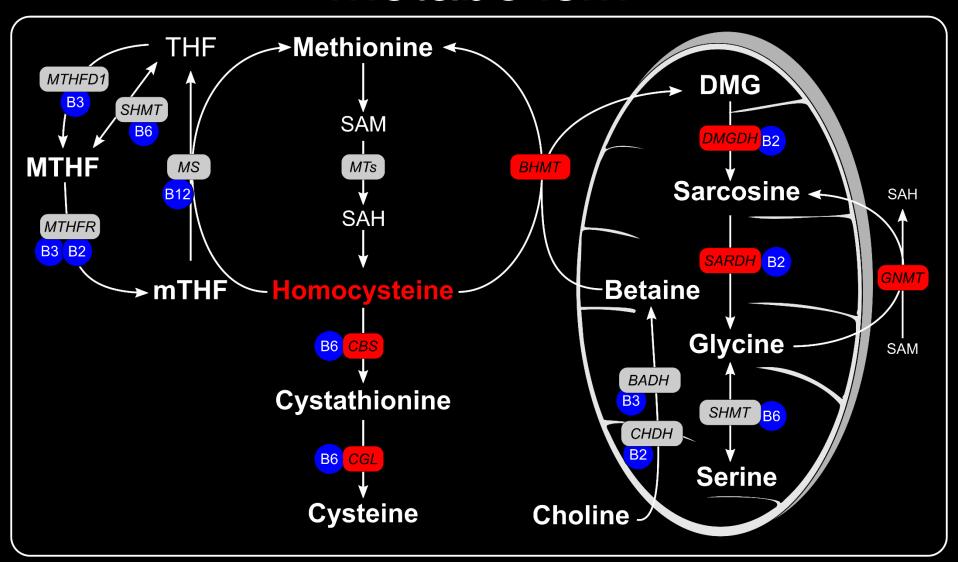
### PPARα

**Fibrates** Fatty acids (PUFA > MUFA > SFA)

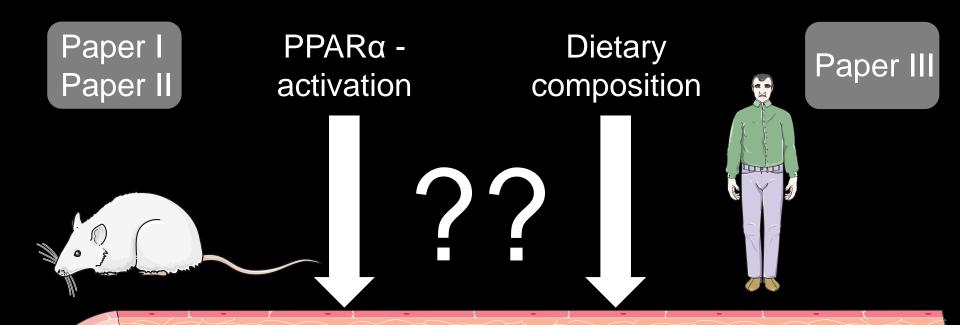


Adapted from Contreras (2013)

# PPARα and one-carbon metabolism



#### Aim of thesis



**One-carbon metabolites and B-vitamins** 

#### Papers

- I. Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptor Activation is Associated with Altered Plasma One-Carbon Metabolites and B-Vitamin Status in Rats. Nutrients. 2016;8(1)
- II. PPARα activation influences plasma one-carbon metabolites and B-vitamin status in rats. Manuscript submitted to Plos One
- III. Dietary macronutrient composition and plasma concentration of one-carbon metabolites and markers of B-vitamin status. A cross-sectional study. Manuscript submitted to J Nutr



#### Animal studies

Paper I

Paper II

20 male Wistar rats

20 male Wistar rats

Control (n = 10)

TTA (n = 10)

Control (n = 8)

**PPARα** (n = 6)

**PPARγ** (n = 6)

50 weeks

High fat

Non-fasting

**Duration** 

Diet

**Sacrifice** 

12 days

Low fat

Fasting

Independent t-test

**Statistics** 

One-way ANOVA and planned contrasts towards control

SMD (95% CI)

Results

SMD (95% CI)

