Brown Adipose Tissue a panacea against the metabolic syndrome?

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Professor at

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THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES





Stockholm University

Results in collaboration with (among others)

The Cannon/Nedergaard lab: Gustavo Abreu de Vieira Helena Feldmann Valeria Golozoubova Anders Jacobsson Elaina Maldonado Natasa Petrovic Tomas Waldén





The Bengtsson lab: Jessica Olsen Maasaki Sato Olof S. Dallner Anna L. Sandström

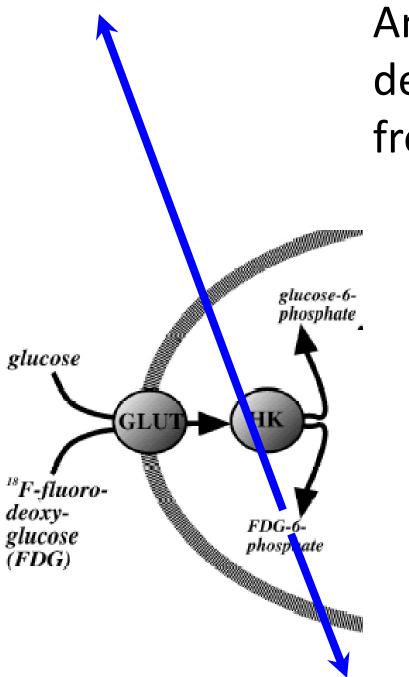
A new organ in adult humans:

brown adipose tissue

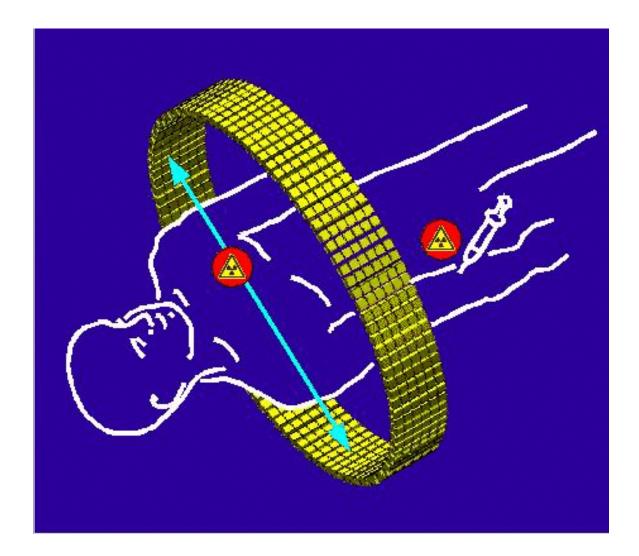
Before 2007:

"in man, brown adipose tissue is only found in newborns"





An unexpected development from radiology



A A *Tense muscle?*

Barrington & Maisey 1996

"In all patients, the soft tissue uptake was clearly localised within the fatty tissue of the shoulders

as demonstrated by PET/CT co-registration.'

Hany//von Schulthess 2002

Eur J Nucl Med Mol Imaging

2007:

Invited Review

Am J Physiol Endocrinol Metab 293: E444–E452, 2007. First published May 1, 2007; doi:10.1152/ajpendo.00691.2006.

Unexpected evidence for active brown adipose tissue in adult humans

Jan Nedergaard, Tore Bengtsson, and Barbara Cannon

The Wenner-Gren Institute, The Arrhenius Laboratories, Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden

Submitted 18 December 2006; accepted in final form 23 April 2007

Nedergaard J, Bengtsson T, Cannon B. Unexpected evidence for active brown adipose tissue in adult humans. *Am J Physiol Endocrinol Metab* 293: E444–E452, 2007. First published May 1, 2007; doi:10.1152/ajpendo.00691.2006.—The contention that brown adipose tissue is absent in adult man has meant that processes attributed to active brown adipose tissue in experimental animals (mainly rodents), i.e., classical nonshivering thermogenesis, adaptive adrenergic thermogenesis, diet-induced thermogenesis, and antiobesity, should be either absent or attributed to alternative (unknown) mechanisms in man. However, serendipidously, as a consequence of the use

means either that adult man does not possess classical nonshivering thermogenesis (i.e., the development with time of a heat-producing mechanism to replace shivering, as a consequence of chronic exposure to cold) or that man should possess an alternative method of nonshivering thermogenesis other than that found in experimental animals (rodents), where all classical nonshivering thermogenesis is dependent upon brown adipose tissue (34). Furthermore, this means that adaptive adrenergic thermogenesis [which in rodents originates from

After 2007:

" in man, brown adipose tissue is found in newborns and in (certain?) adults"



- Title: Identification and Importance of Brown Adipose Tissue in Adult Humans. Author(s): Cypess, Aaron M.; Lehman, Sanaz; Williams, Gethin; et al. Source: NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE Volume: 360 Issue: 15 Pages: 1509-1517 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa0810780 Published: APR 9 2009
- Title: Brief Report: Functional Brown Adipose Tissue in Healthy Adults. Author(s): Virtanen, Kirsi A.; Lidell, Martin E.; Orava, Janne; et al. Source: NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE Volume: 360 Issue: 15 Pages: 1518-1525 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa0808949 Published: APR 9 2009
- Title: Unexpected evidence for active brown adipose tissue in adult humans Author(s): Nedergaard, Jan; Bengtsson, Tore; Cannon, Barbara Source: AMERICAN JOURNAL OF PHYSIOLOGY-ENDOCRINOLOGY AND METABOLISM Volume: 293 Issue: 2 Pages: E444-E452 DOI: 10.1152/ajpendo.00691.2006 AUG 2007
- Title: Cold-Activated Brown Adipose Tissue in Healthy Men. Author(s): Lichtenbelt, Wouter D. van Marken; Vanhommerig, Joost W.; Smulders, Nanda M.; et al. Source: NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE Volume: 360 Issue: 15 Pages: 1500-1508 Published: APR 9 2009
- Title: High Incidence of Metabolically Active Brown Adipose Tissue in Healthy Adult Humans Effects of Cold Exposure and Adiposity Author(s): Saito, Masayuki; Okamatsu-Ogura, Yuko; Matsushita, Mami; et al. Source: DIABETES Volume: 58 Issue: 7 Pages: 1526-1531 DOI: 10.2337/db09-0530 Published: JUL 2009
- 6. Title: The presence of UCP1 demonstrates that metabolically active adipose tissue in the neck of adult humans truly represents brown adipose tissue Author(s): Zingaretti, Maria Cristina; Crosta, Francesca; Vitali, Alessandra; et al. Source: FASEB JOURNAL Volume; 23 Issue; 9 Pages: 3113-3120 DOI: 10.1096/fj.09-133546 Published: SEP 2009

1. Title: Identification and Importance of Brown Adipose Tissue in Adult Humans. Author(s): Cypess, Aaron M.; Lehman, Sanaz; Williams, Gethin; et al. Source: NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE Volume: 360 Issue: 15 Pages: 1509-1517 DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa0810780 Published: APR 9 2009

- a Title: Brief Report: Functional Brown Adipose Tissue in Healthy Adults.
 - Author(s): Virtan Source: NEW El

Citations in Each Year

Title: Unexpect 3. 500Author(s): Neder Source: AMERIC AUG 2007 450 Title: Cold-Acti **4**. Author(s): Lichte Source: NEW EI 400 Title: High Incid 5. Author(s): Saito, 350 Source: DIABET 300 Title: The prese 6. Author(s): Zinga Source: FASEB 250200 150 100 50 Q. P_{22} 00. \square Ω'). \odot \odot \odot t and the second se \odot \odot \square œ١ \mathbf{CM} CM. CM \mathbf{CM}

endo.00691.2006

n adipose tissue

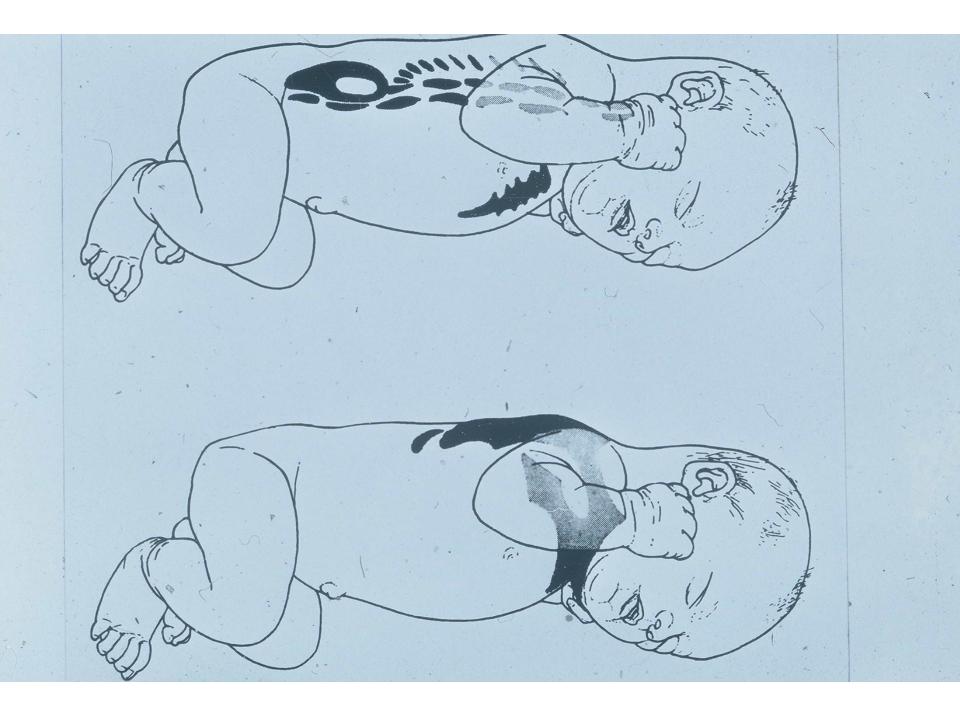
Brown adipose tissue: classical functions

Classically: keeping human newborns warm

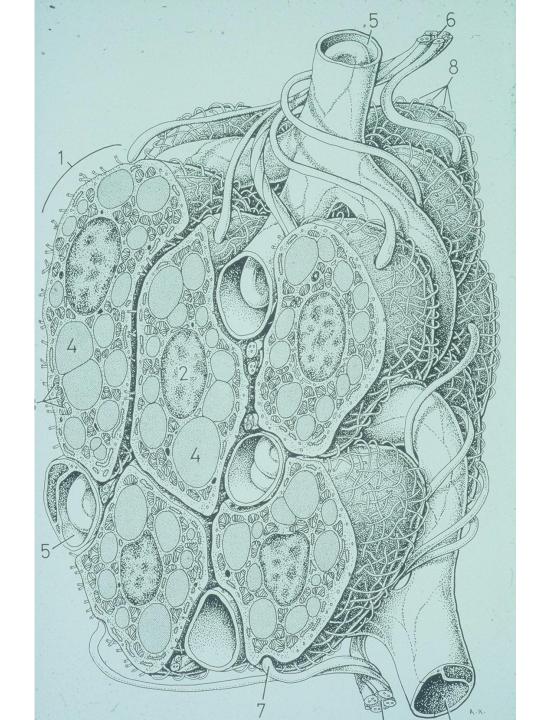


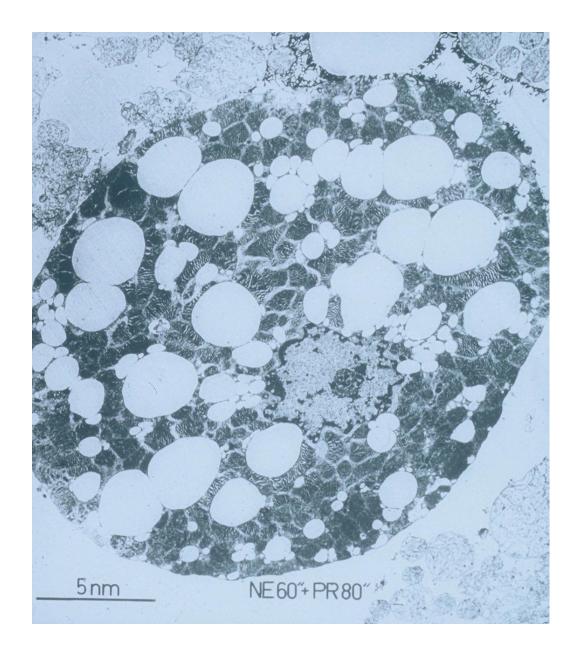
Classically: keeping small mammals warm

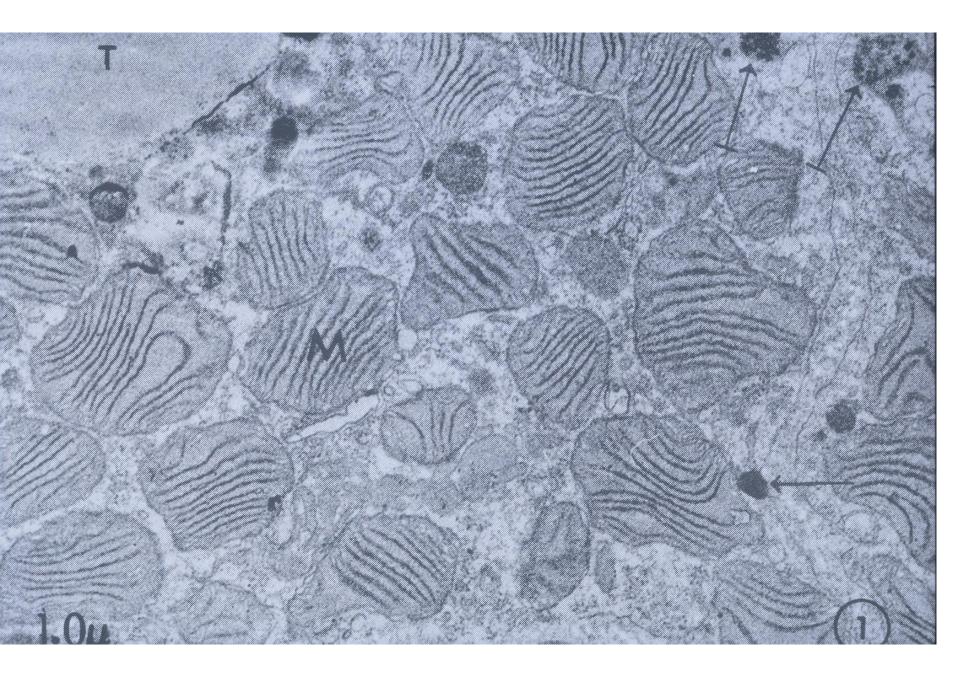
Classically: awakening from hibernation

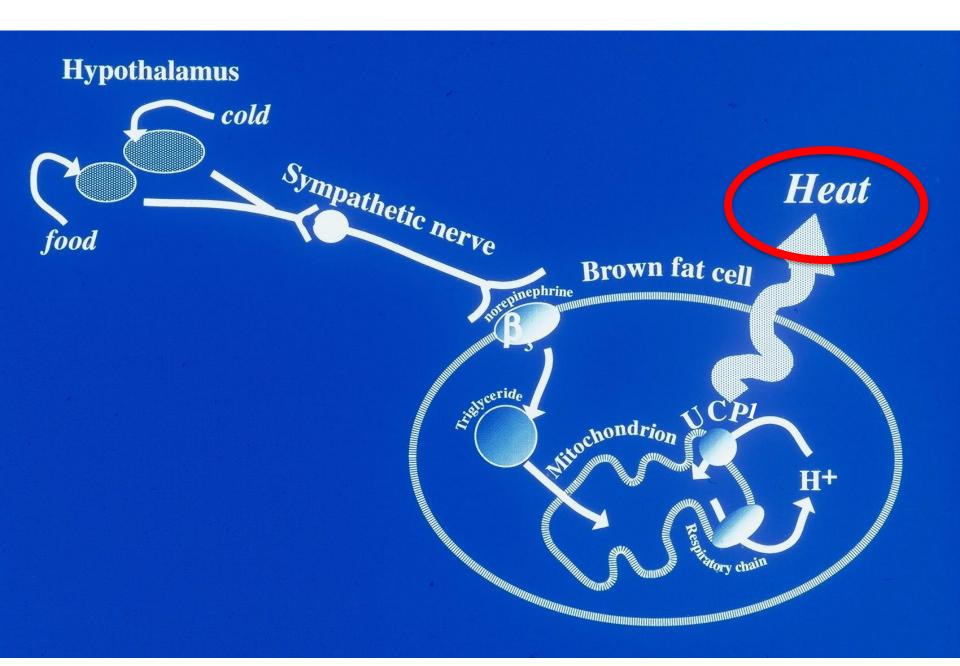


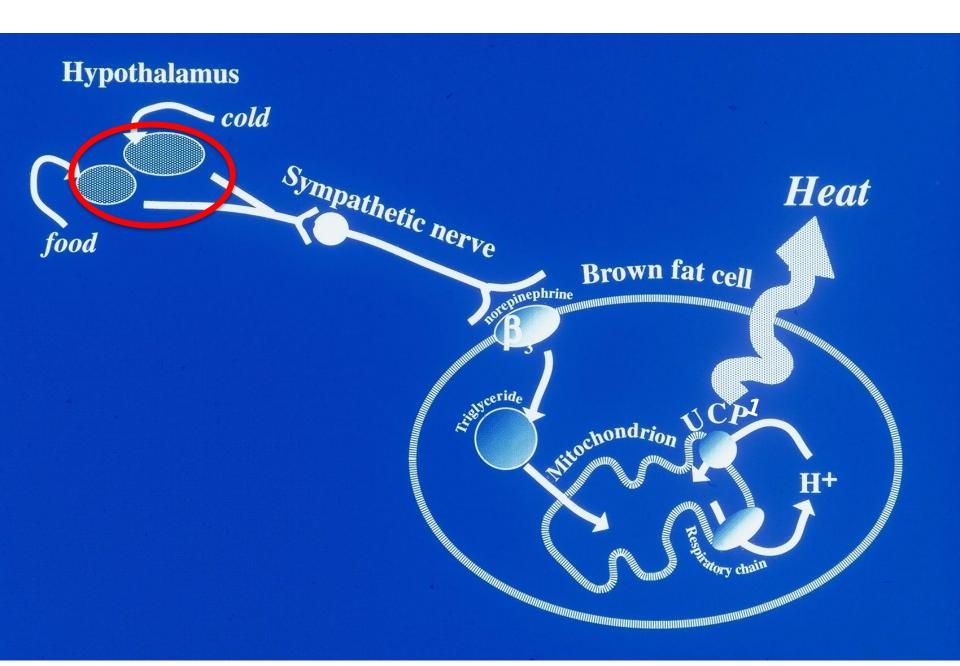
Brown adipose tissue

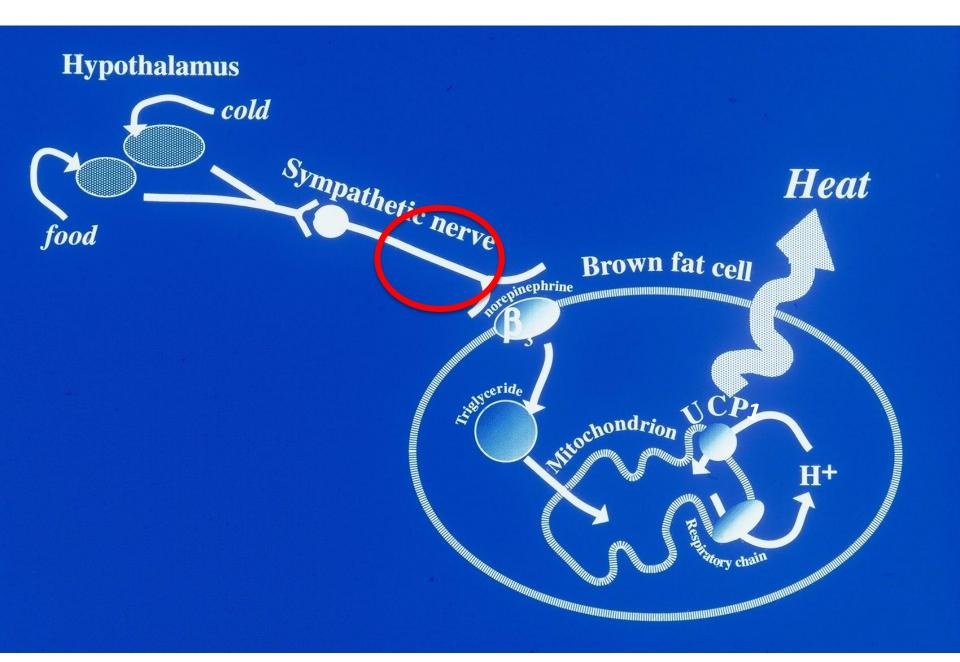


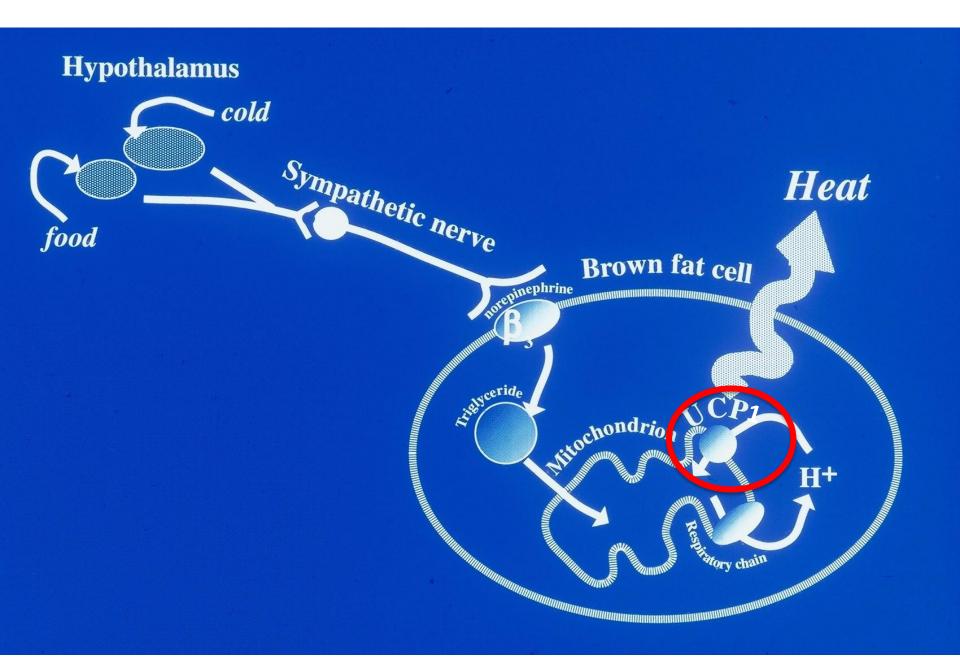


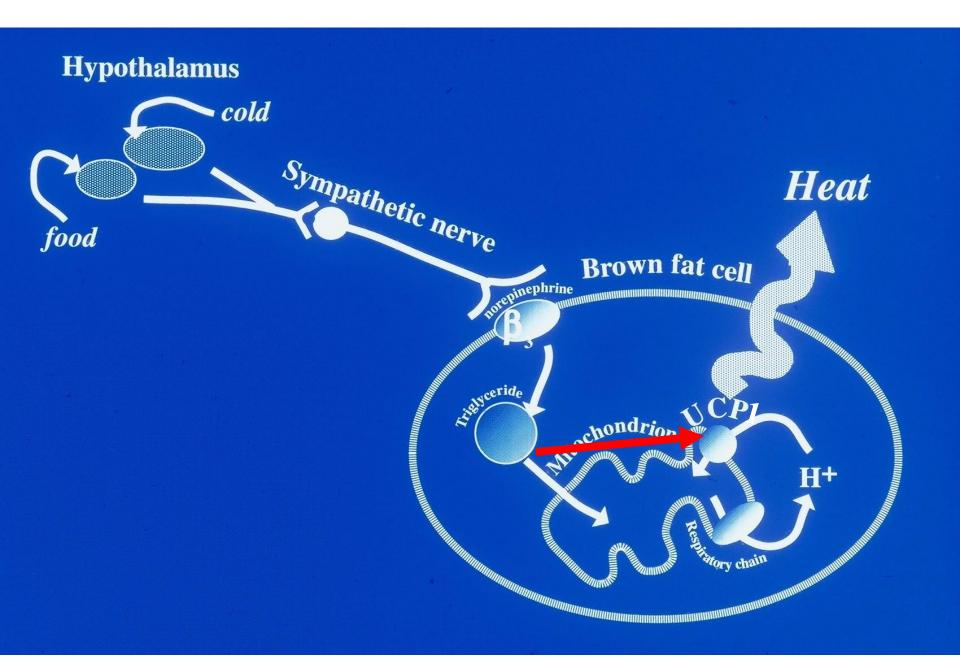












Worldwide increasing metabolic problems



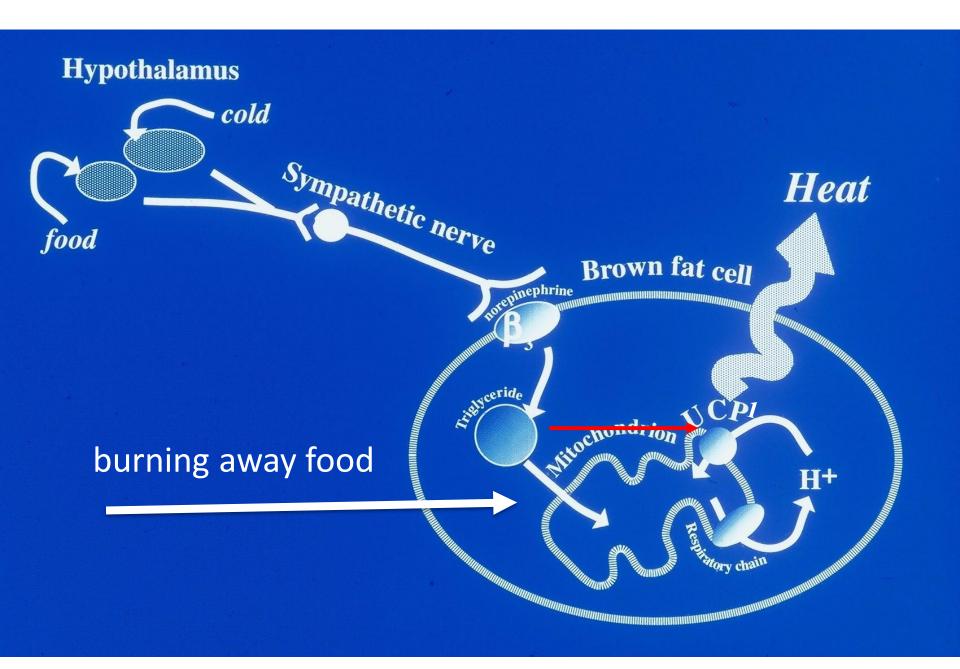
Metabolic syndrome*:

