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Antioxidants

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Issues for consideration

- 1- Kinetics and concentrations - relation to bioavailability
- 2- Will the antioxidant get to the right place?
- 3- Specificity for scavenging target ROS/RNS
- 4- Potential interactions with co-antioxidants
- 5- Can antioxidants function as pro-oxidants?
- 6- Modes of action - scavengers or cell signaling regulators
- 7- The “specific hydroxyl radical scavenger syndrome”

1- Kinetics and concentrations

Antioxidant + Oxidant \dot{E}

Oxidized Antioxidant + Detoxified Oxidant

$$\Delta G^\circ = -RT \ln K_{eq}$$

$$\Delta G = \Delta G^\circ + RT \ln \frac{[Oxidized Antioxidant]_i [Detoxified Oxidant]_i}{[Antioxidant]_i [Oxidant]_i}$$

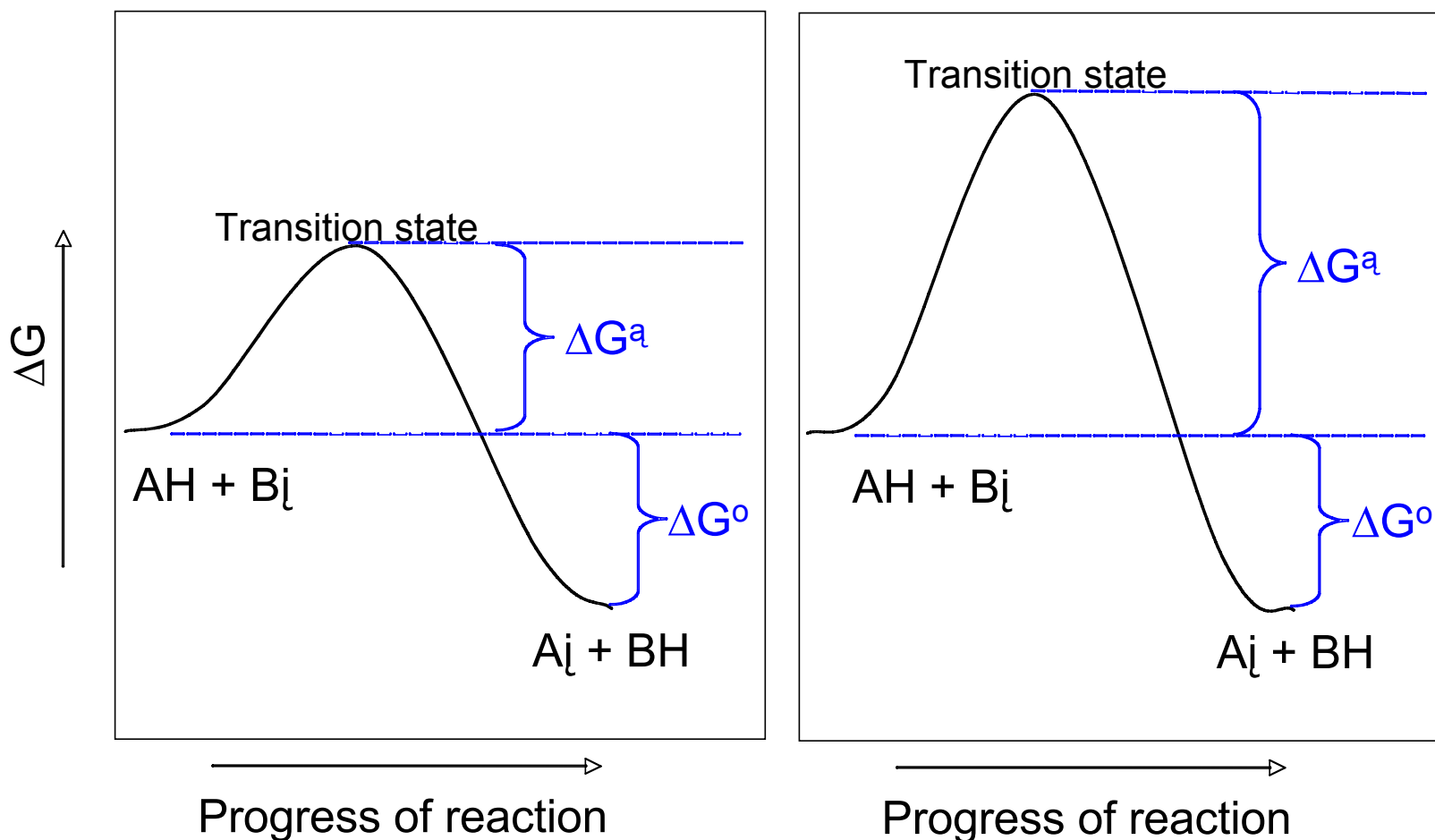
where $[Antioxidant]$ is the instantaneous activity of the antioxidant

Thermodynamics tells you what could happen with or without the need to input energy.

ΔG° must be negative for a reaction to occur spontaneously

But, ΔG° (or standard reduction potentials) does not tell you how fast anything happens- that is the subject of kinetics.

Which reaction will occur more rapidly?



$$\Delta G^\ddagger \text{ (energy of activation) } = -RT \ln k / A$$

where A is the frequency factor for the reaction, R is the universal gas constant, and T is the temperature.

