

# The obesity epidemic-Is there a solution?



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# Learning Objectives

- Articulate the scientific definition of obesity and how to apply the BMI formula.
- Explain that obesity is caused by an interaction of environmental factors and genetic factors (The genetic factors may influence energy expenditure and efficiency as well as appetite control).
- Describe the medical risks and complications associated with obesity.
- Develop treatment goals for clinical management of obesity and design an obesity treatment plan that includes lifestyle modification (healthy nutrition, physical activity and behavior modification), pharmacological management and surgical intervention.

# Commonly Asked Questions

- Do I need to know the generic and brand names for the exam?-YES
- Do I need to know the recommended starting dose and dosing ranges for the exam-YES

# Morbid Obesity in the 1700's



Daniel Lambert, 1770-1809  
Ben Marshall (1768-1835)

Daniel Lambert was born in Leicester and was reputed to have weighed 52 stone 11lbs (335kg) at his death. He followed his father as Keeper of the County Bridewell (gaol) but for the last few years of his life he was forced to travel around exhibiting himself for money. His rapid weight gain has been attributed to an endocrine disorder. Memorabilia relating to Daniel Lambert is preserved in museums in Leicester and Stamford.

This portrait is by the local Leicestershire artist Ben Marshall who was best known for his sporting and animal paintings.

# Etiology of Obesity-Complex and Multifactorial

**Genetic and epigenetic influences-  
70%**

**Acquired: 30%**

**Increased caloric intake**

**Biological influences of hormones  
(leptin, adiponectin etc.)**

**Gut microbes**

**Imbalance of signals related to  
energy regulation (gut/adipose vs.  
hypothalamic)**

# What are the latest statistics on adult obesity in the United States?

During the past 20 years, there has been a dramatic increase in obesity in the United States and rates remain high. More than one-third of U.S. adults (35.7%) and approximately 17% (or 12.5 million) of children and adolescents aged 2-19 years are obese.



<http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/facts.html>

# Obesity in US

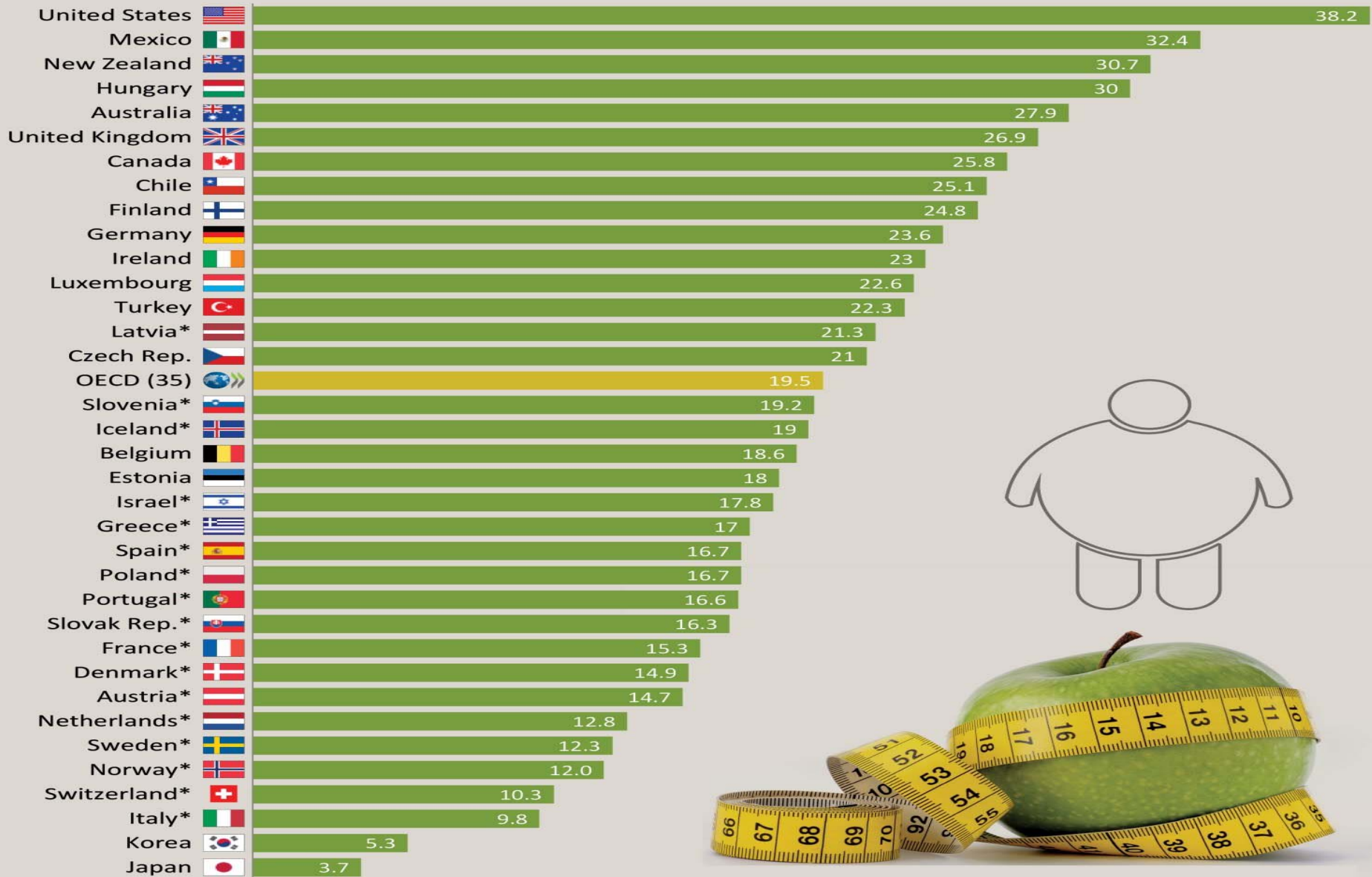
- Of all high income countries, the United States has the highest rates of overweight and obesity, with fully a third of the population obese—a rate projected to rise to around 50 percent by 2030.
- As with most health issues, the burden of obesity isn't felt equally across all parts of society. The poor have higher rates than those with higher income. Those with less education have higher rates than those with more education. And certain minority groups—especially African-American and Hispanic women—have much higher rates than other groups.





# Obesity rates

As % of total adult population (aged 15 years and over), 2015 or nearest year



Note: \* means that self-reported height and weight data are used in these countries, while measured data in other countries.

Source: OECD (2017), OECD Health Statistics 2017 (Forthcoming in June 2017).

[www.oecd.org/health/obesity-update.htm](http://www.oecd.org/health/obesity-update.htm)

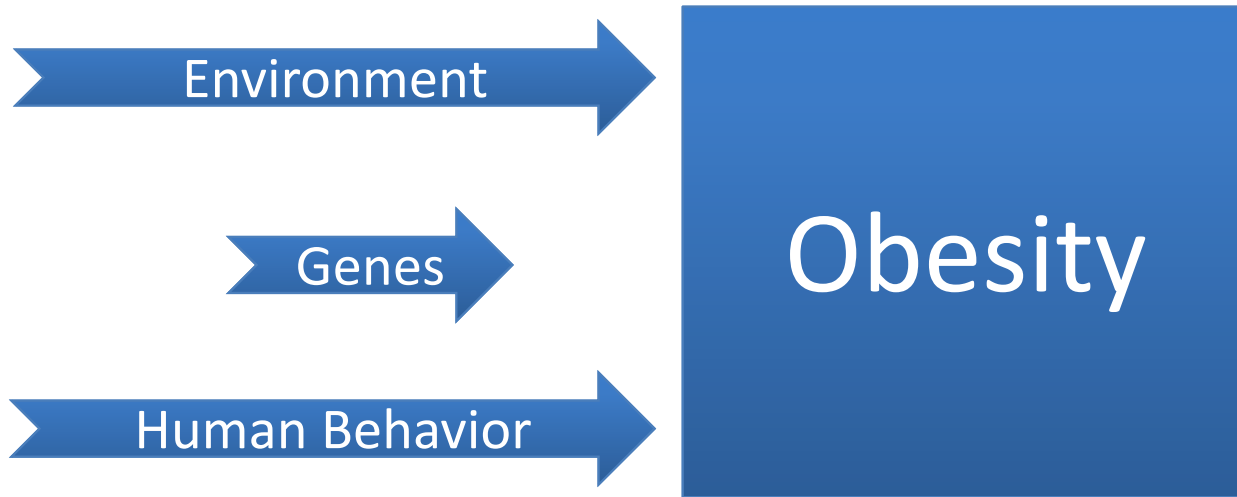


# Background

Overweight and obese persons are at increased risk of:

- Hypertension
- Type 2 diabetes
- Coronary heart disease
- Gallbladder disease
- Certain cancers
- Dyslipidemia
- Stroke
- Osteoarthritis
- Sleep apnea

# What factors contribute to obesity?



# Genetic Factors

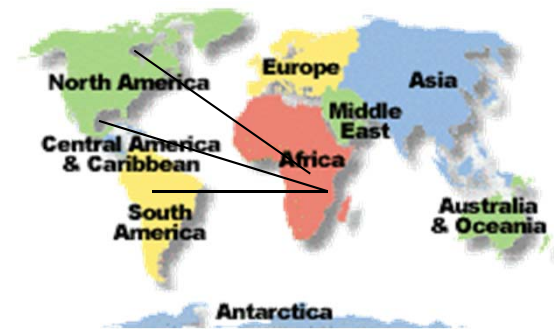
- Changes in genetic makeup of populations may not be fully responsible for the rapid rise in obesity
- Genetic predisposition does play a vital role in the development of obesity

# How might genes contribute to obesity?

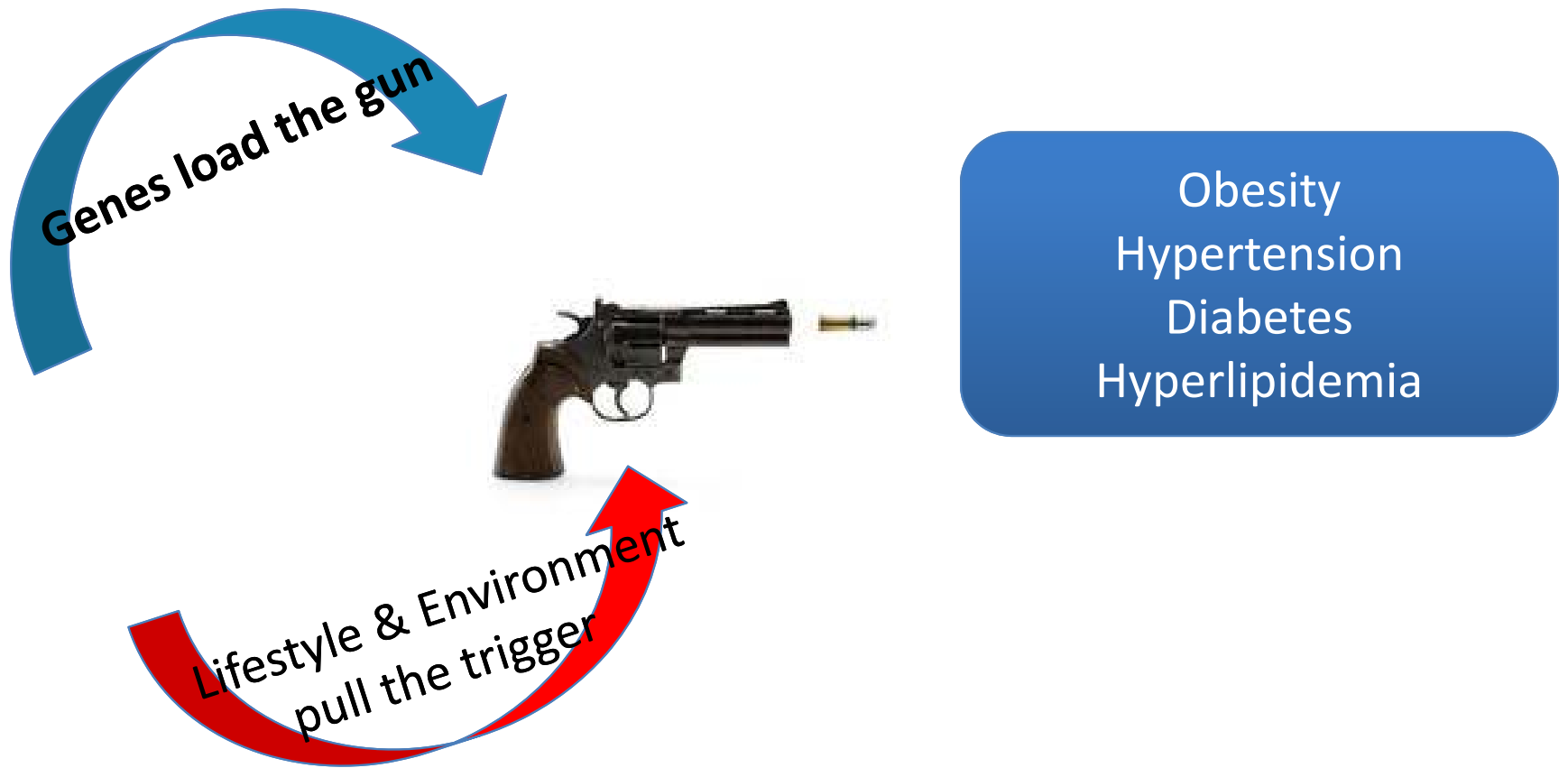
One of the intriguing explanations for the rapid rise in obesity is the mismatch between today's environment and "energy thrifty genes" that multiplied in the past under different environmental conditions when food sources were rather scarce.

# The Thrifty Gene Hypothesis

- Populations exposed to periodic famines, through natural selection increase frequency of 'protective genes'
- These genes allows efficient energy conservation and fat storage during times of abundance
- In the presence of food abundance, these genes become disadvantageous predisposing to obesity and diabetes



