

**CONGRESSO  
NAZIONALE SIGG**

**GLI ANZIANI:  
LE RADICI DA PRESERVARE**  
**ROMA** 28 novembre 01 dicembre 2018 Auditorium della Tecnica, Roma

# **Fragilità, età biologica e resilienza: è solo una questione di terminologia o sono problemi clinici differenti?**

**Matteo Cesari**



**UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI  
DI MILANO**



**FONDAZIONE IRCCS CA' GRANDA  
OSPEDALE MAGGIORE POLICLINICO**

Sistema sanitario  **Regione  
Lombardia**

# 105-Year-Old Cyclist Rides 14 Miles In An Hour En Route To A World Record

January 4, 2017 · 2:44 PM ET



**Robert Marchand (age 105yo)**

26.925 kilometers in an hour

-50.6% compared to respective world record

Age and Ageing 2016; **45**: 729–733  
doi: 10.1093/ageing/afw111  
Published electronically 4 July 2016

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## Centenarian athletes: Examples of ultimate human performance?

ROMUALD LEPERS<sup>1</sup>, PAUL J. STAPLEY<sup>2</sup>, THOMAS CATTAGNI<sup>3</sup>



JAMDA

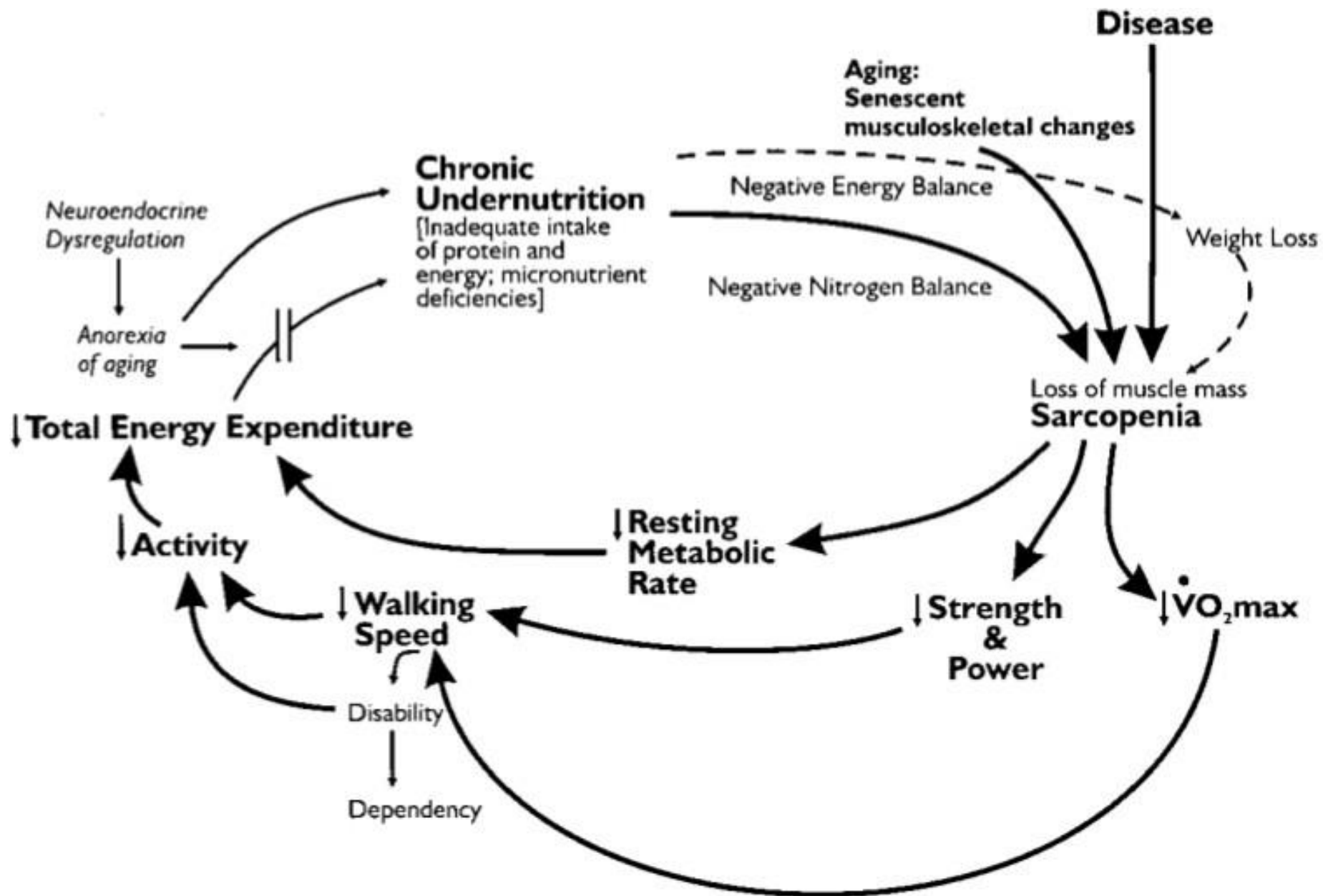
journal homepage: [www.jamda.com](http://www.jamda.com)

Special Article

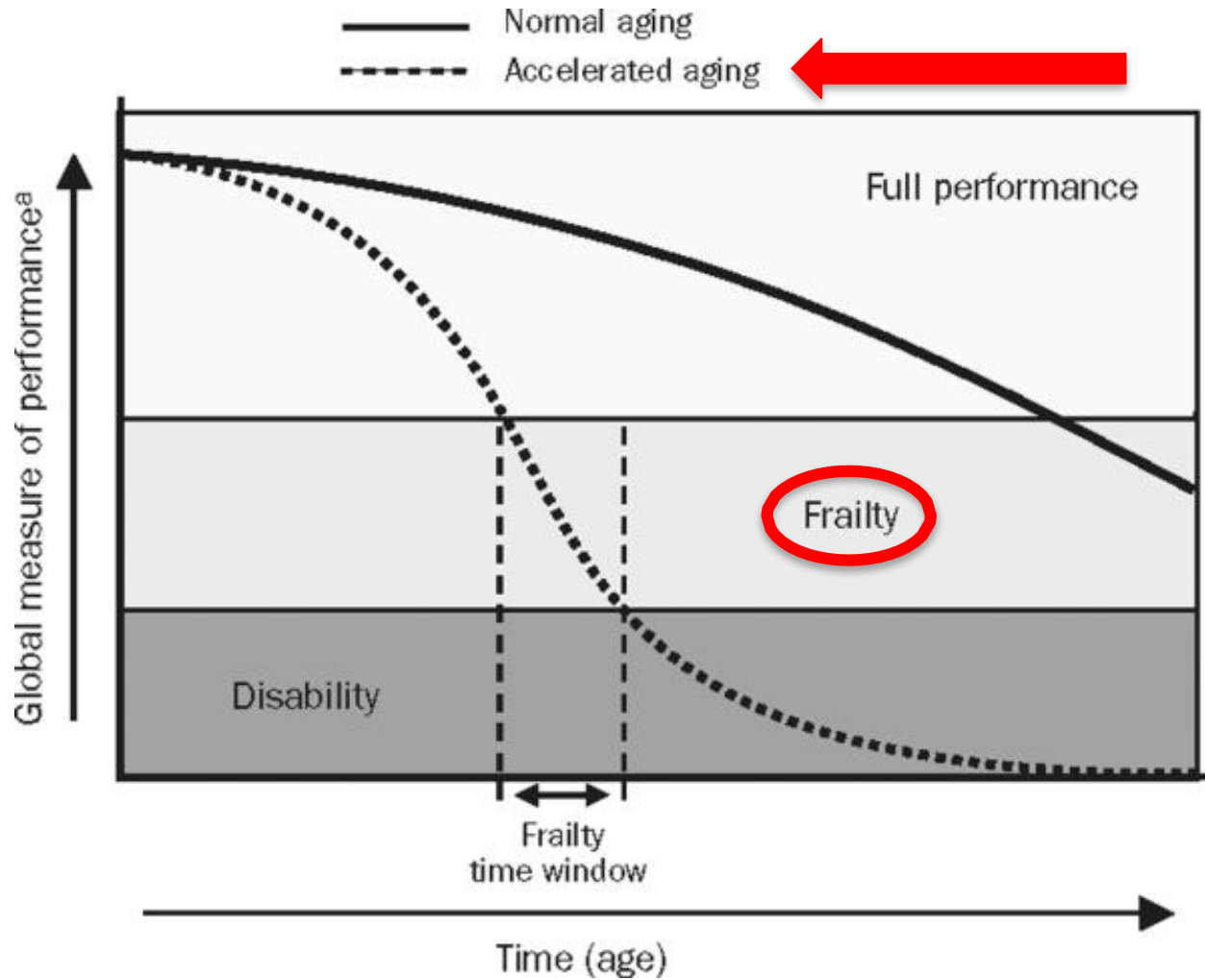
## Frailty Consensus: A Call to Action

John E. Morley MB, BCh<sup>a,\*</sup>, Bruno Vellas MD<sup>b,c</sup>, G. Abellan van Kan MD<sup>b,c</sup>, Stefan D. Anker MD, PhD<sup>d,e</sup>, Juergen M. Bauer MD, PhD<sup>f</sup>, Roberto Bernabei MD<sup>g</sup>, Matteo Cesari MD, PhD<sup>b,c</sup>, W.C. Chumlea PhD<sup>h</sup>, Wolfram Doehner MD, PhD<sup>d,i</sup>, Jonathan Evans MD<sup>j</sup>, Linda P. Fried MD, MPH<sup>k</sup>, Jack M. Guralnik MD, PhD<sup>l</sup>, Paul R. Katz MD, CMD<sup>m</sup>, Theodore K. Malmstrom PhD<sup>a,n</sup>, Roger J. McCarter PhD<sup>o</sup>, Luis M. Gutierrez Robledo MD, PhD<sup>p</sup>, Ken Rockwood MD<sup>q</sup>, Stephan von Haehling MD, PhD<sup>r</sup>, Maurits F. Vandewoude MD, PhD<sup>s</sup>, Jeremy Walston MD<sup>t</sup>

“... A medical syndrome with multiple causes and contributors that is characterized by diminished strength, endurance, and reduced physiologic function that increases an individual's vulnerability for developing increased dependency and/or death. . .”

