### Online Supplementary Table 1 Macronutrients and their association or effect on CV outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Participant characteristics</th>
<th>Study Design</th>
<th>Measures and time points</th>
<th>Key observations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Esmeijer et al.[7]</td>
<td>4837 participants in original cohort Excluded 671 Total participants: n 2248 Time since MI: 4.0 (1.9-6.4) years</td>
<td>Prospective cohort study Participants taken from the Alpha Omega Cohort (low-dose omega-3 fatty acids) Present study included patients with available blood samples at baseline and after 41 months follow-up Participants grouped based on protein intake (g/kg ideal body weight) at baseline: &lt;0.80, 0.80 to &lt;1.00, 1.00 to &lt;1.20, ≥1.20 g/kg</td>
<td>Primary outcome; association between dietary protein intake and risk of kidney function decline in post-MI individuals Bloods taken at baseline and 41 months follow up. Cystatin C measured at baseline and 41 months. GFR based on cystatin C (eGFRcysC) and combined creatinine–cystatin C (eGFRcr–cysC) at baseline and after 41 months, using the Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration equations from 2012. Diet data and anthropometry measured at baseline. Diet data collected using 203 item FFQ. Questionnaires checked by registered dietitian and nutrient content calculated using 2006 Dutch Food Composition tables. 41 month diet data not collected. Protein intake expressed as g/kg ideal body weight to avoid erroneously high requirements in overweight and obese subjects. Linear regression used to study association of kidney function decline and baseline intake of total protein, types of protein (meat vs. dairy) sources of protein (animal vs. plant). Models adjusted for age, sex and total energy intake, education, alcohol, smoking, physical activity, RAS blocking drugs, intake of fat (MUFA, PUFA, SFA and TFA), dietary sodium, diabetes and systolic blood pressure.</td>
<td>For whole cohort, annual change in eGFRcysC and eGFRcr–cysC was −1.30 (−1.43, −1.17) and −1.71 (−1.87, −1.56) mL/min/1.73 m², respectively. Total energy, all macro and micronutrients increased with each protein category. Annual change in eGFRcysC was doubled in those individuals with protein intake &gt;1.2 when compared to those with &lt; 0.8 g/kg ideal body weight (1.60 [−1.92,−1.28] vs. −0.84 [−1.21, −0.46] mL/min/1.73 m², respectively). Significant inverse association between intake of animal protein and both eGFRcysC and eGFRcr–cysC. Significance not observed with plant protein. With eGFR as outcome, the annual decline in renal function was significantly slower with dairy vs. meat for every 5 g protein [−0.05 [−0.13, 0.03] vs. −0.11 [−0.20,−0.02]]. With change in eGFRcr–cysC as outcome, there was no significant difference between dairy and meat. 3-fold stronger association between protein intake and eGFR decline in patients with diabetes.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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| RAS drugs: 56% | Diabetes prevalence: 18% | Glucose lowering drugs: 12% |
| Lipid-modifying drugs: 85% | Anti-thrombotic drugs: 97% |
| Serum cystatin C: 0.99±0.26 mg/L | Serum creatinine: 1.04±0.35 mg/dL | eGFRcre-cysC: 80±20 mL/min/1.73 m² |
| eGFRcr–cysC: 77±19 mL/min/1.73 m² | 1.00 to <1.20 g/kg ideal bodyweight: Age: 69±5 years |
| 80% men | BMI: 27.7±3.6 kg/m² | Ethnicity: 99% white |
| High blood pressure: 57% | SBP: 145±22 mmHg | DBP: 82±11 mmHg |
| Serum LDL-C: 2.7±0.8 mmol/L | Plasma Glucose: 6.0±1.8 mmol/L | Current smoker: 13% |
| BP lowering drugs: 84% | RAS drugs: 52% | Diabetes prevalence: 17% |
| Lipid-modifying drugs: 88% | Anti-thrombotic drugs: 98% |
| Serum cystatin C: 0.95 ± 0.22 mg/L | Serum creatinine: 1.01 ± 0.30 mg/dL | eGFRcre-cysC: 83±19 mL/min/1.73 m² |
| eGFRcr–cysC: 79±19 mL/min/1.73 m² | ≥1.20 g/kg ideal bodyweight: Age: 69±5 years |
| 78% men | BMI: 27.8±3.7 kg/m² | Ethnicity: 99% white |
| High blood pressure: 55% | SBP: 142±20 mmHg | DBP: 81±10 mmHg |
| Serum LDL-C: 2.7±0.7 mmol/L | Plasma Glucose: 6.1±2.1 mmol/L | Current smoker: 14% |

≥1.20 g/kg ideal bodyweight: 2250 ± 469 kcal/d, 268 ± 68 g/d carbohydrates (48 ± 7% total energy), 90 ± 27 g/d total fat (36 ± 6% total energy), 92 ± 14 g/d protein (17 ± 3% total energy), 60 ± 12 g/d animal protein (11 ± 3% total energy), 22 ± 8 g/d from meat (4 ± 2% total energy), 27 ± 12 g/d from dairy (5 ± 2% total energy), 33 ± 8 g/d plant protein (6 ± 1% total energy)
Virtanen et al.[8]

2682 participants in original cohort
Total participants: 2641
1094 history of T2DM, CVD, or cancer at baseline
1547 free of disease at baseline
1094 history of T2DM, CVD, or cancer at baseline
100% men
1547 free of disease at baseline
1094 history of T2DM, CVD, or cancer at baseline
Excluded 41
2682 participants in original cohort

BP lowering drugs: 88%
RAS drugs: 57%
Diabetes prevalence: 19%
Glucose lowering drugs: 13%
Lipid-modifying drugs: 86%
Anti-thrombotic drugs: 99%

Current smoker: 32.9%
BMI: 26.6±3.5 kg/m²
Age: 53.2±4.9 years

Quartile 2
Lipid modifying medication: 0.2%
CVD medication: 2.4%
Glucose lowering medication: 0.8%
Diabetes: 3.8%
HTN medication: 20.2
High blood pressure: 61.4%
eGFRcysC: 85±18 mL/min/1.73 m²
Serum ferritin: 155±162 µg/L
Serum CRP: 2.60±5.35 mg/L
Serum TAG: 1.25±0.74 mmol/L

Quartile 1
Plasma Glucose not reported
SBP and DBP not reported
Ethnicity not reported
100% men

4.77±1.48mmol/L
Serum TC:HDL-C: 4.77±1.48mmol/L
Serum creatinine: 0.98±0.31 mg/dL
Serum cystatin C: 0.93±0.21 mg/L

Primary outcome; association between dietary protein intake and risk of disease death
Anthropometry and bloods taken at study baseline. Diet data collected using a 4-day (including 1 weekend day) food record. Questionnaires checked by nutritionist and nutrient content analysed using NUTRICIA 2.5 software. Ratio between intakes of animal and plant protein in the diet was calculated, with a higher ratio showing greater
Deaths determined from national Causes of Death Register with the use of the Finnish personal identification code. Deaths were coded according to the International Classification of Diseases (ICD), 10th revision, codes.

Person-years of follow-up were calculated from the baseline to the date of death or the end of follow-up. Cox proportional hazards regression models were used to estimate HRs in exposure quartiles, with the lowest category (quartile 1) as the reference.
Models were adjusted for age (years), examination year, and energy intake (kcal/d), education years, income (euros per year), marital status (married/unmarried); pack-years of smoking (cigarette packs smoked per day × years smoked, alcohol intake (g/week), leisure-time physical activity (kcal/d); BMI (in kg/m²), diagnosis of T2DM, CVD, cancer, or HTN at baseline or use of cardiac, hypercholesterolemia, hypertension, or diabetes medications (yes/no), fBm, SFA, MUFA, PUFA, and TFA (all g/d).

1255 deaths recorded during mean follow-up of 22.31 ± 7.89 years.
Men in the highest compared with the lowest quartile of total protein intake had a borderline statistically significant 17% increased risk of mortality (95% CI: 1, 39%; P-trend = 0.07)
Relationship between total protein and mortality was stronger in those with previous disease history vs. those men without (HR 1.04; 95% CI: 1.01, 1.07; per 5 g/d increase vs. HR 1.01; 95% CI: 0.98, 1.04; P=0.05, P=0.07 [depending on model], respectively)
Men in highest vs. lowest quartile of animal protein intake had a trend toward 13% increased mortality risk (95% CI: 5, 35%; P-trend = 0.04).
Participants in the highest meat intake quartile had a 23% (95% CI: 4, 47%; P-trend = 0.01) higher risk of mortality vs. those in the lowest quartile. Adjusting for additional nutrients increased the risk (HR 1.36; 95% CI: 1.09, 1.70; P-trend = 0.01).
Those with the highest ratio of animal:plant protein in the diet (higher animal protein intake) had 23%

Prospective cohort study
Participants taken from the Kuopio Ischaemic Heart Disease Risk Factor Study.
Participants grouped based on protein intake (g/d) at baseline:
Quartile 1 <83.9 g/d,
Quartile 2 83.9–92.1 g/d
Quartile 3 92.2–101.5 g/d
Quartile 4 >101.5 g/d


doi: 10.1136/heartjnl-2019-315499
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quartile</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Age: 52.7±5.2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Age: 52.7±5.2 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Increased risk of mortality (95% CI: 2, 49%; P-trend = 0.01)

Men consuming more animal protein had a higher BMI were more likely to smoke and have T2DM.

Consumption of fish, eggs, dairy, or plant protein were not associated with mortality in this cohort.

**Summary**

Greater intake of animal protein associated with increased risk of mortality. The relationship with total protein and mortality was greatest in those with predisposing disease. No comment on protein quality.
<p>| O'Connor et al. [9] | 261 participants approached 69 assessed for eligible 19 excluded 50 participants randomized 9 dropped out Total participants: n = 41 31% men Age: 46 ± 2 years | randomized, crossover, controlled feeding trial 16 week duration Two 5-week controlled feeding intervention with 4 week of self-selected unrestricted “wash-out”. Intervention consisted of a “Mediterranean Pattern” with daily macronutrients targets of 40% of total energy as carbohydrate, 22% protein, and 40% fat. Daily fat intakes were targeted at 7% of total energy as SFA and 20% MUFA. All foods were provided. Mediterranean Patterns contained ~500 g (Med-Red) and ~200 g (Med-Control) of lean, unprocessed beef or pork per week. | primary outcome: assess the effects of consuming a Mediterranean Pattern with different amounts of red meat on cardiometabolic disease risk factors Anthropometry (body mass and composition), bloods (full lipid profile) and Framingham Heart Study 10-year CV risk and vascular age taken at baseline and during the last week of the study. Baseline food intakes determined prior to randomisation and during washout to determine return to self-selected eating pattern | Greater reduction of body mass in Med-Red vs. Med-Control group (−1.6 ± 0.5 vs. −1.0 ± 0.5 kg, respectively). TC decreased significantly in both Med-Red and Med-Control (-0.4 ± 0.1 vs. -0.2 ± 0.1 mmol/L, respectively). Decrease in Med-Red was significantly greater than Med-Control. Significant decrease in LDL-C in Med-Red group vs. baseline value (3.1 ± 0.1 vs. 2.8 ± 0.1 mmol/L, respectively). Significant reduction in ApoB in Med-Red vs. Med-Control (-0.1 ± 0.0 vs. 0.0 ± 0.0 g/L, respectively) No significant change in TC:HDL-C, TAG, CRP, glucose, insulin, and HOMA-IR between groups. Significant reductions in SBP in Med-Red and Med-Control groups over time (-3 ± 2 vs. -5 ± 2 mmHg, respectively) Both Med-Red and Med-Control improved 10-year CV risk score (-0.7 ± 0.4 and -0.5 ± 0.4 years) and improved vascular age. \textbf{Summary} This short-term study shows adopting a Mediterranean diet pattern improves cardiometabolic risk irrespective of red meat intake providing the meat is lean and unprocessed. |
| Glucose lowering medication: 2.0% CVD: 36.1% CVD medication: 3.2% Lipid modifying medication: 0.9% | 2601 ± 428 kcal/d, carbohydrates 42 ± 1 % total energy, total fat 40 ± 1 % total energy, MUFA 22 ± 1 total energy, PUFA 8 ± 0 % total energy, SFA 7 ± 0 total energy, protein 18 ± 0 % total energy, 476 g red meat/wk, 112 g poultry/wk, 336 g seafood/wk, 2 eggs/wk, 560 g nuts, seed, soy/wk, 3 servings dairy/d. 14-point Med Diet Score: 12 | | | 2573 ± 405 kcal/d, carbohydrates 42 ± 2 % total energy, total fat 40 ± 1 % total energy, MUFA 21 ± 1 total energy, PUFA 9 ± 1 % total energy, SFA 8 ± 0 total energy, protein 19 ± 1 % total energy, 196 g red meat/wk, 420 g poultry/wk, 336 g seafood/wk, 3 eggs/wk, 616 g nuts, seed, soy/wk, 2 servings dairy/d. 14-point Med Diet Score: 13 | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HOMA-IR</td>
<td>2.679±0.297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-year risk (%)</td>
<td>4.6±0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vascular Age</td>
<td>45±2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14-point Med Diet Score</td>
<td>4±0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No statistically significant difference in any baseline parameter between groups.

Ethnicity and medication use not reported.

**Guasch-Ferré et al. [10]**

- Articles via PubMed: 366
  - Excluded 267 due to inappropriate articles (literature reviews, editorials, not RCT design, outcomes of interest not reported, control and red meat consumption not different)
  - 99 Articles assessed for eligibility
  - Excluded 66 due to acute feeding trials, lipids not reported, red meat intake not reported, no comparison group.
  - Articles in final meta-analysis: 36
  - 20 studies used a cross-over design
  - Sample size for studies ranged from 8-191 participants
  - Mean ages ranged from 22-70 years of age
  - Included both normolipidaemic (n=26 studies) and hyperlipidaemic (n=11 studies) participants
  - Red meat consumption ranged from 46.5-500 g/d in intervention diets and 0-266 g/d in comparison diets
  - Minimally-processed red meat was consumed in 24 studies; processed red meat was consumed in 5 studies, and the extent of red meat processing was not reported in 8 studies.

**Meta-analysis of RCTs comparing red meat consumption vs. other comparison diets**

- Articles sourced from PubMed (up to 2017)
- Study quality score from National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (Quality Assessment of Controlled Intervention Studies): Score ranging from 0 to 28 points
- Research question developed using PICO strategy

**Inclusion criteria were:**
- Participants aged ≥18 years and not pregnant,
- Intervention and comparison diets that prescribed differing amounts of red meat, reporting, ≥1 cardiovascular risk factor as a dependent variable (i.e. TC, LDL-C, HDL-C, TAGs, apolipoproteins [A1 and B], or blood pressure), and use of a RCT study design. As a minimum the study needed to be at least 2 weeks in duration
- Meat defined as “all forms of beef, pork, lamb, veal, goat, and non-bird game (e.g. venison, bison, elk)”
- Processed meat defined as “preserved by smoking, curing, salting, and/or the addition of chemical preservative.”

**Primary outcomes changes or differences in blood concentrations of TC, LDL-C, HDL-C, ApoA1, ApoB, or blood pressure.**

- When combining all studies examining red meat vs. all comparison diets, there was no significant effects of red meat on TC, LDL-C, HDL-C, TC:HDL-C, HDL-C:LDL-C, VLDL-C, ApoA1, or ApoB.
- Red meat yielded lesser decreases in TAGs (WMD 0.065 mmol/L; 95% CI, 0.000, 0.129).
- Lean red meat gave created decreases in TC and LDL-C (WMD -0.05 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.12, -0.02; P=0.04) and LDL-C (WMD -0.08 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.15, -0.02; P=0.03, respectively) relative to all comparison diets.
- Red meat decreased TC (WMD -0.109 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.211, -0.007; P<0.036) and LDL-C (WMD -0.08 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.15, -0.02; P=0.03, respectively) relative to all comparison diets.

When comparing red meat with high-quality plant protein, red meat yielded smaller decreases in TC (WMD 0.264 mmol/L; 95% CI: 0.144, 0.383; P<0.001) and LDL-C (WMD 0.198 mmol/L; 95% CI: 0.065, 0.330; P<0.003).

Red meat decreased TC (WMD -0.109 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.211, -0.007; P<0.036) and LDL-C (WMD -0.08 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.15, -0.02; P=0.03, respectively).
Red meat showed no significant difference on any lipid variable when compared with chicken or poultry diets when poultry and fish were combined, red meat decreased TC to a greater extent (WMD -0.092 mmol/L; 95% CI -0.177, -0.008; P=0.032) and TAG to a lesser extent (WMD 0.224 mmol/L; 95% CI 0.077, 0.371; P=0.003).

When compared with carbohydrates, red meat yielded lesser decreases in HDL-C (WMD 0.139 mmol/L; 95% CI, 0.004, 0.275; P=0.043) when usual diet was the comparison (WMD 0.081 mmol/L; 95% CI 0.008, 0.153; P=0.030).

In comparison with carbohydrates, red meat yielded greater decreases in TAG concentrations (WMD -0.181 mmol/L; 95% CI -0.349, -0.013; P=0.035) and also with combined animal protein sources (WMD -0.093 mmol/L; 95% CI -0.176, -0.011; P=0.027).

Summary
Relative to all diets combined, red meat had no significant impact on TC, LDL-C, HDL-C, ApoA1, B, BP but gave lesser decreases in TAG.

When compared with specific control diets, swapping red met for high-quality plant protein led to beneficial changes in lipids.

Kwok et al.[11]  
Potentially relevant records: 3011  
Excluded 2670  
341 reviews or studies reviewed in detail  
Excluded 308  

Review of evidence from systematic reviews and meta analyses
Identified food categories/groups based on UK ‘EatWell guide’, ‘the five food groups’
Primary outcomes included death (all-cause) or cardiovascular disease (stroke, cerebrovascular disease, coronary artery disease, acute myocardial infarction, For all-cause mortality the evidence was ranked as Level 2 for refined grains, green leafy vegetables/salad and tinned fruit.
## Articles in final meta-analysis: 33
16 reviews on all-cause mortality
17 reviews on cardiovascular disease

None of the included studies were based on RCT data. Follow up periods not reported.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dietary components</th>
<th>Associated outcomes</th>
<th>Quality assessment of studies performed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whole grain bread, pasta, whole grain breakfast cereals, or oats/oatmeal.</td>
<td>Significantly reduced risk of all-cause mortality (whole grain bread: RR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.82, 0.89; pasta: RR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.74, 0.99; whole grain breakfast cereal: RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.83, 0.92; oats/oatmeal: RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.83, 0.92).</td>
<td>Level 1a/b convincing evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refined grains and fibre</td>
<td>Significantly dose-response reduction in all-cause mortality (163,634 participants; RR 0.95; 95% CI: 0.91, 0.99; and 875,390 participants; RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.86, 0.94, respectively).</td>
<td>Level 2 probable evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
<td>No association was found between rice (453,723 participants) and all-cause mortality.</td>
<td>Level 3 possible evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish</td>
<td>Fish consumption was associated with a benefit for all-cause mortality (RR 0.98; 95% CI: 0.97, 1.00).</td>
<td>Level 4 limited/contrasting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processed meat</td>
<td>Processed meat was associated with a 25% increased risk of all-cause mortality (1,1423,969 participants, RR 1.25; 95% CI: 1.07, 1.45). No associations were found between white and red meat, and eggs.</td>
<td>Level 3 possible evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Root vegetables</td>
<td>Root vegetables (451,151 participants, RR 0.76; 95% CI: 0.66, 0.88), green leafy vegetables/salad (568,725 participants, RR 0.78; 95% CI: 0.71, 0.86), cooked vegetables (631,480 participants, RR 0.89, 95% CI: 0.80, 0.99) and cruciferous vegetables.</td>
<td>Level 3 possible evidence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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in the 2015-2020 Dietary guidelines for Americans, and ‘Food guide pyramid’ from the Centre for Nutrition Policy and Promotion in the United States. Searched PubMed (August 2018) for most recent and highest quality systematic review and meta analysis evaluating the dietary components and associated adverse outcomes.

Quality assessment of studies performed using WHO strength of evidence:
- Level 1a/b convincing evidence
- Level 2 probable evidence
- Level 3 possible evidence
- Level 4 limited/contrasting

Inclusion criteria were:
Studies had to have the dietary component of interest and some form of quantitative association with either CVD or mortality. Food item consumption and its association with outcome can be quantified as a dose–response relationship and highest compared to lowest consumers of food items.

For CVD only fish had Level 2 evidence.

All-cause mortality
2 or fewer studies for the assessment of whole grain bread, pasta, whole grain breakfast cereals, or oats/oatmeal.

In a dose-response analysis all food items above were associated with a significantly reduced risk of all-cause mortality (whole grain bread: RR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.82, 0.89; pasta: RR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.74, 0.99; whole grain breakfast cereal: RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.83, 0.92; oats/oatmeal: RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.83, 0.92).

Intake of refined grains and fibre were associated with a significant dose–response reduction in all-cause mortality (163,634 participants; RR 0.95; 95% CI: 0.91, 0.99; and 875,390 participants; RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.86, 0.94, respectively)

No association was found between rice (453,723 participants) and all-cause mortality

Fish consumption was associated with a benefit for all-cause mortality (RR 0.98; 95% CI: 0.97, 1.00).

Processed meat was associated with a 25% increased risk of all-cause mortality (1,1423,969 participants, RR 1.25; 95% CI: 1.07, 1.45). No associations were found between white and red meat, and eggs.

Root vegetables (451,151 participants, RR 0.76; 95% CI: 0.66, 0.88), green leafy vegetables/salad (568,725 participants, RR 0.78; 95% CI: 0.71, 0.86), cooked vegetables (631,480 participants, RR 0.89, 95% CI: 0.80, 0.99) and cruciferous vegetables.
(531,147 participants, RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.85, 0.95) were associated with lower all-cause mortality. Tinned fruit was associated with increased all-cause mortality (147,712 participants, RR 1.14; 95% CI: 1.07, 1.21).

Comparing high and low consumers of alcohol suggested a reduction in all-cause mortality (844,414 participants, RR 0.87; 95% CI: 0.83, 0.92)

Coffee displayed a dose-response relationship for reduced all-cause mortality (941,247 participants, RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.94, 0.97).

Dairy products such as butter, yoghurt, cheese, milk were not significantly associated with mortality.

Increased nut intake was associated with lower all-cause mortality (819,448 participants, RR 0.78; 95% CI: 0.72, 0.84). Specifically tree nuts (202,751 participants, RR 0.82; 95% CI: 0.75, 0.90) and peanuts (265,252 participants, RR 0.77; 95% CI: 0.69, 0.86).

**Cardiovascular Disease**

A dose-response relationship existed for whole grain bread (177,389 participants, RR 0.87; 95% CI: 0.80, 0.95), whole grain breakfast cereals (206,200 participants, RR 0.84; 95% CI: 0.78, 0.90), bran (118,085 participants, RR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.79, 0.90), and fibre (1,279,690 participants, RR 0.91; 95% CI: 0.88, 0.94)

Inverse associations were seen for red meat (1,319,147 participants, RR 1.15; 95% CI: 1.05, 1.26), and processed meat (1,186,761 participants, RR 1.24; 95% CI: 1.09, 1.40).
Only raw vegetables displayed a dose-response association of benefit (451,151 participants, RR 0.86; 95% CI: 0.81, 0.90).
Comparing the highest and lowest consumption of alcohol showed an inverse association with risk of CVD (1,184,974 participants, RR 0.75; 95% CI: 0.70, 0.80).
Yogurt, cheese, milk and butter showed no evidence of a dose-response association for benefit or harm with CVD.
Nut intake was associated with reduced risk of CVD (376,228 participants, RR 0.79; 95% CI: 0.70, 0.88). Specifically tree nuts (130,987 participants, RR 0.75; 95% CI: 0.67, 0.84) and peanuts (265,252 participants, RR 0.64; 95% CI: 0.50, 0.81).
Olive oil showed a dose-response with reduced CVD risk (476,714 participants, RR 0.82; 95% CI: 0.70, 0.96).
Comparing highest and lowest consumers, increased soy consumption was associated with lower risk of CVD (718,279 participants, RR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.75, 0.93).
A dose-response relationship existed for chocolate intake (per 20g/week) and reduced CVD risk (369,599 participants, RR 0.982; 95% CI: 0.972, 0.992).

Summary
In this comprehensive review of systematic reviews and meta analyses key foods from specific food groups show differential associations with all-cause mortality and CVD. Current evidence suggests that specifically green leafy...
vegetables/salad is strongly associated with reduced all-cause mortality, and foods such as yoghurt, butter, cheese, show no association. This review also highlights significant associations between processed meat and all-cause mortality, but not with red or white meat, or eggs. Foods that appear harmful include processed meat and tinned fruit for all-cause mortality and processed meat and red meat for CVD.

Park et al.[13]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study Design</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Randomised to 1 of 3 interventions:</th>
<th>Primary outcome: muscle mass as measured by dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry (DEXA). Secondary outcome measure was frailty.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Randomised, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial</td>
<td>Protein intake of 0.8 g/kg/d</td>
<td>Protein intake of 0.8 g/kg/d</td>
<td>1 screening visit and 3 visits at weeks 0 (baseline), 6, and 12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 week duration</td>
<td>Protein intake of 1.2 g/kg/d</td>
<td>Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d</td>
<td>Cardiovascular Health study (CHS), frailty criteria, the Mini Nutritional Assessment (MNA), demographic and medical information, BMI and 3-d dietary intake were measured during screening.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Randomised to 1 of 3 interventions:</td>
<td>Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d</td>
<td>All participants were asked to maintain usual diet and exercise. Participants were provided with 5 x 10 g packs containing placebo (9.6 g maltodextrin) or protein powders (9.3 g whey protein).</td>
<td>Medical and clinical information, KLoSHA frailty criteria, the timed up-and-go (TUG) test, and hematologic and urinary measurements were assessed at weeks 0, 6 and 12. Muscle mass measured at weeks 0 and 12.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 week duration</td>
<td>Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d</td>
<td></td>
<td>3-d dietary intake and adverse effects were assessed at weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Post intervention ASM indicators were significantly (P<0.05) higher in the 1.5 g protein/kg/d then in the 0.8 g/kg/d group

Protein intakes were higher in the 1.2 g/kg/d and 1.5 g/kg/d. Carbohydrate intake was higher in 0.8 g/kg/d protein group. There were no differences in fat intake between groups.

Gait speed was significantly higher in the 1.5 g/kg/d group vs. 0.8 g/kg/d group. There was no difference between 0.8 g/kg/d and 1.2 g/kg/d.

Only blood urea nitrogen was significantly increased by protein intake of 1.2 and 1.5 g/kg/d compared with protein intake of 0.8 g/kg/d at weeks 6 and 12.

Summary
Protein intake high in leucine (whey) leads to improvements in muscle and physical performance in elderly subjects with some cardiovascular risk factors. Including a variety of plant and animal proteins (especially rich in leucine) may help preserve muscle mass in aging individuals.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seidelmann et al. [15]</th>
<th>Total participants: n 15,428</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1 Participants: n 3086</td>
<td>Prospective cohort study and meta-analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age: 53.7 ±5.7 years</td>
<td>Participants taken from the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men: 53%</td>
<td>Participants based on quintiles of total energy from carbohydrate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI: 28.0 ±0.1 kg/m2</td>
<td>Q1: 1558 ± 1 kcal/d, carbohydrates 37 ± 5.7% total energy, animal fat 26.3 ± 0.1% total energy, plant fat 12.5 ± 0.1% total energy, animal protein 16.9 ± 0.1% total energy, plant protein 3.9 ± 0.02% total energy, dietary fibre 13.5 ± 0.1 g/d, Glycaemic index 71.8 ± 0.1, Glycaemic load 100.6 ± 1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker: 33%</td>
<td>Primary outcome was all-cause mortality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former smoker: 35%</td>
<td>Diet data collected using a 66-item semi-quantitative FFQ at visit 1 and visit 3. The Harvard Nutrient Database was used to derive nutrient intakes from the FFQ responses.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never smoker: 32%</td>
<td>Participants examined at follow-up visits, with the second visit occurring between 1990 and 1992, the third between 1993 and 1995, the fourth between 1996 and 1998, the fifth between 2011 and 2013, and the sixth between 2016 and 2017.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High blood pressure: 35%</td>
<td>Models adjusted for age, race and gender, ARIC test centre, total energy consumption, diabetes, cigarette smoking, physical activity, income level and education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes: 13%</td>
<td>Median follow-up of 25 years, with 6283 deaths occurring.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnicity: 76% white, 24% Black, &lt;1% Asian, &lt;1% Native American</td>
<td>Participants in lower carbohydrate quartiles had higher prevalence of diabetes, exercised less, had higher BMI, and smoking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highest exercise activity: 15%</td>
<td>Significant U-shaped association between carbohydrate intake and risk of mortality (P&lt;0.0001). Intake of 50-55% energy had lowest risk but carbohydrate intakes of 30% energy had highest risk (HR 1.37; 95% CI: 1.16, 1.63). Risk was also increased in those consuming &gt;65% energy from carbohydrates.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| ASM/BMI: 0.64 ± 0.14 | protein 44.84 ± 11.58 g/d, protein 0.80 ± 0.21 g/kg, MNA score 20.89 ± 1.93 |
| ASM:fat ratio: 1.08 ± 0.57 | 12 weeks |
| CHS Score: 1.78 ± 0.89 | Protein intake of 0.8 g/kg/d |
| Frailty status 20% | 1470.02 ± 343.40 kcal/d, carbohydrates 248.68 ± 54.30 g/d, total fat 24.43 ± 11.36 g/d, protein 52.28 ± 21.83 g/d, protein 0.90 ± 0.38 g/kg, MNA score 23.10 ± 2.76 |
| Hypertension: 70% | Protein intake of 1.2 g/kg/d |
| Hyperlipidaemia: 25% | 1392.22 ± 277.23 kcal/d, carbohydrates 215.70 ± 39.19 g/d, total fat 22.74 ± 9.65 g/d, protein 69.91 ± 16.98 g/d, protein 1.18 ± 0.23 g/kg, MNA score 23.91 ± 2.51 |
| Diabetes: 45% | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| Osteoporosis: 5% | 1386.21 ± 272.23 kcal/d, carbohydrates 214.80 ± 44.42 g/d, total fat 19.05 ± 8.11 g/d, protein 76.36 ± 16.69 g/d, protein 1.37 ± 0.26 g/kg, MNA score 24.11 ± 2.25 |
| Arthritis: 13% | * appendicular skeletal muscle mass |
| Men: 30% | Protein intake of 0.8 g/kg/d |
| Weight: 56.28 ± 8.67 kg | Protein intake of 1.2 g/kg/d |
| BMI: 23.65 ± 2.53 kg/m2 | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| ASM: 14.19 ± 2.78 kg | Protein intake of 1.2 g/kg/d |
| ASM height2: 5.93 ± 0.71 kg/m2 | Protein intake of 1.2 g/kg/d |
| ASM/BMI: 0.60 ± 0.11 | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| ASM:fat ratio: 0.98 ± 0.49 | Protein intake of 1.2 g/kg/d |
| CHS Score: 1.93 ± 0.94 | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| Frailty status 30% | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| Hypertension: 58% | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| Hyperlipidaemia: 20% | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| Diabetes: 23% | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| Osteoporosis: 18% | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| Arthritis: 13% | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |
| MNA Score: 20.89 ± 1.93 | Protein intake of 1.5 g/kg/d |

Supplementary material
Heart
Q2
Participants: n 3086
Age: 54.3±5.7 years
Men: 48%
BMI: 27.9±0.1 kg/m2
Current smoker: 27%
Former smoker: 34%
Never smoker: 40%
High blood pressure: 33%
Diabetes: 13%
Ethnicity: 75% white, 25% Black, <1% Asian, <1% Native American
Highest exercise activity: 17%

Q3
Participants: n 3085
Age: 54.3±5.8 years
Men: 45%
BMI: 27.6±0.1 kg/m2
Current smoker: 26%
Former smoker: 32%
Never smoker: 42%
High blood pressure: 34%
Diabetes: 11%
Ethnicity: 73% white, 27% Black, <1% Asian, <1% Native American
Highest exercise activity: 19%

Q4
Participants: n 3086
Age: 54.3±5.8 years
Men: 42%
BMI: 27.6±0.1 kg/m2
Current smoker: 23%
Former smoker: 31%
Never smoker: 46%
High blood pressure: 34%
Diabetes: 11%
Ethnicity: 71% white, 28% Black, <1% Asian, <1% Native American
Highest exercise activity: 19%

Q5
Participants: n 3085
Age: 54.3±5.8 years
Men: 36%
BMI: 27.4±0.1 kg/m2

Q2: 1655 ± 11 kcal/d, carbohydrates 44 ± 2.5% total energy, animal fat 22.4 ± 0.1 % total energy, plant fat 13.6 ± 0.1 % total energy, animal protein 14.8 ± 0.1 % total energy, plant protein 4.3 ± 0.02 % total energy), dietary fibre 16.5 ± 0.1 g/d, Glyceric index 74.1 ± 0.1, Glyceric load 134.6 ± 1.1

Q3: 1660 ± 11 kcal/d, carbohydrates 49 ± 2.2% total energy, animal fat 19.9 ± 0.1 % total energy, plant fat 13.6 ± 0.1 % total energy, animal protein 13.5 ± 0.1 % total energy, plant protein 4.5 ± 0.02 % total energy), dietary fibre 17.7 ± 0.1 g/d, Glyceric index 74.9 ± 0.1, Glyceric load 151.1 ± 1.1

Q4: 1646 ± 11 kcal/d, carbohydrates 53 ± 2.8% total energy, animal fat 17.6 ± 0.1 % total energy, plant fat 13.2 ± 0.1 % total energy, animal protein 12.3 ± 0.1 % total energy, plant protein 4.6 ± 0.02 % total energy), dietary fibre 18.7 ± 0.1 g/d, Glyceric index 76.0 ± 0.1, Glyceric load 166.8 ± 1.1

Q5: 1607 ± 11 kcal/d, carbohydrates 61 ± 6.3% total energy, animal fat 13.6 ± 0.1 % total energy, plant fat 13.6 ± 0.1 % total energy, animal protein 11.5 ± 0.1 % total energy, plant protein 4.8 ± 0.02 % total energy), dietary fibre 19.8 ± 0.1 g/d, Glyceric index 76.7 ± 0.1, Glyceric load 191.7 ± 1.1

Explored association between different sources of fat and protein using animal- and plant-based scores.

