

# Viewing Breast Cancer as a Deficiency Disease

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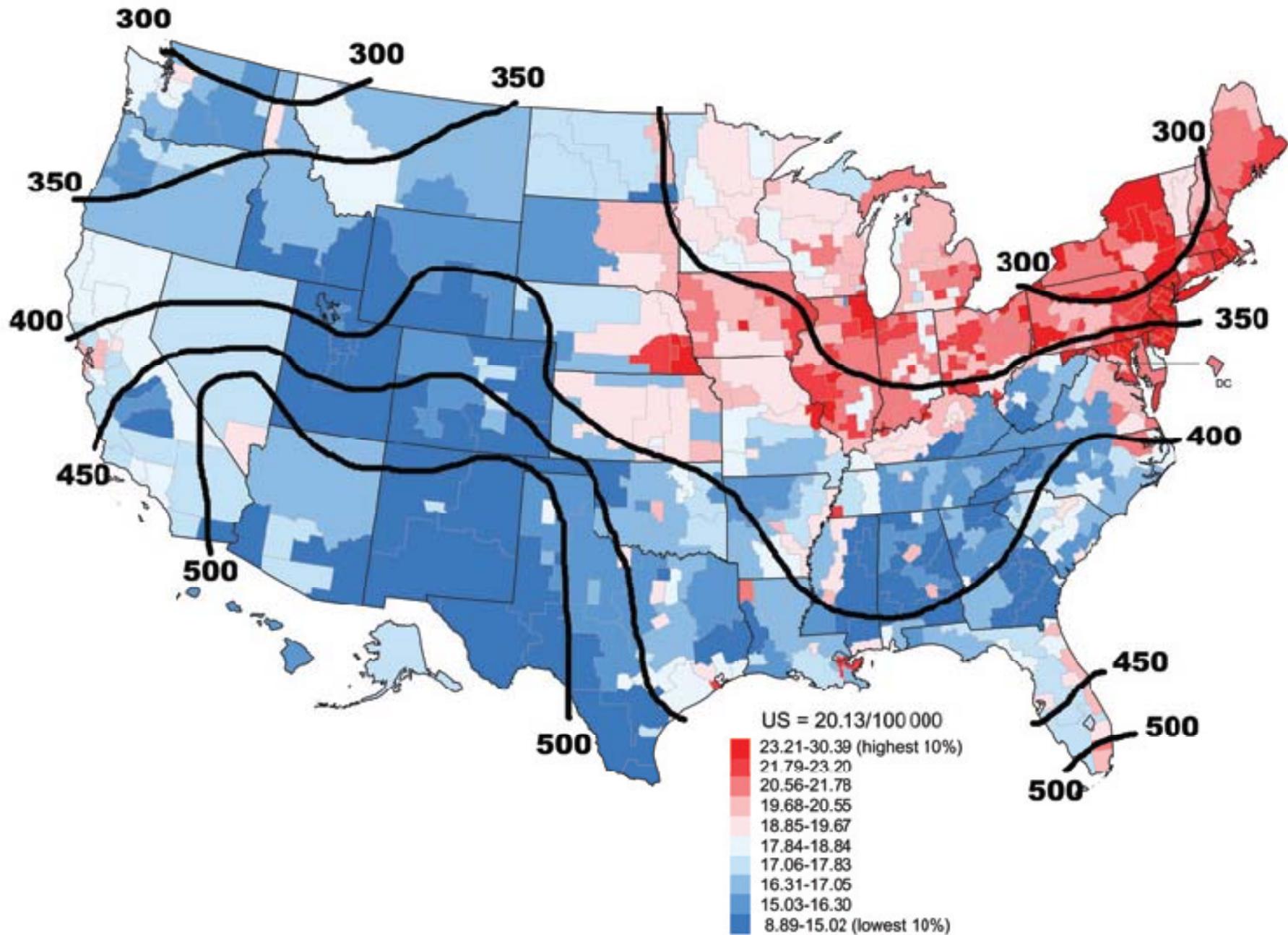
**November 3, 2009**

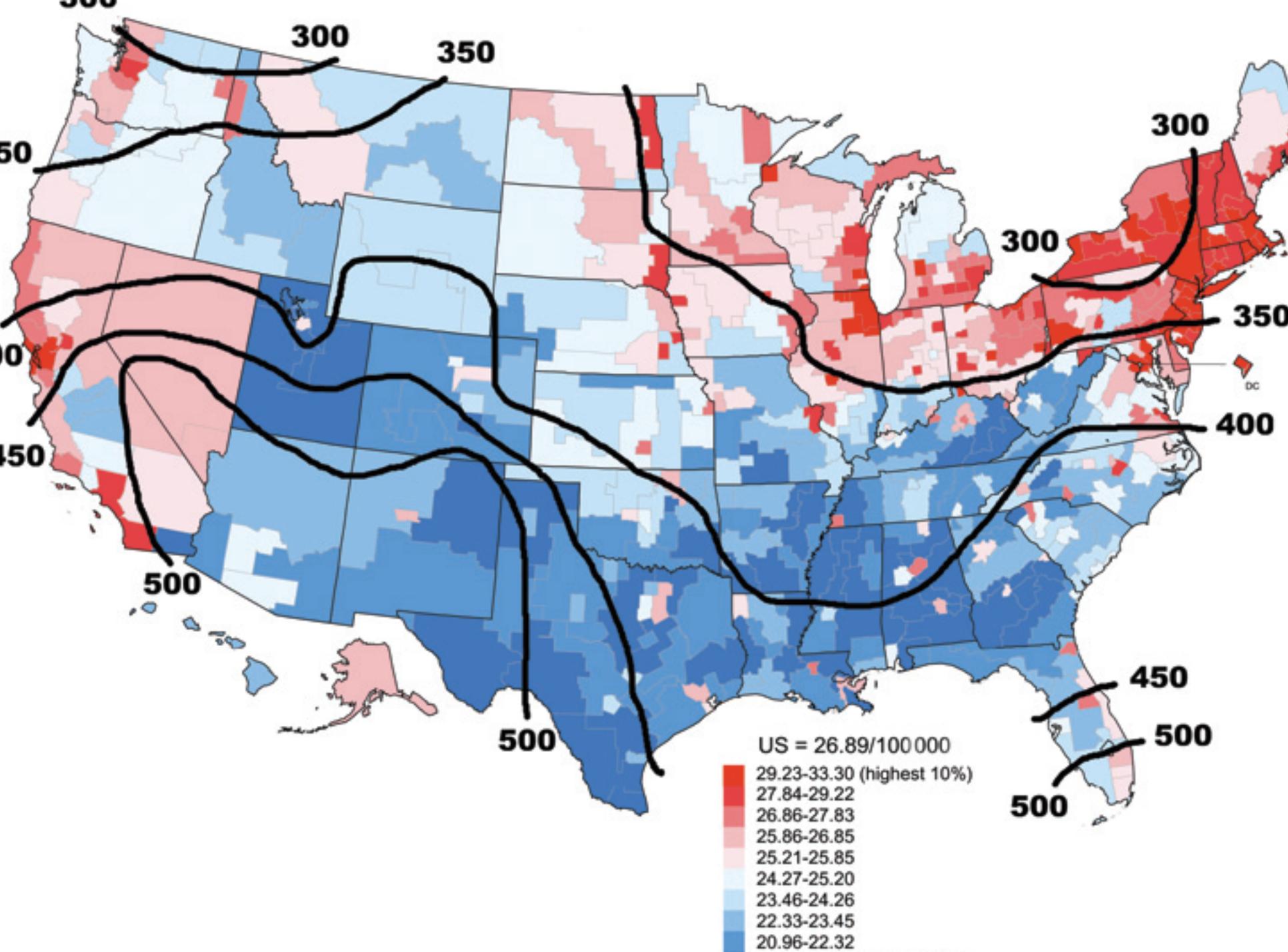
**Diagnosis and Treatment of Vitamin D Deficiency**

**University of Toronto Faculty Club**

# Disclosure

I have no actual or potential conflict of interest in relation to this program.

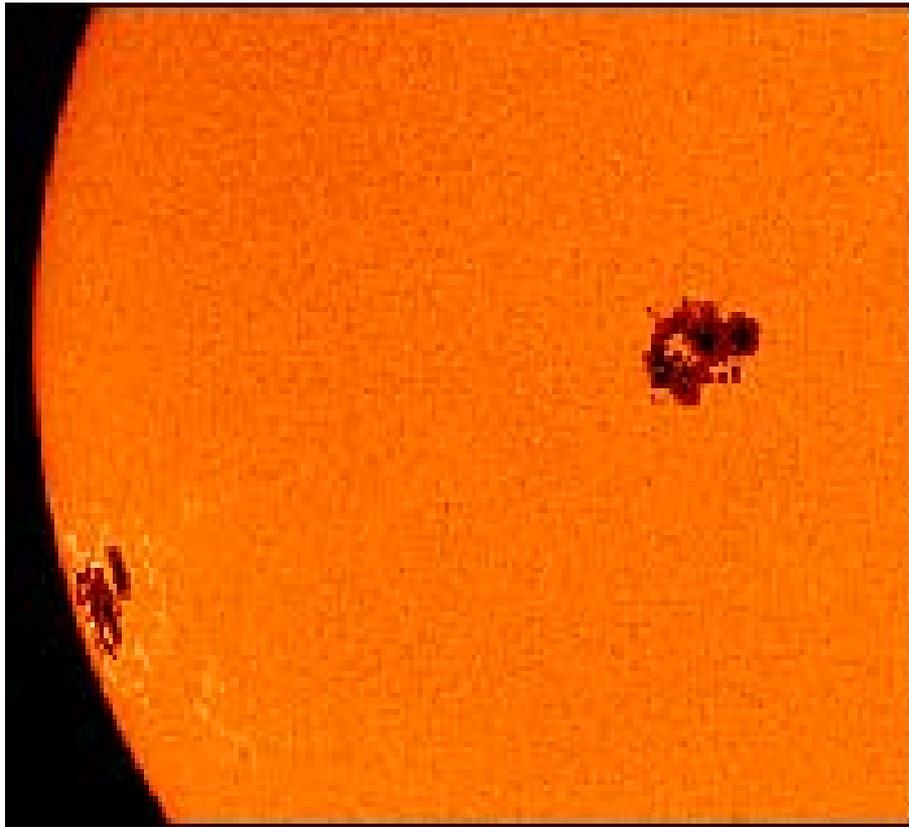




“All truth passes through three stages. First, it is ridiculed. Second, it is violently opposed. Third, it is accepted as being self-evident.”

--Schopenhauer

# Role of UVB and Latitude for Vitamin D

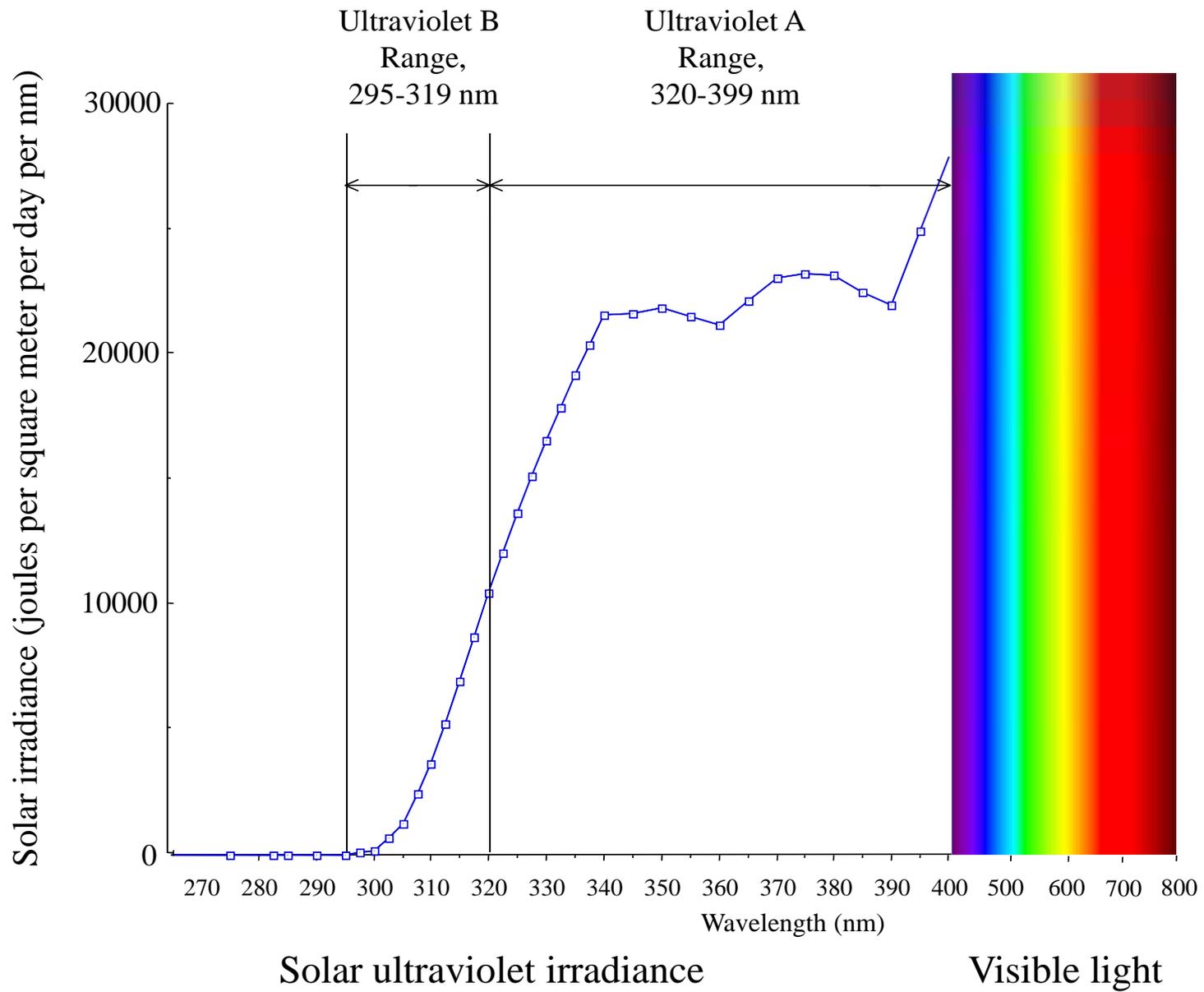


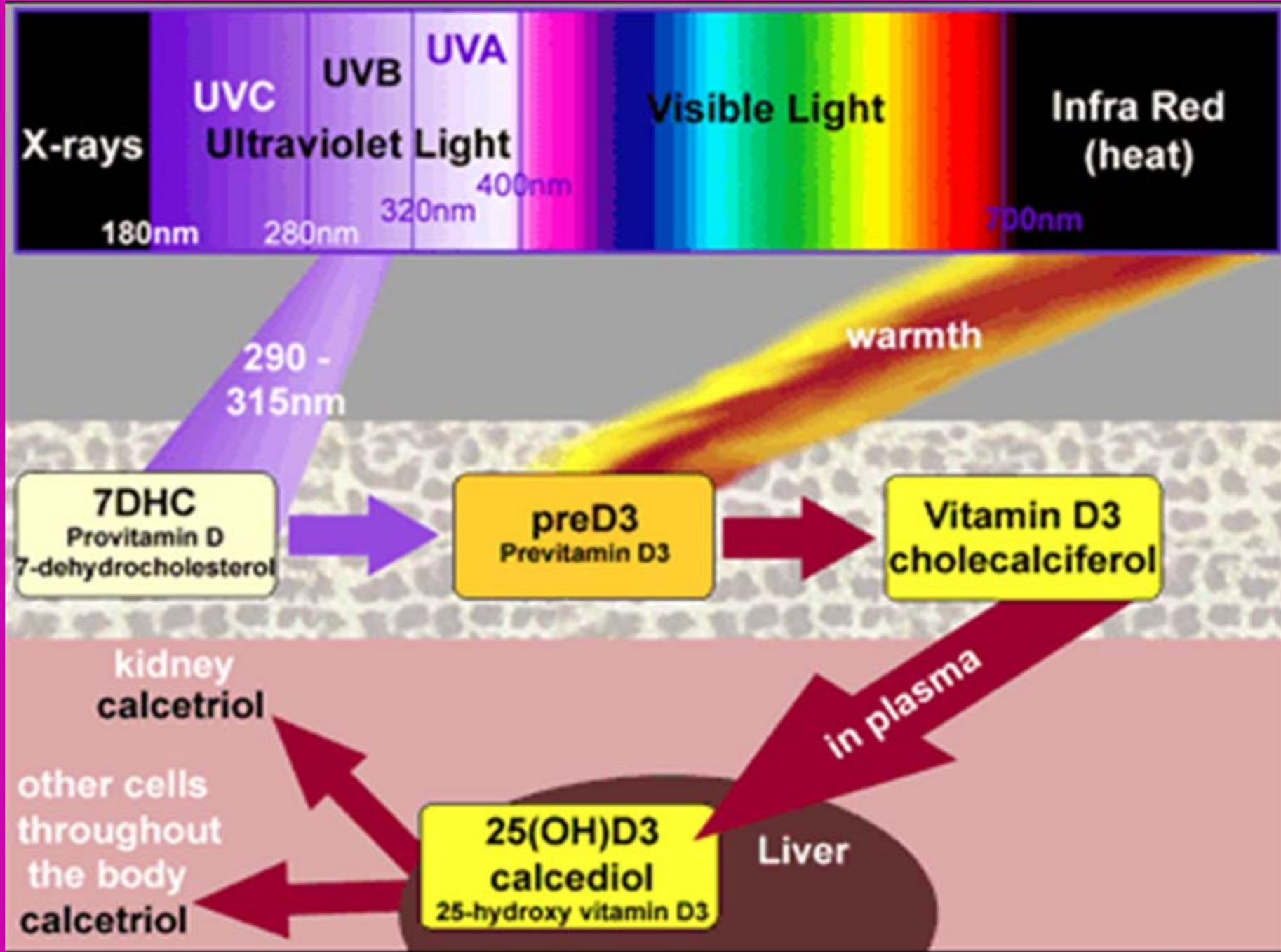
The sun is the source of UVB used to make vitamin D

