

Adipose Tissue

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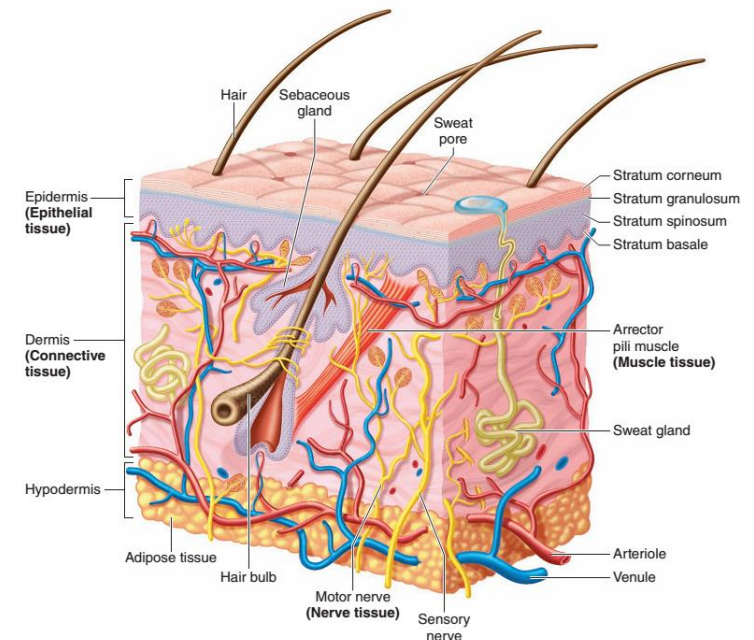
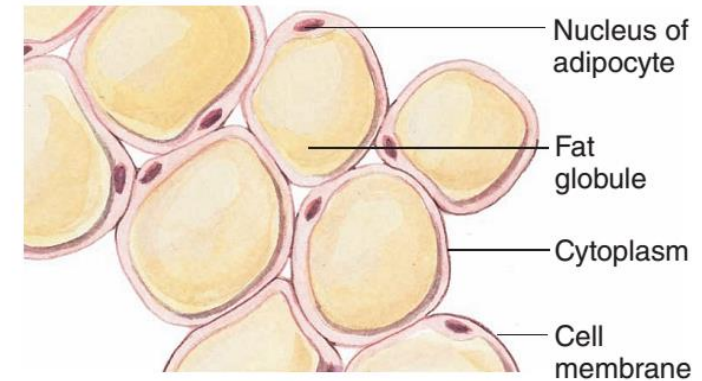
Department of Physiology

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Adipose Tissue

- Loose connective tissue
- **Adipocyte:** adipose cell
- **Adipokines:** cytokines (cell signaling proteins) secreted by adipose tissue
- Cytoplasm is stretched around a central globule fat
- Synthesis and breakdown of fat are accomplished by enzymes within the cytoplasm
- Adipose cells are grouped together to form the *hypodermis*
- Adipose tissue: masses of fat deposits throughout the body (e.g., subcutaneous fat, visceral fat)





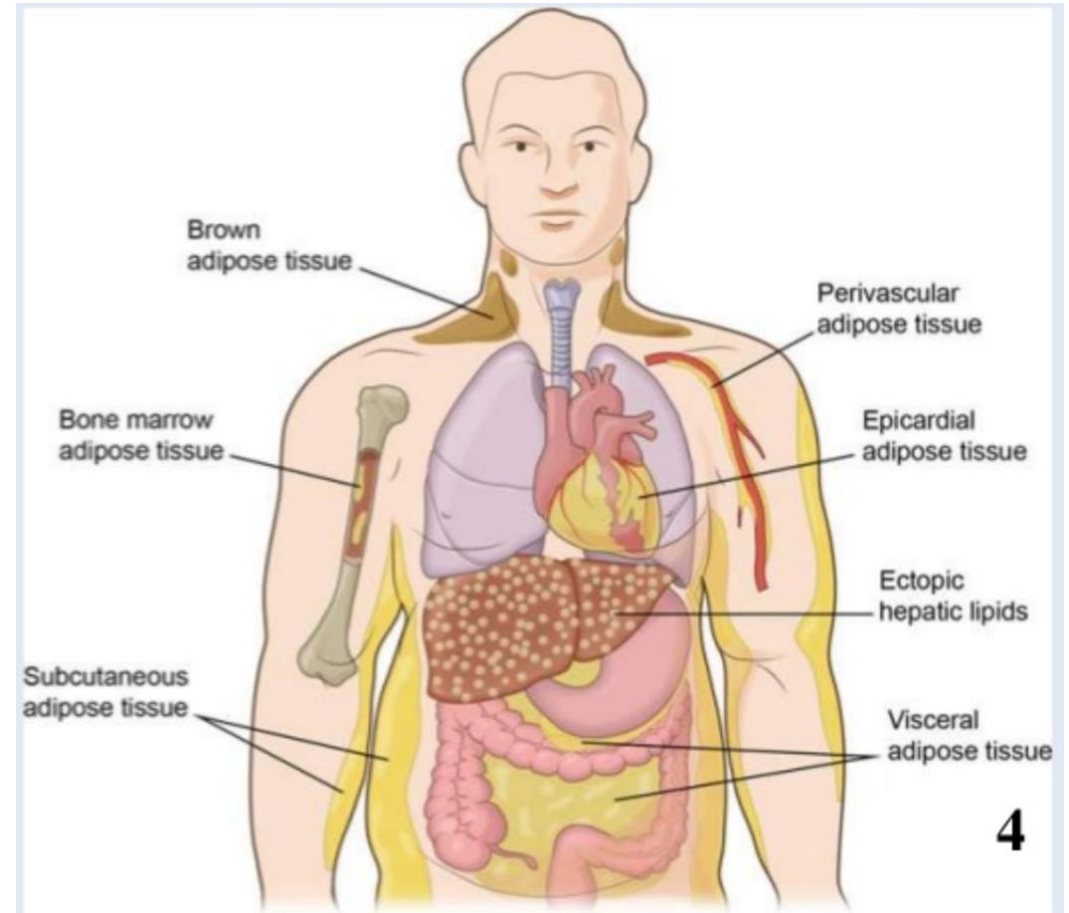
Functions of Adipose Tissue

- reserve of energy
- thermal isolation
- mechanical protection
- endocrine organ
- pro- and anti-inflammation (immune regulatory functions)

Adipose Tissue Types

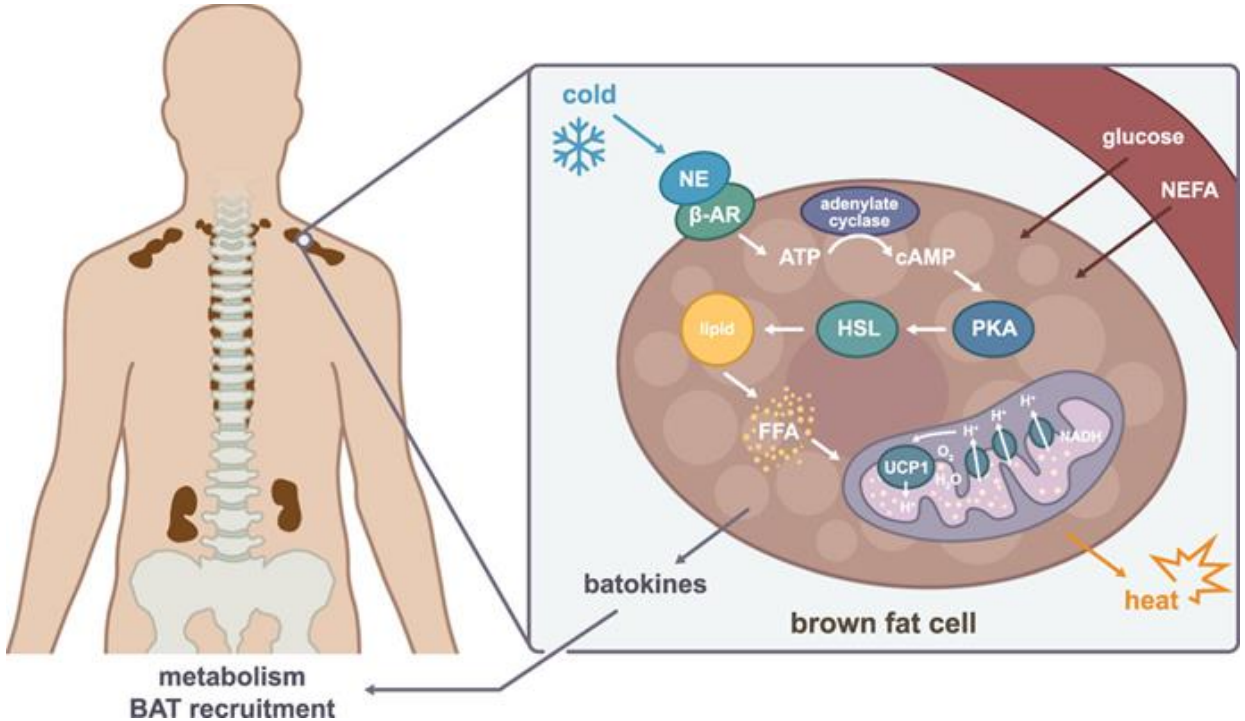
- Brown adipose tissue (BAT)
- Beige adipose tissue
- White adipose tissue (WAT)

