

# 27<sup>ο</sup> Πανελλήνιο Συνέδριο Νεφρολογίας

Astir-Egnatia Palace

20–23 Μαΐου 2026  
Αλεξανδρούπολη



## **ΥΠΕΡΤΑΣΗ**

Προεδρείο: **Π. Σαραφίδης, Δ. Βλαχάκος**

13.35–13.55

Η πρόσληψη άλατος προκαλεί Αρτηριακή Υπέρταση;  
**Μ. Κωστοπούλου**

DOI: None for this lecture

# Αλάτι και εξέλιξη

500,000 χρόνια



## Ο τροφосуλλέκτης

- Φρούτα, φυτά, κρέας
- **NaCl : <1 g / day.**
- Περιεκτικότητα σε Κ 16x υψηλότερη του Na

10,000 χρόνια



## Ο καλλιεργητής

- Εγκατάλειψη νομαδικής ζωής
- Αύξηση πληθυσμού
- Φυτικές τροφές 90%

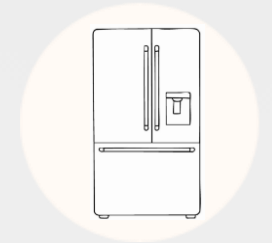
4,000 χρόνια



## Ο τεχνίτης

- Το αλάτι για συντήρηση τροφής
- Τροφές με μεγάλη περιεκτικότητα σε NaCl
- **NaCl 18 g / day**
- Πρώτη λέξη για το αλάτι

Σήμερα



## Σύγχρονη εποχή

- Άλλοι μέθοδοι συντήρησης
- **NaCl ~10 g / day**
- Χαμηλή πρόσληψη Κ

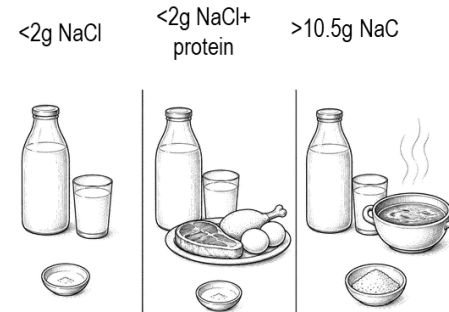
# Αλάτι και Αρτηριακή Πίεση (take it with a grain of salt...)



*“Therefore, if large amounts of salt are taken, the pulse will stiffen or harden.”*

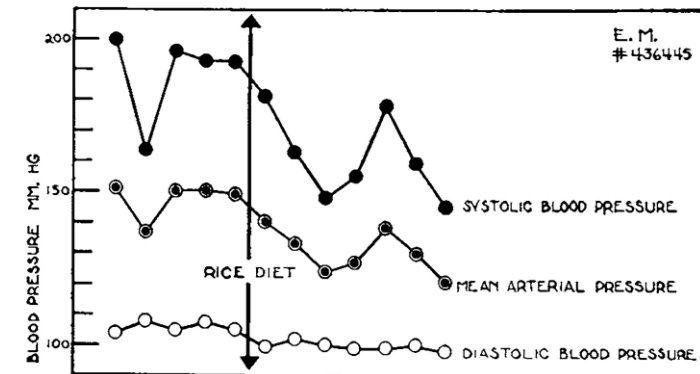
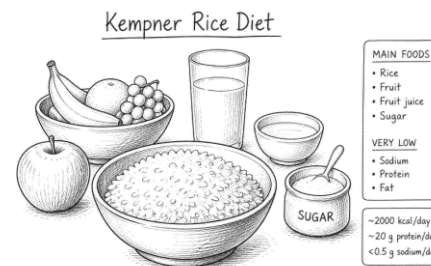
*The Yellow Emperor’s Classic of Internal Medicine, 1700 BC*

**1904:** Ambard and Beaujard

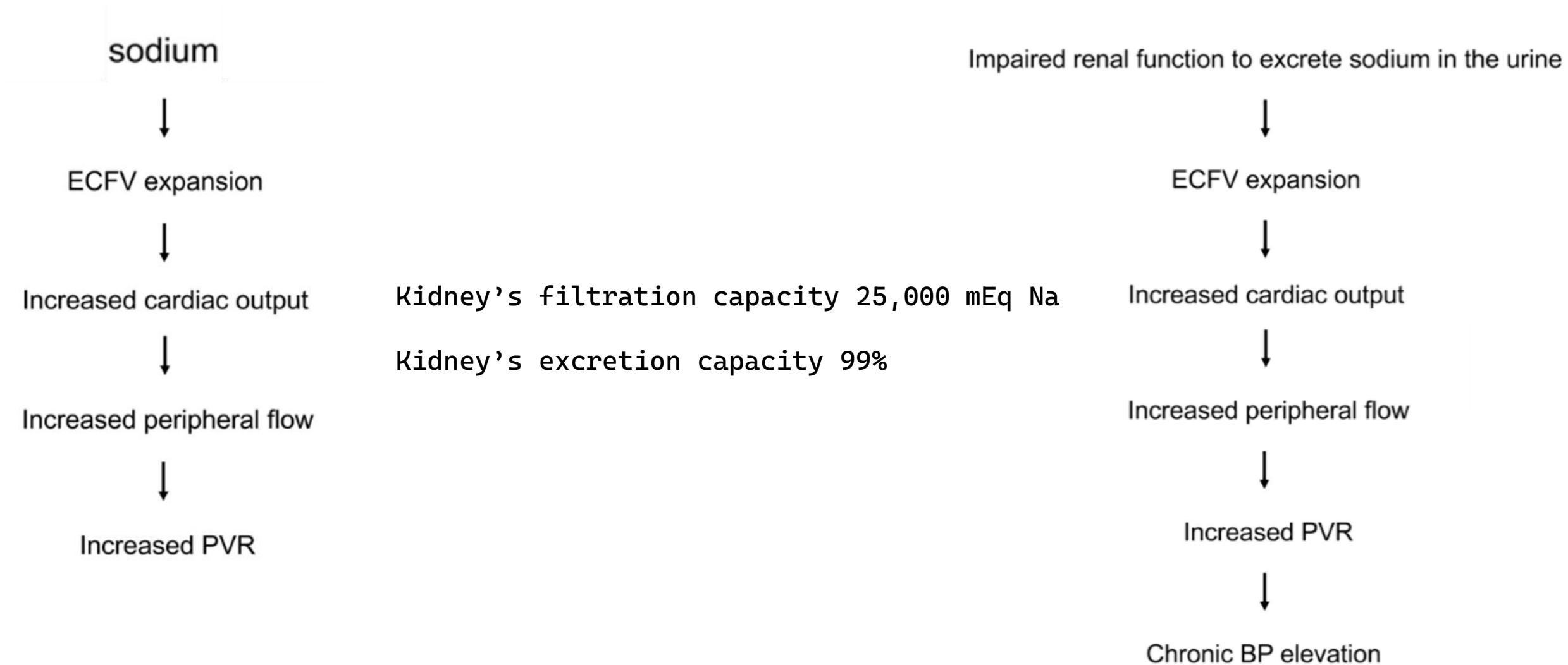


- Αρνητικό ισοζύγιο και ↓ΑΠ
- Αρνητικό ισοζύγιο και ↓ΑΠ
- Θετικό ισοζύγιο και ↑ΑΠ

