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Role of Metabolomics in Test Development

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Why metabolomics?

What is possible

What appears to be happening

What makes it happen

What actually happens

Phenotype
Behaviour
Development
....

Genomics

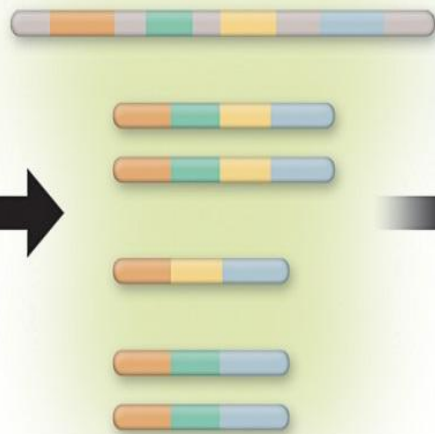
Transcriptomics

Proteomics

Metabolomics



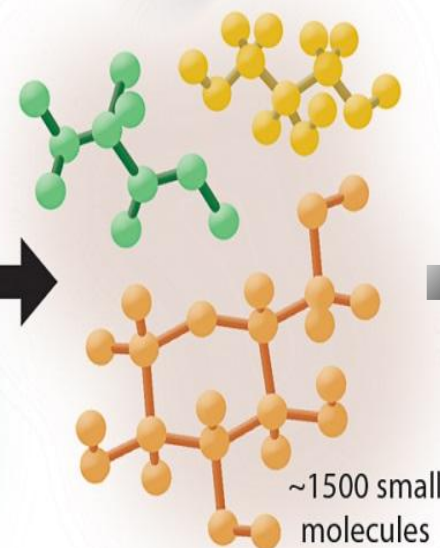
DNA



RNA



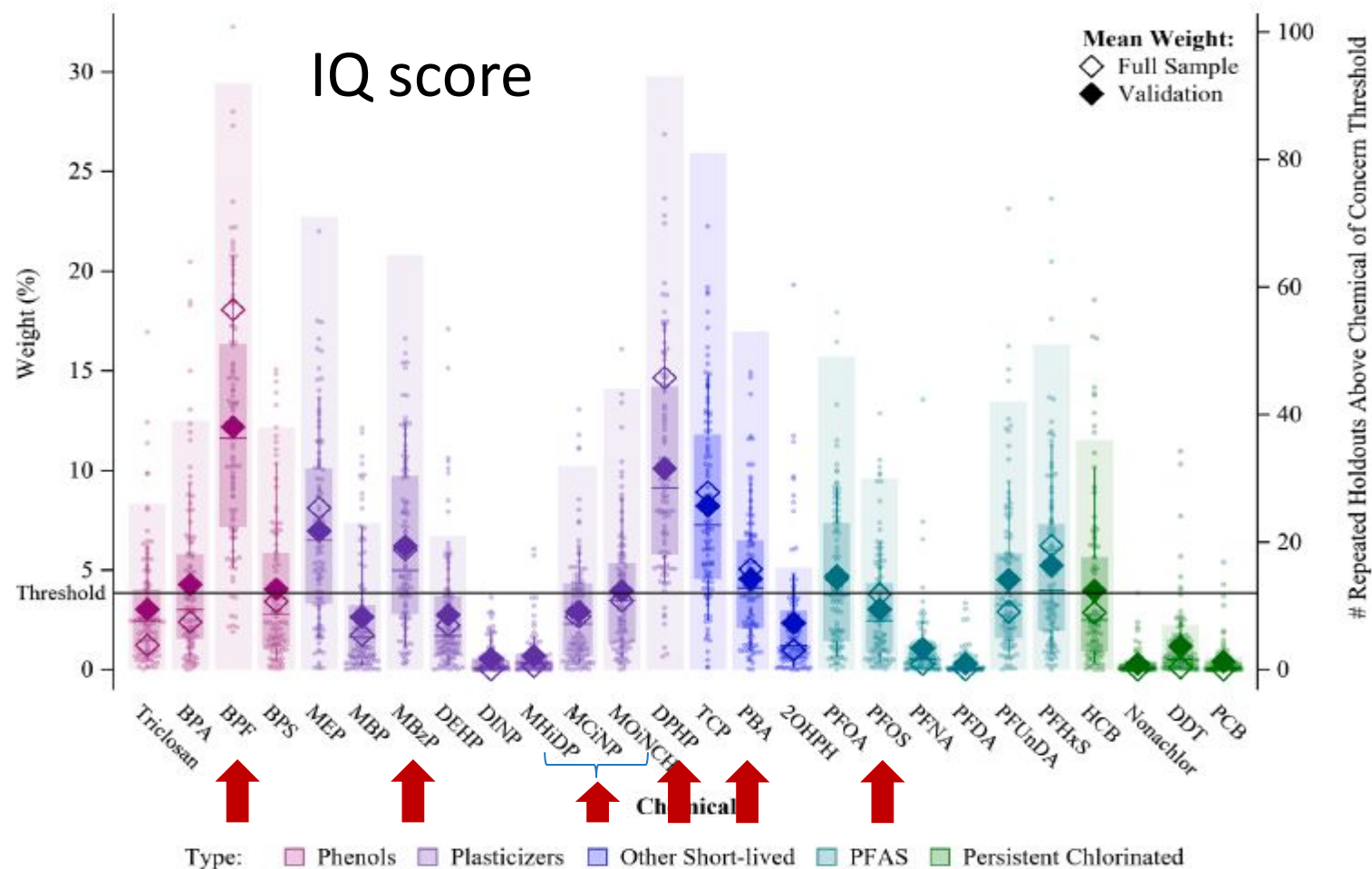
Protein



Metabolites



Selection of EDCs for rat studies



Rat studies

BPF: Bisphenol F

PMT: Permethrin

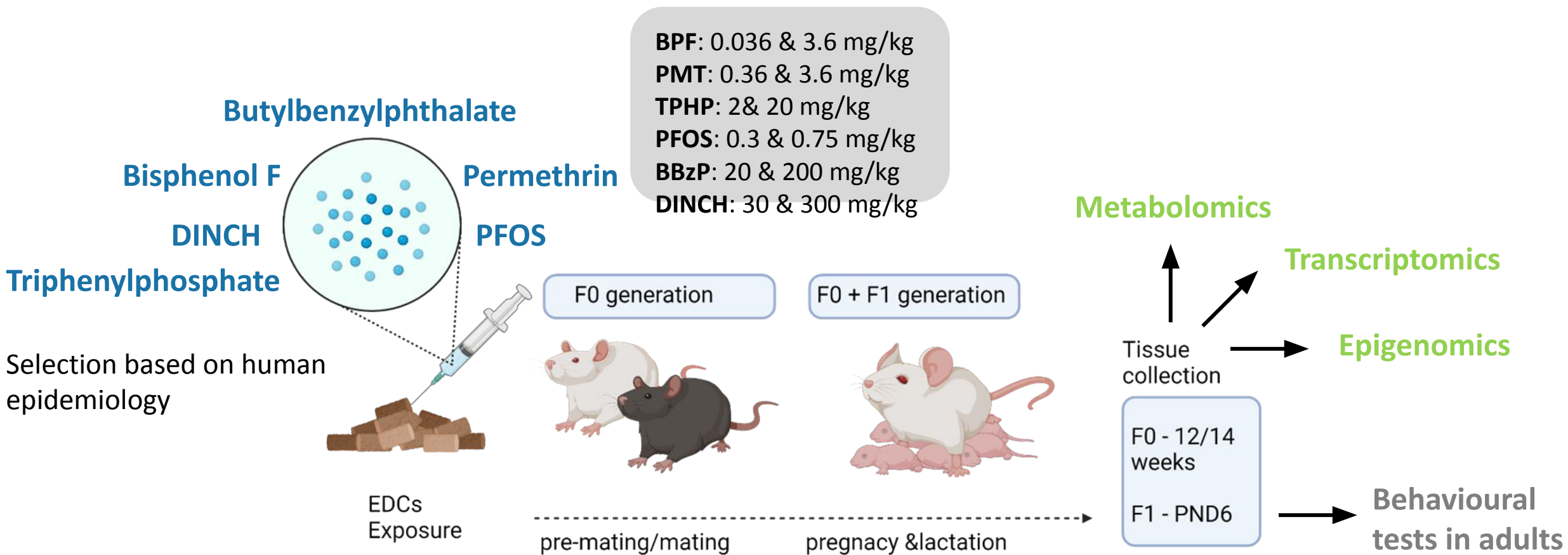
TPHP: Triphenyl phosphate

PFOS: Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid

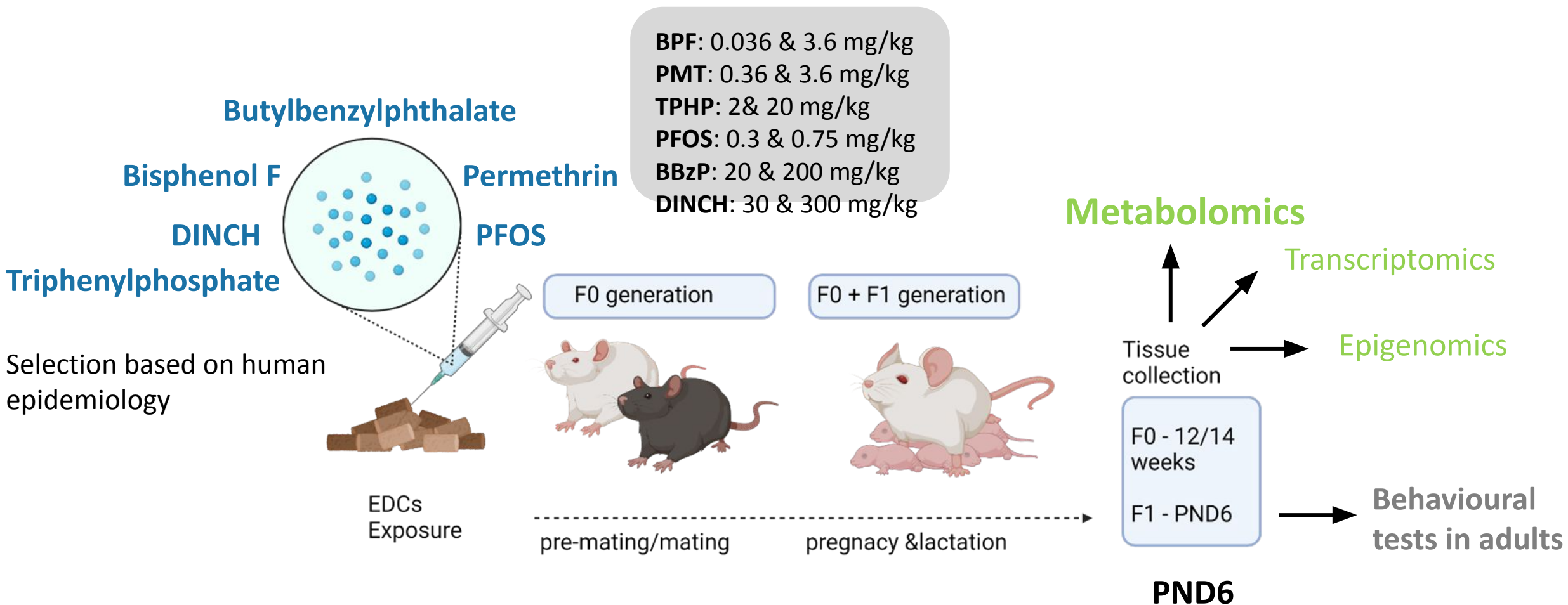
BBzP: Benzyl butyl phthalate

DINCH: cyclohexane-
1,2-dicarboxylic acid-
diisononyl ester

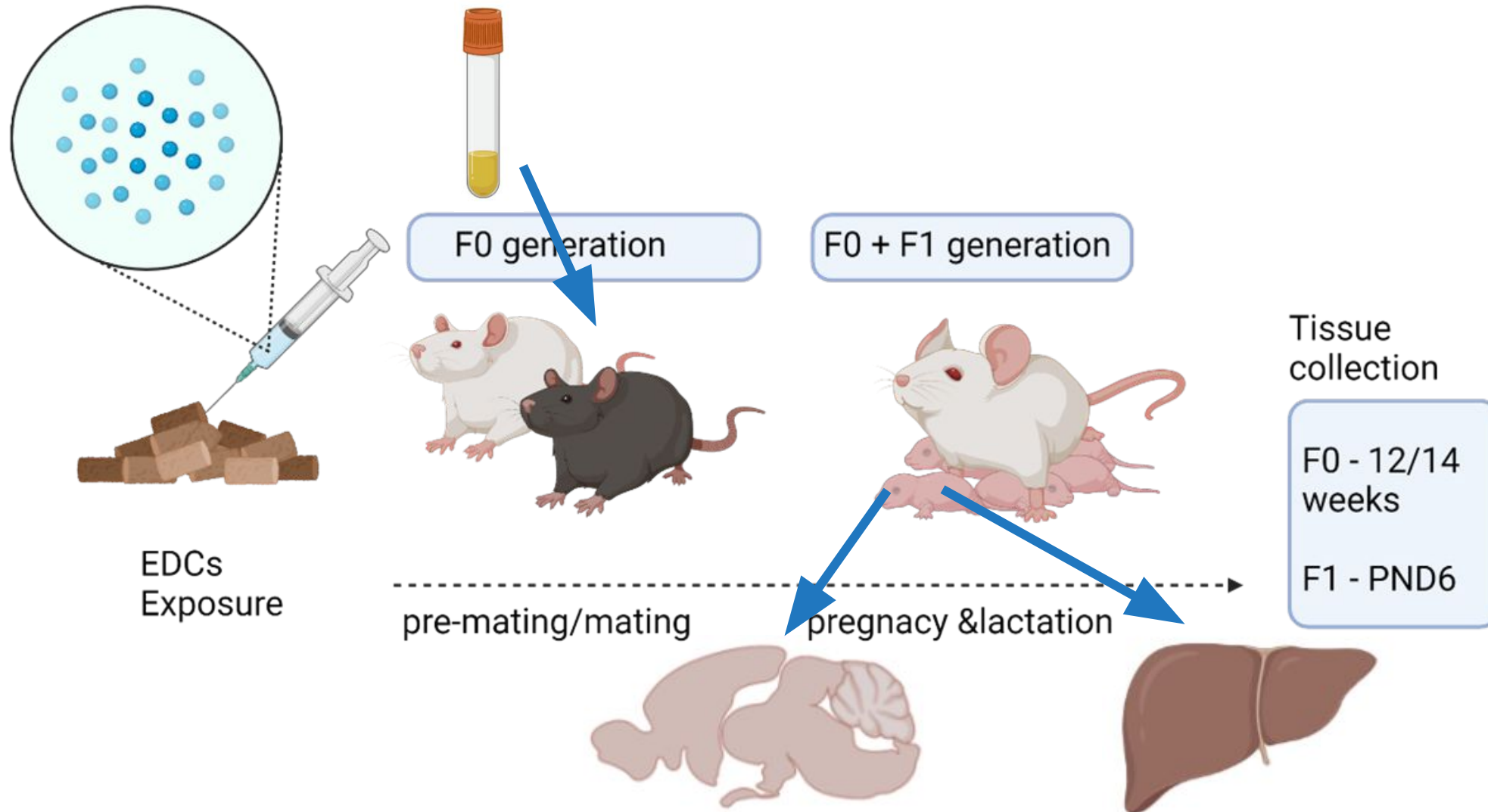
Rat studies



Rat studies

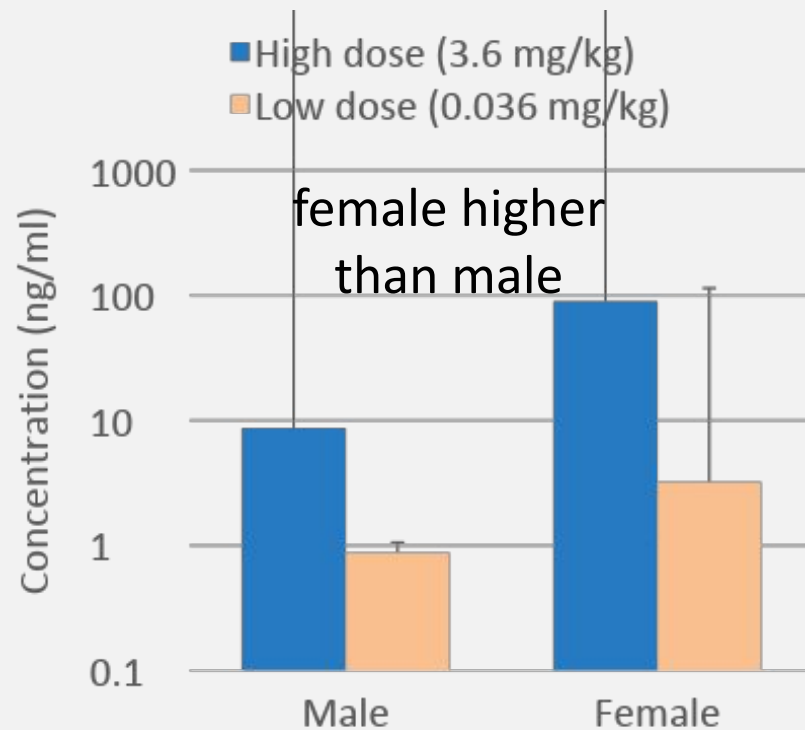


Samples for internal concentration and omics analysis

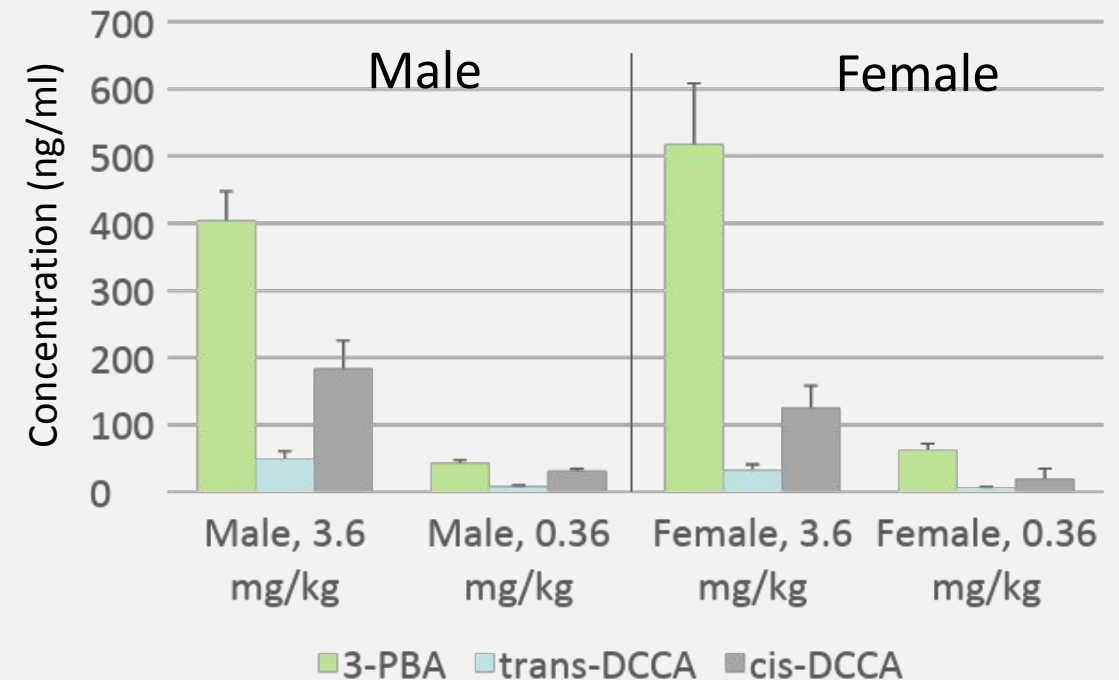
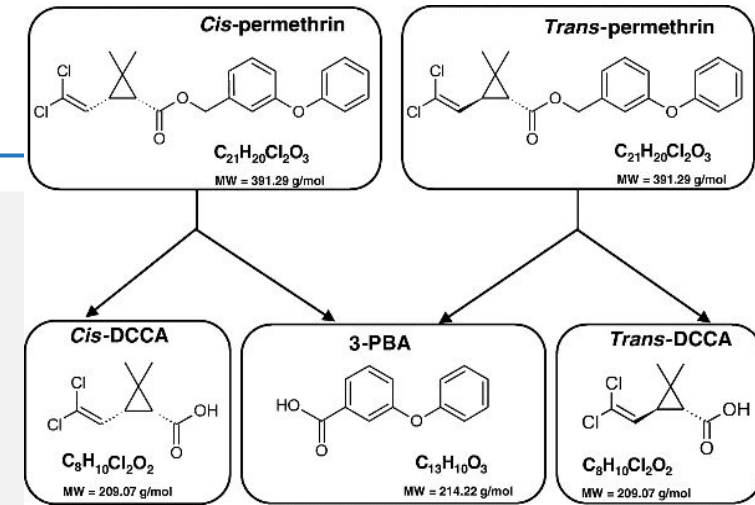


