

# Xeroderma Pigmentosum and the XPA gene



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May 6, 2014

# What is Xeroderma Pigmentosum (XP)?



Extreme sensitivity  
to UV light

*Symptoms:*

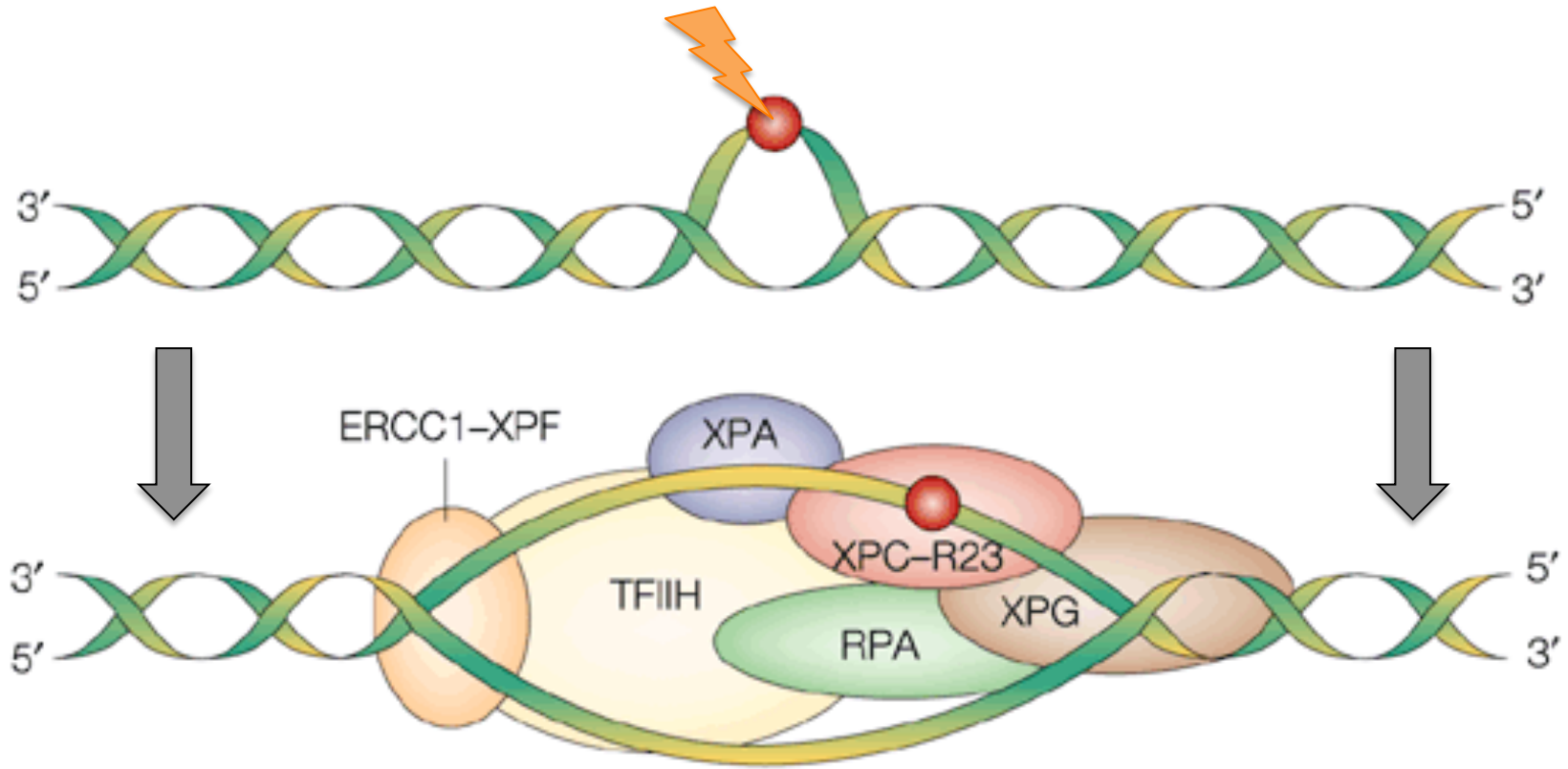
Distinct freckle-like spots  
Severe blistering and burning  
Photophobia and eye damage  
Cancerous/noncancerous growths  
Neurological defects



# Why is XP a public health concern?



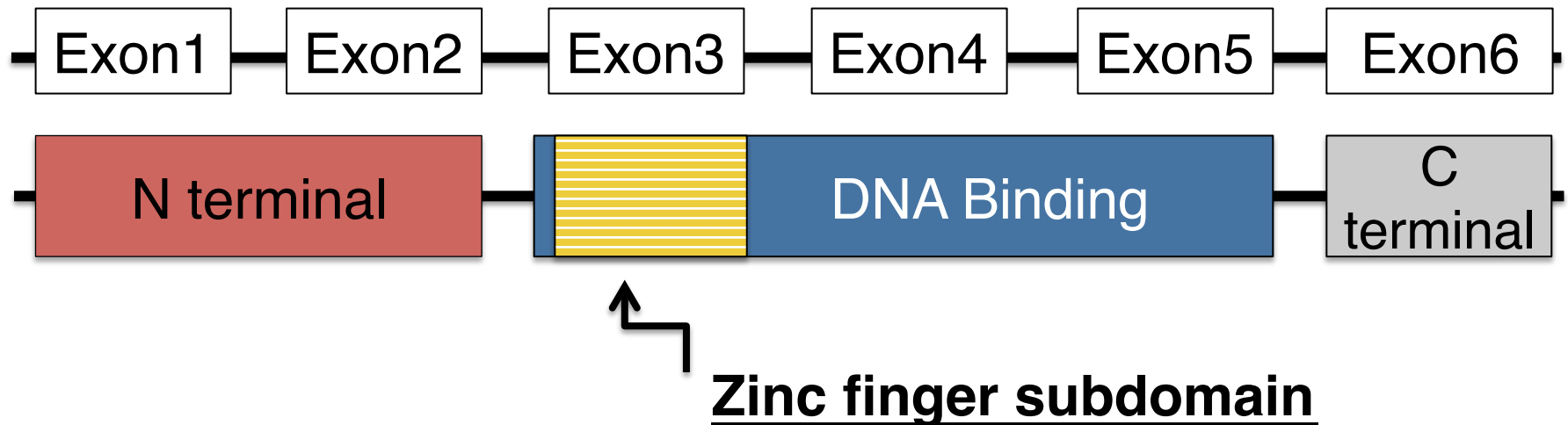
# Nucleotide Excision Repair (NER) is mutated in XP patients



Mutations in **XPA** cause XP

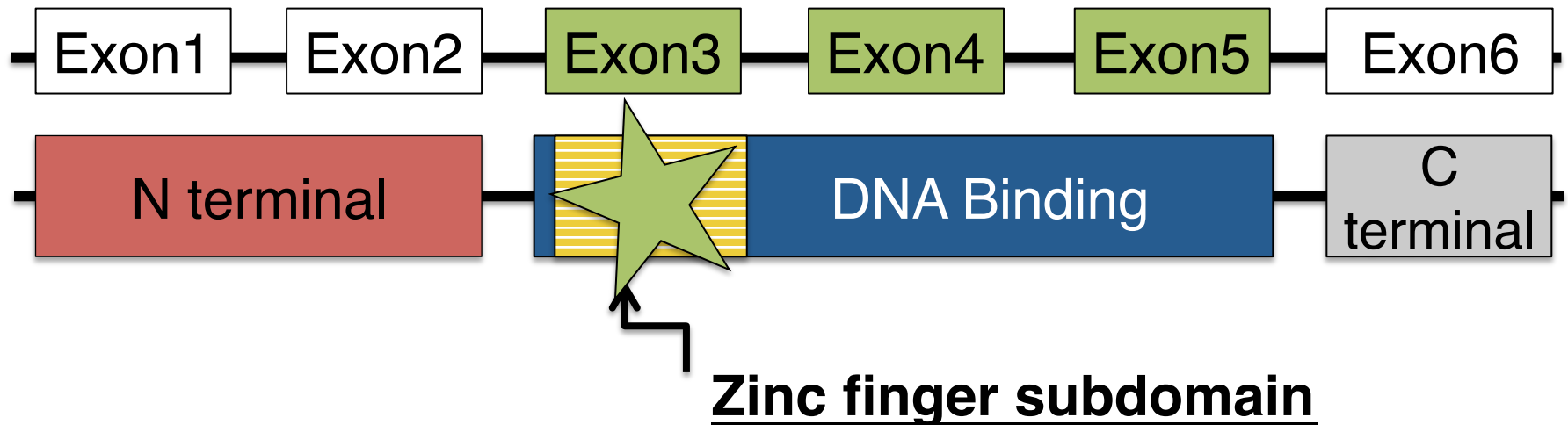
Transcription of downstream proteins affected