**1948:** Kempner's rice diet

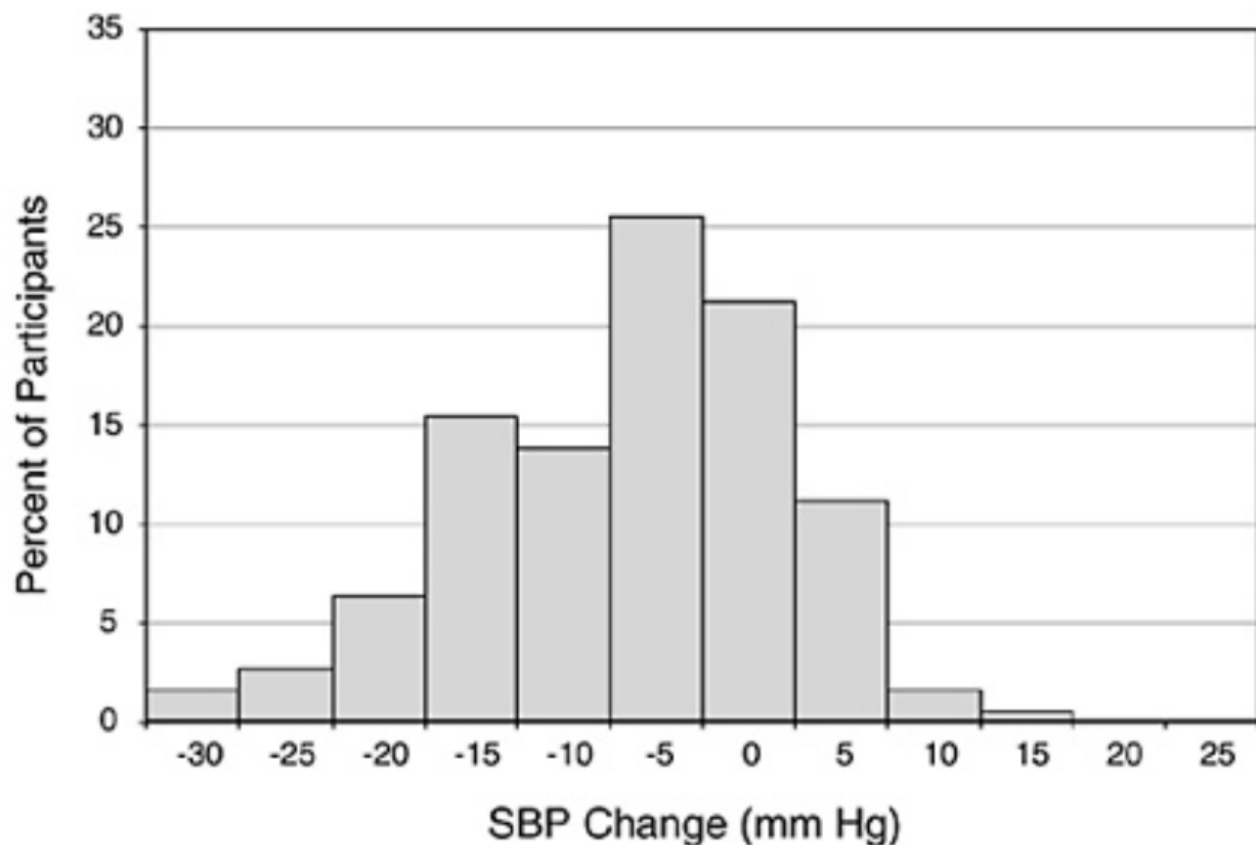


# Guyton's autoregulation and pressure natriuresis



## Hypertensive individuals respond with variation in high salt intake

BP differences between **two points in time** when sodium intake **decreased by 1.8 g/d (77 mmol/d)**.



2 Phenotypes after a Sodium load:

Salt sensitive: Marked BP increase

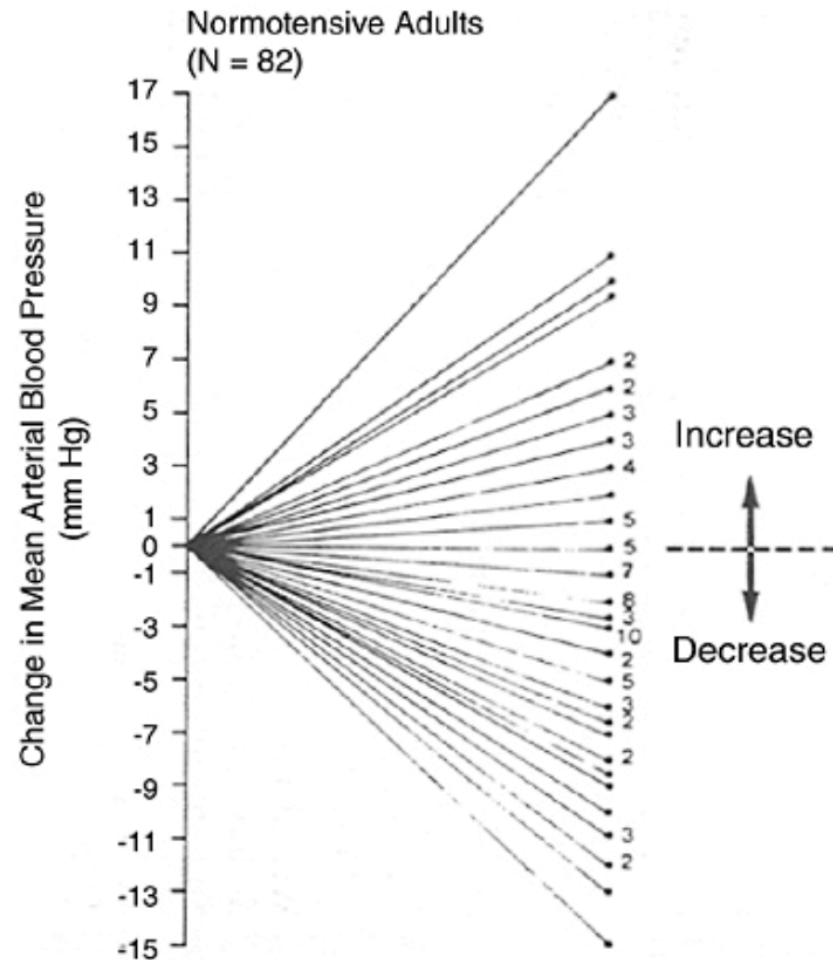
Salt resistant: No or very small BP increase

SS test: 460 mmol for the day of salt loading (300 mmol in the saline infusion and 160-mmol diet) and 10-mmol diet plus furosemide (three 40 mg doses over 8 hours) the following day.

