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Supplemental Information

Obesity Reshapes Visceral Fat-Derived MHC I Associated-Immuno-peptidomes and Generates Antigenic Peptides to Drive CD8⁺ T Cell Responses

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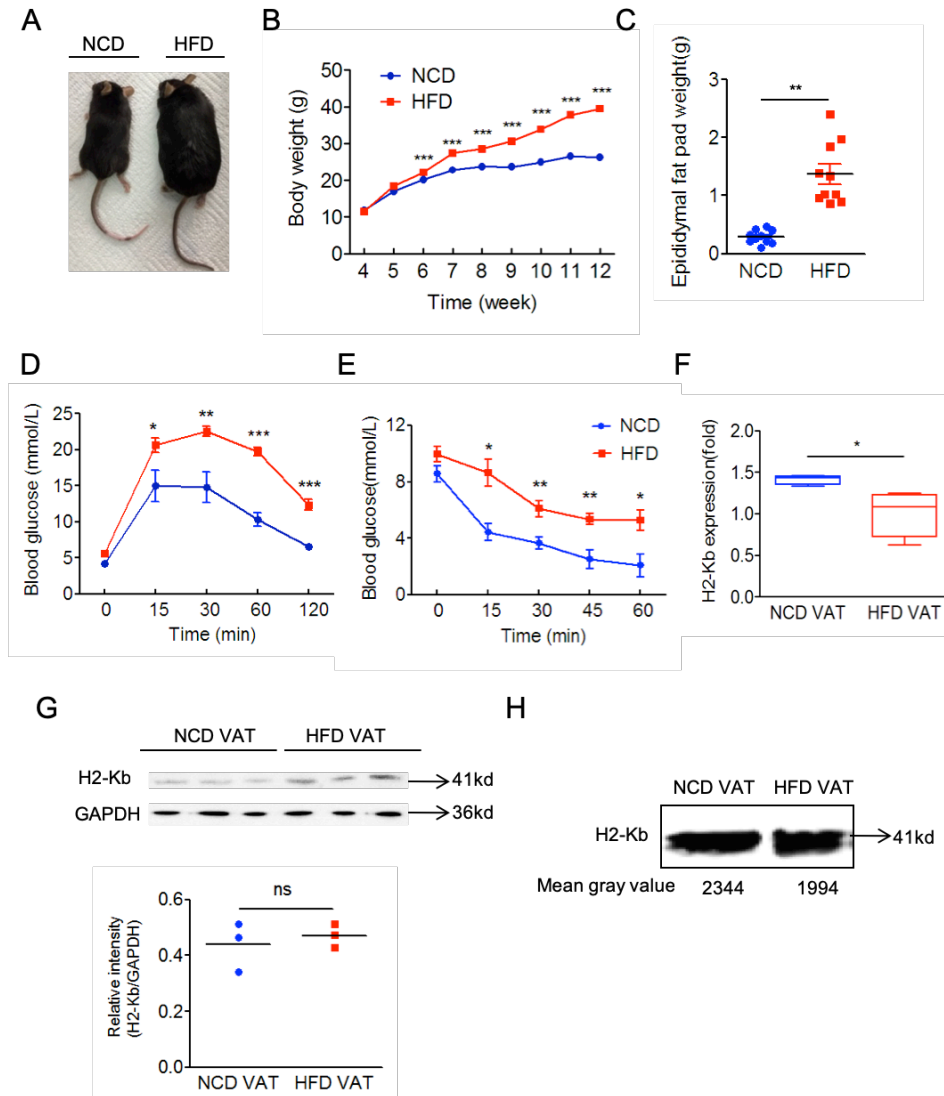


Figure S1. Establishment of high fat diet (HFD)-induced obese C57BL/6 mice model, Related to Figure 1

(A) Representative images of C57BL/6 male mice fed with a high-fat diet (HFD) or a normal diet (NCD) beginning at 4 weeks of age for 8 weeks. (B) Body weight gain of male C57BL/6 mice after 8-week HFD or NCD feeding (started at 4 weeks of age) (n=10 mice per group). The epididymal fat pad (VAT) mass from male C57BL/6 mice with HFD or NCD feeding at 12 weeks of age. (n=10 mice per group). Serum glucose levels during (D) glucose tolerance test (GTT) and (E) insulin tolerance test (ITT) in male C57BL/6 mice after 8-week HFD (n=10 mice per group). Data are means and error bars are \pm SEM. Quantitative real-time PCR analysis (n=10 mice per group) (F) and immunoblotting analyses (n=3 mice per group) (G) of H2-Kb expression in the VAT of mice after 8-week HFD or NCD feeding. (H) Immunoblotting analyses of H2-Kb in Co-IP ultrafiltration superfluid from the VAT homogenates of mice after 8-week HFD or NCD feeding.

* p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p < 0.0001, and ns: no significance, determined by Student's t-test.

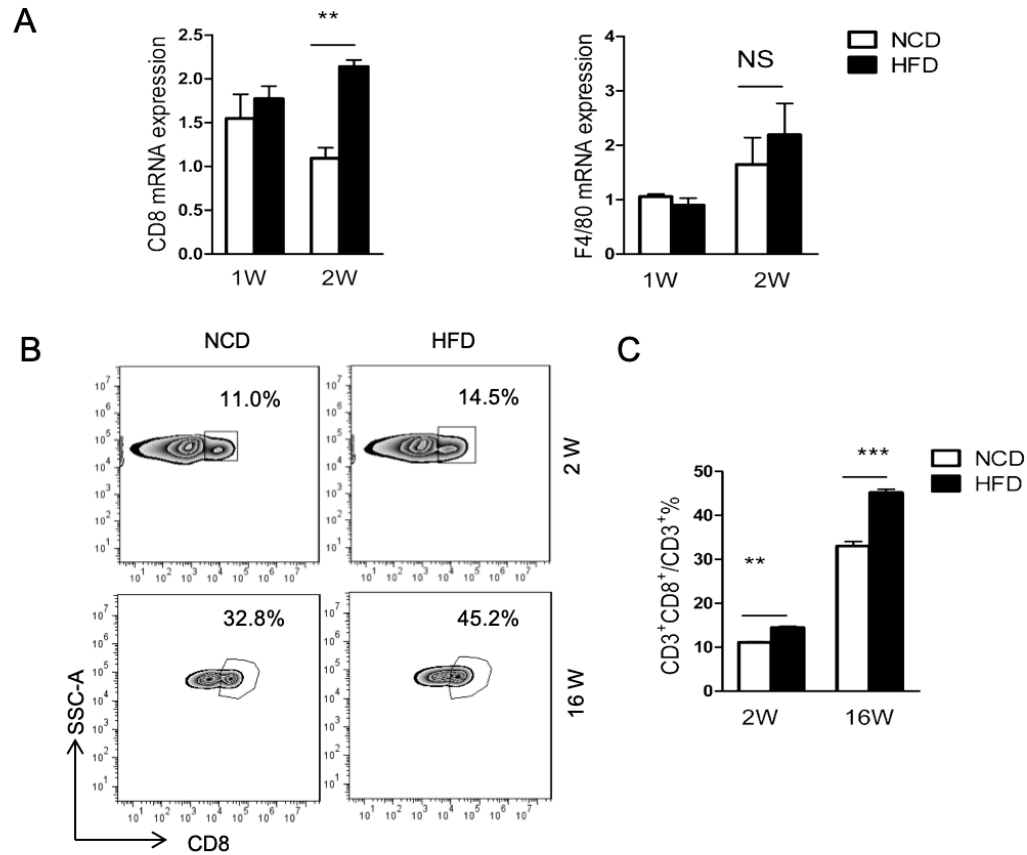


Figure S2. HFD feeding induces an early increase of CD8⁺ T cells in visceral adipose tissues, Related to Figure 3

(A) Quantitative real-time PCR analysis of CD8 and F4/80 expression in the epididymal fat pads from mice fed with NCD and HFD for 1 or 2 weeks (started at 4 weeks of age) (n=10 mice per group). Data are means and error bars are \pm SEM.

