



**Elder Academy**  
**How food can affect  
your health!**

**Part 2:  
Food Trends**

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**<https://onlineacademiccommunity.uvic.ca/elderacademy>**

# Topics for the Day

- Recap from Part 1
- Organics
- Genetically Modified Foods (GMO)
- Keto-diets
- Gluten-free diets

# Pesticides

Pesticides are used to help protect against *crop losses, reduce the incidence of crop disease, and increase crop yields*

- Common pesticides are *insecticides, herbicides, and fungicides*
- Can be *natural or synthetic*
- Can *remain* as toxins on foods
- Regulated by: [Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency](#)



# *Noma* Restaurant in Copenhagen



Ants on yogurt and beef tartare with ants by chef Rene Redzepi, *Noma Restaurant*

**Nordic Food Lab mandate – edible etymology for the future of nutrition**

# Organic Foods

**Organic** foods are grown without the use of *synthetic* pesticides

- Organic Products Regulations were put into place in 2009 in Canada
- Approximately 1.7% of all farms in Canada are certified organic farms



# Organic Foods

## *“Organic”*

- 95% of ingredients are organic

## *“Made with organic ingredients”*

- 70% or more of ingredients are organic



95% of the  
ingredients must be  
organic



70% of the  
ingredients must be  
organic

# Organic Foods

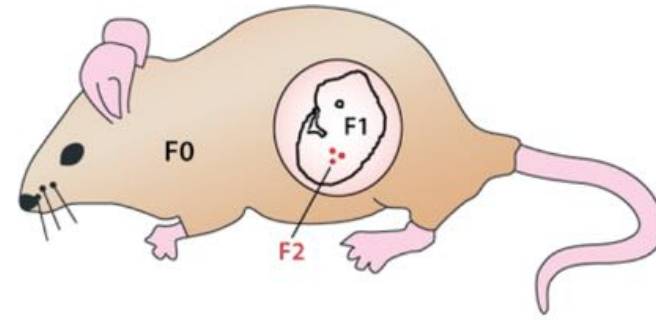
*Do you wash your fruits & vegetables?*


- Depending on the specific pesticide only some, if any, will rinse off.
- What about **organic**?
  - Philosophy of not using pesticides
  - According to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) in 2014:
    - ~1/2 contain pesticide residue*

# Organic Foods

Some pesticides mostly *don't wash off*:

- *Vinclozolin*
- *Bifenthrin*
- *Chlorpyrifos*



 Youngson NA, Whitelaw E. 2008.  
Annu. Rev. Genomics Hum. Genet. 9:233–57

Some show *transgenerational mutagenic effects*

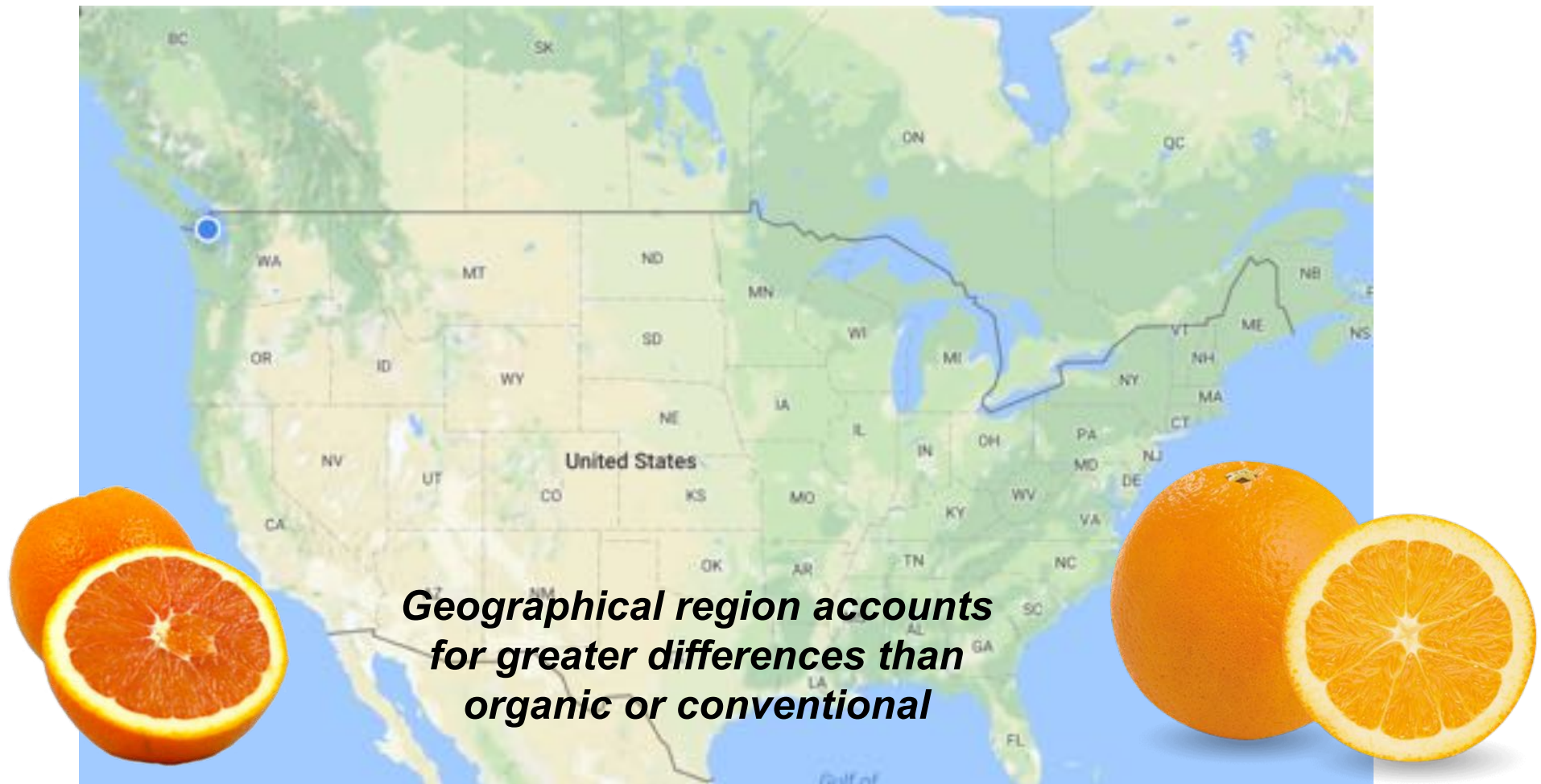
‘Fruit & Veggie’ washing agents or vinegar might slightly increase cleaning, but not by much:

~ same as scrubbing with water



# Are **Organic** foods healthier for you?

- some fruits & vegetables *may* contain higher
  - **vitamins E & C, phosphorus, antioxidant phytochemicals, but ...**



# Are **Organic** foods healthier for you?

A 2012 review of 240 studies from 1966-2011:

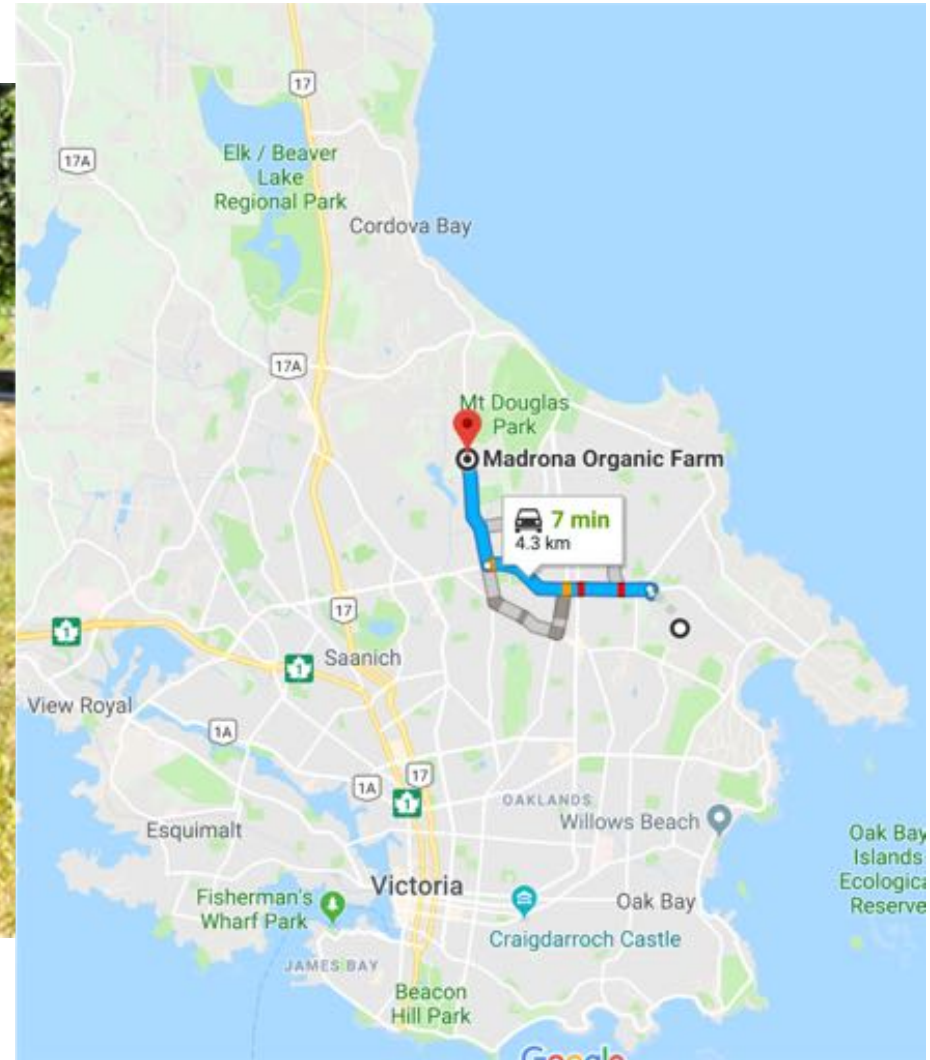
- No clinically significant **nutrient** differences
- Less **pesticide** exposure
- Same **E. coli** & **bacterial** contamination risk
- Conventional meats have 33% higher risk for **antibiotic resistant bacteria**
- *"The published literature lacks strong evidence that organic foods are significantly more **nutritious** than conventional foods."* (Smith-Spangler et al, 2012)

You might still decide to eat organic for:

1. **Less pesticide exposure** risk
2. **Ecological** reasons
3. **Flavour** – **phytochemical differences**



