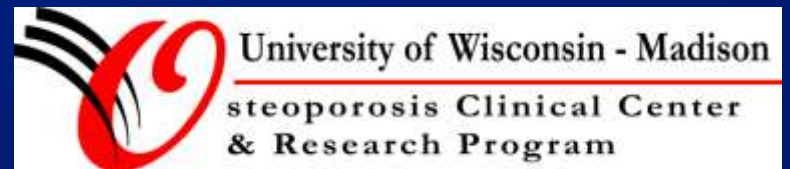


Vitamin D: A Potential Role in Diabetes

Collaborative Diabetes Education Conference
Jan 22, 2011

Neil Binkley, M.D.



Disclosures/Conflict of Interest

None



**Is Vitamin D Deficiency
Important in Diabetes
Pathogenesis and/or
Prevention/Treatment??**

No One Knows...

**Remember That Association
Does Not Prove Causation...**

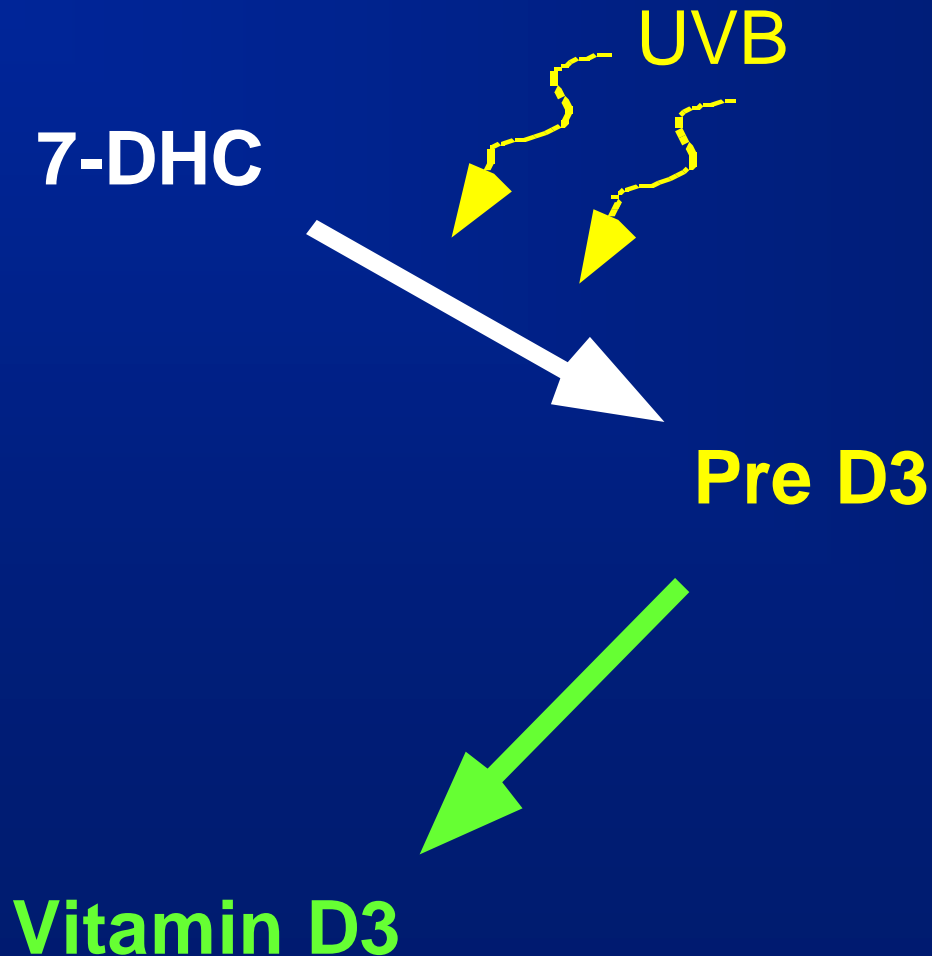


- ◆ Brief vitamin D history
- ◆ Prevalence of low vitamin D status
- ◆ Measurement of 25(OH)D
- ◆ Correction
 - How much vitamin D do we need?
 - Are vitamins D₂ and D₃ equivalent?
 - Approaches to correcting low vitamin D status
- ◆ Importance of low vitamin D in diseases,
including diabetes



Historically, Humans Obtained Vitamin D from the Sun

UVB (~280-315 nm) Produces Vitamin D



Humans Were a Highly Sun-exposed Species



Vitamin D Deficiency Accompanied the Industrial Revolution



“Rickets” First Used in Print 1634

Annual Bill of Mortality for the City of London; 441 deaths in 1659

Described by Whistler in his thesis for the doctor of medicine degree in 1645; believed Rickets to be a new disease that appeared ~20 years previously

Crow liver considered as a possible treatment

A generall Bill for this present yeere, ending the 18. of December 1634. according to the report made to the Kings most excellent Ma^{ty} By the Company of Parish Clerkes of London, &c.

The Diseases and Casualties this yeere.

A Bortive and Stillborne	475	Falling Sicknesse	5	Plague	1
Aged	612	Feaver	1279	Plannet	22
Ague	11	Fistula	11	Plurisie and Spleene	4
Appoplexian & Meagrome	35	Flocks and small Pox	1354	Poyfoned	2
Bit with a mad dogge	1	French Pox	17	Purples and spotted Feaver	125
Bleeding	3	Gangrene	10	Quinsie	4
Bloody flux scowring & flux	512	Goute	5	Rickets	14
Burnt and sealded	3	Greene sicknes	2	Rising of the lights and Mother	84
Cancer and Canker	9	Griefe	15	Rupture	3
Childbed	143	Hanged themselves	3	Scurvey, Swine Pox and Bleach	9
Chirifomes and Infants	2315	Jaundies and Yellowes	45	Sores, broken and bruised	19
Cold and Cough	54	lawfeine	10	Limbes	63
Collicke Stone & Strangury	49	Impostume	62	Suddenly	114
Consumption	1955	Kild by severall accidents,	41	Surfet	454
Convulsion and Cramp	386	Kings Evill	20	Teeth	31
Cut of the Stone	5	Livergrowne	77	Timpany	17
Dead in the streets & fields, and flaved	8	Lunatique	2	Tittake	25
Dropie and Swelling	233	Meakes	33	Vomiting	5
Drowned	32	Murtherd	6	Wormes	28
Executed	13	Over-laid & starved at nurse	14		
		Palfe	21		
		Piles	1		

Christened	{ Males — 50352	Buried	{ Males — 56763	Whereof, of the Plague — 1
	{ Females — 48200		{ Females — 5224	
	{ In all — 98552		{ In all — 10900	

Increased in the Burials in the 122 Parishes & at the Pesthouse this yeere. — 2508
 Increased of the Plague in the 122 Parishes and at the Pesthouse this yeere. — 1.



In the late 1800's
estimated that **~80-90%**
of children who lived in
industrialized cities of
Europe and North
America had rickets

Holick, J Clin Invest 116:2062-2072, 2006



Have We Returned to the 1890's?

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How to Play Outside

Summer is here, and the kids need to get outside for exercise, sun, and fresh air, but playing outside seems for many to be a lost art. There is television and video games to compete with, but with some imagination, playing outside can result in hours of fun.



Have fun outside!



Messages to “Avoid the Sun” are Widespread and Powerful



NHS choices Your health, your choices

Medical advice | Health A-Z | **Live Well** | Carers Direct | Health

Sun safety Q&A

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[View all 119 topics](#)

Popular topics

- Alcohol
- Cancer prevention
- Colds and flu
- Dental health
- Fitness
- Healthy eating
- Lose weight
- Menopause
- Mental health
- Pain
- Pregnancy
- Sexual health
- Stop smoking
- Winter health



It's important to protect your and your children's skin in the sun to avoid sunburn and heat exhaustion.

What sun protection factor (SPF) should I use?
Use sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15. The higher the SPF, the better. Go for broad-spectrum

[Watch a video on how to be safe in the sun](#)



SunWise Program

[Contact Us](#)

Search: All EPA

You are here: [EPA Home](#) » [Ozone Layer](#)

No Skin Production of Vitamin D At Northern Latitudes from November Through February

46.7°

41.8°

42.5°

32.7°



There is virtually **NO** skin synthesis in Boston (latitude 42.3° N) from November thru February



Cavemen?



Caveman



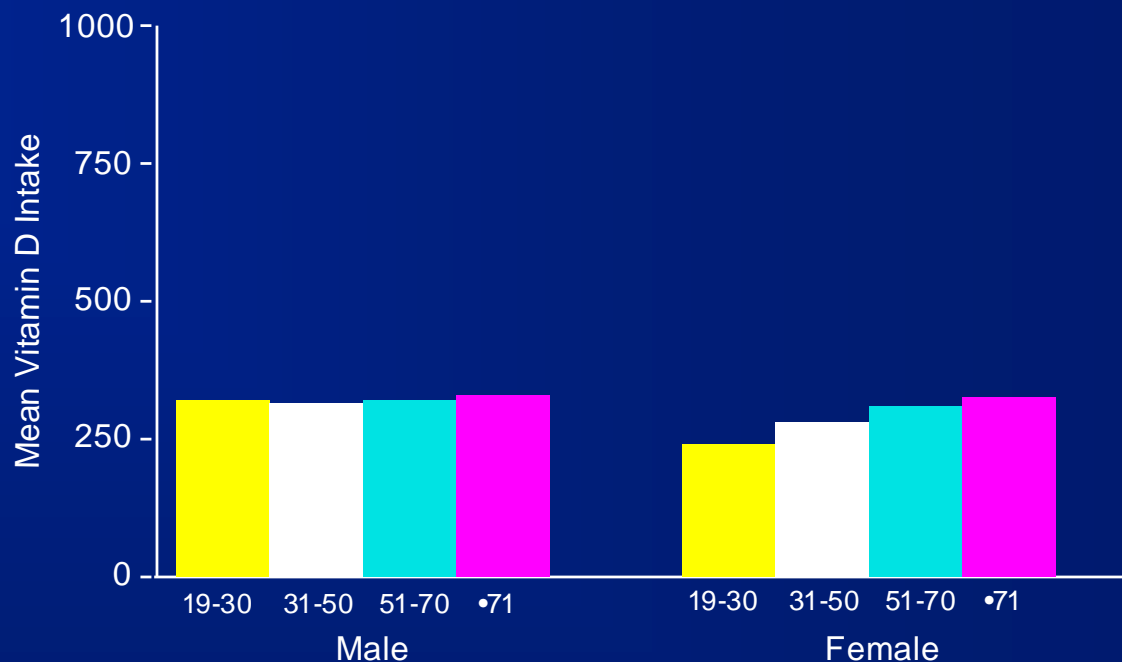
We No Longer Make Vitamin D in the Skin...
What About Food?



Vitamin D is Uncommon in Food

Intake Low At All Ages

<u>Food</u>	<u>IU</u>
Cod liver oil, 1 tbs	1360
Salmon, 3.5 oz	360
Milk, 1 cup	100
Liver, 3.5 oz	30
Egg, one whole	25



NHANES III data; mean vitamin D intake from food plus supplements



Recognized in the 1920's That Irradiating Food Cured Rickets



“By irradiation with the quartz mercury vapor lamp, rat rations can be activated, making them growth promoting and bone-calcifying...”



What Foods Are Fortified?

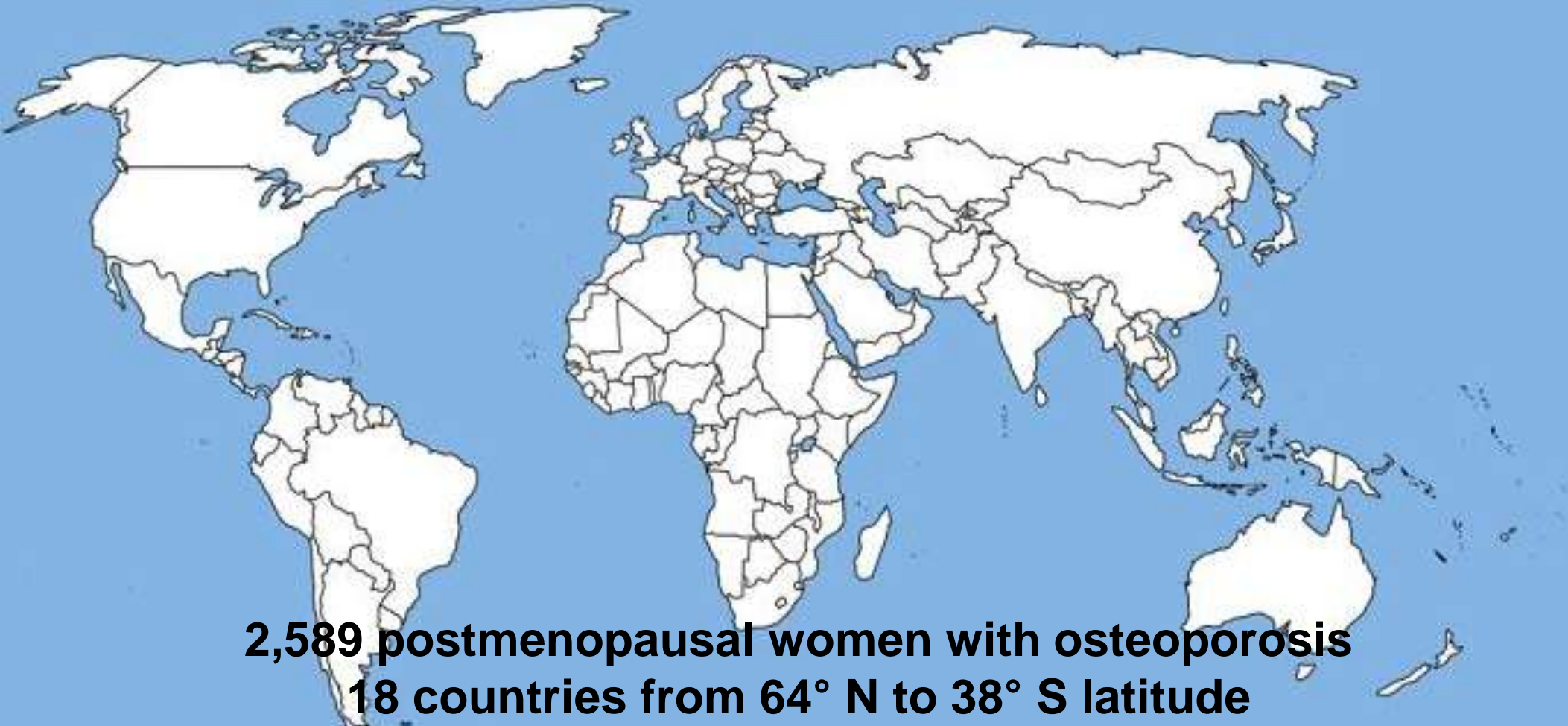
Current Status, USA

Food Label and Package Survey

- ◆ Milk (almost all)
- ◆ Breakfast cereals (~75%)
- ◆ Milk substitutes (~50%)
- ◆ Yogurts (~25%)
- ◆ Cheeses, juices (8-14%)
- ◆ Most use D₃
- ◆ Some milk substitutes use D₂
- ◆ **40-100 IU/serving**



Vitamin D Inadequacy is Common Worldwide



2,589 postmenopausal women with osteoporosis
18 countries from 64° N to 38° S latitude

64% had serum 25(OH)D < 30 ng/ml

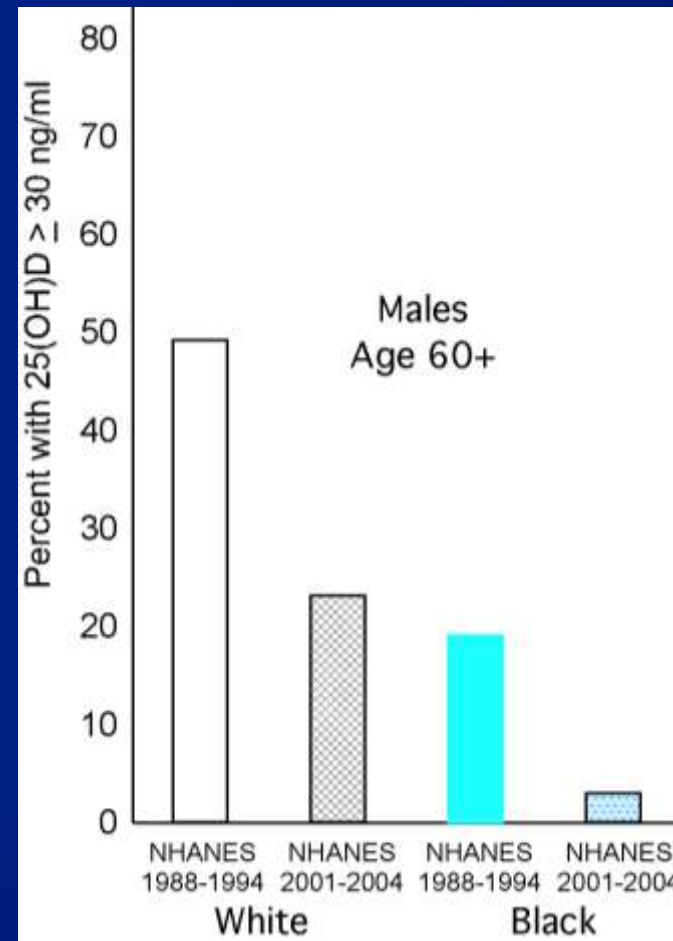


How Can Vitamin D Inadequacy Be So Common?