- Subcutaneous adipose tissue
- Visceral adipose tissue





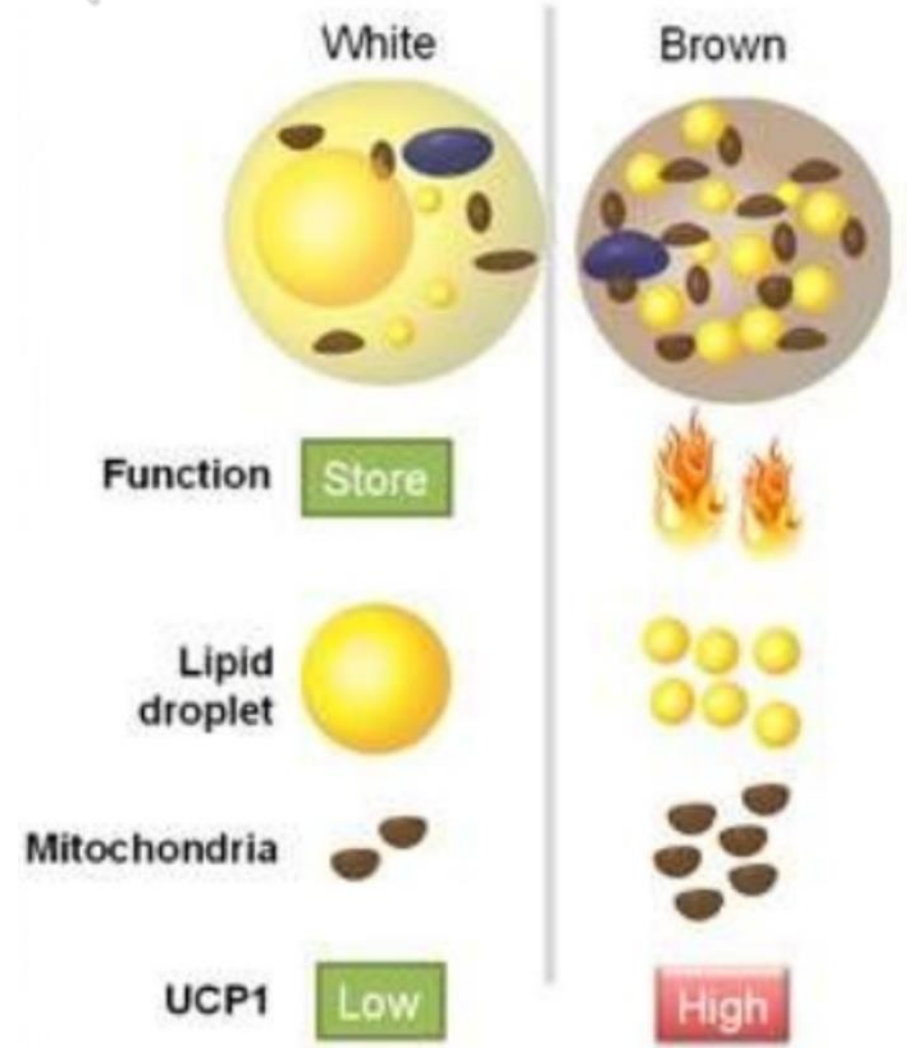
Brown Adipose Tissue



- Found in mammals
 - Supraclavicular region, deep neck, perirenal region, around spinal cord
 - More prominent in newborns
- Usually diminishes with age
- Can persist as an adaptation to cold-induced thermogenesis

Brown Adipose Tissue

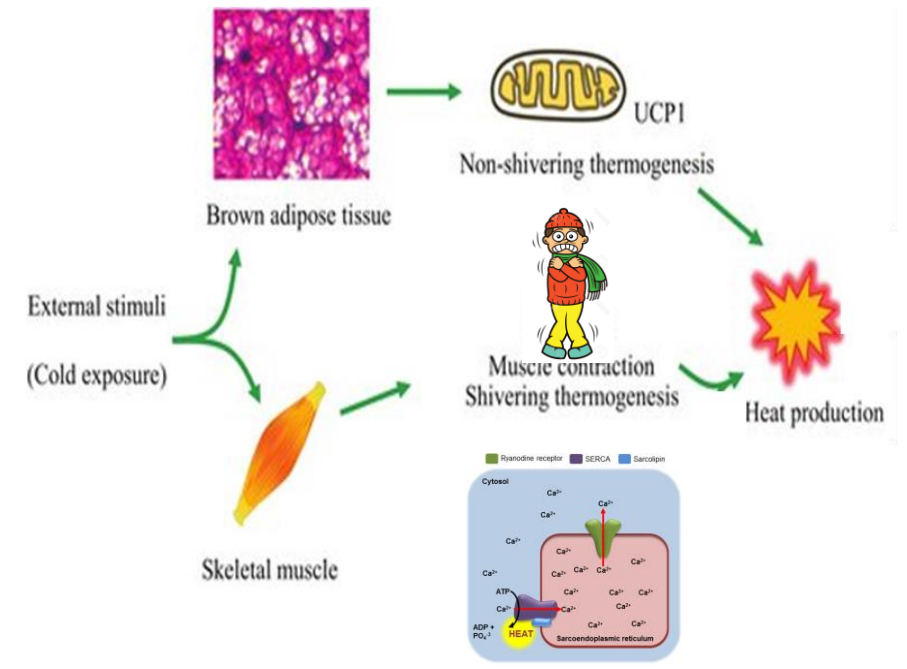
- Thermogenesis
 - release heat by oxidizing fatty acids within the adipocyte rather than supplying free fatty acids for use by other cell types
- Multiple number of lipid droplets of different sizes
- Numerous mitochondria (containing UCP1)
- Extensive vascularization
 - Deliver fuel for storage and oxidation
 - Disperse heat generated by the numerous mitochondria to other parts of the body



Non-shivering Thermogenesis



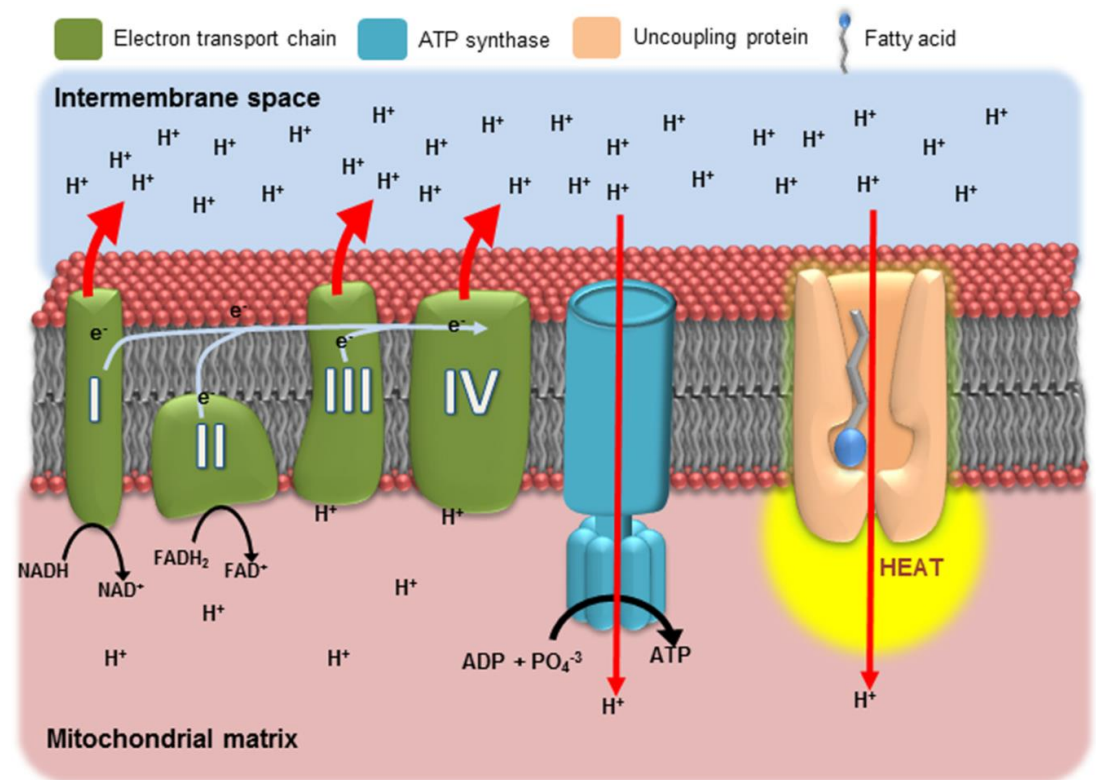
- Shivering thermogenesis → muscle
- Non-shivering thermogenesis → BAT
- Increase in metabolic rate not due to increased muscle activity
- Triggered by exposure to cold, increased sympathetic activity

