# Changing Sedentary Behaviour in the Prevention and Management of Chronic Diseases – Triangulating on Mechanisms

#### **Professor David Dunstan**

Laboratory Head, Physical Activity | NHMRC Senior Research Fellow – Baker

Mary MacKillop Institute for Health Research, Australian Catholic University





# **Acknowledgements**







**Paddy Dempsey** 



**Neville Owen** 



Megan Grace



Robyn Larsen



**Genevieve Healy** 











#### **Outline**

- The building blocks of an integrated research program addressing the health consequences of prolonged sitting
  - Insights from triangulation: observational, experimental and intervention research cross-talk – NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence on Sitting Time and Chronic Disease Prevention

- Developing deeper insights on the mechanistic underpinnings linking prolonged sitting to elevated health risks
  - Evidence from acute studies metabolic and vascular impacts
  - Next steps and unanswered questions



#### National Health & Medical Research Council Centre of Research Excellence on Sitting **Time & Chronic Disease Prevention**



Australian Government National Health and Medical Research Council

#### Theme 1 Measurement



Theme 2 **Mechanisms** 



Theme 3 **Interventions** 















Trost

Kingwell

Dunstan

Salmon

Eakin









**Timperio** 







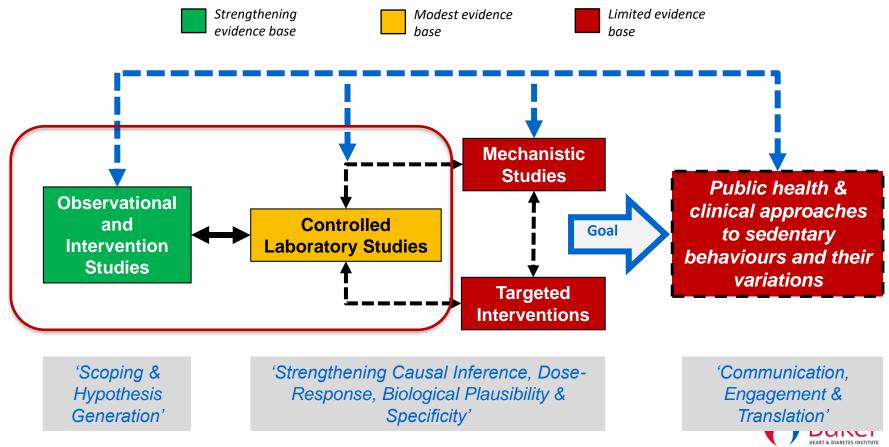






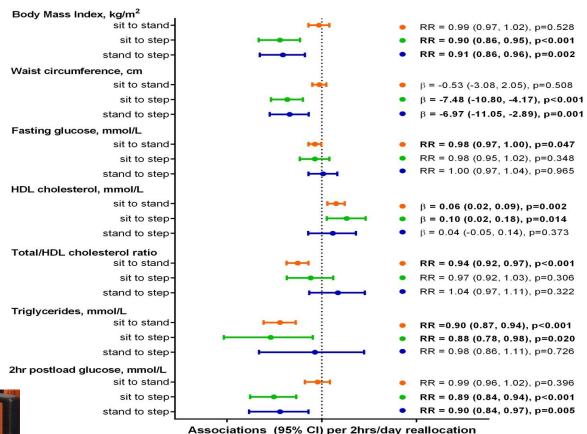
**Neville Owen** 

# Identifying and addressing sedentary behaviour targets



Dempsey et al. 2016. Curr Diab Rep

## **Observational:** Informing behaviour change interventions



Sitting to standing – benefits for fasting glucose, HDL-C, triglycerides

Sitting to stepping – benefits for BMI, waist circumference, triglycerides, 2hr glucose



