

OPTIMIZING PROTEIN INTAKE FOR ATHLETES

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≡ MAXIMIZING ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE ≡

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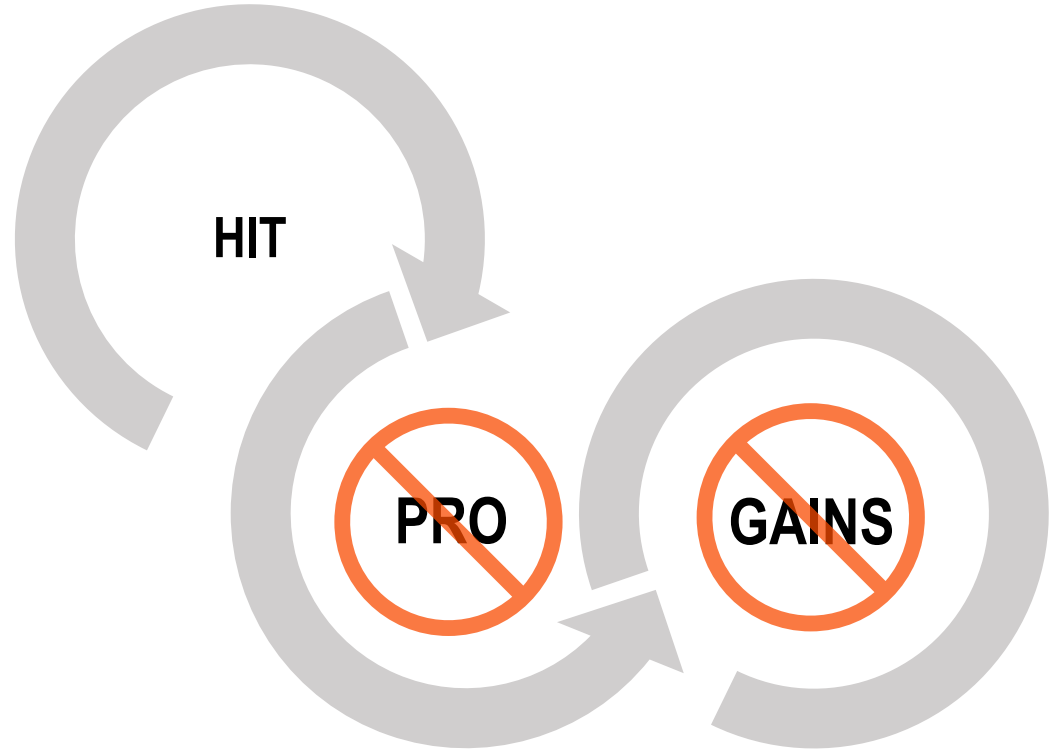
WHY ARE YOU HERE?

How much protein?

What types?

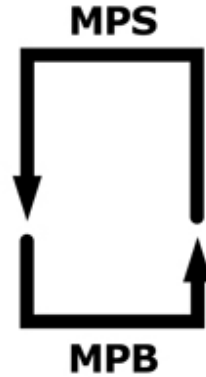
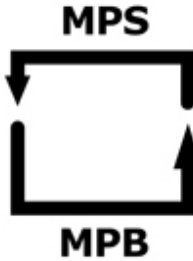
When and how often?

What makes ineffective?



Key Variables:

- High effort (failure)
- Time under tension
- Volume
- Frequency of bouts
- Training 'age'