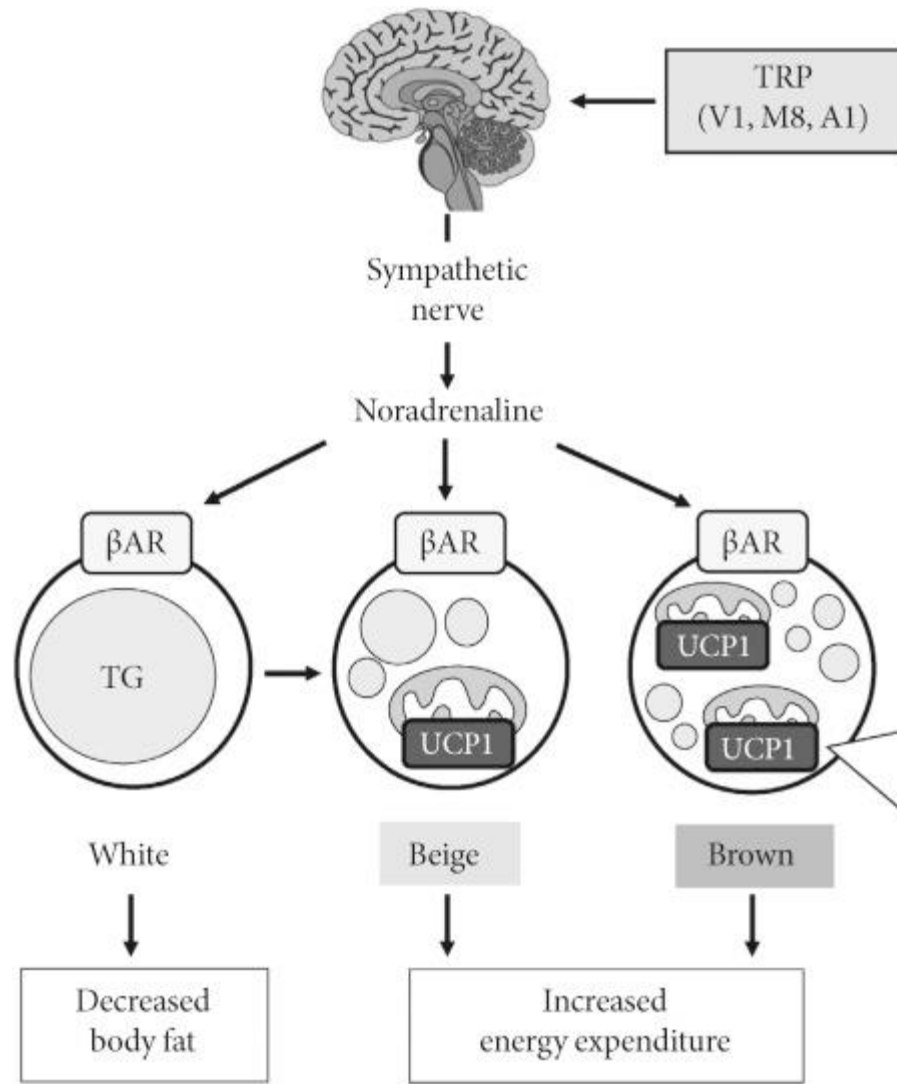


Non-shivering Thermogenesis

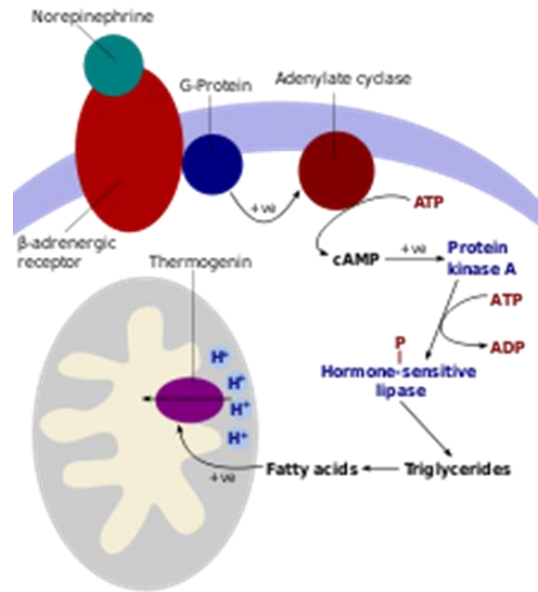


- UCP: *uncoupling protein* or *thermogenin*
- UCP1 → influx of H^+ into mitochondrial matrix, bypasses ATP synthase, uncouples oxidative phosphorylation and energy is dissipated as heat instead of making ATP





Uncoupling of oxidative phosphorylation



Beige Adipose Tissue

- Resembles brown fat by morphology and function but is developmentally more related to White fat
 - ability to thermogenesis
 - derives from precursors of white adipocytes
- Found in clusters scattered within the areas of white adipose tissue as opposed to occurrence of BAT in separate and distinct depots
- Exhibit low basal expression level of UCP1 and other thermogenesis related genes that are inducible upon stimulus, such as cold stimulation

