



# GLP-1 behandling til 12-18 årige børn og unge med overvægt. Indikationer og behandlingsstrategi.



## **Jens-Christian Holm**

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Head of Research and The Children's Obesity Clinic,

European Centre of Management (COM) and

The Danish Childhood Obesity Biobank

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and

The Novo Nordisk Foundation Center for Basic Metabolic Research, University  
of Copenhagen, Denmark

Co-chair of The Childhood Obesity Task Force (EASO)

Årskonference Holbæk modellen  
7 September 2021 Hotel Nyborg Strand





European Association for the Study of Obesity



**EASO Collaborating Centres for Obesity Management (COMs)  
Paediatric Section**

**Centre:** The Children's Obesity Clinic, Copenhagen University Hospital  
Holbæk, Denmark

**Contact:** Jens-Christian Holm

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for submitting an application for your centre to become an EASO accredited Collaborating Paediatric Centre for Obesity Management.

Under the EASO COM scheme, paediatric obesity management centres (including university and public clinics) are accredited against a set of carefully developed criteria and in accordance with accepted European and academic guidelines, with applying centres assessed by the EASO Childhood Obesity Task Force (COTF). The COTF has completed its assessment of your centre and we are pleased to confirm that your application was successful – your centre has thus been granted EASO COM status for the three year period **1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022**.

Your centre will therefore be recognised by EASO as a leading paediatric obesity management centre in Europe throughout that period. The EASO COM network brings together accredited centres from across Europe and as a member of this network, your centre will have the opportunity to contribute to a number of important EASO projects. One of the main goals of the COM network is to develop consensus guidelines on a number of management issues, with consensus achieved via the exchange of expertise during specially convened 'Paediatric COM Summit Meetings'.

We will send further information in due course and look forward to working with you to develop the EASO Paediatric COM network and its important actions in the coming years.

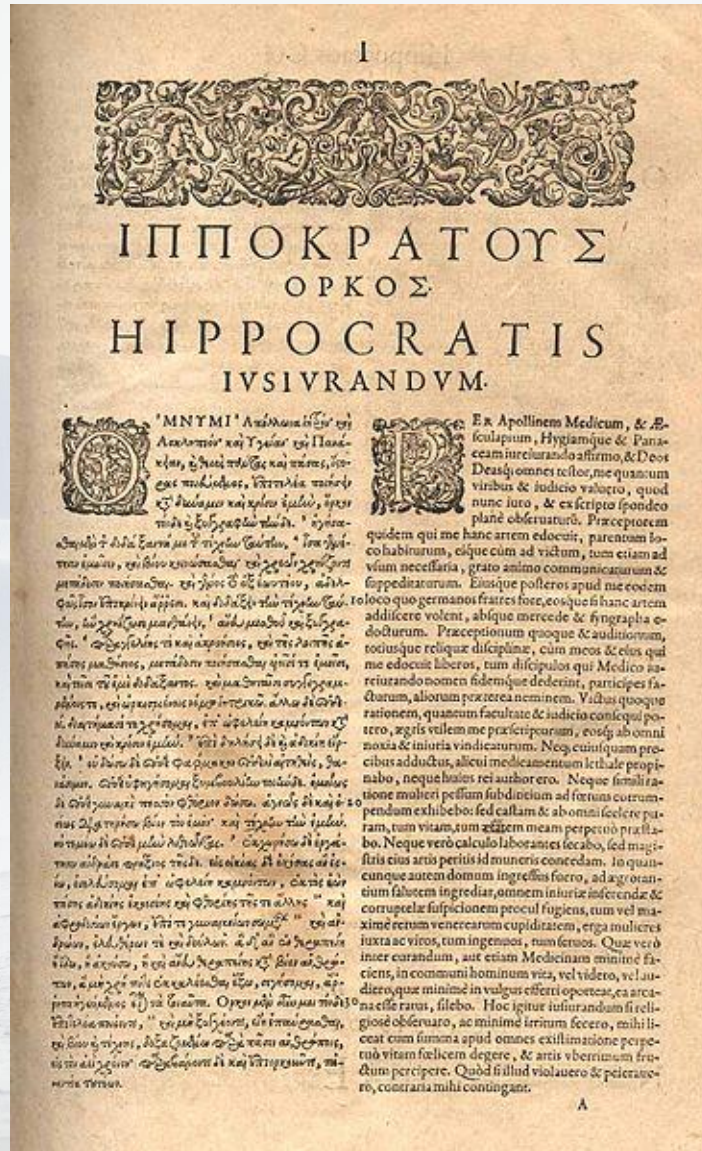
With kind regards  
Yours sincerely

Professor Nathalie Farpour-  
Lambert  
President, EASO

Mr Euan Woodward  
Executive Director, EASO

On behalf of the EASO COTF and Executive Committee.





AMA Declares Obesity Disease



AMA Declares Obesity

Today can now be declared one the most monumental days in healthcare, since the war on tobacco was started. The AMA American Medical Association has declared Obesity a disease.

The group of doctors voted in their annual meeting today with an overwhelming majority of support. While the immediate benefits are not still clear what is known is that there will now be a larger focus on treating and studying obesity. Other changes down the line could include better insurance coverage for the treatment of obesity.