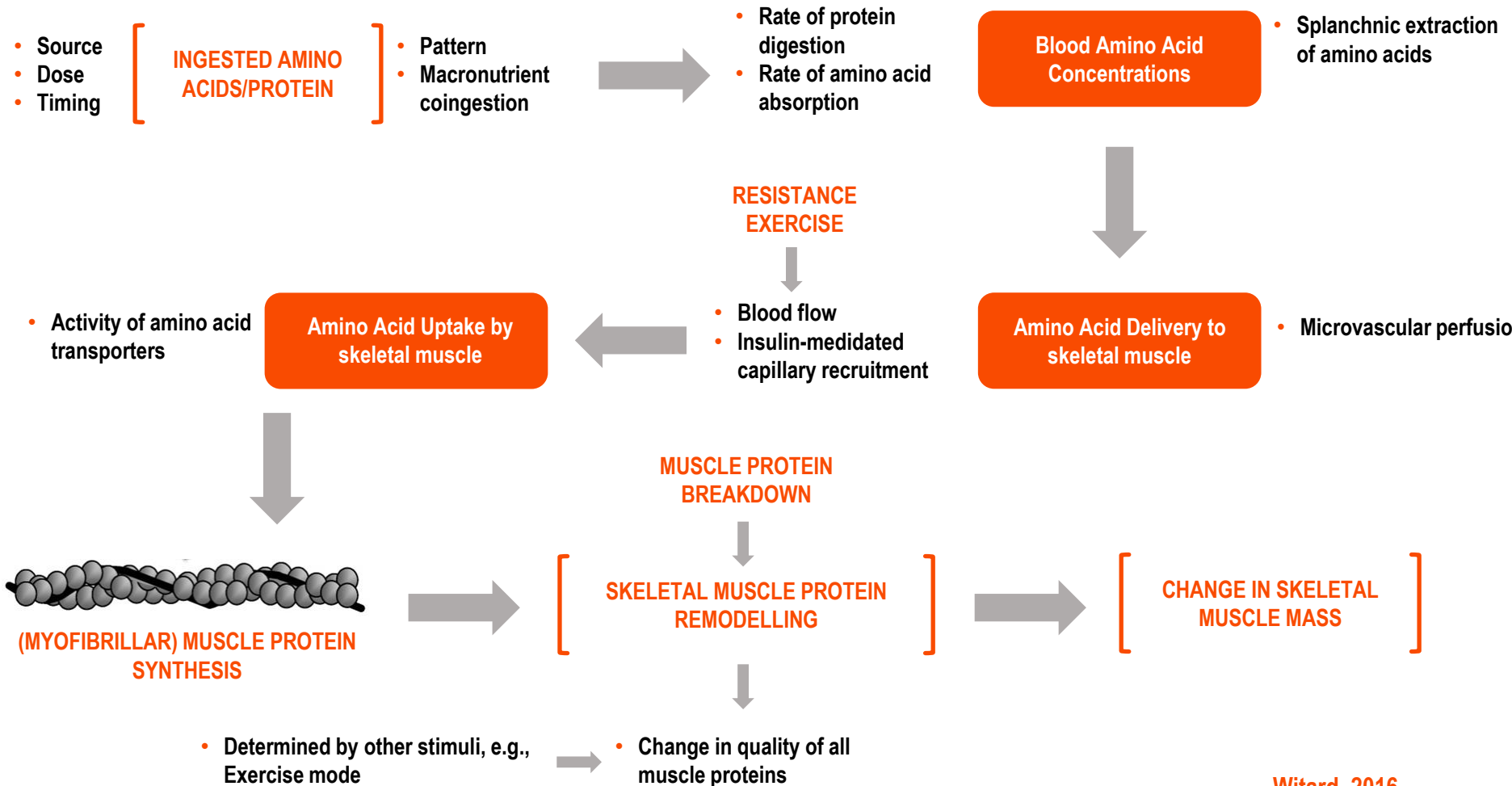


Negative net protein balance:

Breakdown and removal of damaged and / or dysfunctional proteins

Positive net protein balance:

Synthesis of new proteins for repair and growth



OUTLINE

Current understanding of protein needs

- Relative vs. absolute recommendations
- Protein timing
- How much is too much
- Night-time protein
- BCAAs

