

Department of Physiology

894 Union Avenue, Suite 426
Memphis, TN 38163
Phone: (901) 448-5822
Fax: (901) 448-7126

Editor in Chief
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To Whom It May Concern:

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.

In this work we describe careful longitudinal studies on the common inbred mouse strain C57BL/6J and the effects of diet induced obesity. In this work we describe increased variability in diet induced, but not hyperphagia induced obesity. In order to determine the physiological basis of this variability, we examined a variety of factors prior to the diet and then examine whether these factors were able to predict the extent of weight gain in these model organisms.

Importantly, 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.

We would suggest as reviewers that you contact 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 considering our work,



Dave Bridges, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center