Updated meta analysis:
Grouped data into 2 categories due to carbohydrate intake: 1) North American and European; and 2) Asian and Multinational studies.
Mean Carbohydrate intake in group 1 approximately 50% total energy, mean carbohydrate intake in group 2 approximately 61%.
Group 1 compared low-carbohydrate consumption with moderate carbohydrate consumption. Group 2 compared moderate carbohydrate consumption with high carbohydrate consumption

carbohydrate (HR 1.16; 95% CI: 1.02, 1.33).
Updated meta-analysis including data from ARIC:
Relationship between carbohydrate consumption and mortality was dependent on carbohydrate range used.
Low carbohydrate diet was associated with a significantly increased risk of all-cause mortality vs. moderate carbohydrate diets (pooled HR 1.20; 95% CI: 1.09; 1.32; p<0.0001).
High carbohydrate diet was associated with a significantly increased risk of all-cause mortality vs. moderate carbohydrate diets (pooled HR 1.23; 95% CI: 1.11, 1.36; p<0.0001).

Plant-based LCD associated with higher average intake of vegetables but lower fruit intake. Animal-based lower carbohydrate diet was associated with lower average intake of both fruit and vegetables

Plant-based LCD had higher average PUFA, and lower SFA when compared to the animal-based low carbohydrate diet.
In ARIC and updated meta-analysis, increased substitution of carbohydrate for animal protein was associated with increased all-cause mortality (HR 1.18; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.29; P<0.0001).
Substitution of carbohydrate for plant protein and fat was associated with reduced all-cause mortality (HR 0.82; 95% CI: 0.78, 0.87; P<0.0001).

Summary
There is a U-Shaped relationship between carbohydrate intake and mortality. Source of fat and protein
**Supplementary material**

Li et al. [16]

**Total participants:** 4,098
2,258 from Nurses’ Health study and 1,840 men from Health Professional Follow-Up study

All free from CVD, cancer, stroke at baseline.

All free from stroke at time of MI.

Ethnicity not reported

SBP and DBP not reported

Participants: n = 432,179

8 studies in meta analysis

Sample size for studies ranged from 9,200-135,335 participants

Majority of studies in MA excluded patients with CVD or diabetes

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**Table:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Values</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age at diagnosis</td>
<td>65.1 ± 8.4 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>25.8 ± 5.4 kg/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High blood pressure</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never smoker</td>
<td>36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Former smoker</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity</td>
<td>14.3 ± 18.2 MET hrs/wk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elevated cholesterol</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lipid modifying medication</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirin use</td>
<td>65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Prospective cohort design</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants taken from Nurses’ Health Study</td>
<td>4,098</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Participants grouped into quintiles of adherence to low carbohydrate diet score

**Women**

Q1:

- Post-MI total LCDS: 3.5±2.0
- Pre-MI total LCDS: 11.3±6.7
- Post-MI plant-based LCDS: 6.3±2.4
- Post-MI animal-based LCDS: 2.7±1.7
- Pre-MI animal-based LCDS: 11.1±7.9
- Fish: 0.2 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fruit 2.8 ± 1.3 servings/d, total vegetables 6.0 ± 1.4 % total energy
- Total LCDS was not significantly associated with increased all-cause mortality post-MI (HR 1.31; 95% CI: 0.99, 1.73; P = 0.27)

Q2:

- Fish: 0.2 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fruit 2.8 ± 1.3 servings/d, total vegetables 6.0 ± 1.4 % total energy
- Total LCDS was associated with increased all-cause mortality (HR 1.27; 95% CI: 0.89, 1.81; P = 0.23). Combined higher animal based LCDS was associated with high LCDS

Q3:

- Fish: 0.2 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fruit 2.8 ± 1.3 servings/d, total vegetables 6.0 ± 1.4 % total energy
- Total LCDS was not significantly associated with mortality in men (HR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.64, 1.27; P = 0.94). Combined, total LCDS was not significantly associated with all-cause mortality (HR 1.13; 95% CI: 0.91, 1.40; P = 0.27)

Q4:

- Fish: 0.2 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fruit 2.8 ± 1.3 servings/d, total vegetables 6.0 ± 1.4 % total energy
- Total LCDS was not significantly associated with mortality in women (HR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.64, 1.43; P = 0.77). Combined, total LCDS was not significantly associated with all-cause mortality (HR 1.13; 95% CI: 0.89, 1.40; P = 0.14)

Q5:

- Fish: 0.2 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fruit 2.8 ± 1.3 servings/d, total vegetables 6.0 ± 1.4 % total energy
- Total LCDS was not significantly associated with mortality in women (HR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.64, 1.43; P = 0.77). Combined, total LCDS was not significantly associated with all-cause mortality (HR 1.13; 95% CI: 0.89, 1.40; P = 0.14)

**Primary outcomes**

- All-cause mortality and their relationship to LCDS (animal or plant)
- Food intakes determined using validated FFQ every 4 years pre-MI and post-MI before death. Nutrient content was calculated from the Harvard University Food Composition Database and multiplied by the frequency of consumption. Participants divided into 11 strata for each macronutrient. Those in highest stratum were assigned scores of 10 for fat, 10 for protein, and 0 for carbohydrate. Score ranged from 0 (lowest fat and protein, and highest carbohydrate intake) to 30 (highest fat and protein, and lowest carbohydrate intake). Higher scores mean greater adherence to a specific type of LCD

**Outcomes**

- MI was confirmed based on the World Health Organization’s criteria.
- Covariates chosen a priori included medication use, medical history, and lifestyles factors that have been reported to be associated with MI risk

- Models adjusted for time since MI onset, age at diagnosis, calendar year, total caloric intake physical activity, aspirin use, diabetes, high blood pressure, lipid-lowering medication use, alcohol consumption, currently married, body mass index, CABG, and pre-MI score

- At follow-up, 682 total and 336 CVD deaths for women, and 451 total and 222 CVD deaths for men
- Median survival time was 8 years for women and 9 years for men
- Diabetes prevalence was higher in those with high LCDS

- In women, total LCDS was associated with increased all-cause mortality post-MI (HR 1.31; 95% CI: 0.99, 1.73; P = 0.02). Total LCDS was not significantly associated with all-cause mortality in men (HR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.64, 1.27; P = 0.94). Combined, total LCDS was not significantly associated with all-cause mortality (HR 1.13; 95% CI: 0.91, 1.40; P = 0.27)

- Higher animal-based post-MI LCDS were associated with increased all-cause mortality in women (HR 1.33; 95% CI: 1.01, 1.77; P = 0.01) but not men (HR 1.27; 95% CI: 0.89, 1.81; P = 0.23). Combined higher animal based LCDS were associated with...
Participants: n = 491
Age at diagnosis: 64.9±8.4 years
BMI: 26.6±5.2 kg/m²
Current smoker: 16%
Former smoker: 57%
Never smoker: 27%
High blood pressure: 38%
Diabetes: 21%
Physical activity: 12.4±17.4 MET hrs/wk
Elevated cholesterol: 72%
Lipid modifying medication: 52%
Aspirin use: 62%

Q3:
- Post-MI total LCDs: 13.4±1.1
- Pre-MI total LCDs: 15.2±6.8
- Post-MI plant-based LCDs: 13.9±0.8
- Pre-MI plant-based LCDs: 14.6±5.2
- Post-MI animal-based LCDs: 13.0±1.4
- Pre-MI animal-based LCDs: 15.7±7.2

Age at diagnosis: 64.4±8.6 years
BMI: 28.2±5.9 kg/m²
Current smoker: 16%
Former smoker: 57%
Never smoker: 27%
High blood pressure: 38%
Diabetes: 21%
Physical activity: 12.4±17.4 MET hrs/wk
Elevated cholesterol: 72%
Lipid modifying medication: 52%
Aspirin use: 62%

Q5:
- Post-MI total LCDs: 24.0±2.6
- Pre-MI total LCDs: 19.3±6.9
- Post-MI plant-based LCDs: 22.0±2.2
- Pre-MI plant-based LCDs: 17.7±5.2
- Post-MI animal-based LCDs: 25.5±2.5
- Pre-MI animal-based LCDs: 19.8±7.3

Men
Participants: n = 410
Age at diagnosis: 66.0±9.0 years
BMI: 25.3±3.4 kg/m²
Current smoker: 12%
Former smoker: 49%
Never smoker: 39%
High blood pressure: 54%
Diabetes: 8%
Physical activity: 35.6±34.0 MET hrs/wk
Elevated cholesterol: 67%
Lipid modifying medication: 51%
Aspirin use: 84%

Q3:
- Post-MI total LCDs: 11.1±0.9 servings/d, high-fat dairy 1.1±0.9 servings/d, low-fat dairy 1.1±0.8 servings/d

For women, additional adjustments were made for postmenopausal hormone use status, and smoking.
For men, additional adjustments were made for heart failure, LVEF, acute therapy during hospitalization (received either angioplasty or thrombolytics, or none), and smoking.

Changes in LCDs in men were not associated with increased all-cause mortality (HR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.61, 1.18; \( P_{\text{trend}} = 0.28 \)) or women (HR 1.04; 95% CI: 0.79, 1.37; \( P_{\text{trend}} = 0.93 \)).

In women, an increase in total LCDs from pre- to post-MI was associated with increased risk of all-cause mortality (HR 1.35; 95% CI: 0.99, 1.84; \( P_{\text{trend}} = 0.01 \)). A greater increase in animal-based LCDs was associated with higher all-cause mortality (HR 1.35; 95% CI: 0.99, 1.84; \( P_{\text{trend}} = 0.005 \)) and cardiovascular mortality (HR 1.97; 95% CI: 1.29, 3.03; \( P_{\text{trend}} = 0.006 \)). This relationship was not observed with plant-based LCDs.

Changes in LCDs in men were not associated with all-cause and CVD mortality.

A greater increase in plant-based LCDs was not associated with increased mortality in either men or women.

Summary
LCDs – especially based around animal products – are associated with increased all-cause and CVD mortality, especially in women. Low-carbohydrate plant-based diets are not associated with increased all-cause or CVD mortality. Low carb
Participants: n 382
Age at diagnosis: 66.1±9.1 years
BMI: 26.6±3.7 kg/m2
Current smoker: 11%
Former smoker: 52%
Never smoker: 37%
High blood pressure: 56%
Diabetes: 17%
Physical activity: 32.9±47.7 MET hrs/wk
Lipid modifying medication: 56%
Aspirin use: 84%

Men
Q1:
Post-MI total LCDS: 4.1±2.2
Pre-MI total LCDS: 12.2±7.3
Post-MI plant-based LCDS: 6.9±2.2
Pre-MI plant-based LCDS: 12.2±5.0
Post-MI animal-based LCDS: 2.4±1.7
Pre-MI animal-based LCDS: 11.2±7.9
2006 ± 632 kcal/d, carbohydrates 64.1 ± 6.1 % total energy, SFA 6.2 ± 0.7 % total energy, TFA 1.2 ± 0.7 % total energy, omega 3 0.6 ± 0.3 % total energy, animal fat 8.0 ± 3.2 % total energy, vegetable fat 13.1 ± 4.3 % total energy, animal protein 9.0 ± 2.7 % total energy, vegetable protein 6.5 ± 1.6 % total energy, cereal fibre 9.5 ± 4.1 g/d, alcohol 8.1 ± 12.3 g/d, chicken/turkey 0.4 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fish 0.3 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fruit 3.2 ± 1.5 servings/d, total vegetables 3.5 ± 1.6 servings/d, total red meat 0.7 ± 0.5 servings/d, high-fat dairy 0.9 ± 0.8 servings/d, low-fat dairy 1.1 ± 0.8 servings/d

Q3
Post-MI total LCDS: 12.4±1.1
Pre-MI total LCDS: 15.4±6.3
Post-MI plant-based LCDS: 14.0±0.8
Pre-MI plant-based LCDS: 15.2±4.9
Post-MI animal-based LCDS: 13.0±1.4
Pre-MI animal-based LCDS: 15.3±7.0
1880 ± 595 kcal/d, carbohydrates 53.8 ± 4.2 % total energy, SFA 8.2 ± 2.2 % total energy, TFA 1.4 ± 0.6 % total energy, omega 3 0.8 ± 0.4 % total energy, animal fat 12.1 ± 3.6 % total energy, vegetable fat 14.6 ± 4.9 % total energy, animal protein 12.5 ± 3.3 % total energy, vegetable protein 6.0 ± 1.3 % total energy, cereal fibre 8.5 ± 3.7 g/d, alcohol 9.4 ± 12.8 g/d, chicken/turkey 0.4 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fish 0.4 ± 0.3 servings/d, total fruit 2.6 ± 1.3 servings/d, total vegetables 3.3 ± 1.4 servings/d, total red meat 1.0 ± 0.5 servings/d, high-fat dairy 1.1 ± 1.0 servings/d, low-fat dairy 1.3 ± 1.0 servings/d

can be interpreted differently, and care should be given to exploring if they are based around animal or plant products
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Post-MI total LCDS: 24.3±2.7</th>
<th>Pre-MI total LCDS: 19.9±6.3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Post-MI plant-based LCDS:</strong></td>
<td>21.8±2.6</td>
<td>17.8±5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Post-MI animal-based LCDS:</strong></td>
<td>24.8±2.8</td>
<td>20.3±6.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1927 ± 658 kcal/d, carbohydrates 41.1 ± 6.2 % total energy, SFA 11.7 ± 2.7 % total energy, TFA 1.8 ± 0.7 % total energy, omega 3 0.8 ± 0.6 % total energy, vegetable fat 17.2 ± 6.1 % total energy, animal protein 15.2 ± 3.7 % total energy, vegetable protein 5.2 ± 1.4 % total energy, cereal fibre 6.0 ± 2.5 g/d, alcohol 8.9 ± 11.4 g/d, chicken/turkey 0.4 ± 0.3 servings/d, total fish 0.3 ± 0.2 servings/d, total fruit 2.0 ± 1.2 servings/d, total vegetables 3.0 ± 1.4 servings/d, total red meat 1.5 ± 0.8 servings/d, high-fat dairy 1.4 ± 1.3 servings/d, low-fat dairy 1.1 ± 1.0 servings/d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Li et al.[17]</th>
<th>Total participants: n 4098</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2258 from Nurses’ Health study (NHS) and 1840 men from Health Professional Follow-Up study (HPFS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All free from CVD, cancer, stroke at baseline.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All free from stroke at time of MI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethnicity not reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SBP and DBP not reported</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Plasma Glucose not reported</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Women Q1</th>
<th>Participants: n 433</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age at diagnosis: 64.5±8.8 years</td>
<td>BMI: 26.3±5.4 kg/m2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker: 24%</td>
<td>Former smoker: 51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never smoker: 25%</td>
<td>High blood pressure: 67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes: 19%</td>
<td>Physical activity: 9.4±13.5 MET hrs/wk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elevated cholesterol: 71%</td>
<td>Lipid modifying medication: 42%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prospective cohort design
Participants taken from Nurses’ Health Study the Health Professional Follow-Up Study
Grouped on quintiles of fibre intake (g/d)

Q5 Post-MI total LCDS: 24.3±2.7
Pre-MI total LCDS: 19.9±6.3
Post-MI plant-based LCDS: 21.8±2.6
Pre-MI plant-based LCDS: 17.8±5.3
Post-MI animal-based LCDS: 24.8±2.8
Pre-MI animal-based LCDS: 20.3±6.7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Post-MI fibre intake: 12.4±2.0 /d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pre-MI fibre intake:</strong></td>
<td>14.0±4.6 /d</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fibre intake:</strong></td>
<td>1619 ± 538 kcal/d, SFA 11.1 ± 3.2 % total energy, omega 3 0.7 ± 0.3 % total energy, alcohol 6.0 ± 12.8 g/d, fruit fibre 4.0 ± 0.64 g/d, legume fibre 1.0 ± 0.1 g/d</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Primary outcomes of all-cause and cardiovascular mortality
MI was confirmed according to symptoms plus either diagnostic electrocardiographic changes or increased levels of cardiac enzymes, including cardiac specific troponin

Diet intakes assessed using a validated FFQ every 4 years from 1976-2006 for NHS and from 1986-2006 for HPFS.

Covariates chosen a priori and included medication use, medical history, and lifestyles factors. In HPFS, also considered clinical characteristics such as ST elevation MI (Y/N), site of MI, type of revascularisation, LVEF, initial creatinine levels, and HF during hospital stay (Y/N)

Models adjusted for time since MI onset, age at diagnosis, calendar year, total caloric intake, physical activity, aspirin use, diabetes, high blood pressure, use of lipid lowering drugs, alcohol consumption, SFA intake, n3 fatty acid intake, TFA intake, married, BMI, CABG, folate intake, and pre-MI intake.

Median follow-up post MI was 8.7 years for women and 9.0 years for men.
682 total and 336 cardiovascular deaths for women, and 451 total and 222 cardiovascular deaths for men.

In basic models (adjusted for age and time since MI) higher post-MI fibre intake was associated with lower all-cause mortality in both men and women (HR 0.63; 95% CI: 0.47, 0.86; Ptrend=0.0008, and HR 0.50; 95% CI: 0.39, 0.64; P trend=<0.0001, respectively).

Adjustment for lifestyle characteristics attenuated these associations although combined HR showed association (HR 0.75; 95% CI: 0.58, 0.97; P trend=0.01). A similar relationship was observed between post-MI fibre intake and cardiovascular mortality, with addition of lifestyle factors attenuating any significant association.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Participants: n 437</th>
<th>Aspirin use: 61%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age at diagnosis: 64.9±8.5 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI: 27.6±6.2 kg/m²</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current smoker: 9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Former smoker: 61%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Never smoker: 30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>High blood pressure: 74%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diabetes: 27%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical activity: 13.4±18.4 MET hrs/wk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elevated cholesterol: 80%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lipid modifying medication: 50%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirin use: 62%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q5</th>
<th>Participants: n 457</th>
<th>Aspirin use: 62%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age at diagnosis: 65.1±8.2 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI: 26.3±5.2 kg/m²</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Current smoker: 4%</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Former smoker: 58%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Never smoker: 38%</td>
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<tr>
<td>High blood pressure: 70%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diabetes: 24%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical activity: 20.1±20.8 MET hrs/wk</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Elevated cholesterol: 79%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Lipid modifying medication: 55%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aspirin use: 64%</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>Post-MI fibre intake: 28.7±4.4 g/d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-MI fibre intake: 22.4±6.6 g/d</td>
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<tr>
<td>1592 ± 518 kcal/d, SFA 7.0 ± 2.1 % total energy, omega 3 3.0 ± 0.4 % total energy, alcohol 2.9 ± 5.4 g/d, cereal fibre 8.4 ± 4.0 g/d, fruit fibre 8.7 ± 2.6 g/d, legume fibre 3.4 ± 1.6 g/d</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Post-MI fibre intake: 24.4±1.0 g/d</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-MI fibre intake: 22.3±5.6 g/d</td>
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<tr>
<td>1946 ± 646 kcal/d, SFA 8.8 ± 2.4 % total energy, TFA 1.5 ± 0.4 % total energy, omega 3 3.0 ± 0.3 % total energy, alcohol 9.1 ± 12.3 g/d, cereal fibre 7.8 ± 2.8 g/d, fruit fibre 5.1 ± 0.5 g/d, legume fibre 1.7 ± 0.2 g/d</td>
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<tr>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Q1</th>
<th>Post-MI fibre intake: 16.0±2.4 g/d</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-MI fibre intake: 17.3±4.9 g/d</td>
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<tr>
<td>1878 ± 620 kcal/d, SFA 10.8 ± 3.0 % total energy, omega 3 0.7 ± 0.5 % total energy, alcohol 13.4 ± 17.1 g/d, cereal fibre 5.3 ± 2.1 g/d, fruit fibre 1.8 ± 0.7 g/d, legume fibre 0.4 ± 0.3 g/d</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q5</th>
<th>Post-MI fibre intake: 37.0±5.8 g/d</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-MI fibre intake: 27.8±8.3 g/d</td>
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<tr>
<td>1925 ± 621 kcal/d, SFA 6.1 ± 2.0 % total energy, TFA 0.9 ± 0.5 % total energy, omega 3 3.0 ± 0.5 % total energy, alcohol 6.3 ± 10.3 g/d, cereal fibre 11.2 ± 4.8 g/d, fruit fibre 11.4 ± 3.5 g/d, legume fibre 5.3 ± 2.1 g/d</td>
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</table>

For women, additional adjustments were made for postmenopausal hormone use status, and smoking.

For men, additional adjustments were made for heart failure, LVEF, acute therapy during hospitalization (received either angioplasty or thrombolytics, or none), and smoking.

Pooled HR of 0.85 (95% CI: 0.74, 0.97) for all-cause mortality for a 10 g/d increase in intake.

Only cereal fibre was inversely associated with lower all-cause and cardiovascular mortality (pooled HR 0.73; 95% CI: 0.58, 0.91 and pooled HR 0.72; 95% CI: 0.52, 0.99, respectively). No association was observed for fruit or legume fibre.

Pre-MI fibre was not associated with post-MI all-cause mortality (pooled HR 1.17; 95% CI: 0.92, 1.48) and cardiovascular mortality (pooled HR 1.10; 95% CI: 0.77, 1.55).

In fully adjusted models a greater increase in fibre intake from pre to post-MI was associated with significantly lower all-cause mortality in women (HR 0.64; 95% CI 0.48, 0.86; P_{trend}=0.005), but not men. The pooled HR was 0.69 (95% CI: 0.55, 0.87; P_{trend}=0.002) suggesting increasing fibre intake from pre- to post-MI was beneficial.

In both men and women, an increase in fibre intake from pre- to post MI was associated with lower cardiovascular mortality (HR 0.65; 95% CI 0.42, 0.99; P_{trend}=0.09 and 0.65; 95% CI: 0.39,1.08; P_{trend}=0.04)

**Summary**

Overall this study showed a modest association between intake of fibre post MI lower all-cause and cardiovascular mortality, and that in those individuals who increased their fibre intake the most saw greater benefit. This relationship appeared to be driven by cereal fibre.

**Supplementary material**

| Q3 | Participants: n 373  
Age at diagnosis: 66.1±8.9 years  
BMI: 26.1±3.6 kg/m2  
Current smoker: 4%  
Former smoker: 52%  
Never smoker: 36%  
High blood pressure: 13%  
Physical activity: 37.0±5.4 MET hrs/wk  
Elevated cholesterol: 63%  
Lipid modifying medication: 57%  
Aspirin use: 82% |
|---|---|
| Q5 | Participants: n 358  
Age at diagnosis: 66.1±8.9 years  
BMI: 25.6±3.7 kg/m2  
Current smoker: 1%  
Former smoker: 47%  
Never smoker: 41%  
High blood pressure: 50%  
Physical activity: 40.4±35.0 MET hrs/wk  
Elevated cholesterol: 64%  
Lipid modifying medication: 50%  
Aspirin use: 81% |

Zhang et al.[18]  
Potentially relevant records: 343  
236 articles excluded based on title  
Full texts assessed for eligibility: 109  
Excluded 92 due to duplicates, 1 not published, 28 not relevant outcomes, 6 comments/editorials, 4 review/meta analysis  
Articles in final meta-analysis: 17 (19 prospective cohort studies)  
Total number of participants in analysis: 1,041,962  
6 studies reported whole grain, 11 studies reported whole grain foods.

Meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies examining whole grain foods or diets on total mortality, cardiovascular mortality, and cancer mortality, and cardiovascular risk factors in healthy people or those with cardiovascular disease  
Articles sourced from Pubmed and Web of Science till January 2016  
Quality of evidence was assessed using Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (STROBE)  
Publication bias assessed using Begg’s Test  
Inclusion criteria were:  
Primary outcomes were all-cause mortality, CVD mortality, and cancer mortality  
Additional factors extracted included participants’ age and sex, definition of whole grain or whole grain products, methods for whole grain assessment, confounders adjusted for in the analysis, whole grain intake in each category, type of intake (whole grain products or whole grain), RR and 95% CIs in each category. Data on dietary changes or BMI not extracted.  
For the outcome of total mortality there were 661,752 and 84,646 deaths.  
9 studies reported on total mortality.  
Pooled RR comparing highest and lowest categories of intake was 0.84 (95% CI: 0.81, 0.88).  
Subgroup analysis suggested the inverse association between whole grain and mortality was stronger in women (RR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.81, 0.89) than men (RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.85, 0.95), and in studies with a follow-up of 15-20 years (RR 0.75; 95% CI: 0.67, 0.84).  
Each 28 g/d serving of whole grain associated with 9% reduction in all-cause mortality.
|Kelly et al.[19] | Potentially relevant records: 15,283  
After duplicates: 11,104  
Full-texts assessed for eligibility: 414  
Excluded 401 due to inappropriate articles (not wholegrain, not RCT, intervention < 12 weeks, not relevant comparison, macronutrient intake not reported, not adults, ongoing studies)  
Articles in final meta-analysis: 9  
All studies were parallel RCTs  
Total number of participants in analysis: 1414  
Interventions included oats (n=1), range of foods based on wheat (n=5), mixture of rye and wheat (n=1), whole grain brown rice (n=1), and whole grain wheat and oats (n=1).  
In 7 studies the control diet was described as refined. 1 study described the control diet as usual and 1 described control as white rice. | Studies must be prospective cohort studies, report effect on risk of all-cause and/or cause-specific mortality, report RR, HR and 95% CI.  
Studies must be RCTs, including cross-over and parallel-group designs.  
Study duration needed to be at least 12 weeks. Participants ≥18 years, had raised lipids, BP, were overweight or obese, or had MetS or DM.  
Meta-analysis of RCTs examining wholegrain* foods or diets on total mortality, cardiovascular events, and cardiovascular risk factors in healthy people or those with cardiovascular disease  
Quality of evidence was assessed using GRADE.  
Study bias assessed using Cochrane ‘Risk of Bias’ tool  
Inclusion criteria were:  
Studies must be RCTs, including cross-over and parallel-group designs.  
Study duration needed to be at least 12 weeks. Participants ≥18 years, had raised lipids, BP, were overweight or obese, or had MetS or DM. | of all-cause mortality (pooled RR 0.91; 95% CI: 0.90, 0.93).  
For the outcome of CVD mortality, there were 595,585 participants and 23,482 deaths.  
8 studies reported on cardiovascular mortality. Pooled RR comparing highest and lowest categories of intake was 0.83 (95% CI: 0.80, 0.87).  
Each 28 g/d serving of wholegrain associated with 14% reduction in risk of cardiovascular mortality (pooled RR 0.86 95% CI: 0.83, 0.89).  
Substantial variation in definition of “wholegrain”  
No studies reported effect of whole grain on total cardiovascular mortality or cardiovascular events  
8 studies reported total cholesterol with data from 7 being analysed. Pooled analysis (722 participants) showed no effect on total-cholesterol (MD 0.07; 95% CI: –0.07, 0.21). 1 study reported medians and showed no difference in TC between intervention and control. 1 study could not be combined due to reporting of results as % change rather than absolute values. In this study, TC decreased by 5.4% in the intervention vs. -2.9% in the control.  
9 studies reported LDL-C, with data from 7 being summarised. Pooled analysis (770 participants) showed no effect on LDL-C (MD 0.06; 95% CI: –0.05, 0.16). 1 study reported medians and showed no difference in LDL-C between intervention and control. 1 |
3 studies included overweight or obese participants, 2 included participants with MetS, 1 included participants with risk factors for MetS, 1 included participants with a BMI 18.5-35 kg/m² or signs of MetS or hypercholesterolaemia, 1 included participants with MetS or DM. Foods were provided in 8/9 studies. 1 study gave participants information regarding whole grain foods.

Excluded studies that did not meet inclusion criteria, or listed diabetes or changes in risk factors (IGT, IR, glucose or insulin outcomes, weight, BMI and anthropometric outcomes) if they did not also measure lipids or blood pressure.

*wholegrain defined by authors as foods based on milled wholegrains i.e. wholemeal of oatmeal

8 studies reported LDL-C, with data from 7 being summarised. Pooled analysis (772 participants) showed no effect on LDL-C (MD -0.02; 95% CI: -0.05, 0.01).

8 studies reported HDL-C, with data from 7 being summarised. Pooled analysis (772 participants) showed no effect on HDL-C (MD 0.03; 95% CI: -0.08, 0.13).

8 studies reported TAG, with data from 7 being summarised. Pooled analysis (771 participants) showed no effect (MD 0.03; 95% CI: -0.08, 0.13).

8 studies reported SBP, with data from 7 being summarised. Pooled analysis (768 participants) showed no effect (MD 0.04; 95% CI: -1.67, 1.75).

8 studies reported DBP, with data from 7 being summarised. Pooled analysis (768 participants) showed no effect (MD 0.16; 95% CI: -0.89, 1.21).

2 studies reported adverse events. 1 study showed similar events between intervention and control and included RTI, sinusitis, and pharyngitis. Events considered to relate to the intervention included nausea (2/77), flatulence (2/77).

No studies reported QoL.

Summary

Combined RCT data does not support a clear role for wholegrains in reducing CV risk factors, whereas observation data does. Interpretation of this is that single changes to consume more wholegrains needs to be as part of a whole dietary change.

Hooper et al.[20]

Potentially relevant records: 1459

Excluded 1327 records

Meta-analysis of RCTs examining effect of reducing SFA intake and replacing it with

Primary outcomes were all-cause mortality, cardiovascular mortality, and combined CVD events

There was no clear effect of reducing SFA compared to usual or control diets

Full-texts assessed for eligibility: 132
Excluded 127 as did not meet inclusion criteria
5 potential RCTs with authors contacted
5 excluded (following further data from 4 authors and no reply from 1).
No new studies included
48 RCTs in original 2012 meta analysis
15 RCTs eligible
Articles in final meta analysis: 15 (17 intervention arms)
Total number of participants in analysis: 58,509
6 studies included only people at high risk of CVD, 4 included participants at moderate risk, and 5 at low risk.
7 studies included only men, 3 included only women, and 5 both men and women
Trial duration ranged from 2 to >8 years.
Interventions varied. 16 intervention arms included advice to alter intake, 4 arms provided supplements, and 1 provided all food.

- carbohydrate, PUFA or MUFA and/or protein on mortality and cardiovascular morbidity
- Articles sourced from CENTRAL (March 2014), MEDLINE (February 2014) and Embase (to 2014). Checked trials in systematic reviews.
- Quality of evidence was assessed using GRADE.
- Study bias assessed using Cochrane ‘Risk of Bias’ tool

Inclusion criteria were:
- RCTs of at least 24 months duration.
- Adults aged over 18 years of age, healthy or with comorbidities (previous cancer, CVD, diabetes), using or not using lipid-lowering medication
- The intervention had to be dietary advice, supplementation of fats, oils or modified or low-fat foods, or a provided diet, and the control group usual diet, placebo or a control diet.
- Excluded studies that did not meet inclusion criteria, those with participants who were acutely ill, or where allocation was not truly randomised

(cardiovascular deaths, cardiovascular morbidity (non-fatal myocardial infarction, angina, stroke, heart failure, peripheral vascular events, atrial fibrillation) and unplanned cardiovascular interventions (coronary artery bypass surgery or angioplasty).

Secondary outcomes included CHD mortality, CHD events, MI, stroke, T2 diabetes incidence, lipids, body weight, BMI, blood pressure, and QoL.

on total mortality (55,858 participants, RR 0.97; 95% CI 0.90, 1.05).
Subgrouping did not suggest any additional effects, nor were effects seen when replacement of SFA was considered.

Reducing SFA had no clear effect on reducing CV mortality when compared with usual diets (53,421 participants, RR 0.95; 95% CI 0.80, 1.12).
Subgrouping did not suggest important effects of reduced SFA on CV mortality, expect when baseline SFA was >18% total energy (RR 0.70; 95% CI: 0.51, 0.96) or when the reduction in SFA was >8% total energy (RR 0.70; 95% CI: 0.51, 0.96).

Decreasing SFA reduced CV events when compared with usual diets (53,300 participants, RR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.72, 0.96). Heterogeneity was observed in students examining this outcome.
Subgroups suggested replacing SFA with PUFA had the greatest effect (RR 0.73; 95% CI: 0.58, 0.92), with no clear benefit for replacing SFA with MUFA, carbohydrate, or protein. Those studies which reduced TC by at least 0.2 mmol/L reduced CV events by 26% (RR 0.74; 95% CI: 0.59, 0.92)

Reducing SFA had a marginal effect on MI (53,167 participants, RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.80, 1.01). Subgrouping suggested reduction in MI in studies of men only (but not women) and in studies that reduced serum total cholesterol by at least 0.2 mmol/L, but not in other subgroups

Reducing SFA had no clear effect on stroke when compared with usual diets (50,952 participants, RR 1.00; 95% CI: 0.89, 1.12).
Reducing SFA did not suggest any benefit on CHD mortality when compared to usual diets (53,159 participants, RR 0.98; 95% CI: 0.84, 1.15).