Inhibitors of MPS

Cost effective protein

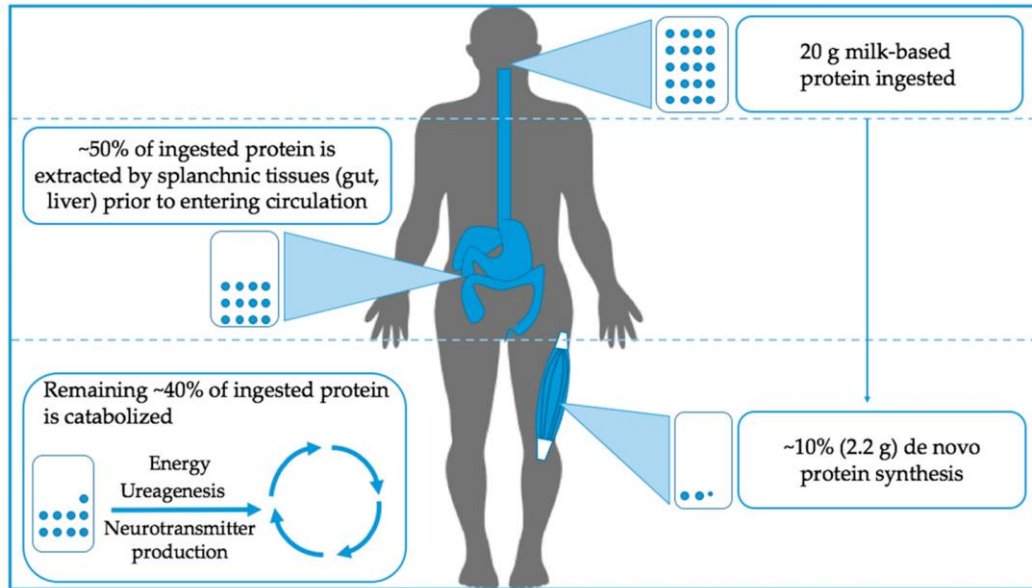
What to do when not hungry

Q & A



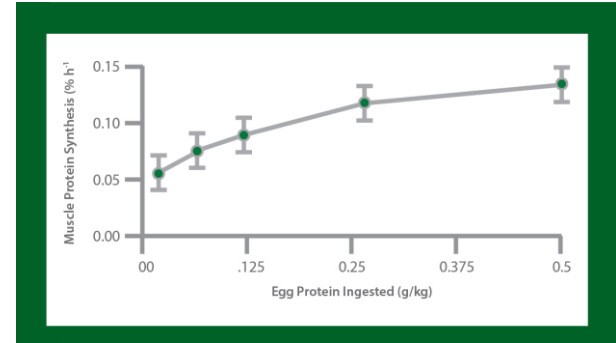
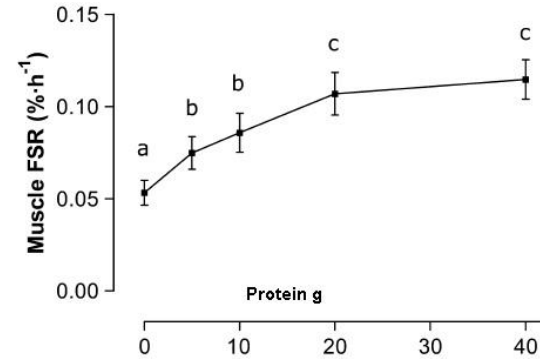
TOO MUCH PROTEIN?

Myth that AA just hang out waiting to be used if over-eaten.



Stokes, 2018

RELATIVE VS. ABSOLUTE RECOMMENDATIONS

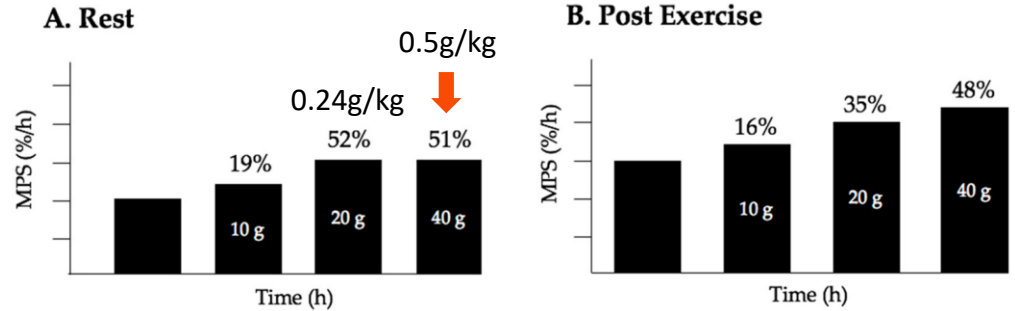


MPS at rest is maxed out at 20g whey (40g mixed meal)

Post exercise

- 10 → 20g = 2x MPS
- 20 → 40g increases MPS but diminishing

Whole body RT drives greater needs

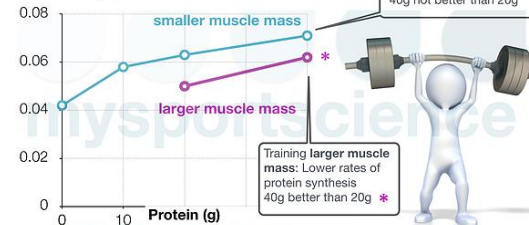


How much protein?

