Amniotic

sac

# Maternal Bisphenol A Programs Offspring Metabolic Syndrome

Michael G. Ross, M.D., M.P.H. and Mina Desai, Ph.D.

Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology Los Angeles Biomedical Institute at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center

## **Metabolic Syndrome**

#### • Traits:

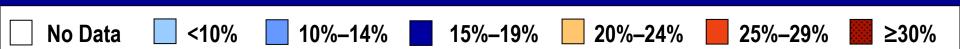
- Obesity
- Hypertension
- Type 2 diabetes mellitus
- Dyslipidemia
- Mortality: Leading cause of death in the United States

- Obesity: U.S. adults 65% overweight, 31% obese, Childhood obesity 20%
- Hypertension: 29% of U.S. population
- Diabetes: 27% of U.S. population

## Obesity Trends\* Among U.S. Adults From 1990 to 2010

(BRFSS; \*BMI ≥30, or about 30 lbs. overweight for 5'4" person) 1990 2000

2010



## **Etiology of Obesity**

Food Availability High Fat Diets



#### Reduced Energy Expenditure



Propensity for Obesity

Developmental Programming



Developmental Programming Fetal Nutrition, Stress ? Environmental Toxins

Altered cell number and differentiation



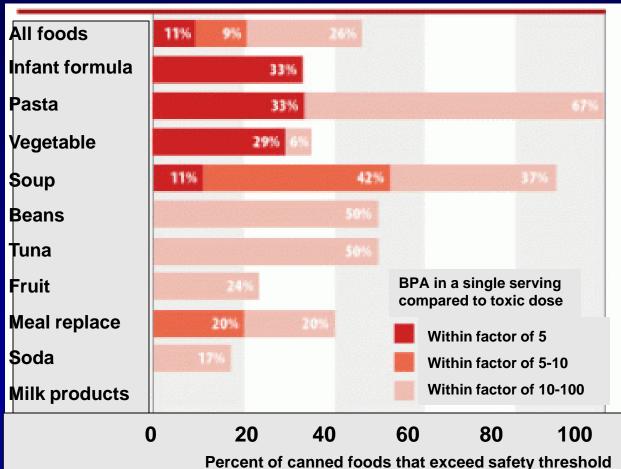
Modified gene expression



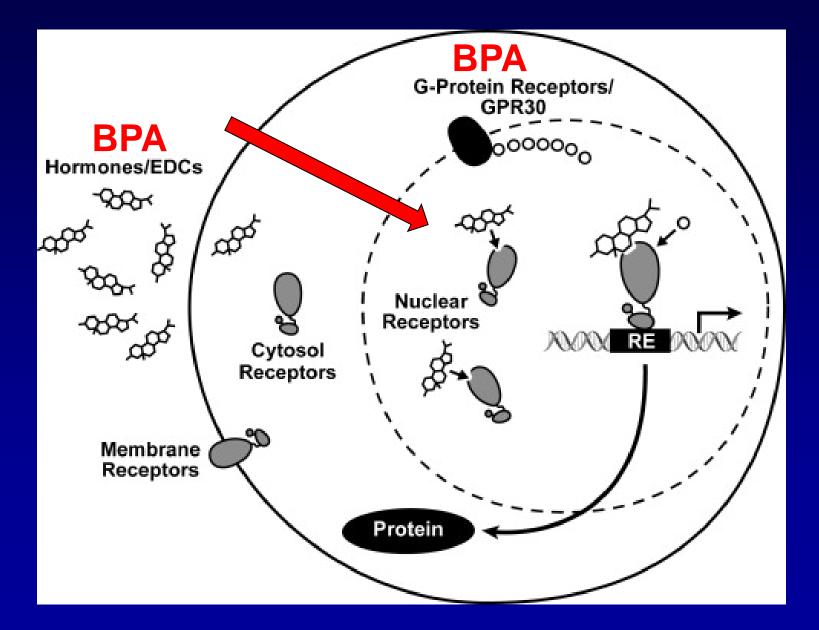




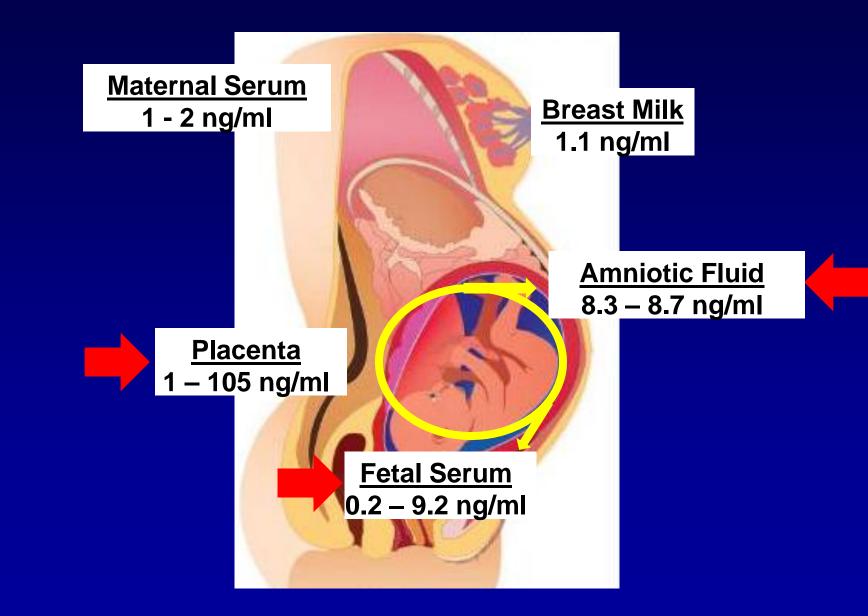
# **Bisphenol A (BPA)**



## **BPA: Endocrine Disruptor**



## **NHANES: BPA Levels during Pregnancy**



Models of BPA-Induced Fetal Programming

- In vivo maternal BPA exposure
  - Offspring phenotype
  - In utero effects on fetal appetite and adipose development
- In vitro fetal BPA exposure
  - Effect on neural stem cells
  - Effect on adipose tissue development

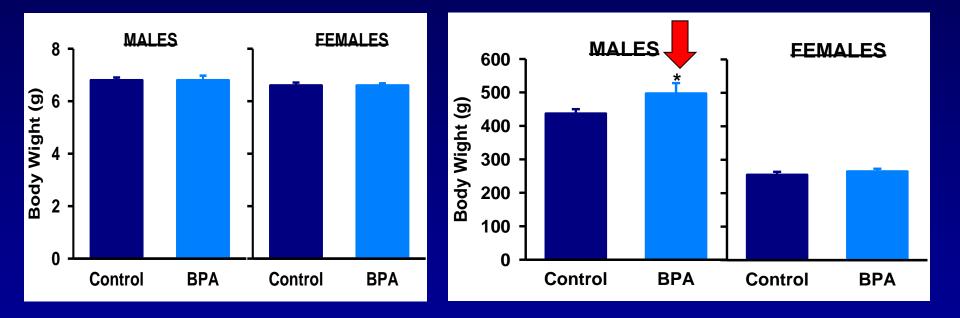
## Maternal Bisphenol A (BPA)



#### **OFFSPRING**

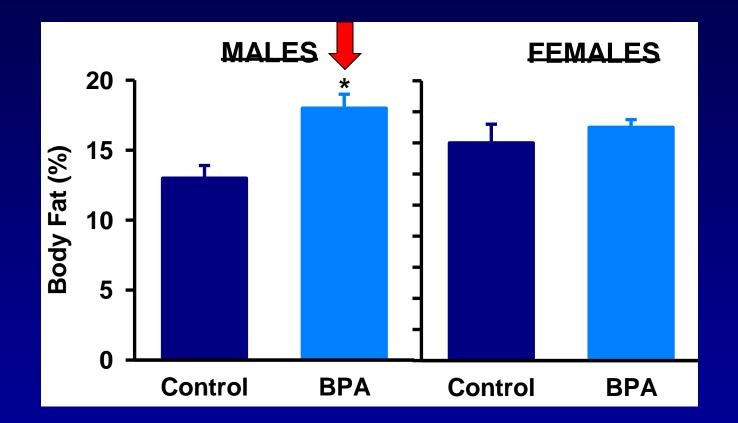
- Litter size: Culled to 4 males and 4 females at birth
- Nursing: All pups nursed by same dams until p21
- Weaning: At p21 to ad libitum food and BPA-free water

