

XII Meeting. State of the Art in
HEART FAILURE
CLINICAL PRACTICE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODELS

Venue: Hotel Meliá María Pita, A Coruña

A Coruña 26-27 September 2025



#ACORUÑAHF2025



Obesity and HF.
What have we learned in pathophysiology and management?

Obesidad e IC.
¿Qué hemos aprendido en fisiopatología y manejo?



Almodena Castro
CARDIÓLOGA
Hospital Universitario La Paz

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

Consultant, Speaker and Researcher for:

BI, MSD, Astra Zeneca, Esteve, Novartis, Novo Nordisk, Amgen, Menarini

Towards a Redefinition of Obesity

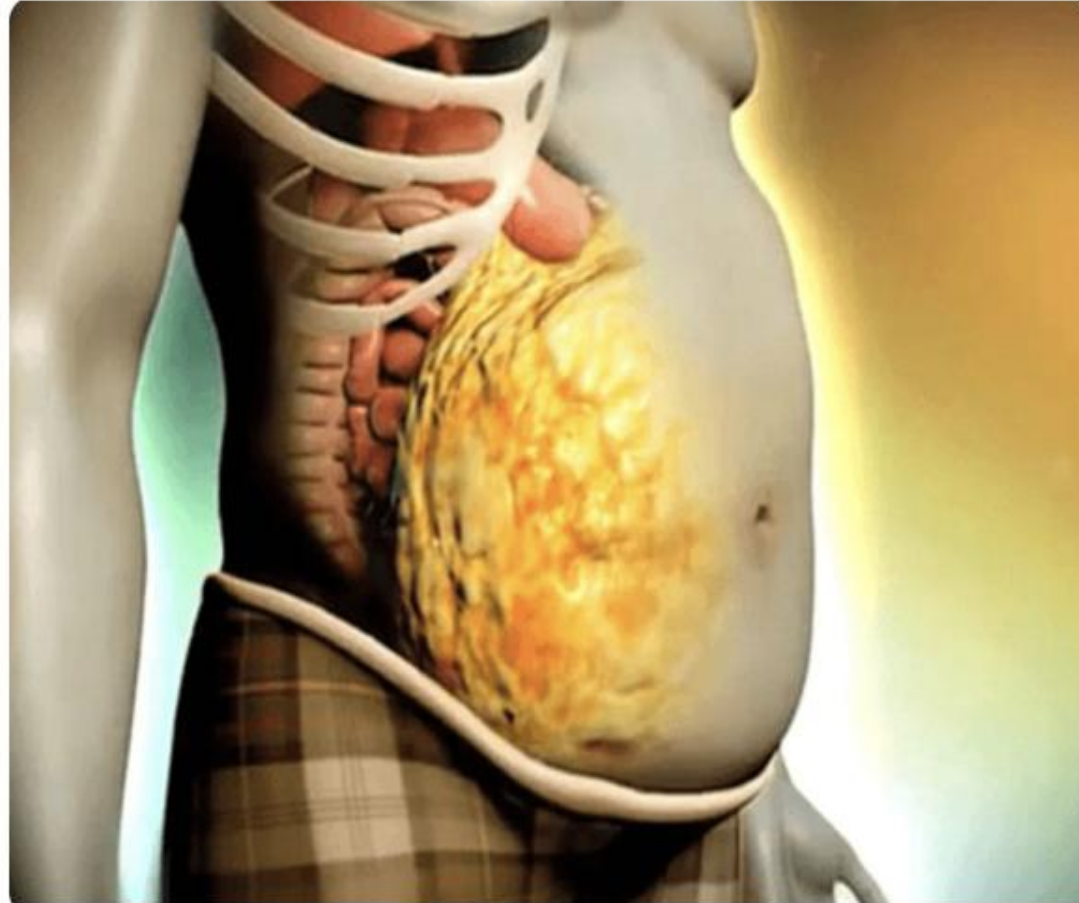


**Chronic Metabolic Adipose Disease
(CMAD)**

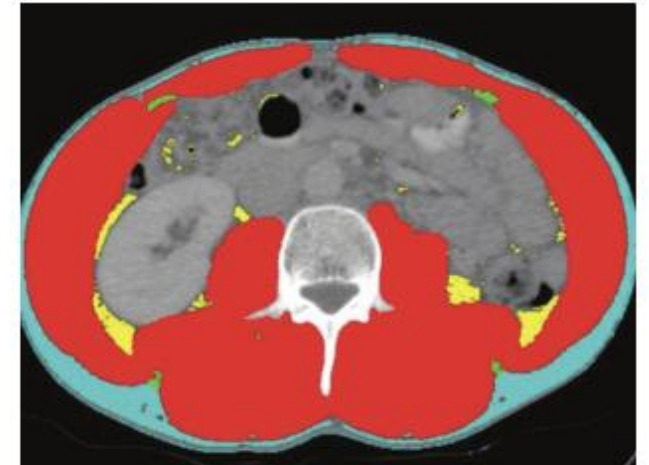
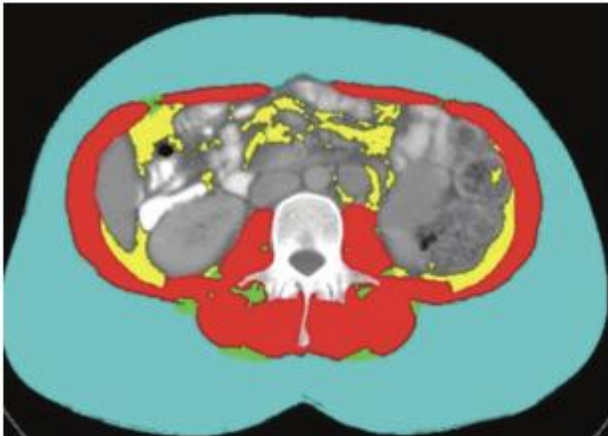
Myth-Busting:

1.

Low BMI does **NOT** exclude ectopic fat accumulation.

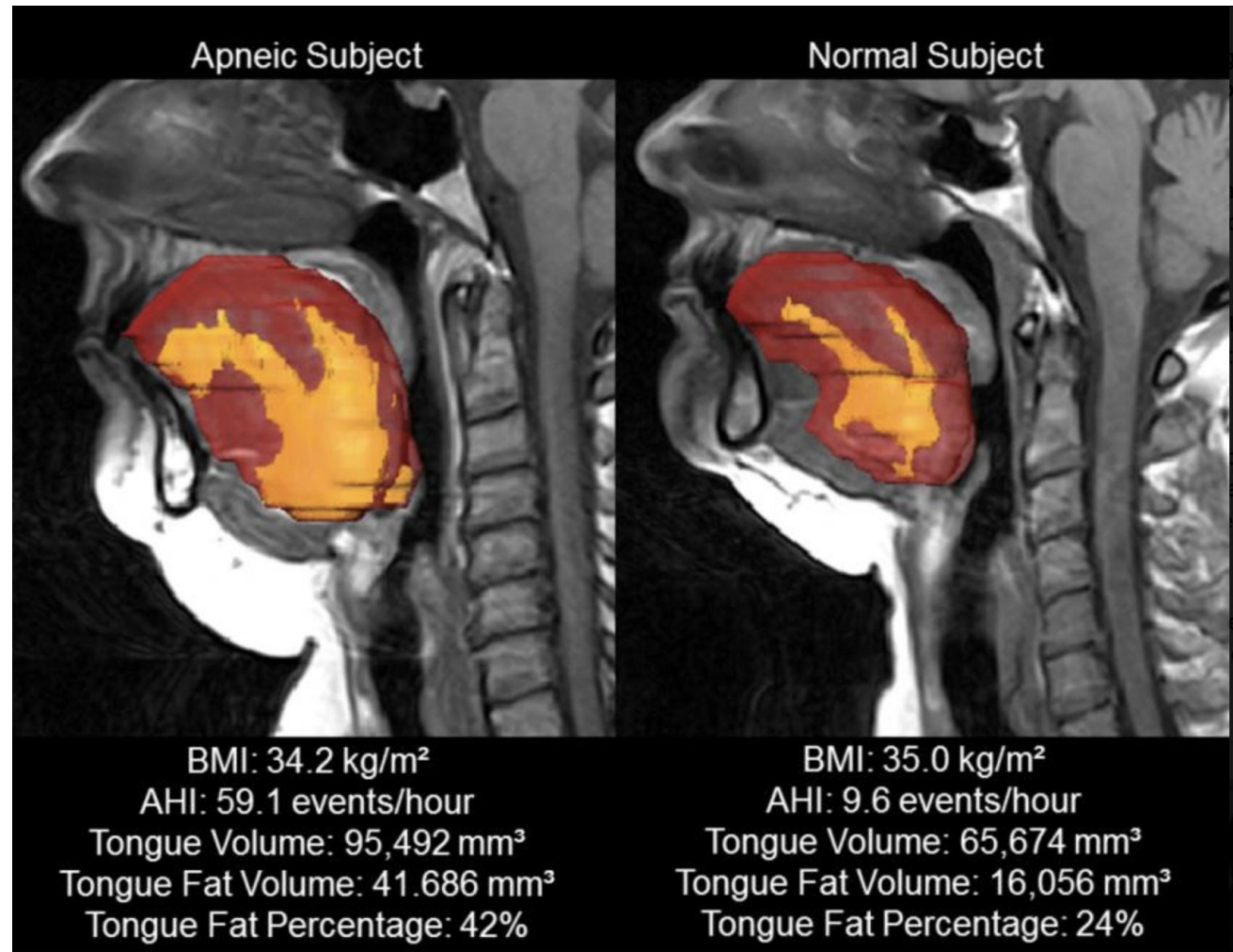


Myth-Busting: 2.



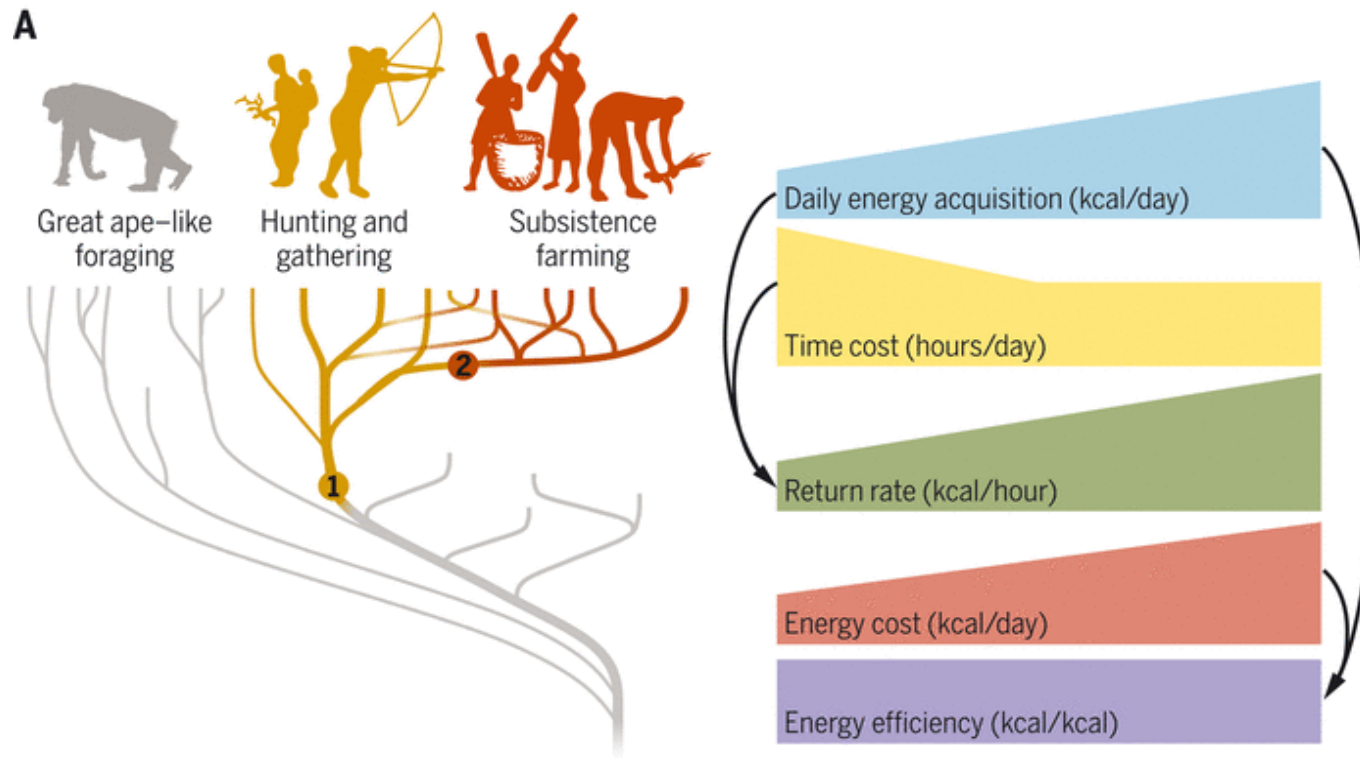
A high BMI does **NOT** necessarily imply ectopic fat

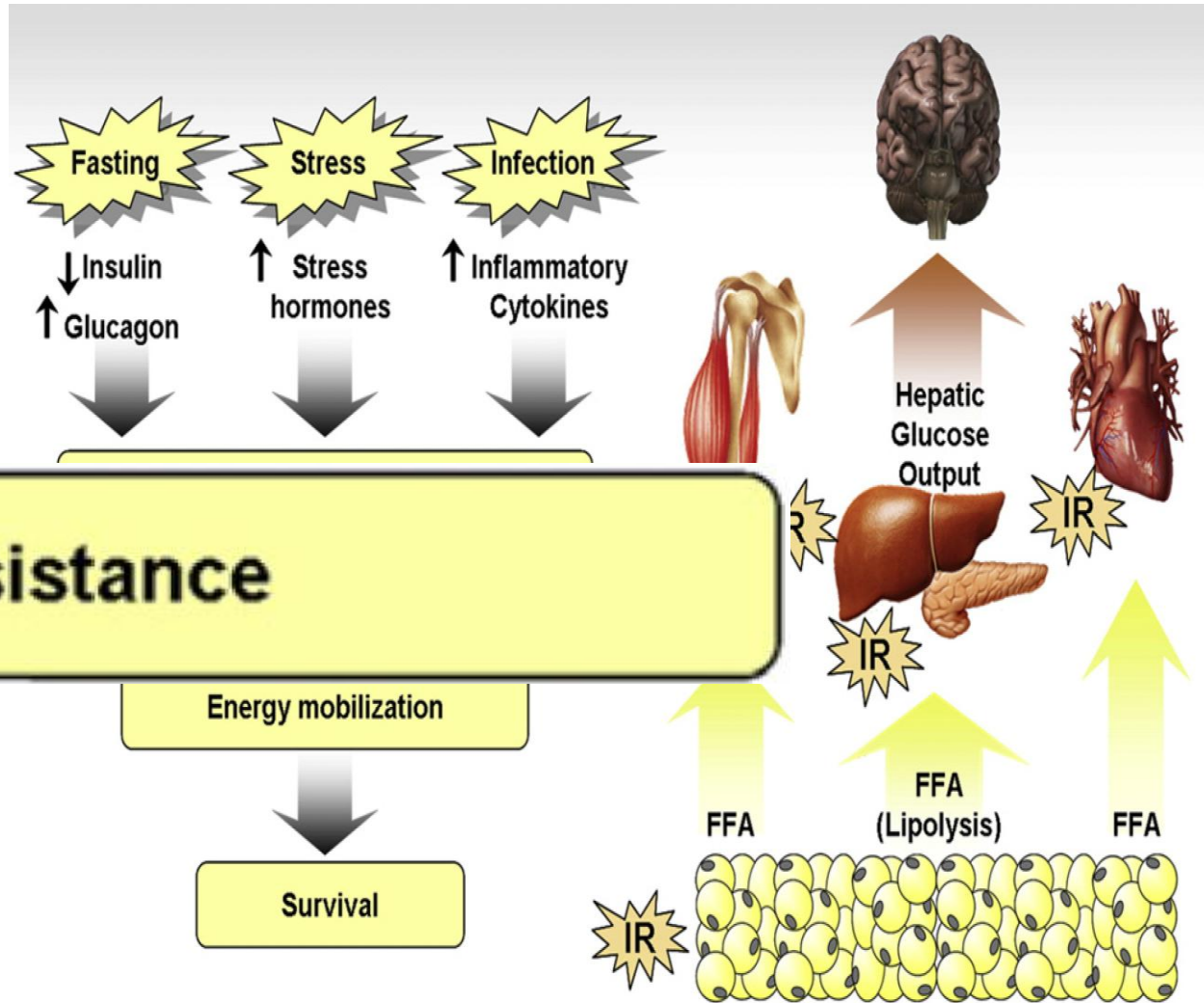
The place really matters



SLEEP, Vol. 37, No. 10, 2014, Tongue Fat in Patients with Obstructive Sleep Apnea—Kim et al

