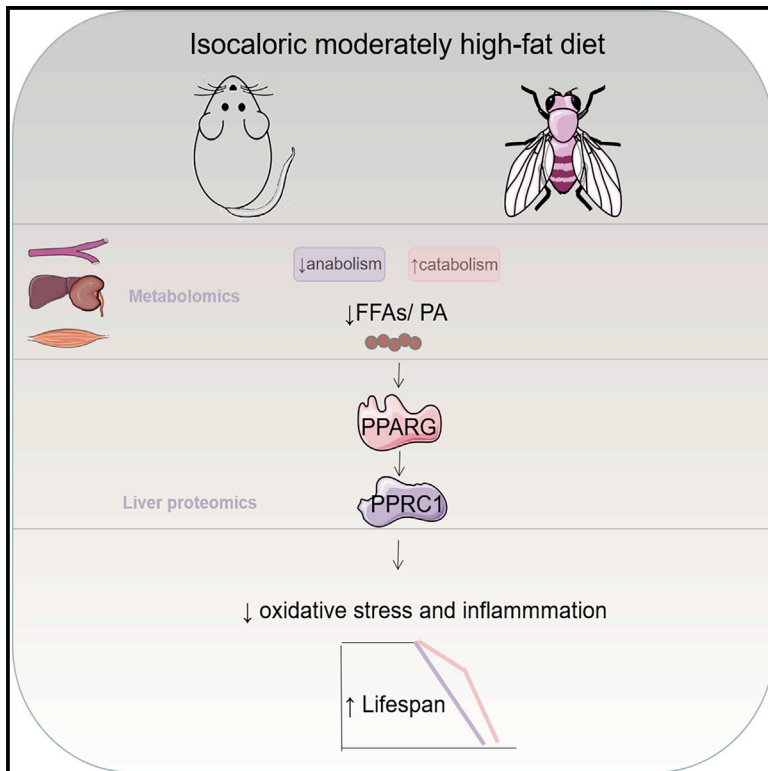


Cell Metabolism

An isocaloric moderately high-fat diet extends lifespan in male rats and *Drosophila*

Graphical abstract



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In Brief

Shi et al. demonstrated that an isocaloric moderately high-fat diet extended lifespan in male rats and *Drosophila* by decreasing free fatty acids in serum and multiple tissues. They also identified and validated a new aging pathway that was regulated by free fatty acids in rats, *Drosophila*, and human.

Highlights

- An IHF extends lifespan in male rats and flies
- The IHF decreases the profiles of FFAs in serum and multiple tissues in rats and flies
- The IHF downregulates anabolism of FFAs and upregulates catabolism of FFAs
- Decreased FFAs upregulate PPRC1, mediating the effect of IHF on lifespan via PPARG



Article

An isocaloric moderately high-fat diet extends lifespan in male rats and *Drosophila*

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Summary

The health effect of dietary fat has been one of the most vexing issues in the field of nutrition. Few animal studies have examined the impact of high-fat diets on lifespan by controlling energy intake. In this study, we found that compared to a normal diet, an isocaloric moderately high-fat diet (IHF) significantly prolonged lifespan by decreasing the profiles of free fatty acids (FFAs) in serum and multiple tissues via downregulating FFA anabolism and upregulating catabolism pathways in rats and flies. Proteomics analysis in rats identified PPRC1 as a key protein that was significantly upregulated by nearly 2-fold by IHF, and among the FFAs, only palmitic acid (PA) was robustly and negatively associated with the expression of PPRC1. Using PPRC1 transgenic RNAi/overexpression flies and *in vitro* experiments, we demonstrated that IHF significantly reduced PA, which could upregulate PPRC1 through PPARG, resulting in improvements in oxidative stress and inflammation and prolonging the lifespan.

Introduction

The health effects of dietary fat have been among the most vexing issues in public health. Although dietary recommendations have universally advocated that energy provided by dietary fat should not exceed 30% for maintaining health, the recent US dietary guideline has canceled the upper limit of fat intake based on evidence showing that replacing total fat with other macronutrients does not lower the risk of cardiometabolic diseases (Mozaffarian and Ludwig, 2015; Siri-Tarino et al., 2010). Most recently, in 2017, pioneering research further pointed out that a high-fat diet decreases the risk of mortality and vascular disease (Dehghan et al., 2017). Indeed, the health effects exerted by dietary fat could be modified by additional factors, such as calories, as the higher energy provision of fat is accompanied by higher energy intake, delineating the complexity of the mixed effect of dietary composition on health (DeClerck, 2016; Piper and Bartke, 2008; Wu et al., 2019). Therefore, to elucidate the health effects of dietary fat, it is necessary to design a rigorous long-term experiment controlling the total energy intake. However, such experiments are difficult and infeasible to perform in humans.

In these circumstances, animal studies controlling energy intake and feeding high fat throughout adulthood may provide important evidence for the health effects of dietary fat.

Currently, few studies have investigated the health effects of dietary fat while controlling the total energy intake; among these, two studies are worth emphasizing. One study adopted an intervention of an isocaloric diet with 60% of the energy from fat (Lundsgaard et al., 2019), and the other study adopted an intervention of an isocaloric diet with 90% of the energy from fat (Roberts et al., 2018), both compared to a control diet. Although both the studies have demonstrated the potential beneficial effects of dietary fat, the durations of the experiments were relatively short, or the intervention doses were extremely high. The long-term health effects of more moderate high-fat percentages under the condition of controlling the total energy intake remain largely unknown. In this study, we performed a series of long-term rat and *Drosophila* experiments with rigorous feeding of an isocaloric moderately high-fat (IHF) diet (35% energy from fat) throughout the life cycle. The energy intake was based on the control group, which was fed a normal diet ad libitum during the experiment. We aimed to elucidate whether and how an IHF diet would impact lifespan.

Our data showed that an IHF diet significantly prolonged lifespan and delayed age-associated physiological declines in both rats and flies. Unexpectedly, an IHF diet significantly decreased free fatty acids (FFAs) in both serum and peripheral tissues, including liver, kidney, and muscle, by downregulating



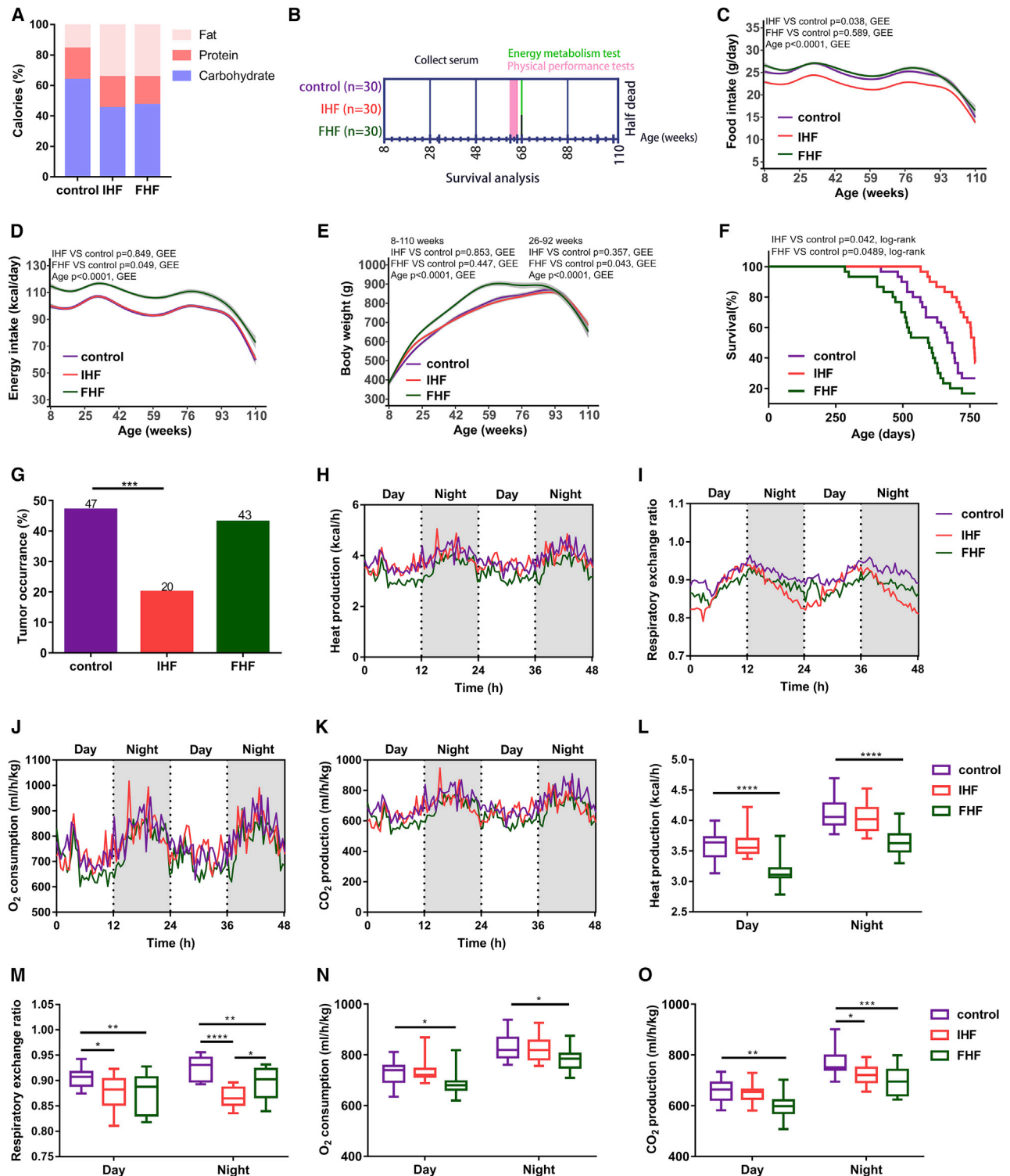


Figure 1. IHF prolongs lifespan and delays tumor occurrence and effects on energy metabolic profiles in rats

- (A) Diet composition in male rats.
 (B) Schematic illustration of the experimental design in male rats.
 (C) Food intake trajectories (n = 30 rats per group in the beginning).
 (D) Energy intake trajectories (n = 30 rats per group in the beginning).
 (E) Bodyweight trajectories (n = 30 rats per group in the beginning).

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FFA anabolism and upregulating catabolism pathways, and these observations were consistently repeated in the flies. Using a proteomics approach, PPRC1 was identified as a key protein that was significantly upregulated by the IHF diet by nearly 2-fold. Among the decreased profiles of FFAs, only palmitic acid (PA) was robustly and negatively associated with the expression of PPRC1. Using PPRC1 transgenic RNAi/overexpression flies and a series of *in vitro* experiments, we first demonstrated that the IHF diet significantly reduced PA, which could upregulate PPRC1 through PPARG, prolong lifespan, and improve oxidative stress and inflammation.

Results

IHF prolongs the lifespan and healthspan of rats

Ninety Wistar rats were randomly divided into three groups and fed three diets for 2 years: normal diet ad libitum (control), IHF, and free-eating high-fat diet (FHF) (Figures 1A, 1B, and S1A). Food intake was rigorously monitored and adjusted dynamically to achieve constant energy intake between the control and IHF groups, while energy intake in the FHF group was significantly higher (Figures 1C and 1D). The body weight, multiple organ weights, and muscle weights did not differ between the control and IHF groups (Figures 1E, S1B, and S1C), whereas the visceral fat content of rats was significantly lower in the IHF group than in the control group (Figure S1D).

Compared to the control diet, IHF significantly prolonged the median lifespan by 90 days, whereas FHF significantly decreased the median lifespan by 79 days (Figure 1F). A detailed necropsy and gross pathological examination of dead rats suggested that rats exposed to IHF had a reduction in the type and number of some pathologies, including aspects of fibrosis, transparent degeneration, and hyperplasia (Table S1). Overall, tumor occurrence was lower in the IHF diet than the control diet, while a FHF diet did not induce tumor formation (Figures 1G and S1E), which was confirmed by pathology examination (Table S2). Moreover, the age-associated pathological injuries in the lung, kidney, and liver measured by organ pathological analysis prepared from aged rats were also remarkably mitigated in the IHF group, which were revealed by a decreasing trend in broncheoli-associated lymphoid tissue in the lung (Figure S2A), a reduction in tubular luminal space and urinary casts in the kidney (Figures S2B and S2C), and hepatic activity index (HAI) in the liver (Figure S2D), reflected by a significant decrease in periportal/bridging necrosis (Figure S2E), portal inflammation (Figure S2F), and fibrosis (Figure S2G) with a decreasing trend in intralobular degeneration and focal necrosis (Figure S2H). In contrast, age-associated pathological injuries of broncheoli-associated lymphoid tissue in the lung and tubular luminal space

in the kidney were significantly increased in the FHF group relative to the control group (Figures S2A and S2B).

As energy metabolism could be a driver of aging (Feng et al., 2016), we further attempted to measure the influences of diets on energy expenditure in rats aged 68 weeks. During the test, the average caloric intake did not differ between the IHF group and the control group, although the average food consumption was lower (Figure S1F), the average caloric intake was higher in the FHF group (Figure S1F). Indirect calorimetry revealed no significant differences in heat production in the IHF group compared to the control (Figures 1H and 1L), but heat production was lower in the FHF group (Figures 1H and 1L). The respiratory exchange ratio was obviously reduced in the IHF group and the FHF group (Figures 1I and 1M), but the reduction in the IHF group was larger than that in the FHF group during the dark phases ($p < 0.01$), suggesting a preference for fat utilization. Compared to control, oxygen consumption showed no statistical change upon IHF but was decreased upon FHF (Figures 1J and 1N). Moreover, carbon dioxide production was significantly reduced by either an IHF diet or a FHF diet compared to the control paradigm (Figures 1K and 1O). All the results were adjusted for body weight.

We next determined whether an IHF could have broader effects on healthspan; thus, memory and physical performance tests were implemented in rats aged 63–66 weeks. The error response times were slightly reduced, and the percentage of conditional responses in the shuttle box test was significantly higher in the IHF group than in the control group (Figure S1G), indicating the benefits of an IHF on cognition. No significant differences were shown in the Morris water maze (MWM) test, including escape latency (Figure S1H), percentage of time in the training quadrant (Figure S1I), percentage of path length in the target quadrant (Figure S1J), and platform crossings (Figure S1K). Running distances tended to be lengthened in the treadmill test in the IHF group compared with the control group (Figure S1L), suggesting an improvement trend in the general fitness of rats. In most cases, FHF group performance tended to be worse than the control. Combined, the results suggest that an IHF diet not only extends the lifespan of rats but also improves many aspects of health in the whole body.

