

**Title:** Effects of Aerobic, Strength or Combined Exercise on Perceived Appetite and Appetite-Related Hormones in Inactive Middle-Aged Men

**Authors:** Penelope S. Larsen<sup>1</sup>, Cheyne E. Donges<sup>1</sup>, Kym J. Guelfi<sup>2</sup>, Greg C. Smith<sup>3</sup>, David R. Adams<sup>1</sup>, and Rob Duffield<sup>4</sup>.

**Affiliation:** <sup>1</sup>School of Exercise Science, Sport & Health, Charles Sturt University, Australia;  
<sup>2</sup>School of Sport Science, Exercise and Health, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia.  
<sup>3</sup>School of Medical Sciences, University of New South Wales, Australia.  
<sup>4</sup>Sport and Exercise Discipline Group, University of Technology Sydney, Australia.

**Running Head:** Exercise Mode and Appetite

**Email Address:** P. Larsen: [plarsen@csu.edu.au](mailto:plarsen@csu.edu.au)  
C. Donges: [cdonges@csu.edu.au](mailto:cdonges@csu.edu.au)  
K. Guelfi: [kym.guelfi@uwa.edu.au](mailto:kym.guelfi@uwa.edu.au)  
G. Smith: [g.smith@unsw.edu.au](mailto:g.smith@unsw.edu.au)  
D. Adams: [David.Adams@prpimaging.com.au](mailto:David.Adams@prpimaging.com.au)  
R. Duffield: [Rob.Duffield@uts.edu.au](mailto:Rob.Duffield@uts.edu.au)

**Correspondence:** Penelope Larsen,  
School of Exercise Science, Sport & Health,  
Building 1431  
Charles Sturt University,  
Panorama Avenue, Bathurst, Australia, 2795.  
Phone: +61 2 6338 4048  
Fax: +61 2 6338 4065  
Email: [plarsen@csu.edu.au](mailto:plarsen@csu.edu.au)

**Abstract:**

Aerobic exercise (AE) and strength exercise (SE) are reported to induce discrete and specific appetite-related responses; however, the effect of combining AE and SE (i.e. combined exercise; CE) remains relatively unknown. Twelve inactive overweight men (age:  $48 \pm 5$  y; BMI:  $29.9 \pm 1.9$  kg·m<sup>2</sup>) completed four conditions in a random order: 1) non-exercise control (CON) (50 min seated rest); 2) AE (50 min cycling; 75% VO<sub>2peak</sub>); 3) SE (10 × 8 leg extensions; 75% 1RM); and 4) CE (50% SE + 50% AE). Perceived appetite and appetite-related peptides and metabolites were assessed prior to and up to 2 h post-condition (0P, 30P, 60P, 90P, 120P). Perceived appetite did not differ between trials ( $p < 0.05$ ). Acylated ghrelin was lower at 0P in AE compared to CON ( $p = 0.039$ ), while pancreatic polypeptide (PP) was elevated during recovery following AE compared to CON and CE. Glucose-dependent insulintropic peptide (GIP<sub>total</sub>) was greater for all exercise conditions compared to CON during recovery, as was glucagon, although concentrations were generally highest in AE ( $p < 0.05$ ). Glucose was acutely increased with SE and AE ( $p < 0.05$ ), while insulin and C-peptide were higher after SE compared to all conditions in early recovery ( $p < 0.05$ ). In inactive, middle-aged men AE, SE and CE each have their own distinct effects on circulating appetite-related peptides and metabolites. Despite these differential exercise-induced hormone responses, exercise mode appears to have little effect on perceived appetite compared with a resting control in this population.

