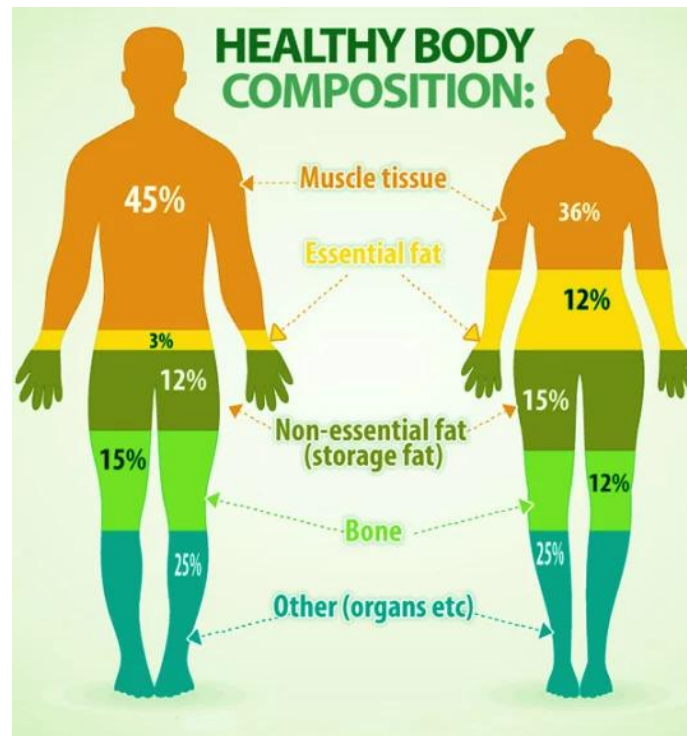


Body Composition: Anthropometry, BIA, DXA, CT, MRI



Wen-Yuan Lin (MD; MS; PhD; EMBA)

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Professor, China Medical University/China Medical University Hospital

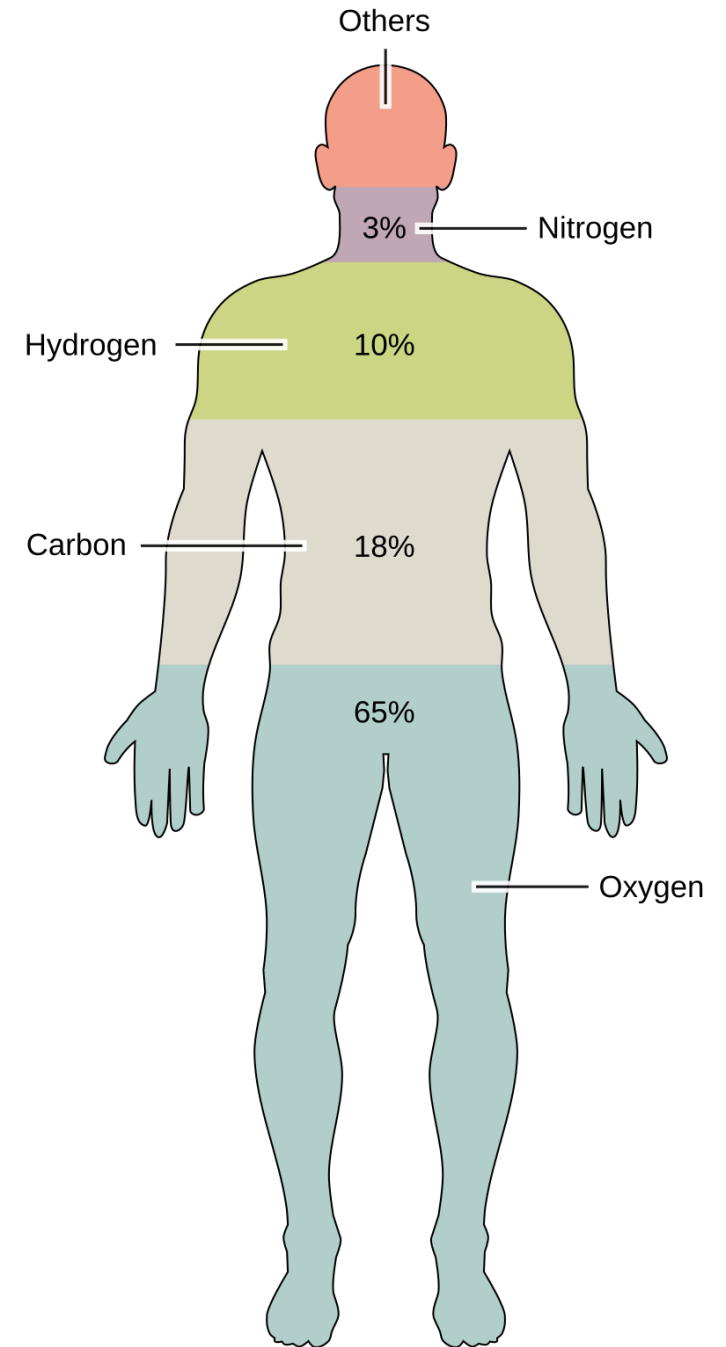
Objectives

- **What Is Body Composition?**
- **How to Measure Body Composition?**
- **How Importance of Body Composition?**
- **Factors That Affect Body Composition**

What Is Body Composition?

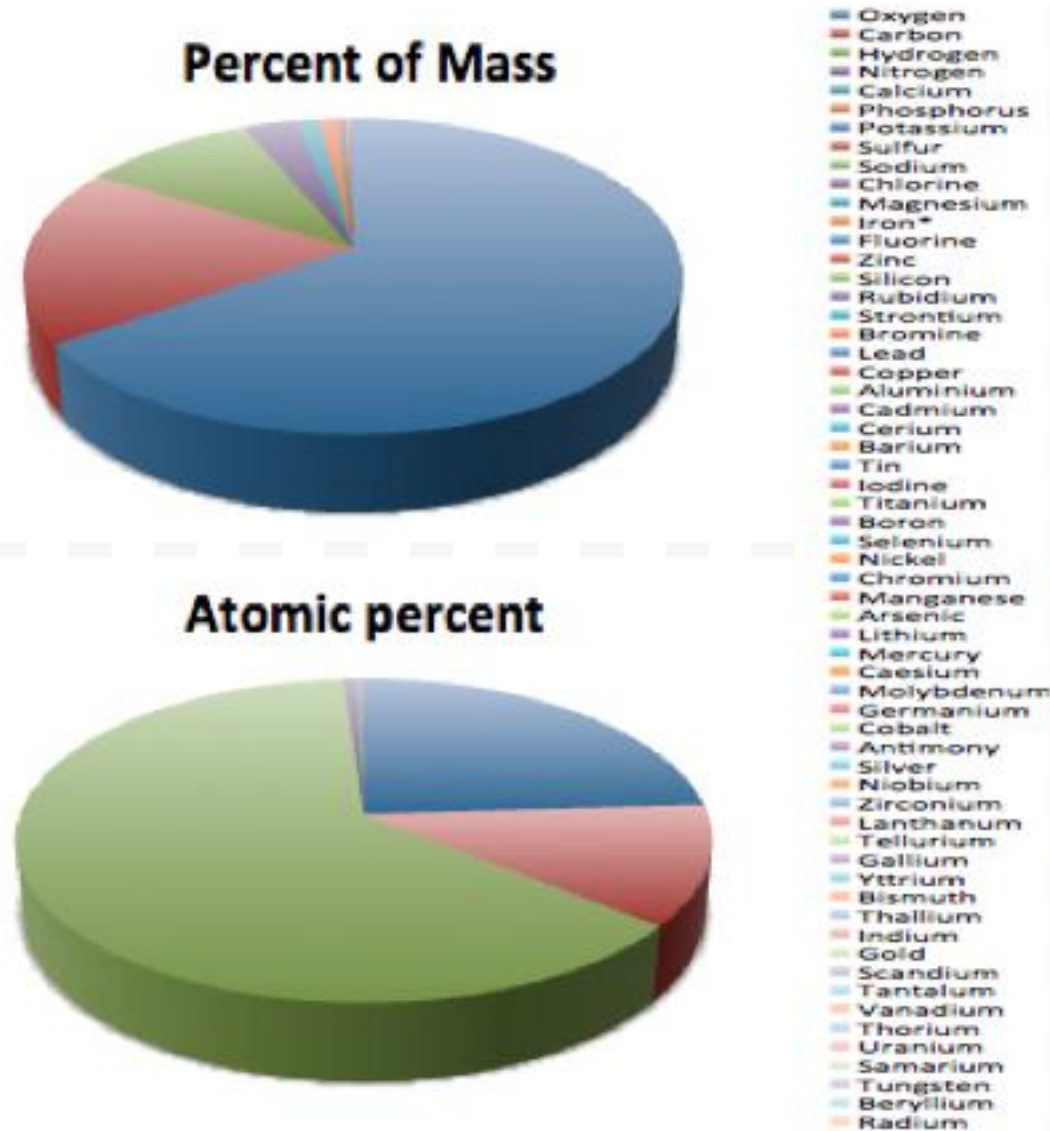
Body composition may be analyzed in various ways.

- **Chemical elements (molecular structure):** e.g., water, protein, fats(lipids), hydroxylapatite (in bones), carbohydrates (such as glycogen and glucose) and DNA.



What Is Body Composition?

- **Tissue type:** water, fat, connective tissue, muscle, bone, etc.
- **Cell type:** the body contains hundreds of different types of cells, but notably, the largest *number* of cells contained in a human body (though not the largest mass of cells) are not human cells, but **bacteria** residing in the normal human gastrointestinal tract.



Body composition Compartment models

- Body composition models typically use between **2 and 6 compartments** to describe the body.
- 2 compartment: Fat mass (FM) and fat-free mass (FFM)
- 3 compartment: Fat mass (FM), water, and fat-free dry mass
- 4 compartment: Fat mass (FM), water, protein, and mineral
- 5 compartment: Fat mass (FM), water, protein, bone mineral content, and non-osseous mineral content
- 6 compartment: Fat mass (FM), water, protein, bone mineral content, non-osseous mineral content, and glycogen

Body composition Compartment models

2-components	3-components	4-components	5-components	6-components
Fat mass (FM)	Fat mass (FM)	Fat mass (FM)	Fat mass (FM)	Fat mass (FM)
Fat-free mass* (FFM)	Water	Water	Water	Water
	Fat-free dry mass**	Protein	Protein	Protein
Mineral		Bone mineral content (BMC)***	Bone mineral content (BMC)***	Non-osseous mineral content***
	Non-osseous mineral content***			
	Glycogen			

Objectives

- **What Is Body Composition?**
- **How to Measure Body Composition?**
- **How Importance of Body Composition?**
- **Factors That Affect Body Composition**

The measurement of Body Composition (1)

- Hydrostatic weighing(Underwater weighing tank/container)
- Air displacement plethysmography (BOD POD body composition tracking system)
- Total body potassium
- Isotope dilution analysis (Deuterium oxide dilution)
- BIA (Bio-electrical impedance Analysis)
- DXA (Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry)
- Ultrasound
- CT scan
- MRI/ QMR(Quantitative magnetic resonance)
- 3-DPS (3-dimensional photonic scan)
- Skinfolds thickness measure
- Anthropometric index (BMI , Waist circumference, Hip circumference....)

Hydrostatic weighing(Underwater weighing tank/container)

In this technique the body's density is measured by obtaining the difference of body weight in air and under water using Archimedes principle. The methodology includes measuring the weight of the subject (W_S) and density of tank water (W_D). Then the subject is made to sit on a specialized scale and submerged into a large tank of water. Next, the subject is asked to expel all the air from their lungs and the residual volume (RV) and the weight of the subject under the water (W_{SU}) is obtained. Then the density of the subject body is calculated using equation. Once the body density is obtained, body fat percentage can be calculated by utilizing equation.

$$(1) \text{Body density} = W_S / [(W_S - W_{SU}) / W_D - RV]$$

$$(2) \text{Body fat percentage} = [495 / \text{body density}] - 4.142 * 100$$

The body density and body fat measurement are repeated three times and average result is obtained.

UNDERWATER WEIGHING
= hydrodensitometry
Body density

$$\text{Density} = \text{Weight/Volume}$$

Archimedes Principle - an object immersed in a fluid is buoyed up with a force that equals the weight of fluid displaced



Air displacement plethysmography (ADP)(Bod Pod)

Air displacement plethysmography technique was introduced by Behnke to overcome the drawbacks in the densitometry technique. The principle behind this technique is [Boyle's law](#). In this technique the measurement of the [body volume is obtained by air](#) instead of water and by using the [physical relationship between volume and pressure](#). The heart of the ADP unit is the dual chamber plethysmograph and an electronic scale. Initially, the volume of air inside the closed empty chamber is measured. Then the subject is asked to sit inside the chamber. [The body volume or density of the subjects is calculated based on indirect method by means of subtracting the volume of remaining air inside the chamber from the volume of air in an empty chamber](#). The measurement of the volume of air inside the chamber is carried out by applying a physical gas law known as Boyle's law. Then by applying equations (1) and (2), we can measure the body fat and [FFM](#) percentage respectively.

$$(1) \text{Body fat percentage} = [495 / \text{Density}] - 450$$

$$(2) \text{FFM percentage} = 100 - \text{body fat percentage}$$

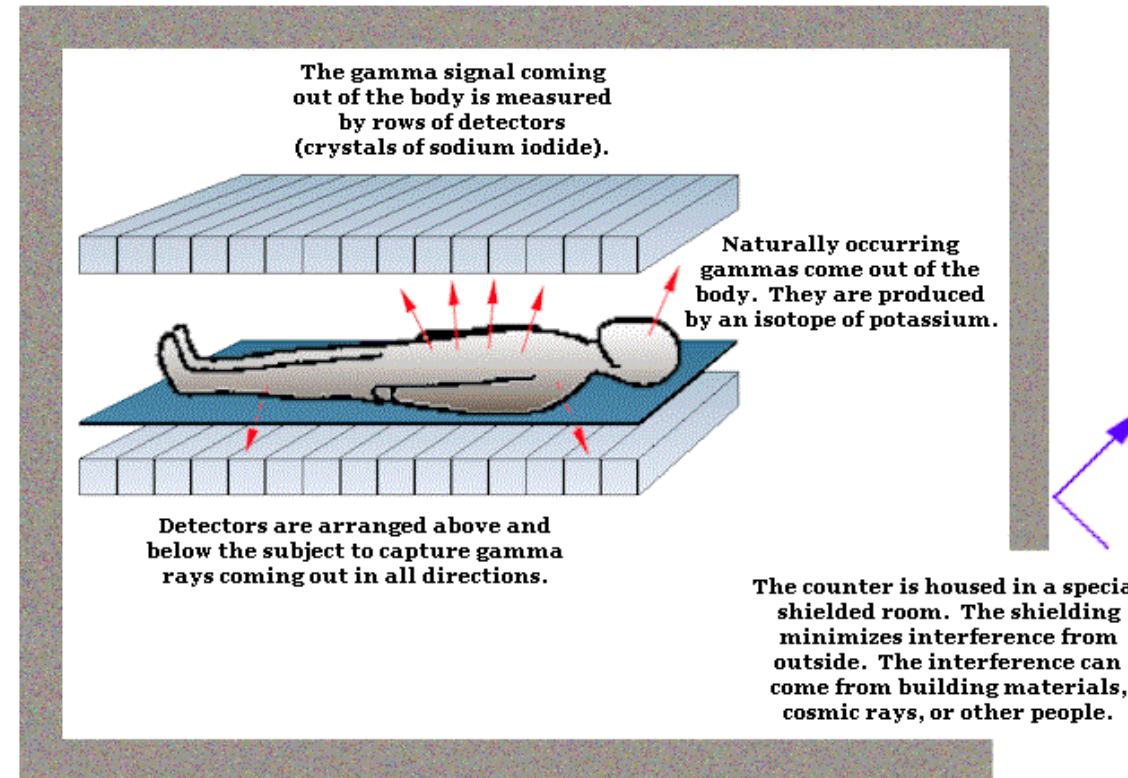
- BOD POD now being recognized as the [practical Gold Standard](#) for body composition assessment from a long list of universities and research centers.

Air displacement plethysmography (ADP) (Bod Pod)



Total body potassium(Whole body ^{40}K counting)

- Whole body counting (also called total body counting) measures the amount of naturally radioactive potassium 40 (^{40}K) in the body (total body potassium or TBK).
- Potassium 40 is a naturally occurring isotope found in a known amount (0.0118%) in intracellular water and is not present in stored triglycerides.
- The determination of TBK uses the principle that the proportion of total potassium found in human tissues as ^{40}K is constant at 0.0118% of total potassium. Therefore, by measuring ^{40}K , it is possible to calculate total-body potassium.
- As potassium is distributed almost entirely within the **intracellular compartment of fat-free mass**, it is possible to calculate **fat-free mass** and fat mass using:
 1. TBK via measurement of ^{40}K
 2. The known ratio of TBK to fat-free mass
- TBK is a classical method of quantifying total-body fat. However, as part of a multi-component body composition model.
- TBK provides a precise and accurate assessment of nutritional status at all stages of life, from loss of vital tissue with age or during disease to growth studies in infants and children.



Isotope dilution analysis

Hydrometry or total body water (TBW) by isotope dilution is a common method for the assessment of body composition at the molecular level.

The method is based on the principle that water is distributed in all parts of the body except body fat. Water is found exclusively within the fat free mass (FFM), which is approximately 73.2% water in adults. Water includes both intracellular fluid and extracellular fluid. Total body water (TBW) assessment is based on the principle of isotope dilution. Enrichment of the body water pool (see Figure 1) following a bolus dose of deuterium oxide ($^2\text{H}_2\text{O}$) allows the isotope dilution space to be calculated using the following equations:

$$F_1 N_1 = F_2 N_2$$
$$N_2 = F_1 N_1 / F_2$$

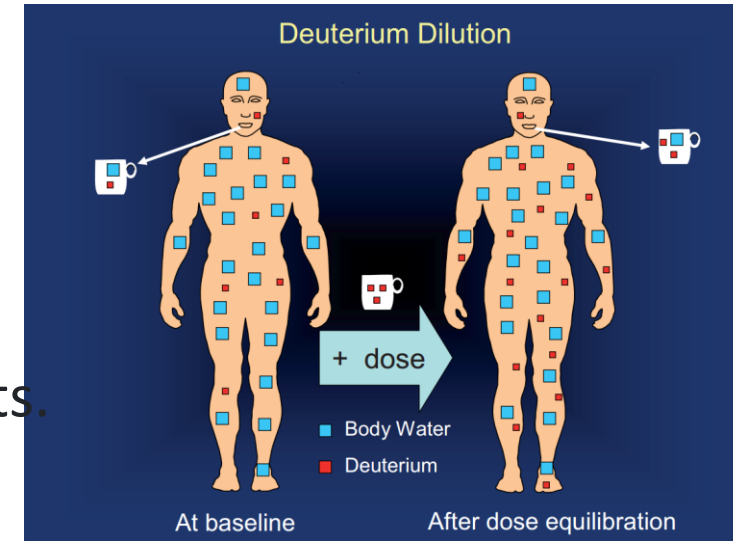


Figure 1 Estimating TBW by deuterium dilution. At baseline, the body water pool naturally contains a small amount of deuterium. After a known bolus dose of deuterium oxide is given orally to the participant, this mixes with and enriches the body water pool. Source: International Atomic Energy Agency (2010).