Reducing SFA may decreased the risk of CHD events (53,199 participants, RR 0.87; 95% CI: 0.74, 1.03). Heterogeneity was high between studies, and partly explained by the degree of SFA at baseline and the level of cholesterol lower achieved.

There was no clear benefit of reducing SFA on the diagnosis of diabetes (48,835 participants, RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.90, 1.02).

Compared with usual diet, reducing SFA decreased TC (7115 participants, MD -0.24 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.36, -0.13, P_{effect} = 0.001) and LDL-C (3291 participants, MD -0.19 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.33, -0.05, P_{effect} = 0.006).

Decreasing SFA had no clear effect on HDL-C (5174 participants, MD -0.01 mmol/L, 95% CI: -0.02 to 0.01, P_{effect} = 0.21) or TAG (3845 participants, MD -0.08 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.21, 0.04, P_{effect} = 0.20).

There was no clear effect of SFA on TC/HDL-C ratio (2985 participants, MD -0.10; 95% CI: -0.33, 0.13, P_{effect} = 0.40), LDL-C/HDL-C ratio (50 participants, MD -0.36; 95% CI: -0.92, 0.20), Lp(a) (28,820 participants, MD 0.00; 95% CI: -0.00, 0.00, P_{effect} = 1.00), or HOMA (2832 participants, MD 0.00; 95% CI: -0.04, 0.04, P_{effect} = 1.00).

Reducing SFA intake decreased glucose when compared to usual diets (249 participants, MD -1.69 mmol/L; 95% CI: -2.55, -0.82, P_{effect} = 0.001).
Reducing SFA intake resulted in small reductions in body weight (4541 participants, MD -1.97 kg; 95% CI: -3.67, -0.27, and BMI (5553 participants, MD -0.50; 95% CI: -0.82, -0.19)

Summary
This study suggests reducing SFA has no effect on total mortality. Reducing SFA and replacing with PUFA had the greatest effect on CV events. Replacing with protein, MUFA or carbohydrate did not have any effect. Some of these effects are mediated by the level of SFA consumed initially, and the level of cholesterol reduction achieved. The ideal type of unsaturated fat to replace SFA with is unclear.

Zhuang et al.[21]
Total participants: n 617,119
567,169 complete questionnaires satisfactorily. Excluded duplicates, individuals moving out of state, and those who died before study entry. Final sample: n 521,120 participants for analysis.

### Quintile of Saturated Fat Intake

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quintile (Q)</th>
<th>Age: 63.2 years</th>
<th>Male: 55.2%</th>
<th>Race: 89.6% White, 4.3% Black, 2.2% Hispanic, 2.2% Asian</th>
<th>BMI: 25.1 kg/m2</th>
<th>Current smoker: 6.7%</th>
<th>Physical activity (&gt;5 times/wk): 27.4%</th>
<th>History of Hypercholesterolaemia: 22.6%</th>
<th>History of hypertension: 24.3%</th>
<th>Heart Disease: 18.8%</th>
<th>Stroke: 2.1%</th>
<th>Cancer: 8.9%</th>
<th>Diabetes: 6.1%</th>
<th>Fair or poor health: 10.6%</th>
<th>Daily aspirin use: 18.7%</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q1</td>
<td>1545.1 kcal/d, total fat 20.5 % total energy, SFA 5.8 % total energy, MUFA 7.5 % total energy, PUFA 5.2 % total energy, TFA 1.3 % total energy, total protein 14.7 % total energy, omega-3 0.6 % total energy, ALA 0.5 % total energy, marine omega-3 0.04 % total energy, omega-6 4.6 % total energy, LA 4.5 % total energy, AA 0.04 % total energy, omega-6:omega-3 ratio 8.2, alcohol 2.6 g/d</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>1683.4 kcal/d, total fat 30.6 % total energy, SFA 9.2 % total energy, MUFA 11.7 % total energy, PUFA 4.71 % total energy, TFA 2.1 % total energy, total protein 15.5 % total energy, omega-3 0.7 % total energy, ALA 0.6 % total energy, marine omega-3 0.04 % total energy, omega-6 6.4 % total energy, LA 6.3</td>
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Prospective cohort design. Participants taken from National Institutes of Health-American Association of Retired Persons Diet and Health Study. Participants enrolled between 1995-1996 with 16 years follow up. Grouped on quintiles of dietary fat intake. Quintile of Saturated Fat Intake.

Primary outcomes were total mortality and cardiovascular mortality. Diet measured at baseline using validated 124 item FFQ + Diet History Questionnaire. Total energy intake was also calculated based on the Continuing Survey of Food Intakes by Individual. Sub study 2 non-consecutive 24 hr recall baseline (validation) Models adjusted age and sex, race, marital status, BMI, education, household income, smoking status, physical activity, alcohol consumption, history of hypertension, history of hypercholesterolaemia, perceived health condition, history of heart disease, stroke, diabetes, cancer at baseline, multivitamin use, aspirin use, hormones for women, total energy and energy from protein and other fatty acids. Evaluated effect of replacing SFA with other types of fat. Mortality determined from annual linkage to Social Security administration Death Master File. >99% follow-up rate for mortality.

Each 1 SD increment of energy as PUFA related to a 2% lower total mortality. Animal MUFA was correlated with higher total mortality (HR 1.09; 95% CI 1.06, 1.13; P<0.0001) whereas PUFA intake was inversely associated with total mortality (HR 0.93; 95% CI: 0.91, 0.95; P<0.0001).

During a follow-up of 16 years (7,307,097 person-years), 129,328 deaths (85,037 in the men and 44,291 in the women) were documented. Dietary intakes of SFAs and TFAs positively associated with total mortality in multivariable fully adjusted models.

When substituting for carbohydrates, those in the highest quintile of SFA intake had the highest rate of total mortality when compared against the lowest quintile (HR 1.29; 95% CI: 1.25, 1.33; P<0.0001).

When substituting for carbohydrates, those in the highest quintile of SFA intake had the highest rate of total mortality when compared against the lowest quintile (HR 1.29; 95% CI: 1.25, 1.33; P<0.0001).

Dietary intakes of SFAs and TFAs positively associated with total mortality in multivariable fully adjusted models.

When substituting for carbohydrates, those in the highest quintile of SFA intake had the highest rate of total mortality when compared against the lowest quintile (HR 1.29; 95% CI: 1.25, 1.33; P<0.0001).

When substituting for carbohydrates, those in the highest quintile of SFA intake had the highest rate of total mortality when compared against the lowest quintile (HR 1.29; 95% CI: 1.25, 1.33; P<0.0001).
Q3
Age: 62.8 years
Male: 59.3%
Race: 91.6% White, 3.9% Black, 1.9% Hispanic, 1.1% Asian
BMI: 26.6 kg/m²
Current smoker: 10.4%
Physical activity (>5 times/wk): 17.6%
History of Hypercholesterolaemia: 26.1%
History of hypertension: 23.8%
Heart Disease: 13.3%
Stroke: 2.0%
Cancer: 9.0%
Diabetes: 9.4%
Fair or poor health: 12.7%
Daily aspirin use: 14.4%

Q5
Age: 62.8 years
Male: 61.5%
Race: 93.9% White, 2.7% Black, 1.3% Hispanic, 0.5% Asian
BMI: 27.1 kg/m²
Current smoker: 19.7%
Physical activity (>5 times/wk): 14.1%
History of Hypercholesterolaemia: 29.7%
History of hypertension: 21.6%
Heart Disease: 10.8%
Stroke: 2.2%
Cancer: 9.2%
Diabetes: 11.5%
Fair or poor health: 15.9%
Daily aspirin use: 12.0%

Quintile of PUFA Intake
Q1: 1638.8 kcal/d, total fat 21.2 % total energy, SFA 6.9 % total energy, MUFA 11.5 % total energy, PUFA 4.5 % total energy, TFA 1.4 % total energy, total protein 14.9 % total energy, omega-3 0.5 % total energy, ALA 0.4 % total energy, marine omega-3 0.03 % total energy, omega-6 3.9 % total energy, AA 0.04 % total energy, omega-6/omega 3 ratio 7.7, alcohol 2.9 g/d

Q5: 1704.8 kcal/d, total fat 30.2 % total energy, SFA 9.3 % total energy, MUFA 11.5 % total energy, PUFA 6.8 % total energy, TFA 2.1 % total energy, total protein 15.7 % total energy, omega-3 0.7 % total energy, ALA 0.6 % total energy, marine omega-3 0.04 % total energy, omega-6 6.0 % total energy, AA 0.05 % total energy, omega-6/omega 3 ratio 8.8, alcohol 1.9 g/d

Sensitivity analysis excluding existing CVD at baseline done to exclude reverse causality observed similar results.
History of Hypercholesterolaemia: 25.8%
History of hypertension: 23.3%
Heart Disease: 15.4%
Stroke: 2.2%
Cancer: 8.9%
Diabetes: 6.2%
Fair or poor health: 11.8%
Daily aspirin use: 16.1%

Q3
Age: 62.8 years
Male: 59.8%
Race: 92.6% White, 3.3% Black, 2.6% Hispanic, 1.0% Asian
BMI: 26.5 kg/m²
Current smoker: 11.1%
Physical activity (>5 times/wk): 18.5%

History of Hypercholesterolaemia: 26.1%
History of hypertension: 23.4%
Heart Disease: 13.8%
Stroke: 2.0%
Cancer: 8.9%
Diabetes: 9.1%
Fair or poor health: 12.4%
Daily aspirin use: 14.8%

Q5
Age: 62.9 years
Male: 60.7%
Race: 91.0% White, 4.6% Black, 1.4% Hispanic, 1.3% Asian
BMI: 26.6 kg/m²
Current smoker: 14.0%
Physical activity (>5 times/wk): 16.6%

History of Hypercholesterolaemia: 26.5%
History of hypertension: 23.5%
Heart Disease: 12.9%
Stroke: 2.2%
Cancer: 9.4%
Diabetes: 12.2%
Fair or poor health: 15.0%
Daily aspirin use: 13.5%

Quintile of MUFA Intake

Q1: 1546.7 kcal/d, total fat 20.3% total energy, SFA 5.9% total energy, MUFA 7.3% total energy, PUFA 4.8% total energy. TFA 1.2% total energy, total protein 14.9% total energy, omega-3 0.5% total energy, ALA 0.5% total energy, marine omega-3 0.04% total energy, omega-6 omega-3 ratio 7.8, alcohol 2.5 g/d

Q3: 1685.1 kcal/d, total fat 30.3% total energy, SFA 9.3% total energy, MUFA 11.4% total energy, PUFA 6.8% total energy. TFA 2.1% total energy, total protein 15.4% total energy, omega-3 0.7% total energy, ALA 0.6% total energy, marine omega-3 0.04% total energy, omega-6 omega-3 ratio 8.7, alcohol 2.0 g/d

Q5: 1860.3 kcal/d, total fat 39.7% total energy, SFA 12.1% total energy, MUFA 15.3% total energy, PUFA 8.9% total energy, TFA 2.8% total energy, total protein 15.5% total energy, omega-3 1.0% total energy, ALA 0.8% total energy, marine omega-3 0.04% total energy, omega-6 8.0% total energy, LA 7.9% total energy, AA 0.06% total energy, omega-6 omega-3 ratio 9.4, alcohol 1.1 g/d

TFA was associated with a 3% increase in total and CVD mortality.
Replacing 5% energy from MUFA was associated with a 16% and 13% reduction in total and CVD mortality, respectively.
Replacing 5% energy from SFA with PUFA was associated with a 18% and 15% reduction in total and CVD mortality, respectively. Isocaloric replacement of SFA with ALA showed not benefit on total and CVD mortality. Replacing 0.1% energy from SFA with EPA and DHA was associated with a 4% reduction in total and CVD mortality.
Replacing 2% of energy from SFA with omega-6 PUFA was associated with lower risk of total and CVD mortality (0.92; 95% CI: 0.91, 0.93; p<0.0001 and 0.94; 95% CI: 0.92, 0.96; p<0.0001, respectively). Replacing SFA with AA increased mortality and CVD mortality.

Summary
In this large cohort, increased intake of SFA, TFA and animal-MUFA was associated with higher total and CVD mortality. Greater intakes of plant MUFAs, marine omega-3 PUFAs and LA were associated with lower total and CVD mortality.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quintile of MUFA intake</th>
<th>Age: 63.0 years</th>
<th>Male: 53.2%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Race: 90.3% White, 3.8% Black, 2.3% Hispanic, 1.9% Asian</td>
<td>BMI: 25.3 kg/m²</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current smoker: 7.4%</td>
<td>Physical activity (&gt;5 times/wk): 27.0%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>History of Hypercholesterolaemia: 24.3%</td>
<td>History of hypertension: 23.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>Diabetes: 6.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fair or poor health: 10.4%</td>
<td>Daily aspirin use: 17.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>Age: 62.9 years</td>
<td>Male: 58.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Race: 91.9% White, 3.7% Black, 1.8% Hispanic, 1.1% Asian</td>
<td>BMI: 26.5 kg/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current smoker: 10.9%</td>
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History of hypertension: 22.8%
Heart Disease: 12.5%
Stroke: 2.3%
Cancer: 9.1%
Diabetes: 13.3%
Fair or poor health: 16.9%
Daily aspirin use: 13.1%

Potential relevant records: 20,846
Full-texts assessed for eligibility: 2155
Excluded 1216 full texts, abstracts and trials registry entries
Excluded 192 trials due to duration <52 weeks, intervention was not omega-6, or did not collect data on one key review outcome
Articles in final meta analysis: 19 (17 included in quantitative analysis) and 2 narratively.
Total number of participants in analysis: 6461
Participants followed for one to eight years.
10 studies recruited both men and women, 10 trials included participants at low risk of CVD, 3 trials included people at moderate risk of CVD, and 5 included people with existing CVD
Articles in final meta analysis: 193 (49 trials) included in quantitative analysis.
Total number of participants in analysis: 24,272
Participants followed for 1 to 4 years.
44 studies recruited both men and women, 5 trials did not report sex of participants

Meta-analysis of RCTs examining effect omega-6 fats on total mortality, cardiovascular events, CHD events, MACCE, and stroke in healthy people or those with CVD
Articles sourced from CENTRAL, MEDLINE and Embase to May 2017, Clinical trials.gov; WHO International trials platform to Sept 2016. Checked trials in systematic reviews.
Quality of evidence was assessed using GRADE.
Study bias assessed using Cochrane ‘Risk of Bias’ tool
Inclusion criteria were:
RCTs of at least 12 months duration.
Higher versus lower omega 6 fat (including LA, GLA, DGLA, AA or any combination), Intervention had to be dietary supplementation, a provided diet or dietary advice with aim to increase or decrease intake of omega-6 fats or dietary component high in omega-6 fats e.g. sunflower oil if no clear aim stated.
Intervention to achieve increase or decrease by 10% of baseline omega 6 intake Diet versus usual diet; no advice, no supplementation or placebo, with lower omega 6 intake.
Excluded studies which aimed to increase omega 6 and 3.

Primary outcomes were all-cause mortality, CVD mortality, CVD events (all available data on fatal and not fatal MI; angina and/or stroke), CHD events (MI (fatal or /non fatal) or angina), Major Adverse cardiac and cerebrovascular events (where it was possible to assess the numbers of participants experiencing fatal or non fatal MI; unstable angina and stroke). Stroke (total, fatal and non-fatal, ischaemic and haemorrhagic.
Secondary outcomes were Myocardial infarction (MI, total, fatal and non-fatal), Angina, Sudden cardiac death, Atrial fibrillation (AF) (new or recurrent, ventricular tachycardia and/or ventricular fibrillation), Heart failure, Revascularisation (angioplasty or coronary artery bypass grafting), Peripheral arterial disease (PAD), Serum lipids (including TC, fasting TAGs, HDL-C, LDL-C), BMI, body weight and other measures of adiposity

10 trials reported all-cause mortality
Pooled analysis (4506 participants) showed no effect of higher vs. lower intake of omega-6 on all-cause mortality (RR 1.00; 95% CI: 0.88, 1.12)
None of the subgroup analysis considering omega-6 type, intervention type, energy replacement, primary or secondary prevention of CVD, dose, duration, statin use, baseline omega-6 intake or sex suggested important differences in mortality between higher or lower omega-6 fats and all-cause mortality.
7 trials reported CVD mortality Pooled analysis (4019 participants) showed no effect of higher vs. lower intake of omega-6 on CVD mortality (RR 1.09; 95% CI: 0.76, 1.55). Significant heterogeneity was observed in these studies with some showing protective effects whilst others showing harm.
Subgrouping by primary or secondary prevention of CVD did not suggest important differences between subgroups but did reduce heterogeneity and suggested harmful effects of omega-6 fat in secondary prevention trials (RR 1.28; 95% CI: 1.04, 1.57).
7 trials reported CVD events. Pooled analysis (4962 participants) showed no effect of higher vs. lower intake of omega-6 on CVD events (RR 0.97; 95% CI: 0.81, 1.15).This was not altered by subgroup analysis.
16 trials included participants with existing CVD

13 trials provided 0.6 - <1% energy from PUFA, 17 trials provided 1-<2% energy, 8 trials gave 2-<5% energy, and 11 trials gave ≥5% energy as PUFA.

Baseline omega-6 intake was <5% energy in 3 trials, 5% to <8% in 3 trials, and at least 8% in 1 trial. 12 trials did not report baseline omega-3 intake.

In the majority of studies (9), as LA increased, SFA decreased. MUFA decreased in 5, carbohydrate and protein in 1, and carbohydrates in 1. For 3 trials it was unclear what was replaced in the diet.

7 trials reported CHD events. Pooled analysis (3997 participants) showed no effect of higher vs. lower intake of omega-6 on CHD events (RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.66, 1.17). Where omega-6 fat replaced MUFA, there was an increased risk of CHD events, while omega-6 fat replacing carbohydrates appeared to reduce CHD event risk.

2 trials reported MACCEs. Pooled analysis (2879 participants) showed no effect of higher vs. lower intake of omega-6 on MACCEs (RR 0.84; 95% CI: 0.59, 1.20).

4 trials reported stroke. Pooled analysis (3730 participants) showed no effect of higher vs. lower intake of omega-6 on stroke (RR 1.36; 95% CI: 0.45, 4.11). Studies were heterogeneous and CIs very wide. In subgroup analysis increasing omega-6 fat was protective in primary prevention but not secondary prevention.

7 trials reported MI. Pooled analysis (4606 participants) showed increasing omega-6 was associated with reduced risk of MI (RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.76, 1.02). Studies were heterogeneous and CIs very wide. There were no differences with subgroup analysis.

10 trials suggested increased omega-6 fats reduces TC (4280 participants, MD -0.33 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.50, -0.16).

5 trials indicated increasing omega-6 has no effect on TAG (834 participants, MD -0.01 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.23, 0.21), 4 trials showed no effect on HDL-C (1995 participants, MD = -0.03 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.03, 0.02), and 2 trials showed no effect on LDL-C (MD = -0.04 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.21, 0.14).
Increasing omega-6 had little or no effect on adiposity (based on BMI).

Summary
Low quality evidence suggests increasing omega-6 fats may make no difference to all-cause mortality, CVD events, CVD mortality, CHD events or stroke. Increasing omega 6 may reduce MI risk although this is based on low quality evidence. High quality evidence suggests increasing omega-6 may lower TC but has no effect on adiposity, LDL-C, HDL-C or TAGs.

Aung et al.[23]

Potentially relevant records: 41,406
Texts screened for CV endpoints: 983
Excluded 354 as not human or clinical trial
Excluded 548 as study length <6 months
81 reports reviewed against inclusion criteria
Excluded 73 due to sample size <500, duration <1 year, and major vascular outcomes <10 events
Articles in final meta-analysis: 10
All studies were parallel RCTs
Total number of participants in analysis: 77,917
8 studies had double-blind design and were placebo-controlled.
2 had open label design
61.4% of participants were men, with a mean age at entry was 64 years
66.4% of participants had a prior history of CHD, 28% had prior stroke, and 37% had prior diabetes.

Meta-analysis of RCTs examining association of omega-3 supplements with risk of fatal and non-fatal CHD and major vascular events
Articles sourced from PUBMED and MEDLINE, plus hand searching of reference lists review articles or previous meta analyses.
Used PRISMA guidelines for the conduct of meta analyses and RCTs. Not clear how bias or quality was determined.

Inclusion criteria were:
Studies must be RCTs, including cross-over and parallel-group designs.
Must be trials or marine-derived very long chain omega-3 FA supplements vs. placebo
All required use of supplements but no restrictions on EPA or DHA
Studies must be 1 year in duration
Must contain >500 participants

Primary outcomes included nonfatal MI; death caused by CHD; ischemic, haemorrhagic, and unclassified stroke; coronary or non-coronary arterial revascularization events; major vascular events (a composite of first occurrence of nonfatal MI or death caused by CHD; nonfatal or fatal stroke; or any revascularization procedure); and all-cause mortality. Deaths caused by CHD included sudden cardiac deaths, deaths due to ventricular arrhythmias, and heart failure in patients with CHD, MI or deaths occurring after coronary revascularization or heart transplant.

Omega-3 supplementation had no significant association with any CHD event (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.90, 1.01; P = 0.12), CHD death (RR 0.93; 95% CI: 0.83, 1.03; P>0.05), nonfatal MI (RR, 0.97; 95% CI: 0.87, 1.08; P=0.40), major vascular events (RR 0.97; 95% CI: 0.93, 1.01; P=0.10), stroke (RR 1.03; 95% CI: 0.93, 1.13; P=0.56), or revascularization events (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.94, 1.04; P=0.61)

Considering history of CHD, diabetes, pre-treatment levels of cholesterol, HDL-C, LDL-C, TAGs or prior use of statin therapy, intake of omega 3 supplements in each subgroup had no significant association with major vascular events

Study design (open vs. blind) did not influence lack of association between omega-3 supplementation of non-fatal MI, CHD death, or any CHD.

Omega-supplementation was not associated with all-cause mortality (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.92, 1.01; P=0.16)

Summary
9/10 trials used a combination of EPA and DHA. EPA dose ranged from 226-1800 mg/d and DHA ranged from 0-1700 mg/d.

This meta-analysis of RCTs does not support the use of omega-3 supplements for the prevention of fatal CHD, nonfatal MI, stroke, revascularization events, or any major vascular events in those with no or pre-existing CVD. Important consideration is DOSE given Bhatt et al.[24].

19,212 participants eligible
Excluded 11,033.
8,179 participants randomized (40 to each arm)
Randomised 1:1 to either placebo (n 4,089) or intervention (n 4,090).

Intervention
Age: 64 (57.0-69.0) years
Age ≥ 65 years: 45.4%
Male: 71.6%
White: 90.3%
BMI: 30.8 (27.8-34.5) kg/m2
BMI ≥ 30 kg/m2: 57.0%
CV risk category: 70.7% secondary; 29.3% primary
Ezetimibe use: 6.4%
Statin Intensity: 6.2% low, 61.9% moderate, 31.5% high, 0.3% missing
Diabetes: 0.7% T1, 57.9% T2, no diabetes 41.5%, missing 0%
hsCRP: 2.2 (1.1-4.5) mg/L
TAG: 2.4 (2.0-3.1) mmol/L
HDL-C: 1.0 (0.9-1.2) mmol/L
LDL-C: 1.9 (1.6-2.3) mmol/L
Prior Atherosclerotic Coronary Artery Disease and Related Morbidities: 58.4%
Prior Atherosclerotic Cerebrovascular Disease and Related Morbidities: 15.7%
Prior Atherosclerotic Peripheral Artery Disease: 9.5%
Prior Non-Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease: 89.2%
Prior Cardiac Arrhythmias: 5.6%
Prior Non-Cardiac/Non-Atherosclerotic Vascular Disorders: 87.3%
Anti-diabetic medication: 53.6%

Primary outcome was the total of first plus subsequent ischaemic events consisting of the composite of cardiovascular death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, nonfatal stroke, coronary revascularization, or hospitalization for unstable angina. Secondary endpoint was hard MACE (defined as “cardiovascular death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, or nonfatal stroke”).

Follow-up visits continued at 4 and 12 months and annually thereafter until approximately 1,612 primary efficacy endpoint events occurred, after which patients made a final end-of-study visit.

Icosapent ethyl significantly reduced rates of first occurrence of the primary end point vs. placebo (HR 0.75; 95% CI: 0.68, 0.83; p<0.0001).

Icosapent ethyl significantly reduced rates of second occurrence of the primary end point vs. placebo (HR 0.68; 95% CI: 0.60, 0.78; p<0.0001).

Total key secondary endpoint event rates were significantly reduced to 32 from 44 per 1,000 patient-years for icosapent ethyl versus placebo, respectively (RR 0.72; 95% CI: 0.63, 0.82; p<0.0001).

Times to first, second, third or fourth occurrence of the primary endpoint were significantly reduced with Icosapent ethyl

Summary
Icosapent ethyl is a derivative of EPA. Recent studies have questioned the role of omega-3 supplementation in primary and secondary prevention of CVD, and it is clear from these that one of the issues has potentially been the dose of EPA and DHA used. REDUCE-IT used a dose of 4000 mg/d. This trial was also not focussed on LDL-C. Ongoing trials such as STRENGTH, RESPECT EPA, & EVAPORATE will reveal more information on the role of omega-3 supplementation and CVD.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medication</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anti-hypertensive</td>
<td>95.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anti-platelet</td>
<td>79.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anticoagulant</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No antithrombotic</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACEi</td>
<td>51.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ARB</td>
<td>27.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta blocker</td>
<td>71.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Placebo**

- **Age**: 64 (57.0-69.0) years
- **Age ≥ 65 years**: 46.6%
- **Male**: 70.8%
- **White**: 90.2%
- **BMI**: 30.8 (27.9-34.7) kg/m2
- **BMI ≥ 30 kg/m2**: 57.8%
- **CV risk category**: 70.7% secondary; 29.3% primary
- **Ezetimibe use**: 6.4%
- **Statin Intensity**: 6.5% low, 63.0% moderate, 30.0% high, 0.5% missing
- **Diabetes**: 0.7% T1, 57.8% T2, no diabetes 41.4%, missing 0.1%
- **hsCRP**: 2.2 (1.1-4.5) mg/L
- **TAG**: 2.4 (2.0-3.1) mmol/L
- **HDL-C**: 1.0 (0.9-1.2) mmol/L
- **LDL-C**: 2.0 (1.6-2.3) mmol/L
- **Prior Atherosclerotic Coronary Artery Disease and Related Morbidities**: 58.5%
- **Prior Atherosclerotic Cerebrovascular Disease and Related Morbidities**: 16.2%
- **Prior Atherosclerotic Peripheral Artery Disease**: 9.5%
- **Prior Non-Atherosclerotic Cardiovascular Disease**: 89.1%
- **Prior Cardiac Arrhythmias**: 5.9%
- **Prior Non-Cardiac/Non-Atherosclerotic Vascular Disorders**: 87.2%
- **Anti-diabetic medication**: 53.7%
- **Anti-hypertensive medication**: 95.2%
- **Anti-platelet medication**: 79.1%
- **Anticoagulant**: 9.5%
- **No antithrombotic**: 14.7%
- **ACEi**: 52.1%
- **ARB**: 26.8%
- **Beta blocker**: 70.4%
Online Supplementary Table 2 Food Groups and their association with CV outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Participant characteristics</th>
<th>Study Design</th>
<th>Measures and time points</th>
<th>Key observations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aune et al.[25]</td>
<td>Potentially relevant records: 46,082 Excluded 44,823 based on title or abstract Full-texts assessed for eligibility: 1259 Excluded 934 as reported other exposures than vitamin C, E, or carotenoids 325 relevant papers assessed. 230 excluded due to reviews, cross-sectional studies, or supplement use. Articles in final meta-analysis: 99 (69 cohort studies) Follow-up ranged from 4-32 years</td>
<td>Meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies assessing relationship between blood concentrations of vitamin C, E, and carotenoids with risk of CHD, stroke, CVD, total cancer, and all-cause mortality Articles sourced from PubMed and EMBASE to February 2017 PRISMA criteria followed for reporting of meta analyses Quality of evidence assessed using Newcastle-Ottawa scale Study bias assessed using funnel plots and Egger’s test Inclusion criteria unclear</td>
<td>Primary outcomes were risk of CHD, stroke, CVD, total cancer, and all-cause mortality 11 studies reported dietary vitamin C intake in relation to CHD. Pooled analysis (240,824 participants) suggested a significant 12% reduction per 100 mg/d (RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.79, 0.98) in CHD risk with increased vitamin C intake 12 studies reported dietary vitamin C intake in relation to stroke. Pooled analysis (296,066 participants) suggested a significant 8% reduction per 100 mg/d (RR 0.92; 95% CI: 0.87, 0.98) in stroke risk with increased vitamin C intake. There was substantial heterogeneity observed in studies 10 studies reported vitamin C intake in relation to CVD. Pooled analysis (296,066 participants) suggested a significant 11% reduction per 100 mg/d (RR 0.89; 95% CI: 0.85, 0.94) in stroke risk with increased vitamin C intake. 16 studies reported vitamin C intake in relation to total mortality. Pooled analysis (296,066 participants) suggested a significant 11% reduction per 100 mg/d (RR 0.89; 95% CI: 0.85, 0.94) in stroke risk with increased vitamin C intake 16 studies reported blood vitamin C concentration in relation to CHD. Pooled analysis (7514 participants) suggested a significant 26% reduction (RR 0.89; 95% CI: 0.85, 0.94) in CHD risk with increased vitamin C concentration in relation to CHD.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Type</td>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>Effect Estimate</td>
<td>95% CI</td>
<td>Risk Reduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
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<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin C concentration in relation to stroke</td>
<td>27,843</td>
<td>RR 0.70</td>
<td>0.61, 0.81</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vitamin C concentration in relation to stroke</td>
<td>45,273</td>
<td>RR 0.76</td>
<td>0.61, 0.81</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total mortality</td>
<td>48,060</td>
<td>RR 0.72</td>
<td>0.66, 0.79</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total dietary carotenoids in relation to CHD</td>
<td>91,838</td>
<td>RR 0.85</td>
<td>0.77, 0.93</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total dietary carotenoids in relation to CVD</td>
<td>135,971</td>
<td>RR 0.80</td>
<td>0.70, 0.90</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total dietary carotenoids in relation to mortality</td>
<td>189,079</td>
<td>RR 0.88</td>
<td>0.83, 0.93</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Study Type</td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>Risk Reduction</td>
<td>RR (95% CI)</td>
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<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood Carotenoids</td>
<td>3 studies reported blood carotenoid concentration in relation to CHD. Pooled analysis (3040 participants) suggested a significant 17% reduction (RR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.72, 0.95) in CHD risk per 100 μg/dL increase in blood carotenoids</td>
<td>3040</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>0.83 (0.72, 0.95)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality</td>
<td>7 studies reported blood carotenoid concentration in relation to mortality. Pooled analysis (18,559 participants) suggested a significant 26% reduction (RR 0.74; 95% CI: 0.62, 0.88) in CHD risk per 100 μg/dL increase in blood carotenoids</td>
<td>18,559</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>0.74 (0.62, 0.88)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dietary β-carotene</td>
<td>4 studies reported total dietary β-carotene in relation to CHD. Pooled analysis (99,345 participants) suggested a significant 18% reduction (RR 0.82; 95% CI: 0.68, 0.98) in CVD risk per 5000 μg/d increase in β-carotene intake</td>
<td>99,345</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>0.82 (0.68, 0.98)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stroke</td>
<td>7 studies reported total dietary β-carotene in relation to stroke. Pooled analysis (201,587 participants) suggested a significant 19% reduction (RR 0.81; 95% CI: 0.66, 0.98) in CVD risk per 5000 μg/d increase in β-carotene intake</td>
<td>201,587</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>0.81 (0.66, 0.98)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality</td>
<td>5 studies reported total dietary β-carotene in relation to mortality. Pooled analysis (143,140 participants) suggested a significant 8% reduction (RR 0.92; 95% CI: 0.85, 0.98) in mortality risk per 5000 μg/d increase in β-carotene intake</td>
<td>143,140</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>0.92 (0.85, 0.98)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dietary β-carotene and CVD</td>
<td>No significant association between dietary β-carotene and CVD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood β-carotene</td>
<td>3 studies reported blood β-carotene in relation to CHD. Pooled analysis (2933 participants) suggested a significant</td>
<td>2933</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
20% reduction (RR 0.80; 95% CI: 0.66, 0.97) in CVD risk per 25 µg/dL increase in β-carotene.

3 studies reported blood β-carotene in relation to stroke. Pooled analysis (30,144 participants) suggested a significant 15% reduction (RR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.74, 0.97) in CVD risk per 25 µg/dL increase in β-carotene.

8 studies reported blood β-carotene in relation to CVD. Pooled analysis (24,428 participants) suggested a significant 14% reduction (RR 0.86; 95% CI: 0.78, 0.96) in CVD risk per 25 µg/dL increase in β-carotene.

7 studies reported blood β-carotene in relation to mortality. Pooled analysis (23,141 participants) suggested a significant 19% reduction (RR 0.81; 95% CI: 0.72, 0.90) in mortality risk per 25 µg/dL increase in β-carotene.

3 studies reported blood β-cryptoxanthin in relation to mortality. Pooled analysis (14,985 participants) suggested a significant 16% reduction (RR 0.84; 95% CI: 0.76, 0.94) in mortality risk per 15 µg/dL increase in β-cryptoxanthin.