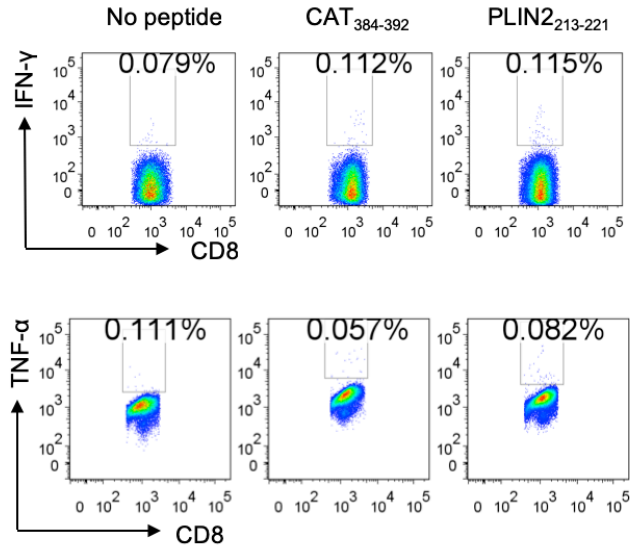
Student's t test, *p < 0.05 and **p < 0.01, ***P<0.0001

(B) Representative FACS analysis of the proportion of infiltrated CD8⁺ T cells in the epididymal fat pads from mice fed with NCD and HFD for 2 or 16 weeks (started at 4 weeks of age).

(C) Summary graph for FACS analysis of the frequency of infiltrated CD8⁺ T cells in the epididymal fat pads from mice fed with NCD and HFD for 2 and 16 weeks. Data are means and error bars are \pm SEM.

* p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, *** p<0.0001, and NS: no significance, determined by Student's t-test.

A



B

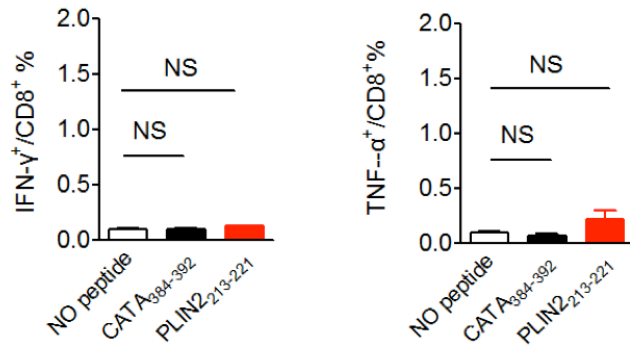


Figure S3. The peptides shared by VAT-MIPs from both NCD and HFD-fed mice have no ability to prime CD8⁺ T cells response, Related to Figure 4

(A) Representative FACS plots indicating intracellular IFN- γ and TNF- α staining of CD8⁺ T cells stimulated with the indicated peptides-loaded RAMS cells.
(B) Summary graph for FACS analysis of the frequency of IFN- γ and TNF- α -producing cells among CD8⁺ T cells stimulated with the indicated peptides. Each bar represents the mean \pm SEM of three independent experiments. NS: no significance, determined by Student's t-test.

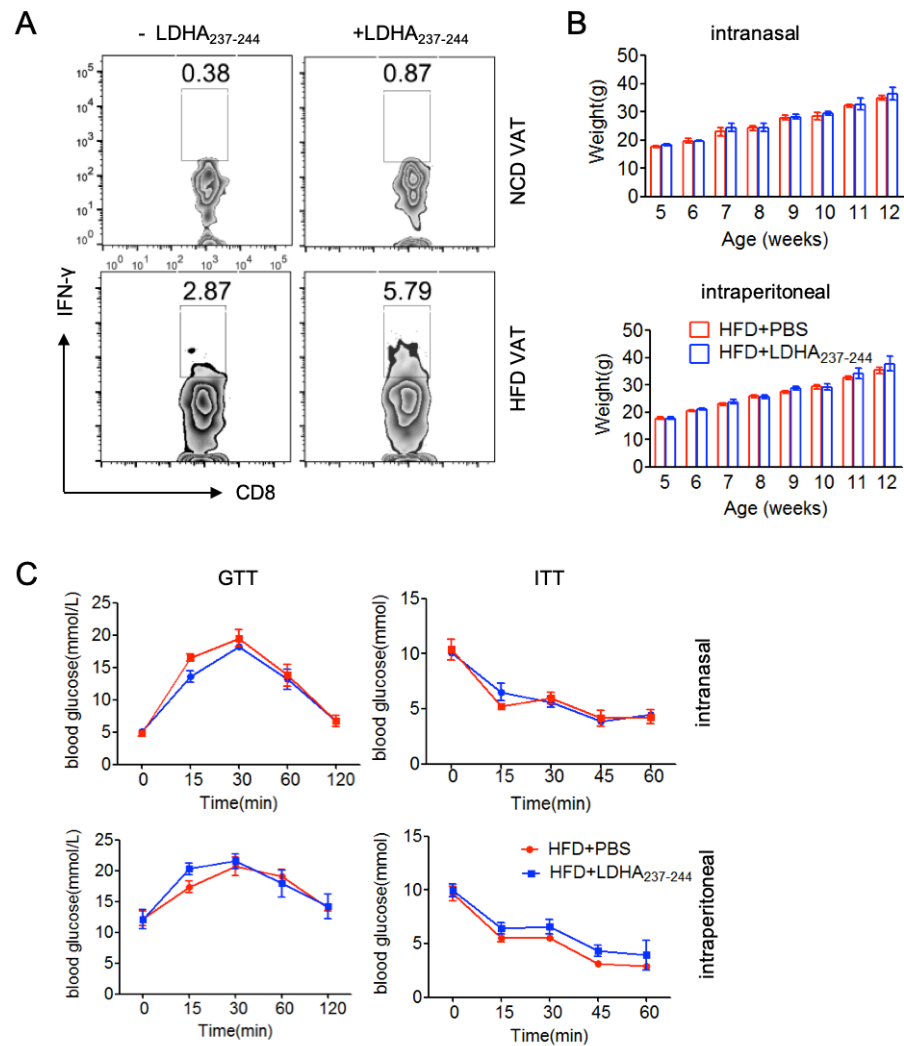


Figure S4. Intranasal or intraperitoneal administration of a single LDHA₂₃₇₋₂₄₄ peptide fails to affect the weight gain, glucose intolerance and insulin resistance in HFD-fed obese mice, Related to Figure 5

(A) Representative FACS indicating intracellular IFN- γ staining of VAT-infiltrated CD8⁺ T cells stimulated with RMAS cells with RMAS cells loaded with or without LDHA₂₃₇₋₂₄₄ peptide.