Isotope dilution analysis

- The first step is to calculate TBW:

$$TBW_{(kg)} = \frac{WA}{a} \times \frac{(E_a - E_w)}{(E_s - E_p)} \times \frac{1}{1.041} \times \frac{1}{1000}$$

1. a is the amount of oral dosing solution, in grams, administered to the subject
 2. W is the amount of deionised tap water used to dilute the enriched isotope dose, in grams
 3. a is the amount of enriched isotope dose, in grams
 4. Ea is enrichment of the diluted dose a in W
 5. Ew is the enrichment of the tap water diluent
 6. Es is the mean enrichment of saliva samples at 3, 4 and 5 hours for the plateau method or the zero time intercept for the back extrapolation method
 7. Ep is the enrichment of the pre dose sample
 8. Division by 1.041 accounts for non-aqueous exchange
- Once TBW has been calculated, FFM is simply TBW divided by the hydration factor:
FFM = TBW / hydration factor
FM = Weight - FFM

- Once TBW has been calculated, FFM is simply TBW divided by the hydration factor:

$$FFM = TBW / \text{hydration factor}$$

$$FM = \text{Weight} - FFM$$

In adults, the hydration factor is assumed to be 73.2%. The actual values range from 67.4 to 77.5%. These variations can result in considerable error when calculating total body fat. For studies involving infants and/or children the hydration factor varies with age and sex.

Body Composition Measurement

METHODS

Anthropometry
BIA
NAA
⁴⁰K counting
 Isotope dilution
 Hydrodensitometry
 Plethysmography

DXA
 Combination of
 2-C methods

Anthropometry
 Combination of
 2-C or 3-C methods

CT
MRI
Dissection
 Combination of
 2-C, 3-C and/or 4-C
 methods



2 - Compartment

3 - Compartment

4 - Compartment

5 - Compartment

LIPID	AT
FFM	ATFM

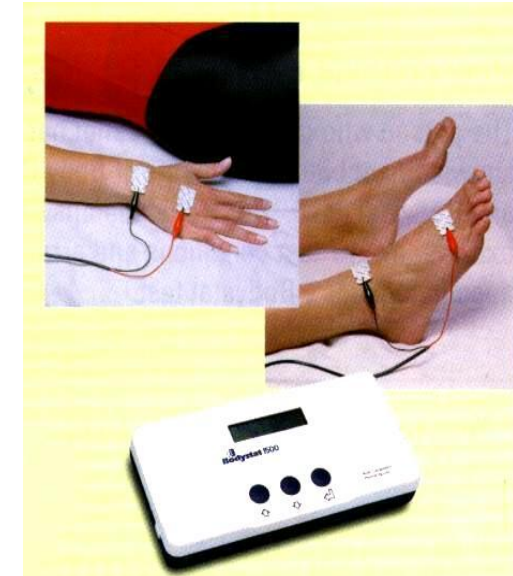
LIPID	AT
LBM	TBW
	SOLIDS
MINERAL	

AT	LIPID
MUSCLE	TBW
RLM	
BONE	MINERAL

AT	LIPID
MUSCLE	ECF
SKIN	ICF
ORGANS	ECS
BONE	ICS

MODELS

Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis

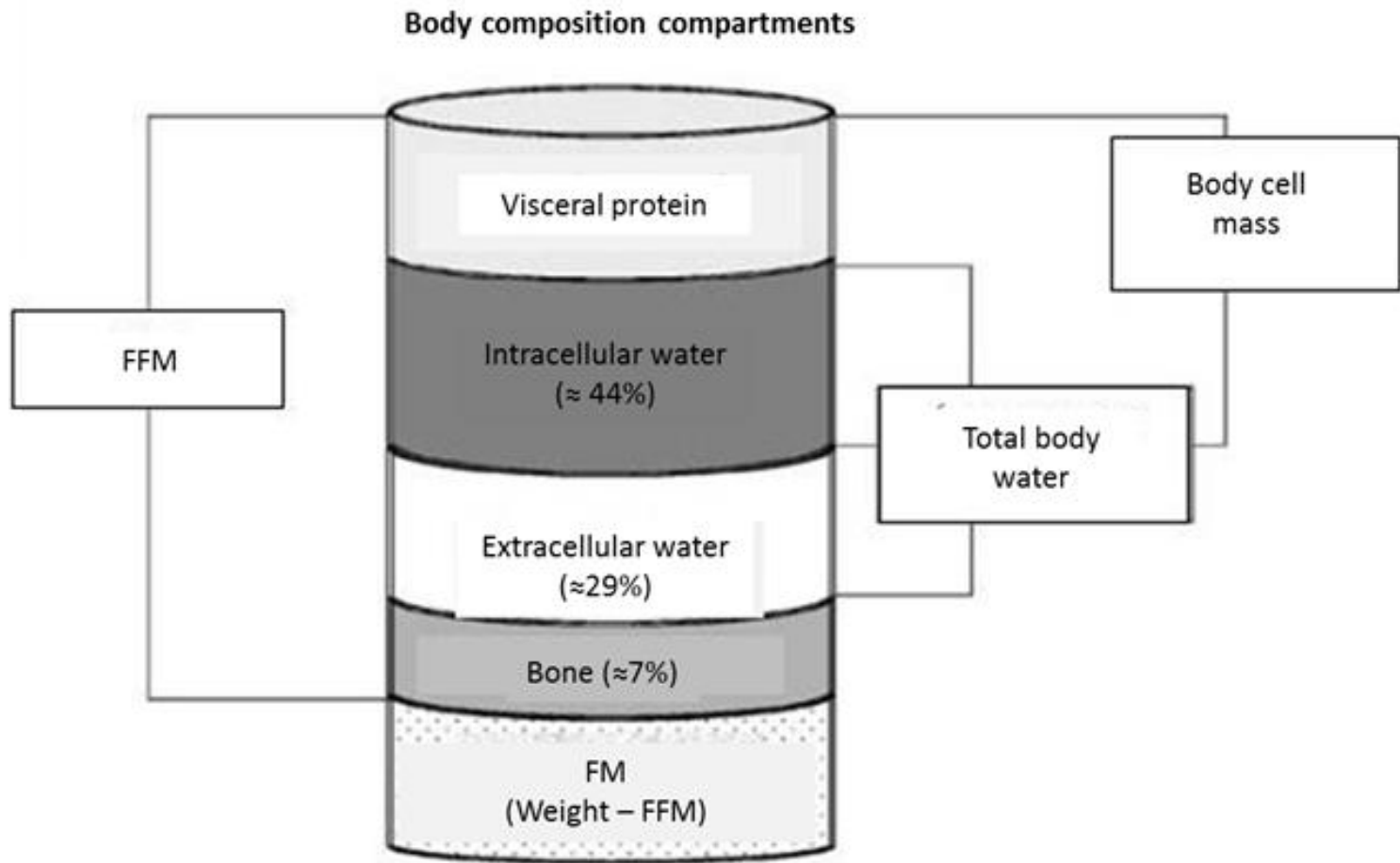


> $TBW = 0.372 * H^2 / R + 3.05 \text{Sex} + 0.142 \text{BW} - 0.069 \text{Age}$

> $FFM = TBW / 0.73$

> $Fat = BW - FFM$

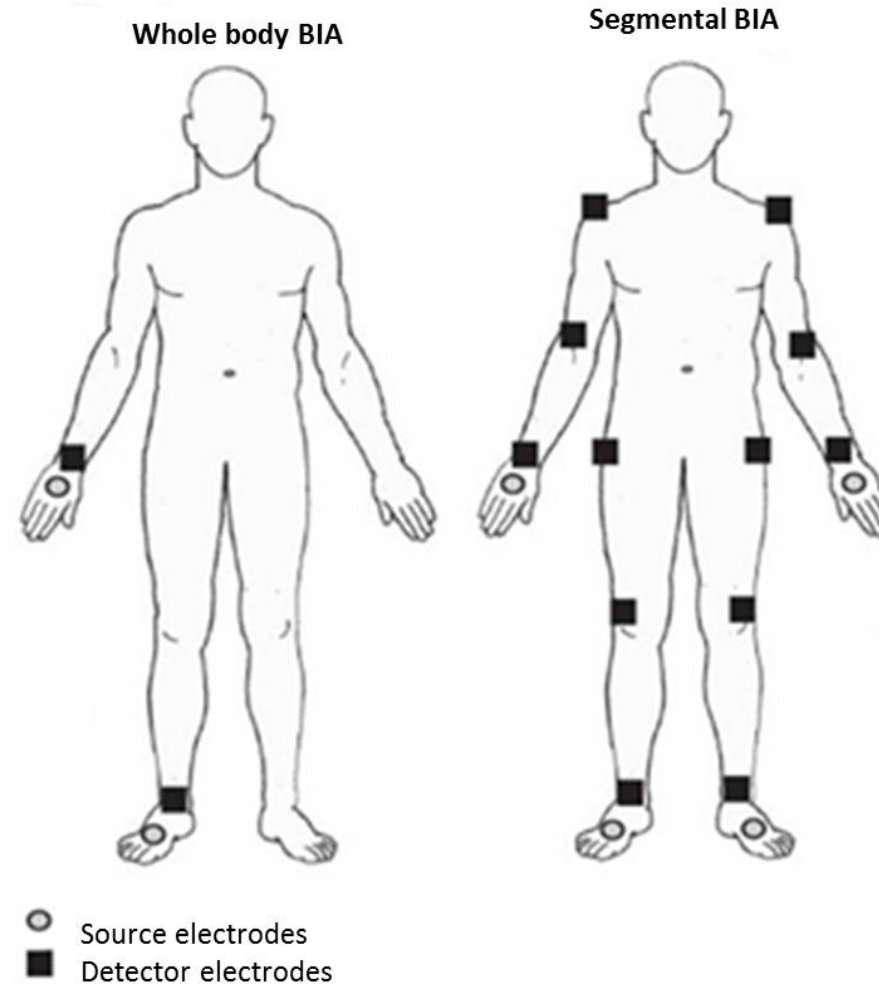
Schematic diagram of fat-free mass (FFM), total body water (TBW), intracellular water (ICW), extracellular water (ECW), and body cell mass (BCM).



Mirele Savegnago Mialich et al. Analysis of Body Composition: A Critical Review of the Use of Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. International Journal of Clinical Nutrition, 2014, Vol. 2, No. 1, 1-10. doi:10.12691/ijcn-2-1-1



Schematic presentation of the anatomic positions for the placement of electrodes for whole body and segmental bioelectrical impedance analysis.



Mirele Savegnago Mialich et al. Analysis of Body Composition: A Critical Review of the Use of Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. International Journal of Clinical Nutrition, 2014, Vol. 2, No. 1, 1-10. doi:10.12691/ijcn-2-1-1

Body characteristics and their influence on the assessment and recommendations for the execution and interpretation of the test

	Characteristics that may influence the assessment	Recommendations
Biological determinants		
Ethnicity	Structural differences between trunk and limbs and regarding lean mass hydration	Use ethnicity-specific equations
Age	Variations in tissue hydration and in segment composition	Use age-specific equations
Gender	Structural differences between genders	Use gender-specific equations
Clinical conditions		
Abnormal hydration situations	Change in the precision of the measurement	Use of segmental BIA
Obesity	Variations in hydration, increased fat mass	Reinforced attention for patients with BMI>35*; use segmental BIA
Severe malnutrition or anorexia nervosa	Variations in hydration	Reinforced attention for patients with BMI < 16*;
Neurological disorders	The conductivity of the current may be impaired by tissue irregularity and/or malformations	Use segmental BIA and maintain longitudinal follow-up.

*BMI = body mass index; higher than 35 kg / m² and lower than 16 kg / m² body surface, respectively

Adapted from: Bioelectrical impedance analysis. In: Sobotka L, editor-in-chief. Basics in Clinical Nutrition. Semily, Czech Republic: Galen, 2011 (13-21)

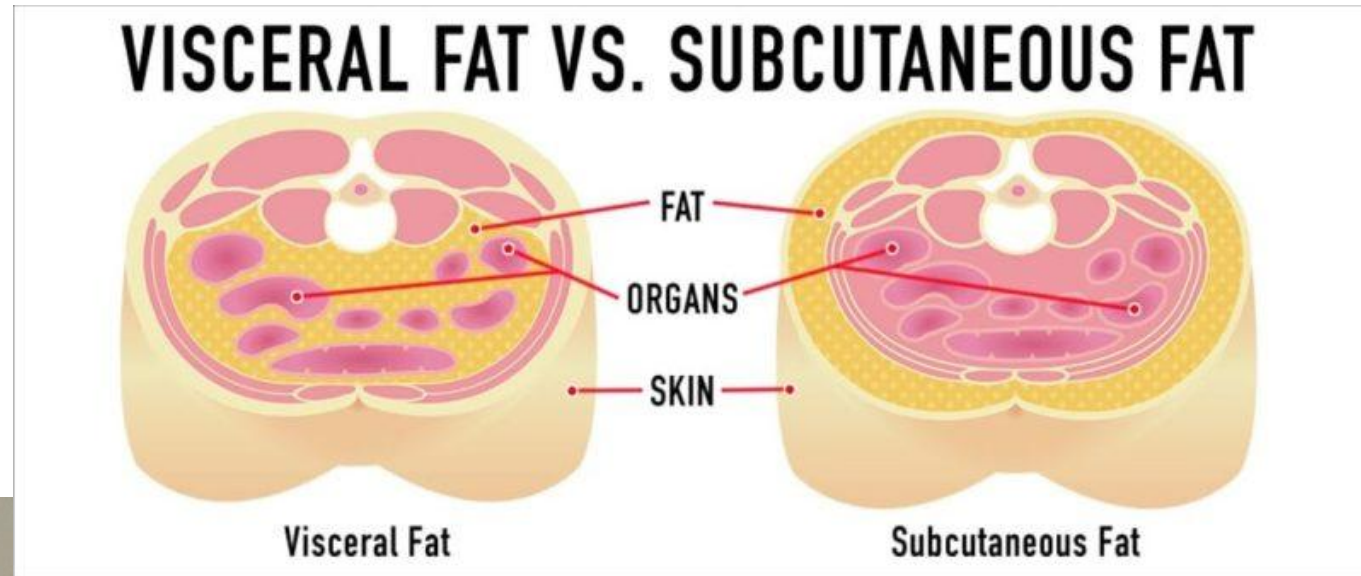
Mirele Savegnago Mialich et al. Analysis of Body Composition: A Critical Review of the Use of Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis. International Journal of Clinical Nutrition, 2014, Vol. 2, No. 1, 1-10. doi:10.12691/ijcn-2-1-1

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Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis (Abdominal fat measurement)

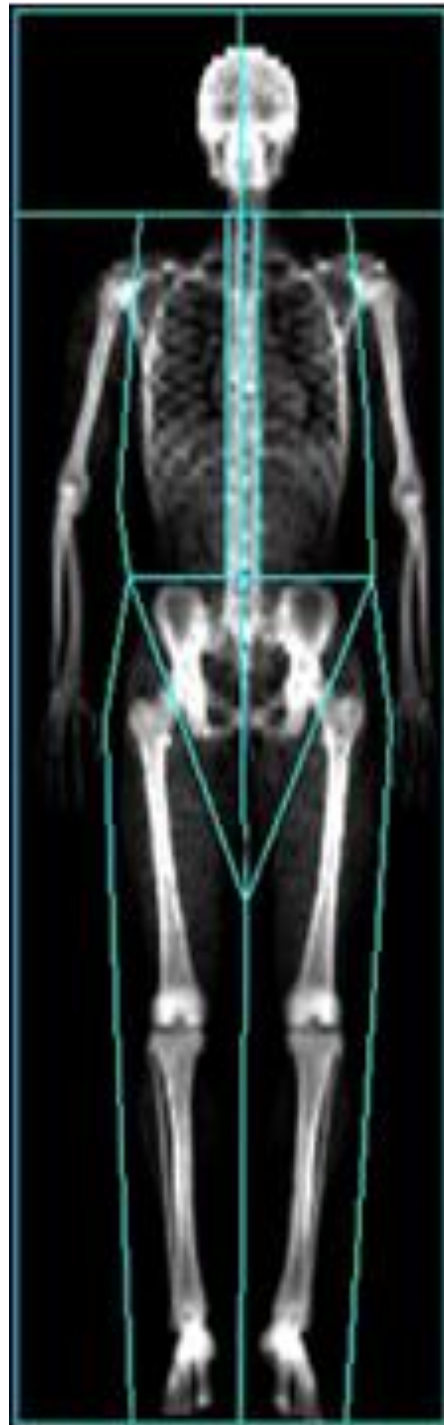


Body Composition by Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA)

