

Renal denervation ups insulin sensitivity in preclinical model

August 12 2016



(HealthDay)—Inhibiting the sympathetic nervous system (SNS) by renal



denervation (RDN) improves insulin sensitivity (S_I) in obese canines, according to a study published in the August issue of *Diabetes*.

Malini S. Iyer, Ph.D., from the Cedars-Sinai Diabetes and Obesity Research Institute in Los Angeles, and colleagues measured S_I using a euglycemic hyperinsulinemic clamp before and after six weeks of a highfat diet (w6-HFD) and either RDN (HFD+RDN) or sham surgery (HFD+Sham).

The researchers found that HFD induced insulin resistance in the liver at w6-HFD in sham and in HFD+RDN. The insulin resistance persisted in sham animals, but RDN completely normalized hepatic S_I in fat-fed dogs; reduction in hepatic gluconeogenic genes including G6Pase, PEPCK, and FOXO1 was observed. Hepatic gluconeogenesis was down-regulated by RDN, primarily by up-regulation of liver-X-receptor via the natriuretic peptide pathway.

"In conclusion, bilateral RDN completely normalizes hepatic S_I in obese canines," the authors write. "These preclinical data implicate a novel mechanistic role for the renal nerves in the regulation of insulin action specifically at the level of the liver and show that the renal nerves constitute a putative new therapeutic target to counteract <u>insulin</u> resistance."

More information: <u>Abstract</u>

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Citation: Renal denervation ups insulin sensitivity in preclinical model (2016, August 12) retrieved 27 December 2022 from https://medicalxpress.com/news/2016-08-renal-denervation-ups-insulin-sensitivity.html



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