Less than 1% of solar radiation is UVB

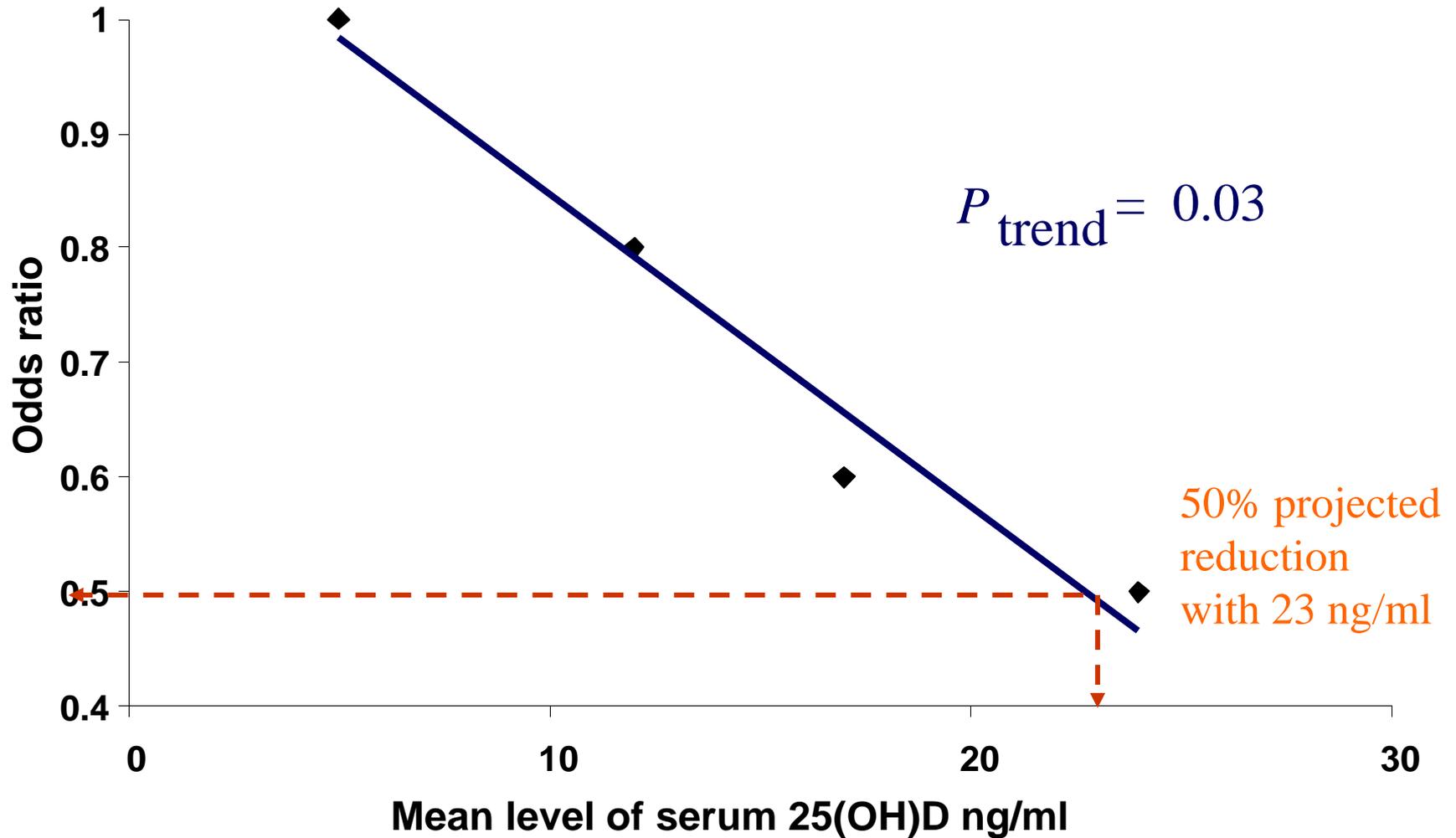
Four UVB photons combine with one molecule of cholesterol (7DHC), opening a ring to make previtamin D

There is no change in molecular weight.



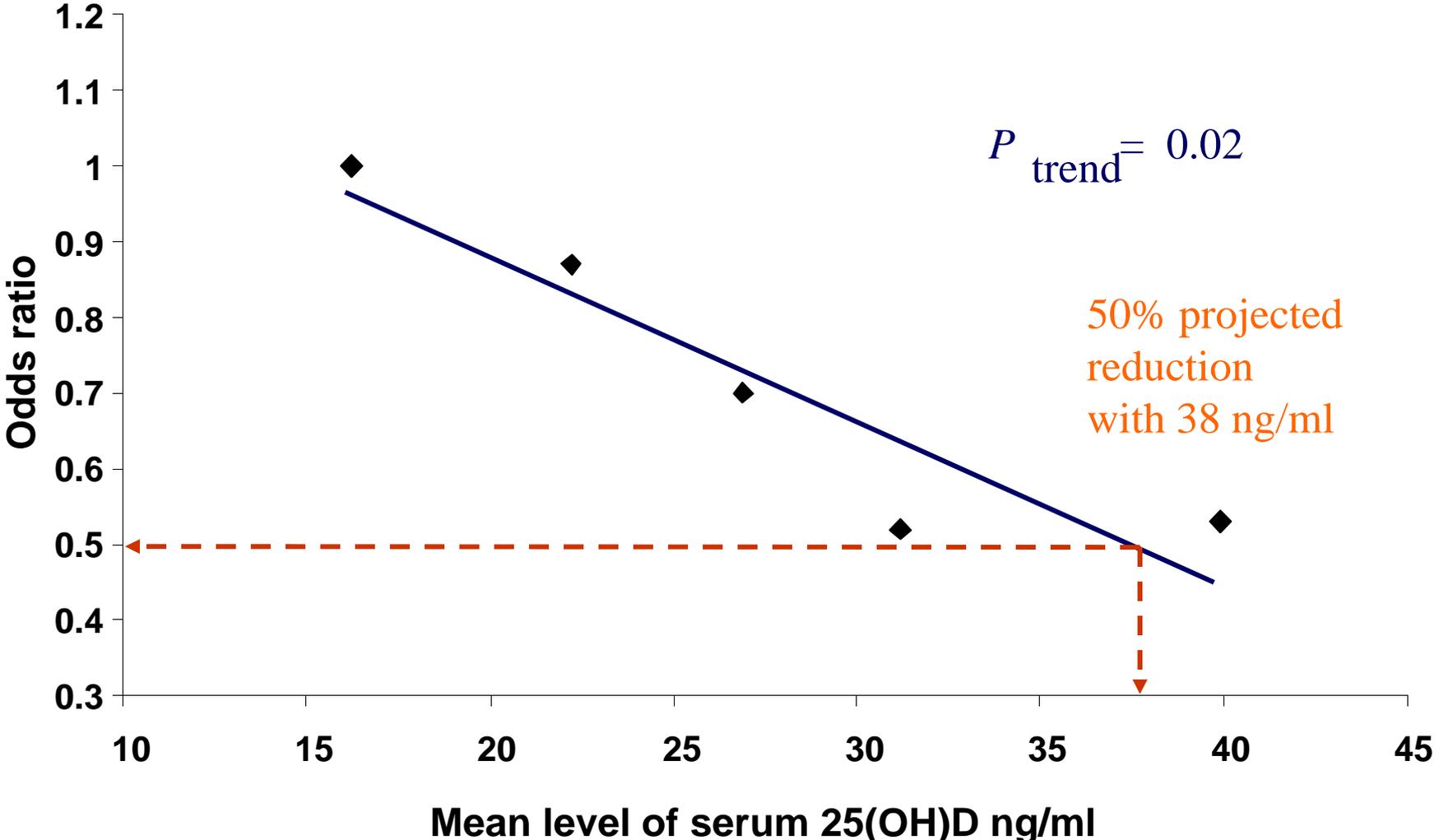


Tangrea et al. 1997



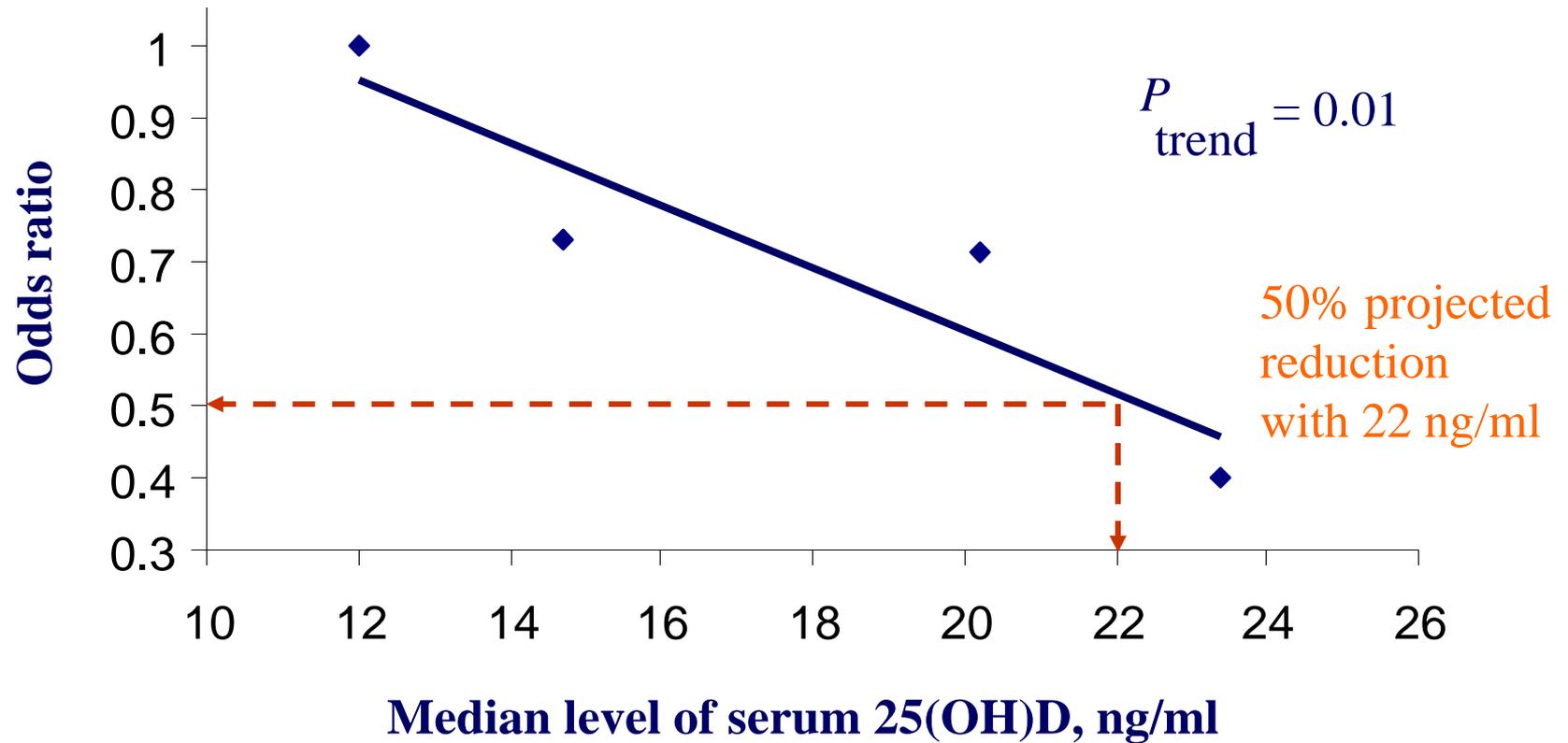
Source: Tangrea J, et al. Serum levels of vitamin D metabolites and the subsequent risk of colon and rectal cancer in Finnish men. *Cancer Causes Control* 1997;8:615–25.

**Feskanich et al. 2004**

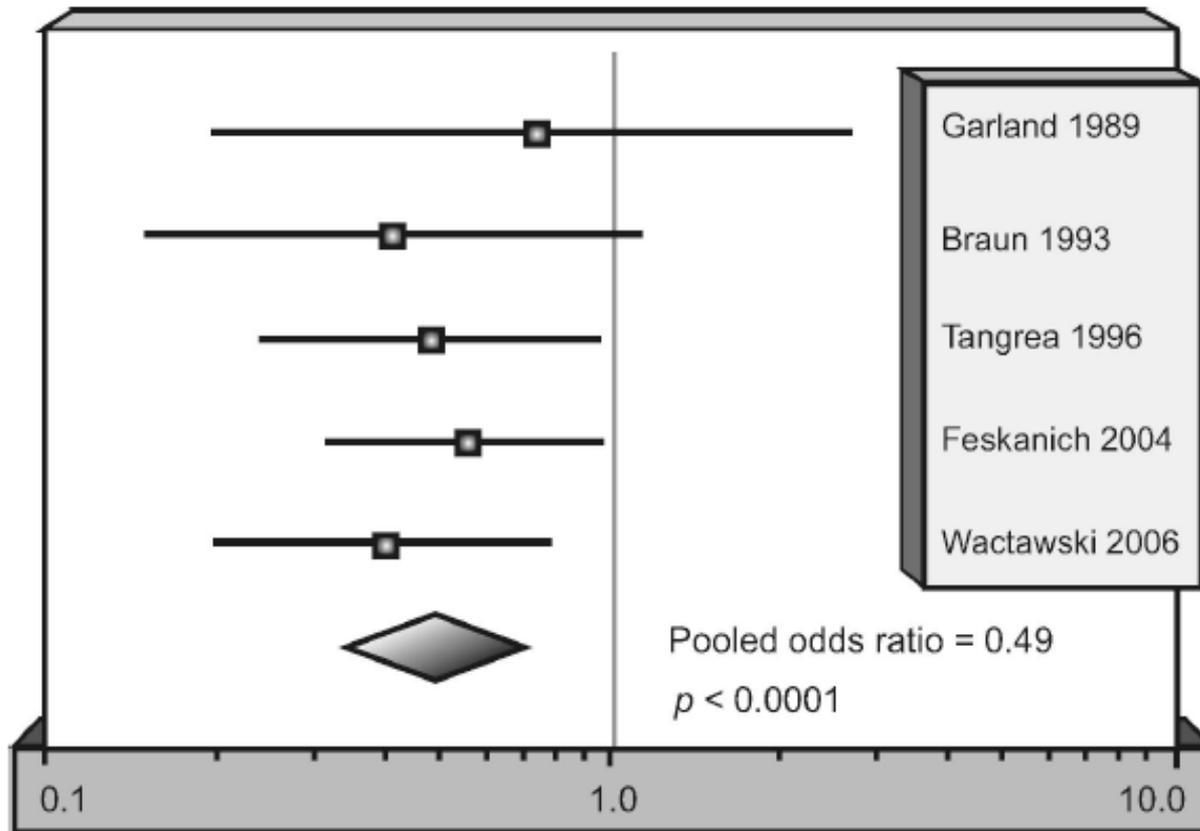


Source: Feskanich D, et al. Plasma vitamin D metabolites and risk of colorectal cancer in women. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev* 2004;13:1502– 8.

