



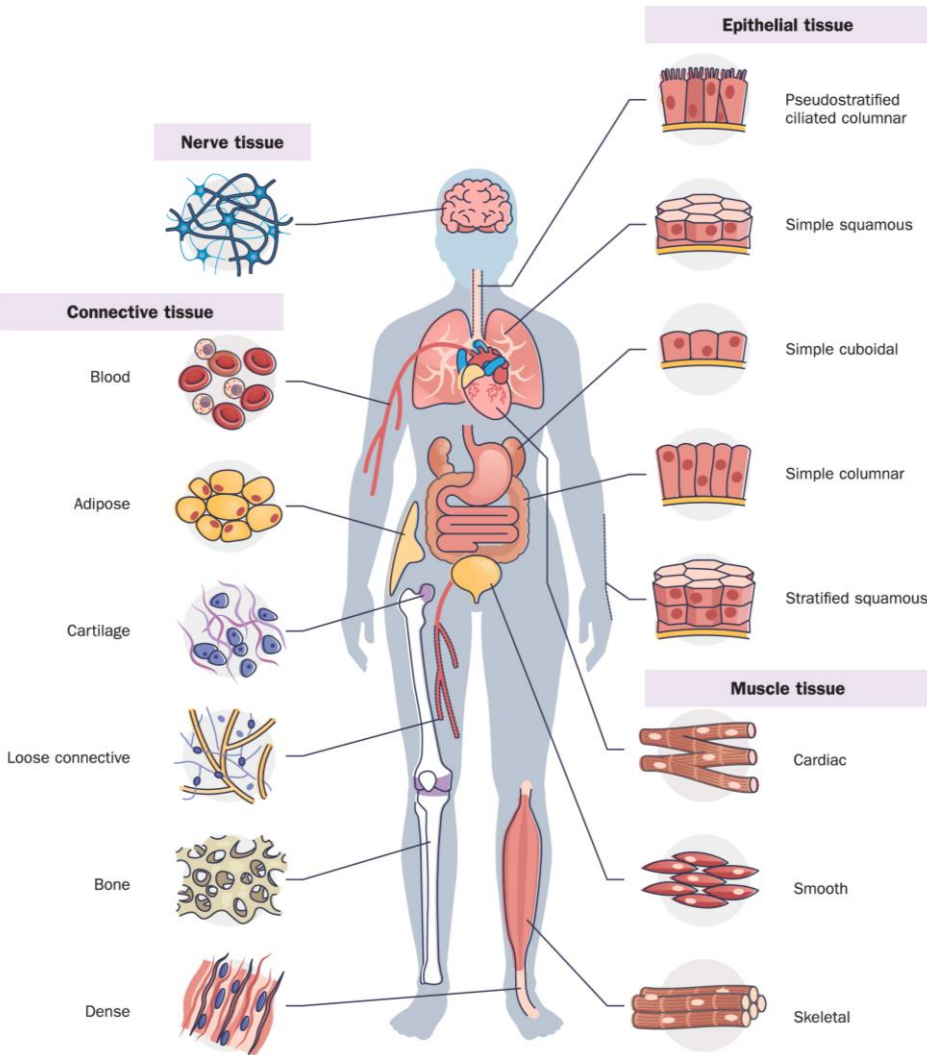
LEIDS UNIVERSITAIR MEDISCH CENTRUM

*Leren lezen en schrijven met
het epigenoom*

Antoine A.F. de Vries



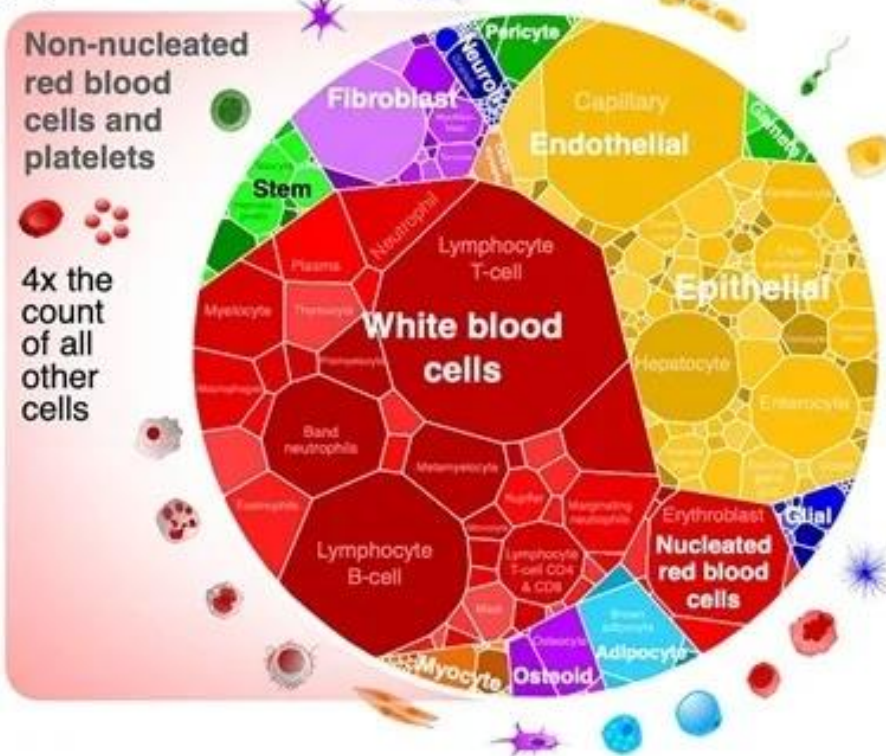
one genotype → many phenotypes



- The human body contains many different cell types
- These cell types contain basically the same genetic information except for germ cells (haploid), erythrocytes (anuclear) & cancer cells (aneuploid).
- Each human cell type expresses a unique part of the genome (housekeeping genes + cell type-specific genes).
- The phenotype of cells is affected by environmental factors, but the basic identity of each cell type is maintained throughout (healthy) life.
- Under normal conditions also the ratios between different cell types in human tissues/organs are very constant.

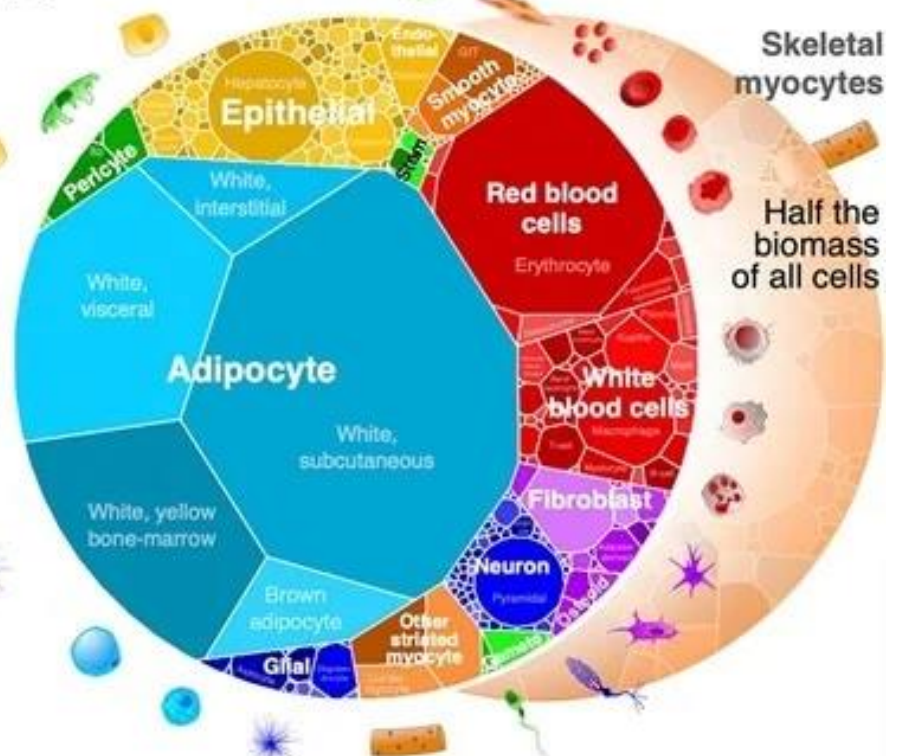
one genotype → many phenotypes

A Cell counts



29 trillion non-nucleated + 7 trillion nucleated cells = 36 trillion cells (+ 38 trillion bacteria)

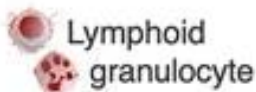
B Biomass



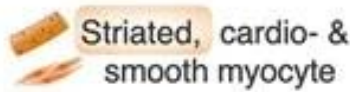
21.5 kg of skeletal myocytes + 23.5 kg of all other cells = 45 kg cell biomass (of 70 kg total mass)



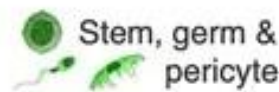
Erythrocyte platelets



Lymphoid granulocyte



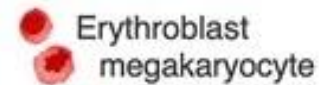
Striated, cardio- & smooth myocyte



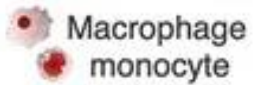
Stem, germ & pericyte



Neuron glial



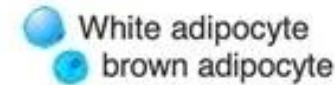
Erythroblast megakaryocyte



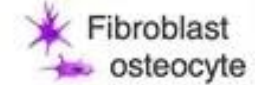
Macrophage monocyte



Epithelial endothelial

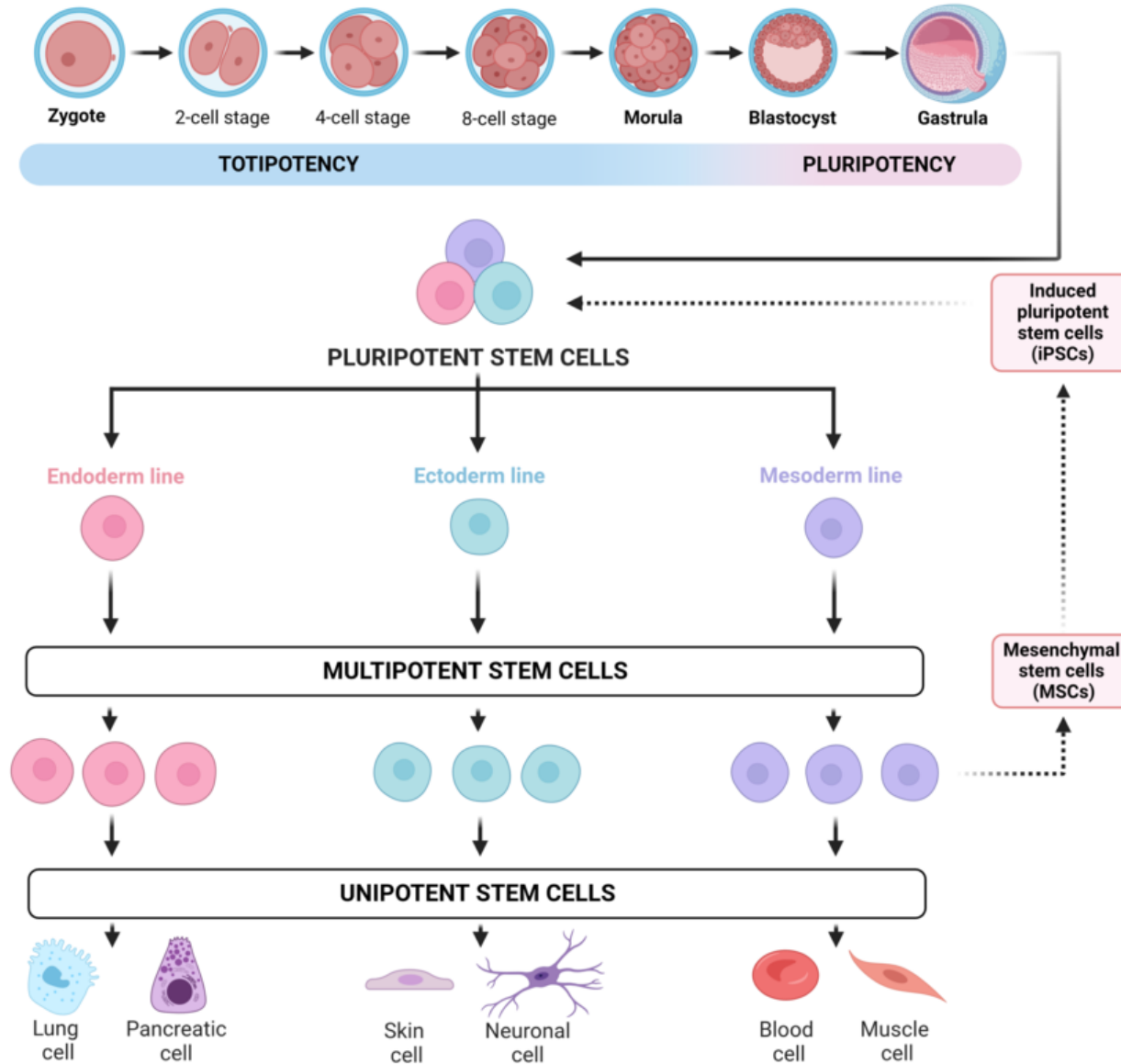


White adipocyte brown adipocyte

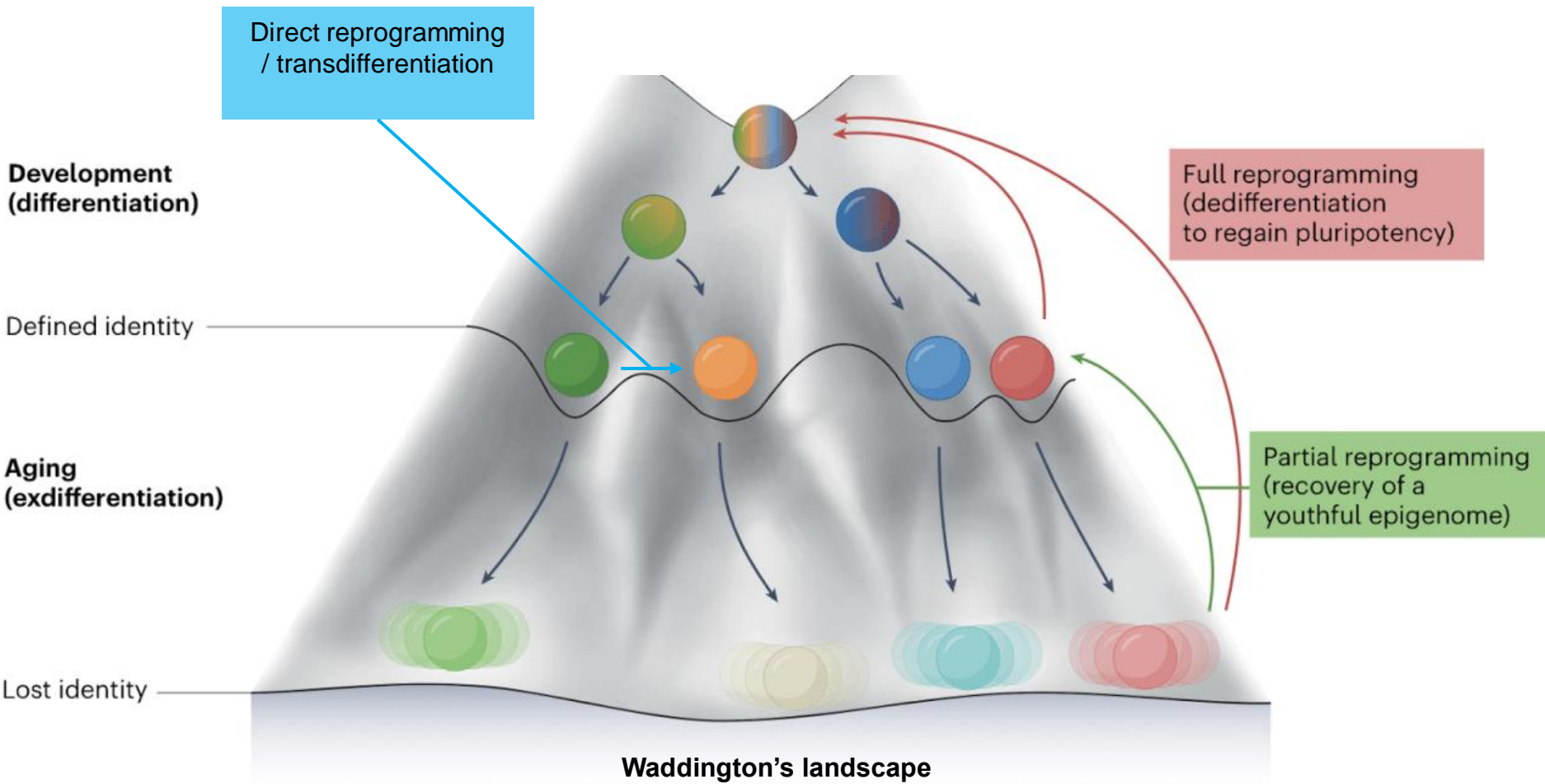


Fibroblast osteocyte

cell differentiation I



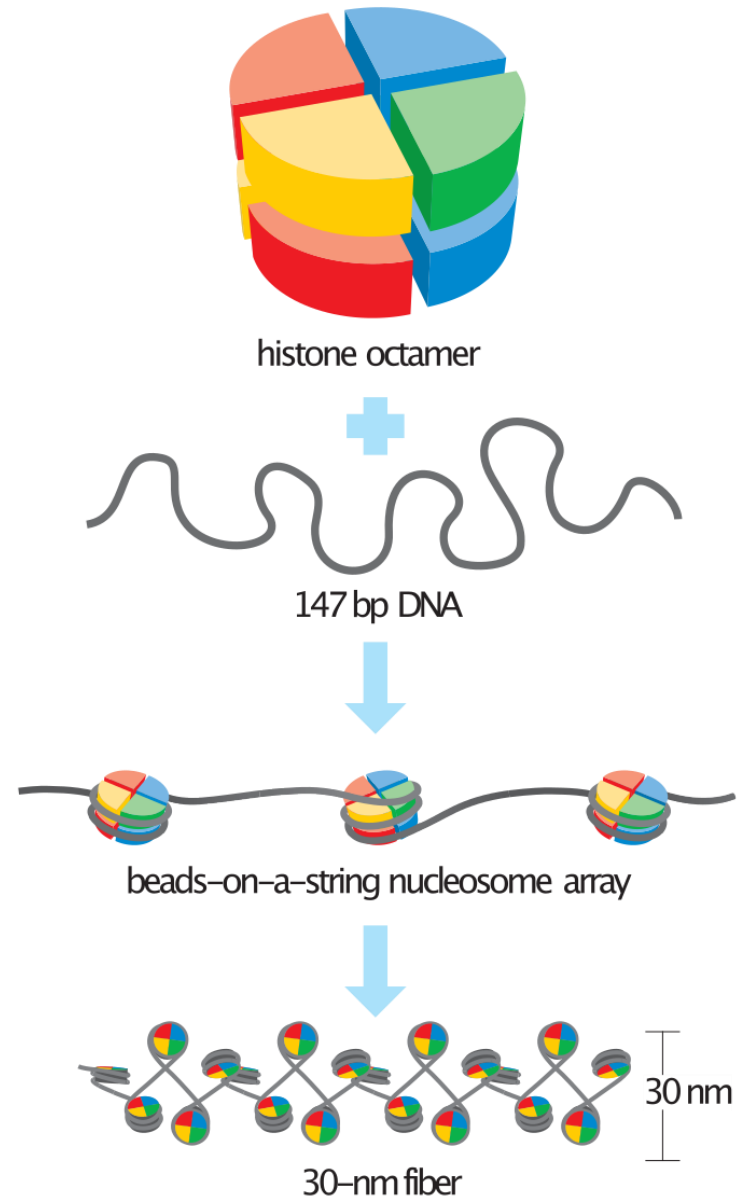
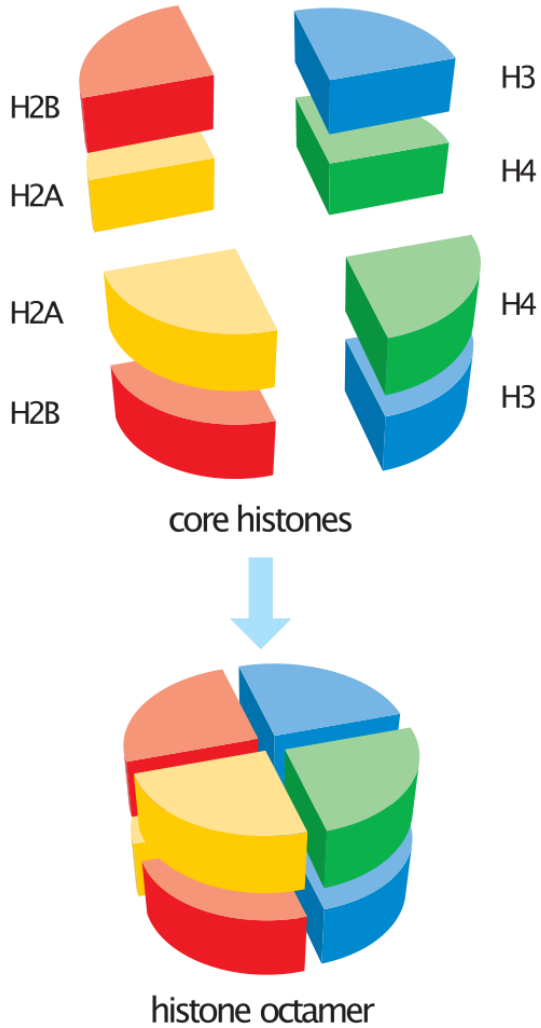
cell differentiation II



