

**[4/18/2008(Fri) 10:35~11:10/1<sup>st</sup> FL]**

## **Mitochondria Control Protein as a Novel Therapeutic Target for Metabolic Syndrome**

Youngmi Kim Pak

Age-Related and Brain Diseases Research Center, Dept. of Nanopharmaceutical and  
Life Sciences, Kyung Hee University, Seoul 130-701, Korea,

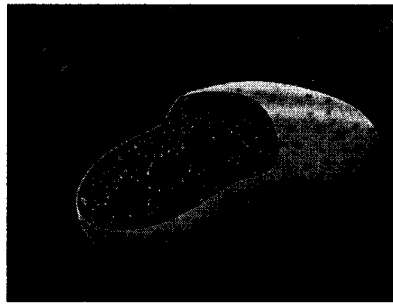
Mitochondria biogenesis requires a coordination of two genomes, nuclear DNA (nDNA) and mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA). Disruption of mitochondria function leads to a loss of mitochondrial membrane potential and ATP generating capacity and consequently results in chronic degenerative diseases including insulin resistance, metabolic syndrome and neurodegenerative diseases. Although PPAR- $\gamma$  coactivator-1 $\alpha$  (PGC-1 $\alpha$ ) was discovered as a central regulator of mitochondria biogenesis and a transcriptional co-activator of nuclear respiratory factor (NRF) and mitochondrial transcription factor A (Tfam), the expressions of PGC-1 $\alpha$ , NRF and Tfam were not significantly altered in tissues showing abnormal mitochondria functions. This observation suggests that there should be another regulator(s) for mitochondria function. Here, we demonstrate microRNAs (miRNAs) can modulate mitochondria function. Overexpression of microRNA dissipated mitochondrial membrane potential and increased ROS production in vitro and in vivo. It will be discussed the target of microRNA and its role in metabolic syndrome.



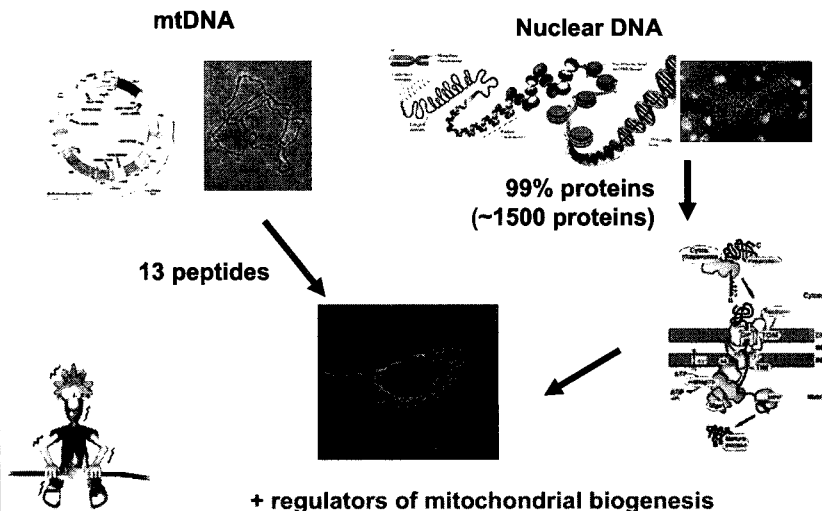
## Mitochondria control protein as a novel therapeutic target for metabolic syndrome

Youngmi Kim Pak

Age-related and Brain Diseases  
Research Center  
Dept. of Nanopharmaceutical and Life  
Sciences  
Kyung Hee University  
Seoul, Korea