# Women's Health Initiative Nested Study (N=295)

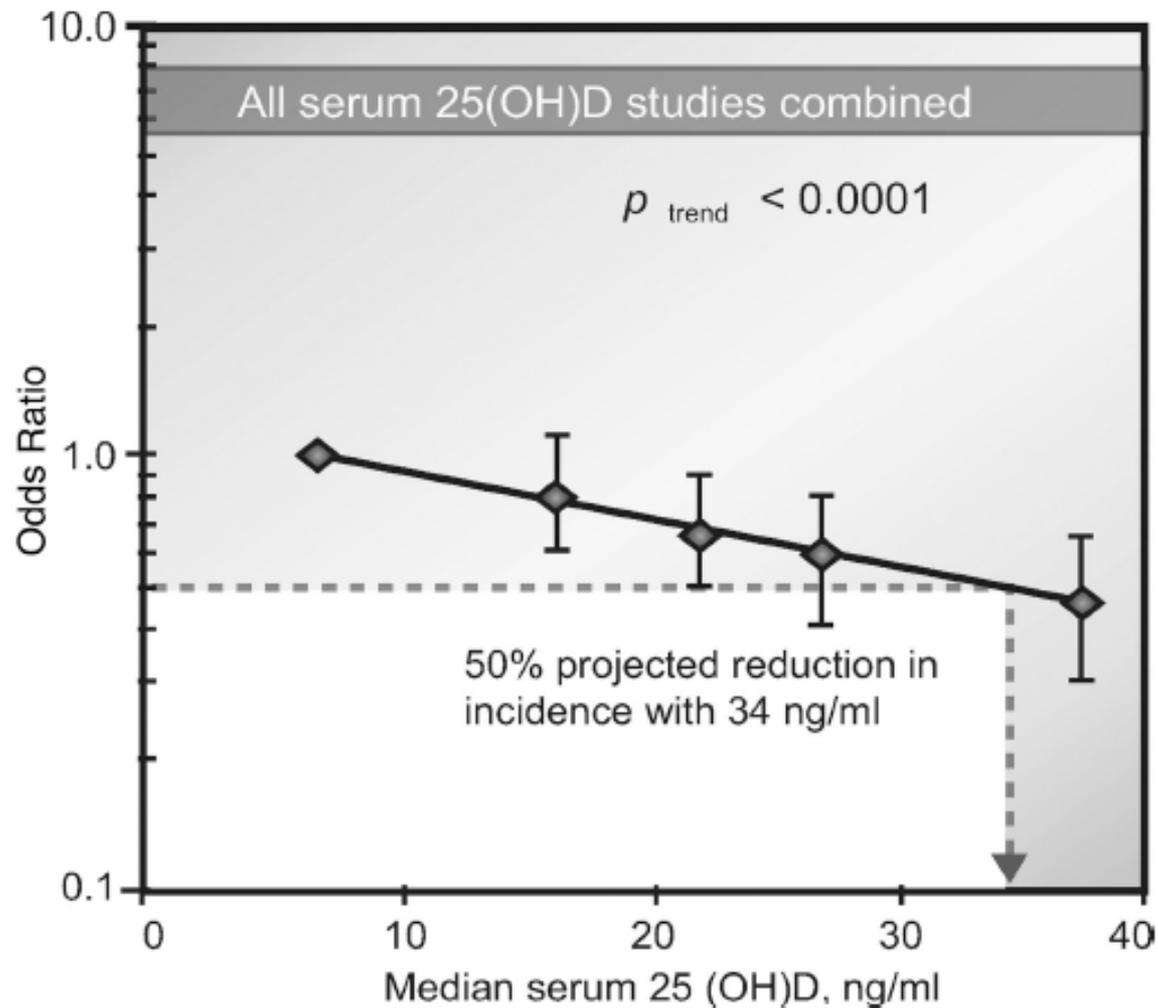


Source: Wactawski-Wende J, et al. Calcium plus vitamin D supplementation and the risk of colorectal cancer. *New Engl J Med* 2006; 354:684-96.

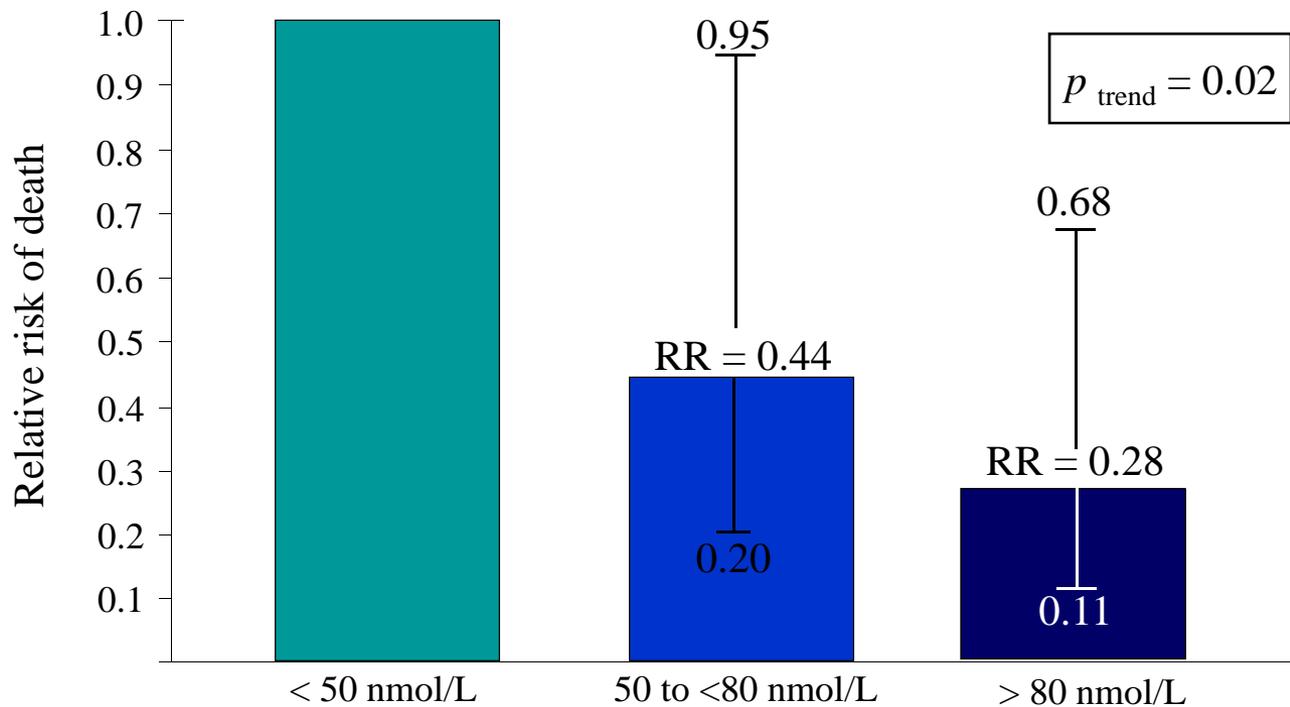


Forest plot of all studies of serum 25(OH)D and risk of colorectal cancer. The upper and lower 95% confidence limits on the odds ratio are denoted by horizontal lines for each study, and the 95% confidence limits for the combined estimate for all studies are denoted by the points of the diamond. The odds ratios compare the highest quintile to the lowest.

Source: Gorham ED, et al. Optimal vitamin D status for colorectal cancer prevention: A Quantitative Meta Analysis. Am J Prev Med March 2007; 32:210-6.

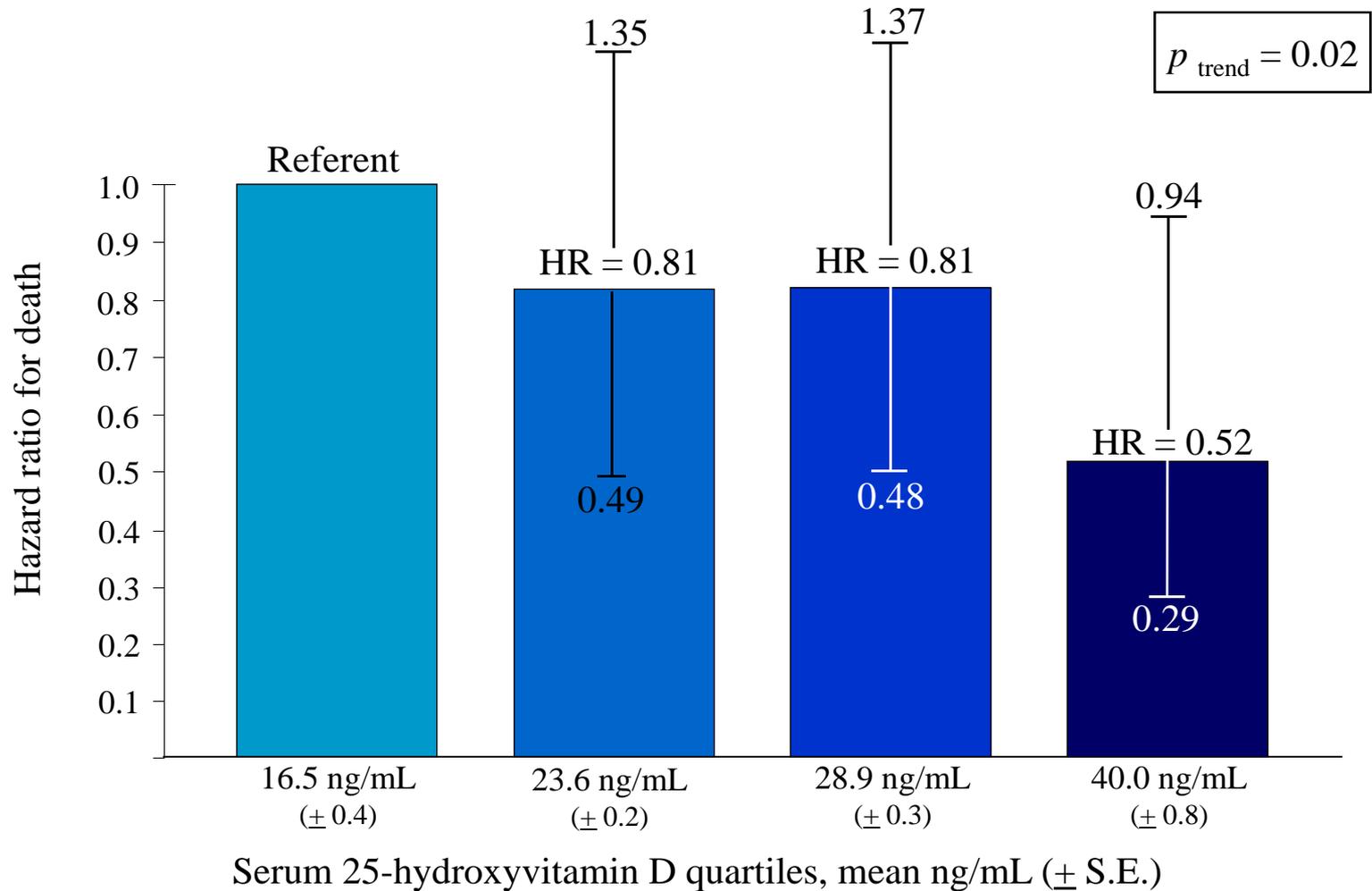


Dose-response gradient for colorectal cancer according to serum 25(OH)D concentration, all five studies combined. The five points are the odds ratios for each quintile of 25(OH)D based on combined data from the five studies. Source: Gorham ED, et al. Optimal vitamin D status for colorectal cancer prevention: A Quantitative Meta Analysis. Am J Prev Med March 2007; 32:210-6.



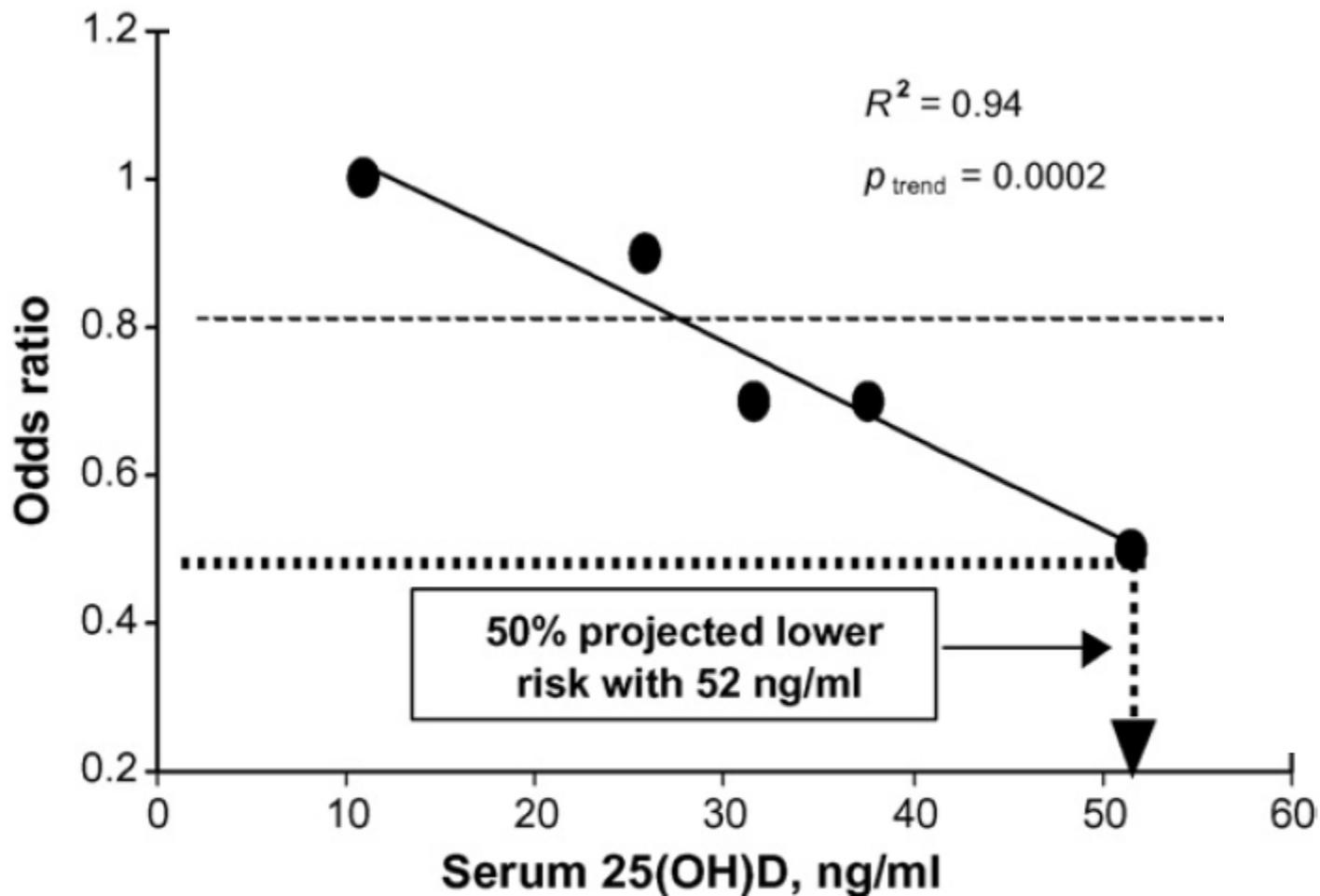
Relative risk of colon cancer mortality, by baseline serum 25-hydroxy-vitamin D concentration in tertiles, NHANES III cohort, 1988-2000  
 (Note: 50 nmol/L = 20 ng/ml; 80 nmol/L=32 ng/ml)

Source: Freedman DM, Looker AC, Shih-Chen C, et al. Prospective study of serum vitamin D and cancer mortality in the United States. J Natl Cancer Inst 2007;99:1594-602.