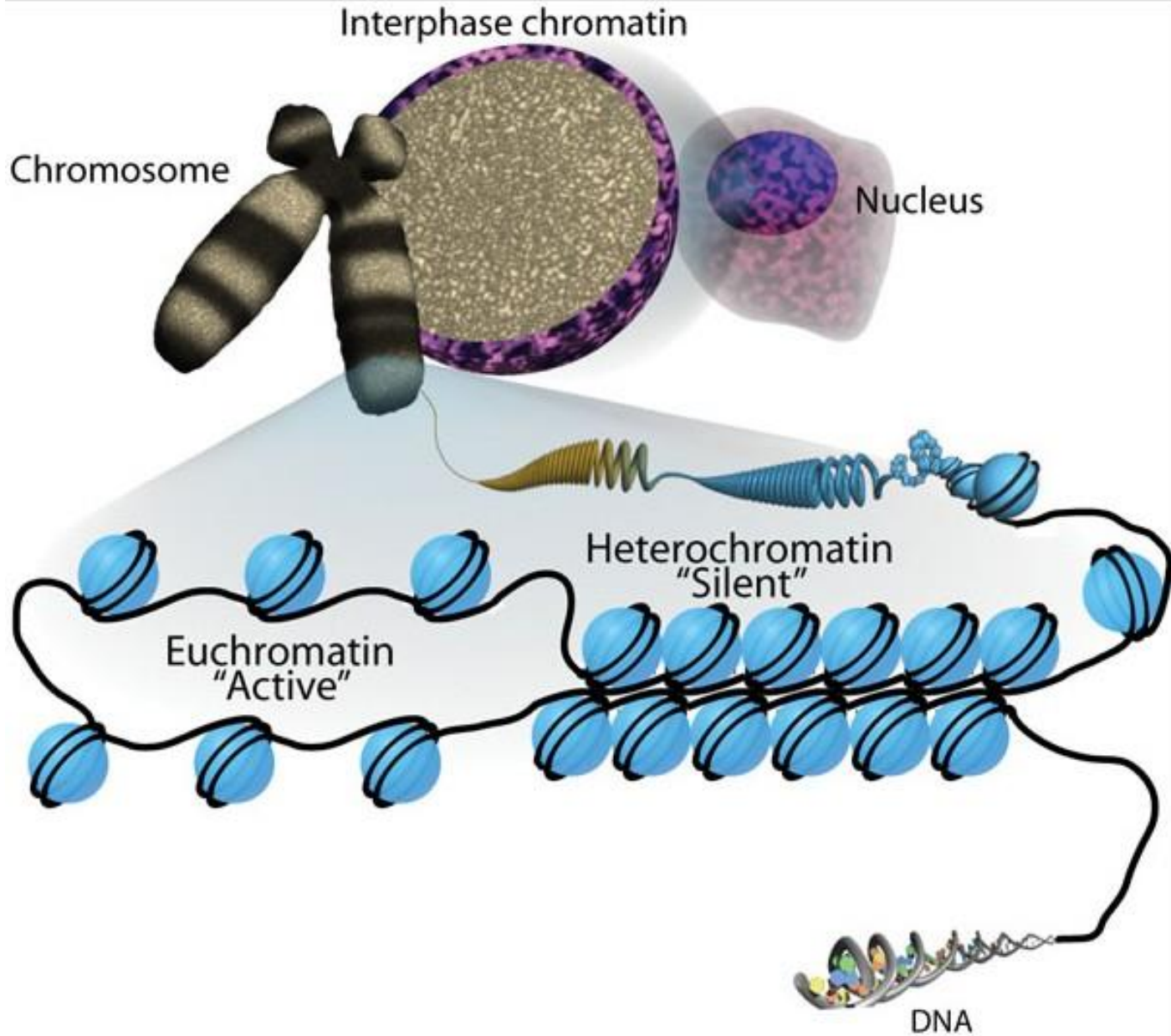
How is cell identity established and maintained?

- environmental stimuli (→ cell signaling)
- transcription factors
- non-coding RNAs
- **the epigenome**

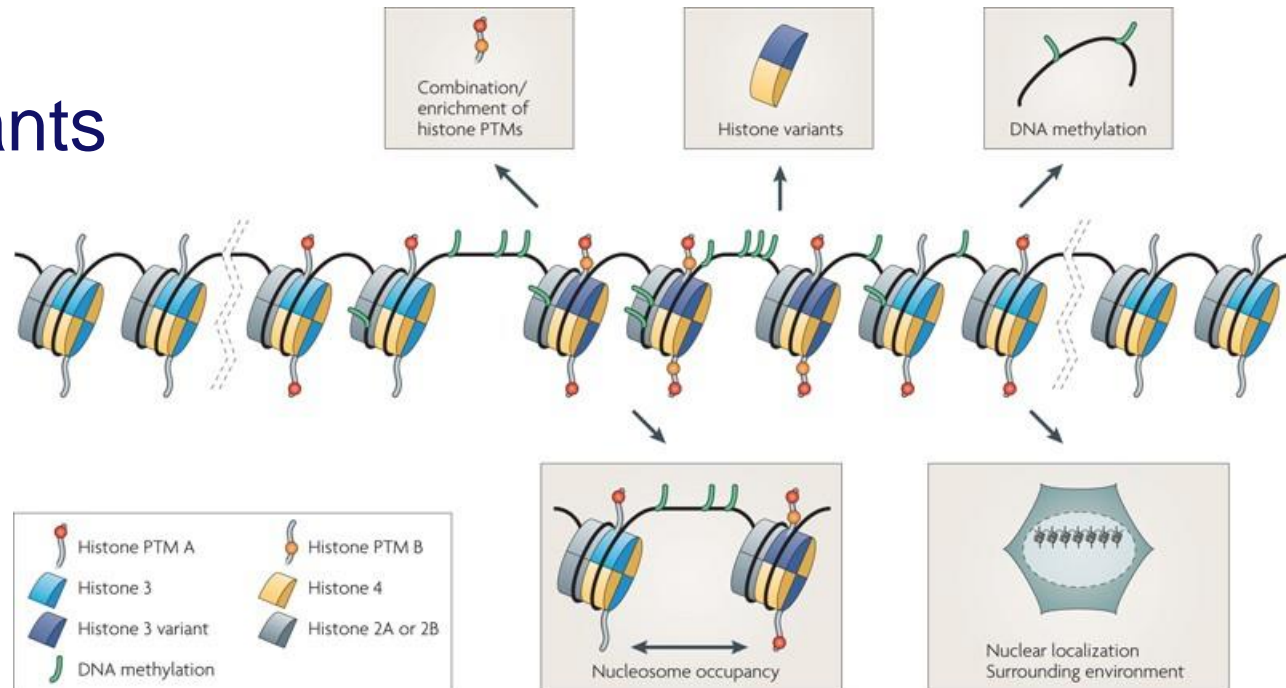
nucleosomes



heterochromatin vs. euchromatin

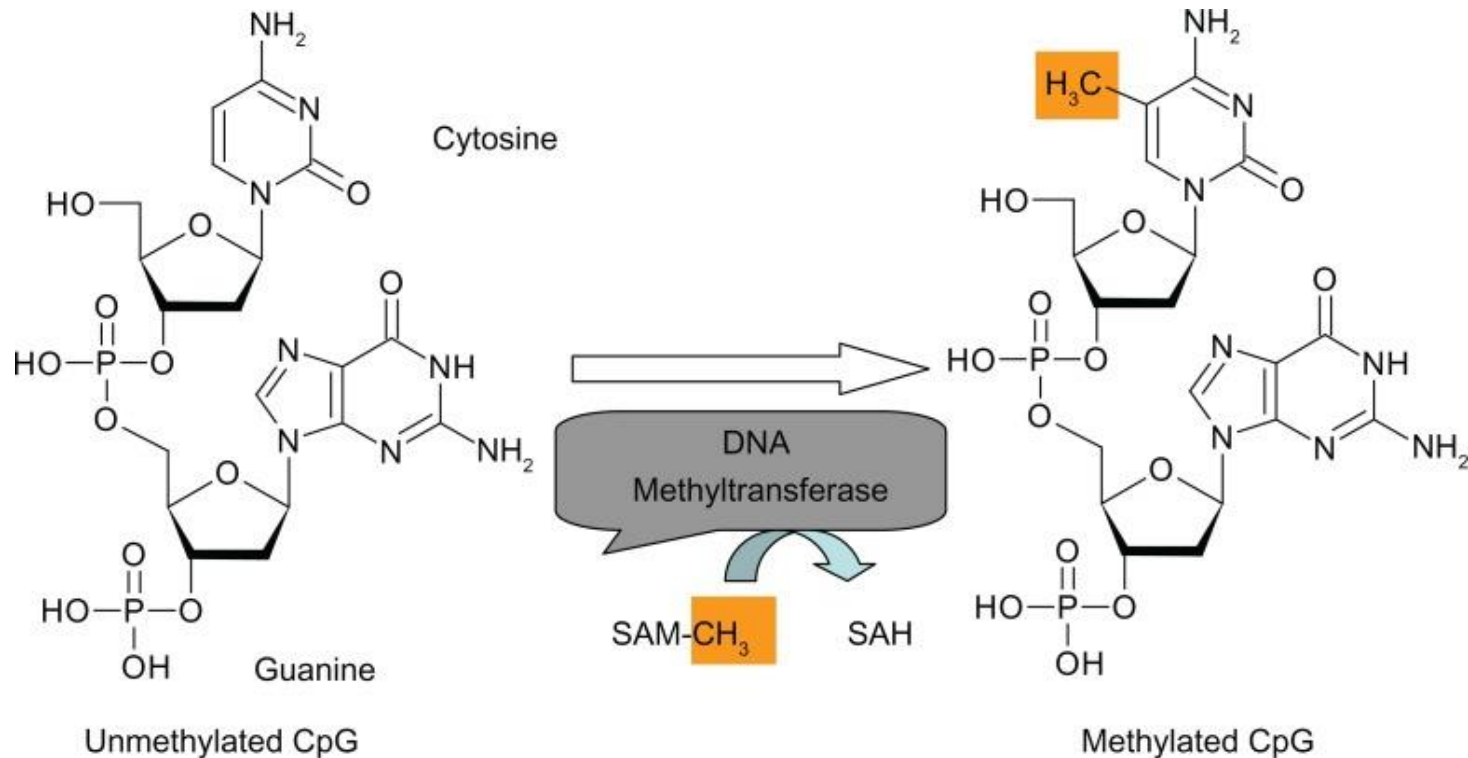


- DNA methylation
- histone posttranscriptional modifications (PMTs)
- chromatin architecture (nucleosome occupancy & looping)
- histone variants



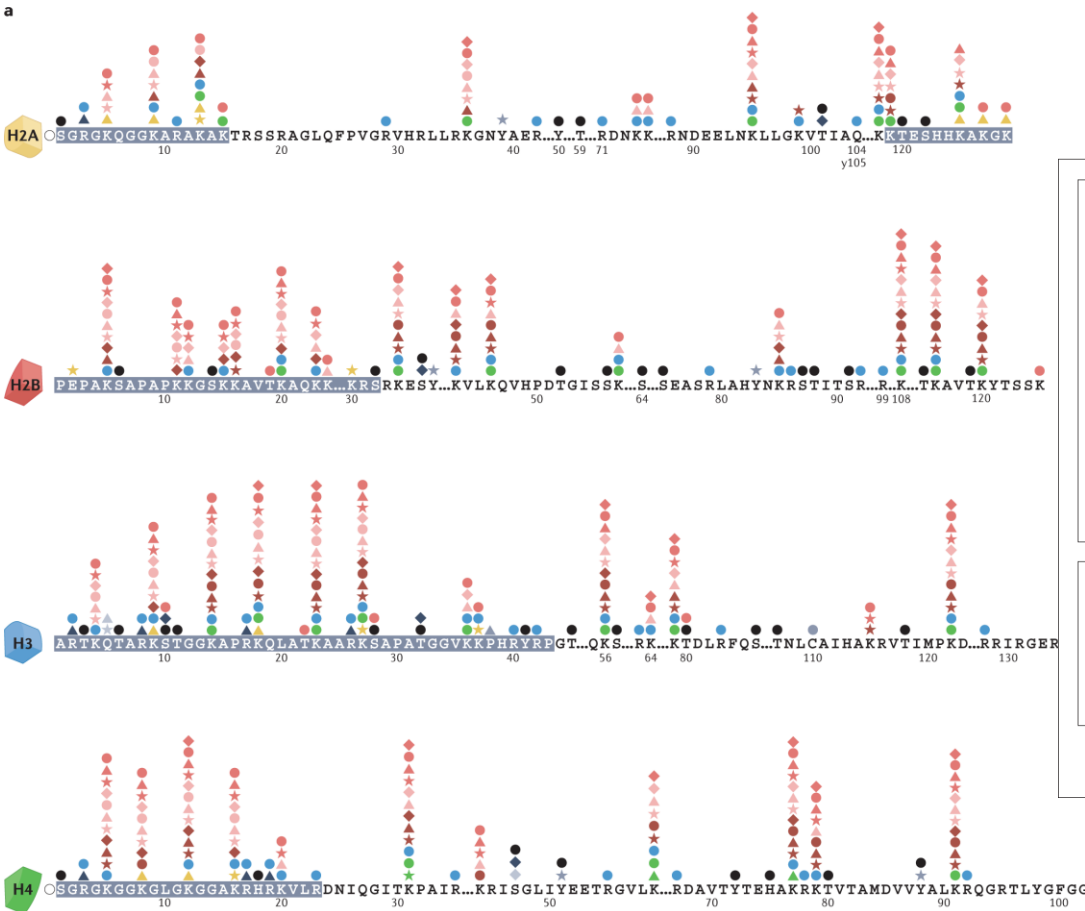
DNA methylation

- Occurs at cytosine residues.
- Performed by DNA methyltransferase DNMT1, DNMT3A & DNMT3B.
- Methyl groups can be actively (methylcytosine dioxygenases TET1, TET2 & TET3 and base excision repair) or passively (DNA replication lost)
- Ageing alters genomic DNA methylation patterns towards pathogenic profiles.



histone PTMs

- Histones can be modified at many positions by all kinds of PTMs, which either stimulates or represses gene expression.



Lysine PTMs (and other aa as indicated)

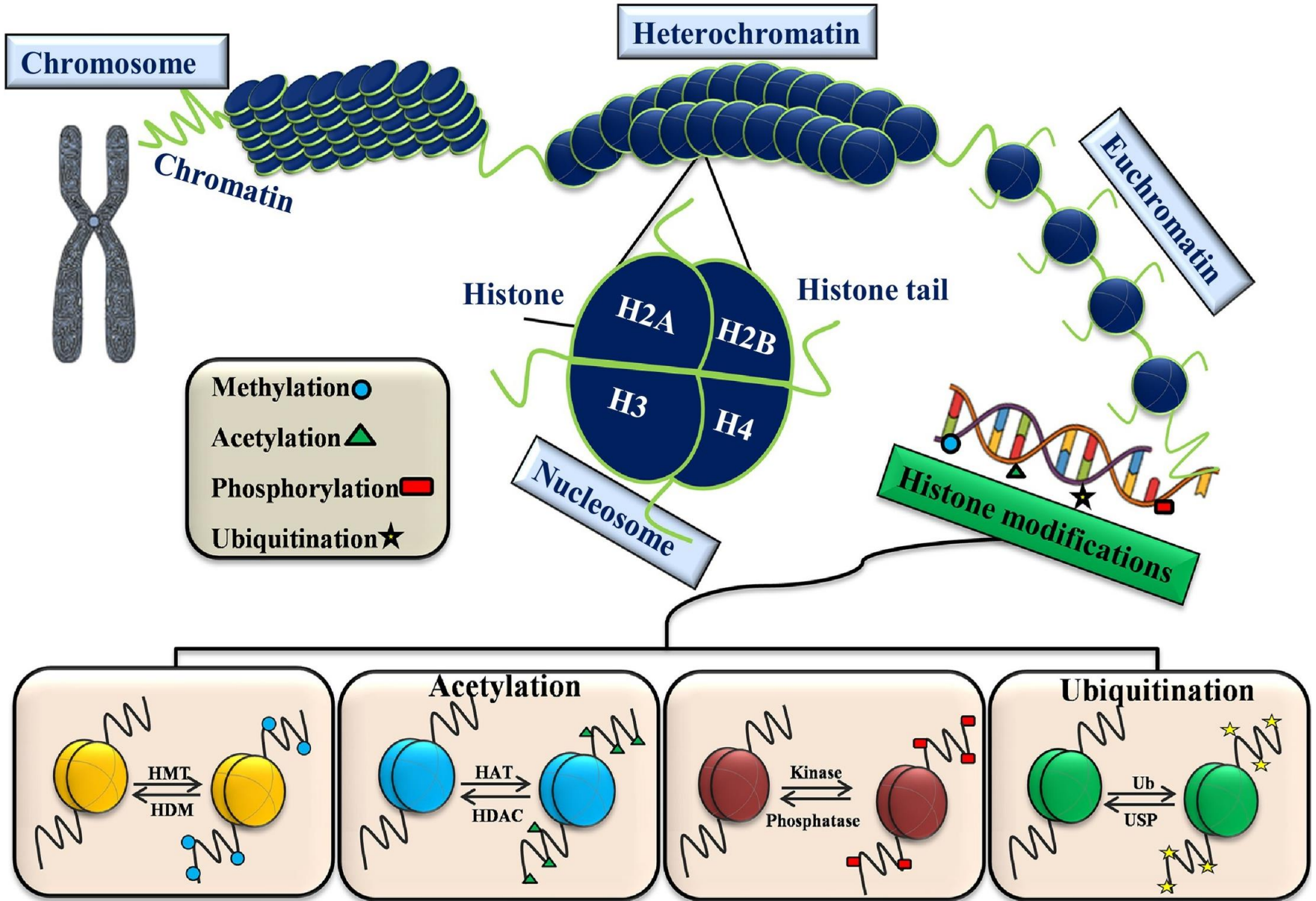
Acylation		
◆ Formylation (K)	◆ Crotonylation (K)	◆ Lactylation (K)
● Acetylation (K, S, T)	● Benzoylation (K)	● Malonylation (K)
▲ Propionylation (K)	▲ 2-Hydroxyisobutyrylation (K)	▲ Succinylation (K)
★ Butyrylation (K)	★ Hydroxybutyrylation (K)	★ Glutarylation (K)

Ubiquitin-like	Others
● Ubiquitylation (K)	● Methylation (K, R)
▲ Sumoylation (K)	▲ Biotinylation (K)
★ Ufmlylation (K)	★ ADP ribosylation (K, E)

