To Carb or Not to Carb?

Everything you need to know about keto and low carb diets!

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Empowering as many people as possible to live a happier and healthier life!

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Presenter Disclosures

I have the following relationships with these commercial interests:

- Founder: Healthcare Evolution Inc.
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- Advisory Board: CPhA Board Representative on the Pharmacy Examination Board of Canada (PEBC) Board of Directors
- Committee: Co-President for Obesity Canada Calgary Chapter

I have received no speaker's fee or support for this learning activity.

Note

- This event is being recorded for promotional purposes and future course development
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TODAY'S LEARNING OBJECTIVES







REVIEW What are low carb and ketogenic diets? OUTLINE What is Ketosis and the 'Keto Flu'? EXPLORE the evidence around keto and low carb diets.

Macronutrients



Protein

- Irreplaceable
- Repairs tissue, part of bodily functions, allows for enzymatic reactions to occur, and can be used as fuel if needed

Carbohydrates

- Primary fuel source
- Provides us energy to do our day-to-day activities
- Many vitamins, and other nutrients as well

Fat

- Secondary fuel source how the body stores energy for later
- Protection and insulation
- Helps with cellular regulation and signalling

Carbohydrates or Glucose



Digestion breaks carbohydrates down to monosaccharides (single sugar molecules) for absorption

• Glucose is the main one

Glucose is stored as glycogen in the muscle and liver

- Liver can share its glycogen when needed
- Muscle is selfish
- Glucose is prioritized to top up muscle and liver glycogen following a meal
- Glucose takes water into our cells as well 'Water Weight'

Macronutrients

Acceptable Macronutrient Distribution Ranges (AMDR)

- Protein 10-35%
- Carbohydrates 45-65%
- Fat 5-10%
- Average North American diet = ~200-350g of carbs/day



If you say are going on a 1800 calorie/day diet, how would you determine your distribution of macronutrients?

Example is protein is 25% of your diet

Quick Math Example



Protein = 4 calories/gram

Carbs = 4 calories/gram

Fats = 9 calories/gram

Protein 25% = 1800*25% = 450 calories of protein = 450/4 = 112.5g of protein/day

Low Carb Diets

- Low Carb Diet
 - Atkins, paleo
 - Carb intake (<45% of daily calories)
 - Fat and protein ratios will vary



Ketogenic Diets

- Ketogenic Diet
 - Originally created for epilepsy
 - Low Carb (5%) and High Fat (70%)
 - The idea is you replace your carb intake via fat intake
 - Goal is to reach a state of Ketosis



Why is it so popular?!

Carbohydrate-Insulin Theory of Obesity Check out my YouTube – Dr Dan – Weight-loss via Habit Mastery

Bring on the Bacon

Ketogenic Diet Foods

- Proteins
 - Animal sources, seafood, eggs, cheese, Greek yogurt (sugar free), etc.
 - Can still follow a vegan diet however, more challenging with trying to reduce carb intake
- Fats
 - Polyunsaturated fats
 - Avocado, olive oil, nuts and seeds
 - Avoid saturated fats
 - Solid at room temperature (butter, coconut oil)
 - Processed foods, fried foods
- Veggies
 - Low carb veggies
 - Think green veggies





Types of Ketogenic Diets

- Standard Ketogenic Diet (SKD)
 - Very low carb, moderate protein and high fat. 70% fat, 20% protein, and 10% carbs
- Cyclical Ketogenic Diet (CKD)
 - Diet involves periods of higher carb refeeds, such as 5 keto days and 2 high carb days
- Targeted Ketogenic Diet (TKD)
 - Allows for carbs around workouts
- High Protein Ketogenic Diet
 - Like SKD however includes more protein. 60% fat, 35% protein, and 5% carbs



Ketogenic Sample Diet

- **Breakfast** Two fried eggs, tomato slices, coffee with heavy cream
- **Snack** Full-fat cottage cheese topped with pine nuts
- Lunch Spinach salad with a grass-fed burger on top, cheese and avocado
- Snack Roasted, salted almonds
- **Dinner** Grilled salmon with a side of broccoli topped with butter



What is Ketosis?

- Body starts to use fat as its main fuel source
 - Due to a depletion of glycogen stores and low carbohydrate intake
 - Mechanism already built into the body (Remnants of caveman ancestors)
 - We all have likely gone into ketosis at some point or another ie. After sleeping all night
 - Fat and Fatty Acids get broken down into 'Ketones'
 - Ketones can be used by a variety of tissues in our body as fuel instead of carbohydrates

What is Ketosis?

- Takes approximately 4-5 days to achieve a state of ketosis
 - Some say <50g of carbs per day (~3 slices of bread)
 - Challenging as almost EVERYTHING has carbs
 - Note: Fiber does not count to towards those carbs as it isn't digested/absorbed

'Keto Flu'

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- Symptoms you might experience when starting a ketogenic diet:
 - Headache, fatigue, brain fog, constipation, nausea, sugar cravings, nausea, cramps, sore muscles, bad breath 'ketone breath'
 - Should subside after 1-2 weeks the keto group calls this 'fat adapted'
- Possible ongoing symptoms
 - Constipation (usually lack of fiber), ongoing decrease in performance?, increased thirst

Ketoacidosis

- Healthy individuals likely is
 non-issue
 - Symptoms: increased thirst, vomiting, peeing a lot, abdominal pain, confusion, trouble breathing, dry or flushed skin



Health Claims of Ketogenic Diet?