No significant association existed between blood β-cryptoxanthin and CHD, stroke, or CVD.

No significant associations were observed between dietary lycopene and CHD, stroke, CVD, or mortality.

No significant associations were observed between blood lycopene and CHD, stroke, CVD, or mortality.

No significant associations were observed between dietary vitamin E and CHD, stroke, CVD, or mortality.
| Yip et al.[26] | Potentially relevant records: 4736
Screened 959 abstracts
Full-text articles assessed for suitability: 87
Excluded 23 due to not meta analyses, were comparative risk assessment of used biomarkers
Articles in final meta analysis: 64 | Review of evidence from systematic reviews and meta analyses examining the association between fruit and vegetable intake and the burden of disease
Search PubMed, Ovid, EBSCOhost, Google Scholar databases, Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, and World Cancer Research Fund International websites (April 2018) | Primary outcomes were incidence and/or mortality RR, odds ratio, or HR over a given time span for high-vs low intakes. Secondary outcomes included incidence and/or mortality RR, odds ratio, or hazard ratio over a time span per gram(s) of fruit and/or vegetable intake | For each 100 g/d increases in fruit intake, there was a 14% decreased risk of stroke (RR 0.86; 95% CI 0.84, 0.88).
Risk of CVD was decreased by 10% for each 100 g/d increase in fruit intake (RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.88, 0.92)

4 studies reported blood α-Tocopherol concentration in relation to stroke. Pooled analysis (69,386 participants) suggested a 10% reduction (RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.86, 0.95) in stroke risk per 500 μg/dL increase in blood α-Tocopherol

9 studies reported blood α-Tocopherol concentration in relation to mortality. Pooled analysis (52,376 participants) suggested a 6% reduction (RR 0.94; 95% CI: 0.89, 0.99) in mortality risk per 500 μg/dL increase in blood α-Tocopherol

Blood α-Tocopherol was not significantly associated with CHD or CVD

Summary
This meta-analysis showed an inverse association between dietary intake and blood concentration of vitamin C and risk of CHD, stroke, CVD, and all-cause mortality. Dietary carotenoid intake as well as intake of specific carotenoids (β-carotene, lycopene) were inversely associated with CHD, stroke, and mortality, whereas blood concentrations of carotenoids (total, β-carotene, α-carotene, lycopene, β-cryptoxanthin) were inversely associated with CVD, total cancer, and/or all-cause mortality.
None of the included studies were based on RCT data. Follow up periods not reported.

Quality assessment of studies performed using Assessing the Methodological Quality of Systematic Reviews (AMSTAR) checklist. For cohort studies the Newcastle-Ottawa Quality Assessment Scale for Cohort Studies was used.

Inclusion criteria were:
- Only meta analyses examining the direct associations of fruit and/or vegetables intake with burden of disease were considered.
- Studies must quantify the pooled RR directly associated with dietary fruit and/or vegetables as in grams or servings.
- Studies were excluded if they showed only associations of subgroups (i.e. celery and mushrooms), used biomarkers (either biomarkers of fruit and vegetable intake or biomarkers of disease), examined cooking methods, or if they investigated specific disease interventions.

CHD risk was reduced by 9% for every 100 g/d increase in fruit intake (RR 0.91; 95% CI: 0.89, 0.93).

Risk of hypertension was reduced by 3% for each 100 g/d increase in fruit intake (RR 0.97; 95% CI: 0.96, 0.99).

All-cause mortality risk was reduced by 11% for every 100 g/d of fruit intake (RR 0.89; 95% CI: 0.88, 0.90).

In general, clear increases in protective associations were observed within the first 300 g/day of intakes but little further increase thereafter.

Each 100 g/d increase in tinned fruit was associated with a 19% increase in all-cause mortality (RR 1.19; 95% CI: 1.06, 1.26).

In those consuming ≥34 g/d vs. <17 g/d tinned fruit there was a 23% increased risk of CVD mortality (RR 1.23; 95% CI: 1.05, 1.43).

For each 100 g/d increase in vegetables there was a 14% decrease in CHD (RR 0.86; 95% CI: 0.84, 0.89).

Risk of stroke was decreased by 12% (RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.80, 0.95) for every 100 g/d increase in vegetables.

CVD risk was decreased by 7% (RR 0.93; 95% CI: 0.92, 0.95) for each 100 g/d increase in vegetables.

CVD mortality was reduced by 5% and all-cause mortality by 13% (RR 0.95; 95% CI: 0.91, 0.99 and RR 0.87; 95% CI: 0.84, 0.90, respectively) for each 100g increase in vegetables.

Clear increases in different degrees of protective associations were observed.
within the first 300 g/day of intakes but little further increase thereafter.

For fruit and vegetables combined, each 100 g/d increase was associated with a 8% decreased risk for all-cause mortality (RR 0.91; 95% CI: 0.90, 0.93).

CVD mortality risk was reduced by 7% (RR 0.93; 95% CI: 0.89, 0.97) for each 100 g/d increase in fruit and vegetables.

Risk of stroke was decreased by 7% for each 100 g/d increase in fruit and vegetables (RR 0.93; 95% CI: 0.91, 0.95)

CVD risk was decreased by 4% for each 100 g/d increase in fruit and vegetables (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.94, 0.98)

Risk of CHD was decreased by 4% for each 100 g/d increase in fruit and vegetables (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.95, 0.97)

Risk of hypertension was decreased by 1% for each 100 g/d increase in fruit and vegetables (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.99, 0.99)

Clear increases in protective associations were observed within the first 300 g/day of intake, little further increase thereafter.

Summary
Evidence from this study shows increased fruit and vegetable intakes are associated with reduced burden of CVDs. In this analysis increased consumption of tinned fruit was associated with increased all-cause and CVD mortality.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Group</th>
<th>Studies Included</th>
<th>High vs. Low Intake</th>
<th>Risk Compared</th>
<th>Ref.</th>
<th>Wholegrains</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Whole grain</td>
<td>7 studies (6,834 cases), 7 studies (11,114 cases) and 5 studies (6,455 cases) were included in high vs. low intake for CHD, stroke, and HF, respectively. Compared with low intakes, high intakes of wholegrain were associated with lower risk of CHD (RR 0.85; 95% CI: 0.81, 0.90), stroke (RR 0.91; 95% CI: 0.82, 1.02) and HF (RR 0.91; 95% CI: 0.85, 0.97). Each additional daily 30 g of whole grains was inversely associated with risk of CHD (RR 0.95; 95% CI: 0.92, 0.98), and HF (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.95, 0.97). Risk of CHD decreased by 17% with increasing intake of whole grains up to ~ 100 g/d. No benefit for increasing intake was apparent above this intake.</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Refined grain</td>
<td>5 studies (3286 cases), 6 studies (11,434 cases) and 1 study (1018 cases) were included in high vs. low intake for CHD, stroke, and HF, respectively. Compared with low intakes, high intakes of refined grains were associated with increased risk of CHD (RR 1.11; 95% CI: 0.99, 1.25). No association was observed for stroke or HF.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
<td>19 studies (19,402 cases), 16 studies (12,442 cases) and 3 study (6,267 cases) were included in high vs. low intake for CHD, stroke, and HF, respectively. Compared with low intakes, a high intakes of vegetables was associated with lower risk of CHD (RR 0.92; 95% CI: 0.87, 0.98) and stroke (RR 0.87).</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Each additional daily 100 g of vegetables were inversely associated with risk of CHD (RR 0.97; 95% CI: 0.96, 0.99), stroke (RR 0.92; 95% CI: 0.86, 0.98), and HF (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.94, 0.98).

**Fruits**

17 studies (17,827 cases), 17 studies (30,523 cases) and 3 study (6,267 cases) were included in high vs. low intake for CHD, stroke, and HF, respectively.

Compared with low intakes, a high intakes of fruits was associated with lower risk of CHD (RR 0.89; 95% CI: 0.84, 0.93), stroke (RR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.77, 0.89) and HF (RR 0.95; 95% CI: 0.88, 1.02).

Each additional daily 100 g of fruits were inversely associated with risk of CHD (RR 0.94; 95% CI: 0.90, 0.97) and stroke (RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.84, 0.97). There was no association with risk of HF (RR 0.98; 95% CI: 0.94, 1.01).

**Nuts**

54 studies (5480 cases), 6 studies (7490 cases) and 3 studies (3613 cases) were included in high vs. low intake for CHD, stroke, and HF, respectively.

Comparing low vs. high intakes suggested a trend for reduced risk of CHD (RR 0.80; 95% CI: 0.62, 1.03). This was not observed for stroke and HF.

Each additional daily 100 g of fruits were inversely associated with risk of CHD (RR 0.94; 95% CI: 0.90, 0.97) and stroke (RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.84, 0.97). There was no association with risk of HF (RR 0.98; 95% CI: 0.94, 1.01).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Studies (Cases)</th>
<th>Studies (Cases)</th>
<th>Studies (Cases)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legumes</td>
<td>10 (8228)</td>
<td>6 (6333)</td>
<td>6 (6333)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>comparing highest to lowest categories of legume intake, an inverse association between legume intake and risk of CHD (RR 0.91; 95% CI: 0.84, 0.99), but not with risk of stroke (RR 0.98; 95% CI: 0.88, 1.10)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A small inverse association was observed for each additional daily intake of 50 g of legumes and risk of CHD (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.92, 1.01), but not for stroke (RR 1.00; 95% CI: 0.88, 1.13)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eggs</td>
<td>11 (14,370)</td>
<td>6 (6333)</td>
<td>4 (5059)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>comparing highest to lowest categories of egg intake, no association between egg intake and risk of CHD (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.94, 1.05) or risk of stroke (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.93, 1.05) was observed. A positive association between egg intake and risk of HF (RR 1.25; 95% CI: 1.12, 1.39) was present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There was no association between each increment of 50 g of daily egg intake and risk of CHD (RR 1.00; 95% CI: 0.95, 1.05) or stroke (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.93, 1.05) but with risk of HF (RR 1.16; 95% CI: 1.03, 1.31)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy</td>
<td>13 (15,790)</td>
<td>12 (16,887)</td>
<td>3 (4057)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>comparing highest to lowest categories of dairy intake, no association between dairy intake and risk of CHD (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.94, 1.05) or risk of stroke (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.93, 1.05) was observed. A positive association between dairy intake and risk of HF (RR 1.25; 95% CI: 1.12, 1.39) was present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>There was no association between each increment of 50 g of daily dairy intake and risk of CHD (RR 1.00; 95% CI: 0.95, 1.05) or stroke (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.93, 1.05) but with risk of HF (RR 1.16; 95% CI: 1.03, 1.31)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
intake for CHD, stroke, and HF respectively.
Comparing the highest to the lowest categories of dairy intake, no associations were observed between dairy intake and risk of CHD (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.92, 1.07), stroke (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.90, 1.01), or HF (RR 1.00; 95% CI: 0.90, 1.10).

Each additional daily 200 g of dairy were not associated with risk of CHD (RR 0.99; 95% CI: 0.96, 1.02) or stroke (RR 0.98; 95% CI: 0.96, 1.00), but were positively associated with risk of HF (RR 1.08; 95% CI: 1.01, 1.15).
No significant differences could be observed for low-fat and high-fat dairy and risk of CHD and stroke.

Fish
22 studies (16,732 cases), 20 studies (14,360 cases), and 8 studies (7945 cases) were included in high vs. low intake for CHD, stroke, and HF respectively.
Comparing the highest to the lowest categories, a small inverse association between fish intake and risk of CHD (RR 0.94; 95% CI: 0.88, 1.02) or stroke (RR 0.95; 95% CI: 0.89, 1.01), and a stronger inverse association between fish intake and risk of HF (RR 0.89; 95% CI: 0.80, 0.99) was observed.
Each additional daily 100 g of fish were inversely associated with risk of CHD (RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.79, 0.99), stroke (RR 0.86; 95% CI: 0.75, 0.99), and HF (RR 0.80; 95% CI: 0.67, 0.95).

Red Meat
3 studies (6659 cases), 7 studies (10,541 cases), and 5 studies (9229 cases) were included in high vs. low intake for CHD, stroke, and HF respectively.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Food Type</th>
<th>Studies Included</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red meat</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>7038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processed meat</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>9492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar-sweetened beverages</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11,187</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Comparing the highest to the lowest categories, a positive association between red meat intake and risk of CHD (RR 1.16; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.24), stroke (RR 1.16; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.25), and HF (RR 1.12; 95% CI: 1.04, 1.21) was observed.

Each additional daily 100 g of red meat were positively associated with risk of CHD (RR 1.15; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.23), stroke (RR 1.12; 95% CI: 1.06, 1.17), and HF (RR 1.08; 95% CI: 1.02, 1.14).

Processed meat

Comparing the highest to the lowest categories, a positive association between processed meat intake and risk of CHD (RR 1.15; 95% CI: 0.99, 1.33), stroke (RR 1.16; 95% CI: 1.07, 1.26), and HF (RR 1.27; 95% CI: 1.14, 1.41) was observed.

Each additional daily 50 g of processed meat were positively associated with risk of CHD (RR 1.27; 95% CI: 1.09, 1.49), stroke (RR 1.17; 95% CI: 1.02, 1.34), and HF (RR 1.12; 95% CI: 1.05, 1.19).

Sugar-sweetened beverages

Comparing the highest to the lowest categories, a positive association between SSB intake and risk of CHD (RR 1.10; 95% CI: 1.01, 1.20) and stroke (RR 1.09; 95% CI: 1.01, 1.18), but no association with HF risk (RR...
<p>| Macready et al. [28] | 307 participants assessed for eligibility 86 excluded 221 participants randomized to one of 3 arms: High flavonoid (HF): n 74 Low flavonoid (LF): n 70 Control (CT): n 77 Total drop outs: 67 | Single-blind, dose-dependent, parallel randomised controlled trial 18 week duration Only those with an RR of CVD &gt;1.5, established by using a methodology adapted from the Framingham CVD risk scoring tool, were recruited and randomly assigned to 1 of 3 dietary groups: High flavonoid (HF): n 74 Low flavonoid (LF): n 70 Control (CT): n 77 Portions of F&amp;Vs were defined as 80 g for fresh, frozen, or canned items or 40 g for dried items and ≥150 mL fresh juice Used USDA flavonoids database to define HF and LF foods. HF and LF foods were defined as &gt;15 mg/100 g and as &lt;5 mg/100 g of total flavonoids, respectively, with adjustments made to account for fresh, dry, or canned F&amp;V weight. | Primary outcome was vascular function and was powered based on microvascular reactivity Participants attended 4 clinic visits (week 0, 6, 12, and 18) 2 week run in on habitual diet followed by baseline (week 0 visit). HF and LF participants’ target intake of F&amp;Vs was increased over and above habitual intake by 2, 4, and 6 (+2, +4, and +6) 80-g portions/d over 3 consecutive 6-wk periods (+2, +4, and +6) Vascular function, 24 hr ambulatory BP, fasting blood samples (lipids), and 24-hr urine collected at each visit. 3-d dietary intake and adverse effects were assessed at weeks 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, and 12. Compliance assessed with 2 24-hr dietary recalls and biomarkers of F&amp;V intake (plasma vitamin C, folate, and carotenoids, and urinary flavonoids and potassium). | Dose-dependent increase in dietary and urinary flavonoids in the HF group, with no change in other groups (P = 0.0001). Dietary intakes of folate (P = 0.035), non-starch polysaccharides (P = 0.001), vitamin C (P = 0.0001), and carotenoids (P = 0.0001) increased in both intervention groups compared with the control group. Men in the HF group showed improved endothelium-dependent vasodilation (measured by LDI-Ach-AUC) with +2 target portions/d, remaining elevated with +4 and +6 portions/d (P = 0.017). There was no significant effect of HF treatment in women. Women in the LF treatment arm showed improvements in endothelium-independent microvascular reactivity (measured via LDI-SNP AUC) with +2 target portions/d remaining elevated with +4 and +6 portions/d (P = 0.002) but increased in those consuming +6 portions/d (P = 0.0309). CRP was significantly reduced in men consuming +4 and +6 portions/d. | 1.11; 95% CI: 0.88, 1.39) were observed Each additional daily 250 mL of SSB were positively associated with risk of CHD (RR 1.17; 95% CI: 1.11, 1.23,), stroke (RR 1.07; 95% CI: 1.02, 1.12), and HF (RR 1.08; 95% CI: 1.05, 1.12) |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRP*:</th>
<th>ICAM*:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1.8 ± 0.2 μg/mL</strong></td>
<td><strong>903 ± 36 ng/mL</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9.0 ± 0.1 mmol/L</strong></td>
<td><strong>903 ± 36 ng/mL</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.7 ± 0.1 mmol/L</strong></td>
<td><strong>30.0 ± 1.4 ng/mL</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8.5 ± 0.3 μmol/L</strong></td>
<td><strong>10.4 ± 0.3 μmol/L</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5.6 ± 0.1 mmol/L</strong></td>
<td><strong>3.2 ± 0.1 g/L</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### LF Group
- **Age:** 51 ± 1 years
- **Men:** 58%
- **Nonsmoker:** 86.4%
- **BMI:** 28.0 ± 0.3 kg/m²
- **Waist circumference:** 93.9 ± 0.7 cm
- **Mean 24-hr SBP:** 128 ± 2 mmHg
- **Mean 24-hr DBP:** 77 ± 1 mmHg
- **Blood glucose:** 5.7 ± 0.0 mmol/L
- **TC:** 5.6 ± 0.1 mmol/L
- **TAG:** 1.4 ± 0.0 mmol/L
- **HDL-C:** 1.6 ± 0.0 mmol/L
- **LDL-C:** 3.7 ± 0.1 mmol/L
- **LDI-Ach AUC*: 960 ± 71
- **LDI-SNP AUC*: 975 ± 78
- **PWV*: 8.5 ± 0.3 m/s
- **PWA Aix*: 25.1 ± 1.7 %
- **PWA AIx HR75*: 20.3 ± 1.7 %
- **HR*: 63 ± 1 bpm
- **CRP*: 1.8 ± 0.2 μg/mL
- **ICAM*: 903 ± 36 ng/mL
- **VCAM*: 654 ± 24 ng/mL
- **E-selectin*: 30.0 ± 1.4 ng/mL
- **vWF*: 92.6 ± 4.9 % of normal
- **PAI-1*: 3.3 ± 0.4 ng/mL
- **TNF-a*: 1.1 ± 0.1 pg/mL
- **IL-6*: 1.3 ± 0.1 pg/mL
- **NO*: 10.4 ± 0.3 μmol/L
- **Fibrinogen*: 3.2 ± 0.1 g/L

### CT Group
- **Age:** 52 ± 1 years
- **Men:** 63%
- **Nonsmoker:** 89.5%
- **BMI:** 27.3 ± 0.4 kg/m²
- **Waist circumference:** 92.3 ± 1.0 cm

Men in the HF and LF groups had significantly lower CRP at +2 (P = 0.0126) and +4 target portions (P = 0.001) compared with control men. Significant reductions in VACM (P=0.0468), E-selectin (men; P=0.0005, women: P=0.0047) were also observed in both HF and LF groups.

**Summary**

This study demonstrates that +2 portions of flavonoid-rich fruits and vegetables (berries, citrus fruit, apples, grapes, peppers, onions, broccoli, and herbs) per day improves arterial function and +4 portions/day reduces inflammation (especially in men with increased CVD risk). This is evidence to increase consumption of flavonoid-rich fruits and vegetables, and highlights the need to focus on specific types of fruit and vegetables, rather than as a whole category.
Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Mean ± SD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mean 24-hr SBP</td>
<td>125 ± 2 mmHg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean 24-hr DBP</td>
<td>76 ± 1 mmHg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blood glucose</td>
<td>5.5 ± 0.0 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TC</td>
<td>5.2 ± 0.2 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAG</td>
<td>1.3 ± 0.0 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HDL-C</td>
<td>1.5 ± 0.0 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDL-C</td>
<td>3.4 ± 0.1 mmol/L</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDI-Ach AUC</td>
<td>1180 ± 124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDI-SNP AUC</td>
<td>1209 ± 117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWV</td>
<td>8.2 ± 0.2 m/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PWA Aix</td>
<td>25.1 ± 1.8 m/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVP-SI</td>
<td>8.2 ± 0.3 m/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DVP-RI</td>
<td>72.9 ± 1.9 m/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HR</td>
<td>61 ± 1 m/s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRP</td>
<td>2.0 ± 0.3 μg/mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICAM</td>
<td>932 ± 31 ng/mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCAM</td>
<td>641 ± 24 ng/mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-selectin</td>
<td>34.8 ± 1.4 ng/mL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>vWF</td>
<td>75.4 ± 5.6 % of normal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>31.3 ± 2.4 kg/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist circumference</td>
<td>104 ± 8.1 cm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waist-to-hip ratio</td>
<td>0.96 ± 0.08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

McEvoy et al. [29]

105 participants recruited and commenced 4 week run-in. 13 lost prior to randomisation. 92 randomised to 1 of 3 arms: 2 portions/d: n = 29, 4 portions/d: n = 31, 7 portions/d: n = 32. 89 participants completed study.

Primary outcomes were changes in blood pressure, lipids, or inflammatory markers (hsCRP). Randomised controlled parallel trial 12 week duration (excluding 4 week run-in) Participants recruited from hospital outpatient clinics and from the general public. All participants were low F&V consumers (≤2 portions/d or ≤160 g/d), overweight (BMI: >27 and ≤35 kg/m²), and without pre-existing CVD or diabetes but had a combination of risk factors that placed them at high total risk (estimated multifactorial CVD risk ≥20% over 10 y) of developing atherosclerotic CVD for the first time.

Compliance with the study protocol was monitored weekly via telephone during the intervention period and determined with use of self-reported dietary data collected pre- and post-intervention using a 4-d food record.

Anthropometry, blood pressure, lipids, and hsCRP measured at baseline (week 0) and week 12. No significant change in self-reported F&V intake in 2 portions/d group. Mean F&V intake increased to 3.8 and 7.1 portions/d within the 4 and 7 portions/d groups, respectively (P<0.0001). Mean change in self-reported F&V intake was significantly correlated with mean change in lutein status (P = 0.0001) and mean change in β-cryptoxanthin status (P = 0.03). Increasing F&V intake had no impact on either SBP or DBP. Increasing F&V had no significant impact on any measured lipid parameter. In the 2 portions/d group LDL-C increased (P=0.05) but remained unchanged in the 4 and 7 portions/d groups (P=0.70 and P=0.37, respectively).
LDL-C: 3.36 ± 0.94 mmol/L
HDL-C: 1.34 ± 0.30 mmol/L
TAG: 2.00 ± 0.83 mmol/L
TC:HDL-C: 4.32 ± 1.21
Blood glucose: 5.48 ± 0.49
Antihypertensive medication: 28%
Lipid-lowering medication: 41%
F&V portions: 1.71 ± 0.98

4 portions/d
Age: 57.7 ± 5.9 years
Men: 71%
Current smoker: 19%
Weight: 90.4 ± 9.4 kg
BMI: 31.0 ± 2.5 kg/m²
Waist circumference: 105 ± 6.6 cm
Waist-to-hip ratio: 0.98 ± 0.05
Body fat: 36.7 ± 6.4 %
24-hr SBP: 126.5 ± 10.9 mmHg
24-hr DBP: 76.5 ± 7.7 mmHg
TC: 5.35 ± 1.10 mmol/L
LDL-C: 3.18 ± 1.00 mmol/L
HDL-C: 1.27 ± 0.38 mmol/L
TAG: 1.98 ± 0.79 mmol/L
TC:HDL-C: 4.42 ± 1.10
Blood glucose: 5.64 ± 0.63
Antihypertensive medication: 39%
Lipid-lowering medication: 42%
F&V portions: 1.70 ± 0.70

7 portions/d
Age: 54.4 ± 6.8 years
Men: 66%
Current smoker: 34%
Weight: 87.8 ± 9.9 kg
BMI: 30.6 ± 2.1 kg/m²
Waist circumference: 103 ± 6.2 cm
Waist-to-hip ratio: 0.96 ± 0.05
Body fat: 37.6 ± 7.4 %
24-hr SBP: 129.7 ± 11.7 mmHg
24-hr DBP: 76.9 ± 8.3 mmHg
TC: 5.70 ± 1.12 mmol/L
LDL-C: 3.57 ± 1.05 mmol/L
HDL-C: 1.22 ± 0.33 mmol/L
TAG: 2.02 ± 0.97 mmol/L
TC:HDL-C: 4.93 ± 1.44
Blood glucose: 5.54 ± 0.60
Antihypertensive medication: 28%

1 F&V portion was defined as an 80-g serving

No evidence of a dose-response effect of increasing F&V intake on hsCRP concentrations (P_trend=0.33).

Summary
This study suggests no direct effects of increasing fruit and vegetable intake on blood pressure, lipids, or inflammation. No information was provided on what fruits and vegetables were consumed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Total participants: n=29,615</th>
<th>Mean age: 51.6±13.5 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARIC</td>
<td>Men: 45.6%, Women: 54.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Age: 54.3±5.8 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethnicity: Black 24%, White 76%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current smoker: 26.3%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BMI: 27.7±5.3kg/m²</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SBP: 121.1±18.7mmHg</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HDL-C: 1.3±0.4mmol/L</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-HDL-C: 4.25±1.44mmol/L</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diabetes: 10.8%</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Antihypertensive medication: 31%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lipid lowering medication: 3%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hormonal therapy: 10.1%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total energy 1534 kcal/d (IQR 1189-1960), Egg intake 0.14/d (IQR 0.07-0.43), alcohol 0g/d (IQR 0-6.2), dietary cholesterol 227 mg/d (IQR 0-6.2), alcohol 0g/d (IQR 0-6.2), aHEI**-2010 score 40.6±8.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARDIA</td>
<td>Men: 43.6%</td>
<td>Women: 56.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Age: 25.7±3.1 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ethnicity: Black 48%, White 52%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Current smoker: 29.8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BMI: 24.6±5.1kg/m²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SBP: 121.1±18.7mmHg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>HDL-C: 1.3±0.3mmol/L</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Non-HDL-C: 3.2±0.9mmol/L</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Diabetes: 0.8%</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Antihypertensive medication: 2.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lipid lowering medication: 0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Hormone therapy: 2.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total energy 1534 kcal/d (IQR 1189-1960), Egg intake 0.14/d (IQR 0.07-0.43), dietary cholesterol 227 mg/d (IQR 0-6.2), alcohol 0g/d (IQR 0-6.2), aHEI**-2010 score 40.6±8.7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FHS</td>
<td>Participants taken from the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) Study, Framingham Heart Study (FHS), Framingham Offspring Study (FOS), Jackson Heart Study (JHS), and the Multi-Ethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Exclusion criteria: CVD at baseline, participants consuming &lt;500 Kcals/day and &gt; 6000 Kcals/day, or missing data from study variables.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Primary outcomes were incident CVD (including fatal and non-fatal CHD, stroke, heart failure and other CVD deaths), and all-cause mortality.</td>
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<td>Each study assessed self-reported usual dietary intake (dietary assessment method not reported but all cohorts used different dietary assessment tools (except the two Framingham cohorts)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Diet data were harmonized cohort by cohort, only baseline measures were included in the study (start dates between 1985 and 2005).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Consumption frequencies were converted into estimated numbers per day using the middle value (e.g. 3-4 times/week =0.5 times per day). One serving was standardised across cohorts and food groups were constructed using the same definitions. Ingredients from mixed dishes were considered and appropriate portions determined for each cohort.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Models adjusted for age, sex, race/ethnicity, education total energy, smoking status, physical activity score, alcohol intake, co-use of hormone therapy, BMI, diabetes, systolic BP, use of anti-hypertensive medication, HDL-C, non-HDL-C, and use of lipid lowering medication</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>To further evaluate whether dietary cholesterol or egg intake within different dietary patterns altered the association with incident CVD and all-cause mortality, major food groups were adjusted individually or incorporated into 3 diet pattern scores: alternate Healthy Eating Index 2010 (aHEI-2010) score, alternate Mediterranean Diet (MedDiet) score or Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension (DASH).</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>In addition to egg consumption, absolute risk of CVD is associated with levels of dietary cholesterol content of eggs fully explained the association between egg consumption and incident CVD, and risk of all-cause mortality.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Men: 34.2%
Women: 65.8%
Age: 73.4 ± 3 years
Ethnicity: White 100%
Current smoker: 10.2%
BMI: 26.6 ± 4.7 kg/m²
SBP: 146 ± 20.6 mmHg
HDL-C: 1.3 ± 0.4 mmol/L
Non-HDL-C: 4.4 ± 1.0 mmol/L
Diabetes: 9.6%
Antihypertensive medication: 43%
Lipid lowering medication: 5.9%
Hormone therapy: 4.9%
Total energy 1676 kcal/d (IQR 1802-3348), egg intake 0.14/d (IQR 0.07-0.43), dietary cholesterol 221 mg/d (IQR 152-308), alcohol 1.2 g/d (IQR 0-13.2), aHEI-2010 score 50.9 ± 9.6

FOS
Men: 45.4%
Women: 54.6%
Age: 73.4±3 years
Ethnicity: White 100%
Current smoker: 19.2%
BMI: 27.3 ± 4.8 kg/m²
SBP: 125 ± 18.1 mmHg
HDL-C: 1.3 ± 0.4 mmol/L
Non-HDL-C: 4.0 ± 1.0 mmol/L
Diabetes: 6%
Antihypertensive medication: 17%
Lipid lowering medication: 6.2%
Hormone therapy: 10.3%
Total energy 1786 kcal/d (IQR 1413-2233), egg intake 0.14/d (IQR 0.07-0.43), dietary cholesterol 209mg/d (IQR 153-280), alcohol 3.2 g/d (IQR 0-13.2), aHEI-2010 score 45.8±9.4

JHS
Men: 37.7%
Women: 62.3%
Ethnicity: Black 100%
Age: 49.3 ± 10.6 years
Current smoker: 11.9%
BMI: 31.9 ± 7.3 kg/m²
SBP: 124.4 ± 15.3 mmHg
HDL-C: 1.3 ± 0.4 mmol/L
largely explained the association between egg consumption and all-cause mortality.

The significant associations of dietary cholesterol consumption with CVD and all-cause mortality were independent of the fat amount and quality of the diet.

Authors found the effect of egg and dietary cholesterol remained after accounting for the beneficial effect of different dietary models; aHEI-2010 score (HR 1.18; 95% CI: 1.10, 1.26), MedDiet (HR 1.18; 95% CI: 1.10, 1.26), DASH (HR 1.19; 95% CI: 1.11, 1.27).

Summary
This is a statistically strong study representing the ethnically diverse US population. However, the authors themselves report that the effect of increasing egg intake on incident CVD is modest and the clinical significance of this unknown. The study findings were based on a single measure of self-reported dietary intake at baseline when the average follow-up time was 17 years. This does not take into account any changes to habitual cholesterol or egg intake during that time. The results are very much in contrast to the null effects of egg consumption of CVD risk in other recent studies.
Non-HDL-C: 3.8 ± 1.0 mmol/L
Diabetes: 11%
Antihypertensive medication: 40.3%
Lipid lowering medication: 7.3%
Hormone therapy: 14%
Total energy 1999 kcal/d (IQR 1446-2736), egg intake 0.32/d (IQR 0.09-0.65), dietary cholesterol 306mg/d (IQR 196-473), alcohol 0.1 g/d (IQR 0-1.7) aHEI-2010 score 51 ± 9.8

MESA
Men: 47.6%
Women: 52.4%
Age: 61.4±9.6 years
Ethnicity: Black 26.6%, Hispanic 22.2%, Chinese 11.8%, White 39.4%
Education: < high school 17.8%, high school 17.4%, college 64.9%
Current smoker: 13.1%
BMI: 28.3 ± 5.4 kg/m²
SBP: 125.9 ± 20.9 mmHg
HDL-C: 1.3 ± 0.4 mmol/L
Non-HDL-C: 3.7 ± 0.7 mmol/L
Diabetes: 12.4%
Antihypertensive medication: 36.3%
Lipid lowering medication: 16.1%
Hormone therapy: 15.5%
Total energy 1515 kcal/d (IQR 1095-2065), egg intake 0.14/d (IQR 0.04-0.29), dietary cholesterol 209 mg/d (IQR 133-326), alcohol 0.5 g/d (IQR 0.1-5.3) aHEI-2010 score 51 ± 9.8

Qin et al.[32]
512,896 Chinese participants in original cohort.
Participants recruited between 2004-2008 from 10 geographical locations.
Excluded participants with baseline cancer, CHD or stroke, self-reported diabetes of on-site fasting plasma glucose ≥ 7.0 mmol/L.

