

# It's All in Your Mind

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The brain's central role in  
the progression of a  
chronic disease

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# Faculty/Presenter Disclosure

- **Faculty/Presenter: Dr. Sarah High**

- **Relationships with commercial interests:**

I have received honoraria for speaking engagements from Bausch Health, Novo Nordisk, Obesity Canada, and the Canadian Collaborative Research Network.

# Disclosure of Financial Support

## **This program has received:**

Financial support from Abbott Diabetes Care, NovoNordisk and Boehringer Ingelheim in the form of an educational grant, and a honorarium from Langs

## **Potential for conflict of interest:**

Products will be discussed during the presentation.

NovoNordisk may benefit from the sale of the following products:

- Liraglutide

# Mitigating Potential Bias

Includes evidence based information related to obesity management but is not influenced by the sponsoring organizations

# Program **OBJECTIVES**

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1. Discover the complex **pathophysiology** of obesity
2. Understand the mechanisms through which the **brain defends the body against weight loss**
3. Establish the role of **pharmacological intervention** in a multi-modal treatment strategy
4. Discuss conversation-starter strategies to create an individualized, sustainable **treatment plan**

What words come to mind when you think OBESITY?

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**Chronic medical condition**  
**Complex pathophysiology**  
**Neurohormonal control**  
**Medical treatments available**

Obesity is a growing problem in Canada.

**6 million**

Canadians are living with this chronic disease.<sup>1</sup>

Worldwide, 2.8 million people per year die from overweight/obesity<sup>2</sup>.

Sources: 1. Canadian Obesity Network. 2018. Understanding Obesity Available at: <http://www.obesitycanada.ca/understanding-obesity/>;

2. WHO. 2017. 10 facts on obesity. Available at: <http://www.who.int/features/factfiles/obesity/en/#> 10 facts on obesity

# Canadians living with obesity.

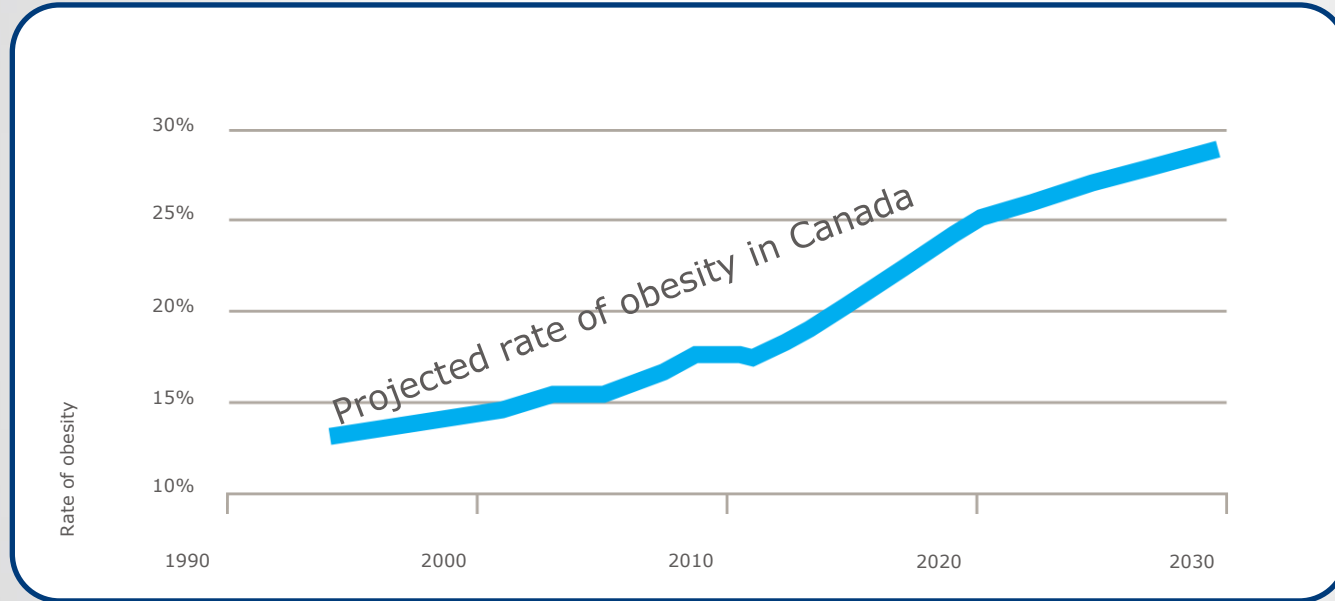
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# Obesity

The prevalence continues to rise...



# Obesity is globally recognized as a chronic disease

shifting the perception of obesity from a lifestyle choice to a medical disease that requires research, treatment, and prevention.



## Canadian Obesity Network

“Obesity is a chronic and often progressive condition not unlike diabetes or hypertension”<sup>1</sup>



## Canadian Medical Association

“Obesity is a chronic disease requiring enhanced research, treatment and prevention efforts”<sup>2</sup>



## American Medical Association

“Recognizing obesity as a disease will help change the way the medical community tackles this complex issue that affects approximately one in three Americans”<sup>3</sup>



## World Health Organization

“Obesity is a chronic disease, prevalent in both developed and developing countries, and affecting children as well as adults”<sup>4</sup>



# But first, what is obesity?

Photo credit: Canadian Obesity Network.

# Obesity is...

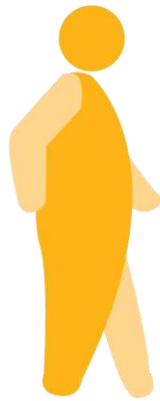
a chronic medical condition characterized by accumulation of excess body fat causing impairment to health or function.



BMI 18.5-24.9  
Normal



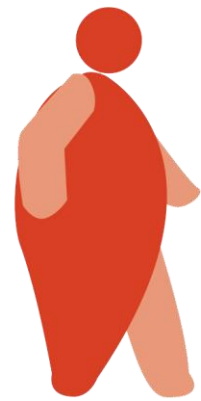
BMI 25.0-29.9  
Overweight



BMI 30.0-34.9  
Obesity Class I



BMI 35.0-39.9  
Obesity Class II



BMI >40.0  
Obesity Class III

Body Mass Index (BMI) for adults: Overweight = BMI >25; Obesity = BMI >30

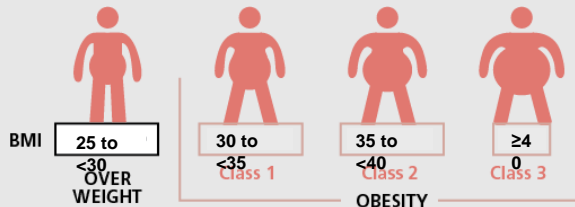
BMI is calculated by dividing a person's weight in kilograms by his or her height in metres squared (kg/m<sup>2</sup>).

# Obesity is more than numbers on the scale

## Obesity, by definition:

Measure height  
Measure weight  
Calculate BMI

$$\text{BMI} = \text{kg/m}^2$$



## Additional considerations

- BMI does not consider body composition (muscle or fat distribution)

## Abdominal adiposity:

Measure waist circumference\*

\* If BMI is  $>25$  and  $\leq 35 \text{ kg/m}^2$

European, Sub-Saharan African, Eastern Mediterranean and Middle Eastern (Arab)

♂ 94 cm | ♀ 80 cm

South Asian, Chinese, Japanese, South and Central American

♂ 90 cm | ♀ 80 cm

- Waist circumference reflects visceral adiposity in adults
- Associated with increased risk of CVD and other chronic diseases

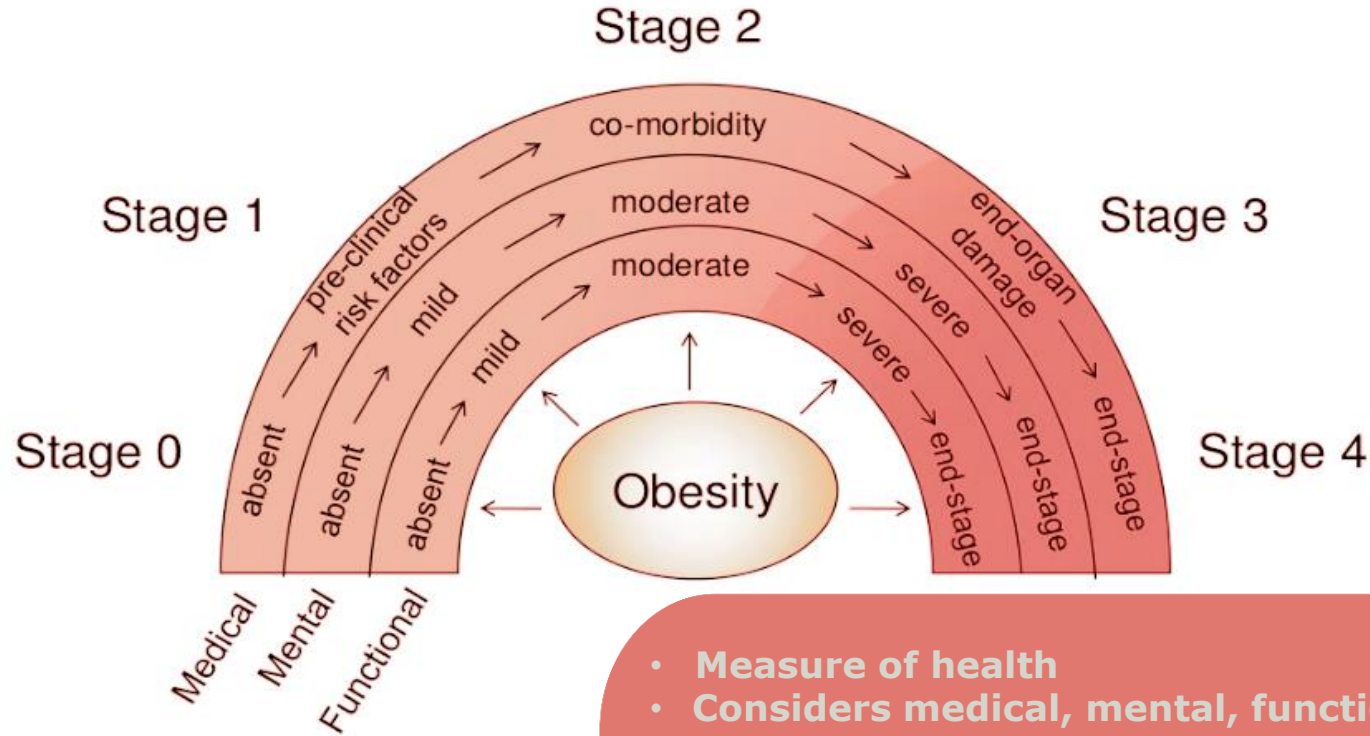
## Other weight-related health risks and comorbidities :

Assess obesity-related health risks

Diabetes: **FPG, A1C**  
Hypertension: **Blood pressure (BP)**  
Dyslipidemia: **Lipid profile**  
NAFLD: **ALT**  
*Other weight-related comorbidities*

- Obesity also strongly associated with psychiatric comorbidities, especially depression

# Edmonton Obesity Staging System (EOSS)



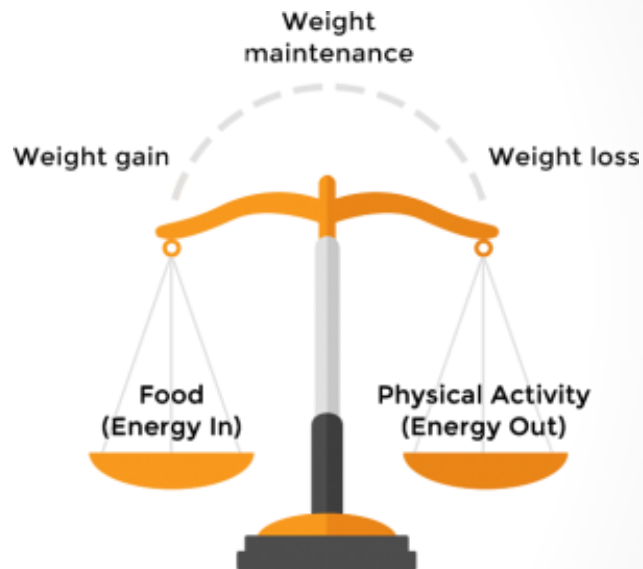
- Measure of health
- Considers medical, mental, functional impact of obesity
- As a result, EOSS may be a better predictor of mortality compared to BMI alone

# Old Paradigm

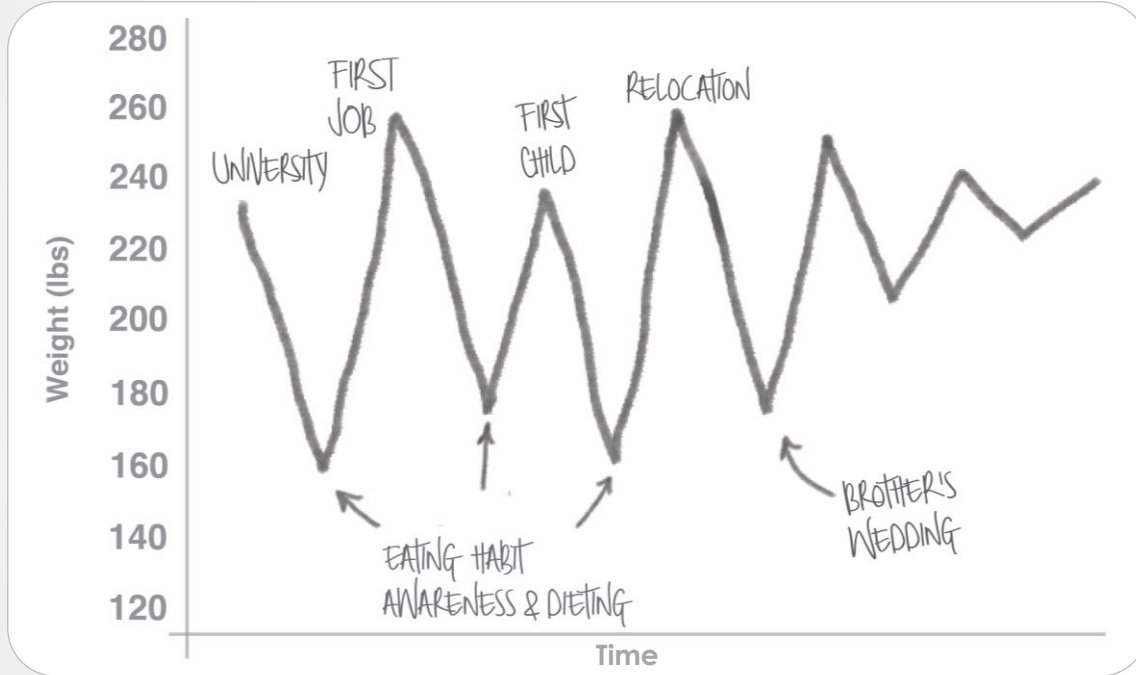
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- Calories in, calories out
- Eat less, exercise more

“Bad patient”



# “Bad patient”



MICHAEL, 42

Patients asked to plot their weight over time with respect to life events.

Adapted from:

Kushner RF. *American Medical Association*. 2003.