# Genes: Only Part of the Story





# LEPTIN & GHRELIN

Ghrelin  
Leptin  
Hunger

Ghrelin  
Leptin  
Satiety



BEFORE EATING



AFTER EATING

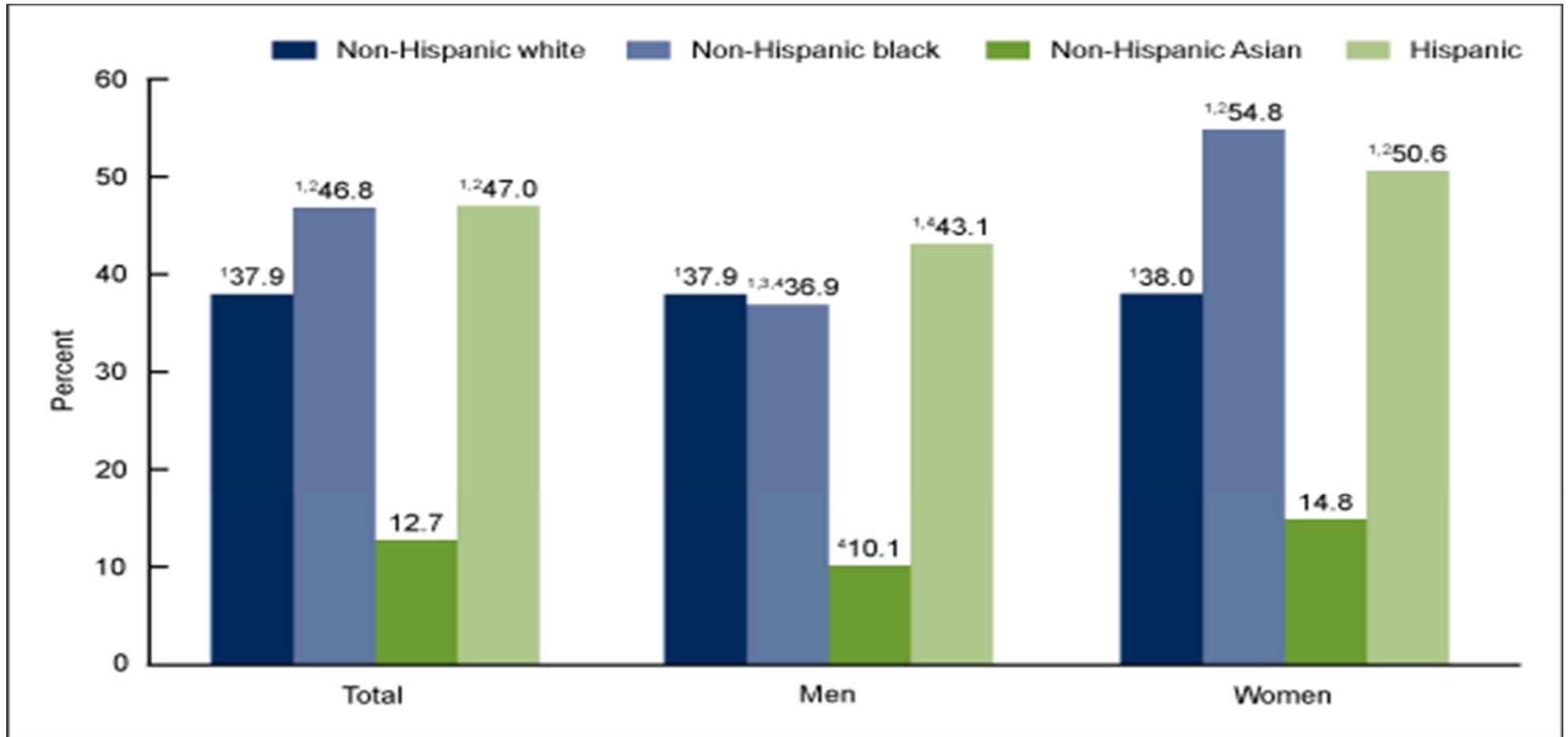
# Metabolic adaptations work against weight loss and maintenance of lower body weight: changes in metabolic rate

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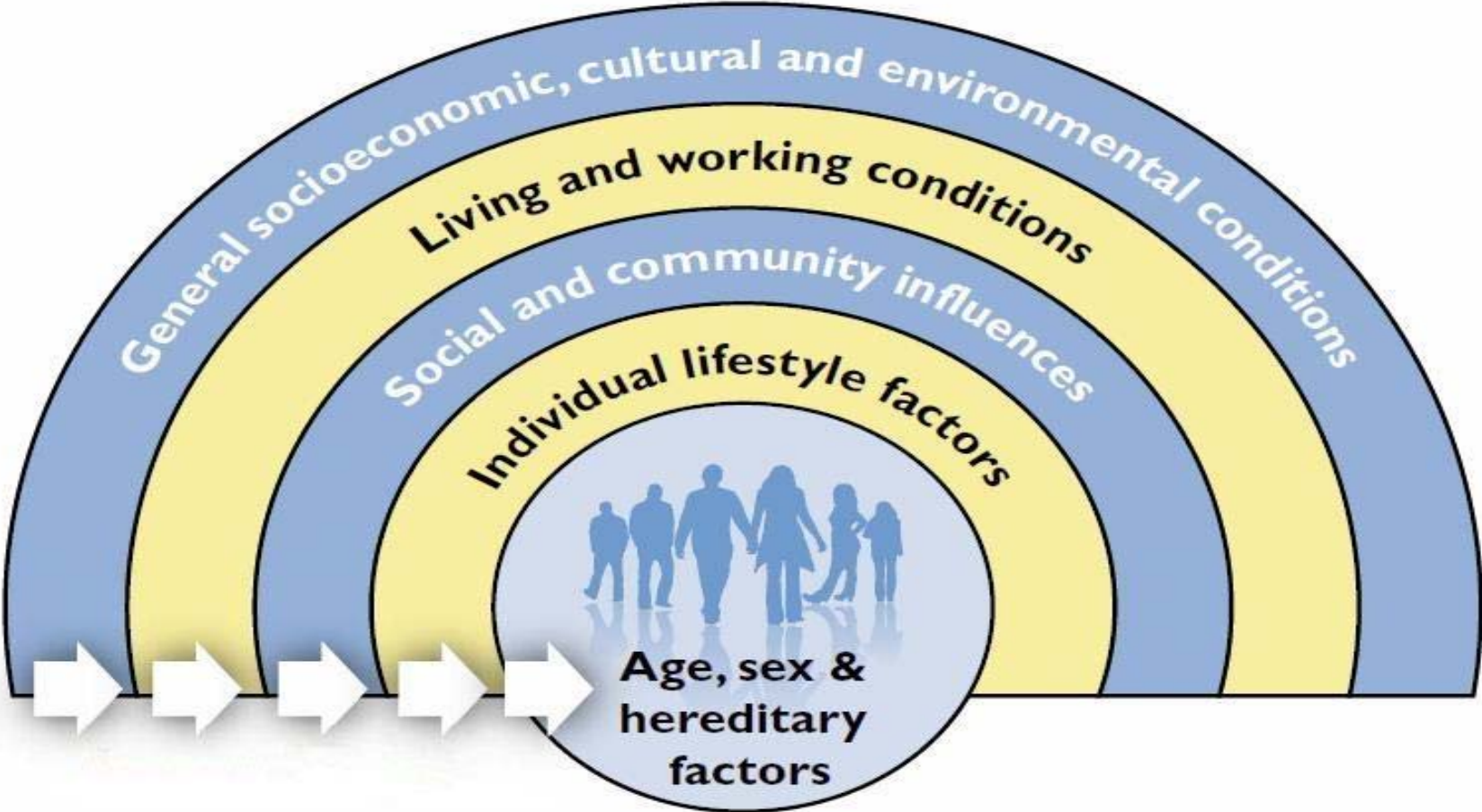
- Weight loss is associated with a decrease in resting metabolic rate and total energy expenditure independent of body weight and body composition
- A formerly obese person requires fewer kcal/day to maintain the same body weight and physical activity level as a never obese person with the same body weight and composition

# Almost every sociodemographic group is affected by obesity

Age-adjusted prevalence of obesity among adults aged 20 and over, by sex and race and Hispanic origin: United States 2015-2016



# Environmental conditions/Health Determinants



*Health Determinants Model*

# Obesity Prevalence in 2017 by Education and Age

- Obesity decreased by level of education. Adults without a high school degree or equivalent had the highest self-reported obesity (35.6%), followed by high school graduates (32.9%), adults with some college (31.9%) and college graduates (22.7%).
- Young adults were half as likely to have obesity as middle-aged adults. Adults aged 18-24 years had the lowest self-reported obesity (16.5%) compared to adults aged 45-54 years who had the highest prevalence (35.8%).

