



the **Greene** Laboratory
at Auburn University

AN IMPROVED IN VITRO 3T3-L1 ADIPOCYTE MODEL OF INFLAMMATION AND INSULIN RESISTANCE

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OUTLINE

- State the public health problem
- Background
- Existing models and limitations
- Our newly developed model
- Future directions



THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN

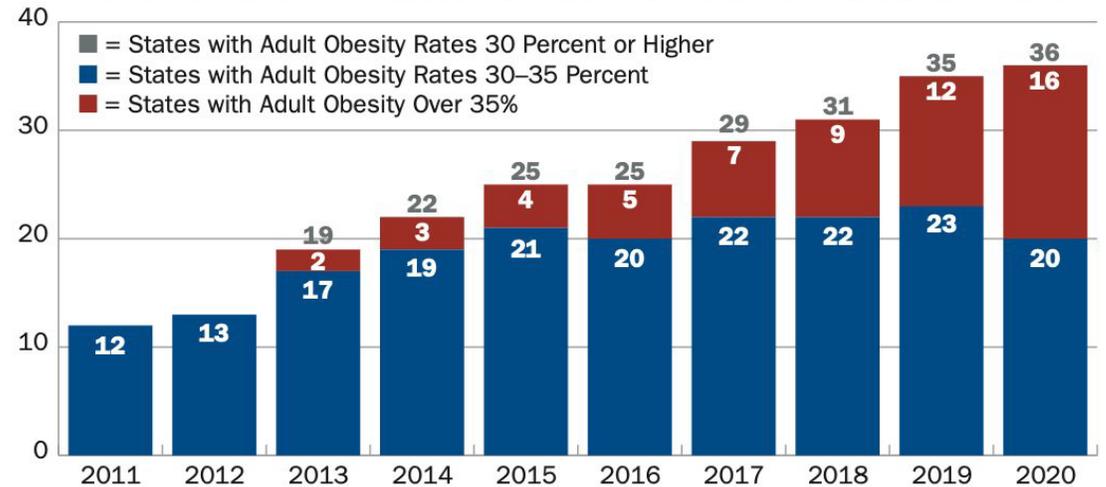
- Obesity is an increasing, global public health issue and over one third of U.S. adults have obesity.¹
- Condition characterized by excess adipose tissue.¹

BODY MASS INDEX **BMI**



BMI is a quantitative measure of obesity³

Number of States with Adult Obesity Rates At 30 Percent or Higher, 2011–2020



Source: TFAH analysis of BRFSS data

1. Fruh SM. Obesity: Risk factors, complications, and strategies for sustainable long-term weight management. *J Am Assoc Nurse Pract.* 2017;29(S1):S3-S14. doi:10.1002/2327-6924.12510
 2. <https://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/prevalence-maps.html>
 3. <https://www.scientificworldinfo.com/2020/08/what-is-body-mass-index-bmi.html>



THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN

- Nearly half of Americans will be obese by 2030



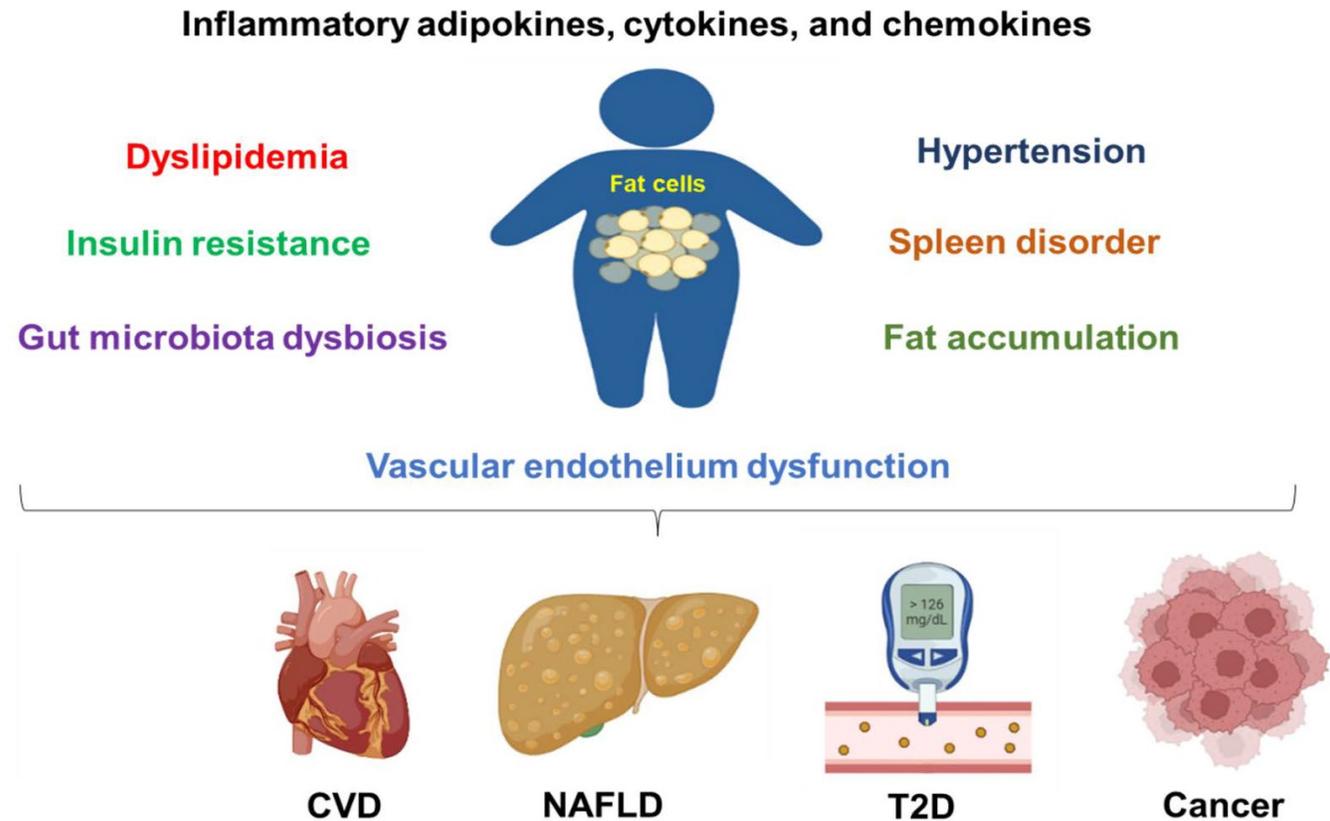
Childhood Obesity Intervention
Cost-Effectiveness Study

Ward ZJ, Bleich SN, Cradock AL, Barrett JL, Giles CM, Flax CN, Long MW, Gortmaker SL. Projected U.S. State-Level Prevalence of Adult Obesity and Severe Obesity. *N Engl J Med.* 2019;381:2440-50. doi: 10.1056/NEJMsa1909301



THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN

- Obesity contributes to chronic disease development and progression.¹
- Obesity also contributes to other diseases, such as COVID-19 infection.¹