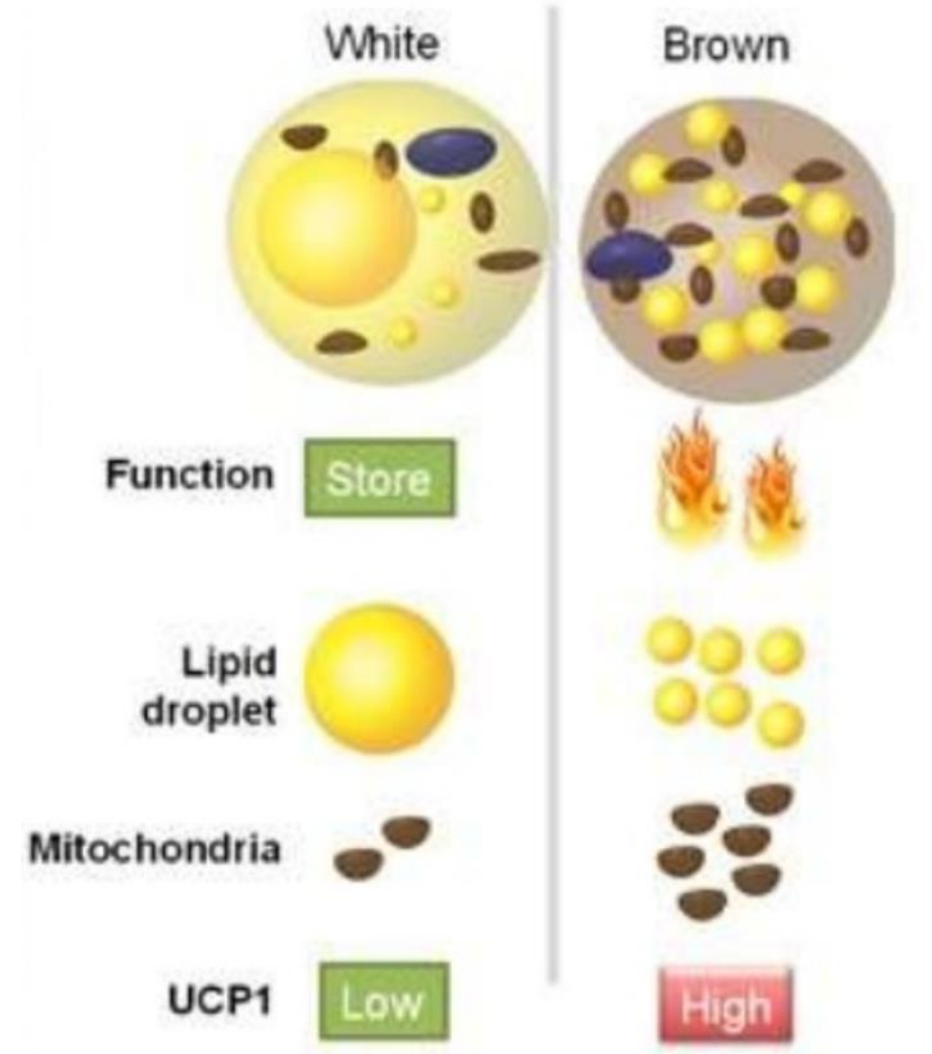


| | WHITE ADIPOSE TISSUE | BROWN ADIPOSE TISSUE | BEIGE ADIPOSE TISSUE |
|---------------------------|--|--|---|
| Localization | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcutaneous • Intra-abdominal • Epicardial • Gonadal | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interscapular • Paravertebral • Perirenal • Cervical • Supraclavicular | Emerges in white adipose tissue depots with appropriate stimuli |
| Morphology | Spherical | Elliptical and smaller than white | Spherical |
| Cell composition | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single lipid droplet • Few mitochondria • Flattened peripheral nucleus • Little endoplasmic reticulum | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple small lipid droplets • Large number of mitochondria • Oval central nucleus | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unilocular morphology but small lipid droplets after stimulation • Mitochondria appear after stimulation |
| Function | Storing energy | Expending energy and heat production (non-shivering thermogenesis) | Thermogenic potential |
| Uncoupling protein | Undetectable | Positive | Positive after stimulation |



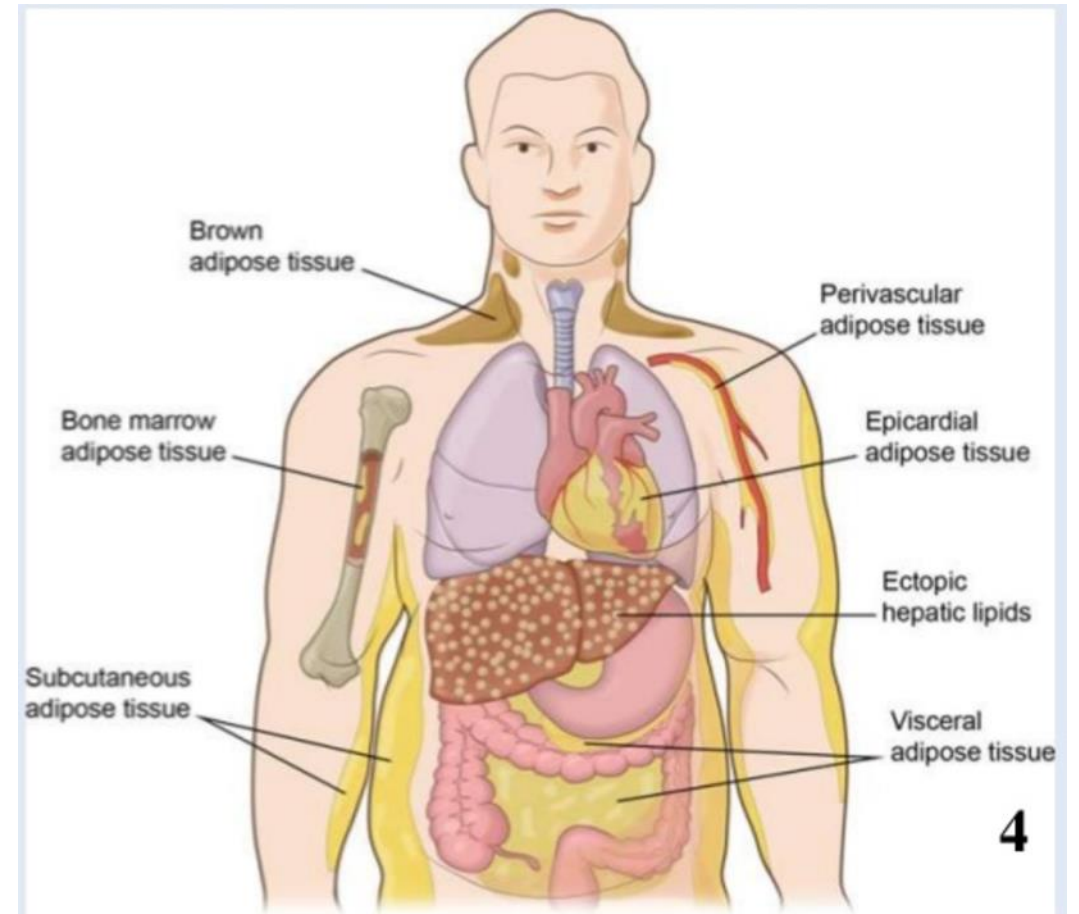
White Adipose Tissue

- Main site of energy storage in the body
- Adipocytes are the predominate cell type
- Low amounts of mitochondria



White Adipose Tissue

- Extensive distribution in the body
 - Mechanical protection
 - Softening the impact of shocks
 - Allowing appropriate sliding of muscle bundles
 - Thermal insulation (maintaining body temperature)
 - Buffering system for lipid energy balance



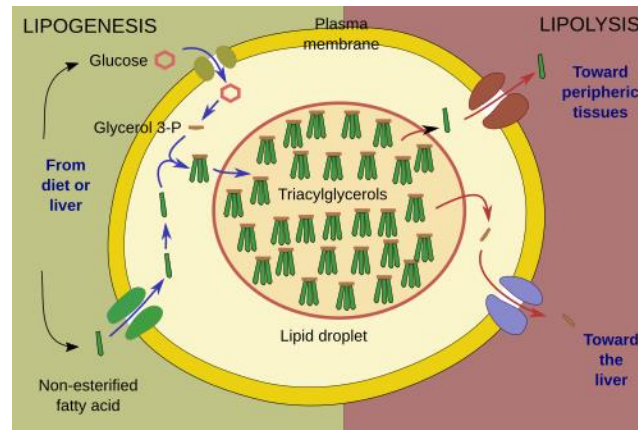
Lipogenesis and Lipolysis

Lipogenesis: Fat synthesis

- Synthesis of fatty acids
- Adipose tissue (+ liver)
- Responsive to changes in diet
 - Stimulated by high carbohydrate diet
 - Inhibited by polyunsaturated fatty acids and fasting

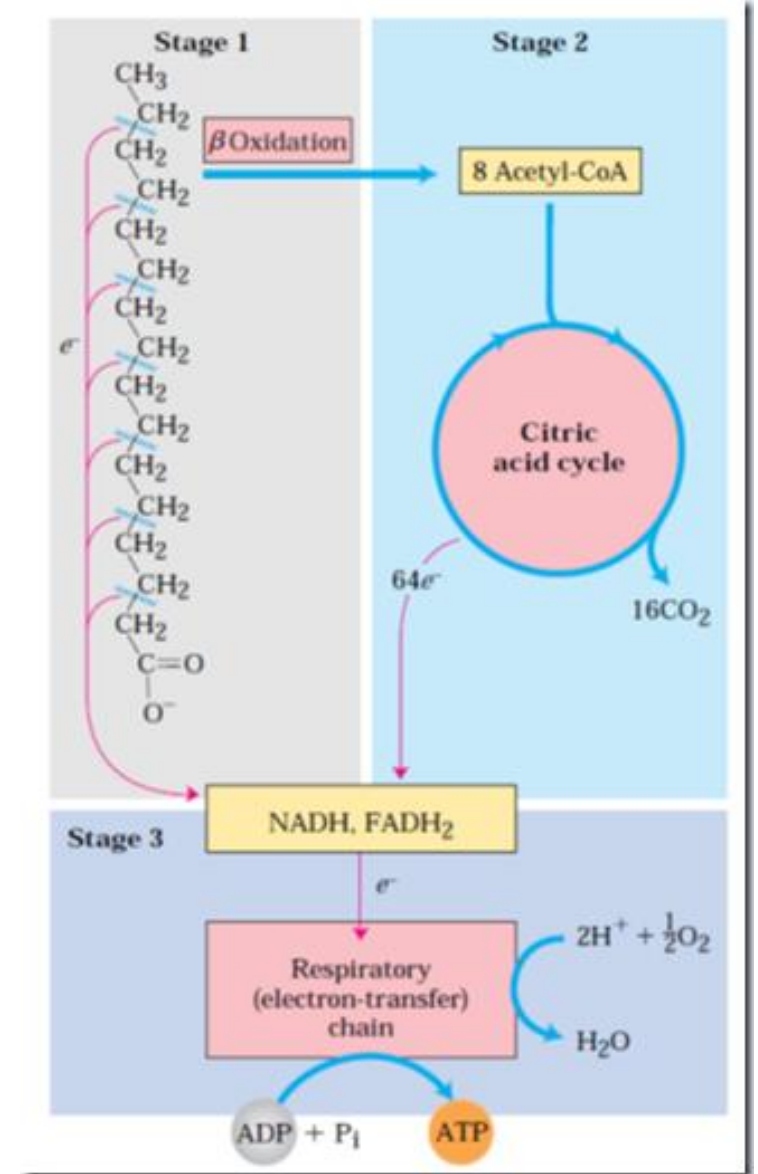
Lipolysis (fatty acid oxidation): Fat breakdown

