

PLENARY ABSTRACTS CONTINUED

Title: ADHD and Obesity

Presenter: Dr. Caroline Davis

Title: Psychological and Psychiatric Predictors of Response and Failure to Bariatric Surgery

Presenter: Dr. Anthony Fabricatore

Persons with extreme obesity are at elevated risk of psychiatric disorder. This presentation will review findings regarding the psychological and psychiatric factors relevant to weight loss and other markers of success (and failure) with bariatric surgery. Additionally, roles for the mental health professional on the bariatric surgery team will be discussed.

Title: The (un)pleasant intensity of taste: a glimpse into obesity

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The relevance of orosensory factors for the pathophysiology of obesity were suggested by the report of changes in taste sensitivity in obese patients, after gastric bypass surgery. However, it is unclear if such changes are specific to this intervention. Here we report on taste intensity and pleasantness for sweet (sucrose), bitter (quinine), sour (citric acid) and salty (sodium chloride) tastants, measured in severely obese patients, before and/or after a diet and exercise weight-loss program. Other measurements, such as the Beck Depression Scale, were also conducted. When compared to non-obese controls, we found that quinine and sucrose have a more intense and, respectively, unpleasant (bitter) or pleasant (sweet) taste in obese subjects. However, the effect for sweet taste seems to be, at least partially, dependent on the relationship between obesity and depression. Preliminary analyses in patients tested before and after weight-loss further suggest that these taste changes are reversible. Additional experiments are now necessary to directly compare taste changes after surgical and behavioral weight-loss programs.

Title: Gut Hormones for Treating Obesity

Presenter: Dr. Nick Finer

The gut and its peptide hormone secretions are increasingly recognised as intimately involved in glucose metabolism, appetite and body weight regulation. Gut peptide analogues are increasingly seen as potential therapeutic targets for obesity and diabetes. GLP-1 analogues, already licensed for treating type 2 diabetes are in advanced development as effective anti-obesity drugs. They appear to have a high safety profile, with few unwanted CNS effects. Combination drugs may present safe and synergistic treatments.

Title: Perspectives of Persons Living with Obesity: Factors that Contribute to Quality of Life and Engagement in Everyday Life

Presenter: Dr. Mary Forhan

Individuals living with class III obesity experience challenges in their everyday lives caused by a combination of biopsychosocial and ecological factors. Such barriers are associated with restricted participation in meaningful, everyday activities known to influence mental health and well-being. Results from a program of research exploring the lived experience of adults seeking treatment for class III obesity will be presented. Using a mixed-methods approach, the research was guided by the World Health Organizations' international classification of functioning and explored through the lens of rehabilitation science and practice. This presentation is targeted to researchers and practitioners.