

## ACCEPTED VERSION

Samocha-Bonet, D.; Campbell, L. V.; Viardot, A.; Freund, J.; Tam, C. S.; Greenfield, J. R. & Heilbronn, Leonie Kaye (2010), 'A family history of type 2 diabetes increases risk factors associated with overfeeding', *Diabetologia* 53(8):1700-1708.)

© Springer-Verlag 2010

### PERMISSIONS

<http://www.springer.com/open+access/authors+rights?SGWID=0-176704-12-683201-0>

#### Springer's Self-Archiving Policy

Springer is a green publisher, as we allow self-archiving, but most importantly we are fully transparent about your rights.

#### Publishing in a subscription-based journal

If you publish an article in the traditional way, without open access our Copyright Transfer Statements reads

"An author may self-archive an author-created version of his/her article on his/her own website and or in his/her institutional repository. He/she may also deposit this version on his/her funder's or funder's designated repository at the funder's request or as a result of a legal obligation, provided it is not made publicly available until 12 months after official publication. He/ she may not use the publisher's PDF version, which is posted on [www.springerlink.com](http://www.springerlink.com), for the purpose of self-archiving or deposit. Furthermore, the author may only post his/her version provided acknowledgement is given to the original source of publication and a link is inserted to the published article on Springer's website. The link must be accompanied by the following text: "The final publication is available at [www.springerlink.com](http://www.springerlink.com)".

23 May 2012

<http://hdl.handle.net/2440/61472>

## **A family history of type 2 diabetes increases risk factors associated with overfeeding**

Samocha-Bonet D<sup>1</sup>, Campbell LV<sup>1</sup>, Viardot A<sup>1</sup>, Freund J<sup>2</sup>, Tam CS<sup>1,3</sup>, Greenfield JR<sup>1</sup>,  
Heilbronn LK<sup>1,4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Diabetes & Obesity Program, Garvan Institute of Medical Research, 384 Victoria Street,  
Darlinghurst, NSW 2010, Australia

<sup>2</sup>Department of Nuclear Medicine, St Vincent's Hospital, 390 Victoria Street, Darlinghurst,  
NSW 2010, Australia

<sup>3</sup>Institute of Diabetes and Endocrinology, The Children's Hospital at Westmead, 212  
Hawkesbury Rd, NSW 2145, Australia

<sup>4</sup>CCRE, Nutritional Physiology, Department of Medicine, The University of Adelaide

Short Title: Metabolic Health after Overfeeding in Humans

Corresponding author:

Leonie Heilbronn, CCRE Nutritional Physiology, Department of Medicine, University of  
Adelaide, Frome Rd, SA, 5005, Australia.

Phone: +6182224900

Fax: +6182233870

leonie.heilbronn@adelaide.edu.au

Word count: abstract: 246; Text: 3531

## 2 **Abstract**

3

4 *Aims:* To test prospectively whether healthy individuals with a family history of type 2  
5 diabetes are more susceptible to adverse metabolic effects during experimental overfeeding.

6 *Methods:* We studied the effects of 3- and 28-days of overfeeding by 1250 kcal/day in 41  
7 sedentary individuals with and without a family history of type 2 diabetes (FH+ and FH-).  
8 Measures included weight, fat distribution (CT) and insulin sensitivity (hyperinsulinemic-  
9 euglycemic clamp).

10 *Results:* Body weight was increased at +3 and +28-days in both groups ( $p < 0.001$ ), with FH+  
11 gaining significantly more weight at +28-days ( $3.4 \pm 1.6$  vs.  $2.2 \pm 1.4$  kg,  $p = 0.02$ ). Fasting  
12 serum insulin and C-peptide were increased at +3 and +28-days in both groups, with greater  
13 increases in FH+ for insulin at +3 and +28-days ( $p < 0.01$ ) and C-peptide at +28-days  
14 ( $p < 0.05$ ). Fasting glucose also increased at both time points, but without significant group  
15 effect ( $p = 0.1$ ). Peripheral insulin sensitivity decreased in the whole cohort at +28-days  
16 ( $54.8 \pm 17.7$  to  $50.3 \pm 15.6$   $\mu\text{mol min}^{-1} \text{kgFFM}^{-1}$ ,  $p = 0.03$ ), and insulin sensitivity by HOMA-IR  
17 decreased at both time points ( $p < 0.001$ ) and to a greater extent in FH+ ( $p = 0.008$ ). Liver fat,  
18 subcutaneous and visceral fat increased similarly in both groups ( $p < 0.001$ ).

19 *Conclusions:* Overfeeding induced weight and fat gain, insulin resistance and hepatic fat  
20 deposition in healthy individuals. However, individuals with a family history of type 2  
21 diabetes gained more weight and greater insulin resistance by HOMA-IR. This study suggests  
22 that healthy individuals with a family history of type 2 diabetes are predisposed to adverse  
23 effects of overfeeding.

24 Trial registry number: NCT00562393 ([www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)).

25 **Key words:** First-degree relatives of type 2 diabetes individuals; Insulin resistance,  
26 Overfeeding, Liver fat

27

## 28 **Abbreviations**

29

30 CT, computed tomography

31 DSAT, deep subcutaneous adipose tissue

32 DXA, dual energy X-ray absorptiometry

33 FCS, fat cell size

34 FH, family history

35 FFM, fat free mass

36 FM, fat mass

37 GIR, glucose infusion rate

38 HU, Hounsfield units

- 39 MUFA, monounsaturated fatty acid
- 40 MRS, magnetic resonance spectroscopy
- 41 NEAT, non-exercise activity thermogenesis
- 42 PYY, peptide YY
- 43 PUFA, polyunsaturated fatty acid
- 44 SAT, subcutaneous adipose tissue
- 45 SF, saturated fatty acid
- 46 SSAT, superficial subcutaneous adipose tissue
- 47 VAT, visceral adipose tissue
- 48

## 49 **Introduction**

50 Over-nutrition and sedentary lifestyle are major causes of the obesity epidemic, which is  
51 associated with increased risk of related metabolic disorders including hypertension, coronary  
52 artery disease, insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes. First-degree relatives of individuals with  
53 a family history of type 2 diabetes (FH+) are at increased risk of developing type 2 diabetes  
54 [1, 2]. The mechanisms leading to this are not entirely clear, although defects already  
55 identified in this population include a greater tendency towards insulin resistance [2, 3],  
56 pancreatic beta cell impairment [4, 5], central adiposity [6], increased inflammation [7],  
57 increased intramyocellular lipid [8] and reduced mitochondrial function [8, 9]. We and others  
58 have also reported that these individuals have an impaired ability to respond to dietary  
59 challenge, including impaired fatty acid oxidation in response to a single high fat meal [10] or  
60 3-days isocaloric high fat feeding [11].

