

Healing the Heart with Food and Food Bioactives

Benjamin Brown, ND

timeforwellness.org



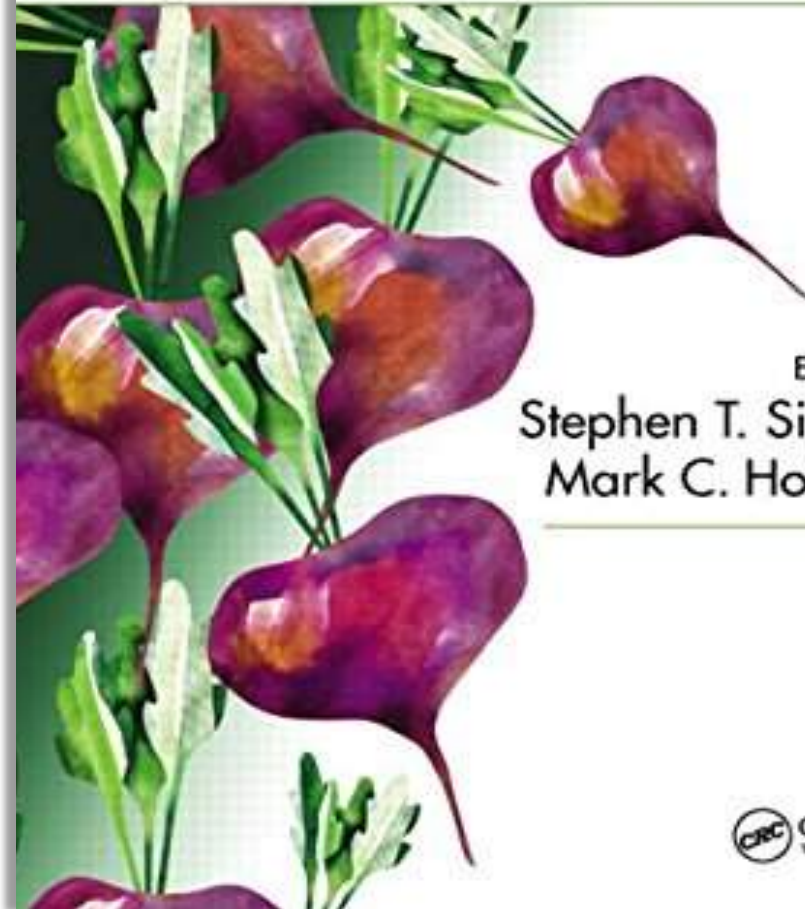
Based on;

Healing the Heart with Whole Foods and Food Bioactives

Deanna Minich and Benjamin Brown

In; Nutritional and Integrative Strategies in Cardiovascular Medicine, 2015 by Stephen T. Sinatra (Editor), Mark C. Houston (Editor). CRC Press; 1st edition (2015)

Nutritional and Integrative Strategies in Cardiovascular Medicine



Edited by
Stephen T. Sinatra
Mark C. Houston

 CRC Press
Taylor & Francis Group



Nourishment means more than just calories - it's a buffet of what heals, transforms, and connects us to life.

- Deanna Minich, PhD

www.foodandspirit.com

“Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are the number 1 cause of death globally: more people die annually from CVDs than from any other cause.”



World Health Organization. Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs).
Fact sheet N°317. Updated January 2015.

Video: atherosclerosis



“Arterial inflammation and endothelial dysfunction play central roles in the pathogenesis of atherosclerosis and adverse cardiovascular events.”

“Only about 15% of acute coronary syndromes have a luminal diameter stenosis greater than 70% immediately before the rupture and thrombosis.”

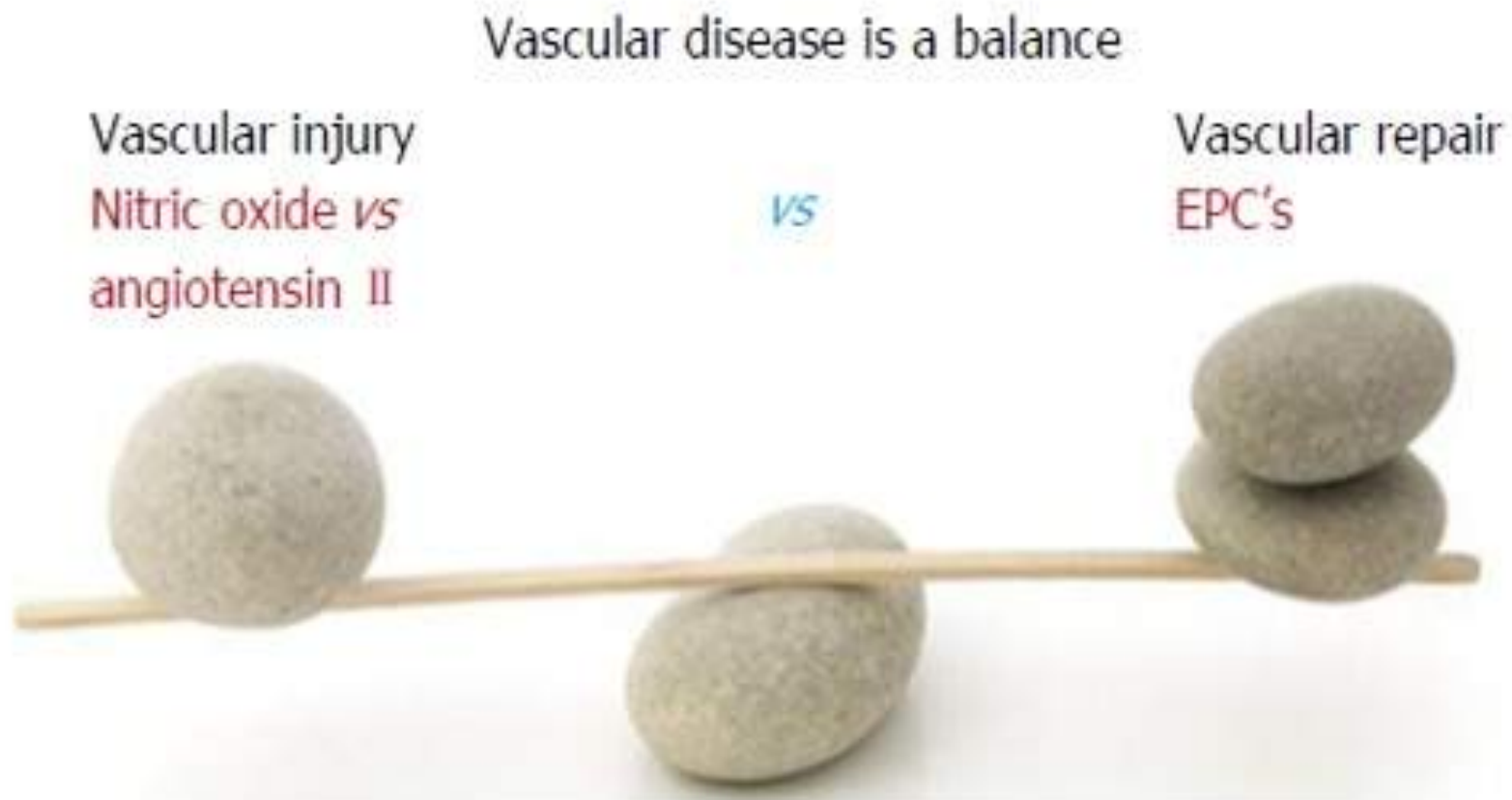


Inflammation

Cardiovascular Health

Endothelial dysfunction

“Various insults that damage the endothelium, lead to endothelial dysfunction (ED) and may induce hypertension and other cardiovascular diseases.”



Houston M. The role of nutrition and nutraceutical supplements in the treatment of hypertension. World J Cardiol. 2014 Feb 26;6(2):38-66.

Optimal Medical Therapy with or without PCI
for Stable Coronary Disease

William E. Boden, M.D., Robert A. O'Rourke, M.D., Koon K. Teo, M.B., B.Ch., Ph.D., Pamela M. Hartigan, Ph.D.,
David I. Mann, M.D., William J. Kostuk, M.D., Mard Knudsen, M.D., Martin Dada, M.D., Paul Cassano, Ph.D.,

The addition of percutaneous coronary intervention to intensive pharmacologic therapy and lifestyle intervention *did not reduce long-term rates of death, nonfatal myocardial infarction, and hospitalization for acute coronary syndromes.*

differences between the PCI group and the medical-therapy group in the composite of death, myocardial infarction, and stroke (20.0% vs. 19.5%; hazard ratio, 1.05; 95% CI, 0.87 to 1.27; P=0.62); hospitalizations for acute coronary syndrome (12.4% vs. 11.8%; hazard ratio, 1.07; 95% CI, 0.84 to 1.37; P=0.56); or myocardial infarction (13.2% vs. 12.3%; hazard ratio, 1.13; 95% CI, 0.89 to 1.43; P=0.33).

CONCLUSIONS

As an initial management strategy in patients with stable coronary artery disease, PCI did not reduce the risk of death, myocardial infarction, or other major cardiovascular events when added to optimal medical therapy. (ClinicalTrials.gov number, NCT00007657)

“...if you give a statin to a patient [for primary prevention] for about five years we can reduce the chance of a person having a heart attack or a stroke by about one per cent.”

James McCormack, Professor of pharmaceutical sciences at the University of British Columbia.

RESEARCH

A statin a day keeps the doctor away: comparative proverb assessment modelling study

OPEN ACCESS

Adam D M Briggs *academic clinical fellow*, Anja Mizdrak *researcher*, Peter Scarborough *senior researcher*

“We find that a 150 year old proverb is able to match modern medicine and is likely to have fewer side effects.”



Results The estimated annual reduction in deaths from vascular disease of a statin a day, assuming 70% compliance and a reduction in vascular mortality of 12% (95% confidence interval 9% to 16%) per 1.0 mmol/L reduction in low density lipoprotein cholesterol, is 9400 (7000 to 12 500). The equivalent reduction from an apple a day, modelled using the PRIME model (assuming an apple weighs 100 g and that overall calorie consumption remains constant) is 8500 (95% credible interval 6200 to 10 800).

Conclusions Both nutritional and pharmaceutical approaches to the prevention of vascular disease may have the potential to reduce UK mortality significantly. With similar reductions in mortality, a 150 year old health promotion message is able to match modern medicine and is likely to have fewer side effects.

Introduction

“An apple a day keeps the doctor away,” a public health message delivered by parents and teachers since the 19th century,¹ is an example of how concise, clear, and accurate Victorian health promotion can truly stand the test of time, whereas other Victorian practices—such as the use of leeches in primary care—have fallen away.

without evidence of significant harm.⁴ This has led to calls to use statins for cardiovascular disease prevention at the population level, particularly for people aged 50 years and over.⁵ We set out to test how almost 150 years of Victorian wisdom might compare with the more widespread use of statins in primary prevention. We modelled the effect on vascular mortality of prescribing everybody in the UK over 50 years old either an apple (*Malus domestica*) a day or a statin a day, estimated the number of adverse events, and compared the subsequent drug, or fruit, costs.

Methods

Data on the effect on vascular mortality (any stroke, cardiac death, or other vascular death) of the UK population of a statin a day came from the Cholesterol Treatment Trialists’ meta-analysis, which found that reducing cholesterol with a statin reduces the relative risk of vascular mortality by 12% (95% confidence interval 9% to 16%) per 1.0 mmol/L reduction in low density lipoprotein cholesterol and that on average this is reduced by 1.08 mmol/L over a year of treatment.⁴ We applied this annual reduction to age and sex specific vascular mortality rates for the UK population aged 50 years and compared an apple

Briggs AD, Mizdrak A, Scarborough P. BMJ 2013; DOI: 10.1136/bmj.f7267.

“I don't understand *why asking people to eat a well-balanced vegetarian diet is considered drastic*, while it is *medically conservative to cut people open* and put them on cholesterol-lowering drugs for the rest of their lives.”

— *Dean Ornish, MD*



Intensive Lifestyle Changes for Reversal of Coronary Heart Disease

Dean Ornish, MD; Larry W. Scherwitz, PhD; James H. Billings, PhD, MPH; K. Lance Gould, MD; Terri A. Merritt, MS; Stephen Sparler, MA; William T. Armstrong, MD; Thomas A. Ports, MD; Richard L. Kirkeelide, PhD; Charissa Hogeboom, PhD; Richard J. Brand, PhD

Context.—The Lifestyle Heart Trial demonstrated that intensive lifestyle changes may lead to regression of coronary atherosclerosis after 1 year.

Objectives.—To determine the feasibility of patients to sustain intensive lifestyle changes for a total of 5 years and the effects of these lifestyle changes without

THE LIFESTYLE Heart Trial was the first randomized clinical trial to investigate whether ambulatory patients could be motivated to make and sustain com-

l, if so, coronary or reversing ter-angiogram earlier mea-

Intervention.—Intensive lifestyle changes (10% fat whole foods vegetarian diet, aerobic exercise, stress management training, smoking cessation, group psycho-

sure).¹⁷

After 1 year, we found that experi-

able to lifestyle tion in cholesterol in the average reduced 1 year with in control ages in

(a 5.4% relative worsening) and by 11.8 percentage points after 5 years (a 27.7% relative worsening) (LDL-CMI between groups). Twenty-five cardiac events occurred

lifestyle, reduced LDL cholesterol levels by 6%, and had a 165% increase in the

nodes.

is pro-

ndings, litional ability changes

cardiac events occurred.

JAMA. 1998;280:2001-2007

in diet and exercise for a much longer time, and (2) the effects of these changes on risk factors, coronary atherosclerosis, myocardial perfusion, and cardiac events after 4 additional years.

METHODS

From the Department of Medicine (Dr Ornish), and the Division of Cardiology (Dr Armstrong), California Pacific Medical Center, San Francisco; the Department of Medicine (Dr Ornish), the Division of Cardiology, Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory, Cardiovascular Research Institute (Dr Ports), and the Division of Biostatistics (Drs Brand and Hogeboom), School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco;

Division of Cardiology, University of Texas Medical School, Houston (Drs Gould and Kirkeelide), and the Preventive Medicine Research Institute, Sausalito, Calif (Drs Ornish, Scherwitz, and Billings, Mr Sparler, and Dr Merritt).

More *regression of coronary atherosclerosis* occurred after 5 years than after 1 year in the experimental group.

