



IS TYPE 2 DIABETES A REVERSIBLE DISEASE?

EXPERIENCE FROM A 12 WEEK PILOT STUDY

JULIA TULIPAN



www.JuliaTulipan.at

WHAT TO EXPECT

1. Current situation
2. What are the dietary guidelines?
3. What we know so far about the use of LC
4. Pilot Project „Take diabetes in your own hands“



DIABETES EPIDEMIC



In the WHO/European Region



over 50%
of people are
overweight or **obese**



over 20%
of people are
obese

www.euro.who.int/obesity

© WHO 07/2013



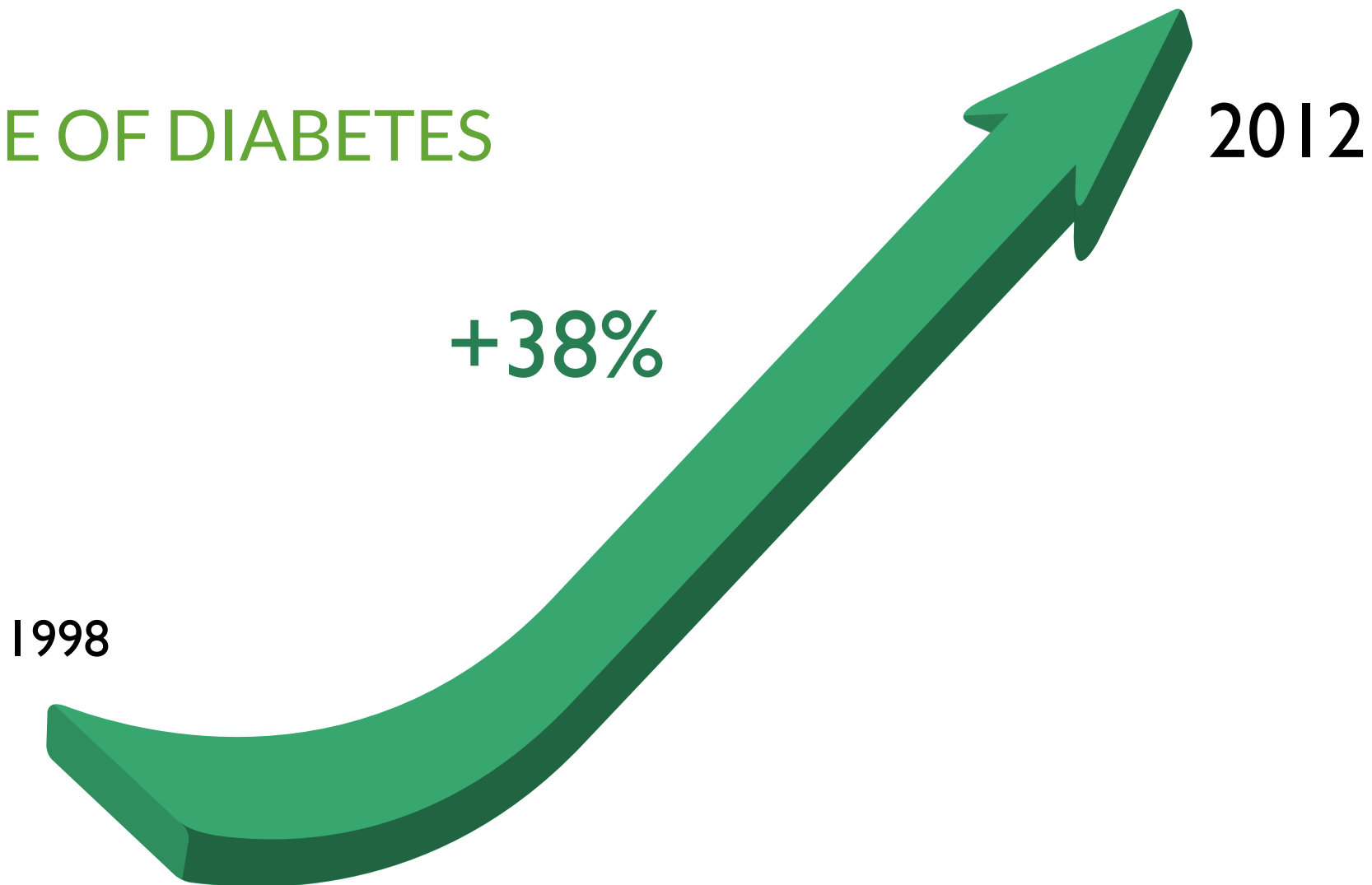
422 Million adults have diabetes

The number of people with diabetes has risen from 108 million in 1980 to 422 million in 2014

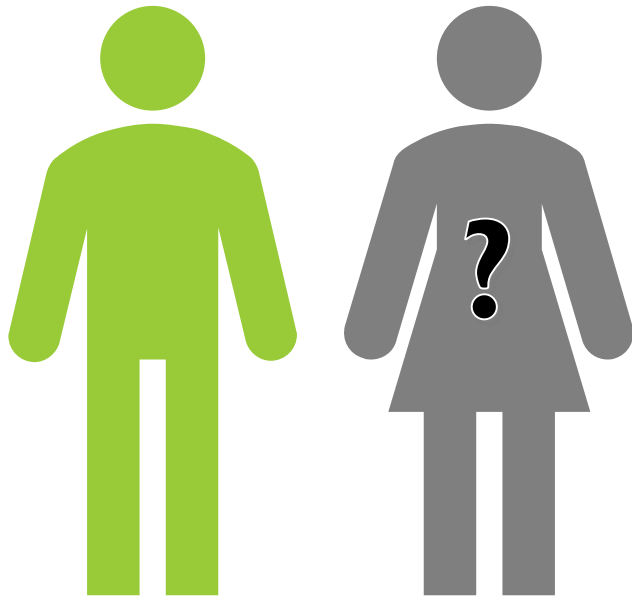
THAT'S 1 PERSON IN 11



INCREASE OF DIABETES



...



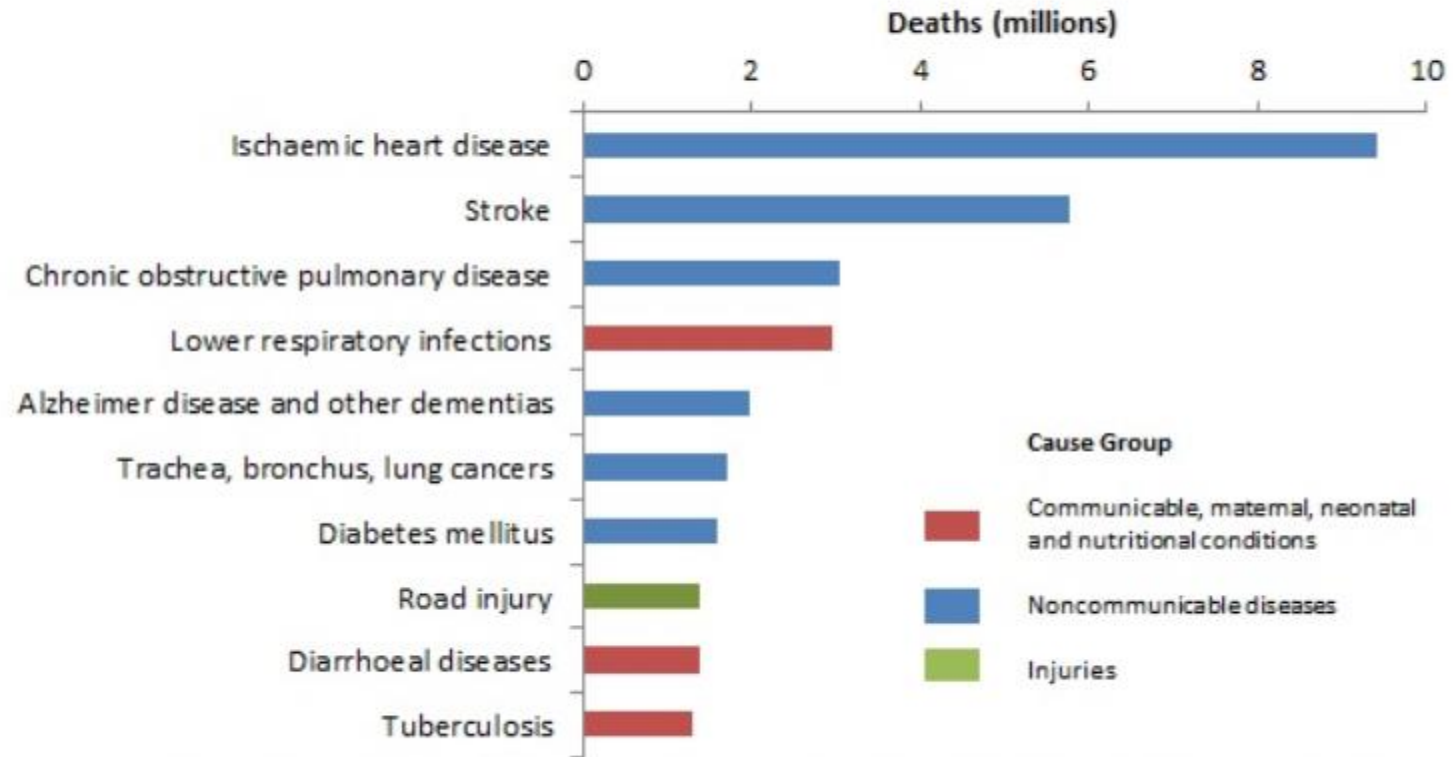
ONE IN TWO DOESN'T KNOW
SHE HAS DIABETES