Trajectories of biomarkers of aging during the experiment

Biomarkers that can evaluate biological aging were dynamically measured during the experiment (Bonadonna et al., 1994; Longo et al., 2015; López-Otín et al., 2013). Aging in rats was characterized by a significant increase or decrease in all these biomarkers, including glucose (GLU), total cholesterol (TCHO), triglyceride (TG), low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C),

(F) Survival curves for IHF and FHF versus control in male rats. Lifespan was extended in response to the IHF diet ($p = 0.042$, log-rank) but shortened in response to the FHF diet ($p = 0.0489$, log-rank) ($n = 30$ rats per group).

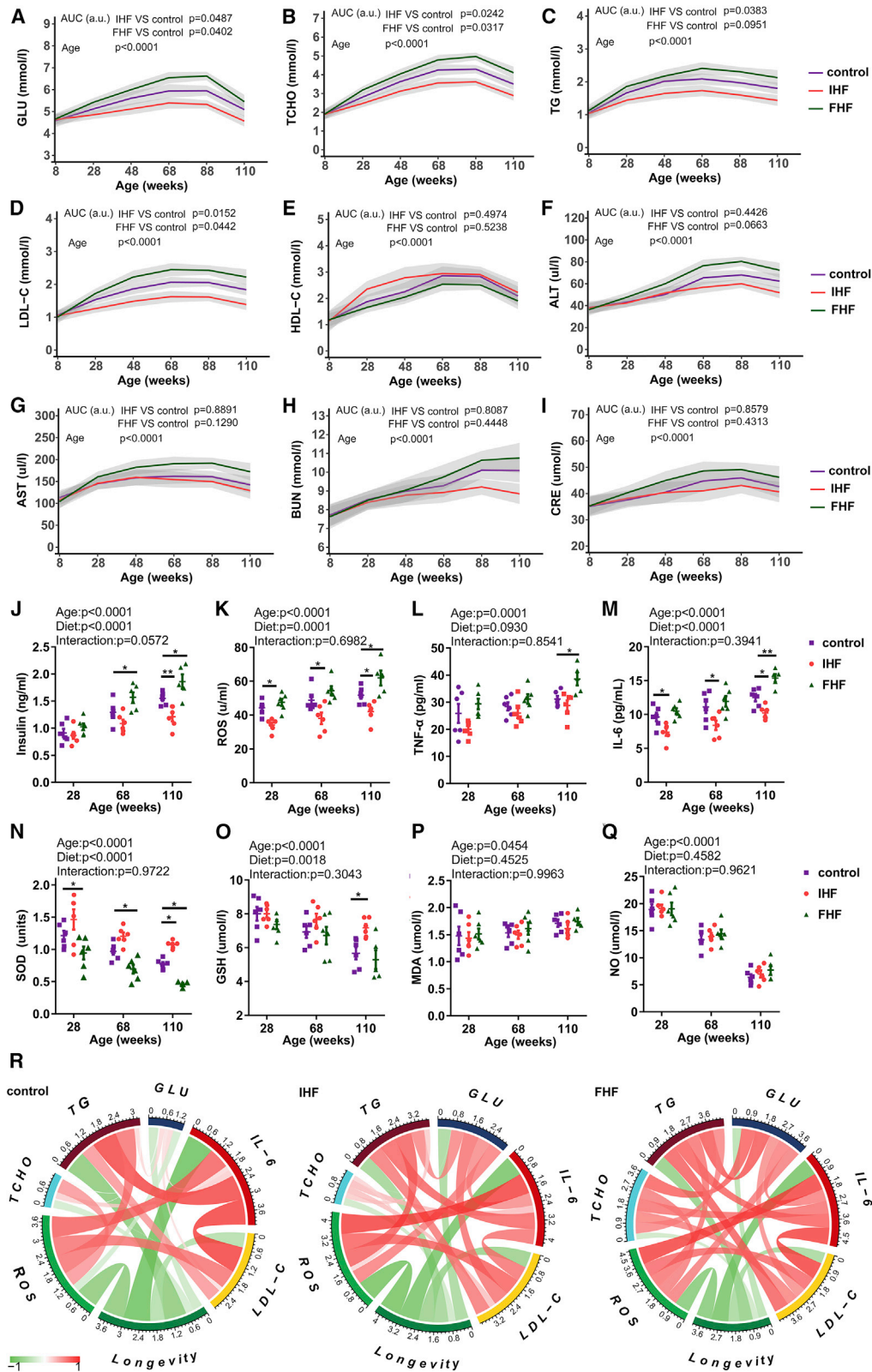
(G) Tumor occurrence in animals (control, $n = 30$ rats; IHF, $n = 30$ rats; FHF, $n = 30$ rats).

(H–O) Energy metabolism in male rats during two 24 h cycles using indirect calorimetry ($n = 15$ rats per group, 68 weeks, male). For rats assigned to the IHF cohorts, food was supplied on the basis of the control to maintain identical energy intake.

(H–K) Temporal patterns of (H) heat production, (I) respiratory exchange ratio, (J) oxygen consumption, and (K) carbon dioxide production are shown.

(L–O) Bar chart of (L) heat production, (M) respiratory exchange ratio, (N) oxygen consumption, and (O) carbon dioxide production is shown.

Data in (H)–(K) are presented as mean. Error bars, when present, show the SEM. Statistical analyses were performed using the generalized estimating equation (GEE) for (C)–(E). * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$. See also Figures S1 and S2 and Data S1.



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alanine aminotransferase (ALT), aspartate aminotransferase (AST), blood urea nitrogen (BUN), creatinine (CRE), insulin, reactive oxygen species (ROS), tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α), interleukin-6 (IL-6), superoxide dismutase (SOD), glutathione (GSH), malondialdehyde (MDA), and nitric oxide (NO), but several of these variables were observed to be significantly decreased with IHF intervention (Figures 2A–2Q), whereas FHF intervention led to a significant increase in the majority of these parameters (Figures 2A–2Q). Correlation analysis performed at 68 weeks further suggested that among these differential aging biomarkers, decreased ROS and IL-6 mediated the effects of IHF on lifespan extension (Figure 2R), suggesting that IHF could ameliorate inflammatory and oxidative stress.

Profiles of fatty acids in serum, liver, kidney, and muscle

Given that the respiratory exchange ratio in the IHF group was obviously reduced compared to the other two diets in rats (Figures 1I and 1M), which suggests that the IHF may utilize fat as the main fuel source for energy expenditure and accelerate fat metabolism, we measured the profiles of FFAs in serum and multiple tissues, including liver, kidney, and muscle. Total FFAs were significantly lower in the IHF group than in the control group, whereas FHF had the highest FFA levels (Figures 3A–3D). Among these different types of FFAs, only PA (C16:0) in the IHF group was consistently decreased in serum, liver, kidney, and muscle (Figures 3A–3D). Further, several enzymes involved in fatty acid metabolism in the liver or muscle were measured. The IHF downregulated the hepatic and muscular protein levels of fatty acid synthase (FAS) and acetyl-CoA carboxylase (ACC) (Figures 3E–3G and 3J–3L), which are key proteins involved in the fatty acid synthesis. Moreover, it upregulated hepatic or muscular protein expression of carnitine palmitoyltransferase 1A (CPT1A) and carnitine palmitoyltransferase 2 (CPT2) (Figures 3E, 3H–3J, and 3M), which are essential enzymes involved in β -oxidation of long-chain fatty acids. Taken together, these results indicated that the IHF accelerated fat metabolism by decreasing total FFAs and PA in serum, liver, kidney, and muscle by downregulating the fatty acid synthesis and upregulating fatty acid metabolism. Because the effect of FFAs on inflammatory and oxidative stress has been abundantly reported (Inoguchi et al., 2000; Pereira et al., 2014; Tripathy et al., 2003), we hypothesize that an IHF would decrease the profiles of FFAs and some types of FFAs, which may result in improved oxidative stress, inflammation, and extended lifespan.

Liver proteomic changes further reflected the above observations and identified PPRC1 as a candidate target

To elucidate how the IHF extended the lifespan of the rats, a global proteomic analysis was performed on liver samples of aging rats. The total number of differentially expressed proteins in the IHF group compared to the control group was 571 with 139 upregulated and 432 downregulated, while in the FHF group was 311 with 187 upregulated and 124 downregulated (Figure 4A). Since nutrient-sensing signaling pathways are widely involved in longevity regulation (Fontana et al., 2010), we first investigated the pathway change in response to the IHF in our proteomic data. Significantly altered proteins in the IHF group enriched in ribosome item and classic nutrient-sensing signaling pathways involved in longevity regulation were mostly downregulated, including mTOR signaling pathway, PI3K-Akt signaling pathway, and insulin signaling pathway (Figure S3A). However, in most instances, this similar change was not observed upon FHF (Figure S3B). In addition, we found that Kyoto encyclopedia of genes and genomes (KEGG) and gene ontology (GO) enrichment analyses of significantly altered proteins in the IHF group identified remarkably significantly downregulated pathways implicated in protein processing and transportation, such as Golgi vesicle transport (Figures S3C and S3D). These above findings are consistent with the notion that benefits in aging studies in multiple species probably come from the assumption of "less is better"—less food, less growth/insulin-like growth factor-1 signaling, less protein translation, etc. (Hofmann et al., 2015; López-Otin et al., 2013), as further illustrated by the differential downregulation of all the network center proteins (Figure S3E).

To further examine why the IHF extended lifespan, we observed that the IHF could improve oxidative stress and fatty acid metabolism. As expected, enrichment analysis of differential proteins in the IHF group also related downregulated pathways and items to the IL-17 signaling pathway, inflammatory response, response to ROS, regulation of I-kappaB kinase/NF-kappaB cascade, and response to oxidative stress (Figure 4B), indicative of the inhibition of oxidative stress and inflammation response. In contrast to the IHF, proteins in oxidative stress and inflammation were mostly upregulated upon FHF (Figure 4C). Differential proteins upon IHF related to oxidative stress and inflammation were plotted using STRING and cytoscape (Figure 4D). The hub proteins of the cluster of differentiation 36 (CD36) and catalase (CAT) in the network were selected for further validation (Figure 4D). In accordance with the proteomic results, we observed persistent upregulation of CAT in liver and muscle tissues (Figures 4E, 4F, 4J, and 4K),

Figure 2. IHF effects on blood biochemistry variables of glucose, lipids, liver/kidney function, oxidative stress, and inflammation

(A–I) Serum chemistry measures of glucose, lipid levels, and liver/kidney function in male rats. Serum concentrations of (A) glucose (GLU), (B) TCHO, (C) triglycerides (TG), (D) low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C), (E) high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C), (F) alanine aminotransferase (ALT), (G) aspartate aminotransferase (AST), (H) BUN, and (I) creatinine (CRE) at weeks 8, 28, 48, 68, 88, and 110 (control, n = 6–8 rats; IHF, n = 6–8 rats; FHF, n = 5–8 rats). (J–Q) Serum parameters of oxidative stress and inflammation. Serum concentrations of (J) insulin, (K) ROS, (L) tumor necrosis factor alpha (TNF- α), (M) interleukin 6 (IL-6), (N) superoxide dismutase (SOD), (O) glutathione (GSH), (P) malondialdehyde (MDA), and (Q) nitric oxide (NO) at weeks 28, 68, and 110 (control, n = 6–8 rats; IHF, n = 6–8 rats; FHF, n = 5–8 rats). (R) Pearson correlations among significant serum measures and survival days were conducted in rats aged 68 weeks (left, control group; middle, IHF group; right, FHF group). The correlation between each pair of parameters is shown. IL-6 and ROS were robustly and negatively correlated with longevity (the correlation coefficients for IL-6 were -0.99 , -0.939 , and -0.936 , respectively, in the three groups, $p < 0.001$; the correlation coefficients for ROS were -0.82 , -0.968 , and -0.849 , respectively, in the three groups, $p < 0.05$). The color and width of the line represent the correlation coefficient. Red lines represent positive correlations, and green lines represent negative correlations (control, n = 6–8 rats; IHF, n = 6–8 rats; FHF, n = 6–8 rats). Error bars, when present, show the SEM. Pearson correlation analysis test for (R). * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$.