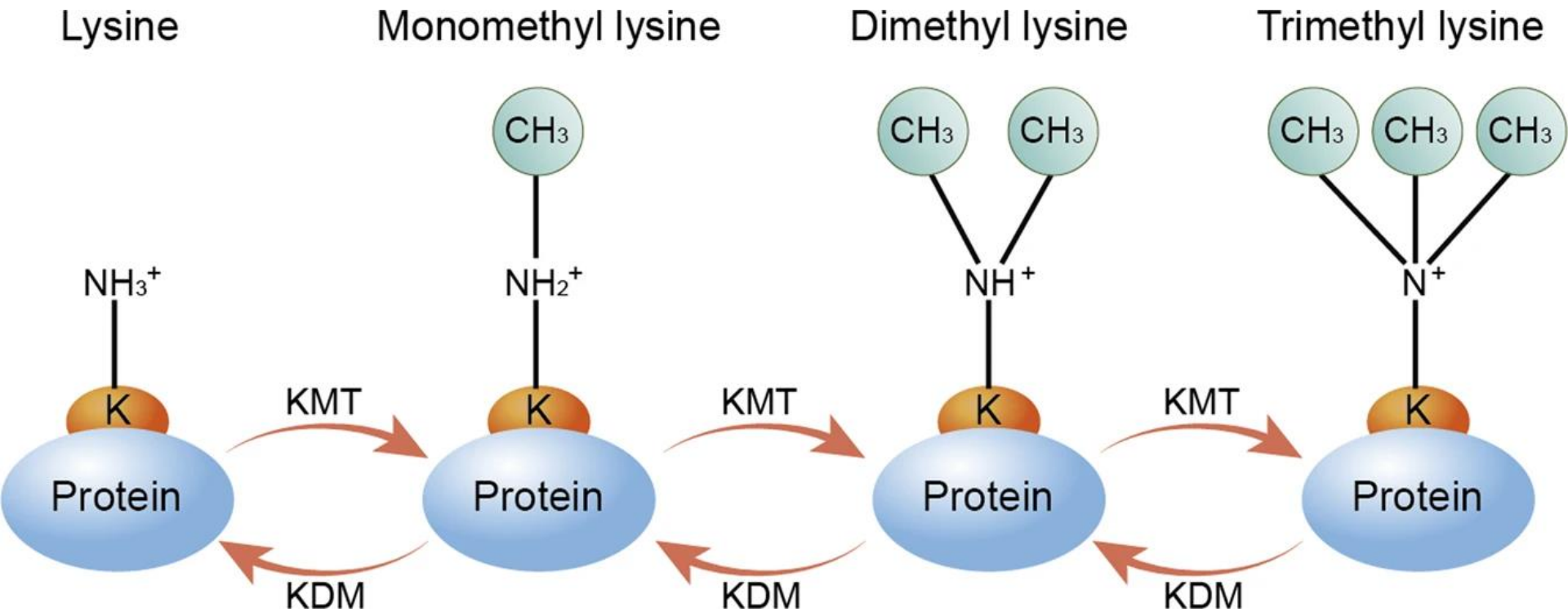
Non-lysine PTMs		
▲ Serotonylation (Q)	● S-palmitoylation (C)	◆ O-GlcNAcylation (S, T)
★ Dopaminylation (Q)	▲ Isomerization (P)	▲ Deimination (R)
◆ O-palmitoylation (S)	★ Hydroxylation (Y)	
● Phosphorylation (S, T, Y, H)	○ N-terminal acetylation (S)	

Amino acids in histone tails

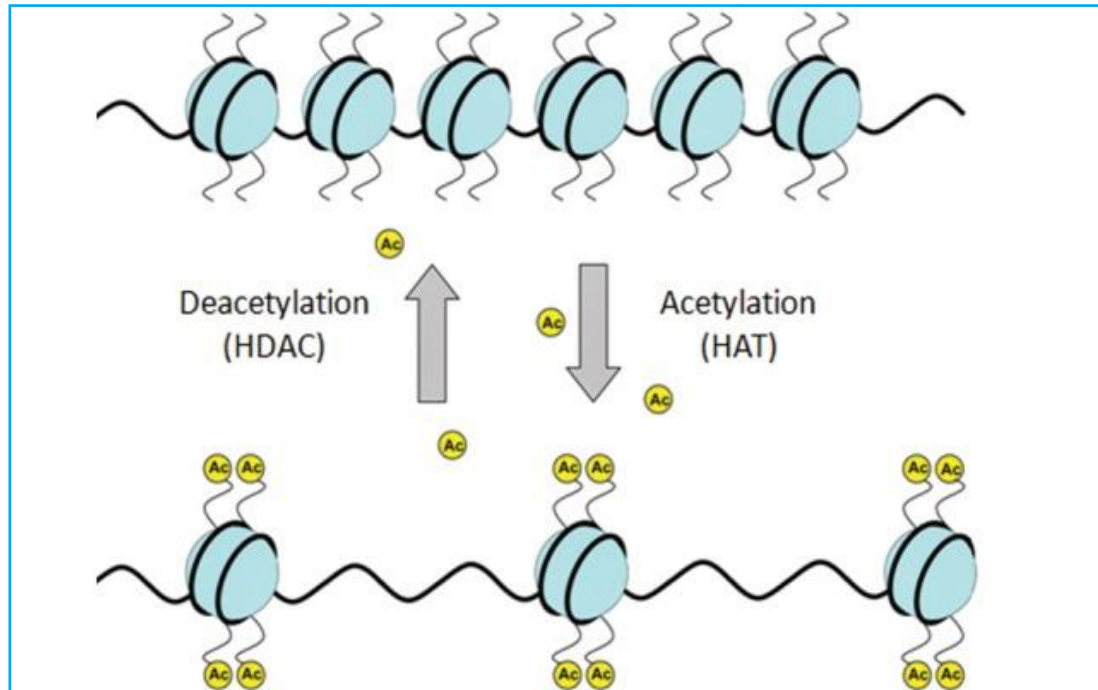
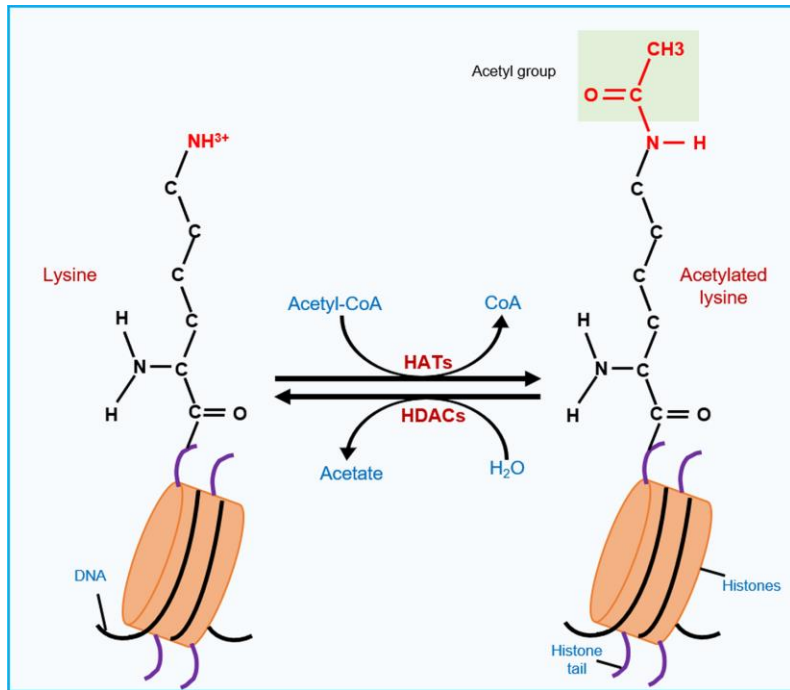
histone PTMs



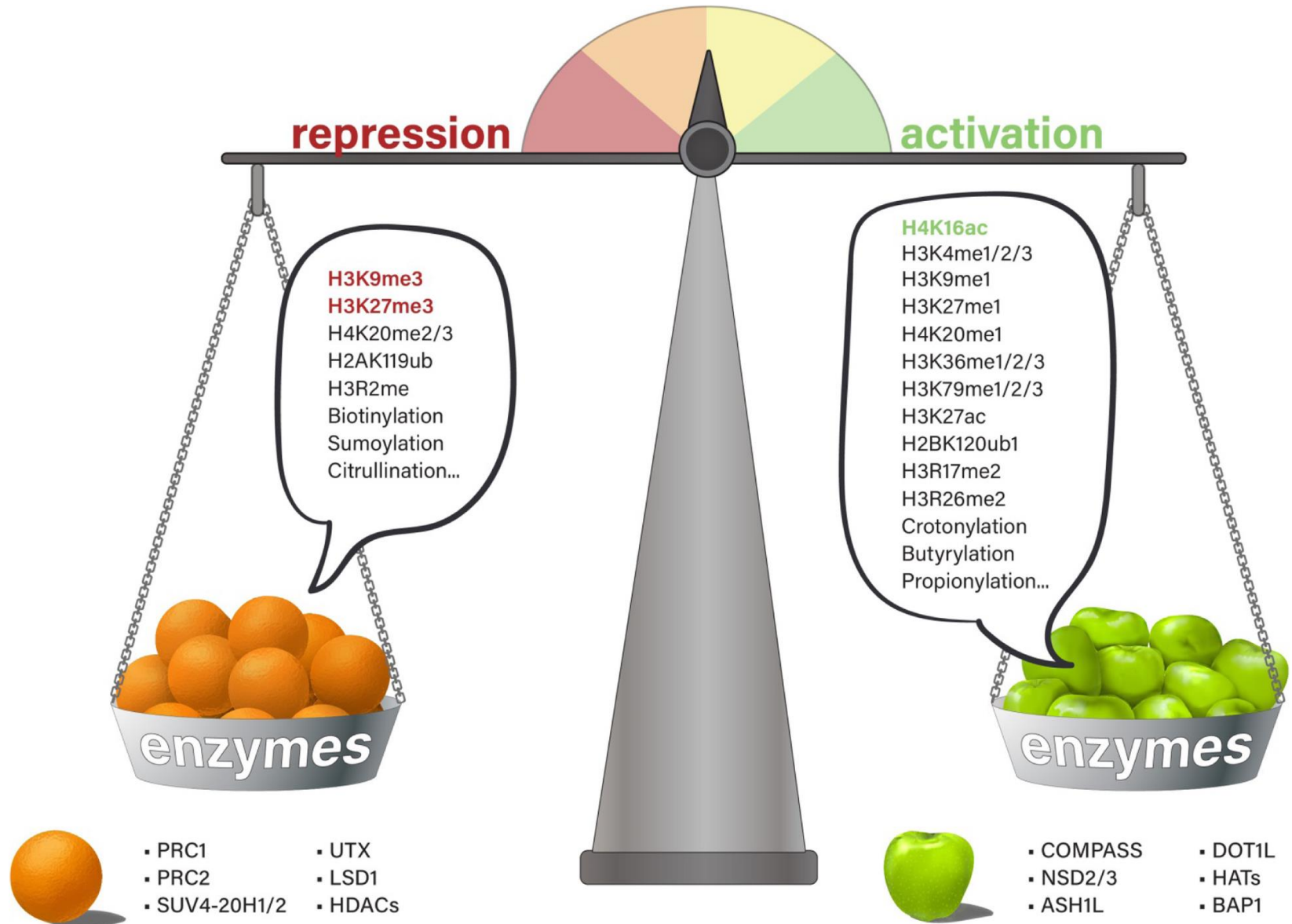
histone (de)methylation



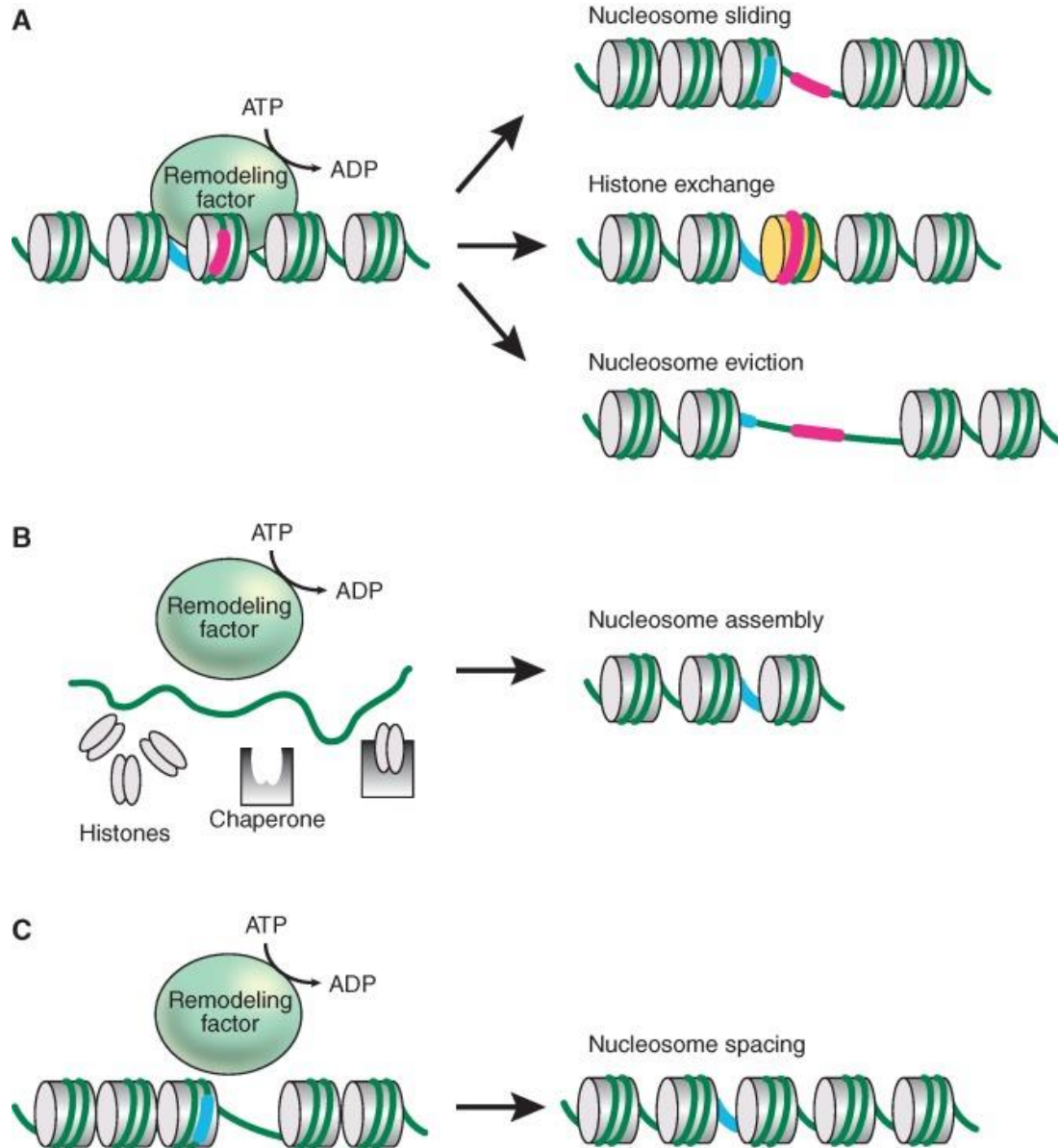
histone (de)acetylation

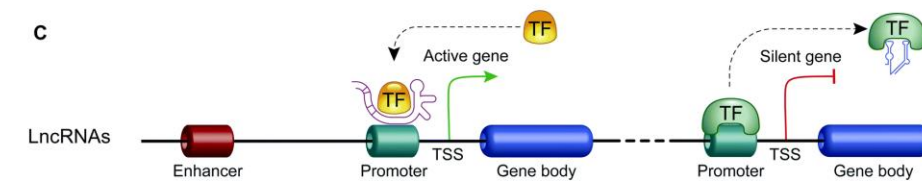
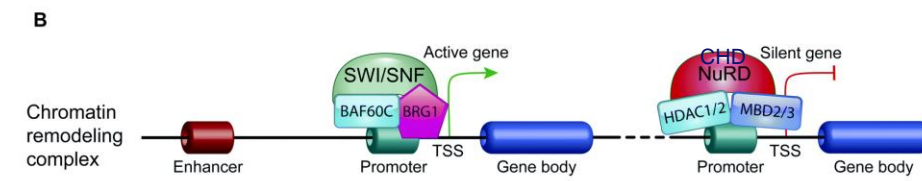
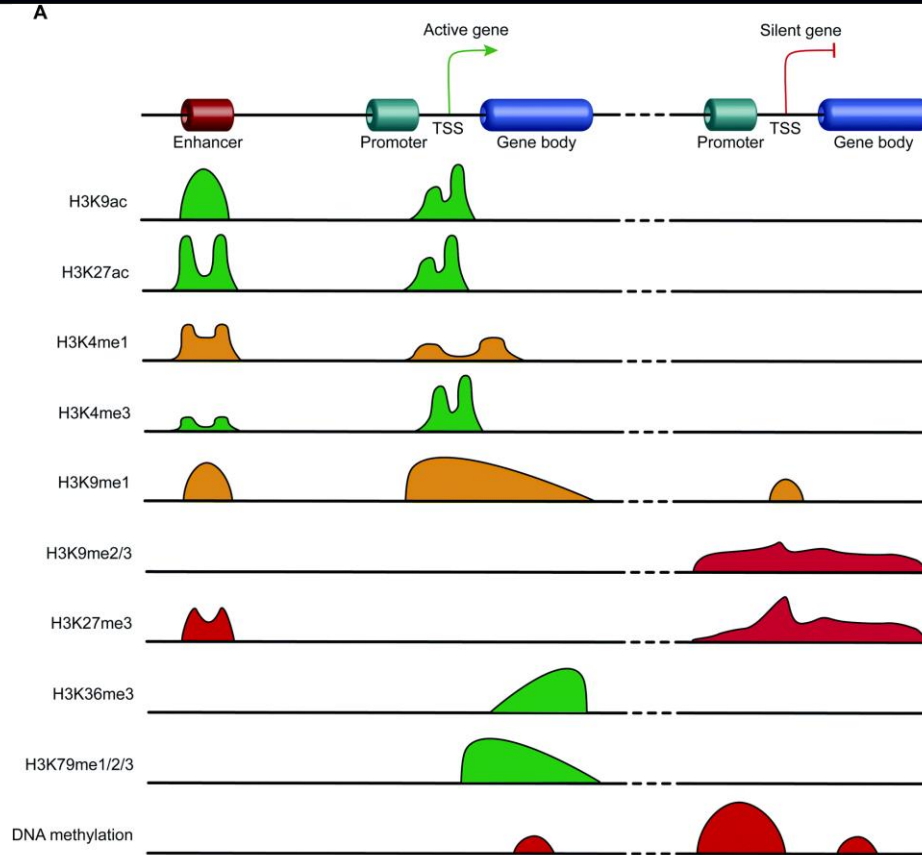


histone PTMs

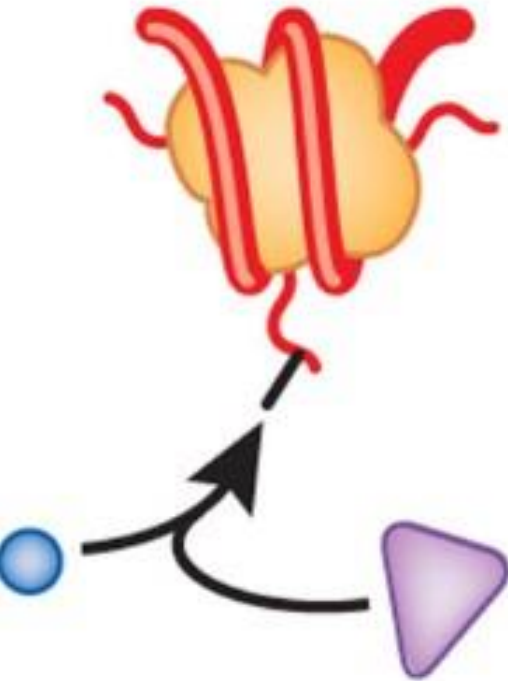


chromatin remodeling complexes



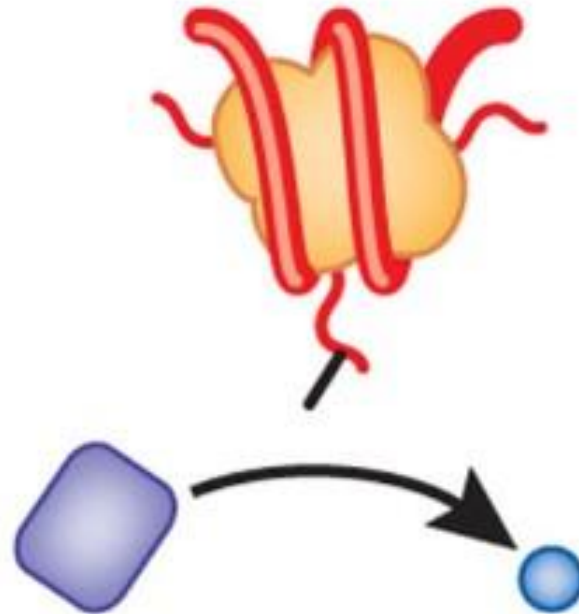


Writing



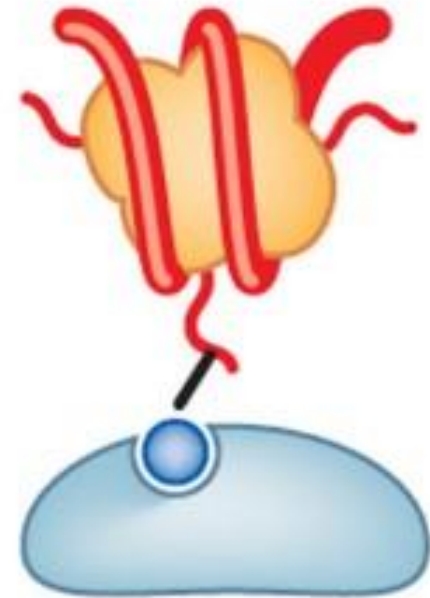
Acetylases,
methylases,
phosphorylases

Erasing



Deacetylases,
demethylases,
phosphatases

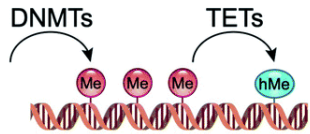
Reading



Bromodomain,
chromodomain,
PHD finger,
WD40 repeat

DNA methylation

It consists in the addition of a methyl (Me) group to the fifth carbon of cytosine and occurs preferentially in genomic regions rich in C and G, called CpG islands.



