

The simplicity of type 2 diabetes – and what to do about it



Roy Taylor

Gradual beta cell death

Apoptosis

Islet amyloid

Inflammation

Gut hormones

**Type 2 diabetes is a
complex,
heterogenous state**

Genetic factors

Brain regulation

Muscle insulin resistance

Obesity

Microbiota

Liver insulin resistance

Insulin signalling

The twin cycle hypothesis

**Type 2 diabetes is a simple condition
caused by too much fat
in liver and pancreas**

The twin cycle hypothesis

Negative calorie balance in people with type 2 diabetes will:

Liver

Decrease fat –
improve insulin action
and
normalise overnight
blood sugar

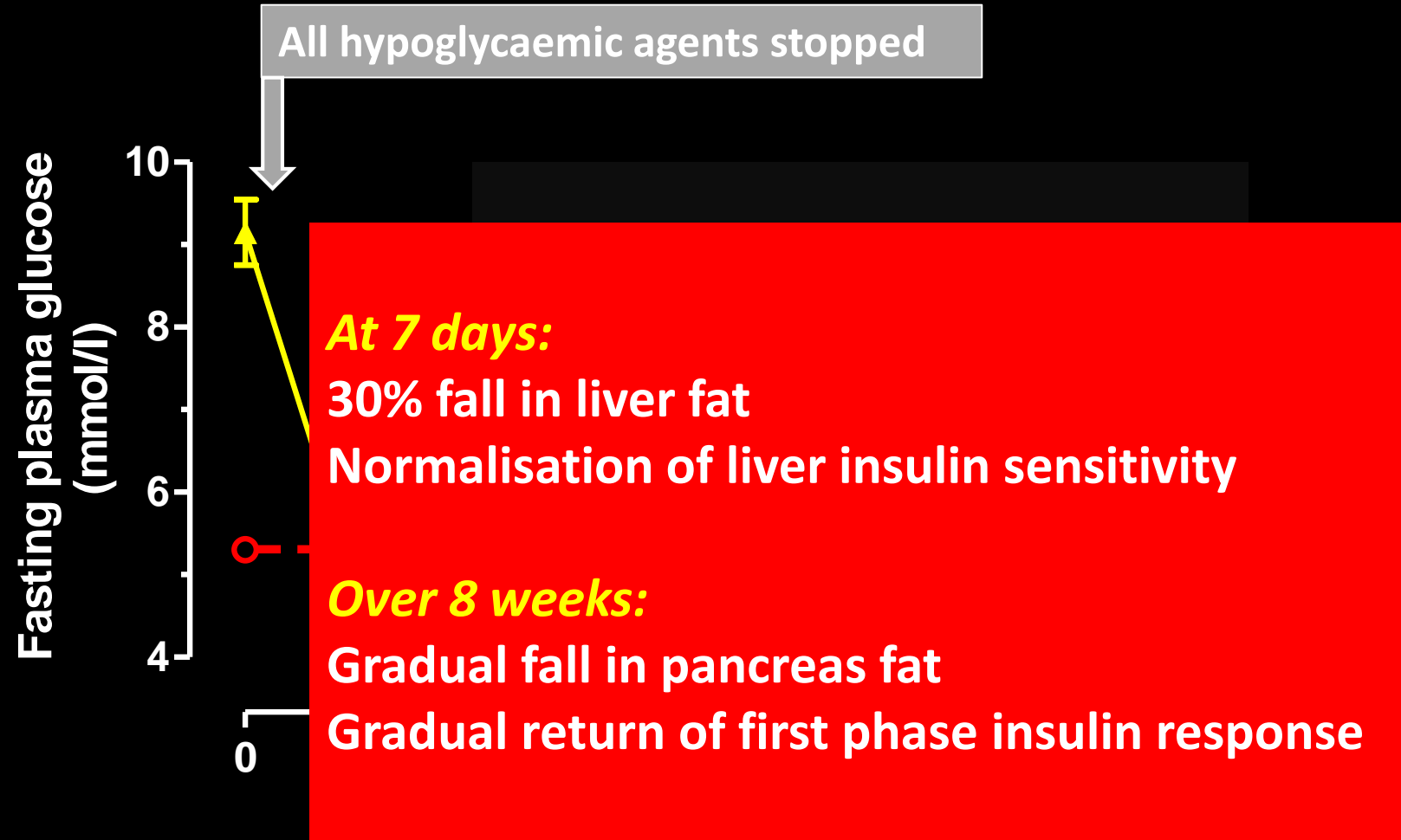
and

Pancreas

Decrease fat –
normalise the insulin
response to eating

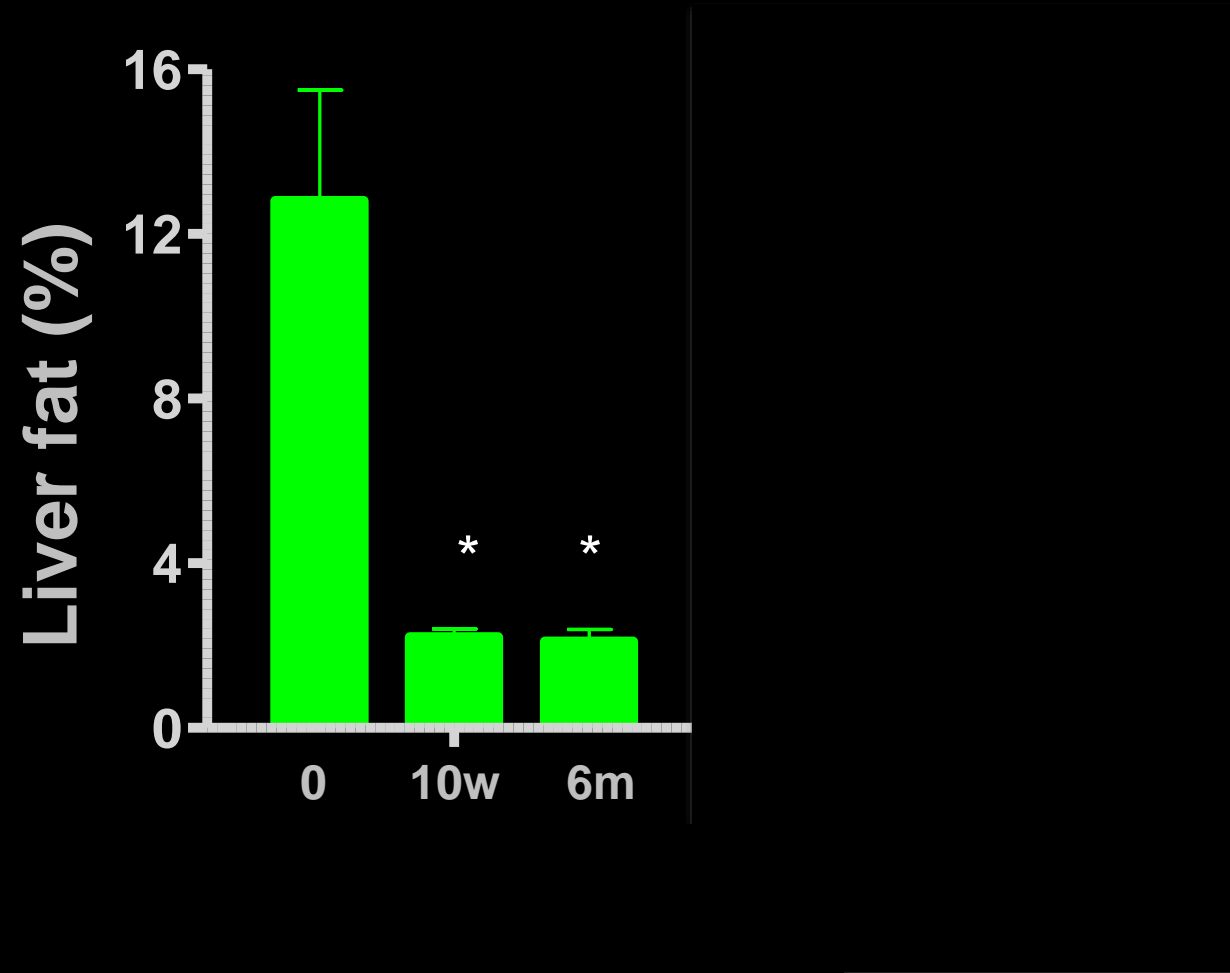
Effect of very low calorie diet on fasting glucose