# Maternal BPA: Offspring Body Weights1 Day6 Month



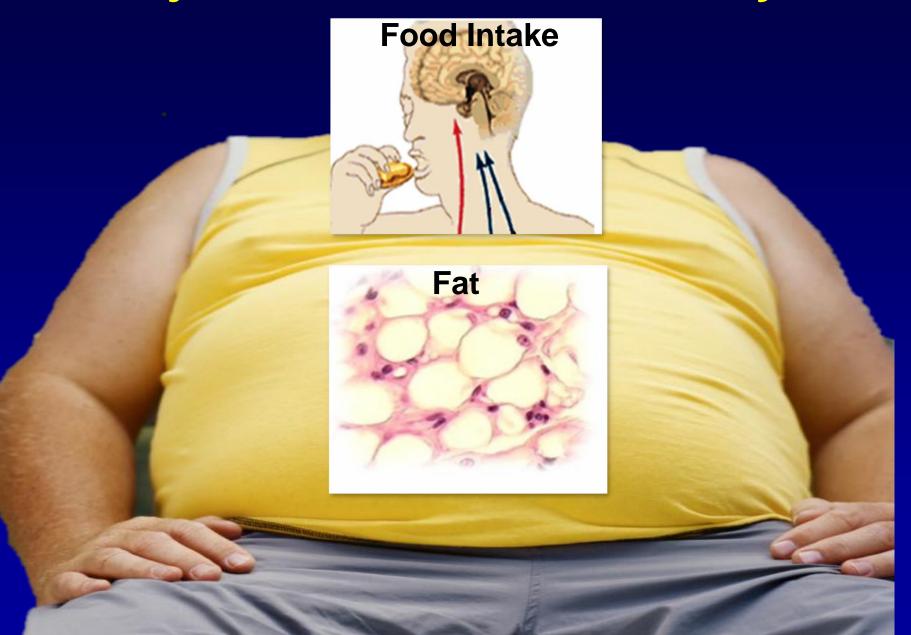
#### **Increased Body Weights in Males**

