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1 Diet patterns are associated with circulating metabolites and lipid profiles
2 of South Asians in the United States

3
4 *Running head: Diet patterns and metabolomics in US South Asians*

5
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38 Abbreviations:

39 Mediators of Atherosclerosis in South Asians Living in America (MASALA); ultra-performance
40 liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (UPLC-MS); non-alcoholic fatty liver disease
41 (NAFLD); Metabolic-equivalent (MET) minutes/week

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47 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

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49 The roles for each author are as follows. MDG conceived of the project idea, analytic design and

50 performed the analysis, CS, ML, AMK, NRK and DH contributed to the interpretation of the

51 results and reviewed and edited the manuscript; MDG wrote the manuscript. MDG had primary

52 responsibility for final content. All authors have read and approved the manuscript.

53

54 **ABSTRACT**

55 BACKGROUND: South Asians are at higher risk for cardiometabolic disease than many other
56 racial/ethnic minority groups. Diet patterns in U.S. South Asians have unique components
57 associated with cardiometabolic disease.

58 OBJECTIVES: We aimed to characterize the metabolites associated with three representative
59 diet patterns.

60 METHODS: We included 722 participants in the Mediators of Atherosclerosis in South Asians
61 Living in America (MASALA) cohort study aged 40-84 years without known cardiovascular
62 disease. Fasting serum specimens and diet and demographic questionnaires were collected at
63 baseline and diet patterns previously generated through principal components analysis. LC-MS-
64 based untargeted metabolomic and lipidomic analysis was conducted with targeted integration
65 of known metabolite and lipid signals. Linear regression models of diet pattern factor score and
66 log-transformed metabolites adjusted for age, sex, caloric intake and body mass index and
67 adjusted for multiple comparisons was performed, followed by elastic net linear regression of
68 significant metabolites.

69 RESULTS: There were 443 metabolites of known identity extracted from the profiling data. The
70 ‘Animal protein’ diet pattern was associated with 61 metabolites and lipids; including
71 glycerophospholipids PE(O-16:1/20:4) and/or PE(P-16:0/20:4) (β 0.13; 95% Confidence
72 Interval (CI) [0.11, 0.14]) and N-acyl phosphatidylethanolamines (NAPE) NAPE(O-
73 18:1/20:4/18:0) and/or NAPE(P-18:0/20:4/18:0) (β : 0.13; 95%CI [0.11, 0.14]), LPI (22:6/0:0) (β
74 0.14; 95% CI [0.12, 0.17]) and fatty acids FA (22:6) (β : 0.15; 95% CI [0.13, 0.17]). The ‘Fried
75 snacks, sweets, high-fat dairy’ pattern was associated with 12 lipids; including PC(16:0/22:6)
76 (β : -0.08; 95%CI[-0.09, -0.06]) and FA(22:6) (β 0.14; 95%CI [-0.17, -0.10]). The ‘Fruits,

77 Vegetables, Nuts and Legumes' pattern was associated with five metabolites including proline
78 betaine (β : 0.17 [0.09, 0.25]) [$p < 0.0002$].

79 CONCLUSIONS: Three predominant dietary patterns in U.S. South Asians are associated with
80 circulating metabolites differentiated by lipids including glycerophospholipids and
81 polyunsaturated fatty acids and the amino acid proline betaine.

82

83 *Keywords: diet patterns; South Asian; cardiovascular risk; metabolomics; lipids*

84

85 **BACKGROUND**

86 South Asians (individuals of Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Nepali, and Sri Lankan
87 descent) are at higher risk for cardiovascular disease and diabetes than many other racial and
88 ethnic groups.(1-3) About 23% of South Asians have diabetes, which often precedes coronary
89 heart disease.(4) On average, South Asians develop coronary heart disease 10 years earlier than
90 people identifying as a different race or ethnic group, and 50% of heart attacks in South Asians
91 occur before the age of 50.(5)

92 In this population, diet quality and pattern of intake is a strong, modifiable risk factor for
93 cardiometabolic disease.(6, 7) Prior investigations with South Asian populations in the diaspora
94 have characterized unique diet patterns influenced by both heritage and emigration.(8, 9) We
95 previously examined diet patterns in the Mediators of Atherosclerosis in South Asians Living in
96 America (MASALA) cohort, in which habitual dietary intake was characterized with a
97 culturally-concordant food frequency questionnaire.(10) We identified three major diet patterns:
98 Animal Protein; Fried snacks, Sweets, High-fat Dairy, and Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, Legumes,
99 (11) which have unique associations with traditional risk factors for cardiometabolic disease. The
100 increased risk associated with certain diet patterns may be tied to intermediate metabolic markers
101 seen in South Asians, such as a pattern of atherogenic dyslipidemia, tendency towards larger
102 ectopic adipose tissue deposits and lower muscle mass and poor beta cell function.(2, 12). Little
103 is known about the mechanisms and process by which these particular diet profiles translate into
104 metabolic phenotypes that cause higher cardiometabolic risk.