# What is the structure of XPA?



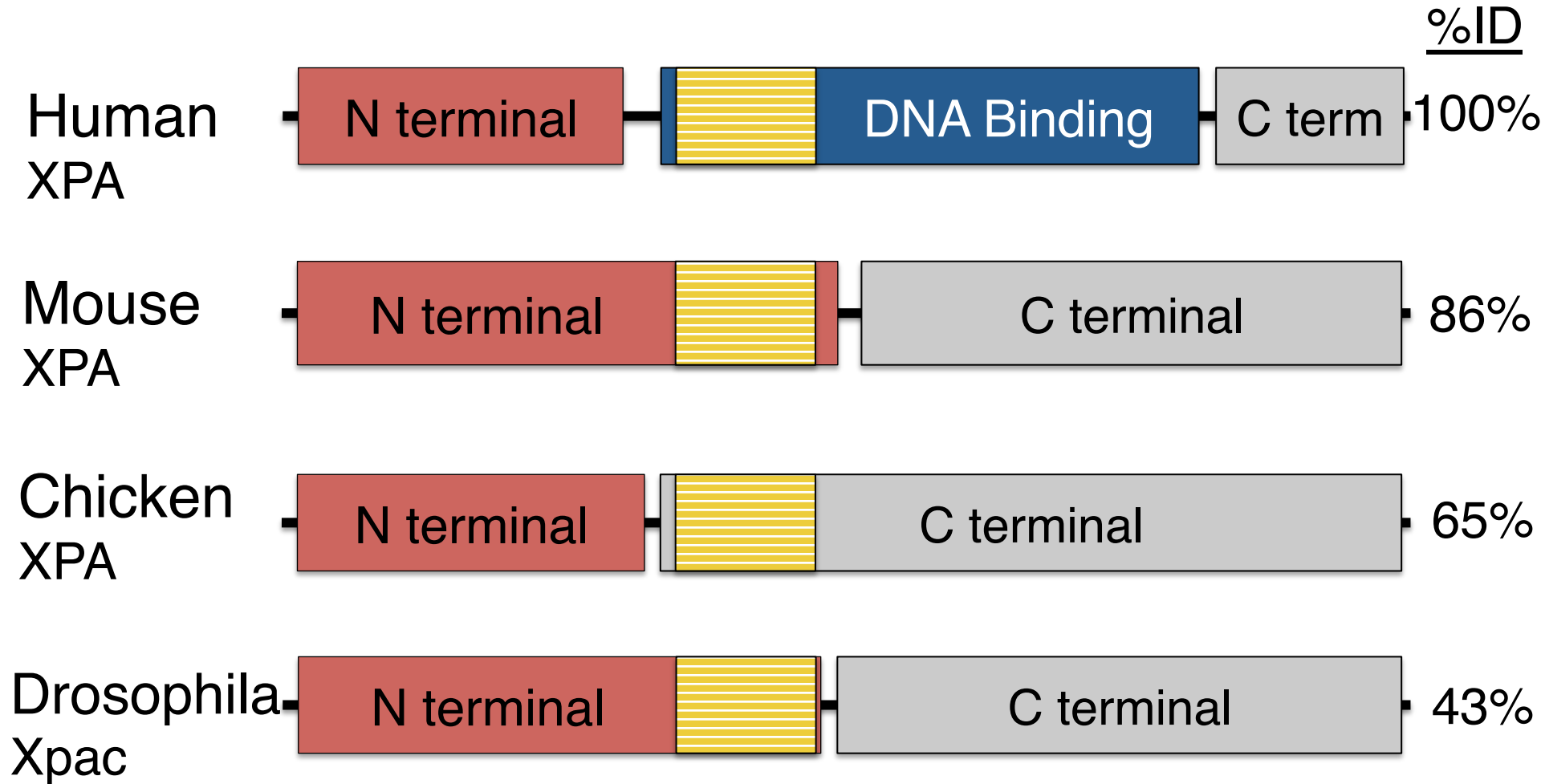
Bartels & Lambert, 2007

# What is the structure of XPA?

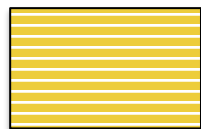


The most detrimental mutations occur in exons 3, 4, and 5

# XPA is well conserved



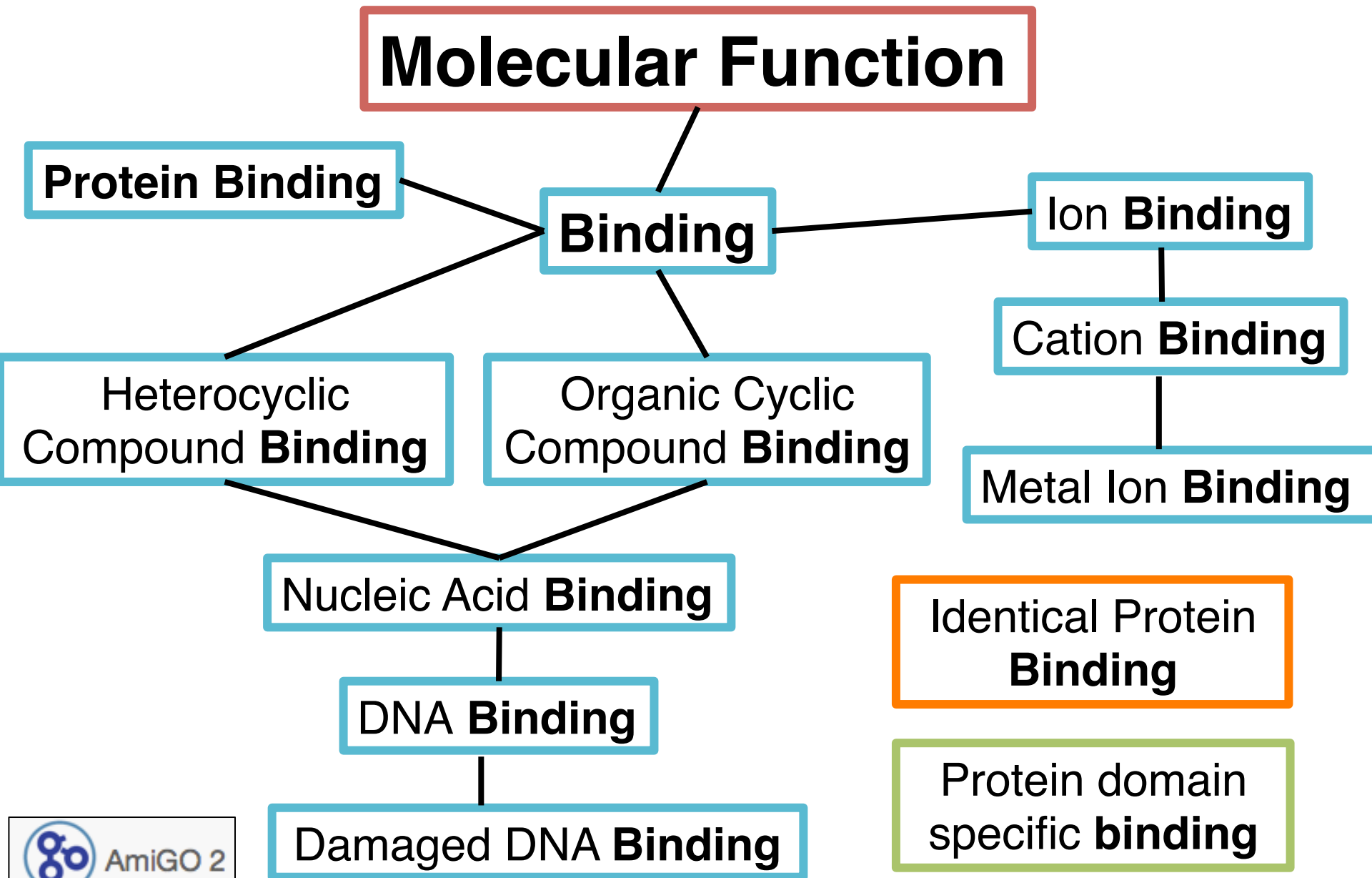
HomoloGene,  
InterPro, & BLAST



= Zinc finger subdomain

Shimamoto et al, 1991

# How does XPA function?





Are there compounds that inhibit  
**XPA** binding?