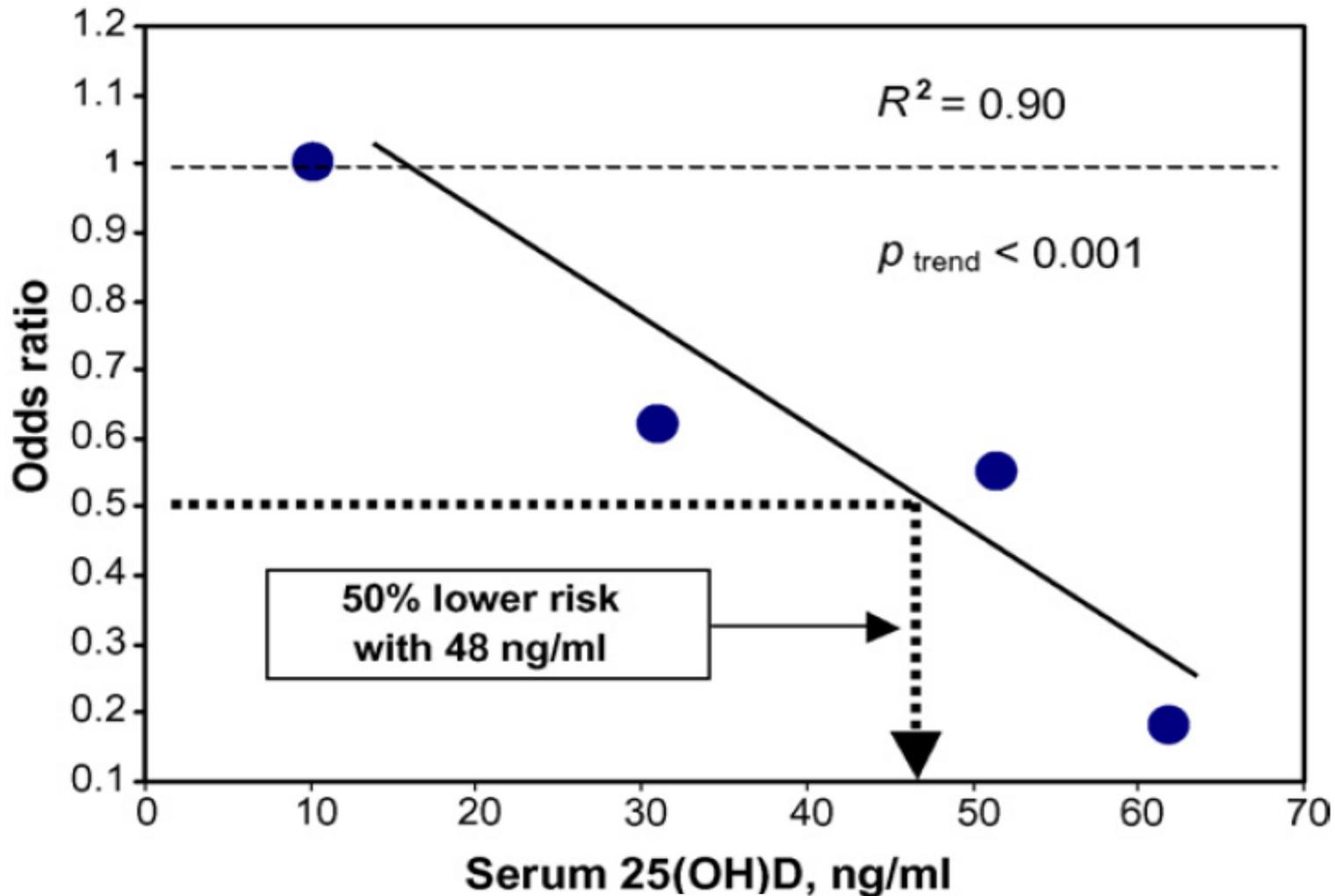
Multivariate-adjusted hazard ratios for death, 304 colorectal cancer patients, by prediagnostic mean plasma 25-hydroxyvitamin D concentration quartiles, Nurses Health and Health Professionals Study Cohorts

Source: Ng K, Meyerhardt JA, Wu K, Feskanich D, Hollis BW, Giovannucci EL, Fuchs CS. Circulating 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels and survival in patients with colorectal cancer J Clin Oncol 2008; 26: 2984-91.



Dose–response gradient of risk of breast cancer according to serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D concentration, pooled analysis.

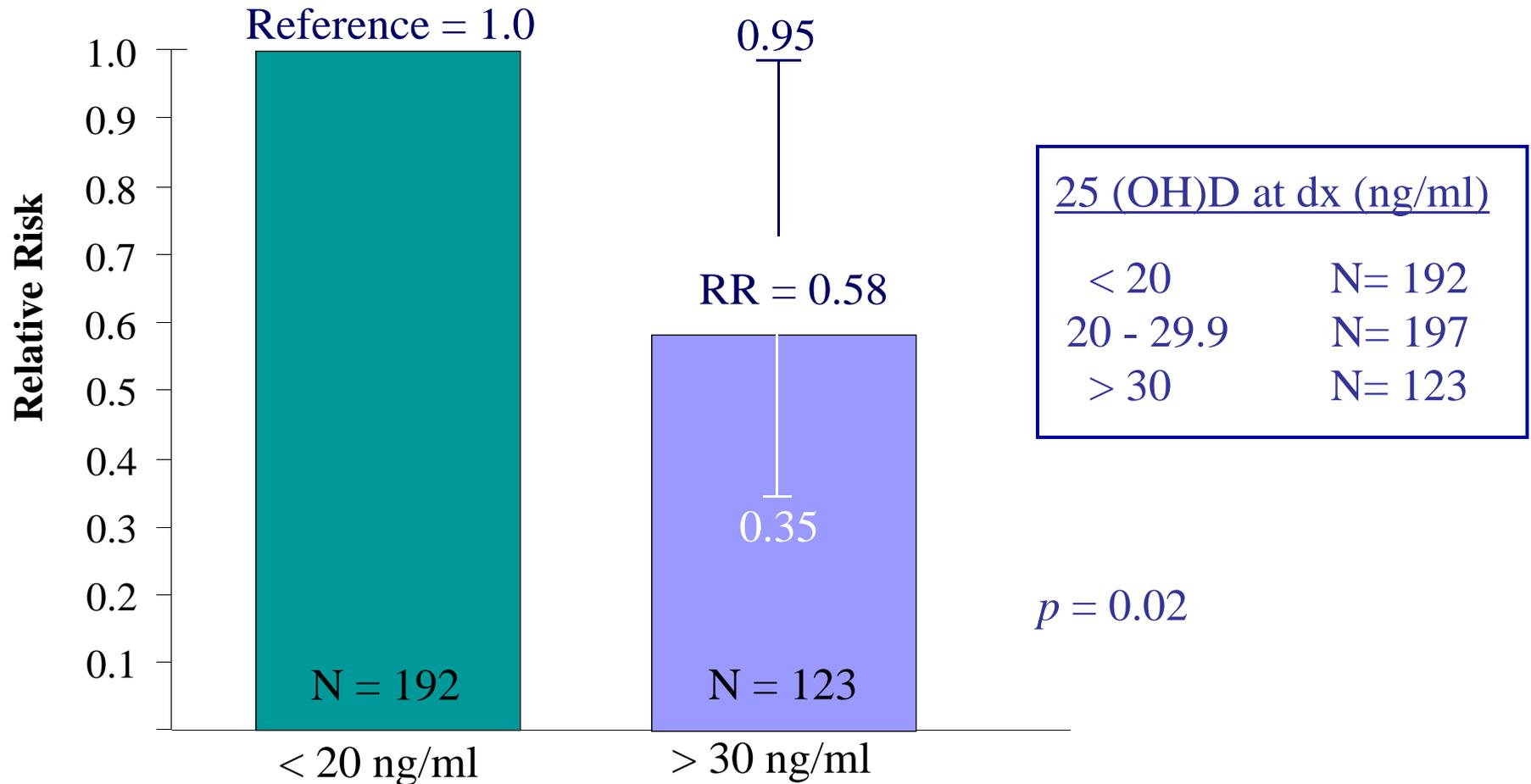
Source: Garland CF, et al. Vitamin D and prevention of breast cancer: Pooled analysis, *J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol.* 2007;103:708-11



Dose–response gradient of risk of breast cancer according to serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D concentration, St. George’s Hospital, London

Data from: Lowe LC, et al. Plasma 25-hydroxy vitamin D concentrations, vitamin D receptor genotype and breast cancer risk in a UK Caucasian population. *Eur J Cancer*. 2005;41:1164-9.

# Overall Survival among 512 women with early stage breast cancer by serum 25(OH)D level at diagnosis, median follow-up 11.6 years, Toronto, Canada



Hazard ratio and 95% confidence intervals for overall survival by 25(OH)D serum level at diagnosis, Toronto, Canada (latitude 43° 40')

Source: P J Goodwin, et al. Vitamin D deficiency is common at breast cancer diagnosis and is associated with a significantly higher risk of distant recurrence and death in a prospective cohort study. American Society of Clinical Oncology Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, May 30-June 3, 2008. Abstract number: 08-AB-31397-ASCOAM.



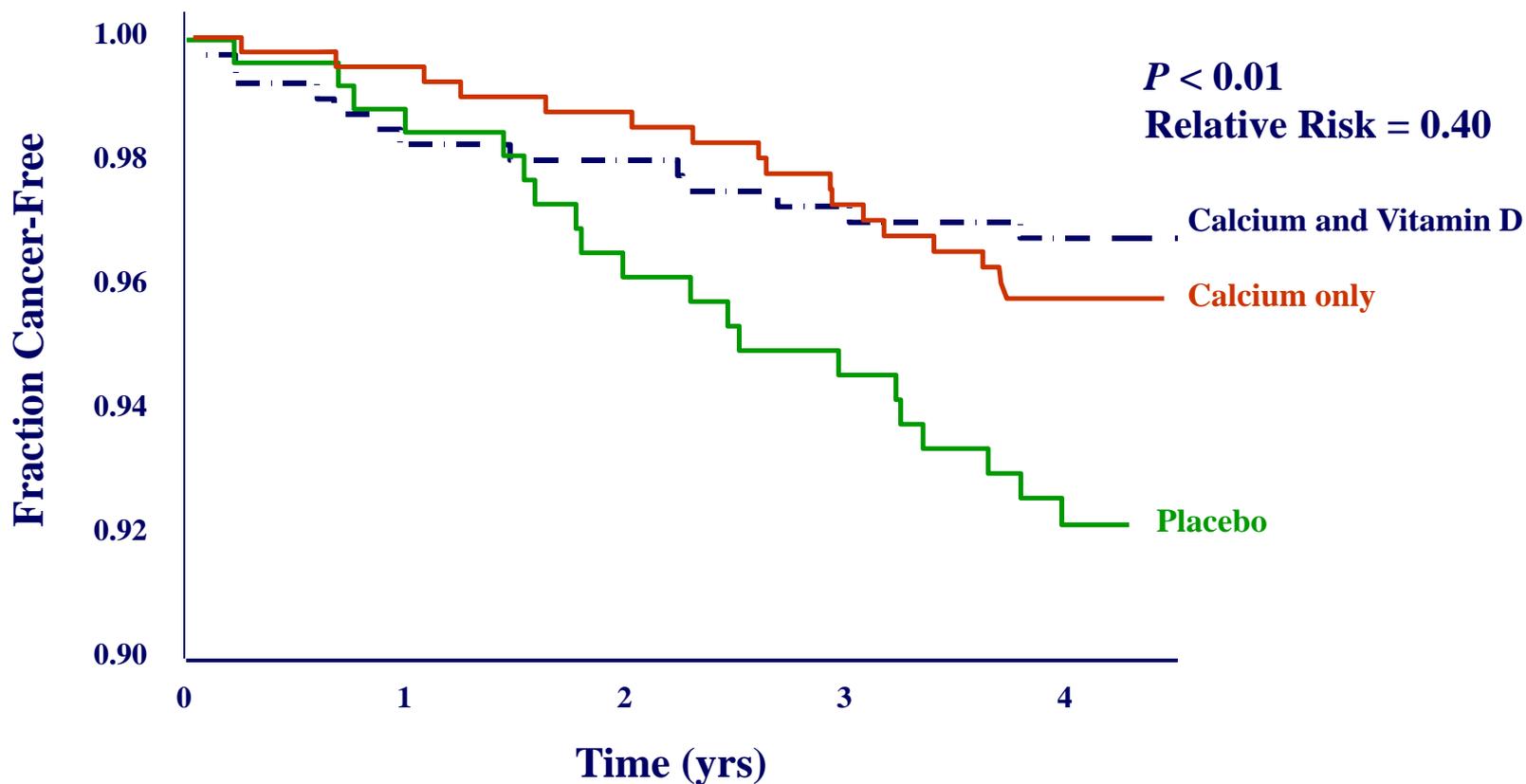
# Randomized Controlled Trial of Vitamin D and Calcium

- Four years, N = 1,179 healthy women in Omaha NE
- Mean age  $66.7 \pm 7.3$  years
- N = 1,032 finished trial (87.5%)
- Baseline serum 25(OH)D:  $29 \pm 8$  ng/ml ( $72 \pm 20$  nmol/L)
- Three treatment groups:
  - Vitamin D<sub>3</sub> (1,100 IU/day) and calcium (1450 mg/day)
  - Calcium (1,450 mg/day)
  - Placebo
- Outcome: All cancers (mainly breast, lung and colon)

Source: Lappe JM, Travers-Gustafson D, Davies KM, Recker RR, Heaney RP. Vitamin D and calcium supplementation reduces cancer risk: results of a randomized trial. *Am J Clin Nutr.* 2007;85:1586-91.



