



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL

# GLP-1 Receptor Agonists Effect in Older Adults

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*RCCN Nutrition in Aging and Biology*

June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Funding Source + Disclosures

- National Institute on Health
  - R01-AG-077163, R01-AG-067416, R41-AG-071290, R42-AG-071290, R01-AG-058615, U01-AG-071450, UG1-HD-107692
- Patents:
  - 11,857,837B: Instrumented Resistance Exercise Device; 17/335,986 : Remote-Sensing, Bluetooth-enabled, Resistance Exercise Band
  - Provisional Patent Application: Geriatric Functional Assessment System Using Passive Wearable Sensing + Deep Learning
- Societies:
  - KAER Toolkit + Obesity Interest Group Convener (GSA), Program + Chair-Elect Clinical Science Committees (TOS), Member, Sarcopenic Obesity Global Leadership Initiative + Global Leadership Initiative for Sarcopenia
- Equity:
  - SynchroHealth LLC, remote monitoring startup
- Consultant:
  - Regeneron, MEDCorp

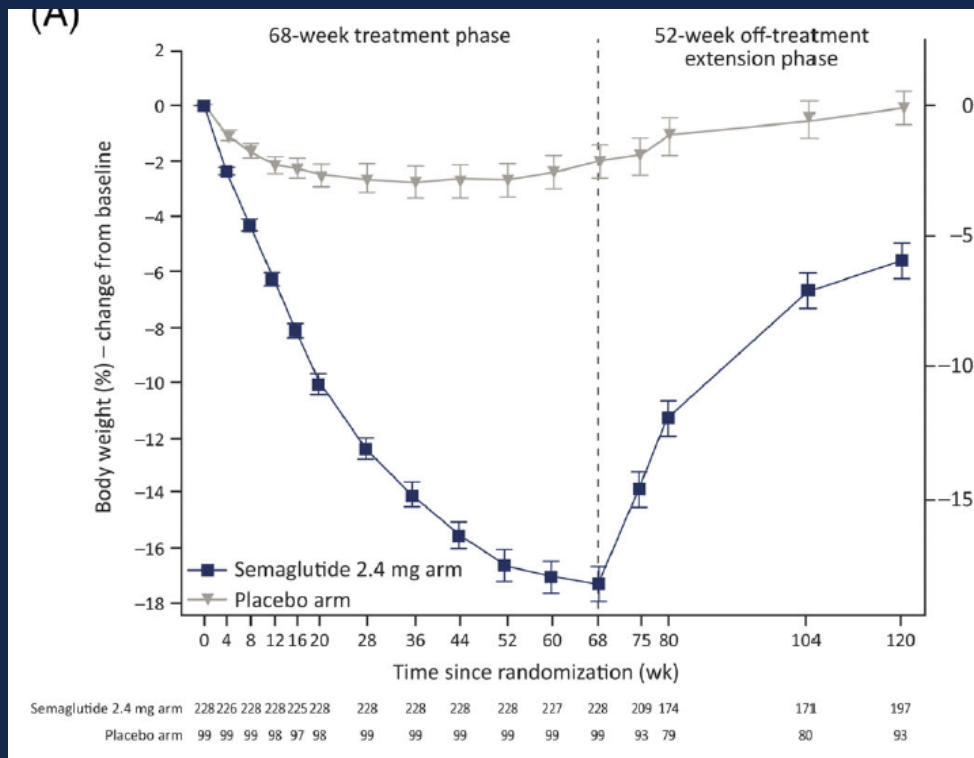
# FDA-approved Rx for use in older adults

- AACE/ACE guidelines (2016): insufficient evidence
- ACG guidelines (2022): No discussion on prescribing Rx for older adults
- Phentermine/Topiramate, Liraglutide, Bupropion-naltrexone, Orlistat (Xenical)
  - 0–7% age >65 years, <1% age >75 years
- Semaglutide
  - STEP 1: n=744 (23.6%) >65 years; 3.2% >75 years
  - STEP 2: n=788 (48.0%) >65 years; 9.6% >75 years
  - SELECT: n=8803 (30.2%) >65 years; 8.0% >75 years
- Tirzepatide:
  - SURMOUNT-1: 6% age >65 years
  - SURMOUNT-2: n=165/938 (18%) age >65 years

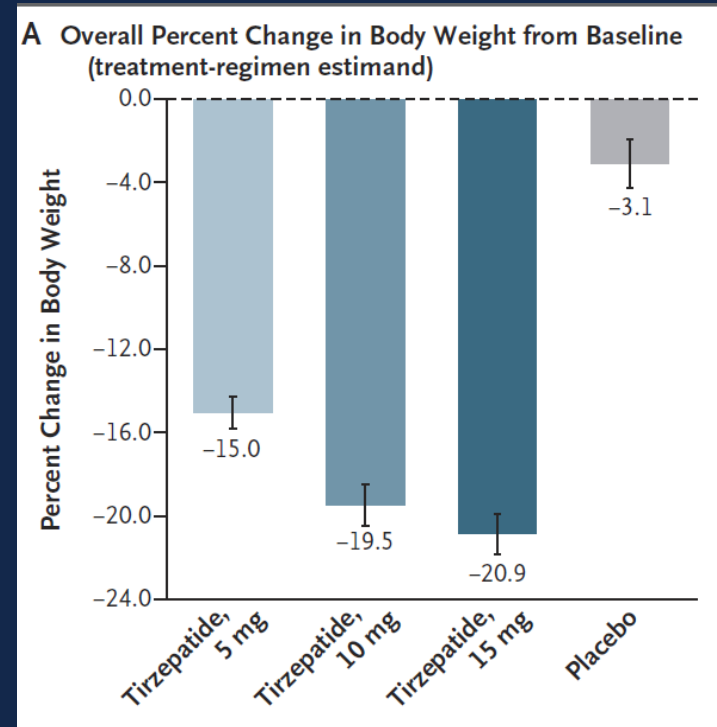
	SURPASS-1	SURPASS-2	SURPASS-3	SURPASS-4	SURPASS-5
<b>Studies</b>	<b>N=478</b>	<b>N=1878</b>	<b>N=1437</b>	<b>N=1995</b>	<b>N=475</b>
<b>Age (years)</b>	54.1 ± 11.9	56.6 ± 10.4	57.4 ± 10.0	63.6 ± 8.6	60.6 ± 9.9

