



- Session 24
- Free Communications. Sheep and Goat Commission
- Arana et al., pdf
- Corresponding author: aarana@unavarra.es



**Adipose cellularity but not lamb growth
was affected by vitamin A supplementation
during early post-natal development**

A. Arana, J.A. Mendizábal, M. Alzón, B. Soret, A. Purroy

E.T.S.I.A. Universidad Pública Navarra. Spain



Nutritional agents influencing “in vitro” adipocyte differentiation

* PUFA (Azain, 2004)

* CLAs (Amri et al., 1994)

- Vitamin A

- ** inhibitory --- (Sato et al., 1980;
Brandebourg and Hu, 2005)

- ** stimulating --- (Safonova et al., 1994)



Vitamin A effect in lambs “in vivo”

- * Payne and Watkins (1997)

 - growing lambs from 30 to 46 kg BW

 - 340 mg/animal, 2 times/week

 - **No effect in the SC amount of fat**

- * Arnett et al. (2007)

 - growing lambs from 28 to 61 kg BW

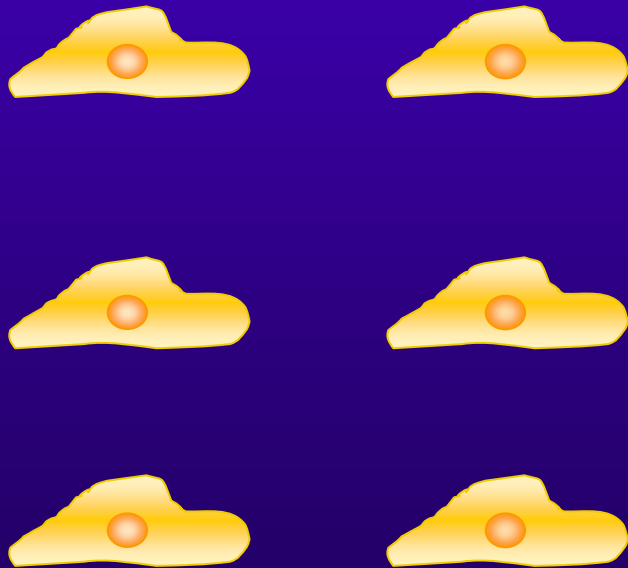
 - 6600 IU/kg feed, daily

 - **Marbling score increased**



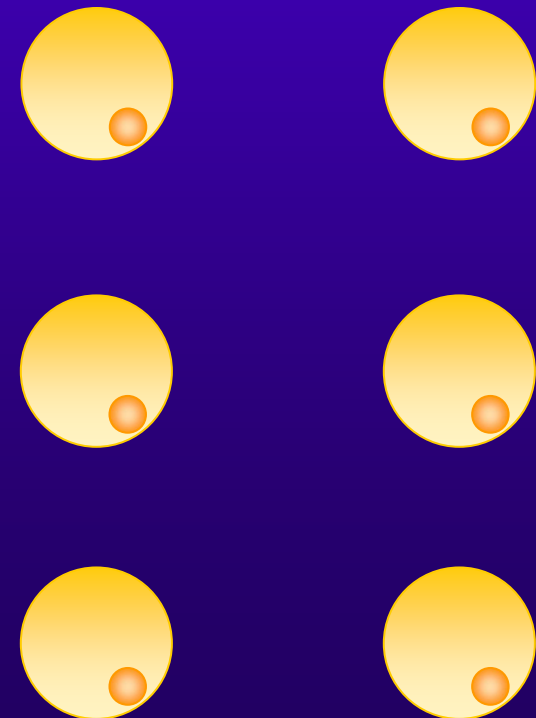
Adipose tissue development

Hyperplasia



+

Hypertrophy



“*de novo*” Synthesis

Fatty Acids Uptake



Different development of the depots

Ovine (Rasa Aragonesa breed)

- 15 kg (45 days of age)– onwards....
- – PR,
 - Hyperplasia completed or in an advanced phase
 - Development by hypertrophy
- – OM, SC, IM
 - Development by hyperplasia and hypertrophy