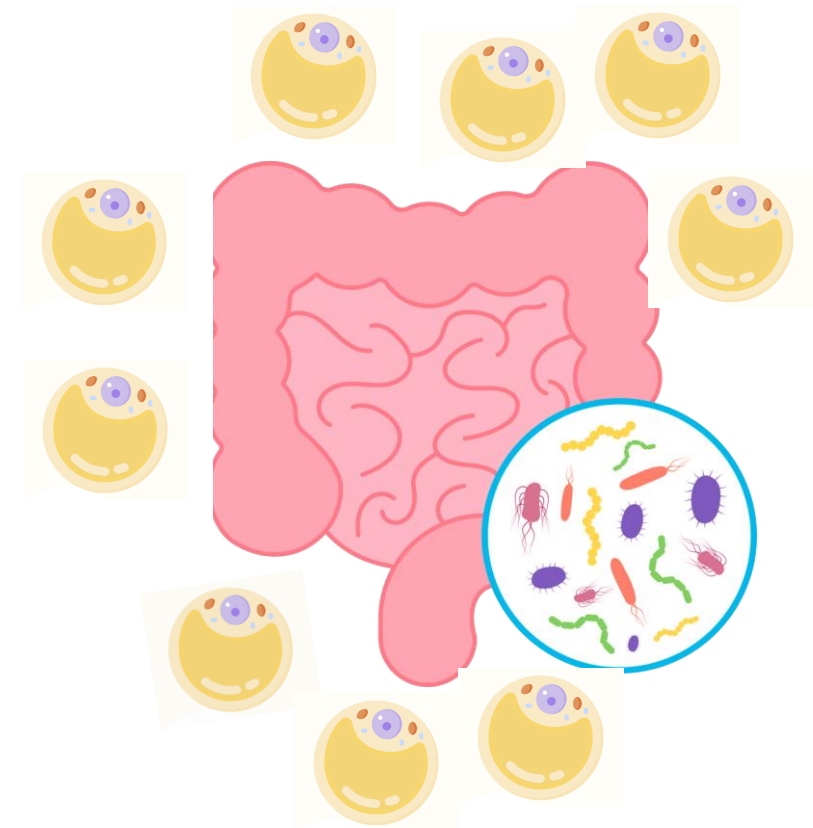
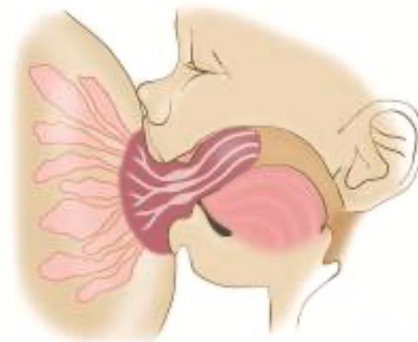
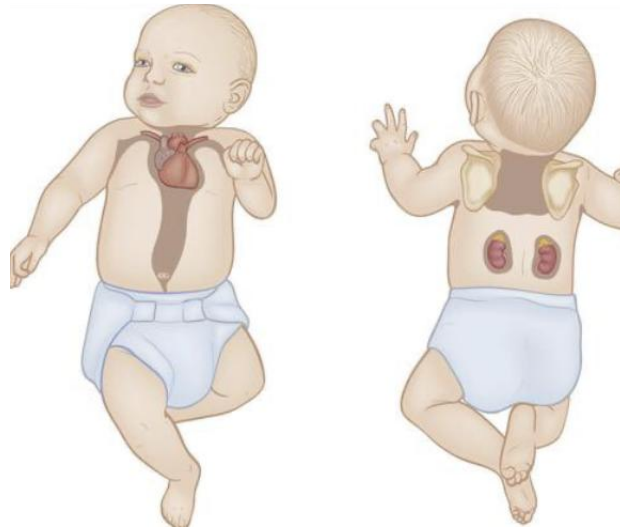
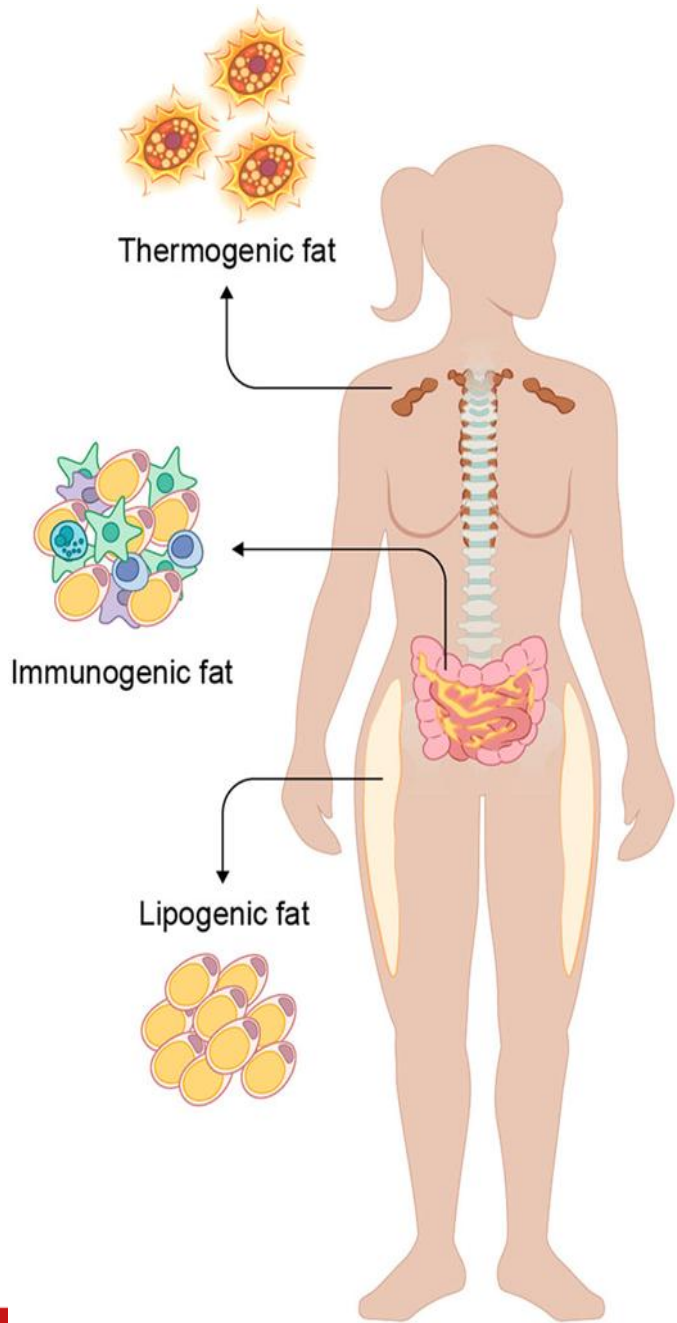
Evolution based on energy efficiency



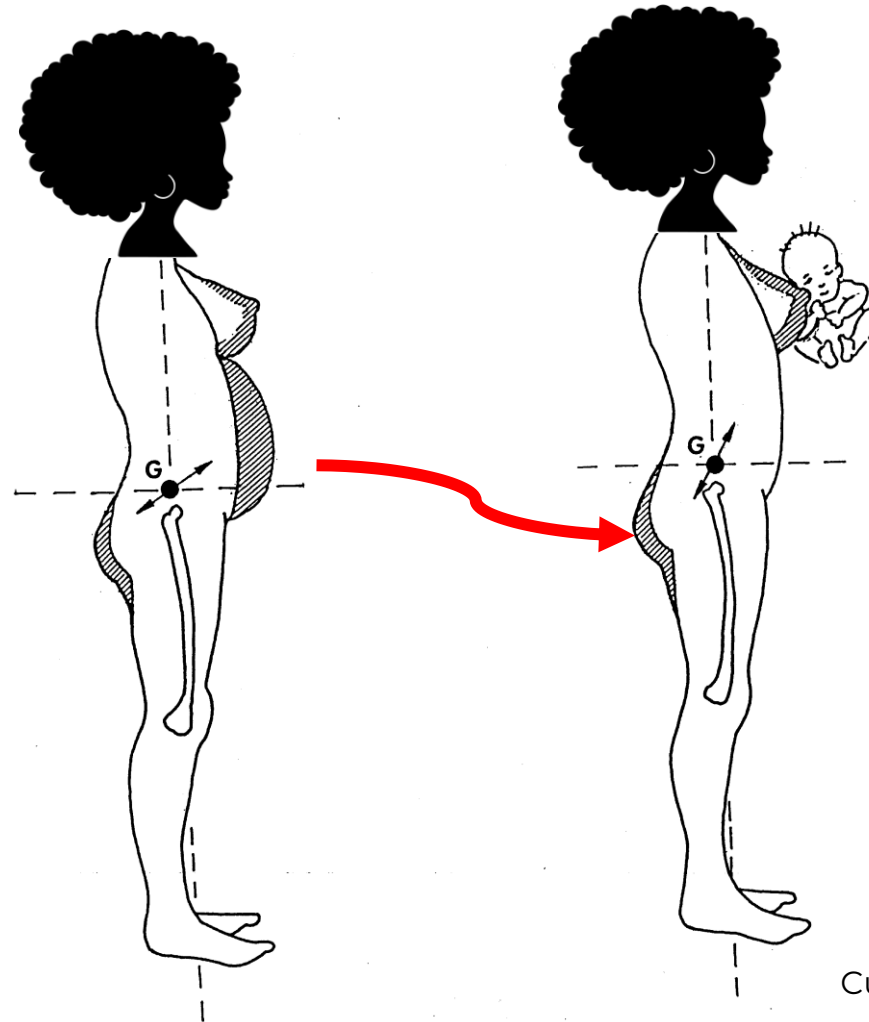


Insulin resistance

Energy mobilization



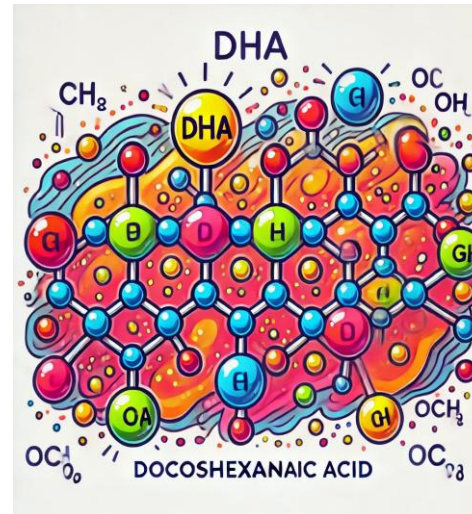
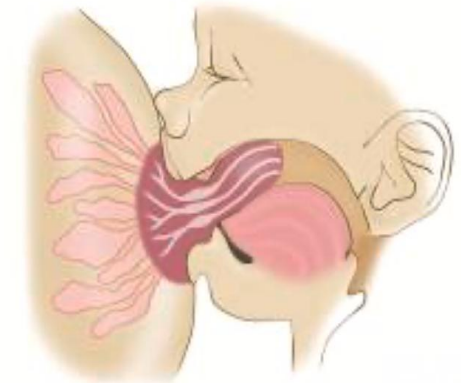
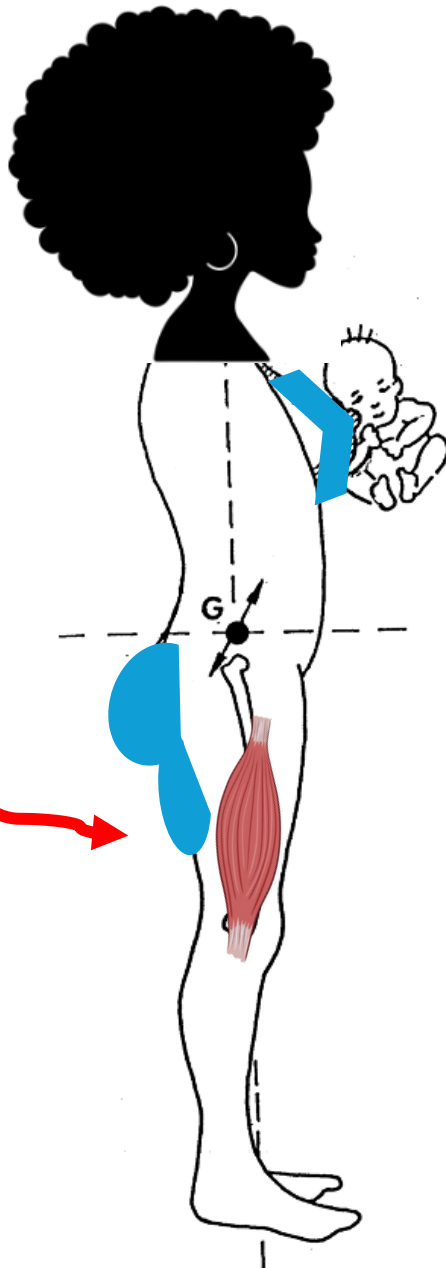
The Evolution of Gluteal/Femoral Fat Deposits and Balance during Pregnancy in Bipedal Homo



Current Anthropology, 2001. (42)issue 4, pages 572-574

gluteofemoral fat

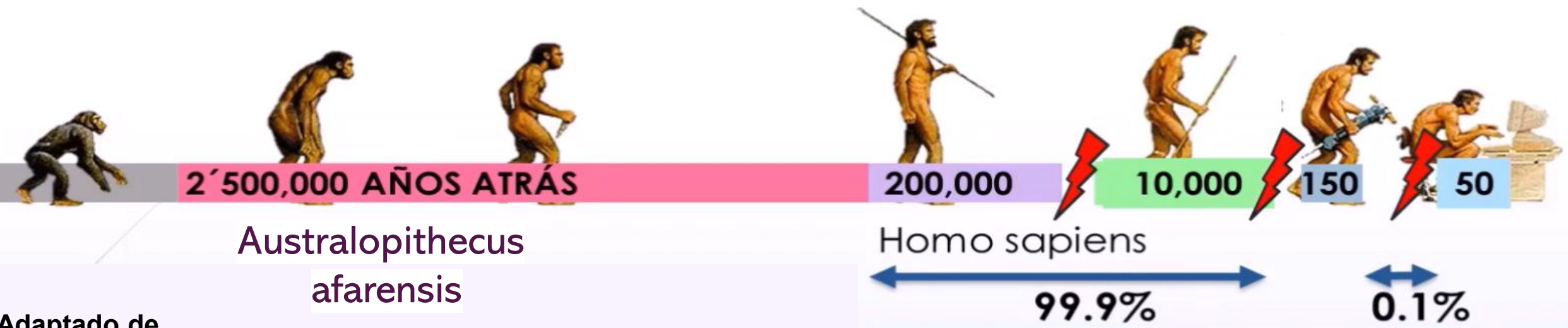
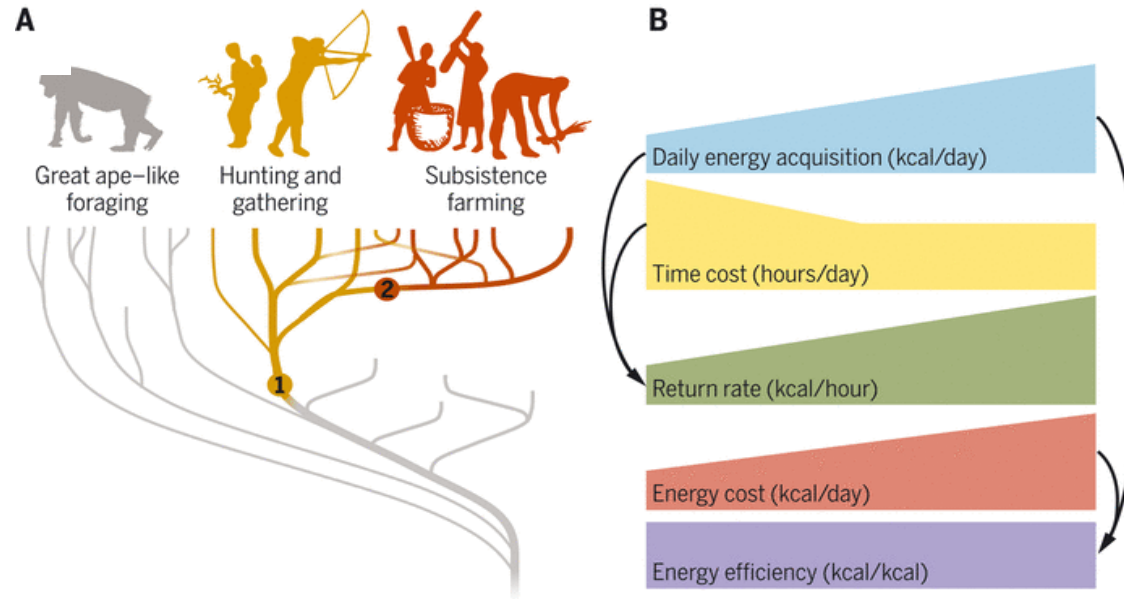
estrogens



