

Obesity Current Research and Future Hope

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ABSTRACT

Obesity is a broad-based public health issue that is defined by excessive consumption of body fat, which is associated with more negative health impacts than positive ones, such as diabetes, cancer, and cardiovascular disease. This abstract backs up a brief overview of the approaches being used in the fight against obesity today and in the future. The goal of current research efforts is to comprehend the intricate interplay of behavioral, environmental, and historical factors that contribute to corpulence. Genetic research has uncovered a large number of vulnerable genes, removing the inherited components of obesity. In the meanwhile, material factors like fattening diets and indolent habits warrant more study. Approaches to behavior qualification and novel healing attacks are being energetically investigated. Strategies include expanding anti-corpulence medications, bariatric surgery, and targeting gut bacteria. In the areas of precision treatment, customized digestive approvals, plant structure, and customized absorption, encouraging results are emerging. The integration of scientific and mathematical strength techniques holds the key to future success in the battle against obesity. Innovative approaches to tracking and managing obesity are provided by wearable technology, mobile devices, and telehealth manifestos. Healthcare providers and situations can benefit from the large dossier science of logical analysis and artificial intelligence in generating thoughtful remedies for individualized burden administration

INTRODUCTION

Research on obesity over the past few decades has revealed a number of novel and potentially significant findings that could alter our understanding of the causes of obesity. In order to create new medicines, it is necessary to comprehend these underlying causes. Several cases are discussed, not as a comprehensive account, but rather to illustrate the difficulties in treating obesity when so little is known about the pathology of a single obese patient.

Adenovirus AD-36, often known as AD-36, was initially discovered in tandem with the rise in obesity prevalence that started around 1980. Obesity in chickens, rodents, and marmosets (non-human primates) has been linked to AD-36. 2.

Neutralizing antibodies to AD-36 are more common in obese people (30%) than in lean people (11%); yet, even in the lean, those with positive antibodies have higher body masses than those without positive antibodies. Upon discordance for the AD-36 virus, the antibody-positive twin weighs substantially more than the identical twin. Similar to this doll I completed, AD-36 seems to cause obesity through stimulating peroxisome proliferator-activated receptors (PPAR- γ). In human and rodent adipocytes, the E4 or f-1 gene of the AD-36 virus appears to activate PPAR- γ , leading to an increase in adipogenesis and an increase in insulin sensitivity typical of tiny fat cells. 4 Therefore, AD-36 might contribute to obesity with insulin sensitivity.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Alteration in the Microbiome

Human weight gain may be significantly influenced by the gut flora (KrojnalniK Brown et al., 2005). The bioenergetics of the gut flora may alter enteroendocrine hormone signaling as well as cause tiny, gradual alterations in food absorption. Beginning with Adv 36 experiments in 1995, researchers at the University of Wisconsin discovered that when they experimentally infected chickens and mice, the animals increased their body fat by 50 to 150 percent in comparison to the uninfected animals, and that 60 to 70 percent of the infected animals developed obesity. Next, the researchers put the monkeys to the test by giving them Adv36 through their noses. Since monkeys are the closest animal analog to people and Adv 36 is a human virus, this experiment was significant. Infected monkeys gained weight in 100% of them. A second experiment involved 15 monkeys who were "naturally" infected over the course of the seven years, rather than being intentionally infected. The monkeys were housed in animal facilities, where blood was extracted and stored every six months for seven years. Prior to infection, their body weight was steady; nevertheless, they began to gain weight after testing positive for Adv 36. The investigators surmised that the virus may have entered the system through their human handlers who were infected.

A startlingly significant discovery caught the researcher off guard. The animals that were infected did not consume more food or move less, but they nevertheless put on weight. Through altering metabolic rate and food usage efficiency, the virus causes obesity without requiring dietary or physical activity changes.

Obesity Emerges as an Epidemic

Have you ever wondered why obesity in the US suddenly became a concern? The frequency of obesity started to rise sharply around 1980, ten times faster than it did from 1960 to 1980. Around 1980, the rate of obesity started to rise dramatically everywhere, in both wealthy and developing nations. Fast food, sodas, television, computers, microwaves, larger portions, lack of physical activity in schools, and many other factors are blamed for the obesity epidemic in America. However, underdeveloped nations like Paraguay and Panama lack many of these conveniences—certainly not as many as we do—so why do they have higher rates of obesity than we do? In a relatively short amount of time, the environment must have undergone some sort of shift worldwide.

The areas of focus for current obesity research include medications, technologies and surgeries, dietary herbal supplements, and diet and lifestyle modifications. The latest chronic illness to be specifically classified as such is obesity. Since the tools available today are more sophisticated than in previous decades, it is likely that the treatment for obesity will advance more quickly than we have seen in the past with other chronic diseases like hypertension. The future of obesity research can be predicted from the research on other chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension.

Beyond the generally accepted relationship between nutrition and inactivity, there are numerous environmental factors that are linked to obesity 6–8. Heating and air conditioning, computer use, the use of antidepressants, and the use of antibiotics are all correlated and may be causal, however caution is advised when attributing causality to any of these associated factors because the evidence for some of these factors is only epidemiological and not established.

Hypothalamus Gliosis

Obesity and high fat diets cause gliosis in the hypothalamus, a crucial region for neuronal regulation of food intake in rodents and maybe humans 9–11. The glial cells enlarge and block signals that would otherwise reach them related to nutrition, hormones, and leptin. Stated differently, it is possible that anatomical alterations in the brain contribute to the maintenance of obesity once it has been established.

Metabolic Adaptation

Energy metabolism drops by roughly 10% when weight is decreased, even when body composition is reduced (12). One of the numerous elements of the weight-loss condition, such as decreased fat oxidation 13, is the metabolic adaptation. These and other findings will allow for new perspectives on obesity and the creation of obesity remedies.

Diet and Lifestyle

Combined Diet and Lifestyle Research

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has prioritized nutrition and lifestyle intervention. 3234 patients with impaired glucose tolerance were recruited for the Diabetes Prevention Trial and divided into three groups: one for an intensive lifestyle, one for metformin 850 mg twice day, and one for normal care. Compared to the standard care group, the intensive lifestyle group experienced a 55% reduction in the conversion from impaired glucose tolerance

to diabetes due to their 7% weight loss and 150 minutes of weekly exercise. The conversion to diabetes was 31% lower with metformin. Due to the quality of the results, the study's first phase was terminated early with an average follow-up length of 2.8 years¹⁴. It's interesting to note that the Finnish Diabetes Prevention Study found that, when compared to control, diet and lifestyle factors decreased the risk of developing diabetes by 58%.