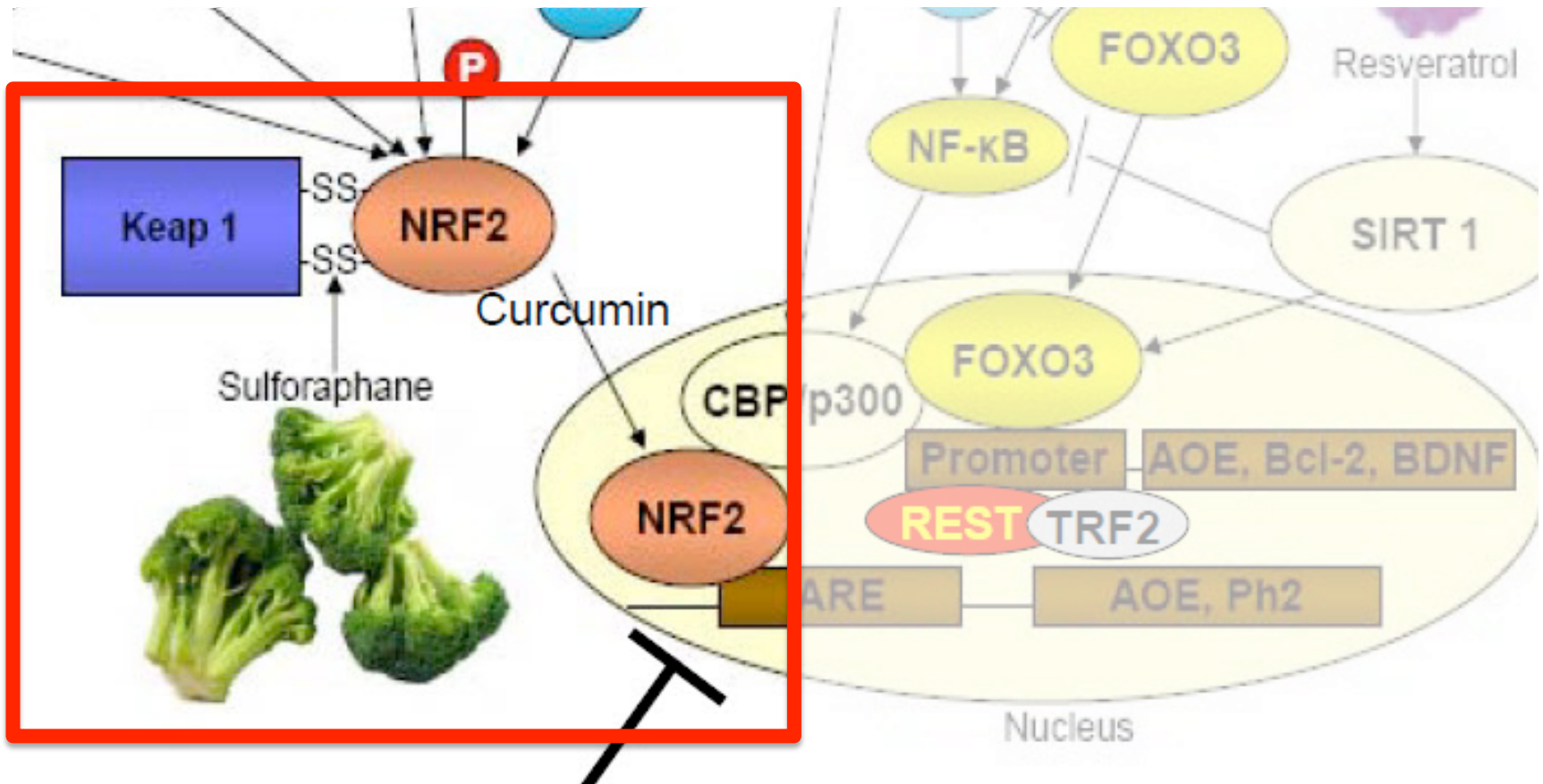
**Sulforaphane**

PubMed.gov

PubChem

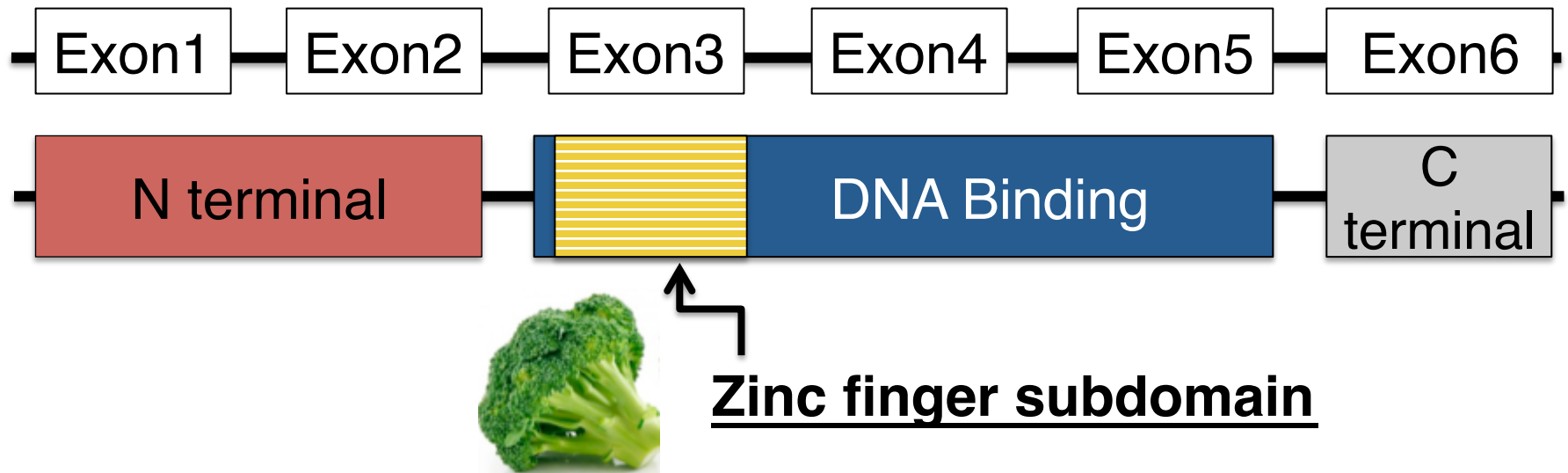
<http://www.dailyperricone.com/2011/02/start-fresh-sulforaphane/>

# What is sulforaphane's function?



## Oxidative stress response

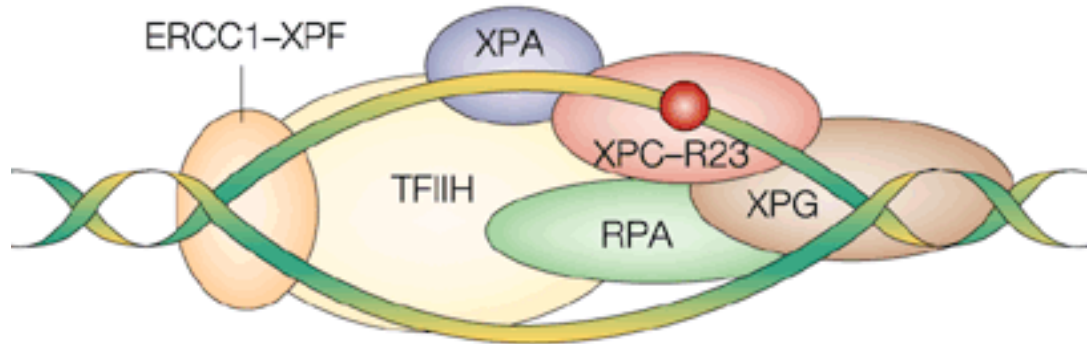
# How does **sulforaphane** inhibit **XPA**?



**Sulforaphane** removes zinc

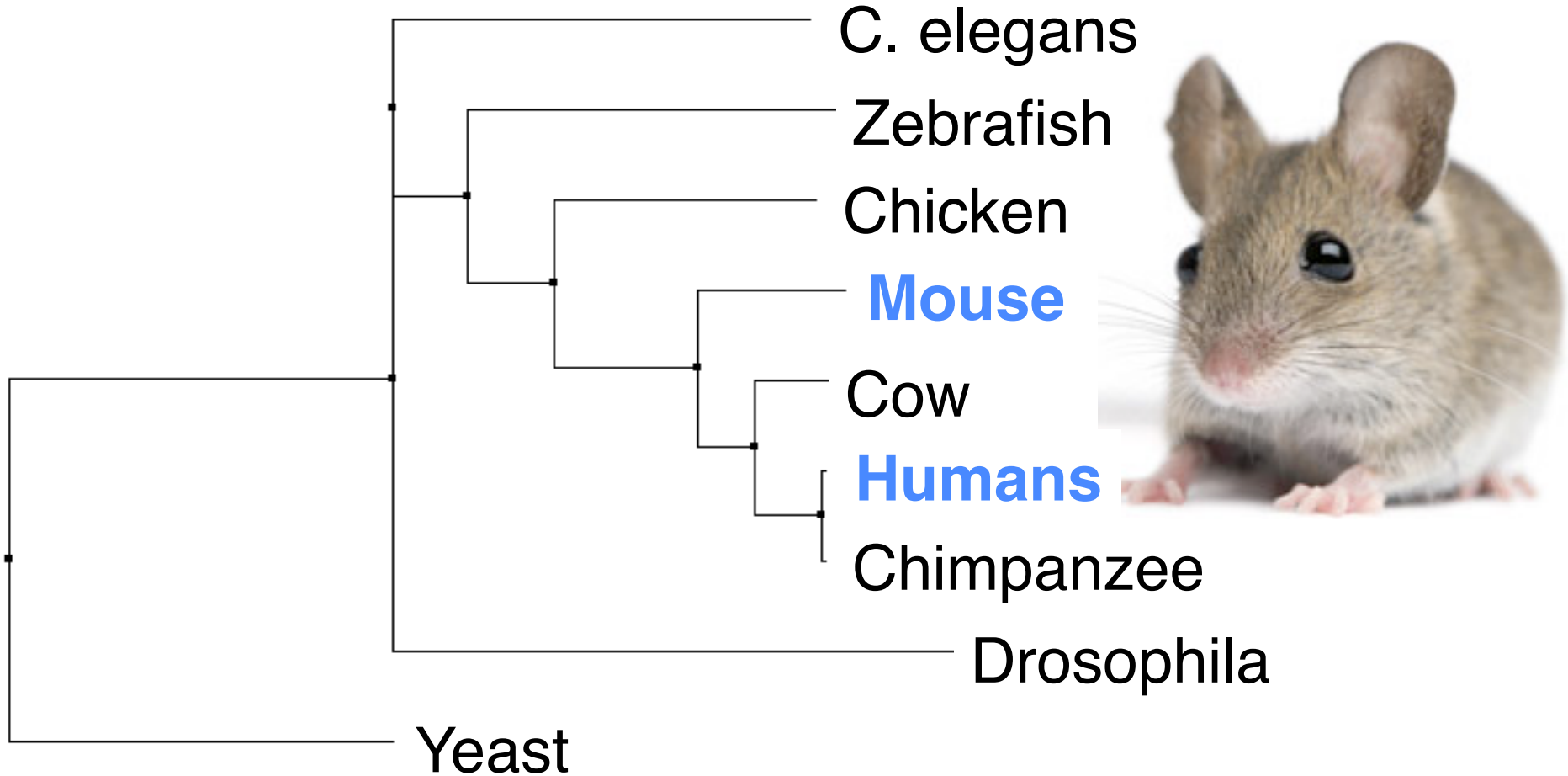
Piberger, Köberle,  
& Hartwig (2014)

Goal: Does the inhibition of **XPA** by **sulforaphane** affect other DNA repair processes?