- ◆ Lifestyle; lack of sunlight exposure
 - Clothing habits
 - Living arrangements/work environment
 - Use of sunscreen
- ◆ Vitamin D is not readily available in the diet
- ◆ Lack of supplement use/inadequate food fortification
- ◆ Skin ability to synthesize vitamin D declines with age



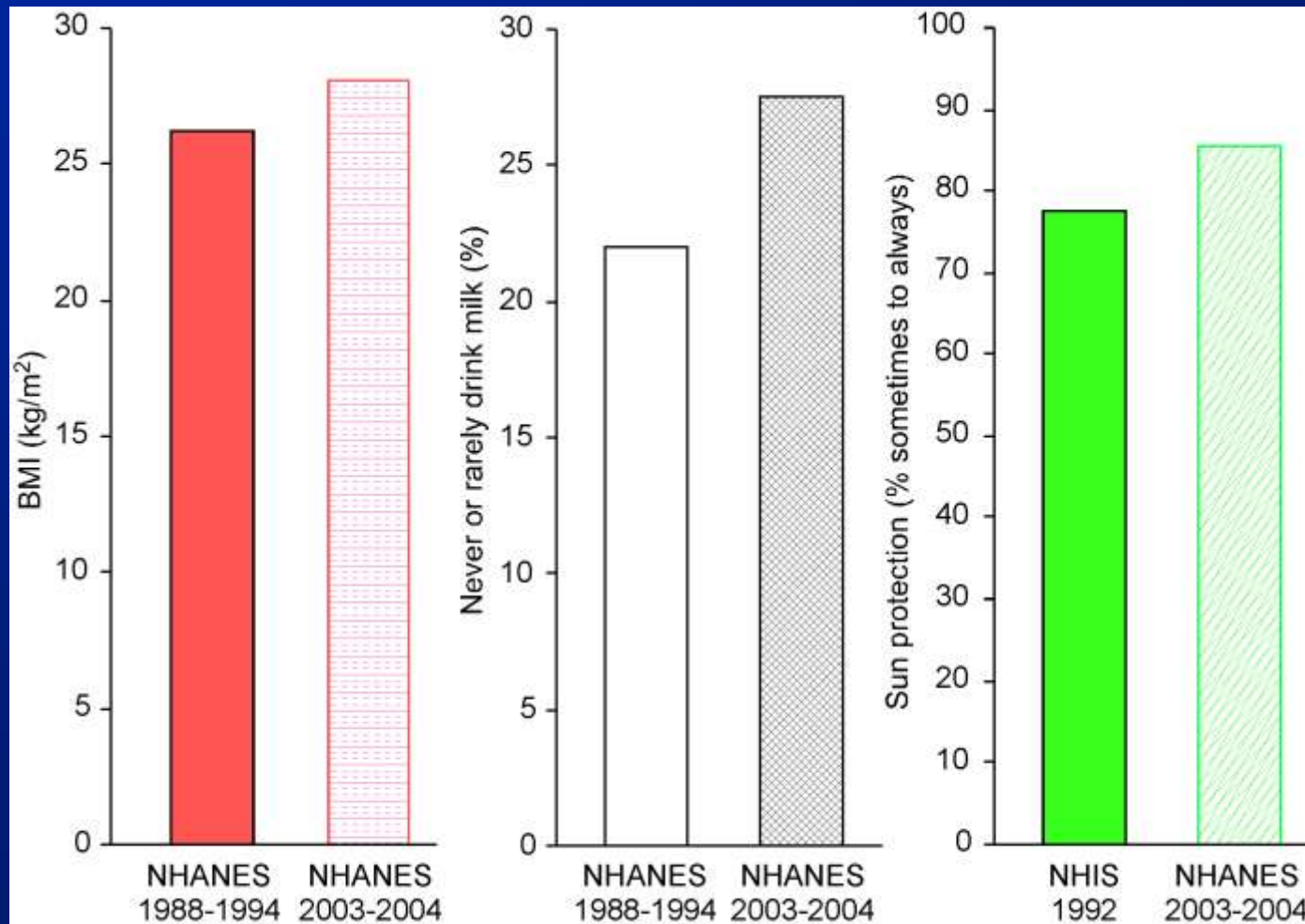
Vitamin D Deficiency is Getting Worse



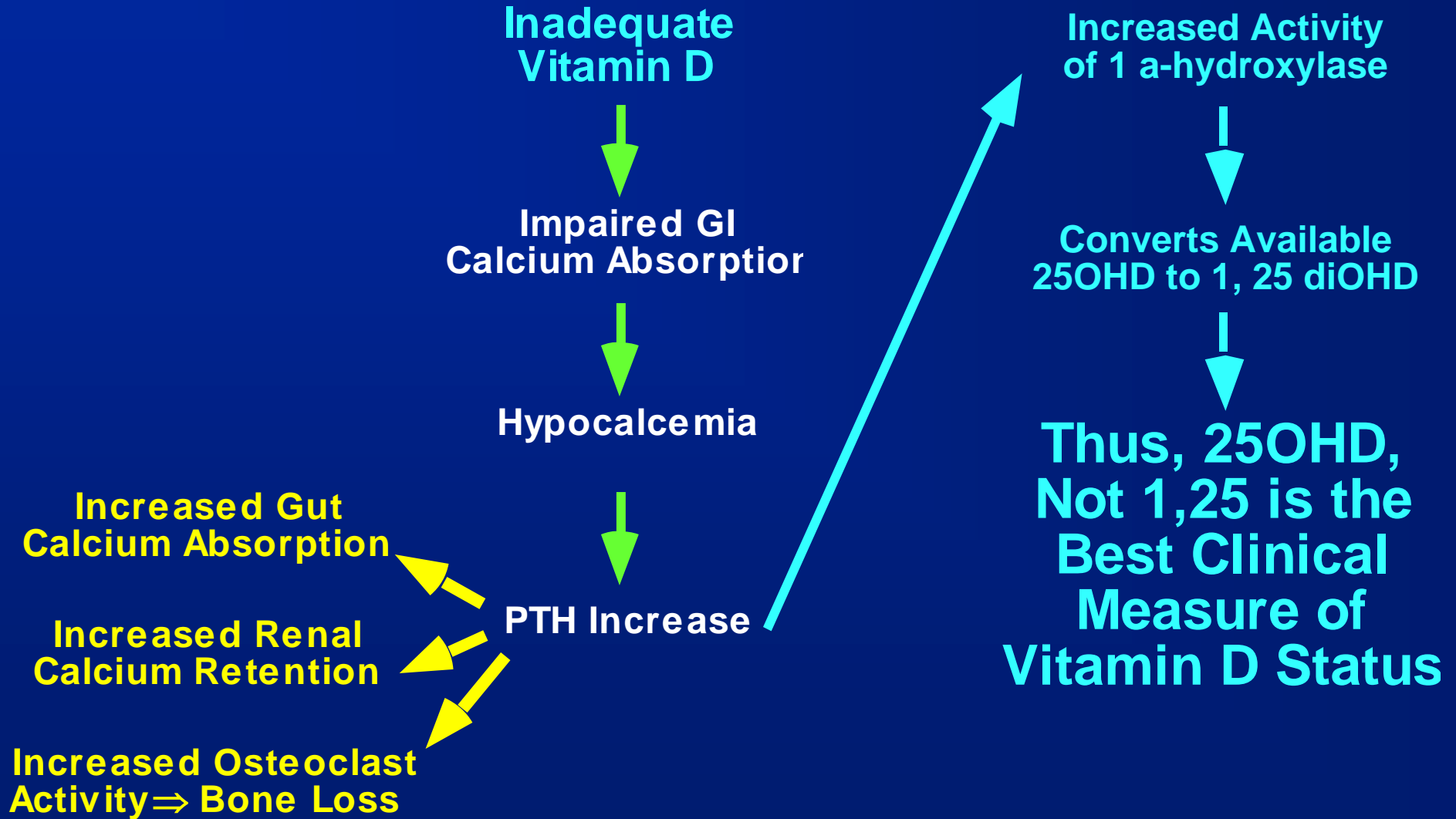
“Current recommendations for vitamin D supplementation are inadequate to address the growing epidemic of vitamin D insufficiency.”



Worsening 25(OH)D Due to Increasing BMI, Less Milk and More Sunscreen

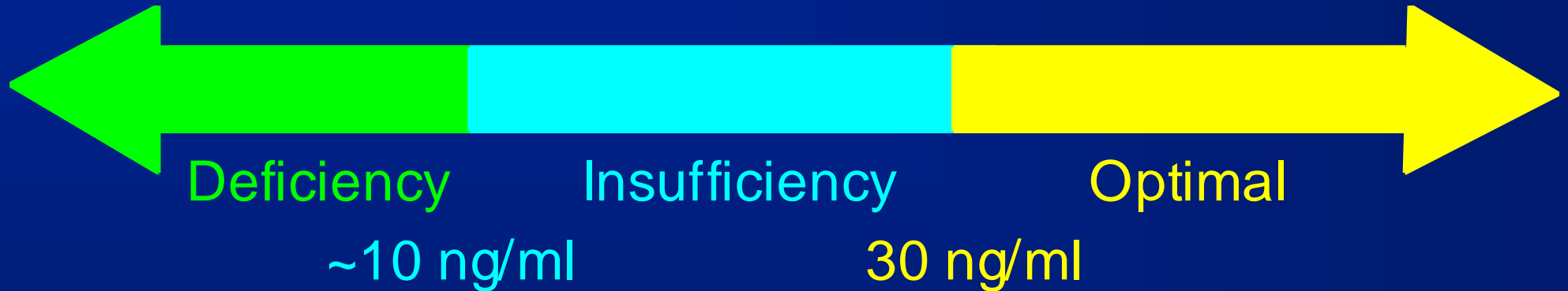


Classic Vitamin D Insufficiency



Assessment of Vitamin D Status: Measure 25(OH)D

The Vitamin D Continuum



What's Our Target 25(OH)D?

“For five of the six authors, the minimum desirable 25(OH)D concentration clusters between 70 and 80 nmol/L.” (28-32 ng/ml)

“This requires ~1000 IU/day”



The Target 25(OH)D Remains Controversial

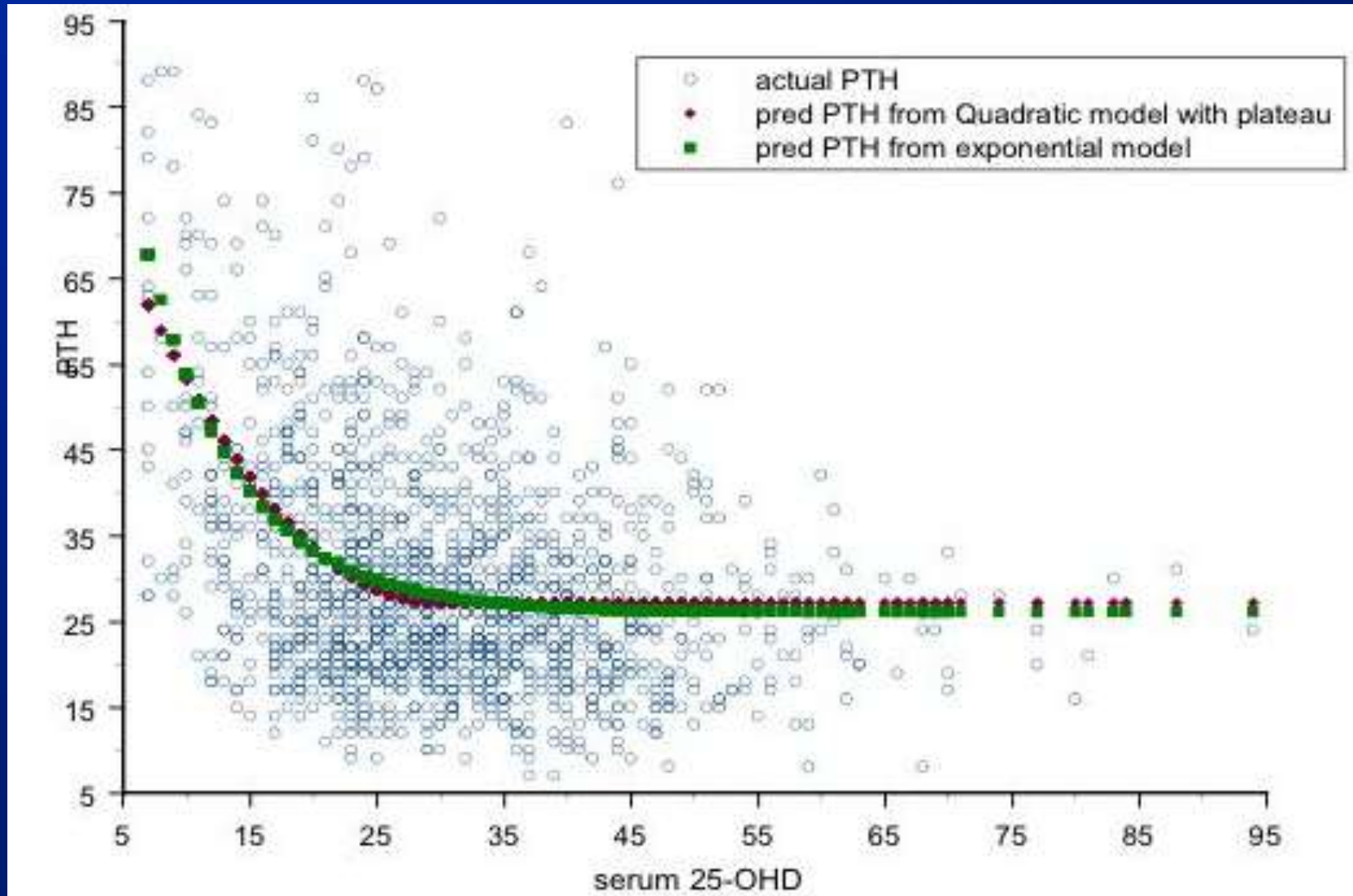
13th Workshop consensus for vitamin D nutritional guidelines

“There was a general consensus that the blood concentration of vitamin D should at the very least meet or hopefully exceed a minimum desirable serum concentration of 50 nM or 20 ng/ml.”



Why ~20-30 ng/ml??

Optimizes Calcium Absorption and Suppresses PTH



How Much Vitamin D Do We Need?



How Much Vitamin D Do We Need?

“For five of the six authors, the minimum desirable 25(OH)D concentration clusters between 70 and 80 nmol/L.” (28-32 ng/ml)

“This requires ~1000 IU/day”



The 2011 Report on Dietary Reference Intakes for Calcium and Vitamin D from the Institute of Medicine: What Clinicians Need to Know

A. Catharine Ross, JoAnn E. Manson, Steven A. Abrams, John F. Aloia, Patsy M. Brannon, Steven K. Clinton, Ramon A. Durazo-Arvizu, J. Christopher Gallagher, Richard L. Gallo, Glenville Jones, Christopher S. Kovacs, Susan T. Mayne, Clifford J. Rosen, and Sue A. Shapses

TABLE 1. Calcium and vitamin D dietary reference intakes by life stage

Life-stage group (age and gender)	Calcium		Vitamin D		
	RDA (mg/d) (intake that covers needs of $\geq 97.5\%$ of population)	UL (mg/d) ^a	RDA (IU/d) (intake that covers needs of $\geq 97.5\%$ of population)	Serum 25OHD level (ng/ml) (corresponding to the RDA) ^b	UL (IU/d) ^a
1–3 yr (M+F)	700	2500	600	20	2500
4–8 yr (M+F)	1000	2500	600	20	3000
9–13 yr (M+F)	1300	3000	600	20	4000
14–18 yr (M+F)	1300	3000	600	20	4000
19–30 yr (M+F)	1000	2500	600	20	4000
31–50 yr (M+F)	1000	2500	600	20	4000
51–70 yr (M)	1000	2000	600	20	4000
51–70 yr (F)	1200	2000	600	20	4000
71+ yr (M+F)	1200	2000	800	20	4000
Pregnant or lactating (F)					
14–18 yr	1300	3000	600	20	4000
19–50 yr	1000	2500	600	20	4000
Infants					
0–6 months (M+F)	200 ^c	1000	400 ^c	20	1000
6–12 months (M+F)	260 ^c	1500	400 ^c	20	1500

The 2011 Report on Dietary Reference Intakes for Calcium and Vitamin D from the Institute of Medicine: What Clinicians Need to Know

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- ◆ “... bone health was the only outcome that satisfied criteria for use as an indicator..”
- ◆ “....future research may elucidate clear benefits and possibly even different requirement levels... existing data cannot support such conclusions.”
- ◆ “... a margin of safety for public health recommendations is prudent.”



Expert Reviews of the Available Data Appear to be Reaching Differing Conclusions

Preliminary Daily Recommendations



600-800 IU



800-1,000 IU

An Endocrine Organization

1,500-2,000 IU

A Geriatrics Organization

4,000 IU





American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists

The Voice of Clinical Endocrinology® - Founded 1991

- ◆ “...it would be appropriate to use a range from 30-50 ng/ml for most patients as an optimal and safe range.”
- ◆ “For many patients, 1000-2000 IU of vitamin D daily is required to maintain a 25-OH vitamin D level at 30 ng/ml or above.”
- ◆ “...the common use of vitamin D in the 1000-2000 IU daily dosing range would be reasonable.”
- ◆ “For now, it is important to use the recommendations in conjunction with clinical judgement to determine the proper calcium and vitamin D requirements for any given patient.”



800-1,000 IU Daily is Conservative

“.....it would require input of an additional 2,600 IU/day of oral vitamin D₃ to ensure that 97.5% of older women have 25(OH)D values at or above desirable levels.”

Heaney RP, J Nutr 136;1123-1125, 2006

“Current recommendation among experts is between 2,000 and 4,000 units per day to reduce risks of cancer and autoimmune disease.”



