

# Physiological mechanisms of horse's adaptation to effort

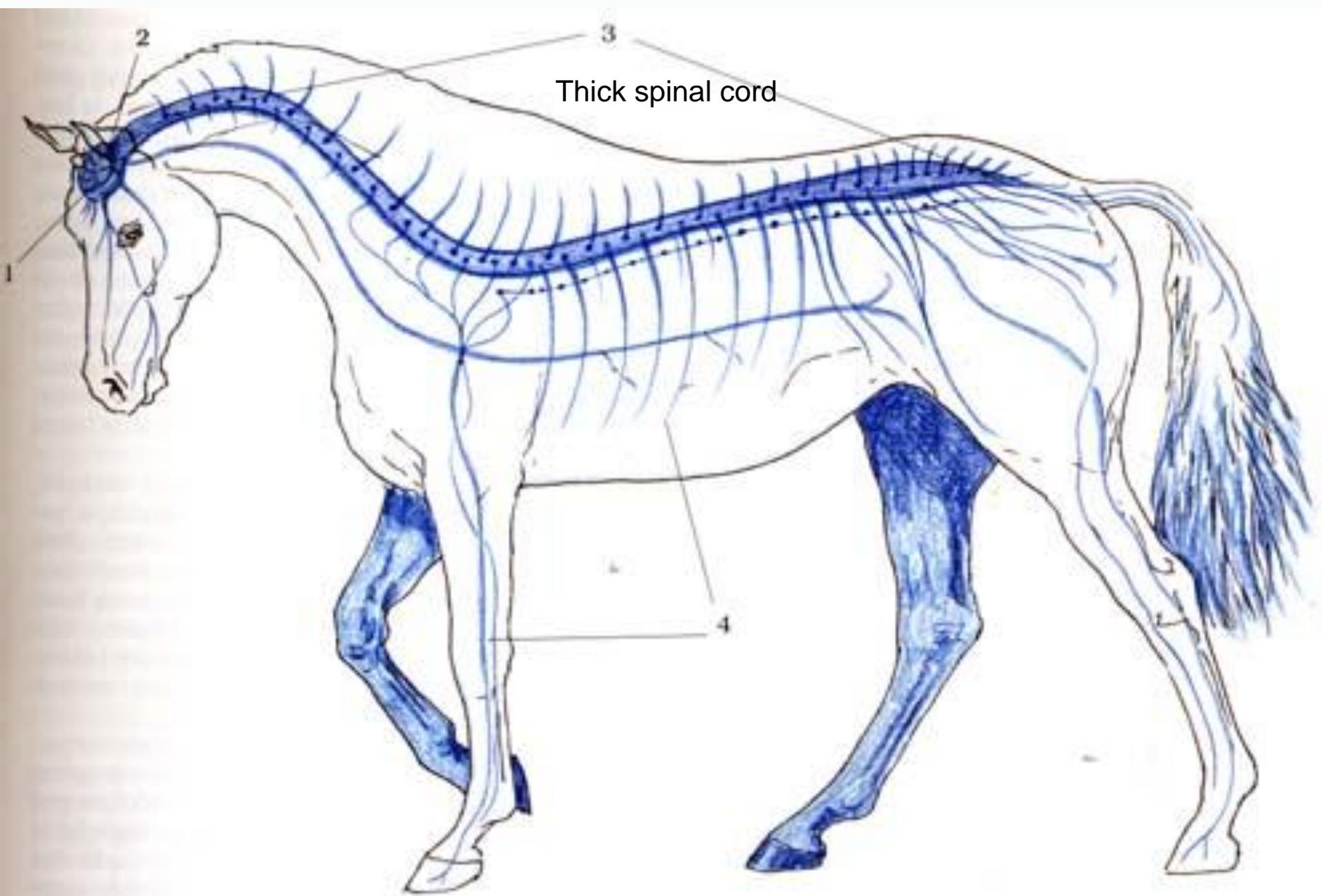
## *Exercise of a maximal intensity*



Respiration rate increases 10x (from 8-16 to 140/min.)

Heart rate goes up 8x (z 28-40 do 240)