Hypothesis: **Sulforaphane** will alter binding ability, transcription, and protein expression

# Mouse is best model organism to study XPA



Humans and mouse are closely related

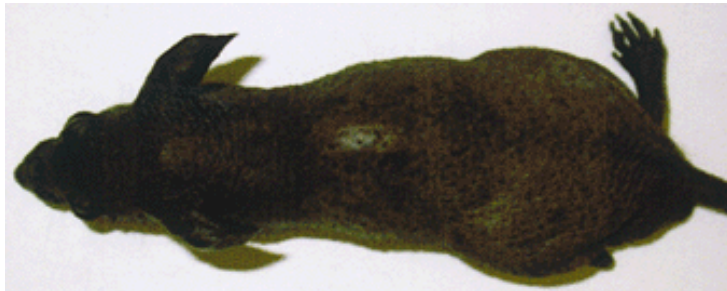


# Mice exhibit similar phenotype as humans

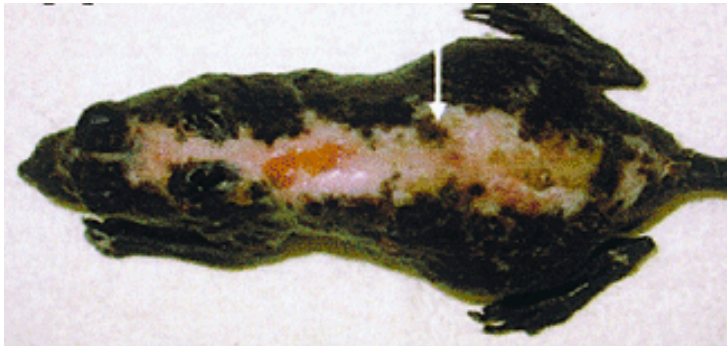
Wild type



XPA mutant



XPA mutant + UV

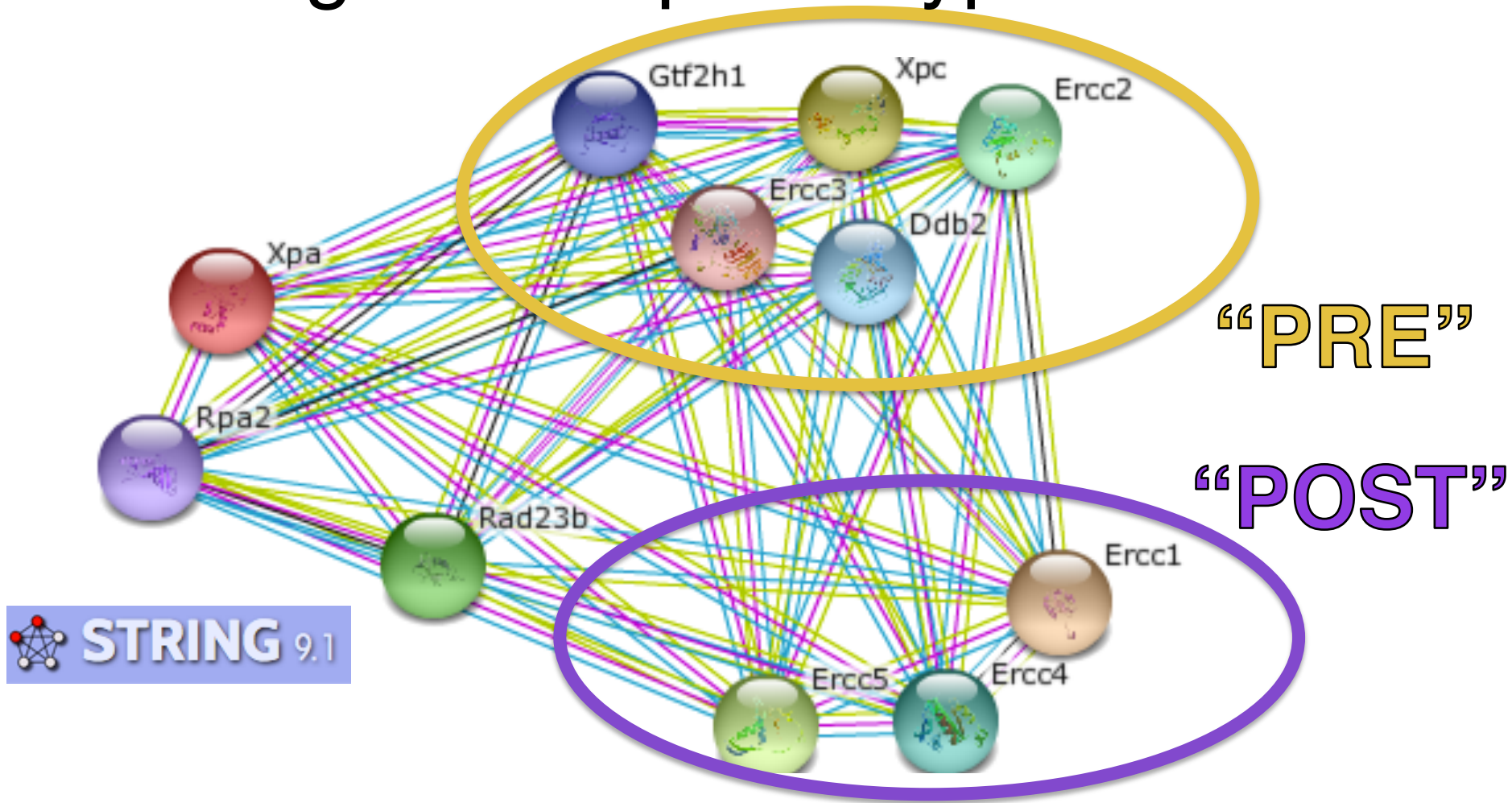


Yamazaki et al, 2005



<http://www.atlas-dermato.org/TUMEURS/icono/%20iconoXP.htm>

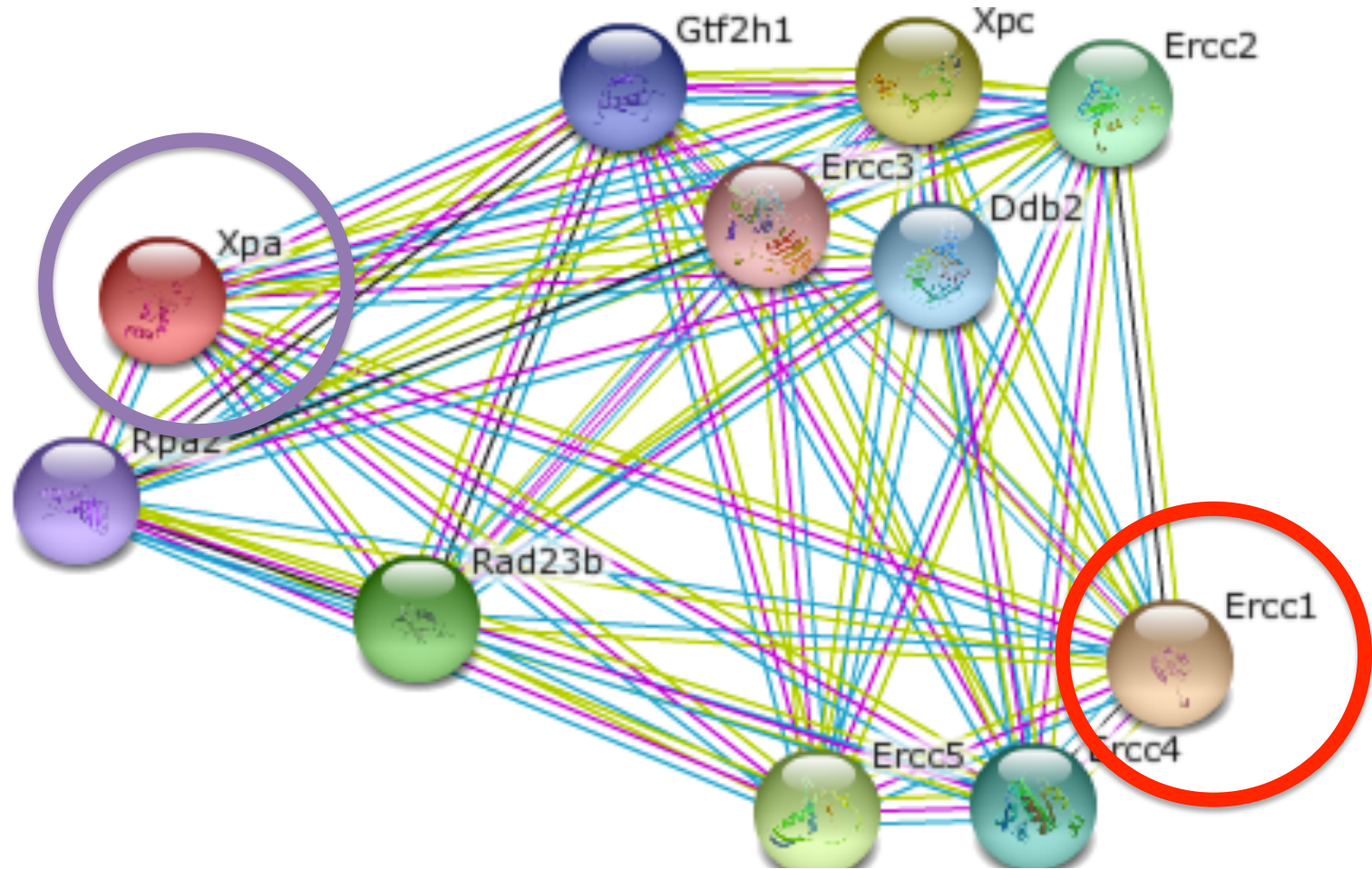
# What proteins are involved in causing the XP phenotype in mice?