## Maternal BPA: Body Fat of 6 Month Offspring

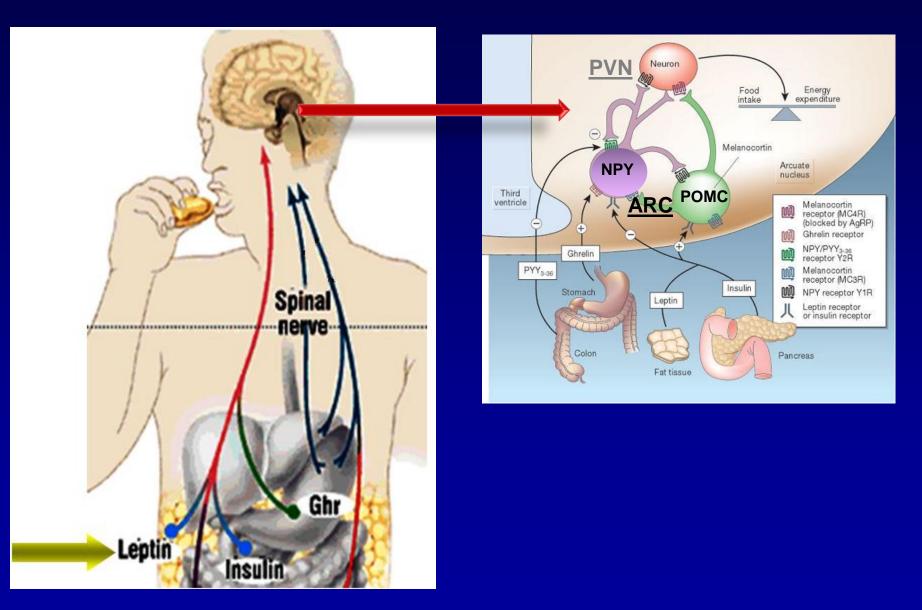


**Increased Body Fat in Males** 

# **Major Contributors of Obesity**



# **Appetite Regulation**

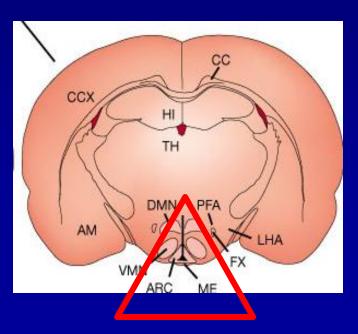


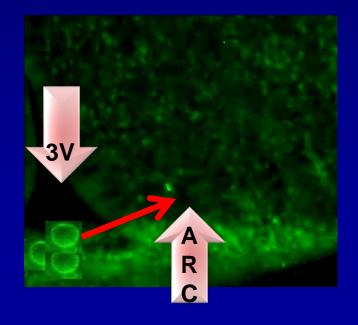
## **ARC Nucleus Development**

- ARC cells arise from Neural Stem Cells in periventricular region
- Appetite (NPY) and Satiety (POMC) neurons populate the ARC during fetal life and this continues to develop during postnatal life

