

HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?



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www.skintoskincontact.com

Evidence gaps: key research priorities

- How can facility based initiation of effective KMC for stable small babies be scaled up?
- Can community-based initiation of KMC reduce neonatal mortality of clinically stable small babies?
- Does initiation of KMC immediately after birth, even for unstable babies, improve survival?

Immediate KMC study

- Individually randomized controlled trial: hospitals in Ghana, India, Malawi, Nigeria and Tanzania. Sample size 4,200
- Newborns <1.8 kg will be allocated to intervention or control group
- Those allocated to intervention will receive skin to skin care starting immediately after birth, and continued thereafter
- Those allocated to control will receive conventional care until considered stable, KMC will be initiated after that
- Primary outcome neonatal mortality

HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START? SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

Those allocated to intervention will receive skin to skin care starting immediately after birth, and continued thereafter

THE NEUROSCIENCE BEHIND SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

Those allocated to intervention will receive skin to skin care starting immediately after birth, and continued thereafter

American Academy
of Pediatrics



DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN™

Organizational Principles to Guide and Define the Child
Health Care System and/or Improve the Health of all Children

POLICY STATEMENT

Early Childhood Adversity, Toxic Stress, and the Role of
the Pediatrician: Translating Developmental Science
Into Lifelong Health

PEDIATRICS®

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

Pediatrics 2012;129:e224; originally published online December 26, 2011;
DOI: 10.1542/peds.2011-2662

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Into Lifelong Health **Garner 2011**

"Early Childhood Adversity"

What about
Early Infant Adversity ?
Early Neonatal Adversity ?

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WAIMH Position Paper on the Rights of Infants

Edinburgh, 14-18 June, 2014 (amended March 2016)

© World Association for Infant Mental Health (13th May 2016)



WAIMH Position Paper on the Rights of Infants

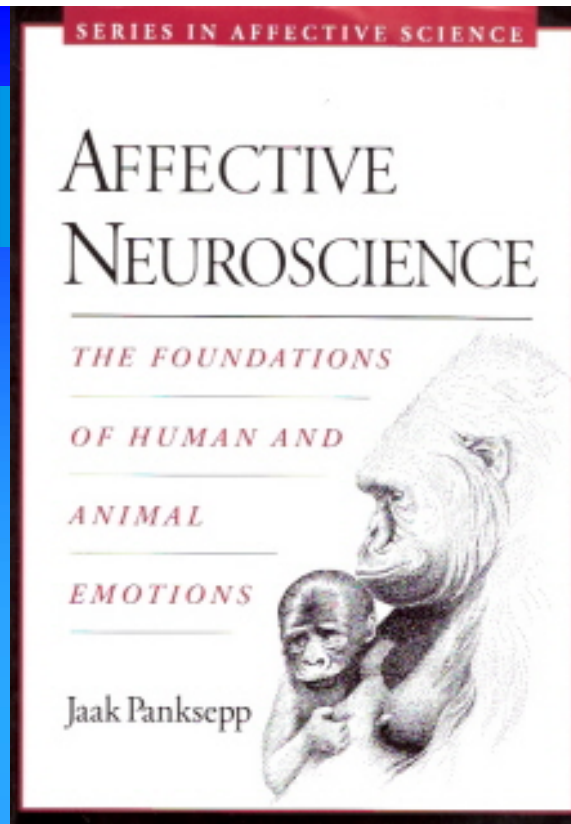
I. Basic Principles of Infant Rights (Birth to three years of age)

1. The Infant by reason of his/her physical and mental immaturity and absolute dependence needs special safeguards and care, including appropriate legal protection.

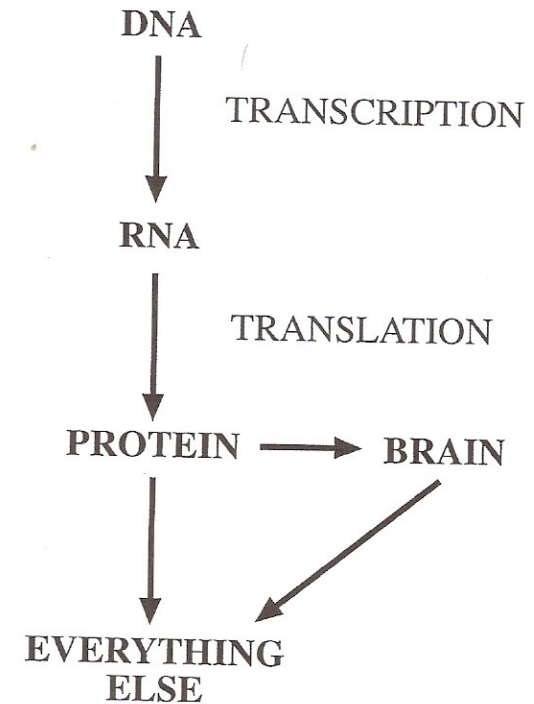
Infants with life-limiting conditions need access to palliative services, based on the same standards that stand in the society for older children.

3. The Infant is to be considered as a vital member of his/her family, registered as a citizen, and having the right for identity from the moment of birth. Moreover, the infant's status of a person is to include equal value for life regardless of gender or any individual characteristics such as those of disability.

4. The Infant has the right to be given nurturance that includes love, physical and emotional safety, adequate nutrition and sleep, in order to promote normal development.



98 CONCEPTUAL BACKGROUND



Infants with life-limiting conditions need access to palliative services, based on the same standards that stand in the society for older children.

4. The Infant has the right to be given nurturance that includes love, physical and emotional safety, adequate nutrition and sleep, in order to promote normal development.

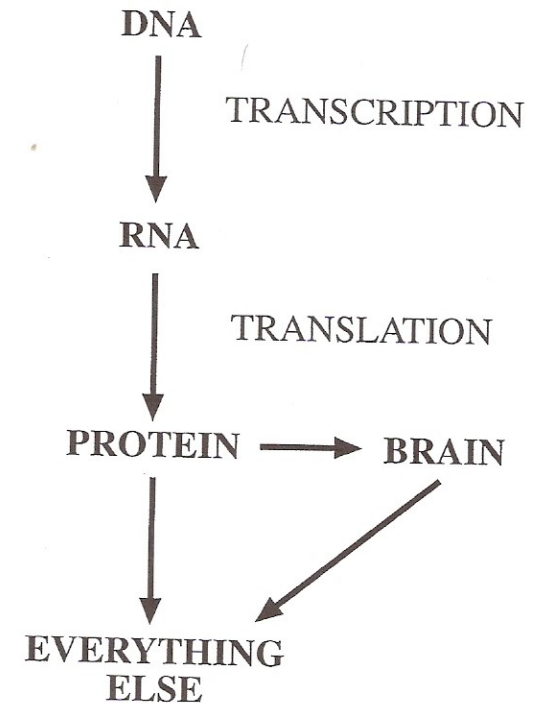
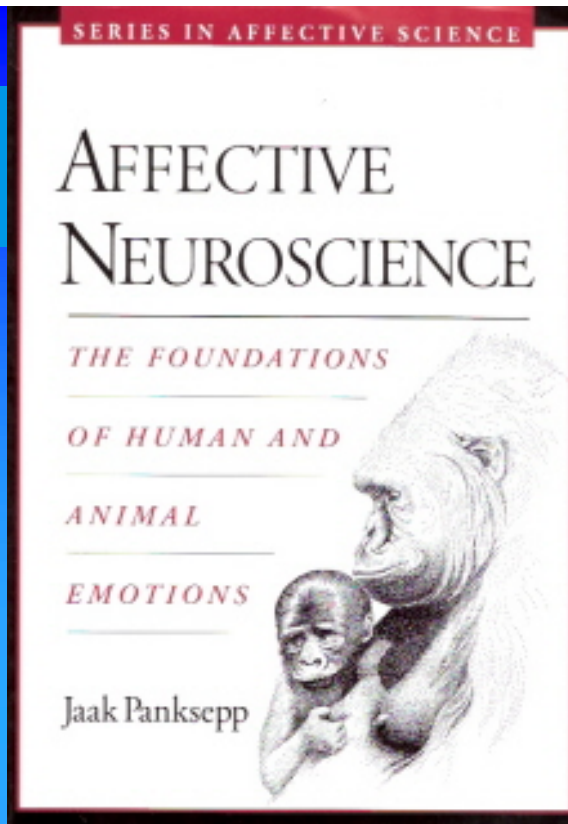


Figure 6.1. Summary of the current “central dogma” that underlies the analysis of all biological processes, including those that mediate basic psychobiological processes. The only major concept missing from this schematic is the environment, and these influences permeate all phases of these transactions.

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding

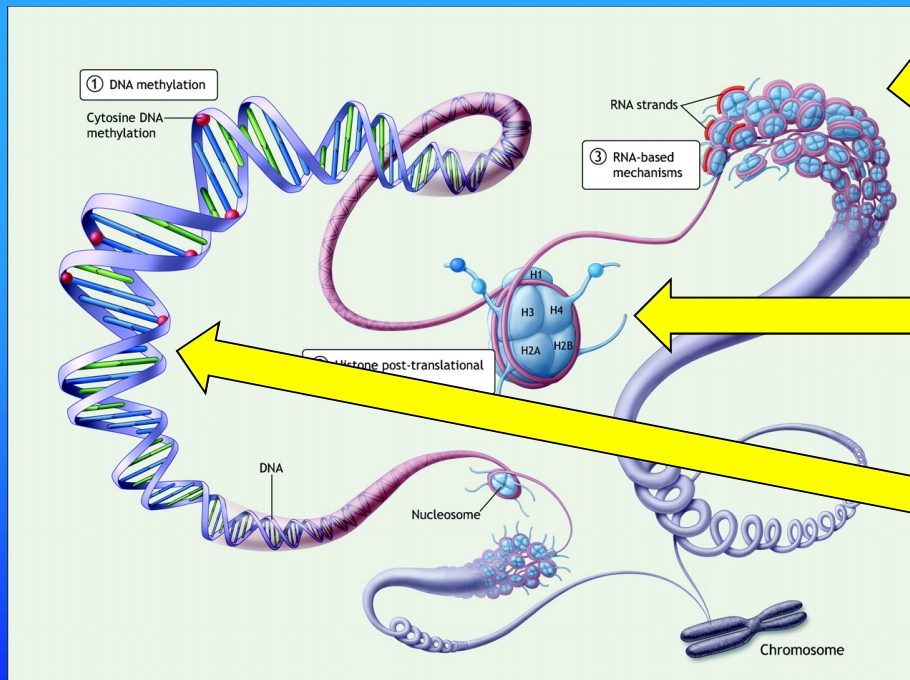


ENVIRONMENT ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS



MICRO-RNA

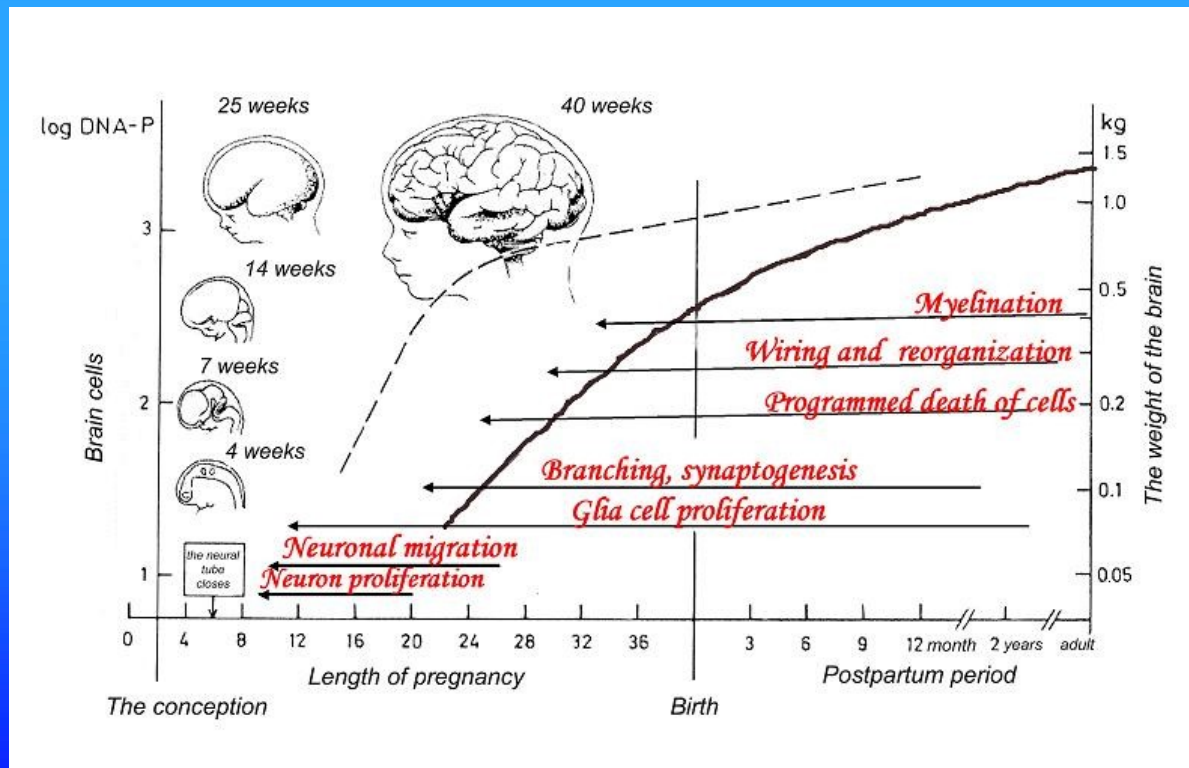
HISTONE MODIFICATION

DNA METHYLATION

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ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

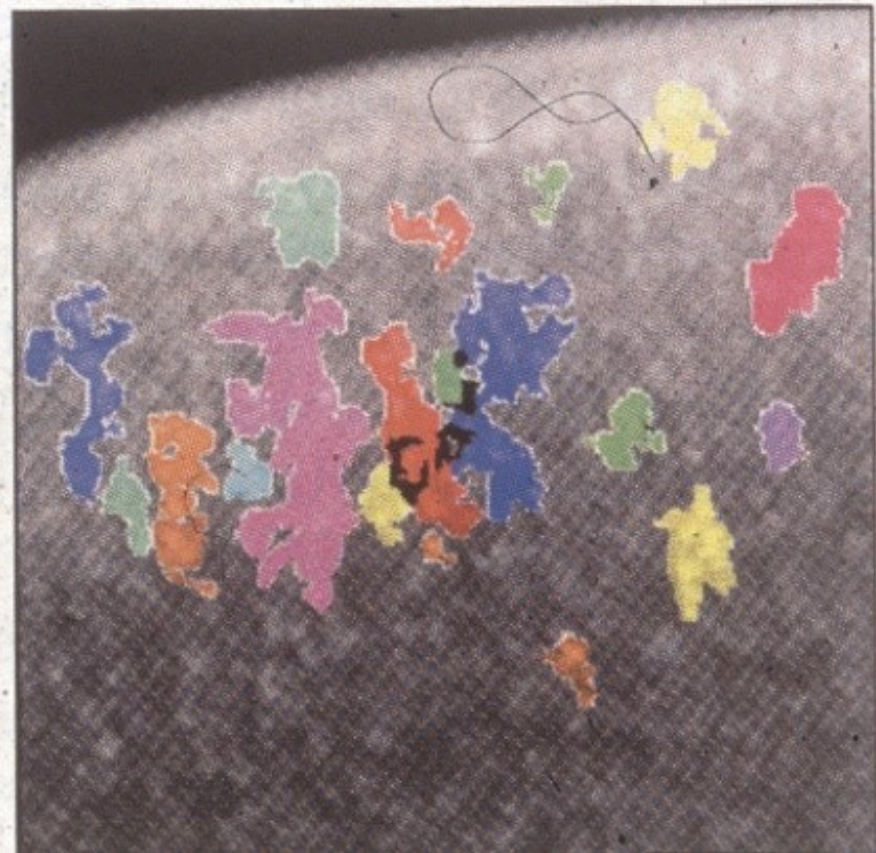


”Neurons that fire together wire together while those which don't, won't”
Hebb/Carla Shatz

Retina

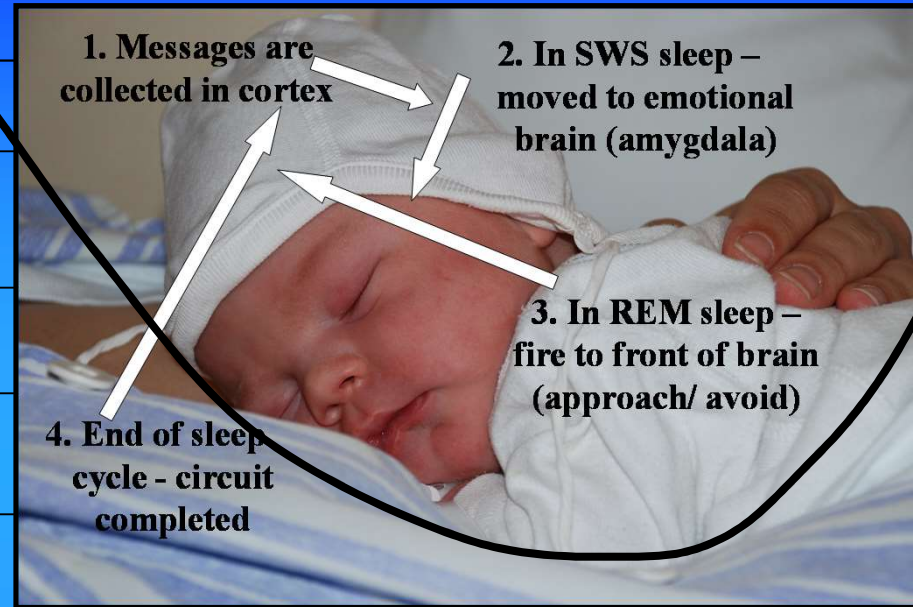


Cortex



SLEEP CYCLING - BRAIN WIRING

REM
NR1
NR2
NR3
SWS



ACQUISITION

poly-sensory input
short-term memory
stored cortex

Awake and REM

CONSOLIDATION

transfer information
"SNR" strong signals
amygdala /
hippocampus

NREM stage 4

MEMORY FORMATION

P waves
returns info
to neocortex:
organized
REM

SMELL



modulates state organisation
elicits emotional behaviours

activates pre-feeding actions
anticipatory digestive physiology
regulates pace of ingestive behaviour

SMELL → BRAIN WIRING

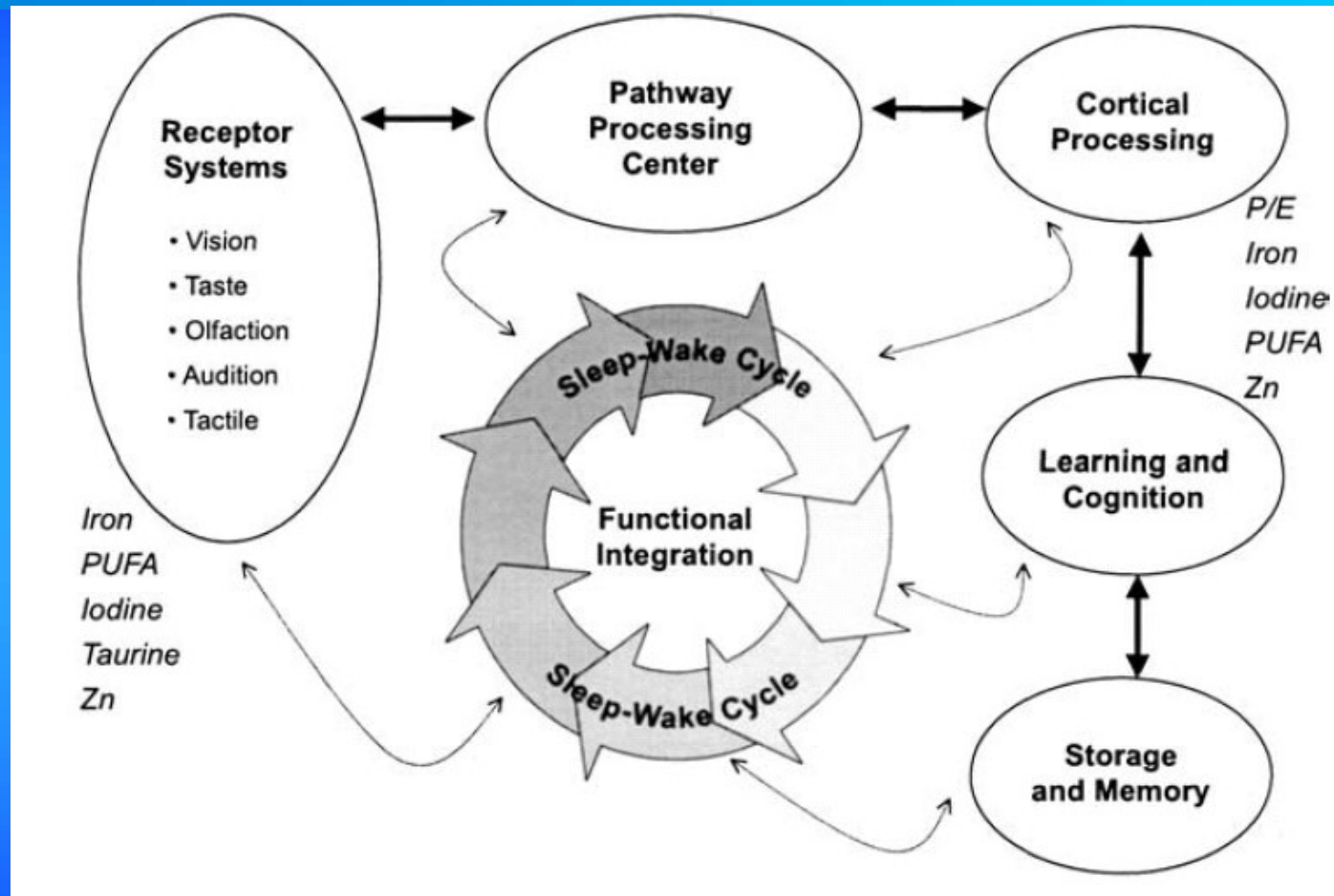
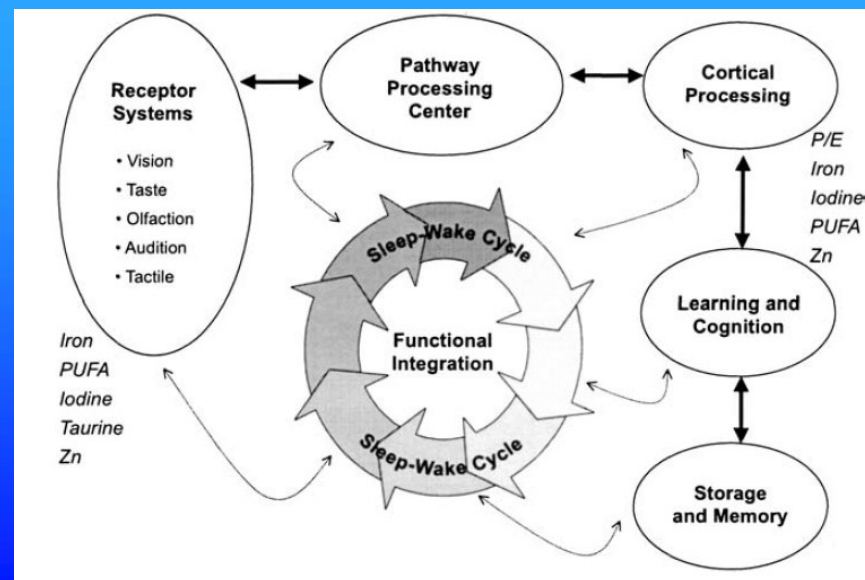


Fig 4. Schematic representation of the interaction between sensory receptors and CNS functions within the framework of the sleep-wake cycle. Nutrients with proven effects on sensory receptors and/or cortical processing are included (*PUFA*, polyunsaturated fatty acids; *Zn*, zinc; *P/E*, protein/energy).



