



### Problem in a nutshell

**↑ CO<sub>2</sub>**

**↓ CO<sub>2</sub>**

At the end of exhalation, the amount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the alveoli is allocated to the alveolar capillaries, which means that end tidal CO<sub>2</sub> (ETCO<sub>2</sub>) = arterial CO<sub>2</sub> (PaCO<sub>2</sub>).

ETCO<sub>2</sub> below 35 mm HG = systemic alkalosis, vasoconstriction, increased sodium conductance, and debilitating symptoms.

7

### Low CO<sub>2</sub> = alkalosis = vasoconstriction

**Less CO<sub>2</sub>**

8

### ATP Production

## ATP synthesis

**Glycolysis: Mg<sup>++</sup>**

**Krebs: B-vitamins, Mg, Fe, ALCAR**  
Insulin stimulates Fe, Statins inhibit

**Electron transport: CoQ10, a-LA, Heme A (B2, B5, B6, biotin, iron, copper, zinc)**

9

### Cellular Antioxidant Defense

VEGF<sup>TM</sup> Inhibitors (Lucentis, Avastin)  
For central nociceptive inhibition: [Opioids, pregabalin (Lyrica), Cymbalta]

\*Not required for non-insulin sensitive cells  
Normal cortisol levels: insulin (zinc), B3, GSH, chromium, Mn, Mg<sup>++</sup>

TNF<sup>α</sup> causes pain and inhibits the insulin receptor. [Metformin, Avandia, Actos]

Acute and chronic inflammation are also associated with fibrinogen, cytokines, and bradykinin - inactivated by proteolytic enzymes.

10

### Pro- & anti-inflammatory eicosanoid synthesis

Linoleic acid (LA) (n-6) → Grains, flours, corn, seeds, seed oils

Plants convert → Alpha-linolenic acid (ALA) (n-3) → Green vegetables, flaxseeds, chia, hemp seeds

1:1 ratio of n-6 to n-3

Series 1: Anti-inflammatory (PGE1, TXA1)

Series 2: Pro-inflammatory (PGI2, PGE2, PGE3, LTB4, LTC4)

Series 3: Anti-inflammatory (PGI3, PGE3, LTB5, LTC5)

Series 4: Anti-inflammatory (17S-resolvins, neuroprotectins)

11

### 20% refined sugar, 20% refined flour, 20% refined oils of total calories

Hyperglycemia → Lipopolysaccharide → Macrophages → IL-1, IL-6, TNF

Adiposopathy → Fibroblasts → IL-1, IL-6, TNF

Low vit D → Group IV neuron → IL-1, IL-6, TNF

High dietary n-6 → NF-κB → PGE-2, LTB-4, IL-1, IL-6, TNF, MMPs, VEGF

Free radicals → NF-κB

AA → COX → PGE-2, LTB-4

PLA-2 → AA

LOX → IL-1, IL-6, TNF, MMPs, VEGF

hsCRP → Liver

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12

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CHIROPRACTIC & MANUAL THERAPIES

COMMENTARY Open Access

## Body mass index and musculoskeletal pain: is there a connection?

David R Seaman

**Abstract**

**Background:** Back pain is one of the most common complaints that patients report to physicians and two-thirds of the population has an elevated body mass index (BMI), indicating they are either overweight or obese. It was once assumed that extra body weight would stress the low back and lead to pain, however, researchers have reported inconsistencies association between body weight and back pain. In contrast, more recent studies do indicate that an elevated BMI is associated with back pain and other musculoskeletal pain syndromes due to the presence of a chronic systemic inflammatory state, suggesting that the relationship between BMI and musculoskeletal pains be considered in more detail.

**Objective:** To describe how an elevated BMI can be associated with chronic systemic inflammation and pain expression. To outline measurable risk factors for chronic inflammation that can be used in clinical practice and discuss basic treatment considerations.

**Discussion:** Adiposopathy, or 'sick fat' syndrome, is a term that refers to an elevated BMI that is associated with a chronic systemic inflammatory state most commonly referred to as the metabolic syndrome. The best available evidence suggests that the presence of adiposopathy determines if an elevated BMI will contribute to musculoskeletal pain expression. It is not uncommon for physicians to fail to identify the presence of adiposopathy/

13

**Table 1 Markers of chronic inflammation**

Markers	Abnormal value	Date	Date	Date	Date
<b>Metabolic syndrome</b>					
1. Fasting blood glucose	≥ 100 mg/dL				
2. Triglyceride (TG)	≥ 150 mg/dL				
3. HDL cholesterol	< 50 for women < 40 men				
4. Blood pressure	≥ 130/85				
5. Waist circumference	> 35" women, > 40" men				
<b>Pro-inflammatory markers</b>					
<b>Parameters</b>					
2-hour postprandial glucose	< 140 mg/dL = normal 140-199 = prediabetes ≥ 200 = diabetes				
Fasting triglycerides	< 80 mg/dL predicts controlled postprandial response				
hsCRP in mg/L (marker of chronic inflammation)	< 0.3 = normal 0.3-1.0 = moderate ≥ 3.0 = high				
25(OH) Vitamin D3	≥ 32-100 ng/mL (goal ≥ 40 ng)				
Body mass index (BMI)	18.5-24.9 = normal <b>Text</b> 25-29.9 = overweight ≥ 30 = obese				
Waist/hip ratio women (risk factor for diabetes)	< 0.80 = low risk 0.81-0.85 = moderate risk ≥ 0.86 = high risk				
Waist/hip ratio men (risk factor for diabetes)	< 0.95 = low risk 0.96-1.0 = moderate risk ≥ 1.0 = high risk				
Lack of sleep	Less than 6 hrs				
Stress	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Secondary living	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Depression	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Self-rated health	Associated with systemic inflammation				

14

Table 3 - Metabolic syndrome markers						Table 4 - General markers of inflammation					
Metabolic syndrome	Abnormal value	Date	Date	Date	Date	Pro-inflammatory markers	Parameters	Date	Date	Date	Date
1. Fasting blood glucose	≥ 100 mg/dL					Fasting glucose	< 80 mg/dL = ketogenic diet 80-99 = low carb/low diet ≥ 100 = considered normal 100-129 = pre-diabetes ≥ 125 = type 2 diabetes				
2. Fasting triglycerides	≥ 150 mg/dL					2-hour postprandial glucose	< 140 mg/dL = normal 140-199 = pre-diabetes ≥ 200 = diabetes				
3. Fasting HDL cholesterol	< 50 for women < 40 men					Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c)	< 5.7% = normal 5.7-6.4% = pre-diabetes ≥ 6.5% = type 2 diabetes				
4. Blood pressure	≥ 130/85					Fasting triglycerides	< 80 mg/dL predicts controlled postprandial response				
5. Waist circumference	> 35" women, > 40" men					Fasting triglycerides/HDL ratio	< 3.5 = excellent of LDL cholesterol				
						Blood pressure goal	Less than 120/80 = normal 120-139/80 = pre-hypertension 140-159/90 = Stage 1 hypertension ≥ 160/100 = Stage 2 hypertension				
						Waist circumference goal - men	35" or less				
						Waist circumference goal - women	35" or less				
						Women waist/hip ratio (risk factor for type 2 diabetes = inflammation)	< 0.80 = normal 0.81-0.85 = moderate inflammation ≥ 0.86 = high inflammation				
						Men waist/hip ratio (risk factor for type 2 diabetes = inflammation)	< 0.95 = normal 0.96-1.0 = moderate inflammation ≥ 1.0 = high inflammation				
						Body mass index (BMI)	18.5-24.9 = normal 25-29.9 = overweight ≥ 30 = obese				
						hsCRP in mg/L (general marker of chronic inflammation)	< 0.3 = normal 0.3-1.0 = moderate inflammation ≥ 3.0 = high inflammation				
						25(OH)D3 (vitamin D3)	≥ 32-100 ng/mL (goal at least 40-80ng)				


15

## The DeFlame Diet approach

- Avoid excess calories...weigh what you weighed when you were in high-school or college and maintain normal levels of inflammatory markers
- Avoid empty calories (refined sugar, flour, and oils) and excess salt
- Maximize your nutrient/calorie ratio (example of whole grains vs vegetables)
- Dietary options:  
Vegan  
  
Omnivore  
  
Carnivore
- Supplements:
  - Multivitamin/mineral
  - Magnesium (mag)
  - Vitamin D (D)
  - Omega-3 (3)
  - Probiotics
  - Polyphenols (ginger/turmeric, etc.)
  - Iodine (contraindicated in Hashimoto's disease)
  - Vitamin C
  - Zinc
  - CoQ10
  - Glucosamine/chondroitin

16


**Before DeFlaming**



Before the eczema emerged, she suffered for years with cold sores, an itchy scalp and chronic musculoskeletal pain.

17

**Before DeFlaming** **After DeFlaming**

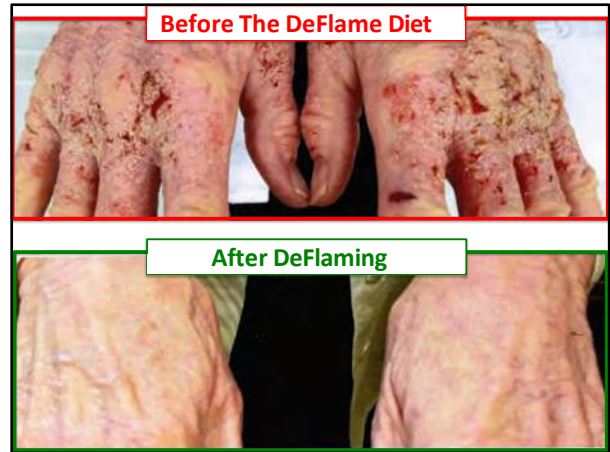


Before the eczema emerged, she suffered for years with cold sores, an itchy scalp and chronic musculoskeletal pain.

18



19



20

**Modern diet - source of calories**

- 10% dairy products**
- 1-2% alcohol**
- 20% refined grains/pasta/bread/cereal**
- 20% refined sugars**
- 20% refined vegetable/seed oils**
- 15-20% obese meat**
- <10% vegetables, fruit** (potatoes, legumes, whole grains)

Cordain L et al. Origins and evolution of the Western diet: health implications for the 21st century. Am J Clin Nutr. 2005; 81(2):341-54.

21

Ames BN. Low micronutrient intake may accelerate the degenerative diseases of aging through allocation of scarce micronutrients by triage. PNAS. 2006;103(47):17589-94.

Ames presents argument for eating more fruits/vegetables and taking key supplements:

- Multivitamin/mineral
- Magnesium (400-1000 mg)
- Fish oil (EPA/DHA) (1000-3000 mg)
- Vitamin D (2000-10,000 IU)
- a-Lipoic acid & acetyl-L-carnitine (ALCAR)
- Fiber: Seaman additions: CoQ10, botanicals, glucosamine/chondroitin, probiotics, calcium, chromium, vitamin C, iodine

22

Researchers have identified that the DeFlame dietary approach is the best way to achieve a normal metabolic state. In fact, it is possible for obese individuals with a BMI as high as 36 to completely resolve the metabolic syndrome in just 12 weeks<sup>10</sup>, and many were also able to completely resolve fatty liver disease with what the authors called the Spanish Mediterranean Ketogenic Diet.<sup>11</sup> Consider the anti-inflammatory foods that were consumed: olive oil, moderate red wine, green vegetables and salads, fish as the primary protein, as well as lean meat, fowl, eggs, shellfish, and cheese.<sup>10-11</sup> These foods form the foundation of the DeFlame Diet as outlined in Table 5, which also includes fruit, tubers, roots, and nuts.

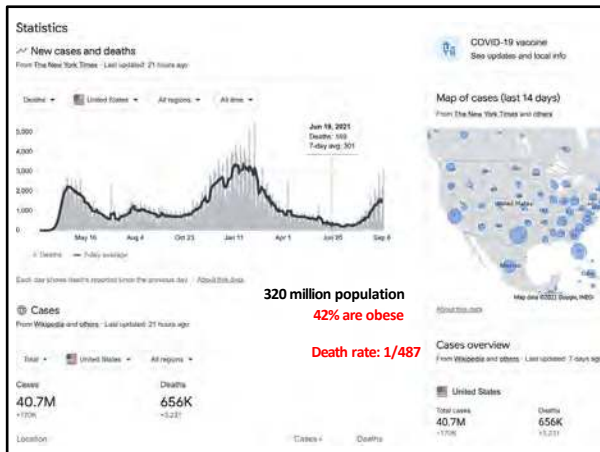
Diet that creates a pro-inflammatory state	Diet that creates a DeFlamed state
Refined sugar	Cross fed meat and wild game
Refined grains	Meat
Obese meat products	Wild caught fish
Trans fats	Bluefish
Refined vegetable and seed oils, safflower, sunflower, peanut, etc.)	Chicken
	Orange & eggs
	Cheese
	Vegetables
	Salads (leafy greens)
	Eggs
	Fermented grains, beans, sweet potato
	Meat (lean or dry roasted)
	Cheese & seeds, hemp, chia, flax
	Dark chocolate
	Spices of all kinds
	Other oil, coconut oil, butter, cream, avocados, honey
	Red wine and stout beer
	Coffee and tea (green tea is best option)

A friend of mine reduced his A1c from 11% to 5.7% in 6 months.

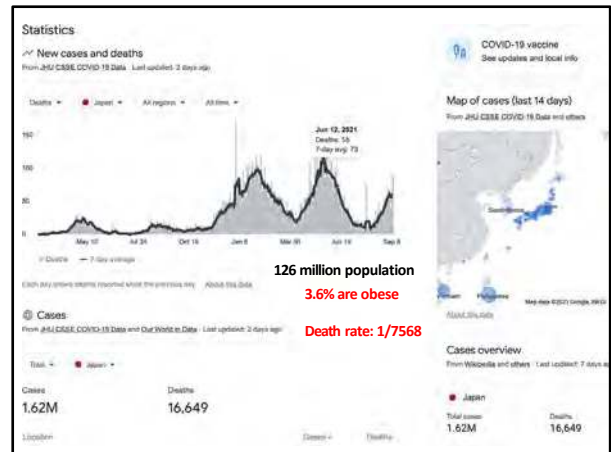
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**US had 2.5xs more people but 40xs more deaths vs Japan**

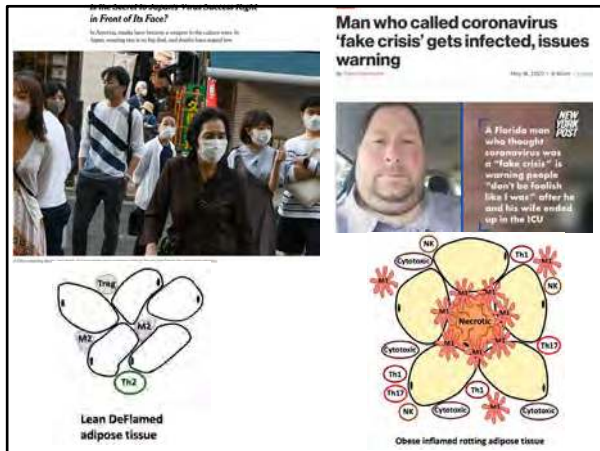
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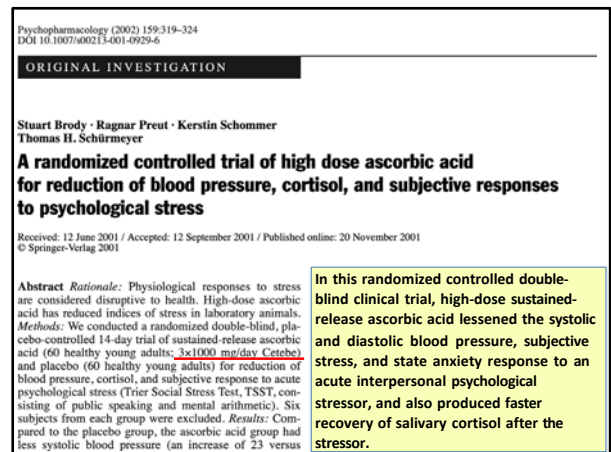
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28



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30



**News in focus**



**THE CORONAVIRUS IS MOST DEADLY IF YOU ARE OLD AND MALE**

A study of 100,000 people has found that the risk of dying from COVID-19 is highest for men aged 75 and over. The study also found that the risk of dying from COVID-19 is higher for people with underlying health conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure.

