

# Early Life Growth Patterns and Later Life Metabolic Consequences

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# Outline

- Poor growth and the SGA child
- Epidemiological Evidence
  - Small Size at Birth
  - Postnatal Growth Patterns
  - Intergenerational Effects
- Mechanisms
- So can we do anything about this!

# Growth Patterns and Later Life Disease Risk

- Poor growth and the SGA child

# AGA vs SGA

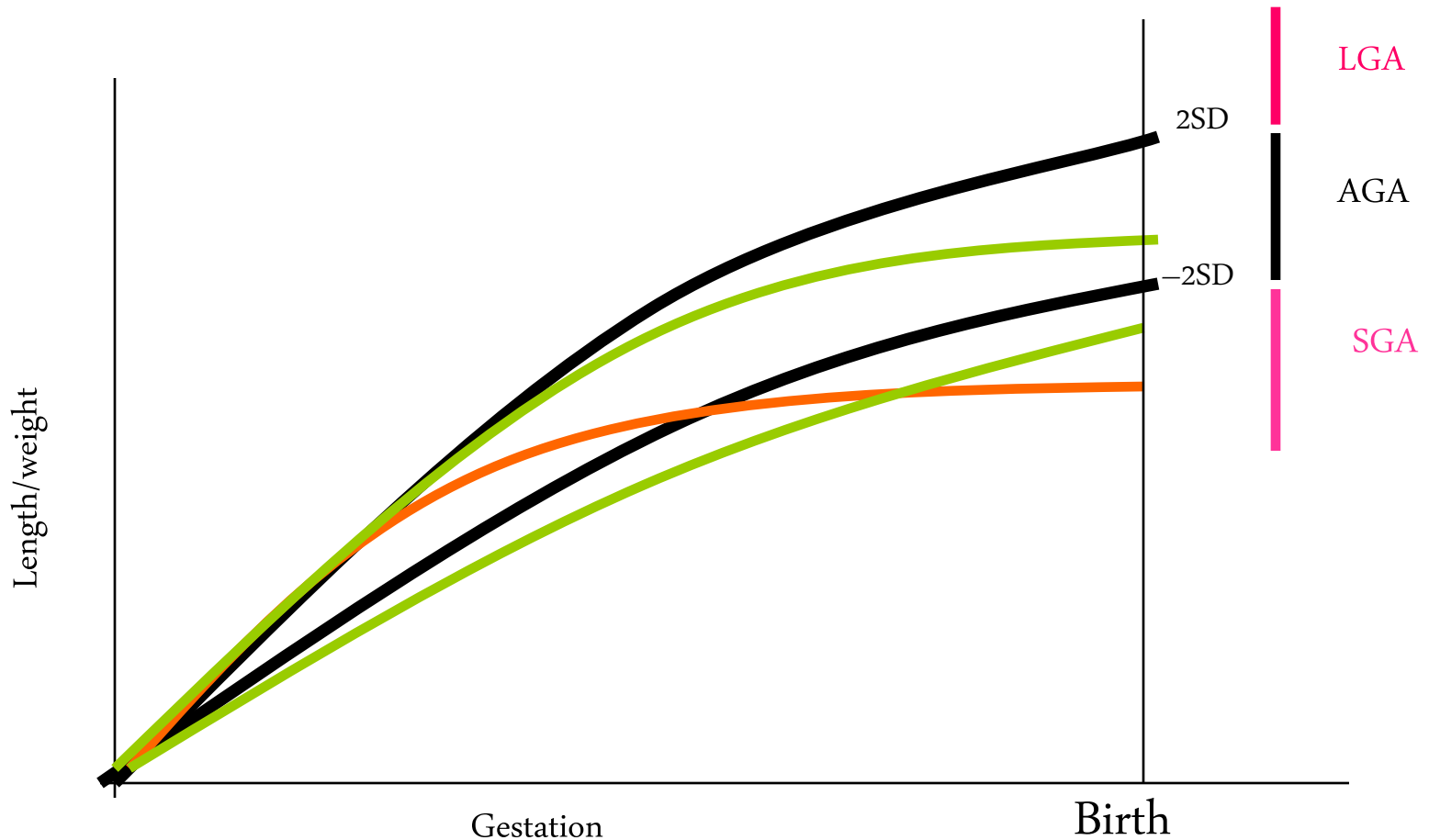
- Appropriate for gestational age (AGA)
  - Birth weight and length within 2 SD of mean for gestational age (GA)
- SGA
  - Birth weight and/or length at least 2 SD below mean for GA
  - Other definitions
    - Birth weight <2500 g, GA  $\geq$ 37 wk
    - Birth weight and/or length <3rd, <5th, or <10th percentile for GA

# Does it matter if you are born small?

- Increased neonatal morbidity and mortality
- Impaired intellectual development and long-term psychological deficits
- More likely to have unskilled or semi-skilled employment as adult
- Associated with the metabolic syndrome
  - Hypertension
  - Hyperlipidemia
  - Type 2 diabetes mellitus



