



## Applied nutritional investigation

# Role of the variant in adiponectin gene rs266729 on weight loss and cardiovascular risk factors after a hypocaloric diet with the Mediterranean pattern

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## ABSTRACT

**Objectives:** The role of *ADIPOQ* gene variants on weight loss after a dietary intervention remain unclear. The aim of this study was to analyze the effects of rs266729 of the *ADIPOQ* gene on cardiovascular risk factors and adiposity parameters after adherence to a Mediterranean-type hypocaloric diet.

**Method:** Eighty-three obese patients were studied before and after 12 wk on a Mediterranean-type hypocaloric diet. Anthropometric parameters and biochemical profiles were measured. The variant of *ADIPOQ* gene rs266729 was assessed at basal time by polymerase chain reaction at real time.

**Results:** Two genotype groups were realized (CC versus CG+GG). The final genotype distribution was 48 patients CC (57.8%), 30 patients CG (36.2%) and 5 patients GG (6%). After dietary intervention with a moderate calorie restriction and in both genotypes, body mass index (BMI), weight, fat mass, systolic blood pressure, and waist circumference decreased. After dietary intervention and in non-G allele carriers (CC versus CG+GG), glucose ( $\delta$ :  $-6.2 \pm 1.1$  versus  $-2.9 \pm 1.2$  mg/dL;  $P=0.02$ ), total cholesterol ( $\delta$ :  $-15.2 \pm 3.1$  versus  $-3.4 \pm 2$  mg/dL;  $P=0.02$ ), low-density lipoprotein cholesterol ( $\delta$ ,  $-14.9 \pm 3.1$  versus  $-4.9 \pm 1.2$  mg/dL;  $P=0.01$ ), insulin levels ( $\delta$ ,  $-4 \pm 0.6$  versus  $0.7 \pm 0.3$  UI/L;  $P=0.01$ ), homeostasis model assessment for insulin resistance ( $\delta$ ,  $-1.6 \pm 0.4$  versus  $-0.2 \pm 0.4$  units;  $P=0.01$ ), and adiponectin ( $\delta$ ,  $-10.4 \pm 3.1$  versus  $-1.3 \pm 1.0$  ng/dL;  $P=0.01$ ) improved.

**Conclusion:** After weight loss, the CC genotype of *ADIPOQ* gene variant (rs266729) is associated with increases in adiponectin levels and decreases of low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, insulin and homeostasis model assessment for insulin resistance after weight loss.

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## Introduction

Adiponectin is an adipose-derived protein that is known to regulate insulin sensitivity and glucose metabolism. This adipokine has been linked with metabolic syndrome (MetS) and obesity [1]. Adiponectin is encoded by the adiponectin C1 Q and collagen domain-containing (*ADIPOQ*) gene, which is located on chromosome 3 q27. A common single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP), rs266729 (–11,377 C>G), in the proximal promoter region of the

*ADIPOQ* gene has drawn much attention. Data in the literature indicates that *ADIPOQ* rs266729 polymorphism functionally regulates adiponectin promoter activity and its protein levels [2,3]. Moreover, *ADIPOQ* rs266729 has been found to be correlated with circulating adiponectin levels in obesity and diabetes [4,5]. This *ADIPOQ* variant has been identified to be associated with high body mass index, insulin resistance, and diabetic nephropathy [6–8].

In humans, weight reduction increases serum adiponectin levels [9], and in animal models, administration of recombinant adiponectin produces an increase of fatty acid oxidation and weight loss [10]. The Finnish Diabetes Prevention Study, conducted with white adults, showed that the genetic variant of 82 *ADIPOQ* gene rs266729 contributes to variations in body weight and serum adiponectin concentrations [11] and modifies the risk for developing type 2 diabetes mellitus. Hsiao et al. [12] showed that this genetic variant may contribute to weight reduction in response to

DAL and RA designed the study and conducted the statistical analysis. OI, EG, and JLL were responsible for the anthropometric evaluation and control of dietary intake. DP was responsible for the biochemical evaluation and genotyping. The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

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sibutramine therapy in obese patients. A recent study [13] demonstrated that the C allele of this genetic variant is a predictor of better lipid profiles after bariatric surgery in morbid obese patients.