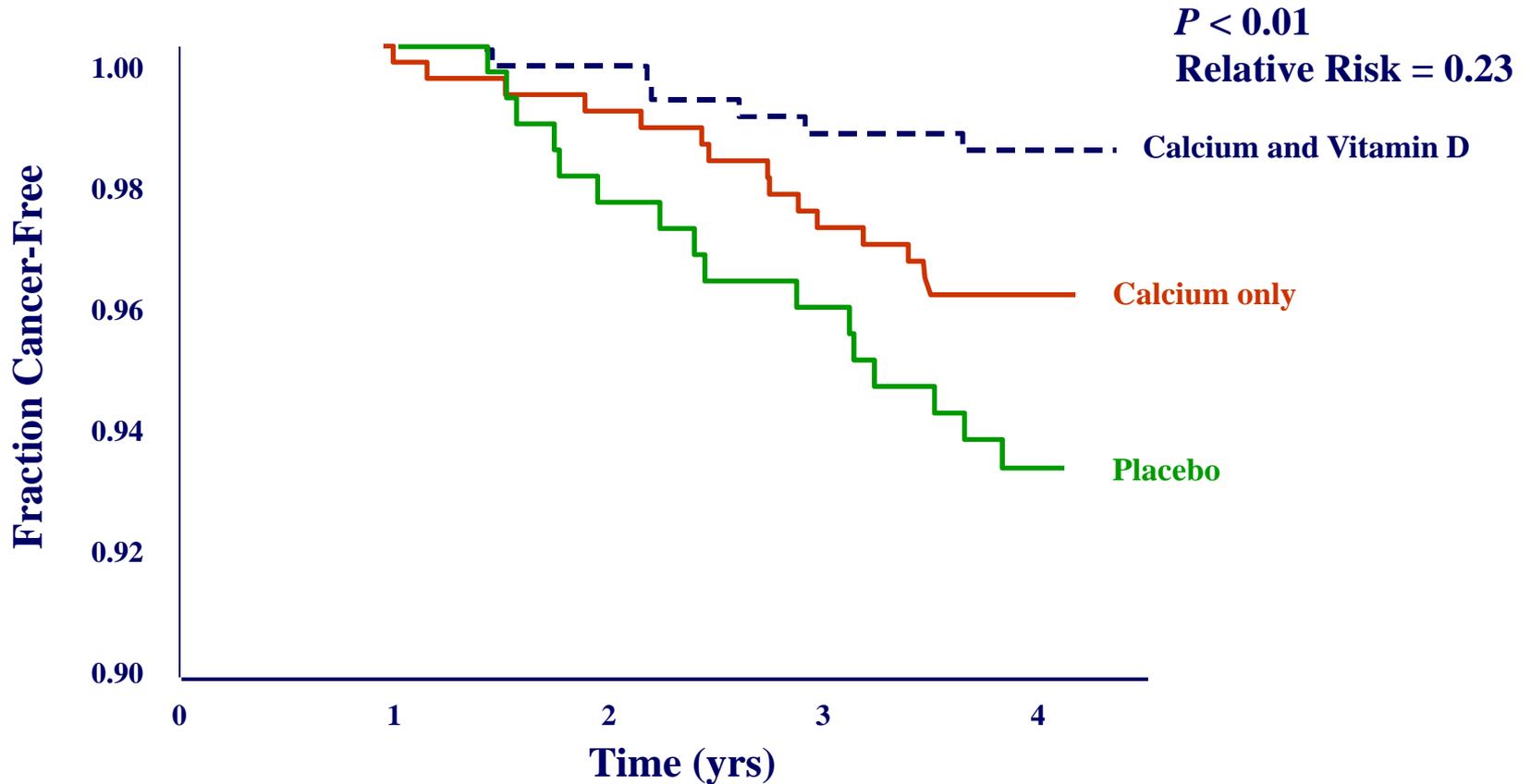
# Randomized Controlled Trial



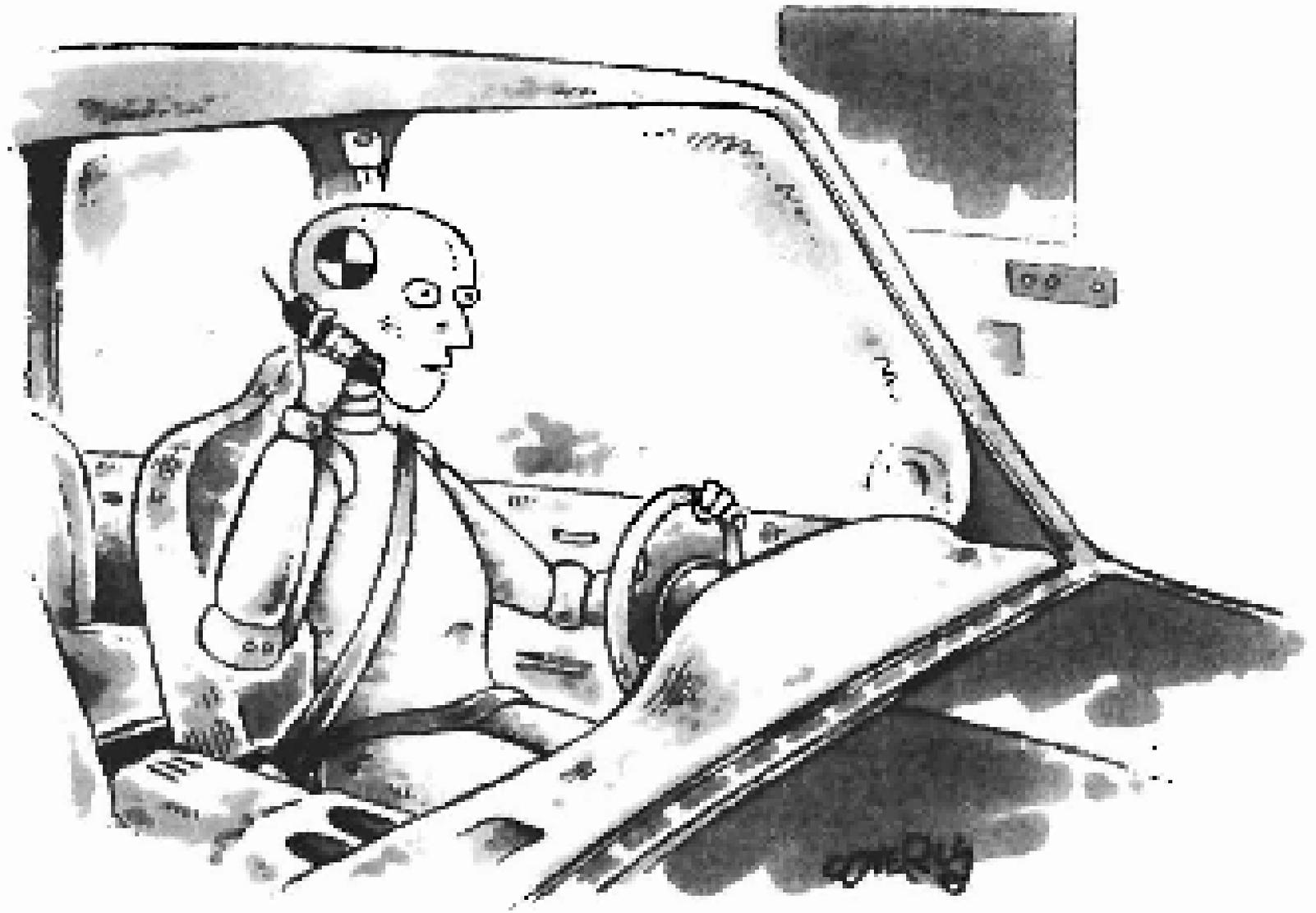
Source: Lappe JM, Travers-Gustafson D, Davies KM, Recker RR, Heaney RP. Vitamin D and calcium supplementation reduces cancer risk: results of a randomized trial. Am J Clin Nutr. 2007;85:1586-91.



# All Except First Year Cases



Source: Lappe JM, Travers-Gustafson D, Davies KM, Recker RR, Heaney RP. Vitamin D and calcium supplementation reduces cancer risk: results of a randomized trial. *Am J Clin Nutr.* 2007;85:1586-91.



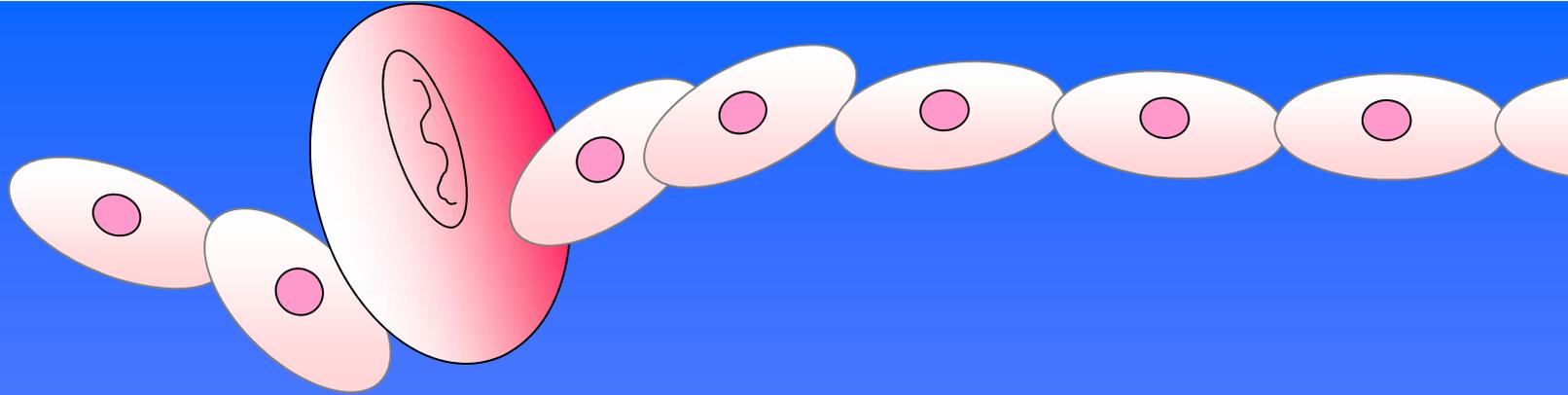
**Well, I'd better go now. I'm almost at the wall**

# Epidemiological studies reporting no or adverse associations with serum 25(OH)D

- Stolzenberg-Solomon RZ et al. – Finland - Pancreatic cancer in male smokers, 50-69 yrs in ATBC study, particularly in winter months (*Cancer Res* 2006;66:10213-9)(Pickled herring vs. ?)
- Abnet C et al.– China - Esophageal squamous cell dysplasia/cancer in poor rural Linxian men but not women (*Br J Cancer* 2007;97:123-8 (Plant/mushroom source of vitamin D vs. malnutrition vs.?)
- Ahn et al. – PLCO - No association with prostate cancer incidence, but cases found in screening study were more advanced (*JNCI* 2008;100:796-804)(Possibly unmasking bias?; opposite result in Harvard HPFS.)
- Freedman et al. – PLCO -No association with breast cancer in nested case-control study (*Cancer Epidemiol Biomark Prev* 2008; 17:889-94)(Matching, latency issues)
- No association with breast cancer (Hiatt RA et al., *JNCI* 1998;90:461-3); 1,25 only with breast cancer (Janowsky et al. *Pub Health Nutr* 1999;2:283-91); Chlebowski RT et al. (*JNCI* 2008;100:1581-91) using 400 IU WHI trial, but favorable association with baseline 25(OH)D.

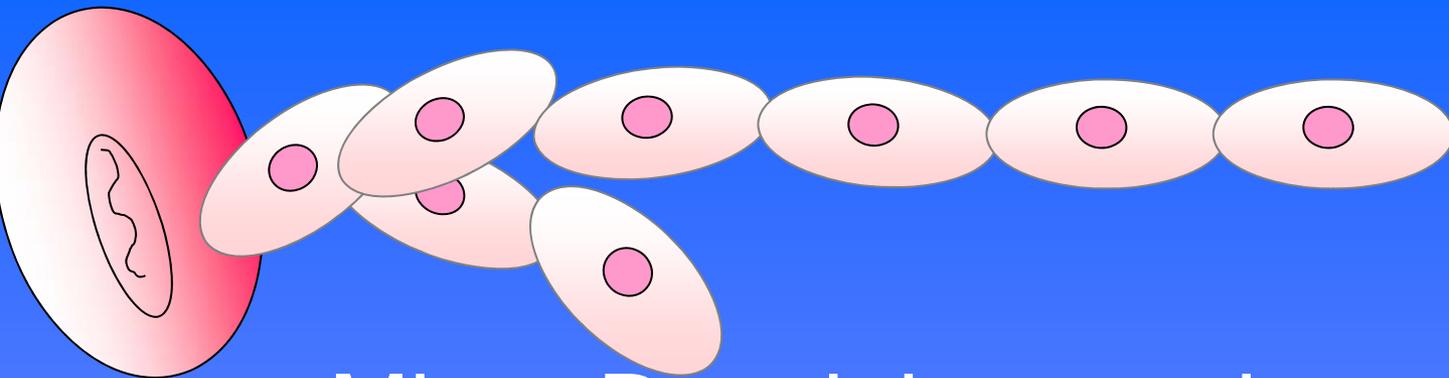


**You raised it from a mutant seed, you whack it!**



## Classical theories of carcinogenesis

- Mutation theory: Boveri, 1902
- Two-hit theory: Knudson, 1980.
- “Many-hit” theory: A number of hits are needed (authors include Vogelstein et al., 1991).



## Micro-Darwinian carcinogenesis and Vitamin D deficiency induced D-volution

- In vitamin D deficiency, the first lesion is harm to the intercellular junction.
- This unleashes natural selection.
- Natural selection is the engine of growth of the cancer.

# DINOMIT Theory of Breast Cancer

Disjunction – Loss of tight junctions

Initiation – Genetic variation

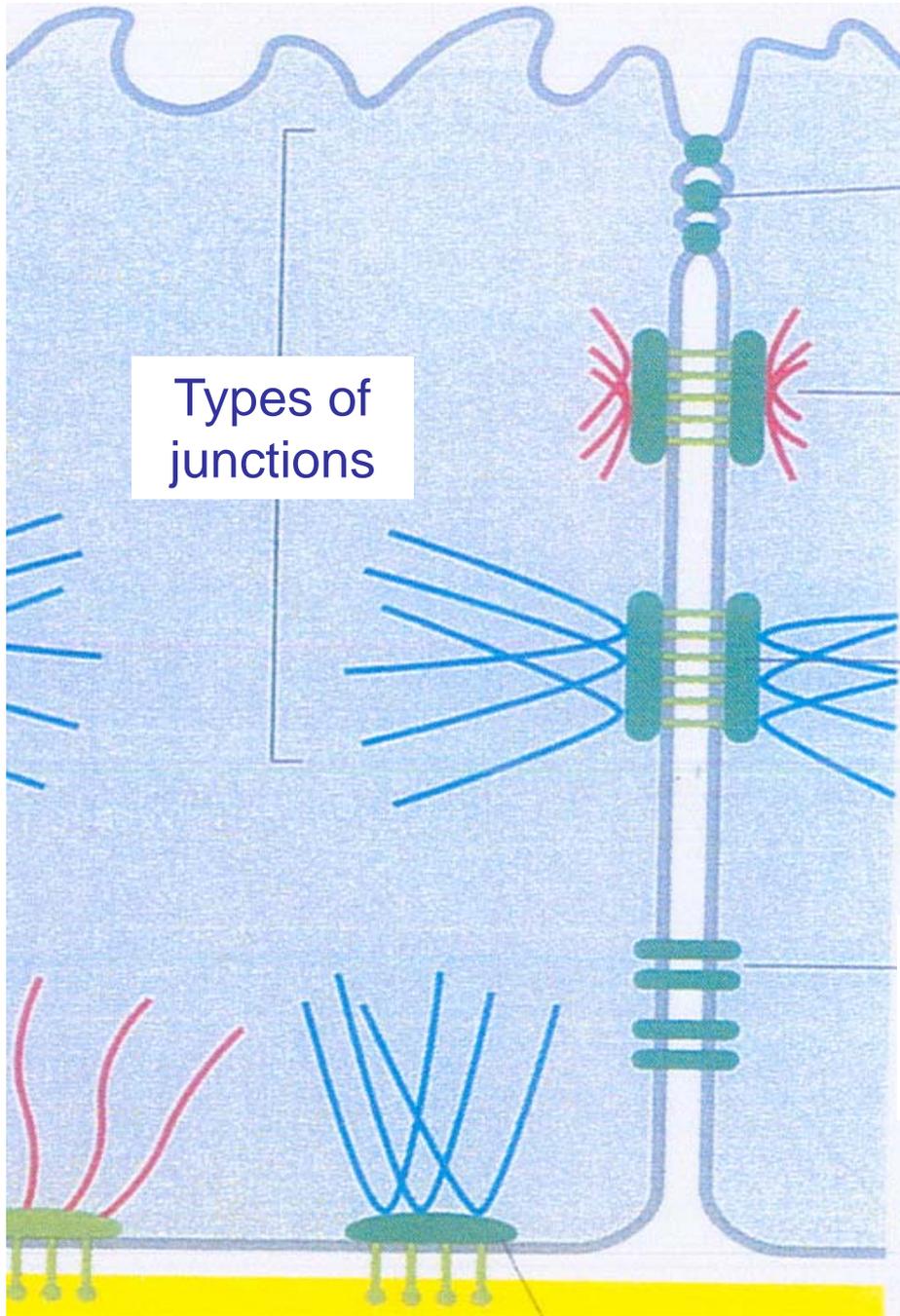
Natural selection – Competition for growth

