

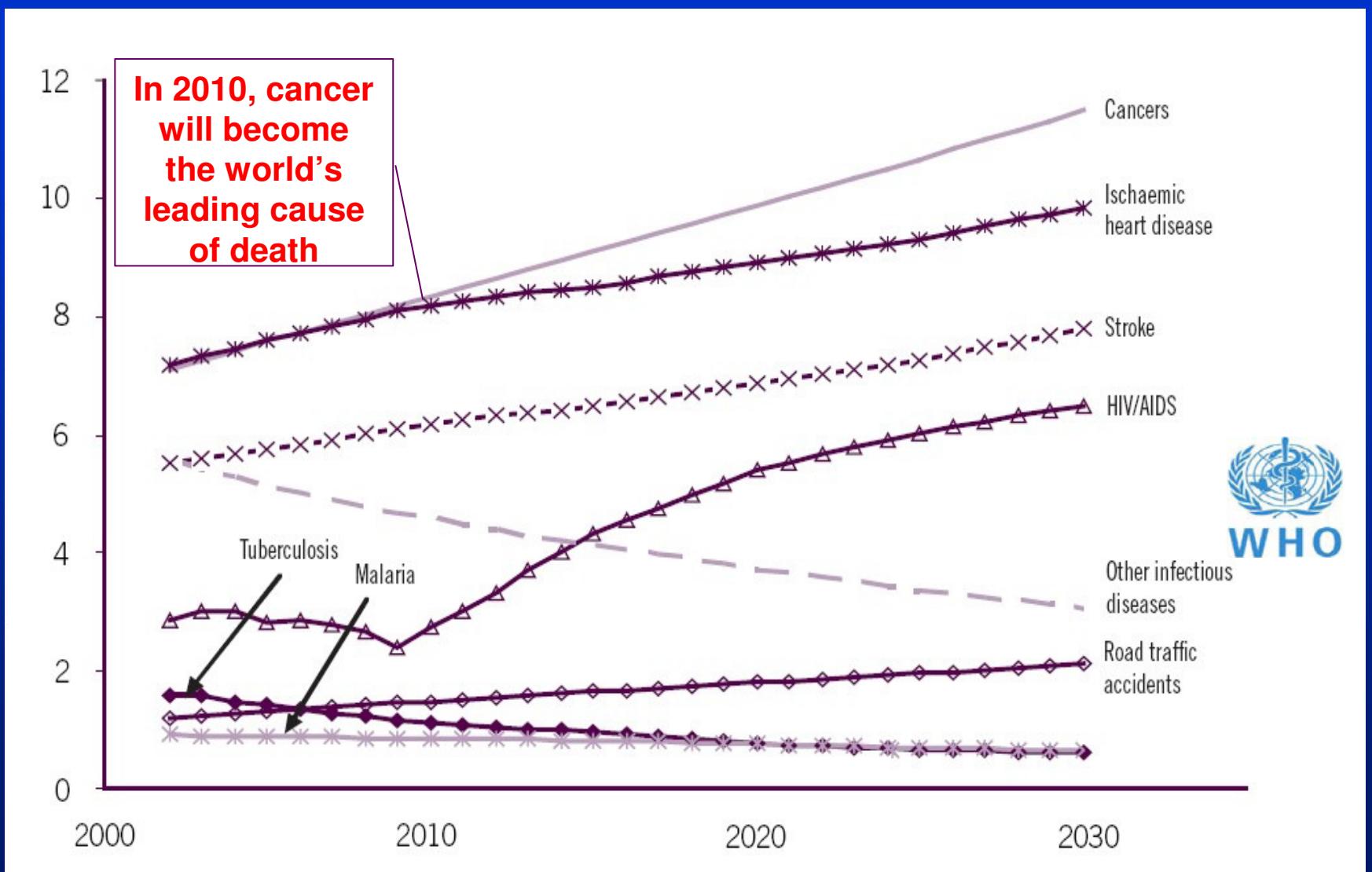
# Vitamin D and Cancer: Current Dilemmas/Future Needs

Cindy D. Davis

Nutritional Science Research Group  
Division of Cancer Prevention  
National Cancer Institute  
Bethesda, MD 20892



# The World Is Changing: Projected Deaths



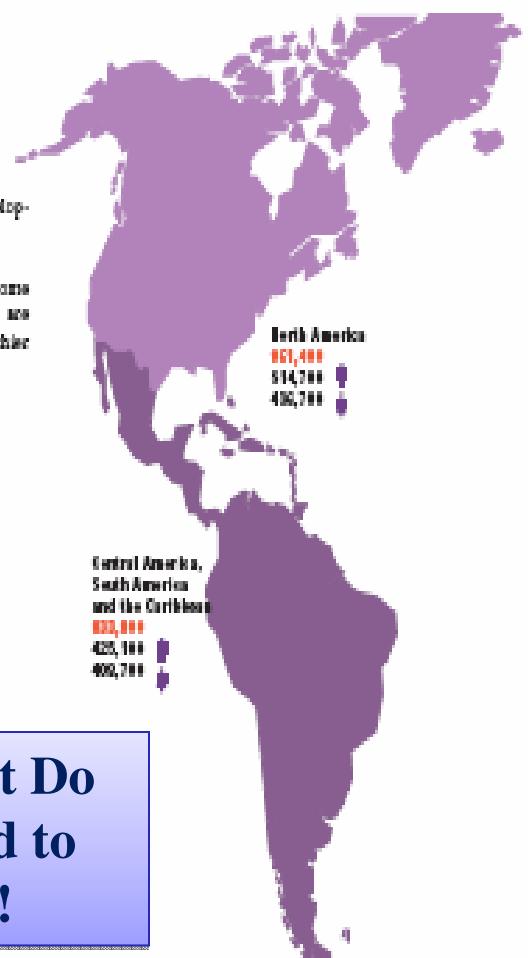
By **2020**, cancer **could kill**

Trends

The biggest rates of increase are in developing and newly industrialized countries.

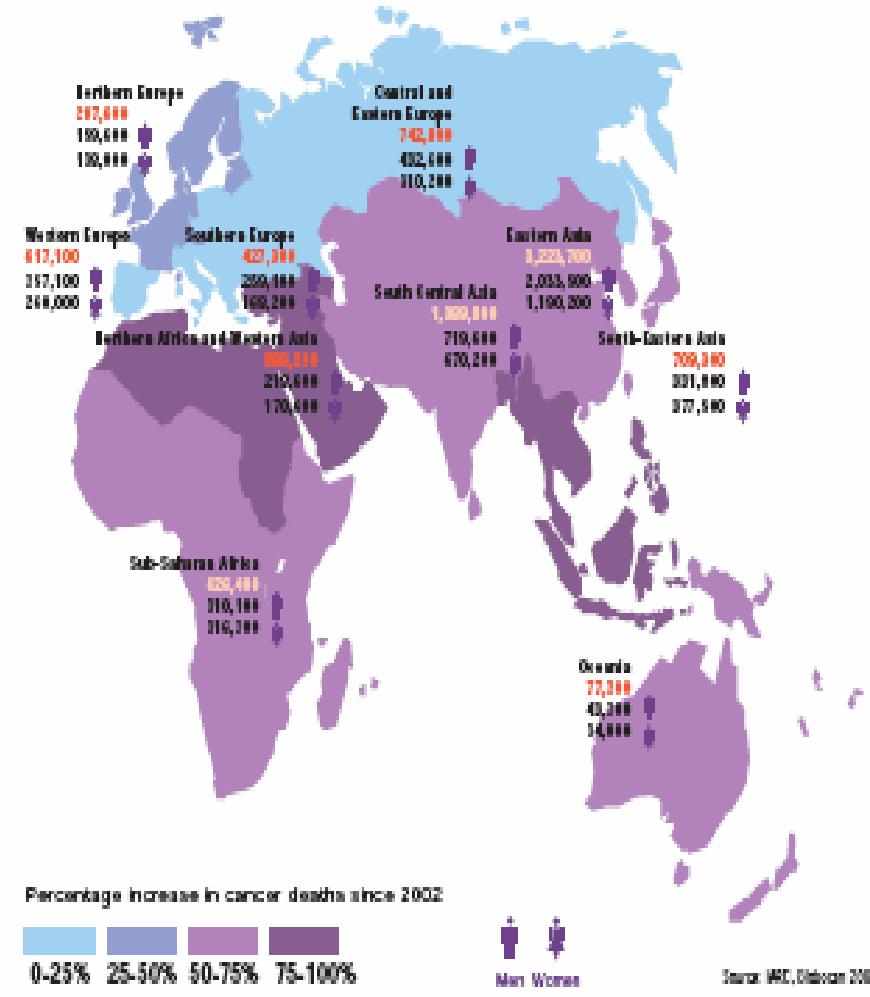
The relative increase is smallest in some Western countries where populations are rejecting tobacco and adopting healthier lifestyles.

# If Prevent Do Not Need to Treat!



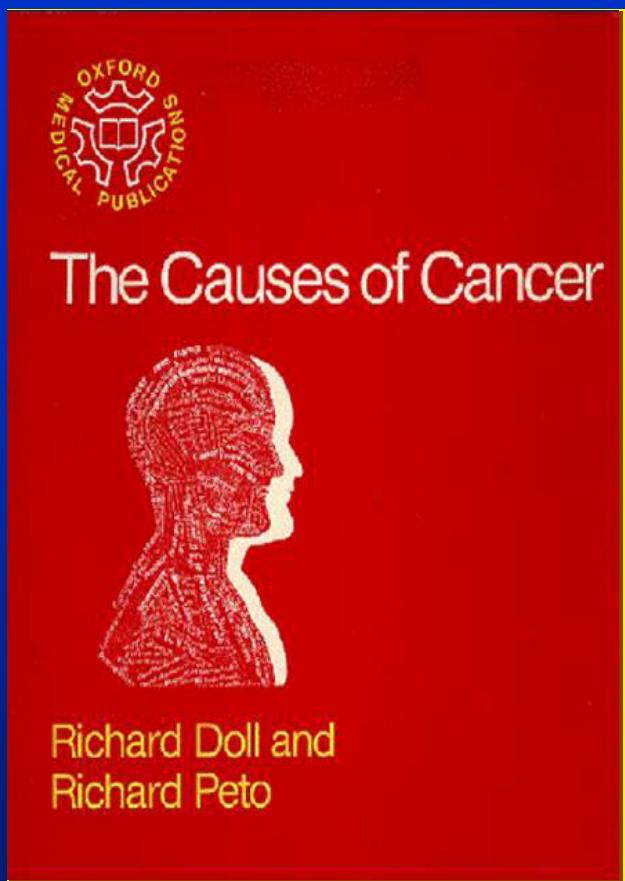
# 10.3 million

people per year unless we act

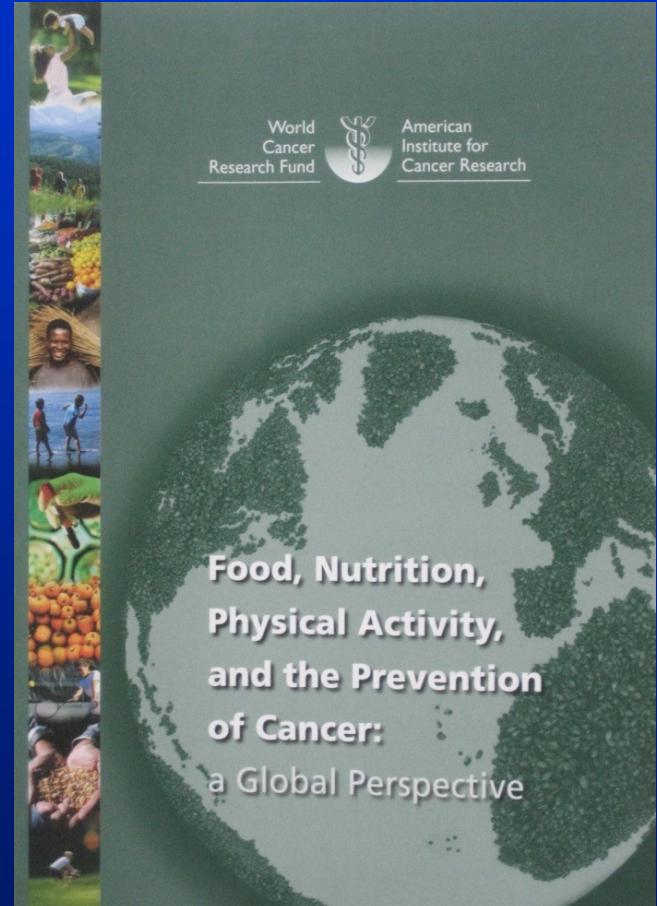
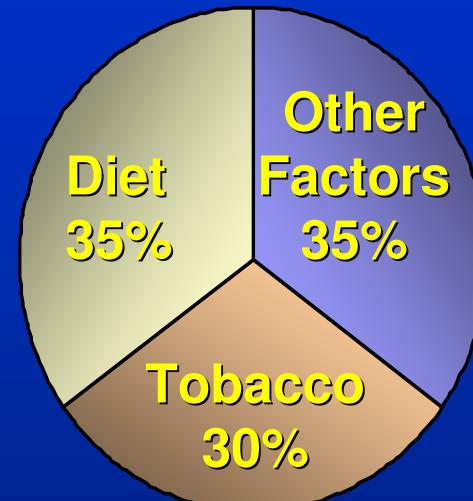


# **Dr. Lee Jong-wook, Director General WHO**

**It has been estimated that about 1/3 of all cancer deaths may be attributable to dietary factors.**



The Causes of Cancer  
– Richard Doll & Richard  
Peto, 1981



**WCRF/AICR Report**  
- Released Nov. 1-2, 2007



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## Vitamin D shown to cut cancer risk in women

Major study suggests supplement wards off several types of cancer

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# How Strong is the Evidence that vitamin D may have a role in cancer?

Vitamin D

06.08.07, 12:00 AM

005, 07:39 GMT

[Printable version](#)

cancer risk'



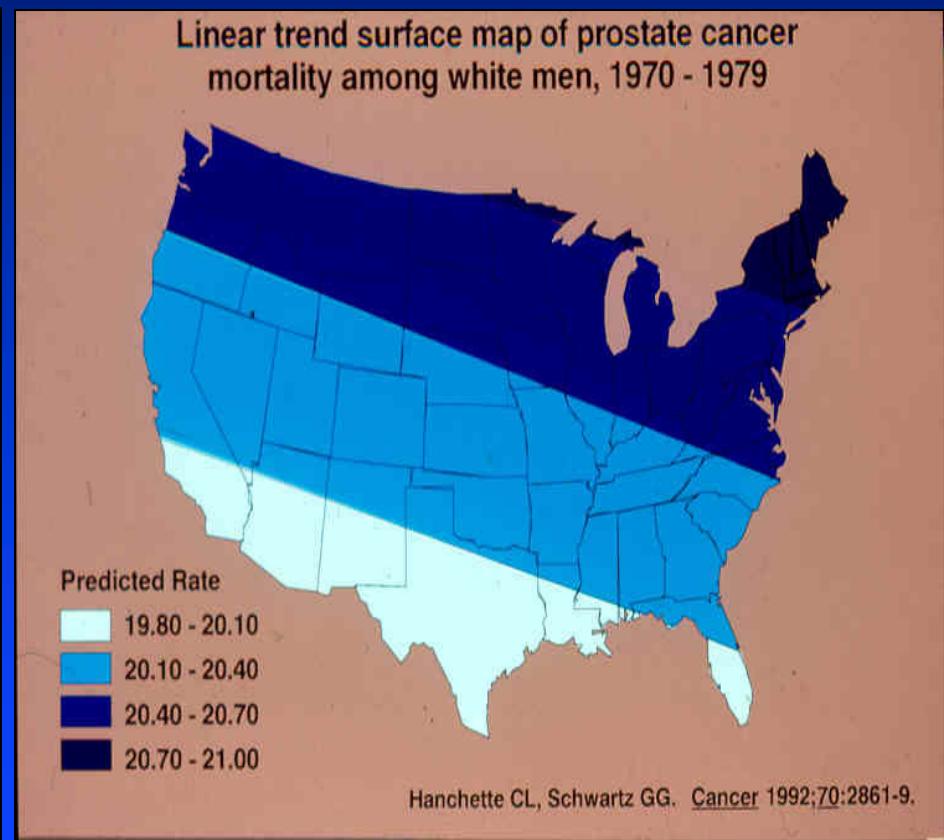
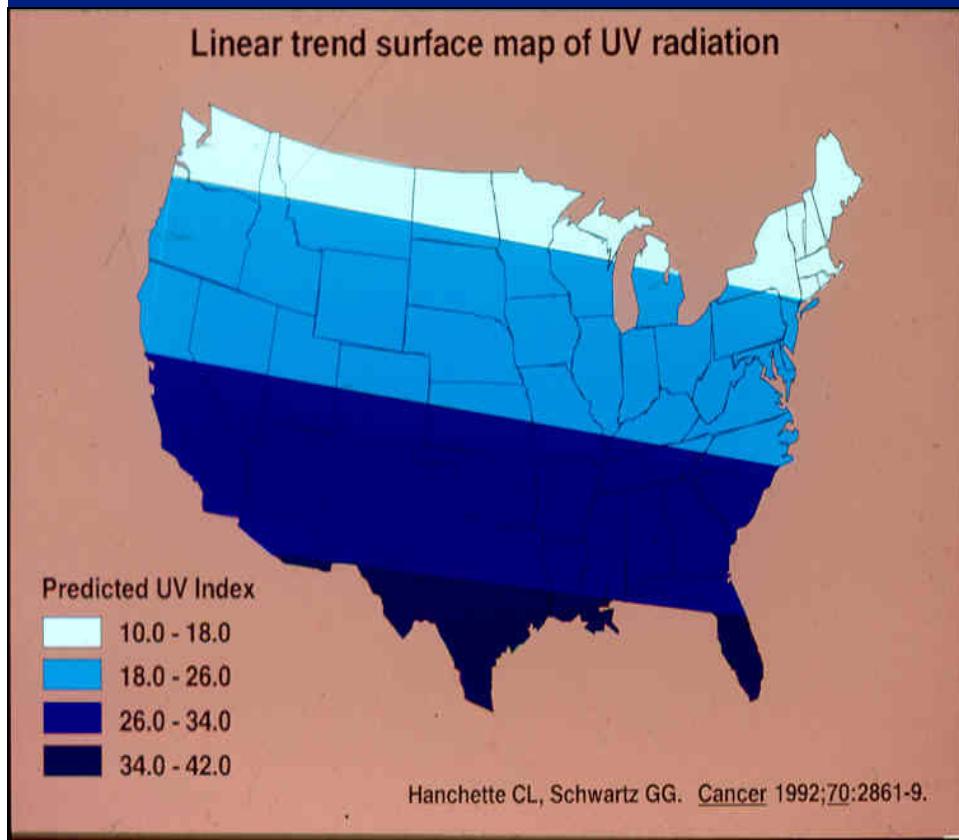
## Study Sees Link Between Vitamin D, Breast Cancer Prognosis