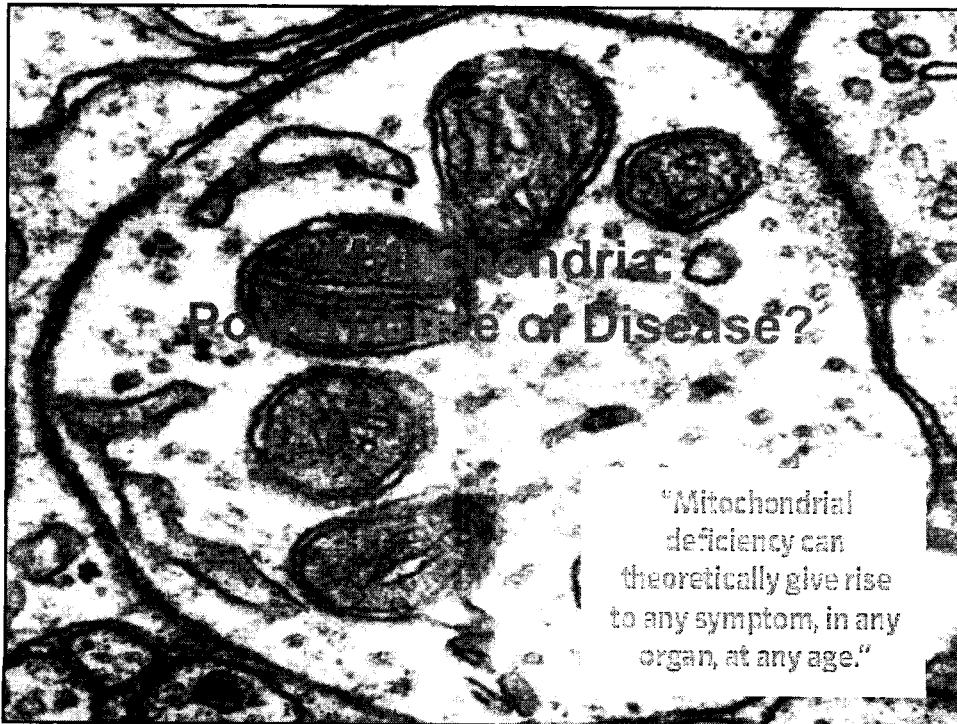
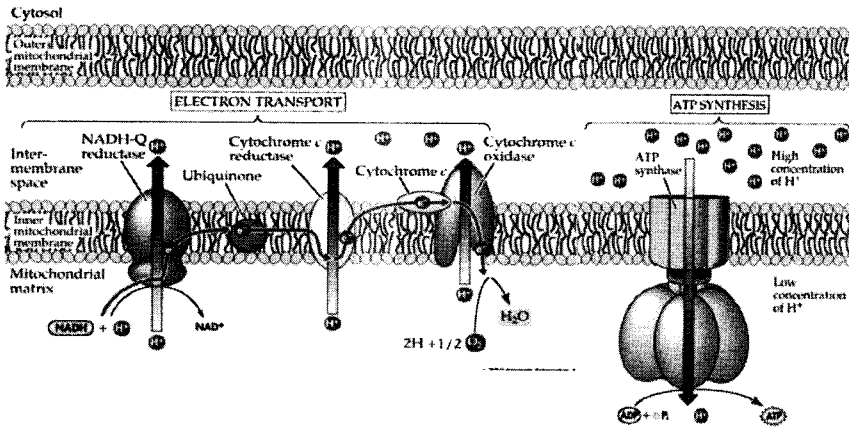
## Mitochondria: Two genes, one organelle





# Mitochondria : Powerhouse of the cell

## oxidative phosphorylation (OXPHOS) reaction





# Metabolic Syndrome

- **Syndrome X = Insulin resistance syndrome**  
= Dysmetabolic syndrome  
= Metabolic syndrome
- **Deadly quartet**
  - Upper body obesity
  - Hypertriglyceridemia
  - Hypertension
  - Hyperglycemia
- **CHAOS**
  - Coronary artery disease
  - Hypertension
  - Adult-onset diabetes mellitus
  - Obesity
  - Stroke



**Venus of Willendorf**  
c. 24,000-22,000 BCE  
Oolitic limestone  
11.1 cm high  
(Naturhistorisches Museum,  
Vienna)



# Insulin Resistance & Mitochondria

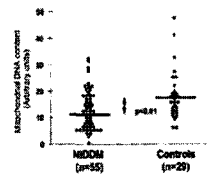
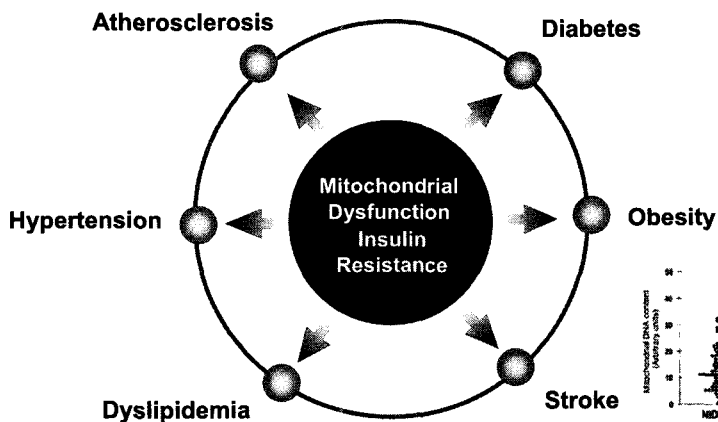


Fig 1. Diabetic HDCA had decreased activity levels of the brain as well as lower mitochondrial DNA content with HDCA.



## Insulin Resistance & Mitochondria

From Science 300, 1140-1142, 2003

### Mitochondrial Dysfunction in the Elderly: Possible Role in Insulin Resistance

Kitt Falk Petersen,<sup>1</sup> Douglas Befroy,<sup>1,7</sup> Sylvie Dufour,<sup>1,7</sup> James Dziura,<sup>1</sup> Charlotte Ariyan,<sup>3</sup> Douglas L. Rothman,<sup>4</sup> Loretta DiPietro,<sup>5,6</sup> Gary W. Cline,<sup>1</sup> Gerald I. Shulman<sup>1,2,7\*</sup>

Table 2. Metabolic rates and tissue lipid content of participants (24).