Internal concentrations BPF and permethrin in adult rat plasma

BPF



Permethrin



Steroid hormone synthesis pathway

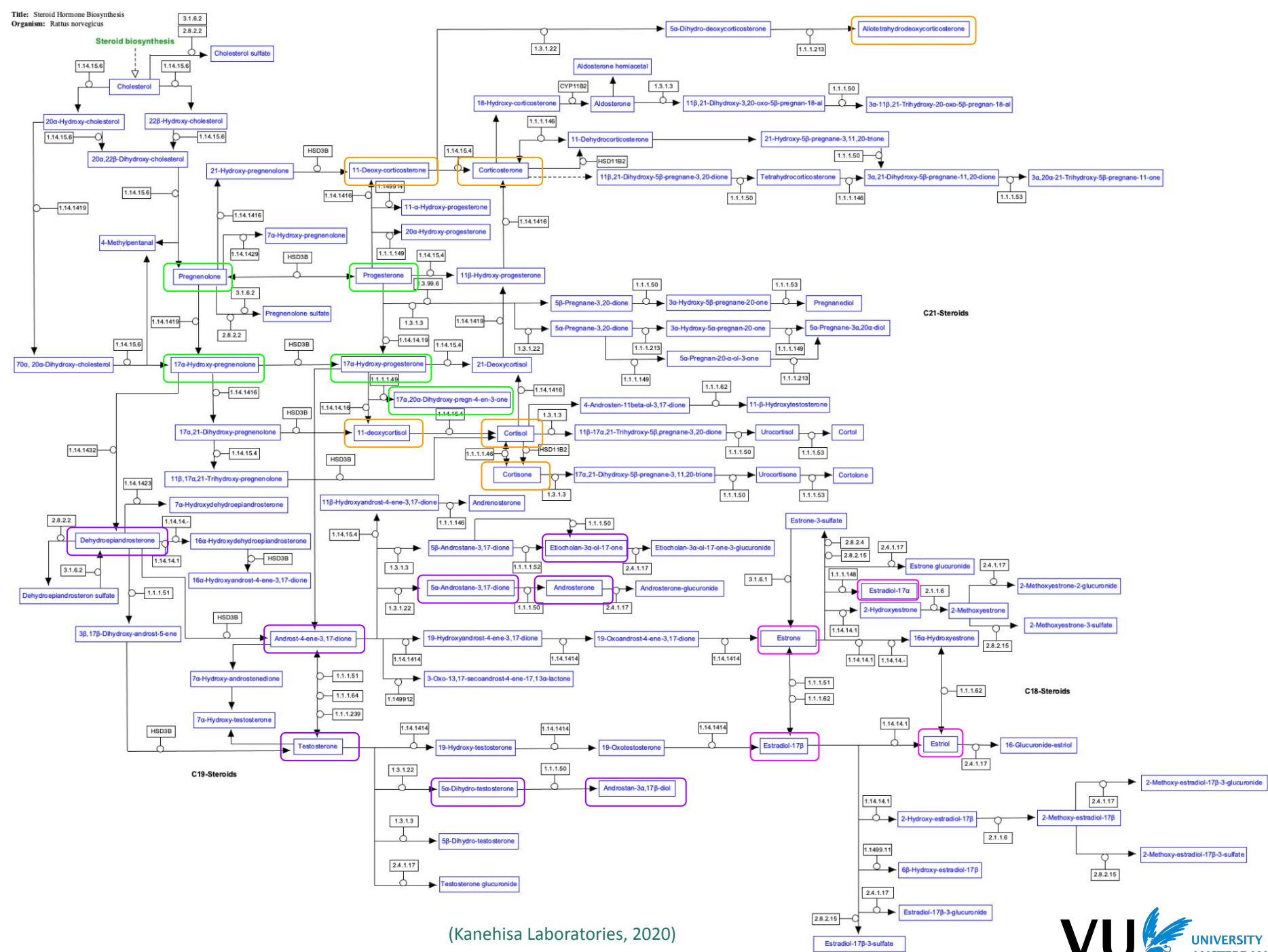
Corticoids*

Progestogens*

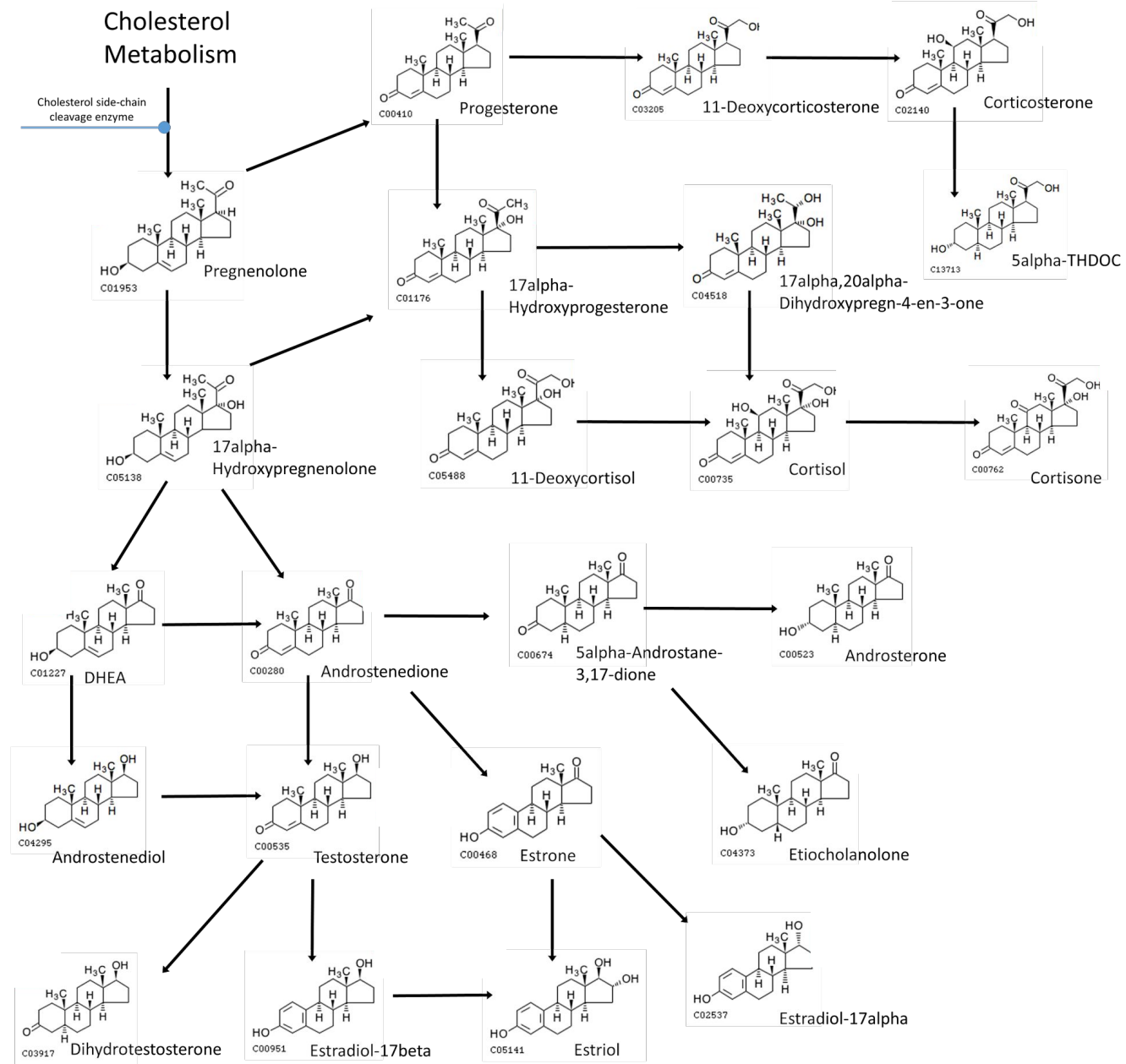
Androgens*

Estrogens*

* only steroids present in the method of this study are colored

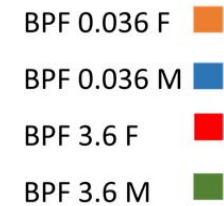


Steroid biosynthesis



- plasma adult

Plasma adult



PMT 0.36 F 

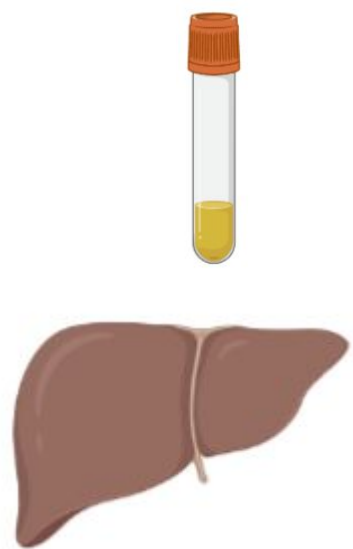
PMT 0.36 M 

PMT 3.6 F 

