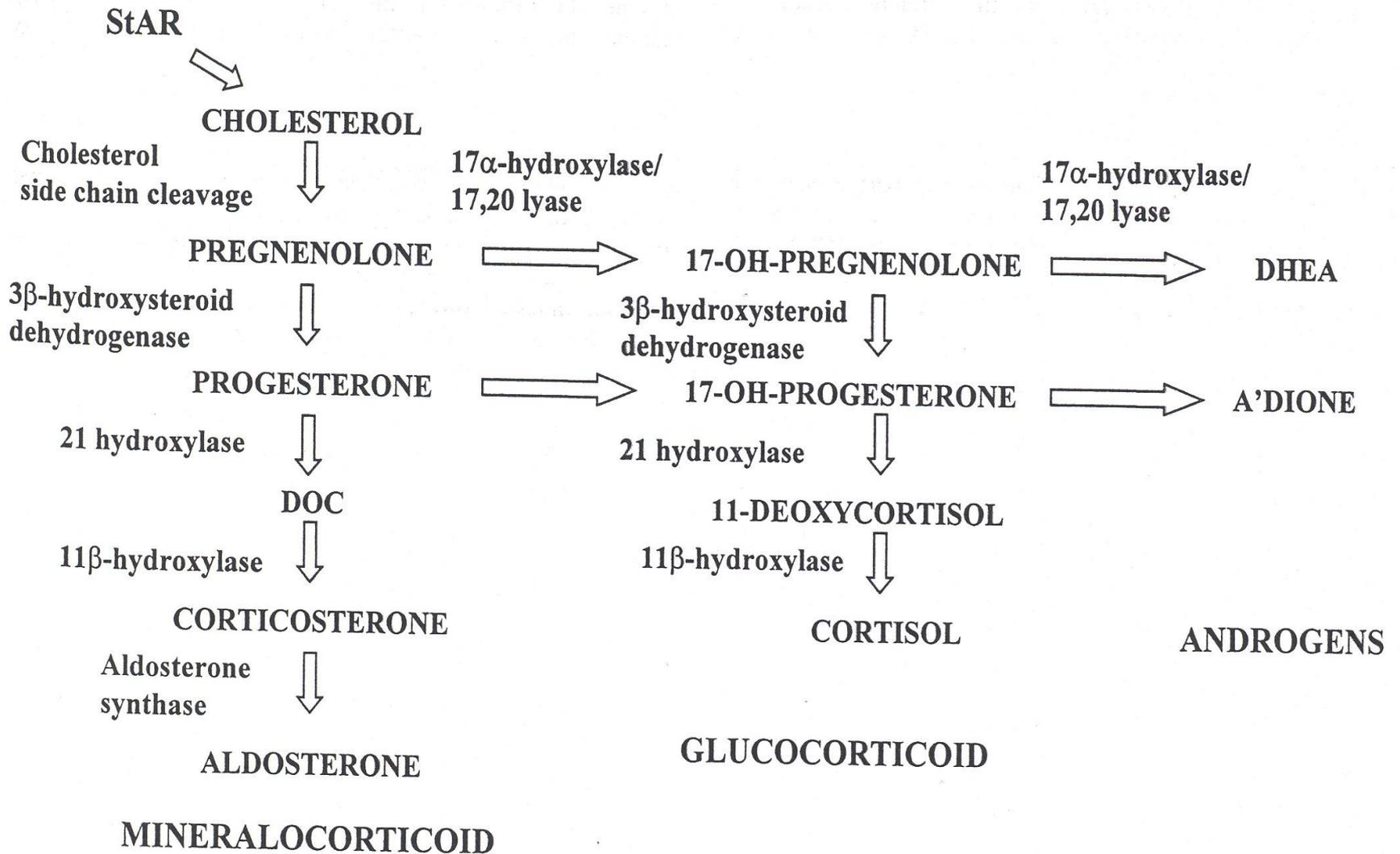
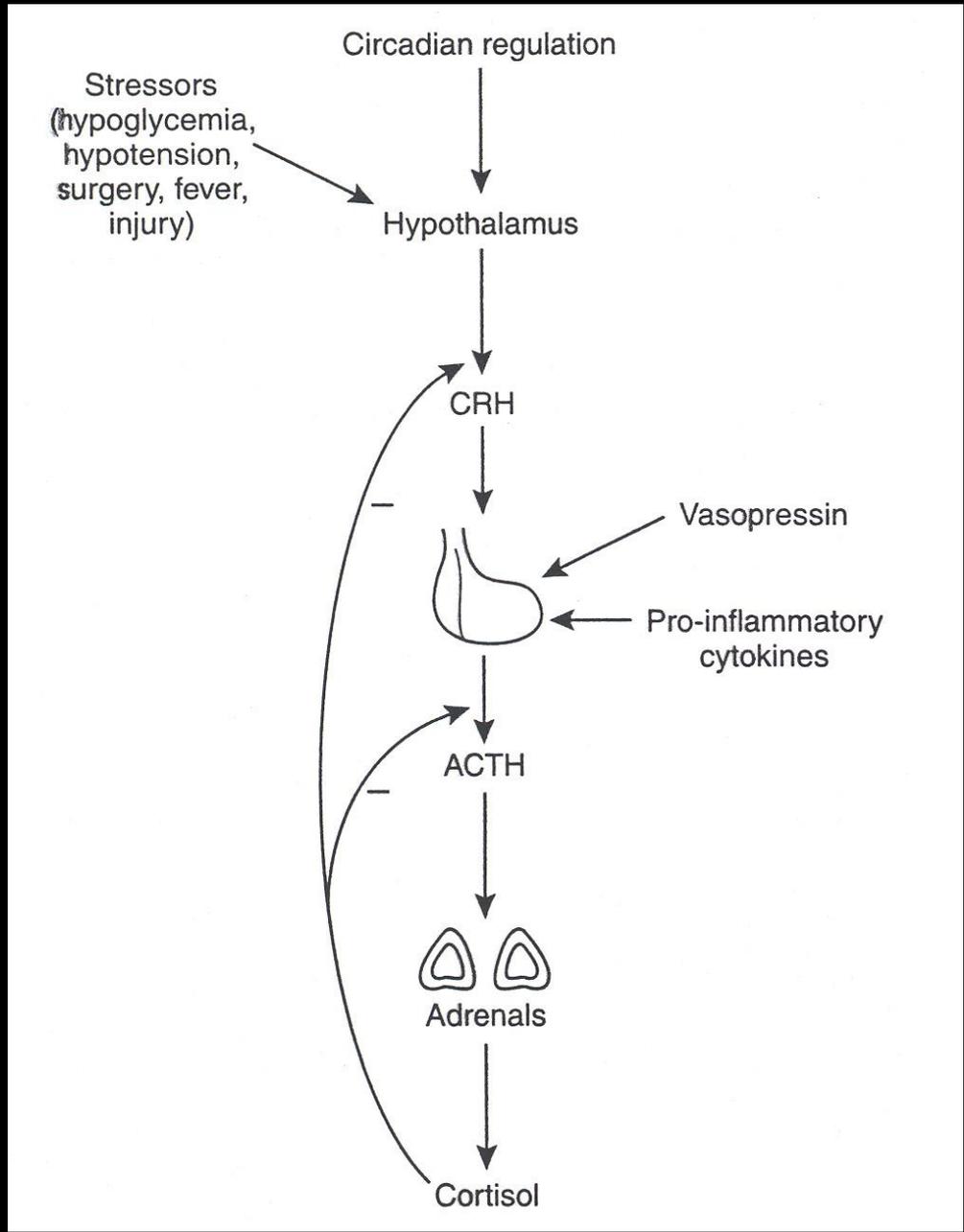


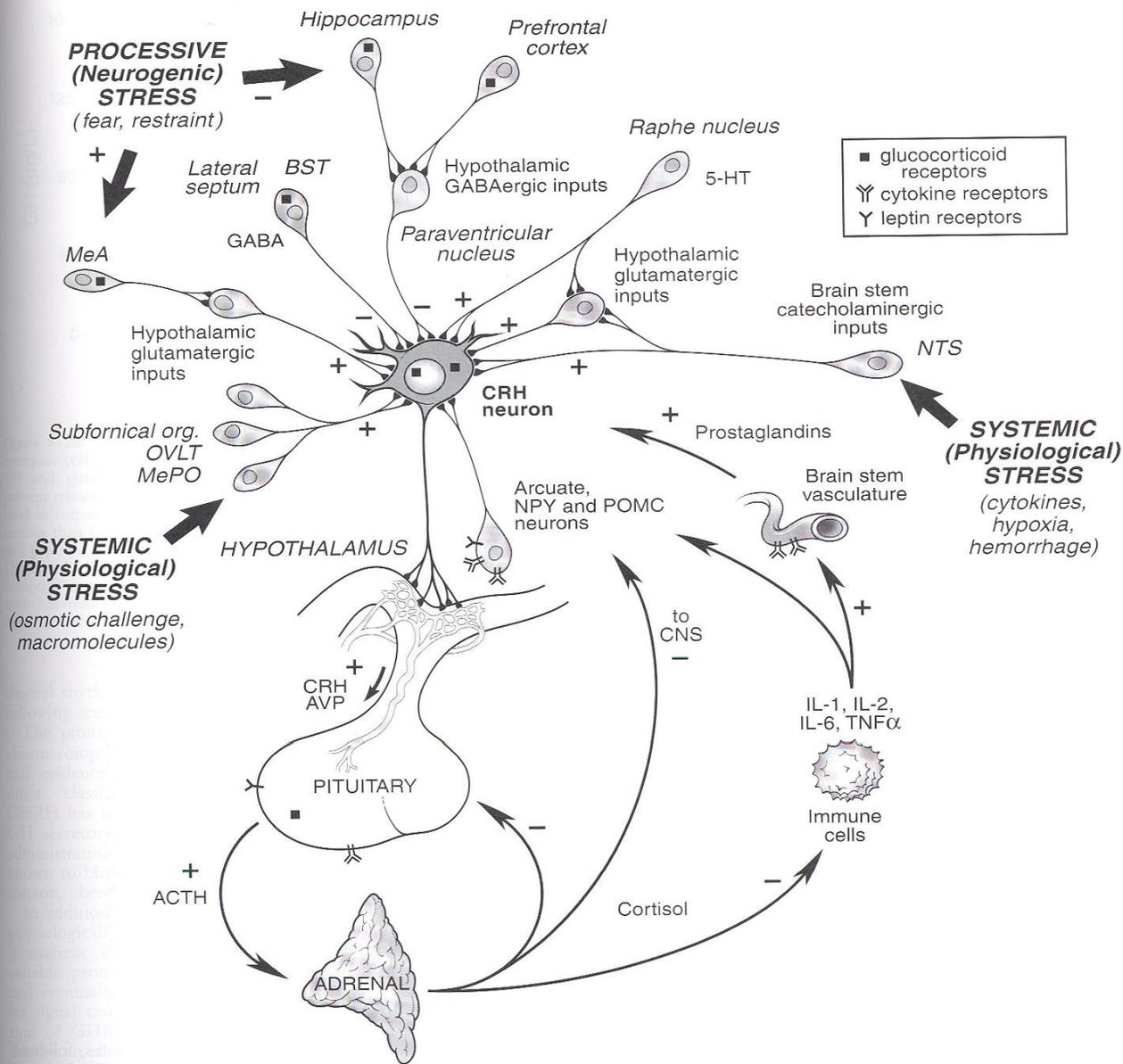
## Diagramma schematico della struttura della corteccia surrenalica