1. Posture and biomechanics
2. Metabolic health
3. Reproductive and developmental health
4. Skeletal and muscular health
5. Hormonal regulation
6. Cerebral development

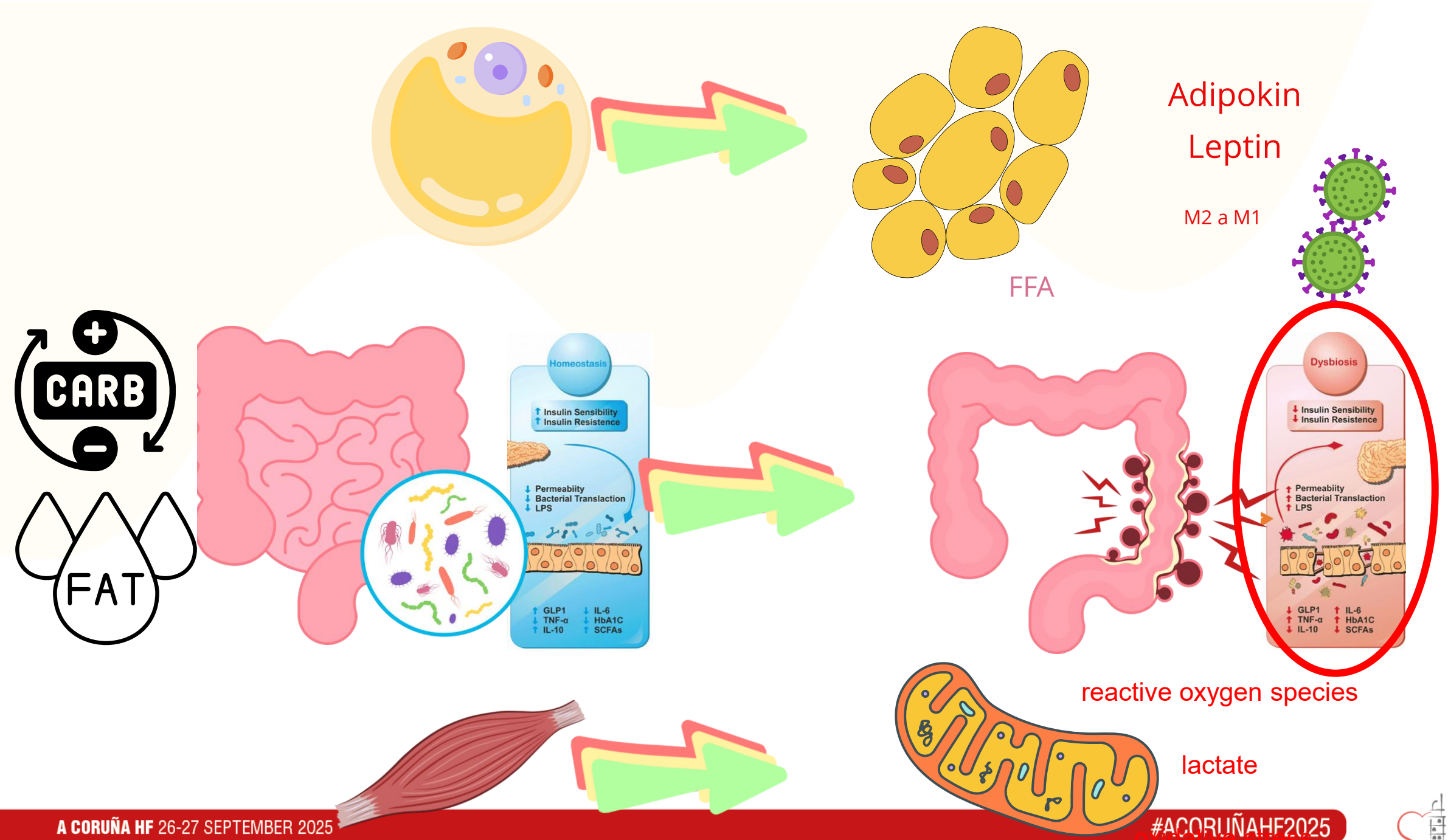
Front Nutr. 2024;11:1368966. doi:10.3389/fnut.2024.1368966

Evolution based on energy efficiency

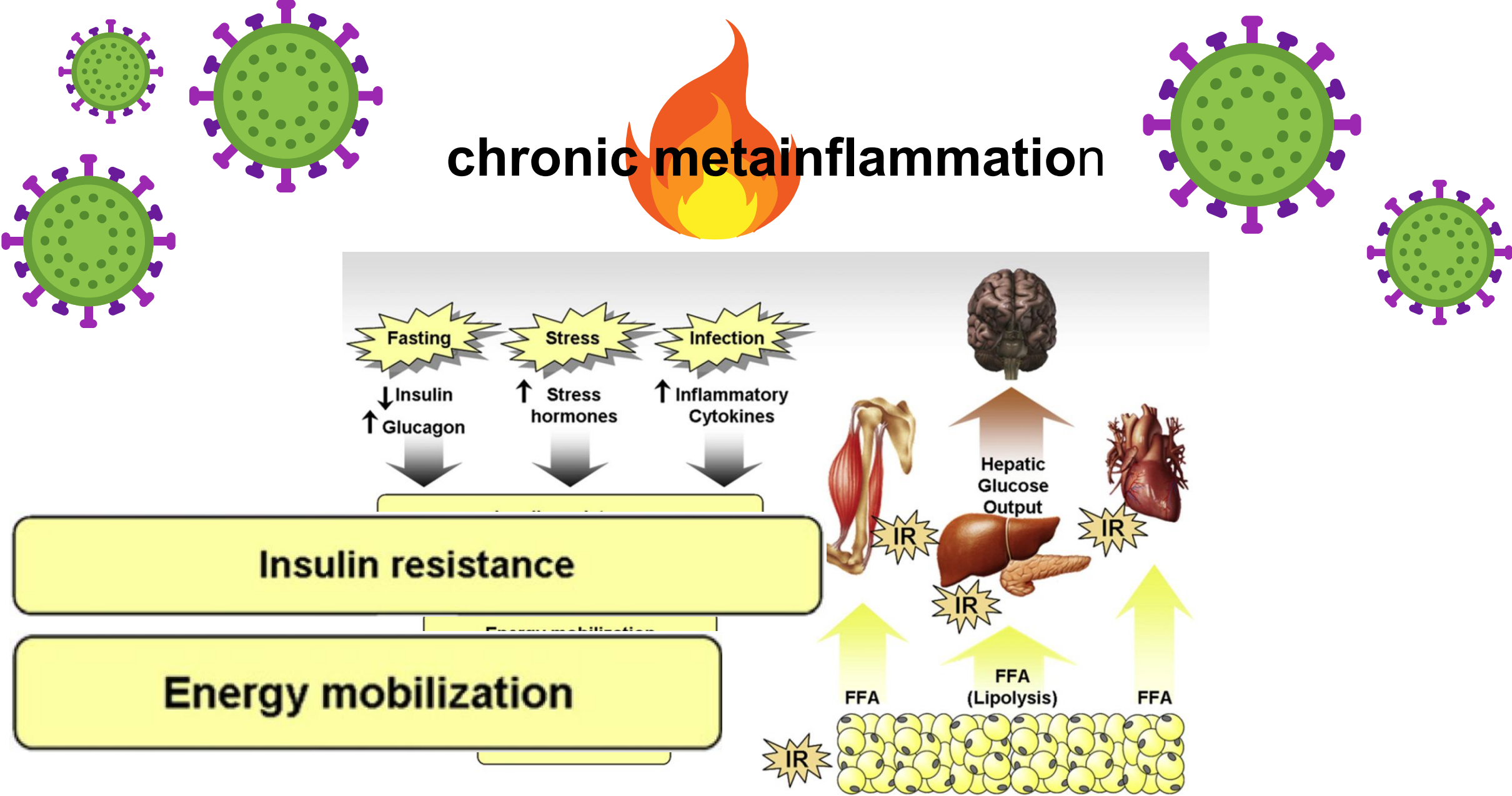


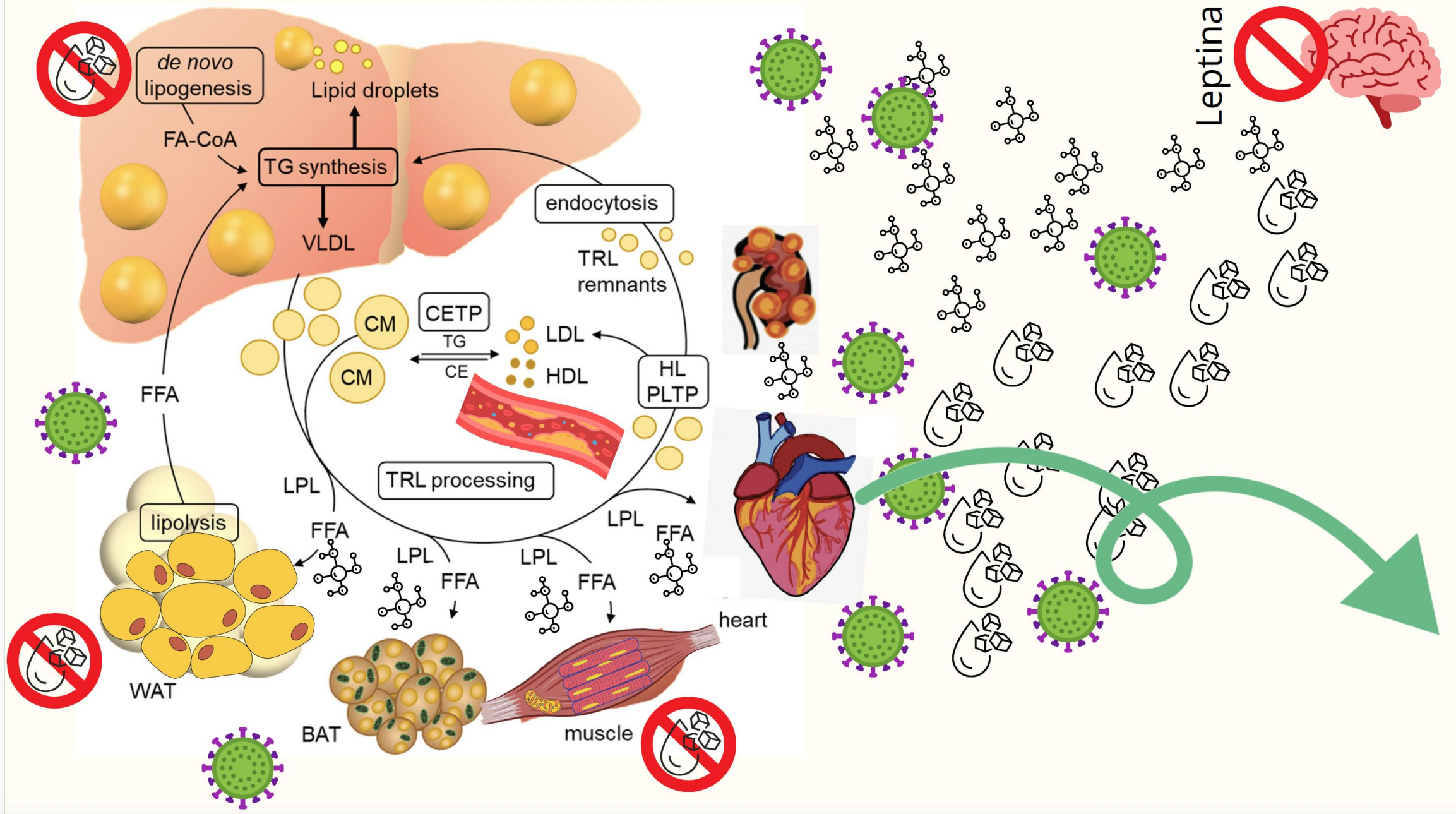
Adaptado de Michael Lehrke et al. *JACC* 2019; 73:1945-1947.

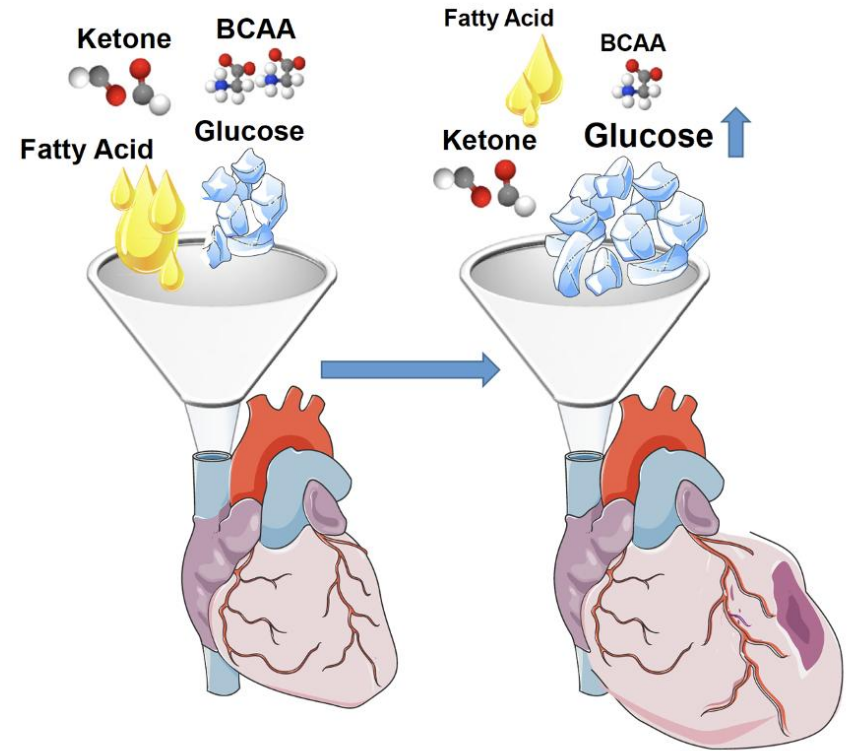
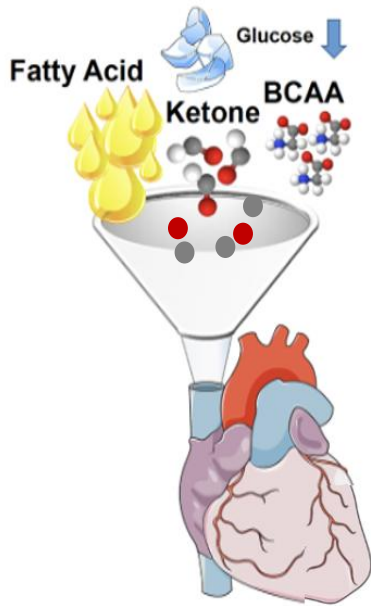
Chronic meta-inflammation