# Madrona Farm – Saanich BC



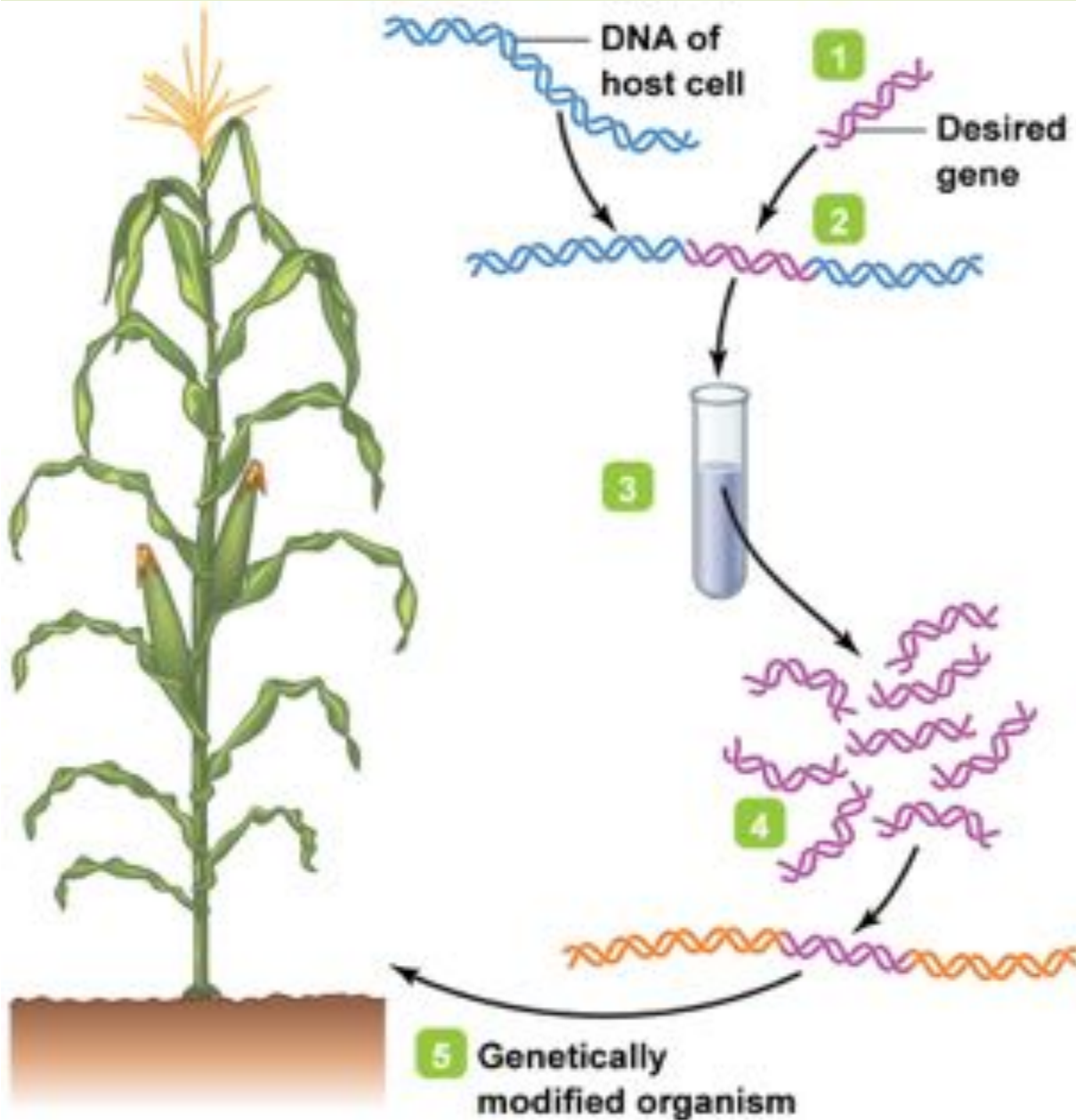
# Locally Foraged Foods

From [Instagram](#) of  
*Lance Staples:*  
local food forager

*“Gold chanterelles, porcini, winter chanterelles, hedgehogs, and 2 elusive and rare mushrooms which are the Blue Chanterelle and the Pig's Ear mushroom (pictured in the bottom right next to the hedgehogs).”*



