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# Signaling via cCMP and cUMP

**A short overview and appetizer for the  
research community, particularly  
prospective students**

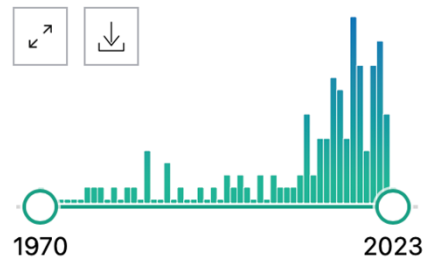
**Prof. Dr. Roland Seifert**

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# Problems in the cCMP and cUMP field

- Start of the field with artifacts and methodological problems in the 1970s
- → Low reputation
- Very few groups have been working in the field since then
- Biological functions as yet poorly understood
- **Mass spectrometry key for identification and quantification**
- Researchers are hesitant to enter the field (high risk, no known specific cCMP- or cUMP effectors)
- → Progress very slow until recently.....

RESULTS BY YEAR



PubMed search for “cUMP“ (16.1.2023)

# cNMP analysis by mass spectrometry

Exact mass of  
protonated cCMP  
306.0492 Da

## Tandem-mass spectrometry

Low mass selectivity 0.7 Da (~ 2000 ppm),  
but high sensitivity!

Masses in a range of 305.35 and  
306.75 Da are detected as  
protonated cCMP

→ **quantification**

## Time of flight mass spectrometry

High mass selectivity 5 - 15 ppm,  
but lower sensitivity!

Masses in a range of 306.0445 and  
306.0454 Da are detected as  
protonated cCMP

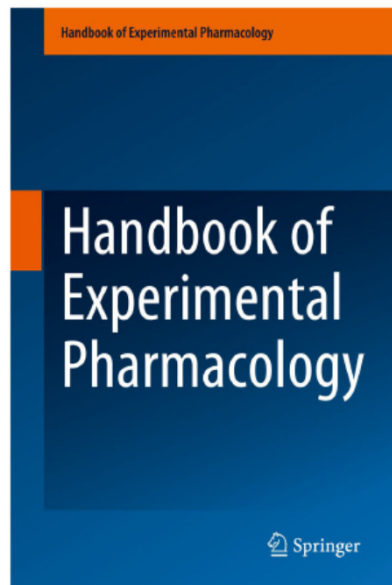
→ **identification  
verification**

# Handbook of Experimental Pharmacology

Volume 238

Volume title: **Non-Canonical Cyclic Nucleotides**

Volume Editor: **Roland Seifert**



**Part I: cCMP and cUMP as second messengers**

**Part II: cIMP, 8-nitro-cGMP, 2',3'-cNMP and cyclic dinucleotides as signaling molecules**

**Part III: Methods/tools for cNMP research**

**18 chapters written by leading experts; published 2017**

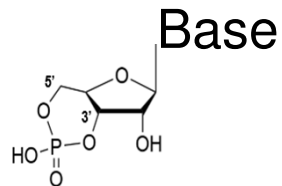
# Canonical and non-canonical cNMP

## Canonical cNMP:

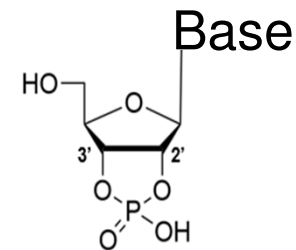
- 3',5'-cAMP (long-established second messenger)
- 3',5'-cGMP (long-established second messenger)

## Non-canonical cNMP:

- **3',5'-cCMP (newly established second messenger)**
- **3',5'-cUMP (newly established second messenger)**
- **2',3'-cNMP (just emerging second messenger)**

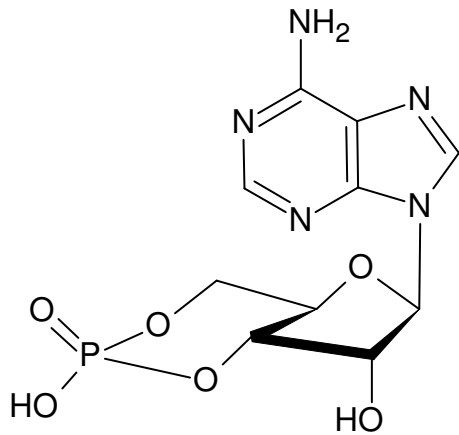


3',5'-cNMP

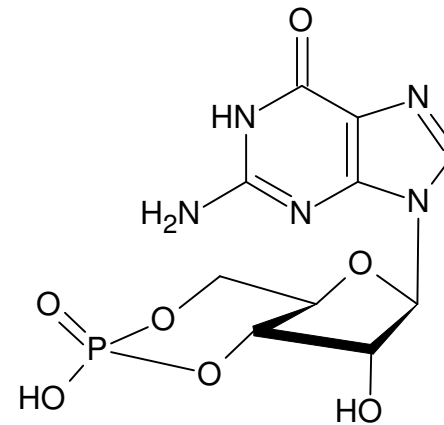


2',3'-cNMP

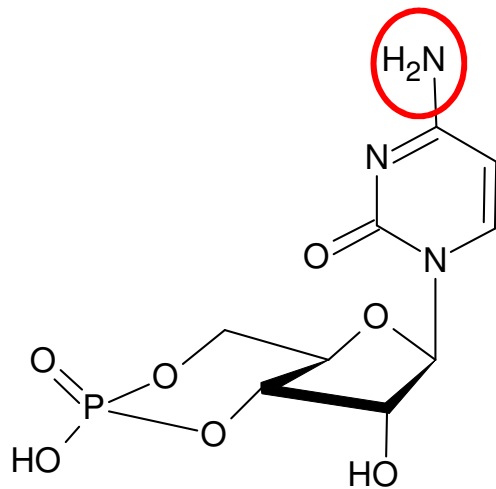
# Cyclic purine and pyrimidine nucleotides



