**Figure 1. Reductions in glucose handling are exacerbated in obese individuals with elevated glucocorticoids.**

Cushing’s (non-obese n=; obese n= ) and control (non-obese n=; obese n=) BMI (A) and HOMA-IR scores (B) stratified by obesity status. Mouse blood glucose levels during insulin tolerance test (C) and prior to insulin injection (basal; D) following 5 weeks of dexamethasone (NCD n=; HFD n=) or vehicle (NCD n=; HFD n=) treatment and 17 weeks of diet. Mouse glucose infusion rate (GIR; E) and endogenous glucose production (EGP; F) during euglycemic clamp following 3 weeks of dexamethasone (n=14) or vehicle (n=11) treatment and 11 weeks of HFD. All mice were fasted for 6 hours prior to experiments. Asterisks in between two bars of the same condition indicate a significant interaction between diet and treatment. Centered asterisks indicated statistically significant treatment effect.

**Figure 2. Increased glucocorticoids lead to greater severity of hepatic steatosis in obese mice.**

Patient ALT levels (A). Mouse hepatic triglyceride levels (B) and H and E stained liver sections (C) and qPCR of hepatic *de novo* lipogenic transcripts (D, E) following sacrifice. Mice were sacrificed at 28 weeks of age following 6 weeks of dexamethasone (NCD n=7; HFD n=5) or vehicle (NCD n=6; HFD n=9) treatment and 18 weeks of diet. Liver stains are representative samples from each group. Asterisks indicate a significant interaction between diet and treatment.

**Figure 3. Dexamethasone-treated reduces fat mass in obese mice.**

Weekly total body mass (A) and fat mass (B) measures via echoMRI in mice over the course of treatment. Inguinal and gonadal adipose tissue weights in 16 hour fasted mice following sacrifice (C). Mice were sacrificed at 28 weeks of age following 6 weeks of dexamethasone (NCD n=8; HFD n=12) or vehicle (NCD n=8; HFD n=22) treatment and 18 weeks of diet. Food consumption measured weekly over the course of treatment (D). Asterisks indicated statistically significant treatment effect.

**Figure 4. Dexamethasone treatment induces lipolysis *in vivo* and *in vitro*.**

Triglyceride levels (A), glycerol released in media (B), qPCR of lipolytic transcripts (C), and western blot of ATGL (D) from non-differentiated (pre-adipocytes; n=2) or differentiated 3T3-L1 mouse adipocytes (mature adipocytes) following 5 days of dexamethasone (n=3) or vehicle treatment (n=3). Serum fatty acid and glycerol levels at basal (fed) and following stimulation (isoproterenol or 16hr fast; E) and qPCR of IWAT lipolytic transcripts (F) in 22-week-old, 12-week dexamethasone- (basal and isoproterenol n=7; fasted serum and qPCR n=4) or vehicle- (basal and isoproterenol n=12; fasted serum and qPCR n=11) treated, chow-fed mice. Asterisks indicated statistically significant treatment effect.

**Figure 5. Obesity exacerbates dexamethasone-induced lipolysis.**

Serum glycerol (A) following 16 hour fast, qPCR of lipolytic transcripts from IWAT (B), and western blot of lipolytic proteins from IWAT (C) following sacrifice. Mice were sacrificed at 28 weeks of age following 6 weeks of dexamethasone (NCD n=8; HFD n=10) or vehicle (NCD n=8; HFD n=10) treatment. Asterisks indicate a significant interaction between diet and treatment.

Supplementary Figures/Tables:

* Glucose turnover rate
* Glucose uptake in tissues
* Other lipolytic transcripts

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Gene | Forward Sequence | Reverse Sequence |
| *Actb* | atgtggatcagcaagcagga | aagggtgtaaaacgcagctca |
| *Adrb1* | ctacaacgaccccaagtgct | acgtagaaggagacgacgga |
| *Adrb2* | tggttgggctacgtcaactc | ccagctgacaagtgtttggc |
| *Adrb3* | ccttccgtcgtcttctgtgt | gaagatggggatcaagcaagc |
| *Fasn* | tgggtaatccatagagcccag | ggaggtggtgatagccggtat |
| *Lipe* | gtgaatgagatggcgagggt | ggagtcgcgttagagtcacc |
| *Lpl* | cagcaagaccttcgtggtga | ataatgttgctgggcccgat |
| *Pde3b* | ggatcgcagcagtggtaaga | aggcccatttaggtggcatc |
| *Pnpla2* | ccactcacatctacggagcc | gatgcagaggacccaggaac |
| *Srebf1* | aggccatcgactacatccg | tccatagacacatctgtgcctc |