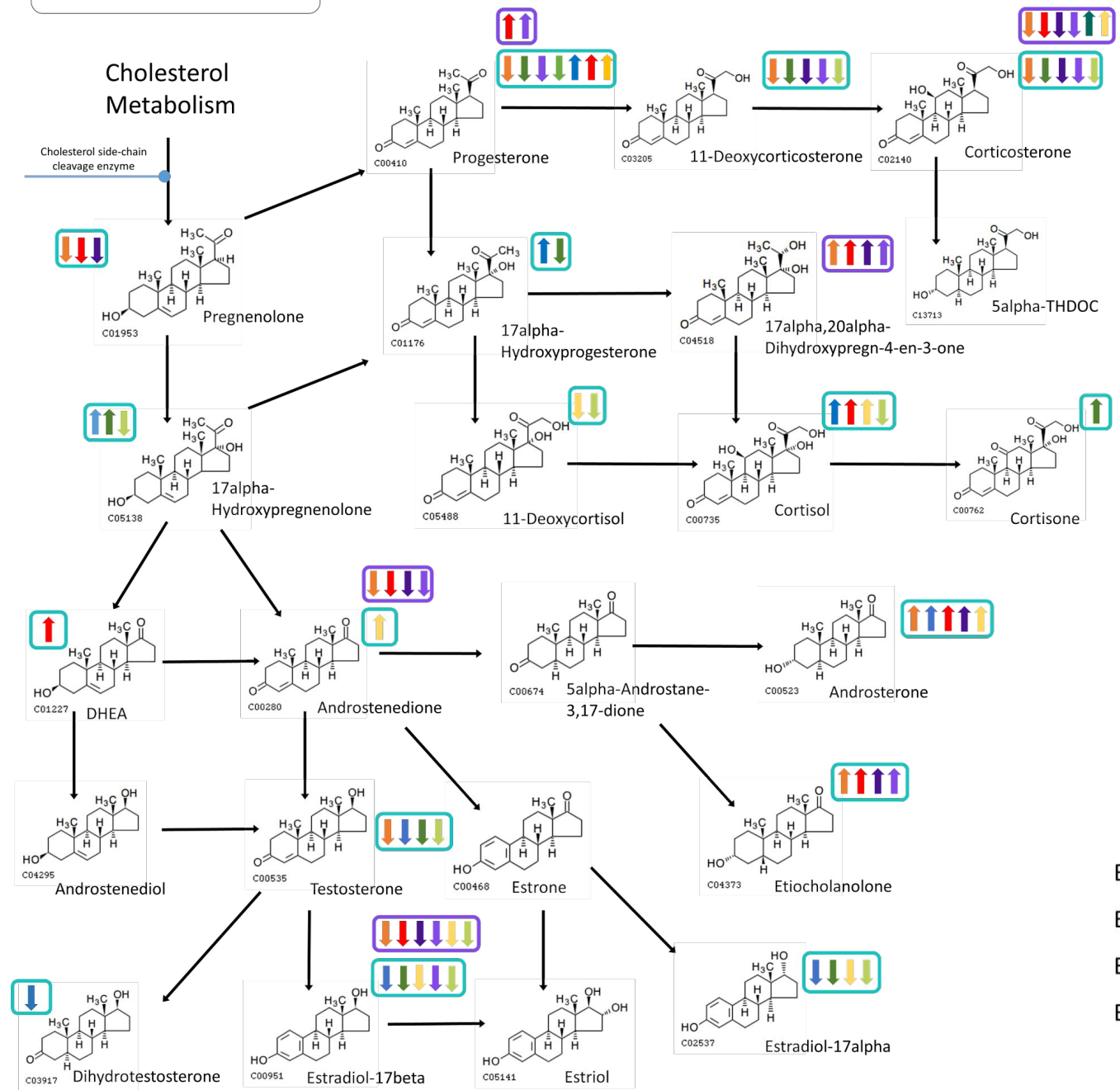
PMT 3.6 M 

Effects of BPF and permethrin on

- plasma adult
- PND6 liver



Steroid biosynthesis

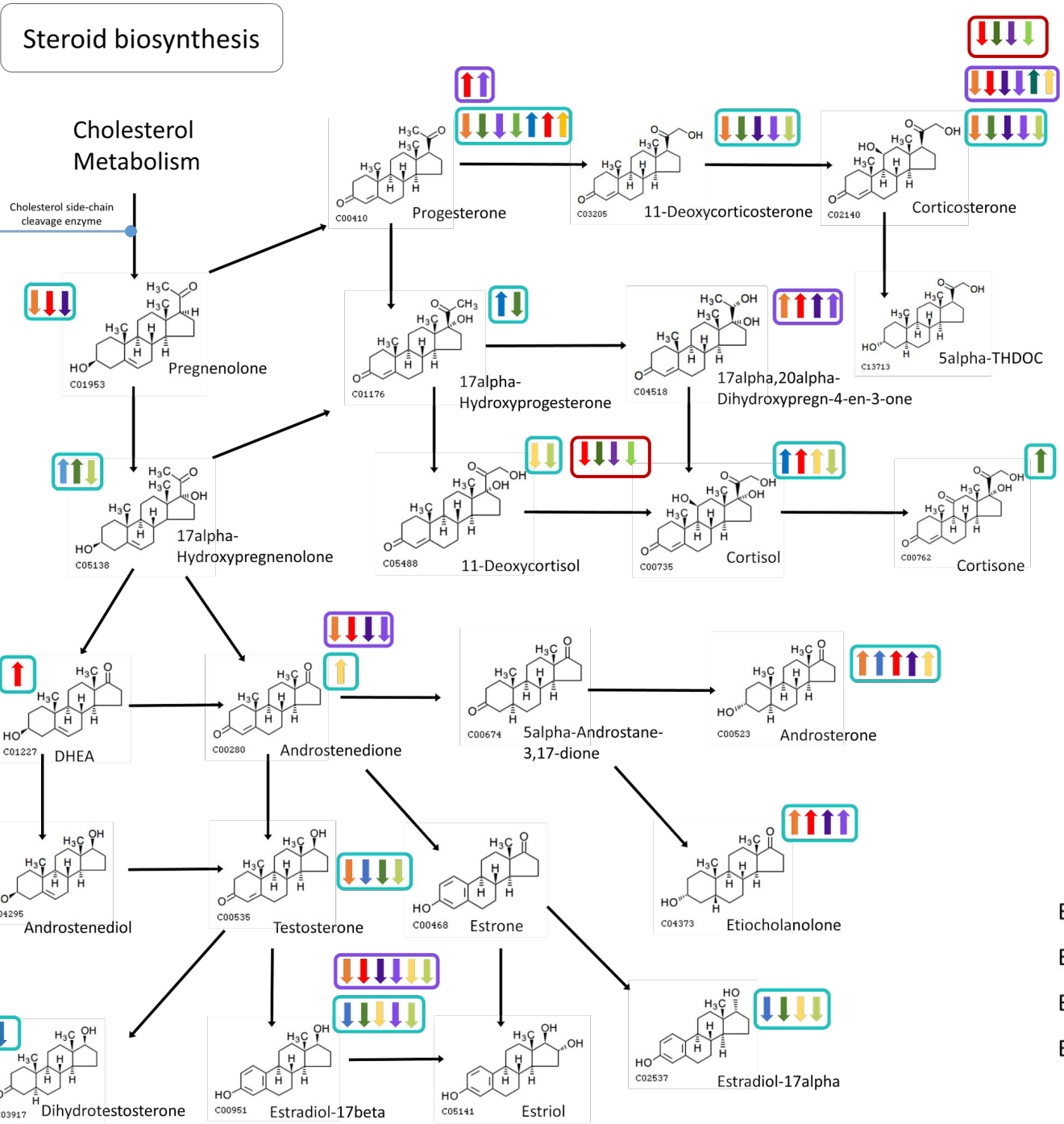
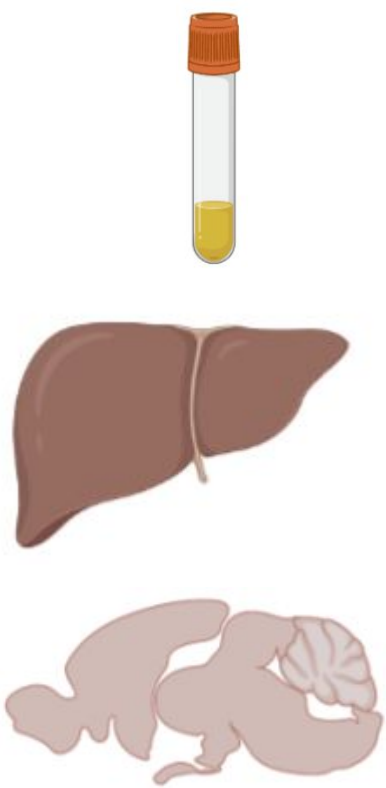


PND6 liver
Plasma adult

BPF 0.036 F
BPF 0.036 M
BPF 3.6 F
BPF 3.6 M
PMT 0.36 F
PMT 0.36 M
PMT 3.6 F
PMT 3.6 M

Effects of BPF and permethrin on

- plasma adult
- PND6 liver
- PND6 hippocampus



Legend for biosynthesis pathways:

- PND6 hippocampus (Red box)
- PND6 liver (Purple box)
- Plasma adult (Cyan box)