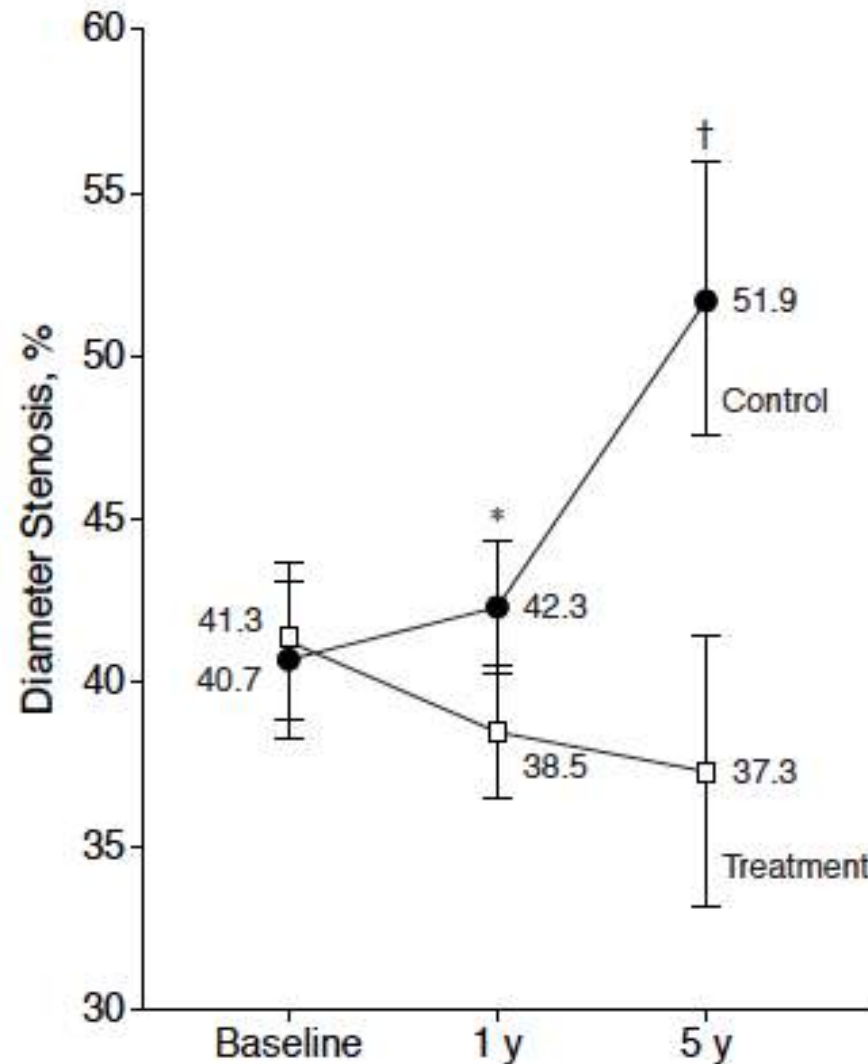
The *marked reduction in frequency, severity, and duration of angina* was comparable with that achieved following coronary artery bypass surgery or angioplasty.

In the control group, coronary atherosclerosis continued to progress and *more than twice as many cardiac events occurred*.

JAMA. 1998 Dec 16;280(23):2001-7.

Intensive Lifestyle Changes for Reversal of Coronary Heart Disease

Dean Ornish, MD; Larru W. Scherwitz, PhD; James H. Billings, PhD, MPH; K. Lance Gould, MD; William T. Armstrong, MD; Thomas A. Ports, MD; Richard J. Brand, PhD; Richard J. Brand, PhD



onstrated that intensive lifestyle
therosclerosis after 1 year.

patients to sustain intensive lifestyle
of these lifestyle changes (without
a.

ucted from 1986 to 1992 using a

re to severe coronary heart disease
ge group or to a usual-care control
uantitative coronary arteriography.
al centers.

0% fat whole foods vegetarian diet,
smoking cessation, group psycho-

ntensive lifestyle changes, changes
and cardiac events.

) [71%] of 28 patients completed
prehensive lifestyle changes for 5
%) of 20 patients completed 5-year

ie experimental group, the average
ed 1.75 absolute percentage points
by 3.1 absolute percentage points

contrast, the average percent diam-
2.3 percentage points after 1 year
tage points after 5 years (a 27.7%

twenty-five cardiac events occurred
in 20 control group patients during
the control group, 2.47 [90% con-

ly atherosclerosis occurred after 5
yp. In contrast, in the control group,
and more than twice as many car-

THE LIFESTYLE Heart Trial was the
first randomized clinical trial to investi-
gate whether ambulatory patients could
be motivated to make and sustain com-
prehensive lifestyle changes and, if so,
whether the progression of coronary
atherosclerosis could be stopped or re-
versed without using lipid-lowering
drugs as measured by computer-assisted
quantitative coronary arteriography.
This study derived from earlier
studies that used noninvasive mea-
sures.^{1,2}

After 1 year, we found that experi-
mental group participants were able to
make and maintain intensive lifestyle
changes and had a 37.2% reduction in
low-density lipoprotein (LDL) cholester-
ol levels and a 91% reduction in the
frequency of anginal episodes.³ Average
percent diameter stenosis regressed
from 40.0% at baseline to 37.8% 1 year
later, a change that was correlated with
the degree of lifestyle change. In con-
trast, patients in the usual-care control
group made more moderate changes in
lifestyle, reduced LDL cholesterol lev-
els by 6%, and had a 165% increase in the
frequency of reported anginal episodes.
Average percent diameter stenosis pro-
gressed from 42.7% to 46.1%.

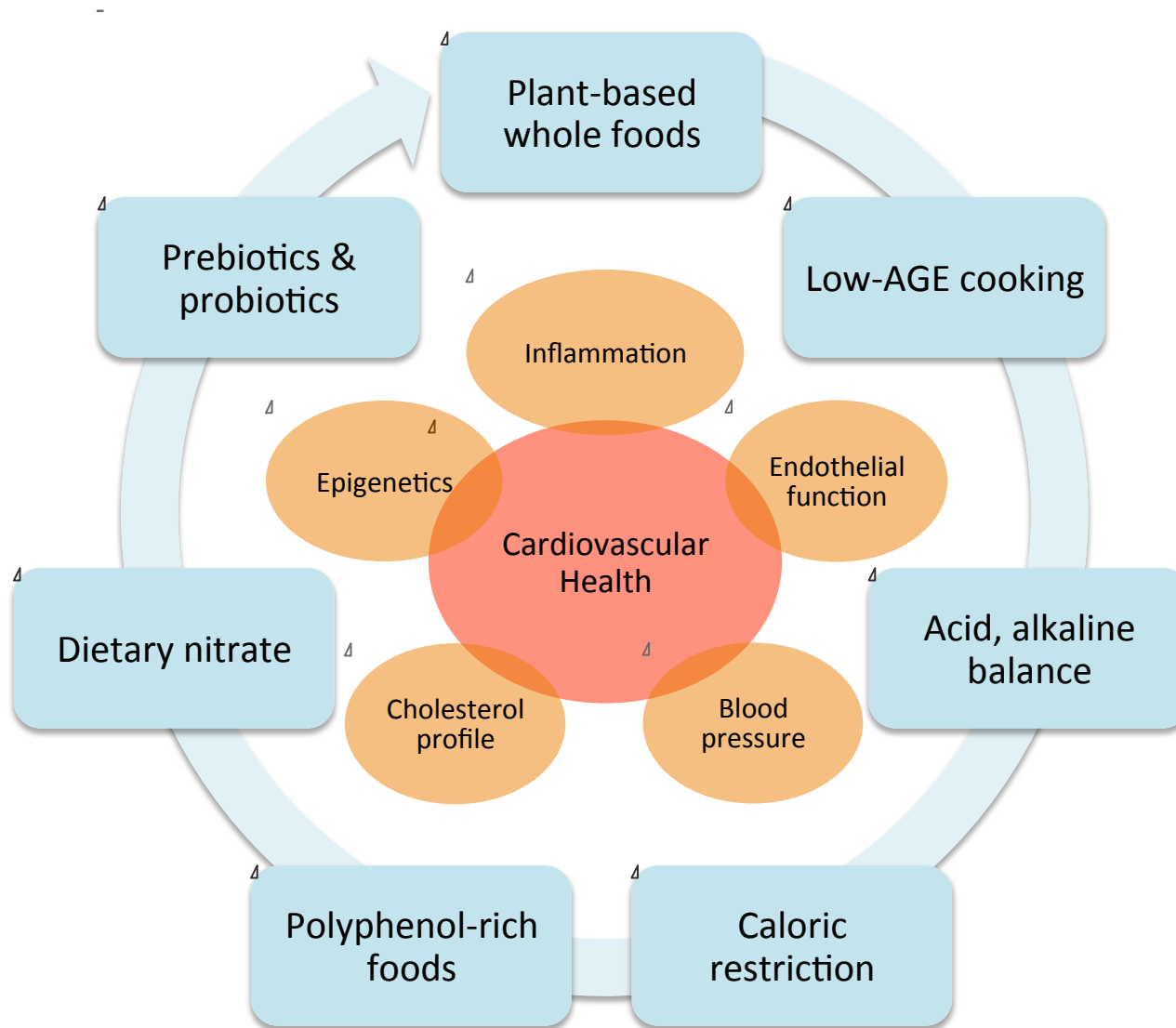
Given these encouraging findings,
we extended the study for an additional
4 years to determine (1) the feasibility
of patients sustaining intensive changes
in diet and lifestyle for a much longer
time, and (2) the effects of these changes
on risk factors, coronary atherosclero-
sis, myocardial perfusion, and cardiac
events after 4 additional years.

METHODS

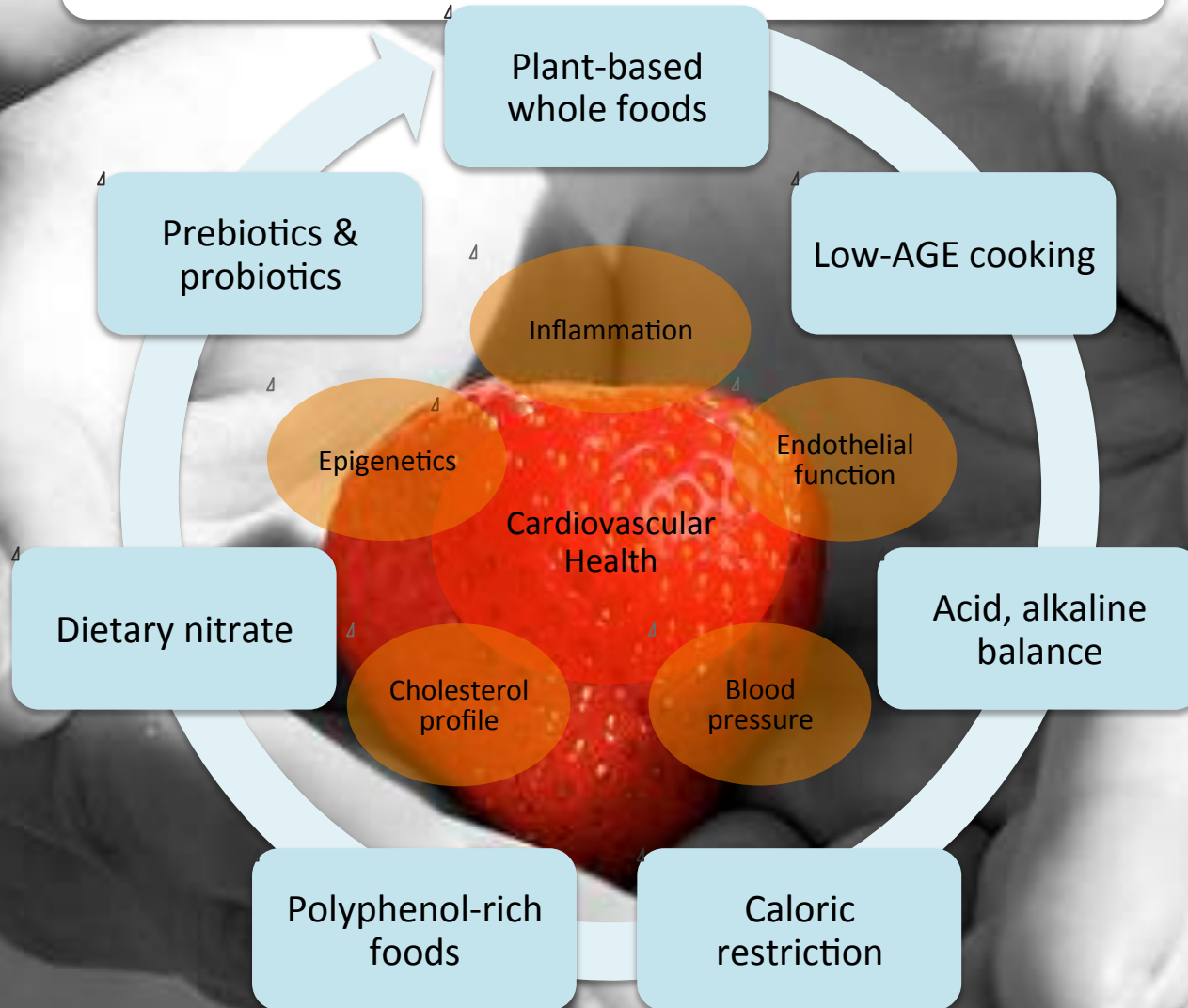
JAMA. 1998;280(23):2001-2007

Division of Cardiology, University of Texas Medical
Center, Houston (Drs Gould and Kirkwood); and the
Division of Cardiology, University of California, San Francisco
(Drs Ornish, Scherwitz, and Billings, Mr Sparker, and
Mr Liberman).

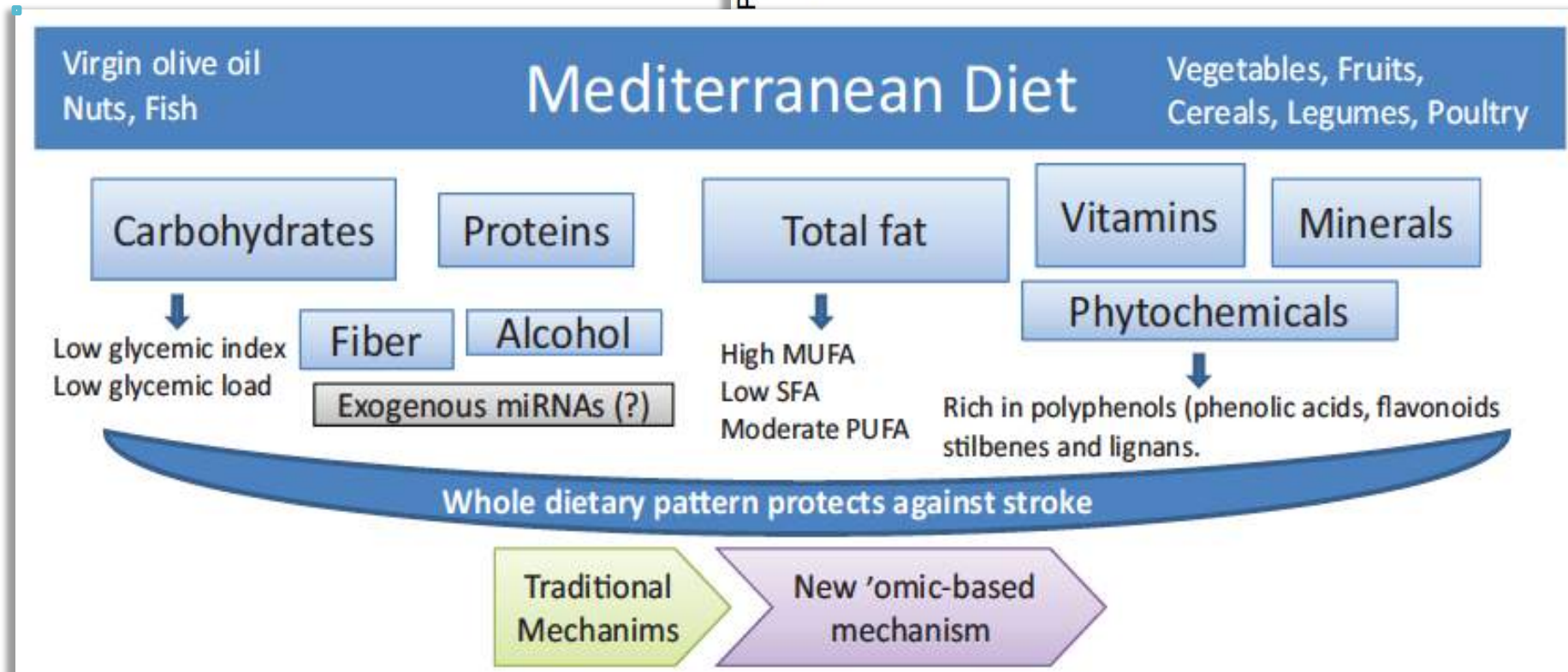
Division of Cardiology, University of Texas Medical
Center, Houston (Drs Gould and Kirkwood); and the
Division of Cardiology, University of California, San Francisco
(Drs Ornish, Scherwitz, and Billings, Mr Sparker, and
Mr Liberman).