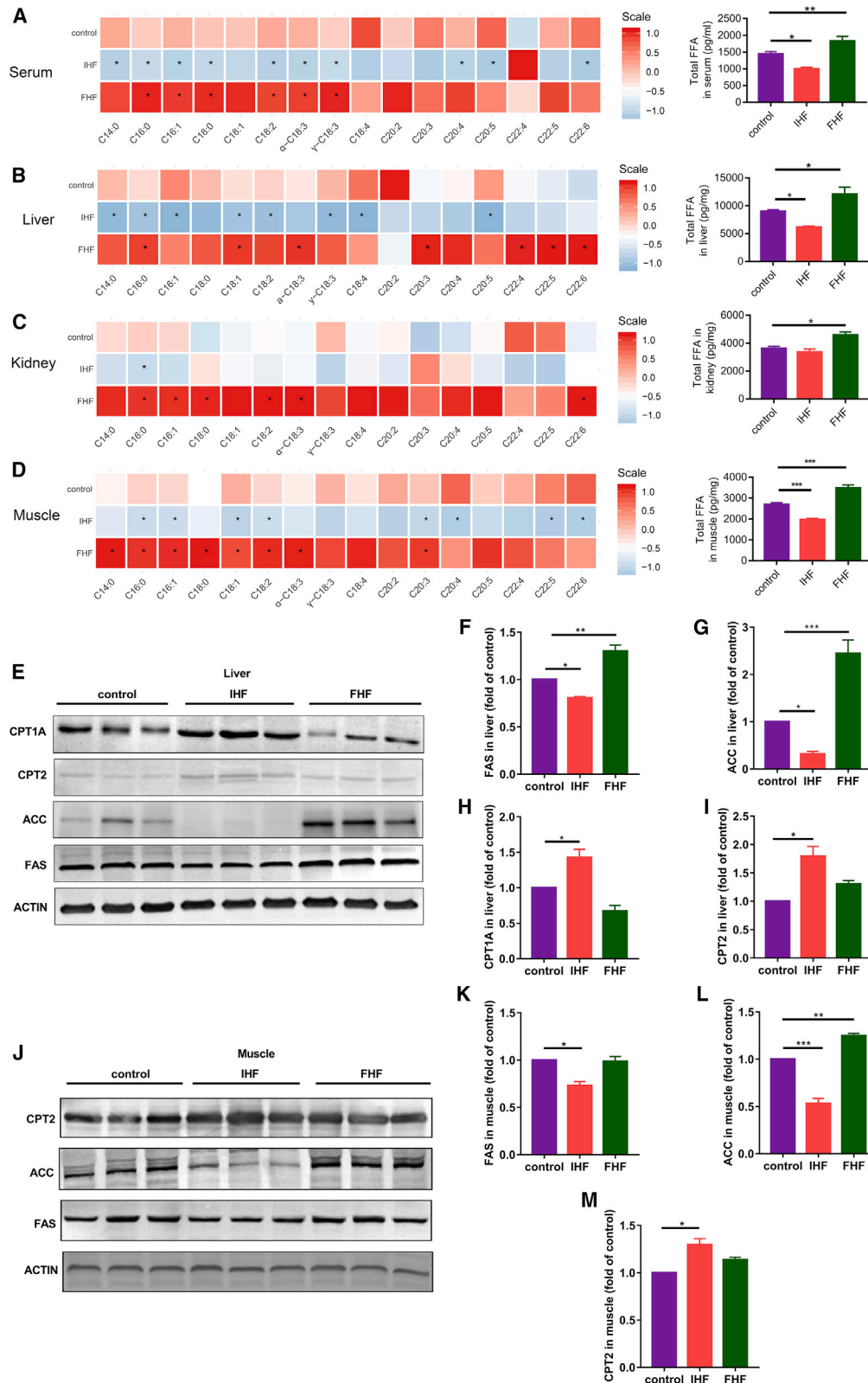


Figure 3. IHF effects on free fatty acid profiles in serum, liver, kidney, and muscle

(A–E) IHF lowered FFA profiles (left) and total FFA concentration (right) in (A) serum, (B) liver, (C) kidney, (D) muscle at 68 weeks (control, n = 8 rats; IHF, n = 8 rats; FHF, n = 8 rats). *Compared with control, p < 0.05.

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which probably enhances survival by protecting the cell from oxidative damage by ROS (Schriener and Linford, 2006), and downregulation of CD36 in liver and muscle tissues (Figures 4E, 4G, 4J, and 4L), which is involved in the proinflammatory process by targeting NLRP3 inflammasome activation (Abumrad and Goldberg, 2016; Sheedy et al., 2013), thus representing a consistent effect of IHF on counteracting oxidative stress and inflammation. Consistently, we further examined the downregulated hepatic and muscular levels of nuclear factor kappa-B p65 (NF- κ B P65, P65) and IL-6 involved in the classic inflammatory pathway, indicating that suppression of the effect may occur in multiple ways (Figures 4E, 4H–4J, 4M, and 4N). Moreover, consistent with the decreased profiles of FFAs in the IHF group documented above, the protein levels of several enzymes linked to fatty acid biosynthetic processes in the liver, including prostaglandin G/H synthase 1 (PTGS1), Leukotriene A(4) hydrolase (LTA4H), and cytochrome c oxidase subunit 2 (MT-CO₂), were also downregulated (Figure 4B).

More importantly, to identify a key protein involved in IHF-mediated lifespan extension, proteins of synthase kinase-3 β (GSK-3 β), flotillin-1 (FLOTTIN), neurocalcin delta (NCALD), and peroxisome proliferative-activated receptor-gamma coactivator-related 1 (PPRC1) were identified based on the fold change or centered in the protein-protein interaction (PPI) network (Figure 5A), which were further confirmed by western blot experiments in liver and muscle tissues (Figures 5B–5K). Based on the above hypothesis, the relationship between the profiles of FFAs and the mRNA expressions of the four proteins was examined. Among these proteins, only PPRC1 was robustly and negatively related to PA (Figure 5L), and its protein level was upregulated, on average, 2-fold with the IHF in both liver and muscle tissues of rats compared with the control diet (Figures 5A, 5B, 5F, 5G, and 5K). Indeed, a study reported that overexpression of the *Drosophila* homolog of PPRC1 leads to an increase in lifespan (Rera et al., 2011), indicating a vital role in aging. We further confirmed that PPRC1 expression decreased with age in the liver and kidney tissue of rats (Figures 5M–5P). Therefore, the relationship between PA and PPRC1 seemed to play an important role in regulating the effect of IHF on prolonged lifespan.

IHF also prolonged the lifespan in flies

To examine whether the effect of an IHF on prolonged lifespan could be repeated in flies, a series of experiments using flies were performed. We first designed IHF and FHF paradigms for *Drosophila* (Table S3) and performed survival assays with three different concentrations of lard in the diet in the *w*¹¹¹⁸ strains (Figure 6A). An effect of the IHF containing 7% (w/v) lard on the prolonged lifespan was observed in *w*¹¹¹⁸, and the same was true for *atp2* flies (Figures 6B and 6C). Food intake was not different in *w*¹¹¹⁸ or *atp2* between the IHF and control groups, indicating that energy intake was equal between the diets (Fig-

ures 6D and 6E). Analogous to the results in the rat study, total FFAs and PA were also significantly decreased in the IHF group (Figures 6F and 6G), and the mRNA expression of *Drosophila* homologous PPRC1 (dh-PPRC1) was also upregulated (Figure 6H). We also detected persistent mRNA expression with respect to oxidative stress, inflammation, and fatty acid metabolism, as illustrated by upregulation of *cat* (homolog of catalase), *whd* (homolog of *cpt1*), and *cpt2*, as well as downregulation of *dorsal* (homolog of p65) in the IHF group, despite no change in *crq* (homolog of *cd36*) or *acc* (Figures 6H and 6I).

To elucidate whether and how the relationship between PA and PPRC1 is involved in the effect of the IHF on lifespan, flies were first fed PA in the diet. Flies from either the *w*¹¹¹⁸ or *atp2* strains reared on PA showed significantly decreased lifespan with control diet, while the reduction was larger with the IHF, suggesting that decreased PA may contribute to IHF-mediated lifespan extension (Figures 6B and 6C). Flies treated with IHF+PA showed a higher level of some FFAs, higher expression of oxidative stress and inflammation genes, and lower mRNA expression of *Drosophila* homologous PPRC1 (dh-PPRC1) than those treated with the IHF alone (Figures 6F–6H). These results indicated that PA caused increased levels of oxidative stress and inflammation and regulated the expression of *Drosophila* homologous PPRC1 in response to the IHF.

Transgenic RNAi and overexpression flies

Further, we examined whether dh-PPRC1 and PA were involved in the effect of IHF on prolonged lifespan in male flies lacking the *Drosophila* homologous PPRC1. As knockout PPRC1 mice show embryonic lethality, we attempted to use the constitutive *daGAL4*, *ubiGAL4*, or *tubGAL4* driver line to inhibit dh-PPRC1 expression. IHF extended lifespan in wild-type flies and dh-PPRC1 RNAi mutants driven by *daGAL4*, *ubiGAL4*, or *tubGAL4*, but lifespan extension upon IHF in wild-type flies was persistently larger than that in dh-PPRC1 RNAi mutants, demonstrating that PPRC1 primarily contributes to IHF-mediated lifespan extension (Figures 6J, 6K, and S4). In addition, PA impaired IHF-mediated lifespan extension in both wild-type flies and dh-PPRC1 RNAi mutants driven by *daGAL4*, *ubiGAL4* or *tubGAL4* lines, but lifespan impairment driven by PA upon IHF in wild-type flies was also persistently larger than that in dh-PPRC1 RNAi mutants (Figures 6J, 6K, and S4), further suggesting that dh-PPRC1 was involved in the effect of decreased PA on IHF in terms of lifespan extension. To further demonstrate the importance of dh-PPRC1 and PA for the effects of the IHF on lifespan extension, we overexpressed the dh-PPRC1 gene driver by *daGAL4* in all other tissues to measure the effect of the IHF on lifespan in flies reared on PA. We observed that dh-PPRC1 overexpression flies reared on PA partially rescued the impaired lifespan upon IHF (Figure 6L). We also found that dh-PPRC1 overexpression flies treated with PA showed partial restoration of impaired oxidative

(E–I) Protein levels of fatty acid metabolism in the liver were measured by western blot at 110 weeks.

(E) Representative blots are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case (n = 3).

(F–I) Quantification of (F) FAS, (G) ACC, (H) CPT1A, and (I) CPT2 protein levels.

(J–M) Protein levels of fatty acid metabolism in the muscle were measured by western blot at 110 weeks.

(J) Representative blots are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case (n = 3).

(K–M) Quantification of (K) FAS, (L) CPT2, and (M) ACC protein levels.

Error bars, when present, show the SEM. *p < 0.05; **p < 0.01; ***p < 0.001; ****p < 0.0001.

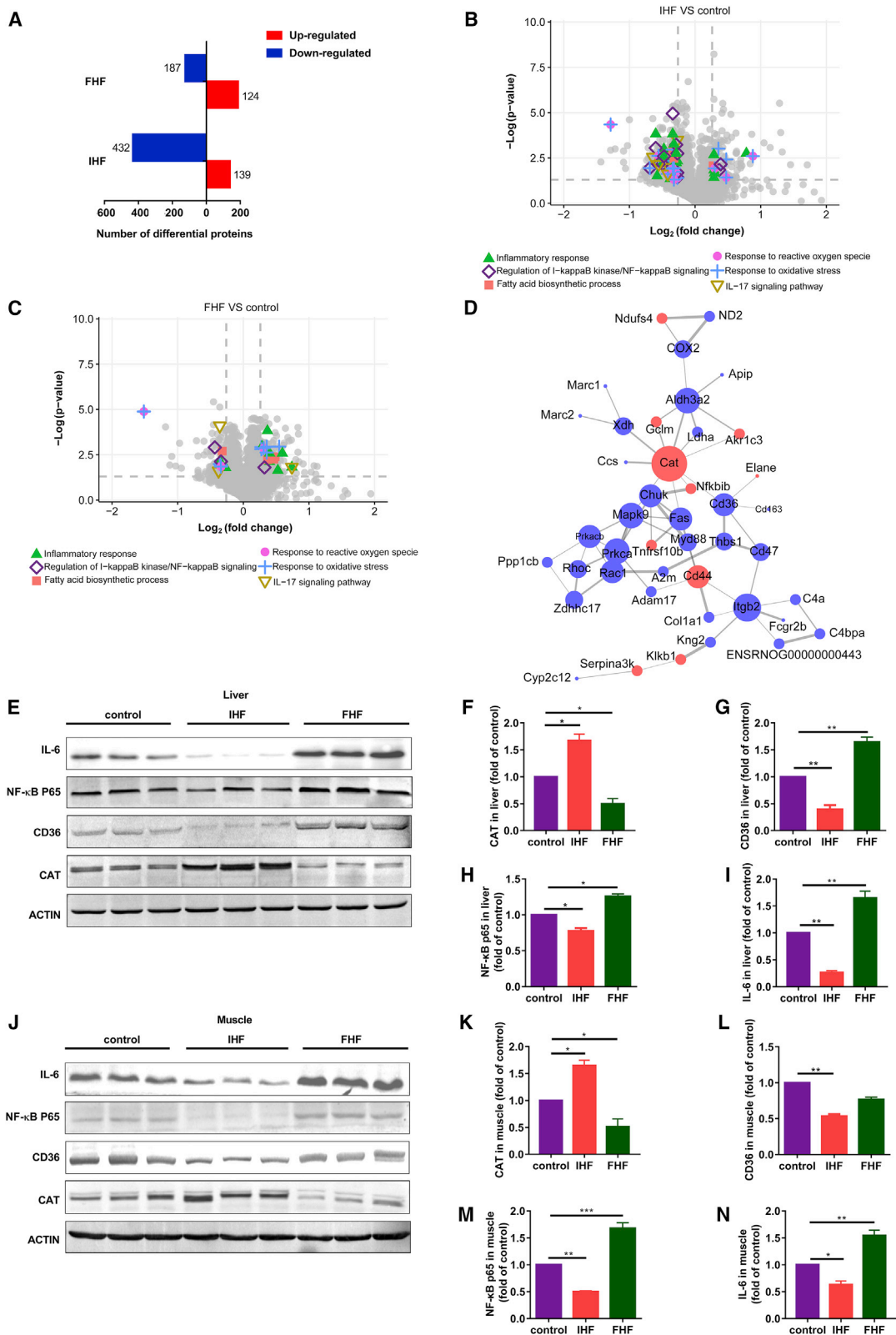


Figure 4. Liver proteomic changes further reflect the improvement of oxidative stress, inflammation, and total FFA metabolism upon IHF (A) Protein expression changes in the liver, defined permissively for subsequent pathway analysis (fold change > 1.2, p < 0.05). (B) KEGG and GO analysis for differential pathways between IHF and control.

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stress and inflammation upon IHF, as assessed by upregulating the mRNA expression of cat and downregulating the mRNA expression of dorsal (Figure 6M), despite no change in crq. Taken together, these results indicate that decreased PA contributes to IHF-mediated lifespan extension by upregulating *Drosophila* homologous PPRC1.

Decreased PA upregulates PPRC1, contributing to IHF-mediated changes in lifespan, oxidative stress, and inflammation through PPARG

To elucidate how PA regulated PPRC1, a bioinformatics analysis was performed, suggesting that PPARG, a protein involved in fatty acid metabolism, may mediate the effect of PA on the expression of PPRC1. In human hepatocyte (HepG2) cells, we demonstrated that exposure to PA significantly decreased PPRC1 and PPARG expression in a dose-dependent manner (Figures 7A–7C), while PPARG overexpression with the pharmacologic rosiglitazone (RGZ) approach increased the expression of PPRC1 in cells exposed to PA (Figures 7D–7F). In addition, 24 h exposure to PA increased the levels of ROS and IL-6 in a dose-dependent manner (Figures S5A and S5B). Correspondingly, PPRC1 and PPARG activation showed decreased levels of ROS and IL-6 in PA-treated cells, while PPRC1 siRNA silencing led to significant enhancement of oxidative stress and inflammation in cells without PA intervention (Figures 7G–7J, S5C, and S5D). Moreover, PPRC1 siRNA interference counteracted the inhibitory effect of RGZ on ROS and IL-6 elevation in cells treated with PA (Figures 7K and 7L). These results indicate that PA induces oxidative stress and inflammation by negatively regulating PPARG /PPRC1.