**Keywords:** concurrent exercise, sedentary, hunger

## 1 **Introduction**

2 The World Health Organization (2014) has reported that there are in excess of 1.9 billion overweight adults  
3 worldwide. Such extent of obesity is of concern given the numerous health implications resulting from excess  
4 adipose tissue. Furthermore, there is some preliminary evidence to suggest that large volumes of adiposity may  
5 alter appetite-related hormone concentration, function and signalling (Batterham et al. 2003a), which could  
6 potentially make weight (fat) loss difficult and lead to further gains in adiposity. There is a growing body of  
7 evidence to suggest that both an acute bout of exercise, as well as regular exercise training, may be beneficial in  
8 achieving a negative energy balance by inducing perceptions of reduced appetite (i.e. hunger, desire to eat,  
9 prospective food consumption), the total amount of energy consumed, and/or the circulating concentrations of a  
10 number of appetite-related peptides (Broom et al. 2009; Guelfi et al. 2013; Rosenkilde et al. 2013; Sim et al.  
11 2015). More specifically, an acute bout of exercise is associated with reduced concentrations of circulating  
12 ghrelin (Balaguera-Cortes et al. 2011; Heden et al. 2013; Sim et al. 2015), which is the only known  
13 gastrointestinal hormone to stimulate increased appetite (orexigenic properties) (Druce et al. 2005; Levin et al.  
14 2006); whilst increasing concentrations of gastrointestinal hormones such as peptide tyrosine-tyrosine (PYY<sub>3-36</sub>)  
15 and glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1) (Chanoine et al. 2008; Sim et al. 2015) that suppress appetite (Degen et al.  
16 2005, 2006). However, it is important to note that these changes in appetite-related peptides following acute  
17 exercise are often transient and do not necessarily always translate into changes in perceived appetite or a  
18 detectable reduction in energy intake (Balaguera-Cortes et al. 2011; Deighton et al. 2013; Holt et al. 2016).  
19 Furthermore, the precise effect of exercise on appetite and energy intake appears to depend on the specific  
20 characteristics of the exercise itself, with varying effects of exercise intensity, duration and mode reported in the  
21 literature (Broom et al. 2009; Laan et al. 2010; Sim et al. 2015).

22         With specific respect to the mode of exercise, studies comparing a single bout of aerobic exercise (AE)  
23 or strength exercise (SE) have reported mode-specific responses on appetite-related hormones (Broom et al.  
24 2009; Balaguera-Cortes et al. 2011). However, the issue of which exercise modality suppresses appetite to a  
25 greater extent is less clear, with reports of greater suppression of perceived hunger with AE compared with SE  
26 (Broom et al. 2009), no difference in post-exercise energy intake between modalities (Balaguera-Cortes et al.  
27 2011; Cadieux et al. 2014) and possible alterations in food preferences (McNeil et al. 2015). In addition,  
28 previous research has focused on young active populations, with no studies examining these issues in an inactive  
29 overweight group for whom the potential effects may be most relevant. Furthermore, no studies have examined  
30 the effect of a combined session of aerobic and strength exercise on appetite responses. This is important given

31 that current exercise guidelines encourage adults to participate in combined exercise (CE; i.e. combined AE and  
32 SE) (Donnelly et al. 2009). Previous studies suggest that CE can provide positive physiological adaptations that  
33 are similar, if not equivalent to both AE and SE when performed in isolation (Donges et al. 2012), though the  
34 effects on appetite-related hormones remains relatively unknown. Therefore, the primary aim of this study was  
35 to investigate the effect of an acute bout of AE, SE and CE on appetite-related hormones and perceived appetite  
36 in a population of untrained, overweight men.

## 37 **Materials and Methods**

### 38 *Participants*

39 Twelve inactive, overweight, middle-aged men (no regular pattern of planned or incidental exercise  $> 1 \text{ d}\cdot\text{wk}^{-1}$   
40 in the preceding 12 months) volunteered for the study (data is presented in Table 1). Participants were required  
41 to obtain medical clearance, and to complete an oral glucose tolerance test (OGTT) and maximal graded  
42 exercise stress test (GXT) to exclude diabetes and symptomatic cardiovascular disease, respectively.  
43 Participants were not taking medications or on any special diet that may have influenced their perceived appetite  
44 responses. The study was approved by the Human Ethics Committee of Charles Sturt University and written  
45 informed consent was attained from all participants.

### 46 *Study Overview*

47 All participants attended 2 baseline laboratory visits for familiarisation and assessment of baseline  
48 characteristics, followed by 4 trials involving experimental conditions (i.e. exercise or no exercise) and post-  
49 condition measures administered in a randomised and counterbalanced order based on a Latin Square design.  
50 The 4 experimental conditions involved a non-exercise control (CON), aerobic exercise (AE), strength exercise  
51 (SE), and combined exercise (CE).