Kushner RF et al. *American Dietetic Association*. 2009.

Kushner RF et al. *JAMA*. 2014;312(9):943-952.



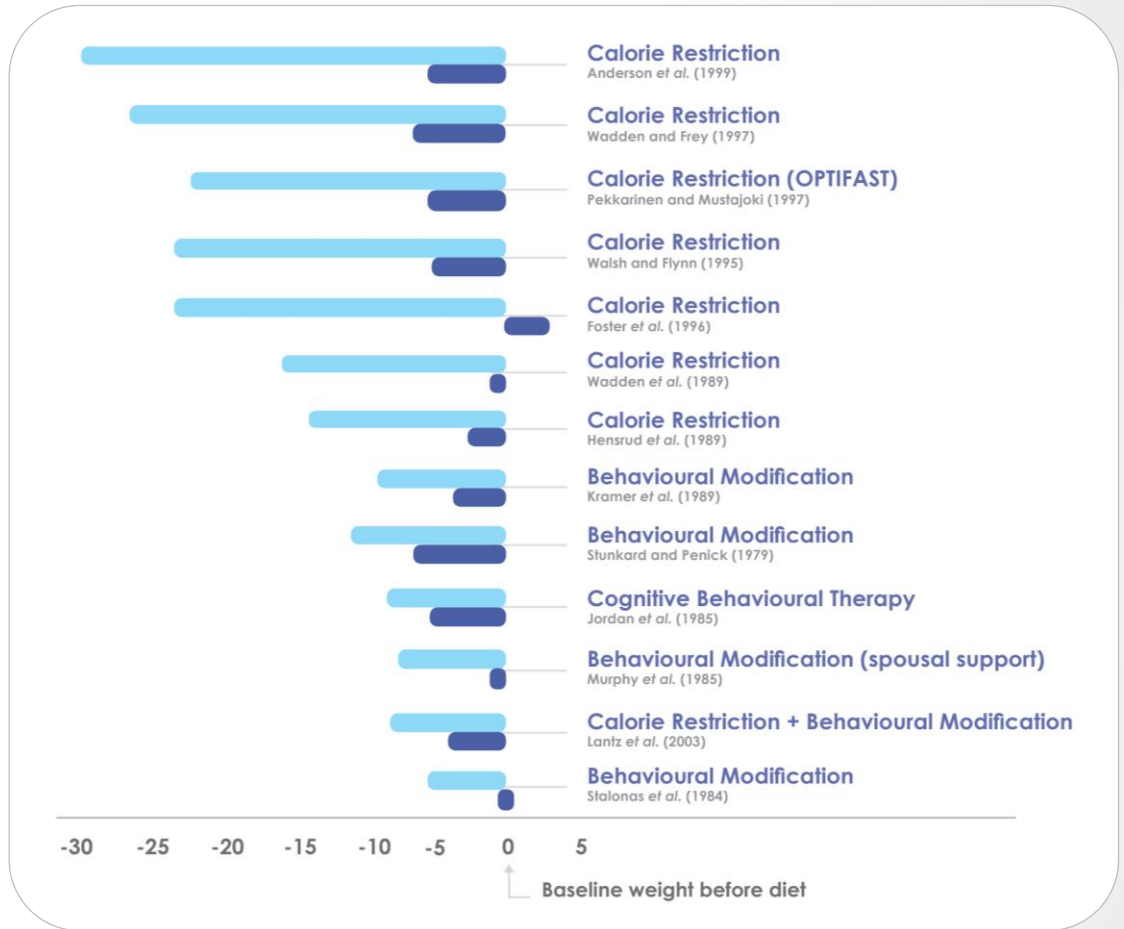
# Weight regain is the norm



Mean weight change at end of diet (kg)



Mean weight change at follow-up (kg)



Follow up range from 4 to 7 years.  
Mann *et al. Am Psychol* 2007;62:220-33.

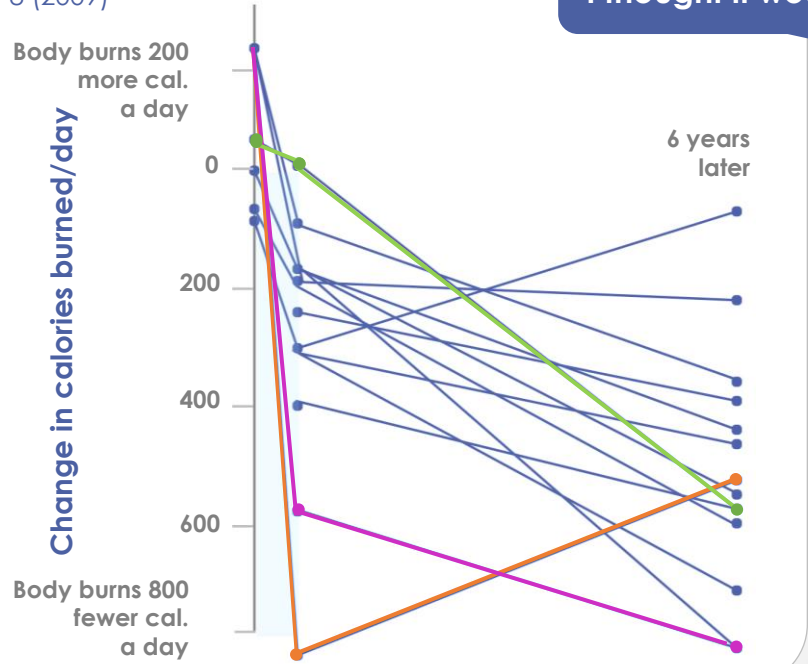
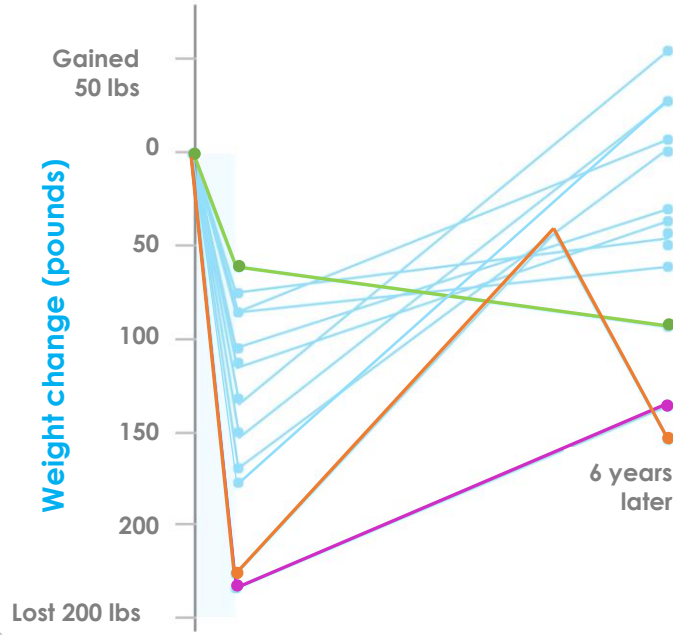
Adapted from Mann *et al.* 2007.

# Lessons Learned from “THE BIGGEST LOSER”

“The Biggest Loser changed my life.”

“But not the way that I thought it would.”

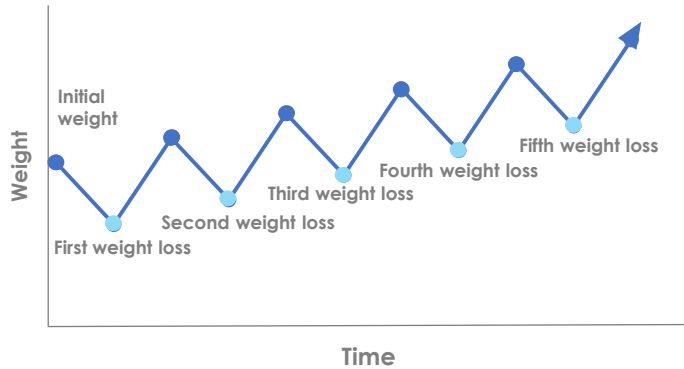
THE BIGGEST LOSER  
SEASON 8 (2009)



cal = kilocalorie; lbs = pounds  
Fothergill E et al. *Obesity*. 2016;24(8):1612-1619.

Figures adapted from Kolata G. *New York Times*. May 2, 2016.

# The brain is behind the yo-yo phenomenon of **WEIGHT LOSS AND GAIN**



## NEUROHORMONAL ADAPTATION

*Slowed metabolism =  
burning less calories*

*Increased hunger and cravings  
= increased appetite*

**The brain is designed to defend the body against weight loss**

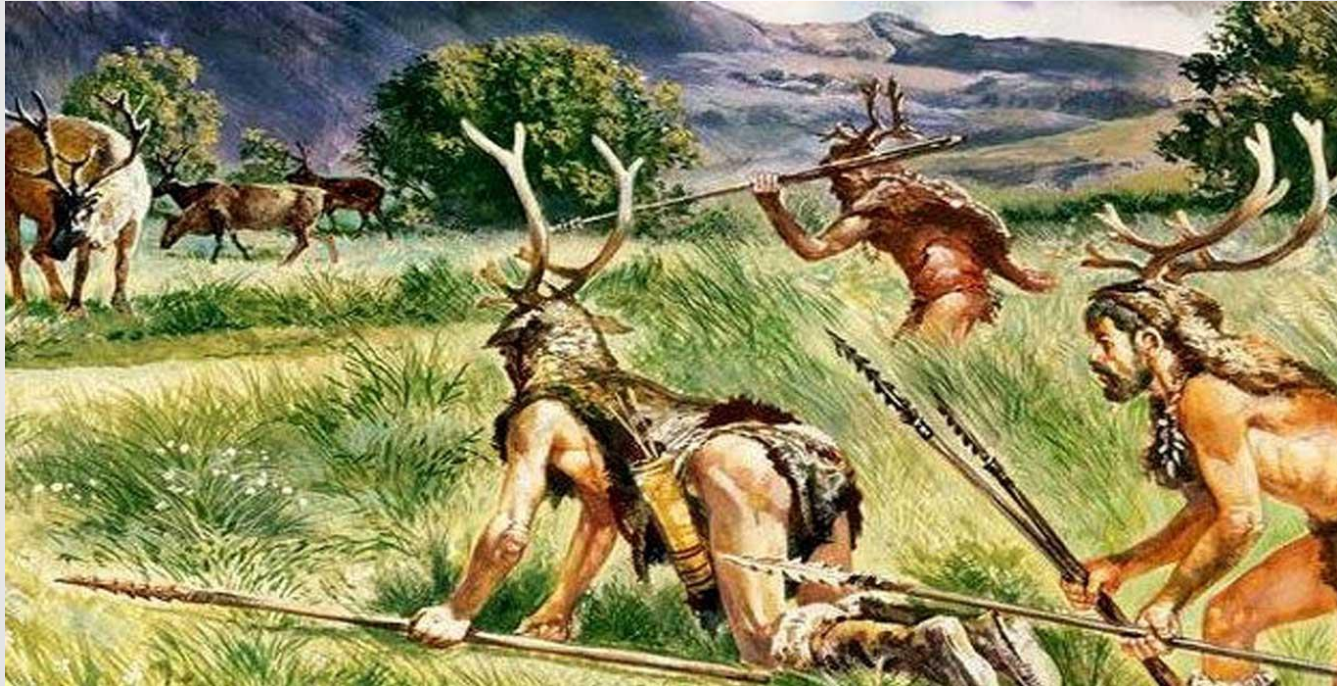
Sumithran P *et al.* *N Engl J Med.* 2011;365(17):1597-604.

Fothergill E *et al.* *Obesity.* 2016;24(8):1612-1619.

Behary P and Miras AD. *Exp Physiol.* 2014;99(9):1121-1127.

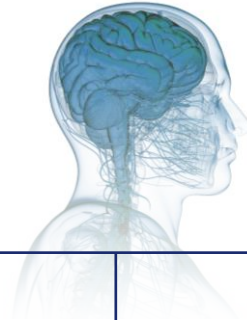
Human bodies favour energy conservation, resulting in **calorie seeking and a desire for sedentariness**

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# The brain is the **APPETITE CONTROL CENTRE**

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**Hypothalamus:  
HOMEOSTATIC  
EATING**

- *Energy balance*
- *Hunger*

↓

**Mesolimbic area:  
HEDONIC  
EATING**

- *Reward and pleasure*
- *Food cravings*

↓

**Frontal cortex:  
EXECUTIVE  
FUNCTION**

- *Decision-making*
- *Food selection*

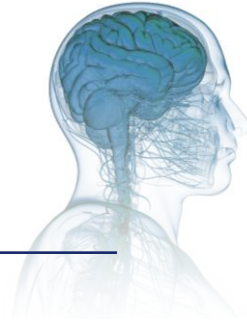
# Homeostatic eating is **EATING FOR SURVIVAL**

**HYPOTHALAMUS**



**HOMEOSTATIC  
EATING**

- *Energy balance*
- *Hunger*



**HEDONIC  
EATING**

- *Reward and pleasure*
- *Food cravings*

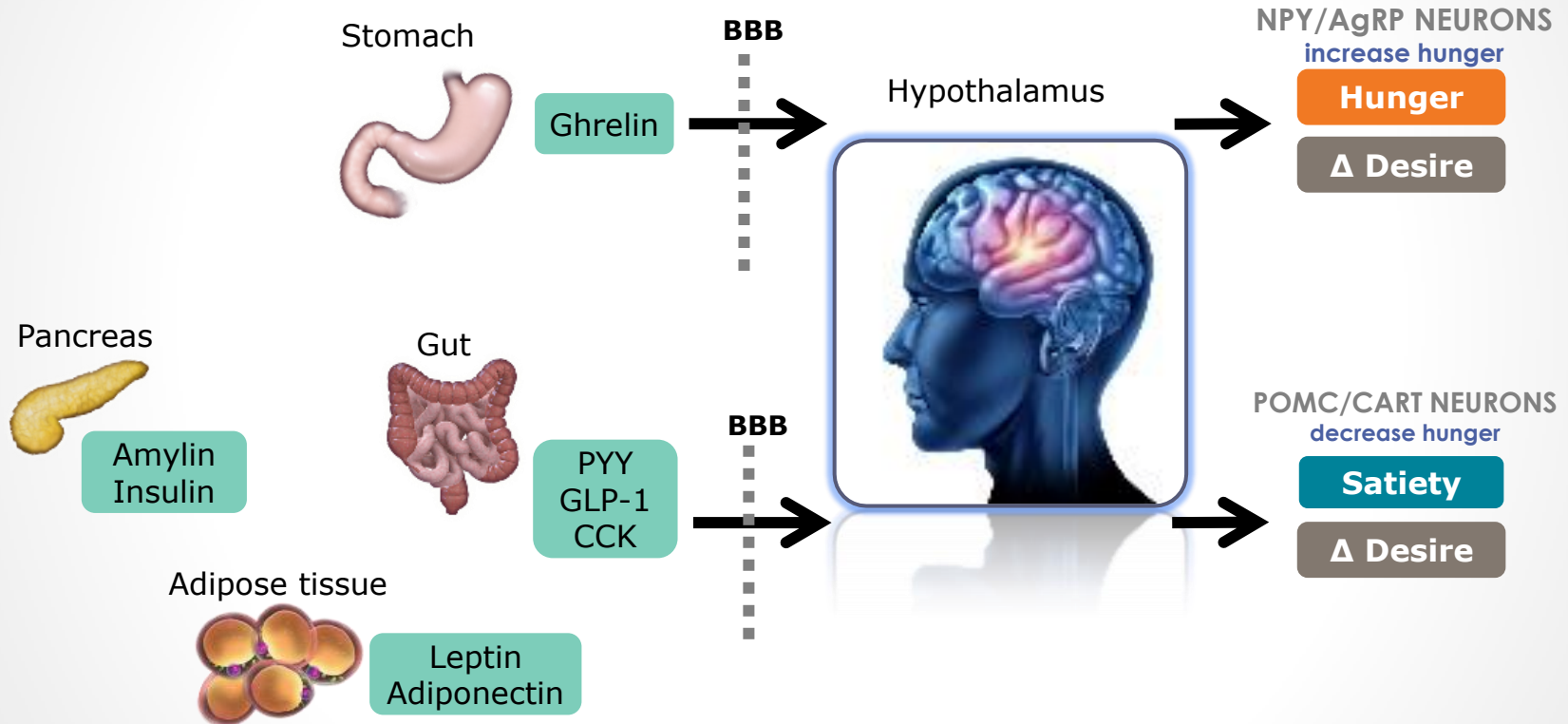


*I'M HUNGRY!*

**EXECUTIVE  
FUNCTION**

- *Decision-making*
- *Food selection*

# Hunger, satiety and desire are regulated by peripheral hormones and integrated in the hypothalamus



BBB = blood-brain barrier; CCK = cholecystokinin; GLP-1 = glucagon-like peptide-1; PYY = peptide YY.