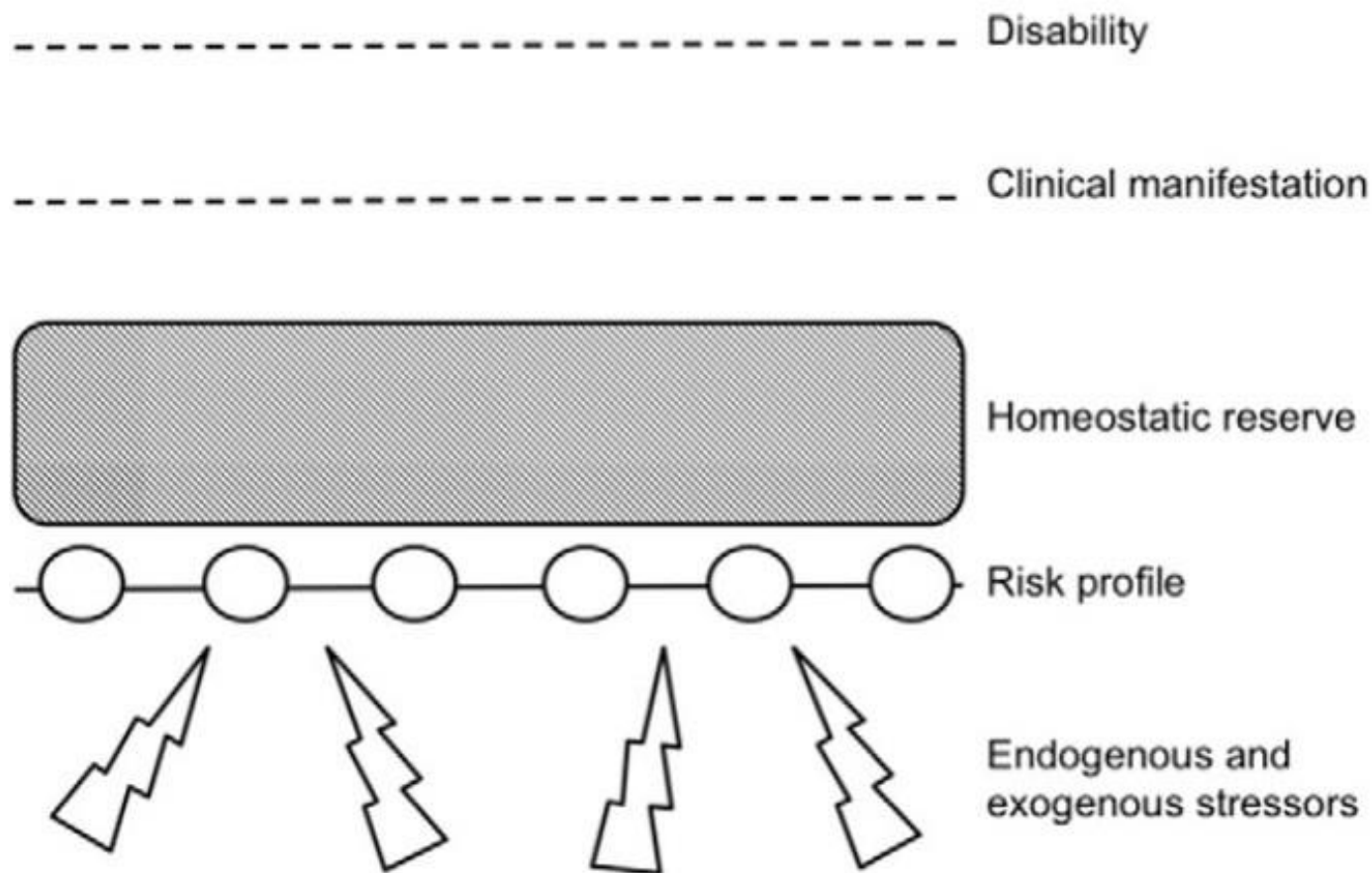


Fried LP, Walston J. Failure to thrive. In: Hazzard WR et al, eds. *Principles of Geriatric Medicine and Gerontology*. McGraw-Hill, 1998