There is a limit to the amount of ingested protein that can be synthesized after exercise – excess is oxidized

Protein synthesis

Muscle FSR (%/h)



Witard et al Am J Clin Nutr 2014;99:86-95

MacNaughton et al Physiol Reports 4:15, 2016



Witard, 2014
MacNaughton, 2016

KEY AMINO ACID IN MUSCLE GROWTH

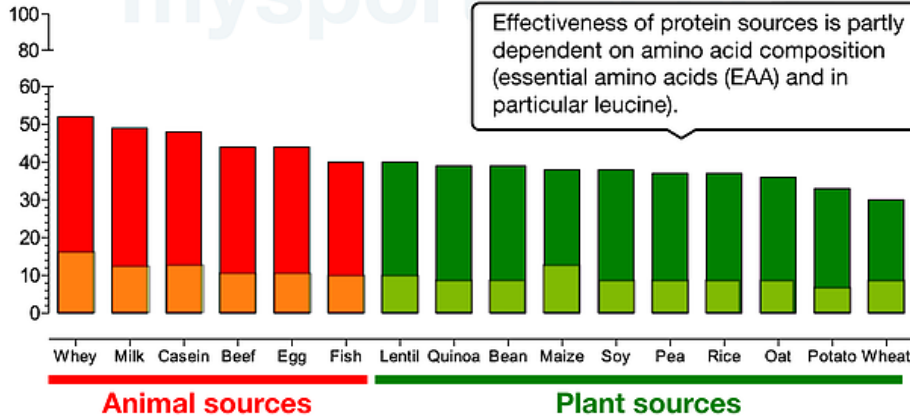
EAA and Leucine content of different protein sources



@jeukendrup

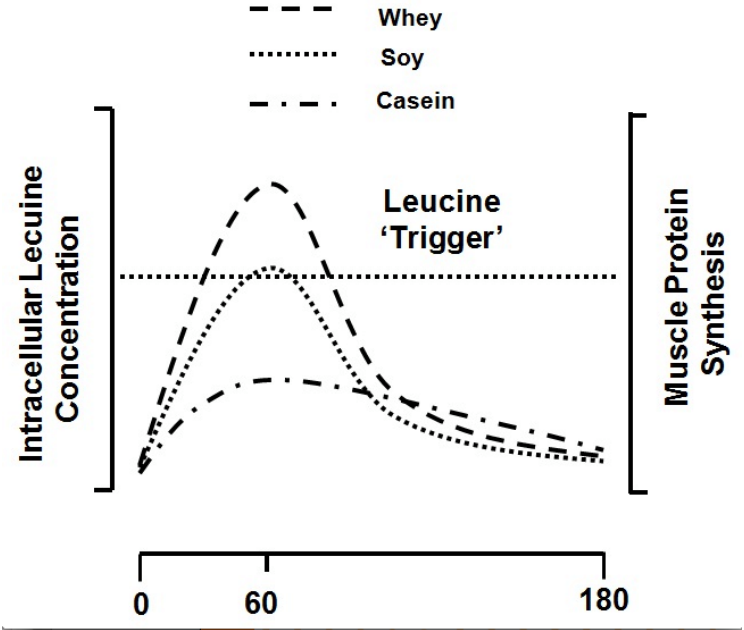
www.mysportscience.com

EAA (leucine) content (%)



Effectiveness of protein sources is partly dependent on amino acid composition (essential amino acids (EAA) and in particular leucine).