\*the brain's reward circuitry, especially in the ventral tegmental area and nucleus accumbens. †especially the dorsolateral pre-frontal cortex. Suzuki K et al. *Exp Diabetes Res.* 2012;2012:824305; Berthoud HR. *Curr Opin Neurobiol.* 2011;21(6):888-896.

# Postprandial suppression of ghrelin is lower in obesity

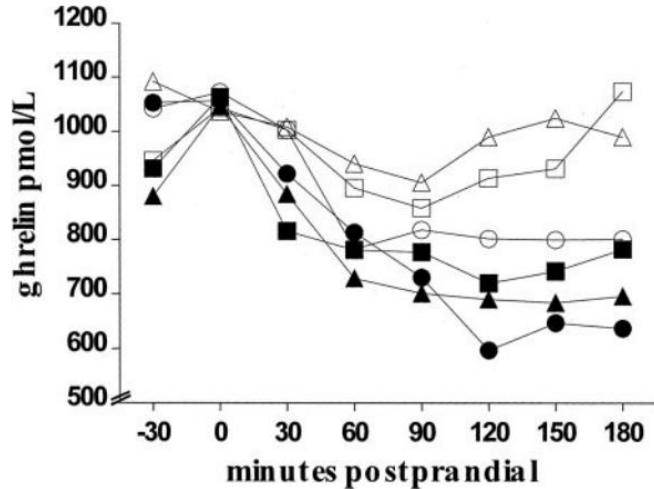


FIG. 1. Pre- and postprandial plasma ghrelin response in normal-weight subjects after 250 kcal (open square), 500 kcal (open triangle), and 1000 kcal (open circle) in 500 ml and 1000 kcal (filled square), 2000 kcal (filled triangle), and 3000 kcal (filled circle) in 900 ml.

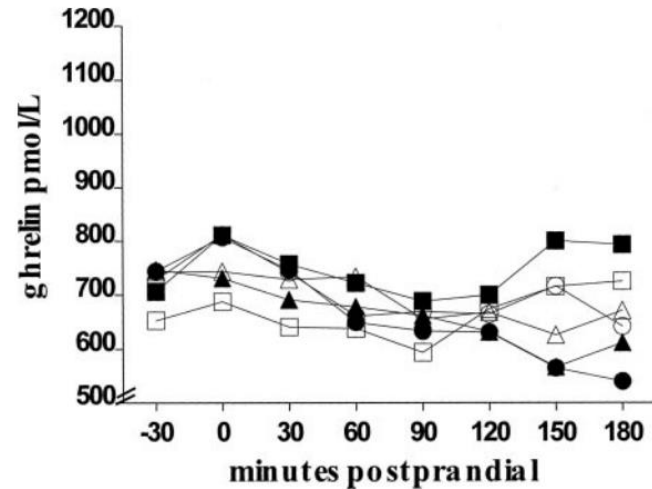


FIG. 3. Pre- and postprandial plasma ghrelin response in obese subjects after 250 kcal (open square), 500 kcal (open triangle), and 1000 kcal (open circle) in 500 ml and 1000 kcal (filled square), 2000 kcal (filled triangle), and 3000 kcal (filled circle) in 900 ml.

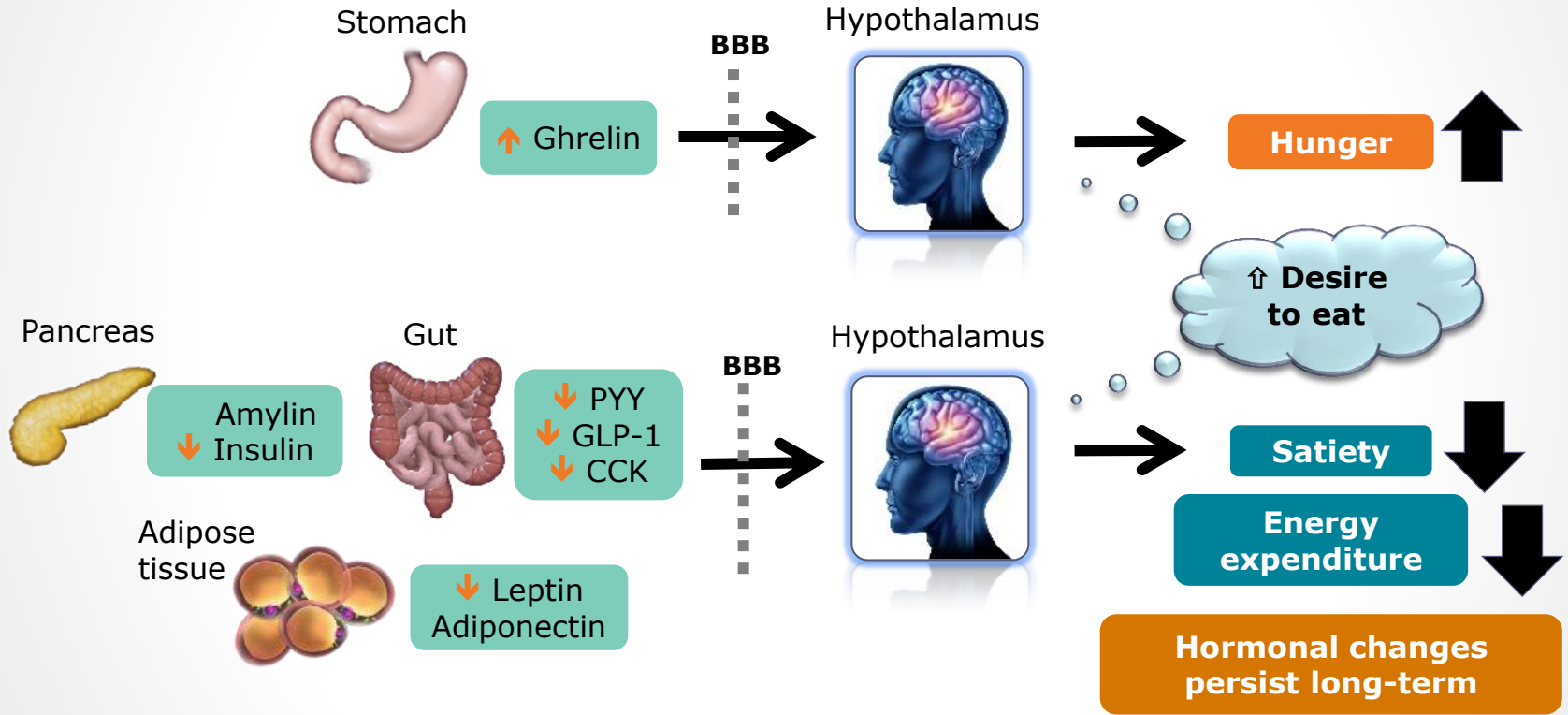


# Leptin resistance and obesity

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- Leptin is secreted primarily by adipocytes
- Leptin is present in serum in direct proportion to the amount of adipose tissue
- The primary role is to provide the CNS with a signal of energy (adipose) stores in the body
- Serum leptin in obesity is **high**
- ?? Leptin resistance

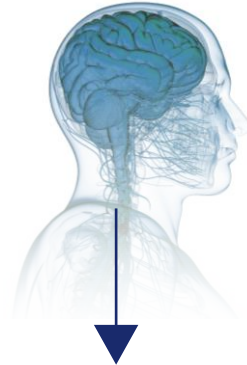
# Following weight loss, physiologic and metabolic responses favour weight regain



# Hedonic eating is

## **EATING FOR PLEASURE**

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### HOMEOSTATIC EATING

- *Energy balance*
- *Hunger*

### HEDONIC EATING

- *Reward and pleasure*
- *Food cravings*

### EXECUTIVE FUNCTION

- *Decision-making*
- *Food selection*

### MESOLIMBIC SYSTEM

# Cravings are controlled by hedonic signaling associated with **THE SIGHT, SMELL, OR TASTE OF FOOD**

## HEDONIC EATING

Mesolimbic  
system

**DOPAMINE RECEPTORS**  
control the motivation to eat

**OPIOID and CANNABINOID  
RECEPTORS**  
control the pleasure associated  
with food

**WANTING**

**LIKING**

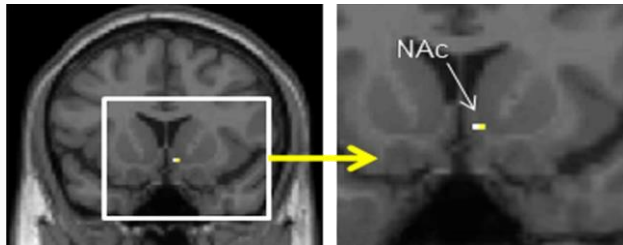


# Altered mesolimbic reward system activation in people with obesity

## Fasted/Hungry State

**Individuals with obesity have greater reward system activation**

in response to pictures of high-calorie foods compared with lean individuals<sup>1\*</sup>



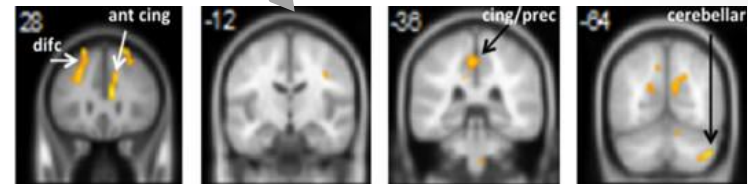
**Nucleus accumbens**

## Fed/Satiated State

**Individuals with obesity still show reward system activation following a meal**

when exposed to food cues vs lean individuals who have reduced

reward system activation<sup>2\*</sup>



**Anterior cingulate & dorsolateral frontal cortex**

**Posterior cingulate cortex**

**Cingulate & precuneus**

**Cerebellar**

# Executive function decides **WHETHER AND WHAT TO EAT**

## HOMEOSTATIC EATING

- *Energy balance*
- *Hunger*

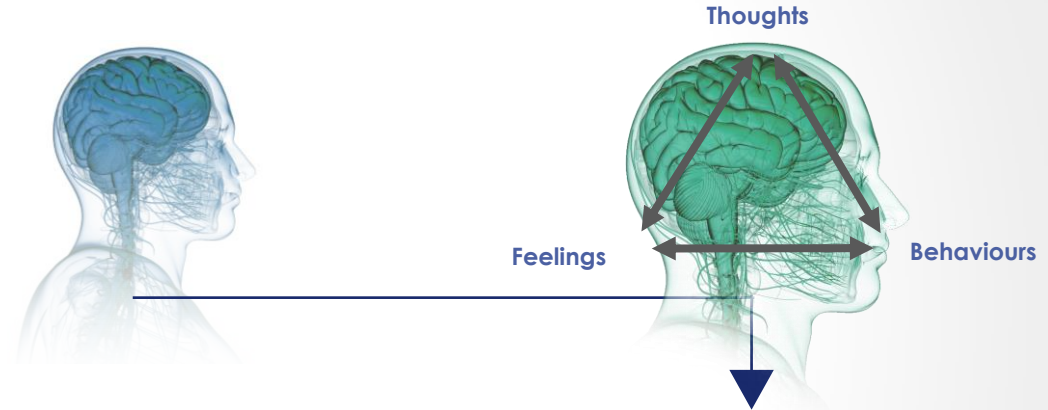
## HEDONIC EATING

- *Reward and pleasure*
- *Food cravings*

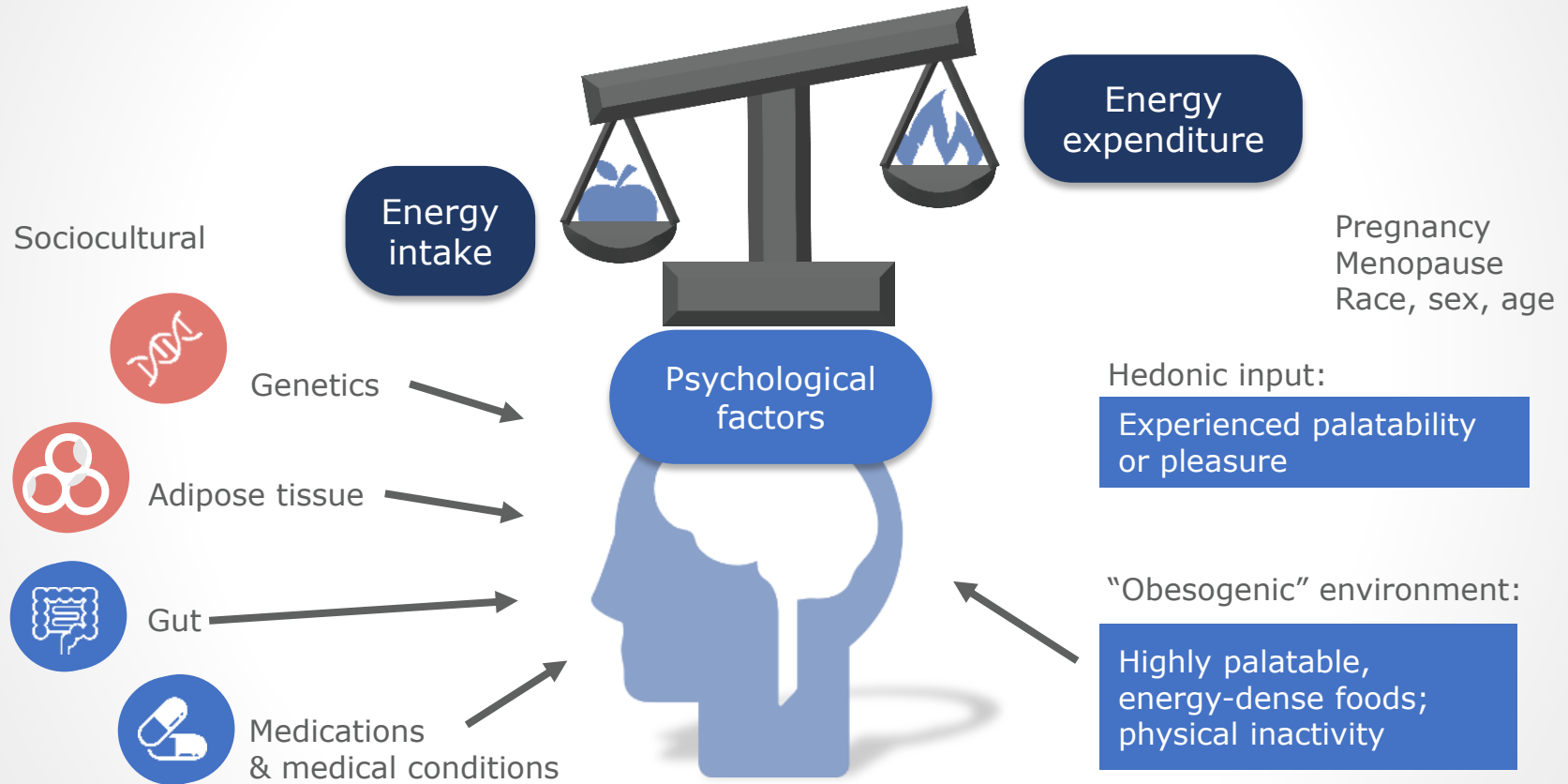
## EXECUTIVE FUNCTION

- *Decision-making*
- *Food selection*

**BEHAVIOURAL  
INTERVENTIONS**  
empower sustainable  
behaviours in controlling eating



# The pathophysiology of obesity is complex



# New Paradigm

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Obesity is a genetically conferred, environmentally-influenced, neurohormonally-controlled, behaviourally and socially-mediated complex chronic medical condition.