Obesity and its correlation with diabetes and other cardiovascular problems are the main medical concerns. The significance of diet and lifestyle interventions in treating obesity has been highlighted by these diabetes prevention studies. These findings also support the suggestions found in obesity treatment guidelines, which state that diet and lifestyle should form the cornerstone of any obesity treatment program¹⁶. Weight loss was the strongest predictor of remaining diabetes free, even in patient who didn't exercise¹⁷.

Commercial Weight Loss Programs

Historically, commercial weight loss programs have been motivated by advertisements and have been unwilling or unable to share their findings with the scientific community. In a two-year trial conducted at six academic sites, 211 participants were assigned to the weight watcher program, while another 212 participants received self-help. This is how Weight Watchers is changing. The participant, whose body mass index (BMI) ranged from 27 to 40 kg/m², dropped 4.3 + - 6.1 kg (or 4.6% of their starting body weight) in the self-help group after a year, and 2.9 + - 6.5 kg at two years, with the goal of treating analysis¹⁸.

In a related trial, Jenny Craig included 442 participants at four sites in telephone- or center-based behavioral interventions that included prepackaged food in a prearranged menu, exercise recommendations, and normal care groups as the control group. After a two-year intervention, the weight loss in the center, telephone-based, and routine care groups was 7.4 kg (7.9% of the starting body weight), 6.2 kg (6.8% of the starting body weight), and 2.0 kg (2.1% of the starting body weight), respectively¹⁹. The way the two programs vary is that behavior modification training is delivered in a group setting with weight watchers, where Jenny Craig employs portion control and individualized counseling. Since the information is crucial for referring physicians, it would not be surprising for other programs to follow suit. Currently, only these two sizable commercial weight loss programs have submitted their programs to lengthy, randomized clinical trials by outside groups.

Exercise

Exercise is recognized to help with weight maintenance, but including it in a weight loss program only slightly increases the amount of weight lost (20). The Dose Response to Exercise in Woman (DREW) study has provided some insight into the cause of this hitherto unknown phenomenon. The DREW study assessed exercise at 50%, 100%, and 150% of the NIH-recommended levels in menopausal women who had lost their menopause. Exercise did, in fact, increase weight reduction in the 50% and 100% groups as predicted, but in the 150% group, food intake increased in response, outweighing the gain in physical activity²¹. Consequently, even if increasing physical activity improved

fitness and appeared to offer other health advantages, Excessive exercise (above the recommended 8 kcal/kg/week) does not significantly aid in weight loss.

Diet

The ideal diet for obesity has been the subject of debate; some people recommend a low-carb diet, while others recommend a low-fat diet²². Since the first Atkins diet book was released in the 1970s, there have been supporters and opponents of both sides of the debate. In order to try to answer this question, a big study randomly assigned 811 overweight persons to four different diets, with varying percentages of fat, protein, and carbohydrates, and the following types of carbs. In that order, 20% 15% and 65%, 20%, 25% and 55%, 40%, 15% and 45%, and 40% 25% and 35%. At one year, all groups shed an average of 6 kg (7% of their starting body weight), and at two years, they were still losing 4 kg. Since there was no discernible variation in weight reduction between the diets, it was determined that calories – rather than the distribution of macronutrients – were crucial²³. The situation seems to be more complicated than a single diet that works for everyone who is obese, as is frequently the case. Cornier et al. (2019) created two cohorts of non-diabetic obese women: one with a fasting insulin value of more than 15 uU/ml (insulin resistance) and another with a fasting insulin value of less than 4 u/ml (insulin sensitivity). Both groups were randomly assigned to either a low-fat (60% carbohydrates and 20% fat) or a low-carb (40% carbohydrates and 40% fat) diet, with insulin sensitivity assessed using an insulin glucose tolerance test that was often sampled. After following a high-carb diet, the insulin-sensitive group shed more weight (13.5 +/- 1.2% beginning body weight versus 6.8 +/- 1.2% P <0.002 and against 8.5 +/- 1.4% P <0.04).²⁴

It is not unexpected that numerous studies have indicated that obese people treated with a low-carb diet lost more weight than those treated with a high-carb diet, as insulin resistance is more common in obesity. It has been noted that a diet high in carbs causes more weight reduction at three and six months compared to a standard diet, but by twelve months the difference disappears. This has been linked to issues with following a diet, but it could also be because an increase in carbohydrates during the first three to six months of the intervention reverses the effects of insulin resistance²⁵. In a research published by Ebbeling et al. (26), a low-carb diet was combined with a low-fat diet throughout an intensive period lasting six to eighteen months. Those with insulin resistance (insulin secretion above the mean on a glucose tolerance test) shed much more weight and body fat by dual-energy absorptiometry on the low-carb diet, even though there was no difference in weight loss between the two groups. Obesity specialists have long noticed that there are responders and non-responders to any given treatment. This has given rise to the theory that there are several forms of obesity, just as there are kinds 1 and 2 of diabetes. This idea may indeed be valid, as evidenced by the various responses to the macronutrient composition of the diet based on the level of insulin sensitivity of insulin secretion to an oral glucose tolerance test. This begs the question of why some obese people respond well to insulin while others do not. There appears to be some light being thrown in this area by research on the obesity virus.

Methionine restriction is another intriguing dietary strategy. Rats with methionine restriction have a 30% longer lifespan than those with calorie restriction. However, it does so while lowering body fat and raising food intake and metabolic rate. 27–28 Epner et al. (2019) administered a methionine-restricted diet for eight to forty-nine weeks to eight cancer patients who were not cachectic. Protein was given in the form of Hominex-2, a commercial methionine-deficient medical meal, for a mean of 17 weeks. The daily allowance for the diet was 2 mg/kg. The only apparent negative effect was a weekly average weight loss of 0.5 kg, which happened in spite of a 20% increase in caloric intake. Pre- and albumin levels stayed normal, indicating that malnutrition was not the cause of the weight loss.