Never/rarely
Participants: n 42,046
Age: 52.3 ± 10.8 years
Men: 33.9%

Prospective cohort study (China Kadoorie Biobank (CKB) Study).
Baseline assessment of habitual frequency of egg consumption over the previous year was used to inform groups:
never or rarely
1 to 3 days per month
1 to 3 days per week
4 to 6 days per week
daily

Primary outcomes were morbidity or mortality from CVD, IHD, haemorrhagic stroke and ischaemic stroke, as well as major coronary events (MCE) including fatal IHD death and incident non-fatal MI.
Baseline data collected between 2004 and 2008 to completion, which occurred at diagnosis of CVD endpoint, death, loss to follow-up or 31 December 2015 (whichever came first).
Used a non-validated, qualitative food frequency questionnaire to assess diet data
Covariates collected at baseline questionnaire, including anthropometric data, socio-demographic information,
Median follow-up 8.9 years (IQR 2.15 years)
At baseline 13.1% of participants reported daily consumption of eggs (usual amount 0.76 eggs/day) and 9.1% reported never or rare consumption.
Among the 461,213 subjects, there were 83,977 CVD incident cases, 9,985 CVD deaths and 5,103 MCE.
Compared to non-consumers, daily egg consumption was associated with lower risk of CVD (HR 0.89; 95% CI: 0.87, 0.92).
| Lifestyle and Medical History | Participants | n | Age ± SD (years) | BMI ± SD (kg/m²) | Men (%) | Current drinking | Current smoking | Physical activity | Hypertension | Family history of CVD | Diet pattern | New affluence | Traditional southern | Multivitamin use | 1–3 days/month | Participants: n 92,568 | Age: 51.2 ± 10.6 years | Men: 38.9 % | Current drinking: 19.3 % | Current smoking: 34.1 % | Physical activity: 21.5 ± 13.5 MET h/d | Hypertension: 36.9 % | Family history of CVD: 20.2 % | Diet pattern: | New affluence: 10.3 % | Traditional southern: 64.6 % | Multivitamin use: 2.7 % |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---|-----------------|------------------|---------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| lifestyle behaviours (smoking, alcohol intake, physical activity and diet), medical history (self reported HTN and use of BP lowering medication, aspirin and statins, family history of CHD or stroke) | Logistic regression or multiple linear regression (for continuous variable) was conducted to compare age, sex, site adjusted proportions or means of baseline characteristics by frequency of egg intake. | HR and 95% CI were estimated for the associations between egg consumption and CVD. The multivariate model was adjusted for all covariates listed in participant characteristics. | Multivariate-adjusted HR (95% CI) for IHD was 0.88 (0.84-0.93), MCE 0.86 (0.76-0.97), haemorrhagic stroke 0.74 (0.67-0.82), and ischaemic stroke 0.90 (0.85-0.95). | Daily consumers had an 11% lower risk of IHD, 18% lower risk of CVD-death, and 28% lower risk of haemorrhagic stroke death compared to non-consumers. | Each one-egg increment per week was associated with an 8% lower risk of haemorrhagic stroke (HR 0.92; 95% CI: 0.90, 0.95). | Similar associations were observed for CVD and haemorrhagic stroke mortality HRs (daily consumption vs non-consumption) were 0.82 (95% CI: 0.75, 0.89) and 0.72 (95% CI: 0.62, 0.84), respectively. The inverse associations with mortality from IHD and ischaemic stroke were non-significant. | Further analysis demonstrated that egg consumption was not associated with morbidity or mortality of any CVD endpoint among diabetic patients (diagnosed during study). | Among Chinese adults, a moderate level of egg consumption (up to <1 egg per day) was significantly associated with lower risk of CVD. | Summary | Inconsistent with other studies. There is potential misclassification of egg consumption due to a non-validated FFQ and recall issues, change of habitual egg consumption after developing disease (reverse causality). | This study did not contain any groups that eat more than one egg per day, and so no association could be made with >1 egg per day and CVD. |
Current drinking: 18.5 %
Current smoking: 31.5 %
Physical activity: 21.9 ± 13.2 MET h/d
Hypertension: 30.5 %
Family history of CVD: 20.3 %
Diet pattern
New affluence: 35.6 %
Traditional southern: 41.0 %
Multivitamin use: 4.4 %

7 days/week
Participants: n 60,427
Age: 51.6 ± 10.9 years
Men: 44.2 %
BMI: 23.4 ± 3.4 kg/m²
Current drinking: 21.0 %
Current smoking: 32.7 %
Physical activity: 21.7 ± 13.9 MET h/d
Hypertension: 29.0 %
Family history of CVD: 21.0 %
Diet pattern
New affluence: 55.6 %
Traditional southern: 23.7 %
Multivitamin use: 6.5 %

Alexander et al.[33]

Potentially relevant records: 245
After duplicates: 150
Excluded 84 due to study design, experimental or non-english
Full texts assessed: 66
Excluded 49 due to diet pattern, missing RR for eggs, or study population with disease
Number of studies in qualitative synthesis: 17
Articles in final meta-analysis: 15
Approximately 276,000 participants for stroke outcome and 308,000 participants for CHD outcome
Studies primarily conducted in the US, with others in Japan, Australia, Spain, and UK.

Systematic review and meta-analysis
Searched PubMed (August 2015), EMBASE, and Cochrane Collaboration reports
Followed Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines for reporting of systematic reviews and meta-analyses
Bias assessed using Egger’s regression method
Inclusion criteria were
Prospective design
Human populations
Published in English
Provide risk estimates and measure of variance for egg intake and CV outcomes (CHD and stroke)

Primary outcomes were incident stroke, incident CHD including mortality, incident coronary events, incident MI, incident haemorrhagic stroke, incident CVD, IHD mortality, stroke mortality, incident hospitalized or fatal HF, ischaemic stroke
Follow-up of 6-26 years
Relative risks comparing the highest to the lowest categories of egg intake were combined across all studies to produce summary associations. Generally these were 1 egg per day vs < 2 eggs per week.
Random effects meta-analysis was used to generate summary relative risk estimates (SRREs) for high vs low intake and stratified intake dose-response analysis.
Heterogeneity was examined in subgroups where sensitivity and regression analysis were conducted on increasing egg intake.

Stroke
Comparing high (1 egg/d). vs. low (<2 eggs/week) egg intake, a significant 12% lower risk of stroke was observed (SRRE 0.88; 95% CI: 0.81, 0.97).
Heterogeneity between studies was low
Subgroup analysis based on location of study indicated a significant reduction in stroke risk in US studies (SRRE 0.90; 95% CI: 0.82, 0.99) but not in studies performed in Japan (SRRE 0.82; 95% CI: 0.58, 1.18)

CHD
Comparing high vs low egg intake, a non-significant SRRE 0.97 (95% CI: 0.88, 1.07) was observed.
Subgroup analysis based on location showed no association between egg intake and CHD in US studies (SRRE
7 studies included in the meta-analysis of egg intake and stroke risk for CHD. Studies were excluded if they were case-control, cross-sectional, ecologic and experimental animal studies, or case reports, case series, commentaries, and letters to the editor.

Studies were adjusted for CHD and stroke risk factors such as age, race, BMI, physical activity, smoking, alcohol and BP. Some studies in the meta-analysis included participants with T2Dm, HTN and hyperlipidaemia.

Studies were excluded if they were case-control, cross-sectional, ecologic and experimental animal studies, or case reports, case series, commentaries, and letters to the editor.

Daily (or more) intake of eggs was not associated with risk of CHD (SRRE 0.99; 95% CI: 0.89, 1.09). No apparent trend was observed in the stratified intake dose–response analyses for egg consumption and CHD risk.

Summary

These findings are relatively consistent with those of Shin et al and Rong et al. Also, some studies included in these meta-analysis report increased risks between egg consumption and CHD and stroke risk among people with diabetes, however, methodological reasons such as not capturing any changes in dietary intake and lifestyle behaviours following a diabetes diagnosis may bias results. Many of these associations are not statistically significant and may not reflect an independent relationship. More studies are needed which take into account the overall dietary patterns and foods consumed with eggs that may increase risk of T2DM.

| Rong et al[34] | Potentially relevant records: 1440 After duplicates: 1317 Excluded 1301 due to study design, non-human, or did not study CHD or stroke as outcome Full texts assessed: 16 Excluded 8 due to insufficient data, fewer than 3 categories of egg intake Articles in final meta analysis: 8 6 studies (9 reports) examined CHD as an outcome 6 studies (8 reports) considered stroke | Meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies examining the association between egg intake and CHD or stroke Searched PubMed and EMBASE (June 2013). Used reference lists from relevant papers and review articles Used MOOSE guidelines for the conduct of meta analyses. Quality assessed using the Newcastle-Ottawa scale Begg and Egger tests for publication bias Inclusion criteria were | Primary outcomes were CHD, CHD mortality, MI, IHD, IHD mortality, stroke and stroke mortality Length of follow-up was 8 to 26 years | Summary RR for CHD for an increase in one egg per day was 0.99 (95% CI 0.85, 1.15, P-trend=0.88). RR for stroke for an increment of one egg consumed per day was 0.91 (95% CI 0.81-1.02, P-trend=0.10). This meta-analysis did not identify any association between egg consumption and risk of CHD or stroke. A higher intake of eggs (up to one per day) was not associated with increased risk of CHD or stroke. In a sub-group analysis of diabetic populations, the RR of CHD comparing... |
**Prospective design**
Egg consumption was the exposure
Outcomes of CHD or stroke
Relative risk and 95% CI reported for at least 3 quantitative categories of egg intake
Studies were excluded if they were reviews, editorials, non-human studies, and letters without sufficient data
Articles reporting both CHD and stroke were treated as two separate reports as were results stratified by gender.

### Summary
Studies with larger sample sizes and longer follow-up times are required to confirm these subgroup results.

In long-term follow up, subjects may have changed diet; approximately half of the studies had updated diet information during the follow-up, but others have intake data from baseline only.

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| **263,938 participants for CHD outcome and 210,404 participants for stroke outcome**
| **Studies primarily conducted in the US** |
| **Meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies examining the association between egg intake and CHD or stroke** |
| **Egg consumption assessed by using a self-administered or interview-based FFQ and categorized into 3–6 groups.** |
| **CVD risk** |
| In 348,420 participants there were 9389 cases of incident CVD; from 239,729 participants there were 5401 cases of stroke; and from 241,900 participants there were 4189. Comparison of the highest egg consumption category (≥1 egg/day) with the lowest (≤1 egg per week or never) resulted in a pooled HR of 0.96 (95% CI: 0.8, 1.05) for overall CVD. |

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<p>| <strong>Shin et al. [35]</strong> |
| <strong>Potentially relevant records: 72</strong> |
| <strong>Excluded 53 due to study design, non-human, or did not study CVD, mortality, or T2DM as outcome</strong> |
| <strong>Full texts assessed: 19</strong> |
| <strong>Excluded 3 due to not reporting HR with 95% CI or use of continuous variable for egg intake</strong> |
| <strong>Articles in final meta analysis: 16</strong> |
| <strong>8 studies examined CVD as an outcome; 4 studies IHD and 5 studies stroke</strong> |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Duration of Follow-up</th>
<th>Findings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Patterson et al [36]</td>
<td>Total participants at 1997: n 38,984 Excluded participants with cancer, CVD, diabetes, or those with unusually high or low energy intake (n 6010)</td>
<td>Prospective cohort design. Participants taken from Swedish Mammography Cohort with baseline data gathered in 1997</td>
<td>Primary outcome was incidence of MI Diet measured at baseline using validated 96-item FFQ. FFQ was validated against the mean intake of four 7-d weighed diet records. Over an average follow-up of 11.6 years there were 1392 cases of the primary endpoint. Comparing highest vs lowest quintiles, women in the highest quintile of total dairy foods were more likely to</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
All women were followed from baseline until date of first MI, death, or end of the follow-up period

Participants grouped on quintiles of total dairy intake

Q1: 2.2 servings/d
Q2: 3.5 servings/d
Q3: 4.5 servings/d
Q4: 6.0 servings/d
Q5: 8.4 servings/d

Total dairy intake was the sum of milk (full-fat (≥3.0% fat), semi-skimmed (1.5% fat), skimmed (0.5% fat), and pancakes), cultured milk/yoghurt (full-fat (≥3.0% fat) and low-fat (≤1.5% fat)), cheese (full-fat (>17% fat), low-fat (≤7% fat), and cottage cheese/quark), cream and crème fraîche (full-fat and low-fat) intakes.

Subgroup analysis performed by assigning participants to 5 groups based on the same cut-offs used for quintiles of total dairy food intake but using a sum of dairy food that excluded cheese (i.e., the sum of milk, cultured milk/yogurt, and cream).

Q1 Fruit and vegetables 366 g/d, whole grain foods 91 g/d, total dairy 181 g, milk 44 % total dairy, cultured milk/yoghurt 35 % total dairy, cheese 18 % total dairy, cream and crème fraîche 3.3 % total dairy
Q2 Fruit and vegetables 390 g/d, whole grain foods 104 g/d, total dairy 297 g, milk 41 % total dairy, cultured milk/yoghurt 40 % total dairy, cheese 18 % total dairy, cream and crème fraîche 3.1 % total dairy
Q3 Fruit and vegetables 394 g/d, whole grain foods 114 g/d, total dairy 384 g, milk 41 % total dairy, cultured milk/yoghurt 38 % total dairy, cheese 20 % total dairy, cream and crème fraîche 1.3 % total dairy

Incident cases of MI (fetal and nonfetal; International Classification of Diseases, 10th edition, code I21) from baseline (September 15, 1997) through December 31, 2008, from the Cause of Death Registry and through December 31, 2009, from the National Hospital Discharge Registry by computerized record linkage of the cohort population to the registries using the national registration number that each resident in Sweden is assigned.

Models adjusted for smoking status, physical activity, waist-to-hip ratio, alcohol consumption, diagnosis of hypertension, diagnosis of high cholesterol, family history of myocardial infarction, education, aspirin usage, hormone therapy usage, energy intake, dairy food groups and consumption of fruit and vegetables and whole-grain foods.

Women in the highest quintile of cheese intake (6.0 servings/d) had a significantly lower risk of MI vs. low cheese consumers (HR 0.74; 95% CI: 0.63, 0.85; P_trend=0.006).

When cheese was removed from total dairy intake, total dairy was not associated with MI risk in women who did not use butter at all

The association for total dairy food was attenuated and became non-significant after adjustment for calcium and phosphorous (HR for the highest vs. the lowest quintile: 0.85; 95% CI: 0.62, 1.16 and 0.83; 95% CI: 0.63, 1.06, respectively. The association for cheese was attenuated and became non-significant after adjustment for calcium (HR for the highest vs. the lowest quintile: 0.81; 95% CI: 0.62, 1.05).
Q4
Participants: n 6573
Age: 61.9 years
Never smoked: 53.8 %
Past smoker: 22.6 %
Current smoker: 22.0 %
Physical activity: 42.7 MET h/d
Waist-to-hip ratio >0.8: 46.0 %
BMI: 24.8 kg/m2
Alcohol consumption
0<2.5 g ethanol/d: 44.9 %
2.5<15.0 g ethanol/d: 46.9 %
≥15.0 g ethanol/d: 8.2 %
High blood pressure: 18.7 %
Elevated cholesterol: 6.8 %
Family history of MI: 13.1 %
Aspirin use: 43.7 %
HRT use (ever): 51.4 %

Q5
Participants: n 6724
Age: 61.7 years
Never smoked: 52.4 %
Past smoker: 22.0 %
Current smoker: 24.1 %
Physical activity: 42.0 MET h/d
Waist-to-hip ratio >0.8: 45.7 %
BMI: 24.8 kg/m2
Alcohol consumption
0<2.5 g ethanol/d: 46.8 %
2.5<15.0 g ethanol/d: 44.3 %
≥15.0 g ethanol/d: 8.9 %
High blood pressure: 18.4 %
Elevated cholesterol: 6.7 %
Family history of MI: 13.4 %
Aspirin use: 45.3 %

Total low-fat or full fat milk intake was not associated with MI risk (comparing highest vs. lowest HR 1.03; 95% CI: 0.89, 1.18; P<sub>trend</sub> = 0.660 and HR 1.10 95% CI: 0.92, 1.31; P<sub>trend</sub>=0.283, respectively).

Higher intakes of full fat cheese (4.0 servings/d) was associated with a significantly lower risk of MI (HR comparing highest vs. lowest: 0.83; 95% CI: 0.68, 1.01; P<sub>trend</sub>=0.035).

Adjusting for calcium attenuated this association.

Summary
This cohort study showed a non-linear association between dairy intake and risk of MI, and subsequent analysis showed different types of dairy food have different associations with risk of MI. A high intake of cheese was associated with a significantly lower risk of MI, whereas the use of butter on bread was associated with an increased risk. Studies should focus on individual dairy components in future analysis.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alexander et al. [37]</th>
<th>Potentially relevant records: 5928</th>
<th>Systematic review and meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies investigating dairy consumption and CVD</th>
<th>Primary outcomes included CVD, CHD and stroke. Results expressed as summary relative risk estimates (SRREs)</th>
<th>Total Dairy Intake</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Screened 5928 by title</td>
<td>Searched PubMed and EMBASE. Additional records found through screening bibliographies</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 studies reported a composite of ‘total dairy intake’ with ‘total CVD’. Comparing low and high intakes, total dairy intake was associated with a 12% lower risk of total CVD (SRRE 0.88; 95% CI: 0.75, 1.04)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>After duplicates 1649</td>
<td>Followed PRISMA guidelines for reporting of systematic reviews and meta-analyses</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 studies total dairy intake and CHD reporting a SRRE of 0.91 (95% CI: 0.80 - 1.04). Significant heterogeneity was reported. Subgroup analysis of US-only studies showed no relationship between total dairy and risk of CHD (SRRE 0.99; 95% CI: 0.92, 1.07).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Excluded 1596 due to study design or clinical outcomes</td>
<td>Exposure was total dairy intake, specific dairy products (e.g. milk, cheese, yoghurt), Ca from dairy products (reported as an analytical variable in the individual studies) and low- and full-fat dairy intake</td>
<td></td>
<td>Studies with a follow-up &lt;15 years showed a significant SRRE for CHD risk (0.81-95% CI: 0.71, 0.93). Studies with a follow-up ≥15 years showed no relationship.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Full texts assessed: 53</td>
<td>Inclusion criteria were</td>
<td></td>
<td>No clear relationship was observed for either full-fat dairy or low-fat dairy and CHD risk (SRRE 1.05; 95% CI: 0.93, 1.19, and SRRE 0.90; 95% CI: 0.82, 0.98, respectively)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Excluded 21 due to calcium supplementation or diet pattern</td>
<td>Prospective design</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 studies reported on the association between total dairy and stroke. Total dairy was significantly inversely related to stroke (SRRE 0.91; 95% CI: 0.83, 0.99). There was modest heterogeneity which was explained by duration of follow-up, fat content, and amount consumed. Studies with a follow-up ≥15 years resulted in an SRRE of 0.88 (95% CI: 0.82, 0.95). Both full-fat dairy intake (SRRE 0.91; 95% CI: 0.84, 0.99) and low-fat dairy intake (SRRE 0.90; 95% CI: 0.83, 0.96) were associated inversely and significantly with stroke.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Articles in final meta analysis: 31</td>
<td>Adult population</td>
<td></td>
<td>Milk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>None of the included studies were based on RCT data</td>
<td>English language</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Studies published between 1996-2015 with baseline dietary assessment between 1965 - 2001</td>
<td>Provide risk estimates and measures of variance for dairy intake and CVD</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Study countries included USA, Europe, the Nordic countries, Australia and Japan</td>
<td>Studies were excluded if they studied dietary patterns i.e. dairy product patterns and CVD outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Over 1,000,000 total participants</td>
<td>Studies were excluded if they studied dietary patterns i.e. dairy product patterns and CVD outcomes</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4 studies reported milk in association with total CVD. The SSRE was 0.94 (95% CI: 0.86, 1.03).

6 studies reported the association between total milk and CHD. Comparing low and high intakes total milk was not associated with CHD risk (SRRE 1.05; 95% CI: 0.95, 1.16). Subgroup analysis considering location suggested a lower risk in UK-based studies (SSRE 0.84; 95% CI: 0.67, 1.05) and a positive association in women (SSRE 1.15; 95% CI: 1.00, 1.33).

7 studies reported the association between total milk and stroke. Comparing low and high intakes total milk was not significantly associated with risk of stroke (SRRE 0.90; 95% CI: 0.79, 1.02) although there was substantial heterogeneity. No effect was observed in subgroup analysis considering sex or duration of follow-up.

Cheese

3 studies suggested an inverse non-statistically significant association with total CVD (SRRE 0.89; 95% CI: 0.78, 1.01).

5 studies showed a significant inverse relationship between cheese intake and CHD risk (SRRE 0.82; 95% CI: 0.72, 0.93). >1.5 servings of cheese was associated with significant inverse SRRE (0.86; 95% CI: 0.79, 0.94).

4 studies showed a significant inverse association with cheese intake and risk of stroke (SRRE 0.87; 95% CI: 0.77, 0.99). Similar responses were observed to CHD risk, with >1.5 servings of cheese associated with a significant inverse SRRE (0.92; 95% CI: 0.87, 0.97).

Yoghurt

3 studies examined the relationship between yoghurt and total CVD, and 4 studies reported the association between yoghurt and CHD. Comparing low and high intakes of yoghurt was not associated with CVD risk (SRRE 0.94; 95% CI: 0.87, 1.02).

4 studies showed a significant inverse association with yoghurt intake and risk of CHD (SRRE 0.86; 95% CI: 0.79, 0.93). Similar responses were observed to stroke risk (SRRE 0.91; 95% CI: 0.84, 0.98).
studies examined the relationship with CHD. Yoghurt intake was not associated with either outcome.

Calcium from dairy products
In 4 studies diary calcium was not associated significantly with total CHD (SRR 0.94; 95% CI: 0.82, 1.08). Comparing low vs. high, diary calcium was significantly and inversely associated with lower risk of stroke (SRR 0.69; 95% CI: 0.60, 0.81).

Summary
Evidence from this meta analysis suggests that specific dairy components may be associated with lower risk of CHD and stroke. This is important given the content of dairy (SFA, protein) and demonstrates the importance of considering the whole food matrix, rather than individual nutrients.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Soedamah-Muthu et al.[38]</th>
<th>Systematic review and meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies investigating dairy consumption and cardiometabolic disease</th>
<th>Primary outcomes included diabetes and CHD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No information provided on number of articles searched for in this updated systematic review and meta analysis, only number of newly added texts</td>
<td>Search PubMed (July 2018). Additional records found through reference lists of recent reviews.</td>
<td>26 cohort studies examined the relationship between total dairy (per 200 g/d) and diabetes. There was a borderline significant association between total dairy and risk of diabetes (RR 0.97; 95% CI: 0.95, 1.00). Per 200 g/d increment in low fat dairy was associated with a 4% lower risk of diabetes (RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.92, 1.00). Comparing 80 g/d vs. 0 g/d of yoghurt, there was an inverse significant association with diabetes (RR 0.86; 95% CI: 0.83, 0.90). Substantial heterogeneity was noted in all studies for diabetes outcome.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Previous meta analysis relevant to this updated one include:</td>
<td>Followed PRISMA guidelines for reporting of systematic reviews and meta-analyses Exposure was total dairy intake, specific dairy products (e.g. milk, cheese, yoghurt), Ca from dairy products (reported as an analytical variable in the individual studies) and low- and full-fat dairy intake Inclusion criteria were Prospective design Adult population Reported data on dairy consumption in relation to T2DM, CHD, and stroke</td>
<td>15 cohorts were included for the association between total dairy and milk in relation to CHD. Total dairy or milk was not association with incident CHD per 200 g/d increment (RR 1.00; 95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

de Goede J, Soedamah-Muthu SS, Pan A, Gijsbers L, Geleijnse JM.
Dairy consumption and risk of stroke: a systematic review and updated
dose-response meta-analysis of prospective cohort studies. J Am
Heart Assoc. 2016;5(5). 10.1161/JAHA.115.002787

Studies were excluded if they were on
animals, children <18 years of age, or patient populations.

If dairy intake was only reported in servings,
without the actual portion size, portion sizes
of 177 g for total, low-fat, and full-fat dairy;
244 g for total, low-fat and full-fat milk; 244
g for yogurt; and 43 g for cheese were used
to estimate grams per day.

CI: 0.98, 1.03 and RR 1.01; 95% CI:
0.97, 1.04, respectively).

Total dairy was not significantly
associated with stroke (RR 0.98; 95%
CI: 0.96, 1.01). Low fat and full fat
dairy had a similar significant inverse
relationship per 200g/d increment with
stroke (RR 0.97; 95% CI: 0.95, 0.99;
and RR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.93, 0.99,
respectively). An increment of 200 g/d
of milk intake was associated with an
8% lower risk of stroke (RR 0.92; 95%
CI: 0.88, 0.97).

Summary
In this updated meta-analysis of
observational studies examining dairy
intake with T2DM, CHD, and stroke,
yoghurt intake was inversely
associated with diabetes, and total
dairy or milk was not associated with
CHD. This study suggests a neutral
or small beneficial associations
between dairy components and
cardiometabolic disease.

Buziau et al.[39]

Total participants: n 8748
For T2DM cohort: n 7633
For CVD cohort: n 7679

Tertile of energy-adjusted
dairy intake

T1 Participants: n 2916
Age: 52.5 ± 1.5 years
BMI <25 kg/m2: 42 %
25-29 kg/m2: 31.7 %
≥ 30 kg/m2: 26.3 %
Never smoked: 58.4 %
Past smoker: 25.7 %
Current smoker: 26.3 %
Alcohol*: Non-drinker: 13.9 %
Rarely drinker: 26.9 %
Low-risk drinker: 52.2 %
Risky drinker: 7.0 %

Prospective cohort design.
Participants taken from The Australian
Longitudinal Study on Women’s Health
Study used women from 1946–1951 cohort
Group on tertiles of energy-adjusted total
dairy intake
Maximum follow-up of 15 years

Primary outcomes were self-reported physician-
diagnosed T2DM and CVD
Diet measured using validated 101-item FFQ and a 10-

point scale (ranging from never to ≥3 times/d), except for
milk (quantity of milk/d). Australian Food Composition
Database (NUTTAB95) was used to compute energy and
nutrient intakes
BMI, weight, and physical activity were self-reported
Models were adjusted for age, education, smoking status,
alcohol consumption, and physical activity level, BMI
dietary variables and total energy intake.
To minimize the possibility of reverse causality, ORs
were estimated, excluding women with self-reported
disease diagnosis within the first 3 y of follow-up

Women in the highest
tertile of energy-adjusted total dairy
intake were more likely to
have a lower BMI and to be higher
educated, a never smoker, classified as rarely drinker, and
physically active.

During follow-up, 701 cases of T2DM
were reported. Women in highest tertile
of yoghurt intake had lower odds of
developing T2DM (OR 0.81; 95% 0.67,
0.99, P_{trend}=0.041). Adjustment for diet
variables attenuated this relationship
(OR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.71, 1.08,
P_{trend}=0.21). Other categories (total
cheese, total fermented dairy intake,
total nonfermented dairy, and total
dairy) were not associated with T2DM
risk in fully adjusted models

Supplementary material

[T2DM: Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus; CVD: Cardiovascular Disease]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical activity</th>
<th>Participants: n 2916</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;600 MET min/wk</td>
<td>60.8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600-1199 MET min/wk</td>
<td>18.4 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥1200 MET min/wk</td>
<td>20.8 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BMI</th>
<th>Participants: n 2916</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;25 kg/m²</td>
<td>44.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29 kg/m²</td>
<td>32.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥ 30 kg/m²</td>
<td>22.6 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alcohol*</th>
<th>Participants: n 2916</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Non-drinker</td>
<td>11.9 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rarely drinker</td>
<td>25.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low-risk drinker</td>
<td>56.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Risky drinker</td>
<td>5.6 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Physical activity</th>
<th>Participants: n 2916</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;600 MET min/wk</td>
<td>55.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>600-1199 MET min/wk</td>
<td>21.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>≥1200 MET min/wk</td>
<td>24.0 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total dairy</th>
<th>T2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>281-395 g/d</td>
<td>1569 ± 528 kcal/d, total fat 34.5 ± 6.0 % total energy, SFA 13.6 ± 3.4 % total energy, MUFA 12.1 ± 2.3 % total energy, PUFA 5.6 ± 2.0 % total energy, protein 20.8 ± 3.2 % total energy, carbohydrate 45.4 ± 6.4 % total energy, starch 24.1 ± 4.6 % total energy, fibre 20.0 ± 8.0 % total energy, alcohol 10 ± 13 g/d, fruit 289 ± 179 g/d, vegetables 133 ± 59 g/d, whole-grain bread 35 ± 16 g/d, red meat 40 ± 36 g/d, processed meat 17 ± 16 g/d, fish 34 ± 37 g/d, sugar-sweetened beverages 0.5 ± 0.7 servings/d, coffee 1.4 ± 1.2 servings/d, tea 1.6 ± 1.2 servings/d</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total dairy</th>
<th>T3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>420-631 g/d</td>
<td>1555 ± 477 kcal/d, total fat 32.6 ± 6.1 % total energy, SFA 13.1 ± 3.7 % total energy, MUFA 11.3 ± 2.3 % total energy, PUFA 5.2 ± 2.1 % total energy, protein 21.7 ± 3.2 % total energy, carbohydrate 46.5 ± 6.0 % total energy, starch 22.8 ± 4.6 % total energy, fibre 20 ± 78 % total energy, alcohol 9 ± 13 g/d, fruit 293 ± 176 g/d, vegetables 130 ± 57 g/d, whole-grain bread 34 ± 16 g/d, red meat 34 ± 32 g/d, processed meat 15 ± 14 g/d, fish 32 ± 35 g/d, sugar-sweetened beverages 0.4 ± 0.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

835 cases of new CVD occurred during follow-up. Comparing highest vs. lowest tertiles, women with the highest intake of yoghurt and total fermented dairy had significantly lower risk of CVD compared (OR 0.84; 95% CI: 0.70, 1.00, P_trend=0.05, and OR 0.80; 95% CI: 0.67, 0.97, P_trend=0.017, respectively). Adjustment for other dietary variable and total energy attenuated this relationship for yoghurt and total fermented dairy (OR 0.87; 95% CI: 0.72,1.04, Ptrend=0.13, and OR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.69, 1.00, P_trend=0.048). No association was seen for total cheese, total nonfermented dairy, or total dairy.

**Summary**

In this prospective cohort study, higher intakes of total fermented dairy and lower risk of CVD. Dairy may also be a marker of a healthy diet, as women in this cohort who consumed that highest total dairy also had lowest prevalence of obesity, and consumed higher quantities of vegetables, and lower amounts of SFA, sugar-sweetened beverages, and processed meats.

Supplementary material

| Drinker* (≤14 drinks/wk), and “risky drinker” (≥15 to 28 drinks/wk) | servings/d, coffee 1.5 ± 1.2 servings/d, tea 1.7 ± 1.2 servings/d | Overview of systematic reviews and meta-analyses | Primary outcomes for CV events were cardiovascular outcomes were incidence and mortality of CVD, CHD, and stroke. Some studies reported risk of IHD, MI, HF, and ischaemic and haemorrhagic stroke. For RCTs and biomarkers of cardiometabolic risk, SBP, DBP, and plasma lipids (TC, LDL-C, HDL-C, and TAGs) were considered. The maximum number of cardiovascular events, including fatal and nonfatal outcomes, was 11,019 for CVD, 37,049 for CHD, and 39,352 for stroke. Total dairy products: Collectively, total dairy intake was not associated with CVD.

5 meta-analyses reported risk of CHD (total, incidence or mortality). Total dairy was neutral for CHD risk with similar results for high fat dairy. A significant lower risk was found for low-fat products (RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.82, 0.98).

1 meta-analysis indicated total dairy was associated with a lower risk of MI (RR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.66, 0.99).

4 meta-analyses considered a dose-response relationship between total dairy and CHD. 3 studies found no differences with an increase of 200 g/d. 1 study showed significantly reduced risk with increments of 300 and 600 g/d (RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.80, 0.96 and RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.79, 0.94, respectively).

7 meta-analyses reported the association between stroke and total dairy intake. 6 studies found a significant inverse association between total dairy intake and stroke. 5 meta-analyses reported the association between regular- and low-fat dairy and stroke. Both high fat and low fat dairy was inversely associated with stroke.

4 meta-analyses examined the link with total dairy intake and ischaemic stroke risk. 1 meta-analysis found a significant

Fontecha et al.[40]

| Potentially relevant records: 2940 | After duplicates: 2172 | Full texts assessed: 31 | Excluded 15 due to texts being narrative reviews or not reporting data for dairy products consumption | Articles in final overview of reviews for CVD events: 17 | Reports published between 2004-2017. | Sample size ranged from 2350 to 764,917 with participants followed for 5-83 years. | Age ranged from 8-103 years | 11 studies reported total dairy intake
9 on regular vs. low fat
2 fermented dairy information
9 studies on milk consumption
2 on high vs low fat milk consumption
2 on nonfermented milk consumption
1 on fermented milk consumption
Cheese, butter and cream considered in 9 studies
For updated meta analysis: 12 | Only systematic reviews and meta-analyses addressing the relation between dairy product consumption and cardiovascular outcomes were considered. Meta-analyses had to include longitudinal studies, written in English, and followed systematic review methodology. For RCTs on biomarkers, prospective, parallel and cross-over designs were eligible. Studies were required to provide a dietary supplement or specific diet containing dairy. Studies were excluded if a supplement could confound the effect of the milk or dairy product administered. | Followed Meta-analysis of Observational Studies in Epidemiology (MOOSE) and Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) guidelines for reporting of systematic reviews and meta-analyses. Bias assessed using AMSTAR 2. | 5 meta-analyses reported risk of CHD (total, incidence or mortality). Total dairy was neutral for CHD risk with similar results for high fat dairy. A significant lower risk was found for low-fat products (RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.82, 0.98).

1 meta-analysis indicated total dairy was associated with a lower risk of MI (RR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.66, 0.99).

4 meta-analyses considered a dose-response relationship between total dairy and CHD. 3 studies found no differences with an increase of 200 g/d. 1 study showed significantly reduced risk with increments of 300 and 600 g/d (RR 0.88; 95% CI: 0.80, 0.96 and RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.79, 0.94, respectively).

