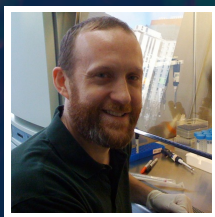


Obesity's Molecular and Cellular Underpinnings



Matthew Rodeheffer

Associate Professor, Section of Comparative Medicine and Molecular & Cell and Developmental Biology

CURRENT RESEARCH

Solving the Obesity Epidemic with a bottom-up approach

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 35.1% of adults over the age of 20 are obese, and the number is on the rise. The obesity epidemic is, in fact, the leading public health concern of modern society as it leads to numerous diseases affecting both adults and children. Despite the importance of fat in human disease, our understanding of the regulation of fat mass is extremely limited. Dr. Matt Rodeheffer, Associate Professor for the Section of Comparative Medicine and Molecular, Cell, and Developmental Biology at Yale University, is elucidating the cellular and molecular mechanisms that regulate fat mass and contribute to the development of diseases associated with obesity, such as diabetes, cancer, and heart disease. Therefore, his research helps understand why the population is becoming so obese, and furthermore, how we can prevent obesity in the future.

Dr. Rodeheffer's education-centric research lab is dominated by "dedicated graduate students and overachieving undergraduates." Therefore, in a collaborative effort, he and his team are making strides in uncovering why obesity has become so prevalent in modern society. Because obesity and metabolic disease arise from complicated physiological interactions, his team is especially dedicated to understanding how fat mass is regulated within the body. Although this approach is time consuming and costly, it yields more relevant discoveries than solely studying isolated cells outside the body, which has been the dominant method over the last several decades. In fact, in the last few years, Dr. Rodeheffer and his team have developed a host of novel methods and materials for studying fat in the body that they are now applying to understand how...

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AFFILIATION



Yale University

EDUCATION

- B.S., 1997 , University of Washington
- Ph.D., 2002 , Emory University

AWARDS

- American Diabetes Junior Faculty Award
- Helmholtz Young Investigator Diabetes Award Nominee

RESEARCH AREAS

Health & Wellness, Wellness, Aging Research

FUNDING REQUEST

Your contributions will support the continued research of Dr. Matt Rodeheffer, as he studies why we as a population have become so obese. Donations will fund the necessary \$400K/year required for personnel, \$288K/year for reagent costs, and \$42K/year required for equipment. In choosing to donate, you will help understand why people have become more obese, and therefore, how we might be able to combat the obesity epidemic.

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