# Definition of SGA/IUGR



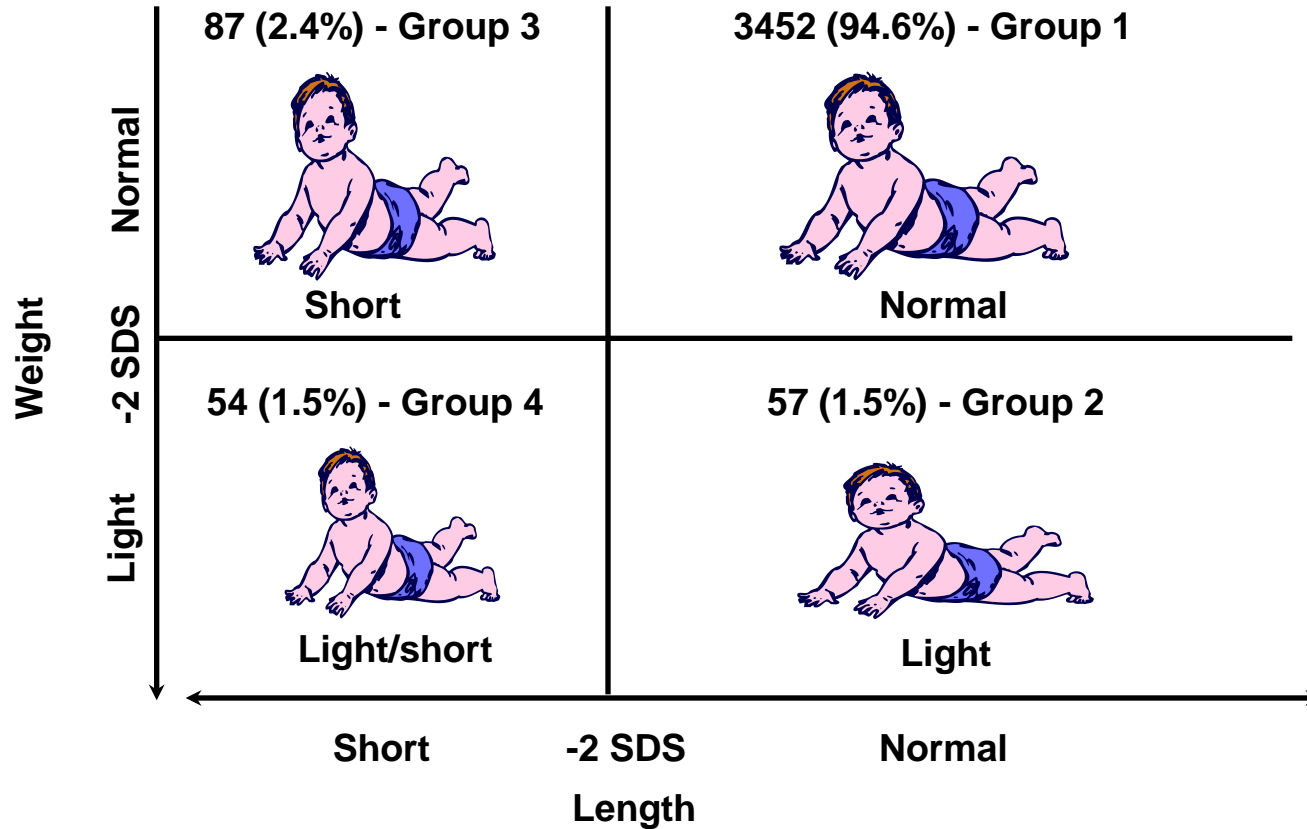
SGA, small for gestational age

AGA, appropriate for gestational age

LGA, large for gestational age

# SGA/IUGR

Birth weight and length of 3650 healthy full-term children



*Albertsson-Wikland K, et al. Acta Paediatr, 1994; 83(Suppl 399); 64-70*

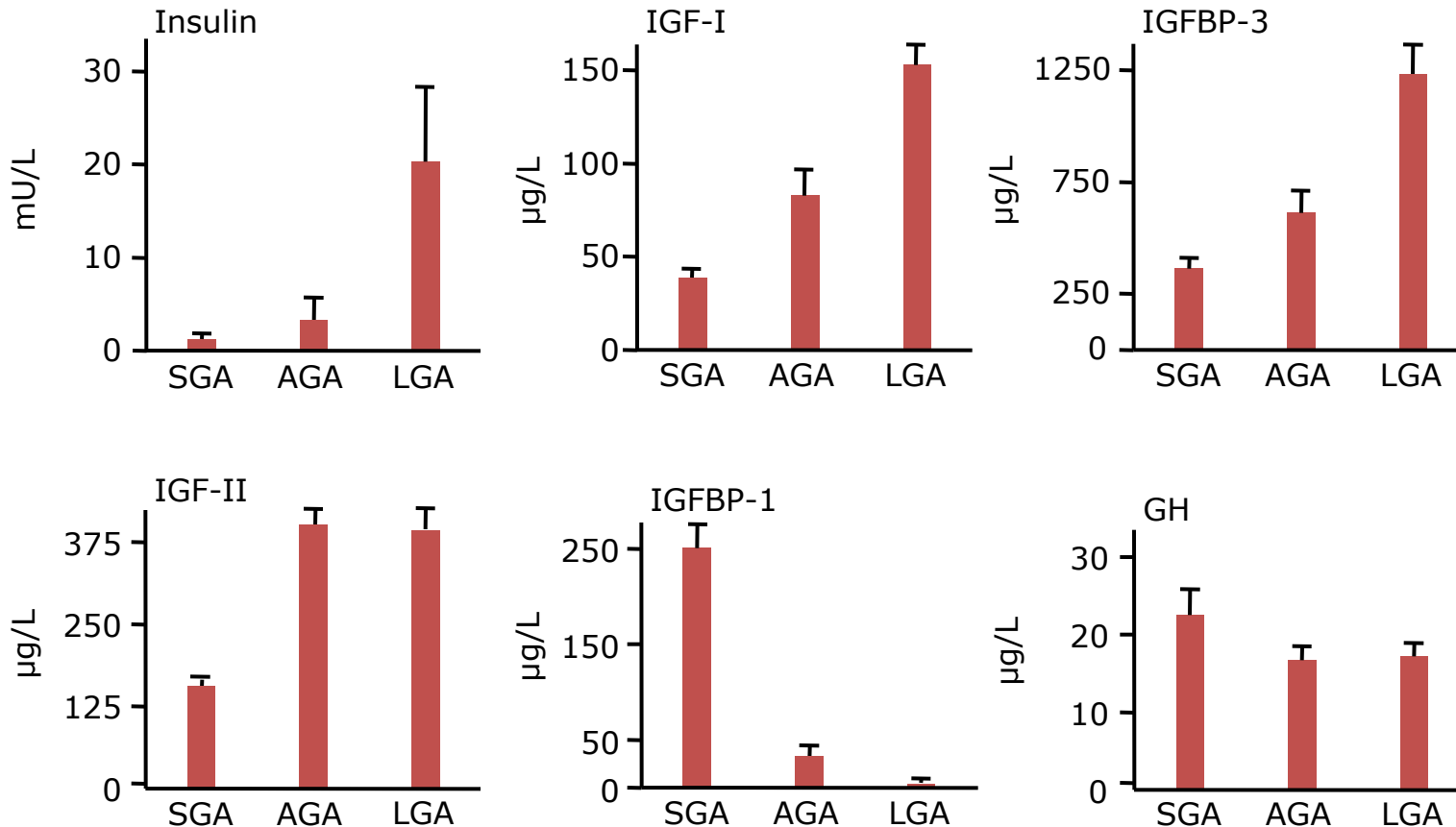
**2014 UK – 698,000 Live Births**

**SGA at birth 37,700 infants**

# Low Birth Weight and Prematurity

- Low birth weight (59% are SGA)
  - Low: <2500 g
  - Very low: <1500 g
  - Extremely low: <1000 g
- Prematurity
  - Preterm: 32/33–36 weeks (12% are SGA)
  - Very preterm: <32/33 weeks (15% are SGA)

# Hormonal regulation of size at birth



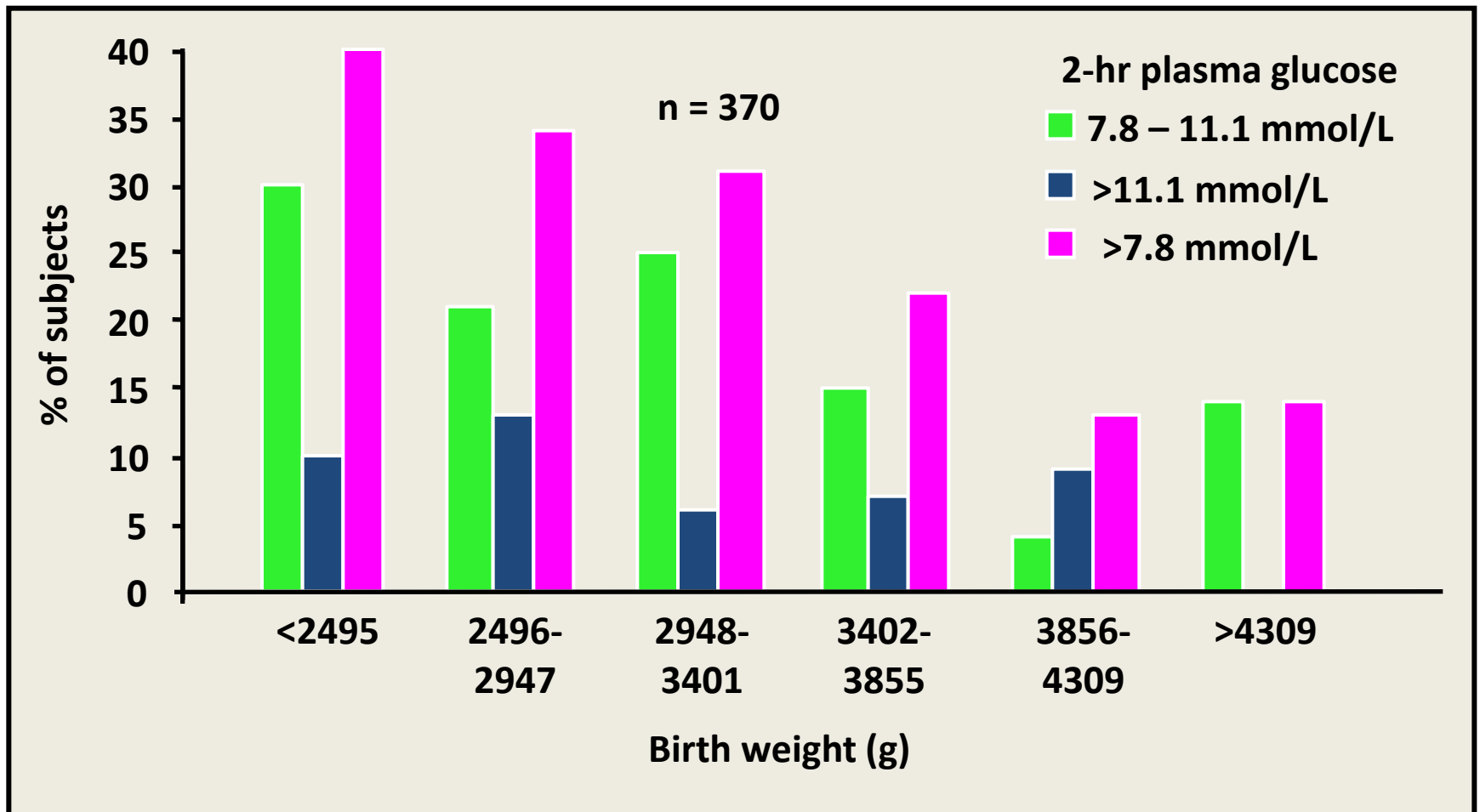
# Growth Patterns and Later Life Disease Risk