## A. Optimal homeostatic balance

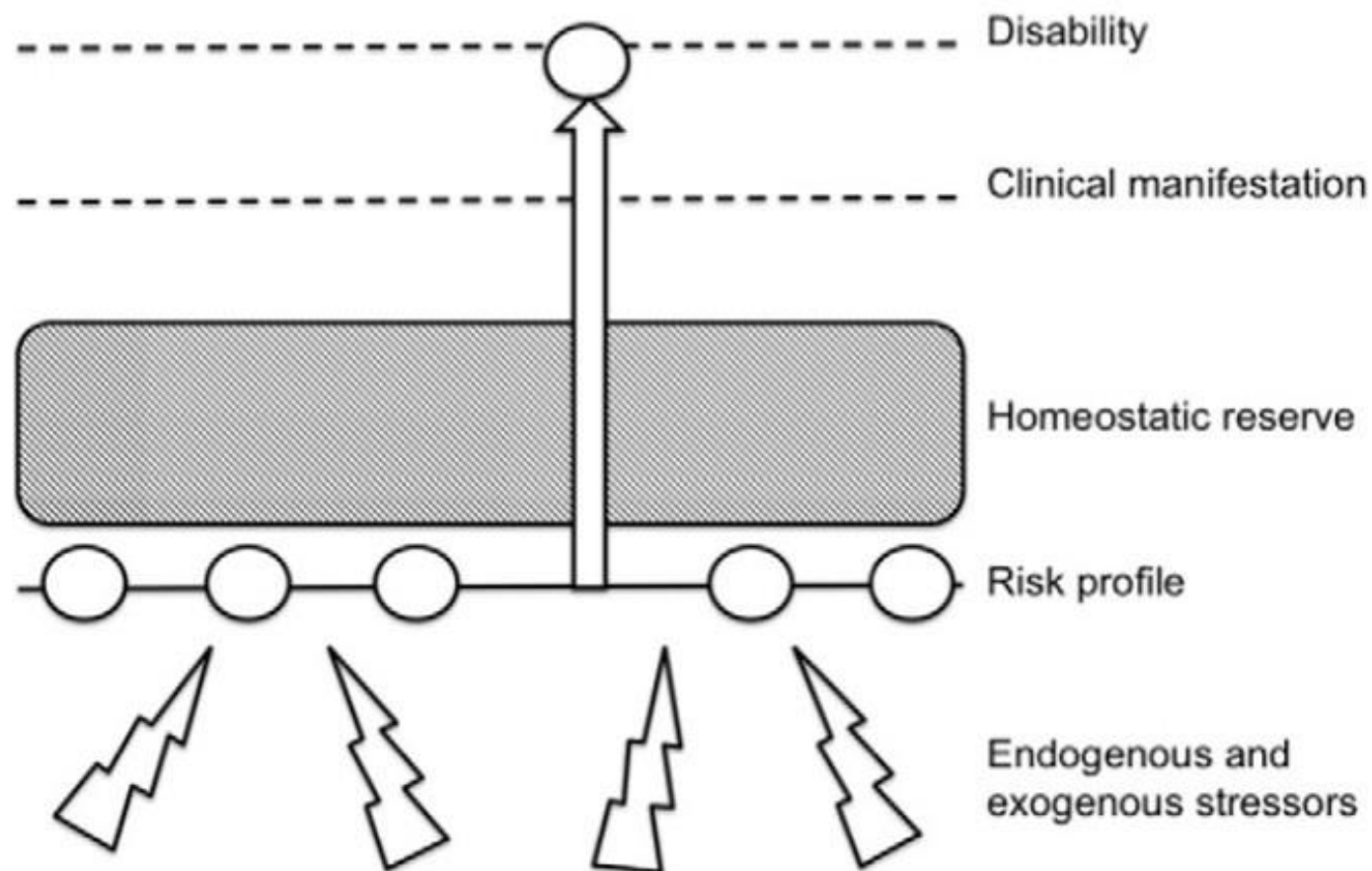


Cesari et al. *Eur J Intern Med* 2016;35:1-9

Studenski S. *J Nutr Health Aging* 2009;13:729-32

Ferrucci L et al. *Genus* 2005;LXI:39-53

## B. Model of disease in young/adult individuals

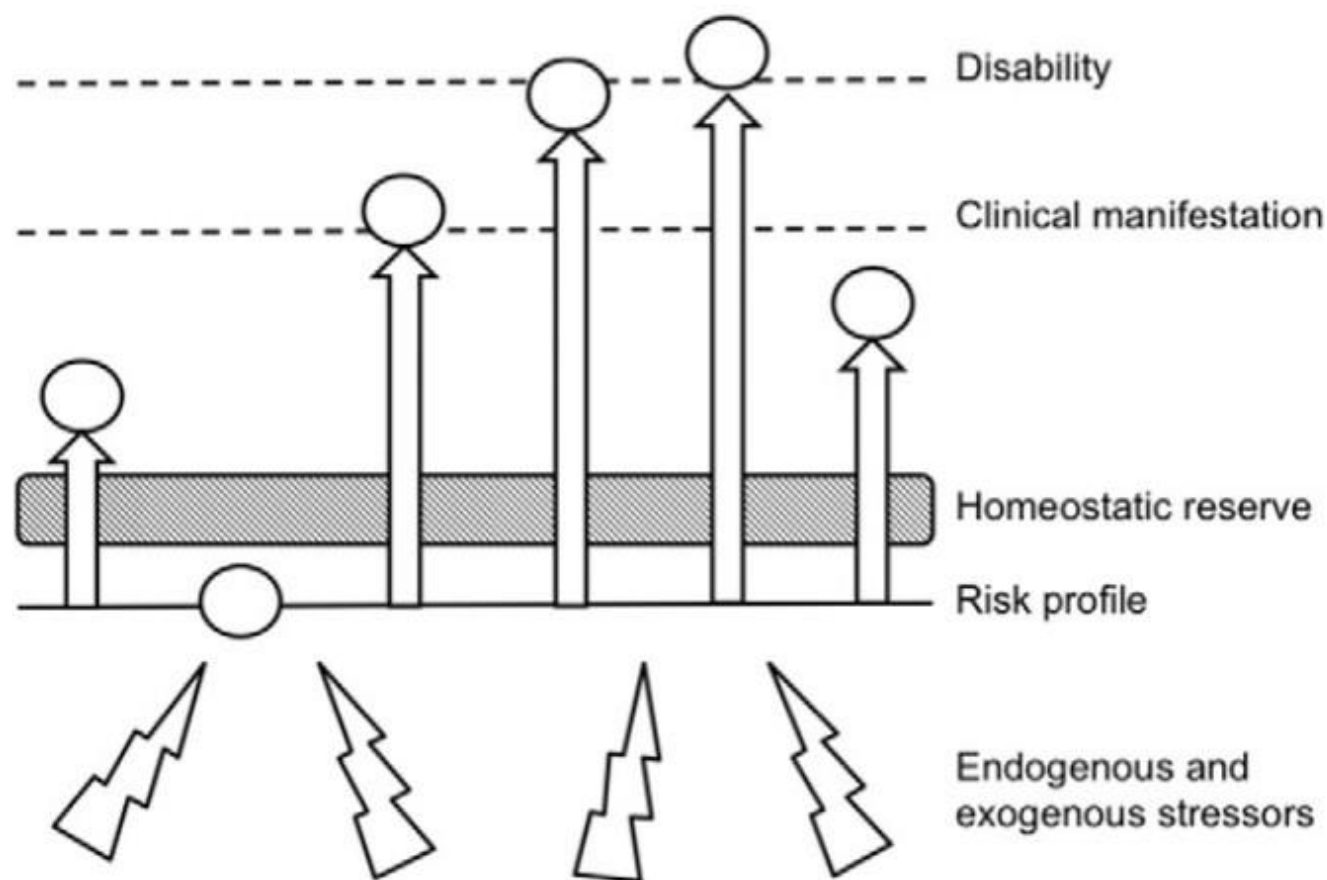


Cesari et al. *Eur J Intern Med* 2016;35:1-9

Studenski S. *J Nutr Health Aging* 2009;13:729-32

Ferrucci L et al. *Genus* 2005;LXI:39-53

## C. Frailty



Cesari et al. *Eur J Intern Med* 2016;35:1-9

Studenski S. *J Nutr Health Aging* 2009;13:729-32

Ferrucci L et al. *Genus* 2005;LXI:39-53



# The Frailty Phenotype

Table 1. Operationalizing a Phenotype of Frailty

<i>A. Characteristics of Frailty</i>	<i>B. Cardiovascular Health Study Measure*</i>
Shrinking: Weight loss (unintentional) Sarcopenia (loss of muscle mass)	Baseline: >10 lbs lost unintentionally in prior year
Weakness	Grip strength: lowest 20% (by gender, body mass index)
Poor endurance; Exhaustion Slowness	"Exhaustion" (self-report) Walking time/15 feet: slowest 20% (by gender, height)
Low activity	Kcals/week: lowest 20% males: <383 Kcals/week females: <270 Kcals/week
	<i>C. Presence of Frailty</i>
	Positive for frailty phenotype: $\geq 3$ criteria present
	Intermediate or prefrail: 1 or 2 criteria present

\*See Appendix.

# Accumulation of Deficits as a Proxy Measure of Aging

Arnold B. Mitnitski<sup>1,2</sup>, Alexander J. Mogilner, and Kenneth Rockwood<sup>2,\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mechanical Engineering, Ecole Polytechnique, Montreal P.O. Box 6079, Station Centre-ville Montreal, Quebec H3C 3A7; <sup>2</sup>Queen Elizabeth II, Health Sciences Centre, Geriatric Medicine Research Unit, Room 1421, 5955 Veterans' Memorial Lane, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 2E1

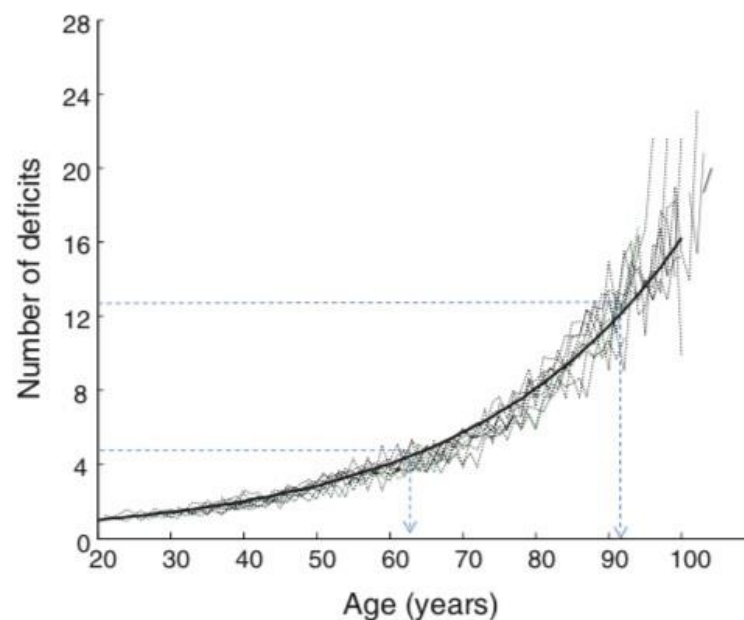
“... a method for appraising health status in elderly people.

A **Frailty Index** was defined as the proportion of accumulated deficits (symptoms, signs, functional impairments, and laboratory abnormalities). It serves as an individual state variable, reflecting severity of illness and proximity to death...”

RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Assessing biological aging: the origin of deficit accumulation

Arnold Mitnitski · Xiaowei Song ·  
Kenneth Rockwood



**Fig. 1** Age trajectories of the mean number of deficits. *Thin lines* are the cross-sectional data for the nine consecutive two-years cycles plotted against age. The *solid line* is the best exponential fit with the exponent of  $0.035 (\pm 0.02)$

# Chronological Age vs Biological Age

**Chronological age:** the number of years a person has been alive

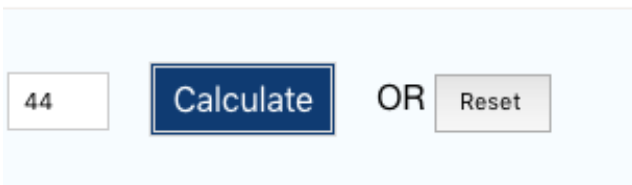
**Biological age** (*or physiological age*): the description of an individual's development based on biomarkers (i.e., molecular or cellular events). It measures the declining integrity of multiple organs

# Chronological Age vs Biological Age

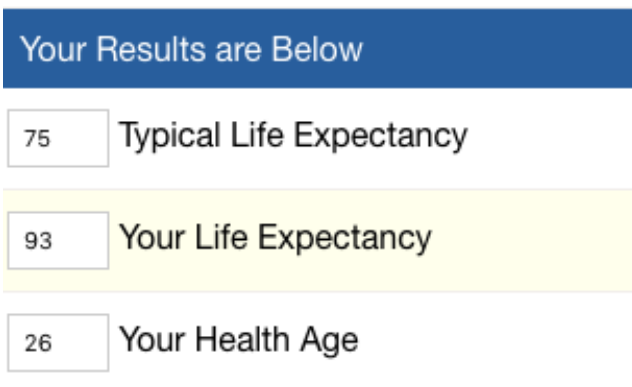
**Chronological age:** the number of years a person has been alive

**Biological age** (*or physiological age*): the description of an individual's development based on biomarkers (i.e., molecular or cellular events). It measures the declining integrity of multiple organs

Enter Your Age Below & Click Calculate



A screenshot of a web form. On the left, there is a text input field containing the number '44'. To its right is a dark blue button with the word 'Calculate' in white. Further right is the text 'OR' and then a light gray button with the word 'Reset'.