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## Clinical Information

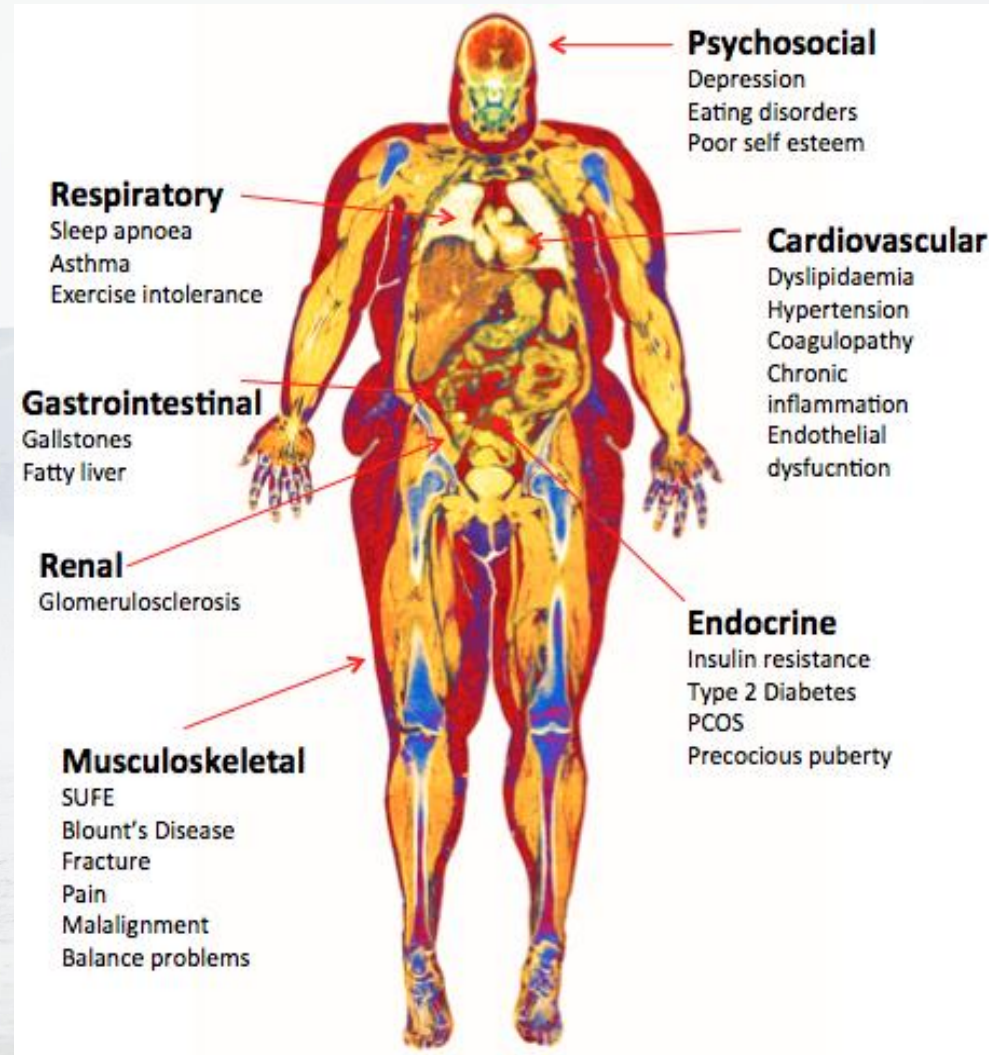
# Childhood Obesity Is a Chronic Disease Demanding Specific Health Care – a Position Statement from the Childhood Obesity Task Force (COTF) of the European Association for the Study of Obesity (EASO)

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Jens Christian Holm<sup>e</sup> Paulina Nowicka<sup>f</sup> Grace O'Malley<sup>g</sup> Ram Weiss<sup>h</sup>

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# Obesity related Complications



Courtesy of Grace O'Malley, PhD, The Children's University Hospital, Dublin, Ireland



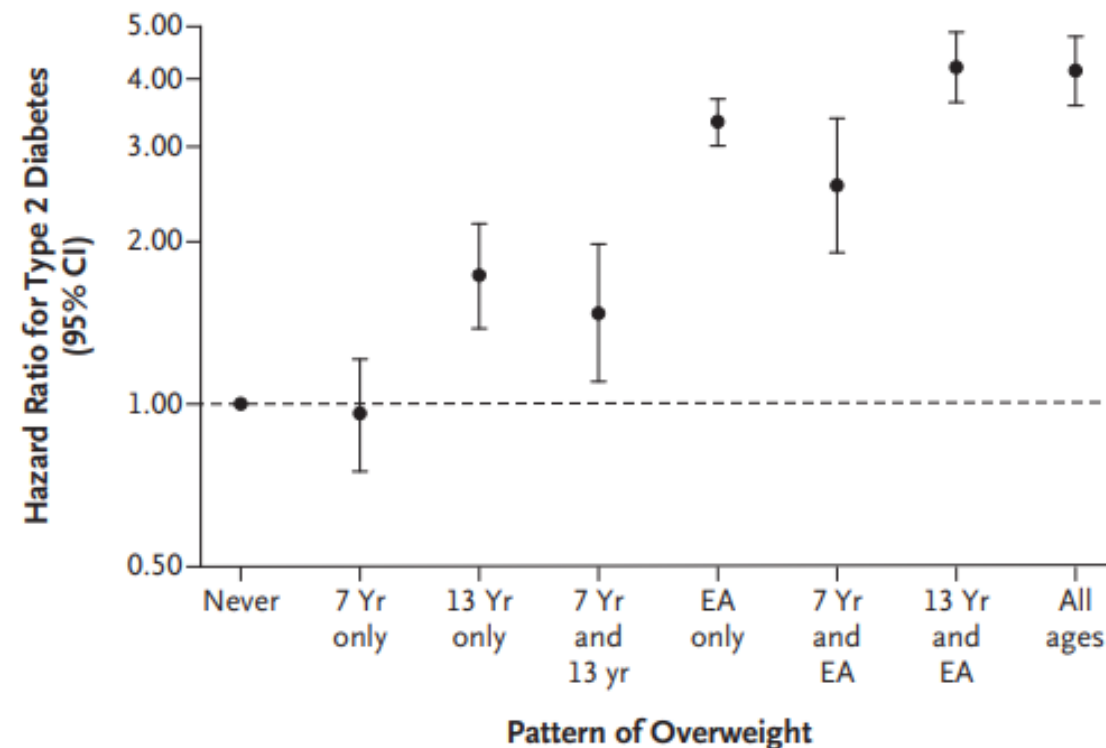
## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Change in Overweight from Childhood to Early Adulthood and Risk of Type 2 Diabetes

Lise G. Bjerregaard, Ph.D., Britt W. Jensen, Ph.D., Lars Ångquist, Ph.D.,  
Merete Osler, D.M.Sc., Thorkild I.A. Sørensen, D.M.Sc.,  
and Jennifer L. Baker, Ph.D.

**CONCLUSIONS** Childhood overweight at 7 years of age was associated with increased risks of adult type 2 diabetes only if it continued until puberty or later ages.

N Engl J Med 2018;378:1302-12.  
DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1713231