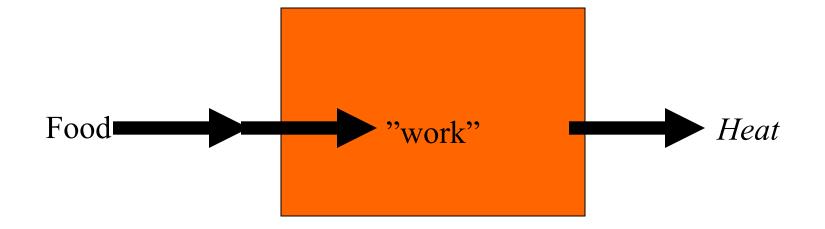
Central obesity

plus any two of the following four factors:

- raised triglycerides level in blood
- reduced HDL cholesterol in blood
- raised blood pressure
- raised fasting plasma glucose or type 2 diabetes (insulin resistance)

Active brown adipose tissue has the capacity to modulate most of above parameters



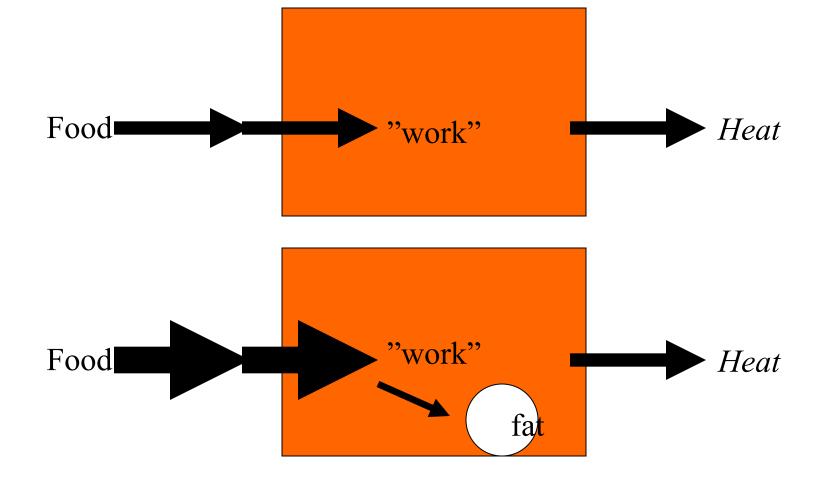


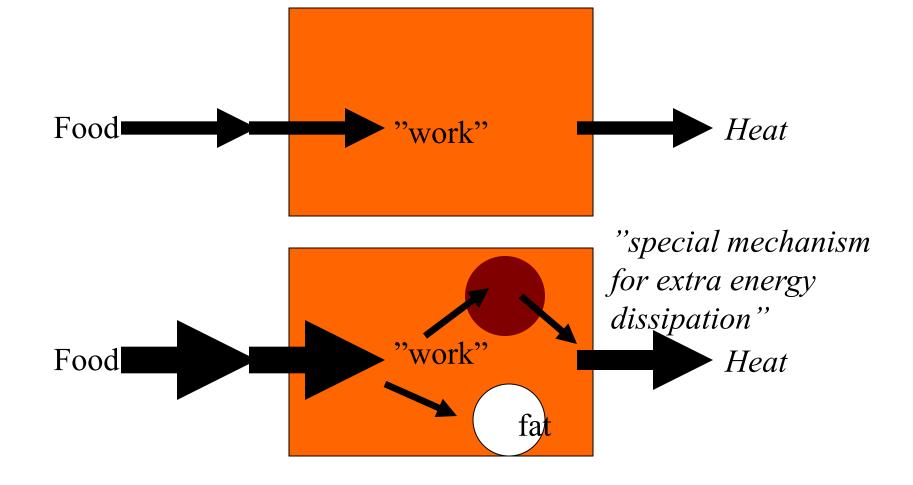


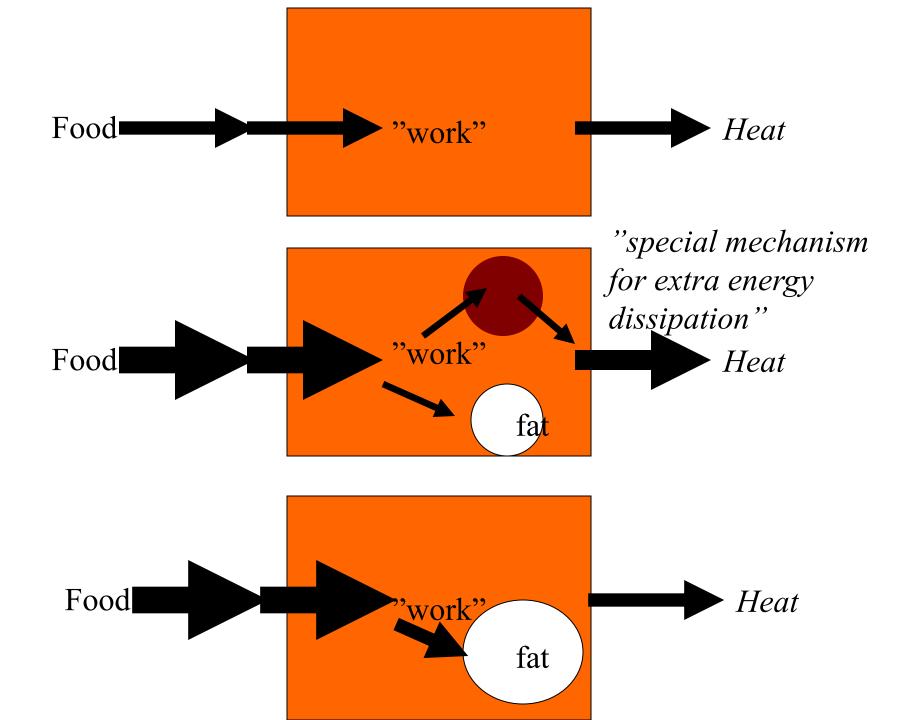
we can abstain - but what if we eat?

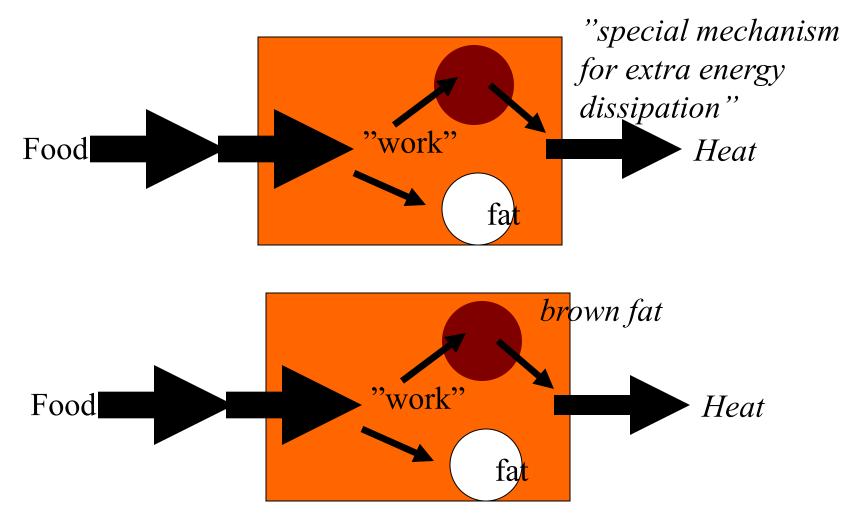


we can abstain - but what if we eat?





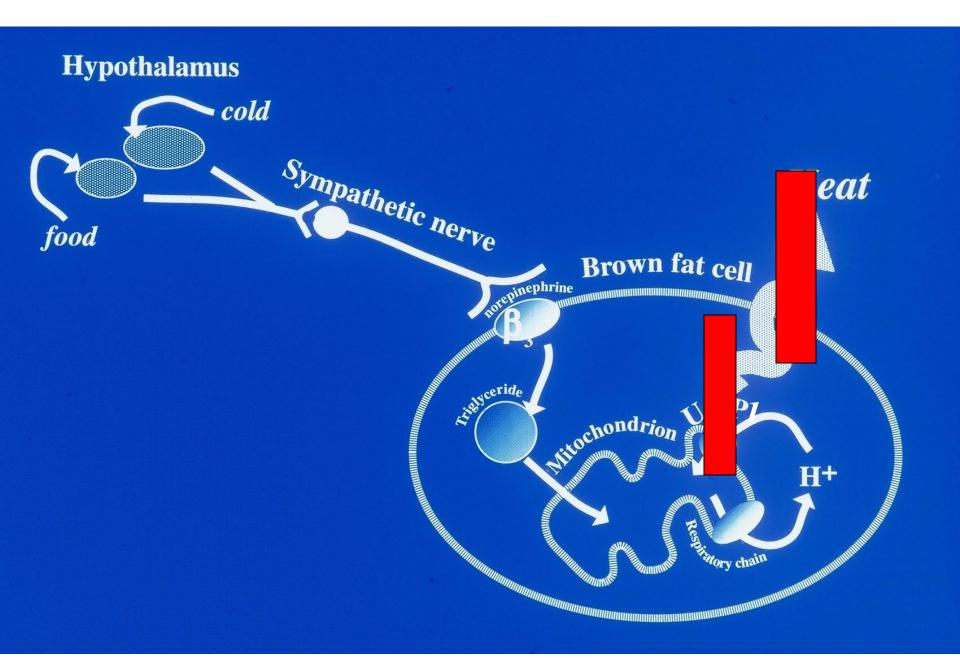


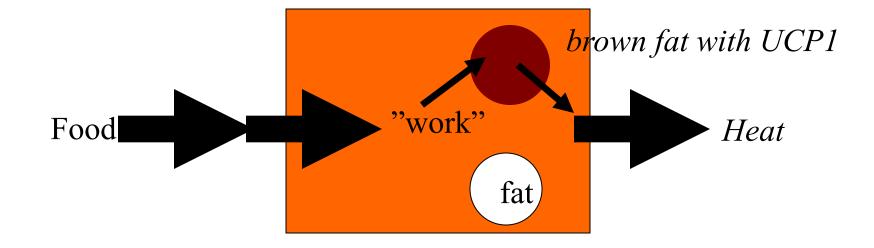


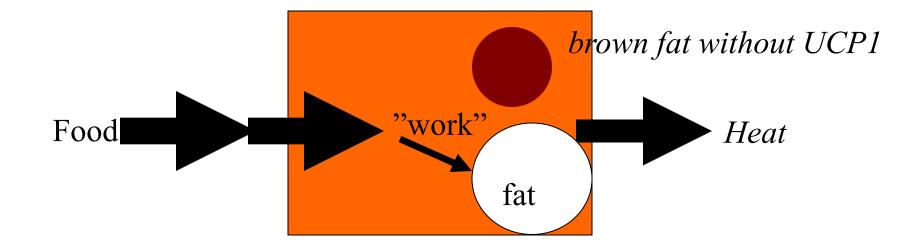
- such a special mechanism exists (diet-induced thermogenesis)

- and that it is entirely located to brown adipose tissue

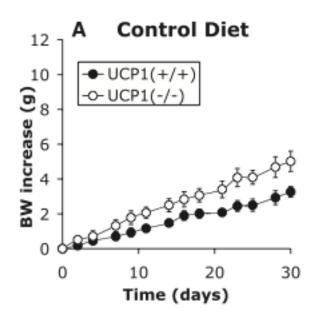
What are the consequences of lack of brown fat thermogenesis?

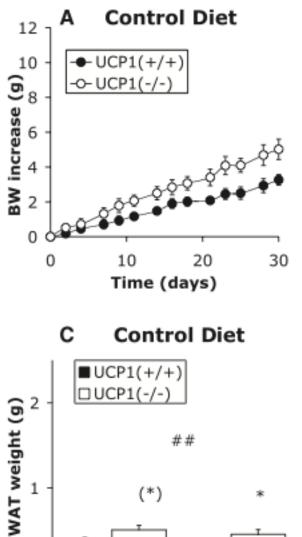


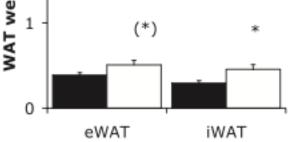




Thus, animals/humans without UCP1 **should become obese**

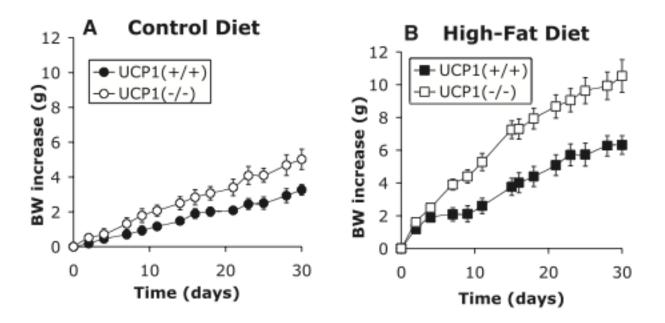




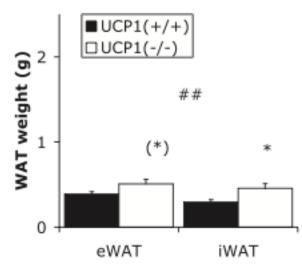


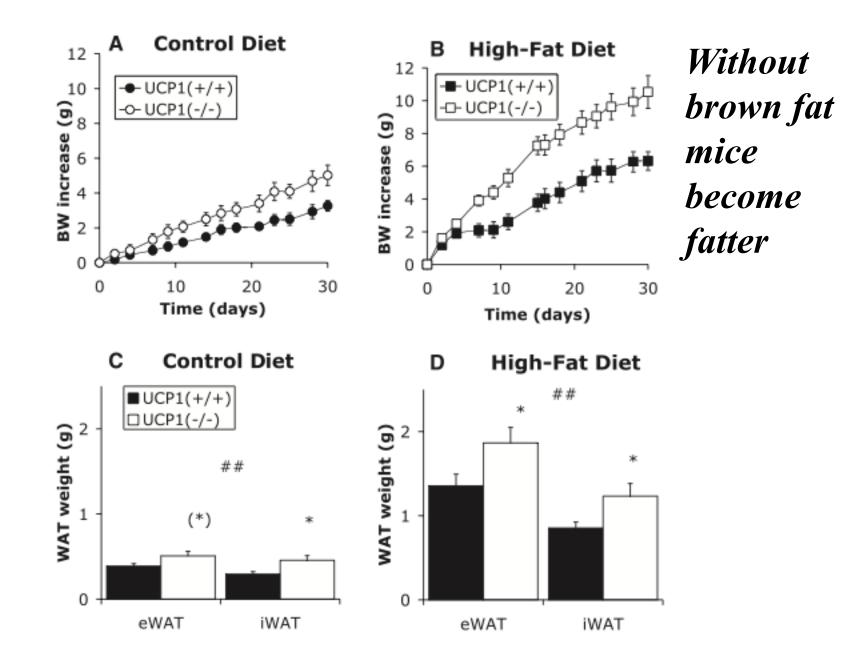


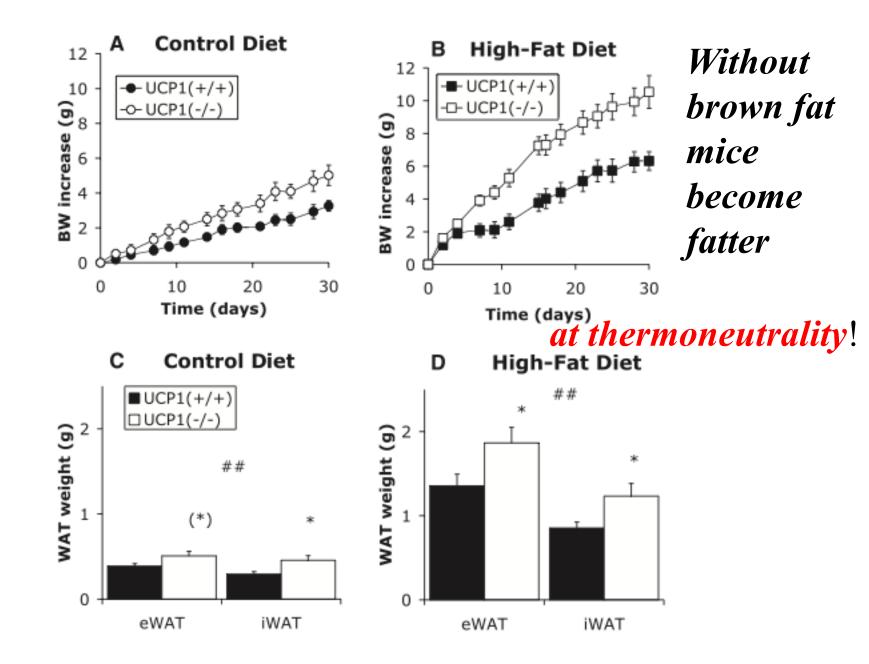
Effect of high fat diet



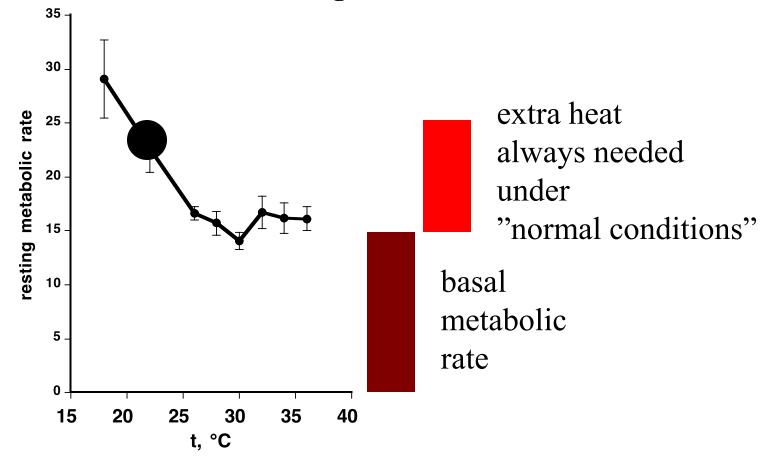
C Control Diet





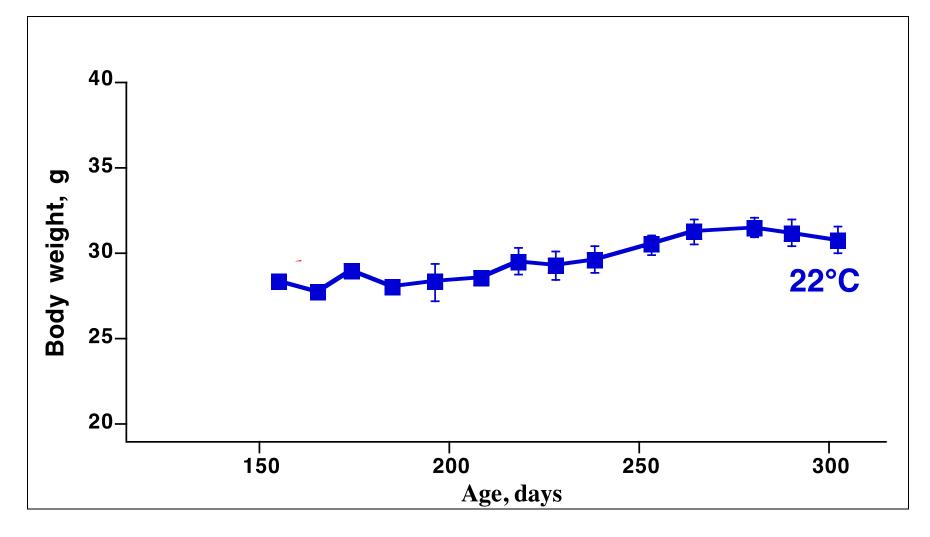


"Normal" conditions impose a constant large metabolic stress on mice



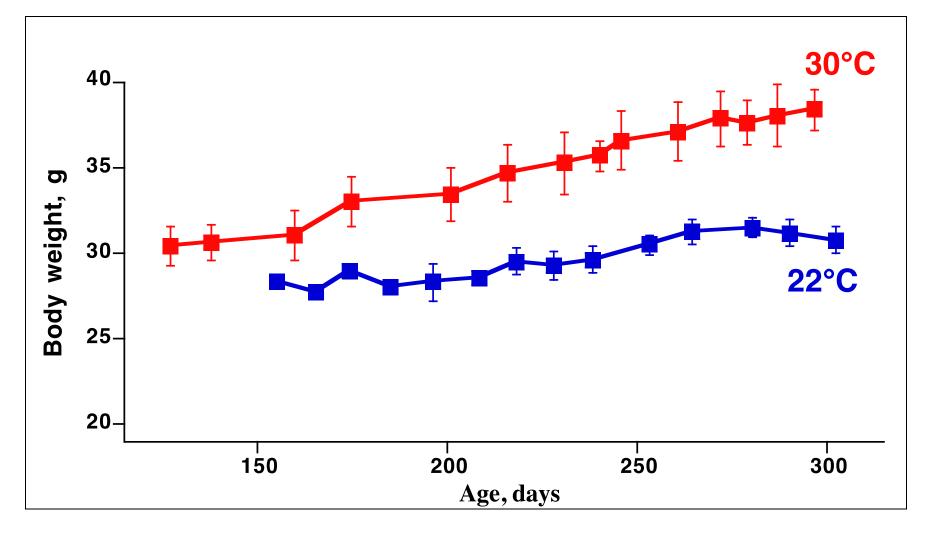
Body weight

wild-type mice



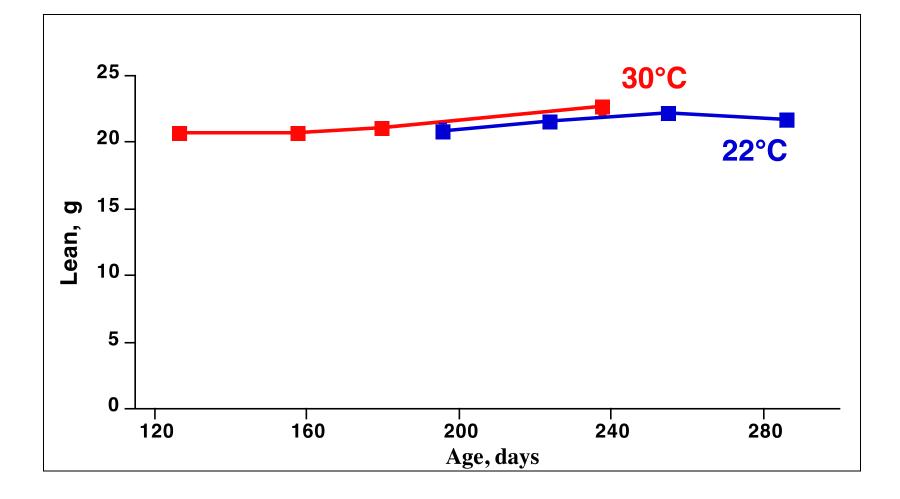
Body weight

wild-type mice



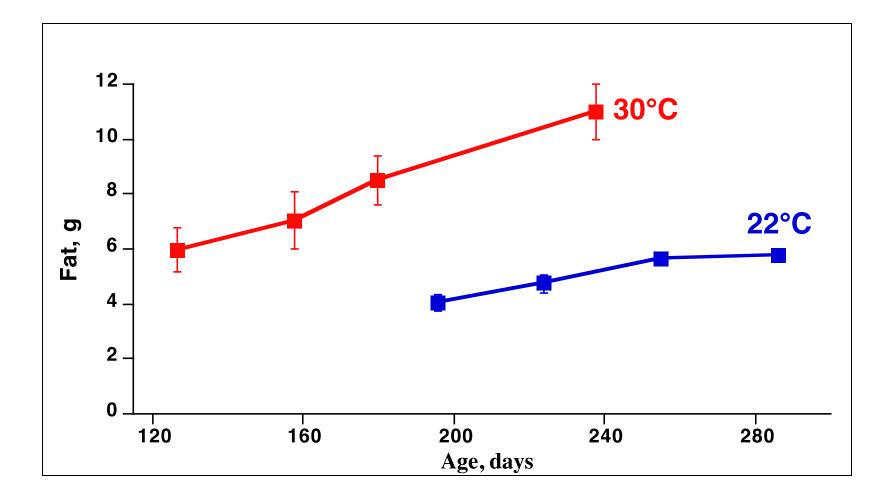
wild-type mice

No effect on lean mass:



wild-type mice

- so everything has to be fat accumulation:



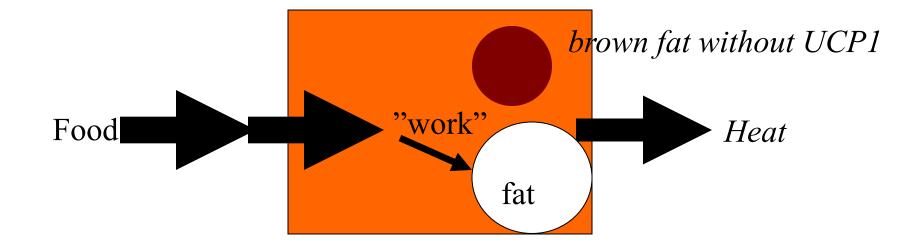
Thus, simply performing experiments at a temperature without thermal stress results in a large change in metabolic phenotype....