7 meta-analyses reported the association between stroke and total dairy intake. 6 studies found a significant inverse association between total dairy intake and stroke. 5 meta-analyses reported the association between regular- and low-fat dairy and stroke. Both high fat and low fat dairy was inversely associated with stroke.

4 meta-analyses examined the link with total dairy intake and ischaemic stroke risk. 1 meta-analysis found a significant | Supplementary material Heart doi: 10.1136/heartjnl-2019-315499–731.:724 106 2020;Heart, et al. Butler T
inverse association (RR 0.79; 95% CI: 0.68 – 0.91) with 3 reporting no association.

**Milk**
- 2 meta-analyses reported associations between milk and CVD incidence, with 1 showing a protective effect (RR 0.84; 95% CI: 0.78, 0.90).
- 2 meta-analyses showed no association between milk intake and increased CHD or IHD risk.
- 5 studies analysed fatal and non-fatal stroke in association with total milk intake. 1 reported a significant inverse relationship (RR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.77, 0.90) with 4 showing no association.
- Dose response analysis for milk was reported in 2 meta-analyses. Incremental intakes of 200 g/d were associated with lower CVD (RR 0.94; 95% CI: 0.89, 0.96) but no relationship was found with 244g/d increments, or increased milk intake and CHD incidence.
- 1 study suggested higher risk of haemorrhagic stroke for each 200 g/d increment of high-fat milk vs low-fat milk (RR 1.04; 95% CI: 1.02; 1.06).

**Cheese**
- 3 meta-analyses analysed the relationship between high vs. low cheese intake and CVD risk. One study suggested an inverse association (RR 0.90; 95% CI: 0.82, 0.99) and 2 showed no association. No associations were observed with either high- or low-fat cheese and CVD risk, or dose-responses of 10 g/d or 50 g/d.
- 2 studies showed a significantly reduced risk for CHD associated with increased cheese intake, and 2 showed
no association. There were no differences with either high- or low-fat cheese and associations (null) will CHD risk. Dose-responses for cheese intake of 50 g/d and 75 g/d were associated with lower CHD risk.

5 studies reported on the association between cheese intake and stroke. 4 studies showed a significant inverse association with stroke, and 1 showed no significant association. 1 dose response analysis of cheese intake and risk of stroke showed a significantly lower risk of stroke when cheese intake was increased by 50 g/d or 75 g/d (RR 0.86; 95% CI: 0.77, 0.99, and RR 0.92; 95% CI: 0.87, 0.97, respectively).

Yoghurt and Fermented products
2 meta-analyses reported on the association between yoghurt intake and CVD, showing no significant association. No significant association was also observed between yoghurt and CHD risk (3 meta-analyses), or risk of stroke (2 meta-analyses). Increments of 50 or 100 g/d were not associated with fatal and non-fatal CHD events.

1 study suggested consumption of fermented milk was significantly inversely associated with risk of stroke (RR 0.80; 95% CI: 0.71, 0.89), and an increment of 200 g/d of fermented dairy was associated with lower risk of CVD, but not CHD risk.

Butter and Cream
No significant association were found for butter and CVD (1 meta-analysis), CHD (2 meta-analyses), and stroke (4 meta-analyses).

Dairy Products and Cardiometabolic Biomarkers
Increased fermented dairy intake was associated with lower TC and LDL-C in
4 meta-analyses. 1 meta-analysis found no differences in LDL-C when comparing whole-fat dairy with low-fat dairy products.

8 studies examined the effect of dairy consumption on blood pressure. 6 reported a significant decreased in SBP and 5 reported a significant decreased in DBP.

In updated meta-analysis, no significant changes in TC (-0.06 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.19, 0.07 mmol/L), LDL-C (-0.06 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.16, 0.03 mmol/L) were seen relating to total dairy consumption. Heterogeneity was high for TC and LDL-C.

Dairy product consumption did not result in significant changes in SBP (-0.41 mmHg; 95% CI: -1.73, 0.91) or DBP (-0.77 mmHg; 95% CI: -1.81, 0.27). Heterogeneity was low for BP trials.

Summary
This is the most comprehensive study to date combining multiple systematic reviews and meta-analyses, multiple types of dairy, in addition to biomarkers and hard CV end-points. The main findings suggest that total dairy products (either regular or low-fat) have a null or slightly beneficial association with CV health (risk of CVD, CHD, or stroke). Thus advice to limit them based on their SFA content may not be beneficial, and more research is needed into fermented dairy.

Zhao et al.[41]

Potentially relevant records: 2768
Excluded 2515 due to unreported outcomes for diseases of interest or quantifying alcohol exposure
65 studies excluded for not being original.

Updated Meta-Analysis of Cohort Studies quantifying the association between alcohol consumption and CHD mortality.
Searched PubMed and EMBASE (March 2013).

Primary outcome was presence or absence of mortality from CHD. CHD defined as per ICD-10; I20–I25 as per WHO, 2010

Weighted RR estimates adjusted for between-study variation, abstainer group biases, mean age, sex of study population, alcohol measure accuracy ethnicity (mainly

Pooled 269 risk estimates showed a significantly higher risk among former drinkers (RR 1.25; 95% CI: 1.03, 1.51, P=0.0215) and a significantly lower risk among low-, medium- and high-volume drinkers (RR 0.80; 95% CI: 0.69, 0.93; 0.80; 95% CI: 0.69, 0.94; and 0.86; 95%
88 studies excluded due to the combining morbidity and mortality, no alcohol categories, restricted to sample with pre-existing conditions, duplicate/published in different journals.

87 studies excluded for meta-analysis of all-cause of mortality.

Articles in final meta-analysis: 45

45 unique studies selected included 269 estimates of the risk relationship between level of alcohol consumption and CHD mortality.

There were 2,913,140 subjects of all ages, ethnicity and medical conditions and 65,476 deaths available for the analysis

17 reported RR estimates for men and women separately, 21 for men only, 2 for women only, and 5 for both sexes combined.

Only 7 studies (53 risk estimates) were free from abstainer bias.

25 studies (132 risk estimates) had both former and occasional drinker bias, 8 studies (41 risk estimates) had only former drinker bias, and 5 studies (43 risk estimates) had only occasional drinker bias.

5 studies were conducted in Asian countries (3 in China, 2 in Japan) and 40 in countries with mainly White populations (22 in the United States, 18 in Australia or European countries).

Followed PRISMA guidelines followed for identifying relevant studies.

Inclusion criteria were:

Studies must be prospective in design
Published in English
Report mortality from CHD as an outcome
Minimum of three levels of alcohol consumption quantified for human subjects
Studies were excluded if they did not meet inclusion criteria

Participants grouped based on daily alcohol use in grams of ethanol assessed at baseline and compared with a reference group of variously defined “nondrinkers”:

Former drinkers now completely abstaining;
Current occasional drinkers: up to one drink per week (<1.30 g per day);
Current low-volume drinkers: up to two drinks or 1.30-24.99 g per day;
Current medium-volume drinkers: up to four drinks or 25-64.99 g per day;
Current high-volume drinkers: up to six drinks or 45-64.99 g per day;
Current higher volume drinkers: six drinks, 65 g, or more per day.

Studies were classified on the presence or absence of abstainer biases by whether abstainers included both occasional drinkers and former drinkers, abstainers included occasional drinkers only, abstainers included former drinkers only, and abstainers included neither occasional drinkers nor former drinkers.

Subgroups of studies were stratified by gender, mean age, and ethnicity and control for heart health in order to explore variation in the effects of alcohol use on CHD mortality according to different values of these variables.

White vs. not), control of heart health at baseline, socioeconomic status, and smoking status in individual studies.

Covariates included the presence of former and/or occasional drinker biases, mean age of cohort at baseline, gender of study participants, primarily White ethnicity of study population or not, alcohol measure accuracy, control of social status, smoking status, and indication of prior heart conditions

CI 0.73, 1.01, respectively) compared with abstainers

The mean estimates indicated significantly decreased risk of CHD mortality among male drinkers who drank 1.3–24.99 g/d (RR 0.86; 95% CI: 0.74, 0.99, P=0.0382) and 25-44.99 g/d (RR 0.84; 95% CI: 0.72, 0.97, P=0.162).

In women, those who drank 1.3–24.99 g/d or 25-44.99 g/d (RR 0.86; 95% CI: 0.72, 0.99, P=0.443). However, fully adjusted RRs were significantly higher among both male (RR 1.37; 95% CI: 1.32, 1.67, P=0.0026) and marginally higher among male occasional drinkers (RR 1.24; 95% CI: 1.00, 1.55, P=0.0526) but not for women.

Fully adjusted models for the studies with mean age older than age 55 years at baseline showed significantly increased RRs for former drinkers (RR 1.34; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.65, P=0.0078) and decreased RRs for low (RR 0.81; 95% CI: 0.69, 0.95, P=0.0080), medium (RR 0.77; 95% CI: 0.66, 0.90, P=0.0015) and all current drinkers (RR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.75, 0.92, P=0.0074).

In participants aged 19–55 years, compared to abstainers both former drinkers and occasional drinkers had a significantly increased risk of CHD mortality (RR 1.45; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.95, P=0.0136, and RR 1.44; 95% CI: 1.09, 1.89, P=0.101, respectively.

In studies that controlled for heart health at baseline (i.e. excluded participants with heart conditions) fully-adjusted models showed no significant associations between alcohol intake and
CHD mortality. The only significant association was observed comparing former drinkers vs. abstainers (RR 1.39; 95% CI: 1.03, 1.86, P=0.0295).

In studies that included all participants (i.e. did not control for heart health at baseline), compared with abstainers decreased RRs for current low volume (0.78; 95% CI: 0.68, 0.89, P=0.0005), medium volume (0.76; 95% CI: 0.66, 0.88, P=0.0002), high volume (0.84, 95% CI: 0.72, 0.99, P=0.0319), and all current drinkers (0.83, 95% CI: 0.76, 0.91, P=0.0041) were observed.

In studies that were regarded as higher quality (n=5; free from former drinker bias, controlled for smoking, had a mean age up to 60 years, followed up to a mean age of 55 years, and had adequate measures of alcohol exposures) comparing former drinkers vs. abstainers was the only category to show a positive association with risk of CHD mortality (RR 1.40; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.84, P=0.0186)

Fully adjusted models showed a significantly increased risk among former drinkers (RR 1.28) and decreased risk among low- (RR 0.81) and medium-volume drinkers (RR 0.83) compared with abstainers in the White populations. In Asian populations, the RR estimates were similar to the White populations but were not significant.

Summary
In this analysis of prospective cohort studies, CHD risk was significantly lower in individuals classed as low- and medium-volume drinkers, and did not suggest high intakes of alcohol were associated with increased risk. However alcohol intake was self-reported at 1 time point – not capturing changes during life – or
Participants taken from the Cohort of Swedish Men (COSM) and Swedish Mammography Cohort (SMC). Participants were categorised into eight groups according to their alcohol drinking status and number of drinks consumed per week: never (lifetime abstainers), former, current drinkers: occasional drinkers (<1 drinks/week), 1-6 drinks/week, 7-14 drinks/week, 15-21 drinks/week, 22-28 drinks/week and >21 drinks/week in women (the two highest categories were collapsed into one category (i.e. highest category >21 drinks/week)).

Primary outcomes were risk of MI and HF. Outcomes were determined from the Swedish National Patient Register and the Swedish Cause of Death Register. ICD-10 code I21 used to define MI and and I50 and I11.0 for HF.

Validated FFQs at baseline were given in 1997. Patients were followed up until December 2010. Average alcohol consumption in the past year prior to baseline was assessed with six questions on alcoholic beverages, including:

- class I beer (alcohol by volume, 2.25%),
- class II beer (2.8-3.5%),
- class III beer (>3.5%),
- wine (12%),
- strong wine (>18%), and
- liquor.

Weekly alcohol consumption was calculated by multiplying the frequency of consumption of each alcoholic beverage by the amount consumed per occasion. One drink was defined as 12 g alcohol (ethanol).

Covariates data on education, family history of MI, smoking, weight, height, physical activity, aspirin use, history of hypertension, hypercholesterolemia, and diabetes were identified using the baseline questionnaire, participants provided. Self-reported history of hypertension and diabetes was complemented with data on diagnosis of these diseases in the Swedish National Patient and Diabetes Registers. Data on atrial fibrillation were acquired from the Swedish National Patient Register.

Follow-up time from January 1, 1998 until the first of the following.

- Multivariable models were adjusted for age (as the time scale in all analyses), education, family history of myocardial infarction before 60 years of age; smoking; BMI; walking/bicycling; exercise; use of aspirin; and history of hypertension. Hypercholesterolemia; diabetes; and atrial fibrillation. The multivariable model was also compared with individuals consuming small (<1drink/wk) amounts of alcohol, heavy drinkers (>28 drinks/wk in men and >21 drinks/wk in women) were younger and less active, more likely to be current smokers, and have a family history of MI.

- In women, hypertension was more prevalent in never and former drinkers than in heavy drinkers.

During the 12 years of follow-up there were 3678 cases of MI in men and 1500 cases of MI in women. 1905 men and 1328 women were diagnosed with HF.

Alcohol consumption was statistically significantly inversely associated with risk of MI in both men and women (P for trend < 0.001). In multivariable analysis compared with <1 drink/wk men who consumed ≥28 drinks/wk had a lower risk of MI (HR 0.70; 95% CI: 0.58, 0.85). In women who consumed ≥15-21 drinks/week the HR was 0.32 (95% CI: 0.15, 0.67). In women, heavy intakes of alcohol (≥21 drinks/wk) attenuated the inverse relationship between alcohol and risk of MI.

Alcohol intake was not associated with incident HF in either men or women although heavy intakes were associated with increased risk in men (HR 1.45; 95% CI: 1.09, 1.93). This was not observed in women. In men the HRs for <1 drink/wk, 1-6 drinks/wk, 7-14 drinks/wk, 15-21 drinks/wk and 22-28 drinks/wk were 1.07 (95% CI: 0.91, 1.26), 1.12 (95% CI: 0.91, 1.37), 1.09 (95% CI: 0.88, 1.35), 1.07 (95% CI: 0.84, 1.35), and 0.95 (95% CI: 0.77, 1.16), respectively.

Risk estimates were based on small study populations (i.e. heavy drinkers in Asian populations). Because of additional confounding variables and this study is not able to support the concept that alcohol intake is cardioprotective.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alcohol Intake</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>BMI (kg/m²)</th>
<th>Postsecondary education (%)</th>
<th>Family history of MI (%)</th>
<th>Current smokers (%)</th>
<th>Walk/bicycle (min/day)</th>
<th>Exercise (h/week)</th>
<th>Aspirin use (tablets/week)</th>
<th>Hypertension (%)</th>
<th>Hypercholesterolemia (%)</th>
<th>Diabetes (%)</th>
<th>Atrial fibrillation (%)</th>
<th>mDASH diet score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;1 drink/wk</td>
<td>n 3572</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>20.9</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>25.5</td>
<td>15.1</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>20.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-6 drinks/wk</td>
<td>n 16,423</td>
<td>59.8</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>16.6</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>21.6</td>
<td>12.9</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-14 drinks/wk</td>
<td>n 10,001</td>
<td>57.7</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>19.8</td>
<td>14.2</td>
<td>25.4</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td>12.4</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>1.9</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

controlled for overall diet using a modified Dietary Approaches to Stop Hypertension diet score (mDASH diet score) ranges from 7 (minimal adherence) to 35 (maximal adherence).

CI: 0.94, 1.34; 0.92 (95% CI: 0.72, 1.17), and 1.12 (95% CI: 0.82, 1.55), respectively.

In women the HRs for <1 drink/wk, 1-6 drinks/wk, 7-14 drinks/wk and >21 drinks/wk were 0.93 (95% CI: 0.81, 1.06), 0.90 (95% CI: 0.70, 1.16), 0.62 (95% CI: 0.29, 1.31), and 0.73 (95% CI: 0.32, 1.63), respectively.

In men, risk of HF was higher in never and former drinkers (HR 1.24; 95% CI: 0.99, 1.54 and 1.40, 95% CI: 1.15, 1.71, respectively). The relationship was absent in women.

**Summary**

This study shows divergent associations between alcohol intake and risk of MI or HF. The difference between men and women's HF risk may be due to a small number of women who drank heavily, thus meaning lower statistical power. Similarly the intake of ethanol may have been inadequate to have an impact on BP. This is shown by the baseline data where the prevalence of hypertension is lower in the heavy drinking group than the light drinkers. Similar to other studies a limitation is that alcohol consumption was self-reported and measured at baseline only, and other types of CVD (or comorbidities) were not examined.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alcohol Consumption</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>BMI</th>
<th>Postsecondary Education</th>
<th>Family History of MI</th>
<th>Current Smokers</th>
<th>Walk/Bicycle 40 min/day</th>
<th>Exercise 2 h/week</th>
<th>Aspirin use 7 tablets/week</th>
<th>Hypertension</th>
<th>Hypercholesterolemia</th>
<th>Diabetes</th>
<th>Atrial Fibrillation</th>
<th>mDASH Diet Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-21 drinks/wk</td>
<td>n = 3586</td>
<td>56.7 years</td>
<td>25.9 kg/m²</td>
<td>20.1 %</td>
<td>14.6 %</td>
<td>30.1 %</td>
<td>32 %</td>
<td>57.8 %</td>
<td>6.6 %</td>
<td>21.6 %</td>
<td>13.4 %</td>
<td>6.6 %</td>
<td>2.1 %</td>
<td>20.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22-28 drinks/wk</td>
<td>n = 1332</td>
<td>56.4 years</td>
<td>26.1 kg/m²</td>
<td>20.4 %</td>
<td>14.6 %</td>
<td>34.3 %</td>
<td>32 %</td>
<td>58.4 %</td>
<td>6.6 %</td>
<td>22.8 %</td>
<td>15.3 %</td>
<td>6.4 %</td>
<td>2.2 %</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt;28 drinks/wk</td>
<td>n = 1475</td>
<td>56.5 years</td>
<td>26.2 kg/m²</td>
<td>17.6 %</td>
<td>16.5 %</td>
<td>42.5 %</td>
<td>30 %</td>
<td>6.9 %</td>
<td>6.6 %</td>
<td>22.8 %</td>
<td>14.9 %</td>
<td>6.7 %</td>
<td>2 %</td>
<td>20.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
<td>Data</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exercise = 2 h/week</td>
<td>53.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aspirin use = 7 tablets/week</td>
<td>7.9%</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>27.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypercholesterolemia</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrial fibrillation</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>mDASH diet score</td>
<td>19.9</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**SMC**

**Never Drinkers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants: n</th>
<th>4126</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>67.6 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>25.9 kg/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary education</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family history of MI</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smokers</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk/bicycle = 40 min/day</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise = 2 h/week</td>
<td>52.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirin use = 7 tablets/week</td>
<td>9.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypercholesterolemia</td>
<td>7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrial fibrillation</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mDASH diet score</td>
<td>22.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Former Drinkers**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants: n</th>
<th>908</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>62.3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>25.4 kg/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary education</td>
<td>14.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family history of MI</td>
<td>19.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smokers</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk/bicycle = 40 min/day</td>
<td>35.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise = 2 h/week</td>
<td>52.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirin use = 7 tablets/week</td>
<td>12.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension</td>
<td>26.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypercholesterolemia</td>
<td>7.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrial fibrillation</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mDASH diet score</td>
<td>21.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**<1 drink/week**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants: n</th>
<th>8076</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>63.2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI</td>
<td>25.4 kg/m²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postsecondary education</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family history of MI</td>
<td>17.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smokers</td>
<td>21.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumption Level</td>
<td>Participants: n</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>-----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-6 drinks/wk</td>
<td>16,382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7-14 drinks/wk</td>
<td>3,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-21 drinks/wk</td>
<td>609</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk/bicycle = 40 min/day: 37.2 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exercise = 2 h/week: 56.4 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirin use = 7 tablets/week: 7.2 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypertension: 16 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hypercholesterolemia: 7.8 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diabetes: 1.5 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrial fibrillation: 0.7 %</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mDASH diet score: 22.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

>21 drinks/wk
Participants: n = 293
Age: 58 years
BMI: 25 kg/m2
Postsecondary education: 29.4 %
Family history of MI: 17.8 %
Current smokers: 39.7 %
Walk/bicycle = 40 min/day: 31.6 %
Exercise = 2 h/week: 48.4 %
Aspirin use = 7 tablets/week: 10.2 %
Hypertension: 20.5 %
Hypercholesterolemia: 7.6 %
Diabetes: 5.5 %
Atrial fibrillation: 1.2 %
mDASH diet score: 21.7

O’Neill et al.[43]
Initially participant records 62,799. 19,277 participants were excluded due to attrition or having experienced a CHD event prior to the study baseline. 8390 participants were not included due to incomplete data linkage.
Total participants: n = 35,132
62.1% male
EPIC-N
Record count: 7462
Age: 68.3 ± 8.0 years
Male: 42.5 %
Non smoker: 50.3 %
Current smoker: 4.4 %
Ex-smoker: 43.9 %
Unknown: 1.4 %
BMI: 25.7 ± 3.6 kg/m2
High blood pressure: 29.2 %
Drinker type: Consistent non-drinker: 5.7 %
Meta-analysis of six cohort studies using individual participant data.
Participants taken from 5 British cohort studies: the European Prospective Investigation of Cancer, Norfolk Cohort (EPIC-N); the Medical Research Council’s National Survey of Health and Development 1946 (NSHD); West of Scotland Twenty-07: 1930s (T07-1930s); West of Scotland Twenty-07: 1950s (T07-1950s) and Whitehall II (WII) and an additional French cohort: Gaz et Electricité (GAZEL)
Participants grouped based on weekly alcohol intake:
Consistent non-drinker: 0 g at each wave of data collection;
Former drinker 0 g at last wave but intake >0 g at any earlier wave;
Consistently moderate Male: 1–168 g at each wave, Female: 1–112 g at each wave;
Primary outcome was CHD incidence, determined from linked health records and survey data. Secondary outcomes included CHD mortality.
CHD events included ICD-9: 410-414 and ICD-10: I20-I25. Non-fatal CHD events were identified using the Royal College of General Practitioners’ codebook (codes 1940, 1945 and 195
Survival time was calculated for all participants as time (in years) between the end of the alcohol assessment period and date of CHD event, death from non-CHD causes, study dropout or last date of data linkage (study specific), whichever occurred first.
Initial model accounting weekly alcohol intake and for age, sex and intake assessment interval, followed by an extended model that additionally included smoking status (no smoker, current smoker, ex-smoker, unknown) and socioeconomic status (high position, intermediate, low, unknown) covariates. Additional clinical data were obtained on BMI and self-reported high blood pressure or use of antihypertensive medication. All covariates
In pooled analysis, 4.9% of total participants experienced an incident (fatal or non-fatal) CHD event after a median follow-up of 12.6 ± 4.3 years
0.9% of participants died due to CHD (mean follow-up 13.7 ± 4.1 years).
With alcohol defined according to a single intake measurement (none, moderate, or heavy), there was no significance difference in risk of incident CHD between moderate and heavy consumers. Those identified as “none” had a significantly increased risk in comparison to those who drank within recommended amounts (HR 1.29; 95% CI: 1.11, 1.43)
In comparison to consistent moderate drinkers, consistent non-drinkers, former drinkers, and inconsistent moderate drinkers had an increased risk
### GAZEL

- **Record count:** 14,247
- **Age:** 57.4 ± 3.5 years
- **Male:** 74.1%
- **Non smoker:** 69.9%
- **Current smoker:** 26.9%
- **Ex-smoker:** 13.1%
- **BMI:** 25.8 ± 3.6 kg/m²
- **High blood pressure:** 26.9%
- **Drinker type:**
  - **Consistent non-drinker:** 5.6%
  - **Former drinker:** 9.4%
  - **Consistent moderate drinker:** 31.1%
  - **Inconsistent moderate drinker:** 18.8%
  - **Consistent heavy drinker:** 11.5%
  - **Inconsistent heavy drinker:** 9.7%
  - **Unknown:** 13.9%
- **Intake interval:** 12.9 ± 1.9

### NSHD (1946)

- **Record count:** 2979
- **Age:** 53.3 ± 1.1 years
- **Male:** 49.2%
- **Non smoker:** 25.7%
- **Current smoker:** 36.7%
- **Ex-smoker:** 35.8%
- **BMI:** 27.4 ± 4.8 kg/m²
- **High blood pressure:** 66.8%
- **Drinker type:**
  - **Consistent non-drinker:** 7.0%
  - **Former drinker:** 9.4%
  - **Consistent moderate drinker:** 19.8%
  - **Inconsistent moderate drinker:** 20.0%
  - **Consistent heavy drinker:** 3.1%
  - **Inconsistent heavy drinker:** 8.1%
  - **Unknown:** 32.5%
- **Intake interval:** 10.0 ± 0.1

Inconsistently moderate Male: 1–168 g for most but not all waves, Female: 1–112 g for most but not all waves; Consistently moderate Male: >168 g at each wave, Female: >112 g at each wave. Inconsistently heavy Male: >168 g for most but not all waves, Female: >112 g for most but not all waves. 

Age-stratified modelling of the longitudinal drinker typology was also performed between participants aged ≤55 vs >55 years at this study’s baseline to compare associations with the incident CHD outcome. 

A single one-off measure of alcohol intake was analyzed (none, moderate or heavy consumption) were assessed at the commencement of the follow-up period for all CHD during follow up, all CHD person years, fatal CHD during follow up, and fatal CHD person year.

- **Incident CHD (HR 1.47; 95% CI: 1.21, 1.78; 1.31; 95% CI: 1.13, 1.52; and 1.18; 95% CI: 1.02, 1.37, respectively). These relationships were attenuated when BMI and hypertension were included in the model.**

When analysed according to age (up to 55 years or above 55 years), consistent non-drinkers aged ≤55 years and former drinkers showed increased risk of CHD compared to consistent moderate drinkers (HR 1.97; 95% CI: 1.29, 3.02; HR 1.60; 95% CI: 1.09, 2.37, respectively).

In those aged >55, consistent non-drinkers, former drinkers, and inconsistent moderate drinkers all displayed increased risk of CHD (HR 1.38; 95% CI: 1.11, 1.71, HR 1.27; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.51, and HR 1.25; 95% CI 1.06, 1.48, respectively).

In men, former drinkers were at significantly greater risk of incident CHD compared to consistently moderate drinkers after maximal adjustment for confounding factors (HR 1.29; 95% CI: 1.06, 1.56).

In women, former drinkers (HR 1.38; 95% CI: 1.07, 1.78) and consistent non-drinkers (HR 1.91; 95% CI: 1.43, 2.55) showed increased risk compared to their consistently moderate intake counterparts.

With fatal CHD as the outcome, similar relationships were observed. Non-drinkers had a significantly increased risk of fatal CHD in comparison to moderate drinkers (HR 1.44; 95% CI: 1.08, 1.93). No association was observed for heavy drinkers.
In contrast to CHD incidence, inconsistent moderate drinkers did not have an increased risk of fatal CHD (HR 1.04; 95% CI: 0.72, 1.52). Only former drinkers displayed a significantly elevated risk (HR 1.54; 95% CI: 1.07, 2.22). The HR was similar for non-consistent and former drinkers (1.52 and 1.54, respectively). Increased risk was not observed in inconsistent moderate, heavy, or inconsistent heavy drinkers although CIs were large in the latter group.

Only women consistent non-drinkers displayed a significantly increased risk of fatal CHD (HR 2.62; 95% CI: 1.25, 5.49).

**Summary**

This meta-analysis suggests that risk of CHD is higher in those who either never consume alcohol or used to consume alcohol, in comparison to those with moderate consumption in line with Government recommendations. Those individuals who drank moderately, but were inconsistent, also had higher risk of CHD suggesting that this may relate to patterns of intake i.e. binge drinking. Collectively, these data show consistency is important. In his study drinking trajectories were based on volume and researchers were not able to examine the effects of heavy drinking episodes. For accurate determination of the role alcohol has in CVD/CHD risk, patterns of consumption, type, volume all should be considered.

This finding suggests that the absence of an effect in heavy drinkers should be interpreted with caution, given the known risk associated with large alcohol consumption and that the adherence for low alcohol could have
Leong et al.[44]

Initially participant records: 12,461

Individuals with a first MI: 14,637

Hospital controls: 58 %
Community controls: 36 %
Other: 3 % of controls (World Health Organization’s Monitoring of Trends and Determinants in Cardiovascular Disease-MONICA study and an undocumented source).

Excluded 54 controls and 266 cases due to missing records on alcohol consumption.

Analysis sample: 12,195 cases and 14,583 controls.

Cases:
Total participants: n 12,195
Age: 58 ± 12 years
Male: 76 %
Geographic region
Western Europe: 5 %
Eastern and Central Europe: 14 %
Middle East: 13 %
Africa: 4 %
South Asia: 14 %
China and Hong Kong: 25 %
Southeast Asia and Japan: 8 %

Non smoker: 38.7 %
Current smoker: 8.3 %
Ex-smoker: 31.4 %
Unknown: 21.6 %
BMI: 26.1 ± 3.9 kg/m²
High blood pressure: 17.2 %

Drinker type:
Consistent non-drinker: 5.9 %
Former drinker: 6.8 %
Consistent moderate drinker: 31.2 %
Inconsistent moderate drinker: 17.8 %
Consistent heavy drinker: 3.0 %
Inconsistent heavy drinker: 6.3 %
Unknown: 25.8 %
Intake interval: 11.2 ± 0.8

Alcohol consumption within the previous year was associated with a significantly lower risk of MI. The fully-adjusted OR was 0.87 (95% CI: 0.80, 0.94; P<0.001).

Subgroup analysis based on sex suggested a lower risk of MI in women (OR 0.73; 95% CI: 0.61, 0.78; P<0.001) but not men.

The protective association of alcohol against MI was greater in individuals ≥45 years of age. For those aged 45-65 years the OR was 0.85 (95% CI: 0.76, 0.95) and for those aged >65 years the OR was 0.87 (95% CI: 0.75, 1.01).

Alcohol use in European/North America/Australian/New Zealand populations was associated with a lower risk of MI (OR 0.71; 95% CI: 0.59, 0.85). In South Asian populations this was associated with increased risk (OR 1.4, 95% CI: 1.1, 1.8). Country-base analysis indicated respective ORs for Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Nepal, India, and Bangladesh of 1.4 (95% CI: 0.30, 6.6), 1.2 (95% CI: 0.61, 2.2), 0.85 (95% CI: 0.42, 1.7), 1.3 (95% CI: 0.80, 2.1), and 0.7 (95% CI: 0.30, 1.5).

Information on age, ethnicity, dietary patterns, physical activity, tobacco use, marital status, education, employment, psychosocial factors and cardiovascular risk factors was obtained. Height, weight, waist, and hip circumference were measured in a standardized manner. Serum TC, HDL-C, TAG, and ApoB and ApoA1 concentrations were measured in a core laboratory; low-density LDL-C concentration was calculated from these measurements. Smoking was classified as current, former (no smoking within the previous year), or never. Marital status was considered single, married/common-law partner, separated/divorced, and widowed. Participants’ highest level of education was categorised as less than grade 9, grades 9 to 12, or university/college/trade school.

