



# **Trends and development in the assessment of nutritional health benefits of consumption of foods**

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# Challenges in Studies of Specific Foods and Health

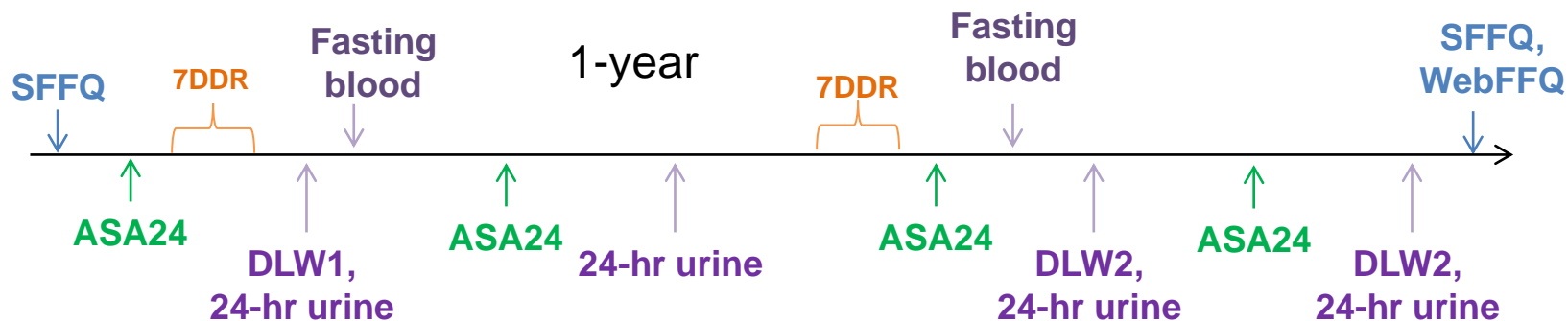
- Lags between intake and disease can be decades
- Range of intake may be limited
- Effects of single foods are likely to be small
- Intakes may be correlated with other foods
- Confounding by non-dietary factors
- Long-term randomized trials usually not feasible

## Approaches to study of specific foods and health outcomes

- Long-term prospective cohort studies  
(? Dietary assessment method)
- Use of biomarkers as outcomes
- Surrogate outcomes, e.g., blood pressure, blood lipids
- Animal studies
- Nutrient profiling
- Combinations of the above

# Women's Lifestyle Validation Study (WLVS)

## -Study timeline



Yuan C et al., Am J Epidemiol 2017

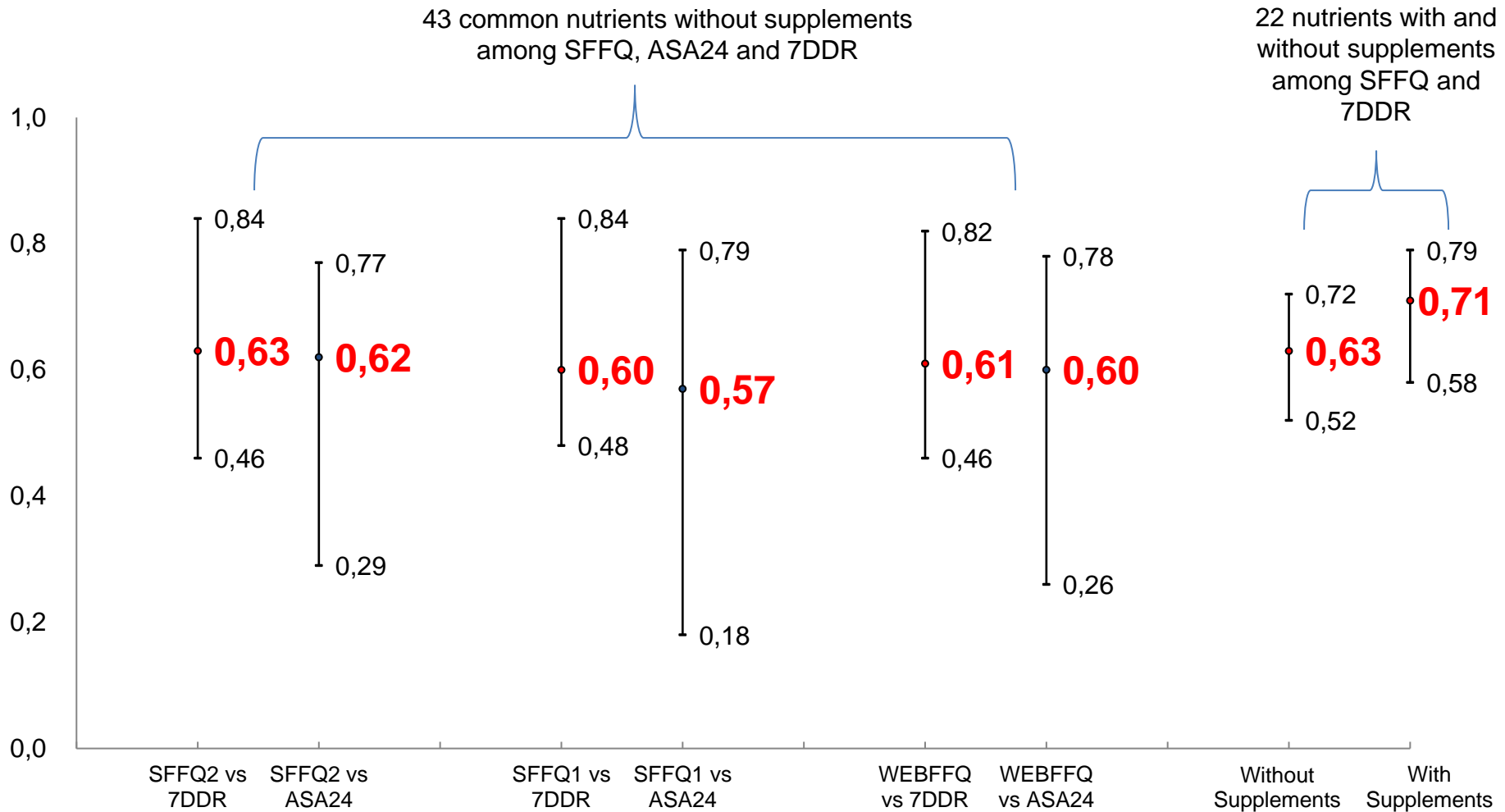
Group 1, Phase I

Title	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7	Week 8	Week 9	Week 10	Week 11	Week 12
FFQ	█											
ASA24		█										
7DRs					█							
DLW 1all						█						
24hr Um											█	
Fast Bld												█

(Yuan C et al., Am J Epidemiol 2017;  
Al-Shaar L, Am J Epidemiol, 2021)

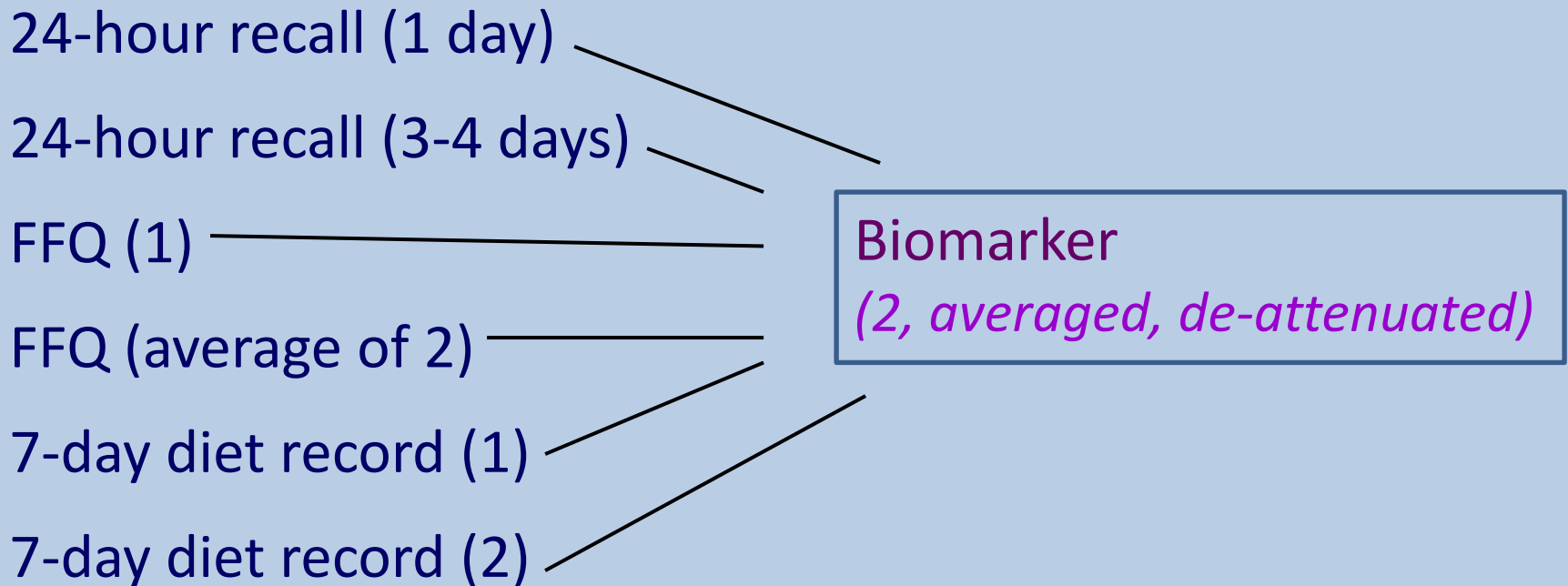
# Overall validity of SFFQ2, SFFQ1, WebFFQ