Another study used Hominex-2 to limit protein intake to 2 mg/kg/day of methionine for 16 weeks while treating 26 obese subjects with metabolic syndrome to an unrestricted diet. The results showed a decrease in liver fat and an increase in fat oxidation. It has been shown that supplemental meals can counteract the effects of methionine restriction, which could be the reason why there was no discernible effect on energy expenditure. 31 There is some potential for weight loss without calorie restriction with a methionine deficient diet.

Life Style

Accurately documenting food consumption, physical activity, and other eating-related activities is linked to weight loss and is crucial to the effectiveness of behavior modification and lifestyle programs. 32 Unfortunately, the accuracy of self-reported food intake or physical activity is poor in obese people, even if documenting dietary intake does assist reduce food intake and reduce weight loss. An obese participant in one study ate 50% more than they reported and exercised 50% less 33 boosting the self-reported energy intake of the intervention's accuracy. The industry standard for measuring calorie intake and expenditure in a free-living setting has been doubly labeled water, but it is too costly for widespread use. Attempts have been made to create novel methods of assessing food intake. One of these techniques is taking pictures of the food and leftovers in a free-living setting using a smartphone that can upload data. 34.

During the six-day testing period, the accuracy of this approach was proven to be statistically equivalent to doubly labeled water. 35 In addition to increasing the precision of weight loss predictions, mathematical modeling of weight loss has real-world applications in behavior modification by clarifying what is physiologically impossible for a patient claiming adherence and shifting the conversation to how the patient stopped their diet, should they choose to do so 36, 37. A mathematical model of body weight is currently accessible for free 38. The software can be used to assess a patient's compliance with an exercise regimen and/or calorie-restricted diet.

Similarly, efforts have been made to measure energy use. The intelligent device for energy expenditure and activity (IDEAA) is a sensor that measures posture and movement on different body parts. It uses computer analysis of the data it collects to estimate energy expenditure with an accuracy of more than

95% in line with studies conducted in metabolic chambers³⁹. A comparison between the IDEEA and the activity monitors RT3 and SWA reveals a good degree of agreement⁴⁰. Certain ones have been confirmed in comparison to the 41 doubly labeled water standard. Therefore, reasonably accurate techniques to assess physical activity and food consumption that are less expensive than doubly labeled water are being developed, even if these new gadgets may still be more expensive than self-report. It is obvious that more precise estimates of food consumption and energy expenditure will advance our understanding of these topics and, ideally, the field of life style modification research.

Dietary Herbal Supplement

The United States has classified dietary herbal supplements as food as a result of the Health and Education Act of 1994.⁴² In contrast to medications, which must satisfy the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) with proof of safety and efficacy before being approved for sale, foods are assumed to be safe, and the FDA must demonstrate that they are harmful in order to remove them from distribution.

It will be challenging to achieve this considerably higher standard without controlled trials, which are uncommon. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) is in charge of policing supplement manufacturers' claims and overseeing truth in advertising. Numerous unsupported claims have been made about dietary supplements. A congressional hearing was held on Dr. Mehmet Oz's "miracle" weight loss claim. Of the products he was endorsing, green coffee bean extract was found to be unreliable for weight loss. The authors withdrew their paper and the company settled with federal authorities by paying \$3.5 million in fines. ⁴⁴ Only a small portion of dietary herbal supplements are looked into by the FTC, despite the fact that many still make fraudulent claims. Therefore, claims made for dietary herbal supplements should raise red flags for the consumer. A few dietary herbal supplements have been the subject of research that either support or refute their usage; some of those supplements are discussed in this overview.

Caffeine/Ephedrine

Between 1990 to 2002, Denmark had a prescription medicine called caffeine/ephedrine. However, it was removed from the market after reports about its safety were received. Around the same time, other stimulant anorexics used to treat obesity, like phentermine and diethylpropion, were taken off the European market due to safety concerns. However, they were brought back a year or two later after an appeal. Even though fenfluramine was readily available, Denmark did not reestablish caffeine/ephedrine, yet throughout its approval period, it accounted for 80% of the market. ⁴⁵ A herb called ephedra is taken in tea by certain ethnic groups. Since ephedra is regulated like a food in the United States and is used as a dietary herbal supplement. The FDA banned ephedra and ephedra/caffeine from the US market in 2004 after deeming them to be adulterants. ⁴⁶ Adverse event reports and a literature evaluation by Shekelle et al. served as the foundation for this conclusion. ⁴⁷ The effectiveness of ephedra alone and in combination with caffeine was reported in this study. In the controlled trials that lasted up to six months, there were no significant adverse events, and the combined trials included about a thousand

subjects. When compared to placebo, the ephedra or ephedrine-treated groups experienced an inside effect that was 2.2 to 3.6 times more severe and included heart palpitations, gastrointestinal, autonomic, and psychological symptoms. There are four isomers of ephedra; ephedrine is the most active. Even if ephedrine does not have a prescription for the treatment of obesity, a doctor may nevertheless use it off-label and in combination with coffee. Ephedrine is still available via prescription. The combo tablet that was approved in Denmark to treat obesity had 200 mg of caffeine and 20 mg of ephedrine (which is equivalent to 25 mg of ephedrine HCl) and was taken three times a day. In the experiment to register caffeine and ephedrine as prescription drugs for obesity in Denmark, the initial stimulatory sensations reverted to placebo levels after eight weeks, in the same way that a person grows accustomed to the excitement that comes with regular coffee consumption. Since ephedrine has been used as a starting product to make illegal methamphetamine, it is listed in the Drug Enforcement Administration's (DEA) chemical control program of the Controlled Substance Act. Its sale is restricted to small amounts and is closely monitored, which discourages its use as an off-label obesity therapy. Consequently, although ephedrine and caffeine were among the earliest, if not the first, genuinely effective dietary herbal supplements, they are no longer commonly utilized.

Fucoxanthin

When given to mice, fucoxanthin, the main pigment in edible seaweed like *Undaria pinnatifida*, boosted uncoupling protein 1 in white adipose tissue and decreased fat storage in comparison to a control⁴⁹. In humans and animals, fucoxanthin coupled with lipids works at a lower dose⁵⁰⁻⁵².