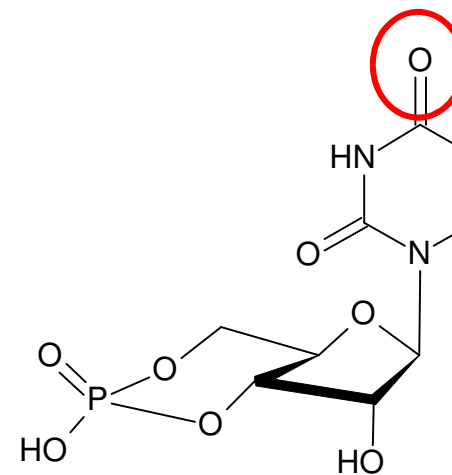
**cAMP**



**cGMP**



**cCMP**



**cUMP**

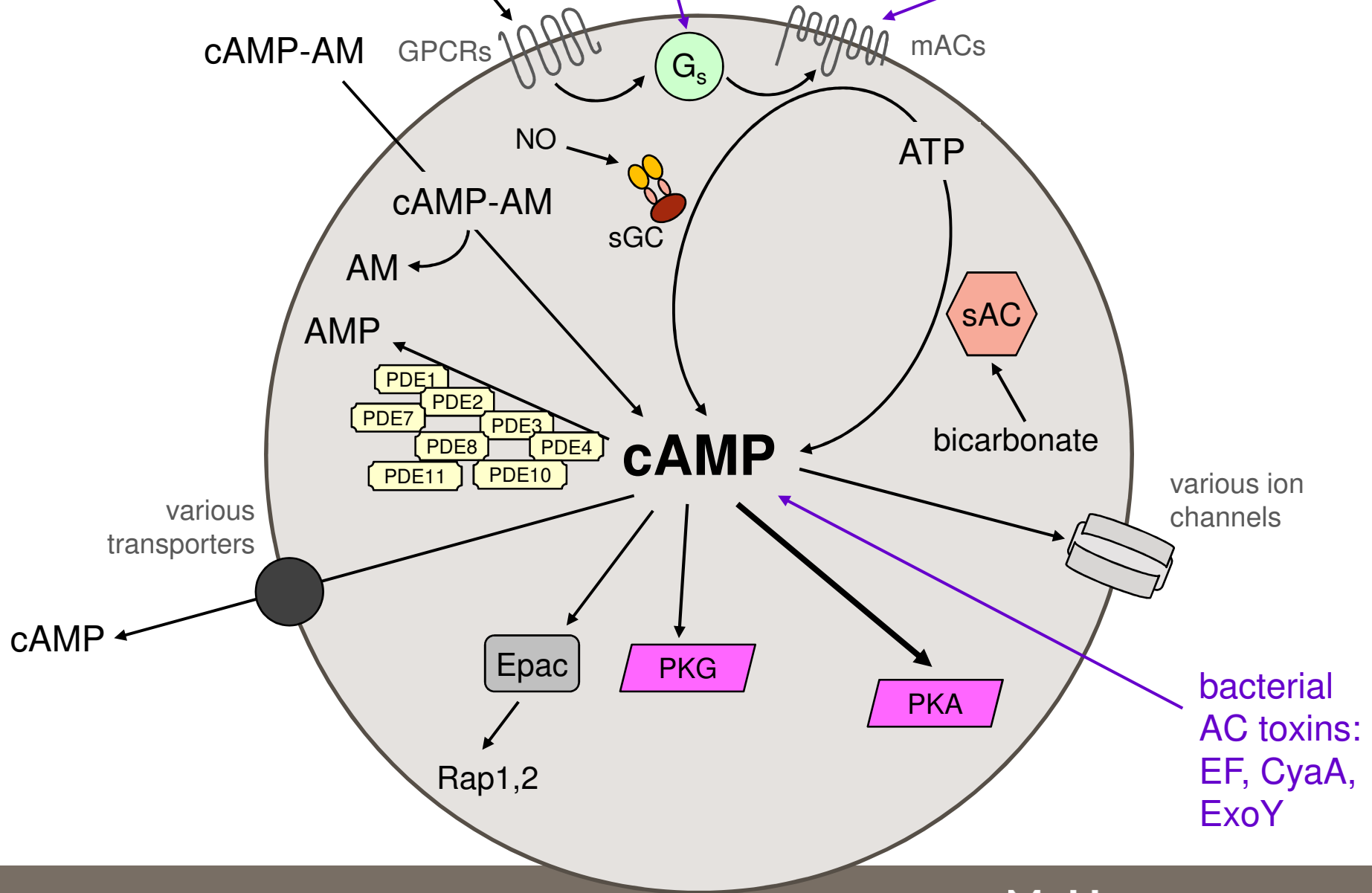
## cNMPs as second messengers

Criterion	cAMP	cGMP	cCMP	cUMP
<b>Generators</b>	mACs 1-9, sAC (sGC, pGC-A)	sGC, pGCs A-G, (sAC)	sGC, sAC, <b>other cyclases?</b>	sGC, sAC, <b>others cyclases?</b>
<b>Effectors</b>	PKA, Epac, HCN channels, (PKG)	PKG, (PKA), PDEs, ion channels	PKA, PKG, HCN channels 2 and 4, <b>others targets?</b>	PKA, PKG, HCN channels 2 and 4, <b>other targets?</b>
<b>Biological functions</b>	Virtually every cell is regulated by cAMP	Many cell functions, e.g. vascular tone, platelet aggregation, metabolism, vision	Heart pacing, immune cell function, apoptosis, reproductive function? <b>Other functions</b>	Heart pacing, apoptosis, neuronal homeostasis? <b>Other functions?</b>
<b>Inactivation</b>	cAMP-specific PDEs, but also cAMP/cGMP- and cGMP-specific PDEs; MRPs 4 and 5	cGMP-specific PDEs, but also cAMP/cGMP-specific PDEs, MRPs 4 and 5, OAT2	PDE7A1, MRP5	PDEs 3A, 3B and 9A, MRPs 4 and 5
<b>Membrane-permeable analogs</b>	DB-cAMP, cAMP-AM and others	DB-cGMP, cGMP-AM	DB-cCMP, cCMP-AM	cUMP-AM
<b>Mimicry by toxins</b>	Cholera toxin, EF, CyaA, (ExoY)	Heat-stable enterotoxin, ExoY	ExoY, (CyaA, EF)	<b>ExoY</b> , (CyaA)