Qinghai-Tibet Railway:
The highest point of
the railway is 5,072
meters above sea
level



But the Himalayas are the barrier
(Mt. Everest rises to 8,848 meters)

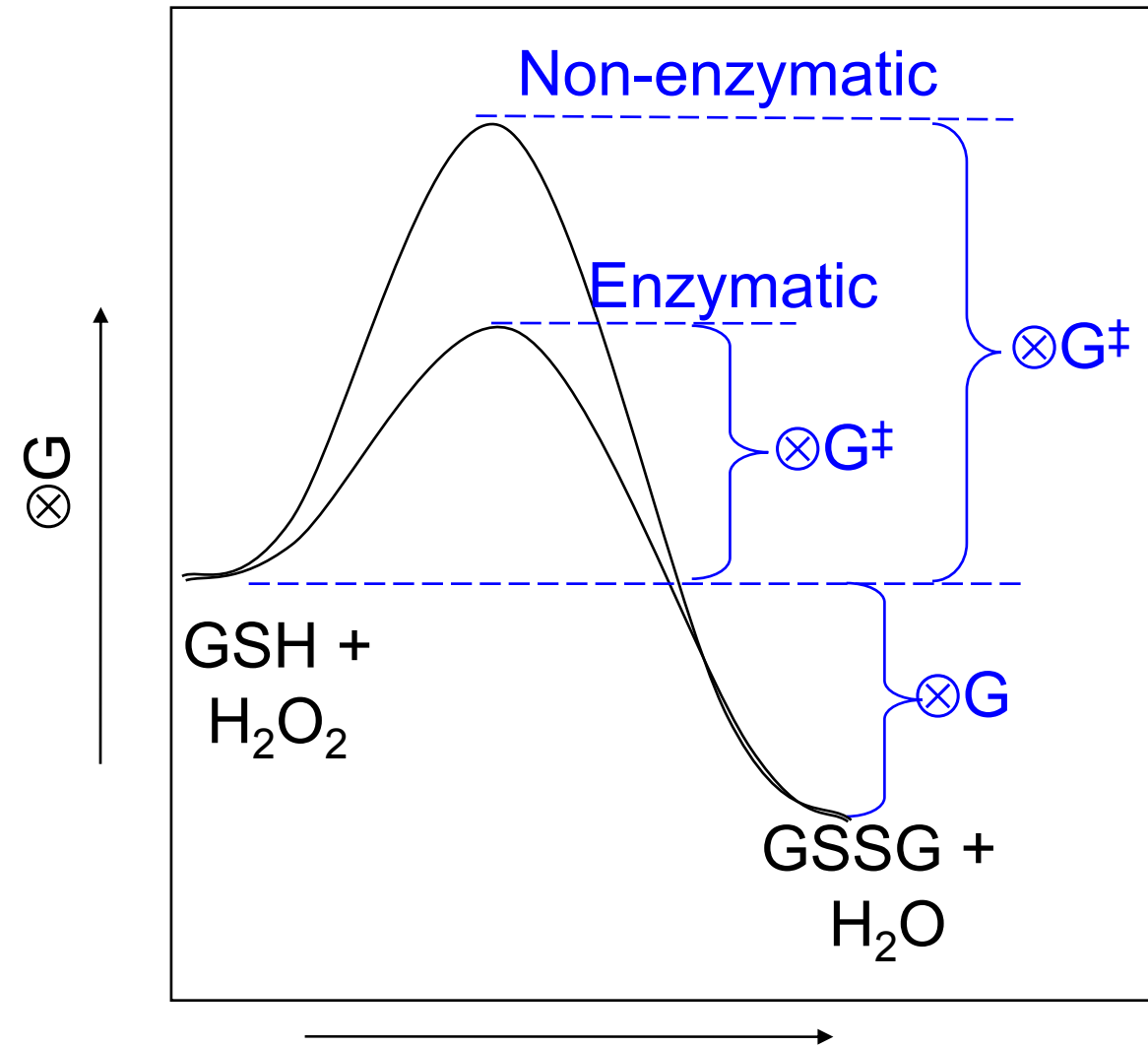


⊗G is
negative

Lucknow, India
Elevation 128
meters



Enzymes accelerate reactions by decreasing $\otimes G^\ddagger$



An example is the reaction between glutathione (GSH) and H₂O₂

1- Kinetics and concentrations relation to bioavailability

Antioxidant + Oxidant \dot{E}

Oxidized Antioxidant + Detoxified Oxidant

$$\text{initial rate} = k[\text{Antioxidant}][\text{Oxidant}]$$

So, will the [Antioxidant] and k both be high enough to prevent the oxidant from reacting with a biological target?

2- Will the antioxidant get to the right place?