Brain Architecture and Skills are Built in a Hierarchical “Bottom-Up” Sequence

- Neural circuits that process basic information are wired earlier than those that process more complex information.



Slide by: Jack P. Shonkoff, M.D.



Brain Architecture and Skills are Built in a Hierarchical “Bottom-Up” Sequence

- **Neural circuits that process basic information are wired earlier than those that process more complex information.**
- **Higher circuits build on lower circuits, and skill development at higher levels is more difficult if lower level circuits are not wired properly.**

Slide by: Jack P. Shonkoff, M.D.

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ENVIRONMENT ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

- Higher circuits build on lower circuits, and skill development at higher levels is more difficult if lower level circuits are not wired properly.

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ENVIRONMENT ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

HIGHLY CONSERVED
NEURO-ENDOCRINE
BEHAVIOR

"LIFE SCIENCES THEORY"

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS



The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

Newborn behaviour to locate the breast when skin-to-skin: a possible method for enabling early self-regulation

A-M Widström (ann-marie.widstrom@ki.se)¹, G Lilja², P Aaltomaa-Michalias³, A Dahllöf², M Lintula⁴, E Nissen^{1,5}

DOI:10.1111/j.1651-2227.2010.01983.x

Newborns' location of the breast



Figure 1 (A) The baby looks at the breast 15 min old. (B) The baby looks at the mother 21 min old. Photo: Thomas Annersten.

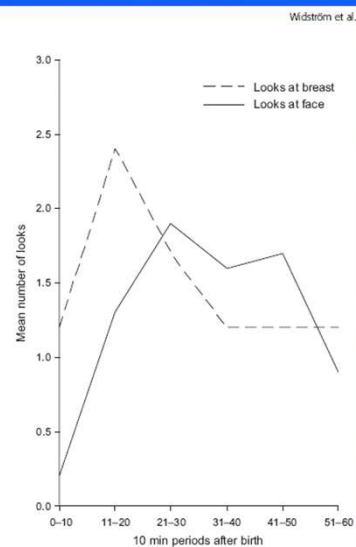


Figure 2 The infant's mean number of looks at either mother's breast or face is shown for 10-min periods during the first hour after birth.

Table 1 Definition of phases/behaviours identified

Phases	Behaviours
Birth cry	Intense crying just after birth
Relaxation phase	Infant resting/recovering. No activity of mouth, head, arms, legs or body
Awakening phase	Infant begins to show signs of activity. Small thrusts of head: up, down, from side-to-side. Small movements of limbs and shoulders
Active phase	Infant moves limbs and head, is more determined in movements. Rooting activity, 'pushing' with limbs without shifting body
Crawling phase	'Pushing' which results in shifting body
Resting phase	Infant rests, with some activity, such as mouth activity, sucks on hand
Familiarization	Infant has reached areola/nipple with mouth positioned to brush and lick areola/nipple
Suckling phase	Infant has taken nipple in mouth and commences suckling
Sleeping phase	The baby has closed its eyes

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding

The DNA → The Brain → Behaviour
EPIGENETICS NEURODEVELOPMENT EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

"For species such as primates, the mother IS the environment."
Sarah Blaffer Hrdy, Mother Nature (1999)

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding

The DNA → The Brain → Behaviour
EPIGENETICS NEURODEVELOPMENT EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

Nothing an infant can or
cannot do makes sense,

except in light of mother's body

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The DNA → The Brain → Behaviour
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ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS



except in light of mother's body

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The DNA

EPIGENETICS



The Brain

NEURODEVELOPMENT



Behaviour

EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT



Skin-to-skin contact

except in light of mother's body

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The DNA

EPIGENETICS

The Brain

NEURODEVELOPMENT

Behaviour

EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

ENVIRONMENT

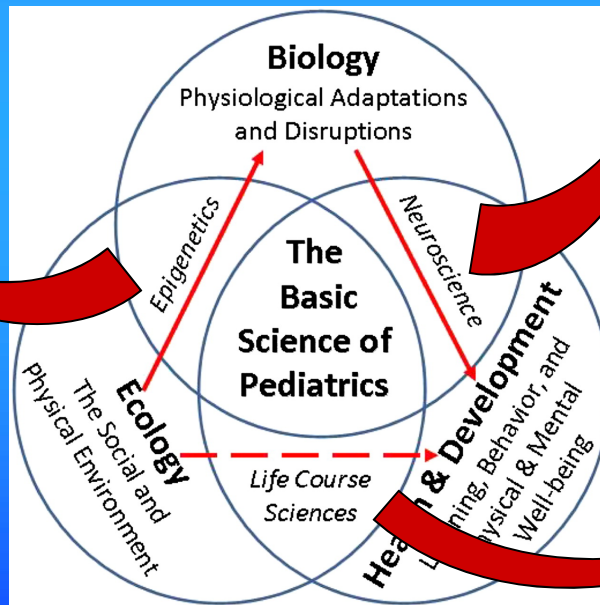
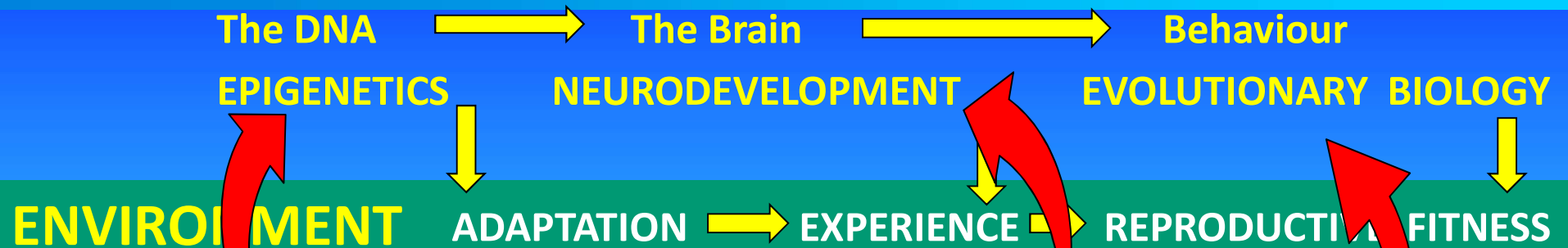
SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT



Skin-to-skin contact

except in light of mother's body

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



except in light of mother's body



TECHNICAL REPORT

The Lifelong Effects of Early Childhood Adversity and Toxic Stress

Jack P. Shonkoff, Andrew S. Garner, THE COMMITTEE ON PSYCHOSOCIAL ASPECTS OF CHILD AND FAMILY HEALTH, COMMITTEE ON EARLY CHILDHOOD, ADOPTION, AND DEPENDENT CARE, AND SECTION ON DEVELOPMENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICS, Benjamin S. Siegel, Mary I. Dobbins, Marian F. Earls, Andrew S. Garner, Laura McGuinn, John Pascoe and David L. Wood

Pediatrics 2012;129:e232; originally published online December 26, 2011;
DOI: 10.1542/peds.2011-2663

INTRODUCTION

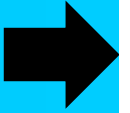
Of a good beginning cometh a good end.

John Heywood, *Proverbs* (1546)

Shonkoff 2012

The United States, like all nations of the world, is facing a number of social and economic challenges that must be met to secure a promising future. Central to this task is the need to produce a well-

"Of a good beginning cometh a good end"
John Heywood, Proverbs (1546)



When is the
beginning?

INTRODUCTION

Of a good beginning cometh a good end.

John Heywood, Proverbs (1546)

The United States, like all nations of the world, is facing a number of social and economic challenges that must be met to secure a promising future. Central to this task is the need to produce a well-

EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT ECD

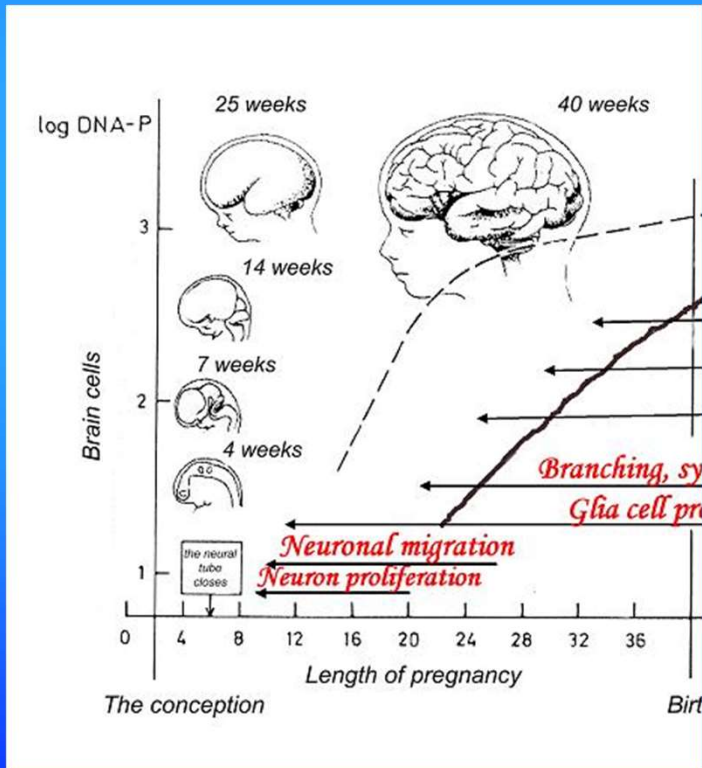
"First 1000 days" =

gestation 270

year one 365

year two 365

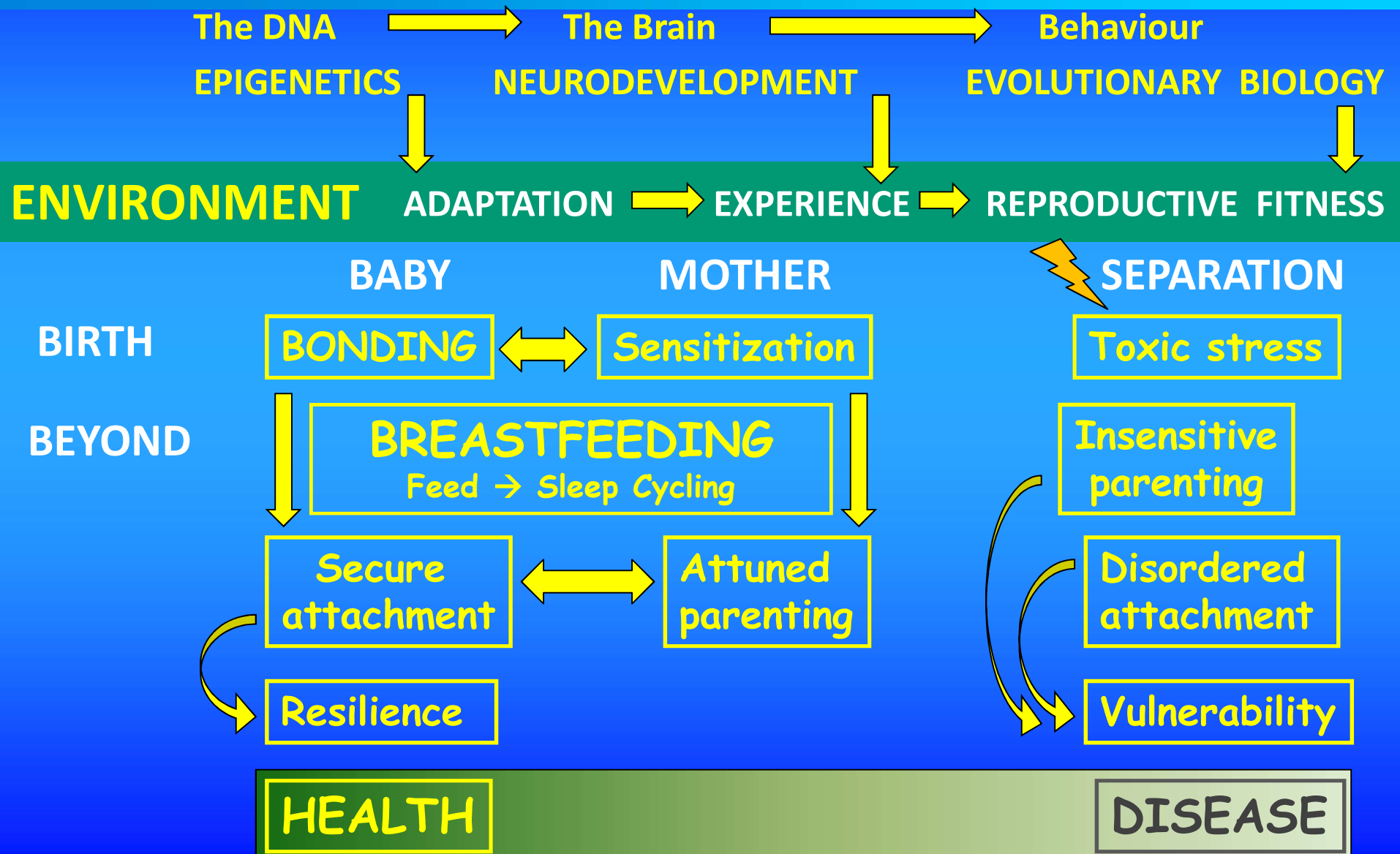
total 1000 days



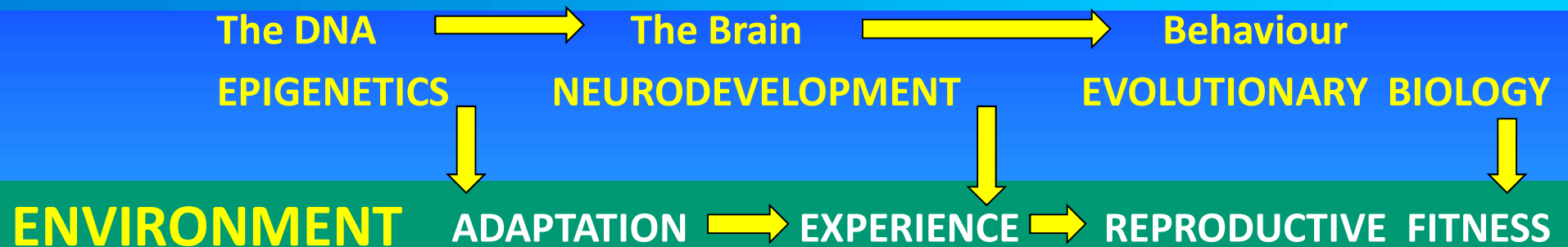
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BIRTH

TRANSITION



... to extra-uterine life

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ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

TRANSITION

BIRTH

"The newborn
may appear
helpless, but



raises its own temperature,
has a higher blood glucose,
metabolic adaptation faster.

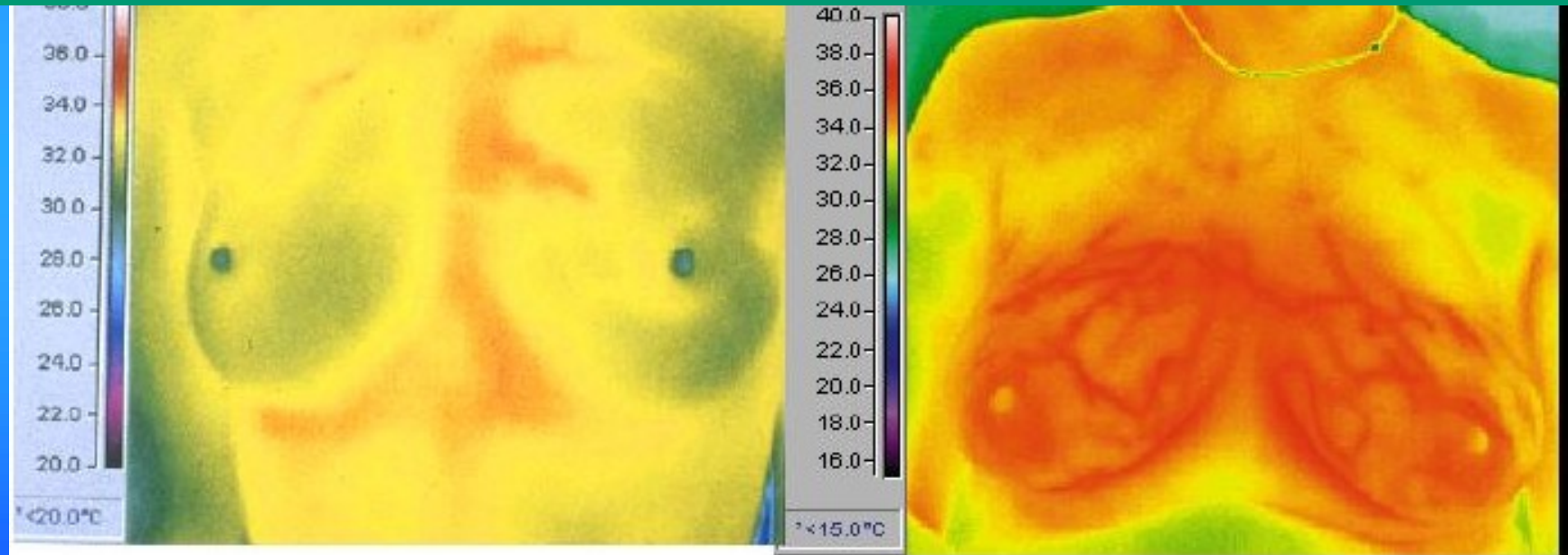
Thermal Images

Non-lactating Breasts

Lactating Breasts

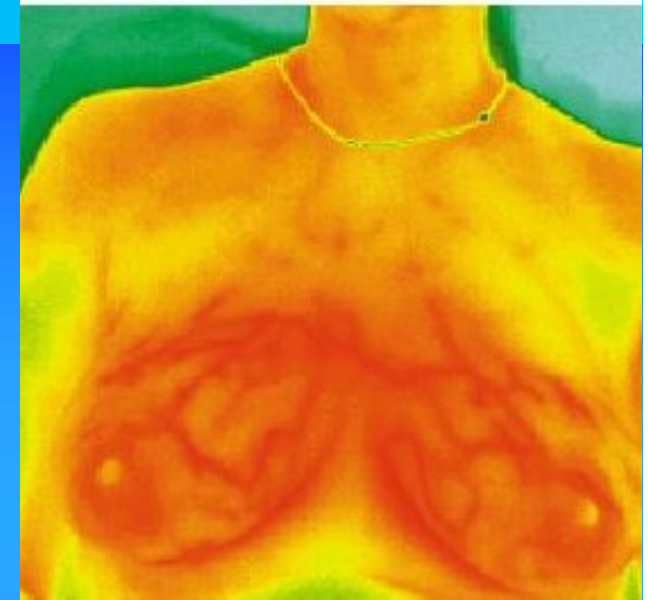
ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT



Images courtesy of Prof Peter Hartmann, UWA

Lactating Breasts



Warming,
feeding and
protection
behaviours are
intricately, inseparably
linked to the right place.

(Alberts 1994)

Lactating Breasts

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding

The DNA

EPIGENETICS



The Brain

NEURODEVELOPMENT



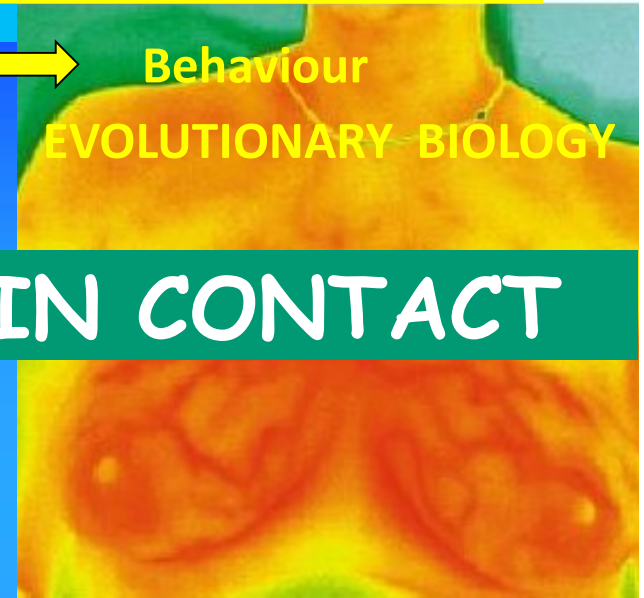
Behaviour

EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

BIRTH



intricately, inseparably
linked to the right place.

(Alberts 1994)

HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?



ENVIRONMENT

The diagram consists of two overlapping yellow circles. The larger circle on the right is labeled 'ENVIRONMENT' in a green bar. The smaller circle on the left is labeled 'BIRTH'. The circles overlap, indicating that these two factors are interconnected.