### 52 *Baseline Testing*

53 Initial assessment involved measurement of blood pressure, stature, body mass, waist and hip girths, and a dual-  
54 energy X-ray absorptiometry (DXA) scan (Norland XR800 with Illuminatus DXA, version 4.2.0, Cooper  
55 Surgical Company, Turnbull, CT, USA) to determine percentage of total body fat. This was followed by a fasted  
56 75 g OGTT (Lomb Scientific, Thermo Fischer Scientific, NSW). Venous blood samples (10 mL) were drawn  
57 from a medial antecubital vein and aliquoted into serum separator tubes pre-ingestion, and at 30 min intervals  
58 for 2 h post-ingestion ( $5 \times$  samples).

59           At the second baseline laboratory visit, a GXT was completed using an electromagnetically braked  
60 cycle ergometer (Velotron, RacerMate Inc., Seattle, Washington, USA). The test commenced at 25 W, and  
61 increased by 25 W·min<sup>-1</sup> until volitional exhaustion, which typically coincided with a pedalling cadence < 40  
62 rpm. During the test, heart rate (HR) was monitored with a 12-lead electrocardiogram (ECG) and participants  
63 breathed through a mouthpiece connected to a calibrated metabolic gas oxygen analysis system (TrueOne 2400  
64 metabolic system, Parvomedics, Sandy, Utah, USA) to allow for the determination of VO<sub>2peak</sub>. Following ~30  
65 min of recovery, participants underwent one repetition maximum (1RM) strength testing of the quadriceps  
66 musculature on a leg extension machine (Leg Extension Basic; Panatta Sport, Apiro, Italy). To obtain 1RM  
67 strength, participants first completed a set with light resistance for familiarisation, followed by ascending  
68 resistances until two repetitions were unable to be completed. 1RM testing typically required 3-4 attempts,  
69 separated by ~2 min recovery. The VO<sub>2peak</sub> and 1RM test results were used to determine the workload for the  
70 respective experimental conditions.

#### 71 *Trials*

72           The 4 trials were completed by each participant in a counterbalanced order with at least 7 days between visits.  
73 Participants were instructed to record their food intake in the 24 h prior to the first trial and replicate this diet  
74 prior to the subsequent trials. In addition, participants were required to refrain from alcohol consumption and  
75 vigorous physical activity during the preceding 24 h and to fast for 10 h prior to arrival at the laboratory.

76           Each trial commenced between 0600-0800 h, with the exact time standardised for each participant.  
77 Upon arrival, a 12-lead ECG was applied to the participant and a mouthpiece was fitted which was connected to  
78 a calibrated metabolic gas oxygen analysis system (TrueOne 2400 metabolic system, Parvomedics, Sandy, Utah,  
79 USA) to monitor HR and VO<sub>2</sub>, respectively. The CON condition involved quiet sitting for 50 min. For the AE  
80 condition, participants cycled for 50 min (Velotron, RacerMate Inc., Seattle, Washington, USA) at a pedalling  
81 resistance of 50% of the peak workload reached in the GXT, which equated to  $78 \pm 3.89\%$  of VO<sub>2peak</sub>. The SE  
82 condition involved 10 sets of 8 repetitions of bilateral leg extension exercise at a resistance of 75% of 1RM with  
83 150 s recovery between sets. The CE condition consisted of 50% of both the SE (5 × 8 repetitions) and AE (25  
84 min) conditions at a matched intensity. The AE and SE components were intended to align with exercise  
85 intensity and volume recommendations for adults (Pollock et al. 2000; Donnelly et al. 2009); however, rather  
86 than utilising a strength training protocol covering all the major muscle groups of the body as per typical  
87 guidelines, we employed a protocol of leg extension exercise to provide a more consistent stimulus throughout  
88 the session and keep the exercise restricted to the lower limbs to match the aerobic exercise stimulus. This

89 protocol was based on previous research comparing metabolic responses to aerobic, resistance and combined  
90 exercise (Donges et al. 2012). The AE, SE and CE protocols were not matched for energy expenditure given the  
91 inherent difficulties in doing so (Bloomer 2005). Rating of perceived exertion (RPE) was assessed following  
92 each strength set and every 10 min during the cycling bouts.

### 93 *Assessment of Perceived Appetite*

94 Perceived hunger, fullness, desire to eat and prospective food consumption were assessed using a validated 100  
95 mm visual analogue scale (VAS) (Flint et al. 2000). Perceived appetite was recorded at baseline (pre),  
96 immediately post (0P), 30 min post (30P), 60 min post (60P), 90 min post (90P) and 120 min post (120P)  
97 condition.

