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Working

U Mass - Hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp [↗](#)

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ABSTRACT

Summary:

Hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp is the gold-standard method to assess insulin sensitivity. The hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp is widely used in clinics and laboratories to measure insulin action on glucose utilization in humans and animals for clinical and basic science research. Incorporation of radioactive-labeled glucose during hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamps makes it possible to measure glucose metabolism in individual organs in awake mice. Impaired insulin sensitivity (insulin resistance) is a major characteristic of obesity and an early requisite event in the development of type 2 diabetes.

EXTERNAL LINK

<https://mmpc.org/shared/document.aspx?id=136&docType=Protocol>

MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR	CAS NUMBER RRID
HelixMark Standard Silicone Tubing	0.012" ID / 0.025" OD	Helix Medical, Inc.	
[3-3H] D-glucose	NET331C005MC	Perkin Elmer	
2-[1-14C] Deoxy-D-glucos	NEC495001MC	Perkin Elmer	
Pentobarbital	NDC76478-501-50	Oak Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	
Microdialysis pumps	CMA 402	CMA/Microdialysis	
Analox GM7 Micro-stat Rapid Multi-assay Analyser	GM7	Analox	
Insulin	Regular human insulin, U-100	Novolin	
20 % Dextrose injection USP	NDC0409-7935-19	Hospira(Pfizer)	
0.9 % Sodium Chloride Injection USP	NDC0264-4001-55	B.Braun Medical Inc	
1 ml tuberculin syringes	REF 309659	BD Biosciences	
Microhematocrit capillary tubes	22-362-566	Fisher Scientific	
Heparin-coated blue polyethylene open-top tubes	652825	Beckman Coulter	
Microcentrifuge tubes (1.5 ml)	C-2170	Denville Scientific Inc.	

MATERIALS TEXT

Note:

Hospira, [RRID:SCR_003985](#)

Fisher Scientific, [RRID:SCR_008452](#)

BD Biosciences, [RRID:SCR_013311](#)

Beckman Coulter, [RRID:SCR_008940](#)

- 1 Survival surgery is performed to establish a chronic indwelling catheter at 5~6 days prior to experiment for intravenous infusion. (refer to M1023: Surgery-jugular vein cannulation)
- 2 Mice are fasted overnight (~15 hours) or for 5 hours prior to the start of experiment.
- 3 Place a mouse in a rat-size restrainer with its tail tape-tethered at one end.
- 4 Expose and flush the intravenous catheter using saline solution. Then, connect the catheter to the CMA Microdialysis infusion pump.
- 5 During the 2-hour acclimation period, infuse D-[3-³H] glucose at 0.05 μ Ci/min to measure the basal rate of whole body glucose turnover.
- 6 Collect a plasma sample (30 μ l) at the end for the measurement of plasma glucose, insulin, and [³H] glucose concentrations (basal parameters).
- 7 Following the basal period, start a 2-hour hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp with a primed (150 mU/kg body weight) and continuous infusion of human insulin at 2.5 mU/kg/min to raise plasma insulin levels.
- 8 Infuse 20% dextrose at variable rates to maintain plasma glucose at basal concentrations (euglycemia) throughout the 2-hour clamp.
- 9 Insulin-stimulated whole body glucose turnover rates are estimated with a continuous infusion of [3-³H] glucose at 0.1 μ Ci/min throughout the clamp.
- 10 Collect plasma samples (10 μ l) at 20, 40, 60, 70, 90, 100, 110, and 120 min to measure plasma glucose concentrations.
- 11 Adjust glucose infusion rates based on the instantaneous glucose levels to maintain euglycemia.
- 12 To estimate insulin-stimulated glucose uptake in individual organs, administer a bolus injection of 10 μ Ci of 2-deoxy-D-[1-¹⁴C] glucose (2-[¹⁴C]DG) at 75 minutes after the start of the clamp.
- 13 Collect plasma samples (10 μ l) at 80, 85, 90, 100, 110, and 120 min for the measurement of plasma [³H] glucose, ³H₂O, and 2-[¹⁴C] DG concentrations. (10 μ l plasma samples are suspended in 20 μ l distilled water [dH₂O] to make 30 μ l sample solutions.)
- 14 Collect additional plasma sample (10 μ l) at the end of the clamp (at 120 min) to measure plasma insulin concentrations (clamp parameter).
- 15 At the end of hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp, anesthetize mice using pentobarbital and quickly dissect and collect tissues including skeletal muscles (gastrocnemius and quadriceps) from both hindlimbs, white and brown adipose tissues, liver, and heart.

- 16 Rapidly freeze-clamp the tissues in liquid N₂, and store tissue samples in -80°C freezer for biochemical analysis.
- 17 Biochemical assay is conducted using plasma samples to measure [3-³H] D-glucose, ³H₂O, and 2-[¹⁴C] DG concentrations.
- Transfer 15 µl of plasma sample solutions into microcentrifuge tubes with sample time clearly labeled.
 - Add 25 µl BaOH and vortex samples.
 - Add 25 µl Zn(SO)₄ and vortex samples.
 - Centrifuge samples for 5 min at 12,000g (~14,000 rpm).
 - Prepare 2 sets of scintillation vials labeled Dry and Non-Dry for each sample.
- Non-Dry samples*
- Prepare 60 µl of dH₂O in NON-DRY labeled scintillation vials for each sample.
 - Transfer 20 µl of supernatant from step (d) into respective scintillation vials and vortex samples.
 - Add 3 ml of Ultima scintillation cocktail and vortex thoroughly.
 - Measure radioactive labeling using Beckman Coulter Scintillation Counter.
- Dry samples*
- Transfer 20 µl of supernatant from step (d) into respective scintillation vials and place into vacuum oven set at room temperature for overnight drying.
 - Following overnight drying, add 80 µl dH₂O and vortex thoroughly.
 - Add 3 ml of Ultima scintillation cocktail and vortex samples.
 - Measure radioactive labeling using Beckman Coulter Scintillation Counter.
- 18 Plasma concentrations of ³H₂O will be calculated as the difference in ³H counts between Dry and Non-Dry samples and will be used to calculate the rate of whole body glycolysis.
- 19 For biochemical assay to measure glucose uptake in individual organs, refer to M1003: Organ-specific glucose uptake experiment.
- 20 Basal rate of hepatic glucose production (HGP) or glucose turnover can be determined as the ratio of the basal [³H] glucose infusion rate (dpm/min) to the specific activity of plasma glucose (dpm/µmol) at the end of the basal period (0 min sample before the start of hyperinsulinemic-euglycemic clamp).
- 21 Insulin-stimulated whole body glucose turnover is determined as the ratio of the clamp [³H] glucose infusion rate (dpm/min) to the specific activity of plasma glucose (dpm/µmol) during the final 30 min of the clamp (90~120 min of clamp).
- 22 Insulin-stimulated HGP (during the clamp) is determined by subtracting the glucose infusion rate from the whole body glucose turnover rate. The difference between insulin-stimulated and basal rates of HGP reflects hepatic insulin action (insulin-mediated suppression of HGP).
- 23 Whole body glycolysis is calculated from the rate of increase in plasma ³H₂O concentrations, determined by linear regression of the measurements at 80, 85, 90, 100, 110, and 120 min of clamp.
- 24 Whole body glycogen plus lipid synthesis are estimated by subtracting whole body glycolysis from whole body glucose turnover.



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