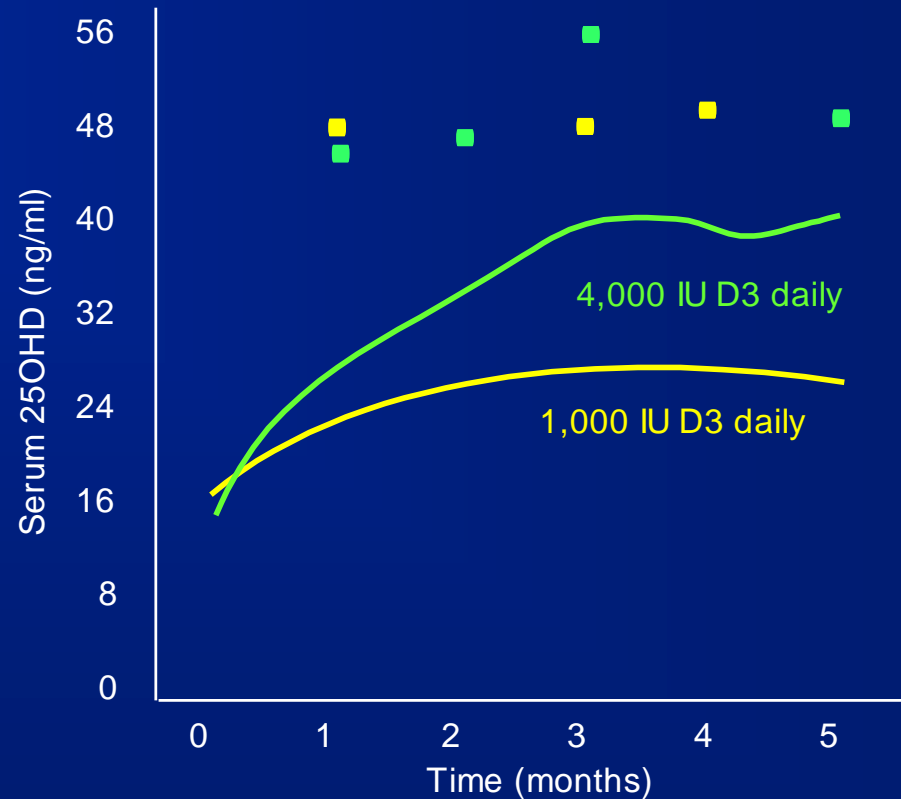
Are Higher Doses Safe?

Five Month Safety Data

61 Canadian M/F age 41
Rx with **1000** or **4000** IU
D₃ daily for 5 months

Serum 25OHD peaked
at 3 months

Serum calcium normal in all
No significant change from
baseline in urinary Ca/Cr



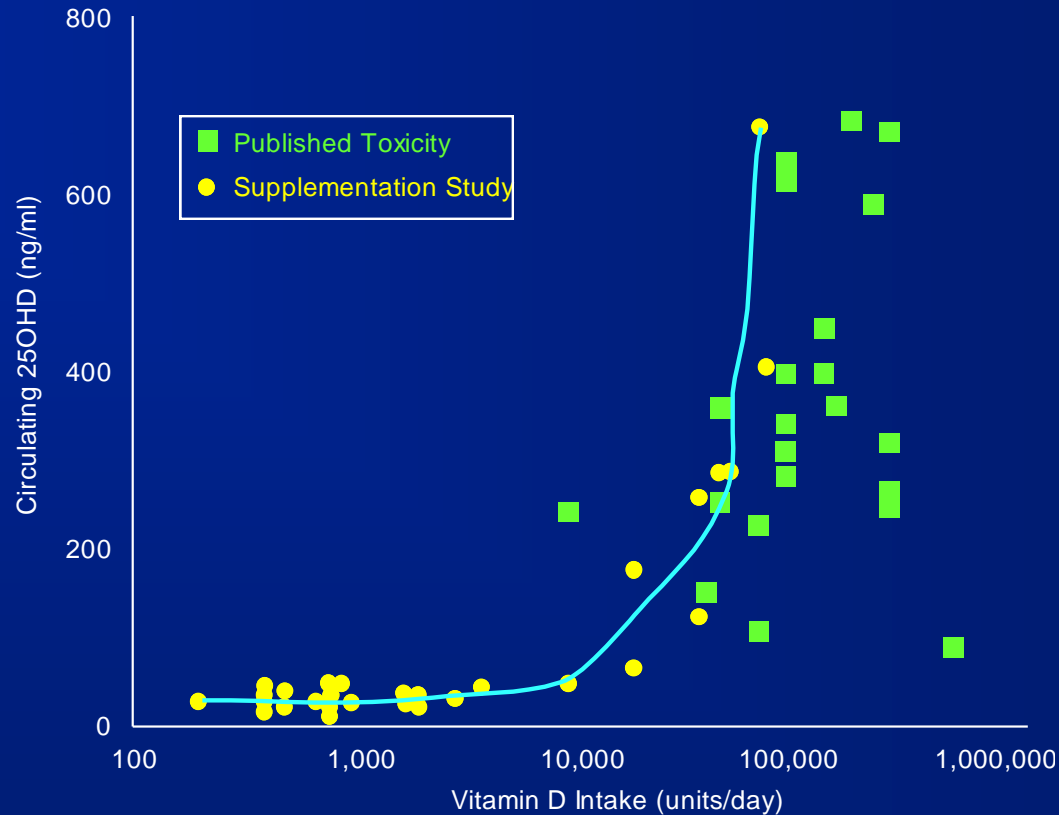
“Consumption of vitamin D₃ at intakes \geq 4000 IU causes no harm.”



No Toxicity Until Very High Doses

Assembled data from many vitamin D supplementation studies & published cases of toxicity

Toxicity cases all involve intake **>40,000 IU/day**



Veith, Am J Clin Nutr, 69;842-856, 1999

“All known poisonings of adults with vitamin D₃ reflect misuse on an industrial scale.”

Veith, Lancet, 359;672, 2002



1,000 IU of Daily Vitamin D₃ Increases Circulating 25(OH)D By ~ 6 ng/ml

◆ 7.0 ng/ml

- Heaney, et. al., Am J Clin Nutr; 87:1952-1958, 2008

◆ 6.6 ng/ml

- Aloia, et. al., Am J Clin Nutr; 87:1952-1958, 2008

◆ 5.9 ng/ml

- Haller, et. al, ASBMR 2009, SA036

◆ 5.8 ng/ml

- Binkley, et. al., ASBMR 2009, #1596

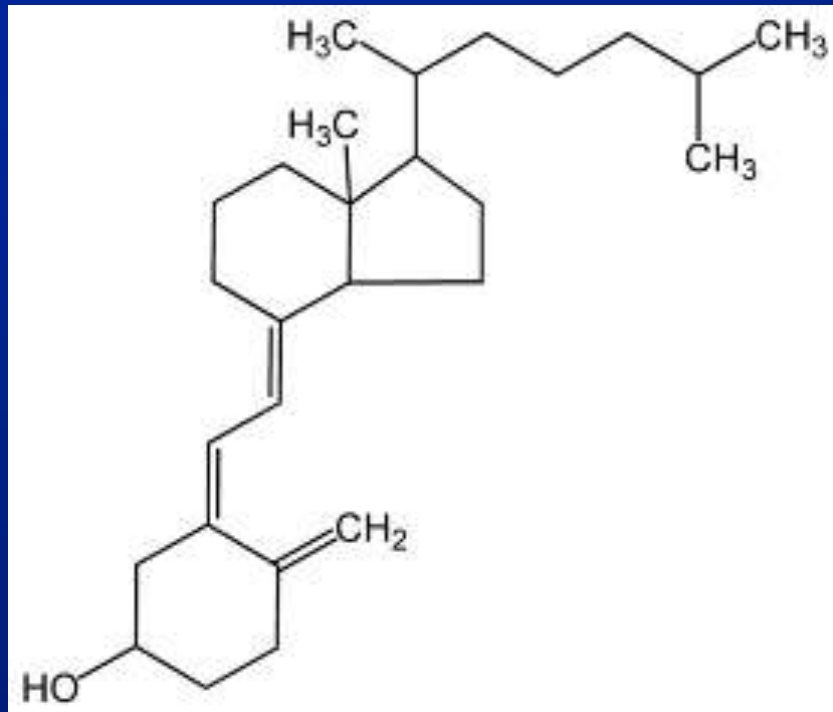
◆ 5.6 ng/ml

- Vieth, et. al., Am J Clin Nutr; 73:288-294, 2001

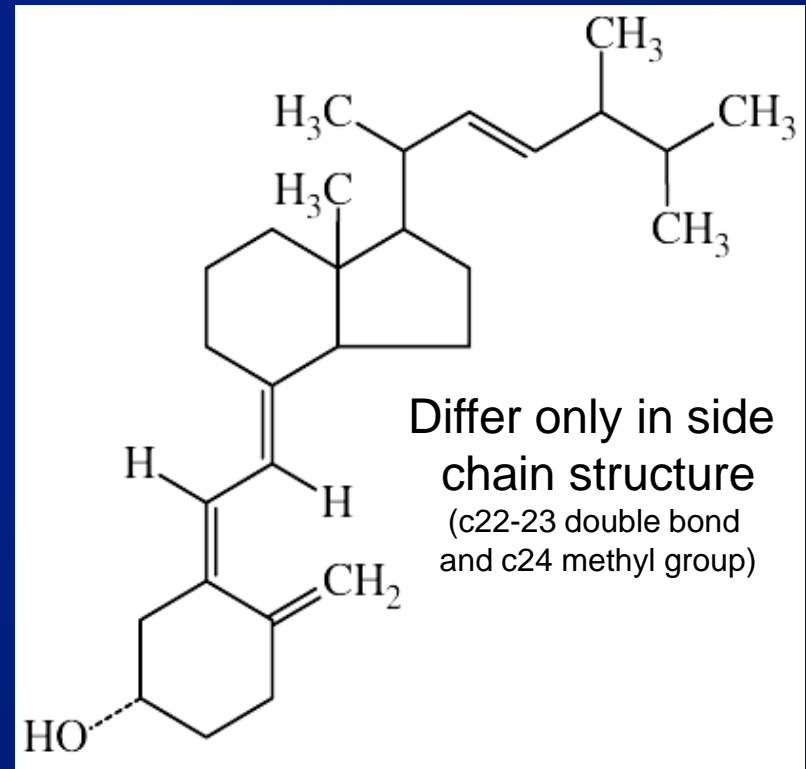
A “Rule of Thumb” is 1,000 IU of D₃ Daily Will Increase 25(OH)D by ~ 10 ng/ml



Vitamin D₂ vs. D₃?



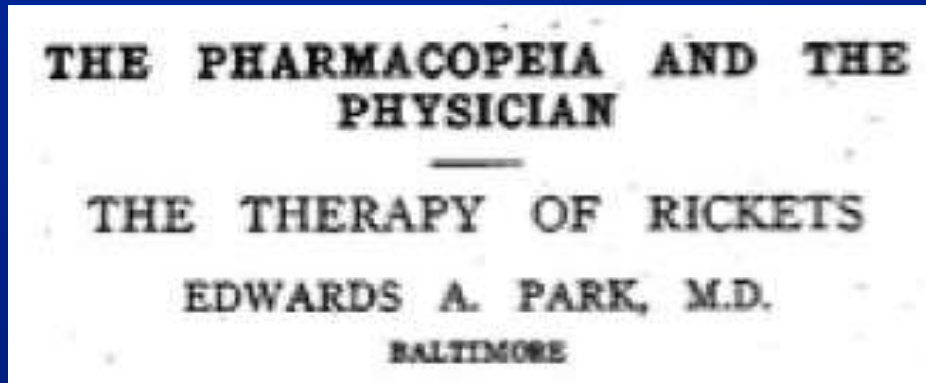
Cholecalciferol
Vitamin D₃



Ergocalciferol
Vitamin D₂



Vitamin D₂ and D₃ Appear to be Equally Effective in Treating Rickets



“More than forty studies have been made in order to determine whether the two forms of vitamin D are equally effective....”

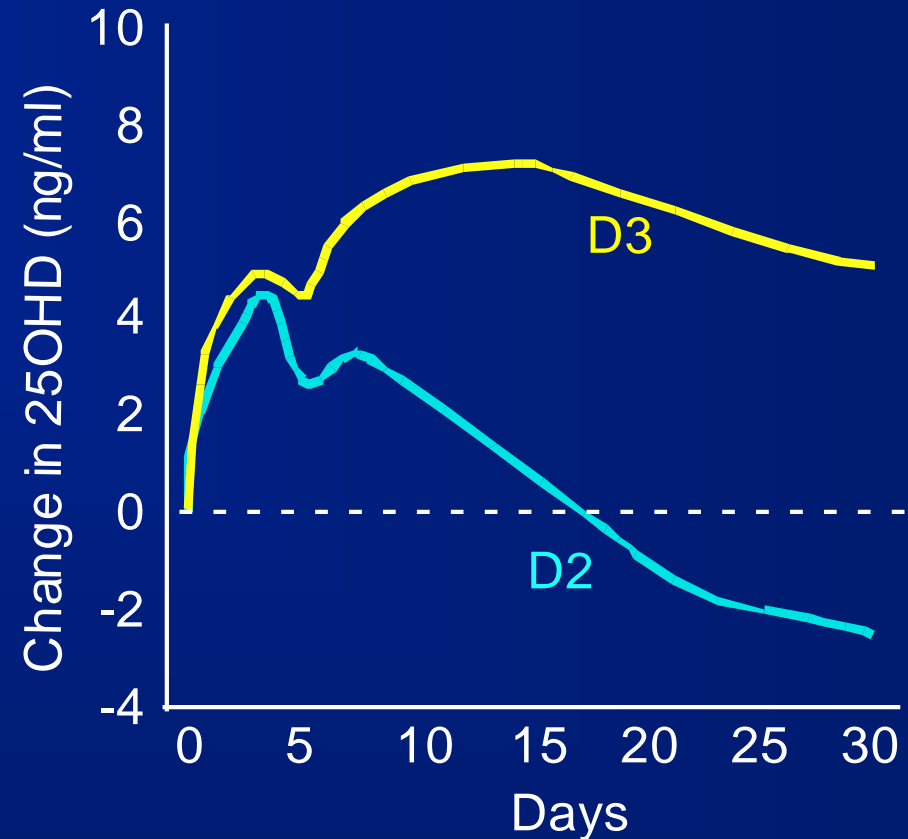
“Only generalizations of an uncertain nature can be drawn from the conflicting and confusing data obtained. For practical purposes the vitamin D in viosterol may be regarded as being equal to the vitamin D of cod liver oil.”



D₂ is Less Effective than D₃

2 groups of healthy men
Age 20-61
Received 50,000 IU
D₂ or D₃

Suggests more
rapid metabolism;
Possibly related to
different DPB affinity

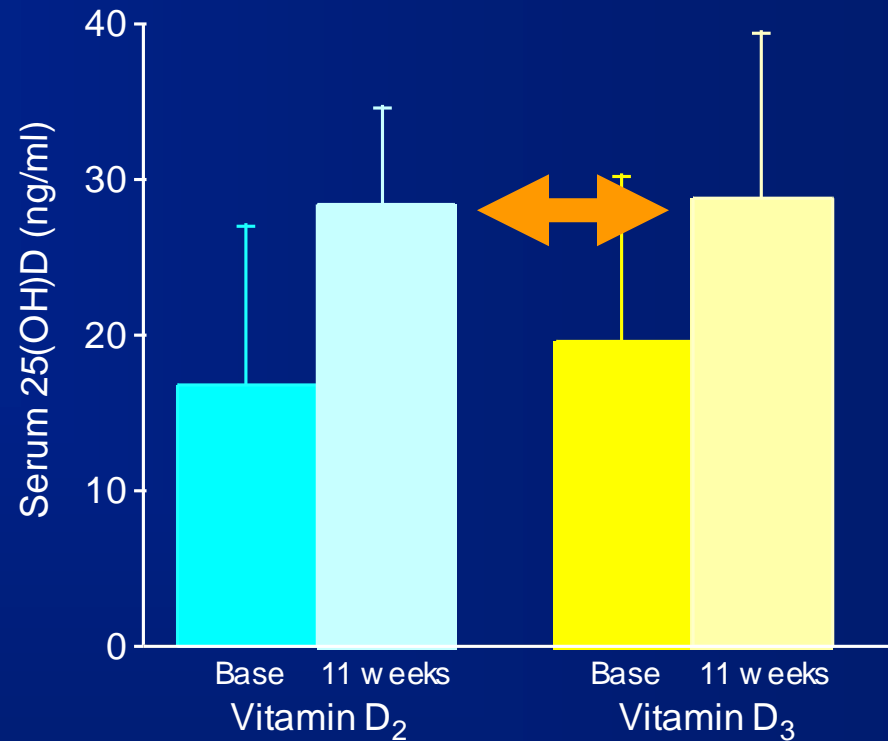


“Vitamin D₂ potency is less than one third that of vitamin D₃.”