Logistic regression was used to evaluate the relationship between MI and alcohol use to account for the paired recruitment of cases and controls within ±5 years of age of each other. The effect of alcohol exposure was adjusted for Dietary Risk score, exercise, smoking, marital status, employment, education level, depression, stress at work or at home, and financial stress

Analysis was stratified by geographic region, and the estimates for each region were meta-analysed.
### Models adjusted for age (categorized as <45, 45–65, and >65 years), sex, geographic region, dietary Risk score, exercise, smoking, marital status, employment, education level, depression, stress at work or at home, financial stress, body mass index, waist-to-hip ratio, serum ratio of ApoB to ApoA1; TC, HDL-C, LDL-C, and TAG concentrations, and history of hypertension or diabetes mellitus.

| Country/Region          | Percentage | Australia and New Zealand: 5 % South America and Mexico: 10 % North America: 2 % Consumed alcohol in previous year: 45 % Current smoker: 45 % N cigarettes smoked per day among ever smokers <20: 43 % ≥20: 57 % Diabetes mellitus: 18 % Hypertension: 39 % Daily fruit or vegetable consumption: 80 % Dietary Risk score: −4.1 ± 5.4 Undertakes leisure-time exercise: 15 % Home or work stress None: 25 % Some periods: 48 % Several periods: 19 % Permanent: 8 % Financial stress Little or none: 44 % Moderate: 41 % Severe: 15 % Depressed: 8 % Marital status Never: 3 % Married/common-law partner: 82 % Separated/divorced: 4 % Widowed: 11 % Education <Grade 9: 45 % Grade 9–12: 26 % >Grade 12: 29 % Employment Employed: 50 % Retired: 35 % Unemployed: 6 % Home duties: 9 % BMI: 26.1 ± 4.15 kg/m2 Waist-to-hip ratio: 0.93 ± 0.084 ApoB: 0.95 (0.78–1.1) mmol/L ApoA1: 1.1 (0.96–1.3) mmol/L ApoB/ApoA1 ratio: 0.86 (0.70–1.1) Total cholesterol: 5.2 (4.4–6.0) mmol/L |

### Summary

In this study moderate alcohol intake was inversely associated with risk of MI in most geographical locations studied, however alcohol intake was positively associated with risk of MI in South Asian populations. Small quantities of alcohol in the 24 hour period prior to MI did not appear to be associated with increase of MI. However heavy drinking was associated with increased risk.
**HDL-C:** 0.99 (0.82–1.2) mmol/L  
**LDL-C:** 3.3 (2.7–4.0) mmol/L  
**TAG:** 1.6 (1.1–2.3) mmol/L

**Controls**  
Total participants: \(n = 14,583\)  
Age: 57 ± 12 years  
Male: 74 %  
Geographic region  
- Western Europe: 5 %  
- Eastern and Central Europe: 13 %  
- Middle East: 12 %  
- Africa: 5 %  
- South Asia: 15 %  
- China and Hong Kong: 21 %  
- Australia and New Zealand: 8 %  
- Southeast Asia and Japan: 5 %  
- South America and Mexico: 13 %  
- North America: 3 %  
Consumed alcohol in previous year: 47 %  
Current smoker: 26 %  
- No cigarettes smoked per day among ever smokers  
- <20: 57 %  
- ≥20: 43 %  
Diabetes mellitus: 7 %  
Hypertension: 7 %  
Daily fruit or vegetable consumption: 85 %  
Dietary Risk score: -5.3 ± 5.4  
Undertakes leisure-time exercise: 23 %  
Home or work stress  
- None: 27 %  
- Some periods: 53 %  
- Several periods: 16 %  
- Permanent: 4 %  
Financial stress  
- Little or none: 49 %  
- Moderate: 39 %  
- Severe: 12 %  
- Depressed: 7 %  
Marital status  
- Never: 5 %  
- Married/common-law partner: 82 %  
- Separated/divorced: 4 %  
- Widowed: 9 %

especially in older individuals, and is supported by mechanistic work that shows increases in blood pressure and clotting following a heavy drinking episode.
### Education

- Grade 9: 38%
- Grade 9–12: 25%
- Grade 12: 37%

### Employment

- Employed: 55%
- Retired: 31%
- Unemployed: 5%
- Home duties: 9%

BMI: 25.8 ± 4.15 kg/m²
Waist-to-hip ratio: 0.91 ± 0.084
ApoB: 0.90 (0.76–1.11) mmol/L
ApoA1: 1.2 (1.0–1.4) mmol/L
ApoB/ApoA1 ratio: 0.75 (0.60–0.93)
TC: 5.1 (4.3–5.9) mmol/L
HDL-C: 1.0 (0.82–1.3) mmol/L
LDL-C: 3.1 (2.5–3.8) mmol/L
TAGs: 1.6 (1.1–2.4) mmol/L

#### Wood et al. [45]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total participants</td>
<td>n 599,912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total sample in analysis</td>
<td>83 studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>57 ± 9 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Baseline alcohol consumption was categorised into eight predefined groups according to the amount in grams consumed per week: >0 –≤25, >25–≤50, >50–≤75, >75–≤100, >100–≤150, >150–≤250, >250–≤350, and >350 g per week. Data were harmonised across the contributing studies using a conversion of 1 unit=8 g of pure alcohol to a standard scale of grams per week, enabling a common analytical approach despite variation in the methods used (e.g., self-administered vs interview-led questionnaires; food frequency questionnaires vs dietary recall surveys), and in consumption scales over different periods of ascertainment.

**Primary outcomes** was association between alcohol intake and all-cause mortality, total CVD, and specific CV subtypes (stroke, MI, CHD, HF and other CV deaths).

### Supplementary material

Data from three large-scale data sources: Emerging Risk Factors Collaboration (EFRC), EPIC-CVD, and the UK Biobank.

Baseline alcohol consumption was positively correlated with male sex, smoking status and amount, systolic blood pressure, HDL-C level, fibrinogen, and lower socioeconomic status with a median 96 g/week.

A positive, curvilinear association between alcohol intake and all-cause mortality was observed, with lowest risk in those consuming <100 g per week.

With all CVD outcomes as an outcome, a J-shaped relationship existed. However subgroup analysis suggested...
Weekly alcohol consumption: 87.7 (2.2–522.4) g/week
>0–≤25 g per week: 22 %
>25–≤50 g per week: 14 %
>50–≤75 g per week: 11 %
>75–≤100 g per week: 7 %
>100–≤150 g per week: 15 %
>150–≤250 g per week: 13 %
>250–≤350 g per week: 10 %
≤350 g per week: 10 %

EPIC-CVD
Assessment period: April 2018
Initial sample: 23 European centres from 10 countries involving 35,455 participants.
Sample excluded due to missing information available on drinking status, drinking amount, plus-age, sex, history of diabetes and smoking, baseline of CVD, 1 year of follow-up, non or ex-drinkers at baseline survey.
Analysis sample: 22 European centres from 9 countries
Total participants: n 26,036
Weekly alcohol consumption: 61.9 (2.6–404.0) g/week
>0–≤25 g per week: 30 %
>25–≤50 g per week: 14 %
>50–≤75 g per week: 11 %
>75–≤100 g per week: 9 %
>100–≤150 g per week: 10 %
>150–≤250 g per week: 12 %
>250–≤350 g per week: 7 %
≤350 g per week: 7 %

UK Biobank
Assessment period: May 2017
Initial sample: 502,627 participants.
Sample excluded due to missing information available on drinking status, drinking amount, plus-age, sex, history of diabetes and smoking, baseline of CVD, 1 year of follow-up, non or ex-drinkers at baseline survey.
Total participants: n 326,372
Weekly alcohol consumption: 103.9 (11.8–420.8) g/week
Cumulative survival from 40 years of age onwards in different categories of baseline alcohol consumption were also calculated. Results were modelled from age 40 years and enabled estimation of years of life lost between light drinkers (defined as those consuming >0–≤100 g/week of alcohol) and pre-defined groups of >100–≤200, >200–≤350, and >350 g per week.

different associations between alcohol intake and types of CVD.
The relationship between alcohol intake and all-cause mortality was greater in those who consumed more beer or spirits as opposed to wine, and in those drinking alcohol less frequently (i.e. binge drinkers). Similar observations were seen for CVD and subtypes, although to a lesser extent.
Compared with the 0-25 g/week, alcohol consumed had positive and linear associations with stroke (HR per 100 g/week higher consumption 1.14; 95% CI: 1.10, 1.17), coronary disease excluding MI (1.06; 95% CI: 1.00, 1.11), HF (1.09; 95% CI: 1.03, 1.15), fatal hypertensive disease (1.24; 95% CI: 1.15, 1.33), and fatal aortic aneurysm (1.15; 95% CI: 1.03, 1.28).
For MI there was an inverse log-linear relationship (0.94; 95% CI: 0.91, 0.97).
In comparison to those who reported drinking >0–≤100 g (mean usual 56 g) alcohol per week, those who reported drinking >100–≤200 g (mean usual 123 g) per week, >200–≤350 g (mean usual 208 g) per week or >350 g (mean usual 367 g) per week had shorter life expectancy at age 40 years of approximately 6 months, 1–2 years, or 4–5 years respectively.
Men who reported consuming above the UK upper limit of 112 g per week had a shorter life expectancy at age 40 years of 1.6 years (95% CI: 1.3, 1.8), compared with men who reported drinking below these respective upper limits. Thus, men who reported drinking less than 100 g alcohol per week had approximately a 1–2 years longer life expectancy at age 40 years than those who reported drinking 196 g per week.
Women who reported drinking above either the UK threshold (112 g per week) had approximately 1.3 (1.1, 1.5) years shorter life expectancy at age 40 years compared with women who reported drinking below these thresholds.

Summary
This study showed that among current drinkers, the threshold for lowest risk of all-cause mortality was approximately 100 g per week. No clear thresholds were found for CVD subtypes other than MI. Importantly this study suggests different relationships between alcohol and subtypes of CVD, in part mediated by changes in risk factors. For example, alcohol's known stimulatory effect on BP may explain the positive relationship between alcohol intake and stroke, but the HDL-C-raising effect may account for the inverse association with risk of MI. As with other studies of this type, results are limited by the nature of how alcohol intake was determined (self-reported) and the potential for reverse causality.

These data support adoption of lower limits of alcohol consumption than are recommended in most current guidelines.
Online Supplementary Table 3 Whole diet approaches to be considered for CVD prevention

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Participant characteristics</th>
<th>Study Design</th>
<th>Measures and time points</th>
<th>Key observations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Li et al.[46] | Total participants: n 4,398 2,258 from Nurses’ Health study (NHS) and 1,840 men from Health Professional Follow-Up study (HPFS) Included men and women who were free of CVD, stroke, or cancer at the time of enrolment, survived a first MI during follow-up, and had no history of stroke at the time of initial MI onset | Prospective cohort design Participants taken from Nurses’ Health Study the Health Professional Follow-Up Study | Primary outcomes were all-cause and CVD mortality. CVD mortality was defined as fatal CHD, and fatal stroke. Food intakes determined using validated FFQ every 4 years. Nutrient content was calculated from the FFQ using USDA National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference (v 10-23). Diet quality was measured using Alternative Healthy Eating Index 2010 (AHEI2010) For each 11 component of AHEI2010, a maximum score of 10 was given for: red meat and processed meat (< 1 servings/day), total fruits (> 4 servings/day), sugar-sweetened beverages and fruit juice (< 1 servings per month), total vegetables (> 5 servings/day), total fruit (> 4 servings/day), PUFA (> 10% energy), TFA (< 0.5% energy), alcohol (women:0.5–1.5 drinks/day, men:1.5–2.5 drinks/day), long-chain (n-3) fats (EPA+DHA), 250 mg/day), whole grains (women: 75 g/day, men: 90 g/day), sodium (lowest decile, mg/d). A minimum score of 0 was given for: red meat and processed meat (≥ 1 servings/day), nuts and legume (≥ 1 servings/day), sugar-sweetened beverages and fruit juice (≥ 1 servings per day), total vegetables (0 servings/day), total fruit (0 servings/day) | During follow-up, there were 882 all-cause and 336 CVD deaths for women, and 451 all-cause and 222 CV deaths for men. Median survival time after MI was 8.7 years for women and 9.0 years for men. In women, greater AHEI2010 was associated with significantly lower all-cause mortality (HR 0.66; 95% CI: 0.49, 0.88; P=trend=0.001). This was not observed in men (HR 0.96; 95% CI: 0.66, 1.44; P=trend=0.72). Pooled results suggested increased adherence to AHEI2010 was associated with lower all-cause mortality (HR 0.76; 95% CI: 0.60, 0.96; P=0.02), and cardiovascular mortality (pooled HR 0.60; 95% CI: 0.41, 0.86; P=0.006). Removal of alcohol did not significantly affect the relationship between Post-MI AHEI2010 and pooled all-cause mortality (HR 0.73; 95% CI: 0.58, 0.93; P=0.01). Removal of alcohol from the AHEI2010 attenuated the

| Participants: n 439 Age at diagnosis: 64.7 ± 8.7 years BMI: 27.2 ± 6.1 kg/m² Physical activity: 8.4 ± 15.6 MET h/wk Never smoked: 32% Past smoker:48% Current smoker: 20% Diabetes: 23% High blood pressure: 69% Lipid-lowering medication: 68% CABG Surgery: 52% | Women | Q3: AHEI2010 Post-MI: 53.6 ± 1.6 Pre-MI: 51.45 ± 8.5 1579 ± 520 kcal/d, SFA 9.1 ± 2.7 % total energy, omega 3 fats 0.7 ± 0.2 % total energy, TFA 1.4 ± 0.6 % total energy, alcohol 3.5 ± 7.4 g/d, folate intake 507 ± 268 µg/d, cereal fibre 6.1 ± 2.7 g/d, red and processed meats 1.9 ± 0.6 servings/d, nuts and legumes 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, fruit juice 1.0 ± 0.8 servings/d, sugar-sweetened beverages and fruit juice (< 1 servings per month), total vegetables (> 5 servings/day), total fruit (> 4 servings/day), PUFA (> 10% energy), TFA (< 0.5% energy), alcohol (women:0.5–1.5 drinks/day, men:1.5–2.5 drinks/day), long-chain (n-3) fats (EPA+DHA), 250 mg/day), whole grains (women: 75 g/day, men: 90 g/day), sodium (lowest decile, mg/d), A minimum score of 0 was given for: red meat and processed meat (≥ 1 servings/day), nuts and legume (≥ 1 servings/day), sugar-sweetened beverages and fruit juice (≥ 1 servings per day), total vegetables (0 servings/day), total fruit (0 servings/day) | During the post-MI period, MI survivors who were in the fifth quintile of the AHEI2010 had a better prognosis. A greater increase in the AHEI2010 score from pre- to post-MI was significantly associated with lower all-cause (pooled HR 0.71; 95% CI: 0.56, 0.91; P=0.006) and cardiovascular mortality (pooled HR 0.60; 95% CI: 0.41, 0.86; P=0.006) | 

| Participants: n 439 Age at diagnosis: 64.7 ± 8.6 years BMI: 27.0 ± 5.5 kg/m² Physical activity: 15.1 ± 20.3 MET h/wk Never smoked: 33% Past smoker: 55% Current smoker: 11% Diabetes: 22% High blood pressure: 68% Lipid-lowering medication: 77% | Q3: AHEI2010 Post-MI: 53.6 ± 1.6 Pre-MI: 51.45 ± 8.5 1579 ± 520 kcal/d, SFA 9.1 ± 2.7 % total energy, omega 3 fats 0.7 ± 0.2 % total energy, TFA 1.4 ± 0.6 % total energy, alcohol 3.5 ± 7.4 g/d, folate intake 507 ± 268 µg/d, cereal fibre 6.1 ± 2.7 g/d, red and processed meats 1.9 ± 0.6 servings/d, nuts and legumes 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, fruit juice 1.0 ± 0.8 servings/d, sugar-sweetened beverages and fruit juice (< 1 servings per month), total vegetables (> 5 servings/day), total fruit (> 4 servings/day), PUFA (> 10% energy), TFA (< 0.5% energy), alcohol (women:0.5–1.5 drinks/day, men:1.5–2.5 drinks/day), long-chain (n-3) fats (EPA+DHA), 250 mg/day), whole grains (women: 75 g/day, men: 90 g/day), sodium (lowest decile, mg/d), A minimum score of 0 was given for: red meat and processed meat (≥ 1 servings/day), nuts and legume (≥ 1 servings/day), sugar-sweetened beverages and fruit juice (≥ 1 servings per day), total vegetables (0 servings/day), total fruit (0 servings/day) | | |
CABG Surgery: 57 %

Q5
Participants: n 469
Age at diagnosis: 64.9 ± 8.6 years
BMI: 26.3 ± 4.9 kg/m2
Physical activity: 20.0 ± 21.9 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 28 %
Past smoker: 64 %
Current smoker: 8 %
Diabetes: 22 %
High blood pressure: 68 %
Elevated cholesterol: 78 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 56 %

CABG Surgery: 60 %

Q3
Participants: n 369
Age at diagnosis: 65.8 ± 9.2 years
BMI: 26.2 ± 3.8 kg/m2
Physical activity: 36.7 ± 50.4 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 37 %
Past smoker: 51 %
Current smoker: 4 %
Diabetes: 16 %
High blood pressure: 62 %
Elevated cholesterol: 63 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 52 %
CABG Surgery: 76 %

CABG Surgery: 57 %

Q5
Participants: n 469
Age at diagnosis: 64.9 ± 8.6 years
BMI: 26.3 ± 4.9 kg/m2
Physical activity: 20.0 ± 21.9 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 28 %
Past smoker: 64 %
Current smoker: 8 %
Diabetes: 22 %
High blood pressure: 68 %
Elevated cholesterol: 78 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 56 %

CABG Surgery: 60 %

Q3
Participants: n 369
Age at diagnosis: 65.8 ± 9.2 years
BMI: 26.2 ± 3.8 kg/m2
Physical activity: 36.7 ± 50.4 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 37 %
Past smoker: 51 %
Current smoker: 4 %
Diabetes: 16 %
High blood pressure: 62 %
Elevated cholesterol: 63 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 52 %
CABG Surgery: 76 %

CABG Surgery: 57 %

Q5
Participants: n 469
Age at diagnosis: 64.9 ± 8.6 years
BMI: 26.3 ± 4.9 kg/m2
Physical activity: 20.0 ± 21.9 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 28 %
Past smoker: 64 %
Current smoker: 8 %
Diabetes: 22 %
High blood pressure: 68 %
Elevated cholesterol: 78 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 56 %

CABG Surgery: 60 %

Q3
Participants: n 369
Age at diagnosis: 65.8 ± 9.2 years
BMI: 26.2 ± 3.8 kg/m2
Physical activity: 36.7 ± 50.4 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 37 %
Past smoker: 51 %
Current smoker: 4 %
Diabetes: 16 %
High blood pressure: 62 %
Elevated cholesterol: 63 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 52 %
CABG Surgery: 76 %

Men
Participants: n 364
Age at diagnosis: 65.8 ± 9.3 years
BMI: 26.3 ± 3.5 kg/m2
Physical activity: 26.6 ± 35.2 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 31 %
Past smoker: 52 %
Current smoker: 8 %
Diabetes: 14 %
High blood pressure: 57 %
Elevated cholesterol: 63 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 45 %
CABG Surgery: 72 %

Q2
Participants: n 369
Age at diagnosis: 65.8 ± 9.2 years
BMI: 26.2 ± 3.8 kg/m2
Physical activity: 36.7 ± 50.4 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 37 %
Past smoker: 51 %
Current smoker: 4 %
Diabetes: 16 %
High blood pressure: 62 %
Elevated cholesterol: 63 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 52 %
CABG Surgery: 76 %

Q5
servings/d, sugar-sweetened beverages 1.0 ± 1.1 servings/d, total vegetables 1.6 ± 1.0 servings/d, total fruits 1.6 ± 1.0 servings/d, fruit juice 0.8 ± 0.9 servings/d

Q5
AHEI2010 Post-MI: 70.2 ± 5.2 Pre-MI: 60.5 ± 10.7 1593 ± 498 kcal/d, SFA 7.9 ± 2.3 % total energy, omega 3 fats 0.9 ± 0.5 % total energy, TFA 1.1 ± 0.5 % total energy, alcohol 5.3 ± 6.8 g/d, folate intake 586 ± 310 µg/d, cereal fibre 7.2 ± 3.3 g/d, red and processed meats 0.8 ± 0.6 servings/d, nuts and legumes 0.7 ± 0.7 servings/d, sugar-sweetened beverages 0.6 ± 0.7 servings/d, total vegetables 2.2 ± 1.2 servings/d, total fruits 2.2 ± 1.2 servings/d, fruit juice 0.5 ± 0.6 servings/d

Men
Q1
AHEI2010 Post-MI: 41.9 ± 5.4 Pre-MI: 44.3 ± 8.6 2047 ± 670 kcal/d, SFA 10.3 ± 2.9 % total energy, omega 3 fats 0.6 ± 0.3 % total energy, TFA 1.9 ± 0.8 % total energy, alcohol 11.1 ± 18.1 g/d, folate intake 600 ± 339 µg/d, cereal fibre 6.7 ± 3.7 g/d, red and processed meats 1.7 ± 1.0 servings/d, nuts and legumes 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, sugar-sweetened beverages 1.7 ± 1.5 servings/d, total vegetables 1.2 ± 0.9 servings/d, total fruits 1.2 ± 0.9 servings/d, fruit juice 1.1 ± 1.1 servings/d

Q3
AHEI2010 Post-MI: 57.7 ± 1.6 Pre-MI: 52.2 ± 8.9 1933 ± 632 kcal/d, SFA 8.5 ± 2.7 % total energy, omega 3 fats 0.7 ± 0.4 % total energy, TFA 1.4 ± 0.6 % total energy, alcohol (women: 0 or > 2.5 drinks/day, men: 0 or > 3.5 drinks/day), long-chain (n-3) fats (EPA+DHA) 0 mg/d, whole grains (0 g/d), sodium (highest decile, mg/d).

Covariates considered medication use, medical history, and lifestyle factors previously associated with MI risk

Performed secondary analyses in which alcohol component was removed to evaluate the contribution of a healthy diet independent of alcohol intake.

Relationship between the change in score and all-cause and CV mortality (HR 0.81; 95% CI: 0.64, 1.04; P trend = 0.12 and HR 0.82; 95% CI: 0.57, 1.18; P trend = 0.28)

Collectively this study highlights that greater adherence to a cardioprotective diet was associated with a 24% lower all-cause and 26% lower CV mortality. Improving diet quality after a heart attack was also associated with lower all-cause and cardiovascular mortality.

The relationship with the change in score and all-cause and CV mortality was attenuated with the removal of alcohol, suggesting that alcohol intake was associated with lower all-cause and CV mortality.

The individuals in this study also had pre-existing CVD which adds to the relevance for practice.

Supplementary material

Participants: n = 362
Age at diagnosis: 66.0 ± 9.0 years
BMI: 25.3 ± 3.5 kg/m²
Physical activity: 41.2 ± 35.1 MET h/wk
Never smoked: 39 %
Past smoker: 47 %
Current smoker: 4 %
Diabetes: 12 %
High blood pressure: 50 %
Elevated cholesterol: 70 %
Lipid-lowering medication: 57 %
CABG Surgery: 79 %

Lopez-Garcia et al.[47]
Total participants: n = 17,415
11,278 from Nurses’ Health study (NHS) and 6137 men from Health Professional Follow-Up study (HPFS)
Included men and women with non-fatal CV event
Ethnicity not reported
SBP and DBP not reported
Plasma Glucose not reported

Men
Q1
Participants: n = 1586
Age: 68±9 years
BMI: 26.5±3.8 kg/m²
Current smoker: 9%
Physical activity: 27.3±33.8 MET hrs/wk
Aspirin: 55%
Diuretic: 12%
B-Blocker: 22%
Calcium Channel Blocker: 21%

Prospective cohort design
Participants taken from Nurses’ Health Study the Health Professional Follow-Up Study
Followed STROBE criteria for reporting data from observational studies
Participants grouped into quintiles of alternative Mediterranean Diet Score (aMED) score

Men
Q1
aMED Score 2.19 ± 0.83
SFA 10.3 ± 2.9% total energy, TFA 1.7 ± 0.7 % total energy, MUFA 11.6 ± 3.3 % total energy, PUFA 5 ± 1.7 % total energy, omega 3 0.14 ± 0.03 % total energy, vegetable protein 5.0 ± 1.1 % total energy, vegetables 1.9 ± 1.1 servings/d, legumes 0.3 ± 0.3

Primary endpoint was death from any cause, CVD mortality, and cancer mortality
Food intakes determined using validated FFQ every 4 years.
Nutrient content was calculated from the FFQ using USDA National Nutrient Database for Standard Reference (v 10-23)
CV events defined as MI, stroke, angina pectoris, CABG and angioplasty

In men, a higher aMED score was associated with a significant reduction in all-cause and cardiovascular mortality. This relationship was not observed in women (due to adjustment for physical activity).
In pooled estimates, greater aMED scores was associated with decreased all-cause mortality (P<0.001)
A 2-point increase in aMED was associated with a 7% reduction in risk of all-cause mortality (0.93; 95% CI: 0.89, 0.9)
### Table 1: Dietary Intake and Mediterranean Diet Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>BMI (kg/m²)</th>
<th>Physical Activity (METs/week)</th>
<th>Current Smoker (%)</th>
<th>Lipid Modifying Medication (%)</th>
<th>Other BP Medication (%)</th>
<th>Antihypertensive Medication (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q2</td>
<td>1342</td>
<td>69 ± 9</td>
<td>26.3 ± 3.6</td>
<td>31.8 ± 37.0</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q3</td>
<td>1032</td>
<td>68 ± 8</td>
<td>26.0 ± 3.5</td>
<td>31.8 ± 31.4</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>938</td>
<td>69 ± 9</td>
<td>26.1 ± 3.6</td>
<td>28.9 ± 32.1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Nutritional Intake

- **Servings/day:**
  - Fruit: 1.8 ± 1.1 servings/d
  - Nuts: 0.2 ± 0.3 servings/d
  - Whole grain: 0.9 ± 1.0 servings/d
  - Fish: 0.2 ± 0.2 servings/d
  - MUFA/SFA: 1.1 ± 0.2

- **Energy Intake (% of Total Energy):**
  - Total energy: 5.7 ± 1.7%
  - MUFA: 10.6 ± 3.3%
  - SFA: 8.0 ± 2.6%
  - TFA: 1.3 ± 0.5

- **Other Nutrients:**
  - Alcohol: 9.5 ± 14.3 g/d.
  - Omega 3: 0.17 ± 0.19%
  - Calcium: 22%

#### Mediterranean Diet Score

- **Q2:** aMED Score 3.77 ± 0.39
- **Q3:** aMED Score 4.85 ± 0.33
- **Q4:** aMED Score 5.70 ± 0.43

#### Summary

Collectively these data show an association between a reduction in mortality with increased adherence to a Mediterranean-style diet in men and women with a history of CVD. The lack of effect with individual components likely suggest a synergistic effect and reinforces previous discussions regarding diet components such as whole grains.

The individuals in this study also had pre-existing CVD which adds to the relevance for practice.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>n</th>
<th>Age (years)</th>
<th>BMI (kg/m²)</th>
<th>Current smoker (%)</th>
<th>Physical activity (MET hrs/wk)</th>
<th>Aspirin (%)</th>
<th>Diuretic (%)</th>
<th>B-Blocker (%)</th>
<th>Calcium Channel Blocker (%)</th>
<th>Other BP medication (%)</th>
<th>Lipid modifying medication (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Women</strong> Q1</td>
<td>2274</td>
<td>68 ± 9</td>
<td>26.9 ± 6.6</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>9.4 ± 14.4</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Q2</strong></td>
<td>1970</td>
<td>67 ± 9</td>
<td>26.7 ± 6.3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>11.0 ± 18.8</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Men** Q1
Participants: n 2274
Age: 68±9 years
BMI: 26.9 ± 6.6 kg/m²
Current smoker: 16%
Physical activity: 9.4 ± 14.4 MET hrs/wk
Aspirin: 65%
Diuretic: 14%
B-Blocker: 24%
Calcium Channel Blocker: 17%
ACEi: 11%
Other BP medication: 10%
Statin: 23%
Other lipid modifying medication: 4%
Insulin: 5%
Oral antidiabetic drugs: 6%

**Q2**
Participants: n 1970
Age: 67 ± 9 years
BMI: 26.7 ± 6.3 kg/m²
Current smoker: 14%
Physical activity: 11.0 ± 18.8 MET hrs/wk
Aspirin: 68%
Diuretic: 14%
B-Blocker: 26%
Calcium Channel Blocker: 19%
ACEi: 12%
Other BP medication: 8%
Statin: 26%
Other lipid modifying medication: 3%
Insulin: 5%
Oral antidiabetic drugs: 7%

**Results**
- BMI: 25.7 ± 3.5 kg/m²
- Current smoker: 9%
- Physical activity: 40.9 ± 38.1 MET hrs/wk
- Aspirin: 50%
- Diuretic: 6%
- B-Blocker: 19%
- Calcium Channel Blocker: 16%
- Other BP medication: 8%
- Lipid modifying medication: 25%

- Women Q1
  - BMI: 26.9 ± 6.6 kg/m²
  - Current smoker: 16%
  - Physical activity: 9.4 ± 14.4 MET hrs/wk
  - Aspirin: 65%
  - Diuretic: 14%
  - B-Blocker: 24%
  - Calcium Channel Blocker: 17%
  - ACEi: 11%
  - Other BP medication: 10%
  - Statin: 23%
  - Other lipid modifying medication: 4%
  - Insulin: 5%
  - Oral antidiabetic drugs: 6%

- Women Q2
  - BMI: 26.7 ± 6.3 kg/m²
  - Current smoker: 14%
  - Physical activity: 11.0 ± 18.8 MET hrs/wk
  - Aspirin: 68%
  - Diuretic: 14%
  - B-Blocker: 26%
  - Calcium Channel Blocker: 19%
  - ACEi: 12%
  - Other BP medication: 8%
  - Statin: 26%
  - Other lipid modifying medication: 3%
  - Insulin: 5%
  - Oral antidiabetic drugs: 7%

**aMED Score**
- Women Q1: 7.05 ± 0.79
- Men Q1: 2.19 ± 0.83
- Women Q2: 3.77 ± 0.39

- Women Q1
  - Total energy: SFA 11.5 ± 3.2%, TFA 1.9 ± 0.7%, MUFA 11.8 ± 3.3%, PUFA 5.4 ± 1.7%
  - Vegetables: 1.6 ± 0.9 servings/day
  - Legumes: 1.9 ± 3.3 servings/day
  - Alcohol: 3.6 ± 9.9 g/day

- Men Q1
  - Total energy: SFA 7.0 ± 2.0%, TFA 1.2 ± 0.5%, MUFA 5.8 ± 1.7%, PUFA 3.0 ± 0.9
  - Vegetables: 2.0 ± 1.2 servings/day
  - Alcohol: 10.4 ± 13.5 g/day

- Women Q2
  - Total energy: SFA 10.3 ± 3.2%, TFA 1.7 ± 0.7%, MUFA 11.5 ± 3.8%, PUFA 5.6 ± 1.8%
  - Vegetables: 2.1 ± 1.4 servings/day

**Supplementary material**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Participants: n 2103</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age: 67 ± 8 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI: 26.5 ± 6.3 kg/m²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker: 12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity: 13.4 ± 16.8 MET hrs/wk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirin: 67%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diuretic: 17%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-Blocker: 26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Channel Blocker: 21%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACEi: 12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other BP medication: 10%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statins: 26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other lipid modifying medication: 4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulin: 5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral antidiabetic drugs: 6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q4</td>
<td>Participants: n 1978</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age: 67 ± 8 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI: 26.6 ± 6.1 kg/m²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker: 8%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity: 14.1 ± 16.9 MET hrs/wk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirin: 71%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diuretic: 15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-Blocker: 26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Channel Blocker: 21%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACEi: 13%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other BP medication: 9%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statins: 26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other lipid modifying medication: 3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insulin: 5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral antidiabetic drugs: 6%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q5</td>
<td>Participants: n 2953</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age: 67 ± 8 years</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMI: 26.2 ± 5.7 kg/m²</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current smoker: 7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical activity: 18.8 ± 22.4 MET hrs/wk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aspirin: 72%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diuretic: 15%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-Blocker: 26%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium Channel Blocker: 21%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACEi: 12%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Nutritional Intake and aMED Score**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q3</th>
<th>Participants: n 2103</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serving intake:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legumes: 1.9 ± 3.1 servings/d, fish: 0.2 ± 0.4 servings/d, whole grain: 1.0 ± 1.3 servings/d, red meat and processed meat: 0.8 ± 0.7 servings/d, alcohol: 4.3 ± 9.9 g/d</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aMED Score: 4.85 ± 0.33</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFA: 9.7 ± 3.1% total energy, TFA: 1.6 ± 0.7% total energy, MUFA: 11.4 ± 3.9% total energy, PUFA: 5.6 ± 1.8% total energy, omega 3: 0.12 ± 0.13% total energy, vegetable protein: 5.6 ± 1.3% total energy, vegetables: 2.6 ± 1.3 servings/d, legumes: 2.0 ± 3.1 servings/d, fruit: 2.3 ± 1.4 servings/d, nuts: 0.3 ± 0.5 servings/d, whole grain: 1.3 ± 1.5 servings/d, fish: 0.2 ± 0.2 servings/d, MUFAs/FAs: 1.1 ± 0.3, red and processed meat: 0.8 ± 0.7 servings/d, alcohol: 4.3 ± 9.9 g/d</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q4</th>
<th>Participants: n 1978</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serving intake:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legumes: 1.9 ± 3.1 servings/d, fish: 0.2 ± 0.4 servings/d, whole grain: 1.0 ± 1.3 servings/d, fish: 0.2 ± 0.4 servings/d, MUFA:SFA: 1.1 ± 0.3, red and processed meat: 0.8 ± 0.7 servings/d, alcohol: 4.3 ± 9.9 g/d</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aMED Score: 5.70 ± 0.43</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFA: 9.0 ± 2.9% total energy, TFA: 1.5 ± 0.6% total energy, MUFA: 11.1 ± 3.6% total energy, PUFA: 5.7 ± 1.8% total energy, omega 3: 0.12 ± 0.13% total energy, vegetable protein: 5.6 ± 1.3% total energy, vegetables: 3.1 ± 1.7 servings/d, legumes: 2.1 ± 3.2 servings/d, fish: 2.6 ± 1.5 servings/d, nuts: 0.4 ± 0.5 servings/d, whole grain: 1.5 ± 1.5 servings/d, fish: 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, MUFA:SFA: 1.2 ± 0.3, red and processed meat: 0.7 ± 0.6 servings/d, alcohol: 4.0 ± 8.1 g/d</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q5</th>
<th>Participants: n 2953</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serving intake:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legumes: 1.9 ± 3.1 servings/d, fish: 0.2 ± 0.4 servings/d, whole grain: 1.0 ± 1.3 servings/d, fish: 0.2 ± 0.4 servings/d, MUFA:SFA: 1.1 ± 0.3, red and processed meat: 0.8 ± 0.7 servings/d, alcohol: 4.3 ± 9.9 g/d</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aMED Score: 7.05 ± 0.79</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SFA: 8.0 ± 2.4% total energy, TFA: 1.3 ± 0.6% total energy, MUFA: 11.0 ± 3.5% total energy, PUFA: 6.0 ± 1.8% total energy, omega 3: 0.18 ± 0.17% total energy, vegetable protein: 6.4 ± 1.5% total energy, vegetables: 4.2 ± 1.9 servings/d, legumes: 2.0 ± 3.2 servings/day, fish: 0.2 ± 0.4 servings/day, MUFA:SFA: 1.1 ± 0.3, red and processed meat: 0.8 ± 0.7 servings/day, alcohol: 4.3 ± 9.9 g/day</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other BP medication: 9%</th>
<th>Statins: 29%</th>
<th>Other lipid modifying medication: 4%</th>
<th>Insulin: 3%</th>
<th>Oral antidiabetic drugs: 5%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>servings/d, legumes 2.2 ± 3.2 servings/day, fruit 3.3 ± 1.6 servings/d, nuts 0.5 ± 0.6 servings/d, whole grain 2.1 ± 1.7 servings/d, fish 0.4 ± 0.3 servings/d, MUFA:SFA 1.4 ± 0.4, red and processed meat 0.6 ± 0.6 servings/d, alcohol 4.9 ± 8.0 g/d.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Martínez-González et al.[48]

Articles in final meta-analysis: 27

Total number of participants in analysis: 271,479

Exposure to MedDiet assessed using range of screening tools

Cumulative MA of observational studies (prospective cohort and clinical trials)

Articles sourced from PubMed, Embase, Google Scholar, and Web of Science till May 2017

Inclusion criteria were:

- Studies must be clinical trial or prospective cohort studies, original articles, primary prevention of mortality or incidence of CVD through the MedDiet, exposure must be adherence to MedDiet, and outcome was mortality from CVD or incidence of CV events (defined as CHD or stroke)

- Excluded studies that did not meet inclusion criteria, those which did not consider adherence to MedDiet on CV incidence or mortality from CVD.