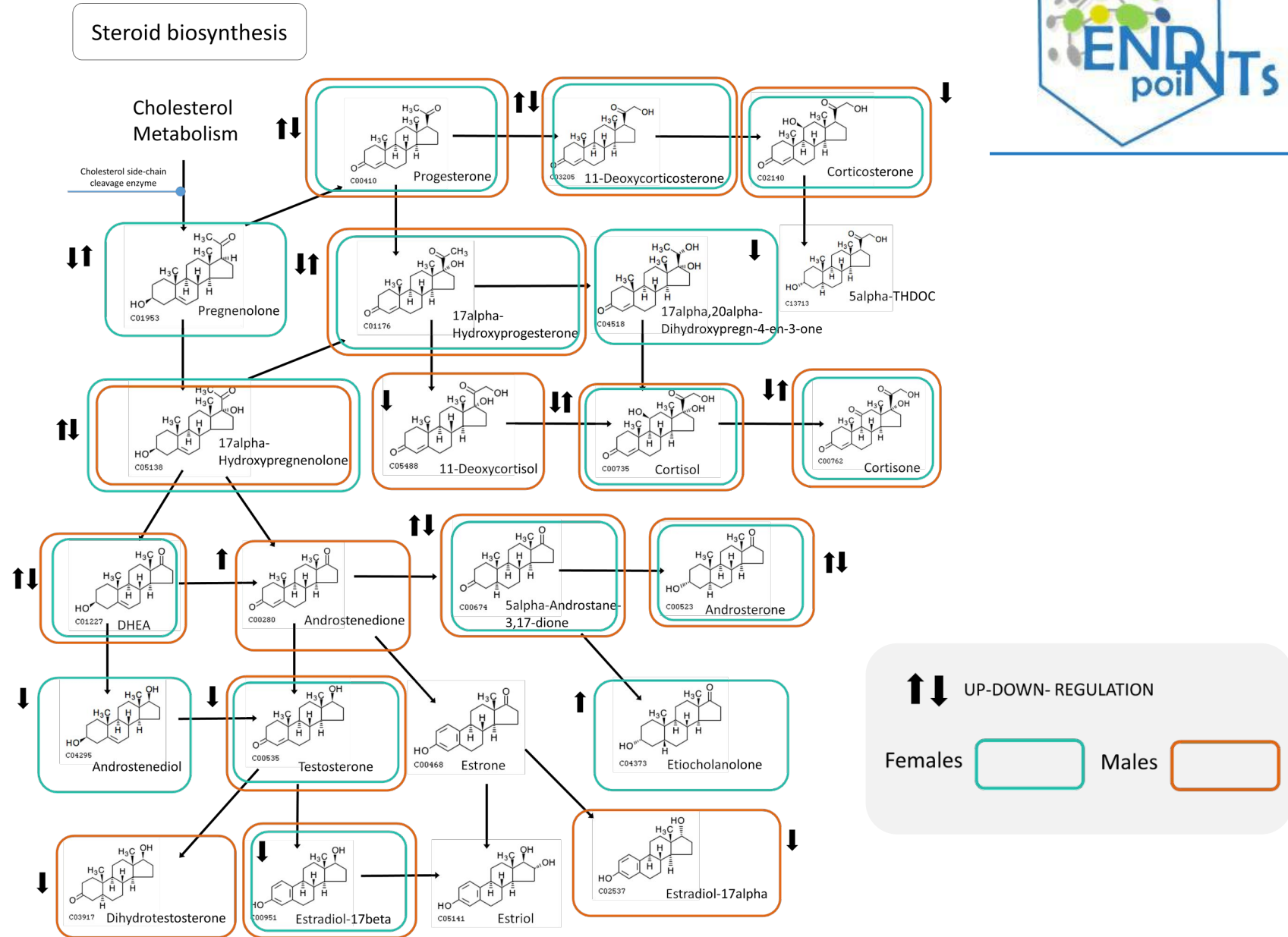
Legend for chemical structures:

- BPF 0.036 F (Orange)
- BPF 0.036 M (Blue)
- BPF 3.6 F (Red)
- BPF 3.6 M (Green)
- PMT 0.36 F (Purple)
- PMT 0.36 M (Yellow)
- PMT 3.6 F (Dark Purple)
- PMT 3.6 M (Light Green)

Sex-specific effects of steroids in adult rat plasma by BPF, PMT, BBzP, PFOS



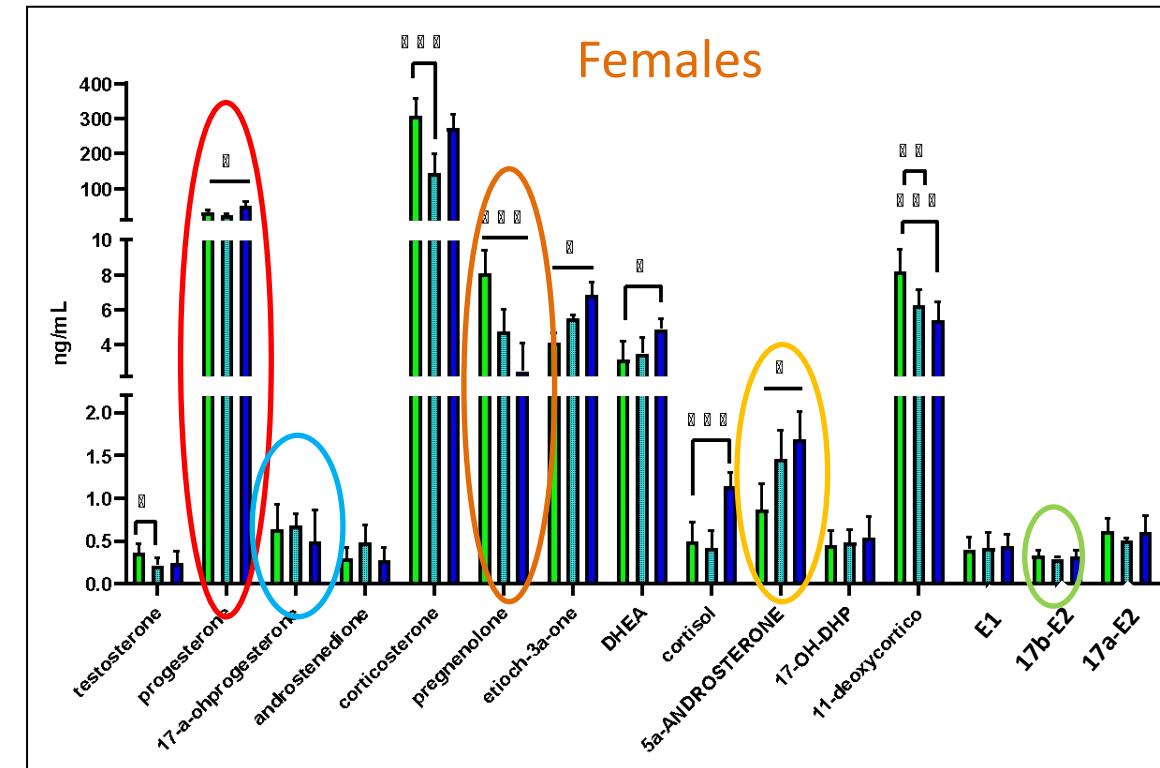
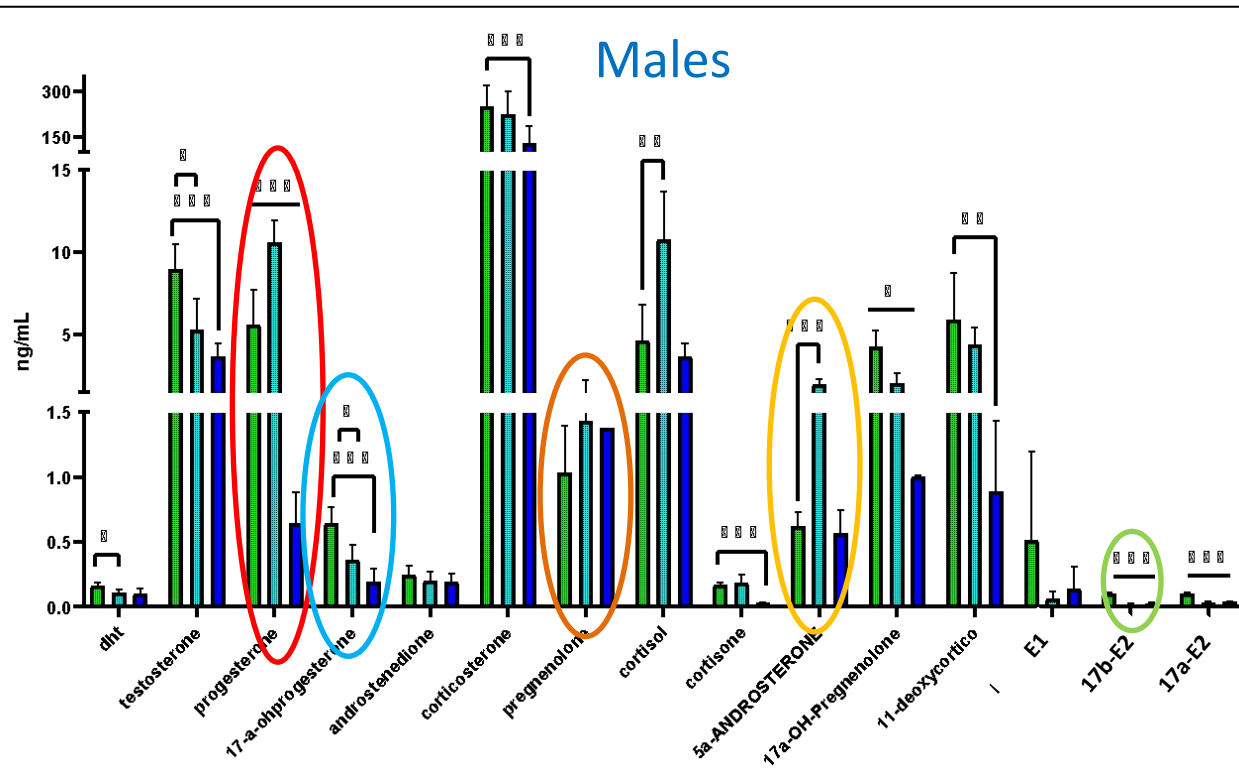
- Many steroids are affected by EDCs
- Colored boxes significantly up-down regulated ($p < 0.05$)
- Sex-specific effects
- 20/23 steroids affected by at least one EDC