Source: Healy et al. Eur Heart J 2015 36: 2643-2649

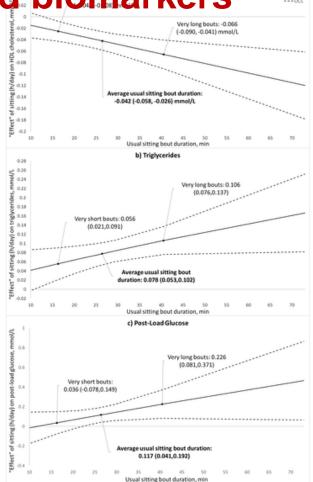
Observational; sitting patterns and biomarkers Average usual bout duration 100 -Number of sitting bouts Average number of sitting bouts Very short bouts: 0.056 25 -

10<sub>sitting time</sub>



Source: Bellettiere J, Winkler EAH, Chastin SFM, Kerr J, Owen N, et al. (2017) Associations of sitting accumulation patterns with cardio-metabolic risk biomarkers in Australian adults. PLOS ONE 12(6): e0180119

Usual bout duration (min)



# **Experimental:** cross-talk with observational findings

**IDLE Breaks:** Brief walking breaks at moderate and light intensity: acute responses

**ABLE Breaks:** Brief walking at moderate and light intensity: cumulative responses

Sit Or Stand (SOS): Standing-only breaks over 5 days

**REWARD:** Walking and simple resistance breaks in T2D

**Active Ads:** Breaking up sitting after a high-energy evening meal while watching TV

**Brain Breaks:** Interacting effects of acute exercise with breaks in sitting on cognitive

function in older adults





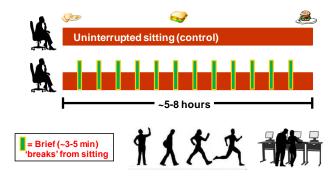








#### **Experimental:** interruptions and biomarkers

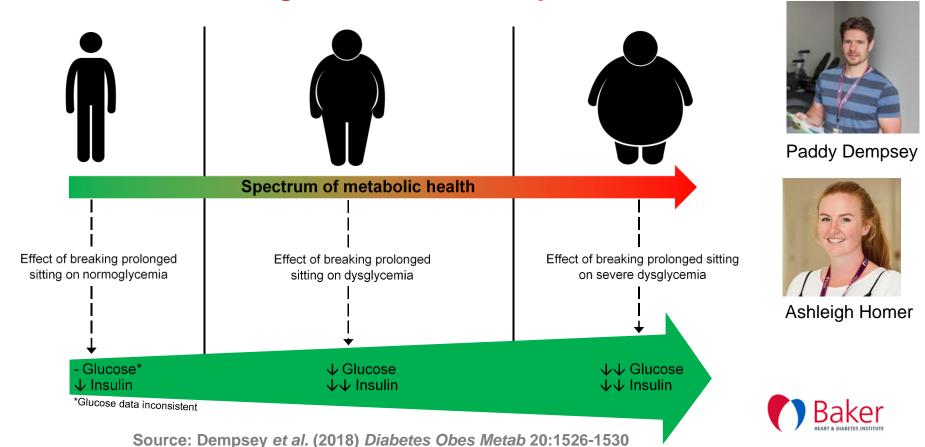


- ✓ Postprandial glucose and insulin responses
- ✓ Blood pressure
- ✓ Lipids
- Haemostatic markers

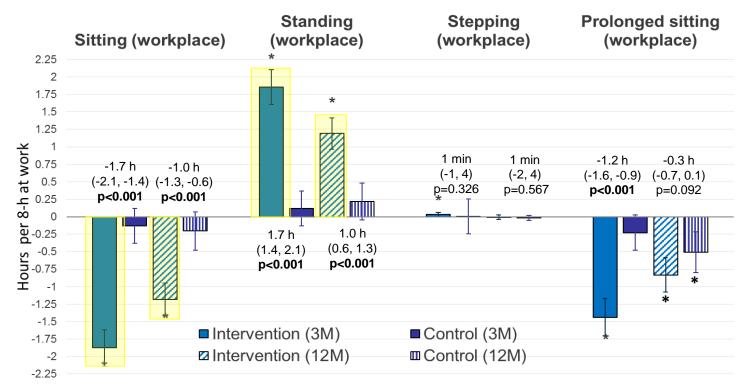
At least in the short-term (< 5 days)