105 The identification of metabolites, easily measurable and present in serum, urine or tissue
106 can help to shed light on the phenotypic links between diet and cardiometabolic disease in this

107 high-risk population.(13) A panel of metabolites may both be able to serve as a biomarker for
108 diet intake and help clarify and measure the metabolic effects of that diet intake.

109 In this analysis, we aimed to establish representative metabolites for predominant diet
110 patterns in South Asians who are part of the full MASALA study.

111 **METHODS**

112 *Participants*

113 Data were from South Asians who participated in the MASALA community-based cohort
114 study and had complete diet and metabolomic data. The detailed methods have been described
115 elsewhere.(10) Briefly, MASALA is a prospective cohort study which enrolled community-
116 dwelling individuals living in the San Francisco Bay Area and the greater Chicago areas from
117 2010-2013. Participants self-identified as having South Asian ancestry and were aged 40-84
118 years and without known cardiovascular disease. Those on nitroglycerin, with active cancer, with
119 impaired cognitive ability, a life expectancy less than five years, who lived in a nursing home, or
120 who had plans to relocate were excluded. The University of California, San Francisco and
121 Northwestern University Institutional Review Board approved the study protocol and all study
122 participants provided written informed consent.

123 *Demographic and diet data*

124 Each participant underwent in-person interviews to determine age, sex, medical history,
125 physical activity, smoking status and alcohol intake. Food group intake was collected with the
126 Study of Health Assessment and Risk in Ethnic (SHARE) groups South Asian Food Frequency
127 Questionnaire, which was developed and validated in South Asians in Canada.(14) The food
128 frequency questionnaire included 163 items, with 61 items unique to the South Asian diet, and
129 assessed usual eating habits, frequency and serving sizes over the prior 12 months.

130 *Dietary pattern creation*

131 Individual food items from the SHARE food frequency questionnaire were divided into
132 29 predefined subgroups reflecting likeness, underlying nutrient composition and South Asian
133 culinary usage. Several foods (e.g. coffee) were kept as individual categories given their high
134 reported intake. We excluded 1 individual with incomplete food frequency questionnaire data
135 and another 6 who did not meet *a priori* criteria of daily caloric ranges (600-6000 kcal/24 h).

136 Principal components analysis with varimax rotation was previously used to identify the
137 most prevalent groupings of major food group categories in our population.(15) After identifying
138 three patterns that explained the majority of variance, the patterns were named according to their
139 major components: “Animal protein” (9.3% variance), “Fried snacks, sweets, high-fat dairy”
140 (7.4% variance) “Fruits, vegetables, nuts legumes” (6.5% variance). Each participant was
141 assigned a factor score for each dietary pattern based on the correlation of his or her food
142 frequency questionnaire data with the food groupings in the three prevalent patterns. The diet
143 patterns: Animal Protein, Fried Snacks, Sweets, High-fat Dairy each had continuous factor
144 scores which were divided into tertiles for ease of interpretation.

145 *Metabolic Profiling by UPLC-MS*

146 A total of 754 serum samples obtained at the baseline exam (2010-2013) were analyzed
147 by ultra-performance liquid chromatography mass spectrometry (UPLC-MS) using previously
148 described analytical and quality control procedures.(16, 17) Sample analysis was performed in an
149 order designed to be orthogonal to clinical and demographic data metadata. For quality control
150 assessment and data pre-processing, a study reference (SR) sample was prepared by pooling
151 equal parts of each study sample.

152 Serum samples were prepared and analyzed using UPLC-MS as previously published.
153 (16, 17) In brief, 50 μ L aliquots were taken from each sample, diluted 1:1 with ultrapure water
154 for lipid profiling and 1:1.4 for small molecule profiling. Protein was removed by addition of
155 organic solvent to the diluted sample (four volumes isopropanol per volume of diluted sample for
156 lipidomic profiling and three volumes of acetonitrile per volume of diluted sample for small
157 molecule profiling) followed by mixing and centrifugation to yield a homogenous supernatant.
158 Aliquot sets of prepared samples were subjected to chromatographic separation using an
159 ACQUITY UPLC (Waters Corp., Milford, MA, USA) system. Lipidomic profiling was
160 performed using reversed-phase chromatography (RPC) with a 2.1 \times 100 mm Acquity BEH C8
161 column maintained at 55°C. The chromatographic separation was performed using a binary
162 mobile phase system consisting of (A) a 50:25:25 mixture of H₂O:ACN:IPA with 5mm
163 ammonium acetate, 0.05% acetic acid, and 20 μ M phosphoric acid and (B) 50:50 ACN:IPA with
164 5mm ammonium acetate, 0.05% acetic acid. Polar metabolite profiling was performed using
165 hydrophilic interaction liquid chromatography (HILIC) with a 2.1 \times 150 mm Acquity BEH
166 HILIC column maintained at 40°C. The chromatographic separation was performed using a
167 binary mobile phase system consisting of (A) acetonitrile with 0.1% formic acid and (B) 20 mM
168 ammonium formate in water with 0.1% formic acid. Both separation types were coupled to high
169 resolution mass spectrometry (Xevo G2-S TOF mass spectrometers, Waters Corp., Manchester,
170 UK) via a Z-spray electrospray ionization source. The lipidomic profiling assay was conducted in
171 both positive and negative ion modes (generating Lipid RPC+ and Lipid RPC- datasets), while
172 the HILIC assay was performed in the positive ion mode only (generating the HILIC+ dataset).
173 A SR sample was acquired every 10 study samples throughout the analysis. In addition, a

174 dilution series was created from the SR and analyzed immediately prior to and after the study
175 sample analysis for use in signal filtering as described previously (16).