chronic metaⁱⁿflammation





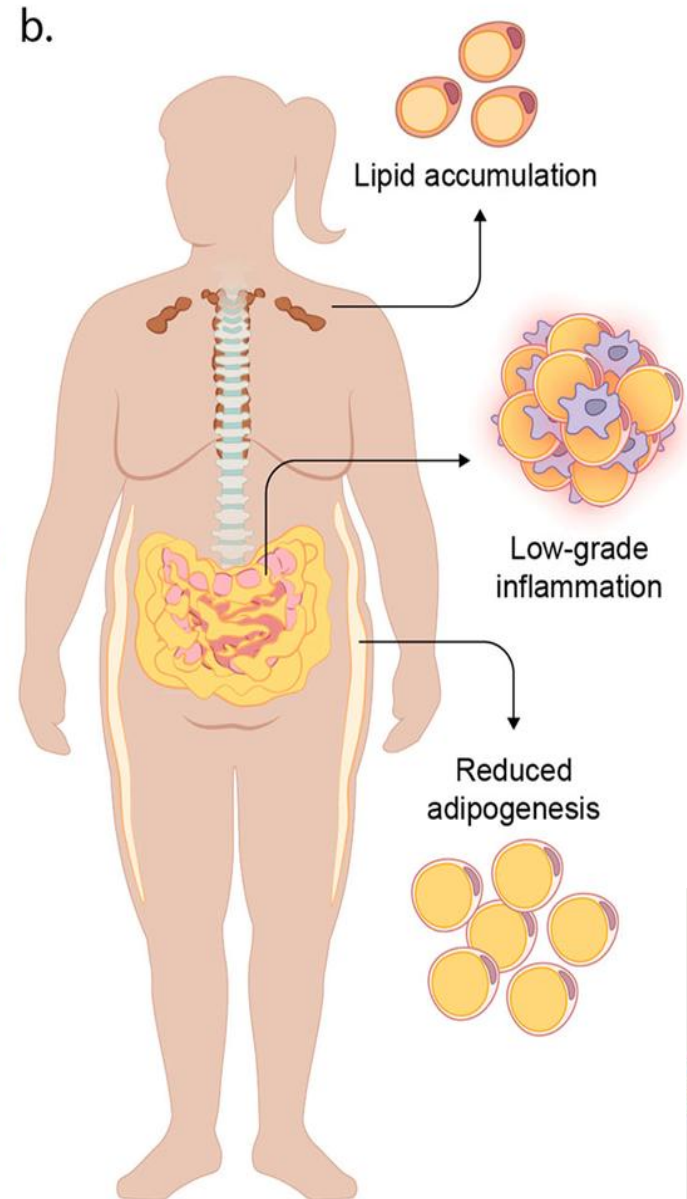
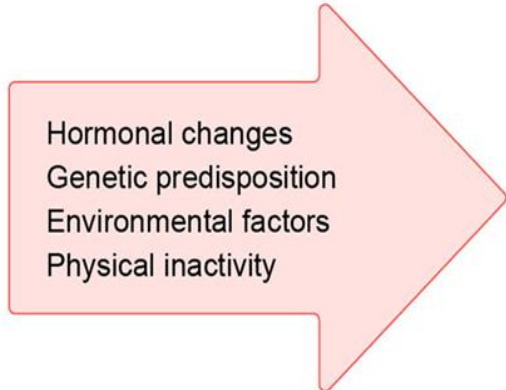
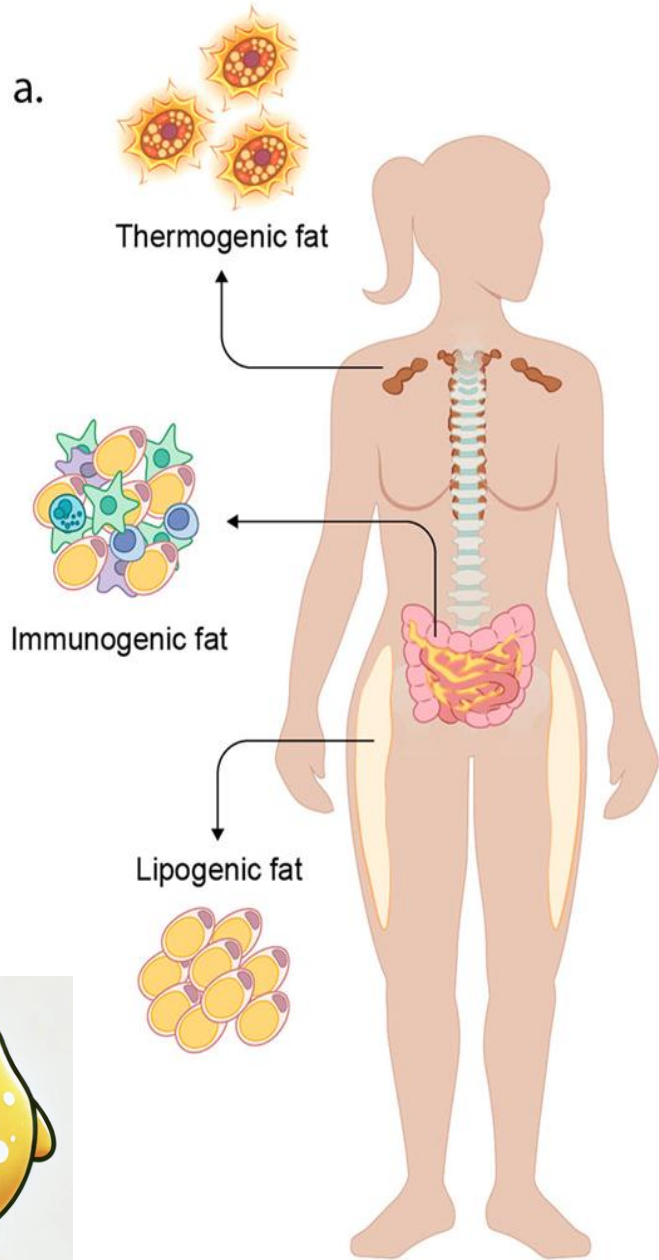


Australopithecus
afarensis

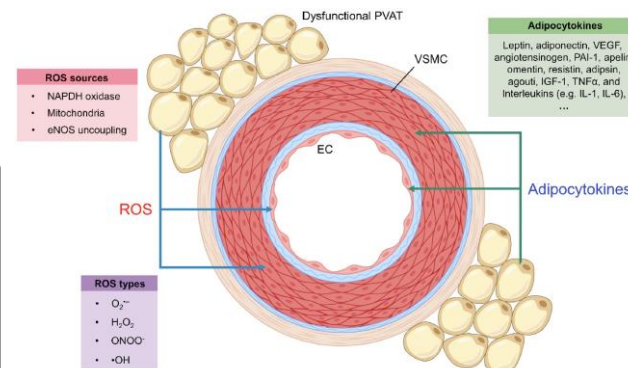
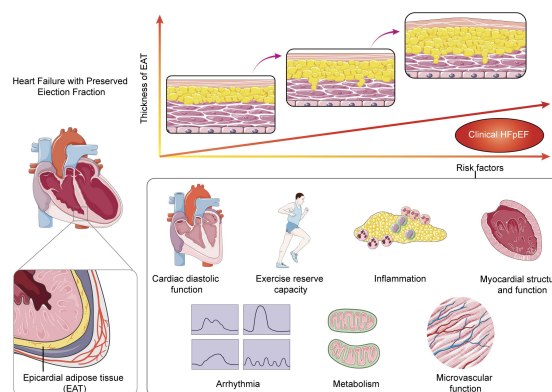
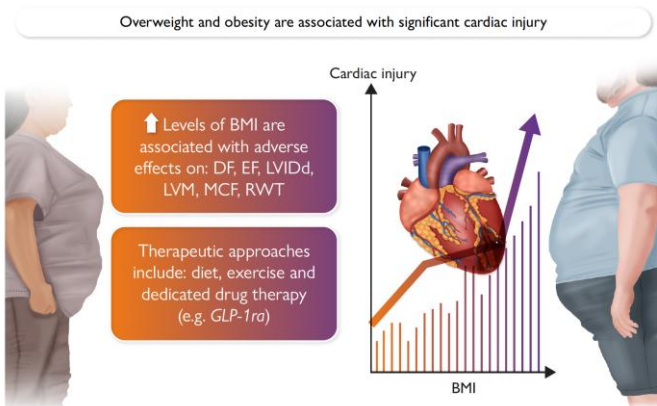
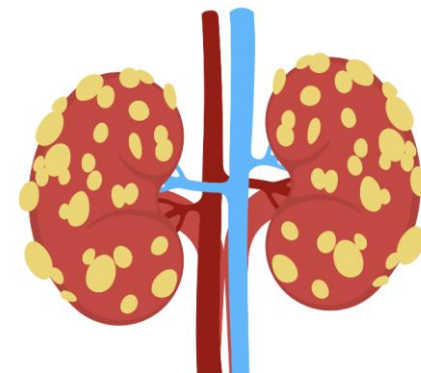
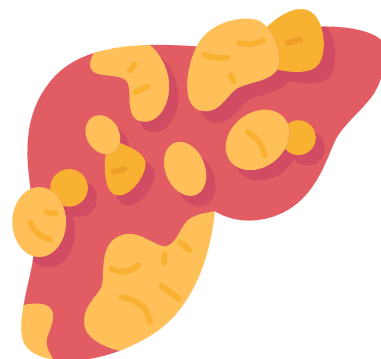
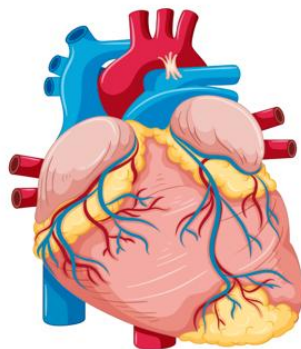
Homo sapiens
99.9%

0.1%

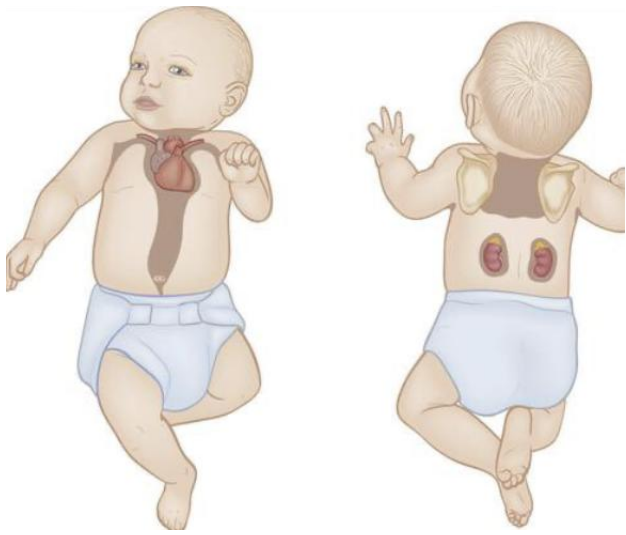
Adaptado de
Michael Lehrke et al. JACC 2019; 73:1945-1947.



Grasa visceral, epicárdica. Estestosis sistémica



Angry adipocyte



Has been proposed that EAT growing could be an **adaptive process** in states of atrial myocardium disease such as AF.

However, this **adaptive mechanism could also turn deleterious**, given the harmful effects associated to EAT hypertrophy

Neonate and early years of life

- Cardioprotective
- Thermogenic

Childhood to adulthood

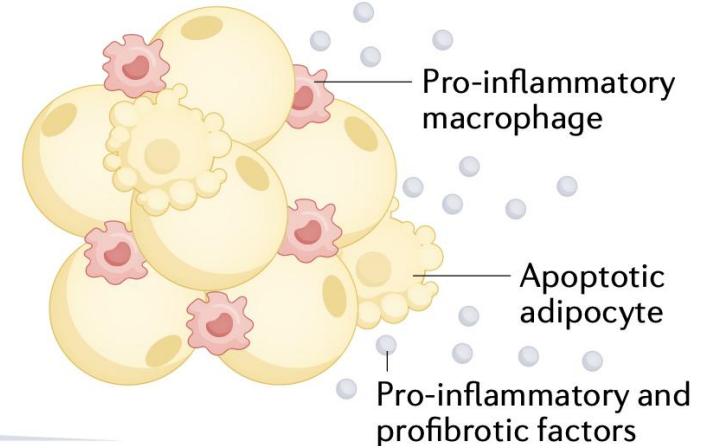
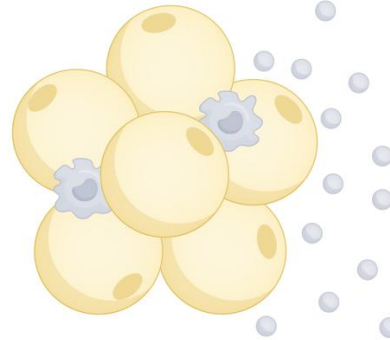
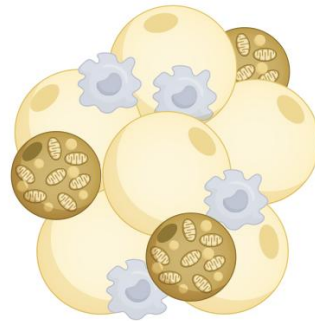
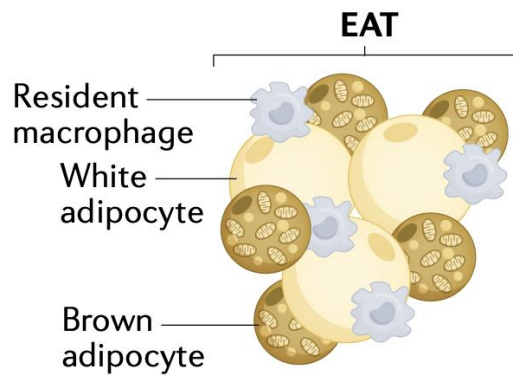
- Cardioprotective
- Fuel for the myocardium

Old age

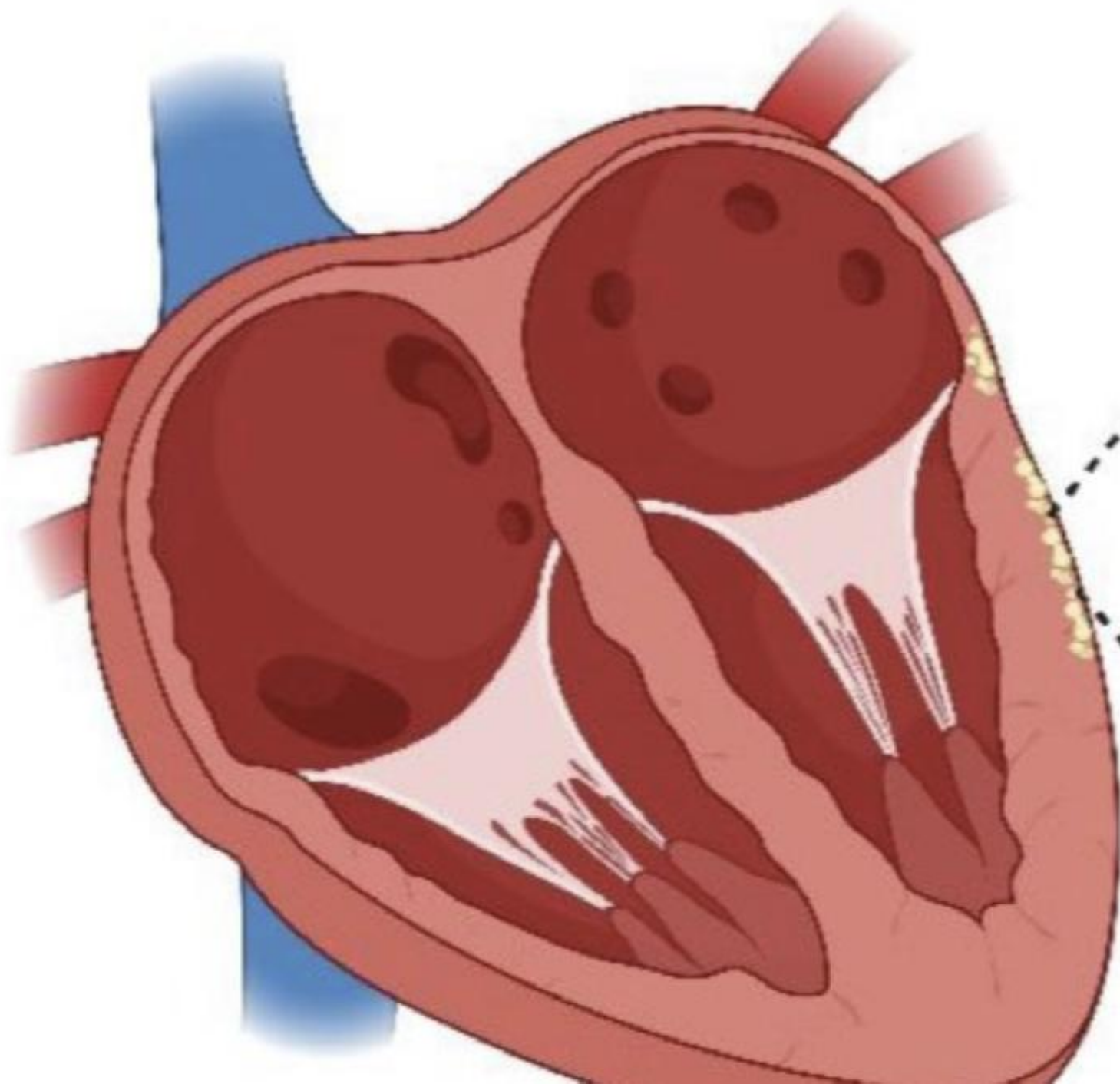
- ↓ Thermogenic function
- ↑ Profibrotic and pro-apoptotic factors