- the 30° C-phenotype of mice is probably a better model of adult man....

("humanized" temperature conditions have at least as large effects on metabolism as many molecular manipulations)

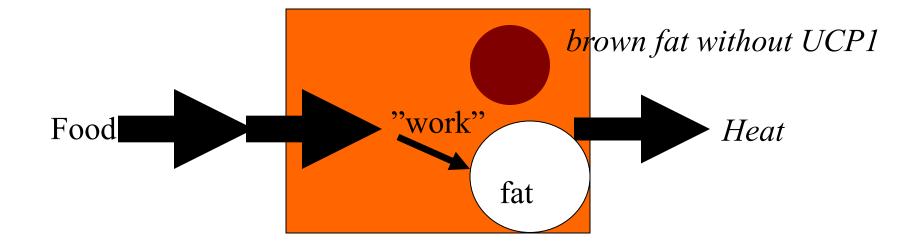


Bautista//Julius 2007



Thus, animals without UCP1 **become obese!**

i.e. brown fat protects against obesity



Thus, animals without UCP1 **become obese!**

Worldwide increasing metabolic problems



Metabolic syndrome*:

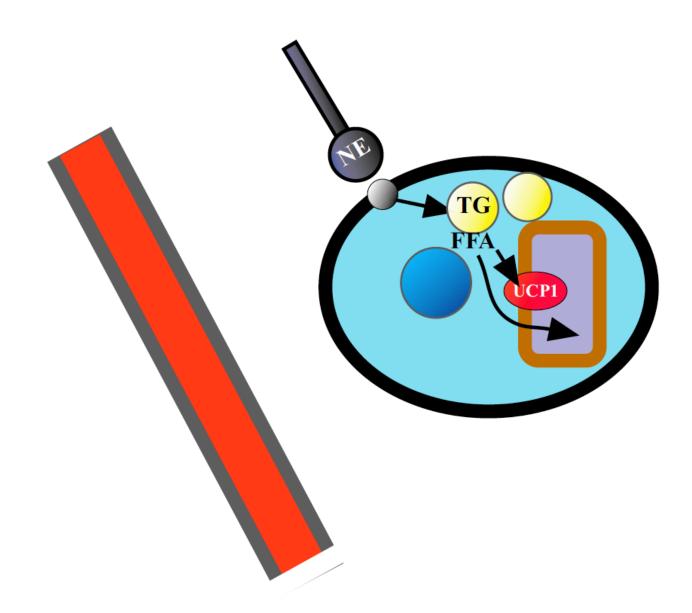
Central obesity

plus any two of the following four factors:

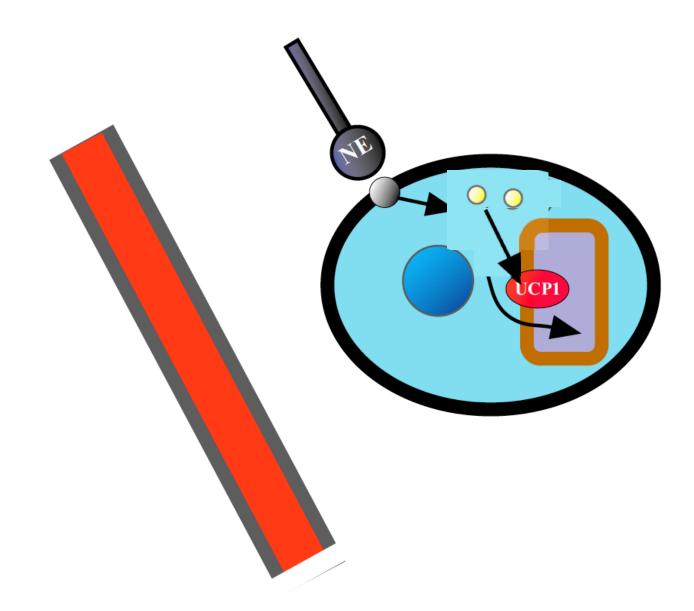
- raised triglycerides level in blood
- reduced HDL cholesterol in blood
- raised blood pressure
- raised fasting plasma glucose or type 2 diabetes (insulin resistance)

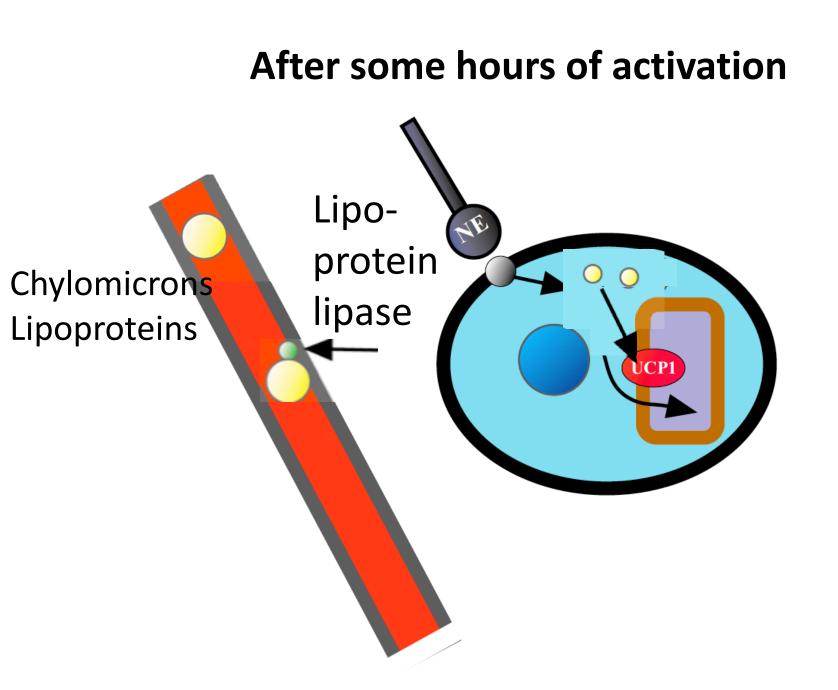
Active brown adipose tissue has the capacity to modulate most of above parameters

Initial activation

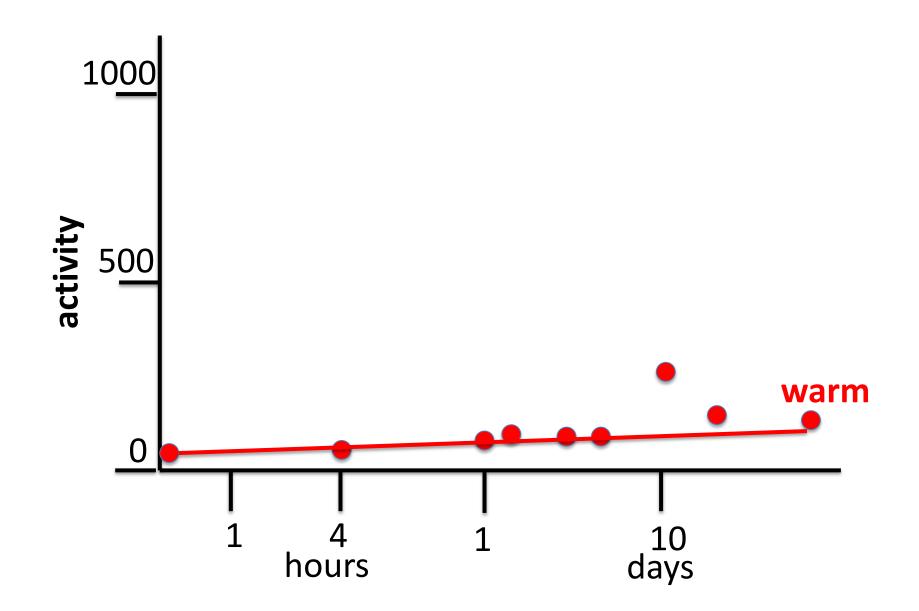


After some hours of activation

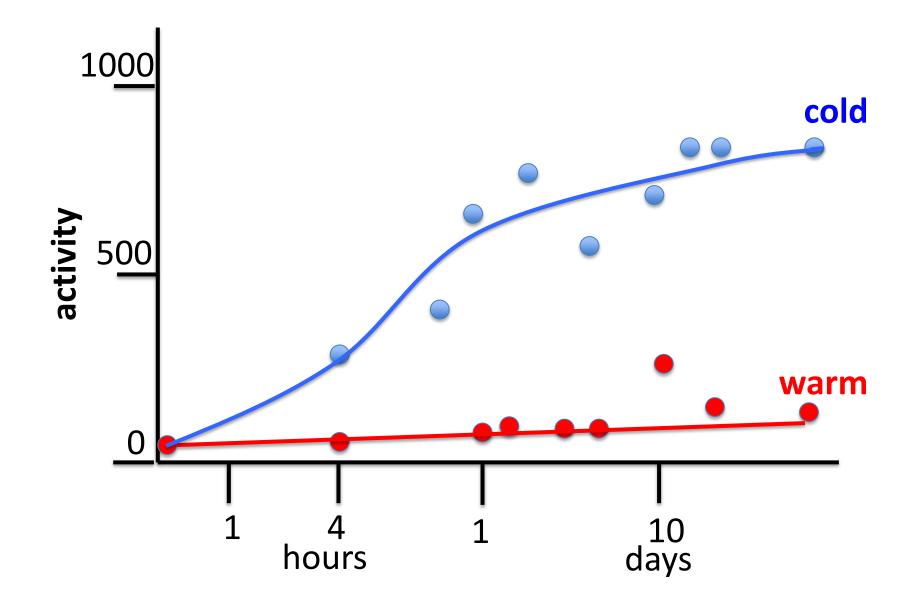




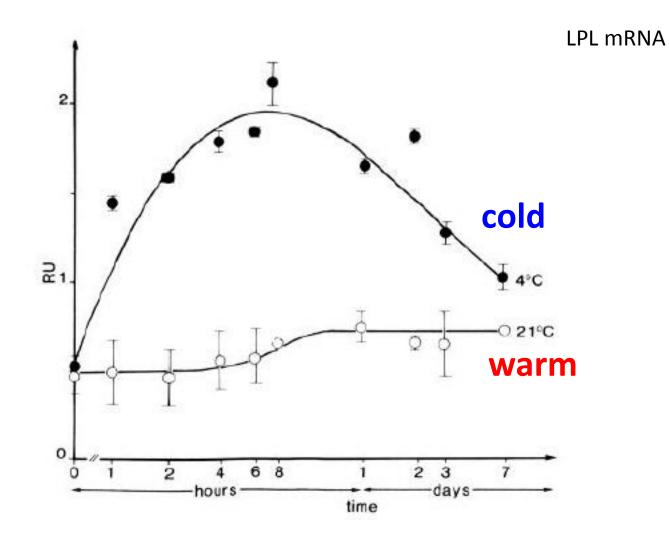
Lipoprotein lipase activity



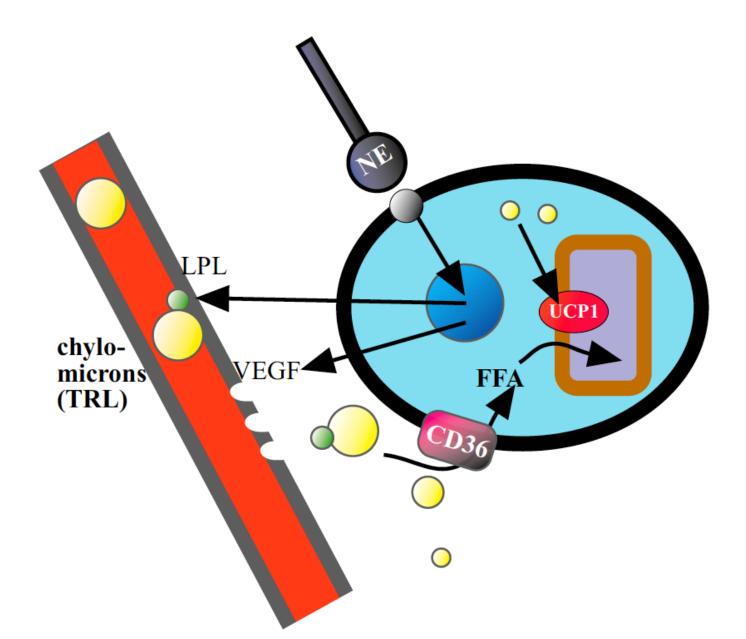
Lipoprotein lipase activity



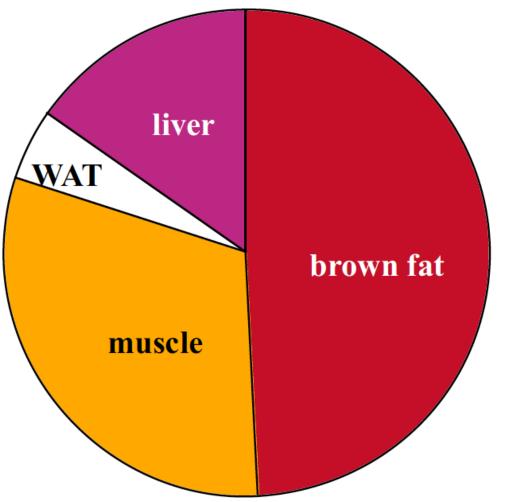
Lipoprotein lipase mRNA



Triglyceride pathway

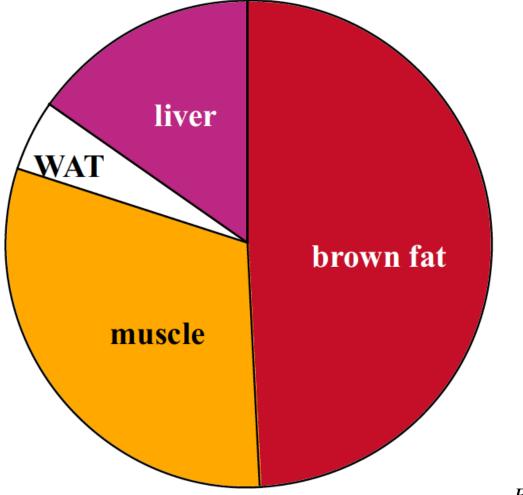


Triglyceride clearance



Bartelt//Heeren 2011

i.e. brown adipose tissue protects against hypertriglyceridemia



Bartelt//Heeren 2011

Worldwide increasing metabolic problems



Metabolic syndrome*:

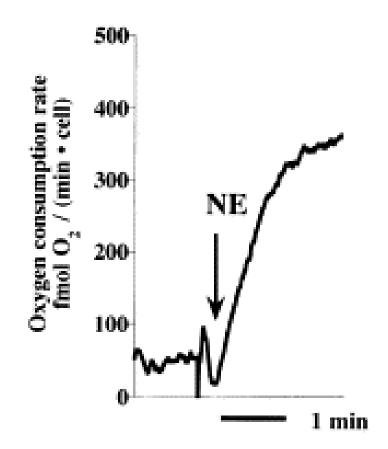
Central obesity

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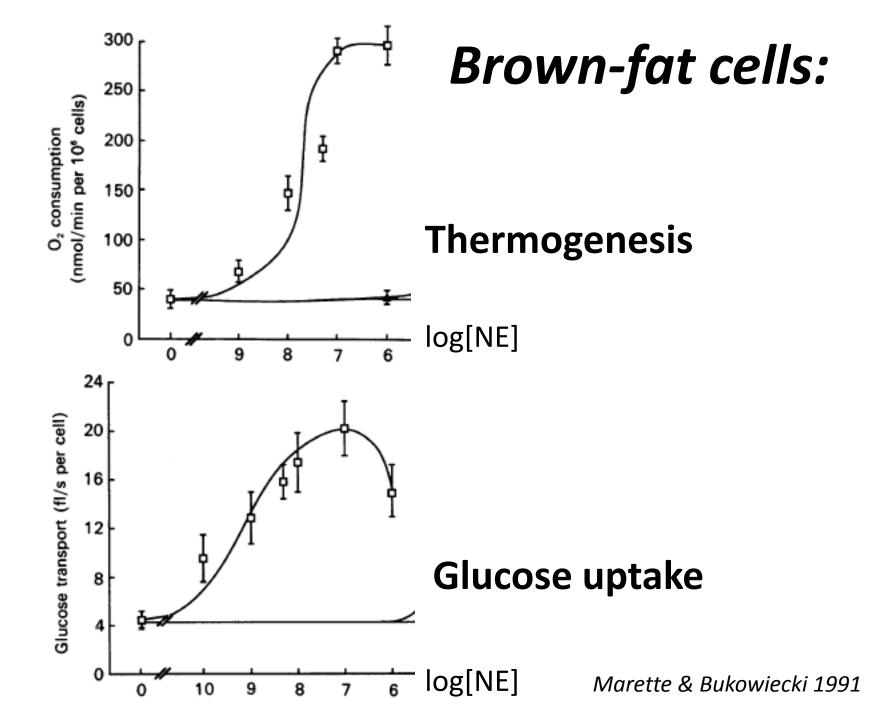
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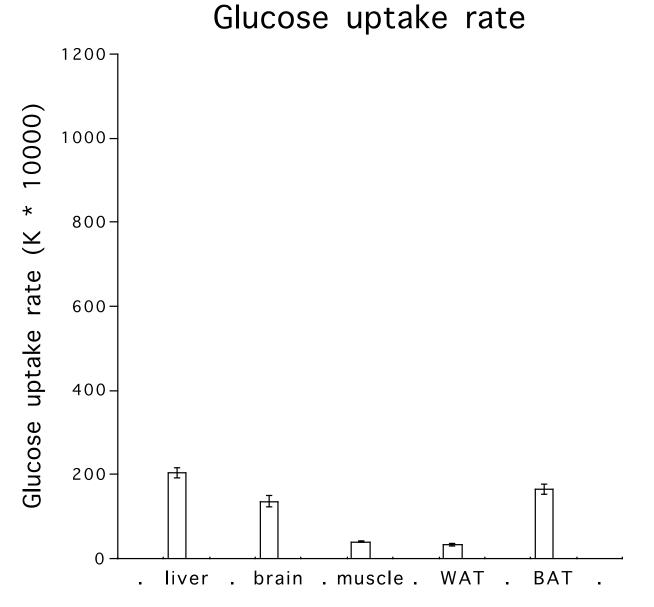
Active brown adipose tissue has the capacity to modulate most of above parameters

Brown adipose tissue and glucose disposal....