It is catalyzed by **DNA methyltransferases (DNMTs)**: **Dnmt3a** and **Dnmt3b** are involved in *de novo* DNA methylation, whereas **Dnmt1** is involved in the maintenance of DNA methylation.

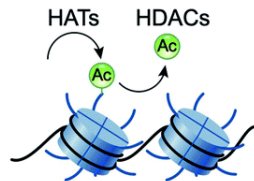
The removal of the methyl group from the DNA is catalyzed by: **AID/APOBEC-family cytosine deaminases** and/or **TET enzymes**.

EFFECTS ON GENE EXPRESSION

DNA methylation in promoter regions is involved in the repression of genes, while in the gene body is associated with active transcription.

Histone acetylation

It consists in the addition of an acetyl (Ac) group to the amino group of the lysine residues of histones H2B, H3 and H4.



It is catalyzed by **histone-acetyltransferases (HATs)**, which use acetyl-CoA as cofactor.

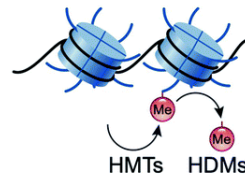
The removal of the acetyl group from histones is catalyzed by **histone-deacetylases (HDACs)**.

EFFECTS ON GENE EXPRESSION

Histone acetylation is involved in transcriptional activation.

Histone methylation

It consists in the addition of one or more methyl (Me) groups on lysine or arginine residues which are preferentially localized on histone tails.



It is catalyzed by **histone-methyltransferases (HMTs)**.

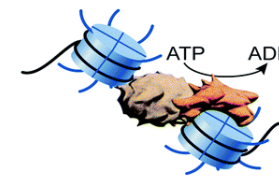
The removal of the methyl group from the histone tails is catalyzed by **histone-demethylases (HDMs)**.

EFFECTS ON GENE EXPRESSION

Histone methylation is involved in the activation or repression of gene transcription, depending on the methylated residue of lysine or arginine, and on the degree of methylation.

ATP-dependent chromatin-remodeling complexes

They include multi-protein complexes that use the energy of ATP hydrolysis to locally alter the association of histones with DNA.



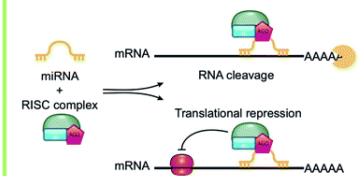
They can be divided into four classes, **SWI/SNF**, **ISWI**, **CHD** and **INO80**, on the basis of their ATPase subunits.

EFFECTS ON GENE EXPRESSION

ATP-dependent chromatin-remodeling complexes can act as transcription repressors, creating a highly compact chromatin structure, but can also promote gene expression by making chromatin open and accessible.

Non-coding RNAs

They include a variety of RNAs that are not translated into proteins and act transcriptionally and translationally by regulating gene expression.



They can be classified according to their length into:

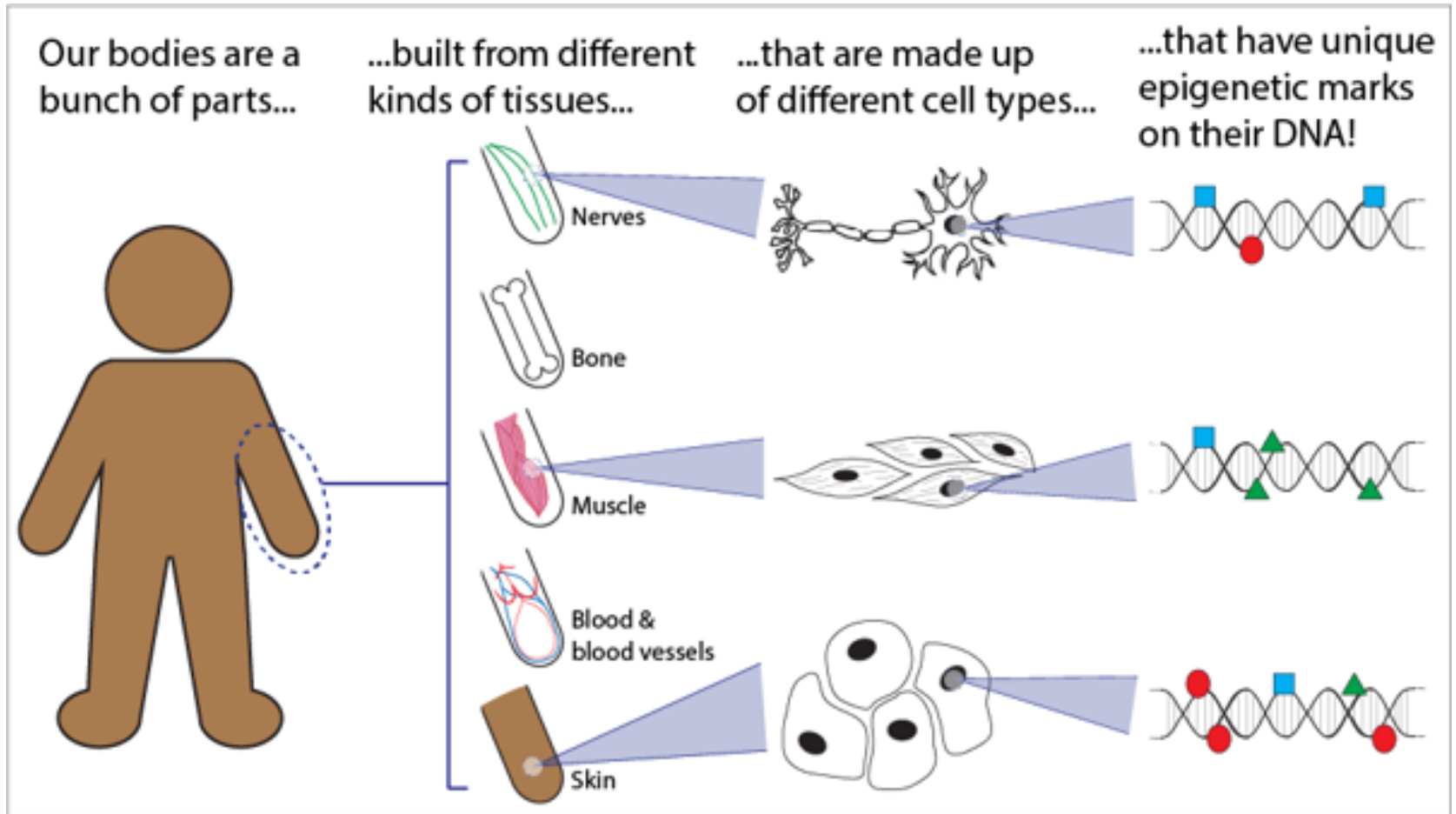
- **short ncRNAs**, RNA molecules shorter than 200 nucleotides (e.g., miRNAs, siRNAs and PIWI-interacting RNAs);
- **long ncRNAs**, RNA molecules longer than 200 nucleotides.

EFFECTS ON GENE EXPRESSION

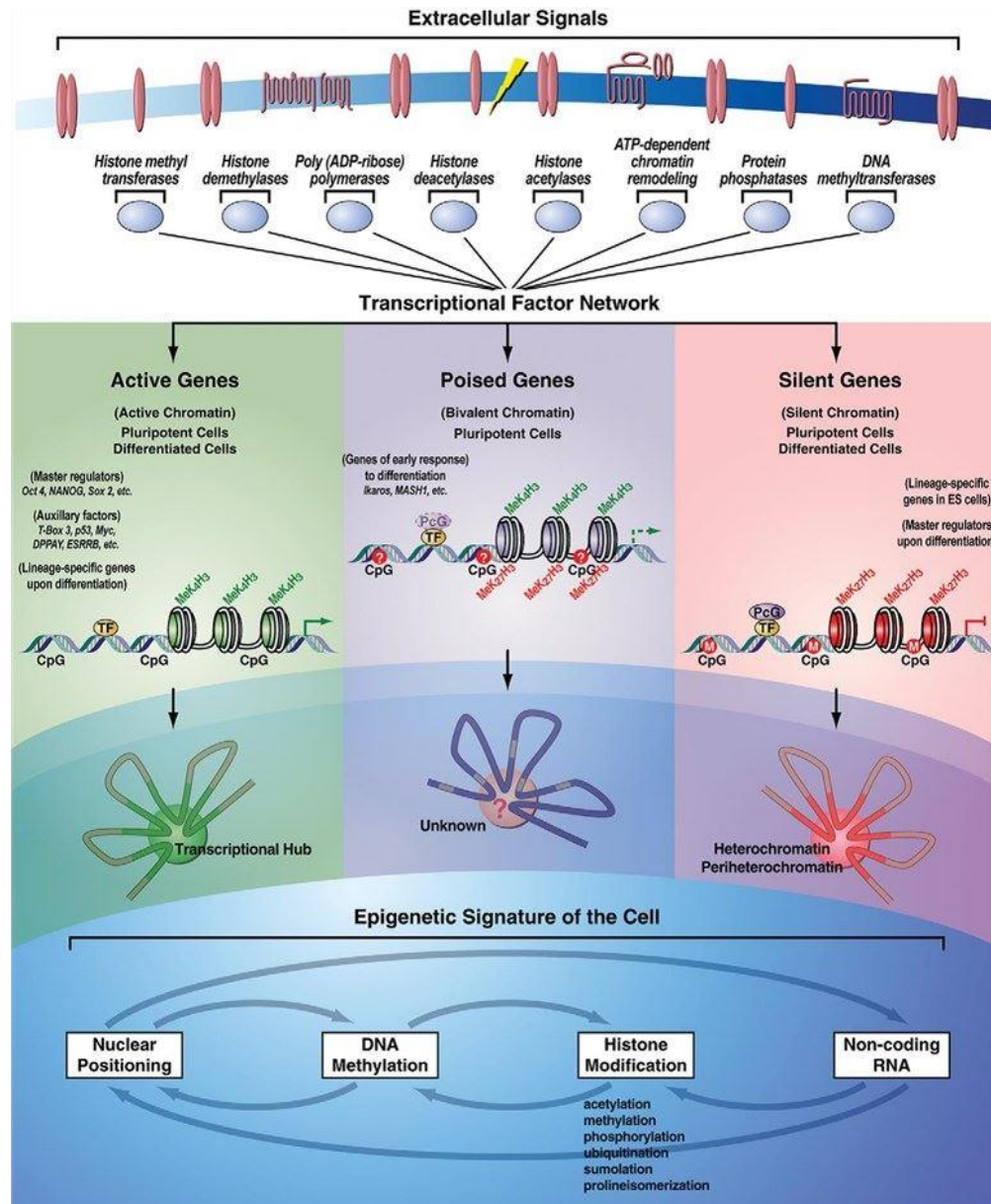
miRNAs regulate gene expression by binding to the 3'-UTR of targeted mRNAs, causing their degradation or preventing their translation into proteins.

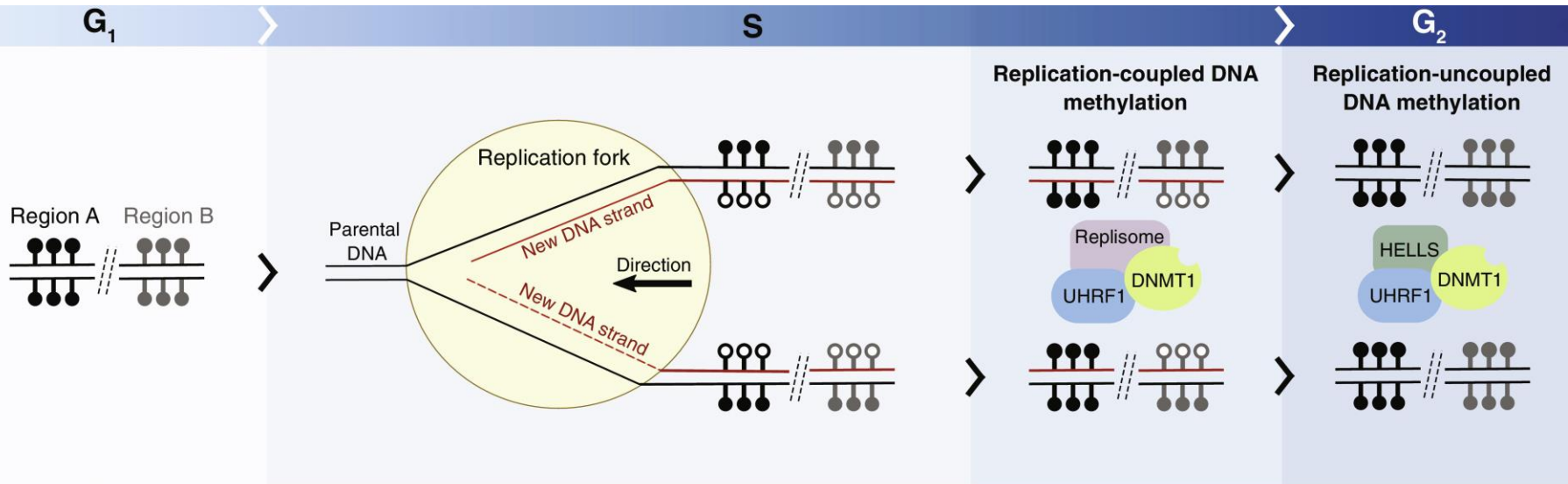
cell type-specific epigenome

- Cell types-specific epigenome → cell type-specific gene expression profile (transcriptome) → cell type-specific properties (phenotype).



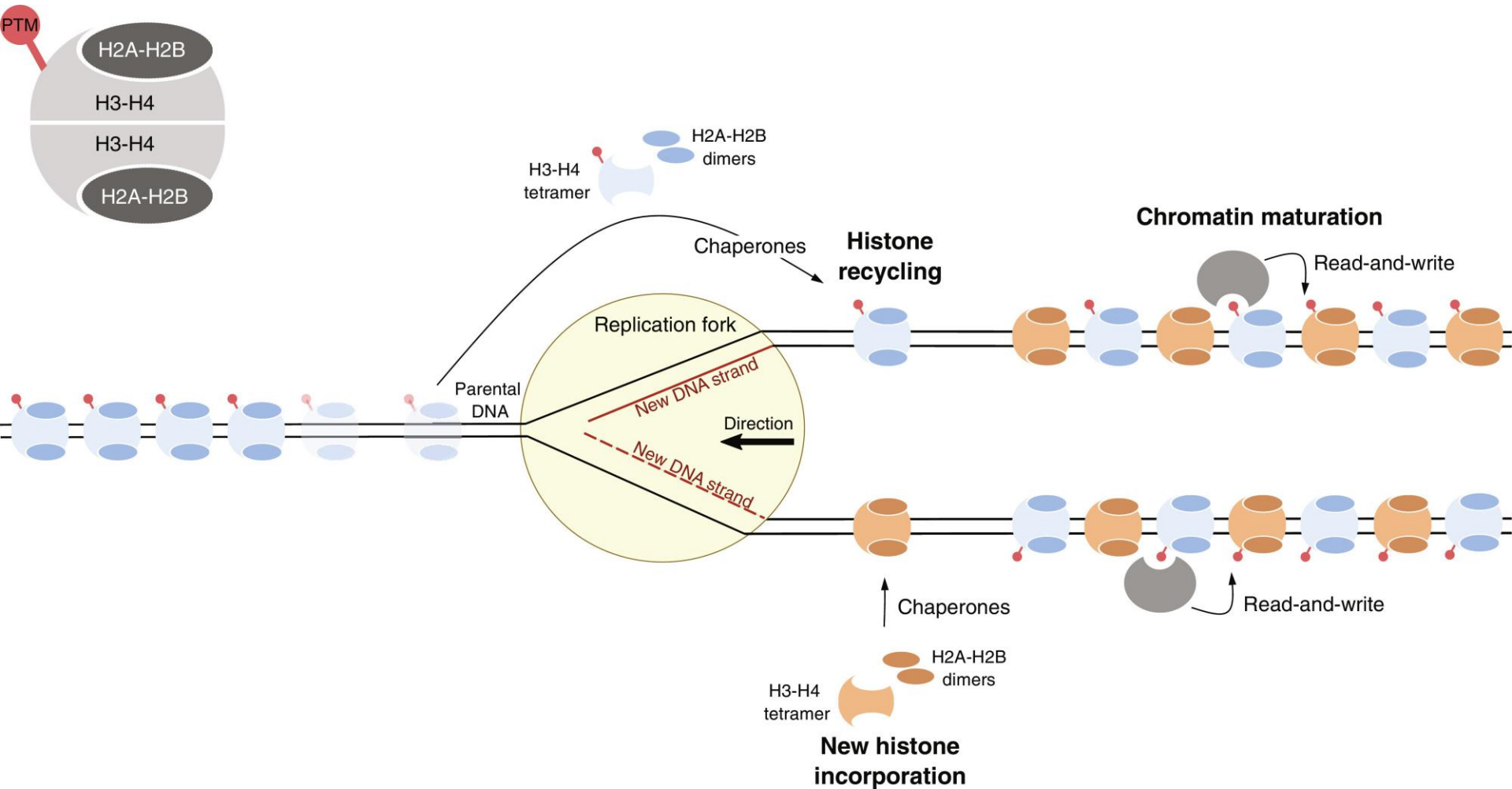
the environment instructs the epigenome



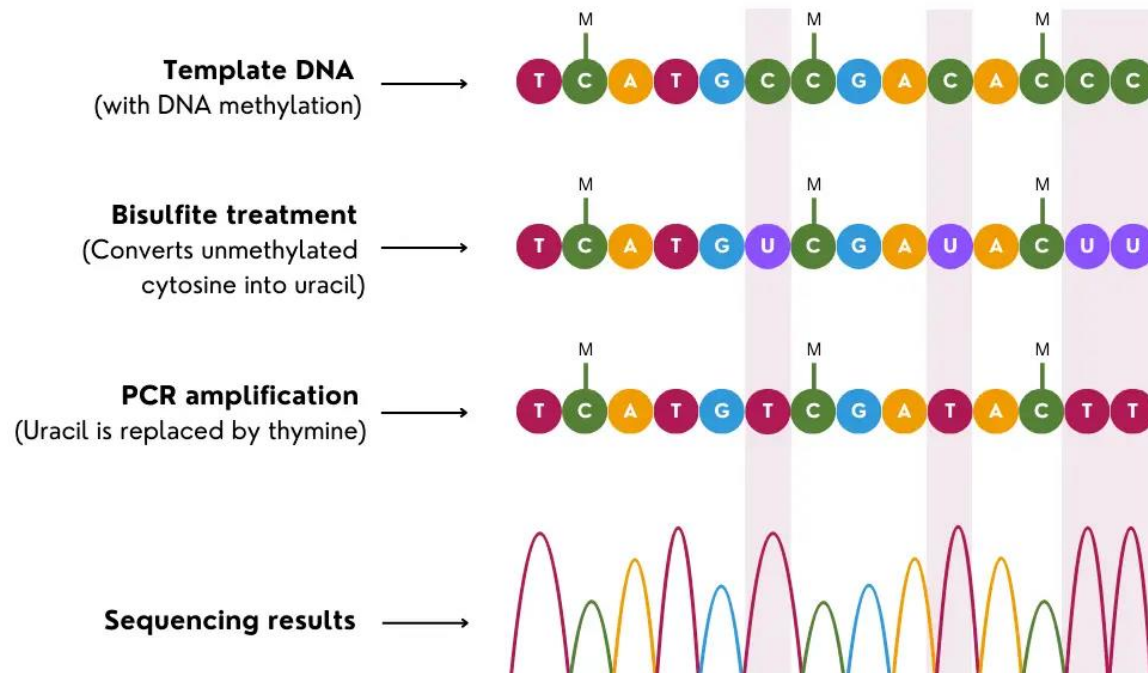
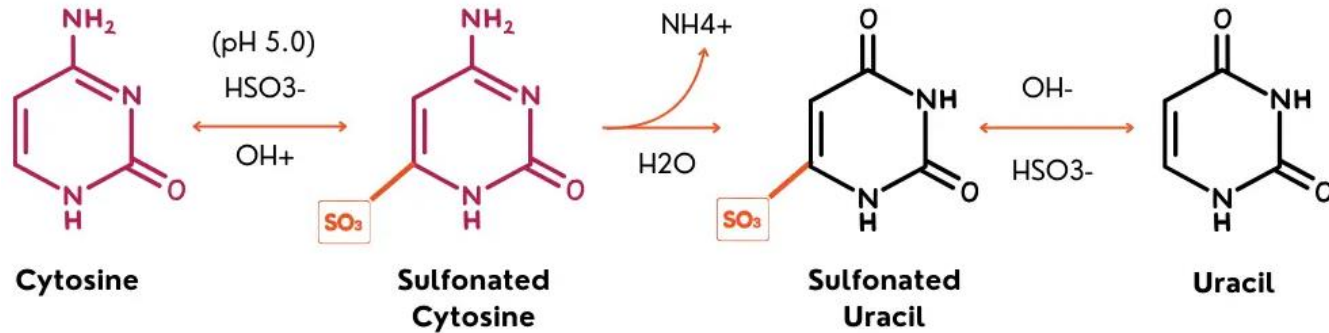


