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Cover: Northern elephant seal (Mirounga angustirostris) pups naturally endure a 2–3-month post-weaning fast that is associated with insulin resistance (IR)-like conditions. Suzuki et al. (pp. 3215–3221) assessed the effects of this post-weaning fast on systemic and local renin–angiotensin systems (RAS) because inappropriate activation of RAS is known to contribute to the development of IR, possibly through RAS-mediated overexpression of cytokines. They showed that prolonged fasting resulted in systemic RAS activation, an increase in muscle TNF-α and suppression of adipose adiponectin, which are coordinated events that likely contribute synergistically to the development of IR-like conditions, independent of local RAS activity.

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