61

62 Short term experimental overfeeding is a model often used in animal studies to induce insulin  
63 resistance and associated metabolic defects. In humans, this model was previously applied in  
64 lean healthy individuals. The observed outcomes from these studies include increases in  
65 fasting insulin and glucose [12], increases in energy expenditure [13] and intramyocellular  
66 triacylglycerol content [14] and decreases in peripheral [15] and hepatic insulin sensitivity  
67 [12]. The aim of the present study was to examine prospectively the effects of 3 and 28-days  
68 of overfeeding on body weight, fat distribution and insulin sensitivity and the relationships  
69 between these factors in healthy individuals with and without a family history of type 2  
70 diabetes. We hypothesised that overfeeding will induce a greater adverse effect in FH+  
71 individuals.

72

## 73 **Methods**

74 **Subjects** Sedentary, non-smoking, non-diabetic men and women who either reported no  
75 family history of type 2 diabetes (FH-) or at least one first-degree relative with type 2  
76 diabetes (FH+) were recruited by advertisements in local newspapers. Subjects were excluded  
77 if weight had changed by > 2 kg in the preceding 6-months, if they exercised more than 60  
78 min per week, if they were taking medications known to affect insulin sensitivity or blood  
79 pressure or if they had a personal history of type 2 diabetes or cardiovascular disease. Forty  
80 one individuals were recruited; one male FH- subject did not complete the study due to a viral  
81 infection. The study protocol was approved by the Human Research and Ethics Committee at  
82 St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney. Subjects provided informed written consent before  
83 commencement. The study was registered as a Clinical Trial at [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov),  
84 registration# NCT00562393.

85 **Diets** Estimated energy requirements were calculated for each subject based on fat-free mass  
86 (FFM) and fat mass (FM) using equations previously generated by doubly-labelled water and  
87 intake-balance techniques [16-18]. A trained dietician then planned individual menus for  
88 participants. Study timeline and food consumption regimen are outlined in Fig 1. Briefly,  
89 complete 3-day food intakes were supplied to each participant before each metabolic study  
90 such that from day -3 to day 0 all foods were provided at baseline energy requirements with a  
91 nutrient composition of 30% fat, 15% protein and 55% carbohydrates. On days 0 - 3 and 25 -  
92 28 all foods were provided at baseline energy requirements plus 1250 kcal/day with a nutrient  
93 composition of 45% fat, 15% protein and 40% carbohydrates. During the overfeeding phase  
94 we aimed to double the amount of fat intake by providing 3 high energy-high fat snacks per  
95 day, each providing ~250 kcal (e.g. potato crisps, chocolate bars, cheesecake) and a liquid  
96 oil-based supplement (Benecalorie®, Novartis, Basel, Switzerland, 330 kcal) mixed in a  
97 dairy dessert (~200 kcal). On days 3 - 25 of overfeeding, subjects were instructed to  
98 consume their regular diets and were provided with the above snacks and supplement to  
99 achieve an intake of 1250 kcal/day above baseline energy requirements. They were required  
100 to fill out checklists daily reporting which snacks were consumed, complete 3-day diet diaries  
101 once before study commencement and twice during the overfeeding phase and to meet the  
102 study dietician weekly. The checklists were reviewed during weekly weigh-ins by the study  
103 dietician so that any deviations from protocol were quickly identified and alternative options  
104 could be provided, to improve adherence to the diet plan. Diets were analysed for  
105 macronutrients and fatty acid composition using FoodWorks 2007 based on the Australian  
106 foods database (Xyris Software). Thirty two subjects returned the diet diaries of both study  
107 phases (Table 1).

108

109 **Metabolic Testing** Subjects attended the clinical research facility at 8am after a 12-hour  
110 overnight fast at baseline, +3 and +28-day of overfeeding (Fig 1). Baseline and +28-day visits  
111 were identical; weight, height, blood pressure were measured in a hospital gown after voiding  
112 and fasting blood samples were drawn. After 30 min supine rest, resting metabolic rate  
113 (RMR) and RQ were determined for 30 min (ParvoMedics Inc. UT, US). A peri-umbilical  
114 subcutaneous fat biopsy was performed as described previously [19]. Insulin sensitivity was  
115 then measured by a 2-hour hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp ( $60\text{mU m}^{-2} \text{min}^{-1}$ ), as  
116 previously described [10]. Glucose was infused at a variable infusion rate to maintain glucose  
117 at 5.0 mmol/l and the steady state glucose infusion rate (GIR) was calculated between 90 and  
118 120 min. Indirect calorimetry was repeated in conjunction with the steady state measurement.  
119 Stanford 7-day activity recall tests were also administered at baseline and after 28-days of

120 overfeeding [20]. At +3-days of overfeeding, weight and blood pressure were measured,  
121 fasting blood samples were obtained and indirect calorimetry performed. Subjects attended  
122 the Clinical Research Facility weekly for weight follow-up, snack collection and consultation  
123 with the study dietician.