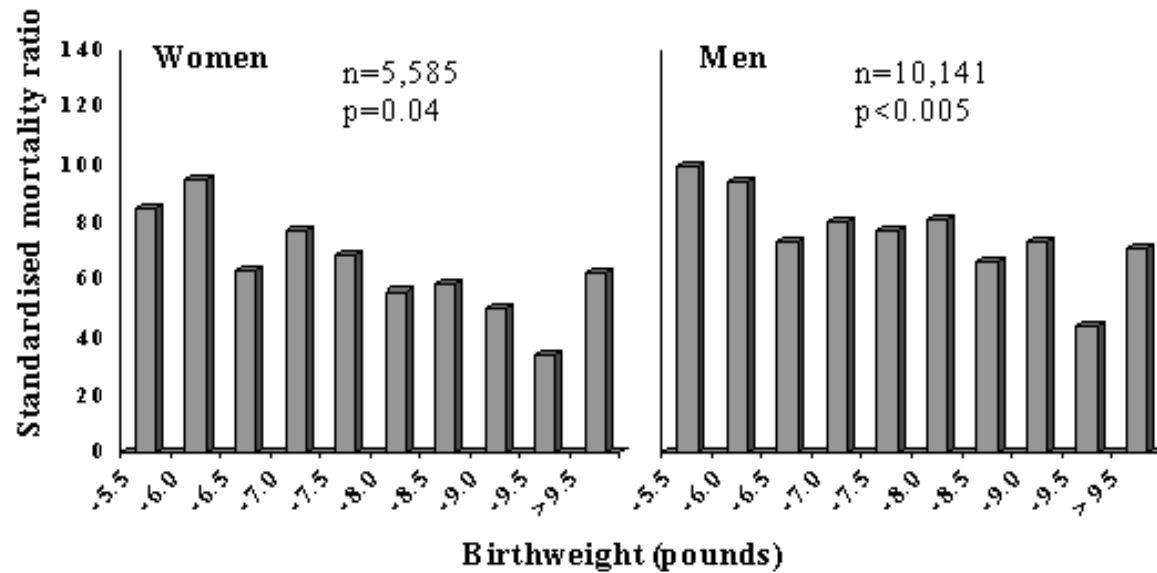
- Epidemiological Evidence

# Growth Patterns and Later Life Disease Risk

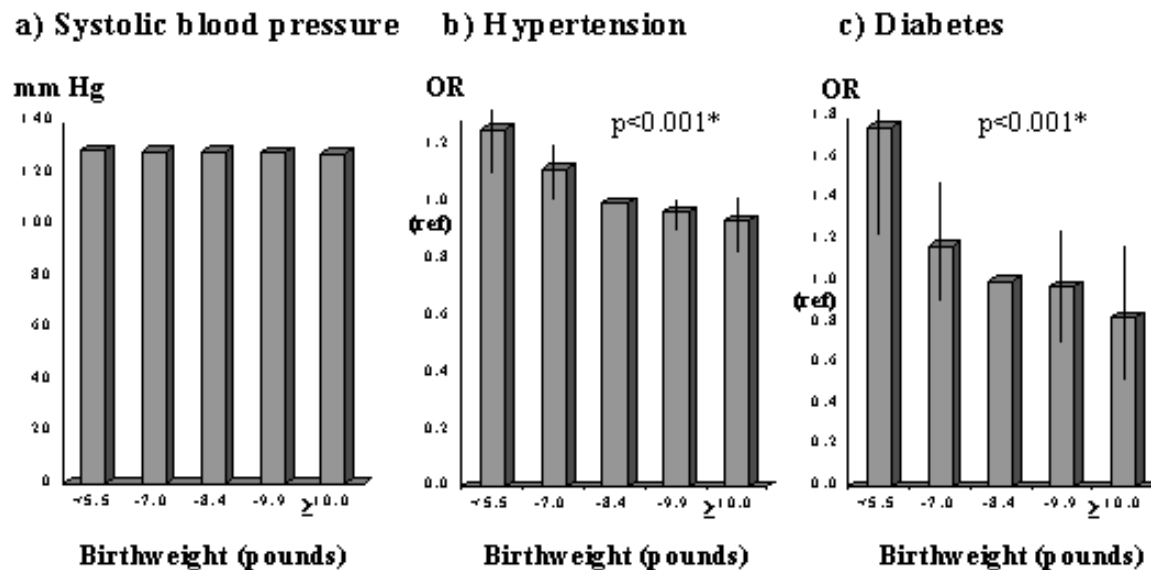
- Epidemiological Evidence
  - Small Size at Birth

# Relation Between Birth Weight and Glucose Tolerance at Age 64 Years





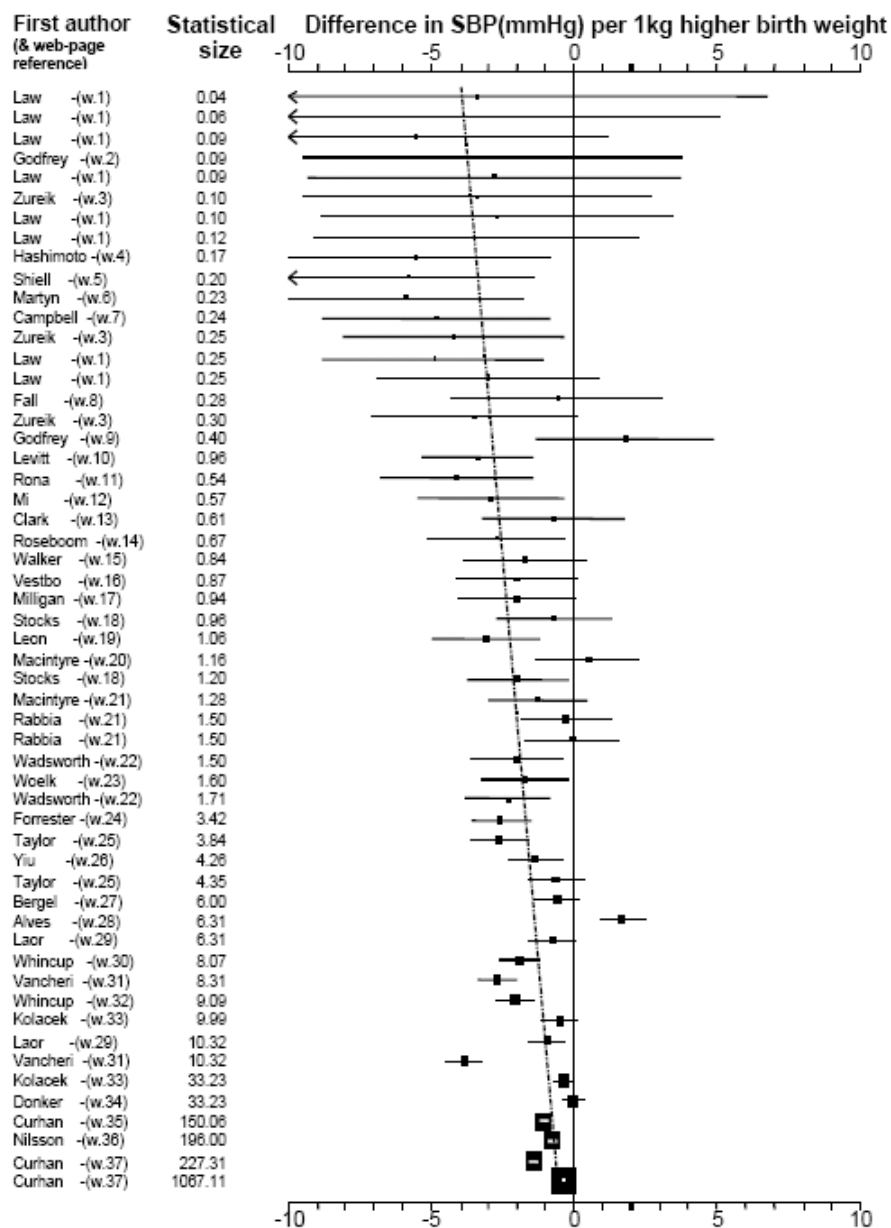
Osmond et al BMJ 1993



Curhan et al Circulation 1996

\*p adjusted for age

Figure 1



Huxley et al  
Lancet 2002

# Growth Patterns and Later Life Disease Risk

- Epidemiological Evidence
  - Small Size at Birth
  - Postnatal Growth Patterns

# Postnatal Weight Gain in SGA infants

Table I. Fifteen studies reporting on the association between infancy weight gain (up to age 2 y) and later obesity risk.

Reference	n	Population	Infancy weight gain		Obesity risk outcome		OR for obesity per 0.67 SD wt gain <sup>b</sup>	Adjusted? <sup>c</sup>
			Birth to (y)	Reported definition	Age	Reported definition		
Stettler 2005 <sup>a</sup>	653	US	0.3	> +1 SD	20–32 y	BMI > 25 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	1.26	Yes
Stettler 2002a	5514	Seychelles	1	kg (cont.)	4–17 y	IOTF overweight	1.39	Yes
Stettler 2002b	19 397	US	0.33	100g/month	7 y	BMI > 95 <sup>th</sup>	1.54	Yes
Euser 2005	403	Holland, preterms	0.25	SD (cont.)	19 y	BMI (cont.)	1.54	Yes
Mellbin 1976	895	Sweden	1	> 90 <sup>th</sup> centile	7 y	Wt-for-ht > 120%	1.55	No
Kinra 2005	1335	UK	1.5	SD (cont.)	7 y	BMI (cont.)	1.63	Yes
Monteiro 2003	1041	Brazil	2	> +0.67 SD	14–16 y	BMI > 85 <sup>th</sup>	1.66	Yes
Ekelund 2006	248	Sweden	0.5	> +0.67 SD	17 y	IOTF overweight	1.80	Yes
Shapiro 1984	450	US	0.5	> 85 <sup>th</sup> centile	9 y	Skinfolds > 85 <sup>th</sup>	1.85	No
Eid 1970	224	UK	0.5	> 90 <sup>th</sup> centile	8 y	Wt-for-ht > 120%	2.08	No
Stettler 2005 <sup>a</sup>	653	US	0.022	> +1 SD	20–32 y	BMI > 25 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	2.37	Yes
Reilly 2005	857	UK	2	> +0.67 SD	7 y	BMI > 95 <sup>th</sup>	2.60	Yes
Gunnarsdottir 2003	90	Iceland	1	kg (cont.)	6 y	BMI (cont.)	2.90	No
Stettler 2003	300	African Americans	0.33	> +1SD	20 y	BMI > 30 kg/m <sup>2</sup>	3.03	Yes
Cameron 2003	193	South Africa	2	> +0.67 SD	9 y	BMI (cont.)	3.23	No
Tschoke 2004	4235	Germany	2	> 9764 g	5–6.9 y	BMI > 85 <sup>th</sup>	4.55	No
Total (unadjusted)	35 835		1.0	> +0.67 SD	10 y		2.76	No
Total (adjusted)	35 835		1.0	> +0.67 SD	10 y		1.84	Yes