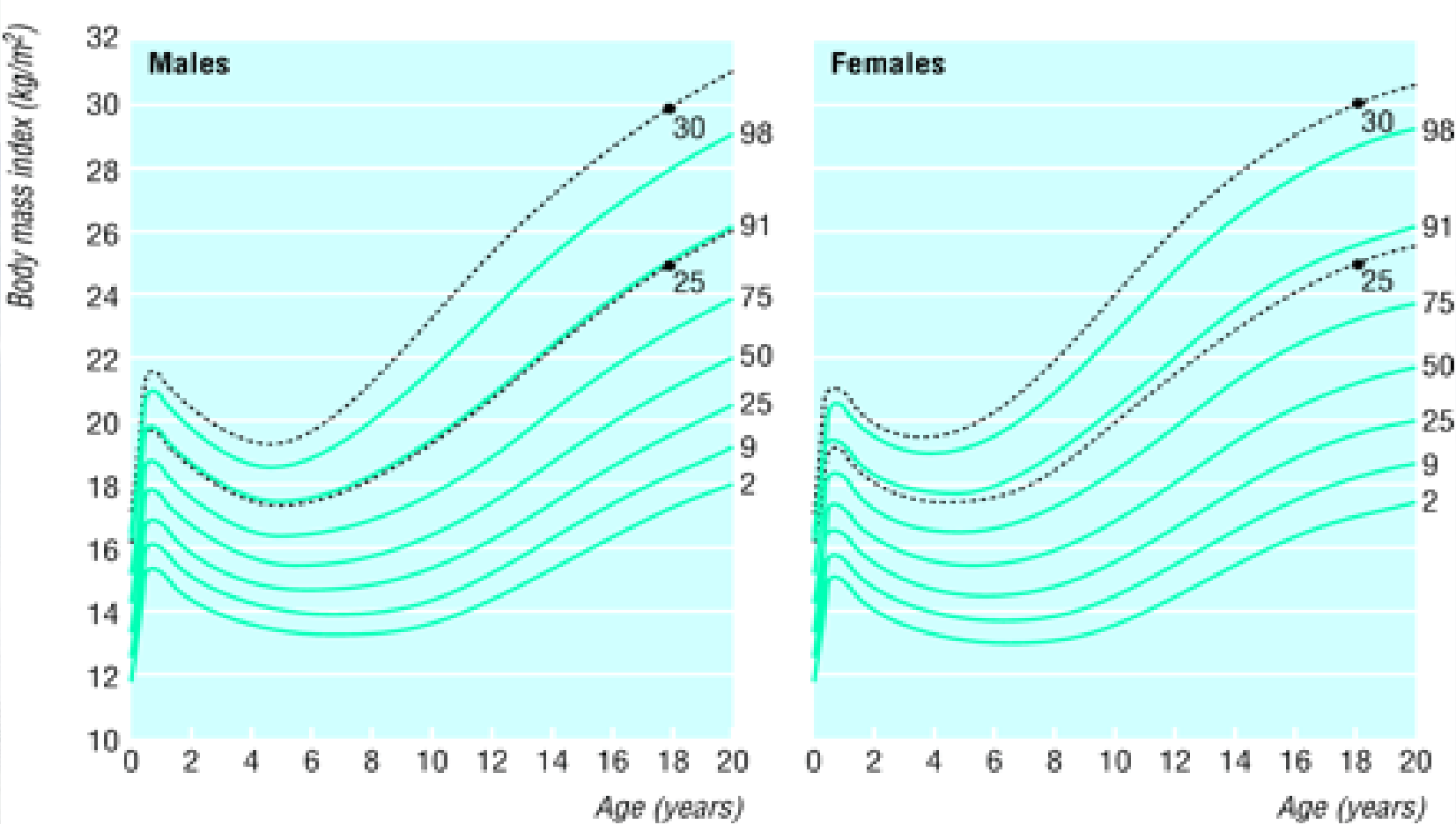
**Figure 1. Patterns of Overweight at 7 Years of Age, 13 Years of Age, and Early Adulthood (EA) and the Risk of Type 2 Diabetes at 30 to 60 Years of Age.**

In the calculation of hazard ratios for the development of type 2 diabetes, men who had not been overweight at any of the ages examined were used as the reference group. When Bonferroni corrections were applied, overweight only at the ages of 7 and 13 years was no longer significantly associated with an increased risk of type 2 diabetes (unadjusted  $P=0.01$ ; number of tests, 7;  $P=0.07$  with Bonferroni correction applied [ $7 \times 0.01$ ]), whereas all other significant associations remained significant. CI denotes confidence interval.





## Definition of obesity







# Danish clinical guidelines for examination and treatment of overweight and obese children and adolescents in a pediatric setting

*Anders Johansen, Jens-Christian Holm, Seija Pearson, Mimi Kjærsgaard, Lone Marie Larsen, Birgitte Højgaard, Dina Cortes*

This guideline by the Obesity Committee within The Danish Paediatric Society has also been approved by the Committees for Endocrinology, Gastroenterology, Cardiology, Neonatology and Nephro-urology within The Danish Paediatric Society, Danish Paediatricians Organization, The Danish Society for Diabetes in Childhood and The Danish Association for the Study of Obesity.

The Danish College of General Practitioners supports the referral criteria for pediatric evaluation. November 28, 2014.

Correspondence: Anders Johansen, Department of Growth and Reproduction, Copenhagen University Hospital Rigshospitalet, Blegdamsvej 9, 2100 Copenhagen, Denmark

E-mail: Anders.johansen.01@regionh.dk

ly among the youngest boys (11). Furthermore, recent data shows an approximately 10% prevalence of overweight and obesity among preschool children (12). In the Funen birth cohort from 2001, the prevalence of obesity in children was 1.9% of the children aged 2.5-3.5 years; 2.5% of those aged 3.5-4.5 years; and 2.5% in the group aged 4.5-5.5 years (12). In Copenhagen in 2007, the prevalence of obesity in 5-8 year old girls and boys was 3.7% and 2.6% respectively, whilst in 14-16 year old girls and boys, it was 4.7% and 4.2% respectively (13). In the 2010 "Schoolchildren Study" comprising a random sample of schools in Denmark 2-3% of the children aged 11, 13 and 15 years were obese based on a BMI calculated from the children's self-reported height and weight (14).





# Indication for evaluation and treatment of obesity



Iso BMI of 30 (Obesity)

or

Iso BMI of 25 (Overweight) and one of the following  
complications





# Complicated obesity 1

- Suspicion of specific medical cause
- Dyscrine features
- Slow height growth
- Late psychomotoric development
- Persistent overeating / "binge-eating" and search of food
- Rapidly increasing BMI





## Complicated obesity 2

- Other complications; hypertension, dyslipidemia, elevated liver enzymes, insulin resistance, prediabetes, T2DM, PCOS, obstructive sleep apnoea.
- Familial disposition for 2 or more of; T2DM, hypertension, dyslipidemia, metabolic syndrome, heart disease, obesity





# Symptoms

- Sleep, snoring apnea
- Shorter sleep time, daytime sleepiness
- Headaches
- Shortness of breath, exercise intolerance, wheezing, cough
- Vague recurrent abdominal pains
- Heartburn, dysphagia, regurgitation, chestpain, epigastric pain
- Abdominal pain, distension, flatulence, fecal soiling, enuresis, encopresis
- Upper right quadrant pain, clicky pains, epigastric pains, vomiting
- Polyuria, polydipsia
- Oligomenorhea, dysfunctional uterine bleeding
- Hip, groin pains, painful or waddling gait
- Knee pain
- Foot pain
- Flat affect or sad mood, loss of interest/pleasure, worries/fears
- Body dissatisfaction, school avoidance, poor selfesteem, social problems, isolation
- Hyperphagia, eating out of control, binge, bulimia
- Striae, rash, irritation, acne, pigmentation