- Short-term safety + efficacy is similar compared to younger adults

# Semaglutide + Tirzepatide



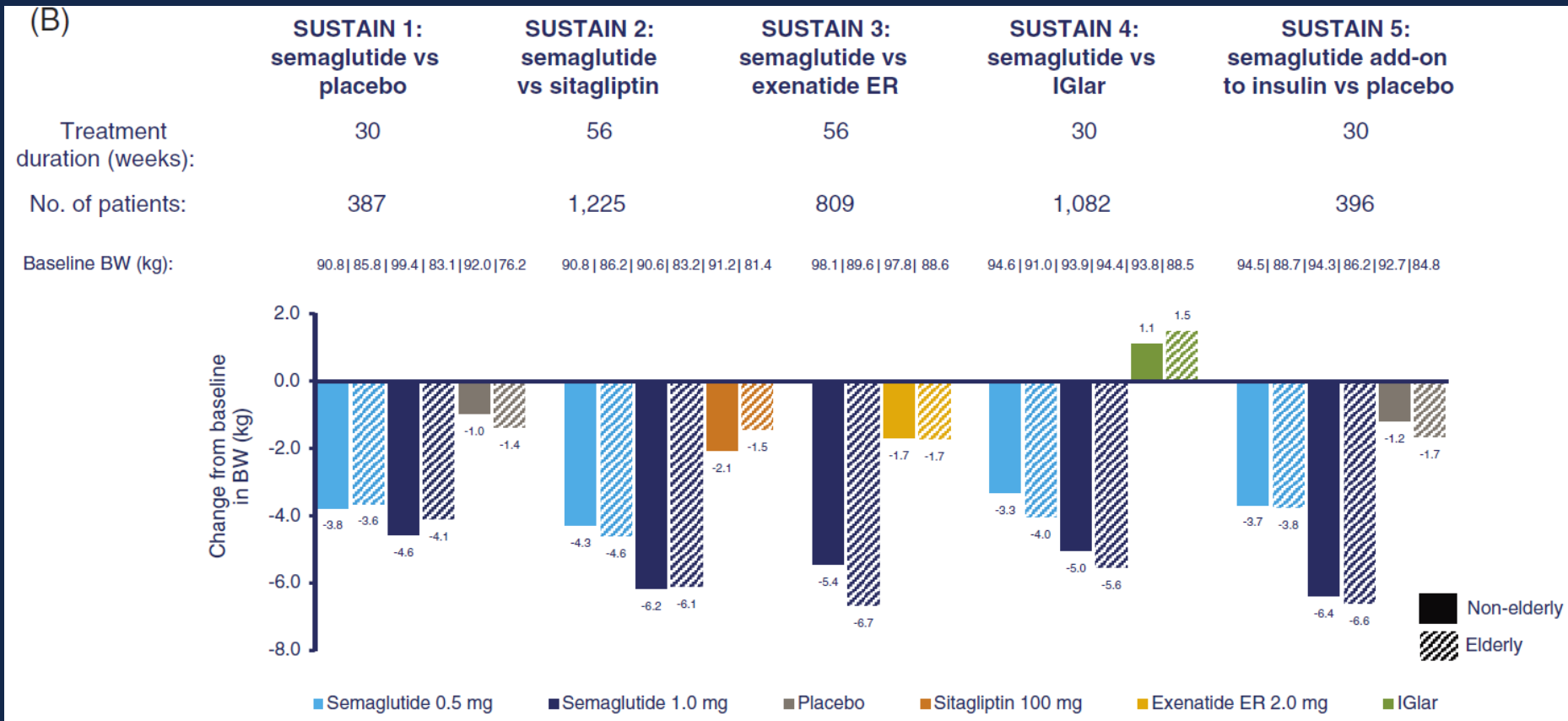
Mean age 48 years



Mean age 46 years

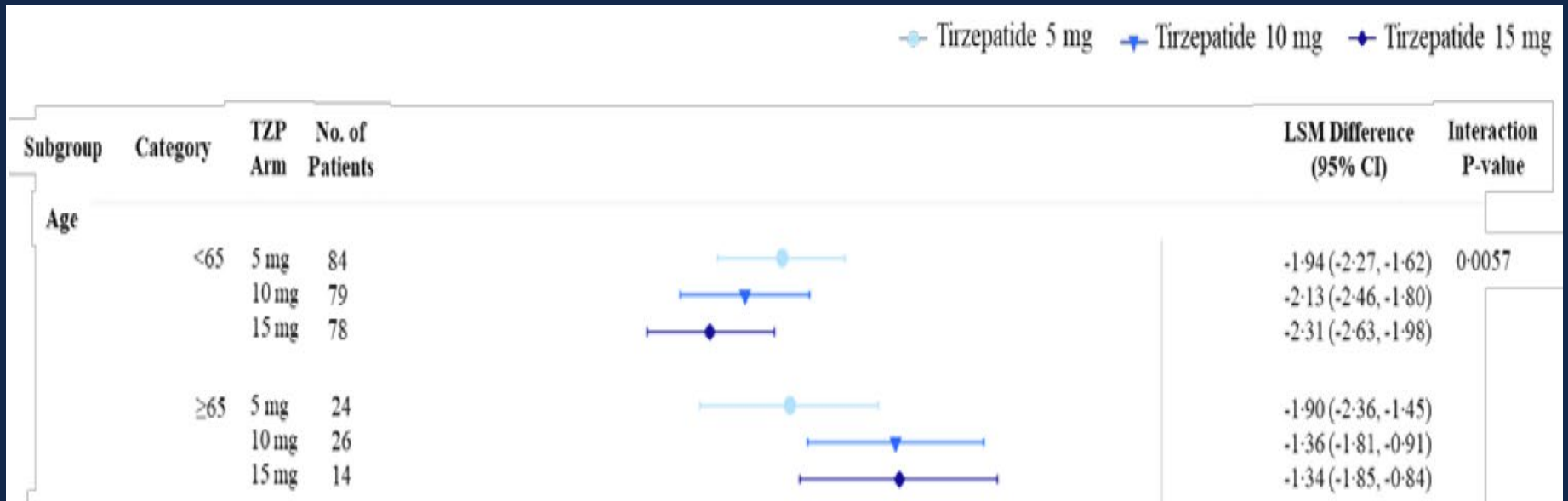