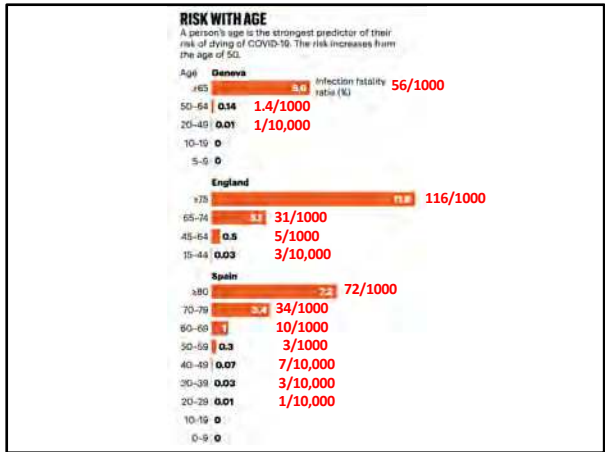
**Coronavirus**

Coronavirus has killed at least 100,000 people globally, mostly in Europe, since it first emerged in Wuhan, China, in late December. The virus has spread to more than 200 countries, and the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared it a global health emergency. The WHO has also advised people to avoid non-essential travel to and from affected areas, and to wear face masks and avoid close contact with people who are sick.

**By Sarah Hoggins**

Researcher at the University of Oxford, Sarah Hoggins, says that the study shows that the risk of dying from COVID-19 is highest for men aged 75 and over. She also says that the risk of dying from COVID-19 is higher for people with underlying health conditions, such as heart disease, diabetes, and high blood pressure.

37



38

Neurobiology of Stress | Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

**Neurobiology of Stress**

The effects of stress exposure on prefrontal cortex: Translating basic research into successful treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder

Amy F.T. Arnsten<sup>a,\*</sup>, Murray A. Raskind<sup>b</sup>, Fletcher B. Taylor<sup>c</sup>, Daniel F. Connor<sup>d</sup>

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**ABSTRACT**

Research on the neurobiology of the stress response in animals has led to successful new treatments for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in humans. Basic research has found that high levels of catecholamine release during stress rapidly impair the top-down regulatory functions of the prefrontal cortex (PFC), while strengthening the emotional and habitual responses of the amygdala and basal ganglia. Chronic stress exposure leads to dendritic atrophy in PFC, dendritic extension in the amygdala, and strengthening of the noradrenergic (NE) system. High levels of NE release during stress engage low affinity alpha-1 adrenoceptors, and beta-1 adrenoceptors, which rapidly reduce the firing of PFC neurons, but strengthen amygdala function. In contrast, moderate levels of NE release during stress engage high affinity alpha-2A receptors, which strengthen PFC, weaken amygdala, and regulate NE cell firing. Thus, either alpha-1 receptor blockade or alpha-2A receptor stimulation can protect PFC function during stress. Patients with PTSD have signs of PFC dysfunction. Clinical studies have found that blocking alpha-1 receptors with prazosin, or stimulating alpha-2A receptors with guanfacine or clonidine can be useful in reducing the symptoms of PTSD. Placebo-controlled trials have shown that prazosin is helpful in veterans, active duty soldiers and civilians with PTSD, including improvement of PFC symptoms such as impaired concentration and impulse control. Open label studies suggest that guanfacine may be especially helpful in treating children and adolescents who have experienced trauma. Thus, understanding the neurobiology of the stress response has helped to help patients with stress disorders.

39

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**Neurobiology of Stress**

The effects of stress exposure on prefrontal cortex: Translating basic research into successful treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder

**Abstract**

Research has found that high levels of catecholamine release during stress rapidly impair the top-down cognitive functions of the prefrontal cortex (PFC), while strengthening the emotional and habitual responses of the amygdala and basal ganglia.

**Chronic stress exposure leads to dendritic atrophy in PFC, dendritic extension in the amygdala, and strengthening of the noradrenergic (NE) system. High levels of NE release during stress engage low affinity alpha-1 adrenoceptors, (and likely beta-1 adrenoceptors), which rapidly reduce the firing of PFC neurons, but strengthen amygdala function.**

40

**NIH Public Access**

**Author Manuscript**

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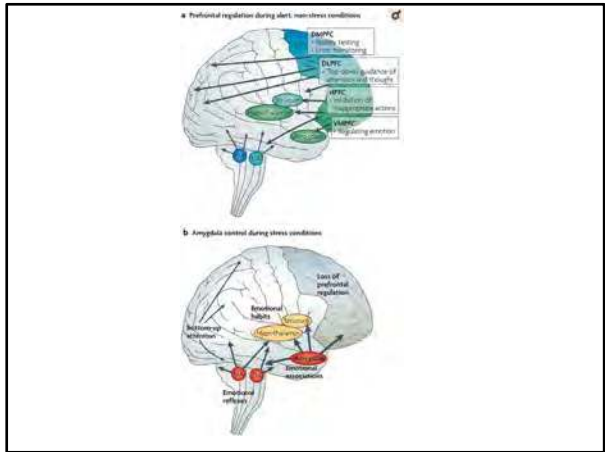
**Stress signalling pathways that impair prefrontal cortex structure and function**

Amy F. T. Arnsten  
Department of Neurobiology, Yale University School of Medicine, 333 Cedar Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06510, USA. amy.arnsten@yale.edu

**Abstract**

The prefrontal cortex (PFC)—the most evolved brain region—subserves our highest-order cognitive abilities. However, it is also the brain region that is most sensitive to the detrimental effects of stress exposure. Even quite mild acute uncontrollable stress can cause a rapid and dramatic loss of prefrontal cognitive abilities, and more prolonged stress exposure causes architectural changes in prefrontal dendrites. Recent research has begun to reveal the intracellular signalling pathways that mediate the effects of stress on the PFC. This research has provided clues as to why genetic or environmental insults that disinhibit stress signalling pathways can lead to symptoms of profound prefrontal cortical dysfunction in mental illness.

41



42

Los Angeles Times

California's fear of the coronavirus is waning, setting the stage for disaster **How about providing a fear metric?**

California teacher unions fight walk to reopen schools

Coronavirus injuries both feared in 8th rated hockey game

Pho: 21 Days separating mall control make sense in a COVID outbreak?

L.A. will be holding on street-cleaning day again starting Oct. 15

Podiatric news, links and advice

Cases statewide

871,520	16,905
Confirmed	Deaths

As California began to rapidly reopen the economy, officials in Santa Cruz County decided the safe thing to do was keep its landmark beaches largely closed in the aftermath to prevent crowds that could spread the coronavirus.

43

Medscape

'Staggering' Doubling of Type 2 Diabetes in Kids During Pandemic

Recommendations

The incidence of type 2 diabetes in children appears to have doubled during the COVID-19 pandemic, data from two new US studies suggest, with the lead investigator of one saying she was "surprised by the staggering increase in cases of type 2 diabetes...and the increase in severity of presentation."

Findings from the two separate retrospective chart reviews — one conducted in Washington, DC, and the other in Baton Rouge, Louisiana — were presented June 26 at the virtual American Diabetes Association (ADA) 81st Scientific Sessions.

Although the two studies differed somewhat in the clinical parameters examined, both revealed a similar doubling of the rates of hospitalizations for type 2 diabetes among youth during 2020 compared with the same time period in 2019, as well as greater severity of metabolic disturbance.

And, as has been previously described with type 2 diabetes in youth, African-American ethnicity predominated in both cohorts.

44

Adiposity and inflammation: a pathway to cognitive dysfunction

Obesity is a growing problem worldwide and is associated with a range of comorbidities, such as diabetes, metabolic and atherosclerosis. Several studies indicate that obesity might also affect cognition, but the mechanisms underlying this association remain unexplored. Using mouse models of diet-induced obesity and fat transplantation experiments, a group of investigators from Augusta University in Georgia demonstrates that visceral adipose tissue (VAT) impairs cognition by increasing the levels of proinflammatory cytokine IL-1β in the brain, where it perturbs the properties of resident immune cells and their interactions with neurons. By adding to the growing evidence that excessive adipose tissue affects cognition, these findings support the development of lifestyle or surgical interventions to prevent neurological diseases.

Obesity is accompanied by chronic inflammation, which is increasingly recognized as an etiology for cardiovascular and metabolic diseases. Studies in rodents have shown that NOD-like receptor family pyrin domain-containing 3 (NLRP3), a core component of the inflammasome complex, is a culprit behind obesity-associated inflammation, as white-body NLRP3<sup>-/-</sup> mice are protected against high-fat diet (HFD)-induced inflammation. NLRP3 deficiency also prevents age-related cognitive decline in mice, but the tissue-specific mechanisms are unclear.

hippocampus compared with sham mice, whereas mice transplanted with KO fat (TRANS<sub>KO</sub>) had a similar IL-1β level to that of sham mice. The mice were also submitted to a battery of behavioral tests (water maze, Y-maze, and novel object recognition task), which revealed that TRANS<sub>fat</sub> mice but not TRANS<sub>KO</sub> mice, showed memory deficits. Similar to HFD-induced obesity, these results indicate that VAT transplantation

Credit: Roger Anisry / Alamy Stock Photo

45

The cause of all chronic diseases

46

One group of DCs claim ben...  
 adju...  
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 Anothe...  
 that...  
 good for back pain.

Example of symptoms caused by hypocapnia = respiratory alkalosis:

- apprehension
- palpitations
- faintness
- tachycardia
- fatigue
- abdominal discomfort
- headache
- chest pain
- impaired concentration
- air swallowing
- giddiness
- breathlessness
- irritability
- yawning and/or sighing
- seizure
- dry mouth
- weakness
- tetany
- visual disturbances
- muscle tightening & stiffness
- diaphoresis
- distal paresthesias
- dyspnea

1. Duncan B, Raffin T. Handling hyperventilation syndrome. Hosp Med. 1992;29:58-67.  
 2. Wise ML. Symptom patterns of the hyperventilation syndrome. Am J Med. 1980;8:881-730.

47

ATP Production

ATP synthesis

Glycolysis: Mg<sup>++</sup>

Krebs: B-vitamins, Mg, Fe, Insulin stimulates

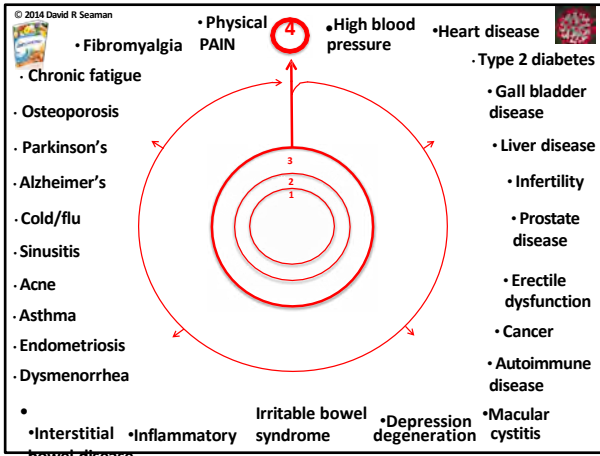
ALCAR

Electron transport: CoQ10, a-LA, Heme A (B2, B5, B6, biotin, iron, copper, zinc)

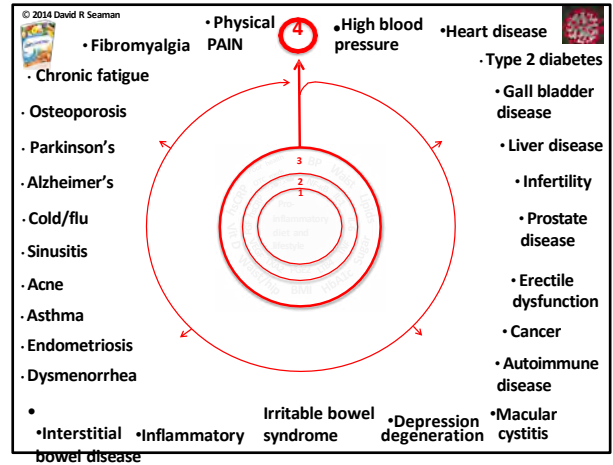
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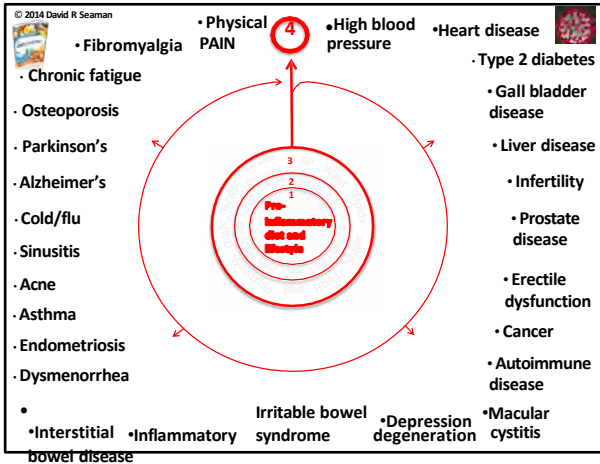




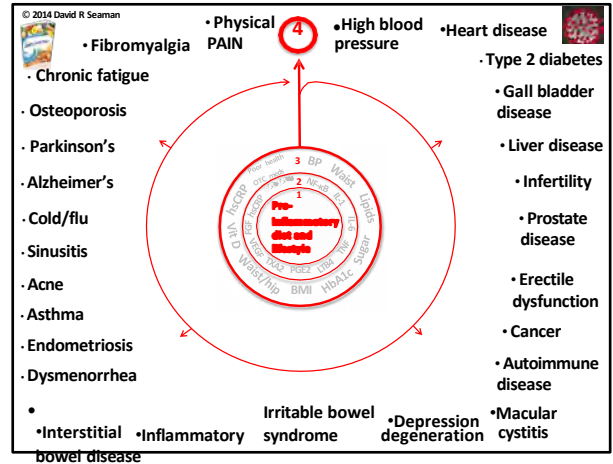
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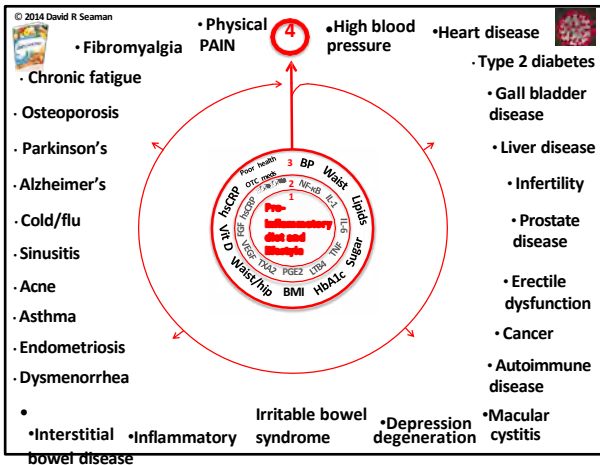
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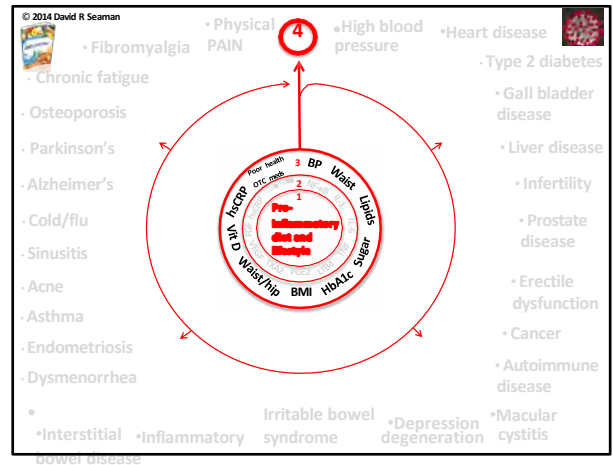
57



58



59



60

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CHIROPRACTIC & MANUAL THERAPIES

COMMENTARY Open Access

## Body mass index and musculoskeletal pain: is there a connection?

David R Seaman

**Abstract**

**Background:** Back pain is one of the most common complaints that patients report to physicians and two-thirds of the population has an elevated body mass index (BMI), indicating they are either overweight or obese. It was once assumed that extra body weight would stress the low back and lead to pain, however, researchers have reported inconsistencies association between body weight and back pain. In contrast, more recent studies do indicate that an elevated BMI is associated with back pain and other musculoskeletal pain syndromes due to the presence of a chronic systemic inflammatory state, suggesting that the relationship between BMI and musculoskeletal pains be considered in more detail.

**Objective:** To describe how an elevated BMI can be associated with chronic systemic inflammation and pain expression. To outline measurable risk factors for chronic inflammation that can be used in clinical practice and discuss basic treatment considerations.