# **Key Observation:** Glycaemic benefits appear to be proportional to degree of metabolic impairment

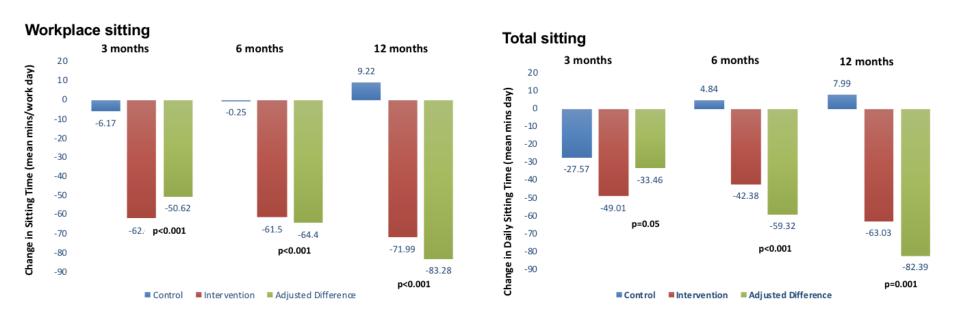


# Intervention: Large changes in workplace sitting





# Intervention: Large changes in workplace sitting



Source: Edwardson C et al. BMJ 2018

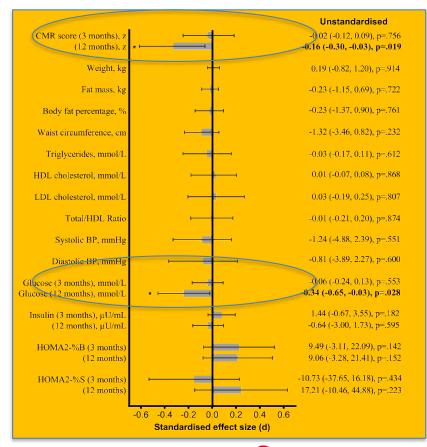






# A Cluster RCT to Reduce Workers' Sitting Time: Impact on Cardiometabolic Biomarkers

GENEVIEVE N. HEALY $^{1,2,3}$ , ELISABETH A. H. WINKLER $^1$ , ELIZABETH G. EAKIN $^1$ , NEVILLE OWEN $^{1,2,4,5,6}$ , ANTHONY D. LAMONTAGNE $^7$ , MARJ MOODIE $^7$ , and DAVID W. DUNSTAN $^{1,2,5,6,8}$ 





Source: Healy G et al. (2017) Med Sci Sports Exerc 49: 2032-2039

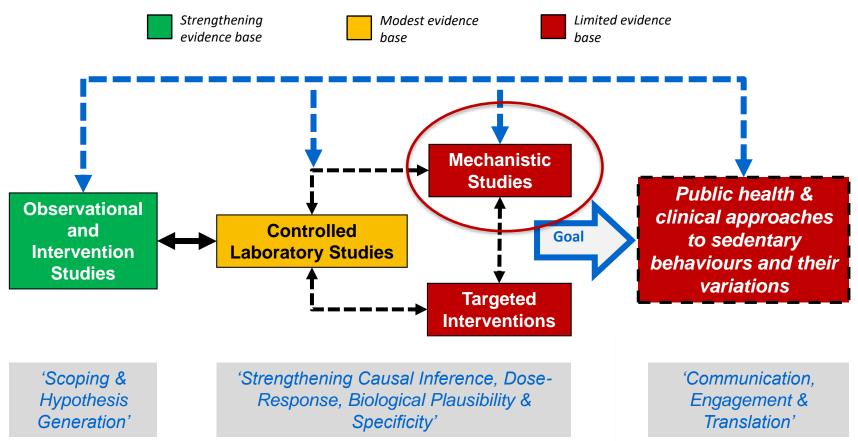
#### **Outline**

- The building blocks of an integrated research program addressing the health consequences of prolonged sitting
  - Insights from triangulation: observational, experimental and intervention research cross-talk NHMRC Centre of Research Excellence on Sitting Time and Chronic Disease Prevention