## De-attenuated r (N = 632 women in NHS and NHS II)

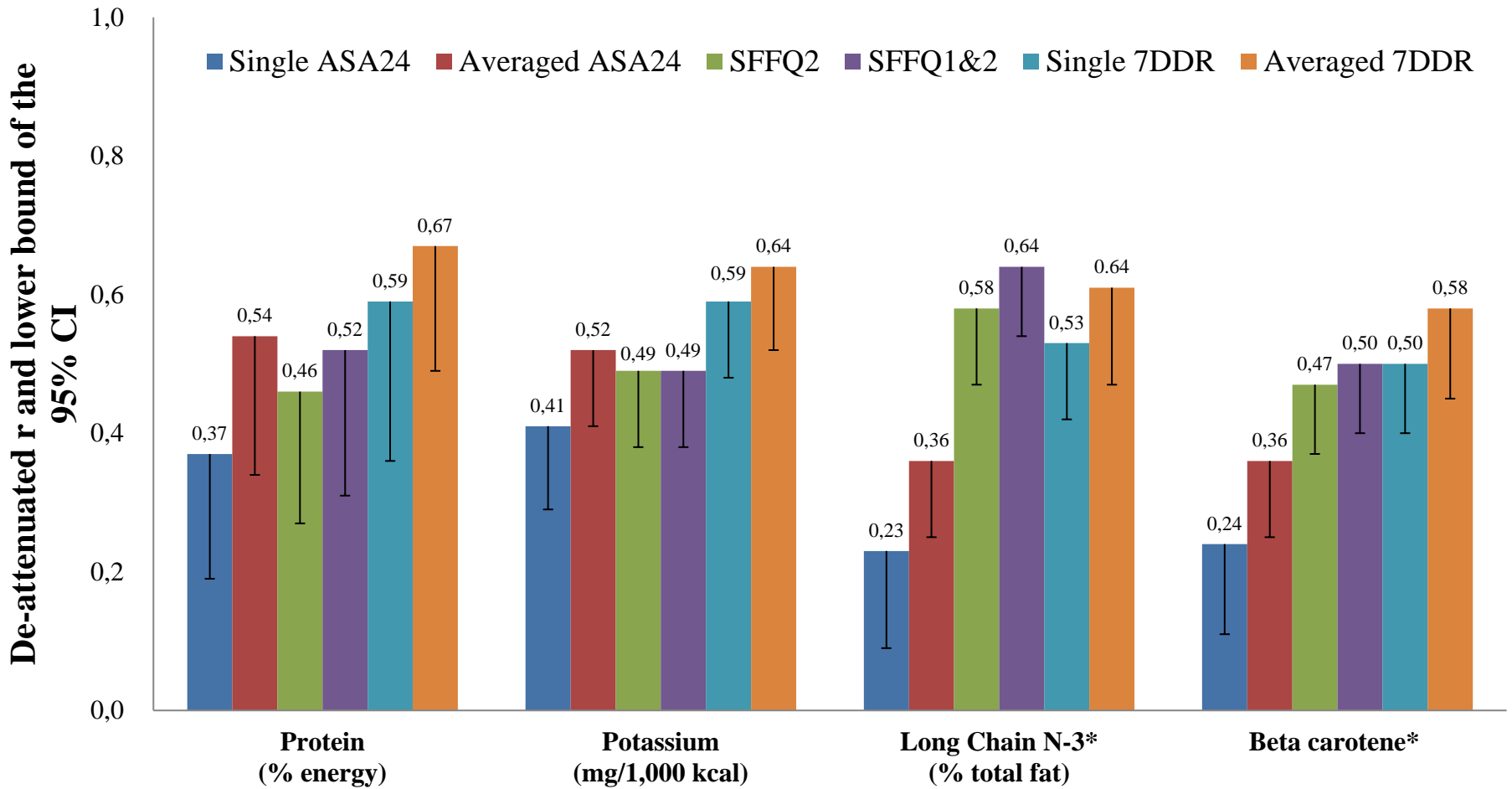


\*50 additional common nutrients between SFFQ2 & 7DDR: mean  $r=0.56$

# Relative Validity of Dietary Assessment Methods: Design (N = 600+ women in Nurses' Health Studies)



**Deattenuated Spearman correlation coefficients (and lower bound of the 95% CI) between diet assessed by FFQ's, 24-hour recalls, and 1-week diet records and biomarkers of diet (n = 627 U.S. female nurses aged 45-80 years)**



\*Subgroups of women who didn't take supplements for this nutrient (N= 363 for long-chain N-3 fatty acids, and 335 for beta-carotene)

*(Yuan C et al. Am J Epidemiol 2018)*

# Correlations comparing FFQ with diet records

**TABLE 1.** Comparison of mean daily intakes of 122 food items estimated by two administrations of a FFQ (Q1 & Q2) and by two 1-week diet records (DRs) among 127 Boston-area male cohort members of the Health Professionals' Follow-up Study

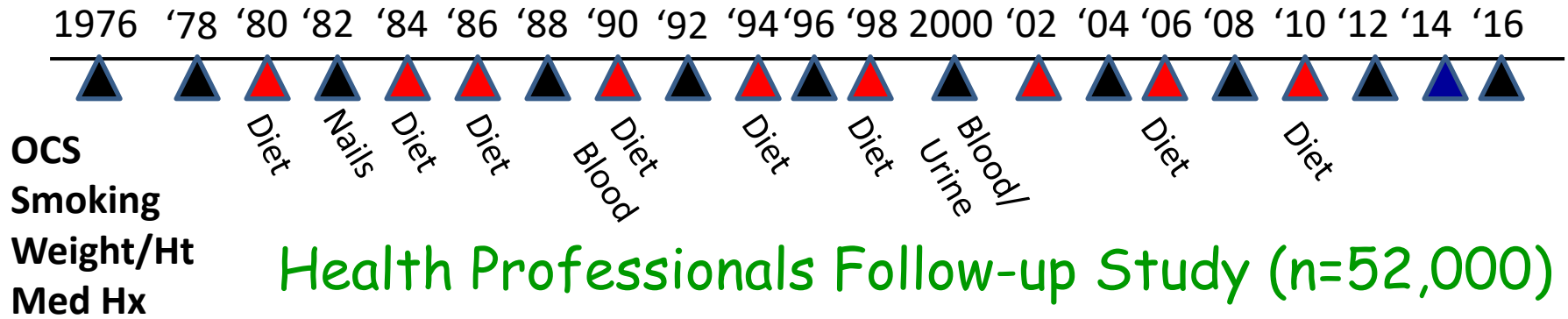
Food Item	Serving Size	No. of Servings/Day			Observed Correlations			$\sigma_w^2/\sigma_b^2$	Deattenuated Correlations* DR vs Q2 (95% CI)
		Q1	Q2	DR	Q1 vs Q2	DR vs Q1	DR vs Q2		
<b>Dairy Foods</b>									
Skim, lowfat milk	8 fl oz	0.53	0.56	0.42	.77	.72	.82	0.28	.88 (0.79,0.92)
Whole milk	8 fl oz	0.15	0.10	0.17	.75	.58	.59	0.55	.67 (0.51,0.78)
Cream	1 tb	0.22	0.23	0.46	.60	.41	.57	0.93	.69 (0.50,0.81)
Sour cream	1 tb	0.04	0.06	0.10	.55	.36	.41	2.61	.63 (0.30,0.82)
Nondairy coffee whitener	1 tsp	0.18	0.12	0.16	.66	.63	.70	0.29	.75 (0.64,0.83)
Sherbet, ice milk	1 cup	0.05	0.05	0.03	.43	.35	.50	3.77	.85 (0.00,0.99)
Ice cream	1 cup	0.17	0.22	0.17	.49	.49	.48	2.27	.71 (0.38,0.88)
Yogurt	1 cup	0.13	0.14	0.07	.74	.69	.76	0.51	.86 (0.74,0.92)
Cottage, ricotta cheese	½ cup	0.08	0.08	0.08	.69	.34	.28	4.84	.52 (0.07,0.79)
Cream cheese	1 oz	0.08	0.10	0.09	.67	.50	.51	2.26	.75 (0.40,0.91)
Other cheese	1 oz	0.39	0.36	0.64	.48	.48	.41	1.70	.56 (0.31,0.73)
Margarine	1 slice								
Butter	1 pat	0.63	0.74	0.87	.62	.61	.50	0.55	.57 (0.40,0.70)
	1 pat	0.32	0.36	0.74	.73	.55	.53	1.86	.74 (0.45,0.89)



