

The CDC says that the childhood obesity epidemic is slowing down—

High Body Mass Index for Age Among US Children and Adolescents, 2003-2006

Objective: To estimate the prevalence of overweight among US children and adolescents by race/ethnicity, sex, and age.

Design: Cross-sectional survey.

Setting: National Health and Medical Examination Survey (NHANES).

Participants: US children and adolescents aged 6-17 years.

Measurements and Main Results: The prevalence of overweight (BMI ≥ 95th percentile) was 17.1% in 2003-2006, compared with 15.1% in 1999-2002. The prevalence of severe overweight (BMI ≥ 97th percentile) was 4.1% in 2003-2006, compared with 3.1% in 1999-2002.

Ogden et al. JAMA 299:2401-2405, 2008

But is it?

Secular trends in childhood obesity prevalence in U.S. 1999-2006

Severely Obese: BMI for Age > 97th %ile

Obese: BMI for Age > 95th %ile

Overweight: BMI for Age > 85th %ile

Ogden et al. JAMA 299:2401-2405, 2008

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Whites are decreasing

Ogden et al. JAMA 299:2401-2405, 2008

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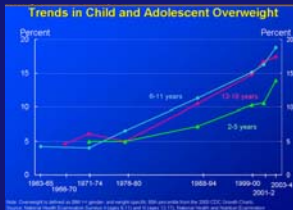
Blacks and Latinos are increasing

Whites are decreasing

Ogden et al. JAMA 299:2401-2405, 2008

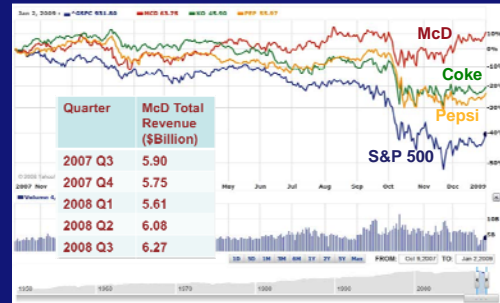
So is the epidemic of childhood obesity really slowing down?

- The prevalence of obesity amongst Whites is decreasing, but amongst Blacks and Latinos (and Asians) is increasing
- Minorities compose an increasing percentage of American children annually
- This JAMA paper analyzed mean data from all ages 2-19; but in the 2-5 year old age range, things are just getting worse

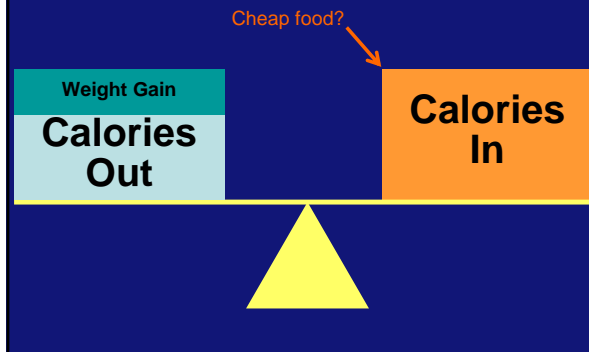


So is the epidemic of childhood obesity really slowing down?

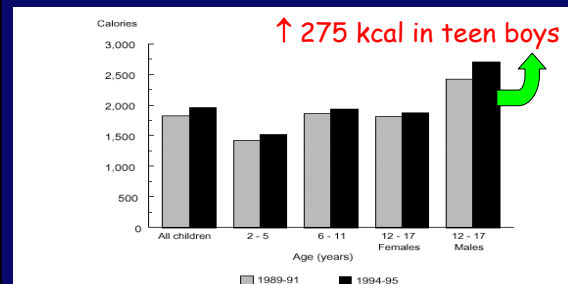
- Despite the economic downturn of 2008, McDonald's revenues and stock price continues to rise; and Coke and Pepsi still fared better than the S&P 500



The First Law of Thermodynamics

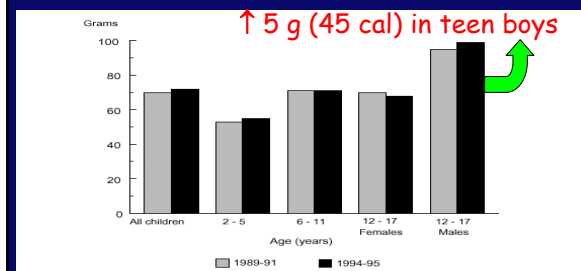


Total Caloric Intake



Children 2-17 yrs, CSFII (USDA) 1989-91 vs. 1994-95
<http://www.usda.gov/cnpp/FENR%20V11N3/fenrv11n3p44.PDF>

Fat Intake: Grams

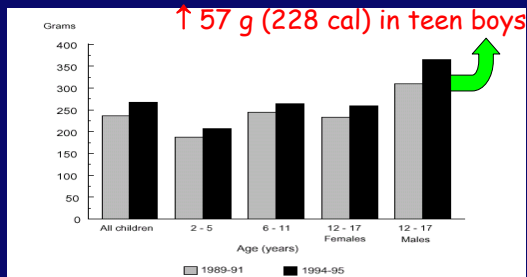


Children 2-17 yrs, CSFII (USDA) 1989-91 vs. 1994-95

Prevalence of Obesity Compared to Percent Calories from Fat Among US Adults

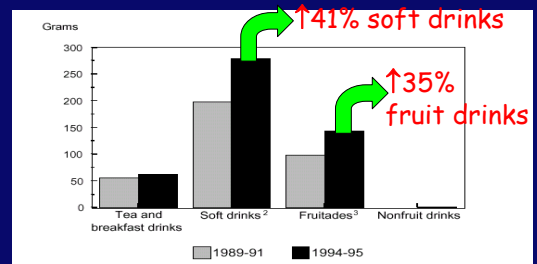


Carbohydrate Intake: Grams



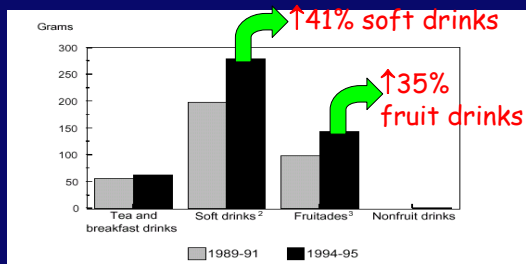
Children 2-17 yrs, CSFII (USDA) 1989-91 vs. 1994-95

Beverage Intake



Children 2-17 yrs, CSFII (USDA) 1989-91 vs. 1994-95

Beverage Intake



Children 2-17 yrs, CSFII (USDA) 1989-91 vs. 1994-95

One can of soda/day = 150 cal x 365 d/yr ÷ 3500 cal/lb = 15.6 lbs/yr

Meta-Analysis of Soft Drinks and Obesity

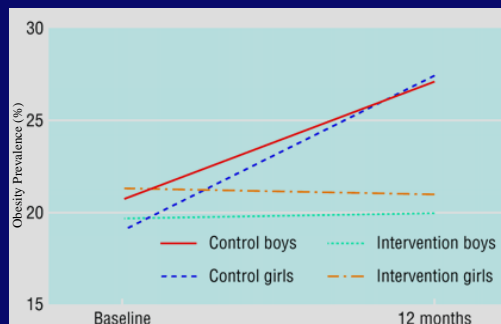
88 cross-sectional and longitudinal studies regressing soft drink consumption with —