61

### Table 2 Pro-inflammatory chemistry of the metabolic syndrome

Hyperglycemia	↑ NF-κB
Hyperinsulinemia	↑ CRP
Hypertriglyceridemia	↑ TNF
Hyperuricemia	↑ IL-6
↓ HDL	↑ Increased white blood cell count
↓ protein synthesis	↑ plasminogen activator inhibitor
↑ protein catabolism	↑ Fibrinogen
↑ gluconeogenesis	↑ Leptin
↑ serum amyloid A	↑ Resistin
↑ angiotensinogen	↓ adiponectin

62

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<http://www.chiro.com/content/21/1/15> Page 4 of 9

### Table 1 Markers of chronic inflammation

Markers	Abnormal value	Date	Date	Date	Date
<b>Metabolic syndrome</b>					
1. Fasting blood glucose	> 100 mg/dL				
2. Triglycerides	> 175 mg/dL				
3. HDL cholesterol	< 50 for women < 40 for men				
4. Blood pressure	> 130/85				
5. Waist circumference	> 37" for men, > 35" for women				
<b>Pro-inflammatory markers</b>					
<b>CRP - C-reactive protein</b>					
CRP - C-reactive protein	> 10 mg/L (normal < 1)				
CRP - C-reactive protein	10-100 = moderate				
CRP - C-reactive protein	> 100 = diabetes				
Radiolabeled triglycerides	> 100 mg/dL (normal < 100)				
Leptin (blood) (marker of chronic inflammation)	> 10 = obese				
	15-30 = visceral				
	> 30 = high				
25-OH Vitamin D3	< 20 ng/mL (normal > 30)				
Body mass index (BMI)	> 30 = obese				
	> 35 = class 1				
	> 40 = class 2				
	> 50 = class 3				
	> 60 = class 4				
	> 70 = class 5				
	> 80 = class 6				
	> 90 = class 7				
	> 100 = class 8				
	> 110 = class 9				
	> 120 = class 10				
	> 130 = class 11				
	> 140 = class 12				
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	> 970 = class 95				
	> 980 = class 96				
	> 990 = class 97				
	> 1000 = class 98				
	> 1010 = class 99				
	> 1020 = class 100				

63

### Avoid the lethal COVID and Flu Cytokine Storm

COVID-19  
 Get the latest information from the CDC about COVID-19  
 Avoid the LETHAL Influenza and COVID Cytokine Storm  
 0:00 / 1:00  
 DeFlame Nutrition by Dr. David Seaman  
 1.4K views

64

Don't Be Ashamed of Those Extra Pounds

Why your extra COVID-19 pounds makes you a walking talking coronavirus spreading machine

65

### COVID-19 is NOT a virus, mask, or lack-of-a-vaccine crisis, it is an OBESITY crisis

**Obese people are the primary COVID vector**

1. Obese people are more prone to infections
2. Obese people shed more viruses
3. Obese people create more viral mutations with increased virulence
4. Obese people stay infected longer so they are more contagious
5. Obese people breath more heavily and more frequently and so expire more viruses
6. Vaccines are less effective for obese people

“Due to prolonged viral shedding, quarantine in obese subjects should likely be longer than normal weight individuals.”

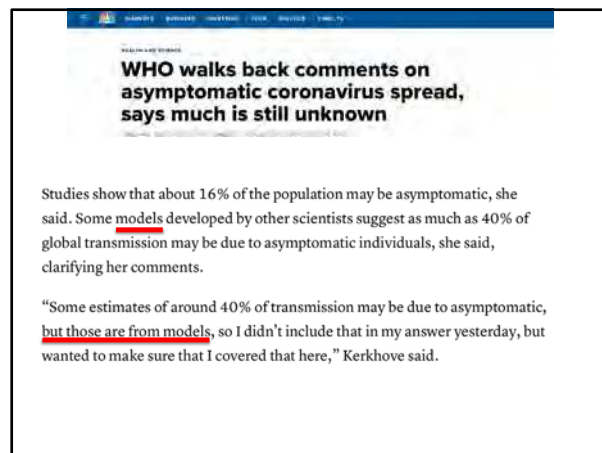
Luiz L, Radaelli MG. Influenza and obesity: its odd relationship and the lessons for COVID-19 pandemic. Acta Diabetologica. 2020;57:759-64.

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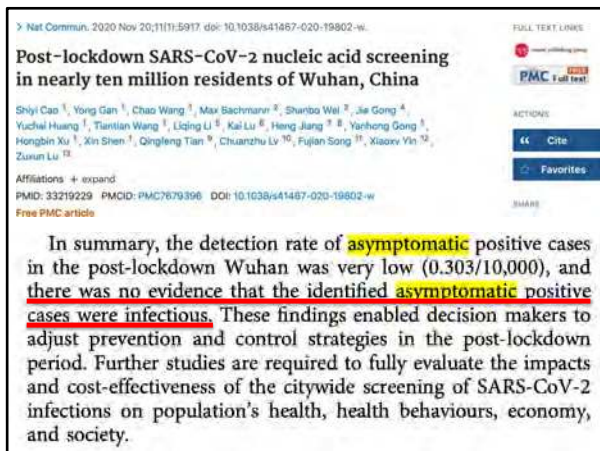
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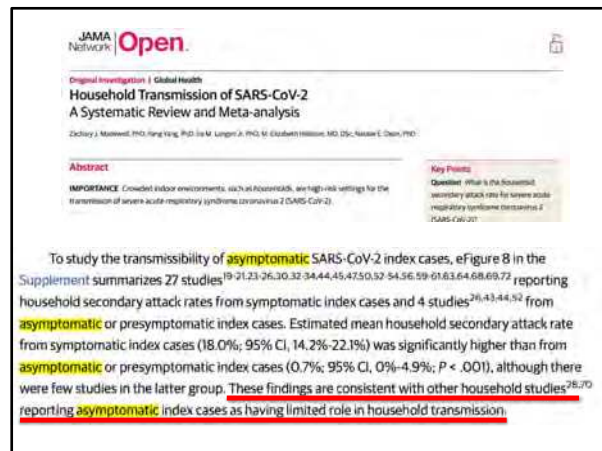
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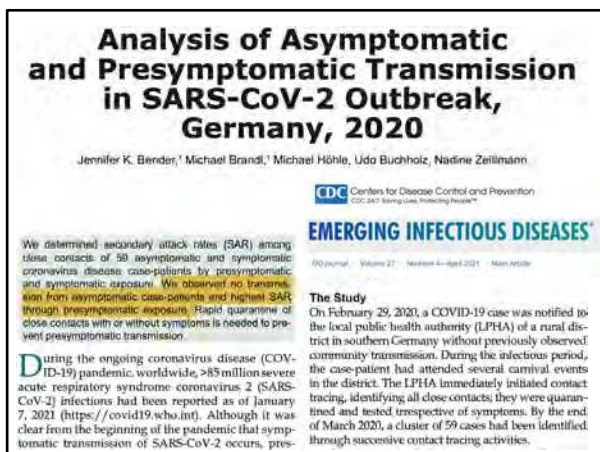
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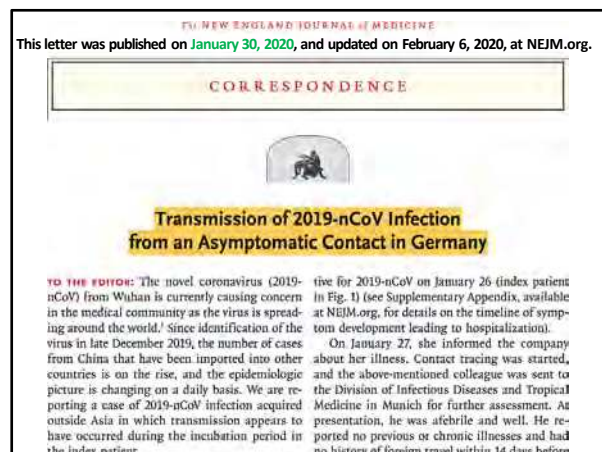
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72


This letter was published on [January 30, 2020](#), and updated on February 6, 2020, at NEJM.org.



**Transmission of 2019-nCoV Infection from an Asymptomatic Contact in Germany**


Before the onset of symptoms, he had attended meetings with a Chinese business partner at his company near Munich on January 20 and 21. The business partner, a Shanghai resident, had visited Germany between January 19 and 22. During her stay, she had been well with no signs or symptoms of infection but had become ill on her flight back to China, where she tested posi-

73



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Auto Insurance Companies



Study claiming new coronavirus can be transmitted by people without symptoms was flawed


Letter to editor

74




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Auto Insurance Companies




Chinese researchers had previously suggested asymptomatic people might transmit the virus but had not presented clear-cut evidence. "There's no doubt after reading [the NEJM] paper that asymptomatic transmission is occurring," Anthony Fauci, director of the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, told journalists. "This study lays the question to rest."

75



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Auto Insurance Companies



letter

But the researchers didn't actually speak to the woman before they published the paper. The last author, Michael Hoelscher of the Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich Medical Center, says the paper relied on information from the four other patients: "They told us that the patient from China did not appear to have any symptoms." Afterward, however, RKI and the Health and Food Safety Authority of the state of Bavaria did talk to the Shanghai patient on the phone, and it turned out she did have symptoms while in Germany. According to people familiar with the call, she felt tired, suffered from muscle pain, and took paracetamol, a fever-lowering medication. (An RKI spokesperson would only confirm to Science that the woman had symptoms.)

76

Letter to editor

**Study claiming new coronavirus can be transmitted by people without symptoms was flawed**

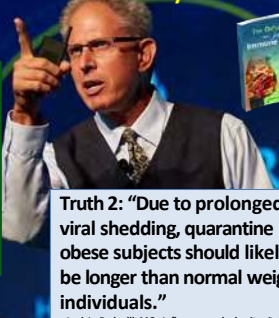
By Kai Kupferschmidt | Feb. 3, 2020, 5:30 PM

Asymptomatic transmission yet to be demonstrated as of June, 2020

**\*Update, 2 June, 7:20 p.m.:** This story has been cited widely on social media to argue against the use of face masks and shelter-in-place policies. This is based on a misreading of the article. The fact that the New England Journal of Medicine paper had a flaw does not mean asymptomatic transmission (by people who have absolutely no symptoms) does not exist, this is still under discussion. But it is now well-established that people with very mild symptoms—so mild they are unlikely to recognize them as COVID-19—can infect others and even spark large outbreaks of disease.

77

**We have been repeatedly told the story that lean healthy individuals, who are asymptomatic, are the primary transmitters of COVID, when the truth is very different:**



Truth 1: "The altered microenvironment associated with obesity supports a more diverse viral quasispecies and affords the emergence of potentially pathogenic variants capable of inducing greater disease severity in lean hosts."

Honce R et al. Obesity-related microenvironment promotes emergence of virulent influenza virus strains. mBio. 2020;11:e03341-19

Truth 2: "Due to prolonged viral shedding, quarantine in obese subjects should likely be longer than normal weight individuals."

Luzi L, Radaelli MG. Influenza and obesity: its odd relationship and the lessons for COVID-19 pandemic. Acta Diabetologica. 2020;57:759-64.

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78

**PERPECTIVES**

Influenza and obesity: its odd relationship and the lessons for COVID-19 pandemic

Yves Liu<sup>1,2</sup>, Maria Cecilia Klotzel<sup>1,2</sup>

COVID-19 epidemic is caused by an influenza-like virus strain (SARS-CoV-2). Since the “Spanish” influenza pandemic of 1918, it is known that malnutrition (both under- and over-nutrition) is linked to a worse prognosis of the viral infection [1]. The 1957–1960 “Asian” and the 1968 “Hong Kong” influenzas confirmed that obesity and diabetes lead to a higher mortality as well as a more prolonged duration of illness even if the subjects were without other chronic conditions that increase the risk of influenza-related complications [2, 3]. During the 2009 Influenza A virus (IAV) H1N1 pandemic, obesity was also linked to increased risk of severe disease and a risk factor for hospitalization and death [4].

79

**PERPECTIVES**

Influenza and obesity: its odd relationship and the lessons for COVID-19 pandemic

Yves Liu<sup>1,2</sup>, Maria Cecilia Klotzel<sup>1,2</sup>

Three factors make obese subjects more contagious than leans: First, obese subjects with influenza shed the virus for a longer period of time (up to 104% longer) than lean subjects, potentially increasing the chance to spread the virus to others [22]. Secondly, the obese microenvironment favors the emergence of novel more virulent virus strains. This is due mainly to the reduced and delayed capacity to produce interferons by obese individuals and animals [17, 18]. The delay in producing interferon to contrast viral replication allows more viral RNA replication increasing the chances of the appearance of novel, more virulent viral strains [18]. Thirdly, body mass index correlates positively with infectious virus in exhaled breath [23]. This finding was

80

RESEARCH ARTICLE  
Host-Microbe Biology

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY | mBio

### Obesity-Related Microenvironment Promotes Emergence of Virulent Influenza Virus Strains

Rabekah Honec,<sup>1,2\*</sup> Erik A. Karlsson,<sup>1,2\*</sup> Nicholas Wohlgenuth,<sup>1</sup> Leonardo D. Estrada,<sup>1</sup> Victoria A. Melopoulos,<sup>1</sup> Jiangwei Yao,<sup>1</sup> Stacey Schultz-Cherry<sup>1</sup>

**IMPORTANCE** Currently, 50% of the adult population worldwide is overweight or obese. In these studies, we demonstrate that obesity not only enhances the severity of influenza infection but also impacts viral diversity. The altered microenvironment associated with obesity supports a more diverse viral quasispecies and affords the emergence of potentially pathogenic variants capable of inducing greater disease severity in lean hosts. This is likely due to the impaired interferon response, which is seen in both obese mice and obesity-derived human bronchial epithelial cells, suggesting that obesity, aside from its impact on influenza virus pathogenesis, permits the stochastic accumulation of potentially pathogenic viral variants, raising concerns about its public health impact as the prevalence of obesity continues to rise.

81

J Korean Med Sci 2021; 36(18):3202-3207  
https://doi.org/10.3346/jkms.2020.36.18.3202  
e02020-0361-jkms-2020-0361

Original Article  
Endocrinology, Nutrition & Metabolism

### The Impact of the Coronavirus Disease-2019 Pandemic on Childhood Obesity and Vitamin D Status

**Conclusion:** Within 6 months, increased childhood obesity and vitamin D deficiencies were observed. The duration of school closure was significantly associated with an increased BMI and being normoweight does not exclude the risks for gaining weight.

Department of Pediatrics, College of Medicine, The Catholic University of Korea, Seoul, Korea

**ABSTRACT**

**Background:** The risk of weight gain as a consequence of school closure in children during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic has been recognized. This study was performed to investigate changes in anthropometric and metabolic parameters in children following a 6-month period of social distancing and school closure due to the pandemic.

**Methods:** This retrospective cohort study was conducted in school-aged children that were on routine follow-up at the Growth Clinic of Seoul St. Mary's Hospital. Changes in body mass index (BMI) standard deviation scores (z-scores), lipid profiles, and vitamin D levels were investigated. The 1-year period prior to school closure was defined as “pre-COVID-19 period,” and the subsequent 6-month period as “COVID-19 period.”

**Results:** Overall, 226 children between 4 to 14 years old without comorbidities were assessed. On average, their BMI z-scores increased by 0.239 (95% confidence interval [CI], 0.167–0.371;  $P < 0.001$ ) in the COVID-19 period compared to the pre-COVID-19 period, and the proportion of overweight or obesity increased from 23.9% in the pre-COVID-19 period to 31.4% in the COVID-19 period. The number of days after school closure ( $P = 0.004$ ) and being in the

82

**Obese people are:**

1. the primary COVID vector
2. the key superspreaders of COVID-19

COVID-19  
Get the latest information from the CDC about COVID-19

Obese people are the primary vector and superspreaders of COVID and other viral infections

Defined Narrated by Dr. David Norman  
Public Health Specialist

83

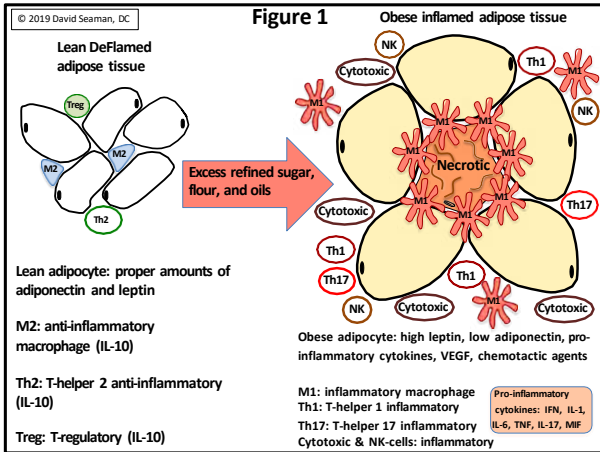
**Obesity increases coronavirus severity**

COVID-19  
Get the latest information from the CDC about COVID-19

Obesity increases coronavirus severity

1,074 views · 14th Feb 2020

84



85

**Review**  
OBESITY BIOLOGY AND INTEGRATED PHYSIOLOGY

### The Environmental Footprint of Obesity

Faidon Magkos<sup>1</sup>, Inge Tetens<sup>1</sup>, Susanne Cjedorst Bøgel<sup>1</sup>, Claus Felby<sup>2</sup>, Simon Rønnow Schacht<sup>1</sup>, James O. Hill<sup>3</sup>, Eric Ravussin<sup>4</sup>, and Arne Astrup<sup>1</sup>

Emissions of greenhouse gases (GHG) are linked to global warming and adverse climate changes. Meeting the needs of the increasing number of people on the planet presents a challenge for reducing total GHG burden. A further challenge may be the size of the average person on the planet and the increasing number of people with excess body weight.

