The background of the slide features a large, brown, ribbed dome of a mosque on the left side. In the distance, there are blue, misty mountains under a sky with soft, white clouds. On the right side, there are dark green, leafy branches of a tree or shrub. The overall scene is a serene landscape with architectural elements.

# Is Type 2 Diabetes Preventable, Curable, or both?

**Professor Mike Lean**

Universities of Glasgow & Otago, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015
















 ID KAHANDAMAN DI  
GUNTING B. LAGADAN  
HUGUAN MANANANUD  
ID NULUHON KINABALU  
1888 - 1966

**TAMAN  
KINABALU  
LOW'S PEAK  
( 4095.2 M )**



**SERVICE TO ALL HUMANITY**  
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3310













## NOTICE

KINABALU

SABAH PARKS REGULATIONS REQUIRED THAT ALL PERSON INTENDING TO CLIMB TO THE SUMMIT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTERED MOUNTAIN GUIDE.

## WARNING

MEMPUNYAI

DO NOT CLIMB IF YOU ARE SUFFERING FORM OR HAVE A HISTORY OF THE FOLLOWING AILMENTS :-

YANG BOLEH  
AN YANG SEJUK,  
GI.

- ( 1 ) HEART DISEASE
- ( 2 ) HYPERTENSION
- ( 3 ) CRONIC ASTHMA
- ( 4 ) PEPTIC ULSER
- ( 5 ) SEVERE ANEMIA
- ( 6 ) DIABETES
- ( 7 ) EPILEPTIC FITS
- ( 8 ) ARTHRITIS
- ( 9 ) PALPITATION
- (10 ) HEPATITIS (JAUNDICE )

- ( 11 ) MUSCULAR CRAMPS
- ( 12 ) OBESITY (OVER WEIGHT )
- ( 13 ) ANY OTHER SICKNESS THAT MAY BE TRIGGERED BY SEVERE COLD, EXERTION, AND HIGH ALTITUDE.



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KINABALU






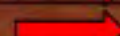


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# What do people with diabetes actually want?

- **To forget about it.....  
....to not be diabetic?**

**???**

- Less complications?
- Feel better?
- Less anxiety?
- Weight loss?
- Less problematic issues?

Drugs? **Diet**

Less drugs (**Diet**)

Less drugs & hypos (**Diet**)

**Diet**

**Diet** (Grant et al, Adelaide)



Life-expectancy is **still** reduced 6-10 years by T2DM, despite all our drug treatments

Age (years)	England life expectancy (2005–2007) males (yrs)	T2DM life expectancy (2000–2007) males (yrs)	England life expectancy (2005–2007) females (yrs)	T2DM life expectancy (2000–2007) females (yrs)
0	77.65	69.58	81.82	71.91
30	48.59	39.86	52.44	41.16
40	39.08	30.82	42.71	32.04
50	29.85	23.14	33.26	24.68
60	21.24	16.92	24.28	17.69
70	13.70	12.60	16.05	12.06
80	7.74	5.98	9.17	7.64
90	3.96	3.68	4.49	6.44



# Risk-reduction with current guideline treatment of T2DM (polypharmacy) **Maximum possible =15%**

Echouffo-Tcheugui, Sargeant, Prevost, Williams, Baring, Butler\*, Fanshawe, Kinmonth, Wareham & Griffin (Diabetic Medicine 2008)

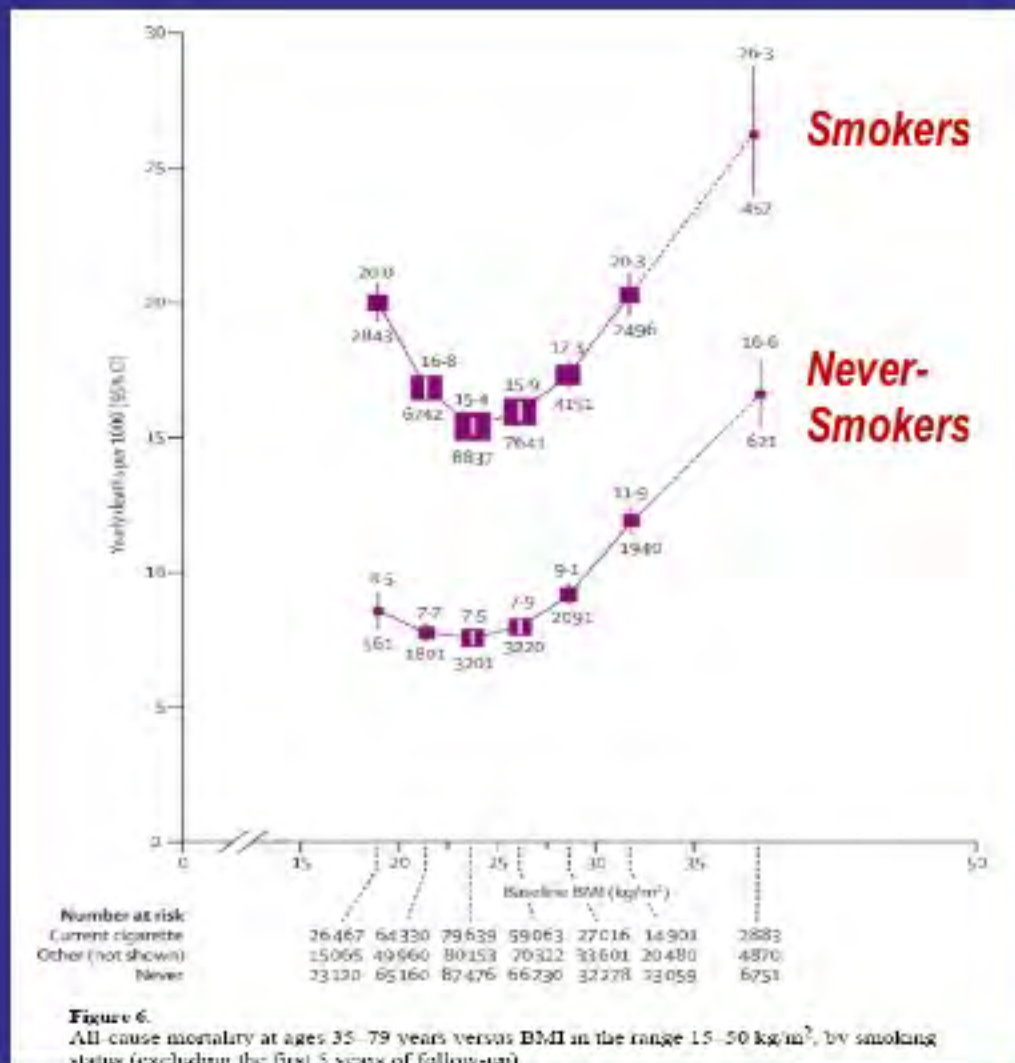
Model of the effect of treatment combinations	Absolute risk reduction (or risk difference)	
	Estimate (%)	Range
Absolute risk calculated with UKPDS engine		
No additive effect: single most effective treatment (lipid-lowering therapy)	7.2	4.9–9.5
Additive effect of glucose, lipid- and blood pressure-lowering therapies	15.2	13.2–16.9
Additive effect of glucose-, lipid-, blood pressure-lowering therapies and aspirin	18.0	16.7–19.5
Absolute risk calculated with Framingham equation		
No additive effect: single most effective treatment (lipid-lowering therapy)	8.0	5.4–10.5
Additive effect of glucose-, lipid- and blood pressure-lowering therapies	16.9	14.6–18.8
Additive effect of glucose-, lipid-, blood pressure-lowering therapies and aspirin	20.0	18.4–21.6

**NB: Aspirin does not prevent new CHD in T2DM. Belch et al, BMJ 2008**

# Mortality by BMI (general population)

Influence of weight loss on mortality is complicated, especially over long times:

Intentional  
vs  
Unintentional

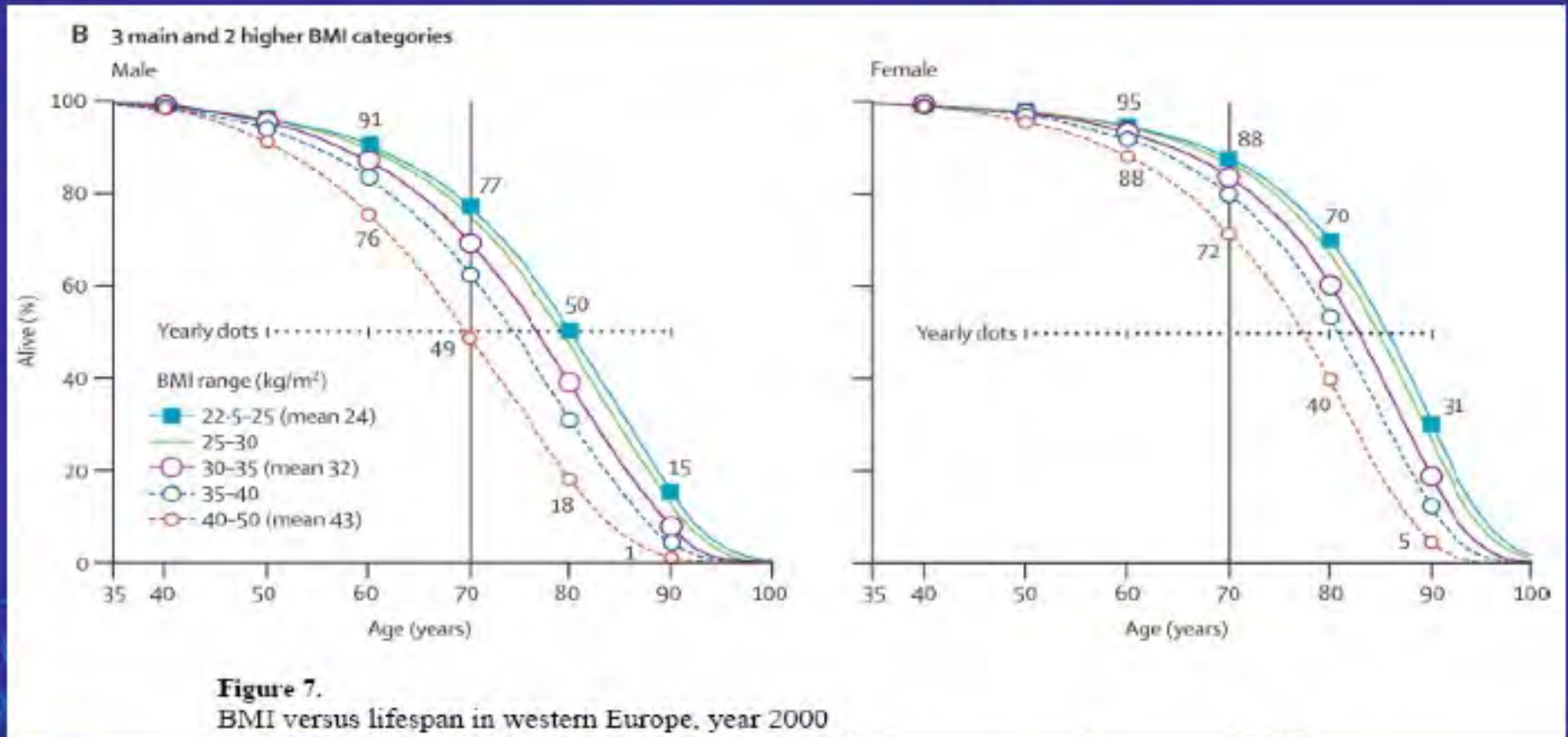




# Life expectancy is reduced by obesity:

**BMI 30-35: reduced 2-4 years**

**BMI 40-50: reduced 8-10 years**



Prospective Studies Collaboration (Whitlock et al)  
Lancet 2009 (cf, Fontaine et al 2003)

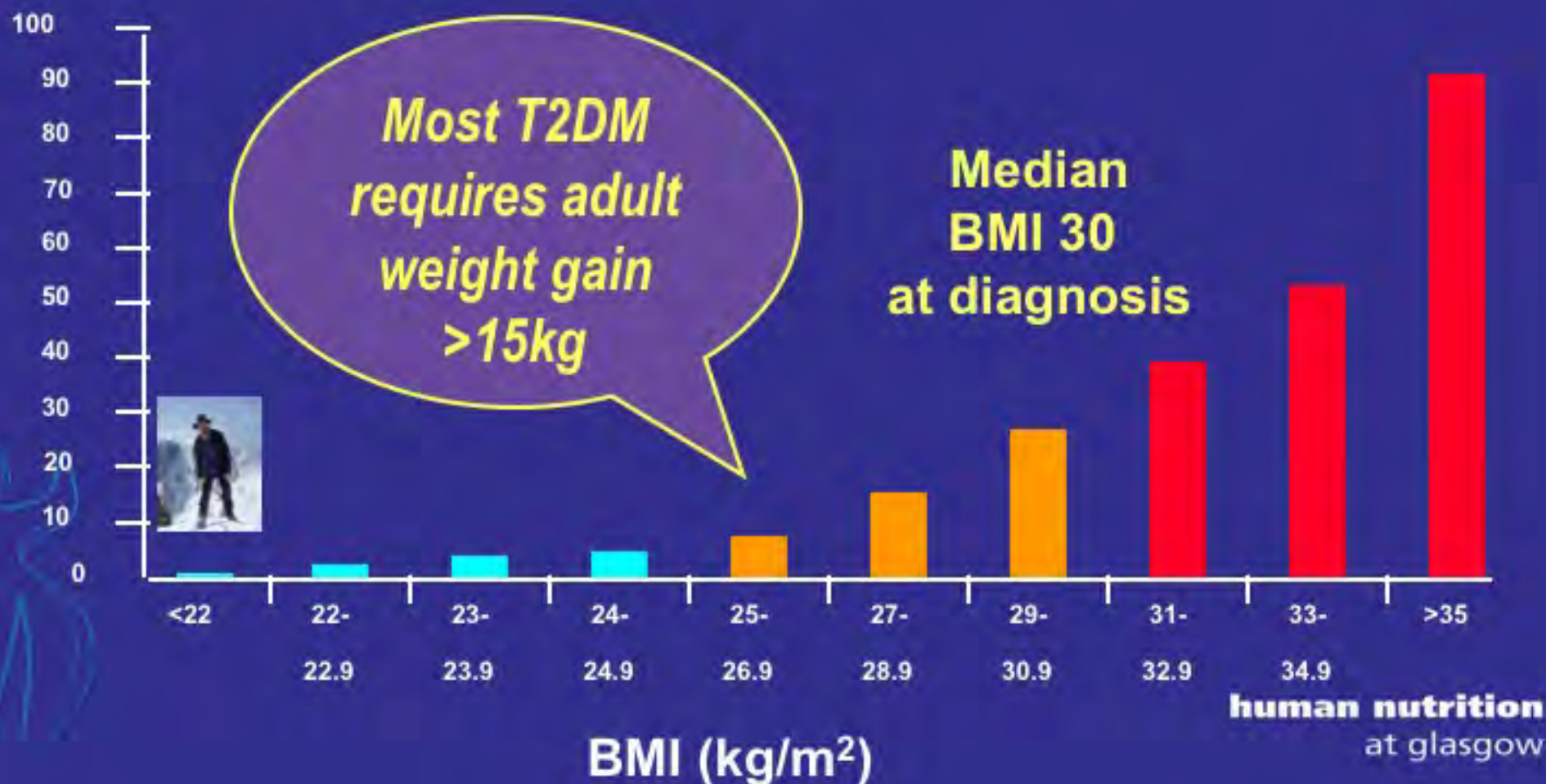
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# Weight gain/ obesity is the main cause of T2DM - and necessary, whatever the genes: High BMI

Colditz GA et al. Ann Int Med, 1995

## Adjusted RR

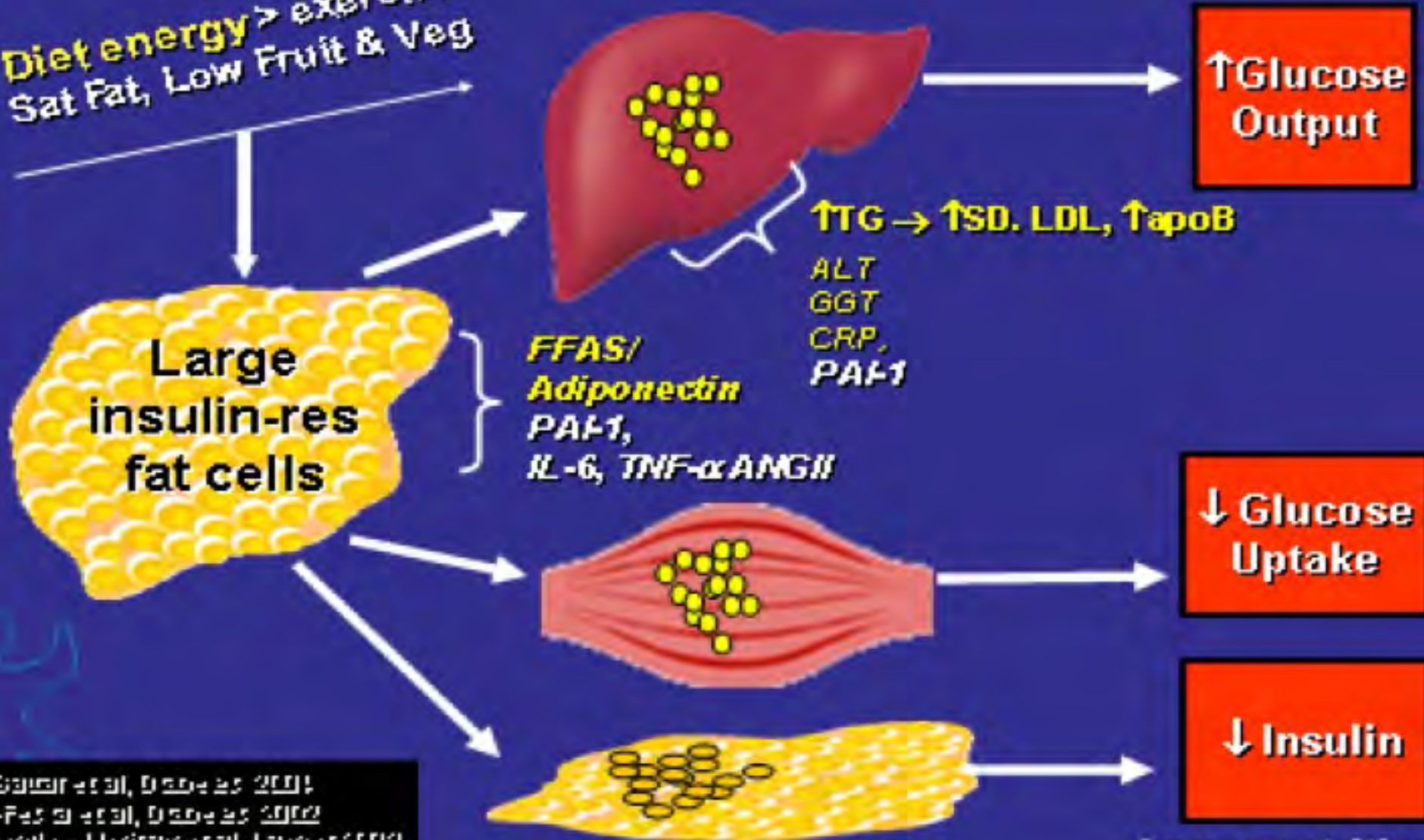
(BMI <22 = referent)





# Excess fat in key organs – precursor to diabetes

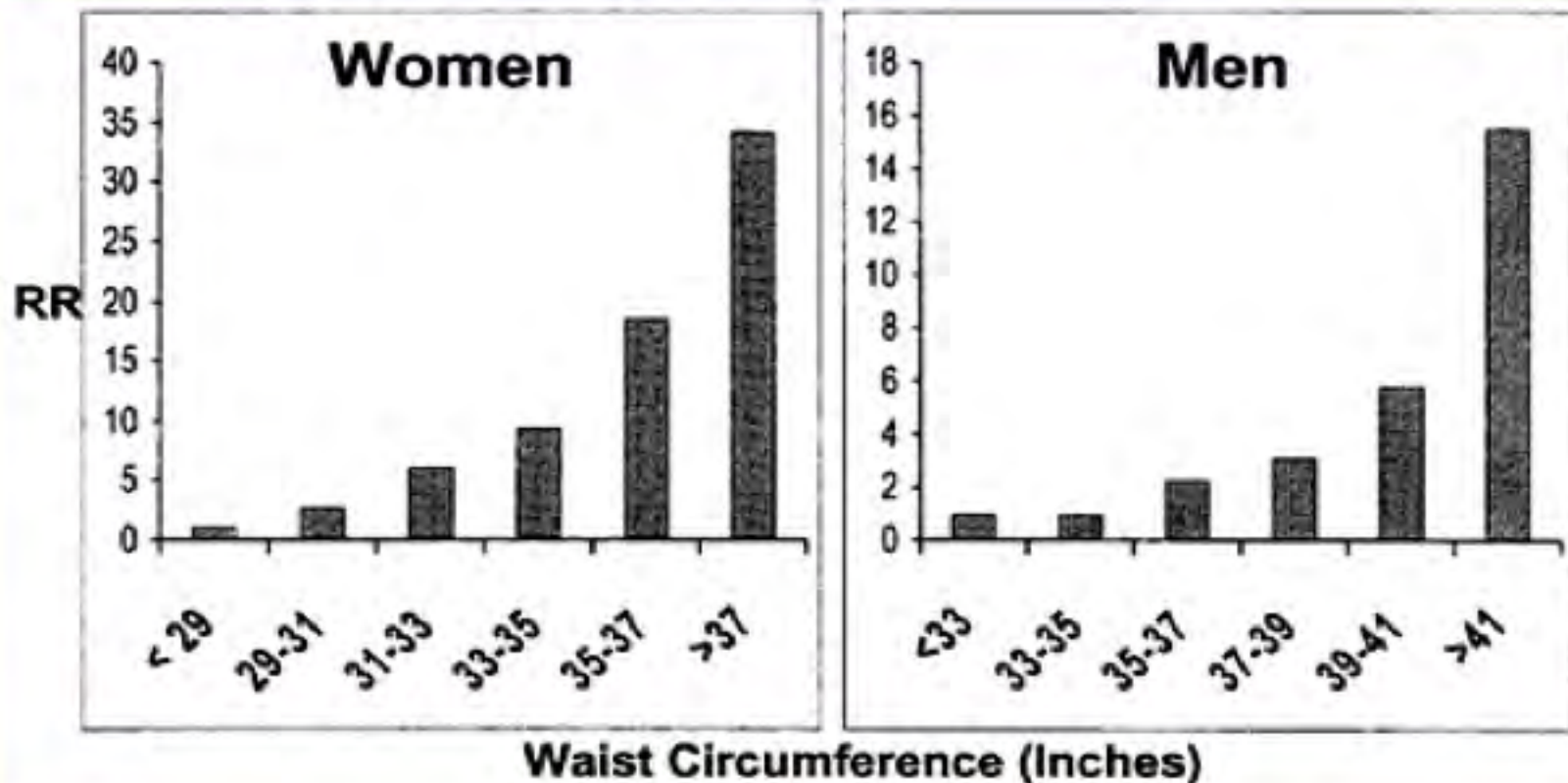
Diet energy > exercise  
 Sat Fat, Low Fruit & Veg



ALT - Sattar et al, Diabetes 2004  
 PAI-1 - Fesli et al, Diabetes 2002  
 Adiponectin - Lindqvist et al, Lancet 2002  
 La Wier, Sattar et al, PLoS  
 Sattar Clin Lab Liver

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# Large waist circumference promotes Type 2 Diabetes (even with normal BMI)

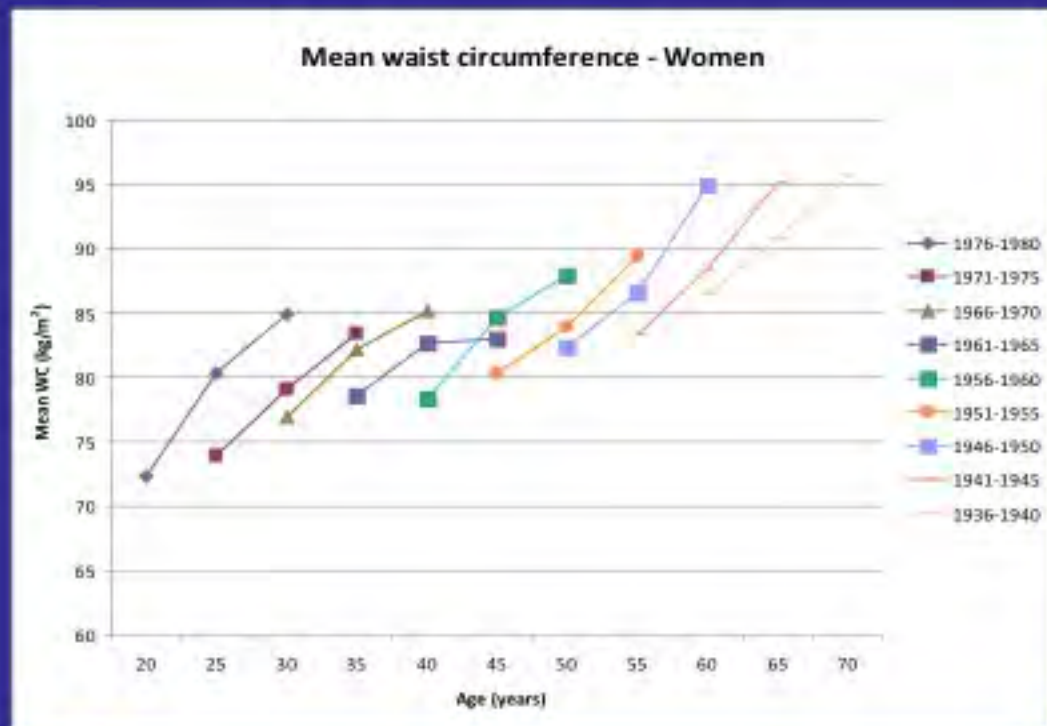
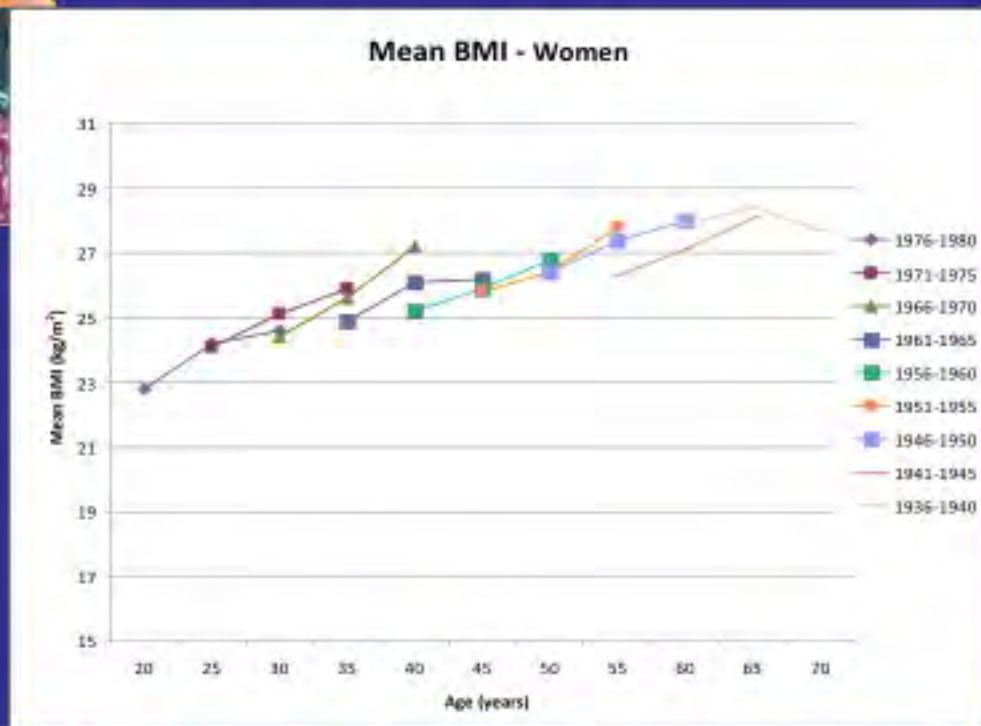


Source: J Womens Health © 2003 Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.



