

# Diet Induced Obesity rat model

A nutritional rat model dedicated to obesity / insulin resistance studies

## Key benefits

- ✓ To mimic gradual body weight gain, and especially visceral fat hypertrophy, as observed in western populations
- ✓ To select the best drug candidate in a reproducible model, suitable for screening
- ✓ To test the efficacy of compounds in a model with sensitivity to all reference compounds tested close to clinical setting

## ANIMAL MODEL

- Background Strain: Sprague Dawley (SD) rat
- Gender/Weight: male 250/300g
- Diet: High fat - high carbohydrate
- Time on diet: ~8 weeks (depending on required severity)
- Positive reference compounds: sibutramine, pioglitazone, metformin

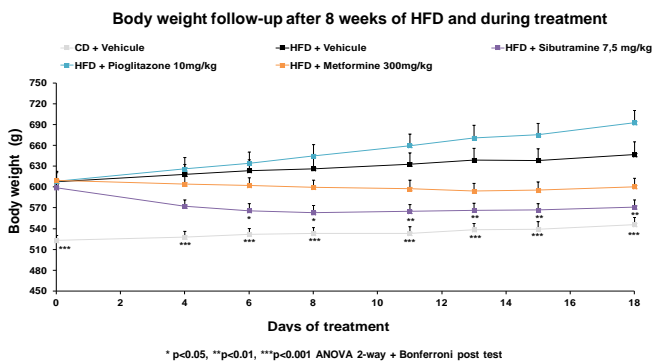
## PATHOPHYSIOLOGICAL FEATURES

- Obesity (visceral and subcutaneous fat hypertrophy)
- Glucose intolerance
- Hyperinsulinemia
- Insulin resistance
- Hyperleptinemia
- Liver steatosis

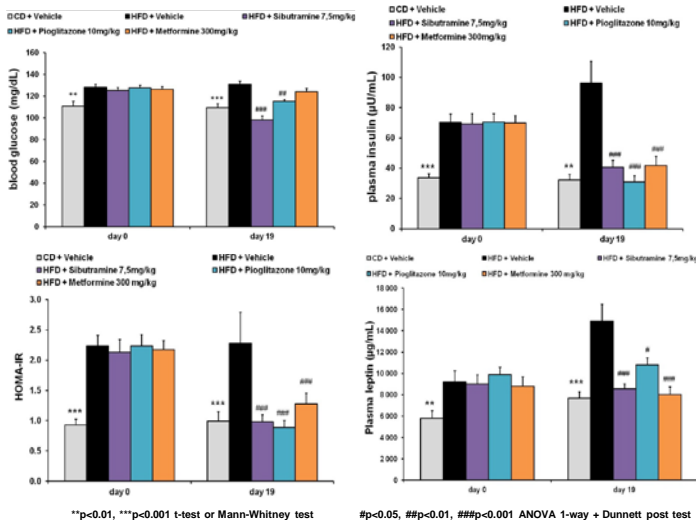
## PHARMACOLOGICAL RELEVANCE

**Reference compounds: sibutramin 7.5mg/kg, pioglitazone 10mg/kg, metformin 300mg/kg**

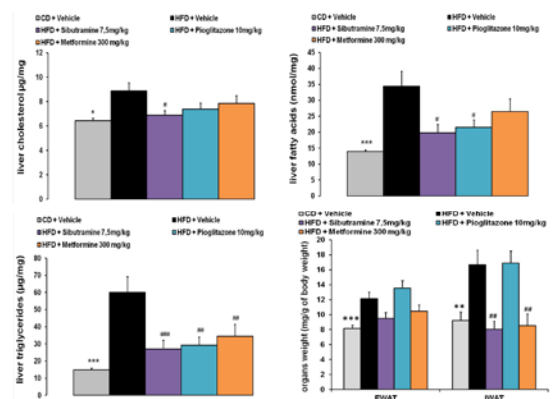
- Treatments: chronic for 3 weeks.
- Sibutramin is the most efficient and improves the whole phenotype mainly *via* its satiating effect.
- Pioglitazone improves insulin resistance but enhances body weight, as expected with a PPAR $\gamma$  agonist.
- Metformin mildly improves all parameters, as expected in a non hyperglycemic but insulin resistant model.



## Blood glucose, plasma insulin and leptin after 8 weeks of HFD and after 19 days of treatment (6 hours of fasting)



## Liver lipids content and adipose tissues weight



## Two steps hyperinsulinemic euglycemic clamp