As far as we know, no study has yet evaluated the effect of this genetic variant on weight loss in an intervention with a hypocaloric diet. The aim of the present study was to analyze the effects of rs266729 of the *ADIPOQ* gene on cardiovascular risk factors, serum adipokine levels, and adiposity parameters after a hypocaloric Mediterranean-type diet in obese individuals.

## Participants and methods

### Participants and clinical investigation

For this trial, 83 unrelated obese patients were recruited from primary care physician offices from an urban area of Castilla y Leon (northwest Spain). Data of these patients were collected at the beginning and after 12 wk of dietary treatment and all participants provided written informed consent. The Ethics Committee (HCUVA Committee 04/2017) approved the study and the study was in accordance with the guidelines laid down in the Declaration of Helsinki. All recruited patients fulfilled the following inclusion criteria: between 20 and 70 y of age and had a body mass index (BMI)  $\geq 30$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>. Individuals with a history of cardiovascular disease, thyroid disease, renal or hepatic disorders, alcoholism, or malignant tumor and who were receiving medications known to influence lipid levels (hormonal therapy, glucocorticoids, and anti-inflammatory drugs) within the 6 mo before the study were excluded.

Data on anthropometric parameters (weight, height, BMI, waist circumference [WC], fat mass [FM] by impedance) and blood pressure were recorded. Blood samples were collected in EDTA-treated and plain tubes after a 12-h overnight fast for analysis of insulin, total cholesterol (TC), low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C), triacylglycerols (TGs), and serum adipokine levels (leptin, total adiponectin, and resistin). The variant of *ADIPOQ* gene was assessed at basal time by real-time polymerase chain reaction. The first endpoint was body weight loss after 12 wk versus baseline. The second endpoints were cardiovascular risk factors and serum adipokine changes.

### Dietary intervention

The participants in this interventional study received individualized counseling on diet and exercise. The dietary intervention was a hypocaloric Mediterranean-type diet of fruits, vegetables, fish, and whole grains, that limited unhealthy fats (restricting 500 daily calories to the usual intake) over a 12-wk period. The percentage of macronutrients was 52% carbohydrates, 25% lipids, and 23% proteins. Percentage of fats was 50.6% monounsaturated fats, 37.5% saturated fats, and 11.9% polyunsaturated fats. All participants had two individual sessions (60 min with diet sheets and sample menu plans) with the dietitian at the start of the trial to explain the diet and resolve any questions. The dietitian assessed adherence to the diet every 7 d with a phone call. All enrolled participants received instruction to record their daily dietary intake for 4 d including a weekend day. Records were analyzed with a computer-based data evaluation system (Dietosource, Geneva, Swiss). National composition food tables were used as reference [14]. The exercise program consisted of an aerobic exercise at least three times per week (60 min each) and was recorded by the patient with a self-reported questionnaire.

### Biochemical and adipokine assays

Plasma glucose levels were determined by using an automated glucose oxidase method (Glucose analyser 2, Beckman Instruments, Fullerton, CA, USA). Insulin was determined by RIA (RIA Diagnostic Corporation, Los Angeles, CA, USA) with a sensitivity of 0.5 mUI/L (normal range 0.5–30 mUI/L) [15] and the homeostasis model assessment for insulin resistance (HOMA-IR) was calculated using these values [16]. Serum TC and TG concentrations were determined by enzymatic colorimetric assay (Technicon Instruments, Ltd., New York, NY, USA), whereas HDL-C was determined enzymatically in the supernatant after precipitation of other lipoproteins with dextran sulphate magnesium. LDL-C was calculated using Friedewald formula [17]. Resistin was measured by enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA; Biovendor Laboratory, Inc., Brno, Czech Republic) with a sensitivity of 0.2 ng/mL (normal range 4–12 ng/mL) [18]. Adiponectin was measured by ELISA (R&D systems, Inc., Minneapolis, MN, USA) with a sensitivity of 0.246 ng/mL (normal range 8.65–21.43 ng/mL) [19]. Leptin was measured by ELISA (Diagnostic Systems Laboratories, Inc., Webster, TX, USA) with a sensitivity of 0.05 ng/mL (normal range 10–100 ng/mL) [20].