# Changing shapes as people age

## Scottish Health Surveys 1998-2008



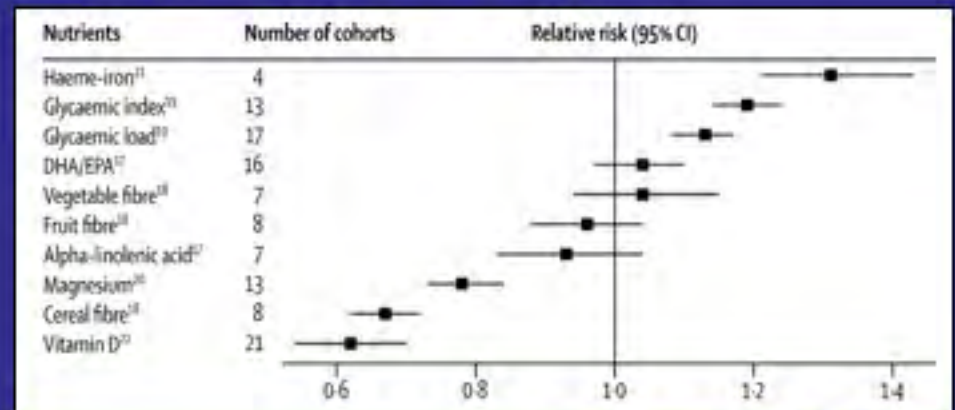
**Women are continuing to get fatter even when Weight/BMI is not increasing much - 'Sarcopenic Obesity'**

Lean et al, Int J Obesity 2012

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# Diabetes Prevention: weight control is vital

- DPP and DPS: mean 4kg weight loss and exercise prevented most progression from IGT to T2DM (57% prevented)
  - Weight loss is the dominant element (Torgerson, XENDOS trial)
  - No need for LELD/VLED
- Additional diabetes prevention
  - Regular physical activity (increase type-1 muscle fibres)
  - Low saturated fat diet
  - Fruit and vegetables
  - Magnesium
  - Cereal fibre
  - Low GI





# The Counterweight Project

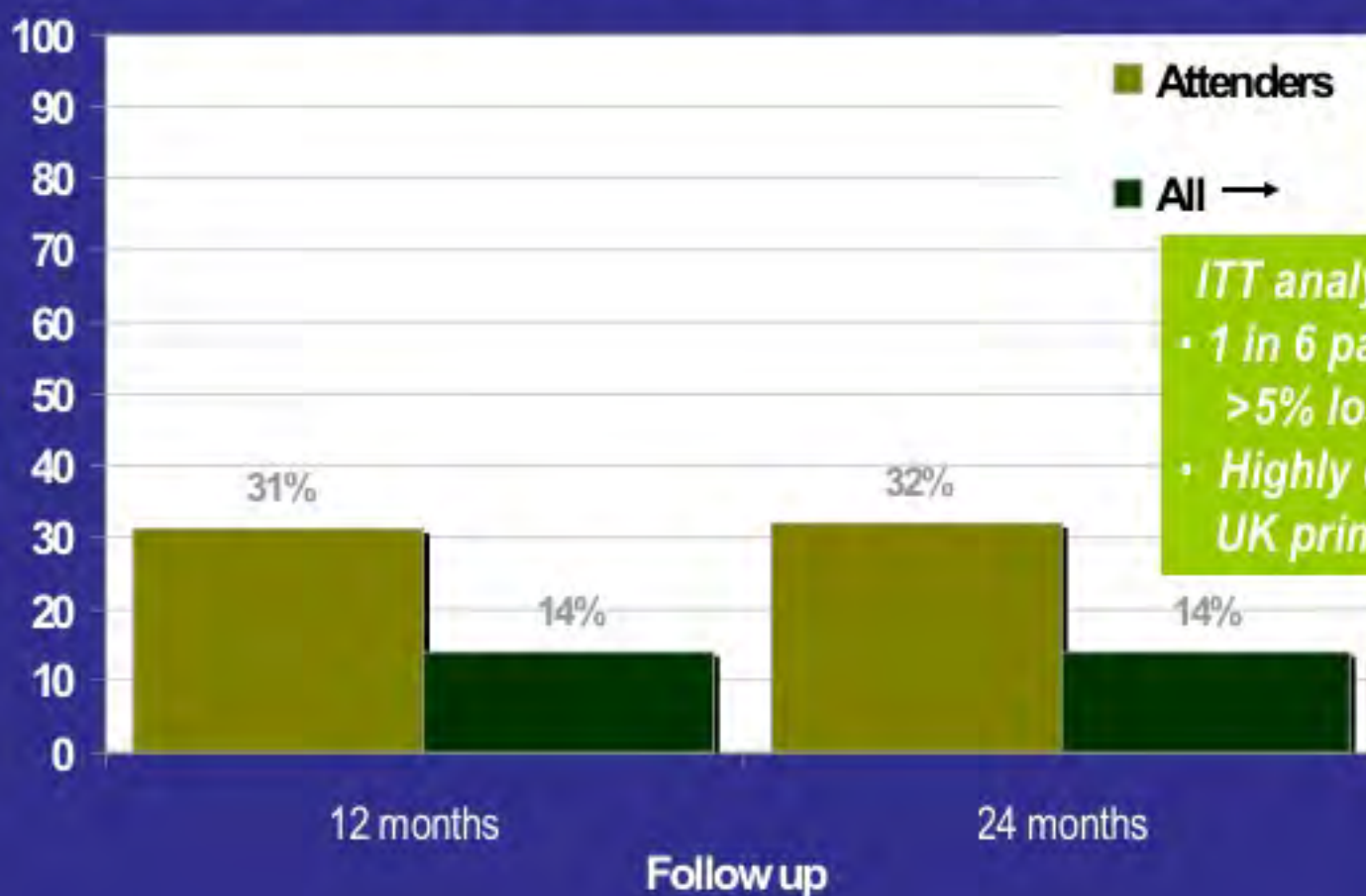


(Kai-zen)

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# Counterweight: evidence-based multi-faceted programme achieving targets in real life

Ross et al, *Br J Gen Practice*. 2008; Lean et al, *Int J Clin Practice* 2010



*ITT analysis*

- 1 in 6 patients achieved >5% loss at 12m & 24m
- Highly cost-efficient in UK primary care


% achieving  
≥5% wt loss  
target





## How good are the Counterweight results?

- Original Evaluation:  
(n = 1906)  
1 in 6 maintain >5% weight loss  
at 12 or 24 months (1 in 3 attenders)
  - Scottish Govt. Evaluation:  
(n = 6715)  
1 in 10 maintain >5% weight loss  
at 12 months (1 in 3 attenders)
- c.f. Smoking Cessation  
1 in 14 quit at 12 months



***What do patients actually  
want to lose? (And doctors)***

***'2 or 3 stones' (15-21kg)***


# Counterweight: evidence-based multi-faceted programme achieving targets in real life

Ross et al, Br J Gen Practice. 2008; Lean et al, Int J Clin Practice 2010




**% achieving  $\geq 5\%$  wt loss target**





## Severe obesity and T2DM prevalence: estimates from a systematic review

BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Diabetes Prevalence
30-40	10%
40-50	15%
50-60	15-30%
60-70	20-30%
> 70	30-50%




Grieve, Fenwick & Lean. Obesity Reviews, 2013



## The new epidemic: Severe and complicated obesity

SIGN 115: Management of Obesity 2010

**“In patients with BMI >35 kg/m<sup>2</sup> obesity-related comorbidities are likely to be present therefore weight loss interventions should be targeted to improving these comorbidities; in many individuals a greater than 15-20% weight loss (will always be over 10 kg) will be required to obtain a sustained improvement in comorbidity”.**



*Current prevalence of BMI >35 = 9%*






# The new epidemic: Severe and complicated obesity

SIGN 115: Management of Obesity 2010

*corrected!*

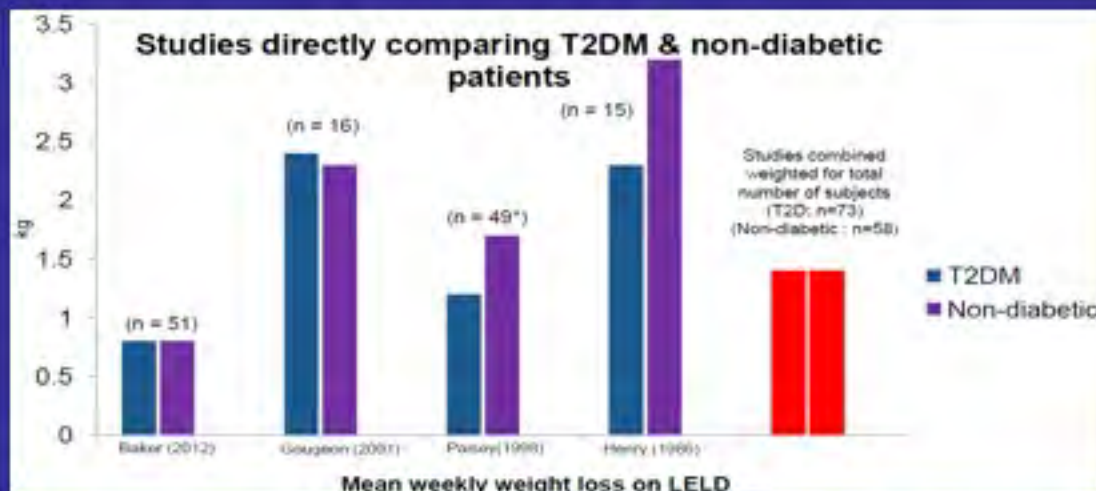
**“In patients with BMI >35 kg/m<sup>2</sup> obesity-related comorbidities are likely to be present therefore weight loss interventions should be targeted to improving these comorbidities; in many individuals a greater than 15-20kg weight loss (will always be over 10%) will be required to obtain a sustained improvement in comorbidity”.**



*Current prevalence of BMI >35 = 9%*

# Weight loss for people with T2DM

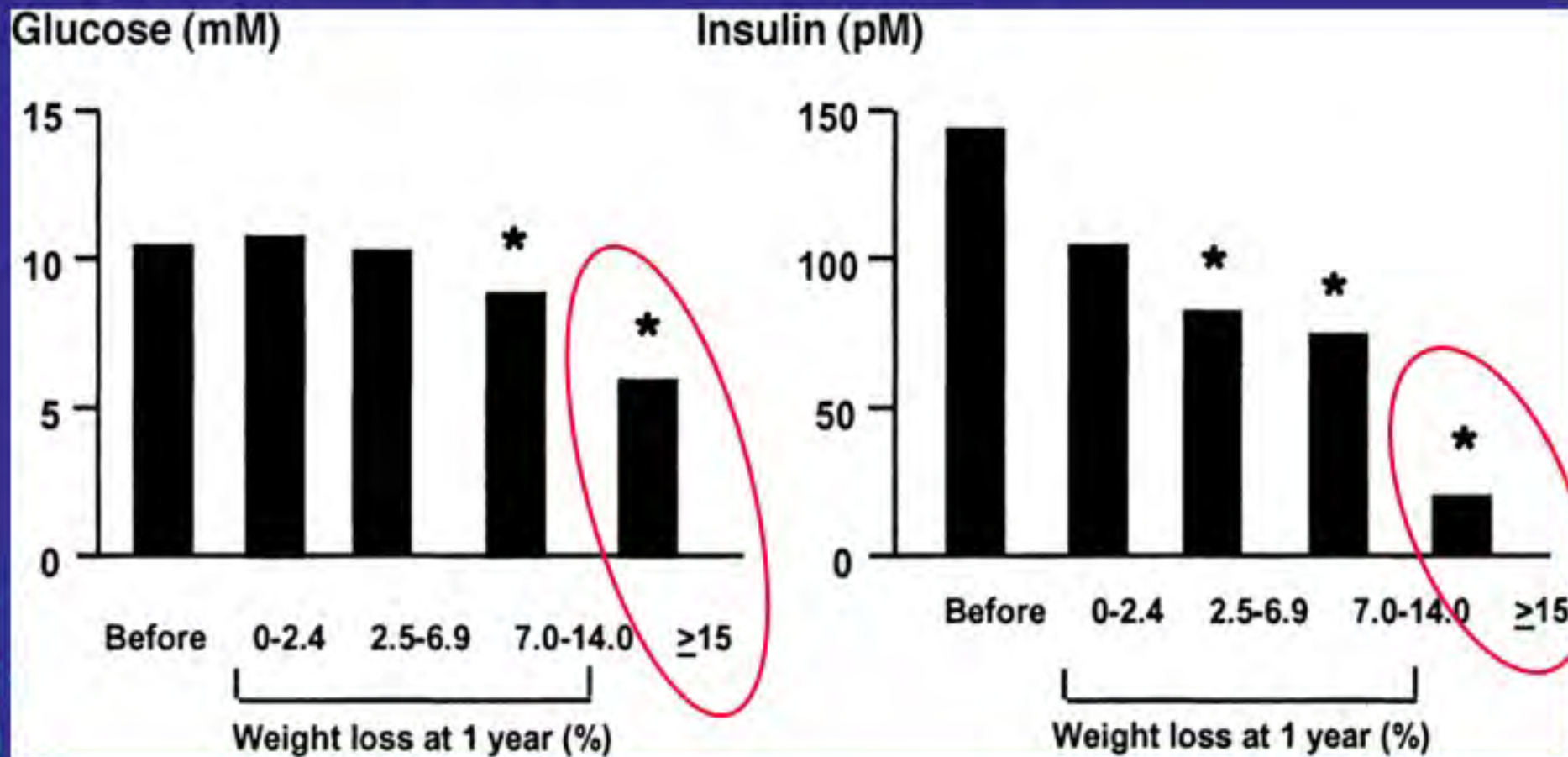
- With conventional diets, they lose less than non-diabetic people
  - Already doing their best with diet
  - Distracted by having to take 6-8 different drugs every day
  - Insulin and sulphonylureas increase weight
  - Metabolic rate falls when diabetes is better controlled
- **With VLCD/  
formula diets,  
they lose the  
same amount**





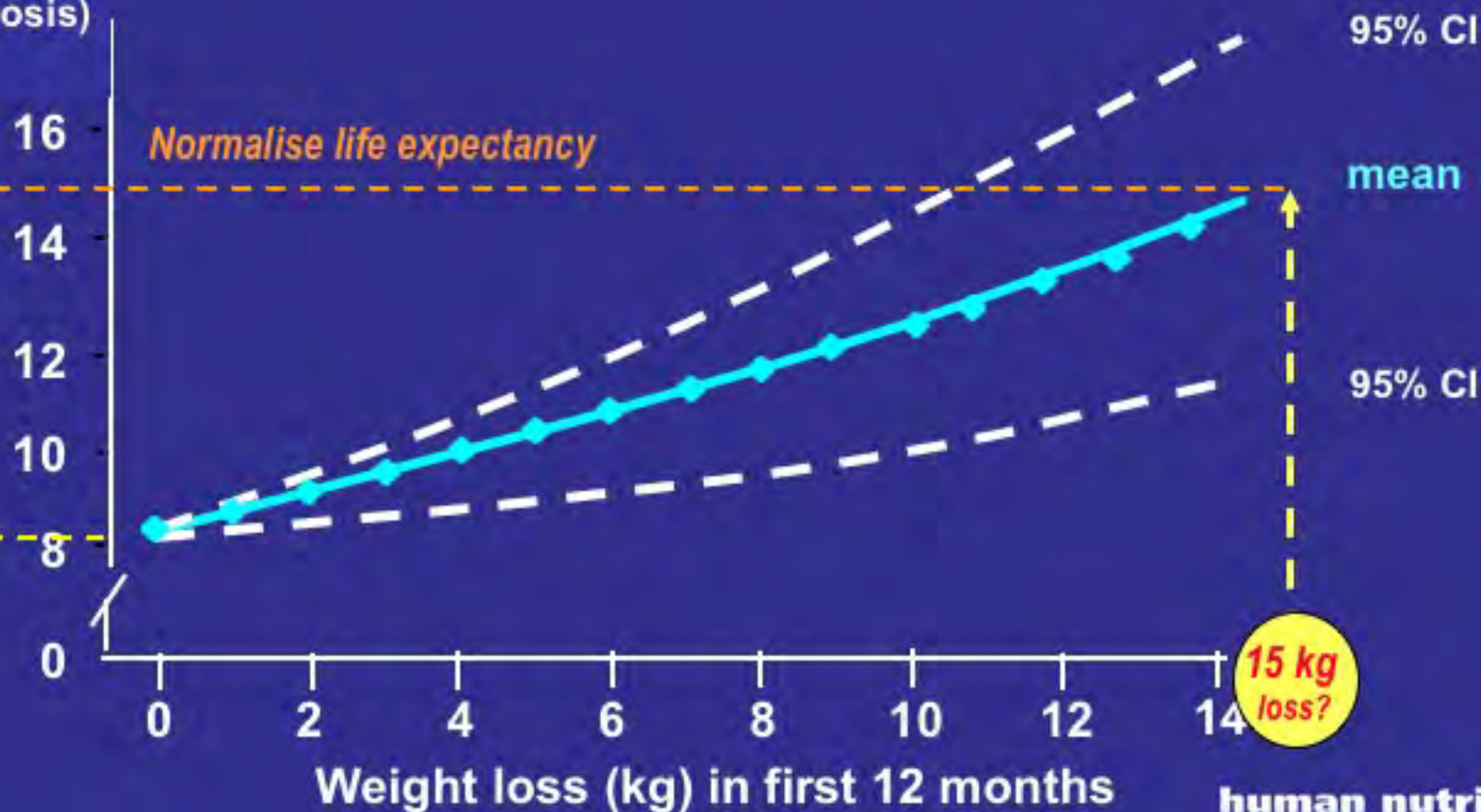
# Weight-loss >15% normalises insulin and glucose at 12 months in T2DM patients

Wing et al. Klein, S. Obesity Research (2001)



# 15kg intentional loss might normalise life expectancy

Life expectancy  
(mean age 64  
at diagnosis)

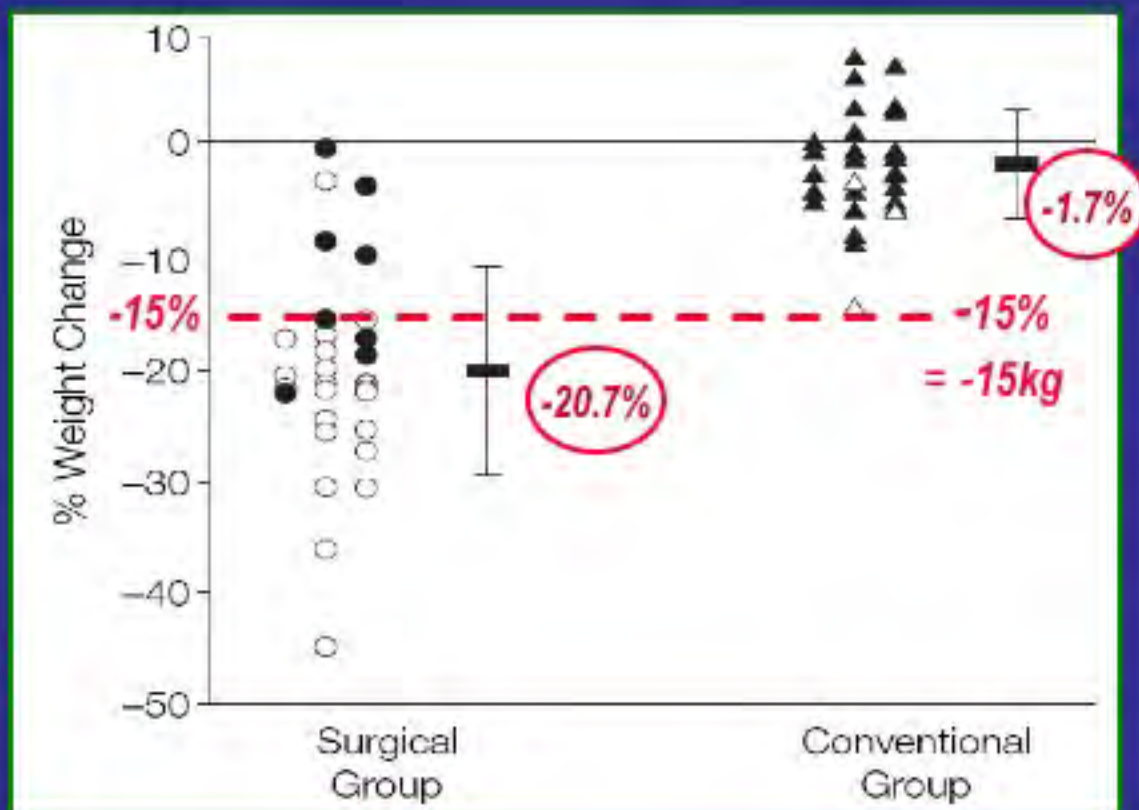


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Lean et al. Diabetic Medicine, 1990



# 15 kg weight loss normalises glucose tolerance: 2-year RCT, gastric band vs diet advice



Conventional group

- △ Achieved remission of type 2 diabetes **13%**
- ▲ Did not achieve remission of type 2 diabetes

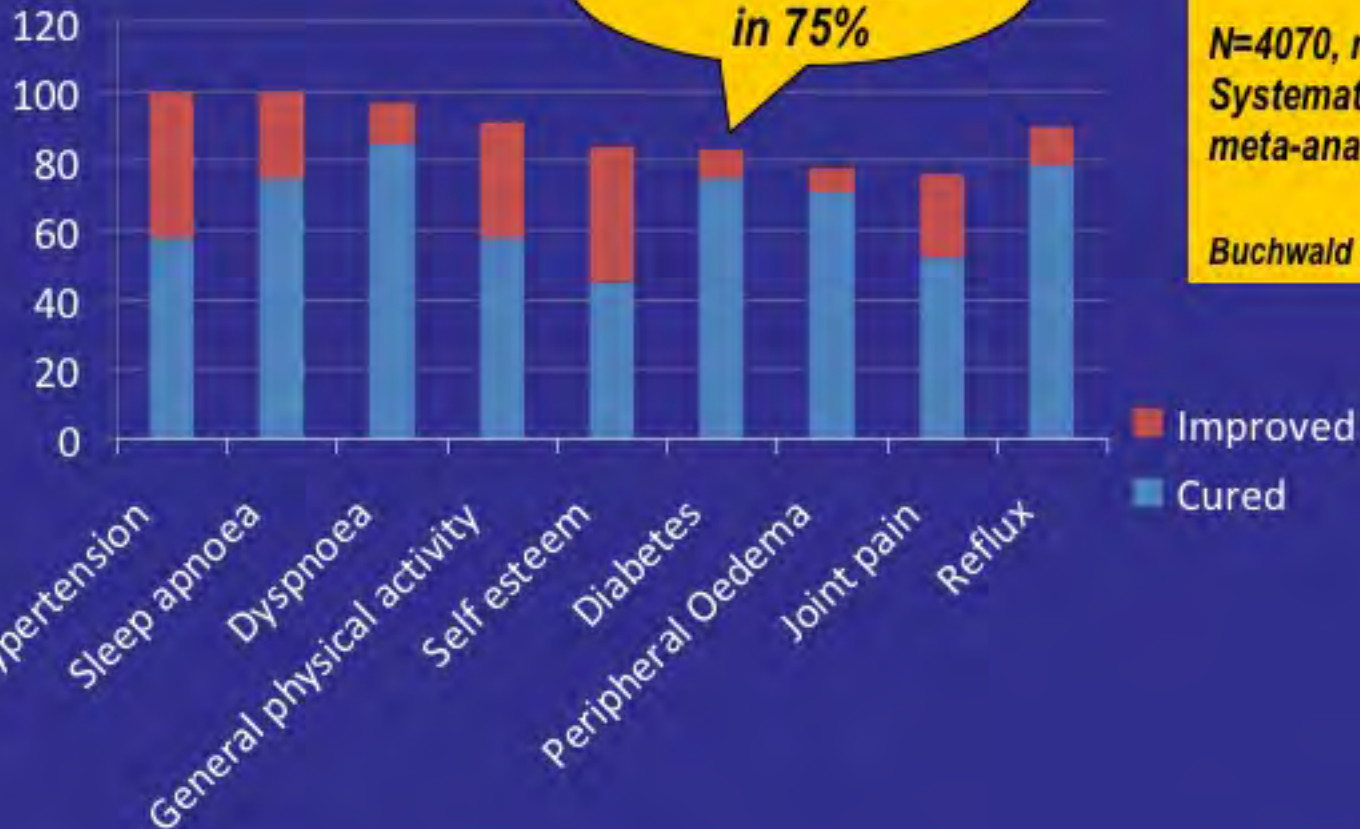
Surgical group

- Achieved remission of type 2 diabetes **73%**
- Did not achieve remission of type 2 diabetes

Dixon et al (2008) JAMA

# Multiple clinical benefits from major weight loss

4 y after laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding



**T2DM 'resolved' in 78%**

*N=4070, mean age 40, BMI 48, Systematic review and meta-analysis*

*Buchwald et al Am J Med, 2009*

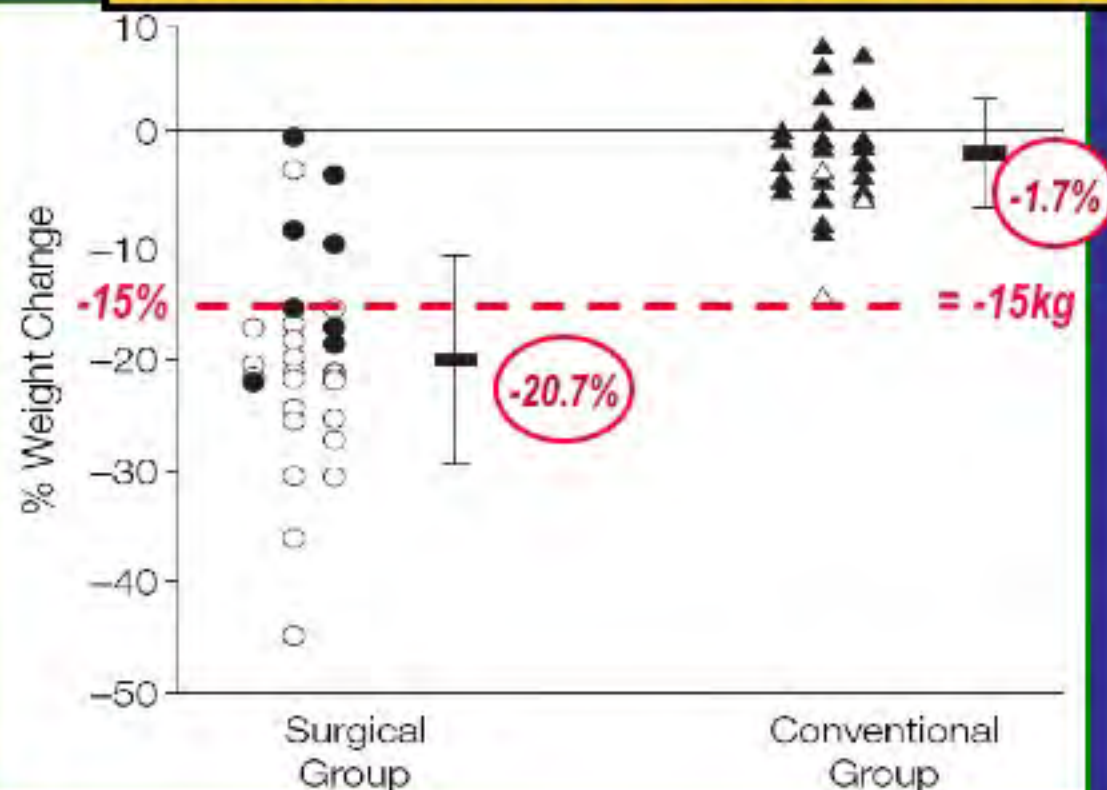


Frigg et al. *Obes Surg*, 2004



# 15 kg weight loss normalises glucose tolerance: 2-year RCT, gastric band vs diet advice

*Can we achieve similar results without surgery?*



Conventional group

- △ Achieved remission of type 2 diabetes **13%**
- ▲ Did not achieve remission of type 2 diabetes