#### TTA and one-carbon metabolites

Methionine

Homocysteine

Cystathionine

Cysteine

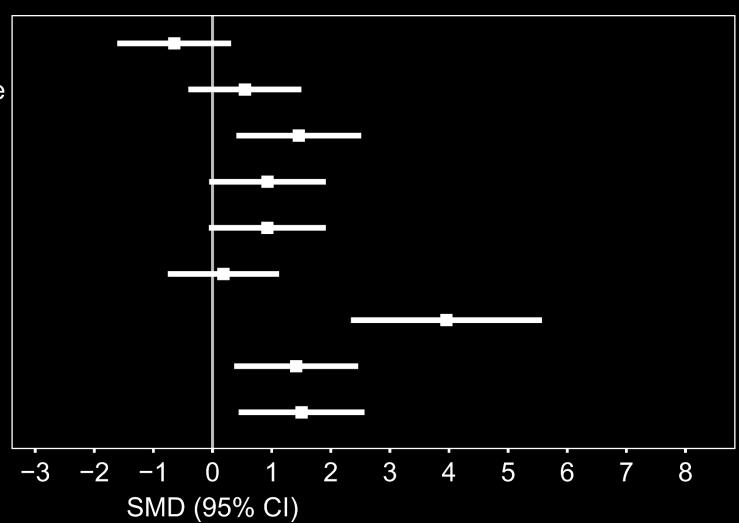
Choline

Betaine

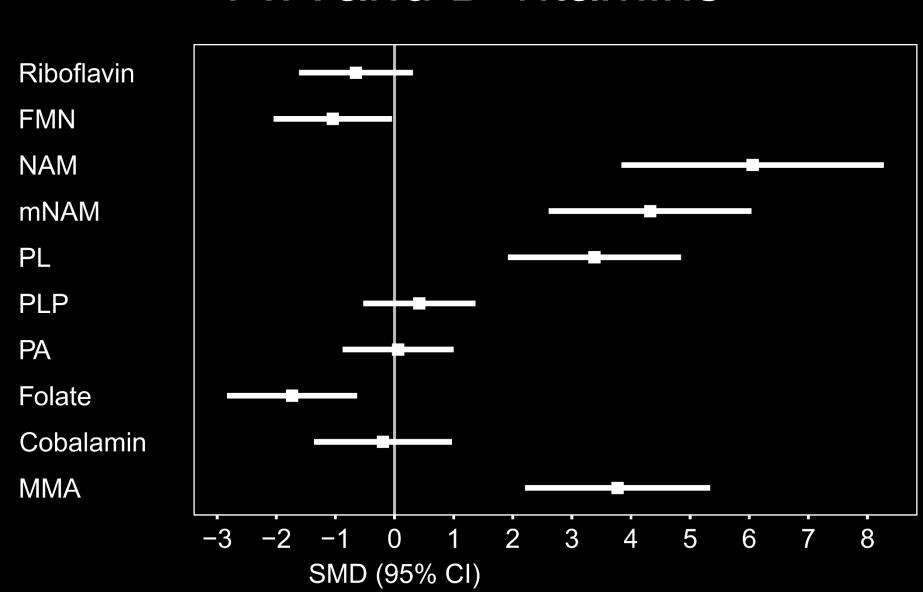
**DMG** 

Glycine

Serine



#### TTA and B-vitamins



#### Summary so far

Strongest effects of TTA-treatment:

- 1 NAM, mNAM, PL, MMA and DMG
- FMN and folate

#### **Open questions**

- Is this reflecting PPARα-activation?
- Are other PPARs involved?
- Are there PPAR-independent effects of TTA?

#### PPARs and one-carbon metabolites



Homocysteine

Cystathionine

Cysteine

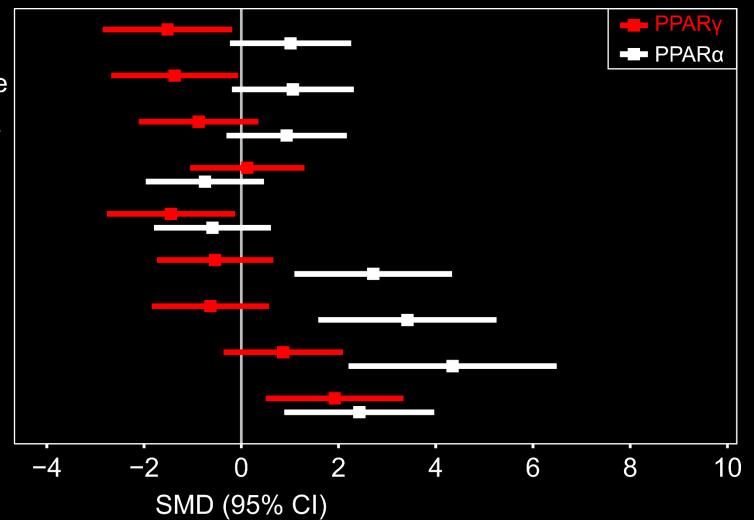
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Betaine