Pathological conditions

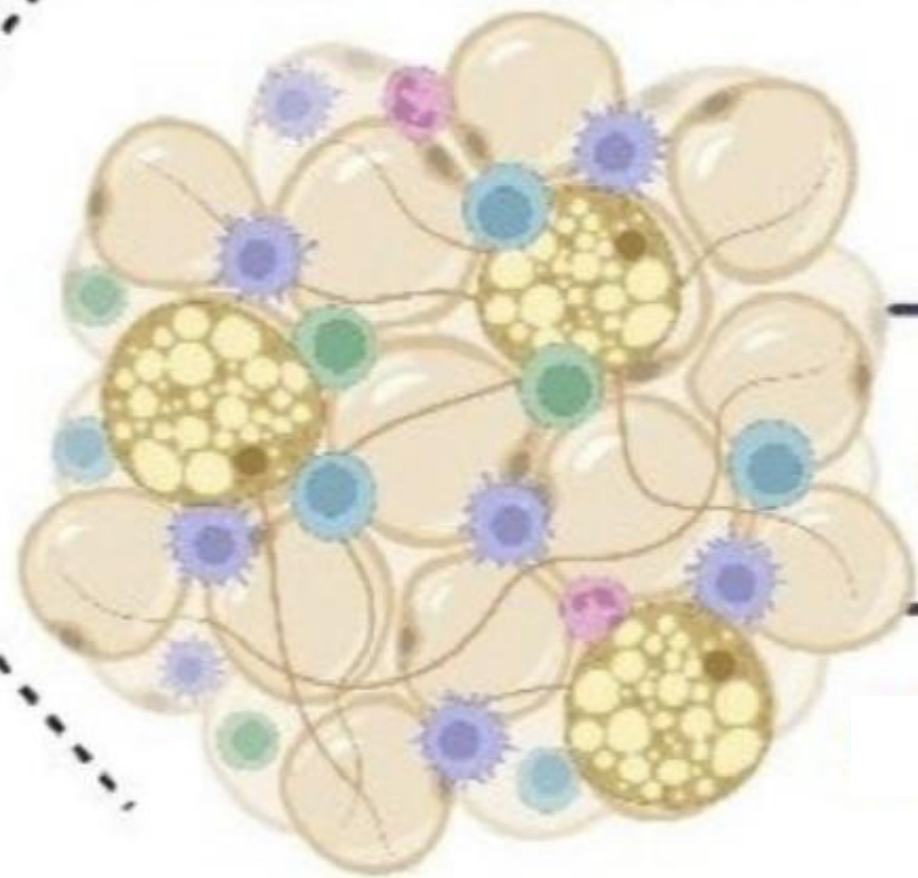
- Atrial fibrillation, coronary artery disease, diabetes mellitus, heart failure, obesity
- Pro-atherogenic
 - Pro-arrhythmogenic

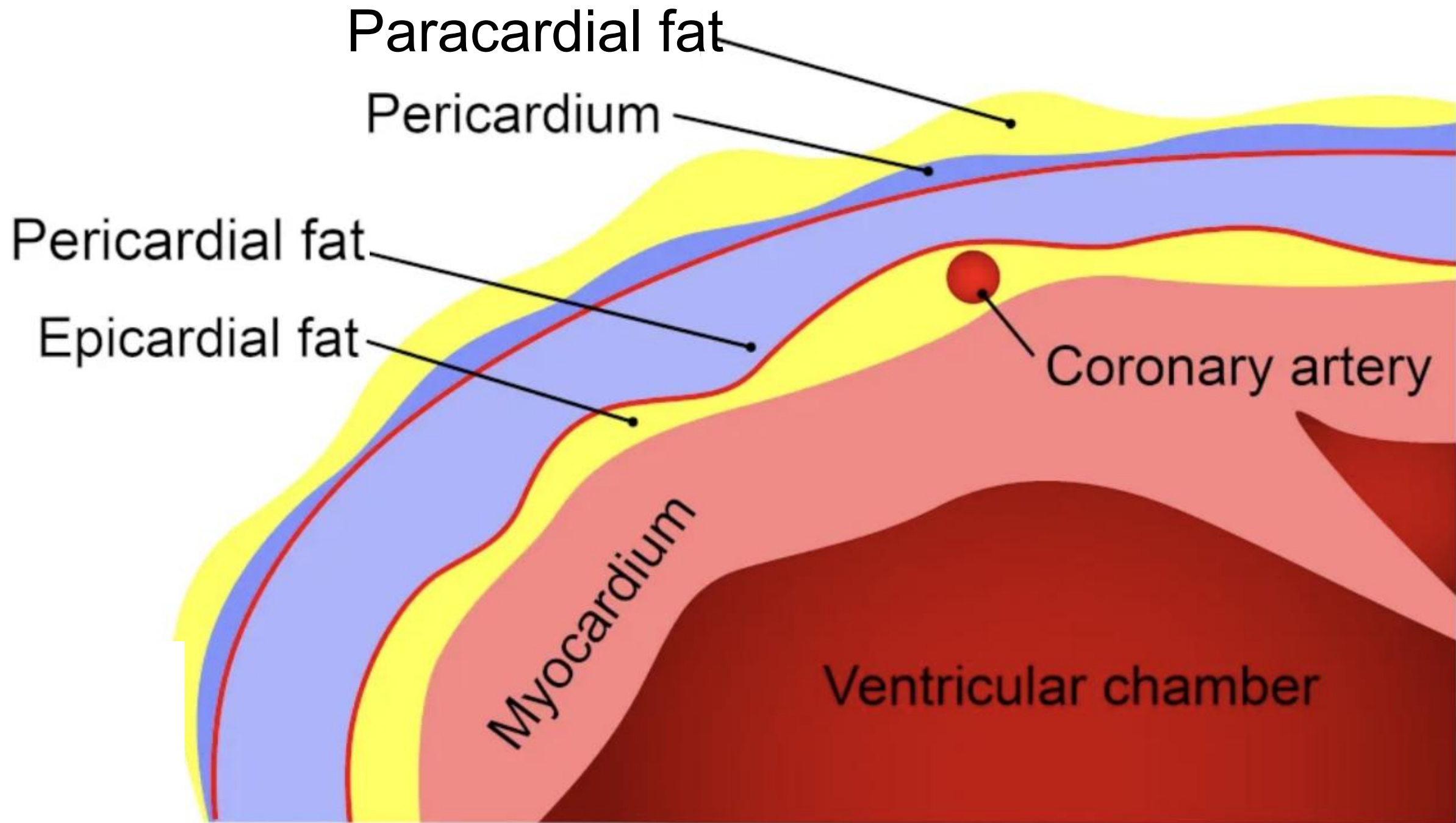


Brown adipose tissue characteristics

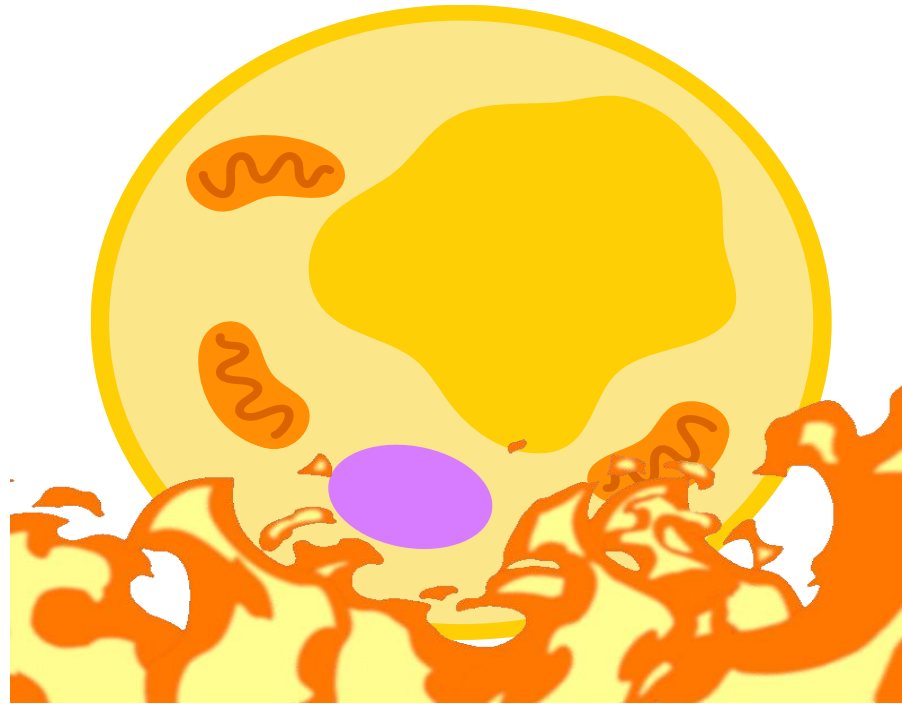


EPICARDIAL ADIPOSE TISSUE

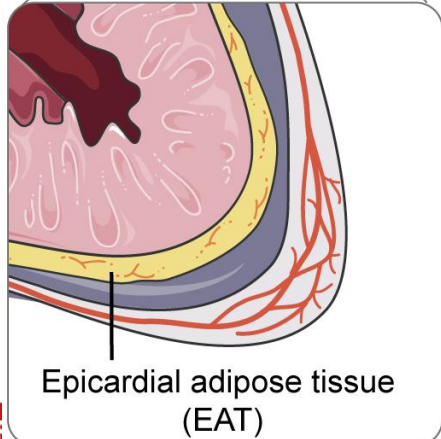
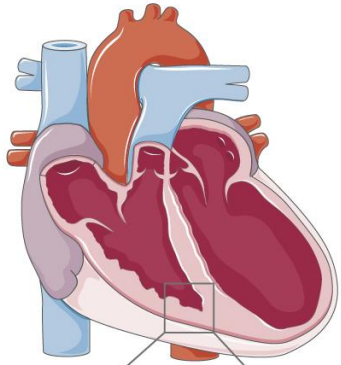




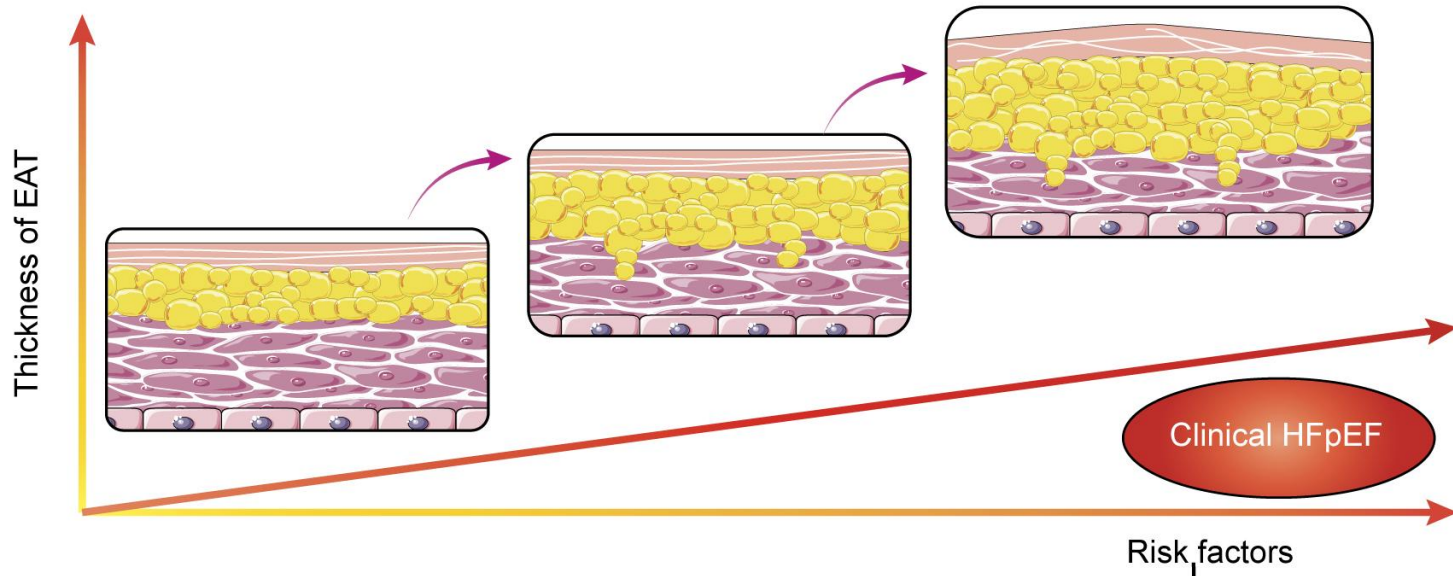
Obesity and HFpEF



Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction

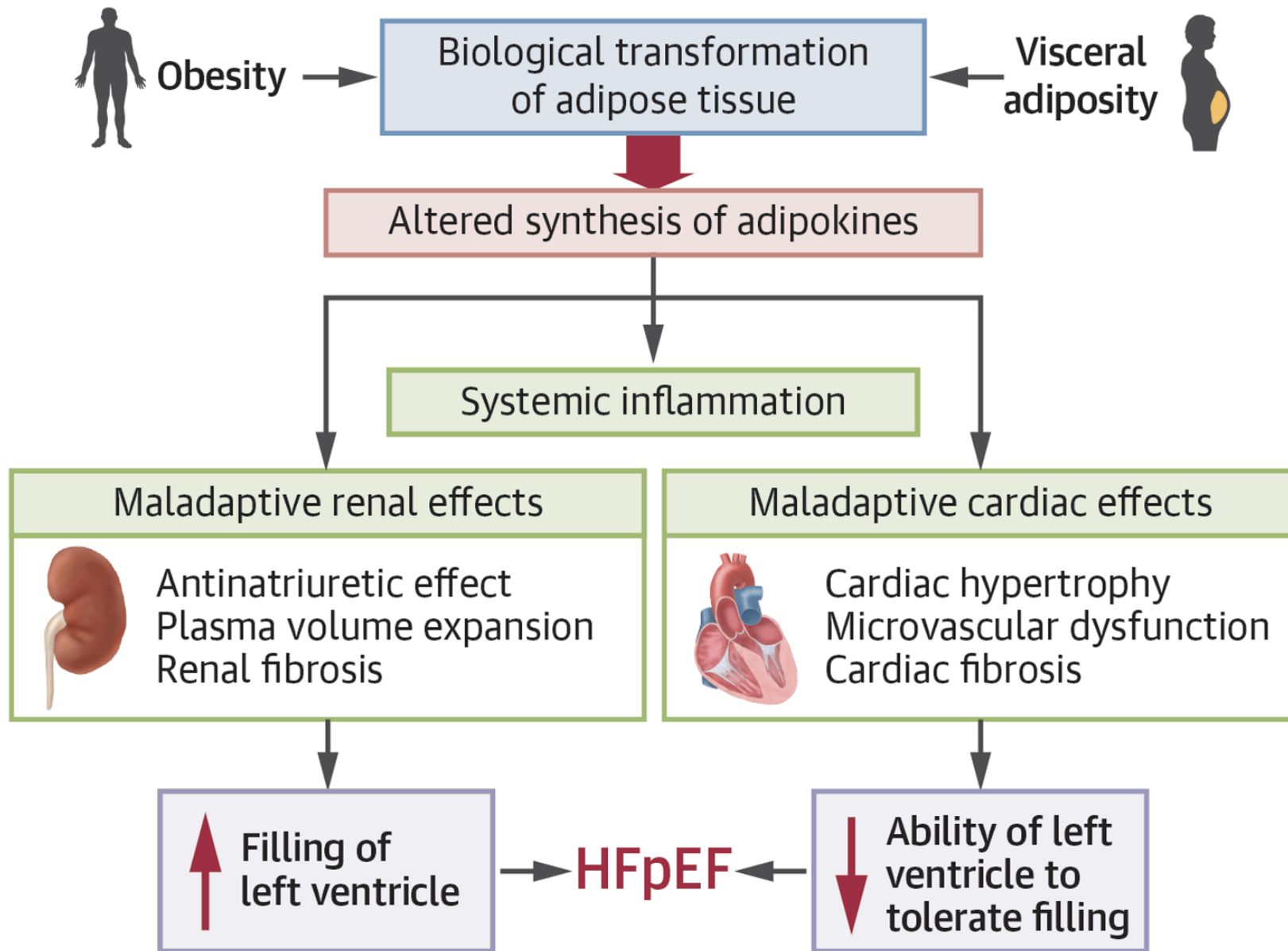


Epicardial adipose tissue (EAT)

