

Roundtable on Obesity Solutions

BMI and Beyond: Considering Context in Measuring Obesity and its Applications

A First Workshop in the Series



TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2023

This workshop will explore the current science on measures of body composition and body fat distribution with a focus on the strengths and limitations of body mass index (BMI) as a measure of adiposity and health. Presentations will address how BMI is perceived and used globally across different sectors, ethnic groups, cultures, and across the lifespan. The presentations will also explore the utility of BMI as a measure to assess obesity morbidity and mortality, as well as alternative measures to BMI, and their effects on obesity prevention, treatment, and policy. This will be the first workshop in a two-part series, [Exploring the Science on Measures of Body Composition, Body Fat Distribution, and Obesity](#).

10:00 AM **Welcome**
Nicolaas P. Pronk, HealthPartners Institute, Chair of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions

10:05 AM **Session 1 – “Obesity”: Definitions and Perspectives**
Moderator: S. Bryn Austin, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Presenters

- **Edward (Ted) Fischer**, Vanderbilt University
- **Katherine Flegal**, Stanford University
- **Donna Ryan**, Pennington Biomedical Research Center

11:15 AM **Session 2 – Tensions and Perspectives around BMI**
Moderator: Michael G. Knight, The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

Presenters

- **Jamy D. Ard**, Wake Forest School of Medicine
- **Cynthia Ogden**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- **Stacy E. Wright**, University of Florida

12:00 PM **Lunch Break**



12:45 PM **Session 3 – Applications and Uses of BMI, Body Composition, and Body Fat Distribution**

Moderator: W. Scott Butsch, Cleveland Clinic

Presenters

- **Michael D. Jensen**, Mayo Clinic
- **David E. Arterburn**, Kaiser Permanente
- **Alberto Caban-Martinez**, University of Miami
- **Faith Anne Heeren**, University of Florida

2:00 PM **Break**

2:15 PM **Session 4 – Best Ways Going Forward**

Moderator: Nicolaas P. Pronk, HealthPartners Institute, Chair of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions

Panelists

- **S. Bryn Austin**, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- **Craig M. Hales***, U.S. Food and Drug Administration
- **Michael G. Knight**, The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

3:00 PM **Closing Remarks**

Ihuoma Eneli, Nationwide Children’s Hospital, Vice Chair of the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions

3:15 PM **Adjourn**



WORKSHOP PLANNING COMMITTEE

Ihuoma Eneli, M.D., M.S., FAAP (Co-Chair)

Professor of Pediatrics
The Ohio State University
Director of the Center for Healthy Weight and Nutrition
Division of Ambulatory Pediatrics
Nationwide Children's Hospital

Nicolaas P. Pronk, Ph.D., M.A., FACSM, FAWHP

(Co-Chair)
President
HealthPartners Institute
Chief Science Officer
HealthPartners

S. Bryn Austin, Sc.D.

Professor of Pediatrics
Harvard Medical School
Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

W. Scott Butsch, M.D., M.Sc., FTOS

Director of Obesity Medicine in the Bariatric and Metabolic Institute
Cleveland Clinic

Craig M. Hales, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.*

Clinical Reviewer, Division of Diabetes, Lipid Disorders, and Obesity
Captain, U.S. Public Health Service
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research
Office of New Drugs/Office of Cardiology, Hematology, Endocrinology, and Nephrology
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

Nathaniel Kendall-Taylor, Ph.D.

Chief Executive Officer
FrameWorks Institute

Michael G. Knight, M.D., M.S.H.P., FACP, Dipl. ABOM

Assistant Professor of Medicine
Associate Chief Quality and Population Health Officer
Patient Safety Officer
The George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates

Established in 2014, the Roundtable on Obesity Solutions brings together diverse sectors and voices to solve the obesity crisis. Through meetings, public workshops, publications, and innovation collaboratives, the Roundtable fosters an ongoing dialogue on critical and emerging issues in obesity prevention, treatment, and weight maintenance. The Roundtable explores the science, evidence, evaluation, and innovation efforts that advance progress in reducing the impact of obesity, as well as applies effective equity strategies to address obesity-related disparities. Utilizing a policy, systems, and environmental change lens, the Roundtable explores and advances effective solutions.

The Health and Medicine Division (HMD) is a division of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (the Academies). The Academies are private, nonprofit institutions that provide independent, objective analysis and advice to the nation and conduct other activities to solve complex problems and inform public policy decisions related to science, technology, and medicine. The Academies operate under an 1863 congressional charter to the National Academy of Sciences, signed by President Lincoln. See more at: <http://nationalacademies.org/obesitysolutions>

*Dr. Hales is serving in a personal capacity.