176 Raw data was converted to the mzML open source format and signals below an absolute
177 intensity threshold of 100 counts were removed using the MSConvert tool in ProteoWizard.(18)
178 Metabolite signal extraction was performed using PeakPantheR, an open-source package to
179 detect, integrate and report pre-defined and annotated lipids and metabolites from an in-house
180 database.(19) Elimination of potential run-order effects and filtering of the extracted metabolites
181 was performed using the nPYc-Toolbox, an open-source package for data pre-processing.(20)
182 Only those measured with high accuracy (relative coefficient of variance in SR samples less than
183 20%) and high precision (correlation to dilution in SR dilution series greater than 0.8) were
184 retained and put forward for biological analysis. Of the 754 total study samples, 32 were not
185 included in our analysis due to insufficient sample volume and five were excluded due to missed
186 injection in the HILIC assay.

187 *Cardiometabolic factors measured at baseline:*

188 Weight was determined using a digital scale, height with a stadiometer, and waist
189 circumference using a measuring tape halfway between the lower ribs and the anterior superior
190 iliac spine, at the site of greatest circumference. Blood samples were obtained after a requested
191 12-hour fast. Fasting plasma glucose was measured using the hexokinase method (Quest
192 diagnostics, San Jose, CA). An oral glucose tolerance test was performed, in which participants
193 consumed a 75g oral glucose solution, and blood samples for plasma glucose and insulin were
194 taken after 120 minutes. Type 2 diabetes was defined as a fasting glucose ≥ 126 mg/dl, 2-hour
195 post-challenge glucose ≥ 200 mg/dl or use of a glucose-lowering medication. 717 participants
196 were included in our analysis.

197 *Statistical methods*

198 Before modeling, relative abundance of metabolites were log-transformed to reduce the
199 potential for outliers to influence the model. Multivariable linear regression analyses were used
200 to determine associations of diet pattern factor score and relative abundance of each independent
201 metabolite. The analyses were adjusted for age, sex, calories per day, body mass index in Model
202 1 and further adjusted for presence of diabetes, hypertension, use of statin medication, smoking
203 and alcohol intake of ≥ 1 drink/wk as categorical variables and exercise (metabolic-equivalent-
204 minutes/week) as a continuous variable. We applied the conservative Bonferroni method to
205 adjust for multiple comparisons, with an $\alpha < 0.00002$ deemed significant. To adjust for
206 unreliable parameter estimates that may occur when using multiple regression models in the
207 setting of multicollinearity, we performed an elastic net regularized regression model to evaluate
208 metabolites that were significant in independent analyses. The elastic-net model allowed for a
209 penalized logistic regression on all biomarkers simultaneously to identify the metabolites most
210 highly associated with diet pattern score. Optimal parameters for the penalty value (α) and the
211 regularization penalty (λ) were determined by 10-fold cross-validation. Briefly, data in the full
212 dataset were randomly assigned to one of two equal sized datasets. Model performance was
213 judged based on root mean square error, with the model chosen minimizing mean cross-validated
214 error. Optimization was complete using STATA's "elasticnet" and postestimation commands for
215 model prediction. We then further adjusted these linear regression models for physical activity,
216 diabetes, and family history of diabetes.

217 The analysis was completed using STATA (version 16.1, 2021, College Station, TX, USA).

218 **RESULTS**

219 In total, 443 metabolites and lipids were examined in this analysis (Supplemental Table
220 1). MASALA participants in the highest tertile of factor score of the Animal Protein pattern were
221 less likely to be women, had lower total daily energy intake but were of similar BMI than those
222 who most often consumed the Fried snacks, Sweets, High-fat dairy or Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts,
223 Legumes patterns (Table 1). A similar proportion of women most often consumed the Fried
224 snacks, Sweets, High-fat dairy pattern and Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, Legumes diet patterns
225 (47%).

226 After elastic net regularized regression, and further adjustment for relevant covariates, the
227 Animal Protein diet pattern was associated with 61 metabolite and lipid species. It was positively
228 associated with phospholipids, sphingomyelins, ceramides and other lipid species including
229 omega-3 fatty acids, and negatively associated with long-chain acylcarnitines and trigonelline.
230 The metabolites most highly associated with the Animal Protein diet pattern were: PE(O-
231 16:1/20:4) and/or PE(P-16:0/20:4) (0.13; 95% Confidence Interval [0.11, 0.14]) and NAPE (O-
232 18:1/20:4/18:0) and/or NAPE(P-18:0/20:4/18) (0.13; 95%CI [0.11, 0.14]), LPI (22:6/0:0) (0.14;
233 95% CI [0.12, 0.17]) and fatty acids FA (22:6) (0.15; 95% CI [0.13, 0.17]). (Table 2) The Fried
234 snacks, Sweets, High-fat dairy pattern was associated with 12 lipids, the top two hits of which
235 were PC(16:0/22:6) (-0.08; 95%CI[-0.09, -0.06]) and FA(22:6) (0.14; 95%CI [-0.17, -0.10])
236 (Table 3). The Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, Legumes diet was associated with five metabolites,
237 including a positive association with proline betaine (0.17 [0.09, 0.25]) (Table 4).