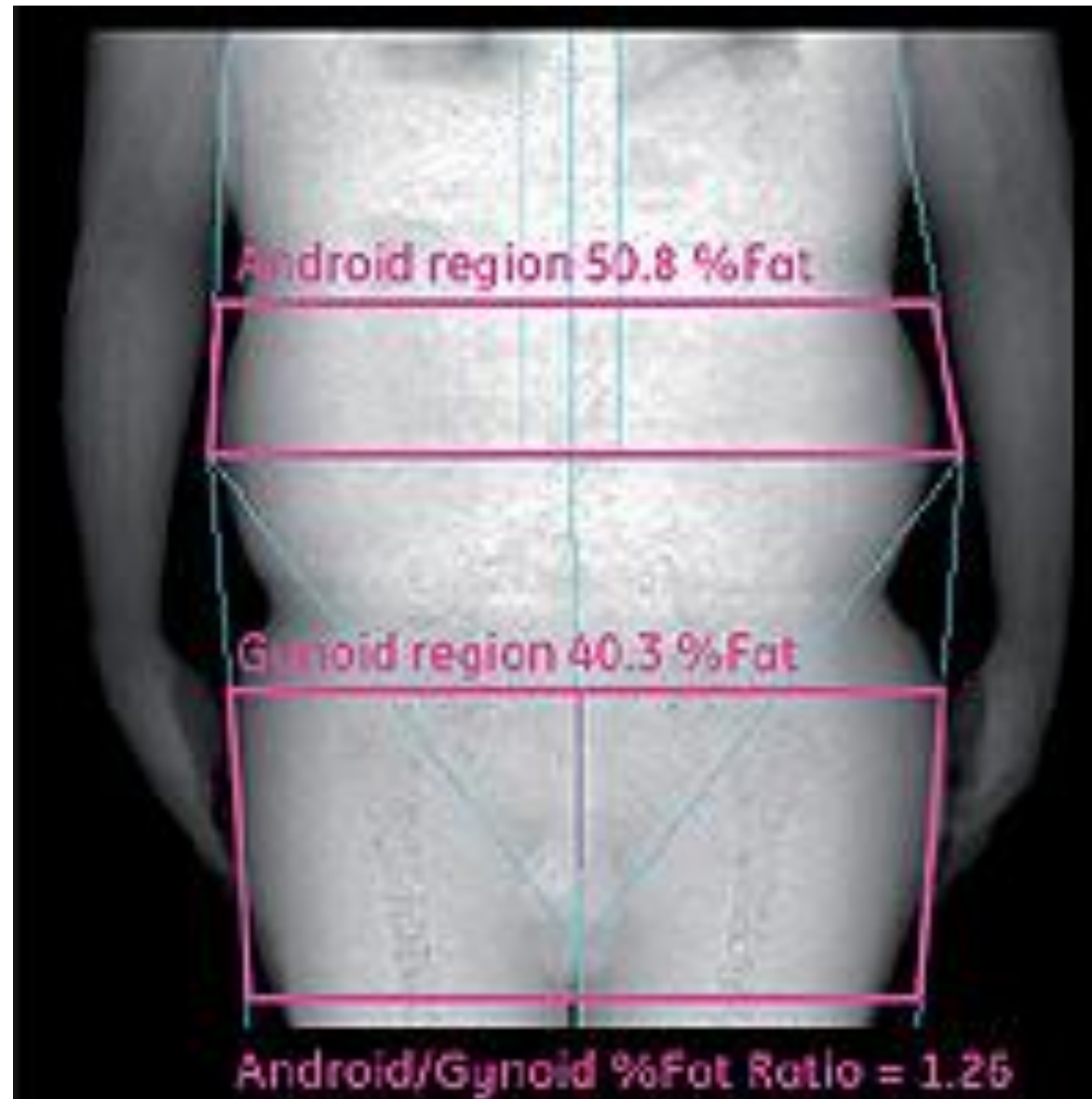


Total BMD (g/cm) : 0.991
 Total BMC (g) : 2360
 Total Lean Mass(g): 38009
 Total Fat Mass (g): 21648
 Total Fat % : 34.9
 Siri UWE Fat % : 28.4
 Brozek UWE Fat % : 27.4
 Soft Tissue Fat % : 36.3
 % TBMC/FFM : 5.8

	BMD	BMC	AREA	LENGTH	WIDTH	LEAN MASS	FAT MASS
	g/cm ²	g	cm ²	cm	cm	g	g
Head	1.878	506.7	269.9			3655	1001
Trunk	0.921	737.9	801.6			19401	12549
Abdomen	1.094	304.9	278.8			8076	5717
Arms	0.596	302.0	506.6			3399	2215
Legs	1.011	813.5	804.5			11555	5882
Total	0.991	2360	2383			38009	21648



Android vs. Gynoid



BODY COMPOSITION

Region	Tissue (%Fat)	Region (%Fat)	Tissue (g)	Fat (g)	Lean (g)	BMC (g)	Total Mass (kg)
Left Arm	7.8	7.4	3,378	263	3,114	174	-
Left Leg	13.5	12.9	9,592	1,296	8,296	450	-
Left Trunk	32.4	31.8	17,507	5,674	11,833	324	-
Left Total	22.8	22.0	32,897	7,495	25,402	1,138	-
Right Arm	7.2	6.9	3,943	285	3,658	189	-
Right Leg	13.5	12.9	9,396	1,270	8,126	441	-
Right Trunk	32.3	31.7	15,018	4,857	10,160	302	-
Right Total	21.5	20.8	31,162	6,714	24,448	1,148	-
Arms	7.5	7.1	7,321	549	6,772	363	-
Legs	13.5	12.9	18,988	2,566	16,422	891	-
Trunk	32.4	31.8	32,524	10,531	21,993	626	-
Android	37.4	37.1	5,368	2,006	3,362	42	-
Gynoid	20.2	19.7	8,573	1,731	6,842	212	-
Total	22.2	21.4	64,059	14,210	49,850	2,286	66.3

FAT MASS RATIOS

Trunk/ Total	Legs/ Total	(Arms+Legs)/ Trunk
0.74	0.18	0.30

DXA Results Summary:

Region	BMC (g)	Fat Mass (g)	Lean Mass (g)	Lean+ BMC (g)	Total Mass Mass (g)	% Fat
L Arm	243.94	563.8	4275.2	4519.1	5082.9	11.1
R Arm	279.11	677.5	4871.7	5150.9	5828.4	11.6
Trunk	908.72	4456.9	28723.4	29632.1	34089.0	13.1
L Leg	667.39	1767.7	10540.0	11207.4	12975.1	13.6
R Leg	675.10	1934.6	11154.1	11829.2	13763.8	14.1
Subtotal	2774.27	9400.4	59564.4	62338.7	71739.1	13.1
Head	686.29	937.6	3224.2	3910.5	4848.1	19.3
Total	3460.56	10338.0	62788.6	66249.2	76587.2	13.5
Sub-Region	BMC (g)	Fat Mass (g)	Lean Mass (g)	Lean+ BMC (g)	Total Mass Mass (g)	% Fat
R1	46.64	471.5	3403.4	3450.1	3921.5	12.0
Net	46.64	471.5	3403.4	3450.1	3921.5	12.0

This is the weight of everything in your body except fat. i.e. your Fat-Free mass.

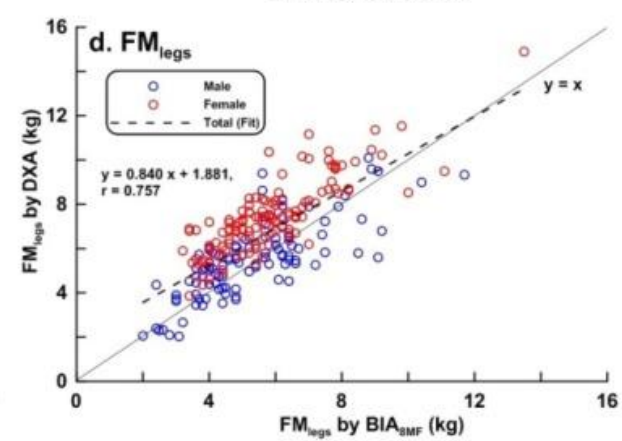
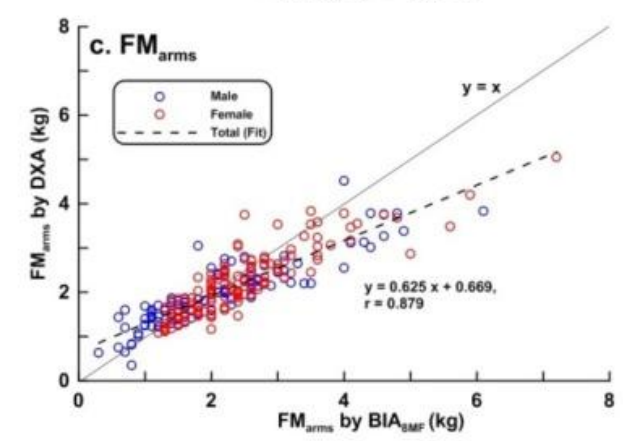
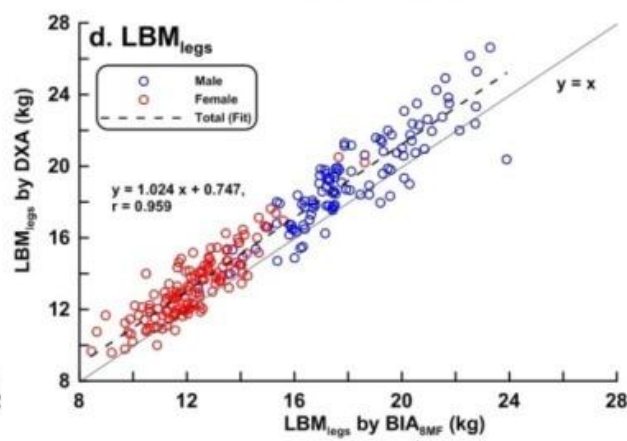
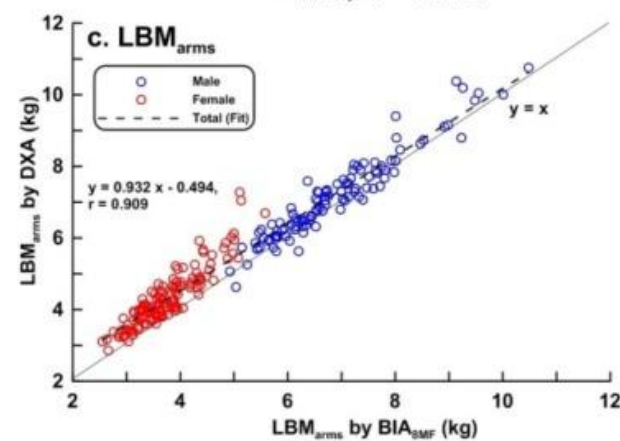
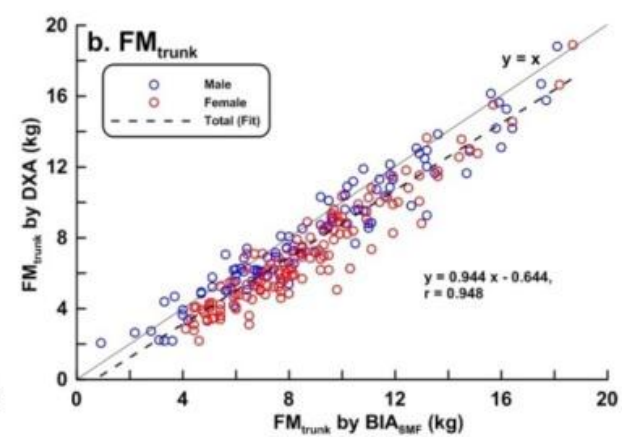
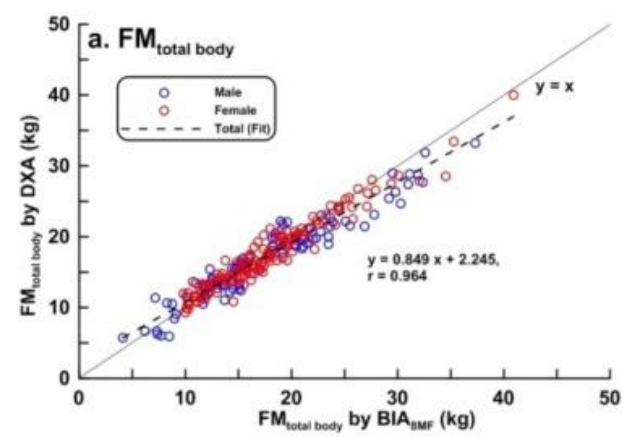
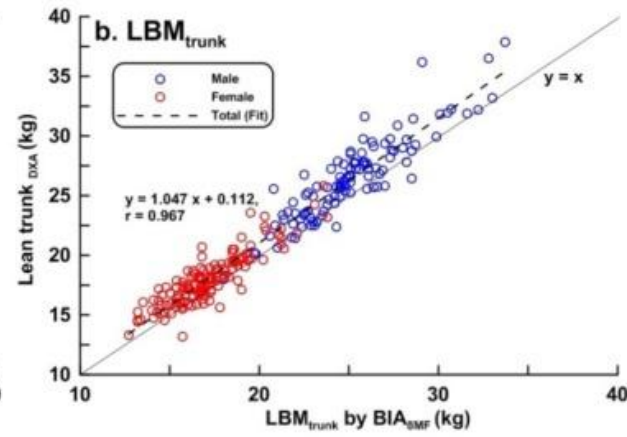
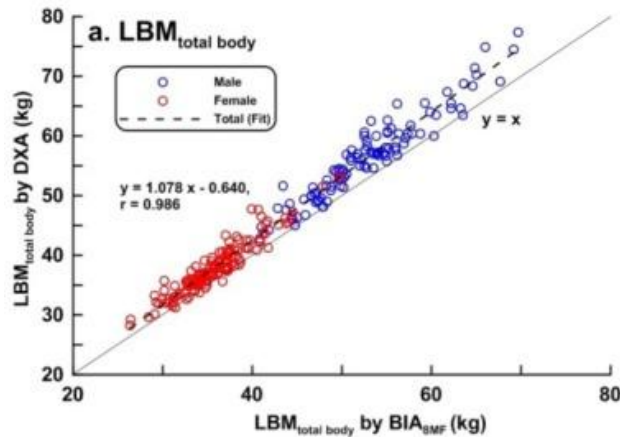
This represents your total fat mass in grams or 10.3 kilograms.

This represents your total muscle mass in grams or 62.8 kilograms.

This represents your total body weight in grams or 76.6 kilograms.

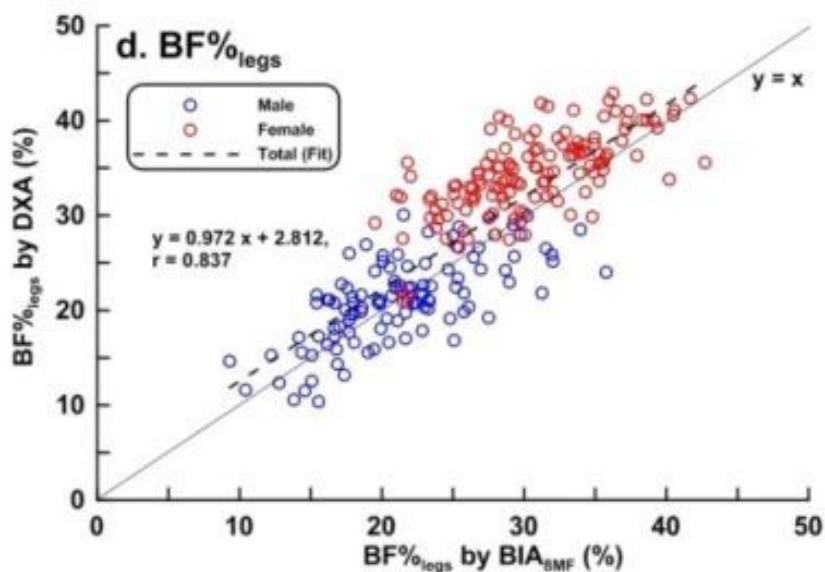
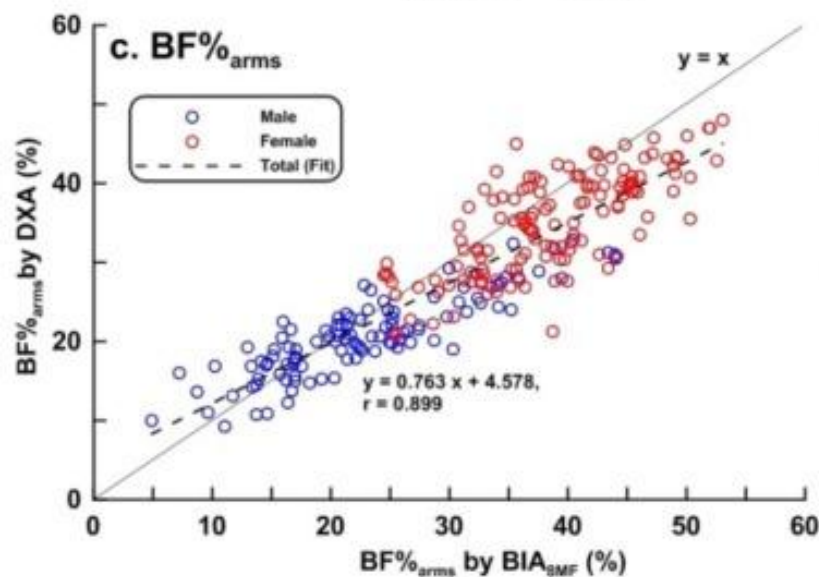
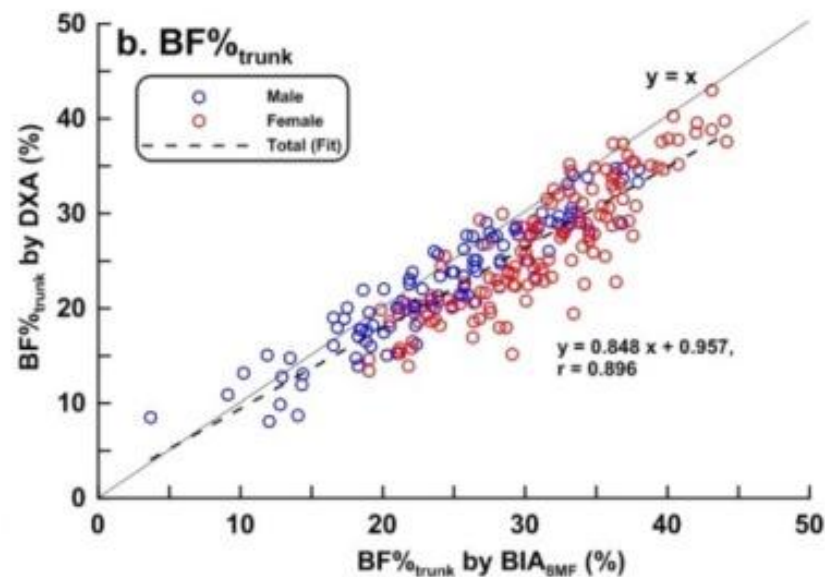
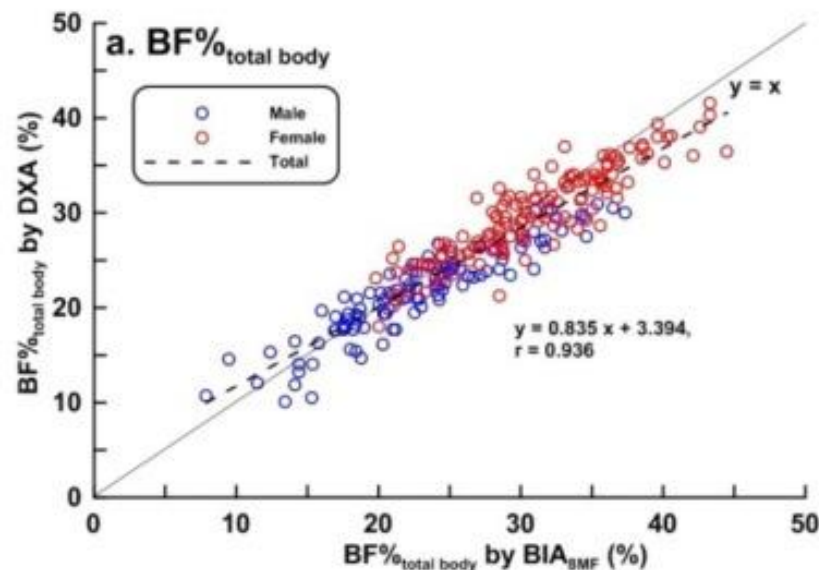
This represents your total percentage body fat.