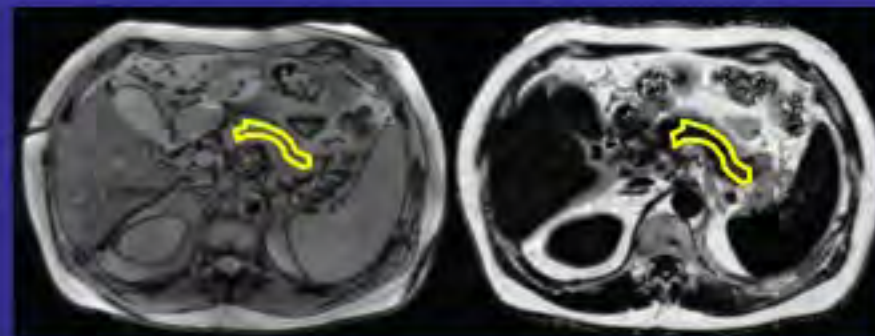
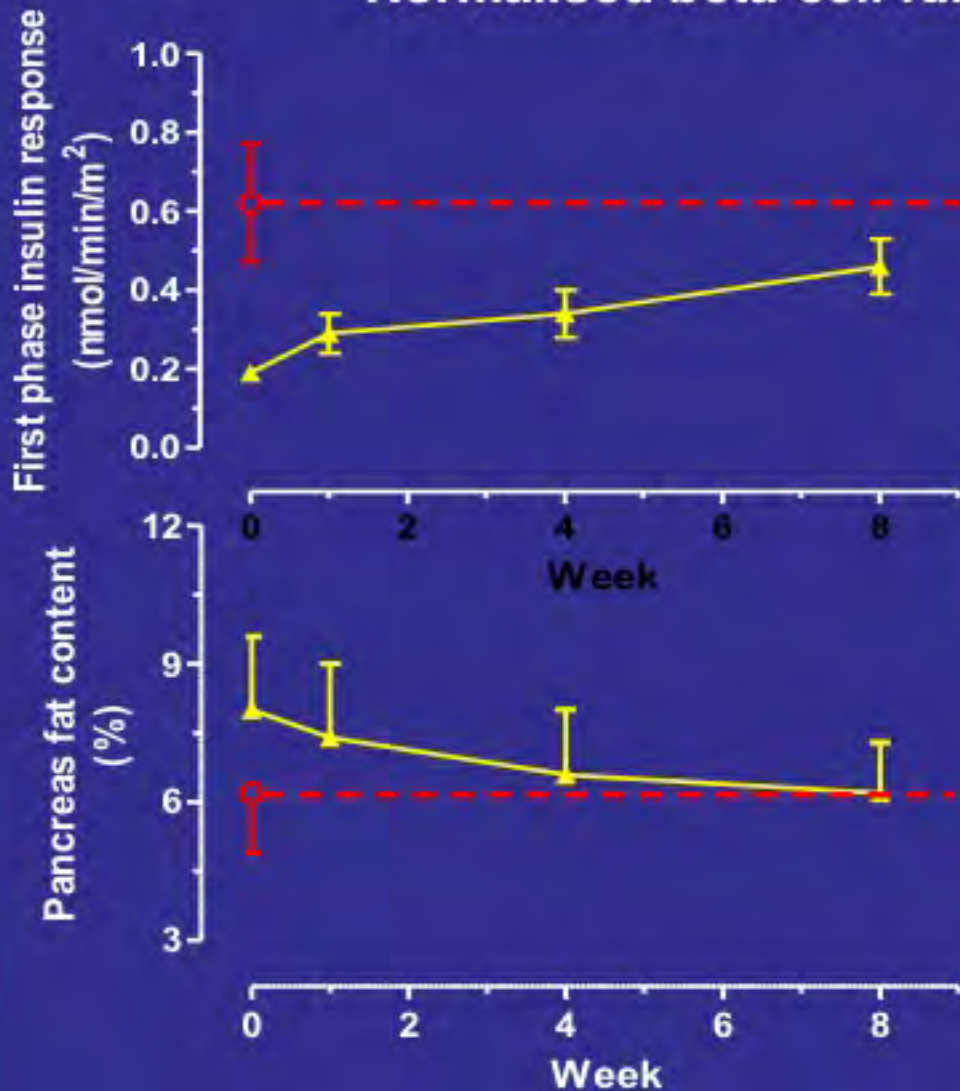
Surgical group

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Dixon et al (2008) JAMA

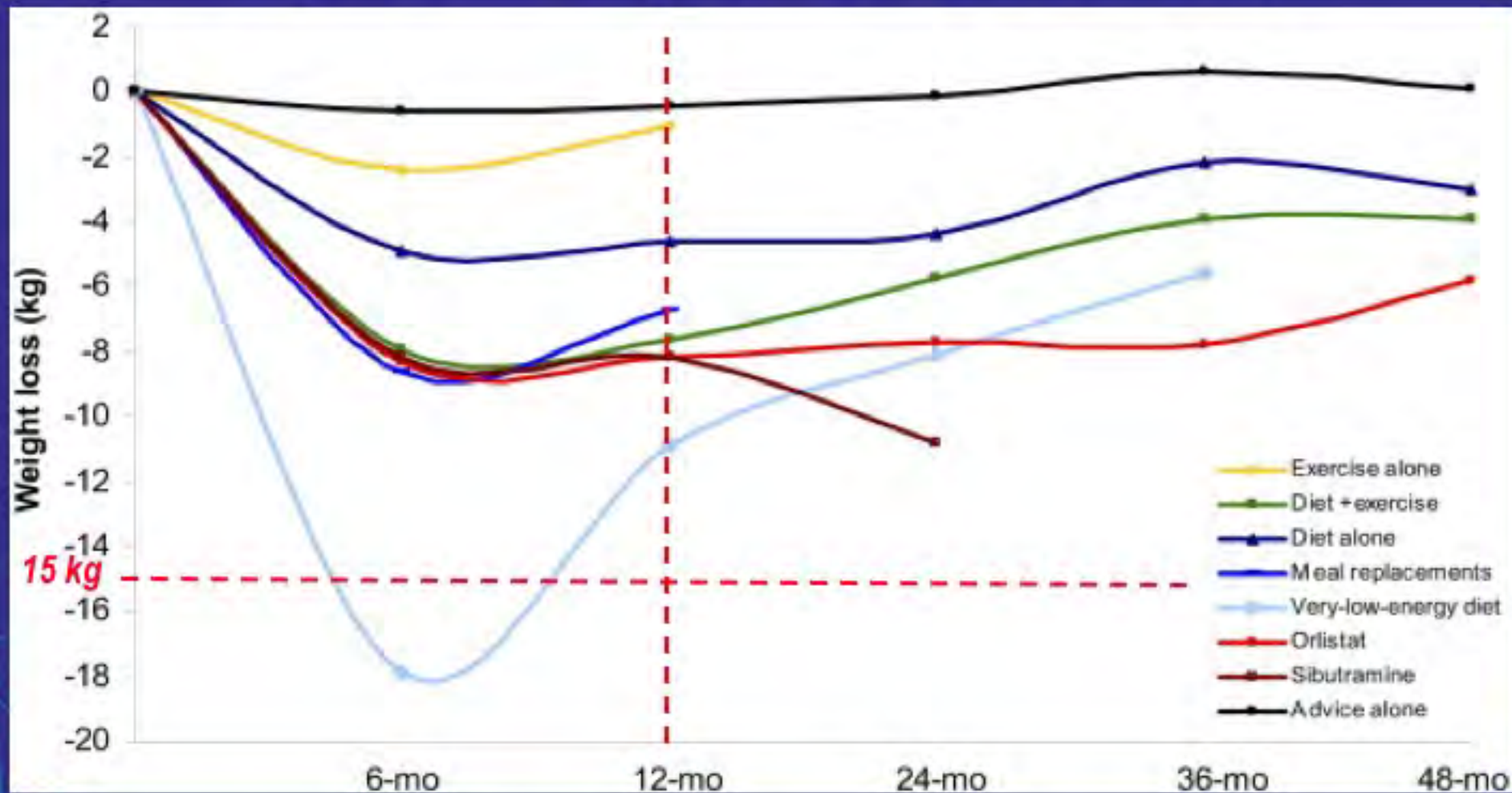
# 15kg weight loss on 450kcal/d diet

Normalised beta-cell function and pancreas fat





# Meta-analysis of non-surgical trials with 1-year follow-up. (Franz MJ et al JADA 2007)



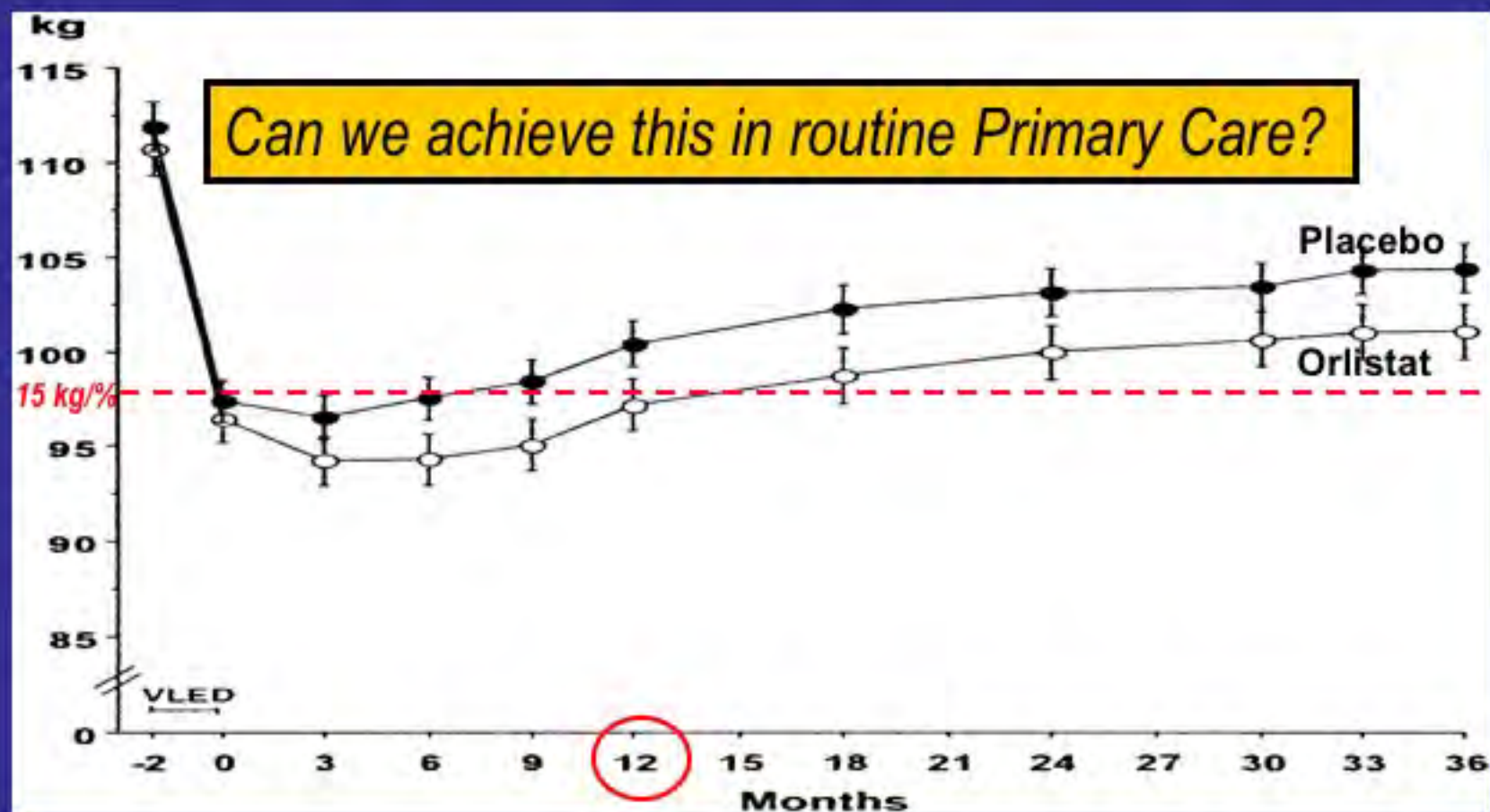
Average weight loss in subjects completing 1-year  
80 studies, n = 26,455, completers = 18,199 (69%)

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# Weight maintenance with orlistat after VLED

**50% of attenders maintained >15kg loss at 12m**

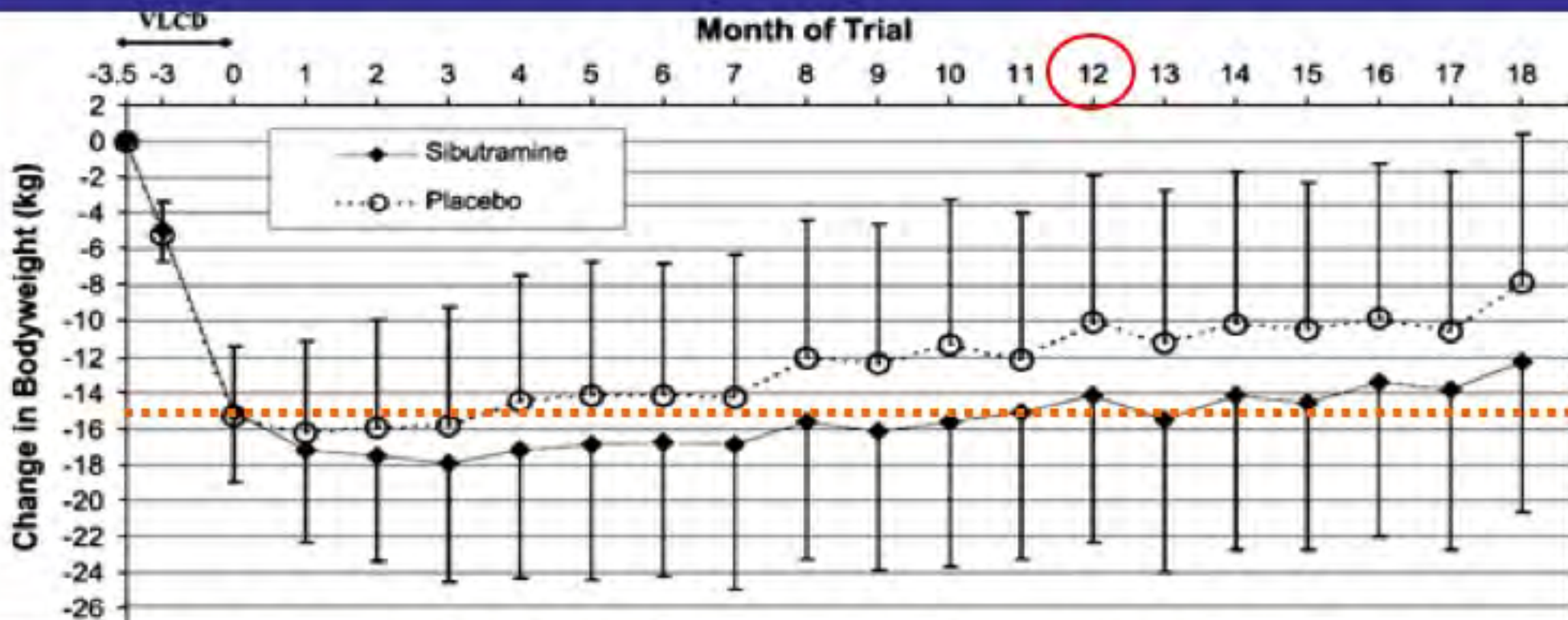
*Richelsen et al Diabetes Care; 2007*





# Combining VLED with sibutramine for long-term maintenance, in a GP setting

*Mathus-Vliegen EMH for Balance Study Group Eur J Clin Nutr 2005*



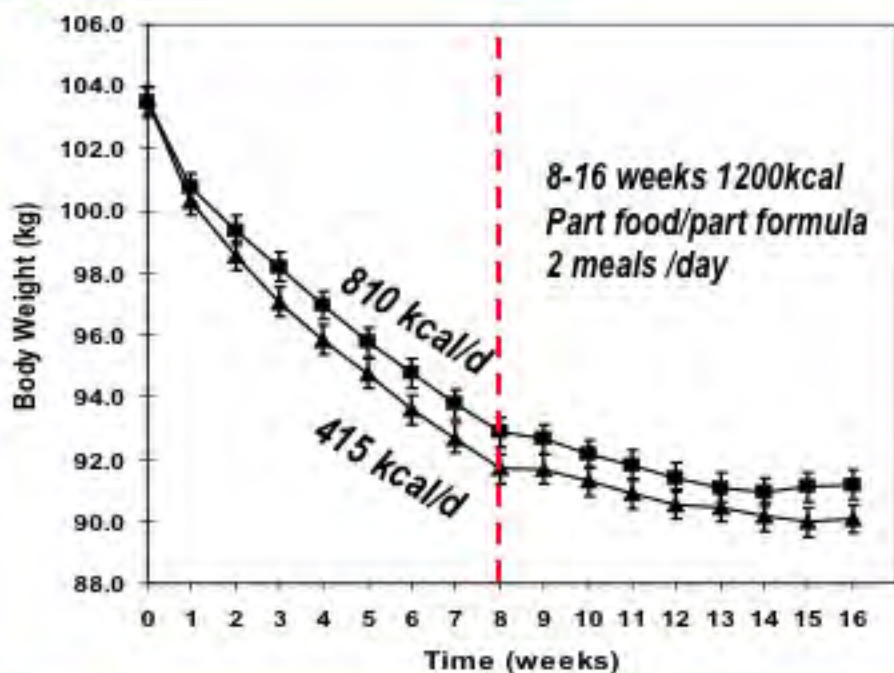
	Month	-3.5	-3	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sib	N=	94	94	94	90	90	88	88	81	83	80	74	74	68	67	76	63	61	57	56	49	62
Pcb	N=	95	95	95	93	91	90	88	85	85	78	72	71	68	61	78	56	50	46	47	34	58

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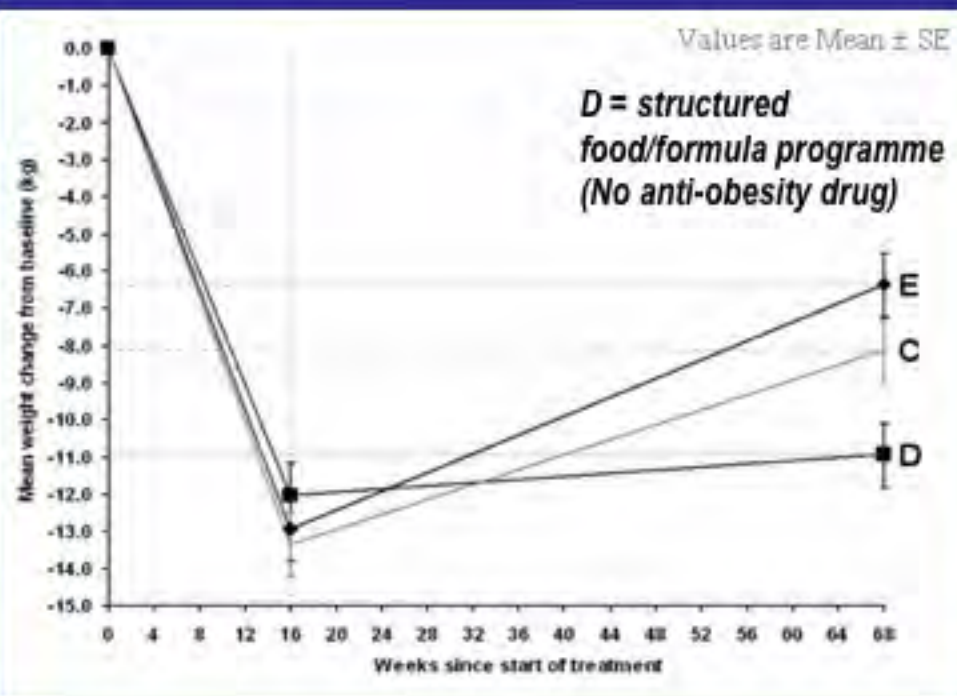
# Little difference between 415kcal VLED or 810kcal LED

## Copenhagen Weight Loss in Knee Osteoarthritis trial

(Bliddal et al, secondary care, dietitian managed)



No difference in weight loss  
n=96 per group



Better maintenance with a structured programme  
n=64 per group



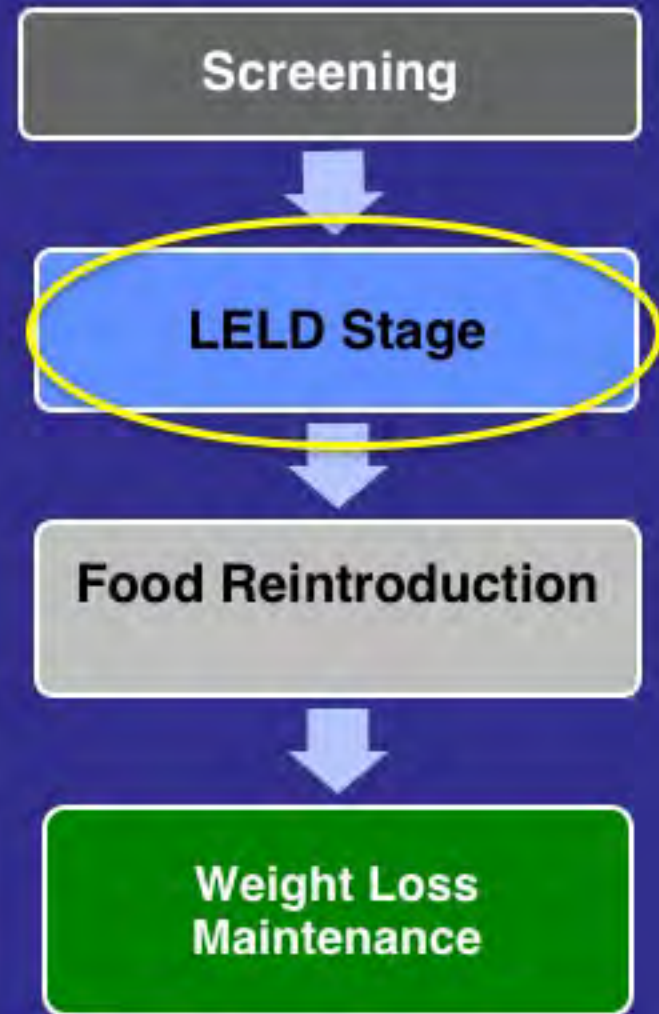
# Counterweight-Plus - Protocol

**Nutritionally complete LELD either:**

- 1) Homemade (811calories/day)
- 2) Commercial (832calories/day)
  - Cambridge Weight Plan
- 3) Mix and match

**Plus:**

- Structured patient education
  - Step down approach optional
- >2.25l fluid per day (4 pints)
- Fibre supplement



*Lean et al , Br J GP (2013)*

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# Weight Loss Maintenance- Protocol

## Stepped Food Reintroduction

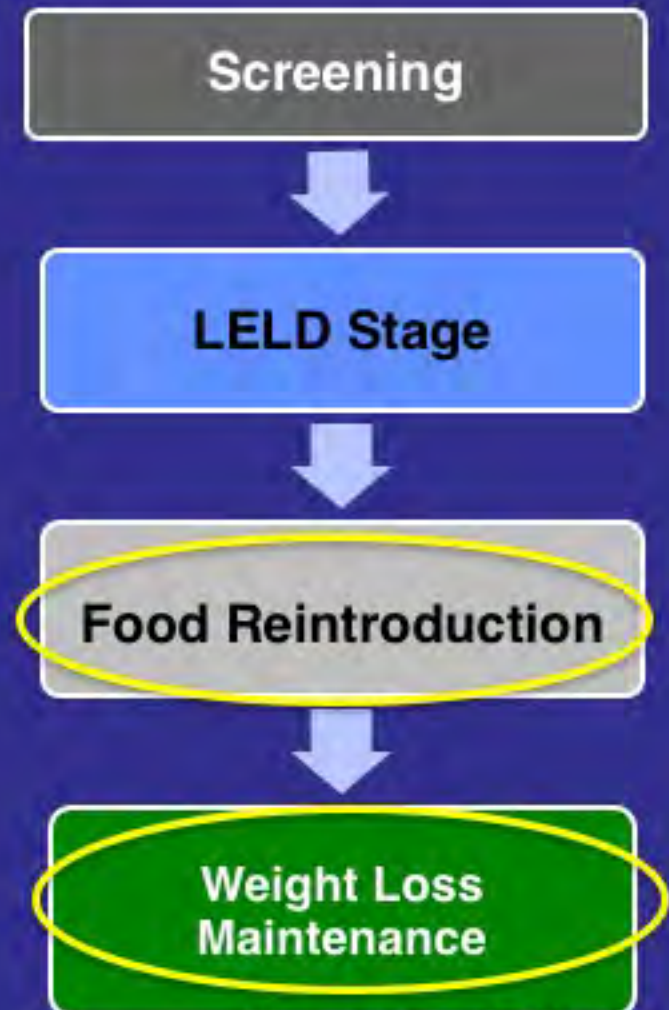
- Introduce one 360-400 kcal meal
- Add a meal every two weeks
- Meals based on eatwell plate
- Offer Orlistat

## Maintenance

- Low fat diet (30% fat)
- Estimate 500 kcal/d deficit
- 2500 kcal/d upper limit
- Behavioural strategies

## Relapse Management

- Offer orlistat
- Second attempt LELD stage



Lean et al , Br J GP (2013)

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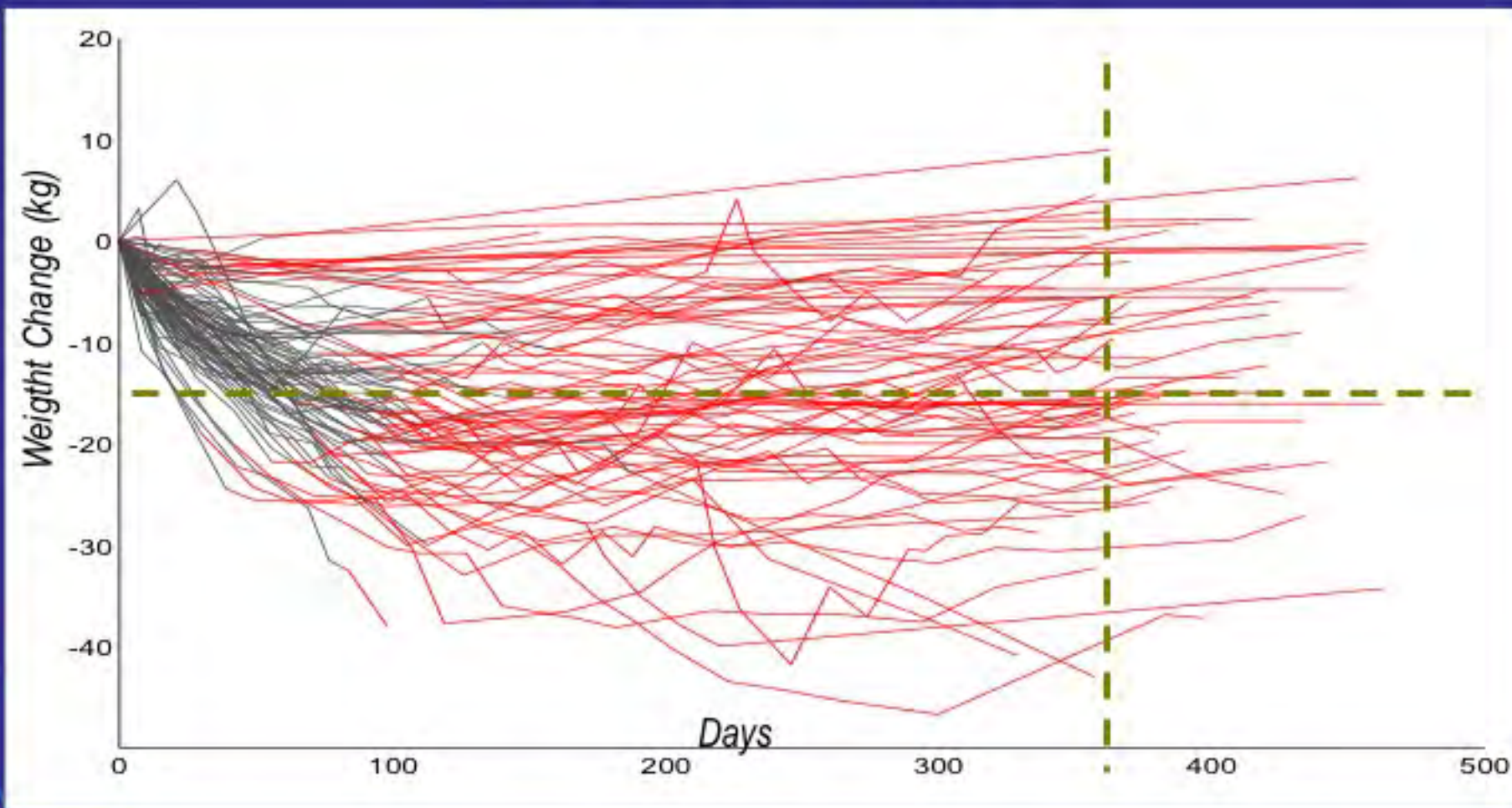




# Counterweight LELD Feasibility Study

- 22 general practices in 7 Scottish Health Boards took part
- 6 practice nurses and 8 dietitians trained to deliver it
- No extra funding
  
- 91 patients entered over 6 months
- 78% women, mean BMI 48 (131kg)
- Average 14 visits, mean 5 hours contact, over 12 months
  