**Cancer Resource Center**

[Home](#) > [Health](#) > [CancerPreventionAndTreatment](#)

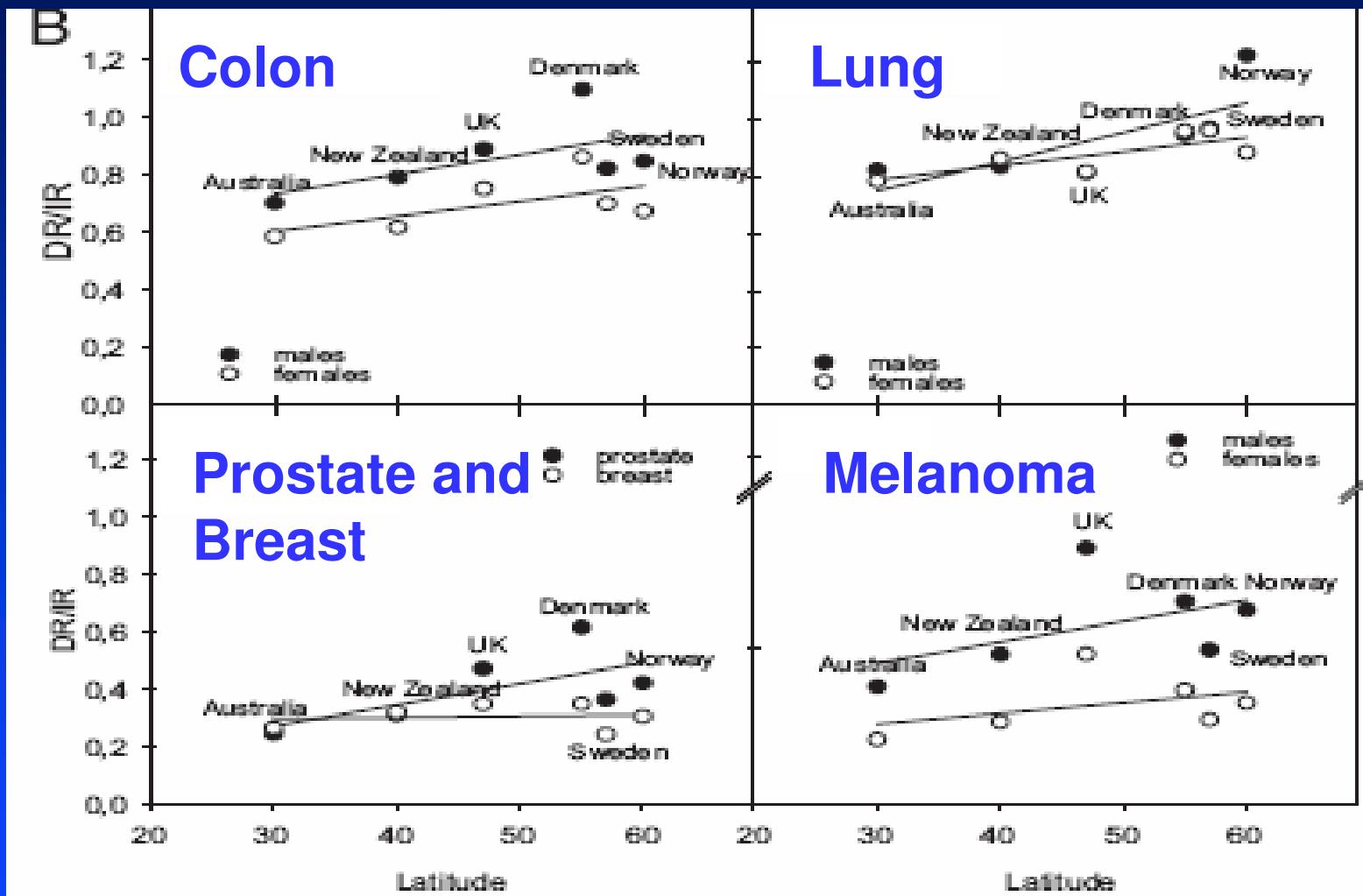
## Vitamin D May Cut Cancer Risk

# Age-Adjusted Prostate Cancer Mortality Rates (Whites) and Ultraviolet Radiation in 3073 U.S. Counties

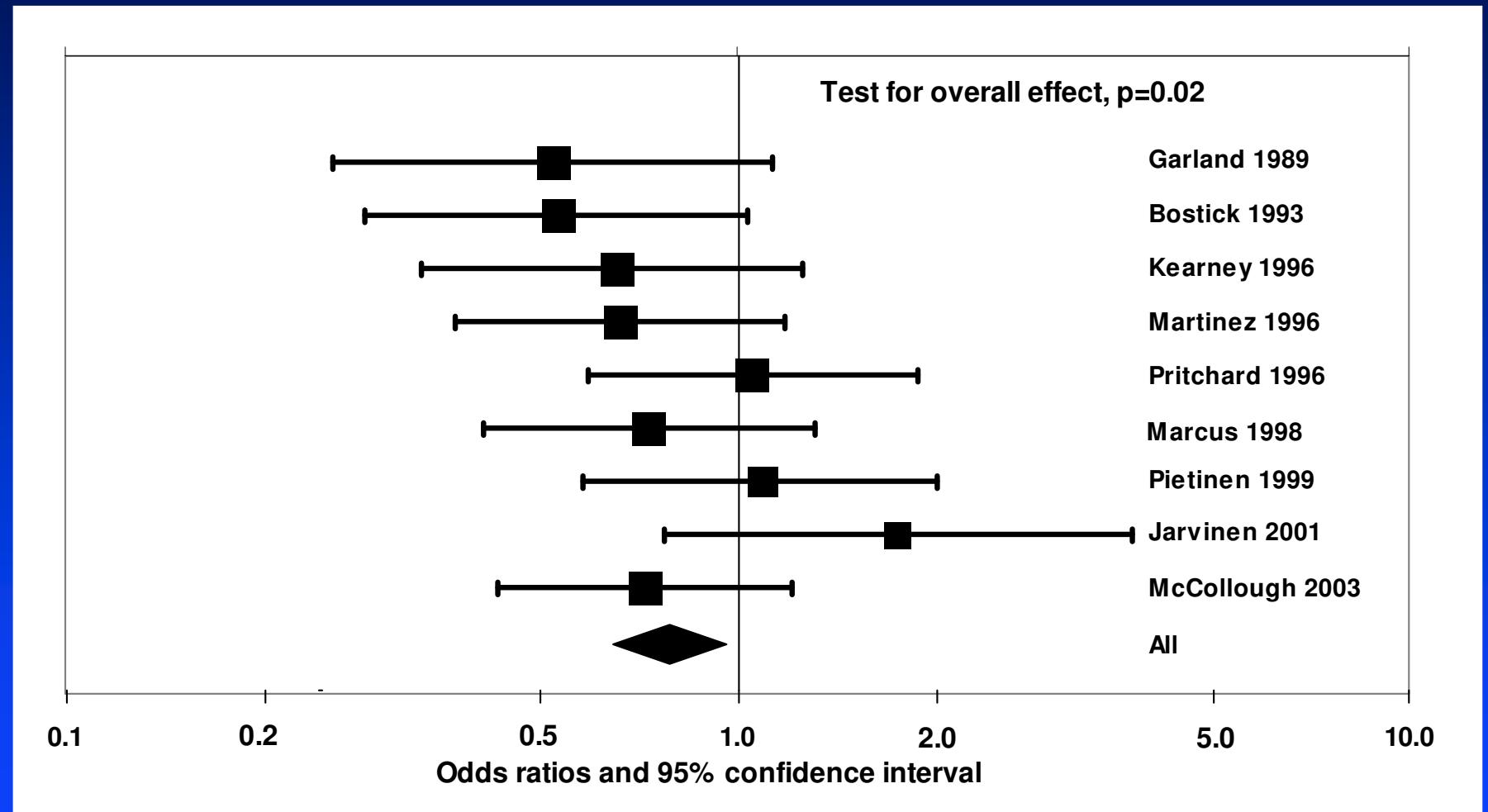


Hanchette and Schwartz, *Cancer* 70:261-9, 1992

# Cancer Mortality and Latitude

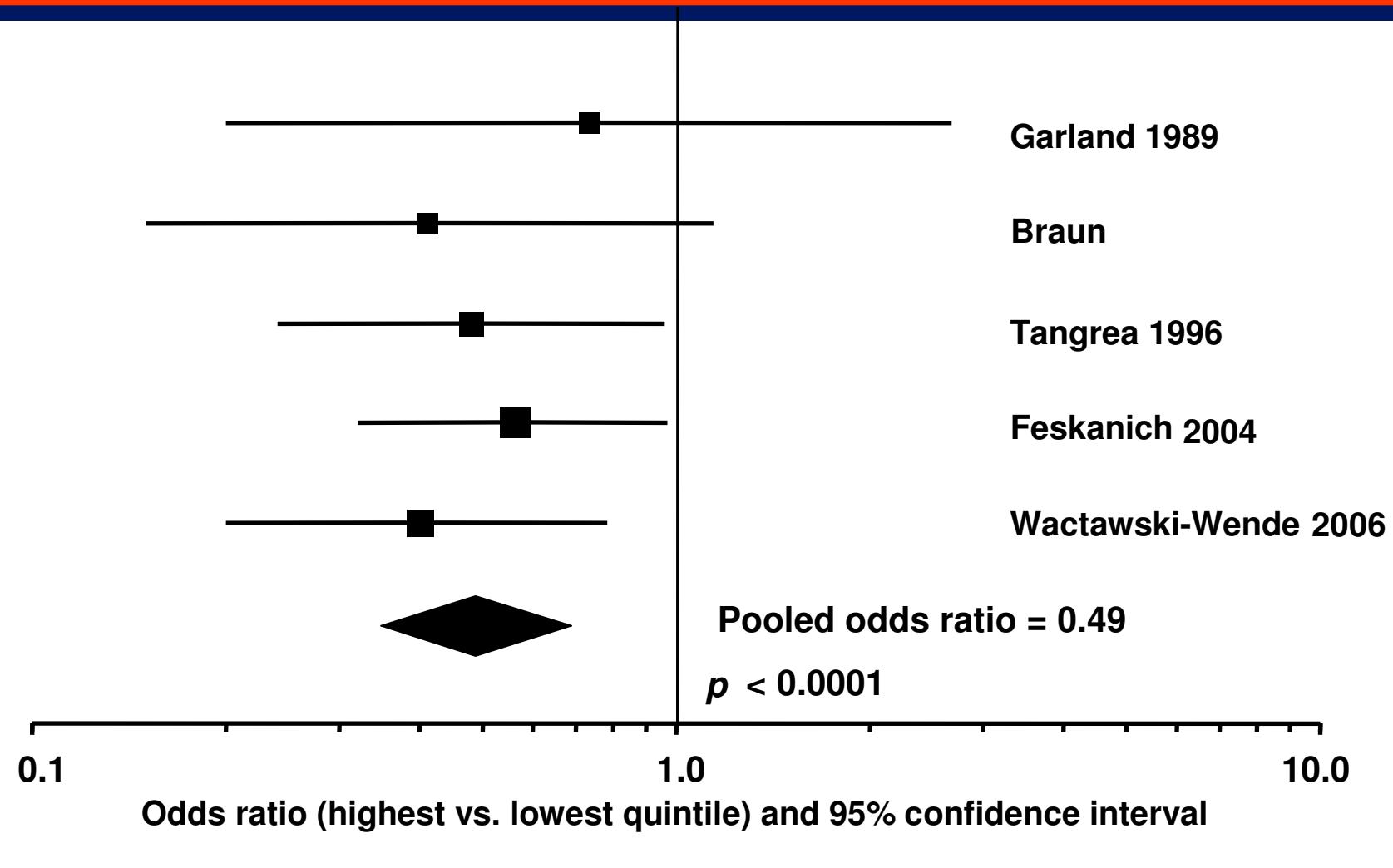


# Dietary Vitamin D and Colorectal Cancer



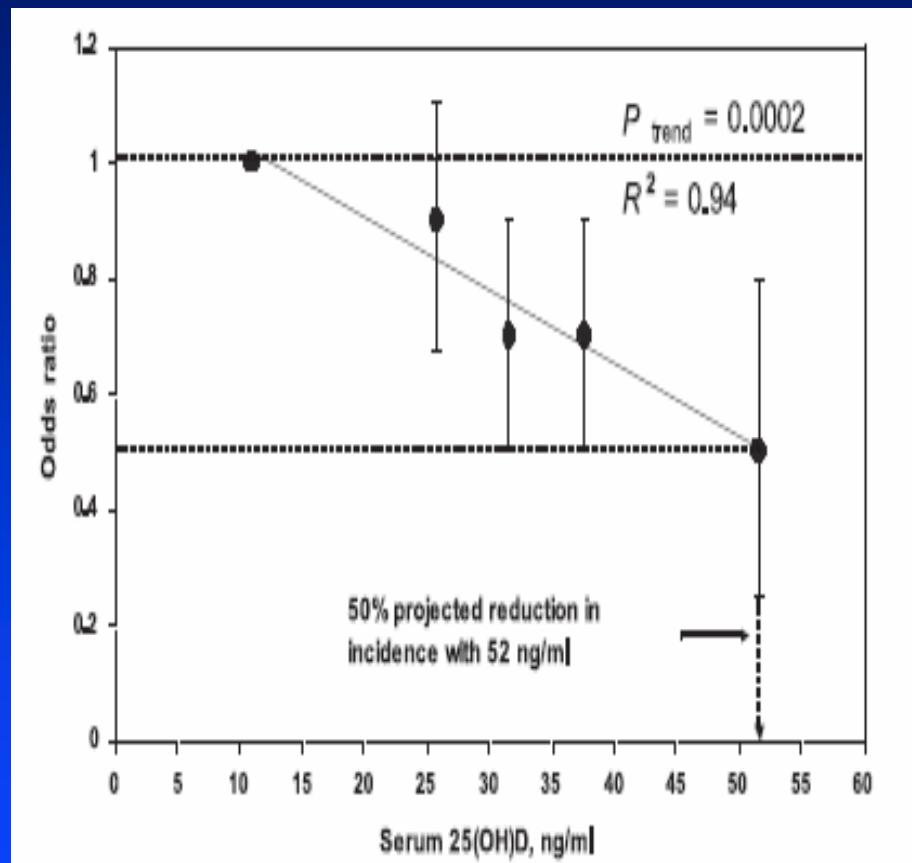
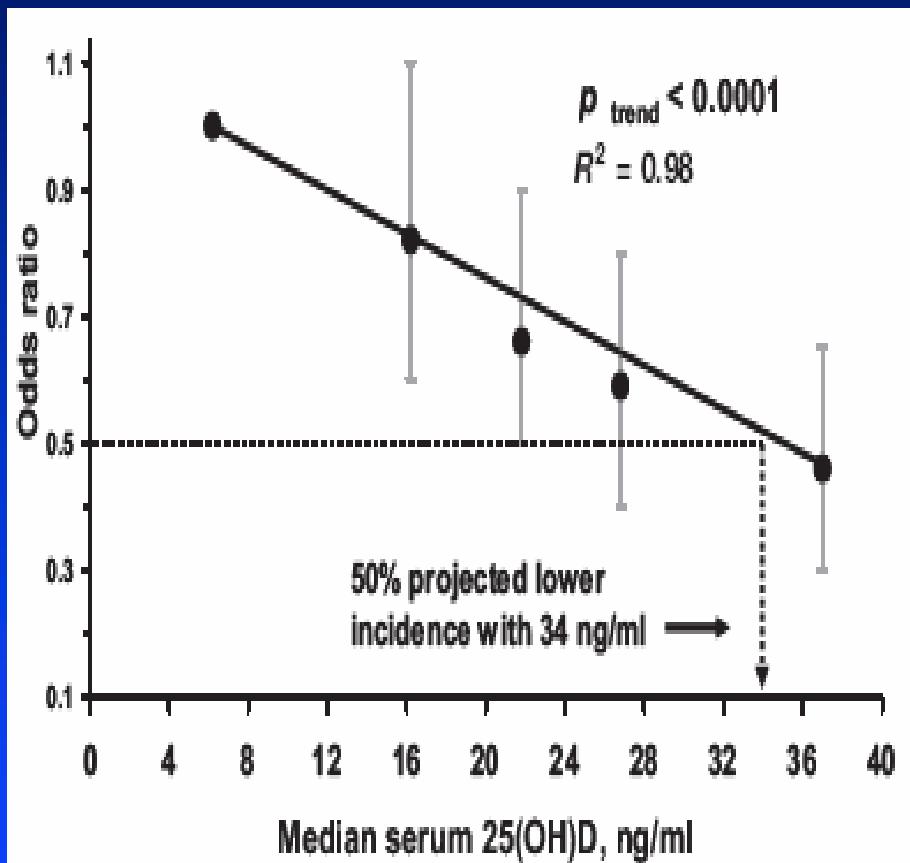
Gorham E., et al. J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol. 97:179-94, 2005