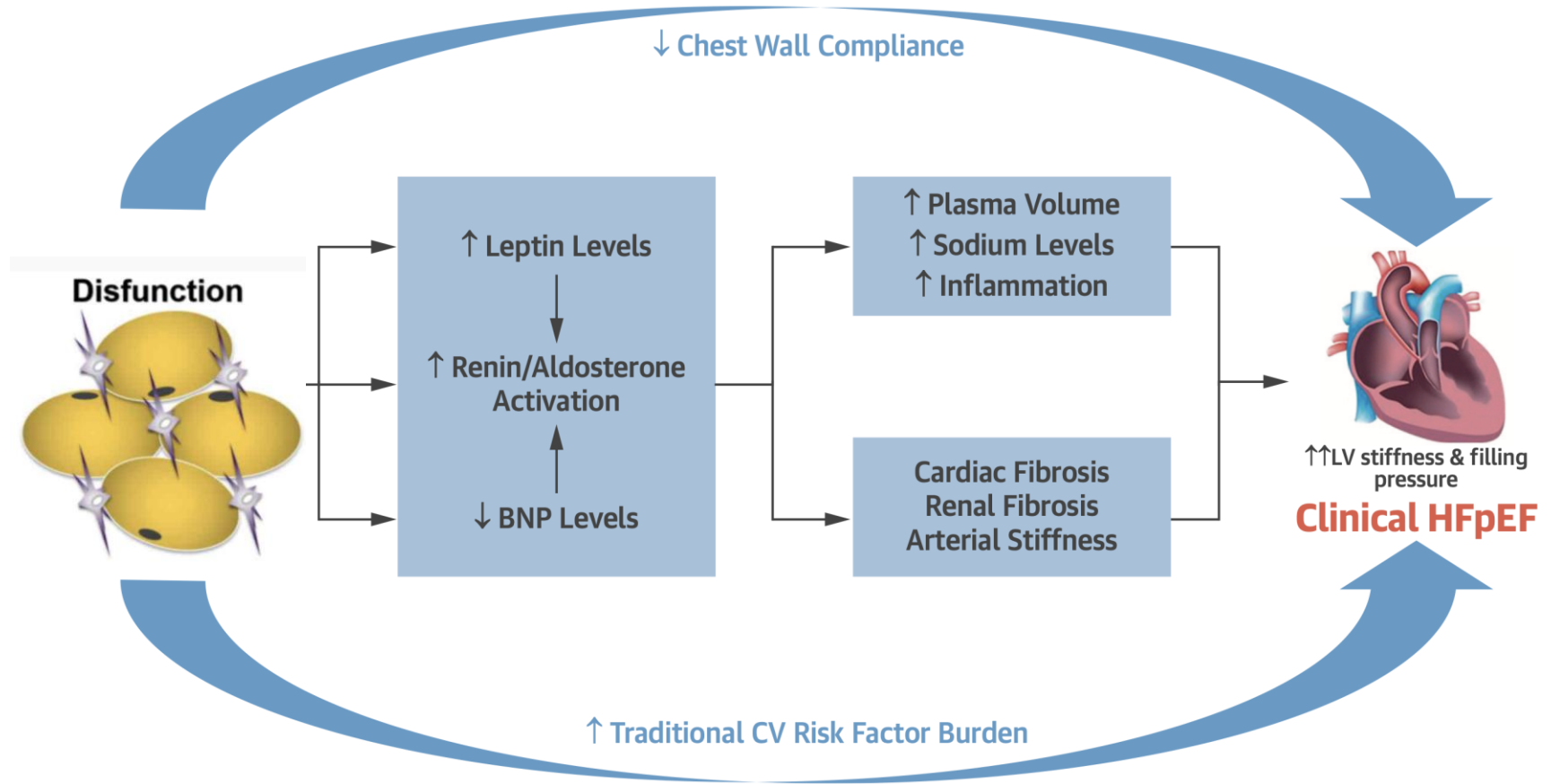


Clinical HFpEF

<p>Cardiac diastolic function</p>	<p>Exercise reserve capacity</p>	<p>Inflammation</p>	<p>Myocardial structure and function</p>
<p>Arrhythmia</p>	<p>Metabolism</p>	<p>Microvascular function</p>	



Packer M. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2025;85(2):179-193.



Pandey, A. et al. J Am Coll Cardiol HF. 2018;6(12):975-82.
Modificada

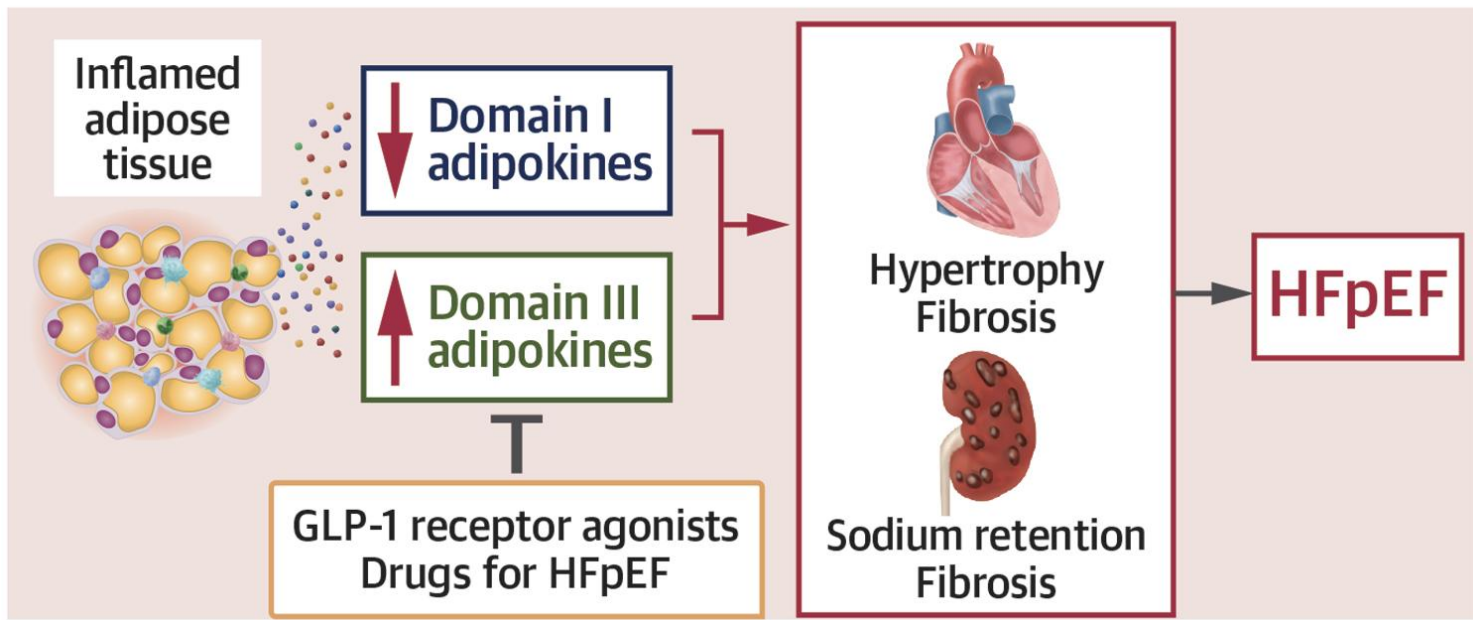
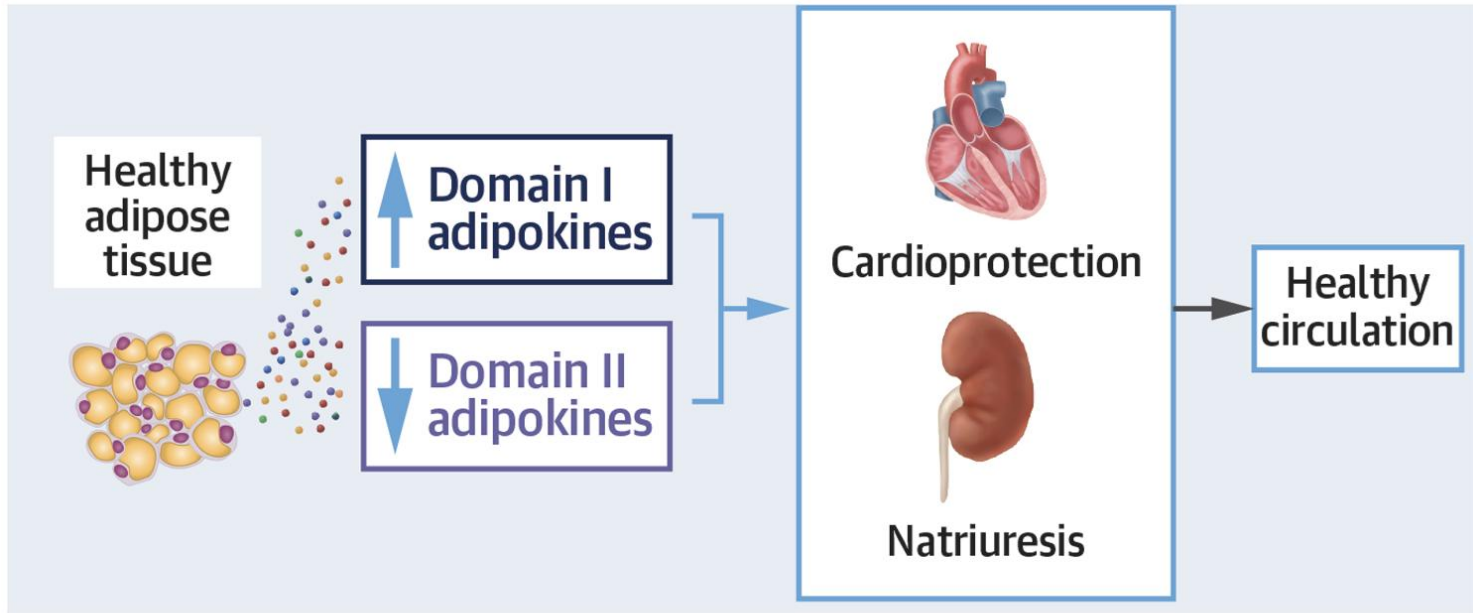
The Adipokine Hypothesis of Heart Failure With a Preserved Ejection Fraction

Adipose Tissue Secretion



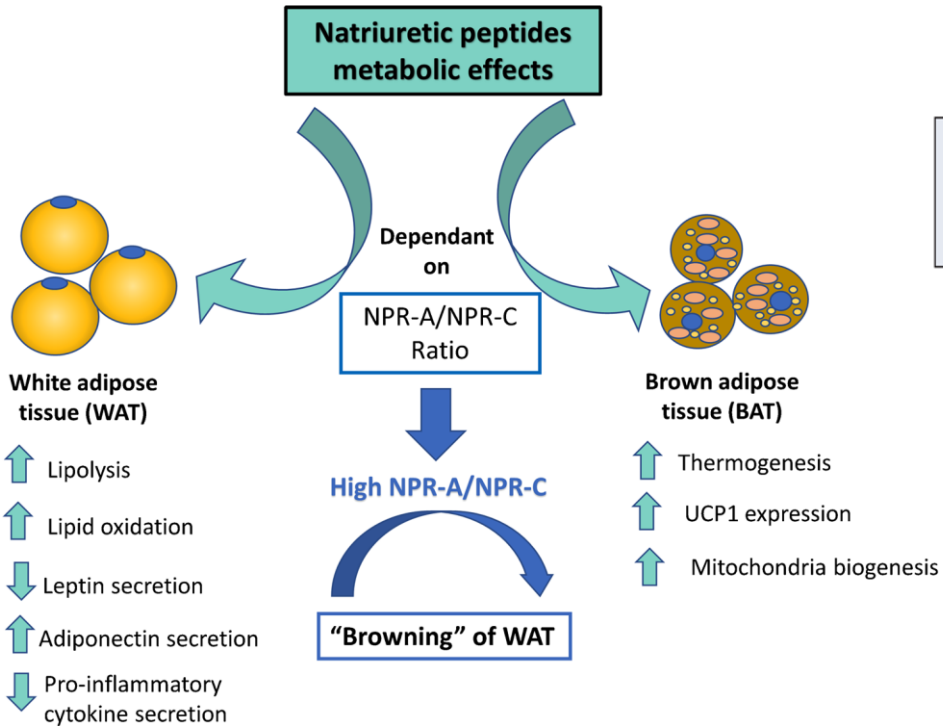
		Healthy people	Visceral adiposity	
Domain I adipokines	Cardioprotective Anti-inflammatory Natriuretic	↑	↓	Compensatory
Domain II adipokines	Cardioprotective Anti-inflammatory Natriuretic	Minimal	↑	
Domain III adipokines	Pro-hypertrophic Pro-inflammatory Anti-natriuretic	↓	↑	

Packer M. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2025;85(2):179-193.

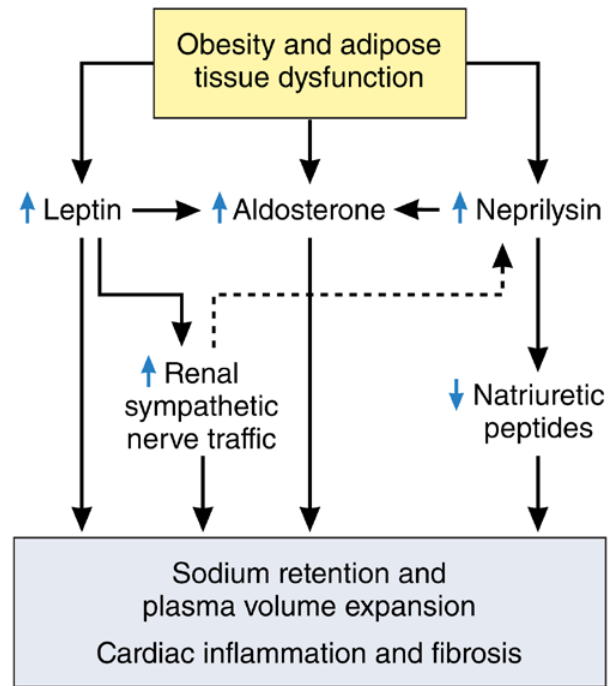


Packer M. J Am Coll Cardiol. 2025;85(2):179-193.

Role of natriuretic peptides in the cardiovascular-adipose communication: a tale of two organs

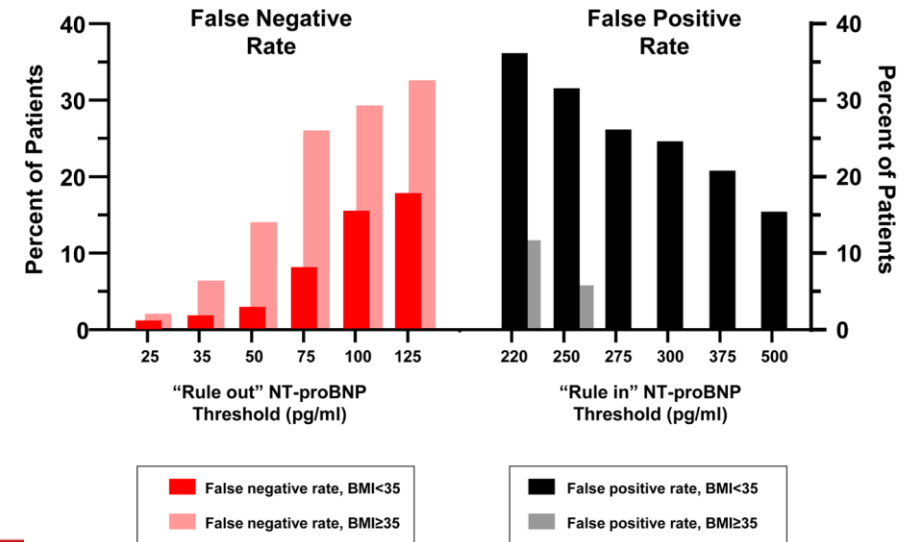


Rukavina Mikusic NL et al, . Pflugers Arch. 2022 Jan;474(1):5-19.