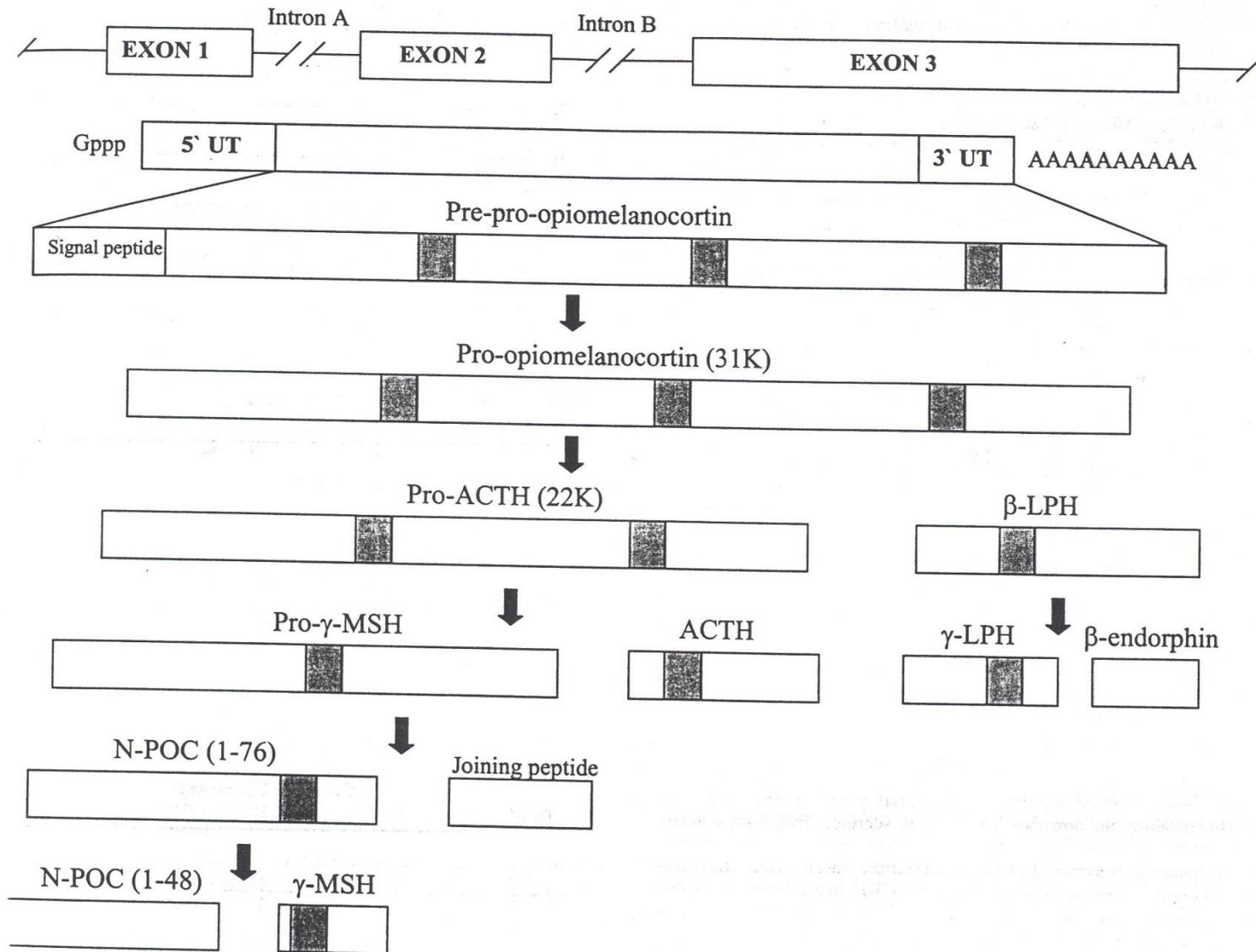
**LDL**     **HDL**





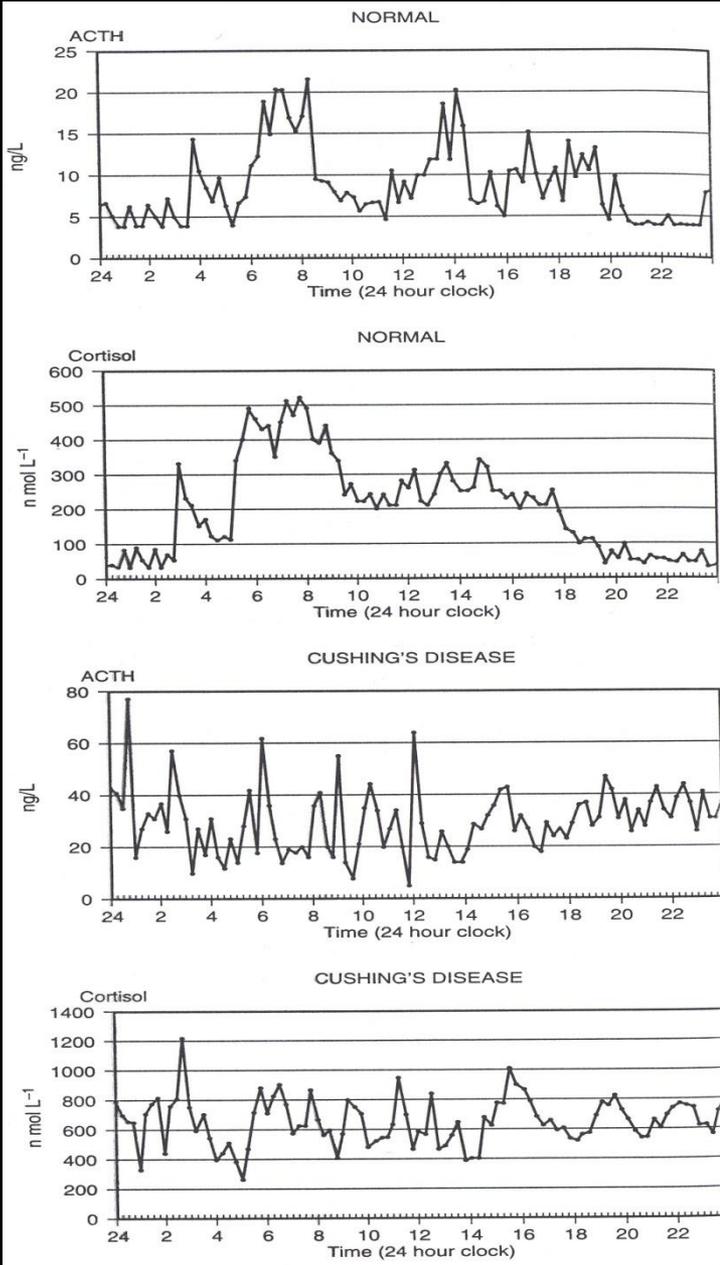


**Figure 7-26.** Regulation of the hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis. ACTH, adrenocorticotropic hormone; AVP, arginine vasopressin; BST, bed nucleus of the stria terminalis; CNS, central nervous system; CRH, corticotropin-releasing hormone; CRIF, corticotropin release-inhibiting factor; GABA,  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid; 5-HT, 5-hydroxytryptamine; IL-1, interleukin-1; MeA, medial amygdala; MePO, medial preoptic; NPY, neuropeptide Y; NTS, nucleus of the tractus solitarius; OVLt, organum vasculosum of the lamina terminalis; POMC, pro-opiomelanocortin.



**Figure 14-5.** Synthesis and cleavage of pro-opiomelanocortin (POMC) within the human anterior pituitary gland. Prohormone convertase enzymes sequentially cleave POMC to adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH). *Shaded areas* represent melanocyte-stimulating hormone (MSH) structural units.  $\beta$ -LPH,  $\beta$ -lipoprotein;  $\gamma$ -LPH,  $\gamma$ -lipoprotein; N-POC, amino-terminal pro-opiomelanocortin.

# Ritmo circadiano e secrezione pulsatile di cortisolo e ACTH in condizioni normali ed in un paziente con malattia di Cushing



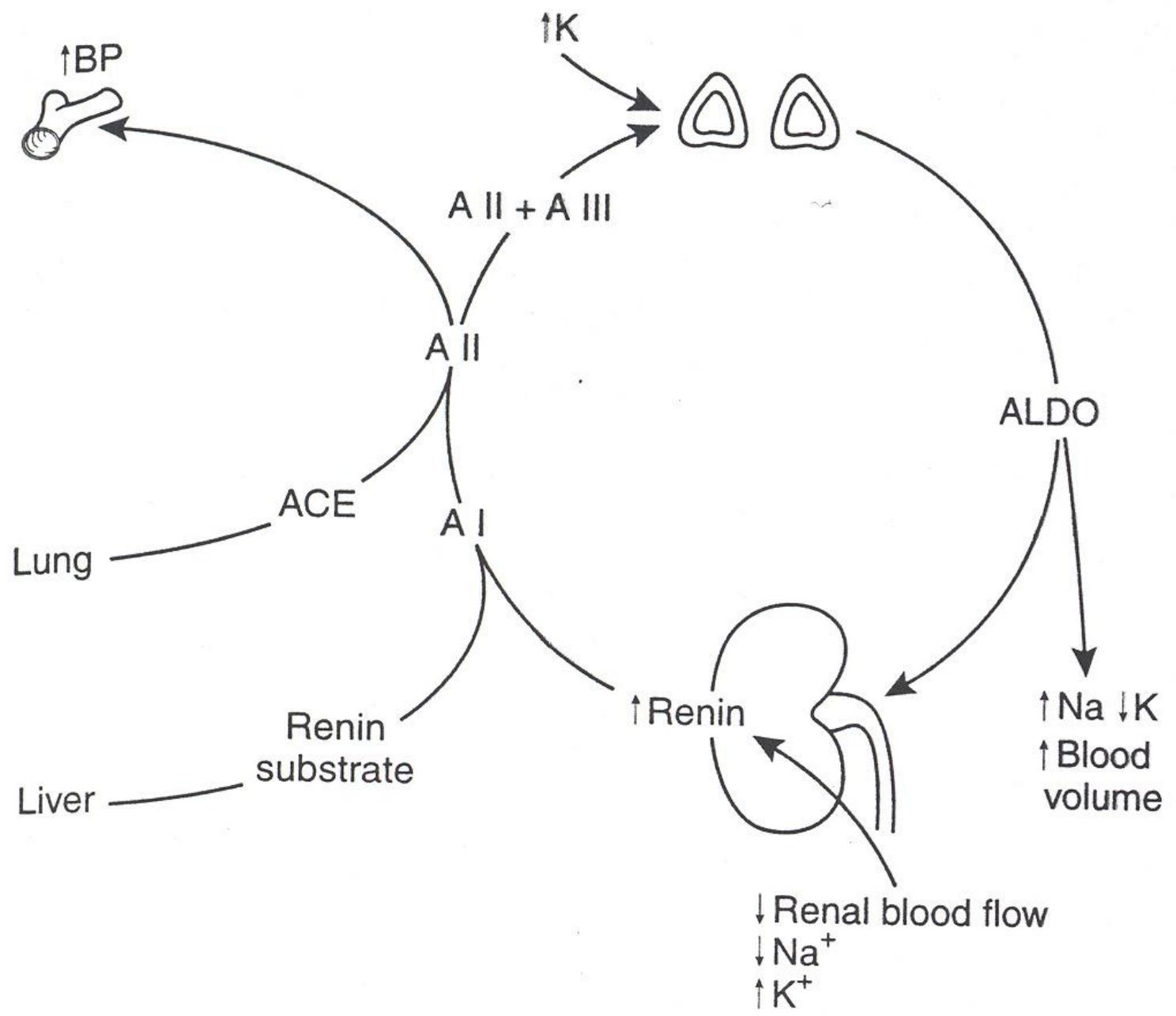
## **Dissociazione della secrezione di androgeni surrenalici e glucocorticoidi. Prove a supporto dell'ipotesi dell'esistenza di un ormone stimolante gli androgeni**