# History 1

- Pregnancy, delivery, breast feeding, early growth
- Other diseases, antibiotics, obesity debut, earlier treatment
- Predisposition to obesity, hypertension, dyslipidemia, type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular disease , obesity
- Ethnicity / consanguinity with risk of disease
- Headache, ((pseudo)tumor cerebri, hypertension), daily somnolence and snoring (sleep apnoea)
- Stomach pains (constipation, psychogene, gall bladder stones, steatosis)
- Pains in hip/knees/ankles (epiphyseal, arthrosis, fractures)
- Girls after menarche; irregular menstruation and/or hirsutism (polycystic ovaria syndrome)





# History 2

- Nutrition and exercise; quality, frequencies, amounts (specific questioning) including organised/unorganised
- Medications (glucocorticoids, psychopharmacists, thyroid function)
- Addictions (tobacco increase insulin-resistance and risk of cardiovascular disease, alcohol can increase caloric intake)
- Social setting; school attendance, thriving, bullying, family structure and dynamics, school transportation,
- Sleep history. Apnea, sleep duration
- Psychosocial; depression, low self esteem, anxiety, bullying, isolation, inactivity





# Examination 1

- Height and weight, calculation of BMI (changes herein)
- Waist circumference (evaluation of treatment response).  
Between hip and ribs. Important to measure with same technique
- Height and weight according to growth curves
- Calculation of target height according to genetic (parental) potential i.e. Girls; mean of parental height minus 6,5 cm and Boys; mean of parental height minus 6,5 cm
- Is the patient growing according to target height?
- Most children with simple obesity have a height at or above their target percentile for height and normal or advanced boneage





# Examination 2

- Low height for age and overweight/obesity raise suspicion and medical concern of syndromes, chromosomal, and endocrinological evaluation
- Puberty staging a.m. Tanner, hirsutism
- Blood pressure (appropriate cuff, sitting position with support under the feet, laying down after 10 minutes rest, measurement repeated 3 times (until there is less than 5 mm Hg difference between the 2 latter measurements). If hypertensive; manual blood pressure measurement recommended and or 24 hour blood pressure surveillance





# Examination 3

- Quality of life evaluation
- Adapted neurological examination (pathology in the hypothalamic area)
- Acantosis nigricans with special attention towards the neck, axilla, and inguinal (often associated with insulin resistance)
- Striae, infections, psoriasis, HS





# Blood sampling

- Thyroid status; TSH, fT<sub>4</sub>, fT<sub>3</sub>
- Sugar status; HbA<sub>1c</sub>, blood sugar, maybe insulin
- Lipids; total cholesterol and fractions, triglycerides
- Liver enzymes; ALAT, alkaline phosphatase, bilirubin, GGT
- Calcium metabolism; PTH, ionised calcium, phosphate, albumin, and vitamine D
- If blood sampling is not taken in the fasting condition and shows elevated lipids or sugar status, then repeated in the fasting condition





# Body composition

- DEXA scan (optimal)
- Alternatively impedance
- Measurement of fat and fat free mass and changes herein
- MRS





## Special findings with indication for further evaluation 1

- Syndromatic obesity; Karyotype, Prader Willi syndrome, Bardet Biedel. Suspicion of monogenic obesity; MC4R (melanocortin 4 receptor), leptin and leptin receptor and others demands specific genetic investigations
- Hypertensio arterialis; elaborate as hypertensive patients according to guideline





## Special findings with indication for further evaluation 2

- Vitamine D insufficiency; according to guideline
- Prediabetes; HbA1c at 5,7-6,4% (39-47 mmol/mol) or several blood sugars between 5,6–6,9 mmol/l or an OGTT 7,8-11,0 mmol/l should be referred to paediatric diabetologist





## Special findings with indication for further evaluation 3

- Pubertas praecox
- Pubertas tarda
- Hirsutism or irregular menses; Blood for 17-OH-Progesterone, testosterone, oestradiol, LH, FSH, and or ultrasonic evaluation of ovaries for PCOS
- Non-alcoholic steatosis; MR-spectroscopy or US
- Astma or other respiratory symptoms; spirometry
- Sleep apnoea; sleep investigation





## Special findings with indication for further evaluation 4

- Lower extremities; pains and limited mobility; X-ray and relevant examination
- Rapidly developing obesity; think prolactin, ACTH, morning-cortisol and urine-cortisol (x 3 if possible), MR-scan of brain
- Low quality of life scoring; think contact to school, psychologist, or social worker
- Social difficulties/challenges; think contact to primary care, social worker, or psychologist



# Follow-up assessments

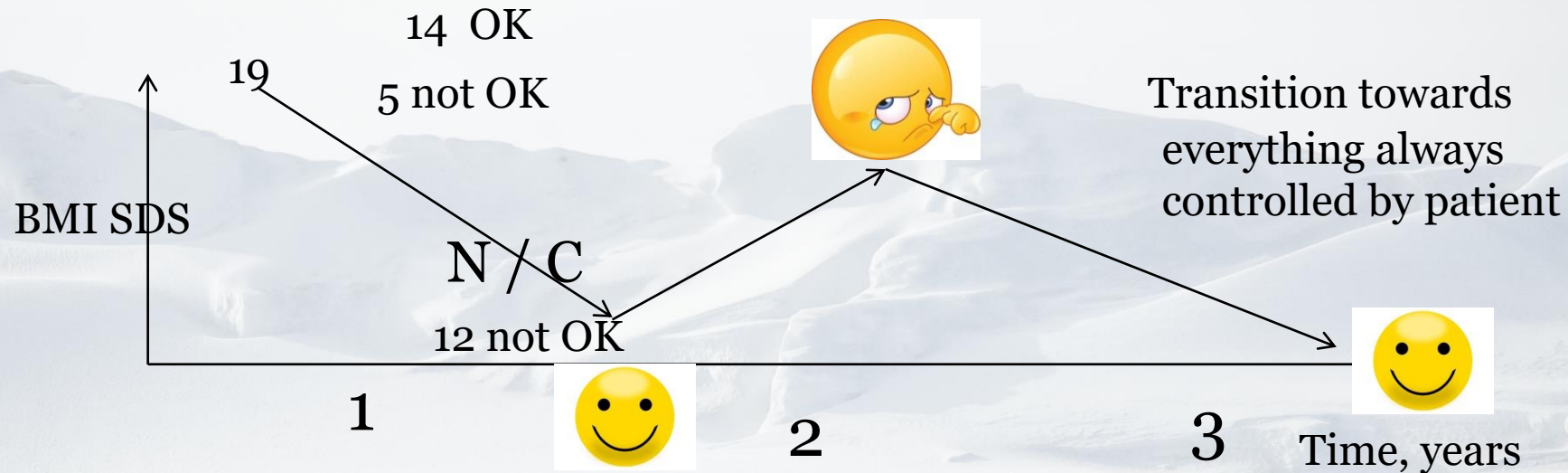
## - during growth and development

- History, symptoms, physical examination
- Degree of overweight/obesity, body composition
- Obesity related complications
- Quality of life
- Adherence to treatment
- Life functionality
- Genetic testing
- Guidance and care



