OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

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# Robert Augustyniak of the OUWBSOM studies hypertension

Robert Augustyniak serves as an Assistant Professor in the **Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine**, and is helping to develop the **physiology** component of the medical school curriculum. You can listen to him describe his approach to teaching medical students in a **video**. Besides his role as a teacher, Augustyniak also is a leading researcher studying the neural mechanisms of high blood pressure (**hypertension**). He recently published a paper about how **Maternal Protein Restriction Leads to Hyperresponsiveness to Stress and Salt-Sensitive Hypertension in Male Offspring** (**American Journal of Physiology**, Volume 298, Pages R1375-R1382, 2010). He and his colleagues fed rats a low-protein diet to study the mechanisms of low birth weight-related hypertension. Their data indicate that, while male low-protein offspring are not hypertensive during young adulthood, their blood pressure is hyperresponsive to restraint stress and is salt sensitive, and the flow rate through their **kidneys** (their **glomerular filtration rate**) is more sensitive to hypertension-causing insults. Collectively, these may predispose for the development of hypertension later in life.

**SUMMARY**
Robert Augustyniak of the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine publishes a paper on hypertension in the American Journal of Physiology

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