Adapted from van Vliet et al. (2015), J Nutr



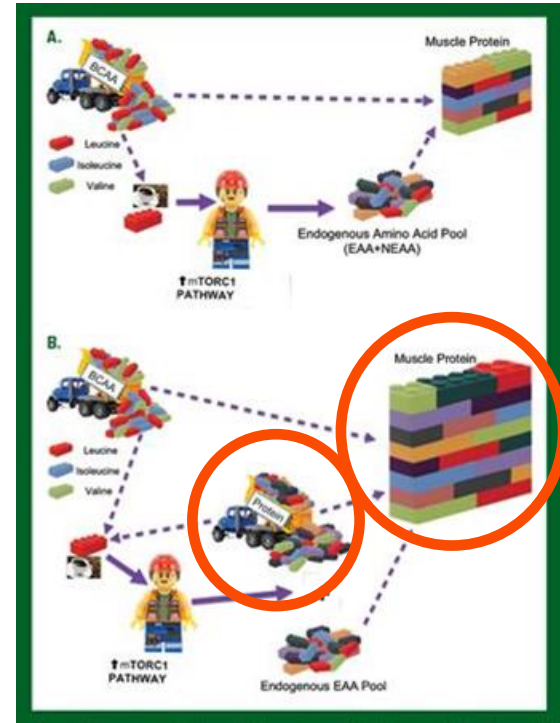
BRANCH CHAIN AMINO ACIDS FOR MAX GROWTH?

Whole protein (EAAs) > BCAAs

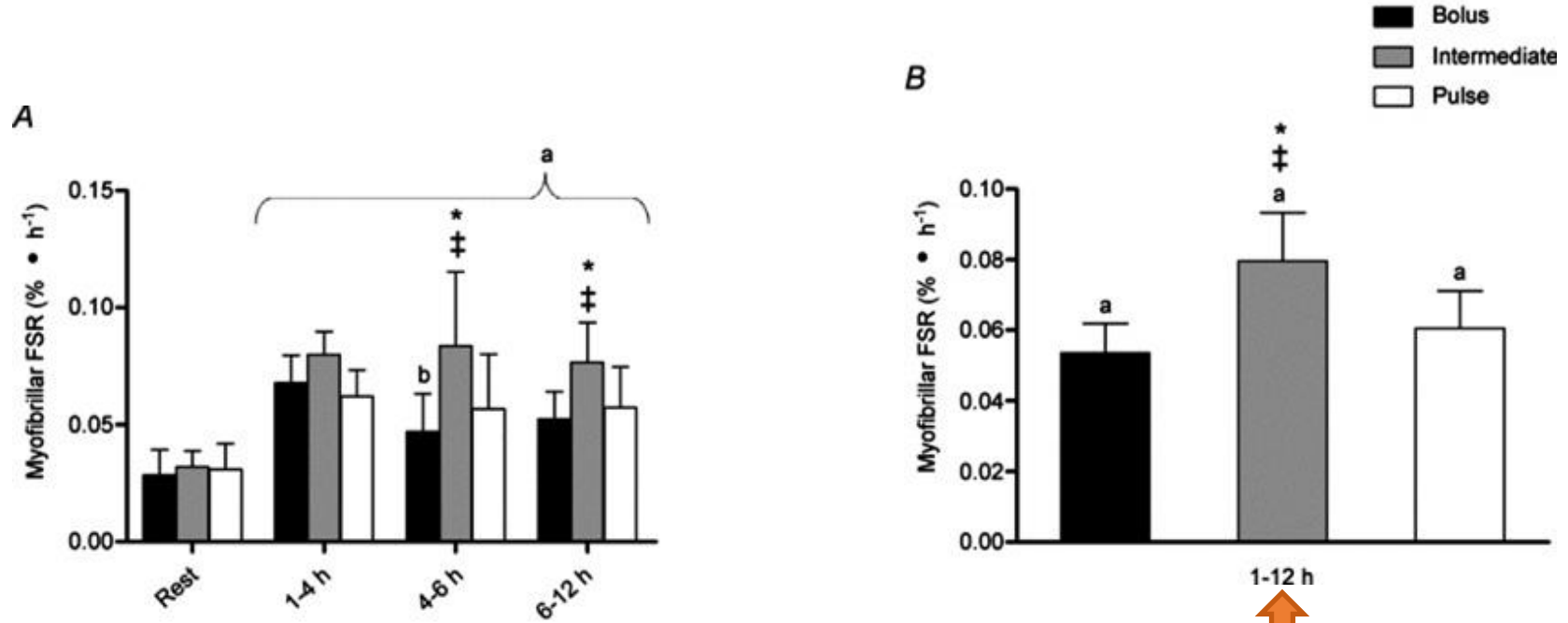
Leucine content is the driver of “protein quality” when it comes to MPS.

- Milk, eggs, whey

When whole protein consumption is limited – acute negative energy balance



PROTEIN ALL THE TIME! NOT EXACTLY.