# Serum 25(OH)D and Colorectal Cancer Risk



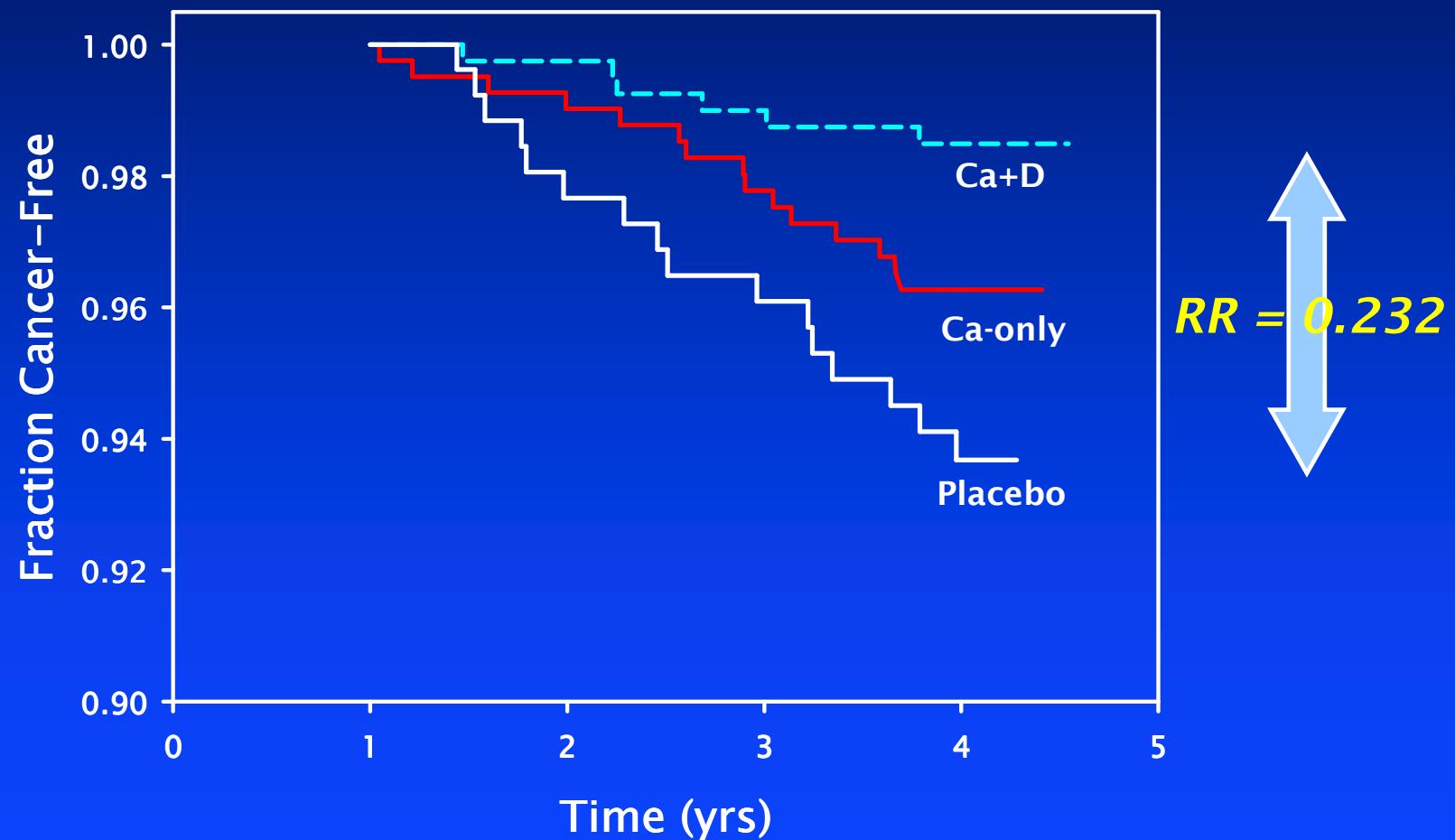
Gorham E., et al. J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol. 97:179-94, 2005

# Serum 25(OH)D and Risk of Colorectal and Breast Cancer



# Vitamin D and Cancer Incidence

1179 Healthy women,  $66 \pm 7$  yrs, 4 yr study, Calcium (1400 mg/d),  
Vitamin D<sub>3</sub> (1100 IU/d)



Lappe et al. Am. J. Clin. Nutr. 85:1586-1591, 2007

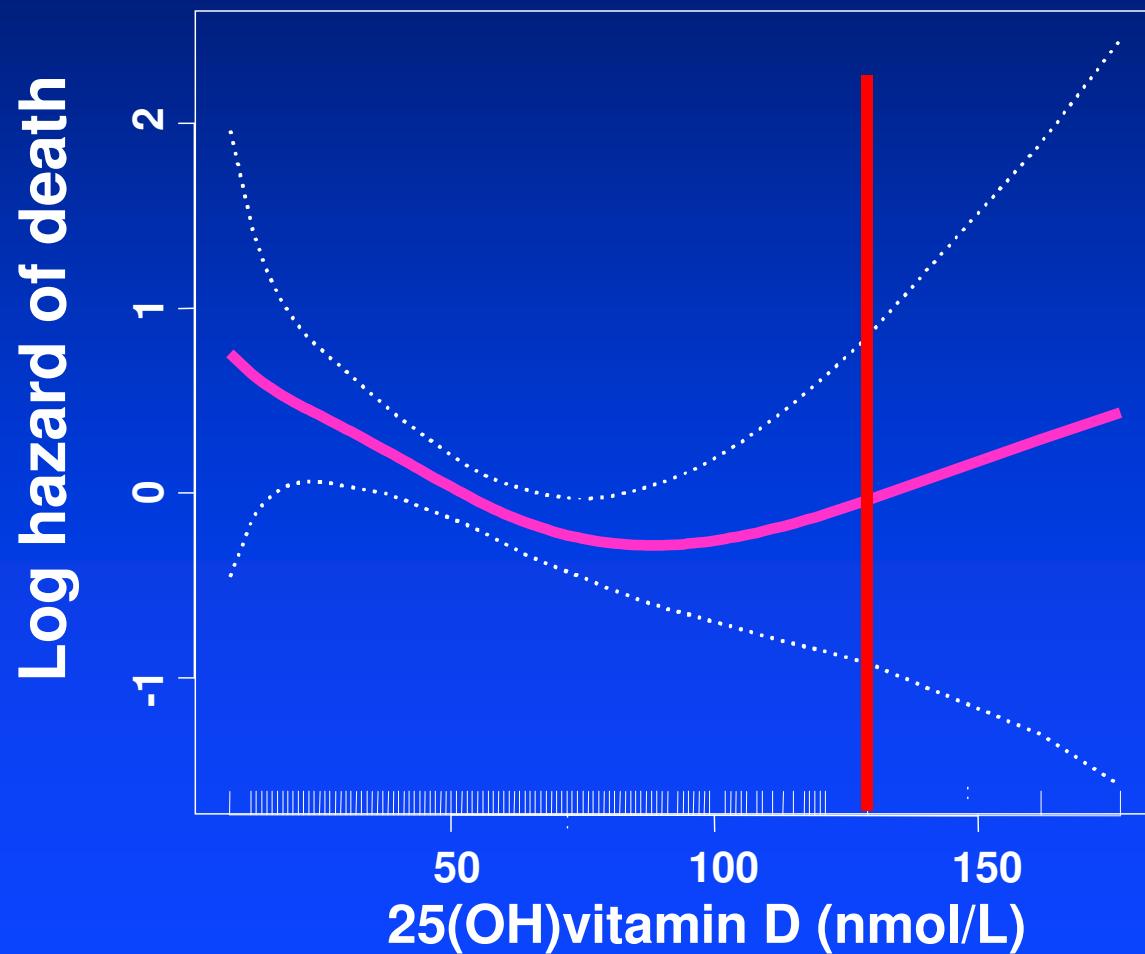
# Cancers By Primary Site

Site	Placebo	Calcium	Calcium+D
Breast	7	6	4
Colon	2	0	0
Lung	3	2	1
Blood	4	4	2
Uterus	0	1	0
Other	2	2	1
Total	18	15	8

Lappe et al. Am. J. Clin. Nutr. 85:1586-1591, 2007

# Vitamin D Status and Mortality in Breast Cancer Patients

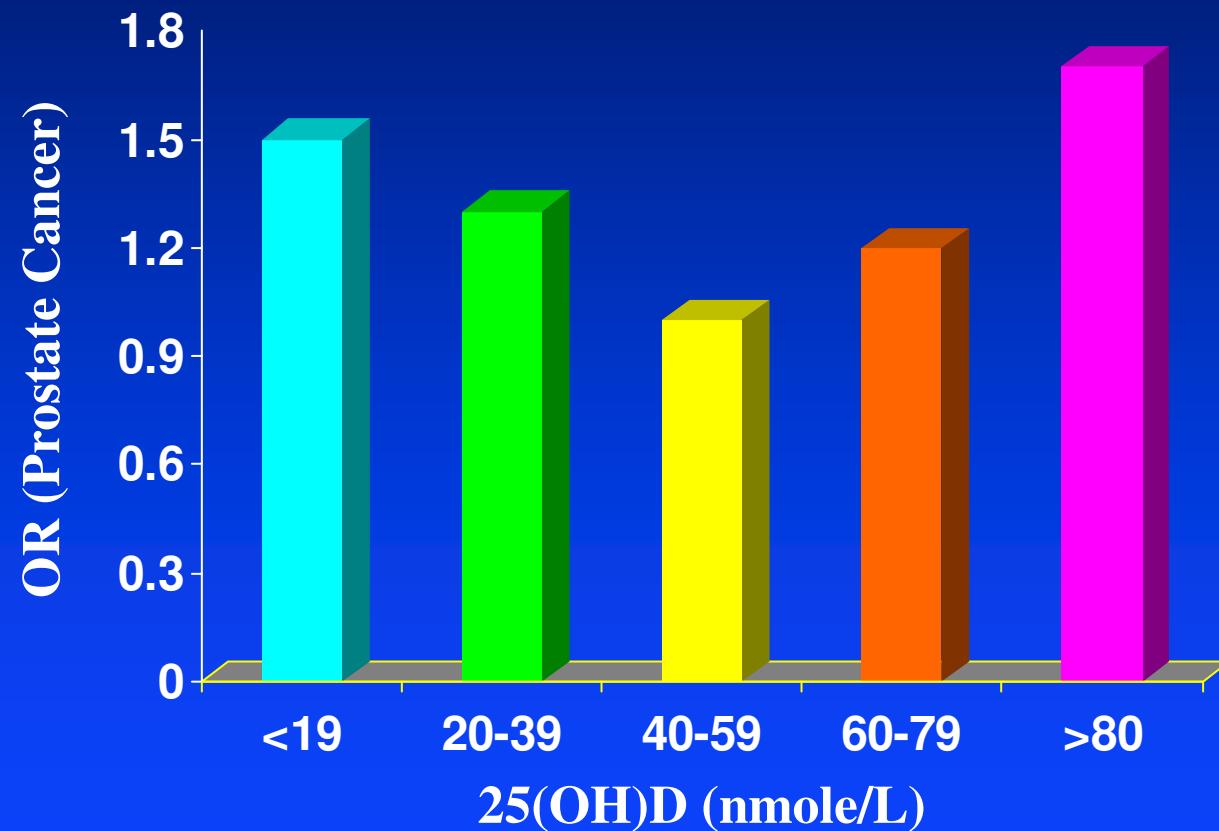
512 women, early stage breast cancer, Toronto, 11.6 year follow-up



Goodwin et al., J. Clin Oncol. 23: 3755-3763, 2009

# Serum 25(OH)D and Prostate Cancer Risk

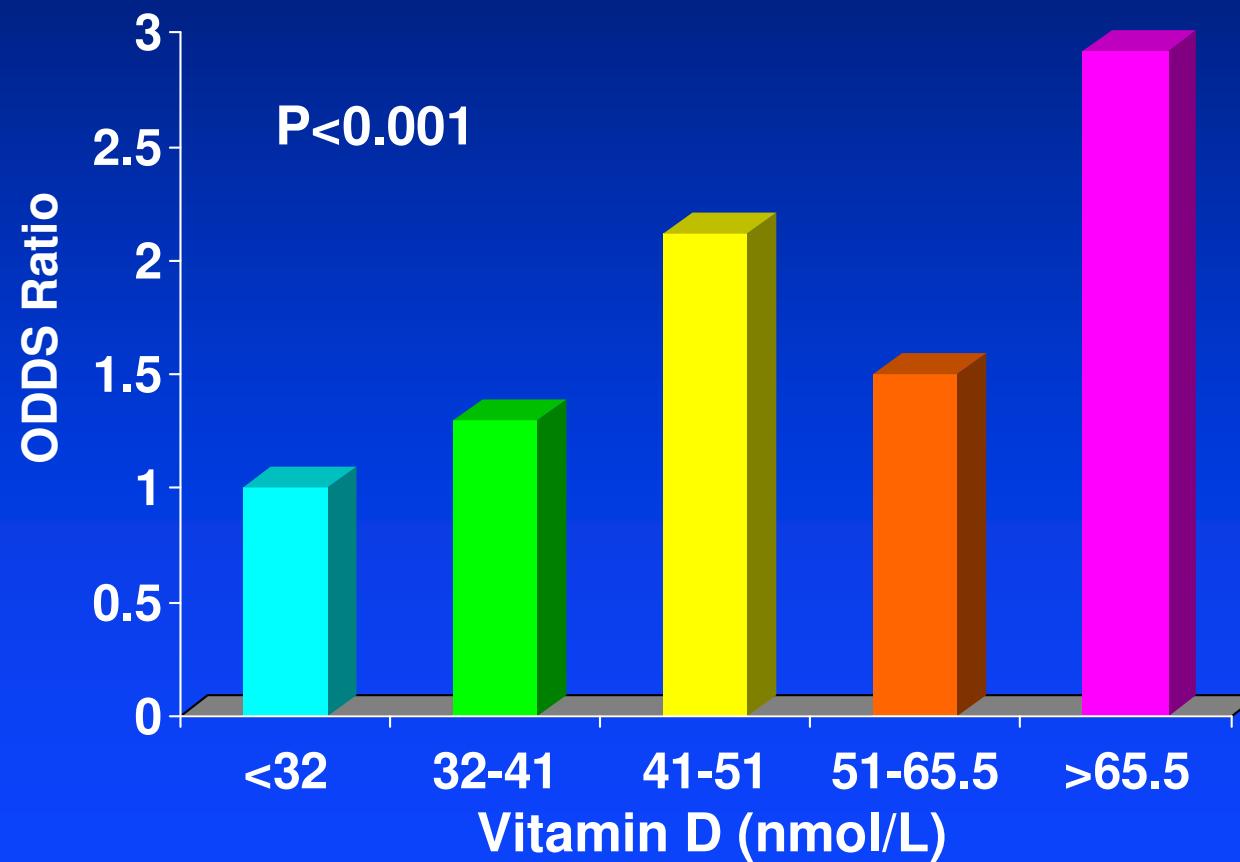
Nested Case-Control Study in Nordic Men (622 cases and 1451 controls)



Tuohimaa et al. Int J Cancer 108: 104-108, 2004

# Serum 25(OH)D and Pancreatic Cancer

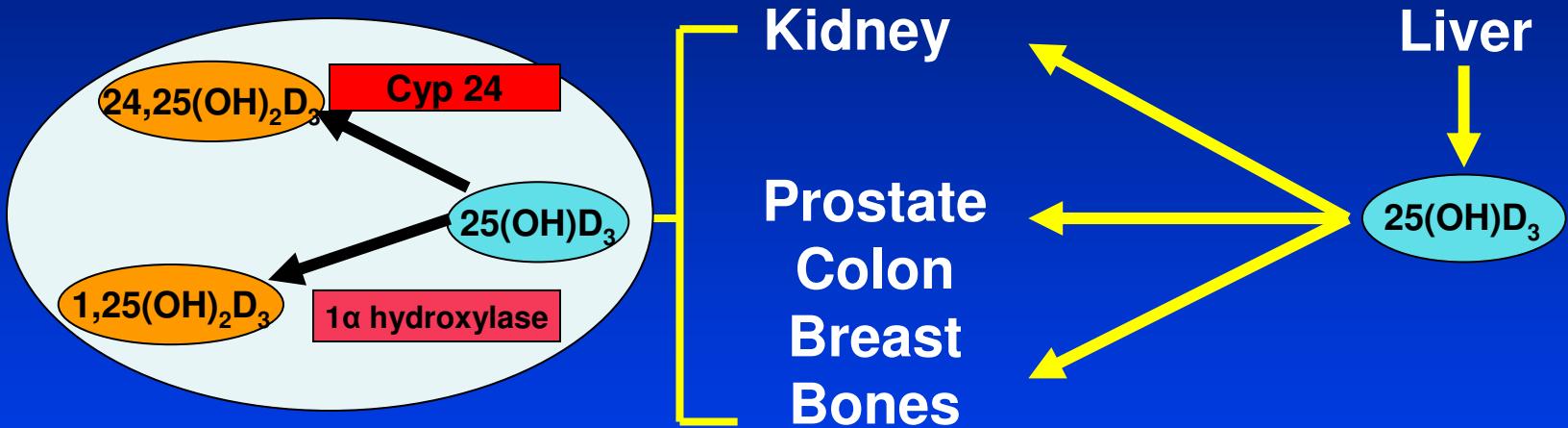
200 cases and 400 controls from the ATBC study of Finnish Male Smokers