# SUSTAIN Trials

## ≥ 65 vs. < 65 years



# Older Adults + Efficacy Outcomes

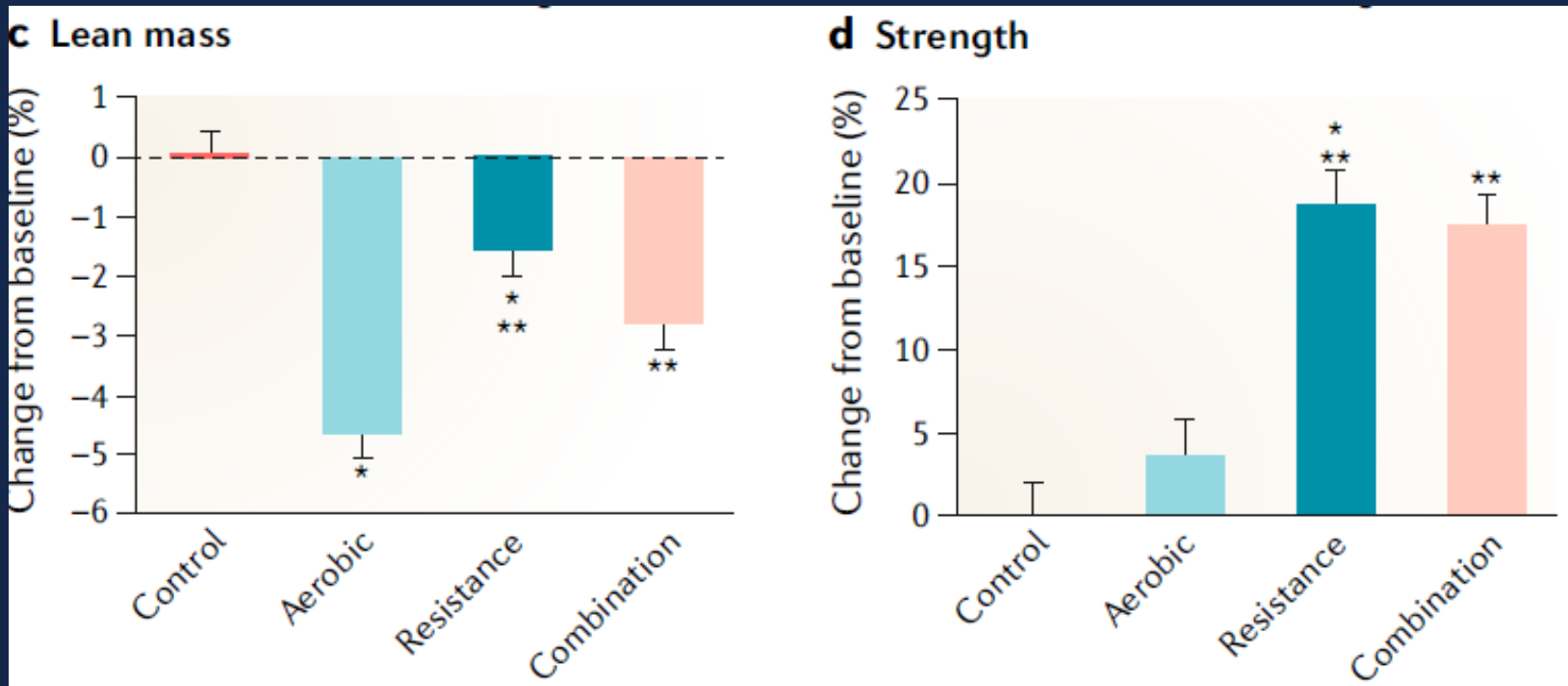
## HbA1c at 40-weeks



Older adult outcomes < than younger individuals  
and NOT dose-dependent

# Weight-Loss Induced Lean Mass

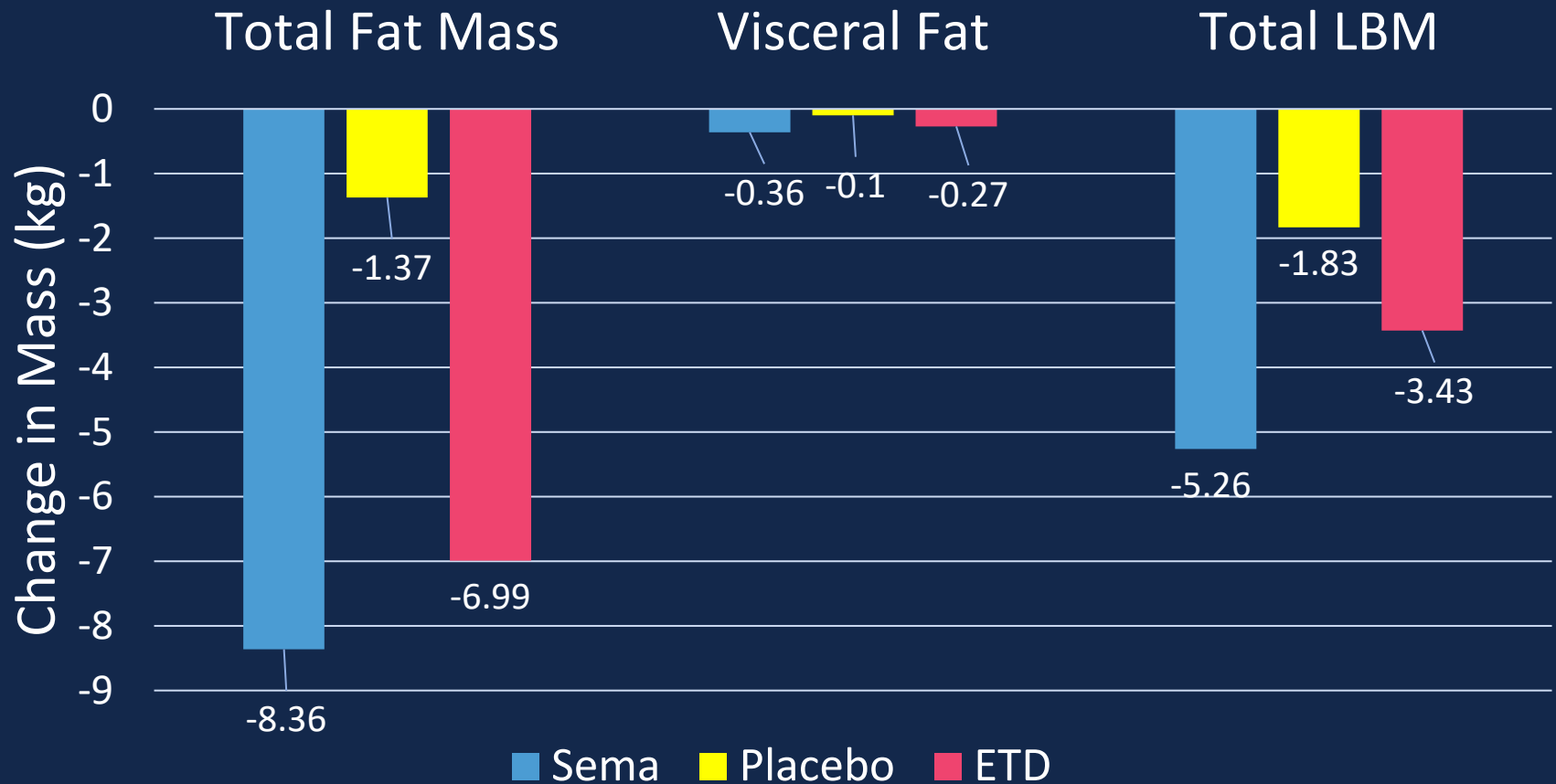