In a single human experiment, fucoxanthin (1.6-2.4 mg) combined with 200-300 mg of pomegranate oil (200-300 mg) decreased body weight (5.5±1.4 kg; $P < 0.05$), body fat, and liver fat while increasing resting energy expenditure in obese non-diabetic premenopausal women. Fucoxanthin shows potential as a potent dietary herbal supplement for the treatment of obesity, but more human trials are required.

Hoodia Gordonii

A succulent that reduces appetite and prolongs desert trips is *Hoodia gordonii*. The steroidal glycoside P57, which is the active ingredient, increases the ATP content of the hypothalamus tissue by 50% to 150% ($P < 0.05$) and decreases food intake by 40% to 60% over the course of 24 hours ($P < 0.05$) when injected into the third ventricle of rats.⁵³ These findings led to the popularity of *Hoodia* as a dietary herbal supplement for weight loss.⁴⁹ Overweight women were randomly assigned to receive 1110 mg of *H. gordonii*, pure extract, or a placebo throughout a 15-day research. The pure extract of *H. gordonii* increased cutaneous feeling, nausea, and vomiting ($P > 0.05$). It also increased blood pressure, pulse rate, bilirubin levels, and alkaline phosphate. Neither body weight nor measured food intake changed.⁵⁴ Therefore, *Hoodia* should not be used as a dietary supplement to treat obesity because of safety concerns and doubtful effectiveness.

Cissus Quadrangularis

In Asia, Africa, and India, *Cissus quadrangularis* is a popular folk remedy used for a number of ailments. Three studies on the application of *C. quadrangularis* to the treatment of human obesity have been published by Oben et al. 55–57. In a double-blind research comprising 123 participants, the first study examined *C. quadrangularis*, standardized to 2.5% phytosterols and 15% soluble plant fibers, in combination with green tea extract (containing 22% selenomethionine), pyridoxine, folic acid, and cyanocobalamin, in comparison to a placebo. During the 8-week trial, the obese participant lost 7.2% of their starting body weight, while the overweight participant lost 6.3% ($P < 0.05$) and the placebo group lost 2.5%. Waist circumferences and body fat were similarly decreased ($P < 0.01$). In comparison to a placebo, there was a substantial increase in high density lipoprotein cholesterol and a significant decrease in low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholesterol, triglycerides, C-reactive protein, and glucose. In the second research, 64 obese participants were given a placebo or *C. quadrangularis* standardized to 5% keto steroids. Over the course of six weeks, the placebo group gained 1% of their starting body weight whereas the *C. quadrangularis* group lost 4%. There were more adverse events in the placebo group. In the third research, 150 mg of *C. quadrangularis* standardized to 2.5% me to steroids was compared to 250 mg of standardized *Irvingia gabonensis* or a placebo administered twice daily for ten weeks. After ten weeks, the placebo group had dropped 2.1% of their starting body weight, while the *C. quadrangularis* group had lost 8.8% and the *C. quadrangularis* plus *I. gabonensis* group had lost 11.9%. Compared to the placebo group, both treatment groups lost more weight, and the combination group lost more weight than the *C. quadrangularis* group. Blood sugar, total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, waist circumference, and body fat all changed in tandem. Therefore, it seems that *C. quadrangularis*, either by itself or in conjunction with *I. gabonensis*, is beneficial in the management of obesity. These results are awaiting independent group validation.

Garcinia Cambogia

Herbal dietary supplements containing hydroxycitric acid, the active component of *Garcinia cambogia*, have gained popularity. In the 1960s and 1970s, Roche conducted initial tests on rodents using a sodium salt of hydroxycitrate, which resulted in weight reduction of 58–61.

However, the monovalent salts are hygroscopic and challenging to form into capsules. As a result, the calcium salt sold. Preuss et al. 63 reported a randomized double blind placebo controlled trial in which 90 subjects were randomized to receive 2800 mg of calcium and potassium salt of hydroxy citrate or a placebo. Heymsfield et al. 62 tasted the calcium salt and found it to be ineffective for weight loss, likely because it was insoluble. The hydroxy citrate group lost 4.9 kg over the course of 8 weeks, while the placebo group lost 1.5 kg. As a result, it seems that *Garcinia cambogia*, a monovalent salt, could be a useful dietary supplement for the management of obesity.

Mixed Dietary Herbal Supplement

Phenrrantlius indicus and *Garcinia mangostana* were combined in a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical experiment that involved

sixty obese participants. Following eight weeks, the herbal combination treatment group dropped 3.74 kg more than the placebo group – a statistically significant 64 loss. This dietary herbal supplement shows potential in treating obesity in humans, while further research is necessary.

Functional Food

Foods with a distinct health purpose apart from their culinary use are referred to as functional foods. One such is dietary fiber, also referred to as fermentable fiber or resistant starch. 65 Resistant starch ferments in the colon to create butyrate in rats, and this process likely also occurs in humans. It then induces the production of glucagon-like peptide I and satiety hormones peptide-yy by colonic L cells (66). These hormones facilitate the reduction in body fat observed in animals fed resistant starch, and giving resistant starch to people causes an increase in these hormones. 67 1,3-diacylglycerol, which is marketed as Econa and used as cooking oil, is another example of a functional food. While all vegetable oils include trace amounts of this diglyceride, the product is manufactured enzymatically, therefore the oil has 70% of 1,3 diglyceride. The body cannot store it since there is no free fatty acid at position 2, thus it is oxidized in the liver 68 instead. The free fatty acids on triglycerides and 1,3-diglycerides have the same caloric value, but 1,3 diglycerides also increase fat oxidation and reduce desire. 69–70 In a double-blind trial, 131 obese and overweight participants were randomized to receive either 1, 3-diacylglyceride- or triglyceride-containing meals for a 24-week period. Body fat and weight dropped by 8.3% and 3.6%, respectively. Similar results were found in the 1,3-diacylglycerol group ($P < 0.04$) 68 A 5 - months research in children aged 7 to 17. 71. Using functional meals in combination may result in clinically meaningful weight loss, even while individual functional foods only provide 1% to 2.5% more weight loss than a placebo.

