

T₃ Stimulates Hepatic Fatty Acid β -Oxidation by Inducing Lipophagy

Sinha RA, et al.

Autophagy is a complex mechanism that is regulated by insulin and glucagon in the liver; however, their role in lipophagy is not known. So far, only T₃ has been shown to regulate lipophagy and thereby provide substrate for hepatic mitochondrial β -oxidation of fatty acids. T₃ is decreased not only in hypothyroidism but also during fasting and during the euthyroid sick syndrome, and it has been shown that the hypothy-

roid liver is more sensitive to fatty degeneration (1). The new discovery of T₃-regulated lipophagy raises many questions that will stimulate clinical research.


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REFERENCE

1. Chung GE, Kim D, Kim W, Yim JY, Park MJ, Kim YJ, Yoon JH, Lee HS. Non-alcoholic fatty liver disease across the spectrum of hypothyroidism. J Hepatol 2012. 57:150-6. Epub March 14, 2012.


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