A screenshot of the results section. It features a dark blue header bar with the text 'Your Results are Below'. Below this, there are three rows, each with a text input field and a label to its right. The first row has '75' and 'Typical Life Expectancy'. The second row has '93' and 'Your Life Expectancy'. The third row has '26' and 'Your Health Age'.

Your Results are Below	
75	Typical Life Expectancy
93	Your Life Expectancy
26	Your Health Age

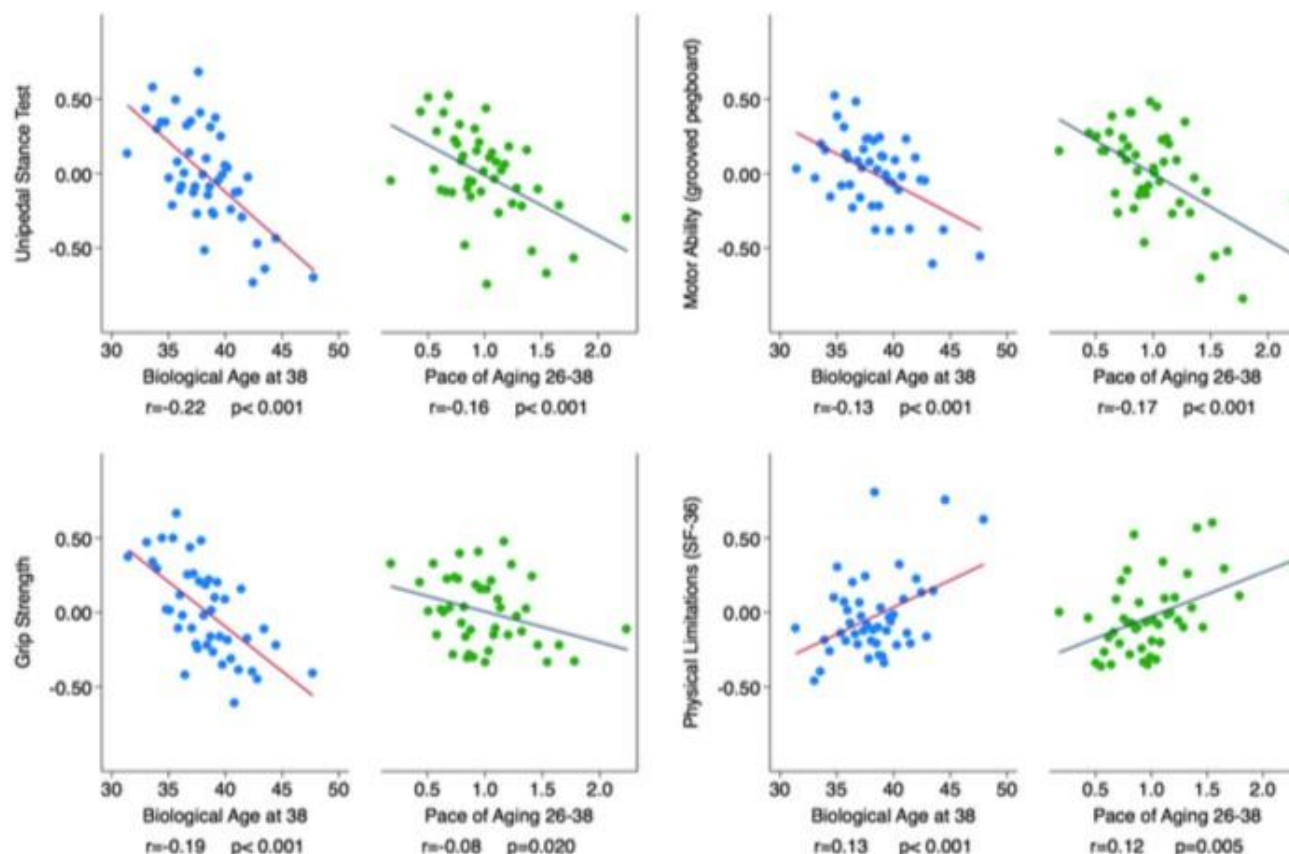
*To a broader extent, biological age captures how old a person seems*

*It takes into consideration the clinical aspect of the individual as well as lifestyle factors (e.g., diet, exercise, sleeping habits, happiness)*



# Quantification of biological aging in young adults

Daniel W. Belsky<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Avshalom Caspi<sup>c,d,e,f</sup>, Renate Houts<sup>c</sup>, Harvey J. Cohen<sup>a</sup>, David L. Corcoran<sup>e</sup>, Andrea Danese<sup>f,g</sup>, HonaLee Harrington<sup>c</sup>, Salomon Israel<sup>h</sup>, Morgan E. Levine<sup>i</sup>, Jonathan D. Schaefer<sup>c</sup>, Karen Sugden<sup>c</sup>, Ben Williams<sup>c</sup>, Anatoli I. Yashin<sup>b</sup>, Richie Poulton<sup>j</sup>, and Terrie E. Moffitt<sup>c,d,e,f</sup>



**Fig. 5.** Healthy adults who were aging faster exhibited deficits in physical functioning relative to slower-aging peers. The figure shows binned scatter plots of the associations of Biological Age and Pace of Aging with tests of physical functioning (unipedal stance test, grooved pegboard test, grip strength) and study members' reports of their physical limitations. In each graph, Biological Age associations are plotted on the left in blue (red regression line) and Pace of Aging associations are plotted on the right in green (navy regression line). Plotted points show means for bins of data from 20 Dunedin Study members. Effect size and regression line were calculated from the raw data.

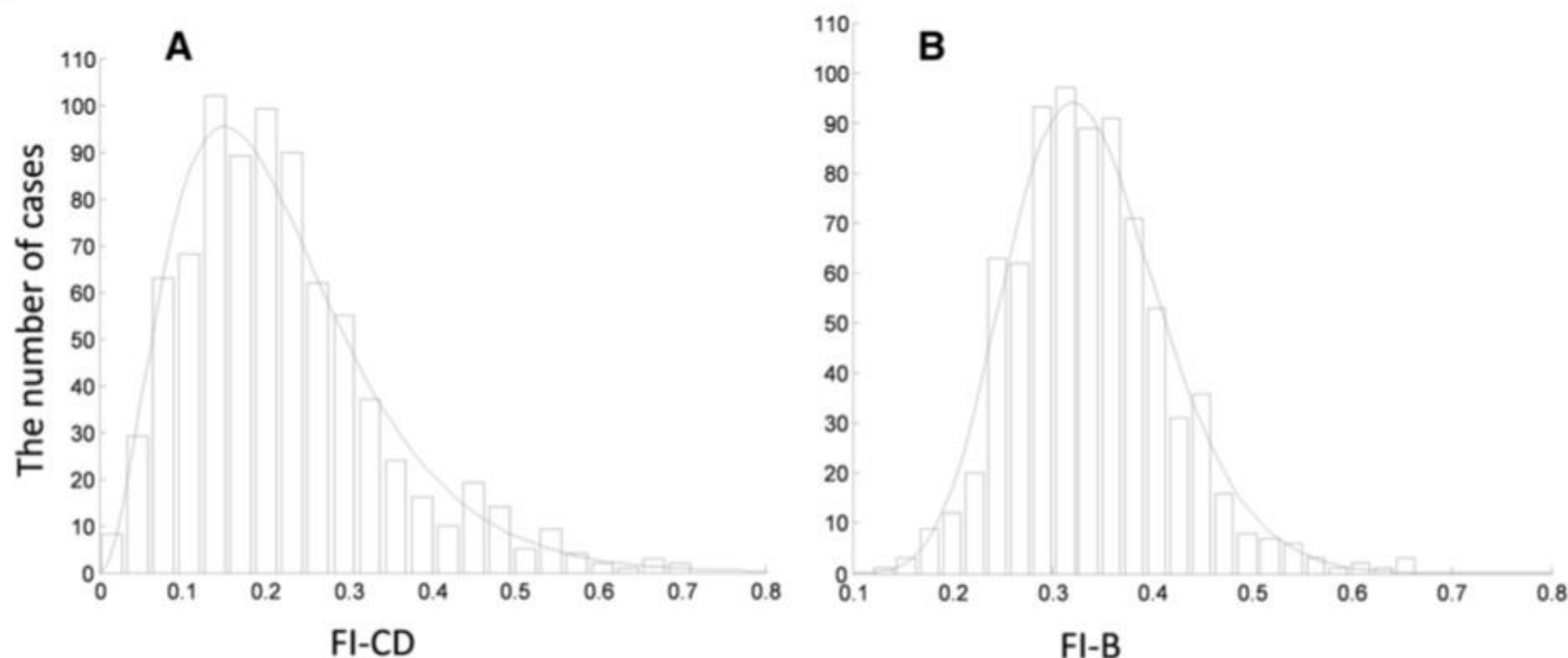
RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access