Areta, 2013

0.25 g/kg

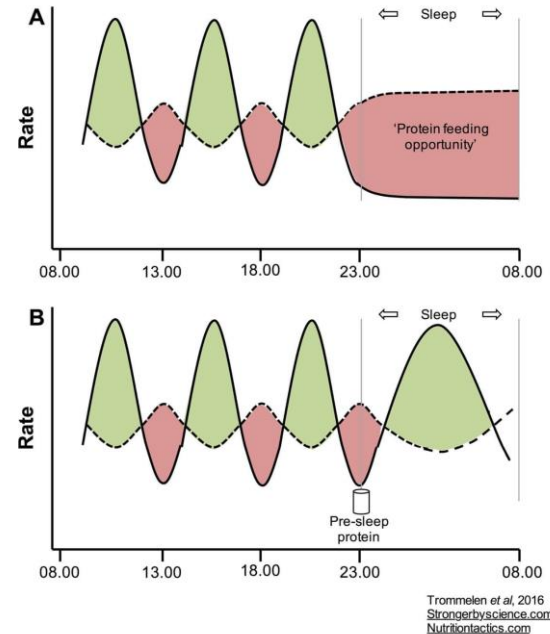
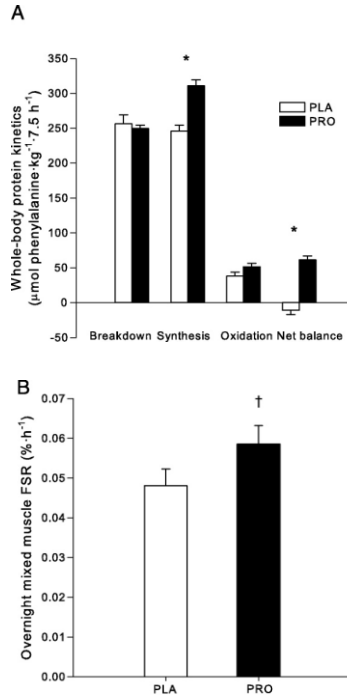
NIGHT-TIME PROTEIN

40g before bed (0.5 g/kg)

Res, 2012

40g > 30g +2g leucine

Trommelen, 2017



BUT IF I EAT TOO MUCH PROTEIN I'LL GET BIG

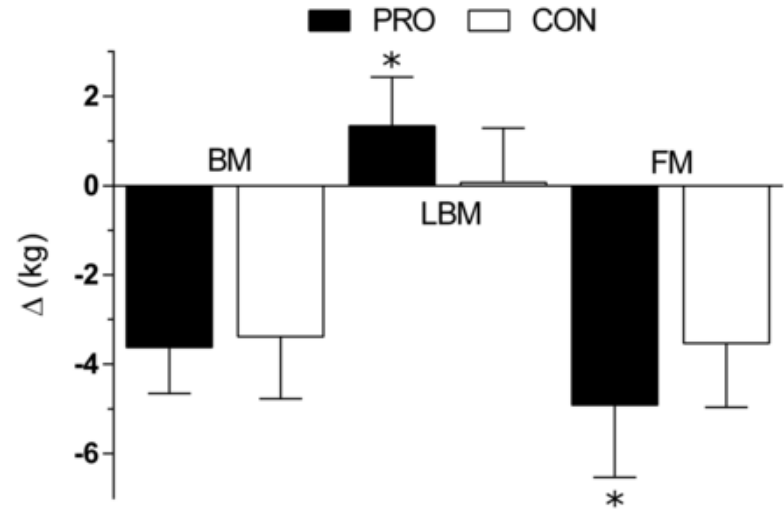
Athletes concerns of wt gain if adding protein...

RT + Hpro + Cal Restriction =

- Lighter & Leaner w/ increased LBM

Protein is the most satiating macro

- Should be the base of any weight loss plan (athlete or non)