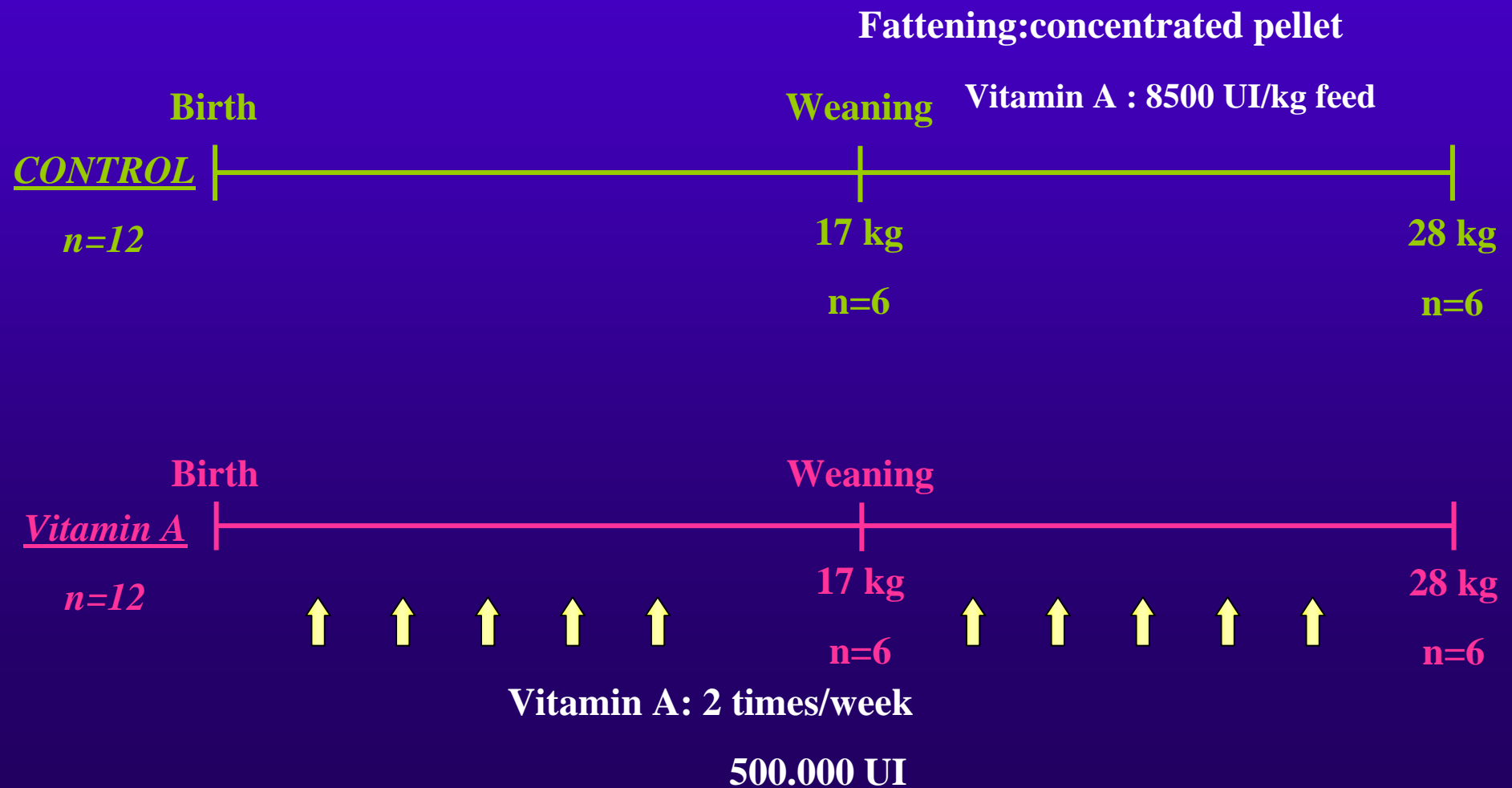


Objective

**To study the vitamin A effect on lamb growth and
adipose tissue development from birth to 27 kg BW
(100 days of age)**



Male Rasa Aragonesa lambs





Growth and carcass parameters

- Average Daily Gain
- Serum retinol and serum retinol-palmitate at birth, at weaning and at slaughter (HPLC)
- Liver retinol and retinol-palmitate at slaughter (HPLC)
- Hot Carcass Weight



