

SRT1720, was shown to extend both mean and maximal lifespan of mice fed a standard diet.¹⁰⁸ The lifespan extension caused by SRT2104 was accompanied by enhanced motor coordination and performance, bone mineral density, insulin sensitivity, and decreased inflammation in the treated mice.¹⁰⁸ Further studies will need to be carried out on synthetic STACs to see if their effects are conserved in higher organisms such as non-human primates.

11.4.2 Obesity, Metabolism, and Type II Diabetes

One of the most well studied effects of STACs on healthspan is their ability to regulate metabolic parameters and type II diabetes.¹⁵ In mice fed a high-fat diet, dietary supplementation with resveratrol not only reduces the risk by death by 31% but also protects against obesity, fatty liver disease, and insulin resistance.^{15,109} In addition, resveratrol reverses transcriptional changes associated with HFD feeding, and improves mitochondrial function by increasing the activity of AMPK and PGC1 α , two key regulators of mitochondrial biogenesis.¹⁰⁵ The beneficial effects of resveratrol treatment in the HFD model appear to depend on both SIRT1 and AMPK, a kinase that is activated by resveratrol in a dose-dependent manner.¹⁰⁵ Studies in conditional SIRT1 knockout mice have demonstrated that a low dose of resveratrol (~ 24 mg kg⁻¹) stimulates AMPK *via* SIRT1-dependent deacetylation of LKB1, while at higher doses (~ 240 mg kg⁻¹) AMPK is activated in a SIRT1-independent manner.¹¹⁰

The effects of resveratrol on metabolism and obesity have also been examined in rhesus monkeys and humans.²⁷ In monkeys fed a high fat (HF)/high sucrose (HS) diet that mimics the typical Western diet, supplementation with resveratrol was shown to improve adipose insulin signaling and decrease inflammation in the adipose tissue.¹¹¹ Subsequent studies have demonstrated that resveratrol also decreases arterial wall inflammation and stiffening,¹¹² improves muscle function,¹¹³ and confers neuroprotection in monkeys fed a HF/HS diet.¹¹⁴ In humans, SRT501, a proprietary formulation of resveratrol, has been shown to improve glucose tolerance in type II diabetes.¹¹⁵ Moreover, 30 day supplementation with resveratrol (150 mg day⁻¹ resVidaTM) in healthy humans was shown to induce a CR-like phenotype consisting of a decrease in intrahepatic lipids, circulating glucose levels, triglycerides, inflammatory markers, and systolic blood pressure.¹¹⁶ These results have been supported by independent studies demonstrating a therapeutic benefit of resveratrol in patients with type II diabetes¹¹⁵ and nonalcoholic fatty liver disease.¹¹⁷ However, other studies have shown conflicting results. One study reported that 12 week supplementation with 75 mg day⁻¹ of resveratrol in non-obese healthy women did not improve metabolic performance,¹¹⁸ and a more recent clinical trial reported that resveratrol dosed twice daily at 500 mg for 5 weeks had no effect on glucagon-like peptide (GLP-1) secretion, or on glycemic control in type II diabetic patients.¹¹⁹ Further studies will need to be performed in order to resolve the factors underlying these discrepancies.