# Dynamics of weight loss

Expected treatment outcome, process development

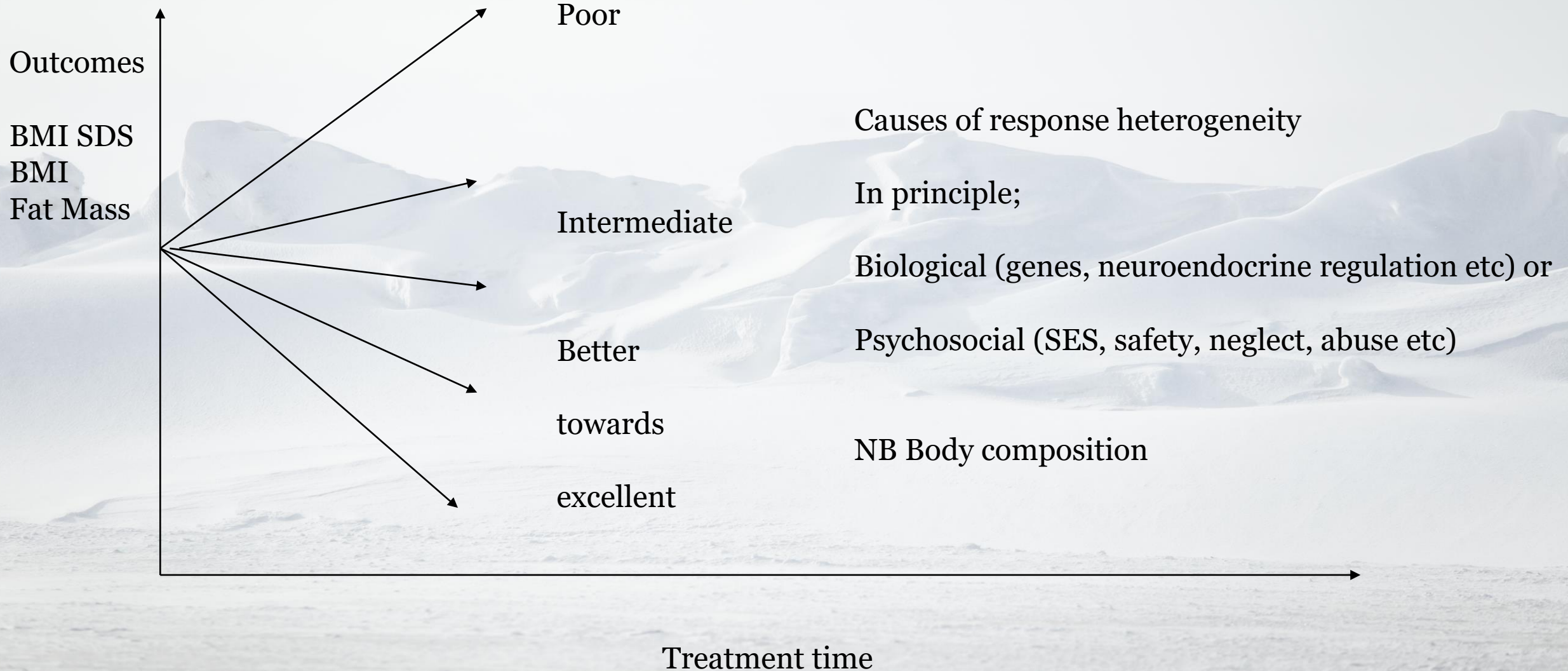


- Phase 1; weight loss by treatment plan
- Phase 2; compliance/ adaptation against weight loss
- Phase 3; realizing your reality and treatment need
- Induce process development within the family



# Fat mass regulation

- expected treatment heterogeneity i.e. treatment responses





# Novo Nordisk press release

## 26 March 2021

- Committee for Medicinal Products for Human Use (CHMP) European Medicines Agency has recommended the use of Saxenda® is expanded for the treatment of obesity in adolescents aged 12-17 years
- CHMP opinion referred to the European Commission
- Decision in May 2021. Approved in Denmark.
- Based on safety and efficacy of Liraglutide 3.0 mg
- Dose escalation over 4-8 weeks
- Sub-cutaneous daily administration
- Adjunct to lifestyle therapy



# GLP-1

- Increases postprandial insulin level in a glucose dependent manner
- Reduces glucagon secretion
- Delays gastric emptying
- Reduce appetite and energy intake
- Hypothalamic effects



# **Liraglutide in an Adolescent Population with Obesity: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled 5-Week Trial to Assess Safety, Tolerability, and Pharmacokinetics of Liraglutide in Adolescents Aged 12-17 Years**

Thomas Danne, MD<sup>1</sup>, Torben Biester, MD<sup>1</sup>, Kerstin Kapitzke, MD<sup>1</sup>, Sanja H. Jacobsen, MSc<sup>2</sup>, Lisbeth V. Jacobsen, MSc<sup>2</sup>,  
Kristin C. Carlsson Petri, PhD<sup>2</sup>, Paula M. Hale, MD<sup>3</sup>, and Olga Kordonouri, MD<sup>1</sup>

Conclusions Liraglutide had a similar safety and tolerability profile compared with adults when administered to adolescents with obesity, with no unexpected safety/tolerability issues. Results suggest that the dosing regimen approved for weight management in adults may be appropriate for use in adolescents. (J Pediatr 2016;■■:■■-■■). Trial registration ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT01789086.



## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# A Randomized, Controlled Trial of Liraglutide for Adolescents with Obesity

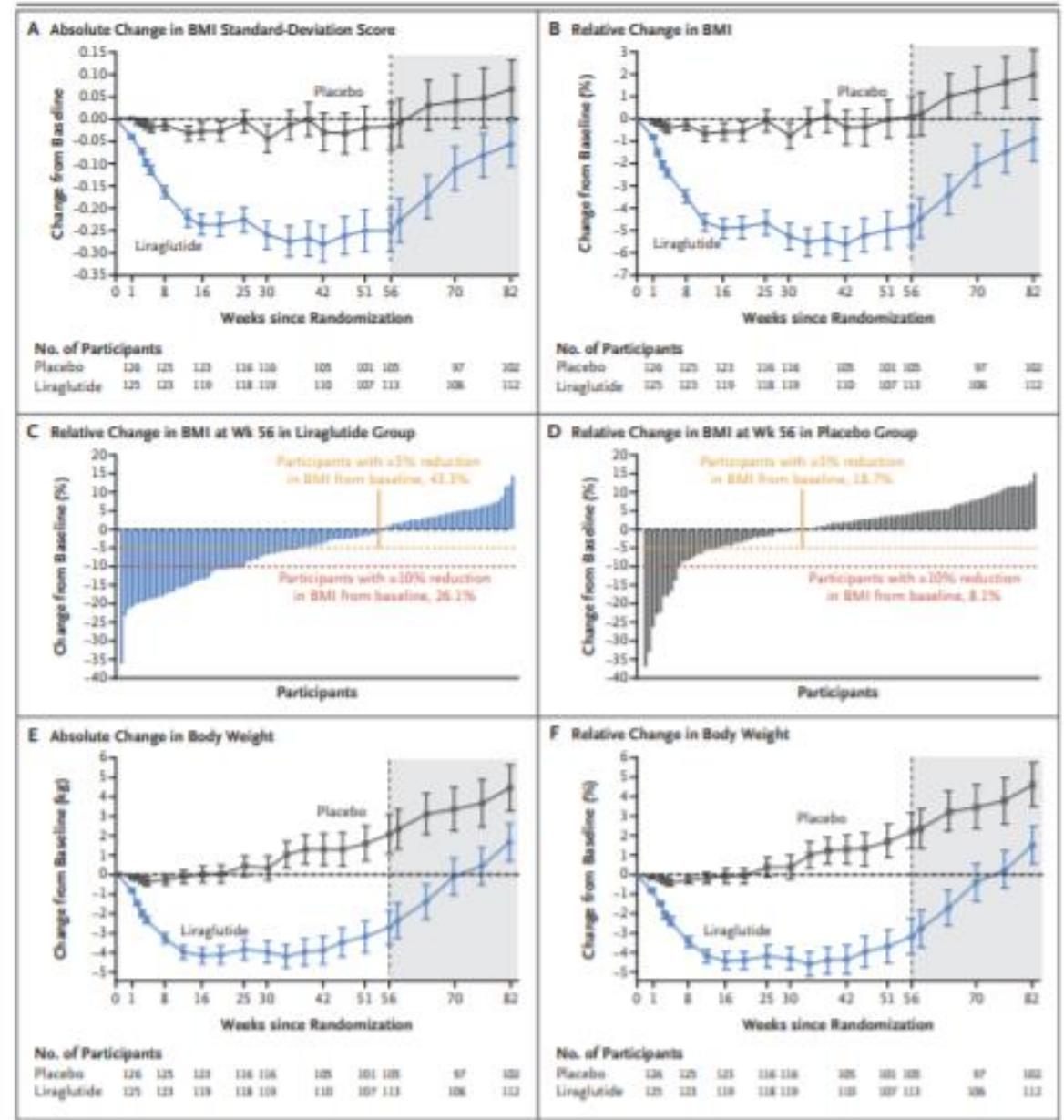
Aaron S. Kelly, Ph.D., Pernille Auerbach, M.D., Ph.D., Margarita Barrientos-Perez, M.D., Inge Gies, M.D., Ph.D., Paula M. Hale, M.D., Claude Marcus, M.D., Ph.D., Lucy D. Mastrandrea, M.D., Ph.D., Nandana Prabhu, M.Sc., and Silva Arslanian, M.D., for the NN8022-4180 Trial Investigators\*

## COUNSELING IN HEALTH NUTRITION AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Participants received individualized counseling in healthy nutrition that was performed by a certified dietician and evaluated at every visit using a numerical rating scale.

Participants received individualized counseling in physical activity at every visit that was performed by site staff trained in physical activity counseling. Participants were encouraged to engage in 60 minutes of moderate- to high-intensity physical activity daily.

This article was published on March 31, 2020, at NEJM.org. DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1916038



5 participants receiving placebo (six events) dur-

Events related to psychiatric disorders oc-



**Table 3.** Adverse Events during the Treatment Period.\*

Event	Liraglutide (N = 125)			Placebo (N = 126)			P Value
	no. of participants (%)	no. of events	events/1000 exposure-yr	no. of participants (%)	no. of events	events/1000 exposure-yr	
Any adverse events	111 (88.8)	777	6187.8	107 (84.9)	627	5018.5	0.07†
Gastrointestinal adverse events	81 (64.8)	319	2540.4	46 (36.5)	121	968.5	0.001†
Serious adverse events‡	3 (2.4)	3	23.9	5 (4.0)	6	48.0	0.72§
Adverse events that led to treatment discontinuation	13 (10.4)	19	151.3	0	0	0	<0.001§
Adverse events that occurred in ≥5% of participants							
Nasopharyngitis	34 (27.2)	68	541.5	38 (30.2)	80	640.3	0.60¶
Nausea	53 (42.4)	101	804.3	18 (14.3)	25	200.1	<0.001¶
Headache	29 (23.2)	43	342.4	35 (27.8)	53	424.2	0.41¶
Vomiting	43 (34.4)	85	676.9	5 (4.0)	8	64.0	<0.001¶
Diarrhea	28 (22.4)	44	350.4	18 (14.3)	29	232.1	0.10¶
Upper abdominal pain	17 (13.6)	25	199.1	17 (13.5)	23	184.1	0.98¶
Oropharyngeal pain	11 (8.8)	11	87.6	15 (11.9)	18	144.1	0.42¶
Influenza	11 (8.8)	11	87.6	12 (9.5)	12	96.0	0.84¶
Gastroenteritis	16 (12.8)	22	175.2	6 (4.8)	9	72.0	0.02¶
Upper respiratory tract infection	11 (8.8)	14	111.5	11 (8.7)	16	128.1	0.98¶
Abdominal pain	10 (8.0)	15	119.5	11 (8.7)	15	120.1	0.83¶
Pyrexia	10 (8.0)	11	87.6	9 (7.1)	11	88.0	0.80¶
Dizziness	13 (10.4)	15	119.5	4 (3.2)	5	40.0	0.02¶
Dysmenorrhea	4 (3.2)	5	39.8	8 (6.3)	16	128.1	0.38§
Arthralgia	3 (2.4)	3	23.9	8 (6.3)	8	64.0	0.22§
Pharyngitis	4 (3.2)	5	39.8	7 (5.6)	7	56.0	0.54§

\* Adverse events and serious adverse events that occurred from week 0 through week 56 among adolescents in the safety population are included in the table and presented with their preferred terms. Events were included if the date of onset was between the first day the trial drug was administered and 14 days after the last day the trial drug was administered, at the follow-up visit, or at the last trial visit.