#### **Appetite Regions**

#### **Neural Stem Cells**



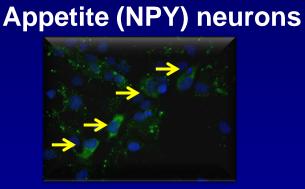


## **Hypothesis of Enhanced Appetite**

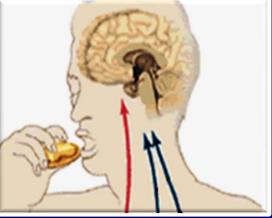
#### **Fetal BPA exposure**

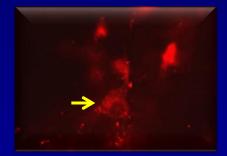


#### Satiety (POMC) neurons



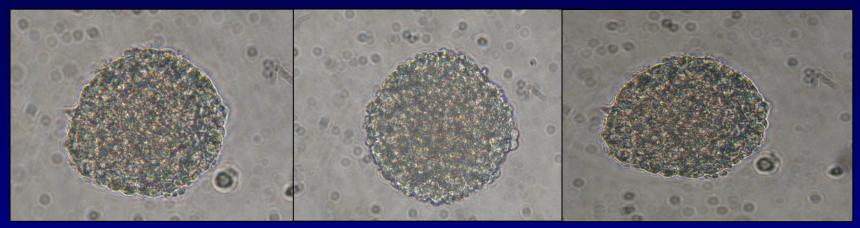






## **Hypothalamic Neurospheres**

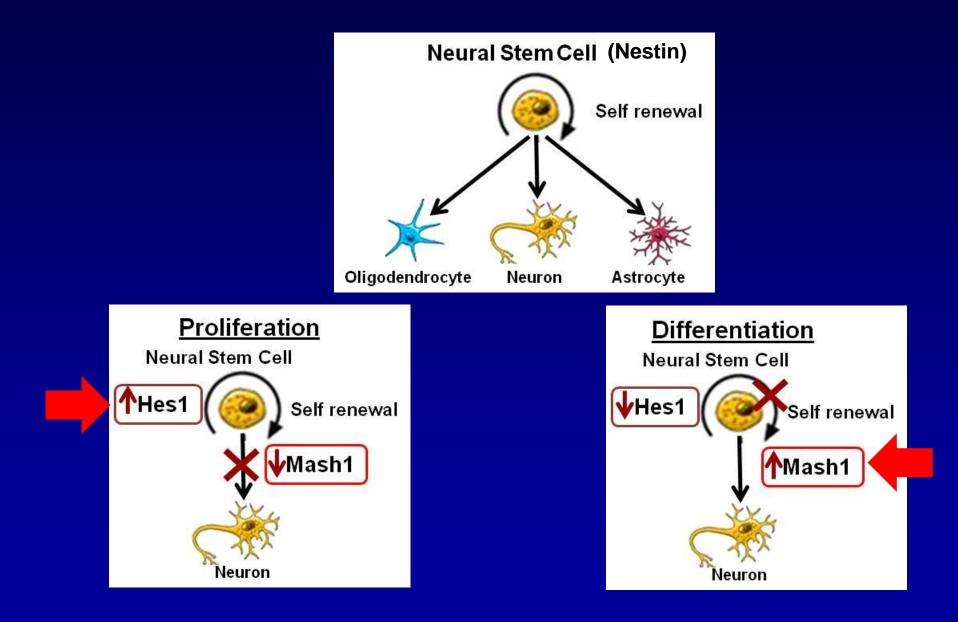
#### Undifferentiated



#### **Early Differentiation**



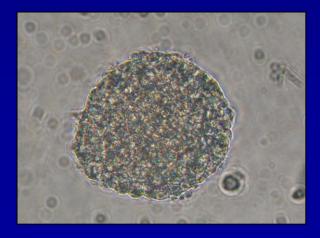
## **NSC Proliferative & Differention Factors**



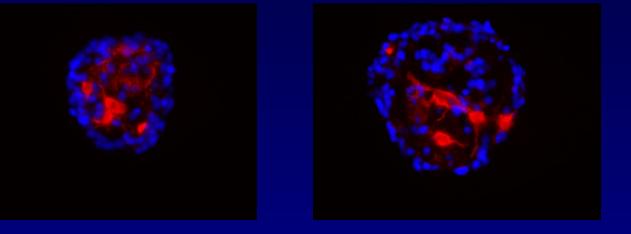
# Methods: NSC In Utero BPA Exposure

Hypothalamic NSCs from 1 day old newborns of Control and BPA treated dams.

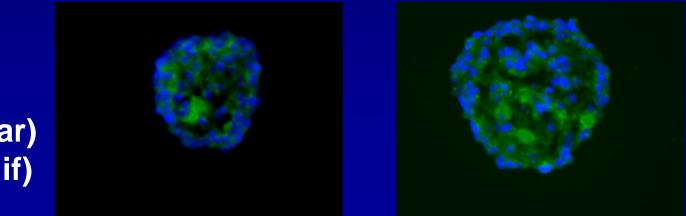
- Culture media complete medium
- Analysis
- Immunostaining of 10 micron sections:
  - Nestin NSC marker
  - Hes1 proliferative factor



## NSC Immunostaining: 1 Day Newborn Control BPA



#### DAPI (nuclear) + Nestin (NSC)



DAPI (nuclear) + Hes1 (Prolif)

Cultured for 7 days in complete medium; 10 micron sections

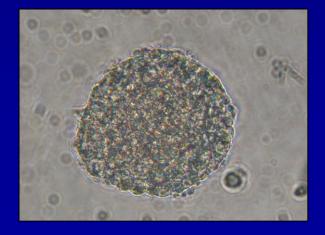
## Methods: In Vitro BPA Exposure

## **BPA Treatment of Neural Stem Cells**

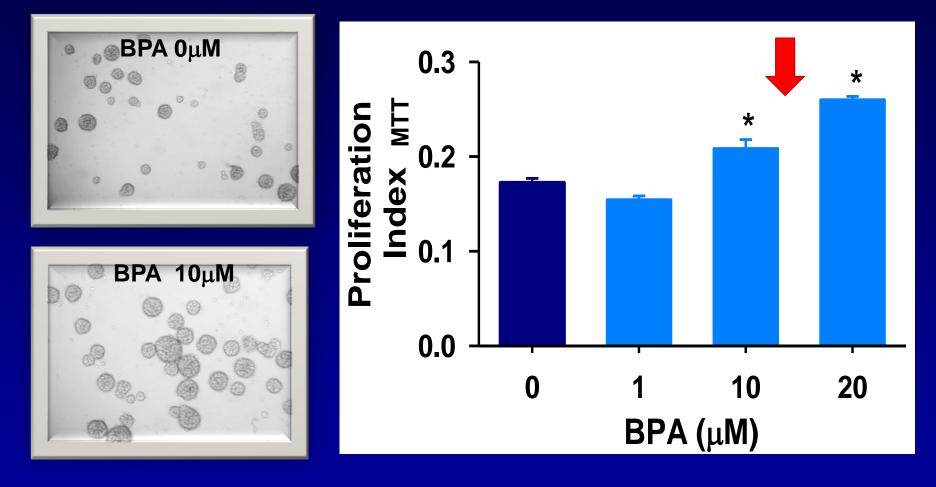
- Hypothalamic NSCs: 1 day old newborns
- BPA treatment:
  - Neurospheres Cultures: Self renewal or differentiated
  - Dose 1, 10, 20  $\mu$ M x 5 days