# Genetically Modified Organism (GMO)



**1** Gene that expresses a desired trait is extracted from cell.

**2** Gene is combined with the DNA of a host cell that lacks this gene.

**3** Host cell containing recombinant DNA is cultured, resulting in many copies of the gene.

**4** Gene is extracted and inserted into the DNA of cells of an organism that lacks this gene.

**5** Cells produce an organism that expresses the desired trait.

# GMOs are not always bad



The *labradoodle* puppy

# GMOs are not always bad



The Labrador (lab) retriever

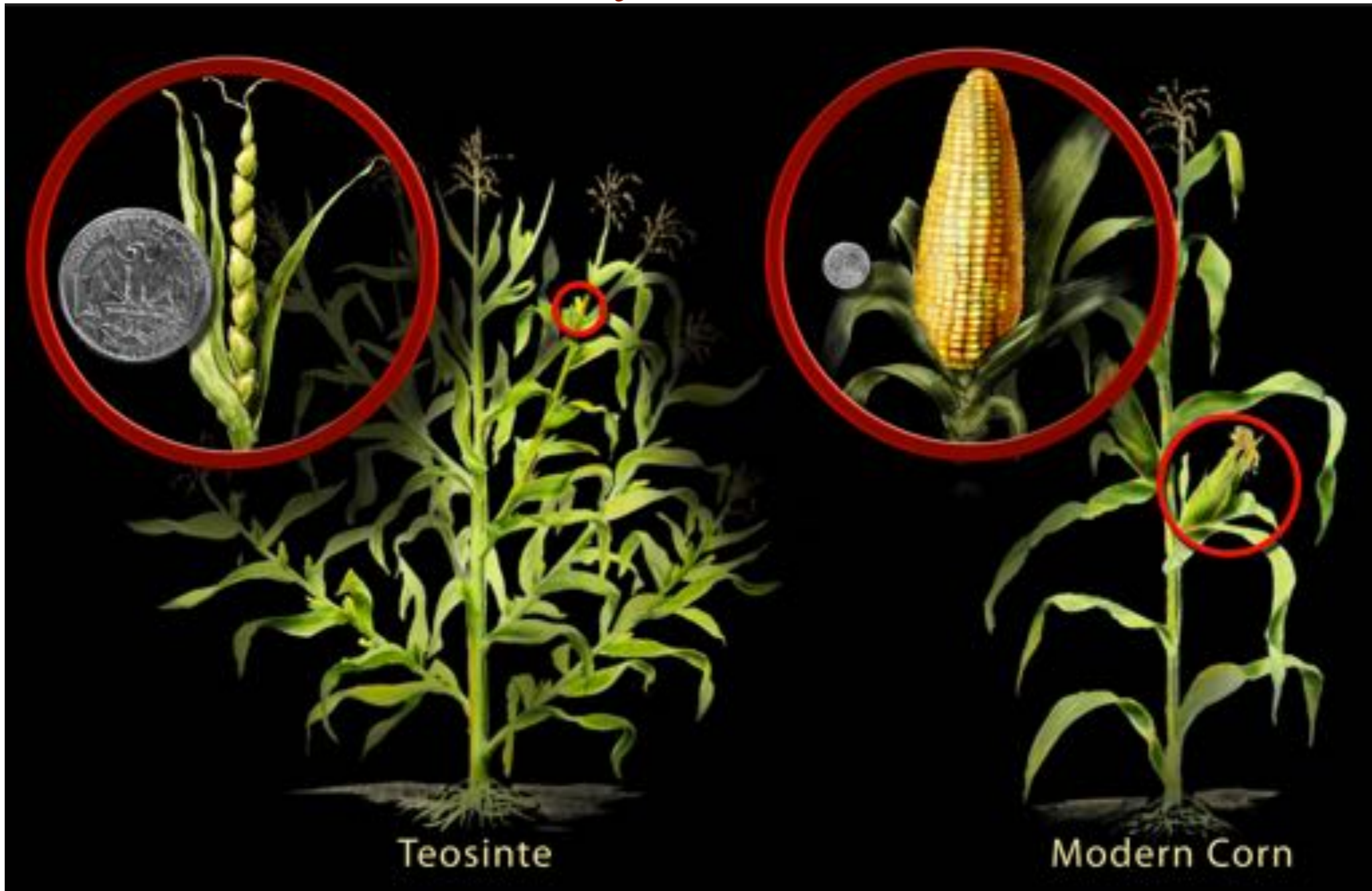


The poodle



The *labradoodle* puppy

# GMOs are not always bad



The historical selective breeding of corn over 10000 years involves only 5 genetic changes





Photo by Andrew Hendrickson

# Questions?

*We have 10 minutes for questions.*

*We will start the second half of this session at 3:00 pm if you want to step out for a short break.*



Photo of the  
“fermentation wall” at  
Agrius Restaurant  
by Andrew Hendrickson

# Ketogenic Diets (KD)

- Characterized by low CHO & high fat intake
  - LCHF
- Used since the 1960s as an therapy for epilepsy
- Popular since the 1990s in sport
- Popular in the last few years as a ‘fad’ diet for weight loss



keto diet

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**What Is The Ketogenic Diet? - The Truth Behind Ketogenic**  
Ad [www.healthprep.com/Diet](https://www.healthprep.com/Diet) ▼  
Learn when you should avoid doing this diet and what damage it can cause you.

**A Ketogenic Diet for Beginners - Diet Doctor**  
<https://www.dietdoctor.com/low-carb/keto> ▼  
A ketogenic diet is similar to other strict low-carb diets, like the Atkins diet or LCHF (low carb, high fat). These diets often end up being ketogenic more or less by ...

# Ketogenic Diets (KD)

Recall from Part 1:  
Typical AMDR  
10-35% protein  
20-35% fat  
45-65% carbohydrate

- “*Classical*” model;
  - 90% fat
  - 7% CHO
  - 3% protein
- “*Modern*” model;
  - 60-70% fat
  - 20-25% CHO
  - 15-20% protein
- Lacks minerals (i.e. potassium, magnesium, etc)
- Lacks vitamins (i.e. C, A, etc)