- Feasible to deliver in routine primary care
- Highly acceptable to both patients and practitioners
- Demands high personal responsibility, but well supported

# Initial weight loss is the main determinant of long-term results

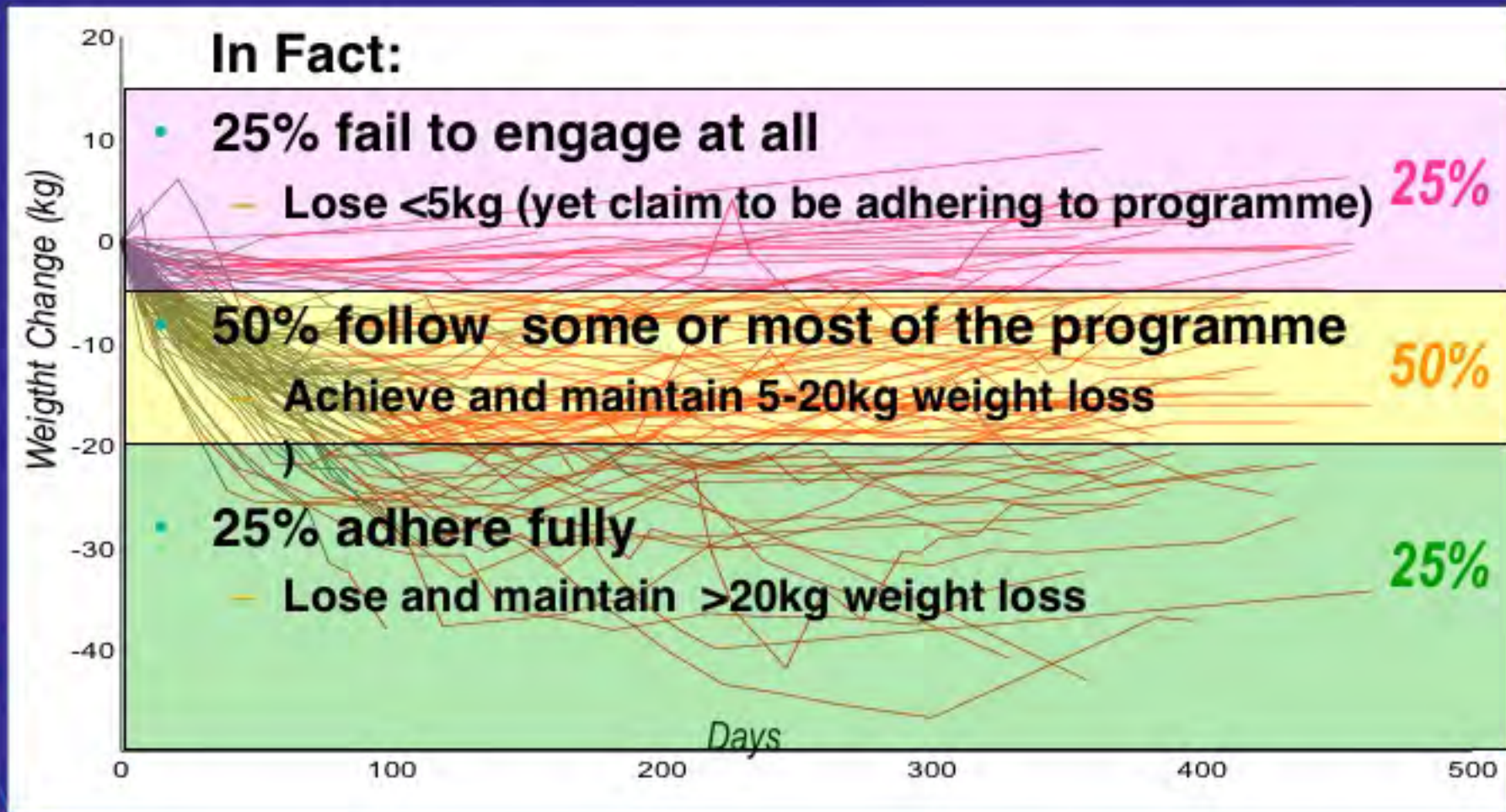


Lean et al , Br J General Practice (2013)

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# Popular Belief: Patients regain all the weight, or more





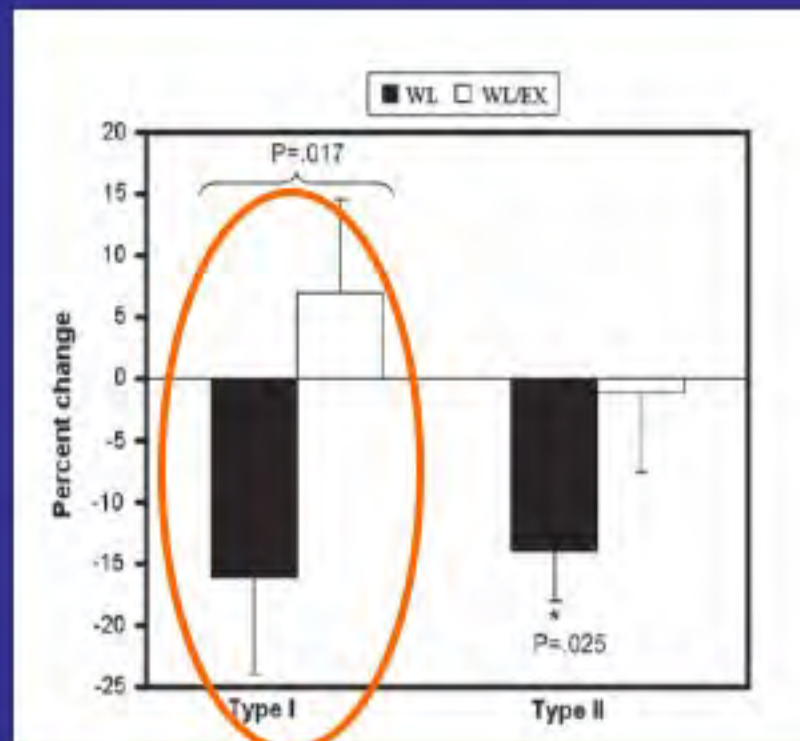
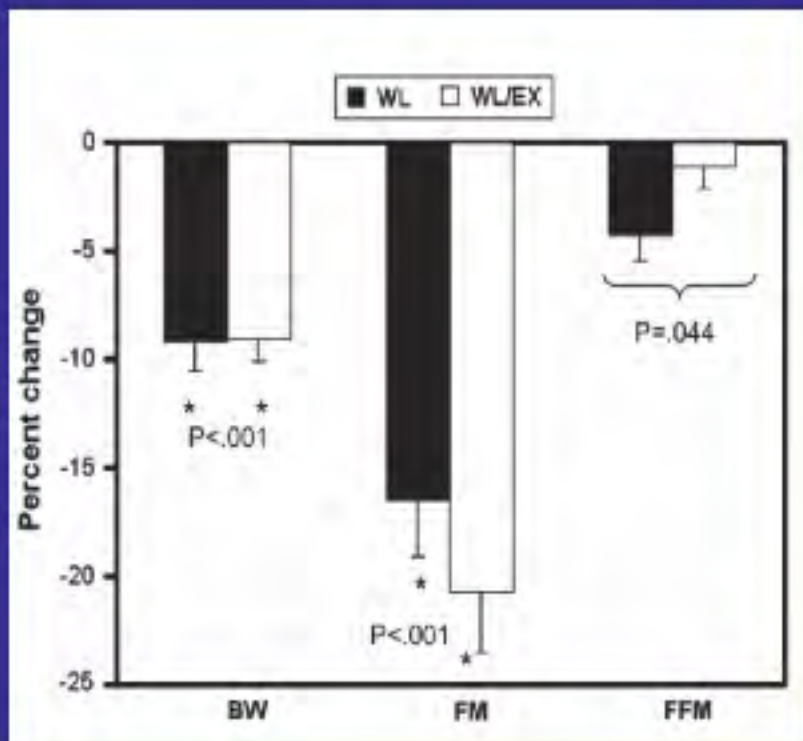
## 'Total Diet Replacement' and structured long-term weight maintenance: Counterweight-Plus

### Maintaining weight loss $\geq 15\text{kg}$ at 12 months:

- 33% of all 91 patients
- 44% of patients with a known 12-month weight
- 57% of those who lost  $>15\text{kg}$  on LELD
  
- **Highly cost-effective:**
  - 3-5 times as many can lose  $>15\text{kg}$  as with bariatric surgery



# Weight loss depletes muscle mass and function if exercise is not included (Chomenowski et al, LOOKAHEAD)



*Oxidative, slow-twitch type-1 muscle fibres*

# Population response to information on reversibility of Type 2 diabetes

- T2DM people want to be non-diabetic
- Many can lose 15kg
- Most become non-diabetic

S. Steven, E. L. Lim and R. Taylor

Magnetic Resonance Centre, Institute of Cellular Medicine, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Accepted 10 January 2013

## Abstract

**Aims** Following publication of the Counterpoint Study (on the reversibility of Type 2 diabetes using a very low energy diet), the extent of public interest prompted the authors to make available, on a website, general information about reversing diabetes. Shortly thereafter, individuals began to feed back their personal experiences of attempting to reverse their diabetes. We have collated this information on the effects of energy restriction in motivated individuals with Type 2 diabetes that has been achieved outside a research setting.

**Methods** Emails, letters and telephone communications received between July 2011 and September 2012 were evaluated ( $n = 77$ : 66 men, 11 women). Median diabetes duration was 5.5 years (3 months–28 years). Reversal of diabetes was defined as achieving fasting capillary blood glucose  $< 6.1$  mmol/l and/or, if available, HbA<sub>1c</sub> less than 43 mmol/mol (6.1%) off treatment.

**Results** Self-reported weight fell from  $96.7 \pm 17.5$  kg at baseline to  $81.9 \pm 14.8$  kg after weight loss ( $P < 0.001$ ). Self-reported fasting blood glucose levels fell from 8.3 mmol/l (5.9–33.0) to 5.5 mmol/l (4.0–10.0) after the weight loss period ( $P < 0.001$ ). Diabetes reversal was considered to have occurred in 61% of the population. Reversal of diabetes was observed in 80, 63 and 53% of those with  $> 20$ , 10–20 and  $< 10$  kg weight loss, respectively. There was a significant correlation between degree of weight loss and reported fasting glucose levels ( $R_s -0.38$ ,  $P = 0.006$ ). Reversal rates according to diabetes duration were: short ( $< 4$  years) = 73%, medium (4–8 years) = 56% and long ( $> 8$  years) = 43%.

**Conclusion** These data demonstrate that intentional weight loss achieved at home by health-motivated individuals can reverse Type 2 diabetes. Diabetes reversal should be a goal in the management of Type 2 diabetes.





# **DiRECT**

**Diabetes Remission Clinical Trial**

**2013-2018**  
funded by **DiABETES UK**  
to Mike Lean and Roy Taylor

- Cluster-Randomised Trial: **Counterweight-Plus\*** 810kcal/d LELD and weight maintenance programme vs usual care
  - Both arms follow current clinical guidelines
  - 280 patients, BMI >27, diagnosed T2DM <6 years, not on insulin
- Co-primary endpoints: **weight loss >15kg** and **non-diabetic HbA1c**
  - at 12 & 24 months **off all drugs** (plus life-long clinical monitoring)
- Mechanistic and Magnetic Resonance studies
- Qualitative and process evaluation
- Planned economic analyses



\* Supported by Cambridge Weight Plan

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# Mechanistic Studies – Newcastle

(n = 88, at baseline, 3 & 12m)

---

## Day 1

Pancreas and liver fat

Abdominal Magnetic Resonance scanning

Beta-cell function

Stepped hyperglycaemic clamp & arginine stimulation, to measure maximal insulin

## Day 2

Whole body glucose & lipid oxidation

Indirect calorimetry (fasting & rested)

VLDL<sub>1</sub> and VLDL-apoB100 secretion

Intralipid (fat) infusion

PNPLA3 genotyping



# Qualitative Evaluations

During WL, FR and Maintenance phases

---

## Participants:

Cognitive, affective and social predictors of adherence

Mobile phone based Ecologic Momentary Assessment (EMA)

Barriers, facilitators & strategies for self-control

Semi-structured theory domain interviews

Quality of Life

EQ-5D questionnaire

---

## Health Professionals:

Barriers to implementation & ease of engagement with the intervention

Semi-structured theory domain interviews



# Team

## Principal Investigators

Professor Mike Lean

Professor Roy Taylor

## Co-investigators

Professor Ashley Adamson

Dr Falko Sniehotta

Professor Ian Ford

Professor Naveed Sattar

Professor John Mathers

Dr Kieran Hollingsworth

Louise McCombie

Hazel Ross

## Study Coordinator

Dr Wilma Leslie

## Research Associates

Alison Barnes

Naomi Brosnahan

George Thom

## Partners:

Glasgow University, Newcastle University,  
Diabetes UK, Counterweight Ltd, Cambridge Weight Plan



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# Conclusions

1. 'Well-treated' type 2 diabetes is not a well-treated patient
  - Still a devastating disease, despite drugs and guidelines
2. Being non-diabetic is now a reasonable goal
  - Maintain waist <80 cms (women), <94cms (men)
  - If pre-diabetic: lose 5kg and maintain weight loss
  - If diabetic: lose >15kg and maintain weight loss
3. Personal commitment to weight control is essential
4. Matched professional commitment and training is essential
5. Public Health responsibility is essential to oppose obesogenic commercial and political activities





# Routine management of T2DM

**1st priority** - reduce dietary fats (esp. saturated fat)  
and lose >15kg weight, maintaining physical activity

- Not just sugar avoidance
- Not primarily drugs
- Formula diets are more effective than conventional lifestyle advice, and more cost-effective than bariatric surgery

**2nd priority** - prevent weight gain/ treat obesity in pre-diabetic family members

**So** - Doctors and nurses must be trained, and resourced, to offer:

- Optimal evidence-based diets, for weight loss
- Lifestyle advice & support for long-term weight maintenance





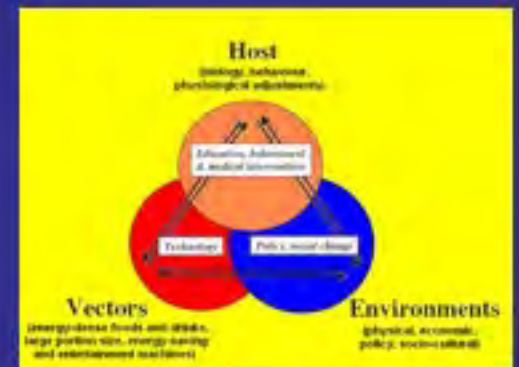


# Ethics of treatments for diabetes

- No drug should be prescribed without urging personal responsibility, with professional support, for diet and lifestyle change
- No clinical trial in T2DM patients should be permitted unless **optimal diet and lifestyle advice** is given to both intervention and placebo arms
- Prescribing physicians should have training and resources to provide **optimal evidence-based diet and lifestyle advice**
  - **AND ACCEPT THAT NOT ALL WILL SUCCEED**



# Epidemic!\*



## Medical Responsibility

Optimal medical treatment within available resources

- Diet & lifestyle
- Drugs
- Surgery

## Political Responsibility

Government interventions to remove primary causes

- Catering outlets **increasing**
- Meals/snacks outside home **increasing**
- Portion sizes **increasing**
- Physical inactivity.....

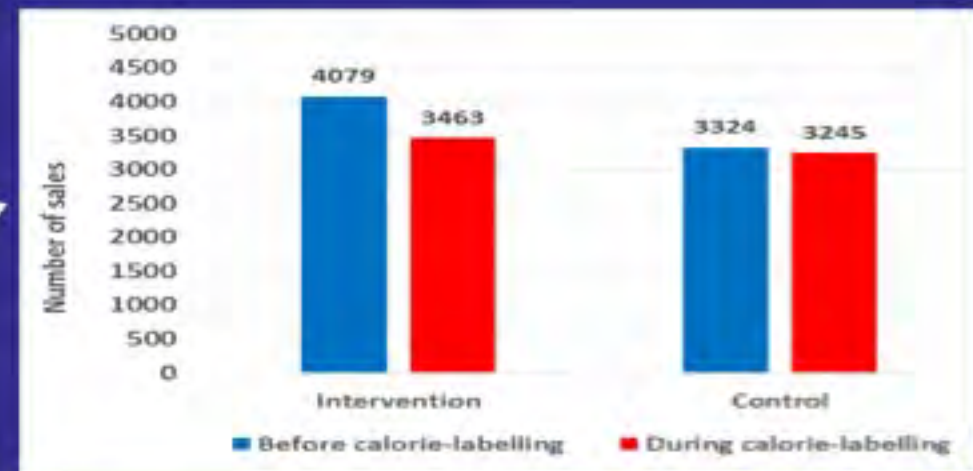
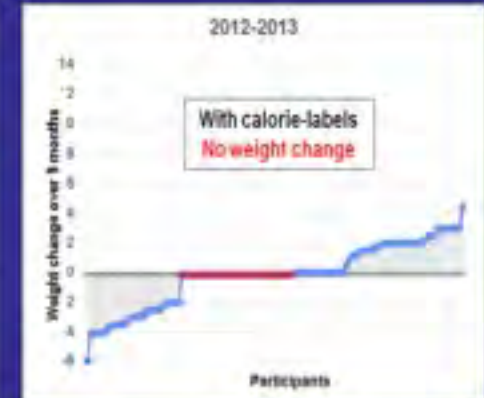
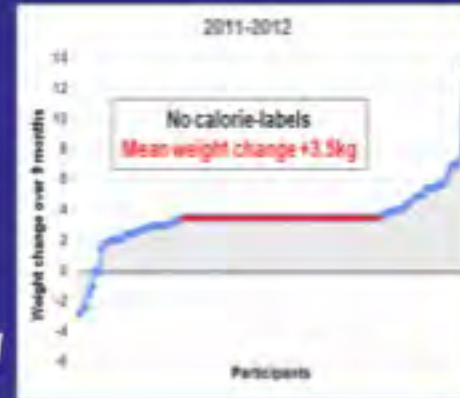
\* WHO: 'Critical Threshold for Intervention'

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# New evidence for primary prevention of obesity: ----- prominent **Calorie-Labeling**

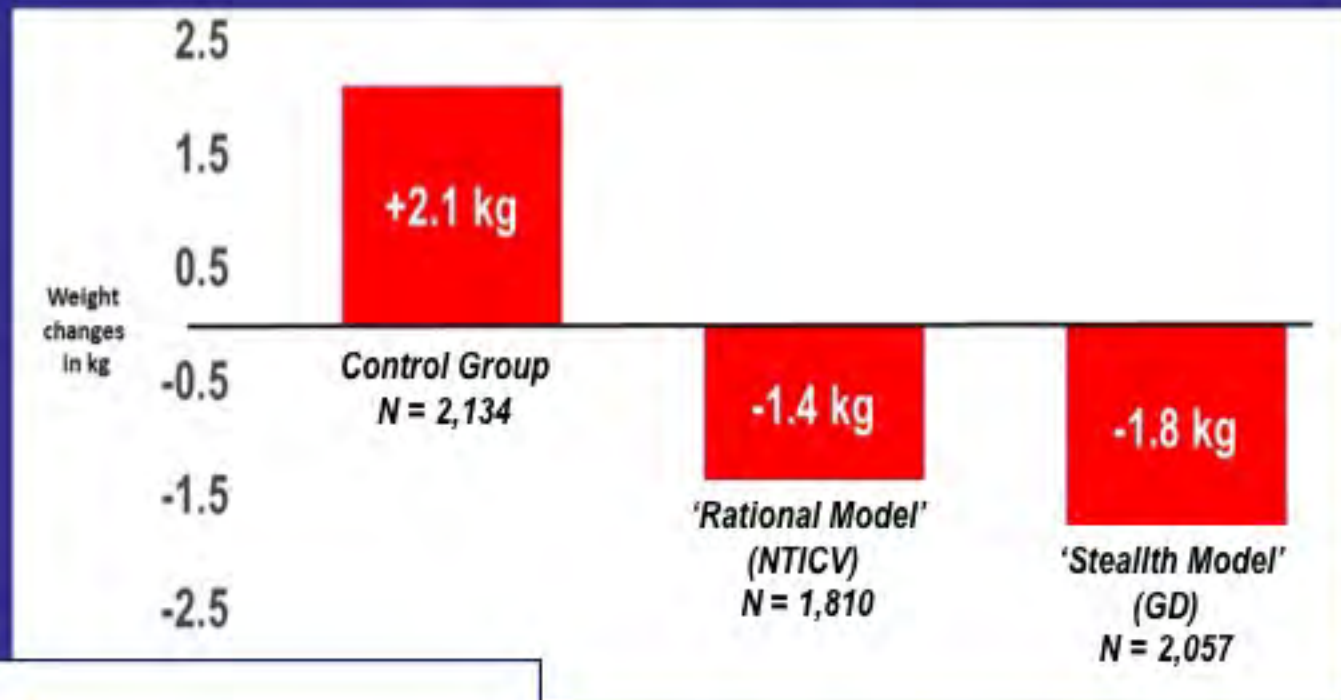
- Systematic Review: Overall no effect of calorie labelling, **but -124kcal for those who noticed the labels** (Nikolaou et al, IJO, 2014)
- Meals currently supplied to young adults are excessively calorie-rich (Nikolaou et al Int J Obesity, 2014)
- Prominent main-meal calorie-labelling prevents weight gain over 9 months in young adults (Nikolaou et al, Obesity 2014)
- Prominent calorie-labelling at self-serve food outlets leads to lower-calorie choices (Nikolaou et al Preventive Medicine, 2014)



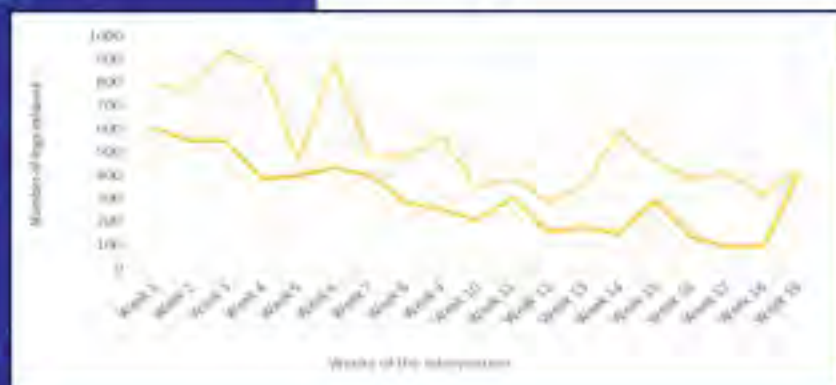
(all: Nikolaou, Hankey & Lean, 2014)

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# 9-month weight changes in 20,975 young adults randomised to an on-line public health intervention



(Nikolaou, Hankey & Lean, under review, 2015)

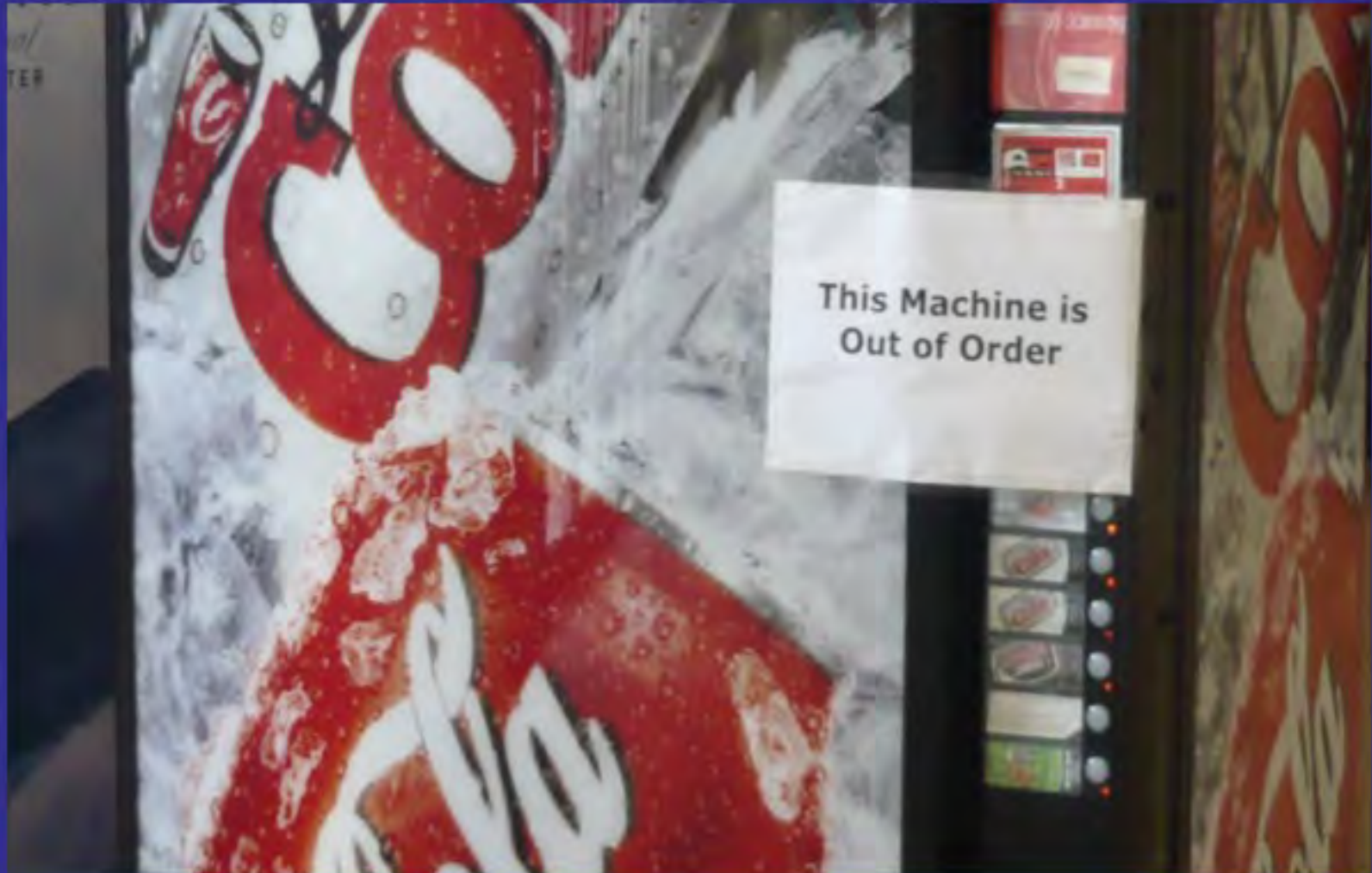




# *You can all help prevent obesity/diabetes*



*You can all help prevent obesity/diabetes*



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*(Completely out of Order)*



*(Completely off the map)*

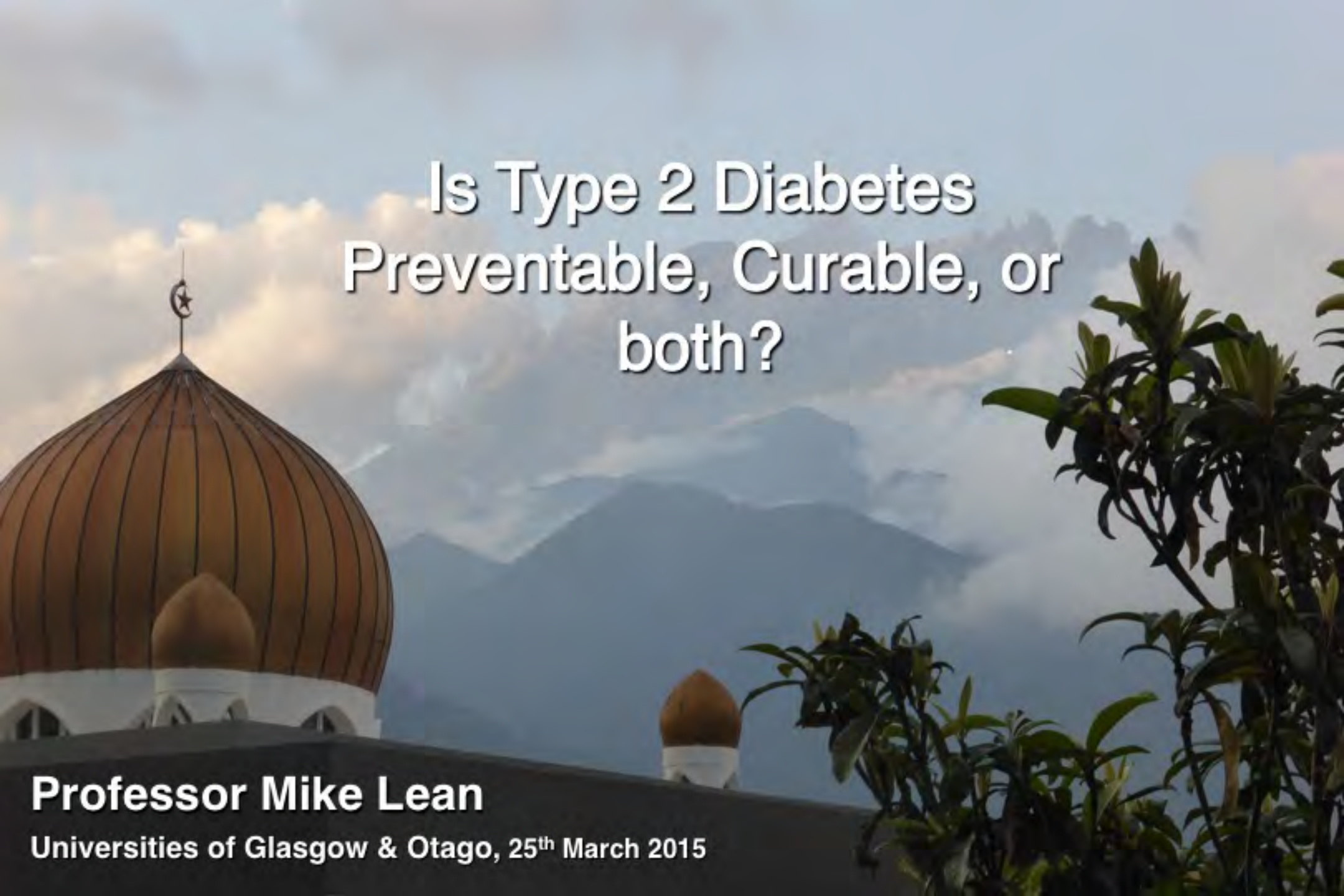










The background of the slide features a large, brown, ribbed dome of a mosque on the left side. In the distance, there are blue-toned mountains under a sky with soft, white clouds. On the right side, there are dark green, leafy branches of a tree or shrub. The overall lighting is soft, suggesting dawn or dusk.