- Adipose tissue
- Triacylglycerol = 3 free fatty acids + glycerol
 - Hormone-sensitive lipase
 - Inhibited by insulin
 - Favored by the presence of glucagon and epinephrine
- Monoacylglycerol lipase



Lipolysis

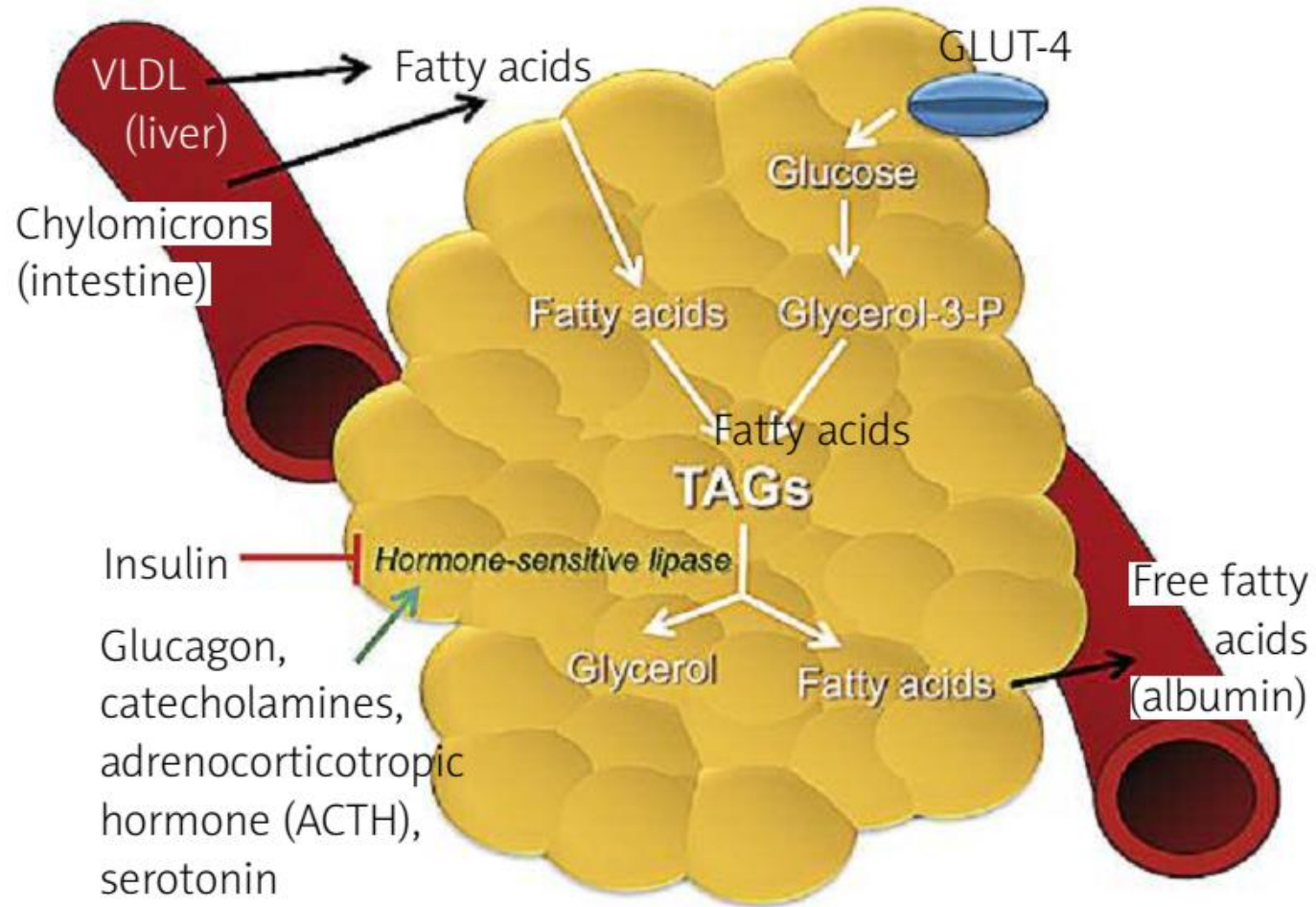
- Glycerol effluxed out of adipocytes via an aquaporin type of transport molecule
 - Shuttled back to liver for use in gluconeogenesis
- Fatty acids are immediately bound to albumin and carried in the bloodstream to the liver, muscle and other tissues for oxidation
- *Beta-oxidation*: catabolic process in which the free fatty acids resulting from lipolysis are used by the body as a source of energy.



Lipogenesis and Lipolysis

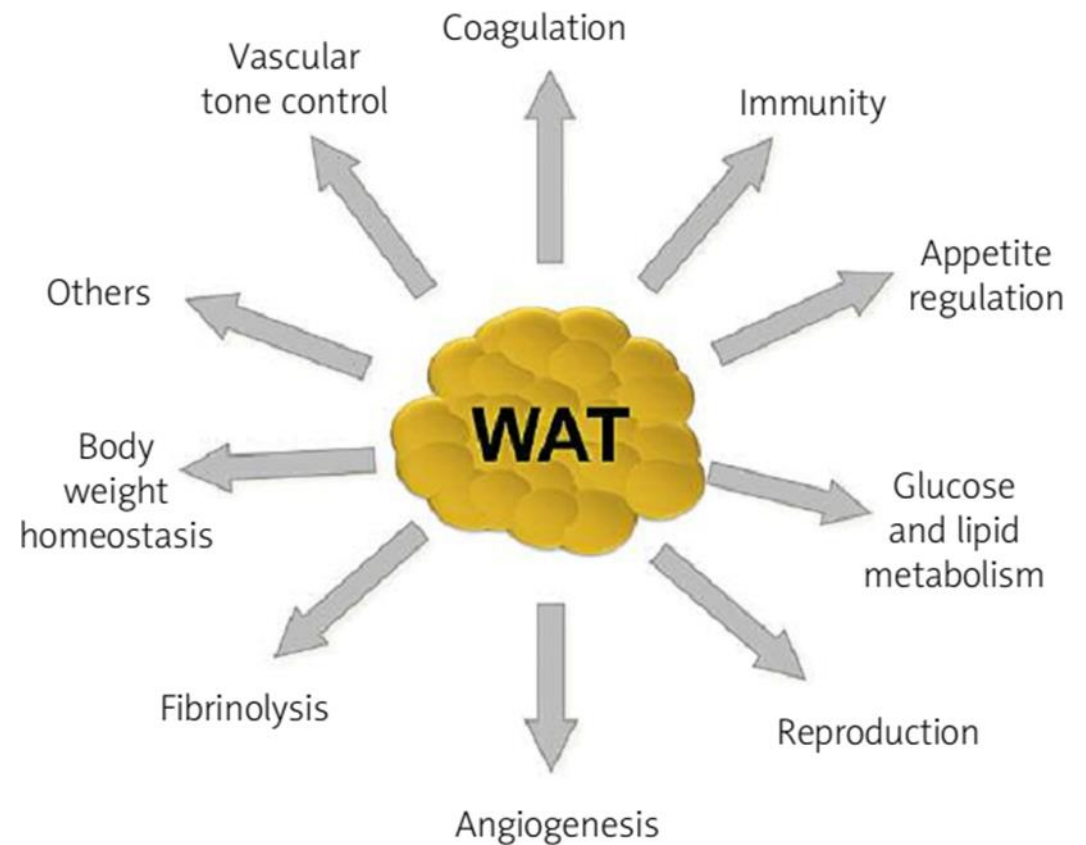
- After a meal, white adipocytes take up fatty acids carried, convert into triglycerides and store these in a large intracellular lipid droplet
 - insulin inhibits lipolysis and causes the uptake of fatty acids
 - During periods of calorie surplus, WAT mass expands by increasing both the size (hypertrophy) and the number of adipocytes (hyperplasia)
- Between meals and in other catabolic states, WAT releases free fatty acids (FFAs) liberated by intracellular lipolysis into the bloodstream to provide other organs with energy
 - Sympathetic nervous system activation is the major lipolytic signalling and increase hormone sensitive lipase levels by stimulating β -adrenergic receptors.