238 **DISCUSSION**

239 Participants in the MASALA study consumed three predominant dietary patterns: Animal
240 Protein; Fried Snacks, Sweets, High-Fat Dairy; Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, Legumes, which were
241 each associated with particular metabolite and lipid patterns. The metabolic profile associated

242 with Animal Protein pattern was represented by glycerophospholipids, acylcarnitines and
243 ceramides, which carry high metabolic risk. The Fried snacks, Sweets, High-fat dairy pattern was
244 inversely associated a number of lipids, including an omega-3 fatty acid derived from seafood
245 and linked to lower cardiovascular risk.(21) Higher consumption of the Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts,
246 Legumes pattern was associated with higher abundance of proline betaine, a marker of citrus
247 consumption and lower risk for type 2 diabetes in prior studies(22), and lower relative abundance
248 of several lipid subspecies.

249 The metabolite and lipid patterns associated with high consumption of each diet pattern
250 have implications for metabolic health. In particular, proline betaine was positively associated
251 with the most “prudent” diet pattern, Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, Legumes, and negatively
252 associated with the Animal Protein diet pattern. There is a correlation between proline betaine
253 and fruit intake in this sample (Supplemental Table 4). This amino acid, and its analogue, glycine
254 betaine, have been associated with lower risk for diabetes in the Diabetes Prevention Program
255 and other trials and cohort studies.(22, 23) Betaine is derived from the amino acid glycine, and
256 acts as a methyl donor to allow the conversion of homocysteine to methionine. (24) Proline
257 betaine is also a biomarker of citrus consumption.(25) Deficiency of betaine is additionally
258 linked with increased severity of non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD).(26) In our prior
259 work, the Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts, Legumes was associated with lower prevalence of metabolic
260 syndrome.(11) Despite these positive observational findings and promising preclinical data from
261 animal studies, direct supplementation of betaine in humans during a randomized, controlled trial
262 showed only minor improvements in fasting glucose, and no changes in dynamic measurements
263 of Insulin sensitivity and intrahepatic triglycerides.(27) All together, this suggests that an

264 exploration of the choline-betaine metabolic pathways and downstream metabolites may yield
265 insights into the pathogenesis of prediabetes and NAFLD.

266 Long and short-chain acylcarnitines have previously been associated with prevalent and
267 incident diabetes.(28, 29) Short-chain acylcarnitines, specifically CAR(3:0) and CAR(5:0)
268 acylcarnitines, are breakdown products of BCAA metabolism and are associated with insulin
269 resistance.(30) In a previous assessment diet patterns and metabolites in the MASALA pilot
270 study (N=150), a similar “Western/non-vegetarian” diet pattern was associated with short-chain
271 acylcarnitines.(31) In our study, there was a direct association between increased consumption of
272 the Animal Protein pattern and propionylcarnitine (CAR(3:0)). There have been conflicting
273 associations between long-chain acylcarnitines and the presence of diabetes. Impaired fatty acid
274 oxidation and oxidative stress due to peripheral insulin resistance may cause a buildup of long-
275 chain acylcarnitines (29) resulting in a decrease in insulin synthesis and associations with
276 prevalent diabetes. Conversely, several cohort studies, including the PREDIMED study and our
277 prior work in the MASALA study, show inverse associations between long-chain acylcarnitine
278 abundance and both prevalent diabetes and future glucose intolerance.(32, 33) The current
279 investigation found a positive association between the Animal Protein pattern and CAR(18:0)
280 and an inverse association with CAR (14:2), CAR (18:3), CAR(20:2) and CAR (20:3). In
281 support of the association between this diet pattern and circulating CAR (18:0), a randomized
282 trial of red meat intake also revealed positive associations with CAR(18:0). (34) Our prior work
283 in the MASALA cohort identified a relationship between higher baseline CAR(18:0) and
284 subsequent lower HbA1c at 5-year follow-up (33) in cohort members without baseline diabetes.
285 These findings suggest that animal protein intake is associated with CAR(18:0), however further

286 associations with diabetes are varied in this population, and may depend on the prevalence of
287 other diet components.