† The P value was calculated with a negative binomial model. The number of events was analyzed with a negative binomial model with log-link function and the logarithm of the exposure time (1000 years) for which an adverse event is considered to be reported during the treatment period as an offset. The model included treatment, sex, region, baseline glycemic category, stratification factor for Tanner stage, and interaction between baseline glycemic category and stratification factor for Tanner stage as fixed effects.

‡ The following serious adverse events were reported in one participant each: postprocedural hemorrhage, myositis, and completed suicide in the liraglutide group; and appendicitis, pneumonia, acute cholecystitis, cholelithiasis, and thrombophlebitis in the placebo group.

§ The P value was calculated by means of Fisher's exact test on the basis of the number of participants.

¶ The P value was calculated by means of Pearson's chi-square test on the basis of the number of participants.



# Expected indications

- 12-17 years
- Iso BMI of 30, and or related complications
- Poor response to lifestyle alone
- Adjunct to obesity management!
- Identify those in need!
- Safety and side effects!
- Duration and cost!
- Treatment effect after termination of GLP-1!



# Stopping rules

- Considerations from FDA/EMA
- 5 (or 10) % weight loss required to continue!
- Body composition during growth and development!
- Patients difficult to treat are offered suboptimal management solutions?
- Response patterns i.e. genetics GRS/PGRS
- Success criteria, move beyond BMI




## Article Contents

[Abstract](#)[Materials and Methods](#)[Results](#)[Discussion](#)[Conclusions and Future  
Directions](#)[Abbreviations](#)[Acknowledgments](#)[Additional Information](#)[Data Availability](#)

CORRECTED PROOF

## Fasting Plasma GLP-1 Is Associated With Overweight/Obesity and Cardiometabolic Risk Factors in Children and Adolescents

Sara E Stinson, Anna E Jonsson, Morten A V Lund, Christine Frithioff-Bøjsøe, Louise Aas Holm, Oluf Pedersen, Lars Ängquist, Thorkild I A Sørensen, Jens J Holst, Michael Christiansen, Jens-Christian Holm, Bolette Hartmann, Torben Hansen 

*The Journal of Clinical Endocrinology & Metabolism*, dgab098,  
<https://doi.org/10.1210/clinem/dgab098>

**Published:** 17 February 2021 **Article history ▼**

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## Conclusion

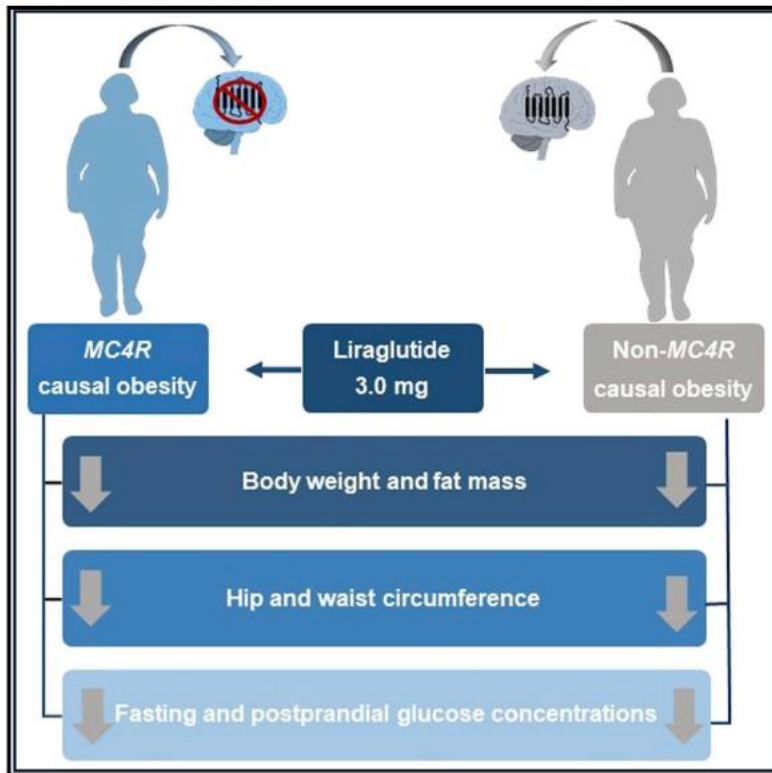
Overweight/obesity in children and adolescents is associated with increased fasting plasma total GLP-1 concentrations, which was predictive of higher CMR factors.



# Cell Metabolism

## Patients with Obesity Caused by Melanocortin-4 Receptor Mutations Can Be Treated with a Glucagon-like Peptide-1 Receptor Agonist

### Graphical Abstract



### Authors

Eva W. Iepsen, Jinyi Zhang,  
Henrik S. Thomsen, ..., Jens J. Holst,  
Jens-Christian Holm, Signe S. Tørekov

### Correspondence

epwi@sund.ku.dk (E.W.I.),  
torekov@sund.ku.dk (S.S.T.)

### In Brief

Iepsen et al. show that the diabetes and obesity drug liraglutide, which has appetite-suppressing effects, caused weight loss in obese patients with mutations in the appetite-regulating *melanocortin-4 receptor (MC4R)*. These results show that the appetite effects of liraglutide are independent of the MC4R pathway and offer therapeutic opportunities for patients with *MC4R* causal obesity.

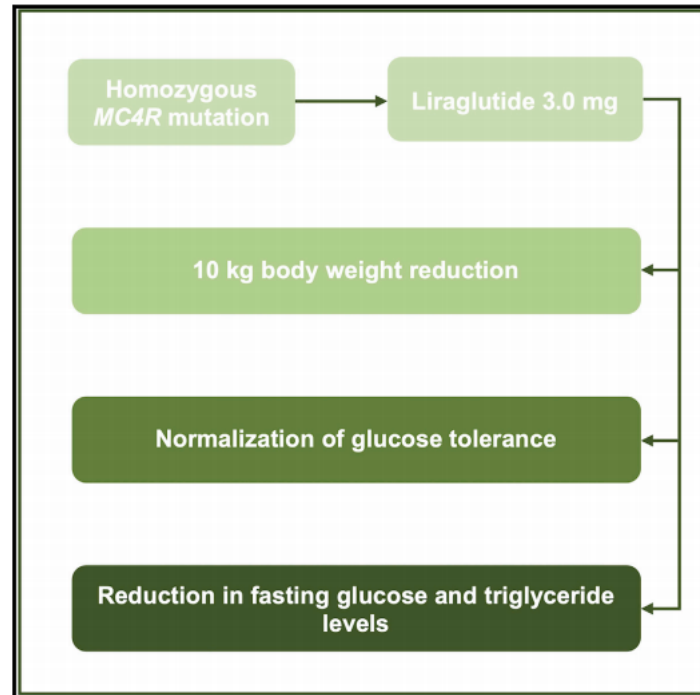
### Highlights

- Fully functional MC4Rs are not required for GLP-1 RA-mediated weight loss
- Liraglutide caused a 6% weight loss in patients with *MC4R* mutations and controls
- Fat mass, waist circumference, and glucose concentrations improved with treatment
- Liraglutide is an effective treatment of the most common form of monogenic obesity



# GLP-1 Receptor Agonist Treatment in Morbid Obesity and Type 2 Diabetes Due to Pathogenic Homozygous Melanocortin-4 Receptor Mutation: A Case Report

## Graphical Abstract



## Authors

Eva W. Iepsen, Christian T. Have, Simon Veedfald, ..., Jens-Christian Holm, Torben Hansen, Signe S. Torekov

## Correspondence

epwi@sund.ku.dk (E.W.I.),  
torekov@sund.ku.dk (S.S.T.)