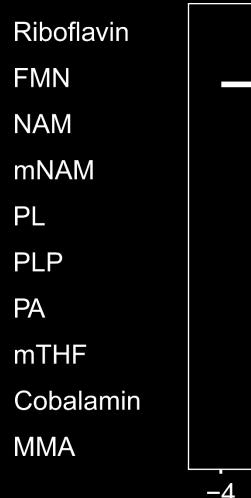
**DMG** 

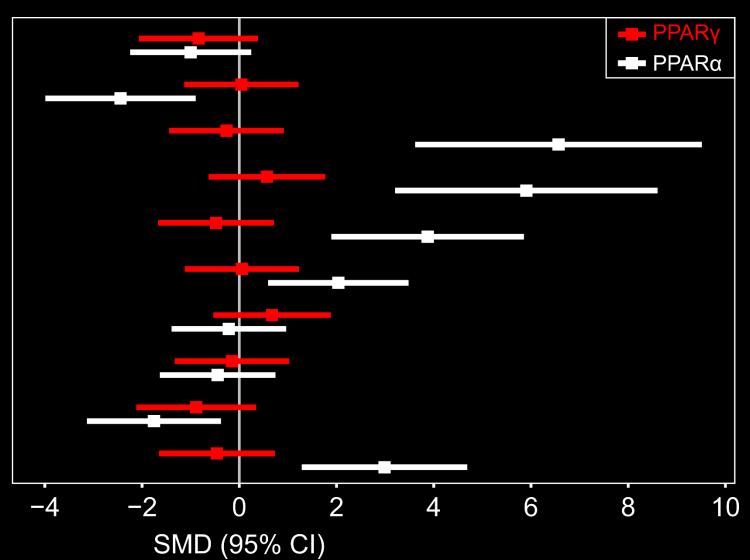
Glycine

Serine

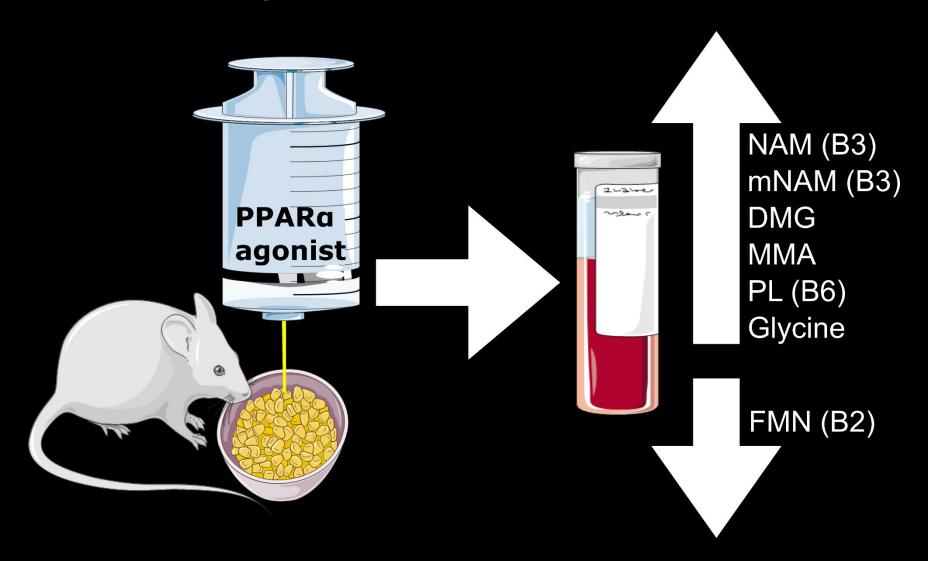


#### PPARs and B-vitamins





## Findings from animal studies



#### Human study

WENBIT population (n = 3090)