BIRTH

TRANSITION

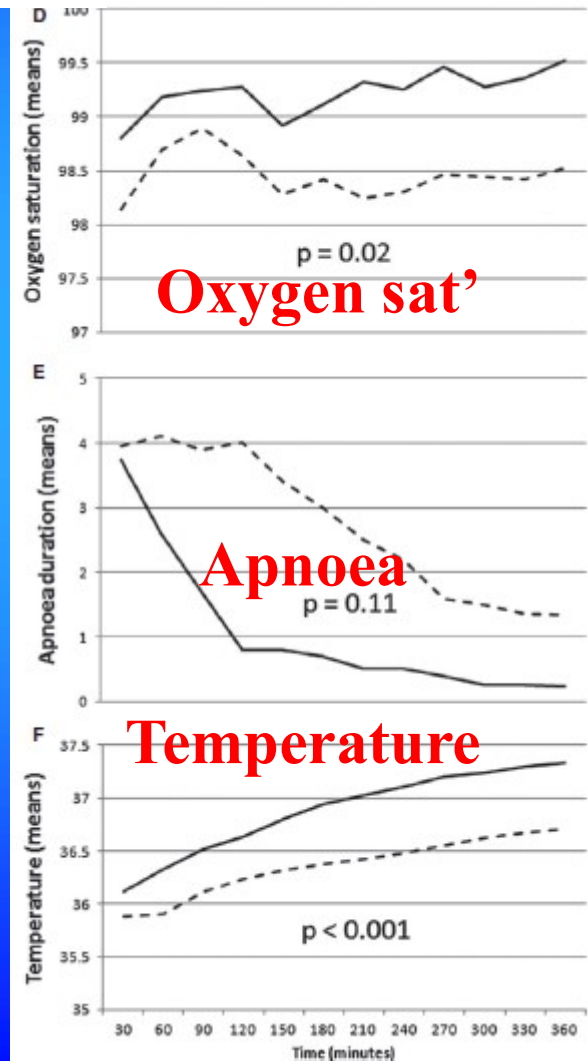
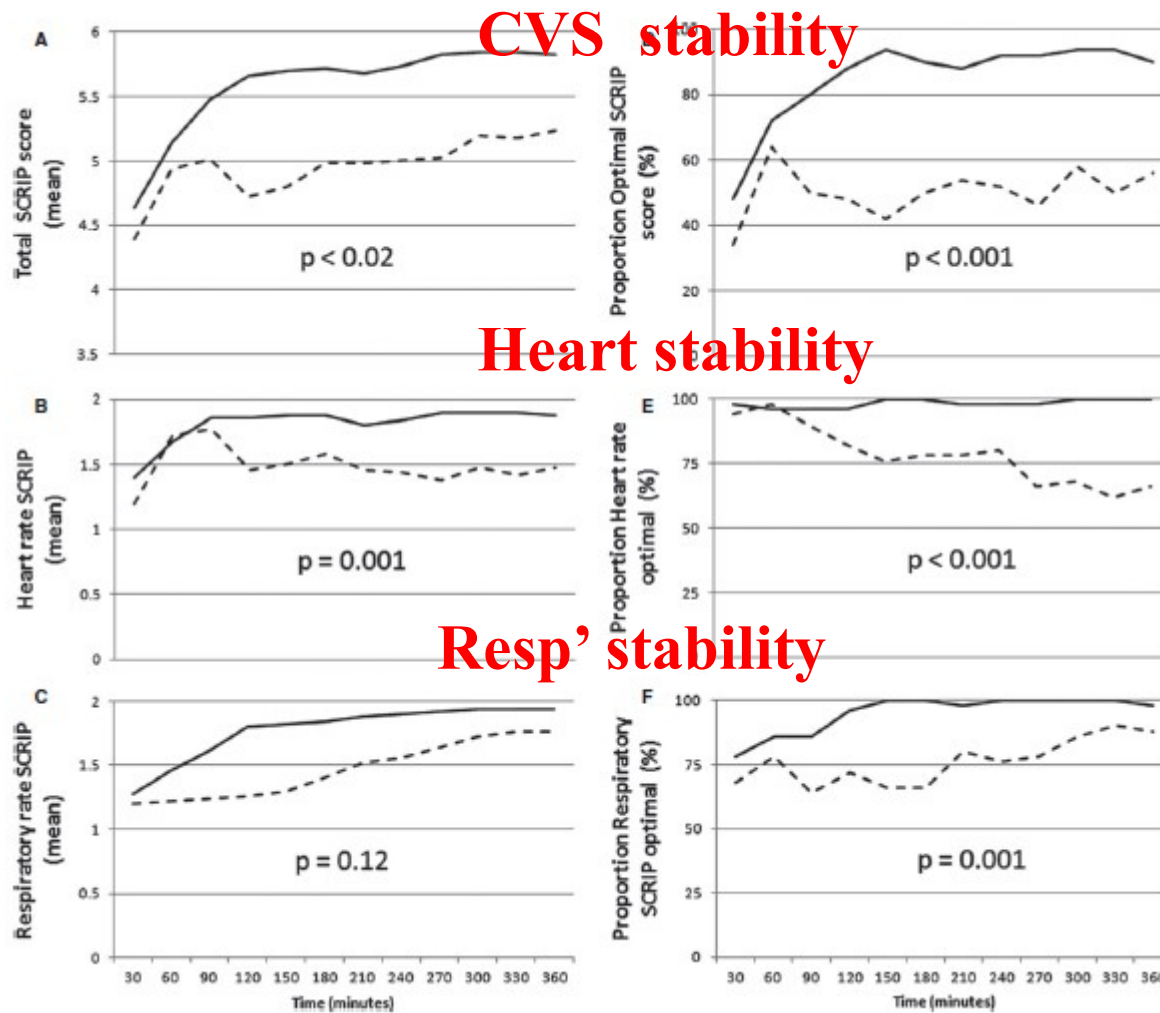
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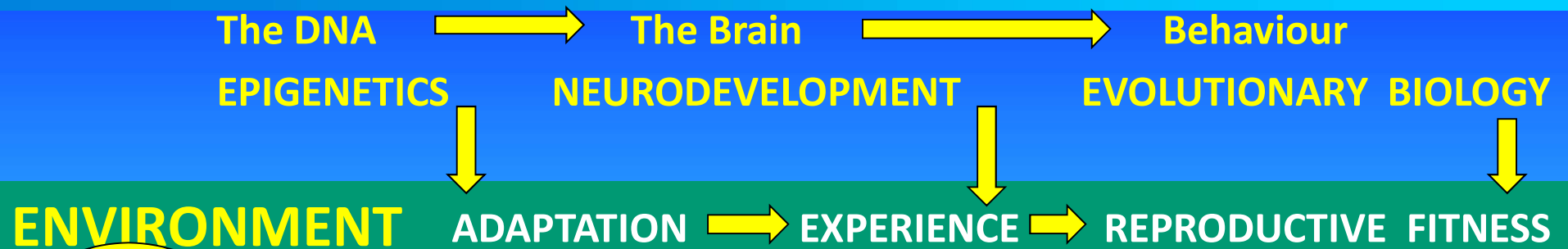
REGULAR ARTICLE

Newly born low birthweight infants stabilise better in skin-to-skin contact than when separated from their mothers: a randomised controlled trial

Kim Chi Luong¹, Tien Long Nguyen^{1,2}, Duy Huong Huynh Thi², Henri P.O. Carrara³, Nils J. Bergman (nils@kangaroomothercare.com)^{4,5}



The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



BIRTH

BABY

BONDING

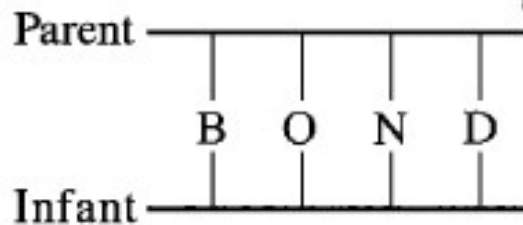


Psychobiological Roots of Early Attachment

Myron A. Hofer



REGULATION

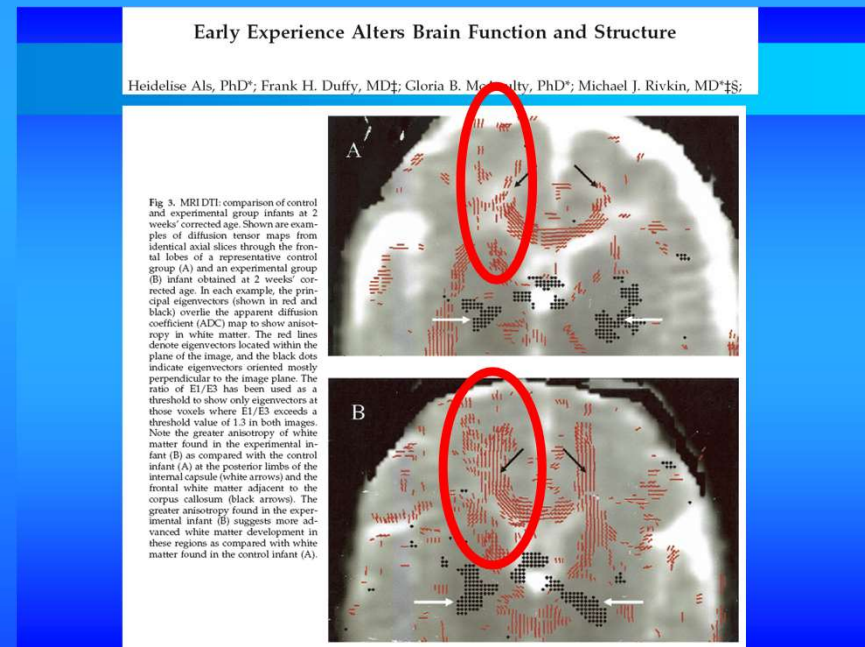
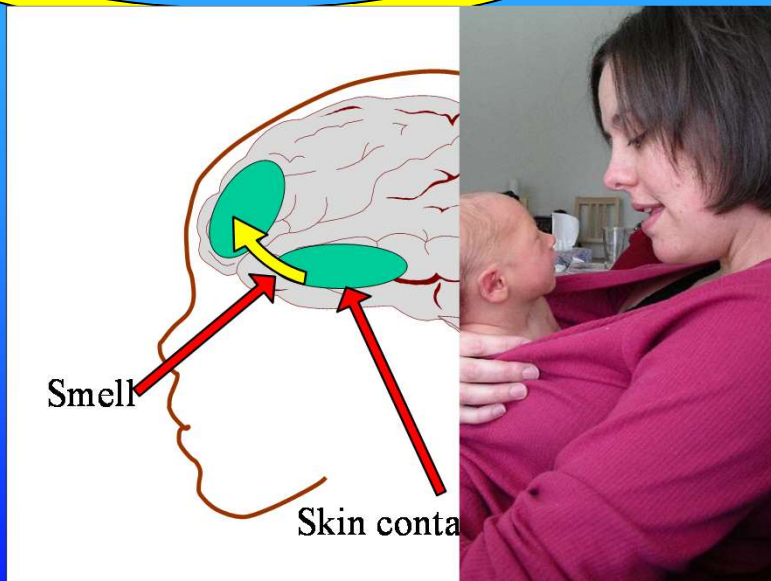
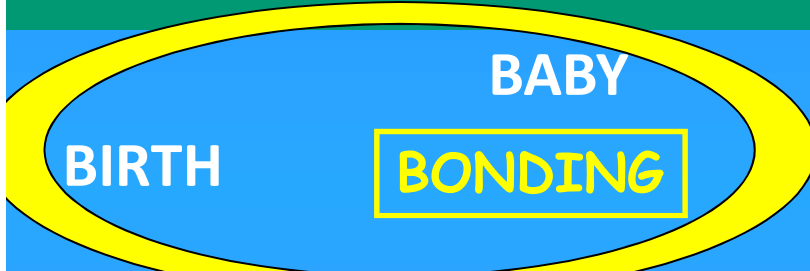
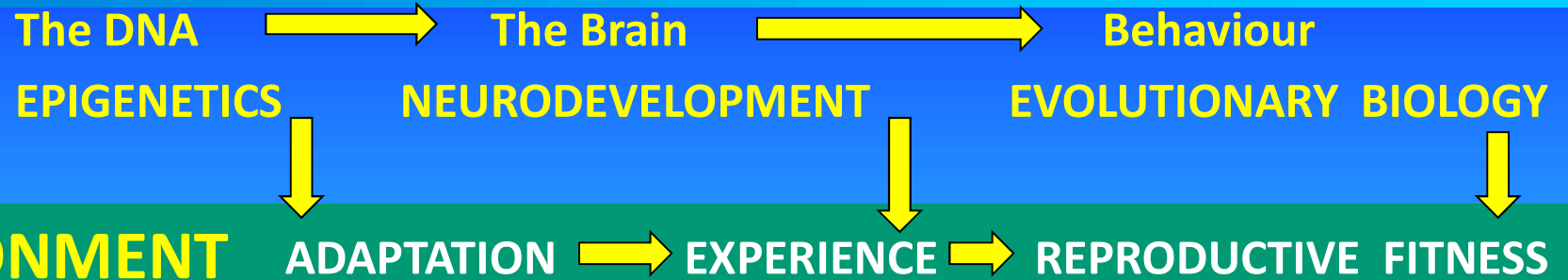


The BOND is made up of the sensory inputs from the parent to the infant

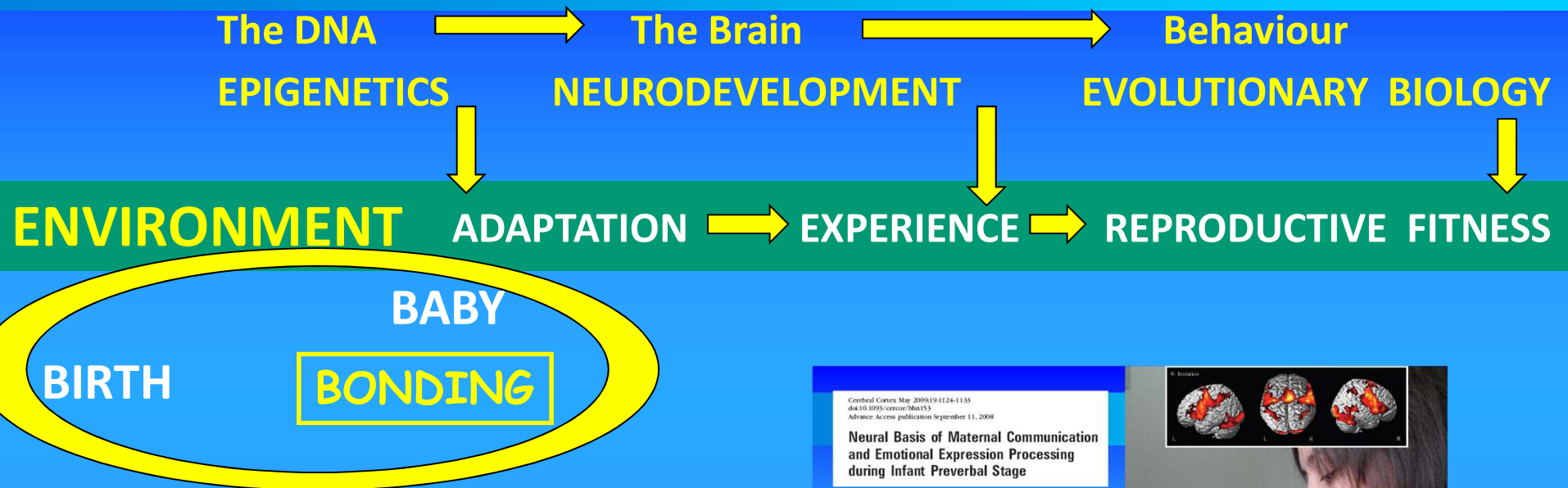
Fig. 1. Schematic representation of responses based on the concept of the BOND as defined by John Bowlby (Bowlby, 1969, 1973, 1980)

Bowlby 1969, 1973, 1980

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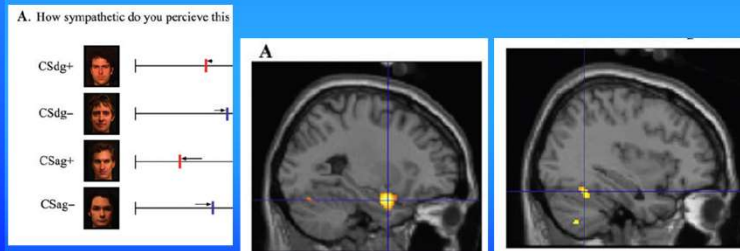
The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



Learning affective values for faces is expressed in amygdala and fusiform gyrus

Predrag Petrovic, Raffael Kalisch, Mathias Pessiglione, Tania Singer, and Raymond J. Dolan
Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging, University College of London, 12 Queen Square, London, WC1N 3BG, UK

To monitor the environment for social threat humans must build affective evaluations of others. These evaluations are malleable and to a high degree shaped by responses engendered by specific social encounters. The precise neuronal mechanism by which these evaluations are constructed is poorly understood. We tested a hypothesis that conjoint activity in amygdala and fusiform

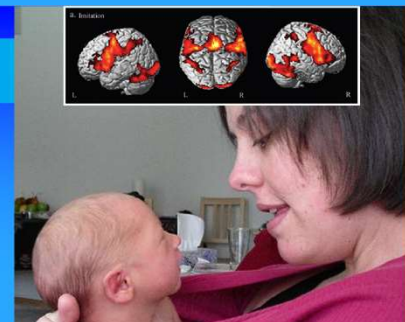


Morphing emotion **AMYGDALA ↔ FUSIFORM GYRUS**

Neural Basis of Maternal Communication and Emotional Expression Processing during Infant Preverbal Stage

Cerebral Cortex May 2009;19:1124-1133
doi:10.1093/cercor/19/11/1124
Advance Access publication September 11, 2008

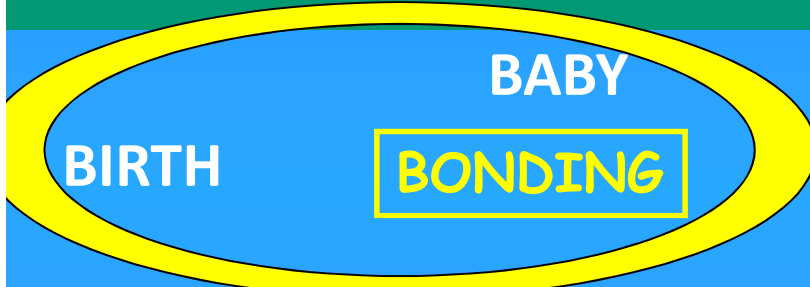
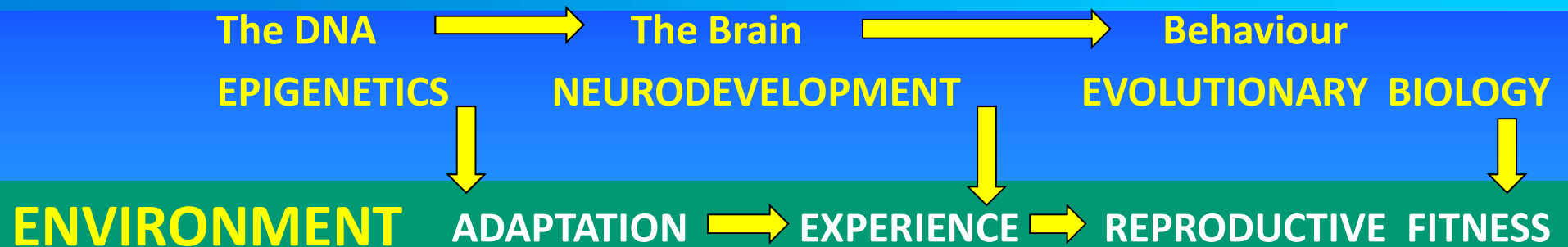
Sixteen mothers underwent functional magnetic resonance imaging while observing and imitating faces of their own child and those of someone else's child. We found that the mirror neuron system, the insula and amygdala were more active during emotional expressions, that this circuit is engaged to a greater extent when interacting with one's own child, and that it is correlated with maternal reflective function (a measure of empathy). We also found, by comparing single emotions with each



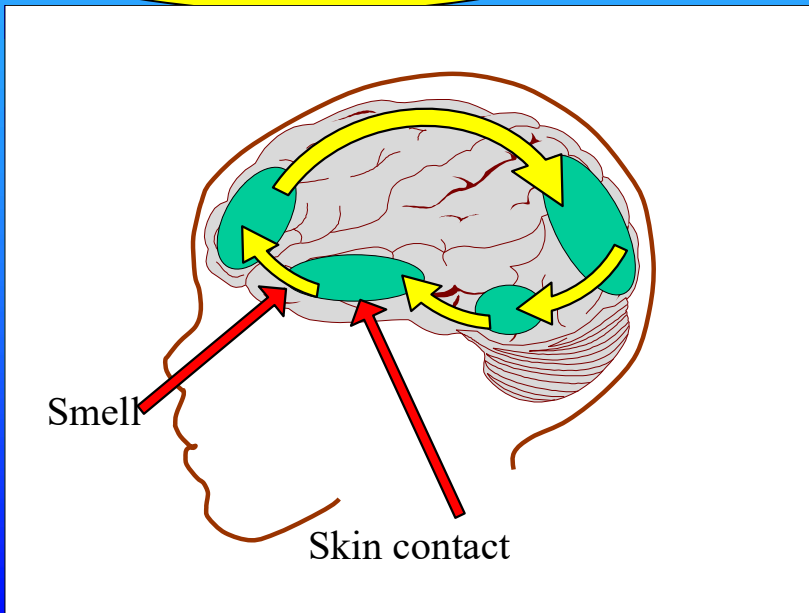
As predicted, imitation and observation of facial expressions elicited activation of fronto-parietal mirror areas (vPMC-IFG-pars opercularis and IPL), STS, anterior insula, and amygdala.

Simulation theory:
EMPATHY is generated by inner imitation of actions of others

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding

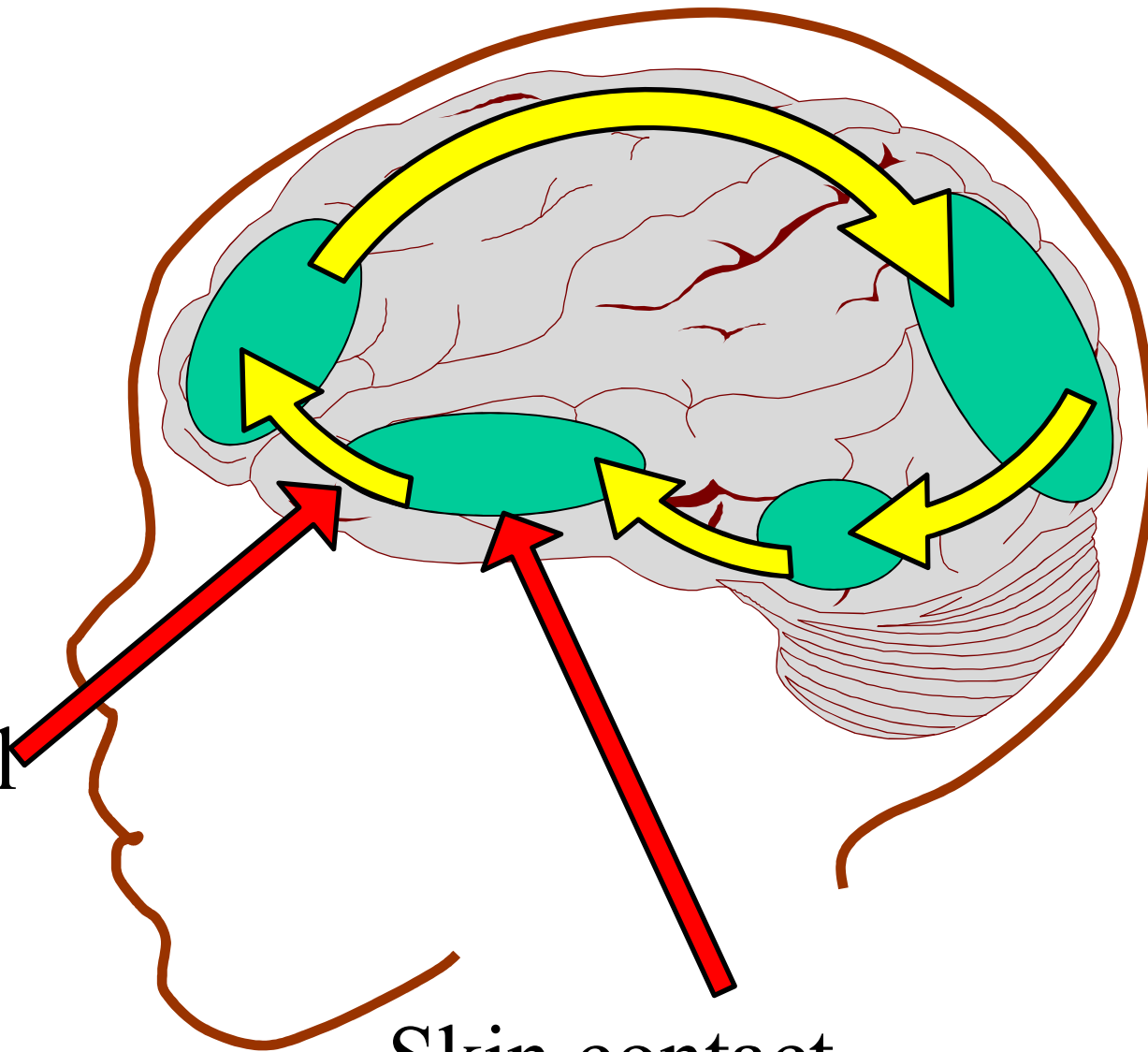


In humans, oxytocin increases gaze to the eye region of human faces and enhances interpersonal trust and the ability to infer the emotions of others from facial cues.