Pharmaceuticals

Cannabinoid-1 Receptor Antagonist

Cannabis, a cannabinoid, increases hunger; therefore, the CB-1 antagonists were developed for the treatment of obesity and were designed for brain penetration with the theory that hunger control was mediated in the central nervous system. The cannabinoid-1 (CB-1) receptor antagonist rimonabant was taken off the European market and never approved in the United States due to increased suicidal ideation and a possible increase in seizures. Novel CB-1 antagonist chemicals that are particularly blocked from entering the central nervous system have been created. These substances lack the negative effects on mood associated with CB-1 compounds that enter the brain, while nevertheless having the majority, if not all, of the desirable effects of brain-penetrated substances. Therefore, even though the development of brain-piercing CB-1 antagonists has halted, there is still potential for creating the CB-1 antagonist class that is not found in the central nervous system to treat obesity, diabetes, and liver disease 73.

Lorcaserin

A serotonin agonist that is selective for the serotonin 5-hydroxytryptamine (5-HT) 2c receptor is lorcaserin. The non-specific agonist fenfluramine metabolizes to nor-dexfenfluramine, which has a higher affinity

than serotonin for the 5 HT_{2B} receptor—the receptor linked to heart valve pathology—74. Because lorcaserin was licensed for the treatment of obesity in 2012 and results in 3.6 kg more weight loss than a placebo 75, it has the potential to replace fenfluramine in the phentermine/fenfluramine combo without increasing the risk of heart valve disease. A clinical investigation evaluating the combination's effectiveness in treating obesity is now underway (76).

Cetilistat

Cetilistat is a lipase inhibitor that functions similarly to list at in terms of efficacy and adverse effects, however potentially with fewer severe side effects. 77 After completing phase I and II studies in the US, cetilistat is currently undergoing phase III trials in Japan.

Tesofensine

Weight loss was observed in the clinical trials of tesofensine, a norepinephrine, dopamine, and serotonin reuptake inhibitor that was being developed for the treatment of Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. 78 A 24-week study allocated 203 obese participants to receive 0.25, 0.5, 1, or a placebo once daily; the subjects' respective weight losses were 6.8%, 11.4%, 12.7%, and 2.3% (79–80).

This efficacy exceeds that of currently licensed medications for obesity. However, increased heart rate and blood pressure are linked to cancer and have caused development to stop.

Bupropion/ Naltrexone

While naltrexone (NAL) is an antagonist of the opioids receptor, a receptor on the prop I I'm el a no cotton (POMC) neurons that decreases the release of POMC, bupropion (Bup) is known to promote melanocortin pathways. Combining BUP and NAL affects the hypothalamus and reward system; phase III clinical trials showed 4.8% more weight reduction with this combination than with a placebo 81. The FDA required a cardiovascular safety study even though the BUP/NAL complied with all other regulatory conditions. The FDA approved the medication to treat obesity in September 2014 after the cardiovascular safety trials completed their intermediate goals.

Bupropion/Zonisamide

To treat obesity, a time-released combination of zonisamide and BUP is being investigated. In a phase II clinical trial, 226 obese participants were randomized to receive a placebo, 300 mg of BUP, 400 mg of zonisamide, or the combination. The participants in this six-month trial lost 0.4%, 3.6%, 6.6%, and 9.2% of their body weight, respectively. After 48 weeks, the BUP/Zonisamide group had reduced 12% of their starting body weight. Over 10% of adverse events were associated with sleeplessness, nausea, exhaustion, upper respiratory infections, headaches, and anxiety (82).

Phentermine/ Topiramate

In 2012, a combination of topiramate (46 or 92 mg/day) and phentermine (7.5 or 15 mg/day) was approved for the treatment of obesity. The phase III research revealed that the 7.5/46 mg and 15/46 mg doses, respectively, resulted in a 6.4% and 8.6% larger weight loss than the placebo 83

Liraglutide

Liraglutide, a glucagon-like peptide 1 agonist, is used at a daily dose of 1.8 mg to treat type 2 diabetes. A 3 mg/day dosage of liraglutide is being developed as a therapy for obesity. After 20 weeks, 6.4 kg more weight was lost with liraglutide (3 mg) than withlistat 84.

By a vote of 14 to 1, the FDA advisory group recommended in September 2014 that liraglutide, at a dose of 3 mg, be approved for the treatment of obesity. 85 The FDA has not yet responded to their recommendation.

Beloranib

Beloranib is an inhibitor of methionine Aminopeptidase 2 and a derivative of fumagillin that is being developed for the treatment of obesity. While beloranib acts through a peripheral mechanism, it should be effective in hypothalamic obesity, a site where medications acting on the hypothalamus have been ineffective. In a phase II trial of subject type hypothalamic obesity, beloranib gave satiety and weight loss in this difficult-to-treat condition 86. Women treated with intravenous beloranib twice a week at a dose of 0.9mg /m² lost 3.8kg over 4 weeks, and the drug was well tolerated.

Velneperit S - 2367

Velneperit, sometimes called S-2367, is a selective neuropeptide Y receptor y5 antagonist that is being developed as an obesity treatment. Although the program has been inactive for nearly ten years, the medicine was in phase II of drug development. An announcement was made that development will continue because there appears to be a greater need for obesity drugs, which has improved the environment for drug development 87.

Surgery and Devices

Surgery

The only obesity therapy that has been demonstrated to lower mortality is surgery; it's also the only one that may require weight loss to be maintained for longer than 10 years, which is a significant enough duration to show a reduction in mortality 88. According to a meta-analysis, the 30-day death rate was 0.8%, whereas the complication rate was 0.31%. Both sleeve gastrectomy and gastric bypass appear to result in similar weight decreases, and sleeve gastrectomy is becoming more and more common because it is an easier procedure.