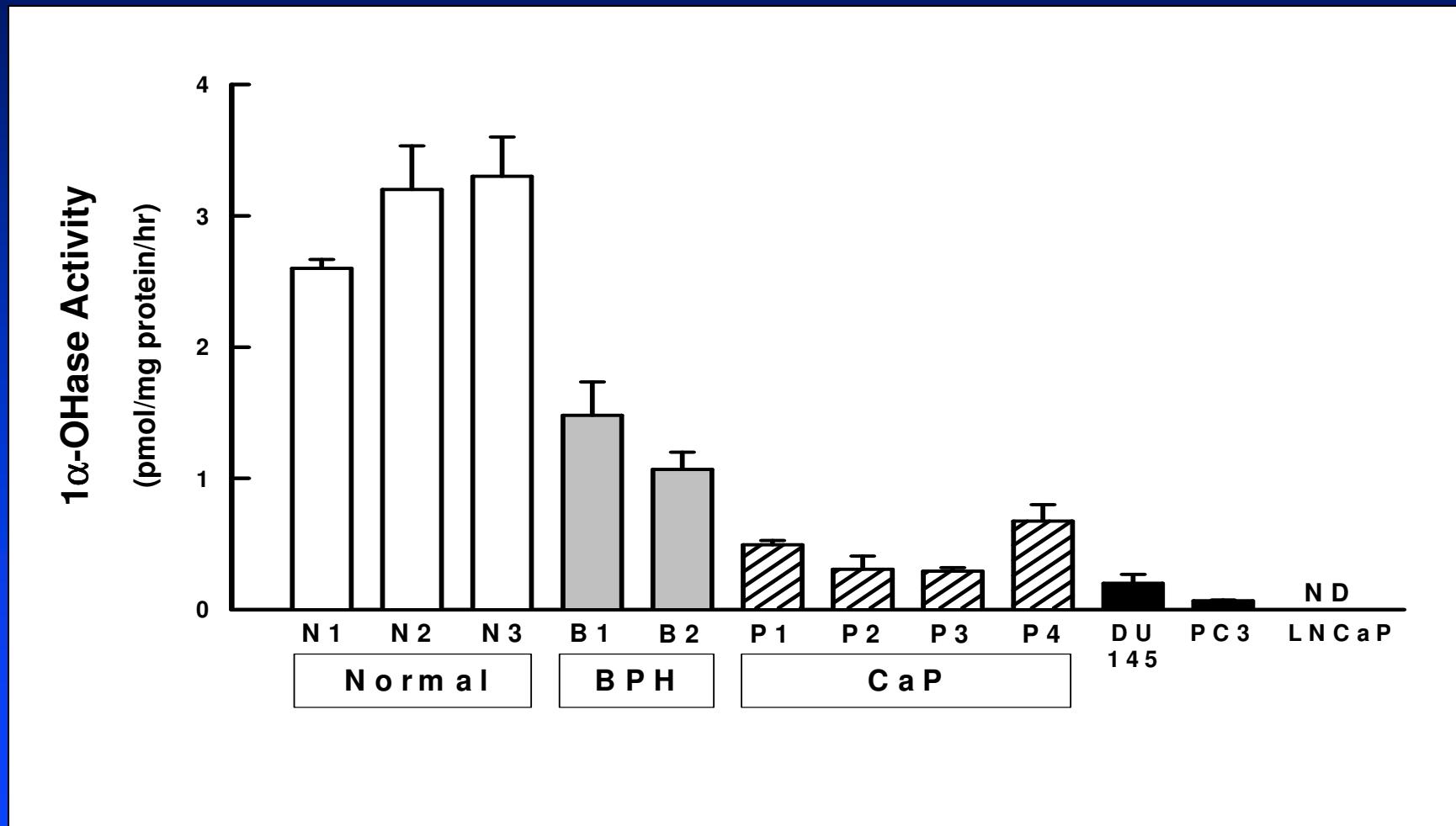
Stolzenberg-Solomon et al. Cancer Res 66:10213-9, 2006



Vitamin D<sub>3</sub>

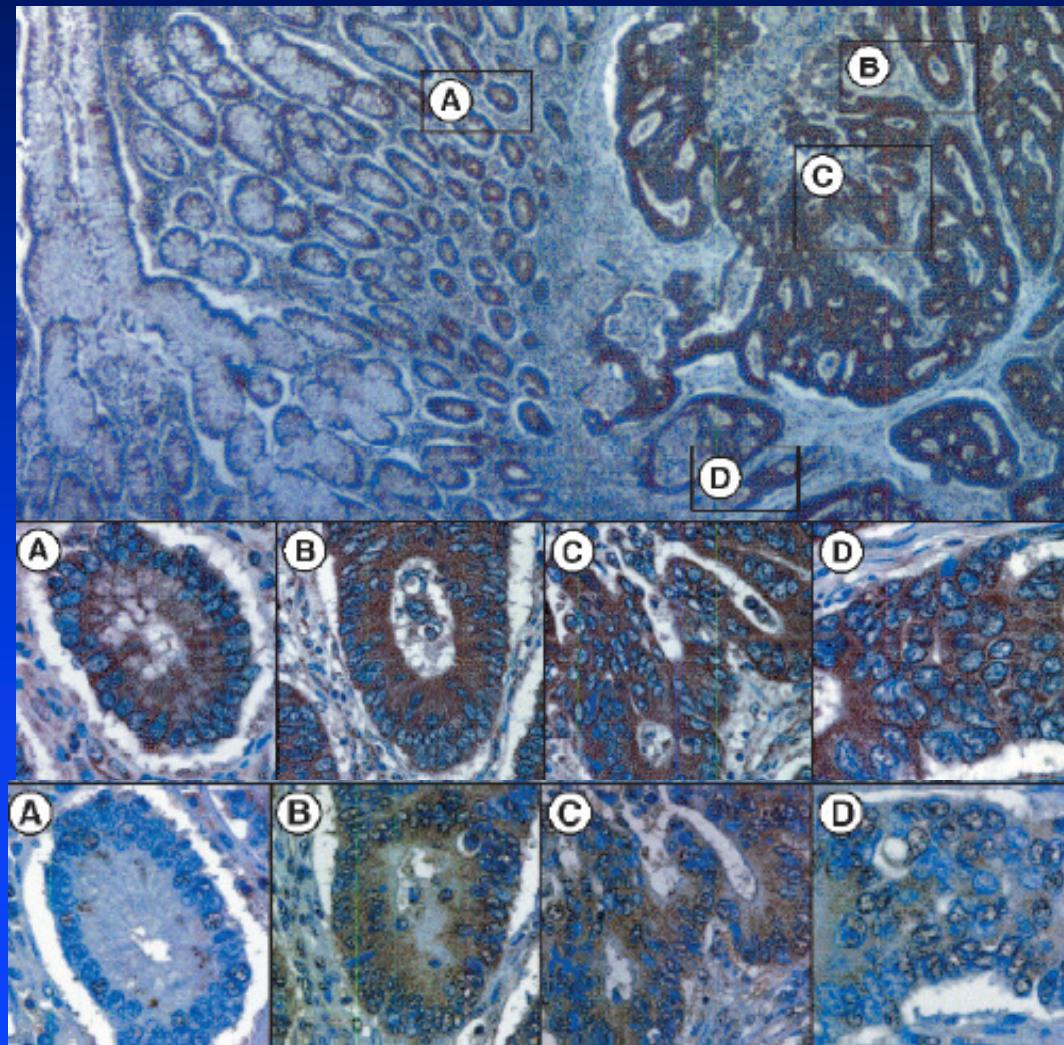


# $1\alpha$ -Hydroxylase Activity is Reduced in Prostate Cancer



Whitlatch et al., *J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol* 2002;81:135-140.

# Expression of 1 $\alpha$ -Hydroxylase and VDR in Human Colon Tissue

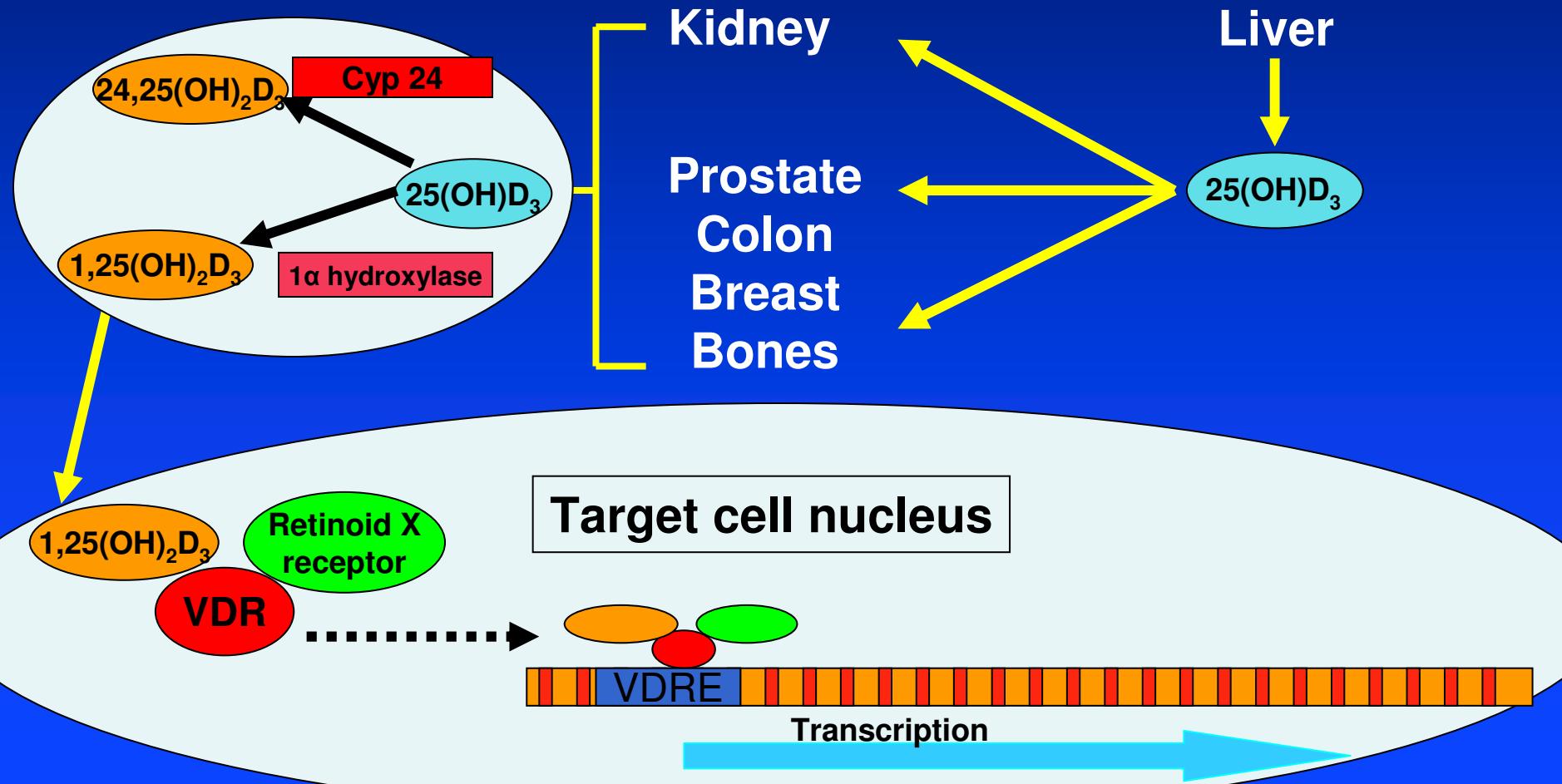


1 $\alpha$ -hydroxylase

Vitamin D Receptor



Vitamin D<sub>3</sub>

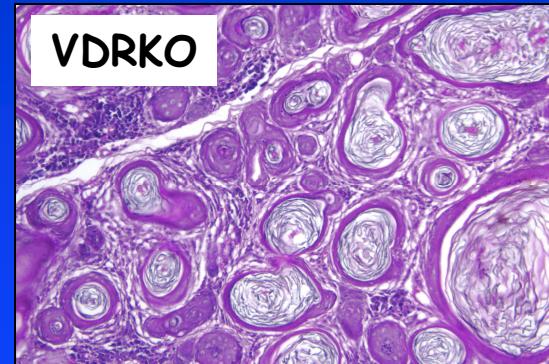
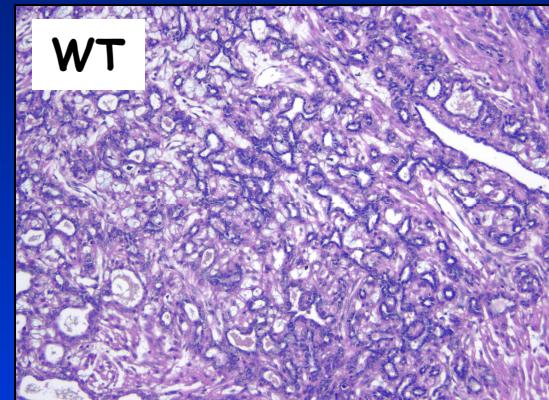


# Effects of VDR ablation on chemically-induced carcinogenesis

- DMBA:**
- ↑ mammary hyperplasias in VDRKO mice
  - ↑ hormone independent mammary carcinomas in VDRKO mice
  - Skin papillomas developed in VDRKO but not WT mice
  - ↑ Lymphomas in VDRKO mice
  - Tumor incidence in ovary, liver, lung, uterus unaffected by VDR

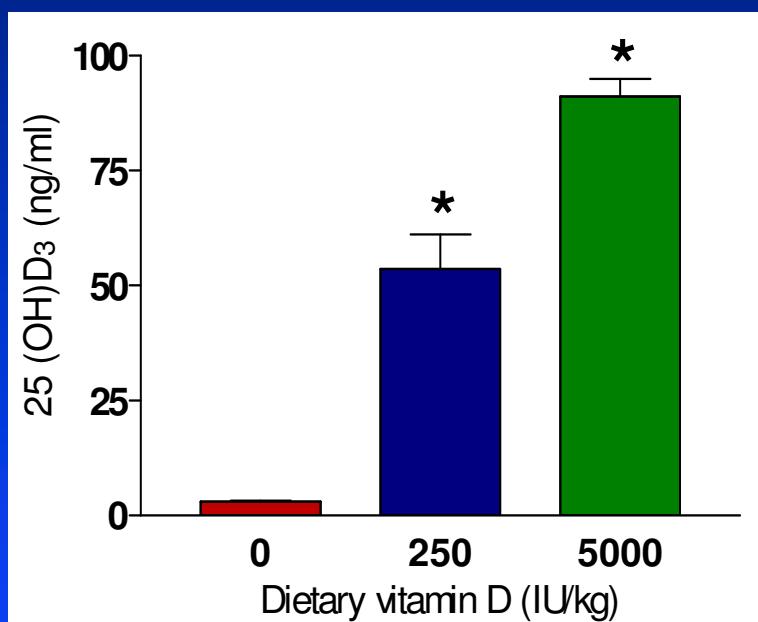
- AOM:**
- ↑ aberrant crypt foci (ACF) in VDRKO mice