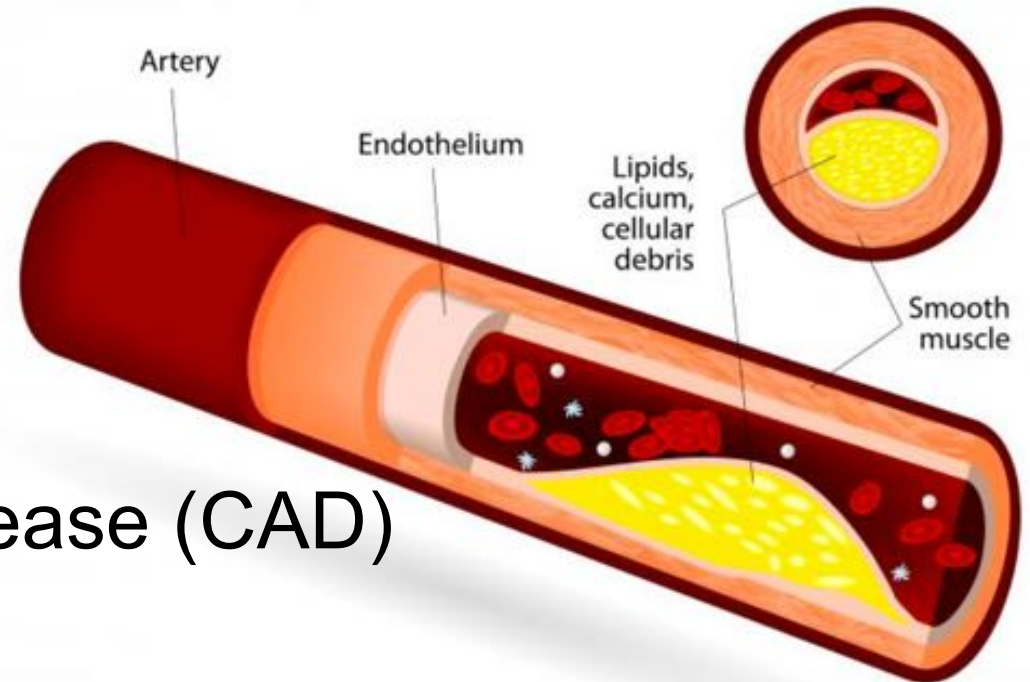
# Ketogenic Diets (KD)

## Well-established side effects

- known due to use in epilepsy research since the 1960s

## Effects include;

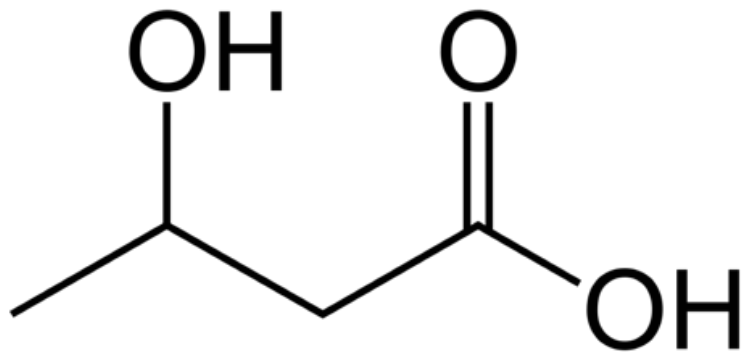
- Hyperlipidemia
- Coronary artery disease (CAD)
- Growth failure
- GI disorders
- Nephrolithiasis



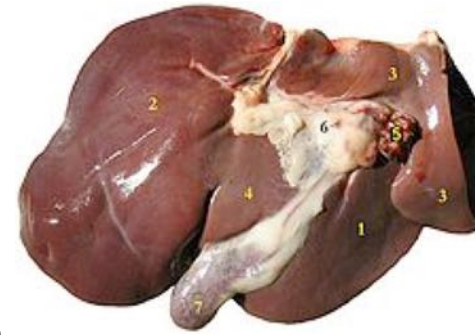
# Ketogenic Diets (KD)

$\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate (primary human ketone)

- Synthesized in the liver from *acetoacetate*
- Can be used as an energy source by the brain when blood glucose is low
- Diabetic patients can have their ketone levels tested via urine or blood to indicate *ketoacidosis*



# Ketogenic Diets (KD)



$\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate (primary human ketone)

- In *alcoholic ketoacidosis*, this ketone body is produced in greatest concentration

- Occurs if *oxaloacetate* in the liver cells is depleted, a circumstance created by
  - reduced carbohydrate intake (through diet or starvation),
  - prolonged, excessive alcohol consumption,
  - insulin deficiency

- In *epilepsy* patients on the ketogenic diet, blood  $\beta$ -hydroxybutyrate levels correlate best with degree of seizure control.

# Ketogenic Diets (KD)

Efficacy for weight-loss?



Hall et al. 2016

- With obesity, caloric deficit of 300 Cal/d
  - high-CHO baseline diet, followed by KD with equivalent protein
  - KD resulted in increased daily EE ~50-200 kcal
  - KD resulted in less body fat loss
  - KD resulted in increased loss of lean-mass
    - Increased protein oxidation