- energy intake $r = 0.16$ ($P < 0.001$)
- body weight $r = 0.08$ ($P < 0.001$)
- milk and calcium intake $r = -0.12$ ($P < 0.001$)
- adequate nutrition $r = -0.10$ ($P < 0.001$)

Those studies funded by the beverage industry demonstrated smaller effects than independent studies

Vartanian et al. Am J Public Health epub March 2007; 10.2105/AJPH.2005.083782

Curtailing soft drinks limits childhood obesity



James et al. BMJ 328:1237, 2004

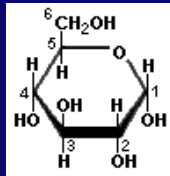
High Fructose Corn Syrup

Current US annual consumption of HFCS

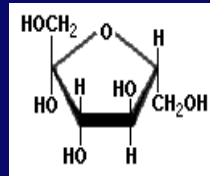
- 63 pounds per person



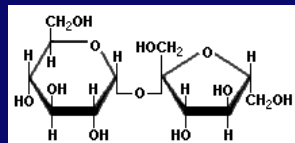
High Fructose Corn Syrup is 42-55% Fructose; Sucrose is 50% Fructose



Glucose



Fructose



Sucrose



Press Release, February 6, 2008

Unlikely Duo Opposes San Francisco Soft Drink Tax Plan
Corn Refiners and CSPI Agree High-Fructose Corn Syrup No Worse Than Sugar

WASHINGTON—The nonprofit Center for Science in the Public Interest has long supported small taxes on soft drinks to help pay for bike paths, nutrition education, and other obesity-prevention programs. But CSPI opposes a measure proposed by San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom because it would tax only drinks made with high-fructose corn syrup and not drinks made with other forms of sugar. Less surprisingly, the Corn Refiners Association also opposes the measure, but the two groups cosigned an unusual joint letter to Mayor Newsom urging him to reconsider his plan.

“We respectfully urge that the proposal be revised as soon as possible to reflect the scientific evidence that demonstrates no material differences in the health effects of high-fructose corn syrup and sugar,” wrote CSPI executive director Michael F. Jacobson and Corn Refiners Association president Audra Erickson. **“The real issue is that excessive consumption of any sugars may lead to health problems.”**

The letter goes on to explain that high-fructose corn syrup and sucrose, or table sugar, are similar in composition and that several studies have shown that the two types of sugars are similarly metabolized by the body.

Secular trend in fructose consumption

Natural consumption of fruits and vegetables

- 15 gm/day

Prior to WWII (estimated):

- 16-24 gm/day

1977-1978 (USDA Nationwide Food Consumption Survey):

- 37 gm/day (8% of total caloric intake)

1994 (NHANES III):

- 54.7 gm/day (10.2% of total caloric intake)

Adolescents:

- 72.8 gm/day (12.1% of total caloric intake)
- 25% consumed at least 15% of calories from fructose

Bray, Am J Clin Nutr 86:895, 2007; Vos et al. Medscape Med J 10:160, 2008

The perfect storm from three political winds

The perfect storm from three political winds

1. Richard Nixon and USDA Secretary Earl Butz (1973)

- food should never be an issue in a presidential election

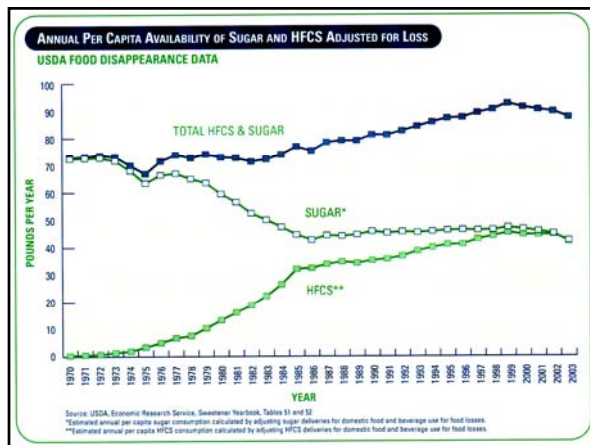
The perfect storm from three political winds

1. Richard Nixon and USDA Secretary Earl Butz (1973)
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2. The advent of High Fructose Corn Syrup
 - invented in 1966 in Japan
 - introduced to the American market in 1975

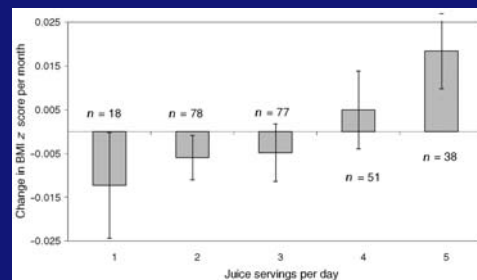
Influence of corn sweeteners on the price of sugar



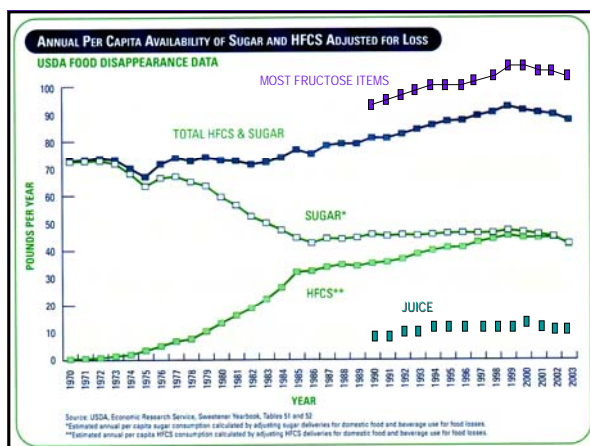
U.S. Department of Agriculture



Juice is sucrose: Change in BMI z-score in lower socioeconomic status children versus number of fruit juice servings per day



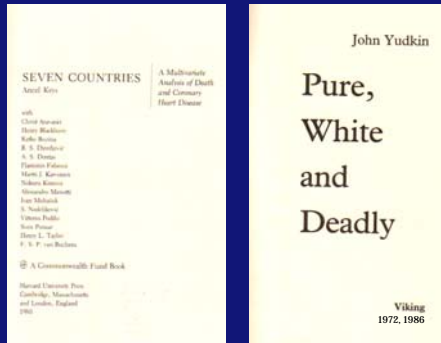
Faith MS et al. Pediatrics 118:2066, 2006



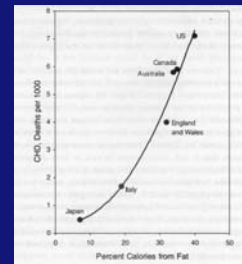
The perfect storm from three political winds

1. Richard Nixon and USDA Secretary Earl Butz (1973)
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2. The advent of High Fructose Corn Syrup
 - invented in 1966 in Japan
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3. The USDA, AMA, and AHA call for dietary fat reduction
 - Early 1970's: discovery of LDL
 - Mid 1970's: Dietary fat raises LDL (A → B)
 - Late 1970's: LDL correlated with CVD (B → C)
 - 1982: If A → B, and B → C, then A → C, therefore no A, no C

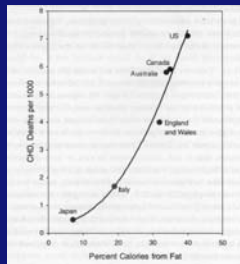
The macronutrient wars 1970-1980



Seven Countries Correlation of CHD with dietary fat



Seven Countries Correlation of CHD with dietary fat



Page 262:
Diet

The fact that the incidence rate of coronary heart disease was significantly correlated with the average percentage of calories from sucrose in the diets is explained by the intercorrelation of sucrose with saturated fat. Partial correlation analysis shows that with saturated fat constant there was no significant correlation between dietary sucrose and the incidence of coronary heart disease. Comparisons of coronary death rates with estimates of national diets in international studies indicate a strong correlation between sucrose and CHD.