Tumor Morphology

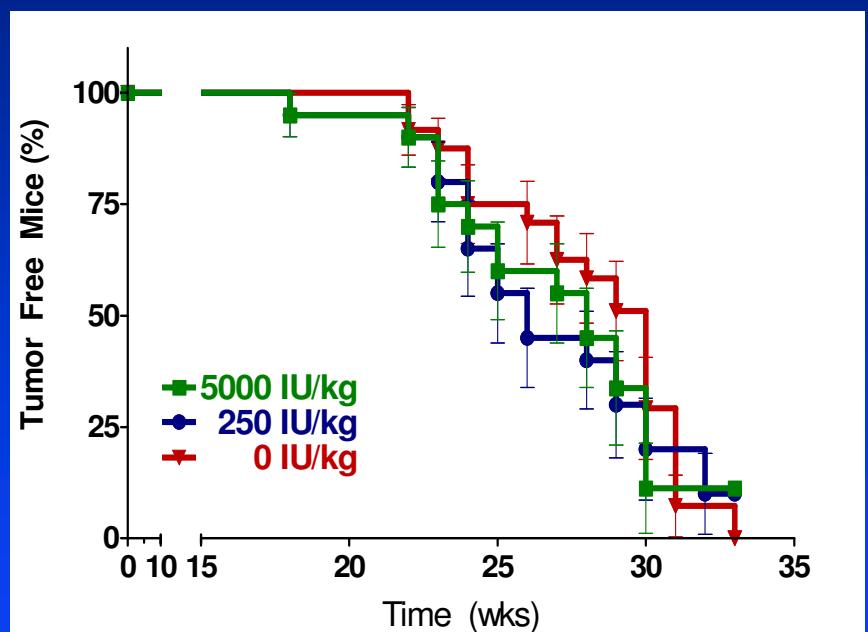


# Effect of Dietary Vitamin D in VDR Knockout Animals

Serum 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub>

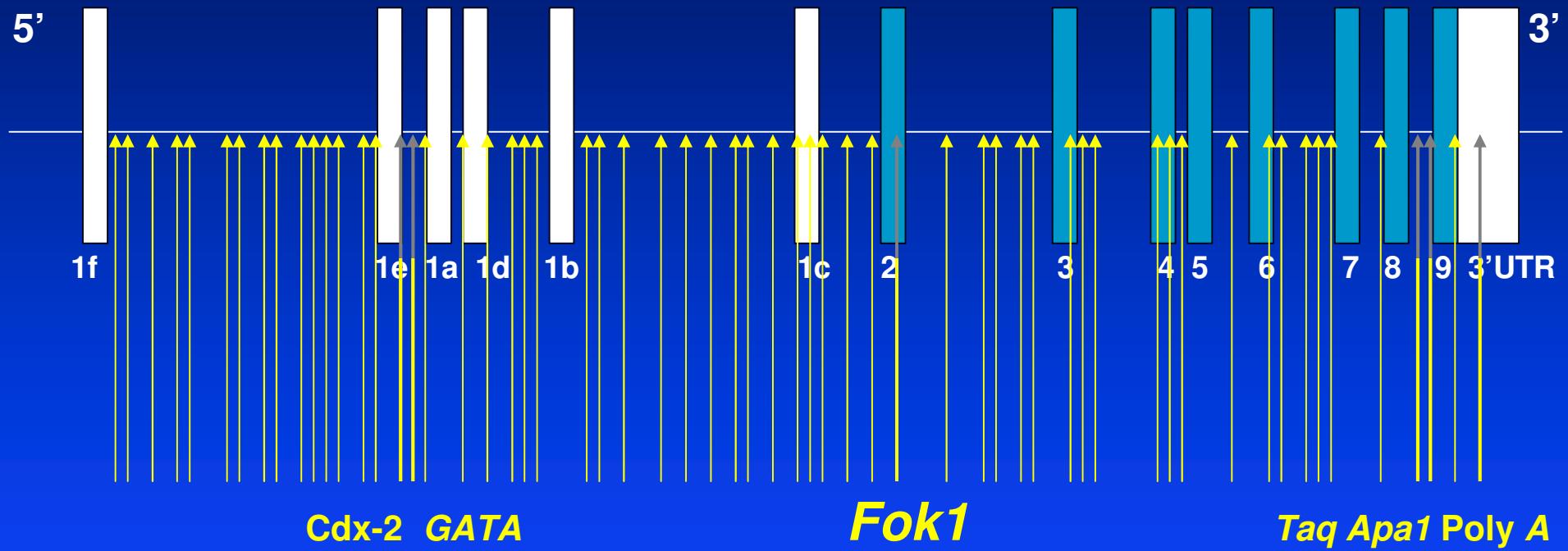


Tumor Development



Zinser & Welsh, personal communication

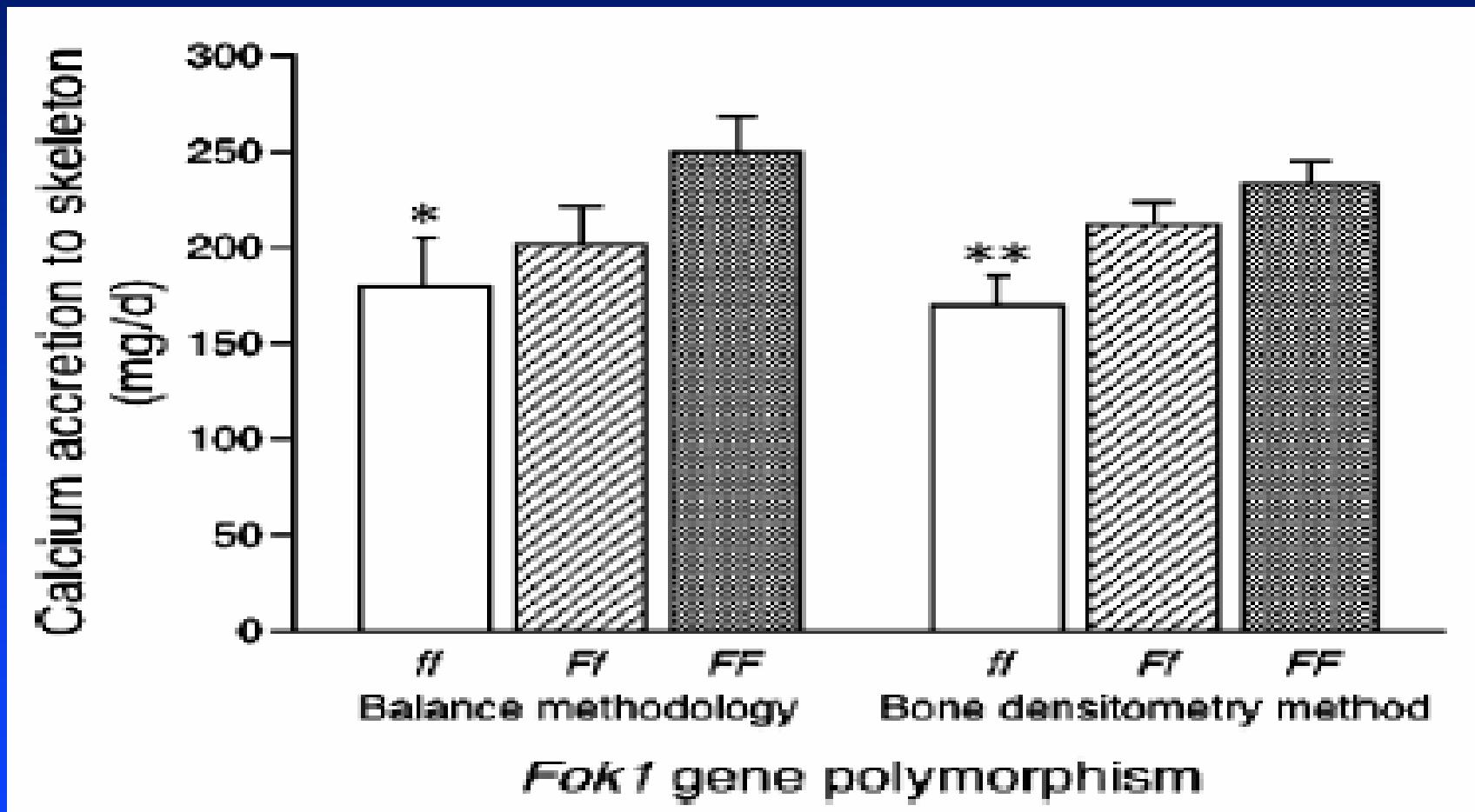
# Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms in the VDR gene



Human VDR >470 reported SNPs  
Distribution and frequency varies among ethnic groups

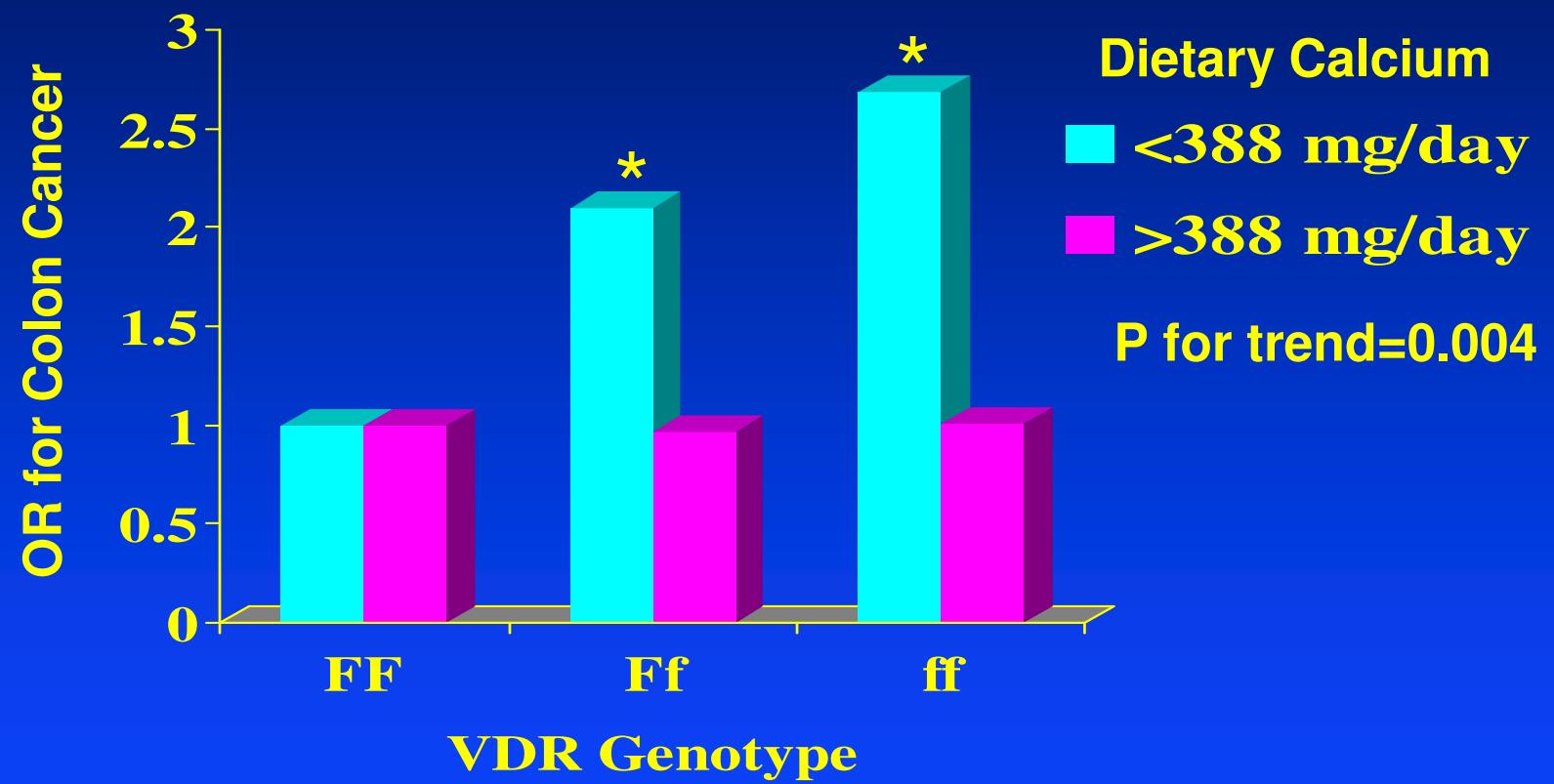
These polymorphisms may alter 1,25 Vitamin D function and  
thereby affect cancer risk

# VDR *FokI* Polymorphism Affects Calcium Metabolism



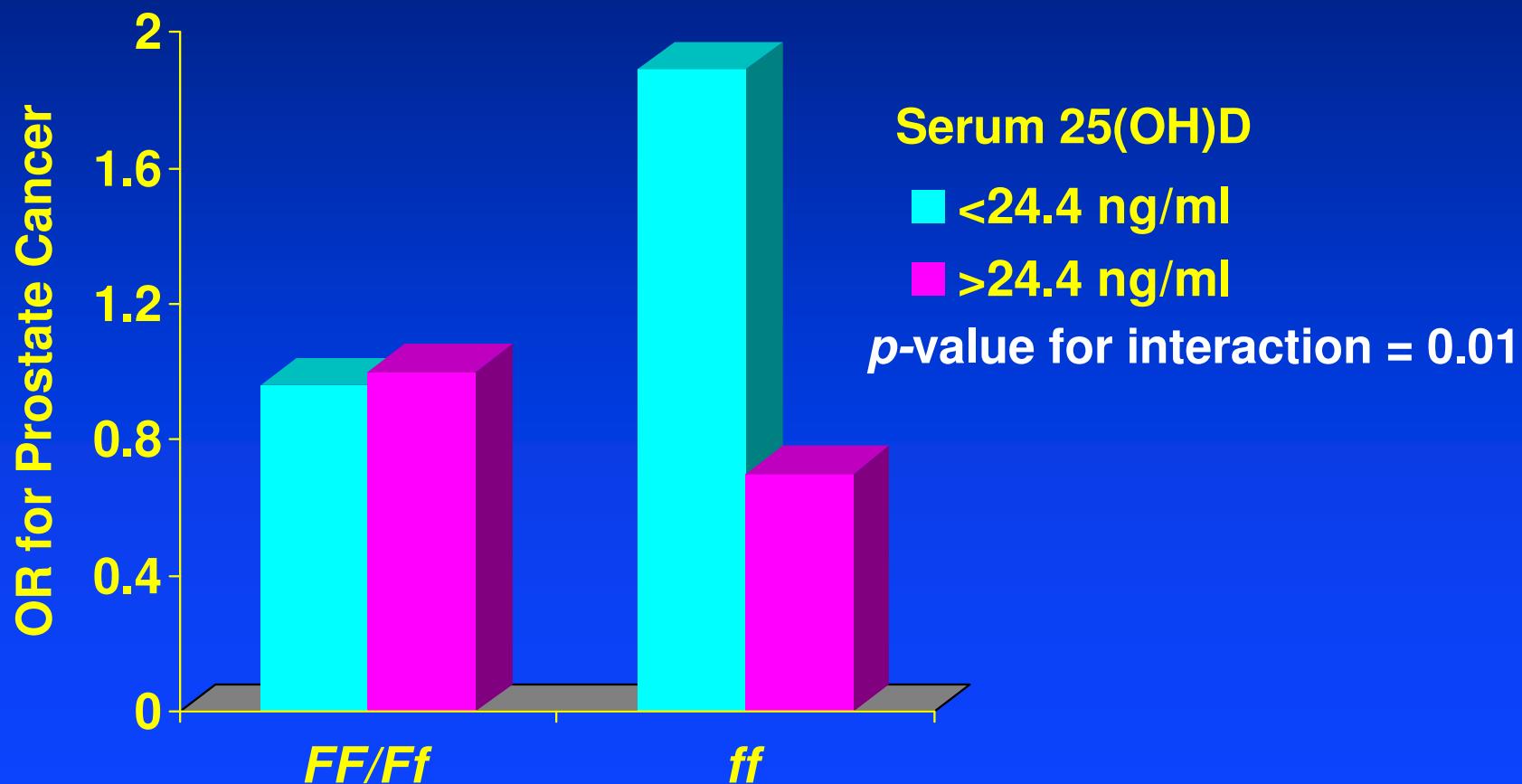
Abrams et al. J. Bone Mineral Res. 20: 945-953, 2005

# Dietary Calcium, VDR *FokI* Genotype and Colon Cancer Risk



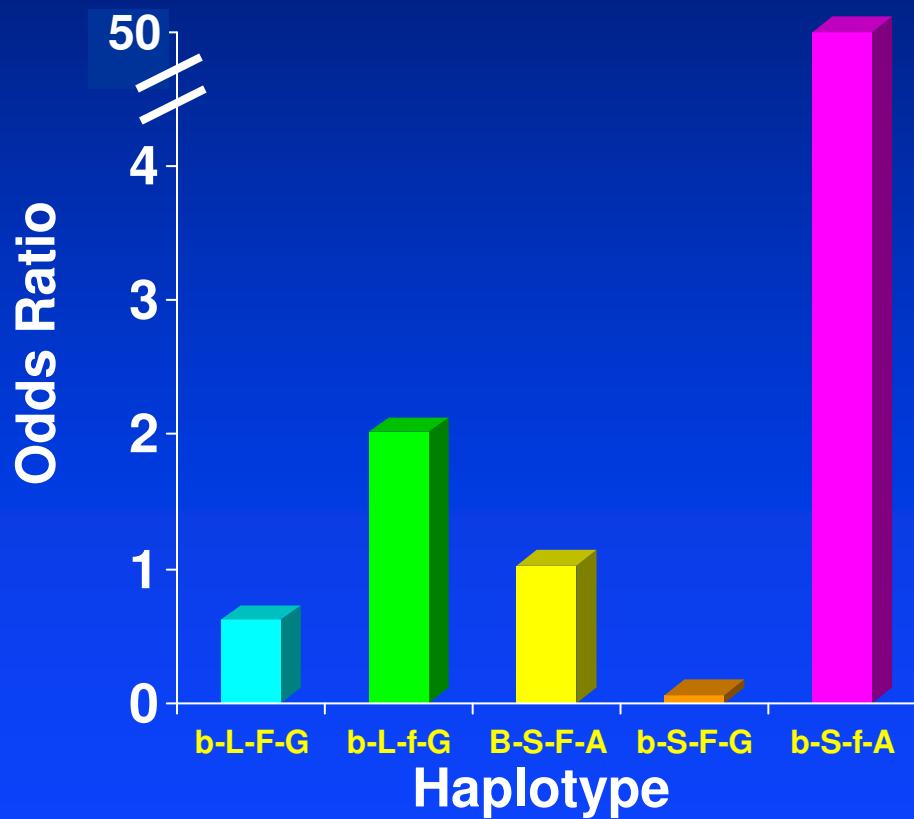
# Vitamin D Status, VDR *FokI* Genotype and Prostate Cancer Risk

1,066 prostate cancer cases and 1,618 age-matched controls from the Physician's Health Study