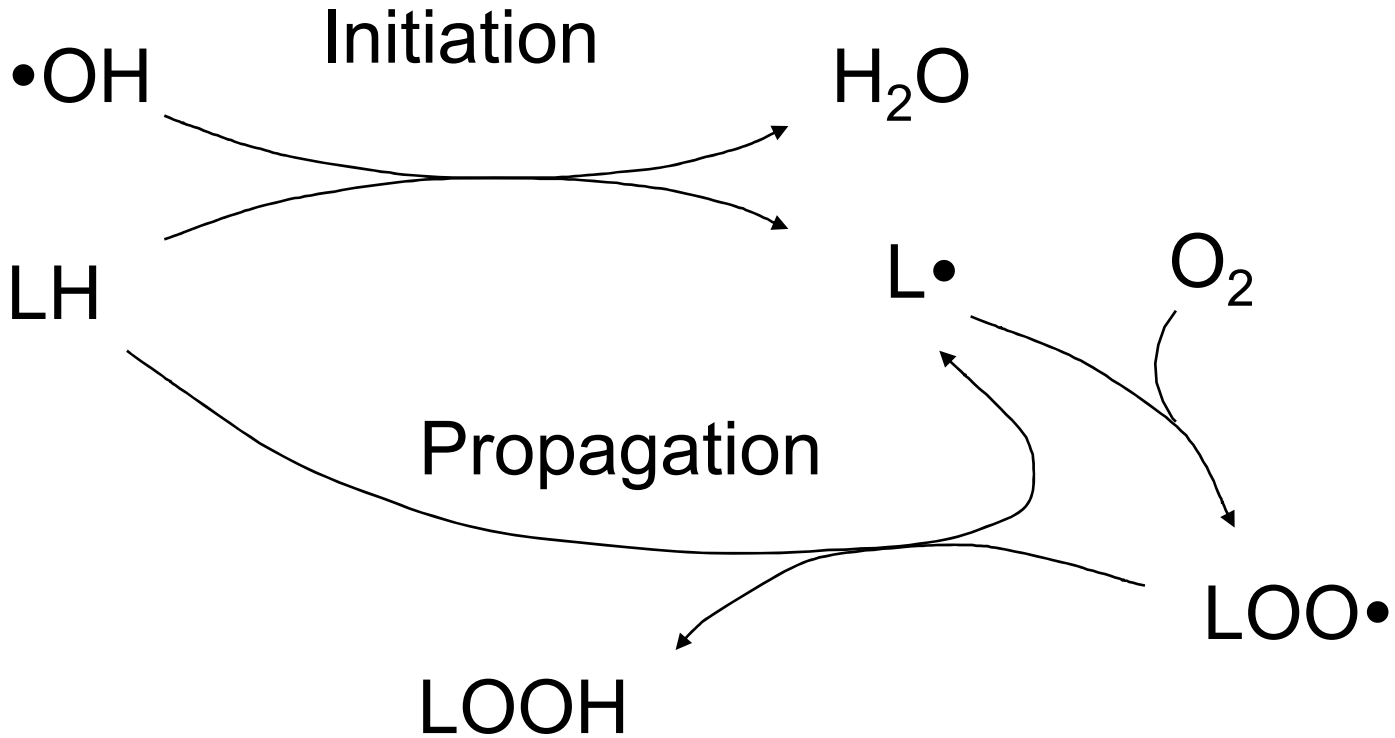
Factors influencing bioavailability

- Absorption through GI tract
- Metabolism in liver and other tissues
- Carrier molecules
 - e.g., for α -tocopherol
 - LDL
- Solubility/partitioning into membranes

Examples of bioavailability issues

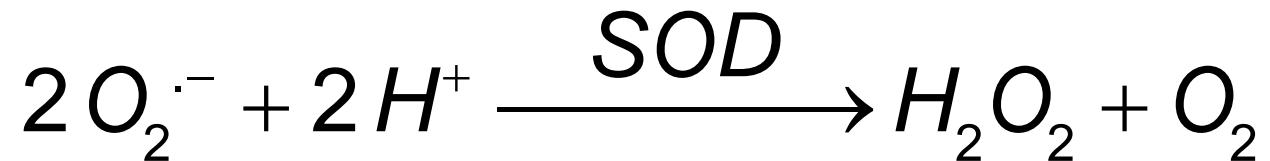
- Dietary ascorbate (vitamin C) approaches upper limit in plasma (1)
- Some studies of a tea polyphenol suggest effectiveness at $< 1 \mu\text{M}$ (the plasma peak) but most show need of $> 10 \mu\text{M}$ (2)
- Olive oil polyphenols reach at most 60 nM but are effective as scavengers only at $> 50 \mu\text{M}$ (3)