	Basal rates of glucose production (mg/kg of LBM/min)	Clamp peripheral glucose metabolism rate (mg/kg of LBM/min)	Intramyocellular lipid content (%)	Intrahepatic lipid content (%)	Mitochondrial TCA flux rate (nmol/g of muscle/min)	Mitochondrial ATP synthesis rate ( $\mu$ mol/g of muscle/min)
Young	2.3 $\pm$ 0.1	6.2 $\pm$ 0.6	0.96 $\pm$ 0.08	0.49 $\pm$ 0.10	96 $\pm$ 10	7.50 $\pm$ 0.77
Elderly	2.4 $\pm$ 0.1	4.0 $\pm$ 0.4	1.39 $\pm$ 0.15	1.61 $\pm$ 0.38	62 $\pm$ 5	4.06 $\pm$ 0.65
P value	0.34	<0.002	0.035	0.036	<0.006	<0.004



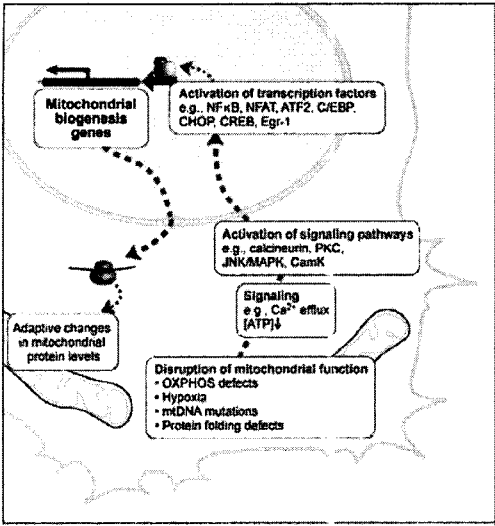
## Hypothesis

### The mitochondrial dysfunction causes metabolic syndrome

"Faulty mitochondria may well be the cause of diabetes, but we still don't know what makes them faulty."

Mitochondrion is the novel therapeutic target for metabolic syndrome

## Model for retrograde signaling in mitochondrial stress pathways



Mitochondria dysfunction  
(loss of  $\Delta\Psi_m$  and ATP)