- Developing deeper insights on the mechanistic underpinnings linking prolonged sitting to elevated health risks
  - Evidence from acute studies metabolic and vascular impacts
  - Next steps and unanswered questions



# **Prolonged sitting: elucidating the mechanisms**



Dempsey et al. 2016. Curr Diab Rep

### Why do we care about mechanisms?

Rational basis for population health advice Personalized prescription for countermeasures Identification of novel therapeutic targets



#### Understanding the acute mechanistic impacts of prolonged sitting



#### Vascular

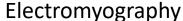
- ↓ Conduit artery flow
- ↓ Capillary recruitment
- ↓ Endothelial function
  - ↓ shear stress
  - ↓ vasodilatation
  - ↑ leukocyte adhesion
- ↑ Haemostasis

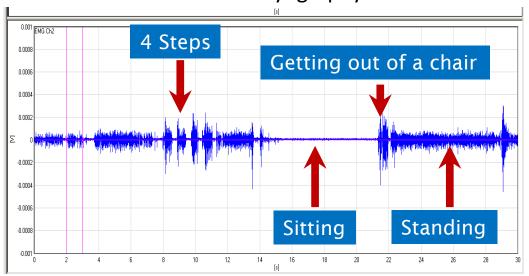
#### Metabolic

- ↓ muscular contractile activity
- ↓ ATP production
  - ↓ glucose uptake and metabolism
  - ↓ lipolysis, FFA uptake, fat oxidation

Source: Dempsey PC & Thyfault JP Physiological responses to sedentary behavior. In: Leitzman MF, Jochem C, Schmid D (eds) *Sedentary behavior epidemiology* 2018 Springer International Publishing

#### **Prolonged Sitting Diminishes Skeletal Muscle Contractile function**







Source: Hamilton M et al. Diabetes, 2007

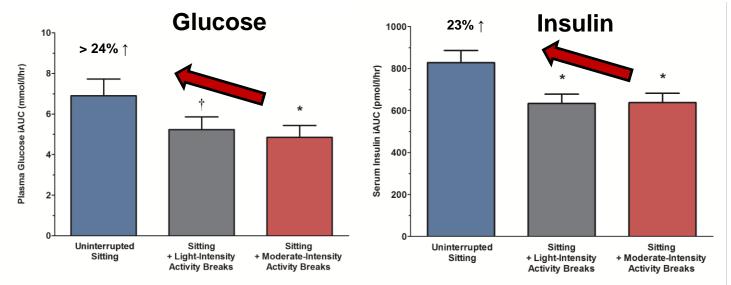


# Prolonged sitting impairs glycemic control

#### PARTICIPANTS (n=19)

Age: 45-65 years

Overweight/obese: BMI >  $25 \le 45 \text{ kg/m}^2$ 

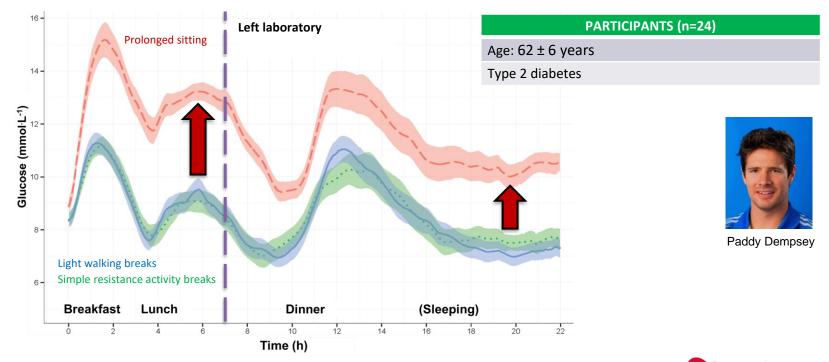


Meal challenge: 75g CHO/50g fat (Calogen: Nutricia Aust)



