

Dietary Guidance Toward Adopting Greater Plant-Based Intakes: The U.S. Experience

Linda Van Horn, PhD, RDN

Professor, Preventive Medicine Chief, Nutrition Division Feinberg School of Medicine Northwestern University

The US Dietary Guidance Experience : Outline

2020 US Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee

- AHA Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics 2020 Update
- DGAC Process and Topics
- Committee Findings Chapters 8,9,12

2021 AHA Dietary Guidance to Improve Cardiovascular Health

- Evidence-based Dietary Guidelines
- Healthy proteins prioritizing plant protein

Summary: Key Evidence-Based Dietary Factors

- Favorable: PUFA, Fiber, Plant-Based dietary pattern
- Unfavorable: SFA, Sodium, Sugar, Red/Processed Meat

Future Directions

- Precision Nutrition for Health
- Artificial Intelligence: data driven diet assessment links to biomarkers





AHA STATISTICAL UPDATE

Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics— 2020 Update

A Report From the American Heart Association

Virani SS, Alonso A, Benjamin EJ, Bittencourt MS, Callaway CW, Carson AP, Chamberlain AM, Chang AR, Cheng S, Delling FN, Djousse L, Elkind MSV, Ferguson JF, Fornage M, Khan SS, Kissela BM, Knutson KL, Kwan TW, Lackland DT, Lewis TT, Lichtman JH, Longenecker CT, Loop MS, Lutsey PL, Martin SS, Matsushita K, Moran AE, Mussolino ME, Perak AM, Rosamond WD, Roth GA, Sampson UKA, Satou GM, Schroeder EB, Shah SH, Shay CM, Spartano NL, Stokes A, Tirschwell DL, VanWagner LB, Tsao CW; American Heart Association Council on Epidemiology and Prevention Statistics Committee and Stroke Statistics Subcommittee. Circulation. 2020 Jan 29:CIR000000000000757. Epub ahead of print.



Less than 1% of Americans are in ideal cardiovascular health.



Prevalence of Poor, Intermediate, and Ideal Cardiovascular Health for Each of The 7 Metrics of Cardiovascular Health in The AHA 2020 Goals Among US Adults Aged 20 to 49 and ≥ 50 Years





*Healthy diet score based on consumption of: fruits & vegetables, seafood, sodium, SSBs, whole grains, nuts/seeds & legumes, processed meats, and SFA

Benjamin et al. Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2019 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association. Circulation. 2019;139:e56-e66.

Process to Update the Dietary Guidelines

Step 1: Review of the science by a Federal advisory committee.

- USDA/HHS convene a Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee.
- The Committee conducts an independent review of the current scientific evidence and submits a report of its findings to the Secretaries.
- The scientific report is then posted for public and Federal agency review and comment.







The Committee's Scientific Review



Data Analysis More than 150 analyses of Federal data sets

Food Pattern Modeling Several analyses across the life span – and representing, for the first time, 6- to 24-month life stage





NESR Systematic Review

More than 270,000 citations screened and nearly 1,500 original research articles included in 33 original systematic reviews



2020 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee









Jamy Ard, MD Wake Forest School of Medicine



Regan Bailey, PhD, MPH, RD Purdue University



Lydia Bazzano, MD, PhD Tulane University



Carol Boushey, PhD, MPH, RD University of Hawaii





Timothy Naimi, MD, MPH Boston University



Kathryn Dewey, PhD University of California-Davis



Steven Heymsfield, MD Louisiana State University

Heather Leidy, PhD University of Texas

Richard Mattes, PhD, MPH, RD Purdue University



Elizabeth Mayer-Davis, PhD, RD University of North Carolina





Rachel Novotny, PhD, RDN, LD University of Hawaii

Joan Sabaté, DrPH, MD Loma Linda University



Linda Snetselaar, PhD, RD Jamie Stang, PhD, MPH, RDN University of Iowa University of Minnesota



Elsie Taveras, MD, MPH* Harvard University



Linda Van Horn, PhD, RDN, LD Northwestern University













What's the difference between the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee Report & the Dietary Guidelines for Americans?

COMMITTEE REPORT



Dietaryquidelines.gov



Most Americans Do Not Follow the *Dietary Guidelines*

Medicine[®]



Note: HEI-2015 total scores are out of 100 possible points. A score of 100 indicates that recommendations on average were met or exceeded. A higher total score indicates a higher quality diet.

Data Source: Analysis of What We Eat in America, NHANES 2015-2016, ages 2 and older, day 1 dietary intake data, weighted.