(B) Comparison of changes in body weight between high-fat diet (HFD)-fed mice treated intranasally (upper) or intraperitoneally (lower) with LDHA₂₃₇₋₂₄₄ and PBS (n=4-5 mice per group). Error bars represent means \pm SEM.

(C) Results of glucose tolerance (GTT) (i.p. 1 g per kg glucose, after 16 h fasting) and insulin tolerance (ITT) (i.p., 0.75 U insulin per kg body weight, after 3.5 h fasting) tests in HFD-fed mice treated intranasally (upper) or intraperitoneally (lower) with LDHA₂₃₇₋₂₄₄ and PBS (n =5 mice per group). Error bars represent means \pm SEM. Data are representative of two experiments.

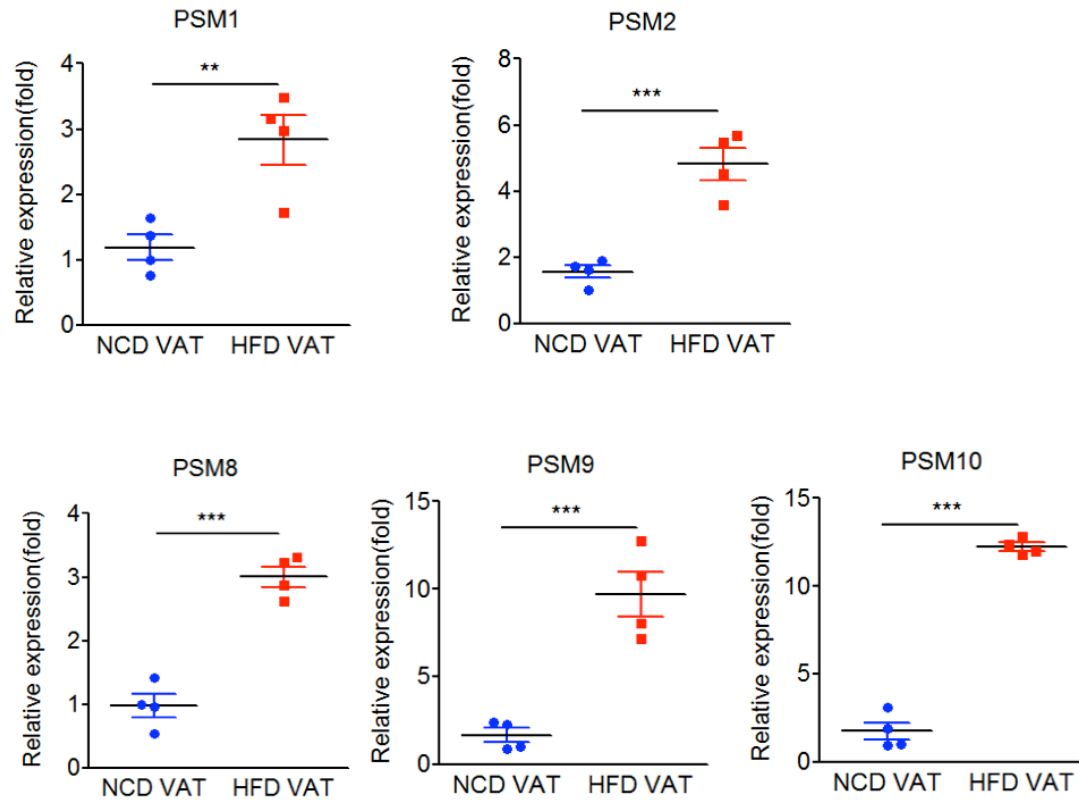


Figure S5. The mRNA expression of proteasomes (PSM1/2) and immunoproteasomes (PSM8/9/10) is increased in obese visceral adipose tissues,

Related to Figure 6

Quantitative real-time PCR analysis of the mRNA expression of proteasomes (PSM1/2) and immunoproteasomes (PSM8/9/10) catalytic subunits in the epididymal fat pads from mice after 4-week NCD or HFD feeding (4 mice per group) Data are means and error bars are \pm SEM.

* p < 0.05, ** p < 0.01, and *** p < 0.0001, determined by Student's t-test.

Table S3. The exclusive high confidence H2-Kb-bound peptides from visceral adipose tissues of HFD-fed mice, Related to Figure 2

HFD VAT-exclusive	Sequence	Length	Charge	MH+ [Da]	ΔM [ppm]	RT [min]	Proteins	Protein Accessions	Mascot IonScore	Sequest q-Value	MHC binding Affinity (IC ₅₀ nM)
MIP											
1.	AALIYTSV	8	1	837.4681	-4.22	32	2	Q6PDL0,Q8R1Q8	31		67.9
2.	AAVKFHNL	8	2	899.5085	-1.48	13.39	1	Q64521	26		15.8
3.	AAYEFTTL	8	1	915.4449	-1.06	36.61	1	P32233	25		3.3
4.	ANVQYMRV	8	2	980.496	-2.34	18.99	1	Q61805	34		31.8
5.	ASTIAYLAL	9	2	922.5235	-1.04	28.57	1	O70503	28		252.5
6.	ASVVFNQL	8	2	877.477	-0.9	18.86	1	Q64288	25		10.9
7.	ATLRYASL	8	2	894.5022	-2.45	21.8	1	Q9DBR4	23		3.9
8.	DFFNAGL	8	1	946.4321	1.68	33.05	1	P12265	27		43.4
9.	FAASYSAL	8	1	829.4089	-0.24	28.48	1	Q8BFW3	22		81.8
10.	GQYEFHSL	8	2	980.4457	-1.55	23.22	1	Q61805	33		91.9
11.	IGPYFEHNM	9	2	1107.491	-1.53	25.46	1	Q8VCB3	24		60.6
12.	ISDVRTQL	9	2	1030.586	-3.22	31.18	1	P55065	22		355.6
13.	KSYDMSQV	8	2	957.4305	-4.36	27.95	1	Q8C8J0	21		199.4
14.	KSYLMNKL	8	2	996.5522	-2.54	17.72	3	Q01514,Q8CFB4, Q9Z0E6	28		29.4
15.	KVYTFNSV	8	2	957.5032	-0.91	21.38	3	G5E829,Q6Q477, Q9R0K7	27		10.5
16.	LAAQFSQL	8	2	877.477	-0.9	18.86	1	Q9DCB4	31		62
17.	LAPVYQRL	8	2	959.5665	-0.89	22.4	1	P82198	26		17.7
18.	NSFRYNGL	8	2	970.4738	-0.34	21.83	1	P41105	21		9.3
19.	QNYTYSSL	8	1	975.4399	-1.91	26.3	1	Q810S1	21		3.9