BIA VS. DXA



Liao YS, Li HC, Lu HK, Lai CL, Wang YS, Hsieh KC. Comparison of Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis and Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry for Total and Segmental Bone Mineral Content with a Three-Compartment Model. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2020 Apr 10;17(7):2595. doi: 10.3390/ijerph17072595.

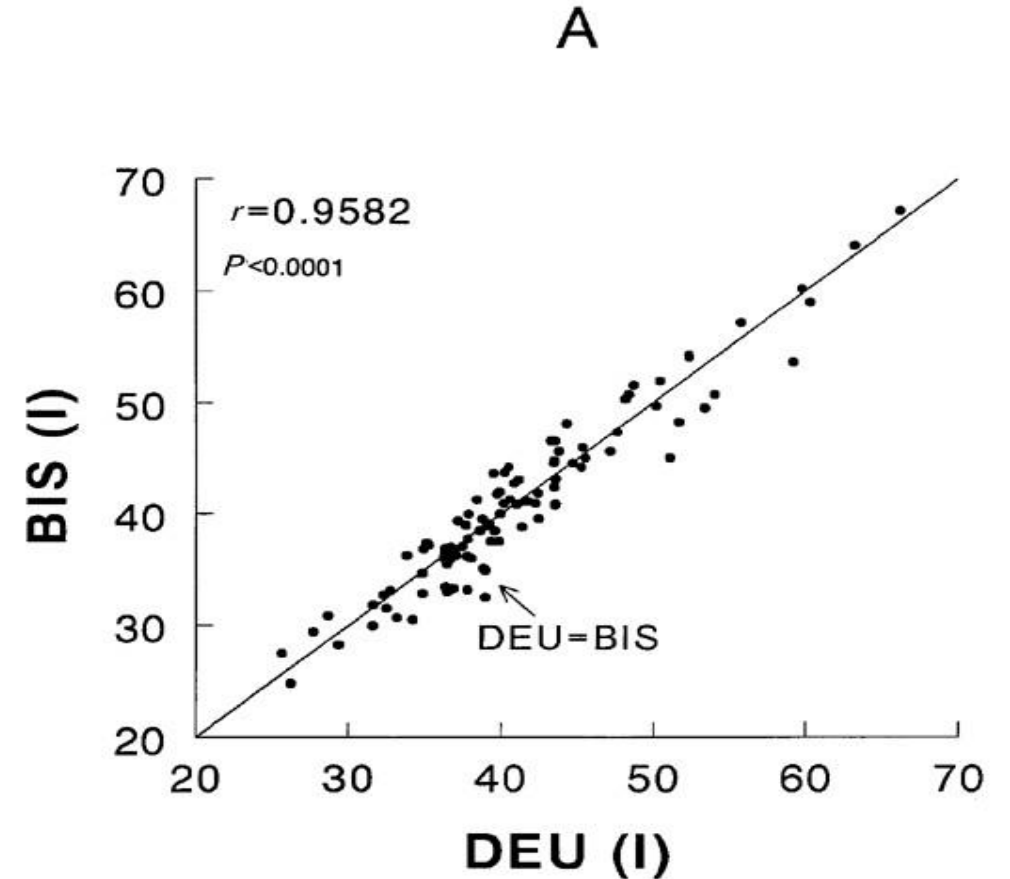
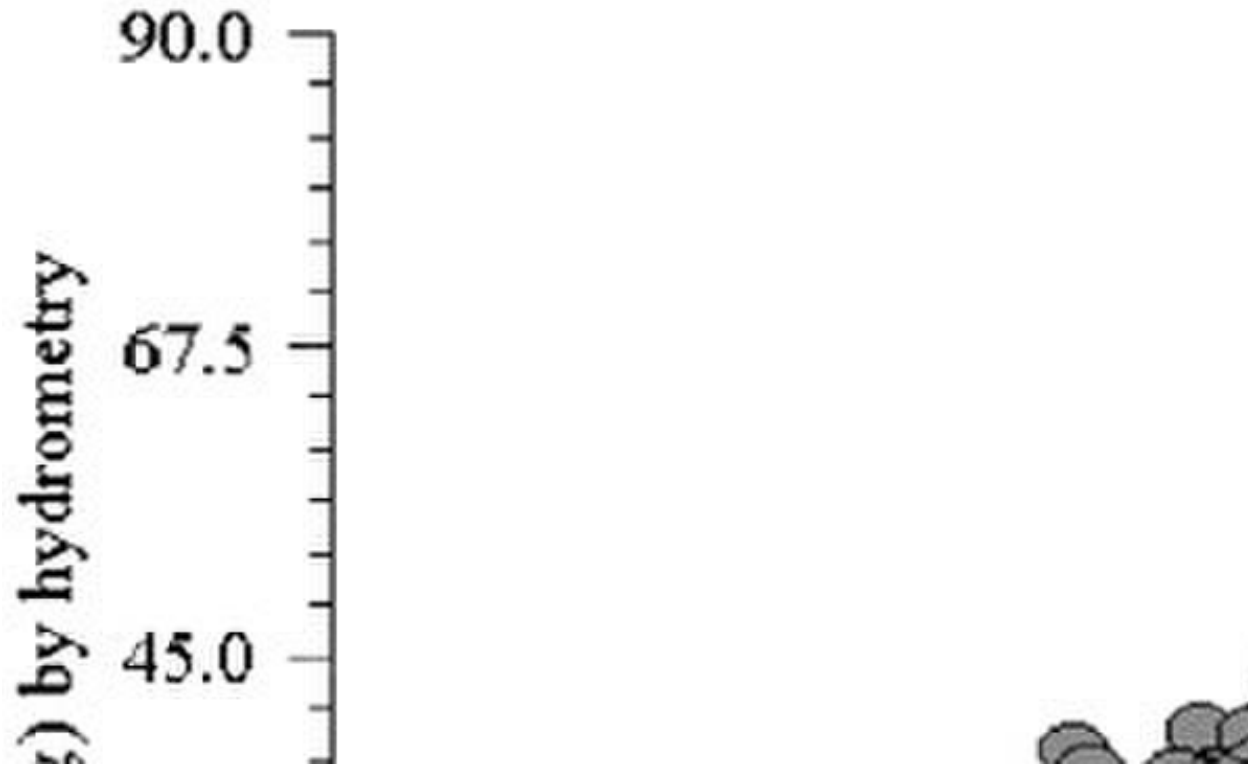
BIA VS. DXA



The results showed a **high correlation** between BIA and DXA in estimating total and segmental LBM, FM and percentage body fat ($r = 0.909-0.986, 0.757-0.964$, and $0.837-0.936$, respectively).

Liao YS, Li HC, Lu HK, Lai CL, Wang YS, Hsieh KC. Comparison of Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis and Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry for Total and Segmental Bone Mineral Content with a Three-Compartment Model. *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2020 Apr 10;17(7):2595. doi: 10.3390/ijerph17072595.

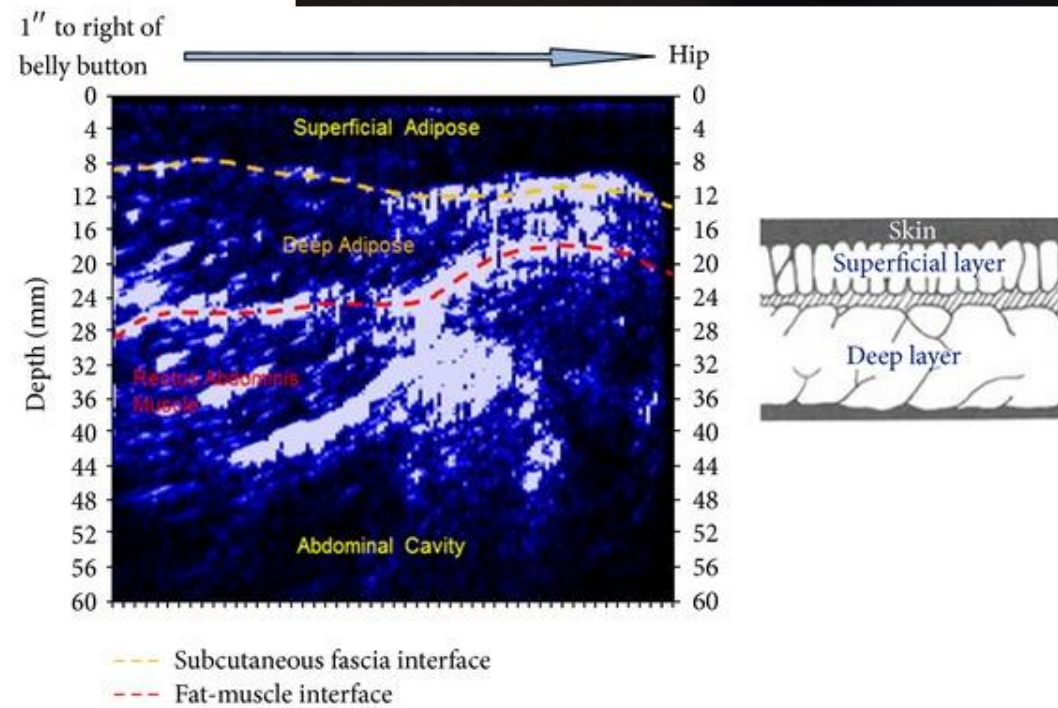
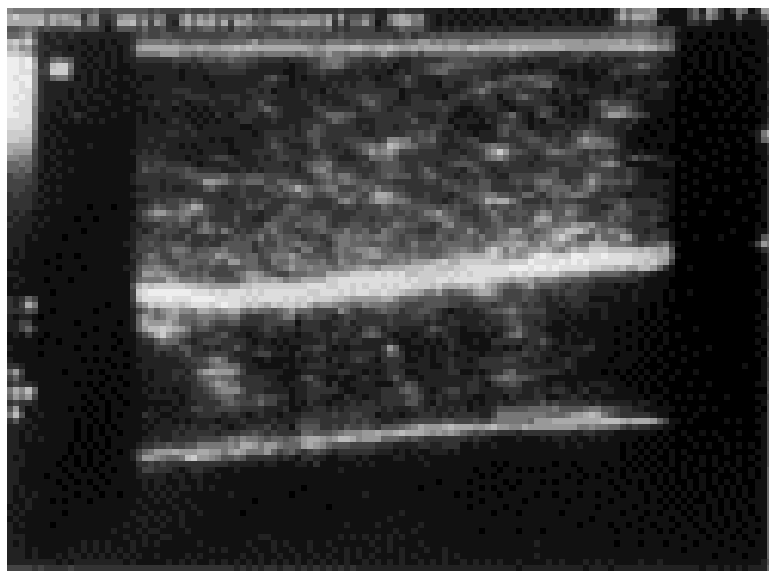
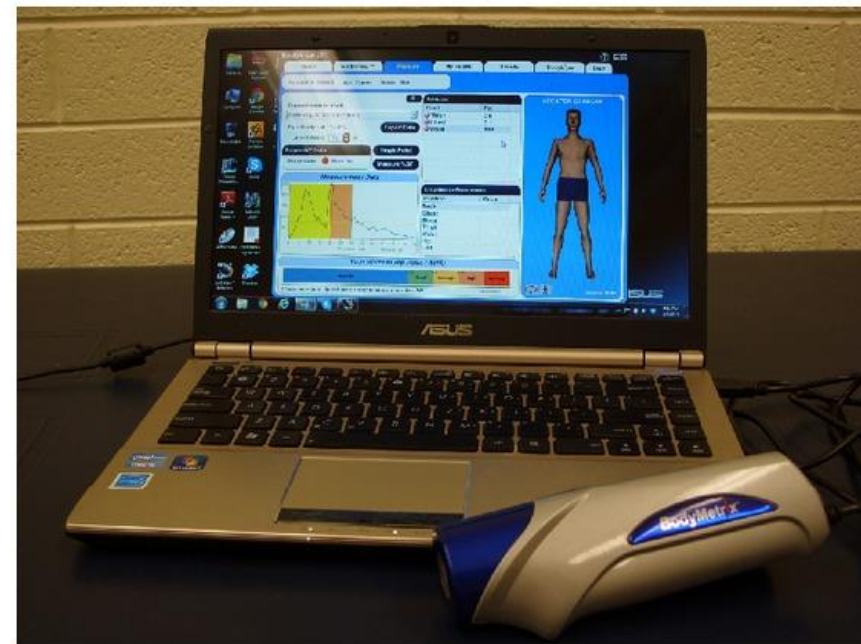
BIA VS. hydrometry (deuterium oxide dilution)



Valencia, M., Alemán-Mateo, H., Salazar, G. *et al.* Body composition by hydrometry (deuterium oxide dilution) and bioelectrical impedance in subjects aged >60 y from rural regions of Cuba, Chile and Mexico. *Int J Obes* **27**, 848–855 (2003). <https://doi.org/10.1038/sj.ijo.0802315>

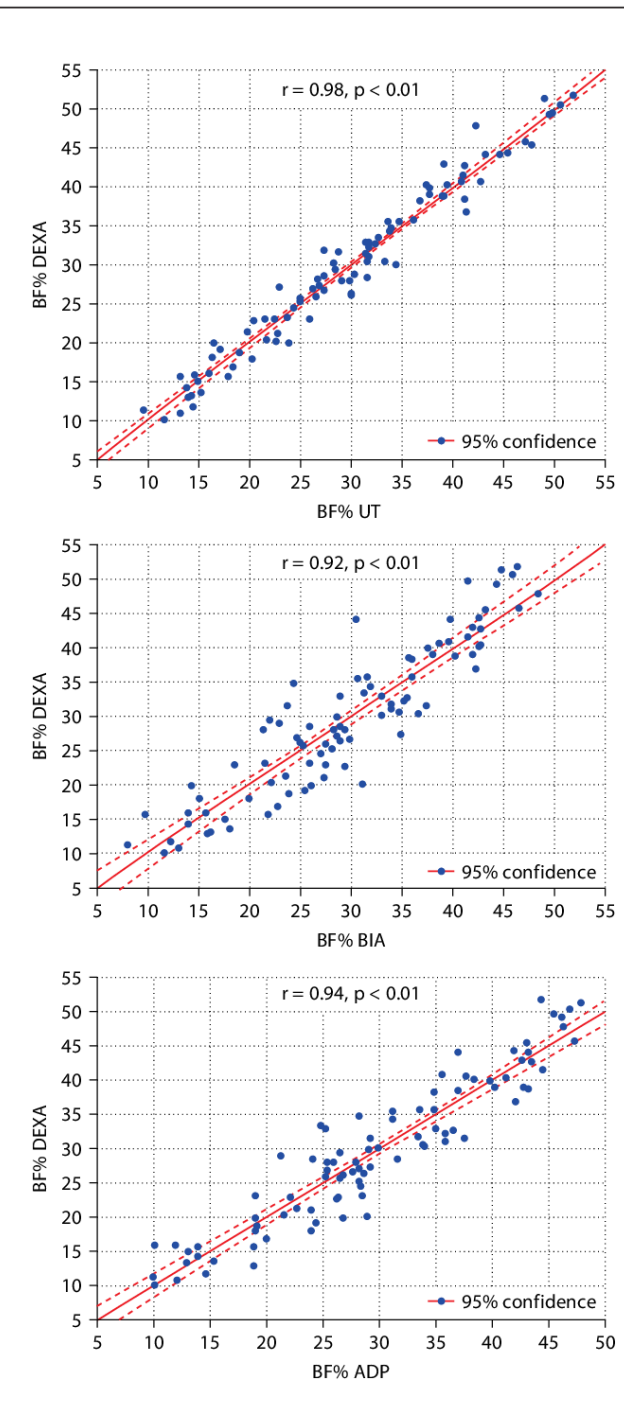
Cox-Reijven PL, Soeters PB. Validation of bio-impedance spectroscopy: effects of degree of obesity and ways of calculating volumes from measured resistance values. *Int J Obes Relat Metab Disord.* 2000 Mar;24(3):271-80. doi: 10.1038/sj.ijo.0801123. PMID: 10757619.

Ultrasound

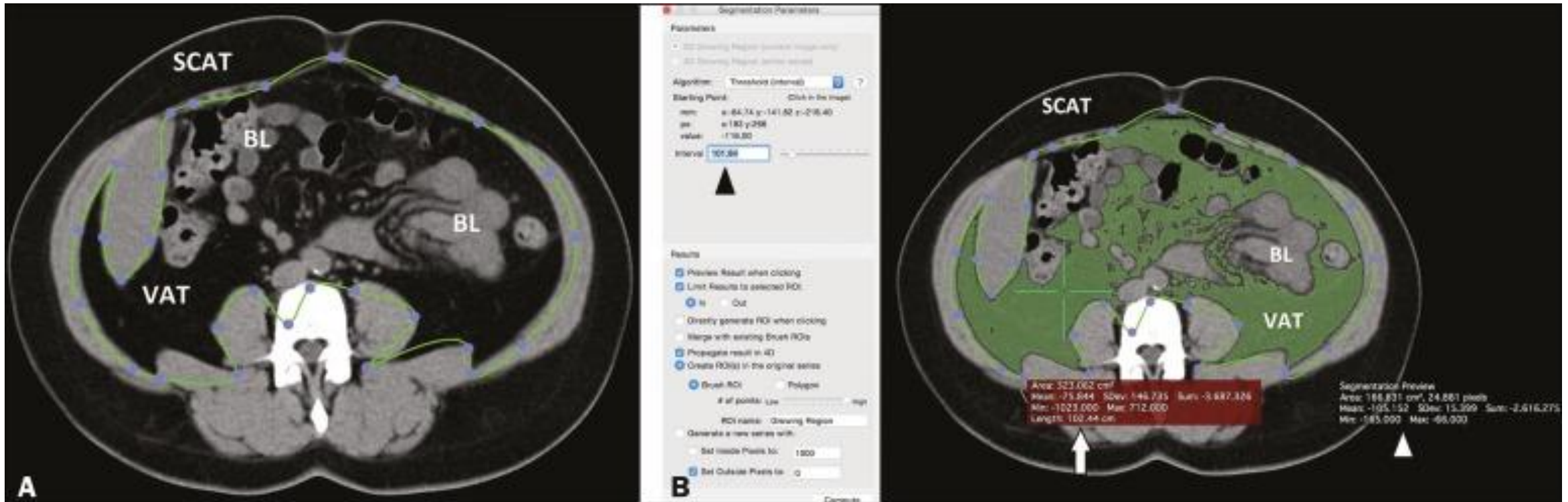


Validation of ultrasound techniques applied to body fat measurement. A comparison between ultrasound techniques, air displacement plethysmography and bioelectrical impedance vs. dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry

- UT estimates of BF% were **better correlated** with those of DXA in both males and females ($r = 0.98$, $SEE = 2.0$) than with ADP ($r = 0.94$, $SEE = 3.7$) or BIA ($r = 0.92$, $SEE = 4.4$).
- The UT in both genders was **better** ($TE = 1.0$) than BIA ($TE = 2.6$) and ADP ($TE = 3.0$). The 95% limits of agreement were also better for the UT (-2%; 2%) than with BIA (-5.1%; 4.9%) and ADP (-6.3%; 5.3%).



