- Toxoplasmosis gondii is capable of infecting all endothermic vertebrates.
- Full life cycle only in members of the cat family, in non-feline hosts ingested spores form cysts in brain cells

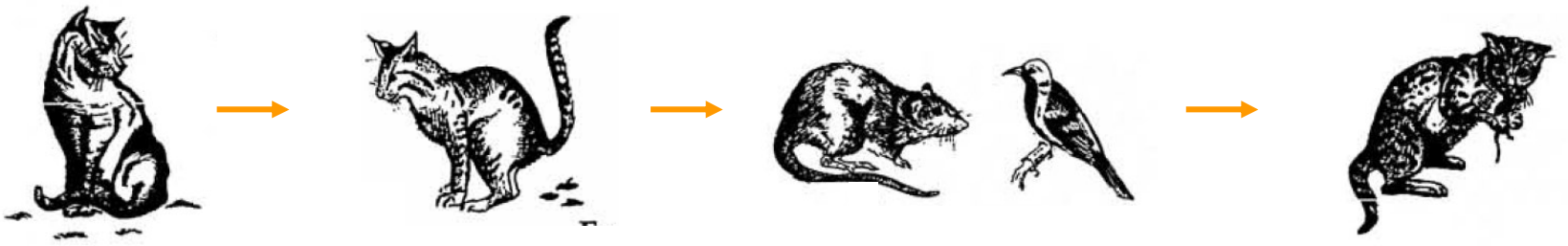

Fig: *J.P.Webster (2001), Newly-arranged*

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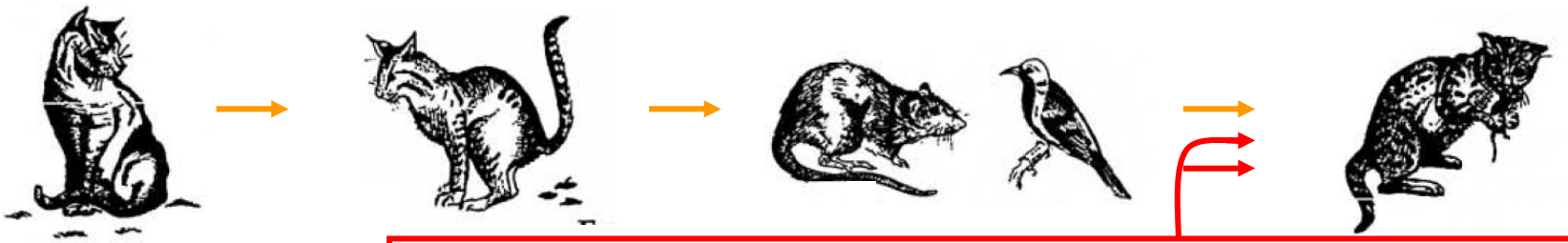

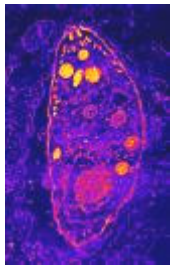

Infected mice
- have elevated dopamine level (novelty seeking) [1,2]
- show less reaction on cat smell [3]

[1] H. H. Stibbs, *Ann Trop Med Parasitol* **79**, 153 (1985)
[2] J. Benjamin et al., *Nat Genet* **12**, 81 (1196)
[3] M. Berdoy et al., *Proc R Soc* B **267**, 1591 (2000)