Lifestyle Interventions – older adults with obesity



Combination Aerobic/Resistance/Diet led to reductions in Lean Mass but improved strength

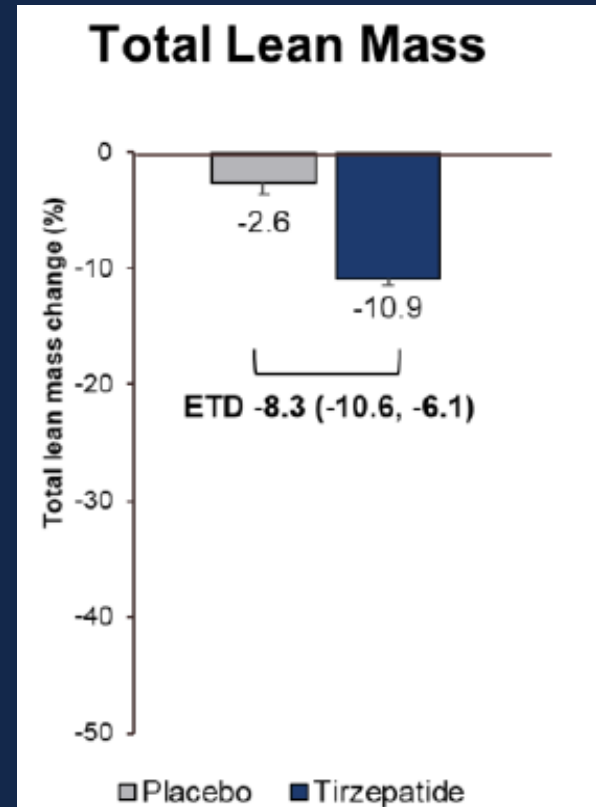
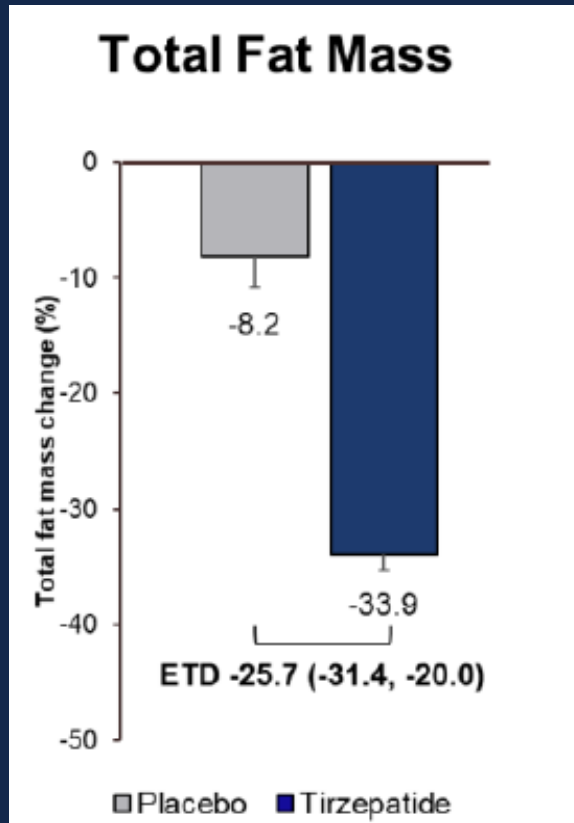
# Semaglutide + Body Composition