## Analysis

- MTT assay: NSC proliferation
- Protein expression (Western Blot):
  - Nestin NSC marker
  - Hes1 proliferative factor
  - Tuj1 neuronal marker
  - **GFAP** astrocyte
  - Mash1 neurogenic factor

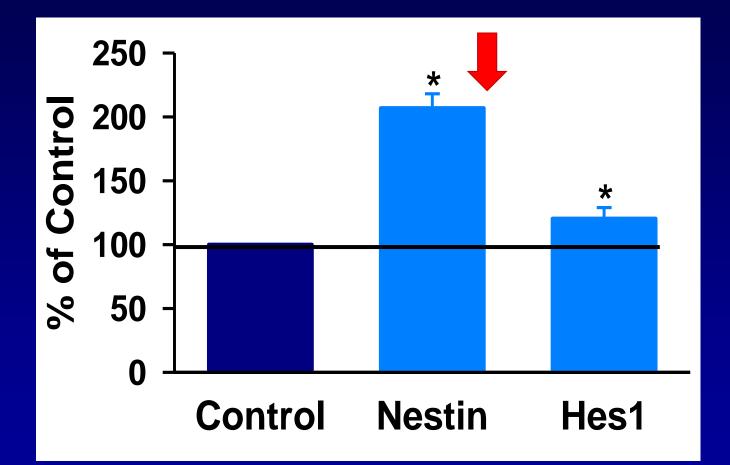


## **BPA: Neural Stem Cell Proliferation**



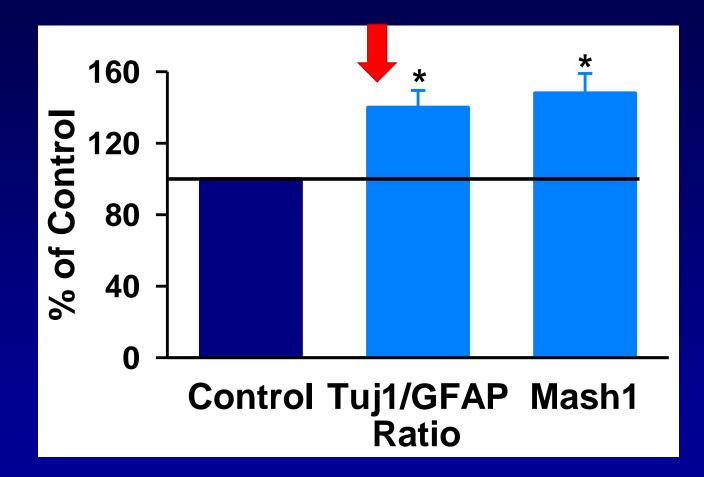
#### **Increased Proliferation**

## **BPA: Neural Stem Cell Proliferation Factors**



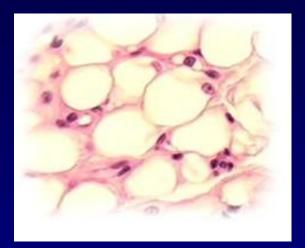
#### **Increased Proliferative Potential**