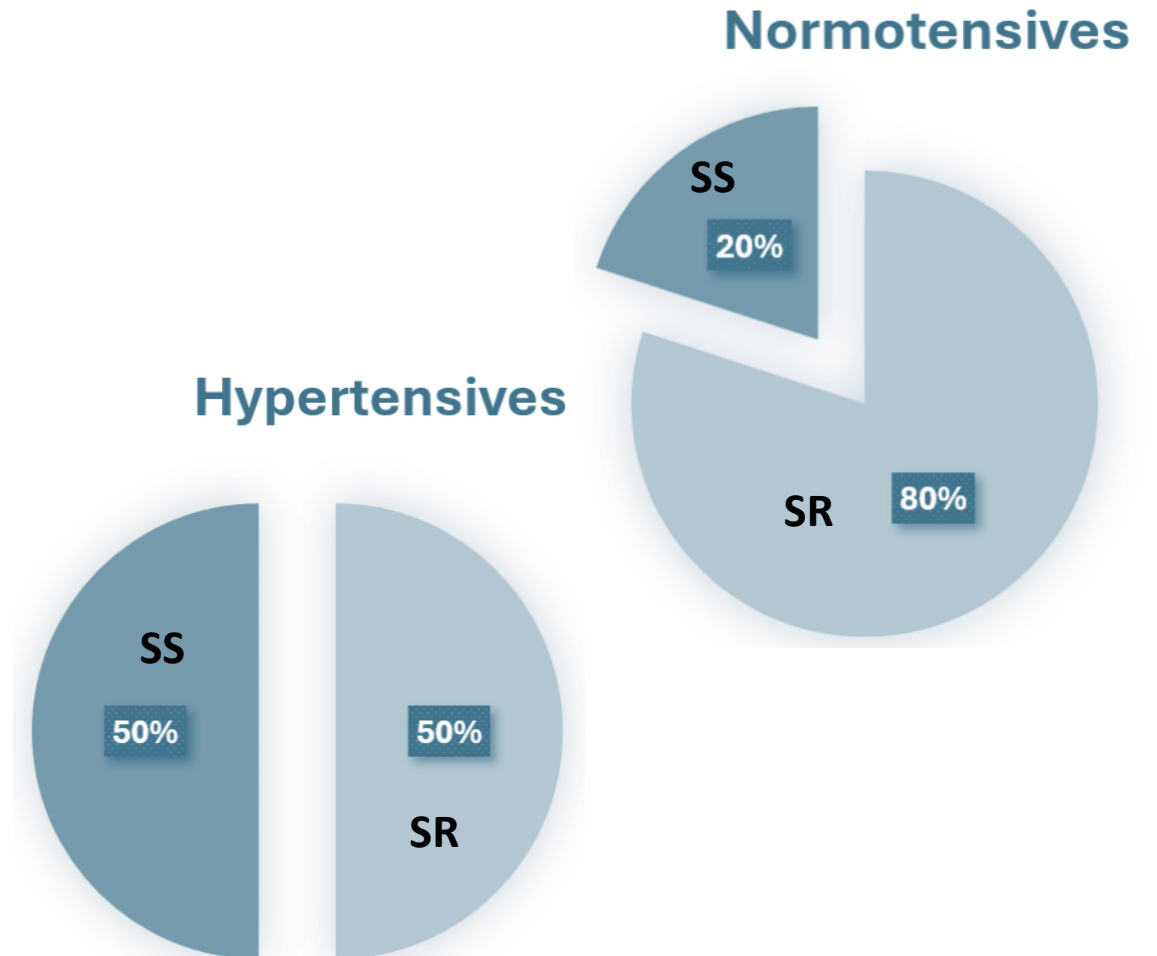
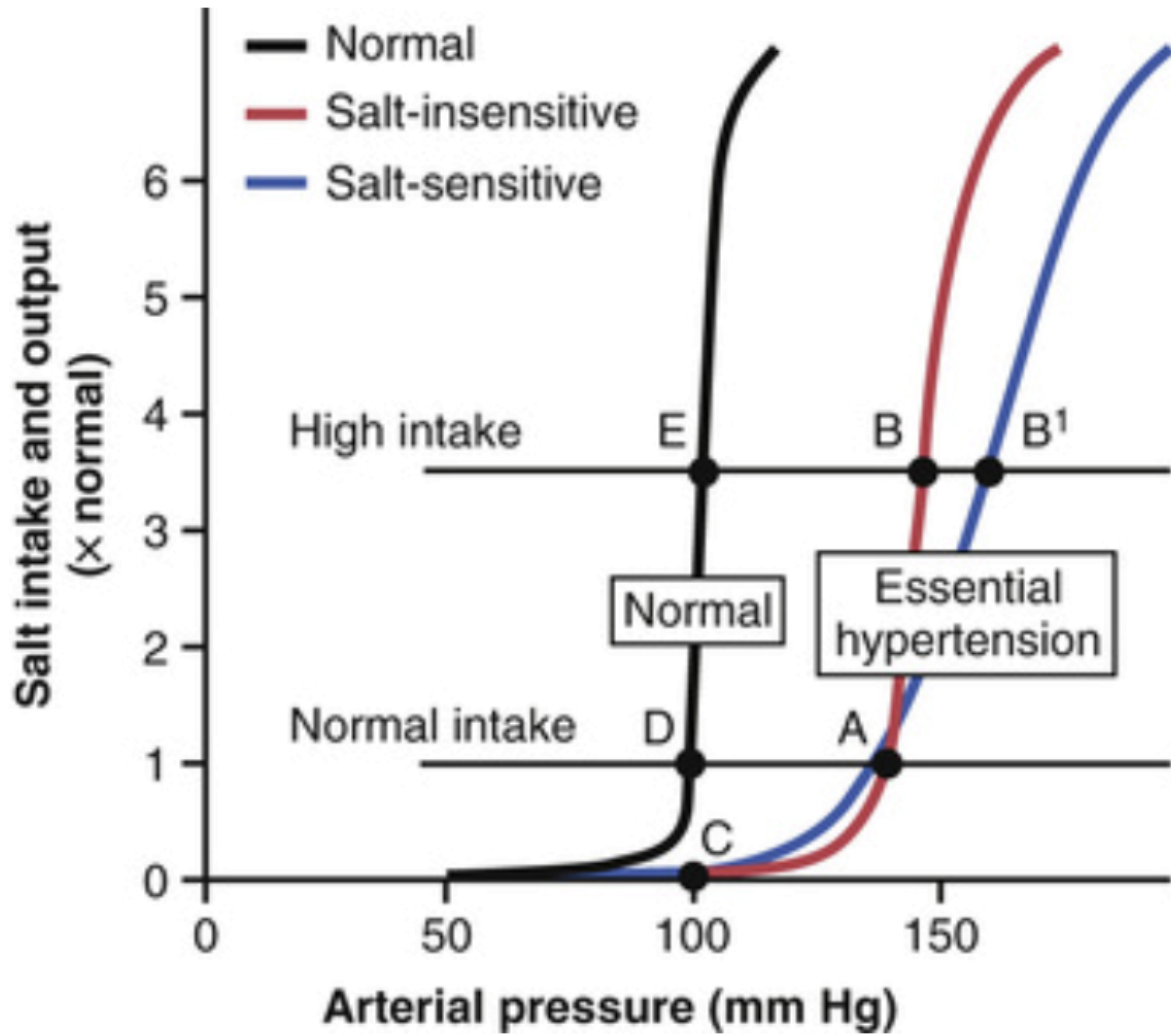
*Salt Sensitivity of Blood Pressure: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association.*  
<https://doi.org/10.1161/HYP.0000000000000047>

*National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. 2005. Dietary Reference Intakes for Water, Potassium, Sodium, Chloride, and Sulfate. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press. <https://doi.org/10.17226/10925>.*

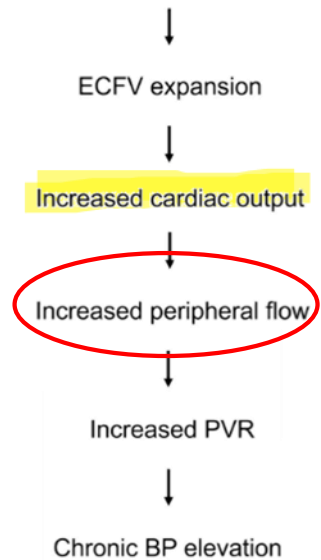
# Normotensive individuals respond with variation in high salt intake



# Guyton: The Renal-Centric View



Impaired renal function to excrete sodium in the urine



## Kurtz and Morris : The Vascular-Centric View

ECV and total body mass have non-linear responses to increased salt:

*Significant from low to moderate Na diet*

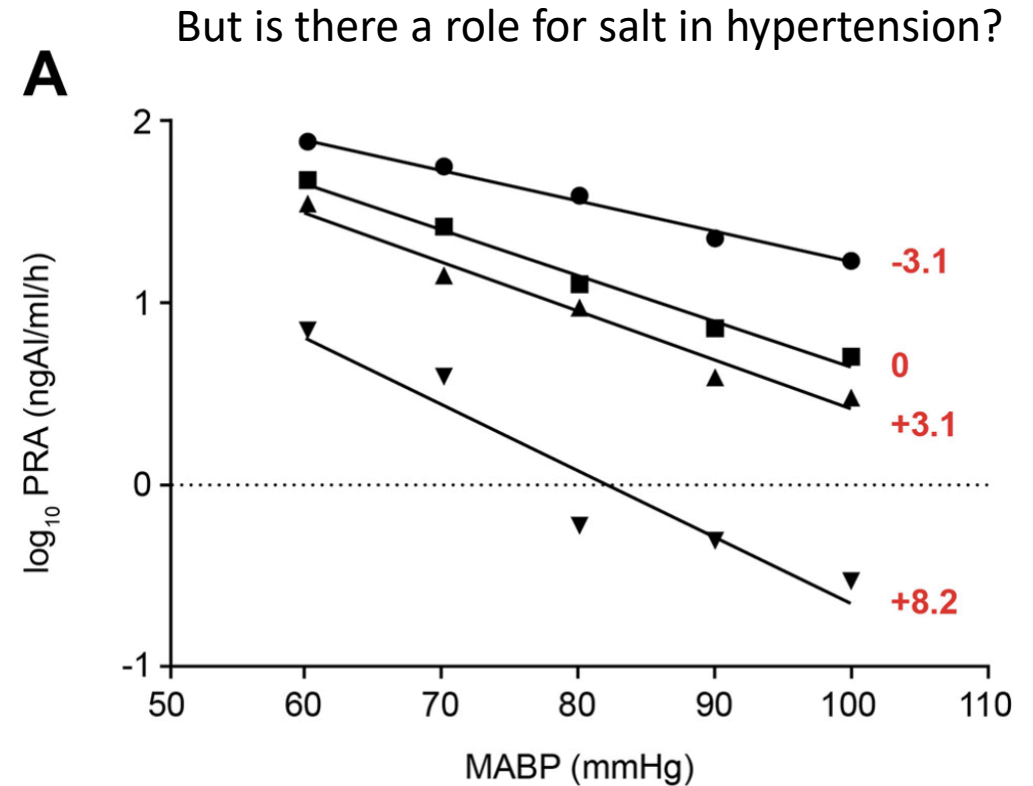
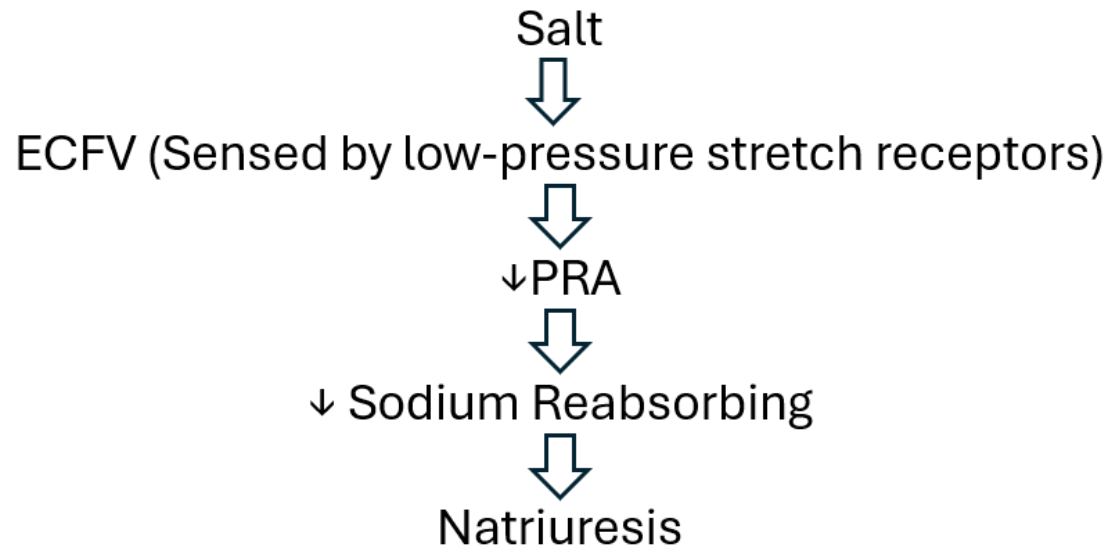
*None from moderate to high Na diet*

1. high-salt diet
2. normal (compared to salt resistant) sodium accumulation,
3. normal volume expansion
4. normal cardiac output adjustments
5. **subnormal vasodilatory response** to increased salt **in the absence of abnormal salt retention and before systemic vascular resistance increases above baseline**

# Bie: The RAS-humoral centred View

In **slow rates** of iv NaCl there is an increased Na excretion but no measurable change in BP

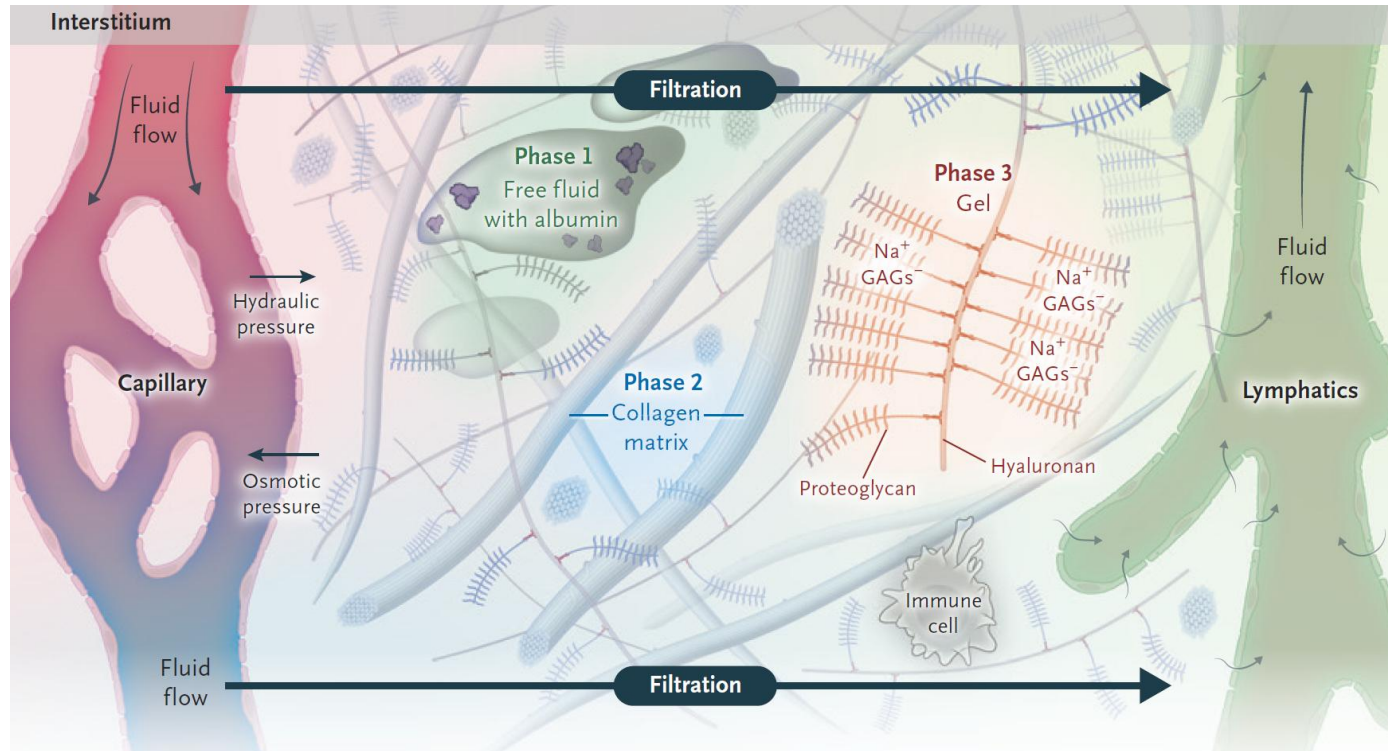
So is BP elevation necessary to get rid of Na?