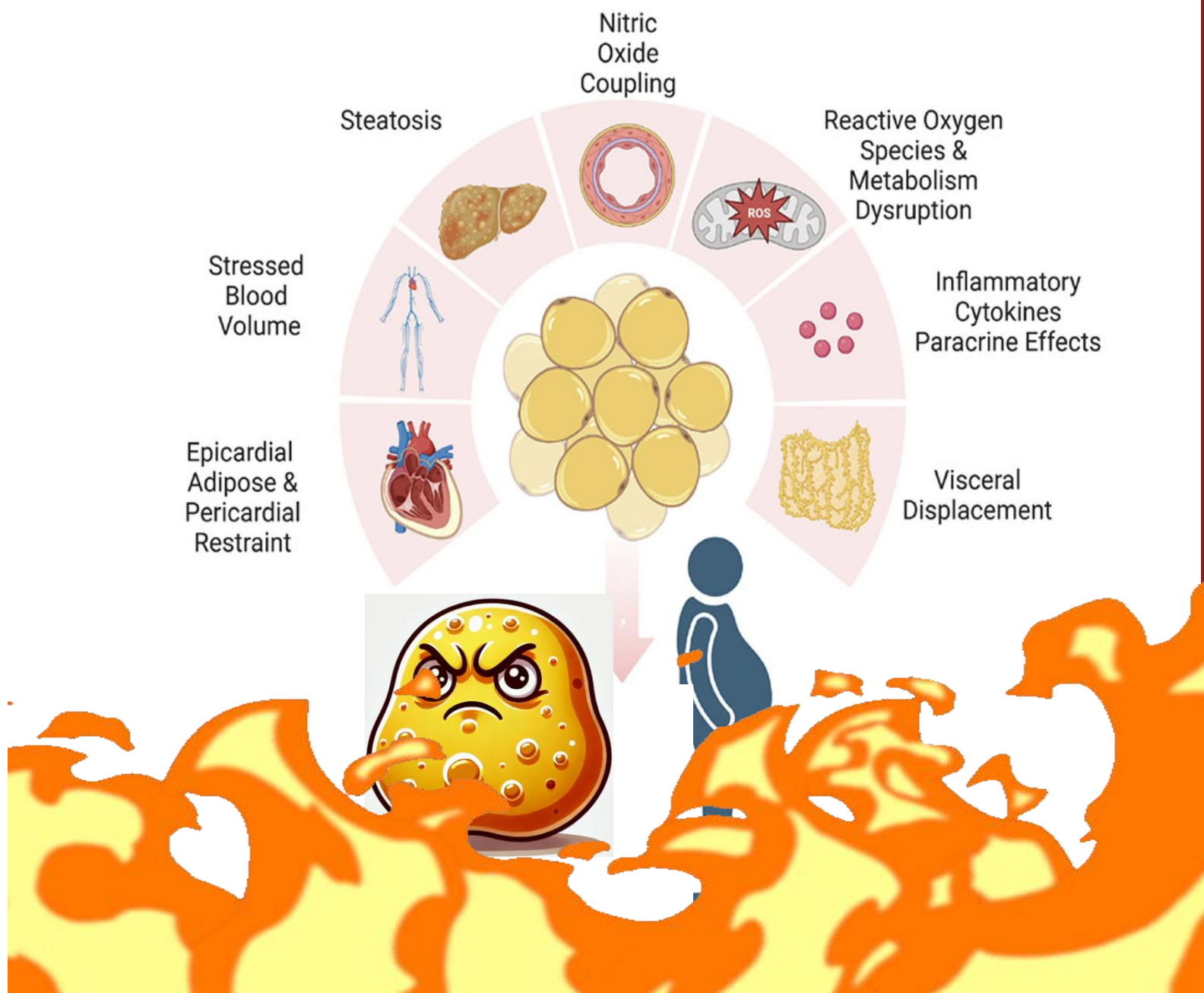


Packer M. Circulation. 2018;137:1614-1631

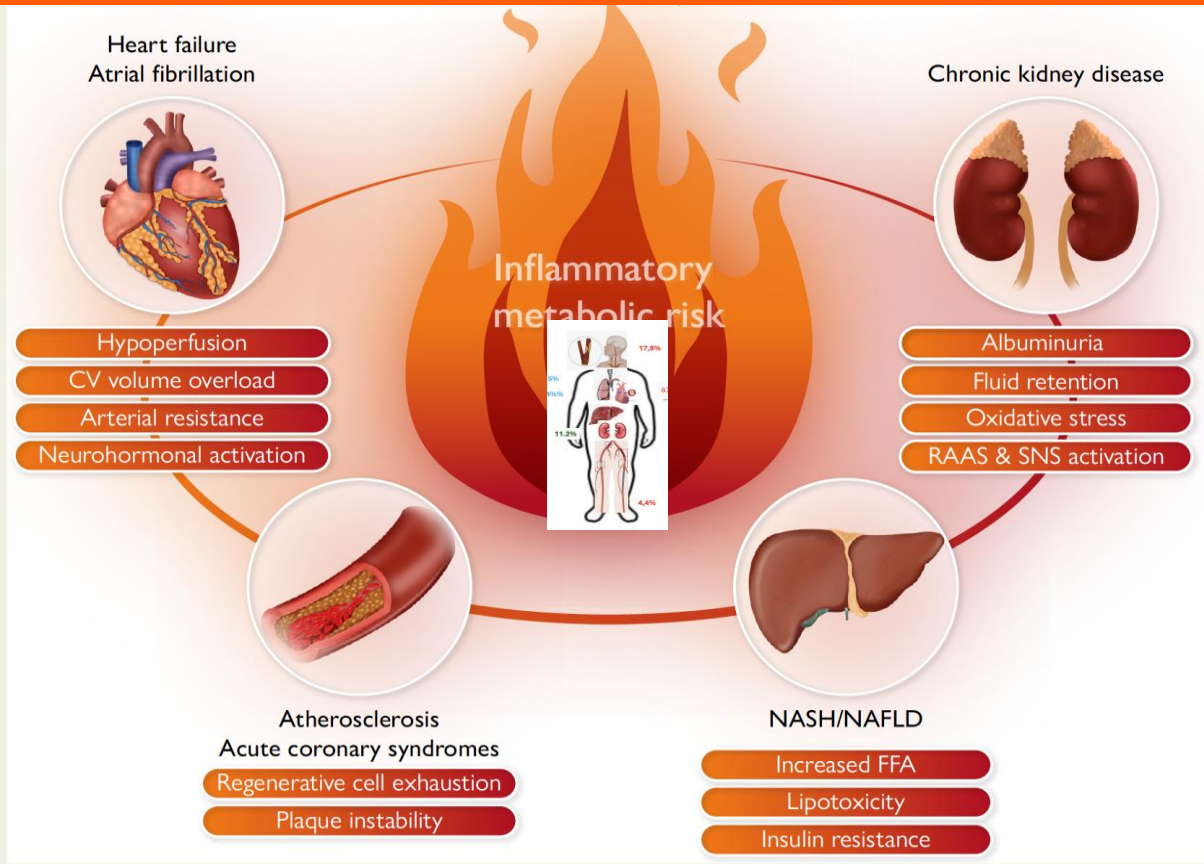
False-positive and false-negative rates of various rule-out and rule-in NT-proBNP diagnostic thresholds stratified by BMI



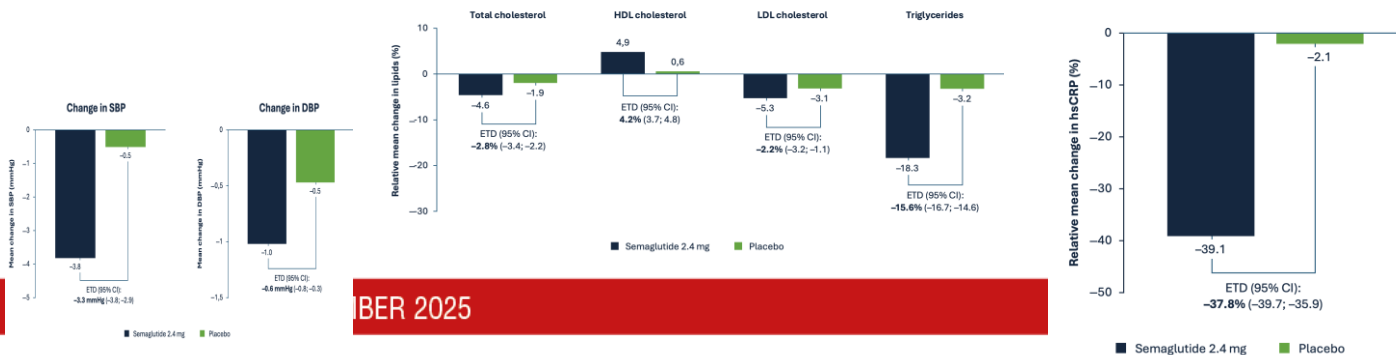
THE BODY ON FIRE



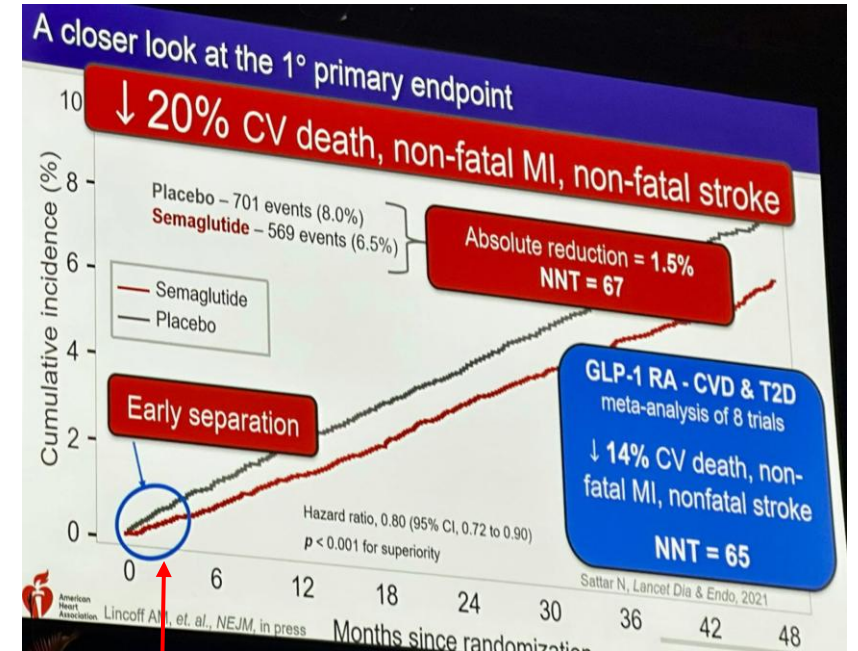
Paciente criterios SELECT



Modificado de Cosentino F et al. European Heart Journal (2023) 44, 4141–4156



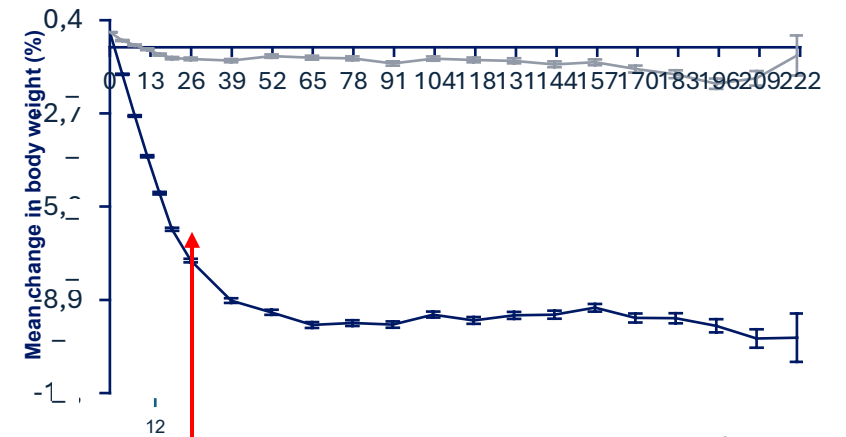
BER 2025



Mean baseline body weight, kg:

Semaglutide 2.4 mg: 96.5

Placebo: 96.8



Weeks since randomisation

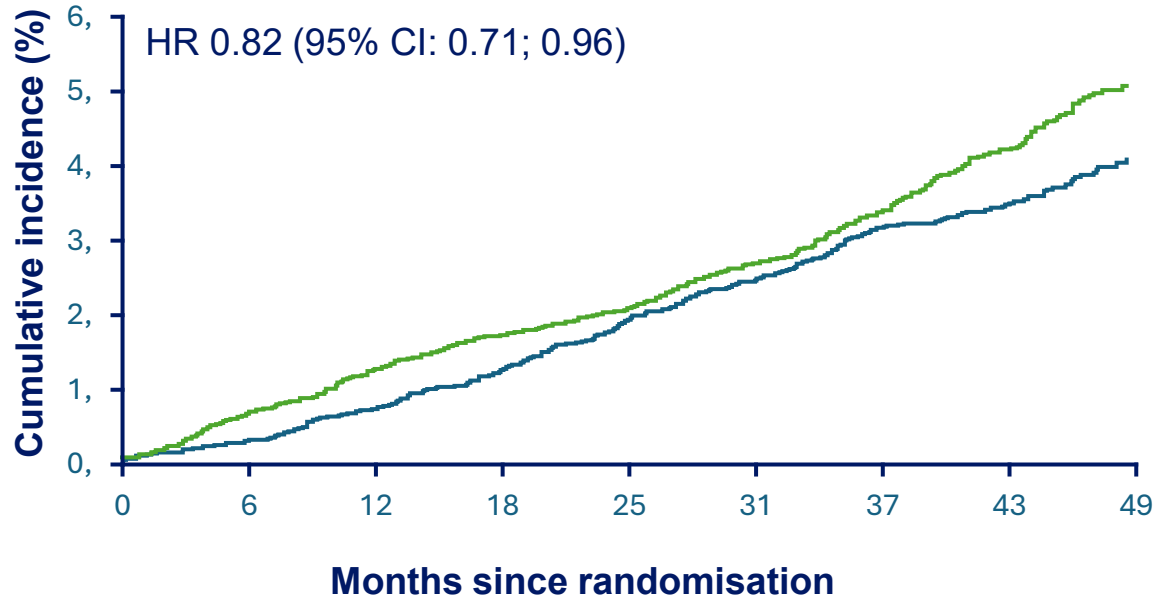
#ACORUÑAHF2025

Lincoff AM et al. N Engl J Med. 2023 Nov 11. doi: 10.1056/NEJMoa2307563.



SELECT trial

Cumulative incidence of composite heart failure events
SELECT: Second confirmatory secondary endpoint



No. at risk	0	6	12	18	25	31	37	43	49
Semaglutide	8,803	8,740	8,654	8,557	8,425	7,409	5,944	4,277	1,816
Placebo	8,801	8,711	8,601	8,485	8,381	7,341	5,885	4,198	1,766

— Semaglutide 2.4 mg — Placebo



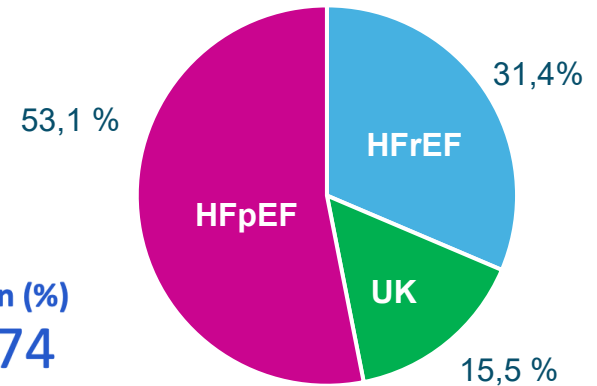
Semaglutide 2.4 mg reduced the risk of composite HF events by **18%** compared with placebo

Although the 95% CI was <1, superiority testing was not performed per the hierarchical testing procedure*

N=17,605



CHF, n (%)
4,274
 (24.3)



Subclass, n (%)

HFpEF:	2,268 (12.9)
HFrEF:	1,341 (7.6)
Unknown:	662 (3.8)

NYHA class, n (%)

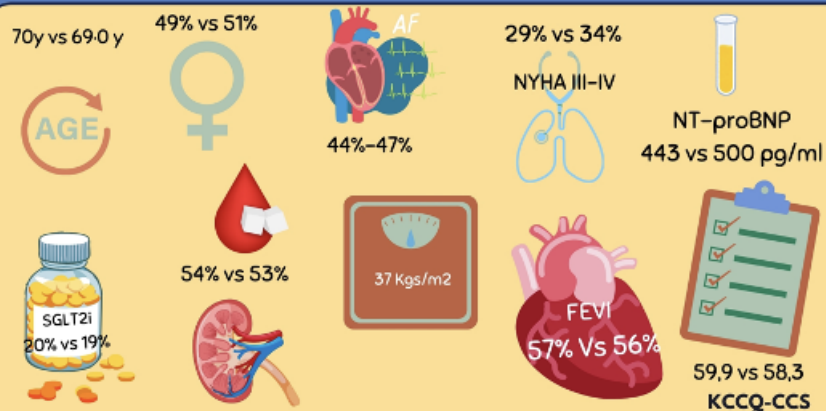
NYHA class I:	1,368 (7.8)
NYHA class II:	2,534 (14.4)
NYHA class III:	362 (2.1)
Unknown:	10 (<0.1)

67.8% II-III

Semaglutide versus placebo in people with obesity-related heart failure with preserved ejection fraction: a pooled analysis of the STEP-HFpEF and STEP-HFpEF DM randomised trials

Butler J, Lancet. 2024 Apr 27;403(10437):1635-1648.