Source: Dunstan DW et al. (2012) Diabetes Care 35: 976-983

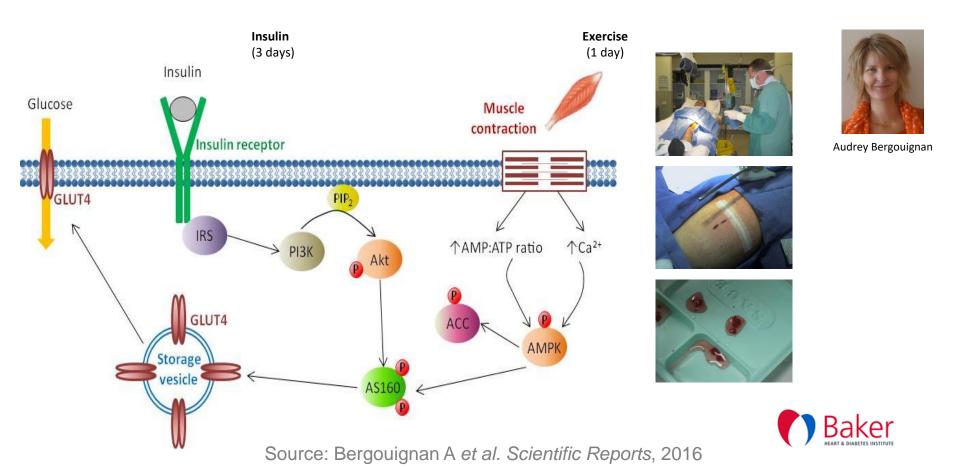
#### Sustained nocturnal impairment of glycemic control by prolonged daytime sitting





Source: Dempsey P et al., Diabetologia 2017. 60(3):499-507

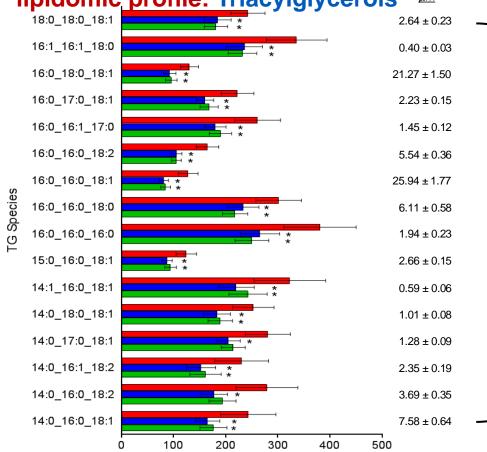
#### Prolonged sitting impairs dual pathways for skeletal muscle glucose uptake