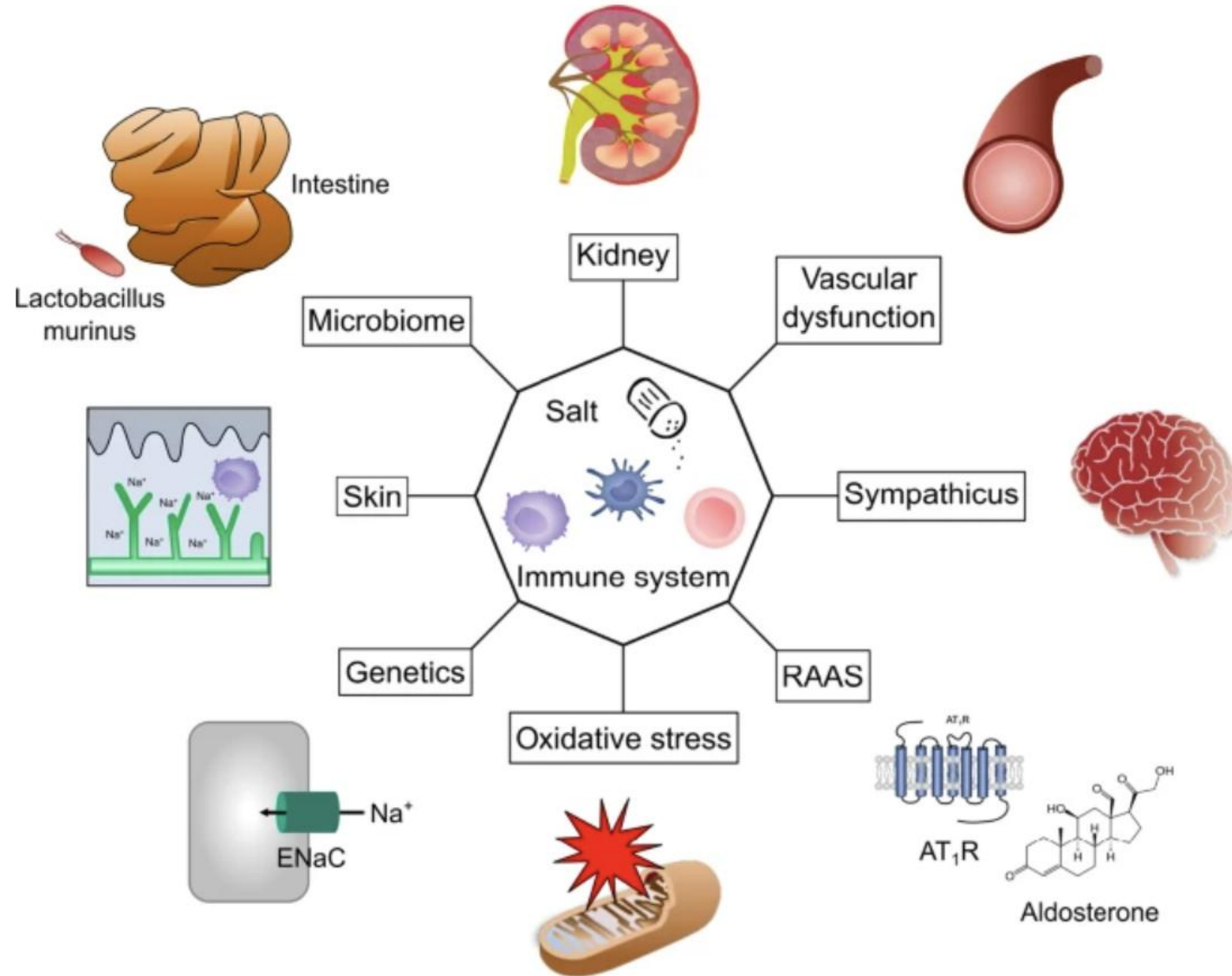
# Titze: The osmotic vs non-osmotic Sodium

Is salt in – salt out a true story?

After a salty meal 40% of the increase in TBS cannot be accounted for by the body mass increase and thus represents the fraction of the TBS increase which is osmotically buffered



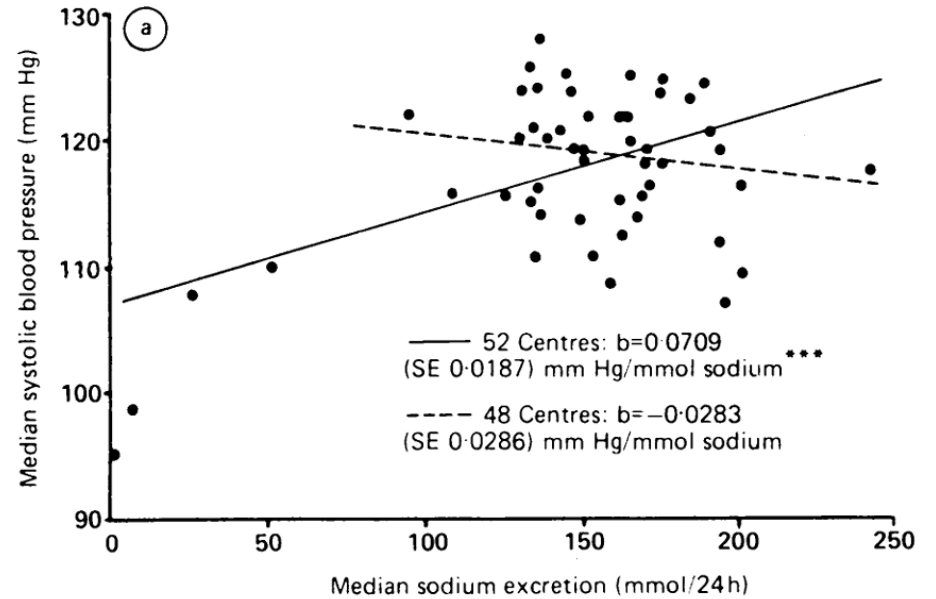
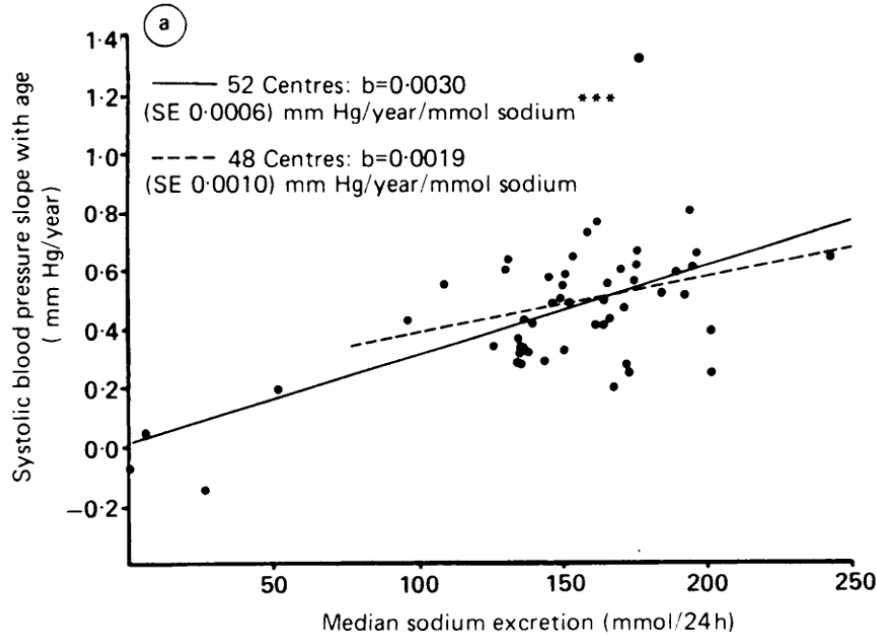
# The revised mosaic theory: Salt and inflammation



# Αλάτι και Αρτηριακή Πίεση

(take it with a grain of salt...)