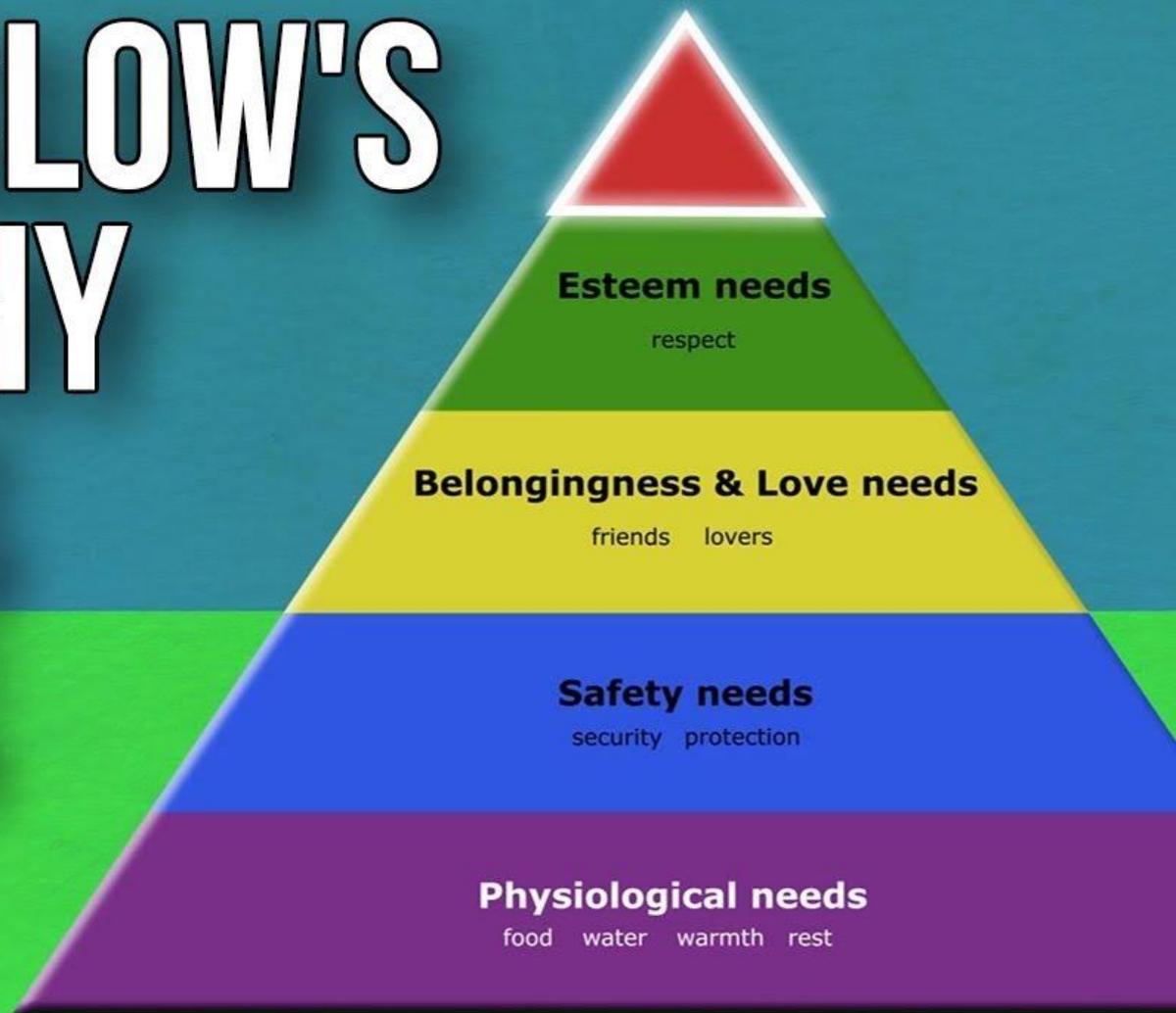
Oxygen consumption rises 30 – 35 times



Thick spinal cord

Układ nerwowy: 1 — mózg, 2 — mózdzek, 3 — rdzeń kręgowy, 4 — nerwy obwodowe

# WHY MASLOW'S HIERARCHY OF NEEDS MATTERS

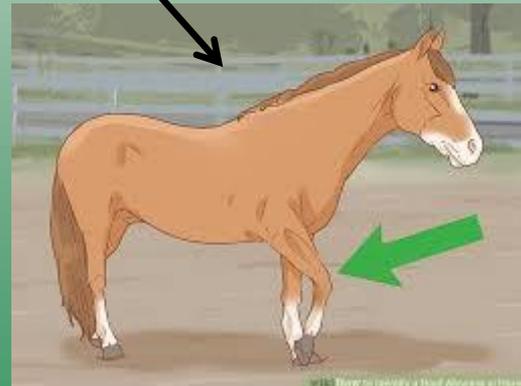
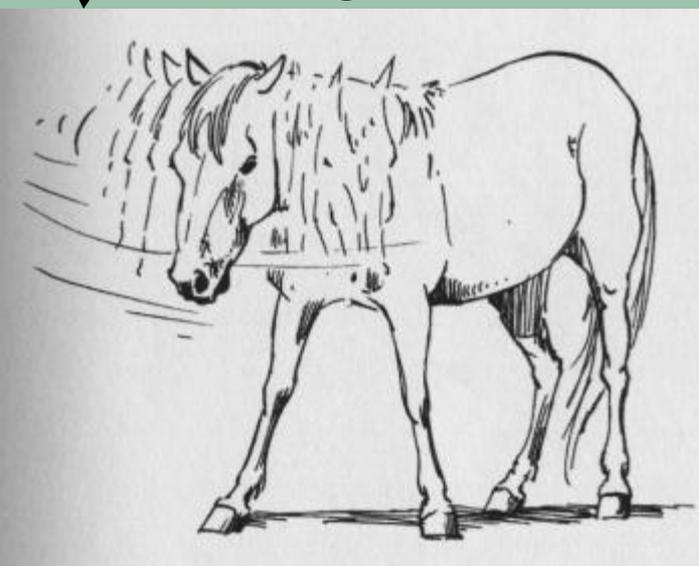
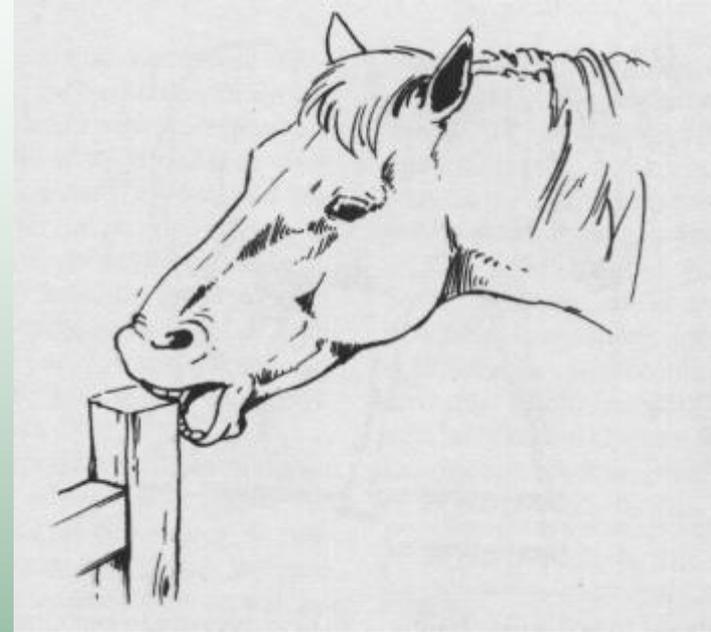