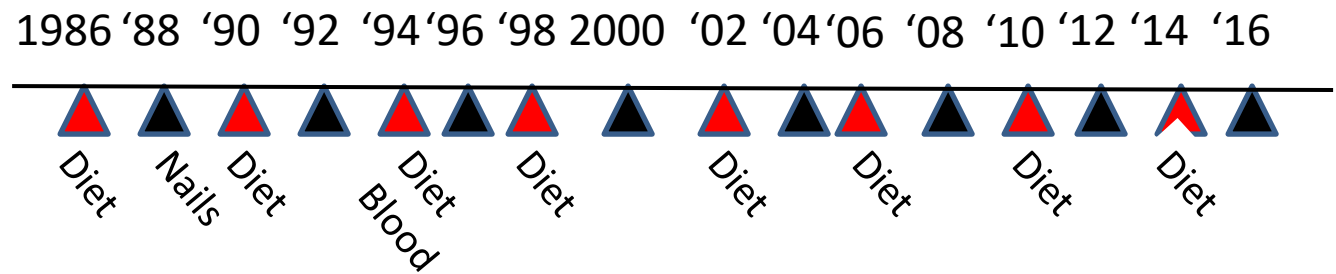
## Pearson correlation coefficients (deattenuated) for macronutrient intakes assessed by FFQs and the average intakes by 1980 and 1986 diet records

	1980 FFQ vs. average diet records	1984 FFO vs. average diet records	1986 FFQ vs. average diet records	1980 and 1986 ave. FFQs vs. average diet records	1980, 1984, 1986 FFQs vs. average diet records
<b>Total fat</b>	<b>0.44 (0.57)</b>	<b>0.47 (0.61)</b>	<b>0.62 (0.81)</b>	<b>0.61 (0.79)</b>	<b>0.64 (0.83)</b>
<b>Saturated Fat</b>	<b>0.50 (0.70)</b>	<b>0.49 (0.68)</b>	<b>0.64 (0.90)</b>	<b>0.66 (0.92)</b>	<b>0.68 (0.95)</b>
<b>Cholesterol</b>	<b>0.52 (0.69)</b>	<b>0.61 (0.82)</b>	<b>0.58 (0.78)</b>	<b>0.60 (0.80)</b>	<b>0.67 (0.90)</b>
<b>Protein</b>	<b>0.39 (0.48)</b>	<b>0.38 (0.46)</b>	<b>0.50 (0.61)</b>	<b>0.53 (0.65)</b>	<b>0.56 (0.68)</b>
<b>Carbohydrates</b>	<b>0.37 (0.43)</b>	<b>0.59 (0.68)</b>	<b>0.69 (0.79)</b>	<b>0.63 (0.72)</b>	<b>0.68 (0.78)</b>
<b>Mean</b>	<b>0.44</b>	<b>0.51</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.61</b>	<b>0.65</b>
<i>20.252a</i>	<b>(0.57)</b>	<b>(0.65)</b>	<b>(0.78)</b>	<b>(0.78)</b>	<b>(0.83)</b>

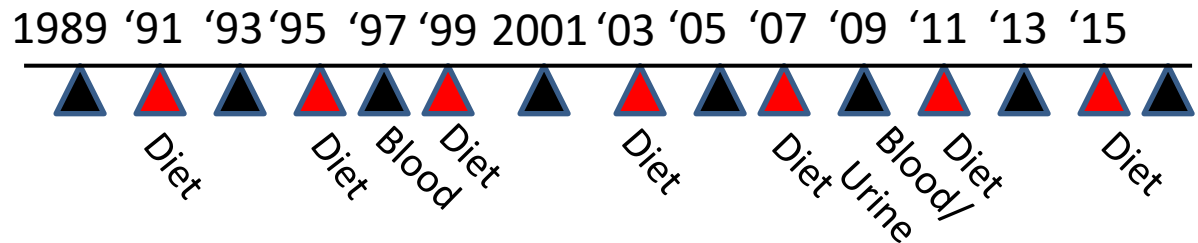
# Nurses' Health Study (n=121,700)



# Health Professionals Follow-up Study (n=52,000)

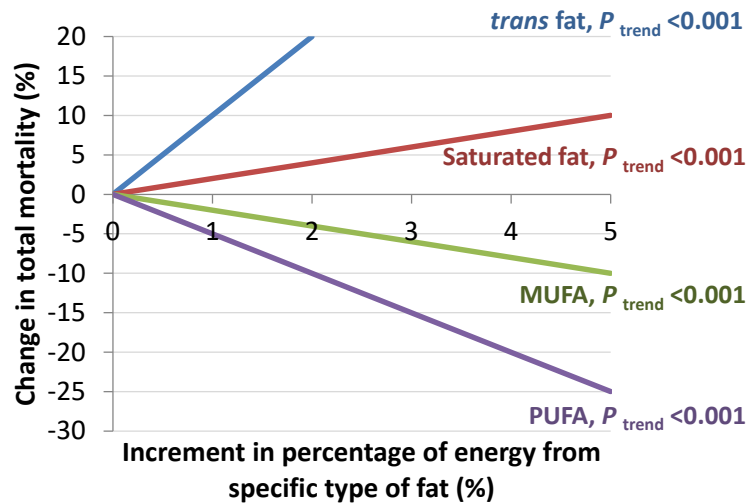


# Nurses' Health Study II (n=116,000)

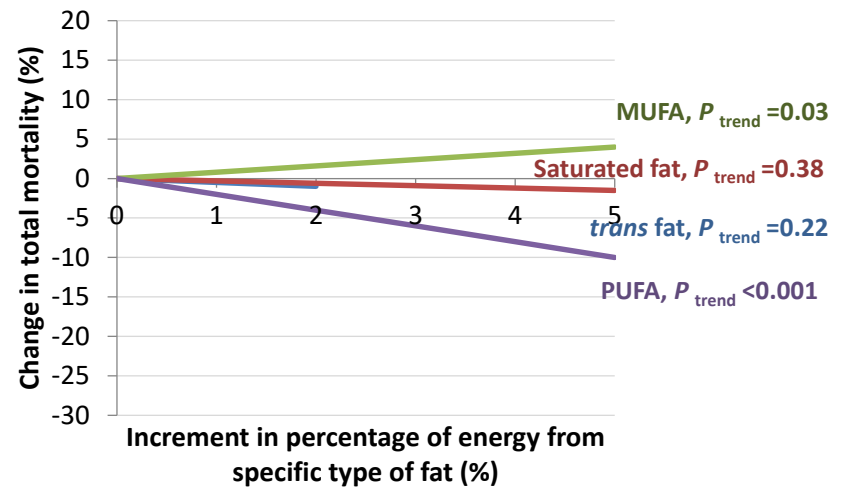


**Investigators:** Frank Speizer, Bernie Rosner, Meir Stampfer, David Hunter, JoAnn Manson, Eric Rimm, Edward Giovannucci, Alberto Ascherio, Gary Curhan, Michelle Holmes, Frank Hu, Heather Eliassen, Lorelei Mucci, Jae Hee Kang, Jorge Chavarro, Molin Wang, Kana Wu, Andrew Chan, Daniel Wang, Qi Sun