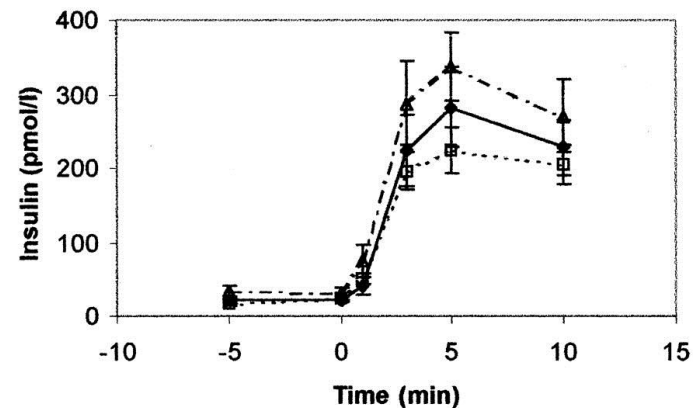
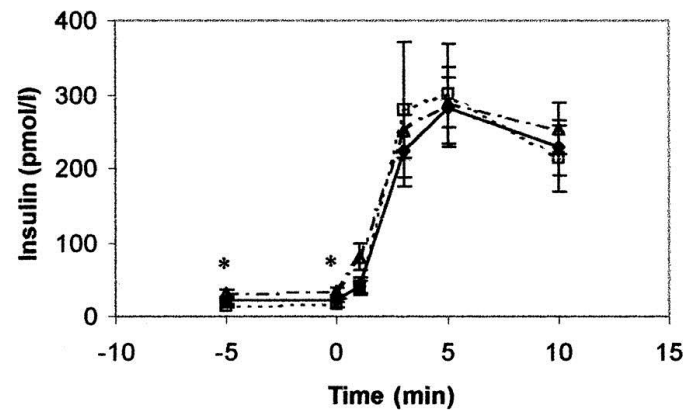
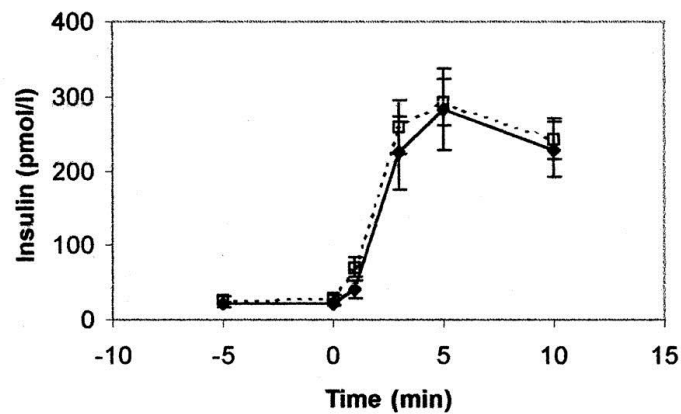
**TABLE 4. Blood Pressure in Randomized Formula-Fed Groups at Age 6–8 Years**

	Unadjusted Blood Pressure, mm Hg					Adjusted Blood Pressure, mm Hg*		
	Standard (n=83)	Nutrient Enriched (n=70)	Mean Difference	95% CI	P	Mean Difference	95% CI	P
Diastolic	61.3 (8.2)	64.5 (8.3)	−3.2	−5.8 to −0.5	0.02	−3.5	−6.2 to −0.7	0.01
MAP	76.9 (8.3)	79.5 (7.8)	−2.5	−5.1 to 0.1	0.06	−3.0	−5.6 to −0.3	0.03
Systolic	100.5 (10.2)	102.2 (9.8)	−1.7	−4.9 to 1.5	0.3	−2.0	−5.3 to 1.3	0.2

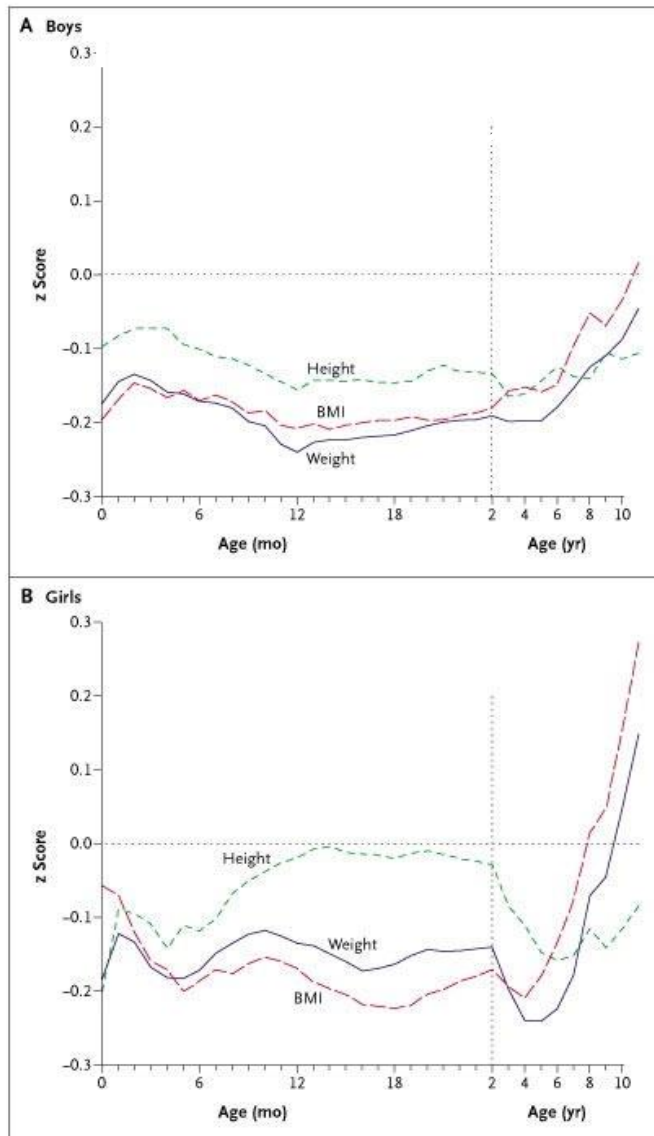
Data are mean (SD) in each formula group.

\*Adjusted for age, sex, z score for weight and height at 6–8 years, and social class.

# Insulin Resistance and Catch-up growth in SGA infants



# Early Life Growth Patterns in Adults with Cardiovascular Disease



# Growth Patterns and Later Life Disease Risk

- Epidemiological Evidence
  - Small Size at Birth
  - Postnatal Growth Patterns
  - Intergenerational Effects