288 The Animal Protein pattern was also associated with a higher abundance of multiple
289 ceramides and sphingomyelins, including Cer(d18:1/26:1) and SM(d18:1/18:0). Ceramides,
290 which are bioactive sphingolipids, have strong ties with diabetes risk (35, 36). Both circulating
291 ceramides and sphingomyelins have been associated with impaired glucose homeostasis. (37, 38)
292 Ceramides are also associated with intake of saturated fats, and with non-alcoholic fatty liver
293 disease.(39)

294 In our investigation, NAPEs were associated with consumption of the Animal Protein
295 pattern, and were correlated with red meat, poultry, fish, eggs and coffee intake (Supplemental
296 Table 2). NAPEs hydrolysis generates N-acylethanolamines that are precursors of
297 endocannabinoids synthesized in phospholipid membranes. Endocannabinoids may be involved
298 in signaling between gut microbiota and adipose tissue, and have been implicated in metabolic
299 disorders such as obesity and type 2 diabetes.(40) In some reports NAPEs have been shown to be
300 increased in plasma after high-fat feeding and regulate food intake.(41)

301 Phosphatidylethanolamines PE(O-16:1/20:4) and/or PE(P-16:0/20:4) were significantly and
302 positively associated with intake of the Animal Protein pattern, and is an essential bioactive lipid
303 abundant in mammalian cells.(42) One study has shown a potential link between this broader
304 lipid species class and decreased odds of acute coronary syndrome,(43) however the particular
305 risk conferred by the lipids found in our analysis are not known.

306 Several important polyunsaturated fatty acids differed between patterns, including lipids
307 with docosahexaenoic acid (DHA) FA(22:6) moieties. These omega-3 fatty acids are correlated
308 with the major non-vegetarian components, including red meat, poultry, eggs and fish

309 consumption in the Animal Protein pattern (Supplemental Table 2), negatively correlated with
310 butter/ghee and legume intake in the Fried Snacks, Sweets, High-fat Dairy diet pattern
311 (Supplemental Table 3) and have previously been linked with lower risk of cardiovascular
312 disease.(44) Lipids with these moieties are lower in abundance with greater consumption of the
313 Fried snacks, sweets and high-fat dairy pattern, suggesting that there may be lower consumption
314 of these potentially beneficial fatty acids in this unhealthy vegetarian pattern. Omega-6 fatty
315 acids found in lean meat, milk and eggs contain arachidonic acid FA (20:4), which is abundant in
316 phospholipids, and important for cellular signaling in the brain and skeletal muscle, and was
317 higher with consumption of the Animal Protein pattern. High levels of this fatty acid may be
318 affected by oxidative stress and play a role in the pathogenesis of fatty liver and diabetes (45)
319 and cardiovascular disease.(46)

320 In conclusion, our findings suggest that prevalent diet patterns in the MASALA study are
321 associated with groups of metabolites and lipids linked with cardiometabolic disease. The Fruits,
322 Vegetables, Nuts, Legumes patterns associated with proline betaine which has been linked with
323 reduced risk for diabetes. The Animal Protein pattern was associated with NAPEs,
324 sphingomyelins and ceramides and long- and short-chain acylcarnitines. Furthermore, the
325 Animal Protein and Fried snacks, Sweets, High-fat dairy patterns had opposite associations with
326 long-chain omega 3 fatty acids, which have been linked with lower risk of cardiovascular
327 disease. These conclusions are limited by the absence of data on intra-individual variability of
328 metabolites. These findings support the next steps in investigation of diet and metabolites: the
329 study of metabolites as biomarkers for measuring diet quality and to determine targeted dietary
330 advice to reduce risk of cardiometabolic disease.

331

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351 DATA SHARING

352 Data described in the manuscript, code book, and analytic code will be made available upon
353 request pending request to MASALA Study Steering Committee for reasons of participant
354 confidentiality.
355

356 CONFLICT OF INTEREST

357

358 The authors do not have financial conflicts of interest to disclose.

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- 492

493 Table 1: Baseline characteristics of MASALA Study participants by tertile of diet pattern¹

	Animal Protein			Fried snacks, Sweets, High-fat dairy			Fruits, Vegetables, Nuts Legumes		
	Tertile 1	Tertile 2	Tertile 3	Tertile 1	Tertile 2	Tertile 3	Tertile 1	Tertile 2	Tertile 3
	alcohol, coffee, eggs, fish, pasta, pizza, poultry, red meat, refined grains			added fat, butter/ghee, fried snacks, high-fat dairy, sugar-sweetened beverages, legumes, potatoes, refined grains, rice, whole grains			fruit, fruit juice, legumes, nuts, vegetable oil, vegetables, wholegrain		
	245	233	225	234	238	231	229	239	235
Women, (%)	141 (58)	105 (45)	70 (31)	122 (52)	112 (47)	82 (36)	97 (42)	115 (48)	104 (44)
Age, years	56 (9)	56 (9)	54 (9)	56 (10)	56 (10)	55(9)	54 (9)	55 (9)	57 (9)
BMI, (kg/m ²)	26 (4)	26 (4)	26 (4)	26 (4)	26 (4)	26 (4)	26 (4)	26 (4)	26 (4)
Smoker, (%)									
Never	228	15	2	85	83	81	182 (79)	202 (85)	199 (85)
Former	192	36	5	13	13	15	33 (14)	35 (15)	29 (12)
Current	163	46	16	3	4	3	14 (6)	2 (1)	7 (3)
Alcohol use, n (%)	33 (13)	74 (31)	133 (59)	86 (37)	78 (33)	76 (33)	82 (36)	77 (32)	81 (34)
Exercise ² , MET-min/wk	983 [1515]	1080 [1523]	945 [1300]	1170 [1845]	960 [1560]	735 [1542]	690 [1365]	1035 [1523]	1373 [1665]
Energy intake, kcal/d	1630 (461)	1613 (444)	1820 (555)	1366 (354)	1662 (413)	2035 (470)	1348 (342)	1664 (393)	2037 (480)
Diabetes, n (%)	77 (26)	75 (25)	72 (24)	64 (27)	60 (25)	50 (22)	65 (28)	60 (25)	49 (21)
Hypertension, n (%)	96 (39)	97 (42)	90 (40)	95 (41)	105 (44)	83 (36)	93 (41)	104 (44)	86 (37)