# Types of dietary fat and total mortality



Cumulative Average



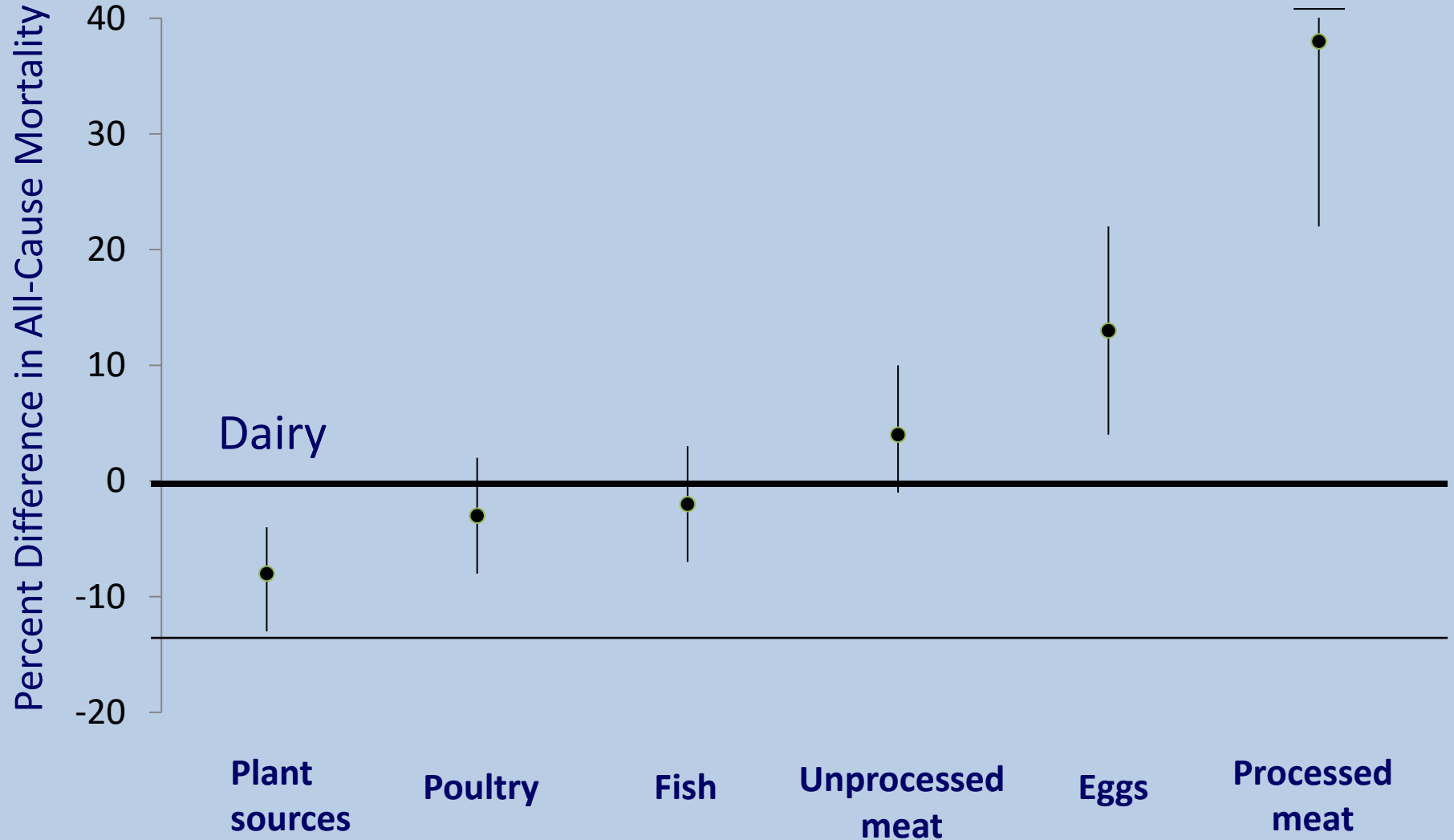
Baseline Only

Multivariable-adjusted substitution model, comparison nutrient is total carbohydrate  
Data source: Nurses' Health Study (1980-2012) and Health Professionals Follow-Up Study (1986-2012)

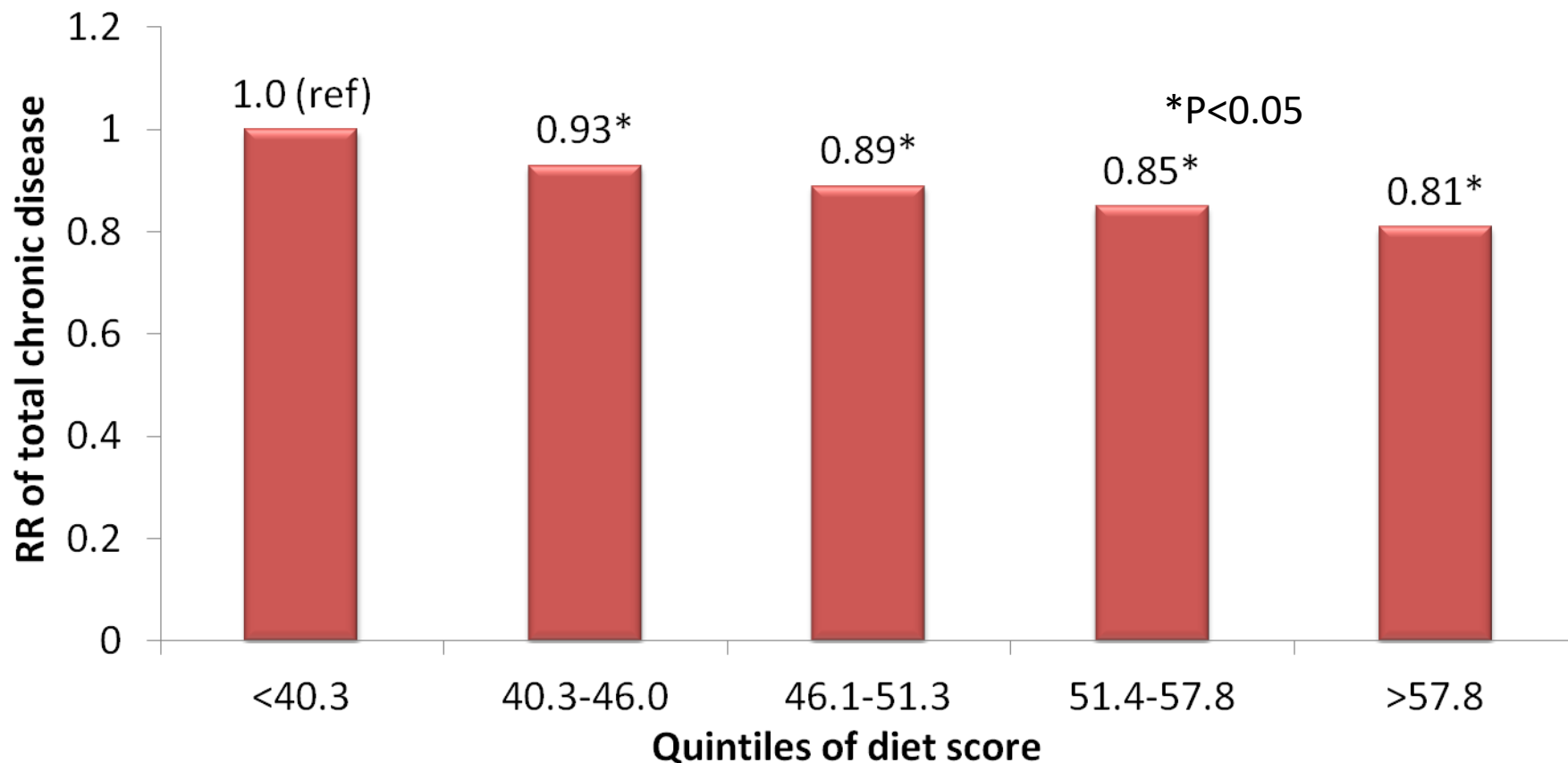
(Wang D et al. JAMA Int Med. 2016)