● Methylated CpG ○ Unmethylated CpG

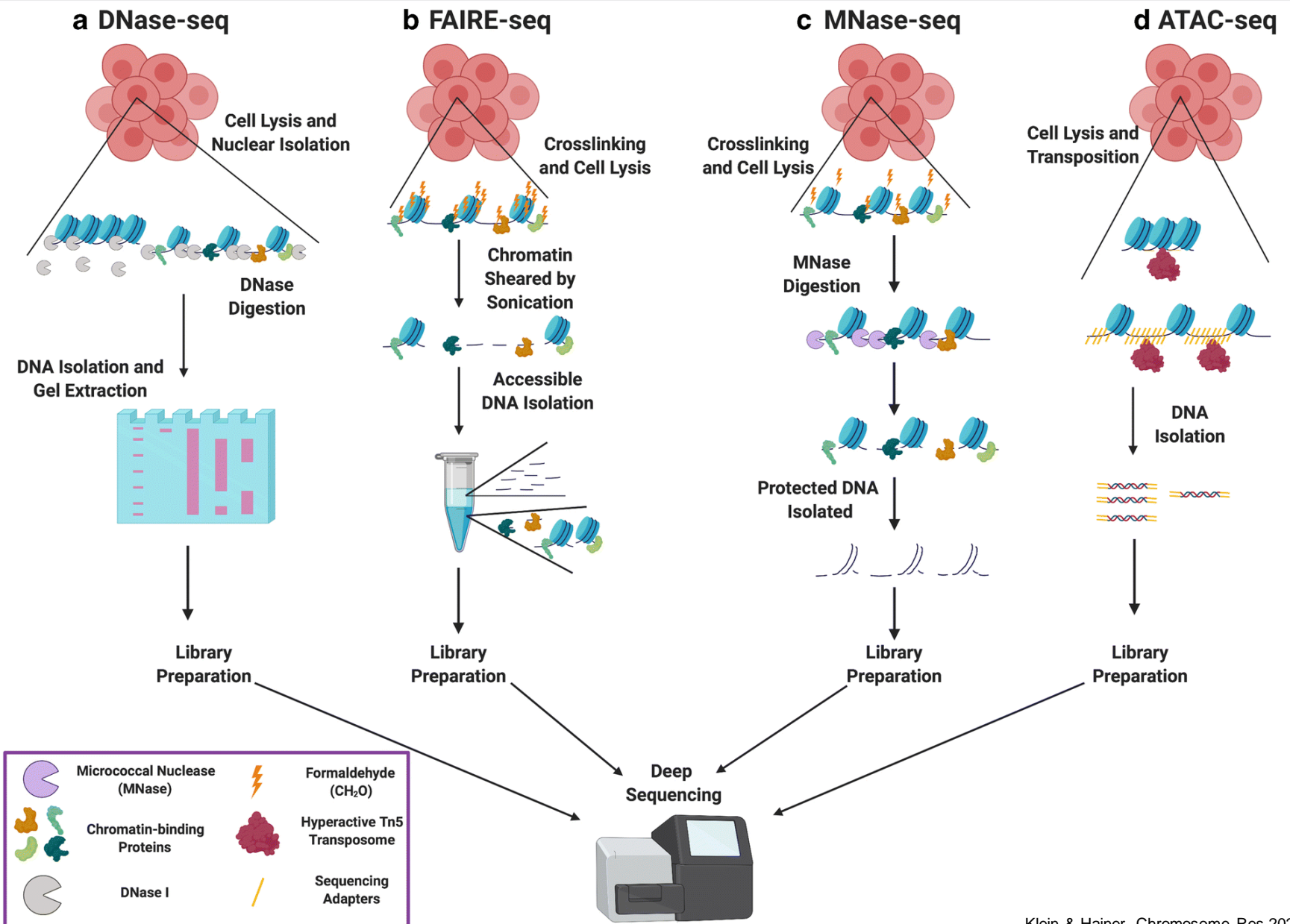
cell division & the epigenome



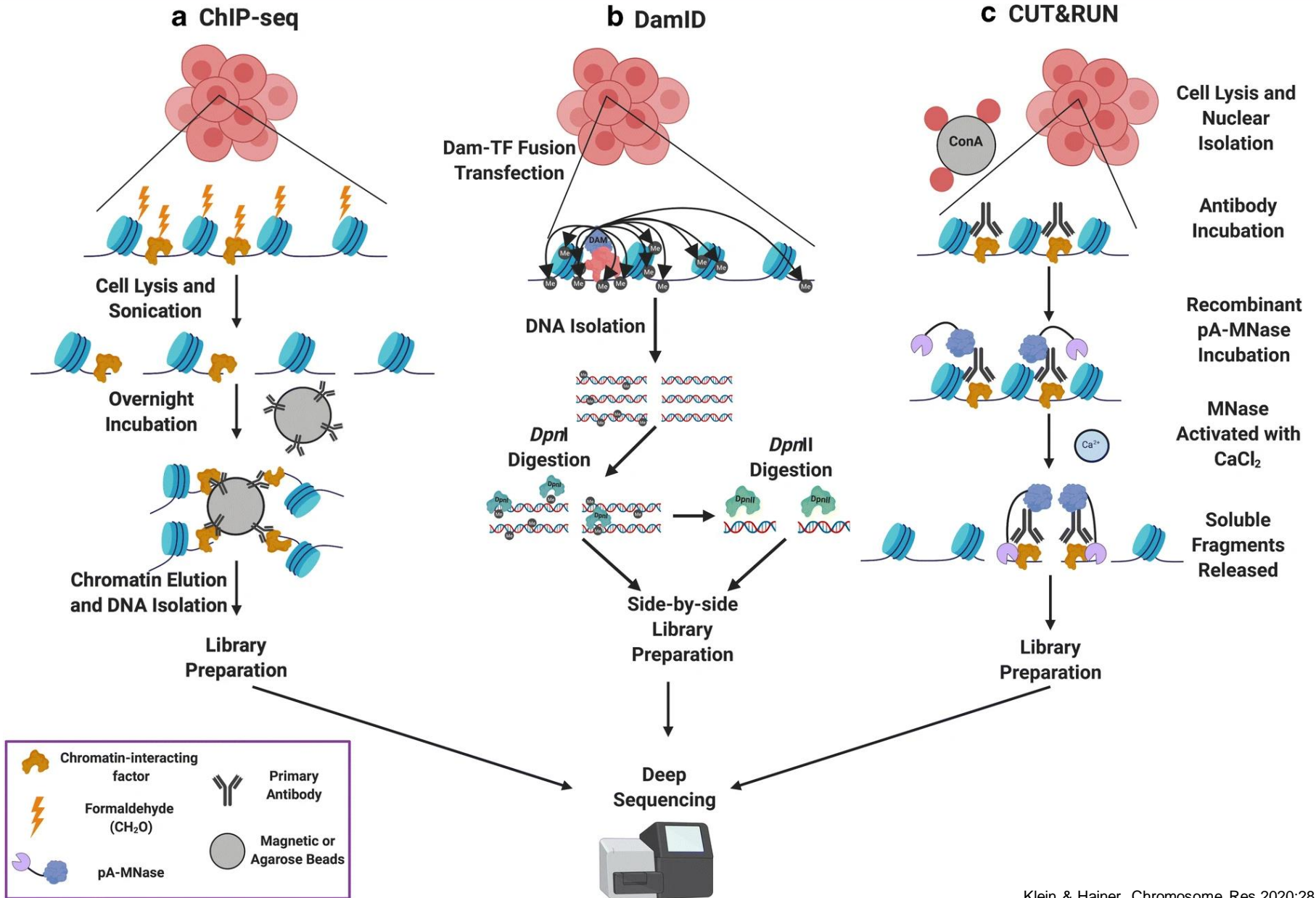
analysis of DNA methylation



analysis of genome accessibility (euchromatin)



analysis of genome occupancy



the epigenome & complex diseases I

cystic fibrosis
Duchenne muscular dystrophy
sickle cell disease



Alzheimer disease
diabetes type II
atrial fibrillation

high genetic contribution

modest genetic contribution

one or two variants in a single gene

hundreds of variants in/near many genes

each variant has large effect

each variant has small effect

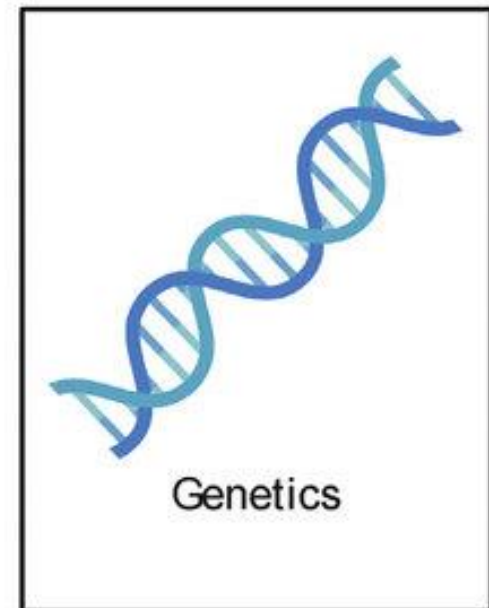
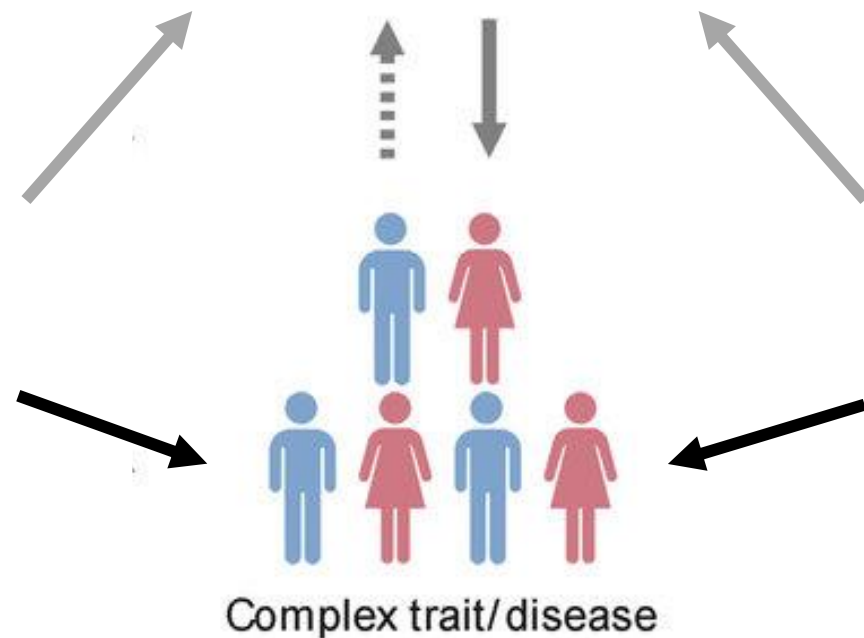
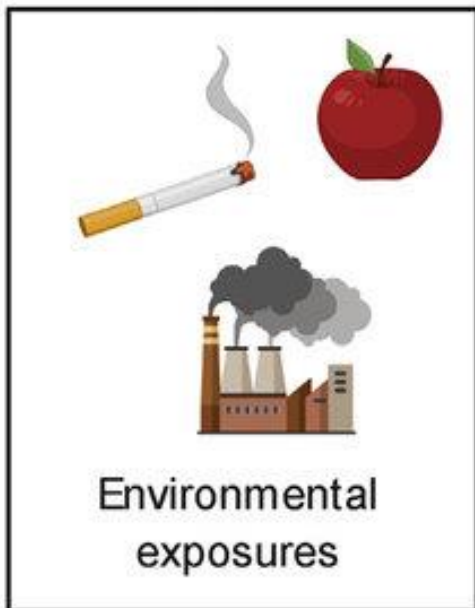
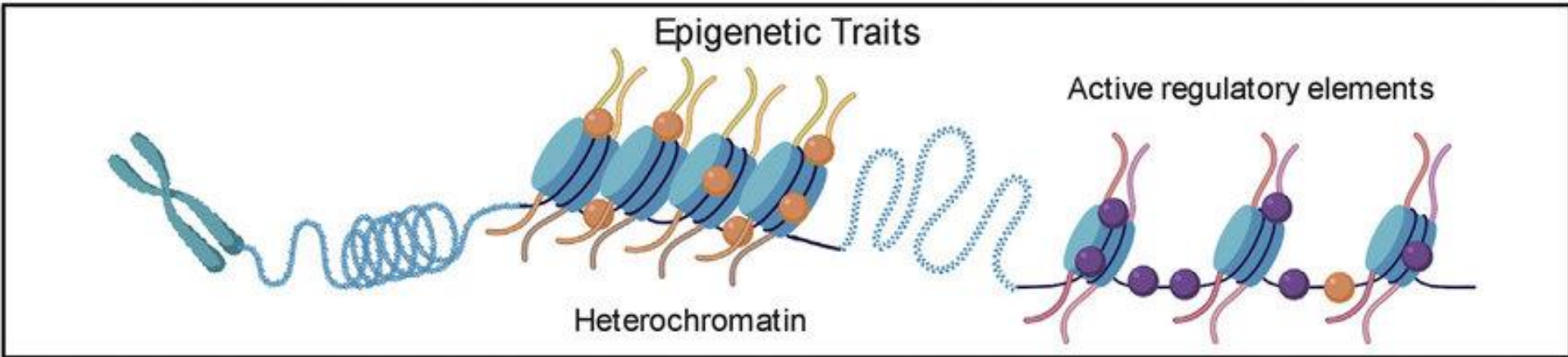
limited environmental influence

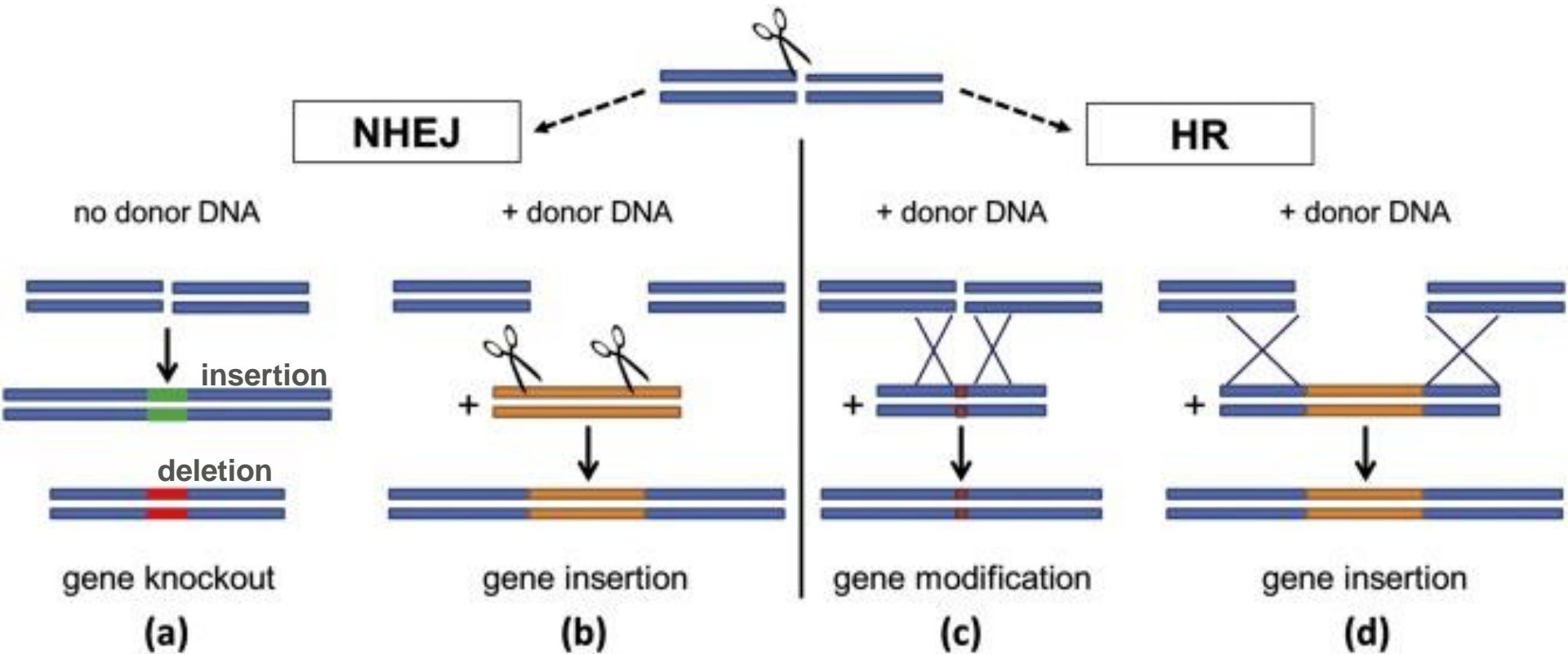
the environment is a key determinant

high penetrance

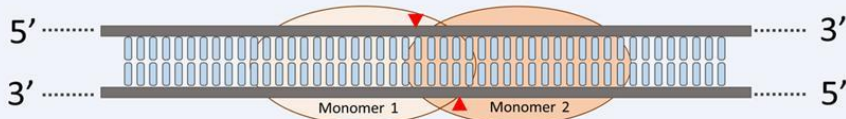
low penetrance

the epigenome & complex diseases II

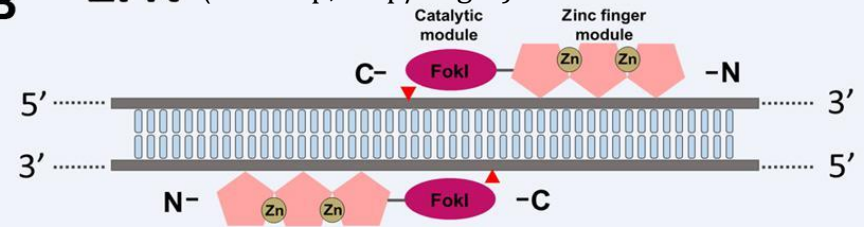




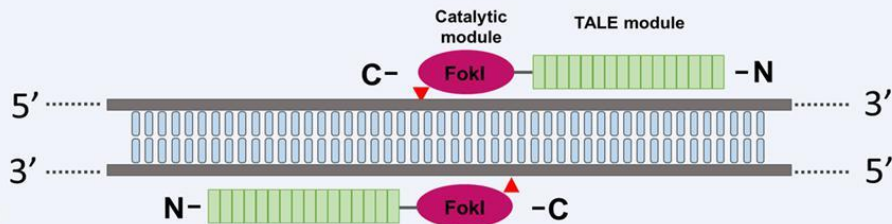
A Meganuclease (20-40 bp)



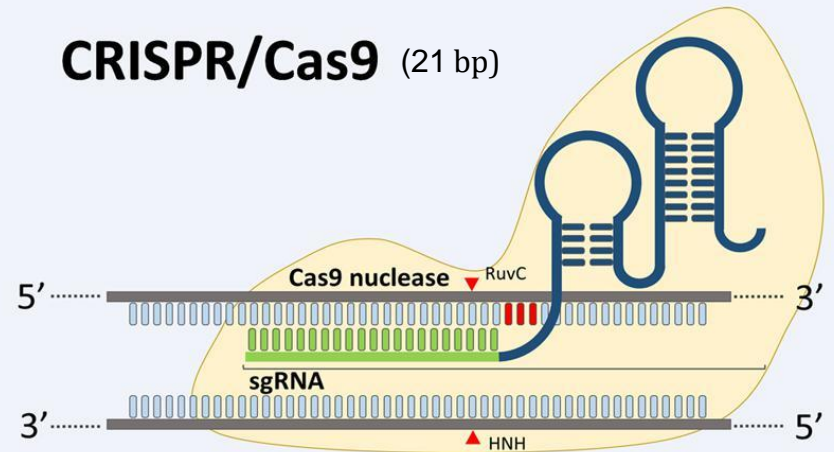
B ZFN (2×12 bp; 3 bp/finger)