D₂ and D₃ Are Equally Effective

68 healthy adults
Age 18-84 years

Randomly assigned to
1000 IU D₂, D₃, D₂+D₃
or placebo
daily for 11 weeks

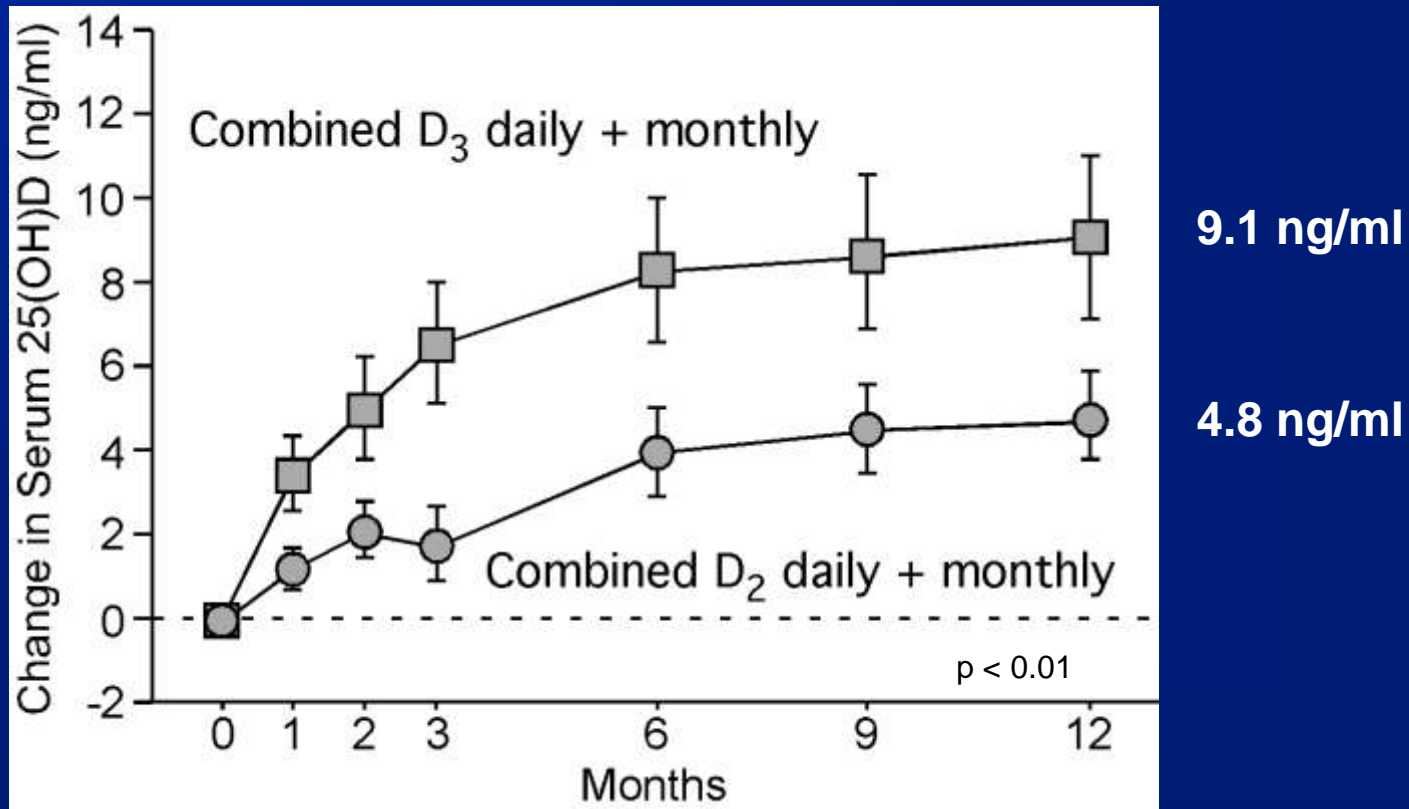


“Vitamin D₂ is equally as effective as vitamin D₃ in maintaining 25-hydroxyvitamin D status.”



In My Opinion.... Both Work, But Vitamin D₃ is a Little Better than D₂

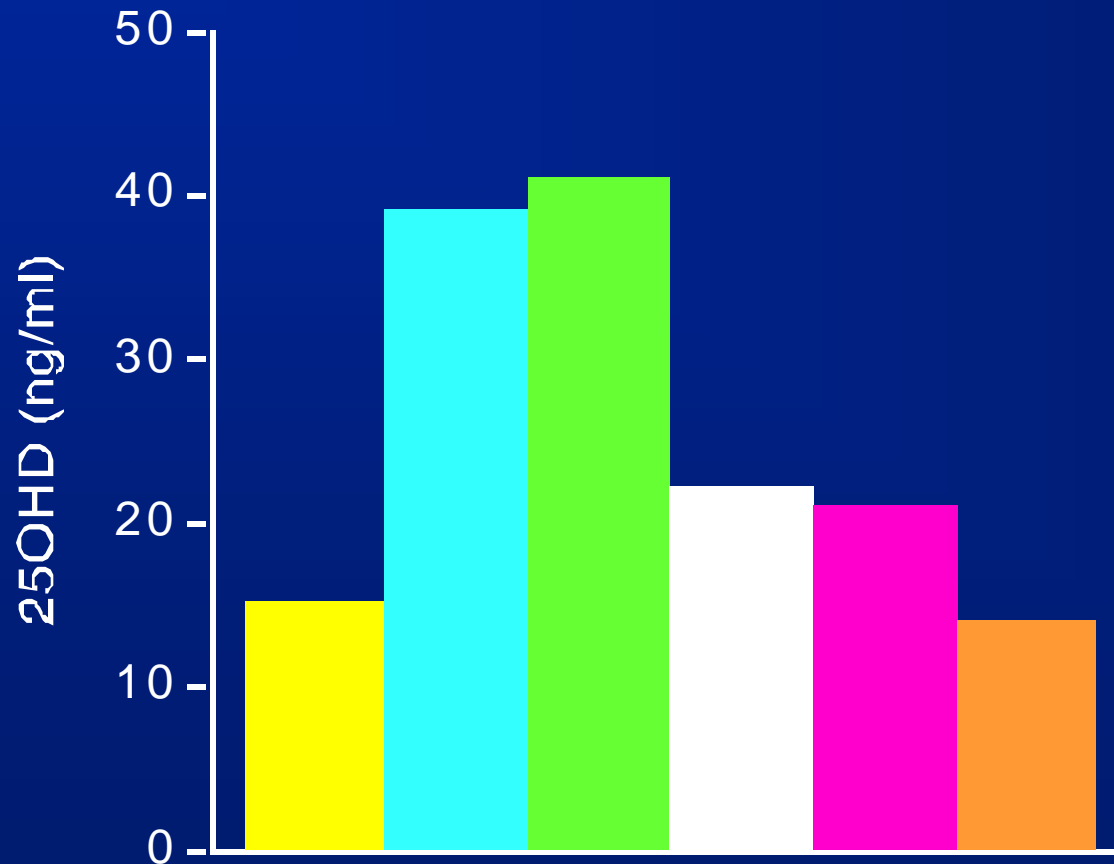
Effect of 1600 IU daily or 50,000 IU once per month for one year



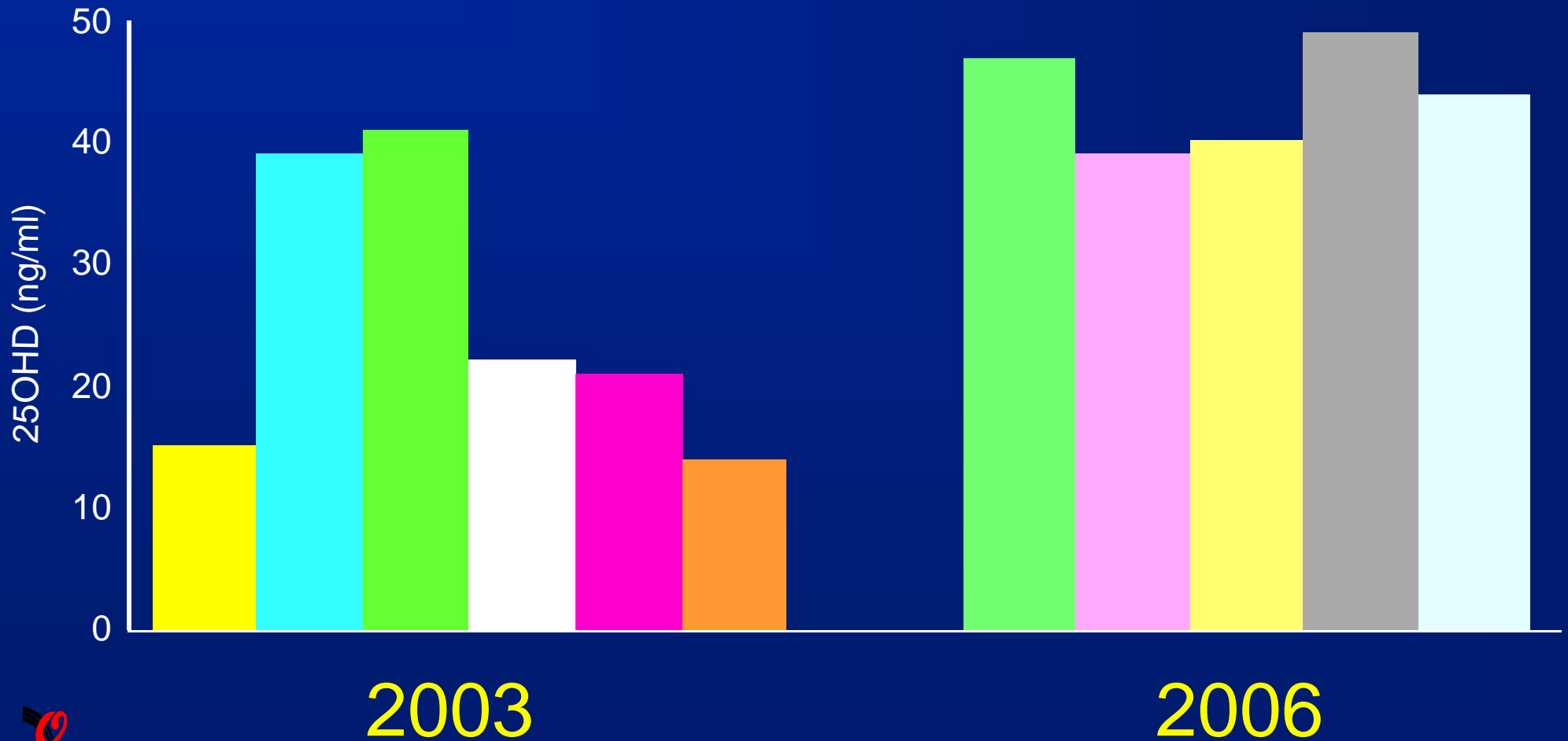
“I’ve heard that the vitamin D assays are no good. Is that true?”



Individual 25OHD Values Have Been Extremely Lab-Dependent



25(OH)D Clinical Measurement



How Are We Doing With 25(OH)D Measurement Clinically Today?

Data from DEQAS

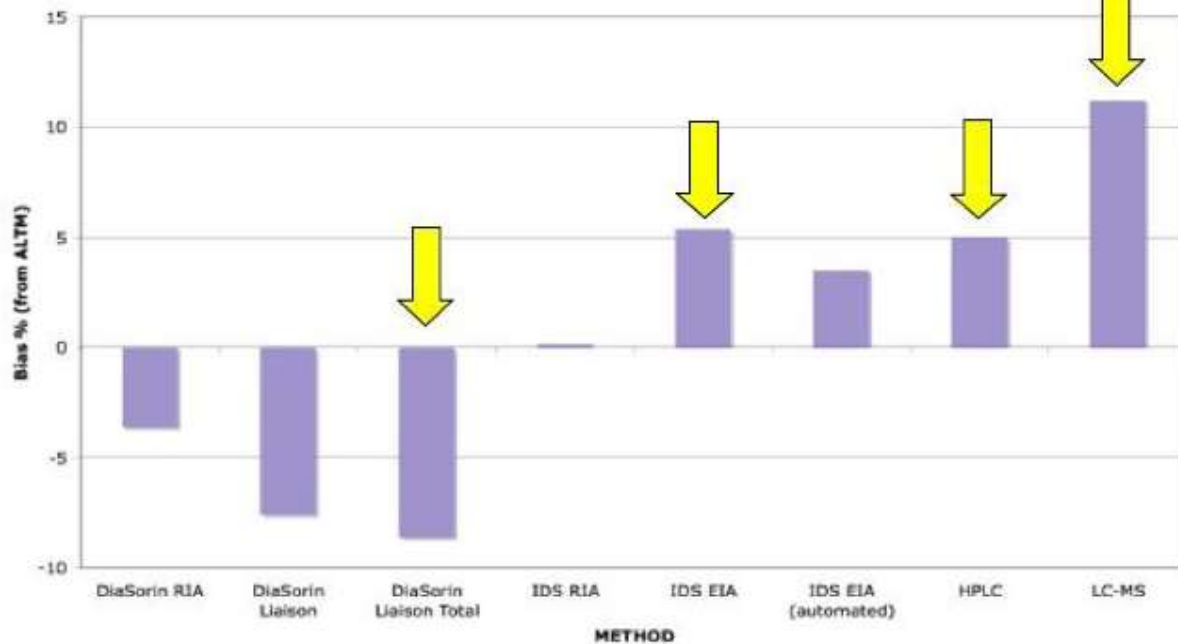
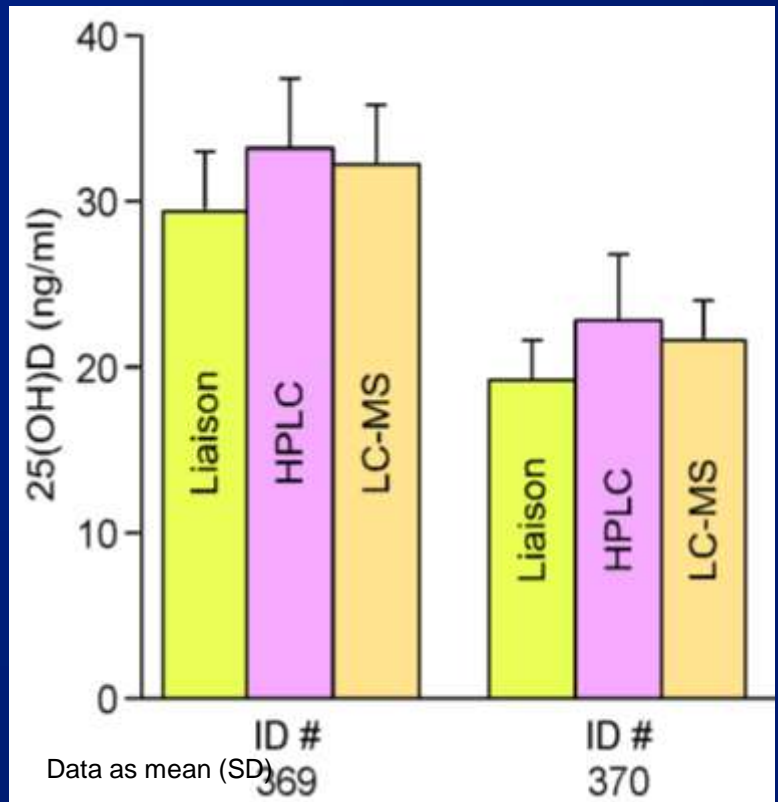


Fig 3. Current Mean Bias% of each method (from ALTM) (April 2007 – January 2008).

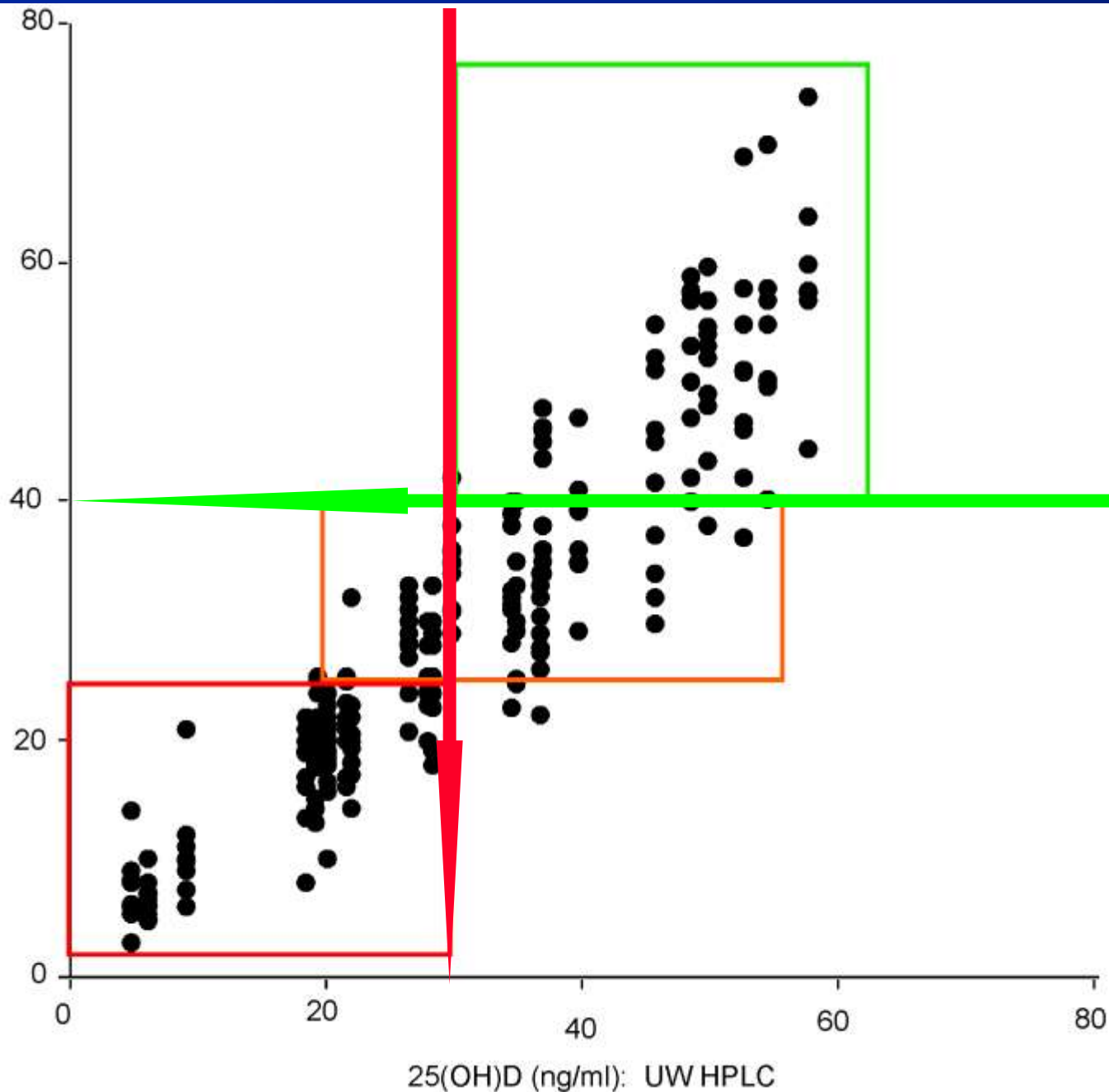


Data as mean (SD)

Data from DEQAS Jan 2010 distribution



25(OH)D (ng/ml): Nine Laboratories, Various Methods



**IF You Are
Aiming for
30 ng/ml,
Reasonable
to Target
~40 ng/ml**

Who Should Have Their 25(OH)D Measured?