The COUNTERPOINT study



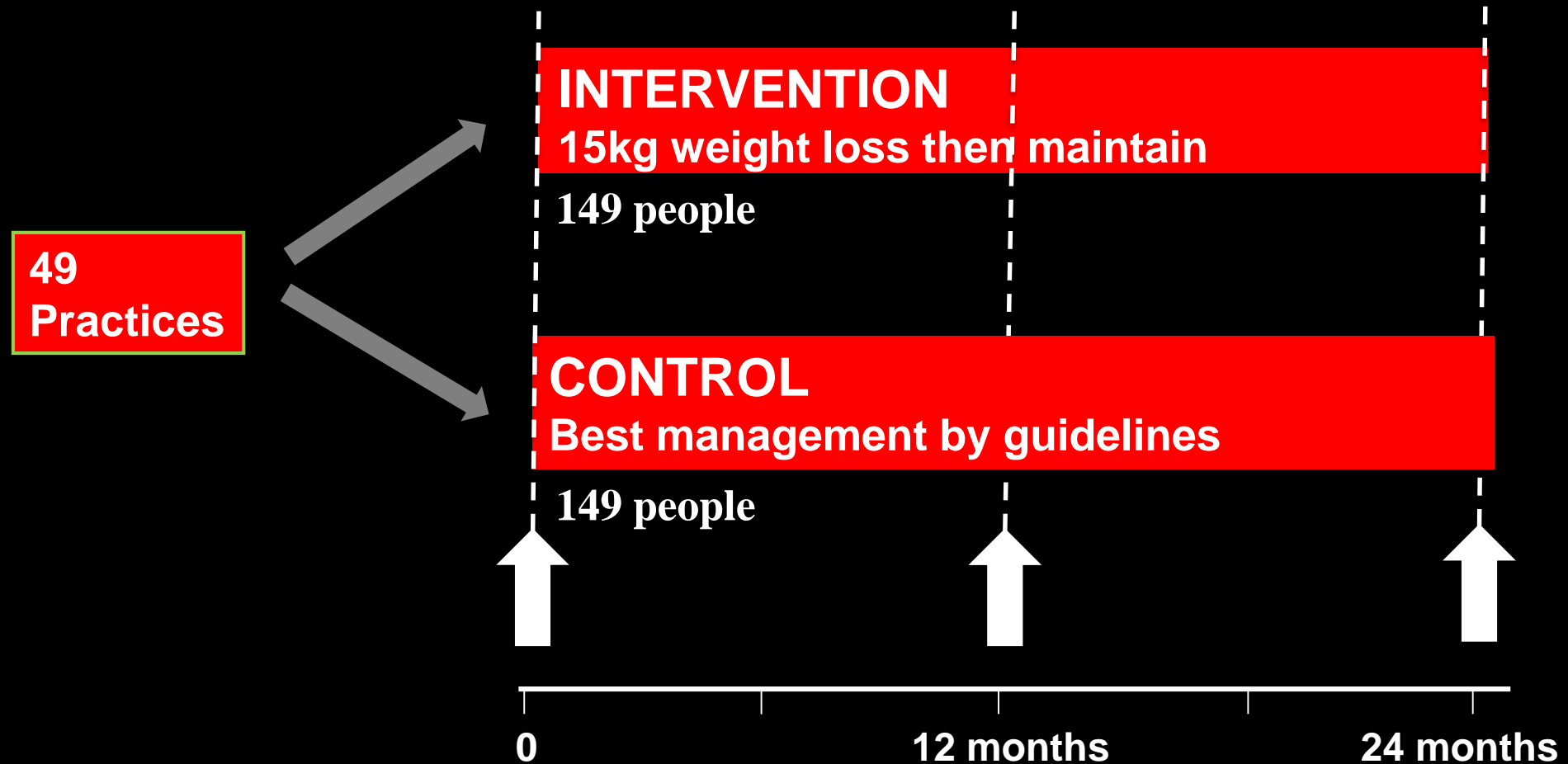
The 2nd study - Counterbalance: VLCD then 6 months normal eating

Responders:

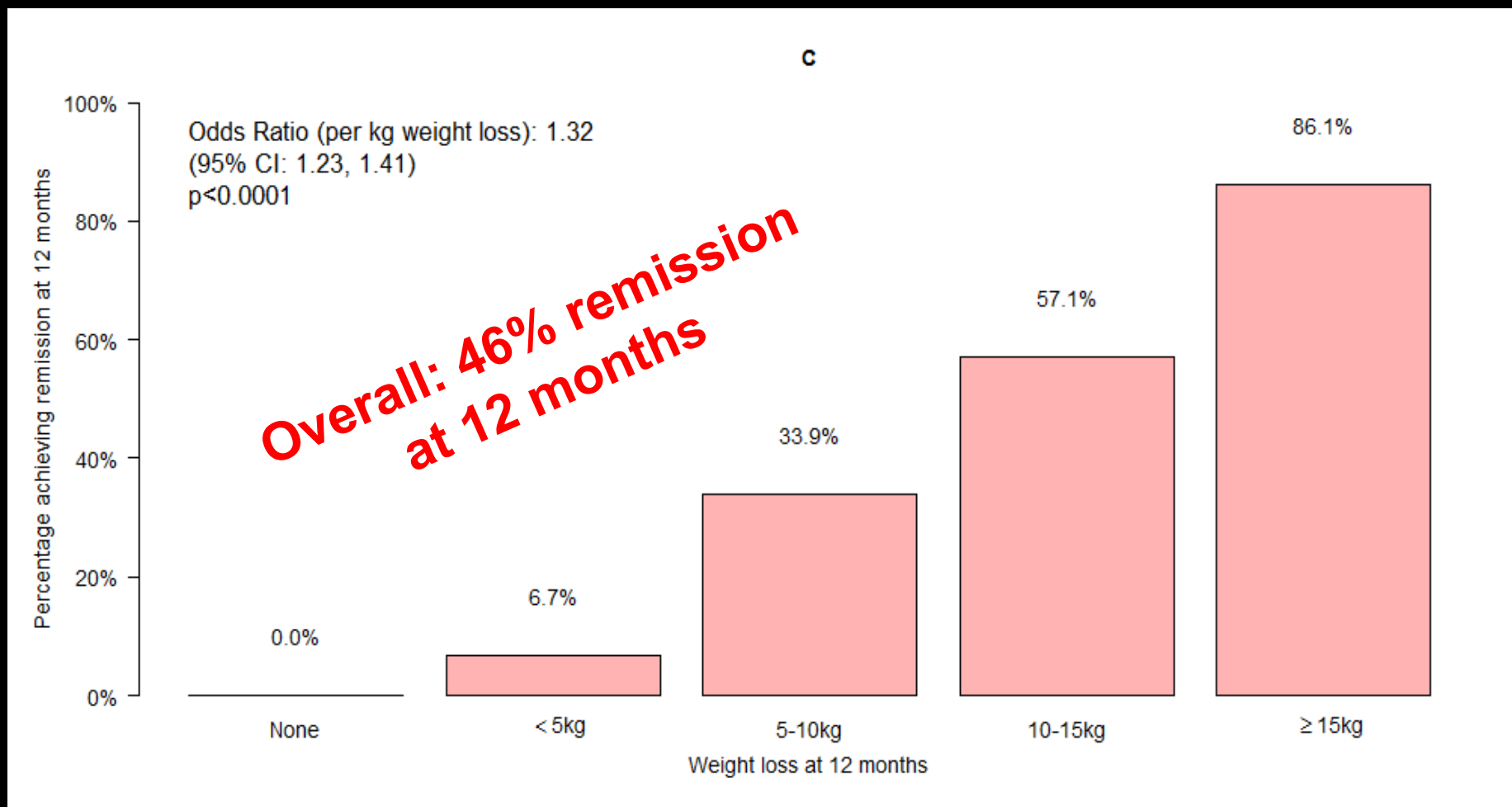


DiRECT – a study in routine NHS General Practice

Duration of T2DM less than 6 years; on oral agents and/or diet



Remissions by weight-loss category at 12 months



Facilitators

Behaviour-regulation strategies (examples)

- Avoidance,
- Distraction
- Drinking water
- Reminding oneself of the goals
- Removing food from environment
- Social disclosure



**Initial
motivation**

Adherence to the Total Diet Replacement

Food

Int
(ba

Emotional and cognitive barriers

- Life events and stress
- Lack of social support

Environmental barriers

- Presence of shops with food
- Traveling
- Going out and socializing

**Destabilisation
Re-designing
of the
“Foodrobe”**

Barriers



Non-obese cf. obese type 2 diabetes – Is the assumed difference in pathophysiology real?