# Intergenerational Effects – Birth Weight

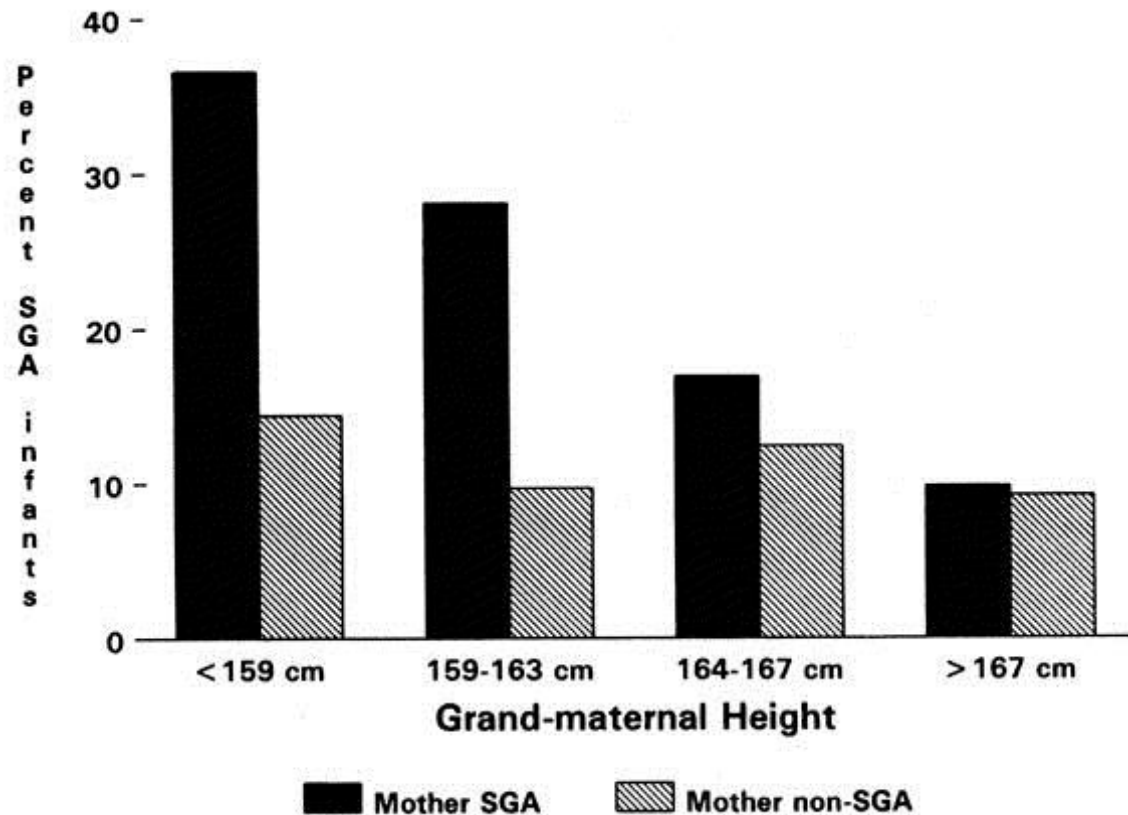
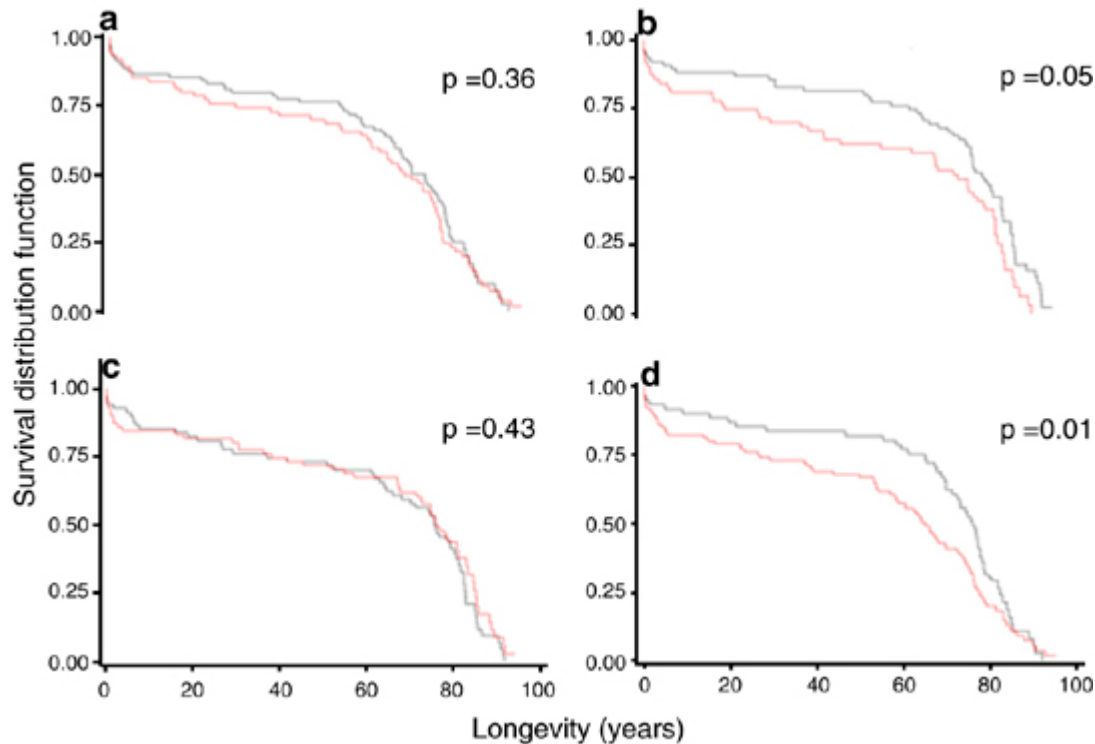
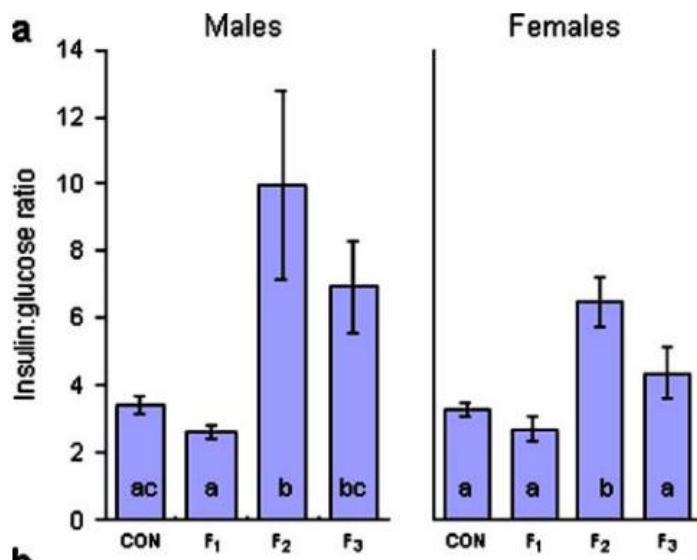


Fig. 1 Percent SGA infants by grandmaternal height and maternal SGA status.

# Intergenerational Effects – Longevity



The empirical distribution of longevity. Male and female probands survival when the paternal grandparent experienced at least 1 year of good availability of food in the environment (dashed line), or no year of good availability (solid line), during their SGP that is at 8–10 years of age for the paternal grandmother and at 9–12 years of age for the paternal grandfather. No adjustments.  $N=306$ . **(a)** Paternal grandmothers availability of food during her SGP and the survival of the male probands. **(b)** Paternal grandmothers availability of food during her SGP and the survival of the female probands. **(c)** Paternal grandfathers availability of food during his SGP and the survival of the female probands. **(d)** Paternal grandfathers availability of food during his SGP and the survival of the male probands.

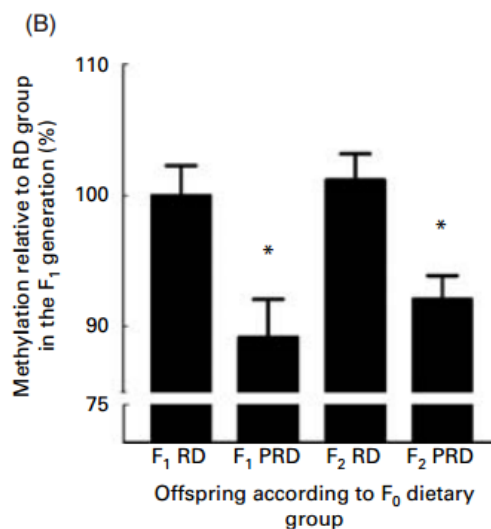
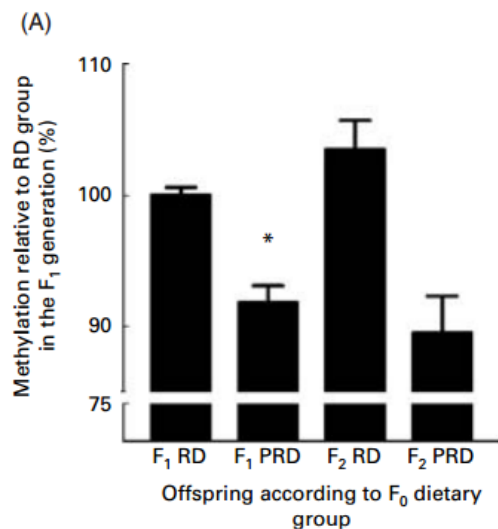


Diabetologia (2006) 49: 1117–1119  
DOI 10.1007/s00125-006-0196-5

## RESEARCH LETTER

D. C. Benyshek · C. S. Johnston · J. F. Martin

# Glucose metabolism is altered in the adequately -nourished grand -offspring (F<sub>3</sub> generation) of rats malnourished during gestation and perinatal life



British Journal of Nutrition (2007), 97, 435–439  
© The Authors 2007

DOI: 10.1017/S0007

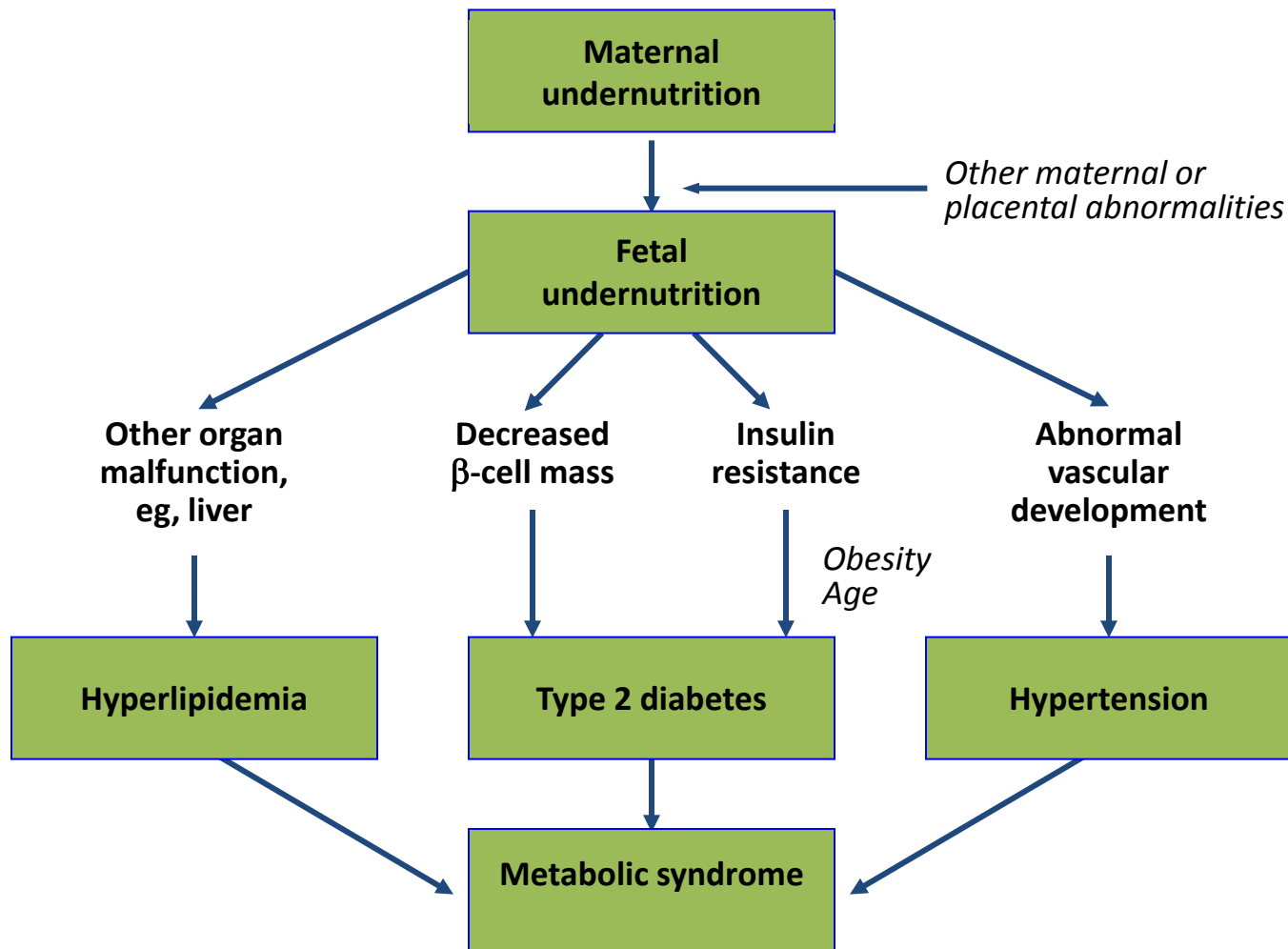
# Dietary protein restriction of pregnant rats in the F<sub>0</sub> generation induces altered methylation of hepatic gene promoters in the adult male offspring in the F<sub>1</sub> and F<sub>2</sub> generations