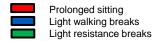


Liquid chromatography, electrospray ionisation-tandem mass spectrometry

# Prolonged sitting modulates the post-prandial plasma lipidomic profile: Triacylglycerols •



% Change from baseline

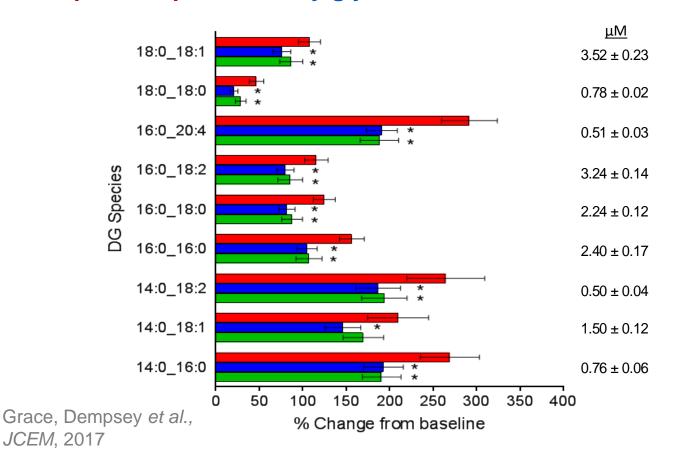


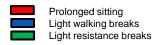
**INFLAMMATION** 



Grace, Dempsey et al., JCEM, 2017

# Prolonged sitting modulates the post-prandial plasma lipidomic profile: Diacylglycerols

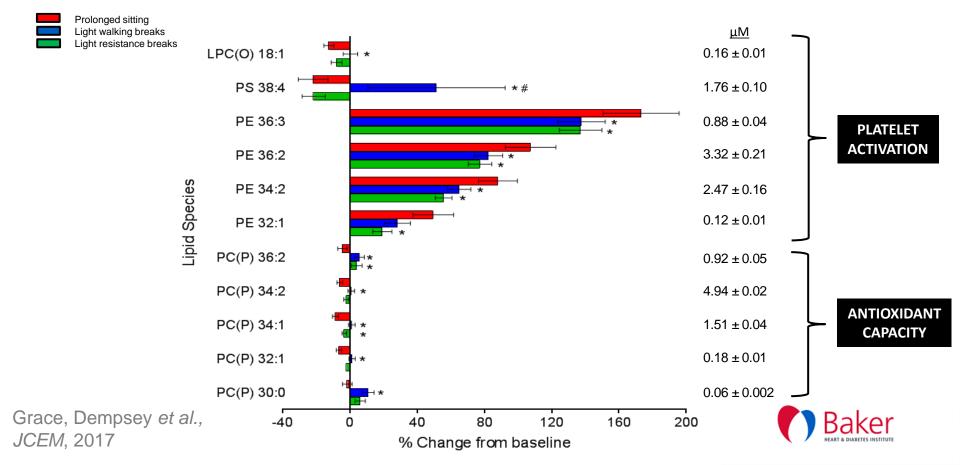




**INFLAMMATION** 



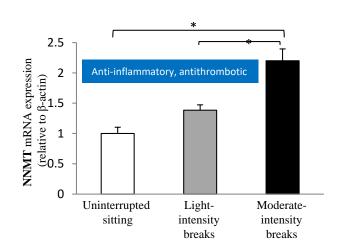
# Prolonged sitting modulates the post-prandial plasma lipidomic profile: Other Lipid Species

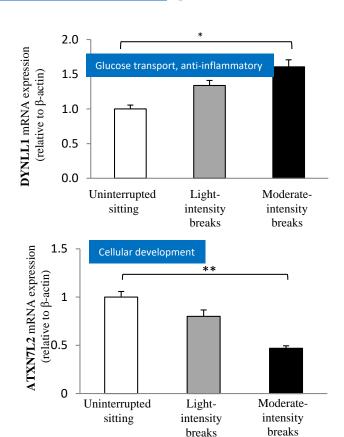


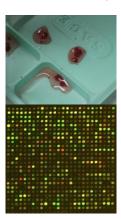
#### Prolonged sitting modulates multiple skeletal muscle gene expression pathways

#### 75 differentially expressed genes

- -18 cellular development
- -21 cellular growth & proliferation
- -16 small-molecule biochemistry
- -10 carbohydrate metabolism