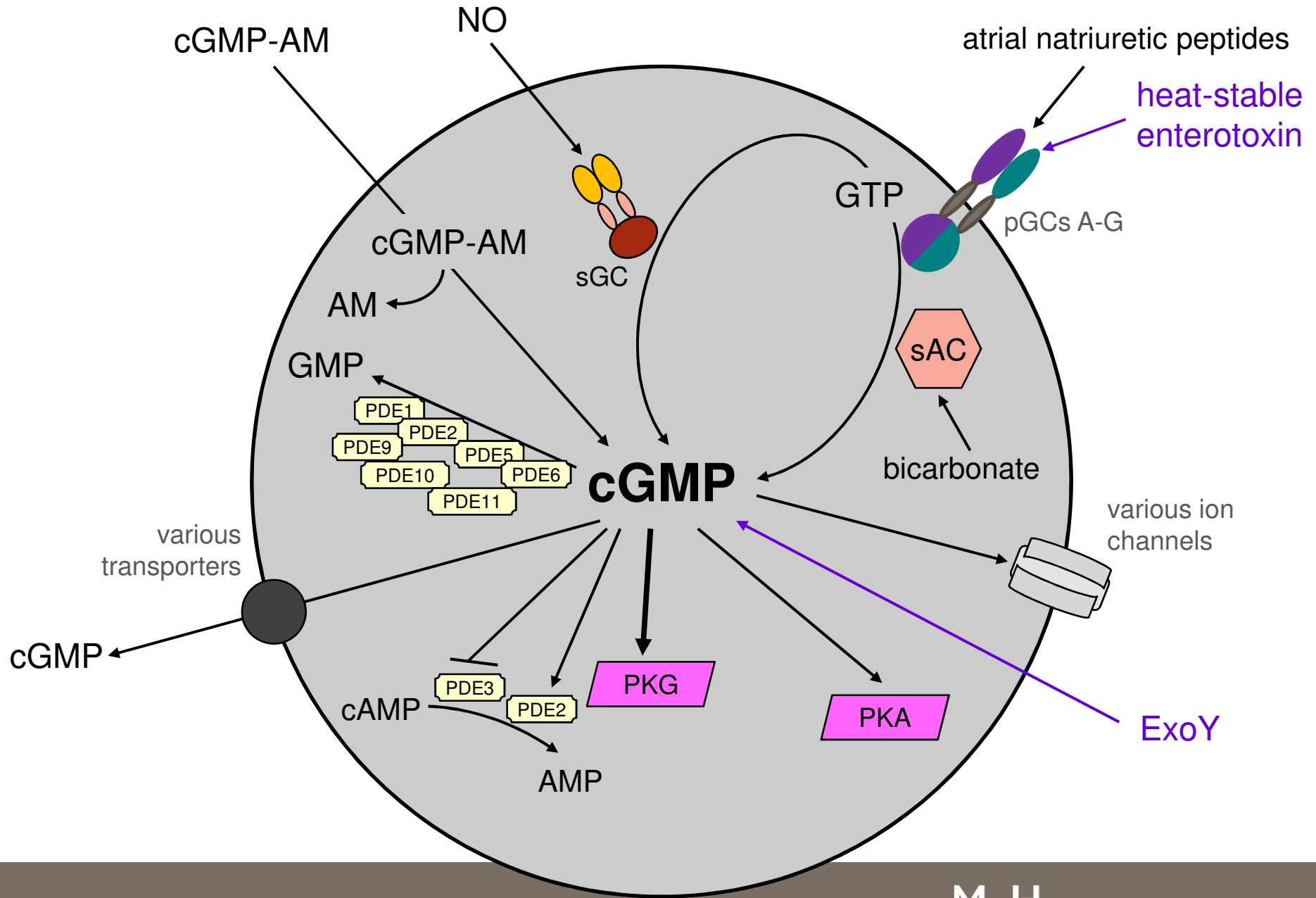
hormones, neurotransmitters

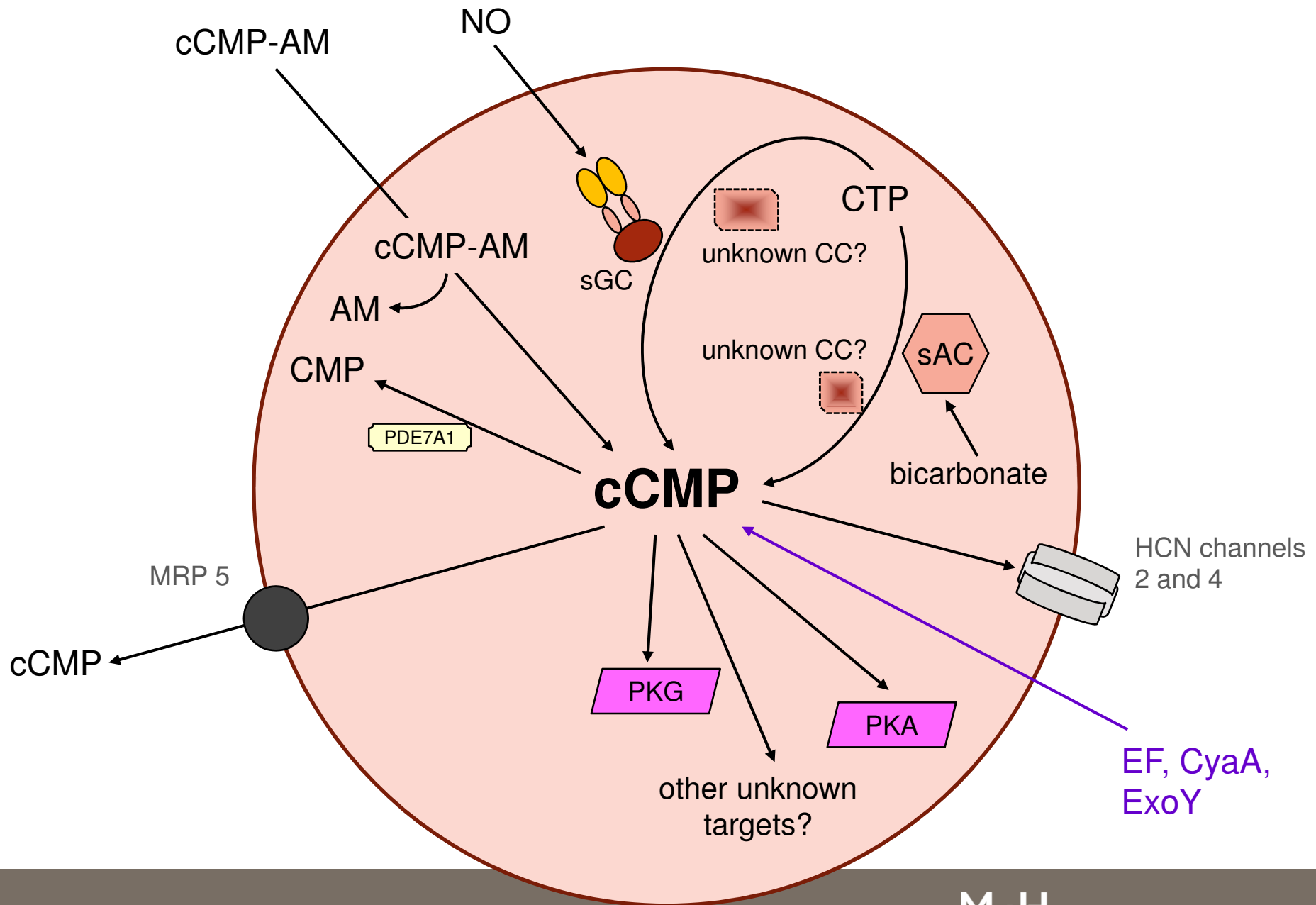
cholera toxin

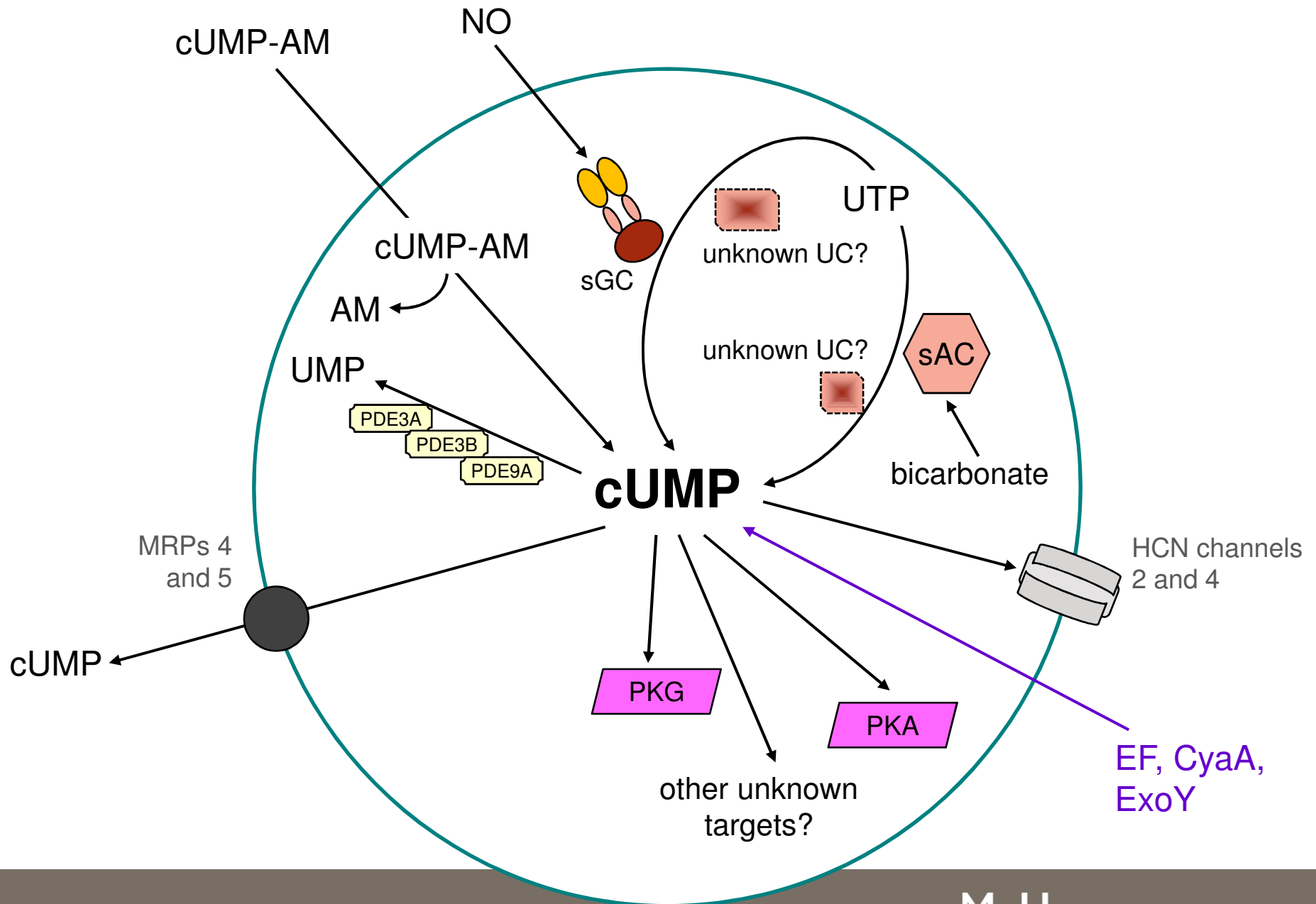
forskolin



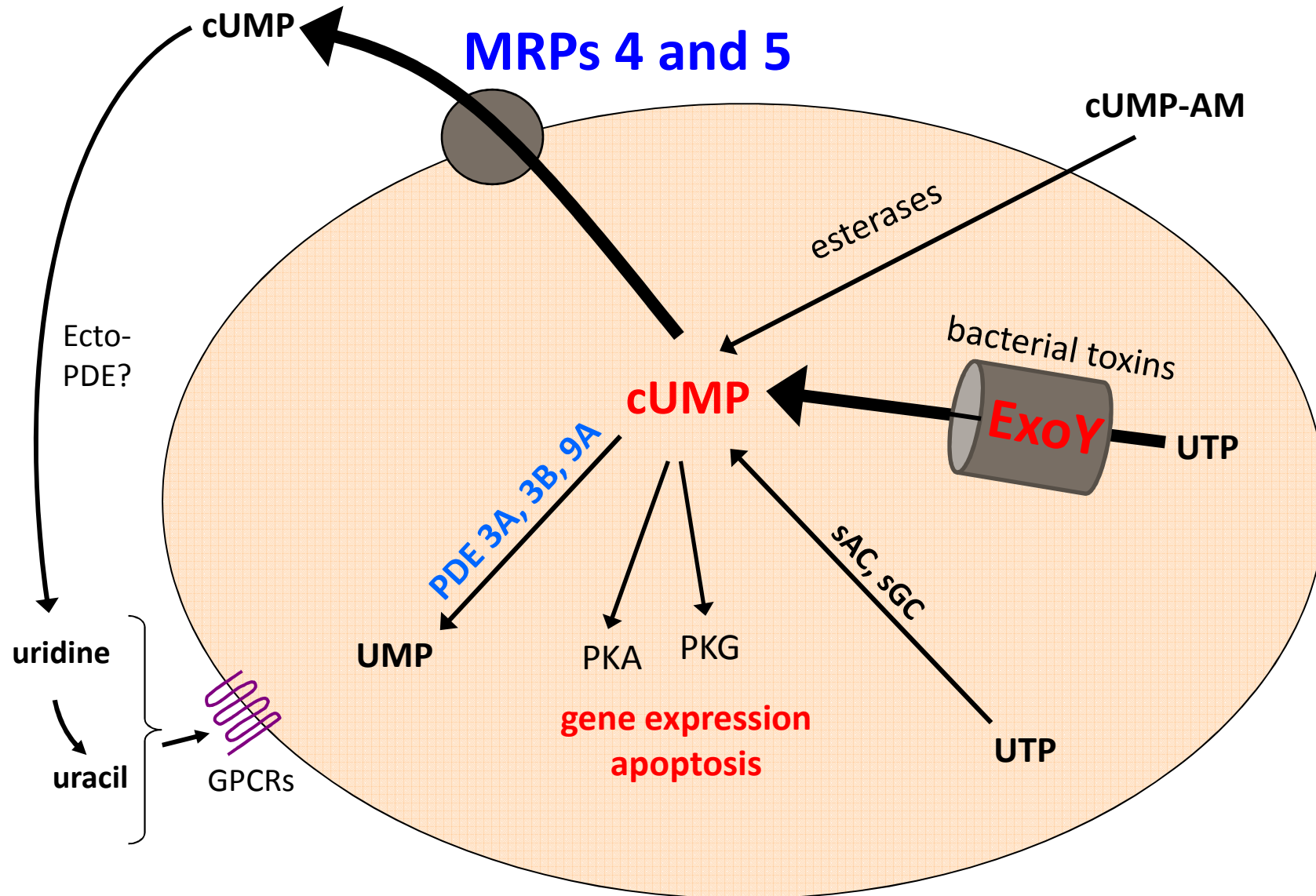