Longland, 2016

OPTIMIZING MUSCLE MASS ACCRETION

So many variables

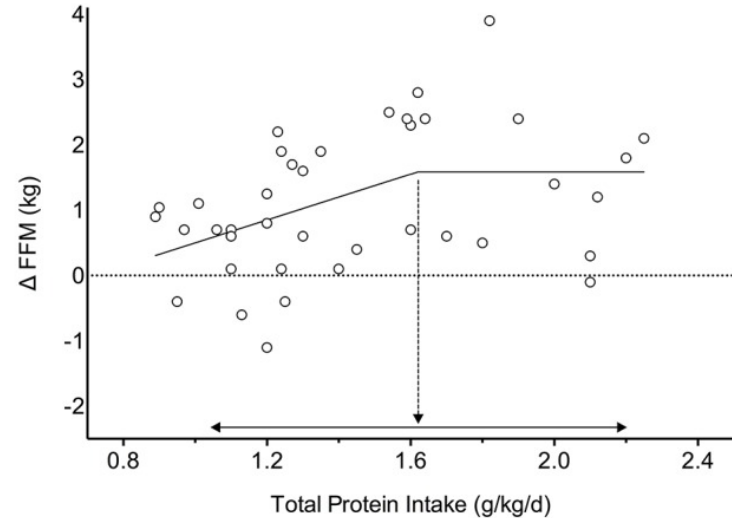
- Does
- Timing
- Source
- Concurrent training

1.6 – 2.2 g/kg/day

- 0.4 g/kg every ~4 h + 0.5 g/kg pre-bed
 - 0.3 when just using whey isolate
 - Almost always doing whole body RT

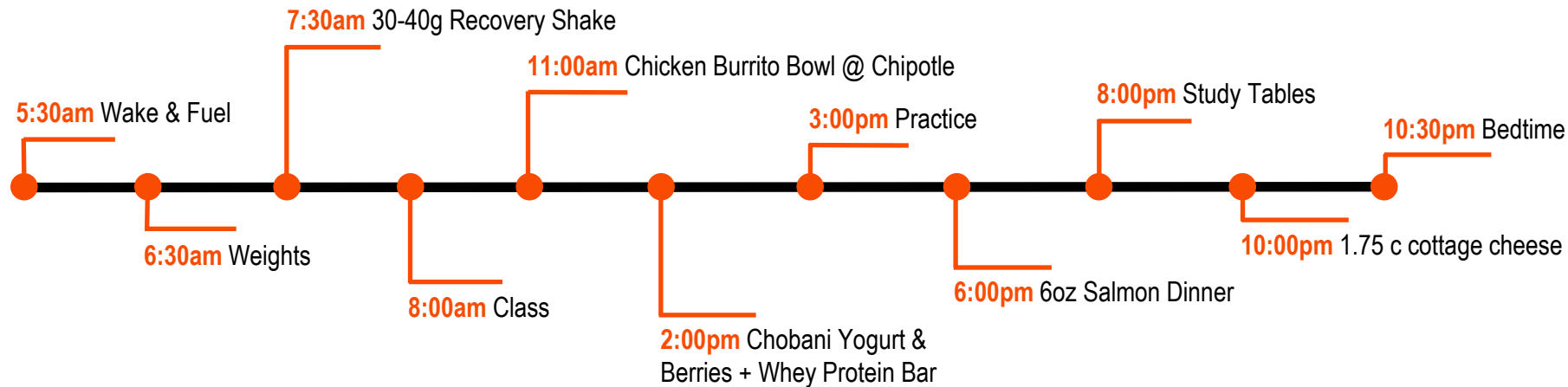
2.3– 3.1 g/kg/day

- During long-term energy restriction
- Trained athletes lose LBM faster than untrained
- Leucine (3.5g) during acute energy restriction