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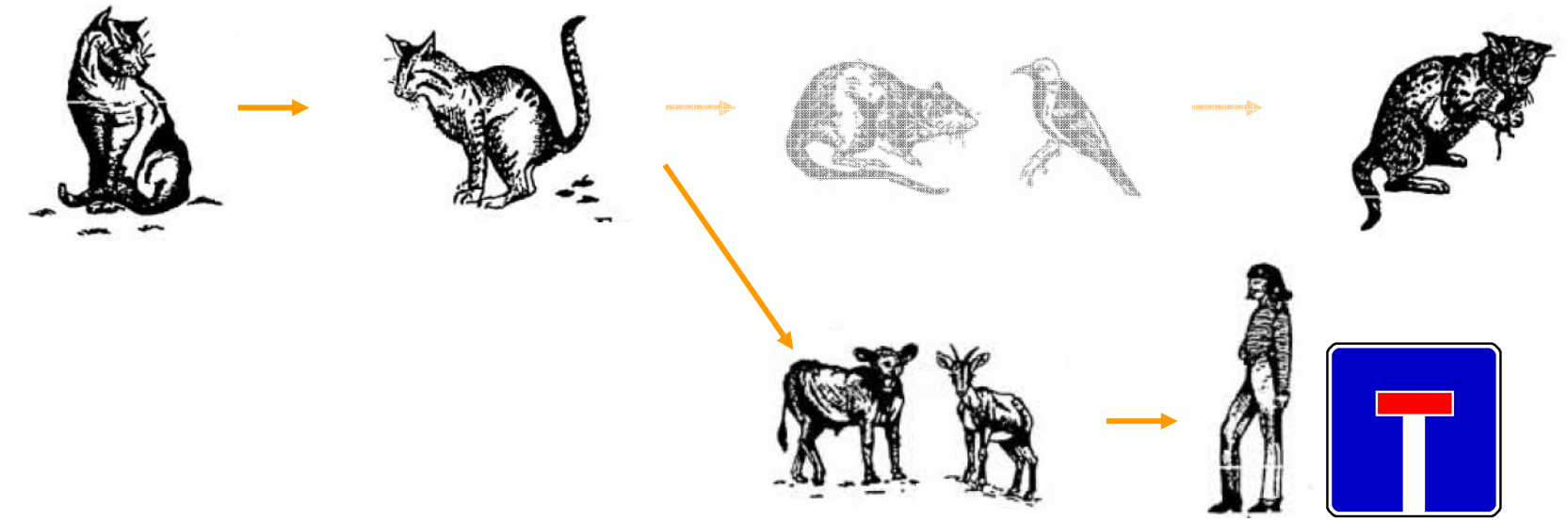

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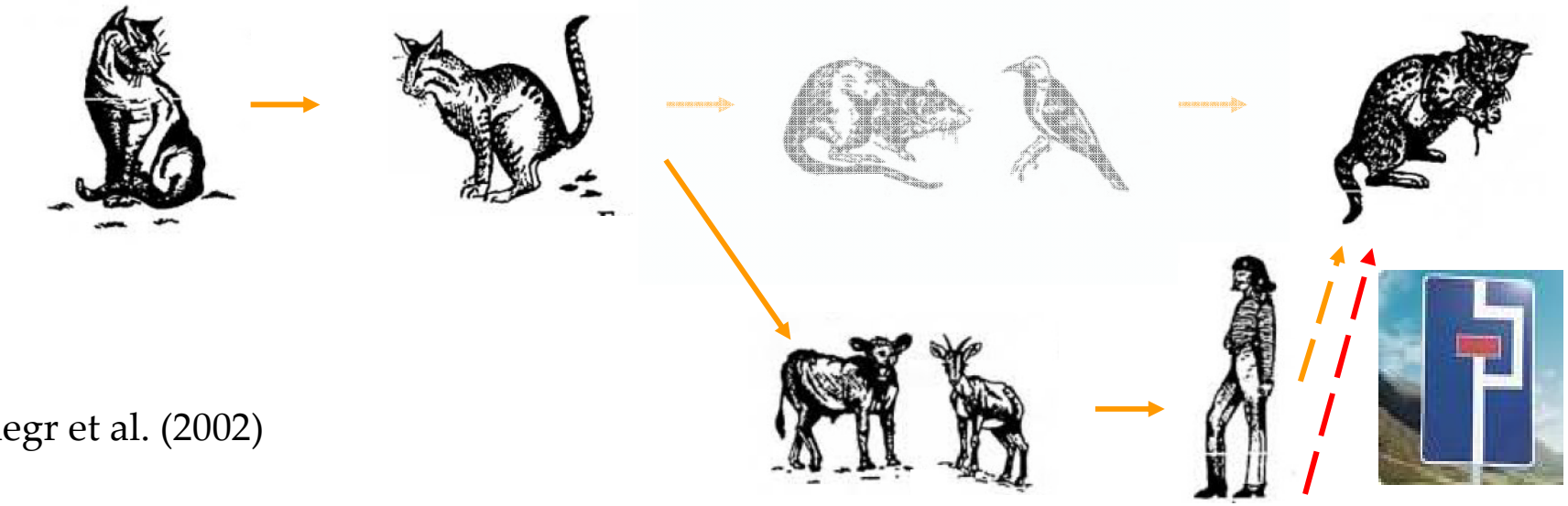
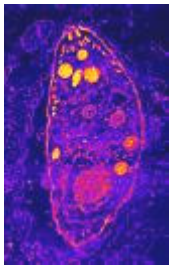