Adipose tissue parameters

- OM and PR amount of fat
- Shoulder dissection → SC and IN amount of fat
- *Longissimus Muscle* lipid content
- Adipocyte size and number (Robdell,1964)



Statistical analysis

ANOVA (two factors)

$$y_{ijk} = \mu + G_i + W_j + G_i \times W_j + e_{ijk}$$

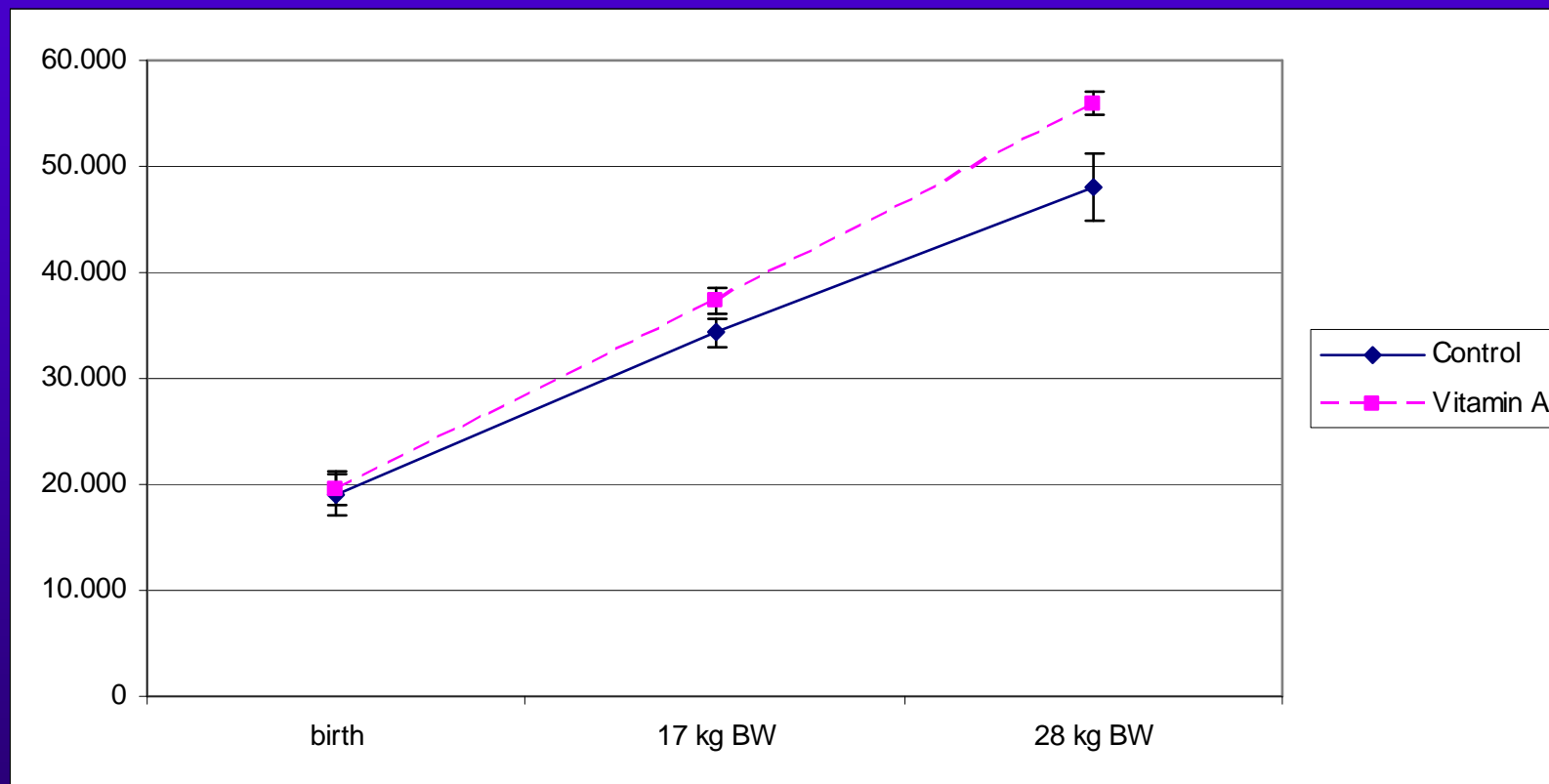
μ = mean value

G_i = fixed effect of Group ($i = 1$: Control; $i = 2$: Vitamin A)

W_j = fixed effect of BW at slaughter ($j = 1$: 17 kg; $j = 2$: 28 kg)



Serum retinol



Liver retinol

(at 28 kg BW)

Control: 3.98 mg/g tissue

Vitamin A: 23.59 mg/g tissue



Growth Parameters

	C	V	17kg	28kg	G	W	GxW
Birth weight, kg	4.6	4.6	4.8	4.5	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.
Weaning weight, kg	16.8	16.8	16.9	16.7	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.
Weaning age, d	59	58	58	58	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.
ADG birth-weaning, g/d	222	220	219	223	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.
Slaughter weight, kg	22.7	22.9	16.9	27.8	n.s.	***	n.s.
Slaughter age, d	80	82	58	101	n.s.	***	n.s.
ADG wean.-slaughter, g/d	233	229	219	241	n.s.	n.s.	n.s.



Carcass and Composition Parameters

	C	V	17kg	28kg	G	W	GxW
HCW, kg	10.8	11.0	7.8	13.4	n.s.	***	n.s.
Omental fat, g	249.9	243.6	149.3	330.3	n.s.	***	n.s.
Perirenal fat, g	232.8	245.2	146.3	318.5	n.s.	***	n.s.
Liver weight, g	515	518	373	640	n.s.	***	n.s.
Shoulder weight, g	1012	1022	782	1219	n.s.	***	n.s.
Subcutaneous fat ² , g	51.4	63.4	43.1	69.7	n.s.	***	n.s.
Intermuscular fat ² , g	80.0	88.0	59.9	104.6	n.s.	***	n.s.
LM fat content, %	1.33	1.39	1.42	0.89	n.s.	**	n.s.