# Obesity underlies three major types OF CONSEQUENCES...

BIOLOGICAL (METABOLIC)	STRUCTURAL (MECHANICAL)	PSYCHO-SOCIAL (MENTAL)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Polycystic Ovary Syndrome</li><li>• Infertility</li><li>• Cancer</li><li>• NAFLD</li><li>• Hypertension</li><li>• Dyslipidemia</li><li>• Type 2 diabetes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Osteoarthritis</li><li>• Chronic pain</li><li>• Sleep apnea</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Anxiety</li><li>• Depression</li><li>• Eating disorder</li><li>• ADHD</li><li>• Migraine</li><li>• Stigma</li><li>• Social exclusion</li><li>• Alzheimer Dementia</li><li>• Vascular Dementia</li></ul>

...leading to 200+  
comorbidities

NAFLD = non-alcoholic fatty liver disease; ADHD = attention deficit hyperactivity disorder

Twells LK *et al. CMAJ Open.* 2014; 2(1):E18-26. Catenacci VA *et al. Clin Chest Med.* 2009;30(3):415-444. Calle EE *et al. N Engl J Med.* 2003;348(17):1625-1638. Bluhner M. *Exp Clin Endocrinol Diabetes.* 2009;117(6):241-250. Luppino FS *et al. Arch Gen Psychiatry.* 2010;67:220-22. Ganz ML *et al. Diab & Met Syndr.* 2014;6(1):50. Rahmanian K *et al. Glob J Health Sci.* 2016;8(4): 95-101. Leenen FH *et al. Am J Hypertens.* 2010;23(9):1000-1006. Singh K *et al. Int J Biol Med Res.* 2011;2(3):824-828. Huang Y *et al. Atherosclerosis.* 2016;247:218-224. Pang Q *et al. World J Gastroenterol.* 2015;21(5):1650-1662. Dag ZO *et al. J Turk Ger Gynecol Assoc.* 2015; 16(2):111-117. Sallmen M *et al. Epidemiology.* 2006;17(5):520-523. Knight JA *et al. Ann Clin Lab Sci.* 2011;41(2):107-121. Hampel H *et al. Ann Intern Med.* 2005;143(3):199-211. Wosu AC *et al. ISRN Obes.* 2014;1-8. Willenberg T *et al. J Vasc Surg.* 2010;52(3):664-668. Vlainjac HD *et al. Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg* 2013;45(3):293-298. Hashimoto Y *et al. J Phys Ther Sci.* 2017;29(6):978-983. Thom DH *et al. J Urol.* 2010;184(4):1394-1401.

# Obesity

is associated with increased mortality



Each 5 kg/m<sup>2</sup> higher BMI gives ~40% higher mortality rate for ischemic heart disease, stroke, and other vascular diseases<sup>1</sup>

Q. What weight loss target should be recommended to patients for health benefit?

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- A. 1-3%
- B. 5-10%
- C. 15-20%
- D. To achieve a normal BMI of 24
- E. To bring the BMI below 30

# Modest weight loss of 5-10% confers significant clinical benefits

CONDITION	WEIGHT LOSS RESULTING IN THERAPEUTIC BENEFIT
Diabetes (prevention)	3-10%
Hypertension	5 to >15%
Dyslipidemia	3 to >15%
Hyperglycemia	3 to >15%
NAFLD	10%
Sleep apnea	10%
Osteoarthritis	5-10%
Stress incontinence	5-10%
Gastroesophageal reflux disease	5-10% in women; 10% in men
Polycystic ovary syndrome	5-15%



# Starting the conversation

# Patients with obesity face **STIGMA AND BIAS EVERY DAY**

Negative comments or actions can impede successful weight management and may come from:



Family and friends



Colleagues



Strangers



HCPs

Patients who experience obesity bias from their HCPs may avoid clinical care and talking about weight or may be less adherent to their weight management plan

Let's use

## PATIENT FIRST LANGUAGE

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### DO SAY

“Patients living with...”

- Increased weight
- Obesity
- Weight problems

### DON'T SAY

“Obese patients”

- Obese
- Fat
- Morbidly obese

# Enhancing the office setting to **OPTIMIZE OBESITY CARE**

Tips for setting up an office environment for obesity care:



## Waiting room

- Sturdy, armless chairs
- Magazines and other reading materials that are weight sensitive and promote healthy living



## Examination rooms

- Scales with an adequately sized base and supportive handle bar that can measure >300 lbs (>137 kg)
- Extra large adult arm and thigh blood pressure cuffs
- Large-size gowns
- Adequately sized, sturdy examination tables

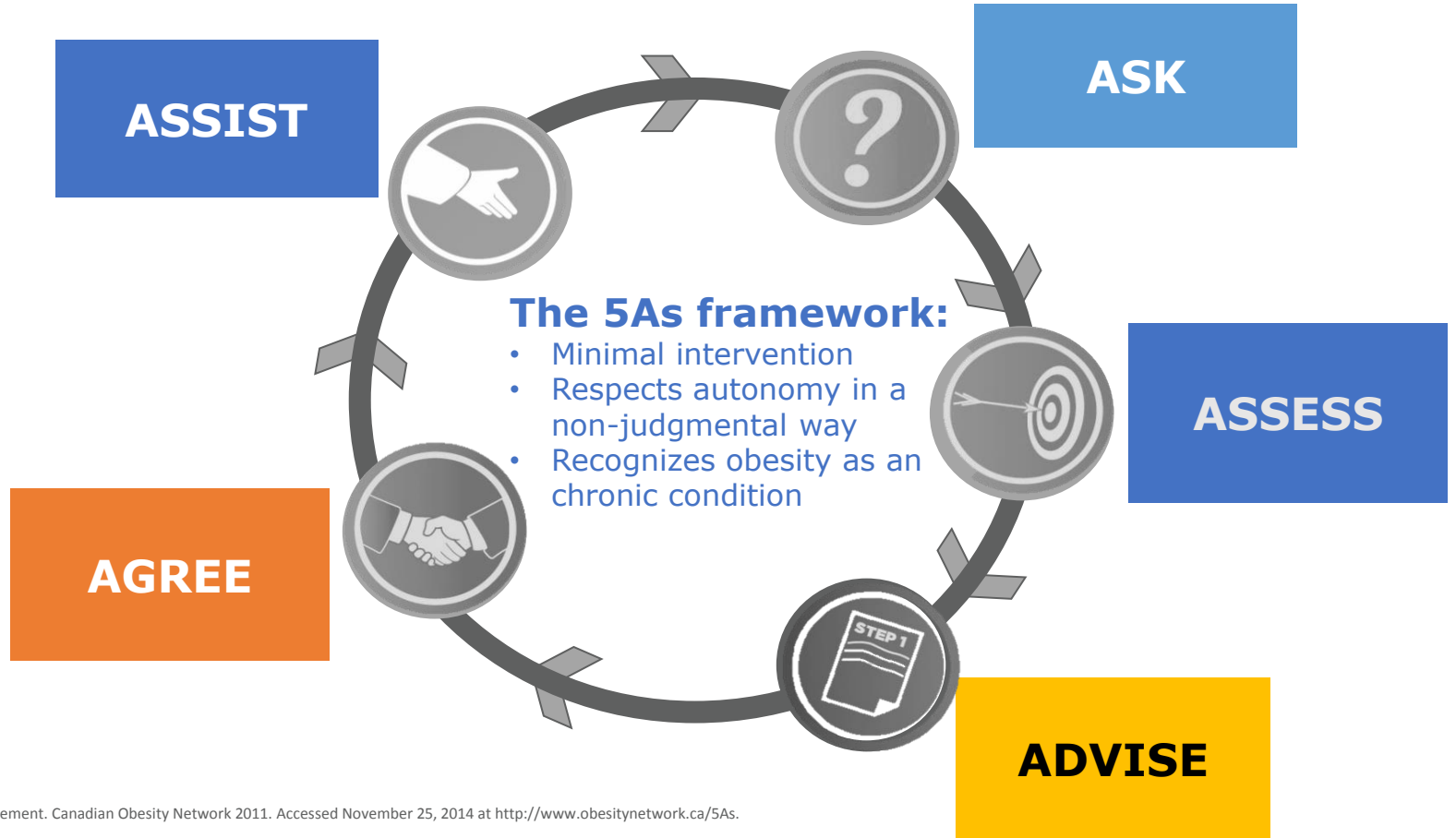


## Office protocols

- Weigh patients in a private setting
- **Ask patient for permission to be weighed**

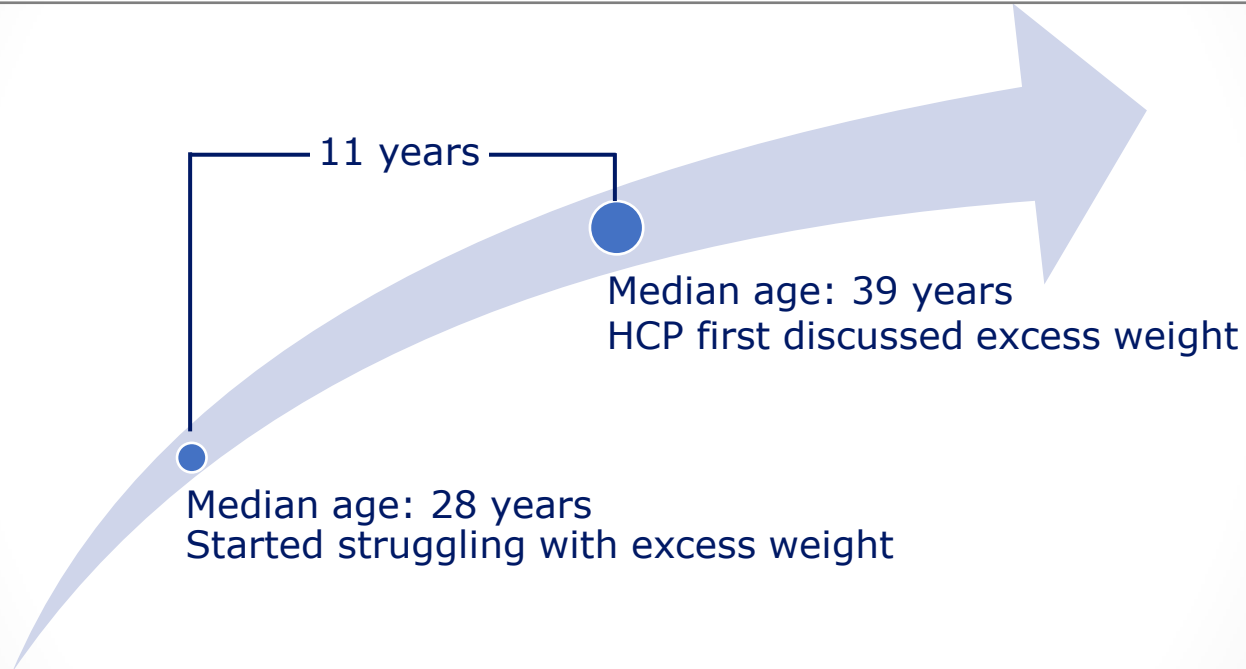


# Starting the conversation: The 5As framework



# It takes over a decade for people living with obesity **TO DISCUSS WEIGHT WITH THEIR HCP**

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[All PwO] Q122A Approximately how old were you when you first remember struggling with excess weight or obesity?

[PwO has Discussed with HCP] Q122 Approximately how old were you when a healthcare provider first discussed your excess weight or recommended that you lose weight?