# Differences in all-cause mortality for major protein sources vs dairy (for 3% of energy from protein)

(recalculated from Song M et al. JAMA Intern Med 2016)



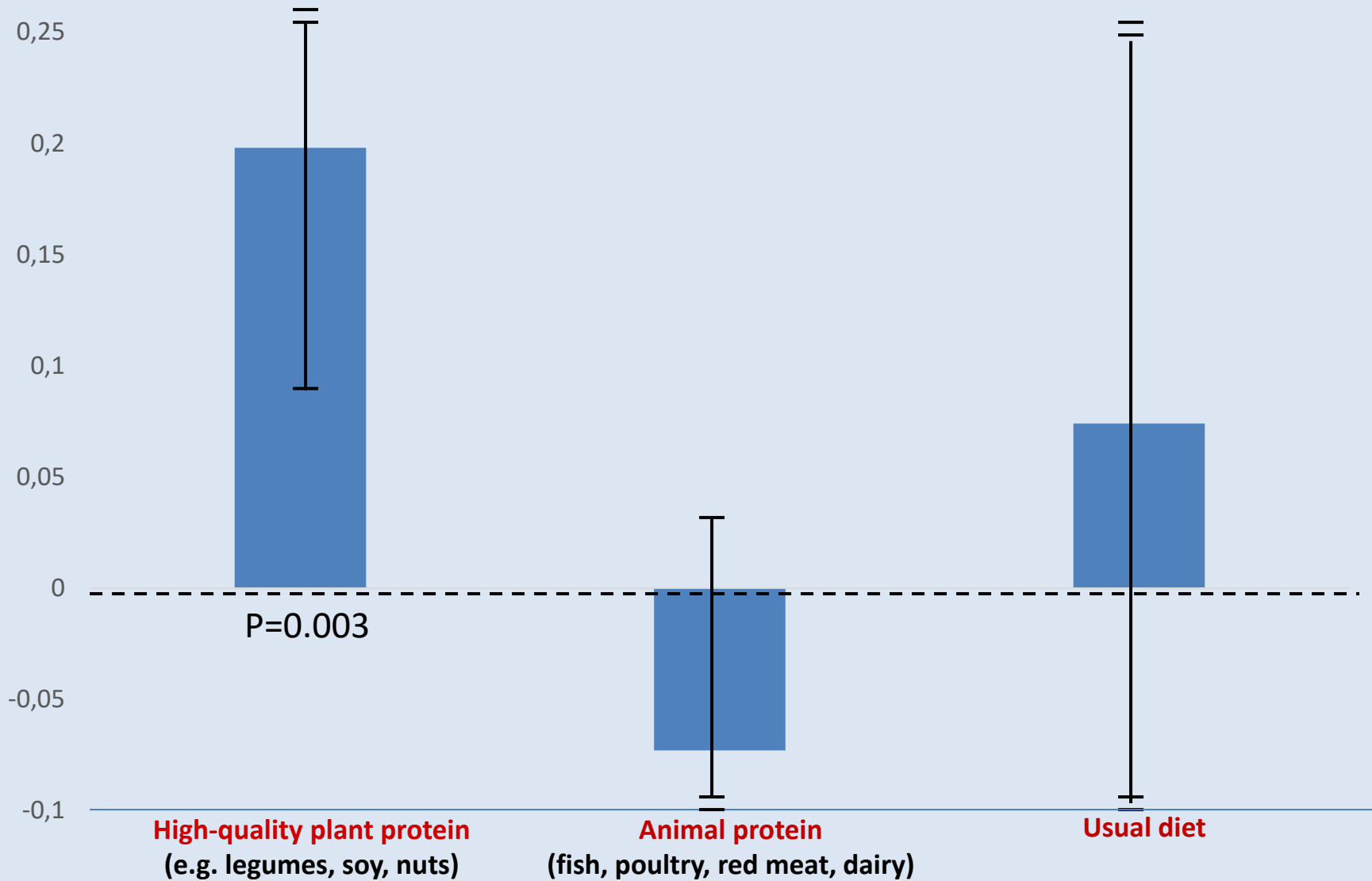
# Higher scores on the AHEI-2010 was associated with lower risk of total chronic disease



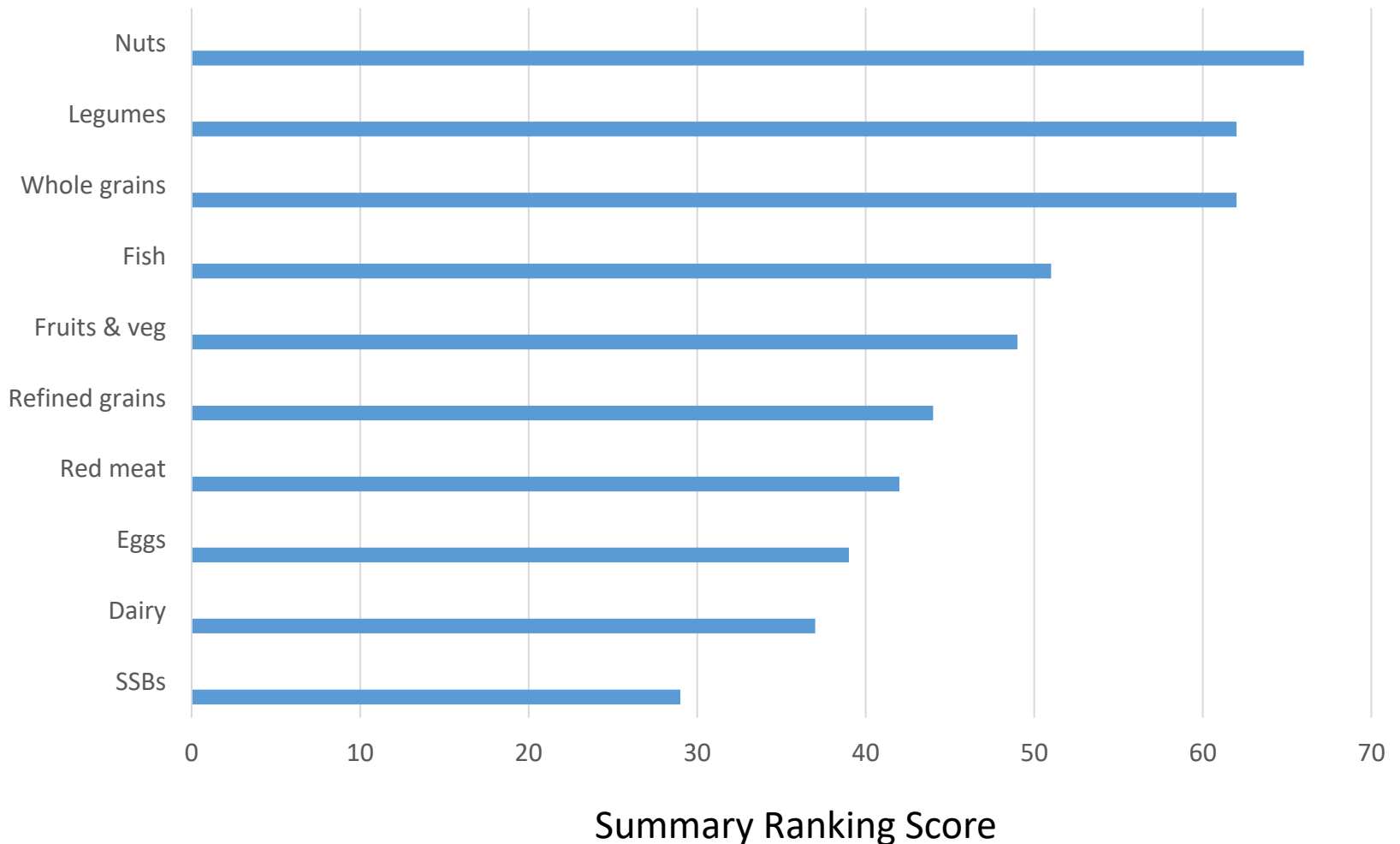
*Age, total energy, smoking status, BMI, aspirin use, physical activity, vitamin E supplementation, family history of MI, and cancer, history of hypertension and high cholesterol and use of hormone therapy (in women)*

