

# DEPRESSIVE SYMPTOMS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH HIGHER LEVELS OF PEAK PLASMA GLUCOSE CONCENTRATIONS IN HISPANICS WITH METABOLIC SYNDROME.

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# Context



# Objective

- To determine if impaired glucose metabolism is associated with depressive symptoms in patients with metabolic syndrome.

# Background

- Individuals with type-2 diabetes have an increased prevalence of depression.
- The metabolic syndrome
  - ❖ Constellation of metabolic abnormalities associated with an elevated risk for type-2 diabetes and CVD.
  - ❖ Highly prevalent in Hispanics

# Rationale for the Present Study

- According to DeFronzo and Abdul-Ghani (2009) peak 60 min. plasma glucose on an oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT) is associated with risk for future type-2 diabetes.
- The 60 min. plasma concentration correlates better than either fasting or 2-h plasma glucose concentrations with:
  - ❖ B-cell function
  - ❖ indices of insulin secretion and resistance

# Research Question

- Is there an association between depressive symptoms and metabolic abnormalities (i.e., elevated 60 min. peak in OGTT) in patients with metabolic syndrome?

# Hypotheses

- Severity of depressive symptoms will be associated with higher peak 60-min. plasma glucose concentrations.
- The relationship between depressive symptoms and poor glucose handling will hold after accounting for sociodemographic factors, health behaviors, and fasting plasma glucose concentration.

# Methods

- The “Biobehavioral Bases & Management of Metabolic Syndrome” project (Goldberg and Schneiderman, PIs)
- Participants recruited from community clinics in Miami
- Comprehensive biological and psychosocial baseline assessment



# Participants

- 115 Hispanic adults with  $\geq 3$  features of the NCEP ATP-III metabolic syndrome and a non-diabetic OGTT who completed the baseline assessment.

# Characteristics of the Sample

	Mean (SD) / (%)
Age (years)	51.5 (8.1)
Gender Female (%)	52.5
BDI Total score	10.6 (9.3)
Using medication for depression (%)	12.7
Abdominal obesity above criterion	93.2 %
Weight (kg)	87.0 (12.4)
BMI (Kg/m <sup>2</sup> )	32.4 (3.7)
Fasting Insulin ( $\mu$ /mL)	16.1 (11.2)
Fasting Glucose (mg/dL.)	87.1 (10.2)
HOMA_IR (units)	3.1 (1.6)
Education: % < High school	57.6
Smoking (%)	44.9
Physical Activity self report (min/day)	66.1 (129.5)

# Measures

- Oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT). Following a 12 hour fast blood was drawn at time 0. Blood specimens were obtained at 30 min, 60 min, and 120 min. after participants ingested a 75-g oral glucose load and assayed for plasma glucose and serum insulin concentrations.
- Beck Depression Inventory (BDI). Severity of depressive symptoms was assessed using the 21-item BDI. The BDI was designed to measure depressive symptomatology with the total score significantly associated with clinical measures of depression (Brown et al, 1995).

# Statistical Analyses

- ❑ Multivariate linear regression models were fit to peak 60-min plasma glucose with severity of depressive symptoms as the independent variable. BDI scores were included as a continuous variable on the basis of evaluating residuals for each model.
- ❑ The primary model controlled for age, gender, BMI, antidepressant medication use, physical activity, smoking and fasting glucose.