20.	RSYDFEFM	8	2	1094.459	-1.76	35.43	1	P40336	21		21.5
21.	SAPQFSKL	8	2	877.4777	-0.21	18.92	1	Q8K007	28		13.9
22.	SAPQYSRL	8	2	921.4781	-0.88	14.1	1	Q8CFG0	24		8.1
23.	SAYQRGESL	9	2	1010.488	-2.32	12.24	1	O35382	26		233.2
24.	SGLKYVNV	8	2	879.4932	-0.3	20.85	1	Q8VCP8	26		14.6
25.	SGLVYKNV	8	2	879.4922	-1.47	20.64	1	Q80TI1	26		30.4
26.	SGNIFVASL	9	2	907.4867	-1.83	27.44	1	O88495	25		35.8
27.	SIVSYNHL	8	2	932.4822	-1.5	22.3	1	Q9JHU9	21		10.2
28.	SNPEFRQL	8	2	990.4994	-0.99	18.61	1	Q3UWM4	27		17.3
29.	SSGDFPSL	8	1	809.3663	-1.58	32.32	1	Q9WVK4	24		138.2
30.	SSYNYRVV	8	2	987.4875	-1.98	18.4	1	P11881	26		5.4
31.	STFSFTKV	8	2	916.4765	-1.09	25.63	1	Q3TZZ7	21		7.7
32.	TTYKYEMI	8	2	1048.502	-0.21	24.58	1	Q8QZY1	28		28.6
33.	VFTEVANL	8	1	892.4758	-1.94	34.23	1	Q62141	22		195.2
34.	VFYEREVQM	9	2	1200.569	-2.64	25.49	1	Q80SY3	31		86.2
35.	VGINYREV	8	2	949.5077	-2.65	20.47	1	Q01320	22		46.2
36.	VNFEFPEF	8	2	1028.47	-1.98	50.37	1	P62082	22		43.3
37.	VNILENYL	8	2	977.5284	-1.93	31.24	1	Q64435	22		402.5
38.	VNIQYEVI	8	2	977.5284	-1.93	31.24	1	Q60961	25		324.5
39.	VNIQYLDL	8	2	977.529	-1.24	31.14	1	Q8R0G9	21		17
40.	AIYAFSHL	8	2	921.482	-1	30.93	1	Q9JJ59		0	2.2
41.	GTYDYTQL	8	1	960.4302	-0.77	30.12	1	Q8K2A8		0	31.7
42.	RAPVYARI	8	2	945.5602	-2.83	13.58	1	P52840		0	25
43.	RAYLFAHV	8	2	976.5349	-1.48	22.42	1	Q5SWD9		0	2.5
44.	RVYEFTRA	8	2	1041.546	-1.74	13.38	1	Q8VI38		0.049	45.2
45.	SGYDYYHV	8	2	1003.415	-0.8	22.78	1	O08785		0	6.9

46.	SQYRFEHL	8	2	1079.525	-1.46	17.98	1	Q3UJK4		0	3.8
47.	SSPKFSEI	8	2	894.4559	-1.01	18.91	1	Q91VM3		0	53.5
48.	AAYGFRNI	8	2	911.4717	-1.91	23.04	1	Q9CYQ7	30	0	9.6
49.	IGPRYSSV	8	2	878.4706	-2.85	15.19	1	Q5PRF0	26	0	19.4
50.	SAPLYTNL	8	1	878.46	-2.13	31	1	Q8K4S1	25	0	4.6
51.	SAYEVIKL	8	2	922.5235	-1.04	28.57	2	P06151,P16125	38	0	56.8
52.	STFVYNTM	8	1	962.4263	-2.65	29.89	1	Q8CFB4	38	0	7.7
53.	SAYEFYHA	8	2	987.4195	-1.22	22.43	1	P97481	26		13
54.	SGTQYFRV	8	2	957.477	-1.99	19.42	1	P97412	21		201.2
55.	SLYQPAGL	8	1	848.4503	-1.12	31	1	P19096	40		70.7
56.	SSPHYTTL	8	2	905.4344	-2.16	14.13	1	P27046		0	12.2
57.	STTVFHSL	8	2	891.4551	-2.26	21.06	1	P19096		0	44.2

Note: five of the peptides highlighted in red color did not display HFD VAT MIP specificity at the source protein level.

Table S4. Peptides and their potential source proteins found to be exclusively expressed in VAT MIP from HFD-induced obese mice as described in Section 2, Related to Figure 2

Peptide		Source Protein			
Sequence	Length	Affinity(nM)	Accession No	Name	Peptide Position
<u>Proteins involved in Glucose metabolism</u>					
AAVKFHNL	8	15.8	Q64521	Glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase 2	450-457
DFFNYAGL	8	43.4	P12265	Beta-glucuronidase	206-213
IGPYFEHNM	9	60.6	Q8VCB3	Glycogen synthase 2	66-74
SAYEVIKL	8	56.8	P06151	L-lactate dehydrogenase A chain	237-244
			P16125	L-lactate dehydrogenase B chain	238-245
<u>Proteins involved in lipid metabolic process</u>					
ASTIAYLAL	9	252.5	O70503	17-beta-hydroxysteroid dehydrogenase 12	16-24
ISDVRVTQL	9	355.6	P55065	Phospholipid transfer protein	65-73
RAPVYARI	8	25	P52840	Sulfotransferase 1A1	68-75
RVYEFTRA	8	45.2	Q8VI38	Forssman glycolipid synthase	271-278
SAPLYTNL	8	4.6	Q8K4S1	Phosphoinositide phospholipase C-epsilon-1	1232-1239
SIVSYNHL	8	10.2	Q9JHU9	Inositol-3-phosphate synthase 1	328-335
STFSFTKV	8	7.7	Q3TZZ7	Extended synaptotagmin-2	157-164
<u>Proteins involved in protein metabolism</u>					
AAYEFTTL	8	3.3	P32233	Developmentally-regulated GTP-binding protein 1	92-99
NSFRYNGL	8	9.3	P41105	60S ribosomal protein L28	36-43
SNPEFRQL	8	17.3	Q3UWM4	Lysine-specific demethylase 7A	775-782
SQYRFEHL	8	3.8	Q3UJK4	GTP-binding protein 2 (GTP-binding-like protein 2)	78-85
SSPKFSEI	8	53.5	Q91VM3	WD repeat domain phosphoinositide-interacting protein 4	70-77
TTYKYEMI	8	28.6	Q8QZY1	Eukaryotic translation initiation factor 3 subunit L	353-360