### Genotyping the *ADIPOQ* gene

Oligonucleotide primers and probes were designed with the Beacon Designer 5.0 (Premier Biosoft International, Los Angeles, CA, USA). The polymerase chain reaction was carried out with 50 ng of genomic DNA, 0.5  $\mu$ L of each oligonucleotide primer (primer forward: 5'-CGTTGGATGATGTGTGGCTTGAAGAACC-3' and reverse 5'-ACGTTGGATGCAACATTCACACCTTGGAC-3' in a 2  $\mu$ L final volume (Termociclador Life Technologies, Los Angeles, CA, USA). DNA was denatured at 90°C for 2 min and followed by 50 cycles of denaturation at 90°C for 20s, and annealing at 56.1°C for 50s. The polymerase chain reaction was run in a 25  $\mu$ L final volume containing 10.5  $\mu$ L of IQTM Supermix (Bio-Rad, Hercules, CA, USA) with hot start Taq DNA polymerase Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium, which was assessed with a statistical test ( $\chi^2$ ) to compare the expected and observed counts. The variant was in Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium ( $P=0.36$ ).

### Blood pressure determination and adiposity parameters

Blood pressure was measured twice after a 10-min rest with a random zero mercury sphygmomanometer (Omrom, Los Angeles, CA, USA) and averaged. Weight and height were measured with an electrical scale (Omrom) and a telescopic height measuring instrument (Omrom). Body weight was measured in the morning with participants minimally unclothed and not wearing shoes. BMI was calculated as body weight (in kg) divided by height (in m<sup>2</sup>). WC was measured with a flexible nonstretchable measuring tape (Type SECA, SECA, Birmingham, UK). Bioimpedance was used to determine body composition with an accuracy of 5 g (EFG, Akern, Italy) [21].

### Statistical analysis

All data were analyzed using SPSS version 19 software package (SPSS Inc. Chicago, IL, USA). Sample size was calculated to detect differences  $>2$  kg in body weight loss with 90% power and 5% significance ( $n=80$ ). The Kolmogorov–Smirnov test was used to determine variable distribution. The results were expressed as average  $\pm$  SD. Numerical variables with normal distribution were analyzed with a two-tailed Student's *t* test. Non-parametric

variables were analyzed with the Mann–Whitney's U test. Categorical variables were analyzed with the  $\chi^2$  test, with Yates correction as necessary, and Fisher's test. The statistical analysis to evaluate the gene–diet interaction was a univariate analysis of covariance. Multiple regression analysis (stepwise method) was used to analyze relationship of this gene variant as the independent variable and the changes in adiposity and cardiovascular risk markers as the dependent variable. A  $\chi^2$  test was used to evaluate the Hardy–Weinberg equilibrium. All analysis were performed under a dominant genetic model with rs266729 G allele as the risk allele (GG + GC versus CC).  $P < 0.05$  was considered significant.

## Results

Eighty-three obese individuals were recruited. The mean age was  $46.2 \pm 5.1$  y (range 26–68 y) and the average BMI  $34.1 \pm 3.9$  kg/m<sup>2</sup> (range 31.2–39.3 kg/m<sup>2</sup>). There were 63 women (75.9%) and 20 men (24.1%). The final genotype distribution was 48 patients CC (57.8%), 30 patients CG (36.2%), and 5 patient GG (6%). Sex distribution was similar in all genotype groups (CC: 26.1% men versus 73.9% women; CG: 33.3% men versus 66.7% women; and GG: 20% men versus 80% women). The average age was similar in the three genotype groups (CC  $46.4 \pm 4$  y; CG  $45.9 \pm 5.8$  y; GG  $46.2 \pm 4.3$  y; not significant).

Applying an analysis with a dominant model, no statistical association was found between rs266729 G- allele for either blood pressure or anthropometric parameters (BMI, weight, FM, and WC; Table 1). After dietary intervention with a moderate calorie restriction and in patients with both genotypes (CC versus CG + GG), BMI ( $\delta$ ,  $-0.5 \pm 0.2$  versus  $-0.4 \pm 0.1$  kg/m<sup>2</sup>;  $P=0.12$ ), weight ( $\delta$ ,  $-3.4 \pm 2.2$  versus  $-3.5 \pm 2.1$  kg;  $P=0.23$ ), FM ( $\delta$ ,  $-1.6 \pm 1.1$  versus  $-2 \pm 1$  kg;  $P=0.36$ ) and WC ( $\delta$ ,  $-5.4 \pm 1.6$  versus  $-5.1 \pm 1.9$  cm;  $P=0.39$ ) decreased. The improvement of all anthropometric parameters was statistically significant in both genotype groups without differences between them. Systolic blood pressure showed a statistical decrease in both genotype groups after dietary intervention ( $\delta$ ,  $-5.7 \pm 2.1$  versus  $-5.1 \pm 1.4$  mm Hg;  $P=0.31$ ). This

improvement was similar in both genotype groups. Biochemical characteristics according to genotype are shown in Table 2.