We used data on GHG emissions from various sources and estimated that obesity is associated with ~20% greater GHG emissions compared with the normal-weight state. On a global scale, obesity contributes to an extra GHG emissions of ~49 megatons per year of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>-eq) from oxidative metabolism due to greater metabolic demands, ~361 megatons per year of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq from food production processes due to increased food intake, and ~290 megatons per year of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq from automobile and air transportation due to greater body weight. Therefore, the total impact of obesity may be extra emissions of ~700 megatons per year of CO<sub>2</sub>-eq, which is about 1.6% of worldwide GHG emissions. Inasmuch as obesity is an important contributor to global GHG burden, strategies to reduce its prevalence should prioritize efforts to reduce GHG emissions. Accordingly, reducing obesity may have considerable benefits for both public health and the environment.

**Study Importance**

**What is already known?**

- Food production and transportation systems are major contributors to manmade greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.
- Obesity is associated with greater energy expenditure and energy intake to maintain greater body weights.

**What does this review add?**

- Obesity is associated with ~20% greater GHG emissions relative to the normal-weight state because of increased oxidative metabolism, food intake, and fossil fuel use for transportation.
- Globally, obesity contributes to an extra ~700 megatons per year of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent, which is about 1.6% of global GHG emissions.
- Such data should not lead to more weight stigmatization.

Obesity 2020; 28: 73-79

86

### Low Testosterone Associated With Obesity and the Metabolic Syndrome Contributes to Sexual Dysfunction and Cardiovascular Disease Risk in Men With Type 2 Diabetes

CHRISTINA WANG, MD<sup>1</sup>, GRAHAM JACKSON, MD<sup>2</sup>, T. HUGH JONES, MD<sup>3</sup>, ALVIN M. MUKESHWAR, MD<sup>4</sup>, AJAY NEHRA, MD<sup>5</sup>, MICHAEL A. PERELMAN, PhD<sup>6</sup>, RONALD S. SWERDLOFF, MD<sup>7</sup>, ABDUL T. KHAIR, PhD<sup>8</sup>, MICHAEL ZIZEMANN, MD<sup>9</sup>, GLENN CUNNINGHAM, MD<sup>9</sup>

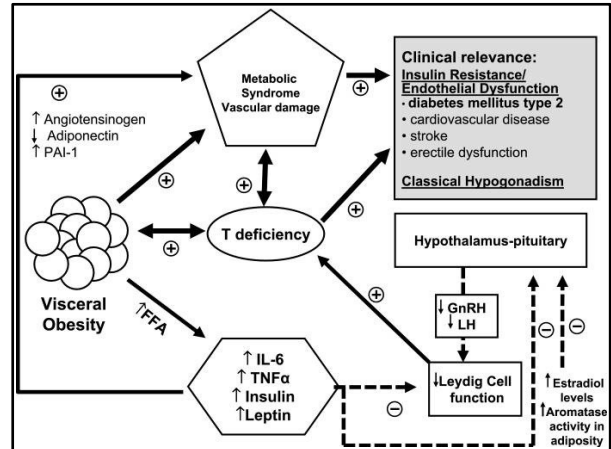
Men with obesity, the metabolic syndrome, and type 2 diabetes have low total and free testosterone and low sex hormone-binding globulin (SHBG). Conversely, the presence of low testosterone and/or SHBG predicts the development of metabolic syndrome and type 2 diabetes. Visceral adiposity present in men with low testosterone predicts the development of the metabolic syndrome and/or type 2 diabetes.

**Epidemiological studies of low testosterone, obesity, metabolic status, and erectile dysfunction**

Epidemiological studies support a bidirectional relationship between serum testosterone and the metabolic syndrome. Low serum total testosterone predicts the development of visceral obesity and accumulation of result total testosterone concentrations, alterations in SHBG confound the relationship between testosterone and obesity. Low total testosterone or SHBG levels are associated with type 2 diabetes, independent of age, race, obesity, and criteria for diagnosis of diabetes (6,7). In longitudinal studies, low serum total and free testosterone and SHBG levels were independent predictors of type 2 diabetes (5,8). In these studies, SHBG levels were stronger predictors of diabetes because type 2 diabetes is often associated with obesity, which suppresses SHBG and in turn total testosterone levels, both obesity and SHBG levels represent important confounding factors in testosterone measurements.

**Diabetes Care. 2011;34:1669-75.**

87



88

**REVIEW**

### Obesity induces ovarian inflammation and reduces oocyte quality

Alexandria P Svidet and Jennifer R Wood

Department of Animal Science, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA

Correspondence should be addressed to J.R.Wood; Email: jwood5@unl.edu

**Abstract**

In the United States, 36.5% of women between the ages of 18 and 39 years are obese. This obesity results in not only metabolic disorders including type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease, but also impaired female fertility. Systemic and tissue-specific chronic inflammation and oxidative stress are common characteristics of obesity. This is also true in the ovary. Several studies have demonstrated that pro-inflammatory cytokines and reactive oxygen species alter estrus cyclicity, steroidogenesis and ovulation, inflammation and oxidative stress also impair meiotic and cytoplasmic maturation of the oocyte which reduces its developmental competence for fertilization and pre-implantation embryo development. Interestingly, there is recent evidence that obesity- and/or polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS)-dependent changes in the gut microbiome contributes to ovarian inflammation, steroidogenesis and the expression of miRNAs in the oocyte. However, several gaps remain necessitating future studies to identify inflammation, oxidative stress and gut microbiome mechanisms that reduce ovarian function and oocyte quality.

Reproduction (2019) 118 R79-R90

89

### How eating sugar FEEDS COVID-19

COVID-19

Get the latest information from the CDC about COVID-19.

Learn about COVID-19 from the CDC.

How eating sugar feeds COVID-19

Reviewed by Dr. David Blomquist

90

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NEWS & PERSPECTIVE | DRUGS & DISEASES | CME EDUCATION | ACADEMY | VIDEO | BROCHUREPOINT

News & Perspective | Endocrine | **'Staggering' Doubling of Type 2 Diabetes in Kids During Pandemic**

By **David G. Nathan**, MD  
June 29, 2021

**Recommendations**

- Diabetes, Control of Blood Glucose in Children
- Latest History of Gut Health in Bone Metabolism

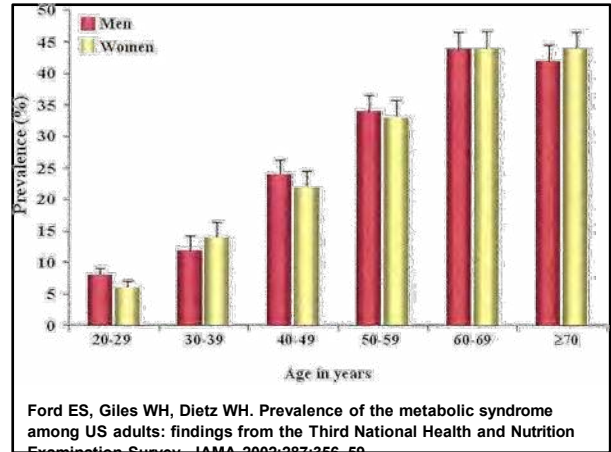
The incidence of type 2 diabetes in children appears to have doubled during the COVID-19 pandemic, data from two new US studies suggest, with the lead investigator of one saying she was "surprised by the staggering increase in cases of type 2 diabetes...and the increase in severity of presentation."

Findings from the two separate retrospective chart reviews — one conducted in Washington, DC, and the other in Baton Rouge, Louisiana — were presented June 25 at the virtual American Diabetes Association (ADA) 81st Scientific Sessions.

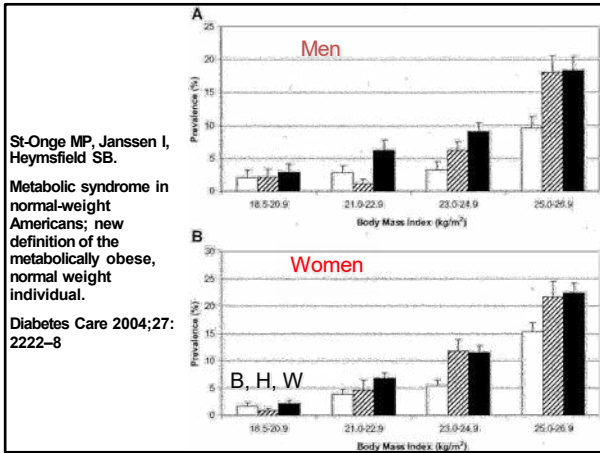
Although the two studies differed somewhat in the clinical parameters examined, both revealed a similar doubling of the rates of hospitalizations for type 2 diabetes among youth during 2020 compared with the same time period in 2019, as well as greater severity of metabolic disturbance.

And, as has been previously described with type 2 diabetes in youth, African-American ethnicity predominated in both cohorts.

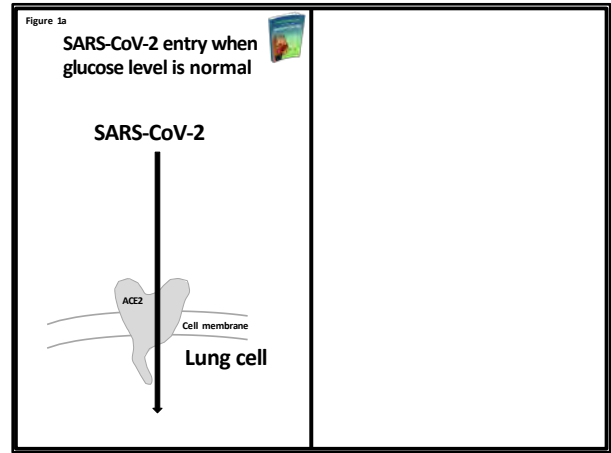
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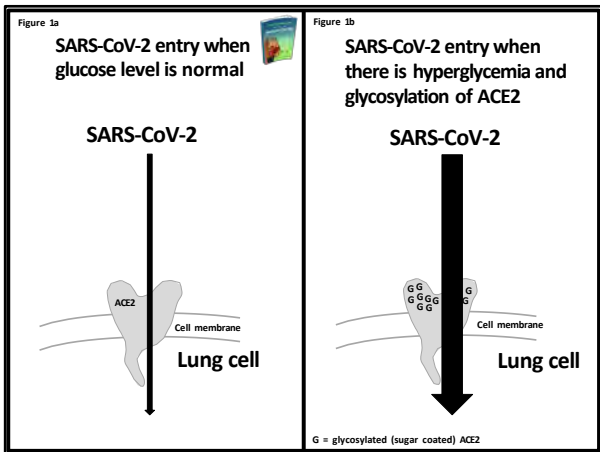
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95

The best way to survive the flu, COVID-19, and any other virus is to:

1. Get your weight normal
2. Get your glucose levels normal
3. Get your vitamin D level normal
4. Take vitamin C, zinc, etc. (**ginger, turmeric**)
5. Replace refined food calories with vegetation

Very simple and generally has immediate anti-inflammatory benefits that reduce a hyper-immune response to a virus...and there will always be new viruses that emerge, so we should all be prepared.

DeFlame.com

96



# Vitamin D, immune function, and chronic inflammation

Vitamin D, immune function and chronic inflammation  
10/18/2020

Dr. David Seaman

A lack of vitamin D stimulates pro-inflammatory immune cells and inhibits anti-inflammatory immune cells to promote chronic inflammation.

97

# How vitamin C helps to *eliminate* *viruses*

COVID-19  
Get the latest information from the CDC about COVID-19

How vitamin C helps to eliminate viruses  
10/18/2020

Dr. David Seaman

98

# Zinc and viral infections

Zinc and viral infections  
10/18/2020

Dr. David Seaman

Zinc supplements do not kill viruses. Zinc helps to reduce the inflammatory response to a viral challenge, which reduces the incidence of viral infections.

99

# Vitamin D, immune function, and chronic inflammation

Vitamin D, immune function and chronic inflammation  
10/18/2020

Dr. David Seaman

A lack of vitamin D stimulates pro-inflammatory immune cells and inhibits anti-inflammatory immune cells to promote chronic inflammation.

100

### Chapter 18 How vitamin D deficiency creates viral infection chemistry

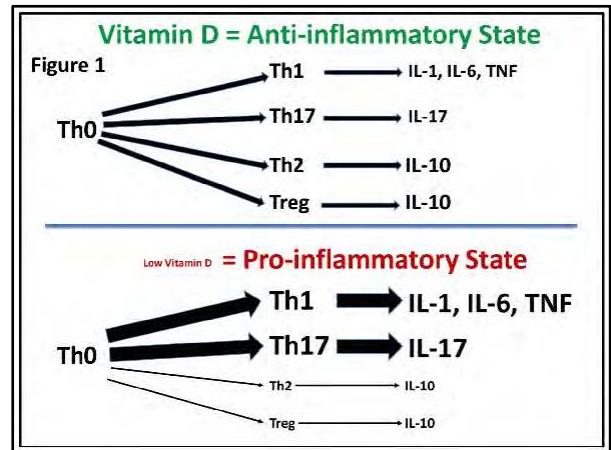
As you read in the previous chapter, as our body fat mass becomes dense, fat cells begin to function in a pro-inflammatory fashion and anti-inflammatory immune cells are replaced by pro-inflammatory immune cells. This can lead many to believe that their immune system are anti-inflammatory if they are not overweight or obese, which is not necessarily true.

It is certainly possible for me to get 60% of my calories from refined sugar, flour, and omega-6 oils, and still keep my overall caloric intake at a level that does not cause me to gain weight. If I did this, I would still be deficient in key nutrients such as potassium, magnesium, iodine, omega-3 fatty acids, polyphenols, carotenoids, and assuming I avoided sun exposure, I would also be deficient in vitamin D. If I were to do this, then my immune system would behave in a pro-inflammatory fashion that is similar to that which occurs in these adipose tissue. Vitamin D deficiency provides us with the best example of this shift in a pro-inflammatory state.

Vitamin D deficiency and related supplementation has become extremely popular in the last 15-20 years. Research has identified that multiple diseases are prevented by a chronic deficiency of vitamin D. Table 1 below is from *The DeFlame Diet*, the book, which highlights many of the conditions related to a deficiency of vitamin D. Notice that the first four conditions on the left column demonstrate the importance of vitamin D for dealing with viruses and bacteria.

Infection	Muscle aches
Common cold	Schizophrenia
Cold/flu	Depression
Respiratory infections	Multisystem atrophy
Diabetes	Type 1 diabetes
Chronic kidney disease	Alzheimer's

101



102





109



110

111

**Vitamin C supplementation reduces the incidence of post-race symptoms of upper-respiratory-tract infection in ultramarathon runners<sup>1-3</sup>**

*Edith M Peters, Jeanette M Goetzsche, Brian Grobbelaar, and Timothy D Noakes*

**ABSTRACT** This study determined whether daily supplementation with 600 mg vitamin C would reduce the incidence of symptoms of upper-respiratory-tract (URT) infections after participation in a competitive ultramarathon race (>42 km). Ultramarathon runners with age-matched controls were randomly divided into placebo and experimental (vitamin C-supplemented) groups. Symptoms of URT infections were monitored for 14 d after the race. Sixty-eight percent of the runners in the placebo group reported the development of symptoms of URT infection after the race; this was significantly more ( $P < 0.01$ ) than that reported by the vitamin C-supplemented group (33%). The duration and severity of symptoms of URT infections reported in the vitamin C-supplemented nonrunning control group was also significantly less than in the nonrunning control group receiving the placebo ( $P < 0.05$ ). This study provides evidence that vitamin C supplementation may enhance resistance to the post-race URT infections that occur commonly in competitive ultramarathon runners and may reduce the severity of such infections in those who are sedentary. *Am J Clin Nutr* 1993;57:170-4.