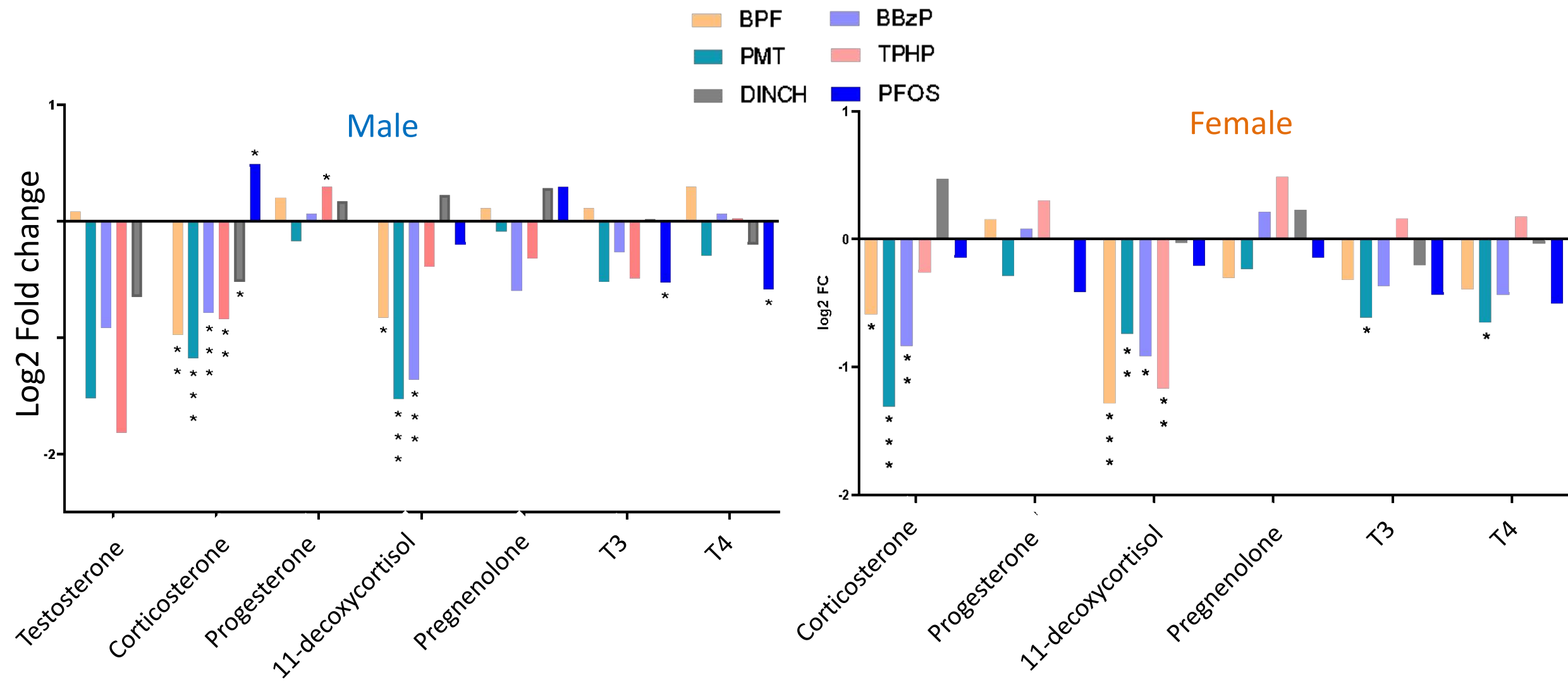
Sex-specific effects of BPF in adult plasma



Control BPF 0.036 mg/kg bw BPF 3.6 mg/kg bw



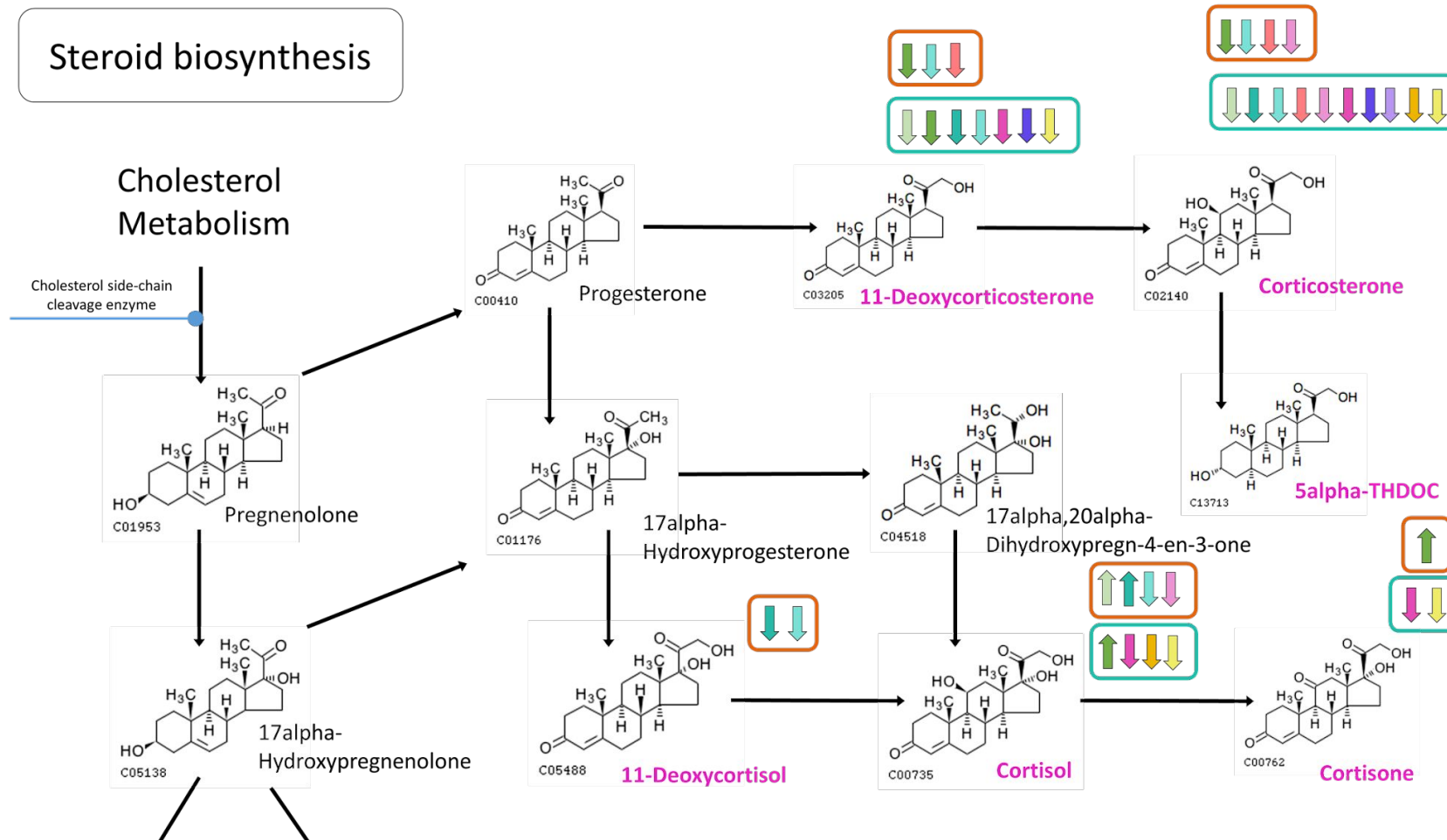
Sex-specific effects on PND6 rat hippocampus