124

125 **Body Composition** Fat mass, fat-free mass and central abdominal fat were assessed at  
126 baseline and +28-day of overfeeding by dual energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA, Lunar  
127 DPX-Lunar Radiation, Madison WI), as previously described [21]. Three cross-sectional  
128 computed tomography (CT) scans (Phillips Gemini GXL), 1cm-width, centred on the L2-L3  
129 and L4-L5 disc space, and the T12-L1 disc space were also performed to assess abdominal  
130 adipose tissue distribution and hepatic fat content. Abdominal areas of adipose tissue were  
131 defined by attenuation values of -50 to 150 Hounsfield units (HU), as previously described  
132 [19]. CT images were analysed using Gemini (GXL Host System). Two subjects did not  
133 undergo CT scans. L4-L5 superficial and deep subcutaneous adipose tissue were not analysed  
134 in 4 subjects and the spleen was not visualised in 2 subjects.

135

136 **Fat Cell Size Measure** Subcutaneous adipose biopsies were fixed in Bouin's, dehydrated,  
137 paraffin embedded and then sectioned (4 $\mu$ m thick). Sections were stained with haematoxylin  
138 and eosin. Digital images were captured using a camera (triCCD; Sony, Paris, France) and  
139 diameters measured using Perfect Image software (Claravision, Orsay, France). Fat cell size  
140 (FCS) was measured in 31 subjects who had histological samples available pre- and post-  
141 intervention. Adipocyte diameter measurement was performed blindly and for at least 2 fields  
142 of view. The mean diameter was calculated from an average of 400 cells per sample.

143

144 **Biochemical Analysis** Glucose was analysed using a glucose oxidase electrode (YSI Life  
145 Sciences). Fasting serum insulin, C-peptide and leptin were assayed by radioimmunoassay  
146 (Linco Research, St Charles, USA). HOMA-IR was calculated as [fasting insulin  
147 (mU/l)\*fasting glucose (mmol/l)]/22.5. HDL cholesterol and triacylglycerol were evaluated  
148 by enzymatic colorimetry (Roche, Indiana, USA). LDL was calculated by the Friedewald  
149 equation. NEFA were measured by enzymatic colorimetry assay (Wako, Osaka, Japan).

150 **Statistical Analysis** Data is presented as mean  $\pm$  SD unless otherwise stated. Statistics were  
151 analysed with SPSS 15 (Chicago, IL). Leptin and insulin data were not normally distributed  
152 and log transformed for analysis. Baseline differences between groups were analysed by one-  
153 way ANOVA. All other data was analysed using repeated measures with respect to group and  
154 time, and an intention to treat approach without carrying forward data on the one dropout.  
155 Bonferroni post-hoc was performed and further analysis was performed by independent t-test.  
156 Linear regression at baseline (n = 41) was used to generate equations for predicting RMR  
157 with FFM and FM in the model as previously described [16]. Correlations were performed  
158 using Pearson's correlation coefficient. Significance was set at p <0.05.

159

## 160 **Results**

161

### 162 ***Baseline Characteristics***

163 Baseline characteristics by group are shown in Table 2. There were no detectable differences  
 164 between groups at baseline with respect to age, weight, BMI, blood pressure, fasting glucose,  
 165 insulin, C-peptide, leptin, lipid profile or peripheral insulin sensitivity. The only difference  
 166 was reduced carbohydrate oxidation in response to insulin infusion during the  
 167 hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp ( $\Delta$ RQ) in FH+. At baseline, peripheral insulin sensitivity  
 168 was related to liver/spleen ratio ( $r = 0.5$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ) and visceral adipose tissue ( $r = -0.4$ ,  $p =$   
 169  $0.01$ ). Fat cell size correlated with percent body fat by DXA ( $r = 0.4$ ,  $p = 0.04$ ), subcutaneous  
 170 adipose tissue ( $r = 0.4$ ,  $p = 0.02$ ), serum NEFA ( $r = 0.4$ ,  $p = 0.02$ ), triacylglycerol ( $r = 0.5$ ,  $p =$   
 171  $0.006$ ) and insulin resistance by HOMA-IR ( $r = 0.5$ ,  $p = 0.007$ ).

### 172 ***Diet Diary and Physical Activity Questionnaire Analysis***

173 Reported dietary intakes at baseline and during overfeeding by group are given in Table 1.  
 174 Dietary fat (g) approximately doubled in the overfeeding phase. Carbohydrate and protein  
 175 intake also increased ( $p < 0.0001$ ). There were no significant differences in energy,  
 176 carbohydrate or protein intake between groups, although a tendency was noted for FH+ to  
 177 consume more total energy ( $p = 0.15$ ) and more fat during overfeeding ( $p = 0.07$ ). The  
 178 average self-reported consumption of snacks during the overfeeding period was  $92 \pm 14$  and  
 179  $95 \pm 9\%$  in FH- and FH+, respectively ( $p = 0.4$ ). Reported levels of physical activity were  
 180 similar at baseline ( $230 \pm 8$  and  $232 \pm 12$  METs-hr/week, in FH- and FH+, respectively,  $p = 0.7$ )  
 181 and did not change with overfeeding ( $229 \pm 7$  and  $231 \pm 7$  METs-hr/week, in FH- and FH+  
 182 respectively, time  $p = 0.4$ , group  $p = 0.8$ ).

### 183 ***Weight and Fat Distribution Changes in Response to Overfeeding***

184 As expected, overfeeding resulted in significant weight gain at +3 and +28-days (Fig 1A). At  
 185 3-days, weight gain was not different between groups. At 28 days, FH+ individuals had  
 186 gained 1.2 kg more than FH- individuals ( $p = 0.03$ ). Weight gained as percentage of baseline  
 187 weight was  $0.7 \pm 0.9$  and  $1.0 \pm 0.7\%$  in FH- and FH+ at +3-days, respectively ( $p = 0.4$ ) and  
 188  $3.1 \pm 2.0$  and  $4.4 \pm 2.0\%$  in FH- and FH+ at +28-days, respectively ( $p = 0.05$ ). Fat mass, fat-free  
 189 mass, central fat by DXA and visceral and subcutaneous adipose tissue volume by CT  
 190 increased similarly in both groups (Table 3). Circulating leptin increased significantly with  
 191 weight gain and to a greater extent in FH+ at +28-days (Fig 1B), consistent with greater  
 192 weight gain in this group. The increase in circulating leptin at +3- and +28-days correlated  
 193 with weight gain at these time points ( $r = 0.3$ ,  $p = 0.03$  and  $r = 0.5$ ,  $p = 0.003$ , at +3- and +28-  
 194 days, respectively). A preferential fat gain in the L2-L3 visceral depot was observed in the  
 195 whole cohort increasing from  $33 \pm 15\%$  at baseline to  $34 \pm 14\%$  at +28-days of overfeeding ( $p =$   
 196  $0.008$ ). However, this was abolished when baseline visceral volume was included as a  
 197 covariate ( $p = 0.1$ ). Liver fat increased significantly in response to overfeeding similarly in  
 198 both groups (Table 3) and correlated with weight gain ( $R^2 = 0.17$ ,  $p = 0.01$ ). Abdominal fat  
 199 cell size did not change (Table 3).