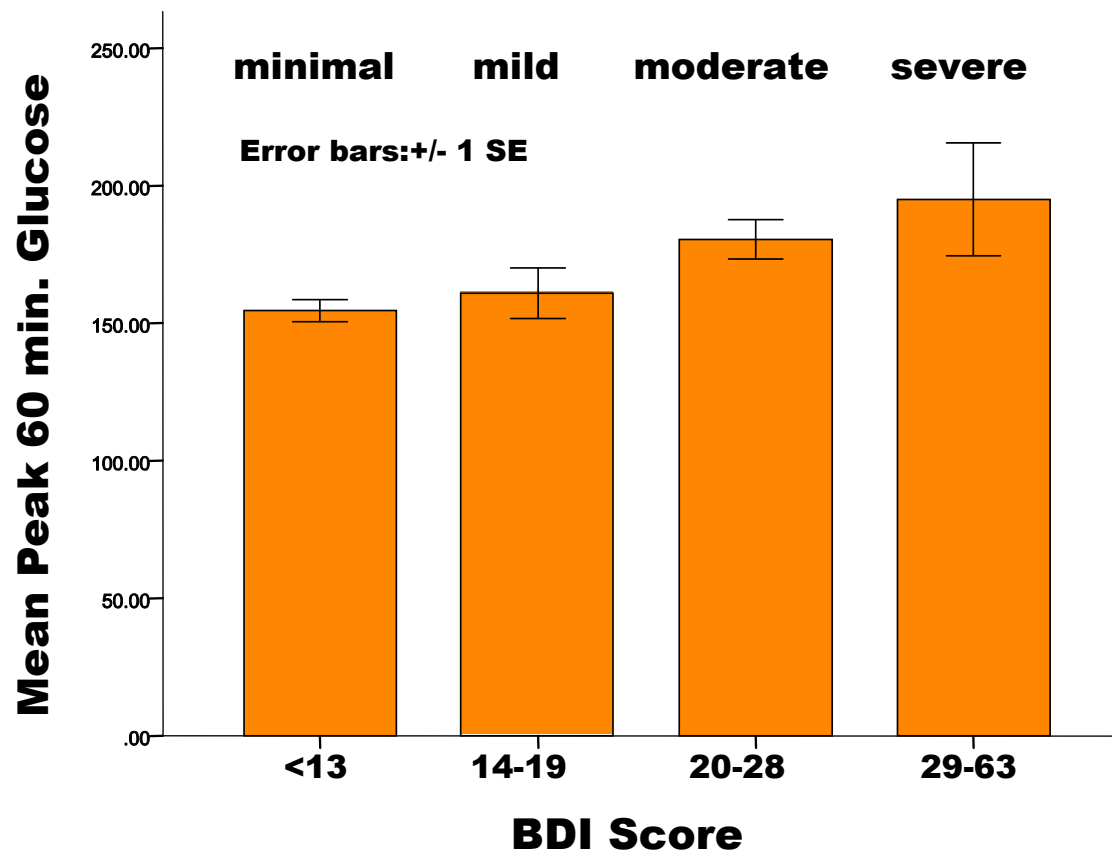
\*Analyses were conducted using SPSS

## Results: Primary Model

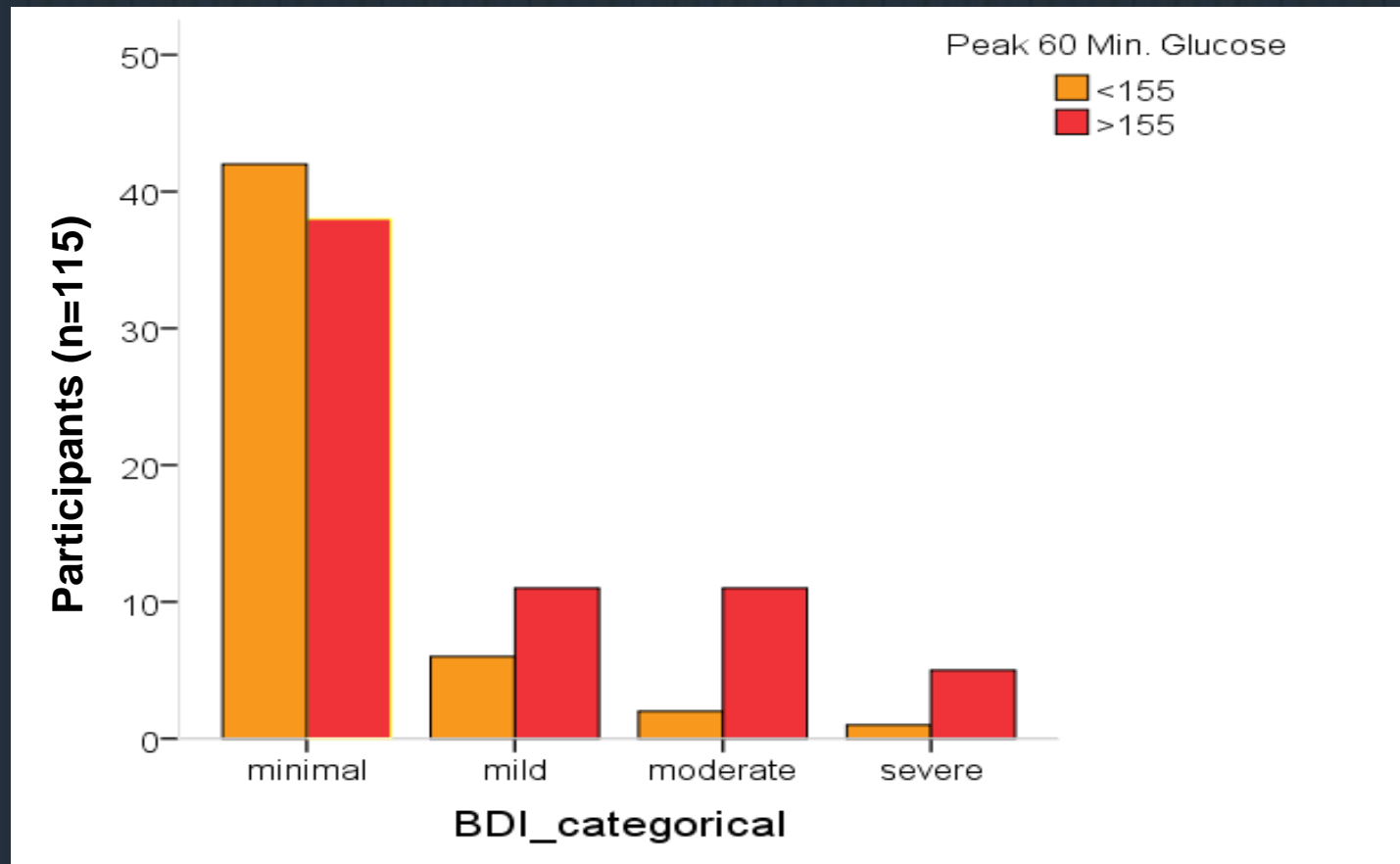
### Peak 60-min Plasma Glucose

	<i>B</i> (SE)	$\beta$	$R^2$	$\Delta$ $R^2$	<i>t</i> (113)
<b>BDI Total Score</b>	1.08 (.39)	.26	.30	.05	2.75**
<b>Age</b>	.85 (.40)	.18	.30	.06	2.12*
<b>Gender (F&lt; M)</b>	-.84 (6.56)	-.01	.30	.00	-.13
<b>BMI (Kg/m<sup>2</sup>)</b>	.95 (.85)	.10	.30	.04	1.12
<b>Antidepressant</b>	-6.72 (10.21)	-.06	.30	.00	-.66
<b>Physical activity</b>	11.33 (6.43)	.15	.30	.01	1.76
<b>Smoking</b>	6.61 (6.25)	.09	.30	.01	1.06
<b>Fasting Glucose</b>	1.20 (.31)	.33	.30	.13	3.82**

# Depression and Mean Peak Plasma Glucose



# Depression and Peak Plasma Glucose (Based on Risk for Type-2 Diabetes)



# Cognitive vs. Somatic BDI Subscales

- Both Cognitive and Somatic Subscales were each related to peak 60-min plasma glucose values ( $p < .01$ ) when physical activity and smoking were included as covariates.



# Discussion

- Consistent with findings from Abdul-Ghani and DeFronzo (2009) we found a correlation between peak 60 min. plasma glucose concentration and depressive symptoms after controlling for covariates.
  - ❖ Neither fasting nor 2-h plasma glucose concentration were related to depressive symptoms.

# Limitations of Present Study

- Cross-sectional data
  - ❖ Directionality between glucose dysregulation and depressive symptoms require longitudinal study
- Self-report vs. objective measures of depression
  - ❖ Present study looked at depressive symptoms rather than a diagnosis of depression

# Future Directions

- Longitudinal studies are needed to determine in subjects with metabolic syndrome whether:
  - a) Depression leads to glucose dysregulation
  - b) Glucose dysregulation leads to depression
  - c) Progression from impaired glucose tolerance to type-2 diabetes is moderated by depression
- Explore plausible biological mechanisms
  - a) HPA axis dysregulation (i.e., elevated cortisol)
  - b) Inflammation (elevated pro-inflammatory cytokines)

# Conclusions

- ❑ This study confirms the association between depressive symptoms and impaired glucose metabolism in Hispanics with metabolic syndrome .
- ❑ Results show that depressive symptoms and peak plasma glucose concentration are related in individuals who are already at an increased risk for developing type-2 diabetes.
- ❑ Implications of this findings suggests the importance of developing interventions that target depressive symptoms in people with metabolic syndrome.



THANK YOU!