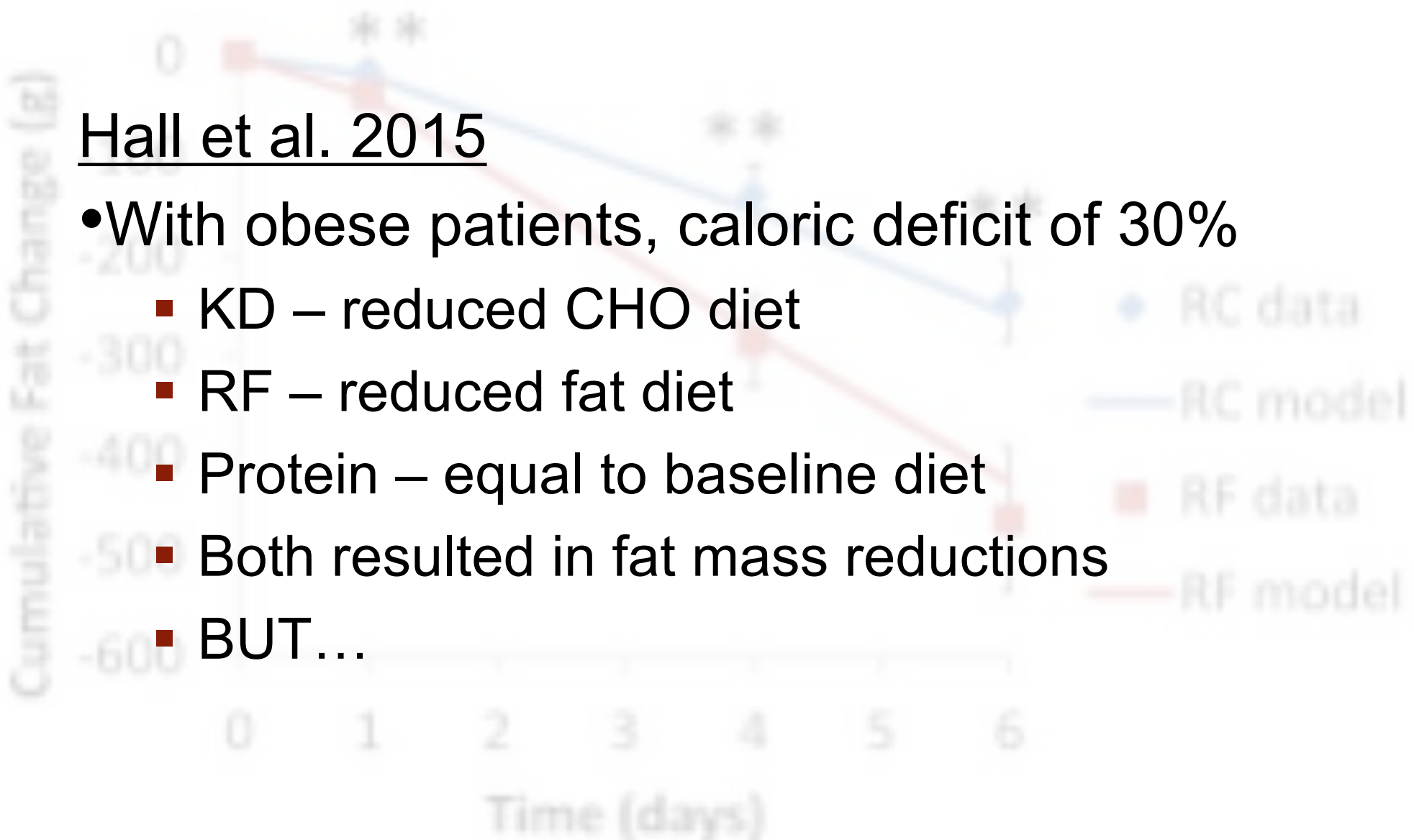


# What works for weight-loss?

Hall et al. 2015

- With obese patients, caloric deficit of 30%

- KD – reduced CHO diet
- RF – reduced fat diet
- Protein – equal to baseline diet
- Both resulted in fat mass reductions
- BUT...



# What works for weight-loss?

Hall et al. 2015

- With obese patients, caloric deficit of 30%
  - KD resulted in **more** weight lost, BUT...
  - KD resulted in **less** body fat loss
  - Then where did the weight loss come from?
    - Muscle glycogen (sugar/energy)
    - Body water losses
    - Muscle protein (used for energy deficit)
  - Reduced Fat (RF) diets and daily exercise are clinically the most effective body fat loss interventions.

# Proteins: Background

**Long-standing human fascination with protein consumption and performance.**

**Ancient Greek & Roman athletes consumed meat-rich diets in the belief that they would achieve the strength of the consumed animal (~3000 years ago).**

**Debated in scientific literature since 1842.**

# Proteins: Background

- Proteins in the human body;
  - Average 70 kg human contains 12 kg of protein.
  - ~40% is contained within muscles.
  - 200 – 500 g are synthesized (built) every day.
  - 10 g are excreted per day.
  - In your life you will synthesize ~10,000 kg of protein!
  - You will only consume about ~2,000 kg.



# Proteins: Background

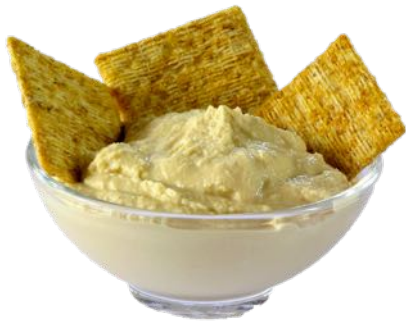
- On-going debate – ‘how much protein?’
- Interest in protein consumption & supplementation among athletes and general population continues
- Misunderstanding due to complexity of protein metabolism.



# How much dietary protein does the general population need?

- Quick answer – it depends.
- Requirements vary depending on age:
  - Childhood: 0-6 mo **1.5+** g·kg<sup>-1</sup>·day<sup>-1</sup>
  - Late childhood: 6 mo-13 yr **1.0** g·kg<sup>-1</sup>·day<sup>-1</sup>
  - Young adulthood: 14-18 yr, **0.9** g·kg<sup>-1</sup>·day<sup>-1</sup>
  - Adults: 19+ yr, **0.8** g·kg<sup>-1</sup>·day<sup>-1</sup>
  - Older adults: 65+ yr, **1.2** g·kg<sup>-1</sup>·day<sup>-1</sup>
- Eat in doses of 20 g of protein every 2-3 hours
  - Excess protein cannot be stored and
  - Digestion, absorption, and synthesis (building muscle) are all rate limited processes.

