



- ◆ "Corpulency, when in an extraordinary degree, may be reckoned a disease, as it in some measure obstructs the free exercise of the animal functions; and hath a tendency to shorten life, by paving the way to dangerous distempers."
  - Malcolm Flemyng (1760)



- "If morbid and severe obesity is as incurable as it seems to be based on the experience of the last 30 to 40 years, then prevention of weight gain and promotion of healthy weight should become priorities."
  - S Rossner, 1994



◆ It will be "a daunting task to change the course of nations that have become quite comfortable with an effortless lifestyle in which individual consumption is almost unlimited."

- C Bouchard (1996)



## Tools to Reduce Unhealthy Trends in Weight

- Eat regular meals
- ♦ Avoid snacking
- Drink water, not caloric beverages
- Reduce dietary fat to 30% or less
- ◆ Reduce TV time
- ♦ Walk more
- ♦ Increase physical education classes
- ♦ Increase sports activities, energetic leisure activity
  - C. Bouchard (1996)





The Surgeon General's Call To Action To Prevent and Decrease Overweight and Obesity



- **♦** Communication
- ◆ Research and Evaluation
- ♦ Action



#### **COMMUNICATION & EDUCATION**

- ♦ Use an informed, sensitive approach to:
- ♦ Change weight-related concerns at all ages
- ♦ Educate expectant parents on benefits of breastfeeding
- Educate health care professionals on prevention and treatment of overweight and obesity across the lifespan
- Provide education in schools and communities about healthy eating habits and regular physical activity



#### RESEARCH

- Improve understanding of causes, prevention, and treatment of overweight and obesity
   Increase research on behavioral and environmental causes
- Increase research and evaluation on prevention and treatment interventions
- Disseminate best practice guidelines
- Increase research on disparities in the prevalence among racial and ethnic, gender, socioeconomic, and age groups
- Identify effective and culturally appropriate interventions



#### **ACTION**

- Help people balance healthful eating habits and regular physical activity
- Ensure daily, quality physical education in all school grades
- Reduce time spent watching television and in other sedentary behaviors
- Build physical activity into regular routines and playtime for children and their families
- Create more opportunities for physical activity at worksites
- Make community facilities available and accessible for physical activity for all

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#### ACTION

- Promote healthier food choices and reasonable portion sizes
- Ensure schools provide students healthful foods and beverages
- Prohibit serving foods of minimal nutritional value in schools
- Specify all foods and beverages available at school follow healthy eating patterns
- Provide access to more low fat, reduced calorie, and reduced sugar foods
- Reduce access to excessive portion sizes
- Create mechanisms for reimbursement for prevention and treatment of overweight and obesity



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#### Thank you



## Clinical Symposium Therapeutic Options in Obesity

Richard A Dickey, MD, FACP, FACE

2<sup>nd</sup> AME Italian Meeting

Associazione Medici Endocrinologii

Joint Meeting with

American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists

Reggio Emilia, Italy - November 8-10, 2002





## Options for Weight Excess, Overweight or Obesity

- ♦ Prevention
- When this has failed, use a structured system with a team approach:
  - Patient focused
  - · Respectful of patient
  - · Compassionate approach
  - Strong patient commitment
  - Long-term support



## **Options**

- ♦ Physical and psychological evaluation
- ♦ Education of patient
- ♦ Initiate changes toward healthy lifestyle and behavior practices
- ♦ Motivation and support by:
  - MD
  - $\ Support \ groups$
  - Family and friends

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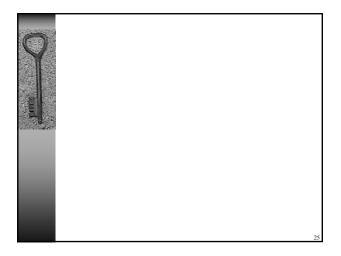
## Options

- ♦ Reinforcement
- ♦ Dietary/nutritional measures
  - Realistic
  - Collaborative with patient
  - Individualized
- ♦ Physical activity enhancement/exercise



### **Options**

- When or if these measures fail or are inadequate to satisfactorily reduce risks of and/or ameliorate comorbid conditions, use:
- Pharmacotherapy in selected patients:
  - As used for hypertension or diabetes, where no ideal therapy is yet at hand either but we still treat
- and/or Surgery in selected patients: e.g. BMI >40
- ♦ Long-term follow-up





## Pharmacotherapeutic agents

- ♦ Should produce:
  - Long-term weight reduction
  - Reduced weight regain
  - Reduced co-morbid conditions
- ♦ Should be:
  - Effective
  - Not underutilized
  - Much safer than in the past

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### Pharmacotherapeutic agents

- ♦ Diethylpropion
- ♦ Phentermine
- ♦ Mazindol
- ♦ Sibutramine
- ♦ Ephedrine+caffeine
- ♦ Orlistat





## Causes of Obesity\*

- ◆ Hereditability (but gene pool fairly constant)
- ♦ Cultural practices (explain epidemic)
  - Reduced physical activity
  - Increased snacking
  - Increased fat content of food
    - \* C Waine Obesity and Weight Management in Primary



# Heart disease ♦ Stroke ♦ Hypertension

## Obesity Associated Increased Risks Adapted from www.nih.gov/health/nutrit/pubs/statobes.htm

- Premature death
- ♦ Type 2 diabetes

- ♦ Gall bladder disease
- ◆ Osteoarthritis
- ♦ Asthma
- Breathing problems
- Cancer of:
  - Endometrium
  - Colon
  - Kidney
  - Gall bladder
  - Breast (postmenopausal)



## Obesity Associated Increased Risks

Adapted from www.nih.gov/health/nutrit/pubs/statobes.htm

- ◆ High blood cholesterol ◆ Stress incontinence
- ◆ Complications of pregnancy
- ♦ Menstrual irregularities
- ♦ Hirsutism
- ♦ Sleep apnea
- ♦ Increased surgical risk
- ♦ Psychological disorders
- ♦ Psychological difficulties due to social stigmatization



#### Health Problems Associated with Obesity in **Developed Countries** Relative risk = 1 to 2

- Cancer
  - Endometrium
  - Colon
- Breast (postmenopausal)
- Reproductive hormone abnormalities
- ♦ Polycystic ovarian syndrome
- ◆ Impaired fertility
- ♦ Low back pain from obesity
- Increased anesthetic risk
- ♦ Fetal defects from maternal obesity
  - WHO 1997



#### Health Problems Associated with Obesity in **Developed Countries** Relative risk = 2 to 3

- ◆ Coronary heart disease
- Osteoarthritis of knees
- Hyperuricemia and gout
- ♦ Congestive heart failure
  - WHO 1997



#### Health Problems Associated with Obesity in **Developed Countries** Relative risk = >3

- ♦ Diabetes type 2
- Gall bladder disease
- Hypertension
- ♦ Dyslipidemia
- ♦ Insulin resistance
- ♦ Breathlessness
- ◆ Sleep apnea
  - WHO 1997