² Extracted from the shoulder



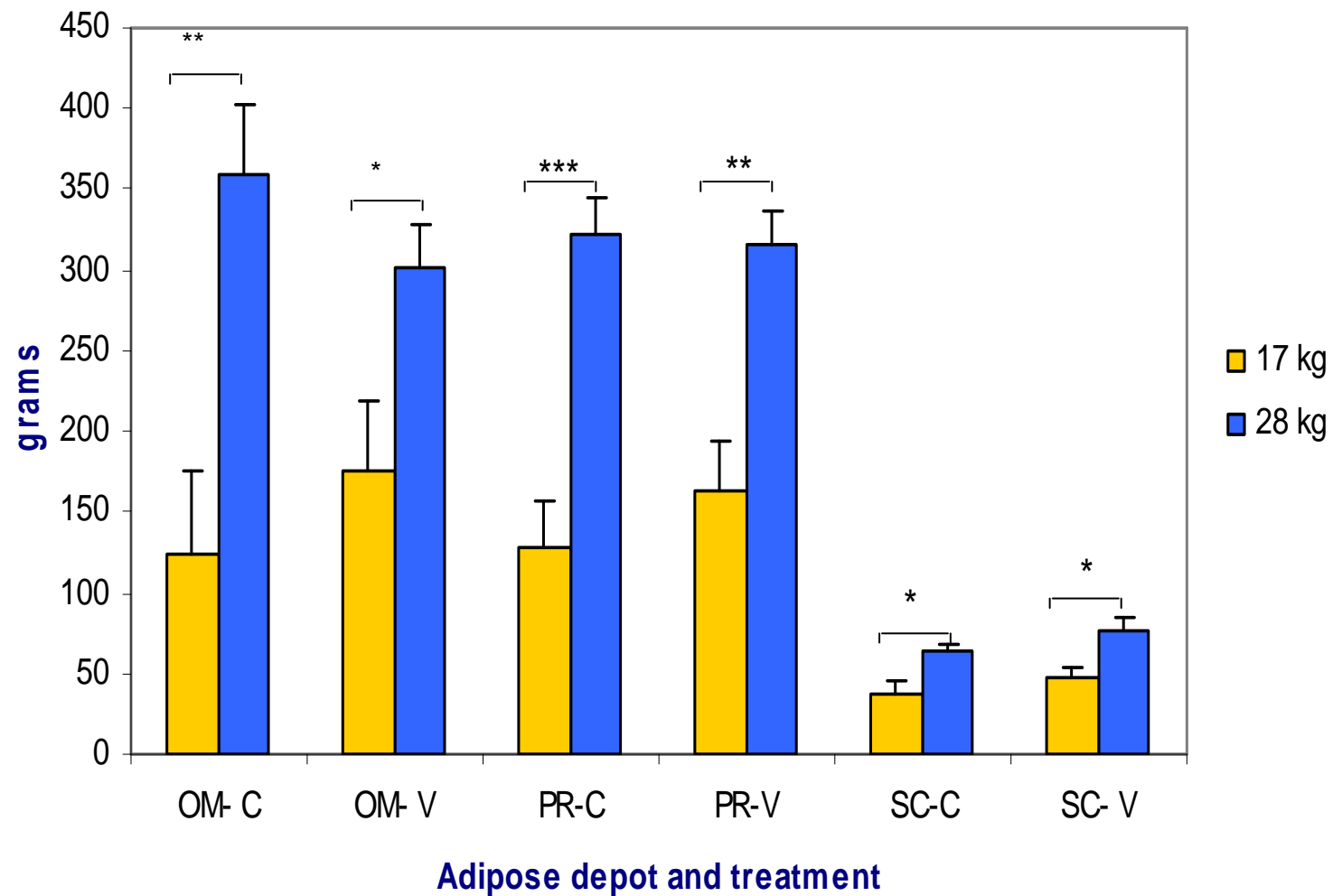
Adipose Tissue Parameters

	C	V	17kg	28kg	G	W	GxW
Adipocyte diameter, μm							
Omental	74.6	74.3	68.7	79.4	n.s.	*	*
Perirenal	66.0	64.4	57.2	72.1	n.s.	***	*
S.c. ²	64.5	68.1	60.8	71.1	n.s.	**	+
Adipocyte number, 10^6							
Omental	763	882	582	1028	n.s.	***	n.s.
Perirrenal	1215	1458	1206	1449	n.s.	n.s.	+
S.c. ²	202	185	170	214	n.s.	**	*