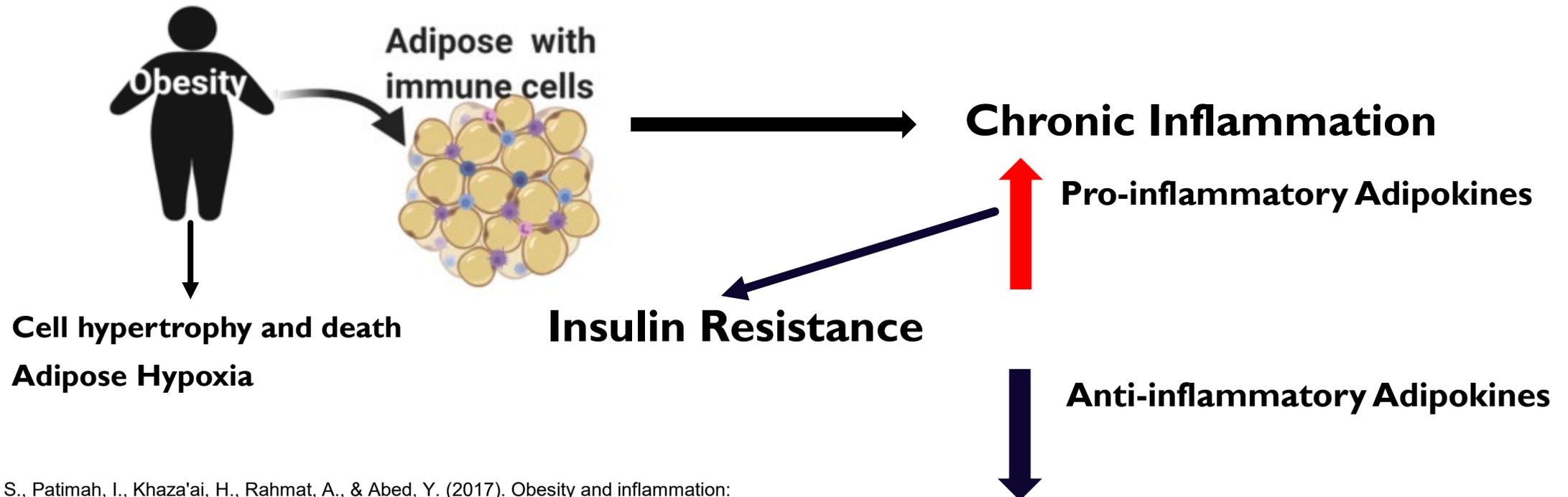


Co-Morbidities Associated with Obesity¹



OBESITY-INFLAMMATION-INSULIN RESISTANCE LINK

- Obesity is associated with chronic inflammation in obese subjects.¹
- The excess of macronutrients in the adipose tissues stimulates them to release inflammatory mediators.¹

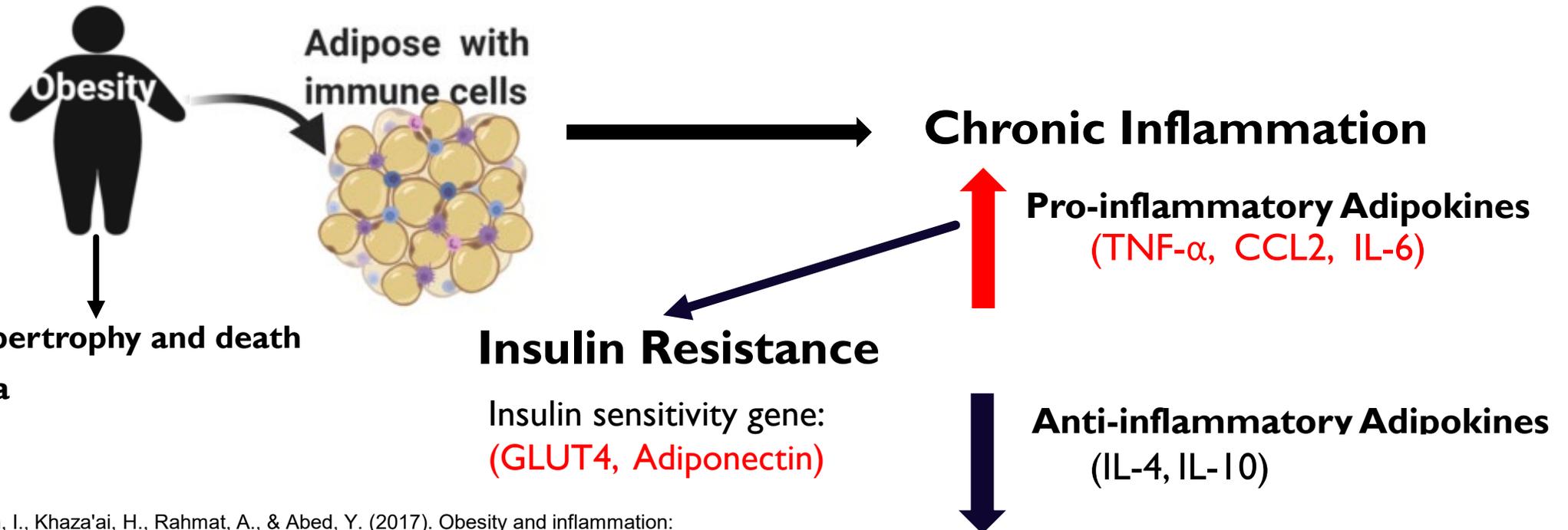


1. Ellulu, M. S., Patimah, I., Khaza'ai, H., Rahmat, A., & Abed, Y. (2017). Obesity and inflammation: the linking mechanism and the complications. *Archives of medical science : AMS*, 13(4), 851–863.



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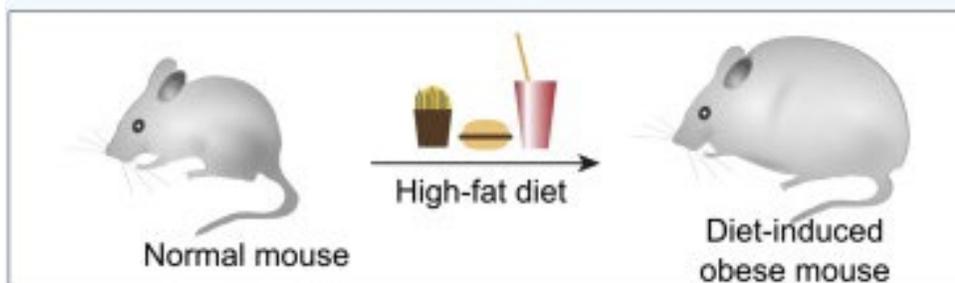
- Cell hypertrophy and death
- Hypoxia

Insulin sensitivity gene:
(GLUT4, Adiponectin)

1. Ellulu, M. S., Patimah, I., Khaza'ai, H., Rahmat, A., & Abed, Y. (2017). Obesity and inflammation: the linking mechanism and the complications. *Archives of medical science : AMS*, 13(4), 851–863.

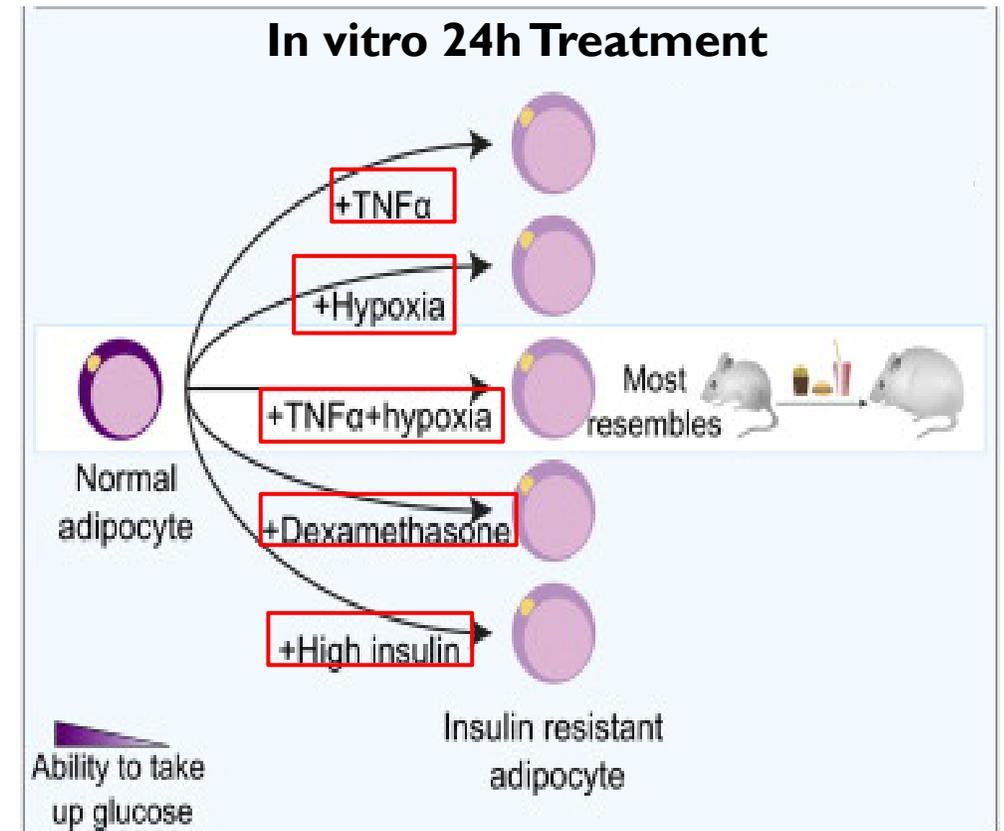


EXISTING OBESITY MODELS AND LIMITATIONS



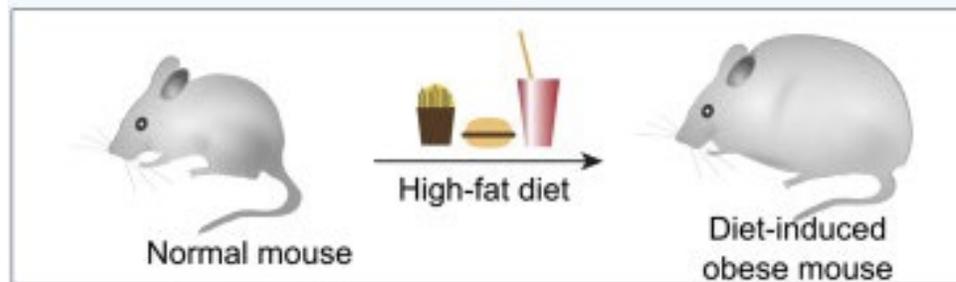
Limitations:

- More difficult to manipulate
- Expensive (e.g knocking down/out of genes)



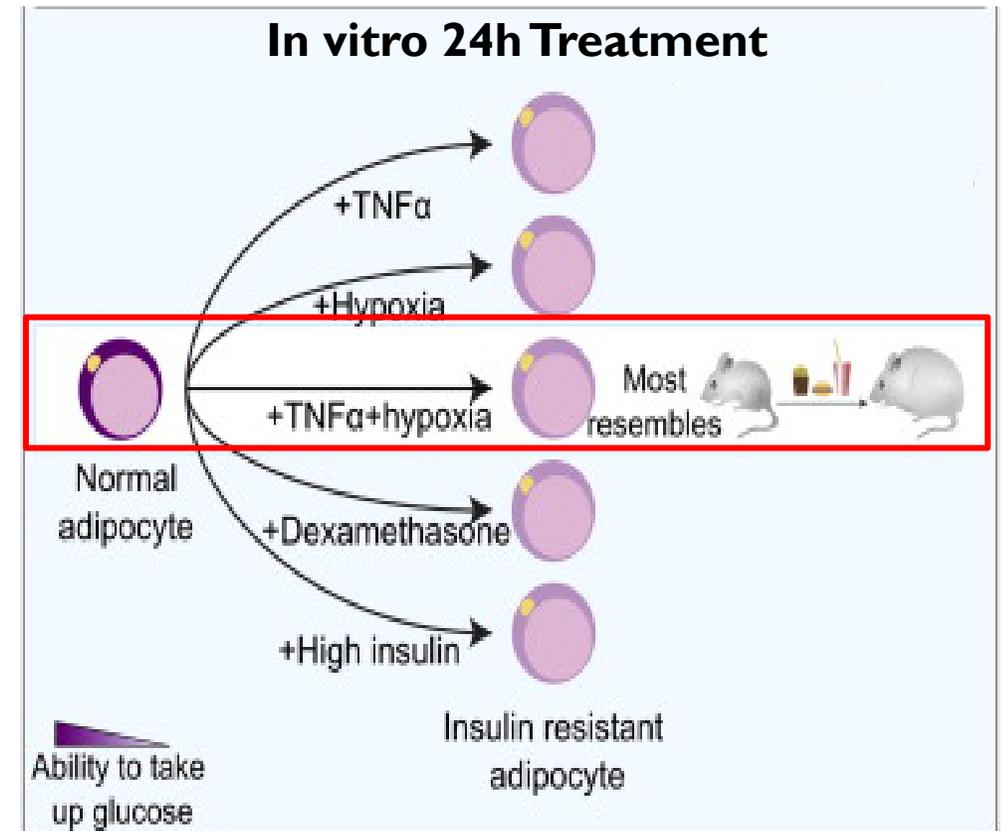


EXISTING OBESITY MODELS AND LIMITATIONS



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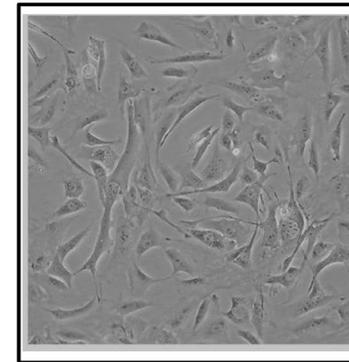
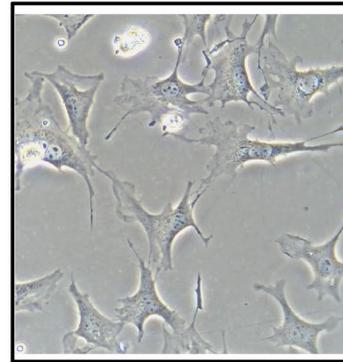
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IN-VITRO ADIPOCYTE MODEL

- **3T3-L1** is a murine cell line
- 3T3-L1 cells have a fibroblast-like morphology²

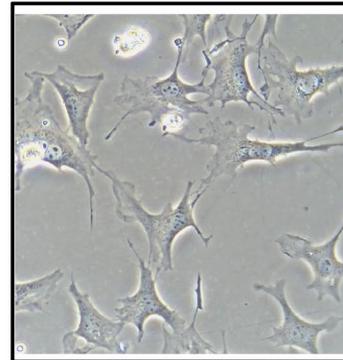




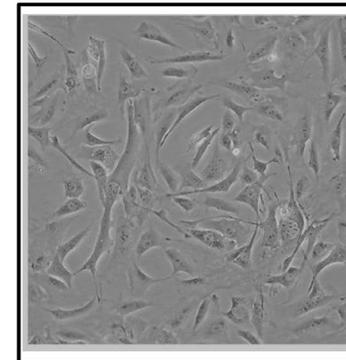
3T3-L1 CELLS

- **3T3-L1** is a murine cell line
- 3T3-L1 cells have a fibroblast-like morphology²
- The cells can be differentiated into an adipocyte-like phenotype¹