Organization of the 2020 Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee

Advisory Committee Review of Scientific Evidence

Worked in 6 topic area subcommittees and one cross-cutting working group:

- **1. Pregnancy and Lactation**
- 2. Birth to 24 Months
- 3. Dietary Patterns
- 4. Beverages and Added Sugars
- 5. Dietary Fats and Seafood
- 6. Frequency of Eating

Data Analysis and Food Pattern Modeling







Example of Findings from Systematic Reviews Committee Findings: Dietary Patterns (Chapter 8, p 39-40)

Table D8.1. Dietary pattern components in the Committee's Conclusion Statements that are associated with the health outcomes of interest.**

Health outcome of interest	Health Outcome of Interest:	All-cause mortality	Cardiovascular disease ^a	Growth, size, body composition and risk of overweight and obesity ^a	Type 2 diabetes ^a	Bone health ^a	Colorectal Cancer ^b	Breast Cancer (Post- menopausal)	Lung Cancer ^b	Neurocognitive health	
	Grade:	Strong	Strong (adults);	Moderate (adults);	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Limited	Limited (adults)	
Grade		(adults)	Limited (children)	Limited (children)	(adults)	(adults)	(adults)	(adults)	(adults)		
Lower risk of disease	Dietary patterns associated with lower risk of disease consistently included the following components.										
	Components										
	Fruits	х	х	X	X	x	X	x	X	X	
	Vegetables	х	х	X	x	x	x	x	X	X	
	Whole grains/cereal	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		
	Legumes	x	x	X (adults)		x	x		x	x	
	Nuts	x	X (adults)			x				x	
	Low-fat dairy	х	х	X		x	X		X		
	Fish and/or seafood	x	x	X (adults)		x	x		x	x	
	Unsaturated vegetable oils	x	x	X (adults)						x	
	Lean meat	х					x		X		
	Poultry	х									
	Dietary patterns associated with higher risk of disease consistently included the following components.										
Higher risk of disease	Red meat	x	X (adults)	X (adults)	x		x				
	Processed meat	х	х	X	X	X	x				
	High-fat meat								X		
	High-fat dairy	х			x						
	Animal-source foods							x			
	Saturated fats		X (adults)	X (adults)			x				

Committee Findings: Dietary Patterns (Chapter 8)

- Dietary pattern associated with beneficial outcomes: higher intake of vegetables, fruits, legumes, whole grains, low- or non-fat dairy, lean meat and poultry, seafood, nuts and unsaturated vegetable oils, and low consumption of red and processed meats, sugar-sweetened foods and drinks, and refined grains.
- Dietary patterns associated with adverse or detrimental outcomes included higher intake of red and processed meats, sugarsweetened foods and beverages, and refined grains.





Committee Advice: Dietary Fats and Seafood (Chapter 9)

Fats and Dietary Cholesterol:

- Intake of saturated fats should be limited to less than 10% of energy per day by replacing them with unsaturated fats.
- Dietary cholesterol intake should be as low as possible.

Seafood intake for children:

- Two or more servings of cooked seafood per week are recommended for ages 2 years and older to ensure intake of key nutrients and as part of an overall healthy dietary pattern; serving sizes vary based on age (FDA guidance).
- For those that do not consume seafood, regular intake of other foods high in omega-3 fatty acids, such as flaxseeds, walnuts, soy oil, algae and eggs that contain omega-3 fatty acids, is appropriate.



Committee Evidence: Added Sugar (Chapter 12)

 Recommend less than 6% of energy from added sugars to achieve a dietary pattern that is nutritionally adequate while avoiding excess energy.











Northwestern Medicine®

DietaryGuidelines.gov



Make Every Bite Count With the *Dietary Guidelines* Dietary Guidelines for Americans 2020 - 2025

Figure 1-6

Dietary Intakes Compared to Recommendations: Percent of the U.S. Population Ages 1 and Older Who Are Below and At or Above Each Dietary Goal



*NOTE: Recommended daily intake of whole grains is to be at least half of total grain consumption, and the limit for refined grains is to be no more than half of total grain consumption.

Data Source: Analysis of What We Eat in America, NHANES 2013-2016, ages 1 and older, 2 days dietary intake data, weighted. Recommended Intake Ranges: Healthy U.S.-Style Dietary Patterns (see Appendix 3).

45% of cardiometabolic deaths in 2012 were attributable to suboptimal intake

Absolute cardiometabolic mortality attributable to dietary habits in the United States in 2012



Micha et al. JAMA 2017;317(9):912-24.