- Computed a relative risk with 95% confidence interval for an increase of two points in adherence to the MedDiet

- No comments on assessment of study quality or publication bias

Primary outcomes CVD mortality or incidence of CV events

Follow-up ranged from 4.8-17.3 years.

Each 2-point increment in a 0-9 MedDiet was associated with an 11% reduction in CVD risk (RR 0.89; 95% CI: 0.86, 0.91).

Lyon Heart Study and PREDIMED accounted for 0.62% and 1.32% of total evidence

Summary

Data form prospective cohort studies and clinical trials suggest that increased adherence to a Mediterranean diet is associated with reduced CV mortality or incidence of CVD. The study does not include the updated PREDIMED study published in 2018. This would not change the outcomes of this review

Chiavaroli et al.[49]

Potentially relevant records: 125

After duplicates: 77

Excluded 60 due to not being systematic review and meta analysis, or did not assess effect of DASH on CV outcomes

Full-texts assessed for eligibility: 14

Excluded 10 due to not being most recent systematic review and meta analysis, no pairwise meta-analysis performed, no cardiometabolic outcomes reported

Umbrella review of systematic reviews and meta analyses examining the DASH diet and cardiometabolic outcomes.

Articles sourced from Medline and Embase (inception to January 3 2019).

Quality of evidence was assessed using GRADE and reporting of evidence following Preferred Reporting Items for

Primary outcome was incident CVD in prospective cohort studies and SBP in trials. Secondary outcomes included incident CHD, stroke, and diabetes in prospective cohort studies. Secondary outcomes in controlled trials included DBP, blood lipids, glycaemic control, insulin, adiposity, and inflammation

1 meta analysis of prospective studies assessed the relationship between DASH diet and CVD incidence (including 783,732 participants with 32,927 events). Consumption of the DASH diet was associated with a 20% reduction in CVD incidence (RR 0.80; 95% CI: 0.76, 0.85).

1 meta analysis of prospective studies assessed the relationship between
Articles in final meta-analysis: 7
3 systemic reviews and meta analyses of prospective cohort studies
4 systematic review and meta analyses of RCTs
Total number of participants from prospective cohort studies: 942,140
Total number of participants from RCTs: 4414
Of systematic review and meta analyses of prospective cohort studies, 1 included composite CVD outcomes, 1 included diabetes incidence, 1 included overall mortality
Of systematic review and meta analyses of RCTs, 0 included HbA1c; 2 included glycaemic control, 1 included blood pressure, 1 included lipid parameters, 1 included body weight and adiposity, and 1 included inflammation

Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA)
Study bias assessed using Cochrane ‘Risk of Bias’ tool or New Castle Ottawa score.

DASH diet and CHD incidence (including 144,337 participants with 7260 events). Consumption of the DASH diet was associated with a 21% reduction in CVD incidence (RR 0.79; 95% CI: 0.71, 0.88).

1 meta analysis of prospective studies assessed the relationship between DASH diet and Stroke incidence (including 150,191 participants with 4413 events). Consumption of the DASH diet was associated with a 19% reduction in CVD incidence (RR 0.81; 95% CI: 0.72, 0.92).

1 meta analysis of prospective studies assessed the relationship between DASH diet and diabetes incidence (including 158,408 participants with 23,612 events). Consumption of the DASH diet was associated with a 18% reduction in CVD incidence (RR 0.82; 95% CI: 0.74, 0.92). although significant heterogeneity was noted between studies

1 meta analysis of RCTs assessed the effect of the DASH diet on BP outcomes (including 1918 participants). DASH diet reduced SBP (MD -5.20 mmHg; 95% CI: -7.00, -3.40 mmHg) and DBP (MD -2.60 mmHg; 95% CI: -3.50, -1.70 mmHg). There was large heterogeneity in outcomes.

1 meta analysis of RCTs studies assessed the effect of the DASH diet on lipid outcomes. DASH diet reduced TC (1673 participants, MD -0.20 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.31, -0.10 mmol/L), LDL-C (1673 participants, MD -0.10 mmol/L; 95% CI: -0.20, -0.01 mmol/L). There was no effect on HDL-C or TAG. Large heterogeneity in studies noted.
2 RCTs showed DASH diet reduced HbA1c (654 participants, MD -0.53% (95% CI: -0.62, -0.43%)).

1 meta analysis of RCTs studies assessed the effect of the DASH diet on glucose outcomes (blood glucose, insulin, and HOMA-IR). DASH diet reduced insulin (760 participants, MD -0.15 μU/mL; 95% CI: -0.22 to -0.08 μU/mL). There was no effect seen on blood glucose of HOMA-IR.

1 meta analysis of RCTs studies assessed the effect of the DASH diet on body weight. DASH diet reduced body weight (1211 participants, MD -1.42 kg; 95% CI: -2.03, -0.82 kg).

1 meta analysis of RCTs studies assessed the effect of the DASH diet on CRP. No effect was seen but subgroup analysis showed an effect when compared to unhealthy or usual diets (MD -9.62 nmol/L; 95% CI: -15.62, -3.62 nmol/L) or when follow-up was ≥8 weeks.

Summary
This study shows that adoption of the DASH diet is associated with reduced incident stroke, CVD, and CHD. The DASH diet shows modest effects on CV risk factors such as cholesterol, insulin, and inflammation. DASH is high in fruits and vegetables, whole grains, fish and poultry, and limiting fatty meats, and SSBs.

Kim et al.[50]

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<tr>
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Prospective cohort study and meta-analysis
Participants taken from the Atherosclerosis Risk in Communities (ARIC) study.
Established 4, plant-based diet scores (plant-based diet index [PDI], healthy plant-based diet index [hPDI], less healthy [unhealthy] plant-based diet

Primary outcome was all-cause mortality (defined as deaths attributable to any cause), CV mortality, and incident CV disease (defined as composite outcome of CHD, stroke, and HF)

Diet data collected using a 66-item semi-quantitative

2 RCTs showed DASH diet reduced HbA1c (654 participants, MD -0.53% (95% CI: -0.62, -0.43%)).

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Diet data collected using a 66-item semi-quantitative

Median follow-up of 25 years, there were 1565 deaths from CVD and 5436 deaths from all-causes.
Those in highest quintiles of PDI, hPDI, and pro-vegetarian index were more likely to be women, white, more physically active, less likely to be obese, have diabetes or hypertension.
BMI 25-30kg/m²: 22.6%
BMI ≥30kg/m²: 27.5%
Current smoker: 33.8%
Activity index: 2.3±0.7
High blood pressure: 36.5%
Diabetes: 11.5%
Fasting glucose: 6.1±2.4 mmol/L
Lipid-lowering medication: 1.2%
eGFR: 105.2±16.4 mL/min/1.73m²
Ethnicity: 43.2% Black

**Participants:**

**Q1:**
- Participants: n 2864
- Age: 53.7±5.6 years
- Women: 61.5%
- BMI <25kg/m²: 16.9%
- BMI 25-30kg/m²: 17.2%
- BMI ≥30kg/m²: 17.2%
- eGFR: 102.9±14.9 mL/min/1.73m²
- Lipid-lowering medication: 2.5%
- Fasting glucose: 6.0±2.1 mmol/L
- Diabetes: 15.0%
- High blood pressure: 31.2%
- Activity index: 2.4±0.8
- Current smoker: 23.2%
- BMI ≥30kg/m²: 18.4%
- BMI 25-30kg/m²: 18.9%
- BMI <25kg/m²: 18.9%
- Women: 60%
- Age: 53.7±5.6 years
- eGFR: 103.3±15.8 mL/min/1.73m²
- Lipid-lowering medication: 1.3%
- Fasting glucose: 6.1±2.4 mmol/L
- Diabetes: 11.4%
- High blood pressure: 32.3%
- Current smoker: 27.8%
- BMI ≥30kg/m²: 24.7%
- BMI 25-30kg/m²: 24.4%
- BMI <25kg/m²: 21.7%
- Women: 60%
- Age: 53.7±5.6 years
- Ethnicity: 31.3% Black
- eGFR: 105.2±16.4 mL/min/1.73m²
- Lipid-lowering medication: 1.2%
- Fasting glucose: 6.1±2.4 mmol/L
- Diabetes: 11.5%
- High blood pressure: 36.5%
- Current smoker: 33.8%

In fully adjusted models, compared with Q1 the highest quintile of PDI was associated with a 16% lower risk of incident CVD (HR 0.84; 95% CI: 0.76, 0.94; P<0.001), a 31% lower risk of CVD mortality (HR 0.69; 95% CI: 0.58, 0.81; P<0.001), and a 24% lower risk of all-cause mortality (HR 0.76; 95% CI: 0.69, 0.83; P<0.001)

In fully adjusted models, compared with Q1 the highest quintile of hPDI was associated with a 15% lower risk of incident CVD (HR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.77, 0.94; P=0.03), a 9% lower risk of all-cause mortality (HR 0.91; 95% CI: 0.83, 1.00; P=0.03)

In fully adjusted models, compared with Q1 the highest quintile of uPDI was associated with a 15% lower risk of incident CVD (HR 0.83; 95% CI: 0.77, 0.94; P=0.03), a 24% lower risk of all-cause mortality (HR 0.69; 95% CI: 0.58, 0.81; P<0.001), and a 18% lower risk of all-

index (uPDI), and pro-vegetarian diet index, hPDI included whole grains, fruits, vegetables, nuts, legumes, tea, and coffee. uPDI included fruit juices, refined grain, potatoes, sugar-sweetened beverages, sweets, and desserts.

Higher PDI scores represented higher intakes of healthy and less healthy plant foods. Higher hPDI scores represented higher intakes of healthy plant foods, and lower intakes of less-healthy plant foods. Higher uPDI scores represented higher intakes of less healthy plant foods, and lower intakes of healthy plant foods. Higher pro-vegetarian diet scores represented higher intakes of plant foods (regardless of healthfulness). Higher scores of all four scores represented lower intakes of animal foods.
**Characteristics based on Pro-vegetarian index score**

| Q1 | Participants: n 2970 | Age: 53.4±5.7 years | Women: 46.5% | BMI <25kg/m²: 21.8% | BMI 25-30kg/m²: 24.3% | BMI ≥30kg/m²: 28.9% | Current smoker: 32.9% | Activity index: 2.3±0.8 | High blood pressure: 34.1% | Diabetes: 10.4% | Fasting glucose: 5.7±1.6 mmol/L | Lipid-lowering medication: 3.8% | eGFR: 101.9±13.2 mL/min/1.73m² | Ethnicity: 12.9% Black | Unhealthy Healthy Plant Food: 7.0±2.9 servings/d | 1548 ± 537 kcal/d, carbohydrates 50.0 ± 7.4% total energy, total fat 32.0 ± 5.7% total energy, SFA 11.5 ± 2.3% total energy, MUFA 12.4 ± 2.5% total energy, PUFA 4.9 ± 1.2% total energy, plant protein 4.6 ± 0.9% total energy, fibre 11.4 ± 3.3 g/1000 kcal, animal foods: 4.0 ± 1.8 servings/d, fruits and vegetables 3.1 ± 1.7 servings/d, red and processed meats 1.0 ± 0.7 servings/d, dairy 1.5 ± 1.1 servings/d, fish or seafood 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, margarine 1.0 ± 0.9 servings/d, alcohol 36.4 ± 80.7 g/wk |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Q2 | Participants: n 2687 | Age: 53.7±5.7 years | Women: 55.5% | BMI <25kg/m²: 24.3% | BMI 25-30kg/m²: 28.9% | BMI ≥30kg/m²: 28.9% | Current smoker: 32.9% | Activity index: 2.6±0.8 | High blood pressure: 32.9% | Diabetes: 10.4% | Fasting glucose: 5.7±1.6 mmol/L | Lipid-lowering medication: 3.8% | eGFR: 101.9±13.2 mL/min/1.73m² | Ethnicity: 12.9% Black | Unhealthy Healthy Plant Food: 7.7±2.8 servings/d | 1573 ± 524 kcal/d, carbohydrates 52.1 ± 7.2% total energy, total fat 30.7 ± 5.9% total energy, total energy, SFA 10.9 ± 2.3% total energy | 1569 ± 555 kcal/d, carbohydrates 47.4 ± 7.8% total energy, total fat 33.3 ± 5.7% total energy, SFA 12.2 ± 2.4% total energy, MUFA 13.0 ± 2.6% total energy, PUFA 4.9 ± 1.2% total energy, total protein 18.5 ± 3.9% total energy, animal protein 14.4 ± 3.8% total energy, plant protein 4.2 ± 0.9% total energy, fibre 10.1 ± 3.0 g/1000 kcal, animal foods: 4.5 ± 2.0 servings/d, fruits and vegetables 2.8 ± 1.7 servings/d, red and processed meats 1.2 ± 0.7 servings/d, dairy 1.6 ± 1.2 servings/d, fish or seafood 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, margarine 1.0 ± 0.9 servings/d, alcohol 45.2 ± 95.2 g/wk |

**Summary**

Overall this study shows that a healthy-plant based diets conveys a modest reduction in CV incidence, mortality, and all-cause mortality. A poorly constructed plant-based diet containing refined grains, fruit juices and increased sweets and desserts is not associated with any benefit to CV health, although in this study it was not associated with increased risk. This may be due to the scoring of potatoes and how they are consumed.
BMI <25kg/m²: 19.8%
BMI 25-30kg/m²: 23.1%
BMI ≥30kg/m²: 24.2%
Current smoker: 27.3%
Activity index: 2.4±0.8
High blood pressure: 31.4%
Diabetes: 11.6%
Fasting glucose: 6.1±2.4 mmol/L
Lipid-lowering medication: 1.7%
eGFR: 103.7±15.5 mL/min/1.73m²
Ethnicity: 31.7% Black

Q3
Participants: n 1911
Age: 53.6±5.7 years
Women: 59.2%
BMI <25kg/m²: 15.4%
BMI 25-30kg/m²: 16.1%
BMI ≥30kg/m²: 15.4%
Current smoker: 24.0%
Activity index: 2.4±0.8
High blood pressure: 31.4%
Diabetes: 10.2%
Fasting glucose: 5.9±2.0 mmol/L
eGFR: 103.3±15.3 mL/min/1.73m²
Ethnicity: 27.9% Black

Q4
Participants: n 2266
Age: 54.0±5.7 years
Women: 59.5%
BMI <25kg/m²: 20.3%
BMI 25-30kg/m²: 18.3%
BMI ≥30kg/m²: 16.5%
Current smoker: 22.8%
Activity index: 2.5±0.8
High blood pressure: 31.4%
Diabetes: 9.8%
Fasting glucose: 5.9±1.8 mmol/L
Lipid-lowering medication: 2.9%
eGFR: 102.5±14.3 mL/min/1.73m²
Ethnicity: 21.5% Black

Q5
Participants: n 2334
Age: 54.6±5.8 years
Women: 58.4%
BMI <25kg/m²: 20.3%
BMI 25-30kg/m²: 18.3%
BMI ≥30kg/m²: 16.5%
Current smoker: 22.8%
Activity index: 2.5±0.8
High blood pressure: 31.4%
Diabetes: 10.2%
Fasting glucose: 5.9±2.0 mmol/L
Lipid-lowering medication: 2.9%
eGFR: 102.5±14.3 mL/min/1.73m²
Ethnicity: 21.5% Black

energy, MUFA 11.9 ± 2.7 % total energy, PUFA 4.9 ± 1.2 % total energy, total protein 13.0 ± 3.4 % total energy, plant protein 4.9 ± 1.0 % total energy, fibre 12.3 ± 3.4 g/1000 kcal, animal foods: 3.8 ± 1.7 servings/d, fruits and vegetables 3.5 ± 1.7 servings/d, red and processed meats: 0.9 ± 0.6 servings/d, dairy 1.5 ± 1.1 servings/d, fish or seafood 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, margarine 1.1 ± 1.0 servings/d, alcohol 32.4 ± 66.3 g/wk

Q5
PDI Score (median): 59 (57–74)
Healthy Plant Food: 9.0±3.0 servings/d
Unhealthy Healthy Plant Food: 6.0±2.6 servings/d
1698 ± 521 kcal/d, carbohydrates 54.6 ± 7.2% total energy, total fat 29.8 ± 5.6 % total energy, SFA 10.3 ± 2.3 % total energy, MUFA 11.5 ± 2.6 % total energy, PUFA 5.0 ± 1.2 % total energy, total protein 17.0 ± 3.1 % total energy, animal protein 11.6 ± 3.2 % total energy, plant protein 5.3 ± 1.1 % total energy, fibre 13.4 ± 3.5 g/1000 kcal, animal foods: 3.6 ± 1.8 servings/d, fruits and vegetables 4.1 ± 1.9 servings/d, red and processed meats: 0.8 ± 0.7 servings/d, dairy 1.5 ± 1.0 servings/d, fish or seafood 0.3 ± 0.2 servings/d, margarine 1.1 ± 0.9 servings/d, alcohol 28.6 ± 59.4 g/wk

Pro-vegetarian diet index score
Q1
Pro-vegetarian diet index score (median + range): 27 (15-29)
Healthy Plant Food: 5.5±2.7 servings/d
Unhealthy Healthy Plant Food: 4.7±2.3 servings/d
1618 ± 585 kcal/d, carbohydrates 44.3 ± 8.1 % total energy, total fat 35.2 ± 5.8 % total energy, SFA 13.2 ± 2.6 % total energy, MUFA 13.8 ± 2.5 % total energy, PUFA 4.8 ± 1.1 % total energy

in different populations (boiled/baked vs. chips).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total protein</th>
<th>Animal protein</th>
<th>Plant protein</th>
<th>Fat</th>
<th>Carbohydrates</th>
<th>Fibre</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18.7 ± 4.0 %</td>
<td>15.2 ± 4.0 %</td>
<td>4.2 ± 0.8 %</td>
<td>33.3 ± 5.7 %</td>
<td>47.7 ± 7.9 %</td>
<td>10.0 ± 2.7 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For the second question (Q2): Pro-vegetarian diet index score (median +range): 31 (30/32)
Healthy Plant Food: 6.3 ± 2.8 servings/d
Unhealthy Healthy Plant Food: 4.8 ± 2.4 servings/d

For the third question (Q3): Pro-vegetarian diet index score (median +range): 33 (33-34)
Healthy Plant Food: 6.9 ± 2.8 servings/d
Unhealthy Healthy Plant Food: 4.9 ± 2.4 servings/d

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plant Protein</th>
<th>4.5 ± 0.9 % total energy, fibre 11.3 ± 3.0 g/1000 kcal, animal foods: 4.2 ± 1.9 servings/d, fruits and vegetables: 3.1 ± 1.6 servings/d, red and processed meats: 1.0 ± 0.7 servings/d, dairy: 1.6 ± 1.2 servings/d, fish or seafood: 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, margarine: 1.0 ± 0.9 servings/d, alcohol: 39.4 ± 87.9 g/wk</th>
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Q4: Pro-vegetarian diet index score (median + range): 36 (35-37)
Healthy Plant Food: 7.5 ± 2.9 servings/d
Unhealthy Healthy Plant Food: 5.2 ± 2.5 servings/d
1619 ± 527 kcal/d, carbohydrates: 51.6 ± 7.5 % total energy, total fat: 31.0 ± 5.8 % total energy, SFA: 11.0 ± 2.3 % total energy, MUFA: 12.0 ± 2.6 % total energy, PUFA: 5.0 ± 1.2 % total energy, total protein: 17.8 ± 3.6 % total energy, animal protein: 13.0 ± 3.5 % total energy, plant protein: 4.8 ± 0.9 % total energy, fibre: 12.2 ± 3.1 g/1000 kcal, animal foods: 4.0 ± 1.8 servings/d, fruits and vegetables: 3.6 ± 1.7 servings/d, red and processed meats: 0.9 ± 0.6 servings/d, dairy: 1.5 ± 1.1 servings/d, fish or seafood: 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, margarine: 1.1 ± 0.9 servings/d, alcohol: 38.9 ± 91.1 g/wk

Q5: Pro-vegetarian diet index score (median + range): 40 (38-40)
Healthy Plant Food: 9.0 ± 3.1 servings/d
Unhealthy Healthy Plant Food: 5.6 ± 2.6 servings/d
1739 ± 514 kcal/d, carbohydrates: 54.4 ± 7.4 % total energy, total fat: 29.5 ± 5.8 % total energy, SFA: 10.1 ± 2.2 % total energy, MUFA: 11.5 ± 2.7 % total energy, PUFA: 5.1 ± 1.2 % total energy, total protein: 17.4 ± 3.2 % total energy, animal protein: 11.9 ± 3.3 % total energy, plant protein: 5.5 ± 1.1 % total energy, fibre: 14.1 ± 3.6 g/1000 kcal, animal foods: 4.0 ± 1.8 servings/d, fruits and vegetables: 3.6 ± 1.7 servings/d, red and processed meats: 0.9 ± 0.6 servings/d, dairy: 1.5 ± 1.1 servings/d, fish or seafood: 0.3 ± 0.3 servings/d, margarine: 1.1 ± 0.9 servings/d, alcohol: 38.9 ± 91.1 g/wk
foods: 3.7 ± 1.8 servings/d, fruits and vegetables 4.5 ± 2.0 servings/d, red and processed meats 0.9 ± 0.7 servings/d, dairy 1.5 ± 1.0 servings/d, fish or seafood 0.2 ± 0.3 servings/d, margarine 1.2 ± 1.0 servings/d, alcohol 31.4 ± 68.5 g/wk

Athinarayanan et al. [51]

2 year follow-up data
Total participants: n=349

Continuous Care Intervention
n=262
Age: 53.8±8.4 years
Female: 66.7±2.9%
BMI: 40.4±8.81 kg
Waist Circumference: 124.5±14.3 cm
Spine bone mineral density: 1.20 ± 0.16 g/cm²
Years since T2 Diabetes Diagnosis: 8.44±7.22
HbA1c: 7.6±1.5 %
C-peptide: 4.36±2.15 nmol/L
Plasma glucose: 9.1±0.2 mmol/L
Insulin: 27.7±1.26 mlU/L
HOMA-IR: 9.09±0.41
MetS (prevalence): 88.6±2.0 %
SBP: 131.9±14.1 mmHg
DBP: 82.1±8.3 mmHg
TC: 4.7±1.1 mmol/L
LDL-C: 2.7±0.9 mmol/L
HDL-C: 1.1±0.3 mmol/L
TAG: 2.2±1.6 mmol/L
ALT: 30.65±22.7 U/L
AST: 23.69±15.19 U/L
ALP: 74.11±22.14 U/L
Bilirubin: 9.2±3.6 µmol/L
NAFLD-Liver Fat Score: 3.43±3.84
NAFLD-Fibrosis Score: -0.23±1.36
cGFR: 80.48±13.62 mL/s/m²
Creatinine: 0.85±0.01 µmol/L
TSH: 2.32±1.74 mIU/L

Open label, non-randomized controlled study.
Intervention consisted of a personalised nutrition recommendation designed to maintain nutritional ketosis.

Continuous Care Intervention (CCI)
Dietary protein was set at 1.5 g/kg of an "ideal" body weight and titrated against blood ketone levels. Fats were included to satiety and participants were encouraged to consume adequate intake of omega-3 (EPA and DHA) and omega 6 (LA), with the remainder from MUFA and SFA. Each participant was instructed to consume 3-5 serving of non-starchy vegetables and adequate mineral and fluid intakes. Participants were advised to consume a multivitamin, 1000-2000 IU Vit D3, and up to 1000 mg omega-3 daily. Participants in this group selected how they wished to receive their education: 1) group education sessions or 2) web-based viewed through an app.

Usual Care (UC)
Patients with T2 diabetes referred to local diabetes education programme and were counselled by RDs on diabetes self-management, nutrition, and lifestyle. No detail is provided on the specific macronutrients consumed, or the sources of protein of fat in the diet.

Primary outcomes were retention, HbA1c, weight, fasting glucose and insulin, HOMA-IR or c-peptide. Secondary outcomes included lipids, liver markers, calculated liver scores (fibrosis and fatty-liver), kidney function tests, thyroid function (TSH and free T4), inflammatory markers (hs-CRP and WBC), and changes in medication use and insulin dose.

Prevalence and resolution of T2 diabetes, MetS, liver steatosis and fibrosis were assessed at baseline and 2 years
Anthropometry was performed at baseline, 1-year and 2 year follow-up.
Missing values were estimated from 40 imputations from logistic regression

HbA1c decreased by 0.9 units (P<0.0001) during the 2 year period.
HbA1c increased by 0.4 units in the usual care group
Fasting glucose, HOMA-IR and insulin all significantly (P<0.0001) decreased in the CCI group, and either stayed the same or increased in the usual care group
Weight decreased by -11.94±0.96 kg in the CCI group (P<0.0001) and increased in the usual care group (+1.28±1.63 kg).
Central abdominal fat and the android:gynoid ratio all improved over the 2 year period.
At 2 years, 74% of CCI group achieved 5% weight loss compared to 14% of the UC group.
Diabetes medication (excluding metformin) decreased significantly in the CCI group over the 2 year period (56.9% to 26.8%, P<0.0001). Those individuals taking insulin observed a significant reduction in daily insulin units (81.9 to 15.5 U/day, P<0.0001) in the CCI group.
A significant (P<0.0001) reduction in SBP and DBP was observed in the CCI group, but not in the usual care group.
A significant (P<0.0001) reduction in SBP and DBP was observed in the CCI group, but not in the usual care group.
HDL-C and LDL-C all significantly (P<0.0001) increased in the CCI group, HDL-C increased by 0.29±0.07 mmol/L.

Supplementary material
Free T4: 11.8±2.2 pmol/L
hs-CRP: 8.54±14.49 nmol/L
WBC: 7.24±1.89×10⁹/L
Diabetes Medication: 56.87±3.07%
Sulfonylurea: 23.66±2.63%
Insulin: 29.77±2.83%
TZD: 1.53±0.76%
SGLT2: 10.31±1.88%
DPP-4: 9.92±1.85%
GLP-1: 13.36±2.11%
Metformin: 71.37±2.80%
Usual Care Intervention
n=87
Age: 52.3±9.5 years
Female: 58.62±5.31%
BMI: 36.72±7.26 kg
Waist Circumference: 117.9±14.3 cm
Weight: 111.07±1.09 kg
Years since T2 Diabetes Diagnosis: 7.85±7.32 years
HbA1c: 7.6±1.8%
C-peptide: 4.18±2.48 nmol/L
Plasma glucose: 8.4±0.4 mmol/L
Insulin (prevalence): 91.4±3.1%
SBP: 129.8±13.6 mmHg
DBP: 82.0±8.9 mmHg
TC: 4.8±1.2 mmol/L
LDL-C: 2.6±0.9 mmol/L
HDL-C: 1.0±0.3 mmol/L
TAG: 3.2±4.5 mmol/L
ALT: 27.4±19.81 U/L
AST: 23.90±19.39 U/L
ALP: 77.36±26.29 U/L
Bilirubin: 9.4±4.8 µmol/L
NAFLD Score: 3.10±3.63
NAFLD-Fibrosis Score: -0.80±1.41
eGFR increased by 2.73±0.72 mL/S/m²
MetS (prevalence): 91.4±3.1%
SBP: 129.8±13.6 mmHg
DBP: 82.0±8.9 mmHg
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| TZD: 1.15±1.15 % |
| SGLT2: 14.94±3.84 % |
| DPP-4: 8.05±2.93 % |
| GLP-1: 16.09±3.96 % |
| Metformin: 60.92±5.26 % |

No statistically significant difference in any baseline parameter between groups.

Ethnicity and medication use not reported
Table legends

Table 1

AA, arachidonic acid; ALA, alpha linolenic acid; ApoA1, apolipoprotein A1; ApoB, apolipoprotein B; ACEi, angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitor; ARB, angiotensin receptor blocker; ASM, appendicular skeletal muscle mass; BMI, body mass index; BP, blood pressure; CHD, coronary heart disease; CHS, cardiovascular health study frailty score; CRP, c-reactive protein; CVD, cardiovascular disease; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; DGLA, Dihomo-γ-linolenic acid; DHA, docosahexaenoic acid; DM, diabetes mellitus; eGFRcycC, estimated glomerular filtration rate from cystatin C measurements; eGFRcr-cysC, estimated glomerular filtration rate from creatinine and cystatin C measurements; EPA, eicosapentaenoic acid; FFQ, food frequency questionnaire; HOMA-IR, homeostatic model assessment of insulin resistance; GLA, gamma-Linolenic acid; HDL-C, high density lipoprotein cholesterol; HTN, hypertension; LA, linoleic acid; low carbohydrate diet, LCD; LCDS, low carbohydrate score; LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; MACCE, major adverse cardiac and cerebrovascular events; MD, mean difference; MetS, metabolic syndrome; MI, myocardial infarction; MNA, mini nutritional assessment; MUFA, monounsaturated fat; PUFA, polyunsaturated fat; QoL, quality of life; RAS, renin-angiotensin system; SBP, systolic blood pressure; SFA, saturated fat; T2DM, type 2 diabetes; TAG, triacylglycerol; TC, total cholesterol; TFA, trans fatty acid; VLDL, very low density lipoprotein; WMD, weighted mean difference
**Table 2**

aHEI, alternate healthy eating index; ApoA1, apolipoprotein A1; ApoB, apolipoprotein B; BMI, body mass index; CHD, coronary heart disease; CVD, cardiovascular disease; DASH, dietary approaches to stop hypertension; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; DVP-SI, digital volume pulse–stiffness index; DVP-RI, digital volume pulse–reflection index; FFQ, food frequency questionnaire; F&V, fruits and vegetables; HDL-C, high density lipoprotein cholesterol; HF, heart failure; HRT, hormone replacement therapy; hsCRP, high-sensitivity C-reactive protein ICAM, intercellular adhesion molecule; IHD, ischaemic heart disease; LDI-Ach, laser Doppler imaging with acetylcholine; LDI-SNP, laser Doppler imaging with sodium nitroprusside; LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; MCE, major coronary events; mDASH; modified DASH; MedDiet, Mediterranean Diet; MI, myocardial infarction; MUFA, monounsaturated fat; NO, nitric oxide; PAI-1, plasminogen activator inhibitor-1; PUFA, polyunsaturated fat; PWA A1x, pulse wave analysis augmentation index; PWA A1x HR75, pulse wave analysis augmentation index with correction to a heart rate of 75 beats/min; PWV, pulse wave velocity; SBP, systolic blood pressure; SFA, saturated fat; TAG, triacylglycerol; TC, total cholesterol; TFA, trans fatty acid; VCAM, vascular cell adhesion molecule; vWF, von Willebrand factor
Table 3

aHEI, alternate healthy eating index; ALT, alanine aminotransferase; alternative Mediterranean diet (aMED); AST, aspartate aminotransferase; ALP, alkaline phosphatase; ApoA1, ACEi, angiotensin convertor enzyme inhibitor; apolipoprotein A1; ApoB, apolipoprotein B; BP, blood pressure; BMI, body mass index; CABG, coronary artery bypass graft; CHD, coronary heart disease; CVD, cardiovascular disease; DASH, dietary approaches to stop hypertension; DBP, diastolic blood pressure; DPP-4, Dipeptidyl peptidase 4; eGFR, estimated glomerular filtration rate; FFQ, food frequency questionnaire; GLP-1, Glucagon-like peptide-1; HDL-C, high density lipoprotein cholesterol; HOMA-IR, homeostatic model assessment of insulin resistance; hPDI, healthy plant-based diet index; HF, heart failure; hsCRP, high-sensitivity C-reactive protein; HTN, hypertension; IHD, ischaemic heart disease; LDL-C, low density lipoprotein cholesterol; MD, mean difference; MedDiet, Mediterranean Diet; MetS, metabolic syndrome; MI, myocardial infarction; MUFA, monounsaturated fat; NAFLD, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease; PDI, plant-based diet index; PUFA, polyunsaturated fat; SBP, systolic blood pressure; SFA, saturated fat; SGLT2, Sodium-glucose co-transporter-2; TAG, triacylglycerol; TC, total cholesterol; TFA, trans fatty acid; TSH, thyroid stimulating hormone; TZD, thiazolidinediones; uPDI, unhealthy plant-based diet index; WBC, white blood cells.