Graham C. Burdge<sup>1\*</sup>, Jo Slater-Jefferies<sup>1</sup>, Christopher Torrens<sup>1</sup>, Emma S. Phillips<sup>2</sup>, Mark A. Hanson<sup>1</sup> and Karen A. Lillycrop<sup>2</sup>

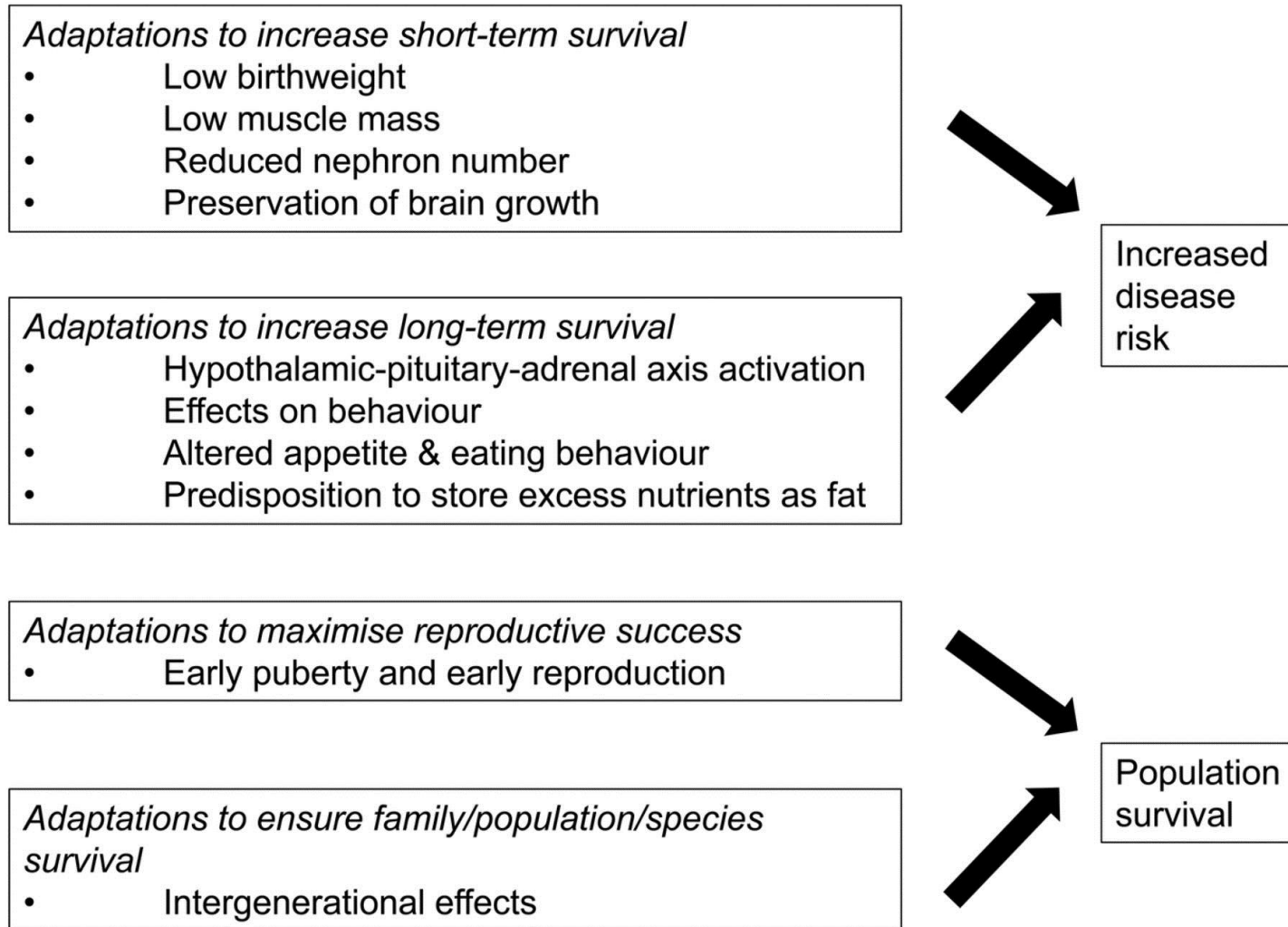
# Growth Patterns and Later Life Disease Risk