Overgrowth – Palpable mass and invasion

Metastasis – Remote colonization

Involution – Growth inhibition

Transition – Coexistence with normal tissue



Types of junctions

Tight junctions seal gaps between epithelial cells

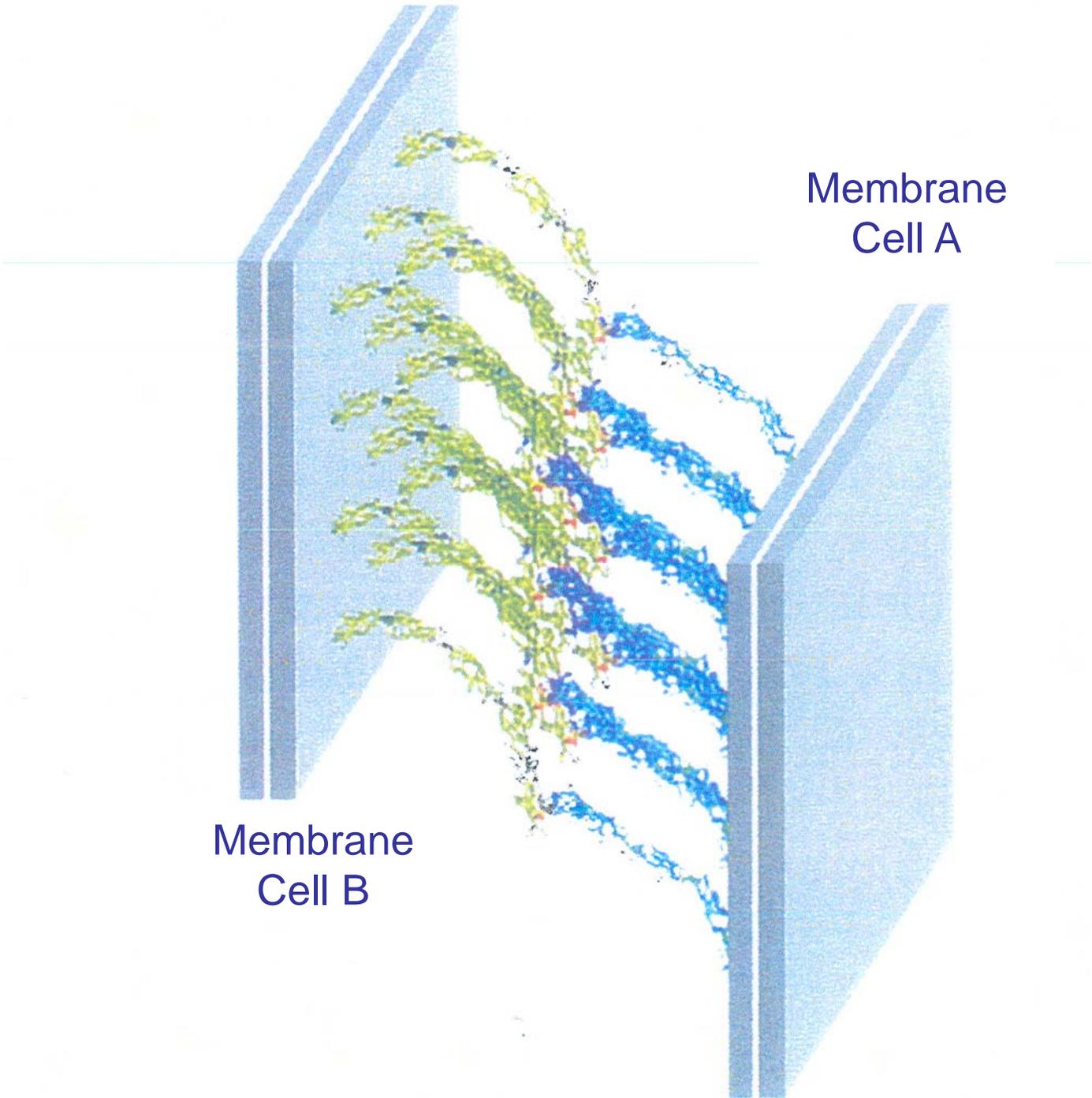
Adherens junctions connect actin filament bundles between cells

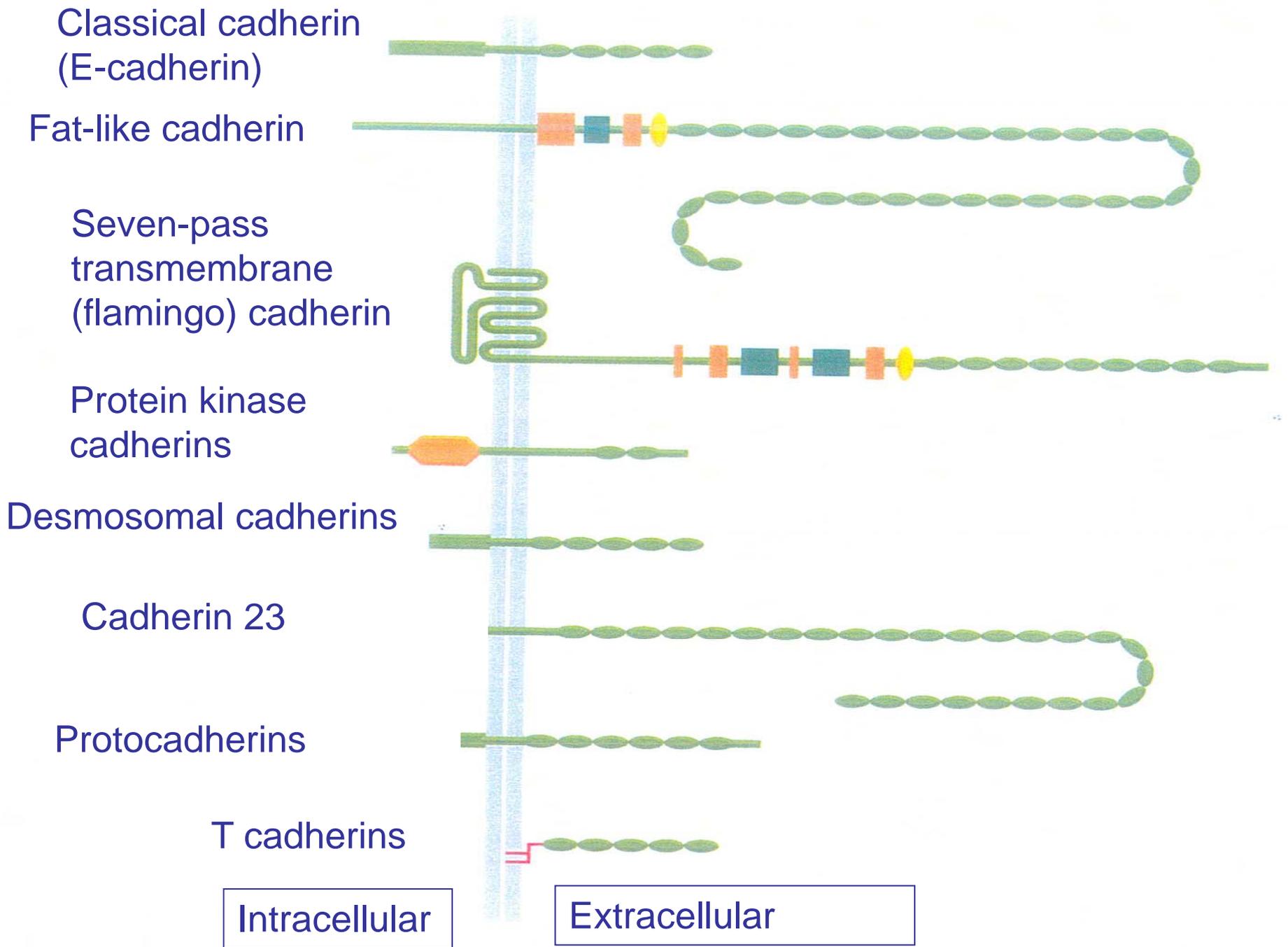
Desmosomes connect intermediate filaments in adjacent cells

Gap junctions allow passage of small water-soluble molecules between cells

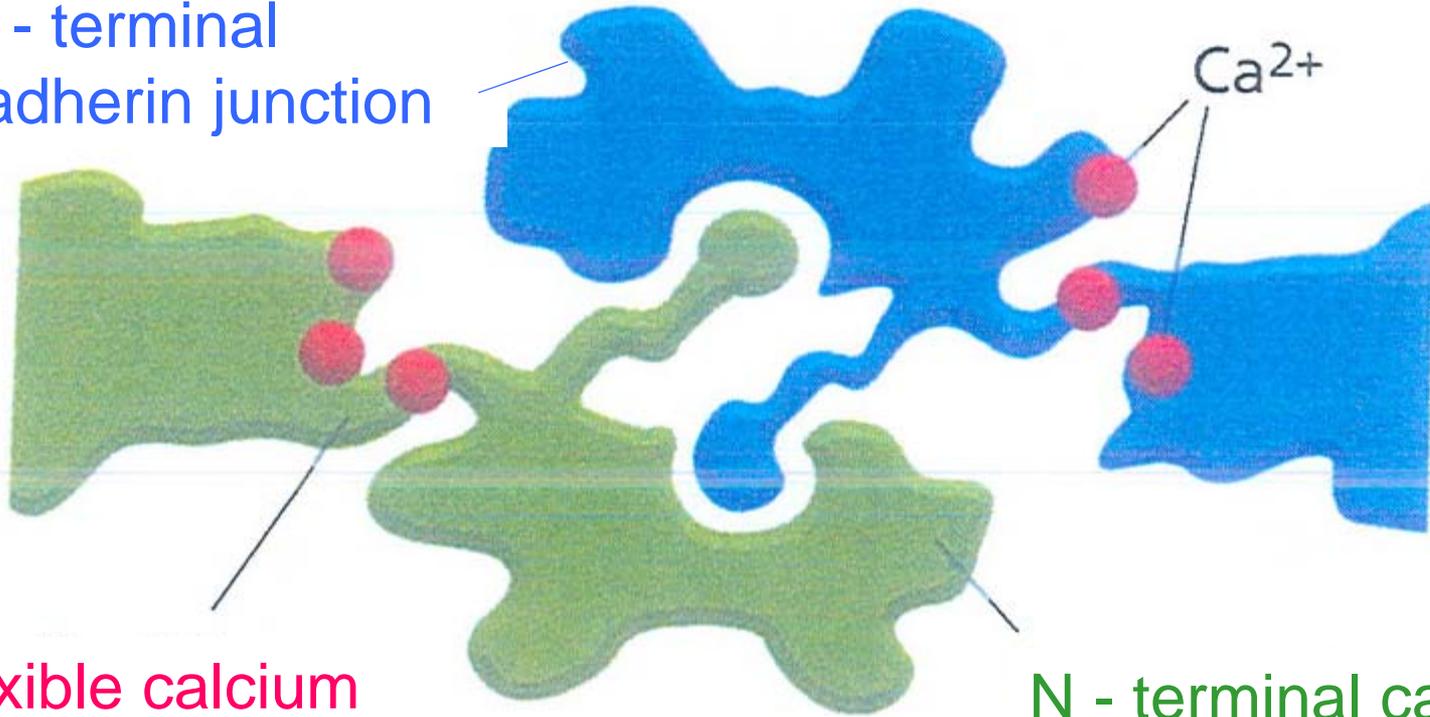
Membrane  
Cell A

Membrane  
Cell B





N - terminal  
cadherin junction



Ca<sup>2+</sup>

Flexible calcium  
dependent hinges

N - terminal cadherin  
junction

Coupling between cadherins from two cells

## Gene-fold changes in a colon cancer cell line (SW480-ADH) after 48 hours exposure to 1,25 (OH)<sub>2</sub> vitamin D<sub>3</sub>

### Cytoskeleton/adhesion

+ 39	Type II keratin (hHKb1)
+ 14	Gravin
+ 12	E-cadherin
+ 7	Keratin 15
- 4	Calgizzarin

### GTPases and related

+ 42	RAB2
+ 21	RA1BP1-interacting protein
+ 4	Breast cancer anti-estrogen resistance protein (BCAR3)

### Channels and transporters

+30	Putative monocarboxylate transporter (MCT)
+15	3- <i>beta</i> -hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase (3- <i>beta</i> -HSD)

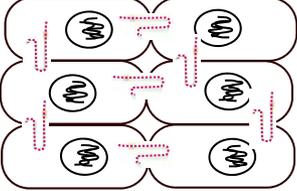
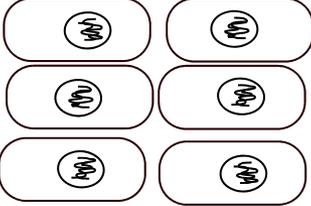
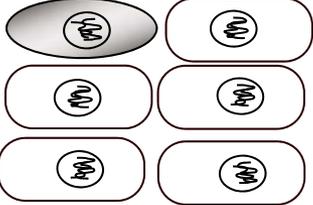
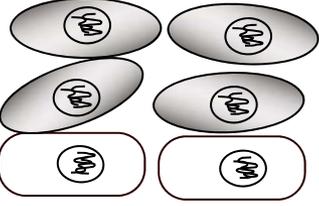
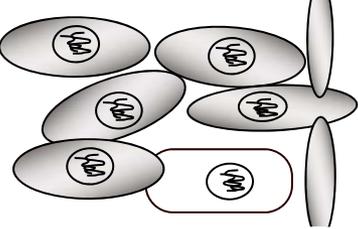
### Apoptosis related

+24	Insulin-like growth factor binding protein-3 (IGFBP-3)
+11	DAP-1 <i>alpha</i>
+10	TNF- <i>alpha</i> converting enzyme
+7	gadd45
+6	Ceramide glucosyltransferase
+6	Prostate apoptosis response protein (par-4 )
-5	CD27BP (Siva)
+74	17- <i>beta</i> - hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase (17-HSD)
+20	Cytochrome P450 III A

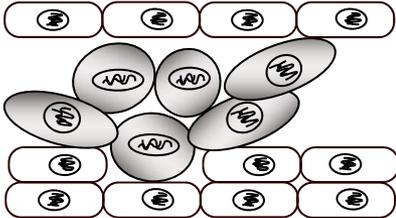
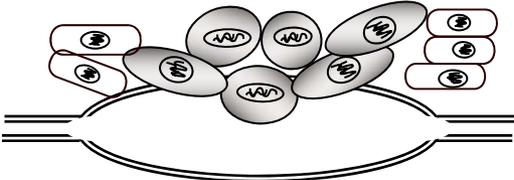
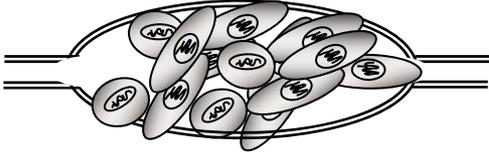
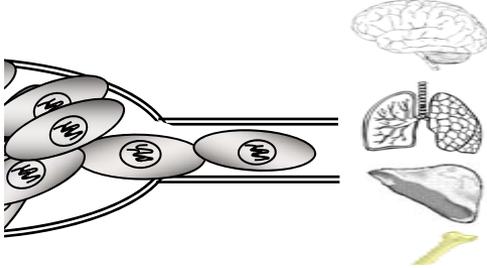
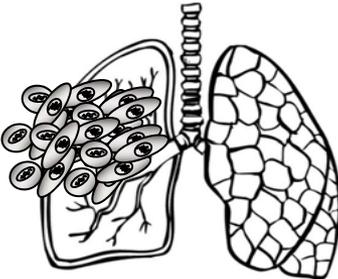
### DNA cell cycle