# Stress, frustration resulting from the inability to meet needs lead to behavioral disorders

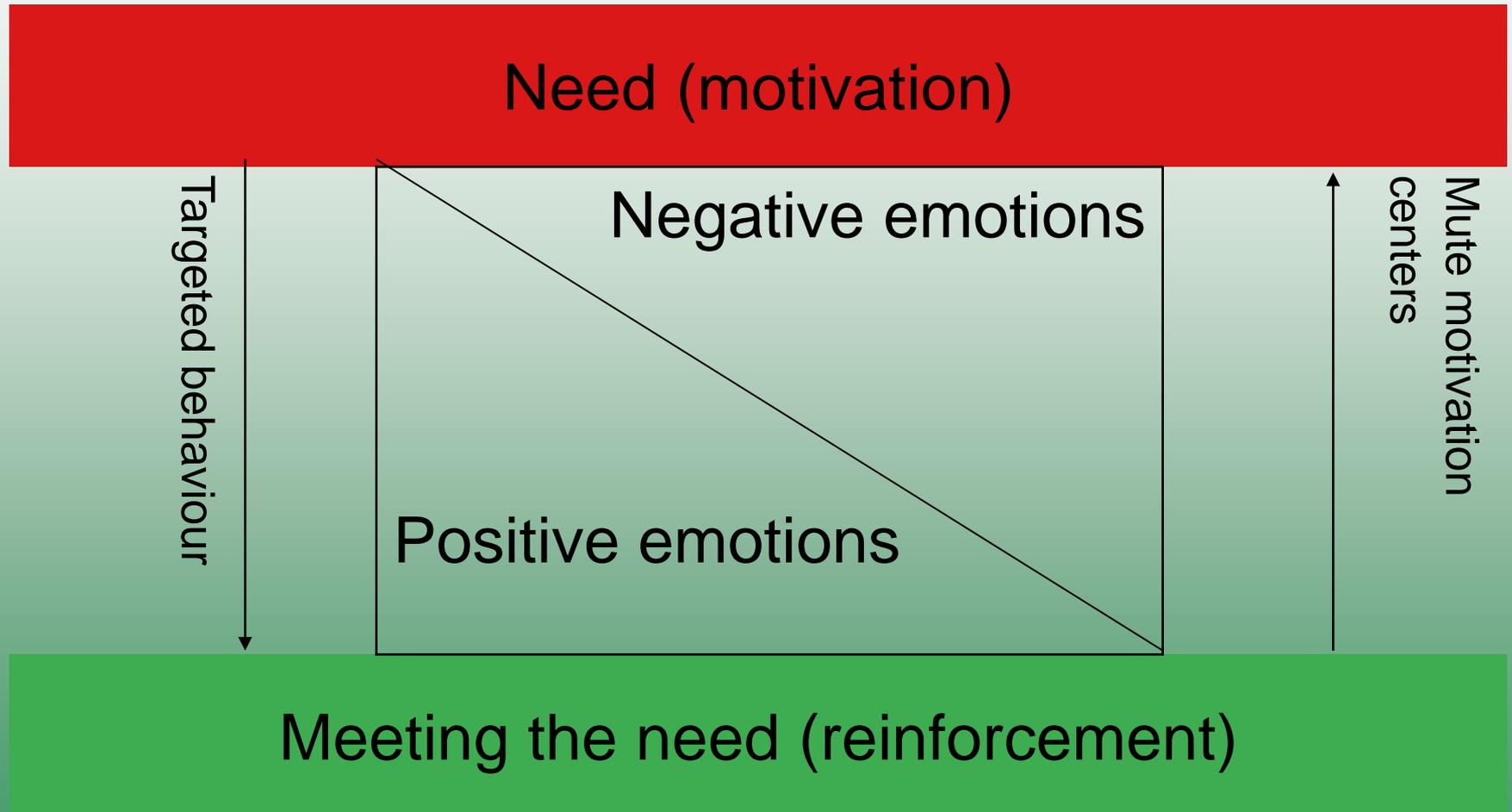
- Behavioral disorders (bad habits, harmful habits, stereotypies) are repetitive behaviors - lack an apparent goal or function
- **Crib biting** (cribbing, aerophagia) in horses is a compulsive repetitive behavioural disorder that's most common in equines that spend a lot of time stabled.
- When the horse cribs, it grasps a solid surface with their front teeth and pull back, contracting the neck muscles, swallows a gulp of air and emitting a characteristic grunting sound.
- Swallowed air dries out the mucous membranes of the esophagus and stomach which leads to esophageal and gastric ulcers and colics.
- **Cribbers** may exhibit weight loss, overall poor condition, abnormal muscling in the neck, and excessive wear on the teeth.
- A number of causes for cribbing have been proposed and studied, but to date there are no definitive answers. It is likely that multiple factors are responsible for the behavior.

# Abnormal behaviour (bad habits) - stereotypies

- crib biting →
- weaving
- hitting one foreleg against the ground
- head shaking
- biting and/or kicking

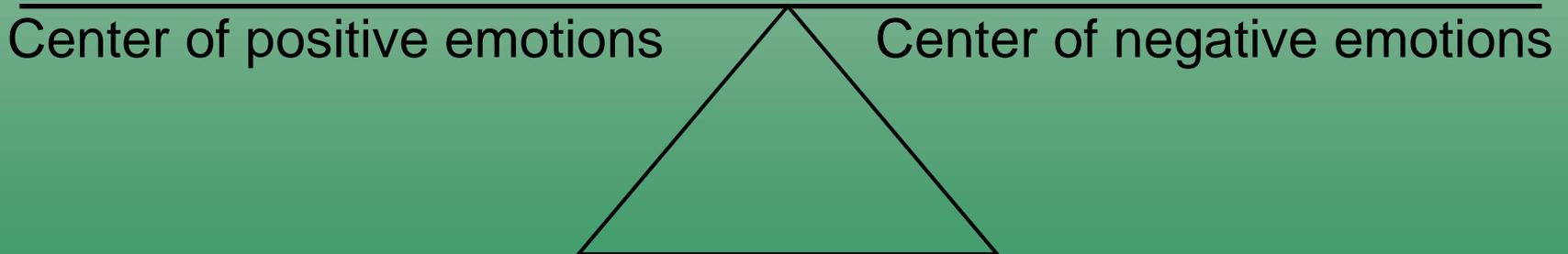
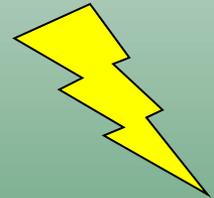


# Behaviour regulation mechanism



# Emotions – an important adaptive feature

- caused by an imbalance between the body and the environment
- are used to assess a given situation (stimulus)
- direct behaviour
- Facilitate the assessment of the purposefulness of the action taken (e.g. escape)