# Obesity and Socioeconomic Status

- Among men, obesity prevalence was lower in the lowest and highest income groups compared with the middle income group. This pattern was seen among non-Hispanic white and Hispanic men. Obesity prevalence was higher in the highest income group than in the lowest income group among non-Hispanic black men.
- Among women, obesity prevalence was lower in the highest income group than in the middle and lowest income groups. This pattern was observed among non-Hispanic white, non-Hispanic Asian, and Hispanic women. Among non-Hispanic black women, there was no difference in obesity prevalence by income. <https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/adult.html>



Number 1 cause of obesity in women of color, particularly Black women



# Behavioral Health Issues

- "If there's obesity, there's a good chance, especially if there's morbid obesity, that something tragic happened in that person's history, at one point or another,"
- Sexual abuse is common among morbidly obese women

# Precious

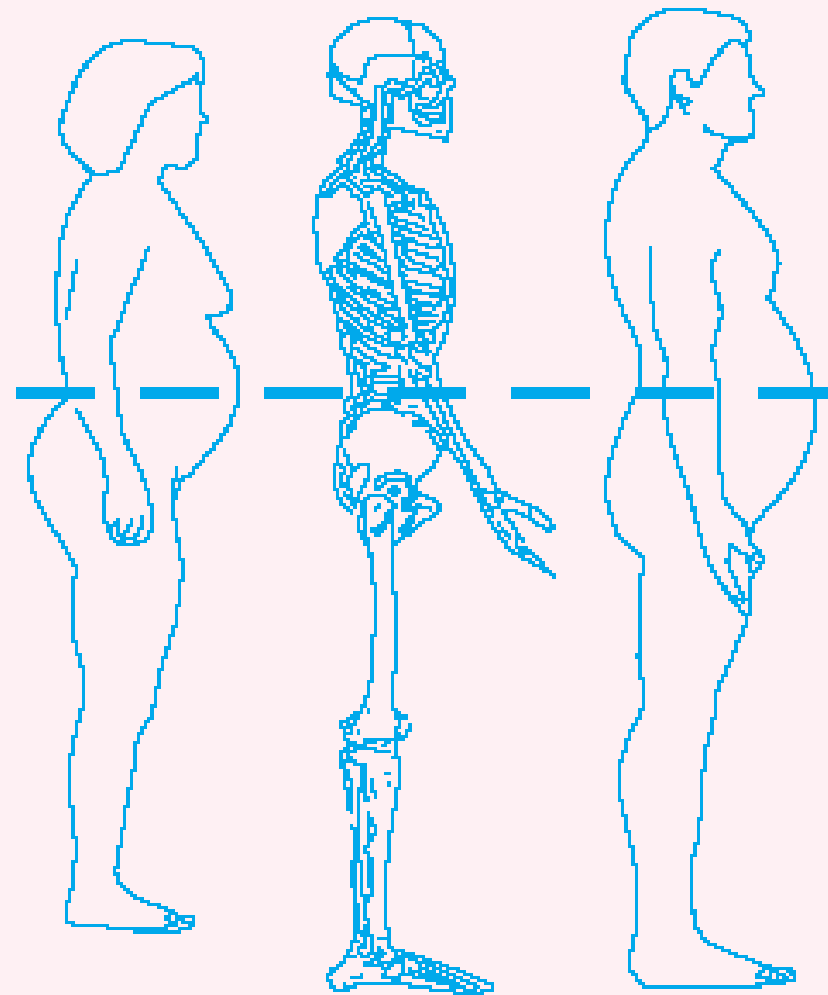


# Assessment of Overweight and Obesity\*\*\*

- Waist Circumference
  - High risk:
    - Men >102 cm (40 in.)
    - Women > 88 cm (35 in.)
- Linked to T2DM, Dyslipidemia, HTN, and CVD

## Waist Circumference Measurement

To measure waist circumference, locate the upper hip bone and the top of the right iliac crest. Place a measuring tape in a horizontal plane around the abdomen at the level of the iliac crest. Before reading the tape measure, ensure that the tape is snug, but does not compress the skin, and is parallel to the floor. The measurement is made at the end of a normal expiration.



**Measuring-Tape Position for Waist (Abdominal) Circumference in Adults**

# Classification of Overweight and Obesity by BMI\*\*\*

## Obesity Class

*BMI kg/m<sup>2</sup>*

- Underweight < 18.5
- Normal 18.5-24.9  
18.5-23 (Asians)
- Overweight 25—29.9  
23-27.5 (Asians)
- Obese I 30.0-34.9  
>27.5 (Asians)  
II 35-39.9  
III 40+



# Obesity in Children

- When defining overweight in children and adolescents, it's important to consider both weight and body composition.
- Among American children ages 2–19, the following are overweight or obese, using the 95th percentile or higher of body mass index (BMI) values on the CDC 2000 growth chart:

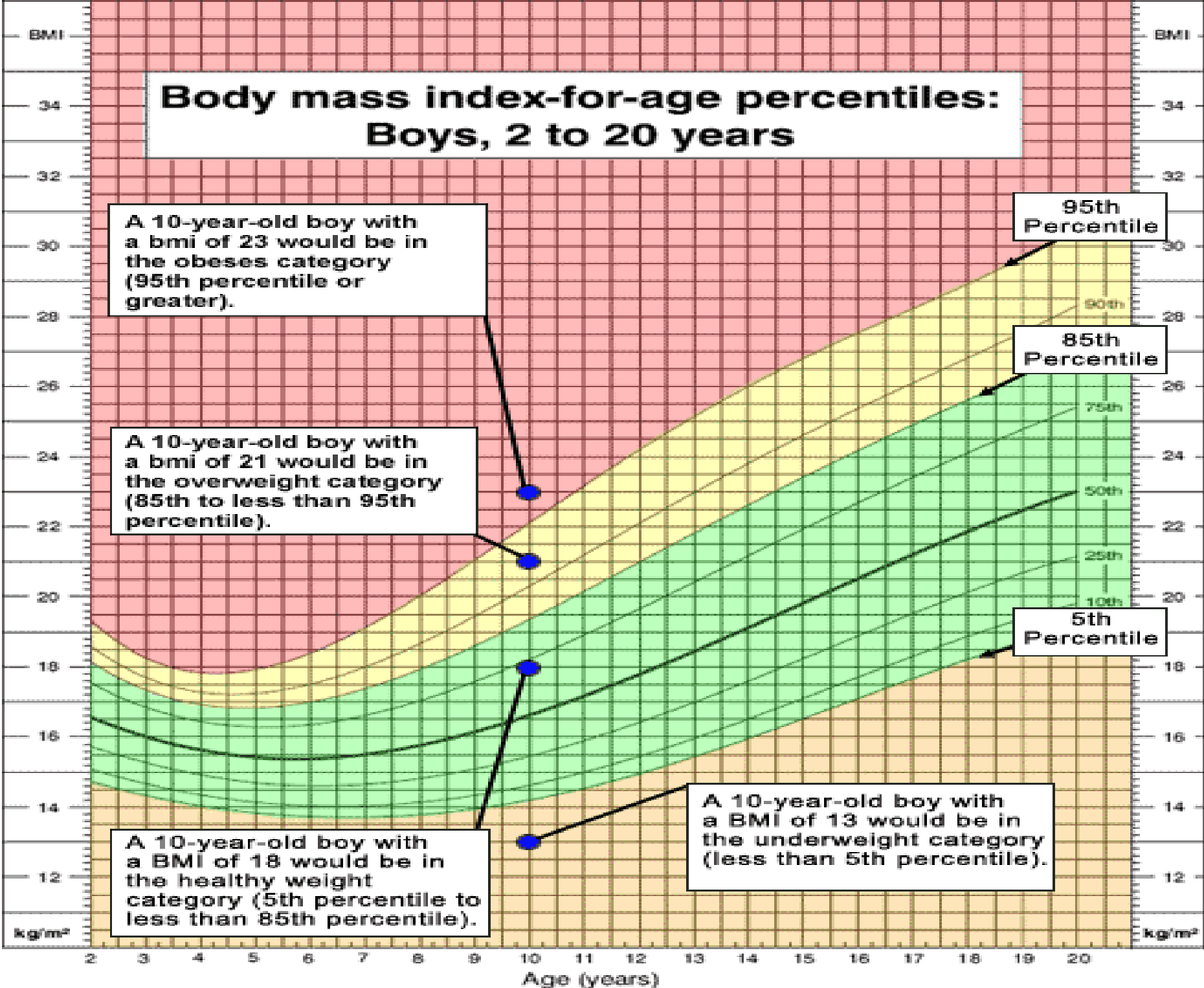
# Obesity in Children

Overweight children are more likely to be overweight adults.