# Meta-analysis assessing the effects of red meat on LDL cholesterol (mmol/L) from RCTs by type of comparison diet

(Guasch-Ferre M et al. Circulation 2019)



# Network meta-analysis of 66 randomized trials of food group effects on risk factors for cardiometabolic disease (LDL-C, TG, TC, HDL-C, FG, HbA1c, HOMA-IR, SBP, DBP, CRP)



**Table. Dietary Factors and Cardiometabolic Outcomes With Probable or Convincing Evidence of Associations<sup>a</sup>**

Dietary factor	Cardiovascular outcome	Metabolic outcome
<b>Protective association</b>		
Fruits <sup>b</sup>	CVD, CHD, stroke, ischemic stroke, hemorrhagic stroke	NA
Vegetables <sup>c</sup>	CVD, CHD, stroke, ischemic stroke	NA
Nuts or seeds	CVD, CHD	NA
Whole grains	CVD, CHD, ischemic stroke	Diabetes
Fish or seafood <sup>d</sup>	CHD, CHD in patients with diabetes, MI, stroke	NA
Yogurt	NA	Diabetes
Chocolate	CVD, CHD, MI, stroke, hemorrhagic stroke	NA
Milk	Stroke	NA
Tea	Stroke	NA
Dietary fiber	CVD, CHD, stroke	Diabetes
Cereal fiber	NA	Diabetes
Fruit fiber	Stroke	NA
Vegetable fiber	Stroke	NA
PUFA replacing carbohydrate	CHD	Diabetes
PUFA replacing SFA	CHD	NA
Potassium	Stroke	NA

Miller V et al. JAMA Network Open. 2022;5(2):e2146705. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.46705



**Table. Dietary Factors and Cardiometabolic Outcomes With Probable or Convincing Evidence of Associations<sup>a</sup>**

Dietary factor	Cardiovascular outcome	Metabolic outcome
<b>Harmful association</b>		
Potatoes	NA	Diabetes
Red meats, unprocessed <sup>o</sup>	CVD, CHD, stroke	Diabetes
Processed meats <sup>f</sup>	CVD, CHD, stroke, ischemic stroke	Diabetes
SSBs <sup>g</sup>	CVD, CHD, ischemic stroke	Diabetes, high BMI
Glycemic index	CHD	Diabetes
Glycemic load	CHD	Diabetes
Trans-fatty acid	CVD	NA
Total protein	NA	Diabetes
Animal protein	NA	Diabetes
Sodium	Stroke, SBP	NA

Miller V et al. JAMA Network Open. 2022;5(2):e2146705. doi:10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.46705

# *Limitations of Biomarkers*

- May not be sensitive to intake
- May not be time-integrated
- Expensive
- Markers not available for many nutrients
- Few cohorts have multiple blood samples
- Few cohorts have 24-hour urines, fewer have repeated 24-hour urines.

# Application of Food-specific Biomarkers

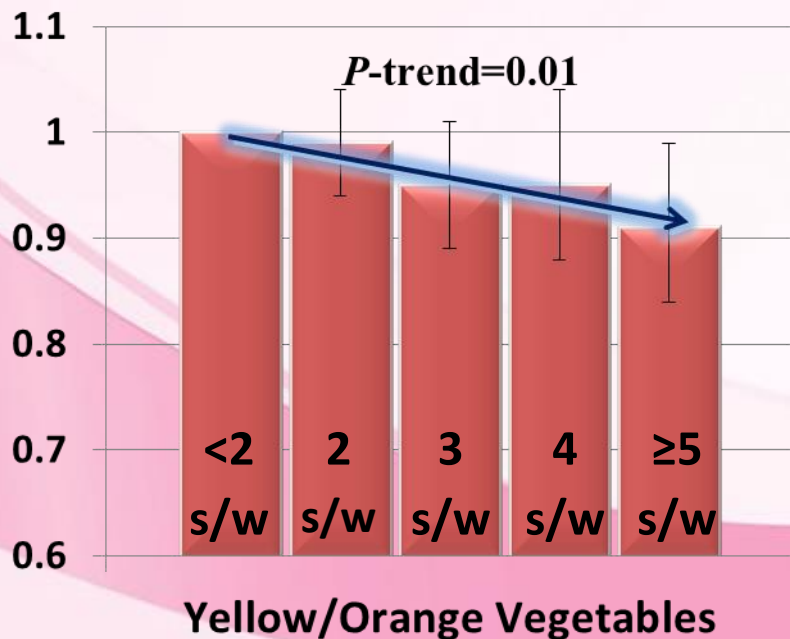
*Examples:* fish (N-3 fatty acids), citrus fruit (proline-betaine), pepper (pepperine), dairy fat (odd chain saturated fatty acids), soy (genistein)

Validity and relative validity—within-person variation, comparisons with diet records or feeding studies

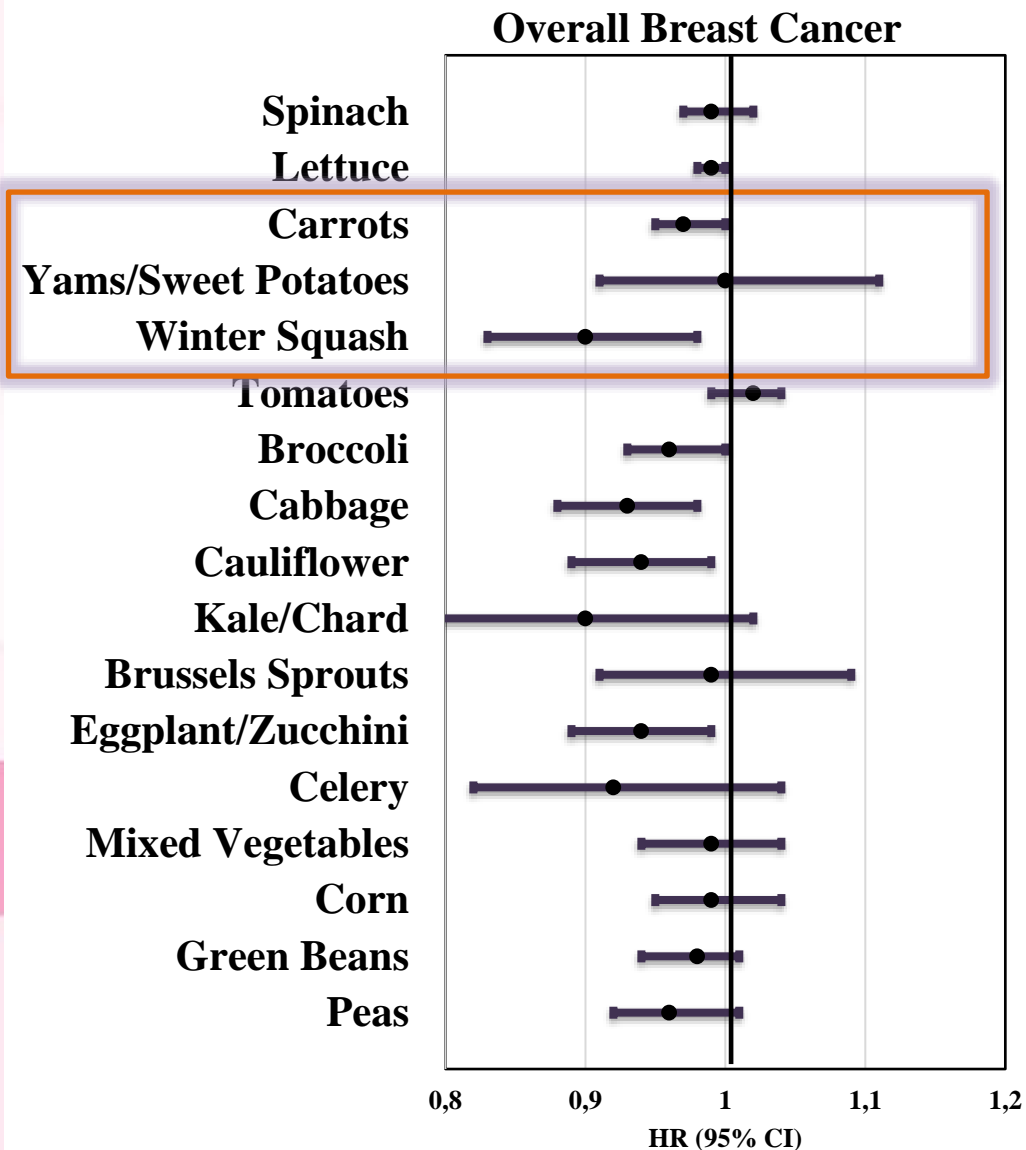
Potential role in validation studies

Use in combination with intake data (e.g, plasma carotenoid levels and carrot intake)