Non-obese T2DM have a greater beta cell defect
and less insulin resistance



Meal tests elicit similar insulin secretion

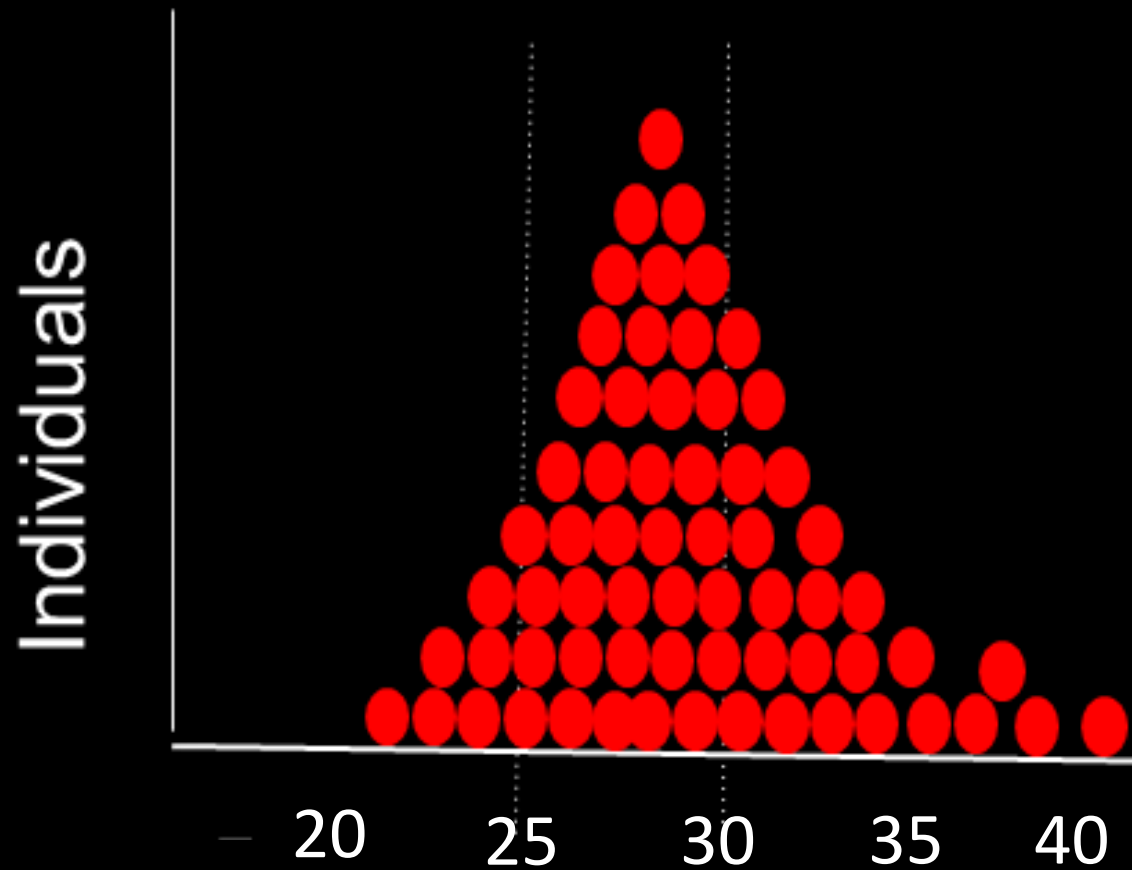
(C-peptide rise of 2.5 fold in non-obese and 1.8 fold in obese)

Reaven et al JCEM 1993; 76: 44

No greater insulin resistance in obese than non-obese T2DM relative to
weight-matched control groups