1988: Intersalt

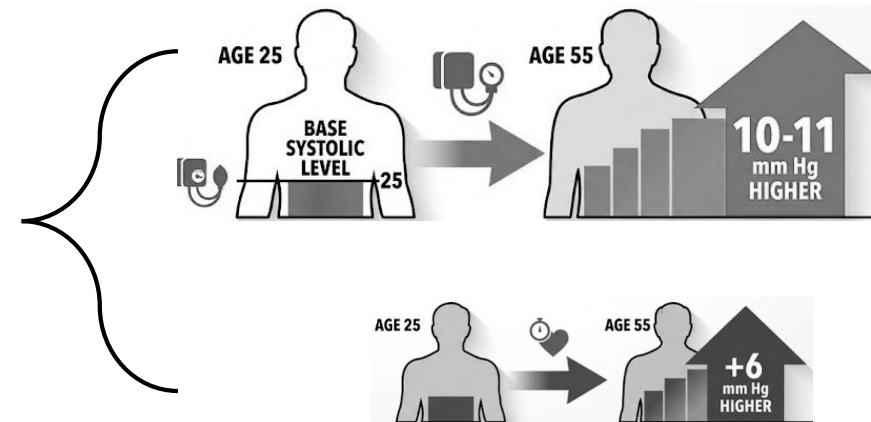


1996: Intersalt revisited

Ανά 2.3 g Na



> 2.3 g Na



## Epidemiological Studies on Sodium or Salt Intake and Blood Pressure



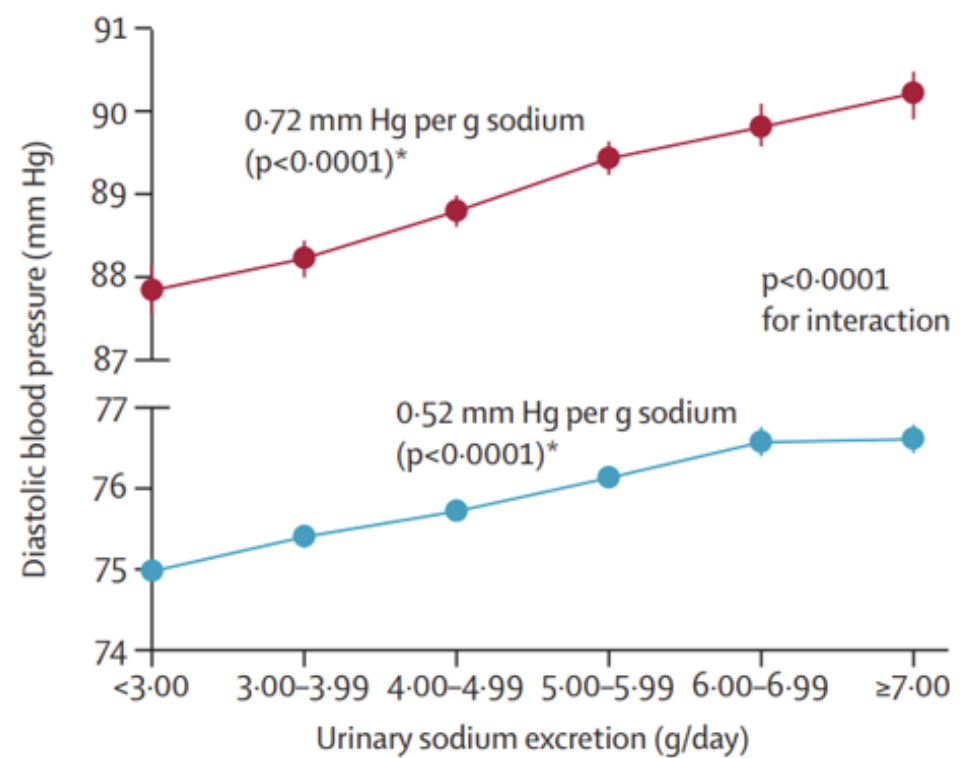
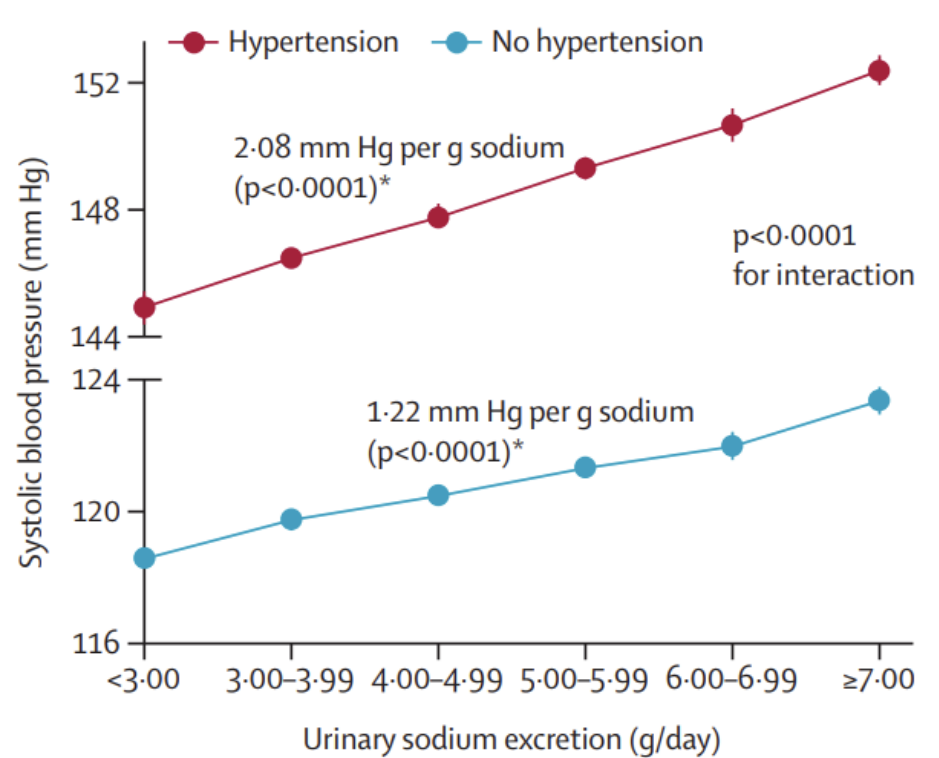
References	Study Design	Results <sup>a</sup>
Rose et al., 1988; Stamler et al., 1989	Intersalt Study, 10,079 men and women, cross-sectional in 32 countries	Significant positive correlation with urinary Na and slope of blood pressure with age, but not median BP or prevalence of elevated BP  In 4 remote locations where sodium intake was very low, BP was low for all ages
Frost et al., 1991	12,773 men and women, cross-sectional data from 14 published studies	Significant association between blood pressure and sodium intake ( $p < 0.001$ )
Ascherio et al., 1992	Health Professional Followup Study, 30,681 US men, prospective cohort, 4-yr follow-up, 1,248 incident cases of hypertension, multivariate analysis	No significant association between hypertension and dietary intake of sodium as assessed by food-frequency questionnaire
Elliott et al., 1996	Intersalt Study, 10,074 men and women, cross-sectional	SBP of individuals was positively associated with sodium excretion
Rastenyte et al., 1997	3,326 Finnish men and women, cross-sectional	No association between urinary sodium and BP in either men or in women
Tunstall-Pedoe, 1999	Scottish Heart Health Study, cross-sectional, $n = 11,629$ men and women	Weak association between urinary sodium and blood pressure
Liu et al., 2000	WHO-CARDIAC Study, 1,151 Chinese and 1,681 Japanese men and women, cross-sectional	SBP was positively associated with sodium excretion in Japanese, while both SBP and DBP was associated with sodium excretion in Chinese

<sup>a</sup>Na = Sodium, BP = blood pressure, DBP = diastolic blood pressure, SBP = systolic blood pressure.