A whole food dietary pattern emphasizing vegetables, fruits, nuts, olive oil, legumes, whole grains, with modest intake of lean meats and fish, is a powerful modulator of global cardiovascular health and disease risk.



How does the Mediterranean diet promote cardiovascular health? Current progress toward molecular mechanisms



III, Madrid, Spain

³⁰ Department of Cardiovascular Epidemiology and Population Genetics, Centro Nacional de Investigaciones Cardiovasculares (CNIC), Madrid, Spain

*Corresponding author:
Dolores Corella
E-mail: dolores.corella@uv.es

Mediterranean Diet Reduces the Adverse Effect of the *TCF7L2*-rs7903146 Polymorphism on Cardiovascular Risk Factors and Stroke Incidence

A randomized controlled trial in a high-cardiovascular-risk population

DOLORES CORELLA, DPHARM, PHD^{1,2}
PAULA CARRASCO, BSC, PHD^{1,2}
JOSE V. SORLI, MD, PHD^{1,2,3}

LLUÍS SERRA-MAJEM, MD, PHD^{2,10}
VALENTINA RUIZ-GUTIÉRREZ, PHD^{2,11}
JULIA WARNBERG, PHD^{2,12}

Although transcription factor 7-like 2 (*TCF7L2*) gene is the strongest and most widely replicated locus associ-

“The gene-diet interaction involving the rs7903146-*TCF7L2* polymorphism in cardiovascular risk factors and stroke was observed when we considered the overall MedDiet pattern. We did not find significant results for the main individual foods, and concluded that *the importance of our finding lies in the combination of MedDiet components: a synergetic effect.*”

ere are
ted the
tion in
ase (6-
modu-
is gene
se con-
cardio-
ascular
ling of
actions
or de-
rimary
iseases
luct of
taining
role in
: mech-
7L2 is
has yet
various
(4-17).
>T) is
tic var-
es risk
of the
higher
an that
owever,

with CC).

CONCLUSIONS—Our novel results suggest that MedDiet may not only reduce increased fasting glucose and lipids in TT individuals, but also stroke incidence.

Diabetes Care 36:3803–3811, 2013

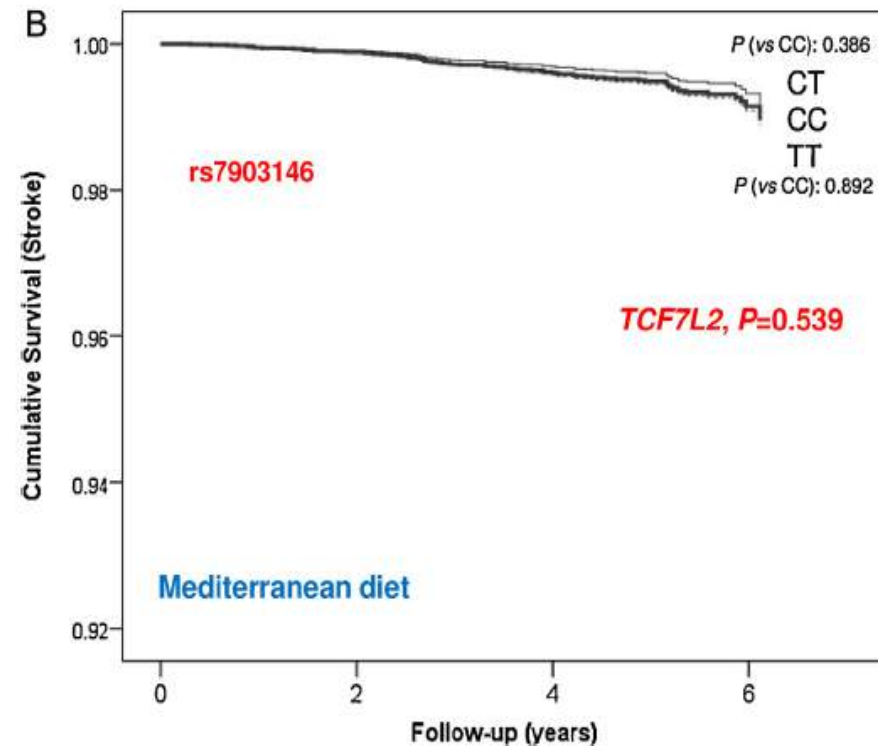
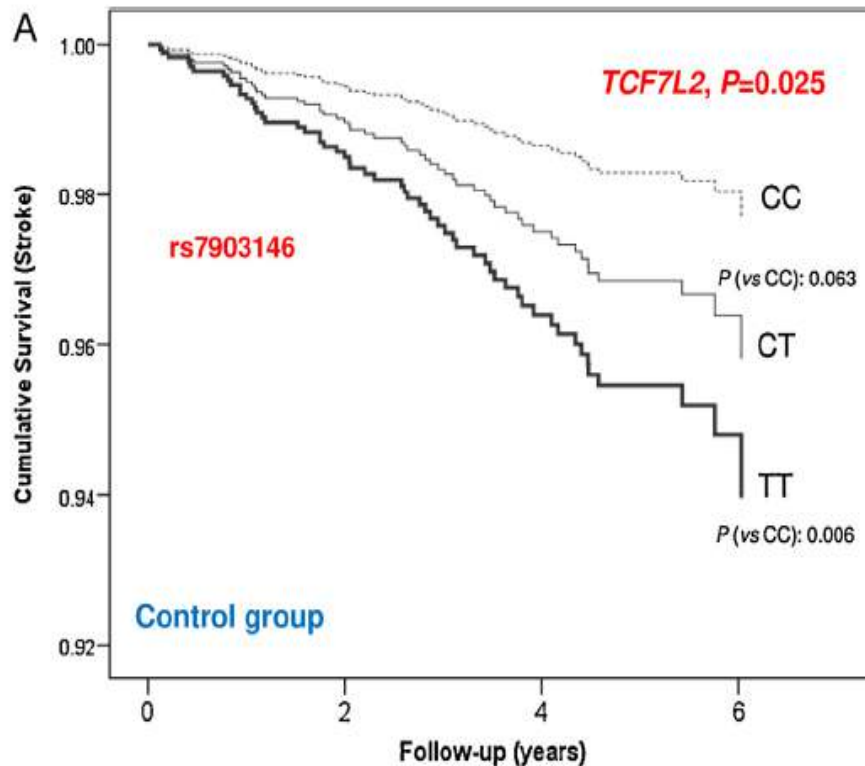
riegason et al. (19) reported that the rs7903146T allele is probably the ancestral allele, suggesting that changes in its prevalence are due to positive selection, driven, among other things, by dietary factors. Thus, a study (20) highlighted

From the ¹Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, School of Medicine, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain; ²CIBER Fisiopatología de la Obesidad y Nutrición, Instituto de Salud Carlos III, Madrid, Spain; the ³Department of Internal Medicine, Hospital Clínic, Institut d'Investigacions Biomèdiques August Pi Sunyer, Barcelona, Spain; the

⁴Department of Preventive Medicine and Public Health, School of Medicine, University of Navarra, Madrid, Spain; the ⁵Human Nutrition Unit, Faculty of Medicine, Institut d'Investigació Sanitària Pere Virgili, University Rovira i Virgili, Reus, Spain; the ⁶Cardiovascular Epidemiology Unit, Municipal Institut for Medical Research, Barcelona, Spain; the

⁷Department of Computer Languages and Systems, School of Technology and Experimental Sciences, Jaume I University, Castellón, Spain; the ⁸Department of Cardiology, Hospital Txagorritxu, Vitoria, Spain; the ⁹Department of Family Medicine, Primary Care Division of Sevilla, San Pablo Health Center, Sevilla, Spain; the ¹⁰Department of Clinical Sciences,

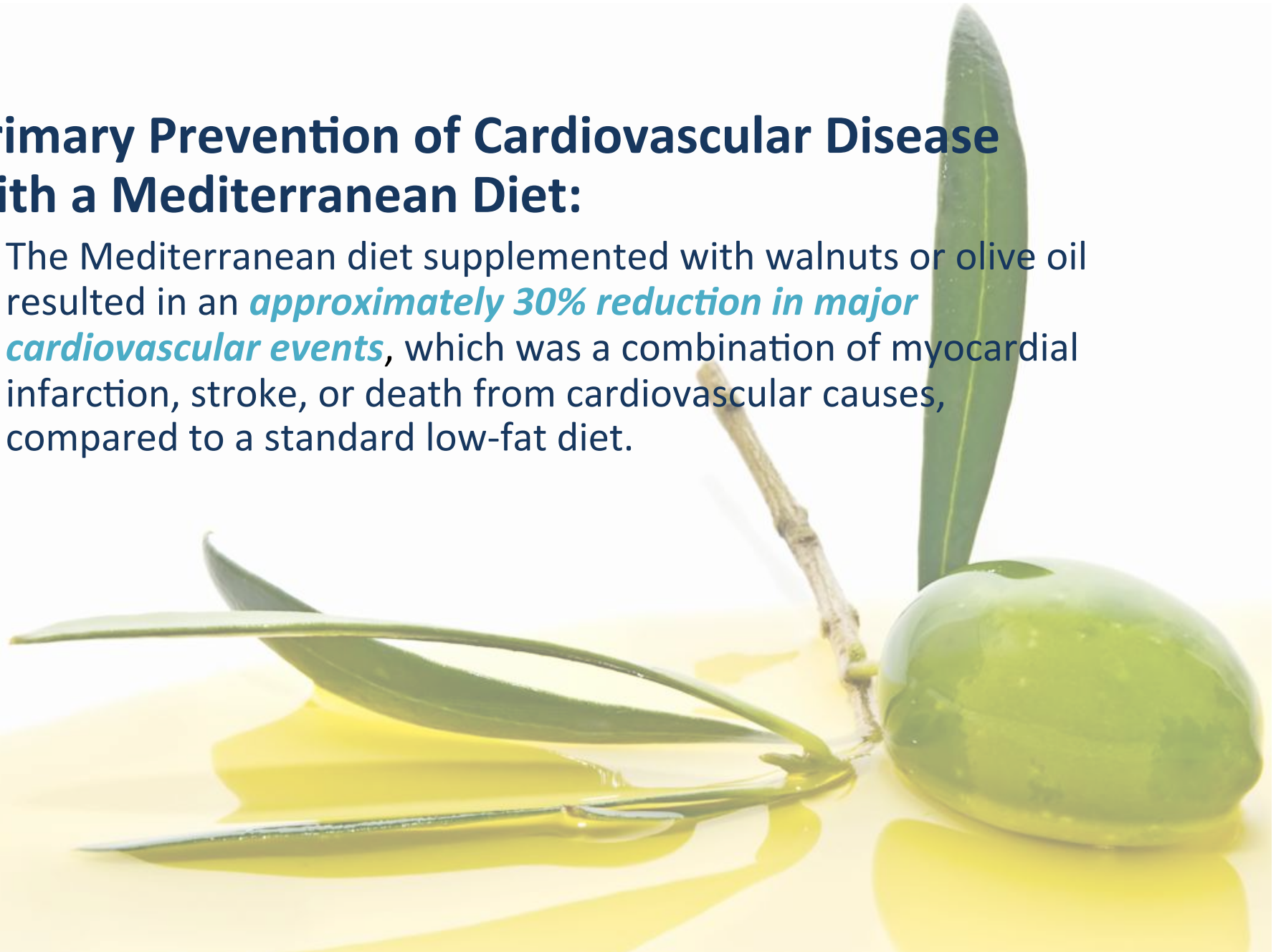
Genetic predisposition quenched by diet



Corella D, et al. Mediterranean diet reduces the adverse effect of the TCF7L2-rs7903146 polymorphism on cardiovascular risk factors and stroke incidence: a randomized controlled trial in a high-cardiovascular-risk population. *Diabetes Care*. 2013 Nov;36(11):3803-11.

Primary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease with a Mediterranean Diet:

- ✓ The Mediterranean diet supplemented with walnuts or olive oil resulted in an *approximately 30% reduction in major cardiovascular events*, which was a combination of myocardial infarction, stroke, or death from cardiovascular causes, compared to a standard low-fat diet.



Estruch R, et al. Primary prevention of cardiovascular disease with a Mediterranean diet. N Engl J Med. 2013 Apr 4;368(14):1279-90.

Secondary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease with a Mediterranean Diet:

- ✓ For the secondary prevention of cardiovascular disease (after first myocardial infarction) the Lyon Diet Heart Study contrasted the effects of a Mediterranean style diet against a prudent western diet.
- ✓ Compared to the control, the Mediterranean style diet was associated with **a 76% lower risk of cardiac death** and non-fatal myocardial infarction, and the protective effects were maintained for up to 4 years.