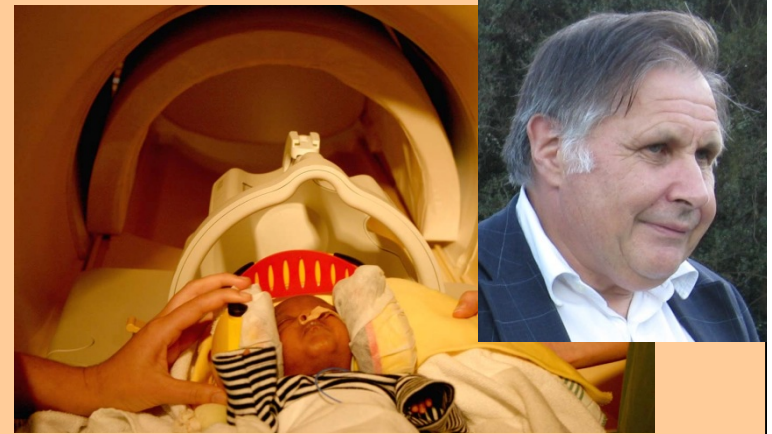
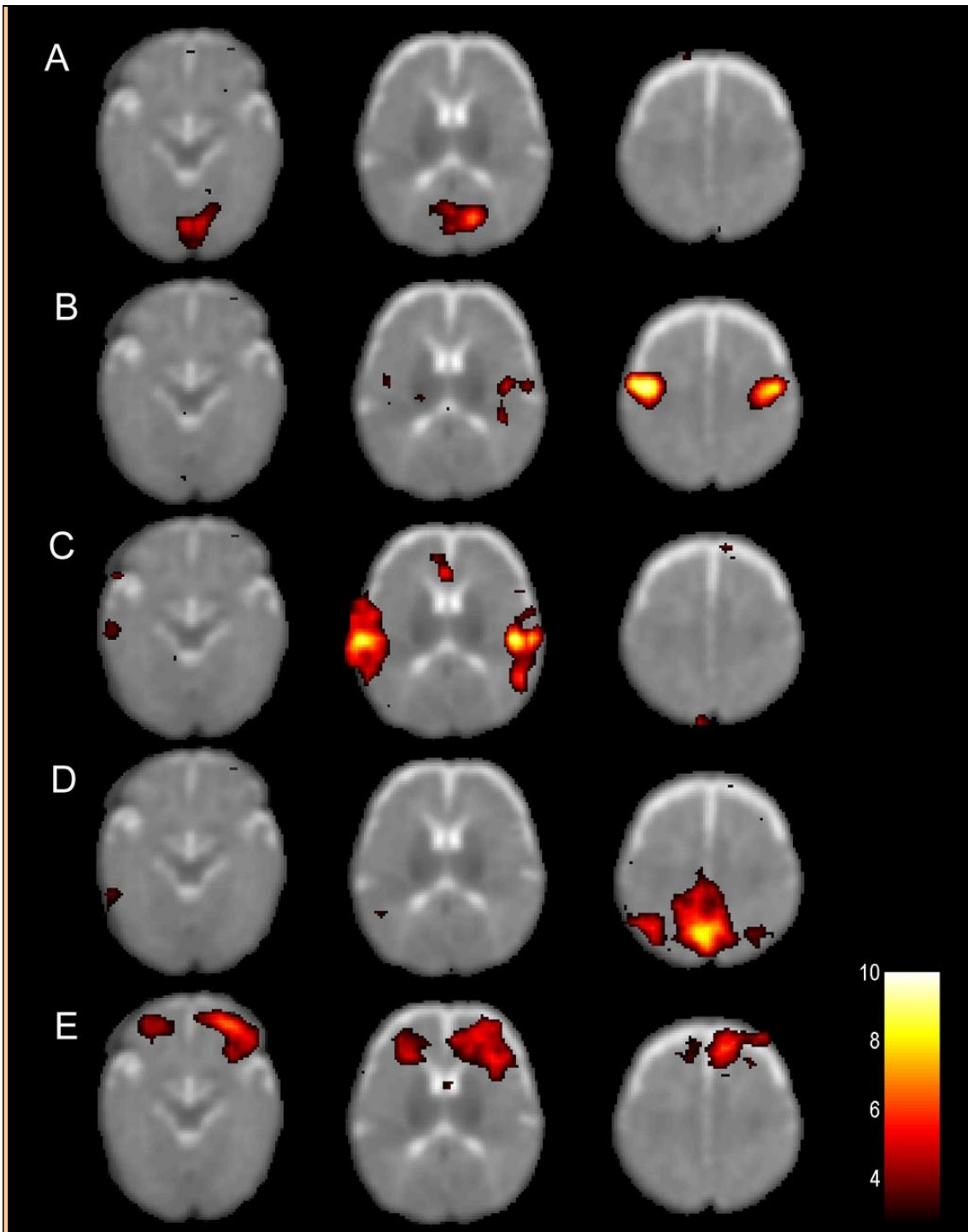


Simulation theory:
EMPATHY is generated
by inner imitation
of actions of others

Smell



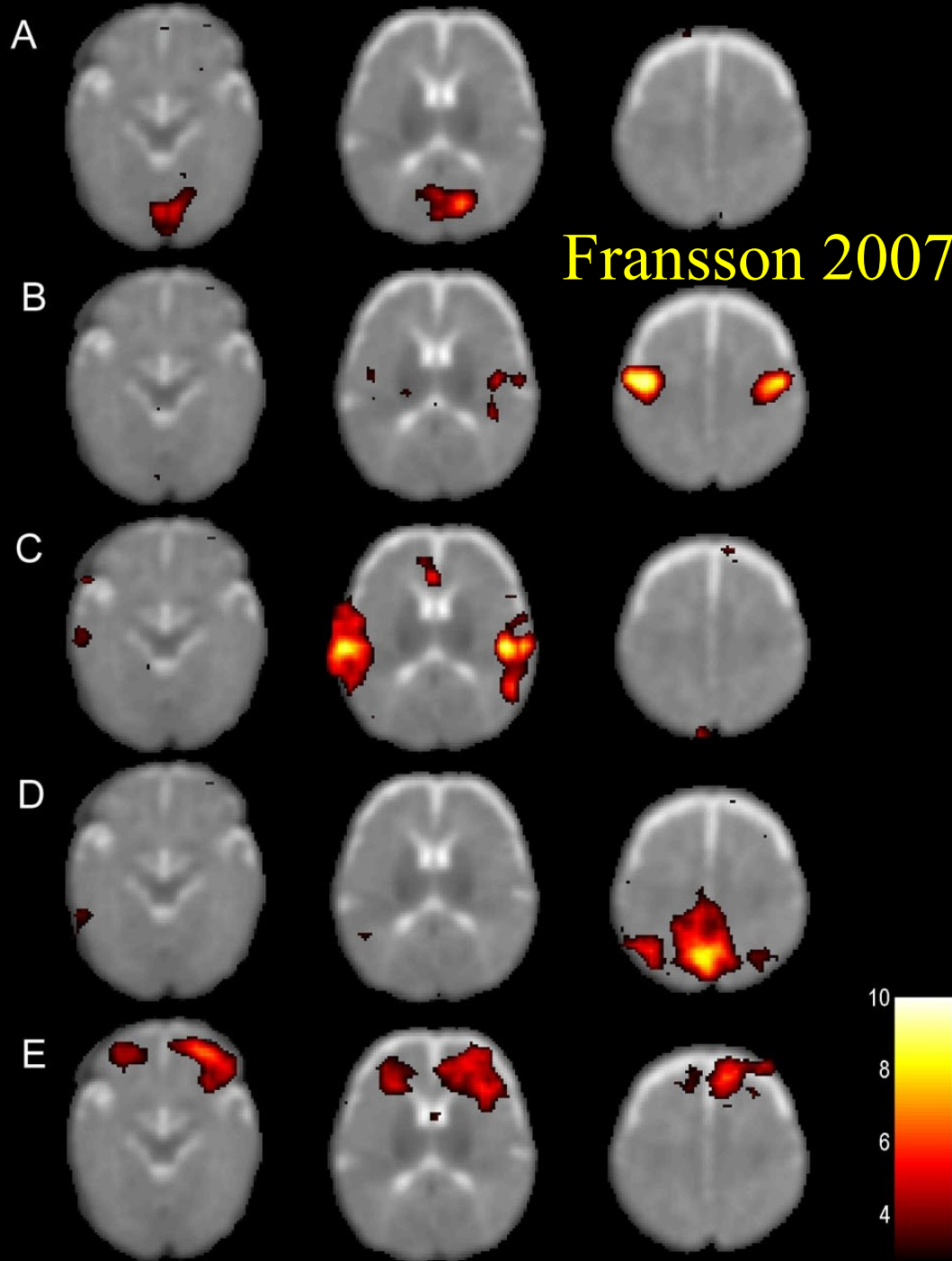
Skin contact



The infant
brain is not
blank!
Resting activity
-
"stream of
consciousness"

Fransson 2007

Fransson 2007



A primary visual areas,

B somatosensory motor cortex

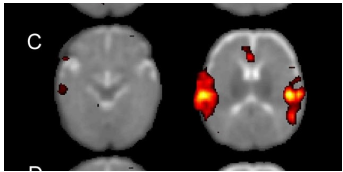
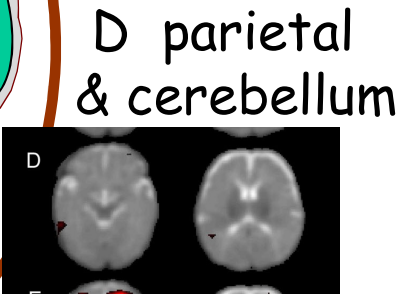
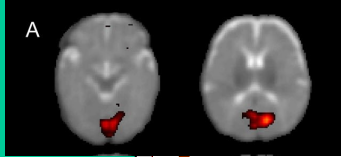
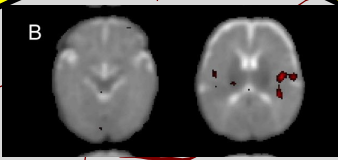
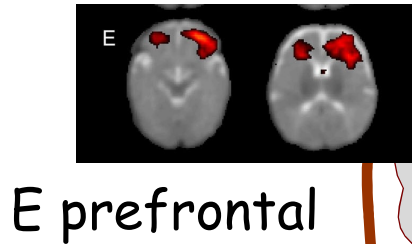
C primary auditory cortex

D parietal cortex & cerebellum

E medial anterior prefrontal cortex

OXYTOCIN

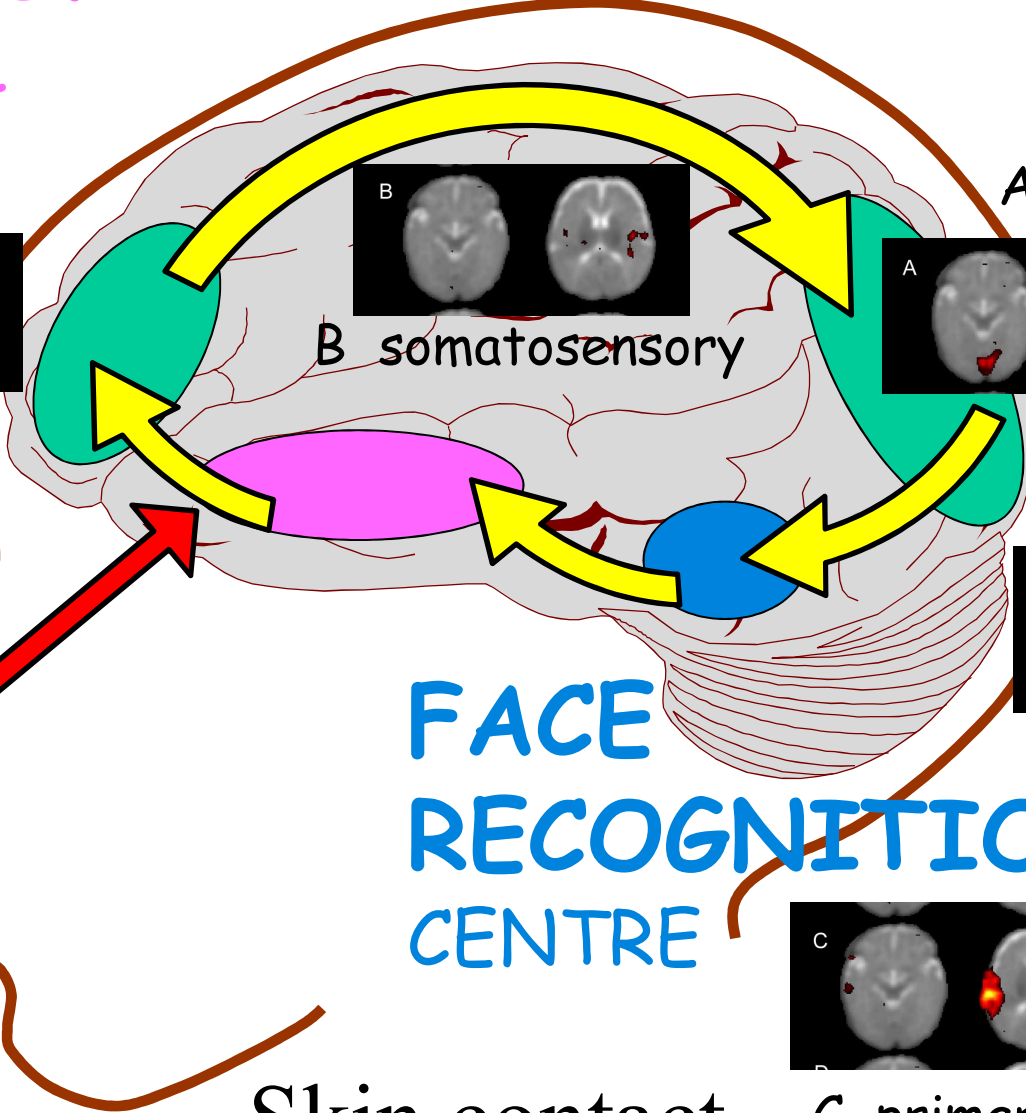
EMOTION
CONTROL
CENTRE

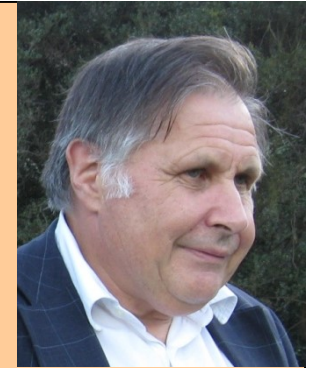


FACE
RECOGNITION
CENTRE

Smell

Skin contact





Blank → Unknown face →



Blank → Unknown face → Mother's face



HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?

ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

BIRTH

BABY

BONDING

REGULATION

leads to ...

BONDING

HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?

ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

BIRTH

BABY

BONDING

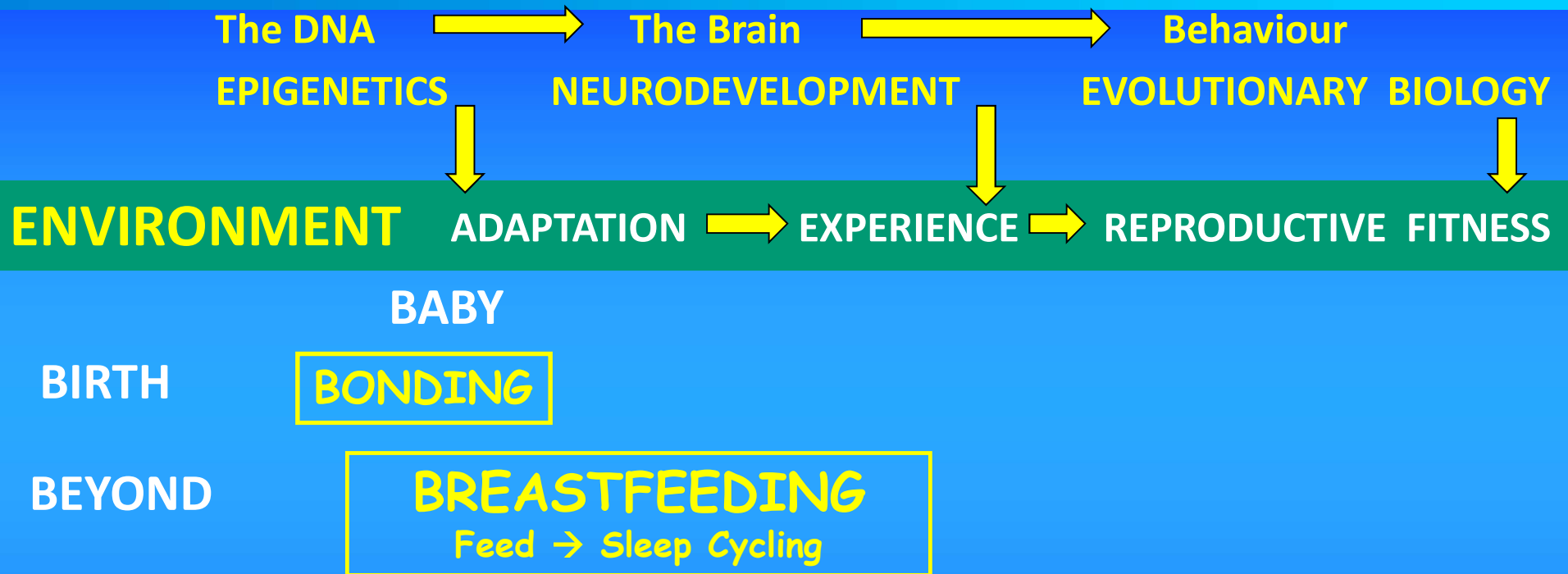
REGULATION

leads to ...

BONDING

leads to ...

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding

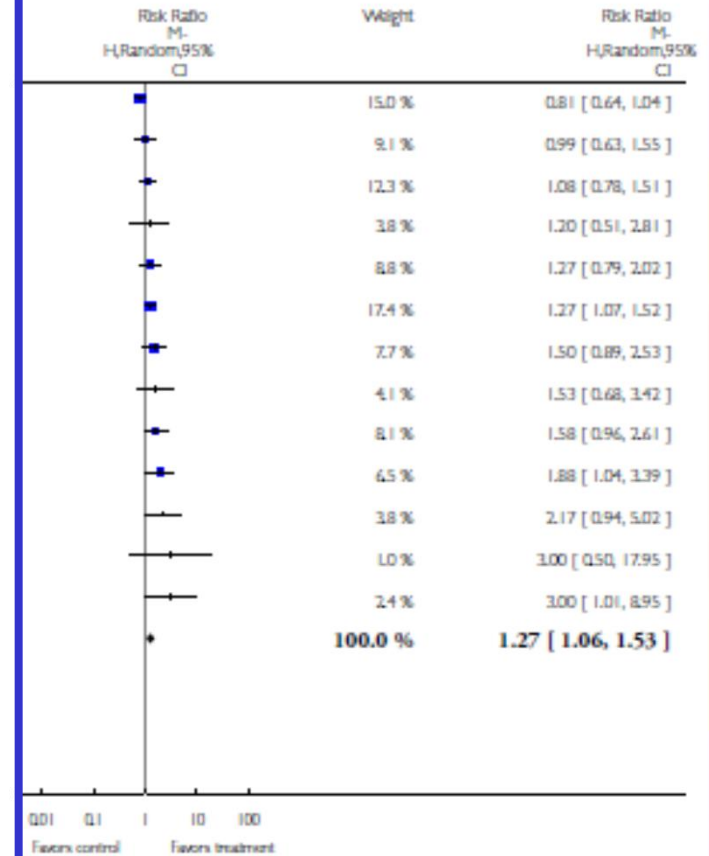


Analysis 1.1. Comparison 1 Skin-to-skin versus standard contact healthy infants, Outcome 1 Breastfeeding 1 month to 4 months postbirth.