# Chance of reinforcement postponed

- already taking action to gain reinforcement causes pleasant feelings
- „vision of the future”
- effort without a vision of positive reinforcements is annoying and depletes the body's strength

# Vision of reinforcement

- the body's needs are revealed depending on its internal state and environmental conditions



- animal behavior is guided by predictions of success based on innate responses and acquired experience

# Severity of weakening reactions

Distribution of reinforcements:

- systematic – brings a quick but short-term effect
- sporadic – used less and less often, more delicate reinforcements, which strengthens learned behaviors

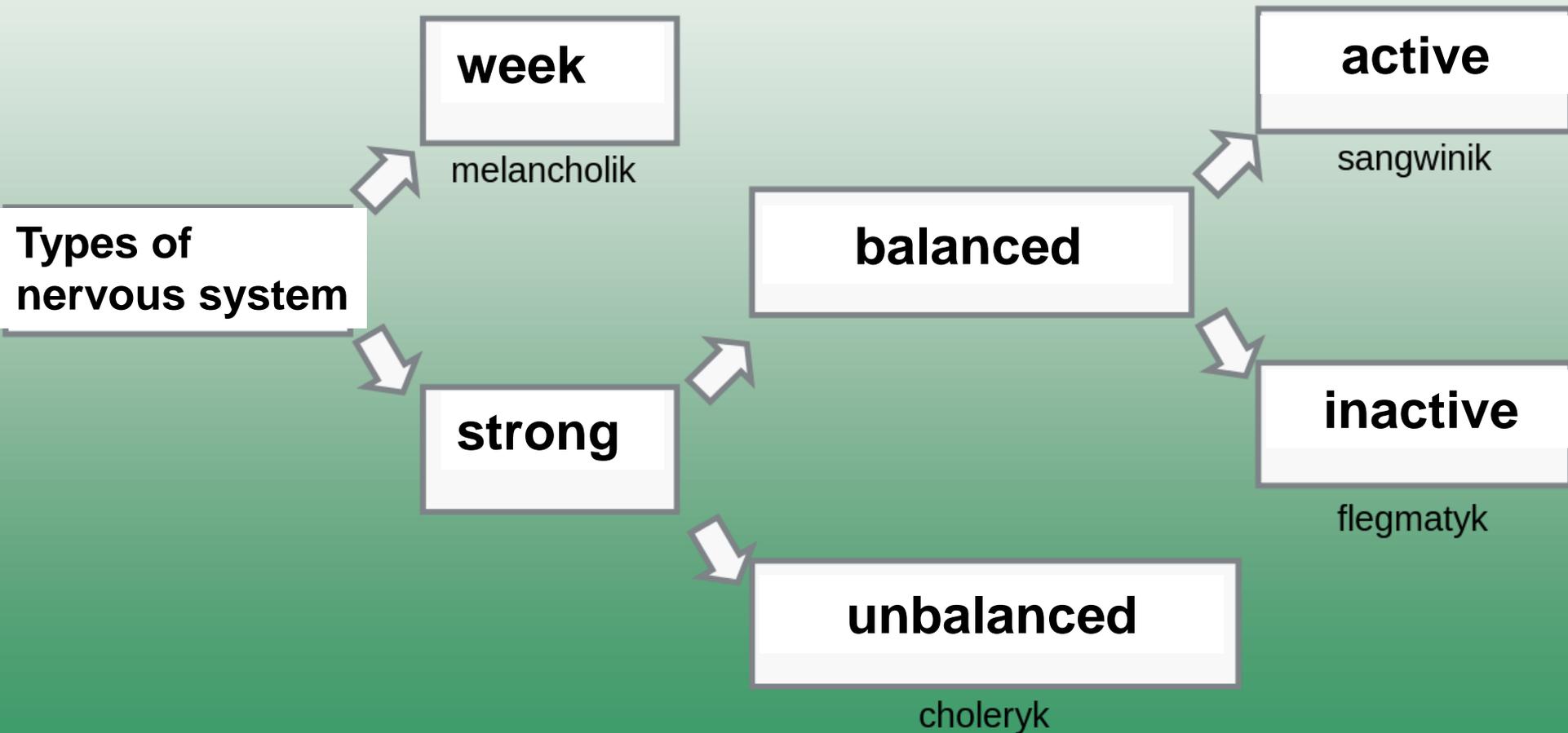


# Psychology of individual horse behaviour



Temperament – innate pattern of the work of the nervous system

## Types of temperament



# Character

Character is a relatively durable but new quality in behaviour

- is shaped based on the innate properties of the nervous system (temperament)
- results from the acquired experience, sensations and impressions
- Positive features of the horse's character: courage, diligence, trust, obedience
- Side effects: distrust, timidity, malice, laziness

# Value in use of horses and their temperament

Among draft horses – **no** with weak or unbalanced temperament



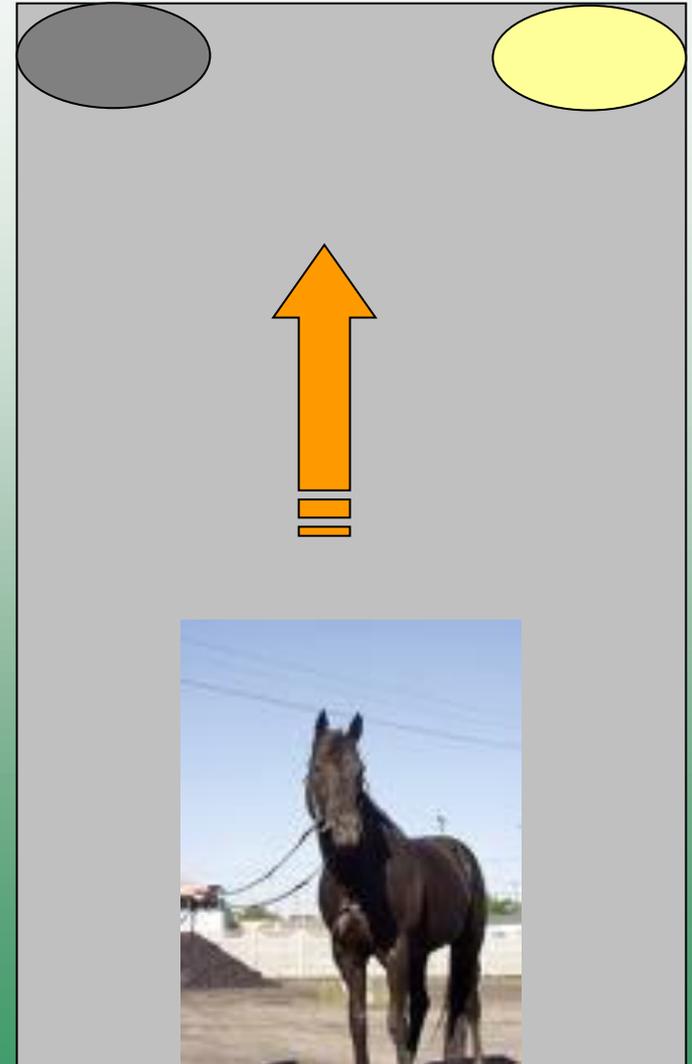
70% sanguines  
30% phlegmatic and choleric