### 98 *Blood Sampling*

99 Venous blood samples (10 mL) were drawn from a medial antecubital vein at pre, 0P, 30P, 60P, 90P and 120P  
100 during each trial. All samples were assayed for glucose and lactate concentrations from a syringe in duplicate  
101 using a blood-gas analyser (ABL800, Radiometer, Copenhagen, Denmark). The remaining blood was  
102 immediately aliquoted into pre-chilled tubes treated with ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (Becton Dickinson,  
103 Sydney, Australia) and serine protease inhibitor (AEBSF; Pefabloc® SC, Sigma-Aldrich, St. Louis, USA)  
104 according to the manufacturer's instructions. Tubes were immediately centrifuged at 3500 rpm for 15 min at  
105 4°C and separated plasma was stored at -80°C. A commercially available human metabolic hormone analyte  
106 panel (Cat. No# HMMAG-34K; Milliplex, Millipore Corporation, MA, USA) was used according to the  
107 manufacturer's instructions (Luminex Corporation, Austin, TX, USA) to determine concentrations of: insulin,  
108 C-peptide, glucagon, acylated ghrelin, glucose-dependent insulinotropic peptide (GIP<sub>total</sub>), GLP-1<sub>active</sub> (both the  
109 GLP-1<sub>7-36</sub> and GLP-1<sub>7-37</sub> isoforms), leptin, pancreatic polypeptide (PP) and PYY<sub>total</sub>. Intra-assay coefficient of  
110 variation was < 7% for the abovementioned analytes. Additionally, total cholesterol, high-density lipoprotein  
111 cholesterol, and triglycerides were measured in the fasting blood sample according to manufacturer's  
112 instructions via a high-throughput automated blood analyser (EXL, Dimension®, Siemens Healthcare  
113 Diagnostics, Sydney, Australia). The Friedwald equation was used to estimate low-density lipoprotein  
114 cholesterol.

### 115 *Statistical Analysis*

116 Data are reported as mean ± standard deviation (SD) unless otherwise indicated. Two-factor (condition × time)  
117 repeated-measures analysis of variance (ANOVA) were conducted to assess the effect of each condition on

118 appetite-related hormones and perceived appetite in response to both exercise and recovery. If an interaction or  
119 main effect was observed, Tukey's post-hoc tests were applied to identify the source of significance, which was  
120 accepted at  $p < 0.05$ . Statistical analyses were performed with PASW Statistics, version 20.0 (SPSS Inc.,  
121 Chicago, Ill., USA) and GraphPad Prism version 7 (San Diego, CA, USA).

122

## 123 **Results**

### 124 *Characteristics of Exercise*

125 In response to exercise, there was a significant increase in HR,  $VO_2$ , lactate and RPE compared to CON (Table  
126 2). When comparing between exercise modes, mean  $VO_2$  was significantly higher during AE compared to SE ( $p$   
127  $< 0.001$ ) and CE ( $p = 0.035$ ), while mean  $VO_2$  in CE was greater than SE ( $p < 0.001$ ). Also, estimated mean  
128 energy expenditure was significantly greater following all exercise conditions compared to CON ( $p < 0.0001$ ).  
129 Estimated mean energy expenditure was greater during AE compared to SE ( $p < 0.0001$ ) and CE ( $p = 0.0038$ ),  
130 and CE was higher than SE ( $p < 0.001$ ). Likewise, the HR response to AE was greater than CE ( $p = 0.017$ ).  
131 However, when comparing the  $VO_2$  and HR responses of AE alone to the AE component of CE, there was no  
132 difference between conditions ( $p > 0.05$ ). Likewise, during the SE component of CE, there was no difference in  
133 HR or  $VO_2$  ( $p > 0.05$ ) compared to the SE condition alone. There was no significant difference in  $VO_2$  during  
134 recovery from exercise between conditions ( $p > 0.05$ ) (Table 2). Lactate was significantly higher following all  
135 exercise conditions compared with CON, with the greatest increase evident in SE ( $p = 0.001$ ; Table 2). There  
136 was no significant difference in mean session RPE between exercise modes ( $p > 0.05$ ).