- ◆ *“It is reasonable for everyone to have his or her 25(OH)D concentration measured once a year.”*

Holick, Am J Clin Nutr, 76:3-4, 2002

- \$100 x 305 million = \$30.5 billion
 - ~7.5% of total Medicare budget)

- ◆ Osteoporosis
- ◆ Falls/falls risk
- ◆ Malabsorption
- ◆ Medications that alter D metabolism
- ◆ Cancer?
- ◆ Diabetes mellitus??



***“Let’s Correct Vitamin D Deficiency by
Brief Sun Exposure.”***



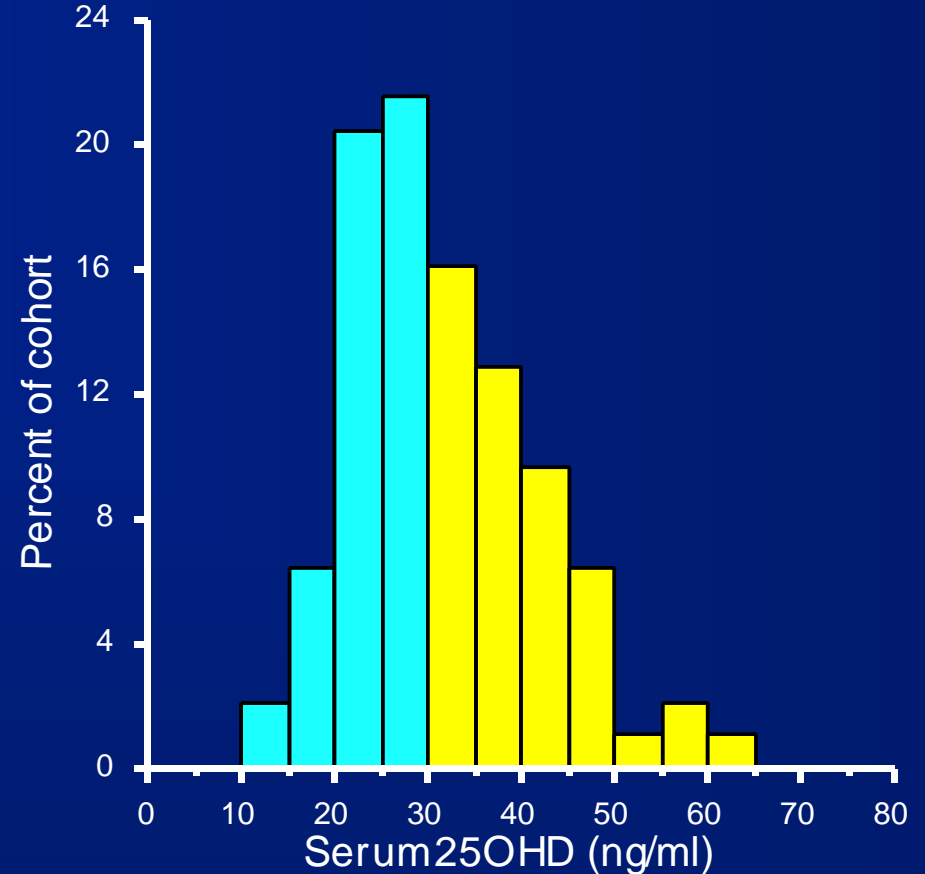
We Are Not All The Same....



Even Major Sun Exposure Does Not Guarantee Vitamin D Adequacy

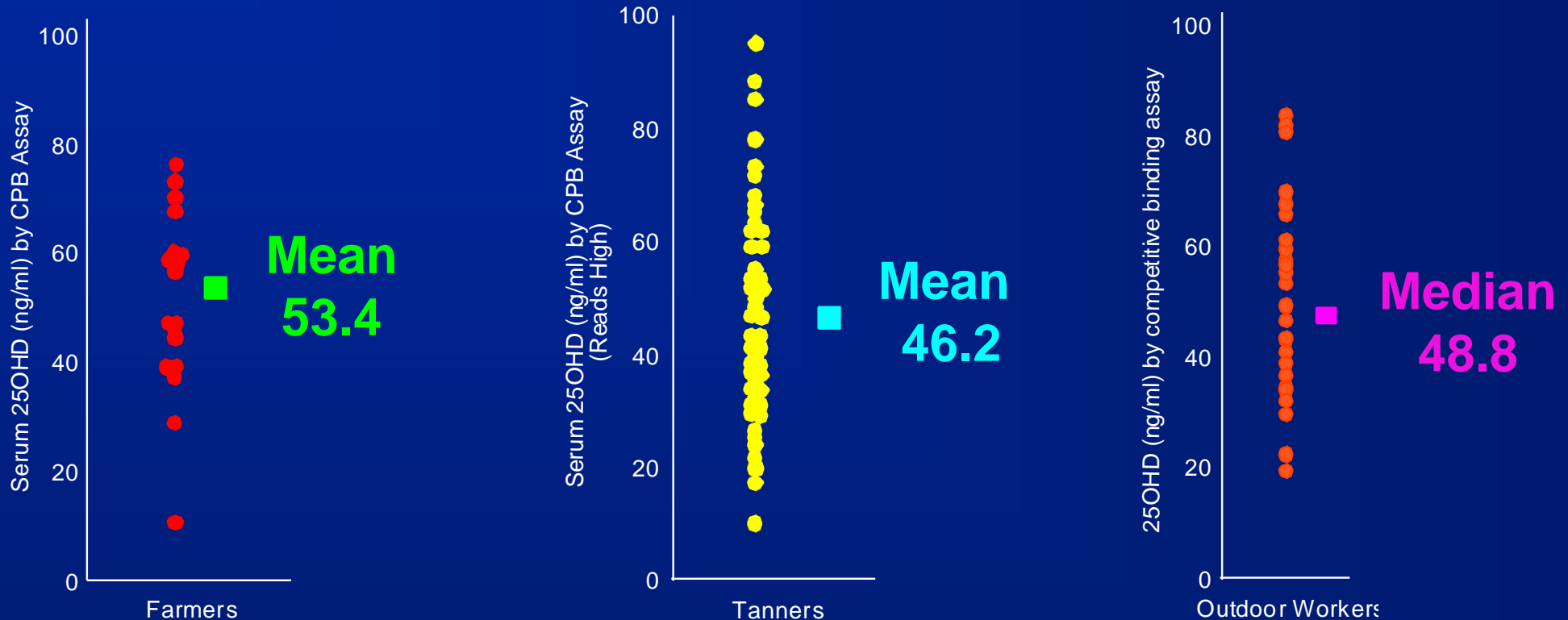


Mean sun index = 11.1



The “Surfer Study” is Not Unique

25(OH)D Status in UV Exposed Adults

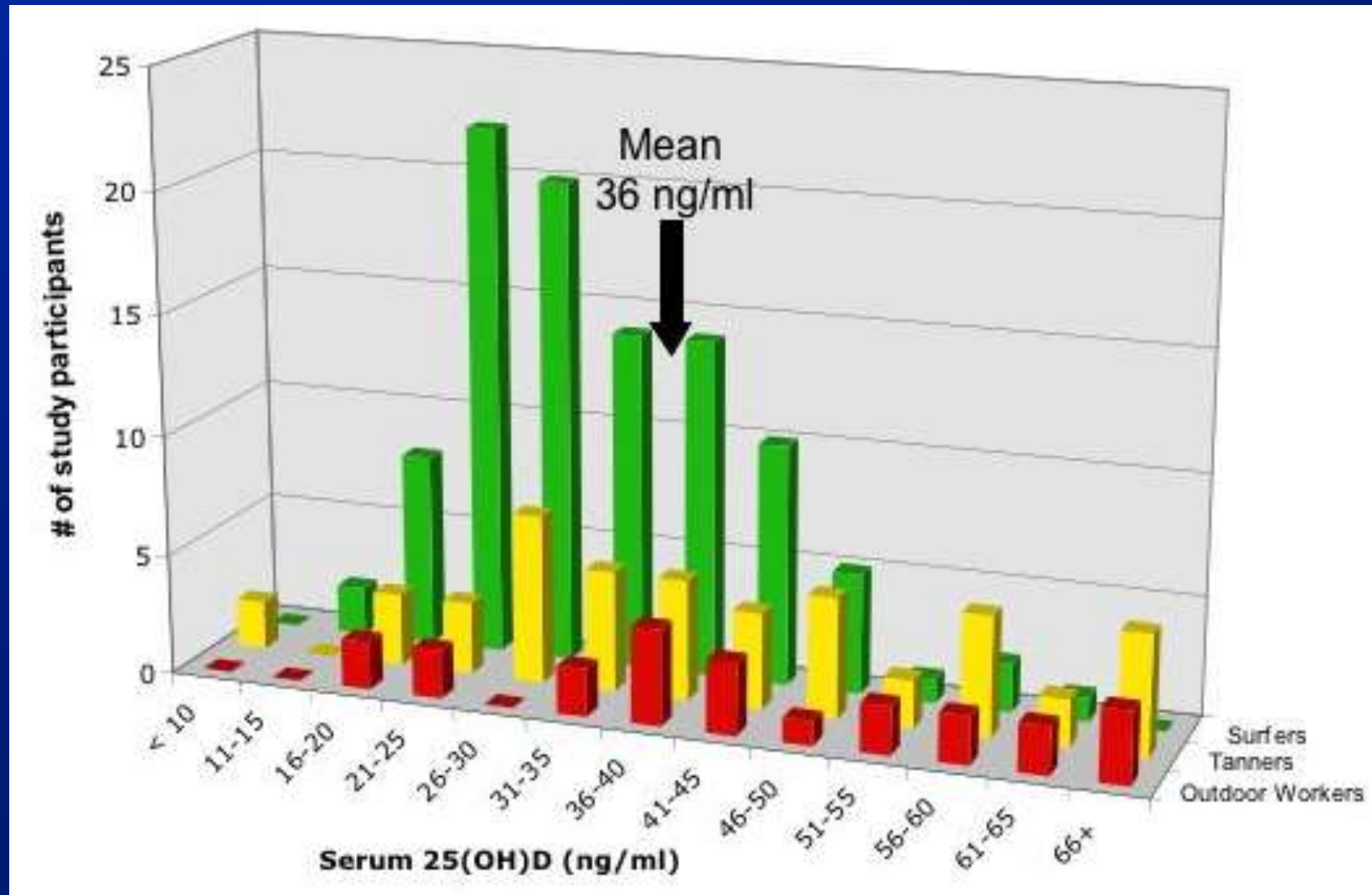


18 farmers sun exposure from 32-70 hours/wk

50 subjects tanning bed \geq 1x/wk for 6 mo

30 outdoor workers Sun index = 11.5

Combining These Studies, ~35 ng/ml Seems a Reasonable Goal and 20 ng/ml Seems Low



Data from: Barger-Lux, JCEM 2002, Tangpricha, Am J Clin Nutr 2004 and Binkley JCEM 2007

**“Casual” Sun Exposure Does
Not Guarantee Optimal D Status**

**We Need to Utilize Vitamin D
Supplements**

How and What??



Reasonable Approaches to Vitamin D Repletion

- ◆ 50,000 IU once per week for eight weeks
- ◆ 50,000 IU three times per week for four weeks

Pepper, et. al, Endocrine Pract, 15;95-103, 2009

30-40 ng/ml; increase supplemental D₃ by 1,000 IU/day
20-30 ng/ml; increase supplemental D₃ by 2,000 IU/day
< 20 ng/ml; 50,000 IU D₂ 3x/week for 4 weeks (or other)
and increase supplemental D₃ by 3,000 IU/day, repeat
25(OH)D ~3-6 months later



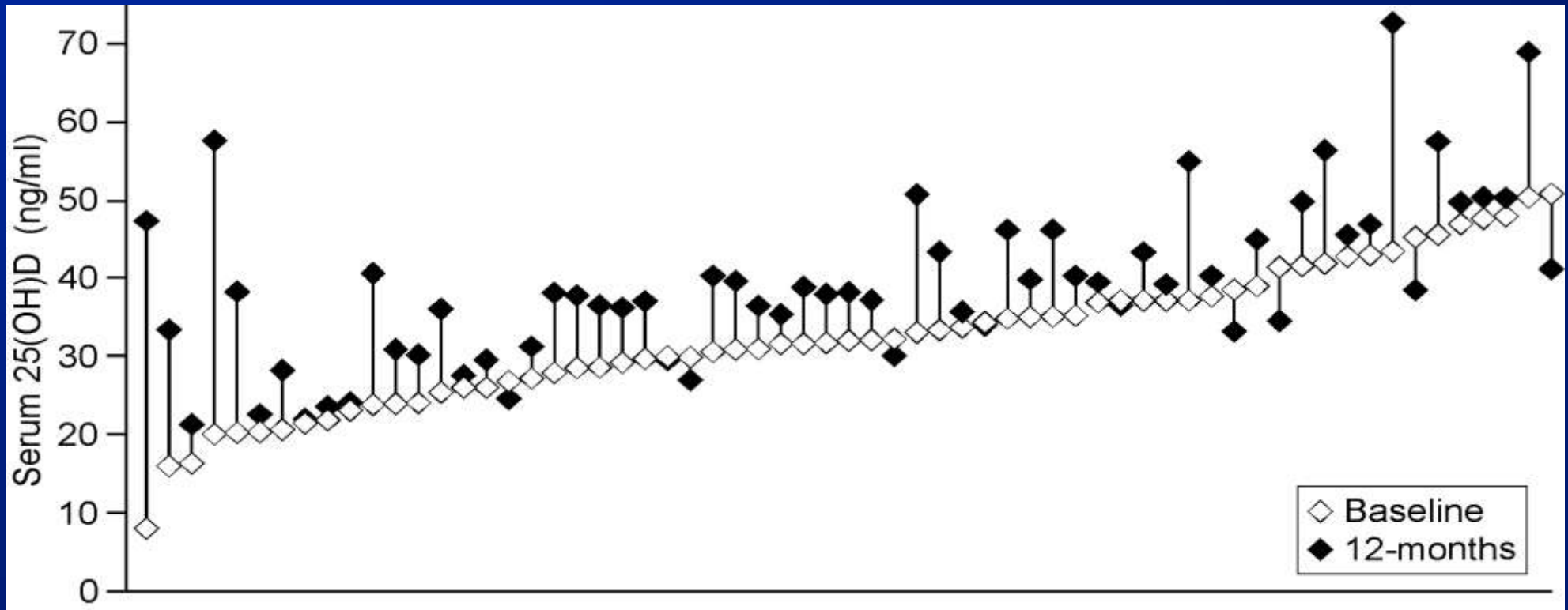
As With Sun Exposure: Substantial Variability Exists in Response to Oral Vitamin D Dosing

“A striking finding in this study was the high variability in the slopes for the dose-response curves.”

“... a single dose of vitamin D may not be satisfactory for achieving a range of 75-220 nmol/L for serum 25(OH)D in almost everyone.”