Proteins have intricate binding network

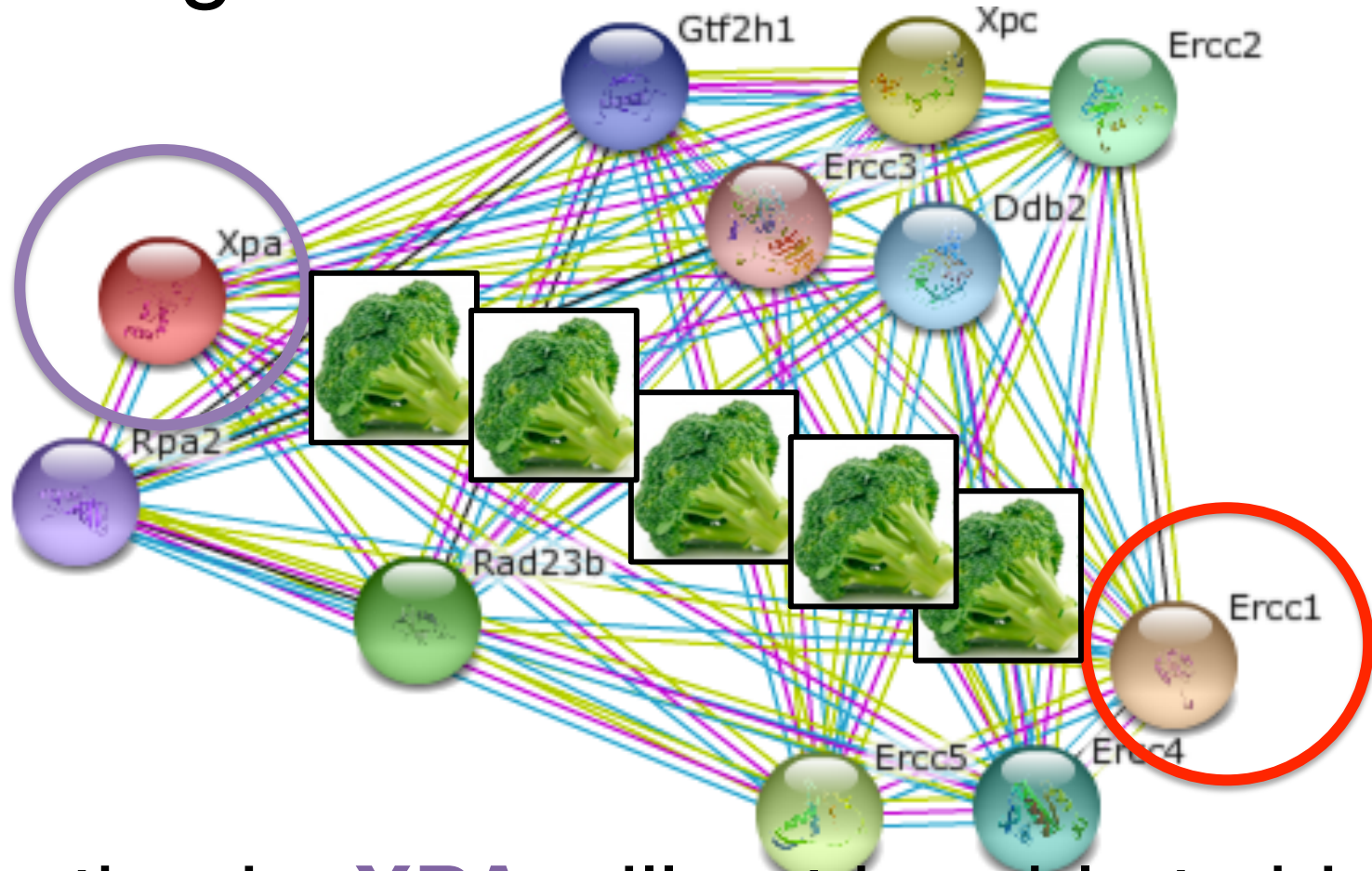


# XPA and ERCC1 binding is important



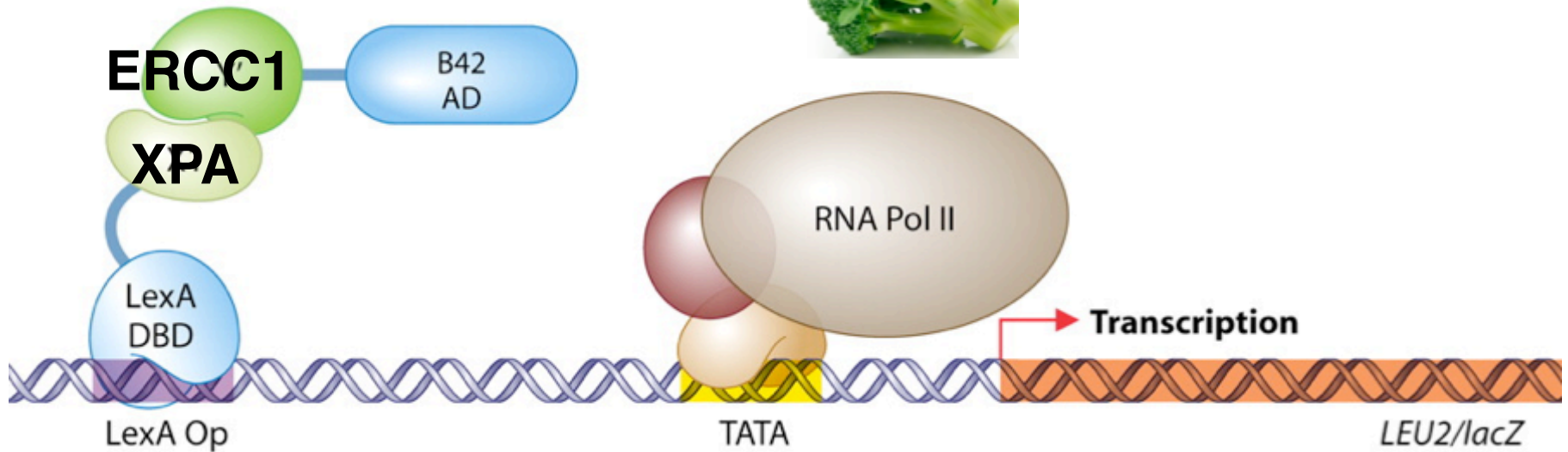
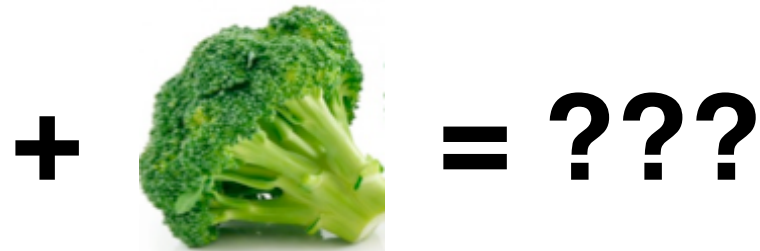
Protein recruiting complex formed

Aim 1: Does **sulforaphane** eliminate binding between **XPA** and **ERCC1**?