>30% sanguine  
>30% choleric



# Method for determining the temperament traits of horses

- 1st day – feeding 3-4x
- 2nd day – repetition
- 3rd day – change of cribs
  - sanguine –orientation reaction
  - phlegmatic – response is slow and sluggish
  - choleric – rearing, neighing
- 4th day – 2 x change of cribs
- 5th day – oats in bucket + bell



## Prawdziwa więź z koniem

System TTouch



Linda Tellington-Jones

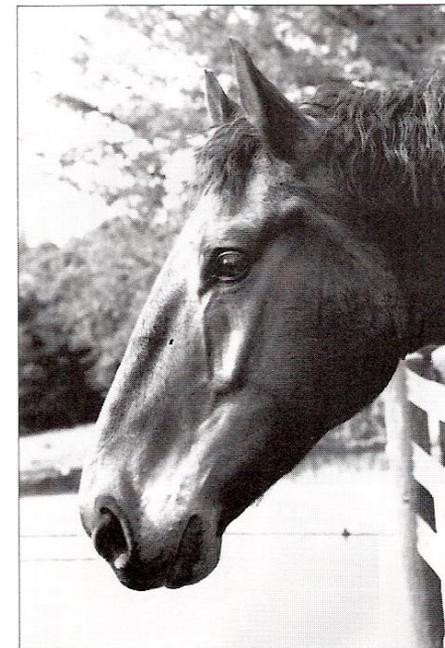
GALAKTYKA

10

3. *Dziwne zgrubienie poniżej oczu:  
Zazwyczaj wskazuje na dziwne  
i trudne do przewidzenia zachowanie.  
Strome chrapy i średniej wielkości ganasze:  
Przeciętna inteligencja.*
4. *Odrobinę szczupacza głowa w połączeniu  
z długim, pełnym nosem, dużymi ganaszka-  
mi i delikatnymi chrapami:  
Wysoka inteligencja.*
5. *Prosty profil, duże ganasze:  
Pewny siebie.*
6. *Rzadko spotykany profil, czoło bardzo  
strome w kierunku potylicy. Duże ganasze.  
Strome chrapy:  
Potencjalnie oporny i uparty.*

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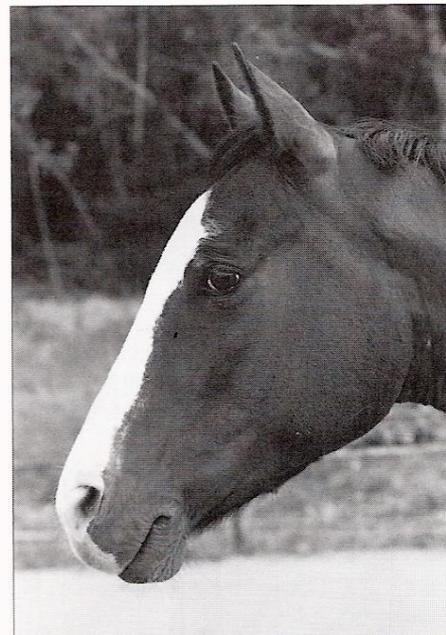
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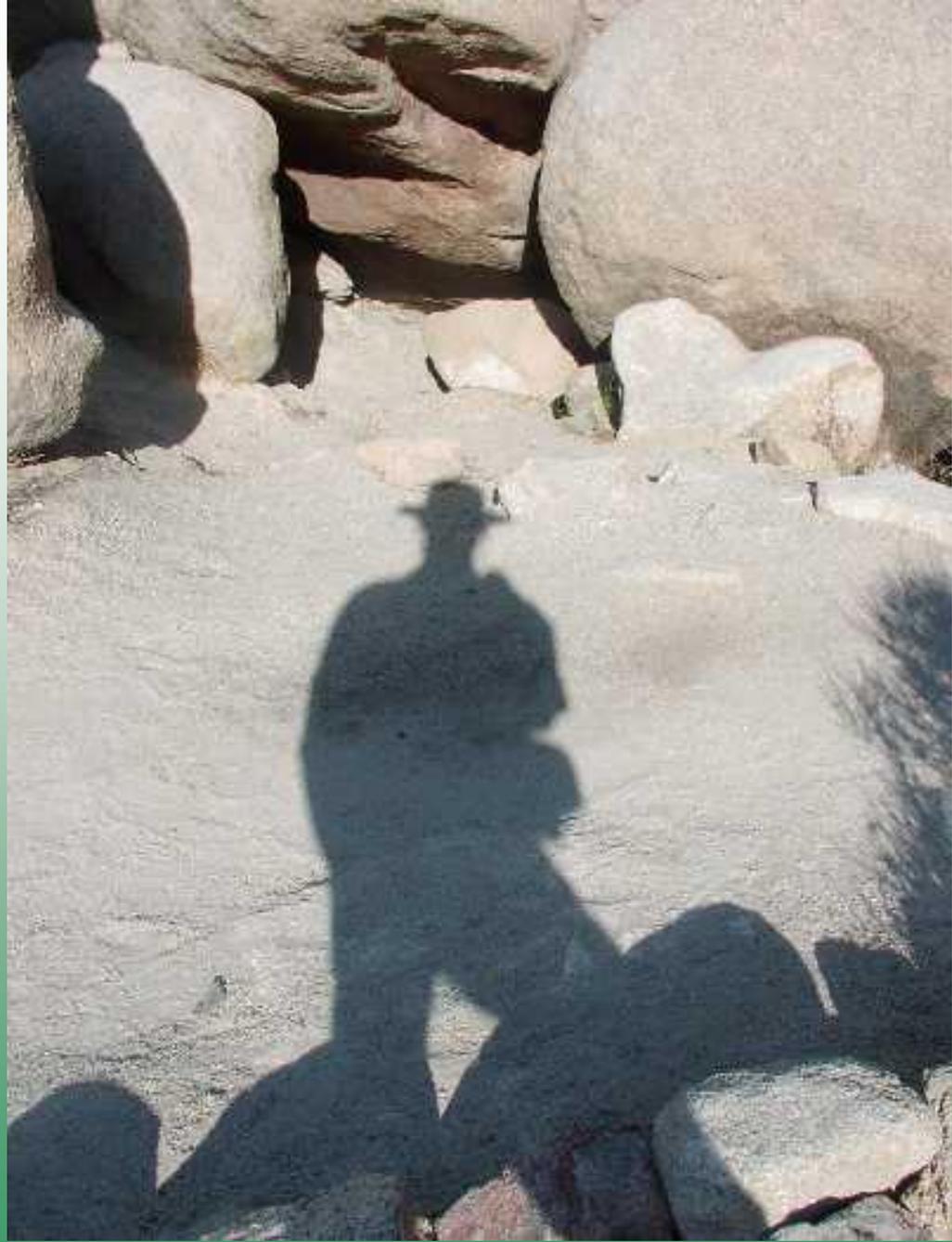
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# Join-up method of Monty Roberts