# Haplotypes in the VDR Gene Influence Colon Cancer Risk

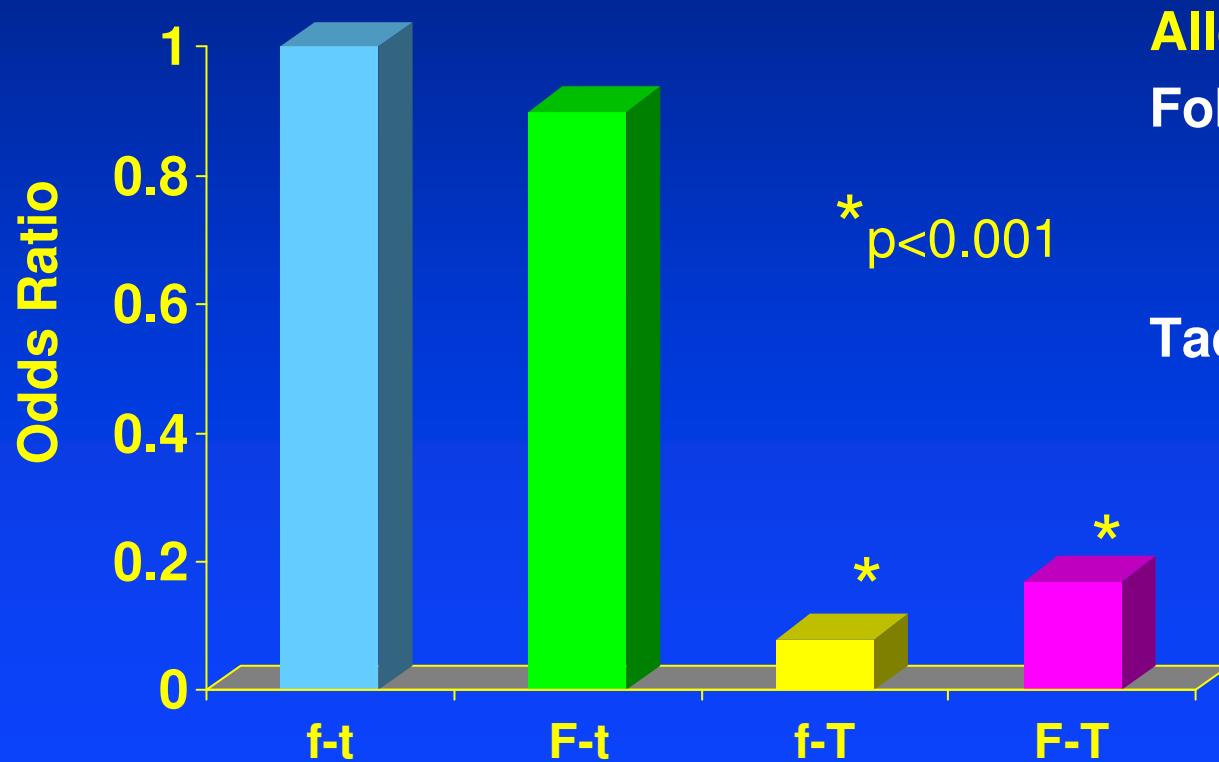
*BsmI* (b or B), poly (A) S or L, *Fok I* (f or F) and *CDX2* (G or A); 1574 cases and 1970 controls



- Haplotype frequencies varied by ethnic group
- OR for colon cancer varied from 0.06 to 51.12 depending on haplotype

# VDR Haplotypes and Bladder Cancer Risk in India

130 patients with bladder cancer and 346 controls in Northern India analyzed for Taq-1 and Fok-1 polymorphisms



Allele frequencies in India:

Fok-1: FF 44%

Ff 49%

ff 7%

Taq-1 TT 49%

Tt 40%

tt 11%



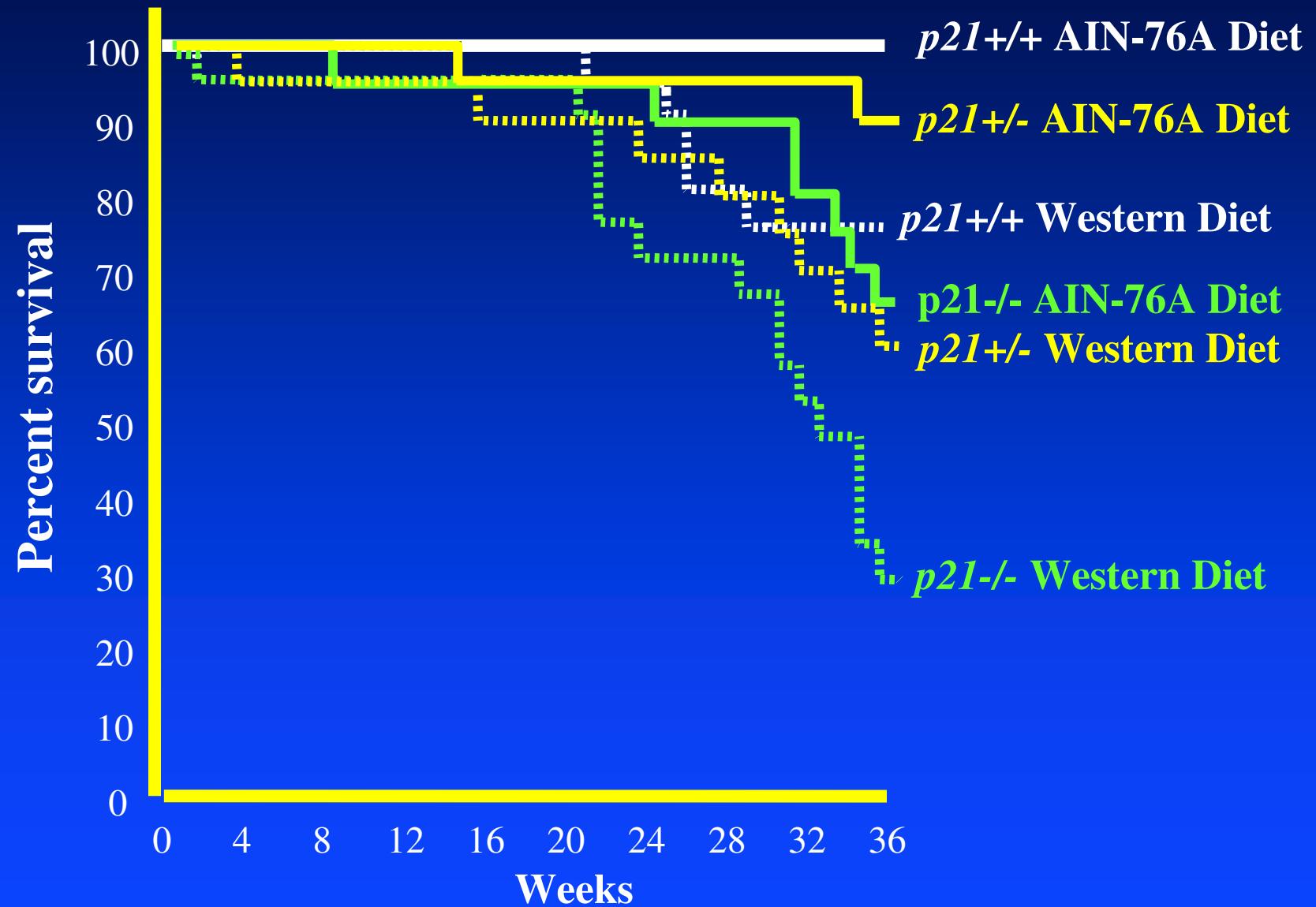
**One Size Does Not Fit All! Genetic Background May Determine Who Will Respond to Vitamin D for Cancer Prevention**



'It would never work, Nichole; I'm  
in the experimental group and  
you're in the control!'

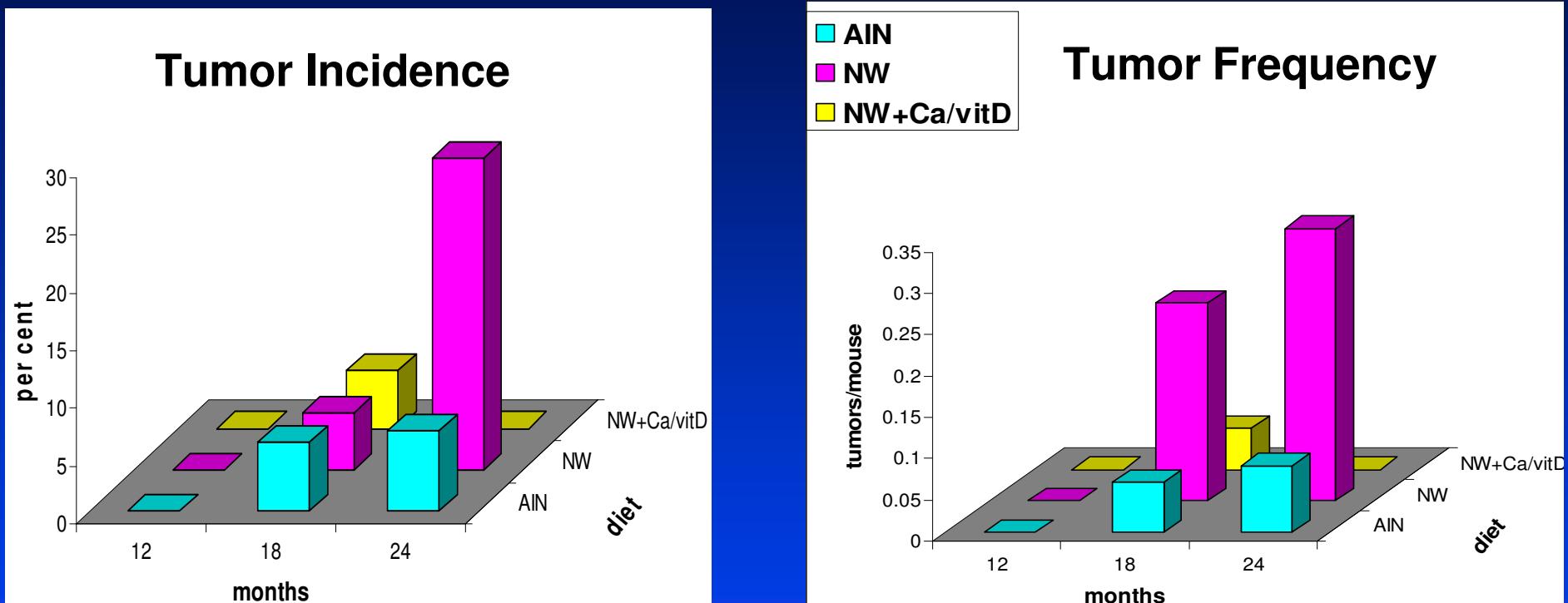
## Animal Models Are Providing Fundamental Clues About Vitamin D and Cancer Risk

# Gene-Nutrient Interactions and Colon Cancer



Yang et al, Cancer Res. 61, 565, 2001

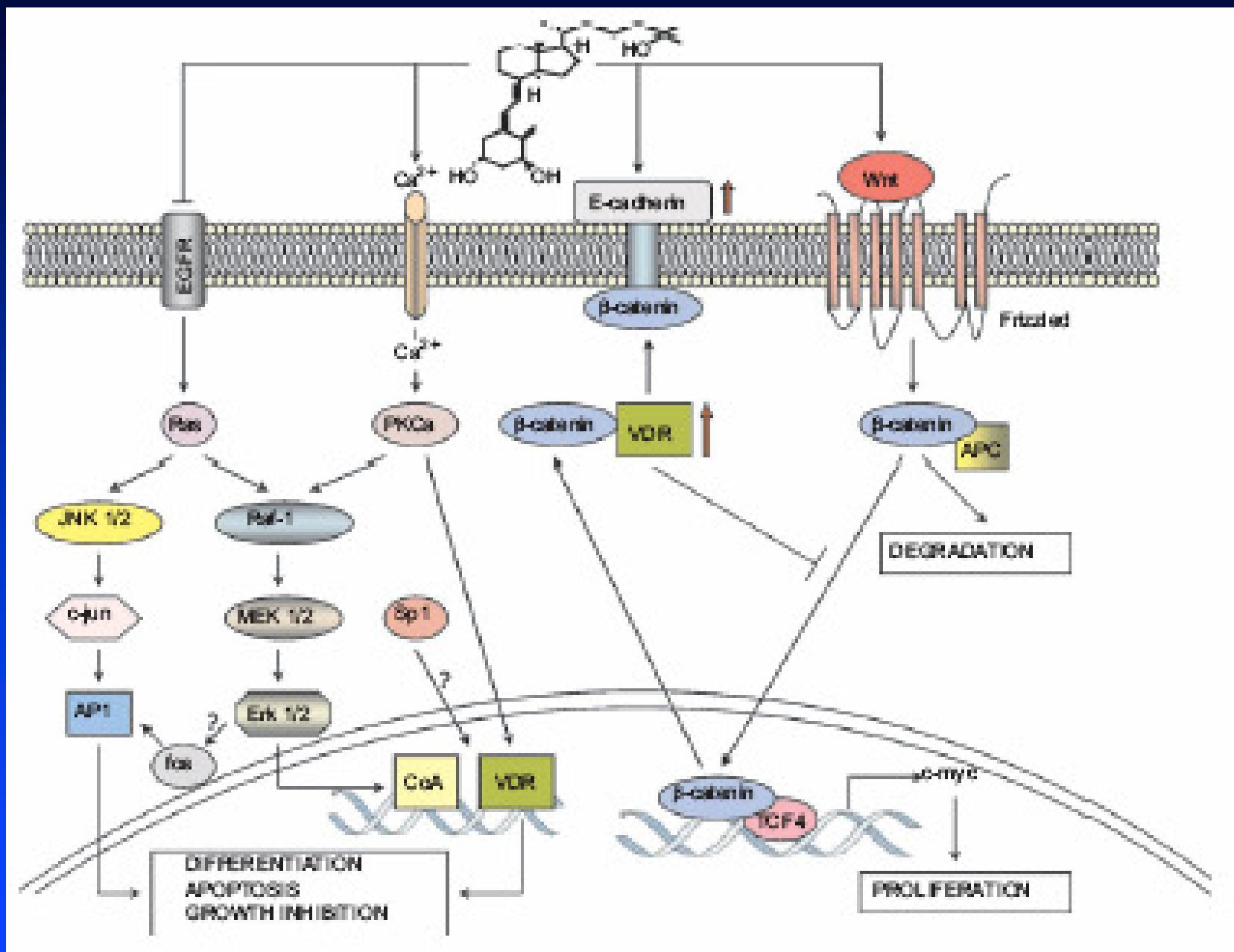
# A Western-Style Diet Induces Malignant Neoplasms in the Colon of Normal Mice



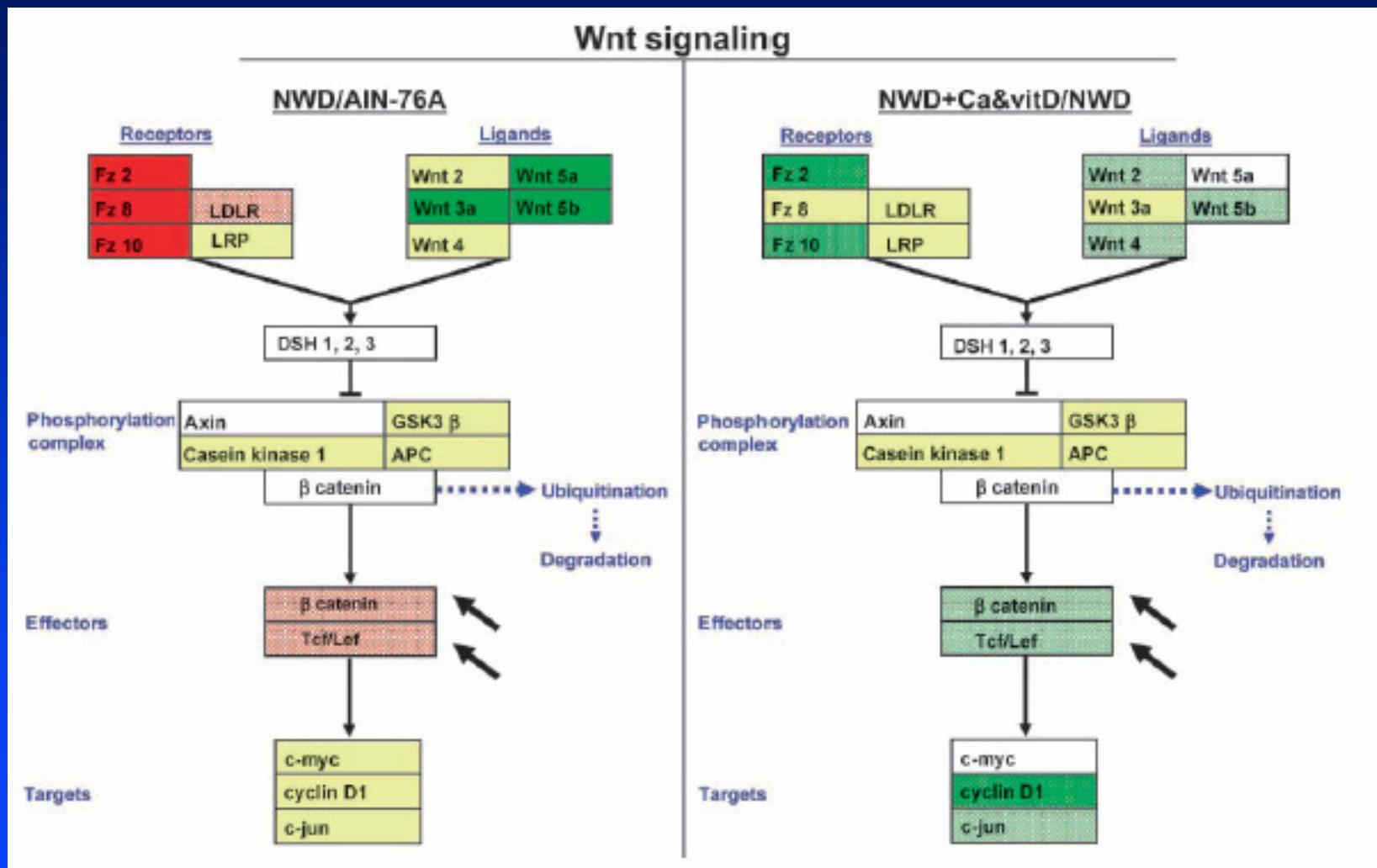
*Approximately 25% of the mice develop a single tumor ....this is a new mouse model of sporadic colon cancer, which represents the vast majority of human colon cancer*

**Supplementation with vitamin D and calcium inhibits tumor formation**

Yang et al. J Nutr. 2005;135:2710-4.