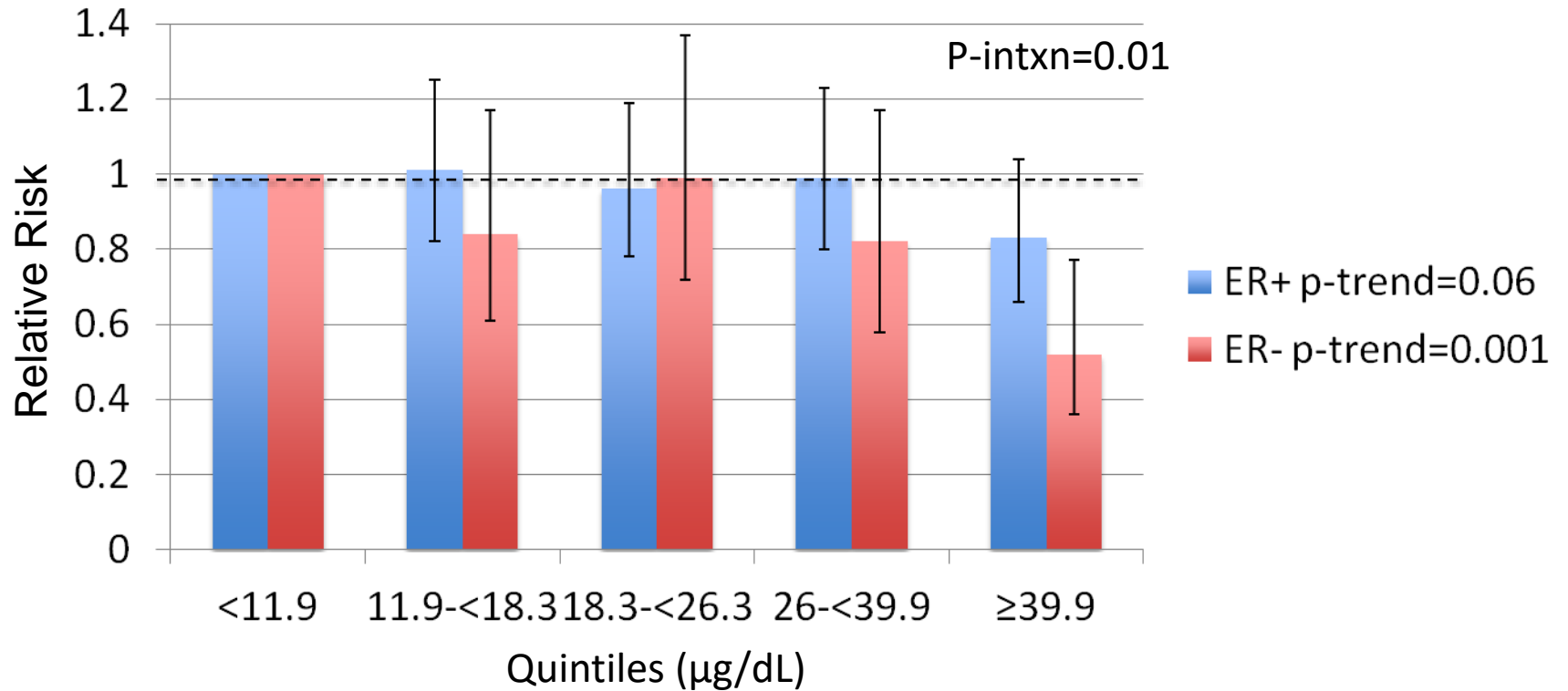
# Consumption of Yellow/Orange Vegetables and Breast Cancer Incidence



(Farvid MS et al., Int J Cancer 2019)



# Plasma $\beta$ -carotene and risk of breast cancer in pooled cohorts (ER+ vs ER-)

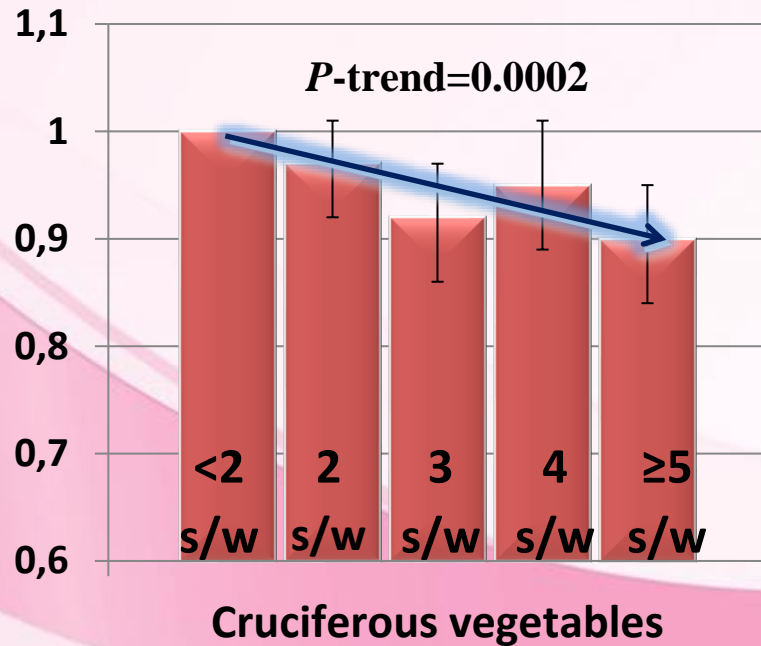


(Eliassen AH et al. JNCI 2012)