Man gives me  
food and drink - he  
is my god!

Man gives me  
food and drink  
- I think I'm a  
god!



# Emotions and the activity of adrenergic nervous system

- Psychosomatic reactions

*„my heart beat out of joy”*

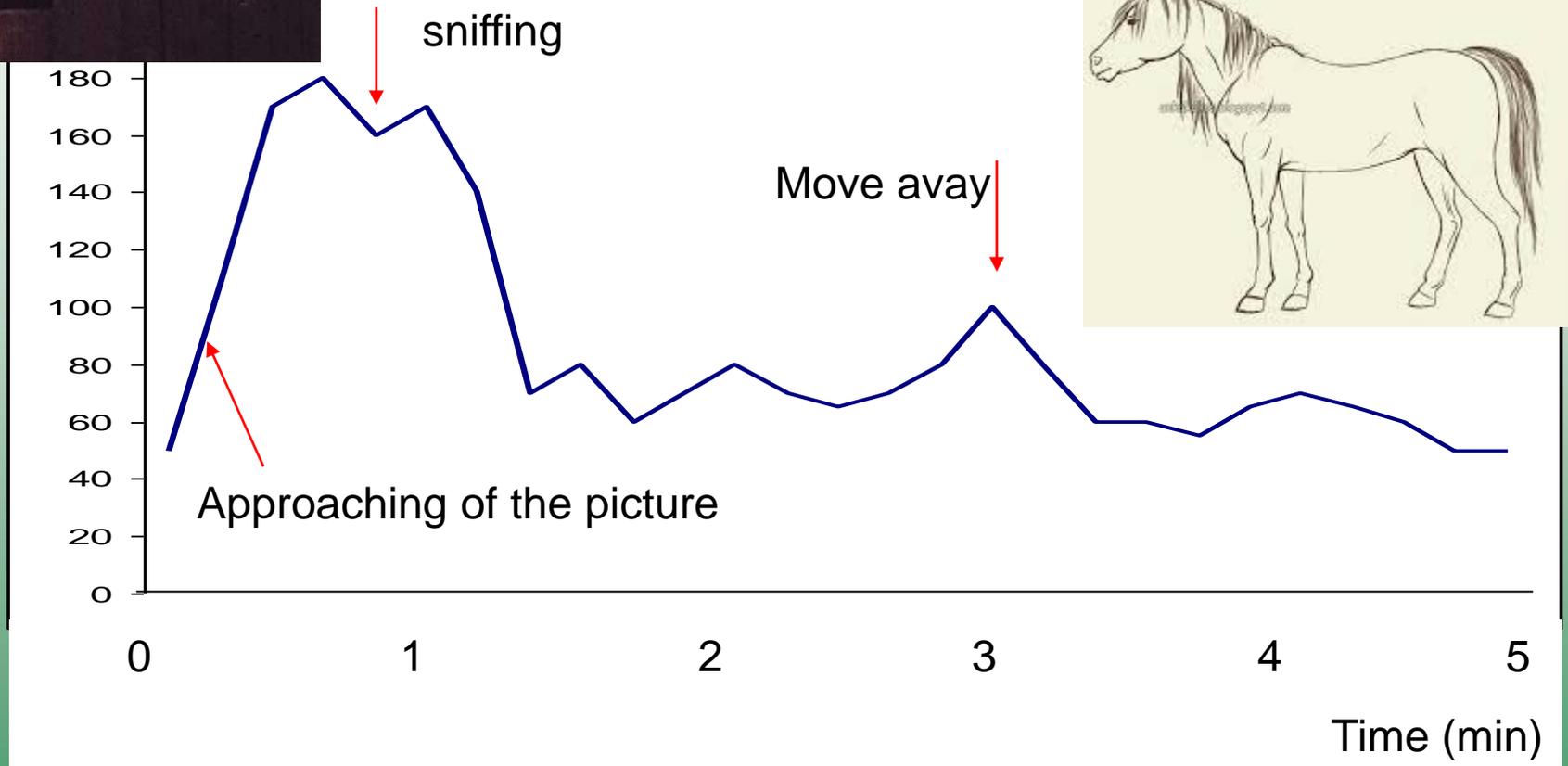
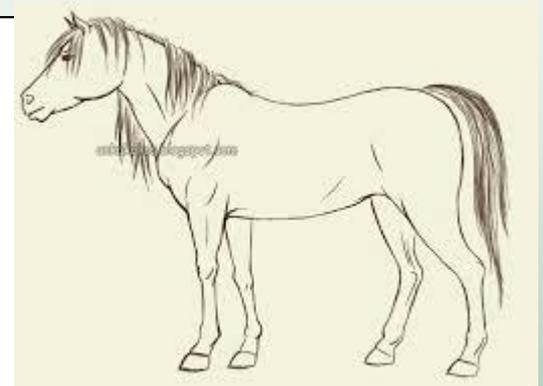
*„to sweat with fear”*