The low-fat craze

The content of low-fat home-cooked food can be controlled

But low-fat processed food means substitution with carbohydrate

Which carbohydrate?

Either

- High fructose corn syrup (55% fructose)
- Sucrose (50% fructose)

e.g. Nabisco Snackwells® Oreos
(—2g fat, +13g CHO (+4g sugars))

Adulteration of our food supply

Addition of fructose

- palatability (esp. with decreased fat)
- browning agent

Removal of fiber

- shelf life
- freezing

Substitution of trans-fats

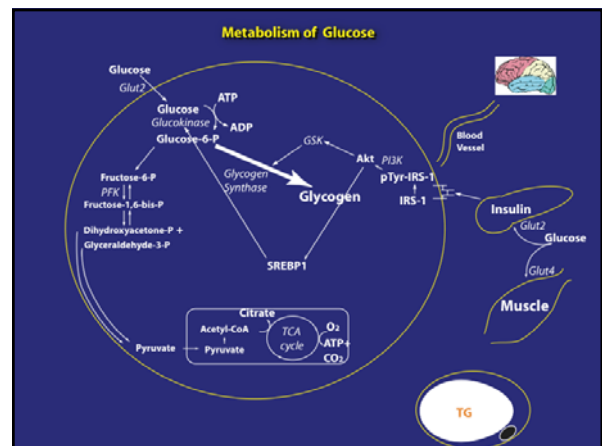
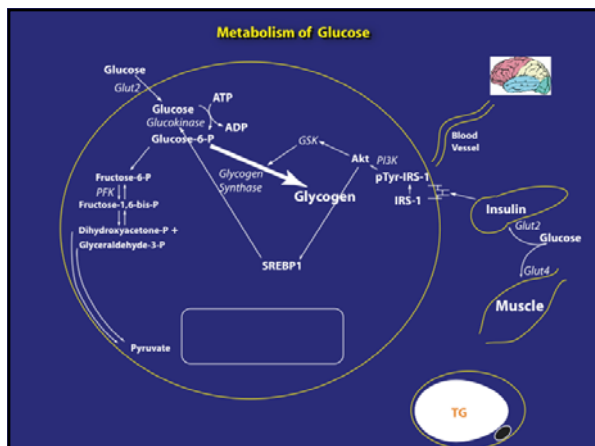
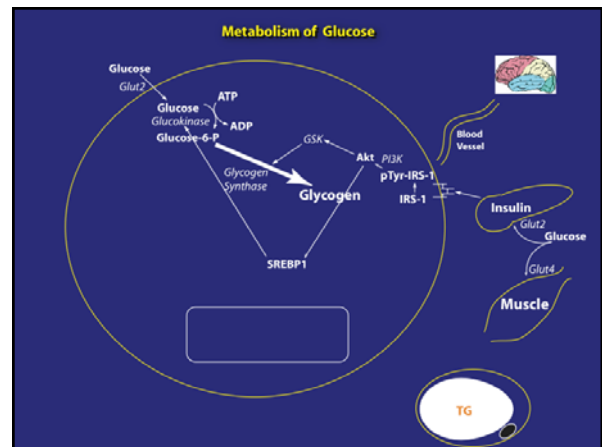
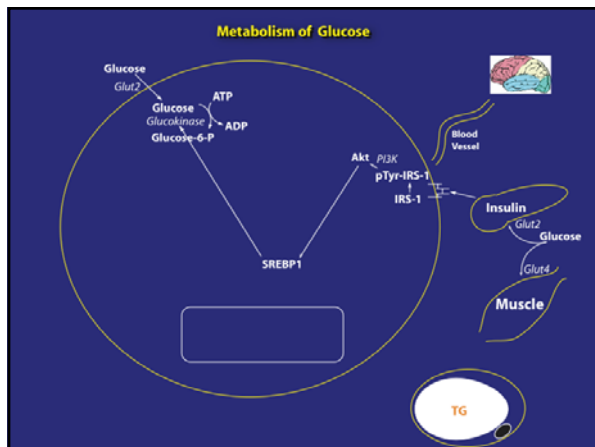
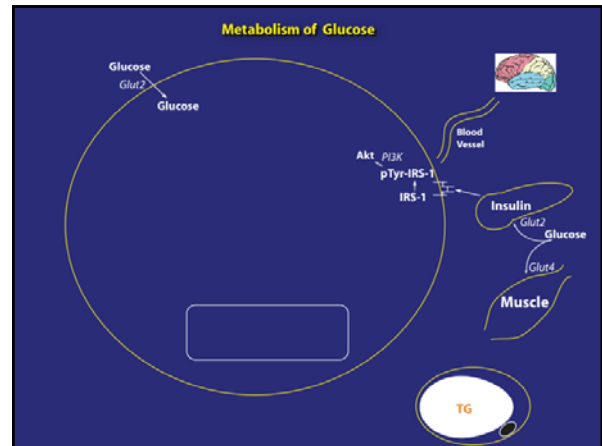
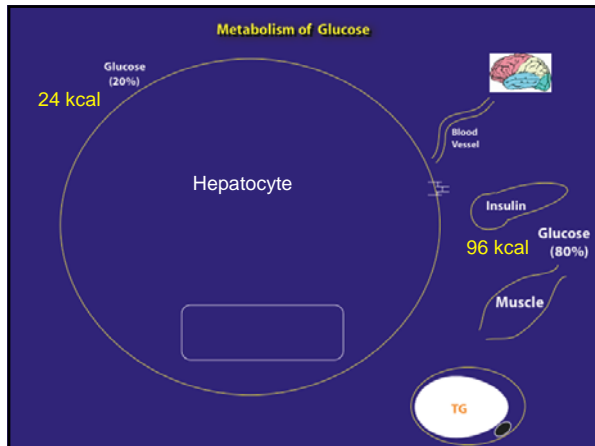
- hardening agent, shelf life
- now being removed due to CVD risk