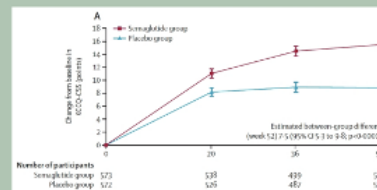
Basal Characteristics Semaglutide vs placebo



**Results
from baseline to week 52**
1145 patients

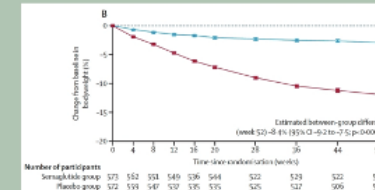
Dual primary endpoints

Change in KCCQ-CSS



15 vs 7,5 points
[95% CI 5.3 to 9.8]; p<0.0001

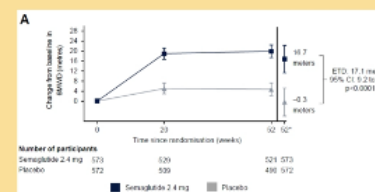
Bodyweight



(-8.4% [-9.2 to -7.5]; p<0.0001)

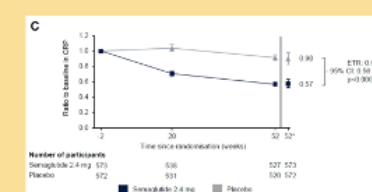
Confirmatory secondary endpoints

mean changes in the 6MWD



17.1 (9.2 to 25.0)
<0.0001

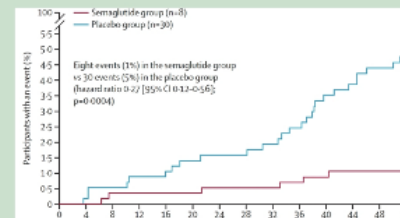
mean changes in the CRP



0.64 (0.56 to 0.72)†
<0.0001

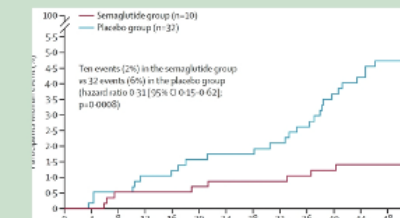
Exploratory endpoints

Time to first heart failure event



8 (1%) semaglutide vs 30 (5%) placebo
HR=0.27 [95% CI 0.12-0.56] p=0.0004

Time to first HF event or CV death



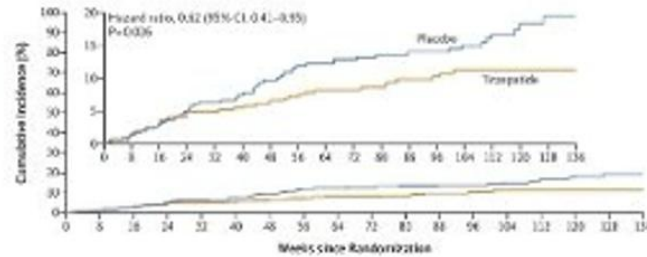
10 (2%) semaglutide vs 32 (6%) placebo
HR=0.31 [95% CI 0.15-0.62]; p=0.0008

Tirzepatide for Heart Failure with Preserved Ejection Fraction and Obesity SUMMIT Trial Study

Primary Endpoints

DEATH FROM CARDIOVASCULAR CAUSES + WORSENING HEART-FAILURE EVENT

36 patients (9.9%) tirzepatide
56 patients (15.3%) placebo
(5.5 and 8.8 events per 100 patient-years of follow-up)
HR= 0.62; 95% [CI], 0.41 to 0.95; P = 0.026)



Worsening heart-failure events occurred in 29 patients (8.0%) in the tirzepatide and in 52 patients (14.2%) in the placebo
HR= 0.54; (95% CI, 0.34 to 0.85)

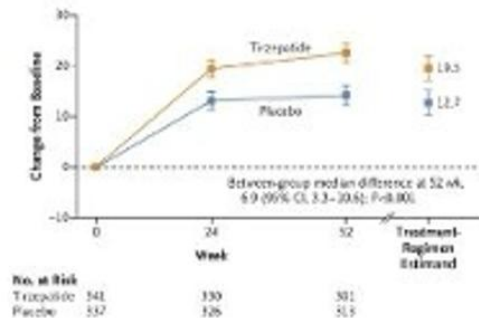
When events managed **only with intensification of oral diuretic therapy** were removed from the primary end-point analysis,
HR= 0.57 (95% CI, 0.34 to 0.95)

Worsening HF event resulting in hospitalization
HR= 0.44 (95% CI, 0.22 to 0.87)

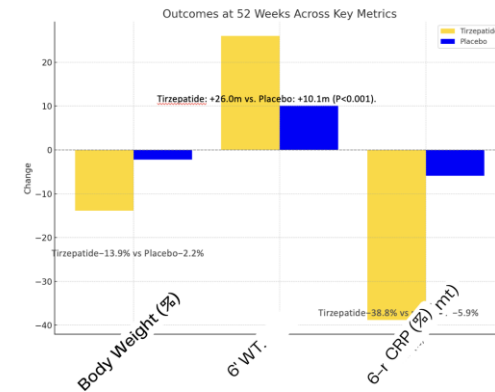
Death from cardiovascular causes occurred in 8 patients (2.2%) tirzepatide and 5 patients (1.4%) placebo
(HR=1.58; 95% CI, 0.52 to 4.83).

CHANGE IN KANSAS CITY CARDIOMYOPATHY QUESTIONNAIRE CLINICAL SUMMARY SCORE

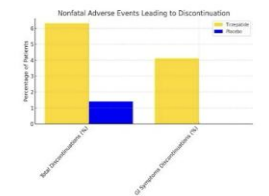
The mean increase in the KCCQ-CSS was 19.5 points in the tirzepatide and 12.7 points in the placebo
(between-group median difference, 6.9 points **95% CI, 3.3 to 10.6; P<0.001**)



Secondary Endpoints



Safety



Effect of Semaglutide on Cardiac Structure and Function in Obesity-Related Heart Failure: The STEP-HFpEF Program Echocardiography Substudy

Design of the STEP-HFpEF Program Echocardiography Substudy



491 participants with symptomatic HF, LVEF $\geq 45\%$, and BMI ≥ 30 kg/m²



Randomized to once-weekly semaglutide (2.4 mg) or matching placebo

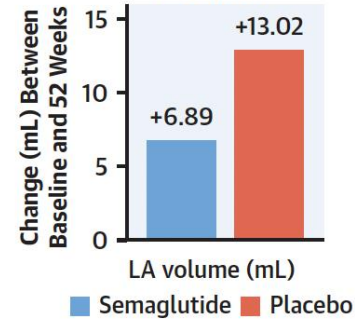
Prespecified primary endpoint: Δ in LA volume



Resting echocardiography performed at randomization and 52 weeks

Treatment Effects of Semaglutide on LA Volume and Other Parameters

Mean difference (95% CI)
-6.13 (-9.85 to -2.41) mL
P = 0.0013



Benefits of semaglutide on LA remodeling were consistent irrespective of age, sex, BMI, NT-proBNP, hsCRP, diabetes status, AF status, LVEF, and background pharmacotherapy

Semaglutide also improved E wave velocity, E/A ratio, E/e' average, and RV remodeling compared with placebo, but did not impact LV mass, LV mechanics, or LA strain



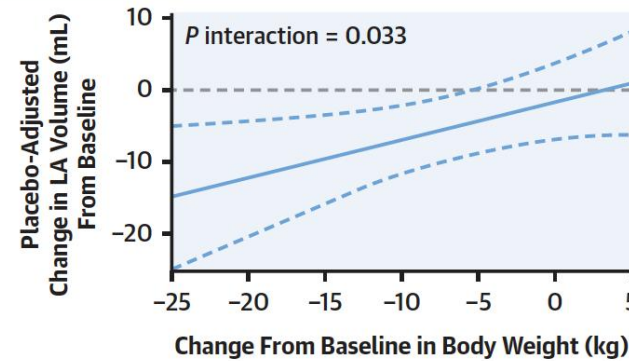
Cardiac Structure and Function in the STEP-HFpEF Program

Trial	LV structure and mechanics		LA size	Left and right heart pressures	
	LV mass, g	LV GLS, %	LA area (cm ²)	E/e'	RVSP (mm Hg)
STEP-HFpEF Program	208 ± 69	-14 ± 4	22 ± 5	12 ± 5	26 ± 9
PARAGON-HF	169 ± 57	-16 ± 4	23 ± 6	13 ± 6	34 ± 10
TOPCAT	223 ± 71	-16 ± 4	20 ± 6	12 ± 6	38 ± 11
I-PRESERVE	164 ± 48	---	23 ± 6	10 ± 5	37 ± 13

Higher or worse value

Lower or better value

Benefits of Semaglutide on LA Volume Related to Magnitude of Weight Loss



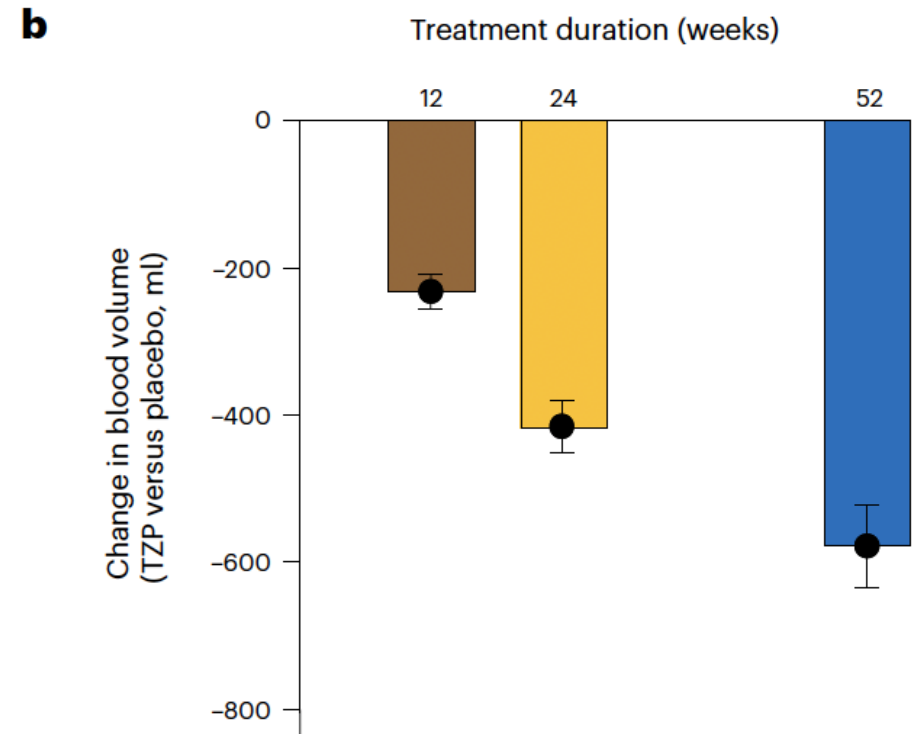
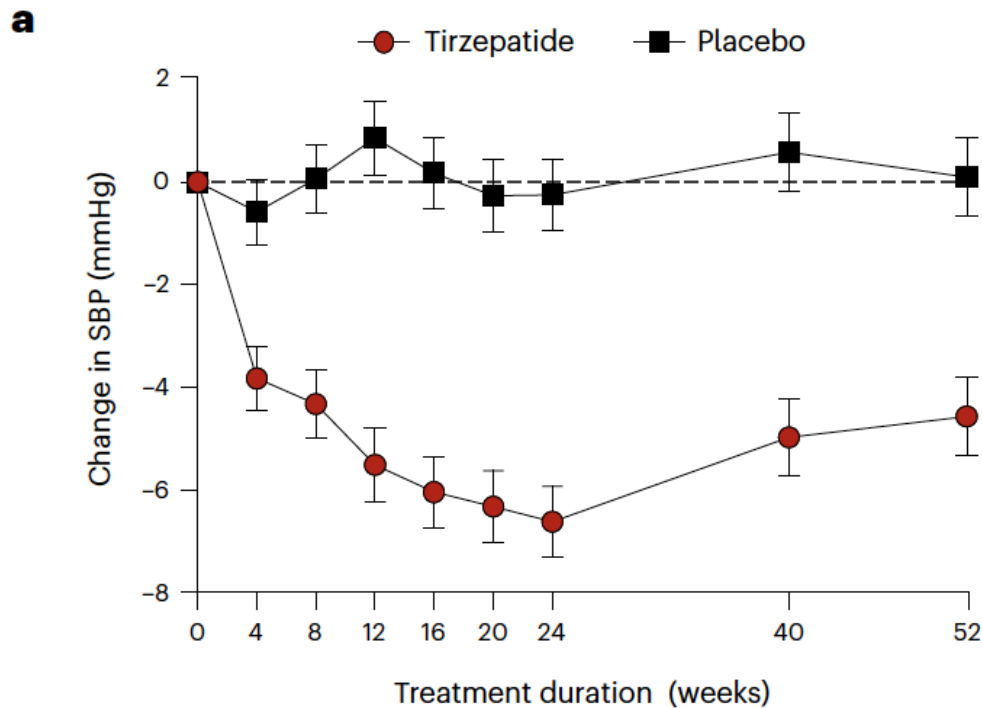
However, benefits of semaglutide on E wave velocity, E/e' average, and RV end-diastolic area were not associated with weight change between baseline and 52 weeks



In the STEP-HFpEF Program echocardiography substudy, semaglutide appeared to improve adverse cardiac remodeling compared with placebo, further suggesting that treatment with semaglutide may be disease modifying among patients with obesity-related HFpEF.

Effects of tirzepatide on circulatory overload and end-organ damage in heart failure with preserved ejection fraction and obesity: a secondary analysis of the SUMMIT trial

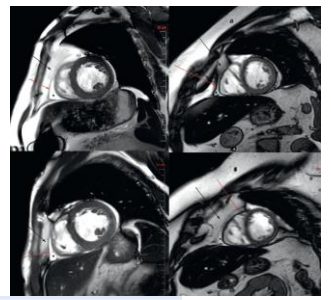
Effects of tirzepatide on pressure overload and volume expansion.



Number of participants				
Tirzepatide	348	341	331	331
Placebo	346	339	331	334

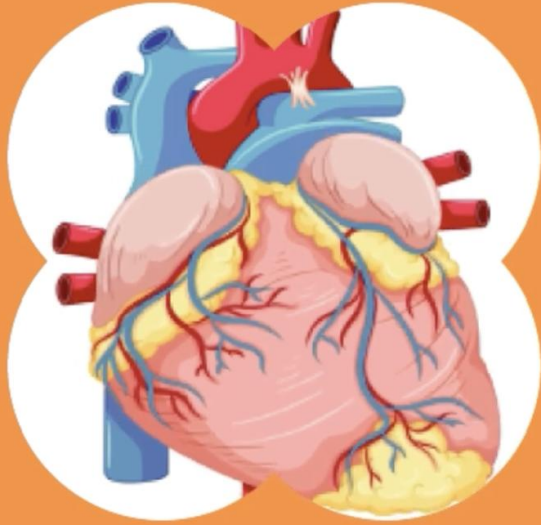
Number of participants			
Tirzepatide	326	318	298
Placebo	325	324	308

Tirzepatide Reduces LV Mass and Paracardiac Adipose Tissue in Obesity-Related Heart Failure SUMMIT CMR Substudy



	Tirzepatide		Placebo		Placebo-Corrected Difference Over Time	P Value
	Baseline	52 Weeks	Baseline	52 Weeks		
LV mass, g	120 ± 33	110 ± 33	122 ± 44	123 ± 47	-11 (-19 to -4)	0.004
LVEDV, mL	139 ± 37	132 ± 42	152 ± 43	151 ± 50	-7 (-16 to 2)	0.10
LVESV, mL	56 ± 25	55 ± 24	63 ± 32	63 ± 34	-2 (-8 to 4)	0.56
LV SV, mL	83 ± 25	77 ± 23	88 ± 21	89 ± 23	-8 (-14 to -2)	0.011
LV CO, L/min	5.5 ± 1.5	5.4 ± 1.4	5.7 ± 1.3	5.7 ± 1.6	0 (-1 to 0)	0.43
LVEF, %	60 ± 11	59 ± 8	60 ± 12	61 ± 11	-1 (-4 to 1)	0.27
LV GCS, %	-21 ± 8	-21 ± 5	-22 ± 5	-21 ± 5	1 (-1 to 3)	0.23
LV GLS, %	-19 ± 7	-18 ± 5	-19 ± 5	-19 ± 5	0 (-1 to 2)	0.66
LV concentricity index (mass/EDV)	0.89 ± 0.20	0.87 ± 0.22	0.82 ± 0.27	0.83 ± 0.27	-0.02 (-0.07 to 0.04)	0.59
Epicardial adipose tissue, mL	47 ± 31	35 ± 20	45 ± 27	36 ± 18	-2 (-9 to 5)	0.57
Pericardial adipose tissue, mL	174 ± 81	147 ± 54	186 ± 73	197 ± 85	-43 (-65 to -21)	<0.001
Paracardiac adipose tissue, mL	221 ± 101	182 ± 65	233 ± 85	232 ± 93	-45 (-69 to -22)	<0.001
LAESV, mL	85 ± 33	78 ± 40	80 ± 31	75 ± 34	-2 (-10 to 6)	0.60
LAEDV, mL	48 ± 32	49 ± 41	48 ± 34	46 ± 32	2 (-5 to 9)	0.56
LAEF, %	42 ± 18	40 ± 18	41 ± 30	45 ± 17	-5 (-11 to 1)	0.10
LA GCS, %	-35 ± 14	-36 ± 11	-35 ± 11	-37 ± 10	1 (-2 to 4)	0.41
LA GLS, %	-25 ± 8	-24 ± 7	-24 ± 7	-25 ± 7	1 (-2 to 3)	0.56





Cardio-adiposidad

Descifrando la relación entre
grasa y patología cardiovascular



Grupo
de Diabetes
y Obesidad



Sociedad Española de Cardiología

@cardiologiasec · 53,4 K suscriptores · 3,7 K vídeos

La Sociedad Española de Cardiología (SEC) es una organización científica y profesional ...más

secardiologia.es

Suscrito

Inicio Vídeos Shorts En directo Pódcasts Listas Publicaciones