Primary metabolic role of adipose tissue



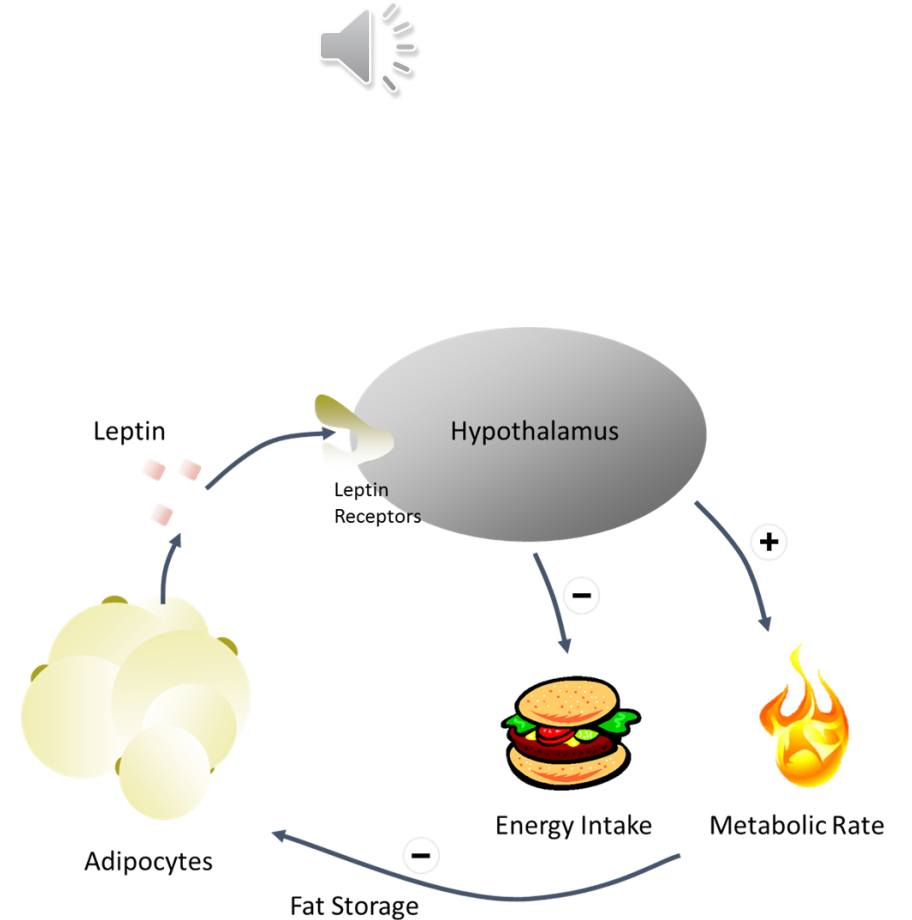
Secretory Organ

- White adipose tissue is the largest endocrine tissue of humans
- Release and have receptors for;
 - Growth factors
 - Enzymes
 - Cytokines
 - Complement factors
 - Matrix proteins
- Takes place in the regulation of;
 - Food intake
 - Energy expenditure
 - Metabolism homeostasis
 - Immunity and blood pressure homeostasis



Leptin

- Signals satiety (fullness), Anorexigenic peptide
- Expressed mainly by adipose tissue
- Increases energy expenditure
- *ob* gene
- Leptin decreases in response to low insulin levels and increases with feeding or in response to insulin stimulation
- Increased by glucocorticoids, acute infection and proinflammatory cytokines
- Decreased by cold exposure, adrenergic stimulation, growth hormone (GH), thyroid hormone, melatonin



Ob/Ob Mouse

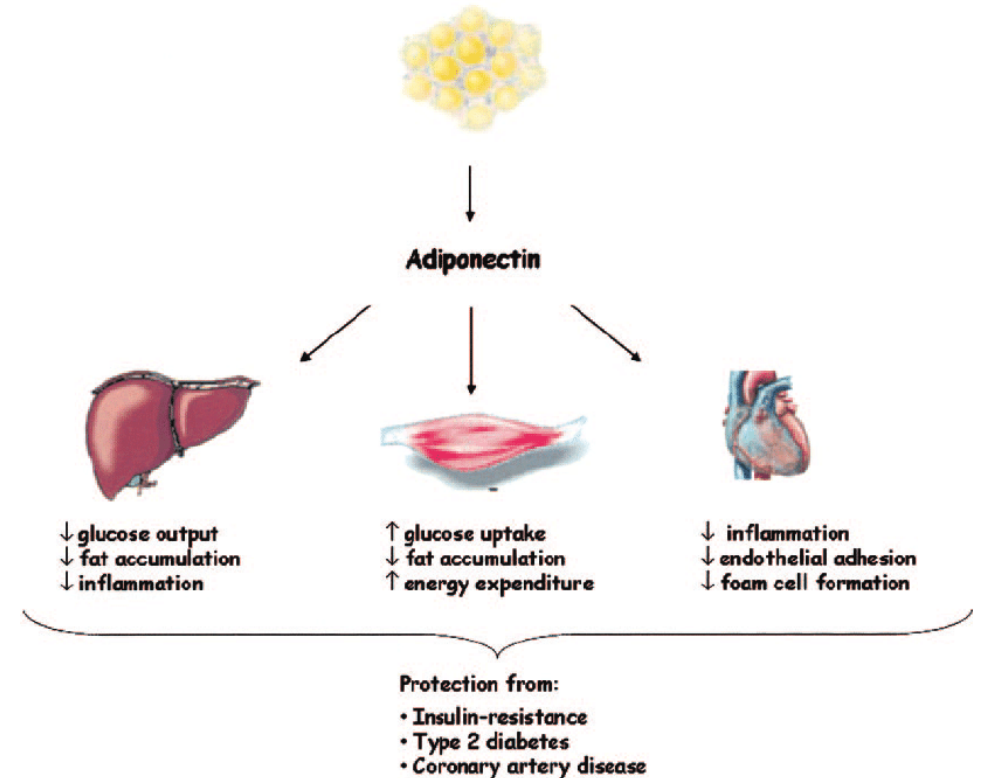


- Mutation on the Ob gene
- Unable to express leptin
- Normal weight at birth, but gain weight rapidly throughout its life (3x unaffected mouse)
- Type II diabetes
 - High blood sugar
 - Enlargement of pancreatic islet cells
 - Increased level of insulin