Example of Between-Individual Variability in Response to Vitamin D

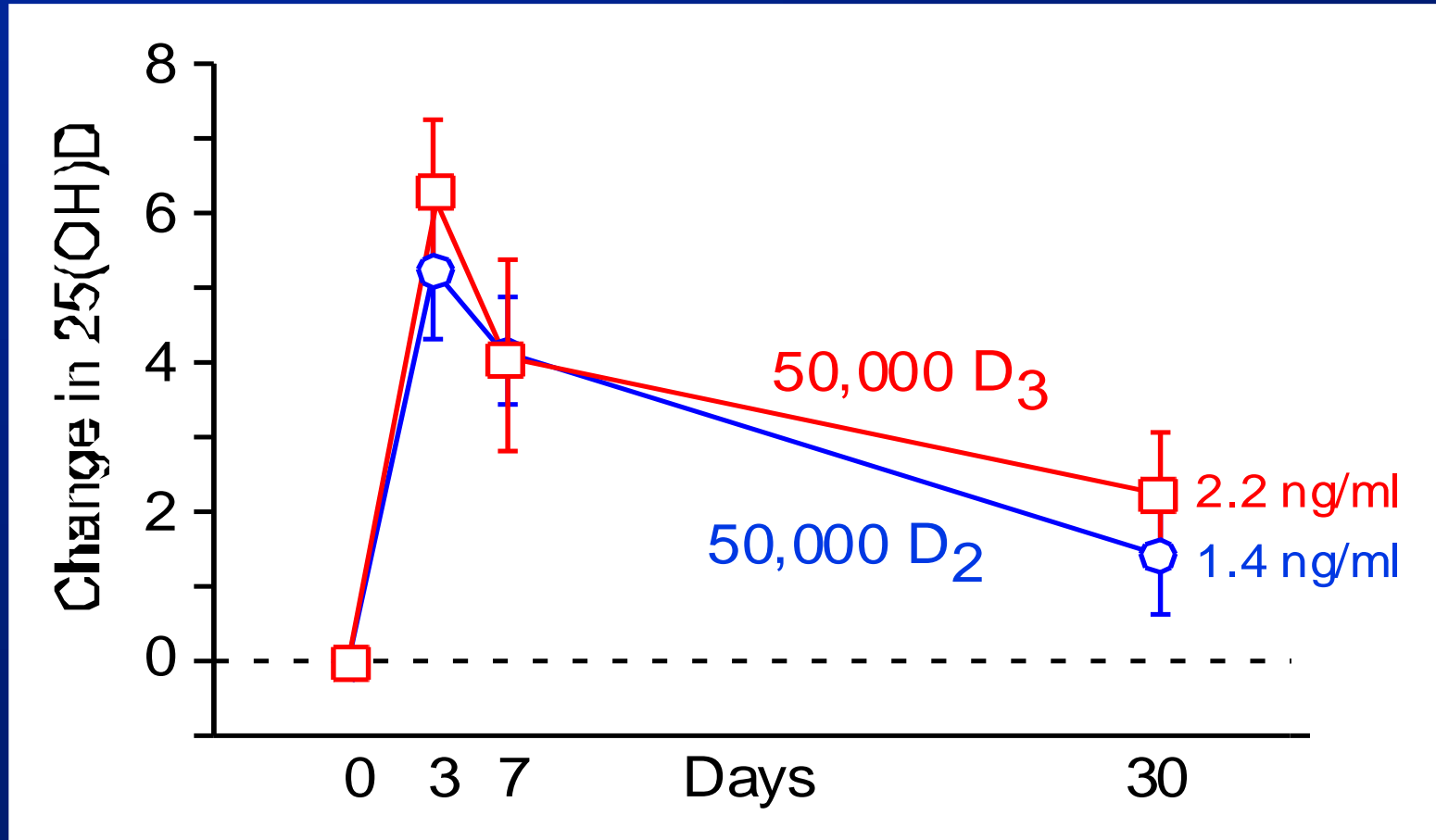


To assure adequacy, either you need to give **a lot**
or measure 25(OH)D



50,000 IU Once Monthly Is Not “A Lot”

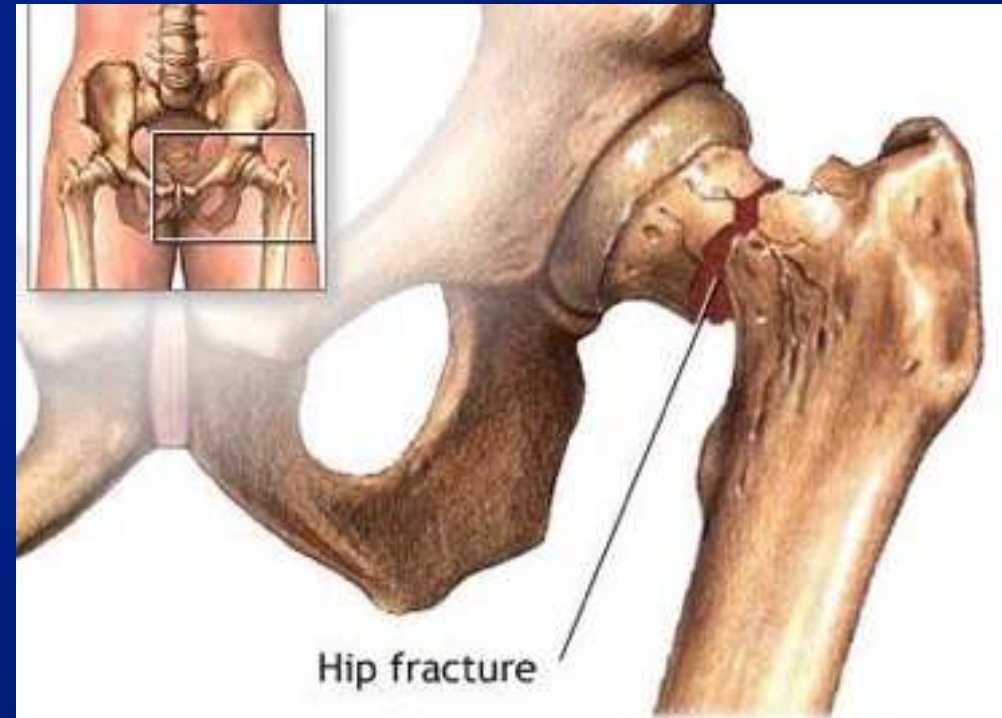
Also, Note the Peak/Trough Effect



What Will Result From Optimizing Vitamin D Status??



Vitamin D: Falls and Fractures



“Low serum 25(OH)D concentrations are associated with a higher risk for hip fracture.”



Vitamin D and Muscle

The Lancet 1999; **353**:806

DOI:10.1016/S0140-6736(98)10206-4

A woman who left her wheelchair

MD, Dr [G Mingrone](#)^a, MD [AV Greco](#)^a, MD [M Castagneto](#)^b,
[G Gasbarrini](#)^a



- ◆ Myocytes possess vitamin D receptors
- ◆ D deficiency associated with myopathy
 - 32 year old woman with progressive muscle weakness and diffuse bone pain
 - Fat malabsorption; s/p bowel resection
 - 25(OH)D = 2.4 ng/ml
- ◆ Treated with 1, 25 diOHD₃
- ◆ *“After 3 weeks she could walk again, and muscle weakness and bone pain had disappeared.”*

Boonen, et. al, *Calcif Tissue Int*, 78:257-270, 2006

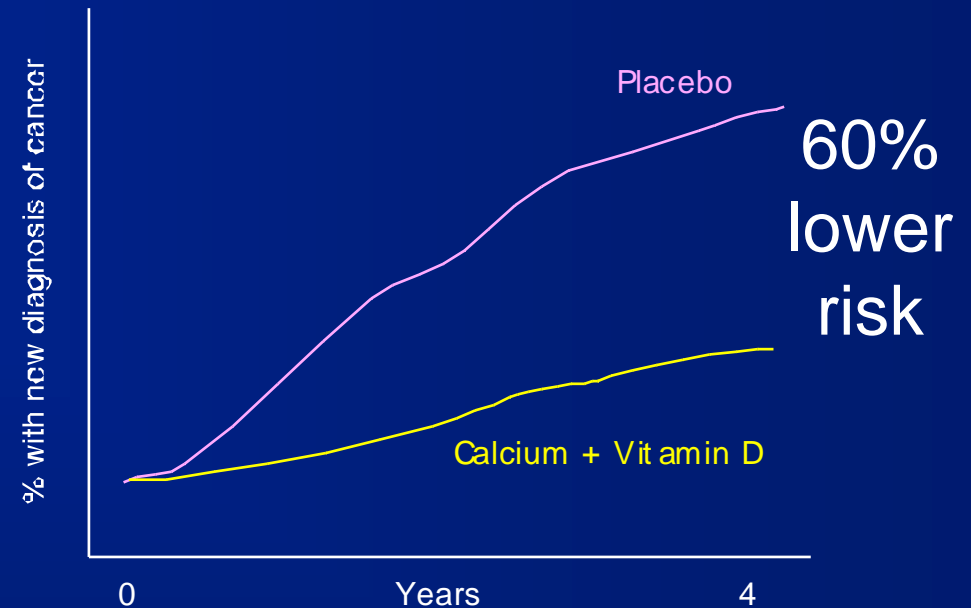
Sorenson, et. al, *Clin Sci*, 56:157-161, 1979



Vitamin D Reduces Cancer Risk

1179 women ave age 67
years; 4-year study
placebo, calcium 1500 mg or
calcium + vitamin D 1100 IU

25(OH)D increased from
28 ng/ml to 38 ng/ml



“.. improving vitamin D nutritional status substantially reduced all-cancer risk in postmenopausal women.”

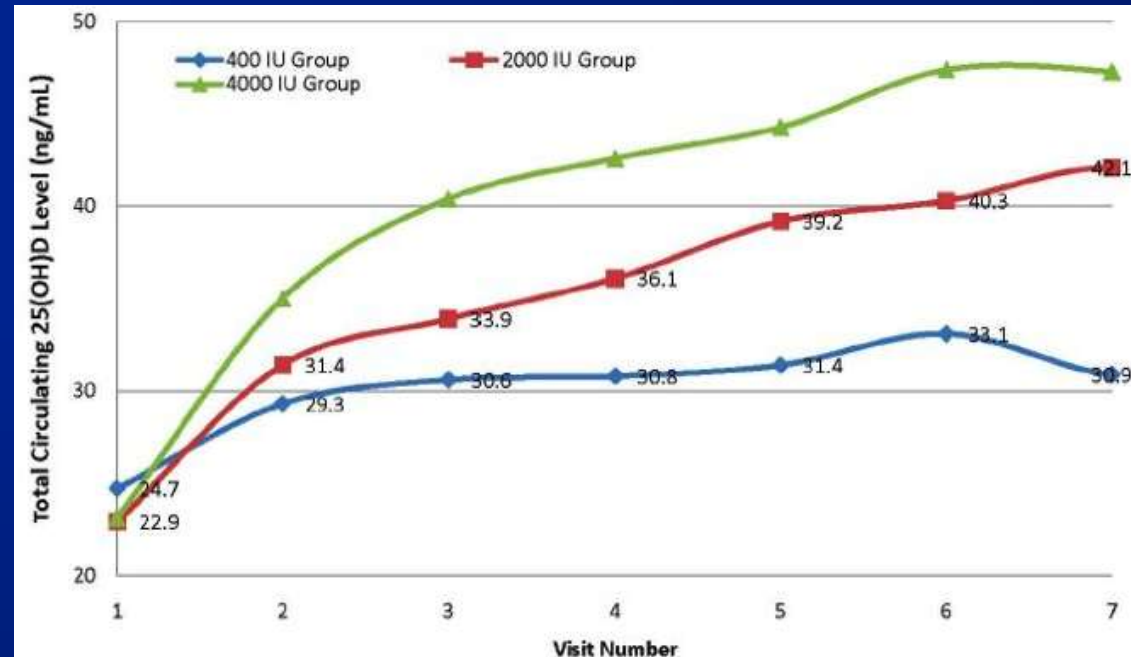


Reducing the Risk of Osteoporosis and Fracture, Falls and Cancer is Good Enough for Me....



Vitamin D and Pregnancy

- ◆ 350 pregnant women, 12-16 weeks gestation randomly received 400, 2000 or 4000 IU vitamin D₃ daily until delivery
- ◆ 99 AA, 137 Hisp, 115 Cauc
- ◆ No effect on serum calcium, creatinine, phos or urine ca/cr
- ◆ Preterm labor, premature birth and infection inversely related to 25(OH)D and lowest ($p < 0.0001$) in the 4000 IU group



“We recommend 4000 IU/day for all pregnant women.”



***'Vitamin D is a
Hormone Only
Involved in Calcium
Homeostasis.'***



Vitamin D Has Local Effects

- ◆ Vitamin D receptors are present in many tissues
- ◆ Essentially all tissues have 25 hydroxylase
- ◆ Many tissues (not just kidney) possess 1 α -hydroxylase
 - Intestine, muscle, islet cells, monocytes, B & T cells, neurons, chondrocytes, colonic enterocytes, prostate, ovary, endothelial cells.....
- ◆ 1, 25 (OH)₂D can be produced locally in many tissues
- ◆ Reasonable that low D status impairs local 1, 25 production
- ◆ *“The nonclassical actions of vitamin D are cell specific and provide a number of potential new clinical applications for 1,25(OH)₂D₃ and its analogs.”*



Diseases/Conditions Associated With Low Vitamin D Status

- ◆ Osteomalacia/Osteoporosis
- ◆ Muscle function and falls
- ◆ Cancer
- ◆ Multiple sclerosis
- ◆ Hypertension
- ◆ **Diabetes mellitus**
- ◆ Inflammatory bowel disease
- ◆ Rheumatoid arthritis
- ◆ TB
- ◆ Macular degeneration
- ◆ Cognitive impairment
- ◆ Cardiovascular events
- ◆ Peripheral vascular disease
- ◆ Polymyalgia rheumatica
- ◆ Chronic pain
- ◆ Autism
- ◆ Infection
- ◆ Athletic performance
- ◆ Depression
- ◆ Seasonal affective disorder
- ◆ Obesity
- ◆ Incontinence
- ◆ Aging
- ◆ Overall mortality



We Need to Think Clearly and Objectively About Vitamin D....

Can Vitamin D Help Prevent Swine Flu and Other Diseases?

April 29, 2009 In Cold & Flu Prevention, Diabetes, Did You Know?, Educational, Empowering,

Vitamin D 'may help slow ageing'

A vitamin made when sunlight hits the skin could help slow down the ageing of cells and tissues, say researchers.

A King's College London study of more than 2,000 women found those with higher vitamin D levels showed fewer ageing-related changes in their DNA.



Vitamin D may have far-reaching effects in the body



Vitamin D and Diabetes

Potential Mechanisms

- ◆ Beta cells contain the vitamin D receptor and the 1 alpha hydroxylase. Bland, et. al., J Steroid Biochem Mol Biol, 121:9-, 2004
- ◆ Vitamin D improves beta cell function
 - Direct effect on insulin secretion
 - Impaired insulin secretion in VDR deficient mice
 - 1, 25 (OH)₂D stimulates insulin release
 - Reduced insulin secretion in D deficiency
 - Supplementation with vitamin D restores insulin secretion in animals
 - Indirect effect on insulin secretion; potentially via a calcium effect on insulin secretion
 - Hypocalcemia associated with impaired insulin secretion



Vitamin D and Diabetes

Potential Mechanisms

- ◆ Improvement in insulin action
 - Direct effect on insulin action
 - Stimulates expression of insulin receptor
 - Enhances insulin responsiveness for glucose transport
 - Indirect effect on insulin action
 - Potentially via a calcium effect on insulin secretion
- ◆ Calcium effect on insulin action
 - Calcium essential for insulin-mediated intracellular processes
 - Impairment of insulin receptor phosphorylation, a calcium dependent process, leads to impaired insulin signal transduction
- ◆ Improvement in systemic inflammation
 - Direct effects on cytokines
 - Effect of calcium on cytokines