495 ¹Values are mean (SD), median [IQR], or frequency (percent)

496 ²Metabolic-equivalent (MET) minutes per week

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Table 2: Metabolites Associated with Animal Protein Diet Pattern, Elastic Net Regularized Regression

	Model 1, adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, energy intake ^{2,3}				Model 2, fully adjusted ⁴			
	β^2	95% CI (Lower)	95% CI (Upper)	p-value	β^3	95% CI (Lower)	95% CI (Upper)	p-value
Creatine	0.08	0.06	0.1	1.21×10^{-15}	0.08	0.06	0.10	1.47×10^{-14}
Carnitine	0.02	0.01	0.03	2.79×10^{-07}	0.02	0.01	0.03	9.13×10^{-07}
CAR(3:0) (Propionylcarnitine)	0.03	0.02	0.05	1.89×10^{-05}	0.04	0.02	0.06	8.99×10^{-06}
Proline betaine	-0.11	-0.17	-0.06	1.41×10^{-05}	-0.12	-0.17	-0.06	3.34×10^{-05}
Pipecolate/N-methyl proline	-0.07	-0.1	-0.03	1.34×10^{-04}	-0.07	-0.10	-0.03	3.67×10^{-04}
Taurine	0.03	0.02	0.05	3.28×10^{-05}	0.04	0.02	0.05	8.82×10^{-05}
Trigonelline	-0.16	-0.19	-0.12	1.89×10^{-17}	-0.17	-0.21	-0.13	7.93×10^{-18}
Trimethylaminoacetone	0.04	0.03	0.06	1.55×10^{-06}	0.04	0.02	0.06	5.51×10^{-05}
Methyladenosine	-0.01	-0.02	-0.01	1.79×10^{-04}	-0.01	-0.02	-0.00	1.60×10^{-03}
CAR14:2	-0.05	-0.07	-0.03	4.91×10^{-05}	-0.04	-0.06	-0.01	6.62×10^{-03}
CAR18:0	0.03	0.02	0.05	1.47×10^{-06}	0.03	0.02	0.05	4.82×10^{-05}
CAR18:3	-0.04	-0.06	-0.02	1.03×10^{-04}	-0.03	-0.05	-0.01	0.01
CAR20:1	-0.04	-0.05	-0.02	3.33×10^{-05}				
CAR20:2	-0.06	-0.07	-0.04	4.72×10^{-11}	-0.05	-0.07	-0.04	4.47×10^{-09}
CAR20:3	-0.05	-0.07	-0.03	3.56×10^{-08}	-0.05	-0.07	-0.03	3.13×10^{-07}
CE20:4	0.03	0.02	0.04	1.79×10^{-06}	0.03	0.01	0.04	4.42×10^{-05}
CE20:5	0.1	0.07	0.12	4.08×10^{-15}	0.08	0.06	0.11	3.20×10^{-10}
Cerd18:1/26:1	0.07	0.05	0.09	4.51×10^{-12}	0.06	0.04	0.08	1.17×10^{-08}