# Age-related frailty and its association with biological markers of ageing

Arnold Mitnitski<sup>1</sup>, Joanna Collerton<sup>2</sup>, Carmen Martin-Ruiz<sup>3</sup>, Carol Jagger<sup>2</sup>, Thomas von Zglinicki<sup>4</sup>, Kenneth Rockwood<sup>5</sup> and Thomas B. L. Kirkwood<sup>4\*</sup>

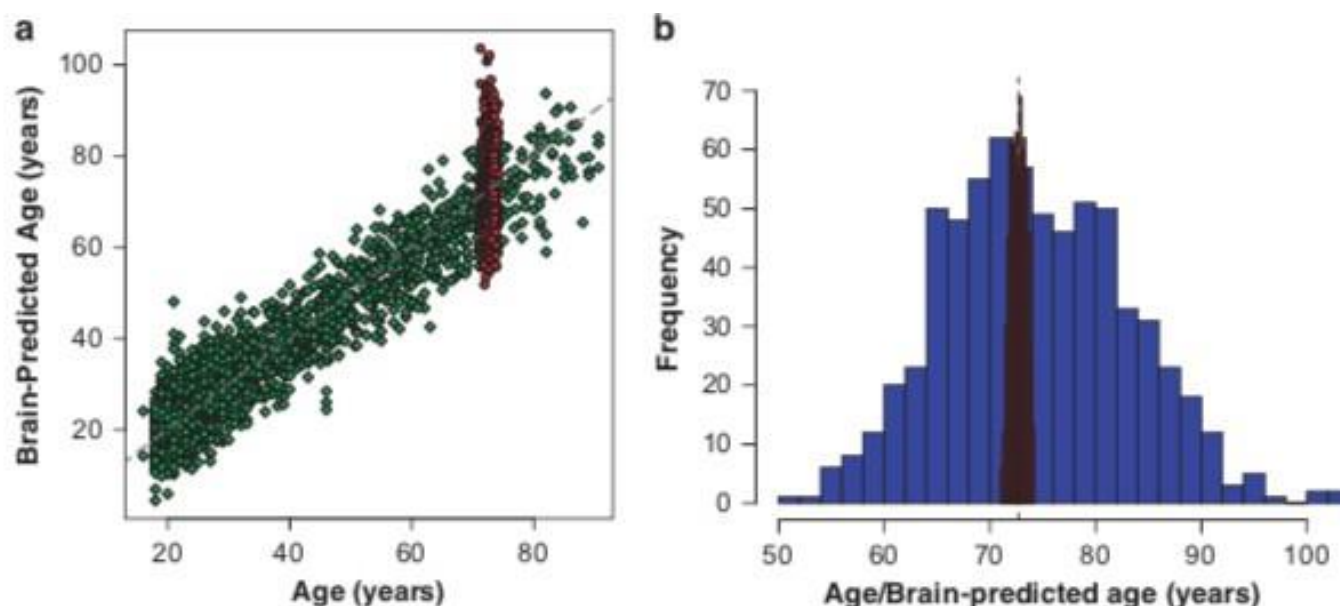


**Fig. 1** Histograms of the **a** Clinical Deficit Frailty Index (FI-CD) and **b** Biomarker Frailty Index (FI-B), and the best fit gamma density functions (solid lines) with the parameters of shape and scale 18.77 and 0.02 for FI-CD and 3.24 and 0.07 for FI-B, respectively

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Brain age predicts mortality

JH Cole<sup>1</sup>, SJ Ritchie<sup>2,3</sup>, ME Bastin<sup>2,4</sup>, MC Valdés Hernández<sup>2,4</sup>, S Muñoz Maniega<sup>2,4</sup>, N Royle<sup>2,4</sup>, J Corley<sup>2,3</sup>, A Pattie<sup>2,3</sup>, SE Harris<sup>2,5</sup>, Q Zhang<sup>6</sup>, NR Wray<sup>6,7</sup>, P Redmond<sup>3</sup>, RE Marioni<sup>2,5,7</sup>, JM Starr<sup>2</sup>, SR Cox<sup>2,3</sup>, JM Wardlaw<sup>2,4</sup>, DJ Sharp<sup>1</sup> and IJ Deary<sup>2,3</sup>



**Figure 2.** Brain-predicted age using structural neuroimaging in LBC1936. **(a)** Scatterplot showing the relationship between chronological age and brain-predicted age in the independent healthy cohort used as the training data (green diamonds) and the LBC1936 participants used as the test set (red circles). **(b)** Histogram showing the distributions of brain-predicted age (in blue) compared to the distribution in chronological age (in red). The substantially wider variability in brain-predicted age is evident. LBC1936, Lothian Birth Cohort 1936.

# Resilience

The **capacity** of metals to **resist** deformation presaged interest in individual differences in the resiliency of people under **stress**.



The human **ability to adapt** in the face of tragedy, trauma, adversity, hardship, and ongoing significant life **stressors**

(Psychological) resilience refers to **effective coping and adaptation** although faced with loss, hardship, or **adversity**

(Physical) resilience is a characteristic at the whole person level which determines an individual's **ability to resist** functional decline or recover physical health following a **stressor**

Lazarus RS. *Ann Rev Psychol* 1993;44:1-21

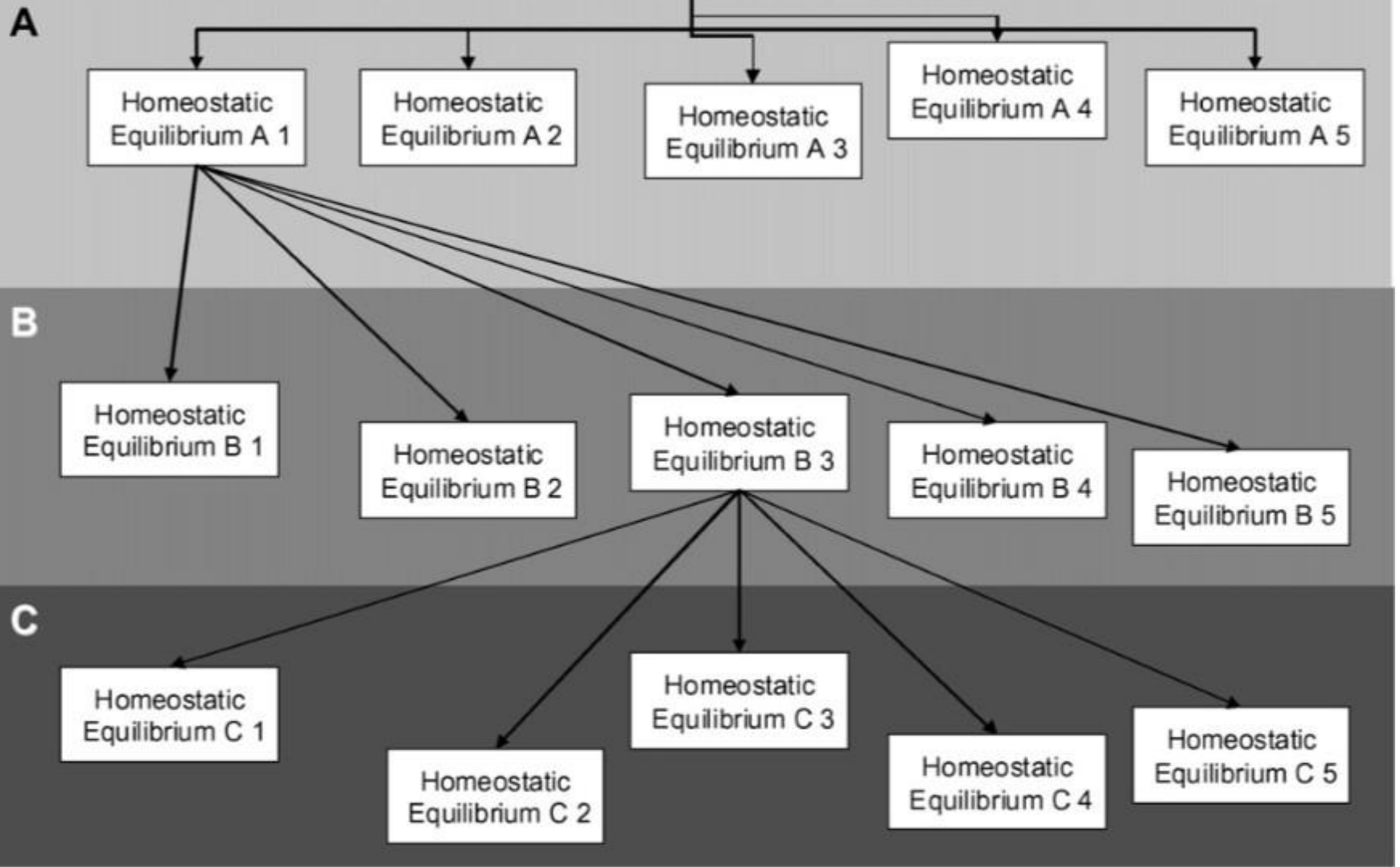
Conti AA, Conti A. *Med Hypotheses*. 2010;74:1090