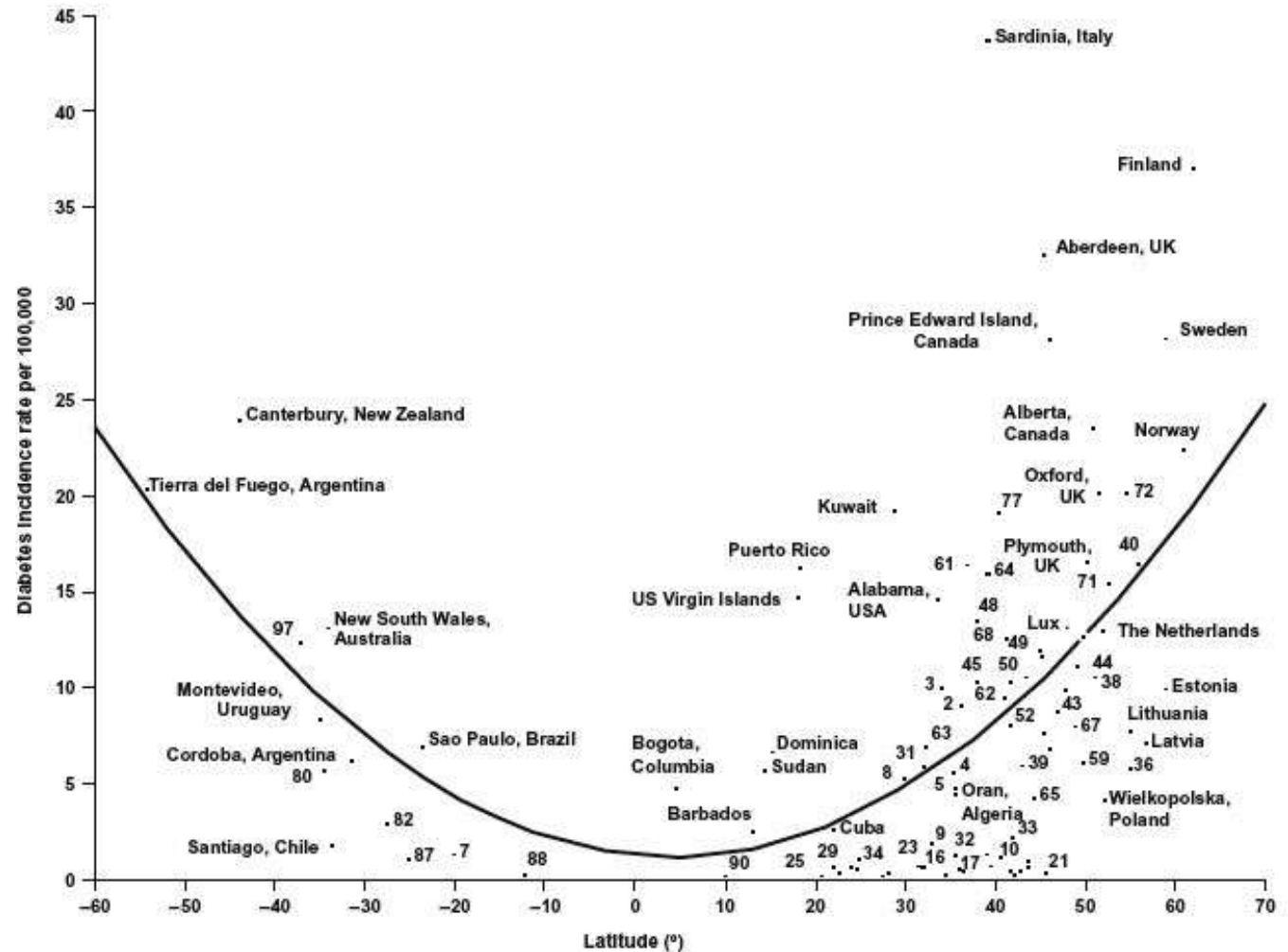


**Observational Studies Suggest
That Low Vitamin D Status May
Be Associated With Increased
Diabetes Risk**



Geographic Variation Type 1 Diabetes Incidence

Greater incidence at higher latitudes



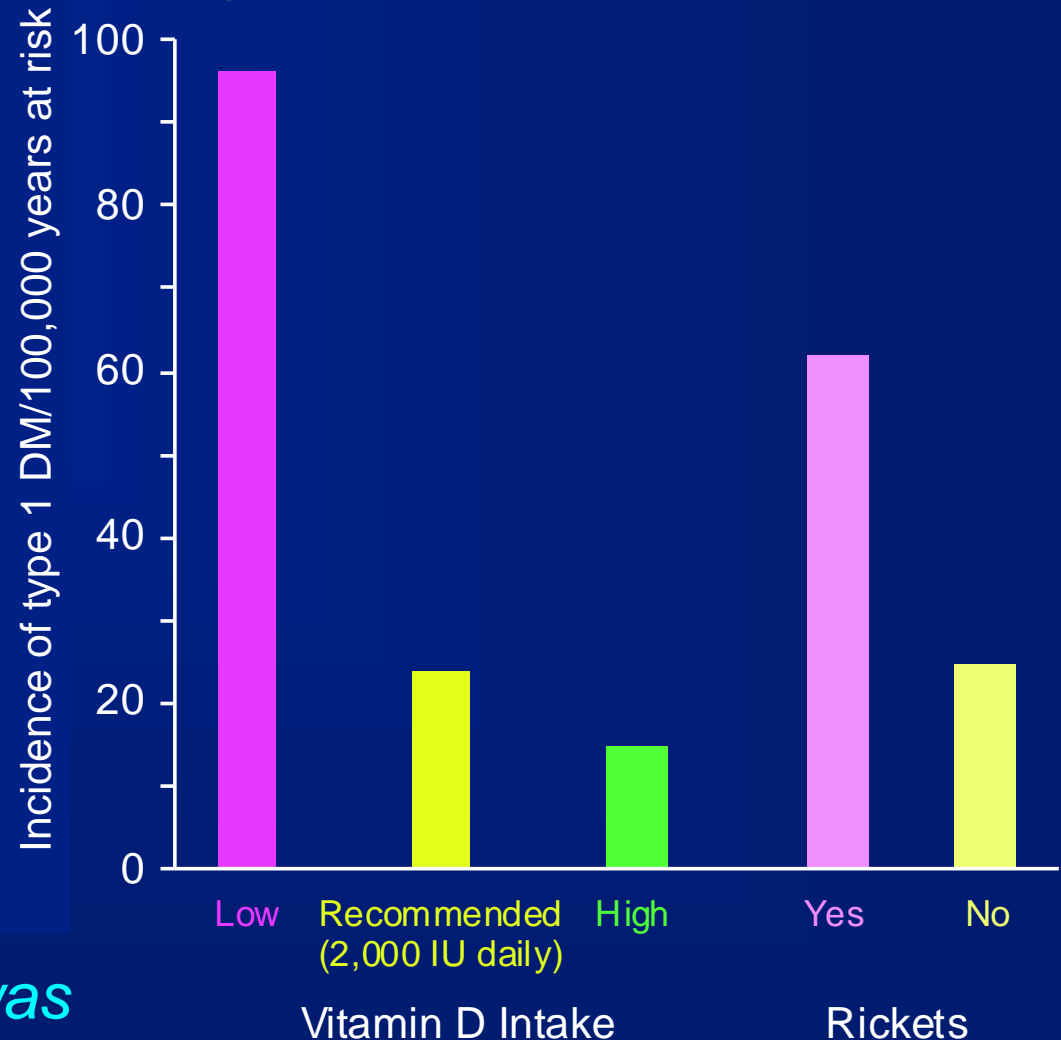
Vitamin D Supplementation in Infancy Reduces the Risk of Type 1 Diabetes

All women in 2 northern
Finland towns who gave birth
in 1966 (n = 10, 366)

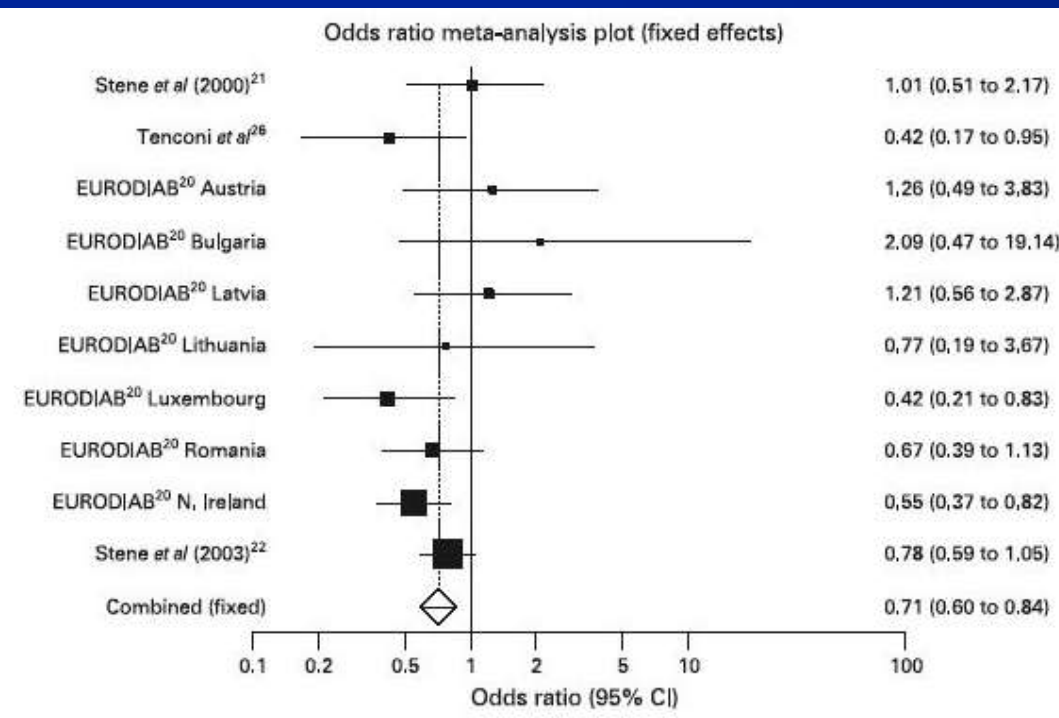
Data collected in 1st year of
life re: vitamin D
supplementation and presence
of Rickets

Primary outcome Dx of DM
type 1 by 1997; n = 81

*“In children who received
vitamin D regularly, the risk was
reduced by about 80%”*



Vitamin D Supplementation in Early Childhood and Risk of Type 1 Diabetes



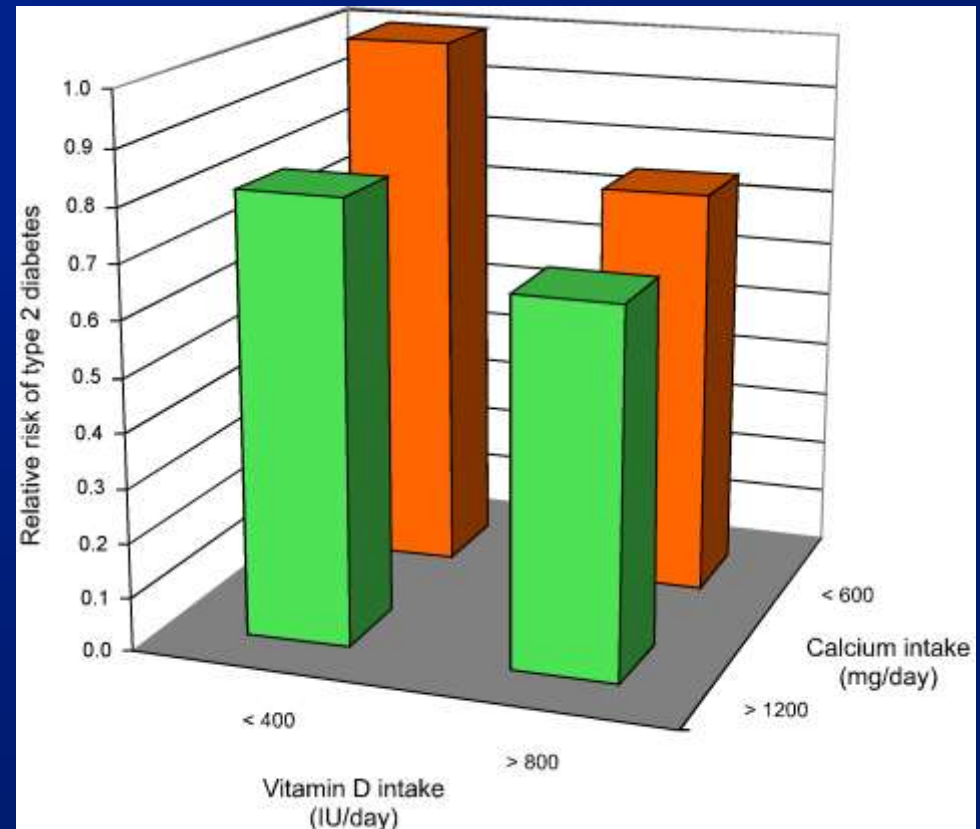
29% reduction in risk of developing type 1 diabetes compared with their peers who were not supplemented

...the risk of type 1 diabetes was significantly reduced in infants who were supplemented with vitamin D compared to those who were not....”
“There was also some evidence of a dose-response effect”

Observational Studies Find an Association Between Low Vitamin D Status and Risk of Type 2 DM

Nurses Health Study
83,779 women; 20 year f/u
4,843 new cases type 2 DM

“A combined daily intake of >1,000 mg calcium and >800 IU vitamin D was associated with a 33% lower risk of type 2 diabetes”



Meta-Analysis: Association of Low Vitamin D and Risk of Type 2 DM

“Combining data from all studies that reported the association between 25(OH)D and prevalent type 2 DM, the summary OR was 0.54 for the highest vs. the lowest 25(OH)D concentration...

When we excluded blacks... OR = 0.36”

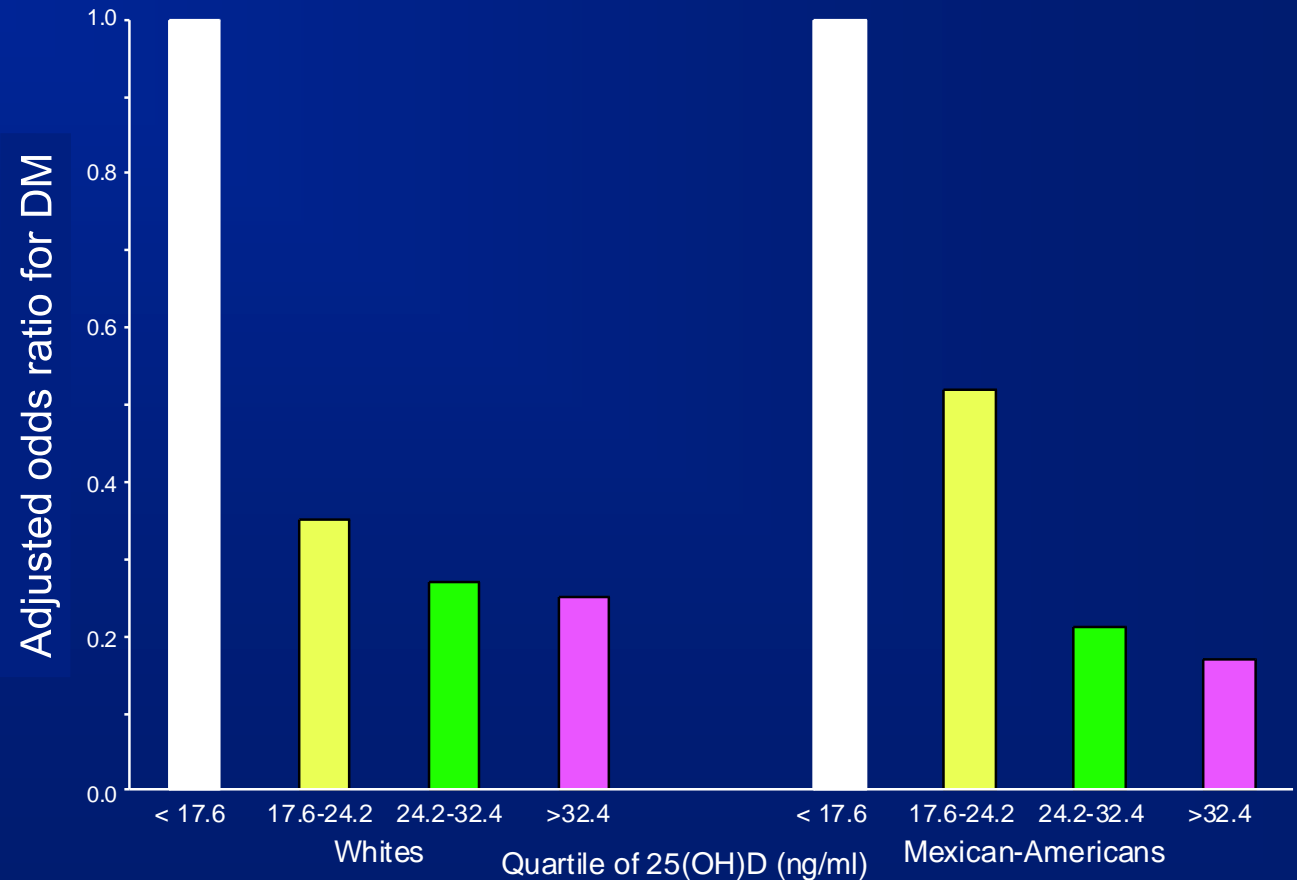


NHANES III (1988-1994)

Strong inverse association between 25(OH)D and diabetes prevalence

25(OH)D 2,766
white, 1,736 black
and 1,726 Mexican
Americans

Adjusting for sex,
age, BMI, activity
and season, the
odds ratios varied
inversely with
25(OH) quartiles in
whites and Mexican
Americans

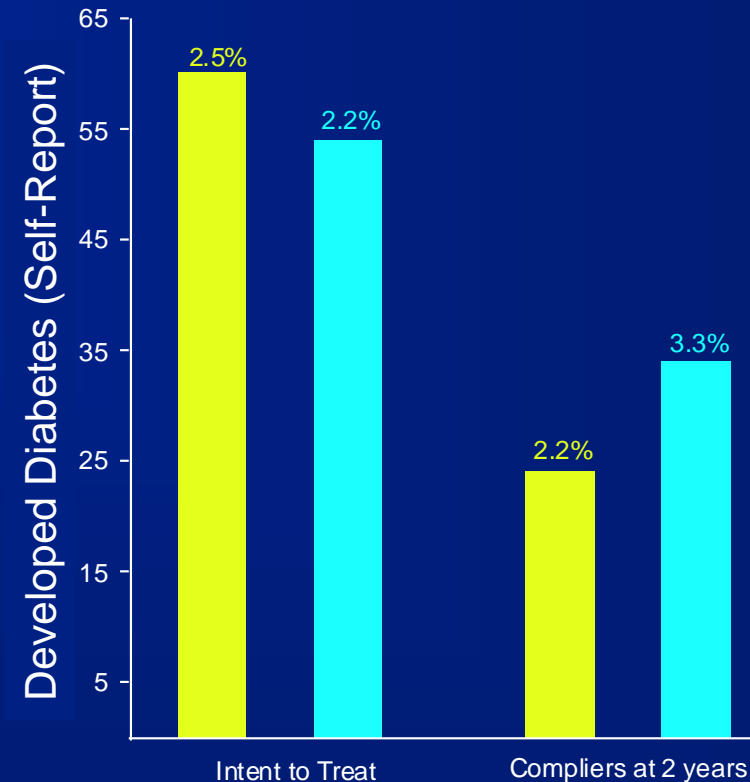


Prospective Studies of Vitamin D Supplementation and Diabetes Are Very Limited



Post Hoc Analysis: RECORD Trial

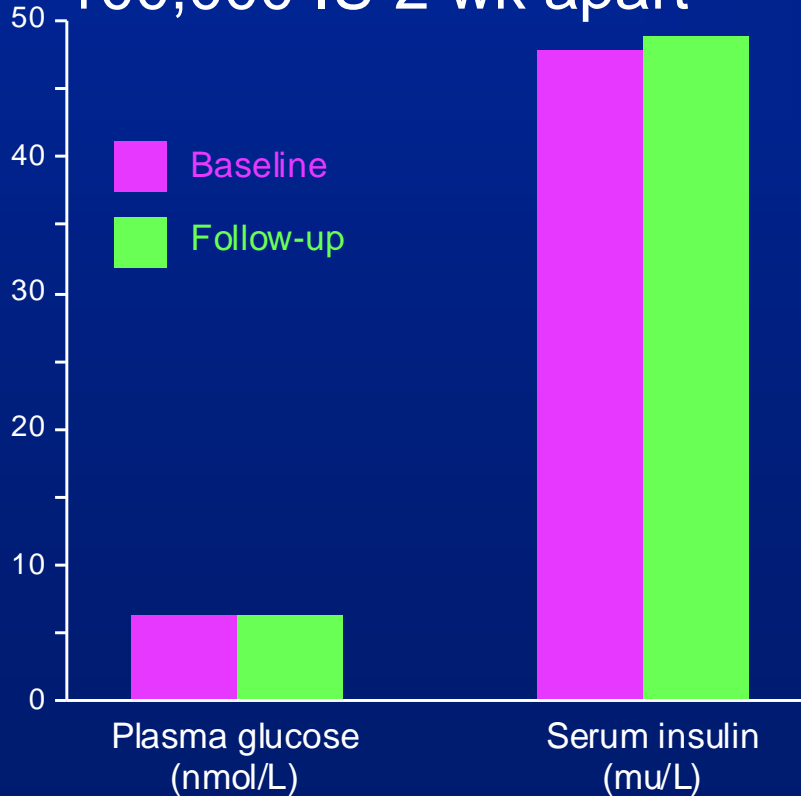
5,202 (84% female)
age 70+
Randomized to
800 IU D3
Calcium 1000 mg
Both or PBO
Followed for 24-62 mo



...800 IU vitamin D₃ did not suggest a protective effect against the development of type 2 diabetes...