## STEP-1 Substudy



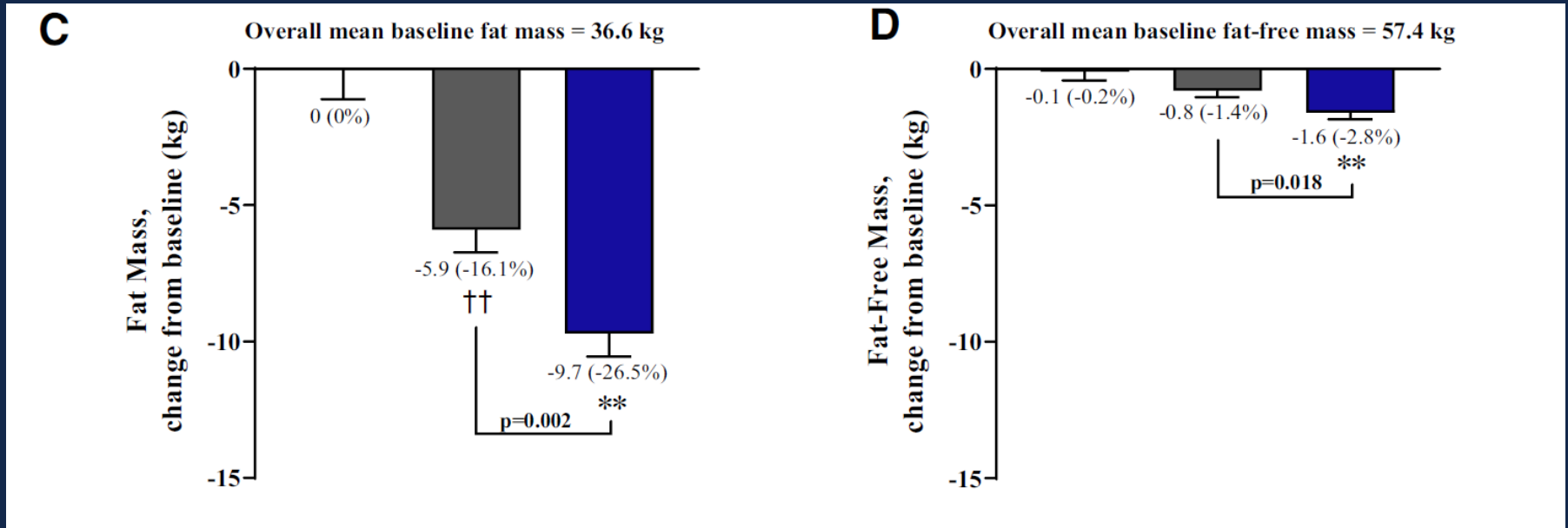
# SURMOUNT-1 – DEXA assessment

6% of participants aged  $\geq 65$  years



Absolute segmentation not discussed:  $\sim 24\%$

# Semaglutide vs. Tirzepatide vs. Placebo 28-week trial, mean age 62



Semaglutide ~11.9% + Tirzepatide 14.2% of  
weight loss is fat-free mass (Bod-Pod)

# Tirzepatide in Older Adults

## Subanalysis of East Asian SURPASS

	Tirzepatide 5 mg				Tirzepatide 10 mg				Tirzepatide 15 mg			
	<25		≥25		<25		≥25		<25		≥25	
BMI (kg/m <sup>2</sup> )												
Age (year)	≤65	>65	≤65	>65	≤65	>65	≤65	>65	≤65	>65	≤65	>65
N	67	31	206	68	64	39	207	61	61	39	222	52
D/C due to AE	7 (10.4)	6 (19.4)	6 (2.9)	6 (8.8)	5 (7.8)	8 (20.5)	14 (6.8)	6 (9.8)	9 (14.8)	12 (30.8)	13 (5.9)	8 (15.4)

Side Effects in Older Adults are dose-dependent

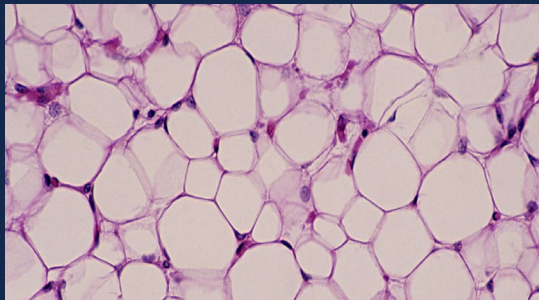
# Adverse Effects of AOM

Generic Name	Absolute Contraindications	Side-Effects (>10%) & Major Risks in Older Adults
<b>Phentermine/Topiramate</b>	Glaucoma, MAOI hyperthyroidism	<b>Constipation</b> headache, <b>xerostomia</b>
<b>Phentermine</b>	Glaucoma, Heart failure, <b>CAD</b> , Hyperthyroidism, <b>Arrhythmias</b>	<b>Renal insufficiency</b> , Reduced exercise tolerance
<b>Orlistat</b>	Malabsorption, cholestasis	<b>Fecal urgency</b> , Flatulence, <b>Steatorrhea</b>
<b>Bupropriion/naltrexone</b>	HTN, Seizures, Hepatic impairment	<b>More sensitive to CNS effects</b> , <b>Renal insufficiency</b> , Headache, <b>Constipation</b> , N/V
<b>Liraglutide</b>	Angioedema, MEN-2, MTC	<b>Constipation</b> , <b>Diarrhea</b> , <b>Hypoglycemia</b> , Palpitations, N/V
<b>Semaglutide &amp; Tirzepatide</b>	MEN-2, MTC	<b>Nausea (&gt;20%)</b> , <b>Diarrhea (&gt;17%)</b> , <b>Vomiting (~10%)</b> , <b>Dyspepsia (~8%)</b>

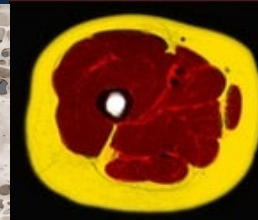
# Is all Weight Loss the Same?