**Desametasone:** Soppressione completa del cortisolo con alte dosi di desametasone.  
DHEA si riduce di solo il 20-30%

**Adrenarca:** Aumento dei livelli di DHEA a 6-8 anni.  
La produzione di cortisolo rimane inalterata.

**Invecchiamento:** Riduzione della produzione di DHEA,  
cortisolo non cambia

**Anoressia nervosa:** Riduzione del DHEA,  
cortisolo non cambia (o aumenta)



**Table 15-1.** Amino Acid Composition of Angiotensin Peptides

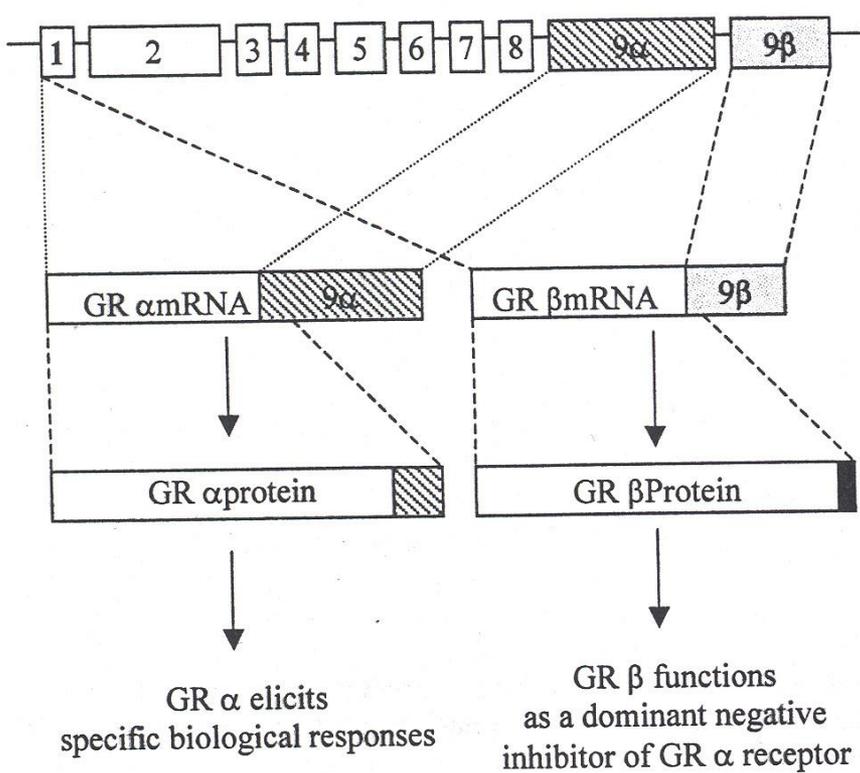
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AI	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe-His-Leu
AII	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe
A1-7	Asp-Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro
AIII	Arg-Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe
AIV	Val-Tyr-Ile-His-Pro-Phe

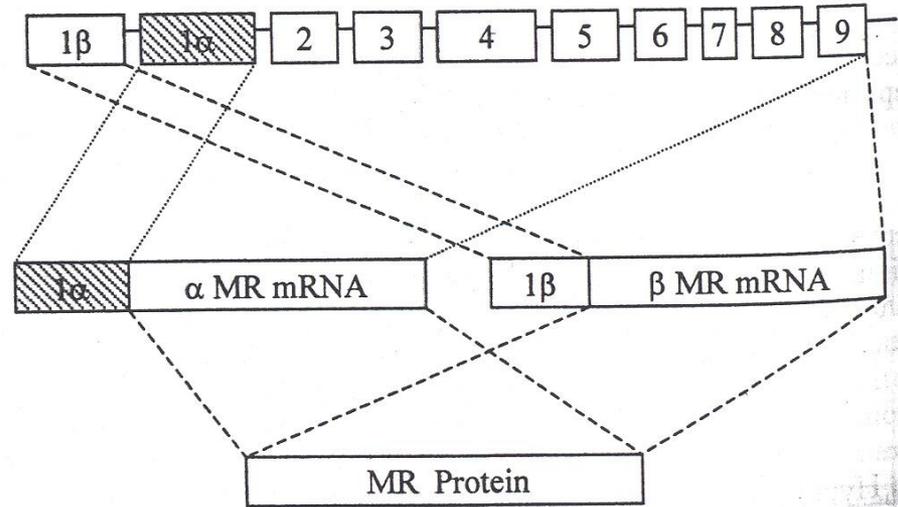
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A, angiotensin.

