

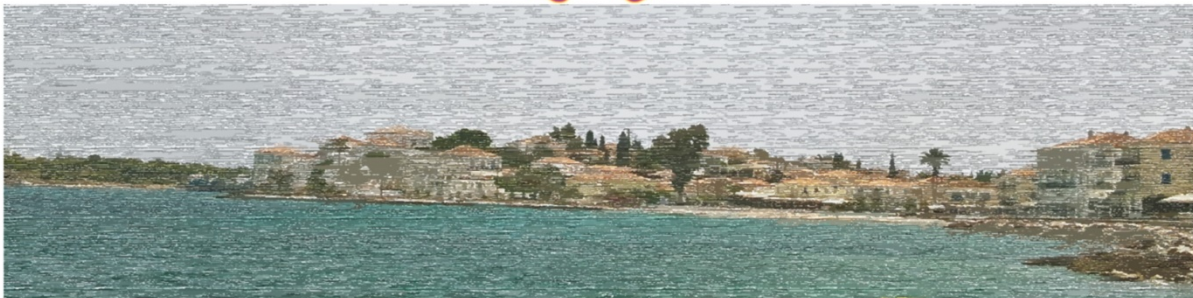
Book of Abstracts



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Molecular targets for anti-aging interventions
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Path to healthy aging: assessment of different dietary restriction protocols through behavioral and frailty measurements

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Aging is an inevitable, complex and dynamic process of natural change, leading to deleterious age-related modifications. Still, the aging process can be modified by lifestyle interventions, like dietary restriction (DR). Although DR is a proven experimental paradigm for lifespan and healthspan extension, the impact of the type, onset and duration of DR is still debatable. In order to test different dietary types, we used frailty as a tool for detecting DR outcomes throughout aging. In this report, we describe that different dietary protocols have various impact on age-related behavioral parameters and frailty status.

We exposed male Wistar rats of various age to ad libitum (AL) or DR (60% of AL daily intake) feeding regimens with different onsets. The effect of DR on locomotor activity, memory and learning was examined in 12-, 18- and 24-month-old animals using open field (OF) and Y maze test. We used behavioral data to create unique frailty score (FS) and determine frailty status in those animals.

Our results indicated that various durations and onsets of DR can alter the course of aging, with the life-long DR responsible for the most profound effect. Shorter duration/later onset of DR had minor or in some cases even detrimental impact on behavior and frailty during aging.