**KEY WORDS** Vitamin C, infection, ultramarathon running

**Subjects and methods**  
Ninety-two runners who belonged to running clubs in the local area and who had entered the 1990 90-km Comrades Marathon, run annually between Durban and Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, volunteered to participate in this study. Each subject was required to nominate a control subject of similar age who was not a regular runner and who was prepared to supplement his or her vitamin C intake for the 21 d before the date the ultramarathon race was run. Consent was obtained from the runners and controls and the research protocol was approved by the Committee for Research on Human Subjects of the University of the Witwatersrand Medical School.  
A double-blind, placebo-controlled study was conducted: for the 21 d before the marathon, half the runners ( $n = 46$ ) and half the control subjects ( $n = 46$ ) were required to take one tablet containing 600 mg vitamin C daily, whereas the remaining runners ( $n = 46$ ) and control subjects ( $n = 46$ ) took an identical-looking and tasting placebo containing citric acid. Subjects were asked to complete questionnaires before the ultramarathon. These sought the following information: a brief training history with running distance per week, average running speed, number of weeks spent training, frequency of participation in other ul-

112

**nutrients** MDPI

Review  
**Vitamin C and Immune Function**

Anitra C. Carr<sup>1,2</sup> and Silvia Maggini<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Department of Pathology, University of Otago, Christchurch, P.O. Box 4803, Christchurch 8143, New Zealand  
<sup>2</sup> Biyo Consumer Care Ltd., P.O. Box 100, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, UK  
\* Correspondence: anitra.carr@otago.ac.nz; Tel.: +643-864 0649

Received: 21 September 2017; Accepted: 31 October 2017; Published: 3 November 2017

**Abstract:** Vitamin C is an essential micronutrient for humans, with pleiotropic functions related to its ability to donate electrons. It is a potent antioxidant and a cofactor for a family of hydroxylase and gene regulatory enzymes. Vitamin C contributes to immune defense by supporting various cellular functions of both the innate and adaptive immune systems. Vitamin C supports epithelial barrier function against pathogens and promotes the oxidant scavenging activity of the skin, thereby potentially protecting against environmental oxidative stress. Vitamin C accumulates in phagocytic cells, such as neutrophils, and can enhance chemotaxis, phagocytosis, generation of reactive oxygen species, and ultimately microbial killing. It is also needed for apoptosis and clearance of the spent neutrophils from sites of infection by macrophages, thereby decreasing necrosis/NETosis and potential tissue damage. The role of vitamin C in lymphocytes is less clear, but it has been shown to enhance differentiation and proliferation of B- and T-cells, likely due to its gene regulating effects. Vitamin C deficiency results in impaired immunity and higher susceptibility to infections. In turn, infections significantly impact on vitamin C levels due to enhanced inflammation and metabolic requirements. Furthermore, supplementation with vitamin C appears to be able to both prevent and treat respiratory and systemic infections. Prophylactic prevention of infection requires dietary vitamin C intakes that provide at least adequate, if not saturating plasma levels (i.e., 100–200 mg/day), which optimize cell and tissue levels. In contrast, treatment of established infections requires significantly higher (gram) doses of the vitamin to compensate for the increased inflammatory response and metabolic demand.

113

**nutrients** MDPI

Review  
**Vitamin C and Immune Function**

**Table 1. Role of vitamin C in immune defense.**

Immune System	Function of Vitamin C	Refs.
Epithelial barriers	Enhances collagen synthesis and stabilization	[30–35]
	Protects against ROS-induced damage <sup>1</sup>	[36–40]
	Enhances keratinocyte differentiation and lipid synthesis	[41–45]
	Enhances fibroblast proliferation and migration	[46,47]
	Shortens time to wound healing in patients	[48,49]
Phagocytes (neutrophils, macrophages)	Acts as an antioxidant/electron donor	[50–53]
	Enhances motility/chemotaxis	[54–63]
	Enhances phagocytosis and ROS generation	[64–71]
	Enhances microbial killing	[54,55,57,58,70,72]
	Facilitates apoptosis and clearance	[71,73,74]
	Decreases necrosis/NETosis	[75,76]
B- and T-lymphocytes	Enhances differentiation and proliferation	[62,63,76–82]
	Enhances antibody levels	[78,83–85]
Inflammatory mediators	Modulates cytokine production	[73,77,86–84]
	Decreases histamine levels	[56,61,95–101]

<sup>1</sup> ROS, reactive oxygen species; NET, neutrophil extracellular trap. Note that many of these studies comprised marginal or deficient vitamin C status at baseline. Supplementation in situations of adequate vitamin C status may not have comparable effects.

114

International Journal of  
Molecular Sciences

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Article

## Dietary Antioxidants Significantly Attenuate Hyperoxia-Induced Acute Inflammatory Lung Injury by Enhancing Macrophage Function via Reducing the Accumulation of Airway HMGB1

Vivek Patel <sup>1,2</sup>, Katelyn Dial <sup>1,3</sup>, Jiaqi Wu <sup>1</sup>, Alex G. Gauthier <sup>3</sup>, Wenjun Wu <sup>1</sup>, Mosi Lin <sup>1</sup>, Michael G. Espey <sup>2</sup>, Douglas D. Thomas <sup>3</sup>, Charles R. Ashby, Jr. <sup>1</sup> and Lin L. Mantell <sup>1,4,\*</sup>

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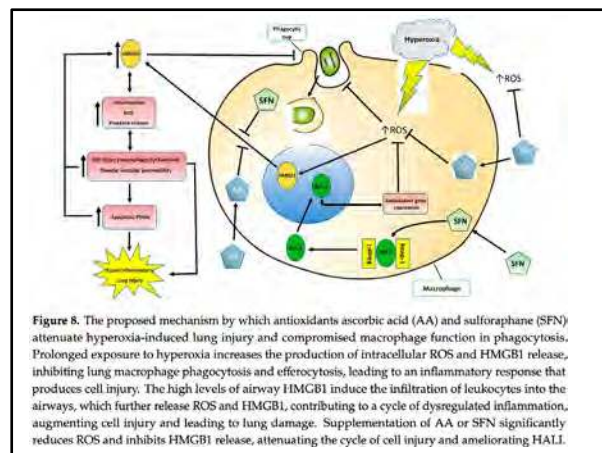
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<sup>4</sup> The Feinstein Institute for Medical Research, Northwell Health System, Manhasset, NY 11050, USA

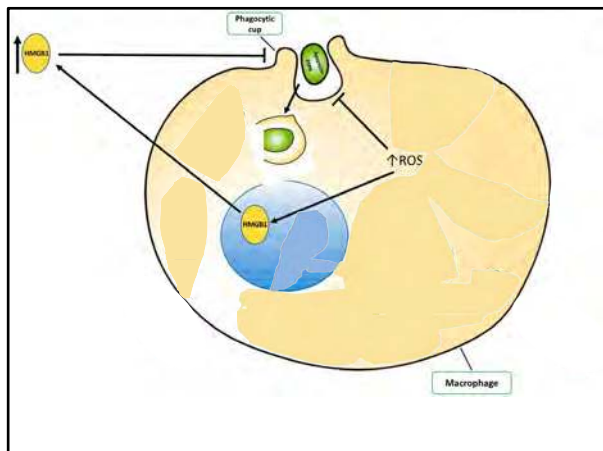
\* Correspondence: mantell@stjohns.edu; Tel: +01-716-990-5933

† These authors contributed equally to this work.

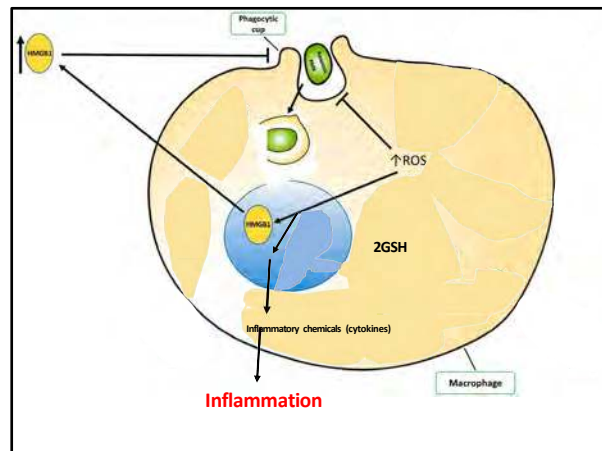
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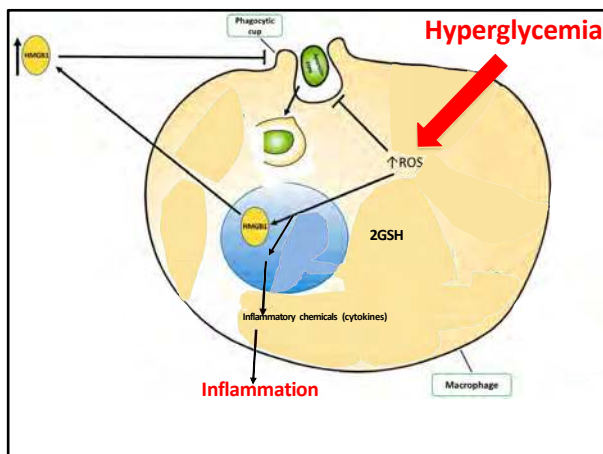
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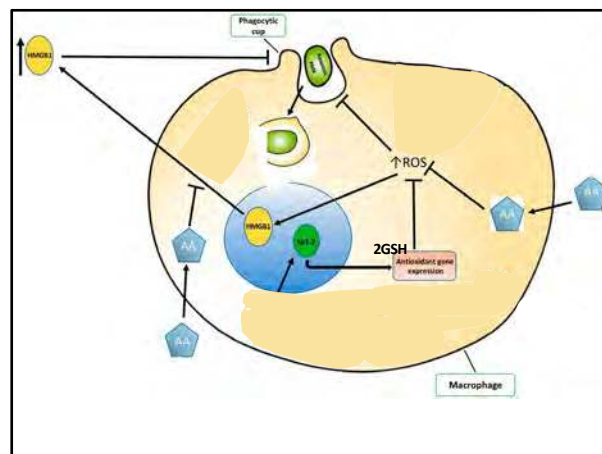
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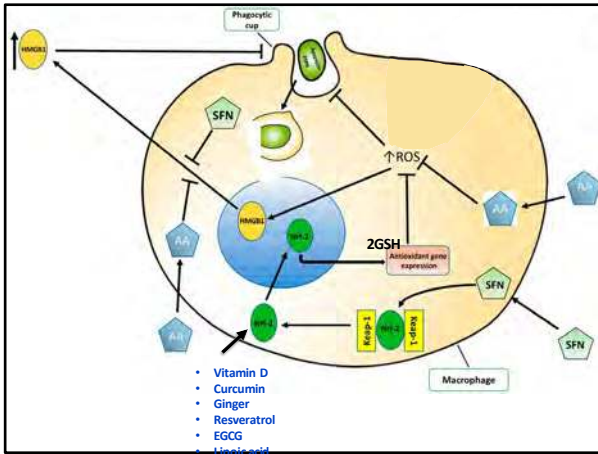
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120



121



122

Zinc supplementation decreases incidence of infections in the elderly: effect of zinc on generation of cytokines and oxidative stress<sup>1-3</sup>

Ananda S Prasad, Franzer WJ Beck, Bin Bao, James T Fitzgerald, Diane C Snell, Joel D Steinberg, and Lavoisier J Cardozo

**Design:** A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of zinc supplementation was conducted in elderly subjects. Fifty healthy subjects of both sexes aged 55–87 y and inclusive of all ethnic groups were recruited for this study from a senior center. The zinc-supplemented group received zinc gluconate (45 mg elemental Zn/d) orally for 12 mo. Incidence of infections during the supplementation period was documented. The generation of inflammatory cytokines, T helper 1 and T helper 2 cytokines, and oxidative stress markers and the plasma concentrations of zinc were measured at baseline and after supplementation.

123

Zinc supplementation decreases incidence of infections in the elderly: effect of zinc on generation of cytokines and oxidative stress<sup>1-3</sup>

Ananda S Prasad, Franzer WJ Beck, Bin Bao, James T Fitzgerald, Diane C Snell, Joel D Steinberg, and Lavoisier J Cardozo

**Conclusions:** After zinc supplementation, the incidence of infections was significantly lower, plasma zinc was significantly higher, and generation of tumor necrosis factor  $\alpha$  and oxidative stress markers was significantly lower in the zinc-supplemented than in the placebo group. *Am J Clin Nutr* 2007;85:837–44.

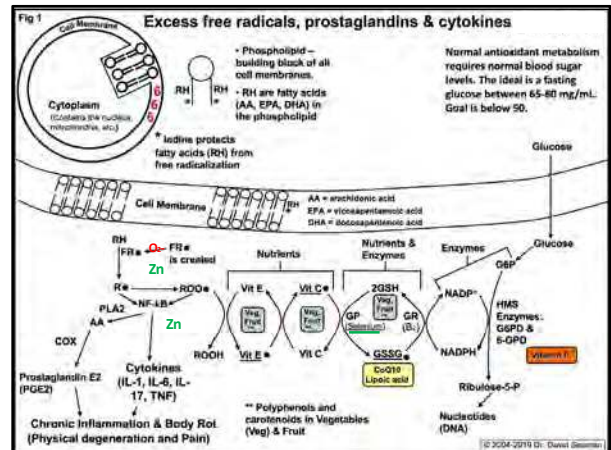
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**TABLE 3**  
Effect of zinc and placebo supplementation on clinical variables<sup>1</sup>

Variables	Subjects affected in 1 y		P <sup>2</sup>
	Zinc group (n = 24)	Placebo group (n = 25)	
	%		
Infection	29	88	<0.001
Upper respiratory tract infection	12	24	0.136
Tonsillitis	0	8	0.255
Common cold	16	40	0.067
Cold sores	0	12	0.124
Flu	0	12	0.124
Fever	0	20	0.027
One infection each/y	29	52	
Two infections each/y	0	24	
Three infections each/y	0	8	
Four infections each/y	0	4	
Received antibiotics	8	48	

<sup>1</sup> Each subject could appear in >1 subcategory of infections.  
<sup>2</sup> Chi-square Fisher's exact test.


125



126

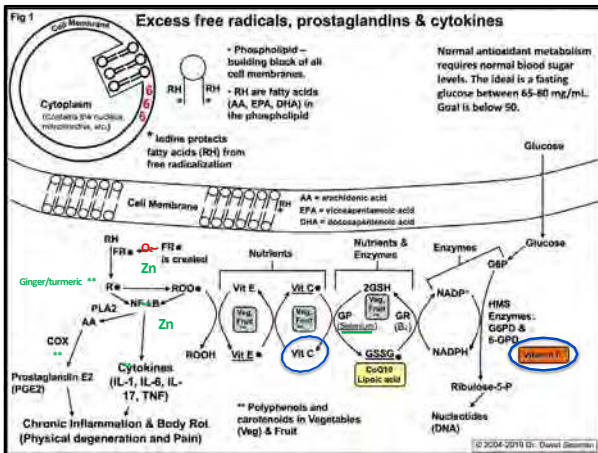


127

**Goel A et al. Curcumin as "curecumin": from kitchen to clinic. Biochem Pharmacol. 2008;75:787-809.** 

- Pilot phase I clinical trials have shown curcumin to be **safe** even when consumed at a daily dose of **12g for 3 months**.
- Other clinical trials suggest a potential therapeutic role for curcumin in diseases:
  - arthritis
  - hypercholesteremia
  - atherosclerosis
  - pancreatitis
  - psoriasis
  - familial adenomatous polyposis
  - inflammatory bowel disease
  - chronic anterior uveitis
  - ulcerative colitis
  - colon cancer
  - pancreatic cancer

128




129

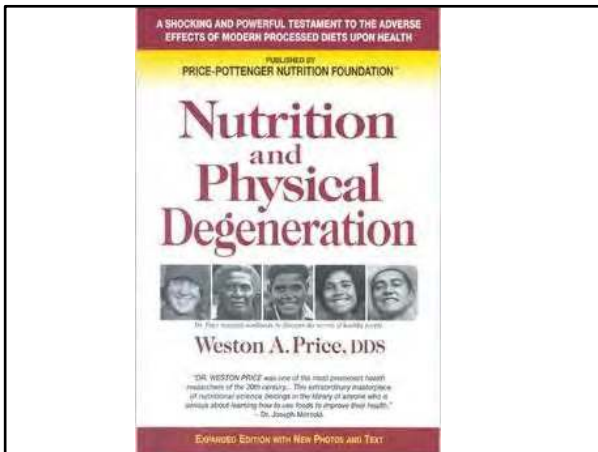
**The best way to survive the flu, COVID-19, and any other virus is to:**

1. Get your weight normal
2. Get your glucose levels normal
3. Get your vitamin D level normal
4. Take vitamin C, zinc, etc. (**ginger, turmeric, elderberry, etc.**)
5. Replace refined food calories with vegetation

Very simple and generally has immediate anti-inflammatory benefits that reduce a hyper-immune response to a virus...and there will always be new viruses that emerge, so we should all be prepared.