After dietary intervention and in non-G allele carriers (CC versus CG + GG), glucose ( $\delta$ ;  $-6.2 \pm 1.1$  versus  $-2.9 \pm 1.2$  mg/dL;  $P=0.02$ ), TC ( $\delta$ ,  $-15.2 \pm 3.1$  versus  $-3.4 \pm 2$  mg/dL;  $P=0.02$ ), LDL-C ( $\delta$ ,  $-14.9 \pm 3.1$  versus  $-4.9 \pm 1.2$  mg/dL;  $P=0.01$ ), insulin levels ( $\delta$ ,  $-4 \pm 0.6$  versus  $0.7 \pm 0.3$  U/L;  $P=0.01$ ), and HOMA-IR ( $\delta$ :  $-1.6 \pm 0.4$  versus  $-0.2 \pm 0.4$  units;  $P=0.01$ ) improved. Moreover, these parameters remained unchanged in G allele carriers.

Table 3 shows changes of serum adipokines. Basal and post-treatment adiponectin levels were higher in non-G allele carriers than in G allele carriers. After dietary intervention and in non-G allele carriers (CC versus CG + GG), serum adiponectin ( $\delta$ ,  $10.4 \pm 3.1$  ng/dL versus  $-1.3 \pm 10$  ng/dL;  $P=0.01$ ) increased. In addition, patients with both genotypes (CC versus CG + GG) showed a significant decrease in leptin levels ( $\delta$ ,  $-17.2 \pm 6.1$  versus  $-2 \pm 7.1$  ng/dL;  $P=0.18$ ). The improvement of leptin was similar in both genotype groups. Resistin levels remained unchanged after dietary intervention.

In the multiple regression analysis adjusted by age and sex, the rs266729 genotype remained in each model with the following dependent variables: glucose levels ( $\beta$ , 2.3 mg/dL; 95% confidence interval [CI], 1.9–3.5), insulin levels ( $\beta$ , 4.2 U/L; 95% CI, 1.8 to –6.9), TC mg/dL ( $\beta$ , 4.4 mg/dL; 95% CI, 1.9–7.1), LDL-C ( $\beta$ , 3 mg/dL; 95% CI, 1.2–6.6), HOMA-IR ( $\beta$ , 7.1 units; 95% CI, 2.1–13.1), and adiponectin levels ( $\beta$ , 7.1 ng/dL; 95% CI, 2.8–18.1).

## Discussion

To our knowledge this is the first study to evaluate whether the ADIPOQ variant rs266729 is significantly associated with weight decrease, modification of cardiovascular risk factors, and adiponectin levels after moderate calorie restriction with a Mediterranean-type diet among obese individuals. Non-G allele carriers showed a better response in glucose, HOMA-IR, insulin, TC, LDL-C, and adiponectin levels than G-allele carriers after intervention. In addition, non-G allele carriers had higher adiponectin levels than G allele carriers.