# What does 20 g of Protein Look Like?



$\frac{3}{4}$  cup of hummus  
& wheat crackers



1 cup of cottage cheese



75 grams chicken  
(palm-sized)



1 cup of quinoa



100 grams salmon  
(palm-sized)



3 large chicken eggs

For 65+ yrs: 1.2 g of protein per kg body weight

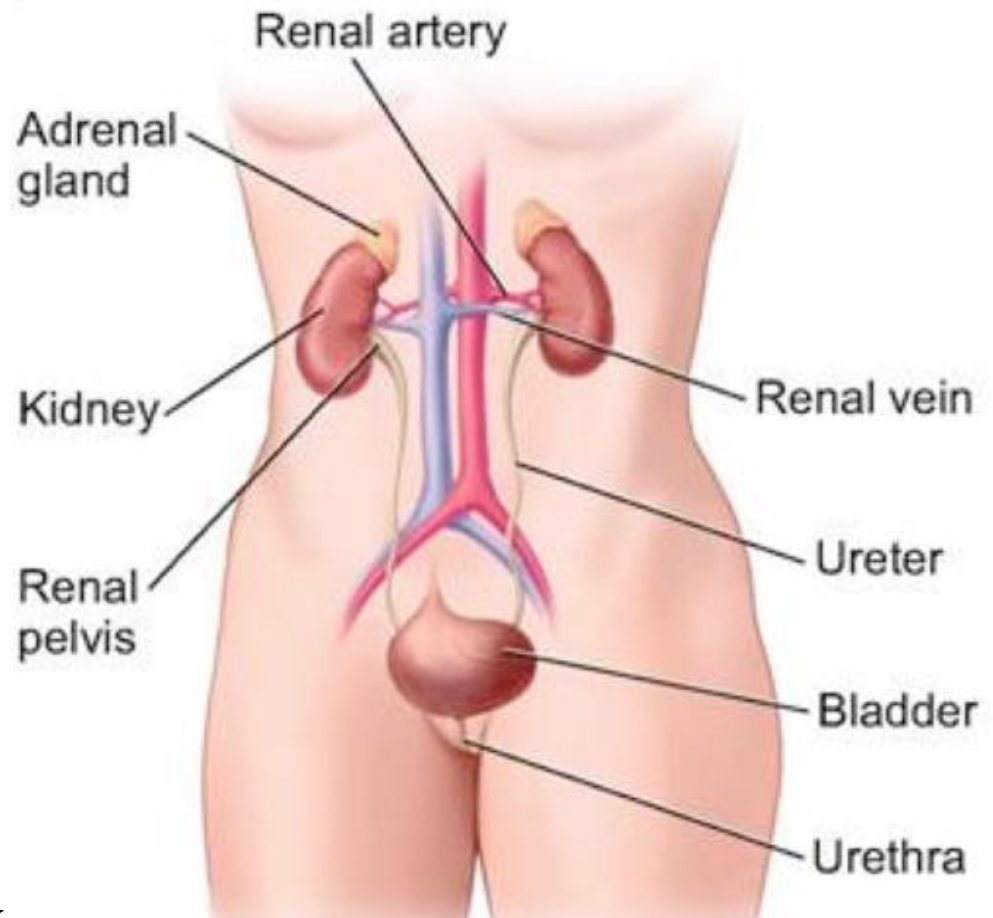
Example Calculation:

$$70 \text{ kg} \times 1.2 \text{ g protein/kg} = 84 \text{ g per day}$$

# Can You Eat Too Much Protein?

The risks of too much protein may include;

- Cardiovascular diseases
  - Due to high fat content
- Metabolic disorders
  - Due to gluconeogenesis and related insulin response
- Kidney disease
  - Due to ↑ filtration rate
  - Especially for people who may be susceptible to kidney disease





# Dairy Milk

Milk predominantly contains two commonly studied proteins;

- Whey ~15-20% of milk proteins
- Casein ~80% of milk proteins

Safety and suitability is a common topic of questions for general population.



# Dairy Milk

## The “*straw man*” argument



# Dairy Milk

- Milk is essentially liquid meat
- Advantages
  - Bioavailability (better than meat)
  - Cheapest animal protein
  - High Leucine content
- Disadvantages
  - High in fat (i.e. Cals)
  - Food safety challenges
  - Vegetarian proteins are cheaper



# Dairy Milk

## Recommendations

- US 732 mL/d = 243-436 Cal
- Canada 500 mL/d = 166-298 Cal

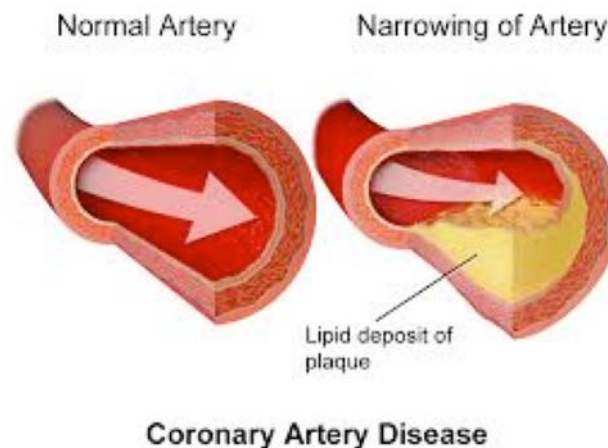
## Actual consumption in 2014

- US 196 mL/d = 65-117 Cal
- Europe 171 mL/d = 57-101 Cal
- Sweden 236 mL/d = 78-141 Cal
- Italy 171 mL/d = 57-101 Cal
- Bulgaria 60 mL/d = 20-36 Cal

# Dairy Milk

## Disease Risk & Consumption

- Meta-analysis of observational prospective studies found no evidence for associations between milk consumption:
  - all-cause mortality,
  - fatal and non fatal coronary heart diseases and,
  - fatal or non fatal stroke.