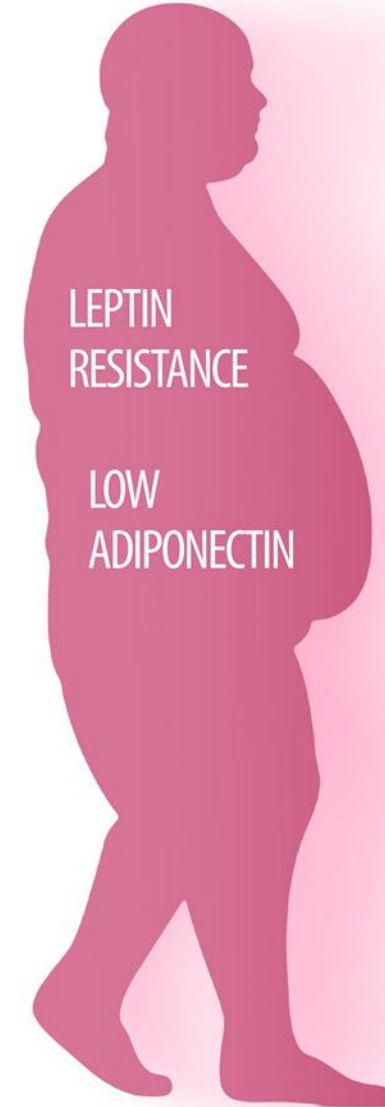
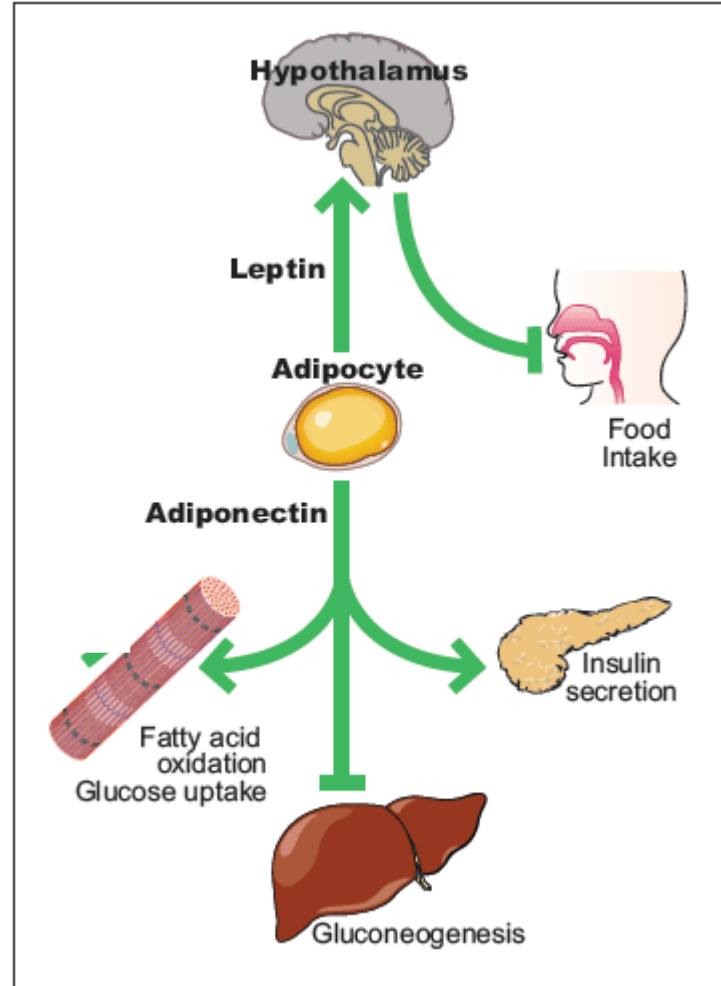


Adiponectin

- Secreted exclusively from adipose tissue
- Strong negative correlation between plasma adiponectin concentration and fat mass
- Adiponectin is associated with type 2 diabetes
 - increase whole body insulin sensitivity
 - stimulate fatty acid oxidation and glucose uptake in skeletal muscle and adipose tissue
 - suppression of hepatic glucose output
- Regulates energy expenditure through activation of AMPK in the hypothalamus



OBESITY/ OVERWEIGHT

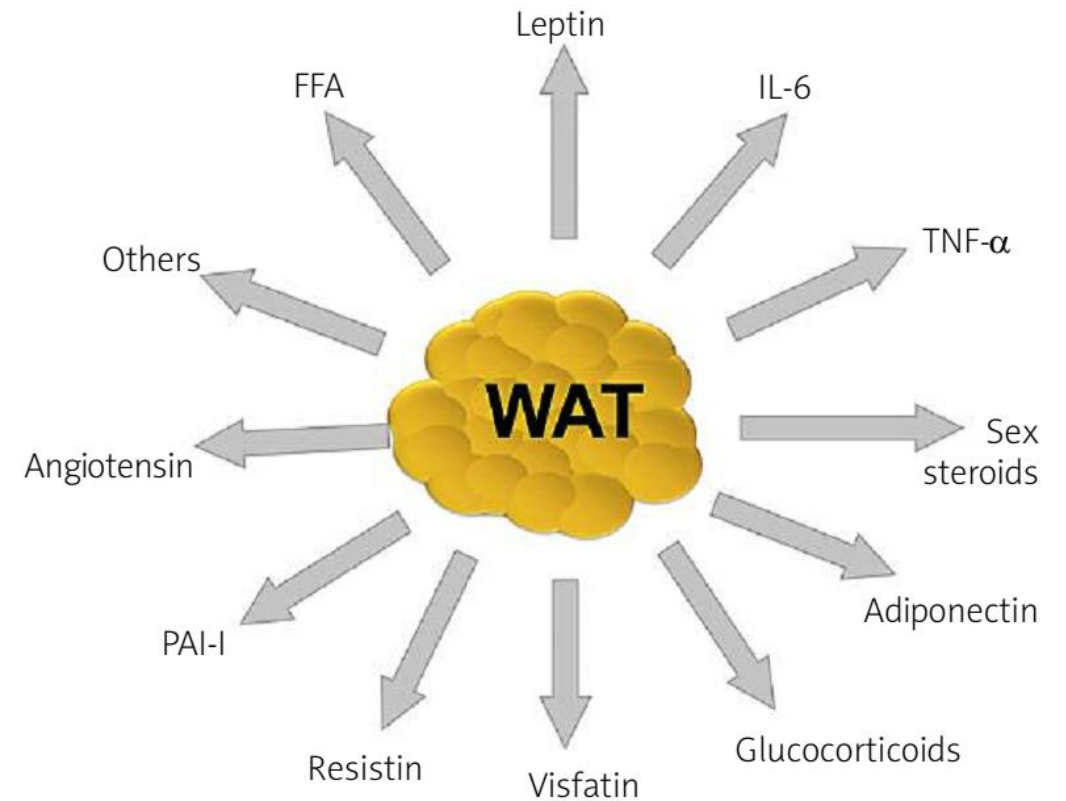


| Endocrine factor | Regulation of secretion | Molecular signalling (receptor) | Physiological functions |
|---|---|------------------------------------|---|
| <i>Adipocyte-enriched endocrine factors</i> | | | |
| Leptin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased by fat mass • Decreased by β-adrenergic signalling • Decreased by prolonged fasting | Receptor ligand (LEPR) | <p>CNS signalling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased starvation response • Decreased appetite • Increased energy expenditure • Decreased heat loss • Increased hepatic gluconeogenesis • Decreased insulin resistance <p>Peripheral signalling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased insulin secretion • Decreased atherogenesis |
| Adiponectin | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased by β-adrenergic signalling • Decreased by endoplasmic reticulum stress • Decreased by oxidative stress • Decreased by obesity | Receptor ligand (ADIPOR1, ADIPOR2) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decreased inflammation • Increased insulin sensitivity • Increased fatty acid catabolism • Decreased gluconeogenesis |

Factors secreted by white adipose tissue

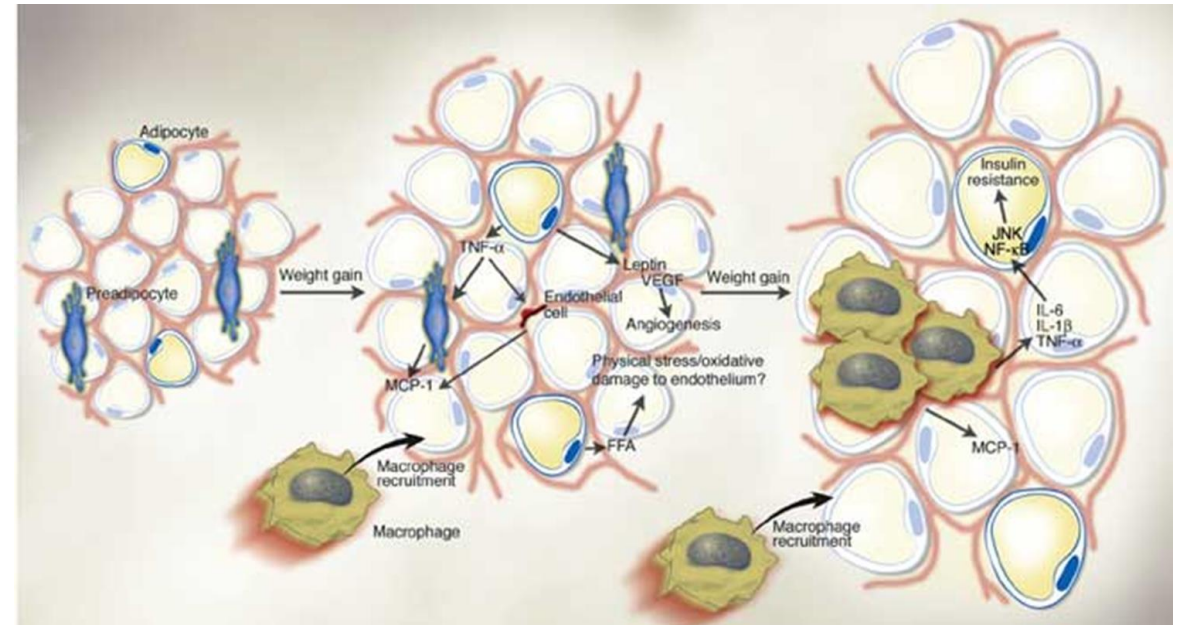
| Molecule | Function/effect |
|-----------------|--|
| Leptin | Signals to the brain about body fat stores. Regulation of appetite and energy expenditure. Wide variety of physiological functions |
| Adiponectin | Plays a protective role in the pathogenesis of type 2 diabetes and cardiovascular disease |
| Resistin | Hypothetical role in insulin resistance |
| TNF- α | Affects insulin receptor signaling, possible cause of the development of insulin resistance in obesity |
| IL-6 | Pro-inflammatory, lipid and glucose metabolism, regulation of body weight |
| PAI-1 | Inhibitor of the fibrinolytic system by inhibition of activation of plasminogen |
| Angiotensinogen | Precursor of angiotensin II; regulator of blood pressure and electrolyte homeostasis |
| FFA | Oxidized in tissues to produce local energy. Serve as a substrate for triglyceride and structural molecular synthesis. Involved in the development of insulin resistance |
| ASP | Influences the rate of triacylglycerol synthesis in adipose tissue |
| VEGF | Stimulation of angiogenesis |
| Adipsin | Potential relation between the complement pathway and adipose tissue metabolism |
| Glycerol | Structural component of the major classes of biological lipids and gluconeogenic precursor |
| IGF-1 | Stimulates proliferation of a wide variety of cells and mediates many cells and many of the effects of growth hormone |