VFTEVANL	8	195.2	Q62141	Paired amphipathic helix protein Sin3b	205-212
VNFEFPEF	8	43.3	P62082	40S ribosomal protein S7	185-192
<u>Proteins involved in establishment of localization</u>					
AIYAFSHL	8	2.2	Q9JJ59	ATP-binding cassette sub-family B member 9	23-30
IGPRYSSV	8	19.4	Q5PRF0	HEAT repeat-containing protein 5A	1980-1987
			Q6Q477	Plasma membrane calcium-transporting ATPase 4	565-572
KVYTFNSV	8	10.5	Q9R0K7	Plasma membrane calcium-transporting ATPase 2	553-560
			G5E829	Plasma membrane calcium-transporting ATPase 1	574-581
LAPVYQRL	8	17.7	P82198	Transforming growth factor-beta-induced protein ig-h3	670-677
QNYTYSSL	8	3.9	Q810S1	Calcium uniporter regulatory subunit MCUb	281-288
RSYDFEFM	8	21.5	P40336	Vacuolar protein sorting-associated protein 26A	105-112
VFYEREVQM	9	86.2	Q80SY3	V-type proton ATPase subunit d 2	292-300
VNIQYLDL	8	17	Q8R0G9	Nuclear pore complex protein Nup133	337-344
<u>Proteins involved in response to stimulus</u>					
			Q6PDL0	Cytoplasmic dynein 1 light intermediate chain 2	267-274
AALIYTSV	8	67.9	Q8R1Q8	Cytoplasmic dynein 1 light intermediate chain 1	280-287
ANVQYMRV	8	31.8			474-481
GQYEFHSL	8	91.9	Q61805	Lipopolysaccharide-binding protein	74-81
ASVVFNQL	8	10.9	Q64288	Olfactory marker protein	156-163
ATLRYASL	8	3.9	Q9DBR4	Amyloid-beta A4 precursor protein-binding family B member 2	387-394
FAASYSAL	8	81.8	Q8BFW3	Protein phosphatase 1 regulatory subunit 15B	93-100
KSYLMNKL	8	29.4			51-58
STFVYNTM	8	7.7	Q8CFB4	Guanylate-binding protein 5	124-131
LAAQFSQL	8	62	Q9DCB4	cAMP-regulated phosphoprotein 21	547-554
SAPQFSKL	8	13.9	Q8K007	Extracellular sulfatase Sulf-1	230-237
SAPQYSRL	8	8.1	Q8CFG0	Extracellular sulfatase Sulf-2	231-238

SAYQRGESL	9	233.2	O35382	Exocyst complex component 4	322-330
SGNIFVASL	9	35.8	O88495	G protein-coupled receptor 50	70-78
SGYDYYHV	8	6.9	O08785	Circadian locomoter output cycles protein kaput	308-315
SSGDFPSL	8	138.2	Q9WVK4	EH domain-containing protein 1	349-356
SSYNYRVV	8	5.4	P11881	Inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptor type 1	1169-1176
VGINYREV	8	46.2	Q01320	DNA topoisomerase 2-alpha	67-74
VNILENYL	8	402.5	Q64435	UDP-glucuronosyltransferase 1-6	214-221
<u>Others</u>					
AAYGFRNI	8	9.6	Q9CYQ7	Nuclear prelamin A recognition factor	351-358
GTYDYTQL	8	31.7	Q8K2A8	Dol-P-Man:Man(5)GlcNAc(2)-PP-Dol alpha-1,3-mannosyltransferase	84-91
KSYDMSQV	8	199.4	Q8C8J0	Sperm-tail PG-rich repeat-containing protein 2	431-438
RAYLFAHV	8	2.5	Q5SWD9	Pre-rRNA-processing protein TSR1 homolog	250-257
SGLKYVNV	8	14.6	Q8VCP8	Adenylate kinase isoenzyme 6	27-34
SGLVYKNV	8	30.4	Q80TI1	Pleckstrin homology domain-containing family H member 1	460-467
VNIQYEVI	8	324.5	Q60961	Lysosomal-associated transmembrane protein 4A	60-67

Note: peptides sequence, length, predicted H2-Kb-binding affinity (IC_{50}), protein name, accession number and function, according to Uniprot database are listed.

Table S5. Several known obesity-associated proteins are detected in the obese VAT-exclusive MIPs source proteome, Related to Figure 2

Protein ID	Protein name (gene)	Functions	Obesity-association	References
Q61805	Lipopolysaccharide-binding protein (Lbp)	Lipid binding	LBP is an inflammatory marker associated with obesity-related insulin resistance	(Kim et al., 2016; Moreno-Navarrete et al., 2012)
O88495	Melatonin-related receptor (Gpr50)	G-protein coupled receptor activity; regulating energy metabolism	GPR50 knockout mice were partially resistant to diet-induced obesity.	(Ivanova et al., 2008).
P55065	Phospholipid transfer protein (Pltp)	lipid transporter activity	PLTP mass and activity have been found to be elevated in the plasma of type 2 diabetes mellitus (T2DM) and obese patients. PLTP mass and activity have been found to be positively associated with BMI, fat mass and leptin levels. PLTP activity is independently associated with nonalcoholic fatty liver disease.	(Qin et al., 2014) (Tzotzas et al., 2009)
Q8VCB3	Glycogen synthase 2 (Gys2)	Glucose binding	GYS2 as a novel genetic factor for polycystic ovary syndrome through obesity-related condition.	(Hwang et al., 2012)

Q8CFG0	Extracellular sulfatase Sulf-2 (Sulf2)	arylsulfatase activity	SULF2 strongly predisposes to fasting and postprandial triglycerides in patients with obesity and type 2 diabetes mellitus.	(Hassing et al., 2014)
P06151	L-lactate dehydrogenase A chain (Ldha)	pyruvate fermentation to lactate	Lactate dehydrogenase gene is downregulated in visceral white adipose tissue of HFD-fed rats, suggesting a decreased anaerobic degradation of glucose in adipose tissue. As a result, pyruvate would be directed to acetyl-CoA production, which in turn would fuel fatty acid biosynthesis and triglyceride storage. However, it has also been reported that activating or overexpressing LDH-A react against lipid accumulation by deviating pyruvate to lactate. Lactate increases the destiny of white adipose cells towards a brown phenotype. The elevated level of LDHA has been suggested to be related with the reduction of body weight gain.	(Lopez et al., 2004; Parray and Yun, 2015)
Q64521	Glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase 2, mitochondrial (Gpd2)	Calcium ion binding; gluconeogenesis; NADH metabolic process	Mitochondrial glycerol 3-phosphate dehydrogenase (mGPDH) is an integral component of the respiratory chain. Lou/C, a rat strain derived from Wistar, is resistant to age- and diet-related obesity, and this feature has been shown to be linked to a high expression and activity of mitochondrial glycerol-3-phosphate dehydrogenase. Deficiency of the mitochondrial glycerol 3-phosphate dehydrogenase contributes to hepatic steatosis.	(Taleux et al., 2009) (Zheng et al., 2019)

Table S6. Selected potential candidate peptides for immunogenicity evaluation, Related to Figure 3 and Figure 4