Next, we overexpressed Eip75B, the *Drosophila* homologous PPARG (dh-PPARG), using transgenic fly to measure the effect of dh-PPARG on lifespan and healthspan in flies raised on an IHF+PA. dh-PPARG overexpression flies partially restored the lifespan impairment in flies reared on PA in response to the IHF (Figure 7M), paralleled by a suppression of oxidative stress and inflammatory response with upregulated mRNA expression of cat as well as downregulated mRNA expression of crq and dorsal (Figure 7N). Next, we further measured the mRNA expression of dh-PPRC1 and found that it was also significantly more robust when dh-PPARG was upregulated (Figure 7N). Finally, the hepatic and muscular protein expression of PPARG in rats was persistently confirmed to be upregulated in the IHF group compared to the control group (Figures S5E–S5G). Taken together, the combined results suggest that decreased PA upregulates *Drosophila* homologous PPARG/PPRC1, contributing to IHF-mediated changes in lifespan, oxidative stress, and inflammation.

PPARG/PPRC1 inversely correlates with age detected by human liver

Finally, we evaluated the association of hepatic PPARG/PPRC1 with age in human subjects. We found that the mRNA expression of PPARG was strongly inversely correlated with age in the liver tissue of humans, and the same was true for PPRC1 mRNA expression (Figure 7O). Moreover, our correlation analysis further revealed that PPARG and PPRC1 were negatively correlated with the levels of ROS, total FFAs and PA, but no change in IL-6 (Figures 7P and 7Q), in human liver tissues, which implies that PPARG could be a potential therapeutic target in diseases related to aging and oxidation stress.

Beta-hydroxybutyrate is a secondary contributor to the IHF-mediated reduction in oxidative stress and inflammation in rats

Beta-hydroxybutyrate (BHB) is intrinsically produced in the context of dietary restriction, fasting, or extreme high-fat diets that result in extended longevity, decreased oxidative stress, and improved inflammation (Mattson et al., 2017; Newman et al., 2017; Youm et al., 2015). During the experiment, we found that the IHF significantly increased the serum content of BHB in rats (Figure S6A). However, it is still largely unknown whether BHB also mediates the effect of the IHF on the improvement of oxidative stress and inflammation. To elucidate this, we performed a 4-month experiment starting at 10 weeks of age in Wistar rats and intravenously injected the adeno-associated virus (AAV) of succinyl-CoA:3-ketoacid CoA transferase (SCOT), the main enzyme breaking down ketones to be used for energy, before the last 3 weeks to speed up BHB catabolism. The mRNA expression of SCOT in rats injected with the SCOT AAV was higher than that in the controls in liver, muscle, and heart tissues (Figure S6B). Some serum measures were changed, but most importantly, the total FFAs showed no change between the IHF and IHF+SCOT groups in the serum, liver, and muscle tissues, while total FFAs were still lower in the IHF+SCOT group than in the control+vehicle group (Figures S6C–S6F). Despite the results that the serum level of BHB was lower in the IHF+SCOT group than in the IHF group and was similar to that in the control+vehicle group (Figure S6G), the inflammatory marker IL-6 was still lower in the IHF+SCOT group than in the control+vehicle group, although it displayed a significant increase in the IHF+SCOT group compared to the IHF group (FFA responsible for IL = 80.44%, BHB responsible for IL = 19.56%; Figure S6H). We also observed that ROS was nominally significantly decreased in the IHF+SCOT group compared to the control+vehicle group ($p = 0.0656$; Figure S6I), but there was no difference between the IHF+SCOT and IHF groups (FFAs responsible for ROS = 94.49%, BHB responsible for ROS = 5.51%;

(C) KEGG and GO analysis for differential pathways between IHF and FHF.

(D) Protein-protein interaction analysis.

(E) Representative blots for oxidative stress and inflammation in the liver are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case ($n = 3$).

(F–I) Quantification of (F) CAT, (G) CD36, (H) NF- κ B p65, and (I) IL-6 protein levels.

(J) Representative blots for oxidative stress and inflammation in the muscle are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case ($n = 3$).

(K–N) Quantification of (K) CAT, (L) CD36, (M) NF- κ B p65, and (N) IL-6 protein levels.

Error bars, when present, show the SEM. * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$. See also Figure S3 and Data S1 and S2.

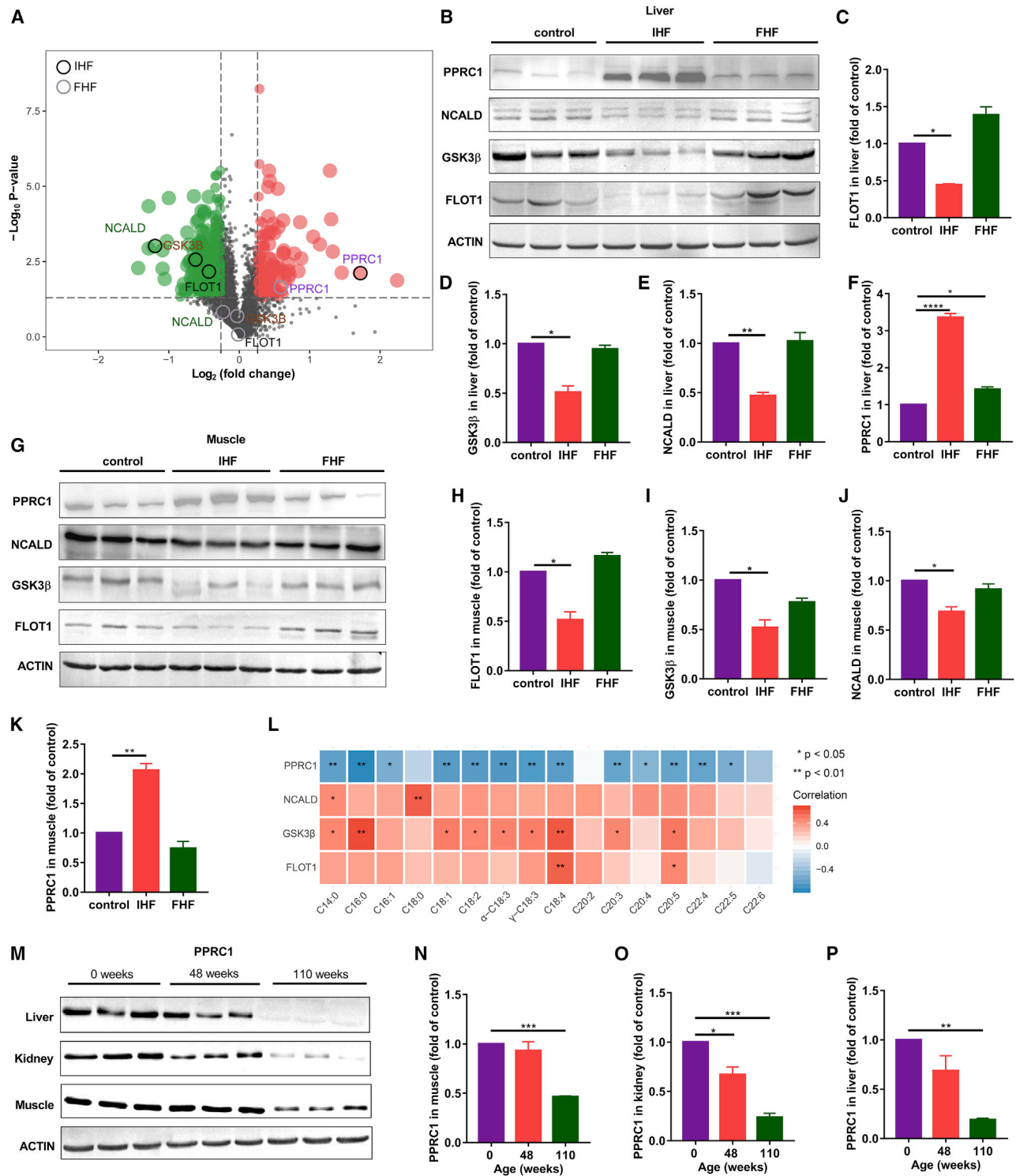


Figure 5. Liver proteomic changes further identified PPRC1 as a candidate target

(A) Volcano plot of the fold changes of proteins in response to the IHF or FHF diet in comparison with the control. Four candidate proteins selected for western blot confirmation are shown in different colors.

(B–F) Candidate protein levels in the liver were measured by western blot at 110 weeks.

(B) Representative blots are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case (n = 3).

(C–F) Quantification of (C) FLOT1, (D) GSK-3 β , (E) NCALD, and (F) PPRC1 protein levels.

(G–K) Candidate protein levels in the muscle were measured by western blot at 110 weeks.

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Figure S6I), thus suggesting that FFAs rather than BHB in principle account for the inflammatory and oxidative stress status.

Discussion

Dietary guidelines have long advocated to limit the dietary intake of total fat so as to maintain overall health, yet recent studies on the association between dietary fat and the risk of disease are controversial (Dehghan et al., 2017; Mozaffarian and Ludwig, 2015; Siri-Tarino et al., 2010; Wu et al., 2019). In this study, we investigated this issue using global examination methods, and a series of experiments were performed in rats and flies as well as *in vitro* to examine the health impact of a high-fat diet on lifespan by rigorously controlling energy intake. To the best of our knowledge, this study is the first to demonstrate that compared to a normal diet, an IHF diet promotes many aspects of health, with delayed tumor occurrence, preserved physical performance, and attenuated age-related pathological decline. Most importantly, an IHF diet prolongs the lifespan via decreased PA levels, which can upregulate the expression of PPARG/PPRC1, resulting in reduced oxidative stress and inflammation in rats and flies. Furthermore, a significant association between this pathway and aging has been demonstrated in human liver tissue. Moreover, this study demonstrates that decreased levels of PA rather than BHB primarily account for the ability of an IHF diet to reduce oxidative stress and inflammation.

Energy and protein intake may mediate the health effects of dietary interventions because energy restriction is a factor that strongly regulates aging, and protein restriction can extend lifespan in animal models (Fontana and Partridge, 2015; Mattison et al., 2012; Mirzaei et al., 2014; Piper and Bartke, 2008). Of note, there are regulatory compensatory feeding responses to dietary protein, and in that case, diet in higher protein alters food intake and then affects energy intake (Solon-Biet et al., 2014). In addition, previous studies have identified multiple micronutrients that affect healthy aging and are related to numerous poor outcomes, such as cancer, cardiovascular disease (CVD), diabetes, and all-cause mortality (Ames, 2018; Holick and Chen, 2008; Manson et al., 2019; Sinha-Hikim et al., 2011). In this study, we aimed to develop a rat diet with identical macronutrient (except for carbohydrate/fat), micronutrients, and energy intake values when adjusting food intake rather than a diet paradigm with contents of nutrients identical to those of a normal control diet. According to pilot study data in which an average 10.2% reduction in food intake was recorded after consumption of a high-fat diet that achieved an energy intake identical to that of the control, we developed an IHF diet with 10.2% more protein, minerals, vitamins, and cellulose in an attempt to keep the actual intake of these components identical to that in the control group. As a result, although the diets have different nutritional and micro nutritional compositions, we found that

the absolute intake values of nutritional factors (casein, l-cystine, minerals, vitamins, and cellulose) and energy in the IHF group, on average, were similar to those in the control group, despite the average 11% reduction in food intake (Figure 1D; Table S4).

Our work also showed that compared with a control diet, an IHF diet delayed tumor occurrence, whereas an FHF diet did not induce tumor formation. Although previous studies have reported that a high-fat diet (minimum 45% energy from fat in most instances) could promote tumor formation, these studies were frequently conducted in animal tumor models (Beyaz et al., 2016; Kim et al., 2017; Labbé et al., 2019). However, the ability of a high-fat diet to induce spontaneous tumor formation in wild-type rodents may be different. Compared to controls, C57BL/6 males subjected to a high-fat diet did not show an increase in visible tumors on necropsy (Newman et al., 2017). Similarly, a statistically significant decrease in the incidence of spontaneous tumors in the high-fat group was observed in adenoma of the parathyroid gland in Wistar rats (Kristiansen et al., 1993). Our findings are in line with these studies, which also showed that compared with a regular diet, an FHF diet did not significantly induce spontaneous tumor formation.

Notably, our results showed that an IHF diet reduced oxidative stress levels, inflammation, and FFA profiles. It was difficult to explain how the IHF diet reduced these deleterious factors based on the available evidence. Therefore, proteomic analysis of the liver was performed to elucidate the potential mechanisms underlying the above observations, and proteomic data revealed that the IHF diet could downregulate these pathways. Consistent with the results of the proteomic analysis, we also found that the IHF diet regulated the mRNA or protein expression of genes related to lipid synthesis, including ACC and FAS, and genes related to lipid oxidation, such as CPT1a (whd) and CPT2, in the liver or muscle tissue of flies or rats, implying that the IHF diet suppresses lipid accumulation by inhibiting lipogenesis and promoting lipid oxidation. In line with our observations, a few studies have also shown that under either isocaloric or time-restricted conditions, a high-fat diet inhibited fatty acid synthesis or promoted fatty acid oxidation, accompanied by decreases in the concentrations of several fatty acids (Hatori et al., 2012; Lundsgaard et al., 2019).

Many studies focusing on supplementation of individual fatty acids have demonstrated that fatty acid metabolism is crucial for regulating lifespan (Goudeau et al., 2011; Lee et al., 2015; O'Rourke et al., 2013; Qi et al., 2017; Ratnappan et al., 2014) and have identified the enzymes of fatty acid metabolism that are involved in lifespan regulation (Goudeau et al., 2011; Johnson and Stolzing, 2019; Pan et al., 2017; Shmookler Reis et al., 2011; Wang et al., 2008). For example, knockdown of the fatty acid desaturase fat-7 eliminated the longevity-promoting effect of H3K4me3 chromatin modification deficiency, and FAT-7 overexpression promoted longevity (Han et al., 2017). Extending the

(G) Representative blots are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case (n = 3).

(H–K) Quantification of (H) FLOT1, (I) GSK-3 β , (J) NCALD, and (K) PPRC1 protein levels.