Hypothesis: **XPA** will not be able to bind to **ERCC1** in the presence of **sulforaphane**

# Aim 1: Does **sulforaphane** eliminate binding between **XPA** and **ERCC1**?

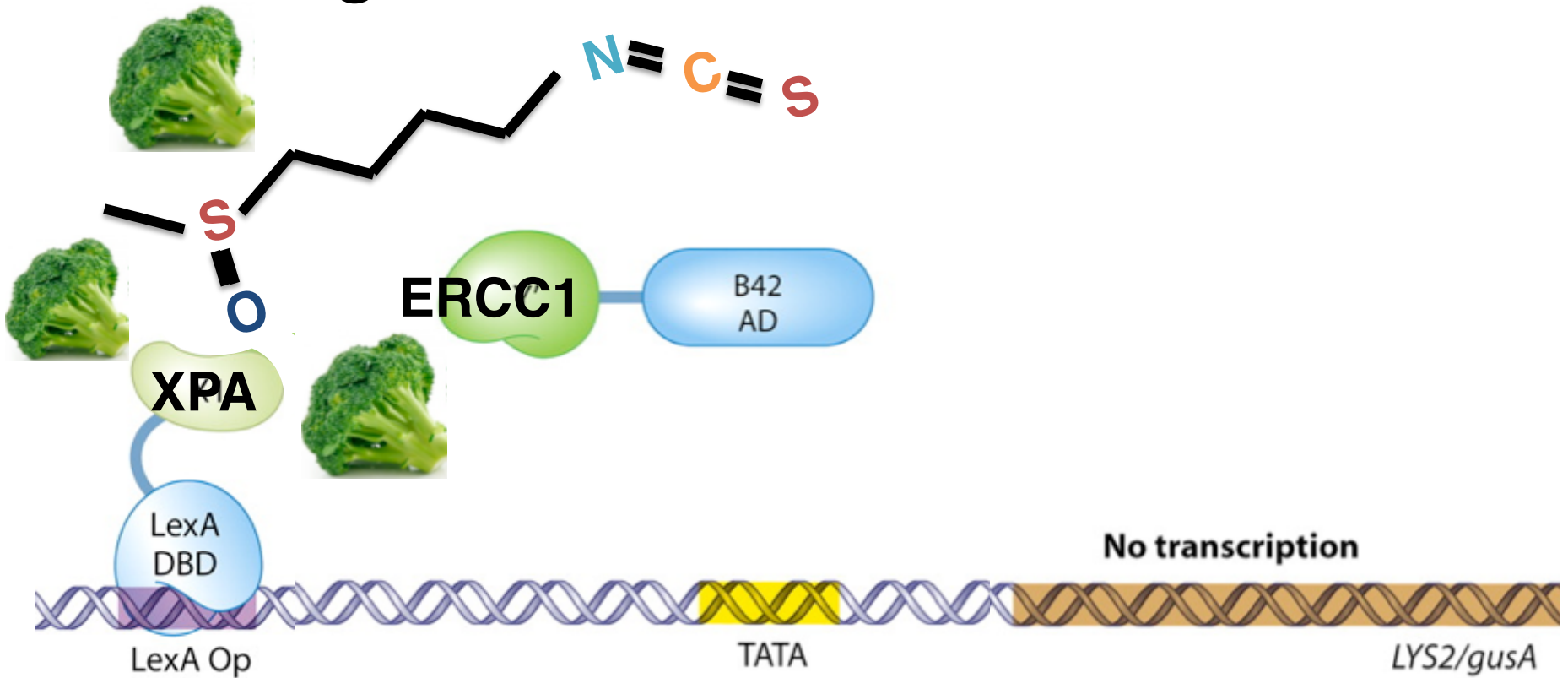


Hypothesis:

No **sulforaphane** = transcription ON



# Aim 1: Does **sulforaphane** eliminate binding between **XPA** and **ERCC1**?



Hypothesis:

**Sulforaphane** present = transcription OFF

# Experimental conditions for Aims 2 & 3

Wild type



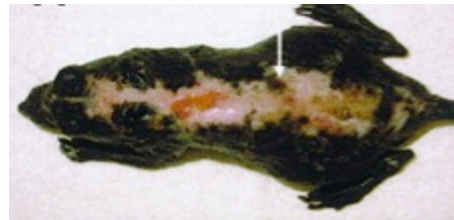
WT +  
sulforaphane



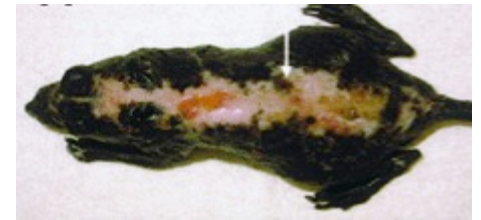
+



XPA mutant



Mutant +  
sulforaphane



+

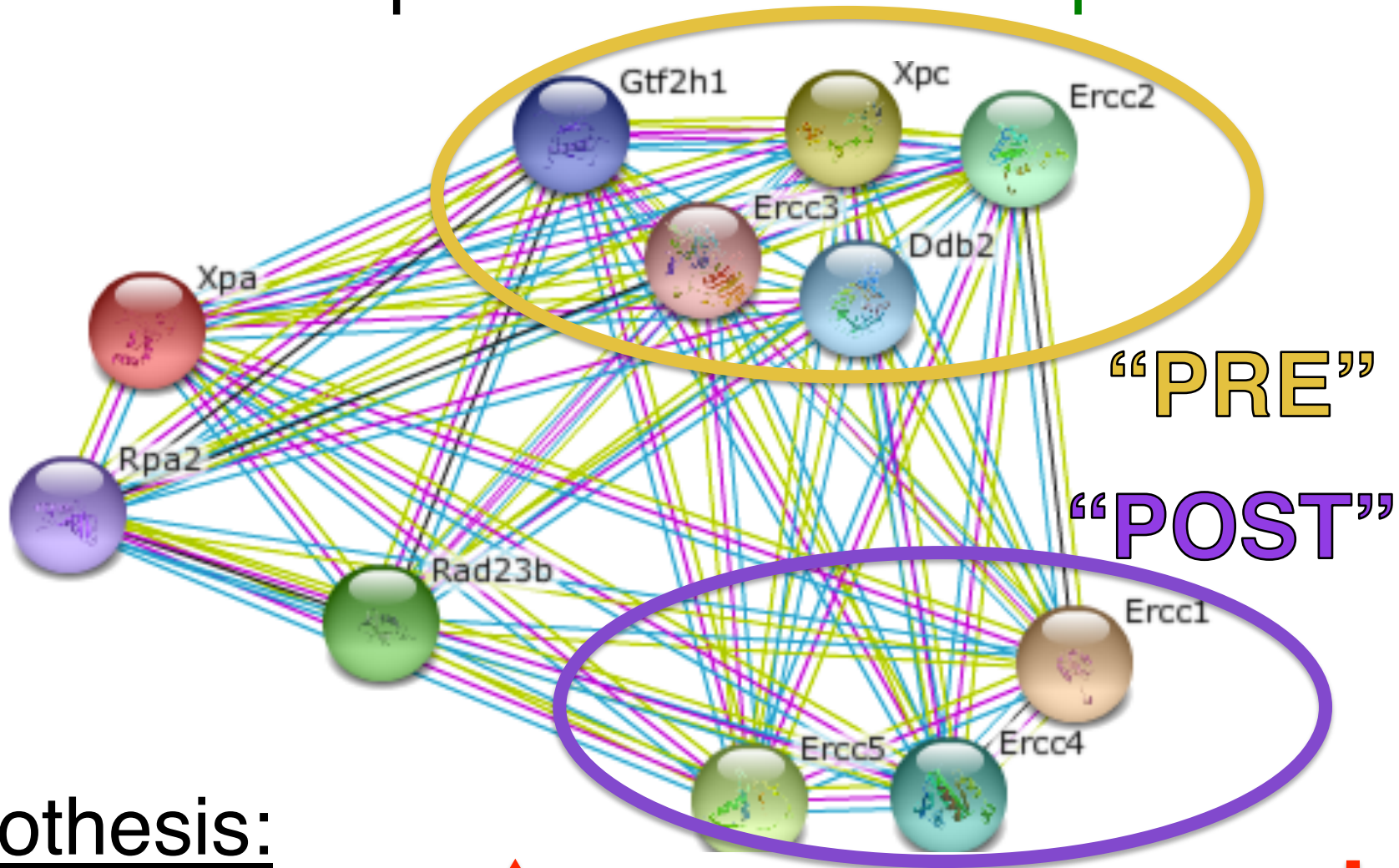


Does **sulforaphane** alter...

DNA repair transcripts?

Protein expression over time?

Aim 2: Is transcription of DNA repair RNAs affected in the presence of **sulforaphane**?