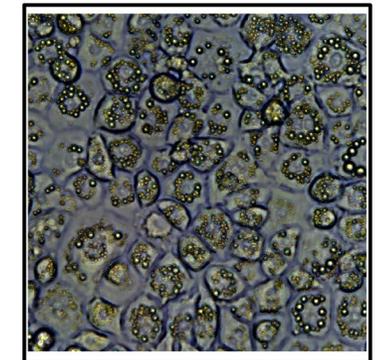
Day -3



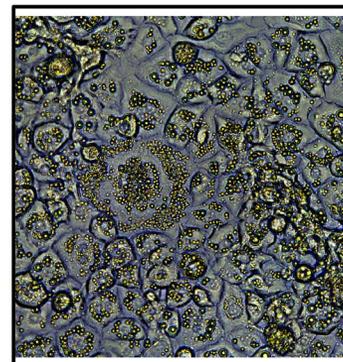
Day 0



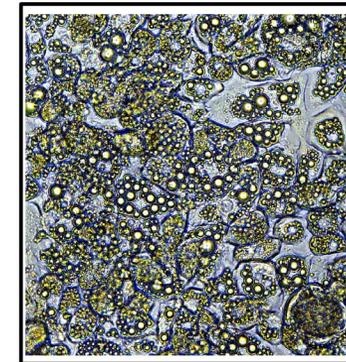
Day 3



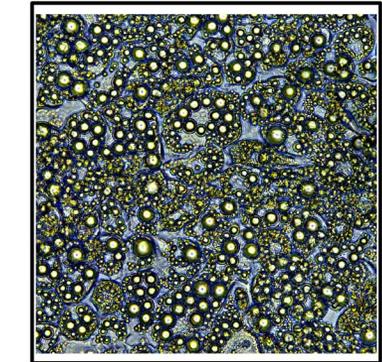
Day 5



Day 7



Day 10



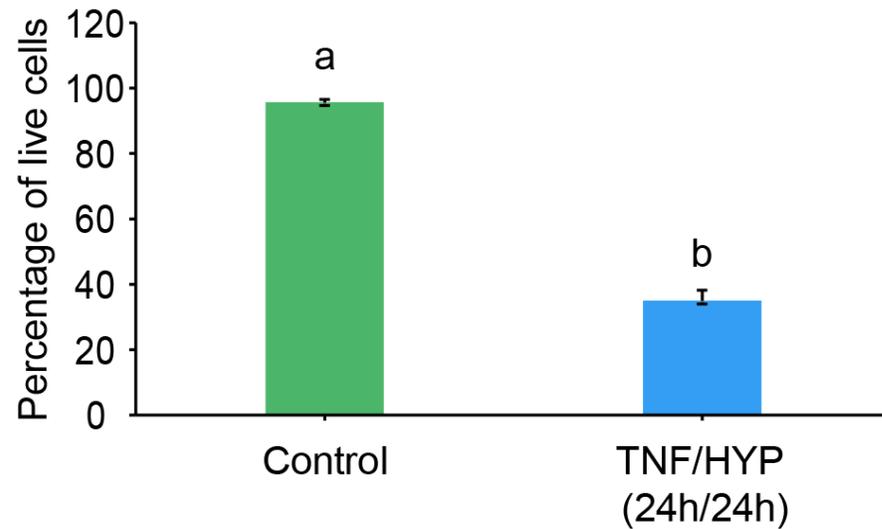


RATIONALE/PROBLEM

- We want to use this inflammatory, insulin resistance model of adipocytes in a co culture experiment to examine cancer cell growth. We hypothesized that secreted factors from the adipocytes are driving the cancer cell growth.
- TNF- α /Hypoxia are known to induce cell death.
- In addition, it's unclear whether the TNF- α remains in the culture media and therefore carrying over to the co-culture experiment and possibly confounding our treatment.

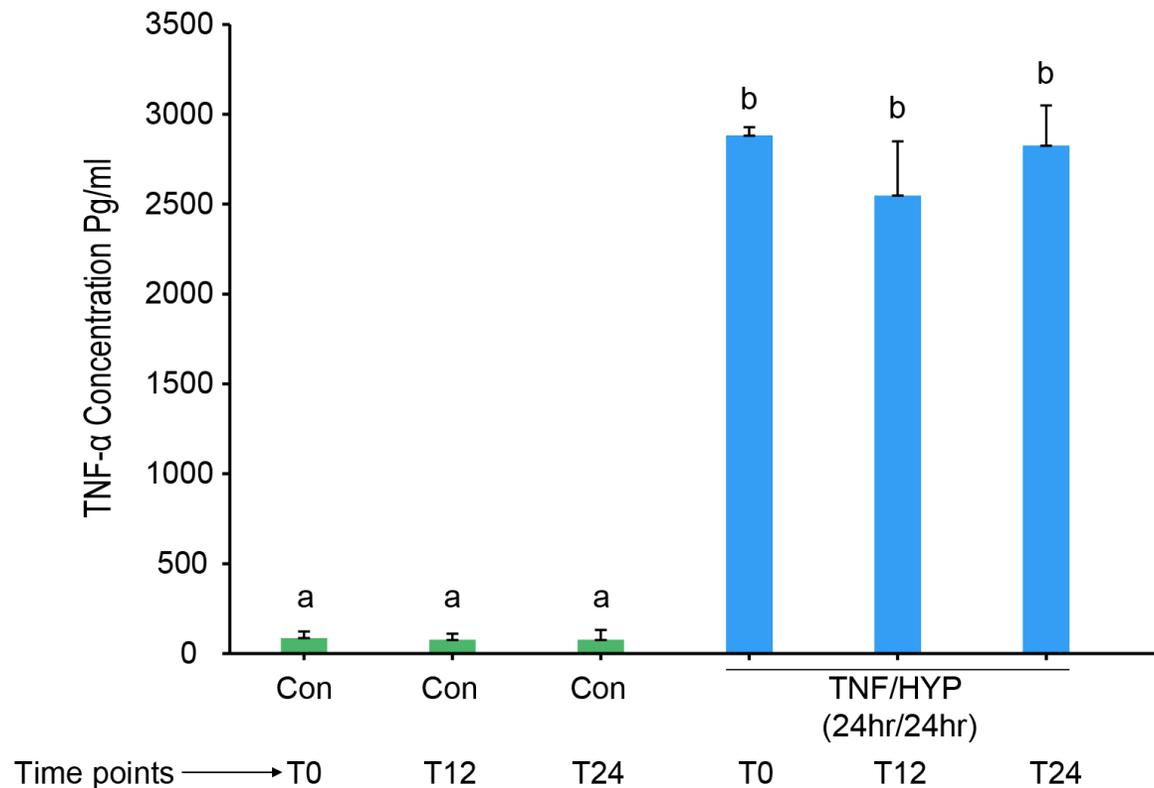


TNF- α (24 HOURS) AND HYPOXIA (24 HOURS) INDUCE SIGNIFICANT CELL DEATH





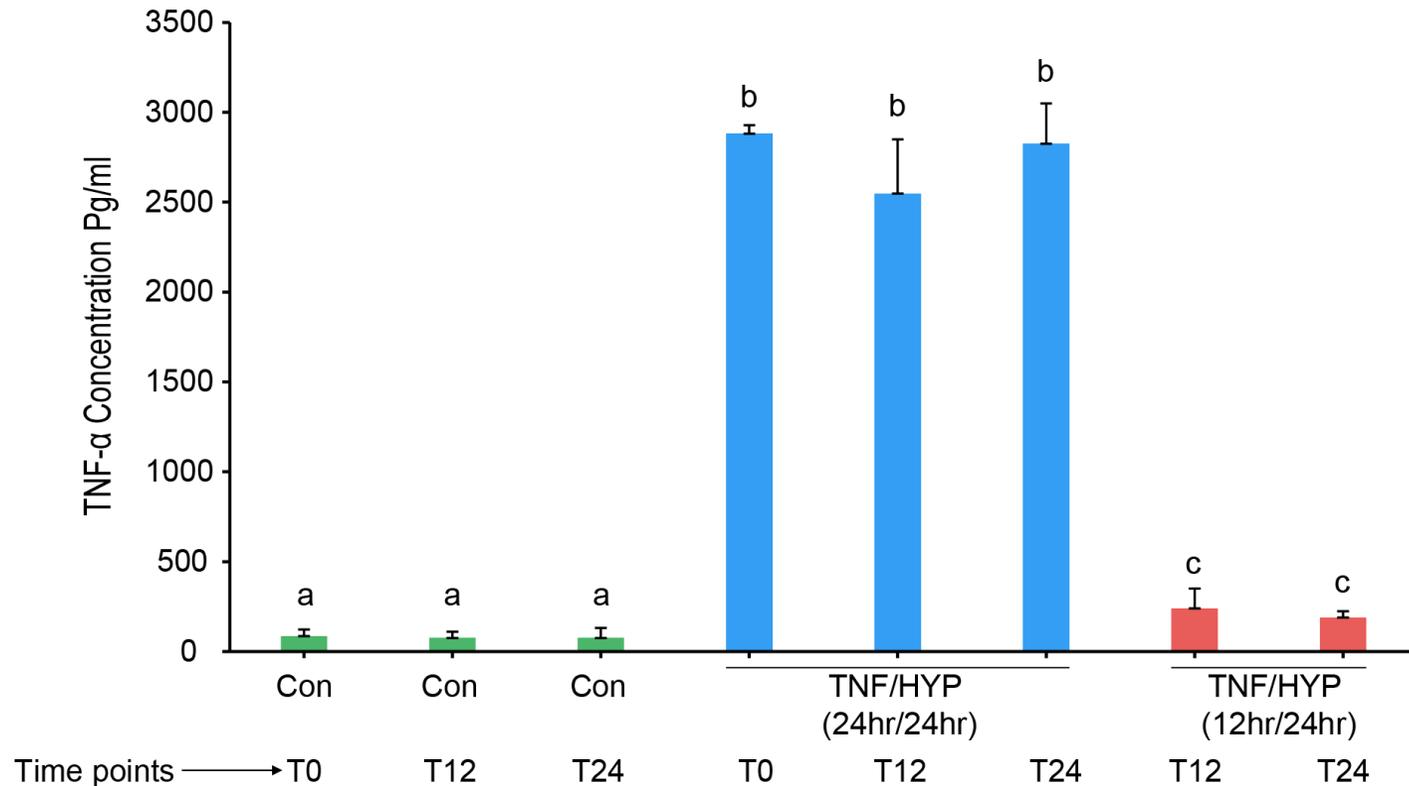
IS TNF- α MAINTAINED OVER THE COURSE OF THE 24HR TREATMENT IN THE ADIPOCYTE CULTURE MEDIA?