Successfully preventing or treating overweight in childhood may reduce the risk of adult overweight.

This may help reduce the risk of heart disease and other diseases.

# Body mass index-for-age percentiles: Boys, 2 to 20 years



- Individuals affected by obesity or excess weight frequently confront stigma and discrimination in the workplace, educational institutions, health care facilities, and many other settings.
- These stigmatizing experiences can impair emotional well-being, leading to depression, anxiety, low self-esteem, and even suicidal behaviors. Unfortunately, weight stigma can also lead to unhealthy behaviors and risk factors that exacerbate obesity
- Thus, weight stigma poses significant consequences for both emotional and physical health.

# New Guidelines \*\*\*

- **New guidelines say that there is no ideal diet — whatever works to help obese patients lose 5%-10% of their body weight.**
- The most effective diet plans include two to three in-person meetings a month
- People should follow diets that fit their taste and health status
- Doctors should encourage obese patients to lose 5% to 10% of their weight

# Medical Nutrition Therapy

- **Personalized plans** for diet management, nutrition education, weight control, exercise and behavior modification are imperative.



# Target Weight: Realistic Goals\*\*\*

- Substitute “healthier weight” for ideal or landmark weight.
- Accept slow, incremental progress to goal.
  - Short-term goal: 5 to 10 percent loss, **1 to 2 lb per week (4 lb over 4 weeks)**.
  - Interim goal: Maintenance.
  - Long-term goal: Additional weight loss, if desired, and long-term weight maintenance.

# Weight Loss Goals\*\*\*

Goal: Decrease body weight by 5-10% from baseline.

- If goal is achieved, further weight loss can be attempted if indicated.
- Reasonable timeline: 6 months of therapy.
  - Moderate caloric deficits
  - Weight loss 1 to 2 lbs./week



# Weight Loss Goals

- Start weight maintenance efforts after 6 months.
  - Combined modalities of diet, activity, and behavior therapy
  - May need to be continued indefinitely.
- If unable to lose weight, prevent further weight gain.

# Strategies for Weight Loss and Maintenance

- Dietary therapy
- Physical activity
- Behavior therapy
- “Combined” therapy
- Pharmacotherapy
- Weight loss surgery

- *The long and winding road for weight loss drugs*



# Pharmacotherapeutic Agents **NOT** for Weight Loss

## Noradrenergic agents (*not recommended*)

Methamphetamine HCL (desoxyephedrine HCL)

Amphetamine sulfate

Dextroamphetamine sulfate (Dexedrine)

Amphetamine/dextroamphetamine mixtures (Adderall)

Benzphetamine (Didrex)

Ephedrine (various)

# Current FDA Requirements \*\*\*

- Drug must produce a statistically significant placebo-subtracted weight loss of greater than 5% of baseline weight at 1 year
- More than 35% of treated patients achieve a > 5% weight loss that must be at least twice that produced by treatment with placebo.
- Drug must improve obesity related metabolic abnormalities, including blood pressure, lipid, and blood glucose levels.
- Circulation 2012;125(17):2156-64

# FDA Approved Weight Loss Pills

- Orlistat (Xenical<sup>®</sup>)
- Naltrexone SR/Bupropion SR
- Phentermine and Topiramate (Qsymia<sup>®</sup>)
- Liraglutide (Saxenda<sup>®</sup>)

# Orlistat (Xenical<sup>®</sup>)

## Gastrointestinal lipase inhibitor

Orlistat (Xenical)

Hyperlipidemia: 120 mg orally 3 times daily with meals

Obesity: 120 mg orally 3 times daily with meals

OTC dose 60 mg orally 3 times daily during or within 1 hour of each fat containing meal

# Orlistat (Xenical<sup>®</sup>) Pediatric Dosing

- Pediatric Dosing
- Obesity (12-16 years of age) 120 mg orally 3 times daily during or within 1 hour of each fat containing meal

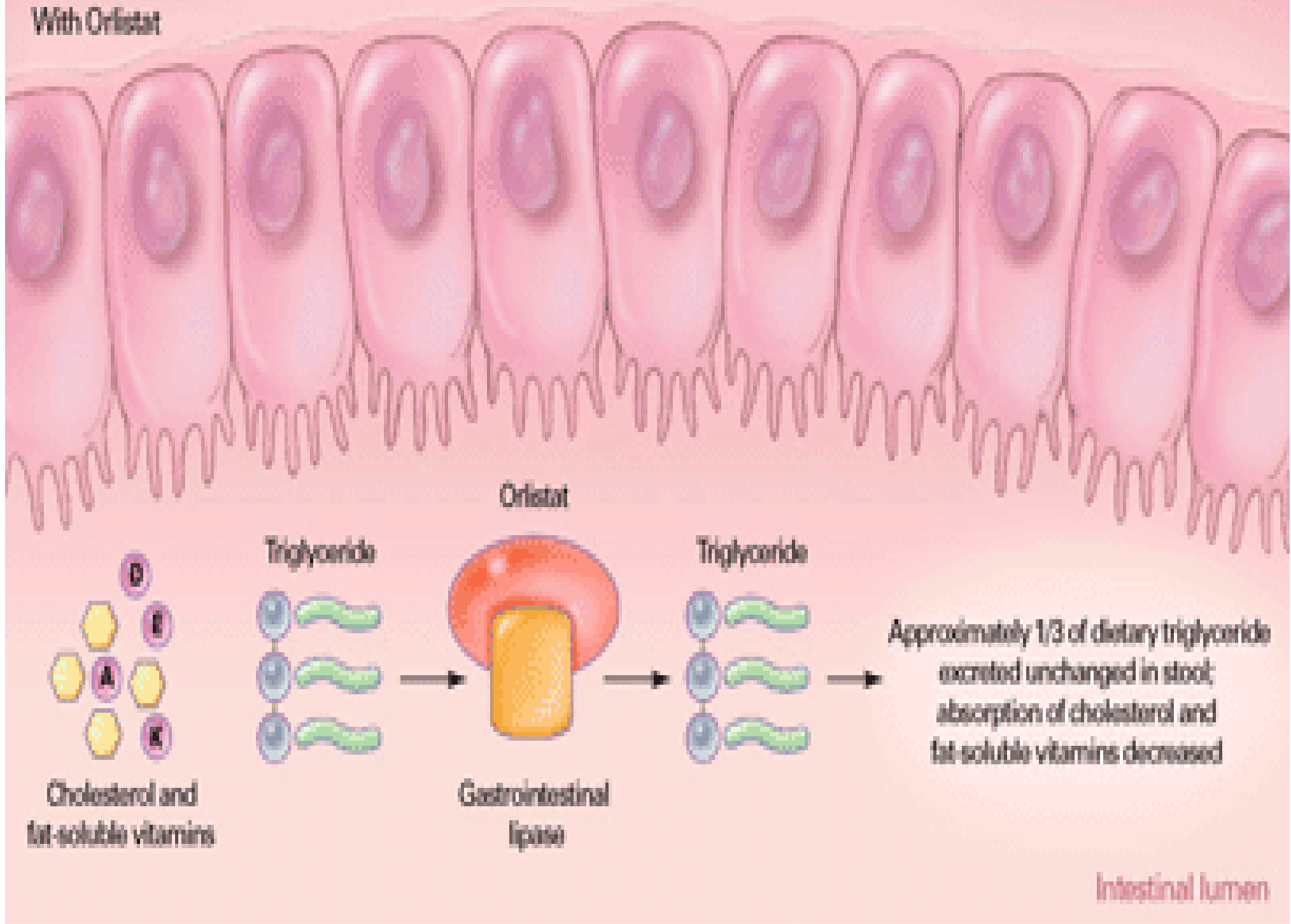


# Lipase Inhibitors (Orlistat-Xenical®)

## Mechanism of Action

- Gastrointestinal lipases (gastric, pancreatic, carboxylester) are essential for LCT absorption
- Lipase inhibition results in decreased FFA formation from dietary TG
- Orlistat induces weight loss by lowering dietary fat absorption
- Up to 30% decrease in fat absorption occurs with daily doses of 360 mg
- Must be taken with foods that contain fat in order to exert its effect