#### Understanding the acute mechanistic impacts of prolonged sitting



#### Vascular

- ↓ Conduit artery flow
- ↓ Capillary recruitment
- ↓ Endothelial function

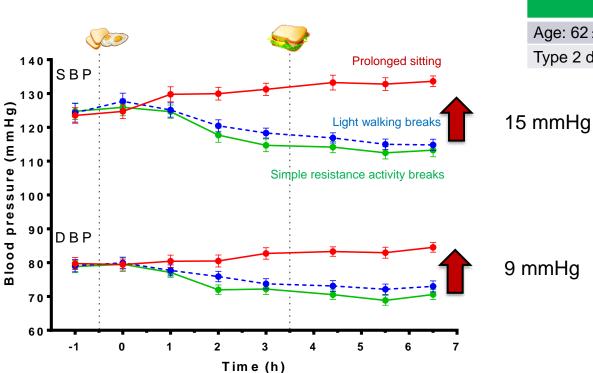
  - ↓ vasodilatation
  - ↑ leukocyte adhesion
- ↑ Haemostasis

#### Metabolic

- ↓ muscular contractile activity
- ↓ ATP production
  - ↓ glucose uptake and metabolism
  - ↓ lipolysis, FFA uptake, fat oxidation

**Source:** Dempsey PC & Thyfault JP Physiological responses to sedentary behavior. In: Leitzman MF, Jochem C, Schmid D (eds) *Sedentary behavior epidemiology* 2018. Springer International Publishing

# Prolonged sitting increases blood pressure



**PARTICIPANTS (n=24)** 

Age: 62 ± 6 years

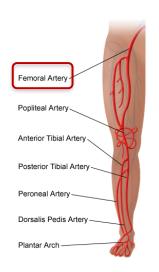
Type 2 diabetes

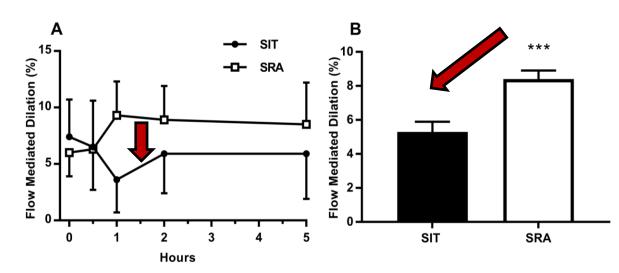


Source: Dempsey PC, et al. (2016) J Hypertens. 34: 2376-2382

## **Prolonged sitting reduces femoral FMD**

Compared to simple resistance exercises

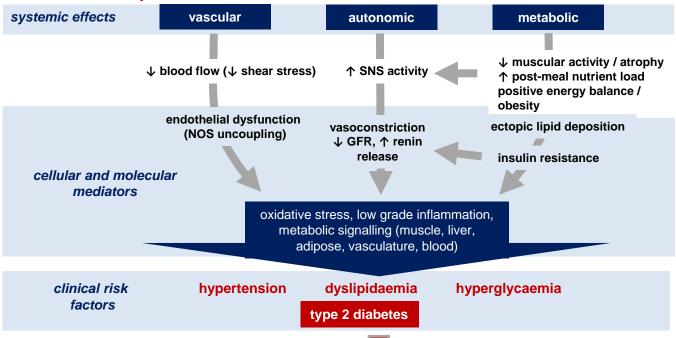








prolonged sitting



vascular damage (cardiac, cerebral, renal, ophthalmic) leukocyte adhesion, foam cell formation, platelet activation / thrombotic risk

Source: Dempsey PC et al. (2018) Hypertension. 72(5):1037-46.

cardiovascular complications



#### Unanswered questions

Which mechanism(s) can be most effectively altered by <u>sustained</u> reductions in prolonged sitting?

What are the temporal and dose-response relationships between biological mechanisms and different modalities, frequencies and interruptions to prolonged sitting time?

What are the <u>cellular and</u> <u>molecular underpinnings</u> of risk factor improvement resulting from sustained change in prolonged sitting?

# **Thank You For Listening**









Physical Activity Laboratory
Baker Heart & Diabetes Institute
david.dunstan@baker.edu.au