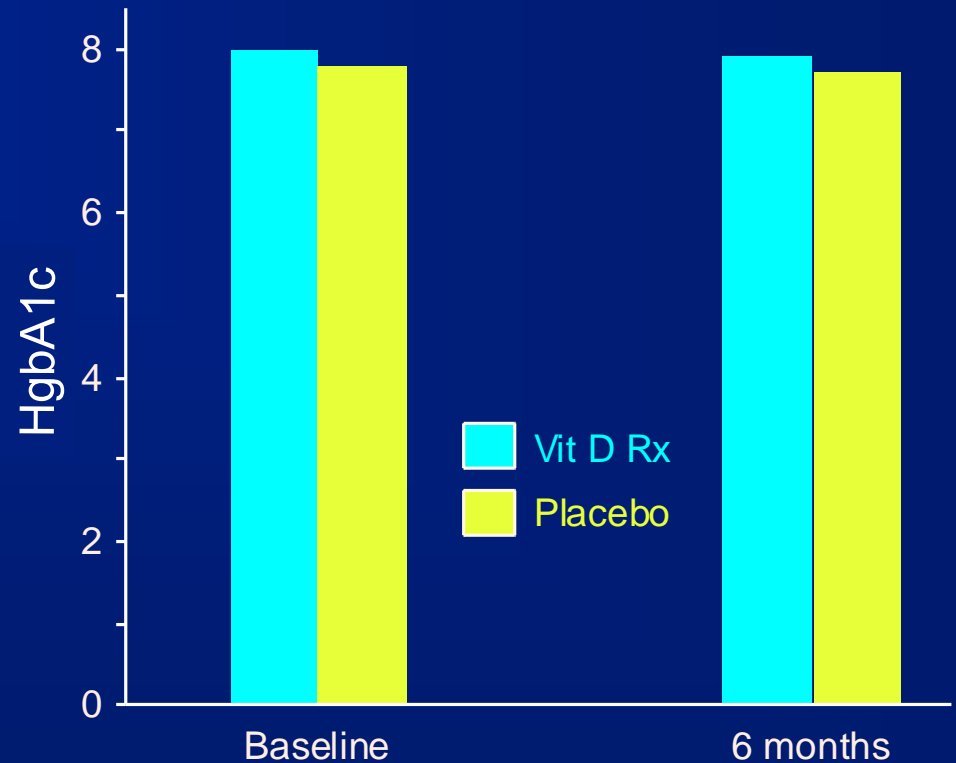
Two Small Prospective Studies Found No Effect of Vitamin D Supplementation

Low vit D (<20 ng/ml)
n = 36; 2 doses of D₃
100,000 IU 2 wk apart



Tai, et. al, Nutrition, 2008; 24:950-956

Treated DM; n = 36
D₃ 40,000 IU/wk vs PBO



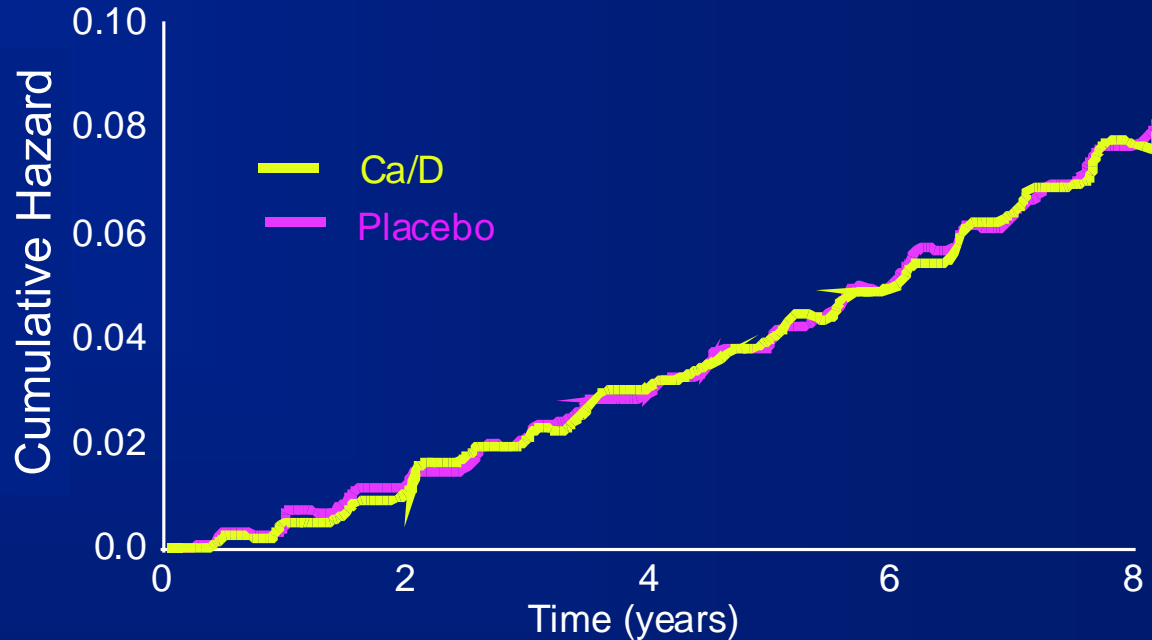
Jorde & Figenschau, Eur J Nutr, 2009; 48:349-354



Calcium + Vitamin D Had No Effect on DM Risk: Women's Health Initiative

Participants without prevalent diabetes at study enrollment
(n = 33,951)

Randomized to
1000 mg calcium +
400 IU D₃ or PBO
Median follow-up
7 years



Problems: Self-reported diabetes
Low vitamin D dose
25(OH)D not measured at follow up



**The Prospective Trials of
Vitamin D Supplementation
Are Too Small or Used
Inadequate Amounts of
Vitamin D**

**Larger Studies With Higher
Vitamin D Dose are Needed**



Vitamin D May Protect Against DM Nephropathy Mice

- ◆ 1, 25-dihydroxyvitamin D suppresses renin in mice and reduce proteinuria
- ◆ Diabetic VDR knockout mice develop more severe albuminuria and glomerulosclerosis and have increased renin

“Our study suggests that receptor-mediated vitamin D actions are renoprotective in diabetic nephropathy.”

Zhang et. al., Kidney Int. 2008; 73:163-171

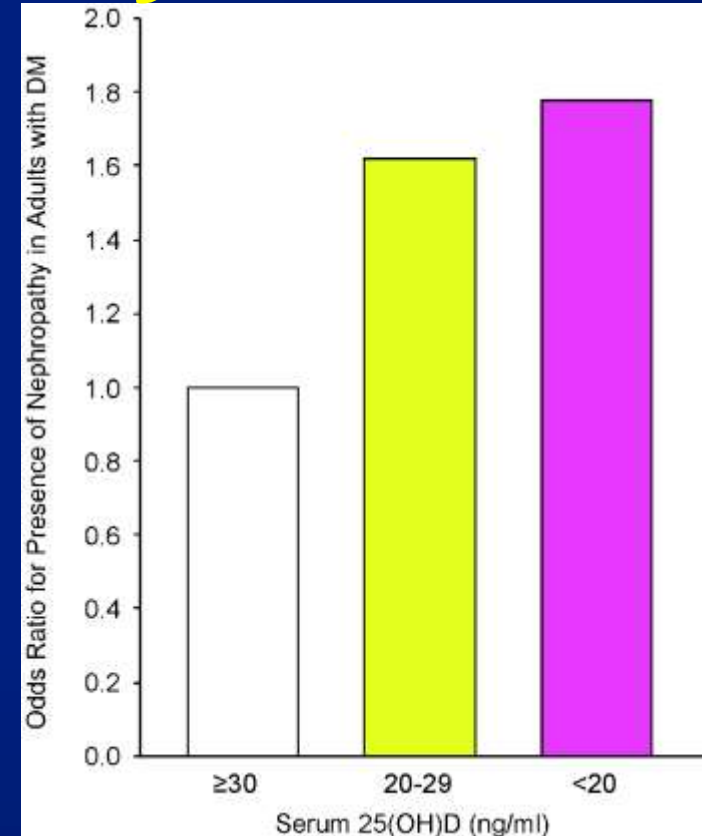


Vitamin D May Protect Against DM Nephropathy

Humans

NHANES; 1216 adults with DM
Nephropathy; defined as urine
albumin to creatinine ratio ≥ 30
mg/g in spot urine

OR adjusted for age, gender, race,
hypertension, cholesterol, smoking, ACE use
and obesity



“There is an independent association between vitamin D deficiency with the presence of nephropathy.”



Vitamin D and Diabetes: Summary

“Animal and human studies support the notion that adequate vitamin D supplementation may decrease the incidence of type 1 and possibly also of type 2 diabetes mellitus and may improve the metabolic control in the diabetes state. However, the exact mechanisms... are not clear and need further investigation.”

Danescu et. al., Endocr. 2009; 34:11-17

“Much work remains to be done in this new field before the role of vitamin D in the pathogenesis of diabetes mellitus is completely understood.”

Alfonso et. al., Diabetes Metab Res Rev, 2009; 25:417-419

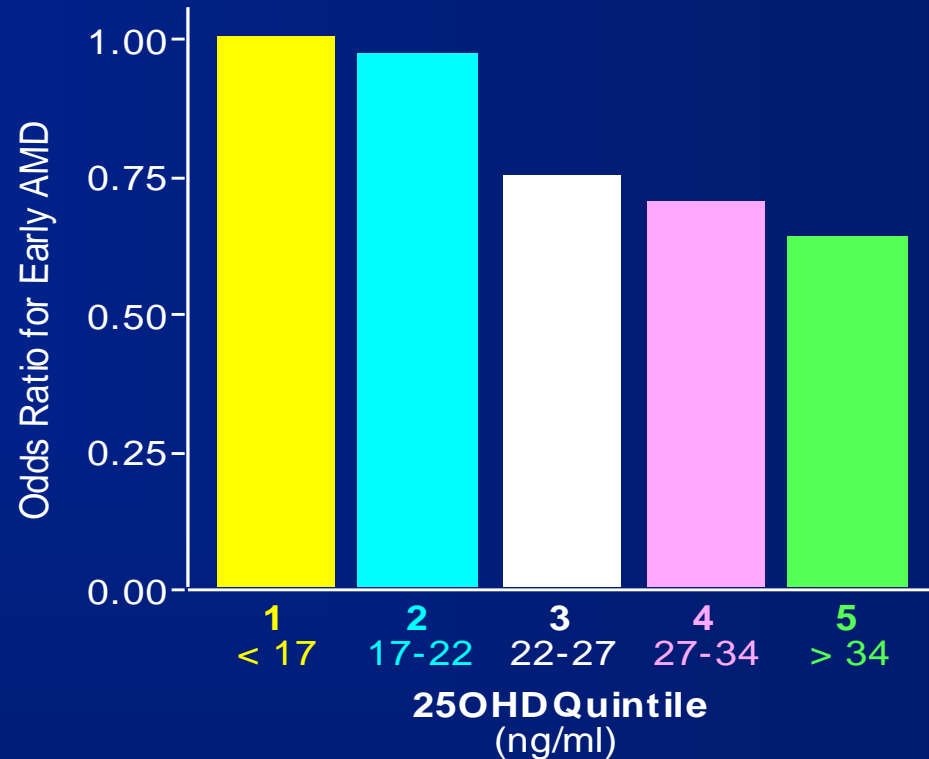


What About Vitamin D Inadequacy And Other “Age-Related Morbidities???”



Vitamin D Status & Macular Degeneration

Evaluated association of 25(OH)D and prevalent age-related macular degeneration in NHANES III (n = 7752, 11% with AMD)
25(OH)D by RIA
AMD identified by fundus photographs



“This study provides evidence that vitamin D may protect against AMD. Additional studies are needed”



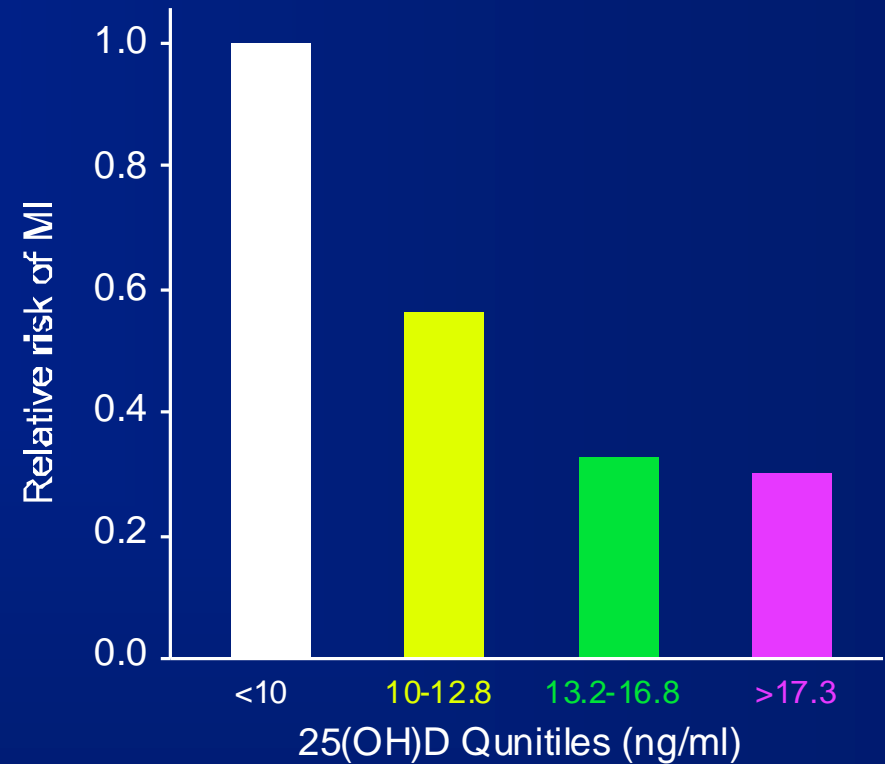
Vitamin D Status and MI Risk

Case control study; 179 MI
Controls matched by age,
sex and date of blood draw

25(OH)D by CPB

Mean 25(OH)D lower
($p < 0.5$) in cases 12.8 ng/ml
Vs. controls 14.0 ng/ml

Differed also in chol, BMI
and smoking

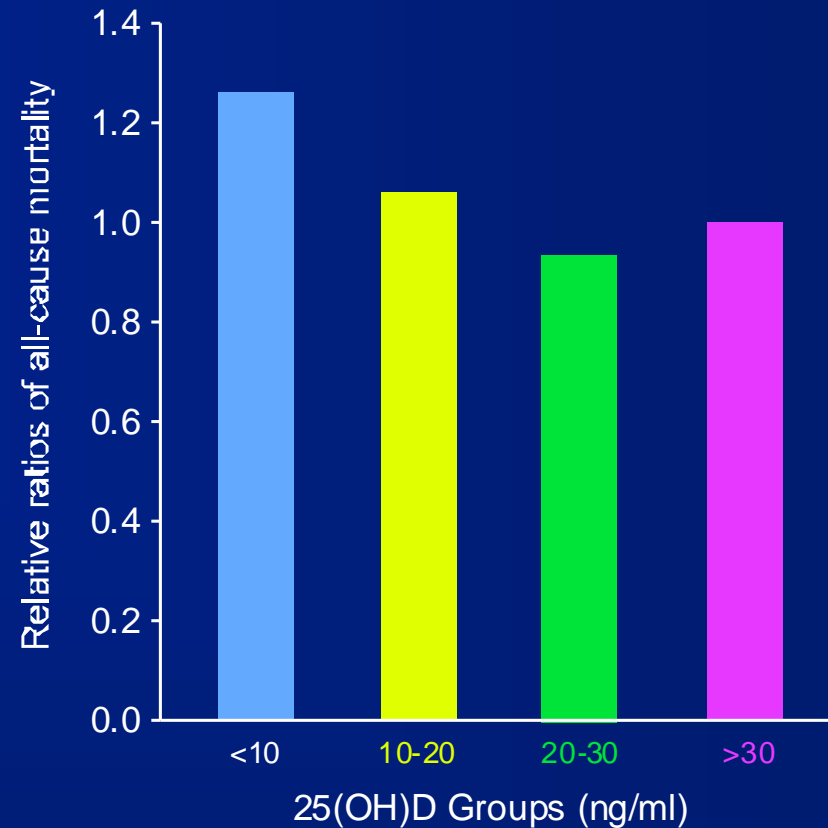


“...provides support for the hypothesis that increased exposure to sunlight is protective against CHD.”



25(OH)D Levels and Mortality

NHANES; 13,331 adults
followed for mortality from
1988-1994 to 2000
Median follow up of 8.7 years
1806 deaths; 777 from CVD
25(OH)D by Diasorin RIA
Hazard ratios multiply
adjusted



“The lowest quartile of 25(OH)D (<17.8 ng/ml) is independently associated with all-cause mortality in the general population.”



Vitamin D and Chronic Disease Chicken or Egg?



**It is Attractive to Speculate that
Vitamin D Insufficiency
Contributes to the Development of
Multiple Diseases.**

*“For every complex problem,
there is a solution that is simple,
neat, and wrong.”*

H. L. Mencken



Association Does Not Prove Causation

“...it remains unclear whether vitamin D deficiency is a cause or a consequence of a poor health status.”

Pilz, et. al, Clin Endo, 2009

“We know an insufficient amount about vitamin D insufficiency.”

M.K. Drezner, M.D.



Vitamin D Conclusions; 2011

- ◆ Vitamin D inadequacy is very common
- ◆ No downside to aiming for 25(OH)D ~40 ng/ml
- ◆ Need at least 1,000-2,000 IU/day
 - Not everyone needs the same dose
 - Prudent to recommend vitamin D₃
 - These “higher” doses are safe
- ◆ “Casual” sun exposure is not enough
- ◆ Unlikely that vitamin D is the fountain of youth
- ◆ Vitamin D adequacy will reduce osteoporotic fractures, falls, probably cancer and potentially a multitude other diseases



Thank You!