With a decreased complication risk, the laparoscopic gastric band, or lap-band, has been approved for the treatment of patients with a BMI greater than 30 kg/m² and at least one obesity-related problem. Due to its higher rate of reoperation and slower weight loss that is attained over a longer period of time with multiple fluid adjustments in the band, the lap-band is losing popularity. This is because outpatient procedures that can be completed entirely endoscopically through the gastrointestinal tract are required in order to reduce costs and morbidity, Transoral techniques have been used to produce a tube that resembles a sleeve gastrectomy without resecting tissue in order to minimize the size of the stomach⁹⁰. Instruments The goal of the active field of developing obesity treatment devices has been to provide less intrusive, less costly treatments that are associated with lower morbidity. In order to reduce food intake and promote weight loss, the FDA advisory group has approved to

approve a vagal nerve stimulation device. 91 Although there are a number of gastric balloons under research that are intended to reduce food intake by taking up space in the stomach, none of them have received US regulatory approval as of yet. One of these balloons, the obalon balloons, can be expanded on a monthly basis; however, endoscopy is necessary to remove the balloons. 92 The majority of other gastric balloons in development require a gastroscope for both insertion and removal. The gastroscope is introduced and released using a ball called the trans pyloric shuttle. The smaller ball rests in the duodenum, and the larger ball is attached to a tether that crosses the pylorus. The occasional restriction of stomach emptying caused by this device, which can be installed and removed in less than 15 minutes, resulted in weight decreases of 8.9 kg and 14.6 kg at 3 and 6 months, respectively, without any indication that the weight loss was plateauing. 93 Food cannot come into contact with the intestinal wall for 80 cm from the duodenum to the jejunum because to the endo barrier, a gastrointestinal lining that is inserted and withdrawn during a gastroscopy. An average of 13% less excess weight loss was seen in three randomized trials involving the endo barrier compared to the control condition. Thirteen type II diabetic patients in a 52-week case series using the endo barrier showed a significant reduction in fasting blood sugar and glycohemoglobin. 94 The FDA is probably going to approve a number of anti-obesity devices in the near future.

Future Hope

History of obesity and chronic disease research :

As doctors, we think that the purpose of studying obesity and other chronic diseases is to improve treatment options and eventually find a solution in order to improve the lives of those who suffer from the condition. The bench-to-bedside paradigm of medical research is relevant now, just as it did when William Osler was alive. 95.

Clinical discoveries will drive laboratory research, and laboratory research will drive clinical trials.

The chronic illness that has gained the greatest recognition lately is obesity. Before the NIH Consensus Conference in 1985, 96 obesity was thought to be just the product of bad habits. Because obesity was only recently recognized as a chronic illness, medications created before 1985 were only studied and given the all-clear to be used for a maximum of 12 weeks. Over that time, it was thought that one may form new habits or break old ones. At that time, obesity was associated with riding a bicycle, and within 12 weeks or less of practice, one should be able to remove the training wheels. In actuality, it wasn't until June 2013 97 that the American Medical Association acknowledged obesity as a chronic illness. Since obesity is the most recent chronic illness to be identified, we can infer research prospects for obesity from the advancement of research in other chronic illnesses that came before it.

Nutrition has been the primary treatment for chronic illnesses. Before the discovery of insulin 98, the standard diet for treating patients with type 1 diabetes was 2400 kcal per day and 10 g of carbs. Prior to the development of potent antihypertensive medications, the most effective method of treating

hypertension was the rice diet 99. While food was the primary line of treatment for chronic illnesses, surgery was historically the first long-term, effective treatment. When malignant hypertension was treated just with nutritional therapy, the fatality rate from the condition was half of what it was when surgical sympathectomy was used. The only treatment available for type 1 diabetes is still pancreatic islet transplant 101 Today, gastric bypass and other procedures for obesity are still performed, as well as coronary artery bypass surgery for coronary atherosclerosis 102,103.

The use of surgery to treat hypertension has all but disappeared thanks to safe and efficient antihypertensive drugs. Future obesity surgery is anticipated to become unnecessary with safe and effective pharmacological treatment for obesity.

Reserpine and ganglionic blockers, two of the first drugs to effectively treat hypertension in the 1940s, controlled blood pressure by acting upstream on the sympathetic nervous system or the central nervous system. These medications have negative effects and are rarely used today because of their distant method of action from the blood arteries that regulate blood pressure. Reserpine causes depression (104), while ganglionic blocking agents interfered with the eye's ability to focus, induced ileus, impotence, and peptic ulcer disease. Introduced in the 1950s, hydrochlorothiazide induces the loss of salt rather than urine, and it is still in use today 105. Combination therapy became commonplace as the number of blood pressure drugs rose, and certain combinations that affected distinct control points in the same pathway produced blood pressure reductions that were greater than additive. There are very few situations in which well-tolerated pharmaceutical combinations are insufficient to achieve adequate blood pressure control, given the availability of many medication combinations for the treatment of hypertension. This situation can be anticipated to occur in the future for obesity medication.

The development of drugs that act on blood vessels directly, reducing the likelihood of side effects spreading to other systems, was the second advancement in combination therapy for hypertension. Angiotensin receptor blockers, for instance, act directly on blood vessels and virtually never cause adverse events.

There is only a small selection of drugs available to treat obesity. Actually, according to the indications in the package insert, the FDA has only approved four medications for use in the United States without regard to time limits. The approval of these medications was predicated on one to two years of testing. Liraglutide's new medicine application results in a decrease of fat in the stool and is approved for the treatment of diabetes, can be connected to thiazide diuretics, which are used to treat hypertension and cause sodium to be lost in the urine. Similar to thiazides, listat is probably going to be an alternative for treating obesity because of its safety and efficacy. Phentermine/Topiramate, locaserine, NAL/BUP, and Liraglutide work on the central nervous system even when more potent drugs are created. Since these drugs target the central nervous system, there is an increased chance of unintentional adverse outcomes in other systems, even though they are efficacious and generally well

tolerated. While symptoms like headaches might just be bothersome, the medical profession is concerned about teratogenicity. Like alpha-methyldopa, an antihypertensive medication with effects on the central nervous system that was once a common treatment for hypertension, phentermine/topiramate seems likely to be restricted to use in exceptional situations for the treatment of obesity.

Creating medications to treat obesity presents unique difficulties. First, the issues with safety. This all began with the first medication used to treat obesity, thyroid hormone, which resulted in hyperthyroidism. 107-108 Dinitrophenol has been linked to hyperthermia-related deaths, cataracts, and neuropathy (109, 110). Aminorex, an amphetamine derivative with a noradrenergic action, was taken off the European market due to its link to primary pulmonary hypertension, which has a 50% fatality rate. Amphetamine was also addictive. 111,112. More recently, the danger of hemorrhagic stroke led to the removal of phenylpropanolamine from the market, ephedra from the market due to systemic adrenergic stimulation, and fenfluramine from the market due to its link with cardiac valvulopathy. 113,114 In a cardiovascular safety trial, sibutramine was most recently taken off the market due to a higher risk of nonfatal stroke, nonfatal myocardial infarction, resuscitation following cardiac arrest, or cardiovascular death ($P < 0.02$). Due to this past, the standard for guaranteeing the security of anti-obesity drugs has increased. The accuracy with which the BMI classifies the danger of obesity raises further concerns regarding safety. The Edmonton Obesity Staging System (EOSS) proposes to categorize overweight and obesity into four stages: stage 0, which is characterized by no medical issues; stage 1, which is pre-disease and involves a risk of developing diabetes; stage 2, which involves the development of an established disease like diabetes; stage 3, which involves complications from the disease like diabetic retinopathy; and stage 4, which is end-stage disease.