Lipid peroxidation a major target for antioxidants



4- Specificity for scavenging ROS/RNS

Superoxide Dismutases

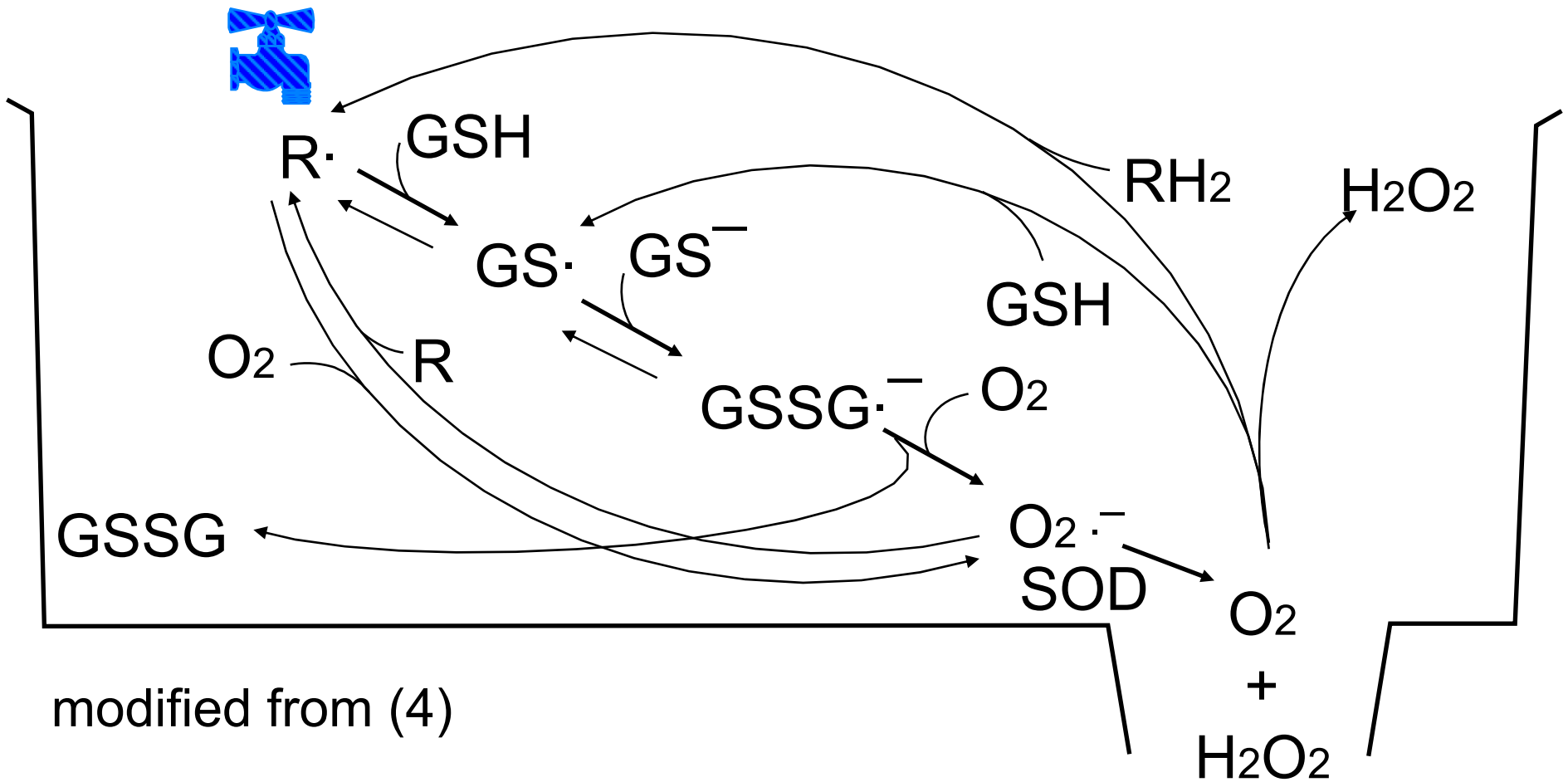


Metalloproteins with at least one transition metal (Cu, Mn, Fe)

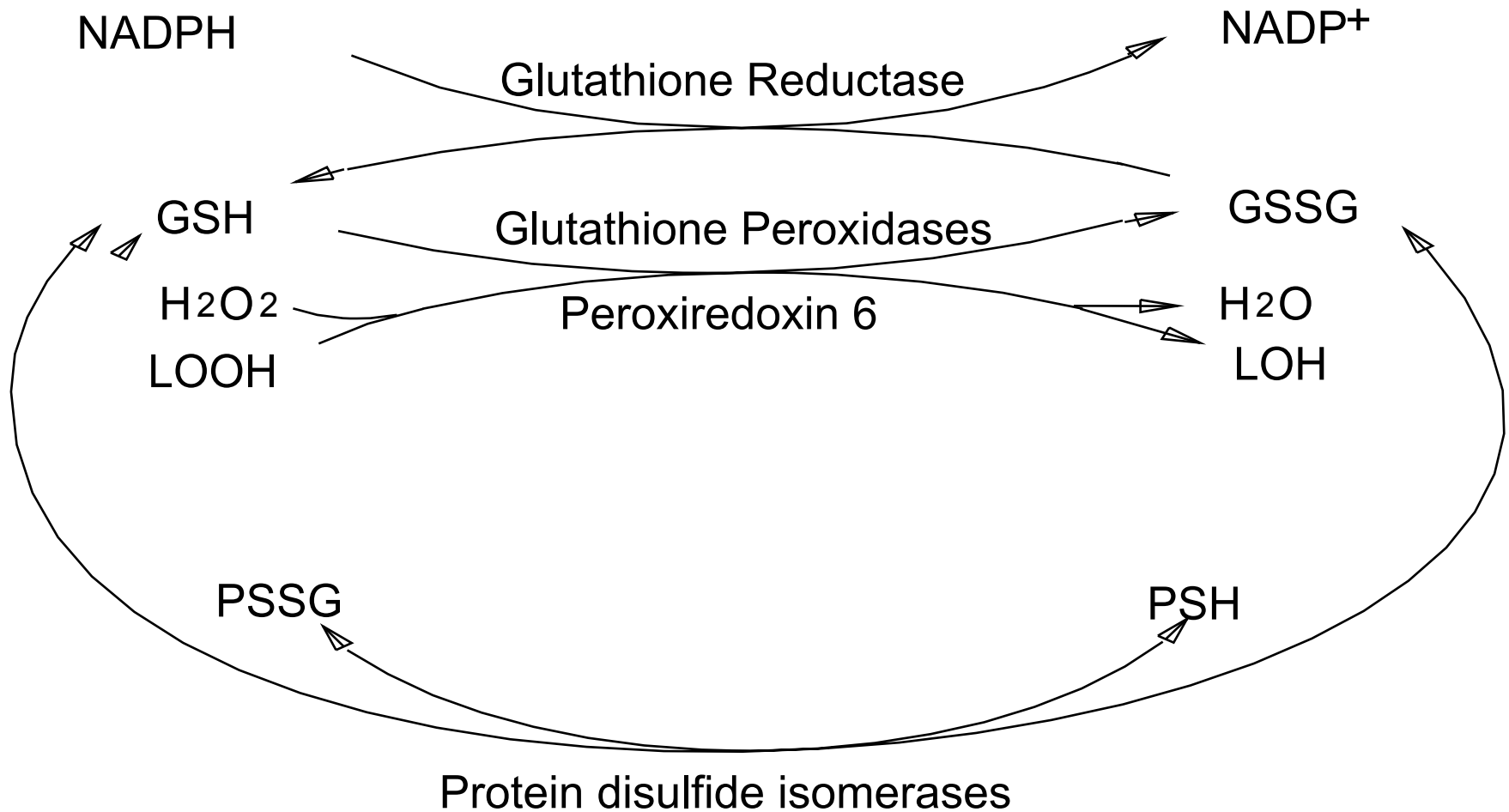
Rate constants in the range of $10^9 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$

