### Endoscopic and Minimally Invasive Bariatrics: Medical Management of Obesity

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# Cornerstone of Weight Loss Treatment

• <u>Behavior Therapy, Diet, Exercise</u>

### Long-Term Weight Loss with Non-Pharmacologic Treatment



VLCD: <800 kcal/day BMOD: behavior + 1200kcal/day Combined: VLCD + behavior

Wadden Annals of Int Med 119:688 1993

### **Neurohormonal Changes Associated with Weight Loss**



#### Korner & Aronne, J Clin Invest 111:565-570 (2003)

### A Guide to Selecting Treatment: National Institutes of Health (NIH) Guidelines\*

	Body Mass Index (BMI) (kg/m²)				
Treatment	25–26.9	27–29.9	30–34.9	35–39.9	≥40
Diet, physical activity, behavior therapy	Yes with comorbidities	Yes with comorbidities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pharmaco- therapy		Yes with comorbidities	Yes	Yes	Yes
Weight-loss surgery			***	Yes with comorbidities	Yes

\* Yes alone indicates that the treatment is indicated regardless of the presence or absence of comorbidities. The solid arrow signifies the point at which therapy is initiated.
 \*\*\* The FDA has approved use of LAGB for patients with BMI > 30 who also have at least one condition linked to obesity, such as heart disease or diabetes.

NIH/NHLBI, NAASO. The Practical Guide: Identification, Evaluation, and Treatment of Overweight and Obesity in Adults. Bethesda, Md: NIH; 2000.

### History of Drugs for Weight Loss

- 1947: Methamphetamine
  Phendimetrazine (Bontril)
- 1957: Phentermine (Adipex, Suprenza)
- 1982: Diethylpropion (Tenuate)
  Phenelpropanelamine (Dexedrin, Acutrim)
- 1973: Fenfluramine
- 1996: Dexfenfluramine (Redux)
- 1997: Meridia (sibutramine)
- 1999: Orlistat (Xenical/Alli)
- 2012: Lorcaserin (Belviq)
- 2012: Topiramate + Phentermine (Qsymia)
- 2014: Bupropion + Naltrexone (Contrave)
- 2014: Liraglutide (Saxenda)

# Drugs That May Promote Weight Gain

- Psychiatric/neuro
  - Antipsychotics
  - Antidepressants
  - Lithium
  - Antiepileptics
- Steroid hormones
  - Hormonal contraceptives
  - Corticosteroids
  - Progestational steroids

- Diabetes treatments
  - Insulin
  - Sulfonylureas
  - Thiazolidinedione
- Antihistamines
- β-adrenergic blockers

# **Noradrenergic Agents**

- Schedule IV drugs have a low potential for abuse
- **Phentermine** (Adipex-P, Fastin): 18.75-37.5 mg/day
- **Phentermine resin** (Ionamin): 15-30 mg/day
- Diethylpropion (Tenuate, Tenuate Dospan):
  25 mg 3x/day or sustained release 75 mg/day
- **Phenylpropanolamine** (Dexatrim, Acutrim): withdrawn from market due to association with hemorrhagic **Stroke**

Yanovski NEJM 346:591 2002

# Noradrenergic Agents (cont'd)

- Approved by the FDA for short-term use:
  - ~ 3 months
- Studies show between 2-10 kg weight loss over placebo
- Side effects: insomnia, dry mouth, constipation, euphoria, palpitations, hypertension

# **Orlistat: Mechanism of Action**



30% of fat not absorbed

# Weight Change Over 104 Weeks



\**P* < 0.05 (vs placebo). Sjöström L, et al. *Lancet*. 1998;352:167–172.

# **Orlistat: Safety**

- GI events (flatulence, anal leakage) are related to increased fecal fat excretion and are a predictable consequence of the mode of action of orlistat
  - Events may help/hinder compliance as patients test their limits
- Reductions in fat-soluble vitamins levels and absorption of some medications have been demonstrated
- Vitamin supplementation is recommended

 Post-marketing reports of liver injury but no cause-effect relationship with orlistat has been established

Xenical [package insert]. Nutley, NJ: Roche Laboratories Inc; 2007 and FDA

## Lorcaserin (Belviq)- Mechanism of Action



5-HT 1B: pulmonary HTN; 5-HT 2B: pulmonary HTN and cardiac valvulopathy

# **MC4R Deficiency**

9 yo boy MC4R -/-



16 yo brother MC4R +/+

# Phenotype: hyperphagia, obesity, increased bone mineral density, incr linear growth, severe hyperinsulinemia

Farooqi S, O' Rahilly S. Endocrine Reviews. 27 (7):710-18. Farooqi et al. 2003 NEJM 348:1085-1095.