Hollenbeck et al Diabetes 1984; 33: 622

BMI distribution of individuals with type 2 diabetes



Personal vs population



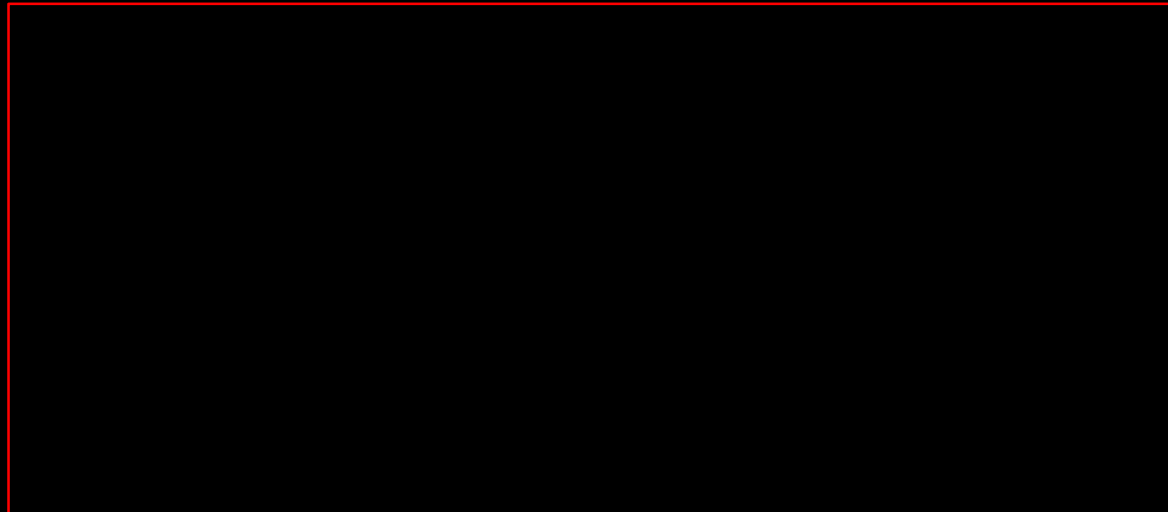
An index patient

54y old diagnosed with type 2 diabetes:

BMI 26.5; HbA1c 6.5%; Fasting glucose 7.2

“I do not want this. How can I get rid of it?”

Advice.



2013

Weight 126kg

HbA1c 9.2%



2014:

Weight 94kg

HbA1c 6.2%



2017

Weight 83kg

HbA1c 5.7%



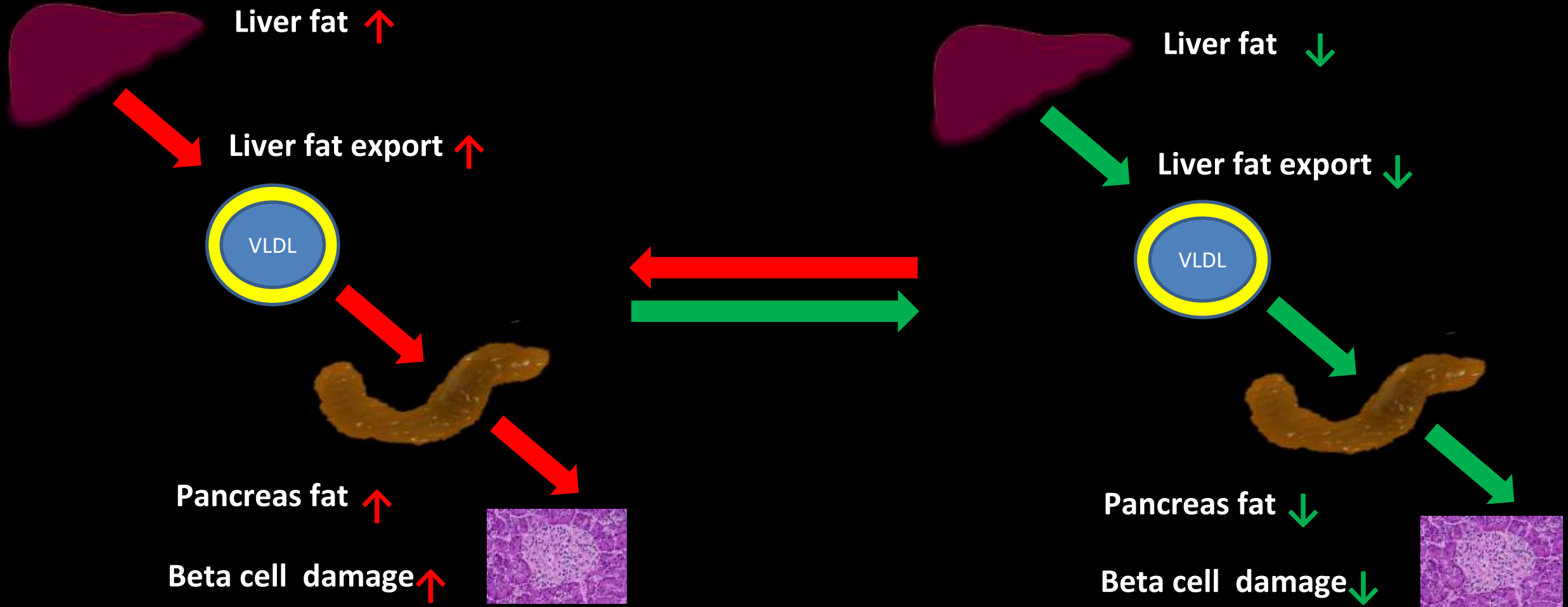
Benefits to individuals



- Feeling 10 years younger
- Losing the 'diabetic' label
- No diabetes tablets/injections
- Outlook for long term health
- Less time at the doc's
- No excess insurance costs



Summary



**Type 2 diabetes is a simple state
of having more fat than the
individual can tolerate**