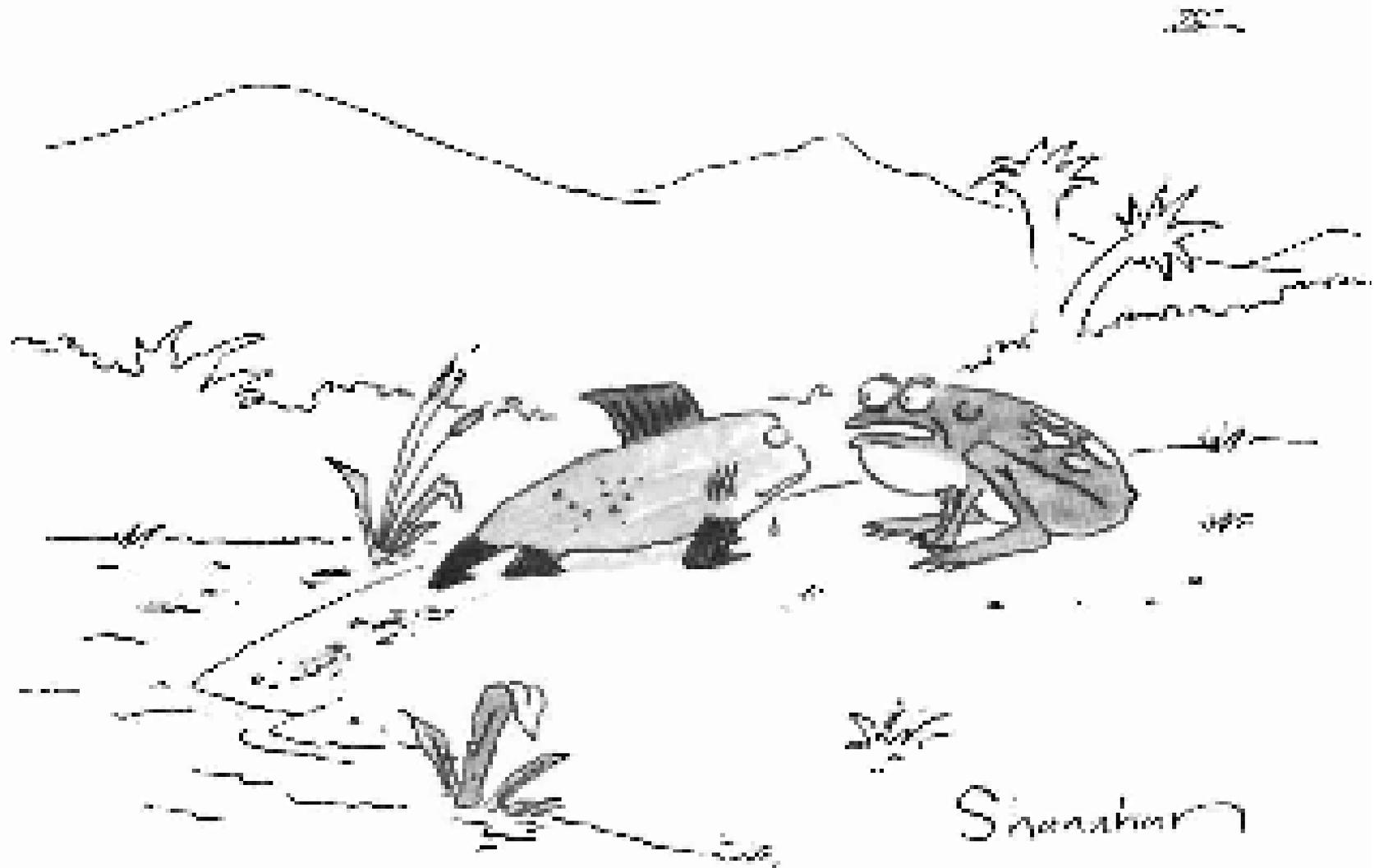
+ 24	G <sub>0</sub> S2
- 4	Cyclin F

# DINOMIT Theory of Breast Cancer I

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Diagram</u>	<u>Process</u>	<u>Preventive or therapeutic Action</u>
Vitamin D Replete (Normal)		Tight junctions intact Intercellular communication, growth inhibition and cell cycle normal non-mitotic	Maintain 25(OH) D level of 40- 60 ng/ml
1. Vitamin D Insufficiency Disjunction		Tight junctions weak or absent. Cells separate from each other very slightly. Cadherins lost or weak. Contact inhibition lost. Beta-catenins relocate. Natural selection begins.	Upregulation of tight junctions and cadherins by vitamin D metabolites
2. Natural Selection		Natural selection favors reproduction of rapidly mitotic, aggressive cells. These appear as new stem cells (Wicha et al., 2008)	Vitamin D maintains tight junctions, contact inhibition, and normal growth and cell cycle
3. Clonal Expansion		Rapidly mitotic, aggressive progeny predominate, a 1% advantage will fill compartment in 9000 generations	Vitamin D favors apoptosis and normal cell cycle
4. Lysis and Penetration of Basement Membrane		Most aggressive cells compete for nutrients and oxygen, and penetrate basement membrane	Vitamin D inhibits lysis of basement membrane, Promotes sharing of micronutrients; Maintains intercellular junctions and desmosomes

## DINOMIT Theory II

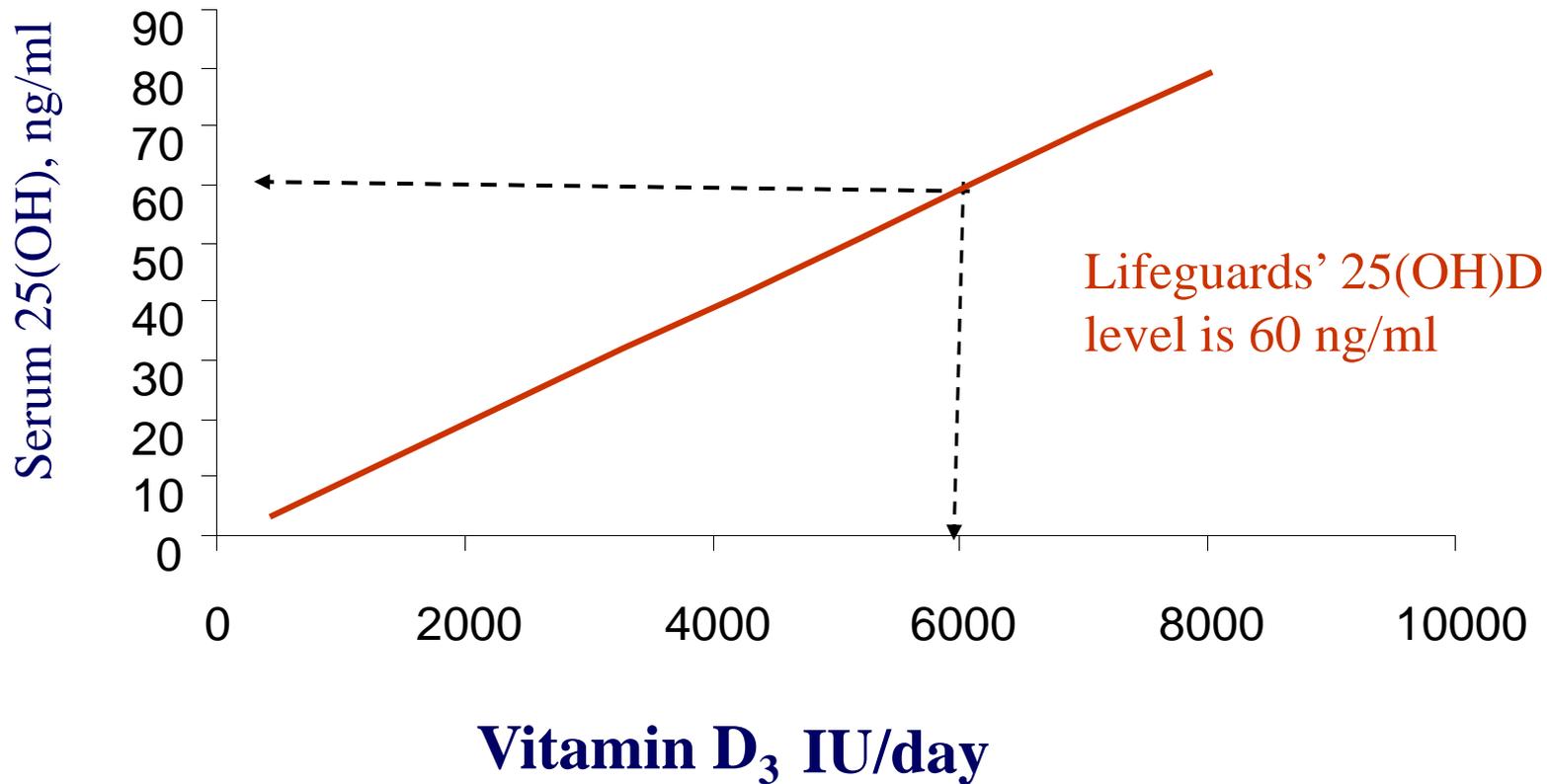
<u>Phase</u>	<u>Diagram</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Prevention or Therapeutic Action</u>
5. Stromal Phase		Invasion of Stroma	Re-establish tight junctions between cancer cells
6. Lymphatic Entry Phase		Lymph vessel invasion	Re-establish tight junctions Prevent lymphatic entry
7. Lymphatic Growth Phase		Lymph node colonization	Re-establish tight junctions Confine malignancy to lymph nodes
8. Lymphatic Transport Phase		Lymphatic transport to brain, lung, liver, bone	None
9. Metastasis (colonization) Phase		<b>Malignant cells colonize remote host site</b>	If VDR still present, re- establish tight junctions, downregulate VEGF, reduce growth rate, restore contact inhibition



**The first thing you need to do is update your CV**

# Serum 25(OH)D by oral intake of vitamin D<sub>3</sub>

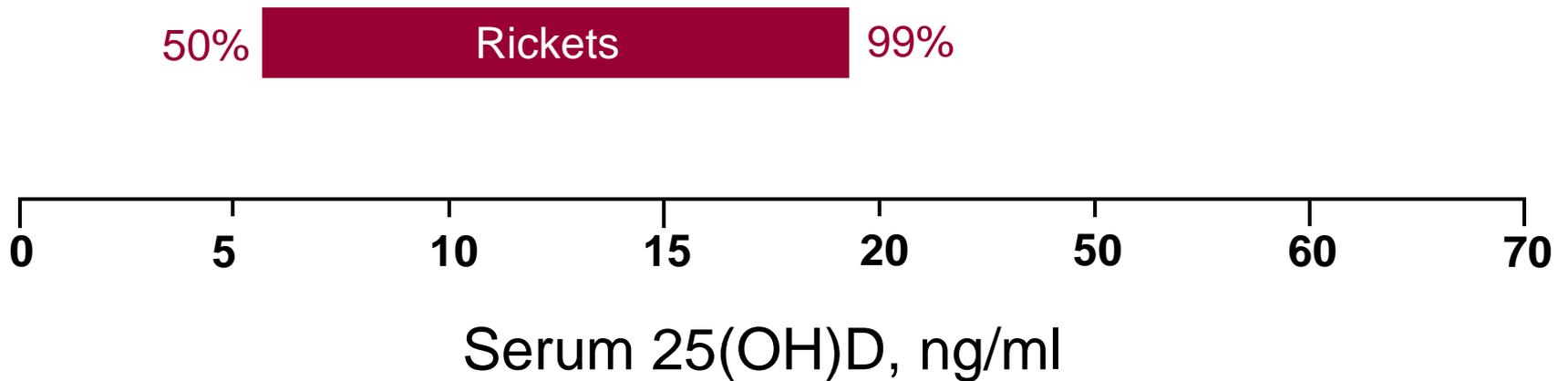
Rule of thumb: Each 1000 IU of vitamin D<sub>3</sub> intake increases serum 25(OH)D by approximately 10 ng/ml



Sources: 1. Barger-Lux et al. Osteoporosis Intl 1998; 8: 222-30;

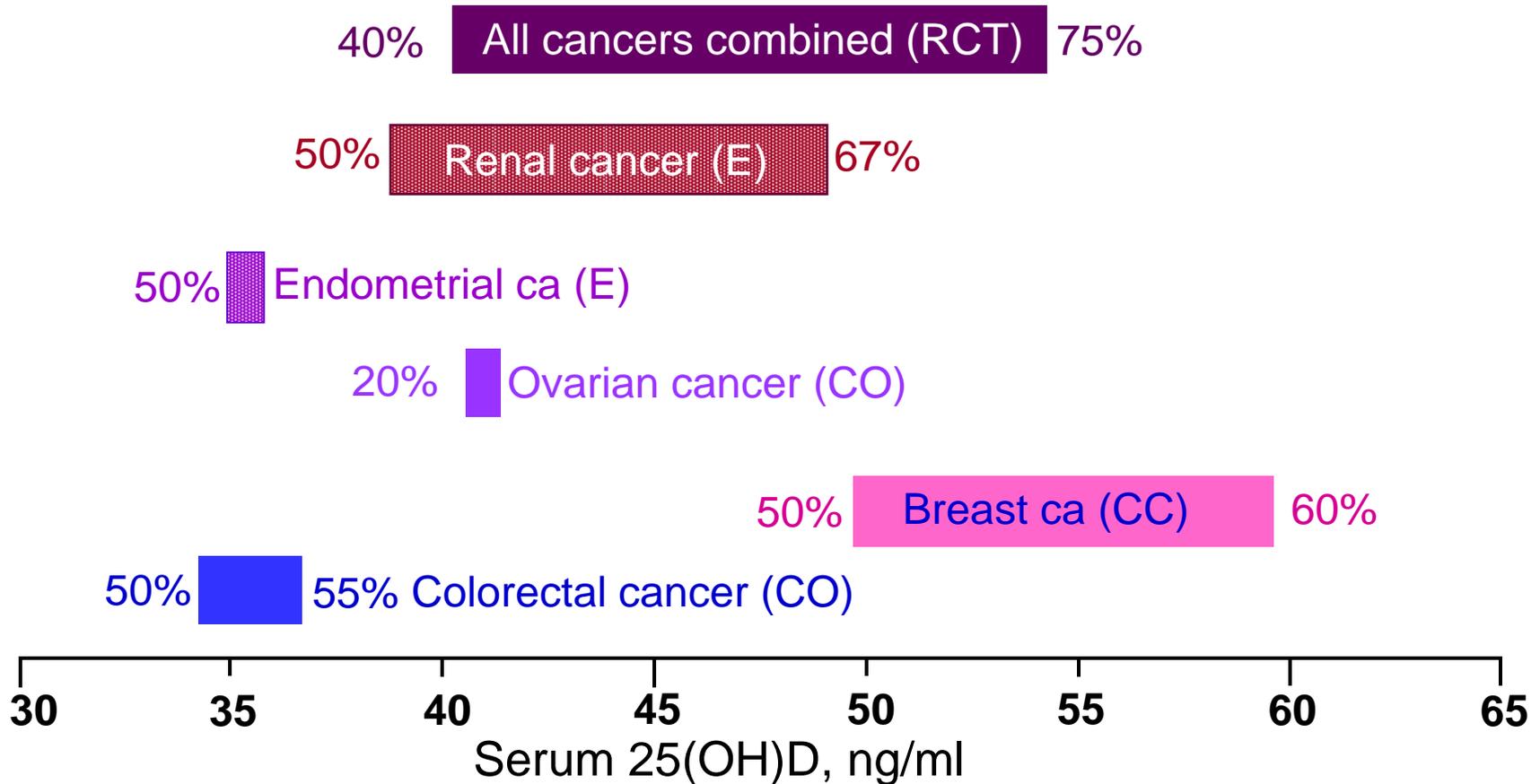
2. Haddad and Chyu. Clin Endocrinol Metab 1971; 33: 992-5.

# Proportion of Rickets Prevented, by Serum 25(OH) D Level



Source: Arnaud SB et al. Serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D in infantile rickets.  
*Pediatrics*. 1976 Feb;57(2):221-5

# Estimated Approximate Proportion of Preventable Cancers



Gorham ED, et al. Am J Prev Med. 2007;32:210-6.

Garland CF, et al. Am Assoc Ca Res Mtg San Diego April 14, 2008

Li H, et al. PLoS Med. 2007;4:103.

Tworoger SS, et al. Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev. 2007;16:783-8.