With Orlistat



Cholesterol and fat-soluble vitamins  
A, D, E, K

Triglyceride

Orlistat



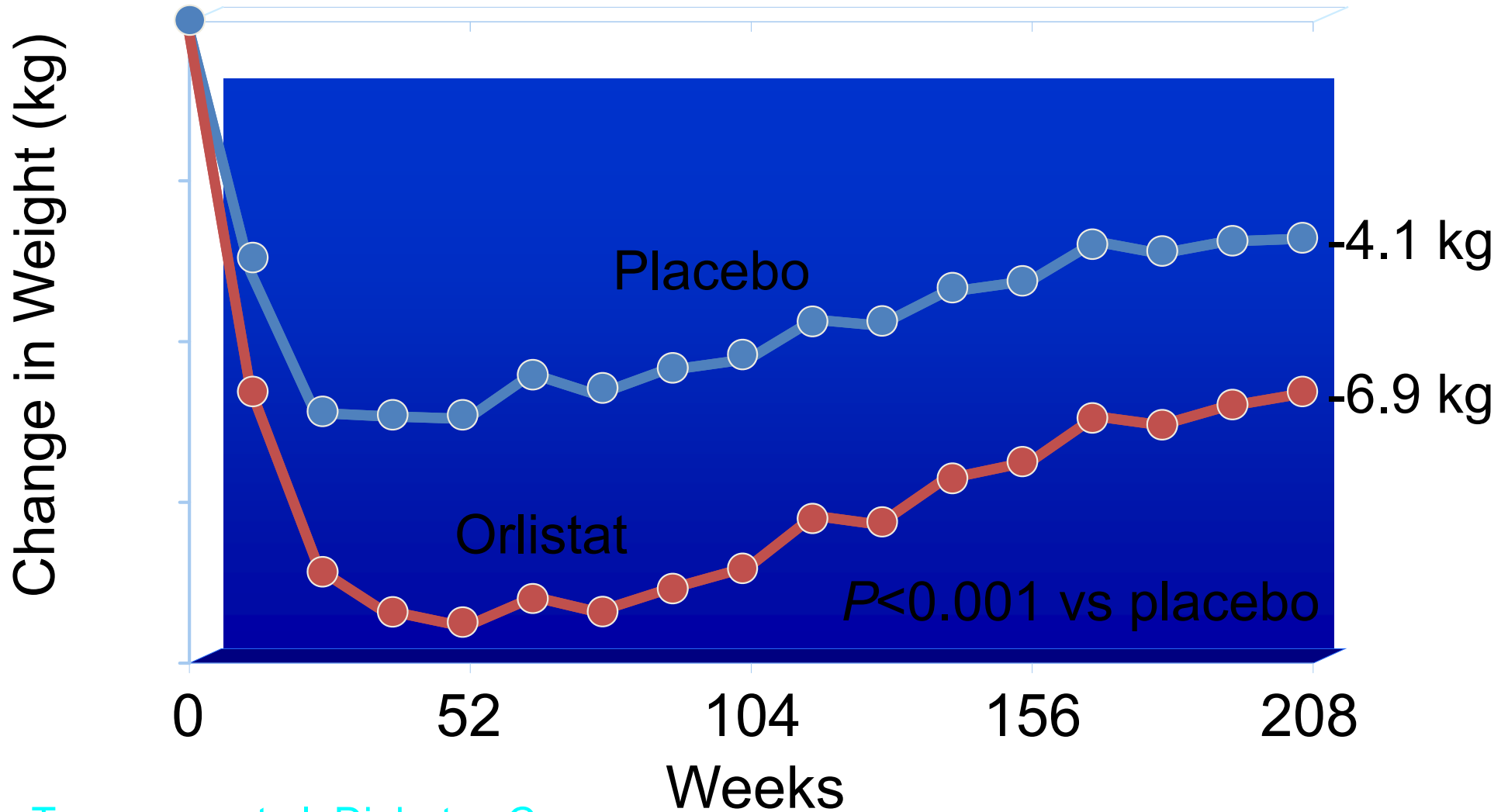
Gastrointestinal lipase

Triglyceride

Approximately 1/3 of dietary triglyceride excreted unchanged in stool; absorption of cholesterol and fat-soluble vitamins decreased

Intestinal lumen

# Effect of Long-term Orlistat (Xenical<sup>®</sup>) on Body Weight



# Lipase Inhibitors (Orlistat-Xenical®)

## Adverse Effects

- Soft stools, abdominal pain/colic, flatulence, fecal urgency, incontinence – at least 1 of these occurs in up to 80% of individuals
- Most common in first 1 – 2 months of therapy
- Malabsorption of fat soluble vitamins may occur – vitamin supplementation should be considered
- Only significant drug interaction is with cyclosporine, where decreases in cyclosporine serum concentrations occur with orlistat use
- Safety and efficacy beyond 4 years is unknown
- OTC status has been approved by FDA

# Orlistat (Xenical<sup>®</sup>) Clinical Teaching

- Counsel patient to eat a nutritionally balanced diet containing approximately 30% of calories from fat, as taking the drug with a high-fat (greater than 30% total calories from fat) diet or meal may increase gastrointestinal effects.
- This drug may cause abdominal discomfort or pain, oily spotting or evacuation, flatus with discharge, urgency or increased frequency of defecation, nausea, influenza, upper respiratory infection, back pain, headache, menstrual irregularity, or cholelithiasis.
- In order to ensure adequate nutrition, strongly encourage patient to take a multivitamin containing fat-soluble vitamins at least 2 hours before or 2 hours after taking the drug, as the absorption of some fat-soluble vitamins and beta-carotene may be reduced.

# Naltrexone SR/Bupropion SR

- Opioid receptor antagonist
- Dopamine/noradrenaline reuptake inhibitor.
- Bupropion's primary mechanism of action is via dopaminergic and noradrenergic stimuli without inhibition of monoamine-oxidase (MAO) or reuptake of serotonin
- Inhibiting reuptake of dopamine and/or norepinephrine decreases the "reward pathway" that various foods can induce.
- Naltrexone, a pure opioid antagonist that blocks an opioid pathway that may slow weight loss

# Naltrexone SR/Bupropion SR Dosing

## Usual Adult Dose for Weight Loss

- Orally 1 tab (8 mg/90 mg) in am for 1 week;
- 1 tab in am 1 tab in pm for one week;
- 2 tabs in am 1 tab in pm for one week;
- 2 tabs in am 2 tabs in pm
- Stop if <5% loss at 12 weeks

# Naltrexone SR/Bupropion SR Side effects

- Nausea, vomiting, headache, dizziness, insomnia
- **Boxed warning:** suicidality; Warning: BP, HR; ↑ seizure risk; glaucoma; hepatotoxicity
- **Contraindications:** seizure disorders; uncontrolled HTN, chronic opioid use; MAOIs; pregnancy



# Phentermine and Topiramate (Qsymia™)

- Qsymia™ is indicated as an adjunct to a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity for chronic weight management in adults with an initial body mass index (BMI)\* of:
  - 30 or greater (obese) or
  - 27 or greater (overweight) in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbidity such as hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus, or dyslipidemia

# Qsymia Dosage and Administration

- Recommended dose: Qsymia 3.75 mg/23 mg (phentermine 3.75mg/topiramate 23 mg extended-release) daily for 14 days; then increase to 7.5 mg/46 mg daily.
- Take once daily in morning. Avoid evening dose to prevent insomnia
  - safety and effectiveness in pediatric patients younger than 18 years of age not established

# Qsymia Dosage and Administration

- Increase dose (as described) if 3% weight loss is not achieved after 12 weeks on 7.5 mg/46 mg dose
- Discontinue Qsymia if 5% weight loss is not achieved after 12 weeks on maximum daily dose of 15 mg/92 mg.
- Discontinue 15 mg/92 mg dose gradually (as described) to prevent possible seizure.
- Do not exceed 7.5 mg/46mg dose for patients with moderate or severe renal impairment or patients with moderate hepatic impairment.