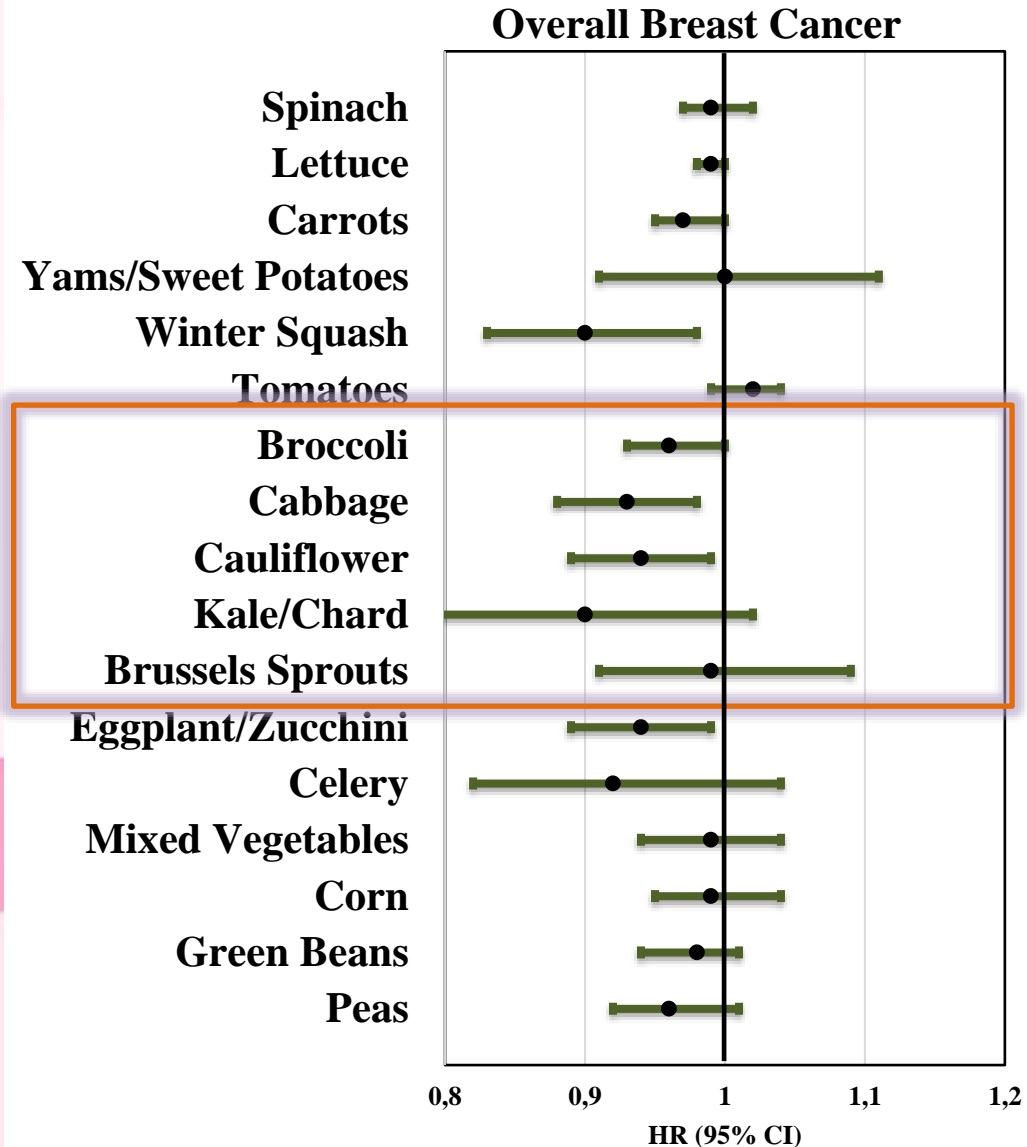
# Consumption of Cruciferous Vegetables and Breast Cancer Incidence

(32 years of follow-up)

(n=182,000/ 11,000 cases)



(Farvid M et al., unpublished)



## Intakes of fruits and vegetables (per 3 servings/week) and risk of pancreatic cancer in pooled analysis of 14 cohort studies

<i>Fruits</i>	<i>MV RR (95% CI)</i>	<i>Vegetables</i>	<i>MV RR (95% CI)</i>
Apples, pears & applesauce	0.98 (0.94-1.03)	Broccoli	0.98 (0.89-1.08)
Bananas	1.02 (0.95-1.08)	Brussel sprouts	1.26 (1.03-1.54)
Cantaloupe	1.04 (0.87-1.25)	Cabbage	1.03 (0.94-1.14)
Grapefruit	0.97 (0.91-1.03)	Carrots	0.99 (0.92-1.07)
Oranges	0.99 (0.93-1.06)	Cauliflower	1.02 (0.78-1.33)
Peaches	1.06 (0.99-1.13)	Corn	0.97 (0.79-1.19)
Strawberries	1.13 (1.01-1.27)	Green pepper	1.15 (1.01-1.30)
Fruit juice	1.03 (1.00-1.05)	Lettuce, salad	1.03 (1.00-1.07)
		Peas, lima beans	0.95 (0.80-1.14)
		Spinach	1.06 (0.97-1.16)
		String beans	1.00 (0.89-1.13)
		Tomatoes, tomato juice	1.05 (1.01-1.09)
		Yams	0.85 (0.61-1.18)

(Koushik A et al. AJE, 2012)

# Acrylamide Hemoglobin Adducts as a Biomarker (Wilson K, et al.)

Correlation with calculated intake, adjusted for within-person variation in biomarker = 0.34 (CI: 0.23 – 0.45)

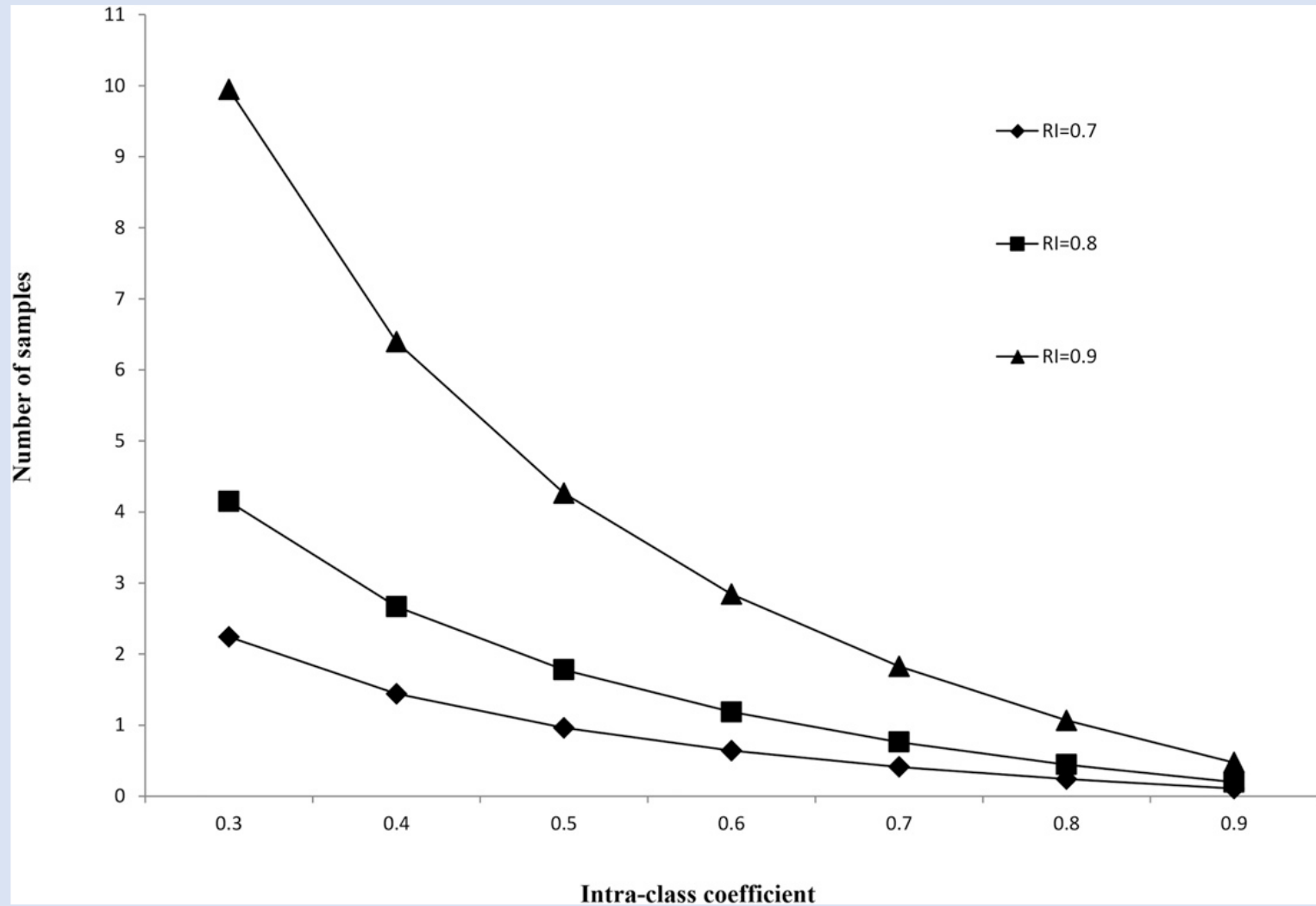
Correlation for reproducibility of biomarker = 0.77 in blood samples collected 1 to 3 years apart



# *Limitations of RCTs for Prevention*

- Appropriate time of initiation is uncertain
- Necessary duration is uncertain
- Adherence and “drop-ins”
- Supplements do not represent dietary range

# Number of samples needed to achieve a given reliability index by a range of intraclass correlation coefficients. RI, reliability index



(Sun Q et al. Am J Clin Nutr, 2017)

# Summary of food-based dietary assessment

- No single approach exists for assessing health effects of specific foods
- Best evidence will often derive from prospective cohort studies of diet combined with short term trials using intermediate risk factors as outcomes
- Biomarkers alone with rarely be sufficient, but they can play a supporting role