(L) Pearson correlations between the mRNA expressions of candidate proteins and FFAs profiles in rats aged 68 weeks (n = 21 rats).

(M–P) Protein expression of PPRC1 was detected by western blot at a different time point in different tissues upon control.

(M) Representative blots are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case (n = 3).

(N–P) Quantification of PPRC1 in (N) muscle, (O) kidney, and (P) liver.

Pearson correlation analysis test for (L). Error bars, when present, show the SEM. *p < 0.05; **p < 0.01; ***p < 0.001; ****p < 0.0001. See also Data S1.

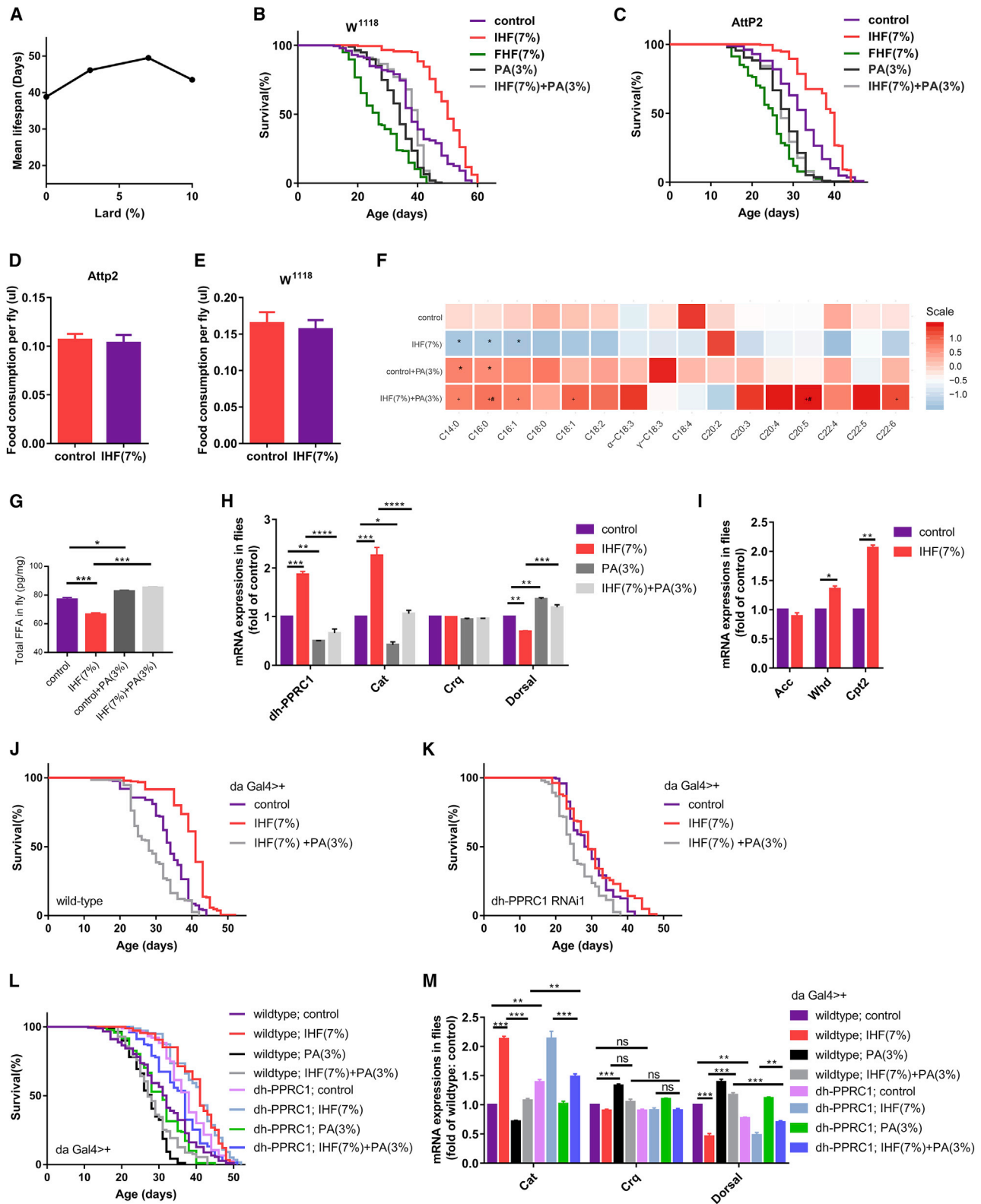


Figure 6. Decreased PA upregulates PPRC1 involved in IHF-mediated change in lifespan, oxidative stress, and inflammation

(A) W^{1118} flies showed a stronger response to varying dietary lard concentrations under identical energy intake conditions.

(B) IHF extended lifespan of w^{1118} male flies in intervention with PA or without PA ($p < 0.0001$ in either case, log-rank; $n = 180$ – 200 flies per group), but lifespan extension by IHF was reduced in intervention with PA (17.6%) compared to intervention without PA (31.6%) ($p < 0.0001$, two-way ANOVA).

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previous studies, our study is the first to demonstrate the beneficial effect of an IHF diet on lifespan. We found that after consumption of the IHF diet, PA levels significantly decreased, which upregulated PPARG; dh-PPARG overexpression in flies further demonstrated that dh-PPARG was involved in the effect of decreased PA on IHF diet-mediated lifespan extension. These findings were supported by a series of previous studies. First, an increase in PA levels was found to be associated with accelerated aging, aging-related diseases, and shortened lifespan (Ford, 2010; Lee et al., 2015; Shmookler Reis et al., 2011). Second, it has been reported that PPARG, a classic regulator of fatty acid metabolism, is involved in aging and aging-related pathophysiological processes related to energy metabolism as well as inflammation (Erol, 2007; Hamaguchi and Sakaguchi, 2012; Zhang and Zheng, 2008); Argmann et al. also demonstrated that compared to wild-type controls, female *Pparg2*^{-/-} mice showed a reduction in lifespan of approximately 8.8 weeks (Argmann et al., 2009).

Moreover, we found that PPRC1 displayed a conserved response to the IHF diet in rats and flies, with high expression levels, and a strong negative relation between PA levels and PPRC1 expression was also observed, which prompted us to conclude that PPRC1 probably played an important role in mediating the effect of decreased PA levels and increased PPARG levels on longevity in animals fed an IHF diet. Although a previous study reported that overexpression of the *Drosophila* homolog of PPRC1 could extend lifespan (Rera et al., 2011), it is still largely unknown whether PPRC1 is involved in the effect of an IHF diet on longevity. To examine this question, we performed a series of experiments *in vitro* and in flies. In the *in vitro* studies, we found that PA could directly and negatively regulate PPRC1 through PPARG, suggesting a link between fatty acid metabolism and PPRC1. In fly studies, dh-PPARG overexpression upregulated the mRNA expression of the *Drosophila* homolog of PPRC1, which further suggested that PPARG regulated the expression of PPRC1. On the background of a GAL4 driver line, PA impaired the ability of an IHF diet to extend lifespan in both wild-type flies and dh-PPRC1 RNAi1 mutants, but the lifespan impairment driven by PA in response to an IHF in wild-type flies (31.7%) was larger than that in dh-PPRC1 RNAi1 mutants (13.8%), demonstrating that PPRC1 primarily contributes to the mechanism by which an IHF diet decreased PA to extend lifespan, which was further supported by our findings in dh-PPRC1-over-

expressing flies. It is important to note that *Drosophila* lacking a homolog of PPRC1 still displays some lifespan impairment, suggesting that PPRC1-independent pathways may contribute to the response to an IHF diet. This is not surprising, as multiple pathways are likely to function coordinately to mediate diet-driven lifespan extension (Fontana and Partridge, 2015; Papsdorf and Brunet, 2019). Overall, our data represent the first report that PA and PPARG regulate PPRC1 and its causative role in lifespan changes in response to an IHF diet.

A ketogenic diet, which typically contains an extremely large amount of energy from fat is one means of delivering high levels of BHB. Recently, ketogenic diets were shown to significantly reduce midlife mortality and improve the healthspan of mice, as well as to decrease oxidative stress and inflammation (Mattson et al., 2017; Newman et al., 2017; Roberts et al., 2018; Shimazu et al., 2013; Youm et al., 2015). Although we found that an IHF diet significantly increased the serum content of BHB in rats, unlike a ketogenic diet, we demonstrated that decreased PA levels rather than BHB primarily accounted for the effect of an IHF diet on improved oxidative stress and inflammation. However, further studies are needed to investigate the long-term effect of BHB on survival in response to an IHF diet.

Conclusions

In conclusion, our longevity results provide evidence for the relationship between dietary fat and survival in both rats and *Drosophila* and suggest that to attain the maximal benefits of an IHF diet, rigorous control of energy intake is needed to reduce PA concentrations and promote improvements in oxidative stress and inflammation. More studies are needed to further investigate the mechanisms underlying IHF diet-mediated improvements and to optimize diet composition and feeding approaches to extend lifespan.

Limitations of study

Although this study demonstrated that an IHF diet significantly prolonged lifespan, it also had certain limitations. First, to ensure the energy intake between the control and the IHF was identical, energy intake was measured every day as the basis for the next day's amount of food provided for the IHF group, but the body weight that was used to account for the individual differences of the rats with respect to body size, appetite, and energy

(C) IHF extended lifespan of *attp2* male flies in intervention without PA, but not in intervention with PA ($p < 0.0001$ and $p = 0.3314$, respectively, log-rank test; $n = 194$ – 228 flies per group).

(D and E) Food intake was measured by the capillary feeder (CAFE) method for (D) *w*¹¹¹⁸ and (E) *Attp2* ($n = 20$ flies per group, 11 days, male).

(F and G) IHF had a lowering effect on (F) FFA profiles and (G) total FFA concentration in *w*¹¹¹⁸ flies (200 mg flies per group). *Compared to control, $p < 0.05$; †compared to IHF (7%), $p < 0.05$; ‡compared to control+ PA (3%), $p < 0.05$.

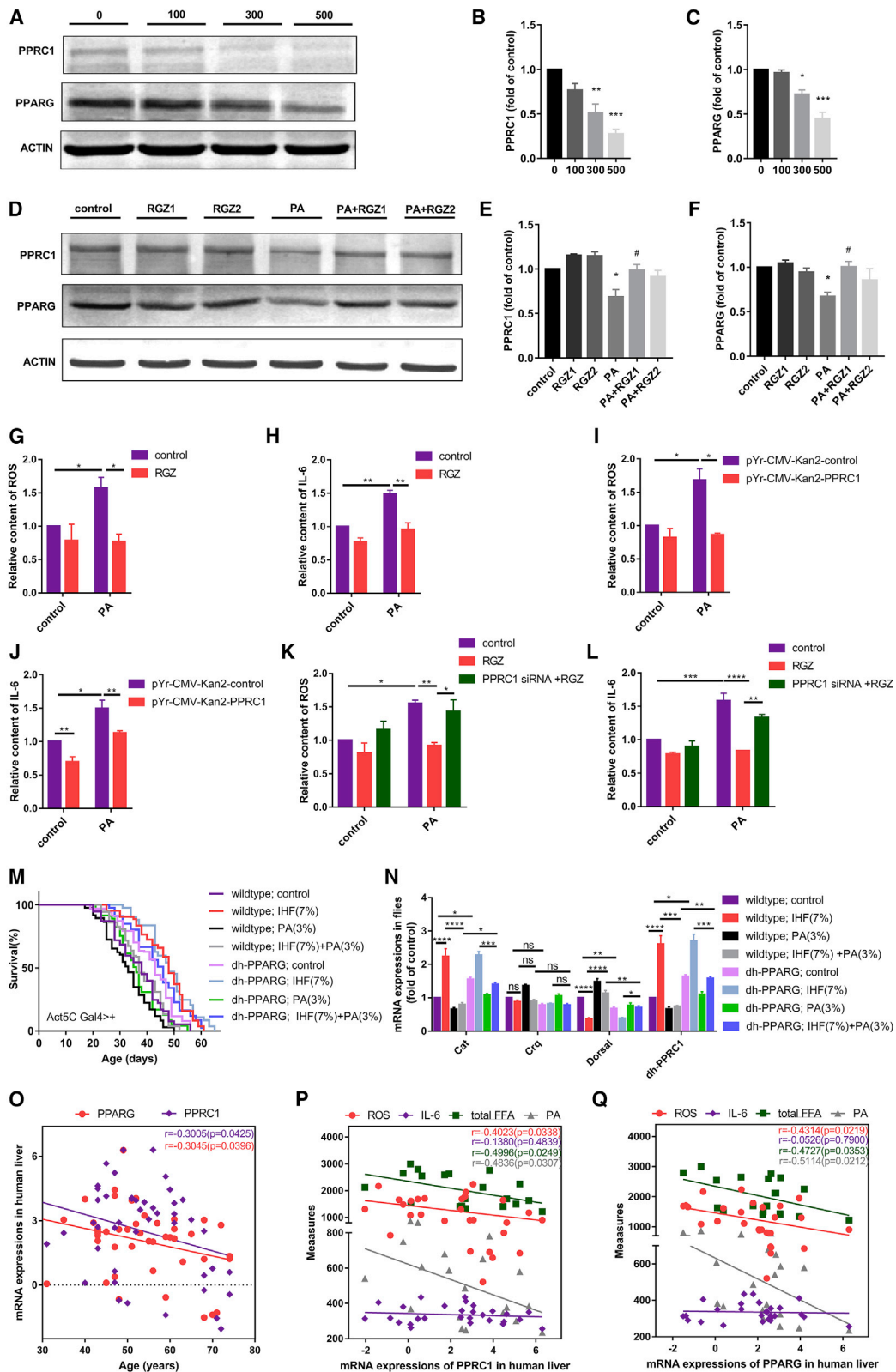
(H and I) mRNA expressions were measured by qRT-PCR in the whole body of flies. (H) Left, dh-PPRC1; left middle, cat; right middle, crq; right, dorsal. (I) Left, acc; middle, whd; right, *cpt2* ($n = 50$ mg flies per group, 11 days, male).