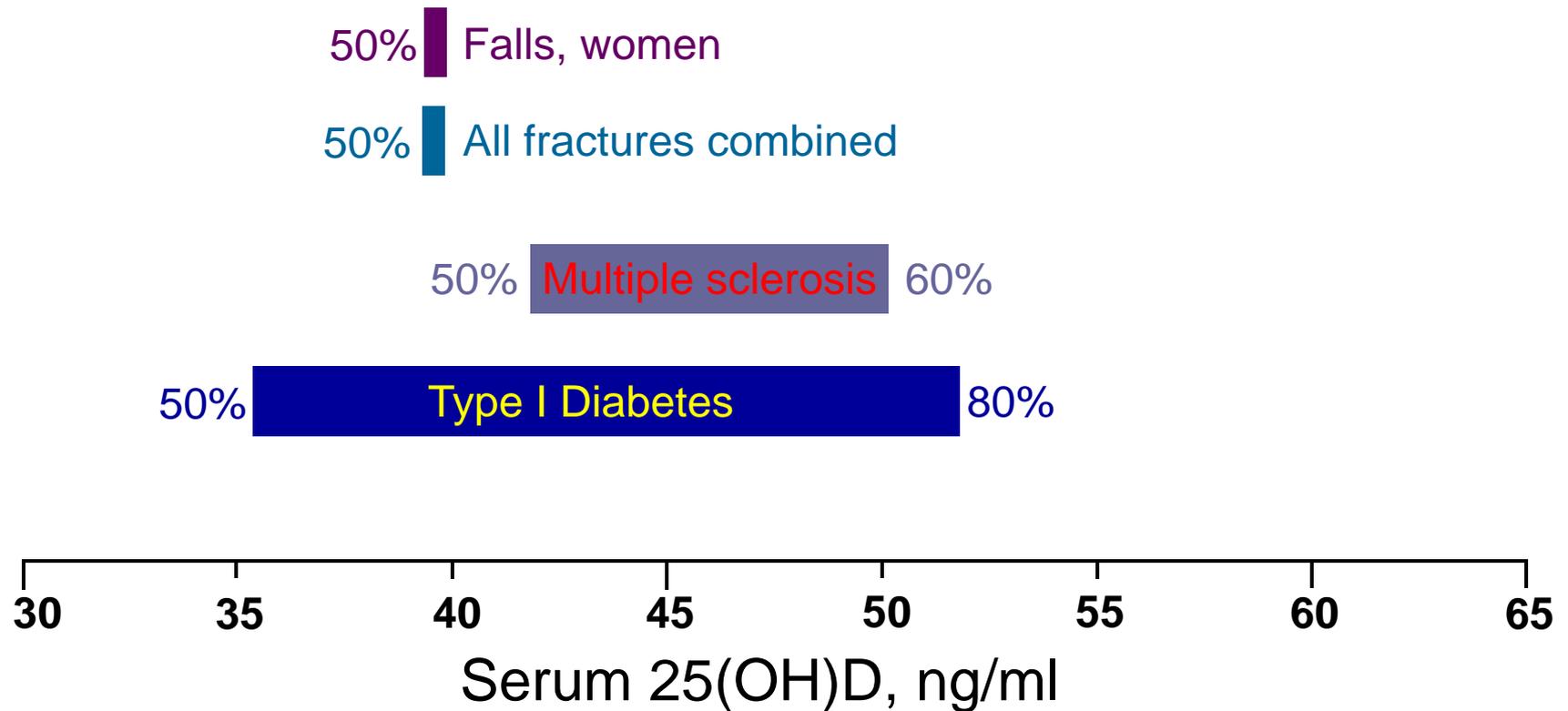
Mohr SB, et al. Prev Med. 2007;45:323-4.

Mohr SB, et al. Int J Cancer. 2006;119:2705-9.

Purdue MP, et al. Cancer Causes Control. 2007;18:989-99.

Lappe JM, et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 2007;85:1586-91.

# Estimated Proportion of other Conditions Preventable by Specified Range of Serum 25(OH) D Level

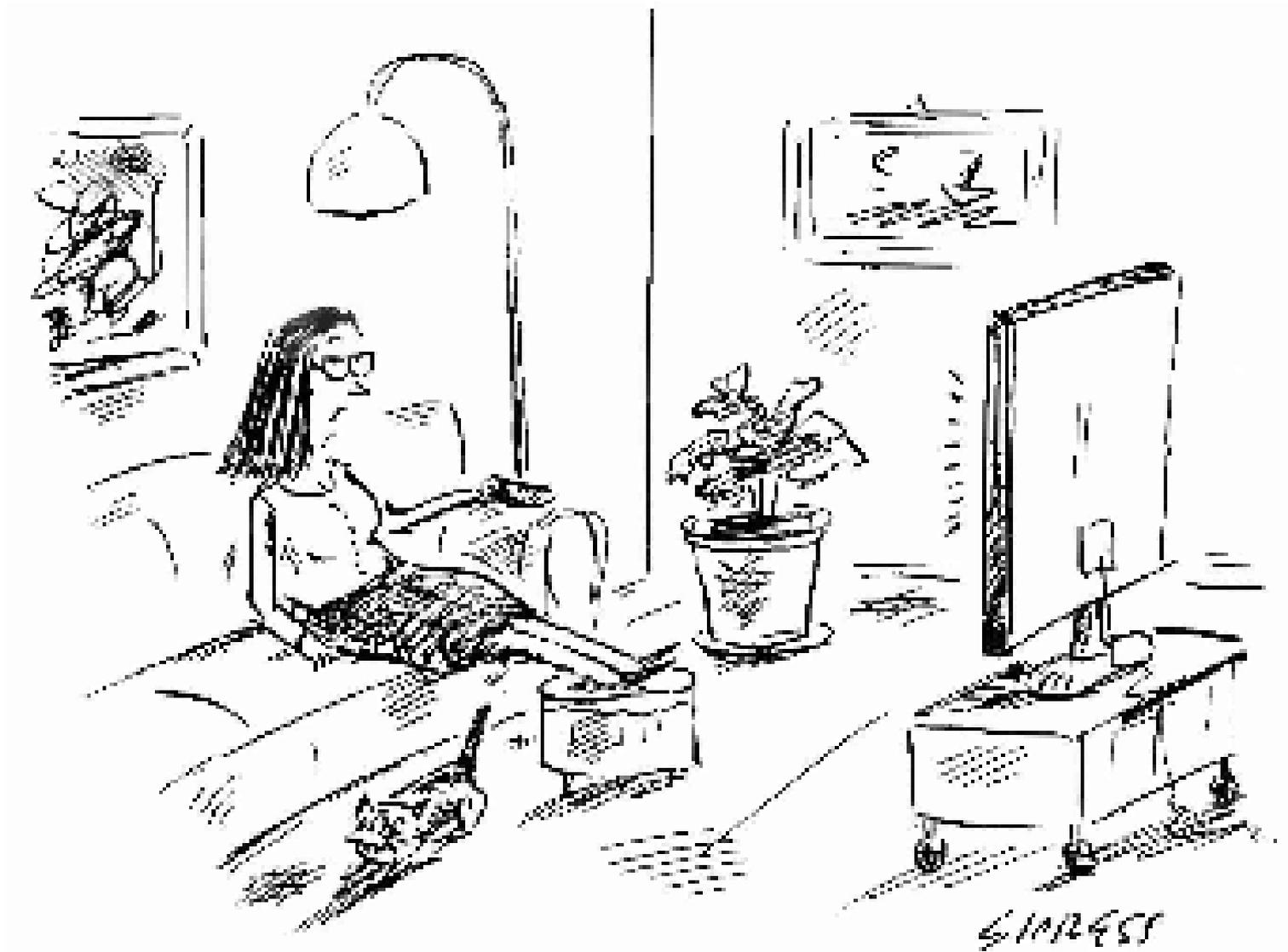


Hyppönen E, et al. Lancet 2001;358:1500-3.

Munger KL, et al. JAMA. 2006;296:2832-8.

Bischoff-Ferrari HA, et al. JAMA. 2005;293:2257-64.

Broe KE, et al. J Am Geriatr Soc. 2007;55:234-9.



**Ask your doctor if taking a pill to solve all your problems is right for you**

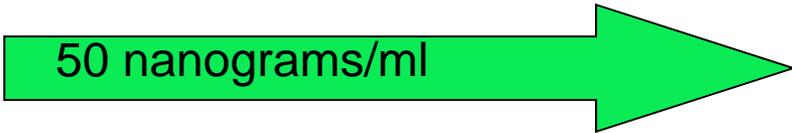
# Gauging Vitamin D Status for Breast Cancer Prevention

What is the optimal serum 25 (OH) Vitamin D concentration for breast cancer prevention?

People living in sunny places have serum 25(OH)D levels of 54 to 90 ng/ml (1). Adults excrete 3,000-5,000 IU/day of vitamin D metabolites (2).

A good clinical target for breast cancer prevention:

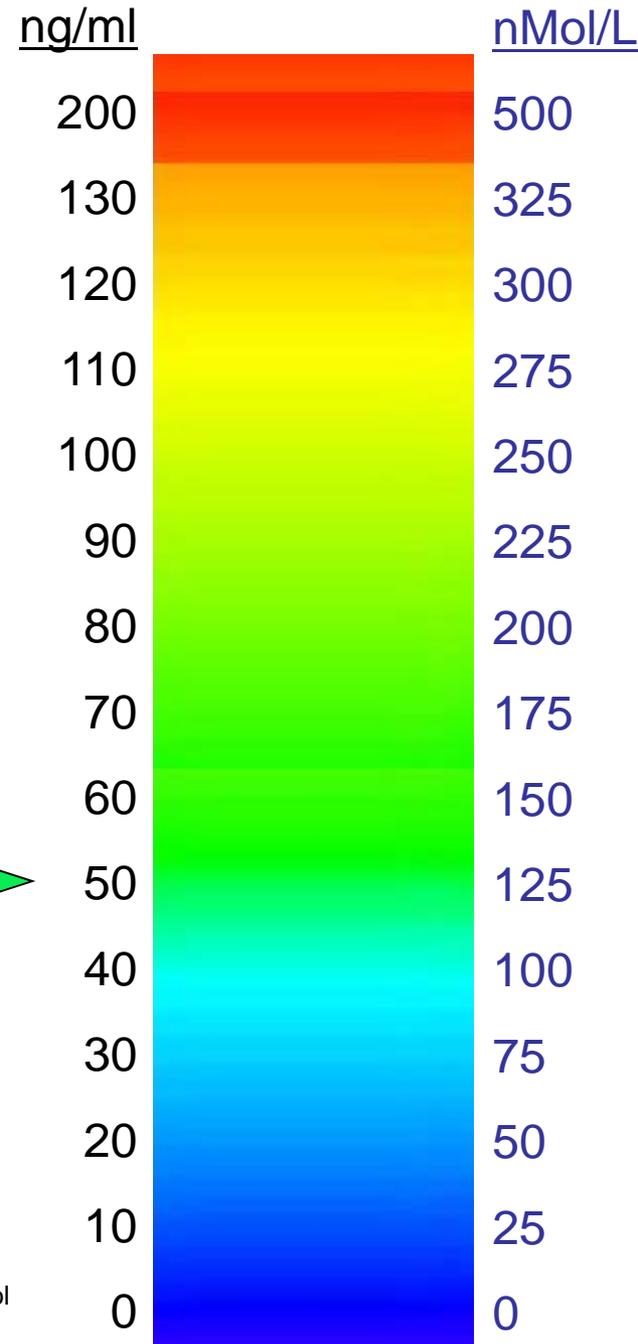
50 nanograms/ml



Rule of thumb: For every 1000 IU of vitamin D<sub>3</sub> you give, serum 25 (OH)D increases 10 ng/ml. If current level is 20 ng/ml you should give 4,000 IU to raise it to 50 ng/ml (2).

1. Hollis BW. Circulating 25-hydroxyvitamin D levels indicative of vitamin D sufficiency: implications for establishing a new effective dietary intake recommendation for vitamin D. *J Nutr.* 2005;135:317-22

2. Heaney RP, Davies KM, Chen TC, Holick MF, Barger-Lux MJ. Human serum 25-hydroxycholecalciferol response to extended oral dosing with cholecalciferol. *Am J Clin Nutr.* 2003;77:204-10.



# **Breast Cancer Primary Prevention Plan**

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**Vitamin D<sub>3</sub>:**

**Serum target, all ages...40-60 ng/ml**

**Oral intake.....1,000-2,000 IU/day**

**or as needed for above serum level**

**Recommend 6 cups/day of fluids (1500 ml) and 1000 mg/day of calcium, or as needed for bone density.**

# Breast cancer patients

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## Secondary prevention plan I

\_ Draw blood for serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D, calcium and ionized calcium.

\_ Start patients with breast adenocarcinoma on 2000 IU/day of vitamin D<sub>3</sub> and 1000 mg/day of calcium, unless hypercalcemic, regardless of other treatment.

\_ Titrate vitamin D<sub>3</sub> intake upward to maintain 55-60 ng/ml 25-hydroxyvitamin D<sub>3</sub>

# Breast cancer patients

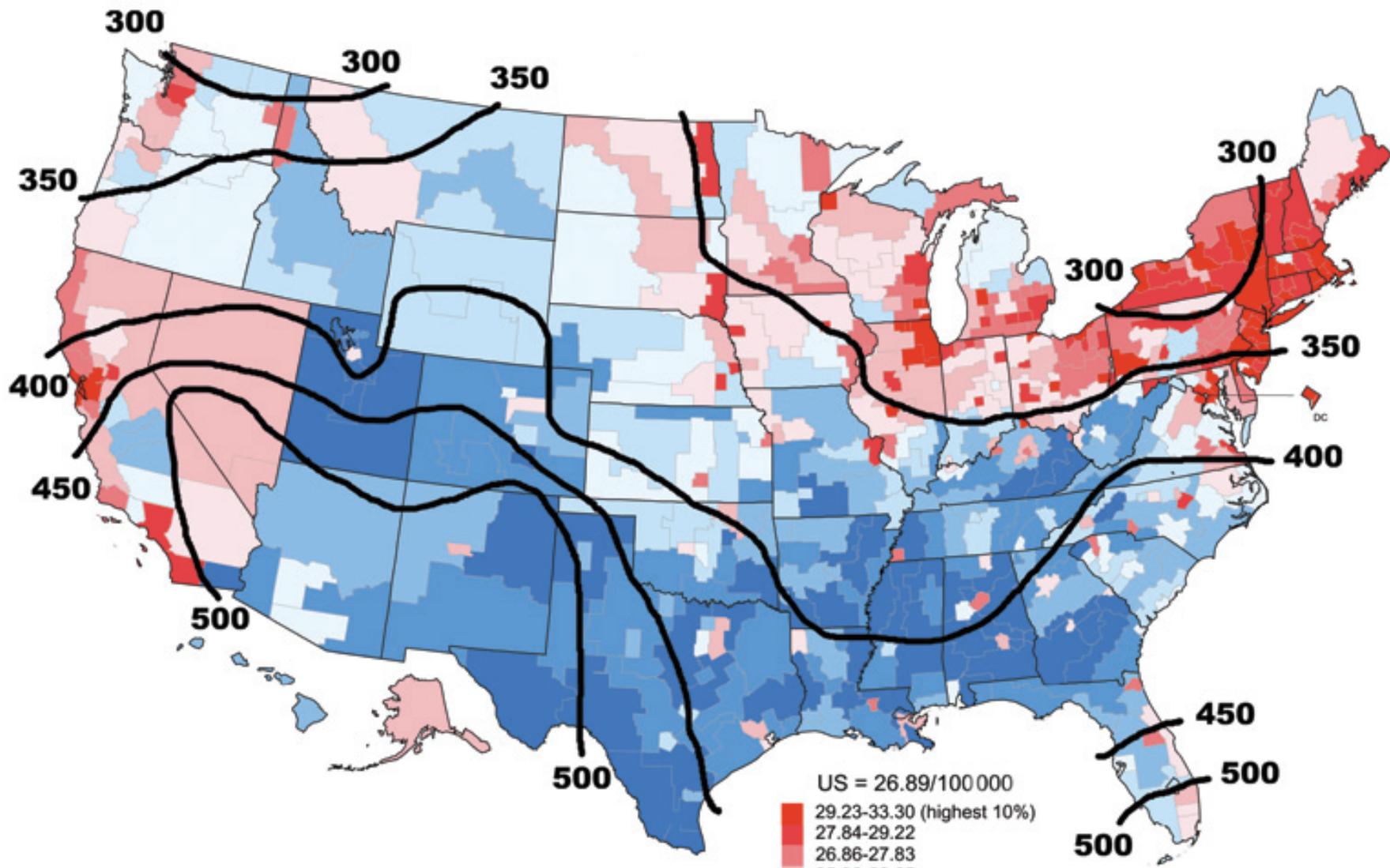
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## Secondary prevention plan II

**\_Re-test serum 25-hydroxyvitamin D and calcium monthly.**

**\_For selected patients, consider suggesting not more than 10 minutes/day outdoors near solar noon, weather allowing, with 40% skin exposure, unless there is a history of skin cancer or photosensitivity. No sunscreen for 10 minutes. Goal is 0.75 minimal erythemal dose (MED)/day.**

**\_Maintain fluid intake (  $\geq 1500$  ml/day).**



# DINOMIT 7-Phase Theory of Breast Cancer

Disjunction – Loss of tight junctions in breast epithelium

Initiation – Genetic variation

Natural selection – Competition and selection

Overgrowth – Palpable mass and invasion

Metastasis – Remote colonization

Involution – Inhibition of growth advance

Transition – Coexistence with normal tissue