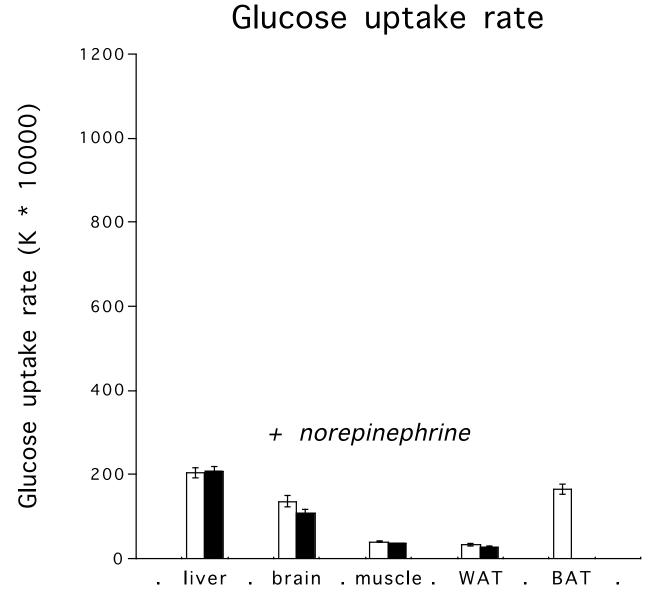


Brown-fat cells

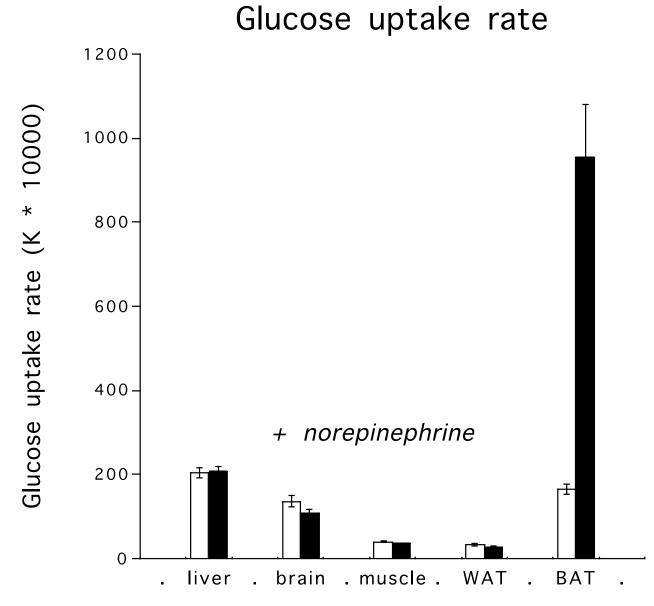




Cooney et al. 1985

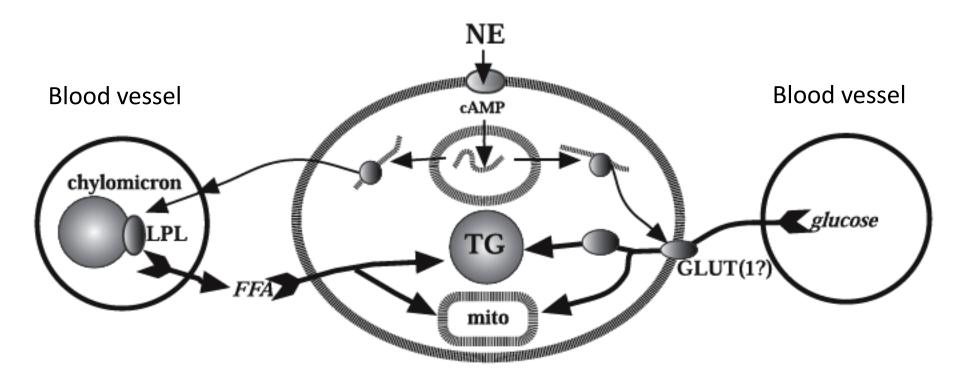


Cooney et al. 1985

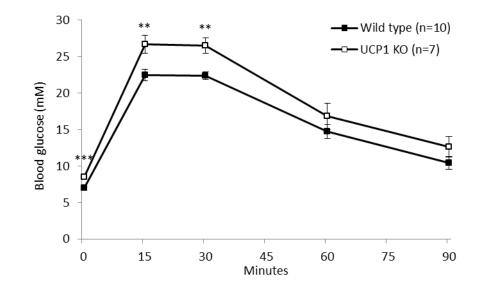


Cooney et al. 1985

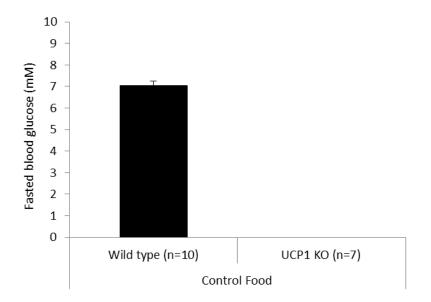
Brown adipocyte



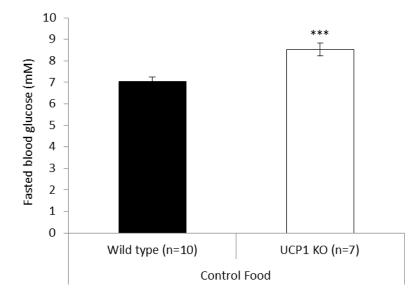
Glucose tolerance test



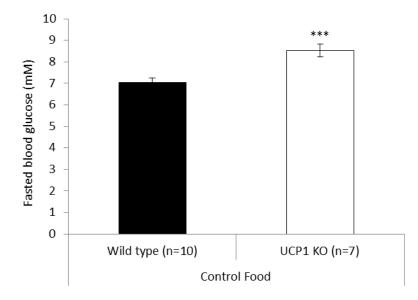
Fasting glucose



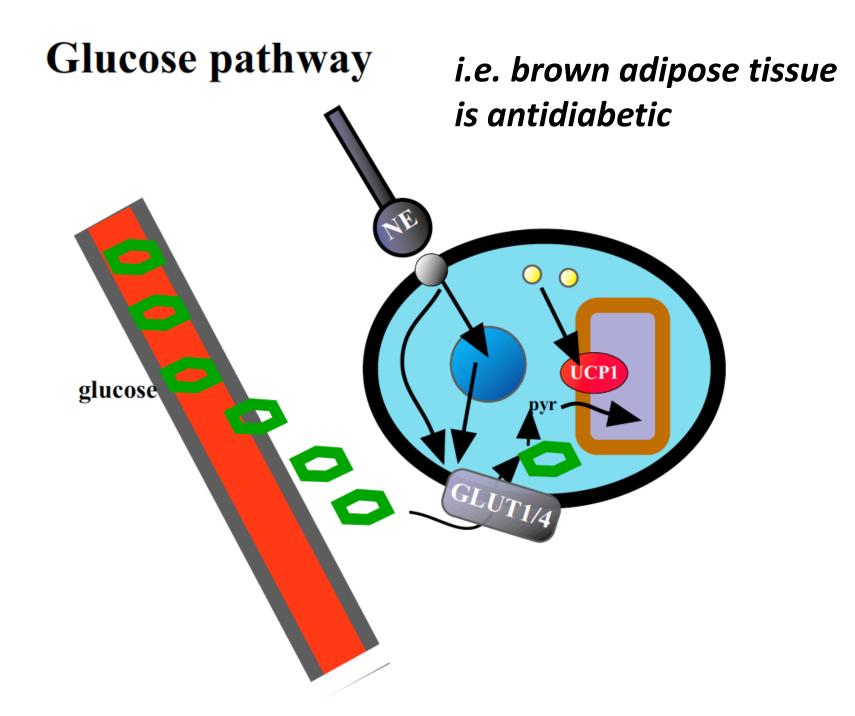
Fasting glucose



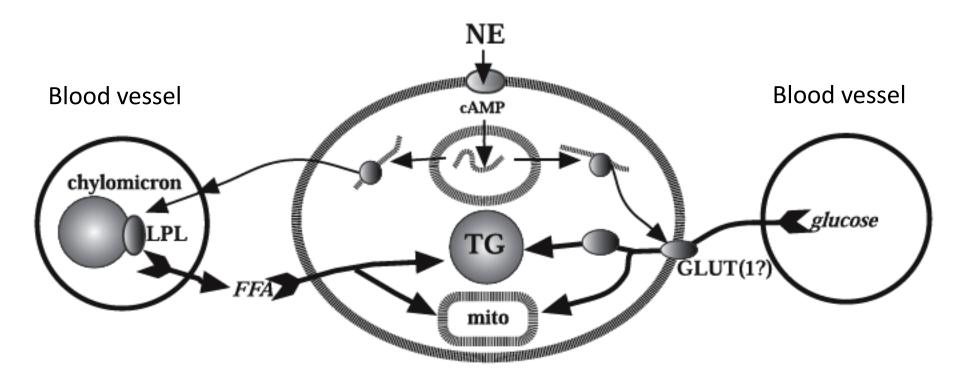
Fasting glucose

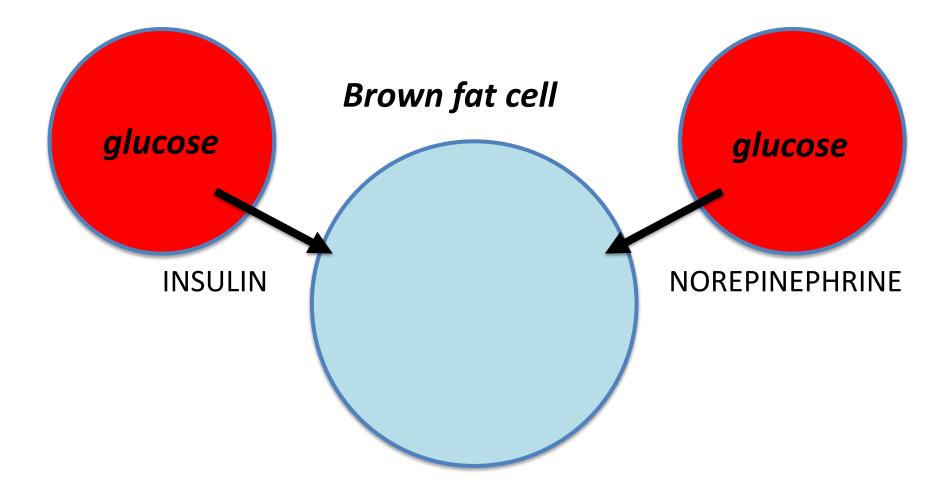


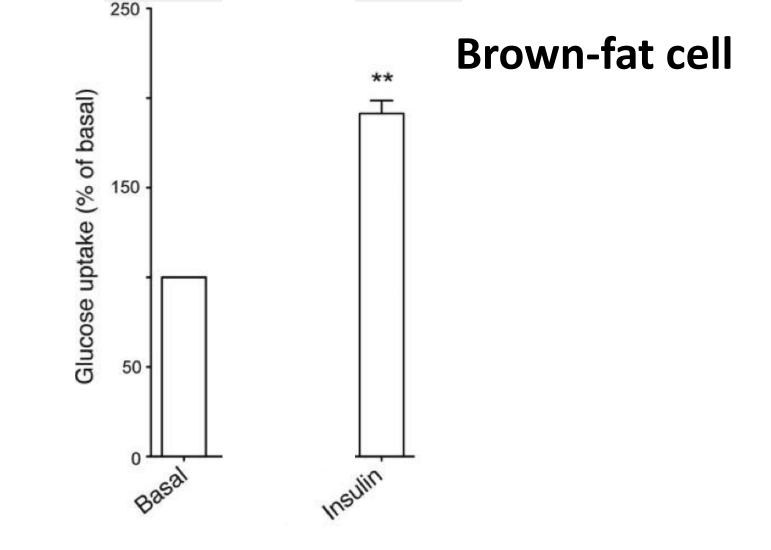
Brown fat is of significance for glucose control in mice

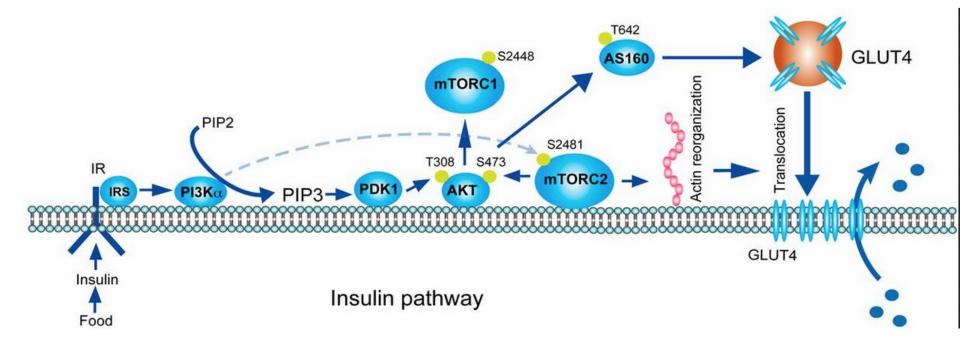


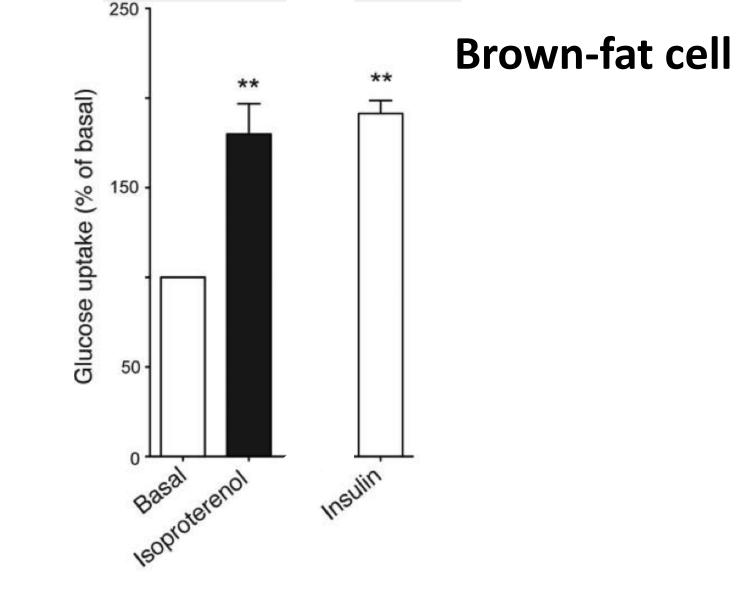
Brown adipocyte

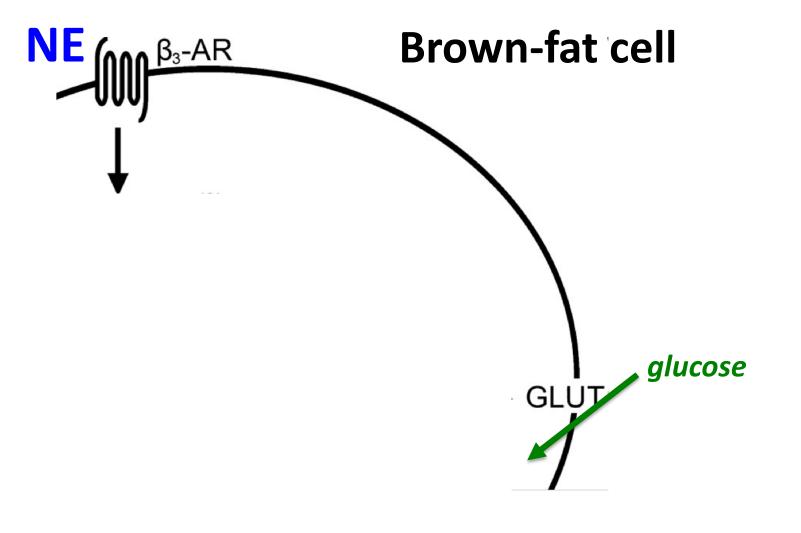


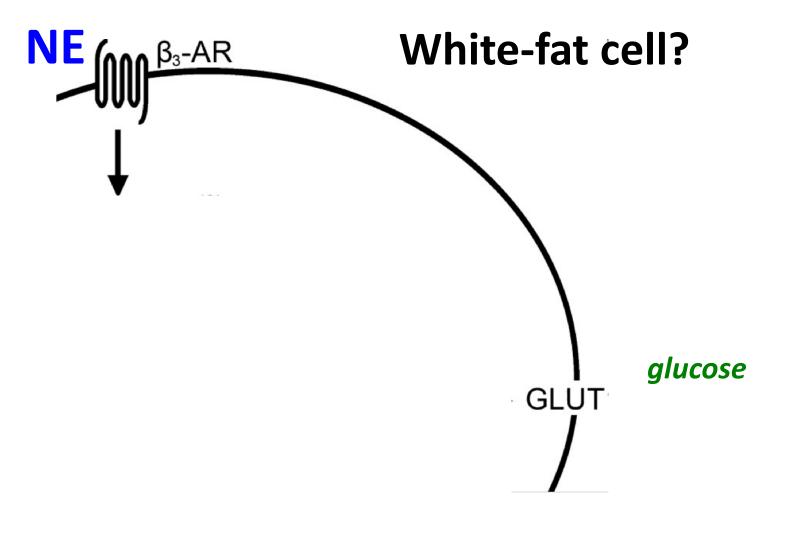


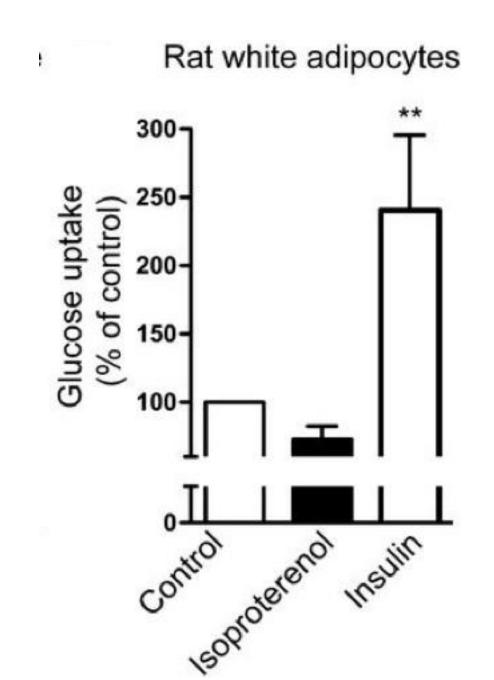


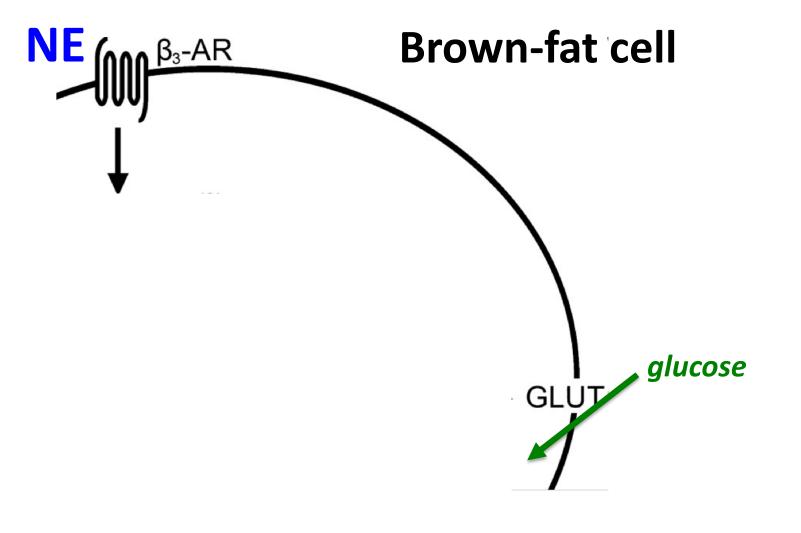


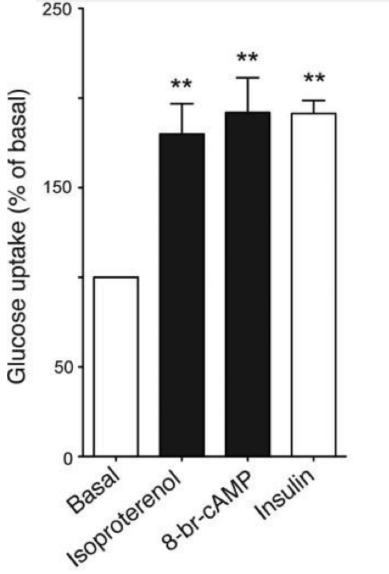




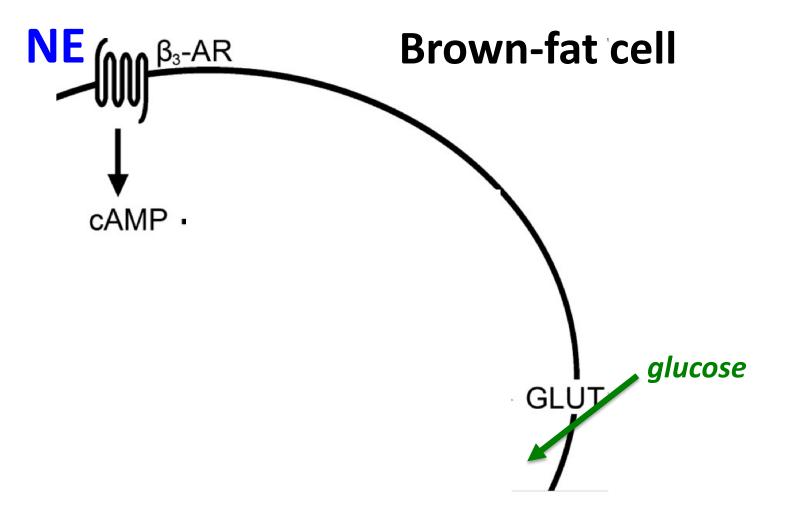


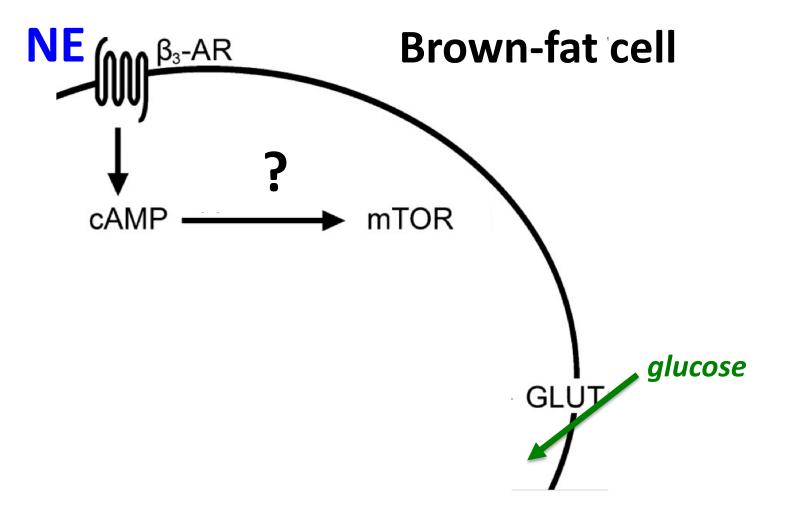


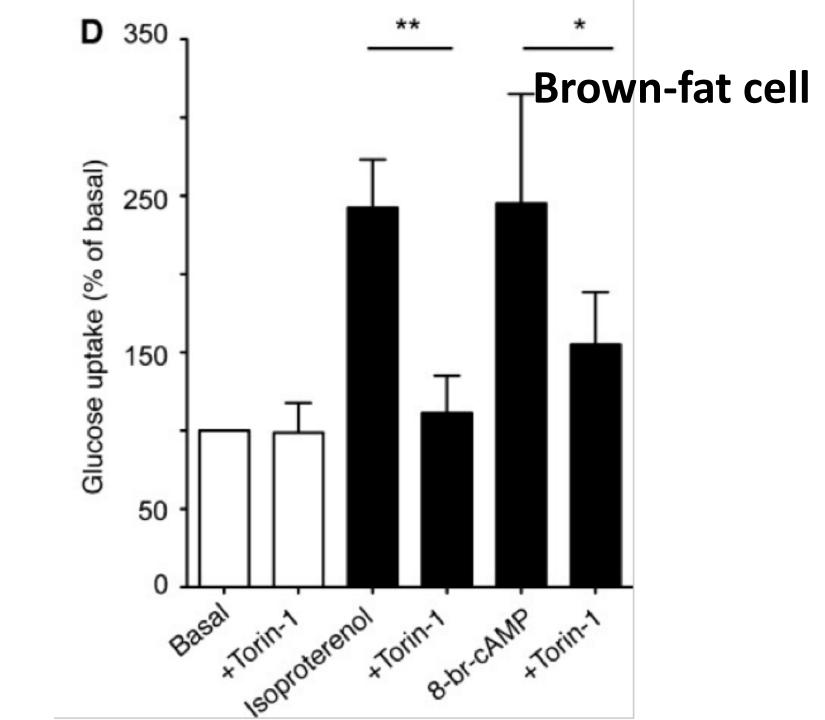


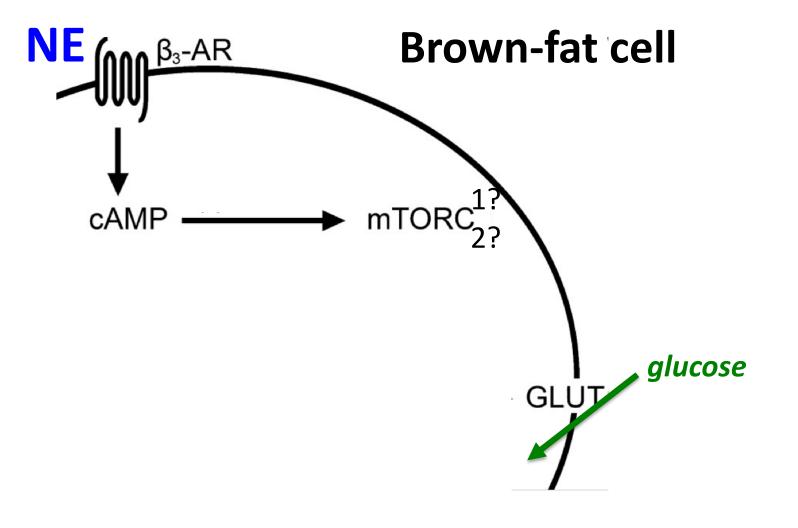


Brown-fat cell

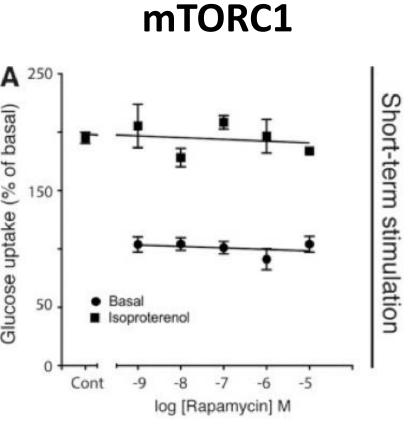






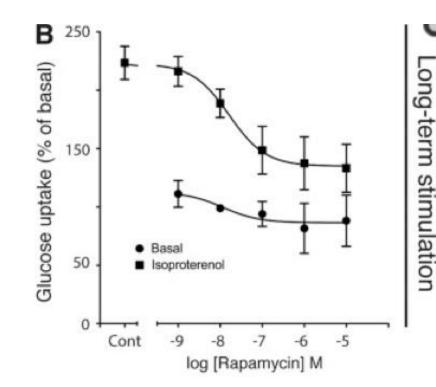


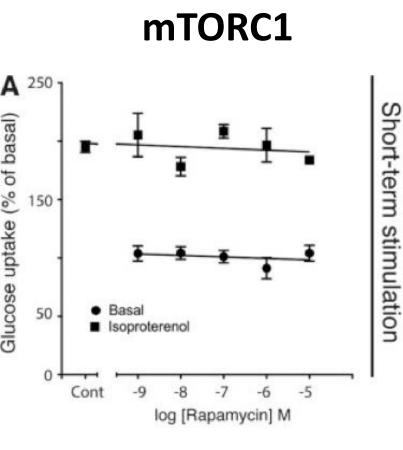
Brown-fat cell

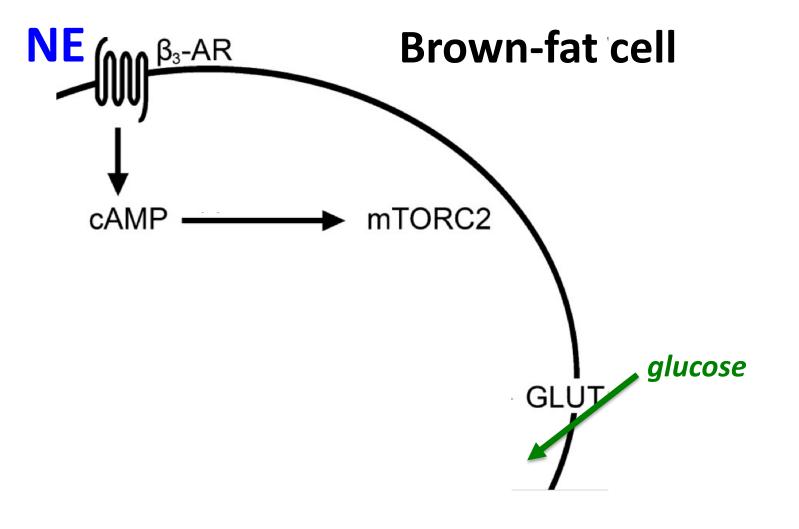


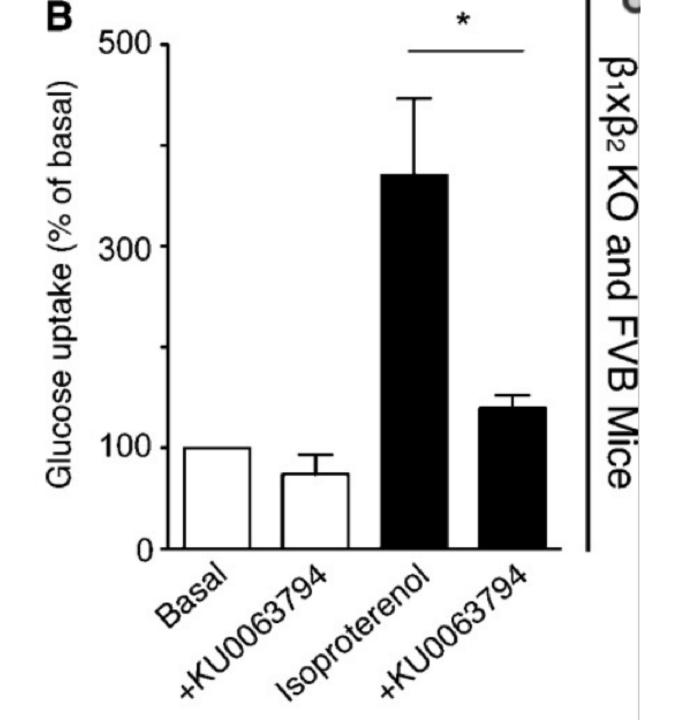
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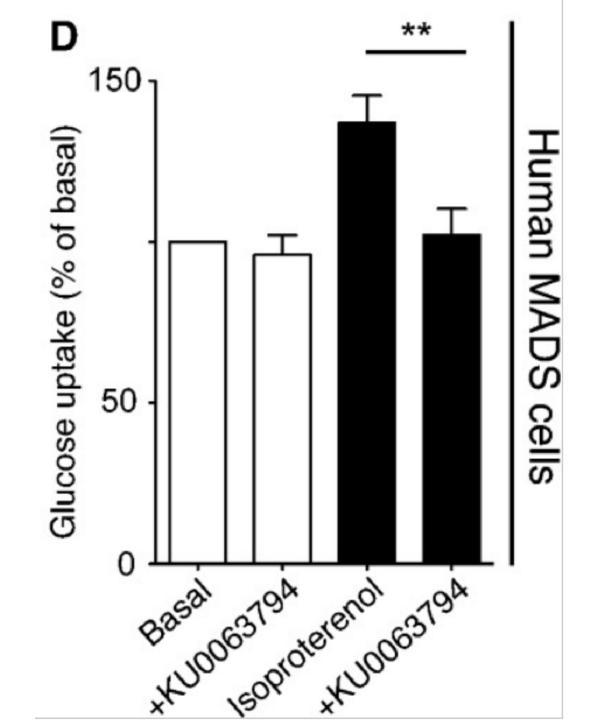
mTORC2