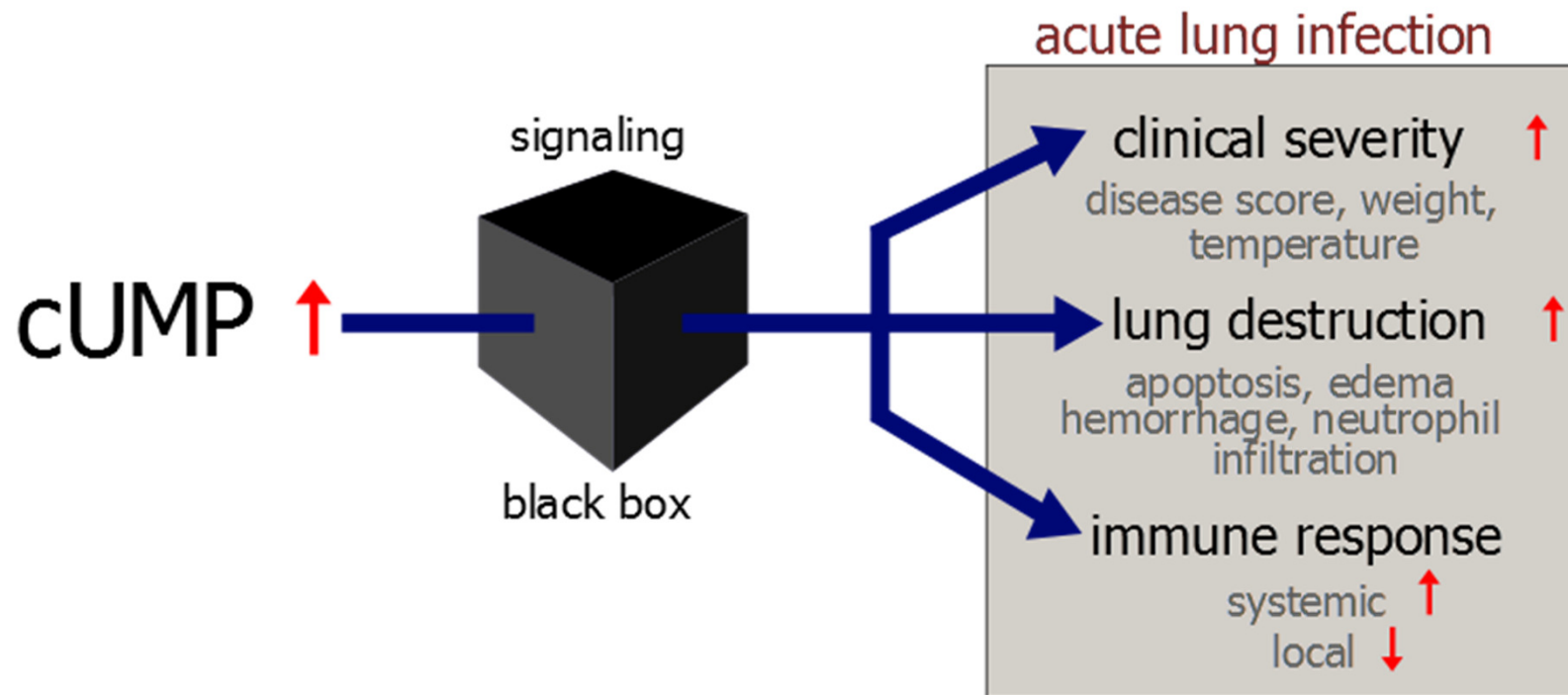


# Export of cUMP by MRPs more relevant than degradation by PDEs?

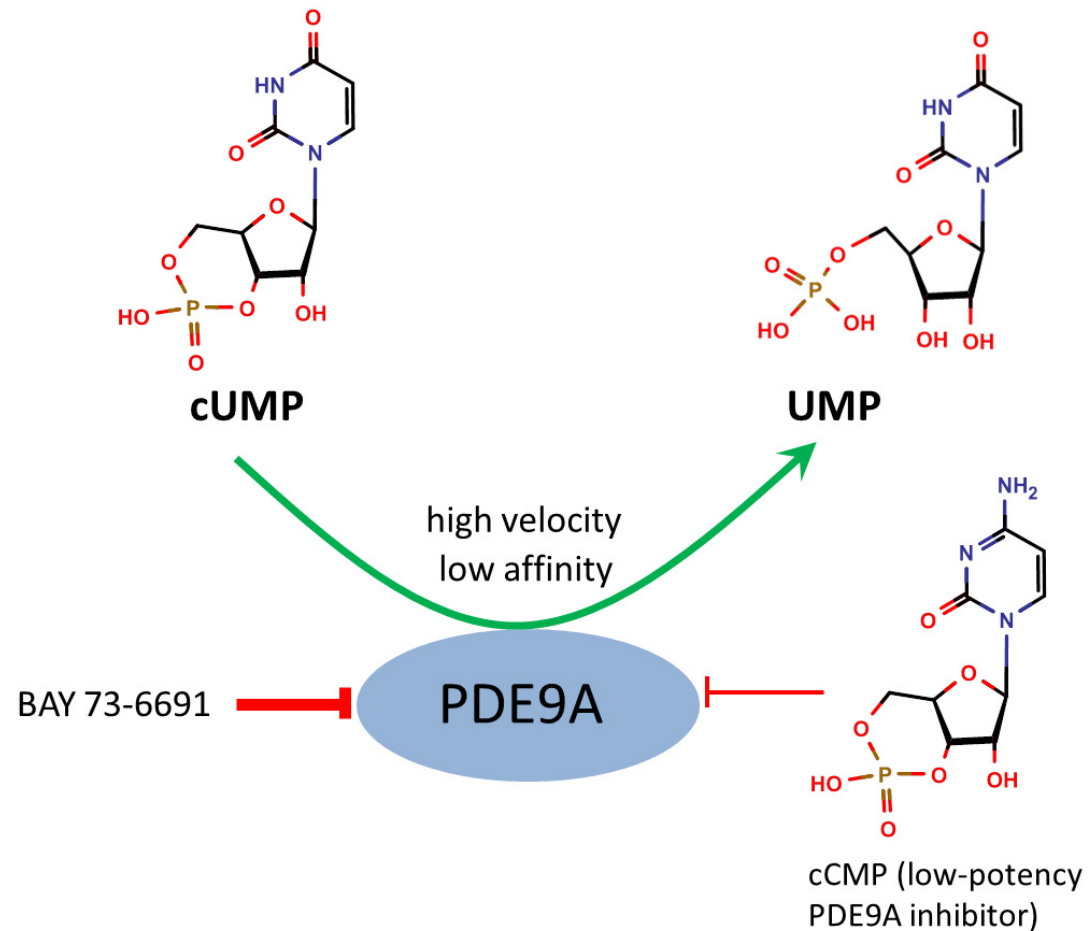


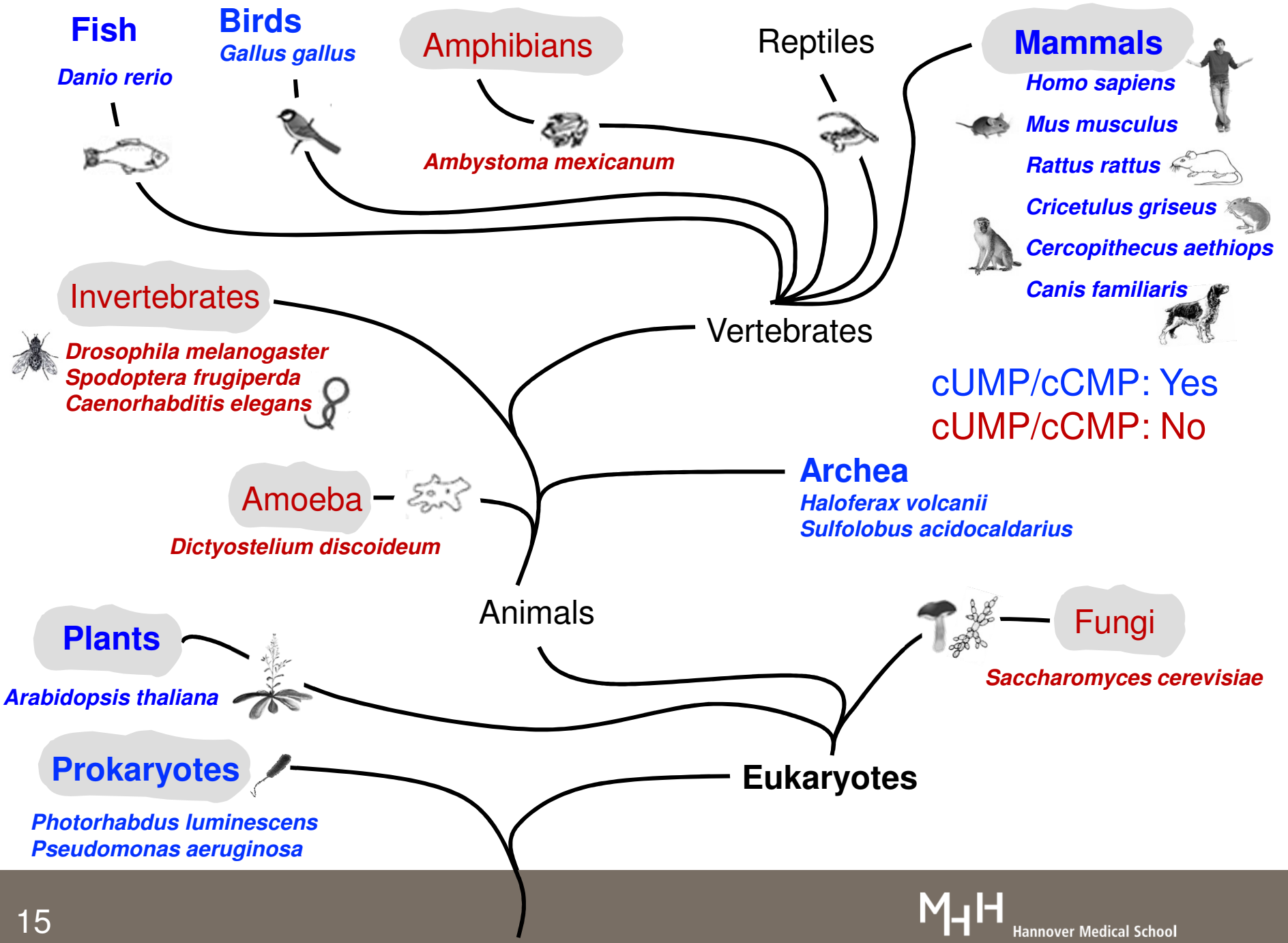
# Summary of ExoY

- Nucleotidyl cyclase activity of ExoY leads to a more severe lung infection.
