

MOLECULAR ENDOCRINOLOGY

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COVER: The farnesoid x receptor (FXR) mediates the cholesterol-raising effect of coffee. Unfiltered coffee brews such as Scandinavian, Turkish, and cafetière coffee contain the diterpene cafestol. Cafestol is the most potent cholesterol-elevating compound known in the human diet. Molecular studies have identified cafestol as an agonist ligand for FXR. The figure depicts a cup of coffee and the crystal structure of activated human FXR with a coffee bean located in the ligand binding pocket—indicative of the ability of cafestol to activate FXR. It is proposed that the activation of FXR by cafestol contributes to its impact on cholesterol homeostasis. From the article by Ricketts *et al.*, in this issue, pages 1603–1616.

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The editors would also like to acknowledge the design for our page ender which appears at the end of each article. The symbol represents interaction between ligand, receptor, and DNA. It evolved from an original concept designed by Lois B. Thompson for MOLECULAR ENDOCRINOLOGY.