Group	Name	Source protein	Protein_ID	Function	Sequence	IC50(nM)	HFD-VAT MIP	NCD-VAT MIP
G1	DHB ₁₆₋₂₄	17-beta-hydroxys-teroid dehydrogenase 12	O70503	Oxidoreductase; lipid metabolism	ATLRYASL	252.2	+	-
	LBP ₇₄₋₈₁	Lipopolysaccharide-binding protein	Q61805	Lipid binding; immune system process; response to stimulus	GQYEFHSL	91.9	+	-
	LDHA ₂₃₇₋₂₄₄	L-lactate dehydrogenase A or B chain	P06151	Oxidoreductase; glucose metabolism; response to stimulus	SAYEVIKL	56.8	+	-
	APBB2 ₃₈₇₋₃₉₄	Amyloid-beta A4 precursor protein-binding family B member 2	Q9DBR4	Nucleic acid-templated transcription; response to stimulus	ATLRYASL	3.9	+	-
	V-ATPase ₂₉₂₋₃₀₀	V-type proton ATPase subunit d 2	Q80SY3	Hydrolase	VFYEREVQM	86.2	+	-

G2	ITPR1 ₁₁₆₉₋₁₁₇₆	Inositol 1,4,5-trisphosphate receptor type 1	P11881	Calcium ion transport	SSYNYRVV	5.4	+	-
	EXOC4 ₃₂₂₋₃₃₀	Exocyst complex component 4	O35382	Golgi to plasma membrane transport	SAYQRGESL	233.2	+	-
	GBP5 ₁₂₄₋₁₃₁	Guanylate-binding protein 5	Q8CFB4	GTPase activity	STFVYNTM	7.7	+	-
	AK6 ₁₀₋₁₇	Adenylate kinase isoenzyme 6	Q8VCP8	ATPase activity	SGLKYVNV	14.6	+	-
	EHD1 ₃₄₉₋₃₅₆	EH domain-containing protein 1	Q9WVK4	ATP/GTP binding; calcium ion binding	SSGDFPSL	138.2	+	-
G3	CATA ₃₈₄₋₃₉₂	Catalase	P24270	Cholesterol metabolic process	ANYQRDGPM	214.7	+++	+
	PLIN2 ₂₁₃₋₂₂₁	Perilipin-2	P43883	Lipid storage; long-chain fatty acid transport	SNYERLESL	64.4	+++	+
	D19L3 ₄₃₃₋₄₄₀	Probable C-mannosyltransferase DPY19L3	Q71B07	Transferase activity	SVVAFHNL	8.69	+++++++	+

Note: a plus or multiple plus indicates the abundance of the indicated peptide in the given tissue-derived MIP; the minus sign indicates that the indicated peptide cannot be detected in the given tissue-derived MIP.

Transparent Methods

Animal models

Four-week-old male C57BL/6J wild-type mice (HFK Bioscience, Beijing, China) were maintained under a 12 h light-dark cycle in specific pathogen-free facilities, and were allowed free access to sterilized water and to either a high fat diet (HFD, D12492, 60 Kcal% fat, Research Diets) or a normal chow diet (NCD, D12450B 10 Kcal% fat, Research Diets). For the glucose tolerance test (GTT), the mice were made to fast for 16 h prior to intraperitoneal administration of glucose (1g kg^{-1}). Blood glucose was measured from tail vein at indicated time points with a glucometer (ONETOUCH Ultra). For the insulin tolerance test (ITT), mice were made to fast for 4 h prior to intraperitoneal administration of insulin (Novolin; 0.75U kg^{-1}) and blood glucose concentrations were measured at indicated time points. All procedures were approved by the Institute Animal Care and Use Committee of the Third Military Medical University (Chongqing, China).

Isolation of MIP from VAT

The epididymal fat pad (VAT samples) (total 28 g) were collected from 25 HFD-fed obese male mice or 75 NCD-fed lean male mice at 12 weeks of age from three different batches, respectively, and immediately lysed in 40 ml of ice-cold lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, 150 mM NaCl, and 1% of CHAPS, pH 8.0) containing “complete” protease inhibitor (Roche). Cell lysates were clarified by several rounds of centrifugation ($12000g$, 30 min, 4°C), and the supernatant was collected and used for immunoaffinity chromatography. The MIPs were isolated following a method described previously (Delgado et al., 2009; Escobar et al., 2008; Purcell, 2004) with some modifications. Initially, immunoaffinity columns were constructed

based on the following steps: 1) the top-cap of 1 ml HiTrap NHS-activated HP column (Code No:17-0716-01, GE Healthcare) was removed and a drop of ice-cold 1 mM HCl was introduced into the top to avoid air bubble formation; 2) 3 × 2 ml ice-cold 1 mM HCl was injected to wash out the isopropanol in the column at a flow rate not exceeding 1 ml/min. 3) For antibody coupling, 10 ml of 1 mg/ml anti-H2-Kb mAb (clone: Y-3, Bioxcell company) antibody in coupling buffer (0.2 M NaHCO₃, 0.5 M NaCl, pH 8.3) was passed through the column repeatedly at a flow rate of 1 ml/min for 4 h at 4 °C. 4) To deactivate any excess active groups that had not coupled to the ligand and to wash out the non-specifically bound ligands, 3 × 2 ml of Buffer A (0.5 M ethanolamine, 0.5 M NaCl, pH 8.3) and 3 × 2 ml of Buffer B (0.1 M sodium acetate, 0.5 M NaCl, pH 4) were injected into the column alternately; after the columns were maintained at room temperature for 15–30 min, 3 × 2 ml of Buffer B and 3 × 2 ml of Buffer A were injected into the column alternately; 15 ml of lysis buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0 150 mM NaCl and 1% of CHAPS) was injected into the column. Next, the VAT proteolytic solution was repeatedly circulated in the column overnight at a flow rate of 1 ml/min at 4°C. Following this, the column was washed with several buffers in the following order: 15 ml of wash buffer 1 (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl, and 1% of CHAPS), 15 ml of wash buffer 2 (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 150 mM NaCl in deionized H₂O), 25 ml of wash buffer 3 (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, 450 mM NaCl in deionized H₂O), and 35 ml of wash buffer 4 (50 mM Tris-HCl, pH 8.0, in deionized H₂O). Subsequently, the HLA-peptide complexes were eluted with 6 ml of 10% acetic acid. The ultrafiltration filters (3.0-kDa cutoff Microcon, Millipore) were prewashed with 0.1 N acetic acid and 10% acetonitrile to remove contaminants interfering with the mass spectrometry, and the mixture of peptides and class I heavy-chain and β₂-microglobulin were

separated by ultrafiltration at $10000 \times g$ (Escobar et al., 2008; Murphy et al., 2017). After ultrafiltration, the peptides mixtures were desalinated and concentrated by Micro-Tip reversed-phase C18 columns (Merck) (Bassani-Sternberg et al., 2010). The C18 columns were washed with 80% acetonitrile in 0.1% TFA, equilibrated with 0.1% TFA, and loaded with the peptide mixture. The C18 columns were washed additionally by 0.1% TFA. Lastly, the peptides were eluted with 400 μ l 80% acetonitrile in 0.1% TFA, and all peptide elutions were vacuum concentrated to a final volume of 20 μ l prior to mass spectrometry analysis.