## **BPA: Neural Stem Cell Differentiation**



**Increased Neuron to Astrocyte Ratio** 

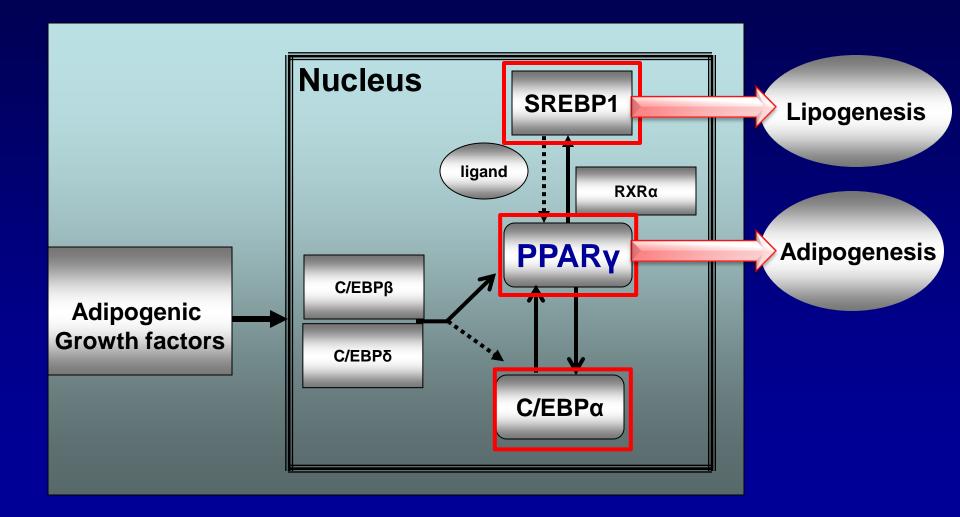
# **Programmed Adipogenesis**



- Adipose Proliferation and Differentiation
- Lipogenesis

## **Regulation of Adipogenesis**

**Peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma 2 (PPARγ2)** 



## In Utero BPA Exposure

#### Control and BPA treated dams: 3 week old offspring Retroperitoneal adipose tissue



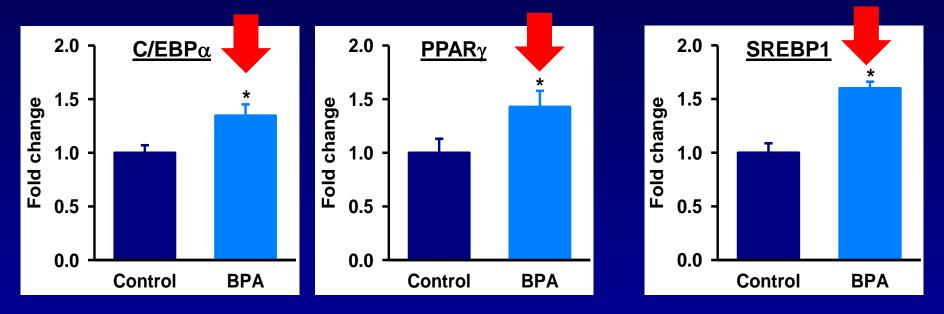
#### Analysis

- Protein Expression (Western Blot):
  - **PPAR**γ adipogenic transcription factor
  - C/EBPα adipogenic transcription factor
  - **SREBP1** lipogenic transcription factor

## **BPA: Adipocyte Transcription Factors**

#### **Adipogenic**

#### <u>Lipogenic</u>



Increased Adipocyte Differentiation and Lipogenesis

## Methods: In Vitro BPA Exposure

## **Adipocytes**

- Subcutaneous adipose tissue: 1 day old newborns
- Cultures: pre-adipocytes or differentiated adipocytes
- BPA treatment:
  - Dose 1, 10, 20 μM
  - Period of treatment 5 days

## Analysis

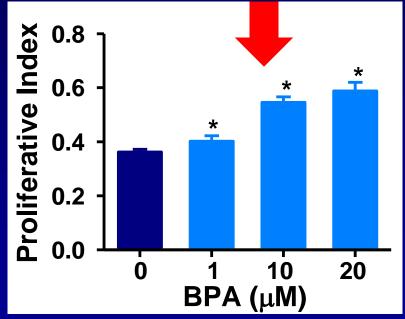
- MTT assay: Preadipocyte proliferation
- Oil O Red stain: Preadipocyte lipid storage
- Protein expression (Western Blot):
  - PPARγ adipogenic transcription factor
  - $C/EBP\alpha$  adipogenic transcription factor
  - SREBP1 lipogenic transcription factor