### 200 ***Metabolic Responses to Overfeeding***

201 Fasting glucose increased significantly at +3 and +28-days of overfeeding ( $p < 0.01$ ), but this  
 202 response was not statistically different between groups (Fig 1C,  $p = 0.1$ ). Fasting insulin and  
 203 C-peptide increased at +3 and +28-days of overfeeding (Fig 1D and 1E), with a greater



204 increase in insulin in FH+ individuals at both time points ( $p < 0.01$ , Fig 1D) and in C-peptide  
205 at +28-days ( $p < 0.05$ , Fig 1E). Accordingly, HOMA-IR (reflecting fasting insulin resistance)  
206 increased significantly in both groups ( $p < 0.005$  for both time points; Fig 1F), with the  
207 increase more pronounced in FH+ individuals ( $p = 0.003$ , Fig 1F). Peripheral insulin  
208 sensitivity measured by the hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp at +28-days decreased  
209 significantly in the whole cohort from  $54.8 \pm 17.7$  to  $50.3 \pm 15.6 \mu\text{mol min}^{-1} \text{kgFFM}^{-1}$  at +28-  
210 days of overfeeding ( $p = 0.03$ ), but was not different between groups. Total and HDL-  
211 cholesterol were significantly increased in response to overfeeding similarly in both groups  
212 ( $4.6 \pm 1.0$  to  $4.8 \pm 1.0$ ,  $p = 0.01$  for cholesterol and  $1.3 \pm 0.3$  to  $1.4 \pm 0.4$ ,  $p < 0.0001$  for HDL).  
213 Blood pressure, LDL-cholesterol and triacylglycerol levels were unchanged (data not shown).  
214 Fasting NEFA levels were significantly suppressed at +3-days ( $p < 0.001$ ) and returned to  
215 basal at +28-days overfeeding, without group effect ( $p = 0.4$ , Fig 1G). Plasma NEFA were  
216 suppressed at the hyperinsulinemic state (by clamp) at both baseline and +28-days of  
217 overfeeding ( $p < 0.0001$ ), without group difference at both time points (data not shown).  
218 Similarly, fasting RQ increased at +3-days ( $p < 0.0001$ ) and returned to basal at +28-days,  
219 without group effect ( $p = 0.8$ , Fig 1H). The  $\Delta\text{RQ}$  during the clamp was not altered by  
220 overfeeding (data not shown). Baseline absolute RMR was not different between groups  
221 (Table 2) and increased at +3-days in both FH- and FH+ ( $1315 \pm 260$  to  $1370 \pm 265$  kcal/d and  
222  $1440 \pm 160$  to  $1530 \pm 195$  respectively,  $p = 0.01$ ) and at +28-days ( $1375 \pm 250$  and  $1525 \pm 220$   
223 kcal/day in FH- and FH+ respectively,  $p = 0.01$ ). Baseline RMR adjusted for FFM was not  
224 different between groups or in response to overfeeding (data not shown). We also calculated  
225 predicted RMR at 28-days based on equations derived at baseline ( $\text{RMR} =$   
226  $158.8 + 19.91 * \text{FFM} + 10.37 * \text{FM}$ ), as previously described [16] and found no difference  
227 between the predicted and measured RMR at +28-days overfeeding (data not shown). We did  
228 not perform DXA measures at day 3 but repeated this analysis using body weight at baseline  
229 ( $\text{RMR} = 344.9 + 14.0 * \text{Weight}$ ). Similarly, we found no difference at 28-days. However, at day  
230 3, measured RMR ( $1454 \pm 40$  kcal/day) was significantly elevated above weight-predicted  
231 RMR ( $1384 \pm 26$  kcal/day). There was no difference between groups in this response (data not  
232 shown). The increase in thermogenesis in response to insulin infusion was  $114 \pm 164$   
233 kcal/day at baseline and  $125 \pm 148$  kcal/day at overfeeding, both were not different between  
234 groups (data not shown).

235

## 236 *Discussion*

237 High fat overfeeding induces insulin resistance in rodent models in as little as 3-weeks [22,  
238 23]. In this study, we established that 28-days of overfeeding induced weight gain and  
239 peripheral insulin resistance in healthy non-diabetic individuals. We also showed that fat was  
240 deposited in the liver and we established that individuals who report a family history of type  
241 2 diabetes gained more weight and developed greater insulin resistance by HOMA-IR when  
242 provided with identical dietary instructions.