### 137 *Perceived Appetite*

138 There was no significant interaction effect of condition and time for perceived hunger, fullness, desire to eat or  
139 prospective food consumption ( $p > 0.05$ ; Fig. 1). However, there was a main effect of time for all conditions,  
140 with increases in hunger, desire to eat and prospective food consumption; and decreased fullness over time  
141 throughout each condition ( $p < 0.001$ ).

142

143

### 144 *Hormone and Metabolite Responses*

145 There was a significant interaction effect of condition and time on ghrelin in response to exercise ( $p = 0.019$ ),  
146 with significantly lower ghrelin immediately after AE compared with CON ( $p = 0.039$ ). In contrast, there was  
147 no significant interaction of condition and time for PYY<sub>total</sub>, leptin, or GLP-1<sub>active</sub> ( $p > 0.05$ ; fig. 2), although  
148 there was a main effect for time for each with decreased PYY<sub>total</sub>, leptin, and GLP-1<sub>active</sub> throughout recovery ( $p$   
149  $< 0.05$ ). There was no immediate effect of exercise on PP; however, there was a main effect of condition during  
150 recovery, with higher PP following the AE condition compared with CON and CE. Likewise, there was no  
151 immediate effect of exercise on GIP<sub>total</sub>, while in recovery greater concentrations were evident after the three  
152 exercise conditions compared to CON at 30P (SE and CE  $>$  CON), 60P and 90P (AE, SE and CE  $>$  CON) (fig.  
153 2F). Regarding glucose and related hormones, there were significant interaction effects for condition and time  
154 for glucose, insulin, glucagon and C-peptide ( $p < 0.05$ ). Immediately-post trial, there was an increase in glucose  
155 concentration following AE and SE compared to CON ( $p < 0.05$ ; fig. 2G), with SE remaining greater than CON  
156 ( $p = 0.020$ ) and CE ( $p = 0.033$ ) at 30P. Glucagon was elevated in response to all exercise conditions at various  
157 timepoints in recovery compared with CON, although levels were generally higher after AE and CE compared  
158 with SE (0P, 30P, 90P and 120P) ( $p < 0.05$ ; fig. 2I). Insulin concentrations were elevated following SE  
159 compared to CON, AE and CE at both 0P and 30P ( $p < 0.05$ ; fig. 2H). In addition, C-peptide concentrations  
160 were significantly higher in SE than CON, AE and CE at 0P and 30P, and continued to remain higher than CON  
161 and AE at 60P ( $p < 0.05$ ; fig. 2J).

## 162 **Discussion**

163 Previous research has elucidated that AE and SE have distinct effects on appetite in young, active men (Broom  
164 et al. 2009; Balaguera-Cortes et al. 2011). However, the effect in inactive, overweight individuals is not known,  
165 and the effect of combining these modes of exercise (e.g. CE), as is commonly performed in an exercise setting,  
166 has not been examined. As such, the aim of this study was to investigate the response of perceived appetite and  
167 appetite-related hormones and metabolites following CE, AE and SE in an inactive middle-aged cohort. The  
168 present study revealed that each exercise mode induced specific effects on the concentrations of several  
169 appetite-related peptides such as acylated ghrelin, PP, GIP<sub>total</sub>, insulin and C-peptide. However, these differences  
170 were generally transient and did not translate into differences in perceived appetite between the exercise modes  
171 or compared with the resting control. Thus, it appears that an acute exercise stimulus (irrespective of mode) does  
172 not alter perceived appetite responses among middle-aged men.