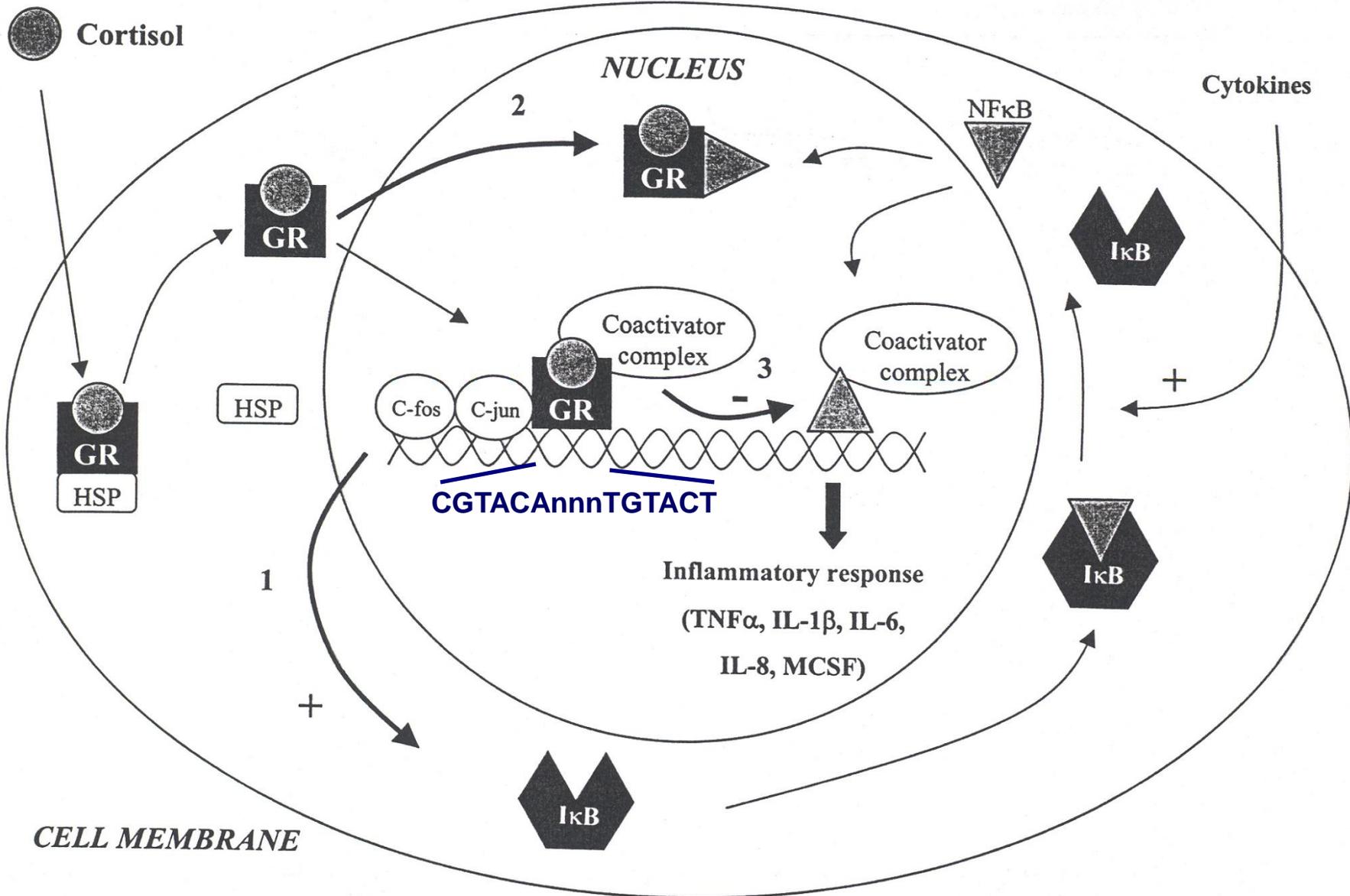
### Glucocorticoid receptor

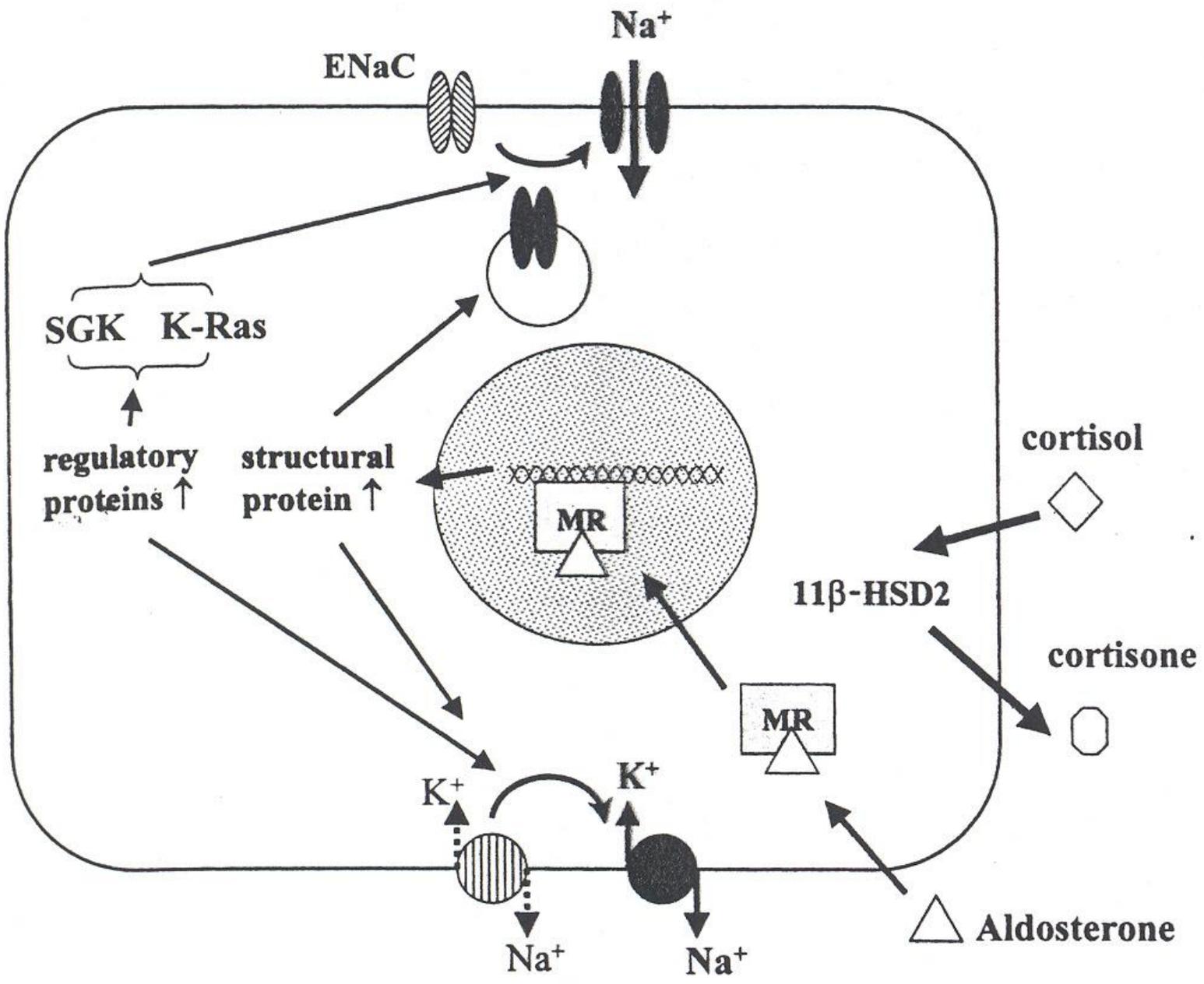


### Mineralocorticoid receptor



**Figure 14-9.** Schematic structure of the human genes encoding the glucocorticoid receptor (GR) and mineralocorticoid receptor (MR). In both cases splice variants have been described; in the case of the GR, there is evidence that the GR $\beta$  isoform can act as a dominant negative inhibitor of GR $\alpha$  action. mRNA, messenger ribonucleic acid.





# POTENZA BIOLOGICA RELATIVA DEGLI STEROIDI SINTETICI

<b>Steroide</b>	<b>Azione anti- infiammatoria</b>	<b>Soppressione asse Ipot-ipof</b>	<b>Azione mineralcort.</b>
<b>Cortisolo</b>			
<b>= Idrocortisone</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Prednisolone</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.75</b>
<b>Metilprednisolone</b>	<b>6.2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.5</b>
<b>Fludrocortisone</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>225</b>
<b>Triamcinolone</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Desametasone</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>0</b>

# **Ipertensione arteriosa**

**Essenziale**

**Da Causa endocrina**

**Iperaldosteronismo**

**Feocromocitoma**

**S.Cushing**

**Patologia tiroidea**

**Acromegalia**

**Iperparatiroidismo**



# Alcuni concetti di base

Vi è una sola condizione per cui vale la pena di pensare ad uno screening in pazienti ipertesi in assenza di altri segni o sintomi:

## Iperaldosteronismo primitivo

ca. 11% dei casi di ipertensione arteriosa sono dovuti ad un iperaldosteronismo

per gli effetti negativi cardiologici dell'iperaldosteronismo

causa potenzialmente risolvibile di ipertensione arteriosa

# CAUSE DI IPERALDOSTERONISMO PRIMITIVO

<b>Adenoma aldosterone-secernente (raramente carcinoma)</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>Iperaldosteronismo idiopatico (iperplasia bilaterale semplice, micro o macronodulare)</b>	<b>30-40%</b>
<b>Iperaldosteronismo sopprimibile con glucocorticoidi (F. familiare I)</b>	<b>1-3%</b>
<b>Secrezione ectopica di aldosterone</b>	<b>Raro</b>
<b>Associazione a MEN I (F. familiare II)</b>	<b>Rara</b>

# QUADRO CLINICO DELL'IPERALDOSTERONISMO

- Ipertensione arteriosa di grado variabile
- Assenza di edemi
- Ipokaliemia
  - Astenia muscolare, facile stancabilità
  - Alcalosi ipokaliemica (tetania)
  - Nefropatia ipokaliemica (poliuria da danno tubulare)
  - Segni elettrocardiografici (alterazioni dell'onda T, comparsa dell'onda U, extrasistolia, fibrillazione ventricolare)

# IPOKALIEMIA...

critério indispensabile per sospettare iperaldosteronismo?

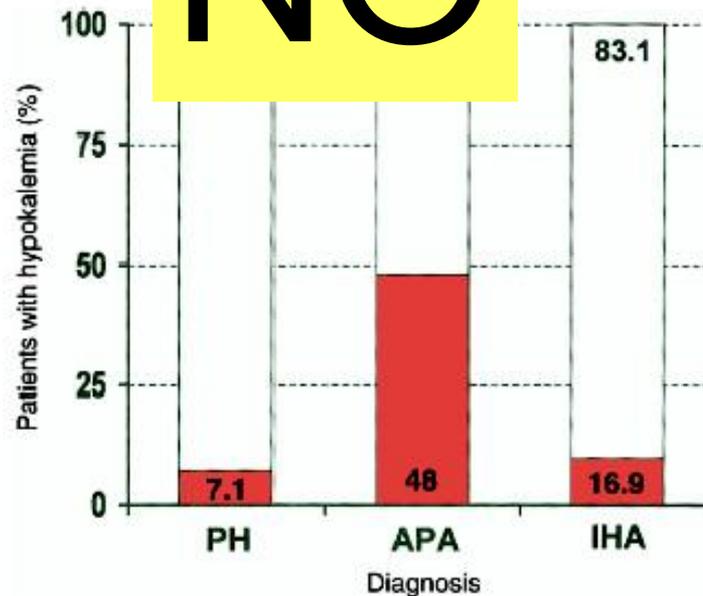
Journal of the American College of Cardiology  
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Published by Elsevier Inc.

Vol. 48, No. 11, 2006  
ISSN 0735-1097/06/4812.00  
doi:10.1016/j.jacc.2006.07.059

## Hypertension

### A Prospective Study of the Prevalence of Primary Aldosteronism in 1,125 Hypertensive Patients

Gian Paolo Rossi, MD, FACC, FAHA, Giampaolo Bemini, MD, Chiara Caliumi, MD, Giovambattista Desideri, MD, Bruno Fabris, MD, Claudio Ferri, MD, Chiara Ganzaroli, MD, Gilberta Giacchetti, MD, Claudio Letizia, MD, Mauro Maccario, MD, Francesca Mallarnaci, MD, Massimo Mannelli, MD, Mee-Jung Mattarello, MD, Angelica Moretti, MD, Gaetana Palumbo, MD, Gabriele Parenti, MD, Enzo Porteri, MD, Andrea Semplicini, MD, Damiano Rizzoni, MD, Ermanno Rossi, MD, Marco Boscaro, MD, Achille Gamba, MD, PhD, Franco Mantero, MD, for the PAPY Study Investigators  
*Padova, Ancona, Reggio Emilia, Pisa, L...* *...renze, Torino, and Reggio Calabria, Italy*



# Case Detection, Diagnosis, and Treatment of Patients with Primary Aldosteronism: An Endocrine Society Clinical Practice Guideline

John W. Funder, Robert M. Carey, Carlos Fardella, Celso E. Gomez-Sanchez, Franco Mantero, Michael Stowasser, William F. Young Jr., and Victor M. Montori\*

J Clin Endocrinol Metab. September 2008, 93(9):3266–3281

## Case detection

1. Patients with Joint National Commission stage 2 (>160-179/100-109 mmHg) or stage 3 (>180/110 mmHg)
2. Drug-resistant hypertension
3. Hypertension and hypokalemia
4. Hypertension with adrenal incidentaloma
5. Hypertension and family history of early-onset hypertension or cerebrovascular accident at a young age (<40 yrs)
6. Hypertensive first-degree relatives of patients with PA

Alcune linee guida cardiologiche inseriscono anche

- Patologia cardiaca non commisurata al grado dell'ipertensione

# Studio del Sistema Renina-Angiotensina-Aldosterone

Attività plasmatica reninica (PRA)

Aldosterone plasmatico (Aldo p)



PRA



Aldo p



PRA



Aldo p

Aldo-PRA ratio  $\geq 40$

Aldo p  $\geq 15$  ng/dl



PRA



Aldo p

Valutare

- Iperplasia surrenalica congenita
- Tumori produttori DOC
- Sindrome di Cushing
- Deficit 11- $\beta$ -OHS DH
- Mutazioni attivanti MR
- Sindrome di Liddle

Ricerca cause di

Ipertensione secondaria

- Ipertensione renovascolare
- Uso di diuretici
- Tumore secernenti renina
- Ipertensione maligna
- Coartazione aortica

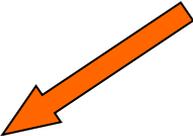
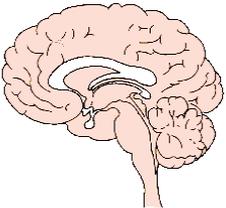
Ricerca

Iperaldosteronismo

Primario

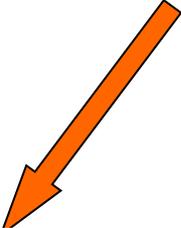
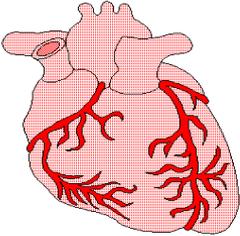
# Effetti dell' Aldosterone

Genomici e non genomici



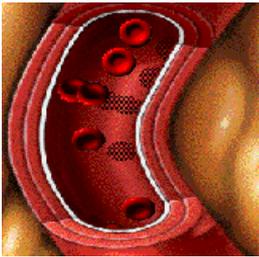
- Aterosclerosi vascolare
- Infiammazione

**Stroke**



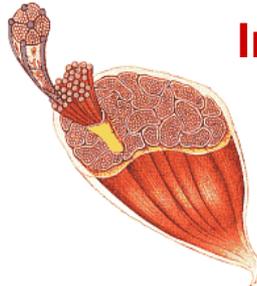
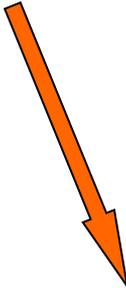
- Fibrosi miocardica
- Ipertrofia
- Alterazioni ritmo
- Alterata funzione sistolica e diastolica

**CHD e scompenso cardiaco**



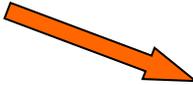
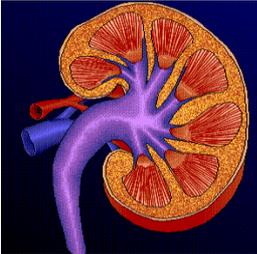
- Infiammazione
- Rimodellamento vascolare
- Ridotta vasodilataz.
- Disfunzione endotelio

**Aterosclerosi**



- Riduzione della sensibilità insulinica e alterato metabolismo glucidico

**Sindrome Metabolica  
Alterazioni glucidiche e DM**



- Fibrosi renale
- Infiammazione

**Insufficienza renale**

## Primary Aldosteronism

# Evidence for an Increased Rate of Cardiovascular Events in Patients With Primary Aldosteronism

Paul Milliez, MD,\* Xavier Girerd, MD, PhD,† Pierre-François Plouin, MD,‡ Jacques Blacher, MD, PhD,§ Michel E. Safar, MD,§ Jean-Jacques Mourad, MD, PhD||

