# NADPH Oxidase Effects on Skeletal Muscle Blood Flow and Lactate Following the Administration of a High Carbohydrate Meal in Older Individuals with Overweight/Obesity John C. Decaro, Sequoia D. Ernst, Connor J. Krassel, Paul A. Baker Ph.D, Riley K. Hart, Robert C. Hickner Ph.D

# Background

### ROS

- Reactive oxygen species (ROS) are highly reactive molecules produced by cellular metabolism.
- Chronically elevated levels of ROS have been shown to increase risk for cardiovascular disease.
- Consumption of high-carbohydrate (HC) or high-fat (HF) meals are known to increase concentrations of ROS.

### NADPH Oxidase

NADPH Oxidase (NOX) is a protein in the human vasculature that prior research has shown to be a potent producer of ROS. A drug called apocynin can eliminate ROS produced by NOX in a small area.

## Purpose

**a.)** To determine if NOX-derived ROS impairs skeletal muscle microvascular blood flow at rest and in response to a HC meal.

**b.)** To determine if NOX-derived ROS affects lactate concentrations in the skeletal muscle.

# Methods

#### **Study Design**

• Double blind crossover study design.

#### Participants

• Nine participants (6 females, 3 males,  $67 \pm 6$  years,  $30.9 \pm 2.9$ kg/m<sup>2</sup>, 39  $\pm$  7 % body fat percentage).

#### **Microdialysis Procedures**

• Microdialysis was used to monitor *in-vivo* ROS production, lactate concentration, and microvascular blood flow within skeletal muscle.

### **ROS measurements (Hydrogen Peroxide (H<sub>0</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) and** Superoxide (O<sub>2</sub>)

- The control and apocynin microdialysis probes were perfused with Amplex UltraRed, horseradish peroxidase, and superoxide dismutase to determine levels of ROS. The apocynin probe was additionally perfused with apocynin.
- Because SOD converts H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> into O<sub>2</sub>, ROS was analyzed as the combination of  $H_0$  and  $O_2$  concentrations.

### **Skeletal muscle microvascular blood flow**

• Microvascular blood flow was assessed by perfusing both microdialysis probes with ethanol. The ethanol outflow-to-inflow ratio is *inversely* related to blood flow.

#### **Skeletal Muscle Lactate**

• Skeletal muscle lactate concentrations were measured using the CMA 600 Microdialysis Analyzer.

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