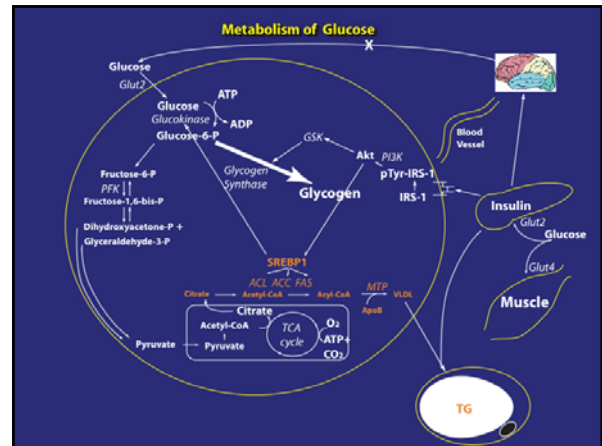
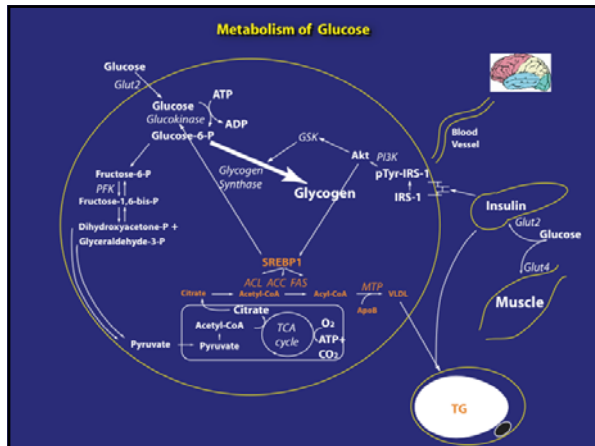
Fructose is not glucose

- Fructose is 7 times more likely than glucose to form Advanced Glycation End-Products (AGE's)
- Fructose does not suppress ghrelin
- Acute fructose does not stimulate insulin (or leptin)
- Hepatic fructose metabolism is different
- **Chronic fructose exposure promotes the Metabolic Syndrome**

Elliot et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 2002
Bray et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 2004
Teff et al. J Clin Endocrinol Metab. 2004
Gaby. Alt Med Rev. 2005

Le and Tappy. Curr Opin Clin Nutr Metab Care. 2006
Wei et al. J Nutr Biochem. 2006
Johnson et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 2007
Rutledge and Adeli. Nutr Rev. 2007
Brown et al. Int. J. Obes. 2008





Ethanol is a carbohydrate

Ethanol is a carbohydrate



Ethanol is a carbohydrate

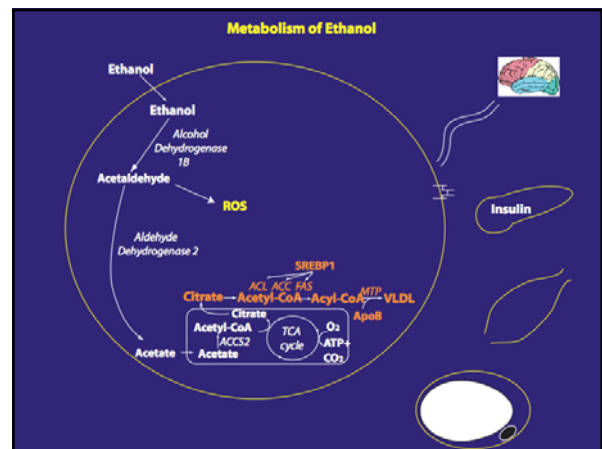
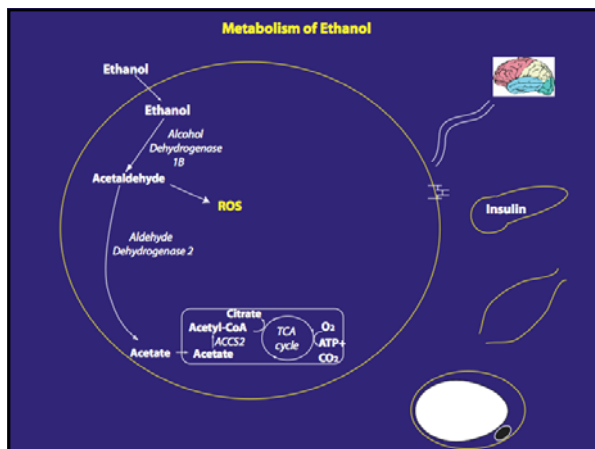
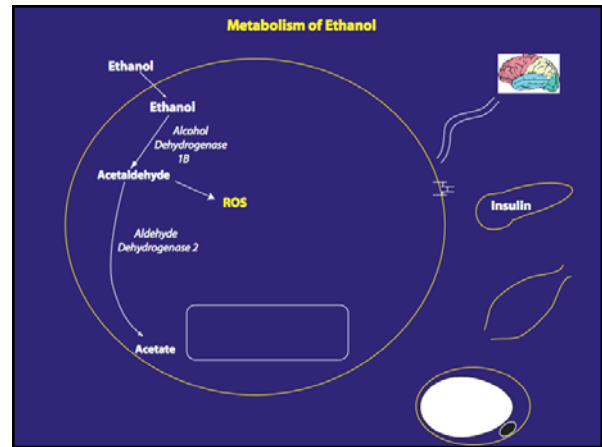
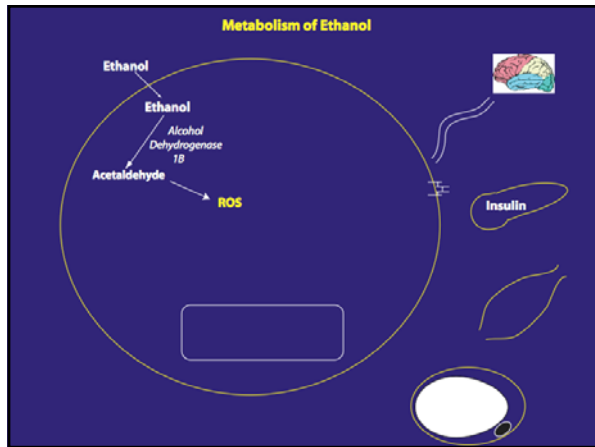
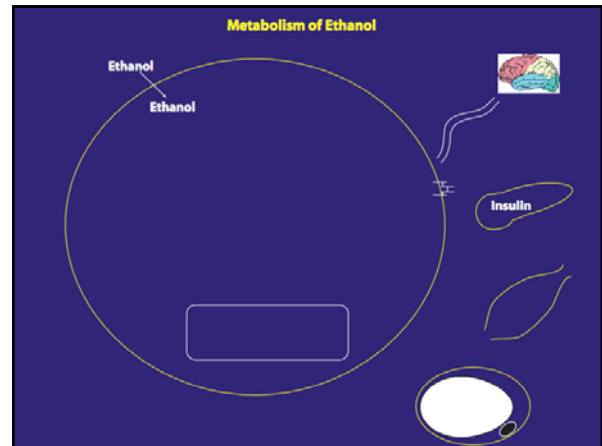
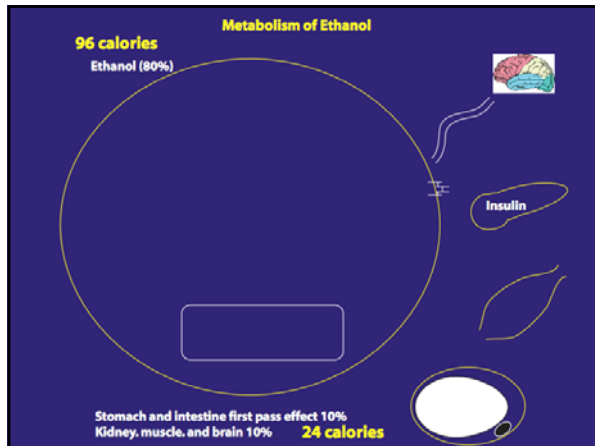


