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LEPTIN: A NEW ADYPOCYTE HORMONE AND ITS ROLE IN THE OBESITY

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Abstract:

Leptin is a 16-kD protein which is secreted from white adipocytes and, its discovery has generated enormous interest in the regulation of energy balance. Leptin has been implicated in the regulation of food intake, energy expenditure, and whole-body energy balance in animals and human. Plasma leptin levels correlate with fat storages and respond to changes in energy balance. It was initially proposed that leptin serves a primary role as an anti-obesity hormone, but this role is commonly thwarted by leptin resistance. The profound effects of leptin on regulating body energy balance, make it as a prime candidate for drug therapies of obesity in humans and animals. Despite the recent achievements in unearthing the role of leptin in the pathophysiology of obesity, many important questions still remained that must be responded. More studies with follow-up designs and genetic evaluations are warranted to understand the comprehensive role of leptin in human. In this letter we have a review of known effects of leptin on human obesity up to now.

Keywords:

Adipocyte ، Anthropometric measurement ، Childhood obesity ، Regression analysis

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