MIP analysis using LC-MS/MS

MIP samples were loaded into an analytical column (Acclaim™ PepMap™ 100, 75 μ m \times 15 cm, C18, 3 μ m, 100 Å, Thermo Fisher Scientific) with a Trap Column (Acclaim™ PepMap™ 100, 75 μ m \times 2 cm, C18, 3 μ m, 100 Å, Thermo Fisher Scientific) and separated by reversed-phase chromatography (Easy nanoLC1000, Thermo Fisher Scientific) using a 120 min gradient at a flow rate of 300 nL/min. The gradient was composed of Solvent A (0.1% formic acid in water) and Solvent B (0.1% formic acid in acetonitrile); the elution gradient was as follows: 2-7% B in 3 min, 7-22% B in 96 min, 22-35% B in 10 min, 35-90% B in 2 min, 90% B for 5 min and 90-2% B in 2 min, 2% B for 2 min. The eluted peptides were sprayed into the LTQ Orbitrap using nano-electron spray ionization (NSI) at a capillary voltage of 2.5 KV and 300 °C capillary temperature. The instrument was operated in the data-dependent mode. Survey MS spectra from 350.0–1800.0 m/z were obtained in the orbitrap at 60,000 M/ Δ M resolution, followed by data dependent acquisition (DDA) of the top 16 most abundant precursor ions with an isolation window of 2.0 m/z, and followed by MS/MS scans of the ion trap using product ion scans (relative CID energy 35) of the top 16 most abundant precursor ions in the survey scan. MS

scans were captured in profile mode, while the MS/MS scans was captured in centroid mode.

The product ion scans were obtained using a 2.0-unit isolation width and normalized collision energy of 35 in an LTQ Orbitrap Velos Pro MS spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Three replicate injections were performed for each set of samples.

Database search and spectral annotation

Acquired tandem mass spectrometric spectra were searched using Mascot (version 2.3, Matrix Science) and the Sequest HT search engine with the Proteome Discoverer software (PD) (version 1.4.0.288, Thermo Fisher Scientific) against the UniProt mouse FASTA protein database and reversed decoy sequences. MS/MS spectra were captured in CID mode.

Mascot search parameters were set as follows: precursor ion mass tolerance 5 ppm, fragment ion mass tolerance 0.8Da, no enzyme specificity, oxidized methionine was allowed as a dynamic modification, FDR<5% (peptide-spectrum match level). Protein grouping was disabled, allowing multiple annotations of peptides (for example, conserved sequence mapping into multiple proteins). The Sequest HT used the same search parameters as Mascot.

Mascot and Sequest search results in technical triplicates were combined to establish datasets of HFD VAT MIP and NCD VAT MIP. Firstly, peptides with either an Ionscore>20 in Mascot search (Al-Shahib et al., 2010; Kowalewski and Stevanovic, 2013; Kumar et al., 2015; Ni et al., 2019) or a q-value<0.05 in Sequest search (Franchin et al., 2014; Kall et al., 2008) were collected. Secondly, peptide lengths were limited to 8-12 amino acids. Finally, high confidence H2-Kb-associated peptides were identified by $IC_{50}<500$ nM (NetMHC 4.0:

<http://www.cbs.dtu.dk/services/NetMHC/>), (Andreatta and Nielsen, 2016)

Determination of MHC class I motifs

We used the weblogo program (<http://weblogo.berkeley.edu/logo.cgi>) to visualize the characteristics of the binding motifs. The information content at each position in the sequence motif corresponds to the height of a column of letters. The height of each letter within the column is proportional to the frequency of the corresponding amino acid at that position.

Annotation enrichment analysis and functional annotation of MIP source proteins

Biological annotation and KEGG pathway enrichment of the VAT MIP source proteins was performed using the R package “clusterProfiler” (version 3.10.1). Terms with adjusted P value < 0.01 were considered significant.

Peptide Synthesis

The peptides were synthesized at a purity >95% at the Chinese Peptide Company (Hangzhou, China). Synthetic peptides were used for validation of LC-MS/MS identification as well as for functional experiments.

H2-Kb binding assays

Peptide binding to H2-Kb was measured using the transporter associated with TAP-deficient RMA-S cell line. Briefly, RMA-S cells were cultured overnight in complete medium at 26 °C, 5% CO₂. The RMA-S cells (1x10⁶ cells/ml) were incubated with or without each peptide pool (total 100 µg/ml) for 3 h at 26 °C, followed by a second incubation for 3 h at 37 °C, 5% CO₂. An H2-Kb-binding LCMV peptide GP₃₃₋₄₁ (KAVYNFATM) was used as a positive control. After incubation, the cells were washed twice with ice-cold PBS and stained with PE-conjugated anti-mouse H2-Kb mAb (eBioscience, AF6) for 30 min at 4 °C. The cells were washed and detected by flow cytometry (BD FACS Calibur). Data analysis was performed using the FlowJo software (v7.6.3, Treestar, San Carlos, CA, USA).

Amplification of Peptide-Specific CD8⁺T Cells and intracellular cytokine staining

Splenocytes isolated from C57BL/6J mice were stimulated with each peptide pool or single peptide (100 µg/ml) in complete medium containing recombinant IL-2 (30 IU/ml; Roche), and half the medium was replaced with complete medium supplemented with IL-2 every 3–4 days. Cell cultures were restimulated with the peptide pool or single peptide (50 µg/ml)-pulsed RMA cells or only RMA cells on day 7. To block the H2-Kb-restricted recognition of CD8⁺ T cells, anti-H2-Kb antibody Y-3 (10 µg/ml) was added to the cell cultures. The presence of peptide-specific CD8⁺ T cells was assessed by intracellular IFN-γ and TNF-α staining. Two hours after the restimulation, 0.65 µl ml⁻¹ GolgiStop™ (BD Biosciences) was added into each culture at 37 °C and incubated for an additional 4 hours. Before staining, all cell preparations were incubated with anti-mouse CD16/32 (BD Biosciences) for 10 min on ice to block the Fc receptors. Dead cells were excluded from the analysis by using the fixable Viability Dye eFluor® 780 (eBioscience). Percp-cy5.5-conjugated CD3 mAb (clone:53-6.7 eBioscience) and FITC-conjugated anti-CD8α mAb (clone:17A2 eBioscience) were used to label cells for 30 min on ice. After washing with the flow cytometer buffer (PBS/1% FBS), cells were fixed and then labeled with PE-conjugated anti-mouse TNF-α (clone: MP6-XT22 eBioscience) or APC-conjugated anti-mouse IFN-γ (clone: XMG1.2 eBioscience) at 4 °C in a permeabilization buffer. PE or APC-conjugated isotype IgG1 was used as a negative staining control (eBioscience). Flow cytometry data were acquired for each of the experiments using a BD FACS Calibur (BD Biosciences, Franklin Lakes, NJ). Data analysis was performed using the FlowJo software.

