

# Understanding and treating Obesity at the molecular Level



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## Our Research Interests

Healthy adipose (fat) tissue is essential for energy homeostasis. Aberrant adipose tissue adaptation and lipid deposition in ectopic organs favors metabolic decline. Our group has a longstanding interest in understanding altered gene-regulatory circuits in obese fat, and developing therapeutic approaches for mitigating these in humanized mouse models of cardiometabolic disease.

You will have the chance to study altered **gene-regulatory and pathophysiological processes** that affect **adipose function in obesity**. You can study if in-house developed small molecule drugs, and emerging approaches like "mRNA therapy" can improve metabolic health and protect against obesity-associated metabolic decline in mice and human organoids.

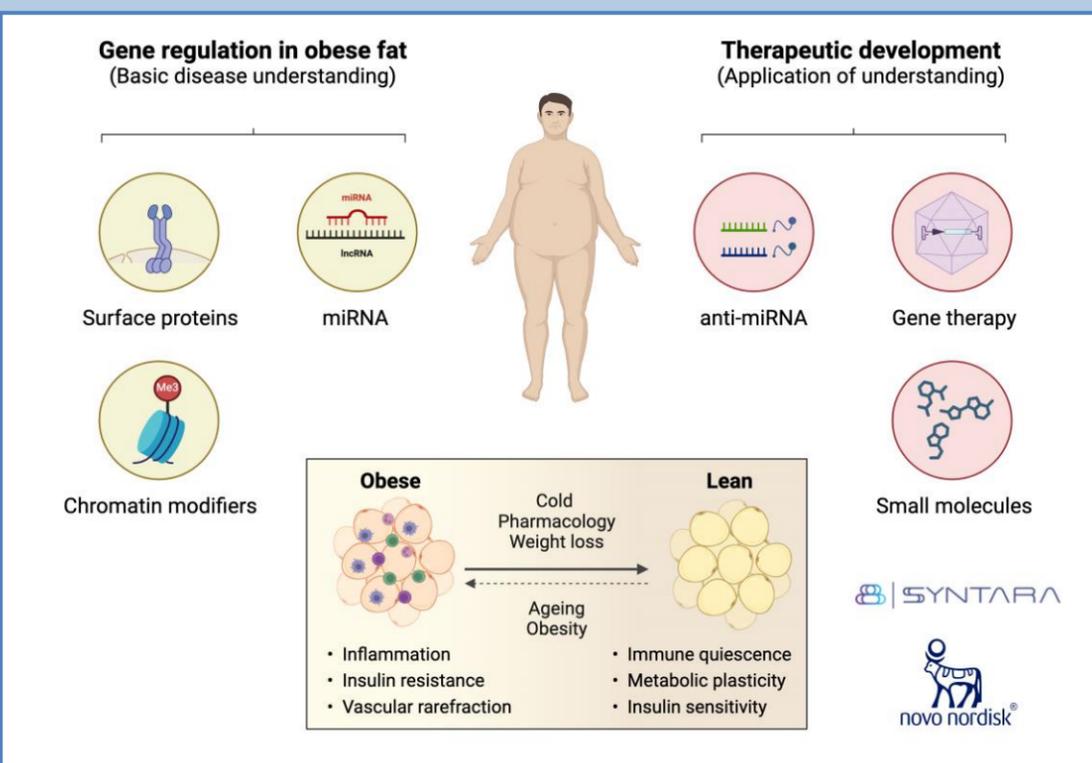
We tackle these **fundamental, therapeutic** and **innovation** questions:

- How do **microRNAs** change **gene regulation** in obese adipocytes?
- Can we target **human obesity-associated microRNAs**?
- Can we use **mRNA therapeutics** to correct metabolic dysfunction?
- Do our **small molecule inhibitors** promote **weight loss**?
- Can we build human liver and organoids for drug testing?

In our work, we apply NGS-based approaches (microRNA, mRNA-Seq), adipocyte cultures, cellular bioenergetics, obese mice and are building up human adipose "mini organs" to test our therapeutic approaches.

## Projects Description

Project Area	Description
Project Area I	Gene regulation by microRNAs in cardiometabolism
Project Area II	Small molecule drugs for weight loss
Project Area III	mRNA therapeutics in cells and obese mice



## Our Group