In Germany every 20 minutes, one person dies as a consequence of diabetes

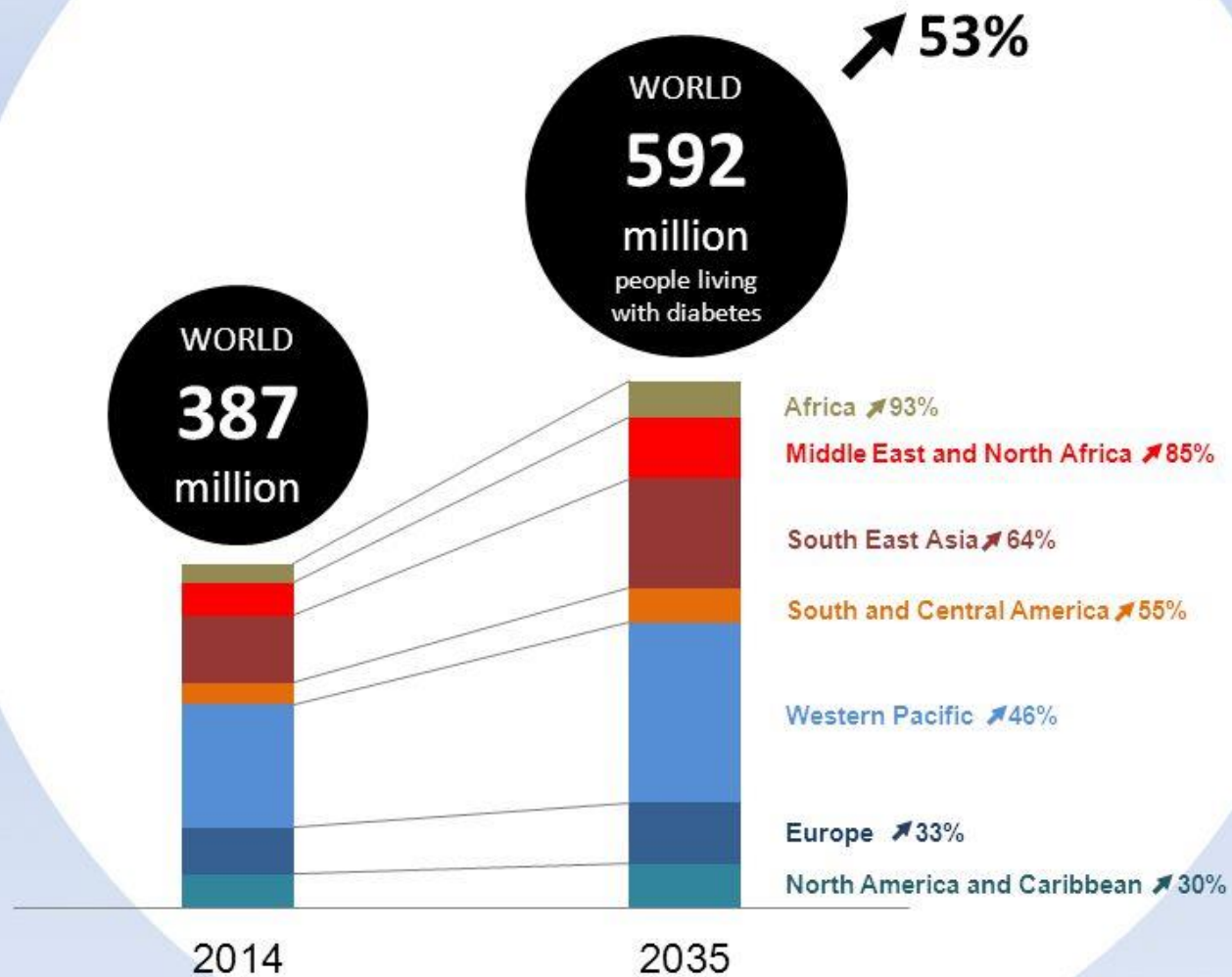
Top 10 global causes of deaths, 2016



Source: Global Health Estimates 2016: Deaths by Cause, Age, Sex, by Country and by Region, 2000-2016. Geneva, World Health Organization; 2018.

WHO 2018





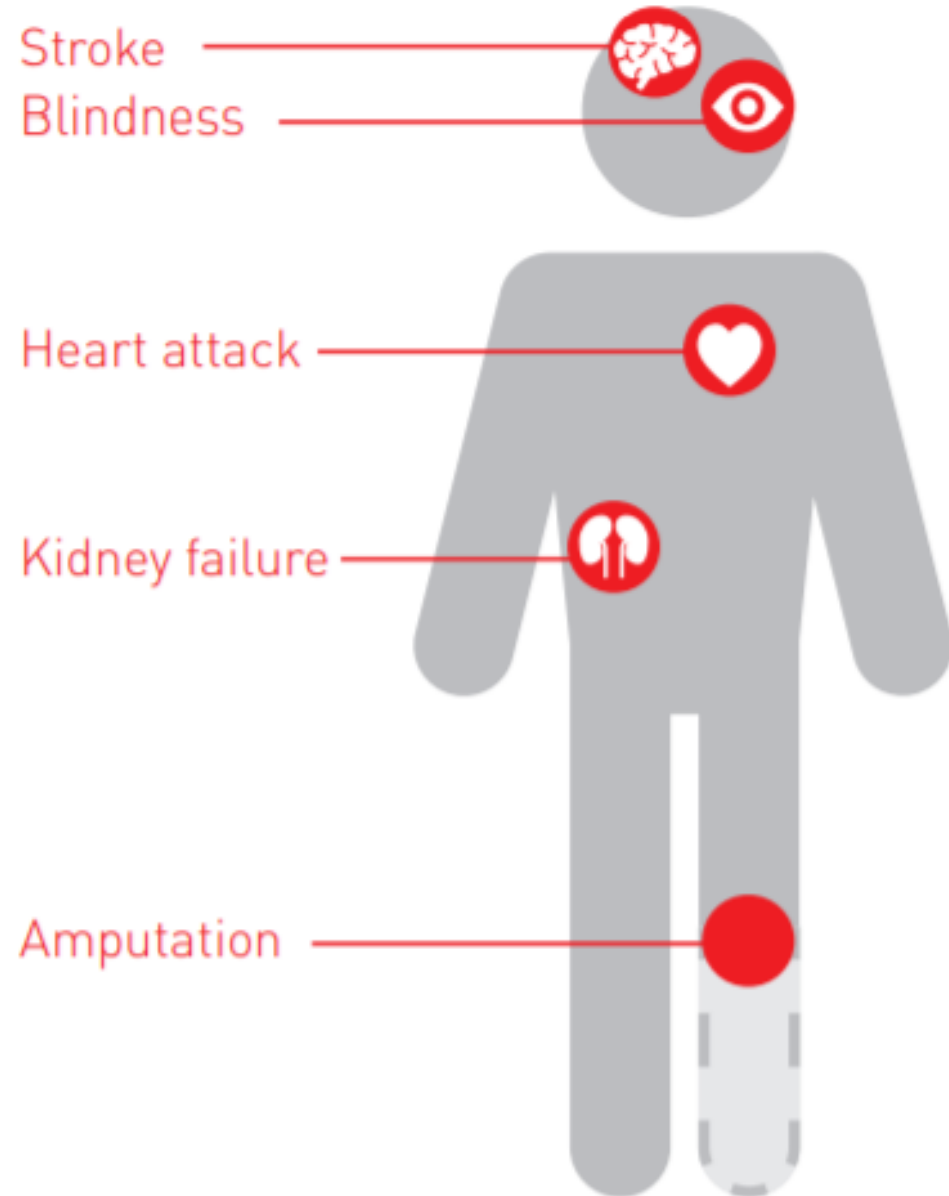
CURRENT THERAPY STRATEGIES



DOWNWARD PROGRESSION

„As commonly known, diabetes is a chronic and progressive disease”
– German Diabetes Association





- 80,1 % high blood pressure
- 24,1 % diabetic retinopathy
- 23 % neuropathy
- 12,1 % peripheral artery occlusive disease
- 11,1 % heart attack
- 9,7 % diabetic nephropathy
- 7,4 % stroke
- 4,9 % diabetic foot syndrome
- 1,7 % amputation
- 0,6 % loss of sight

DiabetesDE: Deutscher Gesundheitsbericht Diabetes 2010. (PDF) auf diabetesde.org (PDF; 1,5 MB) Kirchheim Verlag, 2009.





DIETARY GUIDELINES „WHAT IS A HEALTHY DIET“?



AUSTRIAN SOCIETY FOR NUTRITION

Balanced Diet ?!

- *Adequate energy intake = low calories*
- *Smaller meals; 5-6 meals a day*
- *Adequate carbohydrate intake = 50% carbs, whole grains, legumes*
- *Reduced fat intake = avoid butter and animal fats*
- *Prefer vegetables oils = olive oil, safflower oil, rape seed, ...*



2.200 kCal
54g protein (10%)
75g fat (30%)
323g carbs (60%)

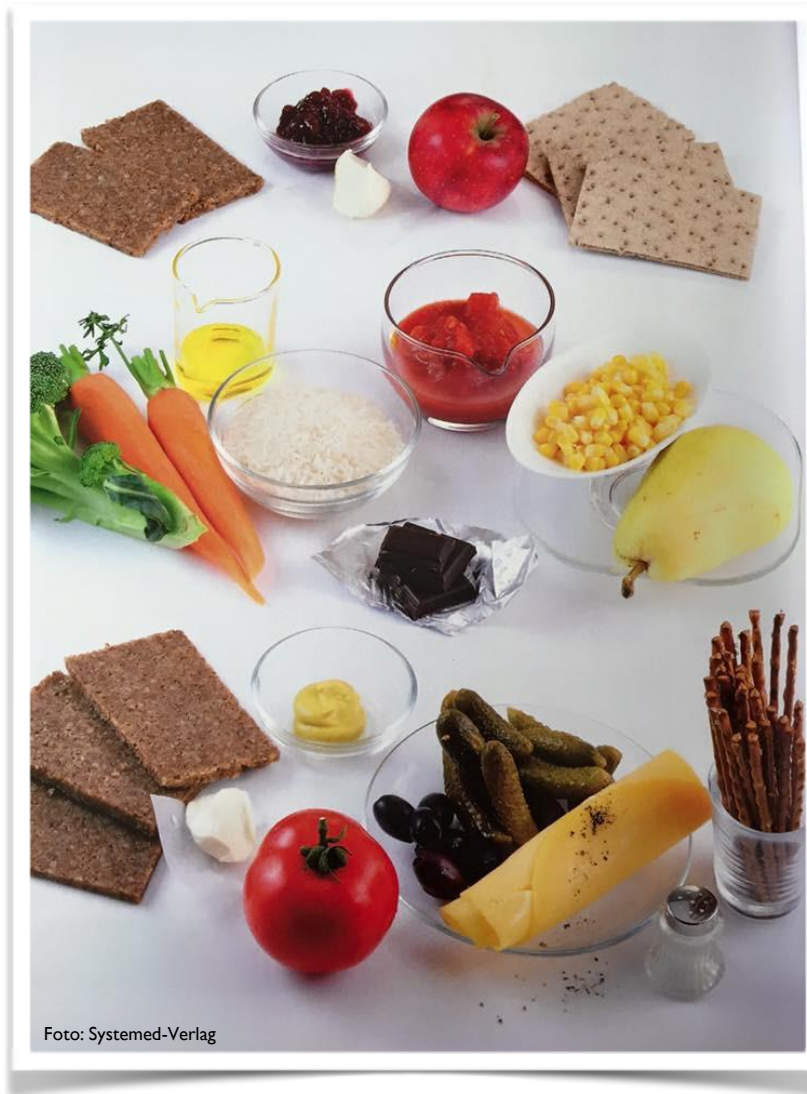


Foto: Systemed-Verlag

= 108 sugar cubes per day

= 5 ½ milk chocolate bars

Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer



1.600 kCal
41g protein (10%)
54g fat (30%)
235g carbs (60%)



Foto: Systemed-Verlag

= 78 sugar cubes per day

= 4 milk chocolate bars

Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer



A marble statue of a man, likely a classical Greek or Roman figure, is shown from the chest up. He is leaning forward, with his head bowed and his right hand pressed against his face, covering his eyes and forehead. The statue is made of light-colored marble and shows signs of age, with some discoloration and wear. The background is a solid, vibrant blue sky. The overall mood is one of despair, frustration, or a 'facepalm' moment.

By Alex E. Proimos

FACEPALM

SAD BUT TRUE

from - “Referenzwerte für die Nährstoffzufuhr” page 61

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Ernährung, 2000

[14]. Damit kann kurzfristig der Glucosebedarf weitgehend gedeckt werden. Bei längerem Fasten wird nach Anpassung des Stoffwechsels der Energiebedarf des Gehirns zu einem erheblichen Teil durch die Verbrennung von Ketonkörpern gedeckt. Zur Vermeidung der Gluconeogenese aus Protein und zur Hemmung der Lipolyse sollten beim Erwachsenen wie beim Säugling wenigstens 25 % des Energiebedarfs als Kohlenhydrate angeboten werden [5, 11].

„To **inhibit** gluconeogenesis from protein and to **inhibit lipolysis** adults are advised to eat at least 25% of their daily caloric needs from carbohydrates“



LOW-CALORIE & LOW-FAT NOT SUSTAINABLE

- Chronic hunger is very stressful
- Reduction of REE (Resting Energy Expenditure)
- Malnutrition (nutrient deficiencies)
- Loss of muscle mass

Fothergill, Erin, et al. "Persistent metabolic adaptation 6 years after "The Biggest Loser" competition." Obesity (2016)



Eat less and exercise
more is not
sustainable!





WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT CHRONIC ENERGY RESTRICTION?