TNF- α – tumor necrosis factor α , IL-6 – interleukin-6, PAI-1 – plasminogen activator inhibitor 1, FFA – free fatty acids, ASP – acylation stimulating protein, VEGF – vascular endothelial growth factor, IGF-1 – insulin-like growth factor 1



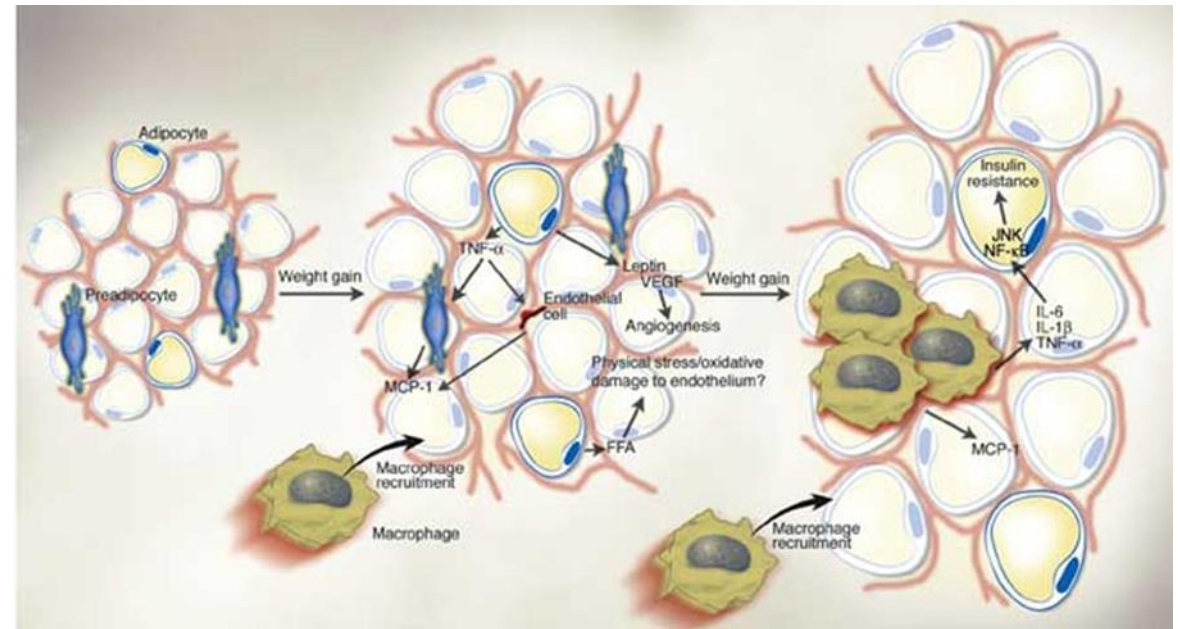
Tumor necrosis factor α (TNF- α)

- Systemic inflammation, regulates immune cells
- Adipocytes are capable of producing TNF- α but macrophages are the primary source of adipose derived TNF- α
- Macrophages are abundant visceral adipose tissue than in subcutaneous adipose tissue
- TNF- α can impair insulin signaling in hepatocytes and adipose tissue (insulin resistance)
 - possible cause of obesity



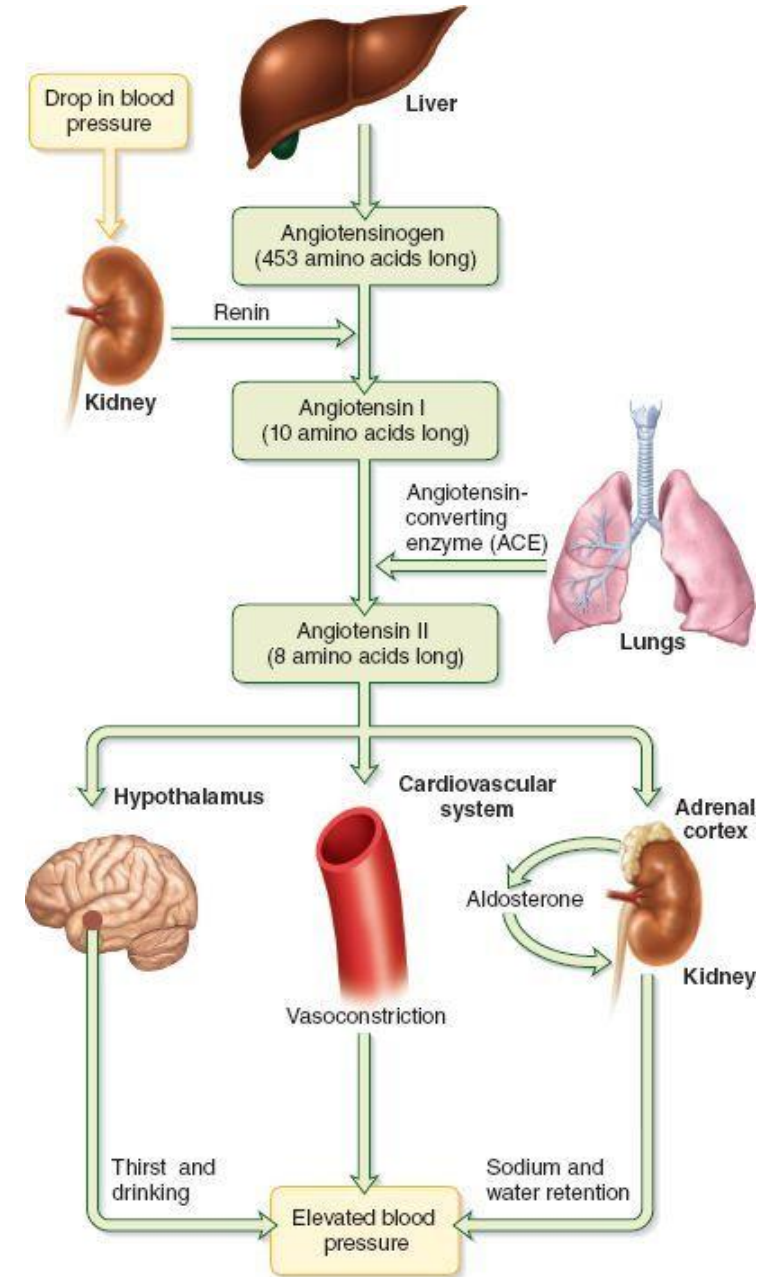
Interleukin-6 (IL-6)

- Pro-inflammatory (promotes inflammation)
- 30% of circulating IL-6 originates from adipose tissue
- Concentrations are higher in visceral fat as compared to subcutaneous fat
- IL-6 inhibits lipase lipoprotein, induces lipolysis and increases glucose uptake



Angiotensin

- Angiotensin II stimulates adipocyte differentiation and lipogenesis
- Adipose tissue expresses all components of the renin-angiotensin-aldosterone system (RAAS)
 - RAAS peptides secreted by adipose tissue act on the vasculature and distant targets to regulate blood pressure and cardiovascular responses in obese individuals



Adipose Tissue