↓

Release of Ca<sup>2+</sup>  
from mito to cyto

↓

Calcium sensitive signaling

↓

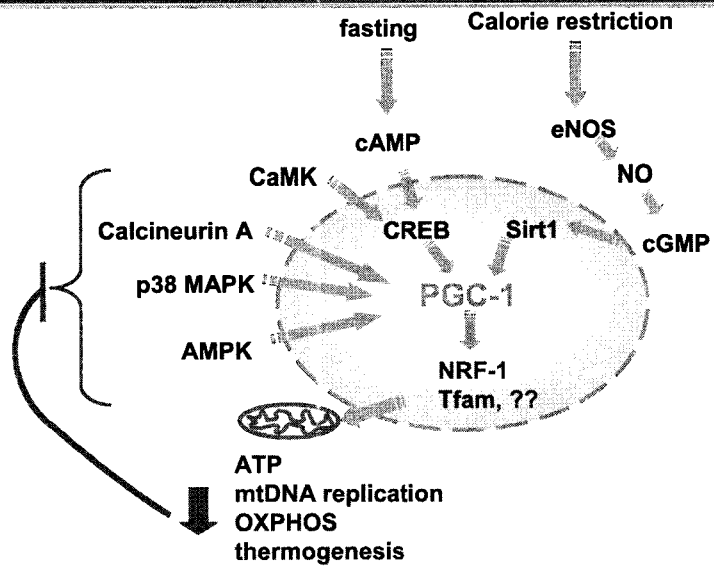
Activation of TFs

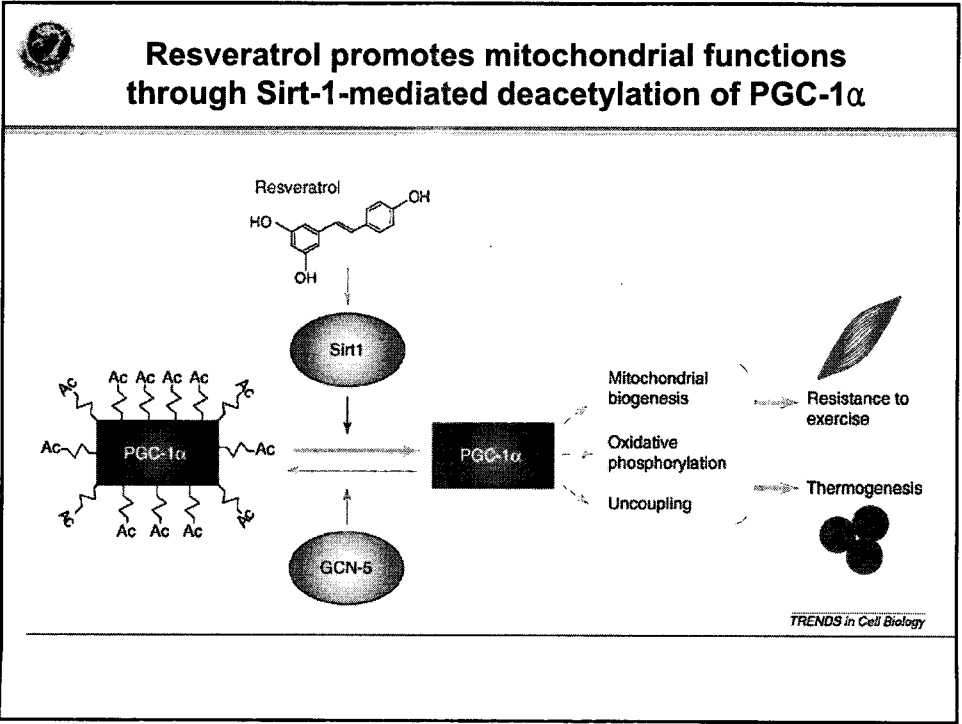
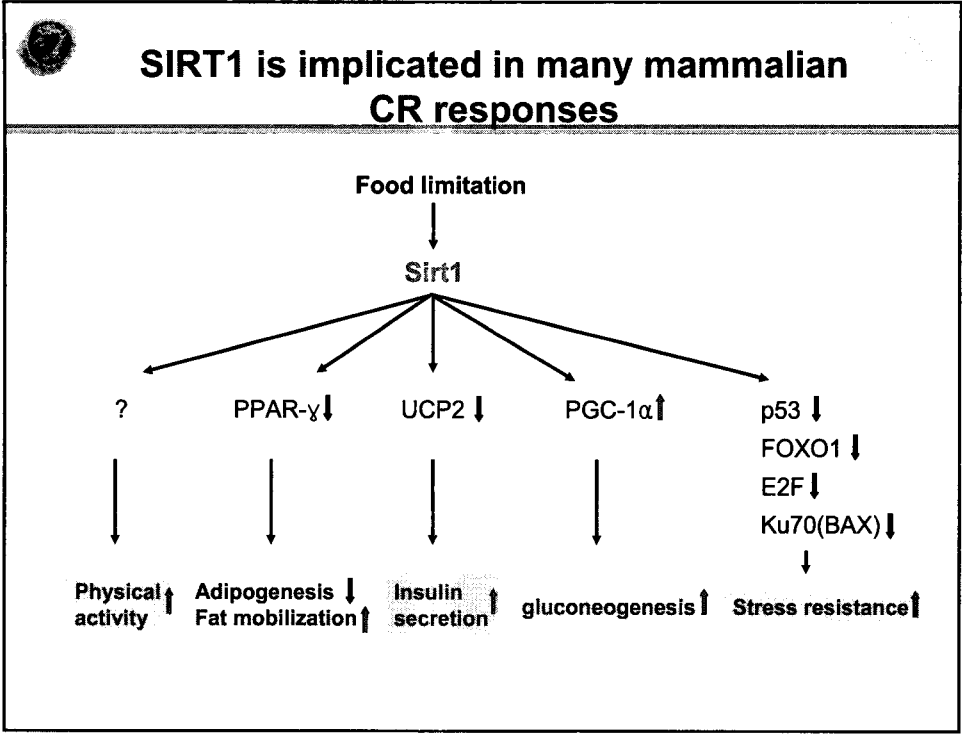
↓

Nuclear gene transcription

Ryan MT, Hoogenraad NJ. 2007.  
Annu. Rev. Biochem. 76:701–22

## Mitochondria modulator(s)







**Is there any other novel  
mitochondria modulator(s)?**



## **Acknowledgements**

### **Pak's Lab and collaborators**

- **Kyung Hee Univ.**
  - Yon-Sik Choi
  - Minseok Kim
  - Jae Hoon Jeong
  - Hyung-Jung Koo
  - Sun-Young Ahn
  - Jee Hye Choi
  - Jihye Han
  - Wook Ha Park
  
  - Sunny Lim
  - Dong-Young Lee
  - Jin-Young Sohn
  - Sung-Eun Jo
- **Seoul Natl. Univ.**
  - Hong Kyu Lee
  - Kyong Soo Park
  - Youngmin Cho
  - Su Lim
- **Postec**
  - Sang Wook Kim
  - Jou-Hyun Jeon
  - Jae-Seong Yang