# Αλάτι και Αρτηριακή Πίεση

(take it with a grain of salt...)

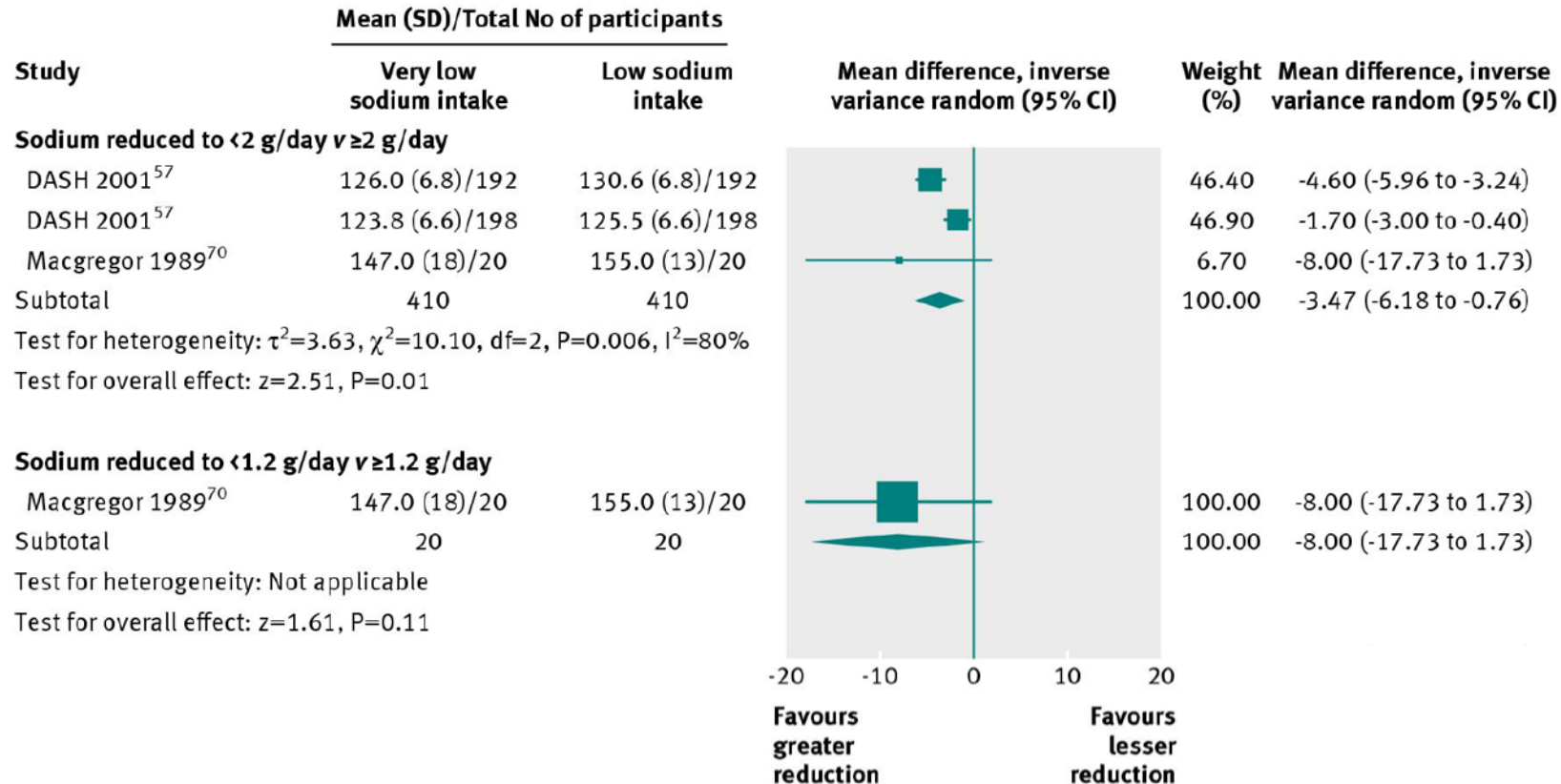
The provocative Lancet paper (2016) 133,118 individuals



# Αλάτι και Αρτηριακή Πίεση (take it with a grain of salt...)

The WHO meta-analysis (2013) or more robust evidence (RCT) suggest...

Effects on Systolic BP



The totality of evidence suggests that **most people will likely benefit** from reducing sodium intake.

### Mean baseline sodium intake

Low (<109 mmol)	-52 (-109 to 6)	6	1701		-2.11 (-4.97 to 0.75)		-1.71 (-4.86 to 1.44)
Usual (≥109 to ≤209 mmol)	-87 (-183 to 8)	76	8083		-2.41 (-3.00 to -1.83)		-1.15 (-1.53 to -0.78)
High (>209 mmol)	-204 (-336 to -28)	51	2261		-1.30 (-1.67 to -0.94)		-0.55 (-0.76 to -0.35)
Unknown	-173 (-237 to -58)	3	152		-1.67 (-2.83 to -0.51)		-1.04 (-2.01 to -0.07)

### Blood pressure status

Normotensive	-158 (-341 to -40)	58	4402		-0.66 (-0.93 to -0.39)		-0.21 (-0.41 to -0.02)
Mix of normotensive and hypertensive	-121 (-237 to 6)	9	3533		-1.89 (-2.71 to -1.06)		-0.97 (-1.61 to -0.33)
Hypertensive	-116 (-331 to 8)	75	4262		-2.76 (-3.22 to -2.31)		-1.37 (-1.65 to -1.09)

### Mean baseline SBP

<120 mm Hg	-189 (-341 to -50)	35	1331		-0.39 (-0.61 to -0.18)		-0.07 (-0.29 to 0.14)
≥120 to <130 mm Hg	-122 (-328 to 6)	25	5325		-1.21 (-1.87 to -0.55)		-0.57 (-0.98 to -0.16)
≥130 to <140 mm Hg	-102 (-305 to -12)	19	2369		-2.23 (-2.89 to -1.57)		-1.08 (-1.41 to -0.74)
≥140 to <150 mm Hg	-106 (-285 to 8)	29	1574		-3.23 (-3.88 to -2.59)		-1.58 (-1.94 to -1.23)
≥150 to <160 mm Hg	-137 (-331 to -53)	19	608		-2.68 (-3.55 to -1.81)		-1.30 (-1.87 to -0.73)
≥160 mm Hg	-103 (-265 to -28)	12	912		-2.97 (-4.34 to -1.60)		-1.41 (-2.35 to -0.47)

