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The Role of microRNAs in the Regulation of Adipose Tissue Functionality

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Message from the Guest Editor

Obesity has been shown to decrease life expectancy and has been found to be associated with type 2 diabetes, insulin resistance, mental disorders, certain cancers, and cardiovascular diseases. Previous studies have reported that adipose tissue dysfunction might link obesity to insulin resistance and type 2 diabetes development. Thus, adipose tissue expandability may be an important factor determining obesity-associated comorbidities. MicroRNAs (miRNAs) are involved in the development and function of AT and have been suggested as promising therapeutic targets in managing obesity. In fact, miRNAs have gained considerable attention not only for their ability to regulate adipogenesis and adipose tissue function, but also for their extracellular presence, such as in circulating blood or urine, raising their potential use as biomarkers for diagnosis or prognosis. Although there is growing evidence for an important role of miRNAs in regulating the pathways in adipose tissue that control a range of processes including adipogenesis, insulin resistance and inflammation, more knowledge is needed to investigate the potential regulatory mechanisms that miRNAs could play in AT regulation.



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Special Issue



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