# Is Type 2 Diabetes Preventable, Curable, or both?

**Professor Mike Lean**

Universities of Glasgow & Otago, 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015
















 ID KAHANDAMAN DI  
GUNTING B. LAGADAN  
HUGUAN MANANANUD  
ID NULUHON KINABALU  
1888 - 1966

**TAMAN  
KINABALU  
LOW'S PEAK  
( 4095.2 M )**



**SERVICE TO ALL HUMANITY**  
ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3310













## NOTICE

KINABALU

SABAH PARKS REGULATIONS REQUIRED THAT ALL PERSON INTENDING TO CLIMB TO THE SUMMIT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY A REGISTERED MOUNTAIN GUIDE.

## WARNING

MEMPUNYAI

DO NOT CLIMB IF YOU ARE SUFFERING FORM OR HAVE A HISTORY OF THE FOLLOWING AILMENTS :-

YANG BOLEH  
AN YANG SEJUK,  
GI.

- ( 1 ) HEART DISEASE
- ( 2 ) HYPERTENSION
- ( 3 ) CRONIC ASTHMA
- ( 4 ) PEPTIC ULSER
- ( 5 ) SEVERE ANEMIA
- ( 6 ) DIABETES
- ( 7 ) EPILEPTIC FITS
- ( 8 ) ARTHRITIS
- ( 9 ) PALPITATION
- (10 ) HEPATITIS (JAUNDICE )

- ( 11 ) MUSCULAR CRAMPS
- ( 12 ) OBESITY (OVER WEIGHT )
- ( 13 ) ANY OTHER SICKNESS THAT MAY BE TRIGGERED BY SEVERE COLD, EXERTION, AND HIGH ALTITUDE.



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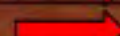


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- ( 13 ) ANY OTHER SICKNESS THAT MAY BE TRIGGERED BY SEVERE COLD, EXERTION, AND HIGH ALTITUDE.





# What do people with diabetes actually want?

- **To forget about it.....  
....to not be diabetic?**

**???**

- Less complications?
- Feel better?
- Less anxiety?
- Weight loss?
- Less problematic issues?

Drugs? **Diet**

Less drugs (**Diet**)

Less drugs & hypos (**Diet**)

**Diet**

**Diet** (Grant et al, Adelaide)



Life-expectancy is **still** reduced 6-10 years by T2DM, despite all our drug treatments

Age (years)	England life expectancy (2005–2007) males (yrs)	T2DM life expectancy (2000–2007) males (yrs)	England life expectancy (2005–2007) females (yrs)	T2DM life expectancy (2000–2007) females (yrs)
0	77.65	69.58	81.82	71.91
30	48.59	39.86	52.44	41.16
40	39.08	30.82	42.71	32.04
50	29.85	23.14	33.26	24.68
60	21.24	16.92	24.28	17.69
70	13.70	12.60	16.05	12.06
80	7.74	5.98	9.17	7.64
90	3.96	3.68	4.49	6.44



# Risk-reduction with current guideline treatment of T2DM (polypharmacy) **Maximum possible =15%**

Echouffo-Tcheugui, Sargeant, Prevost, Williams, Baring, Butler\*, Fanshawe, Kinmonth, Wareham & Griffin (Diabetic Medicine 2008)

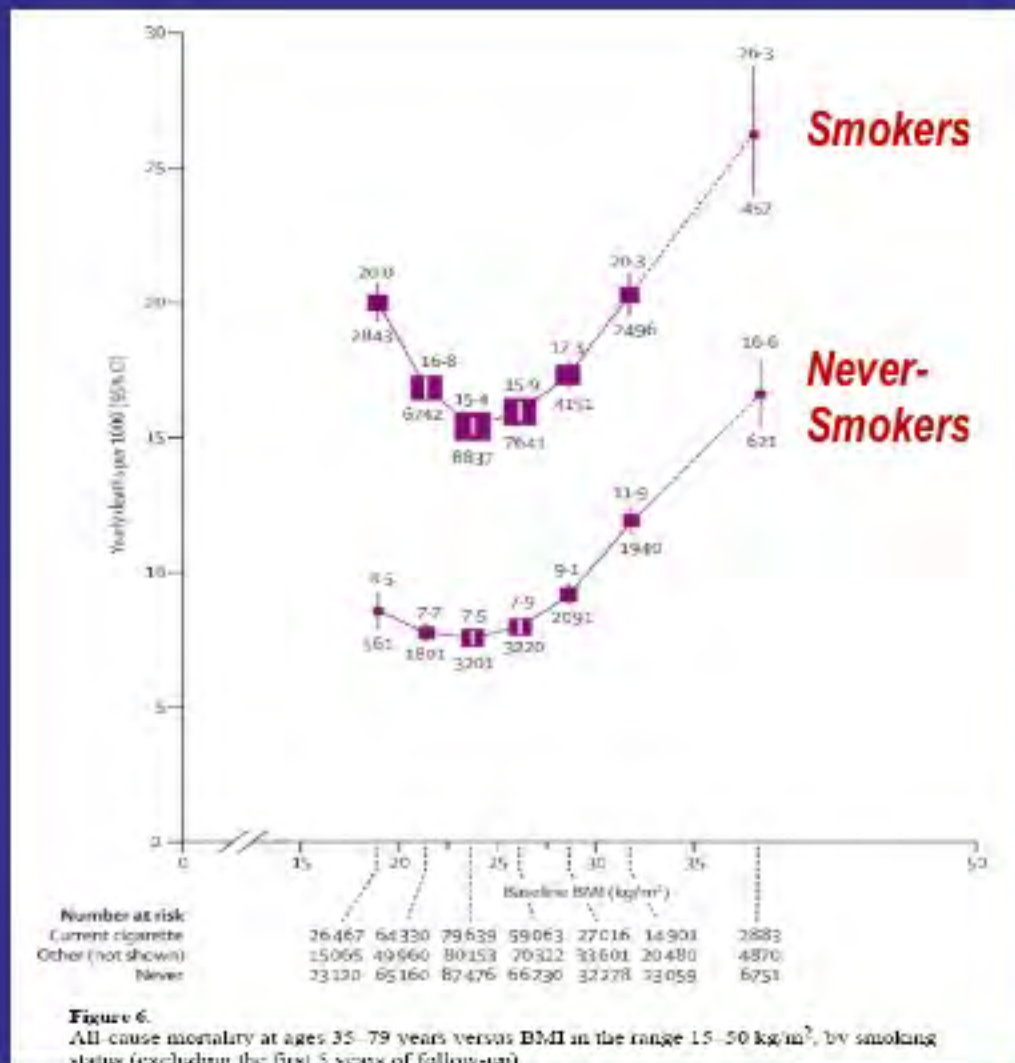
Model of the effect of treatment combinations	Absolute risk reduction (or risk difference)	
	Estimate (%)	Range
Absolute risk calculated with UKPDS engine		
No additive effect: single most effective treatment (lipid-lowering therapy)	7.2	4.9–9.5
Additive effect of glucose, lipid- and blood pressure-lowering therapies	15.2	13.2–16.9
Additive effect of glucose-, lipid-, blood pressure-lowering therapies and aspirin	18.0	16.7–19.5
Absolute risk calculated with Framingham equation		
No additive effect: single most effective treatment (lipid-lowering therapy)	8.0	5.4–10.5
Additive effect of glucose-, lipid- and blood pressure-lowering therapies	16.9	14.6–18.8
Additive effect of glucose-, lipid-, blood pressure-lowering therapies and aspirin	20.0	18.4–21.6

**NB: Aspirin does not prevent new CHD in T2DM. Belch et al, BMJ 2008**

# Mortality by BMI (general population)

Influence of weight loss on mortality is complicated, especially over long times:

Intentional  
vs  
Unintentional

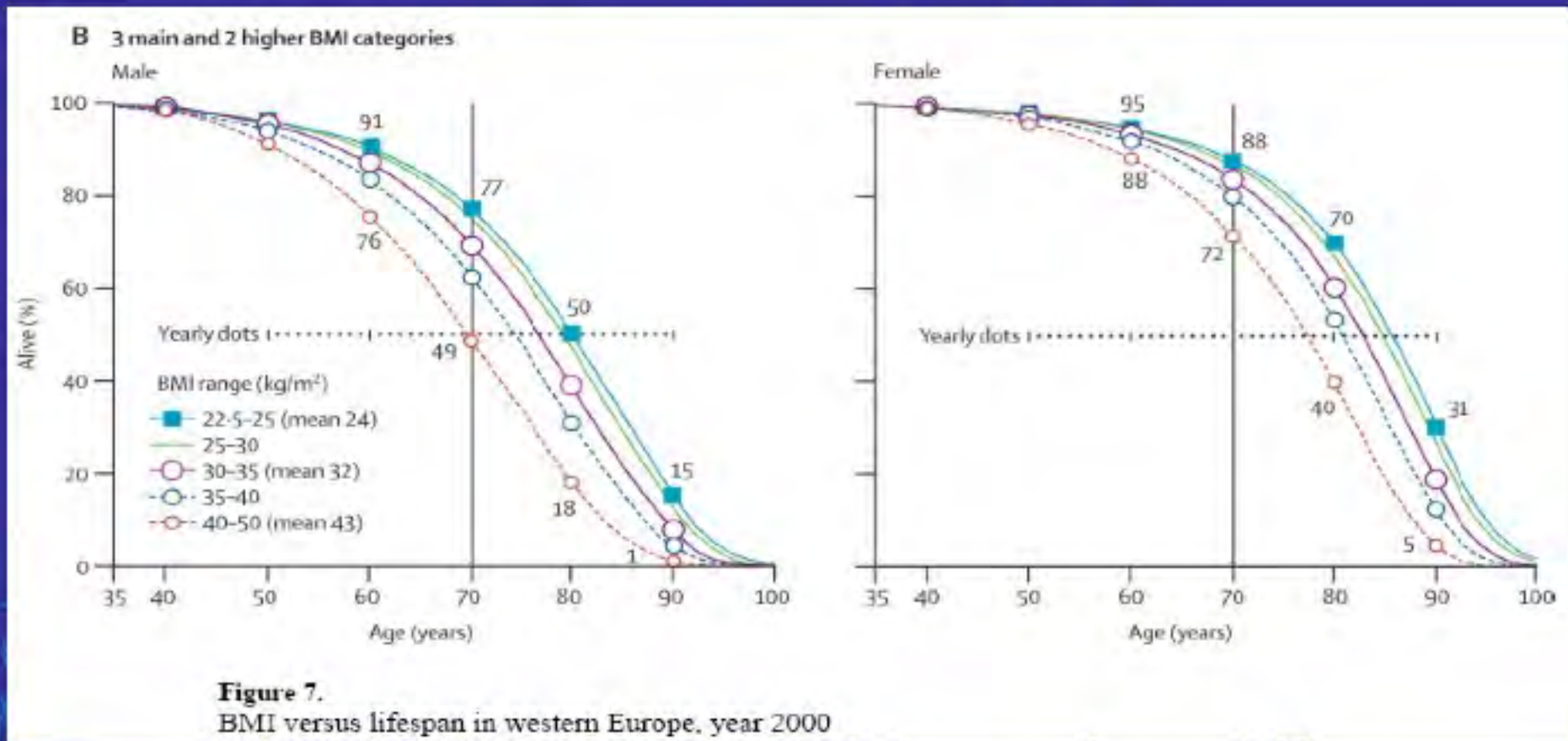




# Life expectancy is reduced by obesity:

**BMI 30-35: reduced 2-4 years**

**BMI 40-50: reduced 8-10 years**



Prospective Studies Collaboration (Whitlock et al)  
Lancet 2009 (cf, Fontaine et al 2003)

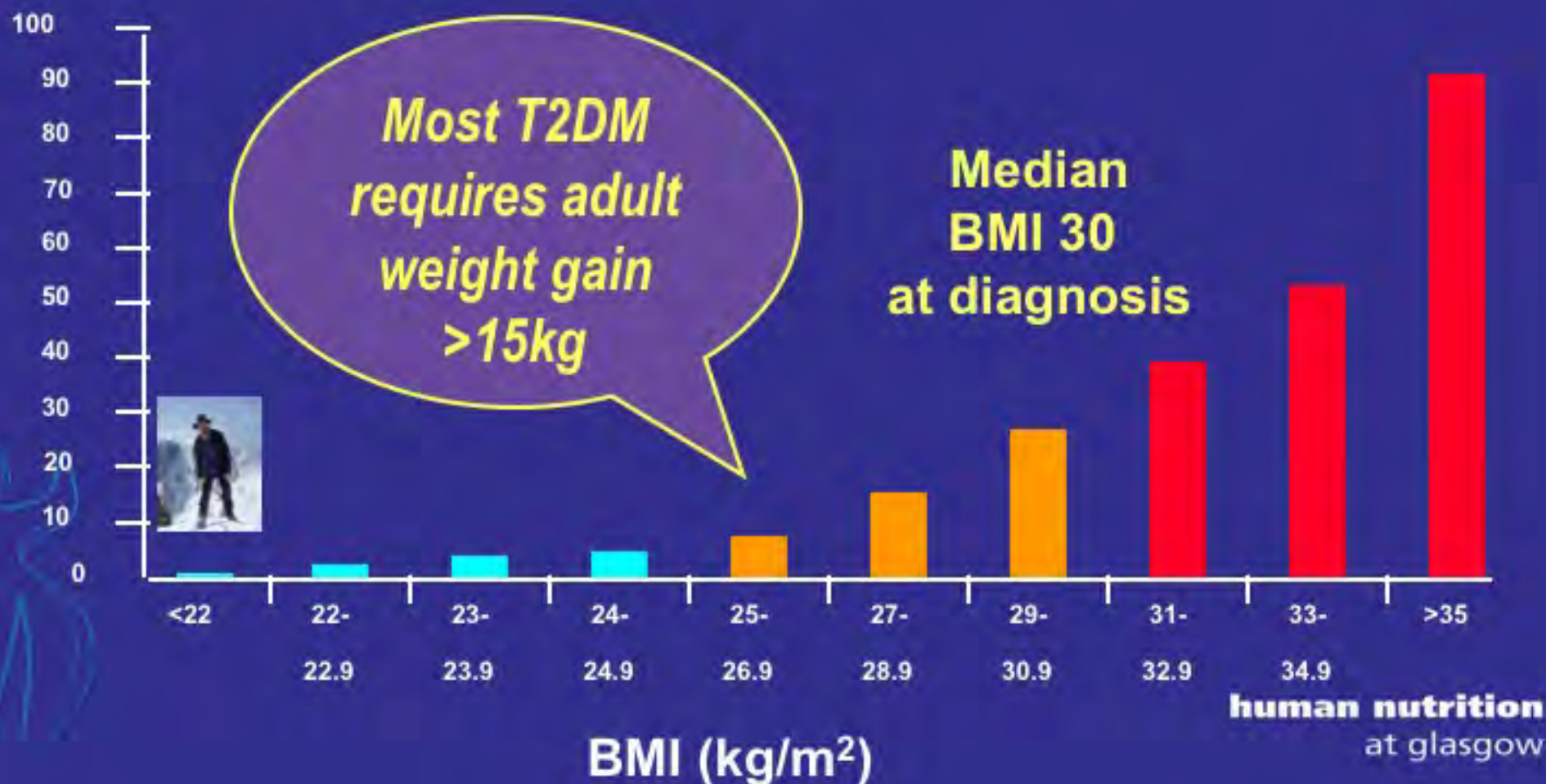
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at glasgow

# Weight gain/ obesity is the main cause of T2DM - and necessary, whatever the genes: High BMI

Colditz GA et al. Ann Int Med, 1995

## Adjusted RR

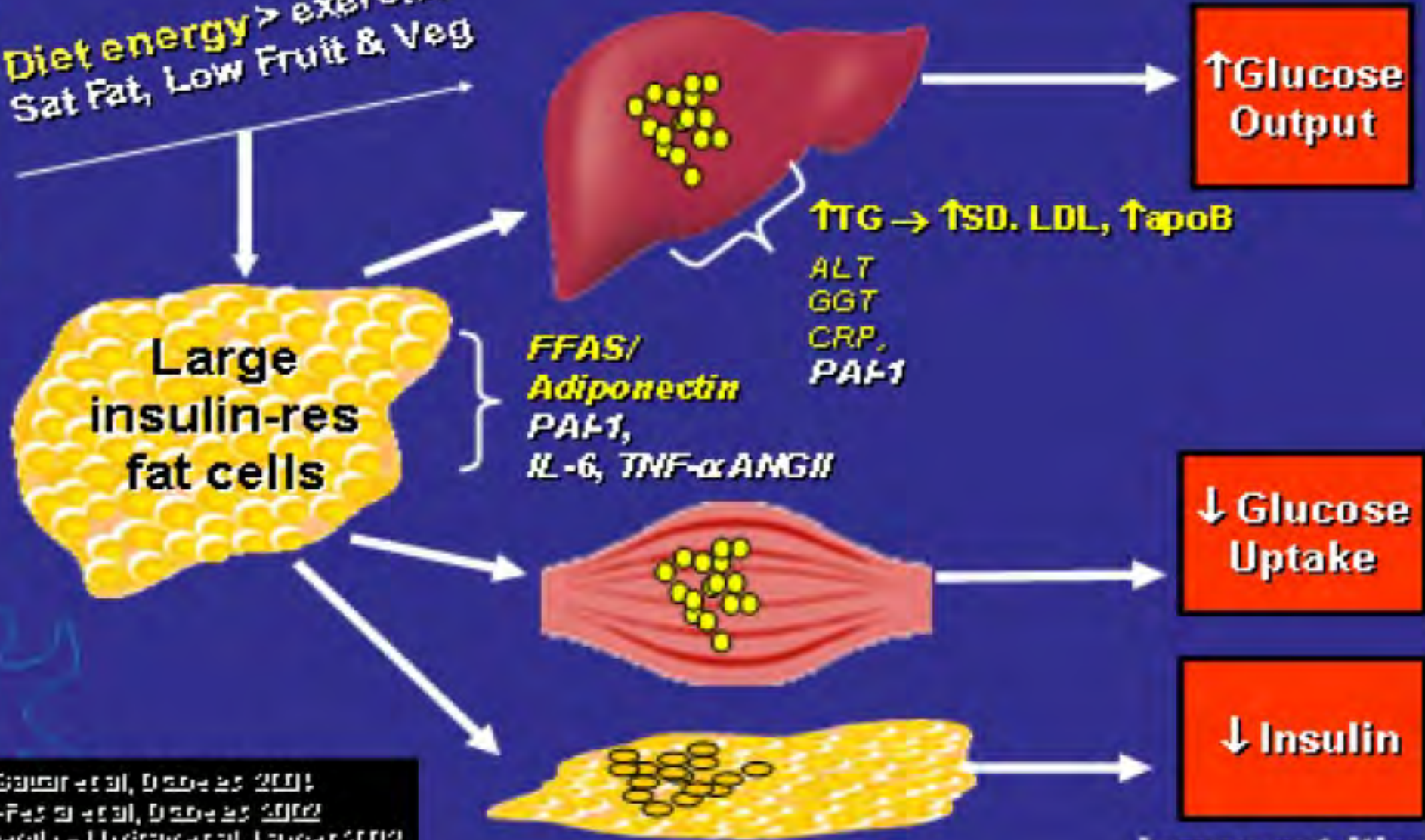
(BMI <22 = referent)





# Excess fat in key organs – precursor to diabetes

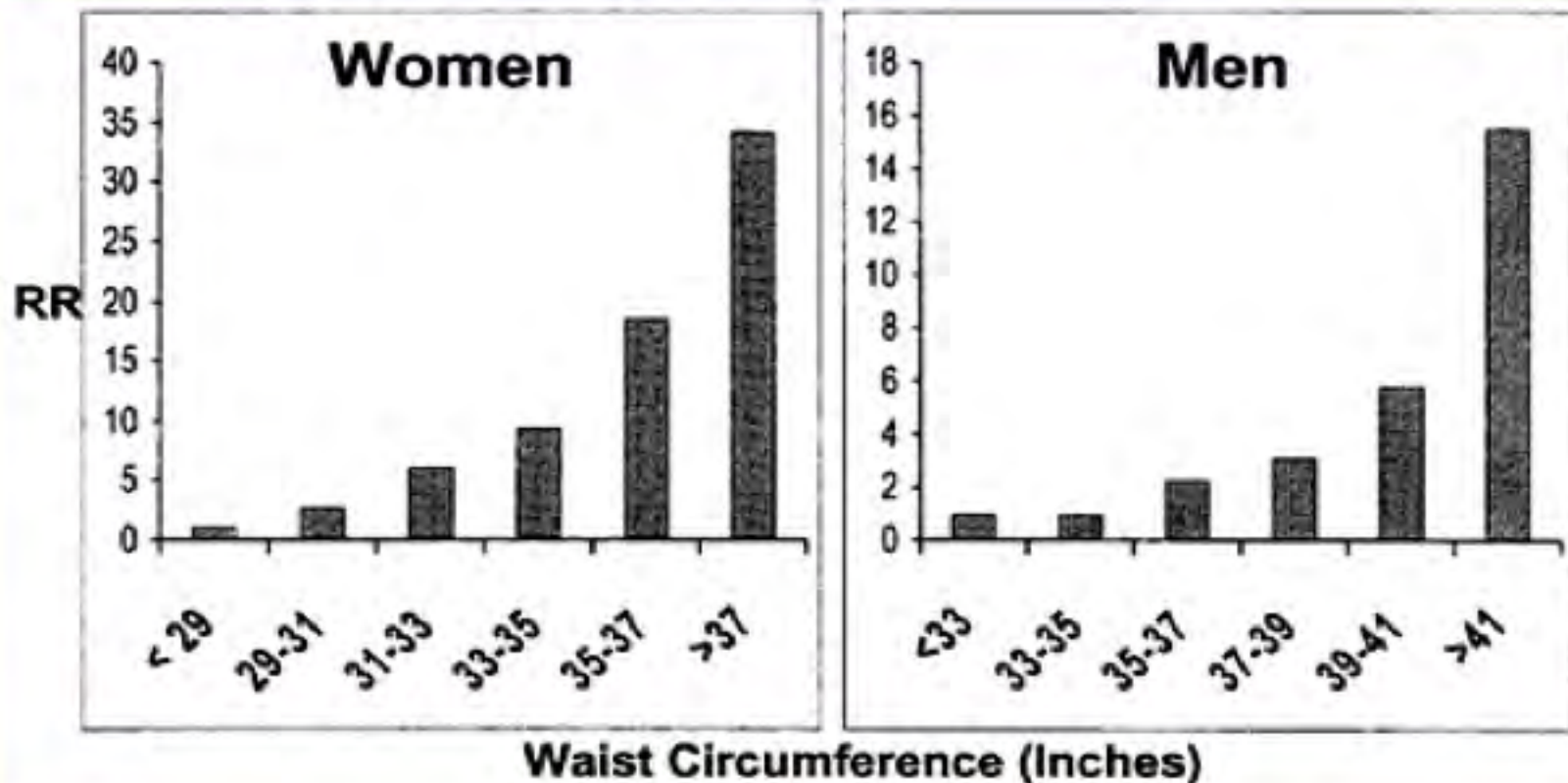
Diet energy > exercise  
Sat Fat, Low Fruit & Veg



ALT - Sattar et al, Diabetes 2004  
PAI-1 - Fesli et al, Diabetes 2002  
Adiponectin - Lindgärde et al, Lancet 2002  
La Wör, Sattar et al, PLoS  
Sattar Clin Lab Liver

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# Large waist circumference promotes Type 2 Diabetes (even with normal BMI)

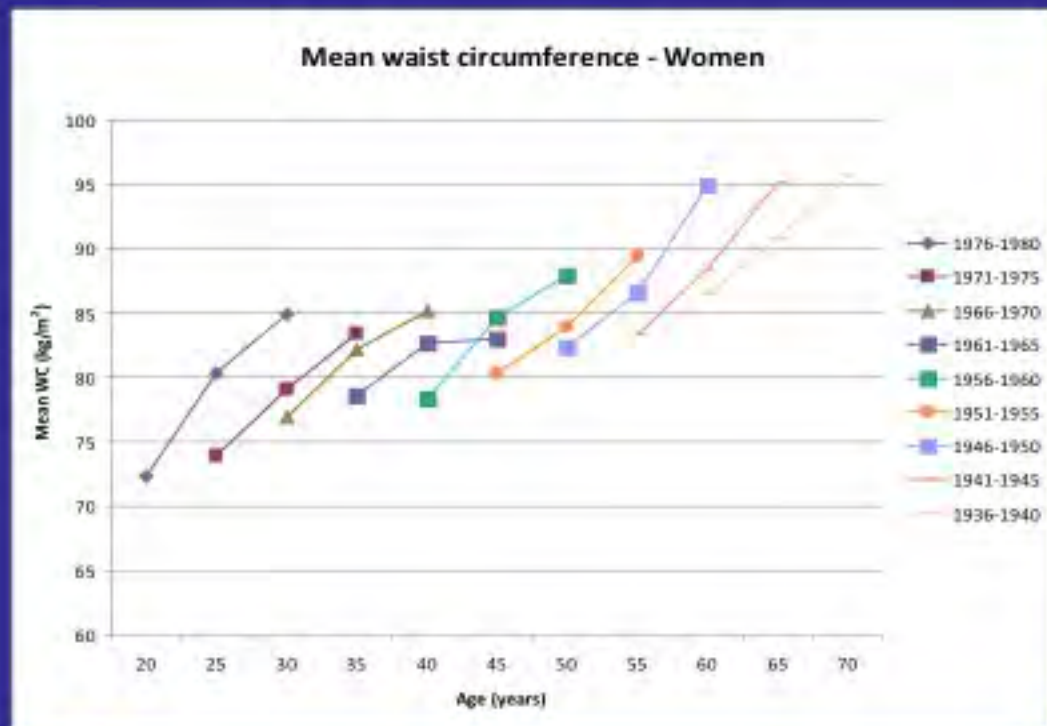
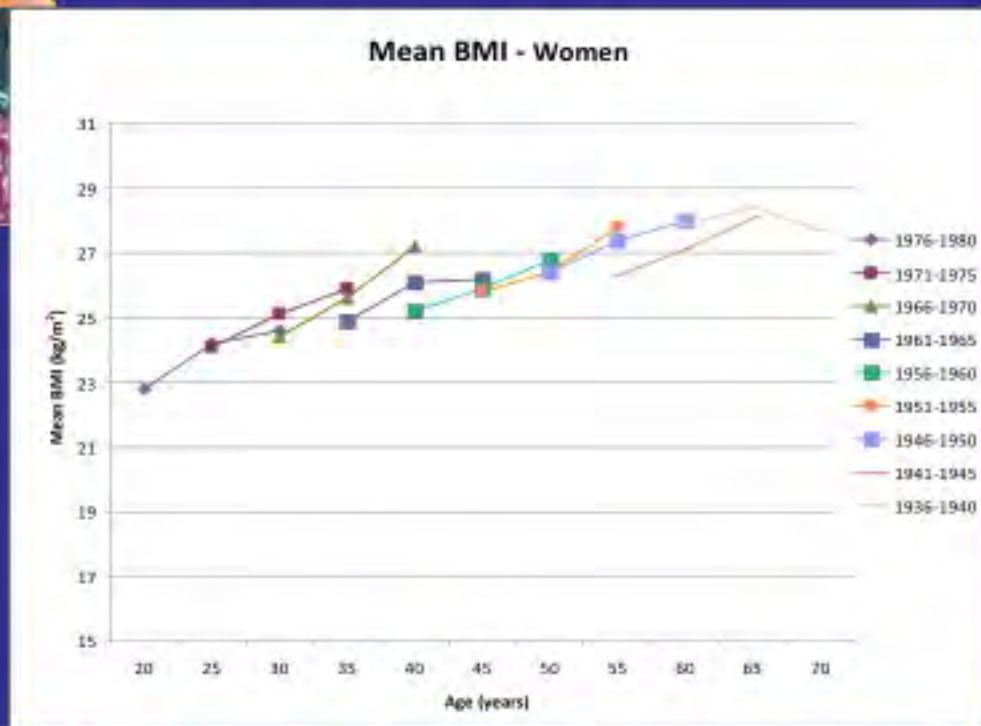


Source: J Womens Health © 2003 Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.