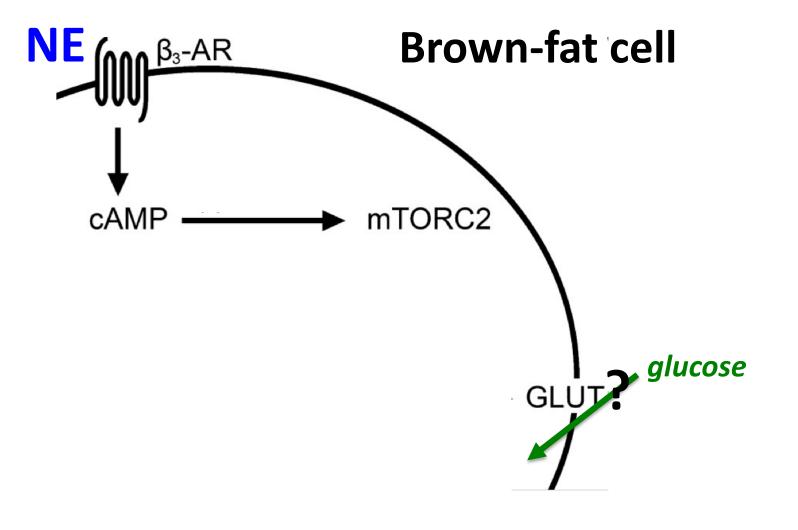


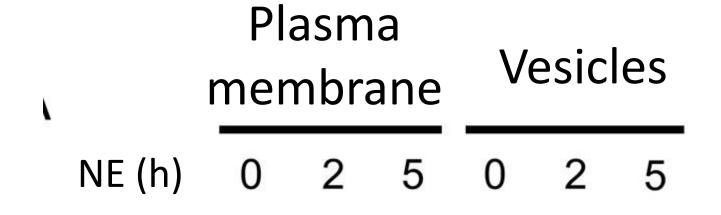


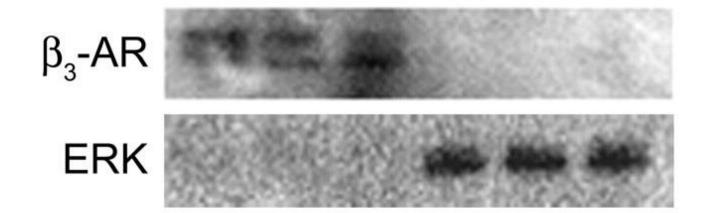


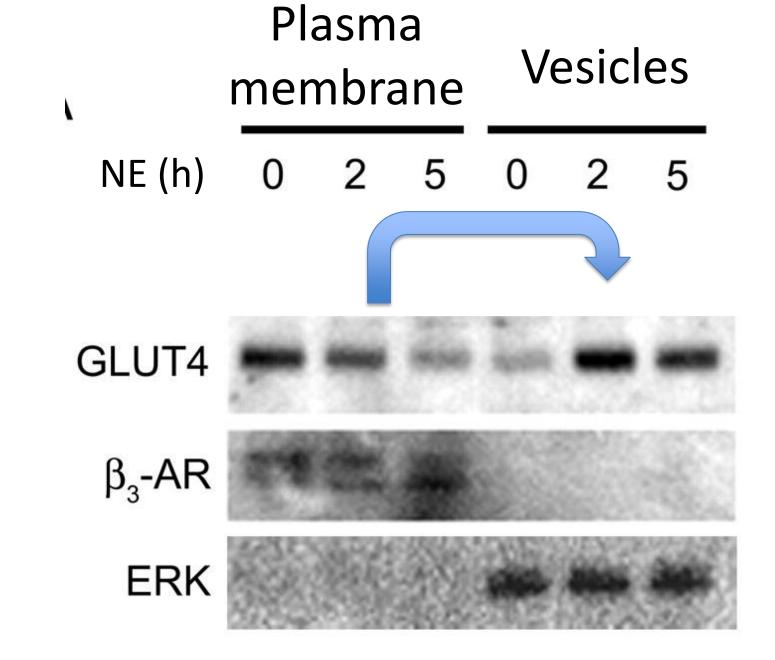


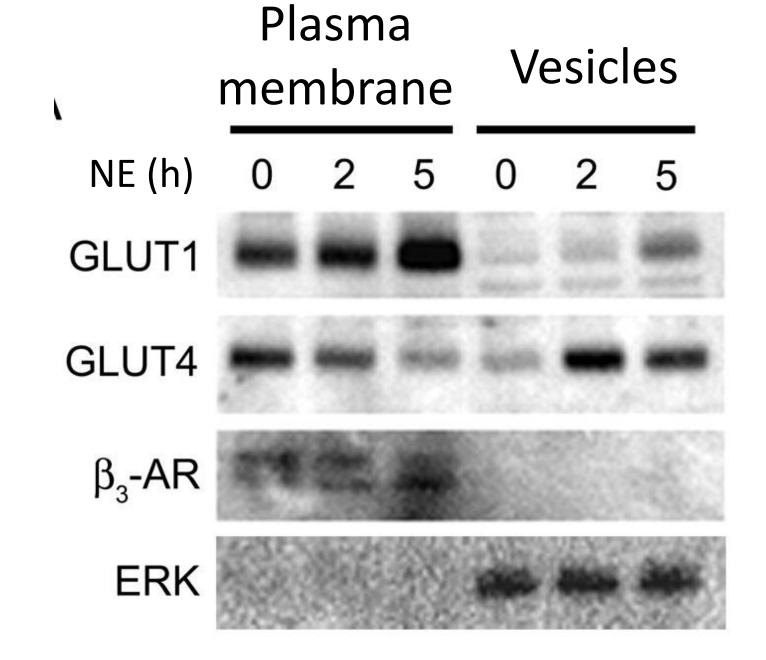


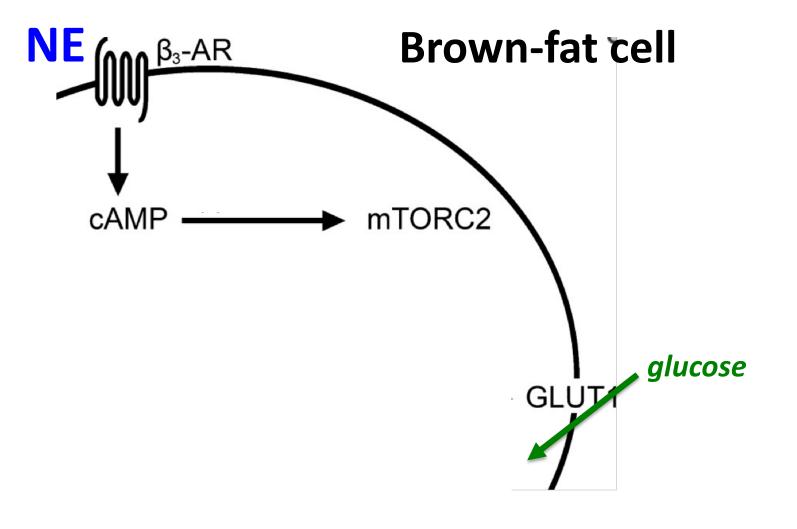




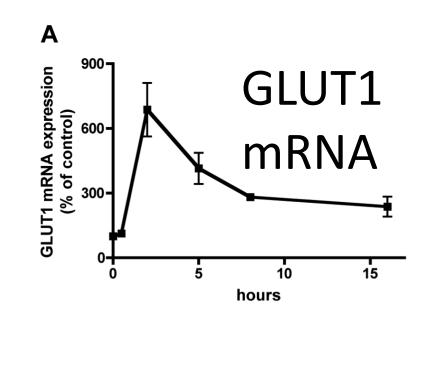


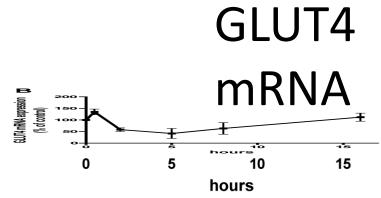




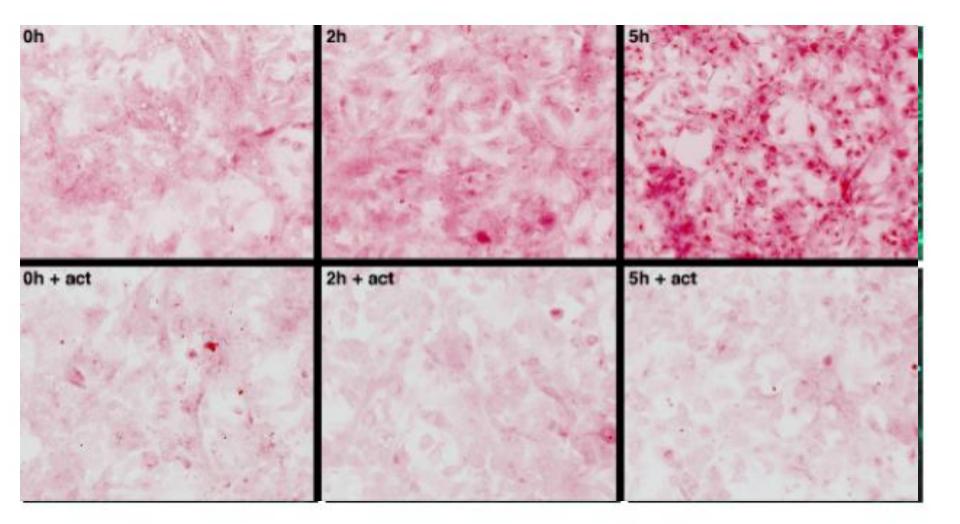


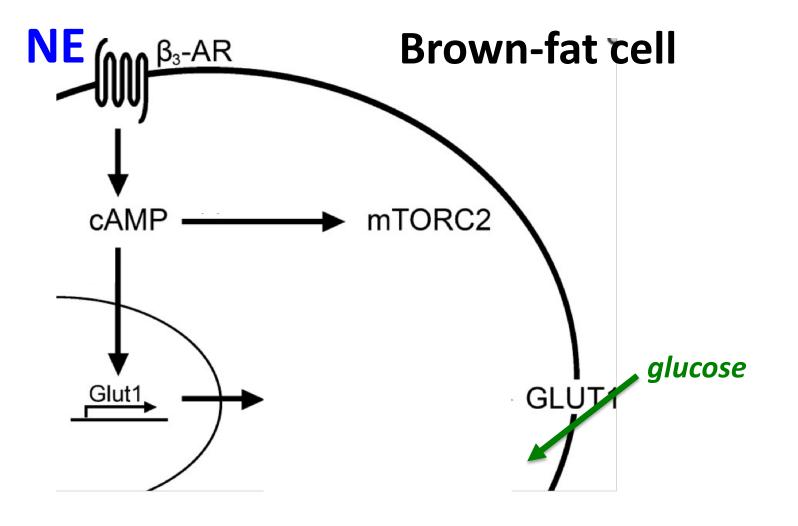
Acute effect of norepinephrine

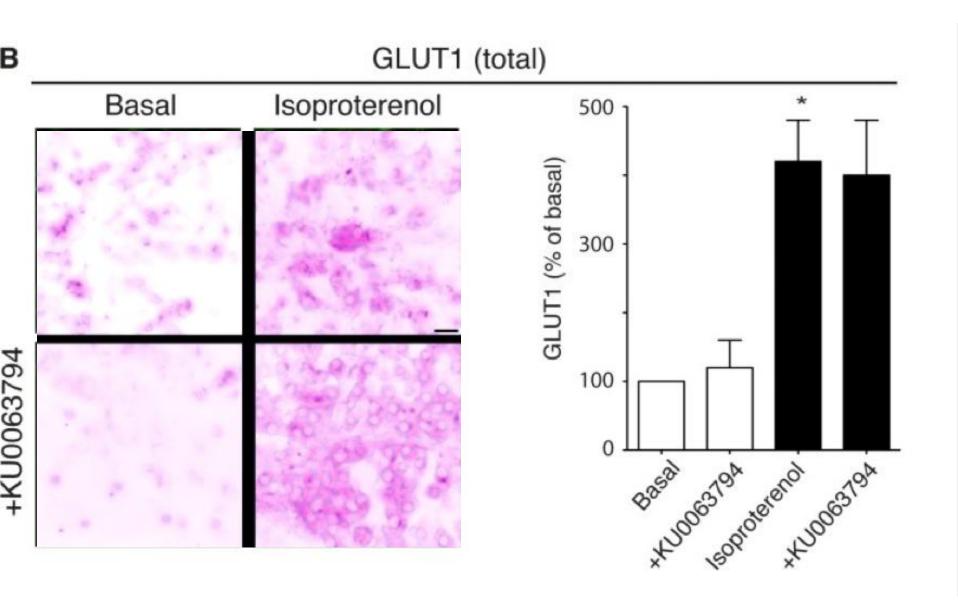


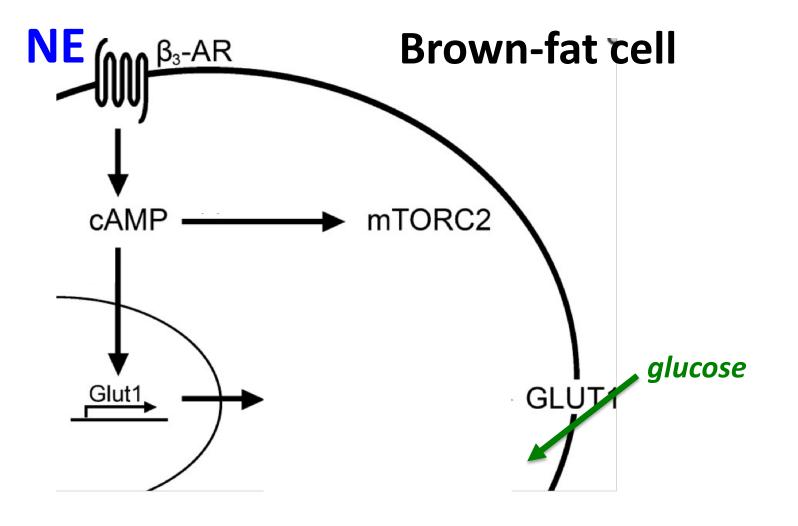


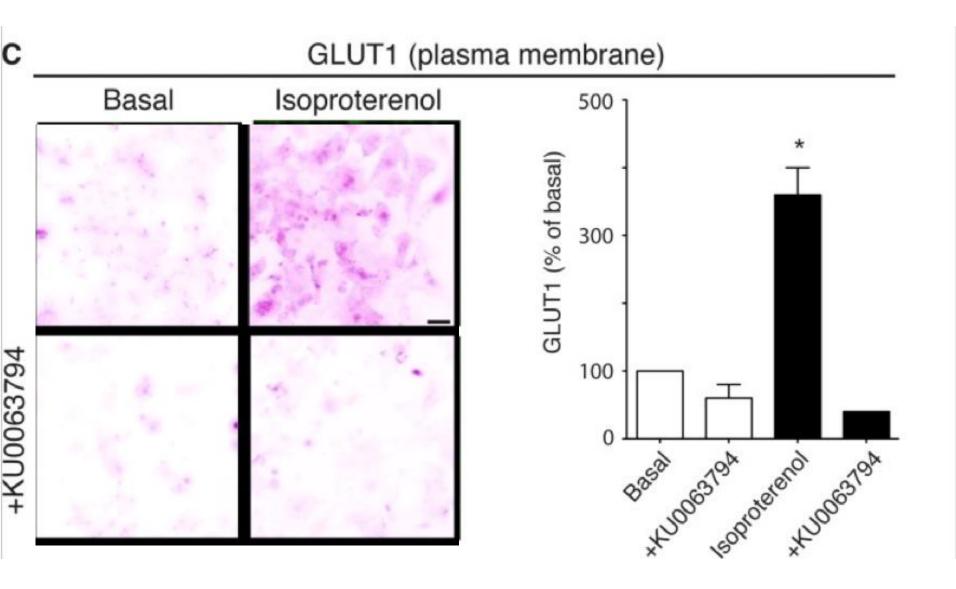
Adrenergically induced appearance of GLUT1 protein

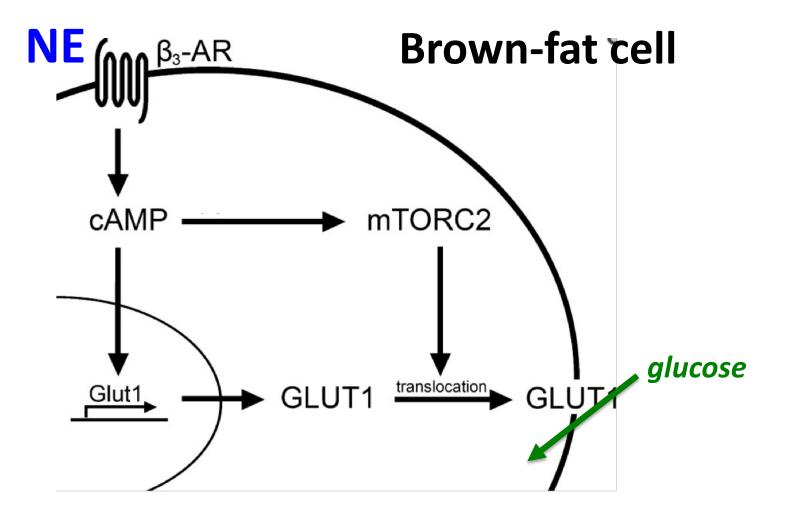


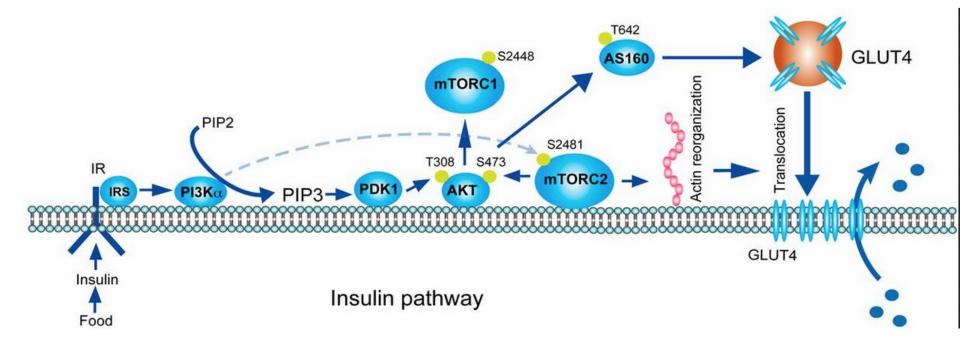


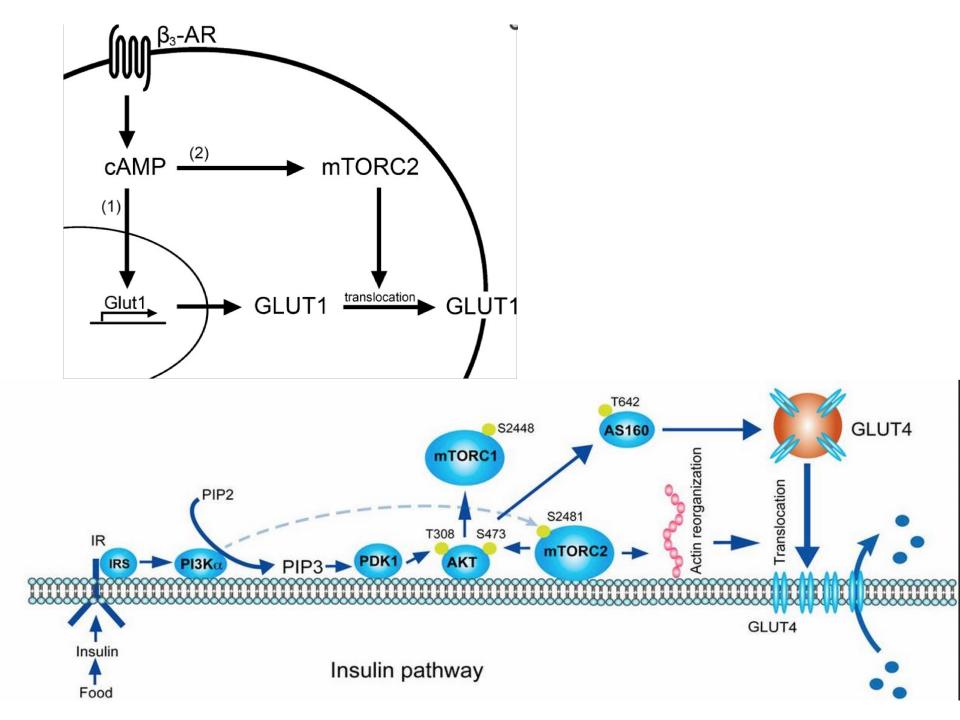


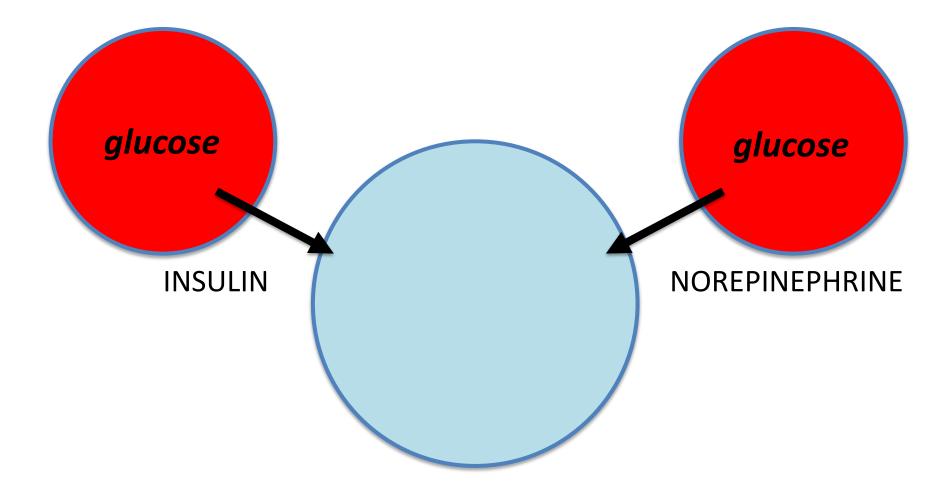












Worldwide increasing metabolic problems



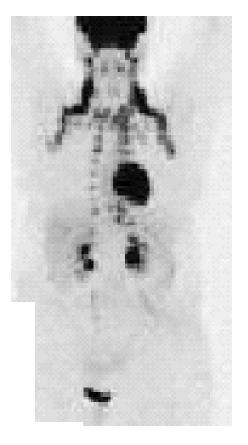
Metabolic syndrome*:

Central obesity

plus any two of the following four factors:

- raised triglycerides level in blood
- reduced HDL cholesterol in blood
- raised blood pressure
- raised fasting plasma glucose or type 2 diabetes (insulin resistance)

Active brown adipose tissue has the capacity to modulate most of above parameters



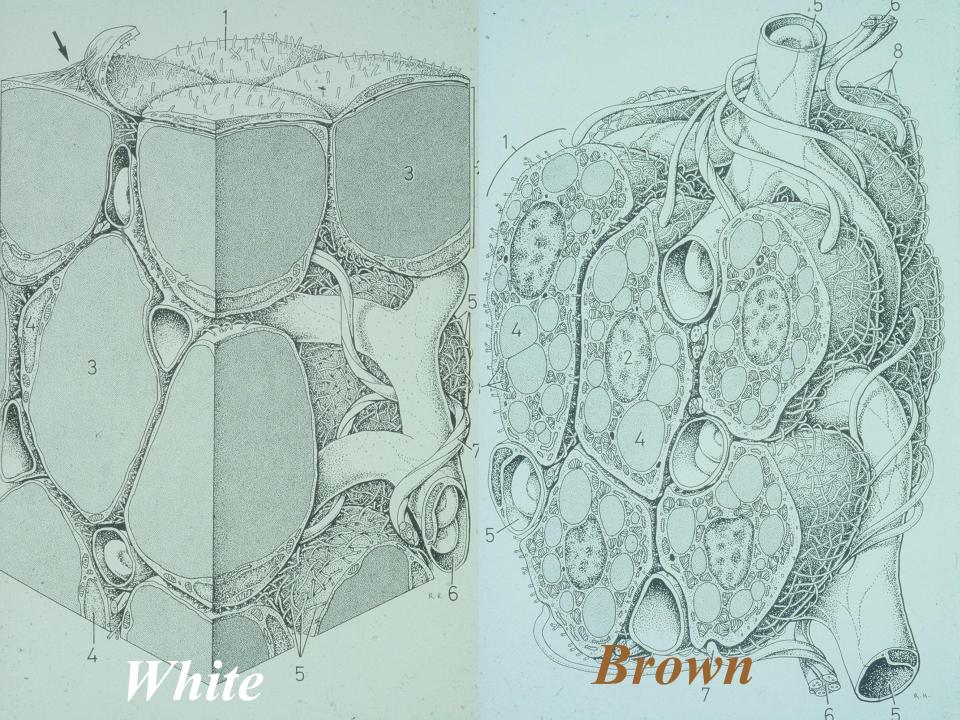
Brown fat only dominates glucose uptake when we are inactive and not postprandial - and slightly cold



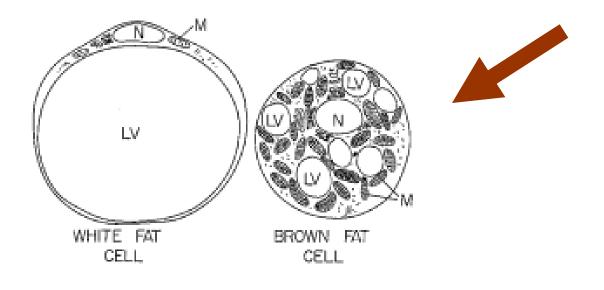


Brown fat only dominates glucose uptake when we are inactive and not postprandial - and slightly cold

- that could be about
- 1/3 of our life.....