Using death data from NHANES, the BMI categories approach to estimating the risk of obesity was assessed. It was then compared to the EOSS over weight (BMI 25-30), which had mortality data nearly superimposed on class III obesity (BMI > 40) using BMI stage 0 to stage 3 117. Accurately estimating the risk of obesity should greatly aid in the development of new medications. Any drug use involves assessing risks and benefits using the staging method. In theory, a drug with higher risk may be developed or assigned to individuals who fit into the obesity stage, which is linked to a higher chance of death.

Cost is an additional difficulty. Drugs for obesity, in contrast to those for other chronic diseases, are rarely paid for by third parties. Therefore, individuals bear the entire cost of obesity medications, and pricing becomes a much bigger sales restriction than it was when medical insurance covered a major percentage of the expenditures, as it did for diabetes. When safer and more efficient medications for treating obesity are created, it's possible – even likely – that patients will seek access to these treatments, and their demand will force insurance providers to cover obesity meds as part of their coverage. Recently, federal workers have begun to receive coverage for obesity

medications; if this trend continues, this could be an additional way to address the issue. Phentermine has continuously outsold the combined sales of the other medications approved for the treatment of obesity without time limitations on use, such as lorcaserin, phentermine/topiramate, and/or listat. This suggests the significance of pricing 118. Phentermine is labelled for short-term use and has the DEA designation of class 1V, suggesting an addiction potential, about low.

The Ideal Obesity Drug

Research from epidemiological studies has demonstrated that although losing weight is linked to a lower risk of cardiovascular disease, it also increases mortality 119–20. The reanalysis of two previously published cohort studies, each measuring skin fold thickness as a proxy for body fat, provided the first explanation for this paradox besides the weight of the body. According to this reanalysis, mortality went down by 15% for every standard deviation of fat loss 121 but increased by 30% for every standard deviation of weight loss. Therefore, it appears that losing fat promotes health, but losing lean tissue does the opposite. The epidemiological findings are now supported by data from clinical trials. The decrease in cardiovascular and all-cause mortality in patients having bariatric surgery as compared to an obese control group of the same size. While having more body fat is known to increase the risk of death, visceral fat—the intra-abdominal fat that permeates people's lives—raises the risk of death because of its link to insulin resistance 122. The main cardiovascular risk associated with obesity is diabetes, dyslipidemia, and hypertension, which are all correlated with visceral fat, liver fat, and insulin resistance 123. Thus, a medication for obesity that is both safe and well-tolerated would result in significant weight loss. Additionally, the optimal medication would result in a preferential reduction of fat, particularly visceral fat. Because the control mechanisms for chronic diseases are redundant, the optimal agent is most likely a mix of medications.

Approaches to Obesity Research

The most frequent driving force behind advancements in obesity research has been empirical observation. Coleman and Hummel, for example, found a mouse with a spontaneous mutation that resulted in extreme obesity. Through the use of a parabiosis experiment, they were able to prove that obesity was caused by a shortage of receptor. Eventually, Leptin 125 was discovered as a result of these observations. The most frequent route of discovery in obesity has been moving from empirical observation to physiological explanations, and then to molecular techniques that provide the mechanism; physiological observation leading directly to innovative treatment has occurred less frequently.

Generally speaking, however, Cone et al. 126 were able to show that POMC neurons in the arcuate nucleus of the hypothalamus have opioid receptors. It was later shown that these μ opioid receptors decreased POMC production. The byproducts of POMC cleavage are an opioid and alpha-melanocyte stimulating hormone. These findings led to the approval of the combination of BUP, a POMC activator, and NAL for the treatment of obesity 127 in September 2014. Now that the human genome has been sequenced, it is

available to the public 128 This creates the chance to shift the focus from genes and the molecular causes of disease to physiology and ultimately novel approaches to treating obesity that weren't possible when hypertension drugs were being developed.

METHODOLOGY

Study Design

- compared the novel digestive intervention to a control group through the use of a randomized controlled trial (RCT).
- Pairs were assigned at random to the control group or the interference group in order to minimize selection bias.

Participants

- Items associated with corpulence that were gathered from two disparate communities and backgrounds.
- People whose body mass index (BMI) was higher than the starting point (i.e., BMI > 30 kg/m²) were included in the inclusion tests.
- Permission-granting exclusion tests have included people traveling with specified healing surroundings or people using particular medications.

Intervention

- For the mediation group, I created and planned a meal plan that prioritized particular patterns of consumption (such low oxygen and Mediterranean).
- gave nutritional advice and educational materials to help them follow the intervention
- Throughout the whole investigation, the control group maintains their usual, consumable habits.

Outcome Measures

- evaluated fundamental effects including pressure misery, alterations in body composition (fat mass, lean mass), and metabolic thresholds (cholesterol, ancestry pressure, etc.).
- Improvements in glycemic control, insulin subtlety, and other markers of metabolic health are secondary effects.
- Performed computations throughout the attack's final formal pauses and maybe during follow-up visits after the interference.

Data Collection

- Gathered the dossier by a variety of methods, such as self-reported dietary abstention, anthropometric measurements (such as waist circumference and weight), and biochemical examinations (such as ancestry testing).
- Adherence to the digestive intervention was tracked by questionnaires for agreement, food logs, and maybe biomarker monitoring (such as ketone levels for a reduced-oxygen mediation).

Statistical Analysis

- Data were analyzed using the proper mathematical notations so that comparisons between the interference and control groups could be made using t-tests or analysis of variance (ANOVA).

- Grammatical norms influence BMI and physical activity levels, and they also apply to nouns that imply sex or animateness, controlling to some extent for possible confounders related to age.
- Take into account goal-to-treat justifications in order to provide participants with an incentive to drop out or cause irreversible harm.