# Changing shapes as people age

## Scottish Health Surveys 1998-2008



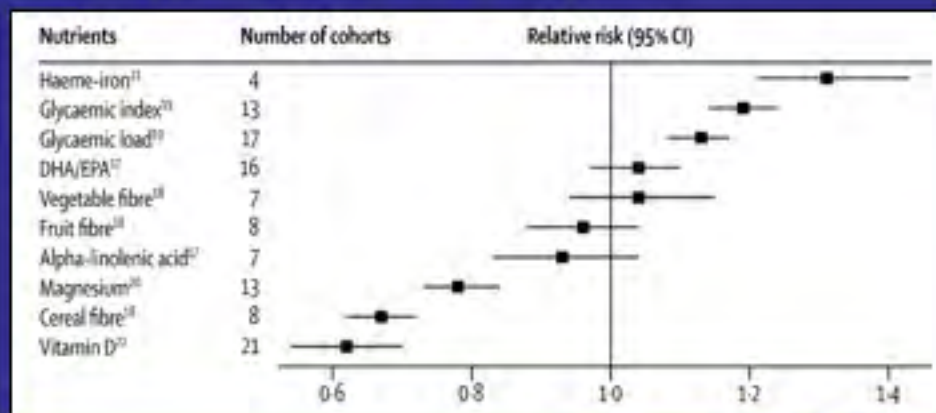
**Women are continuing to get fatter even when Weight/BMI is not increasing much - 'Sarcopenic Obesity'**

Lean et al, Int J Obesity 2012

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# Diabetes Prevention: weight control is vital

- DPP and DPS: mean 4kg weight loss and exercise prevented most progression from IGT to T2DM (57% prevented)
  - Weight loss is the dominant element (Torgerson, XENDOS trial)
  - No need for LELD/VLED
- Additional diabetes prevention
  - Regular physical activity (increase type-1 muscle fibres)
  - Low saturated fat diet
  - Fruit and vegetables
  - Magnesium
  - Cereal fibre
  - Low GI





# The Counterweight Project

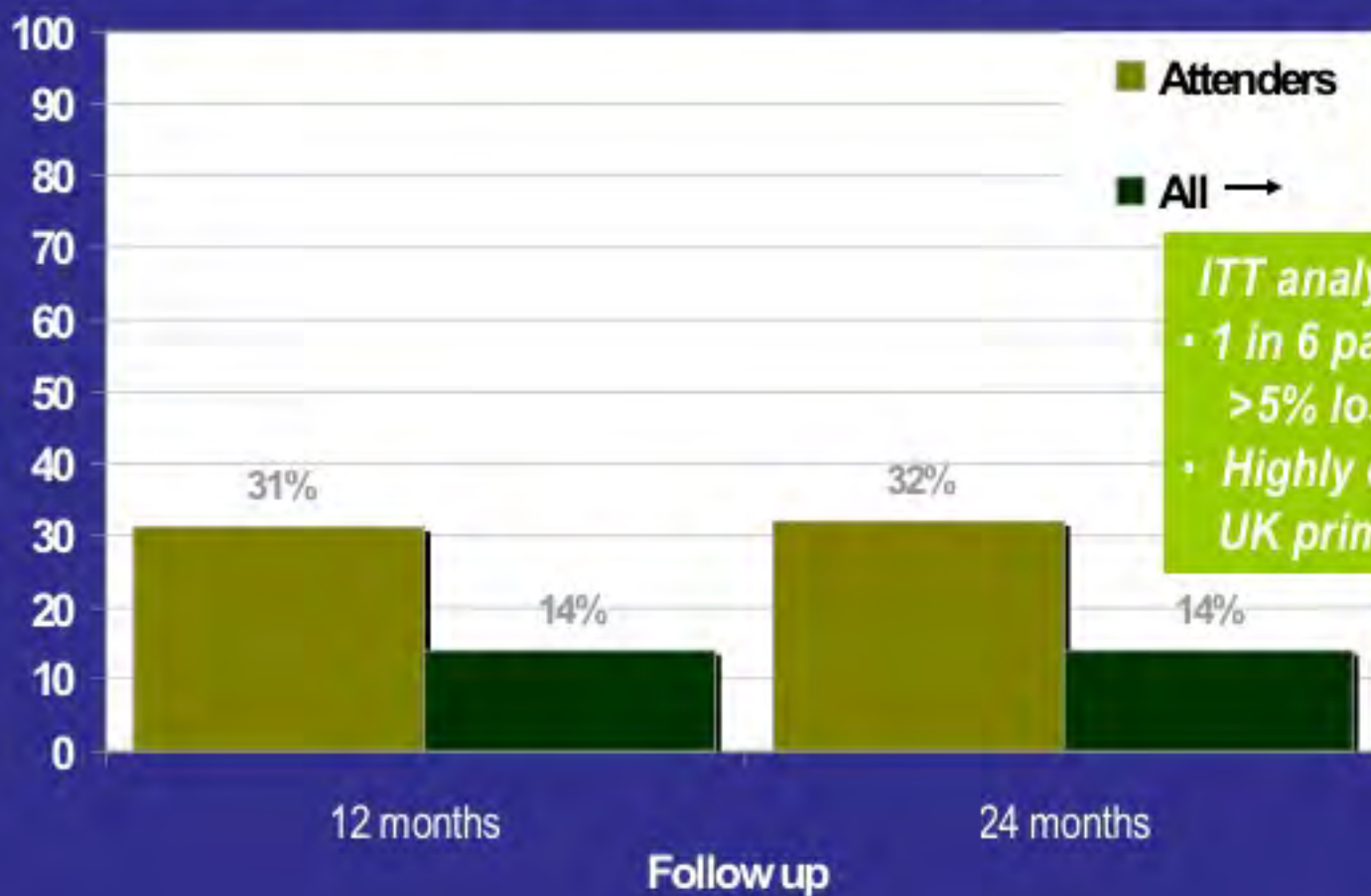


(Kai-zen)

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# Counterweight: evidence-based multi-faceted programme achieving targets in real life

Ross et al, *Br J Gen Practice*. 2008; Lean et al, *Int J Clin Practice* 2010



*ITT analysis*

- 1 in 6 patients achieved >5% loss at 12m & 24m
- Highly cost-efficient in UK primary care

% achieving  
≥5% wt loss  
target



# How good are the Counterweight results?

- Original Evaluation:  
(n = 1906) 1 in 6 maintain >5% weight loss  
at 12 or 24 months (1 in 3 attenders)
  - Scottish Govt. Evaluation:  
(n = 6715) 1 in 10 maintain >5% weight loss  
at 12 months (1 in 3 attenders)
- c.f. Smoking Cessation 1 in 14 quit at 12 months

***What do patients actually  
want to lose? (And doctors)***

***'2 or 3 stones' (15-21kg)***


# Counterweight: evidence-based multi-faceted programme achieving targets in real life

Ross et al, *Br J Gen Practice*. 2008; Lean et al, *Int J Clin Practice* 2010




**% achieving  $\geq 5\%$  wt loss target**





## Severe obesity and T2DM prevalence: estimates from a systematic review

BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	Diabetes Prevalence
30-40	10%
40-50	15%
50-60	15-30%
60-70	20-30%
> 70	30-50%



Grieve, Fenwick & Lean. Obesity Reviews, 2013



## The new epidemic: Severe and complicated obesity

SIGN 115: Management of Obesity 2010

**“In patients with BMI >35 kg/m<sup>2</sup> obesity-related comorbidities are likely to be present therefore weight loss interventions should be targeted to improving these comorbidities; in many individuals a greater than 15-20% weight loss (will always be over 10 kg) will be required to obtain a sustained improvement in comorbidity”.**



*Current prevalence of BMI >35 = 9%*






# The new epidemic: Severe and complicated obesity

SIGN 115: Management of Obesity 2010

*corrected!*

**“In patients with BMI >35 kg/m<sup>2</sup> obesity-related comorbidities are likely to be present therefore weight loss interventions should be targeted to improving these comorbidities; in many individuals a greater than 15-20kg weight loss (will always be over 10%) will be required to obtain a sustained improvement in comorbidity”.**

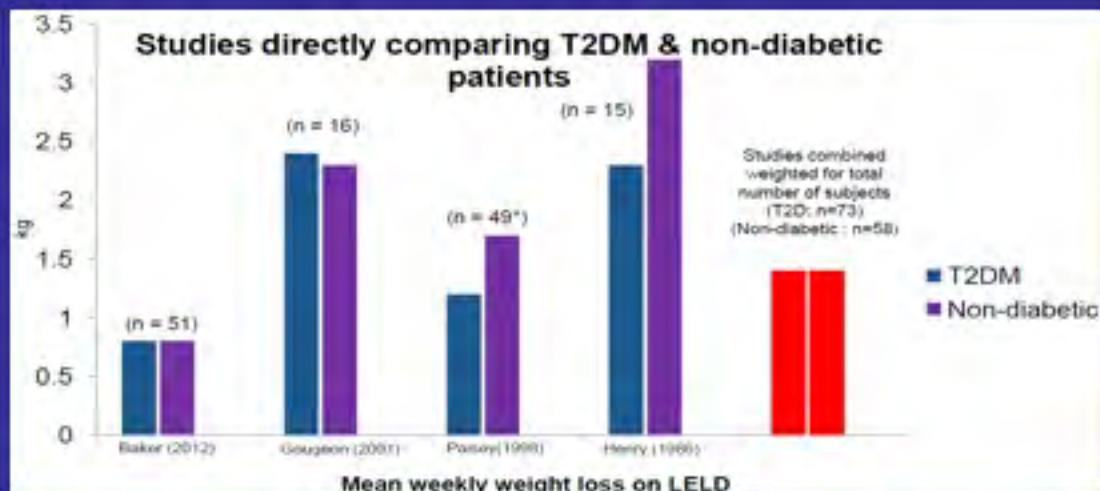


*Current prevalence of BMI >35 = 9%*

# Weight loss for people with T2DM

- With conventional diets, they lose less than non-diabetic people
  - Already doing their best with diet
  - Distracted by having to take 6-8 different drugs every day
  - Insulin and sulphonylureas increase weight
  - Metabolic rate falls when diabetes is better controlled

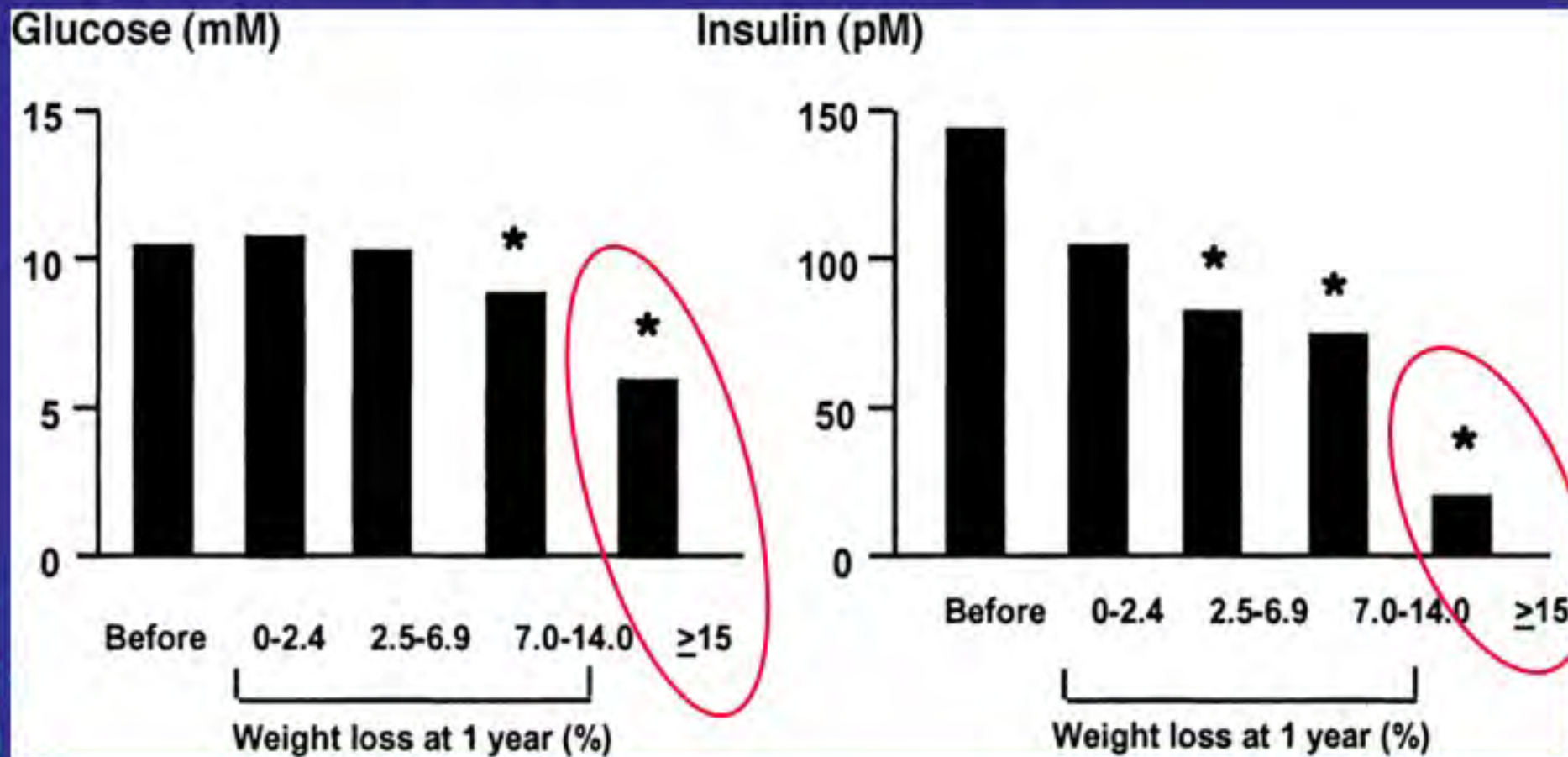
- **With VLCD/  
formula diets,  
they lose the  
same amount**





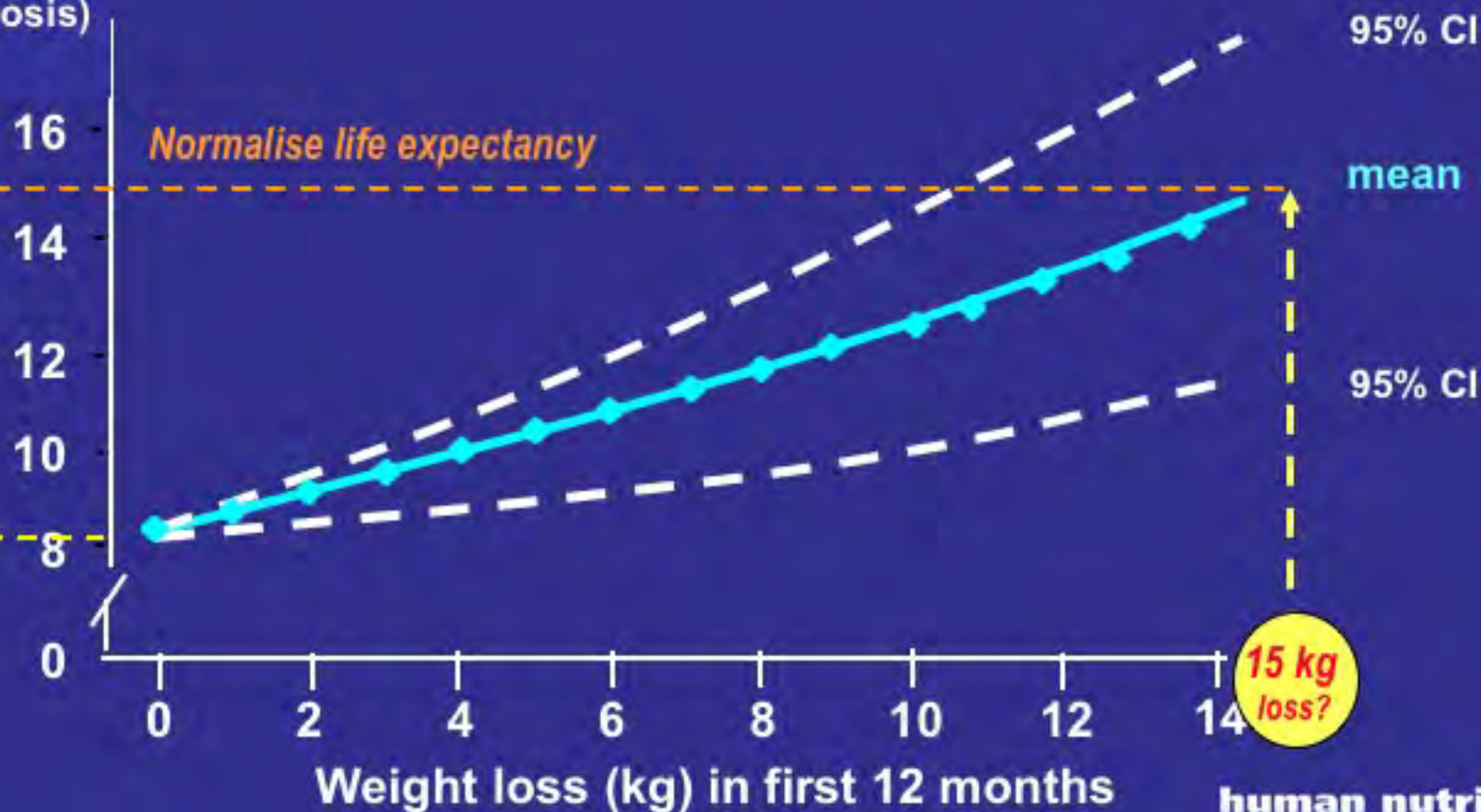
# Weight-loss >15% normalises insulin and glucose at 12 months in T2DM patients

Wing et al. Klein, S. Obesity Research (2001)



# 15kg intentional loss might normalise life expectancy

Life expectancy  
(mean age 64  
at diagnosis)

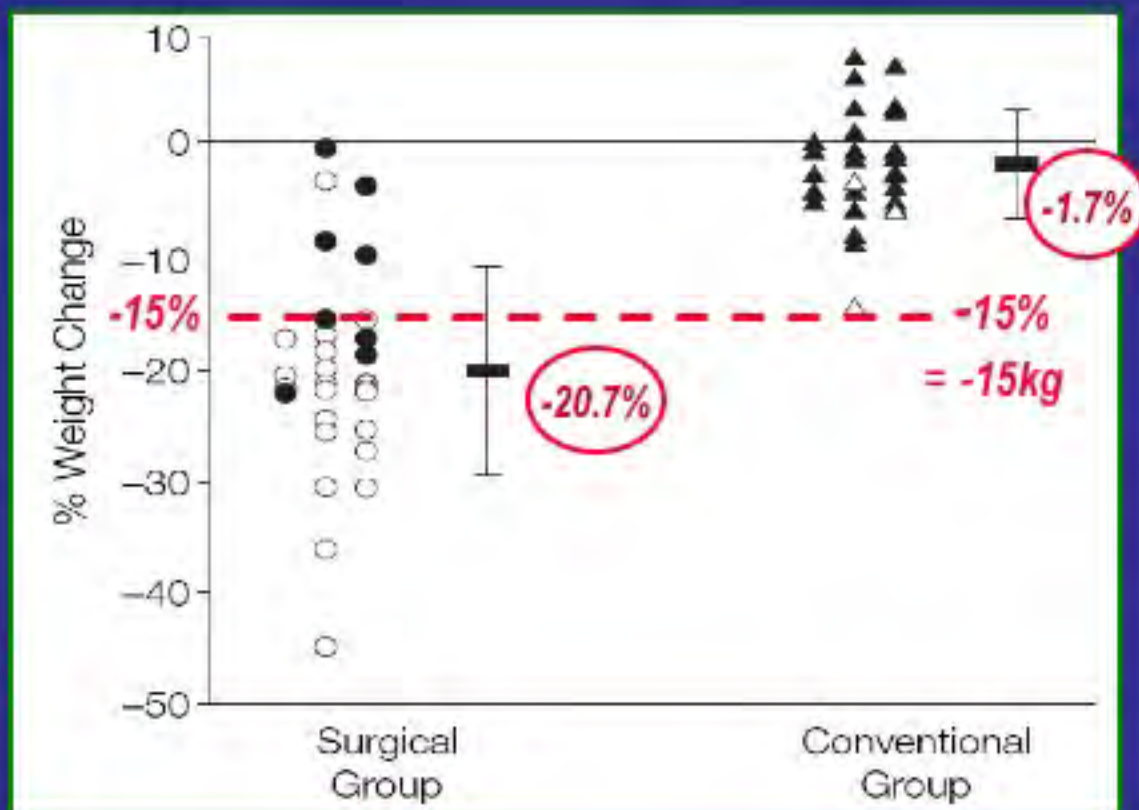


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Lean et al. Diabetic Medicine, 1990



# 15 kg weight loss normalises glucose tolerance: 2-year RCT, gastric band vs diet advice



Conventional group

- △ Achieved remission of type 2 diabetes **13%**
- ▲ Did not achieve remission of type 2 diabetes

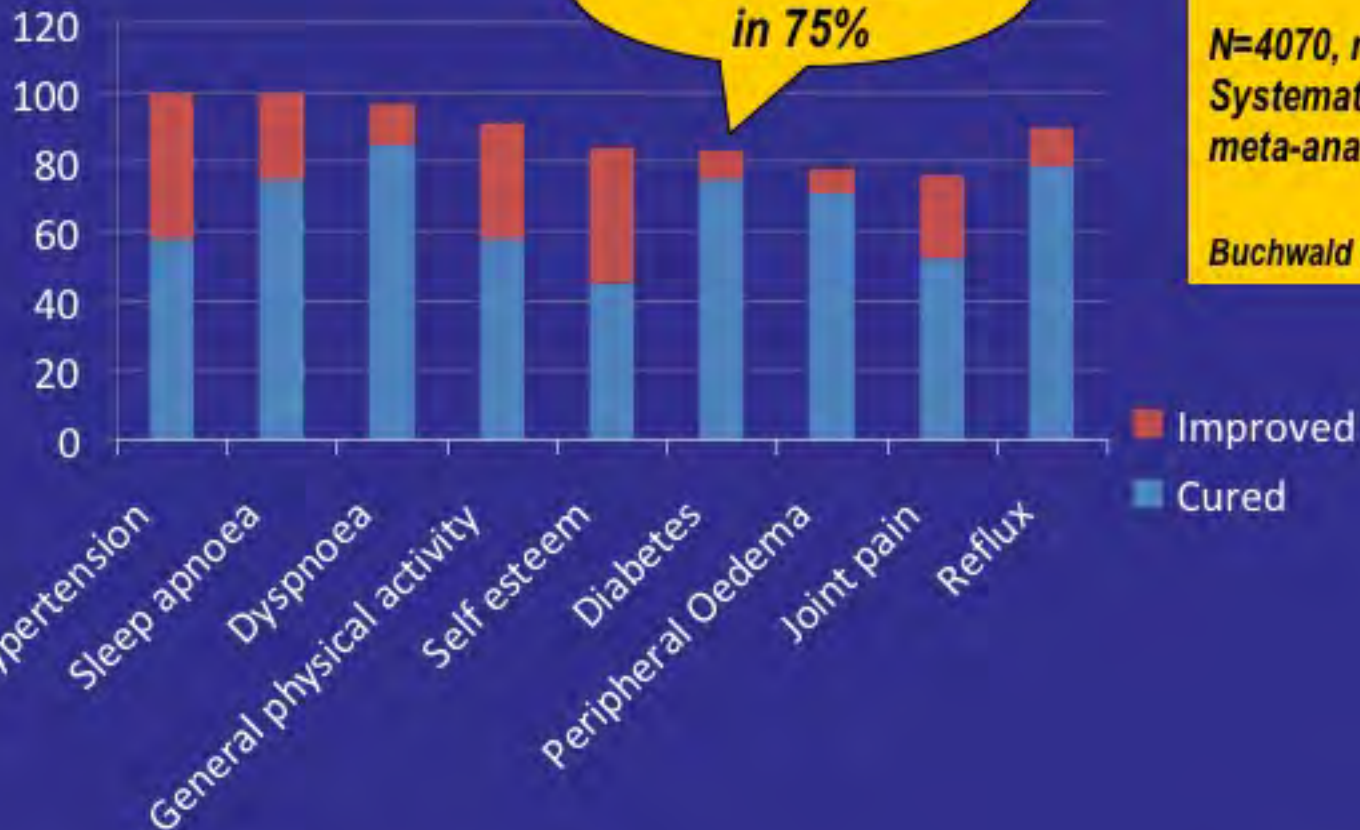
Surgical group

- Achieved remission of type 2 diabetes **73%**
- Did not achieve remission of type 2 diabetes

Dixon et al (2008) JAMA

# Multiple clinical benefits from major weight loss

4 y after laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding



**T2DM 'resolved' in 78%**

*N=4070, mean age 40, BMI 48, Systematic review and meta-analysis*

*Buchwald et al Am J Med, 2009*

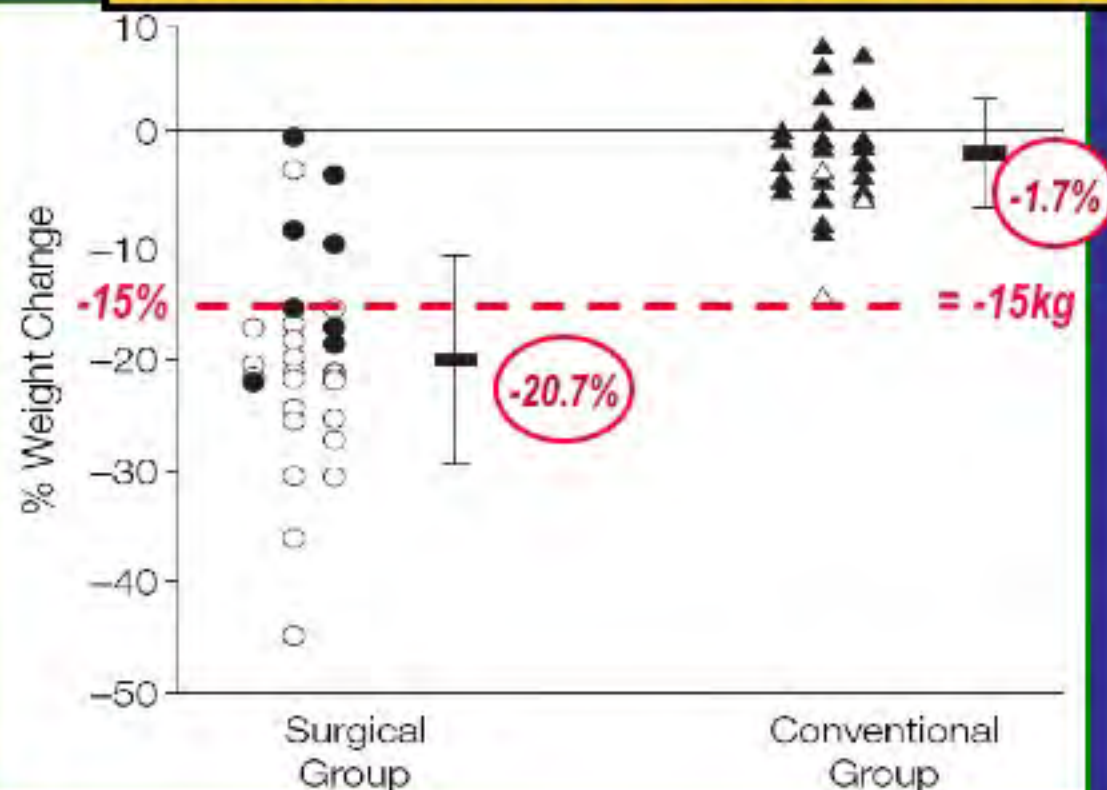


Frigg et al. *Obes Surg*, 2004



# 15 kg weight loss normalises glucose tolerance: 2-year RCT, gastric band vs diet advice

*Can we achieve similar results without surgery?*



Conventional group

- △ Achieved remission of type 2 diabetes **13%**
- ▲ Did not achieve remission of type 2 diabetes