Based on total PwO (n=2000/1129). PwO, people with obesity; HCP, healthcare practitioner

1. Sharma AM *et al.* Presented at the Canadian Family Practice Nurses Association Biennial Meeting, 27–29 April 2018, Winnipeg, Canada

Q. What prevents patients from discussing weight with their HCPs?

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- A. Patients are too embarrassed to bring it up
- B. Patients are not motivated to address their weight
- C. Patients feel that it's their own responsibility to manage their weight
- D. Patients do not believe they can lose weight
- E. Patients are not interested in losing weight

# What proportion of patients feel that weight loss is completely their own responsibility?



# What proportion of HCPs feel that weight loss is completely the responsibility of the patient?



74 %



23 %

# The ACTION Study Canada:

“I know what I need to do and I can lose weight if I really put my mind to it”



**55%**

Q. What is the average weight loss achieved over 1 year with diet and exercise?

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- A. 2-5%
- B. 5-7%
- C. 7-10%
- D. 10-12%

# The ACTION Study Canada:

“I know what I need to do and I can lose weight if I really put my mind to it”

Only  reported maintaining  $\geq 10\%$  weight reduction for >1 year






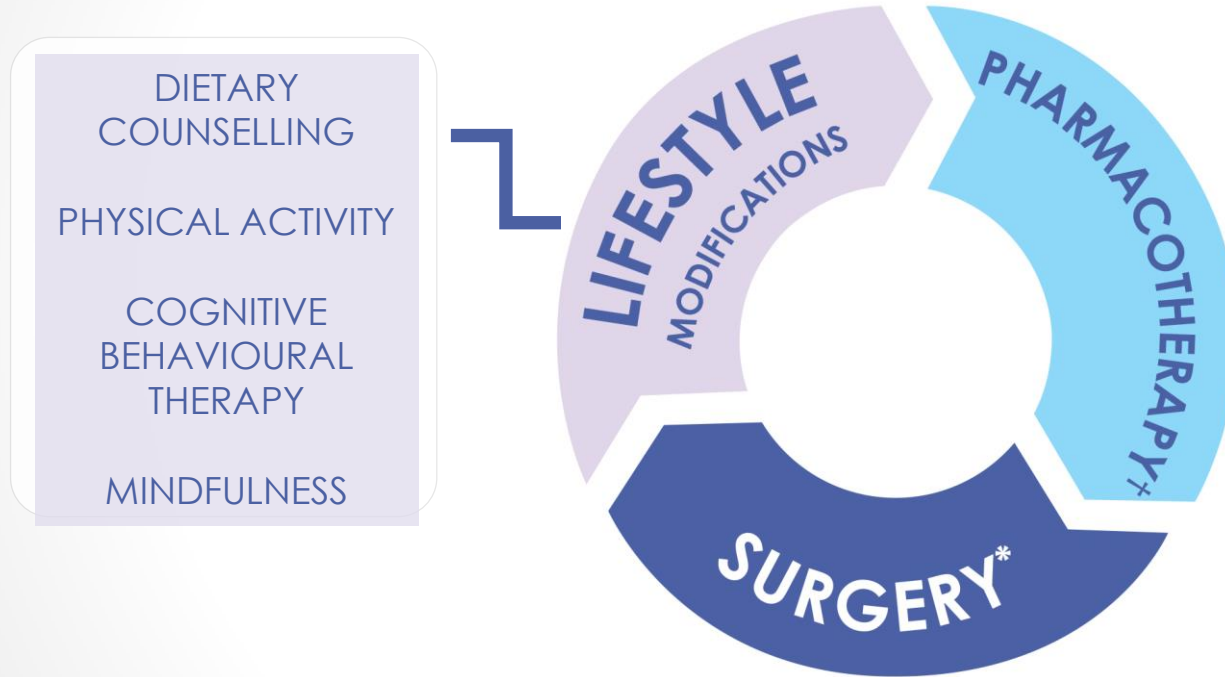
**Obesity management must change.**

# Guidelines

Treatment	Body Mass Index (BMI) category (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )				
	≥25	≥27	≥30	≥35	≥40
Behavioural Modification	With comorbidities	With comorbidities	✓	✓	✓
Pharmacotherapy		With comorbidities	✓	✓	✓
Bariatric Surgery				With comorbidities	✓

 Indicates a treatment recommendation for that BMI class.

# Weight management requires a multi-modal approach



\*Surgery is indicated in eligible patients with BMI >35 + weight-related comorbidity or BMI >40

†Pharmacology is indicated for BMI >27 + weight-related comorbidity or BMI >30

## Expectations for weight management

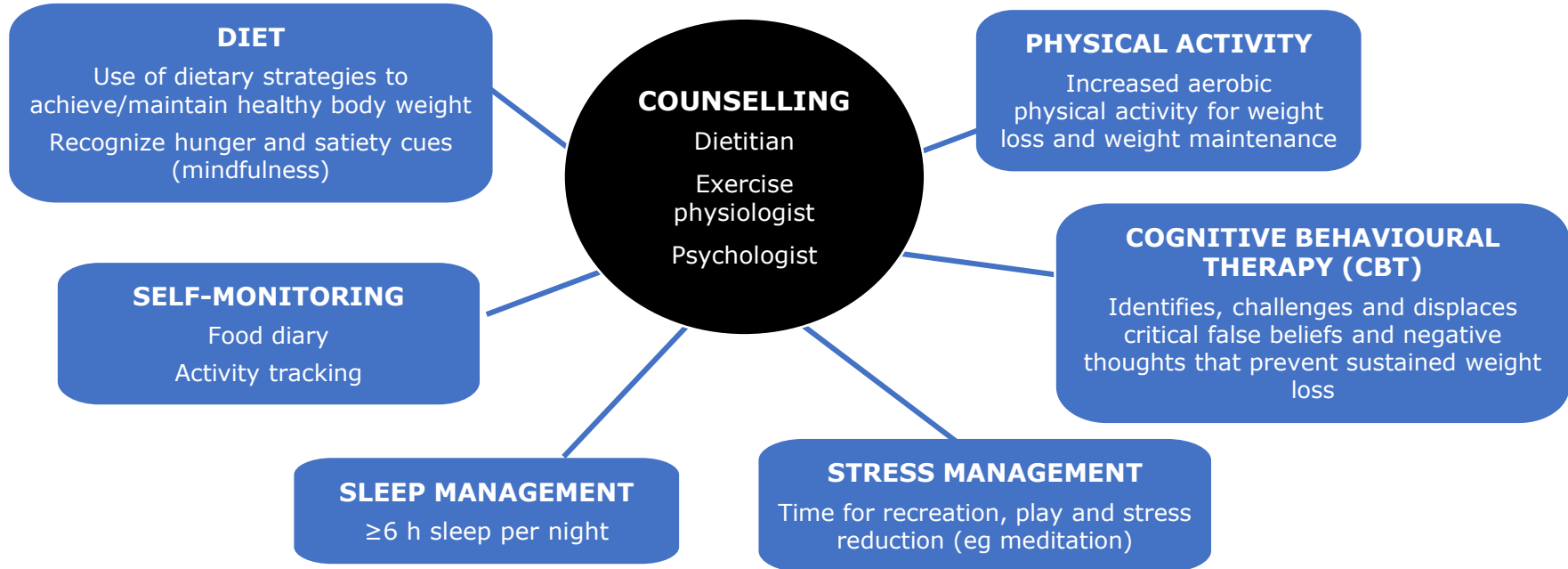
- Weight-loss advertisements can focus on **aesthetic weight loss** and unrealistic expectations

**Long-term goals of obesity management are weight maintenance and prevention of weight regain**

- **Long-term goal:**
  - Improved health and quality of life
- **Behavioural goals:**
  - Should be **SMART** (specific, measurable, achievable, rewarding, timely)
- Clarify patient-defined **values**

# Overview of recommended lifestyle modification

Guidelines recommend individualized behavioural interventions as the cornerstone of weight management

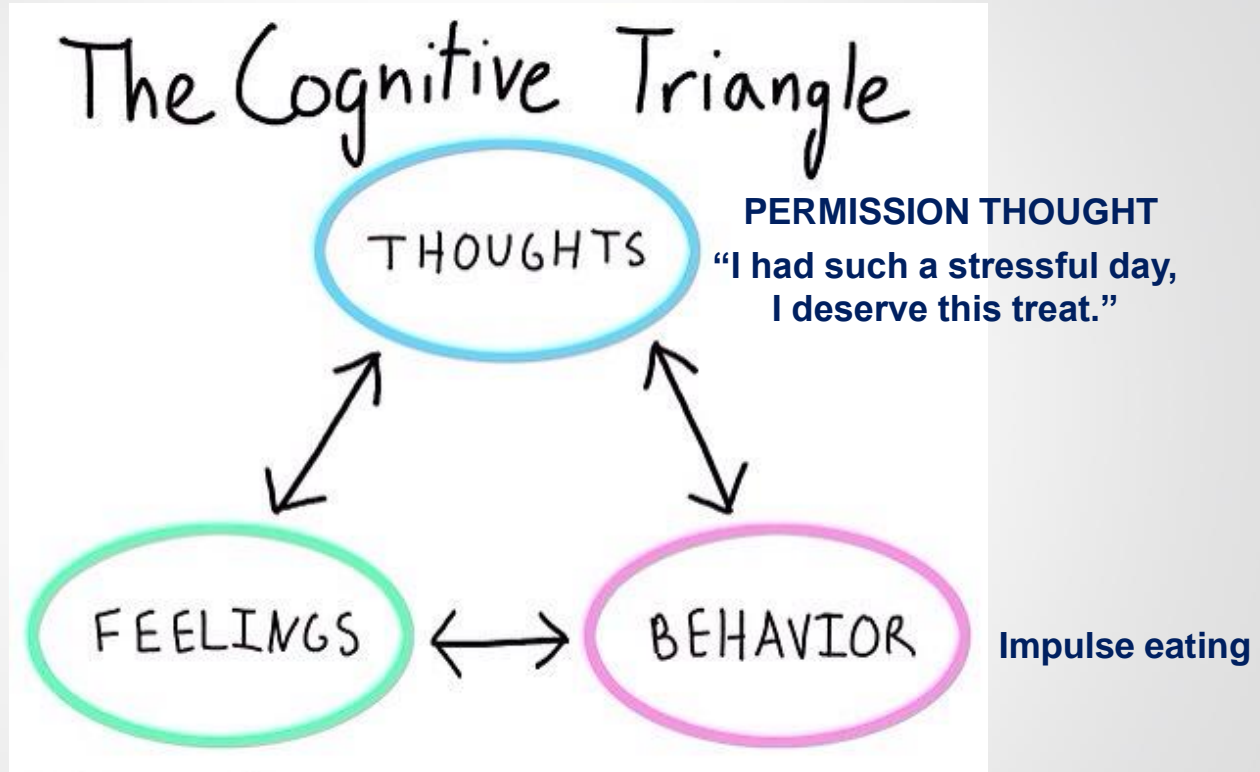


## Behavioural strategies commonly used

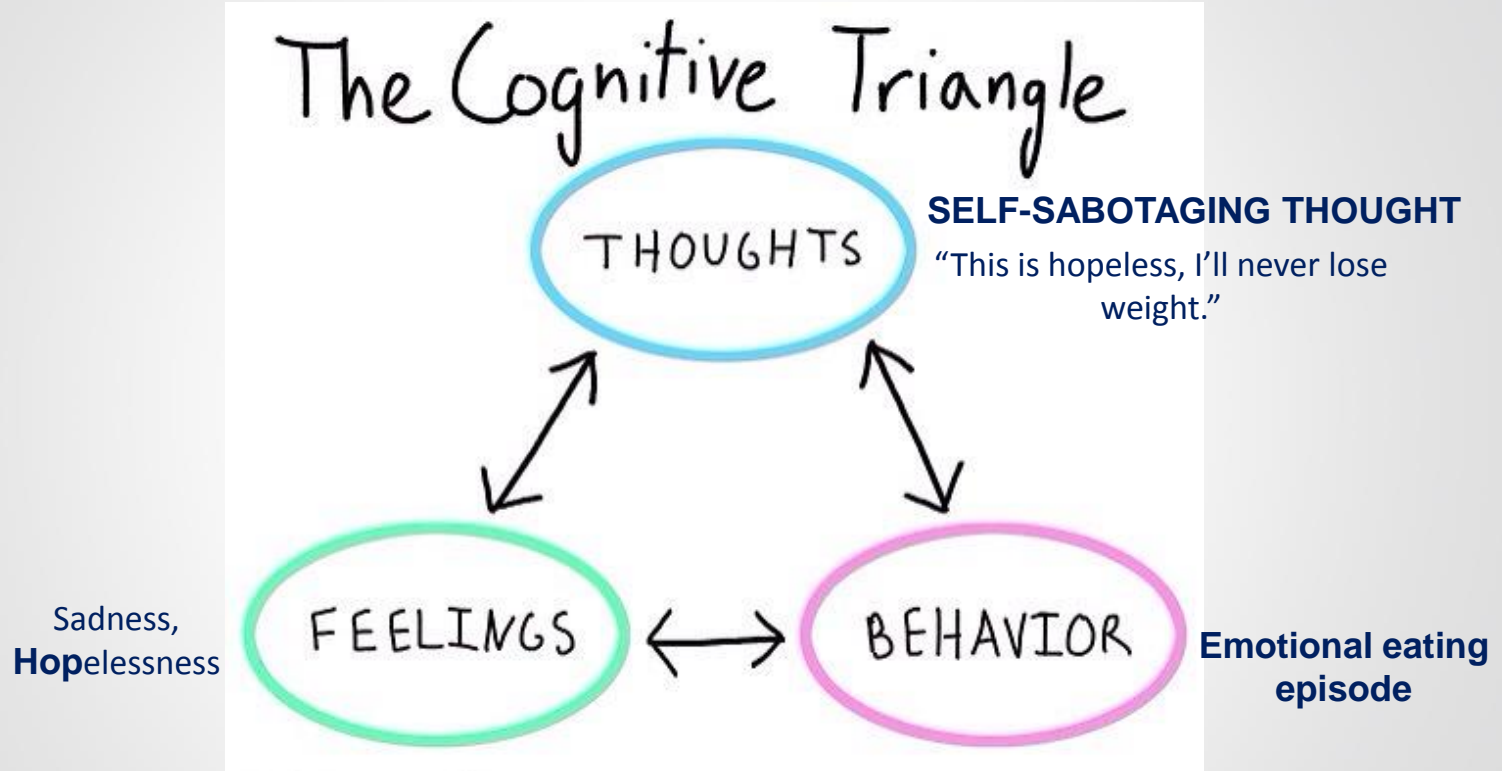
Strategy	Requirements
Self-monitoring	Monitoring of diet, physical activity, mood and weight
Stimulus control	Modifying external environment to make it more conducive to supporting behavior change goals
Core Values	Guide our decision making throughout life, different from goals (end-point). Health behaviours are often uncomfortable or unpleasant – what will make it worth it?
Self-reinforcement	Self-reward; end of day reflection and self-affirmation
Anticipating setbacks, Relapse prevention	Problem-solving solutions to cope with barriers or pre-identified high-risk situations
Goal setting	Behavioural goals, not weight goal. Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Realistic, Time-framed (SMART), regular monitoring and re-evaluation of goals
Cognitive restructuring	Challenging problematic thinking and emotions that hinder efforts and treatment adherence

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# Cognitive behavioural therapy



# Cognitive behavioural therapy







# Pharmacotherapy

# What proportion of patients and HCPs feel that prescription weight-loss medication is effective for weight-management ?

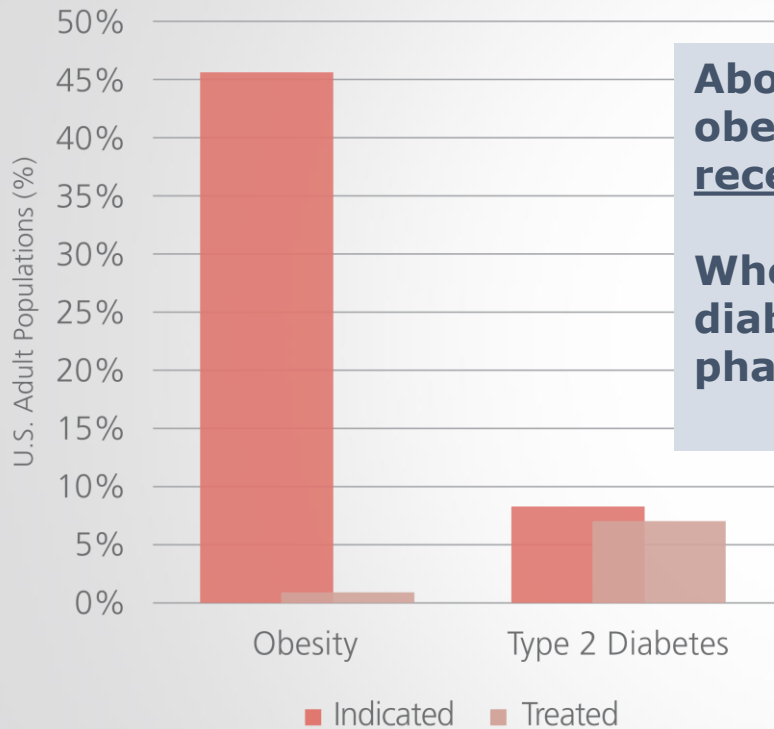
Patients



**BIAS**

17 %

# Low adoption of anti-obesity medications (AOM)



**About 46% of adults are indicated for anti-obesity pharmacotherapy, but only 2% of them receive treatment**

**Whereas, 8.4% of adults are diagnosed with diabetes—86% receive antihyperglycemic pharmacotherapy**

# Who is AOM **INDICATED FOR?**

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Adult patients with an initial body mass index (BMI) of

- 30 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or greater (obesity), or
- 27 kg/m<sup>2</sup> or greater (overweight) in the presence of at least one weight-related comorbidity (e.g., controlled hypertension, type 2 diabetes mellitus, or dyslipidemia)

who are concurrently adopting a reduced-calorie diet and increased physical activity.