Brown and white fat cells: alike or different?



John Horowitz

Are the cells different due to external "forces" - or are they inherently different?

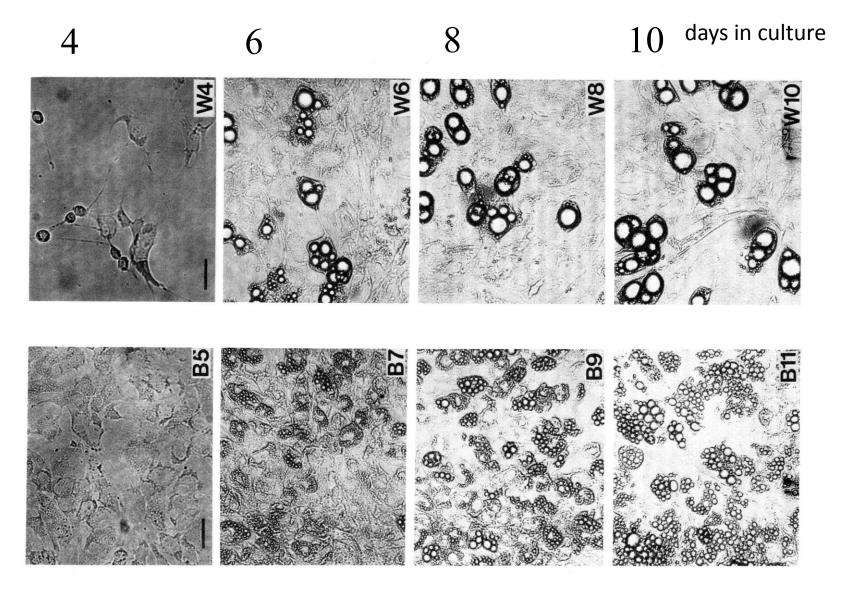
Cell culture: brown *versus* white

precursors from brown adipose tissue white adipose tissue (interscapular) (epidydimal)



identical culture conditions differentiate in culture

White precursors

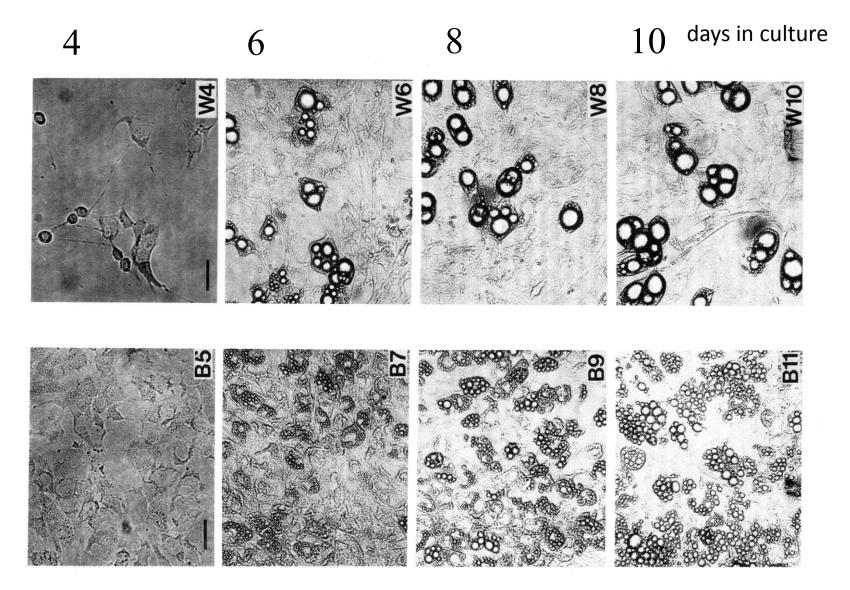


Brown precursors

Rat cells

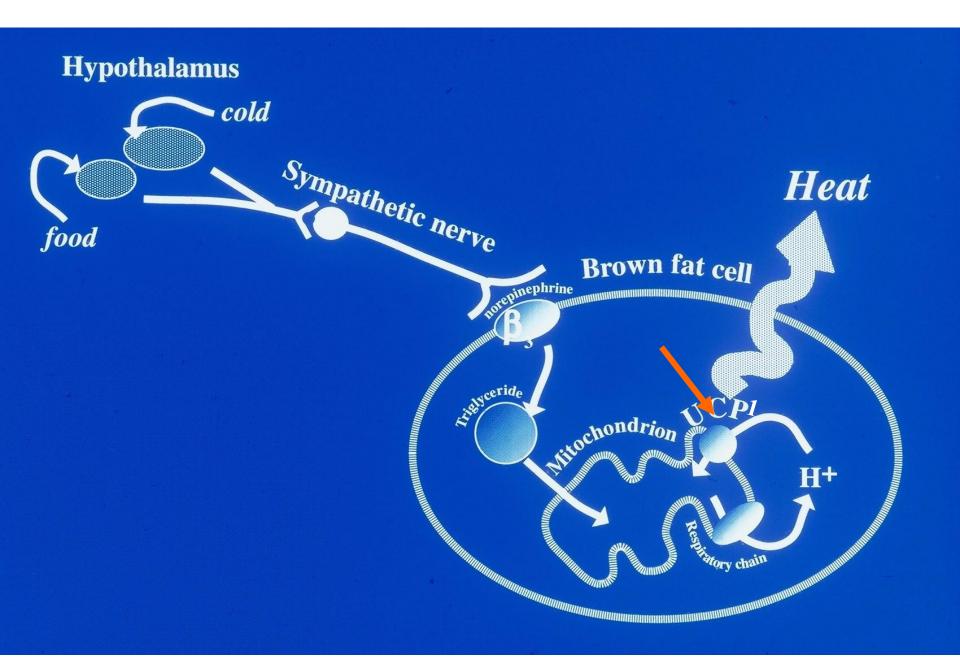
A cell-autonomous difference!

White precursors

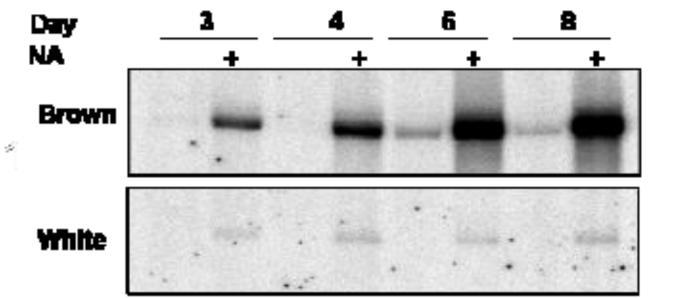


Brown precursors

Rat cells



brown and white remain different under identical conditions



UCP1

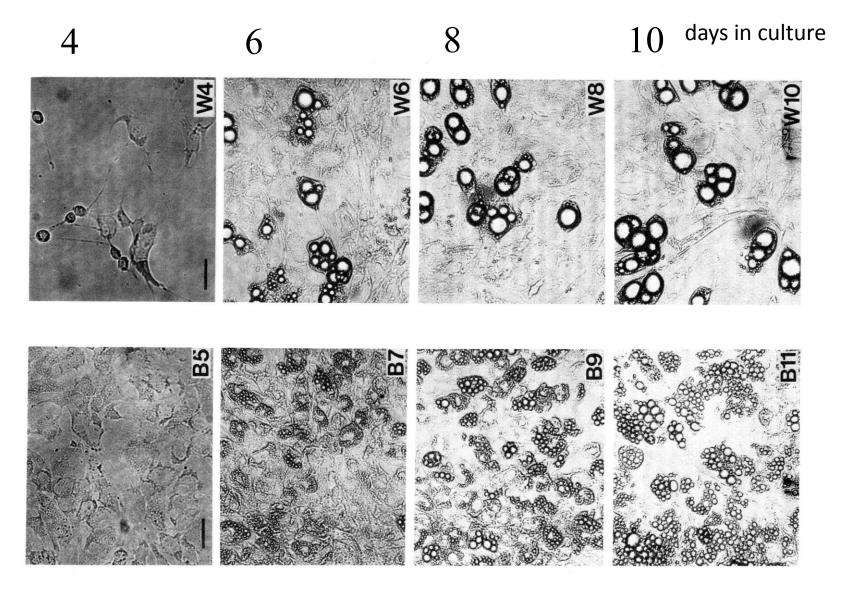
Cell culture: brown versus white

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identical culture conditions differentiate in culture examine global gene expression

White precursors



Brown precursors

Rat cells

Genes enriched >5 fold

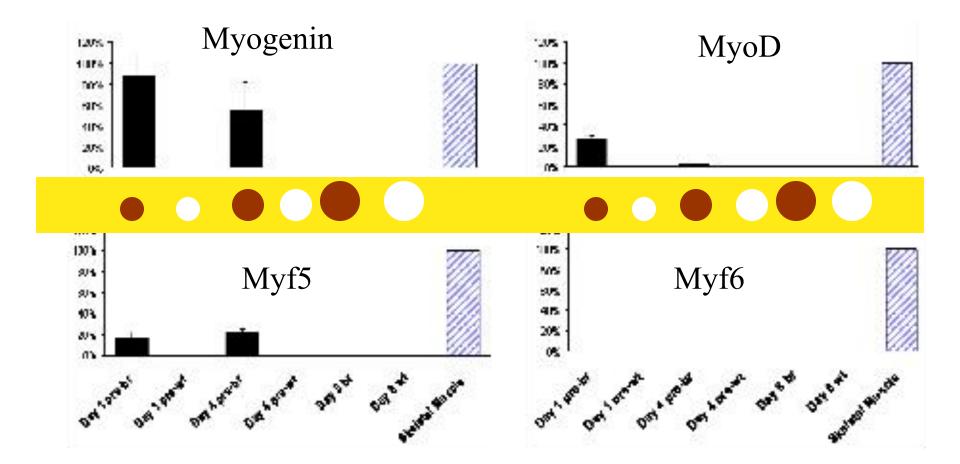
in brown versus white undifferentiated pre-adipocytes

Gene Symbol	Gene Title
Actal	actin, alpha 1, skeletal muscle
Actc1	actin, alpha, cardiac
Cd83	CD83 antigen
Chrnal	cholinergic receptor, nicotinic, alpha polypeptide 1 (muscle)
Cldn5	claudin 5
Icam2	intercellular adhesion molecule 2
Lhx8	LIM homeobox protein 8
Meox2	mesenchyme homeobox 2
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Tnnt3	troponin T3, skeletal, fast
Zicl	zinc finger protein of the cerebellum 1

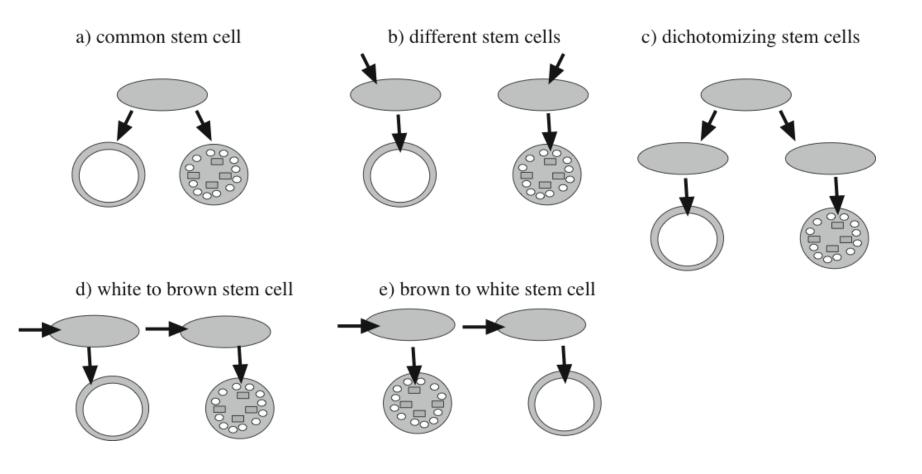
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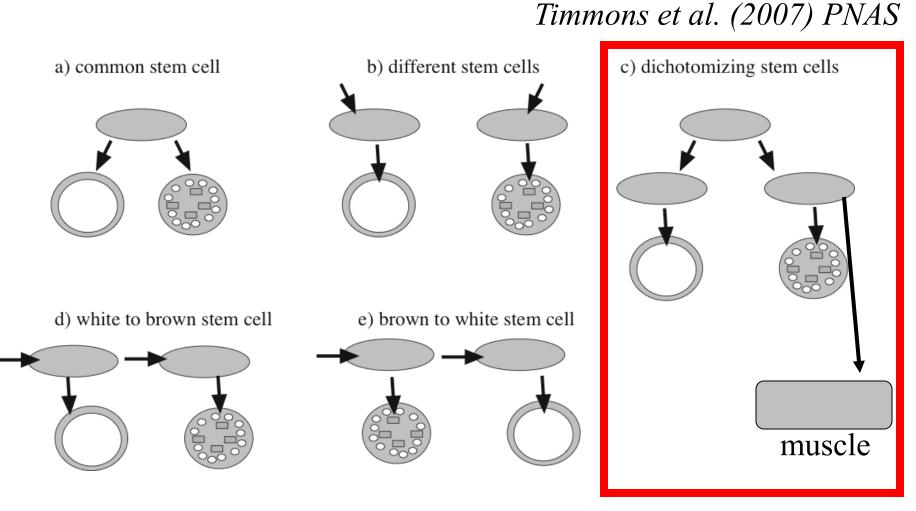
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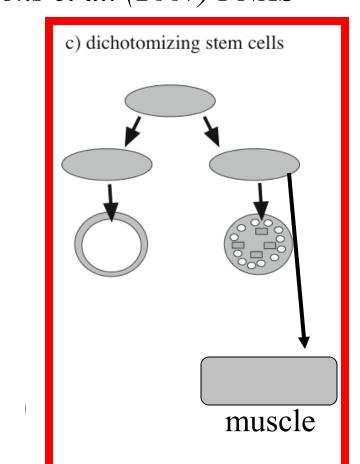
A myogenic gene expression signature establishes that brown and white adipocytes originate from distinct cell lineages



A myogenic gene expression signature establishes that brown and white adipocytes originate from distinct cell lineages Timmana of al. (2007) DNAS



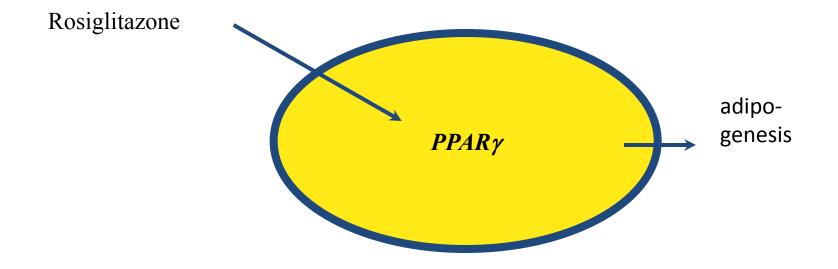
A myogenic gene expression signature establishes that brown and white adipocytes originate from distinct cell lineages *Timmons et al. (2007) PNAS*

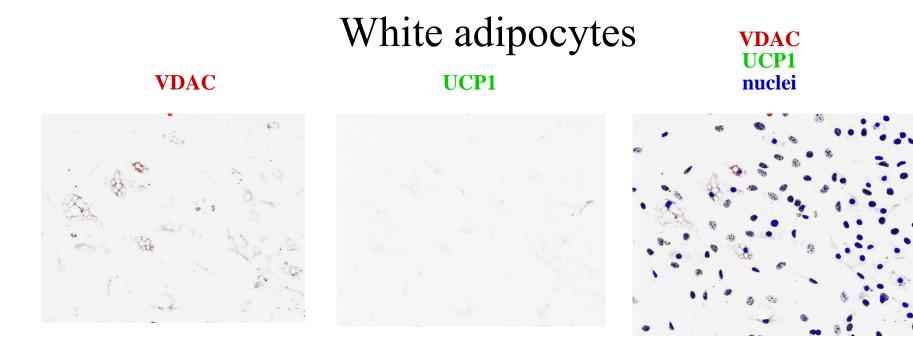


Brown fat cells are "adipomyocytes"

Are all UCP1-containing cells brown adipocytes?

Treatment of *white* adipocytes





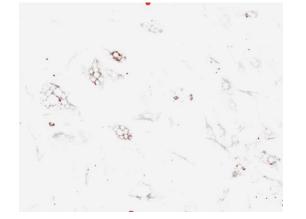
Do all white fat cells become "brown"? (i.e. express UCP1)?

White adipocytes

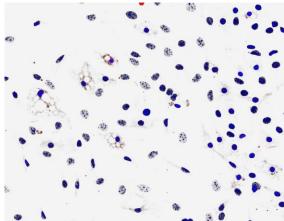
VDAC



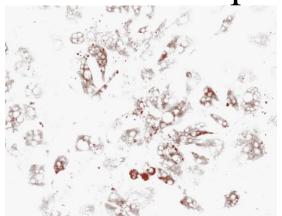


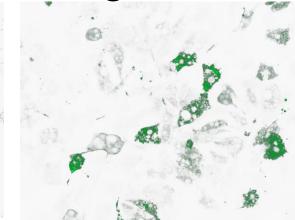


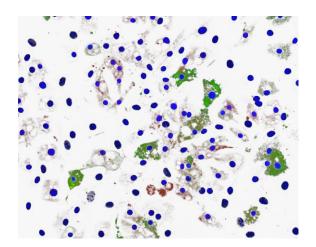




plus rosiglitazone





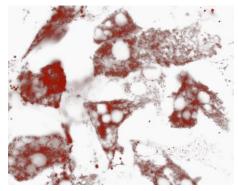


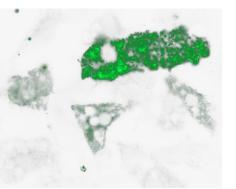
VDAC

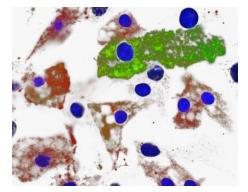
UCP1

VDAC UCP1 nuclei

White adipocytes Rosiglitazone



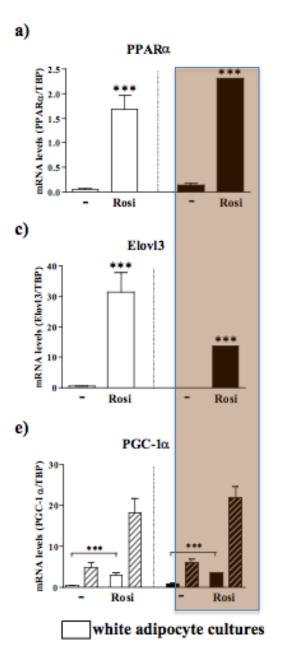


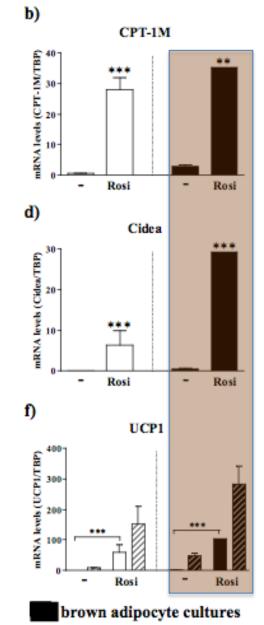


Are the UCP1-expressing cells "true" brown adipocytes?

They express UCP1 - but is that sufficient?

Established brown adipocyte-specific genes





Established brown adipocyte genes are induced in white adipocytes

Are the UCP1-expressing cells "true" brown adipocytes?

They express UCP1 - but is that sufficient?

What characterizes a "true" brown adipocyte?

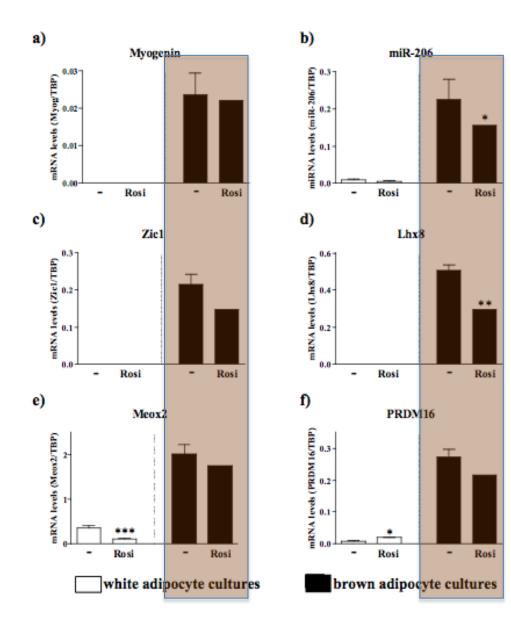
Genes enriched >5 fold in brown versus white undifferentiated pre-adipocytes

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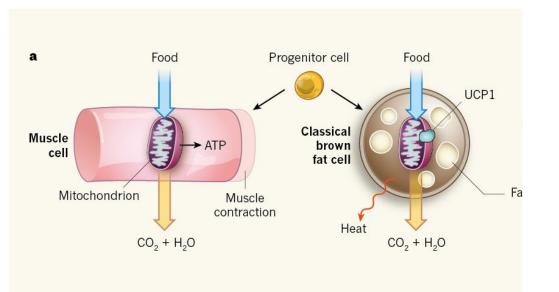
Novel brown adipocyte-specific genes

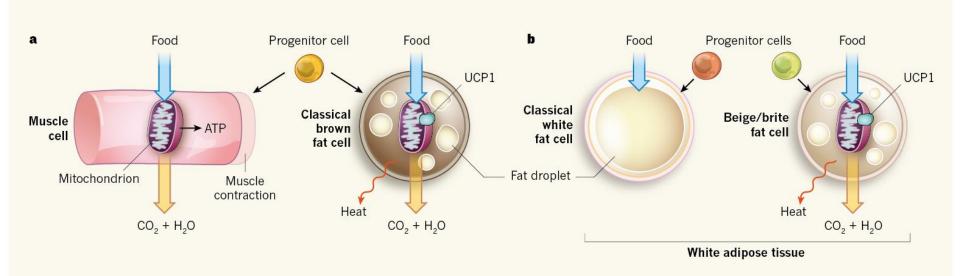


Novel brown adipocyte genes are not induced 111 white adipocytes Thus, these cells are neither brown, nor white, but they are **BR**own-like in wh**ITE** cultures:

thus they are **BRITE!**

or beige or induced or ectopic





What is the point of brite/beige adipose tissue?

Heat production as in brown fat?