**Table 1**  
Anthropometric parameters and blood pressure (mean  $\pm$  SD)

Parameters	N = 83					
	CC (n = 48)			CG + GG (n = 35)		
	Basal	3 mo	P-value time genotype genotype $\times$ time	Basal	3 mo	P-value time genotype genotype $\times$ time
BMI	34.2 $\pm$ 2.1	33.7 $\pm$ 4.2*	0.005 0.42 0.01	34 $\pm$ 5.3	33.6 $\pm$ 4.9*	0.004 0.37 0.01
Weight (kg)	86.7 $\pm$ 9.6	83.3 $\pm$ 9*	0.004 0.41 0.001	86.9 $\pm$ 9.1	83.4 $\pm$ 6.1*	0.006 0.39 0.002
Fat mass (kg)	37.6 $\pm$ 11.2	35.3 $\pm$ 8.1*	0.005 0.36 0.001	37.8 $\pm$ 8.0	35.8 $\pm$ 7.1*	0.005 0.46 0.002
WC (cm)	106.5 $\pm$ 15.1	101.1 $\pm$ 8.3*	0.02 0.39 0.02	108.2 $\pm$ 6.1	103.1 $\pm$ 8*	0.03 0.54 0.02
SBP (mm Hg)	129.8 $\pm$ 8.2	124.1 $\pm$ 4.1*	0.02 0.21 0.04	128.9 $\pm$ 7.1	123.9 $\pm$ 6.2*	0.03 0.34 $P=0.04$
DBP (mm Hg)	80.1 $\pm$ 7.1	82.4 $\pm$ 3.1	0.49 0.56 0.63	79.9 $\pm$ 6.1	80.9 $\pm$ 7.1	0.50 0.61 0.68

BMI, body mass index DBP, diastolic blood pressure; SBP, systolic blood pressure; WC, waist circumference.

No statistical differences between genotype groups.

\*Statistical differences  $P < 0.05$ , in each genotype group (BMI, weight, fat mass, WC, SBP).

**Table 2**  
Biochemical parameters (mean  $\pm$  SD)

	Diet I (N = 83)					
	CC (n = 48)			CG + GG (n = 35)		
	Basal	3 mo	P-value time genotype genotype $\times$ time	Basal	3 mo	P-value time genotype genotype $\times$ time
Glucose (mg/dL)	101.3 $\pm$ 10.1	95.1 $\pm$ 7.1*	0.02 0.53 0.03	98.9 $\pm$ 9	95.9 $\pm$ 7	0.15 0.56 0.27
Total cholesterol (mg/dL)	202.9 $\pm$ 8.7	187.7 $\pm$ 11.2*	0.01 0.33 0.02	199.9 $\pm$ 8.3	195.5 $\pm$ 9.2	0.44 0.51 0.12
LDL cholesterol (mg/dL)	133.1 $\pm$ 9.3	118.3 $\pm$ 7.9*	0.04 0.36 0.03	130.3 $\pm$ 8.1	125.9 $\pm$ 9.9	0.61 0.89 0.35
HDL cholesterol (mg/dL)	50.1 $\pm$ 4.1	49.9 $\pm$ 5	0.44 0.70 0.67	51.2 $\pm$ 5	52 $\pm$ 5.1	0.21 0.67 0.55
Triacylglycerols (mg/dL)	116.6 $\pm$ 18.1	115.2 $\pm$ 13.2	0.28 0.61 0.32	117.1 $\pm$ 13.2	16.5 $\pm$ 23.2	0.22 0.61 0.21
Insulin (mU/L)	15.3 $\pm$ 7	11.3 $\pm$ 5*	0.009 0.11 0.02	15.9 $\pm$ 6	15.2 $\pm$ 6.1	0.18 0.39 0.31
HOMA-IR	4 $\pm$ 2	2.4 $\pm$ 1.8*	0.03 0.13 0.04	4.1 $\pm$ 2.1	3.9 $\pm$ 2.4	0.15 0.36 0.37

HDL, high-density lipoprotein; HOMA-IR, homeostasis model assessment of insulin resistance; LDL, low-density lipoprotein.

No statistical differences between genotype groups.

\*Statistical differences  $P < 0.05$ , in each genotype group (glucose, total cholesterol, LDL cholesterol, insulin, HOMA-IR).

Some meta-analysis have evaluated the association between this SNP on the *ADIPOQ* gene and diabetes mellitus, obesity, and MetS [22,23]; however, there is a lack of information about the influence of weight loss on this association in interventional designs. In a recent analysis of the Finnish Diabetes Prevention Program [11], a randomized controlled multicenter study with a dietary intervention of reduction in the intake of total fat <30%, saturated fat to <10% of daily energy, and an increase of dietary fiber to  $\geq 15$  g/1000 kcal, the authors showed that the rs266729 G allele was associated with higher weight after a 4-y follow-up and C allele was associated with an increased risk for developing type 2 diabetes mellitus. It appears that the G allele, associated with higher posttreatment body weight and lower diabetes mellitus, of this *ADIPOQ* variant on metabolic parameters is independent of its effect on body weight, as our findings show.