243 This is the first study to compare the effects of experimental overfeeding in individuals with  
244 and without a family history of type 2 diabetes and we observed that weight gain was higher  
245 in FH+ individuals. Moreover, since overconsumption of 10.5 kcal is required to gain 1 g of  
246 body weight [24, 25] and assuming no compensatory change in energy expenditure, we  
247 predicted a maximum weight gain of 3.3 kg with 28-days of overfeeding. We observed that  
248 FH+ individuals gained approximately the predicted weight whereas FH- individuals gained  
249 less than predicted. It should be emphasised that participants were free-living and self  
250 selecting their foods for most of the study. Therefore, this difference may be explained by  
251 dietary compliance and may suggest that FH- individuals are less able to over eat. Consistent  
252 with this, a trend towards greater fat and energy consumption was observed in FH+  
253 individuals. This outcome is of great interest as identical dietary instruction and food options  
254 were provided to both groups. Although FH+ gained on average 1.2 kg more at day 28, we  
255 did not detect significant group differences in the compartmental gain by CT and DXA. This  
256 apparent inconsistency may stem from the lower reproducibility and higher variability of  
257 DXA [26] and CT estimates as compared to a single scale weight. Interestingly, we have  
258 previously reported impaired peptide YY (PYY) secretion in response to a meal in FH+  
259 individuals [27], which may contribute to reduced satiety and facilitate weight gain. Even the  
260 classical experimental overfeeding studies [28-30] in which participants were incarcerated  
261 and all foods were provided, have shown wide variability in weight gain in response to  
262 controlled overfeeding. Furthermore, the experimental weight gain study in twins  
263 demonstrated a heritable component to weight gain with a much greater variability in weight  
264 gain between, than within, twin pairs [30]. In those studies, since energy intake was very  
265 carefully controlled, it is likely that differences in weight gain were due to variations in  
266 thermogenic response to overfeeding and possibly non-exercise activity thermogenesis  
267 (NEAT) [31]. In this study, we can establish that the weight gain differences between groups  
268 were not due to differences in compensatory changes in resting energy metabolism or  
269 physical activity levels by questionnaire, since more complex measures of activity were not  
270 used.

271 Overfeeding increased fasting insulin, glucose and peripheral insulin resistance in the whole  
272 cohort. This is consistent with previous studies of short-term (3-days) [15] and long-term  
273 (4.5-months) overfeeding [32] in healthy lean men. Our initial hypothesis was that FH+  
274 would have greater metabolic defects associated with overfeeding. Indeed, we observed that  
275 fasting serum insulin and C-peptide increased more in individuals with a family history of  
276 type 2 diabetes. Fasting blood glucose tended to increase more in FH+ individuals at +3-days  
277 of overfeeding and may account for the significant increase in insulin in this group. Notably,  
278 the insulin increase was maximal after just 3 days of overfeeding, which was during a time  
279 when all foods were provided to participants and prior to any detectable weight gain  
280 differences between groups. Consistently, in response to 5-days overfeeding, healthy lean  
281 men increased insulin secretion during IVGTT [12]. In longer term overfeeding studies,  
282 reduced insulin clearance was observed after 4.5-months and significant weight gain in lean

283 young men [32]. These findings are similar to those in moderately fat fed dogs, where an  
284 initial increase in beta cell secretion is observed at 6-weeks, which is no longer evident at 3-  
285 months when hyperinsulinemia is maintained via reduced insulin clearance by the liver [33].

286 There is increasing evidence to suggest that the location of fat deposition may be more  
287 important than the total amount of fat stored in obese individuals [19]. For example, ectopic  
288 deposition of lipid within the liver is closely associated with traits of the metabolic syndrome  
289 [19, 34]. Consistent with this, we also observed a relationship between liver fat by CT and  
290 peripheral insulin resistance in this non-diabetic cohort at baseline. Gold-standard measures  
291 of liver fat were not conducted in the present study however, findings by magnetic resonance  
292 spectroscopy (MRS) and CT measurement of liver fat content are closely correlated [35].  
293 Interestingly, we observed that deposition of fat within the liver was increased in response to  
294 28-days of overfeeding and although we did not detect a difference between groups, the  
295 increase in fat was closely aligned with the amount of weight gained. Deposition of fat in the  
296 liver in response to overfeeding has previously been shown in high fat fed rodents and dogs  
297 [36, 37] and in response to 3-day high fat-high energy diet in healthy lean men by MRS [38].  
298 Interestingly, moderate calorie restriction for 2-days decreases liver fat in the obese [39].  
299 Increased visceral fat is also closely associated with insulin resistance [40] and increased  
300 visceral adipose tissue is observed in BMI-matched insulin resistant FH+ individuals [6]. In  
301 this study, visceral adiposity was similar between groups at baseline and FH+ individuals  
302 were not more likely to deposit fat in the visceral compartment in response to overfeeding.  
303 Increased fat cell size is also observed in insulin resistance and may represent the failure of  
304 the adipose tissue mass to expand to accommodate increased energy intakes [19]. We did not  
305 detect an increase in average FCS with the moderate weight gain achieved in this study. This  
306 result is in contrast to an historical experimental overfeeding study [28], but that intervention  
307 was longer with much higher weight gain.

308 There is some evidence to suggest that post-obese individuals do not appropriately oxidise  
309 dietary fat, which may predispose them to weight regain [41]. There is also marked  
310 variability in the capacity to switch appropriately between fat and carbohydrate oxidation  
311 between individuals [42]. This response has been termed metabolic flexibility [43] and has  
312 been associated with insulin resistance [11] and may also predispose to weight gain. In this  
313 study, we observed impaired metabolic flexibility in response to insulin infusion in FH+ at  
314 baseline. However, this defect was not altered by overfeeding and there was no difference  
315 between groups in the fasting rates of fatty acid oxidation at baseline or during overfeeding  
316 and thus is unlikely to have contributed to increased weight gain observed in FH+.  
317 Overfeeding initially suppressed fatty acid oxidation. This may be due to suppressed lipolysis  
318 of adipose tissue as evidenced by reduced plasma NEFA and mediated by the increase in  
319 insulin. Interestingly, fasting levels of fat oxidation and plasma NEFA returned to basal by  
320 28-days despite continuation of overfeeding, possibly as peripheral insulin resistance  
321 increased.

322 In conclusion, short-term overfeeding induced insulin resistance and deposition of fat in the  
323 liver in healthy men and women. Individuals with a family history of type 2 diabetes were  
324 more susceptible to weight gain and developed greater insulin resistance by HOMA-IR which  
325 was evident even prior to any detectable difference in weight gain. This study suggests that  
326 healthy individuals with a family history of type 2 diabetes are predisposed to adverse effects  
327 of overfeeding, which may help explain their susceptibility to develop type 2 diabetes in an  
328 obesogenic environment.