AHA SCIENTIFIC STATEMENT

2021 Dietary Guidance to Improve Cardiovascular Health: A Scientific Statement From the American Heart Association

Alice H. Lichtenstein, DSc, FAHA, Chair*; Lawrence J. Appel, MD, MPH, FAHA, Vice Chair*; Maya Vadiveloo, PhD, RD, FAHA, Vice Chair; Frank B. Hu, MD, PhD, FAHA; Penny M. Kris-Etherton, PhD, RD, FAHA; Casey M. Rebholz, PhD, MS, MNSP, MPH, FAHA; Frank M. Sacks, MD, FAHA; Anne N. Thorndike, MD, MPH, FAHA; Linda Van Horn, PhD, RD, FAHA; Judith Wylie-Rosett, PhD, RD, FAHA; on behalf of the American Heart Association Council on Lifestyle and Cardiometabolic Health; Council on Arteriosclerosis, Thrombosis and Vascular Biology; Council on Cardiovascular Radiology and Intervention; Council on Clinical Cardiology; and Stroke Council

ABSTRACT: Poor diet quality is strongly associated with elevated risk of cardiovascular disease morbidity and mortality. This scientific statement emphasizes the importance of dietary patterns beyond individual foods or nutrients, underscores the critical role of nutrition early in life, presents elements of heart-healthy dietary patterns, and highlights structural challenges that impede adherence to heart-healthy dietary patterns.



Table. Evidence-Based Dietary Guidance to Promote Cardiovascular Health

- **1.** Adjust energy intake and expenditure to achieve and maintain a healthy body weight
- 2. Eat plenty of fruits and vegetables, choose a wide variety
- 3. Choose foods made mostly with whole grains rather than refined grains

Choose healthy sources of protein

- a. Mostly protein from plants (legumes and nuts)
- 4. b. Fish and seafood
 - c. Low-fat or fat-free dairy products instead of full-fat dairy products
 - d. If meat or poultry are desired, choose lean cuts and avoid processed forms



Table. Evidence-Based Dietary Guidance to Promote Cardiovascular Health Continued

5.	Use liquid plant oils rather than tropical oils (coconut, palm, and palm kernel), animal fats (eg., butter and lard,) and partially hydrogenated fats
6.	Choose minimally processed foods instead of ultra-processed foods*
7.	Minimize intake of beverages and foods with added sugars
8.	Choose and prepare foods with little or no salt
9.	If you do not drink alcohol, do not start; if you choose to drink alcohol, limit intake
10.	Adhere to this guidance regardless of where food is prepared or consumed



*There is no commonly accepted definition for ultra-processed foods, and some healthy foods may exist within the ultra-processed food category

Why Prioritize Plants?

- Dietary patterns rich in red meat have been associated with higher CVD incidence and mortality, plus BMI and waist circumference.
- Replacing red & processed meats with alternative foods like unprocessed poultry, fish, nuts and legumes is associated with a lower risk of total and CVD mortality.
- In general, heart-healthy dietary patterns, those patterns associated with low CVD risk, contain primarily fruits and vegetables, foods made with whole grains, healthy sources of protein...





Why Prioritize Plants?

- A recent systematic review that compared high and low intake of legumes concluded that higher intake was associated with lower CVD risk.
- Higher nut intake was associated with lower risk of CVD, CHD, and stroke mortality and incidence.
- Dietary fiber found in plant foods, including fruits, vegetables, whole grains, nuts, seeds, beans, and legumes, is consistently inversely associated with lower risk of metabolic syndrome,105 cardiometabolic risk,106 and CVD.
- Plant-based dietary patterns have traditionally centred on replacing animal-source foods with plant-based whole foods such as legumes and nuts
- Replacing animal-source foods with plant-based whole foods has the additional benefit of lowering the diet's carbon footprint, thus contributing to planetary health.





Figure. Dietary Patterns to Promote Cardiovascular Health



- Adjust energy intake to achieve and maintain a healthy body weight
- Follow this guidance regardless of where food is prepared or consumed

Additional Benefits of Heart Healthy Dietary Patterns

- 1. Nutrient profile rich in plant-based protein, fiber, nutrient dense
- 2. Low in undesirable fatty acids; SFA, TF, Dietary Cholesterol
- 3. Reduced risk of other chronic conditions:
 - a. Type 2 Diabetes (T2D)
 - b. Cognitive decline
 - c. Kidney function decline
 - d. Low environmental impact (low animal protein sources)

Challenges to Dietary Adherence

Socioeconomic Factors/Food Insecurity

Structural Racism/Neighborhood Segregation

Targeted Marketing of Unhealthy Foods and Beverages

Overweight and **Obesity**

Prevention screening starting in 2-19 year olds (35% have BMI>35)

- **1. Assess**: BMI Calculation
- 2. Advise: highlight overweight/obesity immediately as noted
- **3. Agree**: use SMART (Specific, Measureable, Achievable, Realistic and Timed) Approach in shared decision making
- 4. Assist: in identifying challenges and facilitators
- 5. Arrange: ongoing follow-up; ways to overcome barriers