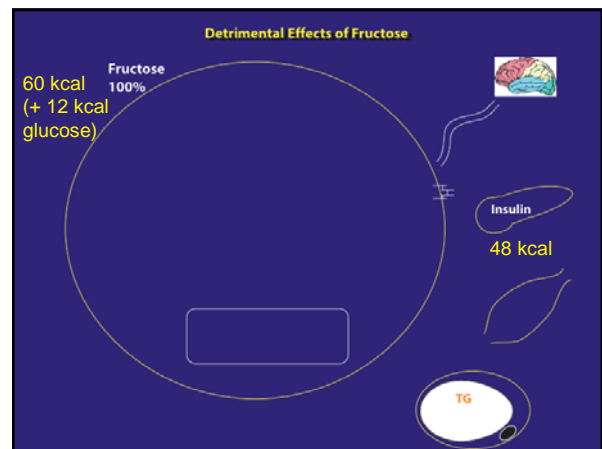
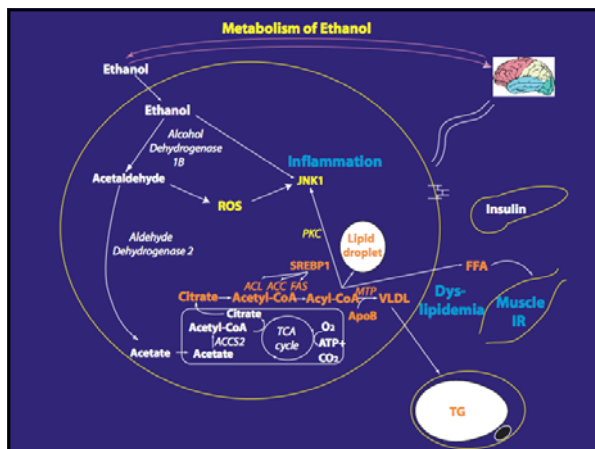
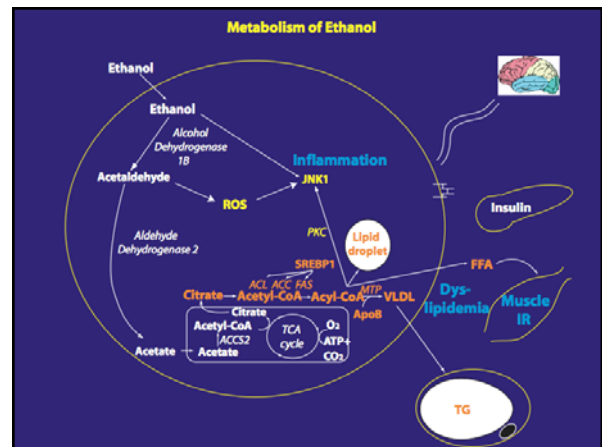
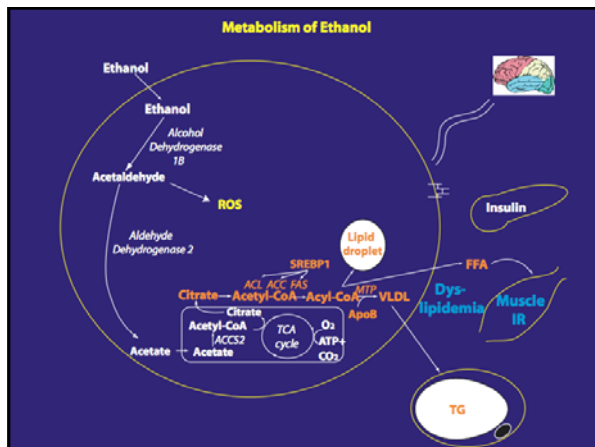
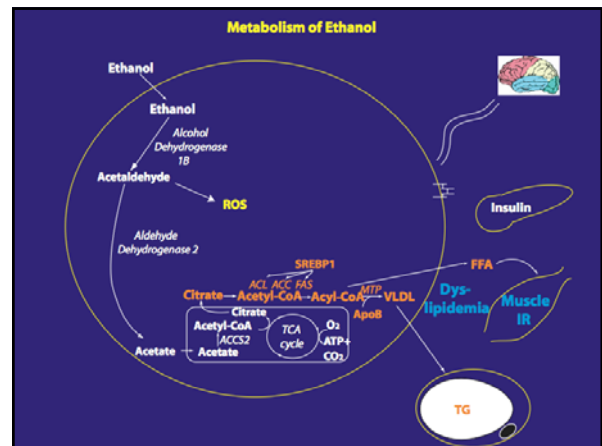
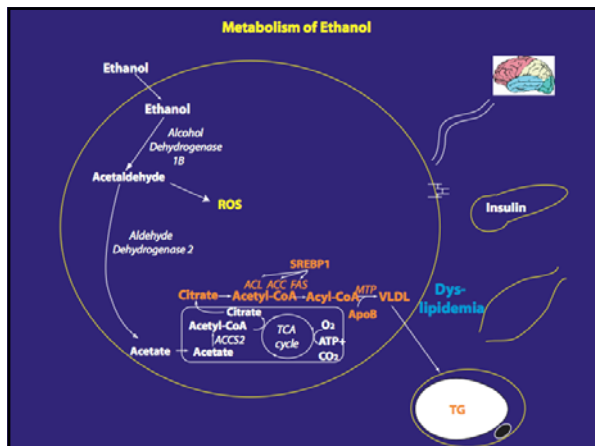
But ethanol is also a toxin