THE MINNESOTA STARVATION EXPERIMENT

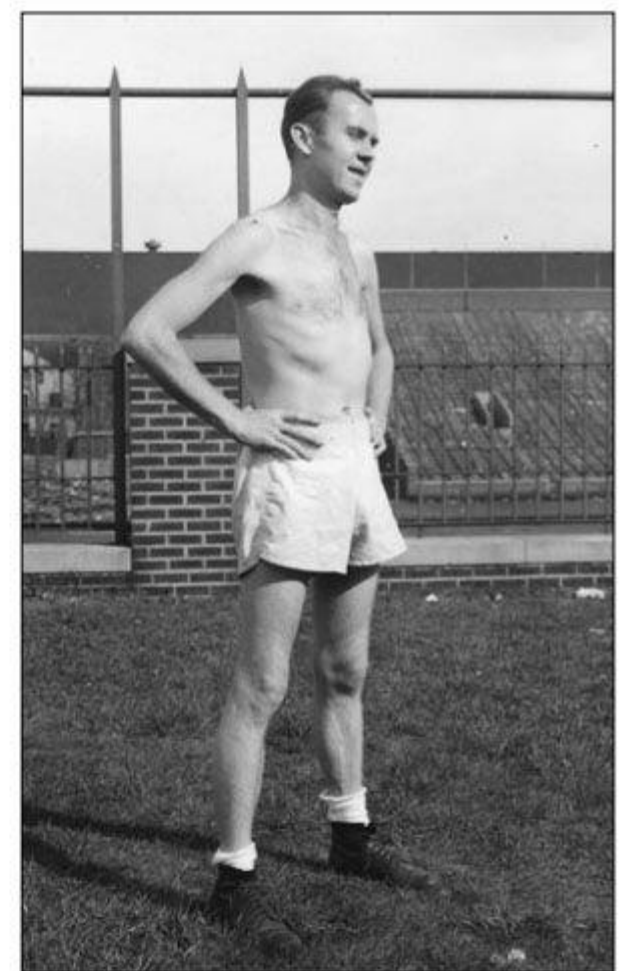
November 1944 - December 1945

36 young men

4 phases:

Control phase (12 weeks) – starvation phase (24 weeks) – restricted rehabilitation (12 weeks) - unrestricted rehabilitation (8 weeks)

Keys, A., Brožek, J., Henschel, A., Mickelsen, O., & Taylor, H. L., *The Biology of Human Starvation* (2 volumes), University of Minnesota Press, 1950.

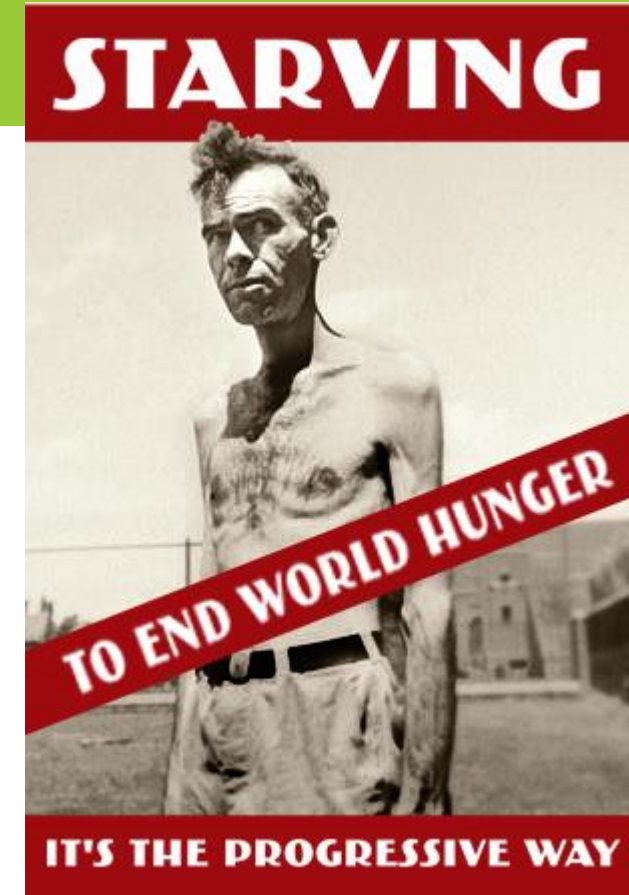


Dan Miller during the twenty-fourth week of starvation, and during the recovery period. Miller's 24.5 percent weight loss was typical. *Courtesy of Henry Scholberg*



RESULTS

- Increase of psychological disorders like depression.
- Self-mutilation
- Obsessive interest in food. Even after weight was regained
- Reduced concentration and focus
- Decrease of BMR (base-metabolic-rate)
- Reduction of body temperature



Does this sound familiar?

Anyone who has ever dieted and tried to master the demands of daily life with 1000 kcal per day will have had similar experiences.



THE BIGGEST LOSER STUDY

- 14 BL participants – 6 followed over 6 years
- 13 regained their weight; same weight or more than before BL challenge
- REE und TEE significantly decreased; no recovery after 6 years; 700 kcal LOWER THAN BEFORE

Entertaining but very questionable!



Energy Expenditure and Weight Control

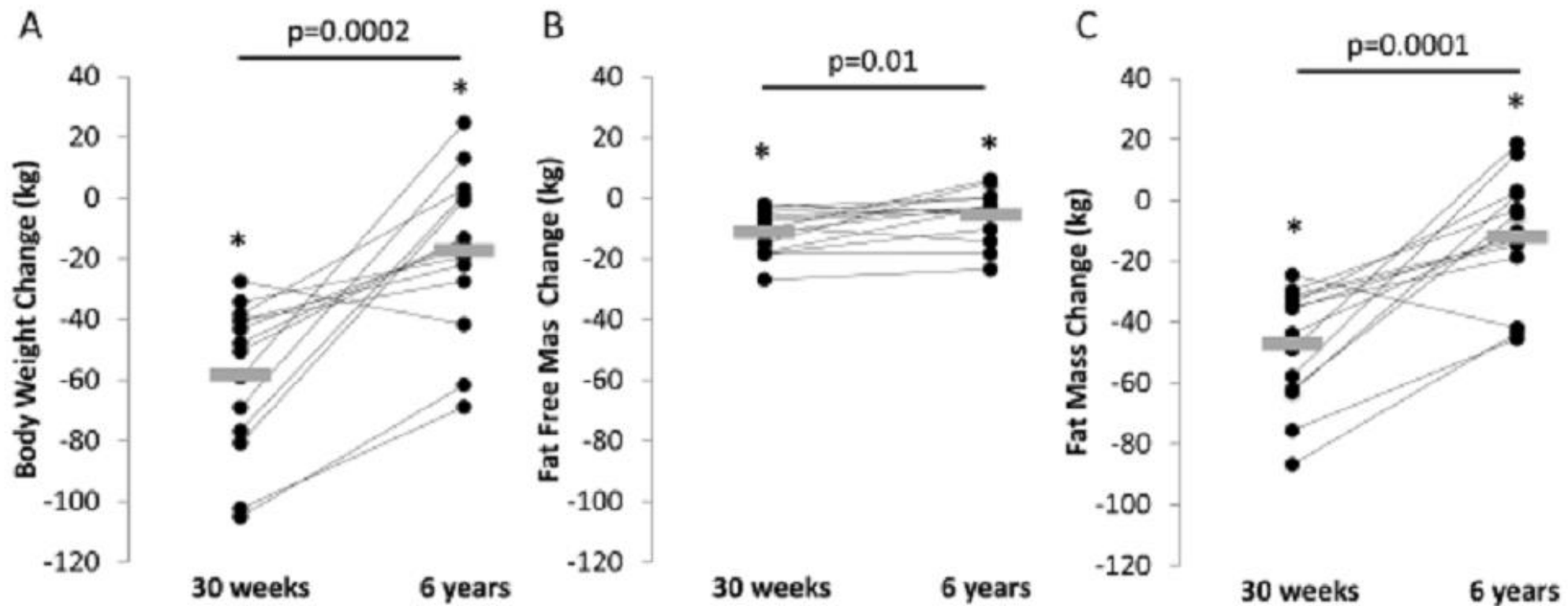
Persistent metabolic adaptation 6 years after “The Biggest Loser” competition

Erin Fothergill, Juen Guo, Lilian Howard,
Jennifer C. Kerns, Nicolas D. Knuth,
Robert Brychta, Kong Y. Chen,
Monica C. Skarulis, Mary Walter, Peter J. Walte
Kevin D. Hall 

Fothergill, Erin, et al.
"Persistent metabolic adaptation 6 years after “The Biggest Loser” competition." *Obesity* (2016).



BIGGEST LOSER





ALTERNATIVE HYPOTHESIS

Diabetes Type 2 =
Carbohydrate Intolerance

THE EXTRACTION OF INSULIN

1922 – Canadian Frederick Banting extracted insulin from pigs

1923 – Nobel Price for Physiology and Medicine

Until then:

→ Type-1 Diabetes was a deadly disease

→ **Type-2 Diabetes was treated with nutritional therapy**



CHEESES

- | | |
|------------|--------------|
| 1. Chester | 3. Roquefort |
| 2. Edam | 4. Swiss |

TABLE III

The following foods, owing to their great nutritive qualities, are especially valuable.

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------|
| 1. Butter | 3. Cream |
| 2. Olive Oil | 4. Devonshire Cream |

CREAM CHEESES

- | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Gervais | 5. Brie |
| 2. Neufchâtel | 6. Camembert |
| 3. Stilton | 7. Pot-cheese |
| 4. Cheddar | 8. Philadelphia Cream Cheese |

MEAT AND POULTRY

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Bacon | 5. Beef |
| 2. Ham | 6. Mutton |
| 3. Pork | 7. Goose |
| 4. Tongue | 8. Duck |

FISH AND EGGS

TABLE IV

FOODS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Sugars | 15. Beets (on doctor's order) |
| 2. All Farinaceous Foods and Starches | 16. Large Onions |
| 3. Pies | 17. All Sweet and Dried Fruits |
| 4. Puddings | 18. Honey |
| 5. Flour | 19. Levulose |
| 6. Bread | 20. All Sweet Wines |
| 7. Biscuits | 21. Liqueurs |
| 8. Rice (by permission only) | 22. Cordials |
| 9. Sago | 23. Syrups |
| 10. Arrowroot | 24. Beer |
| 11. Barley | 25. Ale |
| 12. Oatmeal (by permission only) | 26. Stout |
| 13. Tapioca | 27. Porter |
| 14. Macaroni | 28. Chocolate |
| | 29. Condensed Milk |

TABLE V

DRINKS PERMITTED

Sweetened with Saccharin only

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Natural and Carbonated Waters | 8. Clabber |
| 2. Lemonade | 9. Cognac |
| 3. Tea | 10. Rum |
| 4. Coffee | 11. Whiskey |
| 5. Van Houten's Cocoa | 12. Moselle and Rhine Wines |
| 6. Cracked Cocoa or Cocoa Nibs | 13. Bordeaux, Burgundy, and other sugarless wines |
| 7. Sweet and Sour Cream | |



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„Diabetic Cookery“ aus
1918



WHAT DO WE KNOW
ABOUT LOW CARB AND
DIABETES SO FAR ?





Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Nutrition

journal homepage: www.nutritionjrnal.com

Applied nutritional investigation

Effect of low-calorie versus low-carbohydrate ketogenic diet in type 2 diabetes

Talib A. Hussain M.B., Ch.B., R.C.G.P.^a, Thazhumpal C. Mathew M.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.C.Path.^b,
 Ali A. Dashti M.Sc., Ph.D.^b, Sami Asfar M.B., Ch.B., M.D., F.R.C.S., F.A.C.S.^c, Naji Al-Zaid B.Sc., Ph.D.^d,
 Hussein M. Dashti M.D., Ph.D., F.I.C.S., F.A.C.S.^{c,*}

^a Al Shaab Family Medicine Medical Center, Ministry of Health, Kuwait^b Department of MLS, Faculty of Allied Health Sciences, Health Sciences Center, Kuwait University, Kuwait^c Department of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, Health Sciences Center, Kuwait University, Kuwait^d Department of Physiology, Faculty of Medicine, Health Sciences Center, Kuwait University, Kuwait

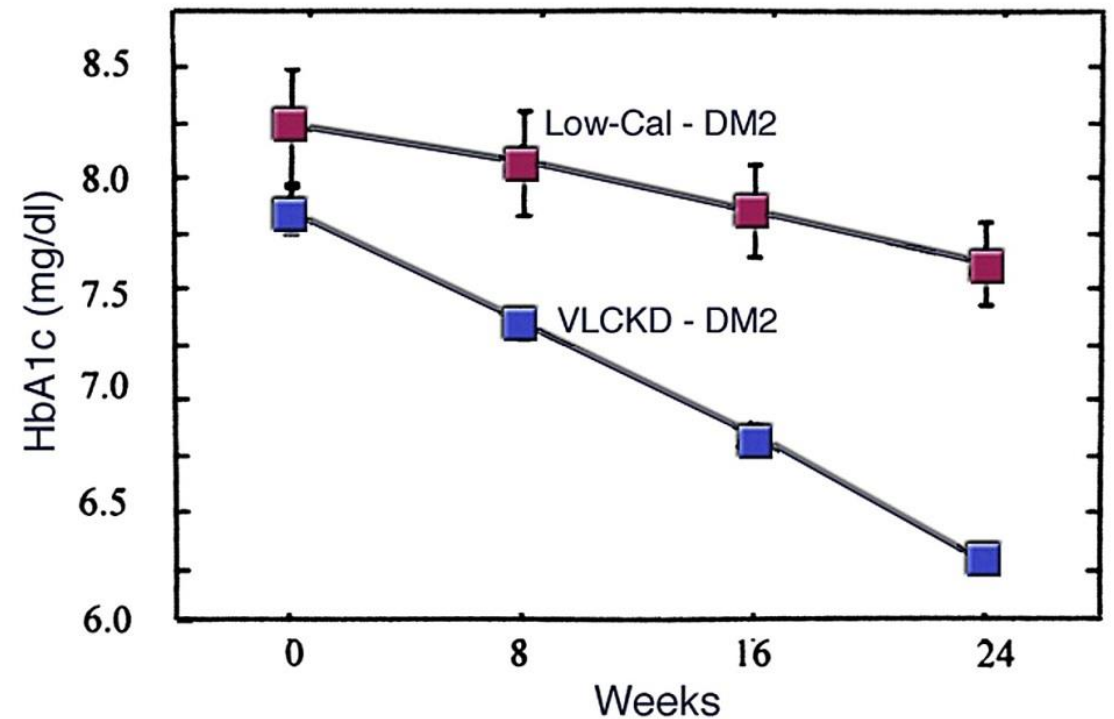
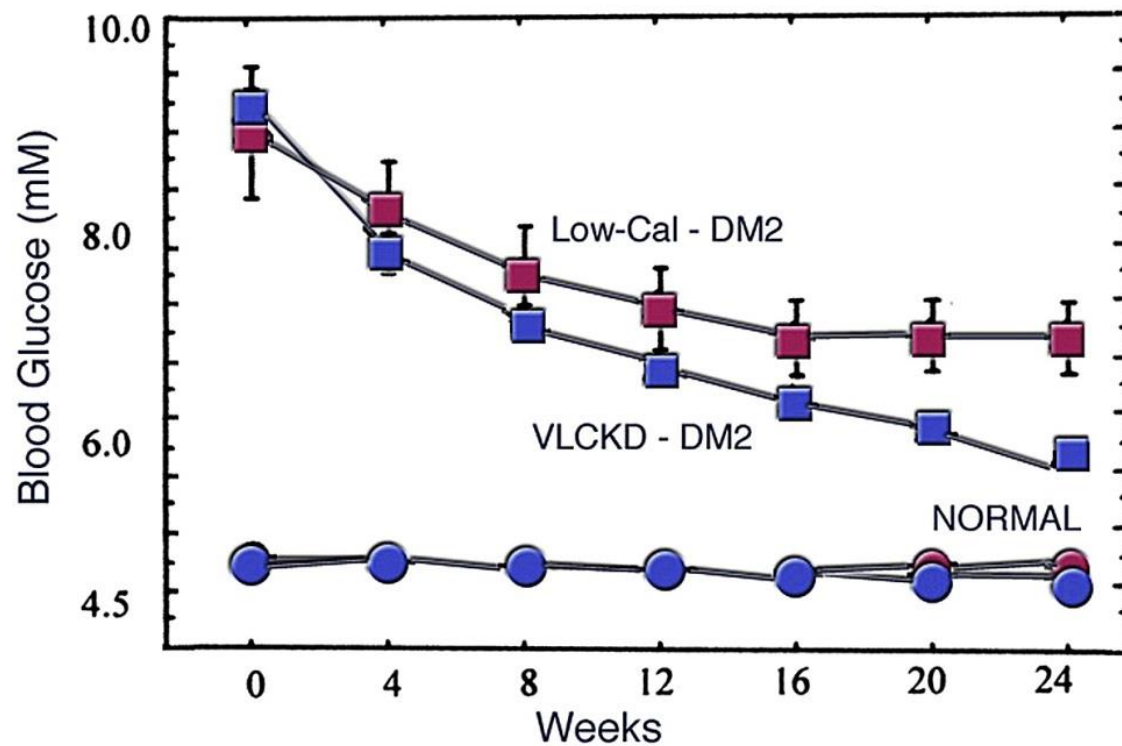
Conclusion: This study shows the beneficial effects of a ketogenic diet over the conventional LCD in obese diabetic subjects. The ketogenic diet appears to improve glycemic control – Nutrition, 2012

body mass index, changes in waist circumference, blood glucose level, changes in hemoglobin and glycosylated hemoglobin, total cholesterol, low-density lipoprotein cholesterol, high-density lipoprotein cholesterol, triglycerides, uric acid, urea and creatinine were determined before and at 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, and 24 wk after the administration of the LCD or LCKD. The initial dose of some antidiabetic medications was decreased to half and some were discontinued at the beginning of the dietary program in the LCKD group. Dietary counseling and further medication adjustment were done on a biweekly basis.

Results: The LCD and LCKD had beneficial effects on all the parameters examined. Interestingly, these changes were more significant in subjects who were on the LCKD as compared with those on the LCD. Changes in the level of creatinine were not statistically significant.

Conclusion: This study shows the beneficial effects of a ketogenic diet over the conventional LCD in obese diabetic subjects. The ketogenic diet appears to improve glycemic control. Therefore, diabetic patients on a ketogenic diet should be under strict medical supervision because the LCKD can significantly lower blood glucose levels.





“Dietary carbohydrate restriction has the greatest effect on decreasing blood glucose levels”



CONGRESS OF „THE
EUROPEAN
ASSOCIATION FOR
THE STUDY OF
DIABETES (EASD)“
2016

**Effects of a Paleolithic diet and
exercise on liver fat, muscle fat and
insulin sensitivity.**

*Otten, Julia, Umeå University, Faculty of Medicine, Department of
Public Health and Clinical Medicine, Medicin.*



Conclusion

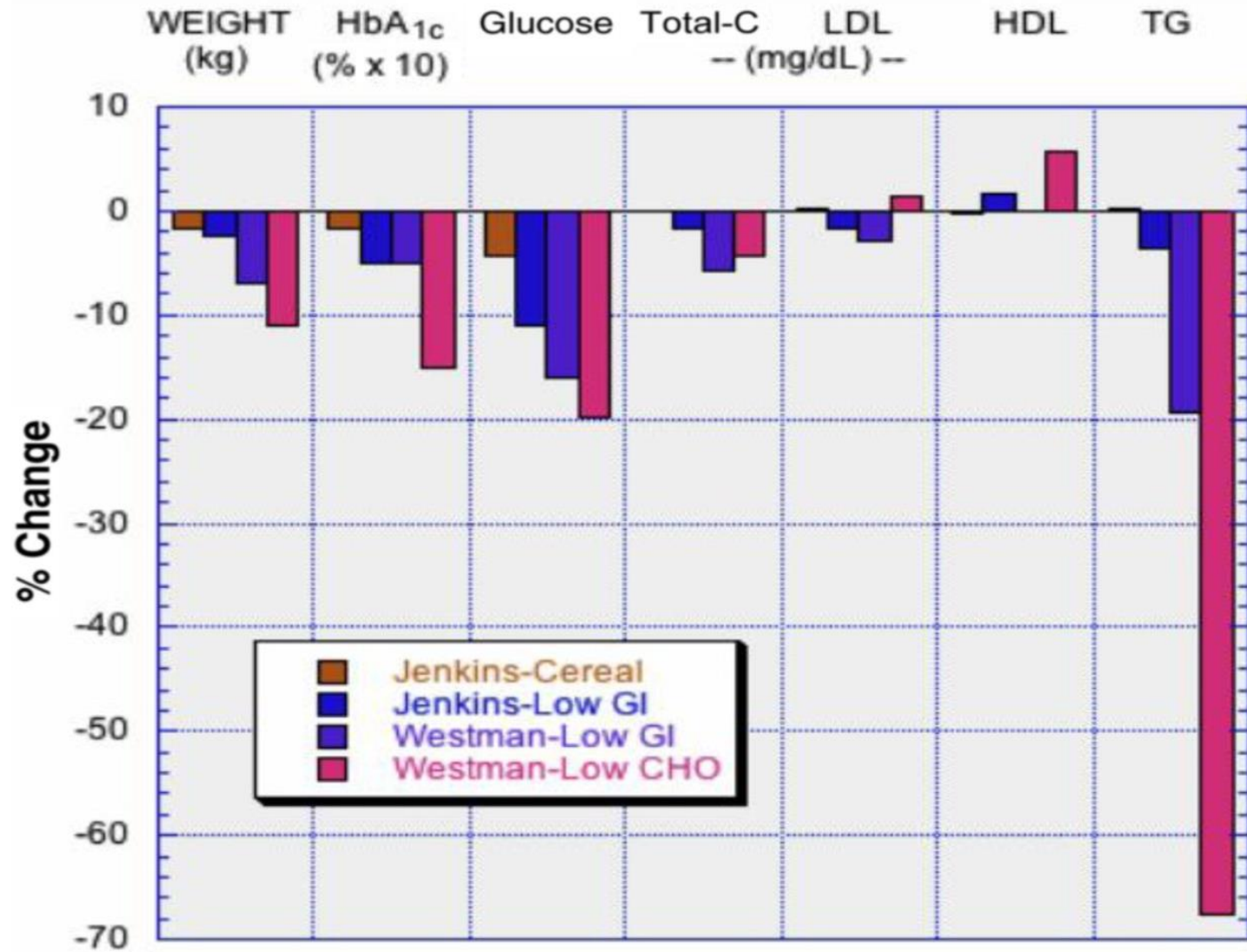
IN INDIVIDUALS WITH TYPE 2 DIABETES, A PALEOLITHIC DIET FOR 12 WEEKS IMPROVED WEIGHT, INSULIN SENSITIVITY, HBA1C, TRIGLYCERIDES AND BLOOD PRESSURE.



Evidence

Feinman, Richard David, et al. "**Dietary Carbohydrate restriction as the first approach in diabetes management.**" Critical review and evidence base." *Nutrition* (2014).