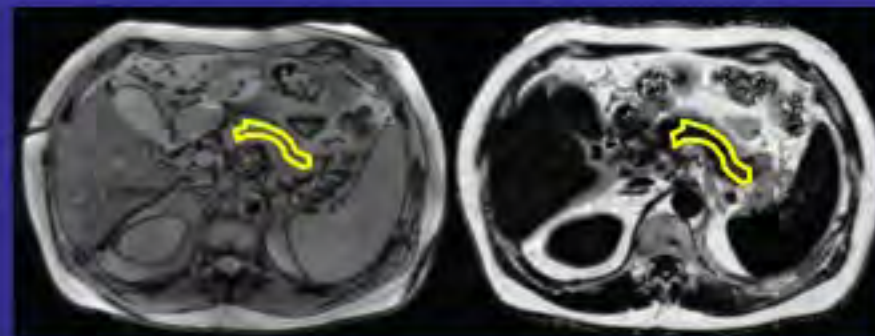
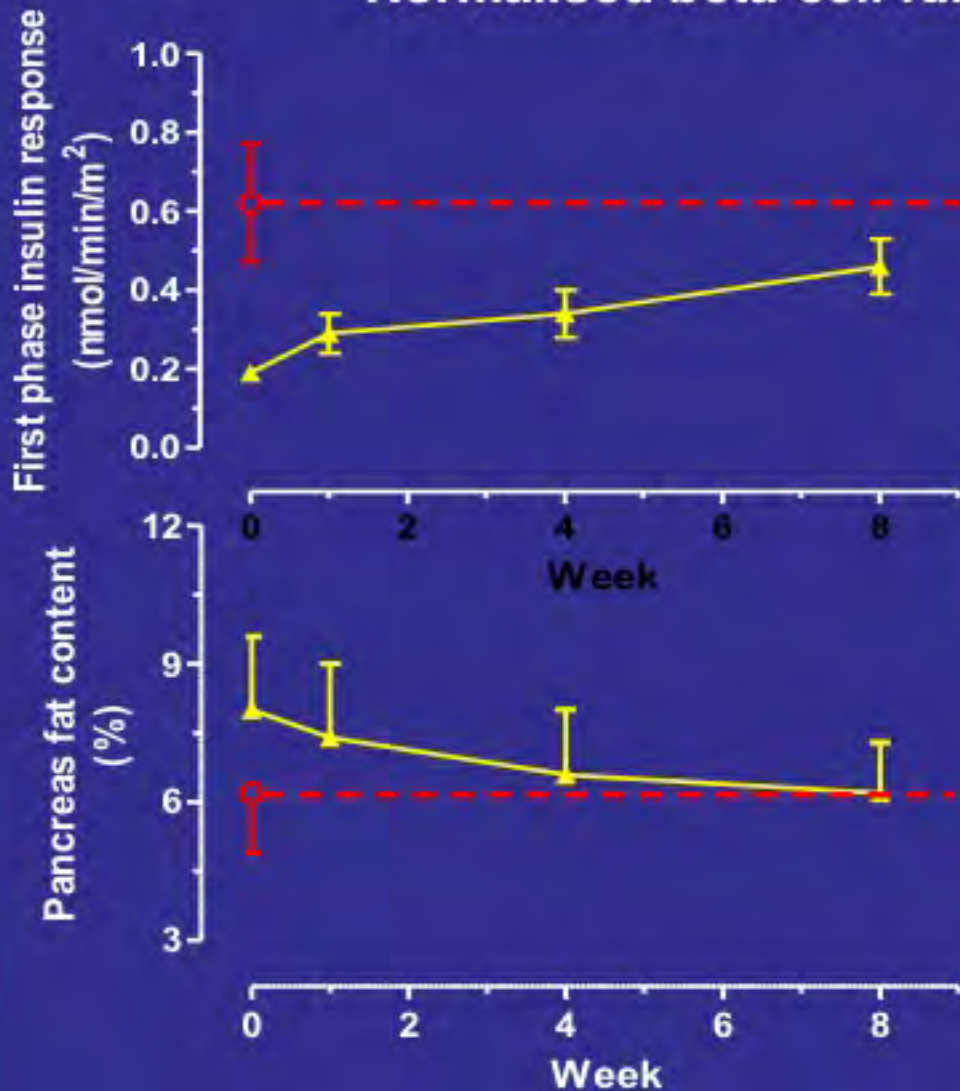
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Dixon et al (2008) JAMA

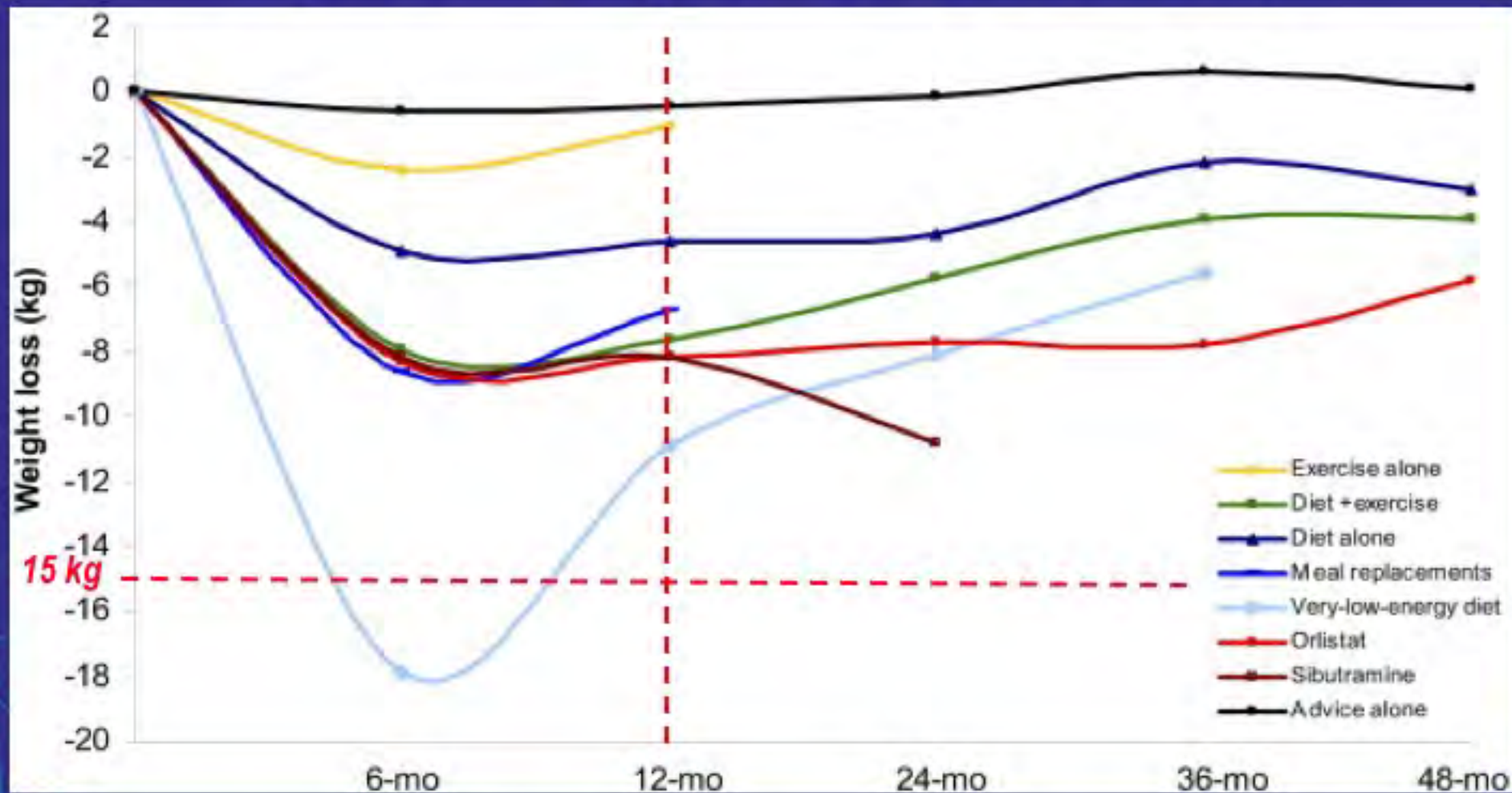
# 15kg weight loss on 450kcal/d diet

Normalised beta-cell function and pancreas fat





# Meta-analysis of non-surgical trials with 1-year follow-up. (Franz MJ et al JADA 2007)



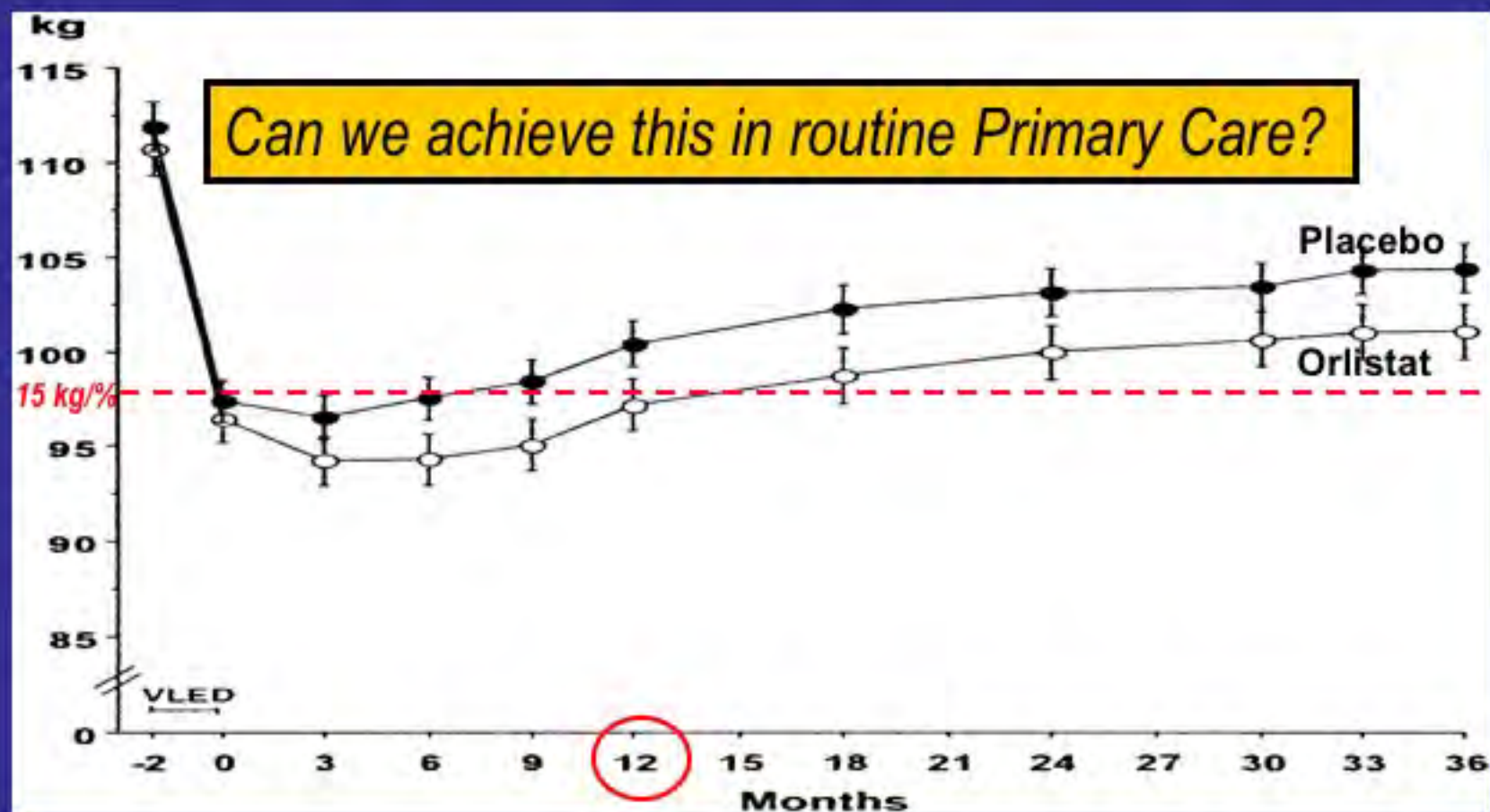
Average weight loss in subjects completing 1-year  
80 studies, n = 26,455, completers = 18,199 (69%)

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# Weight maintenance with orlistat after VLED

**50% of attenders maintained >15kg loss at 12m**

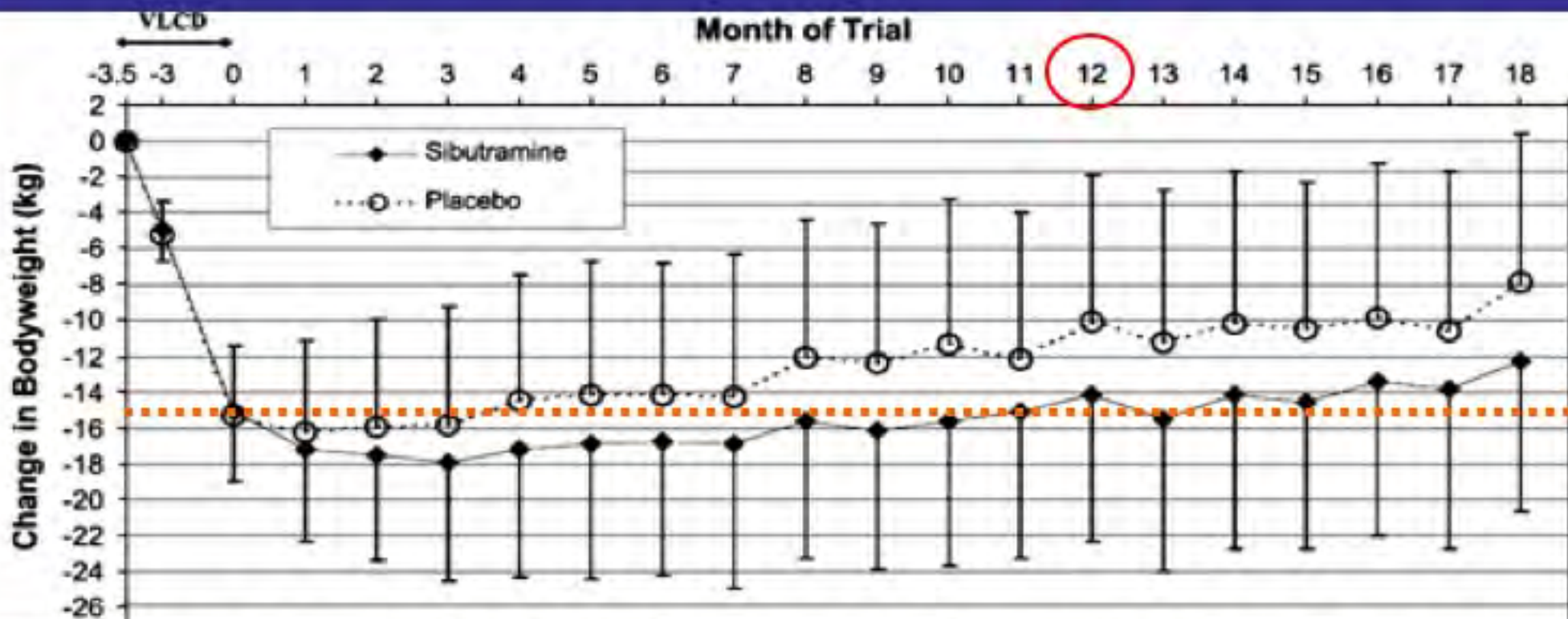
*Richelsen et al Diabetes Care; 2007*





# Combining VLED with sibutramine for long-term maintenance, in a GP setting

*Mathus-Vliegen EMH for Balance Study Group Eur J Clin Nutr 2005*

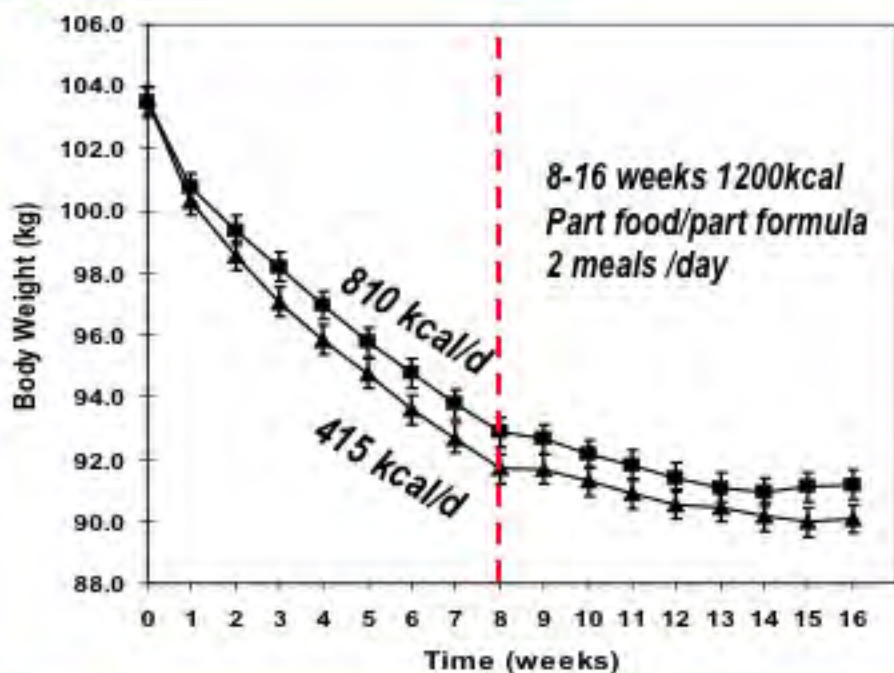


	Month	-3.5	-3	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Sib	N=	94	94	94	90	90	88	88	81	83	80	74	74	68	67	76	63	61	57	56	49	62
Pcb	N=	95	95	95	93	91	90	88	85	85	78	72	71	68	61	78	56	50	46	47	34	58

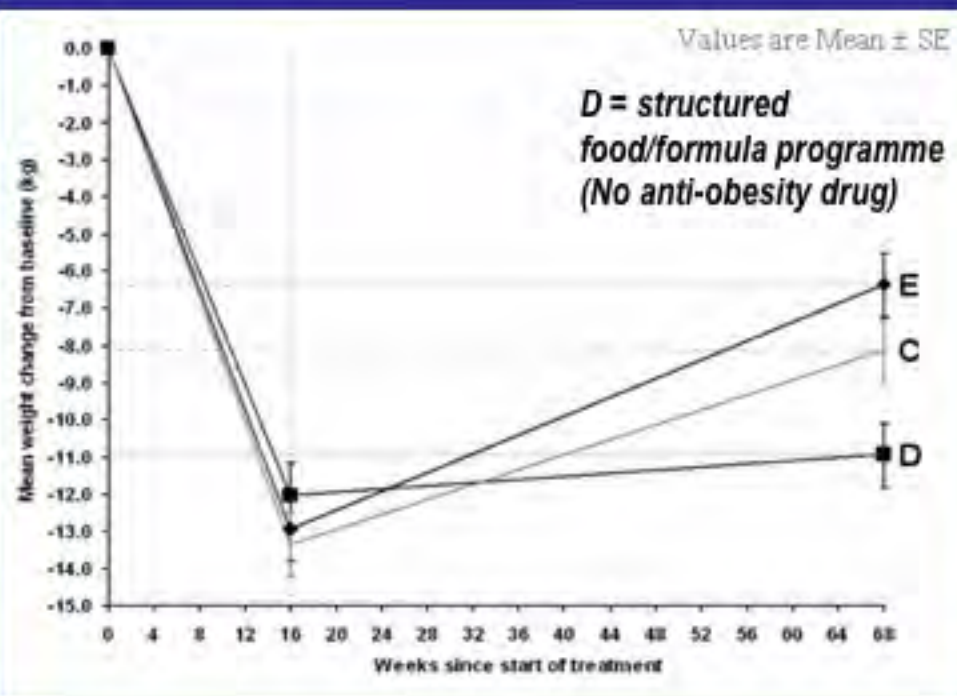
# Little difference between 415kcal VLED or 810kcal LED

## Copenhagen Weight Loss in Knee Osteoarthritis trial

(Bliddal et al, secondary care, dietitian managed)



No difference in weight loss  
n=96 per group



Better maintenance with a structured programme  
n=64 per group



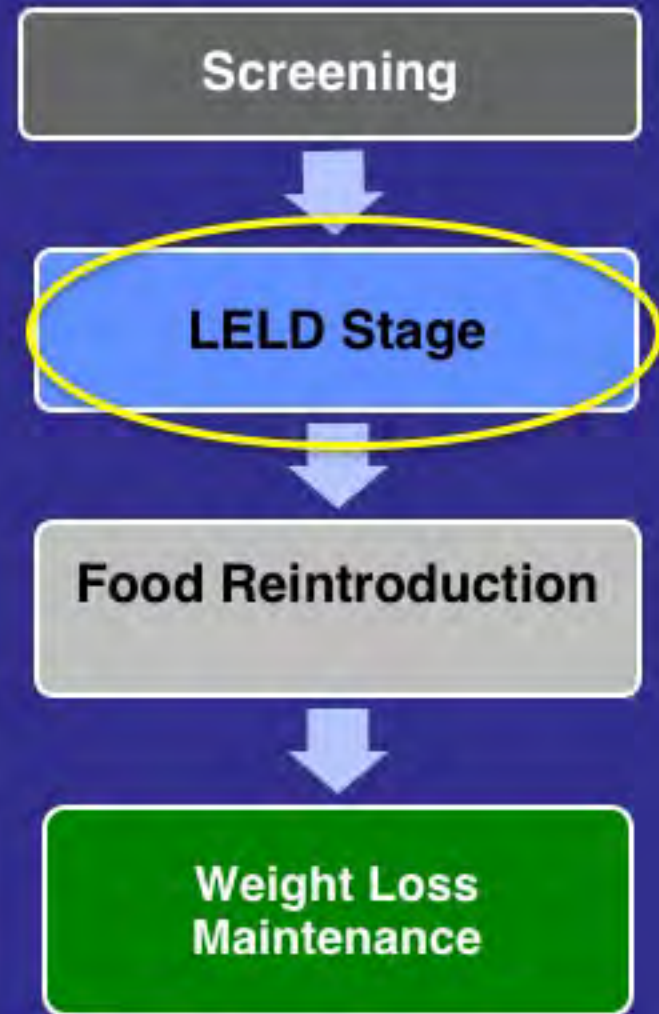
# Counterweight-Plus - Protocol

**Nutritionally complete LELD either:**

- 1) Homemade (811calories/day)
- 2) Commercial (832calories/day)
  - Cambridge Weight Plan
- 3) Mix and match

**Plus:**

- Structured patient education
  - Step down approach optional
- >2.25l fluid per day (4 pints)
- Fibre supplement



*Lean et al , Br J GP (2013)*

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# Weight Loss Maintenance- Protocol

## Stepped Food Reintroduction

- Introduce one 360-400 kcal meal
- Add a meal every two weeks
- Meals based on eatwell plate
- Offer Orlistat

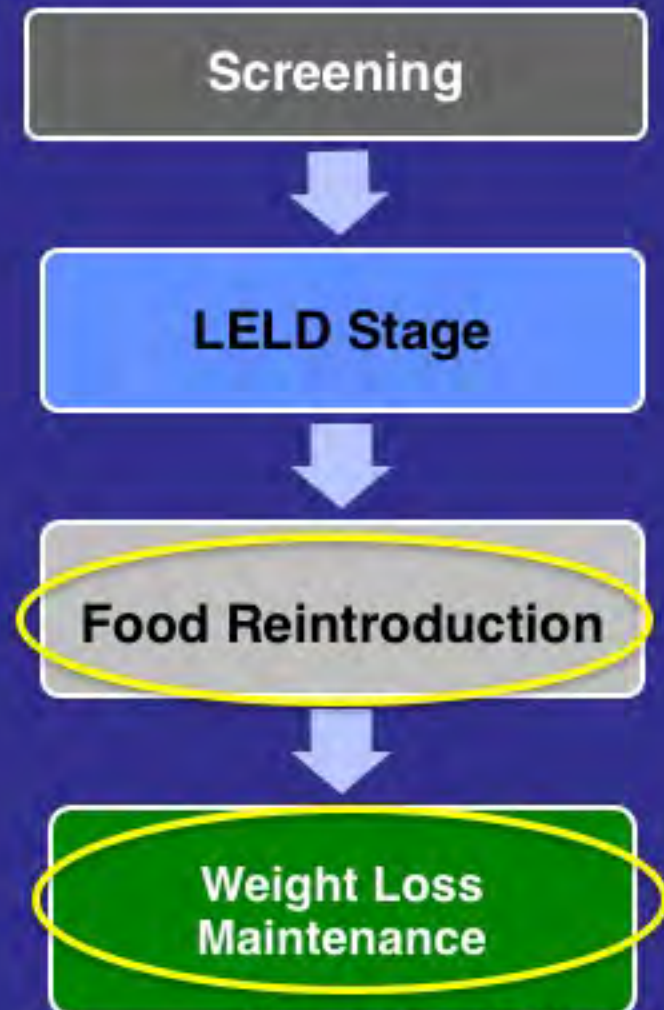
## Maintenance

- Low fat diet (30% fat)
- Estimate 500 kcal/d deficit
- 2500 kcal/d upper limit
- Behavioural strategies

## Relapse Management

- Offer orlistat
- Second attempt LELD stage

Lean et al , Br J GP (2013)



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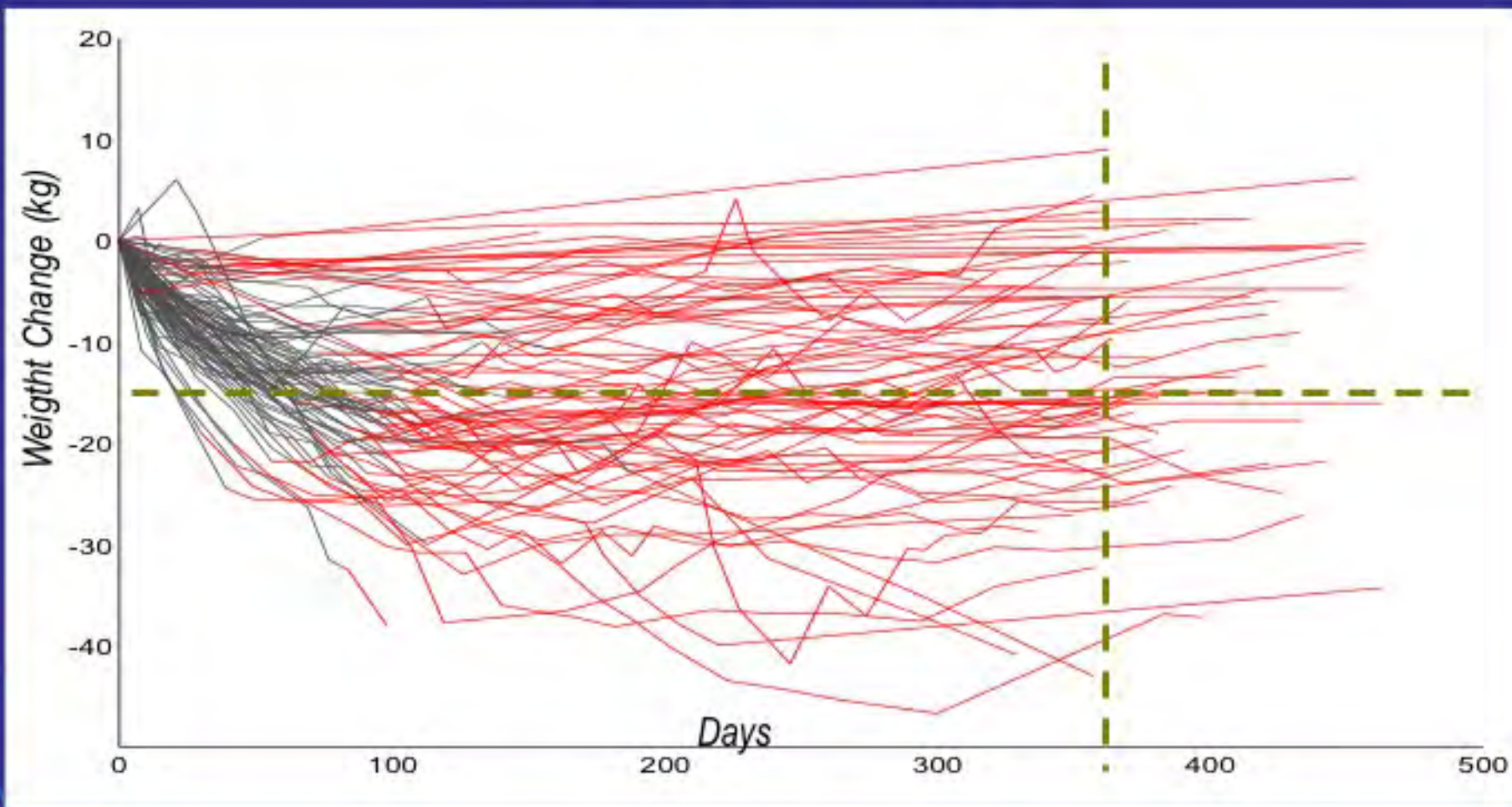