Clinical Cardiology with a Fork

Prevention of Myocardial Infarction or Cardiac Death

| Intervention | Angioplasty/ Stent | Statins | Mediterranean- Style Diet |
|--------------|-----------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| Primary | N/A | 1% | 30% |
| Secondary | No Data | 18% | 76% |

N Engl J Med. 2007 Apr 12;356(15):1503-16

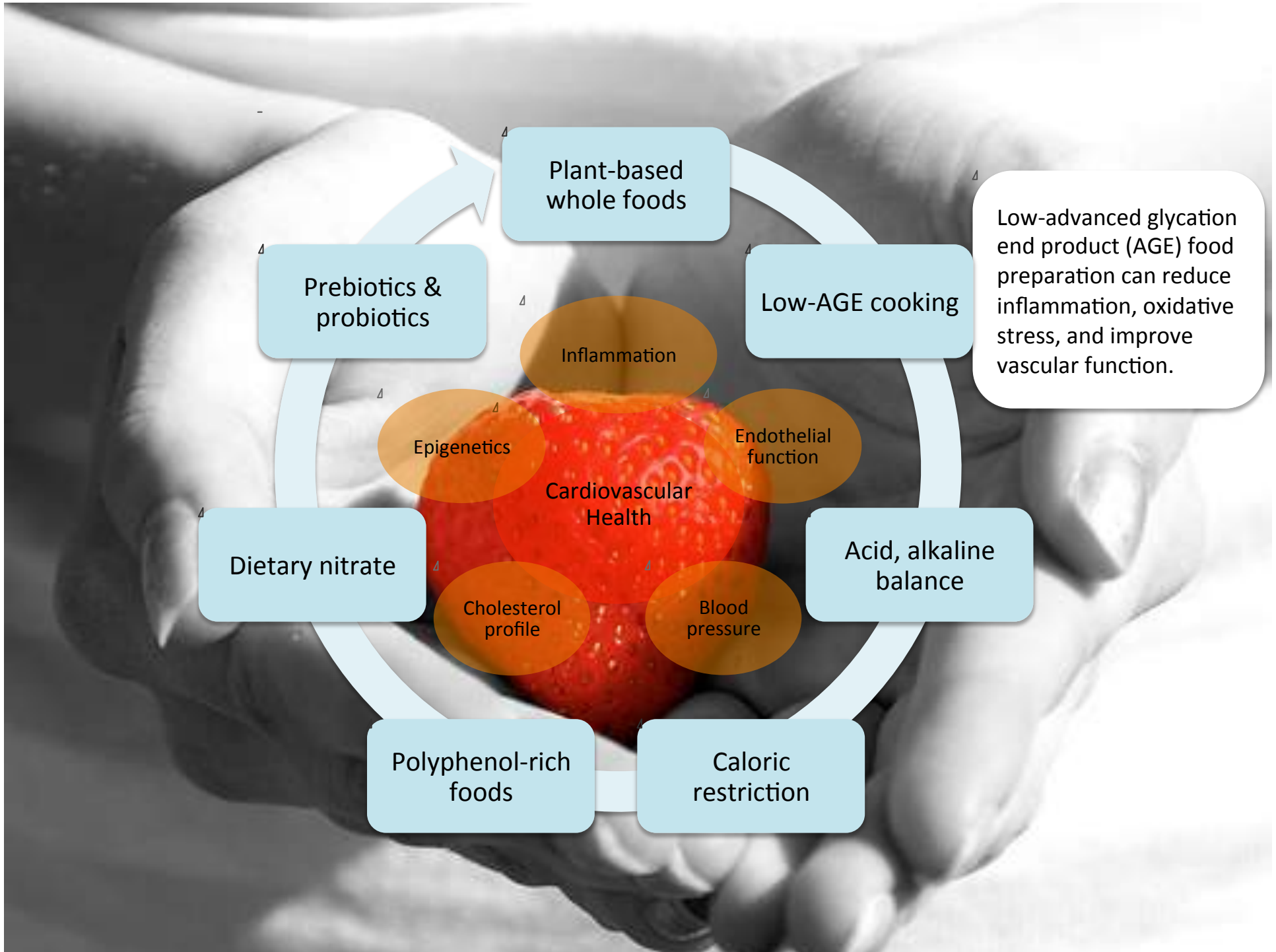
Therapeutics Letter. Issue 77: 2010.

Lancet. 2002;360(9326):7-22.

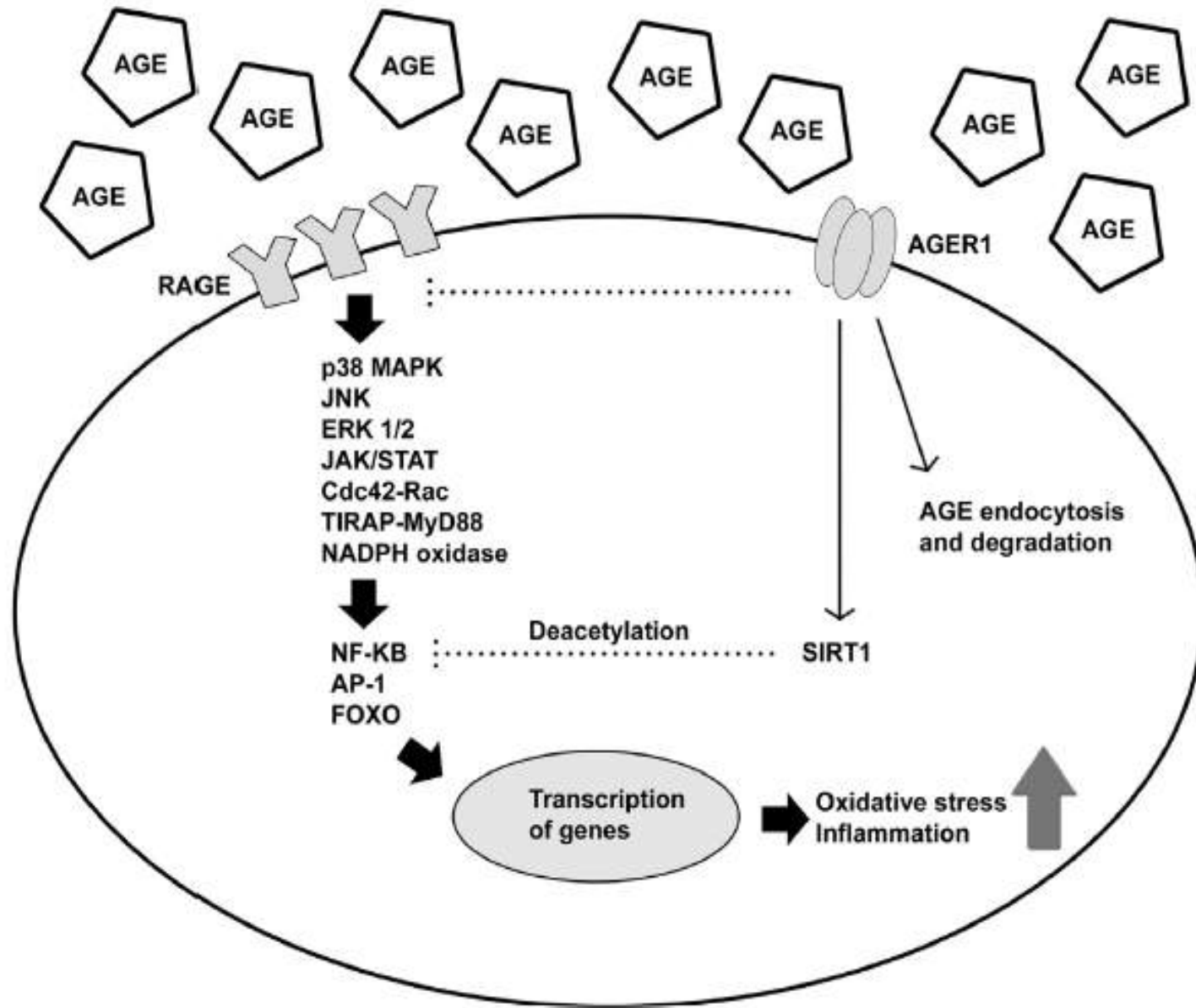
N Engl J Med 2013; 368:1279-129

Circulation. 1999 Feb 16;99(6):779-85









Poulsen MW, et al. Advanced glycation endproducts in food and their effects on health. Food Chem Toxicol. 2013 Oct;60:10-37.



Never underestimate the
power of a single meal.

- Deanna Minich, PhD



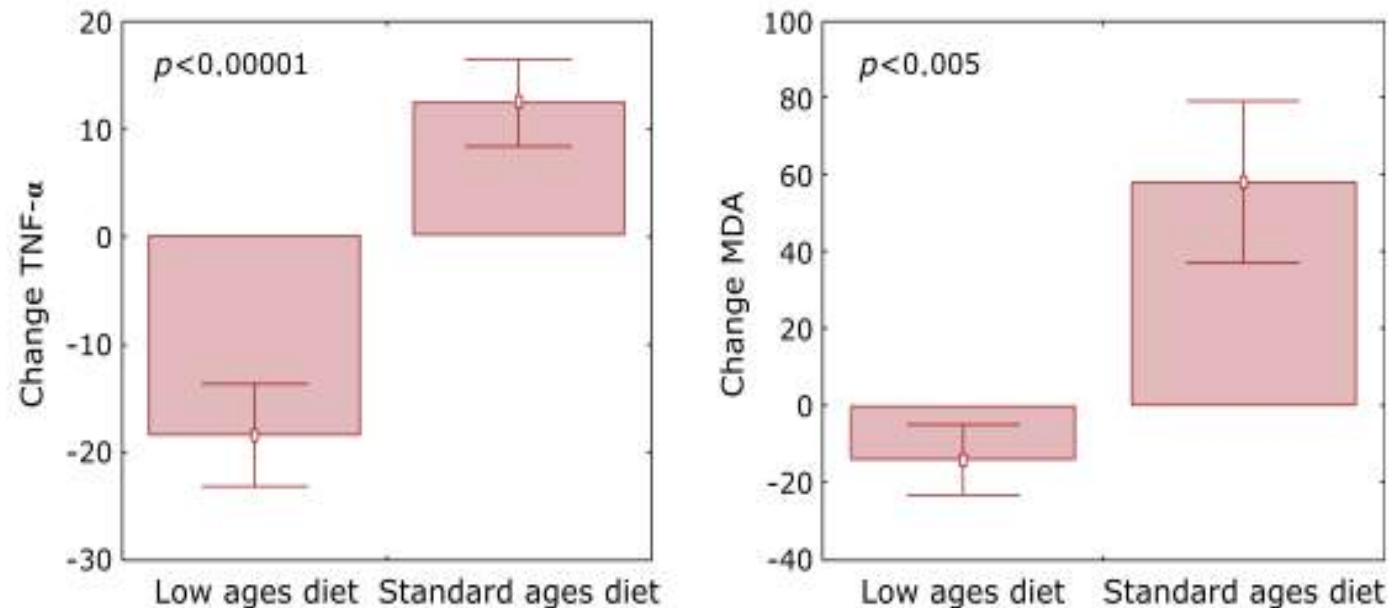
Effects of low- and high-advanced glycation endproduct meals on endothelial function:

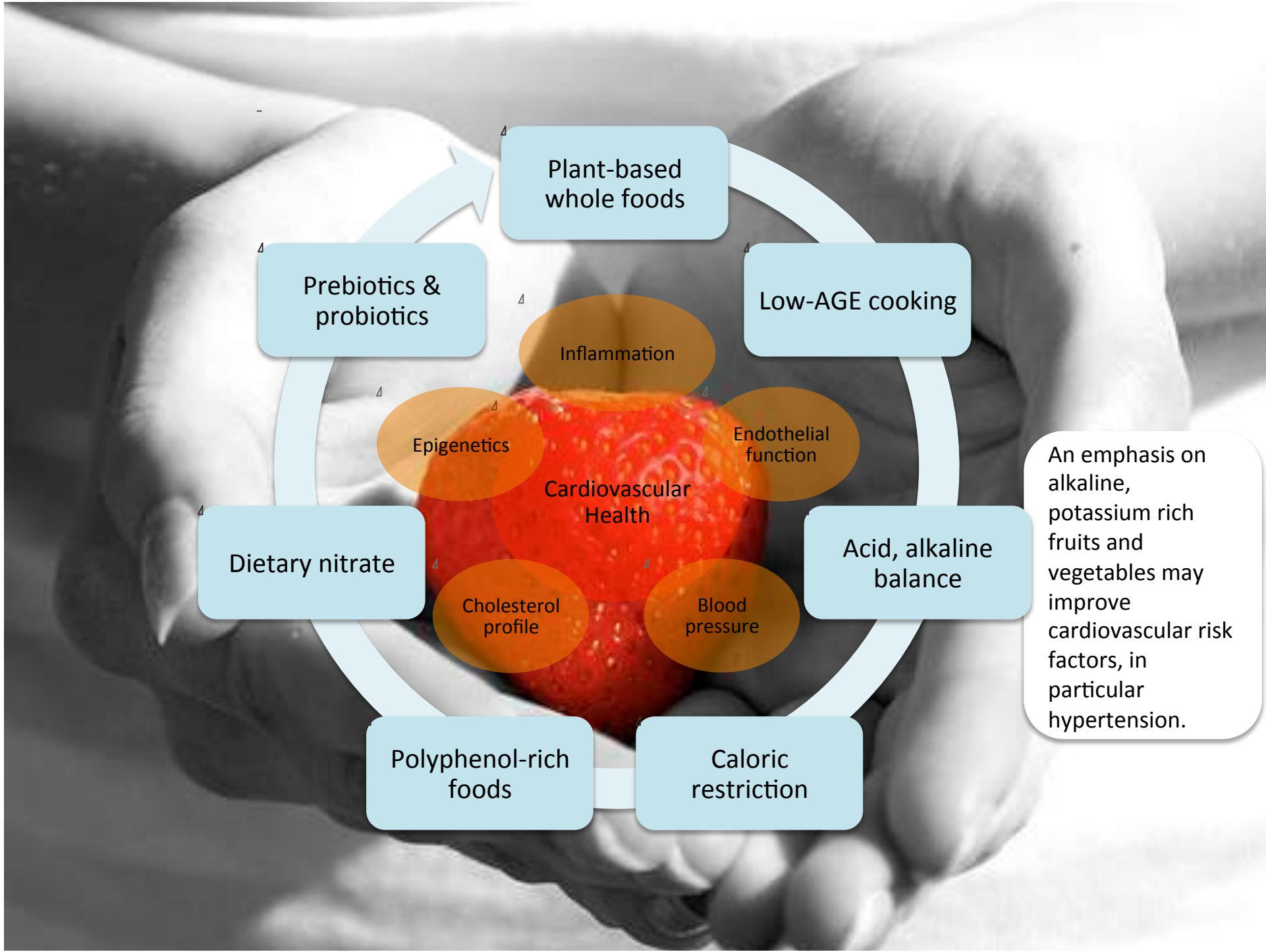
A single “real-life” High-AGE meal induces a *profound impairment of both macro- and microvascular function* (–36.2% and –67.2%, respectively).

These changes are significantly greater than those induced by a meal containing the same ingredients but with a five-fold lower AGE concentration.

Dietary AGE restriction diminishes inflammation markers and oxidative stress:

A 6-week intervention study with a low AGE diet in diabetic patients demonstrated a *marked reduction in inflammation and oxidative stress* compared to a standard diet.





Plant-based whole foods

Low-AGE cooking

Prebiotics & probiotics

Inflammation

Endothelial function

Epigenetics

Cardiovascular Health

Acid, alkaline balance

Dietary nitrate

Cholesterol profile

Blood pressure

Polyphenol-rich foods

Caloric restriction

An emphasis on alkaline, potassium rich fruits and vegetables may improve cardiovascular risk factors, in particular hypertension.

Diet-induced acidosis: is it real and clinically relevant?