# Qsymia Adverse Effects

- The most common adverse reactions for patients treated with Qsymia included
- tingling sensation of hands and feet,
- dizziness,
- altered taste,
- insomnia,
- constipation and dry mouth.

# Qsymia Drug Interactions

- Oral contraceptives: Altered exposure may cause irregular bleeding but not increased risk of pregnancy. Advise patients not to discontinue oral contraceptives if spotting occurs.
- CNS depressants including alcohol: Potentiate CNS depressant effects. Avoid concomitant use of alcohol
- Non-potassium sparing diuretics: May potentiate hypokalemia.
- Measure potassium before/during treatment

# Lorcaserin - Belviq<sup>®</sup>

- The Food and Drug Administration asked Eisai to voluntarily withdraw the weight-loss drug [lorcaserin](#) (Belviq and Belviq XR) on Feb. 13 after a post-marketing trial with more than 12,000 subjects revealed an increased occurrence of cancer.
- In a [Drug Safety Communication](#), the agency said "health care professionals should stop prescribing and dispensing lorcaserin to patients. Contact patients currently taking lorcaserin, inform them of the increased occurrence of cancer seen in the clinical trial, and ask them to stop taking the medicine. Discuss alternative weight-loss medicines or strategies with your patients."

# Liraglutide (Saxenda)

- GLP-1 receptor agonist
- MoA: centrally active to increase satiety and decrease gastric emptying
- Indicated for use in the treatment of obesity for adults with
  - a BMI equal to or greater than 30
  - adults with a BMI of 27 or greater who "have at least one weight-related health condition, such as high blood pressure, type 2 diabetes, or high cholesterol".

# Liraglutide (Saxenda)

- Once daily subcutaneous injection
- Initiate at 0.6mg and titrate up weekly by 0.6 mg as tolerated to max of 3.0 mg daily
- Stop if < 5% loss at 12 weeks
- ADE: Nausea 30-40%, Vomiting 10-15%, HA 10%, Diarrhea 20%, Hypoglycemia 10-23%
  - Tolerate out over repeated use



# Liraglutide (Saxenda)

- Boxed warning: thyroid c-cell tumors in rodents.
- Warnings: acute pancreatitis, acute gall bladder disease, serious hypoglycemia if used with insulin secretagogue, heart rate increase; use caution in renal impairment; hypersensitivity reactions can occur; monitor for depression or suicidal thoughts.

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 1996

# HEALTH

## Sorry, Cathy, The New Diet Drug Won't Work All By Itself

**(You Still Have to Exercise and Watch What You Eat)**



■ Winemakers Want New Labels  
To Tout Health Benefits

■ Is Detoxification Counterproductive  
For Some Psychiatric Patients?

■ Any Way You Slice It,  
The Onion's Got Appeal

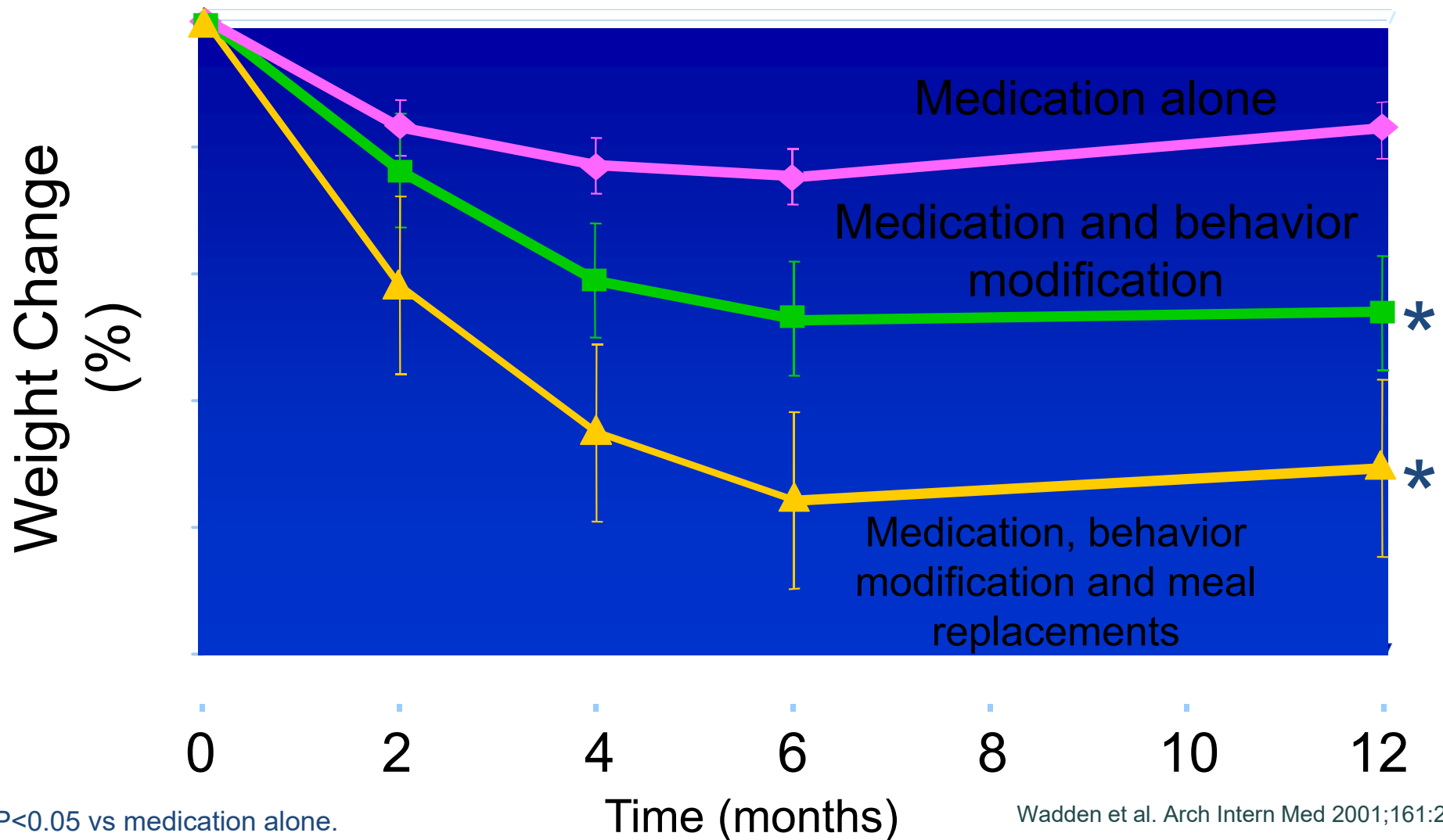
# Combined Therapy

- Combined intervention of a calorie-deficit diet, increased physical activity, and behavioral treatment is most successful for weight loss and maintenance.

*Evidence Category A.*

- Non-drug interventions should be attempted for at least 6 months before considering treatment.

# Additive Effects of Behavior and Diet Therapy with Pharmacotherapy for Obesity



\*P<0.05 vs medication alone.