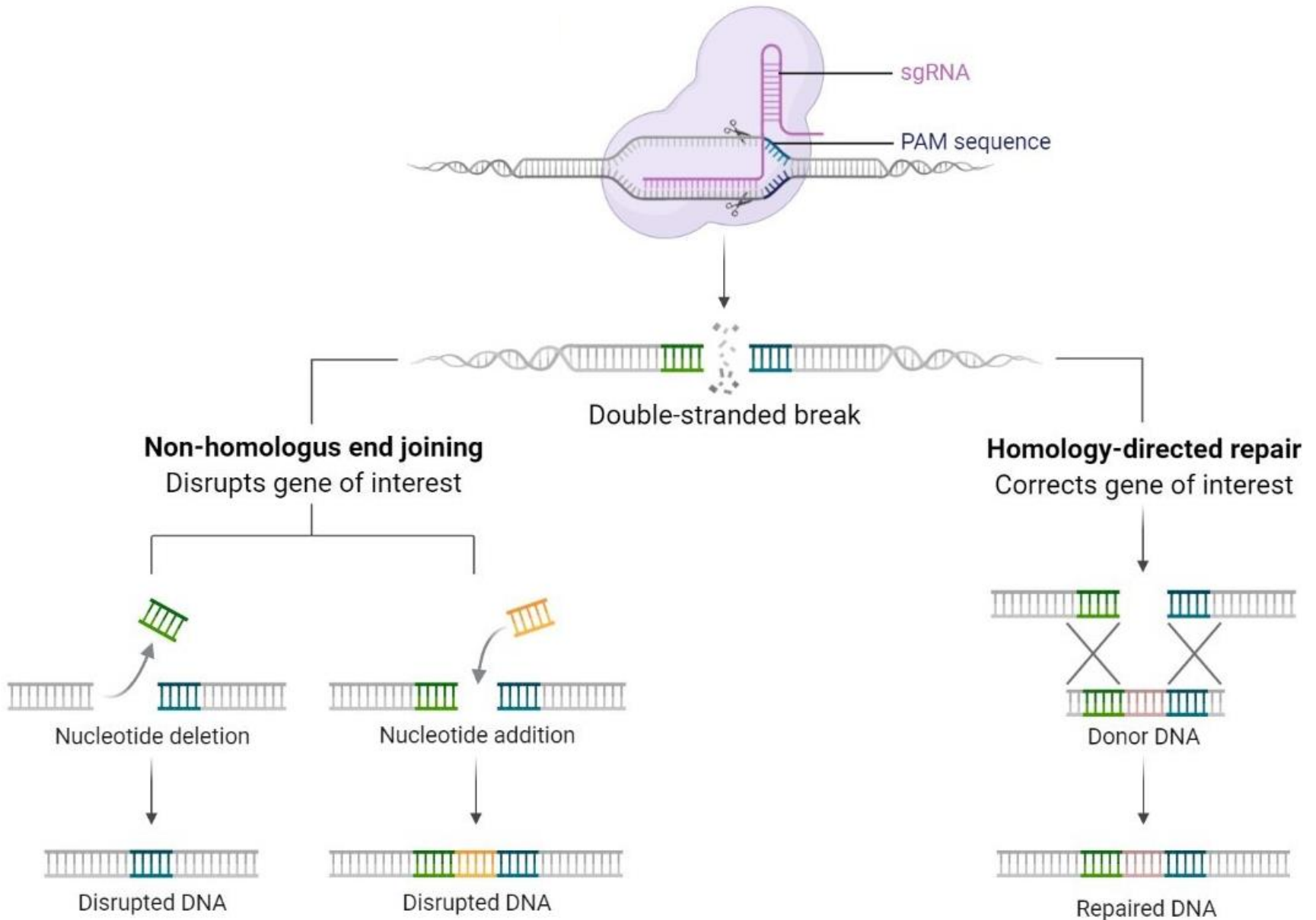
C TALEN (2×12-18 bp; 1 bp/module)



D CRISPR/Cas9 (21 bp)

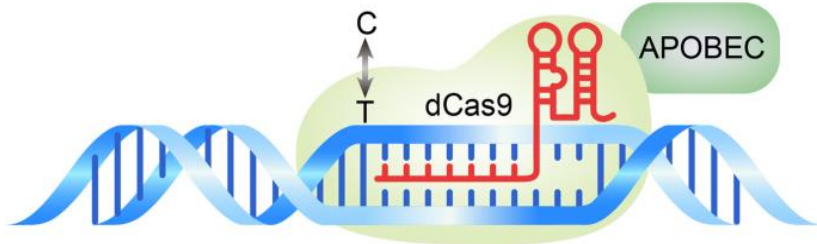


CRISPR/Cas9 genome editing

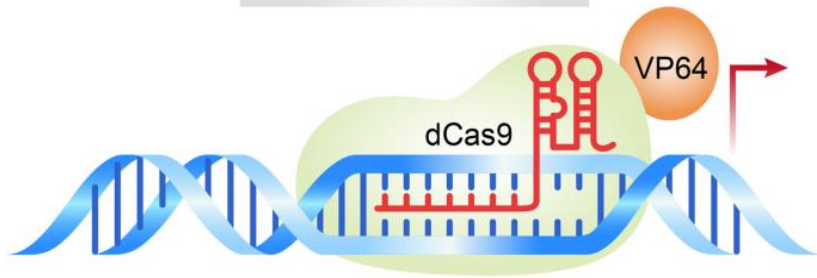


CRISPR/*dCas9* (epi)genome editing

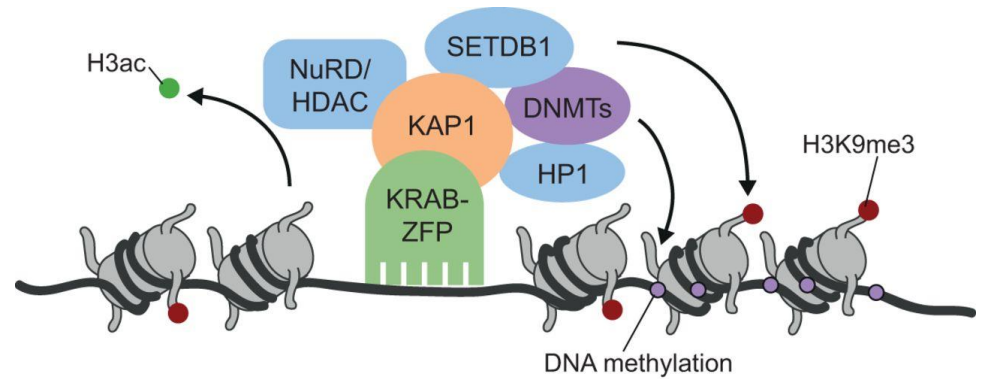
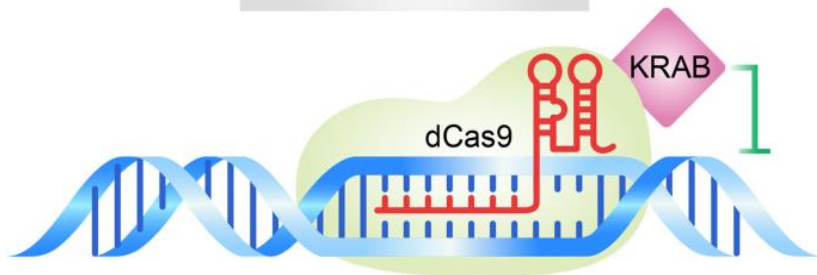
Base editing



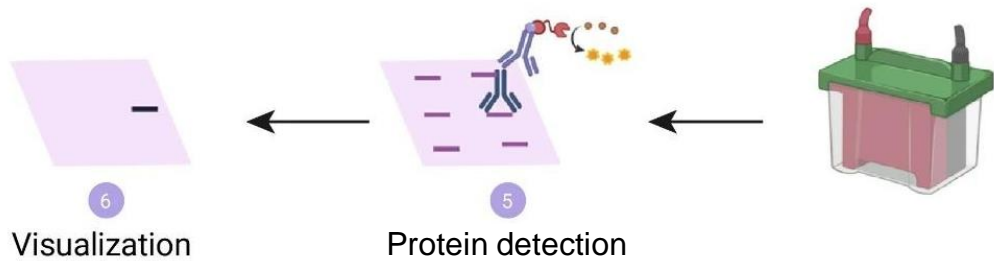
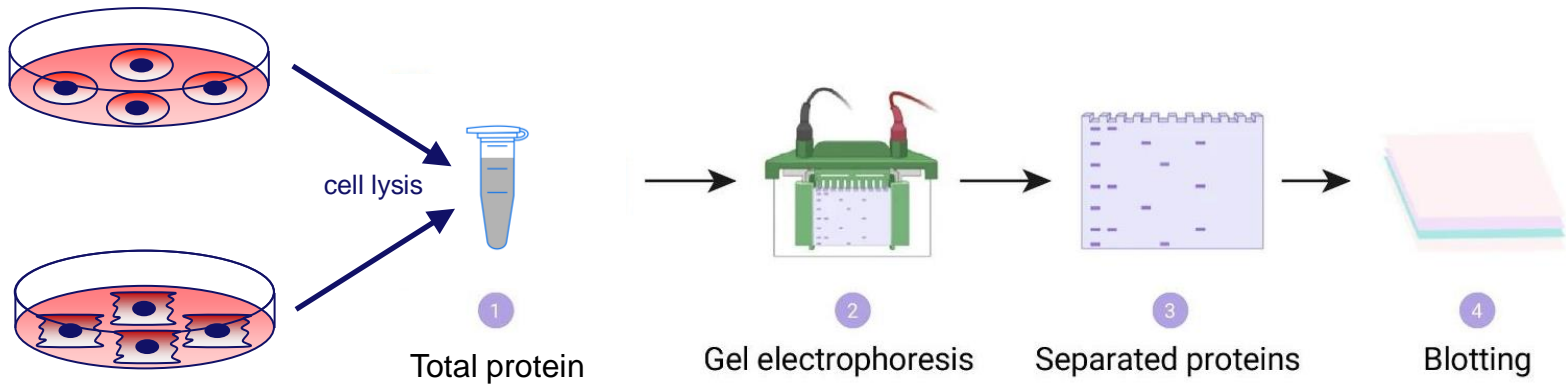
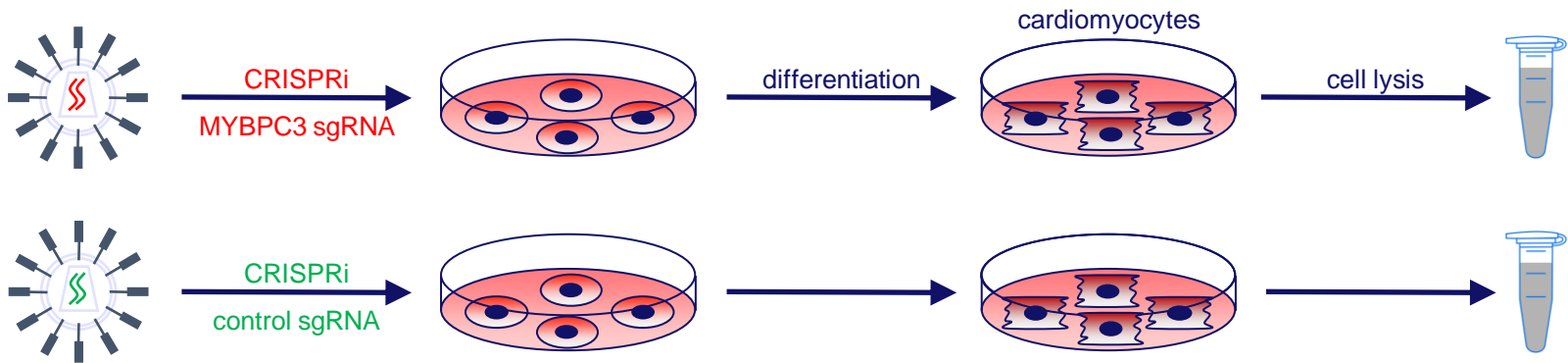
CRISPRa

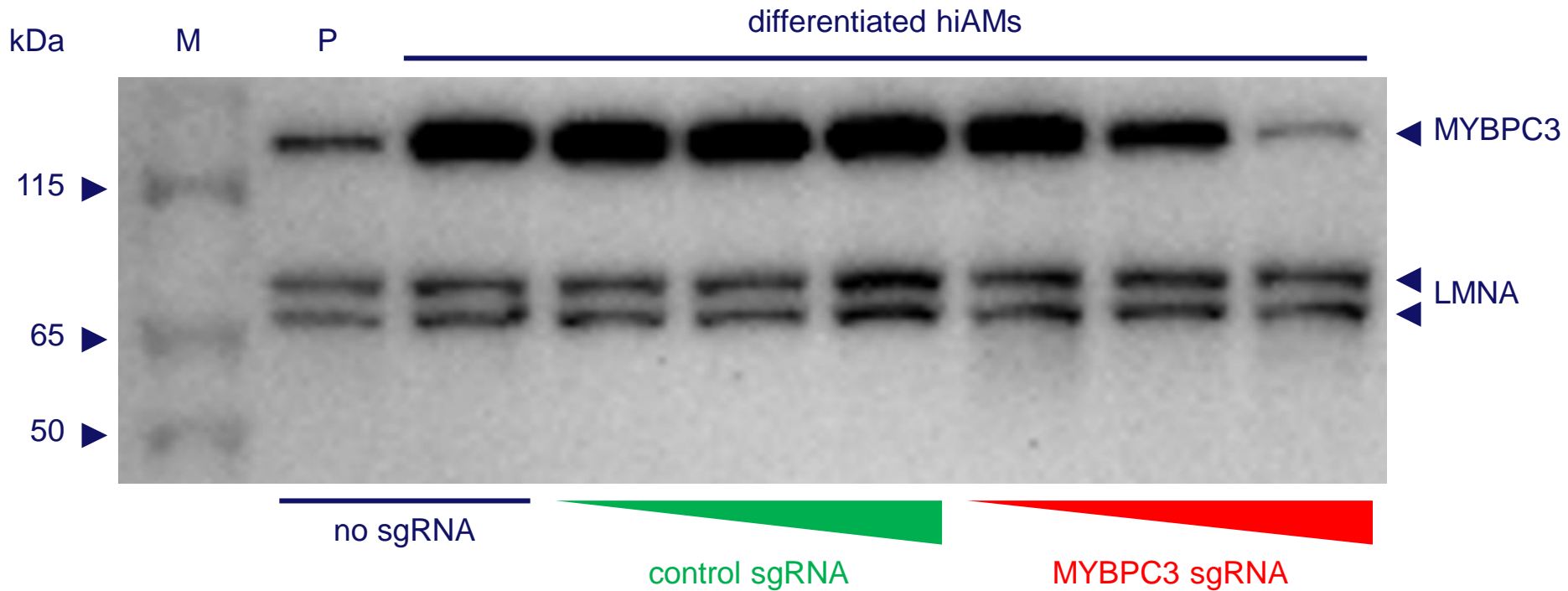


CRISPRi

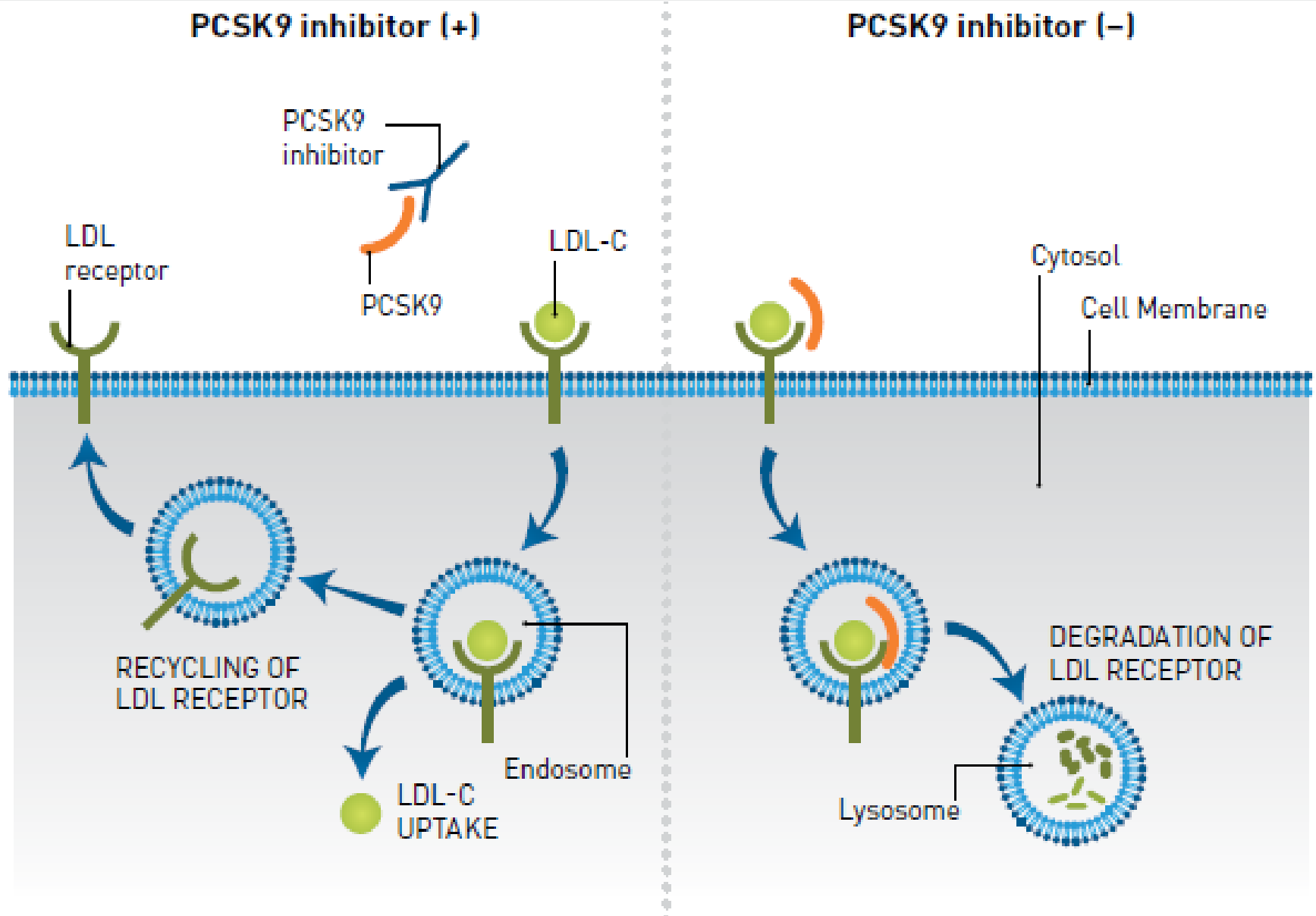


epigenome editing in the laboratory



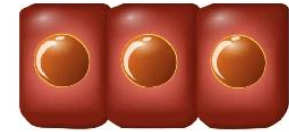
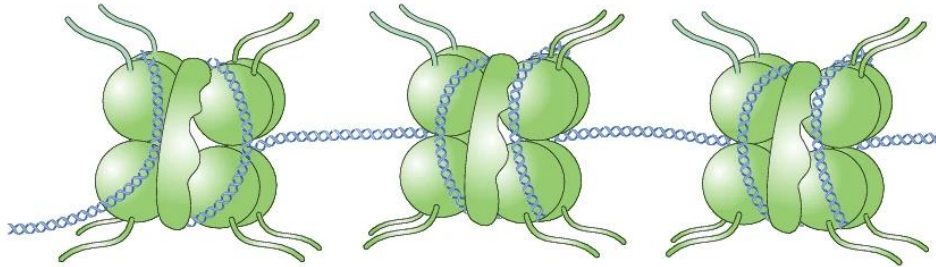


LDL-C reduction via PCSK9 inhibition



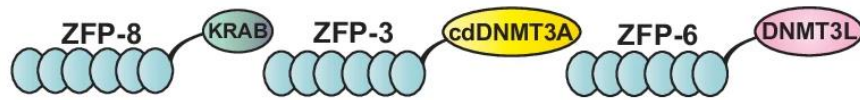
epigenome editing as therapy

Pathogenic Pcsk9 gene (ON)