# Anti-obesity medications available in Canada

DRUG (TRADE NAME)	HEALTH CANADA APPROVAL	MECHANISM OF ACTION	1-YEAR WEIGHT LOSS, PLACEBO-SUBTRACTED (ITT)	MAJOR SAFETY ISSUES	TOLERABILITY
Orlistat (Xenical)	1999	Gastrointestinal lipase inhibitor	~3%	Fat-soluble vitamin malabsorption	Fecal urgency, fecal incontinence, flatus with discharge, oily spotting
Liraglutide (Saxenda)	2015	GLP-1 receptor agonist	4.0-5.4%	Gallstones, acute pancreatitis	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, constipation, dyspepsia, abdominal pain, headache, fatigue, hypoglycemia, increased lipase
Naltrexone hydrochloride/ Bupropion hydrochloride (Contrave)	2018	Opioid receptor antagonist/ aminoketone antidepressant	3.3-4.8%	Use in controlled hypertension only	Nausea, vomiting, constipation, diarrhea, dizziness, dry mouth

GLP-1 = glucagon-like peptide 1

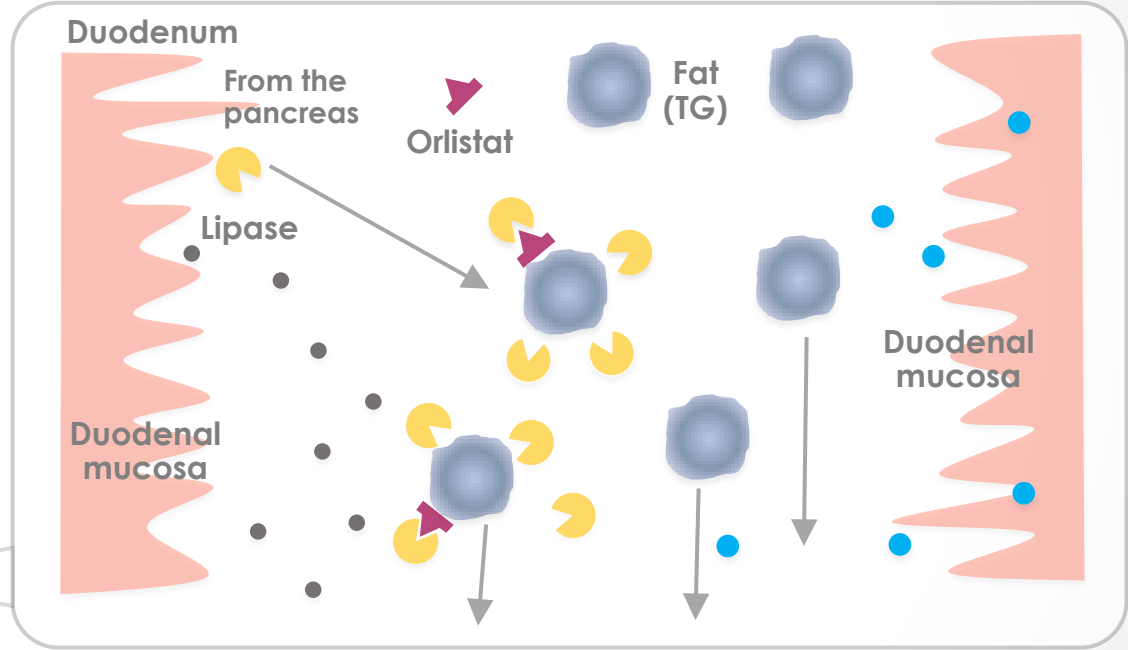
Xenical® (product monograph), September 27, 2017, Cheplapharm, Germany.

Saxenda® (product monograph), July 12, 2017, Novo Nordisk Canada Inc, Mississauga, ON.

Contrave® (product monograph), February 12, 2018, Valeant Canada LP; Laval, QC.

Orlistat:

# A PANCREATIC & GASTRIC LIPASE INHIBITOR

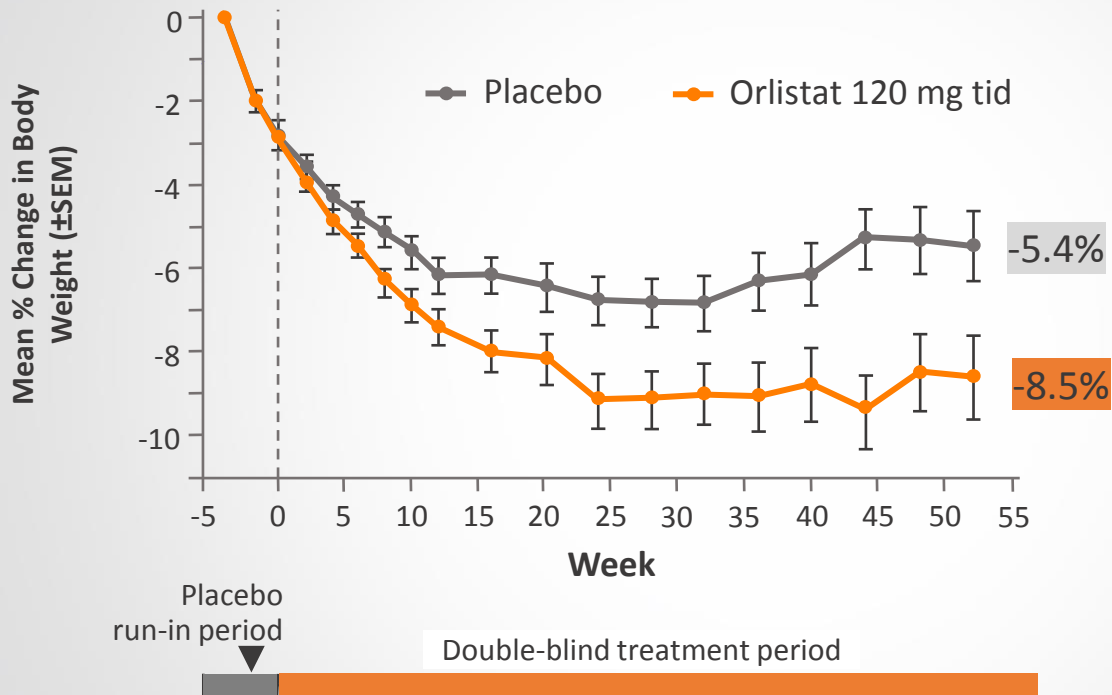


TG = triglyceride

Heck AM *et al. Pharmacotherapy.* 2000;20(3):270-279.

Hadvary *et al. J Biol Chem.* 1991;266(4):2021-2027

# Orlistat Efficacy Phase 3 Study – BM14119C



Placebo-subtracted weight change:

**-3.1%**

ITT population  
P = 0.016

# Orlistat:

## SAFETY AND TOLERABILITY

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ADVERSE EVENT (AE)	ORLISTAT n = 1,913 (%)	PLACEBO n = 1,466 (%)
Oily spotting	26.6	1.3
Flatus with discharge	23.9	1.4
Fecal urgency	22.1	6.7
Fatty/oily stool	20.0	2.9
Oily evacuation	11.9	0.8
Increased defecation	10.8	4.1
Fecal incontinence	7.7	0.9



# Liraglutide: A GLP-1 receptor agonist

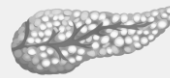
## **MIMICS THE EFFECTS OF THE HORMONE GLP-1**



**GLP-1**



↓ **Gastric emptying**



↑ **Insulin**  
↓ **Glucagon**



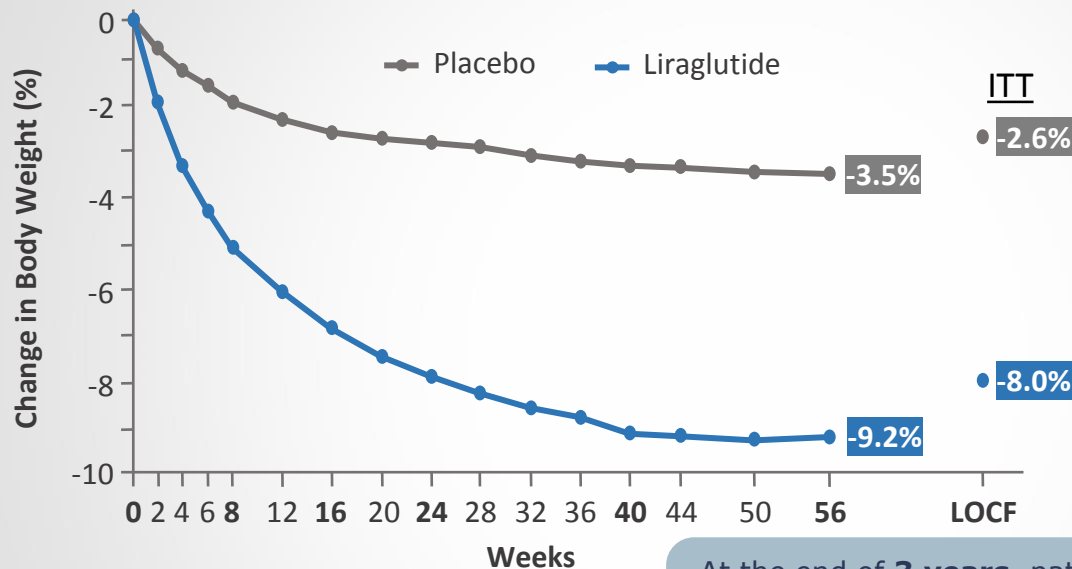
↑ **Satiety**  
↓ **Appetite**  
↓ **Energy intake**

GLP-1 = glucagon-like peptide 1

Shaefer CF *et al. Postgrad Med.* 2015;127(8):818-826.

Baggio *et al. J Clin Invest.* 2014;124(10):4223-4226.

# Liraglutide Efficacy Phase 3 Study – SCALE 1



N	2437	2267	2152	2073	1910
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Placebo-subtracted weight change:

**-5.7%**

**ITT: -5.4%**

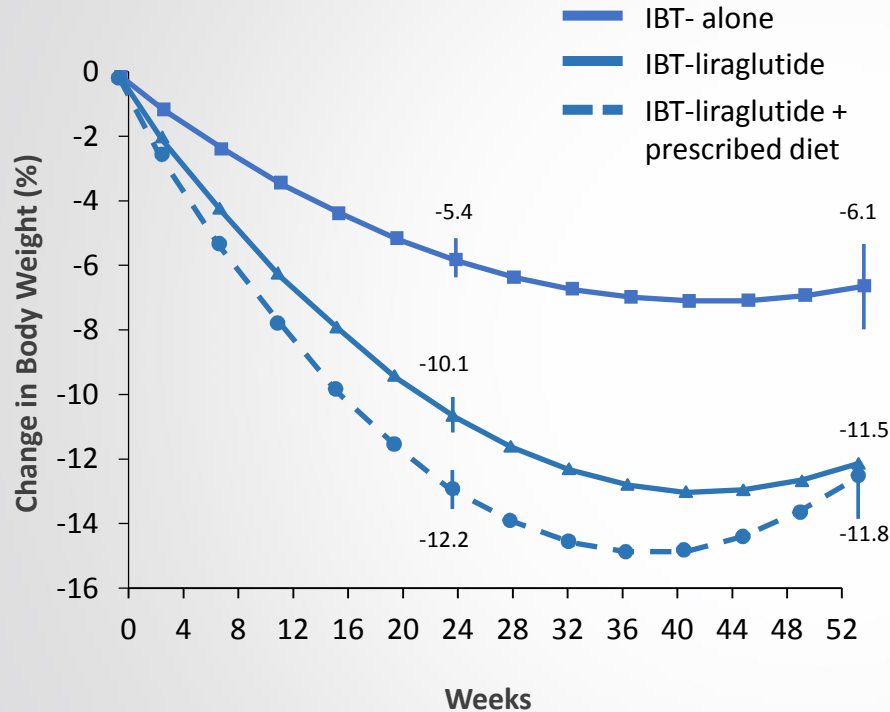
ITT population  
P < 0.0001

At the end of **3 years**, patients with **prediabetes** at baseline progressed to type 2 diabetes:

**3%** in the **liraglutide** group      **11%** in the **placebo** group      **80%** relative risk reduction

(estimated cumulative incidence rates)

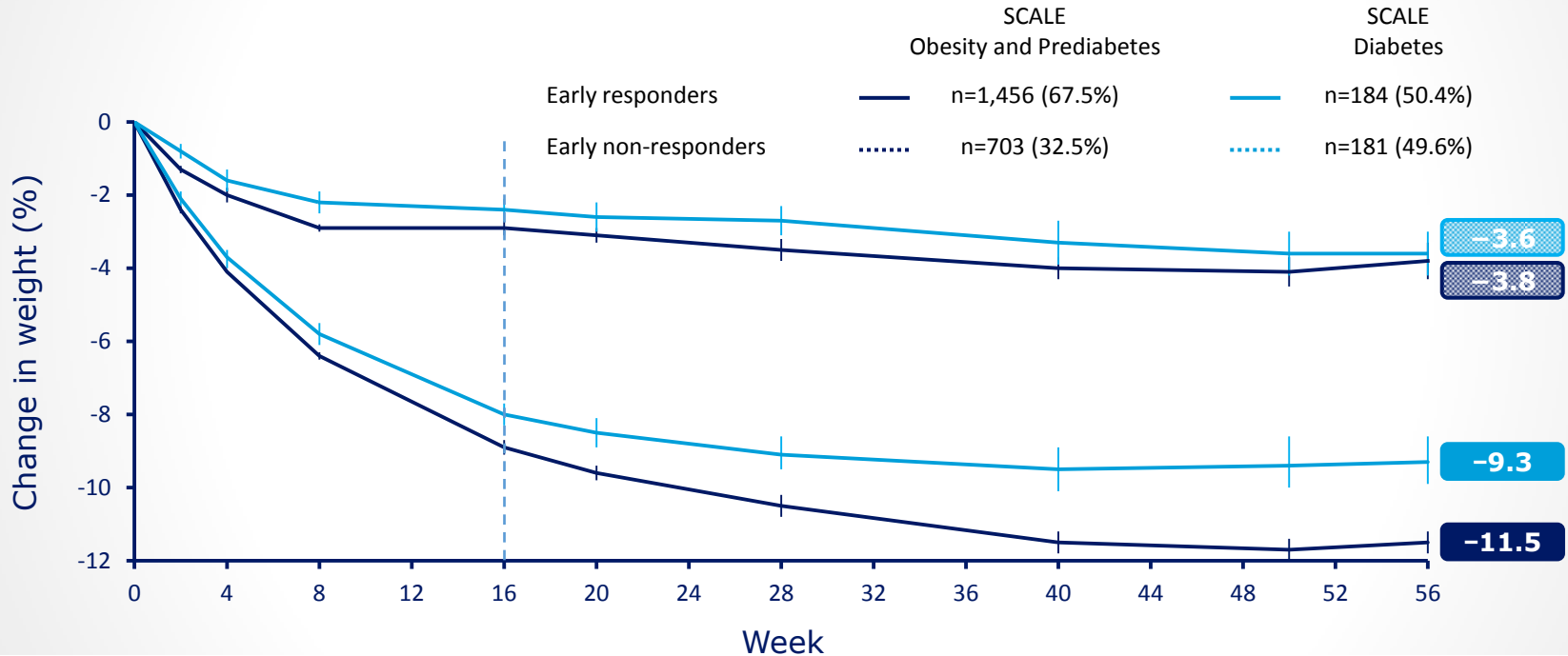
# Additive Benefits of Lifestyle Change and Pharmacologic Intervention: Liraglutide Efficacy in Combination with Lifestyle Modification