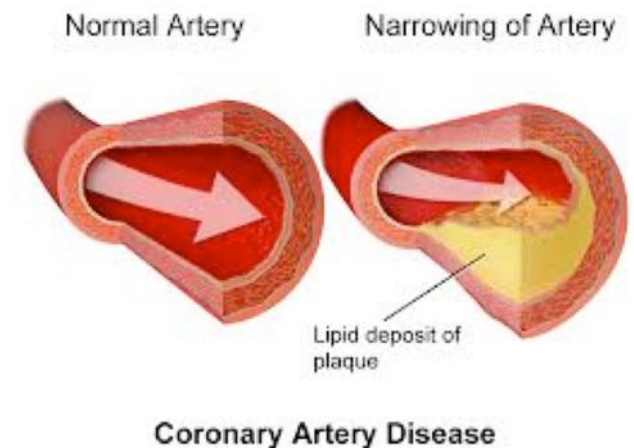
# Meat



Slow to digest, good source of iron but high fat & generally lacks other nutrients & increased disease risk

## Fat content of meats (% of total kcals)

- “Lean” hamburger 42%
- Tenderloin 35%
- Sirloin 41%
- Pork tenderloin 28%
- Chicken breast (no skin) 19%
- Chicken thigh (w/ skin) 68%



# Vegetarian & Vegan

- Cheapest source of protein but **incomplete** sources
  - Richest protein source of other nutrients
- **Mutual supplementation**: using two incomplete proteins together to make a complete protein
- **Complementary proteins**: two protein sources that together supply all 9 essential amino acids (EAAs)
  - Examples:
    - beans & rice
    - peanut butter & whole wheat bread
    - tortillas & beans



<b>Food</b>	<b>Limiting Amino Acids</b>	<b>Good Plant Source of the Limiting Amino Acids*</b>	<b>Traditional Food Combinations in Which the Proteins Complement Each Other in a Meal</b>
Legumes (beans)	Methionine	Grains, nuts, seeds	Red beans and rice
Grains	Lysine, threonine, tryptophan	Legumes	Rice and red beans; lentil curry and rice; corn tortillas and beans
Nuts and seeds	Lysine	Legumes	Soybeans and ground sesame seeds (miso); peanuts, rice, and black-eyed peas; green peas and sunflower seeds
Vegetables	Methionine	Grains, nuts, seeds	Green beans and almonds

Note: As you might suspect from the information in Table 6-2, the amino acids most likely to be low in a diet are lysine, methionine, threonine, and tryptophan. If a diet is low in an amino acid, nutrition experts recommend finding a good food source to supply it. Finding the right combinations of amino acids, such as a dish of rice and beans, is recommended. Forget about amino-acid supplements—they can lead to problems, such as decreased absorption of other, similar amino acids. Amino acids as such also have a disagreeable odor and flavor and are also much more expensive than food protein.

\*Animal products in the diet serve the same purpose, such as when fish is consumed with rice, or cheese with macaroni.



# Protein Supplements

*Recall from Part 1:*

- Protein is plentiful in the Canadian diet

*So ...*

- Increasing protein intake above recommended amounts will not make your hair shine, protect you from disease, or make your muscles grow
  - **protein synthesis is a rate limited process**
  - **protein digestion & absorption are slow**
- Supplements are potentially *harmful*, are *expensive*, and can *add calories* to the diet

# What is Gluten?

- Gluten (from Latin gluten, meaning "glue")
  - A group of proteins
  - It is found in wheat, barley, rye, oats, spelt, khorasan, emmer, einkorn, triticale, kamut.
  - Gluten gives elasticity to dough, helping it keep its shape and often gives the final product a chewy/elastic texture.
- Gluten is;
  - Gliadins and glutenin in wheat
  - Hordeins in barley
  - Secalins in rye
  - Avenins in oats



# What is Gluten?

- In people with celiac disease, glutens cause an allergic response
  - 1-2% of the general population has celiac disease
- Another 20-30% of the north American population claims to be ‘gluten sensitive’
  - Dominant theory is that this is a sensitivity instead to FODMAPs
    - Fermentable – meaning they are broken down (fermented) by bacteria in the large intestine
    - Oligosaccharides – “oligo” means “few” and “saccharide” means sugar. These molecules made up of individual sugars joined together in a chain
    - Disaccharides – “di” means two. This is a double sugar molecule.
    - Monosaccharides – “mono” means single. This is a single-sugar molecule.
    - And
    - Polyols – these are sugar alcohols (however don’t lead to intoxication!)

# Questions?

*We have some time for questions and will return next week for:*

*Part 3: Super-Foods– gut-health, omega fats, brassicas, & more!*



Photo of the  
“fermentation wall” at  
Agrius Restaurant  
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