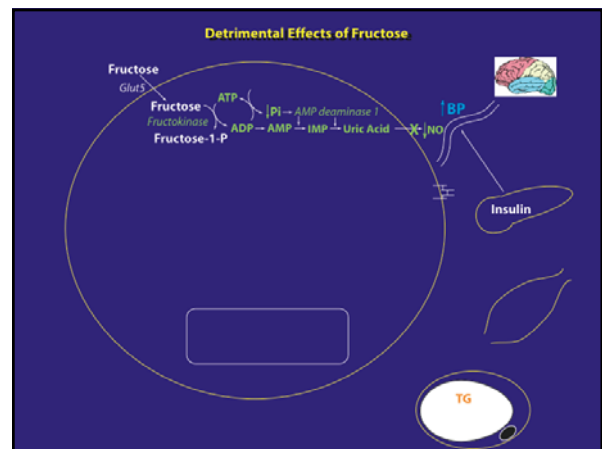
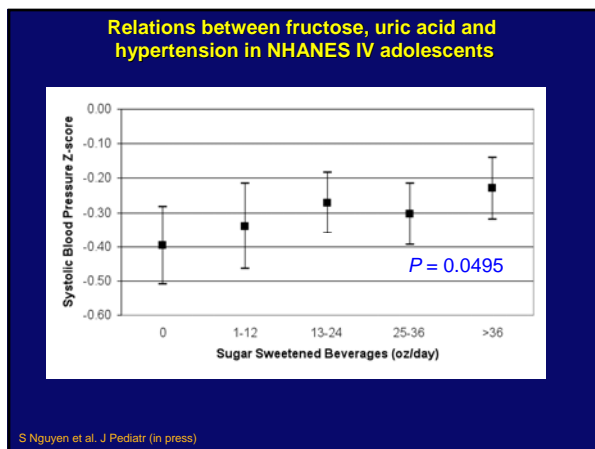
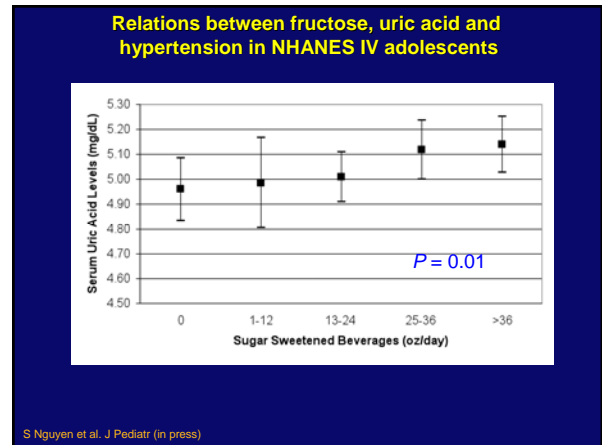
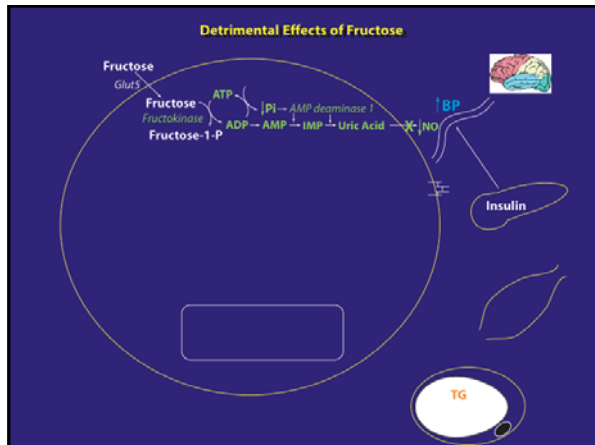
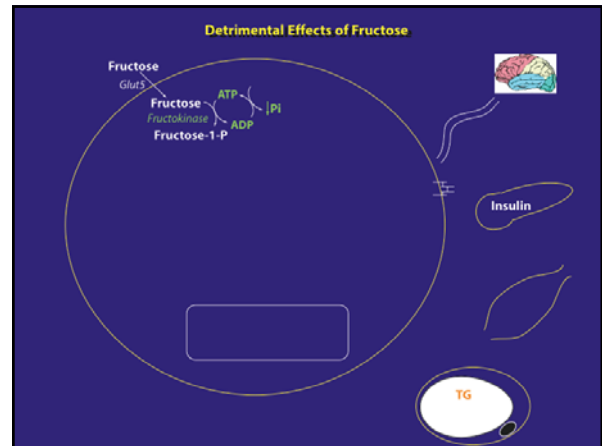
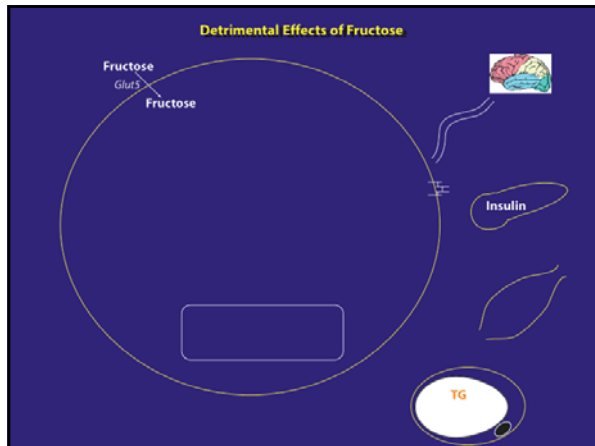
Acute ethanol exposure

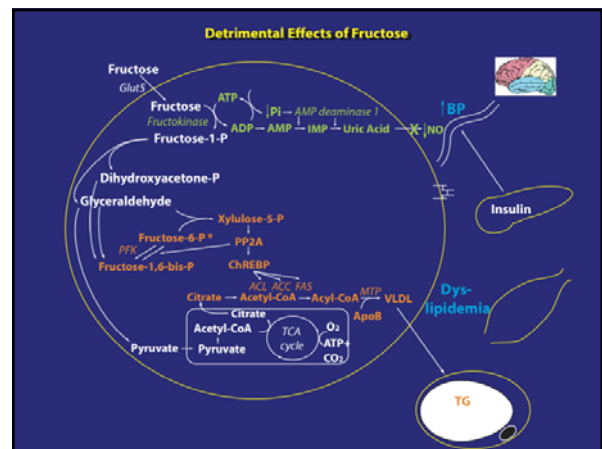
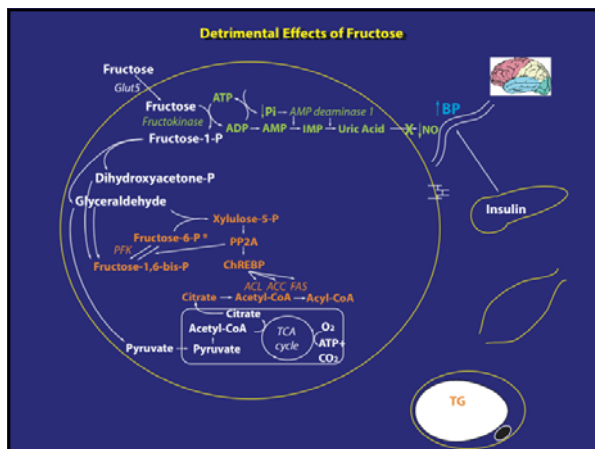
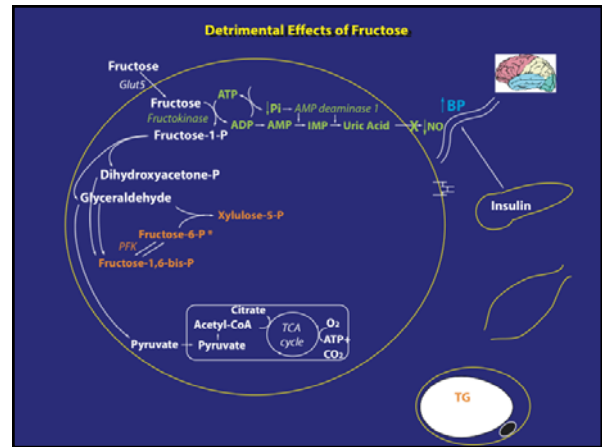
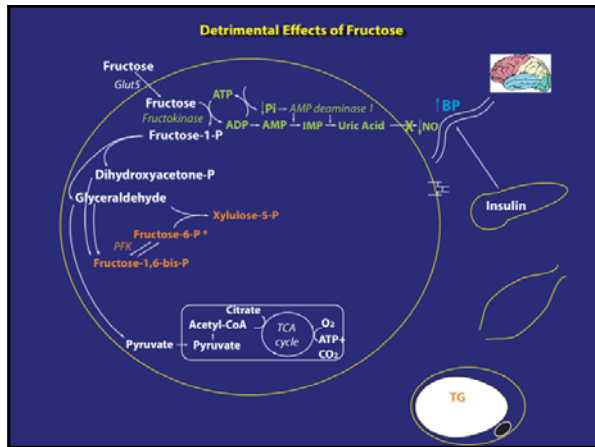
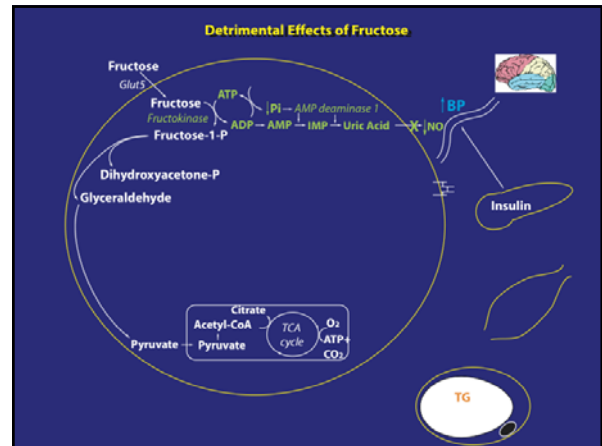
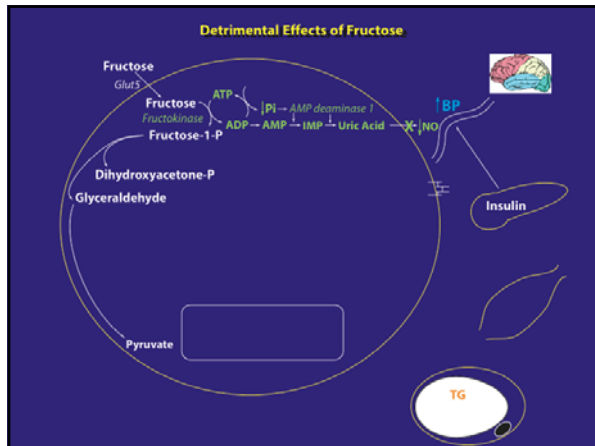
- CNS depression
- Vasodilatation, decreased BP
- Hypothermia
- Tachycardia
- Myocardial depression
- Variable pupillary responses
- Respiratory depression
- Diuresis
- Hypoglycemia
- Loss of fine motor control