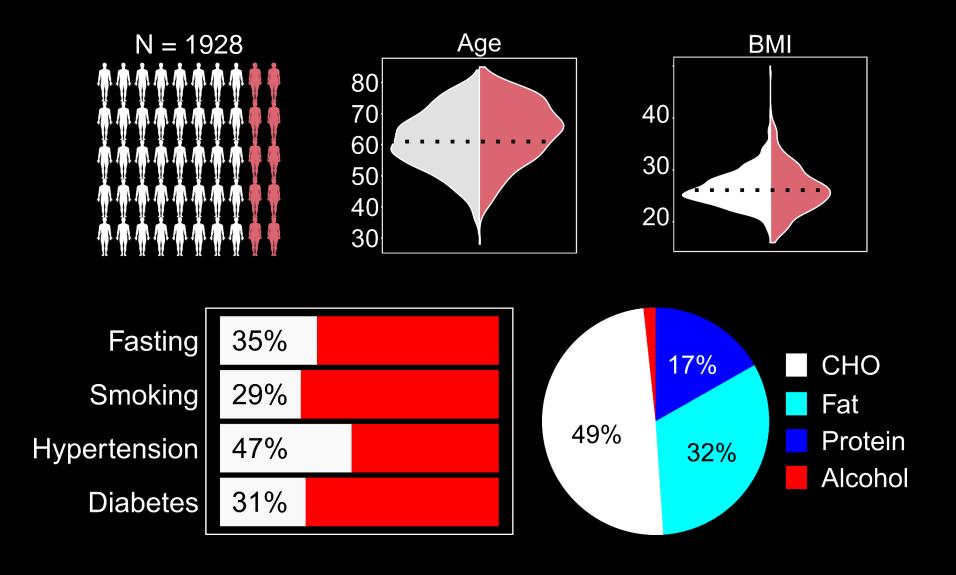
Patients with SAP (n = 2573)

Eligible for final analyses (n =1928)

- Non-SAP patients (n = 517)

- Missing FFQ (n = 485)
- >1 blank page (n = 80)
- Very high or low reported energy intake (n = 27)
- Alcohol intake > 10 E% (n = 52)
- Missing all biomarkers (n = 1)

#### Cohort characteristics



#### Aims

#### **Macronutrient intake**

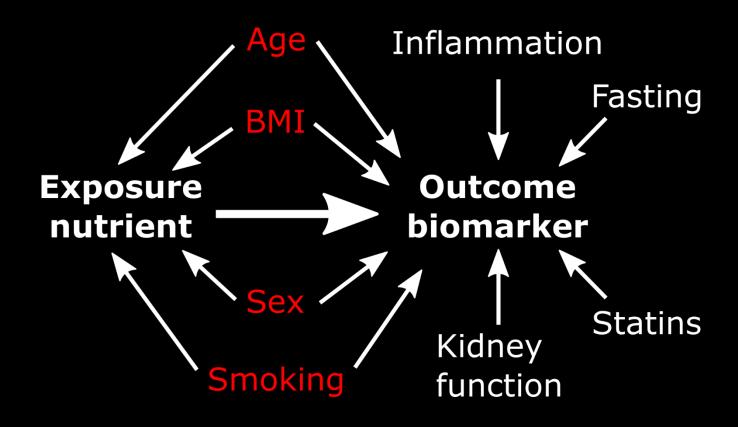
- Carbohydrate
- Fat
- Protein

# Dietary substitutions Between:

- Macronutrients
- Fatty acid classes

**One-carbon metabolites and B-vitamins** 

#### Linear regression models



Final model also adjusted for reported total energy and alcohol intake.

### Main findings

Protein, but not carbohydrate or fat, intake was associated with several biomarkers