Loss of Weight

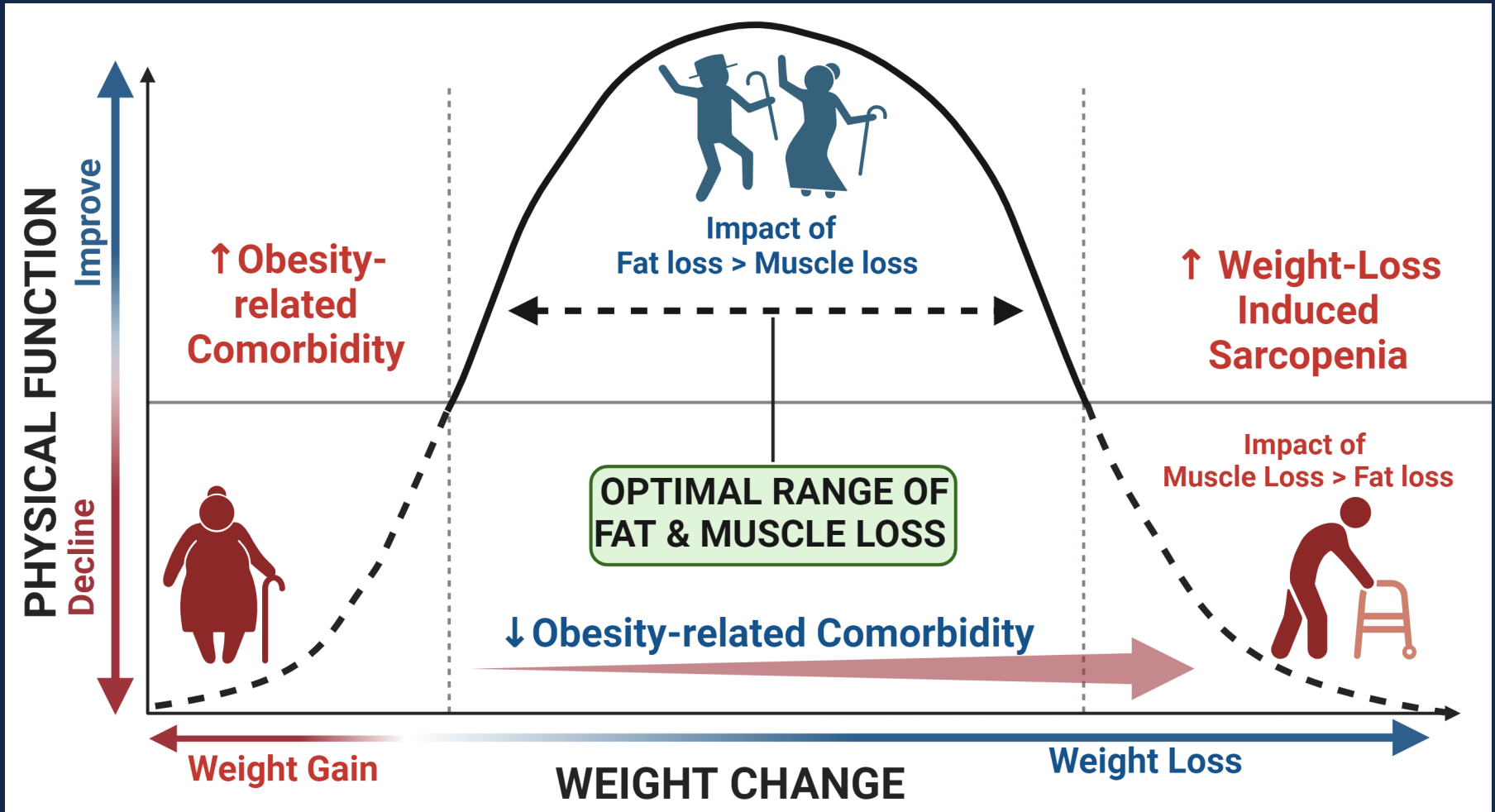
Fat-Mass



Fat-Free Mass

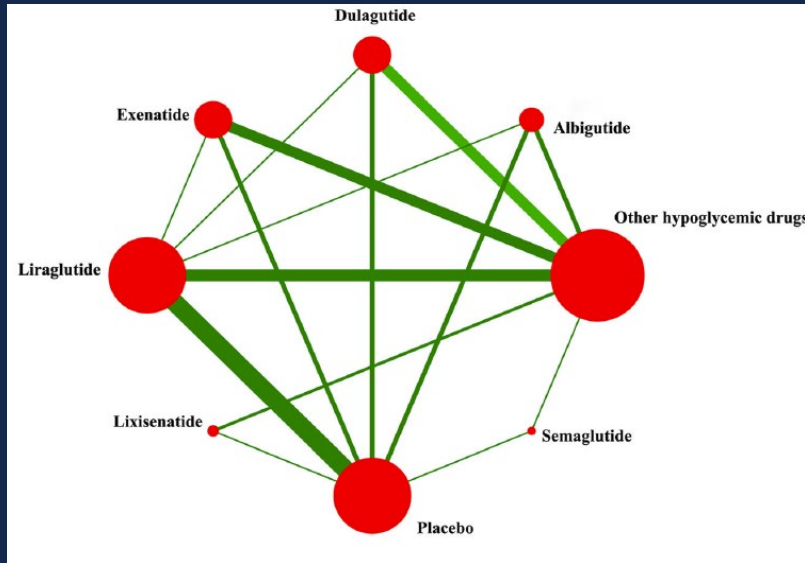


# Balancing Fat + Muscle

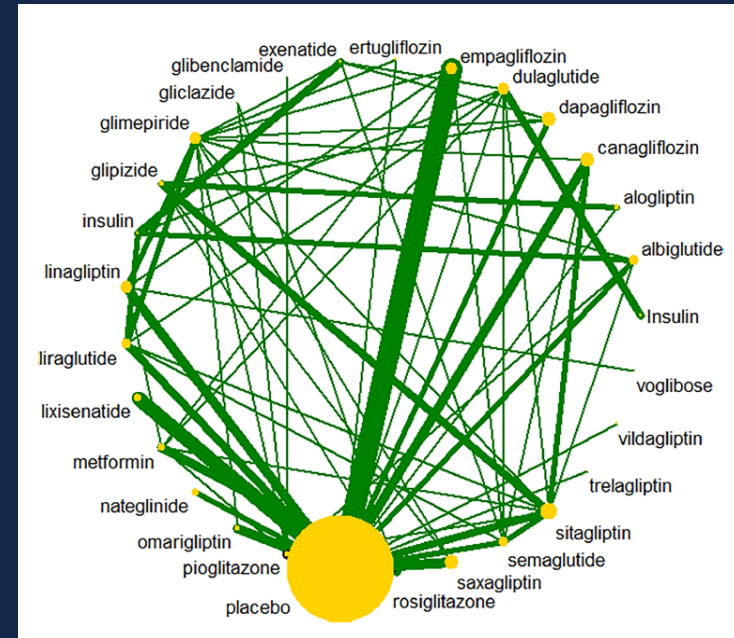


# GLP-1 + Fracture Risk

## Network meta-analysis



Exenatide 0.17 (0.03,0.67)  
 Dulaglutide 1.04%  
 Liraglutide 1.39%  
 Semaglutide 18.72%



Incretins led to reduced fracture risk but not statistically significant

# Future Research Efforts & Gaps?

## Application into Practice

Healthcare delivery models in high-risk groups, Rx, Surgery



## Epidemiology-based

Life-cycle, sociodemographic determinants that impact long-term aging

## Disease States

Cognition, Frailty, Malnutrition



## Heterogeneity of Treatment Response

Precision medicine -What works for whom?



## Geroscience

Linking basic science to clinical outcomes  
Lack of understanding of nutrigenomics or genetics in this population

## Technology-based Interventions

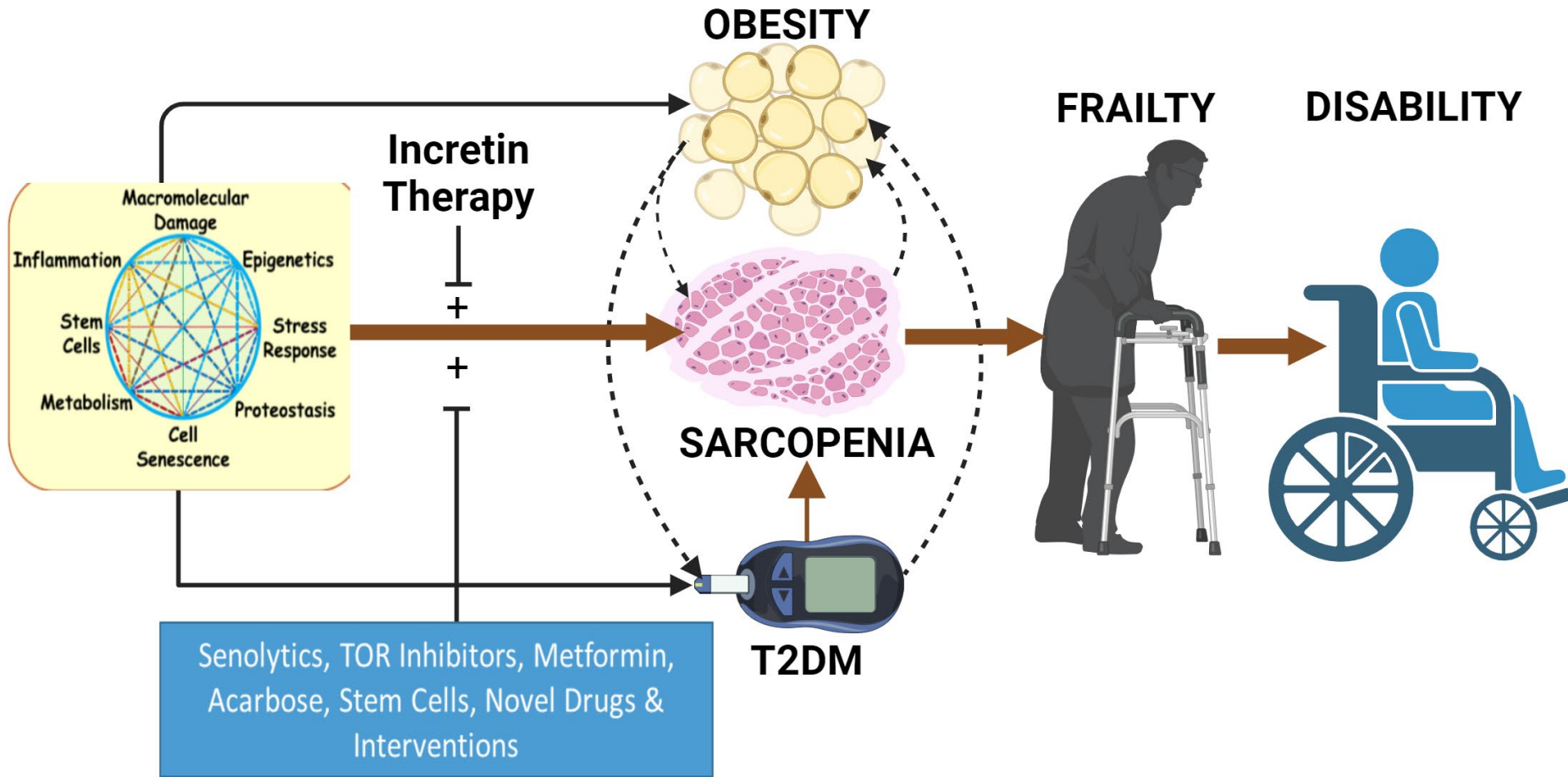
Sensors, remote-monitoring, AI

## Safety of Weight Loss

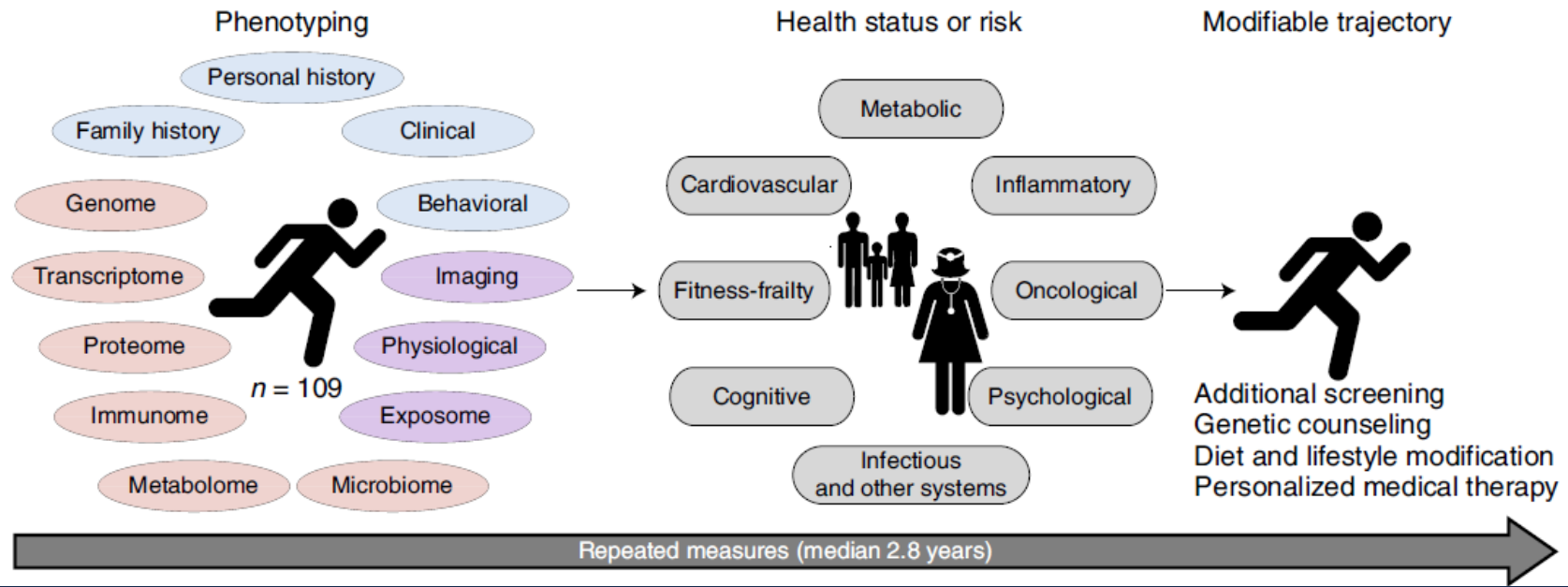
Understanding the impact of effective weight loss on muscle + bone

Major research gaps in studies on incretin therapies

# How should we treat obesity?



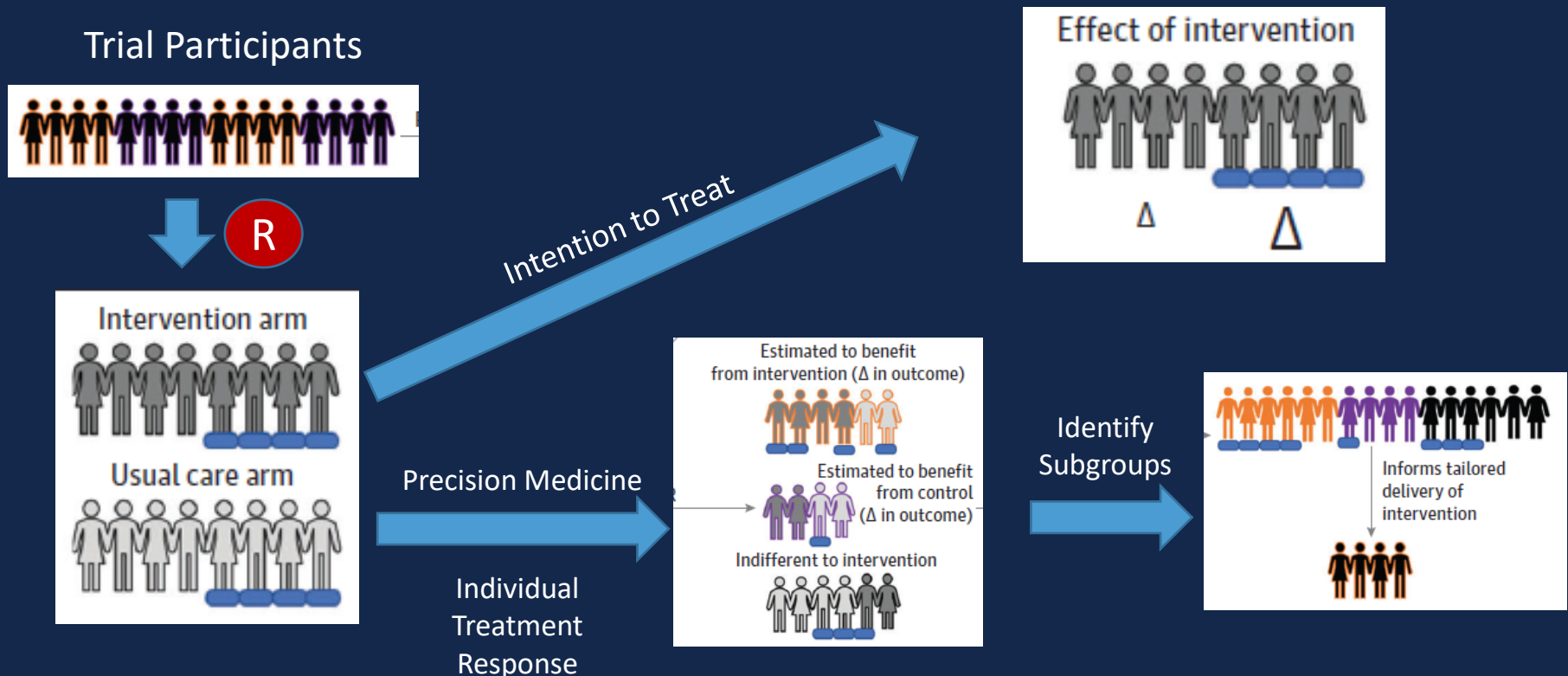
# Phenotyping using Artificial Intelligence



- Incorporate multiple streams of data sources
- Cluster subjects + extract latent factors into different clusters

# Using novel trial design + analytics to maximize treatment response

- Clinical Trial Designs that individualize approaches
- Trials of biological hallmarks of aging



# Thank you - Questions?



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