- Heart and breath rates increases in response to novelty
- Pre-competition fever
- „proud” attitude of the dressage horse

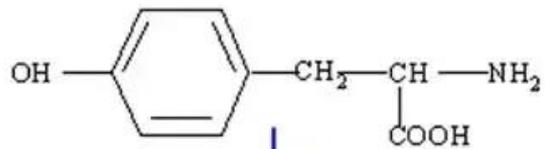




# Heart rate in a horse which see a horse drawing

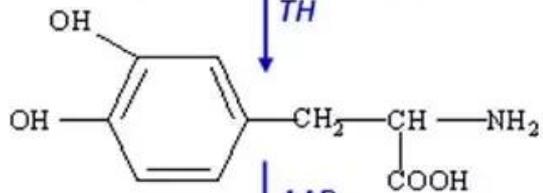


Tyrosine



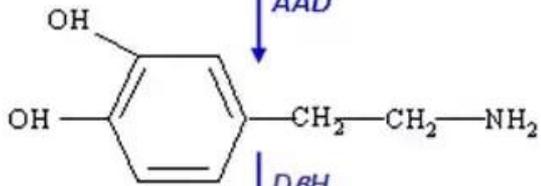
↓ TH

DOPA



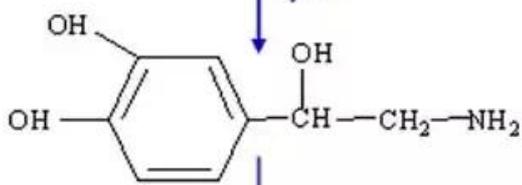
↓ AAD

Dopamine



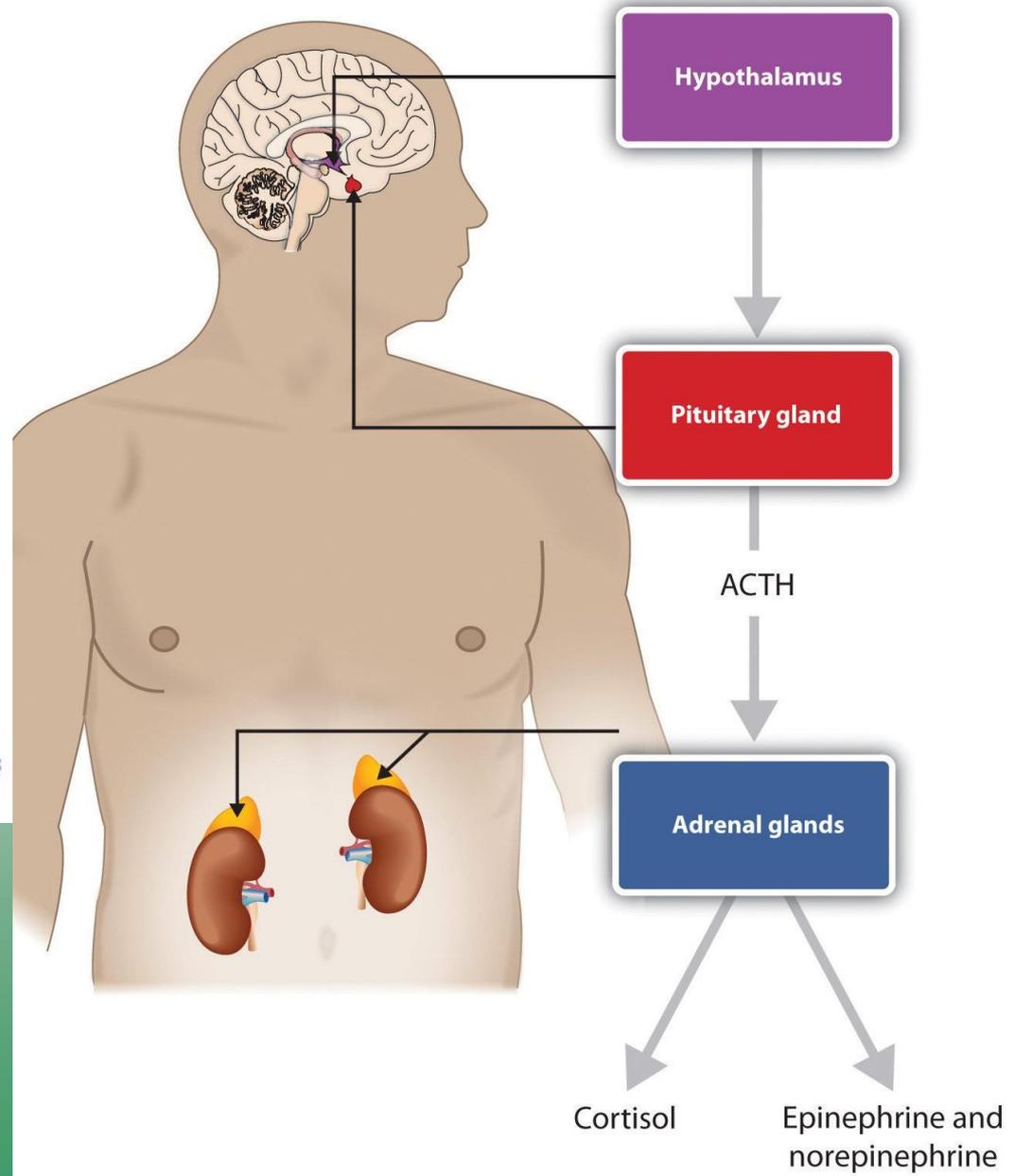
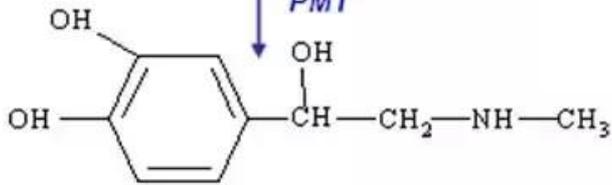
↓ DβH