- cUMP is the most prominent cNMP during early infection.
- Establishment of effective (innate) immune response in the lung may be hindered by ExoY (TNF / IL-1 $\beta$   $\downarrow$ ) during early infection

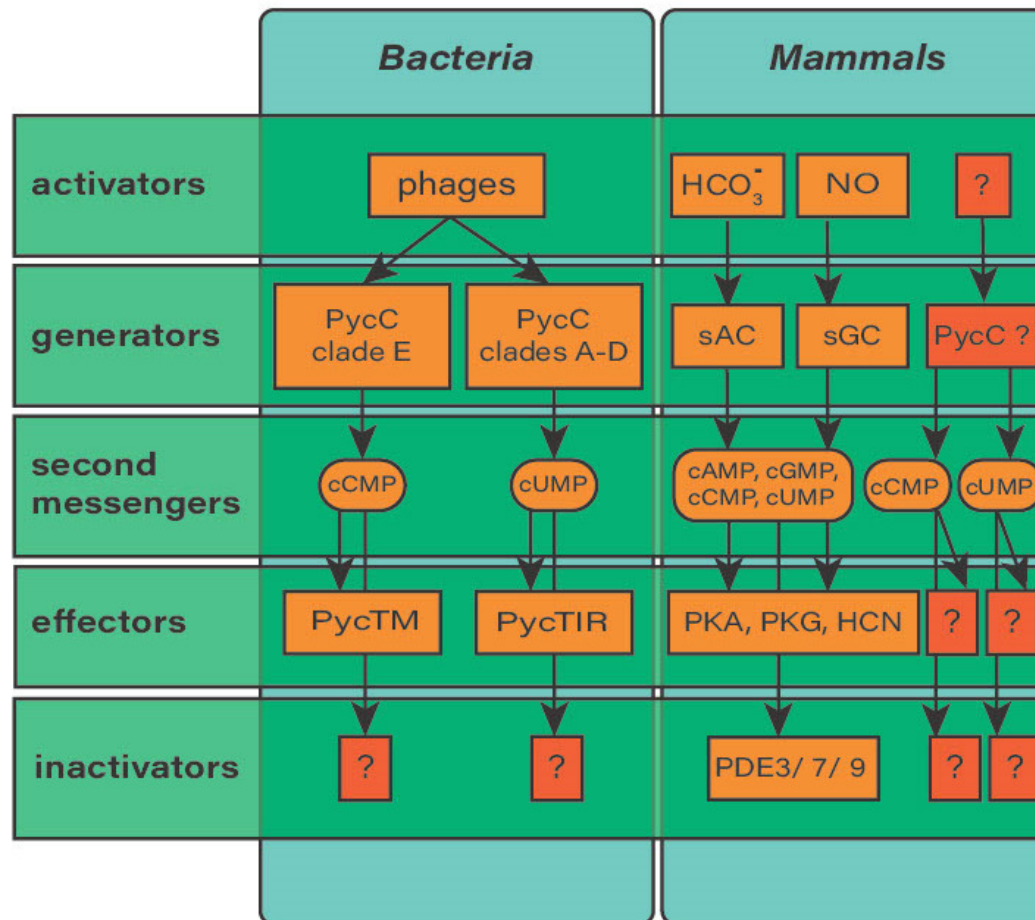


# PDE9A as cCMP-inhibited cUMP-hydrolyzing PDE





# Selective PycC, cCMP and cUMP effectors



- Tal N..... Kranzusch PJ, Sorek R. Cyclic CMP and cyclic UMP mediate bacterial immunity against phages. *Cell* **184**:5728 (2021)
- Seifert R, Schirmer B. cCMP and cUMP come into the spotlight, finally. *Trends Biochem Sci* **47**:461 (2022)



# Take-home messages

- New large families of bacterial UC and CC (PycC)
- cCMP and cUMP in many kingdoms of life
- cCMP and cUMP as second messengers
- Different regulation of cNMPs (2',3' and 3',5') under different living conditions
- Viral cCMP/cUMP-degrading PDE („nucleases“) as defence weapons
- Promiscuous mammalian NC and bacterial NC toxins