Found in cytosol, nucleus and extracellular compartments

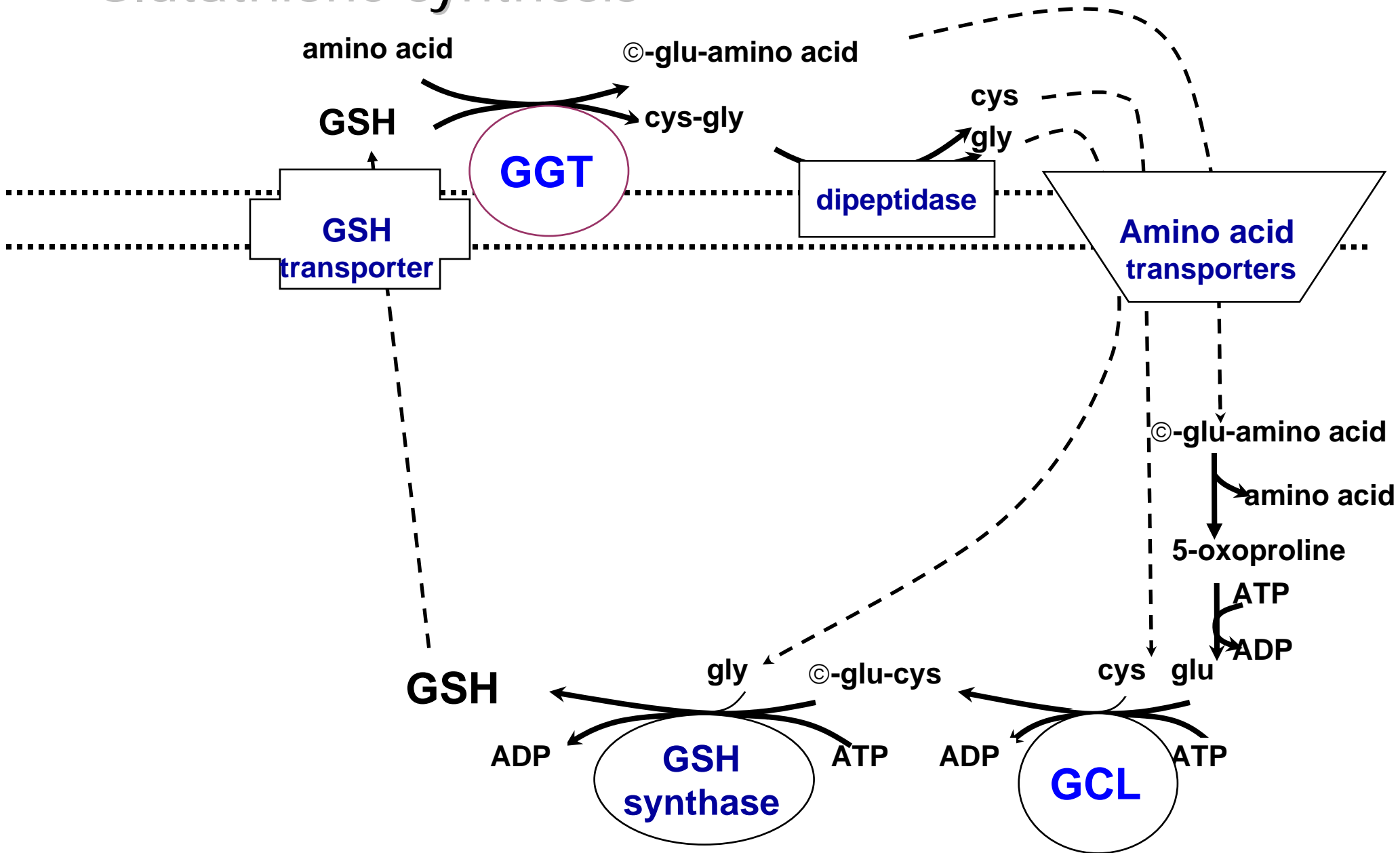
The Radical Sink



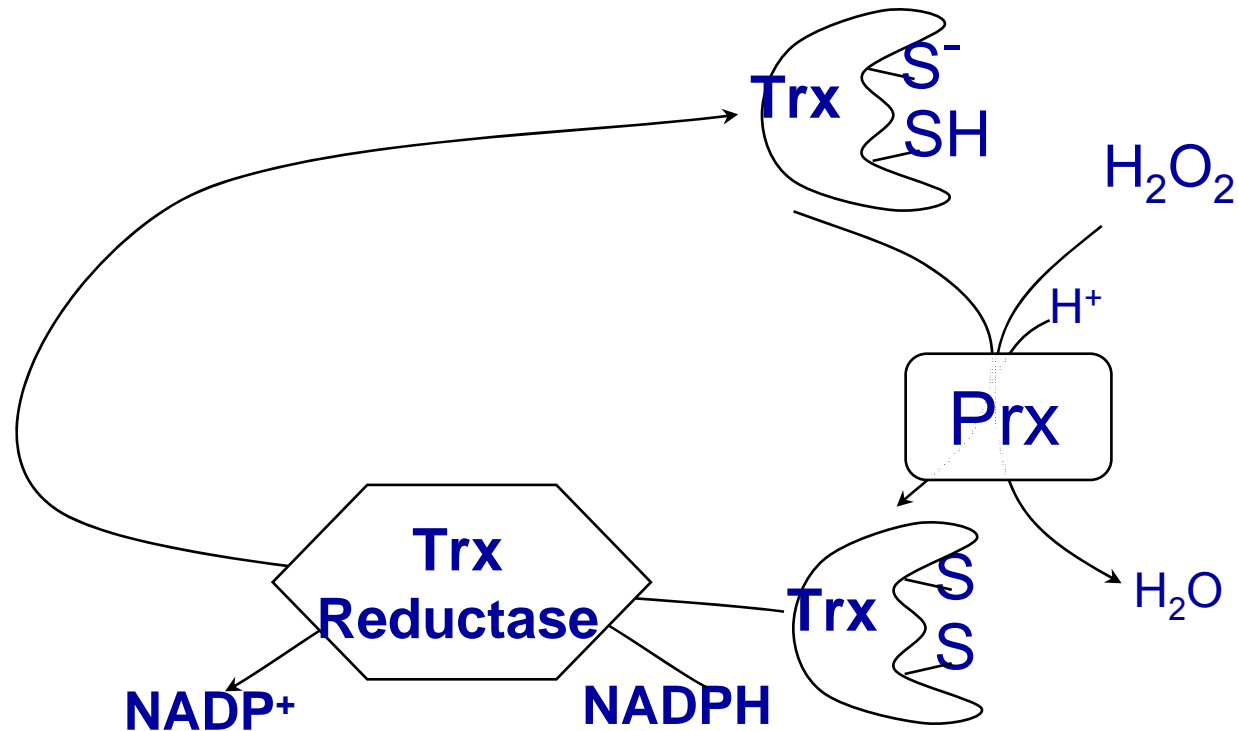
Glutathione as an enzyme substrate



Glutathione synthesis

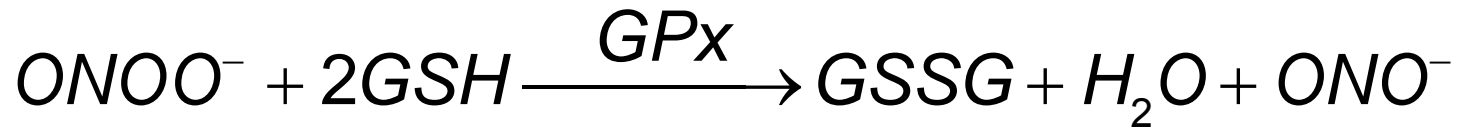


Thioredoxin in elimination of H_2O_2

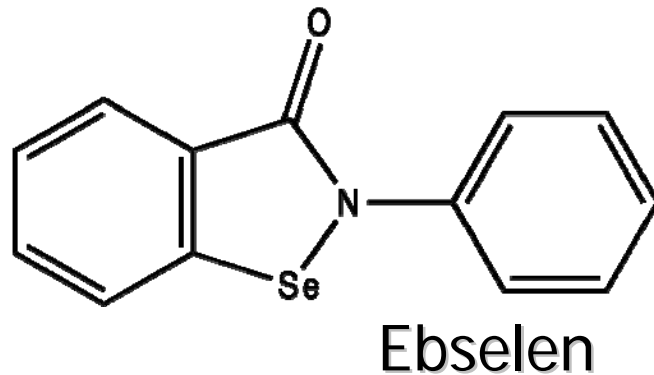


Non-enzymatic Trx oxidation is slow