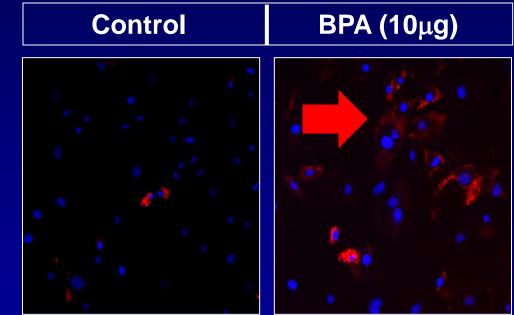


## **BPA: Preadipocytes**

#### Adipogenesis

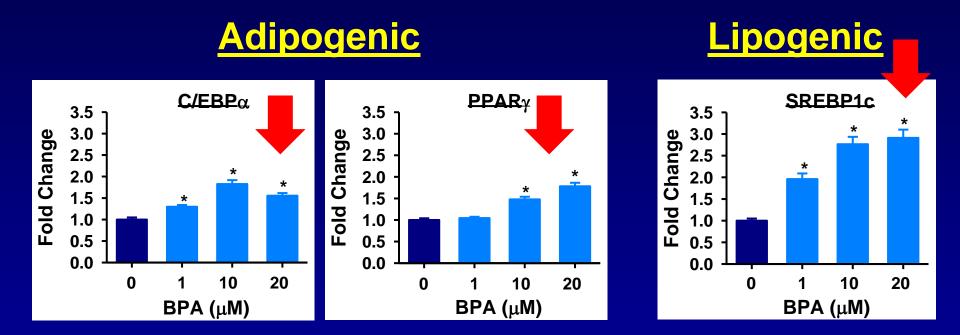
#### Lipogenesis





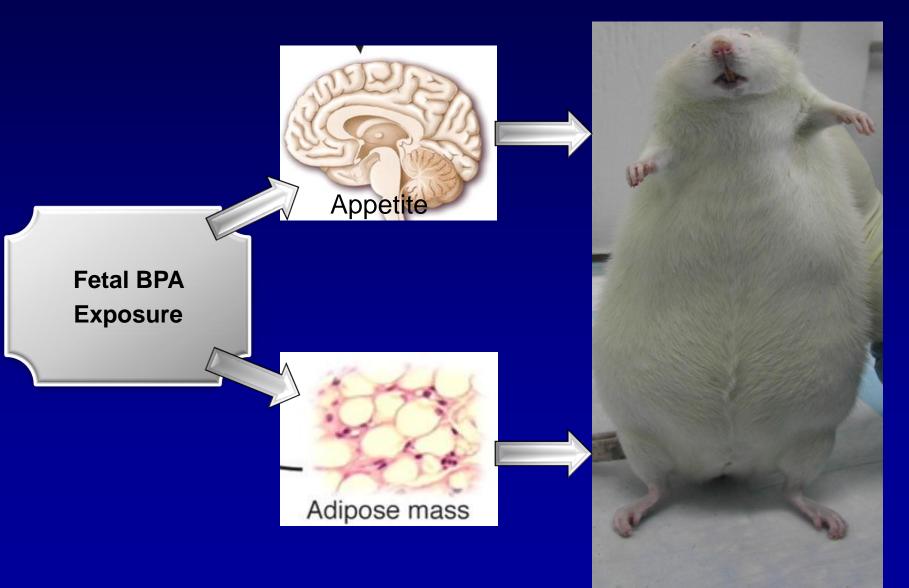
#### **Increased Proliferation and Lipid Storage**

## **BPA: Differentiated Adipocytes Transcription Factors**



### Increased Adipocyte Differentiation and Lipogenesis

## Fetal Programming of Obesity: Effect of BPA



## Conclusions

- In utero exposures altered nutrition and/or environmental agents may have marked effect on children and grandchildren
  - Need to refocus environmental agent effects beyond toxicity
  - Animal studies to explore mechanisms
  - Correlation of animal and human effects
  - Longer term human studies
- In the meantime, "all things in moderation"