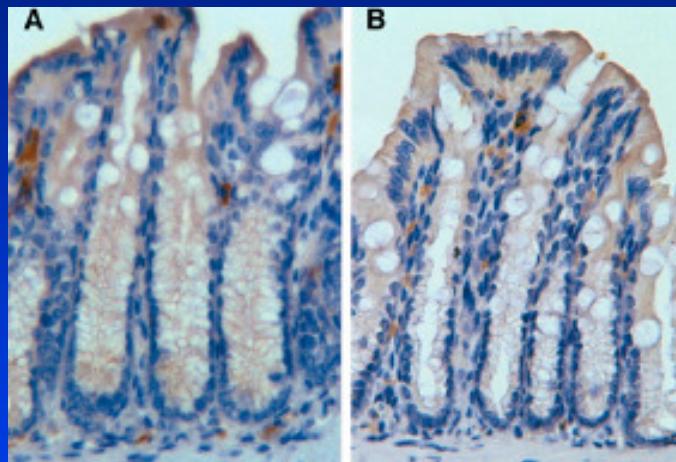


# Vitamin D and Calcium Modulate Wnt Signaling



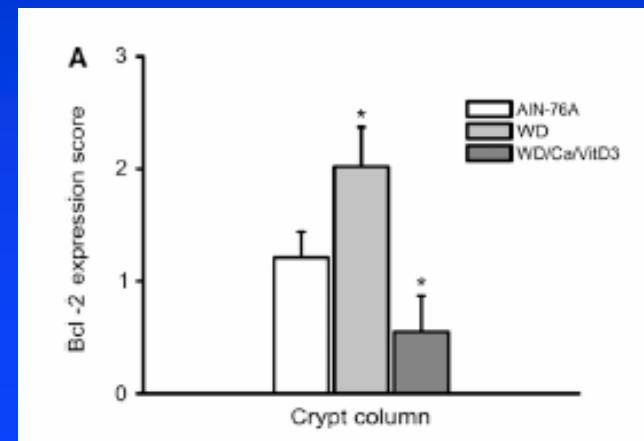
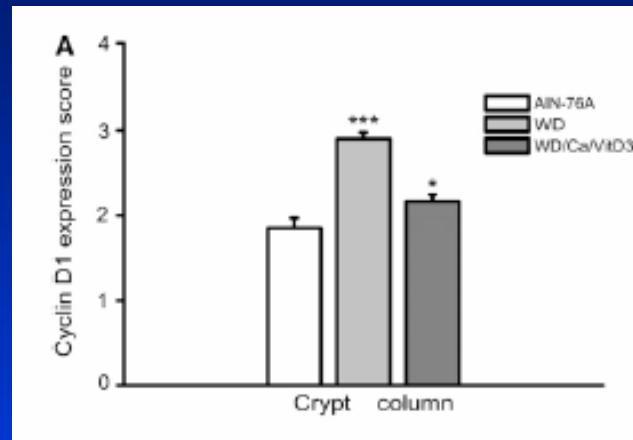
# Dietary Vitamin D and Calcium Modulate Cell Proliferation and Apoptosis in the Colon

Cyclin D1 Expression



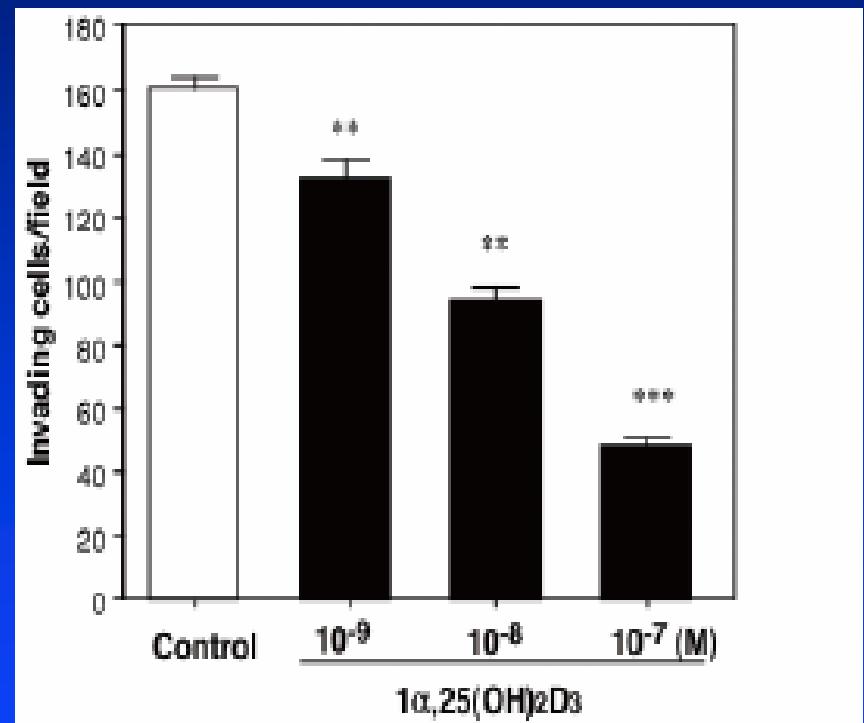
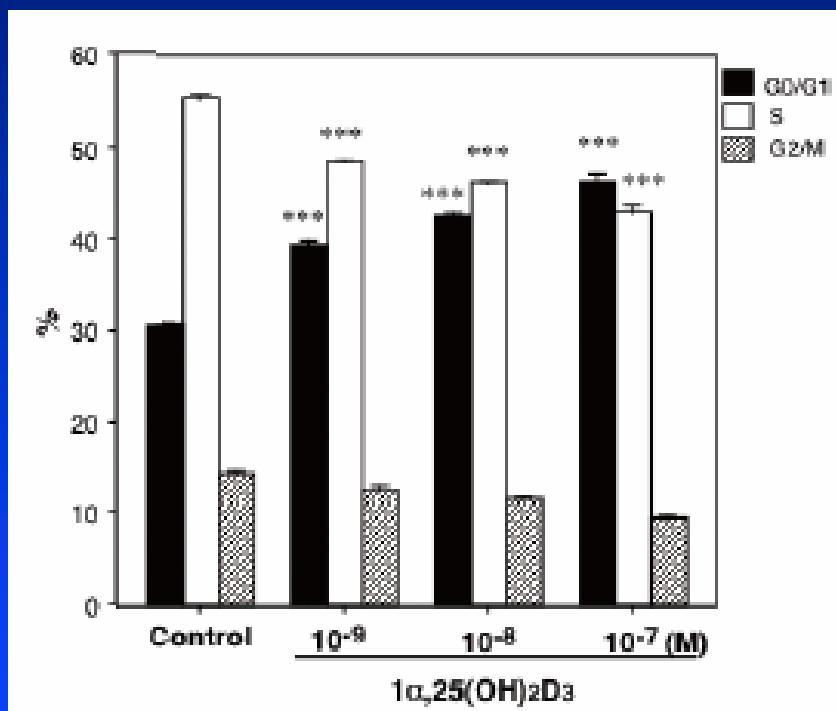
Western Diet

Western/D/Ca



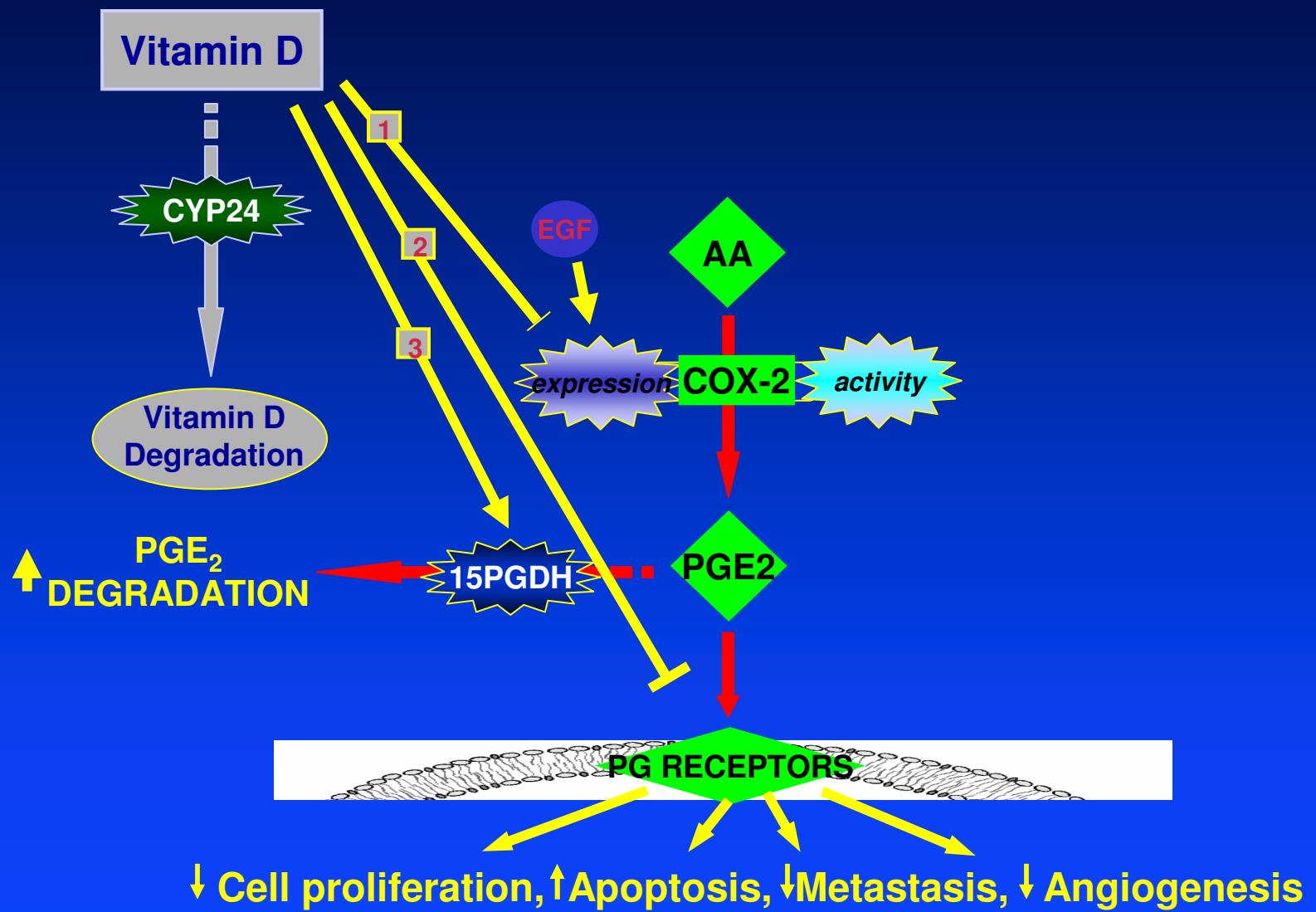
# Vitamin D Inhibits Cancer Cell Proliferation and Metastasis

Lewis Lung Carcinoma Cells



Nakagawa et al. Carcinogenesis, 26:429-440, 2005

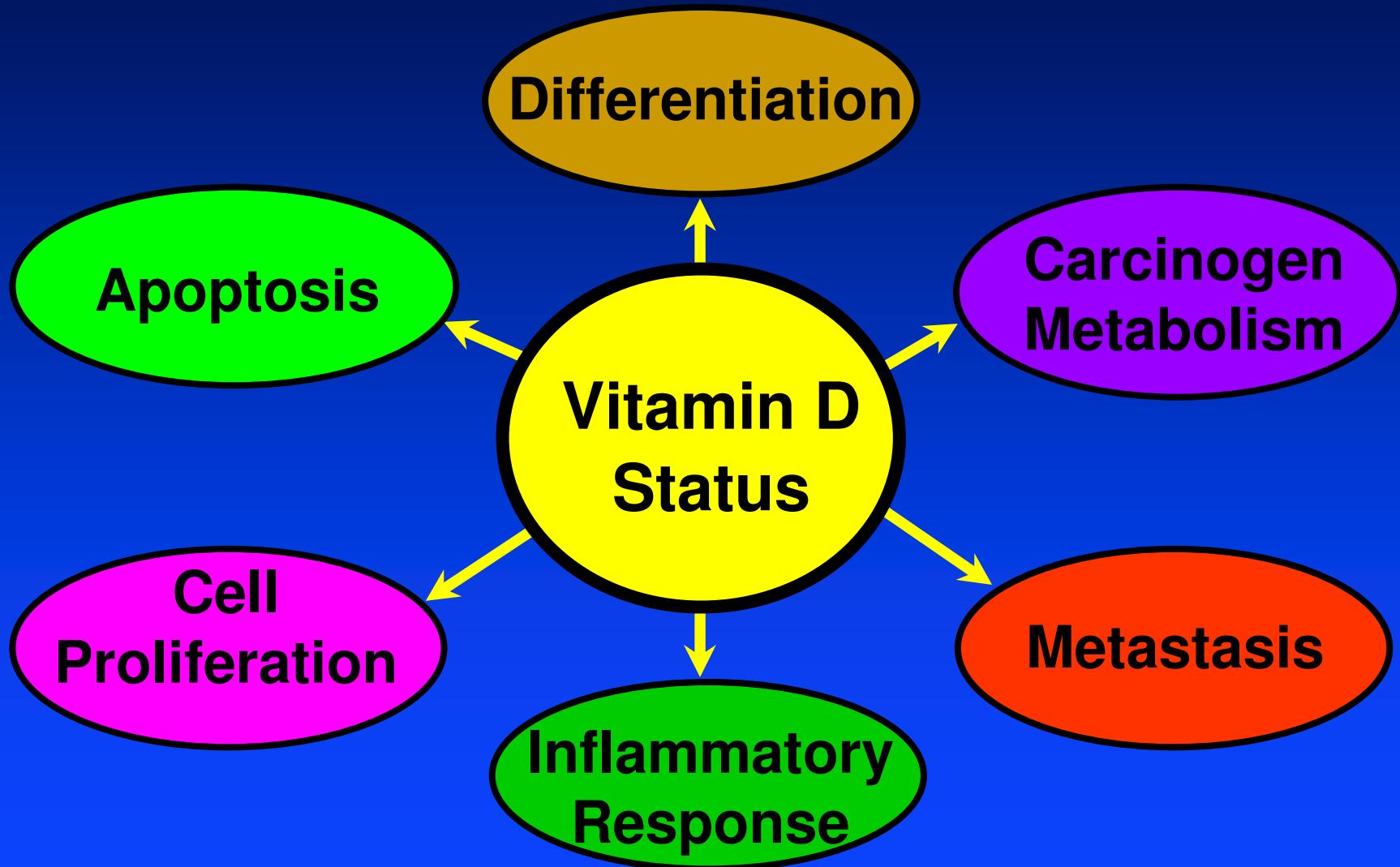
# Vitamin D Modifies Prostaglandin Metabolism



Moreno J et al. Anticancer Res 2006

# Vitamin D May Influence Genetic Events Associated with Several Cancer Processes

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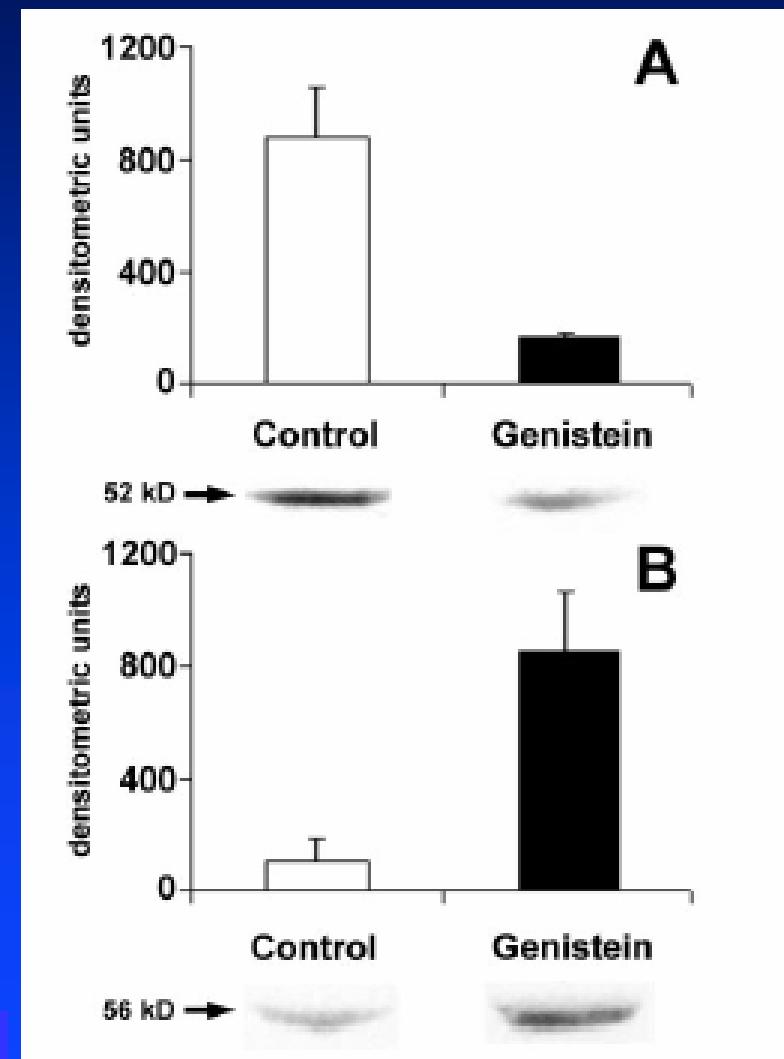