Joseph Pizzorno^{1*}, Lynda A. Frassetto² and Joseph Katzinger³

¹PO Box 25801, Bastyr University, Seattle, WA 98165, USA

“...the available research makes a compelling case that *diet-induced acidosis is a real phenomenon, has significant clinical relevance, may largely be prevented through dietary changes, and should be recognized and treated.*”

vs the
w il is
ion of
led to
a real
ed by

Historic overview

The study of acid–base equilibrium and its relationship to the diet and disease has been a subject of considerable speculation for at least several centuries. But, before the 19th century, little was known about the concepts of acids and bases, and no means were available to quantify the acid or alkaline load of foods, or of the pH of phy: until the second half of the 19th cent

to be the strong ion difference (the difference in the net charge of cations and anions fully dissociated in solution), the partially dissociated weak acids (albumin, phosphate), and the partial pressure of carbon dioxide (P_{CO_2}) of the solution. While a full discussion of the implications of the differences between theories is beyond the scope of the present paper, of significance is the lack of consensus in the

Association between dietary acid–base load and cardiometabolic risk factors in young Japanese women

Kentaro Murakami^{1,2}, Satoshi Sasaki^{1,3*}, Yoshiko Takahashi^{1,4}, Kazuhiro Uenishi⁵ and the Japan Dietetic Students' Study for Nutrition and Biomarkers Group†

¹Nutritional Epidemiology Program, National Institute of Health and Nutrition, Tokyo, Japan

kyo, Japan

After adjustment for potential confounding factors, *higher dietary acid load was associated with cardiovascular disease risk factors* including systolic and diastolic blood pressure, total and LDL-cholesterol, BMI and waist circumference.

ing cortisol
knowledge,
-sectionally
1136 female
h was deter-
ach nutrient

were obtained from a validated comprehensive self-administered diet history questionnaire. Body height and weight, waist circumference and blood pressure were measured. Fasting blood samples were collected. After adjustment for potential confounding factors, higher PRAL and Pro:K (more acidic dietary acid–base loads) were associated with higher systolic and diastolic blood pressure (*P* for trend=0.028 and 0.035 for PRAL and 0.012 and 0.009 for Pro:K, respectively). PRAL was also independently positively associated with total and LDL-cholesterol (*n* 1121; *P* for trend=0.042 and 0.021, respectively). Additionally, Pro:K showed an independent positive association with BMI and waist circumference (*P* for trend=0.024 and 0.012, respectively). In conclusion, more acidic dietary acid–base load was independently associated with adverse profile of several cardiometabolic risk factors in free-living young Japanese women.

Acid–base balance: Potential renal acid load: Ratio of dietary protein to potassium: Blood pressure



ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Metabolic and physiologic improvements from consuming a paleolithic, hunter-gatherer type diet

LA Frassetto, M Schloetter, M Mietus-Synder, RC Morris Jr and A Sebastian

Department of Medicine, University of California San Francisco School of Medicine, San Francisco, CA, USA

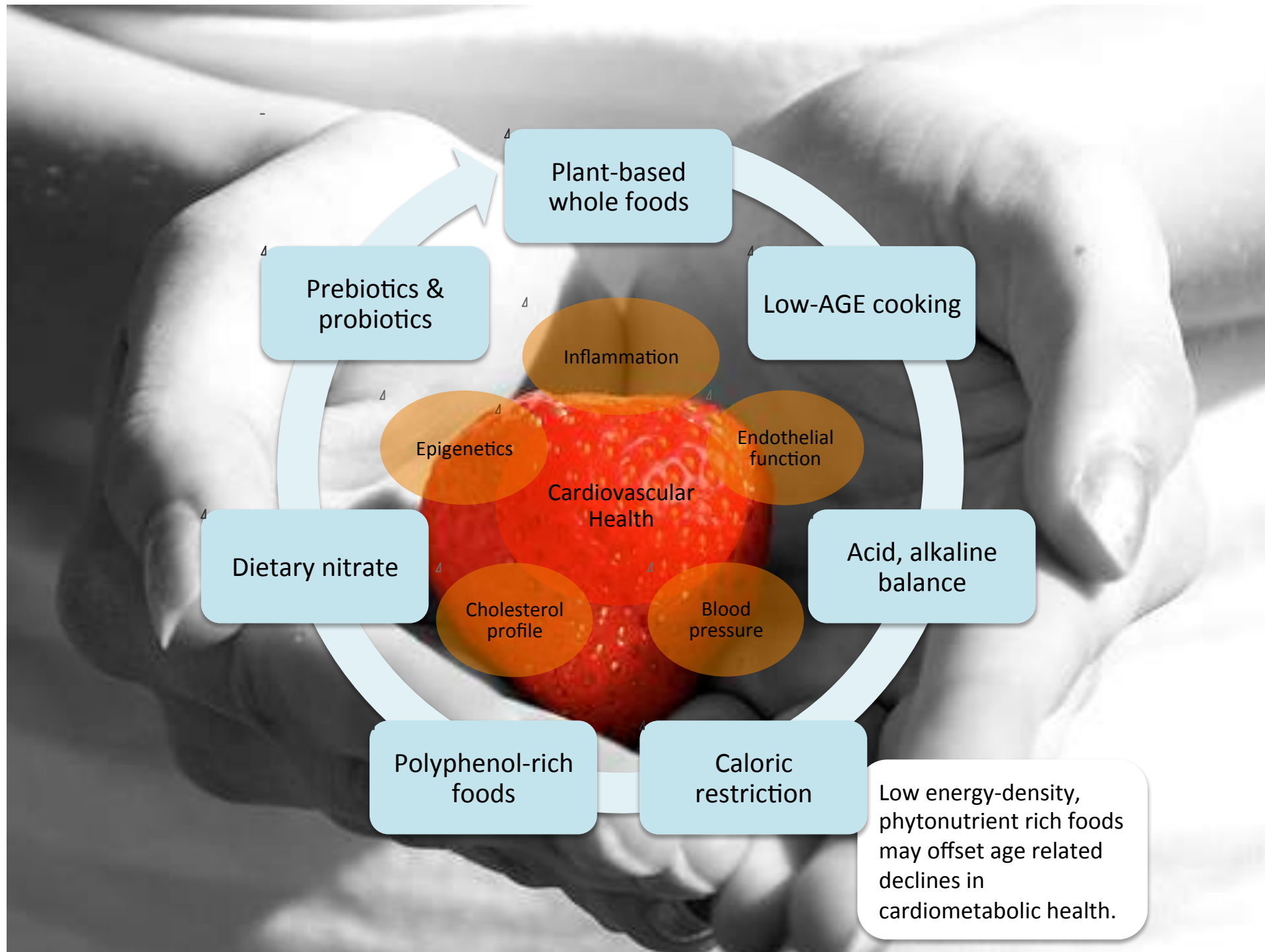
A short-term (10-day) intervention with a highly alkaline diet (comprising lean meat, fruits, vegetables and nuts and excluding cereal grains, dairy and legumes) resulted in a marked *increase in potassium intake and improvements in vascular reactivity, blood pressure, glucose tolerance, insulin sensitivity and lipid profiles.*

European Journal of Clinical Nutrition advance online publication, 11 February 2009; doi:10.1038/ejcn.2009.4

Keywords: paleolithic diet; blood pressure; glucose tolerance; insulin sensitivity; lipids

| Food Group | PRAL (mEq) | |
|-------------------------|------------|----------|
| Fruits and fruit juices | -3.1 | Alkaline |
| Vegetables | -2.8 | |
| Red wine | -2.4 | |
| Coffee | -1.4 | |
| Fats and Oils | 0 | |
| Sugar and Honey | 0 | Neutral |
| Milk | +1 | |
| Bread | +3.5 | |
| Lentils | +3.5 | Acid |
| Flour | +7 | |
| Cheese (low protein) | +8 | |
| Meat and meat products | +9.5 | |
| Cheese (high protein) | +23.6 | |

Remer T, Manz F. Potential renal acid load of foods and its influence on urine pH. J Am Diet Assoc. 1995 Jul;95(7):791-7.





Okinawa's Ushi Okushima, still gardening at age 109.

Caloric Restriction, the Traditional Okinawan Diet, and Healthy Aging

The Diet of the World's Longest-Lived People and Its Potential Impact on Morbidity and Life Span

BRADLEY J. WILLCOX,^{a,b} D. CRAIG WILLCOX,^{a,c} HIDEMI TODORIKI,^d
AKIRA FUJIYOSHI,^b KATSUHIKO YANO,^a QIMEI HE,^a
J. DAVID CURB,^{a,b} AND MAKOTO SUZUKI^e

“...we observed *low calorie intake coupled with high physical activity levels that appear to have contributed to a CR phenotype in older Okinawans*. This phenotype includes a life-long low BMI, relatively high plasma levels of DHEA at older ages, reduced mortality from age-associated diseases, and extended average and maximum survival.”

been used as an argument to support the CR hypothesis in humans. However, no long-term, epidemiologic analysis has been conducted on traditional dietary patterns, energy balance, and potential CR phenotypes for the specific cohort of Okinawans who are purported to have had a calorically restricted diet. Nor has this cohort's subsequent mortality experience been rigorously studied. Therefore, we investigated six decades of archived population data on the elderly cohort of Okinawans (aged 65-plus) for evidence of CR. Analyses included traditional diet composition, energy intake, energy expenditure, anthropometry, plasma DHEA, mortality from age-related diseases, and current survival patterns. Finding
at younger age

Ann N Y Acad Sci. 2007 Oct;1114:434-55.

What is caloric restriction?

Caloric restriction refers to a state in which energy intake is sufficiently low to achieve or maintain a low-normal body weight status (i.e. body mass index < 21 kg/m²) without causing malnutrition (i.e. adequate intake of proteins and micronutrients).

| FOOD CATEGORY | CALORIES PER POUND |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| VEGETABLES | 100 calories |
| FRUIT | 300 calories |
| WHOLE GRAINS | 500 calories |
| BEANS | 600 calories |
| <hr/> | |
| ANIMAL PRODUCTS | 1000 calories |
| REFINED CARBS/ WHITE FLOUR | 1400 calories |
| JUNK FOOD | 2300 calories |
| NUTS/SEEDS | 2800 calories |
| OILS | 4000 calories |

Caloric restriction: powerful protection for the aging heart and vasculature

Edward P. Weiss^{1,2} and Luigi Fontana^{2,3}

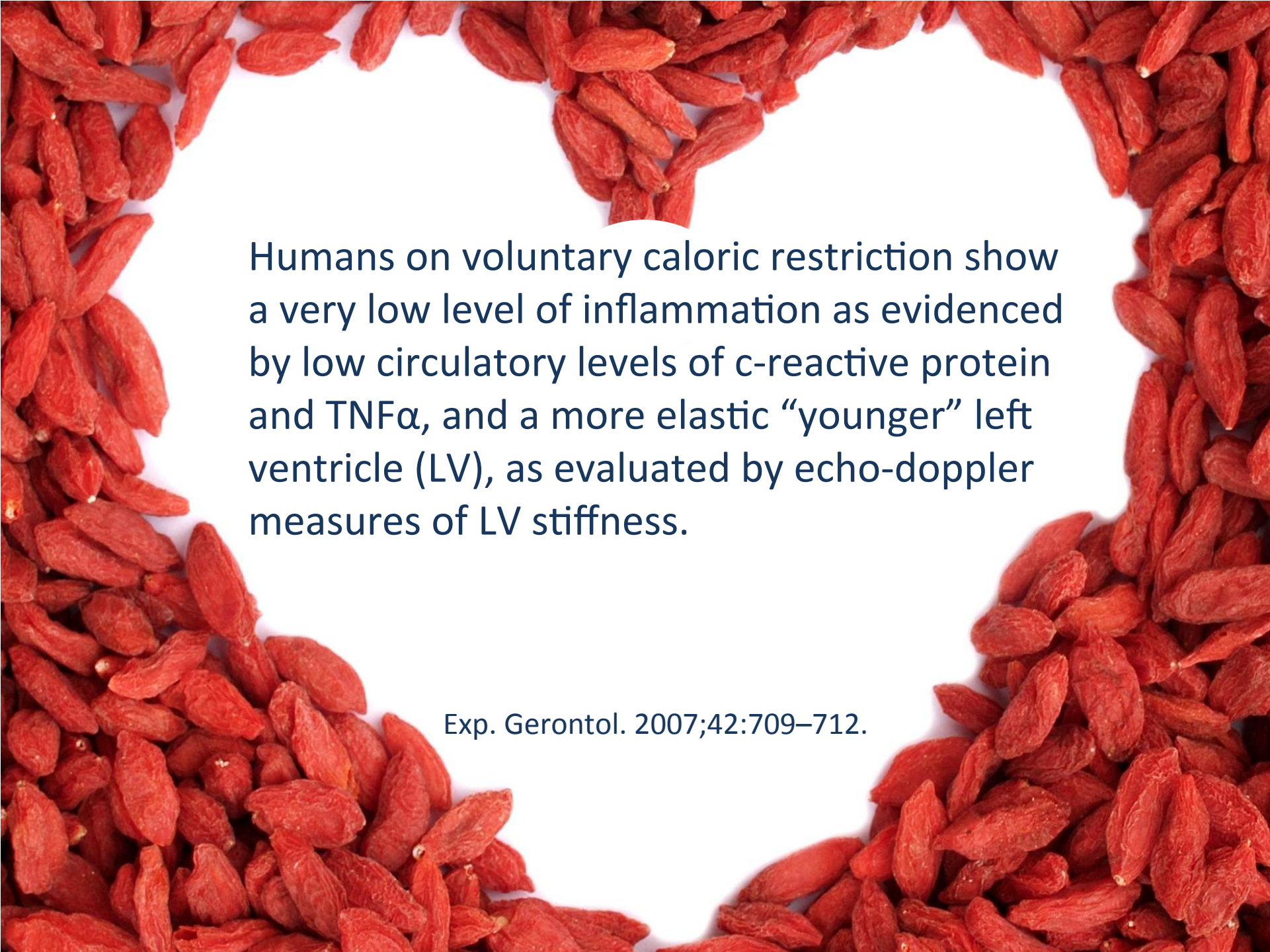
¹Department of Nutrition and Dietetics, Saint Louis University, Saint Louis, Missouri; ²Division of Geriatrics and Nutritional Sciences, Department of Medicine, Washington University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, Missouri; and ³Division of

In the vasculature, caloric restriction (CR) appears to protect against endothelial dysfunction and arterial stiffness and attenuates atherogenesis by improving several cardiometabolic risk factors.