173           With respect to the effect of each mode of exercise on the circulating concentrations of the appetite-  
174 related peptides and metabolites measured here, our study supports previous observations that AE and SE have  
175 distinct effects. More specifically, we found that AE transiently reduced acylated ghrelin and increased PP post-  
176 exercise, while SE increased insulin and C-peptide. The decreased concentration of acylated ghrelin and  
177 increase in PP in response to AE is consistent with previous research (Broom et al. 2009; Balaguera-Cortes et al.  
178 2011). However, Balaguera-Cortes et al. (2011) also noted reduced ghrelin and elevated PP concentration in  
179 response to resistance exercise, likely due to the type of resistance exercise utilised. More specifically,  
180 Balaguera-Cortes and colleagues (2011) utilised a whole body resistance session that was 45 min in duration,  
181 while the present study used an isolated leg extension exercise for a duration of 30 min. While the resistance  
182 protocol used here is not necessarily reflective of common practise, it was intended to provide a more consistent  
183 stimulus throughout the session and keep the exercise restricted to the lower limbs to match the aerobic exercise  
184 stimulus. Hence, future research is needed to determine how varying the resistance training session itself may  
185 alter the subsequent metabolic responses. Regarding the other appetite-related peptides measured in the present  
186 study, we saw no change in PYY<sub>total</sub>, leptin or GLP-1 during or following exercise compared with control.  
187 However, all modes of exercise increased GIP and glucagon during recovery, with the increase in glucagon  
188 being greater in AE followed by CE and SE. Of importance, despite the variation in the specific response of the  
189 appetite-related factors to each mode of exercise, each of the changes were in a direction that would appear  
190 favourable for reduced appetite with exercise compared with the resting CON. For instance, a reduction in  
191 ghrelin and an increase in PP, as seen in response to AE, would be expected to reduce appetite (Cummings  
192 2006; Batterham et al. 2003b), while previous research has indicated that GIP and glucagon have anorexigenic  
193 properties, leading to increased satiety and meal termination (Habegger et al. 2010; Kelly et al. 2009).

194           Interestingly, CE appeared to have its own distinct effect on appetite-related factors compared with AE  
195 and SE, despite involving a combination of both modes of exercise. More specifically, CE did not alter ghrelin  
196 or PP as was observed with AE, nor did it increase insulin or C-peptide to the extent noted in SE, though the  
197 increase in glucagon after CE was between the concentrations achieved with AE and SE. This may be related, at  
198 least in part, to an effect of the order of AE and SE within the CE condition, with the SE component always  
199 completed first. Previous human studies have shown that the order of AE and SE, performed in succession, can  
200 alter the secretion of hormones, such as testosterone and cortisol (Cadore et al. 2012). It is also possible that the  
201 lesser total volume of AE and SE incorporated into the CE session, compared with AE and SE alone, may have  
202 dampened the hormonal response. Due to the untrained state of the current cohort, it was deemed inappropriate

203 to combine a full-dose SE and AE condition into one trial, hence the 50% SE and AE protocol was adopted.  
204 However, based on the results of this study, it appears that the volume of CE to induce a similar change to  
205 appetite-related peptides seen with AE and SE alone may need to be increased.

206 Despite the above-mentioned exercise-induced changes for several appetite-related peptides in a  
207 direction that would appear favourable for reducing appetite, we observed no changes in perceived appetite  
208 compared with the resting control or between exercise modes. The lack of effect of SE on appetite is consistent  
209 with results reported by Laan et al. (2010) who reported no change in hunger in response to a 45 min protocol  
210 involving 5 different strength exercises performed by young, active men and women. Likewise, Balaguera-  
211 Cortes and colleagues (2011) found no difference in post-exercise energy intake after a 45 min session of  
212 resistance exercise compared with a resting control. Whereas, an earlier study which recruited young, active  
213 men reported decreased hunger following a 90 minute SE protocol of 10 exercises at 80% of 12RM (Broom et  
214 al. 2009). Collectively, these data suggest that the volume of SE may be critical to induce changes in perceived  
215 appetite. Meanwhile, there was no significant effect of AE on appetite in the current study. The lack of  
216 significant effect of AE on appetite contrasts with previous reports that AE transiently reduces hunger (Broom et  
217 al. 2009; Laan et al. 2010; Imbeault et al. 1997; Westerterp-Plantenga et al. 1997; Lluch et al. 2000; Pomerleau  
218 et al. 2004; Maraki et al. 2005). However, one important distinction between the current study and most  
219 previous studies in this field is a focus on inactive, overweight, middle-aged participants as opposed to the  
220 young, healthy participants recruited by others. Indeed, there is some preliminary evidence in the literature to  
221 suggest that individuals carrying excess body fat may have lower sensitivity to hormonal cues of appetite or  
222 reduced concentrations of appetite-related peptides compared to normal weight controls (Adam and Westerterp-  
223 Plantenga 2005; Druce et al. 2005, Sloth et al. 2006). Accordingly, it is possible that the nature of our  
224 participants may have blunted or diminished appetite-related peptide responses which translated to no perceived  
225 appetite changes. Future research is needed in this area to confirm the effects of aging, a lack of physical activity  
226 and carrying excess body fat on appetite-regulation and sensitivity to intrinsic appetite cues. Alternatively, it  
227 may simply be that the magnitude of the changes in the circulating concentrations of appetite-related peptides  
228 observed here were not large enough to elicit changes in perceived appetite, or were too transient in nature.