- 150 participants all received intensive behavioral therapy (IBT) and were randomized 1:1:1 to receive no additional treatment, liraglutide, or liraglutide and a prescribed meal replacement diet (1000–1200 kcal/d)

# Week 56 weight loss in all patients vs. early responders

SCALE Obesity and Prediabetes and SCALE Diabetes: Week 56



Early responders, individuals who achieved  $\geq 5\%$  weight loss from baseline at 16 weeks; early non-responders, individuals who achieved  $< 5\%$  weight loss from baseline at 16 weeks. Week 56 completers, FAS, fasting visit data only. Line graphs are observed means ( $\pm 95\%$  CI). Red dashed line shows when early response was assessed. Early responder/early non-responder data are for Week 16 completers. CI, confidence interval; FAS, full analysis set

# Liraglutide

## SAFETY AND TOLERABILITY

ADVERSE EVENT (AE)	LIRAGLUTIDE n = 3,384 (%)	PLACEBO n = 1,941 (%)
Nausea	39.3	13.8
Diarrhea	20.9	9.9
Constipation	19.4	8.5
Vomiting	15.7	3.9
Dyspepsia	9.6	2.7
Abdominal pain	5.4	3.1
Upper abdominal pain	5.1	2.7
Decreased appetite	10.0	2.3
Fatigue	7.5	4.6
Dizziness	6.9	5.0
Increased lipase	5.3	2.2

# Liraglutide

## ADMINISTRATION

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- Once daily SC injection, usually evening
- Dose titration

0.6mg SC daily x 1 week,  
1.2mg SC daily x 1 week,  
1.8mg SC daily x 1 week,  
2.4mg SC daily x 1 week,  
3.0mg SC daily ongoing

- Side effects can be minimized by slower titration



# Naltrexone and bupropion (Contrave) - **MECHANISM OF ACTION**



## Bupropion HCl

- Dopamine and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitor
- Dopaminergic effect controls motivation/drive to eat
- Works on cravings and wanting food

## Naltrexone HCl

- Opioid antagonist
- Recall opioid receptor involvement in pleasure associated with food
- Reduce rewarding aspect of food

### Synergistic action in:

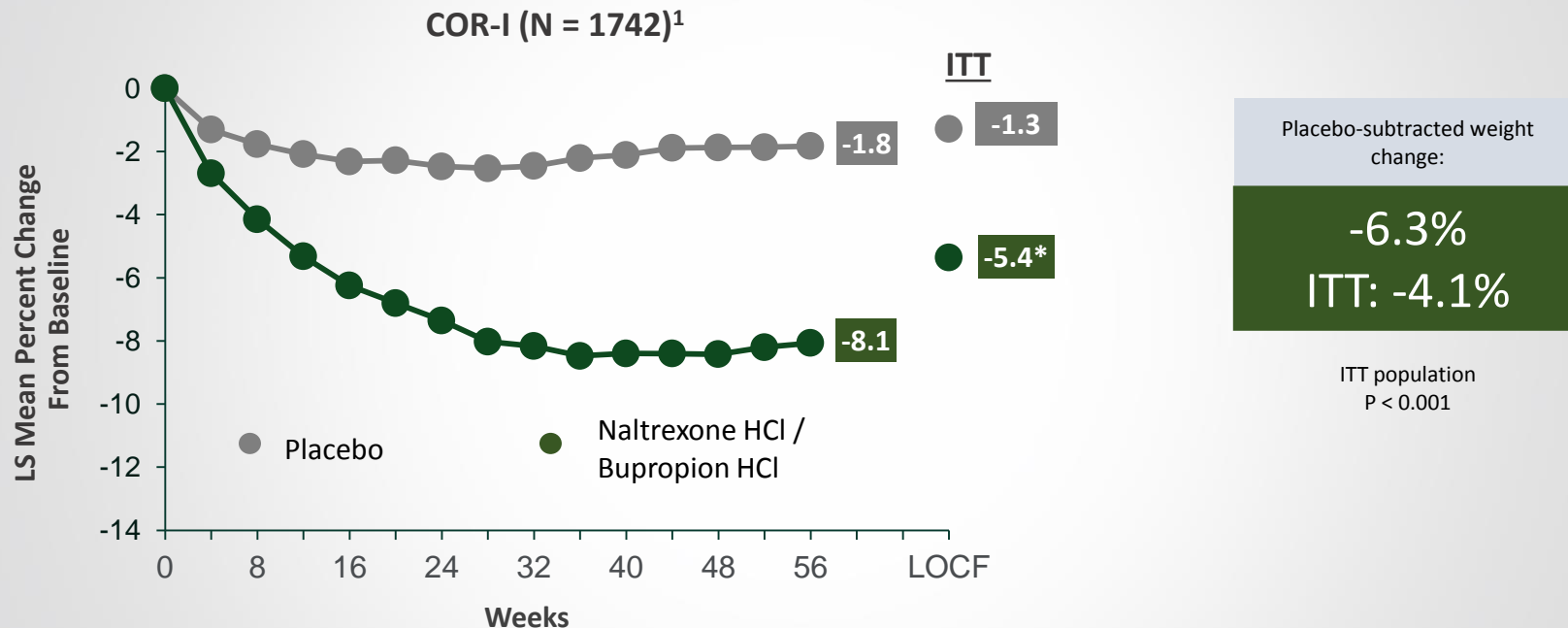
#### Hypothalamus

Stimulates appetite-suppressing POMC neurons to reduce feelings of hunger

#### Mesolimbic circuit

Modulates feelings of reward and craving

# Naltrexone HCl / Bupropion HCl Efficacy Phase 3 Study – COR-I

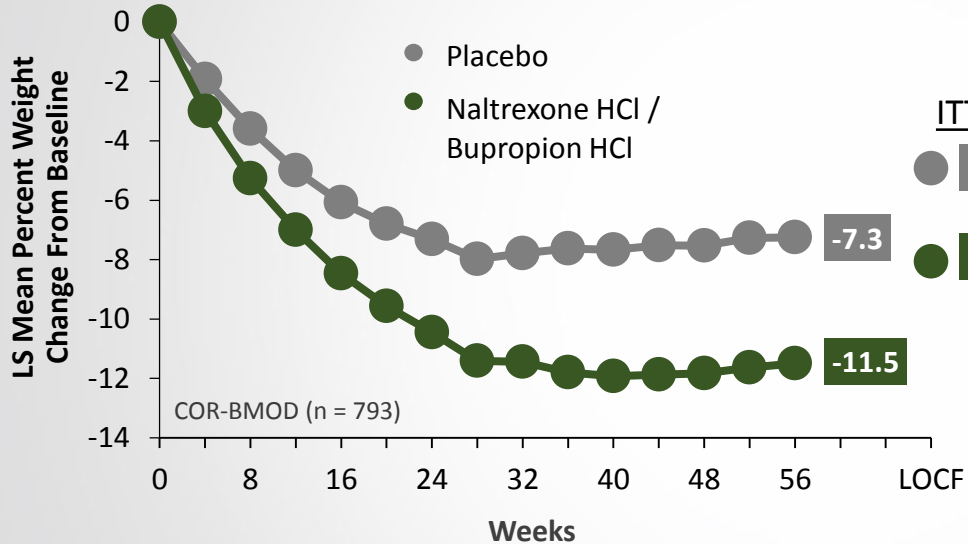


ITT = intent-to-treat

1. Contrave® Product monograph, February 12, 2018, Valeant Canada LP; Laval, QC  
 2. Apovian CM, et al. Obesity..2013;21:935-943



# Additive Benefits of Lifestyle Change and Pharmacologic Intervention Naltrexone HCl / Bupropion HCl Efficacy in Combination with Lifestyle Change (COR-BMOD Study)



- 793 participants all received behavioural modification (BMOD) counselling and were randomized 3:1 to receive naltrexone HCl / bupropion HCl or placebo
- Mean weight loss was evident in both groups, and significantly higher in patients taking active treatment ( $P < 0.001$ )

# Week 56 weight loss in **ALL PATIENTS VS. RESPONDERS**

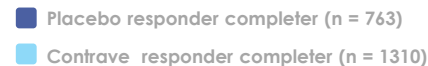
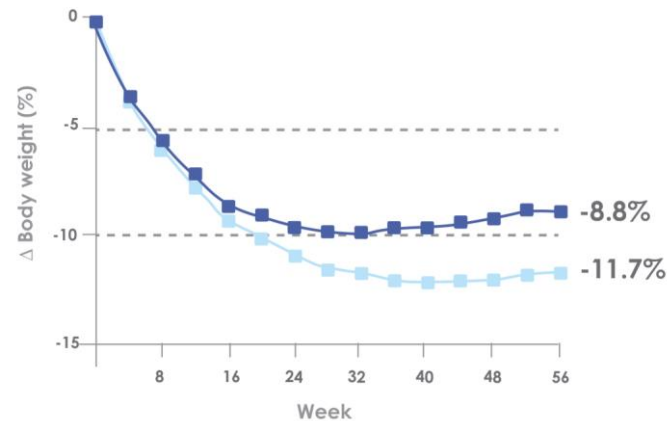
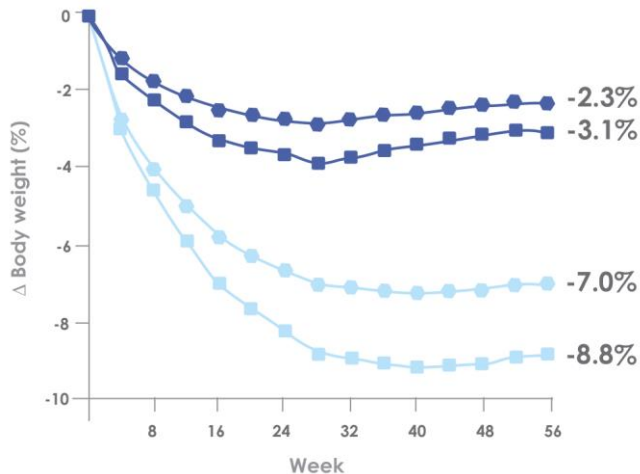
## POOLED ANALYSIS

COR-I

COR-II

COR-BMOD

COR-DM

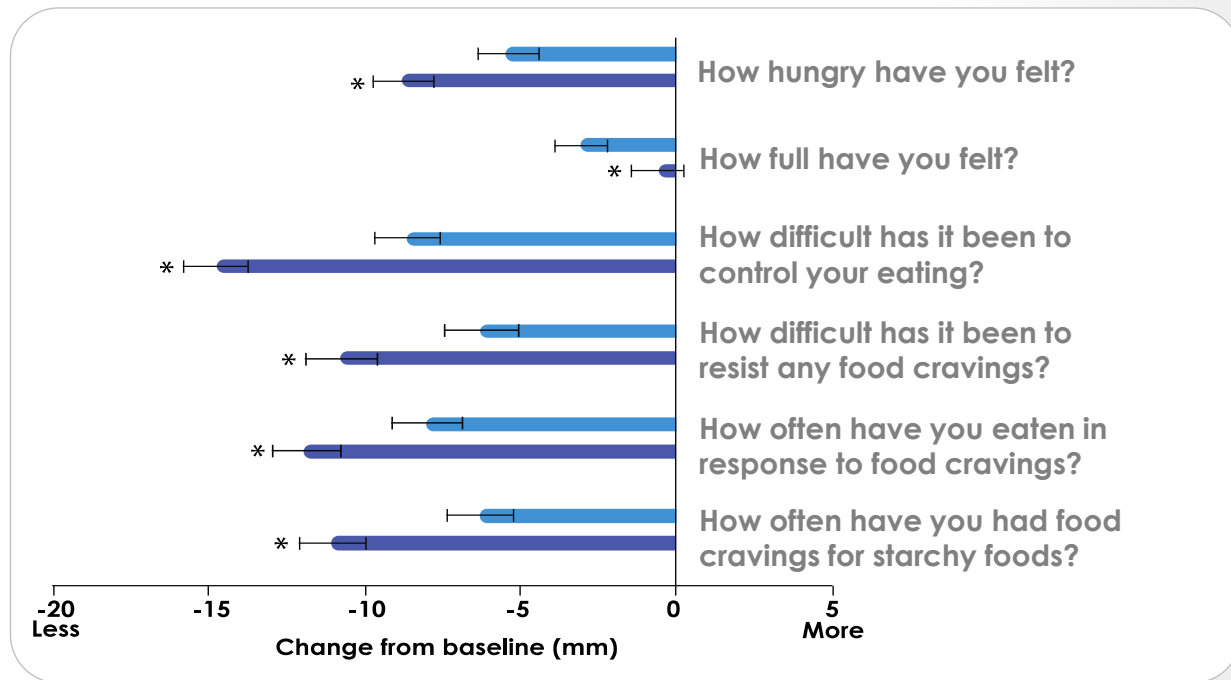
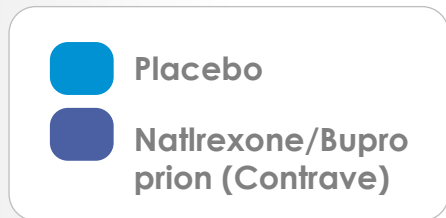


BMOD = behavioural modification; DM = type 2 diabetes mellitus; mITT-LOCF = participants with a baseline and at least one post-baseline weight measurement while on study treatment with last-observation-carried-forward imputation of missing data

Fujioka K *et al. Int J Obes.* 2016;40:1369-1375.