States. Research has shown that the majority of the cardiometabolic alterations associated with an increased risk of CVD (e.g., insulin resistance, type 2 diabetes

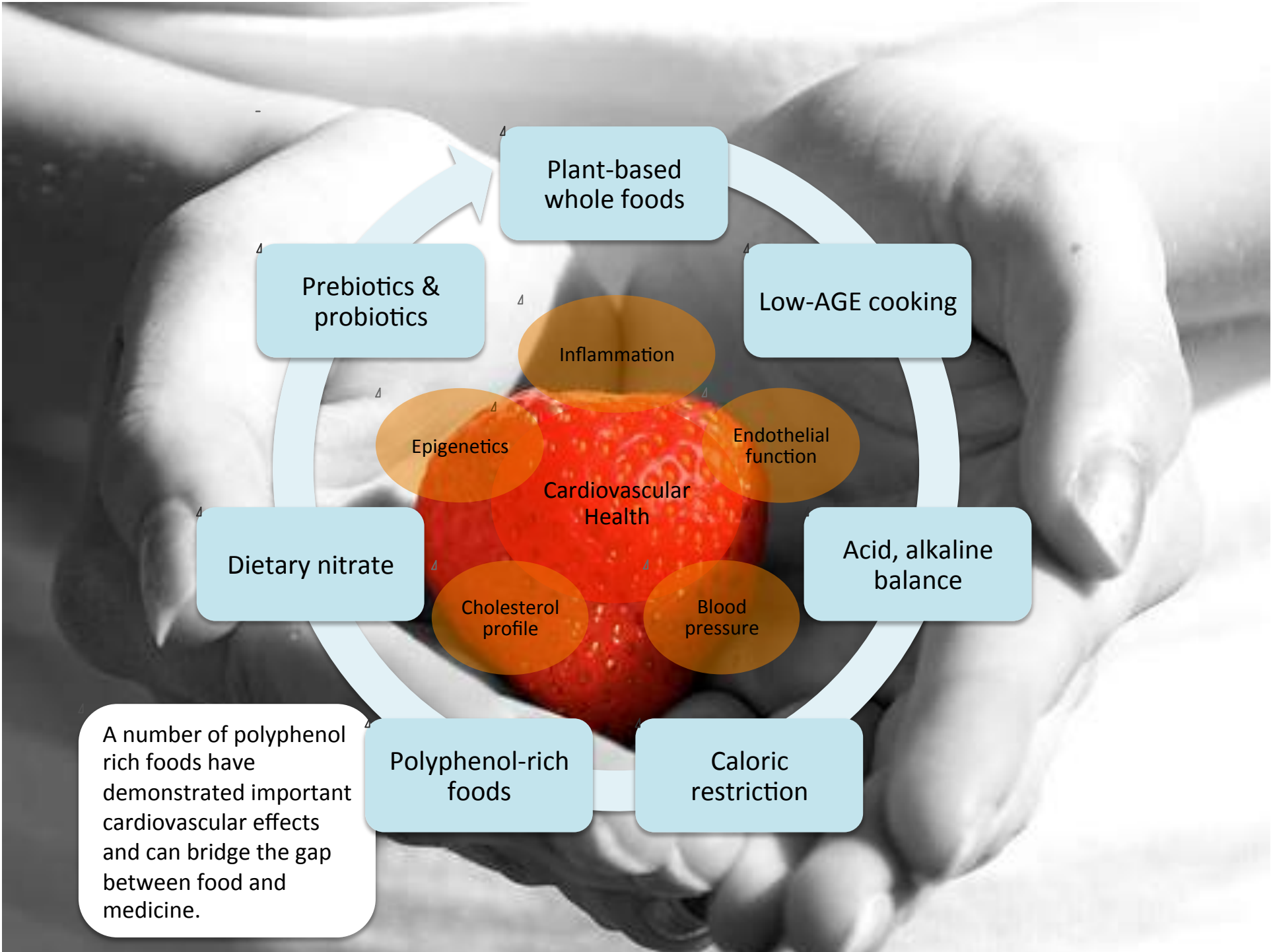
In the heart, CR attenuates age-related changes in the myocardium (i.e., CR protects against fibrosis, reduces cardiomyocyte apoptosis, prevents myosin isoform shifts, etc.) and preserves or improves left ventricular diastolic function.

related to reductions in inflammation and oxidative stress. In the vasculature, CR appears to protect against endothelial dysfunction and arterial stiffness and attenuates atherogenesis by improving several cardiometabolic risk factors. In the heart, CR attenuates age-related changes in the myocardium (i.e., CR protects against fibrosis, reduces cardiomyocyte apoptosis, prevents myosin isoform shifts, etc.) and preserves or improves left ventricular diastolic function. These effects, in combi-

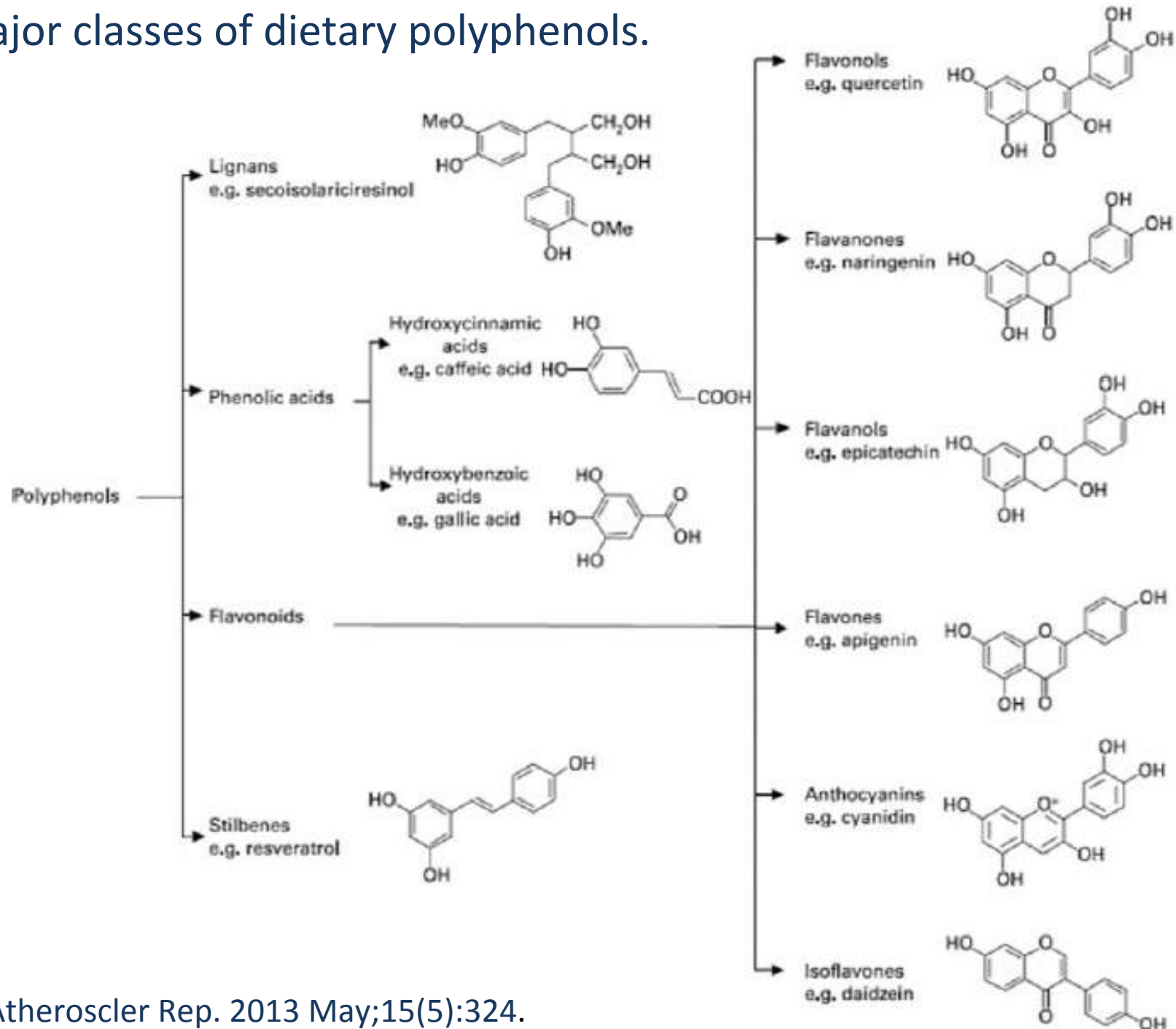


Humans on voluntary caloric restriction show a very low level of inflammation as evidenced by low circulatory levels of c-reactive protein and TNF α , and a more elastic “younger” left ventricle (LV), as evaluated by echo-doppler measures of LV stiffness.

Exp. Gerontol. 2007;42:709–712.



Major classes of dietary polyphenols.



Polyphenols, Inflammation, and Cardiovascular Disease

Christy C. Tangney · Heather E. Rasmussen

“Recent mechanistic insights provide support for the potential role of polyphenols in the inflammatory process including reduced ROS, cytokine expression, and endothelial inflammatory markers, as well as increased nitric oxide production.”

and recent epidemiological evidence and intervention trials will be reviewed. Further identification of polyphenols in foods and accurate assessment of exposures through measurement of biomarkers (i.e., polyphenol metabolites) could provide the needed impetus to examine the impact of polyphenol-rich foods on CVD intermediate outcomes (especially those signifying chronic inflammation) and hard endpoints among high risk patients. Although we have mechanistic insight into how polyphenols may function in CVD risk reduction, further research is needed before definitive recommendations for consumption can be made.

plays a key role in development and progression of CVD, bioactive compounds with anti-inflammatory properties such as polyphenols (PPs) is the focus of this review.

Polyphenol Classification and Food Sources

Polyphenols naturally exist in plants and plant products, including fruits, vegetables, nuts, herbs, cocoa, and tea. Over 500 different PPs exist and are classified based on structure, with the phenolic hydroxyl groups as the common structural feature. Differences in primary aromatic rings,

on of
ading
n, or
diet,
mod-
com-
lth is
ation

Flavonoid intake and cardiovascular disease mortality in a prospective cohort of US adults¹⁻⁴

Marjorie L McCullough, Julia J Peterson, Roshni Patel, Paul F Jacques, Roma Shah, and Johanna T Dwyer

ABSTRACT

Background: Flavonoids are plant-based phytochemicals with cardiovascular protective properties. Few studies have comprehensively examined flavonoid classes in relation to cardiovascular

nuts, cocoa, and beverages such as tea and wine, are bioactive polyphenolic, noncaloric, nonnutrient secondary metabolites in plants that cannot be synthesized by humans. Many have potent antioxidant or antiinflammatory activity, reduce LDL cholesterol, and some

“In this large prospective cohort of US men and women, a *greater intake of total flavonoids, and of most flavonoid classes, was associated with a lower risk of fatal CVD* in men and women after several important CVD risk factors were controlled for.”

a lower risk of fatal CVD (RR: 0.82; 95% CI: 0.73, 0.92; *P*-trend = 0.01). Five flavonoid classes—anthocyanidins, flavan-3-ols, flavones, flavonols, and proanthocyanidins—were individually associated with lower risk of fatal CVD (all *P*-trend < 0.05). In men, total flavonoid intakes were more strongly associated with stroke mortality (RR: 0.63; 95% CI: 0.44, 0.89; *P*-trend = 0.04) than with ischemic heart disease (RR: 0.90; 95% CI: 0.72, 1.13). Many associations appeared to be nonlinear, with lower risk at intakes above the referent category.

Conclusions: Flavonoid consumption was associated with lower risk of death from CVD. Most inverse associations appeared with intermediate intakes, suggesting that even relatively small amounts of flavonoid-rich foods may be b

is that of flavan-3-ols and flavonols. In Western populations, flavonoid intake is generally low, and most studies have been cross-sectional. The limited evidence relating flavonoid intake to CVD risk in Western populations, we examined the relation between

investigation of other classes of flavonoids, including anthocyanidins, flavanones, isoflavones, and proanthocyanidins, in relation to CVD risk in Western populations has been limited (13–15). In the past decade, new flavonoid composition databases (16–18) have enabled more in-depth evaluation of the role of these dietary constituents in chronic disease prevention.

Given the limited evidence relating flavonoid intake to CVD risk in Western populations, we examined the relation between

¹ From the Epidemiology Research Program, American Cancer Society,

Evidence for a protective effect of polyphenols-containing foods on cardiovascular health: an update for clinicians

Véronique Habauzit and Christine Morand

Ther Adv Chronic Dis
(2012) 3(2) 87-106
DOI: 10.1177/
2040422311430004

© The Author(s), 2012.
Reprints and permissions:
[http://www.sagepub.co.uk/
journalsPermissions.nav](http://www.sagepub.co.uk/journalsPermissions.nav)

“While additional studies in this area are clearly needed, *incorporating plant foods that are rich in flavanols in the diet of healthy individuals could help to reduce CVD risk.*”

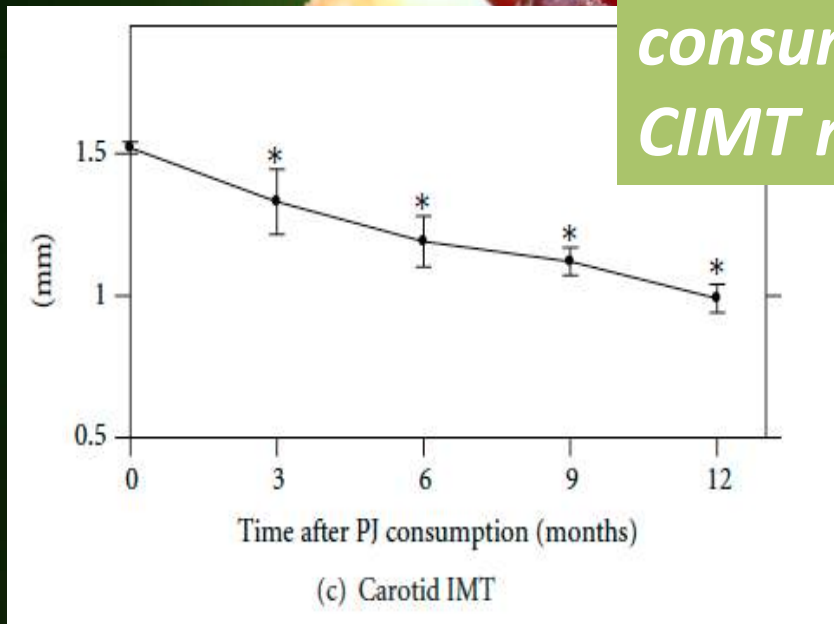
as red wine or coffee, the evidence is so far inconclusive. This is primarily due to the limited number and the weakness of experimental designs of the studies performed with these dietary sources. Future long-term well-designed investigations with polyphenols-rich foods but also with isolated phenolic compounds would provide valuable information to establish public health recommendations on polyphenols, taking into account both the nature of the compounds and the optimal dose, for cardiovascular health protection.