Glucocorticoids disruption by PMT, BPF, BBzP, TPHP & DINCH in adult plasma



Steroid biosynthesis



UP-DOWN- REGULATION **Glucocorticoids**

Females Males

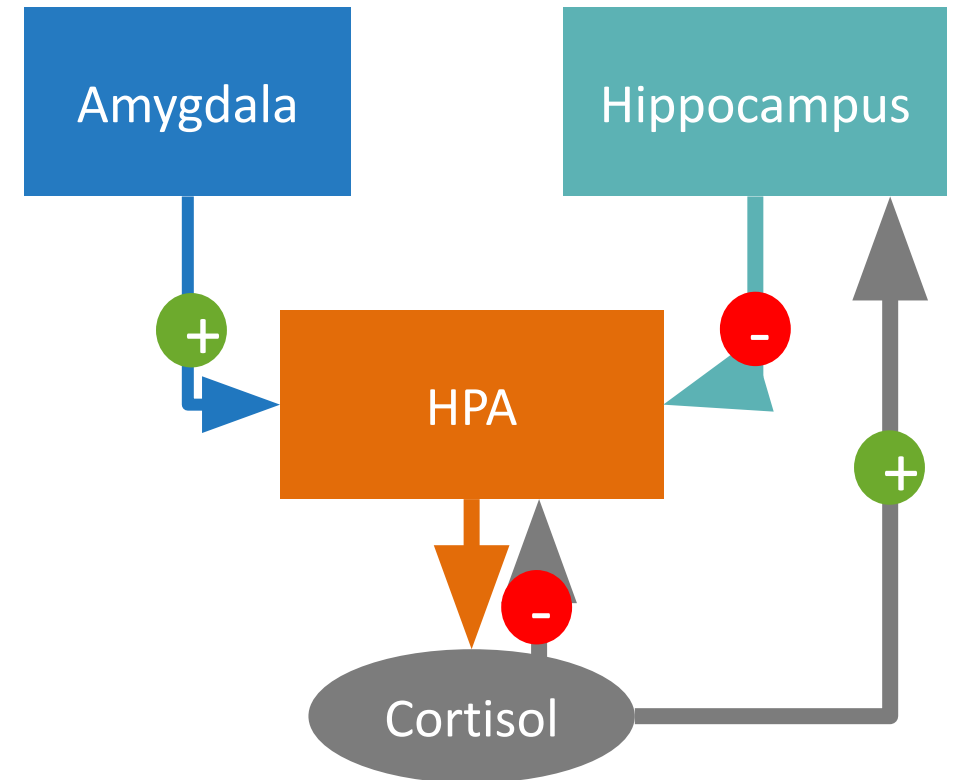
Exposure:

BPF 0.036		PFOS 0.3	
BPF 3.6		PFOS 0.75	
PMT 0.36		TPhP 2	
PMT 3.6		TPhP 20	
BBzP 20		DINCH 30	
		DINCH 300	

Glucocorticoids (corticosterone)

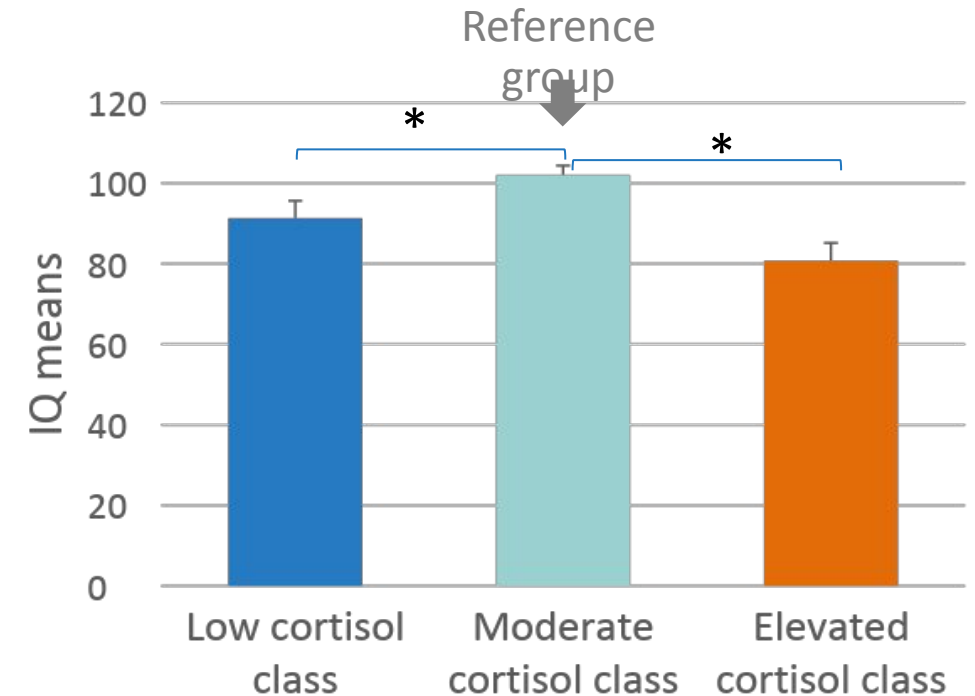
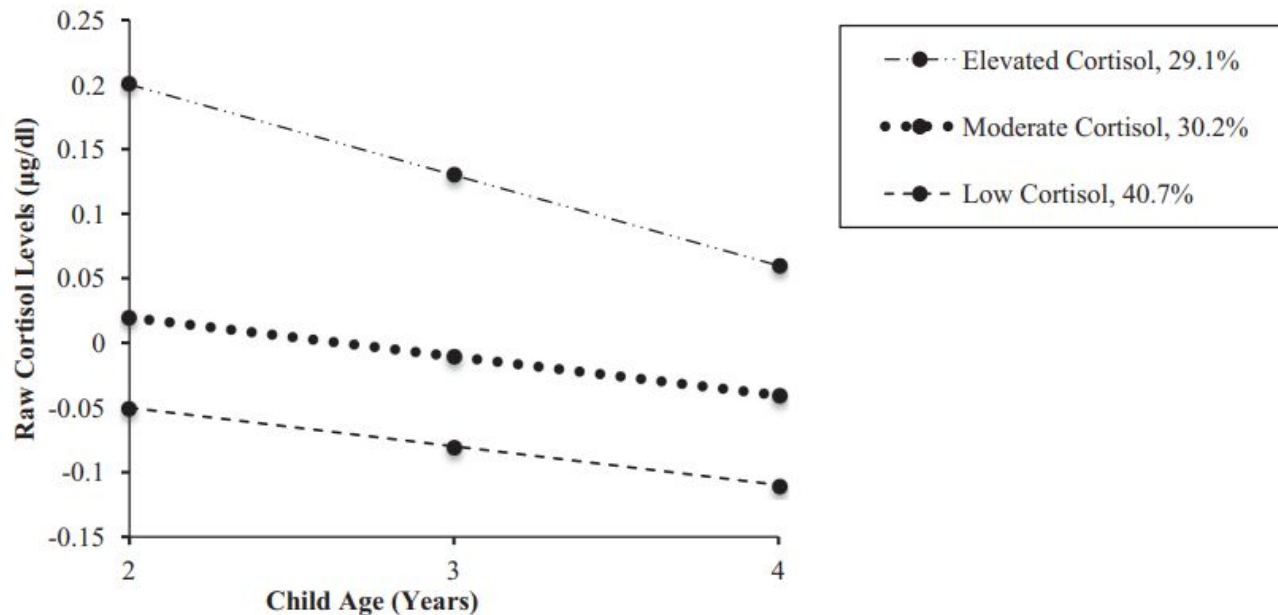


- Adrenal GC production regulated by Hypothalamic–pituitary–adrenal (HPA) axis
- Corticosterone/cortisol regulates neuropeptides and neurotransmitters thus affecting functional brain systems
- Imbalance of glucocorticoids with the two corticosteroid-receptor types?
- Inverted U-shape relation between glucocorticoids and cognitive functioning



Associations between cortisol and cognitive function in childhood

- Children assessed at ages 2, 3, and 4 years
- Three basal cortisol classes (low, elevated, moderate)



Role of Metabolomics in Test Development



- Improve our understanding between the endocrine system (ED) and developmental neurotoxicity (DNT) outcomes
- Provide metabolite profiles for test systems that link the ED system with DNT outcomes (e.g. corticosterone and neurotransmitters profiles, sex-specific)

Acknowledgement



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