# Counterweight LELD Feasibility Study

- 22 general practices in 7 Scottish Health Boards took part
- 6 practice nurses and 8 dietitians trained to deliver it
- No extra funding
  
- 91 patients entered over 6 months
- 78% women, mean BMI 48 (131kg)
- Average 14 visits, mean 5 hours contact, over 12 months
  
- Feasible to deliver in routine primary care
- Highly acceptable to both patients and practitioners
- Demands high personal responsibility, but well supported

# Initial weight loss is the main determinant of long-term results

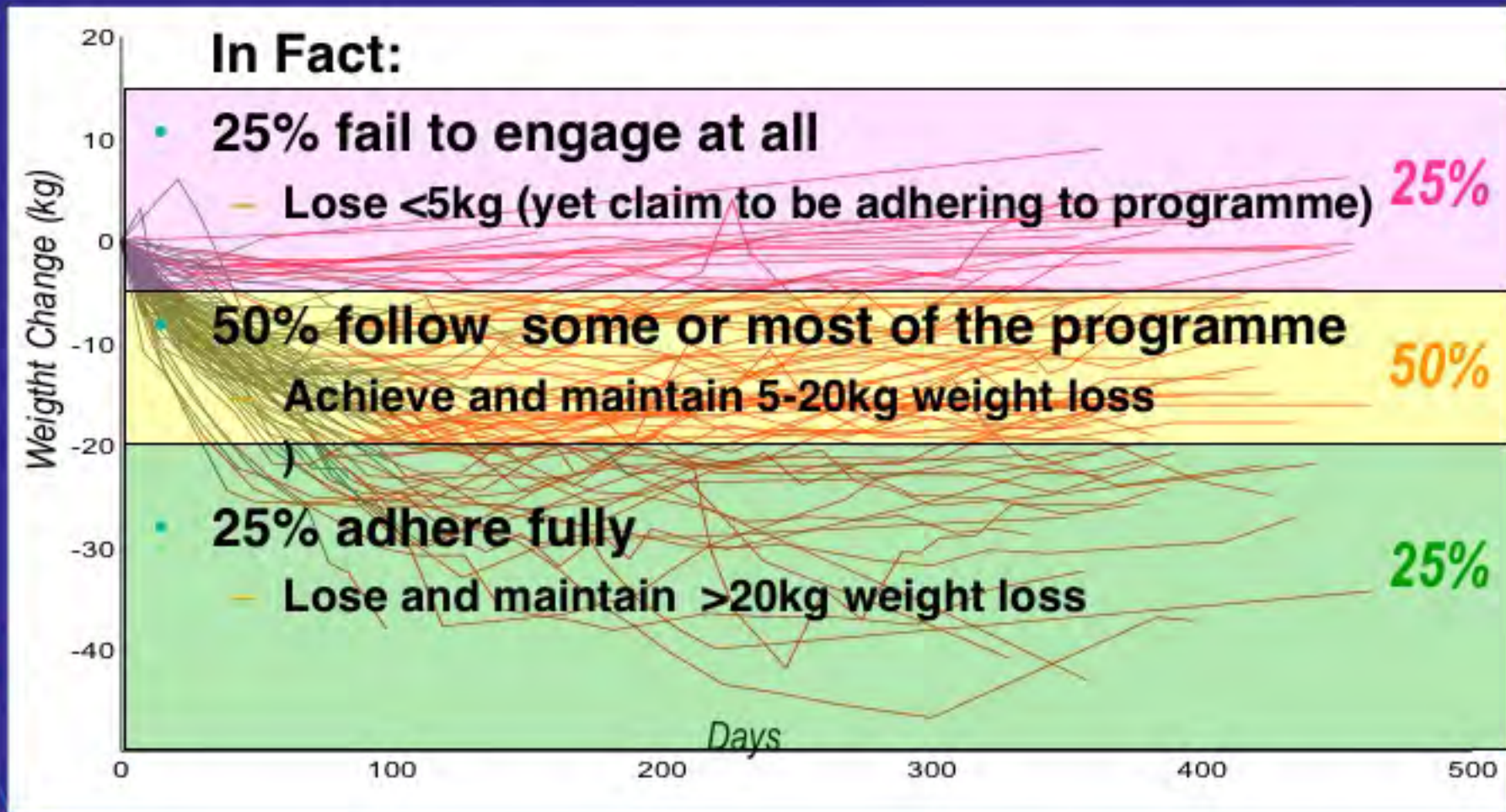


Lean et al , Br J General Practice (2013)

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# Popular Belief: Patients regain all the weight, or more





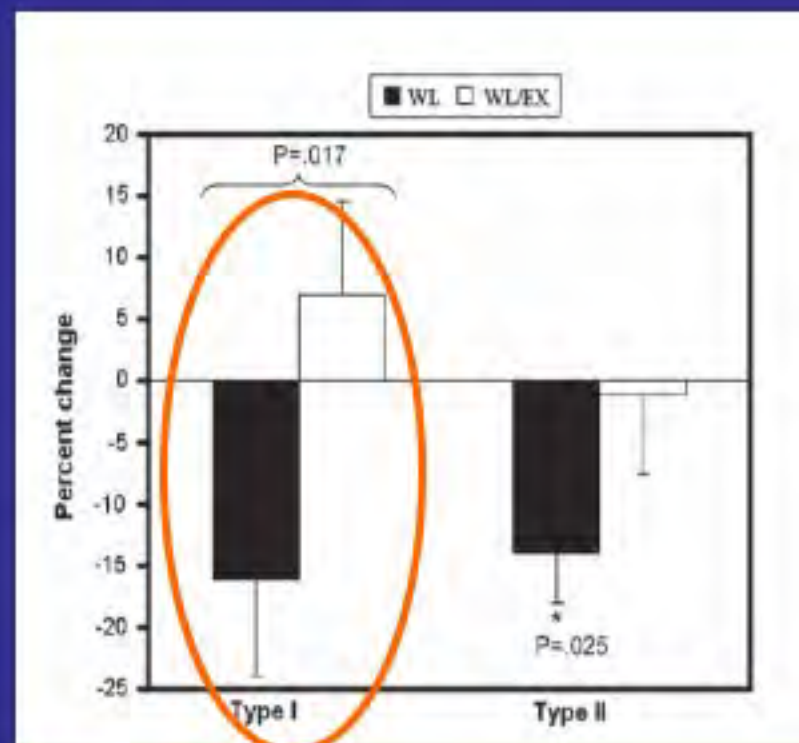
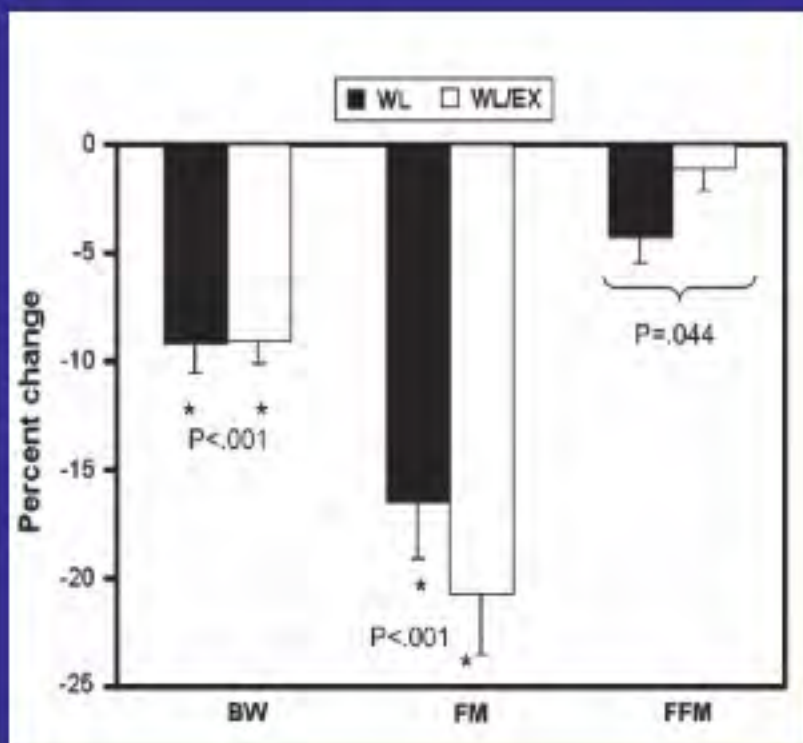
## 'Total Diet Replacement' and structured long-term weight maintenance: Counterweight-Plus

### Maintaining weight loss $\geq 15\text{kg}$ at 12 months:

- 33% of all 91 patients
  - 44% of patients with a known 12-month weight
  - 57% of those who lost  $>15\text{kg}$  on LELD
- 
- **Highly cost-effective:**
    - 3-5 times as many can lose  $>15\text{kg}$  as with bariatric surgery



# Weight loss depletes muscle mass and function if exercise is not included (Chomenowski et al, LOOKAHEAD)



**Oxidative, slow-twitch type-1 muscle fibres**

# Population response to information on reversibility of Type 2 diabetes

- T2DM people want to be non-diabetic
- Many can lose 15kg
- Most become non-diabetic

S. Steven, E. L. Lim and R. Taylor

Magnetic Resonance Centre, Institute of Cellular Medicine, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK

Accepted 10 January 2013

## Abstract

**Aims** Following publication of the Counterpoint Study (on the reversibility of Type 2 diabetes using a very low energy diet), the extent of public interest prompted the authors to make available, on a website, general information about reversing diabetes. Shortly thereafter, individuals began to feed back their personal experiences of attempting to reverse their diabetes. We have collated this information on the effects of energy restriction in motivated individuals with Type 2 diabetes that has been achieved outside a research setting.

**Methods** Emails, letters and telephone communications received between July 2011 and September 2012 were evaluated ( $n = 77$ : 66 men, 11 women). Median diabetes duration was 5.5 years (3 months–28 years). Reversal of diabetes was defined as achieving fasting capillary blood glucose  $< 6.1$  mmol/l and/or, if available, HbA<sub>1c</sub> less than 43 mmol/mol (6.1%) off treatment.

**Results** Self-reported weight fell from  $96.7 \pm 17.5$  kg at baseline to  $81.9 \pm 14.8$  kg after weight loss ( $P < 0.001$ ). Self-reported fasting blood glucose levels fell from 8.3 mmol/l (5.9–33.0) to 5.5 mmol/l (4.0–10.0) after the weight loss period ( $P < 0.001$ ). Diabetes reversal was considered to have occurred in 61% of the population. Reversal of diabetes was observed in 80, 63 and 53% of those with  $> 20$ , 10–20 and  $< 10$  kg weight loss, respectively. There was a significant correlation between degree of weight loss and reported fasting glucose levels ( $R_s -0.38$ ,  $P = 0.006$ ). Reversal rates according to diabetes duration were: short ( $< 4$  years) = 73%, medium (4–8 years) = 56% and long ( $> 8$  years) = 43%.

**Conclusion** These data demonstrate that intentional weight loss achieved at home by health-motivated individuals can reverse Type 2 diabetes. Diabetes reversal should be a goal in the management of Type 2 diabetes.





# **DiRECT**

**Diabetes Remission Clinical Trial**

**2013-2018**  
funded by **DiABETES UK**  
to Mike Lean and Roy Taylor

- Cluster-Randomised Trial: **Counterweight-Plus\*** 810kcal/d LELED and weight maintenance programme vs usual care
  - Both arms follow current clinical guidelines
  - 280 patients, BMI >27, diagnosed T2DM <6 years, not on insulin
- Co-primary endpoints: **weight loss >15kg** and **non-diabetic HbA1c**
  - at 12 & 24 months **off all drugs** (plus life-long clinical monitoring)
- Mechanistic and Magnetic Resonance studies
- Qualitative and process evaluation
- Planned economic analyses



\* Supported by Cambridge Weight Plan

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# Mechanistic Studies – Newcastle

(n = 88, at baseline, 3 & 12m)

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## Day 1

Pancreas and liver fat

Abdominal Magnetic Resonance scanning

Beta-cell function

Stepped hyperglycaemic clamp & arginine stimulation, to measure maximal insulin

## Day 2

Whole body glucose & lipid oxidation

Indirect calorimetry (fasting & rested)

VLDL<sub>1</sub> and VLDL-apoB100 secretion

Intralipid (fat) infusion

PNPLA3 genotyping



# Qualitative Evaluations

During WL, FR and Maintenance phases

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## Participants:

Cognitive, affective and social predictors of adherence

Mobile phone based Ecologic Momentary Assessment (EMA)

Barriers, facilitators & strategies for self-control

Semi-structured theory domain interviews

Quality of Life

EQ-5D questionnaire

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## Health Professionals:

Barriers to implementation & ease of engagement with the intervention

Semi-structured theory domain interviews



# Team

## Principal Investigators

Professor Mike Lean

Professor Roy Taylor

## Co-investigators

Professor Ashley Adamson

Dr Falko Sniehotta

Professor Ian Ford

Professor Naveed Sattar

Professor John Mathers

Dr Kieran Hollingsworth

Louise McCombie

Hazel Ross

## Study Coordinator

Dr Wilma Leslie

## Research Associates

Alison Barnes

Naomi Brosnahan

George Thom

## Partners:

Glasgow University, Newcastle University,  
Diabetes UK, Counterweight Ltd, Cambridge Weight Plan



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# Conclusions

1. 'Well-treated' type 2 diabetes is not a well-treated patient
  - Still a devastating disease, despite drugs and guidelines
2. Being non-diabetic is now a reasonable goal
  - Maintain waist <80 cms (women), <94cms (men)
  - If pre-diabetic: lose 5kg and maintain weight loss
  - If diabetic: lose >15kg and maintain weight loss
3. Personal commitment to weight control is essential
4. Matched professional commitment and training is essential
5. Public Health responsibility is essential to oppose obesogenic commercial and political activities





# Routine management of T2DM

**1st priority** - reduce dietary fats (esp. saturated fat)  
and lose >15kg weight, maintaining physical activity

- Not just sugar avoidance
- Not primarily drugs
- Formula diets are more effective than conventional lifestyle advice, and more cost-effective than bariatric surgery

**2nd priority** - prevent weight gain/ treat obesity in pre-diabetic family members

- So** - Doctors and nurses must be trained, and resourced, to offer:
- Optimal evidence-based diets, for weight loss
  - Lifestyle advice & support for long-term weight maintenance





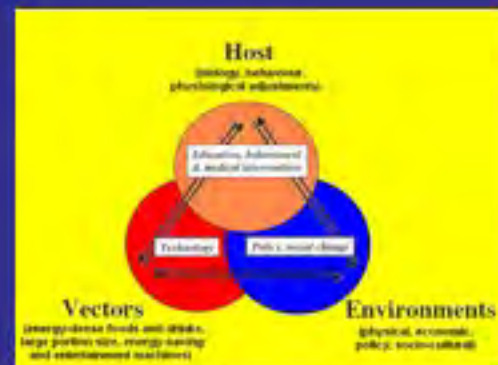


# Ethics of treatments for diabetes

- No drug should be prescribed without urging personal responsibility, with professional support, for diet and lifestyle change
- No clinical trial in T2DM patients should be permitted unless **optimal diet and lifestyle advice** is given to both intervention and placebo arms
- Prescribing physicians should have training and resources to provide **optimal evidence-based diet and lifestyle advice**
  - **AND ACCEPT THAT NOT ALL WILL SUCCEED**



# Epidemic!\*



## Medical Responsibility

Optimal medical treatment within available resources

- Diet & lifestyle
- Drugs
- Surgery

## Political Responsibility

Government interventions to remove primary causes

- Catering outlets **increasing**
- Meals/snacks outside home **increasing**
- Portion sizes **increasing**
- Physical inactivity.....

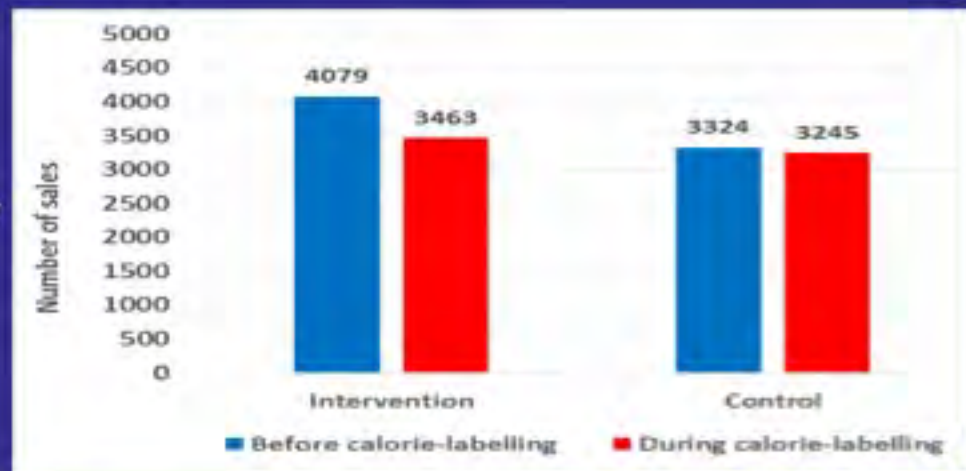
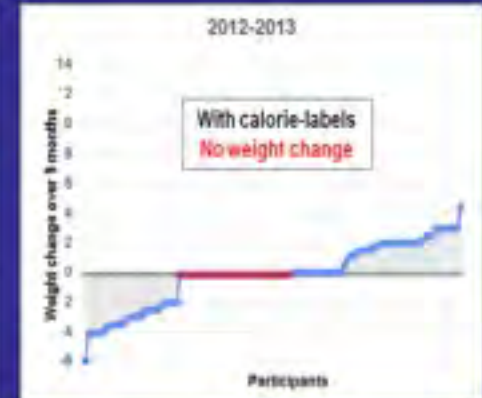
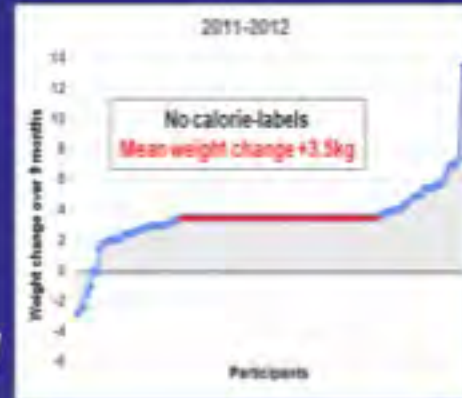
\* WHO: 'Critical Threshold for Intervention'

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# New evidence for primary prevention of obesity: ----- prominent **Calorie-Labeling**

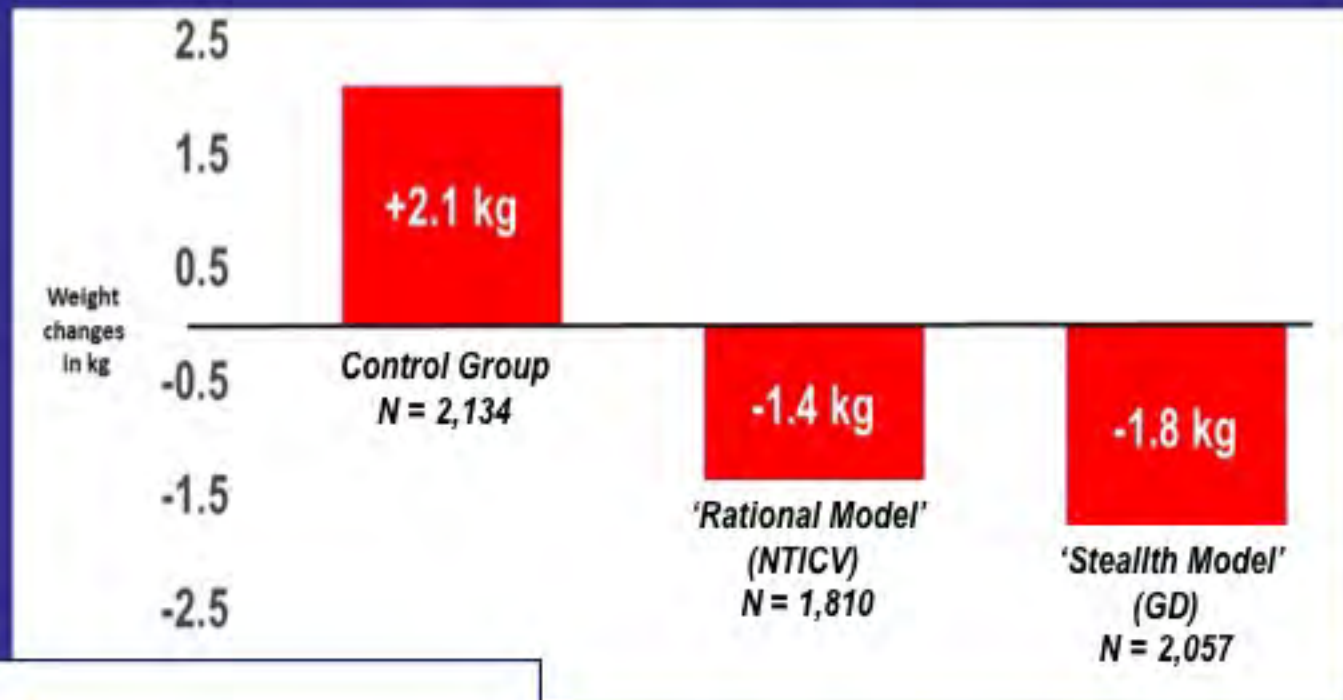
- Systematic Review: Overall no effect of calorie labelling, **but -124kcal for those who noticed the labels** (Nikolaou et al, IJO, 2014)
- Meals currently supplied to young adults are excessively calorie-rich (Nikolaou et al Int J Obesity, 2014)
- Prominent main-meal calorie-labelling prevents weight gain over 9 months in young adults (Nikolaou et al, Obesity 2014)
- Prominent calorie-labelling at self-serve food outlets leads to lower-calorie choices (Nikolaou et al Preventive Medicine, 2014)



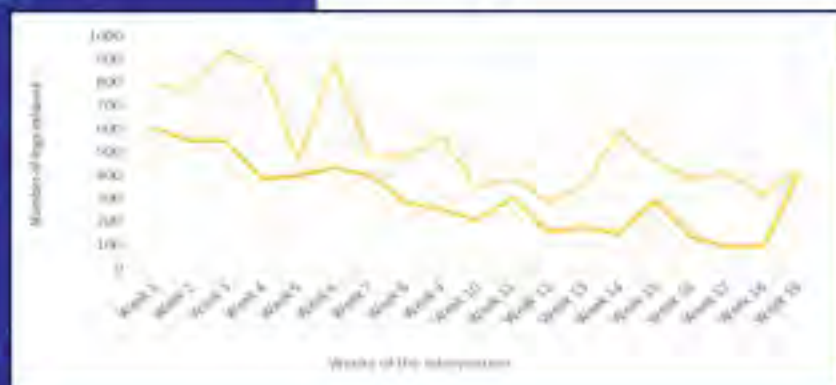
(all: Nikolaou, Hankey & Lean, 2014)

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# 9-month weight changes in 20,975 young adults randomised to an on-line public health intervention



(Nikolaou, Hankey & Lean, under review, 2015)

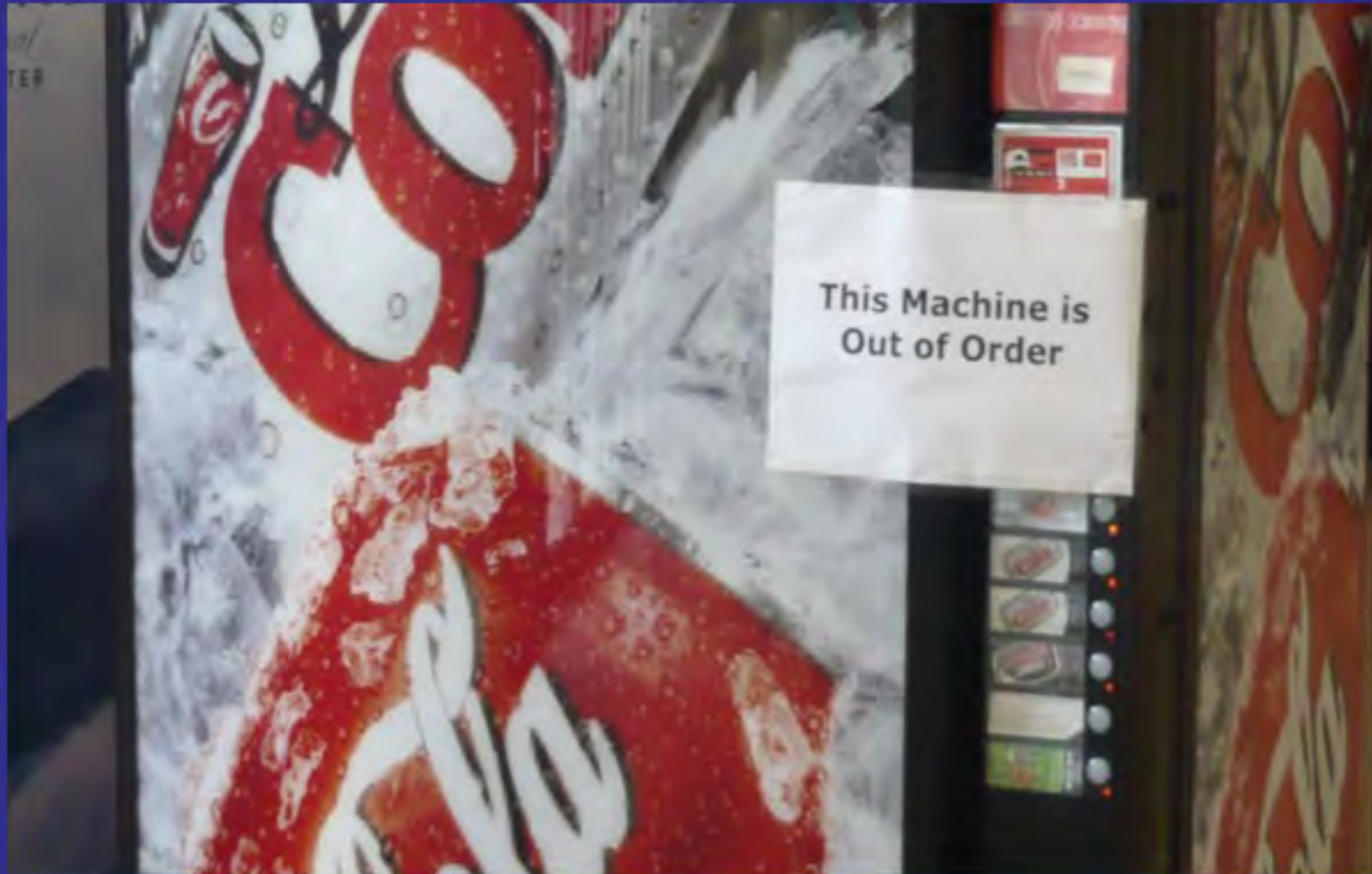




# *You can all help prevent obesity/diabetes*



*You can all help prevent obesity/diabetes*



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*(Completely out of Order)*



*(Completely off the map)*