CT Measurement



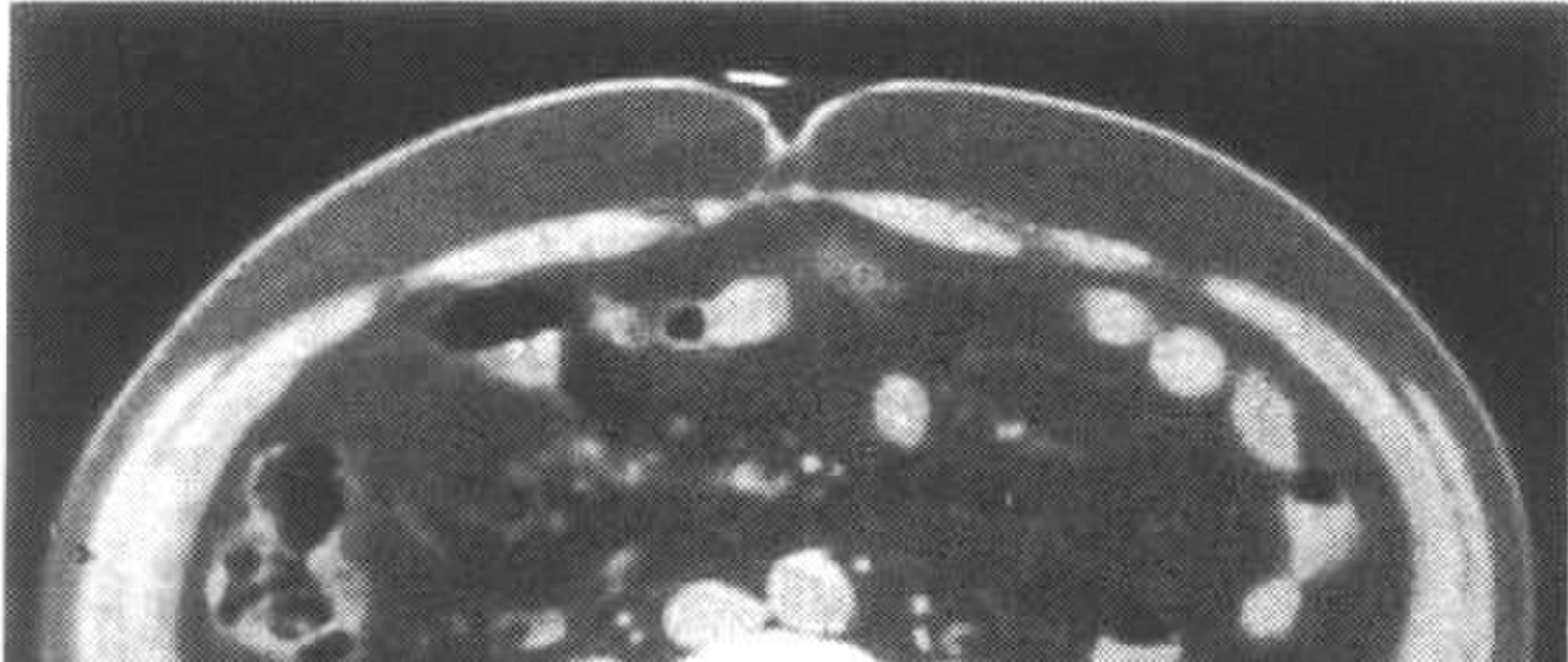
L2-L3 level or L4-5 level

CT Measurement

Visceral Type

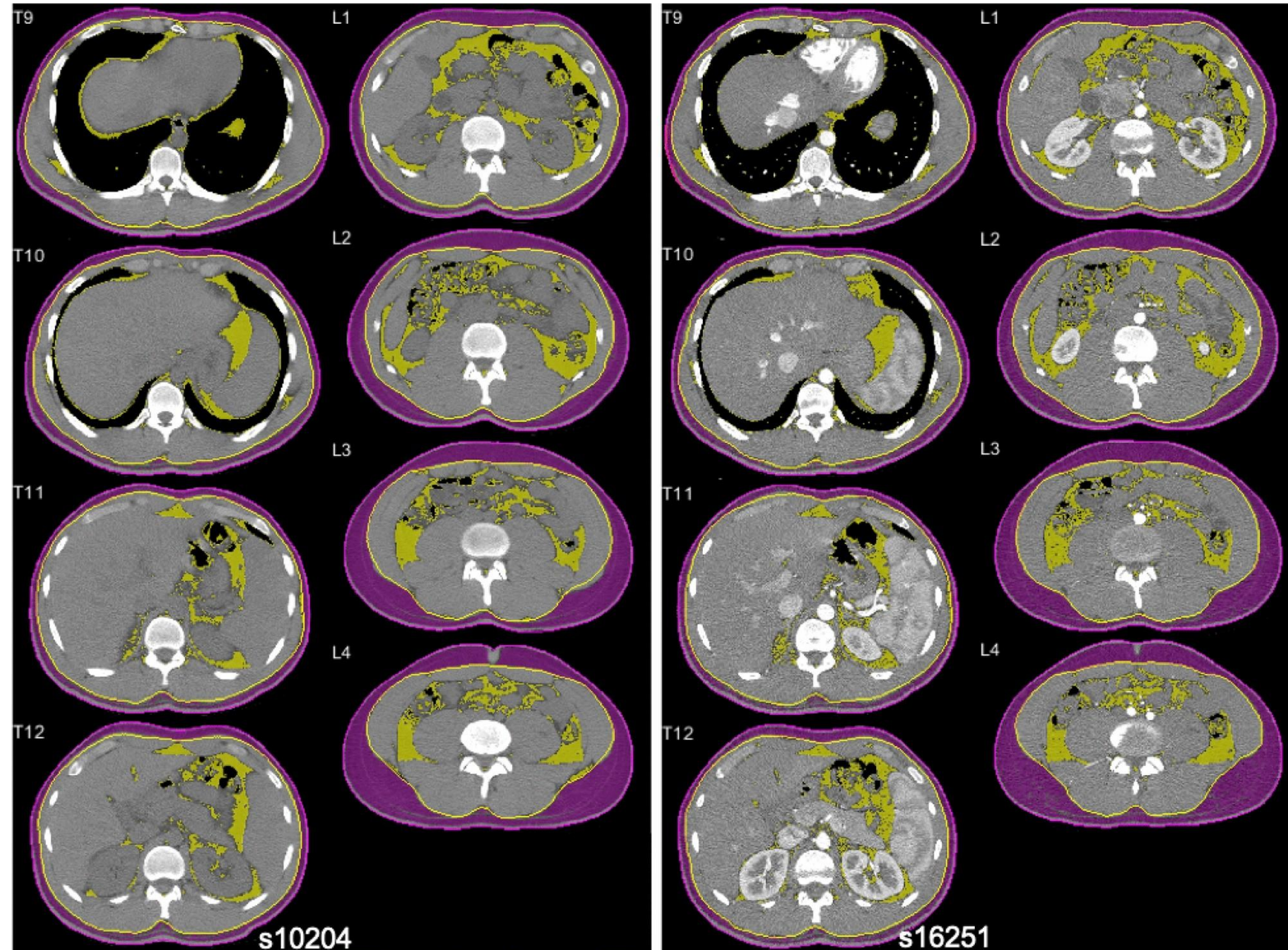
$\geq 100 \text{ cm}^2$ or $V/S \geq 0.4$

Subcutaneous Type

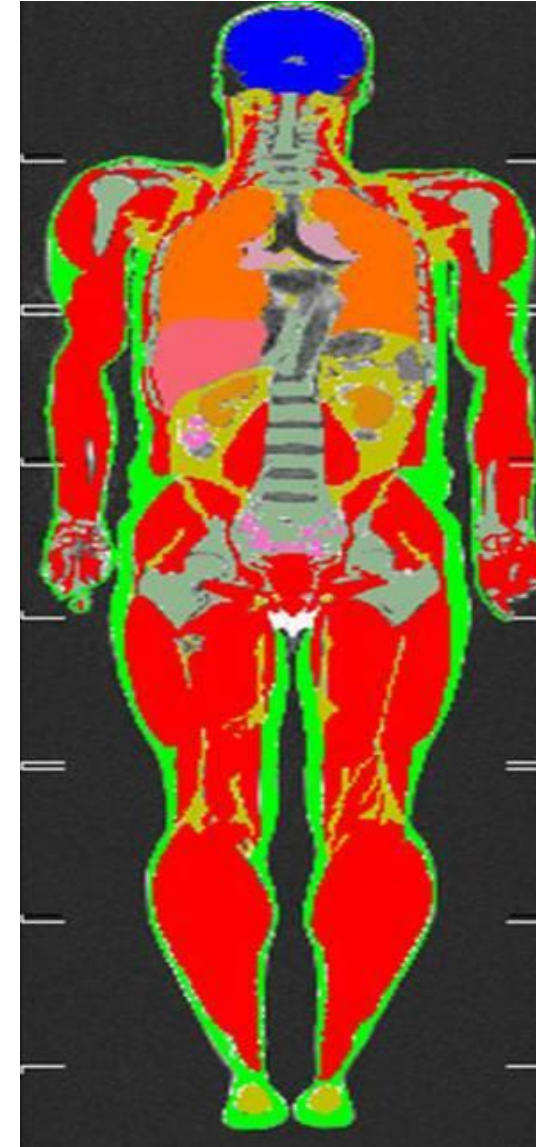


CT Measurement

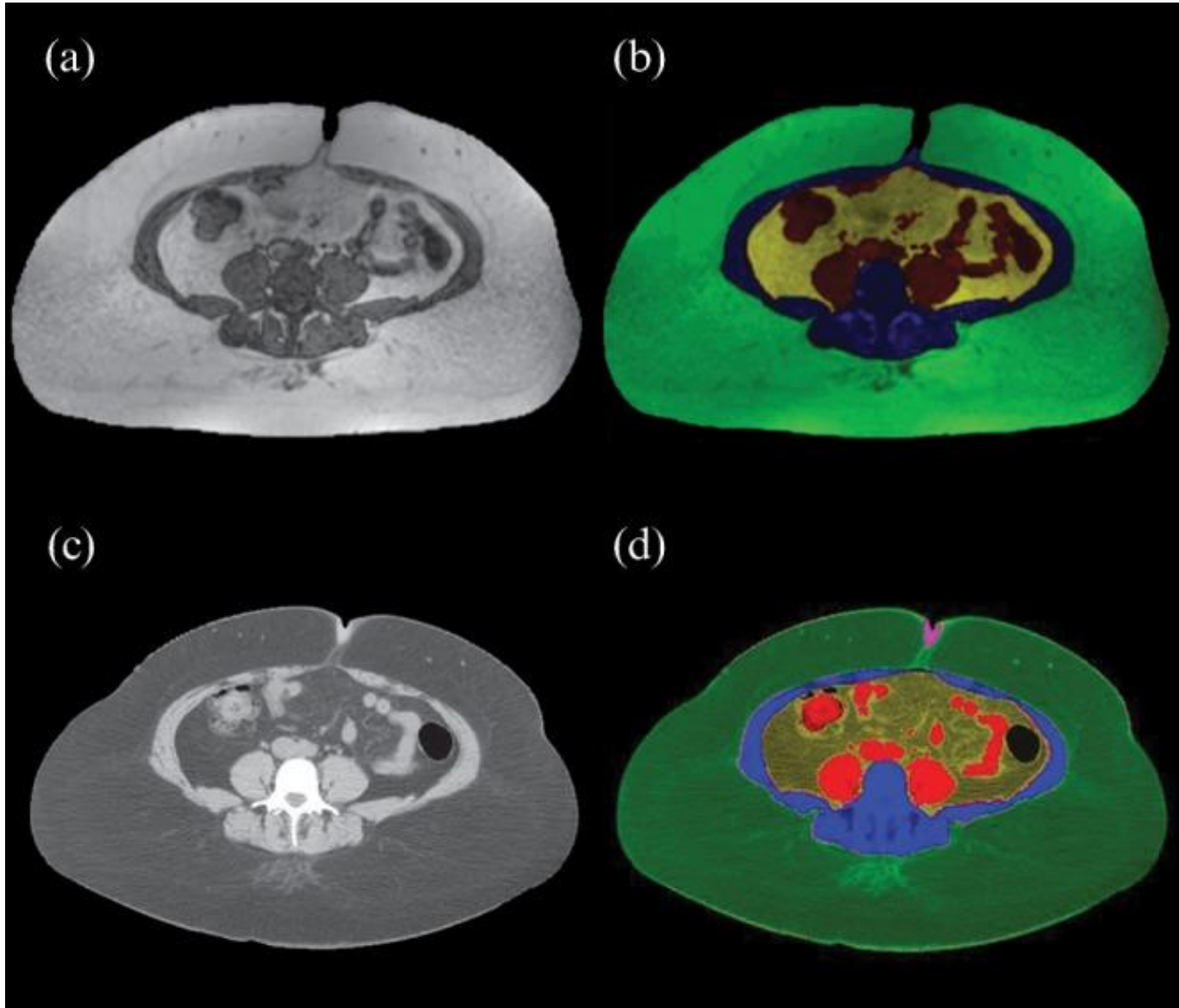
Example of healthy 20 y/o male non-contrast (left) and contrast (right) CT axial slices, showing T10-L4 visceral fat area (yellow-shaded region), subcutaneous fat area (purple shaded region), outer abdominal fascia boundary (yellow line), and skin boundary (purple line). Portions of skin boundary that are coincident with the scan field of view are highlighted in red.



MRI Measurement

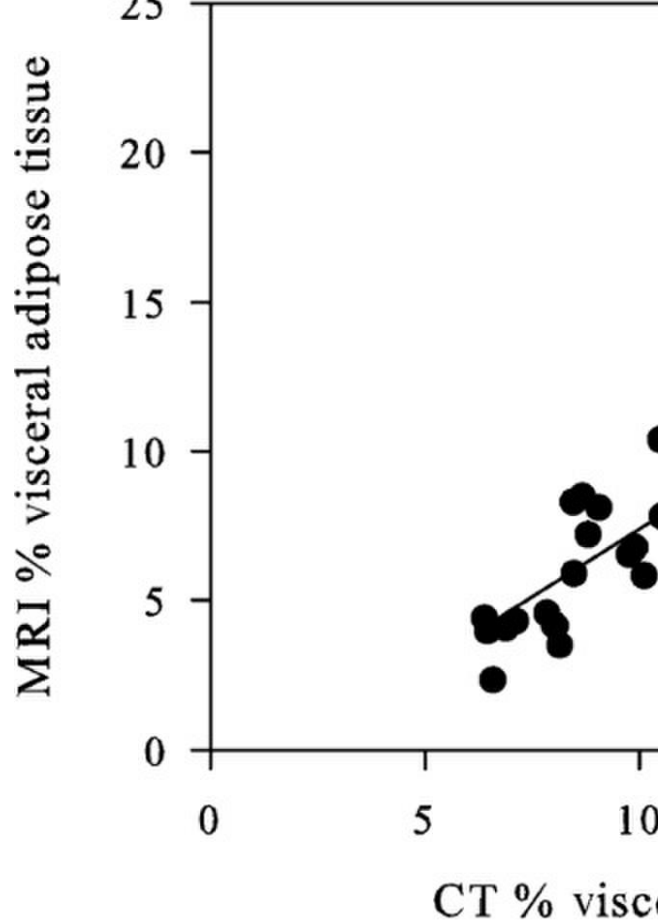


CT VS MRI Measurement

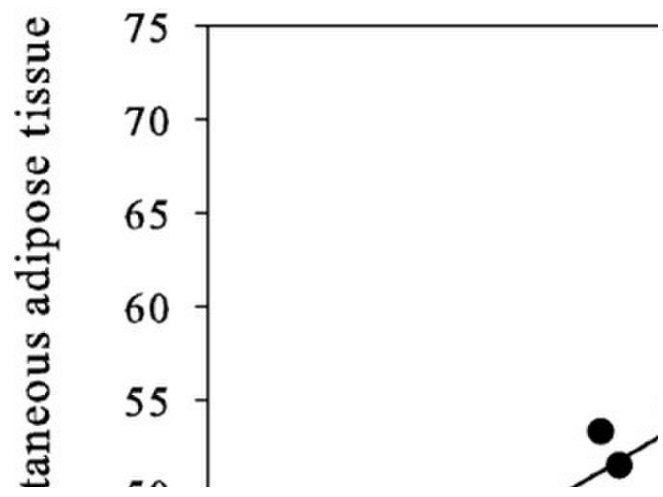


Representative (a, b) MR and (c, d) CT abdominal images used for quantification of abdominal fat depots. Colours for depots are: **green, subcutaneous fat; yellow, visceral abdominal fat; black/red, intestine; blue, abdominal musculature and bone.**

CT VS MRI Measurement



Comparison of MRI and CT data showed **strong correlation** between the two imaging modalities for measurement of visceral adipose tissue (VAT; $r=0.89$, $p<0.0001$), subcutaneous adipose tissue (SAT; $r=0.92$, $p<0.0001$) and total abdominal adipose tissue (TAT; $r=0.95$, $p<0.0001$).



Adipose tissue areas obtained with MRI compared with those obtained with CT, expressed as percentage of total abdominal area for (a) visceral adipose tissue ($y=0.9104x-1.7235$; $r=0.89$, $p<0.0001$), (b) subcutaneous adipose tissue ($y=0.8501x+9.0012$; $r=0.92$, $p<0.0001$) and (c) total abdominal adipose tissue ($y=0.8651x+7.0115$; $r=0.95$, $p<0.0001$).