Pentamer staining

Lymphocytes were isolated from the mesenteric lymph nodes of HFD-fed obese mice and NCD-fed lean mice post the 8-week feeding. A single cell suspension was prepared in PBS at a cell concentration of $1-2 \cdot 10^6$ cells/100 μ l, initially stained with Fixable Viability Dye eFluor® 780 (eBioscience) and washed, and then stained with PE-conjugated pentamers (Proimmune, 5 μ l/test) for 15 min-incubation at 37 °C in dark. After washing twice with FACS buffer, cells were incubated with FITC-conjugated-anti-mouse CD8 (clone: 17A2, eBioscience) at 4 °C for 30 min. Cells were washed twice with FACS buffer, and fixed with 1% polyformaldehyde. After washing, stained cells were resuspended in 200-300 μ l FACS buffer and measured using a BD FACS Calibur (BD Biosciences, Franklin Lakes, NJ).

Preparation of VAT-isolated stromal-vascular fractions (SVF)

Acquired epididymal VAT from HFD-fed obese mice and NCD-fed lean mice were divided into fine pieces in a weight boat containing 3 ml DPBS supplemented with 0.5% BSA. The VAT samples were then poured into 50 ml conical tubes, rinsed with 3 ml collagenase II digest solution consisting of 1X DPBS supplemented with 0.5% BSA, 10 mM CaCl₂, and 4 mg/ml type II collagenase, and incubated in a rotational shaker (200 rpm, 37 °C, 20 min). The VAT homogenate, along with 10 ml DPBS (0.5% BSA), was passed through a 100 μ m filter into fresh 50 ml conical tubes. The VAT-isolated SVFs were obtained after centrifuging cell suspensions (500g, 4 °C, 10 min) and discarding the supernatant. The VAT-isolated SVFs were restimulated with peptide (10 μ g/ml)-pulsed RMA cells or RMA cells alone. The presence of peptide-specific CD8⁺ T cells was assessed by intracellular IFN- γ and TNF- α staining.

Treatment of mice

C57BL/6J male mice administered HFD starting at 4 weeks of age were randomly divided into 4 groups (4-5 mice per group), two of which were administered 20 µg LDHA₂₃₇₋₂₄₄ peptide or PBS (once a day at day 1-5, 8, then once a week until the age of 12 weeks) intranasally, starting at 4 weeks of age, and the other two groups were injected intraperitoneally with 50 µg LDHA₂₃₇₋₂₄₄ peptide (twice a week for the first two weeks and once a week until the age of 12 weeks) or PBS simultaneously. Weight changes were monitored weekly until 12 weeks of age. GTT and ITT were measured at 12 weeks of age.

RNA Isolation and Quantitative Real-Time PCR

For real-time PCR, total RNA was extracted from 0.2 mg VAT using HiPure Universal RNA Kit (Magen company, Guangzhou, China). Real-time quantitative PCR was performed using TB Green™ Premix Ex Taq™ II (Tli RNaseH Plus) (Takara, Kyoto, Japan) for *H2-Kb* and TaqMan™ Gene Expression Master Mix (Applied Biosystems™, Foster City, CA, USA) for the other genes according to the manufacturer's instructions. The following primers were used: *H2-kb* (Fwd: ggctggtgaagcagagagac, Rev: cagcacctcagggtgacttt), *Ldha* (Mm01612132_g1, Thermo fisher), *Psmb1* (Mm00650840_m1, Thermo fisher), *Psmb2* (Mm00449477_m1, Thermo fisher), *Psmb8* (Mm00479004, Thermo fisher), *Psmb9* (Mm00440207, Thermo fisher), and *Psmb10* (Mm00479052_g1, Thermo fisher). Each sample run was performed in triplicate, and the relative mRNA expression levels were determined using the 2^(-Delta Ct) method with *Gapdh* as the internal reference control.

Western bolt analysis

VAT from obese and lean mice were lysed in RIPA buffer (50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.4, 1% Nonidet P-40, 0.25% Na-deoxycholate, 150 mM NaCl, 1 mM EDTA) containing complete protease

inhibitor mixture (Roche Life Sciences), 1 mM Na₃VO₄ pH 9, 5 mM NaF, and 10 mM NEM (Sigma-Aldrich). H2-Kb molecules were separated from elution fractions using ultrafiltration with a 3-KDa cutoff. Samples were separated by SDS-PAGE and immunoblotted with the following primary antibodies: Rabbit polyclonal to MHC Class I H2-Kb (ab93364, Abcam), Rabbit monoclonal to mouse LDHA (ab101562, Abcam), and anti-mouse GAPDH antibody (ab181602, Abcam). After incubation with peroxidase-coupled secondary antibodies for 60 min, the immunocomplexes were visualized using a chemiluminescence reagent (Amersham, Freiburg, Germany), and the autoradiographs were scanned by an imaging densitometer.

Measurement of lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) activity

Total LDH activity in VAT was determined using the LDH activity assay kit (MAK06, Sigma) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Briefly, fresh VAT samples (100 mg) from HFD or NCD-fed mice were homogenized rapidly on ice in 500 µl of cold LDH Assay buffer and centrifuged at 10,000 g for 15 min at 4 °C to remove any insoluble materials; the soluble fraction was used for the assay. Changes in absorbance were determined by total LDH activity at 450 nm using BIO-RAD IMark™ Microplate Reader.

Immunoprecipitation and western blot analysis of ubiquitination

Pooled VAT tissues (0.5mg) from three or four obese or lean mice were washed twice with ice-cold PBS and lysed in 2 ml Triton-lysis buffer (20 mM Tris-HCl, pH 7.5, 150 mM NaCl, 5 mM EDTA, 2 mM dithiothreitol, 1% Triton X-100, 1% protease inhibitor cocktail, 1 mM PMSF) in the presence or absence of 10 µM MG132 (a proteasome inhibitor). The lysates were centrifuged at 12,000 × g for 10 min at 4 °C and the supernatant was precleared with 20 µL Protein A/G PLUS-Magnetic Beads (Thermo fisher) for 1 h at 4 °C. The lysates were

immunoprecipitated overnight with LDHA-specific rabbit polyclonal antibody (19987-1-AP, proteintech, 2 µg/test) at 4 °C, followed by incubation with protein A/G Magnetic Beads. This was followed by four washes with ice-cold lysis buffer and elution in 2X SDS sample buffer. The immunoprecipitates were boiled in 2X SDS sample buffer, resolved by SDS-PAGE, and subjected to overnight immunoblotting with specific antibodies against Lys48-specific Ubiquitin (clone: Apu2, Millipore, 1:1000) or LDHA (clone: EPR1563Y, Abcam, 1:1000) at 4 °C. Proteins were visualized using a goat anti-rabbit secondary antibody conjugated to HRP (D110058-0100, shanghai shengong company, 1:5000, 1 hour at room temperature) and a chemiluminescence detection system.

Statistical analysis

We used the Prism5 software (GraphPad Software) for all statistical tests. The unpaired two-group comparison was conducted using Student's t-test. Data were presented as the mean ± SD. P<0.05 (*), P<0.01 (**), and P<0.001 (***) were considered statistically significant.

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