Acute fructose exposure

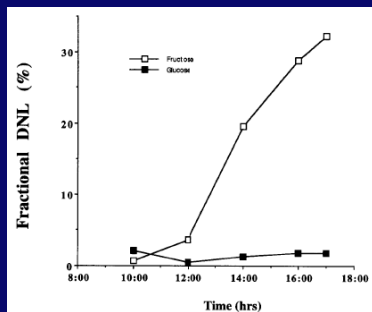






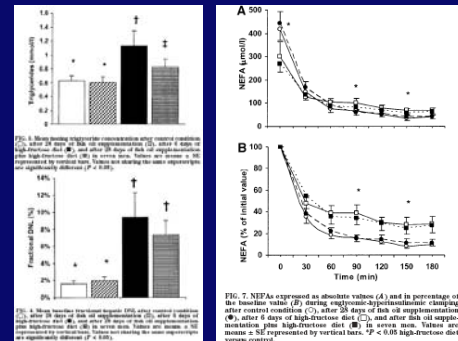


Fructose increases de novo lipogenesis in normal adults

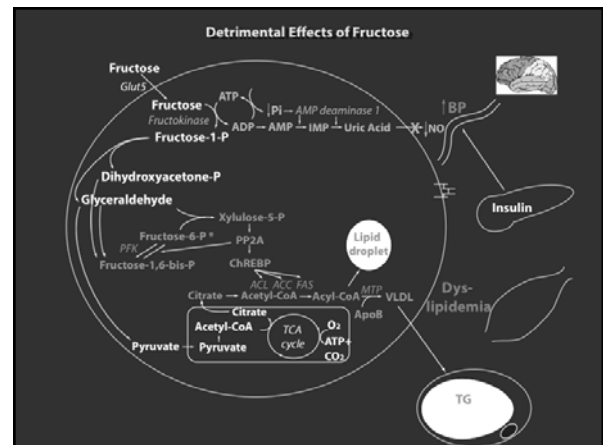
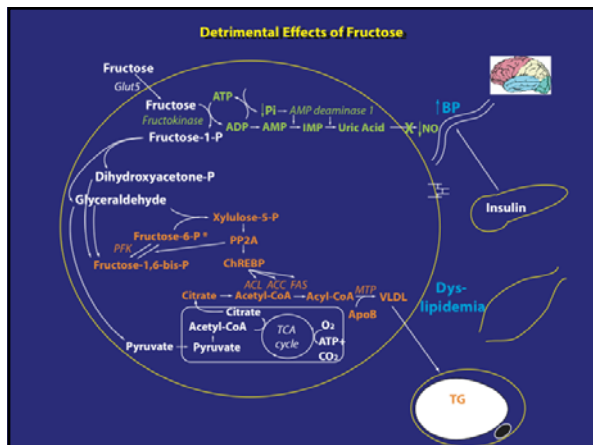


Hellerstein et al. Ann Rev Nutr 16:523, 1996

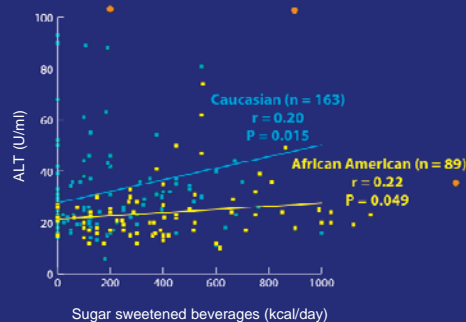
Fructose increases de novo lipogenesis, triglycerides and free fatty acids in normal adults



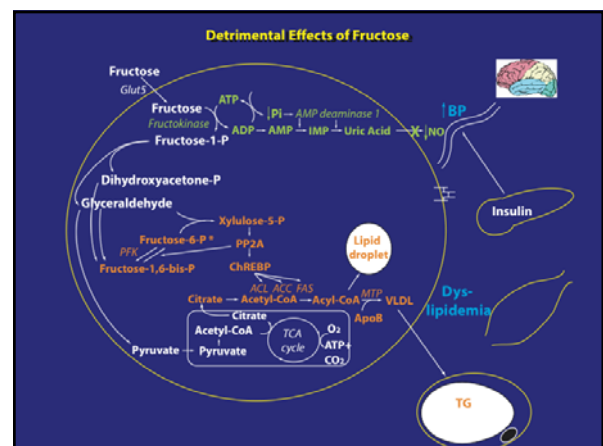
Faeh and Schwarz, Diabetes 54:1907, 2005