Peroxynitrite is a substrate for GPx (5)

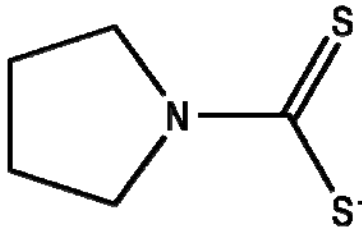


or Trx reductase with Ebselen or selenocystine



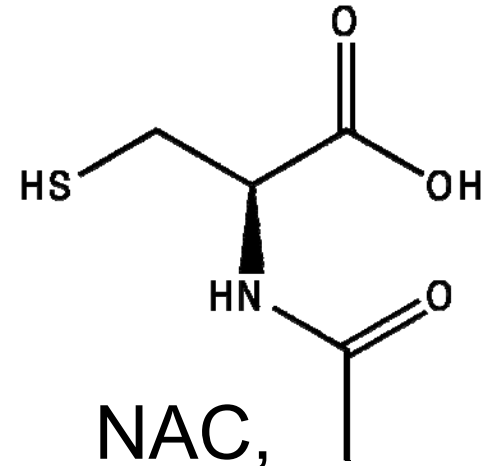
5- Can antioxidants function as pro-oxidants?

Thiols



PDTC,

Pyrrolidinedithiocarbamate



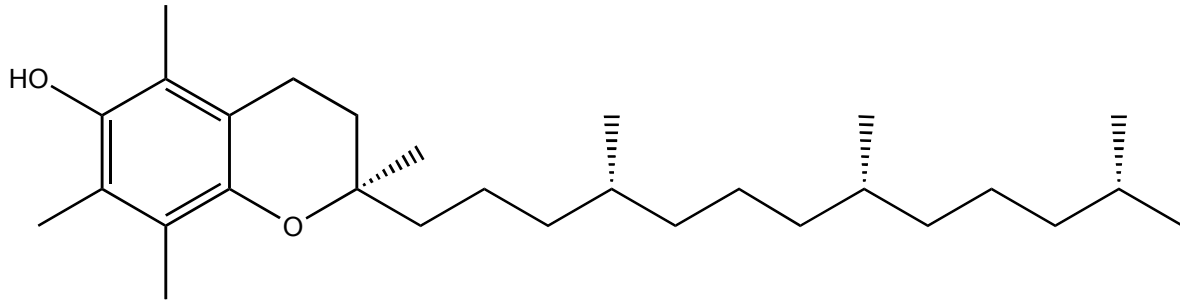
NAC,

N-acetylcysteine

PDTC inhibits NF- κ B DNA binding (6)

