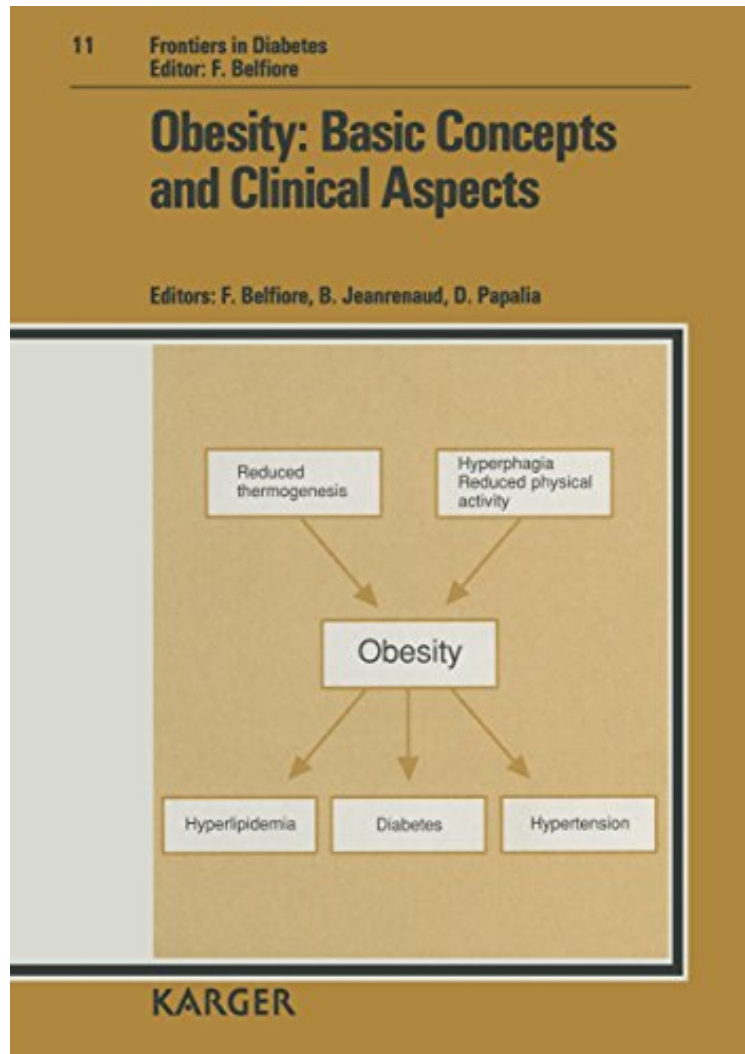


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The extreme pathophysiological and clinical heterogeneity of obesity continues to challenge researchers and clinicians. This is a survey of recent views on the pathogenesis and clinical aspects of obesity and allied disorders. The contributors deal with the many facets of obesity including the morphology, development and metabolism of adipose tissue, the role played by genetic and environmental factors, and the associated neuroendocrine and metabolic alterations. Further papers consider the relationships between obesity and such disorders as diabetes, hyperlipidemias and hypertension, while others discuss the role of both diet and new pharmacological agents in the treatment of obesity.