Tugade MM, Fredrickson BL. *J Pers Soc Psychol* 2004;86:320-333

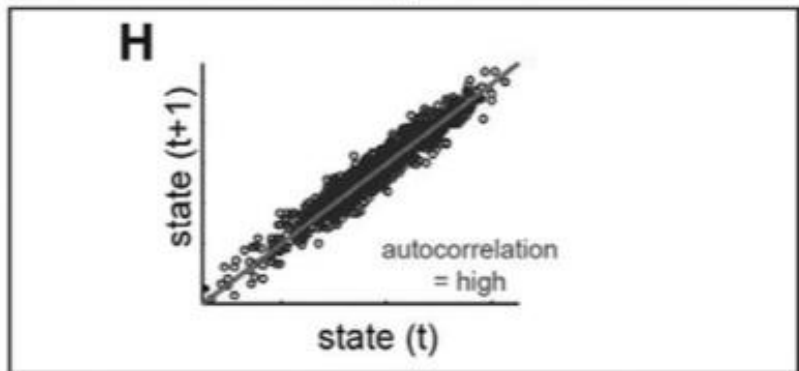
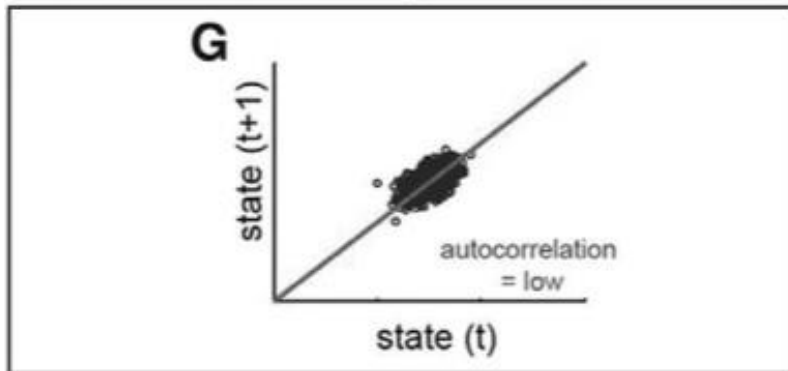
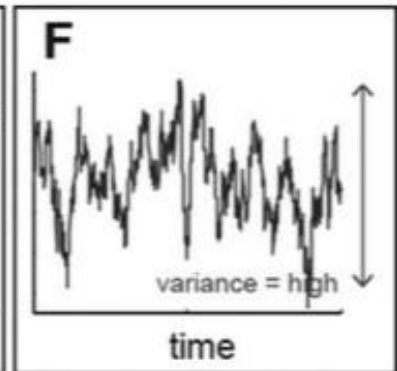
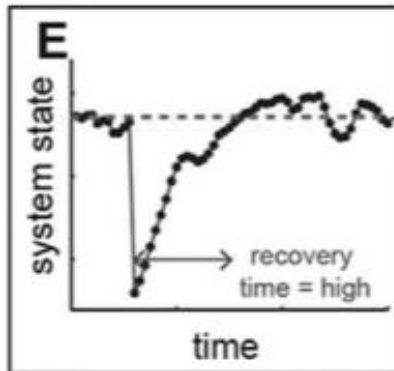
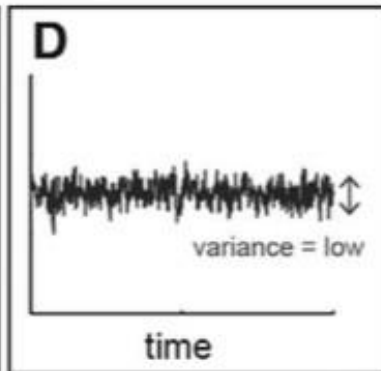
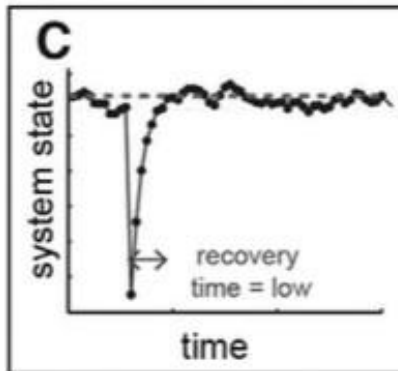
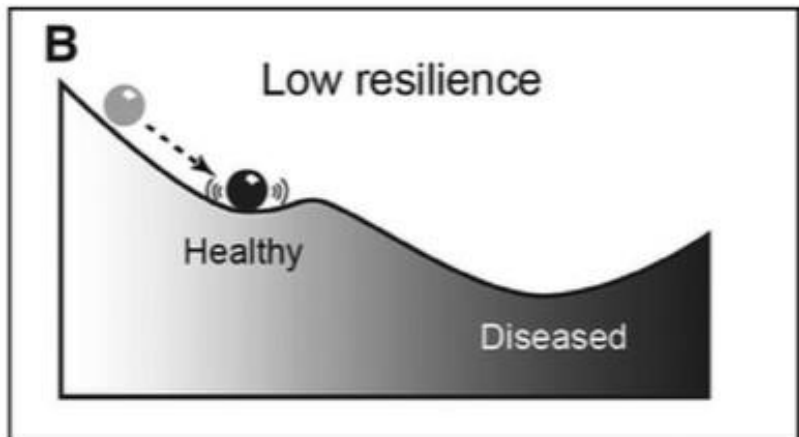
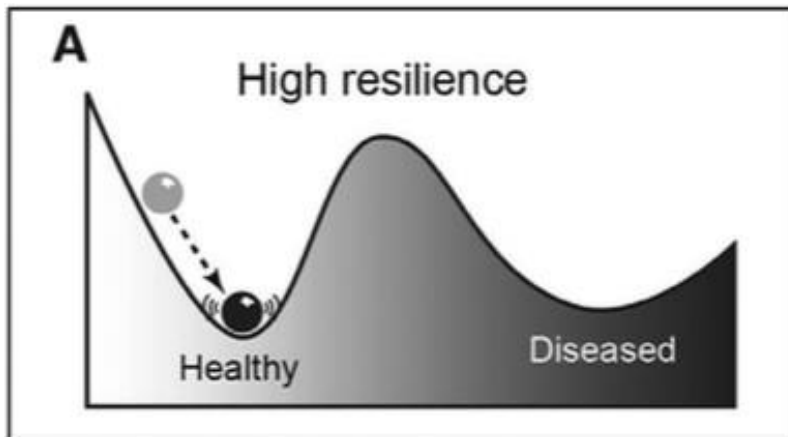
Whitson HE et al. *J Gerontol A Biol Sci Med Sci*. 2016;71:489-495

↑  
Stability, Energetic Efficiency, Redundancy

## Ideal, Optimal Health







**Robustness:** ability to resist deviation from original state  
*versus*  
**Resilience:** ability to recover after deviation