329

**330 Acknowledgements**

331 We would like to thank Lynne Schofield, the study co-ordinator and Arthur Jenkins for  
332 statistical advice, and all the volunteers who participated in this demanding research study.  
333 The study was funded by the National Health and Medical Research Council Australia  
334 (NHMRC), LKH is supported by NHMRC Career Development Award (#481354) and CST  
335 by NHMRC/NHF Postgraduate Biomedical Scholarship (#457224).

336 The authors declare that there is no duality of interest associated with this manuscript.  
337

338 **Table 1** Diet diaries analysis at baseline and during overfeeding by group

	<b>FH-</b>		<b>FH+</b>		<i>p</i>	
	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Overfeeding</b>	<b>Baseline</b>	<b>Overfeeding</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Group</b>
<b>Energy (kcal)</b>	1900±590	2890±640	2080±630	3360±910	0.0001	0.15
<b>Fat (g)</b>	76±28	148±35	79±33	167±36	0.0001	0.07
<b>PUFA (g)</b>	13±7	17±5	12±7	18±5	0.001	0.4
<b>MUFA (g)</b>	28±10	71±19	28±12	80±14	0.0001	0.1
<b>SF (g)</b>	28±12	50±15	31±16	59±18	0.0001	0.2
<b>Carbohydrate (g)</b>	202±58	258±62	225±66	321±130	0.0001	0.2
<b>Protein (g)</b>	84±32	113±36	99±38	131±30	0.0001	0.8
<b>Alcohol (g)</b>	5±9	5±8	7±9	5±7	0.3	0.4

339 Data based on n = 32 (19 FH- and 13 FH+)

340 PUFA- polyunsaturated fatty acid, MUFA- monounsaturated fatty acid, SF- saturated fatty  
341 acid

342

343 **Table 2** Baseline characteristics of study participants

	<b>Whole cohort</b>	<b>FH-</b>	<b>FH+</b>	<b><i>p</i></b>
<b>M/F</b>	21/20	12/12	9/8	
<b>Age</b>	37±12	37±12	38±12	0.7
<b>Weight (kg)</b>	75.0±12.0	73.5±13.0	77.3±10.0	0.3
<b>BMI (kg m<sup>-2</sup>)</b>	25.6±3.5	25.1±3.1	26.4±4.1	0.3
<b>Systolic BP (mmHg)</b>	113±12	110±13	117±10	0.08
<b>Diastolic BP (mmHg)</b>	72±9	72±10	73±7	0.6
<b>Glucose (mmol/l)</b>	4.5±0.4	4.5±0.4	4.5±0.2	1
<b>Insulin (pmol/l)</b>	69.5±23.7	70.2±27.5	68.6±17.6	0.8
<b>C-peptide (pmol/l)</b>	496±13	486±179	510±145	0.6
<b>Leptin (µg/l)</b>	13.5±9.9	14.0±10.7	12.7±9.0	0.7
<b>GIR (µmol min<sup>-1</sup> kgFFM<sup>-1</sup>)</b>	54.0±18.2	56.4±19.7	50.7±15.7	0.3
<b>HDL (mmol/l)</b>	1.3±0.3	1.3±0.4	1.2±0.3	0.2
<b>LDL (mmol/l)</b>	2.8±0.9	2.7±0.9	2.9±0.9	0.3
<b>Cholesterol (mmol/l)</b>	4.6±1.0	4.5±1.1	4.7±1.0	0.5
<b>Triacylglycerol (mmol/l)</b>	1.1±0.4	1.1±0.4	1.2±0.5	0.5
<b>RMR (Kcal/day)</b>	1388±222	1344±28	1443±30	0.2
<b>RQ basal</b>	0.81±0.04	0.80±0.04	0.81±0.03	0.7
<b>ΔRQ Clamp</b>	0.10±0.04	0.11±0.05	0.09±0.03	0.04

344 GIR- glucose infusion rate, FFM- fat free mass

345

346 **Table 3** Body weight, percent body fat and central fat (by DXA), abdominal fat distribution  
 347 and liver density (by CT) and fat cell size at baseline and post 28-days of overfeeding in  
 348 subjects with or without a family history of type 2 diabetes

	FH-		FH+		<i>p</i>	
	Baseline	Overfeeding	Baseline	Overfeeding	Time	Group
<b>Weight (Kg)</b>	73.9±13.1	76.1±13.3	77.3±10.0	80.7±10.4	0.0001	0.02
<b>Fat mass (%)</b>	33±9	34±8	34±7	35±7	0.0001	0.9
<b>Fat-free mass (Kg)</b>	48.1±9.3	48.6±9.5	49.8±7.6	50.8±7.5	0.0001	0.2
<b>Central fat (kg)*</b>	1.8±0.8	1.9±0.7	2.2±0.8	2.4±0.7	0.0001	0.2
<b>L2/L3 VAT (cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	78±74	92±75	105±76	116±72	0.0001	0.4
<b>L2/L3 SAT (cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	151±89	167±85	183±83	203±87	0.0001	0.5
<b>L4/L5 VAT (cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	68±44	76±43	89±50	101±51	0.0001	0.6
<b>L4/L5 SAT (cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	243±105	263±105	275±106	294±103	0.0001	0.9
<b>L4/L5 SSAT (cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	116±64	126±68	143±75	154±70	0.0001	0.8
<b>L4/L5 DSAT (cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	123±54	133±52	146±52	154±55	0.001	0.7
<b>Liver density (HU)</b>	58±5	55±4	51±16	48±16	0.0001	0.6
<b>Fat cell size (µm)</b>	58±7	58±5	60±6	59±8	0.5	0.8

349 VAT- visceral adipose tissue, SAT- subcutaneous adipose tissue, SSAT- superficial  
 350 subcutaneous adipose tissue, DSAT- deep subcutaneous adipose tissue

351 \*Central fat was measured by DXA

352

353 **Figure Legend:**

354 **Fig 1 Study timeline and food consumption regimen.** From day -3 to the baseline study, all  
355 foods were provided to subjects at calculated baseline energy requirements (A; 30% fat, 15%  
356 protein and 55% carbohydrates). During the overfeeding phase (in grey), on days 0 – 3 and  
357 25 – 28, all foods were provided to subjects at calculated baseline energy requirements +  
358 1250 kcal/d (B; 45% fat, 15% protein and 40% carbohydrates). On days 3 – 25, subjects were  
359 instructed to consume their regular diets and were provided with high fat snacks to provide  
360 additional 1250 kcal/day (C).