- Mechanisms

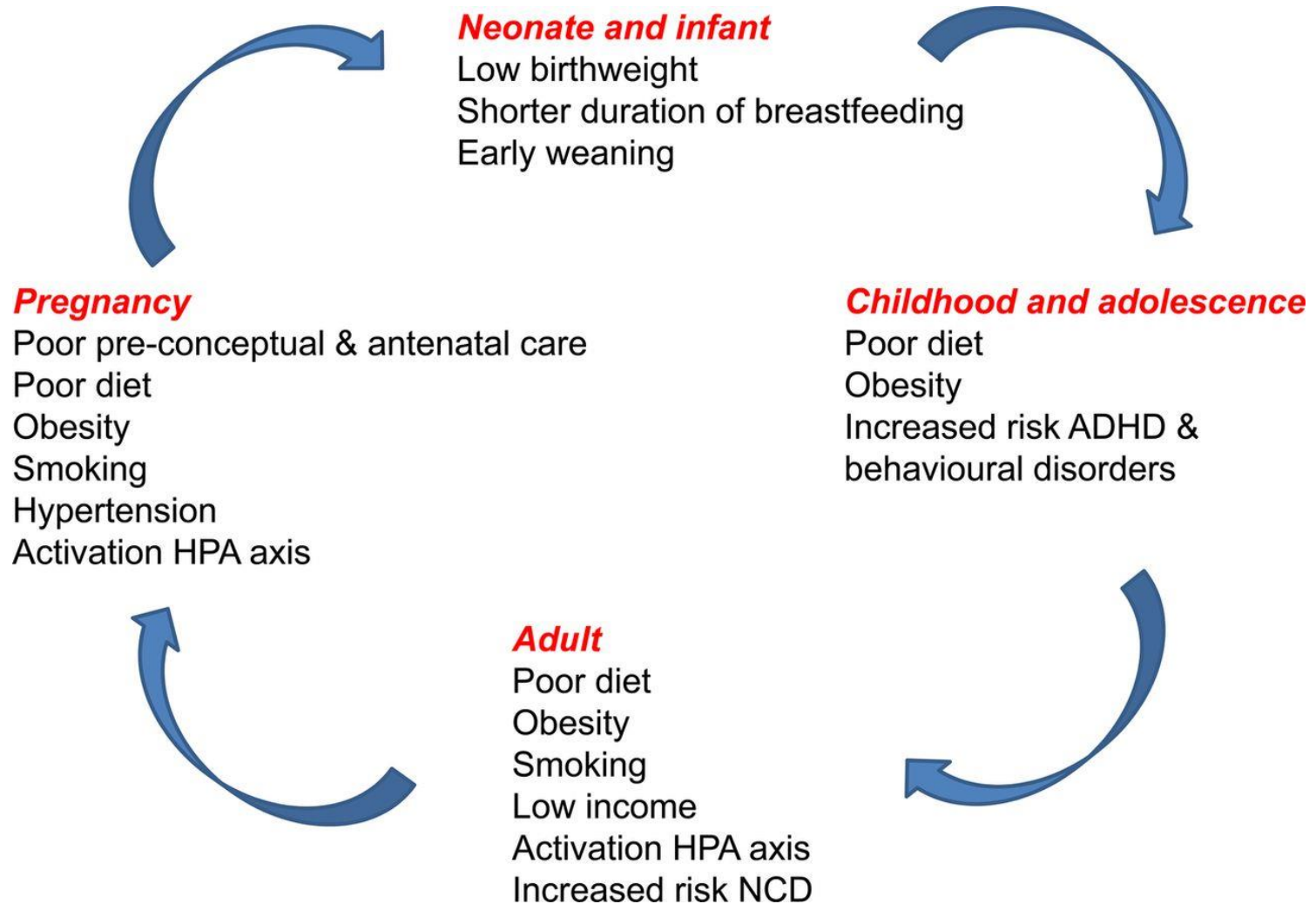
# Fetal Origins of Metabolic Syndrome



## Early life programming and later disease risk – Predictive Adaptive Response

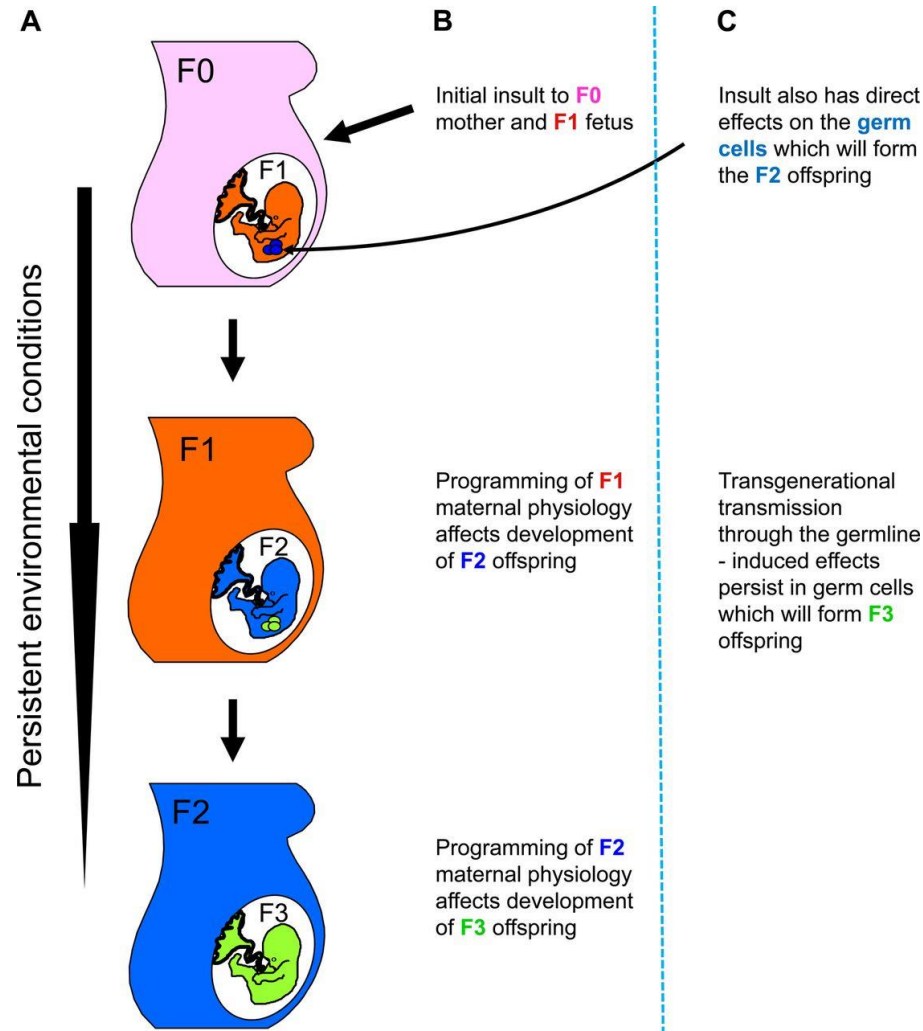


## Intergenerational cycle of disease risk.



Thomas C Williams, and Amanda J Drake Arch Dis Child  
doi:10.1136/archdischild-2014-307958

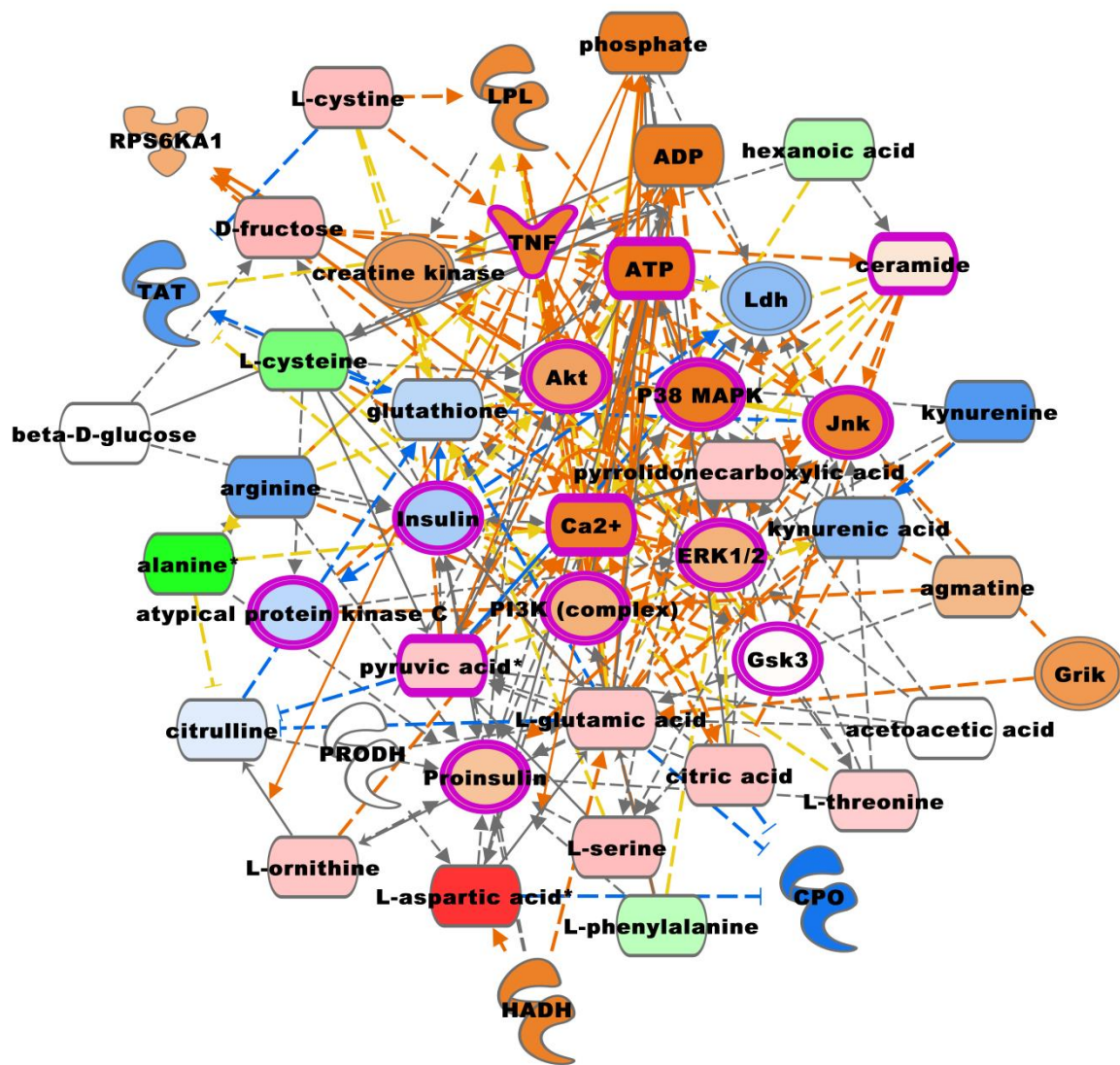
## Potential mechanisms accounting for the transgenerational transmission of disease risk.



Thomas C Williams, and Amanda J Drake Arch Dis Child  
doi:10.1136/archdischild-2014-307958

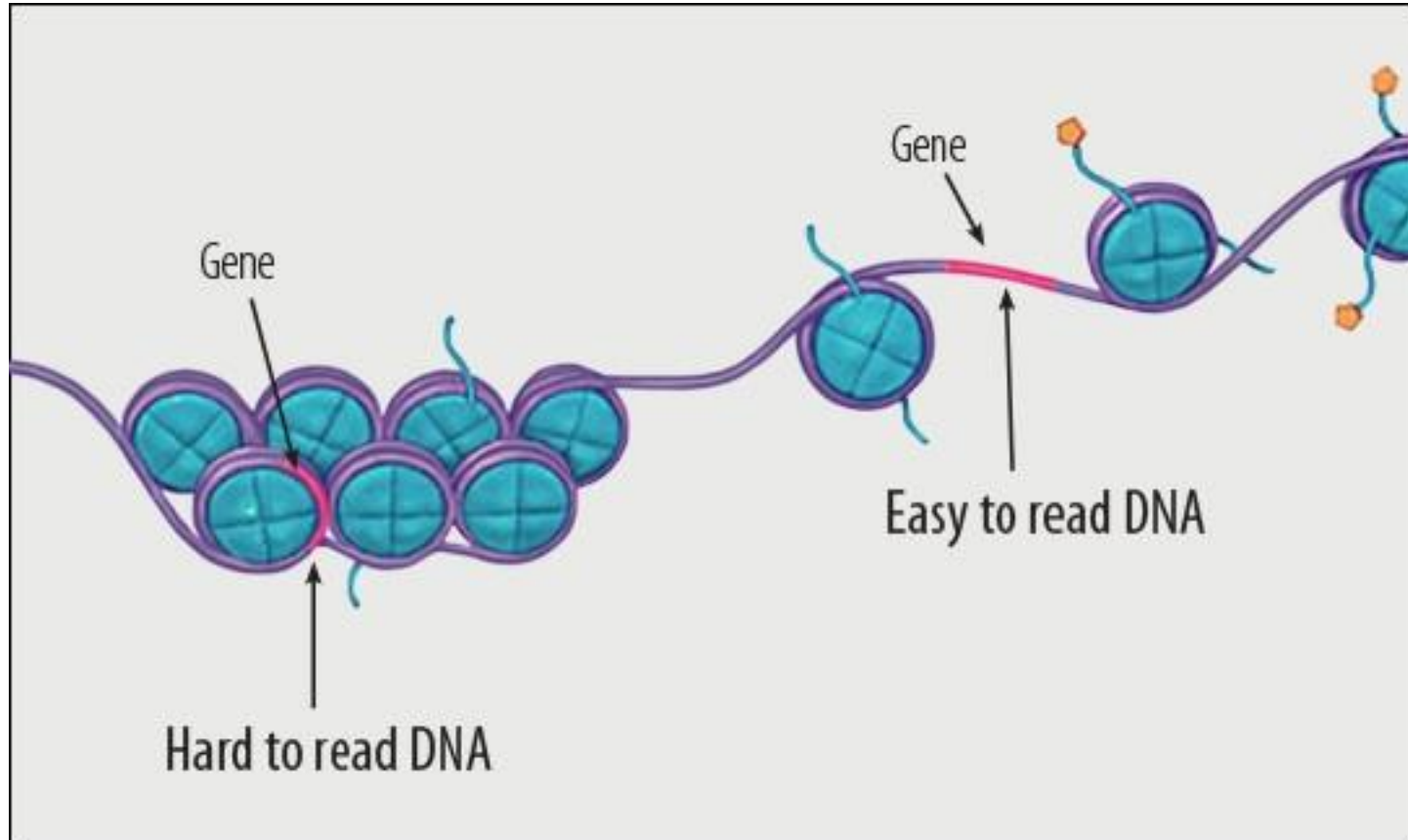
# Cellular Metabolic Differences Occur in SGA derived fibroblasts