130



131

**NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL DEGENERATION**

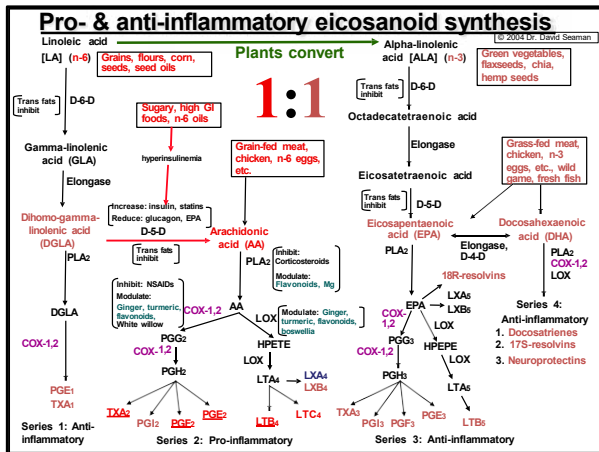
A Comparison of Primitive and Modern Diets and Their Effects

BY  
**WESTON A. PRICE, M.S., D.D.S., F.A.C.D.**  
 Member Research Commission, American Dental Association  
 Member American Association of Physical Anthropologists  
 Honorary Member of the International Mark Twain Society  
 Honorary Fellowship in the International College of Dentists  
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 Author "Dental Infections, Oral and Systemic"  
 "Dental Infections and the Degenerative Diseases"

[Printed first in 1945 or earlier]  
 FOREWORD BY  
**EARNST ALBERT HOOTON, Professor of Anthropology, Harvard University**

132





139

Seaman Chiropractic & Manual Therapies 2013, 21:15  
http://www.chiropractic.com/content/21/1/15

CHIROPRACTIC & MANUAL THERAPIES

COMMENTARY **Open Access**

## Body mass index and musculoskeletal pain: is there a connection?

David R Seaman

**Abstract**

**Background:** Back pain is one of the most common complaints that patients report to physicians and two-thirds of the population has an elevated body mass index (BMI), indicating they are either overweight or obese. It was once assumed that extra body weight would stress the low back and lead to pain, however, researchers have reported inconsistencies in the association between body weight and back pain. In contrast, more recent studies do indicate that an elevated BMI is associated with back pain and other musculoskeletal pain syndromes due to the presence of a chronic systemic inflammatory state, suggesting that the relationship between BMI and musculoskeletal pain is considered in more detail.

**Objective:** To describe how an elevated BMI can be associated with chronic systemic inflammation and pain expression. To outline measurable risk factors for chronic inflammation that can be used in clinical practice and discuss basic treatment considerations.

**Discussion:** Adiposopathy, or 'sick fat' syndrome, is a term that refers to an elevated BMI that is associated with a chronic systemic inflammatory state most commonly referred to as the metabolic syndrome. The best available evidence suggests that the presence of adiposopathy determines if an elevated BMI will contribute to musculoskeletal pain expression. It is not uncommon for physicians to fail to identify the presence of adiposopathy/

140

#### Table 1: Markers of chronic inflammation

Markers	Abnormal value	Date	Date	Date	Date
<b>Metabolic syndrome</b>					
1. Fasting blood glucose	≥ 100 mg/dL				
2. Triglycerides	≥ 150 mg/dL				
3. HDL cholesterol	< 50 for women < 40 men				
4. Blood pressure	≥ 130/85				
5. Waist circumference	> 35" women > 40" men				
<b>Pro-inflammatory markers</b>	<b>Parameters</b>				
2-hour postprandial glucose	< 140 mg/dL = normal 140-199 = prediabetes 200+ = diabetes				
Fasting triglycerides	< 90 mg/dL = normal > 90 = moderate				
HCRP in mg/L, marker of chronic inflammation	< 1.0 = normal 1.0-3.0 = moderate > 3.0 = high				
25(OH) Vitamin D3	≥ 30 ng/mL (optimal > 40 ng/mL)				
Body mass index (BMI)	18.5-24.9 = normal 25-29.9 = overweight ≥ 30 = obese				
Waist:hip ratio women (risk factor for diabetes)	< 0.80 = low risk 0.81-0.85 = moderate risk ≥ 0.86 = high risk				
Waist:hip ratio men (risk factor for diabetes)	< 0.95 = low risk 0.96-1.0 = moderate risk ≥ 1.0 = high risk				
Lack of sleep	Less than 6 hrs				
Stress	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Substandard living	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Depression	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Self-rated health	Associated with systemic inflammation				

141

#### Table 2: Metabolic syndrome markers

Metabolic syndrome	Abnormal value	Date	Date	Date	Date
1. Fasting blood glucose	≥ 100 mg/dL				
2. Fasting triglycerides	≥ 150 mg/dL				
3. Fasting HDL cholesterol	< 50 for women < 40 men				
4. Blood pressure	≥ 130/85				
5. Waist circumference	> 35" women > 40" men				

#### Table 3: General markers of inflammation

Parameter	Parameter	Date	Date	Date	Date
Fasting glucose	< 100 mg/dL = euglycemic diet 100-125 = considered normal 126-129 = pre-diabetes ≥ 126 = type 2 diabetes				
2-hour postprandial glucose	< 140 mg/dL = normal 140-199 = pre-diabetes 200+ = diabetes				
Hemoglobin A1c (HbA1c)	< 5.7% = normal 5.7-6.4% = prediabetes ≥ 6.5% = type 2 diabetes				
Fasting triglycerides	< 90 mg/dL predicts controlled postprandial response ≥ 90 = elevation of LDL cholesterol				
Fasting triglyceride/HDL ratio	Less than 1.5/0.5 = normal 1.5-1.9/0.5 = pre-hypertension 1.9-2.9/0.5 = Stage 1 hypertension ≥ 3.0/0.5 = Stage 2 hypertension				
Blood pressure goal					
Waist circumference goal - men	37" or less				
Waist circumference goal - women	35" or less				
Women waist:hip ratio (risk factor for type 2 diabetes + inflammation)	< 0.80 = normal 0.81-0.85 = moderate inflammation ≥ 0.86 = high inflammation				
Men waist:hip ratio (risk factor for type 2 diabetes + inflammation)	< 0.95 = normal 0.96-1.0 = moderate inflammation ≥ 1.0 = high inflammation				
Body mass index (BMI)	18.5-24.9 = normal 25-29.9 = overweight ≥ 30 = obese				
14C3P in mg/L (general marker of chronic inflammation)	< 1.0 = normal 1.0-3.0 = moderate inflammation ≥ 3.0 = high inflammation				
25(OH) D3 (vitamin D3)	≥ 30 ng/mL (optimal at least 40 ng/mL)				

142

## The DeFlame Diet approach

- Avoid excess calories...weigh what you weighed when you were in high-school or college
- Avoid empty calories (refined sugar, flour, and oils) and excess salt
- Maximize your nutrient/calorie ratio (example of whole grains vs vegetables)
- Dietary options:
  - Vegan
  - Omnivore
  - Carnivore
- Supplements:
  - Magnesium (mag)
  - Vitamin D (D)
  - Omega-3 (3)
  - Probiotics
  - Polyphenols (ginger/turmeric)
  - Iodine
  - Vitamin C
  - Zinc
  - CoQ10

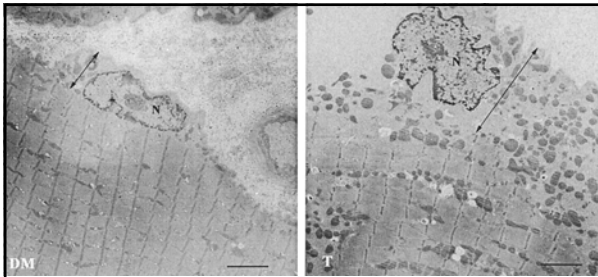
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**Electron micrograph of skeletal muscle.**

**Which one is normal??**

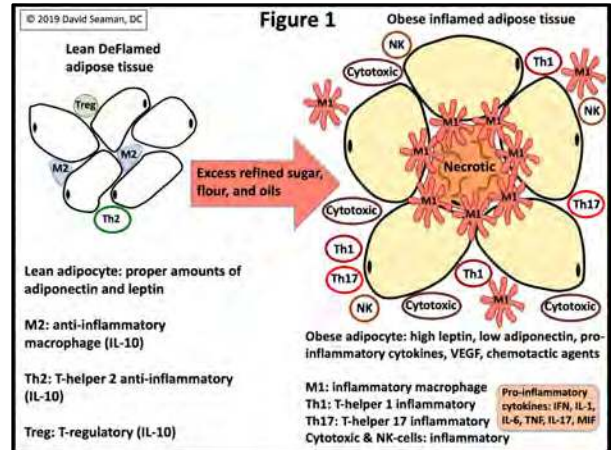
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Representative transmission electron microscopy of longitudinal sections of human skeletal muscle from a lean (T) and a type 2 diabetic (DM) research volunteer are shown (bar = 2.5 μm). The thickness of the perinuclear distribution of subsarcolemmal mitochondria was measured using image analysis (National Institutes of Health image 1.61) and can be observed to be substantially depleted in type 2 diabetes. Ritov VB et al. Deficiency of subsarcolemmal mitochondria in obesity and type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes* 2005; 54(1):8-14.

145



146

**HYPOTHESIS**

Is progressive osteoarthritis an atheromatous vascular disease?

P G Conaghan, H Vanharanta, P A Dieppe

*Ann Rheum Dis* 2005;64:1539-1541. doi: 10.1136/ard.2005.039263

Growing evidence from epidemiological studies suggests that osteoarthritis (OA) is linked to atheromatous vascular disease. This hypothesis article proposes that OA, or at least OA structural progression, may be an atheromatous vascular disease of subchondral bone. Further epidemiological studies, imaging investigations of relevant blood vessels, and trials of the effects of statins on the prevention and treatment of OA are needed to examine this hypothesis.

osteoarthritis (OA) is a massive problem for both individual patients and society. It is difficult to define, but there is a common clinical phenotype characterised by pain related to use and structural abnormalities of all tissues in the synovial joint, including cartilage, subchondral bone, synovium, capsule, and ligaments. Vascular disease and OA are

venous outflow obstruction<sup>1</sup> and hypercoagulability in both animal and human studies, described by Ghosh and Cheras.<sup>2</sup> The complexity of OA vascular abnormalities may be compounded by angiogenesis associated with inflammation in OA.<sup>3,4</sup>

Vascular disease in subchondral bone may accelerate the OA process either by altering cartilage nutrition<sup>5</sup> or through direct ischaemic effects on bone, if the subchondral bone is actually the first tissue affected and cartilage damage is secondary. Large segments of avascular bone necrosis, of the sort seen in association with steroid use, are relatively uncommon, but Bullough's group has demonstrated that multiple small bone infarcts are common in advanced OA.<sup>6</sup>

"Vascular disease in subchondral bone may accelerate the OA process"

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) can detect

147

**HYPOTHESIS**

Is progressive osteoarthritis an atheromatous vascular disease?

P G Conaghan, H Vanharanta, P A Dieppe

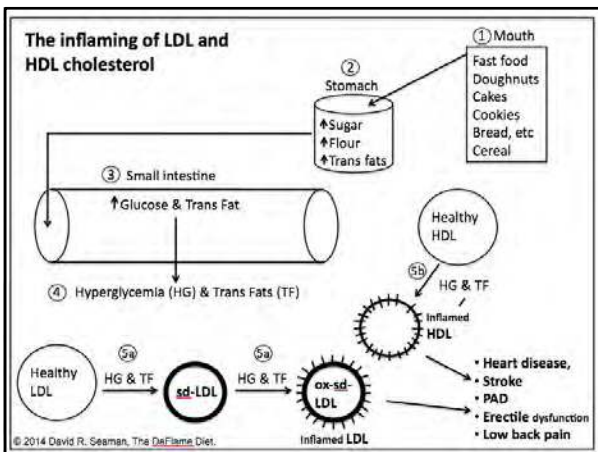
Growing evidence from epidemiological study that osteoarthritis (OA) is linked to atheromatous disease. This hypothesis article proposes that least OA structural progression, may be on a vascular disease of subchondral bone. Further epidemiological studies, imaging investigator blood vessels, and trials of the effects of statin prevention and treatment of OA are needed to examine this hypothesis.

osteoarthritis (OA) is a common clinical phenotype related to use and structural abnormalities of all tissues in the synovial joint, including cartilage, subchondral bone, synovium, capsule, and ligaments. Vascular disease and OA are

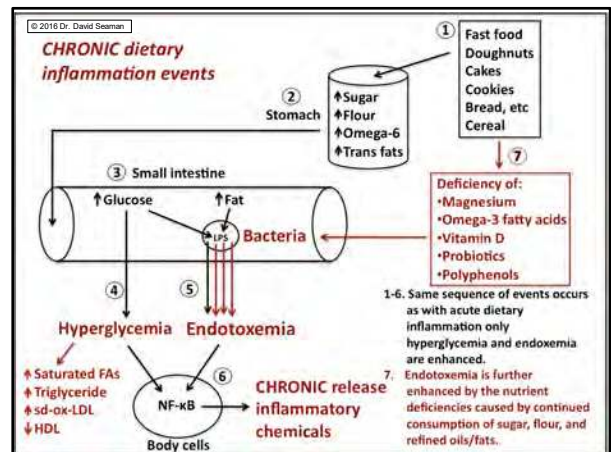
"Vascular disease in subchondral bone may accelerate the OA process"

Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) can detect

148



149



150

## Drivers of OA

(Salter RM. Continuous passive motion. Baltimore: Williams & Wilkins; 1993: p. 13)

- Congenital anomalies of joint: congenital dislocation of the hip, clubfeet
- Infections of joints: septic arthritis, tuberculosis arthritis
- Nonspecific inflammatory disorders: RA, AS
- Metabolic arthritis: gout, ochronosis
- Repeated hemarthrosis: hemophilia
- Injury: major trauma - intra-articular fractures, torn menisci
- Acquired incongruity of joint surfaces: avascular necrosis, slipped epiphysis
- Extra-articular deformities with malalignment of joints: genu varum, genu valgum
- Joint instability: lax ligaments, stretched capsule, subluxation
- Iatrogenic damage to art cartilage: compression necrosis

151

## Post-traumatic arthritis: overview on pathogenic mechanisms and role of inflammation

Leonardo Punzi,<sup>1</sup> Paola Galozzi,<sup>1</sup> Roberto Luisetto,<sup>2</sup> Marta Favero,<sup>1,3</sup> Roberta Ramonda,<sup>1</sup> Francesca Oliviero,<sup>1</sup> Anna Scaru<sup>1</sup>

**Key messages**

- Post-traumatic arthritis is a condition triggered by an acute joint trauma that can lead to osteoarthritis or chronic inflammatory arthropathies.
- No feasible markers and specific treatments for preventing the evolution of post-traumatic arthritis in chronic disease are available yet.
- Inflammation occurring immediately after joint injury plays a key role in the onset of chronic post-traumatic arthritis.
- An early local anti-inflammatory therapy may represent an effective treatment option for preventing chronic post-traumatic arthritis.

152

## Metabolic syndrome meets osteoarthritis

Qi Zhuo, Wei Yang, Jiyang Chen and Yan Wang

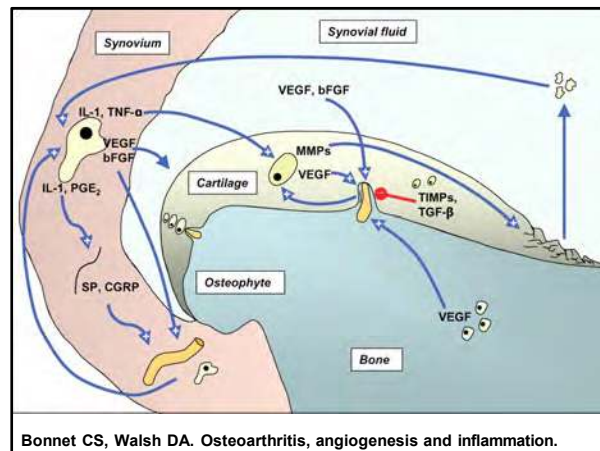
**Abstract** | Metabolic osteoarthritis (OA) has now been characterized as a subtype of OA, and links have been discovered between this phenotype and metabolic syndrome (MetS)—both with individual MetS components and with MetS as a whole. Hypertension associates with OA through subchondral ischaemia, which can compromise nutrient exchange into articular cartilage and trigger bone remodelling. Ectopic lipid deposition in chondrocytes induced by dyslipidaemia might initiate OA development, exacerbated by deregulated cellular lipid metabolism in joint tissues. Hyperglycaemia and OA interact at both local and systemic levels; local effects of oxidative stress and advanced glycation end-products are implicated in cartilage damage, whereas low-grade systemic inflammation results from glucose accumulation and contributes to a toxic internal environment that can exacerbate OA. Obesity-related metabolic factors, particularly altered levels of adipokines, contribute to OA development by inducing the expression of proinflammatory factors as well as degradative enzymes, leading to the inhibition of cartilage matrix synthesis and stimulation of subchondral bone remodelling. In this Review, we summarize the shared mechanisms of inflammation, oxidative stress, common metabolites and endothelial dysfunction that characterize the aetiologies of OA and MetS, and nominate metabolic OA as the fifth component of MetS. We also describe therapeutic opportunities that might arise from uniting these concepts.