Review: Early skin-to-skin contact for mothers and their healthy newborn infants

Early skin-to-skin contact for mothers and their healthy newborn infants (Review)

Moore ER, Anderson GC, Bergman N



Skin-to-skin "causes" breastfeeding

Early skin-to-skin contact for mothers and their healthy newborn infants (Review)

2016 update in press

M... ED A... CC B... N

1.9 Breastfeeding 1 year postbirth

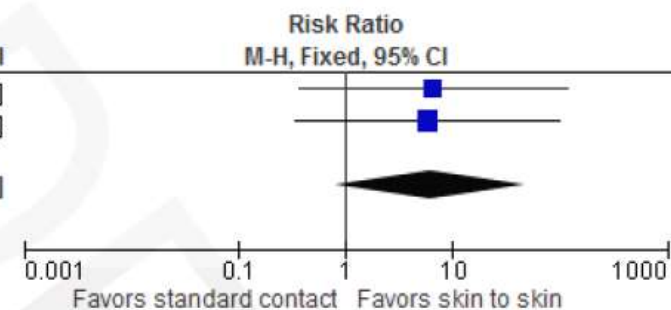
Study or Subgroup	Treatment		Control		Weight	Risk Ratio M-H, Fixed, 95% CI
	Events	Total	Events	Total		
De Chateau 1977	3	16	0	15	45.9%	6.59 [0.37, 117.77]
Shiau 1997	4	19	0	12	54.1%	5.85 [0.34, 99.83]
Total (95% CI)		35		27	100.0%	6.19 [0.82, 46.78]

Total events

7 0

Heterogeneity: $\text{Chi}^2 = 0.00$, $\text{df} = 1$ ($P = 0.95$); $I^2 = 0\%$

Test for overall effect: $Z = 1.77$ ($P = 0.08$)

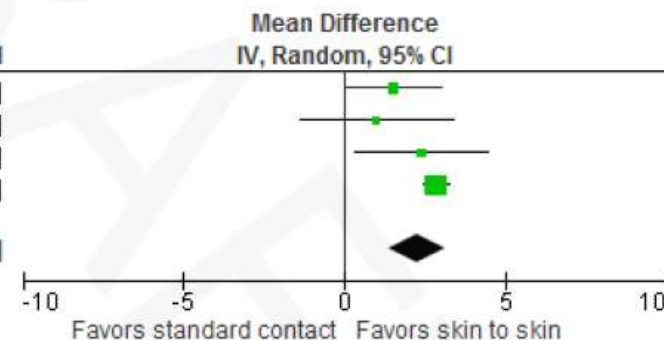


1.10 Success of the first breastfeeding (IBFAT score)

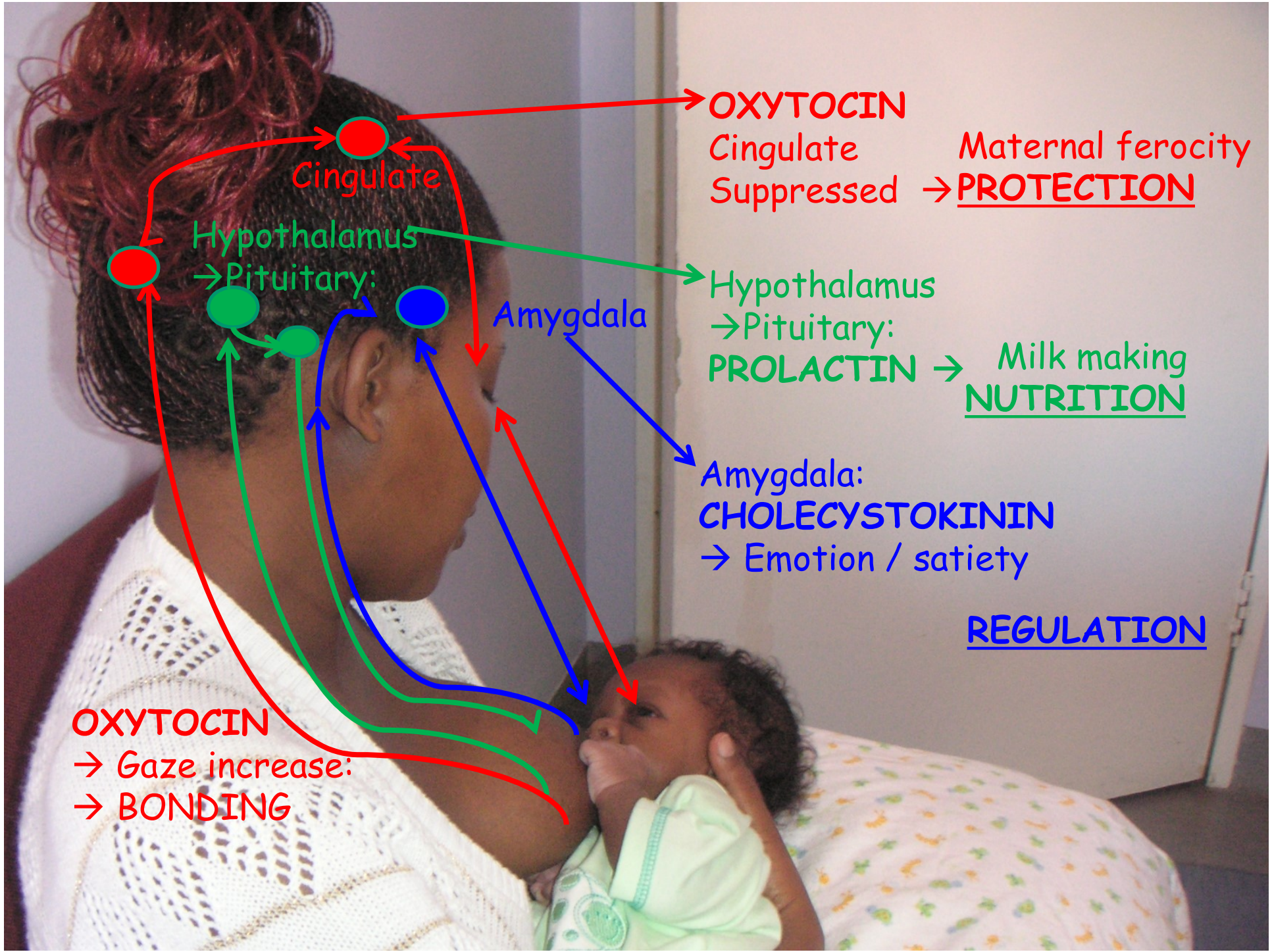
Study or Subgroup	Treatment			Control			Weight	Mean Difference IV, Random, 95% CI
	Mean	SD	Total	Mean	SD	Total		
Beiranvand 2014	8.76	3.63	46	7.25	3.5	44	22.1%	1.51 [0.04, 2.98]
Gouchon 2010	9.2	3.8	17	8.2	3.2	17	11.1%	1.00 [-1.36, 3.36]
Moore 2005	8.7	2.11	10	6.3	2.58	10	13.8%	2.40 [0.33, 4.47]
Srivastava 2014	9.55	1.14	122	6.71	1.9	118	53.0%	2.84 [2.44, 3.24]
Total (95% CI)			195			189	100.0%	2.28 [1.41, 3.15]

Heterogeneity: $\text{Tau}^2 = 0.33$; $\text{Chi}^2 = 5.05$, $\text{df} = 3$ ($P = 0.17$); $I^2 = 41\%$

Test for overall effect: $Z = 5.12$ ($P < 0.00001$)



Skin-to-skin "causes" breastfeeding



OXYTOCIN

Cingulate
Suppressed → PROTECTION
Maternal ferocity

Hypothalamus
→ Pituitary:

Hypothalamus
→ Pituitary:
PROLACTIN →

Milk making
NUTRITION

Amygdala

Amygdala:
CHOLECYSTOKININ
→ Emotion / satiety

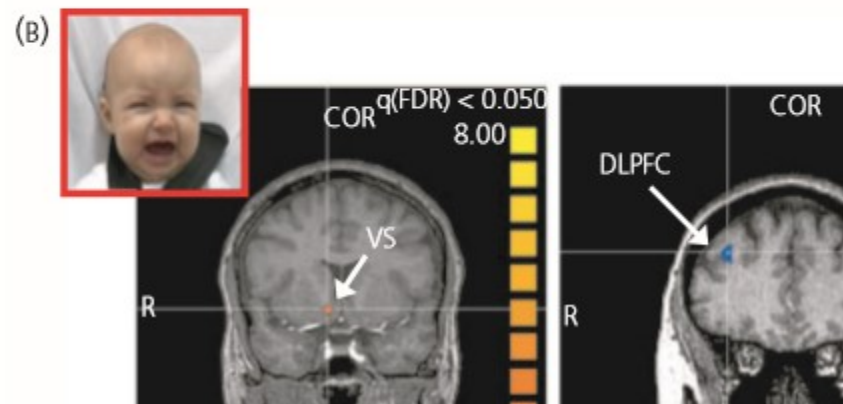
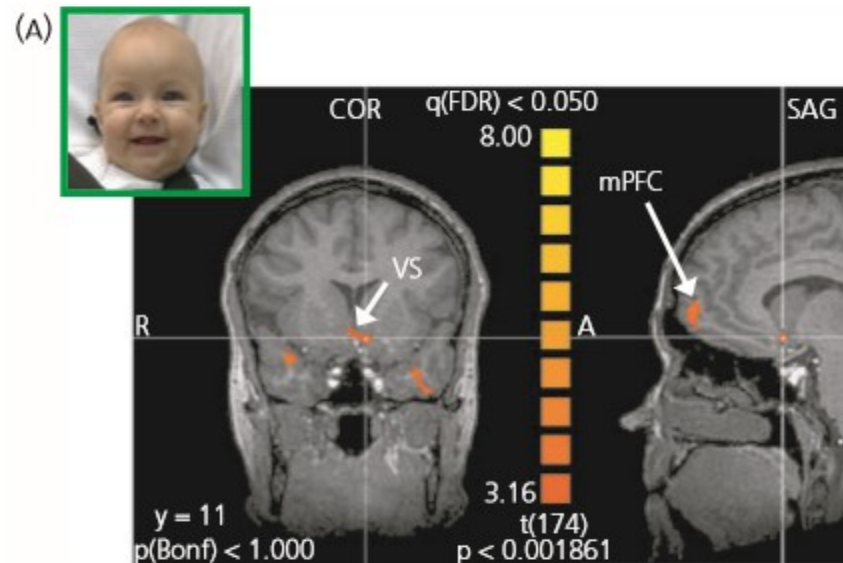
REGULATION

OXYTOCIN

→ Gaze increase:
→ **BONDING**

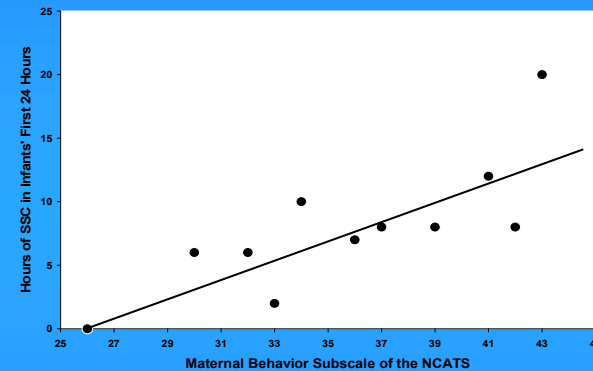
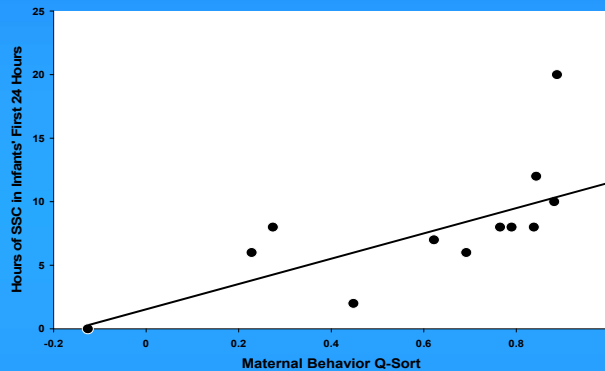
How oxytocin and dopamine connect

From animal studies, we learn that oxytocinergic circuits are directly linked with the mesocorticolimbic dopamine pathway, with oxytocinergic neurones projecting from the hypothalamic PVN and MPOA to both the VTA and the VS (Fig. 3). The strength of these connections is associated with levels of maternal caregiving behav-



... infant cues - suckling,
vocalisation and tactile
stimulation - stimulate
OXYTOCIN
release in the
hypothalamus, which may
result in the activation
of the dopaminergic
reward pathway leading
to behavioural
reinforcement

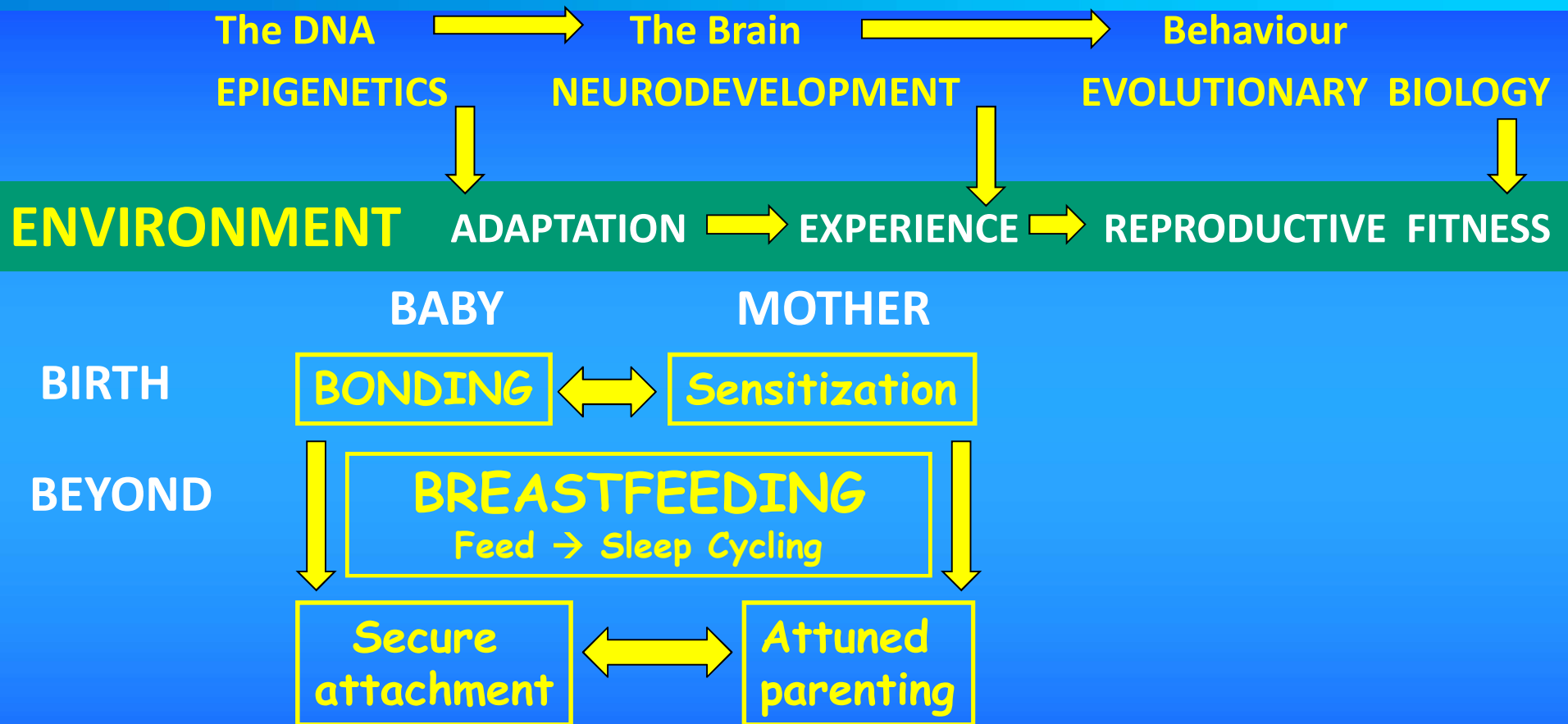
Dose of SCC first 24 hours correlates
Maternal behaviour Q Sort
Predicts attachment security



Dose of SCC first 24 hours correlates
NCATS (Nursing Child Assessment Teaching Scale)
Predicts cognitive outcome

SENSITIZATION

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



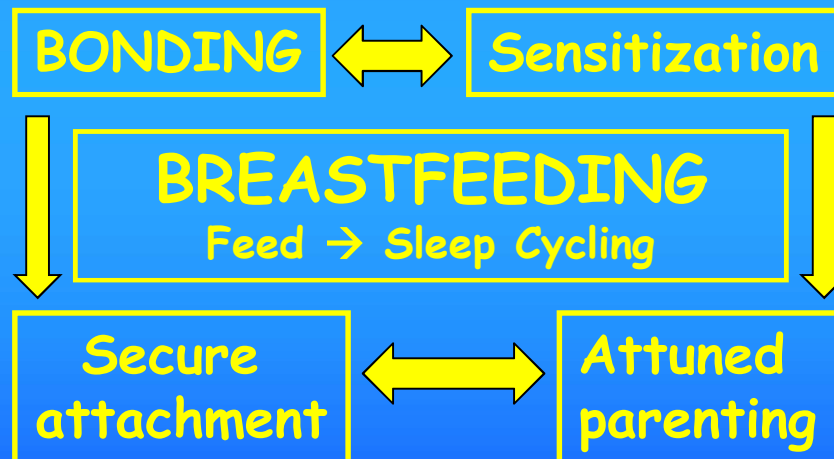
HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?

ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

BABY

BIRTH



Maternal sensitization

HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?

ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

BIRTH

A: AT BIRTH

Transition → regulation

Bonding → breastfeeding

Maternal sensitization

HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?

ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

A: AT BIRTH

Immediate

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



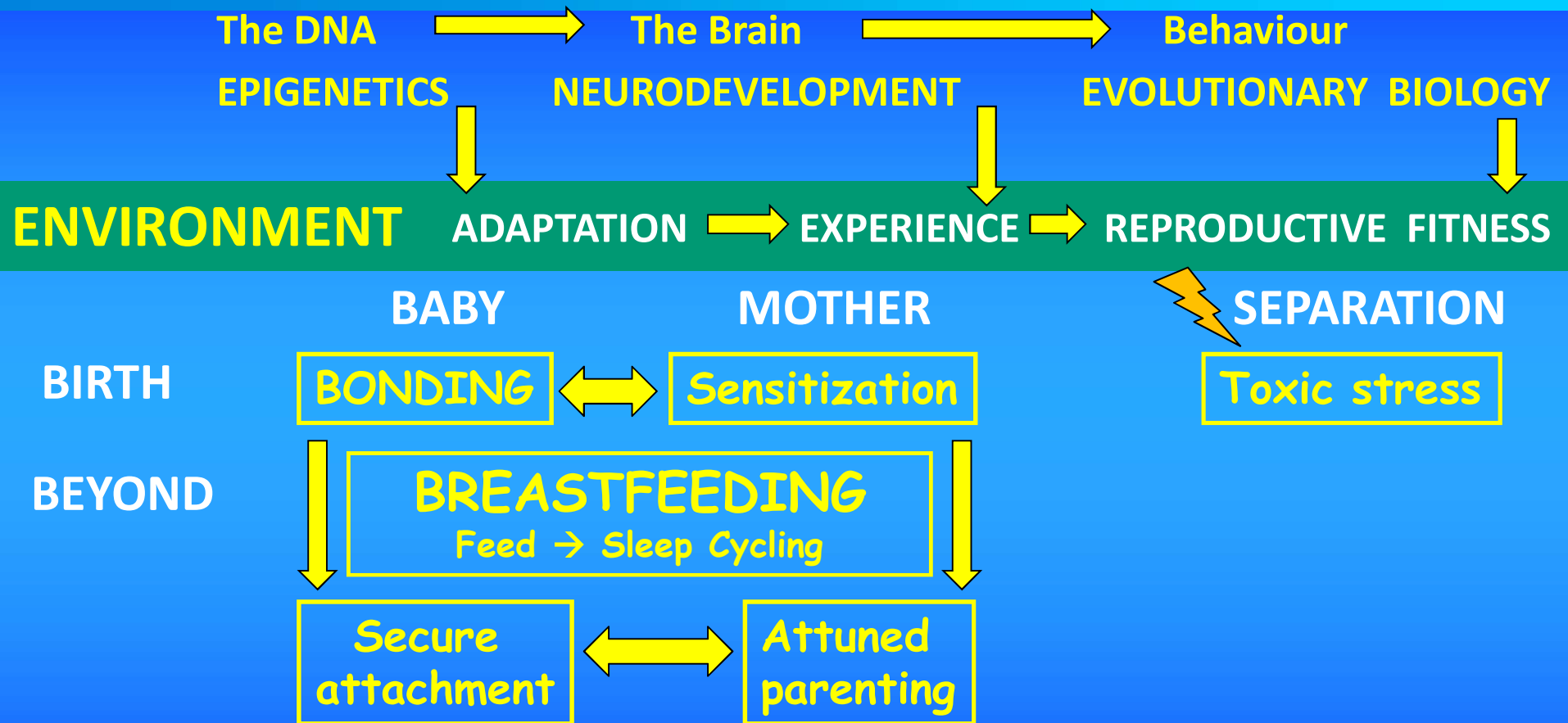
ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS



Immediate

First 1000 seconds (1 st hour)	TRANSITION
First 1000 minutes (1 st day)	SENSITIZATION
First 1000 hours (6 weeks)	BOND/ATTACH
→ First 1000 days	ECD

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding





Positive Stress

- **Moderate, short-lived stress responses, such as brief increases in heart rate or mild changes in stress hormone levels.**
- **An important and necessary aspect of healthy development that occurs in the context of stable and supportive relationships.**

Slide by: Jack P. Shonkoff, M.D.



Tolerable Stress

Toxic Stress

- **Strong and prolonged activation of the body's stress management systems in the absence of the buffering protection of adult support.**





Toxic Stress

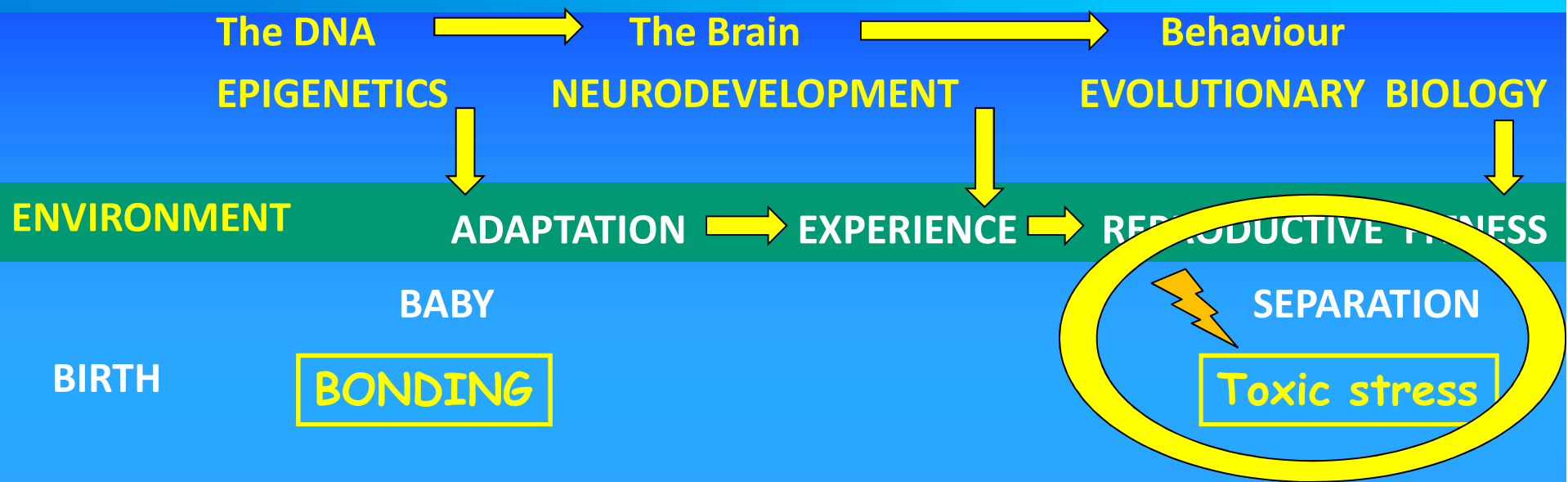
- Strong and prolonged activation of the body's stress management systems in the absence of the buffering protection of adult support.

- Disrupts brain architecture and leads to stress management systems that respond at relatively lower thresholds, thereby increasing the risk of stress-related physical and mental illness.