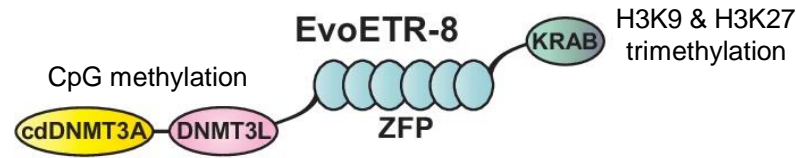


Hepatocytes

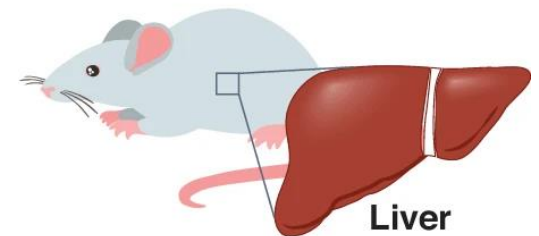
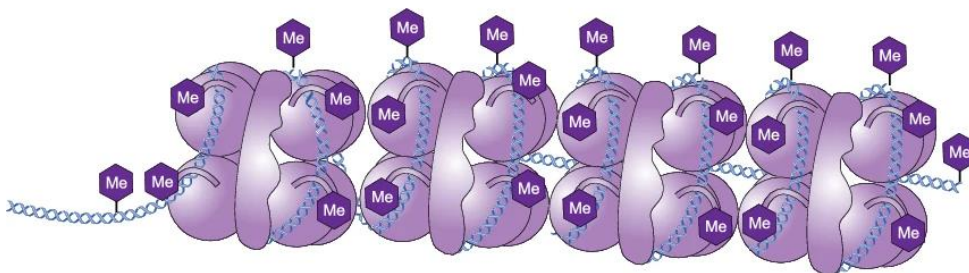
Three ZFP-ETRs



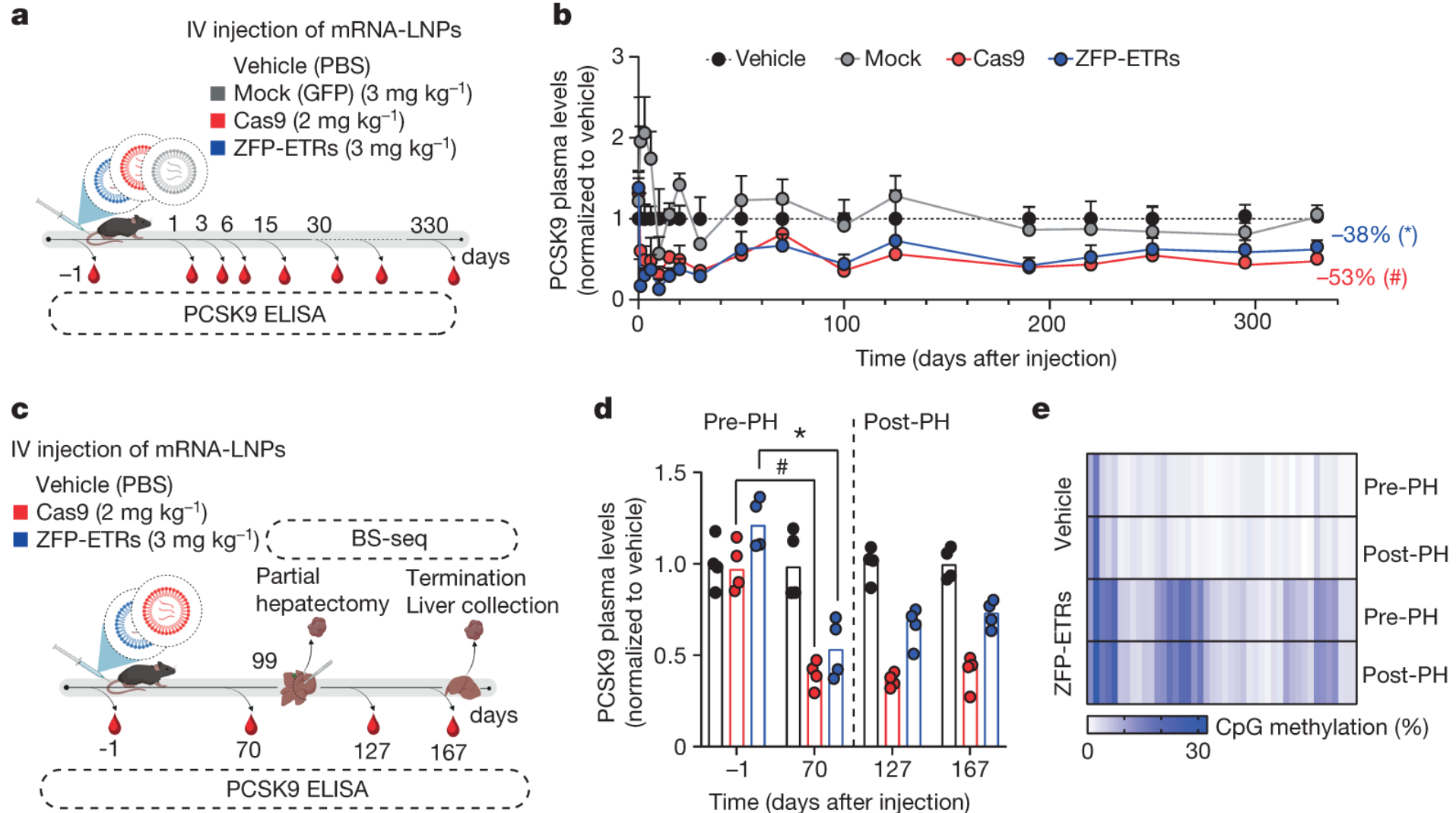
Or



Long-term silencing of pathogenic Pcsk9 gene (OFF)

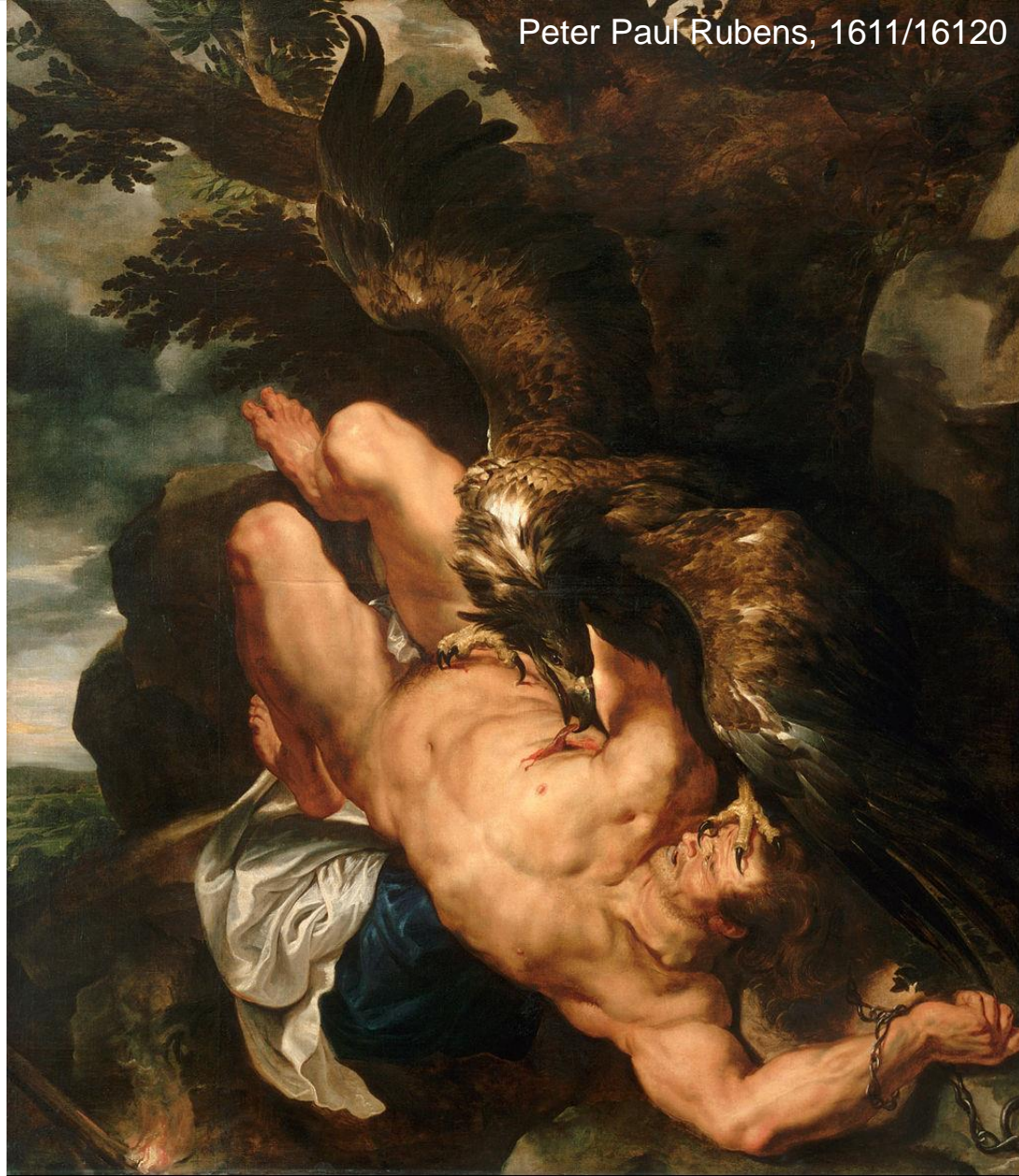


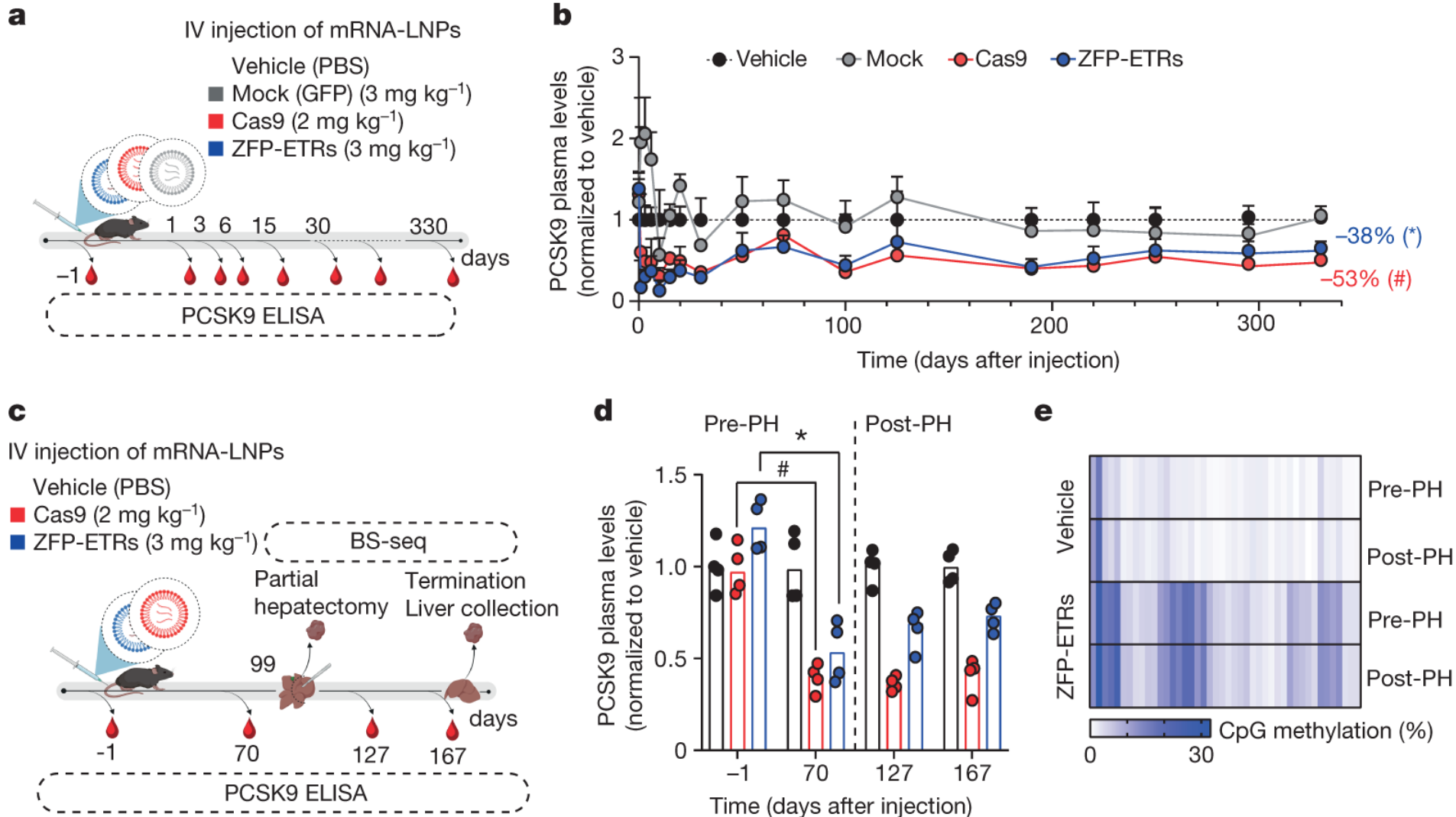
Liver



Prometheus Bound

Peter Paul Rubens, 1611/16120



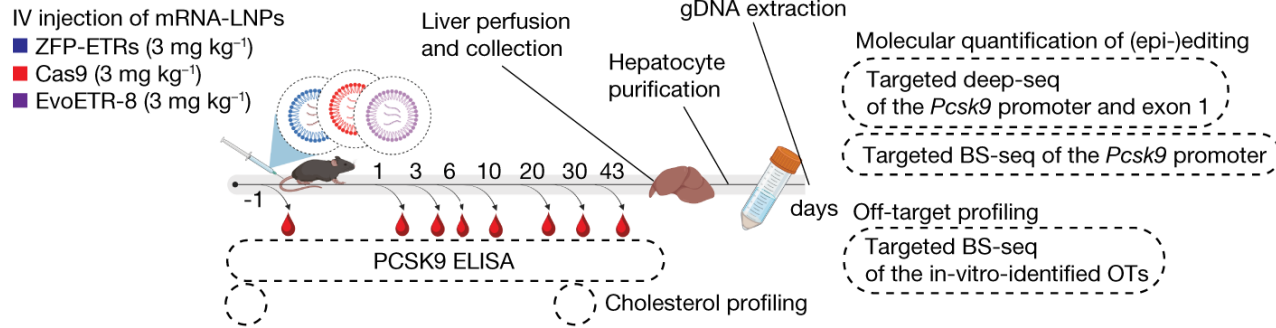


ETR: engineered transcription repressor
ZFP: zinc finger protein

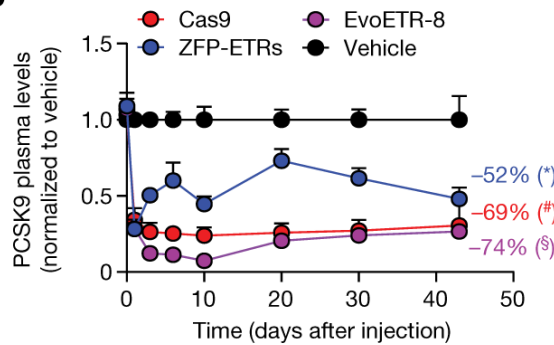
LNP: lipid nanoparticle
PH: partial hepatectomy

epigenome editing as therapy

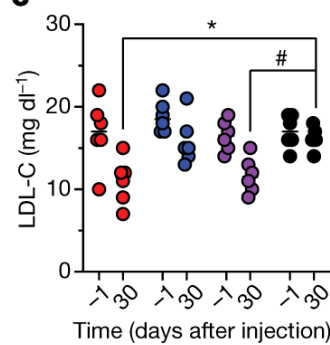
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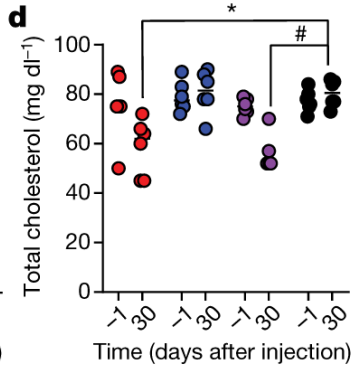
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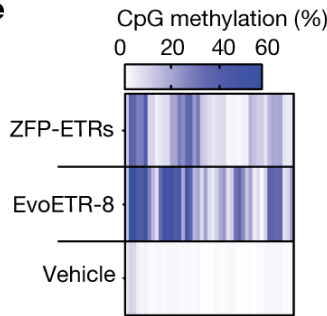
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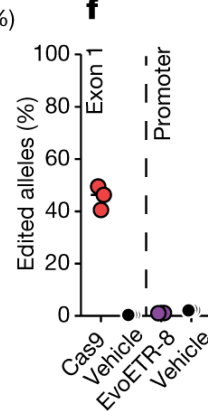
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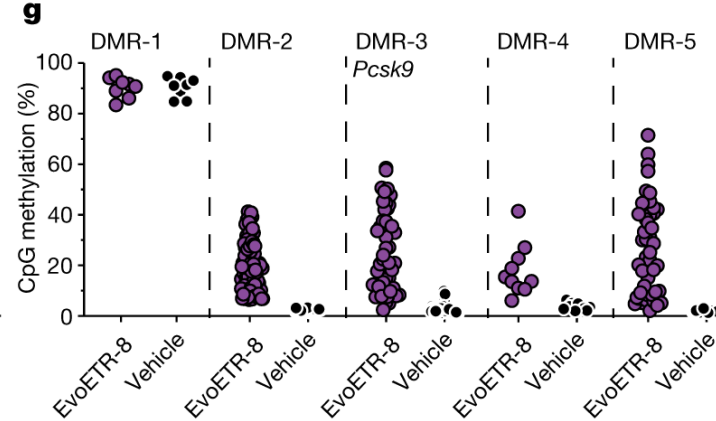
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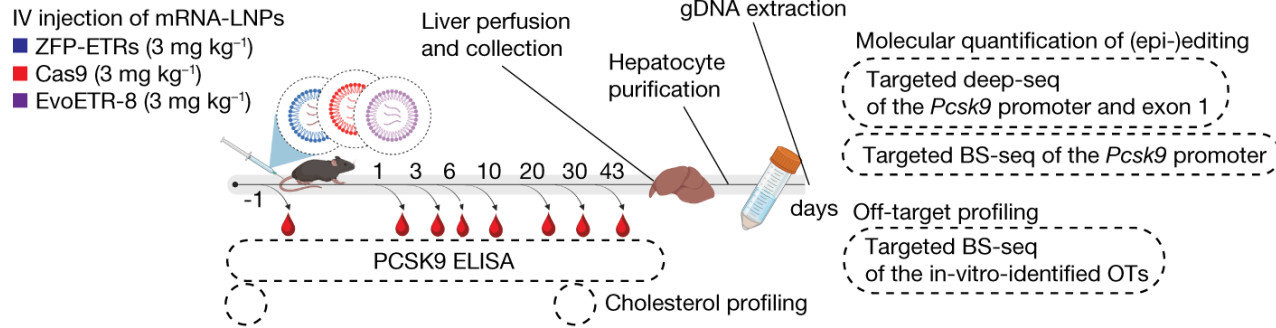