The same patters were seen whether protein replaced carbohydrate or fat

Dietary fat composition appeared to influence several biomarkers

PUFA replacing SFA

#### Protein and one-carbon metabolites



Cystathionine

Cysteine

Choline

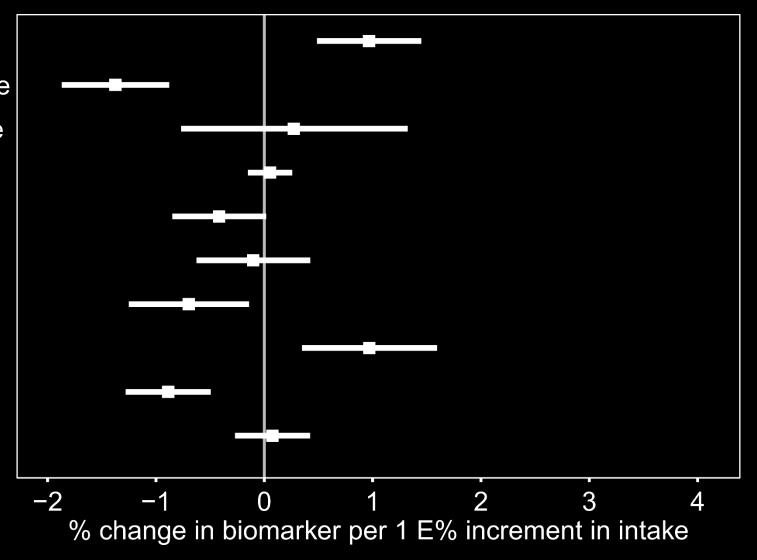
Betaine

**DMG** 

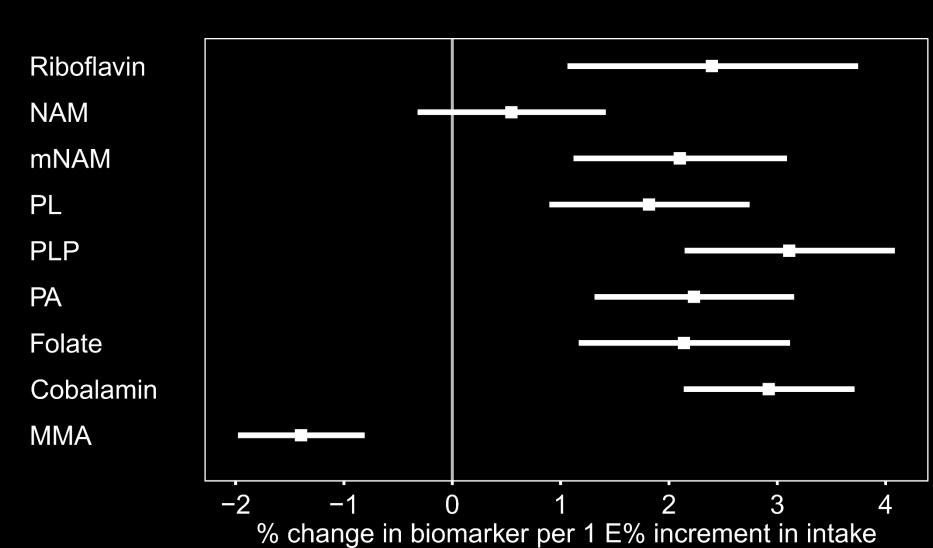
Sarcosine

Glycine

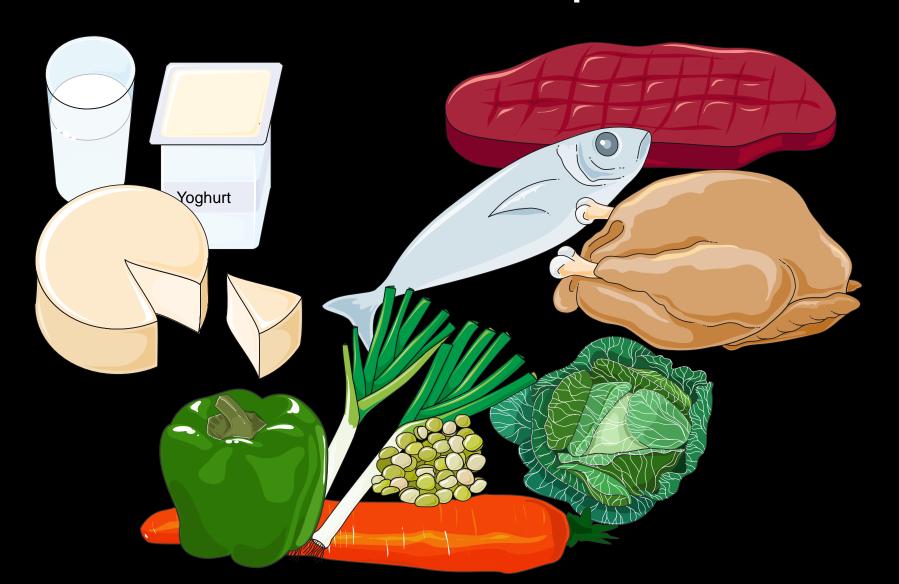
Serine



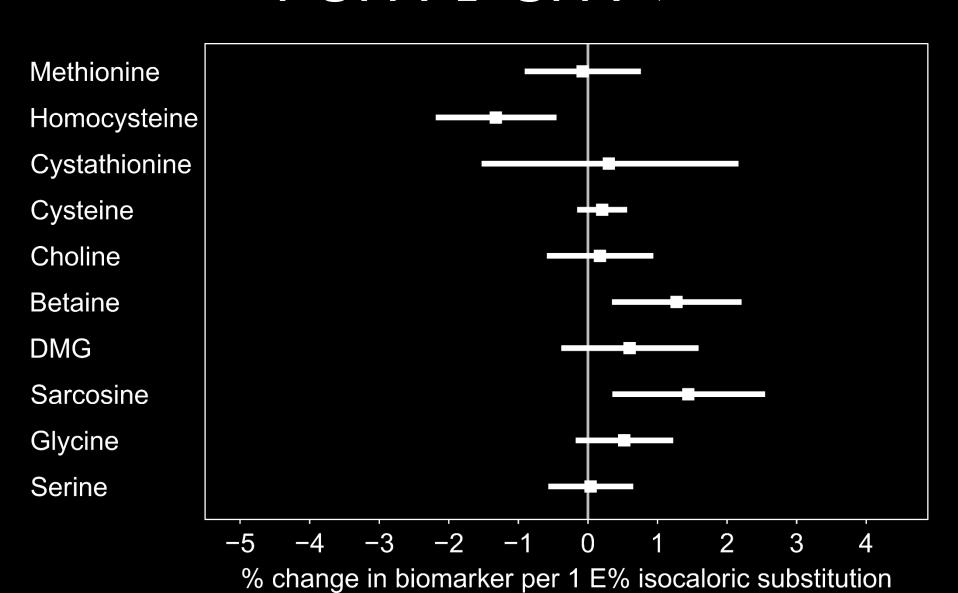