229 The strength of the present study is that we recruited an inactive population to compare the effects of  
230 three modes of exercise on a wide array of blood markers. However, there were several limitations which need  
231 to be acknowledged and may assist the direction for future research. First, given that many of the observed  
232 changes in appetite-related peptides were relatively small and transient in nature, future studies should employ

233 larger samples. Indeed, large individual variation has been noted in previous research regarding energy balance,  
234 feeding and appetite (Blundell et al. 2015), but the present study represents a first foray into this population  
235 Also, the design of the SE protocol only incorporated one strength exercise rather than a holistic body program,  
236 as we wanted to target comparable muscle groups used in AE. The limited alterations in appetite-related factors  
237 and lack of changes to perceived appetite following SE may be related to the singular exercise used and as such,  
238 future research may like to utilise strength training programs covering all the major muscle groups of the body.  
239 Furthermore, it is likely that different results would have been obtained had the exercise protocols been matched  
240 for energy expenditure,. This was not attempted in this study since the duration of the resistance-based sessions  
241 would need to almost double the duration spent in aerobic exercise to match the expected energy expenditure  
242 thereby limiting ecological validity; however, future studies should examine the interactions between exercise  
243 mode, total energy expenditure and exercise duration. Also, this study focused on appetite responses to exercise  
244 in the fasted state and varied responses may be observed postprandially. Indeed, future studies may investigate  
245 the effect of different exercise modes on ad libitum energy intake, given that a recent systematic review has  
246 indicated that alterations to perceived appetite may not necessarily reflect actual energy intake (Holt et al. 2016).  
247 Balaguera-Cortes et al. (2011) observed no differences in energy intake following SE or AE exercise, despite a  
248 favourable hormonal milieu, especially after SE. However, the energy intake responses of an untrained  
249 population may be different compared to the active, healthy participants recruited by Balaguera-Cortes et al.  
250 (2011). Finally, it should be acknowledged that measurement of the concentration of appetite-related peptides in  
251 circulation does not take into account the potential for central effects on appetite mediated by direct stimulation  
252 of sensory neurons in the GI tract, before some level of metabolism. Hence, measures of some peptides in  
253 circulation, such as the active isoforms of GLP-1 (GLP-1<sub>7-36</sub> and GLP-1<sub>7-37</sub>), may not directly represent the  
254 potential for alterations in appetite (Holst 2007).

255 In conclusion, we have shown for the first time in an inactive overweight population that AE and SE  
256 have varied effects on the circulating concentrations of appetite-related peptides, and that the combination of AE  
257 and SE dampens these effects, with no change in ghrelin or PP as per AE alone; and no change in insulin and C-  
258 peptide as seen with SE alone. However, the exercise-induced changes in the circulating concentrations of  
259 appetite-related peptides and metabolites that were seen here do not translate into alterations in perceived  
260 appetite. As such, future research should aim to better understand the effect of aging or carrying excess body fat  
261 on appetite regulation, and the mode, volume, intensity, and duration of exercise which may best negate these  
262 effects.

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**Table 1.** Participant Characteristics

Measure	Data
Age (y)	48 ± 5
Body mass (kg)	93.1 ± 7.74
BMI (kg·m <sup>-2</sup> )	29.9 ± 1.9
Waist girth (cm)	98 ± 5.8
WHR	0.9 ± 0.06
Body fat (kg)	25.1 ± 5.9
Body fat (%)	26.2 ± 4.7
Fasting glucose (mmol·L <sup>-1</sup> )	5.6 ± 0.7
Glucose AUC (mmol·L <sup>-1</sup> ·2h)	26.9 ± 4.6
Fasting insulin (μU·mL <sup>-1</sup> )	10.8 ± 2.8
Total cholesterol (mmol·L <sup>-1</sup> )	5.6 ± 0.9
HDL cholesterol (mmol·L <sup>-1</sup> )	1.4 ± 0.4
LDL cholesterol (mmol·L <sup>-1</sup> )	3.6 ± 0.8
Triglycerides (mmol·L <sup>-1</sup> )	1.4 ± 0.6
Systolic BP (mmHg)	127 ± 9
Diastolic BP (mmHg)	83 ± 11
$W_{\text{peak}}$ (W)	284 ± 56
$\dot{V}O_{2\text{peak}}$ (L·min <sup>-1</sup> )	2.9 ± 0.7
$\dot{V}O_{2\text{peak}}$ (ml·kg <sup>-1</sup> ·min <sup>-1</sup> )	31.0 ± 8.0
Leg extension <sup>^</sup> 1RM (kg)	90 ± 12