Noradrenaline

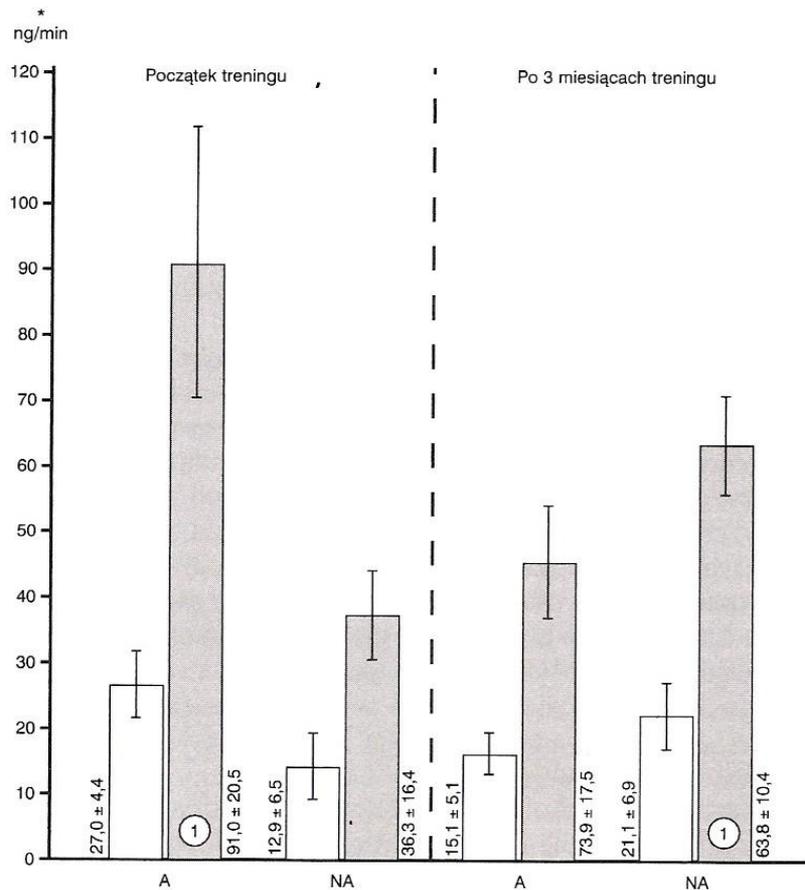


↓ PMT

Adrenaline



# The amount of released catecholamines depends on the performance



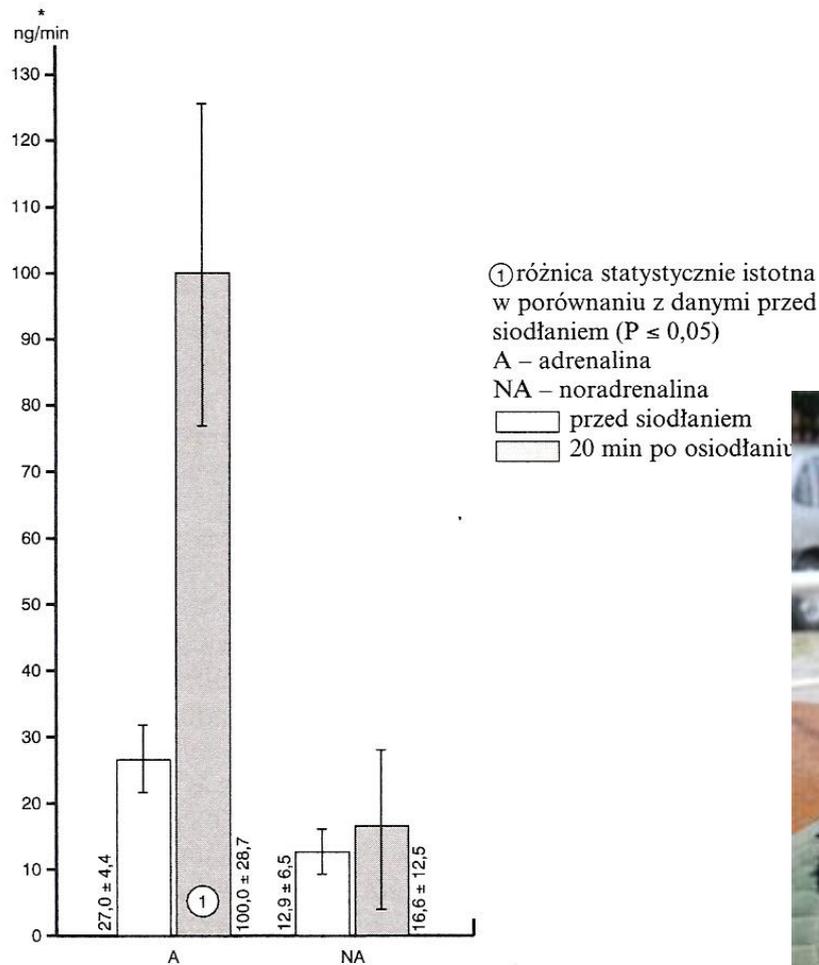
① różnica statystycznie istotna w porównaniu z danymi przed wysiłkiem ( $P \leq 0,05$ )

A – adrenalina                      □ przed wysiłkiem  
NA – noradrenalina                □ po wysiłku

\*ng/10<sup>9</sup>/min (wydalanie katecholamin w moczu)

Praca treningowa w pierwszym i drugim badaniu była jednakowa i wyglądała następująco: 800 m kłusa, 1000 m galopu – tempo ok. 500 m/min, 15 minut stopa

# Just saddling induces a sharp increase in catecholamines level



① różnica statystycznie istotna w porównaniu z danymi przed siodłaniem ( $P \leq 0,05$ )  
A – adrenalina  
NA – noradrenalina  
□ przed siodłaniem  
■ 20 min po osiódłaniu



Rys. 4. Wpływ siodłania na wydalenie katecholamin