(J and K) IHF extended lifespan in both wild-type flies and dh-PPRC1 RNAi1 mutants driven by *daGal4* ($p < 0.0001$ and $p = 0.0173$, respectively, log-rank test; $n = 168$ – 194 flies per group), but lifespan extension upon IHF in (J) wild-type flies (20.6%) was larger than that in (K) dh-PPRC1 RNAi1 mutants (1.8%) ($p < 0.0001$, two-way ANOVA). PA impaired IHF-mediated lifespan extension in both wild-type flies and dh-PPRC1 RNAi1 mutants driven by *daGal4* ($p < 0.0001$ for all comparison, log-rank test; $n = 183$ – 194 flies per group), but lifespan impairment driven by PA upon IHF in (J) wild-type flies (31.7%) was larger than that in (K) dh-PPRC1 RNAi1 mutants (13.8%) ($p < 0.0001$, two-way ANOVA).

(L) PA impaired IHF-mediated lifespan extension in both wild-type flies and dh-PPRC1-overexpressing flies ($p < 0.0001$ for all comparison, log-rank test), but lifespan impairment driven by PA upon IHF in wild-type flies (34.1%) was larger than that in flies with dh-PPRC1 overexpression (9.8%) ($p < 0.0001$, two-way ANOVA) ($n = 160$ – 182 flies per group).

(M) mRNA expression in the whole body of flies was measured by qRT-PCR. Left, cat; middle, crq; right, dorsal ($n = 50$ mg flies per group, 11 days, male).

Error bars, when present, show the SEM. * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$. See also Figure S4 and Data S3.



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expenditure was monitored biweekly, it would be more accurate if the bodyweight was measured daily; however, abundant previous studies have shown that the bodyweight of adult rats gradually increased, whereas their daily energy intake steadily fluctuated within limits (Iwasa et al., 2018; Liu et al., 2015; Wang et al., 2007). Based on this evidence, when we designed our feeding paradigm, we thought that, to ensure the energy intake between the control and the IHF was identical, the most important factor was the average daily energy intake of the control group. Further, the trajectories of body weight for each animal showed that the growth curve was slow and stable in the IHF, no obvious fluctuations were observed, which indicated that the food supply for the IHF rats was adequate, and the measurement of body weight biweekly could largely reflect the body size, appetite, and energy expenditure for each rat in the IHF. Second, although our feeding paradigm could largely ensure the energy intake between the two groups identical and reflect the individual difference of each rat throughout the intervention of 770 days, this study could not make sure that the energy intake of every rat in every day was identical because there is still no way to perfectly control the food intake, leftover, and spillage of rats. Future study with rigorously controlling these factors is still needed to validate the findings in this study. Moreover, the experiment was carried out on animals of one sex (male). Reports have shown that numerous experimental variables alter longevity alterations in response to diet (Mitchell et al., 2016). Thus, further studies are warranted to address the effect of sex on survival and healthspan. Finally, although we observed all *Drosophila* postmortem, we did not observe all animal postmortems in the rat experiment. Although the median lifespan has been broadly used to reflect survival in lifespan investigations (Niu et al., 2013), additional works need to focus on detailed lifetime trajectories to detect the maximum lifespan in murine models. However, our findings still provide new insight into the provision of a large amount of energy from fat when controlling energy intake, which is indeed conducive to health.

STAR★methods

Detailed methods are provided in the online version of this paper and include the following:

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Supplemental information

Supplemental Information can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cmet.2020.12.017>.

Figure 7. Decreased PA upregulates PPRC1, contributing to IHF-dependent changes in lifespan, oxidative stress, and inflammation through PPARG

- (A–C) Protein expression at different PA concentrations was detected by western blot in hepatocyte (HepG2) cells. (A) Representative blots are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case. (B and C) Quantification of (B) PPRC1 and (C) PPARG. *Compared with 0 mM PA, $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$. (D–F) Protein expression of PPRC1 and PPARG in HepG2 cells exposed to PA and treated with RGZ, as analyzed by western blot. (D) Representative blots are shown for each protein. A representative loading control is shown for each case. (E and F) Quantification of (E) PPRC1 and (F) PPARG. *Compared with control, $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; #Compared with PA, $p < 0.05$; ## $p < 0.01$. (G) ROS levels in HepG2 cells exposed to PA and treated with RGZ ($n = 3–4$). (H) IL-6 levels in HepG2 cells exposed to PA and treated with RGZ ($n = 3–4$). (I) ROS levels in HepG2 cells exposed to PA and transfected with pYr-CMV-Kan2-PPRC1 ($n = 3$). (J) IL-6 levels in HepG2 cells exposed to PA and transfected with pYr-CMV-Kan2-PPRC1 ($n = 3–4$). (K) ROS levels in HepG2 cells exposed to PA and cotransfected with PPRC1 siRNA and RGZ ($n = 3–4$). (L) IL-6 levels in HepG2 cells exposed to PA and cotransfected with PPRC1 siRNA and RGZ ($n = 3$). (M) PA impaired IHF-mediated lifespan extension in both wild-type flies and dh-PPARG-overexpressing flies ($p < 0.0001$ and $p = 0.0001$, respectively, log-rank test), but lifespan impairment driven by PA upon IHF in wild-type flies (22.9%) was larger than that in flies with dh-PPARG overexpression (4.2%) ($p < 0.0001$, two-way ANOVA) ($n = 164–171$ flies per group). (N) mRNA expression in the whole body of flies was measured by qRT-PCR. Left, cat; left middle, crq; right middle, dorsal; right, dh-PPRC1 ($n = 50$ mg flies per group, 11 days, male). (O–Q) Pearson correlations between serum measures, age, and PPARG/PPRC1 were conducted for human subjects ($n = 46$). (O) Pearson correlations between age and mRNA expression of PPARG and PPRC1. (P) Pearson correlations between mRNA expression of PPRC1 and serum parameters related to ROS, IL-6, total FFA, and PA. (Q) Pearson correlations between mRNA expressions of PPARG and serum parameters related to ROS, IL-6, total FFA, and PA. Error bars, when present, show the SEM. * $p < 0.05$; ** $p < 0.01$; *** $p < 0.001$; **** $p < 0.0001$. See also Figure S5 and Data S3.

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Author contributions

Conceptualization, C.S., Y.L., and Y.N.; Data curation, C.S., Y.L., and Y.N.; Methodology, C.S., Y.L., Y.N., D.S., and T.H.; Software, D.S. and T.H.; Visualization, C.S., Y.L., D.S., and T.H.; Formal Analysis, all authors; Investigation, D.S. (lifespan study); X.C., H.L., and X.Y. (cell experiment, western blot, and qPCRs); T.Z. and Y.Z. (pathological examination and metabolomic experiment); X.W., Z.L., J.R., and X.L. (lifespan study and short-term animal study); H.L., X.C., H.N., M.W., and Y.S. (biochemical assays); and Y.L., Y.W., F.L., and Y.G. (healthspan testing); Project administration, C.S., Y.L., and Y.N.; Resources, C.S., Y.L., Y.N., and D.S.; Validation, X.C., H.L., X.Y., Z.T., W.W., and R.G.; Writing – Original Draft, C.S., Y.L., and D.S.; Writing – Review & Editing, C.S., Y.L., Y.N., D.S., and T.H.; Supervision, Y.L. and Y.N.; Funding Acquisition, C.S., Y.L., Y.N., and T.H.

Declaration of interests

The authors declare no competing interests.

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STAR★methods

Key resources table

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Rabbit monoclonal Anti-Flotillin-1	Cell Signaling Technology	Cat# 18634; RRID: AB_277304081
Rabbit Anti-Fatty Acid Synthase	Cell Signaling Technology	Cat# 3180; RRID: AB_2100796
Rabbit monoclonal Anti-Catalase	Cell Signaling Technology	Cat# 14097; RRID: AB_2798391
Rabbit monoclonal Anti-GSK-3 β	Cell Signaling Technology	Cat# 12456; RRID: AB_26369787
Rabbit polyclonal Anti-Acetyl-CoA Carboxylase	Cell Signaling Technology	Cat# 3676; RRID: AB_2219397
Mouse monoclonal Anti- β -Actin	Cell Signaling Technology	Cat# 58169; RRID: AB_2750839
Rabbit polyclonal Anti-CD36	Abcam	Cat# ab80978; RRID: AB_1640333
Rabbit polyclonal Anti-NCALD	Absin Bioscience	Abs139207
Mouse polyclonal Anti-CPTII	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Sc-377294
Rabbit polyclonal Anti-NF κ B p65	WanLeiBio	WL 01273b
Anti-IL6 Rabbit pAb	WanLeiBio	WL02841
Mouse monoclonal Anti-CPT1A	Abcam	Cat# ab128568; RRID: AB_11141632
Rabbit monoclonal Anti-PPAR γ	Cell Signaling Technology	Cat# 2443; RRID: AB_823598
Rabbit monoclonal Anti-PPAR γ	WanLeiBio	WL01800
Mouse monoclonal Anti-PPRC1	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Cat# sc-376431; RRID: AB_11149017
Rabbit polyclonal Anti-PPRC1	OriGene Technologies	Cat# AP53426PU-N; RRID: AB_11145429
Anti-Rabbit IgG (Fc), AP Conjugate	Promega	Cat# S3731; RRID: AB_430872
Anti-Mouse IgG (H+L), AP Conjugate	Promega	Cat# S3721; RRID: AB_430871
Chemicals, peptides, and recombinant proteins		
Control diet (custom)	N/A	See Table S1
IHF diet (custom)	N/A	See Table S1
FHF diet (custom)	N/A	See Table S1
Palmitic acid	Sigma-Aldrich	P5585
Lipofectamine 2000 Reagent	Invitrogen	Cat#11668027
pYr-CMV-Kan2-PPRC1	Yingrun Biotechnology	HO015062
pYr-CMV-Kan2-control	Yingrun Biotechnology	N/A
PPRC1 siRNA	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Sc-90572
Control siRNA-A	Santa Cruz Biotechnology	Sc-37007
Rosiglitazone	MedChemExpress LLC	CAS#122320-73-4
Pioglitazone	MedChemExpress LLC	CAS#111025-46-8
TRLzol reagent	Invitrogen	Cat#15596026
RIPA lysis buffer	Beyotime	P0013C
Phenylmethanesulfonyl fluoride (PMSF)	Beyotime	ST506
Trypsin Gold, Mass Spectrometry Grade	Promega	V5280
Rat ACTB Endogenous Reference Genes Primers	Sangon Biotech	B661202-0001
Human ACTB Endogenous Reference Genes Primers	Sangon Biotech	B661102-0001
Critical commercial assays		
Human IL-6 ELISA	Lengton Bioscience	BPE10140
Human ROS ELISA	Lengton Bioscience	BPE11725

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Continued		
REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
High-Capacity cDNA Reverse Transcription Kit	Applied Biosystems	4374966
Total Nitric Oxide Assay Kit	Beyotime	S0024
GSH and GSSG Assay Kit	Beyotime	S0053
Lipid Peroxidation MDA Assay Kit	Beyotime	S0131
Total Superoxide Dismutase Assay	Beyotime	S0101
Mouse/Rat Insulin ELISA Kit	Westang	N/A
Mouse/Rat IL-6 ELISA Kit	Biotopped	TOPEL02879
Mouse/Rat TNF- α ELISA Kit	Biotopped	TOPEL02868
Mouse/Rat ROS ELISA Kit	Biocompare	Abx156053
Beta-hydroxybutyrate Assay Kit	Sigma-Aldrich	MAK041
Deposited data		
The proteomics data	This paper	Identifier: PXD022585
Experimental models: cell lines		
Human hepatocytes (HepG2) cells	Chinese Academy of Science	N/A
Experimental models: organisms/strains		
Wistar rat	Vital River Laboratory Animal Technology Company LTD	N/A
W ¹¹¹⁸	Tsinghua Drosophila Stock Center	THJ0265
Dh-PPRC1 RNAi-1	Tsinghua Drosophila Stock Center	HMS00857
Dh-PPRC1 RNAi-2	Tsinghua Drosophila Stock Center	HMS00858
Dh-PPRC1 overexpressions using flySAM Transgenic CRISPRa	Tsinghua Drosophila Stock Center	TH14666S
UAS-Eip75B overexpressions (genotype: w [*] ; p {UAS-Eip75B} attP2/ TM6B)	Fungene Biotechnology	N/A
y[1] w[*]; P{w[+mC]=Act5C-GAL4} 25FO1/ CyO.y[+]	Fungene Biotechnology	N/A
Ubi-Gal4	Tsinghua Drosophila Stock Center	TB00152
Daughterless Gal4	Tsinghua Drosophila Stock Center	TB00153
Tub Gal4/TM6b, Tb	Tsinghua Drosophila Stock Center	TB00129
y v; attP2, y+	Tsinghua Drosophila Stock Center	TB00072
Software and algorithms		
Prism 7.0	GraphPad	http://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism ; RRID: SCR_015807
SPSS 17.0	SPSS	17.0
R (version 3.5.1)	R	https://www.r-project.org/
DAVID tool	DAVID	http://david.ncifcrf.gov/
STRING	STRING	https://string-db.org/
Cytoscape (version 3.6.1)	Cytoscape Consortium	https://cytoscape.org/
Thermo Scientific Xcalibur 3.1	Xcalibur	3.1
Other		
Shuttle box tests	Taimeng	N/A
Morris water maze	Taimeng	N/A
Treadmill	Taimeng	N/A
ROCHE Modular P800 Biochemical Analyzer	Roche Diagnostics	N/A
The indirect calorimetry	TSE	N/A
Calibration capillary	VWR, West Chester, PA	#53432-706
GC/MS-MS	Thermo Finnigan	N/A

Resource availability

Lead contact

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Changhao Sun (changhaosun2002@163.com).

Materials availability

This study did not generate new unique reagents.

Data and code availability

The mass spectrometry proteomics data have been deposited to the ProteomeXchange Consortium via the PRIDE ([Deutsch et al., 2020](#); [Perez-Riverol et al., 2019](#)) partner repository with the dataset identifier PXD022585. Original datasets of the results in this manuscript were deposited in the [Data S1](#).

