



## Adipocyte Functionality in Whole-Body Metabolic Regulation

Guest Editor:

**Dr. Ingrid Wernstedt  
Asterholm**

Department of Physiology,  
Molecular Physiology Research  
Unit, Sahlgrenska Academy,  
Institute of Neuroscience and  
Physiology, Gothenburg  
University, Box 432, SE-40530  
Gothenburg, Sweden

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### Message from the Guest Editor

Adipose tissue functionality plays a key role in the regulation of whole-body metabolism. Functional adipose tissue can effectively expand to store excess nutrients during caloric overload. Besides this energy storage function, adipose tissue secretes a large number of cytokines and hormones (commonly referred to as adipokines) that affect immunological and metabolic processes locally and systemically.

However, these adipose tissue functions are often impaired in obesity. While healthy adipose tissue displays appropriate interplay between different adipose tissue-resident cells such as adipocytes and macrophages, obese dysfunctional adipose tissue is characterized by overactive innate and adaptive immune responses in addition to disturbed adipokine release. Moreover, dysfunctional adipose tissue may also display altered mitochondrial function as well as enhanced adipocyte hypertrophy, implying reduced recruitment of new adipocytes.

In this Special Issue of *IJMS*, the focus will be on expanding adipose tissue and the resulting issues that trigger loss of proper immune regulation and adipocyte dysfunction.





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### Prof. Dr. Maurizio Battino

Department of  
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Specialized Clinical Sciences,  
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Medicine, Università Politecnica  
delle Marche, Via Ranieri 65,  
60100 Ancona, Italy

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MDPI, St. Alban-Anlage 66  
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