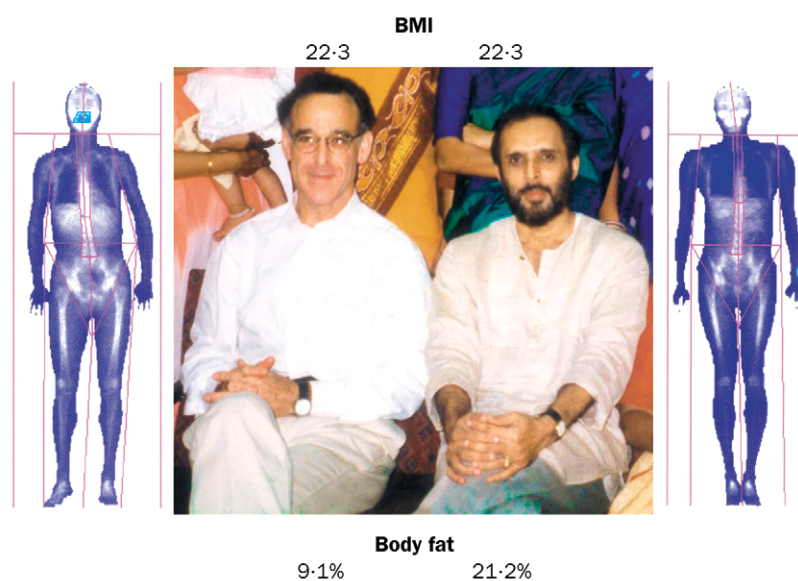


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Clinical picture

The Y-Y paradox

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The two authors share a near identical body-mass index (BMI), but as dual X-ray absorptiometry imagery shows that is where the similarity ends. The first author (figure, right) has substantially more body fat than the second author (figure, left). Lifestyle may be relevant: the second author runs marathons whereas the first author's main exercise is running to beat the closing doors of the

elevator in the hospital every morning. The contribution of genes to such adiposity is yet to be determined, although the possible relevance of intrauterine under-nutrition is supported by the first author's low birthweight. The image is a useful reminder of the limitations of BMI as a measure of adiposity across populations.

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