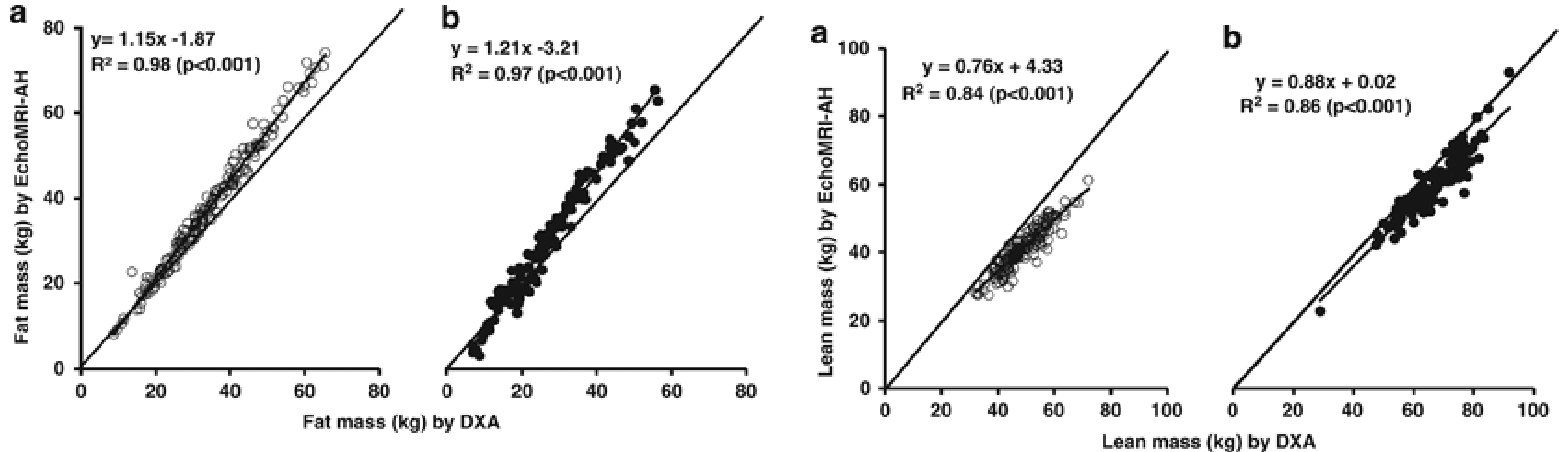
Quantitative Magnetic Resonance



- EchoMRI™ offers the best body composition analyzers for live subjects, measuring whole body fat, lean, free water, and total water masses in live animals, including humans.
- The instrument determines the extent to which the protons present in lean and fat tissue perturb a magnetic field.



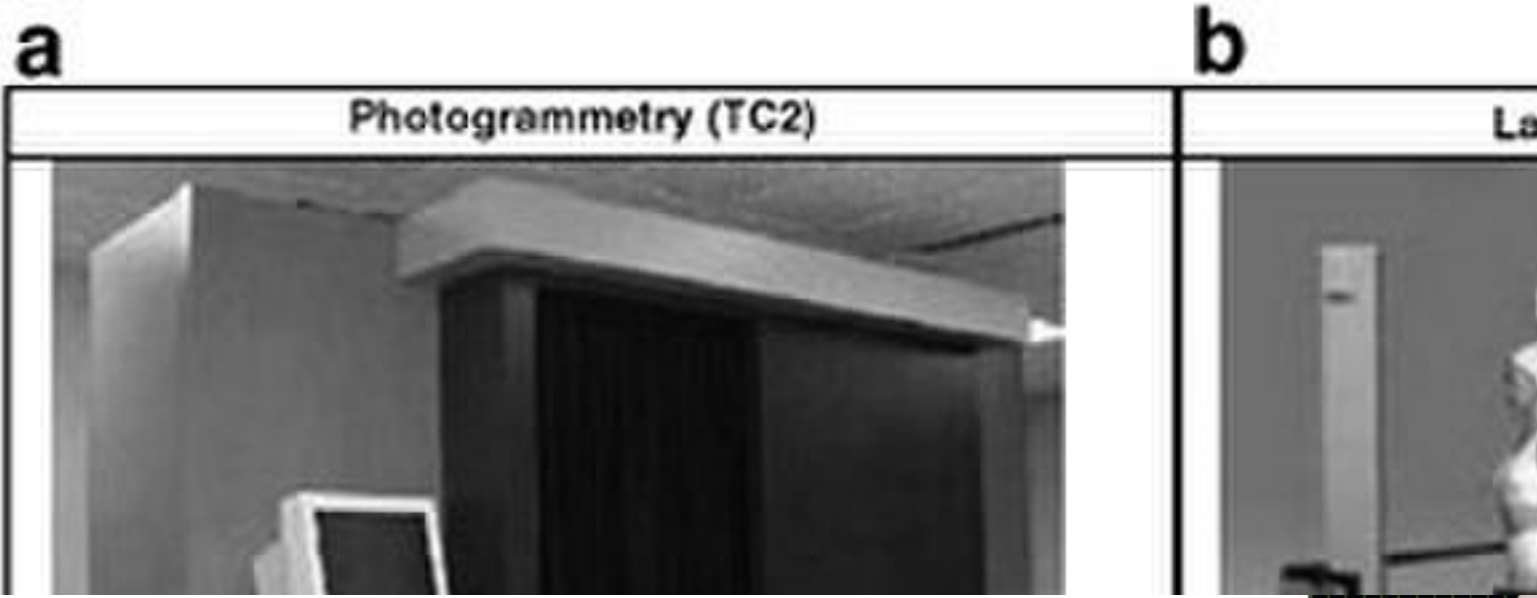
QMR VS. DXA



EchoMRI-AH yielded greater fat mass values when compared with DXA (Hologic QDR-4500A), particularly in fatter subjects. EchoMRI-AH and DXA showed similar 1-week apart precision when fat mass was measured both in lean and overweight/obese individuals.

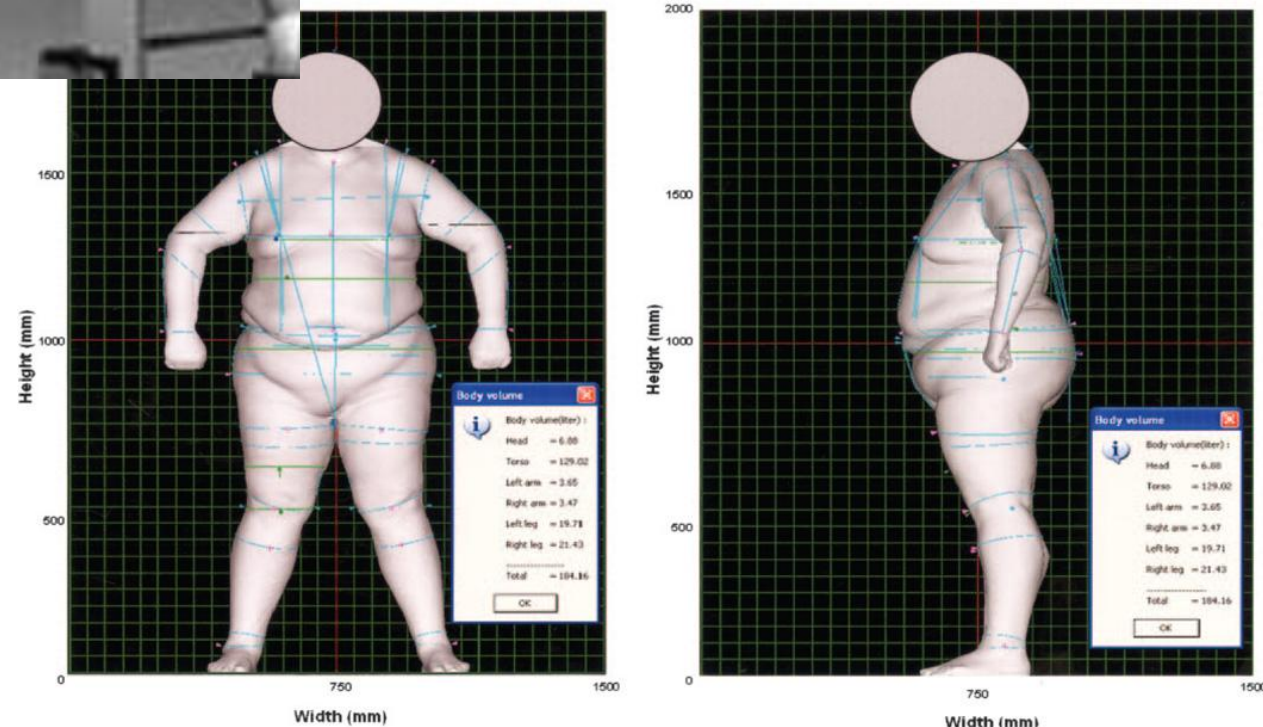
Galgani, J., Smith, S. & Ravussin, E. Assessment of EchoMRI-AH versus dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry to measure human body composition. *Int J Obes* **35**, 1241–1246 (2011). <https://doi.org/10.1038/ijo.2010.268>

3-dimensional photonic scanner (3-DPS)



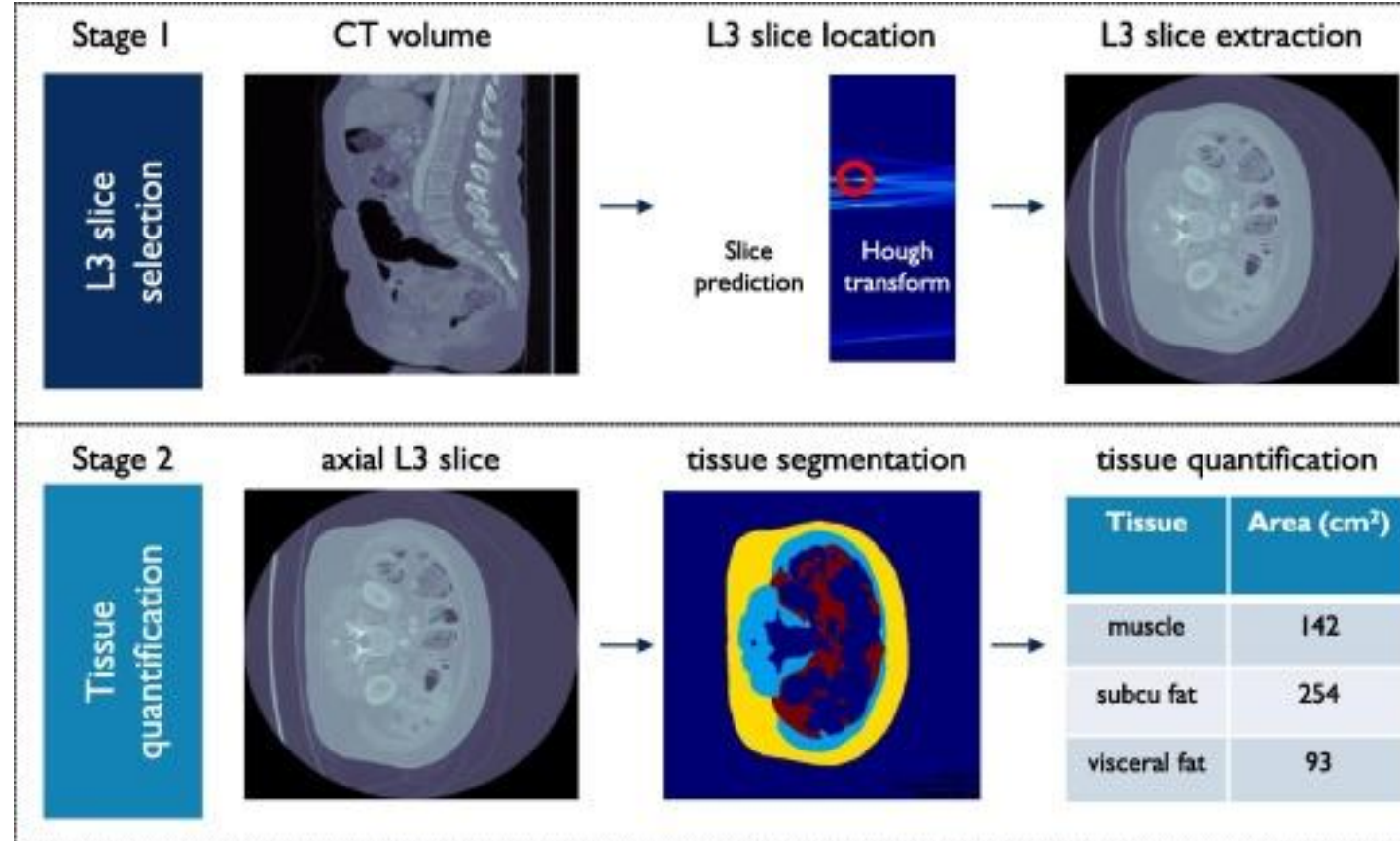
Wells, J., Ruto, A. & Treleven, P. Whole-body three-dimensional photonic scanning: a new technique for obesity research and clinical practice. *Int J Obes* **32**, 232–238 (2008). <https://doi.org/10.1038/sj.ijo.0803727>

Total and regional body volumes and front and side body dimensions of a >182-kg adult measured by 3-dimensional photonic imaging scanner (3DPS)



Artificial intelligence and body composition

- Artificial Intelligence for body composition measurements enhances our ability to quantify obesity and metabolic risk.
- Automated segmentation of body composition is the future of body fat assessment technologies.
- There are inherent biases in the application of AI for body composition that needs substantial improvement.



Methods of Estimating Body Fat and Its Distribution

Method	Cost	Ease	Accuracy	Regional
Height & Weight	\$	Easy	High	No
Skinfolds	\$	Easy	Low	Yes
Circumference	\$	Easy	Moderate	Yes
Ultrasound	\$\$	Moderate	Moderate	Yes
BIA	\$\$	Moderate	High	No
Underwater	\$\$\$	Moderate	High	No
DXA	\$\$\$	Moderate	High	No
CT / MRI	\$\$\$\$	Difficult	High	Yes

Skinfold Thickness Measurement

3 to 9 different standard anatomical sites around the body

Subscapular



Skinfold Caliper

Abdominal



Skinfold Caliper

The measurement of Body Composition

- **Body mass index (BMI)** is a simple index of weight-for-height that is commonly used in classifying overweight and obesity in adult populations and individuals.
- Defined as the weight in kilograms divided by the square of the height in meters (kg/m²)

$$\text{BMI} = \text{Body weight (kg)} / \text{height}^2 \text{ (m}^2\text{)}$$

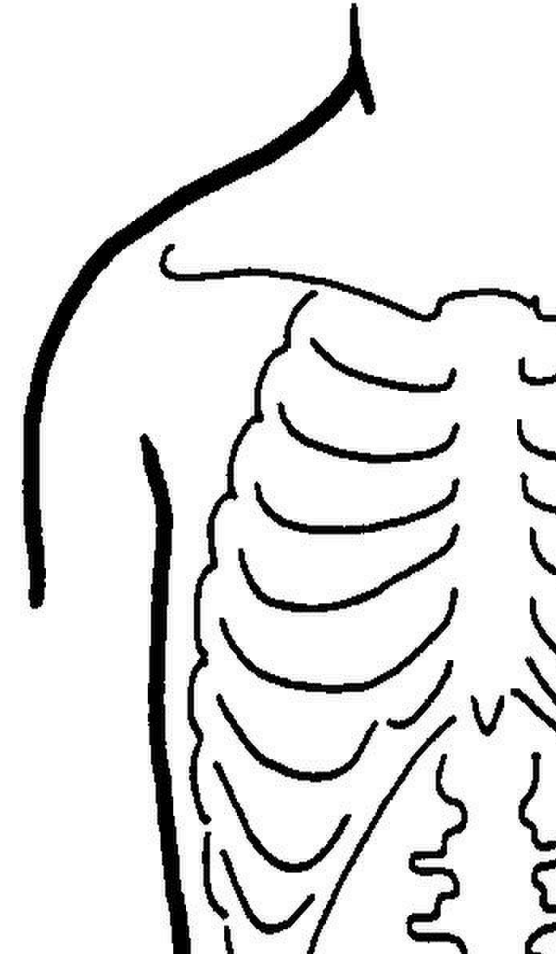
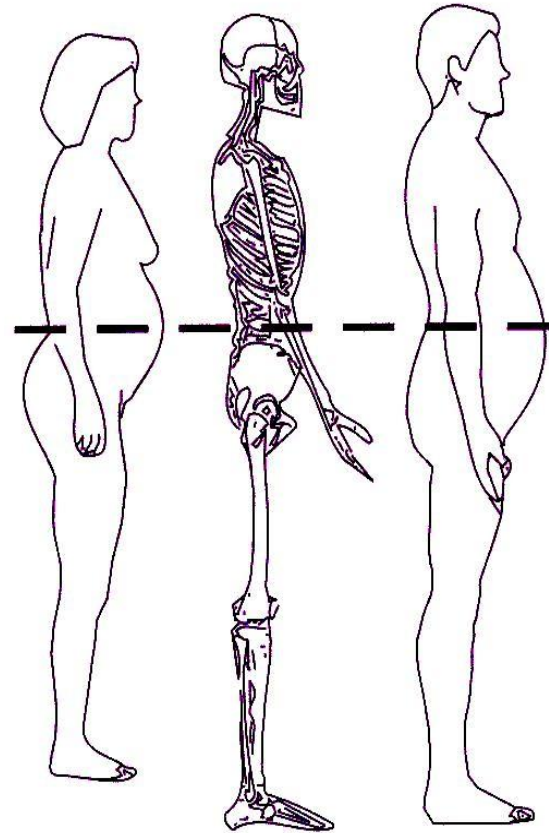
The measurement of Body Composition

- **Waist circumference** is a convenient and simple measure which is unrelated to height, correlates closely with BMI and the ratio of waist-to-hip circumference, and **is an approximate index of intra-abdominal fat mass and total body fat.**



