

Body Weight Regulation:

A Calorie Is NOT A Calorie Calorie

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Learning Objectives

- * Understand overweight/obesity as a chronic disease.
- * Understand concept of a "weight set point".
- * Understand metabolic adaptation to weight change.
- * Understand expected amount of weight loss from different approaches including diet, exercise, medication, or surgery.
- Understand expected benefits of dietary change, exercise, and weight loss.
- Understand strategies for weight regain prevention.



Overweight/Obesity as a Chronic Disease

- * Not everyone has the same "metabolism."
- * Obesity is a spectrum of disease from mild to severe.
- * There are many different forms of this disease, more aptly known as "obesities."



Overweight/Obesity as a Chronic Disease

- * Fat is metabolically active, causing a constellation of signs and symptoms in the rest of the body.
- * Successful treatment needs to be individualized, comprehensive, and long term.



Your Weight Set Point

- * Evolutionary advantage to maintaining a weight set point.
- Determined mostly by genetics and environment.
- * Your weight history may reveal your weight set point and provide insight.



Your Weight Set Point

- * Changes over time (10% per decade).
- * Affected by various factors, such as medications, lifestyle, hormones, body composition changes, and other medical conditions.
- * All weight changes tend to follow predictable curves from your weight set-point.
- * Value and insight in determining your weight set-point for reference, rather than just a BMI chart.



Metabolic Adaptation to Weight Loss

- * Constellation of responses to a change from weight set point.
- * Promote a return to the weight set-point.
- * Increase / decrease of resting metabolic rate.
- * Increase / decrease in hunger and cravings.
- * Increase / decrease in satiety / satiation.



Metabolic Adaptation to Weight Loss

- * Last at least 12 months (longest studied), probably much longer.
- * Seen regardless of how a person loses weight, whether surgical, medical, or lifestyle.
- * Likely accounts for large portion of weight regain observed: 85% of people with lifestyle change, 45% with bariatric surgery.



Expected Weight Loss

- * Exercise: not expected to cause weight loss.
- * Dietary change: 5% over 1 year at a rate of one-half to one pound per week.
- * Intensive lifestyle change: 5-10%
- * Pharmacotherapy plus intensive lifestyle change: up to 27%
- * Bariatric Surgery: up to 30%



Examples - Weight Loss

- Starting body weight: 250 lbs
- Dietary change: 237 lbs
- * Intensive lifestyle change: 225 lbs
- * Add anti obesity medication: 183 lbs
- Bariatric Surgery: 175 lbs



Benefits of Diet, Exercise, Weight Loss

- * Nutrition quality improves metabolic health.
- * Fitness improves adipocyte function.
- * Weight loss:
 - * 3-5%: various health benefits
 - * 15%: reversal/remission of early type 2 diabetes
 - * 25-30%: reversal/remission of more established type 2 diabetes



Weight Regain Prevention

- * National Weight Control Registry, Clinical trials
- * Diet: structured, low variety, regimented
- Exercise: >60 minutes per day, most commonly walking
- * Restaurant eating: <1 time per week
- Anti obesity pharmacotherapy
- Bariatric surgery revision



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