Cerd20:1/24:0	0.07	0.05	0.09	8.36×10^{-10}	0.07	0.05	0.09	3.33×10^{-08}
SulfoHexCerd18:1/18:0	0.05	0.03	0.06	1.25×10^{-08}	0.05	0.03	0.06	1.51×10^{-07}
SulfoHexCerd18:1/22:0OH	0.05	0.03	0.07	2.48×10^{-09}	0.05	0.03	0.07	2.19×10^{-08}
SulfoHexCerd18:1/24:0OH	0.03	0.01	0.05	1.40×10^{-04}	0.03	0.01	0.05	3.57×10^{-04}
CERd18:2/18:0	0.05	0.03	0.07	3.62×10^{-07}				
LPC17:1/0:0	0.03	0.01	0.04	6.36×10^{-05}	0.03	0.01	0.04	5.00×10^{-04}
LPC20:0/0:0	-0.04	-0.06	-0.02	1.23×10^{-06}	-0.03	-0.05	-0.02	1.19×10^{-04}
LPC20:1/0:0	-0.04	-0.06	-0.03	1.35×10^{-06}	0.04	-0.06	0.02	3.63×10^{-05}
LPC22:6/0:0	0.1	0.08	0.12	4.78×10^{-26}	0.09	0.07	0.11	5.76×10^{-19}
LPE18:1/0:0	-0.04	-0.06	-0.02	1.73×10^{-06}	-0.04	-0.06	-0.02	4.43×10^{-06}
LPE18:2/0:0	-0.05	-0.07	-0.04	1.23×10^{-10}	-0.05	-0.06	0.03	3.76×10^{-08}
PE16:0/20:3 and PE18:1/18:2 and PE18:0/18:3	-0.07	-0.09	-0.05	2.57×10^{-12}	0.07	-0.09	-0.05	6.63×10^{-10}
PC16:0/18:3	-0.05	-0.07	-0.03	2.92×10^{-06}	0.05	-0.07	-0.03	6.42×10^{-06}
PC16:0/20:4_2	0.02	0.01	0.04	1.21×10^{-05}	0.02	0.01	0.03	3.21×10^{-03}
PC16:0/22:4	-0.03	-0.05	-0.02	1.15×10^{-04}	-0.03	-0.05	-0.01	3.55×10^{-04}
PC18:1/20:3	-0.06	-0.07	-0.04	9.17×10^{-14}	-0.05	-0.07	-0.04	1.20×10^{-11}
PC34:0 PC18:0/16:0 and PC16:0/18:0	0.02	0.01	0.04	5.01×10^{-05}	0.02	0.01	0.03	1.92×10^{-04}
PE16:0/18:1	-0.05	-0.07	-0.03	2.13×10^{-04}	-0.06	-0.08	-0.04	1.51×10^{-06}
PE18:1/18:2	-0.07	-0.09	-0.05	1.21×10^{-10}	-0.07	-0.09	-0.04	8.29×10^{-09}
PE20:1/20:4	-0.07	-0.09	-0.05	1.29×10^{-04}	-0.08	-0.10	-0.06	3.90×10^{-11}
LPCP-18:0/0:0	0.07	0.06	0.09	5.58×10^{-21}	0.07	0.05	0.09	3.85×10^{-17}

PCO-16:0/18:2	0.07	0.06	0.09	8.72×10^{-21}	0.08	0.06	0.09	1.96×10^{-24}
PE18:0/16:0	-0.05	-0.07	-0.03	1.15×10^{-08}	-0.06	-0.07	0.04	4.25×10^{-09}
SMd18:1/18:0	0.03	0.02	0.04	5.00×10^{-09}	0.03	0.02	0.04	2.72×10^{-07}
SMd35:1	0.03	0.02	0.04	3.96×10^{-06}	0.03	0.02	0.05	6.53×10^{-07}
TG52:4	-0.03	-0.05	-0.02	1.72×10^{-04}	-0.02	-0.04	-0.01	0.01
FA18:4	0.05	0.03	0.08	3.28×10^{-05}	0.05	0.03	0.08	1.50×10^{-04}
FA20:4	0.03	0.01	0.04	1.47×10^{-04}				
FA22:5_2	0.09	0.06	0.11	2.36×10^{-13}	0.08	0.05	0.10	3.68×10^{-10}
FA22:6	0.15	0.13	0.17	1.41×10^{-32}	0.14	0.11	0.16	8.90×10^{-25}
FA24:5	0.07	0.05	0.1	3.86×10^{-07}	0.07	0.04	0.10	8.25×10^{-06}
LPI16:1/0:0	0.1	0.07	0.13	1.07×10^{-09}	0.09	0.06	0.13	1.19×10^{-07}
LPI20:4/0:0	0.04	0.03	0.06	9.51×10^{-08}	0.04	0.02	0.05	1.98×10^{-06}
LPI22:6/0:0	0.14	0.12	0.17	1.14×10^{-31}	0.14	0.11	0.16	6.41×10^{-25}
PEO-16:1/20:4 and/or PEP-16:0/20:4	0.13	0.11	0.14	3.35×10^{-63}	0.13	0.11	0.14	2.44×10^{-56}
PAO-18:1/20:4 and/or PAP-18:0/20:4	0.13	0.11	0.15	3.11×10^{-36}	0.13	0.11	0.15	2.32×10^{-30}
NAPEO-18:1/18:1/16:0 and/or NAPEP-18:0/18:1/16:0	0.03	0.02	0.05	4.60×10^{-07}				
PEO-18:2/20:4 and/or PEP-18:1/20:4	0.1	0.09	0.11	8.18×10^{-40}	0.1	0.09	0.12	6.93×10^{-36}
PEO-16:0/22:6	0.11	0.09	0.12	8.78×10^{-41}	0.11	0.09	0.12	1.23×10^{-35}
PEO-18:1/18:2 and/or PEP-18:0/18:2	0.04	0.03	0.06	6.30×10^{-09}	0.05	0.03	0.06	1.51×10^{-09}

NAPEO-18:1/20:4/16:0 and/or NAPEP-18:0/20:4/16:0	0.1	0.09	0.11	6.58×10^{-43}	0.1	0.08	0.11	3.95×10^{-35}
PEO-18:1/18:1 and/or PE-P- 18:0/18:1	0.09	0.07	0.1	9.05×10^{-25}	-0.05	-0.07	-0.04	1.20×10^{-11}
NAPEO-18:1/20:4/18:0 and/or NAPEP-18:0/20:4/18:0	0.13	0.11	0.14	4.63×10^{-47}	0.12	0.11	0.14	9.35×10^{-39}