## In Brief

In this case report, Iepsen et al. show that the GLP-1 RA liraglutide induces a weight loss of 10 kg and normalization of glucose tolerance in a woman homozygous for pathogenic *MC4R* mutation. Thus, the appetite-reducing effects of liraglutide are preserved in *MC4R* causal obesity and independent of the *MC4R* pathway.

## Highlights

- Liraglutide induces weight loss in a woman homozygous for pathogenic *MC4R* mutation
- Glucose tolerance normalized and fasting glucose and triglyceride levels reduced
- *MC4R* is not required for GLP-1 RA-mediated weight loss
- Liraglutide is an effective treatment for the most common form of monogenic obesity



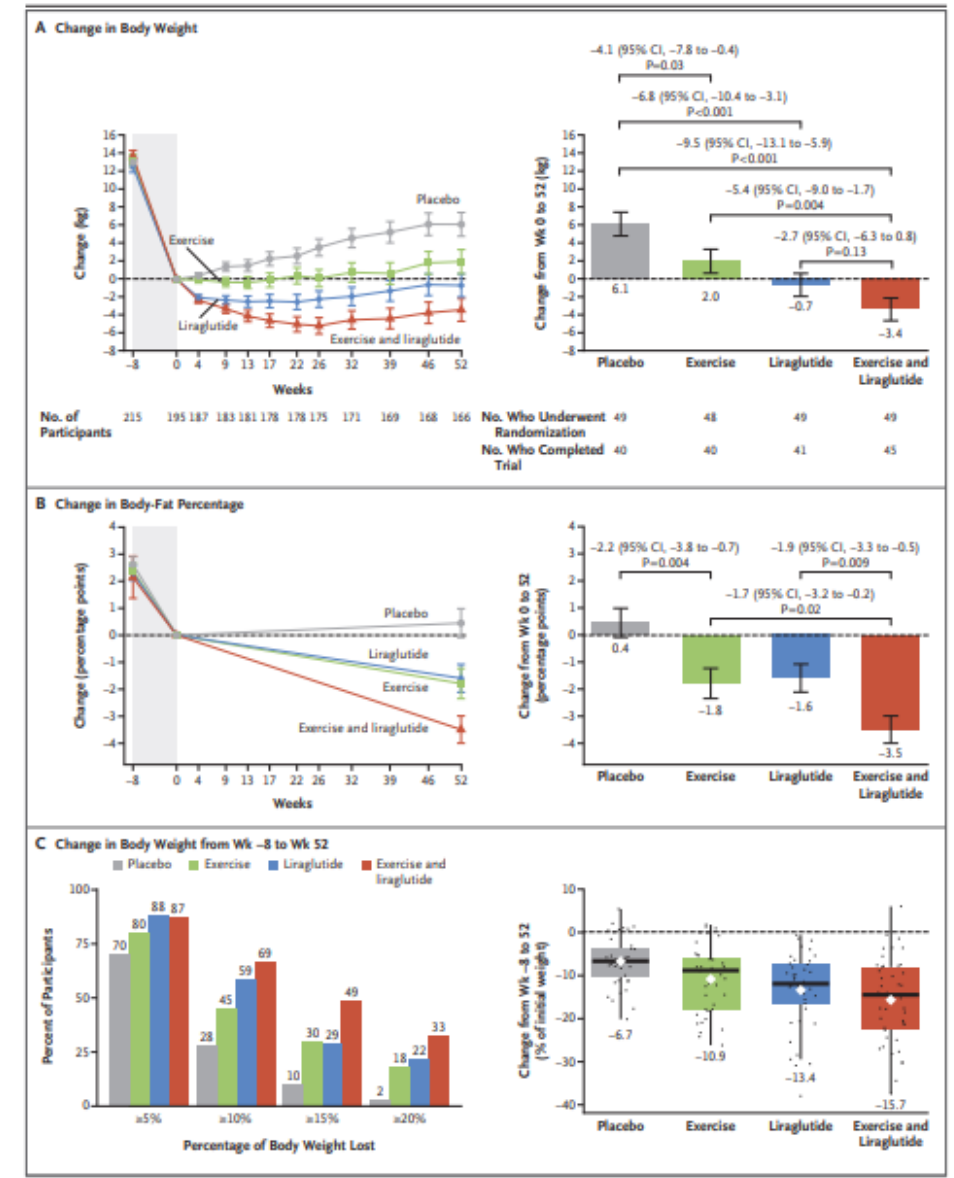
## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Healthy Weight Loss Maintenance with Exercise, Liraglutide, or Both Combined

Julie R. Lundgren, M.D., Ph.D., Charlotte Janus, Ph.D., Simon B.K. Jensen, M.Sc., Christian R. Juhl, M.D., Lisa M. Olsen, M.Sc., Rasmus M. Christensen, B.Sc.Med., Maria S. Svane, M.D., Ph.D., Thomas Bandholm, Ph.D., Kirstine N. Bojsen-Møller, M.D., Ph.D., Martin B. Blond, M.D., Ph.D., Jens-Erik B. Jensen, M.D., Ph.D., Bente M. Stallknecht, M.D., D.M.Sc., Jens J. Holst, M.D., D.M.Sc., Sten Madsbad, M.D., D.M.Sc., and Signe S. Tørekov, Ph.D.

**CONCLUSIONS** A strategy combining exercise and liraglutide therapy improved healthy weight loss maintenance more than either treatment alone.

N Engl J Med 2021;384:1719-30.  
DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa2028198







**DANISH TREATMENT MODEL  
WORKS: 3 OF 4 CHILDREN  
LOSE WEIGHT AND KEEP IT  
OFF**







# Disclosures

- Lecture fees and honoraria from Novo Nordisk and Rhythm Pharmaceuticals
- Board member; Danish Association for the Study of Obesity
- Member Obesity Committee; Danish Paediatric Society
- Co-chair; The Childhood Obesity Task Force EASO
- Ex-Officio Executive Committee EASO
- Dr Holm provides training and treatment





# Thank you very much for your attention



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