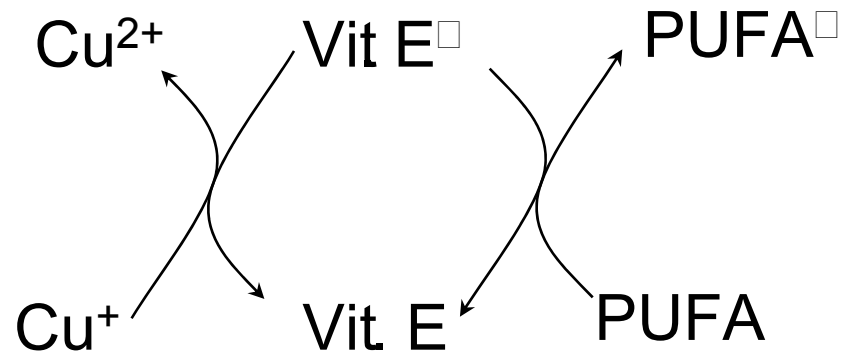
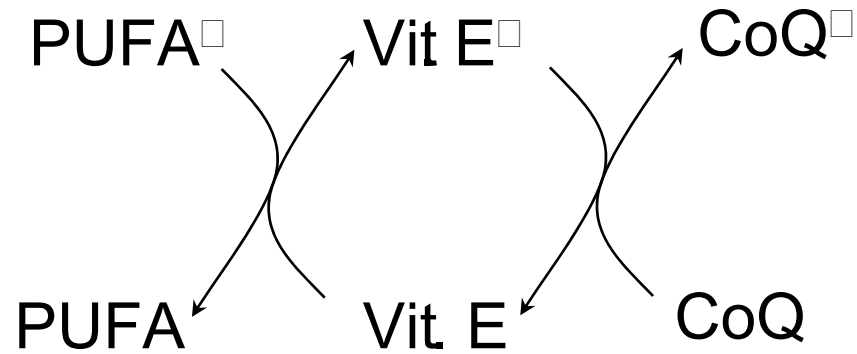
PDTC is a pro-oxidant copper chelator (7)

NF- κ B activation by thiol oxidation (8)



α-tocopherol, vitamin E

In the absence of a co-antioxidant, α-tocopherol can be a pro-oxidant (9)



6- Scavengers or cell signaling regulators?

The vitamin E debate (7/1/07 issue of Free Radic Biol Med)

Azzi (10) stated, that α -tocopherol :

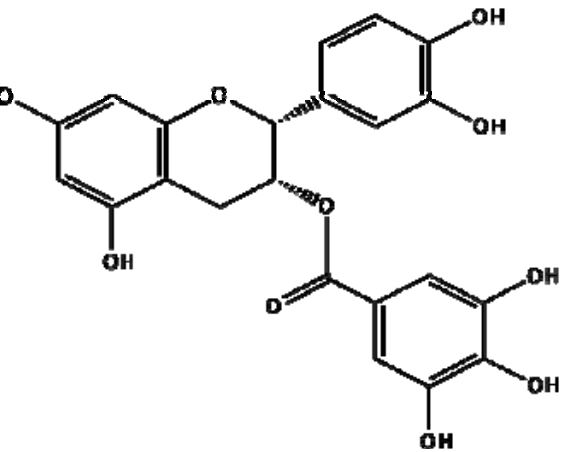
- has a natural function in cell signaling
- is the precursor of a more active form, α -tocopheryl phosphate
- does not prevent oxidative damage *in vivo* or oxidative diseases

Traber (11) stated that α - tocopherol:

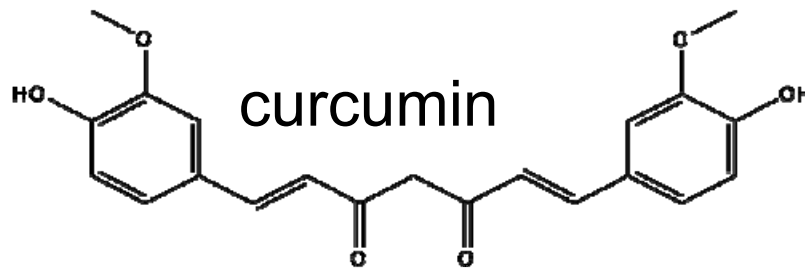
- participates only in signaling pathways involving oxidative stress
- protects PUFA and membrane changes affecting signaling
- has no direct signaling role

Commentary by Brigelius-Flohe and Davies, “Is vitamin E an antioxidant, a regulator of signal transduction and gene expression, or a 'junk' food?”

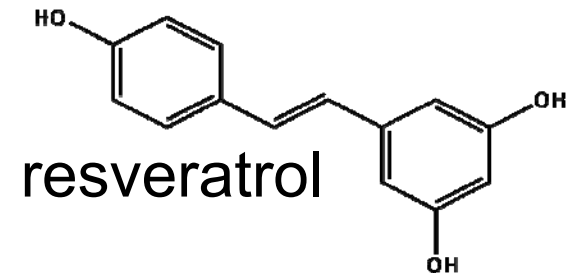
Polyphenols



epigallocatechin gallate



curcumin



resveratrol

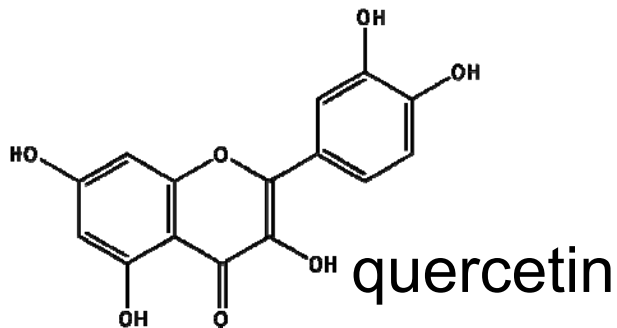
Do we get enough of these “antioxidants” into tissues to be effective as scavengers?