An interventional study [12] with sibutramine resulted in significantly greater reduction of body weight for *ADIPOQ* rs266729 CC genotype compared with the placebo group during a 12-wk intervention trial. This study included non-Caucasian patients—44 in the placebo group and 87 in the sibutramine group with 10 mg daily. The potential mechanisms to explain the dependency of the sibutramine effect between this genetic variant and body weight remain unknown. *ADIPOQ* encodes adiponectin expressed exclusively in both brown and fat adipose tissues [24]. Recent findings have indicated that G allele alters the sequence for one transcriptional stimulatory protein binding site and reduces adiponectin promoter activity [3]. One study has demonstrated that there was an association between adiponectin and adipose tissue mass and have suggested that adiponectin secretion and circulating levels were inversely proportional to body fat [25]. It is possible that an

**Table 3**  
Serum adipokine levels (mean  $\pm$  SD)

	Diet I (N = 83)					
	CC (n = 48)			CG + GG (n = 45)		
	Basal	3 mo	P-value time genotype genotype $\times$ time	Basal	3 mo	P-value time genotype genotype $\times$ time
Resistin (ng/dL)	4 $\pm$ 1.9	4.2 $\pm$ 3	0.75 0.89 0.26	3.9 $\pm$ 2	3.7 $\pm$ 1.8	0.55 0.69 0.19
Adiponectin (ng/dL)	28.7 $\pm$ 5.1	39.1 $\pm$ 4.5*	0.001 0.16 0.03	18.5 $\pm$ 5 <sup>†</sup>	17.2 $\pm$ 4.1 <sup>†</sup>	0.61 0.80 0.23
Leptin (ng/dL)	92.3 $\pm$ 20.6	75.1 $\pm$ 10.5*	0.03 0.18 0.01	84.1 $\pm$ 13.1	64.1 $\pm$ 9*	0.02 0.21 0.03

\*Statistical differences  $P < 0.05$ , in each genotype group (adiponectin, leptin).

<sup>†</sup>Statistical differences  $P < 0.05$  between genotype group (adiponectin).

unknown molecular mechanism relates this genetic variant of the *ADIPOQ* gene with adipogenesis.

One interventional study of 60 extremely obese patients who were evaluated 32 mo after bariatric surgery (Roux Y gastroenterostomy) [13] demonstrated that individuals with C allele were more prone to show a reduction in LDL-C levels after surgery (–43%) than G allele carriers (–18%). The decrease in LDL-C in this study was higher than our findings, possibly owing to greater weight loss after bariatric surgery (35%) than in our work with nutritional intervention (4%). However, the result was in the same direction as patients carrying the G allele did not demonstrate decreases in LDL-C levels. Weight loss was similar in both genotypes after bariatric surgery, as in our study, and similarly there were no genotype differences in the modifications of resistin and leptin levels.

Another hypothesis that might explain this association is a potential gene–nutrient interaction. Fergusson et al. [26] demonstrated that G allele for this SNP was identified as having degrees of insulin resistance, as measured by HOMA-IR, and was highly responsive to differences in plasma saturated fatty acids. In another study [27], a gene–nutrient interaction was found between the rs266729 variant of the *ADIPOQ* gene and the percentage of energy derived from fat in the diet for the development of obesity. With previous findings, we can speculate that it is indeed likely that fatty acids modulate the involvement of the adiponectin gene and its receptors in downstream pathways. In the present study, we manipulated dietary fatty acids with a Mediterranean-type diet, which might explain our relevant results.

The strength of the present study was in its design as an interventional controlled trial with high adherence and a practical relevance to the general population. Limitations included the recruitment of the obese individuals without established cardiovascular disease. We only analysed one SNP of the *ADIPOQ* gene, so other genetic variants might be related to metabolic parameters. Further, there were many uncontrolled factors that could influence the results (epigenetic, hormonal status, and level of physical activity). Also, the lack of a control group without diet might be a bias. Finally, the self-reported dietary intake was not reliable and might include bias of under- or overreporting.

## Conclusion

The CC genotype of *ADIPOQ* gene variant (rs266729) is associated with increases in adiponectin levels and decreases of LDL-C, insulin, and HOMA-IR after weight loss. In addition G allele carriers demonstrated lower levels of adiponectin than non-G allele carriers.

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