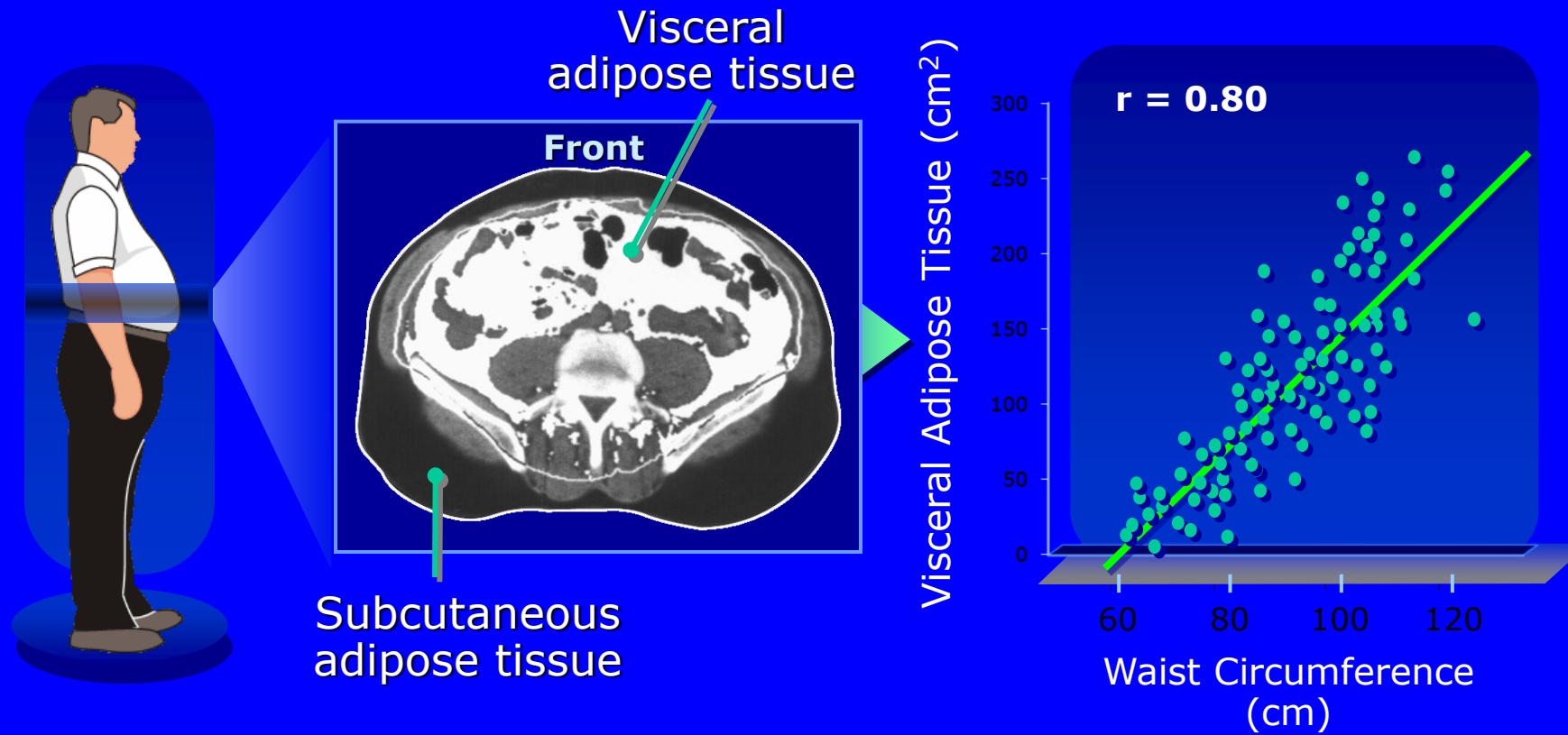
Measurement of waist and hip circumference

To measure waist circumference, locate the upper hip bone and the top of the right iliac crest. Place a measuring tape in a horizontal plane around the abdomen at the level of the iliac crest. Before reading the tape measure, ensure that the tape is snug, but does not compress the skin, and is parallel to the floor. The measurement is made at the end of a normal expiration.



**Measuring-Tape Position for Waist
(Abdominal) Circumference in Adults**

Relationship between Waist Circumference and Visceral Adipose Tissue Accumulation



Pouliot MC, et al. *Am J Cardiol.* 1994;73:460-468;
Després JP, et al. *BMJ.* 2001;322:716-720.

The International Classification of adult underweight, overweight and obesity according to BMI (WHO)

Table 1. WHO classification of obesity

Classification	BMI (kg/m²)	Risk of comorbidities	
Underweight	< 18.5	Low (but risk of other clinical problems increased)	
Normal range	18.5 to 24.9	Average	
Overweight	≥ 25		
Pre-obese	25.0 to 29.9	Increased	
Obese class 1	30.0 to 34.9	Moderate	
Obese class 2	35.0 to 39.9	Severe	
Obese class 3	≥ 40.0	Very severe	
		Waist circumference (cm)	
Comorbidity risk		Women	Men
Above action level 1		≥80	≥94
Above action level 2		≥88	≥102

Degree of Risk Based On BMI & WC –Asian-Pacific (WHO)

<i>Class</i>	<i>BMI(kg/m²)</i>	<i>Risk</i>	
		<i>Waist circumference</i>	
		<i><90cm(men)</i>	<i>≥90cm(men)</i>
		<i><80cm(women)</i>	<i>≥80cm(women)</i>
Underweight	<18.5	Low(but other clinical problem↑)	Average
Normal range	18.5~22.9	Average	Increased
Overweight	≥23		
At risk	23~24.9	Increased	Moderate
Obese I	25~30	Moderate	Severe
Obese II	≥30	Severe	Very severe

Definition of Obesity in Adult Taiwanese

	Body Mass Index (BMI) (kg/m ²)	Waist circumference (cm)
Underweight	BMI < 18.5	X
Normal	18.5 ≤ BMI < 24	
Overweight	Overweight : 24 ≤ BMI < 27 Obesity (mild) : 27 ≤ BMI < 30 Obesity (moderate) : 30 ≤ BMI < 35 Obesity (severe) : BMI ≥ 35	Men: ≥ 90 cm Women: ≥ 80 cm

Objectives

- **What Is Body Composition?**
- **How to Measure Body Composition?**
- **How Importance of Body Composition?**
- **Factors That Affect Body Composition**

Body composition is important for several reasons:

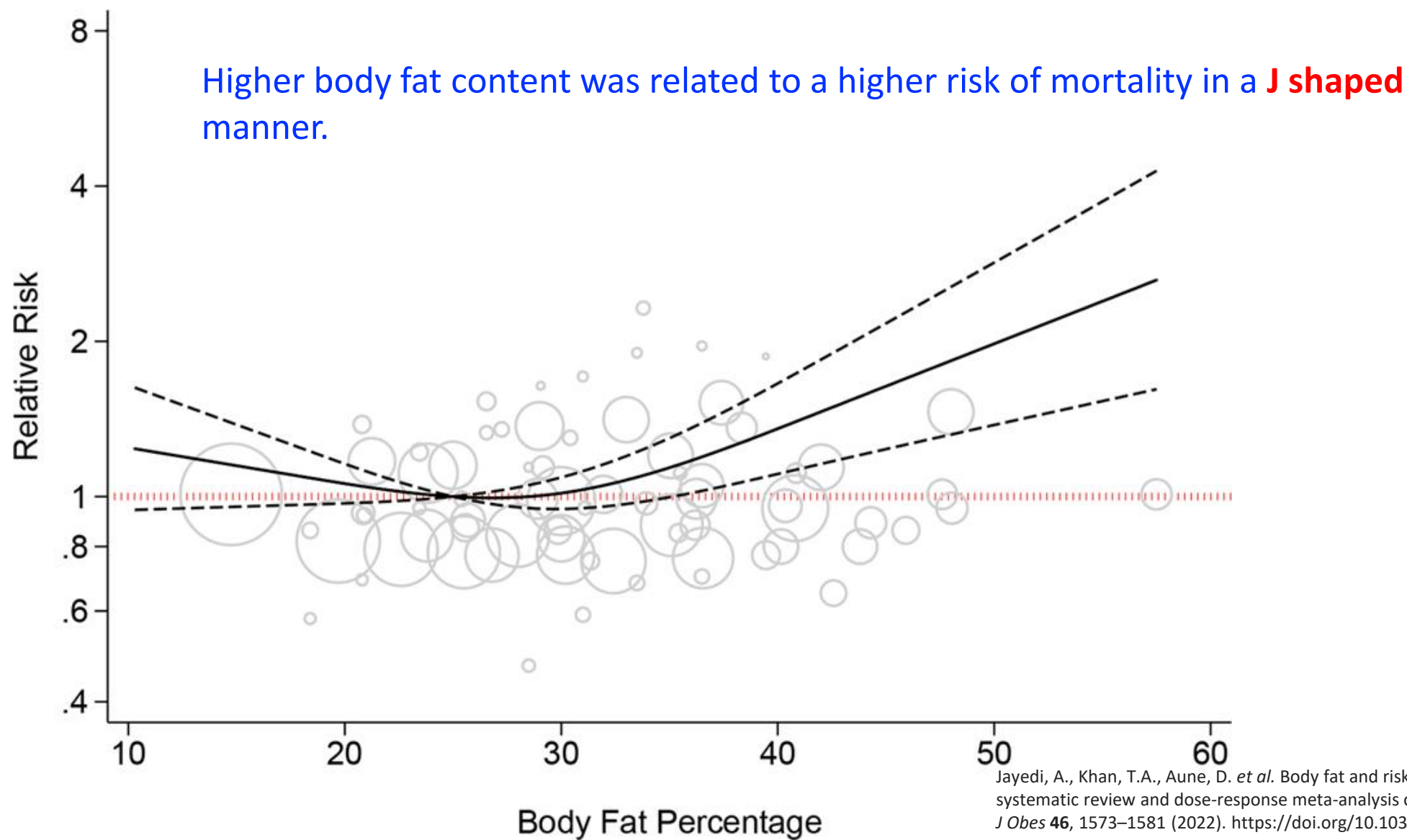
1. **Health Indicator**: It provides a more accurate assessment of health than weight alone. For instance, two people may weigh the same, but their body compositions can differ significantly, impacting their health risks.
2. **Chronic Disease Risk**: A higher proportion of body fat, especially visceral fat around the organs, is linked to increased risks of chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, and certain cancers.
3. **Metabolic Function**: Muscle mass plays a crucial role in metabolism. More muscle can lead to a higher resting metabolic rate, which can assist in weight management.
4. **Physical Performance**: Body composition affects physical performance. Athletes often focus on optimizing their body composition to enhance strength, endurance, and agility.
5. **Thermal Regulation**: Body fat is important for temperature regulation, impacting how the body maintains its temperature in various environments.

Body composition is important for several reasons:

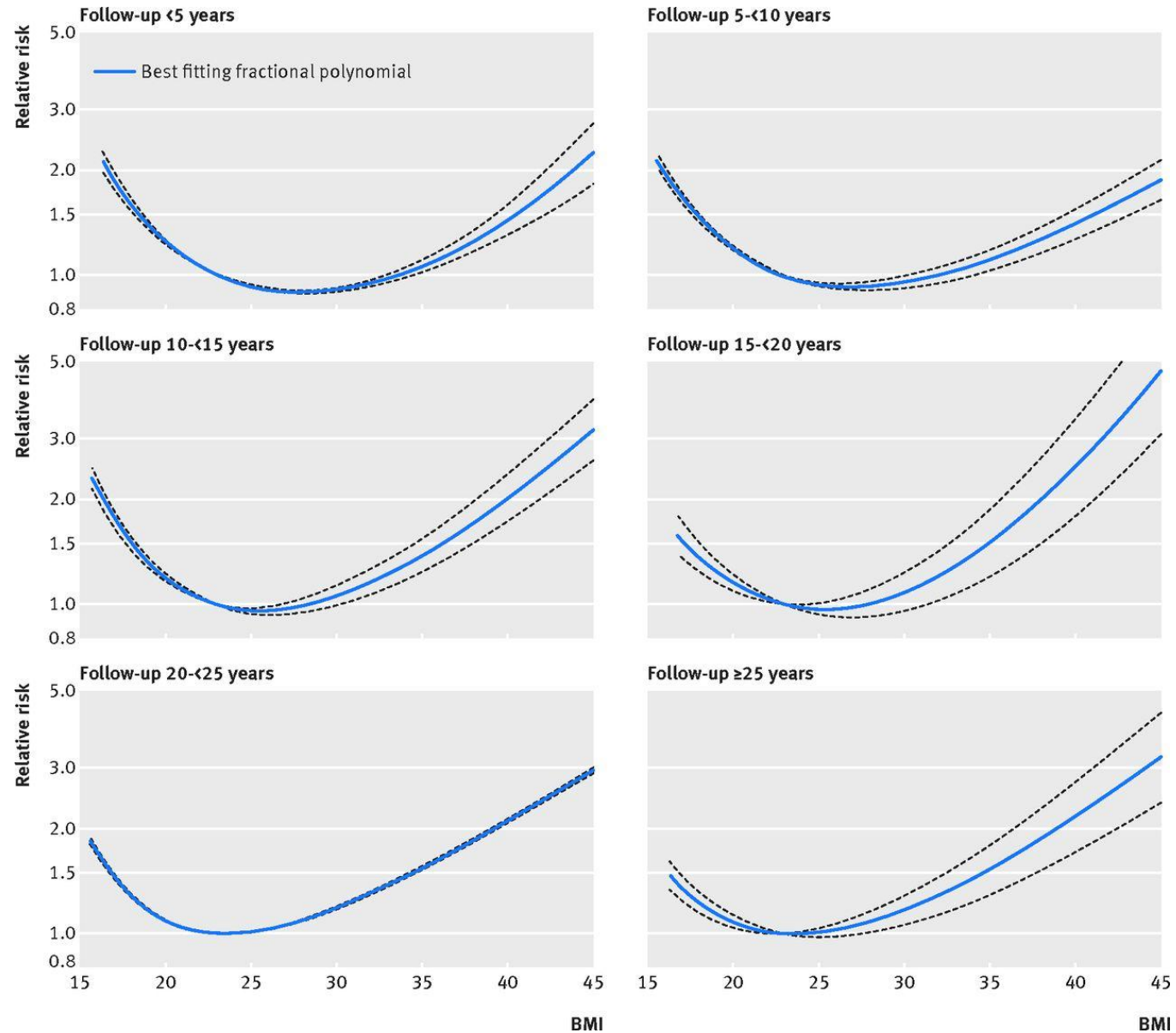
6. **Bone Health**: Bone density is an important component of body composition. Adequate muscle mass supports bone health through stress and resistance, which can prevent osteoporosis.
7. **Mental Well-being**: Achieving and maintaining a healthy body composition can boost self-esteem and mental health, contributing to a positive body image.
8. **Aging**: As people age, body composition can change, typically leading to an increase in body fat and a decrease in muscle mass. Understanding these changes can aid in developing strategies to maintain health.

In summary, body composition is a crucial factor in overall health, performance, and well-being, making it essential for individuals to monitor and strive for a healthy balance.

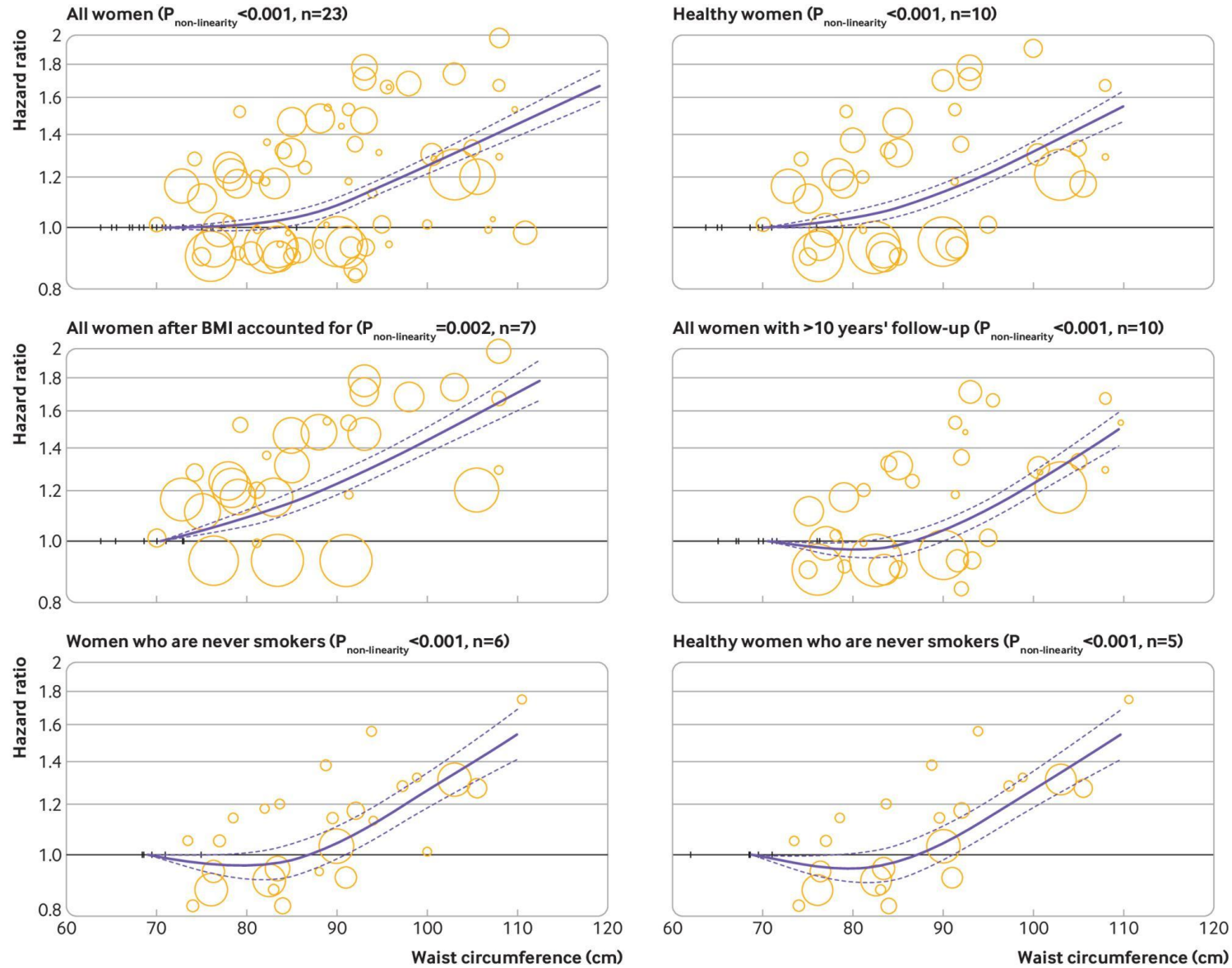
Body fat and risk of all-cause mortality: a systematic review and dose-response meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies



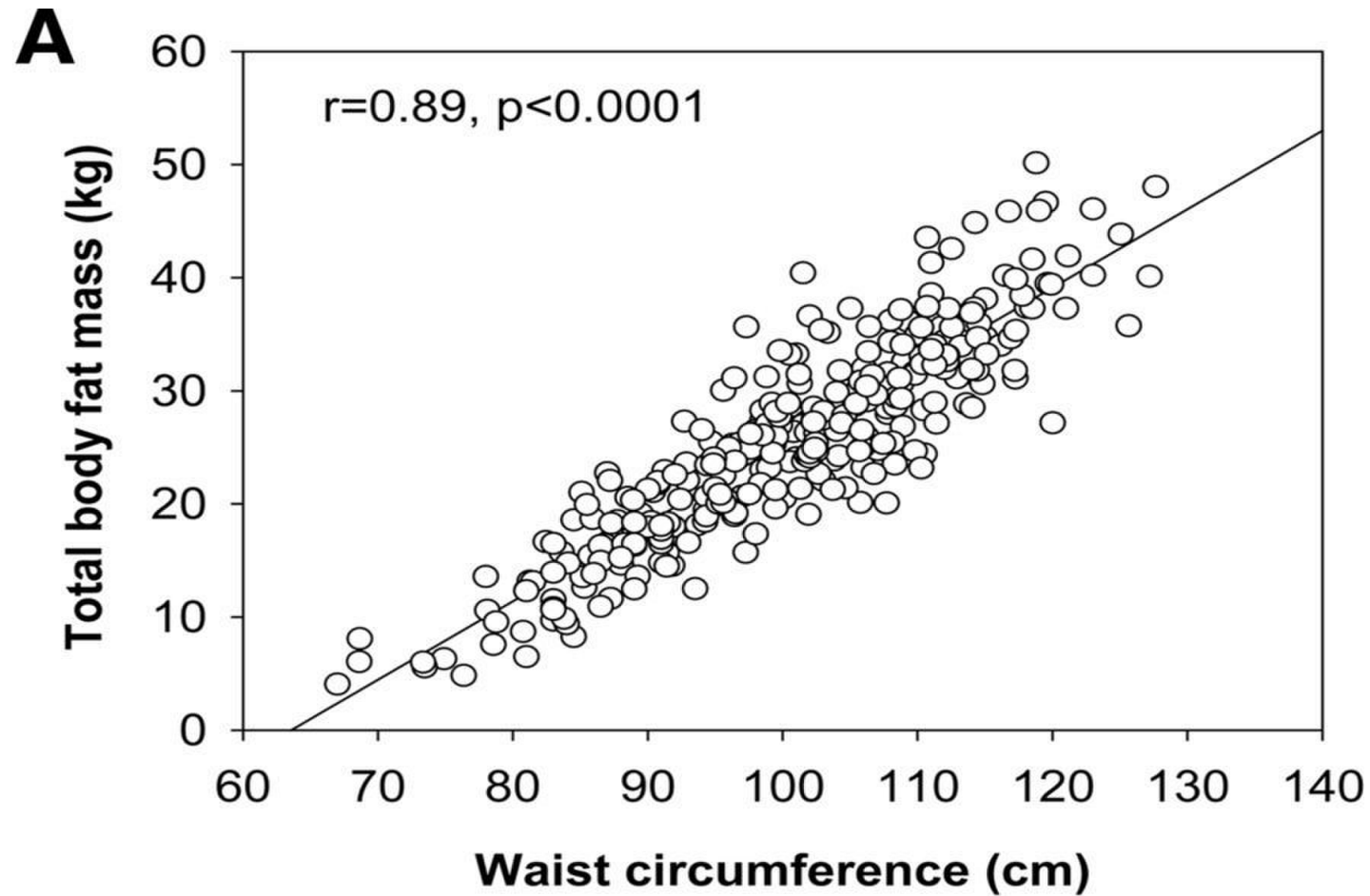
BMI and all cause mortality in all participants stratified by duration of follow-up.



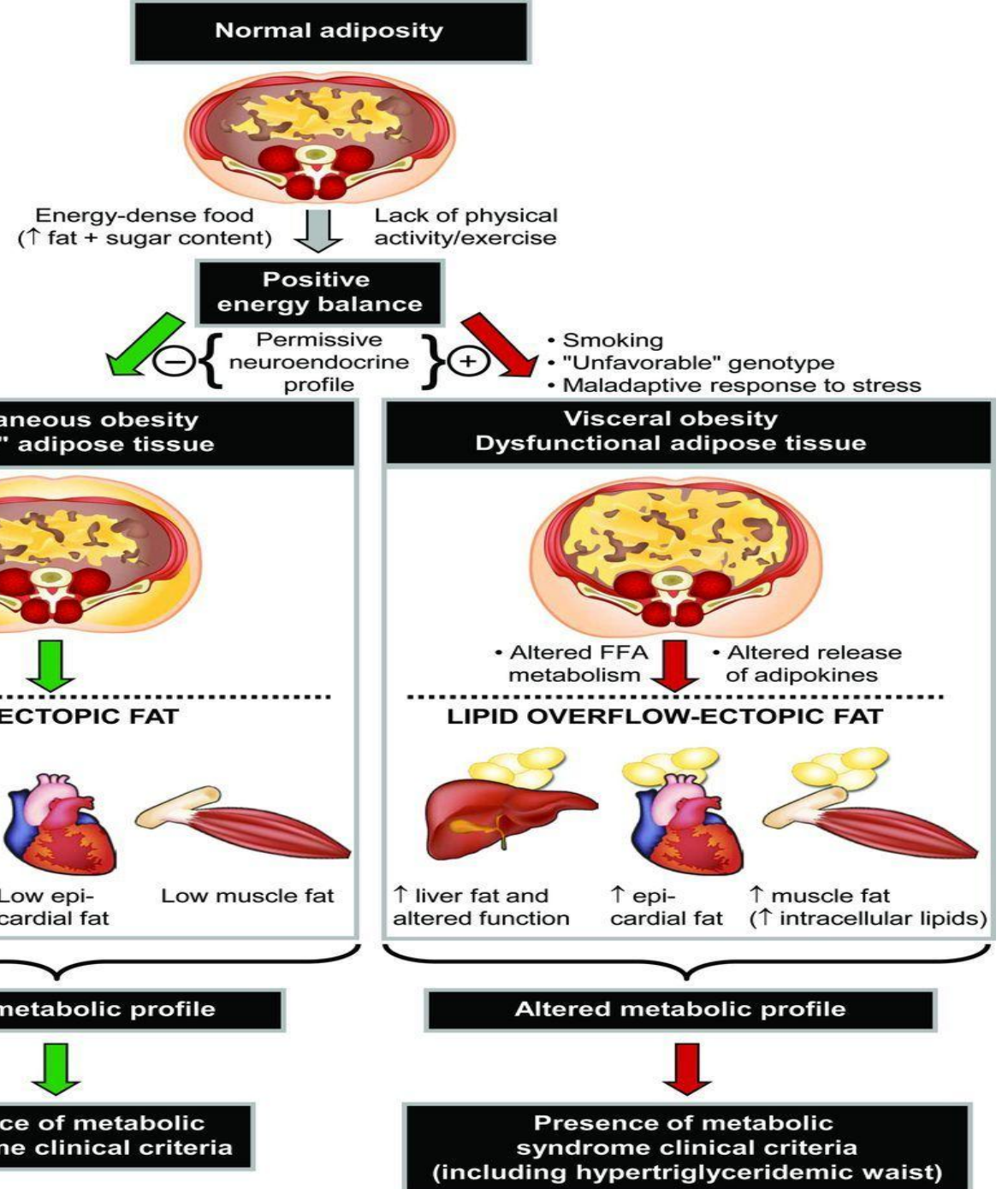
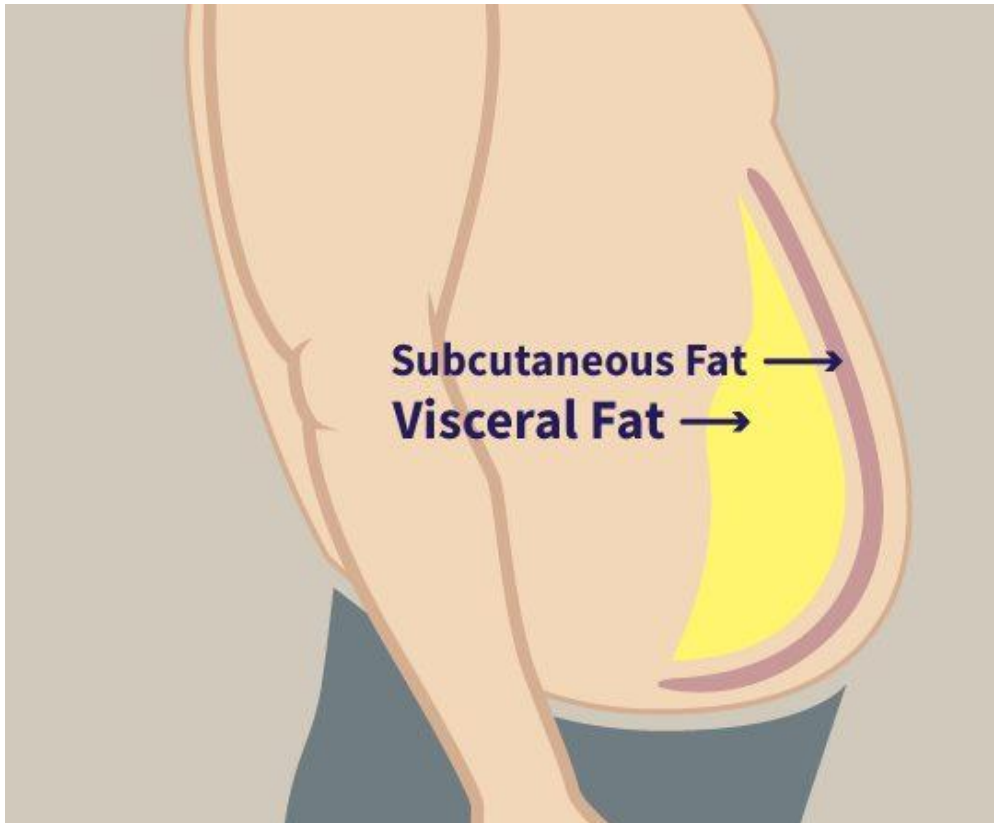
Dose-response association of **waist circumference** with risk of all cause mortality in women



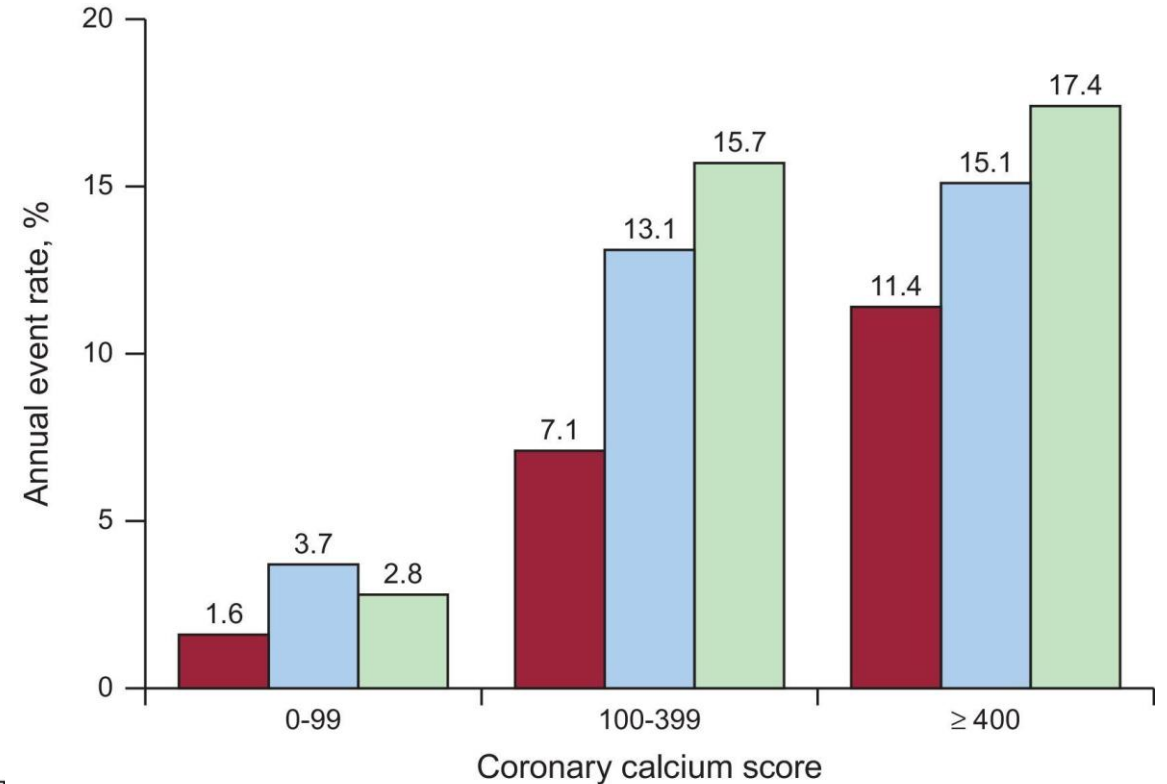
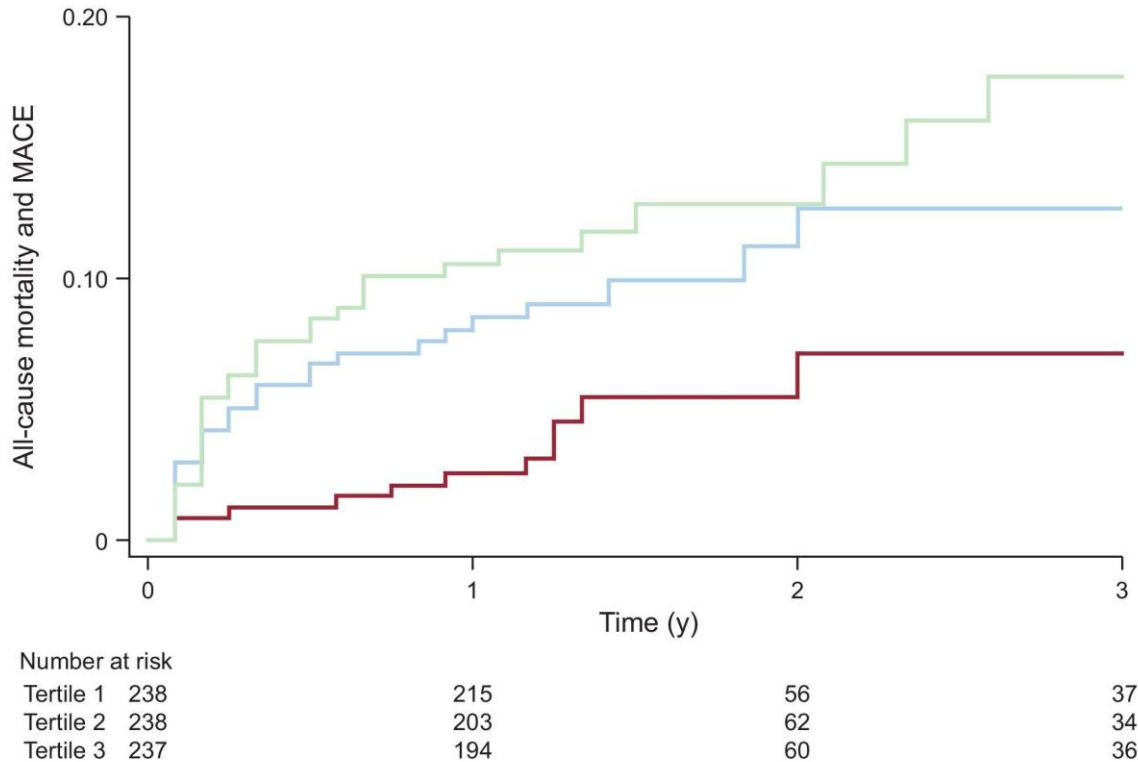
Waist circumference (WC) is an index of total adiposity that cannot distinguish visceral from subcutaneous abdominal adiposity.



Visceral Fat VS. Subcutaneous Fat



Abdominal VAT/SAT was an positively independent predictor of death and coronary events



— VAT/SAT ratio 1st tertile (n = 238; events = 11)
 — VAT/SAT ratio 2nd tertile (n = 238; events = 24)
— VAT/SAT ratio 3rd tertile (n = 237; events = 31)

VAT/SAT ratio
■ Tertile 1 ■ Tertile 2 ■ Tertile 3

Objectives

- **What Is Body Composition?**
- **How to Measure Body Composition?**
- **How Importance of Body Composition?**
- **Factors That Affect Body Composition**

Factors Affecting Body Composition

Medications and Health Conditions

Sleep and Stress

Genetics

Age



Diet

Hormonal Factors

Physical Activity

Factors That Affect Body Composition

A variety of factors can affect your body composition:

- **Age:** Research shows that as people age, they gain body fat and lose muscle mass and bone density.
- **Sex:** People assigned female at birth naturally hold more body fat than people assigned male at birth, especially in the hips and thighs.
- **Hormones:** Hormonal changes can also have an effect on your body composition. Menopause, for instance, can cause a stark increase in your body fat.¹⁶
- **Race/ethnicity (Genetics):** Your genes can sometimes have an influence on your body composition up to a certain point. One study found that children showed similar body composition to their parents. However, lifestyle patterns ultimately had more of an effect as the children got older and reached adolescence.

Factors That Affect Body Composition

- **Calorie intake and food quality:** Of course, fat storage occurs when you create a calorie surplus (consuming more calories than you burn). Any eating plan that helps create a calorie deficit (consuming fewer calories than you burn) can lead to weight loss. However, researchers have observed a connection between the quality of food choices (more fruits, vegetables, and whole grains) and lower percent body fat.
- **Exercise (Physical activity):** Exercise and daily physical activity help burn calories to avoid a calorie surplus. Strength training exercises, in particular, can help prevent muscle loss as you lose weight.
- **Sleep:** Inadequate sleep isn't just about feeling wiped out the next day. Poor sleep can increase inflammation and insulin resistance, triggering fat storage. Lack of sleep also poses additional challenges for weight loss: increased appetite and food cravings, making it harder to limit calorie intake.

rener A, Waksman Y, Rosenfeld T, et al. The heritability of body composition. *BMC Pediatr*. 2021;21(1):225.

doi:10.1186/s12887-021-02695-z

Factors That Affect Body Composition

- **Stress:** Periods of stress prime your body for fat storage, resulting from your body going into "survival mode." Many studies show an association between higher levels of the stress hormone cortisol and increased fat cell size, formation of new fat cells, and abdominal fat deposits. In addition, stress can trigger emotional eating and make it harder to exercise and prepare healthy foods.
- **Medications and Health Conditions:** Certain medications and underlying health conditions can impact body composition. For example, some medications may cause weight gain or loss, while conditions like thyroid disorders can affect metabolism. Remember, these are just a few factors that influence body composition. Each individual's body composition is unique, and understanding these factors can help guide efforts towards achieving a healthy and balanced physique.

In Summary

- Optimizing body composition is vital for overall health, reducing chronic disease risk, and enhancing metabolic function, while also benefiting mental well-being and self-esteem.
- In clinical practice, [Bioelectrical Impedance Analysis \(BIA\)](#) and [Dual-Energy X-ray Absorptiometry \(DXA\)](#) are both convenient and effective tools for measuring body composition.
- Regular monitoring of body composition is important for maintaining health and well-being.

Thank you for your Attention