² Extracted from the shoulder

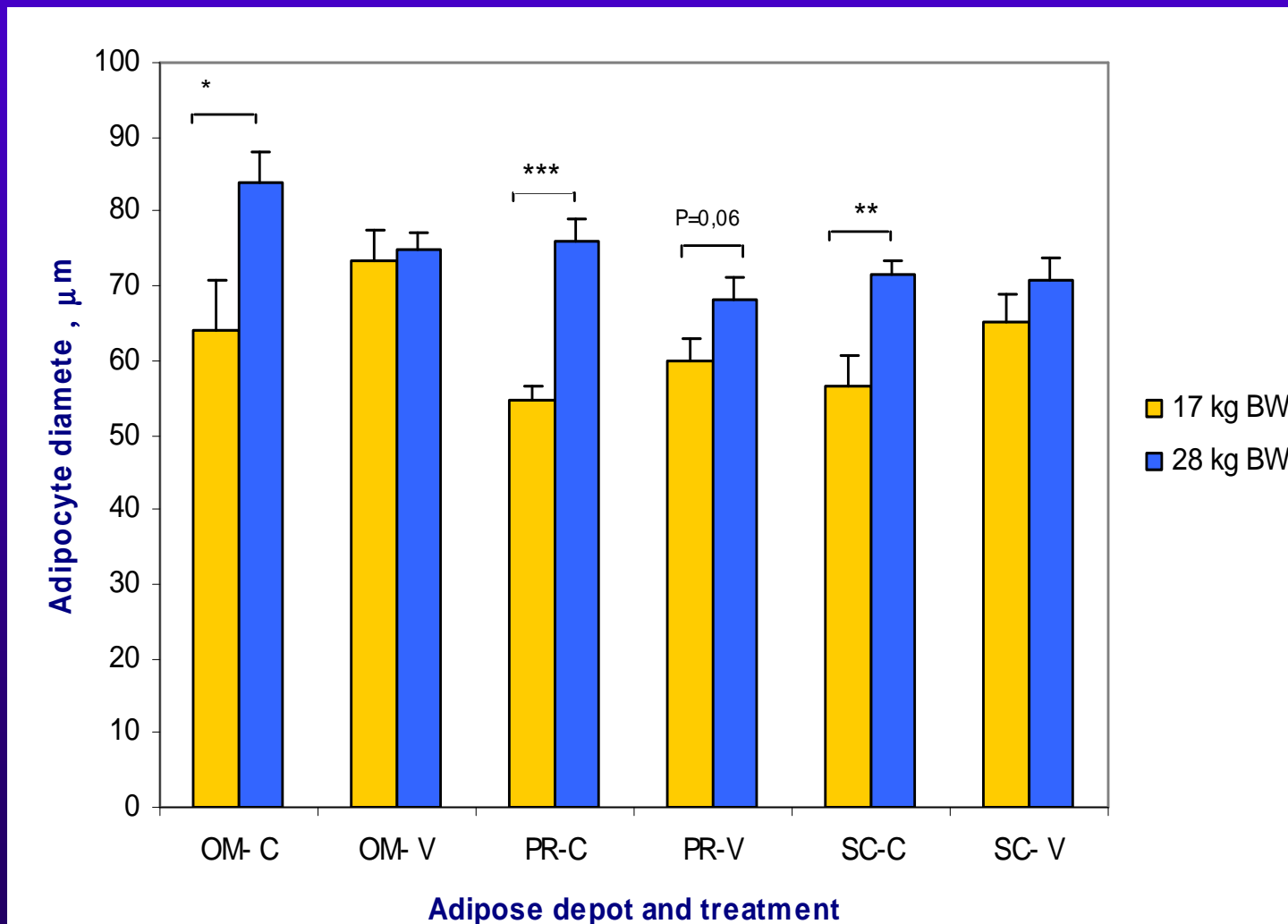


Adipose Tissue Weight



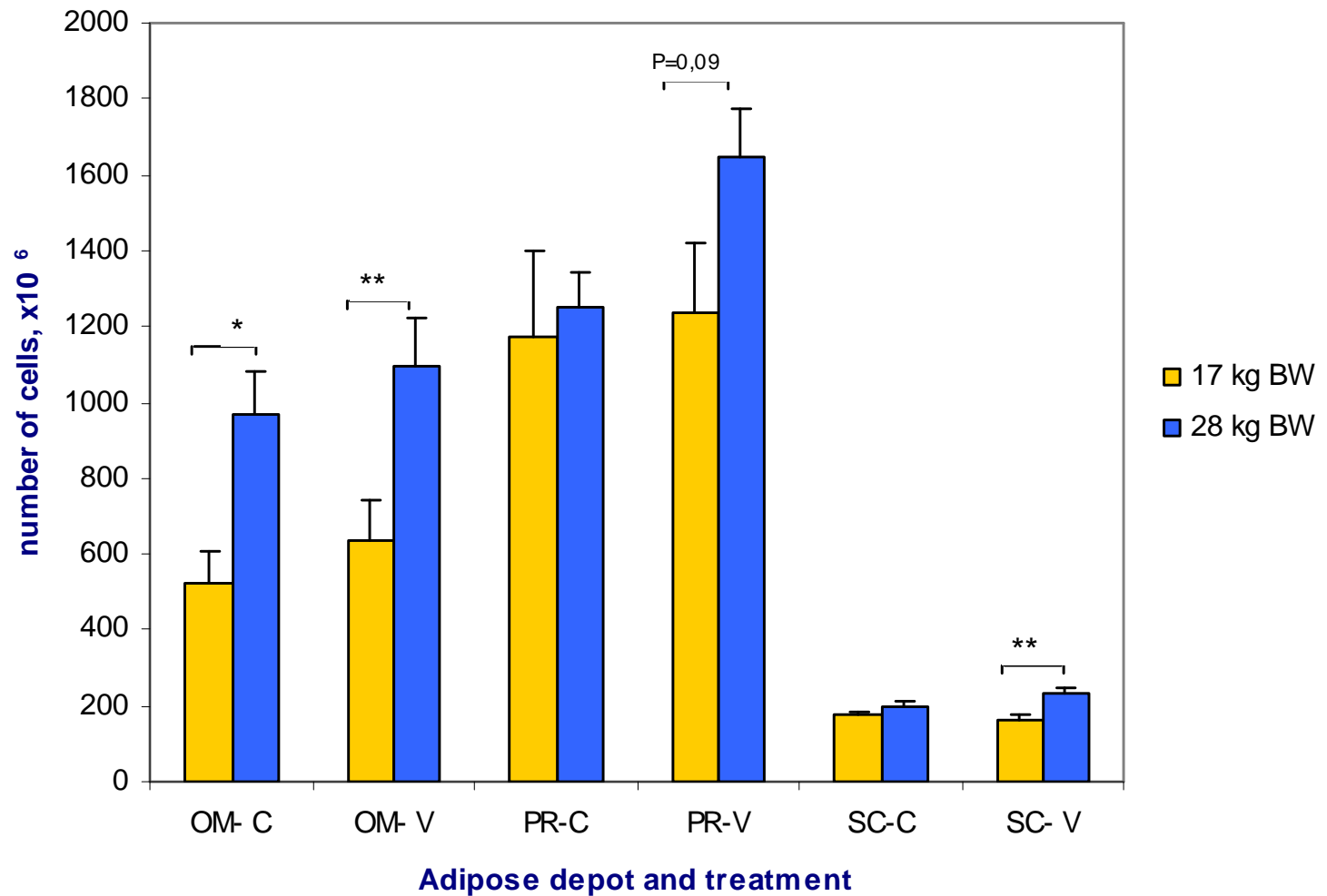


Adipocyte hypertrophy





Adipocyte hyperplasia





Summary of “in vivo” differences

Between species

Lambs High 6.600 IU vitA /kg feed ---Increase on IM marbling score. Arnett et al. (2007)

Steers: Low vitamin A level on feed—increase on IM marbling score Gorocica-Buenfil et al. (2007)

Between depots

Lambs 6.600 IU vitA /kg feed No influence on SC fat but increases IM lipid content. Arnett et al. (2007)

Between doses

Matsuzaki et al. (1998) – 0 or 1500 IU/kg feed--No effect on fat accumulated

Gorocica-Buenfil et al. (2007) – 1300 IU/kg feed --- Increase on marbling score



Differences at cellular and molecular level?

- **Molecular level: sequential expression of transcription factors: CCAT, PPAR γ**
- **Differences between depots (Soret et al., 2000; Martínez et al., 2006)**
- **Depends on cell vitamin A concentration (Sato et al., 1980)**
- **Depends on the stage of cell differentiation**



Reasons of differences are still unknown

- **Differences on cell vitamin A concentration?**
- **Other factors besides the role of Vitamin A in transcription factors expression**
- **Vitamin A induces vasculogenesis, which could increase the nutrient adipocyte availability and, therefore, the fatty acid uptake favouring preadipocyte differentiation?**



CONCLUSION

In this experience, effect of vitamin A supplementation:

- * No influences:

 - growth, carcass variables and LM lipid content

- * Increases hyperplasia

- * Decreases hypertrophy

 - (in a depot specific manner depending on their degree of maturity)

More studies are needed to dilucidate differences between species, depots..... and to devise methods for modifying adiposity