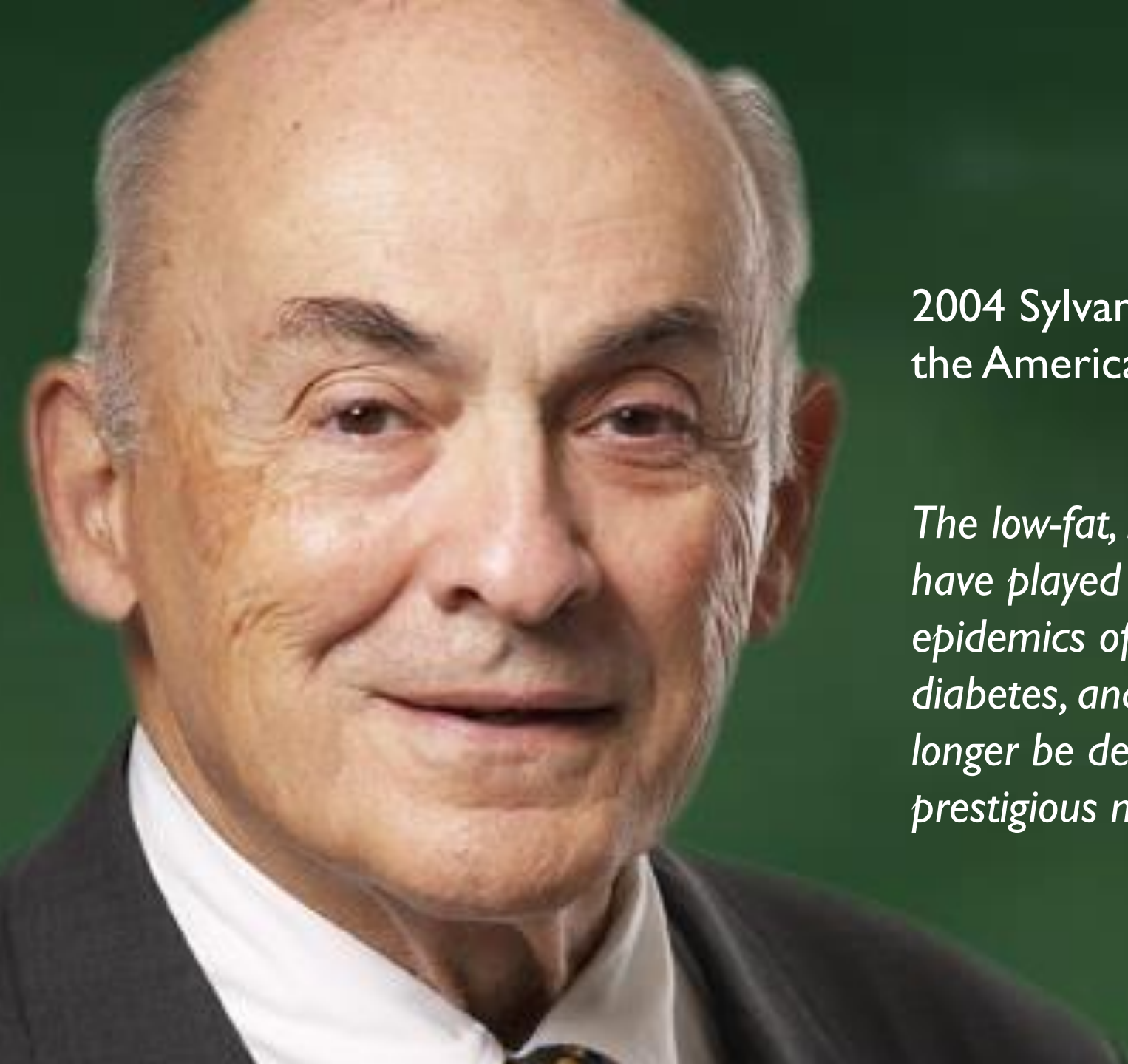




Conclusion

Dietary carbohydrate restriction is the **most effective method** (other than starvation) of **reducing serum TGs** and increasing high-density lipoprotein





2004 Sylvan Lee Weinberg, former president of the American College of Cardiology:

The low-fat, high-carbohydrate diet ... may well have played an unintended role in the current epidemics of obesity, lipid abnormalities, type 2 diabetes, and metabolic syndromes. This diet can no longer be defended by appeal to the authority of prestigious medical organizations.

„Fat protects the heart and current dietary guidelines have no scientific basis“

Yusuf Salim – Former President of the World Heart Federation - 2017



„ The current recommendations of the DGE on macro and nutrient distribution for the nutrition of the population are outdated and should be revised - especially as they are not supported by scientific data.

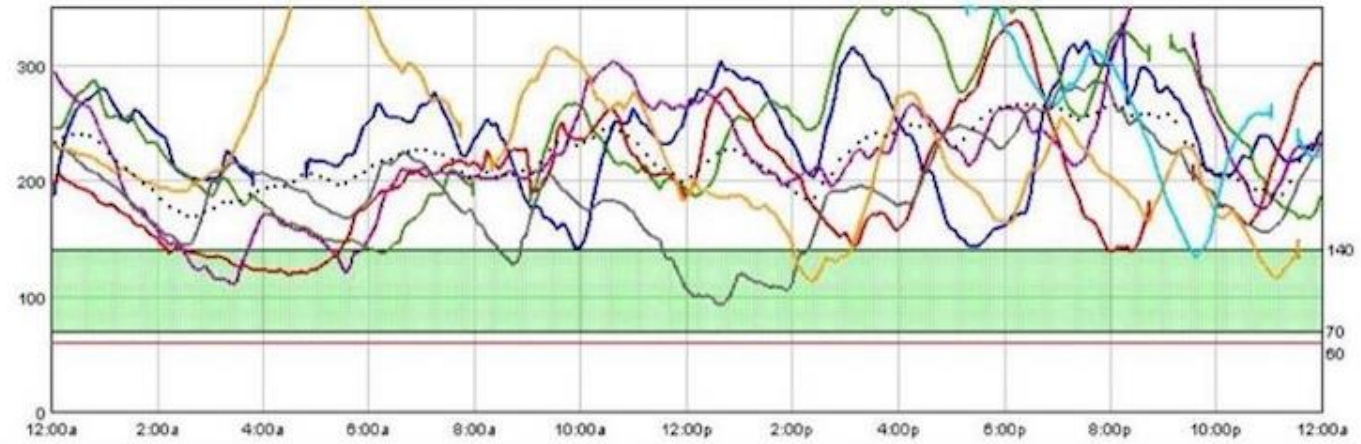
Prof. Dr. Matthias Blüher
President of the German Adiposity Society(DAG)

www.aerzteblatt.de – 23rd January 2017



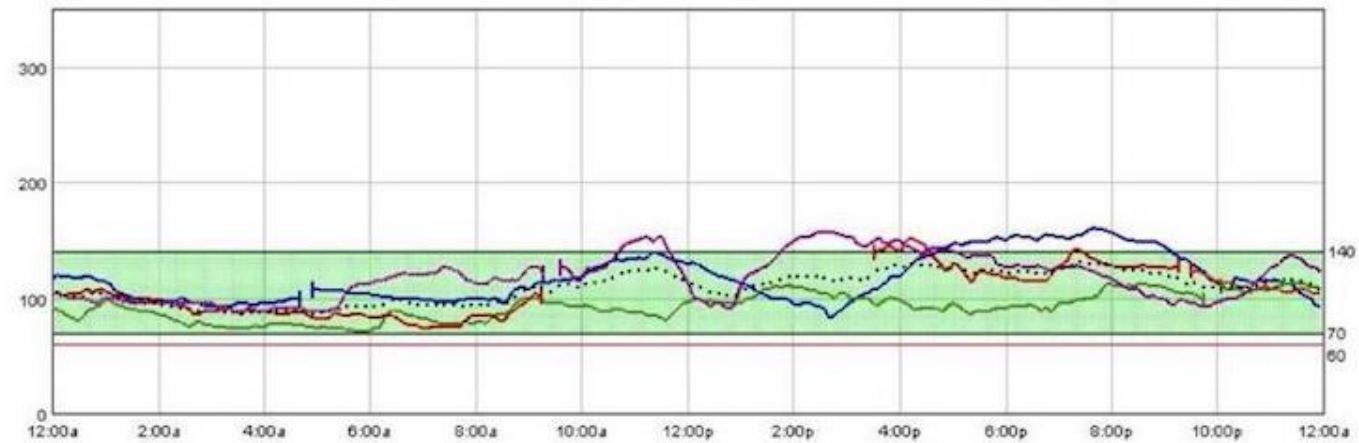
Sensor Data (mg/dL)

10/25/14 — 10/26/14 — 10/27/14 — 10/28/14 — 10/29/14 — 10/30/14 — 10/31/14 — Avg. - - -



Sensor Data (mg/dL)

1/26/15 — 1/27/15 — 1/28/15 — 1/29/15 — Avg. - - -



LATEST EVIDENCE

1 year diet intervention – 262 patients

- 94% stopped insulin therapy
- 13.8 kg weight loss
- T2D medication down from 56.9% to 29.7%
- HOMA-IR -55%
- hsCRP -39%



Hallberg, Sarah J., et al. "Effectiveness and safety of a novel care model for the management of type 2 diabetes at 1 year: an open-label, non-randomized, controlled study." *Diabetes Therapy* 9.2 (2018): 583-612.



Original Research

Management of Hyperglycemia in Type 2 Diabetes, 2018. A Consensus Report by the American Diabetes Association (ADA) and the European Association for the Study of Diabetes (EASD)

Melanie J. Davies, David A. D'Alessio, Judith Fradkin, Walter N. Kernan, Chantal Mathieu, Geltrude Mingrone, Peter Rossing, Apostolos Tsapas, Deborah J. Wexler and John B. Buse

Diabetes Care 2018 Sep; dci180033.
<https://doi.org/10.2337/dci18-0033>



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Article

[Figures & Tables](#)

[Suppl Material](#)

[Info & Metrics](#)

[PDF](#)

Recognizes LC as a treatment option for diabetes

CHANGE IS HAPPENING

The American Diabetes
Association (ADA) and
the European
Association for the
Study of Diabetes
(EASD) - 2018



DIABETES – TAKE MATTERS IN YOUR OWN HAND

12-WEEK PILOT PROJECT
MAY – JULY 2017



HYPOTHESIS AND AIM OF THE STUDY

Objections

- LCHF is hard to implement
- people find it hard to stick to
- coaching is time intensive

Aim

- 1) LCHF is easy to implement with
- 2) very little support needed
- 3) easy to stick to and a diverse way of eating
- 4) LCHF effects disease progression in a positive way



THE TEAM

Innsbruck und Vienna



Daniela Peifer

Nutritionist

www.danielapfeifer.at



Dr. Roland Fuschlberger

Internal Medicine

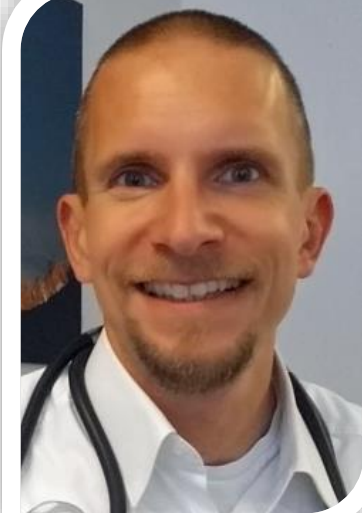
www.infumed.at



Julia Tulipan

Biology/ Nutrition Coach

www.juliatulipan.at



Dr. Peter Schödl

Sports Medicine

www.hoch-form.at



Inclusion Criteria

Diabetes Type 1/ Type 2 or pre-diabetes

Willingness to participate in group meetings

Willingness to follow a dietary program for 12 weeks

2 blood tests

No pre-existing severe illnesses (e.g. CVD, kidney disease, dialysis,...)



