

# Functional Nutrition Working Group Newsletter

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## **Assessing Insulin Resistance in Your Patients**

### What is Insulin Resistance (IR)?

- Decreased metabolic response to insulin which is thought to precede Type II Diabetes by 10-15 years
- The pancreas has to work harder to clear glucose from the blood
- Associated with overweight and increased systemic inflammation
- IR is associated with back pain, neck pain, knee pain, and other chronic health conditions such as erectile dysfunction, PCOS, vascular damage in aging, Alzheimer's disease, and chronic kidney disease

#### An Easy IR Assessment

- Request "Fasting Glucose" and "Fasting Insulin" on a blood panel
- Multiply the Fasting Glucose by the Fasting Insulin Result and divide the result by 405; this is the HOMA-IR
- If HOMA-IR is 1.5-3.0, IR is mild to moderate
- If HOMA-IR is >3.0, IR is severe

#### **Other IR Assessments:**

- Triglycerides >150
- Triglycerides > 2x the HDL
- Postprandial glucose >140
- Fasting Insulin >8.0 (an easy and commonly overlooked method!)

Next Month: How to Help Your Patients
Suffering with Insulin Resistance



Reference Cited: Freeman AM, Pennings N. Insulin Resistance. In: StatPearls. StatPearls Publishing; 2022.

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