ANOVA Post Hoc Tukey test. Significant difference ($p < 0.05$) in groups with different letters. (n=3)



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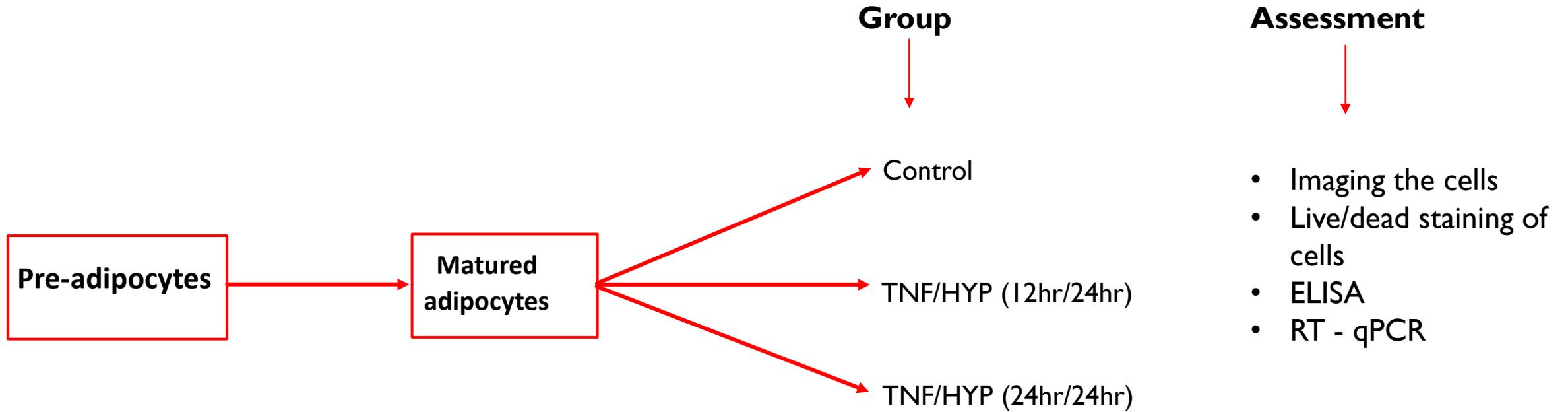


PROJECT QUESTION 2

- Because the TNF- α is maintained in the treatment media, we questioned whether changing the media to remove the TNF- α can improve the cell viability in 3T3-L1 adipocytes?

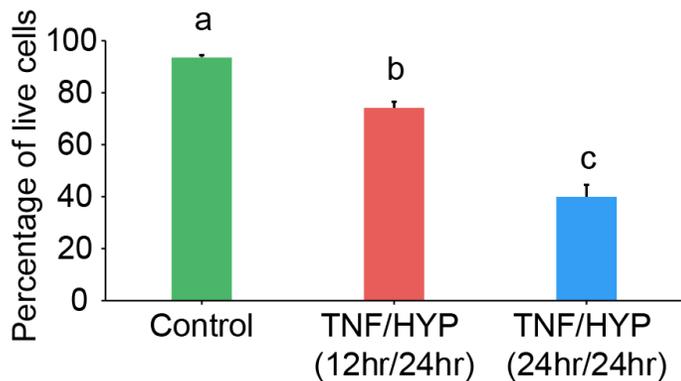
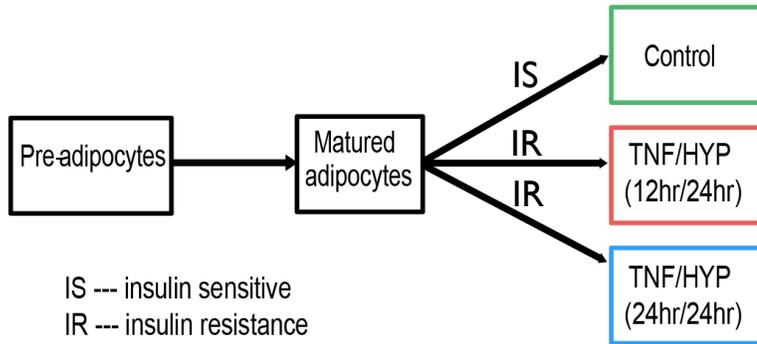


PROJECT FLOW

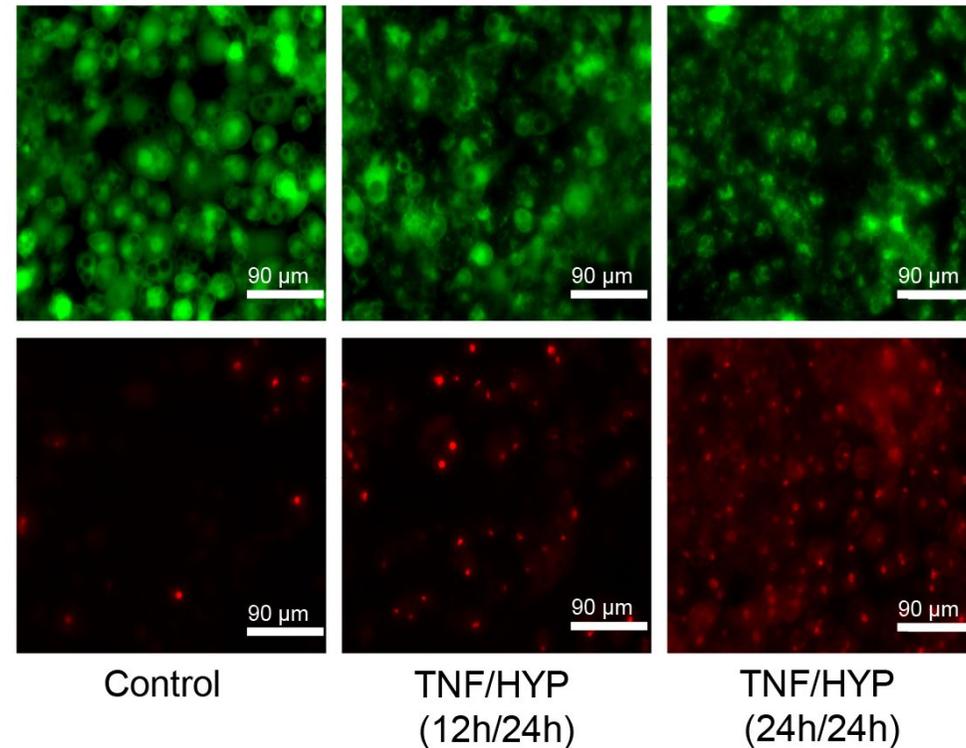




ALTERING TNF- α TREATMENT TIME IMPROVES CELL VIABILITY IN THE ADIPOCYTE INSULIN RESISTANCE MODEL



● live cells ● dead cells



ANOVA Post Hoc Tukey test. Significant difference * $p < 0.05$ in groups with different letters. (n=3)