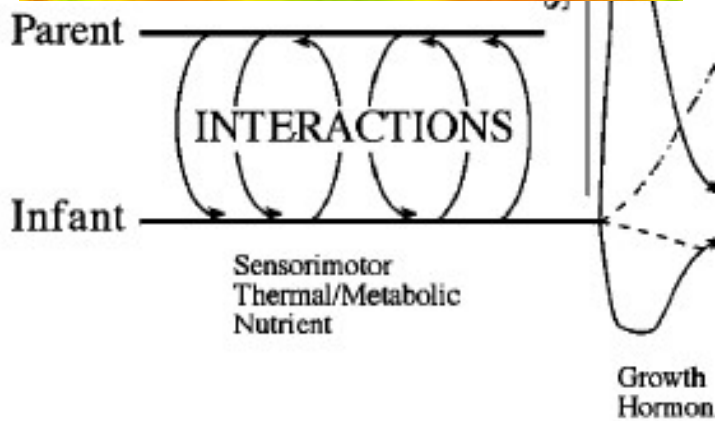
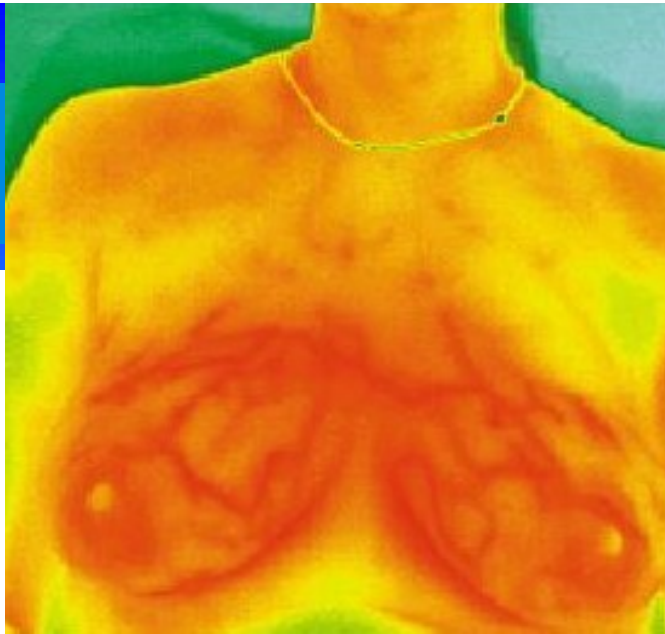
Slide by: Jack P. Shonkoff, M.D.

CORTISOL

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



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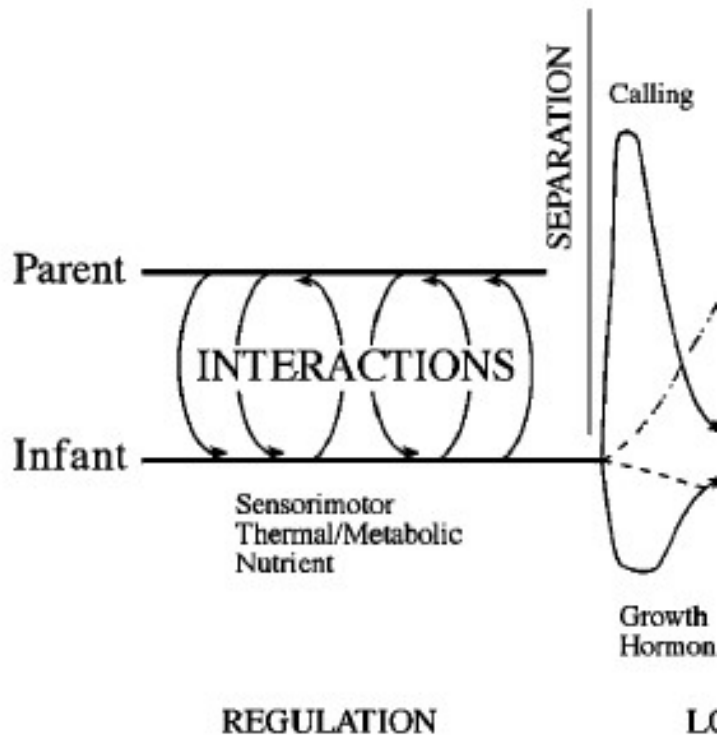


OXYTOCIN

mother-infant relationship.

WHY IS EARLY MATERNAL SEPARATION STRESSFUL?

SEPARATION

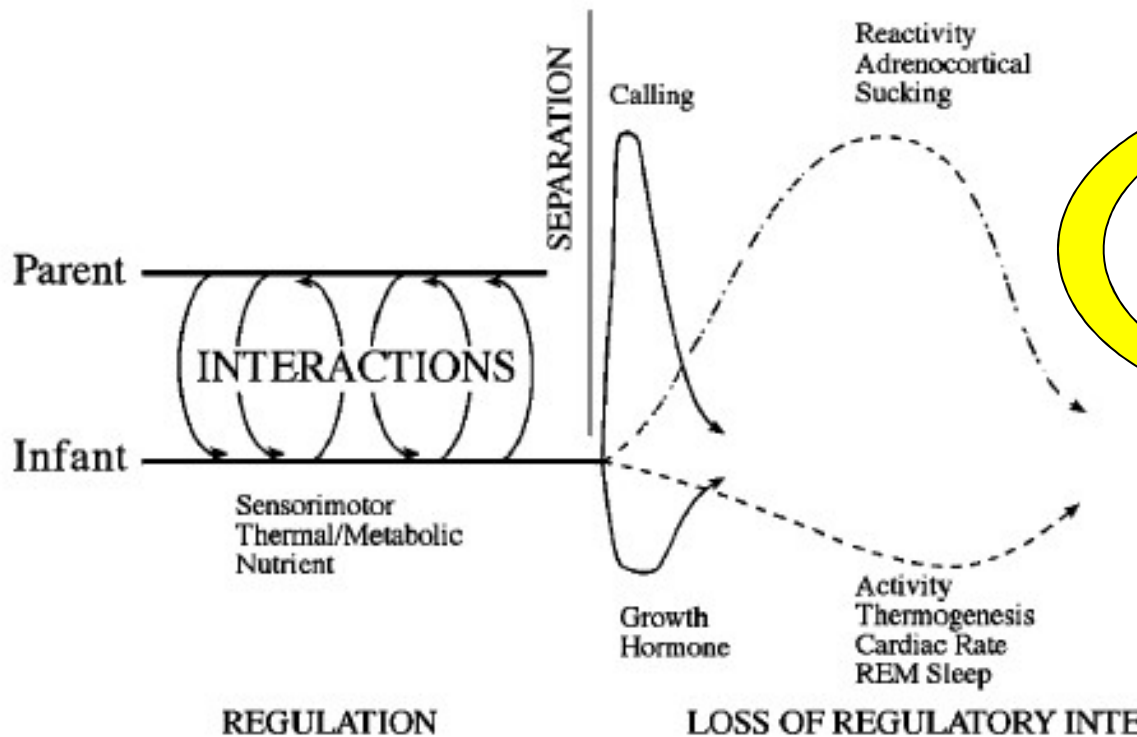


OXYTOCIN

mother–infant relationship.

WHY IS EARLY MATERNAL SEPARATION STRESSFUL?

SEPARATION DYSREGULATES

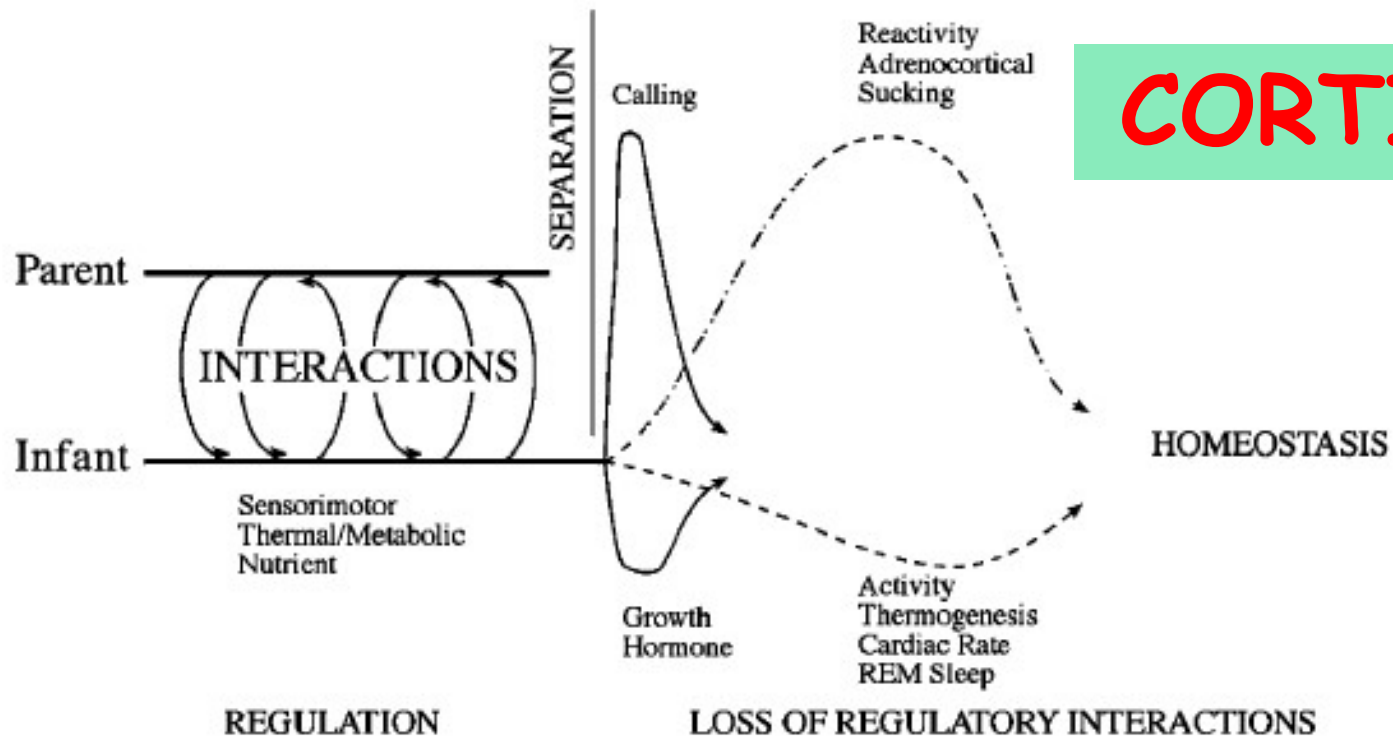


OXYTOCIN

...ntation of the dynamics of ear
...he loss of regulatory interactio
...mother–infant relationship.

WHY IS EARLY MATERNAL SEPARATION STRESSFUL?

SEPARATION DYSREGULATES

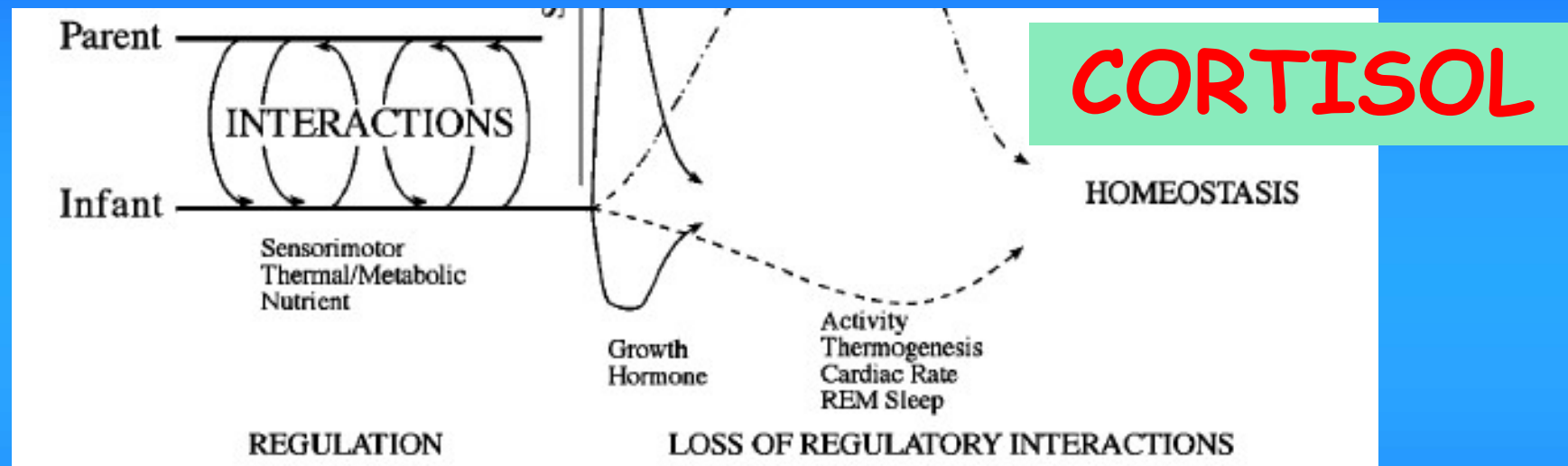


CORTISOL

OXYTOCIN

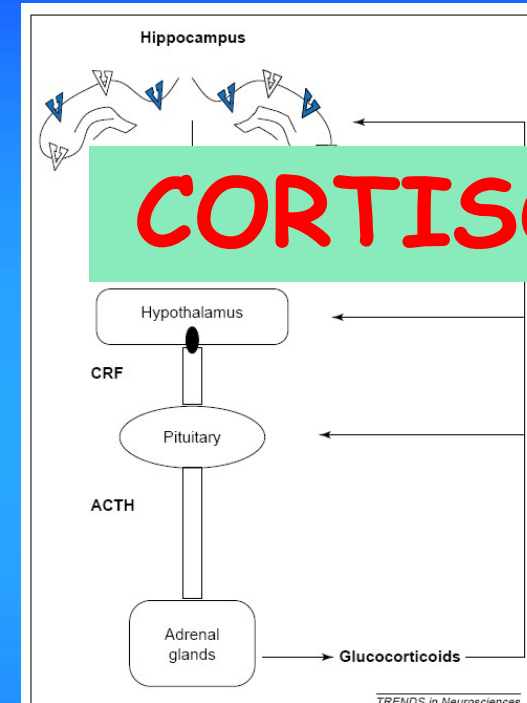
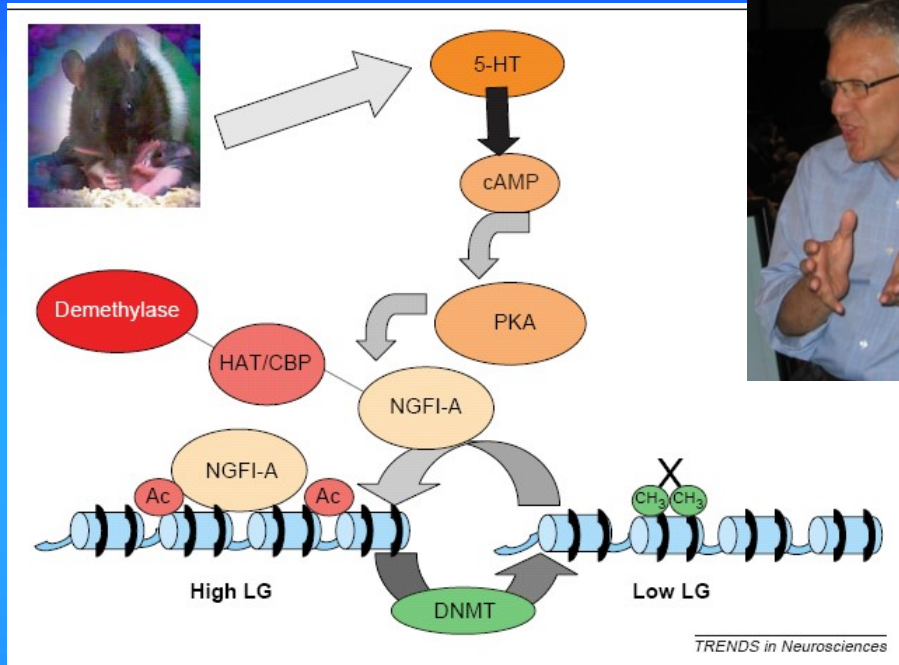
...ntation of the dynamics of early-separation
...he loss of regulatory interactions within the
...mother-infant relationship.

WHY IS EARLY MATERNAL SEPARATION STRESSFUL?



components (e.g., nutrient, thermal/metabolic, or sensorimotor) of the infant's previous interaction with its mother and that the complex response to separation was due to the withdrawal of all these components at once.

MICHAEL MEANEY epigenetics



Unsafe environment activates HPA axis (autonomic nervous system, ANS).

High licking and grooming



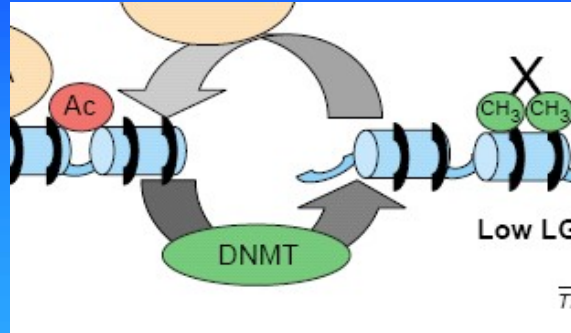
MOTHER
HG - High Grooming

MOTHER
Low Grooming LG

Low licking and grooming



HG BABY



LG BABY

Healthy adult

UNHEALTHY adult

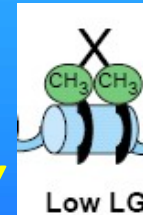
Makes **MOTHER**
HG - High Grooming

Makes **MOTHER**
Low Grooming - LG

HG BABY

HG BABY

LOW Grooming care



CORTISOL

UNHEALTHY adult

Makes **MOTHER**
LOW Grooming LG

High licking and grooming



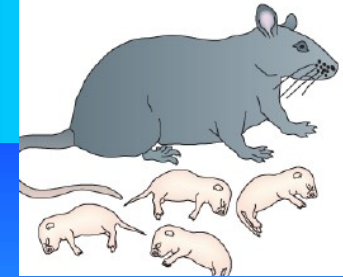
MOTHER

HG - High Grooming

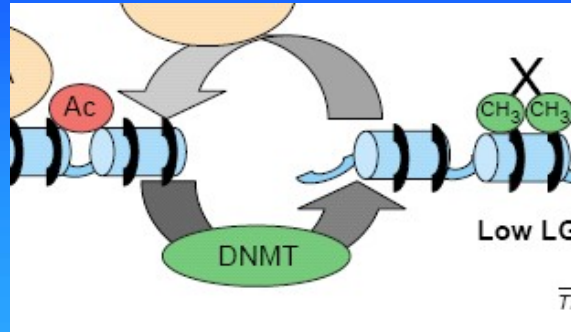
MOTHER

Low Grooming LG

Low licking and grooming



HG BABY



LG BABY

Healthy adult

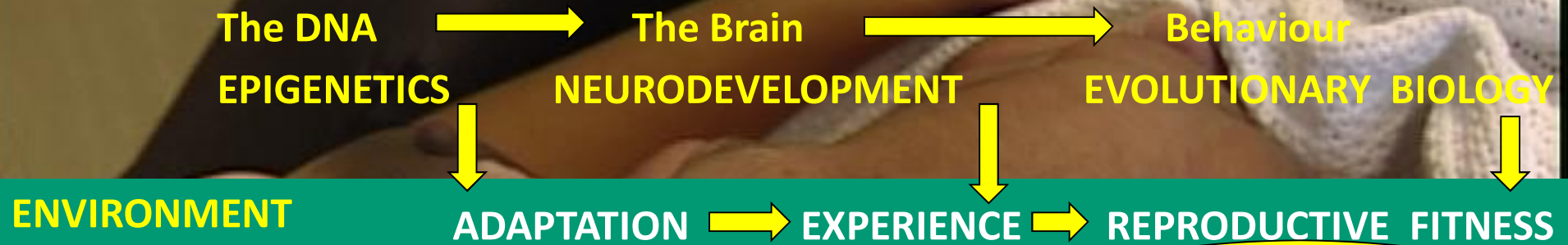
UNHEALTHY adult

Makes **MOTHER**
HG - High Grooming

Makes **MOTHER**
Low Grooming - LG

Early stress alters gene expression, with health impact across lifespan.

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



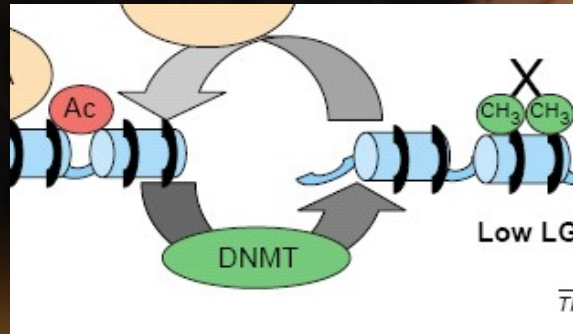
BIRTH

BABY

BONDING

SEPARATION

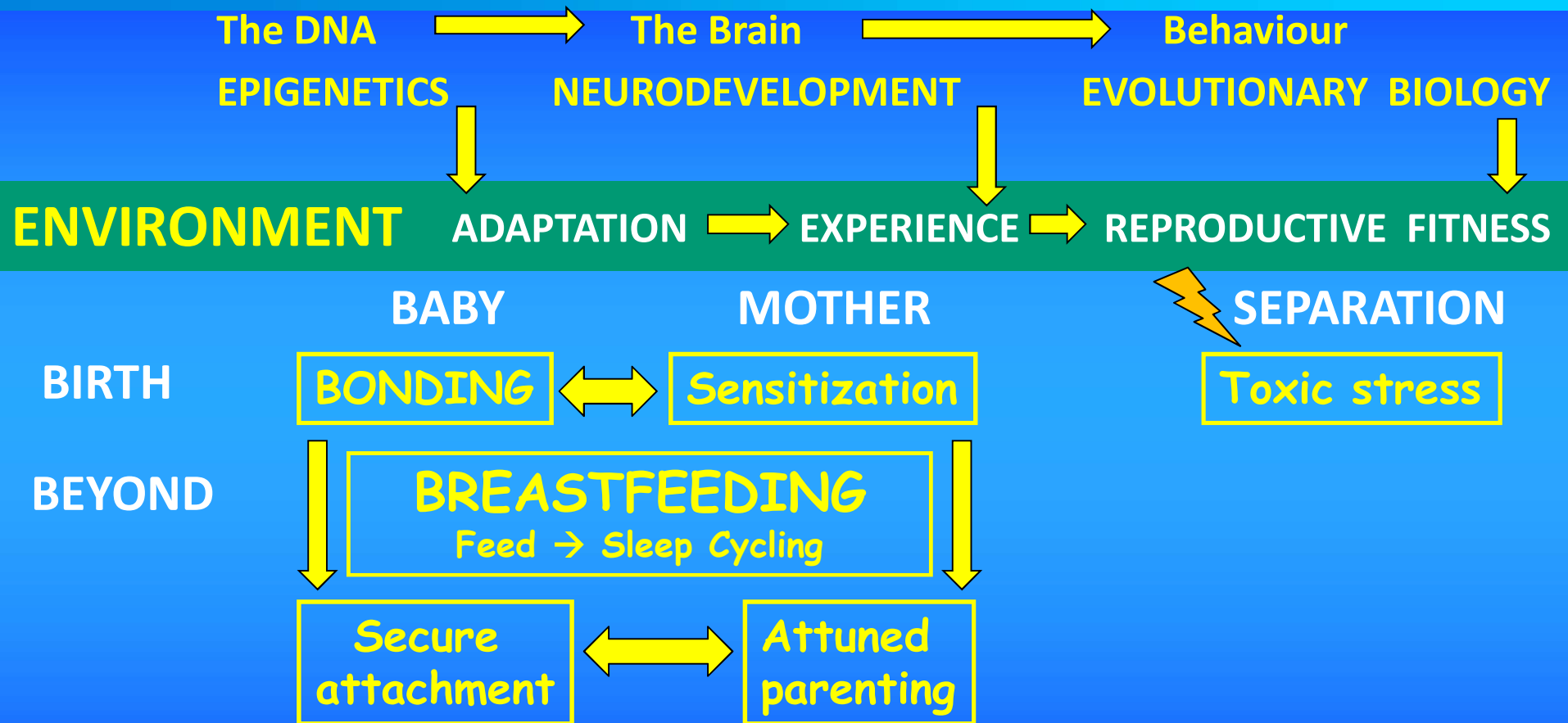
Toxic stress



OXYTOCIN

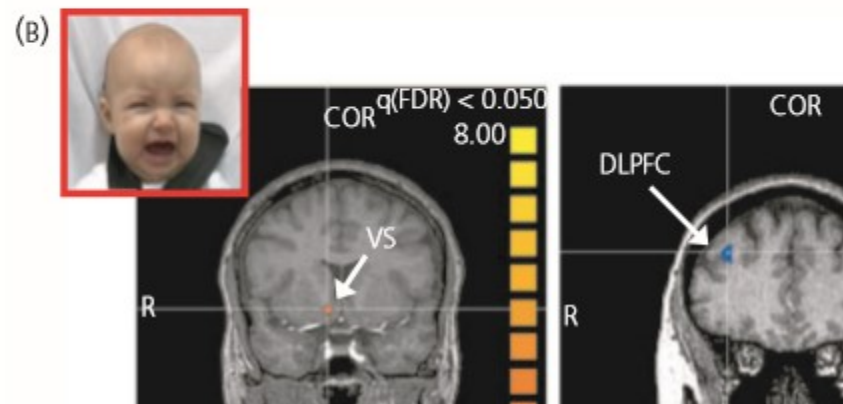
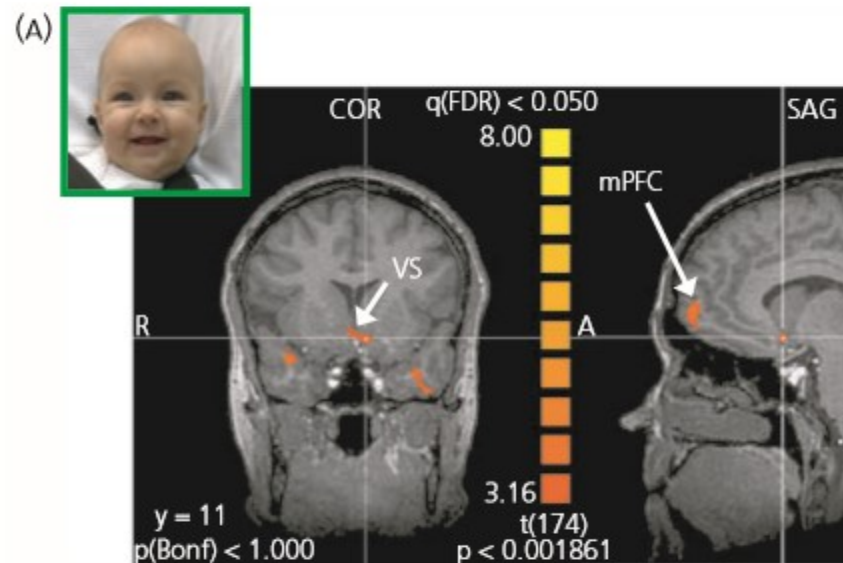
CORTISOL