Gilder K *et al. International Conference on Obesity (poster).* 2016

# COR-1 study: The effect of Naltrexone/Bupropion (Contrave) on food cravings per the **CONTROL OF EATING QUESTIONNAIRE**



Greenway FL *et al. Lancet.* 2010;376:595-605.

\* $p < 0.05$  (nominal values) compared to placebo group.

COR-1, a 56-week, placebo-controlled phase III study of patients with obesity (BMI  $\geq 30$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>) or overweight (BMI  $\geq 27$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>) and at least one comorbidity (hypertension or dyslipidemia) randomized to naltrexone (16-50 mg/day) and/or bupropion (300-400 mg/day) or placebo plus a reduced-calorie diet, behavioural counselling, and increased physical activity.

# Naltrexone/Bupropion

## SAFETY AND TOLERABILITY

### POOLED ANALYSIS

COR-I

COR-II

COR-BMOD

COR-DM

ADVERSE REACTION	CONTRAVE* n = 2,545 (%)	PLACEBO n = 1,515 (%)
Nausea	32.5	6.7
Constipation	19.2	7.2
Headache	17.6	10.4
Vomiting	10.7	2.9
Dizziness	9.9	3.4
Insomnia	9.2	5.9
Dry mouth	8.1	2.3
Diarrhea	7.1	5.2

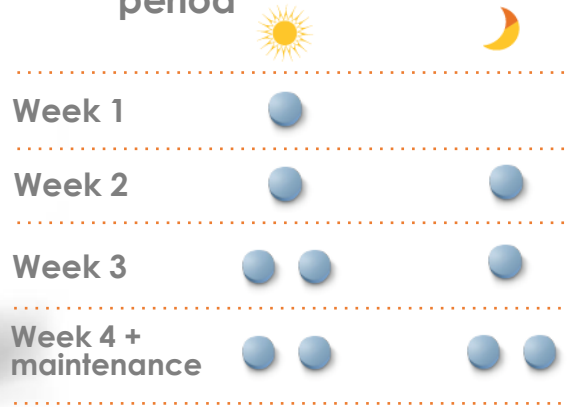
BMOD = behavioural modification; DM = type 2 diabetes mellitus

\*Contrave 32 mg/360 mg for up to 52 weeks (n=2,482) or a combination of naltrexone 32 mg and bupropion SR 400 mg/day (n=63) for up to 24 weeks

Contrave (product monograph), February 12, 2018, Valeant Canada LP, Laval, QC.

# Naltrexone/Bupropion (Contrave) Administration by dose escalation

**Naltrexone/Bupropion (Contrave) dosing  
should be escalated over a 4-week  
period**



Tablets should be taken by mouth in the morning and evening and should not be cut, chewed, or crushed.

The dose escalation protocol was designed with the intent to allow patients to acclimate to Naltrexone/Bupropion (Contrave) and to minimize the risk of seizure as well as mitigate the onset of transient nausea.

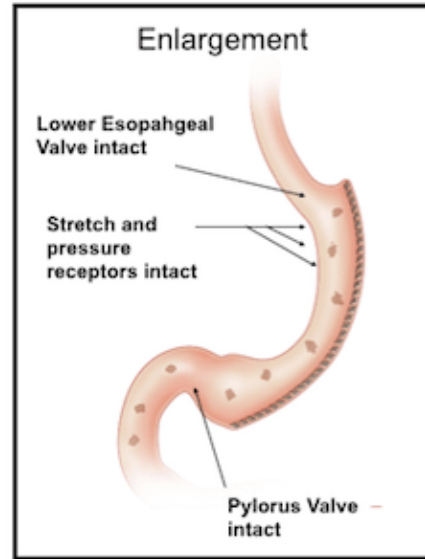
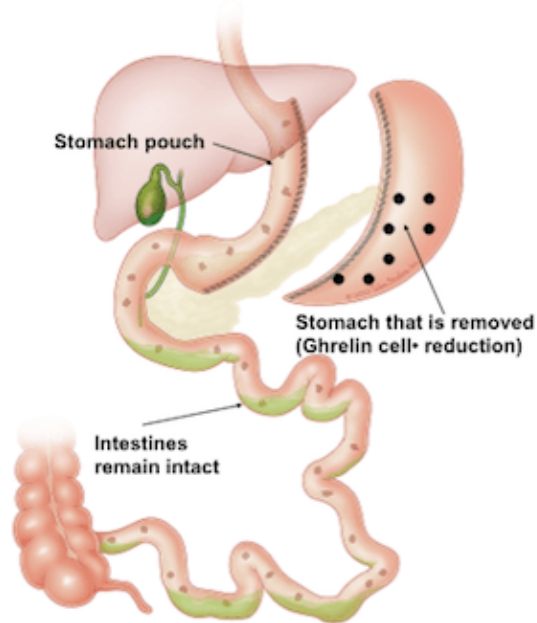
In clinical trials, Naltrexone/Bupropion (Contrave) was administered with meals; however, it should not be taken with a high-fat meal because of a resulting significant increase in bupropion and naltrexone systemic exposure.



# **Bariatric surgery**

# VERTICAL SLEEVE GASTRECTOMY

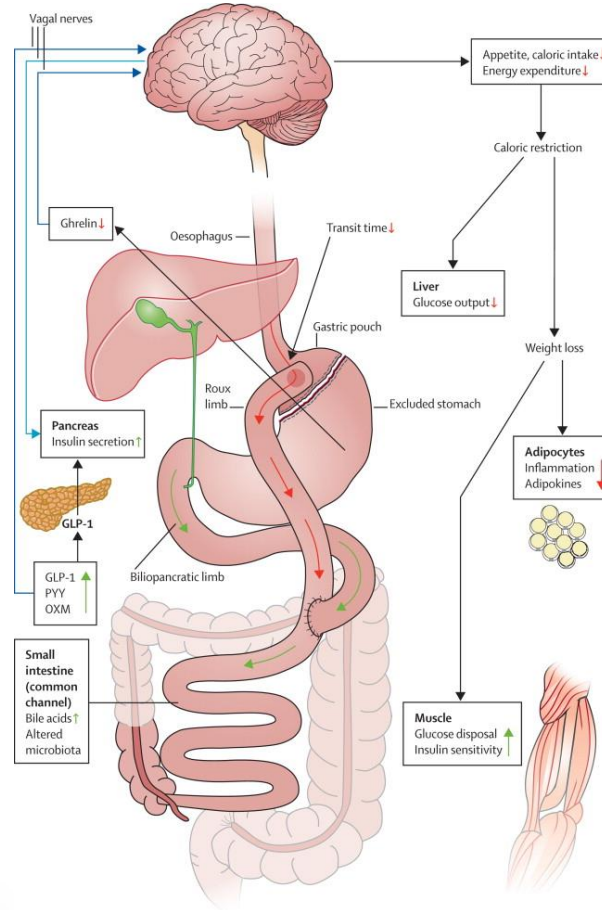
## Sleeve Gastrectomy



Restrictive,  
Hormonal

↓ Ghrelin

# ROUX-EN-Y GASTRIC BYPASS



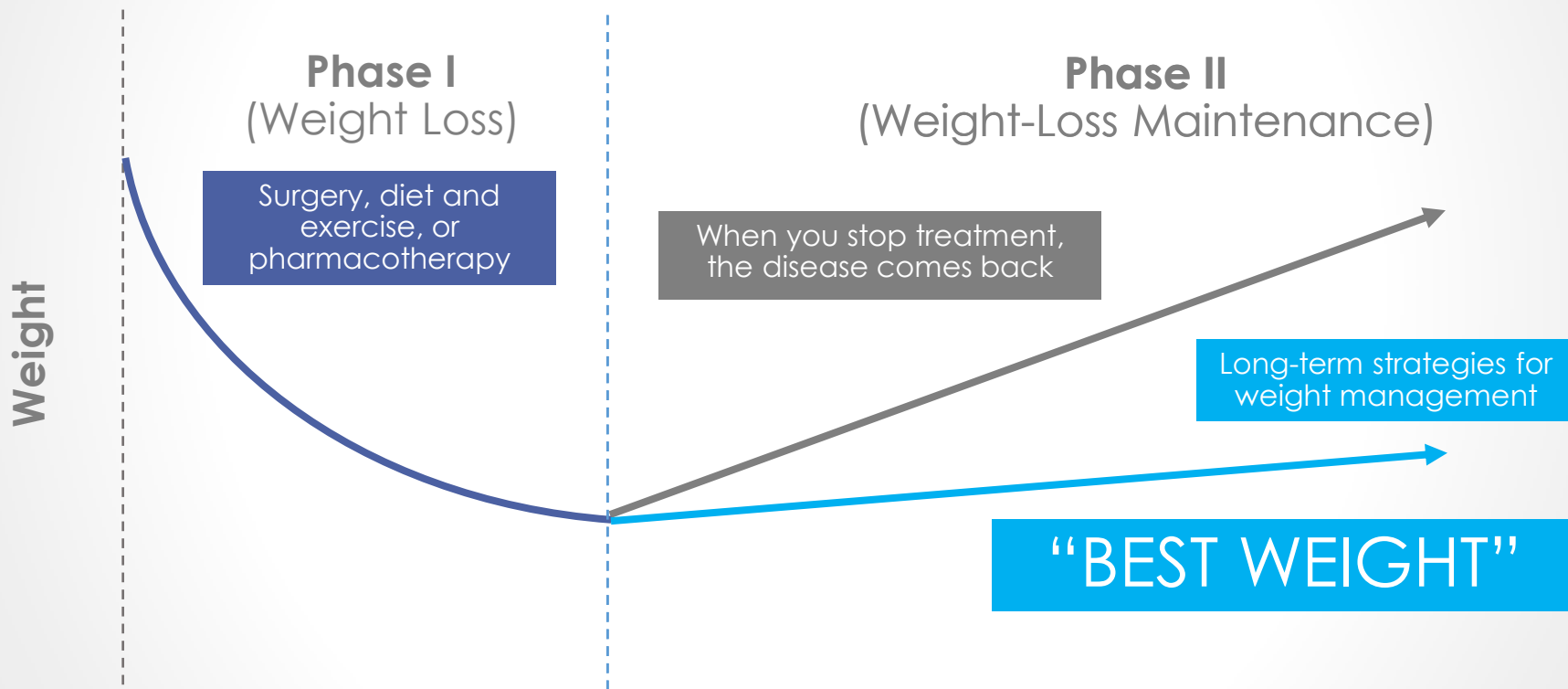
Restrictive,  
Hormonal,  
Malabsorptive



GLP1



# No single treatment INTERVENTION IS A CURE



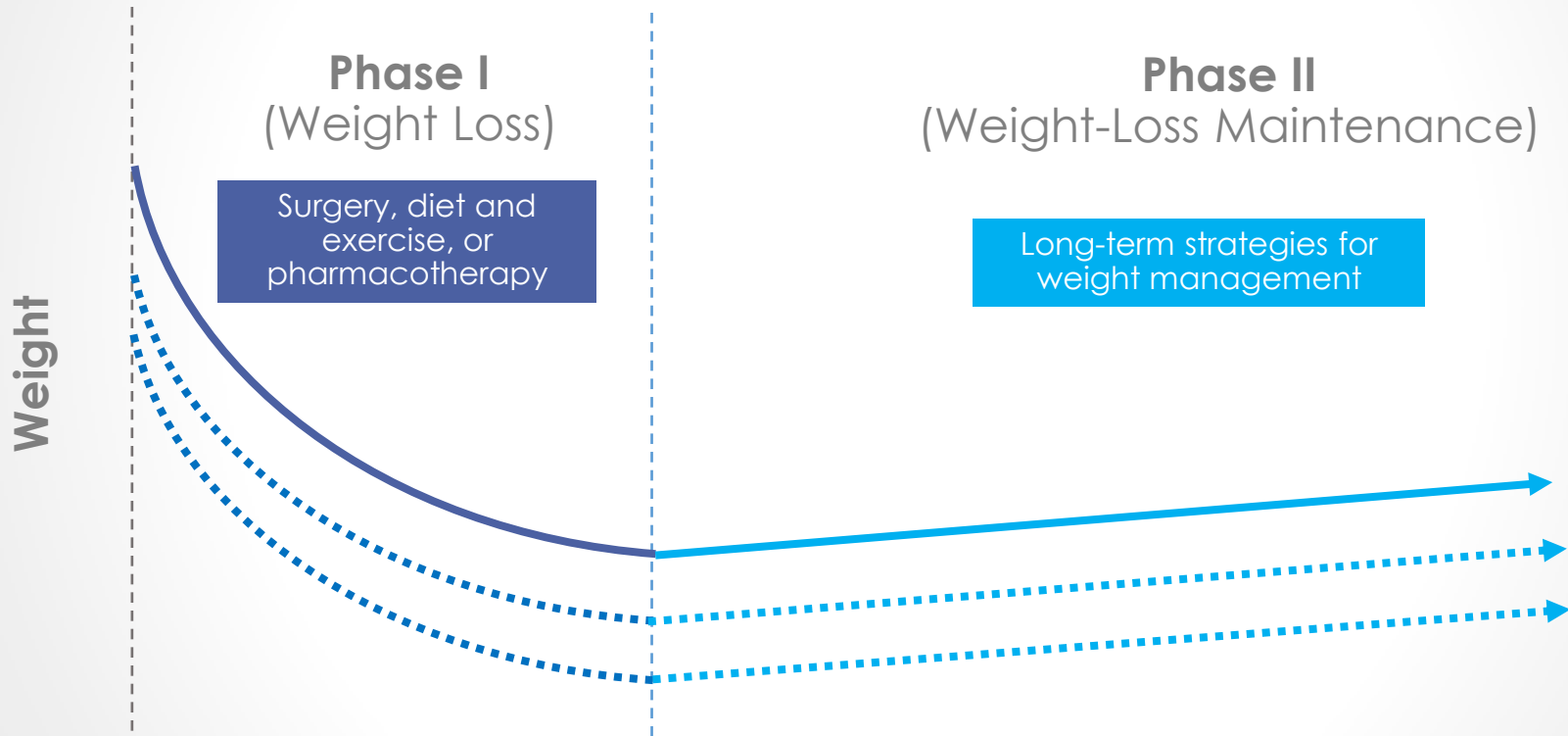
# “Best Weight”

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The weight that is achieved when one is living their healthiest lifestyle that they can truly enjoy and maintain longterm.

Treating early allows

# STABILIZATION AT A LOWER SET POINT WEIGHT





## **KEY TAKE-AWAY MESSAGES**

# 1

Obesity is a chronic medical condition with biologic maladaptation.

Alterations in brain circuits can disturb appetite regulation, cravings and eating behaviours, leading to obesity.

# 2

Early intervention ensures stabilization at a lower setpoint,

because once weight is increased the brain defends against weight loss.

# 3

Obesity requires a long-term treatment plan beyond simply “will power” or “eat less, move more”.

# 4

Evidence-based treatments should target the brain to bolster successful lifestyle changes and include: cognitive behavioural therapy, pharmacotherapy and sometimes surgery.



Thank you



**For more information, please visit:**

[www.obesitycanada.ca](http://www.obesitycanada.ca)

[www.myweightwhattoknow.com](http://www.myweightwhattoknow.com)

Photos provided  
courtesy of:

