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We would like to submit our manuscript **Weight Loss in Response to Food Deprivation Predicts The Extent of Diet-Induced Obesity in C57BL/6J Mice** for review at the Journal of Obesity. This is a new submission, which incorporates the suggestions from the previous round of review for research article 370359.

In this work we describe careful longitudinal studies on the common inbred mouse strain C57BL/6J and the effects of diet induced obesity. We describe that the response of mice to food deprivation is a strong predictor of diet-induced obesity in this model. These data support the hypothesis that there are differences in fasting responses in these highly genetically similar models, which correlate with their response to diets. These findings are important for understanding both the causes and the predictability of obesity. The previous round of review provided us with several important suggestions and clarifications, which has improved the manuscript a great deal. We are confident, that having addressed the previous round of review's comments, that this manuscript is suitable for publication.

We would suggest the same reviewers used in the previous submission. Previously we recommended Drs. Eric Ravussin, Leslie P. Kozak and Albert J. Stunkard as these experts have been considering how obesity can be predicted for several years, and would add important insights to our work. There are no potential reviewers that we wish to exclude.

We thank you in advance for re-considering our work,



Dave Bridges, Ph.D.
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