#### Protein and B-vitamins



# Protein and food profile



#### PUFA ① SFA 🕹



#### PUFA ① SFA 🕹



NAM

**mNAM** 

PL

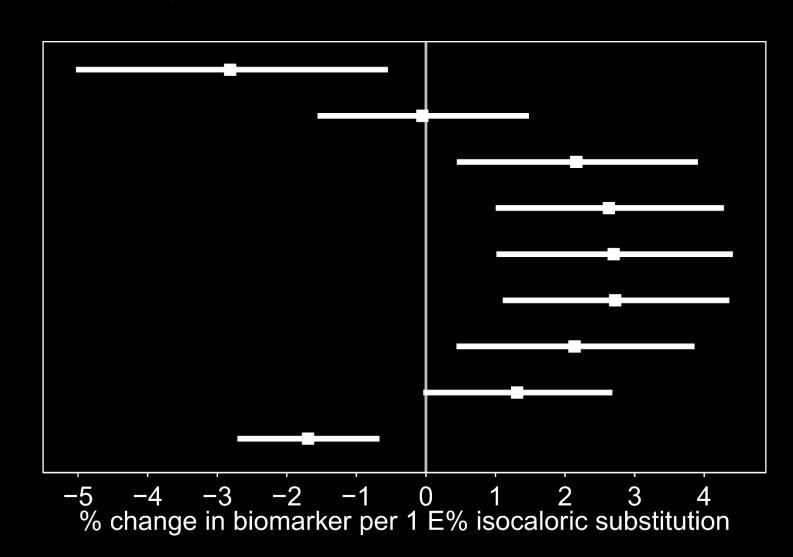
**PLP** 

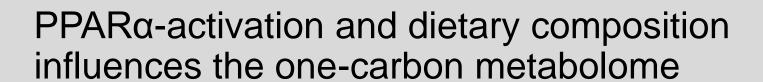
PA

**Folate** 

Cobalamin

**MMA** 





PPARα-activation ⇒ Consistent and strong effect on many biomarkers

Potential biomarkers of PPARα-activity

Protein ⇒ Most B-vitamins higher

Substituting PUFA for SFA ⇒ Similar metabolic profile to PPARα-activation