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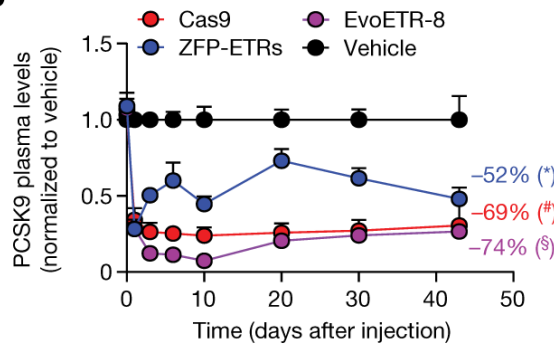


epigenome editing as therapy

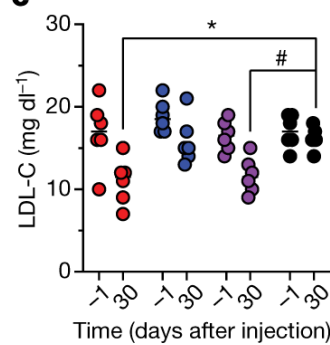
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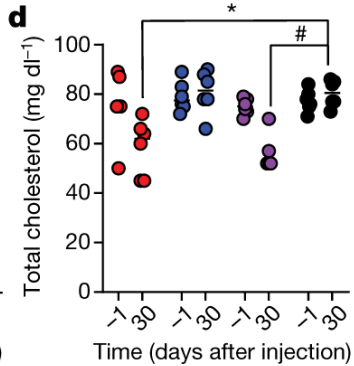
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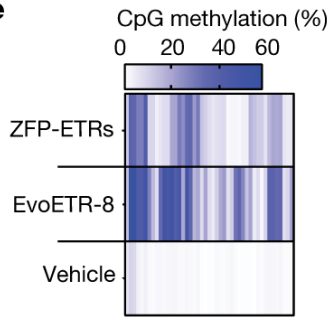
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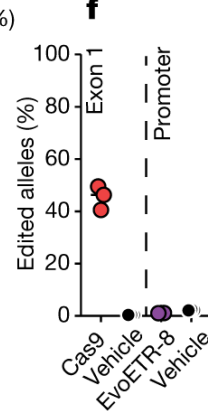
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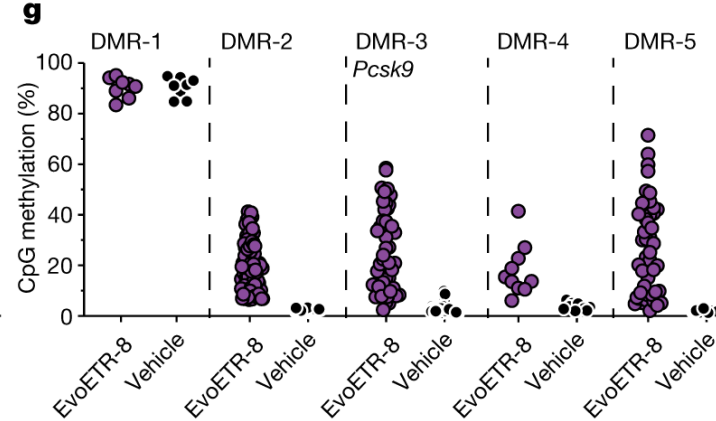
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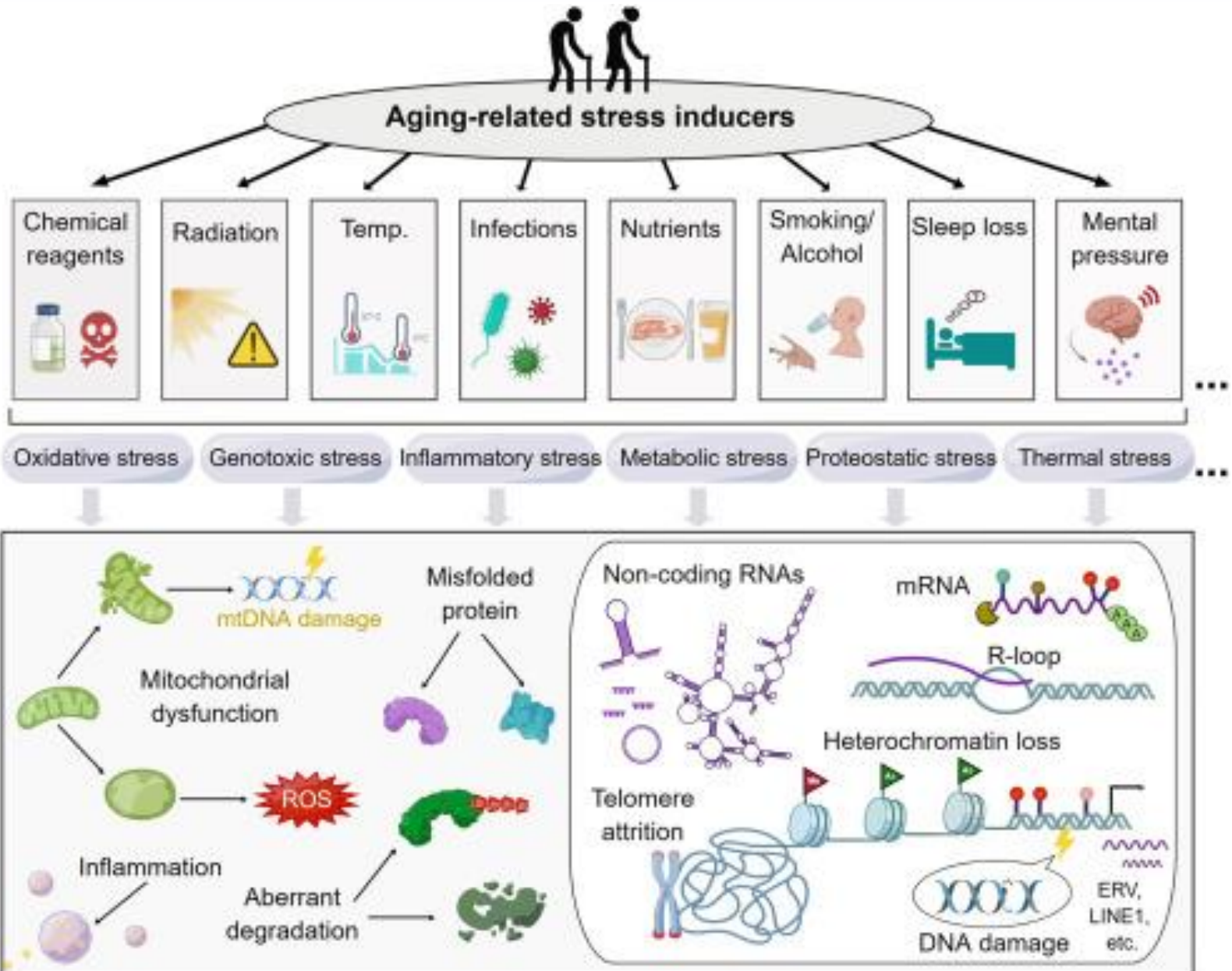
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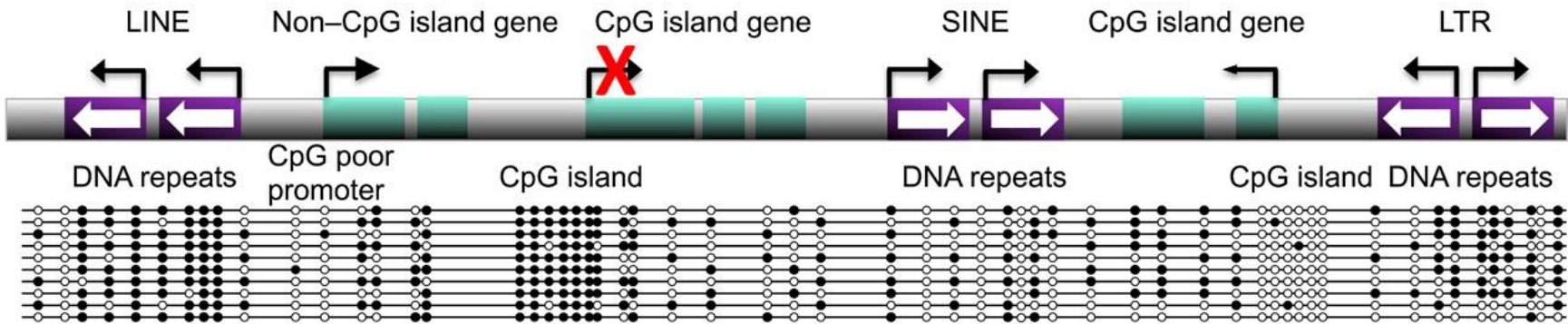
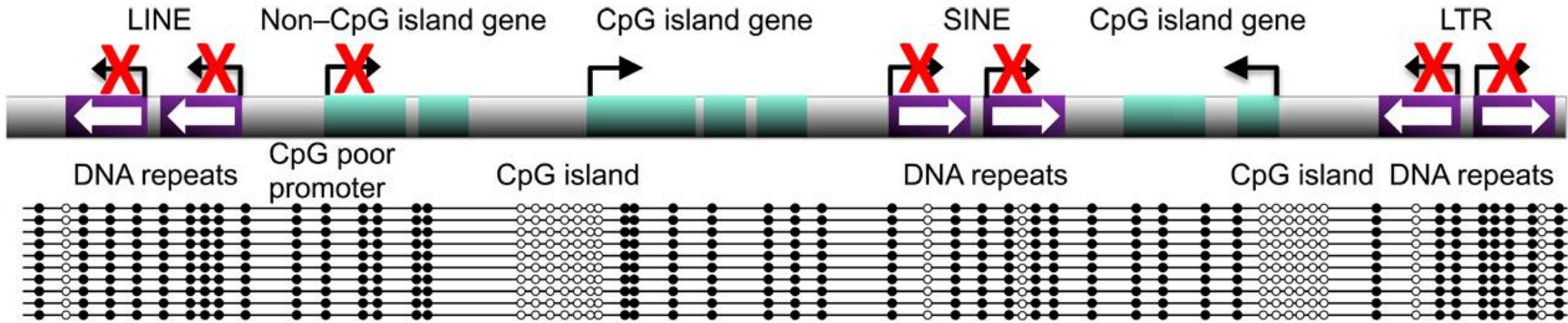
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aging & the epigenome



aging & the epigenome



Key:

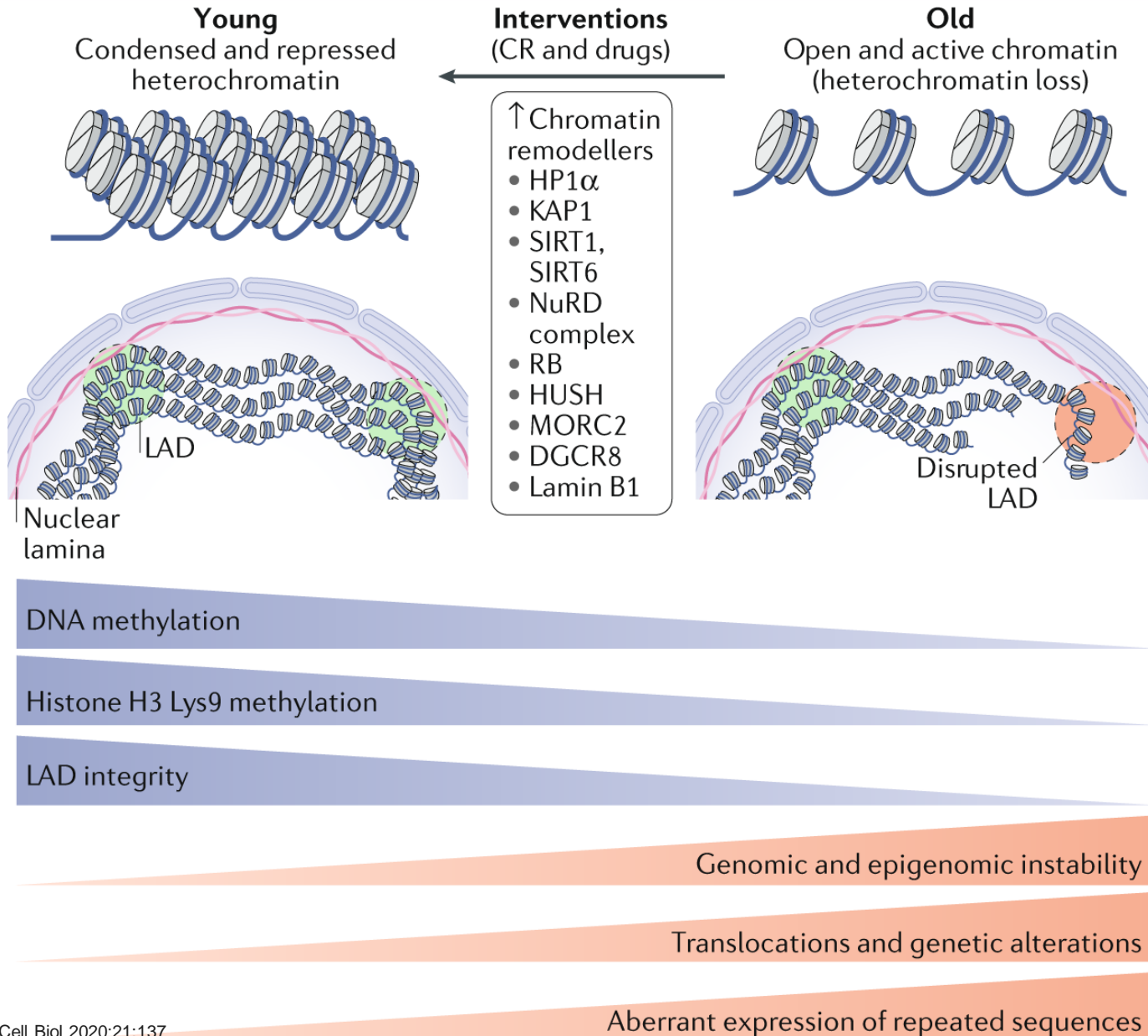
○ Unmethylated CpG

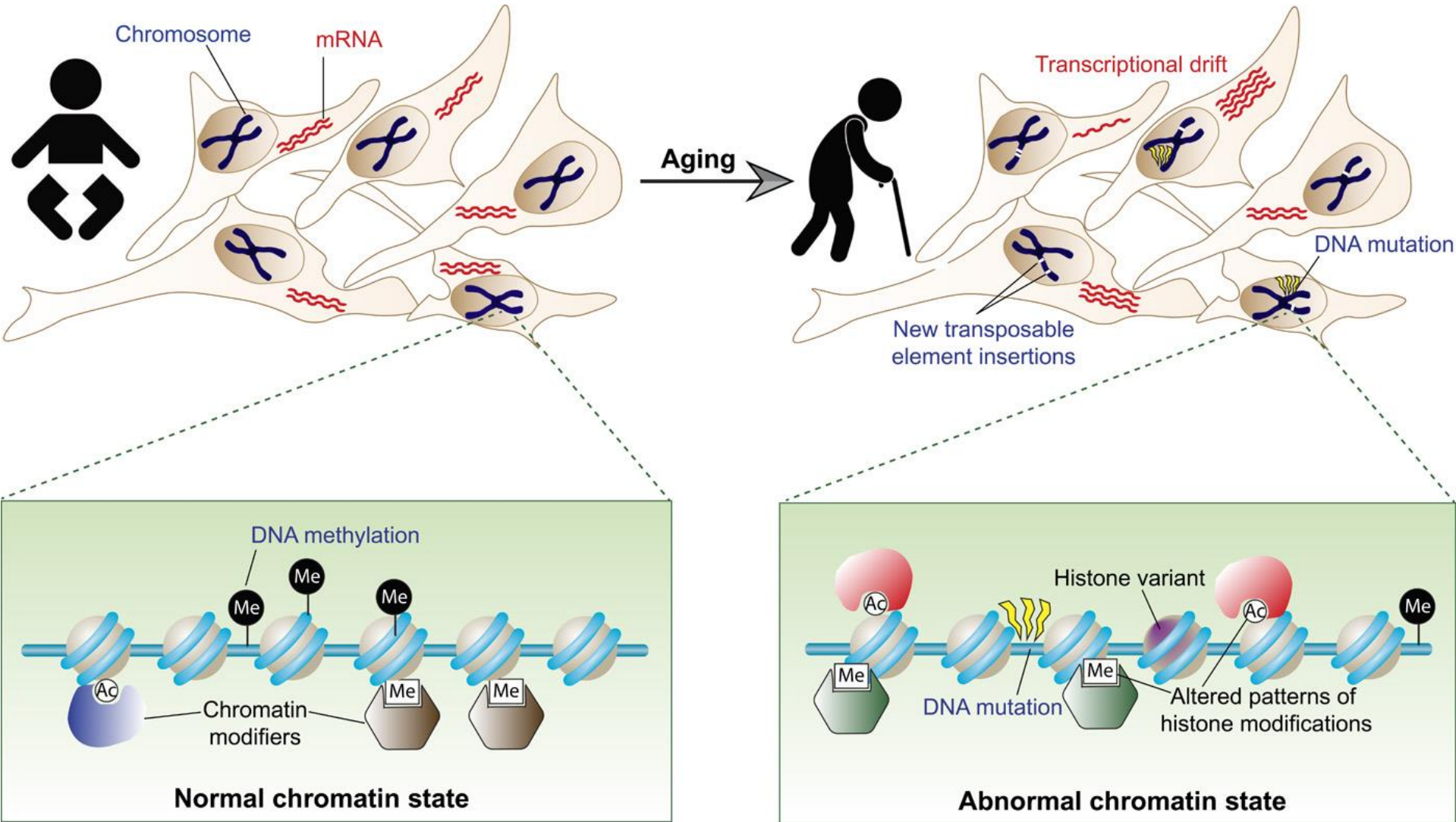
• Methylated CpG

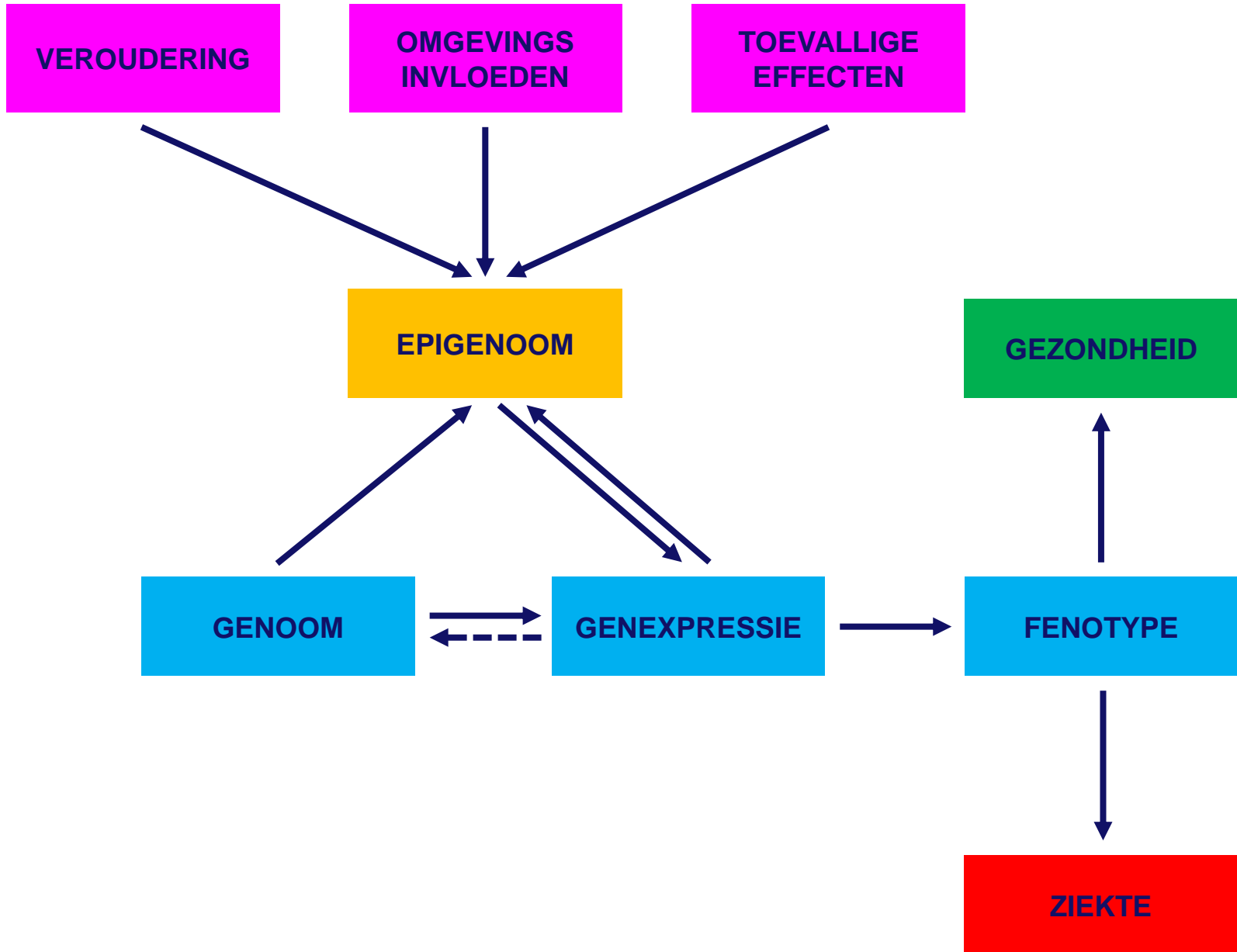


Transposable elements

- global DNA hypomethylation → undesirable activation of transposable elements
- local DNA hypermethylation (i.p. CpG-rich promoters → undesirable gene silencing)









<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgERHur3FMQ>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_6ZBVf6H_IA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MD3Fc0XOjWk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ebIpkw3XapE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rnUlyPaGVwQ>

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ArICnh2Q9EI>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_il_U7IH8wc

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfAVIoSP_1c

Mehrmohamadi M, Sepehri MH, Nazer N, Norouzi MR. A Comparative Overview of Epigenomic Profiling Methods. *Front Cell Dev Biol.* 2021 Jul 22;9:714687. doi: 10.3389/fcell.2021.714687. PMID: 34368164; PMCID: PMC8340004. <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/cell-and-developmental-biology/articles/10.3389/fcell.2021.714687/full>