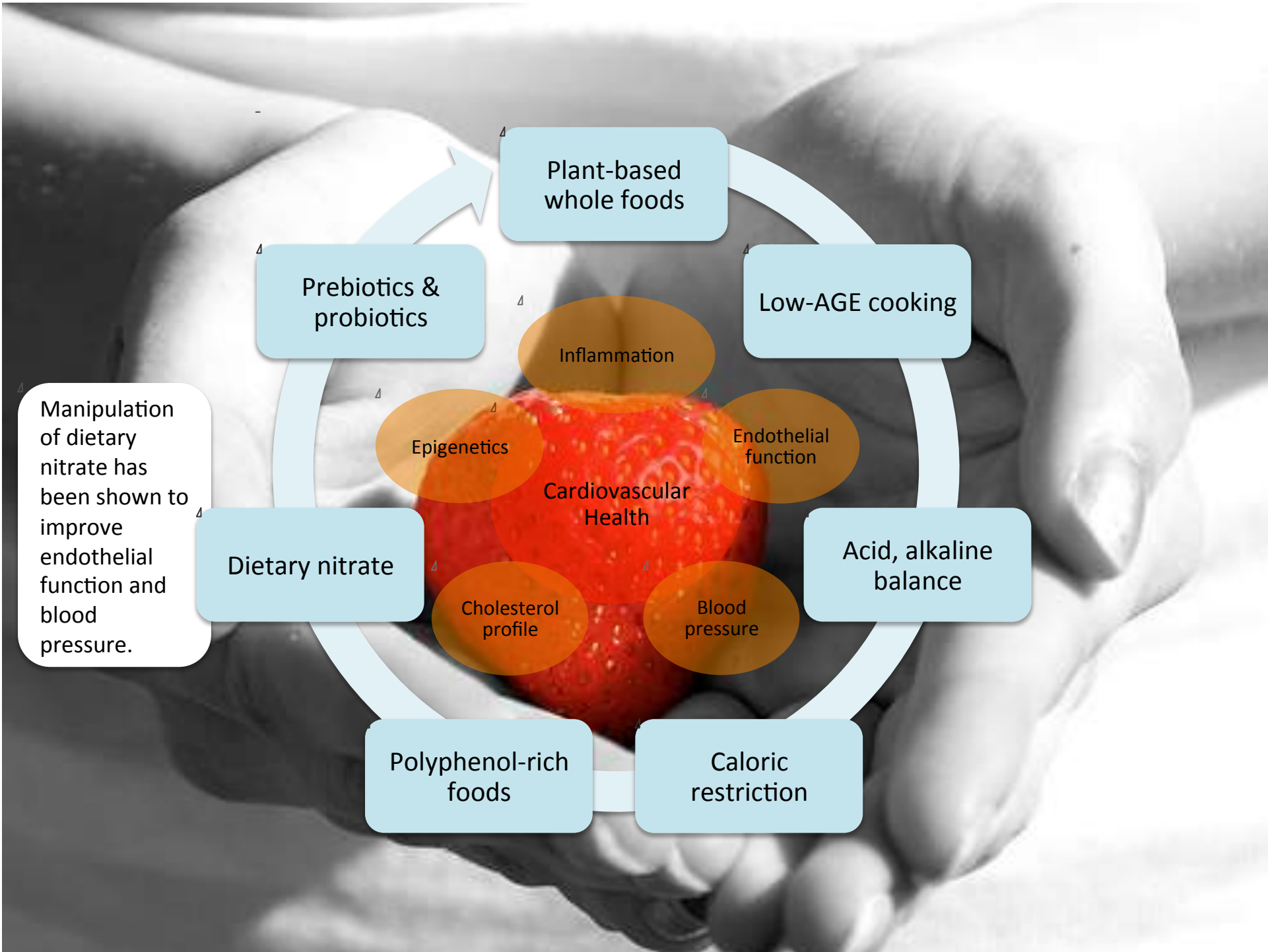
Keywords: blood lipids, blood pressure, dietary polyphenols, flavonoids, endothelial function, nutritional prevention of cardiovascular diseases, platelet function, randomized controlled clinical trials

Ther Adv Chronic Dis. 2012 Mar;3(2):87-106.

People with carotid artery stenosis (CAS) drank 240 mL/day of pomegranate juice (PJ) over a year.

While in the control group (no PJ) carotid intima-media thickness (CIMT) increased by 10% after 1 year, *PJ consumption resulted in a significant CIMT reduction, by up to 35%.*







Inorganic nitrate: a major player in the cardiovascular health benefits of vegetables?

Ajay Machha and Alan N Schechter

Epidemiological evidence suggests a higher consumption of vegetables confers a protective effect against the risk of cardiovascular disease. Impaired bioavailability

“...it appears that inorganic nitrate may play a major role in the cardiovascular health benefits of vegetables, presumably through enhancing nitric oxide (NO) bioavailability in the vasculature.”

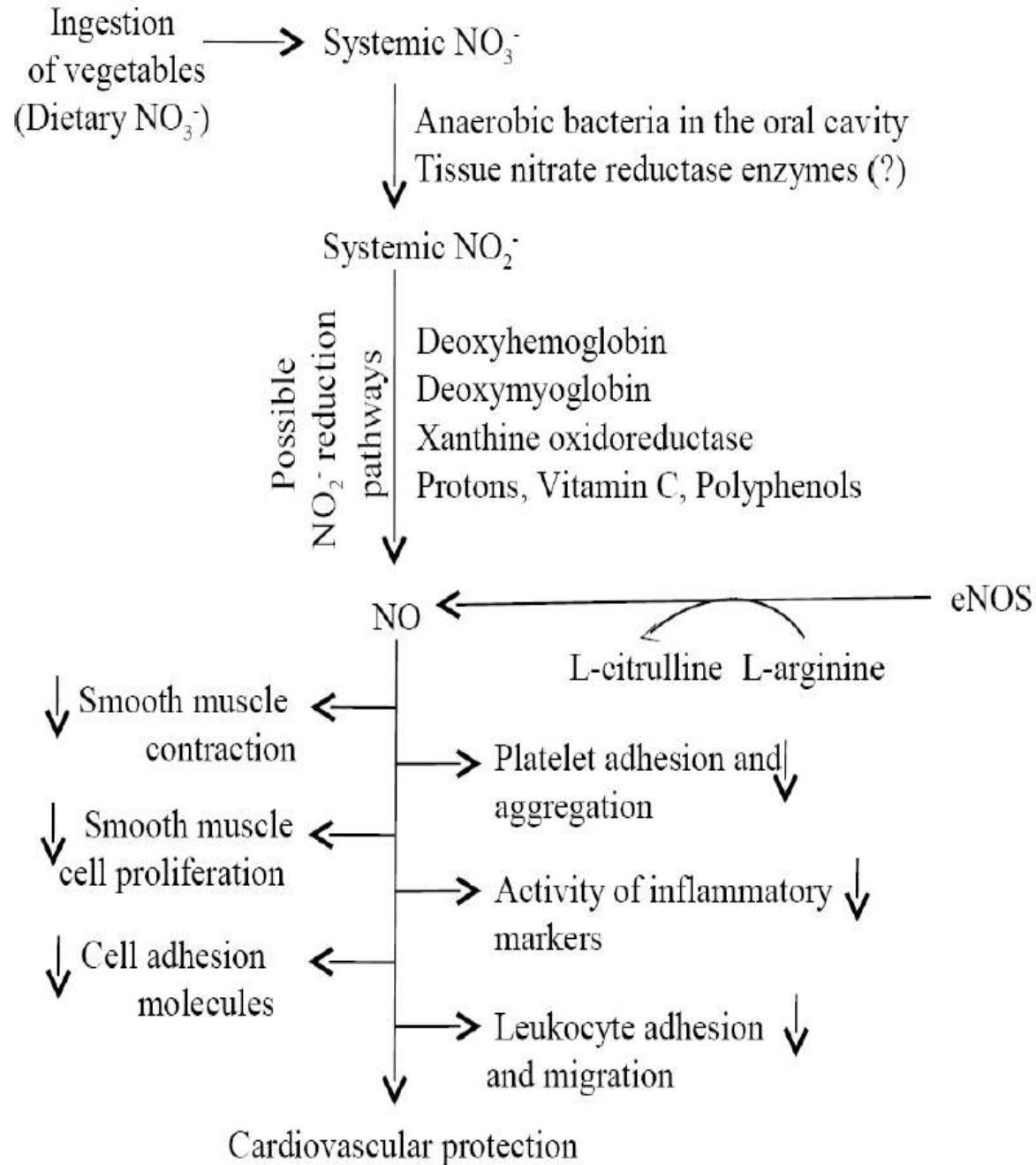
nitrite remains less clear and must be studied in prospective controlled studies. This brief review discusses the potential role of inorganic dietary nitrate in the cardiovascular health benefits of vegetables.

© 2012 International Life Sciences Institute

INTRODUCTION

Epidemiological evidence suggests that increased consumption of vegetables reduces the risk of cardiovascular disease, which is the leading cause of mortality in the Western world.¹⁻⁵ Although this benefit was traditionally postulated to be linked to the antioxidant factors in vegetables, studies over the past two decades have shown that many nonantioxidant factors as likely can

clinical studies show that dietary nitrate supplementation at doses commonly found in vegetable-rich diets exerts beneficial effects on the cardiovascular system.¹⁰⁻¹⁶ These beneficial effects of nitrate are largely thought to be mediated by the reduction of nitrate to nitric oxide (NO) in the body, since NO is a critical regulator of vascular homeostasis.¹⁰⁻¹⁶ Current data suggest that nitrate under-



Dietary nitrate in Japanese traditional foods lowers diastolic blood pressure in healthy volunteers:

- ✓ A randomized, cross-over trial examining the effect of a 10-day period of Japanese traditional diet (JTD) on blood pressure in 25 healthy volunteers.
- ✓ Plasma and salivary levels of *nitrate and nitrite were higher* at the end of the JTD period.
- ✓ *Diastolic BP decreased* on average 4.5 mm Hg during JTD compared to the control diet ($P = 0.0066$) while systolic BP was not affected.

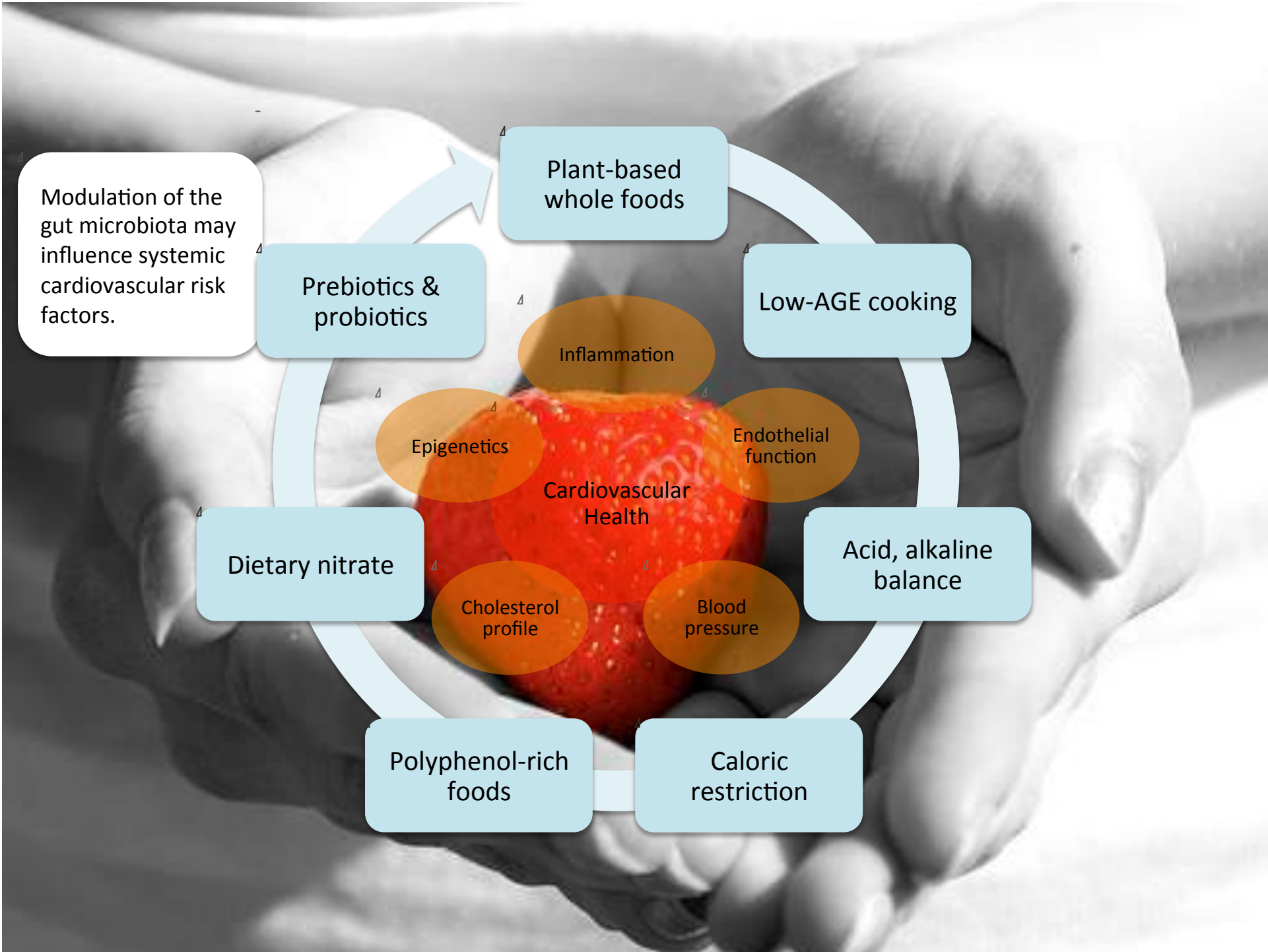


Beating Heart Disease:

Hypertensive patients were randomized to receive either dietary nitrate (250mL daily, as beetroot juice) or a placebo (nitrate-free beet juice) for 4-weeks.

Home blood pressure was reduced by 8.1mmHg. Endothelial function improved by ~20% and arterial stiffness was reduced, with no change after placebo.





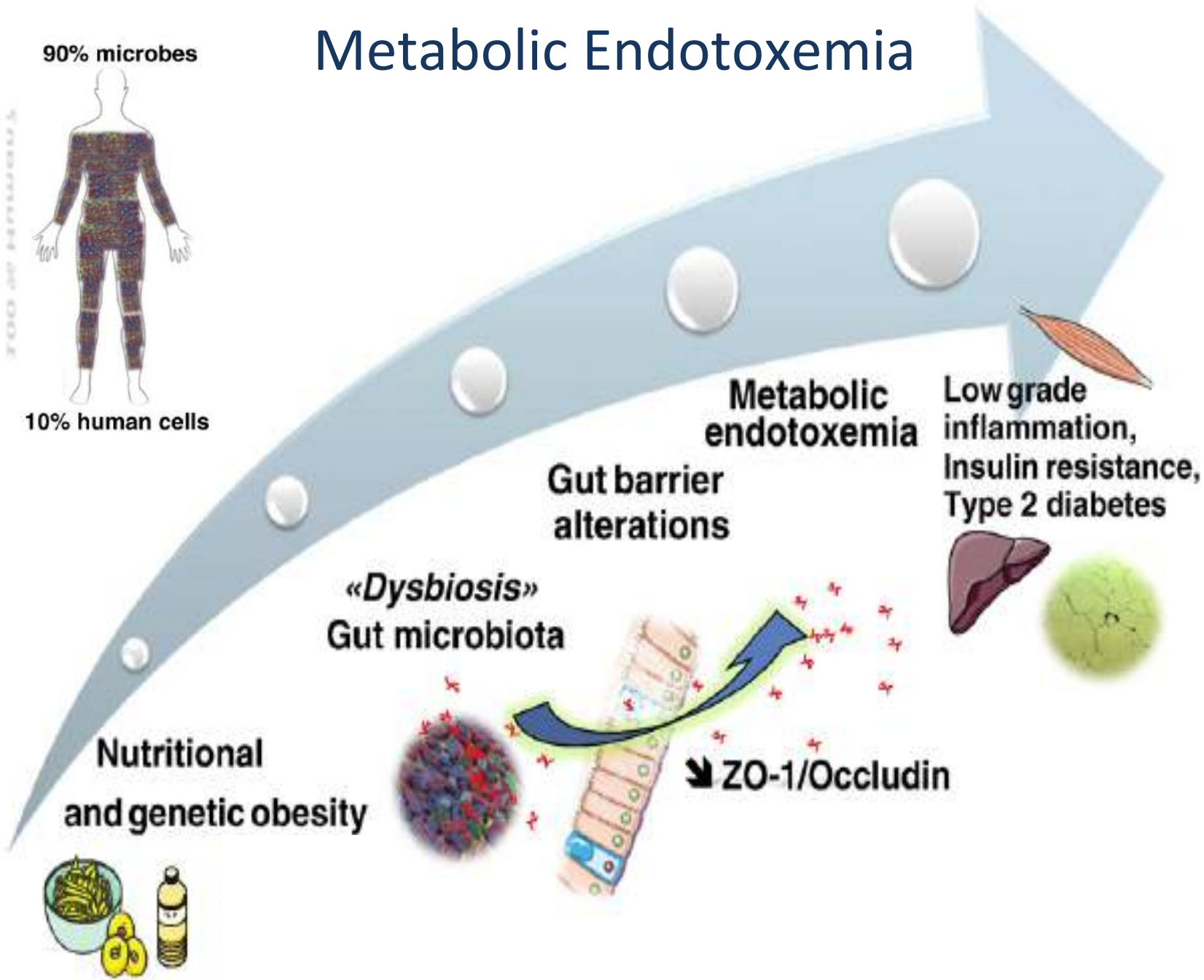
Metabolic Endotoxemia

100 % Human?