Data are mean ± SD ( $n = 12$ ). BMI, body mass index; WHR, waist-to-hip ratio; AUC, area under the curve; HDL, high-density lipoprotein; LDL, low-density lipoprotein; BP, blood pressure;  $W_{\text{peak}}$ , peak graded exercise test workload;  $\dot{V}O_{2\text{peak}}$ , peak oxygen consumption; <sup>^</sup>bilateral assessment; 1RM, one-repetition maximum.

**Table 2.** Cardiorespiratory, estimated mean energy expenditure, lactate and perceived exertion responses during and following a non-exercise control (CON), aerobic exercise (AE), strength exercise (SE) and combined exercise (CE).

	CON	AE	SE	CE
Heart Rate (bpm)	67 ± 1*	140 ± 15 <sup>ac</sup>	98 ± 17	117 ± 28
Heart rate (% maximum)	39 ± 1*	87 ± 6 <sup>ac</sup>	54 ± 4	SE: 52 ± 4 AE: 80 ± 5
VO <sub>2</sub> (L·min <sup>-1</sup> )	0.31 ± 0.01*	2.26 ± 0.12 <sup>ac</sup>	0.84 ± 0.09 <sup>b</sup>	1.86 ± 0.68
VO <sub>2</sub> (% maximum)	11 ± 1*	75 ± 1 <sup>ac</sup>	27 ± 1 <sup>b</sup>	SE: 29 ± 1 AE: 74 ± 1
Recovery VO <sub>2</sub> (L·min <sup>-1</sup> )	0.34 ± 0.01	0.36 ± 0.02	0.34 ± 0.01	0.34 ± 0.01
Pre-exercise lactate (mmol·l <sup>-1</sup> )	1.1 ± 0.4	1.2 ± 0.4	1.4 ± 0.8	1.2 ± 0.4
Post-exercise lactate (mmol·l <sup>-1</sup> )	1.3 ± 1.0*	4.7 ± 1.7	7.3 ± 3.8	4.5 ± 1.6
RPE (AU)	0.0 ± 0.1*	5.3 ± 1.3	4.9 ± 1.2	4.5 ± 1.1

\*Indicates significance between CON and all exercise conditions. The following symbols indicate significance between exercise conditions <sup>a</sup>AE and SE, <sup>b</sup>SE and CE, <sup>c</sup>AE and CE (p < 0.05).



**Fig. 1** Perceived hunger (A), fullness (B), desire to eat (C), and prospective food consumption (PFC) (D) in the fasted state and following a no-exercise control (CON; •), aerobic exercise (AE; □), strength exercise (SE; Δ) and combined exercise (CE; ◆) condition. † Indicates a main effect of time following all conditions ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Fig. 2** Plasma concentrations of (A) acylated ghrelin, (B) pancreatic polypeptide (PP), (C) peptide tyrosine-tyrosine (PYY<sub>total</sub>), (D) leptin, (E) glucagon-like peptide-1 (GLP-1<sub>active</sub>), (F) glucose-dependent insulintropic peptide (GIP<sub>total</sub>), (G) glucose, (H) insulin, (I) glucagon, and (J) C-peptide following a no-exercise control (CON; •), aerobic exercise (AE; □), strength exercise (SE; Δ) and combined exercise (CE; ◆) condition. The following symbols indicate significance between conditions: <sup>a</sup>CON and AE, <sup>b</sup>CON and SE, <sup>c</sup>CON and CE, <sup>d</sup>AE and SE, <sup>e</sup>SE and CE ( $p < 0.05$ ). † Indicates a main effect of time following all conditions ( $p < 0.05$ ). ‡ Indicates a main effect of condition ( $p < 0.05$ )