Do they act as antioxidants or have effects on signaling?

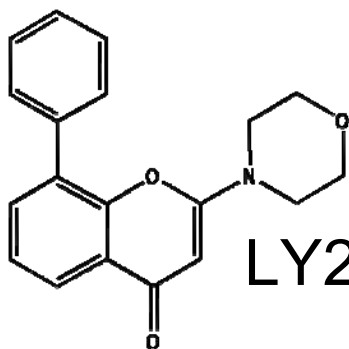
There can be up to 1 μ M in plasma from diet (13)

But, they can:

- act as pro-oxidants for EpRE signaling or caspase activation (14)
- modulators of protein kinases (15)

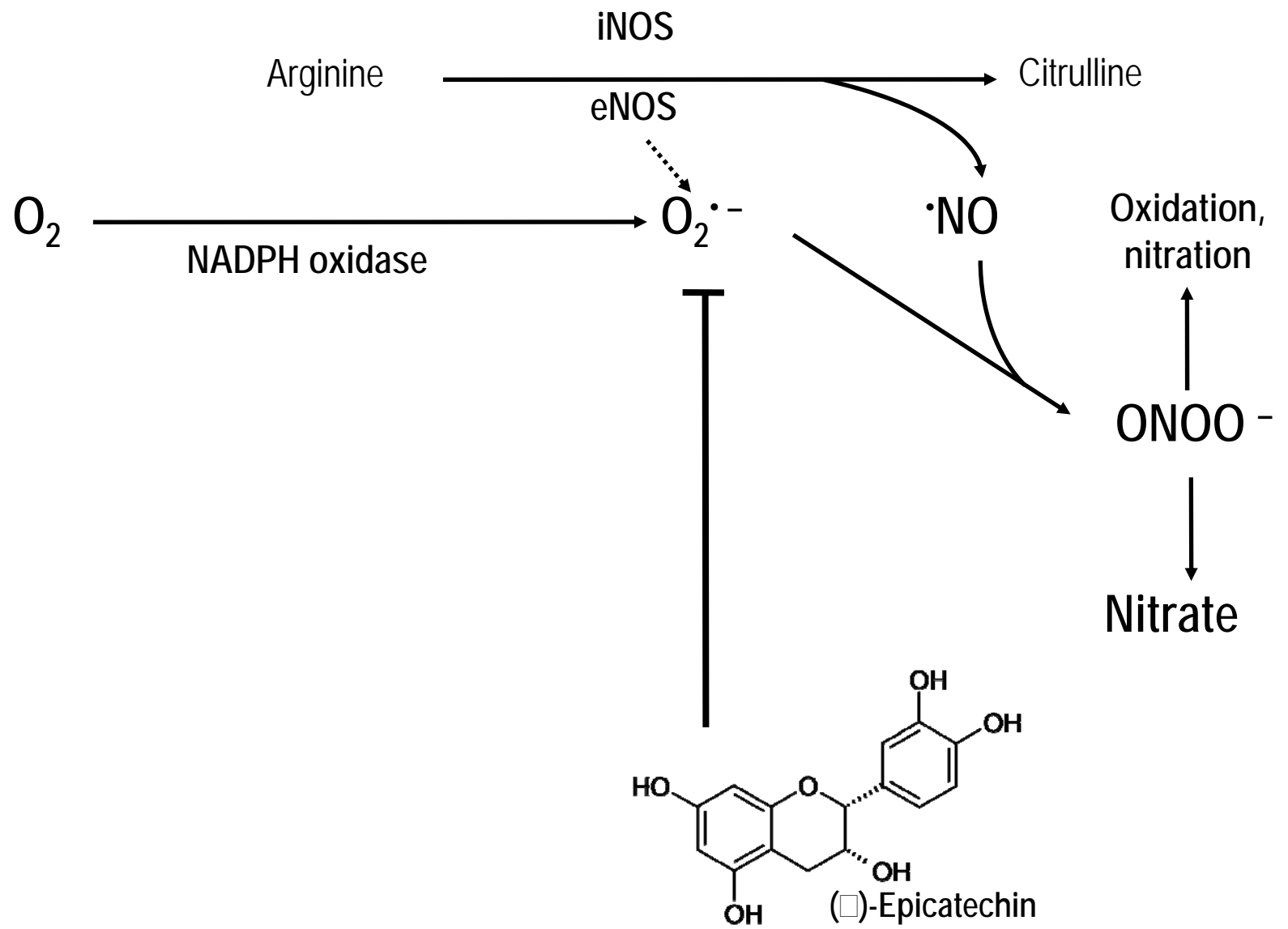


quercetin



LY294002

Indeed, LY294002, the most selective inhibitor of PI3 kinase, is an analog of quercetin (16)



From (17)

Increases in Antioxidant Enzymes by Oxidant Stress another non-antioxidant function of “antioxidants”

MnSOD

CuZnSOD

catalase

GPx 1

Prdx 6

©-glutamyl transpeptidase

Glutamate cysteine ligase

NAD(P)H:quinone oxidoreductase 1

Heme oxygenase 1

The myth of the specific hydroxyl radical scavenger

- Almost all organic compounds react with $\bullet\text{OH}$ near diffusion limited rates.
- Thus, no compound has significantly more $\bullet\text{OH}$ scavenging activity than just about any other.

$$\frac{-d[\bullet\text{OH}]}{dt} = (k_x[X] + k_a[\textit{all others}]) \times [\bullet\text{OH}]$$

So, you would have to drown it in!

References

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