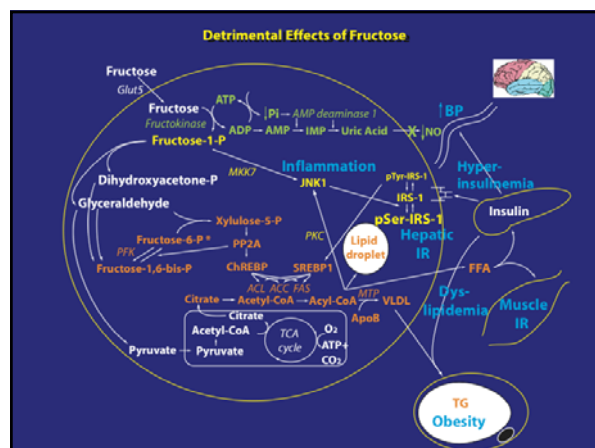
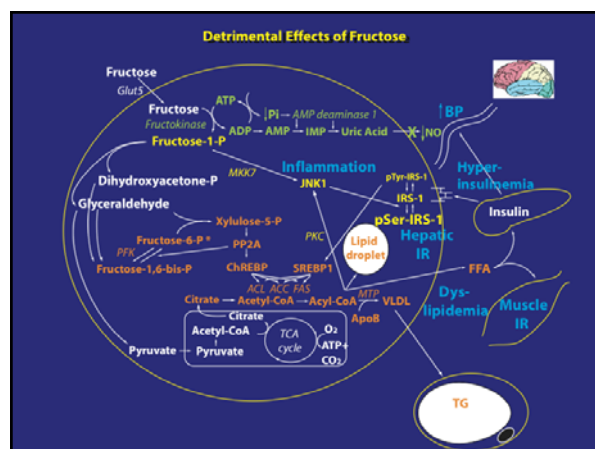
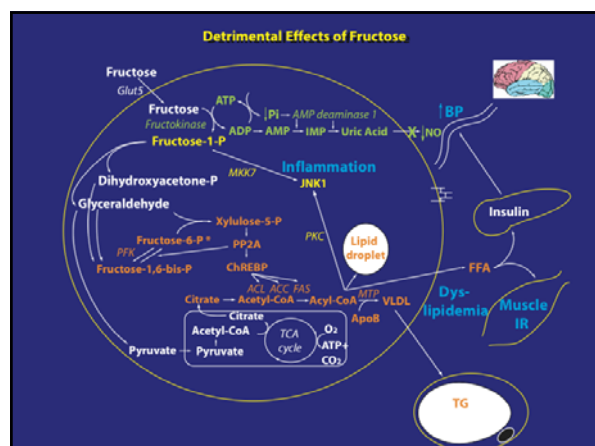


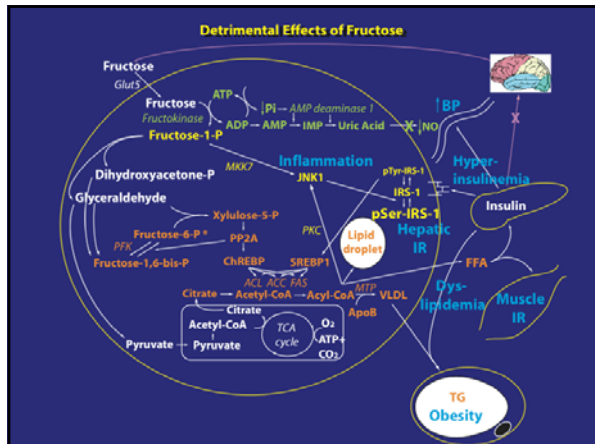
Associations between sugar sweetened beverage consumption and ALT in obese children



Valente et al. (unpublished)







Why is exercise important in obesity?

Because it burns calories?

Why is exercise important in obesity?

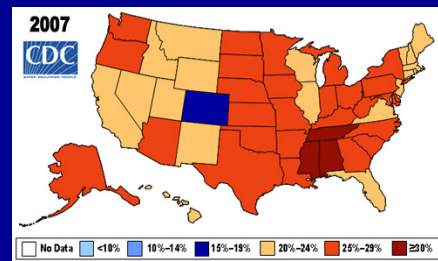
Because it burns calories?

Because it improves skeletal muscle insulin sensitivity

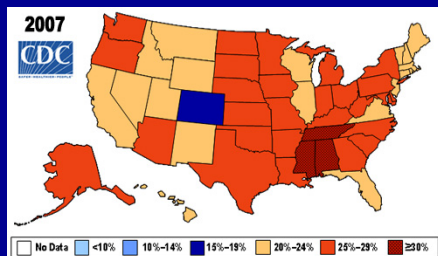
Because it reduces stress, and resultant cortisol release

Because it makes the TCA cycle run faster, and detoxifies fructose, improving hepatic insulin sensitivity

So what's with Colorado?



So what's with Colorado?



Four factors increase the hepatic TCA cycle

Cold
Altitude
Thyroid hormone
Exercise

Why is fiber important in obesity?

Why is fiber important in obesity?

"When G-d made the poison, he packaged it with the antidote."

Why is fiber important in obesity?

"When G-d made the poison, he packaged it with the antidote."

Fiber:

1. Reduces rate of intestinal carbohydrate absorption, reducing insulin response
2. Increases speed of transit of intestinal contents to ileum, to raise PYY₃₋₃₆ and induce satiety
3. Inhibits absorption of some free fatty acids to the colon, which are metabolized by colonic bacteria to short-chain fatty acids (SCFA), which suppress insulin

Chronic ethanol exposure

- Hematologic disorders
- Electrolyte abnormalities
- Hypertension
- Cardiac dilatation
- Cardiomyopathy
- Dyslipidemia
- Pancreatitis
- Malnutrition
- Obesity
- Hepatic dysfunction (ASH)
- Fetal alcohol syndrome
- Addiction

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- Addiction

Chronic fructose exposure

- Hypertension
- Myocardial infarction
- Dyslipidemia
- Pancreatitis (2° dyslipidemia)
- Obesity
- Hepatic dysfunction (NASH)
- Fetal insulin resistance
- Habituation, if not addiction

What's the difference?



Calories	150	150
Percent CHO	10.5% (sucrose)	3.6% (alcohol)
Calories from		
fructose	75 (4.1 kcal/gm)	
other carbs	75 (glucose)	60 (maltose)
alcohol		90 (7 kcal/gm)
1st pass GI metabolism	0%	10%
Calories reaching liver	90	92

What's the difference?



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Percent CHO	10.5% (sucrose)	3.6% (alcohol)
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(corollary: a low fat diet isn't really low fat,
because the fructose/sucrose doubles as fat)

Fructose is a carbohydrate

Fructose is metabolized like fat

Fructose is also a toxin

Summary

- Fructose (sucrose vs. HFCS) consumption has increased in the past 30 years, coinciding with the obesity epidemic
- A calorie is not a calorie, and fructose is not glucose
- You are not what you eat, you are what you **DO** with what you eat
- Hepatic fructose metabolism leads to all the manifestations of the **Metabolic Syndrome**:
 - hypertension
 - de novo lipogenesis, dyslipidemia, and hepatic steatosis
 - inflammation
 - hepatic insulin resistance
 - obesity
 - hyperglycemia
 - CNS leptin resistance, promoting reward and continuous consumption
- Fructose is a dose-dependent chronic hepatotoxin (it's "alcohol without the buzz")

**Childhood Obesity 2010:
The next generation in prevention and
management**

- SF Childhood Obesity Task Force
- Sponsored by SF Dept. of Public Health
- Training Day for Childhood Obesity
- Saturday, Feb. 27, 2010, 8AM-5PM
- Milton Marks Auditorium (Civic Center)
- State of the art
- Theory, and tools to use in practice
- CME offered

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