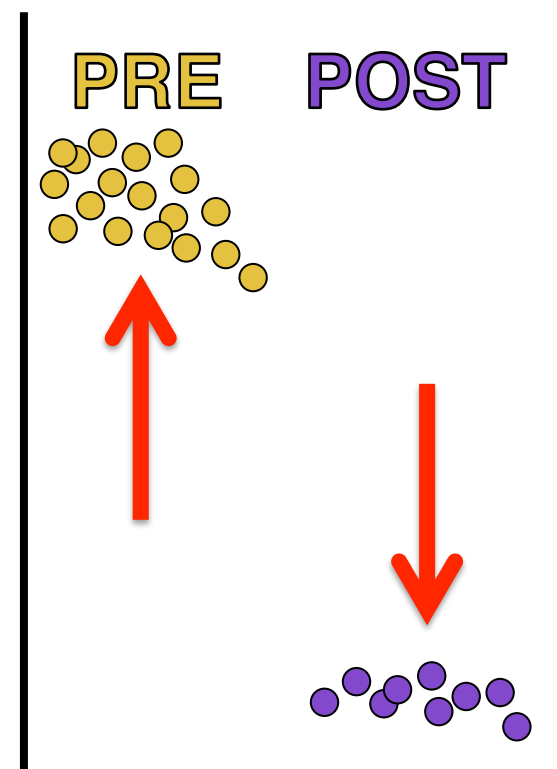
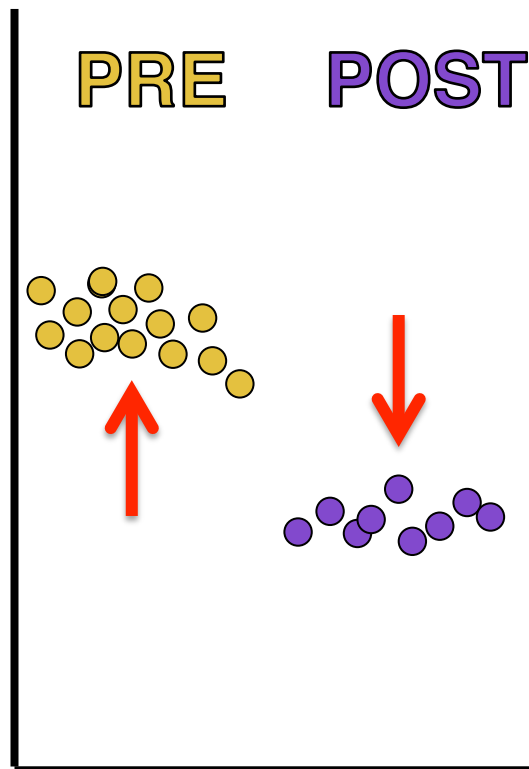
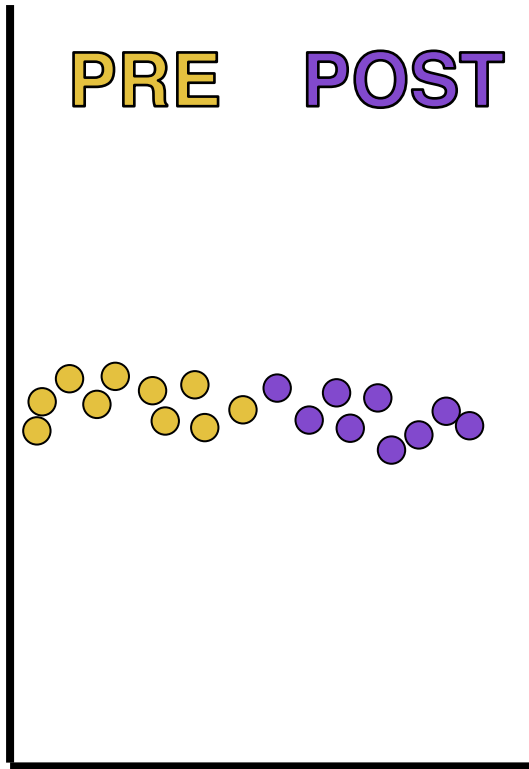


Hypothesis:

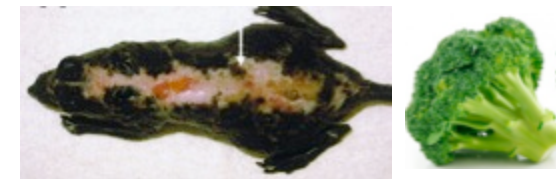
Pre-**XPA** binding: ↑

Post-**XPA** binding: ↓

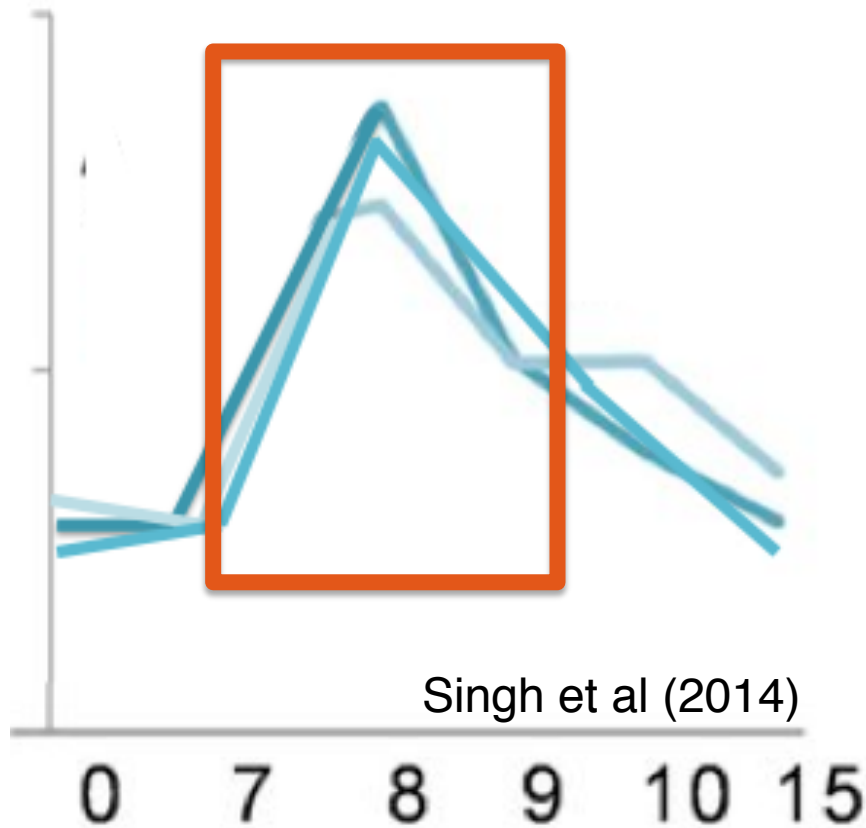
# Aim 2: Is transcription of DNA repair RNAs affected in the presence of **sulforaphane**?



OR



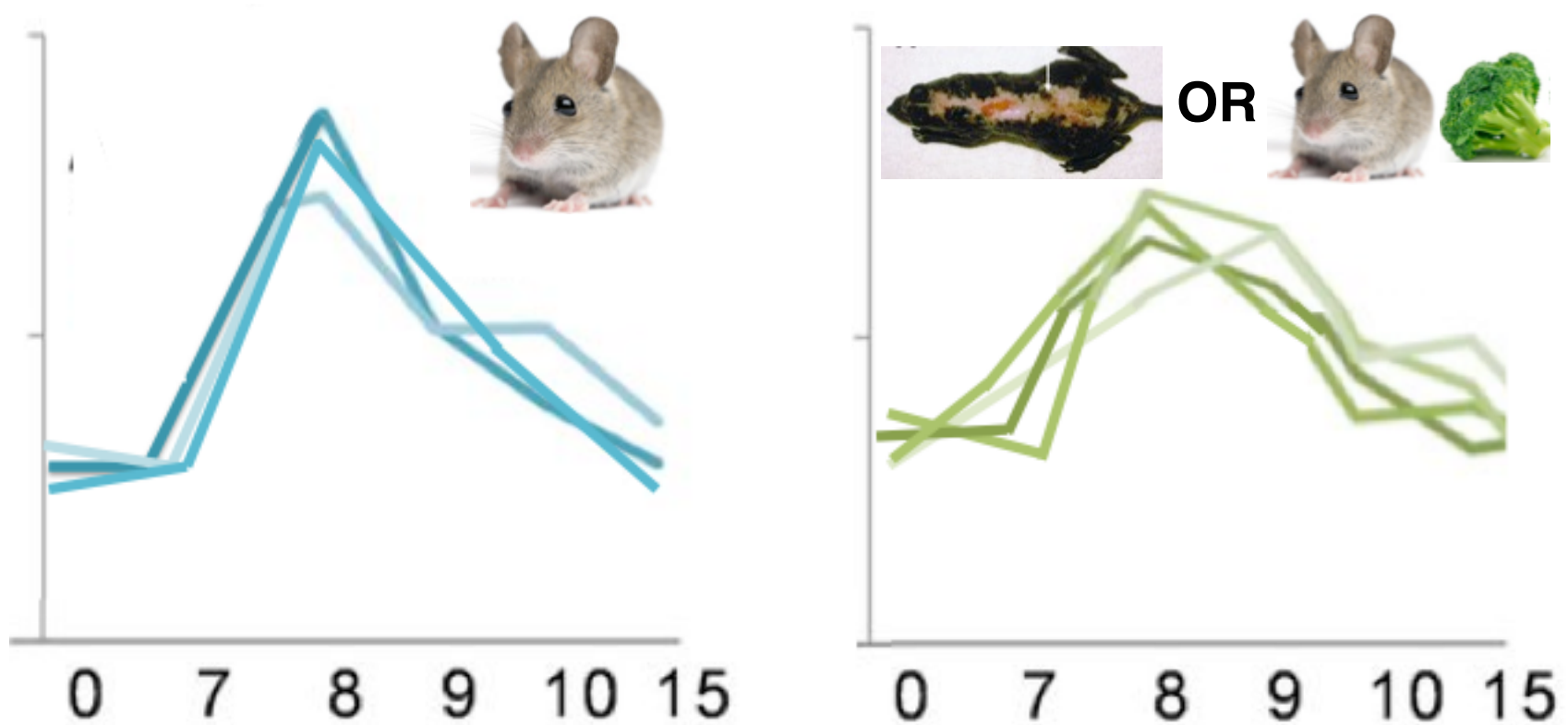
# Aim 3: How does **sulforaphane** affect DNA repair protein expression levels over time?