Paris and Bobigny, France

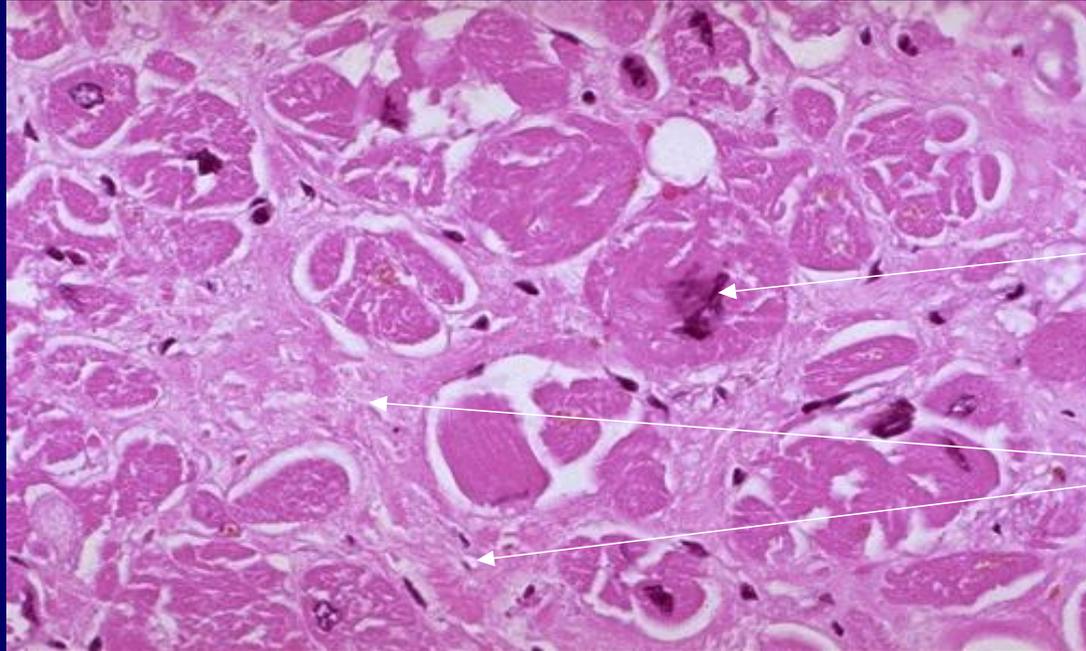
**Table 3.** Rate of Cardiovascular Events and Cardiac Structure in Primary Aldosteronism Patients and Controls

	Primary Aldosteronism (n = 124)	Essential Hypertension (n = 465)	Odds Ratio (95% CI)	p Value
Stroke (%)	12.9	3.4	4.2 (2.0–8.6)	<0.001
Myocardial infarction (%)	4.0	0.6	6.5 (1.5–27.4)	<0.005*
Atrial fibrillation (%)	7.3	0.6	12.1 (3.2–45.2)	<0.0001*
Echocardiographic LVH (%)	34	24	1.6 (1.1–2.5)	<0.01
Electrocardiographic LVH (%)	32	14	2.9 (1.8–4.6)	<0.001

\*Fisher exact test.

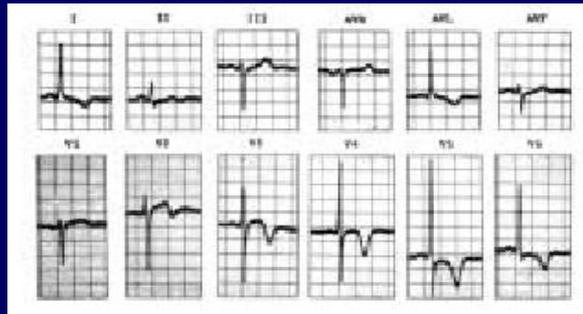
CI = confidence interval; LVH = left ventricular hypertrophy.

# Alterazioni cardiache in corso di Iperaldosteronismo Primario



Myocyte Hypertrophy

Myocardial Fibrosis



LVH

## Increased intima–media thickness of the common carotid artery in primary aldosteronism in comparison with essential hypertension

Robert Holaj, Tomáš Zelinka, Dan Wichterle, Ondřej Petrák, Branislav Štrauch and Jiří Widimský Jr

Table 3 Intima–media thickness measurement

	Primary aldosteronism (n=33)	Essential hypertension (n=52)	Controls (n=33)	ANOVA
CCA IMT mean/max (mm)	0.987 ± 0.152 <sup>*,††</sup>	0.892 ± 0.155 <sup>†</sup>	0.812 ± 0.126	< 0.0001
CB IMT mean/max (mm)	1.157 ± 0.243 <sup>†</sup>	1.131 ± 0.275	0.994 ± 0.203	0.03
Combined IMT mean/max (mm)	1.066 ± 0.162 <sup>††</sup>	0.974 ± 0.196 <sup>†</sup>	0.884 ± 0.141	0.0002

ANOVA, Analysis of variance; CB, carotid bifurcation; CCA, common carotid artery; IMT, intima–media thickness; <sup>\*</sup>*P* < 0.01 versus essential hypertension; <sup>†</sup>*P* < 0.05, <sup>††</sup>*P* < 0.001 versus controls.

# PREVALENZA

## Primary Aldosteronism: Rare Bird or Common Cause of Secondary Hypertension?

*Michael Stowasser, MBBS, FRACP, PhD*

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**Curr Hypertens Rep 2001**

Primary aldosteronism: a needle in a  
haystack or a yellow cab on Fifth Avenue?

Gian Paolo Rossi

Curr Hypertens Rep. 2004 Feb;6(1):1-4. Review.

# Sindrome di Conn: rare bird

- Ipertensione arteriosa
- Ipokaliemia
- Alcalosi metabolica
- Adenoma surrenalico aldosterone-secrente



JW Conn

Primary aldosteronism,  
a new clinical syndrome.

J Lab Clin Med 1955

**ARR = aldosterone / PRA**

Hiramatsu Arch Int Med 1981

**L'applicazione dell'ARR ha aumentato drasticamente il numero di casi diagnosticati, maggioranza normokaliemici.**

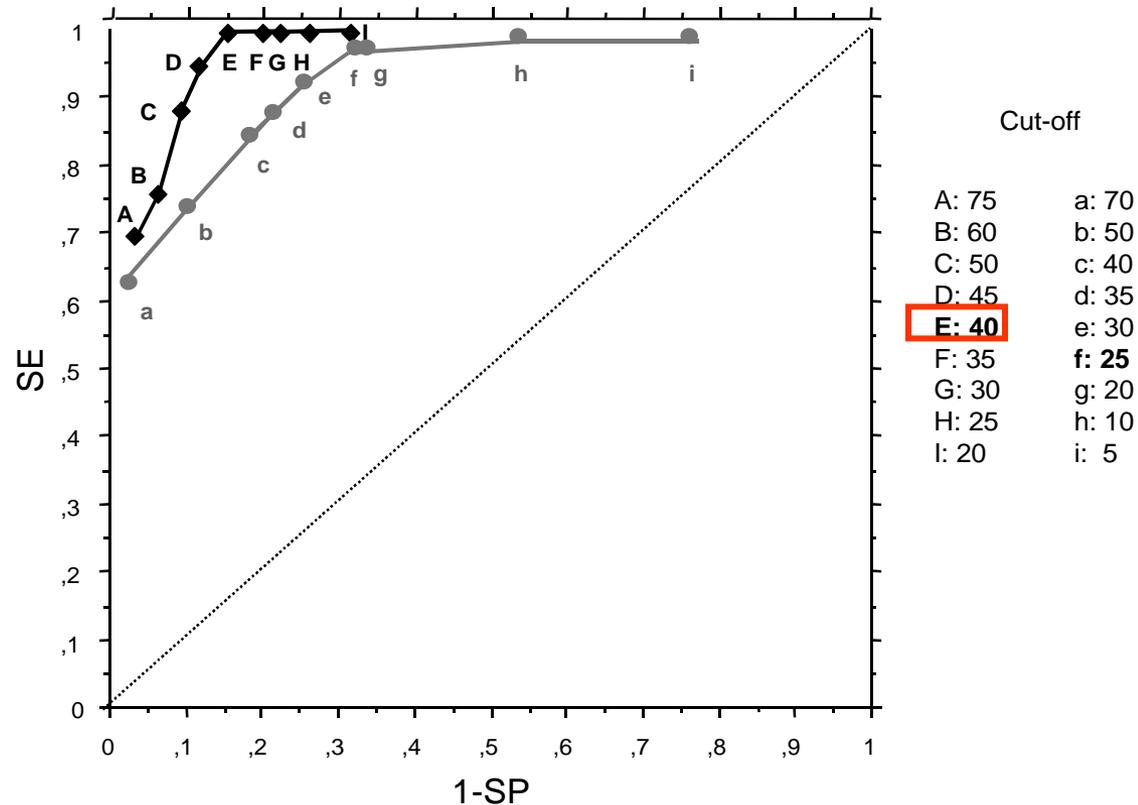
## Iperaldosteronismi primari - Classificazione (11% delle ipertensioni)

1.	Adenoma surrenalico	30%
	– monolaterale	
	– atipico	
2.	Iperaldosteronismo idiopatico	65%
	– micronodulare	
	– macronodulare	
3.	Iperplasia surrenalica primaria unilaterale	3%
4.	Iperaldosteronismo sopprimibile con glucocorticoidi (GRA)	<1%
5.	Iperaldosteronismo familiare (FH-II)	?
6.	Carcinoma	1%
7.	Tumore extrasurrenalico (tumore ovarico)	<1%

# Analysis of screening and confirmatory tests in the diagnosis of primary aldosteronism: need for a standardized protocol

Gilberta Giacchetti<sup>a</sup>, Vanessa Ronconi<sup>a</sup>, Giulio Lucarelli<sup>a</sup>, Marco Boscaro<sup>a</sup> and Franco Mantero<sup>b</sup>