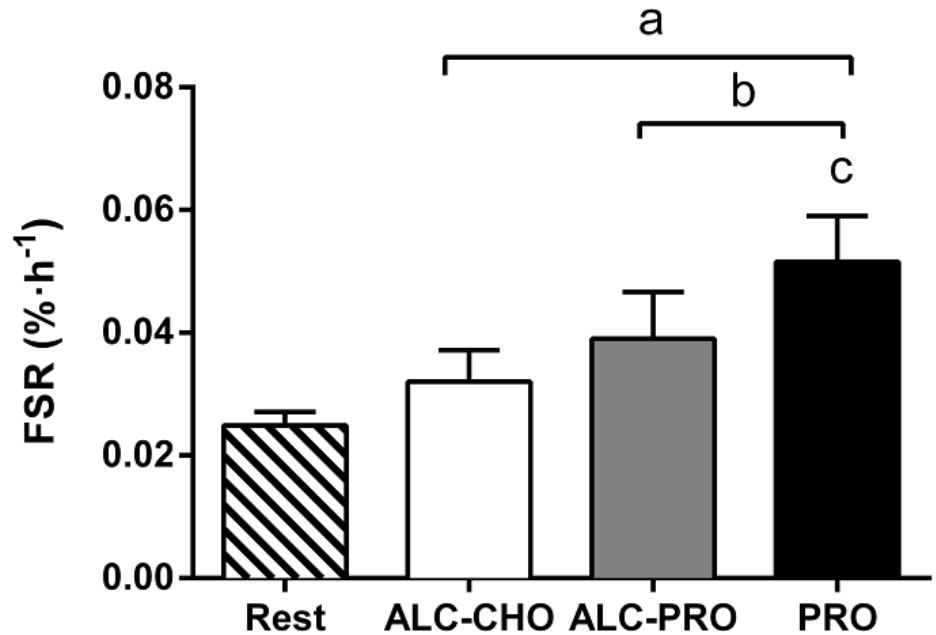
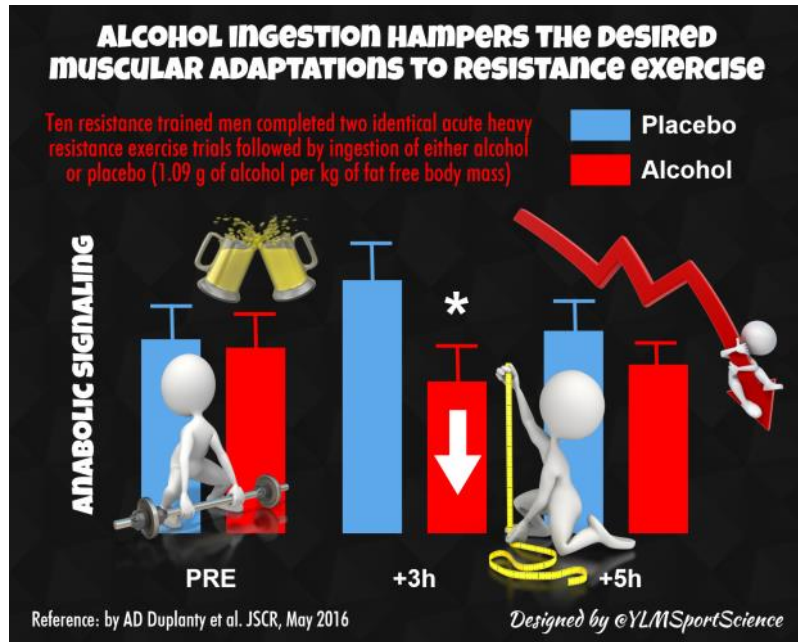


Morton, 2017
Stokes, 2018

FUELING PATTERN – 220LB FOOTBALL PLAYER



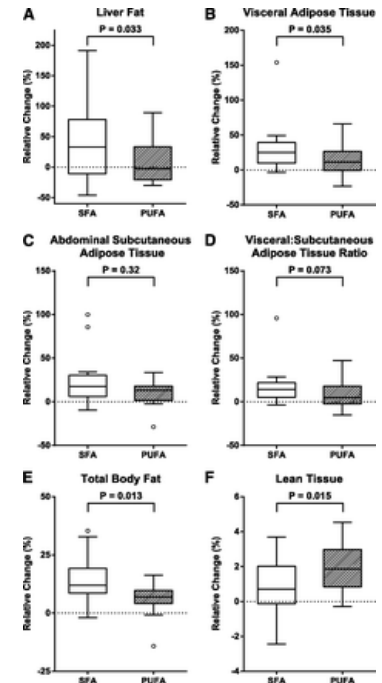
BEER BELLY GAINZ



JUST GET CALORIES???

PUFAs vs. SFA

- SFA had greater visceral fat gains
- PUFAs had 3x greater LBM gains



COST EFFECTIVE PROTEIN

PROTEIN SUPPS???

- Whey
- Peas/Hemp
- Soy
- Vegan blends
- Casein
- BCAAs
- L-arginine
- Vitamin D
- Omega-3
- NMS



RESOURCES

GSSIweb.org

YLMsports-science.com

Yann Le Meur

Mysports-science.com

Asker Jeukendrup

SportsRD.org

CPSDA – educational resources

THANK YOU

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