**Introduction**

In 1986, the American College of Rheumatology defined osteoarthritis (OA) as "a heterogeneous group of conditions that lead to joint symptoms and signs, which are associated with defective integrity of articular cartilage, in addition to related changes in the underlying bone at the joint margins". OA is the most prevalent form of arthritis.

MetS is prevalent in 59% of patients with OA and in 23% of the population without OA, in data from a sample of 7,714 people selected to represent the US population across all ages.<sup>1</sup> Studies have also found that people with MetS develop OA at an earlier age and have more generalised pathology: increased inflammation, and augmented inten-

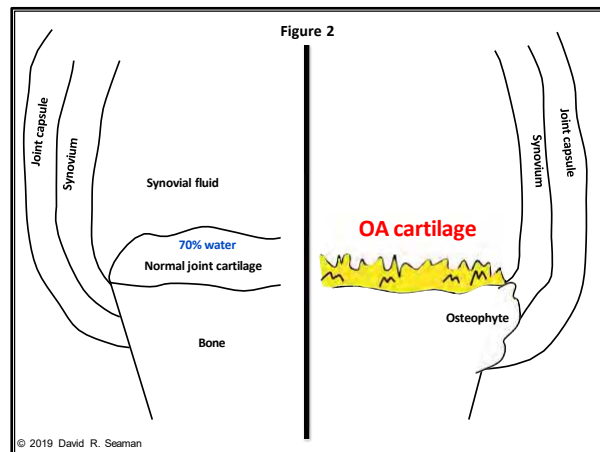
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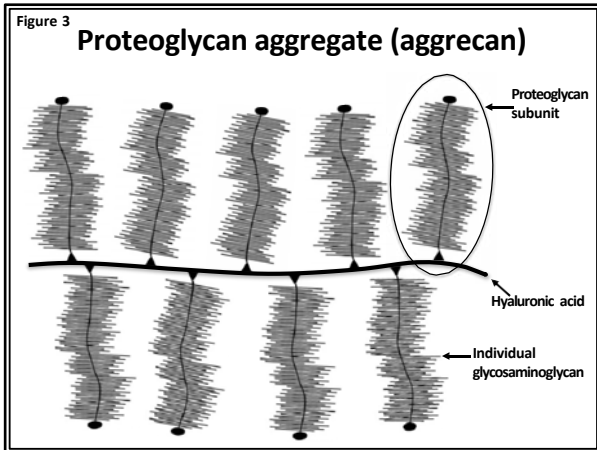
154

Stimulators	
Synovial fluid/synovium	Articular chondrocyte
Bradykinin*	SP [36]
SP*	PGE <sub>2</sub> [37]
CGRP*	Nitric oxide [38]
Angiotensin II*	Histamine [39]
PGE <sub>2</sub> *	VEGF <sub>121/119</sub> [15]
Nitric oxide*	Endoglin [40]
Histamine*	Hepatocyte growth factor [41]
VEGF <sub>121/119</sub> [15]*	Angiopoietin-1 [16]*
bFGF*	IL-1 [42]
Endoglin*	IL-8 [43]
Hepatocyte growth factor*	TGF-β <sub>1,2,3</sub> [44]
Epidermal growth factor*	TNF-α [45]
IL-1 [17]*	IL-18 [46]
IL-8 [18]*	Connective tissue growth factor [47, 48]
Angiogenin*	
TGF-β [19]*	
TNF-α [20]*	
Platelet-derived endothelial cell growth factor*	
Endothelial cell-stimulating angiogenesis factor*	
Hyaluronic acid (low molecular weight)*	
IL-18 [21, 22]	
Stem cell-derived factor-1 [23, 24]	
Fractalkine [25, 26]	
Platelet-derived growth factor [27, 28]	
Pleiotrophin [29, 30]	
Soluble E-selectin [31, 32]	
Vascular cell adhesion molecule-1 [31, 33]	
IL-4 [34, 35]	

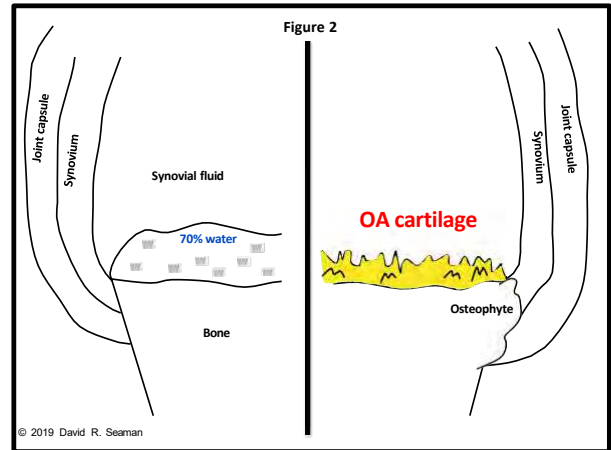
155



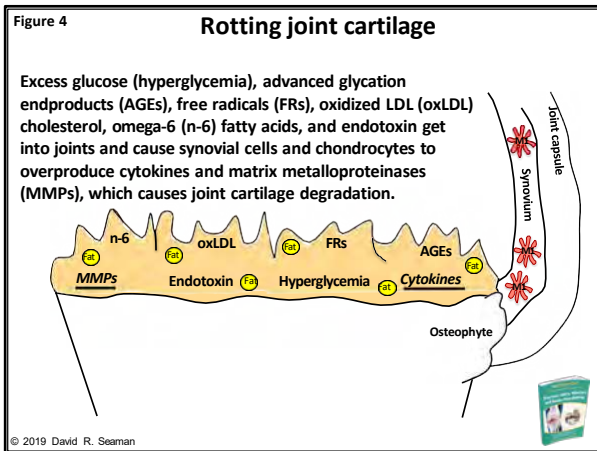
156



157



158



159

**CHANGES IN THE LIPIDS OF HUMAN ARTICULAR CARTILAGE WITH AGE**

WALTER M. BONNER, HALDOR JONSSON, CYNTHIA MALANOS, and MAX BRYANT

Histochemical and chemical studies demonstrated a significant increase in the lipids of articular cartilage with advancing age. Triglycerides, cholesterol, and phospholipids were identified chemically and were shown by comparative staining procedures to be present in intracellular and extracellular lipids. The distribution and the composition of the extracellular lipids were interpreted as indicating that the extracellular lipids are of cellular origin. Glycolipids were extracted from cartilage of all ages and were shown to account for a portion of the increase in total lipid with age. Glycolipids extracted from aged cartilage were partially characterized. Cerebrosides, sulfatides, and gangliosides were detected. Glycolipids were estimated to comprise from 5 to 10% of the total lipid of articular cartilage. Arachidonic acid concentrations increased markedly with age in the surface of cartilage but were present in trace amounts in deep cartilage, demonstrating clear-cut differences in the levels as well as the location of this fatty acid precursor of the prostaglandins (PGE<sub>2</sub> and PGF<sub>2α</sub>).

Lipid is found in the cells and in the matrix of human articular cartilage. Intracellular lipid is a feature of chondrocytes from infancy to advanced age and is considered a normal constituent because it is found in the absence of degenerative change in the cells (1,2). With advancing age the number and size of intracellular lipid particles seem to increase (3).

**Arthritis Rheum. 1975;18(5):461-73.**

160

**Normal Cartilage: no n-6 fatty acids**

Normal, young cartilages, in distinction from all other tissues examined, have unusually high levels of n-9 (20:3) PUFA (Mead acid) and low levels of n-6 PUFA.

This apparent deficiency is consistently observed in cartilage of all species so far studied (young chicken, fetal calf, new born pig, rabbit, and human), even though levels of n-6 PUFA in blood and all other tissues is normal.

Because eicosanoids, which are derived from EFA, have been implicated in the inflammatory responses associated with arthritic disease, reduction of n-6 PUFA and accumulation of the n-9 20:3 acid in cartilage may be important for maintaining normal cartilage structure.

Adkisson HD et al. Unique fatty acid composition of normal cartilage: discovery of high levels of n-9 eicosatrienoic acid and low levels of n-6 polyunsaturated fatty acids. FASEB J. 1991; 5(3):344-53.

161

Progress in Lipid Research

Journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/plipres

**Review**

**Lipid metabolism and osteoarthritis: Lessons from atherosclerosis**

Vasiliki Gkretsi<sup>a</sup>, Theodora Simopoulou<sup>b</sup>, Aspasia Tsezou<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Institute of Biomedical Research and Technology, Center for Research and Technology, Thessaloniki, Greece; <sup>b</sup>Department of Nutrition, University of Athens, Athens, Greece; <sup>c</sup>Department of Cardiology, University of Athens, Athens, Greece; <sup>d</sup>Department of Biology, School of Medicine, University of Athens, Athens, Greece

**ARTICLE INFO**

Article history: Available online 27 November 2010

**Keywords:** Osteoarthritis; Lipid metabolism; Atherosclerosis; Obesity; Adipokines; Inflammation

**ABSTRACT**

Osteoarthritis (OA) is an age-related degenerative disease comprising the main reason of handicap in the Western world. Interestingly, to date, there are neither available biomarkers for early diagnosis of the disease nor any effective therapy other than symptomatic treatment and joint replacement surgery. OA has long been associated with obesity, mainly due to mechanical overload exerted on the joints. Recent studies however, point to the direction that OA is a metabolic disease, as it also involves non-weight bearing joints. In fact, altered lipid metabolism may be the underlying cause. First, adipokines have been shown to be key regulators of OA pathogenesis. Second, epidemiological studies have shown serum cholesterol to be a risk factor for OA development. Third, lipid deposition in the joint is observed in the early stages of OA before the occurrence of histological changes. Fourth, proteomic analyses have shown an important connection between OA and lipid metabolism. Finally, recent gene expression studies reveal a deregulation of cholesterol influx and efflux and in the expression of lipid metabolism related genes. Interestingly, lipids and lipid metabolism are known to be implicated in the development and progression of another age-related degenerative disease, atherosclerosis (ATH). Thus, although it is tempting to speculate that the osteoarthritic chondrocyte has been transformed to foam cell, it has not been proven yet. However, this may be an intriguing theory linking ATH and OA, which may open new avenues to novel therapeutic interventions for OA taking advantage of previous knowledge from ATH.

162

Progress in Lipid Research

**Lipid metabolism and osteoarthritis: Lessons from atherosclerosis**

**Lipid deposition in the joint is observed at the early stages of osteoarthritis (OA) before the occurrence of histological changes.**

to be key regulators of OA pathogenesis. Second, epidemiological studies have shown serum cholesterol to be a risk factor for OA development. Third, lipid deposition in the joint is observed in the early stages of OA before the occurrence of histological changes. Fourth, proteomic analyses have shown an important connection between OA and lipid metabolism. Finally, recent gene expression studies reveal a dysregulation of cholesterol influx and efflux and to the expression of lipid metabolism related genes. Interestingly, lipids and lipid metabolism are known to be implicated in the development and progression of another age-related degenerative disease, atherosclerosis (ATH). Thus, although it is tempting to speculate that the atherosclerotic chondrocyte has been transformed to foam cell, it has not been proven yet. However, this may be an intriguing theory linking ATH and OA which may open new avenues to novel therapeutic interventions for OA taking advantage of previous knowledge from ATH.

163

**Rotting joint cartilage**

Excess glucose (hyperglycemia), advanced glycation endproducts (AGEs), free radicals (FRs), oxidized LDL (oxLDL) cholesterol, omega-6 (n-6) fatty acids, and endotoxin get into joints and cause synovial cells and chondrocytes to overproduce cytokines and matrix metalloproteinases (MMPs), which causes joint cartilage degradation.

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164

Progress in Lipid Research

**Lipid metabolism and osteoarthritis: Lessons from atherosclerosis**

Vasiliki Kletsis<sup>a</sup>, Theodora Simopoulou<sup>a</sup>, Aspasia Tsezou<sup>a,b,c,d</sup>

**Adipokines have been shown to be key regulators of OA pathogenesis.**

Osteoarthritis (OA) is an age-related degenerative disease comprising the main reason of handicap in the Western world. Interestingly, to date, there are neither available biomarkers for early diagnosis of the disease nor any effective therapy other than symptomatic treatment and joint replacement surgery. OA has long been associated with obesity, usually due to mechanical overload exerted on the joints. Recent studies however, point to the direction that OA is a metabolic disease, as it also involves non-weight bearing joints. In fact, altered lipid metabolism may be the underlying cause. Thus, adipokines have been shown to be key regulators of OA pathogenesis. Second, epidemiological studies have shown serum cholesterol to be a risk factor for OA development. Third, lipid deposition in the joint is observed in the early stages of OA before the occurrence of histological changes. Fourth, proteomic analyses have shown an important connection between OA and lipid metabolism. Finally, recent gene expression studies reveal a dysregulation of cholesterol influx and efflux and to the expression of lipid metabolism related genes. Interestingly, lipids and lipid metabolism are known to be implicated in the development and progression of another age-related degenerative disease, atherosclerosis (ATH). Thus, although it is tempting to speculate that the atherosclerotic chondrocyte has been transformed to foam cell, it has not been proven yet. However, this may be an intriguing theory linking ATH and OA which may open new avenues to novel therapeutic interventions for OA taking advantage of previous knowledge from ATH.

165

**Adipokines have been shown to be key regulators of OA pathogenesis.**

166

**Representative transmission electron microscopy of longitudinal sections of human skeletal muscle from a lean (T) and a type 2 diabetic (DM) research volunteer are shown (bar = 2.5 μm). The thickness of the perinuclear distribution of subsarcolemmal mitochondria was measured using image analysis (National Institutes of Health image 1.61) and can be observed to be substantially depleted in type 2 diabetes.**

Ritov VB et al. Deficiency of subsarcolemmal mitochondria in obesity and type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes*. 2005; 54(1):8-14.

167

**Muscle mitochondria**

**DeFlamed** vs **Obese and Hyperglycemic**

Mt = mitochondria

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168

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**Role of adiponectin in human skeletal muscle bioenergetics**

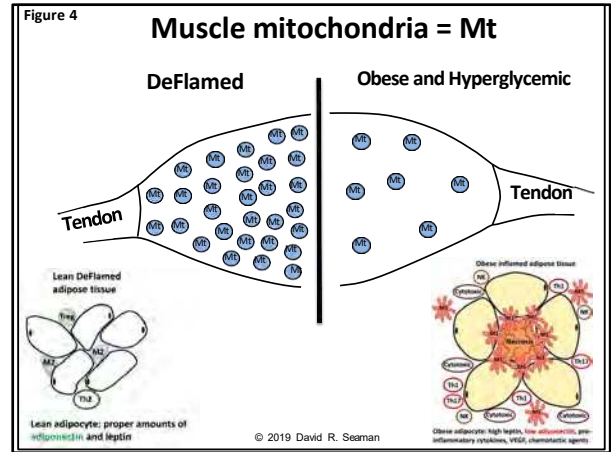
Anthony E. Civitarese<sup>1</sup>, Barbara Ukropcova<sup>1</sup>, Stacy Carling<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Hulver<sup>1</sup>, Ralph A. DeFronzo<sup>2</sup>, Lawrence Mandarino<sup>2,3</sup>, Eric Ravussin<sup>1</sup>, and Steve R. Smith<sup>1</sup>

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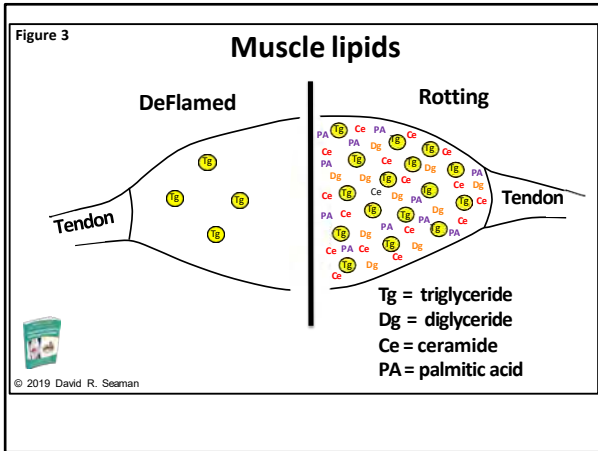
**Summary**

Insulin resistance is associated with impaired skeletal muscle oxidation capacity and reduced mitochondrial number and function. Here, we report that adiponectin signaling regulates mitochondrial bioenergetics in skeletal muscle. Individuals with a family history of type 2 diabetes display skeletal muscle insulin resistance and mitochondrial dysfunction; adiponectin levels strongly correlate with mtDNA content. Knockout of the adiponectin gene in mice is associated with insulin resistance and low mitochondrial content and reduced mitochondrial enzyme activity in skeletal muscle. Adiponectin treatment of human myotubes in primary culture induces mitochondrial biogenesis, palmitate oxidation, and citrate synthase activity, and reduces the production of reactive oxygen species. The inhibition of adiponectin receptor expression by siRNA, or of AMPK by a pharmacological agent, blunts adiponectin induction of mitochondrial function. Our findings define a skeletal muscle pathway by which adiponectin increases mitochondrial number and function and exerts antidiabetic effects.