[4] Flegr et al. (2002)



- Correlation between toxoplasmosis and risk of traffic accident [4]

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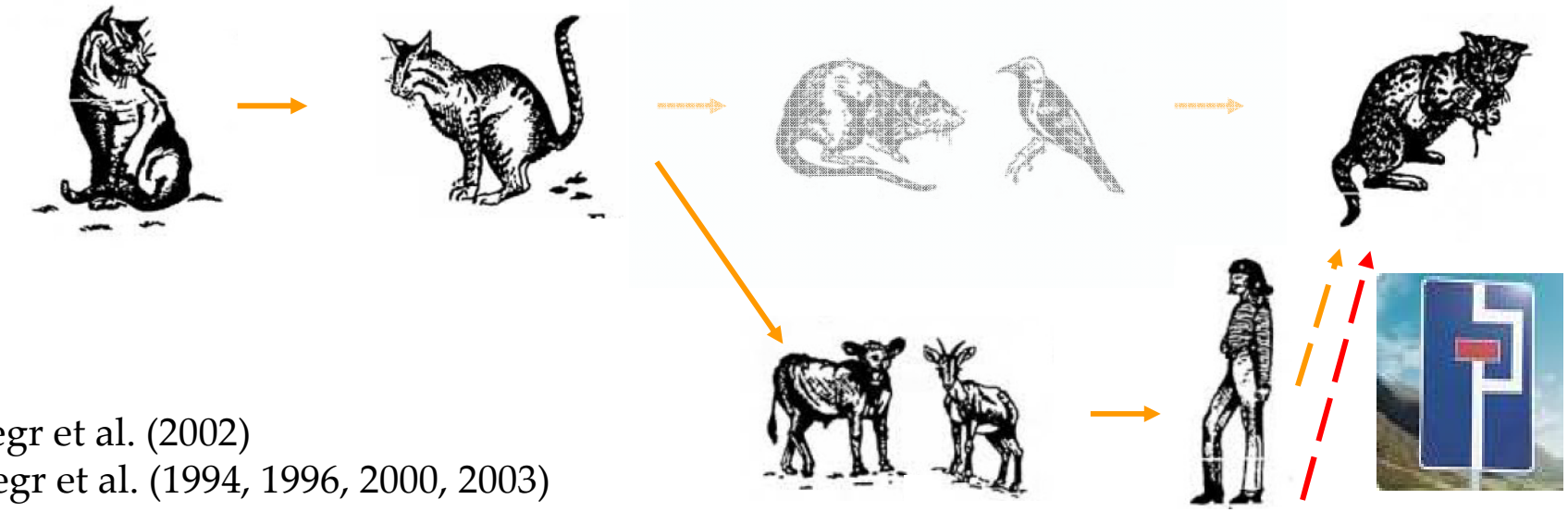
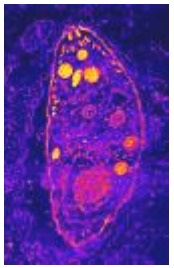


[4] Flegr et al. (2002)
[5] Flegr et al. (1994, 1996, 2000, 2003)



- Correlation between toxoplasmosis and risk of traffic accident [4]
- Effect on women: higher intelligence; outgoing, attentive to others [5]
- Effect on men: lower intelligence; loyal, stoic, low-tempered [5]