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499 ¹ All metabolites significant at $p < 0.0002$

500 ² Adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, energy intake

501 ³ Increase in log-metabolites per 1-point increase in dietary pattern scores

502 ⁴ Further adjusted for diabetes, normoglycemic prediabetes or diabetes, hypertension, statin use, physical activity (MET-min/wk),
503 alcohol use \geq drink/wk, smoking

504 Metabolic-Equivalent minutes per week = MET-min/wk

505

506 Table 3: Metabolites Associated with Fried snacks Sweets High-fat Dairy Diet Pattern Elastic Net Regularized Regression adjusted for
 507 age sex body mass index energy intake¹
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	Model 1, adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, energy intake ^{2,3}				Model 2, fully adjusted ⁴			
	β^2	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value	β^3	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value
PC16:0/22:6	-0.09	-0.11	-0.06	1.16 x 10 ⁻⁰⁸	-0.07	-0.10	-0.04	1.30 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵
LPE18:2/0:0	0.05	0.02	0.07	4.37 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵	0.03	0.01	0.06	4.13 x 10 ⁻⁰³
LPI22:6/0:0	-0.08	-0.12	-0.04	1.00 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵	-0.07	-0.11	-0.03	3.08 x 10 ⁻⁰⁴
PC16:0/22:4	0.07	0.04	0.09	1.73 x 10 ⁻⁰⁸	0.05	0.03	0.08	1.48 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵
PC18:0/22:4	0.08	0.05	0.11	1.71 x 10 ⁻⁰⁷	0.07	0.04	0.10	6.49 x 10 ⁻⁰⁶
PC16:0/20:5	-0.09	-0.13	-0.06	1.65 x 10 ⁻⁰⁸	-0.07	-0.11	-0.04	8.54 x 10 ⁻⁰⁶
PC16:0/22:6	-0.08	-0.09	-0.06	1.71 x 10 ⁻¹⁶	-0.06	-0.08	-0.05	1.22 x 10 ⁻¹¹
PA16:0/18:1	-0.04	-0.06	-0.02	8.83 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵	-0.04	-0.06	-0.01	2.59 x 10 ⁻⁰³
FA22:6	-0.14	-0.17	-0.1	1.96 x 10 ⁻¹³	-0.11	-0.15	-0.07	7.22 x 10 ⁻⁰⁹
PC18:0/22:5	0.07	0.04	0.11	1.52 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵	0.07	0.03	0.10	9.11 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵
SulfoHexCerd18:1/24:0-OH	-0.05	-0.07	-0.02	6.15 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵	-0.05	-0.07	-0.02	5.74 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵
SulfoHexCerd18:1/24:1-OH	-0.05	-0.07	-0.03	3.55 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵	-0.04	-0.07	-0.02	2.72 x 10 ⁻⁰⁴

510 All metabolites significant at p<0.0002

511 ² Adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, energy intake

512 ³ Increase in log-metabolites per 1-point increase in dietary pattern scores

513 ⁴Further adjusted for diabetes, normoglycemic prediabetes or diabetes, hypertension, statin use, physical activity (MET-min/wk),
514 alcohol use \geq drink/wk, smoking
515 Metabolic-Equivalent minutes per week = MET-min/wk
516

517 Table 4: Metabolites Associated with Fruits Vegetables Nuts Legumes Diet Pattern Elasticnet Regularized Regression adjusted for age
 518 sex body mass index energy intake¹

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	Model 1, adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, energy intake ^{2,3}				Model 2, fully adjusted ⁴			
	β^2	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value	β^3	95% CI Lower	95% CI Upper	p-value
Proline betaine	0.17	0.09	0.25	1.0 x 10 ⁻⁰⁴	0.18	0.09	0.26	3.65 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵
LPC22:4/0:0	-0.08	-0.11	-0.04	5.86 x 10 ⁻⁰⁶	-0.07	-0.10	-0.03	1.17 x 10 ⁻⁰⁴
PC18:0/22:4	-0.06	-0.09	-0.03	1.0 x 10 ⁻⁰⁴	-0.05	-0.09	-0.20	1.67 x 10 ⁻⁰³
SMd19:1/16:0	-0.07	-0.1	-0.04	7.40 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵	-0.06	-0.09	-0.03	1.42 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵
LPE22:4/0:0	-0.12	-0.18	-0.07	1.36 x 10 ⁻⁰⁵	-0.11	-0.17	-0.05	1.43 x 10 ⁻⁰⁴

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¹ All metabolites significant at p<0.0002

² Adjusted for age, sex, body mass index, energy intake

³ Increase in log-metabolites per 1-point increase in dietary pattern scores

⁴ Further adjusted for diabetes, normoglycemic prediabetes or diabetes, hypertension, statin use, physical activity (MET-min/wk), alcohol use \geq drink/wk, smoking

Metabolic-Equivalent minutes per week = MET-min/wk