Wadden et al. Arch Intern Med 2001;161:218.

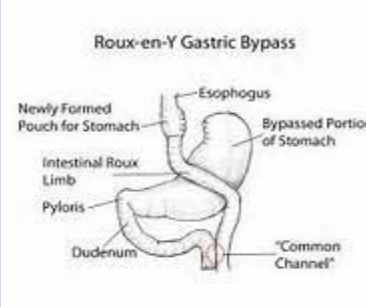
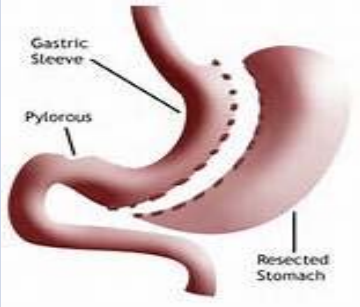

# Weight Loss Surgery

Option for limited number of patients with clinically severe obesity. *Evidence Category B.*

- BMI  $\geq 40$  or  $\geq 35$  with comorbid conditions
- Reserved for patients in whom medical therapy has failed
- Gastric restriction or gastric bypass

Integrated program must be in place before and after surgery.

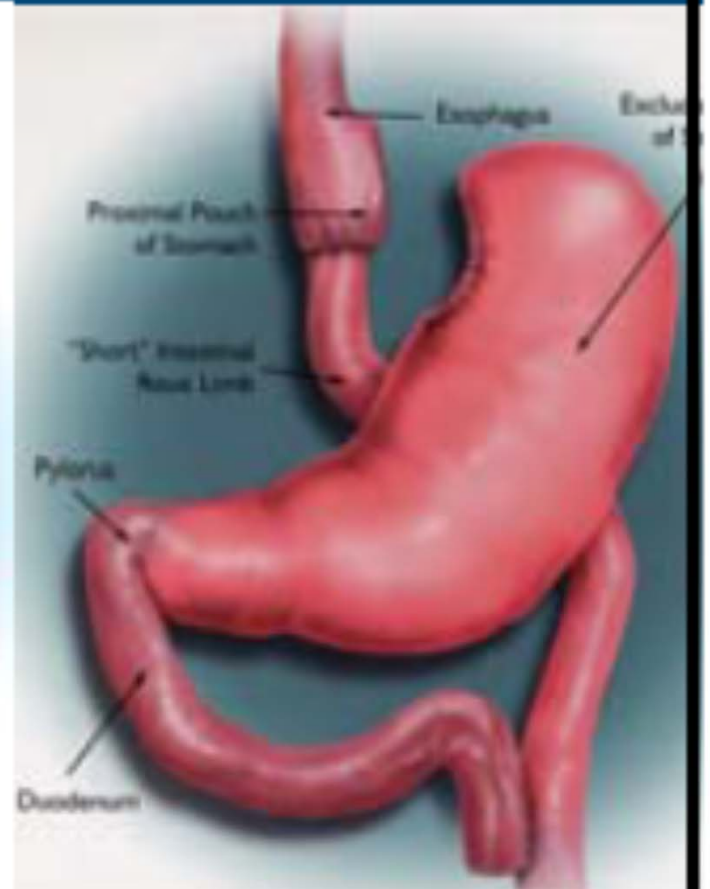
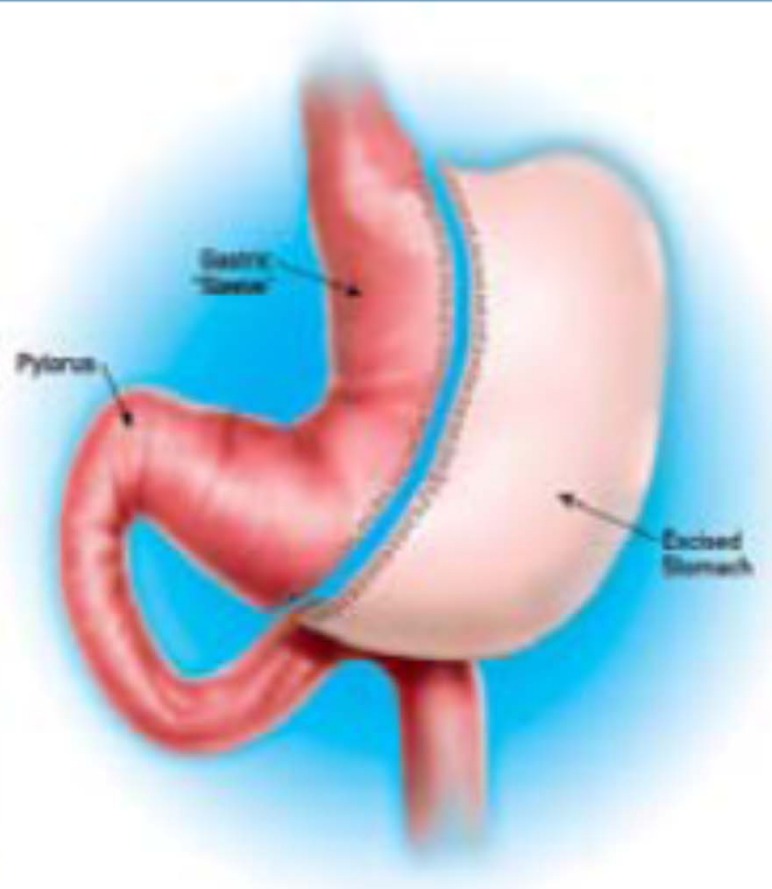
# Surgery and Devices

Bypass	Sleeve	Band
<p>Greatest operative risk                      Alteration of anatomy                      Irreversible                      Quickest weight loss                      Less need for adherence                      Requires supplements</p>	<p>Less operative risk                      Alteration of anatomy                      Irreversible                      Slower weight loss                      Less need for adherence                      No supplements</p>	<p>Least operative risk                      No alteration of anatomy                      Reversible                      Slowest weight loss                      More need for adherence                      No supplements</p>
 <p>The diagram illustrates the Roux-en-Y Gastric Bypass procedure. It shows the esophagus leading to a newly formed pouch for the stomach. A portion of the original stomach is bypassed. The intestinal Roux limb is connected to the new pouch, and the pylorus is shown. The duodenum is also depicted, along with a 'Common Channel' where the bypassed stomach and the Roux limb meet.</p>	 <p>This diagram shows the Gastric Sleeve procedure. A portion of the stomach is removed, labeled as the 'Resected Stomach'. The remaining part of the stomach is shaped into a 'Gastric Sleeve'. The pylorus is shown at the bottom of the sleeve.</p>	 <p>The diagram illustrates the Adjustable Gastric Band (AGB) procedure. It shows the stomach divided into a 'Small Upper Pouch' and a 'Lower Stomach'. The AGB is placed around the upper pouch to restrict its size.</p>

# Lap Band

# Sleeve Gastrectomy

# Gastric Bypass



Low

Effectiveness

High

Risk

# Obesity Treatment in Special Populations

- Smokers
  - All smokers, regardless of weight, should quit smoking.
  - Implement weight gain prevention, treatment efforts as necessary.
- Older adults
  - Evaluate risk-to-benefit ratio.
- Diverse patient populations
  - Tailor treatments to patient needs.



# Weight loss – Motivational Interviewing

- Weight loss is a health behavior
- The patient must realize with their own words and thoughts that weight loss is important for them.
  - What is the patient's motivation?
  - What can they do to celebrate
- Changing lifestyle is easy to talk about, but hard to commit to...but there is more

# Summary\*\*\*

- BMI and waist circumference provide a better
  - assessment of total body fat than weight alone
  - are independent predictors of obesity-related disease risk
- Weight loss of as little of 5% can significantly improve BP, lipid levels, and glucose control
- Consider medication therapy ONLY AFTER 6 months of diet, exercise, and behavior modification have failed to stimulate weight loss