

Insulin-like growth factor 1 receptor

The [insulin-like growth factor 1 \(IGF-1\)](#) receptor is a protein found on the surface of human cells. It is a [transmembrane receptor](#) that is activated by a hormone called insulin-like growth factor 1 (IGF-1) and by a related hormone called [IGF-2](#). It belongs to the large class of [tyrosine kinase receptors](#). This receptor mediates the effects of IGF-1, which is a polypeptide protein hormone similar in molecular structure to insulin. IGF-1 plays an important role in growth and continues to have anabolic effects in adults – meaning that it can induce hypertrophy of skeletal muscle and other target tissues. Mice lacking the IGF-1 receptor die late in development, and show a dramatic reduction in body mass. This testifies to the strong growth-promoting effect of this receptor.

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