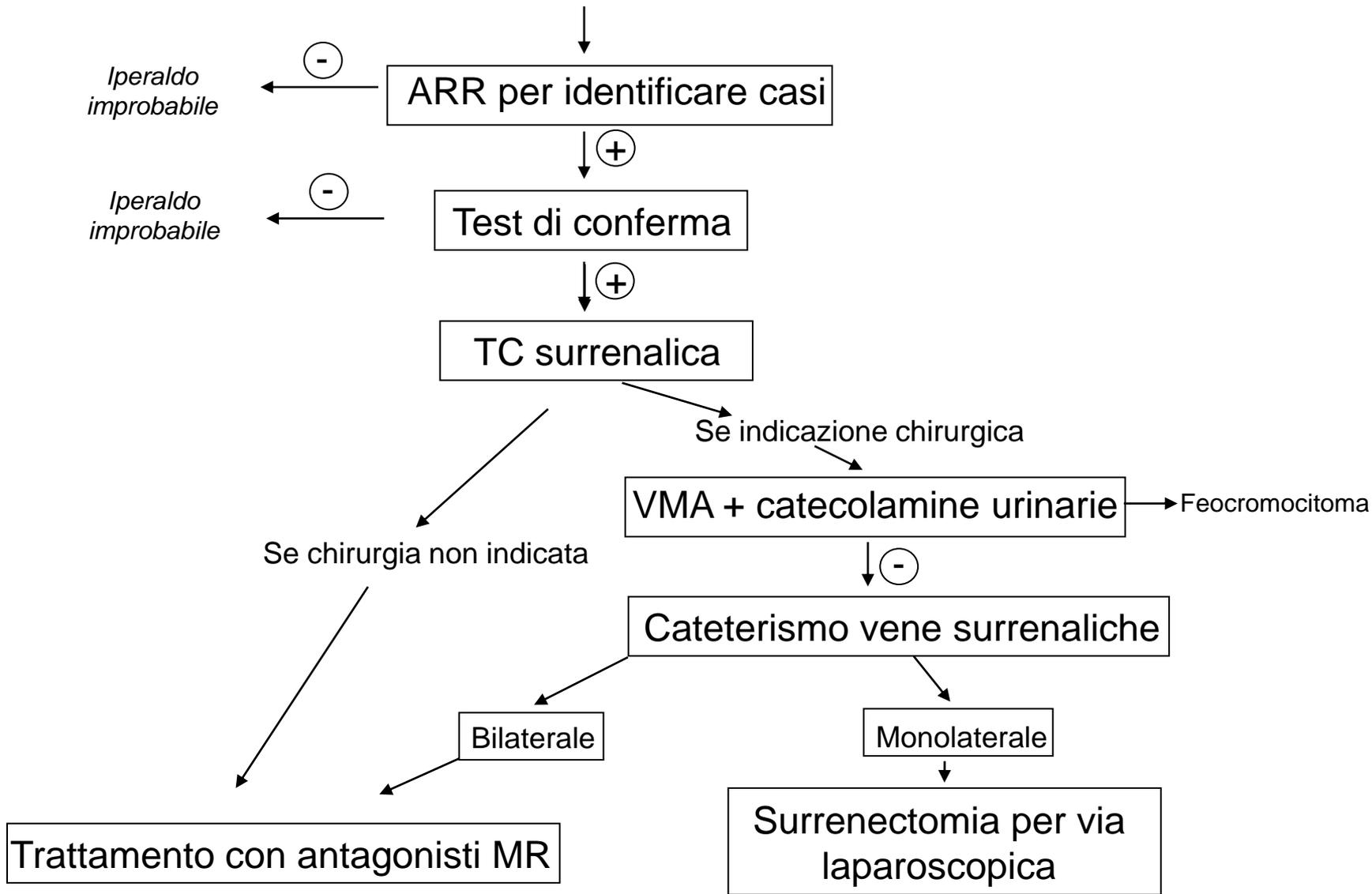
## ROC curve analysis for upright ARR (◆) and supine ARR (●)



SE: Sensitivity; SP: Specificity



Pazienti con ipertensione ad aumentato rischio per iperaldosteronismo primitivo



# PA CONFIRMATORY TESTS

Confirmatory test	Procedure	Interpretation	Concerns
Oral sodium loading test	<p>Patients should increase their sodium intake to &gt;200 mmol/d (~6 g/d) for 3 d, verified by 24-h urine sodium content. Patients should receive adequate slow-release potassium chloride supplementation to maintain plasma potassium in the normal range. Urinary aldosterone is measured in the 24-h urine collection from the morning of d 3 to the morning of d 4.</p>	<p>PA is unlikely if urinary aldosterone is lower than 10 <math>\mu\text{g}/24\text{ h}</math> (27.7 nmol/d) in the absence of renal disease where PA may coexist with lower measured urinary aldosterone levels. Elevated urinary aldosterone excretion [<math>&gt;12\ \mu\text{g}/24\text{ h}</math> (<math>&gt;33.3\text{ nmol/d}</math>) at the Mayo Clinic, <math>&gt;14\ \mu\text{g}/24\text{ h}</math> (38.8 nmol/d) at the Cleveland Clinic] makes PA highly likely.</p>	<p>This test should not be performed in patients with severe uncontrolled hypertension, renal insufficiency, cardiac insufficiency, cardiac arrhythmia, or severe hypokalemia. The 24-h urine collection may be inconvenient. Laboratory-specific poor performance of the RIA for urinary aldosterone (aldosterone 18-oxo-glucuronide or acid-labile metabolite) may blunt diagnostic accuracy, a problem obviated by the currently available HPLC-tandem mass spectrometry methodology (52). Aldosterone 18-oxo-glucuronide is a renal metabolite, and its excretion may not rise in patients with renal disease.</p>
SIT	<p>Patients stay in the recumbent position for at least 1 h before and during the infusion of 2 liters of 0.9% saline iv over 4 h, starting at 0800–0930 h. Blood samples for renin, aldosterone, cortisol, and plasma potassium are drawn at time zero and after 4 h, with blood pressure and heart rate monitored throughout the test.</p>	<p>Postinfusion plasma aldosterone levels <math>&lt;5\text{ ng/dl}</math> make the diagnosis of PA unlikely, and levels <math>&gt;10\text{ ng/dl}</math> are a very probable sign of PA. Values between 5 and 10 ng/dl are indeterminate (57–60).</p>	<p>This test should not be performed in patients with severe uncontrolled hypertension, renal insufficiency, cardiac insufficiency, cardiac arrhythmia, or severe hypokalemia.</p>

# PA CONFIRMATORY TESTS

Confirmatory test	Procedure	Interpretation	Concerns
FST	<p>Patients receive 0.1 mg oral fludrocortisone every 6 h for 4 d, together with slow-release KCl supplements (every 6 h at doses sufficient to keep plasma K<sup>+</sup>, measured four times a day, close to 4.0 mmol/liter), slow-release NaCl supplements (30 mmol three times daily with meals) and sufficient dietary salt to maintain a urinary sodium excretion rate of at least 3 mmol/kg body weight. On d 4, plasma aldosterone and PRA are measured at 1000 h with the patient in the seated posture, and plasma cortisol is measured at 0700 and 1000 h.</p>	<p>Upright plasma aldosterone &gt;6 ng/dl on d 4 at 1000 h confirms PA, provided PRA is &lt; 1 ng/ml-h and plasma cortisol concentration is lower than the value obtained at 0700 h (to exclude a confounding ACTH effect) (42, 43, 56, 61–63).</p>	<p>Although some centers (10, 16) conduct this test in the outpatient setting (provided that patients are able to attend frequently to monitor their potassium), in other centers, several days of hospitalization are customary. Most of the data available come from the Brisbane group (42, 43, 56, 61–63) who have established, on the basis of a very large series of patients, a cutoff of a plasma aldosterone concentration of 6 ng/dl at 1000 h in an ambulatory patient on d 4. Proponents of the FST argue that 1) it is the most sensitive for confirming PA, 2) it is a less intrusive method of sodium loading than SIT and therefore less likely to provoke non-renin-dependent alterations of aldosterone levels, 3) it allows for the potentially confounding effects of potassium to be controlled and for ACTH (via cortisol) to be monitored and detected, and 4) it is safe when performed by experienced hands.</p>
Captopril challenge test	<p>Patients receive 25–50 mg captopril orally after sitting or standing for at least 1 h. Blood samples are drawn for measurement of PRA, plasma aldosterone, and cortisol at time zero and at 1 or 2 h after challenge, with the patient remaining seated during this period.</p>	<p>Plasma aldosterone is normally suppressed by captopril (&gt;30%). In patients with PA, it remains elevated and PRA remains suppressed. Differences may be seen between patients with APA and those with IHA, in that some decrease of aldosterone levels is occasionally seen in IHA (23, 64–66).</p>	<p>There are reports of a substantial number of false-negative or equivocal results (67, 68).</p>