### Study design

Systematic review with meta-analysis



Excluded pregnant women and patients with chronic kidney disease or heart failure

### Data sources

133 trials



12 197 participants aged  $\geq 18$  years

### Comparison

#### Intervention

Reduced salt intake

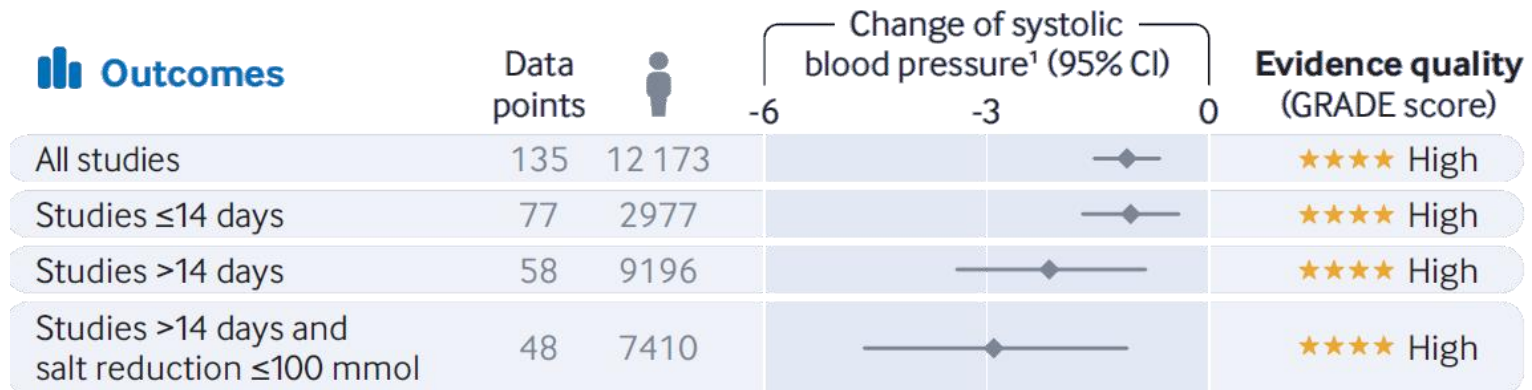


#### Comparator

Usual or higher salt intake



### Outcomes





**Cochrane**  
**Library**

Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews

**Effects of low sodium diet versus high sodium diet on blood pressure, renin, aldosterone, catecholamines, cholesterol, and triglyceride (Review)**

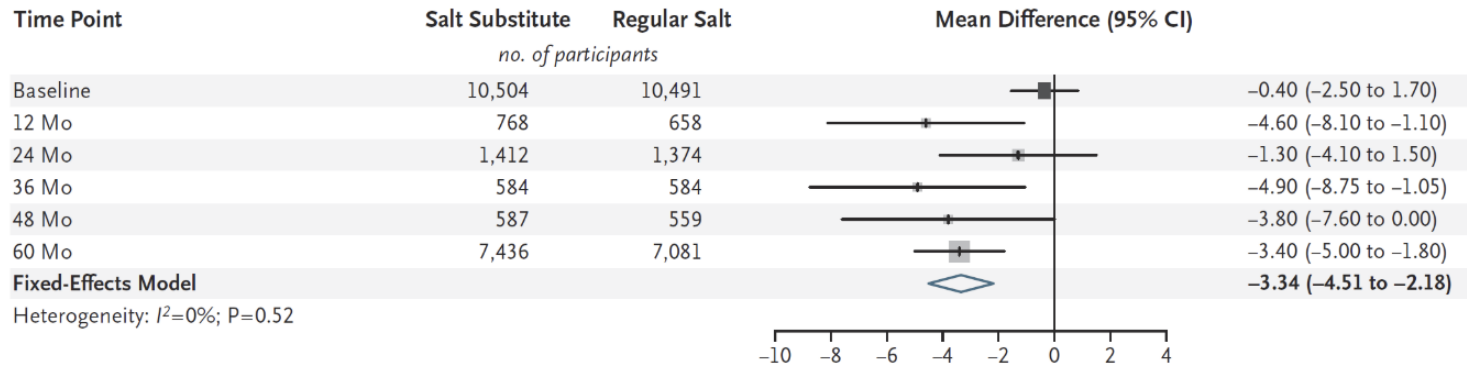
Graudal NA, Hubeck-Graudal T, Jurgens G

Outcomes	Mean Difference (95% CI)	No of Participants (studies)	Outcomes	Mean difference (95% CI)	No of Participants (studies)
White population, normotensive, SBP mmHg	-1.14 [-1.65 to -0.63] <i>-1.38 [-1.87, -0.89]*</i>	5982 (95)	Black population, normotensive, SBP mmHg	-4.02 (-7.37 to -0.68)	253 (7)
White population, normotensive, DBP mmHg	0.01 [-0.37 to 0.39] <i>-0.37 [-0.78, 0.04]*</i>	6276 (96)	Black population, normotensive, DBP mmHg	-2.01 (-4.37 to 0.35)	253 (7)
White population, hypertensive, SBP mmHg	-5.71 [-6.67 to -4.74] <i>-5.32 [-6.36, -4.28]*</i>	3998 (88)	Black population, hypertensive, SBP mmHg	-6.64 (-9.00 to -4.27)	398 (8)
White population, hypertensive, DBP mmHg	-2.87 [-3.41 to -2.32] <i>-2.76 [-3.38, -2.13]*</i>	4032 (89)	Black population, hypertensive, DBP mmHg	-2.91 (-4.52 to -1.30)	398 (8)

\* Outcome of studies with duration of at least 7 days and high sodium intake of maximum 250 mmol

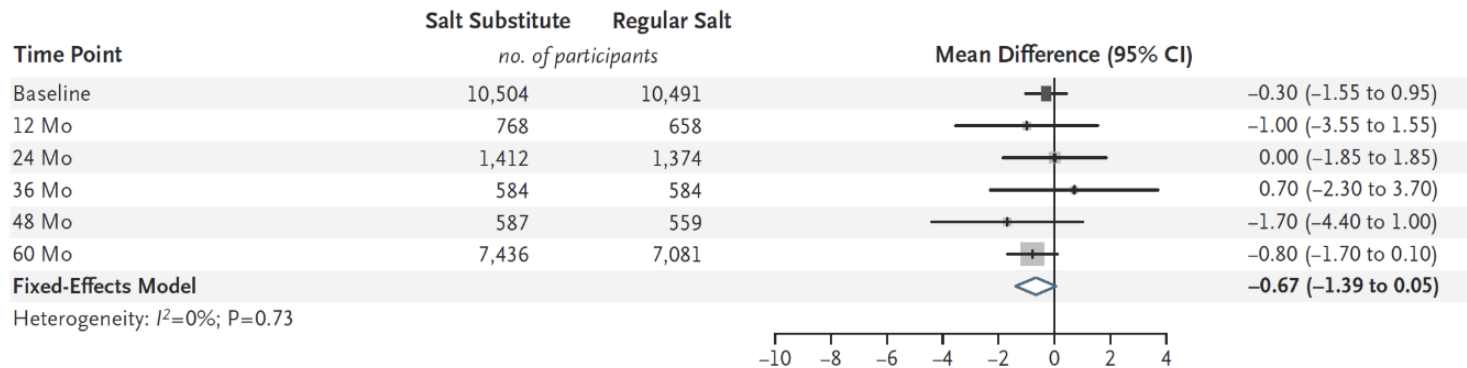
# The Na-K Exchange Saves Lives

## A Systolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)



The potassium switch!!!

## B Diastolic Blood Pressure (mm Hg)



**Σας ευχαριστώ για την προσοχή σας**