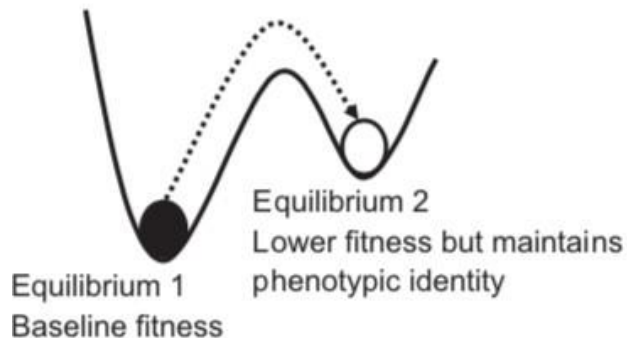
Stable System



Equilibrium 1      Equilibrium 2  
Baseline fitness    Same level of fitness

**A. HOMEOSTASIS / STABILITY**

**B. ROBUST**



Equilibrium 1  
Baseline fitness

Equilibrium 2  
Lower fitness but maintains  
phenotypic identity

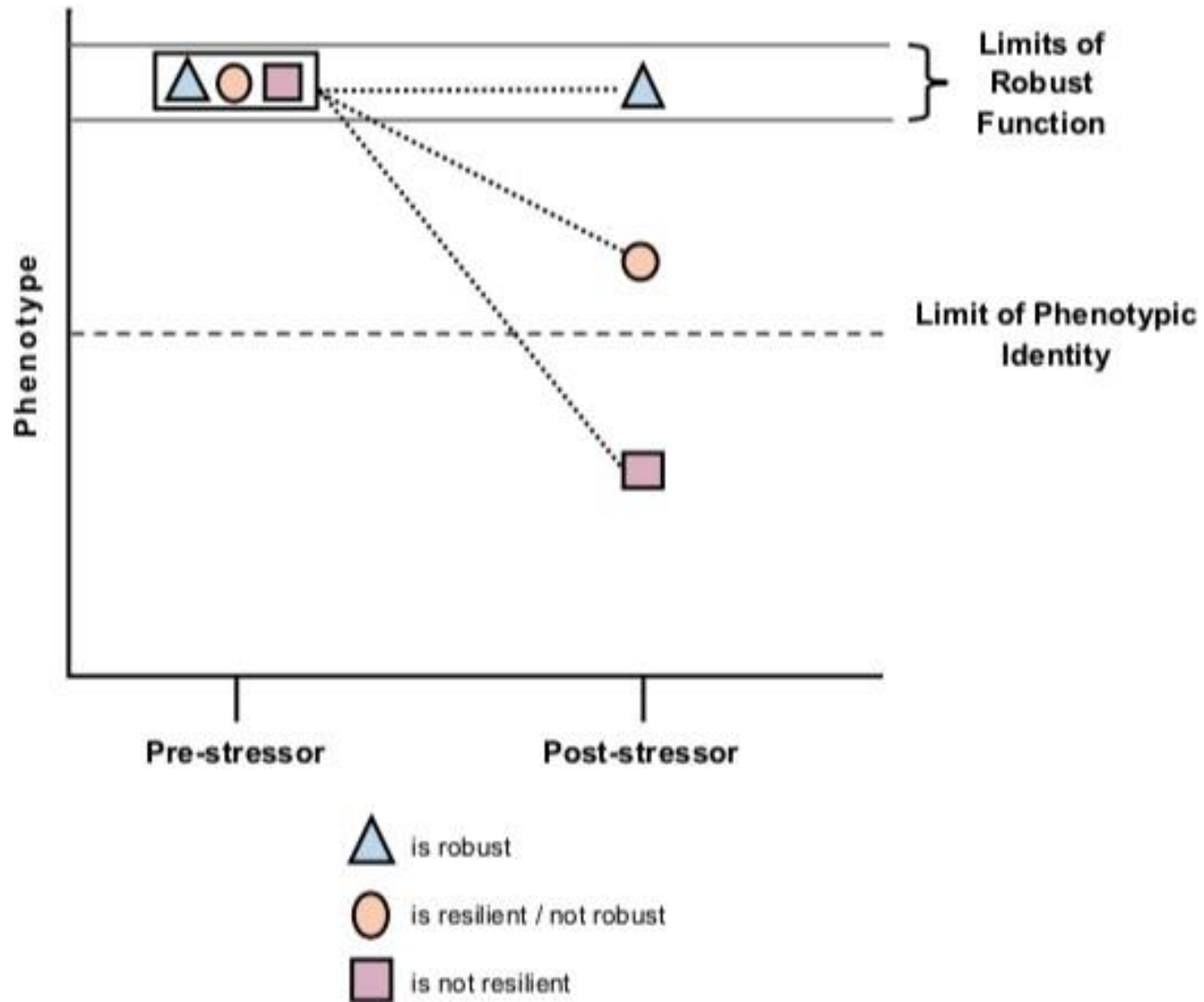
**C. RESILIENT / NOT ROBUST**



Equilibrium 1  
Baseline fitness

Equilibrium 2  
Significantly lower fitness and  
loss of phenotypic identity

**D. NOT RESILIENT**





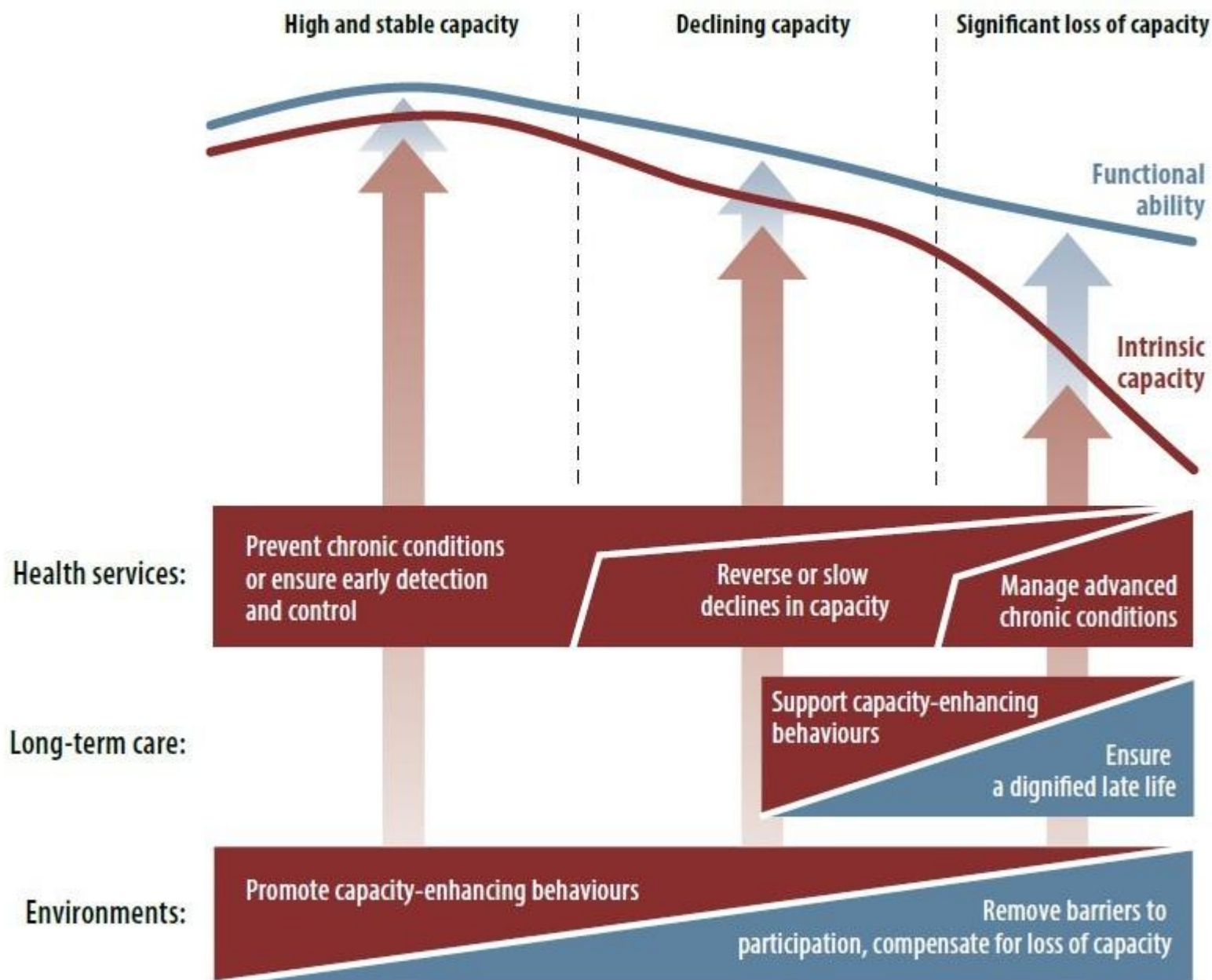
World Health  
Organization



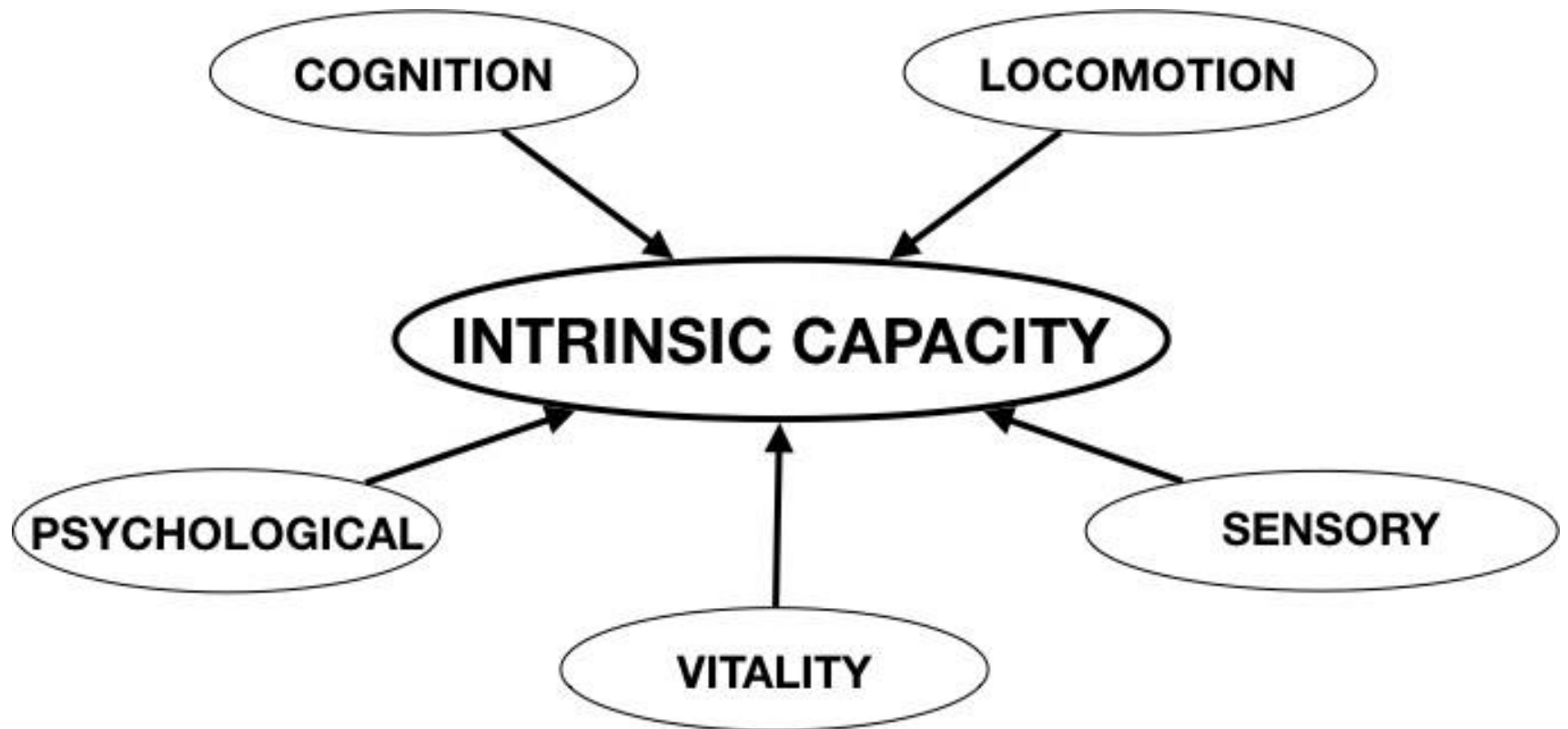
World Health  
Organization

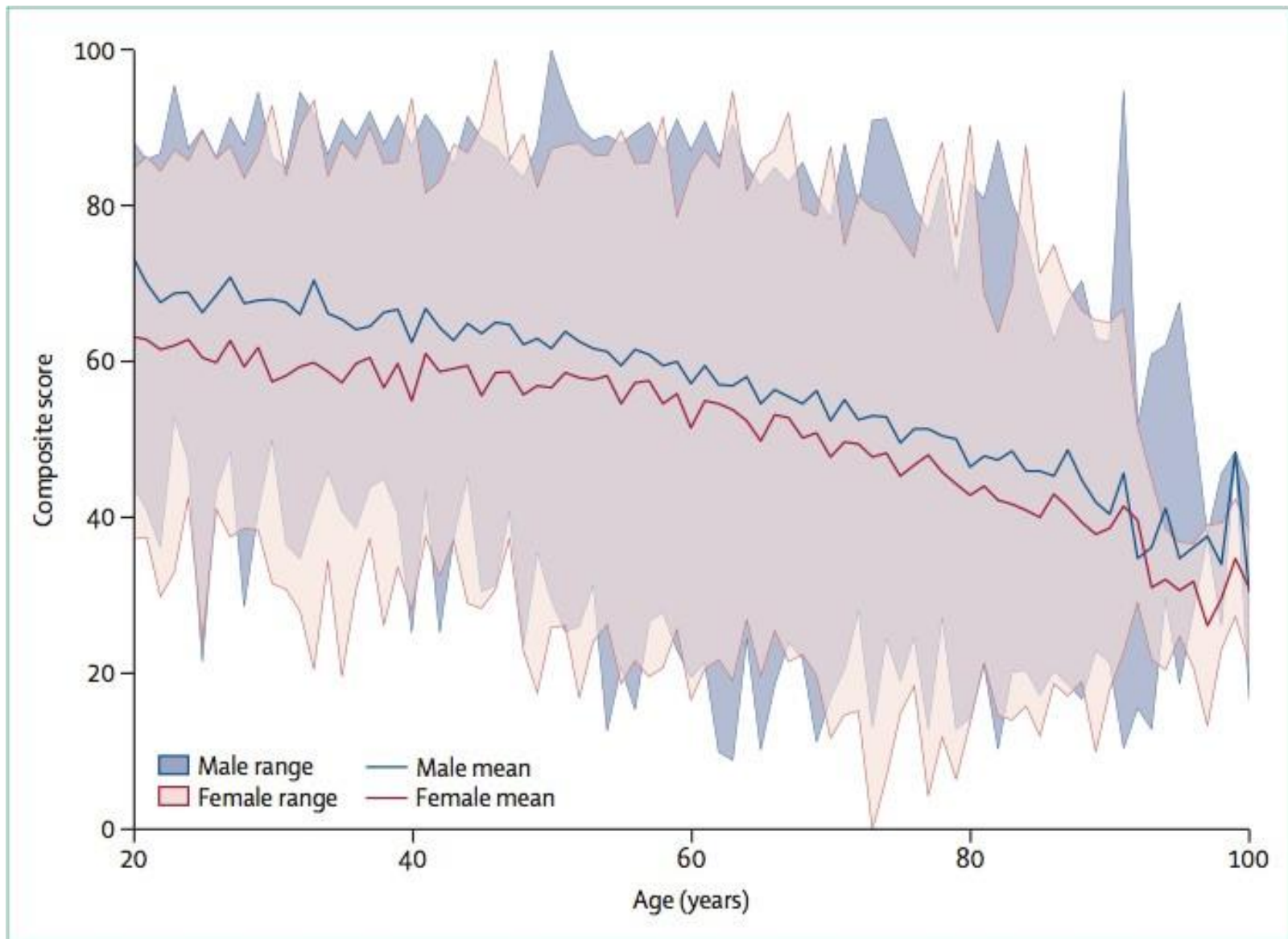
WORLD  
REPORT  
ON  
**AGEING  
AND  
HEALTH**

**Fig. 2.4.** A public-health framework for *Healthy Ageing*: opportunities for public-health action across the life course









**Figure 3: Range and mean intrinsic capacity of men and women in countries in the Study on global AGEing and adult health 2007–2010 (wave 1)<sup>42</sup>**

# Main differences between the frailty, resilience and intrinsic capacity constructs

Frailty (FI)	Resilience	Intrinsic capacity
Driven by deficits	Driven by adaptability	Driven by reserves
Negative value	Positive value	Positive value
Towards treatment	Towards prevention	Towards prevention
Clinical setting	Research	Community