361

362 **Fig 2 Weight, circulating hormones and metabolites, HOMA-IR and respiratory**  
363 **quotient at baseline and in response to overfeeding** Weight (A), serum leptin (B), glucose  
364 (C), insulin (D), C-peptide (E), HOMA-IR (F), NEFA (G) and RQ (H) at baseline and at +3-  
365 and +28- days of overfeeding in subjects with (white squares) and without (black squares) a  
366 family history of type 2 diabetes. Difference from baseline \*p < 0.05, \*\*p < 0.005; difference  
367 between groups #p < 0.05, ##p < 0.01,  $\delta$ p = 0.06.

368



## 369 References

- 370 [1] Meigs JB, Cupples LA, Wilson PW (2000) Parental transmission of type 2 diabetes: the  
371 Framingham Offspring Study. *Diabetes* 49: 2201-2207
- 372 [2] Warram JH, Martin BC, Krolewski AS, Soeldner JS, Kahn CR (1990) Slow glucose removal rate  
373 and hyperinsulinemia precede the development of type II diabetes in the offspring of diabetic  
374 parents. *Ann Intern Med* 113: 909-915
- 375 [3] Rothman DL, Magnusson I, Cline G, et al. (1995) Decreased muscle glucose  
376 transport/phosphorylation is an early defect in the pathogenesis of non-insulin-dependent diabetes  
377 mellitus. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 92: 983-987
- 378 [4] Bonadonna RC, Stumvoll M, Fritsche A, et al. (2003) Altered homeostatic adaptation of first-  
379 and second-phase beta-cell secretion in the offspring of patients with type 2 diabetes: studies with a  
380 minimal model to assess beta-cell function. *Diabetes* 52: 470-480
- 381 [5] Thamer C, Stumvoll M, Niess A, et al. (2003) Reduced skeletal muscle oxygen uptake and  
382 reduced beta-cell function: two early abnormalities in normal glucose-tolerant offspring of patients  
383 with type 2 diabetes. *Diabetes Care* 26: 2126-2132
- 384 [6] Nyholm B, Nielsen MF, Kristensen K, et al. (2004) Evidence of increased visceral obesity and  
385 reduced physical fitness in healthy insulin-resistant first-degree relatives of type 2 diabetic patients.  
386 *Eur J Endocrinol* 150: 207-214
- 387 [7] Ruotsalainen E, Salmenniemi U, Vauhkonen I, et al. (2006) Changes in inflammatory  
388 cytokines are related to impaired glucose tolerance in offspring of type 2 diabetic subjects. *Diabetes*  
389 *Care* 29: 2714-2720
- 390 [8] Petersen KF, Dufour S, Befroy D, Garcia R, Shulman GI (2004) Impaired mitochondrial activity  
391 in the insulin-resistant offspring of patients with type 2 diabetes. *N Engl J Med* 350: 664-671
- 392 [9] Befroy DE, Petersen KF, Dufour S, et al. (2007) Impaired mitochondrial substrate oxidation in  
393 muscle of insulin-resistant offspring of type 2 diabetic patients. *Diabetes* 56: 1376-1381
- 394 [10] Heilbronn LK, Gregersen S, Shirkhedkar D, Hu D, Campbell LV (2007) Impaired fat oxidation  
395 after a single high-fat meal in insulin-sensitive nondiabetic individuals with a family history of type 2  
396 diabetes. *Diabetes* 56: 2046-2053
- 397 [11] Ukropcova B, Sereda O, de Jonge L, et al. (2007) Family history of diabetes links impaired  
398 substrate switching and reduced mitochondrial content in skeletal muscle. *Diabetes* 56: 720-727
- 399 [12] Brons C, Jensen CB, Storgaard H, et al. (2009) Impact of short-term high-fat feeding on  
400 glucose and insulin metabolism in young healthy men. *J Physiol* 587: 2387-2397
- 401 [13] Leibel RL, Rosenbaum M, Hirsch J (1995) Changes in energy expenditure resulting from  
402 altered body weight. *N Engl J Med* 332: 621-628
- 403 [14] Schrauwen-Hinderling VB, Kooi ME, Hesselink MK, et al. (2005) Intramyocellular lipid content  
404 and molecular adaptations in response to a 1-week high-fat diet. *Obes Res* 13: 2088-2094
- 405 [15] Bachmann OP, Dahl DB, Brechtel K, et al. (2001) Effects of intravenous and dietary lipid  
406 challenge on intramyocellular lipid content and the relation with insulin sensitivity in humans.  
407 *Diabetes* 50: 2579-2584
- 408 [16] Heilbronn LK, de Jonge L, Frisard MI, et al. (2006) Effect of 6-month calorie restriction on  
409 biomarkers of longevity, metabolic adaptation, and oxidative stress in overweight individuals: a  
410 randomized controlled trial. *JAMA* 295: 1539-1548
- 411 [17] Redman LM, Heilbronn LK, Martin CK, Alfonso A, Smith SR, Ravussin E (2007) Effect of calorie  
412 restriction with or without exercise on body composition and fat distribution. *J Clin Endocrinol*  
413 *Metab* 92: 865-872
- 414 [18] Vinken AG, Bathalon GP, Sawaya AL, Dallal GE, Tucker KL, Roberts SB (1999) Equations for  
415 predicting the energy requirements of healthy adults aged 18-81 y. *Am J Clin Nutr* 69: 920-926
- 416 [19] Azuma K, Heilbronn LK, Albu JB, Smith SR, Ravussin E, Kelley DE (2007) Adipose tissue  
417 distribution in relation to insulin resistance in type 2 diabetes mellitus. *Am J Physiol Endocrinol*  
418 *Metab* 293: E435-442