### Lorcaserin: Serotonin receptor 5-HT2c Agonist (no valvulopathy)



Smith SR et al. N Engl J Med 2010;363:245-256



### Lorcaserin (Belviq): Adverse Effects/warnings/precautions

- Most common adverse effects: headache (17%), dizziness, fatigue, nausea, dry mouth, constipation, hypoglycemia (in pts with DM)
- Serotonin syndrome or Neuroleptic malignant syndrome: esp in conjunction with SSRIs, TCAs, triptans, MAOIs, antipsychotics, bupropion, dextromethorphan, St. John's Wort
- Bradycardia: 5-10 bpm decr in HR
- Lab changes: incr PRL or decr WBC count
- Should not take with drugs associated with valvular heart disease (ie. cabergoline)

Phentermine-Topiramate (Qsymia)

- Phentermine
  - Increase in NE
    -> incr metabolism

locomotor activity

Increase in DA
 -> decr appetite

Topiramate

- Decr appetite via unknown mechanism (GABA)

Smith, et al, Annals of Pharmacotherapy March 2013, 47:340-349

-> incr

### Effect of Phentermine/Topiramate ER (Qsymia) on Weight Loss in Obese Adults Over 2 Years



Garvey WT, et al. Am J Clin Nutr. 2012;95:297-308.

### **Decrease Progression to T2D**



**Adverse events:** 

Most common: paraesthesia, dizziness, dysqueusia, insomnia, constipation, dry mouth

Other: increase HR, depression, anxiety, irritability, impairment of concentration, **difficulty with memory and word finding**, acute angle closure glaucoma, nephrolithiasis, hyperchloremic non-anion gap metabolic acidosis, hypokalemia

### **CLEFT PALATE**

### Topiramate

#### Randomized double-blind placebo-controlled trial in obese adults



Bray et al, Obesity Research, (2003) 11:722

## Zonisamide

•Zonisamide, an antiepileptic with dopaminergic, serotonergic activity and Na & Ca channel blocker

- •16 week RCT with 16 week single blind extension
- •Dose 400 600mg/day
- •60 subjects randomized, 51 completed
- •Most common side effect: fatigue

#### Unintended Consequence: Weight Loss

Several drugs may, as a side effect, cause weight loss. Preliminary results of a study found Zonisamide, an anti-epileptic drug, caused more weight loss than a placebo.



Placebo 1.8% weight loss

Zonisamide 9.4 % weight loss in 32 weeks

Gadde KM, JAMA 2003 289:1820-1825

Graph, NY Times, 4/15/03

# Naltrexone + Bupropion (Contrave)

Unclear mechanism of action:

- Bupropion stimulates POMC neurons; activates mesolimbic reward centers
- Naltrexone prevents inhibition of POMC neurons by beta-endorphin

### Naltrexone + Bupropion (Contrave)





Greenway et al, Lancet 376:595-605, 2010

### Naltrexone/Bupropion

#### Side Effects:

- Nausea, headache, constipation, dizziness, vomiting, and dry mouth were also more frequent in the naltrexone plus bupropion groups vs. placebo
- Transient increase of ~1 mm Hg in mean systolic and diastolic blood pressure and 2 bpm HR
- Combination treatment was not associated with increased depression or suicides vs. placebo BUT possible activation of mania, depression, suicide

#### **Contraindications:**

- Pregnancy, uncontrolled HTN, seizure disorders, anorexia or bulimia, use of other bupropioncontaining products, MAOIs, CHRONIC OPIOD USE, ABRUPT DISCONTINUATION OF ALCOHOL
- May trigger an angle-closure attack

#### Other drug interactions:

– Antidepressants, antipsychotics, beta-blockers, Type 1D antiarrhythmics, ticlopidine, clopidogrel

#### Greenway FL, et al. Lancet. 2010 Aug 21;376(9741):595-605; Prescribing Information

### **GLP-1 Modulates Numerous Functions in Humans**



Data from Flint A, et al. *J Clin Invest*. 1998;101:515-520; Data from Larsson H, et al. *Acta Physiol Scand*. 1997;160:413-422 Data from Nauck MA, et al. *Diabetologia*. 1996;39:1546-1553; Data from Drucker DJ. *Diabetes*. 1998;47:159-169

#### Effects of Liraglutide (GLP1R agonist) on Body Weight in Nondiabetic Obese Adults



## Liraglutide

### Side Effects:

- Nausea, diarrhea, constipation, vomiting, headache, decreased appetite, dyspepsia, fatigue, dizziness, abdominal pain, and increased lipase
- At year 1, nausea and/or vomiting was associated with greater weight loss with liraglutide 3.0 mg, but even those who did not experience these events lost more weight than those on placebo or orlistat

#### Warnings and Precautions:

- Acute pancreatitis, cholelithiasis, hypoglycemia, increase heart rate, renal impairment, hypersensitivity
- Thyroid C-cell tumors in rodents: contraindicated in patients with personal or family history of medullary thyroid carcinoma or MEN 2

### Diabetes Prevention Program – Modest Weight-Loss Reduces the Incidence of New-Onset Diabetes in an At-Risk Population



*P*<0.001 for each comparison.

\*Decrease in risk of developing diabetes, compared to placebo group. Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group. *N Engl J Med.* 2002;346:393-403.



- Not covered by Medicare/Medicaid and many commercial insurance
- Older generics (phentermine)
- Off-label use: i.e. metformin; topiramate +/- phentermine
- Discount programs/ Co-Pay
- Free lifestyle programs