# SOTTOTIPI

**Iperplasia surrenalica bilaterale (IHA)      TERAPIA MEDICA**

**Adenoma aldosterone-secernente (APA) TERAPIA CHIRURGICA**

**Iperplasia surrenalica unilaterale (PAH) TERAPIA CHIRURGICA**

**Carcinoma surrenalico      TERAPIA CHIRURGICA**

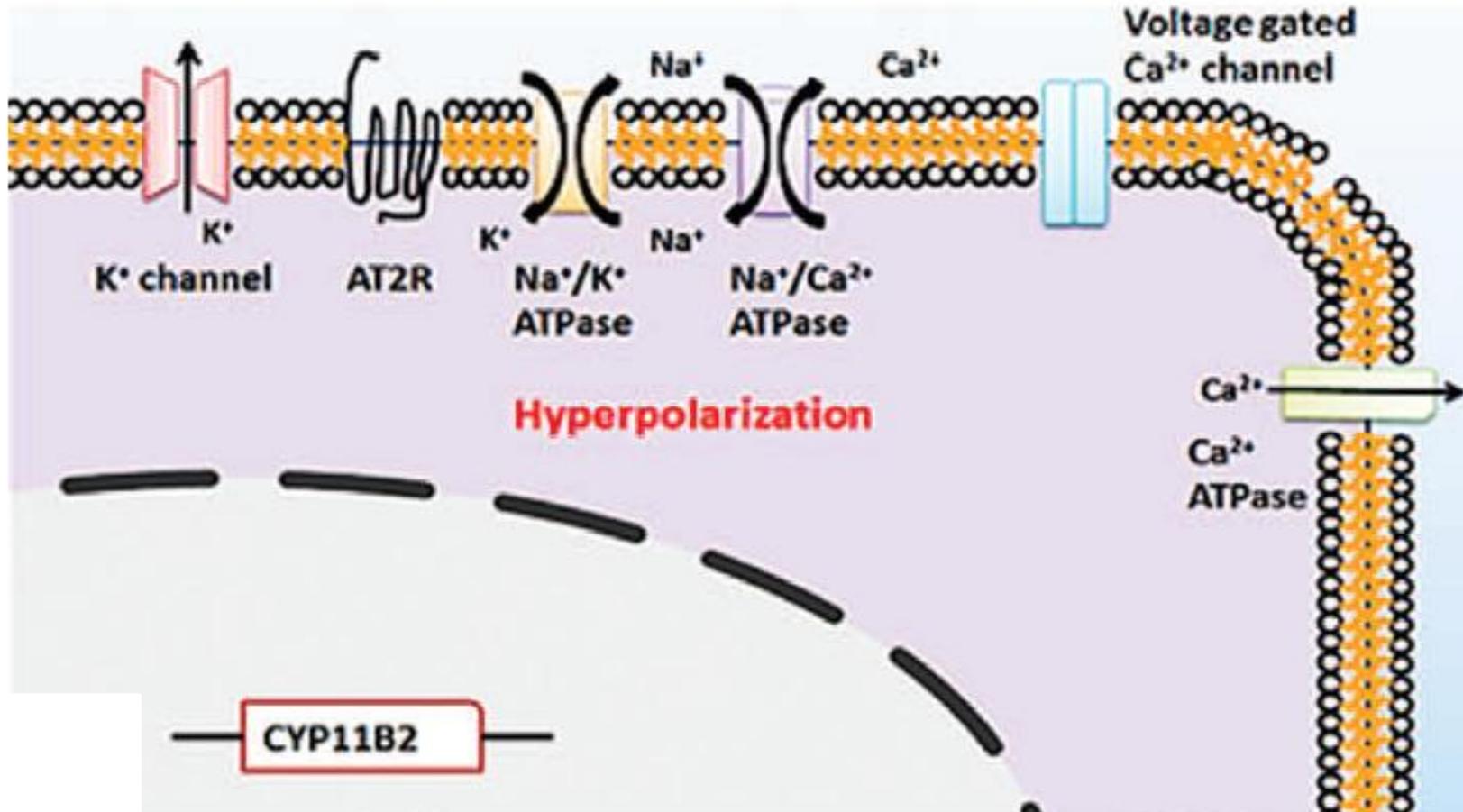
## FORME FAMILIARI

**Iperaldosteronismo familiare di tipo I (GRA)**

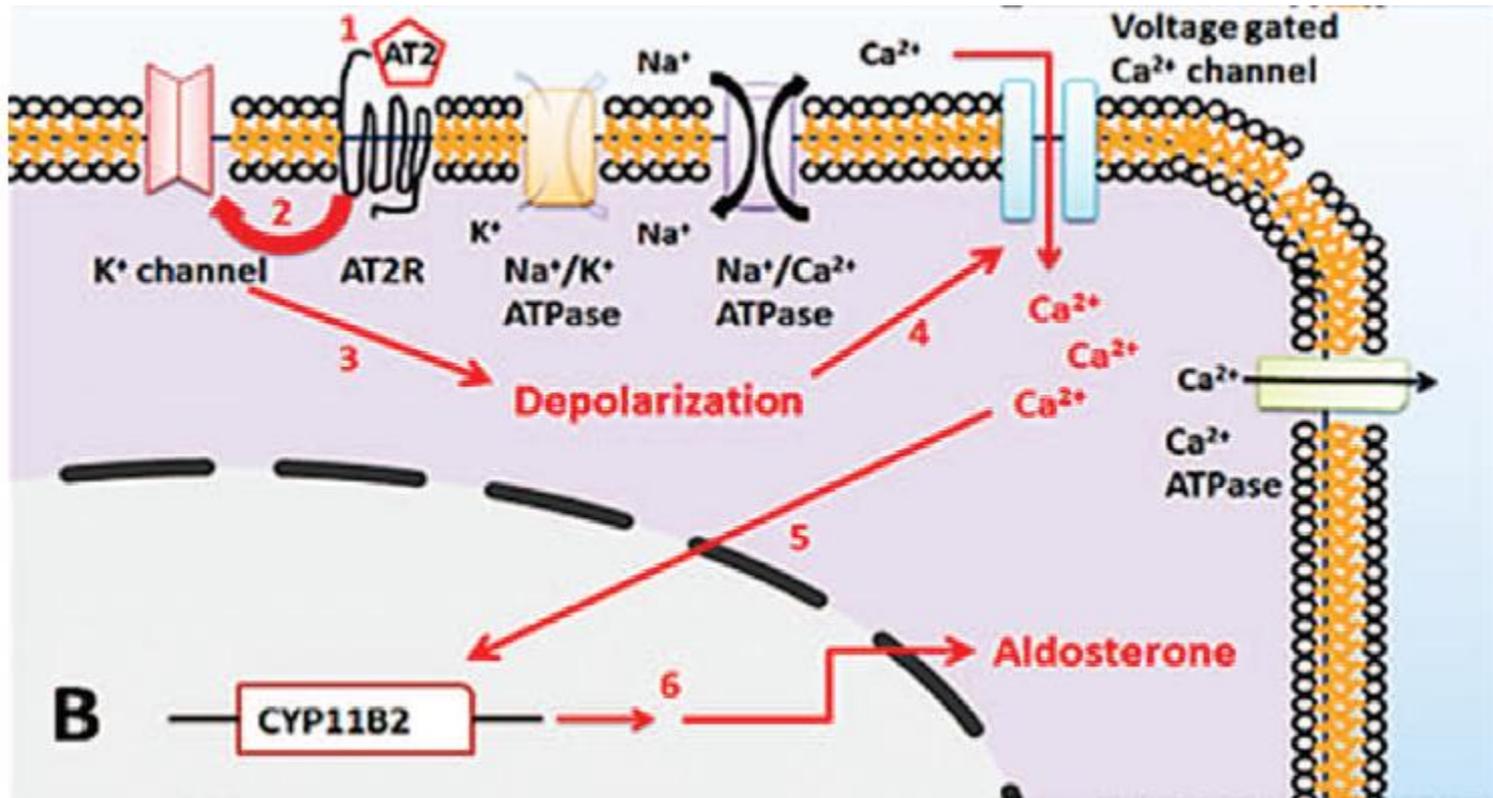
**Iperaldosteronismo familiare di tipo II (FH-II)**

**Iperaldosteronismo familiare di tipo III (FH-III)**

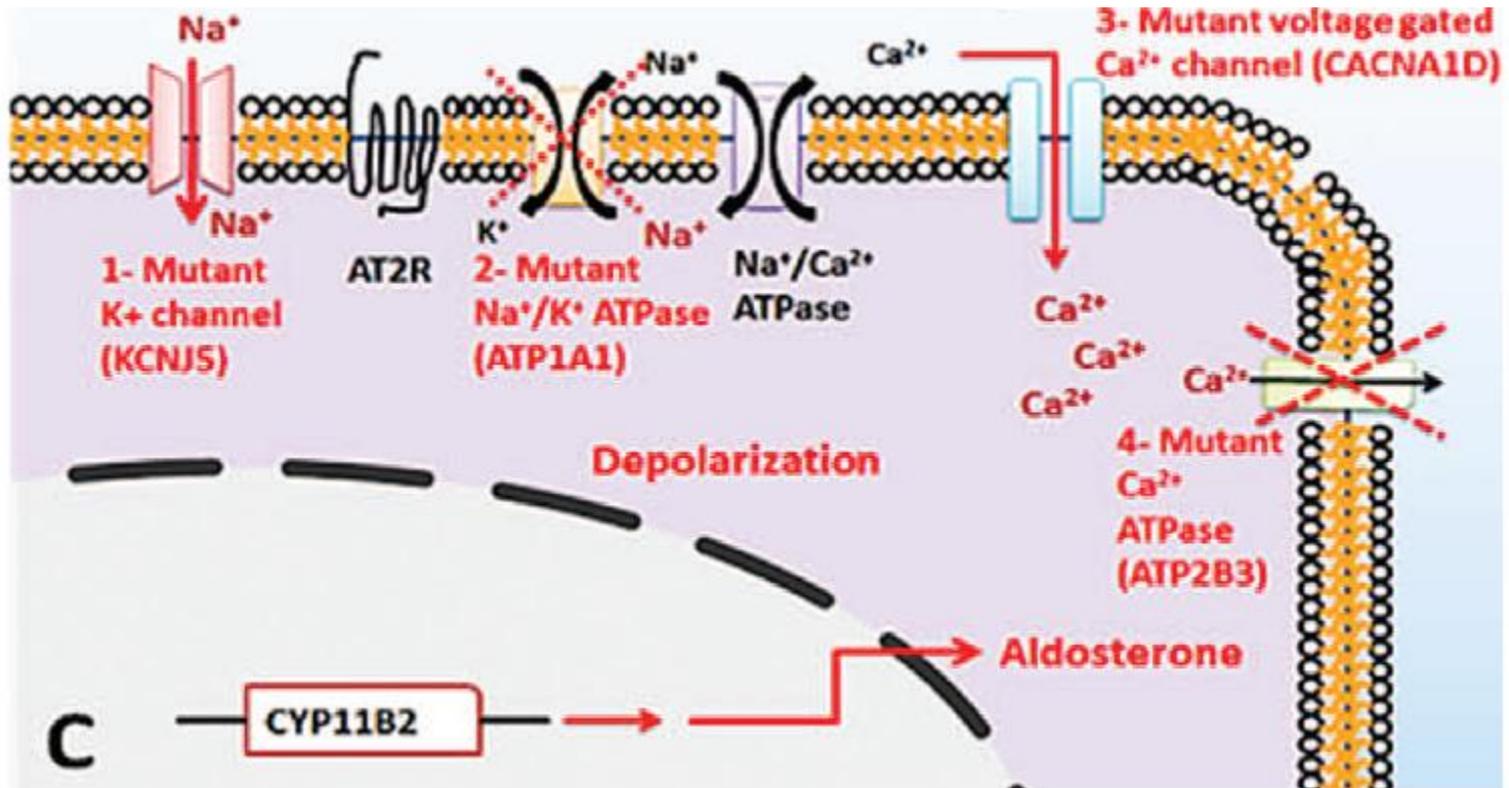
In condizione di riposo la cellula della granulosa è iperpolarizzata



## L'interazione dell'ATII con il recettore...



# Mutazioni somatiche nell'adenoma produttore aldosterone

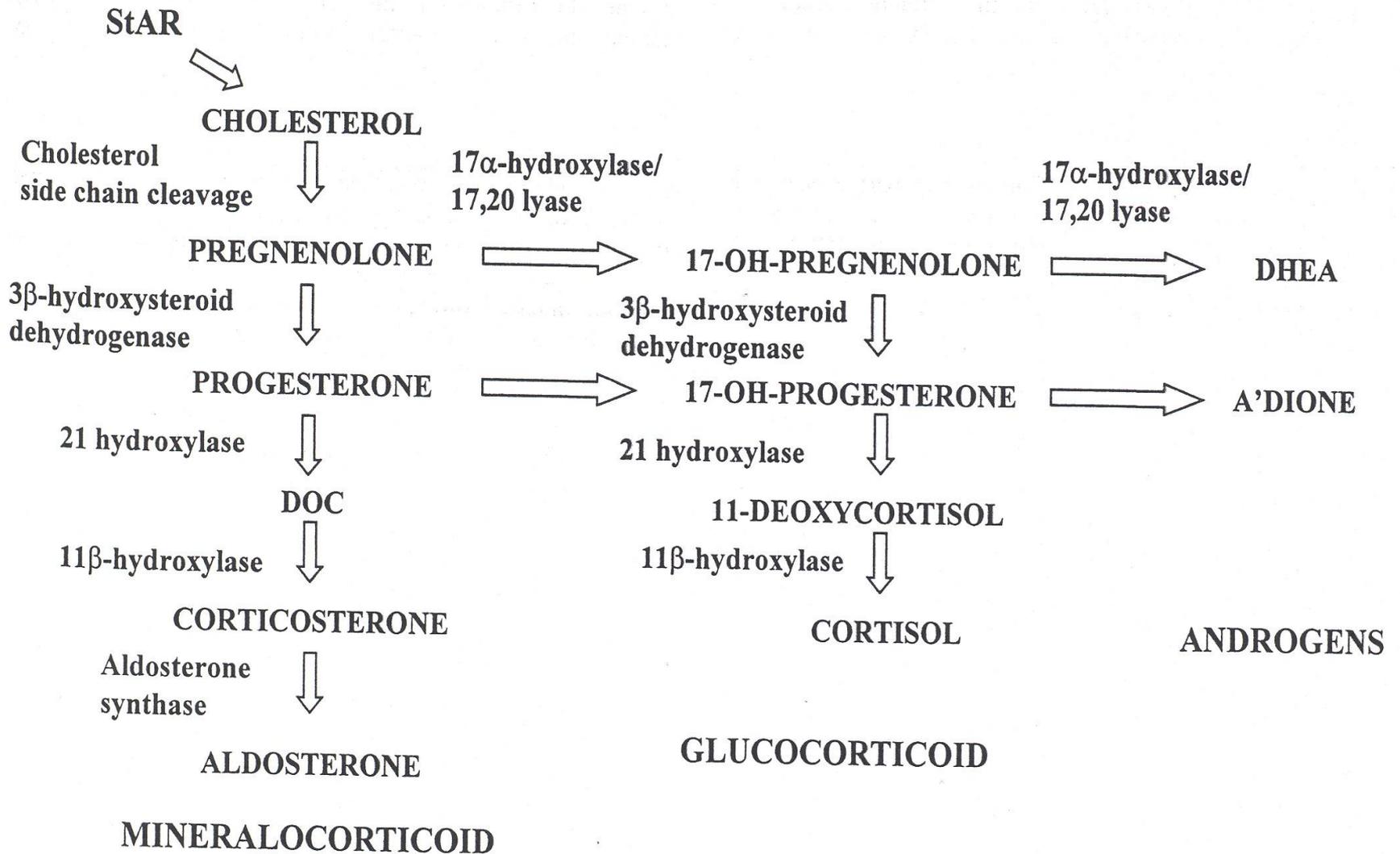


# Iperaldosteronismo familiare

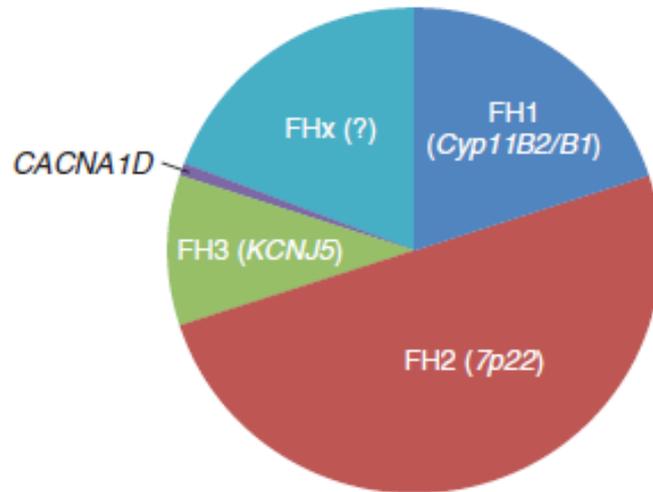
Overview of Familial Hyperaldosteronism (FH)<sup>a</sup>