Cross-sectional design	Dynamic design	Longitudinal design
Sometimes the defining criteria are not predefined	Criteria to be defined	Criteria predefined on the basis of a biological construct
Potentially including the environment	Including the environment	Excluding the environment
No normative data	No normative data	Possible nomograms

# Conclusions

Frailty, biological age, and resilience are all associated with negative health outcomes

Frailty is mainly designed for clinical use with the aim of serving as target for adapted geriatric interventions (versus traditional care)

Frailty is sometimes translated with “biological age” for overcoming the obsolete paradigm of chronological age

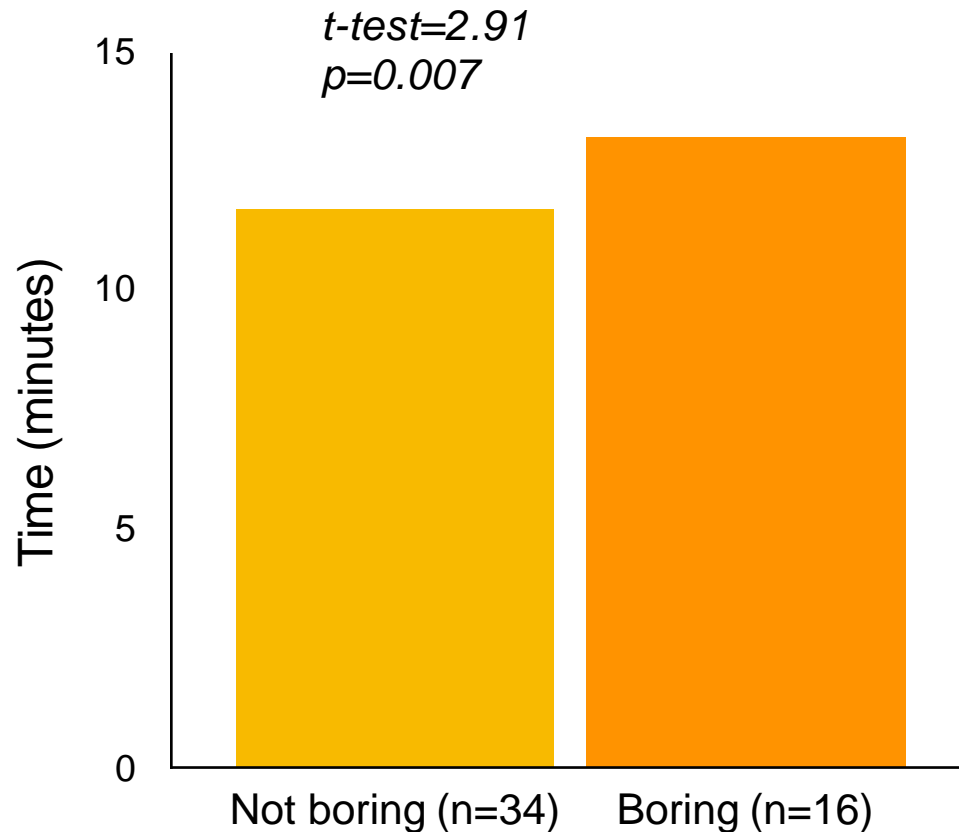
To date, resilience is largely confined to the research level. Its purpose is to provide a dynamic measure of the individual’s capacity of adapting to stressors

Intrinsic capacity is a promising construct for promoting healthy aging through the valorization of the person’s functions and reserves

All these constructs have been developed to overcome the barriers and limitations burdening the traditional medical approach

**Thank you!**

Matteo Cesari  
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 [@macesari](https://twitter.com/macesari)



**Boring speakers  
talk for longer**