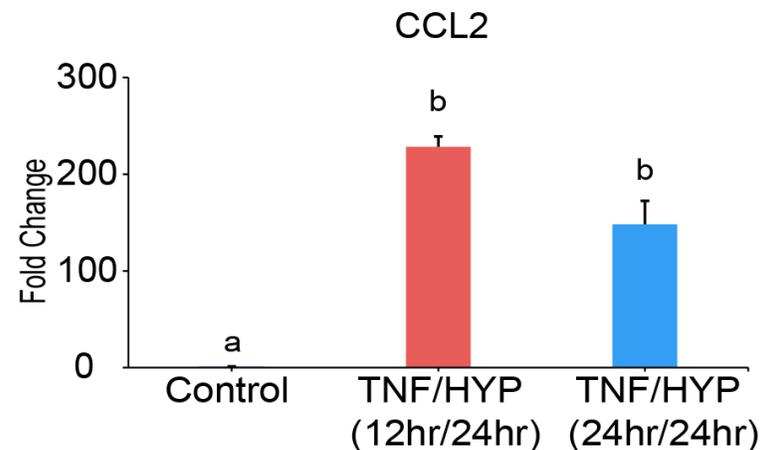
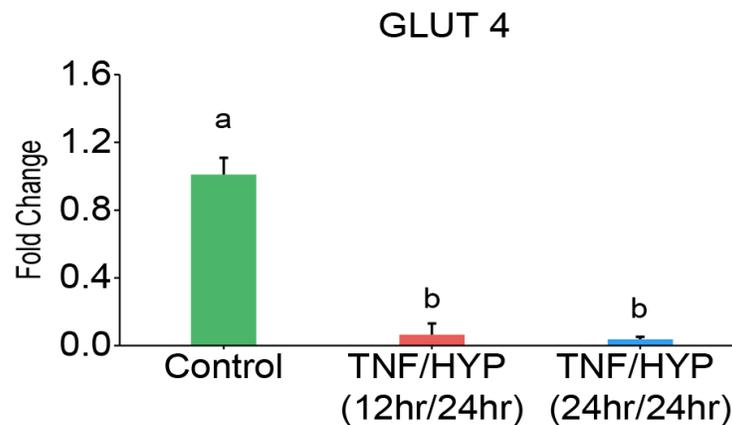
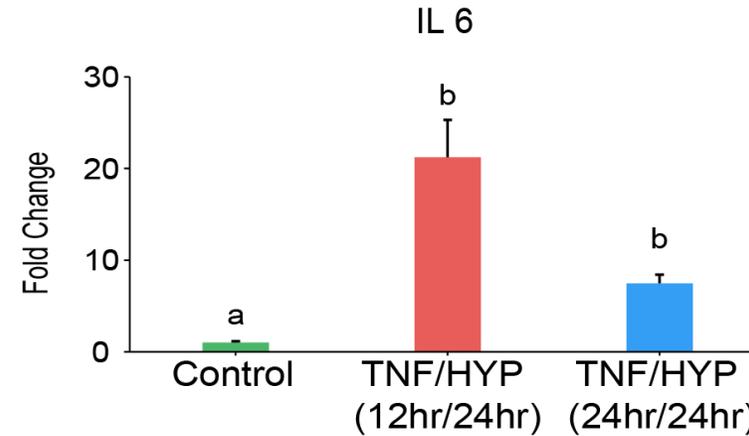
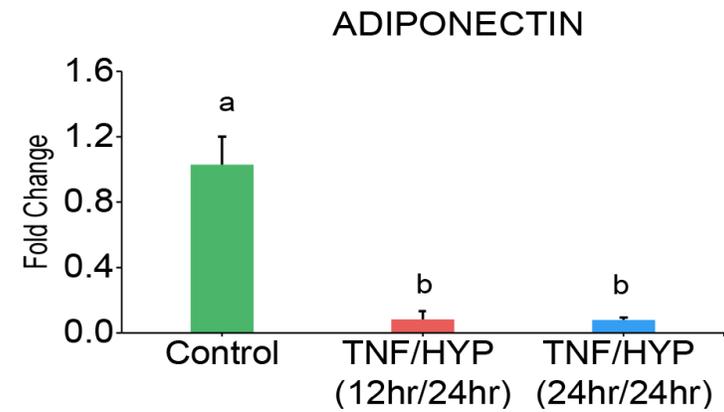


PROJECT QUESTION 3

- Does the 12h TNF- α treatment with hypoxia still maintains insulin resistant and inflammation?



12H TNF- α TREATMENT WITH HYPOXIA MAINTAINS DOWNREGULATION OF INSULIN SENSITIVE MARKERS AND UPREGULATE INFLAMMATORY MARKERS



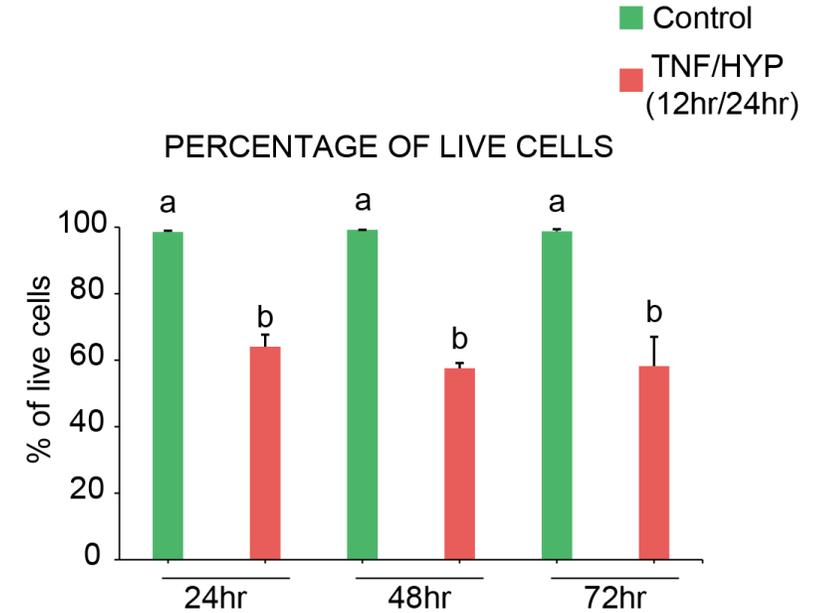
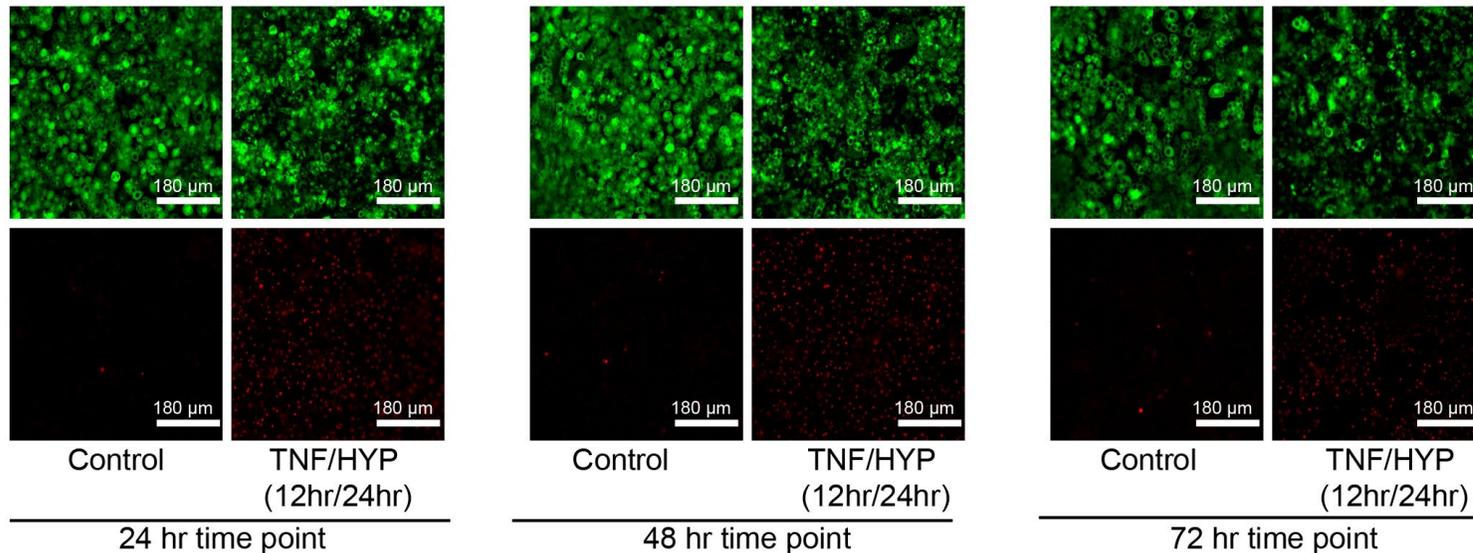
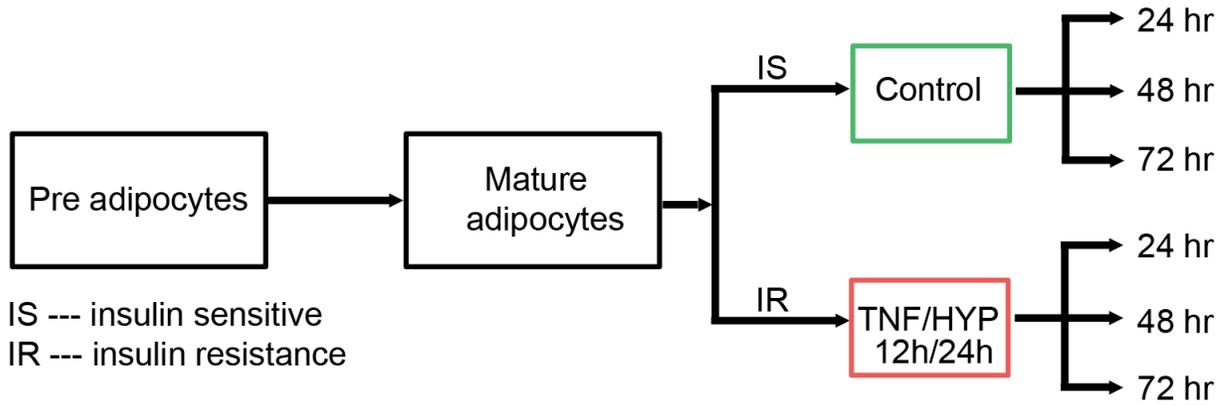