- 419 [20] Washburn RA, Jacobsen DJ, Sonko BJ, Hill JO, Donnelly JE (2003) The validity of the Stanford  
420 Seven-Day Physical Activity Recall in young adults. *Med Sci Sports Exerc* 35: 1374-1380
- 421 [21] Carey DG, Jenkins AB, Campbell LV, Freund J, Chisholm DJ (1996) Abdominal fat and insulin  
422 resistance in normal and overweight women: Direct measurements reveal a strong relationship in  
423 subjects at both low and high risk of NIDDM. *Diabetes* 45: 633-638
- 424 [22] Kraegen EW, Storlien LH, Jenkins AB, James DE (1989) Chronic exercise compensates for  
425 insulin resistance induced by a high-fat diet in rats. *Am J Physiol* 256: E242-249
- 426 [23] Park SY, Cho YR, Kim HJ, et al. (2005) Unraveling the temporal pattern of diet-induced insulin  
427 resistance in individual organs and cardiac dysfunction in C57BL/6 mice. *Diabetes* 54: 3530-3540
- 428 [24] Pullar JD, Webster AJ (1977) The energy cost of fat and protein deposition in the rat. *Br J*  
429 *Nutr* 37: 355-363
- 430 [25] Schulz LO, Alger S, Harper I, Wilmore JH, Ravussin E (1992) Energy expenditure of elite  
431 female runners measured by respiratory chamber and doubly labeled water. *J Appl Physiol* 72: 23-28
- 432 [26] Pritchard JE, Nowson CA, Strauss BJ, Carlson JS, Kaymakci B, Wark JD (1993) Evaluation of  
433 Dual Energy X-Ray Absorptiometry as a Method of Measurement of Body-Fat. *Eur J Clin Nutr* 47:  
434 216-228
- 435 [27] Viardot A, Heilbronn LK, Herzog H, Gregersen S, Campbell LV (2008) Abnormal postprandial  
436 PYY response in insulin sensitive nondiabetic subjects with a strong family history of type 2 diabetes.  
437 *Int J Obes* 32: 943-948
- 438 [28] Salans LB, Horton ES, Sims EA (1971) Experimental obesity in man: cellular character of the  
439 adipose tissue. *J Clin Invest* 50: 1005-1011
- 440 [29] Sims EA, Horton ES, Salans LB (1971) Inducible metabolic abnormalities during development  
441 of obesity. *Annu Rev Med* 22: 235-250
- 442 [30] Bouchard C, Tremblay A, Despres JP, et al. (1990) The response to long-term overfeeding in  
443 identical twins. *N Engl J Med* 322: 1477-1482
- 444 [31] Levine JA, Vander Weg MW, Hill JO, Klesges RC (2006) Non-exercise activity thermogenesis:  
445 the crouching tiger hidden dragon of societal weight gain. *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol* 26: 729-736
- 446 [32] Erdmann J, Kallabis B, Oppel U, Sypchenko O, Wagenpfeil S, Schusdziarra V (2008)  
447 Development of hyperinsulinemia and insulin resistance during the early stage of weight gain. *Am J*  
448 *Physiol Endocrinol Metab* 294: E568-575
- 449 [33] Kim SP, Ellmerer M, Kirkman EL, Bergman RN (2007) Beta-cell "rest" accompanies reduced  
450 first-pass hepatic insulin extraction in the insulin-resistant, fat-fed canine model. *Am J Physiol*  
451 *Endocrinol Metab* 292: E1581-1589
- 452 [34] Kotronen A, Yki-Jarvinen H (2008) Fatty liver: a novel component of the metabolic syndrome.  
453 *Arterioscler Thromb Vasc Biol* 28: 27-38
- 454 [35] Zhong L, Chen JJ, Chen J, et al. (2009) Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease: quantitative  
455 assessment of liver fat content by computed tomography, magnetic resonance imaging and proton  
456 magnetic resonance spectroscopy. *J Dig Dis* 10: 315-320
- 457 [36] Kabir M, Catalano KJ, Ananthnarayan S, et al. (2005) Molecular evidence supporting the  
458 portal theory: a causative link between visceral adiposity and hepatic insulin resistance. *Am J Physiol*  
459 *Endocrinol Metab* 288: E454-461
- 460 [37] Turner N, Hariharan K, Tidang J, et al. (2009) Enhancement of muscle mitochondrial  
461 oxidative capacity and alterations in insulin action are lipid species-dependent: Potent tissue-specific  
462 effects of medium chain fatty acids. *Diabetes* PMID: 19720794
- 463 [38] van der Meer RW, Hammer S, Lamb HJ, et al. (2008) Effects of short-term high-fat, high-  
464 energy diet on hepatic and myocardial triglyceride content in healthy men. *J Clin Endocrinol Metab*  
465 93: 2702-2708
- 466 [39] Kirk E, Reeds DN, Finck BN, Mayurranjan SM, Patterson BW, Klein S (2009) Dietary fat and  
467 carbohydrates differentially alter insulin sensitivity during caloric restriction. *Gastroenterology* 136:  
468 1552-1560

- 469 [40] Jensen MD (2008) Role of body fat distribution and the metabolic complications of obesity. *J*  
470 *Clin Endocrinol Metab* 93: S57-63
- 471 [41] Larson DE, Ferraro RT, Robertson DS, Ravussin E (1995) Energy metabolism in weight-stable  
472 postobese individuals. *Am J Clin Nutr* 62: 735-739
- 473 [42] Smith SR, de Jonge L, Zachwieja JJ, et al. (2000) Fat and carbohydrate balances during  
474 adaptation to a high-fat. *Am J Clin Nutr* 71: 450-457
- 475 [43] Kelley DE (2005) Skeletal muscle fat oxidation: timing and flexibility are everything. *J Clin*  
476 *Invest* 115: 1699-1702
- 477
- 478