Experimental model and subject details

Animals and diets

Animals and diets for survival experiments: Male Wistar rats aged 8 weeks ($n = 90$) were purchased from Vital River Laboratory Animal Technology Company (Beijing, China) and were randomly assigned to the control, IHF or FHF group after three days of adaptation. All animals were housed in stainless steel individual cages and received their respective standard rodent chow diet paradigms in line with the group scheme for the entire study. A control diet matching the composition of the standard purified rodent diet AIN-93G was used in various animal studies. Notably, we developed the IHF ingredients to keep the protein and micronutrient intake identical to that in the control group according to pilot study data. Another group of FHF rodents were freely fed high-fat chow. Food paradigms of rats are as follows (g/kg):

Component (g)	Control	IHF	FHF
Casein	200.0	220.4	200.0
L-cystine	3.0	3.5	3.0
Cornstarch	397.5	304.5	325.5
Dextrinized cornstarch	132.0	114.4	114.0
Sucrose	100.0	80.0	88.0
Soybean oil	70.0	70.0	70.0
Lard	0.0	100.0	102.0
Mixed minerals	35.0	38.6	35.0
Mixed vitamins	10.0	11.0	10.0
Cellulose	50.0	55.1	50.0
Choline	2.5	2.5	2.5
	1000.0	1000.0	1000.0
Energy from macronutrients (%)			
Carbohydrate	63.6	45.1	47.2
Protein	20.5	20.3	18.2
Fat	15.9	34.6	34.6

To ensure that the control and IHF diets were isocaloric, every IHF animal was dynamically provided with different food allotments individually according to the average energy intake per gram of body weight for each rat in the control group. Specifically, each rat in the control group was provided with enough amount of food (40–50 g) every day, and after 24 hours we weighed the amount of unconsumed food, including food spillage on the plate and food leftover in the food box, respectively. The average daily food intake was computed by the amount of food supply minus the amount of unconsumed food. The average daily energy intake of the control group was calculated by the daily food intake \times 3.96 (the energy density of the food in the control), and the average daily energy intake per gram of body weight in the control group was calculated: the average daily energy intake/ the average body weight. Accordingly, the daily energy intake of each rat in the IHF group was calculated by multiplying the average daily energy intake per gram of body weight in the control group by the weight of each IHF rat. Finally, the daily food supply to each IHF rat for the day was computed by [the daily energy intake of each rat / 4.385 (the energy density of food in the IHF)] + unconsumed food, which was recorded from the previous 24 hours in the IHF group. For the duration of the study, pellet chow was produced every 3 months and stored at -20°C until it was used to guarantee that the chow retained its original palatability. Body weight was

monitored biweekly in the morning. The rats were maintained under a 12 hour light/dark cycle in an environmentally controlled room at $21 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$ and $50\% \pm 5\%$ humidity under pathogen-free conditions. Daily energy intake, daily food intake and biweekly body weight for each single-housed rat was provided (Figure S7).

Short-term animal intervention: Male Wistar rats aged 10 weeks ($n = 45$) were purchased from Vital River Laboratory Animal Technology Company (Beijing, China). After 3 days of adaptive feeding, the rats were randomly divided into two groups according to their body weight: the control group and the IHF group. After three and a half months of feeding, the control group was randomly divided into two groups: the control group and the control+vehicle group. The IHF group was randomly divided into two groups: the IHF group and the IHF+SCOT group. Adeno-associated virus (AAV) was injected into the caudal vein, with the control+vehicle group being injected with blank control AAV and the IHF+SCOT group being injected with SCOT AAV ($200 \mu\text{l}/\text{per body weight}$). Three weeks after the injection, we ended the experiment. During the experiment, the amount of remaining feed and the amount of food scattered were recorded every other day. Body weight was monitored biweekly in the morning. The laboratory environment was the same as described in the experiment described above.

All protocols were approved by the Medical Ethics Committee of Harbin Medical University (Harbin, China) and were performed according to the Guide for Care and Use of Laboratory Animals.

Drosophila stocks

The following *Drosophila melanogaster* strains were purchased from the Tsinghua *Drosophila* Stock Center (Beijing, China): W^{1118} (THJ0265), $y v$; attP2, $y+(y[1] v[1])$; $P\{y[+7.7]=CaryP\}attP2$ (TB00072), dh-PPRC1 RNAi-1 (HMS00857), dh-PPRC1 RNAi-2 (HMS00858), dh-PPRC1 overexpression using flySAM Transgenic CRISPRa (TH14666S), Ubi Gal4 (TB00152), Daughterless Gal4 (TB00153) and Tub Gal4/TM6b, Tb (TB00129). UAS-Eip75B overexpression lines (genotype: w^* ; $p\{UAS-Eip75B\} attP2/ TM6B$) and $y[1] w^*$; $P\{w[+mC]=Act5C-GAL4\}25FO1/CyO,y[+]$ were purchased from Fungene Biotechnology (Jiangsu, China). All fly strains were housed in a fly incubator set at 25°C with 60% humidity under a 12-h light/dark cycle and were transferred to various types of media within 3 days of eclosion. For the survival experiment, mated males were maintained in fly vials (25–30 males/vial) and were transferred onto fresh medium within 3–4 days; deaths were recorded.

Recipes used for larval media and fly media for survival analyses are as follows (w/v):

Component (g)	Larval media	Control (0%)	IHF (3%)	IHF (7%)	IHF (10%)
Agar	10	11	11	11	11
Dextrose	55	145	103.53	48.29	1.52
Corn meal	60	50	50	50	50
Sucrose	30	91	64.97	30.3	9.56
Yeast	25	18	18	18	18
20% Tegosept	15	15	15	15	15
Propionic acid	3	3	3	3	3
Lard	0	0	30	70	100
Water	1000ml	1000ml	1000ml	1000ml	1000ml
Calorie (cal)					
Carbohydrate	—	1087.45	817.45	457.81	187.77
Protein	—	75.46	75.46	75.46	75.46
Fat	—	15.50	285.50	645.50	915.50
Total calorie	—	1178.402	1178.402	1178.762	1178.722

3% (w/v) PA media: The media recipe is applied to assay the response of flies to various concentrations of PA. The media type is same as 0% or 7% (w/v) fly media differing only in the amount of PA used.

7% (w/v) FHF media: The media type is adding 7% (w/v) lard on the basis of 0% (w/v) control lard media.

Cell culture and treatment

Human hepatocytes (HepG2) obtained from the Chinese Academy of Science (Shanghai, China) were incubated at 37°C in a 5% CO_2 and 95% air atmosphere. To mimic the reduction of PPRC1 or PPARG expression caused by high levels of PA in vitro, we examined the expression of PPRC1 or PPARG at the mRNA and protein levels after 24 hours of treatment with gradient concentrations of PA (Sigma-Aldrich, Taufkirchen, Germany). To investigate the possible mechanism by which PA prolongs healthy life through PPRC1, we performed 24-hour fatty acid intervention on cells transfected and nontransfected with a PPRC1-overexpressing plasmid and then detected IL-6 and reactive oxygen species (ROS) (Lengton Bioscience, Shang Hai, China) according to the descriptions of the manuals. Specifically, the cells were transfected in 6-well plates using Lipofectamine 2000 Reagent (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA) by adding $1 \mu\text{g}$ of pYr-CMV-Kan2-PPRC1 or pYr-CMV-Kan2-control (Yingrun Biotechnology, Changsha, China) or 40 pmol of PPRC1 siRNA or

control siRNA-A (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, CA, USA) per well and incubated for 24 hours according to the instructions. Furthermore, when verifying the regulatory effect of PPARG on PPRC1 and its effect on the cellular inflammatory response, cells were pretreated with a 30 mmol/L concentration of the PPARG agonist rosiglitazone (MedChemExpress LLC) for 2 hours, and then IL-6 and ROS were detected with or without the addition of 300 mmol/L PA for 24 hours. Finally, to demonstrate that PPARG regulates IL-6 and ROS in part through PPRC1, PPARG was activated with 30 mmol/L RGZ, PPRC1 was inhibited by simultaneous transfection with 40 pmol per well of PPRC1 siRNA, and then IL-6 and ROS were detected after 24 hours of treatment.

Liver sample collection in humans

Liver samples were collected from patients who underwent hepatic hemangioma surgery in the Department of Hepatobiliary and Pancreatic Surgery (Harbin Medical University Cancer Hospital, Harbin, China). This study included 46 patients aged 31 to 74 years old, including 25 men and 21 women. The study protocol was registered with the number ChiCTR1900021884 and was approved by the Human Research Ethics Committee of the hospital. Written informed consent was obtained from all patients.

Method details

Physical performance tests

Shuttle box (Taimeng, Chengdu, China), Morris water maze (Taimeng, Chengdu, China), and treadmill (Taimeng, Chengdu, China) tests were performed on young rats ($n = 5-6$ per group; age = 64 weeks) between 13:00 and 18:00. For the shuttle box test, the results of conditional responses and error response times were recorded. As described previously (Da Mesquita et al., 2018), animals that had adapted to the box for 5 min were trained for 5 consecutive days and tested on the 6th day. During the length of the experiment, the parameters were set as a 3 s conditional light stimulus and a 3 s unconditional electrical shock stimulus at 0.5–1.0 mA within a 30 s trial, with 20 trials per day.

The MWM test, as described previously (Chen et al., 2010), consisted of four days of training acquisition and an additional day of a probe trial with the water temperature kept at $23 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$. In the training trial, rats from 4 different quadrants were separately placed into a circle pool and allowed to find a platform hidden below 2 cm water within 120 s and then remain on the platform for 15 s; otherwise, the rats were manually guided to the platform. The intertrial interval for each rat was at least 5 min. In the probe trial, the platform was removed from the pool, and the number of times the rats crossed the platform site in 2 min was recorded ($n = 5-6$ per group; age = 65 weeks).

As previously described for the treadmill test (Martin-Montalvo et al., 2013), the rats were habituated at a constant speed of 5 m.min⁻¹ for 5 min. The following day, each rat was given a trial starting at 7 m.min⁻¹ for 5 min, 12 m.min⁻¹ for 15 min, 15 m.min⁻¹ for 45 min, and 19 m.min⁻¹ for 135 min. The total distance run in the treadmill test was calculated until exhaustion, which was humanely defined as the time at which the animal's hind limbs made contact with the grid four times within a two-minute period ($n = 5-6$ per group; age = 66 weeks).

Collection of blood and tissue

Animal blood was dynamically collected five times during the study using a tail-cut approach ($n = 6-8$ per group each time; survival experiment: age = 8, 28, 48, 68, 110 weeks; short-term experiment: age = 27 weeks). At the end of observation, the rats were anesthetized with chloral hydrate. The rats were deprived of food for 8 hours prior to blood collection, and serum was divided into several tubes for further measurement after being centrifuged at 3000 r/15 min at 4°C . Animal tissues were collected and weighed, and a portion of the tissue was fixed for pathology, while the remainder was rapidly frozen in liquid nitrogen and then stored at -80°C for further analysis. All procedures were carried out between 8 am and 12 pm.

Indirect calorimetry

The indirect calorimetry (TSE, German) trial was conducted in a ventilated cabinet in a standard animal experimental environment (the details are as described above). Bedding material was used to cover the cage floor, and the rats were allowed to acclimate in respirometry cages for 2 hours prior to the start of measurement. The experiment began at 9 am and was monitored for 3 consecutive days. During this period, the rats had free access to water and were fed an isocaloric diet. Furthermore, stable air pressure and flow rates were considered important for acquiring meaningful calorimetry results. Food intake and body weight were recorded to confirm the health status of rats. Other measurements included O₂ inhalation (VO₂) (i.e. O₂ consumption) and CO₂ expiration (VCO₂) (i.e. CO₂ production) at 3-minute intervals. Respiratory exchange ratio (RER) and total energy expenditure (EE) (i.e. heat production) readouts were directly outputted to the computer. We collected the data from the last 2 days for analysis to avoid deviations caused by the new environment ($n = 15$, age = 68 weeks).

Proteomics analysis

The livers of aging rats (age = 110 weeks) were collected, quickly frozen in liquid nitrogen, and prepared for proteomic analysis using iTRAQ-LC-MS/MS. The protocol was conducted as follows. i) Protein extraction and QC of protein extraction. Proteins were extracted with TissueLyser and further quantified by a Bradford assay. ii) Protein digestion. Trypsin digestion was performed with Trypsin Gold (Promega, Madison, WI, USA). iii) Peptide labeling. Peptide labeling was conducted with an iTRAQ Reagent 8-plex Kit according to the manufacturer's protocol. iv) Peptide fractionation. The peptides were separated using a Shimadzu LC-20AB

HPLC Pump system coupled with a high-pH RP column. v) HPLC for chromatographic separation. The separation was performed with an LC-20AD nano-HPLC instrument (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan) with a C18 trap column. vi) Mass spectrometer detection. The peptides separated from nano-HPLC were subjected to tandem mass spectrometry on a Q EXACTIVE (Thermo Fisher Scientific, San Jose, CA) for data-dependent acquisition (DDA) detection by nanoelectrospray ionization. vii) Data analysis. All proteins were identified with a 1% false discovery rate (FDR) and further enriched using DAVID (<https://david.ncifcrf.gov/>) for GO and KEGG analysis. PPI was performed in STRING (<https://string-db.org/>) and Cytoscape (version 3.6.1). A fold change of > 1.2 with a p value of < 0.05 was considered to be the cut off for differentially expressed proteins. Additional detailed protocols are as follows:

Protein extraction

- (1) Mix 0.5 ml of lysis buffer 3 (8 M Urea, 40 mM Tris-HCl or TEAB with 1mM PMSF, 2mM EDTA and 10mM DTT, pH 8.5) with 100 mg of liver sample, and place in a 1.5 ml centrifuge tube.
- (2) The mixtures were placed into a TissueLyser with two magnetic beads (diameter 5mm) for 2min at 50Hz to release proteins.
- (3) Centrifugation with 25,000g at 4°C for 20min, and the supernatant was transferred into a new tube.
- (4) Add 10 mM dithiothreitol (DTT) to the supernatant, and 56°C water bath for 1 hour.
- (5) Return to room temperature and then alkylate by 55 mM iodoacetamide (IAM) in the dark at room temperature for 45min.
- (6) Following centrifugation (25,000 g, 4°C, 20 min), the supernatant containing proteins was quantified by Bradford

Quality control of protein extraction

- (1) Protein quantitation with Bradford assay. Protein was quantitated according to the manufacturers' protocol.
- (2) SDS-PAGE. After Mixing 30µg proteins with loading buffer in centrifuge tube, heat them at 95°C for 5 minutes to make protein sample. Load the protein sample to holes in 12% polyacrylamide gel and then run SDS-PAGE at 120V constant voltage for 120 minutes. After electrophoresis, stain gel with Coomassie Blue for 2 hours, then add destaining solution (40% ethanol and 10% acetic acid) and shake it for 3-5 times, each time for 30 minutes.