RESTRICTIONS & PARTICIPANTS

- No additional costs – standard parameter, standard of care check-ups
- 4 male, 19 female
- 23 Participants
- 3 Dropouts



WHAT WE DID

12 weeks
duration

Supervised by
a physician

initial LCHF
workshop

4 group
meetings

Blood
2x

„Goodie-Bag“
with product
samples

1 x booklet
with LCHF
background info

Recipes for 30
days





Kick-Off

18.04.2017

LCHF basics workshop,
recipies,
goodie bag,



Focus topic „Fats“,
Q&A

25.04.2017

Focus topic
„Protein“,
Q&A



...



Focus topic
„Cholesterol“,
Q&A

22.05.2017

12.06.2017



Last meeting,
reflexion,
feedback,
2nd blood draw

11.07.2017



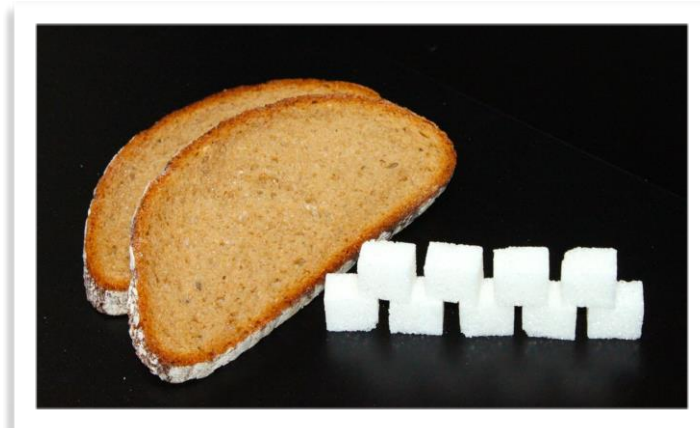
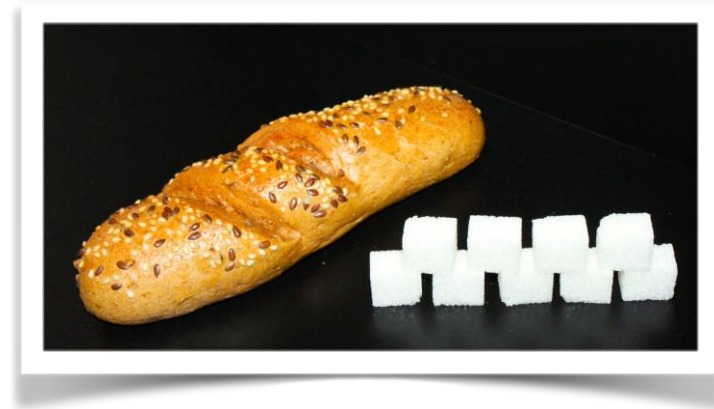
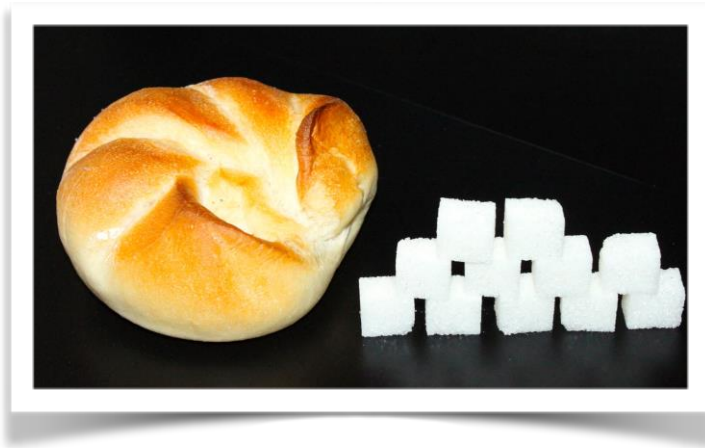
CARB CONTENT



Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer



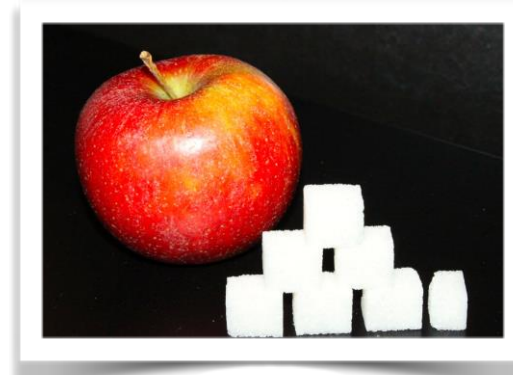
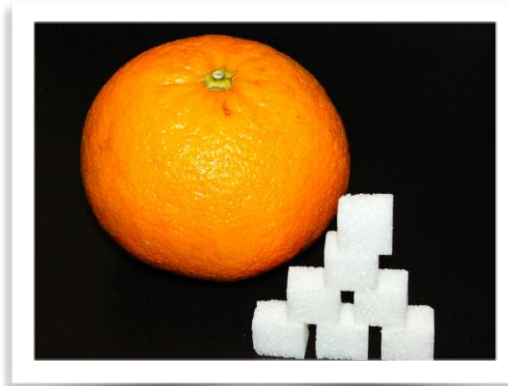
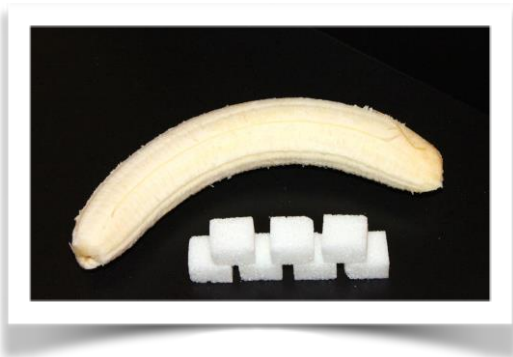
CARB CONTENT



Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer



CARB CONTENT



= 240ml

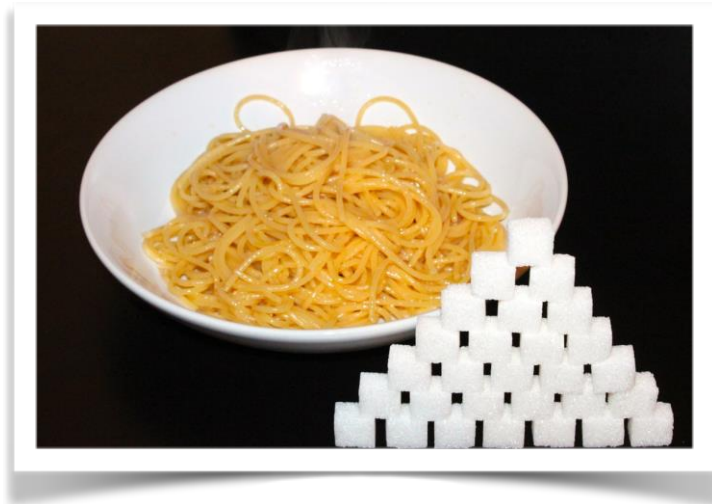


Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer



Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer





150g Pasta



THERE ARE ALTERNATIVES



dr-almond.com



Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer

LOW CARB NUTRITION



Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer



LOW CARB ALTERNATIVES

- Bread (made from nut flours)
- Sugar substitutes erythritol and/ or stevia
- Cakes, cookies and desserts



Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer





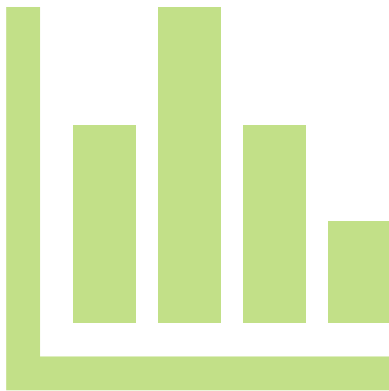
■ Fett
■ v-KH

„classic“ Sachertorte:
4.955 kCal total; **27g KH/Stück**

Sachertorte LowCarb:
4.100 kCal total; **7g KH/Stück**

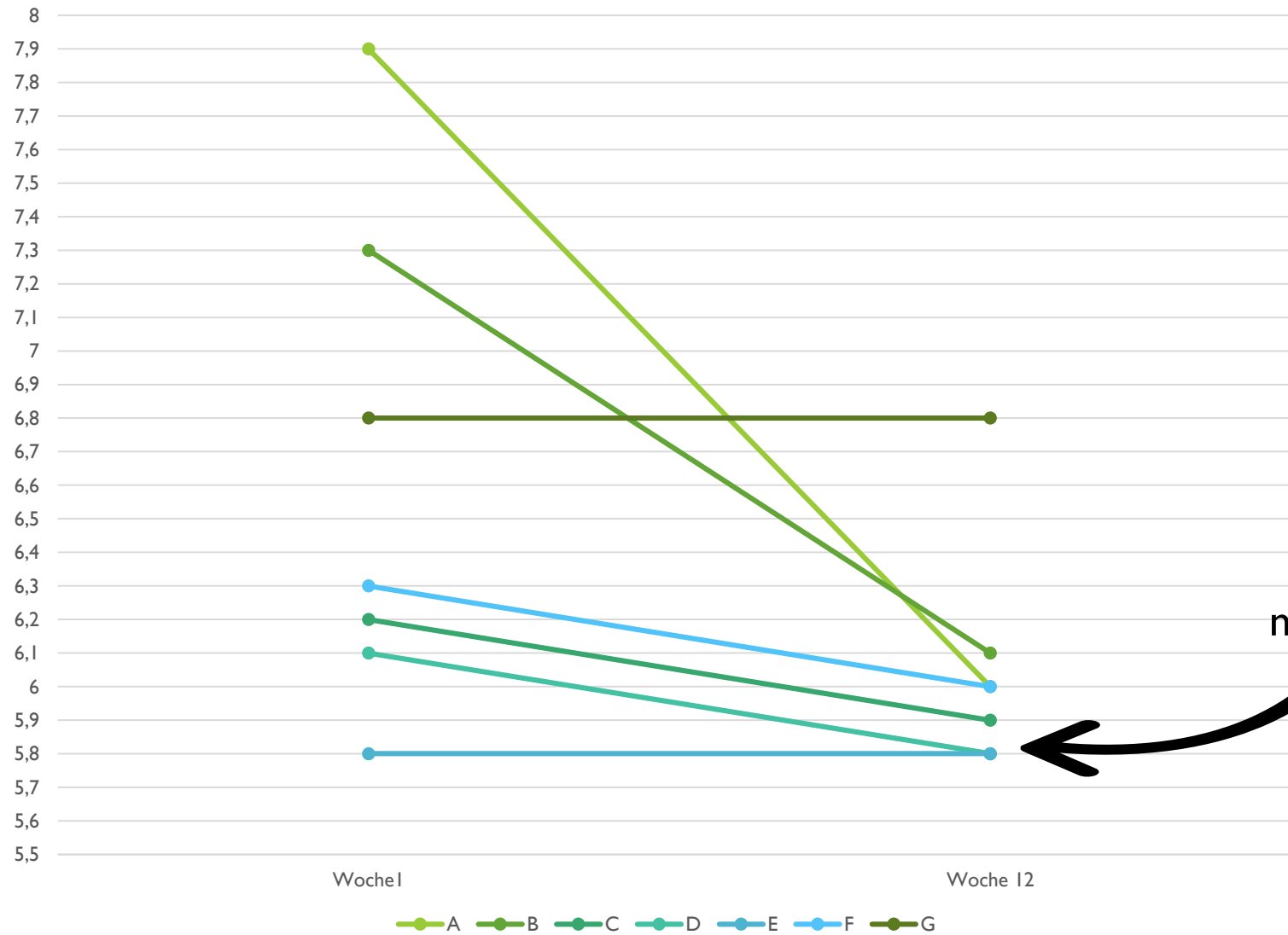
Courtesy of Daniela Pfeifer





RESULTS

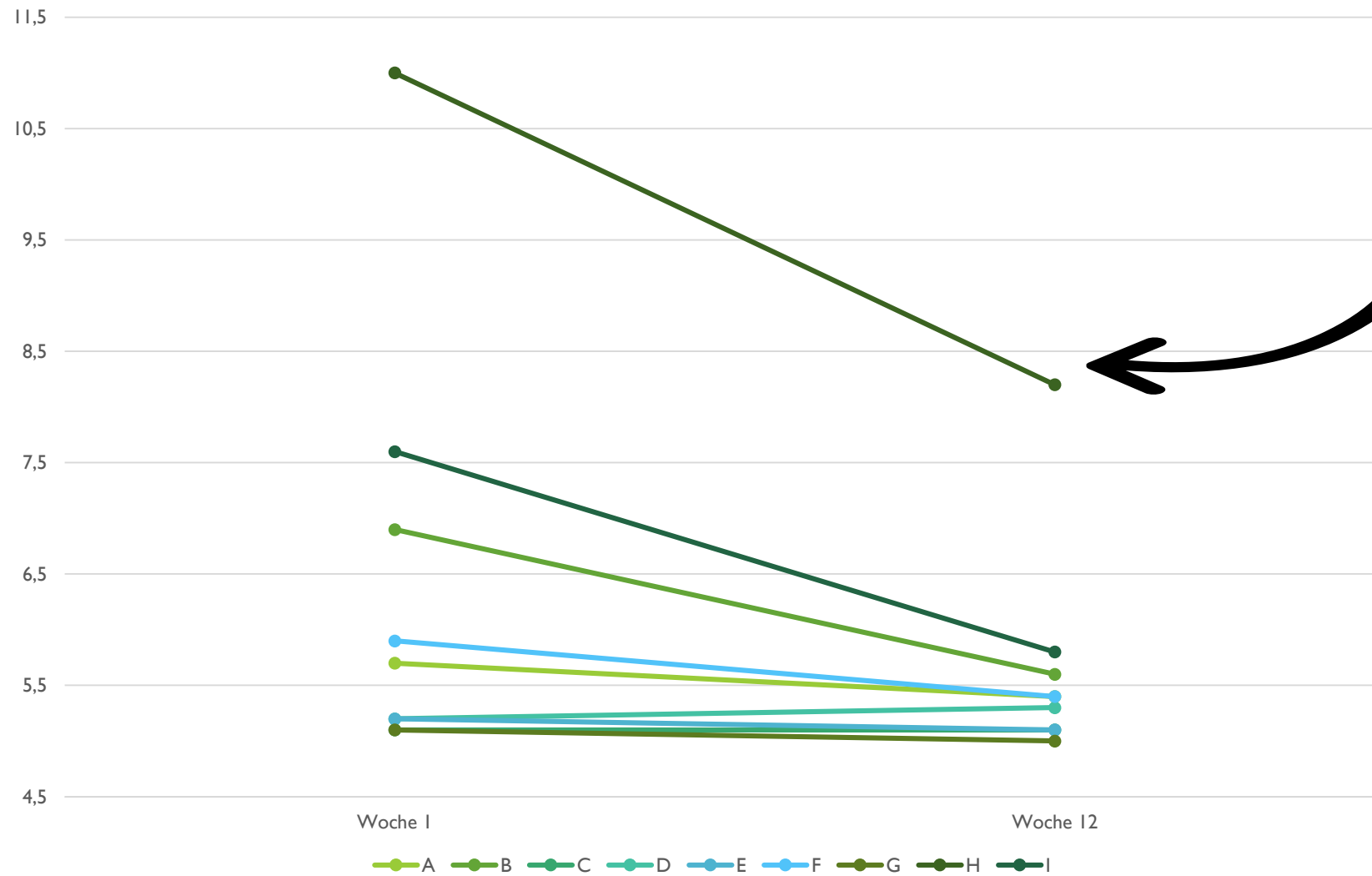
Hba1c Group VIENNA



medication down 75%

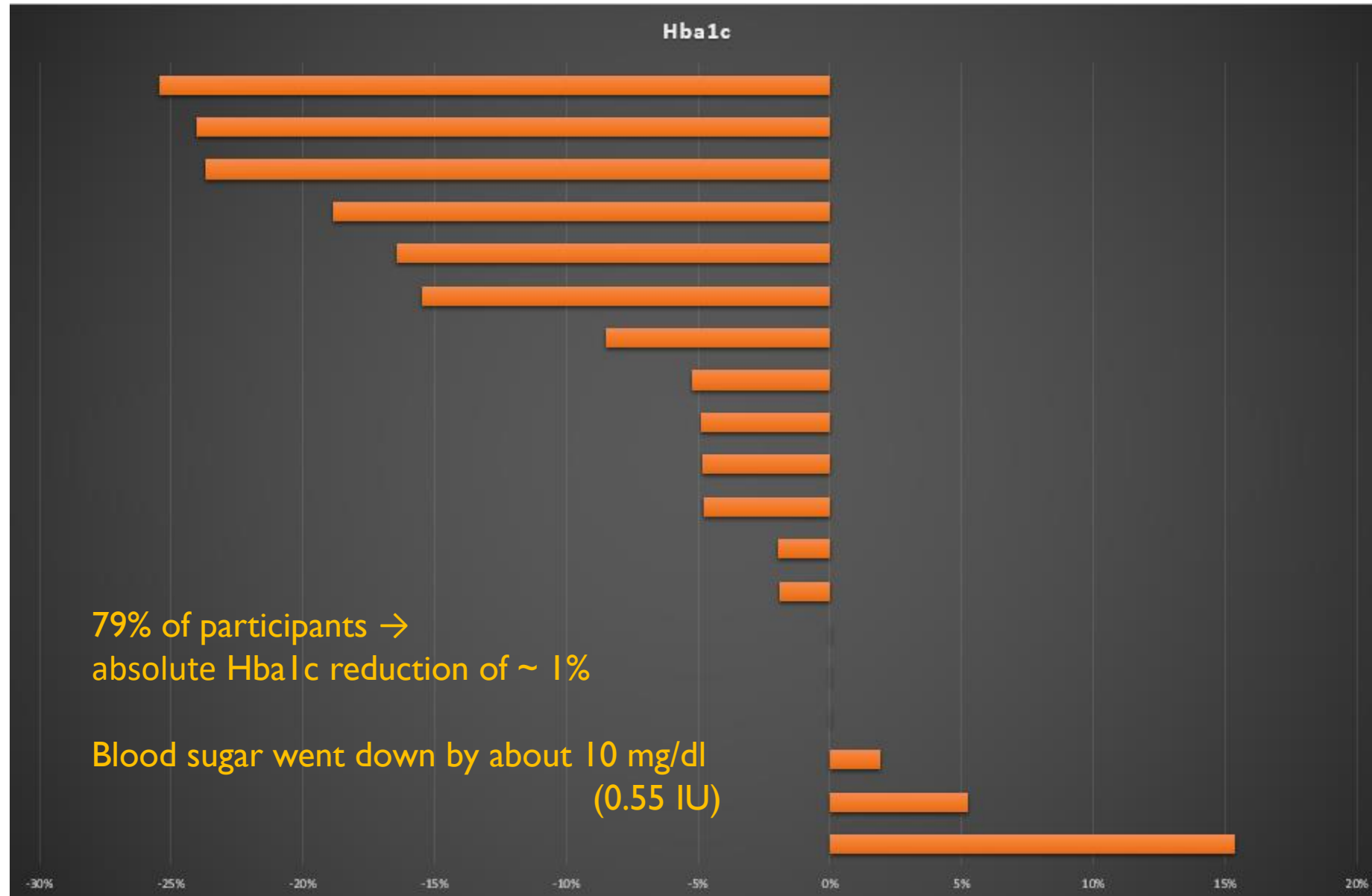


HbA1c group INNSBRUCK



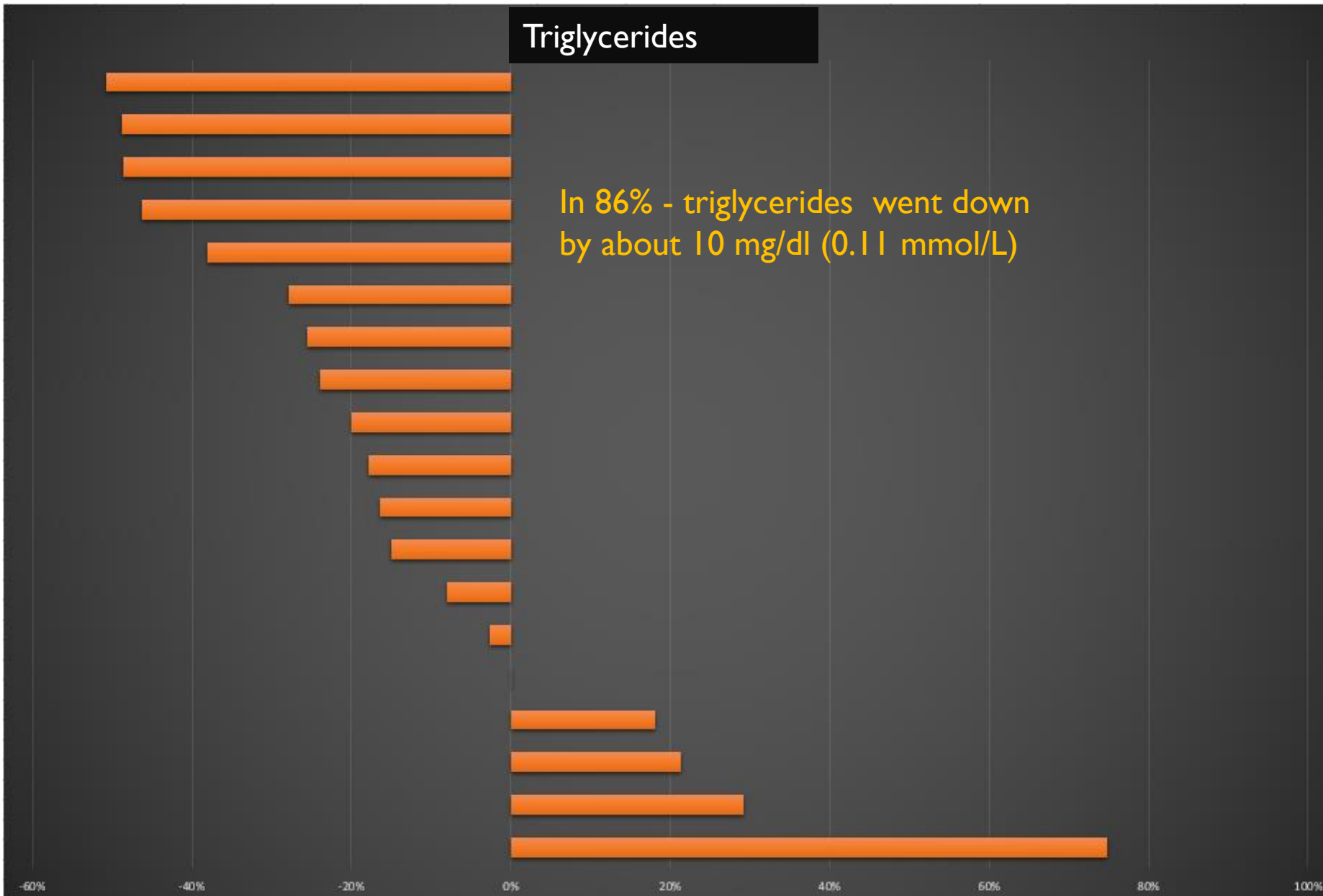
Typ I Diabetic

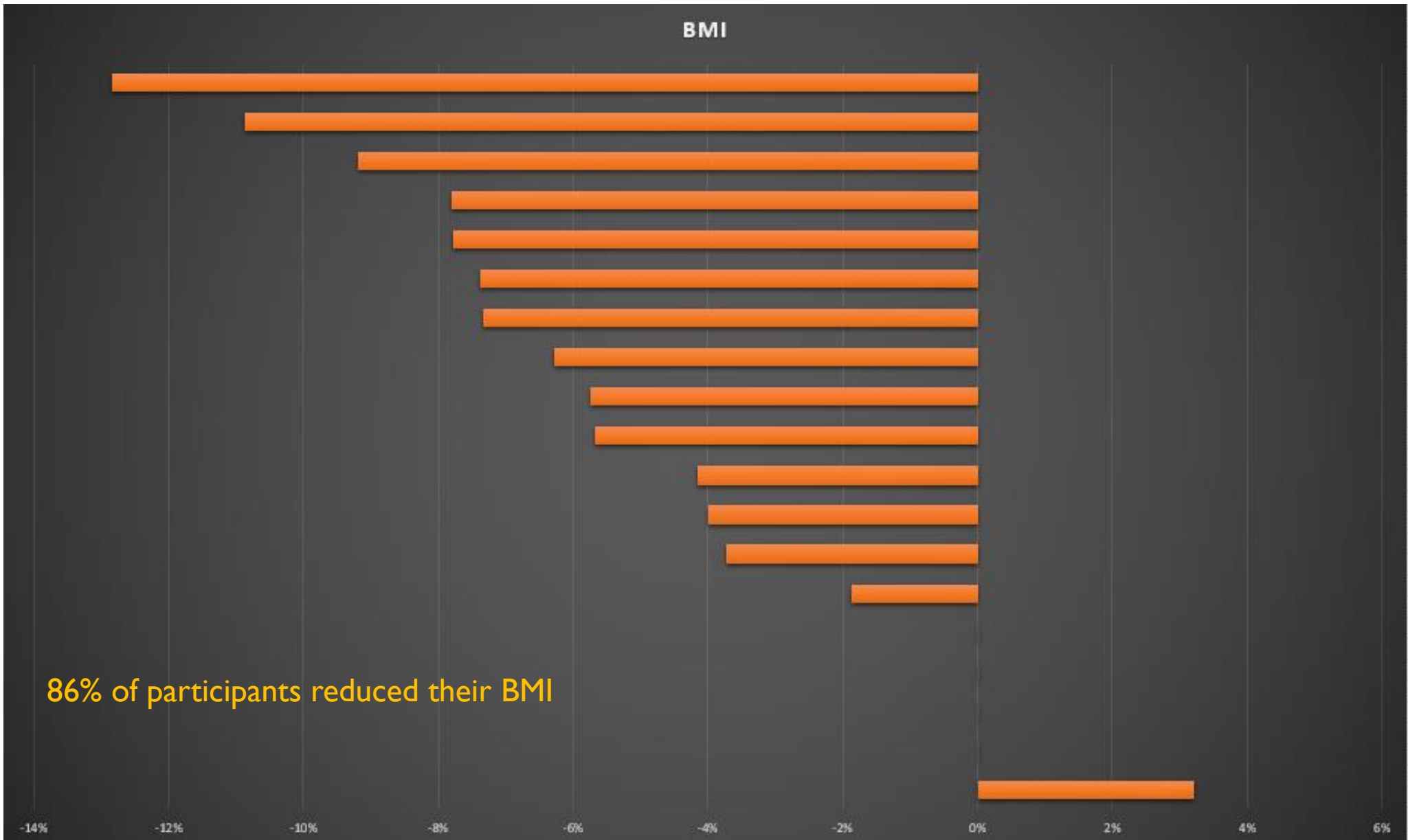




Triglycerides

In 86% - triglycerides went down
by about 10 mg/dl (0.11 mmol/L)

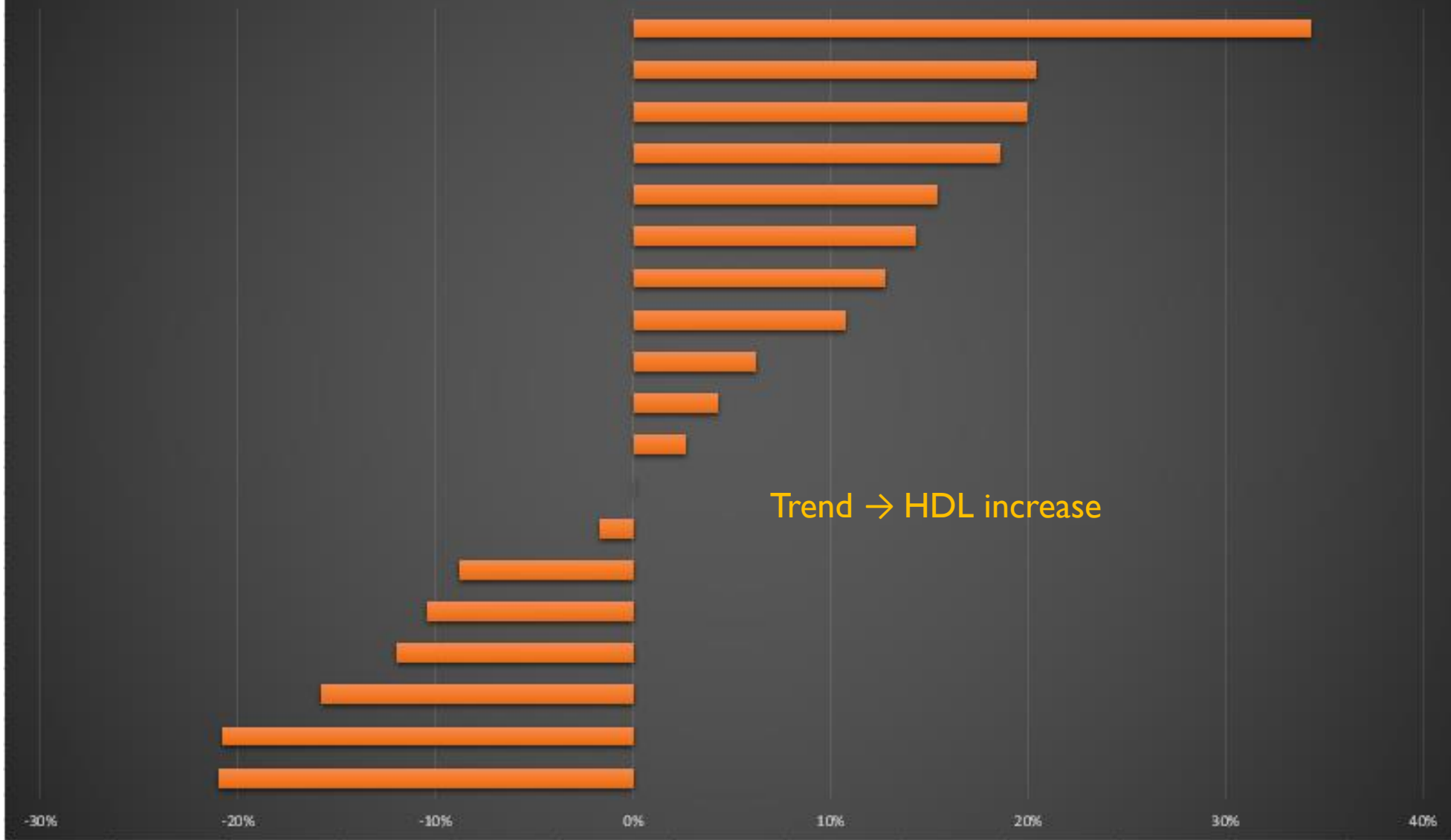




86% of participants reduced their BMI



HDL Cholesterol



Trend → HDL increase



FEEDBACK

- „Never had so much energy before“
- „This is the first summer I did not have problems with allergies“
- Reversal of NAFLD in 2 people
- „This is the best thing that has ever happend to me"



MEDICAL
SUPERVISION WAS
IMPORTANT FOR THE
PARTICIPANTS TO
DISCUSS MEDICATION;

GROUP MEETINGS;
GIVE SUPPORT; BASIC
KNOWLEDGE AND
FAT IS OK;

RECIPES AND FOOD
ALTERNATIVES





LCHF IS A FEASIBLE AND SUSTAINABLE STRATEGY FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF DIABETES.

LCHF IS EASY TO IMPLEMENT

VERY LITTLE SUPPORT IS NECESSARY FOR AN EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION

PARTICIPANTS DESCRIBE THE DIET AS SATIATING AND TASTY



What's next?

- partnering with 2 physicians from two of the biggest hospitals in Vienna
- building a diabetes program based on our learnings
- make it scalable and increase the number of patients



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THANK YOU!

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Questions?

Samaha, Frederick F., et al. **"A low-carbohydrate as compared with a low-fat diet in severe obesity."** *New England Journal of Medicine* 348.21 (2003): 2074-2081.

Conclusion: Taken together, our findings demonstrate that severely obese subjects with a high prevalence of diabetes and the metabolic syndrome lost more weight during six months on a carbohydrate-restricted diet than on a calorie- and fat-restricted diet. The carbohydrate-restricted diet led to greater improvements in insulin sensitivity that were independent of weight loss and a greater reduction in triglyceride levels

Bazzano, Lydia A., et al. **"Effects of low-carbohydrate and low-fat diets: a randomized trial."** *Annals of internal medicine* 161.5 (2014): 309-318.

