Technology: Treatment of obesity, metabolic syndrome, and diabetes with protein kinase C inhibitors

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Abstract: Disclosed herein are methods for treating obesity, metabolic syndrome, diabetes, or a combination of these conditions. The methods include selecting a subject with obesity, metabolic syndrome, or diabetes and administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of a composition comprising a compound that specifically inhibits hepatic protein kinase C (PKC)-, thereby treating the obesity, metabolic syndrome, or diabetes in the subject. In some embodiments the compound that specifically inhibits hepatic PKC- includes a thio-gold compound (such as aurothiomalate, aurothioglucose, and auranofin) or a derivative thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. In other embodiments, the compound that specifically inhibits hepatic PKC- includes 1H-imidazole-4-carboxamide, 5-amino-1-[2,3-dihydroxy-4-[(phosphonooxy)methyl]cyclopentyl]-[1R-(1.alpha.,2.beta.,3.beta.,4.alpha.]) (ICAPP) or a derivative thereof, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.