Protein digestion

The protein solution (100ug) with 8M urea was diluted 4 times with 100mM TEAB. Protein was digested by Trypsin Gold (Promega, Madison, WI, USA) with the ratio of protein: trypsin = 40: 1 at 37°C overnight. After trypsin digestion, peptides were desalted with a Strata X C18 column (Phenomenex) and vacuum-dried according to the manufacturer's protocol.

Peptide labeling

The peptides were dissolved in 30ul 0.5M TEAB and vortex. Peptide labeling was conducted by ITRAQ Reagent 8-plex Kit (Sigma-Aldrich, Taufkirchen, Germany) according to the manufacturer's protocol. One unit of ITRAQ Reagent - 8-plex labels 60ug of protein digest. A total of eight samples were labeled with ITRAQ Reagent 8-plex Kit. The labeled peptides with different reagents were combined and desalted with a Strata X C18 column (Phenomenex) and vacuum-dried according to the manufacturer's protocol. The pH value was higher than 7.5 after labeling and the total labeling efficiency was 0.96%.

Peptide fractionation

The peptides were separated on a Shimadzu LC-20AB HPLC Pump system coupled with a high pH RP column. The peptides were reconstituted to 2 ml with mobile phase A (5% ACN, 95% H₂O, pH adjusted to 9.8 with ammonia) and loaded onto a column containing 5µm particles (phenomenex). Elute at a flow rate gradient of 1 ml/ min: 5% mobile phase B (5% H₂O, 95% ACN, adjust pH to 9.8 with ammonia) for 10 min, 5-35% mobile phase B for 40min, 35-95% mobile phase B for 1 min, 95% mobile phase B for 3 min and 5% mobile phase B for 10 min. Elution was monitored by measuring absorbance at 214 nm, and fractions were collected every 1 min. The eluted peptides were pooled as 20 fractions and vacuum-dried.

HPLC

Each fraction was resuspended in mobile phase A (2% ACN and 0.1% FA in water) and then centrifuged at 20,000 g for 10 min. The supernatant was loaded onto a C18 trap column 5 µl/min for 8min using a LC-20AD nano-HPLC instrument (Shimadzu, Kyoto, Japan) by the autosampler. Then, the peptides were eluted from trap column and separated by an analytical C18 column (inner diameter 75 µm) packed in-house. The gradient was as following at 300 nl/min: 5% mobile phase B (98% ACN, 0.1% FA) for 0-8 min; 8%-35% mobile phase B for 8-43 min; 35%-60% mobile phase B for 43-48 min; 60%-80% mobile phase B for 48-50 min; 80% mobile phase B for 50-55 min; 5% mobile phase B for 55-65 min.

Mass spectrometer detection

The peptides separated by nanoHPLC were ionized by nanoESI source and then subjected into the tandem mass spectrometry Q EXACTIVE (Thermo Fisher Scientific, San Jose, CA) for DDA (data-dependent acquisition) detection. The main parameters were listed as following: electrospray voltage: 1.6 kV; precursor scan range: 350-1600 m/z at a resolution of 70,000 in Orbitrap; MS/MS fragment scan range: >100 m/z at a resolution of 17,500 in HCD mode; normalized collision energy setting: 27%; dynamic exclusion time: 15 s; automatic gain control (AGC) for full MS target and MS2 target: 3e6 and 1e5, respectively; the number of MS/MS scans following one MS scan: 20 most abundant precursor ions above a threshold ion count of 20000. The instrument was operated in positive mode.

Bioinformatics pipeline

MS/MS raw data

Raw data must be converted to MGF files for bioinformatics analysis by thermo scientific tool Proteome Discoverer. For an MS/MS Ions Search, each query represents a complete MS/MS spectrum, and is delimited by a pair of statements: BEGIN IONS and END IONS.

MS/MS ion search and canonical proteomics database

The exported MGF files were searched using Mascot version 2.3.02 in this project against the selected database. At least one unique peptide was necessary for the identified protein. Mascot search parameters are as follows:

Item	Value
Type of search	MS/MS ion search
Enzyme	Trypsin
Fragment mass tolerance	0.05Da
Mass values	Monoisotopic
Variable modifications	Oxidation (M), iTRAQ8plex (Y)
Peptide mass Tolerance	20ppm
Fixed modifications	Carbamidomethyl (C), iTRAQ8plex (N-term), iTRAQ8plex (K)
Database	I-cxPBT002 (35814 sequences)
Database_info	Rtus_norvegicus(uniprot,20171117)

Protein quantification

An automated software called IQuant (Wen et al., 2014) was applied for quantitatively analyzing the labeled peptides with isobaric tags. To assess the confidence of peptides, the PSMs were pre-filtered at a PSM-level FDR of 1%. Then based on the "simple principle" (the parsimony principle), identified peptide sequences were assembled into a set of confident proteins. In order to control the false-positive rate of protein, the process filtered again at the protein level with 1% FDR (protein-level FDR <= 0.01) based on Picked protein FDR strategy. The protein quantification process included the following steps: protein identification, tag impurity correction, data normalization, missing value imputation, protein ratio calculation, statistical analysis and results presentation. IQuant quantification parameters are as follows:

Item	Value
Quant_peptide	Use All Unique peptide
Quant_number	At least one unique spectra
Normalization	VSN
Protein_Ratio	Weighted average
Statistical Analysis	Permutation Tests

GO enrichment and pathway enrichment

A total of 4830 proteins were identified and further enriched using DAVID (<https://david.ncifcrf.gov/>) for GO and KEGG analysis. PPI was performed in STRING (<https://string-db.org/>) and cytoscape (version 3.6.1). The fold changes of > 1.2 with p-values < 0.05 were considered as a cut off for differential proteins.

Western blot analysis

Total protein from liver, kidney and muscle tissues from rats aged 28 or 110 weeks was extracted with RIPA lysis buffer (Beyotime, Shanghai, China) plus phenylmethanesulfonyl fluoride (PMSF) (Beyotime, Shanghai, China). The detailed western blot protocol used in our laboratory was described previously (Niu et al., 2013). The following antibodies were used for western blotting: FLOT1, CAT, GSK3 β , FAS and ACC (Cell Signaling Technology, Beverly, MA, USA); CD36 and CPT1A (Abcam, Cambridge, MA, USA); PPARG (Cell Signaling Technology, Beverly, MA, USA or Wanleibio, Shenyang, China); NF- κ B P65 and IL-6 (Wanleibio, Shenyang, China); NCALD (Absin, Shanghai, China); PPRC1 (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, CA, USA or OriGene Technologies, Origene, Maryland, USA); and β -actin, CPT2 and secondary antibody (Santa Cruz Biotechnology, Santa Cruz, CA, USA or Promega Biotech, Beijing, China).

Quantitative real-time PCR

Total RNA was isolated from cells with TRIzol reagent (Invitrogen, CA, USA) according to the manufacturer's instructions. RNA was reverse transcribed to cDNA using a High-Capacity cDNA Reverse Transcription Kit (Applied Biosystems, CA, USA). Real-time PCR was performed with SYBR Green PCR Master Mix and the 7500 FAST Real-time PCR System (Applied Biosystems, CA,

USA). Human and rat β -actin gene primers were purchased from Sangon Biotech (Sangon Biotech, Jiangsu, China). The sequences of all primers are listed as follows:

Primers	Sequences
fruit fly-rpl32-FORWARD	GCACTTCATCCGCCACCAGTC
fruit fly-rpl32-REVERSE	TGCGCTTGTTCCGATCCGTAACC
fruit fly-dh-PPRC1(spargel)-FORWARD	AAGGAAGCACCAGCACCGAATG
fruit fly-dh-PPRC1(spargel)-REVERSE	GTGCTCCAGCGTAGATGAACC
fruit fly-dh-PPARG(Eip75B)-FORWARD	CTCCACCATCAGCATCAGCATCAG
fruit fly-dh-PPARG(Eip75B)-REVERSE	CGCCGACTCCAGCAACTTGAC
fruit fly-whd-FORWARD	TGTTCCGACCGCTGCTTGATGATG
fruit fly-whd-REVERSE	ACTCCTCCCACCAATCCGACAC
fruit fly-crq-FORWARD	TGCTGAACCATGAAGGCGGAAAG
fruit fly-crq-REVERSE	GCCACCCGAAGCGTTTGTAGG
fruit fly-cpt2-FORWARD	GCCGATGGGAAGGTGTTTCATAGAC
fruit fly-cpt2-REVERSE	GCTACTGCTGCTCTGCTGGATG
fruit fly-acc-FORWARD	AGCAGGCAGGTCAGGTGTGG
fruit fly-acc-REVERSE	CAATCAGCGGCAACTCCTCTCG
fruit fly-dorsal-FORWARD	AGCAGCAGCAGCAGCAACAG
fruit fly-dorsal-REVERSE	TGCCGCCGAGAATTTACTTTCCC
fruit fly-cat-FORWARD	GAACGGCTATGGCTCGCACAC
fruit fly-cat-REVERSE	CCAAGTATCGGCGGTCTTCAC
human-actb- FORWARD	CCTGGCACCCAGCACAAAT
human-actb- REVERSE	GGGCCGGACTCGTCATAC
human-pparg-FORWARD	AGATCATTTACACAATGCTGGC
human-pparg-REVERSE	TAAAGTCACCAAAGGCTTTTCG
human-pprc1-FORWARD	AACTACGGCTTCGTCACCTTATC
human-pprc1-REVERSE	AGATCAGAATAGCTCCTCTTGC
rat-actb-FORWARD	TGTCACCAACTGGGACGATA
rat-actb- REVERSE	GGGGTGTGAAGGTCTCAAA
rat-ncald-FORWARD	GCCAGATGGACACCAACAGAGATG
rat-ncald-REVERSE	GCAGGAGACGCACAATGGATGG
rat-flot1-FORWARD	TGGACATGCTGCTGGAGAACTG
rat-flot1-REVERSE	CATGGTTCCGCTTCCGCTAGAC
rat-gsk3b-FORWARD	CAATCGCACTGTGTAGCCGTCTC
rat-gsk3b-REVERSE	GGTGTGTCTCGCCATTTGGTAG
rat-pprc1-FORWARD	GCTGATGATCTGACACTGCCTGAG
rat-pprc1-REVERSE	GAATCTGCCGCACGACCACTG
rat-scot-FORWARD	GGGGTGTGCCTGCTACTTTTCC
rat-scot-REVERSE	ACACAACCCGAAACCACCAACC

Data were normalized to endogenous ribosomal protein L32, human β -actin and rat β -actin gene expression in flies, humans and rats, respectively. All real-time primer sequences were validated for specificity and efficiency prior to use.

Food intake measurement in *Drosophila*

The capillary feeder (CAFE) method described by Diegelmann et al. was used with some modifications (Diegelmann et al., 2017). Ten male flies aged 15 days were transferred to a fly chamber made of a fly vial maintained in an incubator at 25°C with 60% humidity. Ten chambers were set up as replicates. A 10 μ L calibration capillary (VWR, West Chester, USA) was used to measure food intake on fly medium without agar by marking the food level, and mineral oil was added to each capillary to minimize food evaporation. After 24 h of feeding, food intake was recorded as the length (each 5 mm length is usually equal to 1 μ L of liquid food) between the two markers on the feeding capillary minus the average length between the two markers on the evaporation control. Finally, *Drosophila* food intake was calculated by averaging the daily food consumption every three days.

Quantification and statistical analysis

Survival assessment

Animals were inspected daily, and rat trajectories were recorded in detail. Instant necropsy was carried out for dead and euthanized animals, and animal tissues and blood were collected for further diagnosis of causes of death. The criteria for euthanasia were estimated by a veterinarian according to AAALAC guidelines, and only cases where the condition of the animals was considered inharmonious with continued survival were recorded as deaths. The experiment did not end until at least half of the animals from each group died. Finally, survival curves were plotted using the Kaplan-Meier method.

Pathology examinations and quantification

Tissues (tumor, brain, heart, liver, kidney, lung, and spleen) were fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde and embedded in paraffin, and 6- μ m-thick sections were stained with hematoxylin and eosin (H&E). Histological examinations were performed by pathologists blinded to the groups. Additionally, the liver, kidney and lung were further scored for age-associated pathological changes, as previously described (Niu et al., 2013; Xie et al., 2017). At least 3-8 fields were scored.

Blood chemistry measurement

A broad range of serum parameters, including GLU, TCHO, TG, LDL-C, HDL-C, AST, ALT BUN and CRE, were dynamically quantified using a ROCHE Modular P800 Automatic Biochemical Analyzer (Roche Diagnostics, Mannheim, Germany) at different time points (survival experiment: age = 8, 28, 48, 68, and 110 weeks; short-term experiment: age = 27 weeks). SOD, GSH, MDA and NO were dynamically determined with commercial kits employing enzymatic methods (Beyotime, Shanghai, China) at 28, 68, and 110 weeks. ROS, TNF- α , IL-6 (Biotopped, Beijing, China) and insulin (Westang, Shanghai, China) were assayed using ELISA kits at 28, 68, and 110 weeks, according to the manufacturers' protocol (n = 6-8 per group at each time).

Free fatty acids measurement

The levels of FFAs in rat serum, liver, kidney and muscle (n = 7-10, age = 28 and 68 weeks), as well as in *Drosophila* (200 mg, age = 15 days), were measured by GC/MS-MS analysis using a TRACE 1310 gas chromatograph equipped with a Helium TSQ 8000 Evo mass spectrometer (Thermo Finnigan, Austin, TX, USA), as described in our earlier study with some modifications (Liu et al., 2018).

Blood beta-hydroxybutyrate levels

Blood beta-hydroxybutyrate (BHB) levels in rats were measured using kits (Jining, Shanghai, China), according to the manufacturer's instructions. (n = 6-8, age = 28, 68, and 110 weeks)

Statistical analysis

Unless otherwise stated, data are presented as the mean \pm SEM. Student's t test or one-way ANOVA with various post hoc tests, nonparametric tests or survival analysis was used for all comparisons, and two-way ANOVA was used to analyze the between-subjects factors of time and diet. A p value < 0.05 was considered statistically significant. Statistical calculations were carried out with GraphPad Software (version 7), SPSS 17.0 (SPSS, Chicago, IL, USA) or R (version 3.5.1).