Conclusion: The low-carbohydrate diet was more effective for weight loss and cardiovascular risk factor reduction than the low-fat diet. Restricting carbohydrate may be an option for persons seeking to lose weight and reduce cardiovascular risk factors.

Haimoto, Hajime, et al. **"Three-graded stratification of carbohydrate restriction by level of baseline hemoglobin A1c for type 2 diabetes patients with a moderate low-carbohydrate diet."** *Nutrition & metabolism* 11.1 (2014): 33.

Conclusion: Also, the greater the reduction in carbohydrate intake (g/day), the greater the decrease in HbA1c levels ($P < 0.001$), but DeltaHbA1c was not significantly influenced by changes in other macronutrient intakes (g/day).

Feinman, Richard D, et al. **„Dietary carbohydrate restriction as the first approach in diabetes management: Critical review and evidence base”.** *Nutrition*. 2014 Jul 16. pii: S0899-9007(14)00332-3.

Conclusion: Dietary carbohydrate restriction reliably reduces high blood glucose, does not require weight loss (although is still best for weight loss), and leads to the reduction or elimination of medication. It has never shown side effects comparable with those seen in many drugs.

Accurso, Anthony, et al. **"Dietary carbohydrate restriction in type 2 diabetes mellitus and metabolic syndrome: time for a critical appraisal."** *Nutrition & metabolism* 5.1 (2008): 9.

Conclusion: The rationale is that carbohydrate restriction improves glycemic control and reduces insulin fluctuations which are primary targets. Experiments are summarized showing that carbohydrate-restricted diets are at least as effective for weight loss as low-fat diets and that substitution of fat for carbohydrate is generally beneficial for risk of cardiovascular disease. These beneficial effects of carbohydrate restriction do not require weight loss. Finally, the point is reiterated that carbohydrate restriction improves all of the features of metabolic syndrome.

Fothergill, Erin, et al. **"Persistent metabolic adaptation 6 years after “The Biggest Loser” competition."** *Obesity* (2016)

Conclusions: Metabolic adaptation persists over time and is likely a proportional, but incomplete, response to contemporaneous efforts to reduce body weight.

Hallberg, Sarah J., et al. "Effectiveness and safety of a novel care model for the management of type 2 diabetes at 1 year: an open-label, non-randomized, controlled study." *Diabetes Therapy* 9.2 (2018): 583-612.