Yes, but capacity only 0-20 % of that of brown fat (in mice)

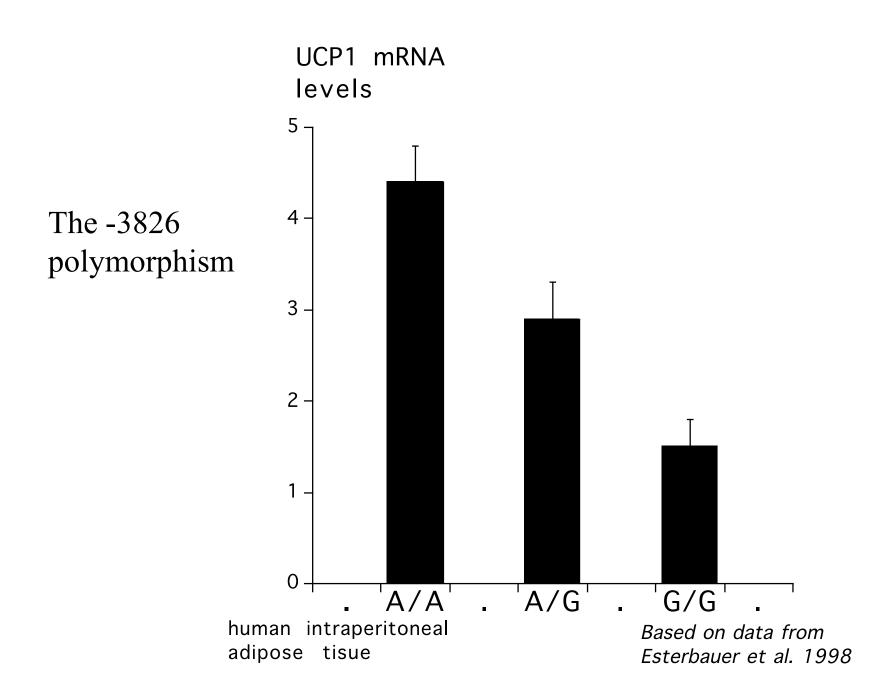
Only form in humans?

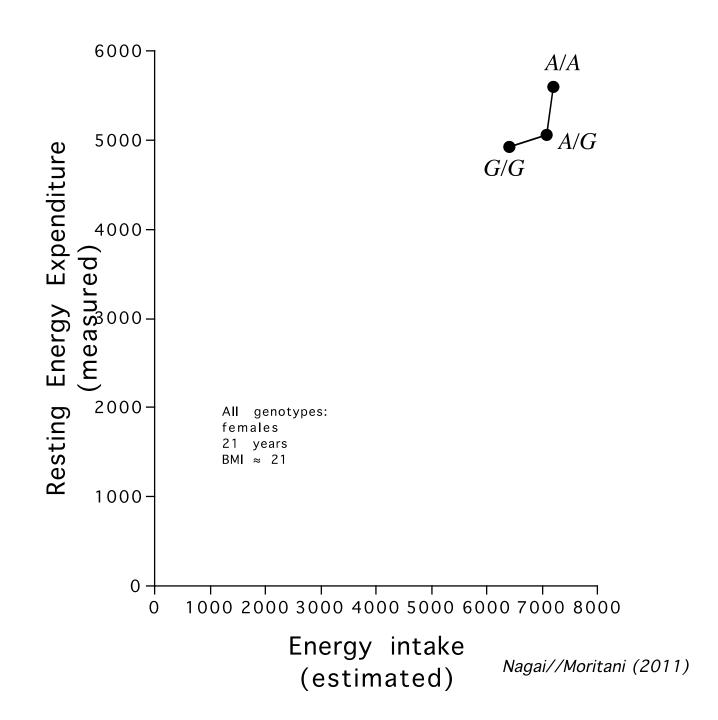
Probably not, humans have both, just like mice

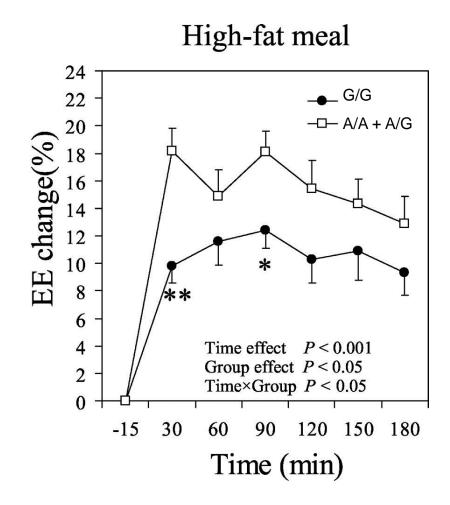
Doing something else?

Could be so, but nothing firmly demonstrated

The only "functional" evidence for possible significance of brown fat and brite/beige fat in humans is genetic





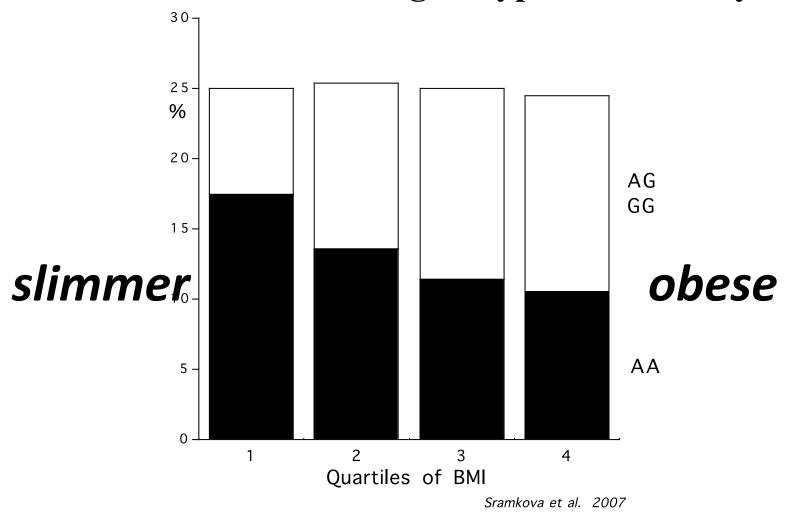


Nagai et al. 2003

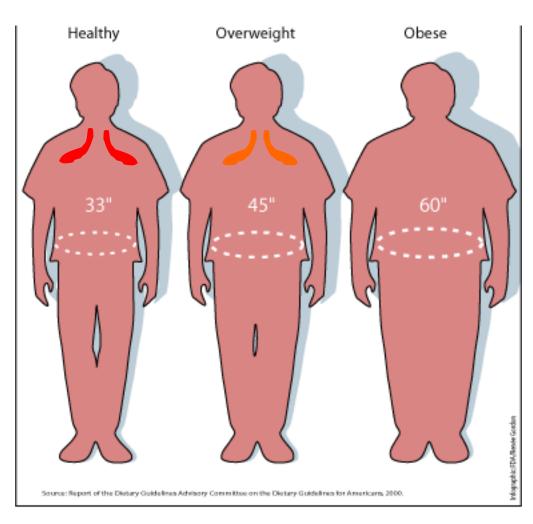
And as time goes by

Evidence from man

Correlation of UCP1 genotype with obesity

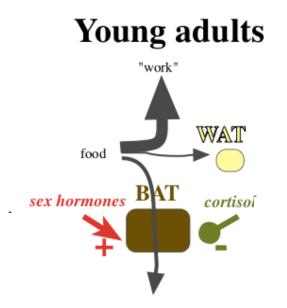


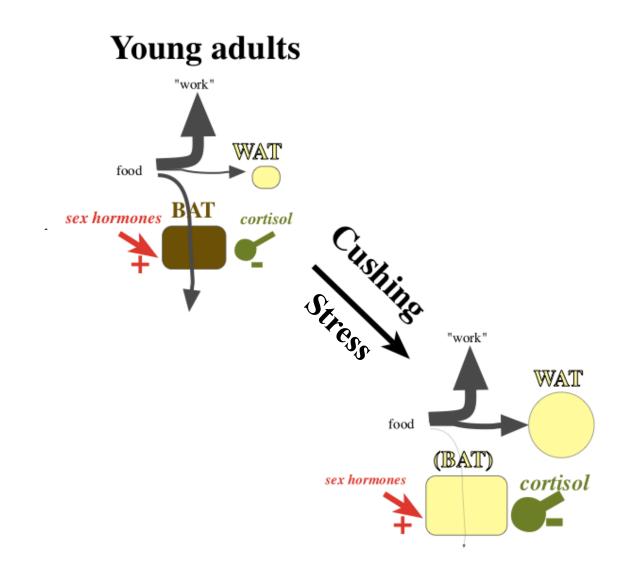
Thus, the A's can both eat more than the G's – and stay slim...

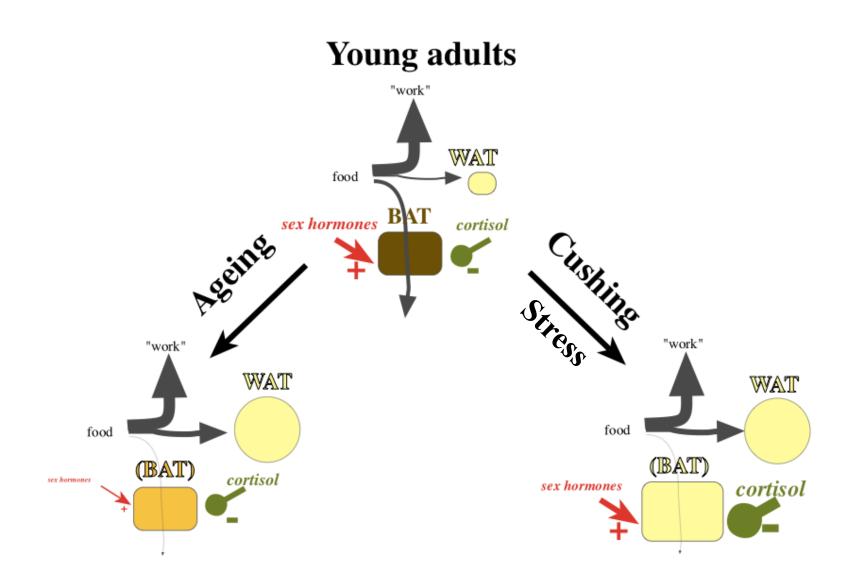


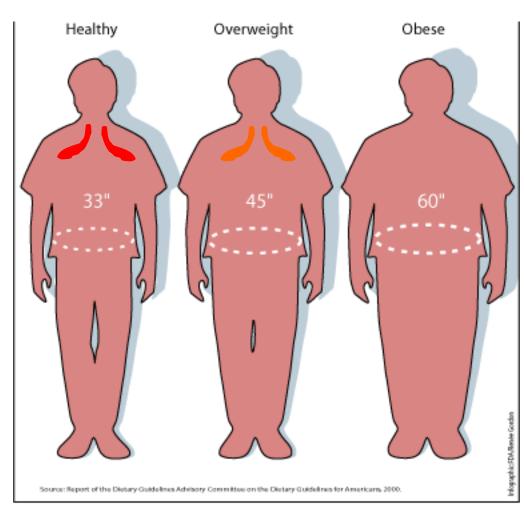
In our opinion, extrapolation from mouse data to humans (now allowed) implies that even in humans the absence of brown fat *causes* obesity

but why do we lose it with age?

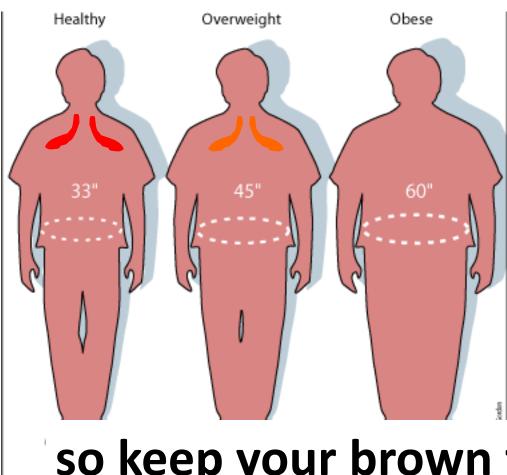








In our opinion, extrapolation from mouse data to humans (now allowed) implies that even in humans successive diminishment or absence of brown fat causes obesity, worsens triglyceridemia and disposes to diabetes



In our opinion, extrapolation from mouse data to humans (now allowed) implies that even in humans successive diminishment or absence of brown fat causes obesity, worsens triglyceridemia and disposes to diabetes

so keep your brown fat active!



Worldwide increasing metabolic problems



Metabolic syndrome*:

Central obesity

plus any two of the following four factors:

- raised triglycerides level in blood
- reduced HDL cholesterol in blood
- raised blood pressure
- raised fasting plasma glucose or type 2 diabetes (insulin resistance)

Active brown adipose tissue has the capacity to modulate most of above parameters

Brown Adipose Tissue panacea

Jan Nedergaard Department of Molecular Biosciences The Wenner-Gren Institute, Stockholm University

Professor at

Fellow of the Nobel-prize awarding

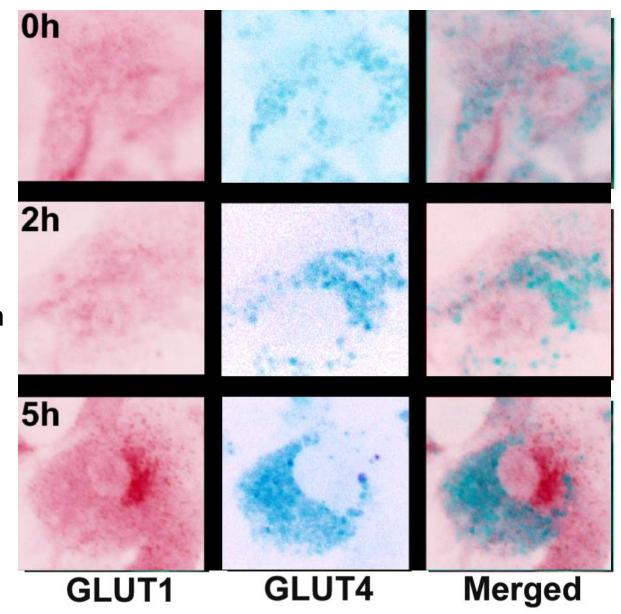


THE ROYAL SWEDISH ACADEMY OF SCIENCES





Stockholm University



Hours of adrenergic stimulation

Results in collaboration with (among others)

The Cannon/Nedergaard lab: Gustavo Abreu de Vieira Tore Bengtsson Helena Feldmann Valeria Golozoubova Anders Jacobsson Elaina Maldonado Natasa Petrovic Tomas Waldén and Jan Nedergaard



RVC London Valentina Gburcik James A. Timmons University of Copenhagen Naja Zenius Jespersen Camilla Scheele Bente Klarlund Pedersen Therese Juhlin *University of Ancona* Marie Cristina Zingaretti Saverio Cinti

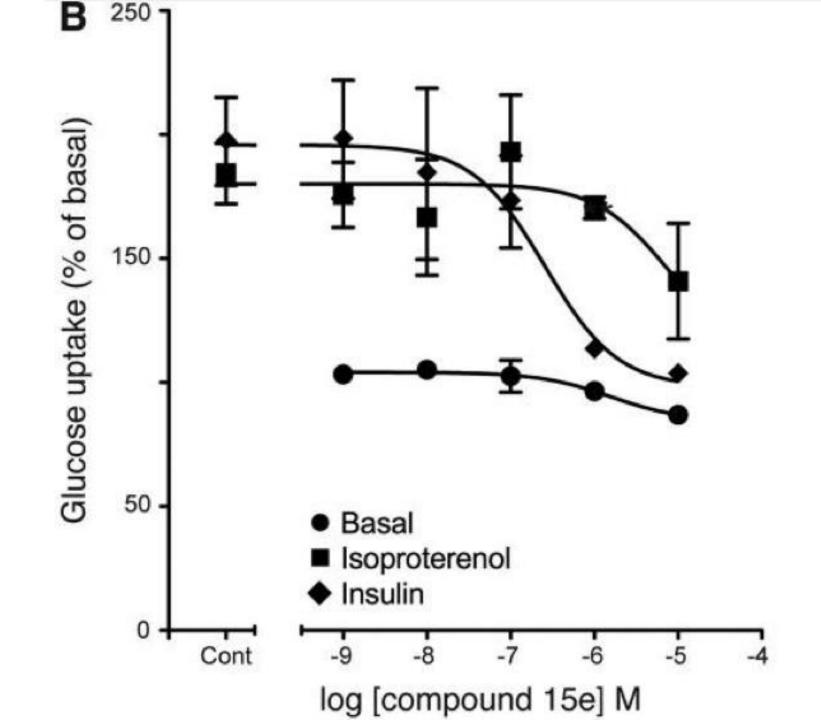
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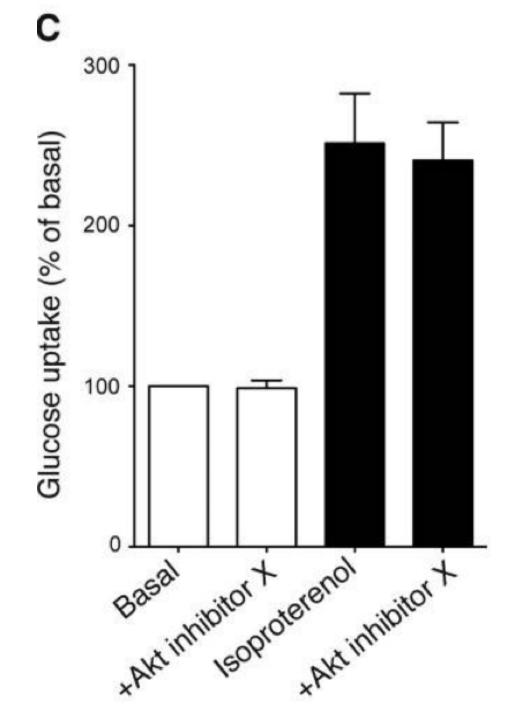
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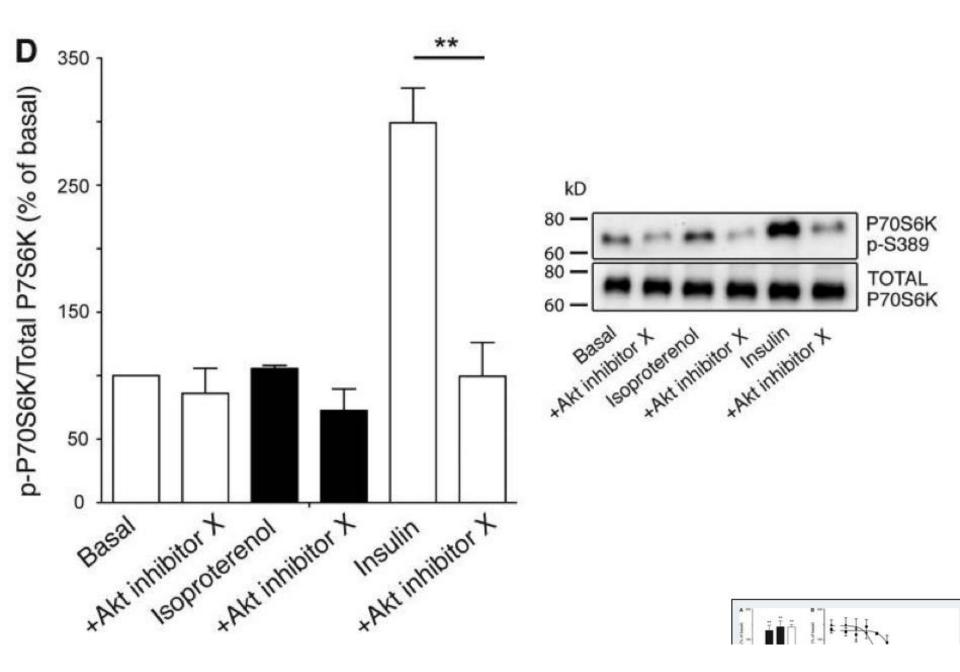