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# **Other Dietary components and Environmental Factors May Determine the Response to Vitamin D**

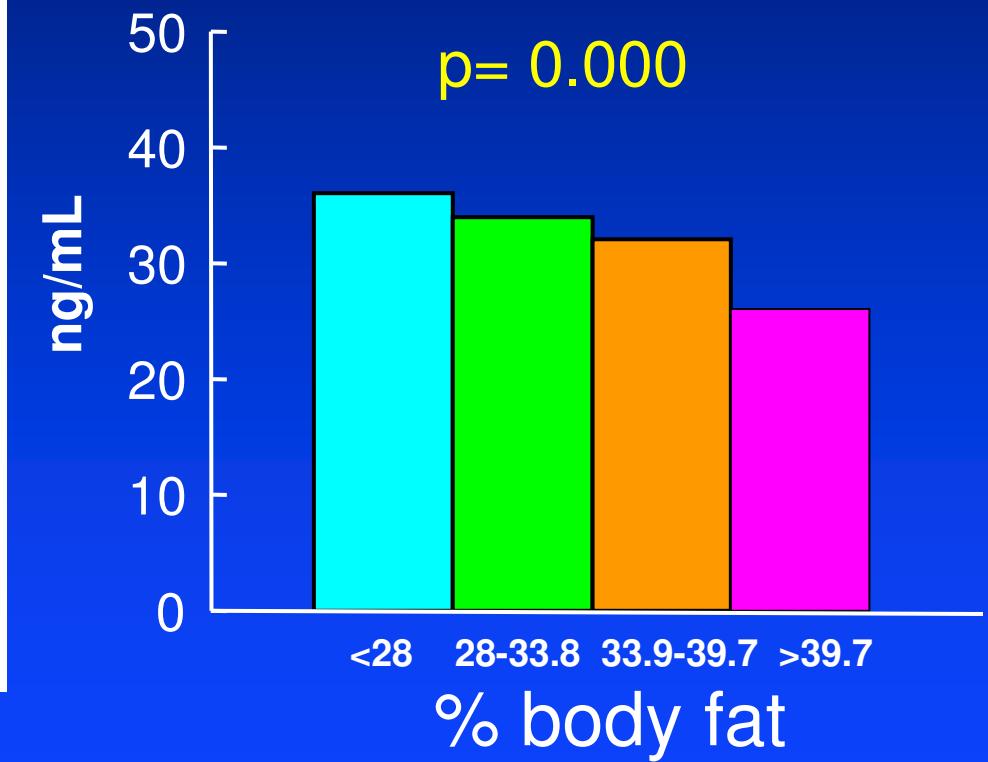
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# Dietary Genistein Influences CYP24 and 1 $\alpha$ -Hydroxylase Expression in Mouse Colon



# Effect of Body Fat on Serum 25(OH)D Concentrations

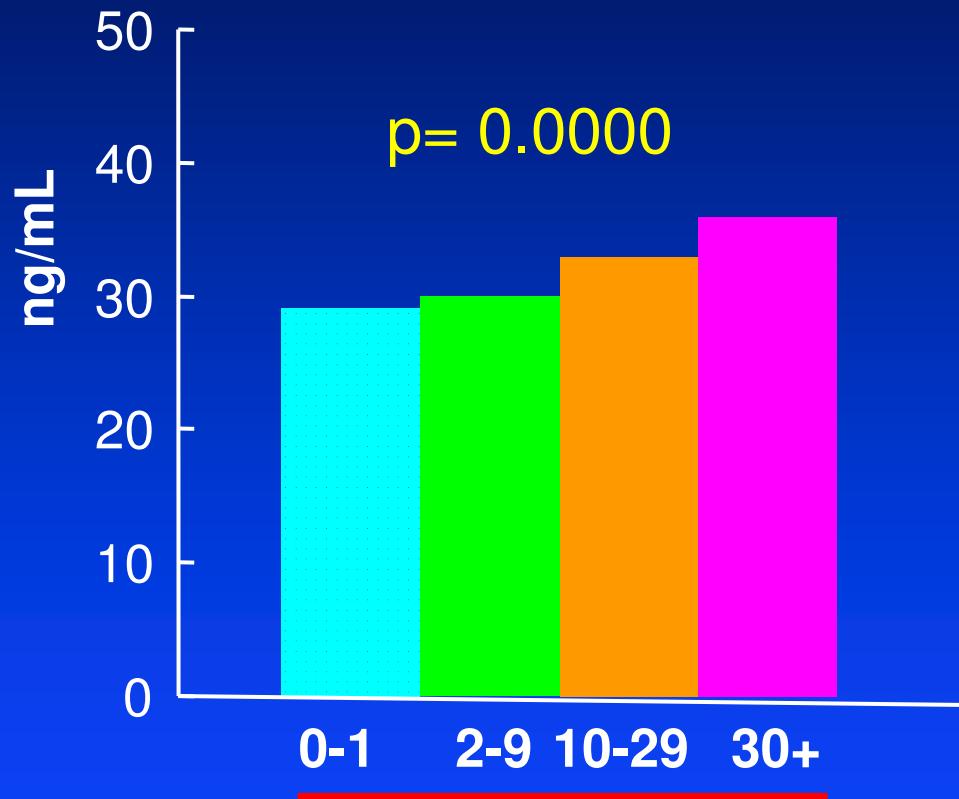
Non-Hispanic White Women, aged 20-49, NHANES III Study



Looker, Nutr. Rev. 65:S124-125, 2007

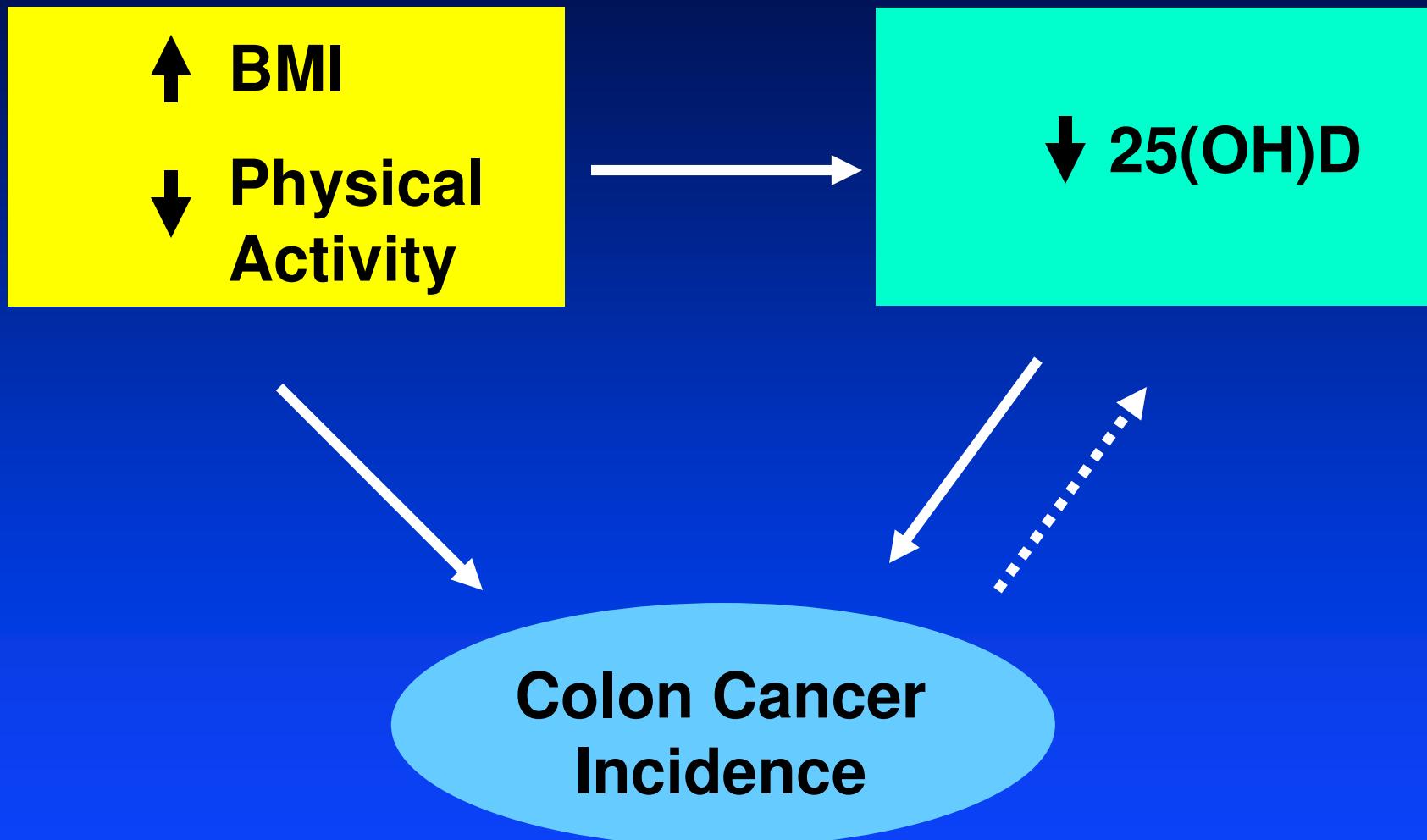
# Effect of Physical Activity on Serum 25(OH)D Concentrations

Non-Hispanic White Women, aged 20-49, NHANES III Study

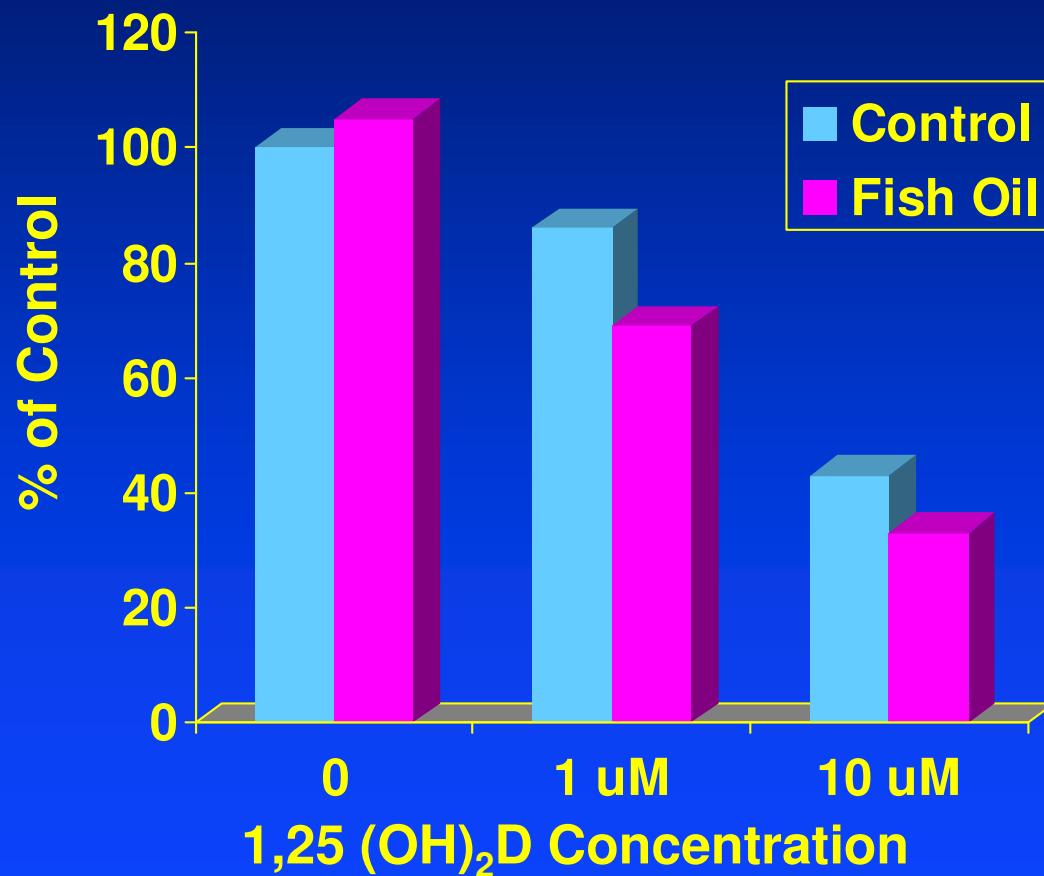


Selected activities quartiles  
(times/month)

Looker, Nutr. Rev. 65:S124-125, 2007



# Fish Oil Enhances the Cell Growth Inhibition of 1,25 (OH)<sub>2</sub>D in Liver Cancer Cells



Chiang KC et al. Anticancer Res. 29: 3591-3596, 2009

# VITAL (VITamin D and OmegA-3 Trial)

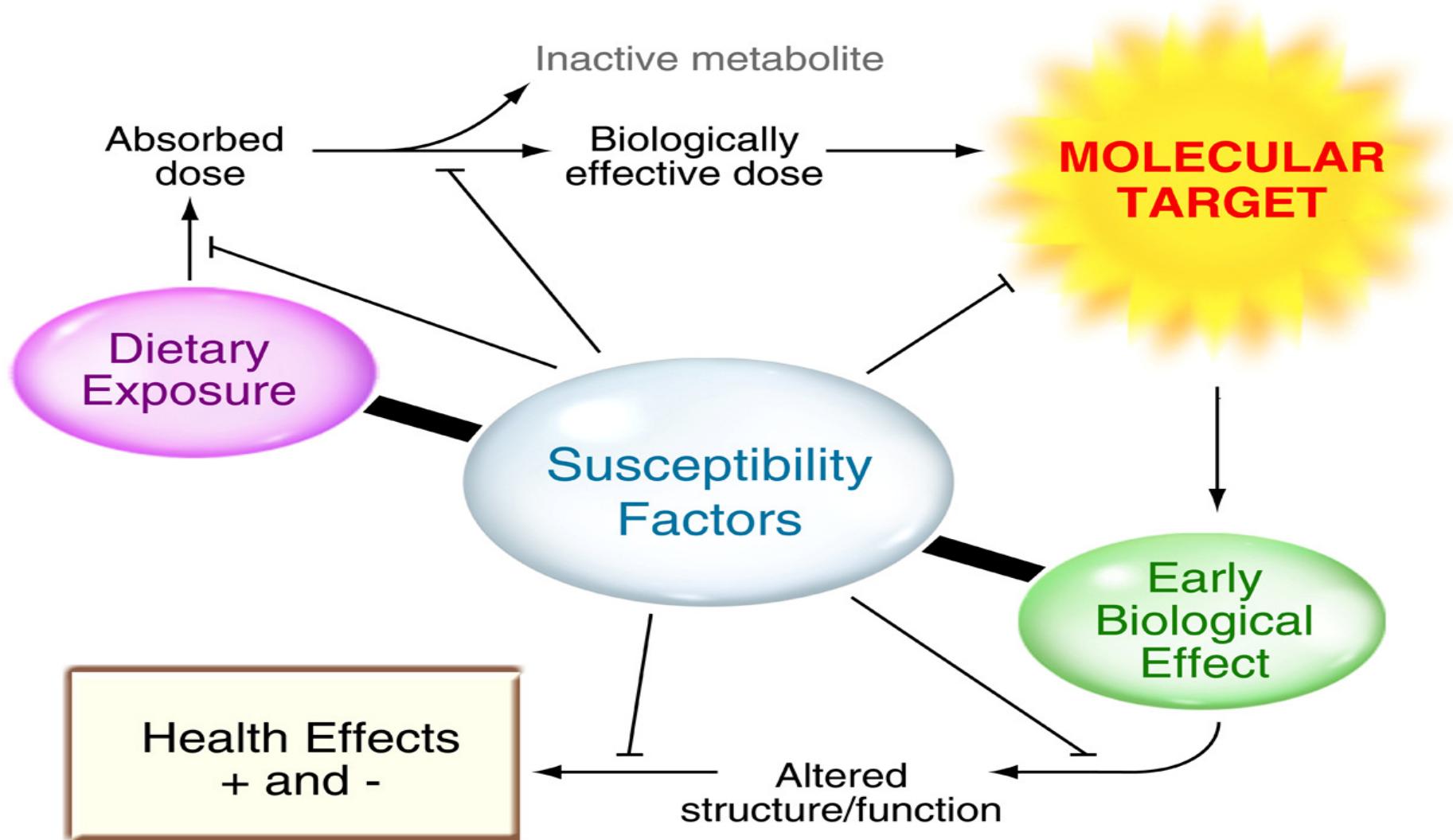
Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo Controlled Study

20,000 men, age  $\geq 60$  and women  $\geq 65$  years

Placebo	Vitamin D (2000 IU)
Fish Oil (1000 mg)	Vitamin D and Fish Oil

**Principal Investigators:** Drs. JoAnn Manson and Julie Buring

# Research Needs: Better Biomarkers



**Just when I knew all of life's answers,  
They changed all the questions!!**

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