90% microbes



10% human cells



Ethnic and sex differences in circulating endotoxin levels: A novel marker of atherosclerotic and cardiovascular risk in a British multi-ethnic population

Michelle A. Miller^{a,*}, Philip G. McTernan^a, Alison L. Harte^a,
Nancy F. da Silva^a, Pasquale Strazzullo^b, K. George M.M. Alberti^c,

Endotoxin levels were positively associated with waist, waist-hip ratio, total cholesterol, serum triglycerides and serum insulin levels and negatively associated with serum HDL-cholesterol.

ABSTRACT

Background: Circulating endotoxin levels are associated with atherosclerosis. Moreover ethnic differences in non-inflammatory markers may

A graded increase in endotoxin levels from black Africans to whites to South Asians, which is consistent with the ethnic difference in CHD risk.

high-
sians
Heart
[95%
toxin

levels were positively associated with waist, waist-hip ratio, total cholesterol, serum triglycerides and serum insulin levels and negatively associated with serum HDL-cholesterol. Serum hs-CRP and plasma sCD14 varied by ethnic group ($p < 0.001$) but was not associated with endotoxin.

Conclusions: This study is the first to indicate a graded increase in endotoxin levels from black Africans to whites to South Asians, which is consistent with the ethnic difference in CHD risk. Whilst these findings support the concept that the innate immune system (IIS) may contribute significantly to the metabolic component underlying the development of CVD and CHD risk, further studies are required to see whether endotoxin levels are causally related to the development of CHD.

© 2008 Elsevier Ireland Ltd. All rights reserved.

Keywords: Ethnicity; Ather: Atherosclerosis. 2009 Apr;203(2):494-502.

Increase in Plasma Endotoxin Concentrations and the Expression of Toll-Like Receptors and Suppressor of Cytokine Signaling-3 in Mononuclear Cells After a High-Fat, High-Carbohydrate Meal

Implications for insulin resistance

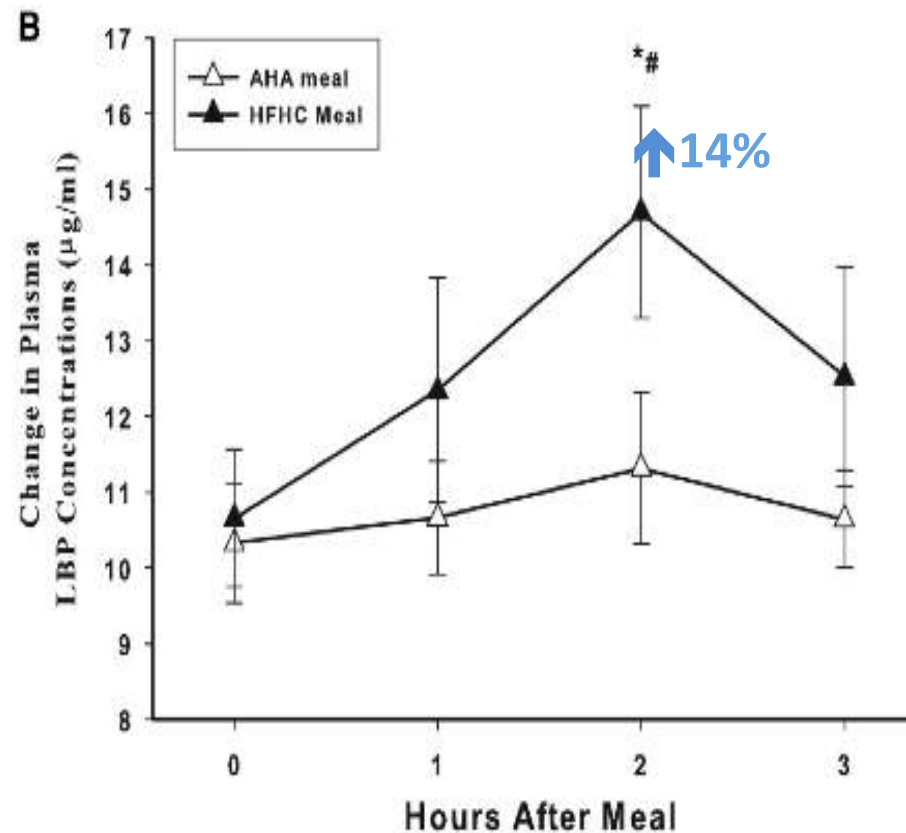
HUSAM GHANIM, MD¹
SANA ABUAYSEH, BS¹

AJAY CHAUDHURI, MD²
JOSE MANUEL FERNANDEZ-REAL, MD³

caloric restriction (2) and weight loss in human obesity over a period of 4 weeks

- The unhealthy meal increased plasma endotoxin concentration and oxidative and inflammatory stress.

These increases were totally absent after the meal rich in fiber and fruit.



© 2009 by the American Diabetes Association. Readers may use this article as long as the work is properly cited, the use is educational and not for profit, and the work is not altered. See <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/> for details. The units of publication of this article were deployed in part by the payment of our charges. This article must therefore be marked "advertisement" in accordance with 18 U.S.C.

κB-mediated inflammation and the development of insulin resistance (6). We have recently shown that a low-dose in-

A High-Fat Diet Is Associated With Endotoxemia That Originates From the Gut

SWAROOP PENDYALA, JEANNE M. WALKER, and PETER R. HOLT

Laboratory of Biochemical Genetics and Metabolism, The Rockefeller University, New York, New York

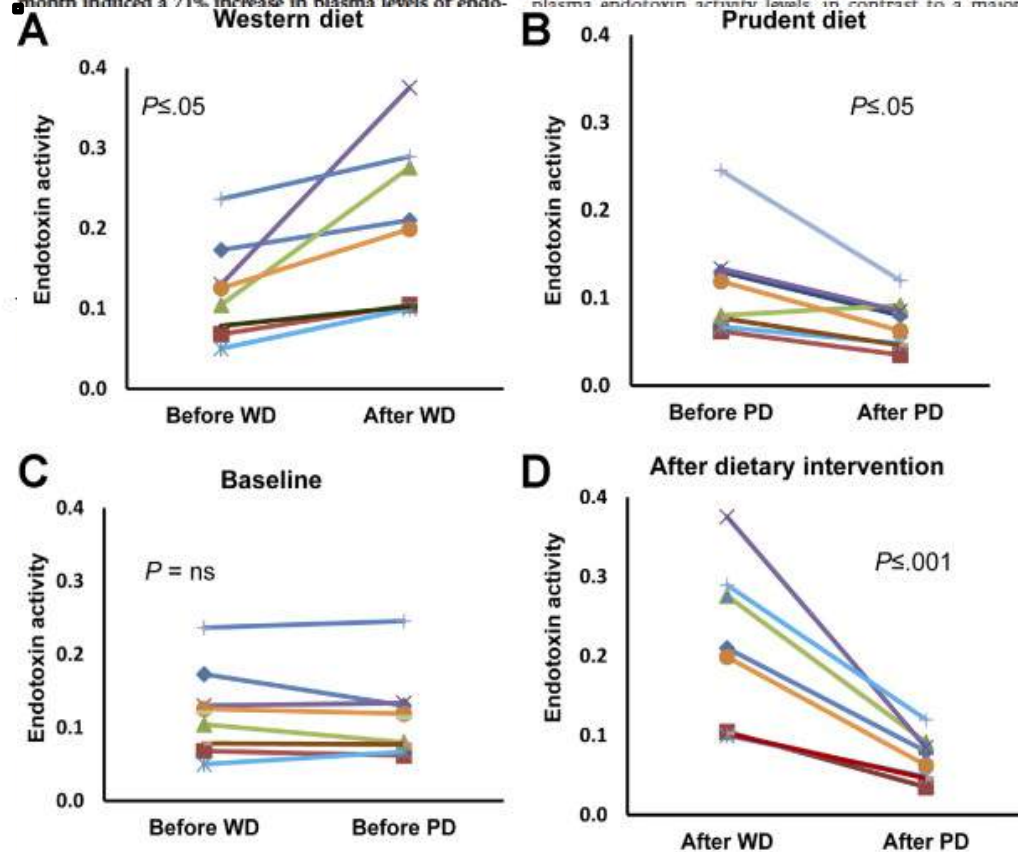
Endotoxemia, characterized by an excess of circulating bacterial wall lipopolysaccharide, is associated with systemic inflammation and the metabolic syndrome. Placing 8 healthy subjects on a Western-style diet for 1 month induced a 71% increase in plasma levels of endo-

toxin activity. Serum cytokines were determined before and after each dietary study period.

Our study shows that 4 weeks of feeding a Western-style diet induced highly significant increases (by 71%) in plasma endotoxin activity levels, in contrast to a main-

The Western-style diet induced a **71% increase** in plasma levels of endotoxin activity (endotoxemia).

A prudent-style diet **reduced levels by 31%**.



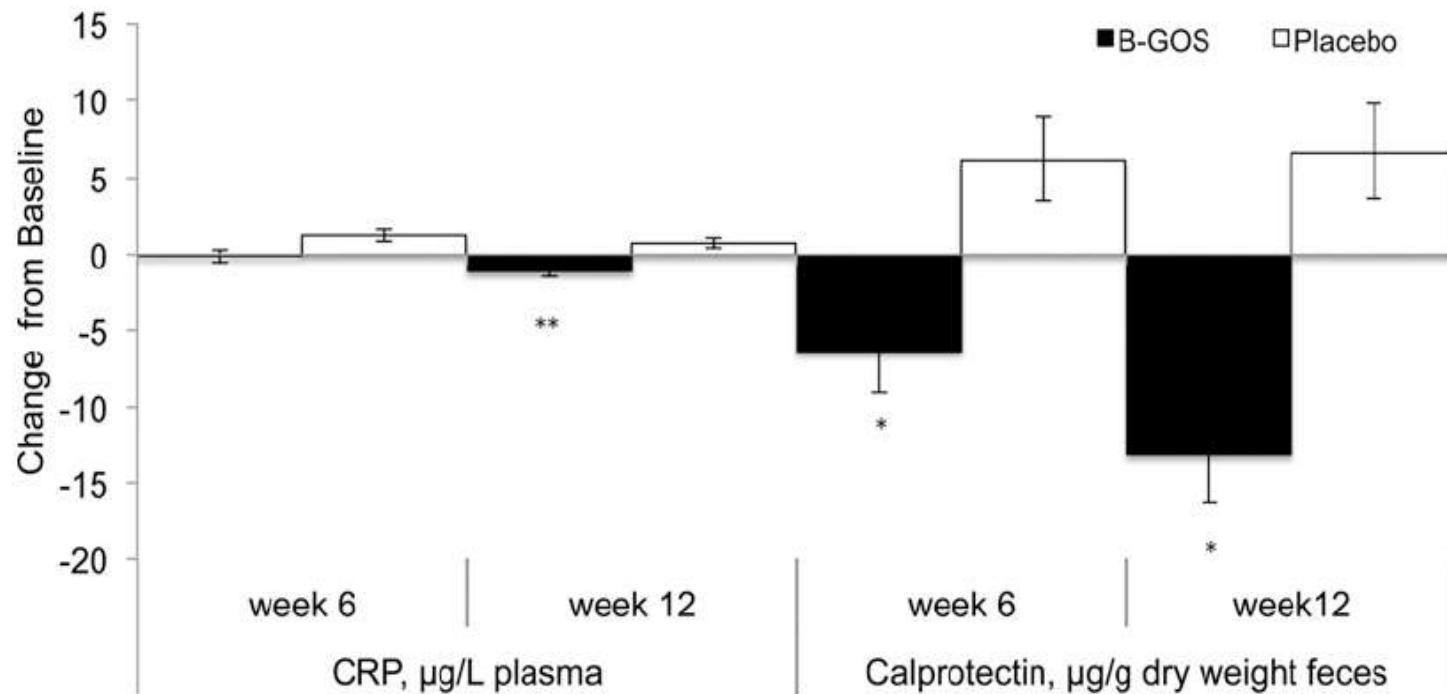
Briefly, 8 healthy subjects were fed a Western-style and a "prudent-style" diet for 1 month as inpatients hospitalized in a metabolic ward in a crossover study separated by a 1-month washout period. Blood endotoxin levels (endo-

toxin activity) were determined before and after each dietary study period. Serum cytokines were determined before and after each dietary study period.

Abbreviations used in this report: PD, Prudent diet; WD, Western diet.

Galactooligosaccharides reduce markers of metabolic syndrome and modulates the fecal microbiota:

A galactooligosaccharide mixture *increased the number of fecal bifidobacteria* at the expense of less desirable groups of bacteria. Increases in fecal secretory IgA and *decreases in fecal calprotectin, plasma C-reactive protein, insulin, total cholesterol (TC), TG, and the TC:HDL cholesterol* ratio were also observed.



A whole food dietary pattern emphasizing vegetables, fruits, nuts, olive oil, legumes, whole grains, with modest intake of lean meats and fish, is a powerful modulator of global cardiovascular health and disease risk.

Plant-based whole foods

Low-advanced glycation end product (AGE) food preparation can reduce inflammation, oxidative stress, and improve vascular function.

Low-AGE cooking

An emphasis on alkaline, potassium rich fruits and vegetables may improve cardiovascular risk factors, in particular hypertension.

Acid, alkaline balance

Low energy-density, phytonutrient rich foods may offset age related declines in cardiometabolic health.

Caloric restriction

Polyphenol-rich foods

A number of polyphenol rich foods have demonstrated important cardiovascular effects and can bridge the gap between food and medicine.

Dietary nitrate

Manipulation of dietary nitrate has been shown to improve endothelial function and blood pressure.

Prebiotics & probiotics

Modulation of the gut microbiota may influence systemic cardiovascular risk factors.