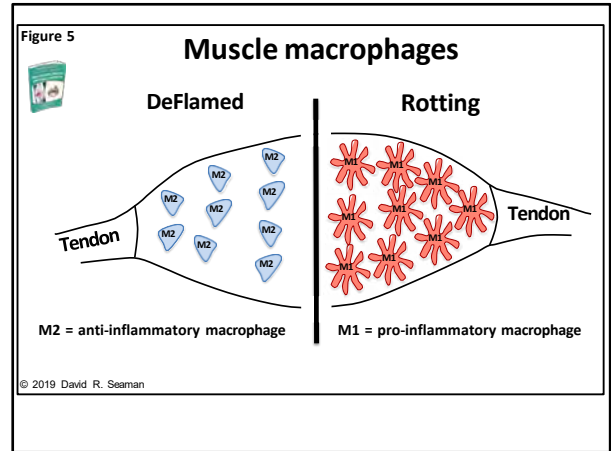
169



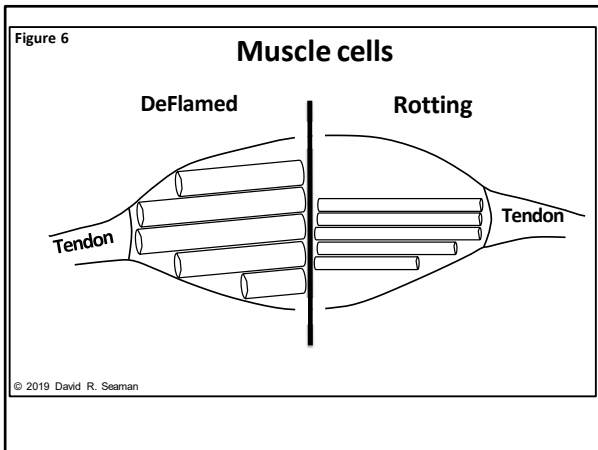
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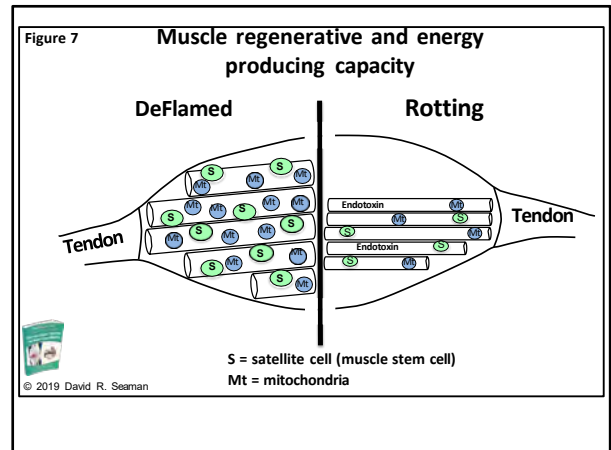
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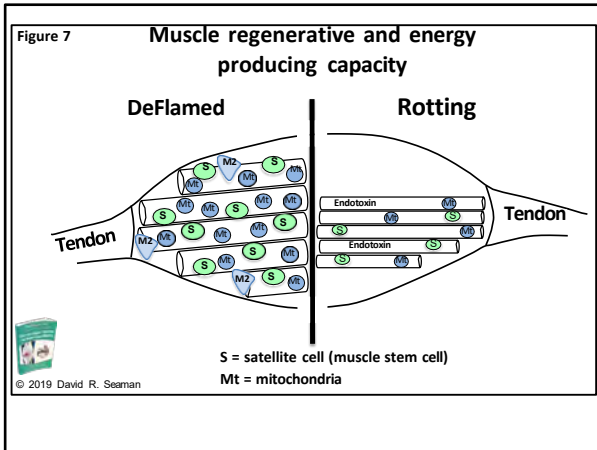
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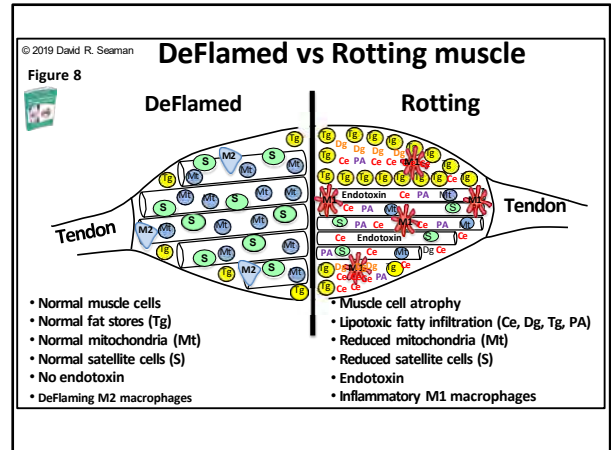
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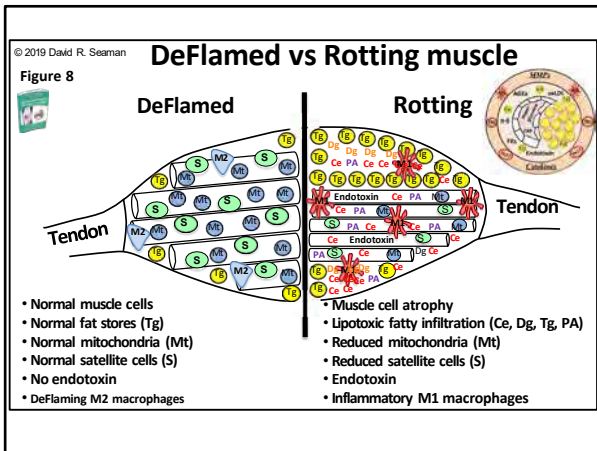
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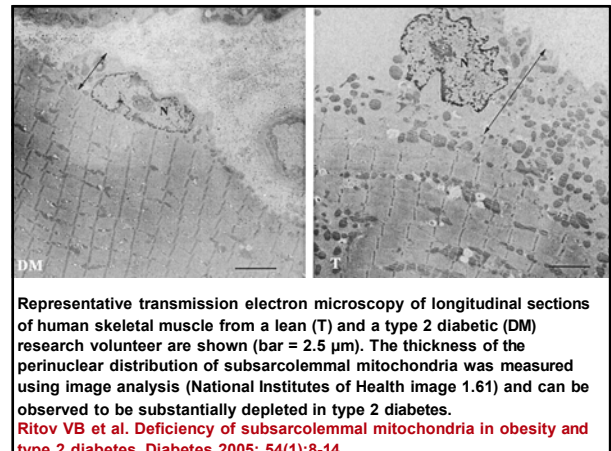
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176



177



178

**Clinical Sciences**

**Dyslipidemia in Achilles Tendinopathy Is Characteristic of Insulin Resistance**

JAMES EDMUND GAJDA<sup>1</sup>, LOTTA ALFREDSON<sup>2</sup>, ZOLTAN STEVEN KISS<sup>1</sup>, ANDREW MICHAEL WILSON<sup>3</sup>, HARAN ALFREDSON<sup>2</sup>, and JILL LEIGH COOK<sup>2</sup>

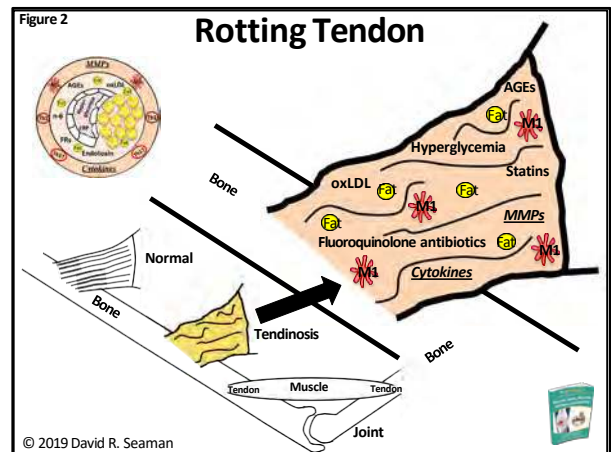
If tendinopathy is confirmed to be associated with dyslipidemia and the metabolic syndrome in larger studies, it may be appropriate to redefine our concept of tendinopathy to that of a cardiovascular disease (CVD).

In this case, we may be able to draw considerably on CVD research to improve our understanding of tendinopathy, and perhaps treating CVD risk factors will improve the treatment of tendinopathy.

To improve our understanding of tendinopathy, and perhaps treating CVD risk factors will improve the treatment of tendinopathy. Key Words: ACHILLES TENDON, MIDPORTION, SERUM, LIPID.

[Med Sci Sports Exerc 2009;41:1194-1197.](#)

179



180

**RESEARCH ARTICLE** **Open Access**

## Asymptomatic Achilles tendon pathology is associated with a central fat distribution in men and a peripheral fat distribution in women: a cross sectional study of 298 individuals

James F Gädda<sup>1\*</sup>, Håkan Alfredson<sup>2</sup>, Zoltan S Kiss<sup>3</sup>, Shona L East<sup>1</sup>, Jill L Cook<sup>1</sup>

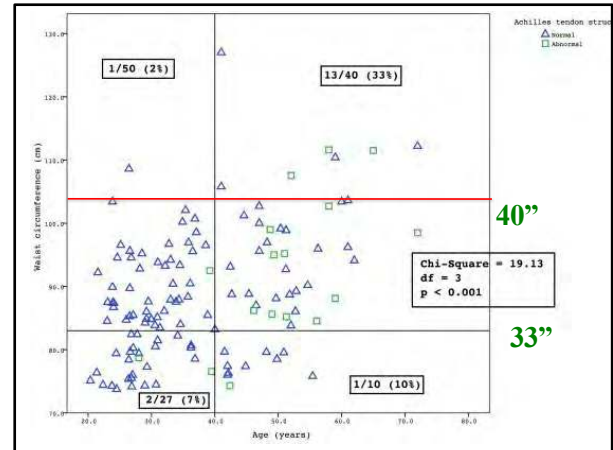
**Abstract** BMC Musculoskelet Disord 2010, 11:41.

**Background:** Adiposity is a modifiable factor that has been implicated in tendinopathy. As tendon pain reduces physical activity levels and can lead to weight gain, associations between tendon pathology and adiposity must be studied in individuals without tendon pain. Therefore, the purpose of this study was to determine whether fat distribution was associated with asymptomatic Achilles tendon pathology.

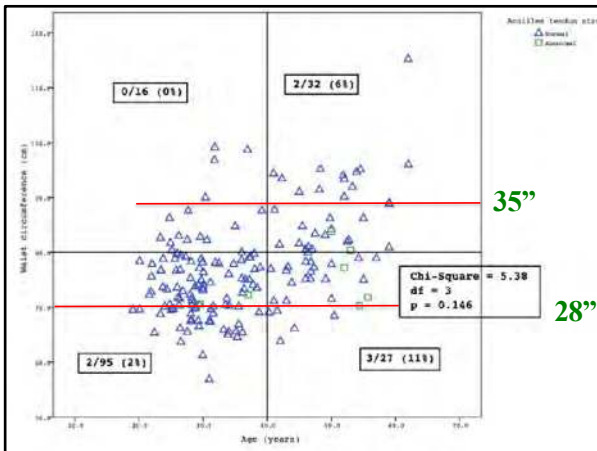
**Methods:** The Achilles tendons of 298 individuals were categorised as normal or pathological using diagnostic ultrasound. Fat distribution was determined using anthropometry (waist circumference, waist hip ratio (WHR)) and dual-energy x-ray absorptiometry.

**Results:** Asymptomatic Achilles tendon pathology was more evident in men (139) than women (59) ( $p = 0.007$ ). Men with tendon pathology were older ( $50.9 \pm 10.4$ ,  $36.3 \pm 11.3$ ,  $p < 0.001$ ), had greater WHR ( $0.926 \pm 0.091$ ,  $0.875 \pm 0.065$ ,  $p = 0.039$ ), higher android/gynoid fat mass ratio ( $0.616 \pm 0.156$ ,  $0.519 \pm 0.142$ ,  $p = 0.014$ ) and higher upper-body/overall body fat mass ratio ( $2.346 \pm 0.650$ ,  $2.022 \pm 0.617$ ,  $p = 0.013$ ). Men older than 40 years with a waist circumference  $> 88$  cm had the greatest prevalence of tendon pathology (33%). Women with tendon pathology were older ( $47.4 \pm 10.0$ ,

181



182



183

Seaman Chiropractic & Manual Therapies 2013, 21:15  
http://www.chiroint.com/content/21/1/15

**COMMENTARY** **Open Access**

## Body mass index and musculoskeletal pain: is there a connection?

David R Seaman

**Abstract**

**Background:** Back pain is one of the most common complaints that patients report to physicians and two-thirds of the population has an elevated body mass index (BMI), indicating they are either overweight or obese. It was once assumed that extra body weight would stress the low back and lead to pain, however, researchers have reported inconsistencies association between body weight and back pain. In contrast, more recent studies do indicate that an elevated BMI is associated with back pain and other musculoskeletal pain syndromes due to the presence of a chronic systemic inflammatory state, suggesting that the relationship between BMI and musculoskeletal pains be considered in more detail.

**Objective:** To describe how an elevated BMI can be associated with chronic systemic inflammation and pain expression. To outline measurable risk factors for chronic inflammation that can be used in clinical practice and discuss treatment considerations.

**Discussion:** Adiposopathy, or "sick fat" syndrome, is a term that refers to an elevated BMI that is associated with a chronic systemic inflammatory state most commonly referred to as the metabolic syndrome. The best available evidence suggests that the presence of adiposopathy determines if an elevated BMI will contribute to musculoskeletal pain expression. It is not uncommon for physicians to fail to identify the presence of adiposopathy/

184

Markers	Abnormal value	Date	Date	Date	Date
<b>Metabolic syndrome</b>					
1. Fasting blood glucose	$\geq 100$ mg/dL				
2. Triglycerides	$\geq 150$ mg/dL				
3. HDL cholesterol	$< 50$ for women $< 40$ men				
4. Blood pressure	$\geq 130/80$				
5. Waist circumference	$> 35$ women $> 40$ men				
<b>Pro-inflammatory markers</b>					
<b>Parameters</b>					
2-hour postprandial glucose	$< 140$ mg/dL = normal 140-199 = prediabetes 200+ = diabetes				
Fasting triglycerides	$< 80$ mg/dL predicts controlled postprandial response				
hsCRP in mg/L, marker of chronic inflammation	$< 1.0$ = normal 1.0-3.0 = moderate $> 3.0$ = high				
25(OH) Vitamin D3	$\geq 100$ ng/mL (optimal $> 40$ ng)				
Body mass index (BMI)	18.5-24.9 = normal. <b>Text</b> 25-29.9 = overweight $\geq 30$ = obese				
Waist:hip ratio women (risk factor for diabetes)	$< 0.80$ = low risk 0.81-0.85 = moderate risk $> 0.85$ = high risk				
Waist:hip ratio men (risk factor for diabetes)	$< 0.90$ = low risk 0.91-1.0 = moderate risk $> 1.0$ = high risk				
Lack of sleep	Less than 6 hrs				
Stress	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Sedentary living	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Depression	Associated with systemic inflammation				
Self-rated health	Associated with systemic inflammation				

185

## The DeFlame Diet approach

- Avoid excess calories...weigh what you weighed when you were in high-school or college and maintain normal levels of inflammatory markers
- Avoid empty calories (refined sugar, flour, and oils) and excess salt
- Maximize your nutrient/calorie ratio (example of whole grains vs vegetables)
- Dietary options:
  - Vegan
  - Omnivore
  - Carnivore
- Supplements:
  - Multivitamin/mineral
  - Magnesium (mag)
  - Vitamin D (D)
  - Omega-3 (3)
  - Probiotics
  - Polyphenols (ginger/turmeric, etc.)
  - Iodine (contraindicated in Hashimoto's disease)
  - Vitamin C
  - Zinc
  - CoQ10
  - Glucosamine/chondroitin

186