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



How oxytocin and dopamine connect

From animal studies, we learn that oxytocinergic circuits are directly linked with the mesocorticolimbic dopamine pathway, with oxytocinergic neurones projecting from the hypothalamic PVN and MPOA to both the VTA and the VS (Fig. 3). The strength of these connections is associated with levels of maternal caregiving behav-



... infant cues - suckling, vocalisation and tactile stimulation - stimulate **OXYTOCIN** release in the hypothalamus, which may result in the activation of the dopaminergic reward pathway leading to behavioural reinforcement

Maternal Neglect: Oxytocin, Dopamine and the Neurobiology of Attachment

L. Strathearn^{*,†,‡,§}

key biological systems ... that contribute to maternal caregiving behaviour ... the oxytocinergic and dopaminergic systems.

... dopamine pathways contribute to the processing of infant-related sensory cues leading to a behavioural response. c

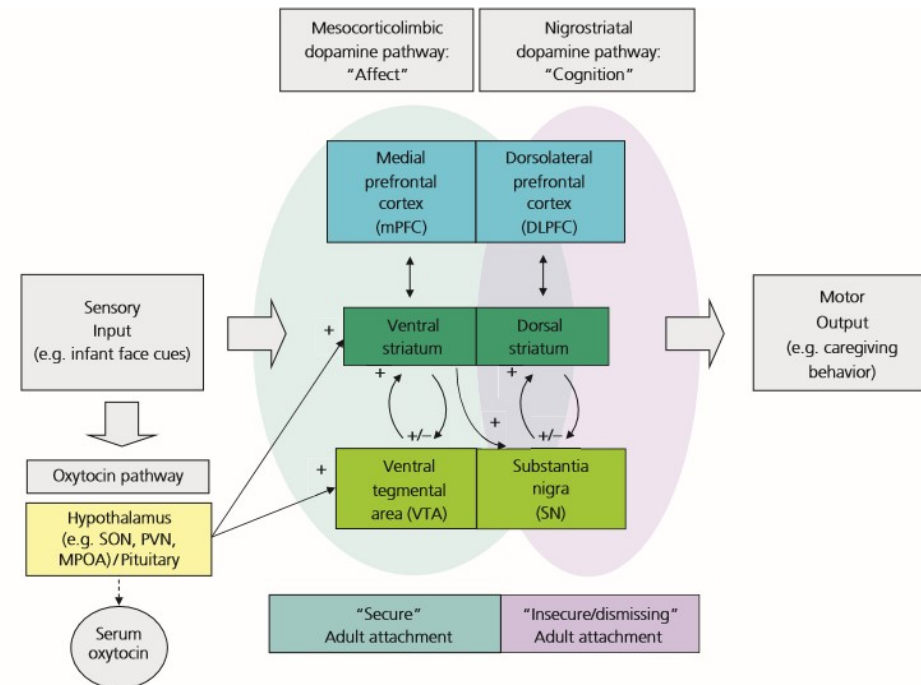
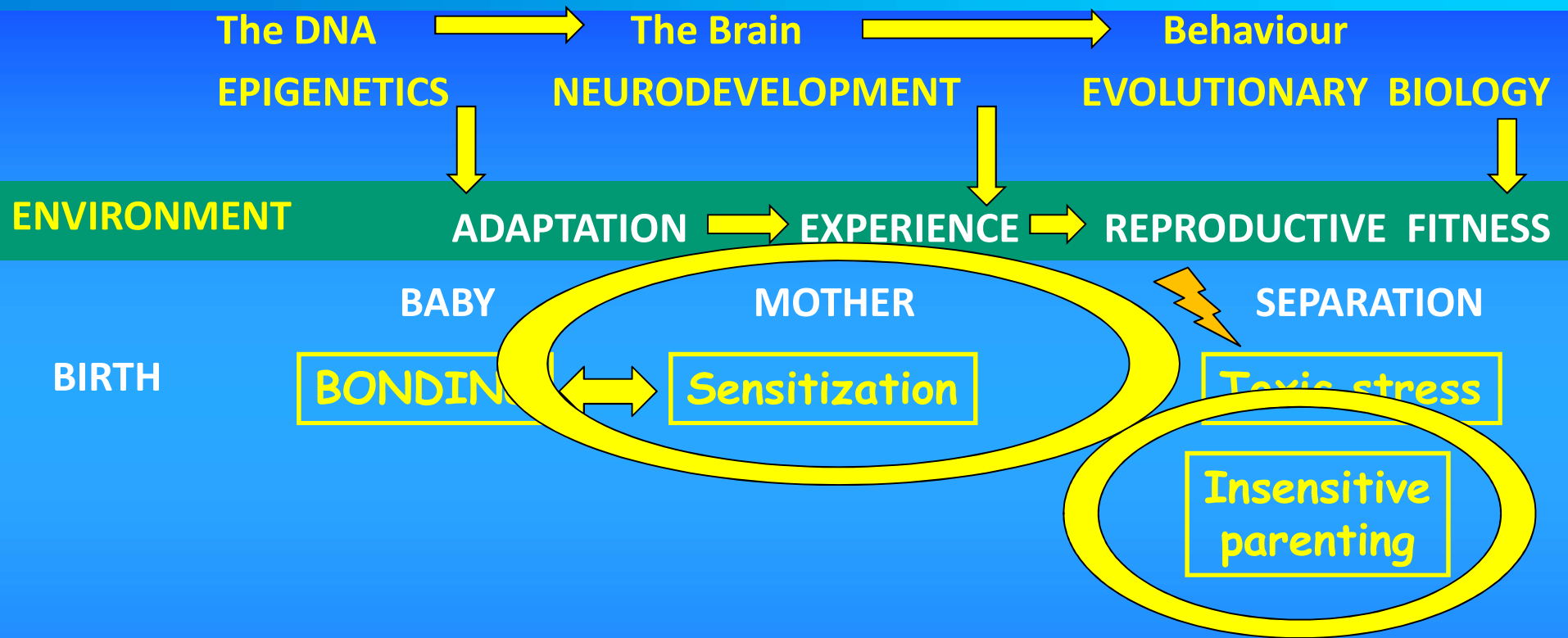
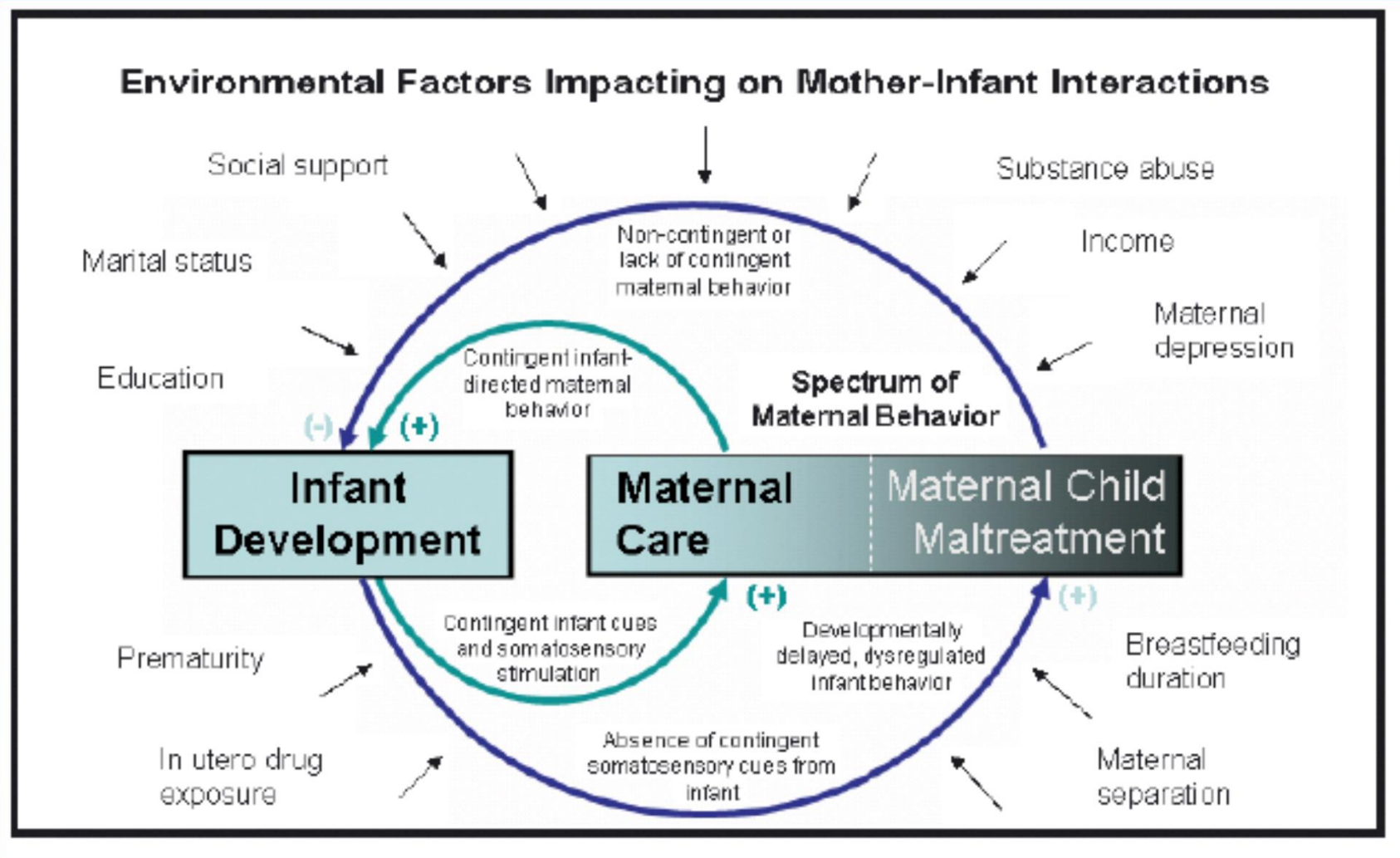


Fig. 3. Model of maternal brain responses to infant cues: proposed dopaminergic and oxytocinergic pathways relating to adult attachment patterns and insecure/dismissing). SON, supraoptic nucleus; PVN, paraventricular nucleus; MPOA, medial preoptic area.

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding

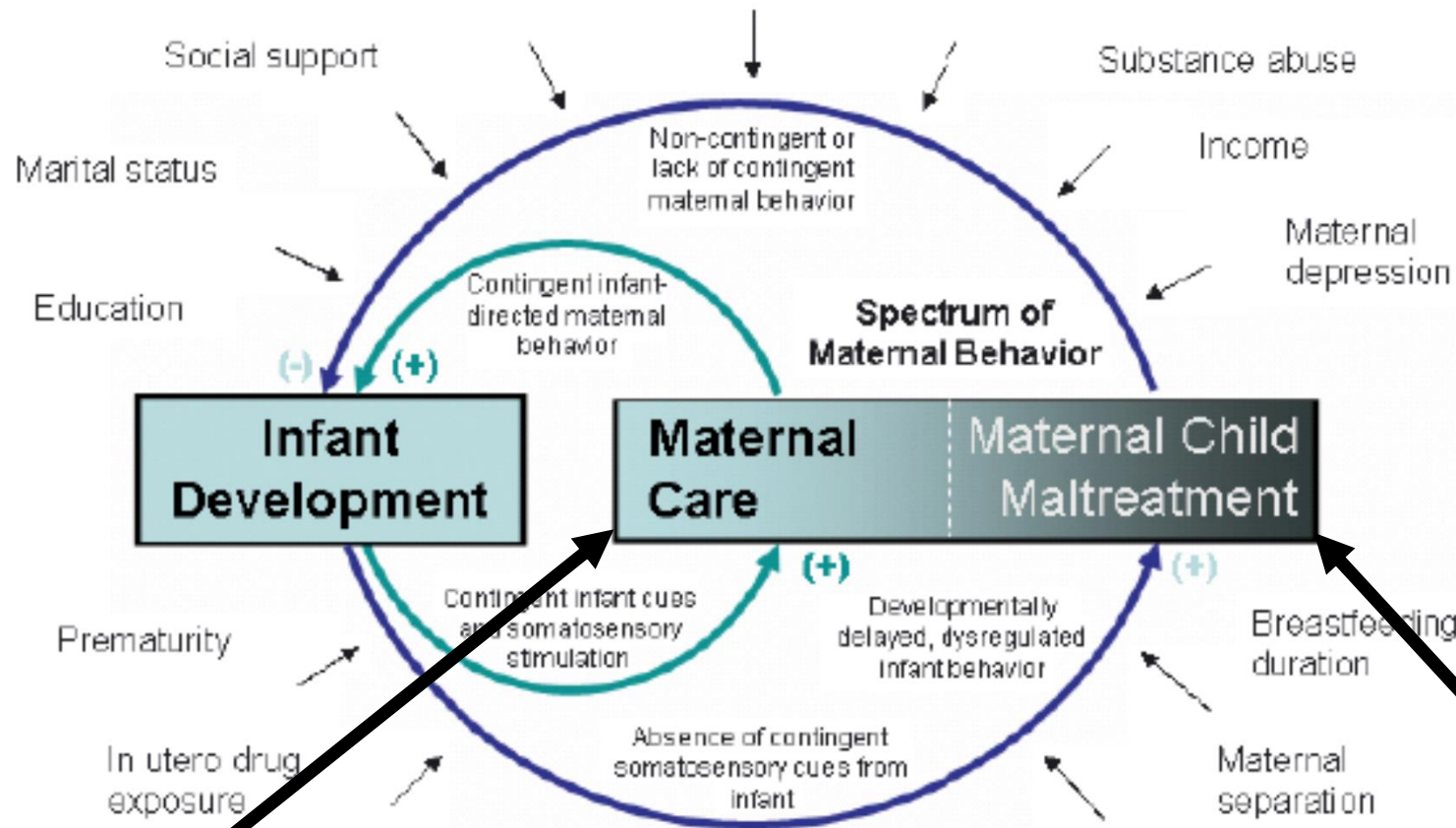


Specifying the Neurobiological Basis of Human Attachment:
Brain, Hormones, and Behavior in Synchronous
and Intrusive Mothers



Early stress alters gene expression, with health impact across lifespan.

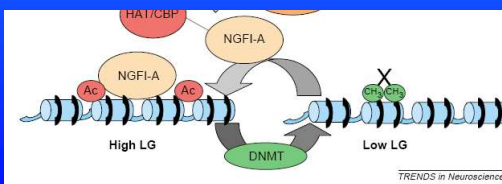
Environmental Factors Impacting on Mother-Infant Interactions



HEALTH

DISEASE

OXYTOCIN



CORTISOL

**SOCIAL
CONTROL
CENTRE**



**REWARD
CONTROL
CENTRE**

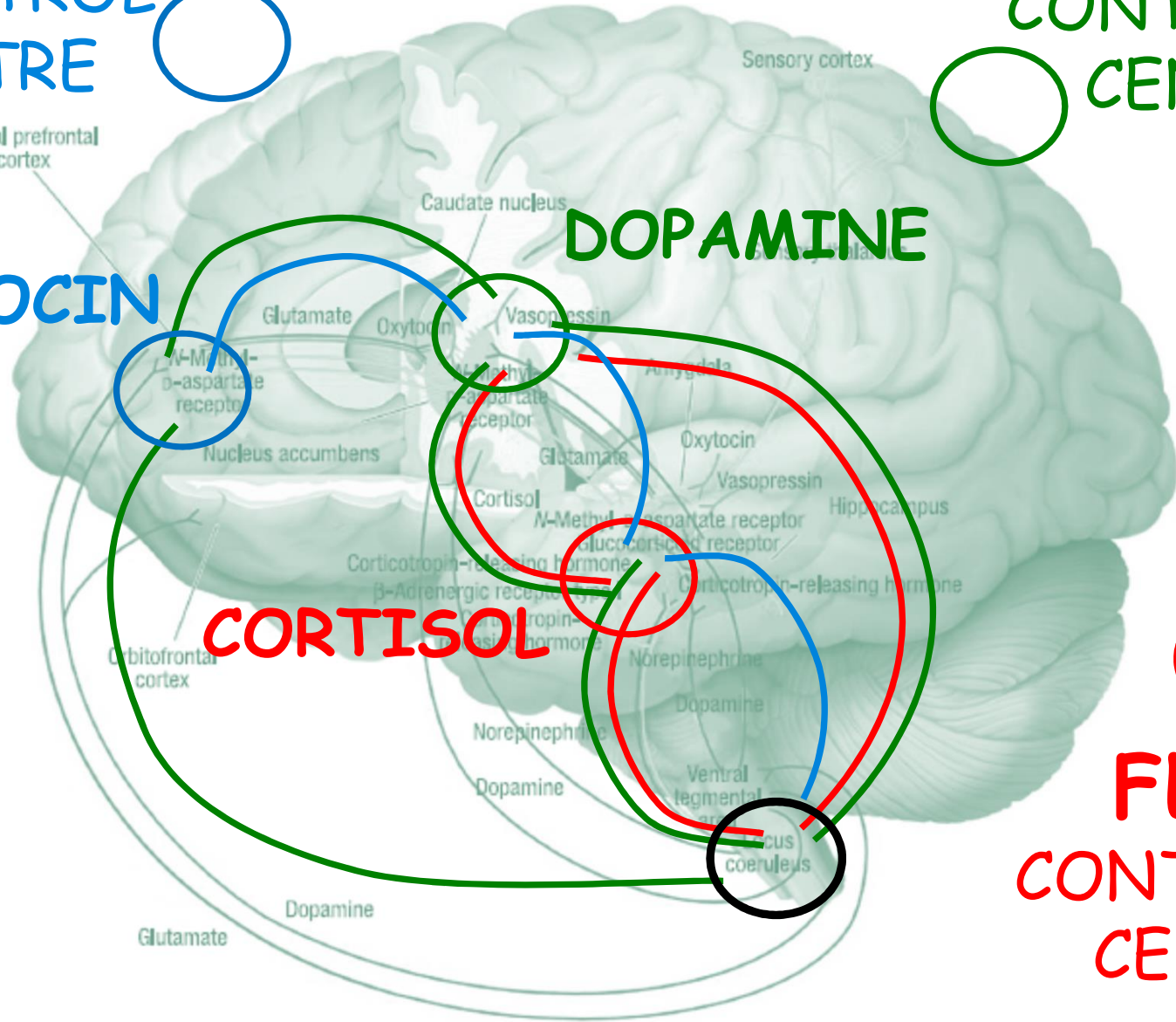
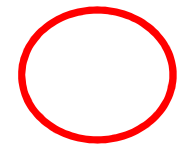


OXYTOCIN

DOPAMINE

CORTISOL

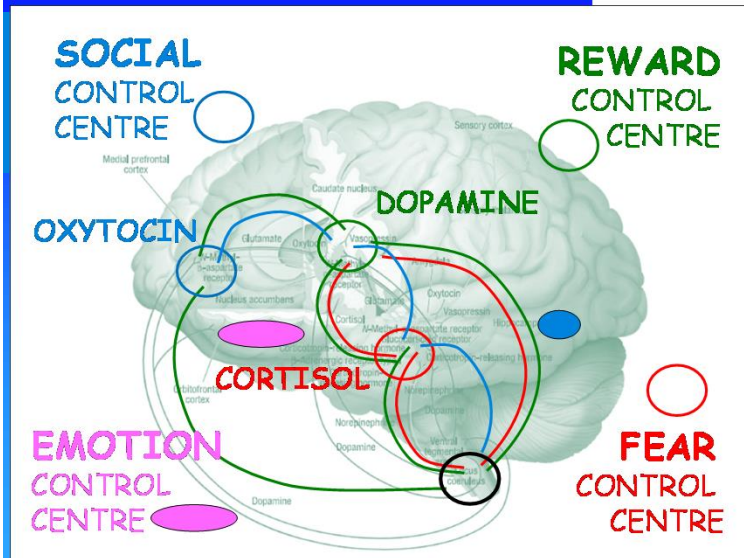
**FEAR
CONTROL
CENTRE**



Dennis S. Charney, M.D.