FH Type	Inheritance	Associated Gene	Clinical Features	Pathologic Features
FH-I	Autosomal dominant	<i>CYP11B1, CYP11B2</i>	Early onset (often before age 20 y), resistant hypertension, mostly normokalemic, complete aldosterone response to dexamethasone	Normal adrenal glands; occasional adrenal cortical nodular disease or bilateral hyperplasia
FH-II	Autosomal dominant; undetermined in some cases	Unknown; linked to 7p22	Clinical features indistinguishable from sporadic primary aldosteronism: onset in adulthood, resistant hypertension, mostly normokalemic	Adrenal cortical adenoma or bilateral hyperplasia
FH-III	Autosomal dominant	<i>KCNJ5</i>	Very early onset (childhood), severely resistant hypertension, hypokalemia, very high aldosterone concentrations (2–10 times normal concentrations)	Marked bilateral adrenal hyperplasia; occasional normal adrenal glands

**LDL**     **HDL**

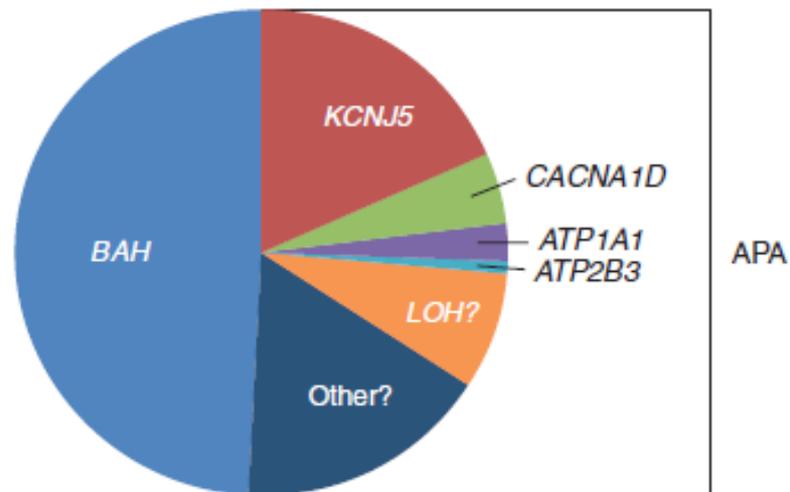


Familial hyperaldosteronism  
(~5% of cases)



Germline mutations

Sporadic hyperaldosteronism  
(95% of cases)



Somatic mutations in APA

## Diagnosi di sottotipo – Imaging

### **TC STRATO SOTTILE (con mdc, sezioni 2.5-3 mm)**

esame di prima scelta

scarsa sensibilità diagnosi di microadenoma (25%)

sensibilità 50% specificità 58%

(Magill SB, JCEM 2001; Harper R, QJM 1999)

### **RMN**

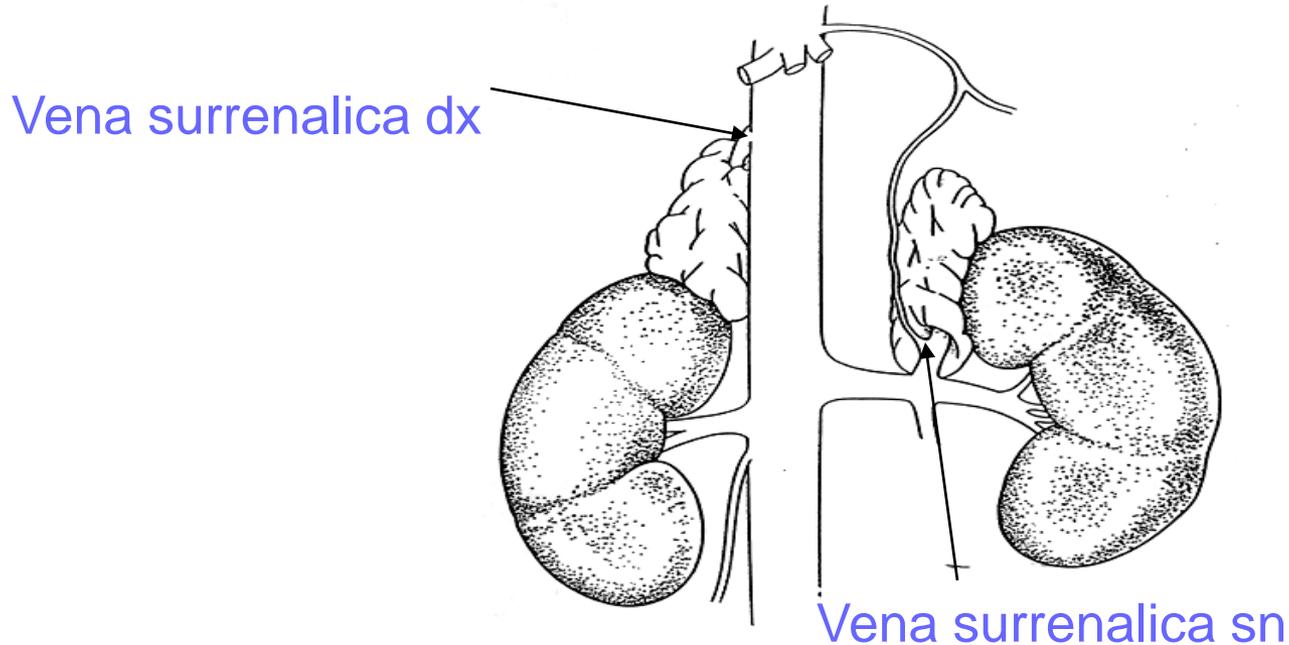
sensibilità inferiore rispetto alla TC

solo macroadenomi

**SCINTIGRAFIA con 6-b-[<sup>131</sup>I]-iodometil-19-norcolesterolo (NP-59) + soluz. Lugol + DEX**  
frequenti falsi + o risultati dubbi

## Diagnosi di sottotipo (APA-IHA)

### **Cateterismo venoso surrenalico: prelievo di sangue refluo vv. surrenaliche, vv. renali, cava**



Problemi aperti  
-A tutti?  
-Incannulamento  
-simultaneo?  
- Stimolo con ACTH?

- **Gold standard**

- **v. surrenalica dx: difficoltà cateterizzazione**

- **aldosterone/cortisolo ratio**

# Iperaldosteronismo Primario

**Età < 40 anni**

**Nodulo surrenalico > 1 cm**

**Surrene controlaterale normale**

**Entrambi i surreni normali**

**Masse bilaterali**

**Qualsiasi alterazione in pz > 40 anni**

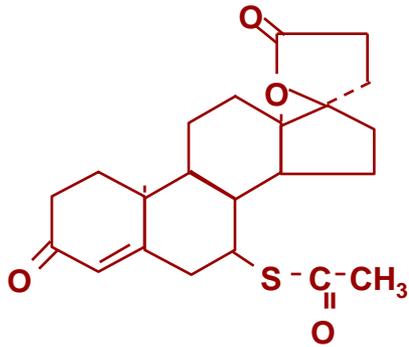
**Micronoduli in pz < 40 anni**

**Chirurgia**

**AVS**

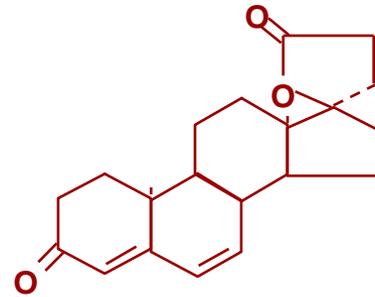
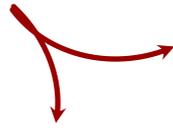
**Terapia medica**

## Antiagonisti del recettore dei mineralocorticoidi (antialdosteronici)

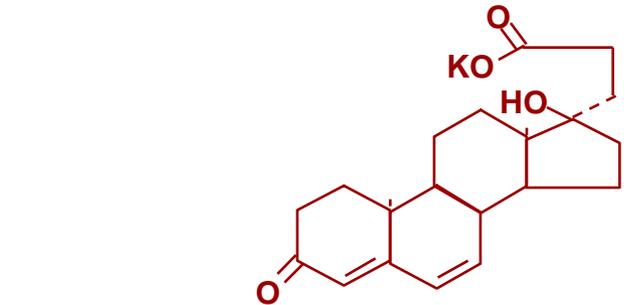


**Spironolactone**

Sulfur Metabolites

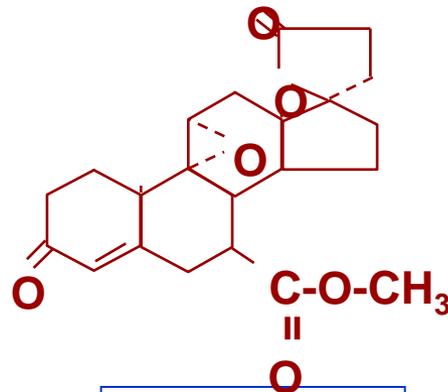
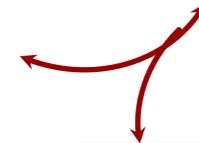


**Canrenone**



**K<sup>+</sup>- Canrenoate**

K<sup>+</sup> + H<sub>2</sub>O



**Eplerenone**

# ANTAGONISTI RECETTORIALI DELL'ALDOSTERONE

## SPIRONOLATTONE

## EPLERENONE

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<b>Meccanismo d'azione</b>	<b>Antagonista competitivo dei recettori dell'aldosterone</b>	<b>Antagonista competitivo dei recettori dell'aldosterone</b>
<b>Selettività</b>	<b>Non selettivo</b>	<b>Selettivo</b>
<b>Altre azioni steroidiche</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Attività progestinica</li><li>- Attività antiandrogena</li></ul>	
<b>Effetti collaterali</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Irregolarità ciclo mestruale</li><li>- Ginecomastia</li><li>- Impotenza</li></ul>	<b>non effetti collaterali steroido-correlati</b>

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