- Intracellular and Extracellular Metabolome extracted and analysed via GC-MS in 8 SGA and 3 control fibroblast cell lines
- 19 significantly differentially regulated metabolites mostly amino acids and intermediaries involved in carbohydrate metabolism

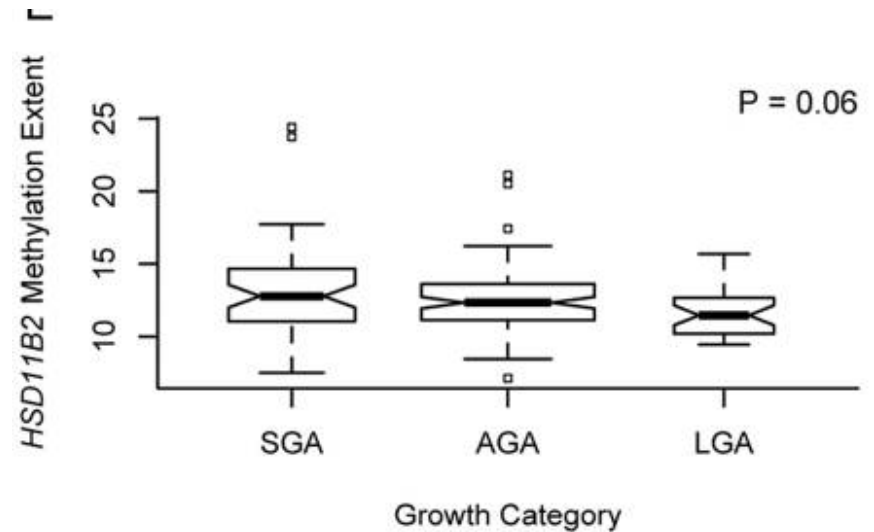
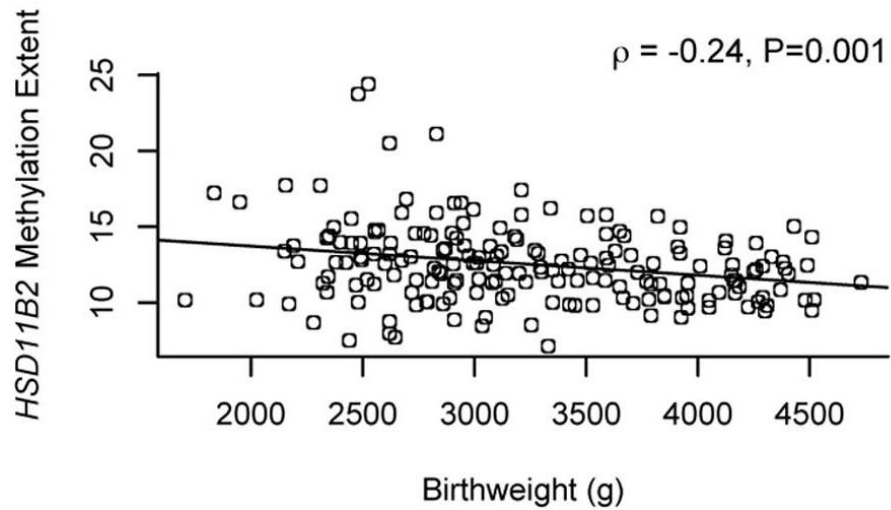


**Interaction network of differences in metabolite regulation between control and SGA patient cell lines.** Nineteen metabolites were identified as differentially regulated between control and patient cells, these were used to define a network with inferred protein and metabolite interactions (Ingenuity Pathway Analysis Software [IPA]).

# Epigenetics



# Methylation and Birth Size



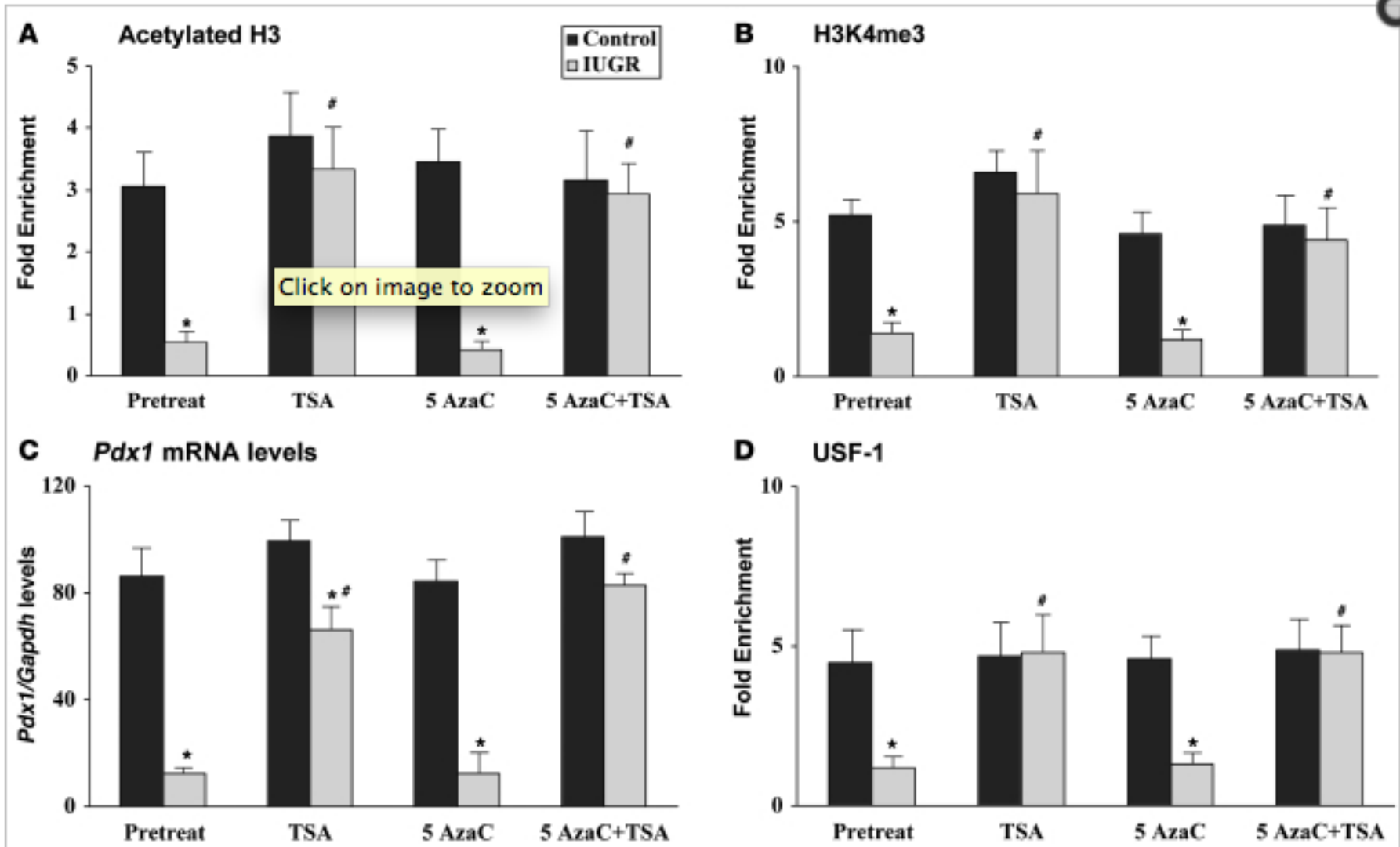
# Growth Patterns and Later Life Disease Risk

- So can we do anything about this!

# Reprogramming

- IUGR rodent model associated with reduced Pdx1 (transcription factor involved pancreatic beta cell development) associated with postnatal
  - Recruitment of HDAC1 and co-repressor Sin3A
  - Deacetylation of histones H3 and H4
  - Loss of USF-1 binding at Pdx1 promotor

# HDAC inhibitor treatment



# Conclusions

- Being born small increases risk of cardiovascular disease in adulthood
- Increased postnatal growth is associated with increased disease risk
- This increased risk is passed through generations as far as grandchildren