PROJECT QUESTION 4

- We next question how long the cells maintain their viability over time



TNF- α (12 HOURS) AND HYPOXIA (24 HOURS) INDUCE LONG-TERM INSULIN RESISTANCE IN VITRO ADIPOCYTE INSULIN RESISTANCE MODEL



● live cells
● dead cells

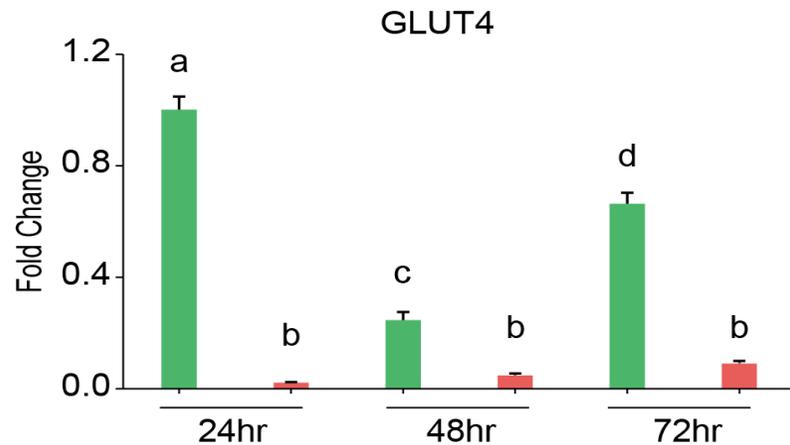
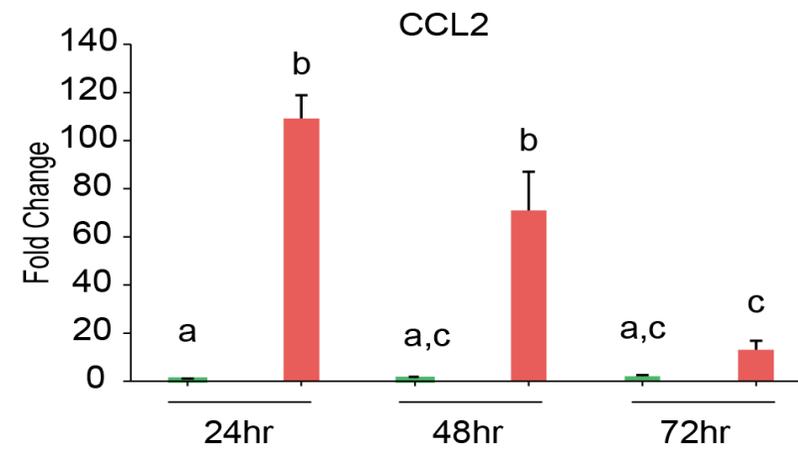
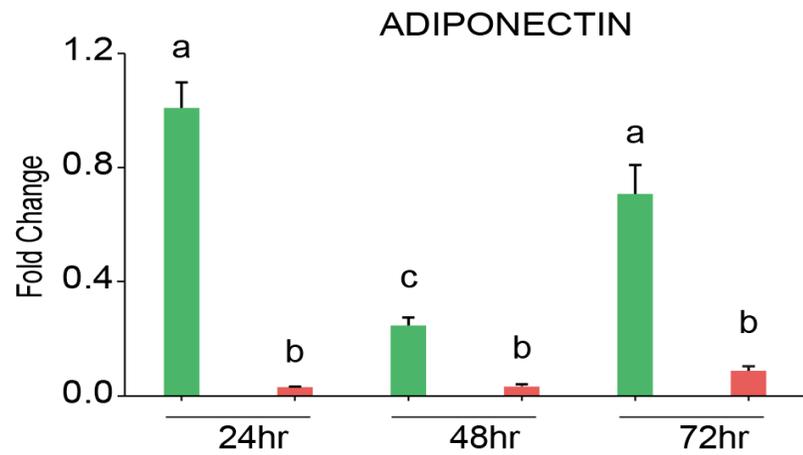


PROJECT QUESTION

- We next question how long the cells maintain their insulin resistance and inflammation state



TNF- α (12 HOURS) AND HYPOXIA (24 HOURS) INDUCE LONG-TERM INSULIN RESISTANCE IN VITRO ADIPOCYTE INSULIN RESISTANCE MODEL.



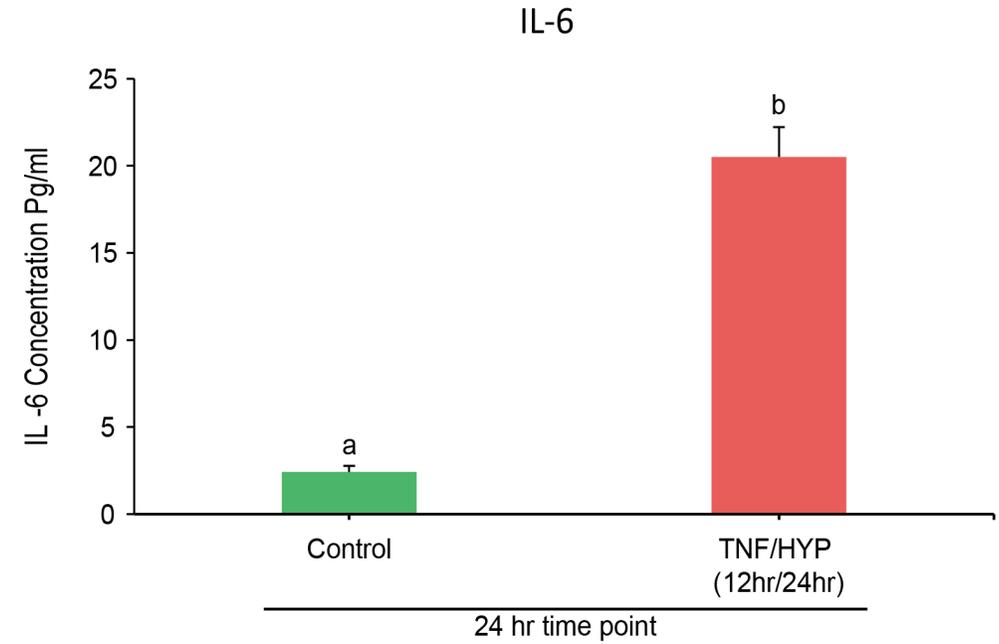
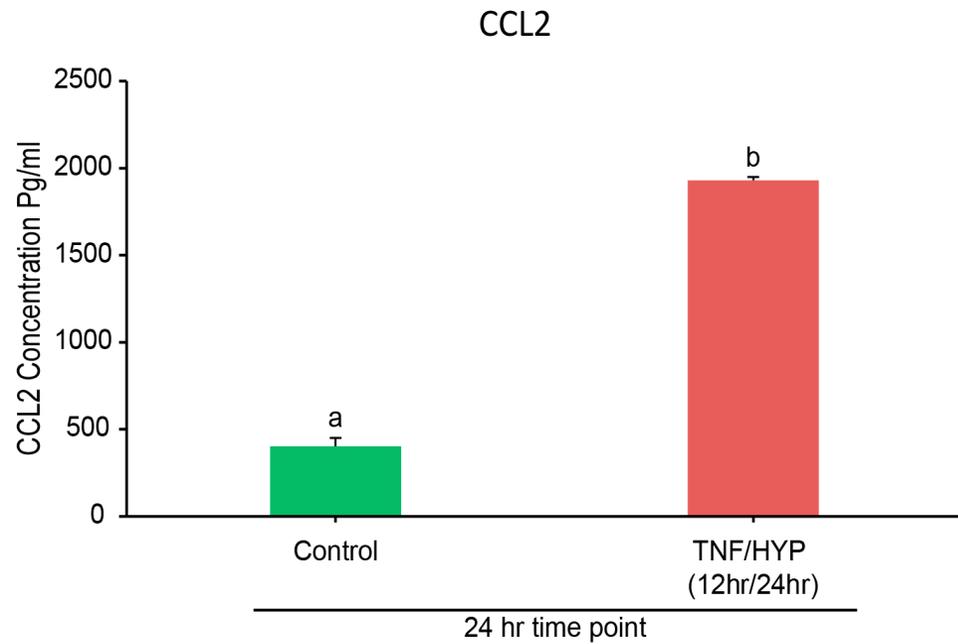