Psychobiological Mechanisms of Resilience and Vulnerability:

Implications for Successful Adaptation to Extreme Stress



... there is considerable overlap in the brain structures associated with these neural mechanisms ... functional interactions among the circuits.

HEALTH

DISEASE

RESILIENCE

VULNERABILITY

WELL-BEING → SUSCEPTIBILITY → MORBIDITY → MORTALITY

RESILIENCE

(= STRESS RESISTANCE)

"capacity to maintain healthy emotional functioning in the aftermath of stressful experiences"

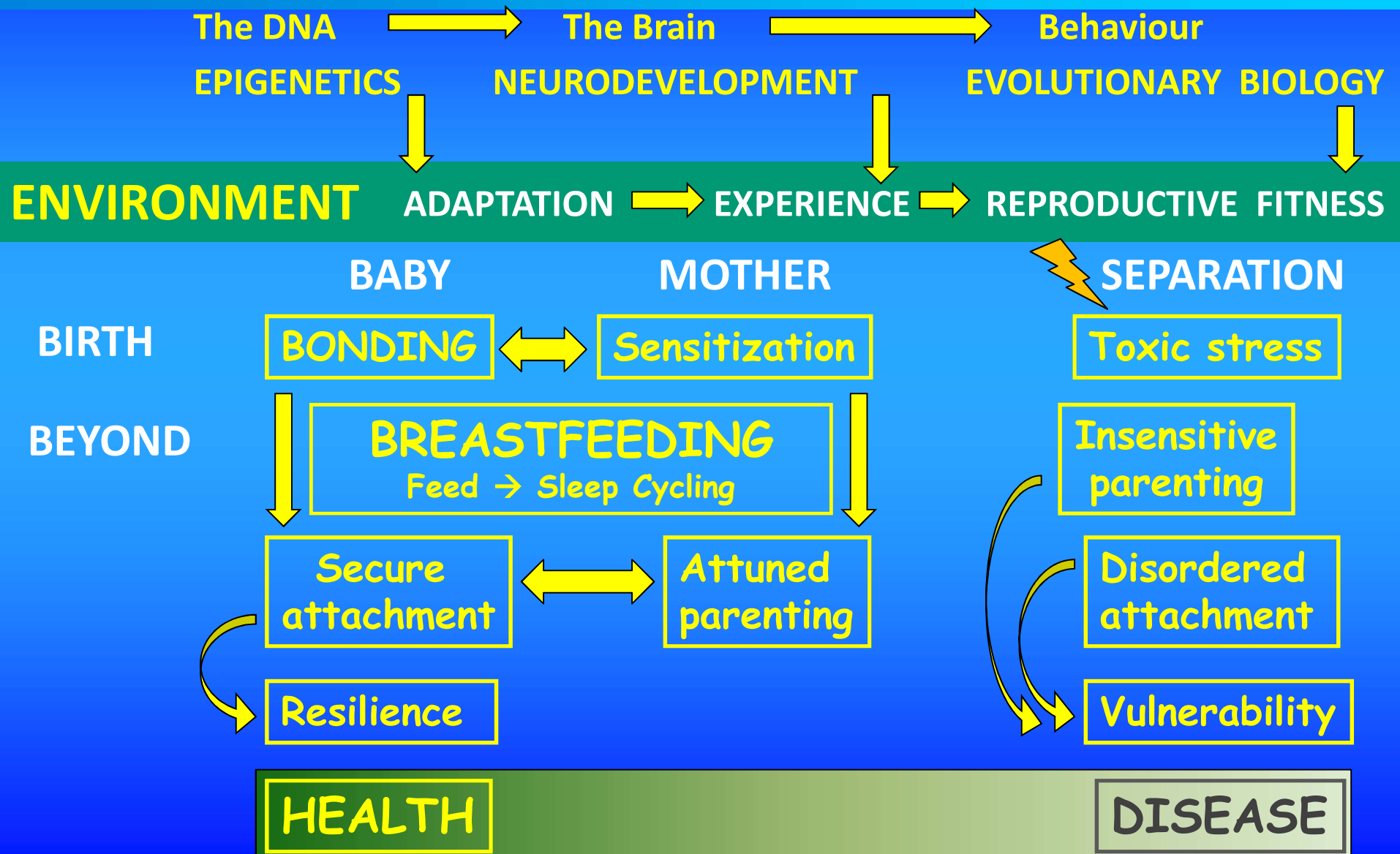
Resilience

Vulnerability

HEALTH

DISEASE

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

Skin-to-skin contact is
NORMAL BIOLOGY
for all newborns

⚡ SEPARATION
Toxic stress

TOXIC STRESS =
absence of the
buffering protection
of adult support.

DISEASE

SEPARATION IS A STRESSOR FOR FULL TERM NEONATES

preterms have less resilience:

SEPARATION IS A SEVERE STRESSOR FOR PRETERMS



SEPARATION

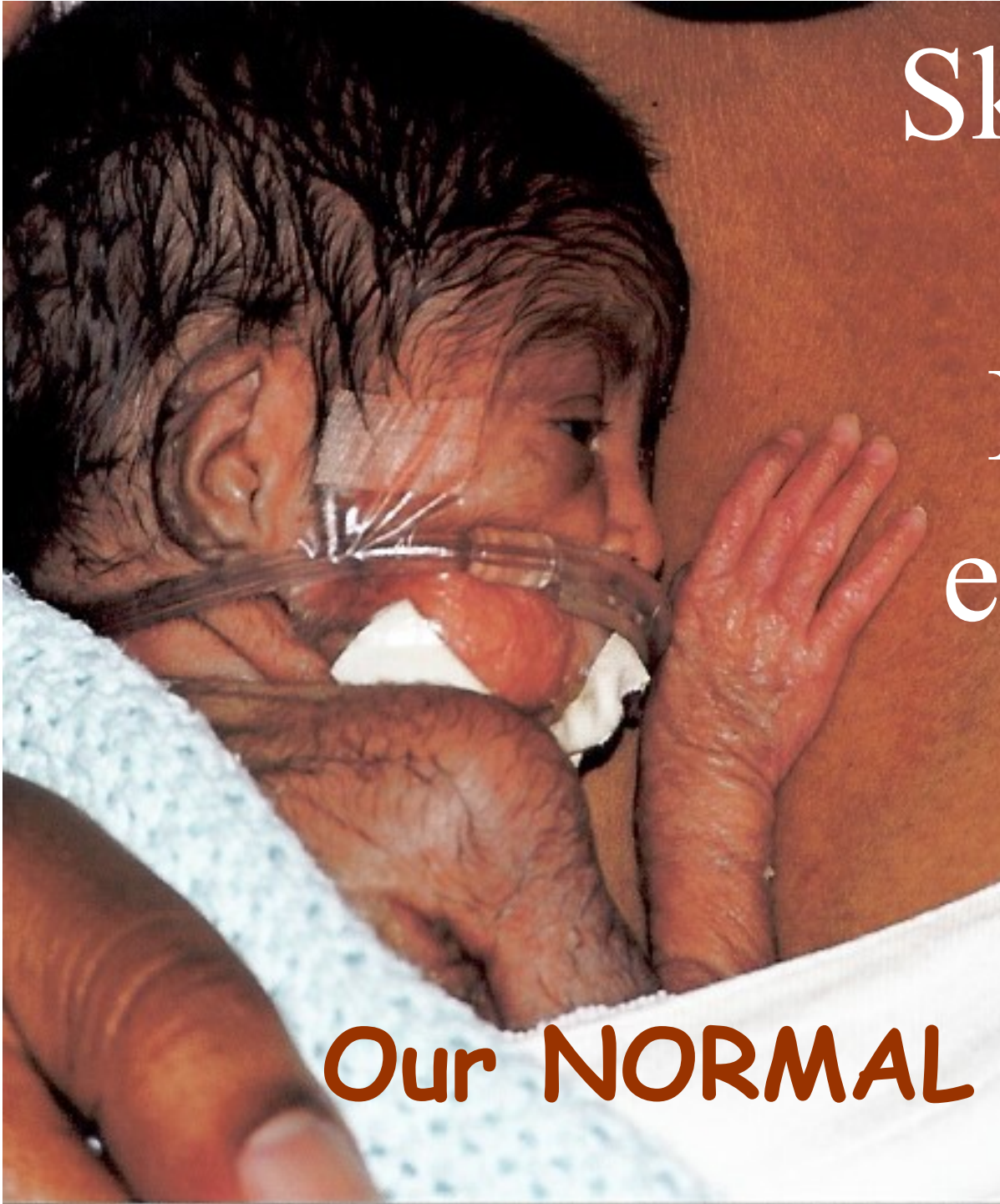
Toxic stress

TOXIC STRESS =
absence of the
buffering protection
of adult support.

DISEASE



Skin-to-skin
contact
IS MORE
essential for
premature
newborns!



Skin-to-skin
contact
IS MORE
essential for
premature
newborns!

Our NORMAL biology


From Kim Luong Chi



SUCKLING precedes breastfeeding
Skin-to-skin "causes" breastfeeding



From Kim Luong Chi

A close-up photograph of a newborn baby wearing a white knit hat. The baby is being held by a person's hands, with one hand supporting the head and the other supporting the body. The baby's face is visible, and they appear to be in a state of calm or sleep. The background is a light-colored surface, possibly a hospital bed or a table.

29 week GA – zero separation
& skin-to-skin contact
→ suckling at 60 minutes.



© HELLER



xSPO2

100



30

BPM

158

LIMITS

TREND

SETUP

LIGHT



SUCKLING



The ABILITY TO SUCKLE
IS WIRED IN EVERY BABY
even if premature !!

SUCKLING

PROTECT SUCKLING

- WHILE FEEDING -

UNTIL BREASTFEEDING STRONG.

Kangaroo nutrition



HOW EARLY SHOULD THE
KANGAROO POSITION START?

A: AT BIRTH

Immediate

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS



Immediate

First 1000 seconds	(1 st hour)	TRANSITION
First 1000 minutes	(1 st day)	SENSITIZATION
First 1000 hours	(6 weeks)	BOND/ATTACH
→ First 1000 days		ECD

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



IPISTOSS
Immediate
Parent-Infant
Skin-TO-Skin

The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



*Underlying
scientific
rationale*

IPISTOSS
Immediate
Parent-Infant
Skin-TO-Skin

PRETERM BIRTH

TRANSITION

SEPARATION

FAILS

CASCADE OF
DYSREGULATION

INSTABILITY

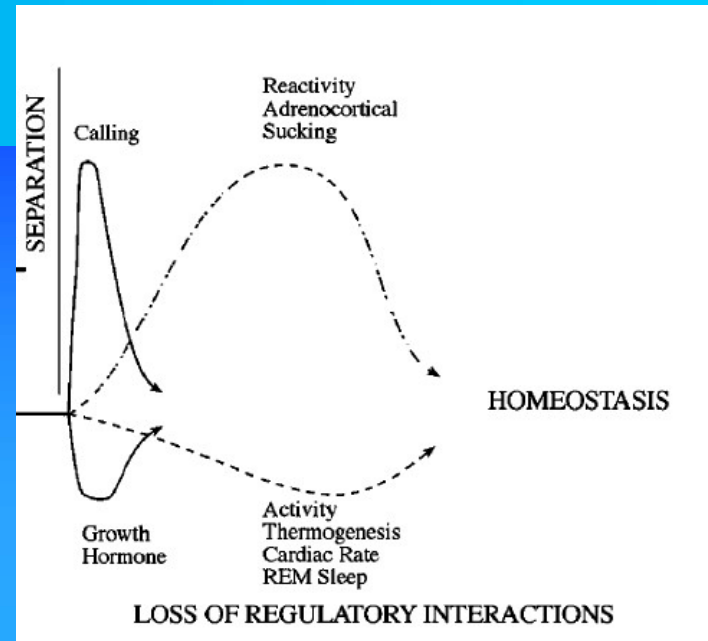
Infection

Hypothermia

Bradycardia

Hypoglycemia

Hypoxia



PRETERM BIRTH

TRANSITION

SEPARATION

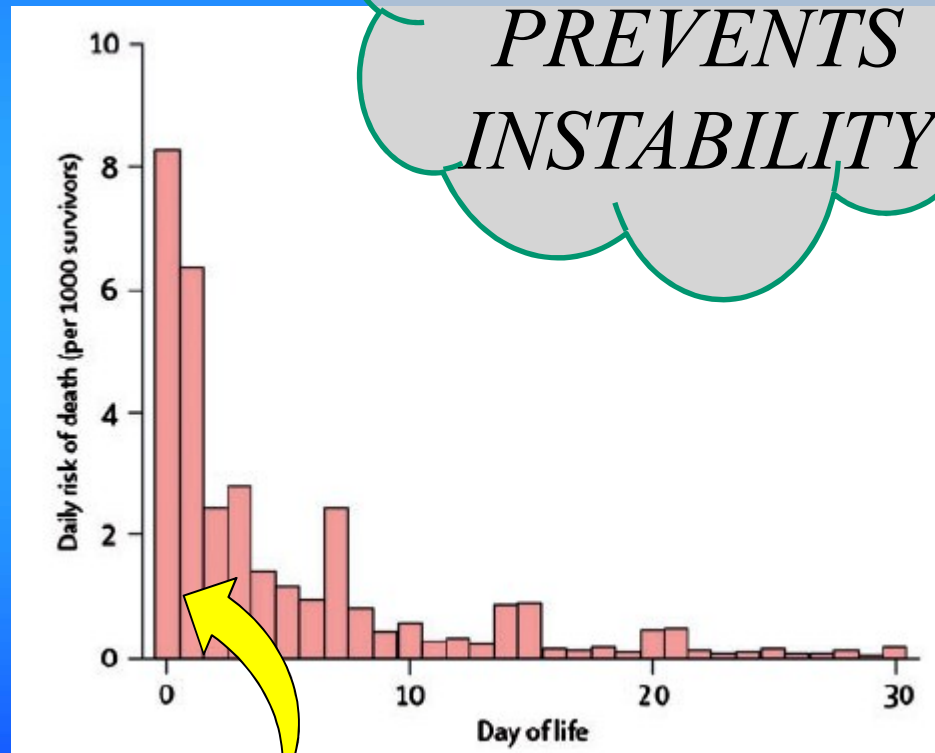
FAILS

INSTABILITY

Excluded from
KMC studies

MORTALITY

*Skin-to-skin
STABILIZES
&
PREVENTS
INSTABILITY*



LIC

MIC

Tanzania Malawi Ghana Nigeria India

IKMC

(Immediate – till stable)

~ 4200 babies

**Mortality
reduction**

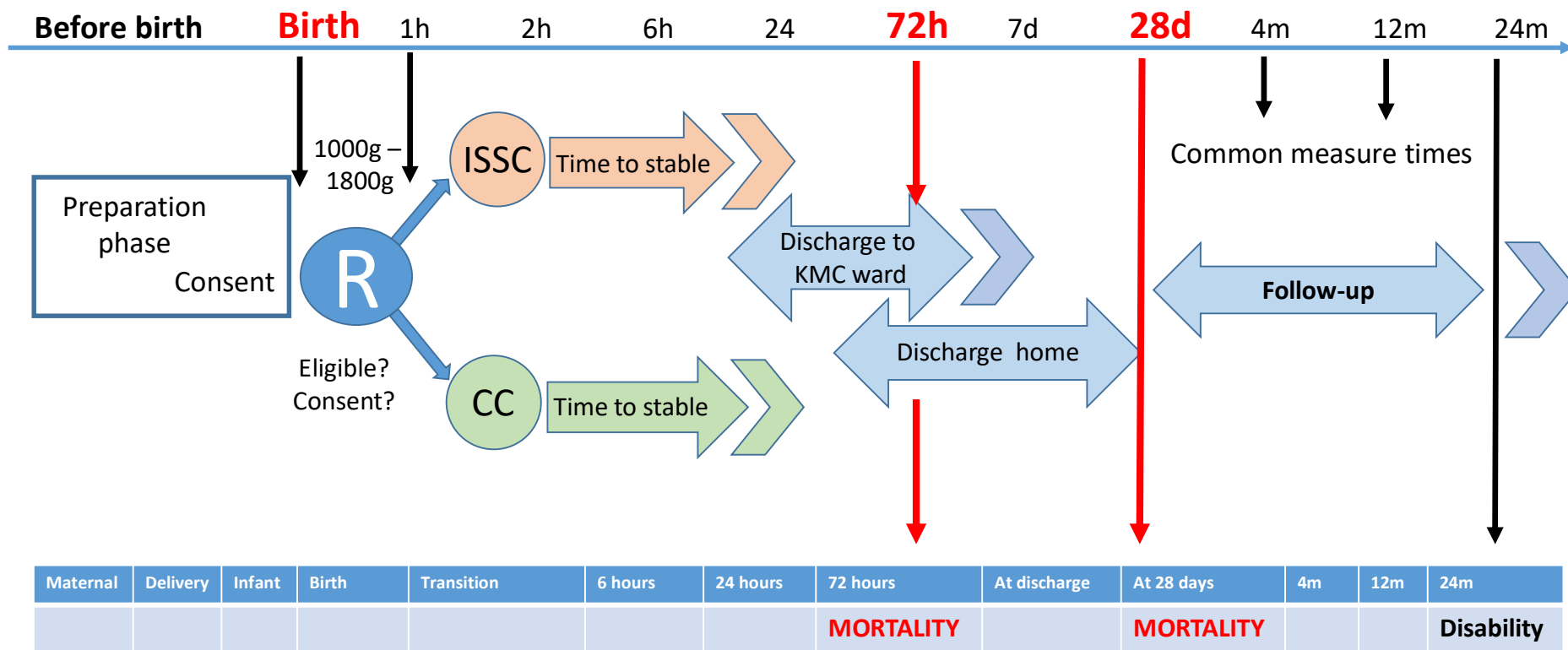


WHO

Bill & Melinda

Gates Foundation

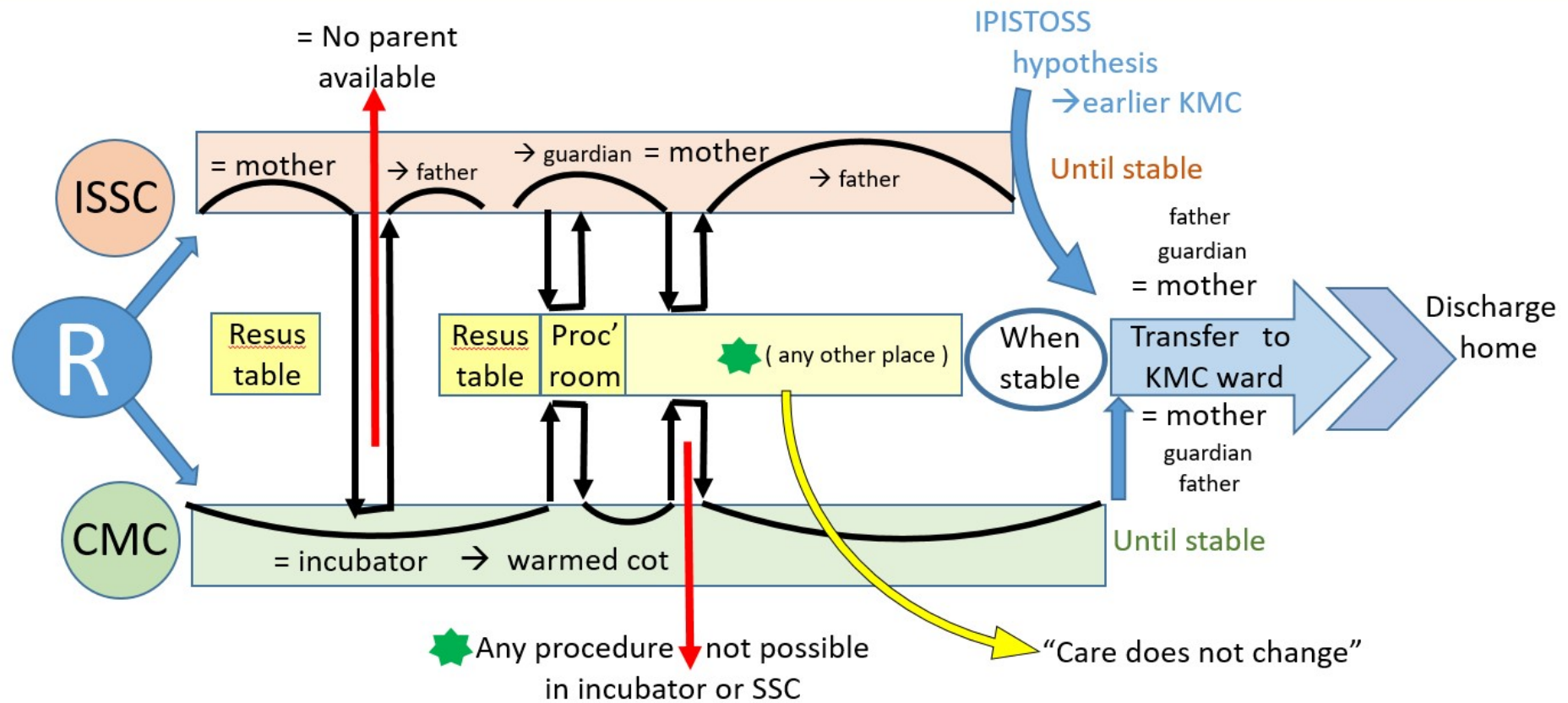
IPISTOSS flow chart



**Immediate Parent Infant Skin-To-Skin Study (IPISTOSS) –
A Multicenter Randomized Controlled Trial Comparing Skin-to-Skin Contact Initiated Within First 60 Minutes of Life and Continued Until Stabilization with Separation (Conventional Care) in Neonates with Birth Weight of 1000-1800g.**

IPISTOSS patient chart – sample for 1800g infant

Birth 1h 2h 6h 24 48h 72h 7d 14d **28d**



LIC

MIC

Tanzania Malawi Ghana Nigeria India

IKMC

(Immediate – till stable)

~ 4200 babies

**Mortality
reduction**



WHO

Bill & Melinda

Gates Foundation

LIC

MIC

HIC

Tanzania Malawi Ghana Nigeria India

Vietnam & RSA Norway Sweden

IKMC

(Immediate – till stable)

~ 4200 babies

IPISTOSS

(Immediate – till stable)

~ 1200 babies

**Mortality
reduction**



**Mechanisms
research**

WHO

Bill & Melinda

Gates Foundation

Karolinska, Sweden

Laerdal, others

BabyBjorn ...





The Neuroscience of Birth & Breastfeeding



ENVIRONMENT → ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

ENVIRONMENT WHAT IS THE EFFECT OF MATERNAL ABSENCE ON ...

IPISTOSS
Immediate
Parent-Infant
Skin-TO-Skin

HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?

ENVIRONMENT ADAPTATION → EXPERIENCE → REPRODUCTIVE FITNESS

ENVIRONMENT WHAT IS THE EFFECT OF MATERNAL ABSENCE ON ...

IPISTOSS
Immediate
Parent-Infant
Skin-TO-Skin

HOW EARLY SHOULD THE KANGAROO POSITION START?

ENVIRONMENT

SKIN-TO-SKIN CONTACT

SCIENCE

IPISTOSS

EVIDENCE

Immediate

Parent-Infant

Skin-TO-Skin