Hypothesis: Wild type shows drastic increase in protein expression in response to UV light

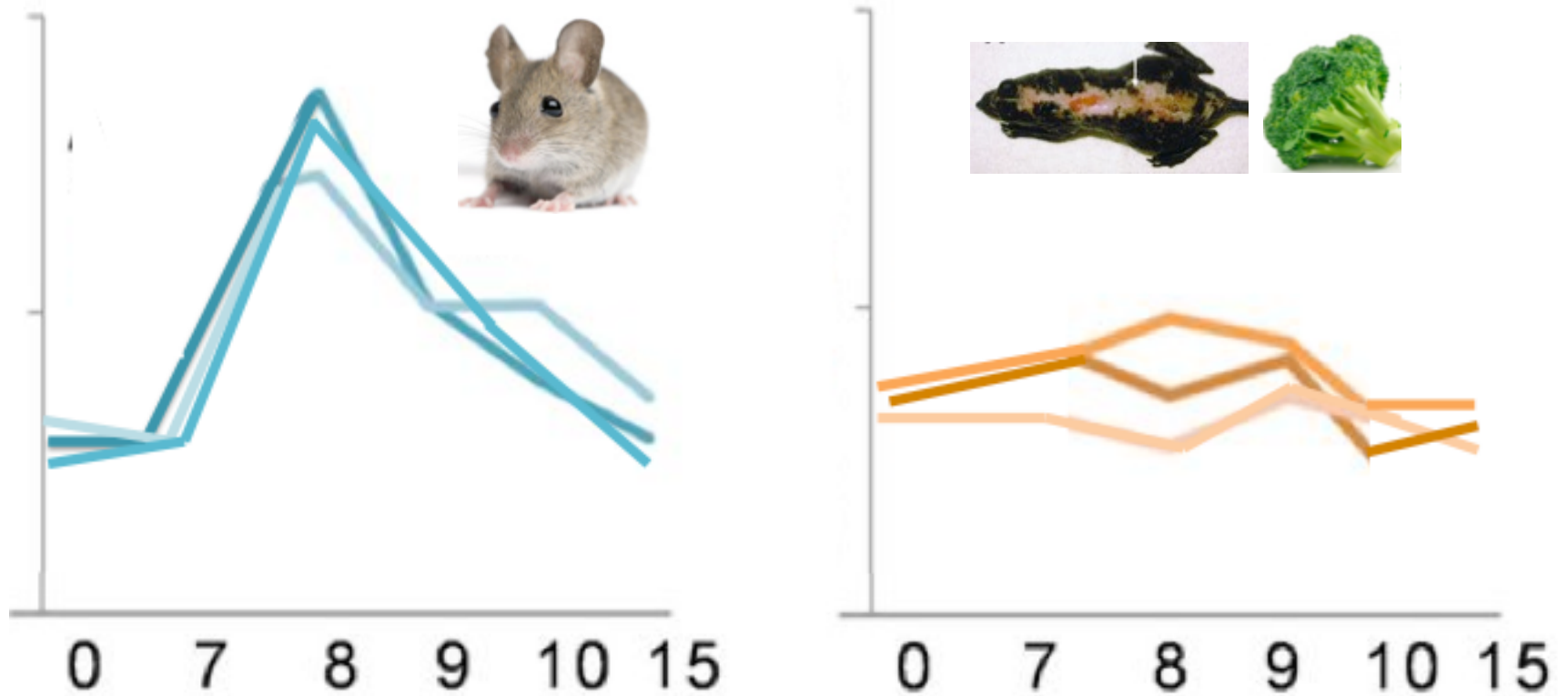


# Aim 3: How does **sulforaphane** affect DNA repair protein expression levels over time?



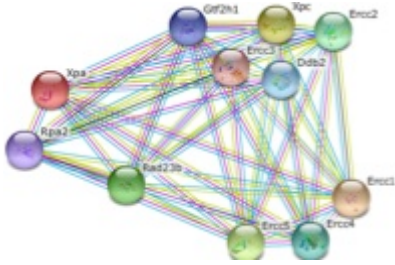
Hypothesis: Mutant and wild type + **sulforaphane** will show decreased expression

# Aim 3: How does **sulforaphane** affect DNA repair protein expression levels over time?

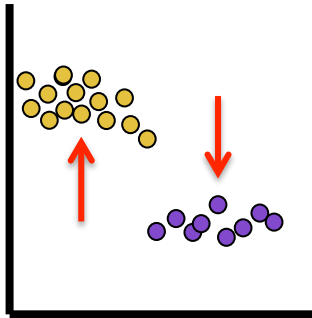


Mutant + **sulforaphane** will have limited expression and eventual elimination of expression

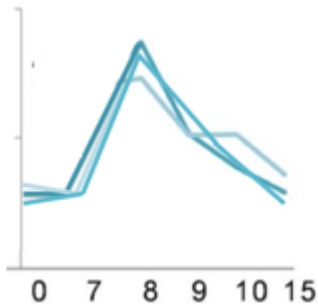
# Conclusions



**Sulforaphane** inhibits binding partners **XPA** and **ERCC1**



Lack of binding alters transcription of DNA repair RNAs



Protein response to DNA damage will decrease over time

## What's next?

# Future Research

If binding is inhibited by **sulforaphane**, XP patients should **avoid** broccoli

In **humans**:

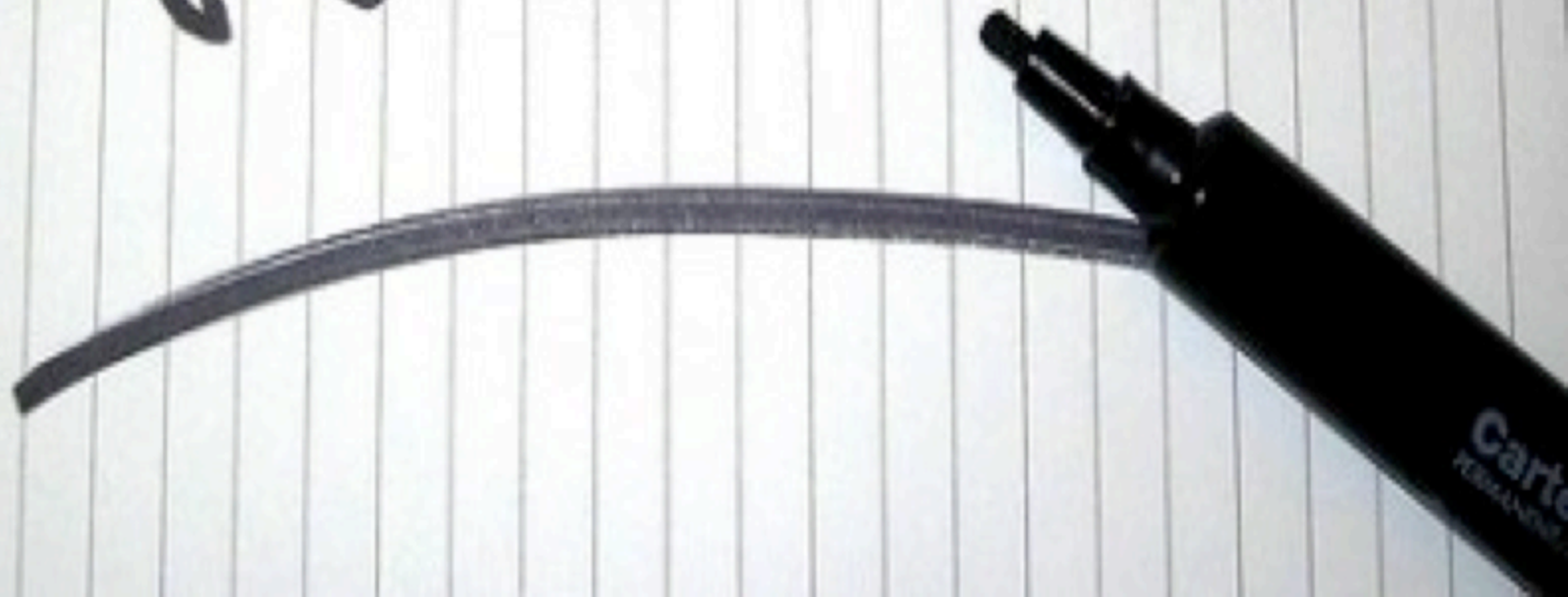
Mass spec before and after eating broccoli in XP patients



<http://www.feedingyourkids.com/2013/09/20/who-is-the-program-for/>

Hypothesis: Observe modified protein complex + **sulforaphane** present 🥦

Questions?





# References

Slide 1: <http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/LIVING-IN-THE-SHADOWS-Bay-Area-doctors-join-2669297.php>

Bradford, et al. Cancer and neurologic degeneration in xeroderma pigmentosum: long term follow-up characterizes the role of DNA repair. March 2011. Journal of Medical Genetics. 48(3): 168–176.

<http://www.dermrounds.com/photo/xeroderma-pigmentosum-3rd-2?context=album&albumId=1980062%3AAlbum%3A8589>

<http://www.sfgate.com/default/article/CHILDREN-OF-THE-MOON-HIDE-FROM-A-DEADLY-SUN-2668739.php#photo-2142611>

<http://de.academic.ru/dic.nsf/dewiki/1533056>

<http://buzzkenya.com/interesting-questions-ask-people/>