- 1) Reduced cravings and appetite
- 2) Weight-loss
- 3) Reduced inflammation
- 4) Improve cholesterol?
- 5) Diabetes and blood sugar control
- 6) Decrease in blood pressure
- 7) Improve heart health
- 8) Improve brain health
- 9) Treating a number of cancers
- 10) Increased focus and energy
- 11) Treating epilepsy in children
- 12) May be helpful for PCOS



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- Epilepsy TRUE
- Evidence
 - The ketogenic diet was originally developed as a method to treat seizures in children in the early 1900s
 - Mechanism of action not clear but may have a calming effect on the neurons of the brain
 - Many studies have shown it to be effective
 - Long-term sustainability is challenging



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- Reduced cravings and appetite
 - TRUE
- Evidence
 - In a calorie restriction the body compensates by making you hungry and less palatable foods more enjoyable
 - Very low carb and keto diets may help to manage this....but only a little bit?

What does the evidence say?



What does the evidence say?

Decreased hunger Hunger Soenen et al. (alac) (53) Diepvens et al. (46) Soenen et al. (SSP) (53) Sumithran et al. (29) Soenen et al. (SP) Westerterp-Platenga et al. (52) Lejeune et al. (50) Kovacs et al. (48) Hursel and Westerterp-Platenga (47) Lejeune et al. (49) Westerterp-Platenga et al. (51) Subtotal (1² = 0.0%, p = 0.978)



-10.70 (-22.46, 1.06) -3.80 (-14.38, 6.78) -3.40 (-13.20, 6.40) -2.60 (-11.81, 6.61) -2.00 (-10.23, 6.23) -0.30 (-7.94, 7.34) -0.80 (-8.25, 6.65) -1.60 (-8.66, 5.46) -4.90 (-11.76, 1.96) -2.50 (-9.16, 4.16) -1.50 (-7.38, 4.38) -2.55 (-4.90, -0.20)

Obes Rev. 2015 Jan;16(1):64-76. doi: 10.1111/obr.12230. Epub 2014 Nov 17.

10 9 8 7 Change in Body Wt. (kg) 6 5 4 3 2 1 0 LEARN Moderate Macro Low Carb Low Fat Diet

Weight loss Comparison at 6- and 12months vs. No Diet

Wt loss (kg) 6-months Wt loss (kg) 12-months

What does the evidence say?

- Weight-loss
 - TRUEish
- Evidence
 - It can be effective for Wt. Loss

JAMA. 2014;312(9):923-933. doi:10.1001/jama.2014.10397

What does the evidence say?

- Weight-loss
 - Greater initial weight-loss?



Composition of Weight Loss

Image @bdccarpenter Study: J Clin Invest. 1976 Sep; 58(3): 722–730. 27

Sorry Carnivore Friends



K. Hall, et al. 2021



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- Diabetes
 - True but only in the short-term?
- Evidence
 - Many studies demonstrate that blood sugar levels, A1C, weightloss, and cardiovascular risk can decrease
 - Studies have been short and longterm trials these benefits seem to disappear
 - Why? Most likely adherence...
 - Seem to also be safe in Type 2 Diabetes
 - Avoid: If on insulin or have Type 1 Diabetes



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- Improve heart and brain health; Cancer; Migraines; Acne
 - Nothing magical....
- Evidence
 - May worsen heart health?!
 Increase LDL?
 - Brain Health (Alzheimer's and Parkinson's) – Possible data is very limited
 - Migraines Minimal to no evidence
 - Acne? May actually cause more acne!
 - Cancer tumors may feed on sugars, so we starve them with keto diet?
 - No concrete data at this point

Risks

• Can increase your LDL – especially if eating with lots of saturated fats



https://www.onlinejacc.org/content/76/13/1507

Risks

- May worsen liver and/or kidney problems
- Keto Flu
- Hypoglycemia (Diabetes)
- Constipation
- Nutrition Deficiency

Practice Experience?

Many patients fail....generally I see them after they have failed
Excited by initial weight-loss

- Some people feel great on it and it works for them (<1%)
- People constantly cycle on and off this may be harmful more research to come
- Might recommend in Type 2 Diabetes and PCOS
- Sustainability is the key.....

Where to start?

Reduce portions

I don't believe you need to reach full ketosis

Carbs should be a ¼ of your plate

Increase your protein and veggie intake

Ketone Supplements – Don't waste your money



INTERMITTENT FASTING

How did millennials make skipping breakfast cool? Or, is there actually something to it?

FREE LIVE WEBINAR WITH DR. DAN WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2021

Let's connect! Where to find me:

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- Slides should have already been distributed to you
- Can shoot me questions after the event as well!

Thank YOU!