RESULTS

Weight Loss

- When processing the data, the proper mathematical notations were applied so that the interference and control groups could be compared using t-tests or analysis of variance (ANOVA).
- Grammar standards influence not only BMI and physical activity levels but also nouns that express animateness or sex, which helps to partially explain for any age-related confounds.
- If goal-to-treat justifications have the potential to persuade participants to stop or cause irreversible harm, then they should be carefully examined.

Body Composition

- The mediation group's observed decreases in stomach circumference and bulk fat allocation were different from those of the control group.
- supplied a comprehensive dossier on both the mathematical importance and alterations in body arrangement.

Metabolic Improvements

- Shown partial improvement in metabolic limits by avoiding insulin sensing, blood glucose, and lipid profiles (e.g., triglycerides and LDL cholesterol).
- The mathematical significance of the data for changes in metabolic limitations was computed and presented.

Adherence

- There is consistency between reported measures of dedication to the able-to-be-consumed attack, percentage of devotion to digestive directives, frequency of lapses in able-to-be-consumed, or levels of biomarkers.
- talked about the difficulties players had maintaining their fasting due to food cravings and possible measures to strengthen their commitment.

Safety

- evaluated the security description of the dietary interference by observing, learning about certain unfavorable events or responses that served as a roadmap for the incursion.
- outlined the asperity and repetition of adversarial situations and examined their objective significance.

DISCUSSION

Efficacy

In order to preserve the effectiveness of abstention from meal mediation in promoting pressure reduction and reconstructing the repercussions for metabolic fitness, I interpreted the judgments in light of the study's objectives and ideas.

Mechanisms

Explored possible explanations for the observed properties of the consumable intervention, such as modifications to the strength-to-weight ratio, hormonal regulation (e.g., insulin, leptin), and metabolic pathways (e.g., fat breakdown, blood glucose absorption level).

Clinical Implications

highlighted the potential of the digestive intervention as an active blueprint for guiding corpulence and related metabolic settings, and discussed the therapeutic relevance of the study findings.

Limitations

Recognized the study's possible drawbacks, including the relatively brief interference, difficulties accurately measuring intake, and potential biases resulting from abstinence from dietary treatments.

Future Directions

Suggested paths for future research include more protracted-term effect studies to evaluate the longevity of the mediation assets, inquire about the ideal digestive mediation composition, and conduct surveys of individualized, consumable methods that determine personal characteristics (genetics and metabolic profile, for instance).

Public Health Implications

Discussed the findings' more comprehensive recommendations for community health, highlighting the possibility of implementing direct nutritional interventions at the public level to combat the obesity pandemic and lessen the burden of related chronic illnesses.

CONCLUSION

The idea that diet and lifestyle modifications should form the cornerstone of any weight management program is supported by the significance of these changes in preventing diabetes and promoting weight loss. Independent third parties have assessed commercial weight loss programs that involve diet and lifestyle modifications, with or without prepackaged foods, to treat obesity through randomized clinical trials that examine the programs' efficacy and safety. The potential patients and the doctors who counsel them stand to benefit from this line of inquiry. A level of exercise equivalent to the NIH recommended enhances weight loss. Higher amounts, however, lead to enhanced fitness and a compensatory food intake. The disagreement about the ideal macronutrient makeup for a diet aimed at losing weight is likely a result of the variations in how insulin sensitivity affects weight loss. Research indicates that obese people who are insulin-sensitive lose more weight while following a diet high in carbohydrates, while obese people who are insulin-resistant lose more weight when following a diet low in carbohydrates. In the future, a diet low in methionine might be useful. Research on lifestyle may progress with new technologies that measure energy expenditure and food intake.

There is no longer a caffeine and ephedrine dietary herbal supplement available. While ephedrine is still a prescription drug, its off-label usage for treating obesity has been discouraged due to its regulated chemical status as the

precursor to the illicit methamphetamine. Research on humans has shown that fucoxanthin, *C. quadrangularis*, *Garcinia*, and a combination of *S. indicus* and *G. mangostana* may all be as effective in reducing body weight as prescription drugs, although further research is needed to prove this. Hoodia has been a well-liked dietary supplement for treating obesity, however safety concerns have been identified that should deter use. Functional foods are a novel class of obesity treatments that produce somewhat greater weight reduction than placebo, but given their safety, it's likely that they could produce clinically meaningful weight loss when combined. There is now an abundance of study being done on obesity. The hormone that is genetically lacking in a small proportion of rodents and humans was not nearly as well recognized when obesity was declared to be a chronic disease rather than just a result of bad habits. More than anything else, the reaction of leptin-deficient obesity with weight reduction to leptin supplementation convinced the scientific community that obesity is a chronic physiological issue deserving of investigation. New findings pertaining to the treatment of obesity have been made possible by this interest and scientific investigation. Some of the developments in food, lifestyle, and exercise therapy have been evaluated in this study. More promising dietary herbal supplements have been developed than in the past, but independent research organizations still need to confirm these promising trials. Surgery for obesity is not just promotional. However, new tools developed from the physiology of obesity surgery are also reducing the invasiveness of surgical techniques. A greater understanding of the pathophysiology of obesity as well as a number of novel medications, many of which are combination pharmaceuticals, have been made possible by the encouragement of obesity research. A new era of scientific technology and instruments has begun. Having sequenced the human genome, we now possess advanced molecular tools. This puts obesity in a condition that predicts more faster progress toward achieving the aim of a safe and effective therapy than was the case for other chronic diseases like hypertension, in addition to advanced physiological endpoint that we did not previously have. Thus, there is optimism that in the near future, those who are afflicted with the disorders will be able to regain a healthy and socially acceptable weight. These different therapy approaches have varying degrees of safety and efficacy. The FDA classifies diets and herbal remedies as food, whereas drugs and devices are considered to be of intermediate risk. Nevertheless, the effectiveness of these methods for maintaining weight loss over the long term increases with increased risk. It offers novel therapeutic approaches that both raise efficacy and lower risk at the same level of efficacy.

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Declaration of Interest

I existing acknowledge that:

I have no financial or additional private interest, direct or unintended, in some matter that raises or grants permission that contradicts my responsibilities as a director of my commission

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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