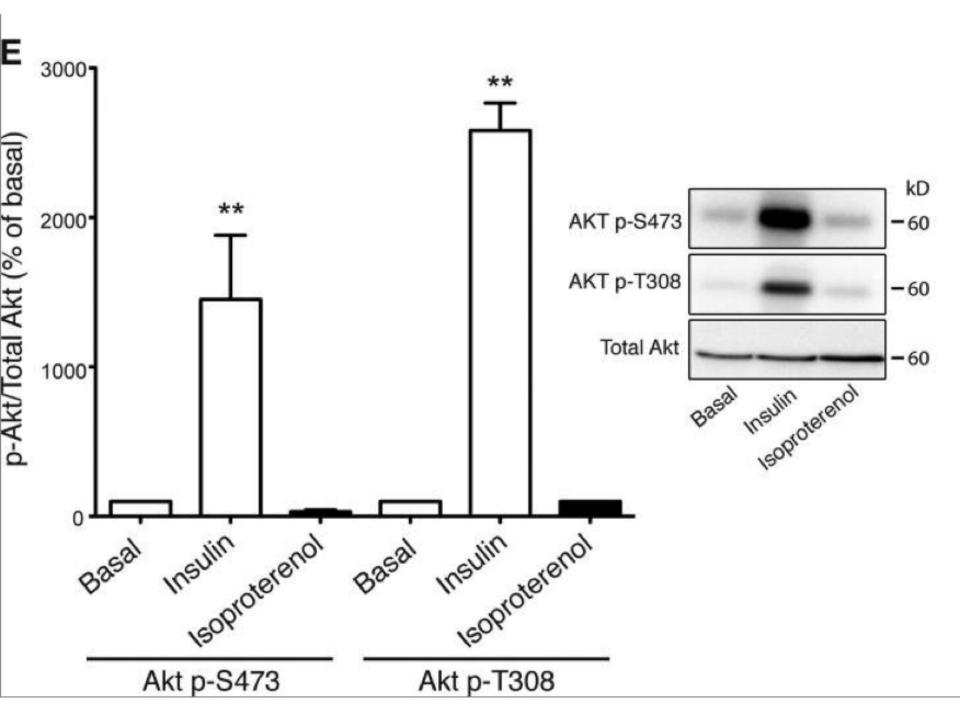


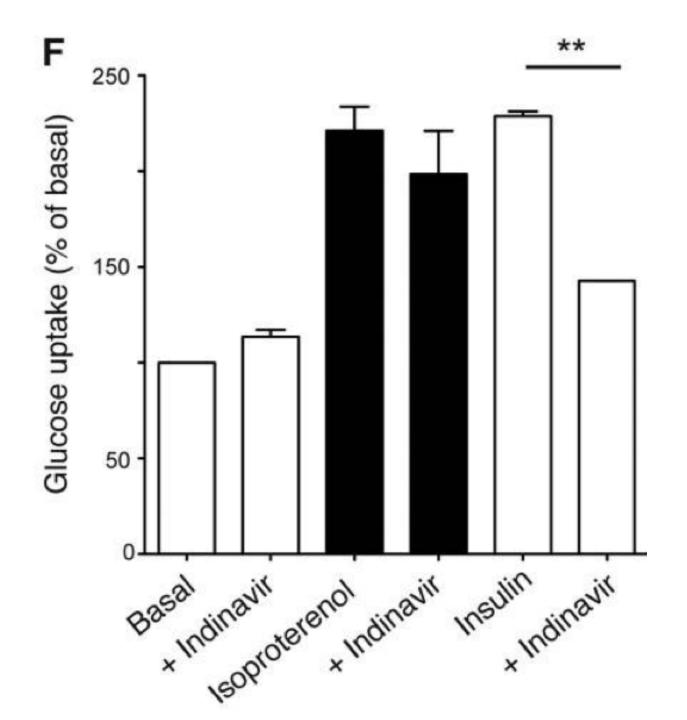
The Bengtsson lab: Jessica Olsen Gu

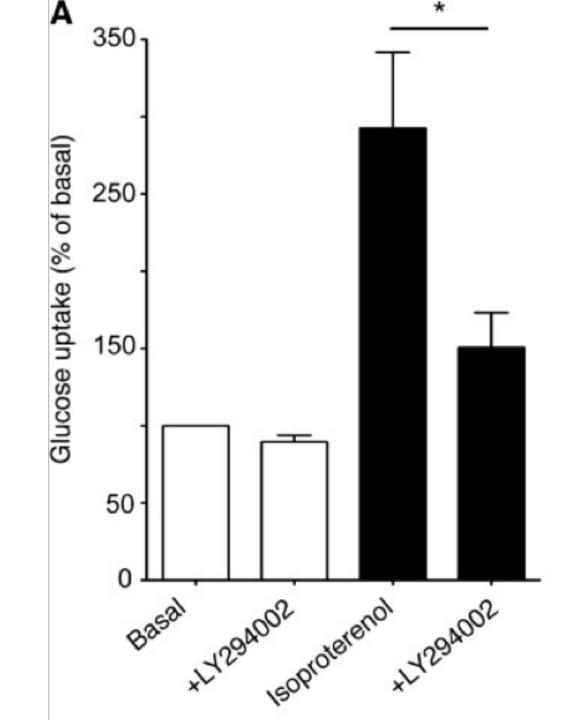


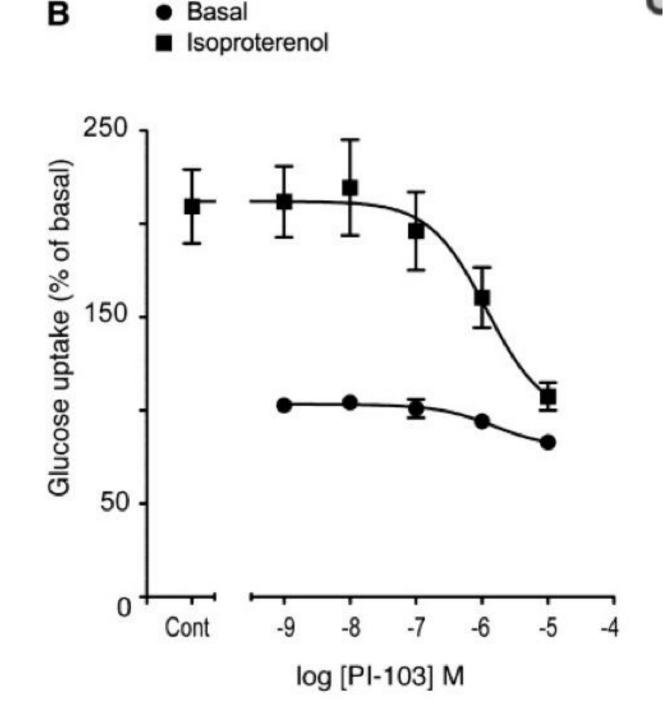


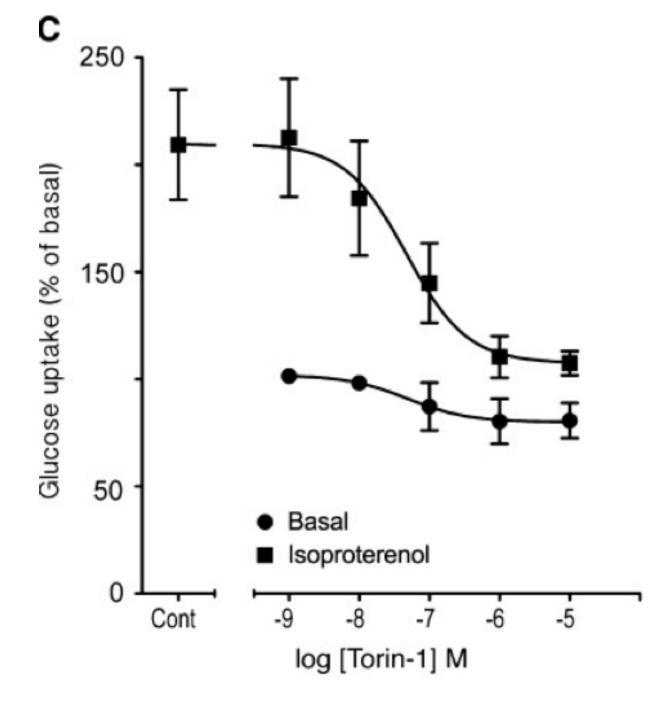


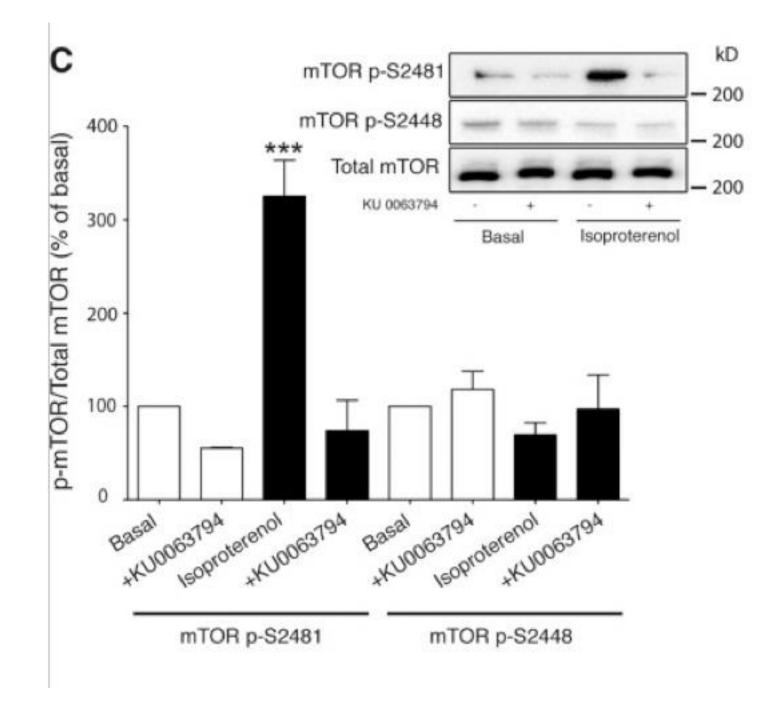


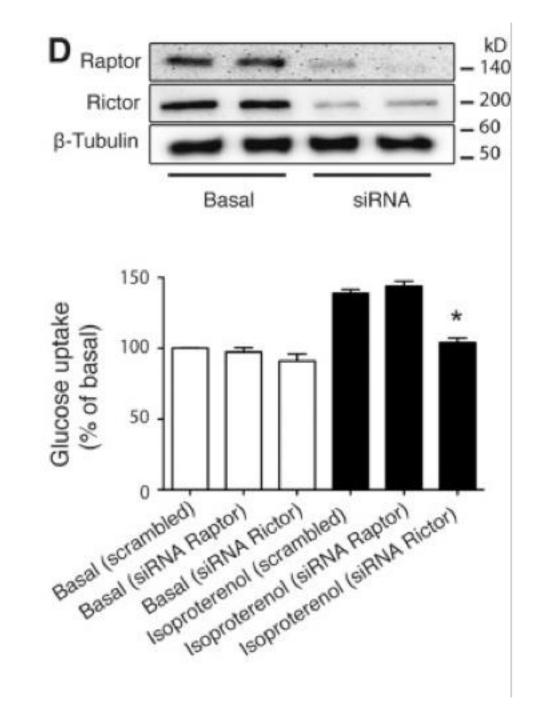


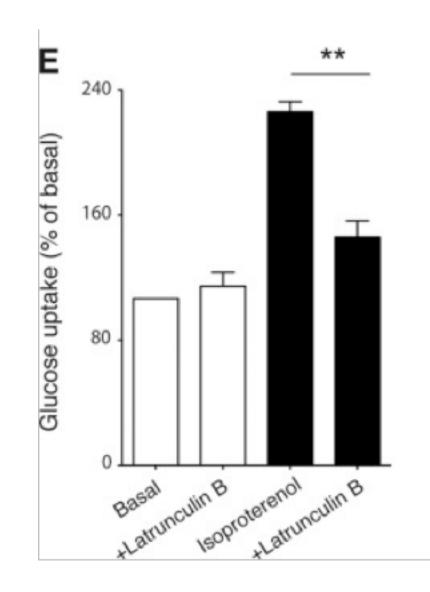


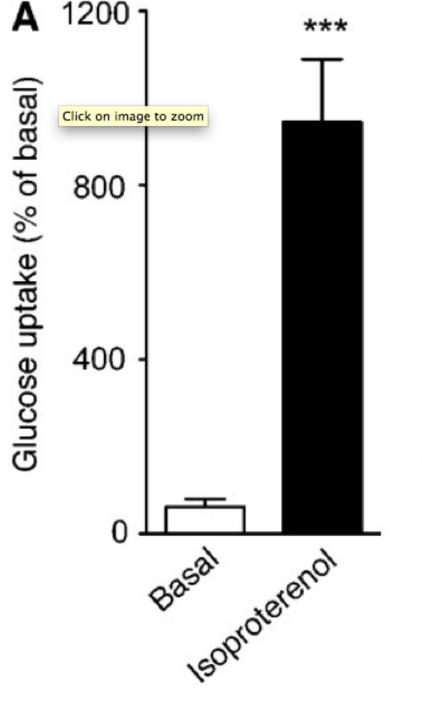


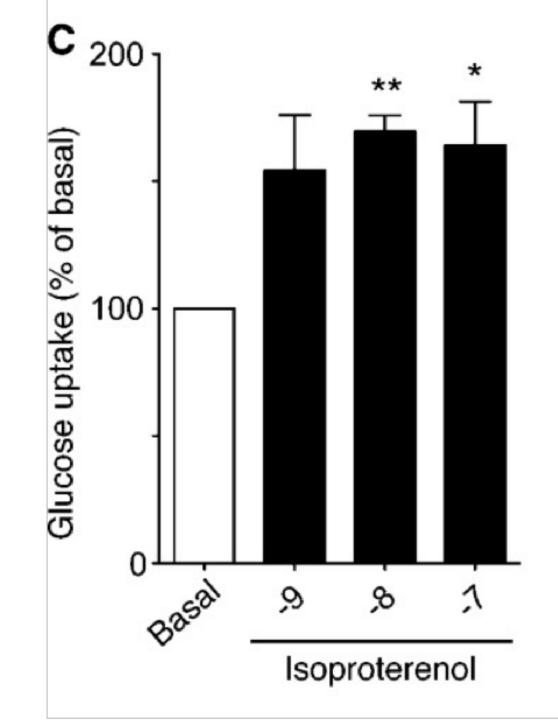


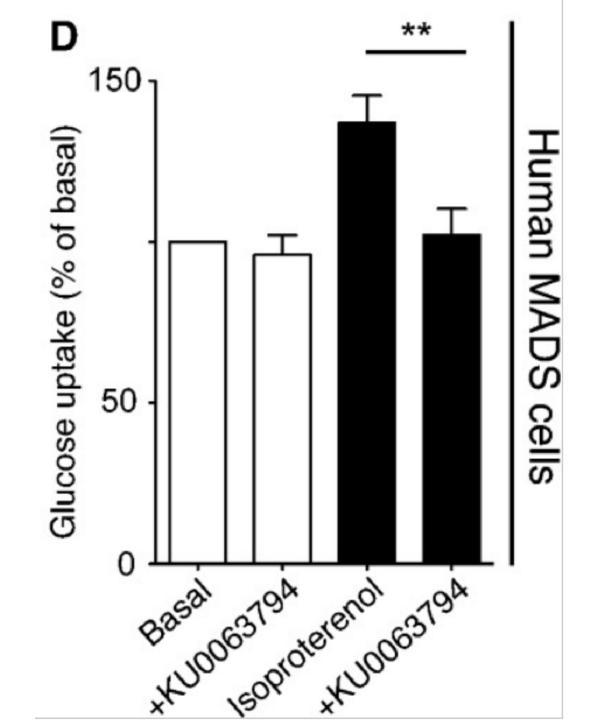




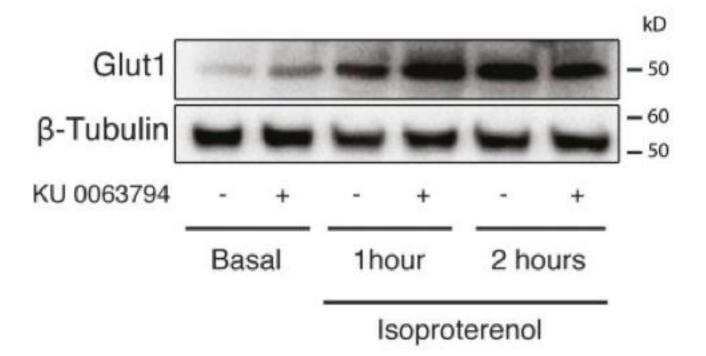


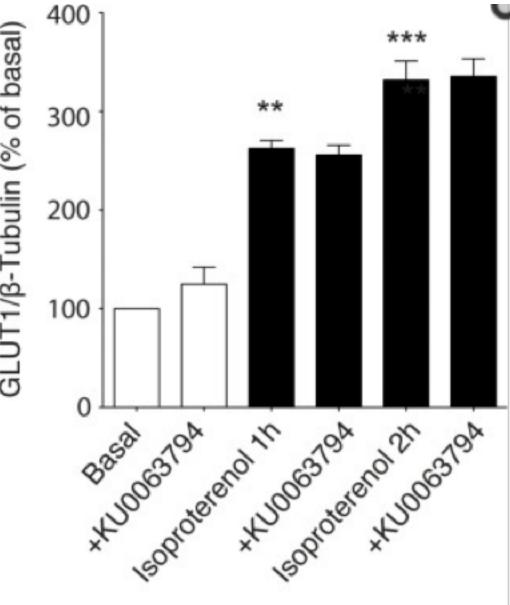




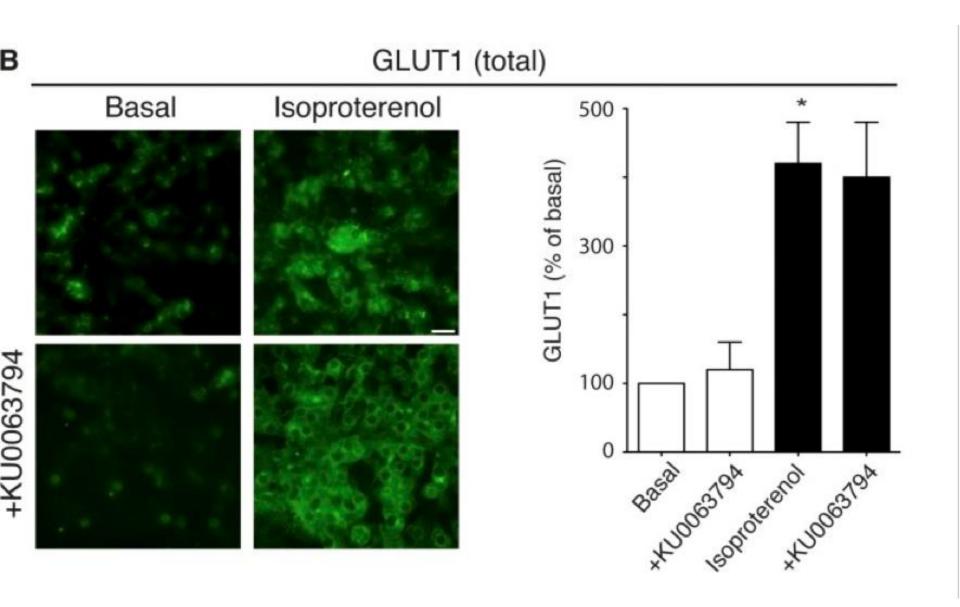


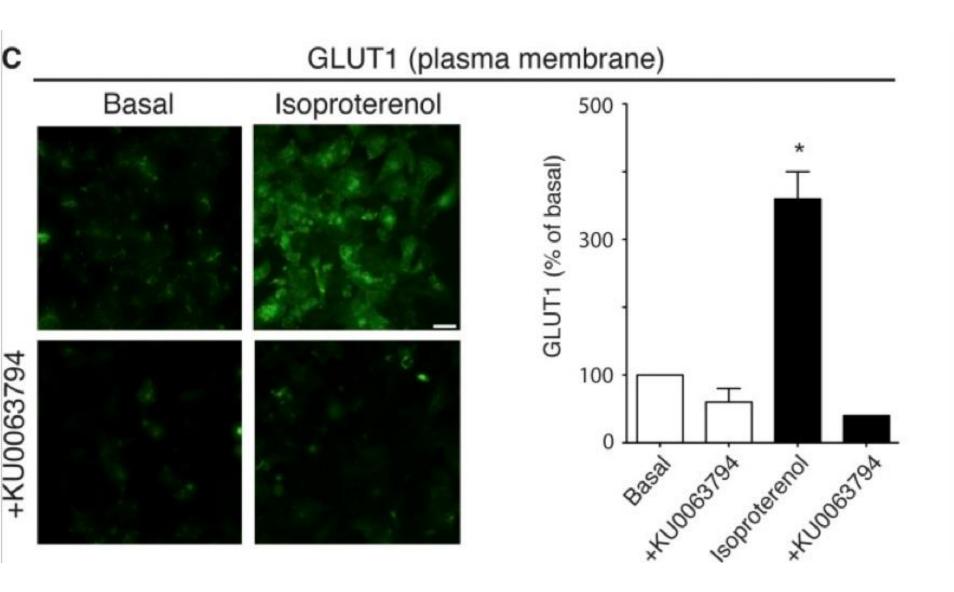
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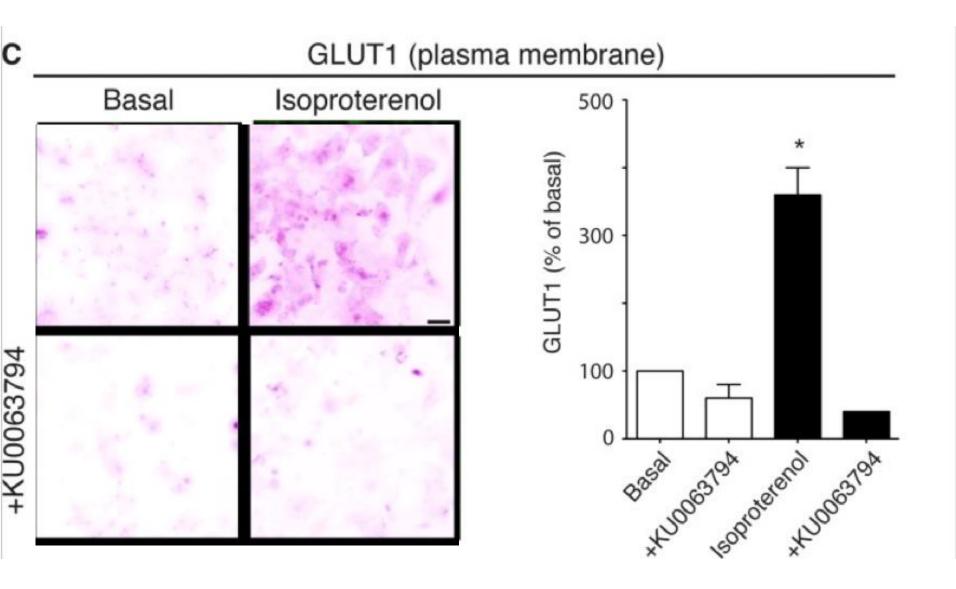


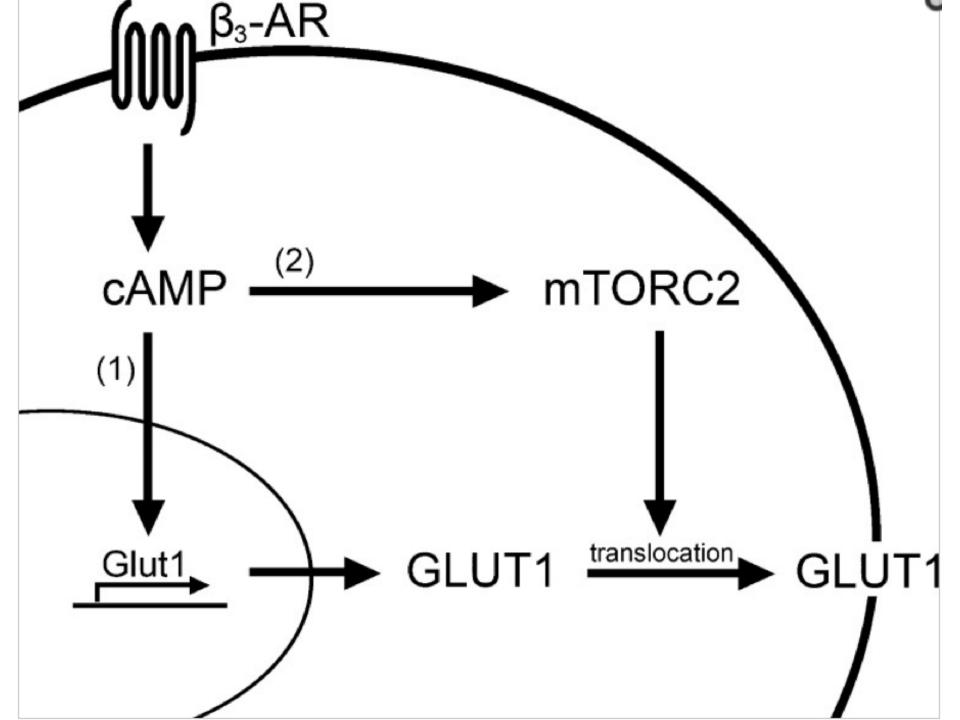


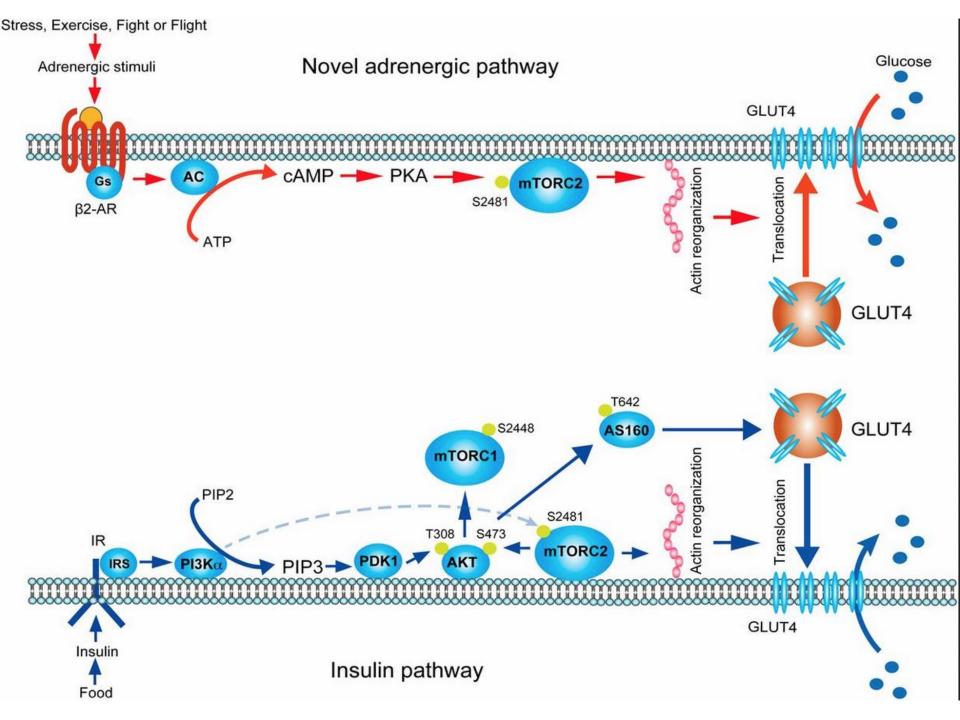
GLUT1/β-Tubulin (% of basal)

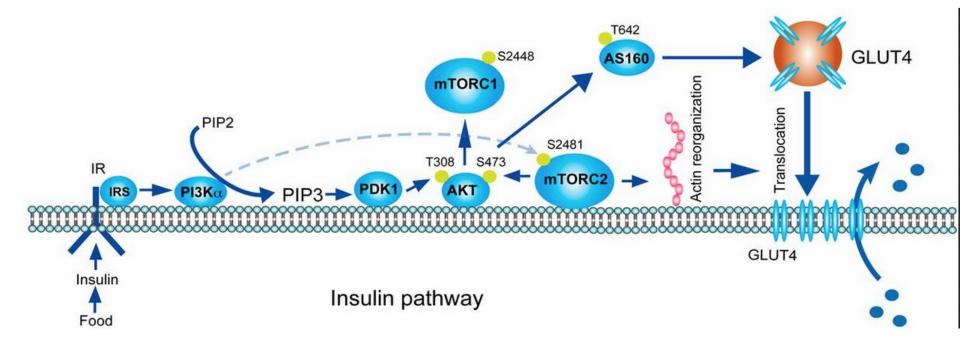


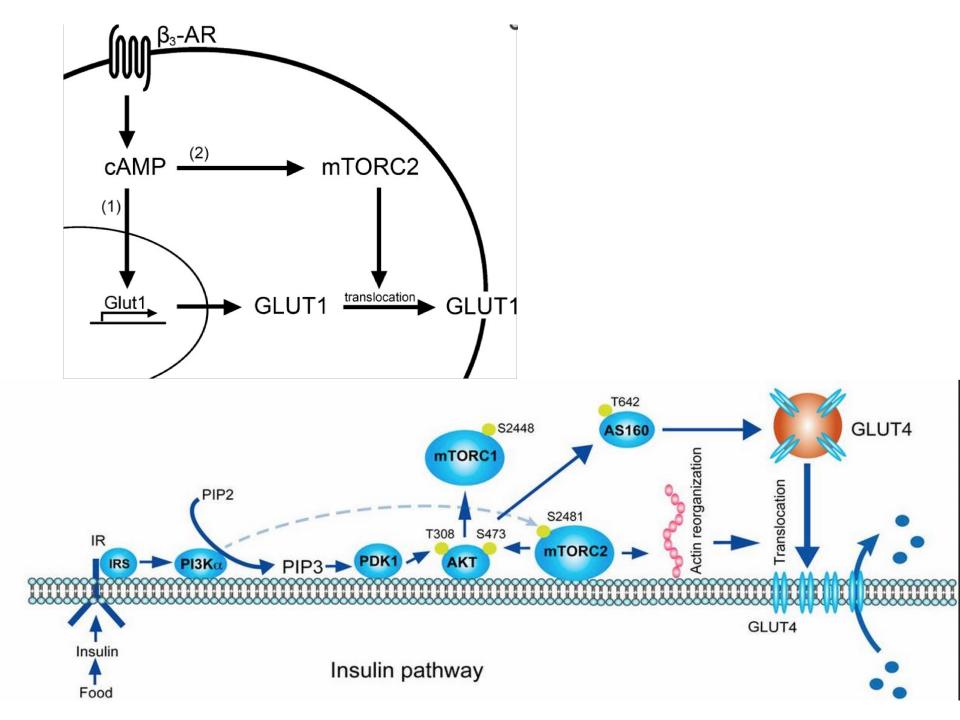












These SNPs accelerate age-related decrease in BAT activity, and thereby may associate with visceral fat accumulation with age.

Yoneshiro//Saito, 2013)