Life Course Targets

Pregnancy

- **1. Assess**: preferably initiate weight control preconception
- 2. Advise: CVD-related risks of pregnancy/focus on weight gain goals
- **3. Agree**: share goal setting on all lifestyle behaviors
- **4. Assist**: mother and family as needed; WIC, referrals for lactation
- 5. Arrange: regular prenatal care

Life Course Targets

Childhood & Adolescence

- **1. Assess**: health behaviors throughout developmental stages for all risk factors; diet, physical activity, tobacco exposure, BMI and environmental conditions
- **2. Advise**: caregivers; motivational interviewing; encourage focus on health factors; fitness weight for height (not appearance)
- **3. Agree**: partner with child/adolescents; SMART goal targets
- 4. Assist: behaviorally; brainstorm solutions
- 5. Arrange: services; referrals as needed

Nutrition for Precision Health powered by the All of Us Research Program

Pre-Application Webinar

February 11, 2021 11 am EST

National Institutes of Health

Nutrition for Precision Health Powered by the All of Us Research Program

Primary goal: to develop algorithms to predict individual responses to foods and dietary patterns

- Using comprehensive set of microbiome, genomic, physiological, metabolic, behavioral, cognitive, contextual, electronic health record, survey, and environmental data
- In large and diverse population of participants (*All of Us* Research Program)

Proposal overview

Examine <u>baseline diet</u> in an <u>observational study</u> followed by a mixed meal challenge test

10,000 All of Us participants

Examine responses to 3 shortterm intervention diets in freeliving <u>controlled feeding</u> studies

1,000-2,000 Module 1 participants

Examine responses to 3 short- term intervention diets in <u>domiciled</u> <u>controlled feeding</u> studies

500-1,000 Module 1 participants

In all 3 modules

- Collect microbiome, physiological, metabolic, behavioral, cognitive, and environmental data, and leverage existing genomic, EHR, and survey data, and conduct mixed meal challenges to model the impact of diet and dietary patterns on physiological responses
- Use machine learning and artificial intelligence to develop predictive algorithms

NIH National Institutes of Health

Future Role of Precision Nutrition within Improved Dietary Patterns and Adherence for All

Relevance of dietary adherence towards reducing Cardiovascular risk and improving health for all across the life course.

Age (follow-up years)

References

5. Benjamin et al. Heart Disease and Stroke Statistics—2019 Update: A Report From the American Heart Association. Circulation. 2019;139:e56-e66.

6. dietaryguidelines.gov

7. dietaryguidelines.gov

8. dietaryguidelines.gov

9. dietaryguidelines.gov

10. Analysis of What We Eat in America, NHANES 2015-2016, ages 2 and older, day 1 dietary intake data, weighted.

11. dietaryguidelines.gov

12. dietaryguidelines.gov

13. dietaryguidelines.gov

14. dietaryguidelines.gov

15. dietaryguidelines.gov

16. dietaryguidelines.gov

17. Analysis of What We Eat in America, NHANES 2013-2016, ages 1 and older, 2 days dietary intake data, weighted. *Recommended Intake Ranges* Healthy U.S.-Style Dietary Patterns

18. Micha et al. JAMA 2017;317(9):912-24.

19. Lichtenstein A, et al. Circulation. 2021 Dec 7;144(23:e472-e487. doi: 10.1161/CIR.000000000001031

20. Lichtenstein A, et al. Circulation. 2021 Dec 7;144(23:e472-e487. doi: 10.1161/CIR.000000000001031

21. Lichtenstein A, et al. Circulation. 2021 Dec 7;144(23:e472-e487. doi: 10.1161/CIR.000000000001031

22. Lichtenstein A, et al. Circulation. 2021 Dec 7;144(23:e472-e487. doi: 10.1161/CIR.000000000001031

23. Lichtenstein A, et al. Circulation. 2021 Dec 7;144(23:e472-e487. doi: 10.1161/CIR.000000000001031

24. Lichtenstein A, et al. Circulation. 2021 Dec 7;144(23:e472-e487. doi: 10.1161/CIR.00000000001031

25. Lichtenstein A, et al. Circulation. 2021 Dec 7;144(23:e472-e487. doi: 10.1161/CIR.000000000001031

27. dietaryguidelines.gov

28. dietaryguidelines.gov

29. dietaryguidelines.gov

31. Daniell, E, Ryan, E. (2012) The Nutrigenome and Gut Microbiome: Chronic Disease Prevention with Crop Phytochemical Diversity. Doi: 10.5772/33500

32. nih.gov

33. nih.gov

34. nih.gov