PROJECT QUESTION 5

- Next, we verify the cells were secreting inflammatory markers



CONDITION MEDIA FROM INFLAMED AND IR 3T3-L1 CELLS SECRETE MARKERS OF INFLAMMATION





SUMMARY

- By modulating the treatment time with TNF- α in the presence of hypoxia, we have solved the problem of low viability in the adipocyte insulin resistance model and importantly, the cells remain inflammatory

- We have refined the in vitro model of insulin resistance and inflammation in 3T3-L1 cells.



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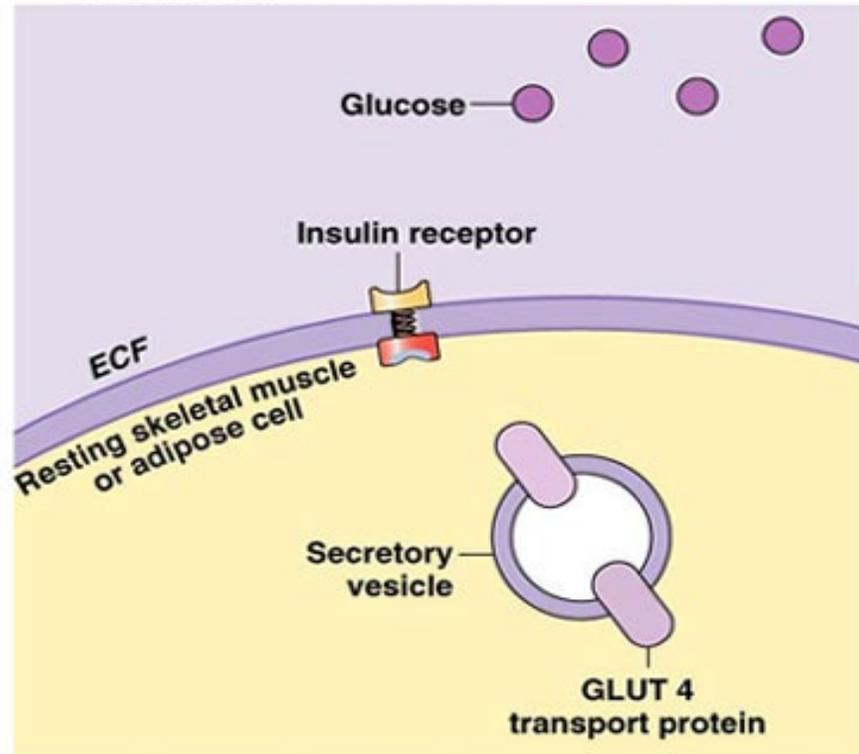
QUESTIONS?



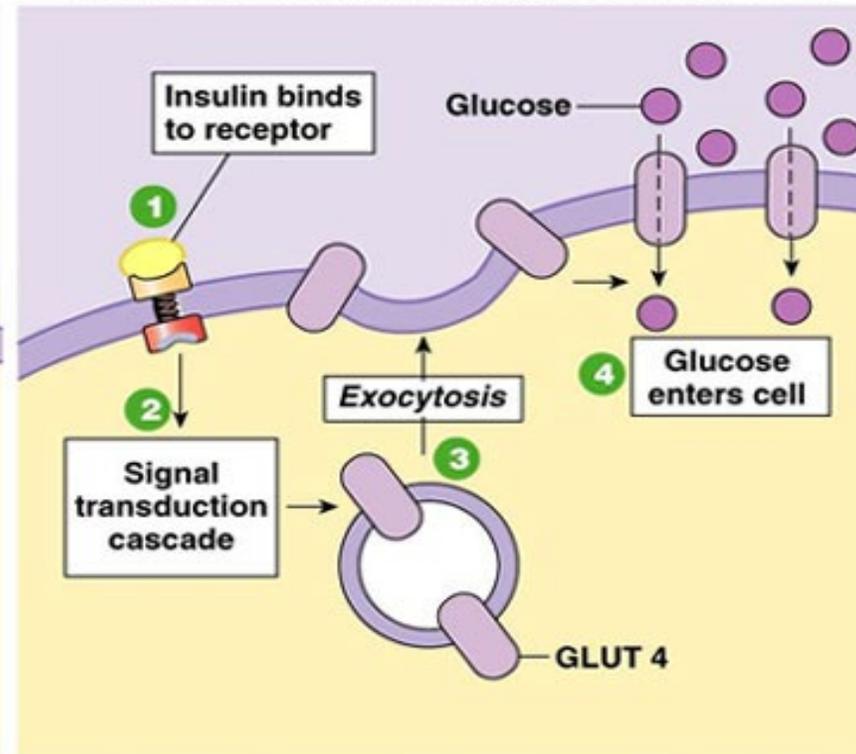


SUPPLEMENTARY SLIDE - OBESITY-INSULIN RESISTANCE LINK

(a) In the absence of insulin, glucose cannot enter the cell.



(b) Insulin signals the cell to insert GLUT 4 transporters into the membrane, allowing glucose to enter cell.



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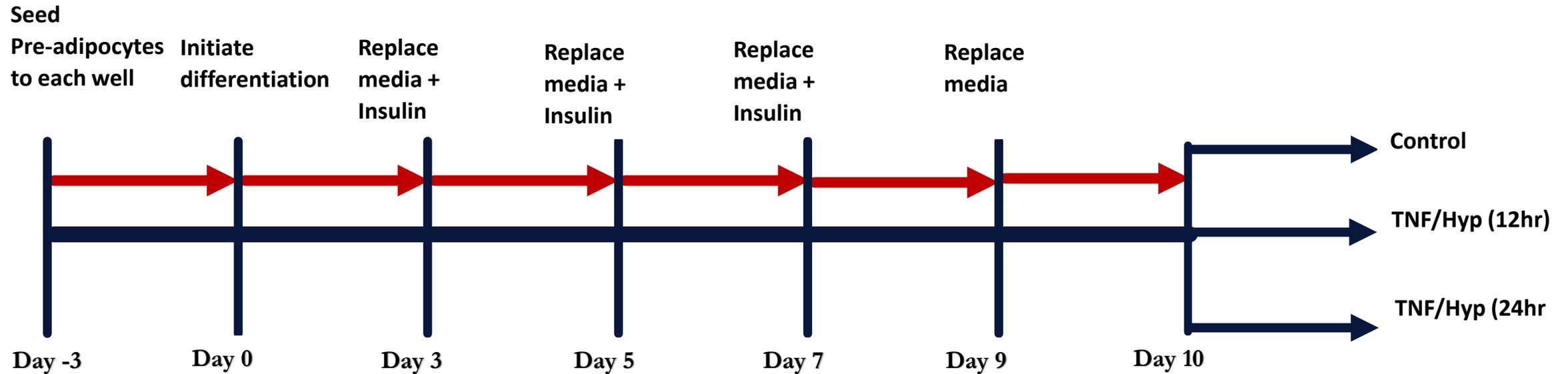
Fig. 22-12



SUPPLEMENTARY SLIDE - ADIPOCYTE DIFFERENTIATION SCHEMATIC

Pre-adipocytes

Matured adipocytes





SUPPLEMENTARY SLIDE- RT-QPCR STEP BY STEP

